A Cambridge Scrapbook 1888-1990:

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies Reported in Cambridge Newspapers

Market Hill from the spire of All Saints' Church showing many of the topics covered – Cambridge University, Colleges, Markets, Shops, Transport, Churches, Streets, Telephones, Water Supply, Memorials, Electricity, Street Lights – and everyday life

Compiled by Mike Petty

Revised January 2021

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Cambridge Scrapbook 1888-1988:

Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies reported about an English Universe-City

Compiled by Mike Petty MBE

Dedicated to John Pink, Cambridge's first Librarian, 1855-1906 and Charles Henry Cooper, compiler of the Annals of Cambridge

To the Librarians who tried to preserve their vision of a 'Cambridgeshire Collection'

And the Generations of Journalists who recorded the day-to-day life of Cambridge

Made freely available as a 'Thank You' to all those who have helped me discover something of the story of this great City

Please appreciate what it contains and correct the errors and omissions

Mike Petty

June 2018

A Cambridge Scrapbook 1888-1990 compiled by Mike Petty

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Cambridge Scrapbook 1888-1988: Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies
by Mike Petty

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East Road
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Emmanuel Street
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Fitzroy Street
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Girton
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https://archive.org/details/CambridgeGREATSTMARYSPASSAGEScrapbook
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Guildhall Street & Guildhall Place
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Hills Road area *Includes Blinco Grove, Cambridge Place, Cattle Market, Cavendish Avenue, Glebe Road, Hartington Grove, Harvey Road, Hills Avenue, Holbrook Road, Luard Road, Red Cross Lane, St Paul's Church, Station Road, Worts Causeway*
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Histon Road area

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Newmarket Road
https://archive.org/details/CambridgeNewmarketRoadScrapbook1897To1990S
Newnham area
https://archive.org/details/CambridgeNewnhamAreaScrapbook1897To1990

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Park Street
https://archive.org/details/CambridgePARKSTREETScrapbook
Peas Hill
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Portugal Street
https://archive.org/details/CambridgePORTUGALSTREETScrapbook

Quayside
https://archive.org/details/CambridgeQUAYSIDEScrapbook

Regent Street
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https://archive.org/details/CambridgeCHURCHESChronicle

The files are there for you to download and use. There are errors and omissions, please forgive and correct them

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Everything shown here may be freely consulted in the Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Lion Yard Library. Not everything in the Cambridgeshire Collection is shown here

Acknowledgements

Cambridge Scrapbook 1888-1988: Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies by Mike Petty

Cambridge Scrapbook 1888-1988: Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallalcies about an English University City is a 4,000-page chronology of some 100 aspects of Cambridge life. Topics include health, transport, politics, local government, education, war, planning and religion.

The project started in 1988 when I was asked to produce the Cambridge Evening News centenary picture book, ***Cambridge in Pictures 1888-1988*** *(Cambridge Newspapers Ltd, 1988).* I decided to record the headline stories for Cambridge topics from 1888. The only way to do this was to turn to the newspapers themselves

From 1958 Librarians at ***Cambridge Central Library*** compiled newspaper cuttings files on some 750 subjects and from the mid 60's to 1996 it was my job to choose which of these stories should be selected. Summaries of many of these articles have been incorporated into this *Chronicle*. The full files may be consulted at the Cambridgeshire Collection.

At the same time Librarians at the ***Cambridge News*** were taking more comprehensive notes. These too have been preserved and may be consulted at the offices of the ***Cambridge Independent*** at Milton

To supplement the cuttings I scanned the '*Table Talk', 'Review of the Year'* and *'Peeps From the Past'* columns in the ***Cambridge Daily News*** and the *'From our Old Files'* feature in the ***Cambridge Independent Press***.

I also went through the issues of the newspapers themselves.

For twenty years I compiled a 'Looking Back' column in the ***Cambridge Evening News*** which featured stories from 100, 75, 50 and 25 years before. The full notes, supplemented by others discovered during the indexing, are already online as ***'A Cambridgeshire Scrapbook 1897-1990'.*** ***https://archive.org/details/a-cambridgeshire-scrapbook-1897-1990-by-mike-petty.-july-2020.*** Some of the stories relating to Cambridge itself feature in this *Chronicle*.

I have included the date the story appeared in the original newspaper in the form YY-MM-DD while a reference in [ ] relates to handwritten notes, a copy of which are held in the Cambridgeshire Collection.

I have placed digital copies of many of the stories online on ***Flickr*** in albums headed 'CambsNews' so you can read them for yourself

But of far more importance is that you can now read a complete digital file of many years of the ***Cambridge News*** and other Cambridgeshire newspapers online on ***The British Newspaper Archive*** website. Their site can be searched for free, read for a fee (free on Cambridgeshire Libraries computers)

The Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library has files of the original newspapers that are available for you to consult without charge. It is something Librarians have done, day in day out, since 28th June 1855.

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All this is made available in the hope that it may assist your research. There will inevitably be mistakes, kindly forgive and correct them.

Please make use of it what you may. Kindly remember where it came from.

Mike Petty June 2018

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Preface

What a marvellous chronicle this is! A celebration of our wonderful city throughout modern history. It shows the bond between the University, the Colleges and the Corporation over their joint 800 year history. A record of how Cambridge has developed into vibrant cosmopolitan hub that it is today.

The Mayor of Cambridge, Councillor Nigel Gawthrope

Compiling Chronicle of Cambridge life from 1888-1988 is almost a lifetime's work - that it has taken 30 years is proof of just how comprehensive it is. The year 1888 is an important date in the history of the city - it was when Cambridge got a daily newspaper - which it retains today.
The huge changes that have taken place during that period are to be found in Mike's 4,000-page record. Covering 100 topics, it is the most comprehensive record of Cambridge life in that period. Just like the city, the Cambridge News underwent huge changes in the 100 years to its centenary in 1988 - and it has been transformed over the following 30 years to the present day. As you might expect the newspaper section was the first I opened, and it was truly fascinating.
I'm delighted Mike has compiled this record - it is a gift to all those that wish to enquire about the development of the city over this period. I hope you enjoy reading it as much as I have.

David Bartlett, Editor-in-chief, Cambridge News

Newspapers are a wonderful source for local and family historians. They contain information which cannot be found anywhere else. The difficulty is finding that information, which is why the collection of newspaper cuttings, begun by my predecessors at the Cambridgeshire Collection in the 1950s, is so valuable. Mike's work on this index over many years will mean that, not just local people, but researchers far and wide, will be able access the vast number of stories that have featured in the Cambridge Newspapers across a whole century. I hope that some of those researchers will also be able to have the pleasure of reading those stories at the Cambridgeshire Collection Local Studies Library.

Caroline Clifford, Local Studies Librarian, Cambridgeshire Collection

Cambridge Scrapbook 1888-1988: Facts, Features and (occasional) Fallacies about an English University City by Mike Petty

Queen Elizabeth II visits Guildhall, 1955 *107.53*

c.02: Events, Royal visits etc
A chronology of some Royal visitors and other VIPs as reported in Cambridge Newspapers

It is little known that the Master of Trinity College has the prerogative of remaining covered in the presence of the Sovereign and on one occasion when Queen Victoria visited Cambridge he kept his hat on. The Queen apparently did not notice the circumstances and he began to feel uncomfortable. At length he said; "Your Majesty has perhaps wondered that I should be so far lacking in respect, but Lord Kingsale in Ireland, Lord Forester in England and the Master of Trinity have a right to keep their hats on in the presence of their Sovereign". "Quite so – ahem – but not in the presence of a lady" was the Queen's freezing reply. CDN 20.5.1904

On a certain day 49 years ago several undergraduates while walking along the Madingley Road were overtaken by a heavy rainstorm. They were not provided with any protection against such weather and there was every likelihood they would be thoroughly drenched. An old lady living in one of the brick-built cottages noticed their plight and they gladly took the opportunity to wait in her dwelling until the violence of the storm had abated. Before they left the kindly old dame insisted upon one of the young men accepting the loan of her umbrella. It was returned the next

day with a substantial gift in recognition of her kindness. That undergraduate afterwards became King Edward VII 10 05 13h

1888

1888 01 15
Prince & Princess of Wales visit with their children, take lunch at Fitzwilliam Museum [1888 01 15, 2.24]

1894
Duke of York honorary degree [NI.2.17]

1897 04 03
After the lapse of close upon a month the committee appointed to carry out the celebration of the Great Jubilee (of Queen Victoria) in Cambridge have definitely decided upon a single scheme. The course adopted has the effect of putting out of court our scheme for the establishment of a system of private and swimming baths as a Jubilee undertaking. But considering the remarkable unanimity of opinion on the subject we feel sure that the project will be only temporarily waived. Indeed having regard to the the absolute necessity in the town we pledge ourselves to revive the matter at the first convenient opportunity. Very little difficulty would be experienced in floating a company to carry out a scheme so universally deemed desirable. (Editorial) c1897 04 10

1897 06 04
The Queen Victoria's Jubilee Free Dinner Committee, having placed their fund for feeding the aged on a satisfactory footing, have determined to give a free tea to the children of Cambridge between the ages of 7 and 14. It is fitting that the children of the town, the inheritors of the wonderful empire that has been built up and its future guardians, should have indelibly impressed on their minds the greatest landmark in modern English history – Editorial c1897 06 04

1897 06 07
A good number of people are attending the fete on Midsummer Common. In that part of the enclosure nearest Maid's Causeway, shooting galleries, stalls, cocoanut shies and one of Thurston's steam roundabouts were gathered and kept matters lively. During the afternoon a fancy dress bicycle carnival took place, handsome prizes were awarded for the best costumes. The first prize for the ladies, a diamond and ruby crescent brooch, was awarded to Miss L. Unwin of Newnham who, with helmet, breastplate, shield and trident made a dignified Britannia. Miss Unwin will also receive the silver "King of the Road" lamp and baby bell given by the Humber Cycle Supply Co 1897 06 07

1897 06 19
Cambridge will have its bonfire on Jubilee night and from the nature of the site we shall have it all to ourselves. Midsummer Common is to be the venue, and as that is about the flattest part of Cambridge there is not much prospect of its being seen beyond the limits of the town, although should the fire be a big one and the night fairly dark, the glow in the sky ought to be seen all over the fen country. One of the most interesting experiments will be that of the search- light on Ely cathedral. The great shaft of light sent out by the search-light, first in one direction and then another, should send a message not only to Cambridge, but over a great portion of East Anglia – editorial 1897 06 19

1897 06 23

Providence set the seal of approval on the absolutely flawless celebration of Queen Victoria's Jubilee. Cambridge Market-place presented a particularly attractive spectacle with the Guildhall illuminated and the long lines of coloured lamps; above all with the moving masses of eager folk, who had come out in the best of tempers to be amused. One or two cranky people pretended to be shocked at the extreme naughtiness of letting off a few squibs, which was not to be compared with the imprudence of running heavy 'busses through the narrow and crowded Cury and Market-hill. A remarkably beautiful sunset was succeeded by the exquisite Jubilee twilight mingling into the dawn of the longest day; and in Cambridge, as elsewhere, everybody who went to bed - and most folks sought that sensible repose – did so with high hopes of the morrow 1897 06 23

1897 06 23
The festivities in Cambridge (for Victoria's Jubilee) were inaugurated on Monday evening with a cyclists' lantern parade and a more successful commencement it would have been difficult to suggest. Over a hundred cyclists attended by far the greater portion being in costume or having their machines decorated. The cyclists assembled in the Priory Grounds, Newmarket-road. A large crowd gathered in the neighbourhood and hailed with applause the decorated machines as they approached. The first prize for the best decorated machine was awarded to Mr Dunn who had made his machine represent the Indian jungle. A deer's head was shown from the front of the machine in the middle of grasses and evergreen, while behind, monkeys sported among the ferns and vegetation. Mr Dunn himself was attired in the garb of a hunter 1897 06 23

1897 06 24
One of the most interesting events of the Jubilee week was the dinner to 1,000 aged people of Cambridge which took place on Parker's Piece. From 10 a.m. an army of helpers 400 strong, all as busy as bees, were engaged in preparing the tents, two in number, for the expected guests. The old people began to arrive very early, with beaming faces and expectant eyes. "It's not the dinner so much", said an old lady of some 75 summers, "It's taking part in the Jubilee dinner and meeting with all the others". Gowns of antique stuff, redolent of sweet lavender, that had lain by for years protected against the ravages of moth, were brought out in honour of the occasion. One old gentleman had hunted up a pair of white jean trousers that he went courting in 50 years ago 1897 06 24

1897 06 25
It is a matter of satisfaction that the subscriptions which have been received by the Jubilee Dinner Committee were sufficient to give a tea to some 4,000 school children of Cambridge between the ages of seven and 12. A mug and plate was provided for each child, and the plates when they sat down were furnished with bread and butter and two lumps of cake. Once in the enclosure they were each presented with a medal commemorating the Jubilee. Until tea commenced the enclosure was a perfect babel with the children’s' chatter. Far more children than expected came, and some of the school teachers had written their own tickets. Not a few of the children attending were obviously either over or under the age which had been decided. All were soon provided for and the committee were able to keep replenishing the tables. As they finished tea the children left the tables, and, shouting, romped and danced to the band's music. The sight was enough to set the milk of human kindness surging through the heart of the most misguided misanthrope 1897 06 25

Here and there among the little folk: impressions of an onlooker. The five immense tents pitched on Parker's Piece were crammed with youngsters full of the restless energy of youth. What a sight it was to see them come dancing down the various roads leading to Parker's Piece, swarming over the iron fences, racing across the greensward, and roguishly crying the policemen on duty in the vicinity of the feast. Not one could walk sedately or cease from whistling for very joy. The

desertion of teachers, the near approach of the end of the Jubilee holiday, everything was forgotten in the delight of the children's day 1897 06 25

In commemoration of the Great Jubilee of her Majesty, a meat tea was provided for poor married couples residing in the East Ward of Chesterton. A field belonging to Mr R.H. Lord on Scotland-road was secured for the occasion. Some 500 adults sat down to the meat tea which consisted of rounds of beef, legs of mutton and hams.. The meat had been admirably cooked in the kitchens of Clare College. After tea the men were supplied with tobacco, tobacco boxes and pipes and snuff and snuff boxes while strawberries were provided for the women 1897 06 25

1898 05 28
There was but little crush as the stream of mourners poured from all quarters of the town into Great St Mary's Church for the Memorial Service to Mr Gladstone. A subdued calm seem to fall like a veil over the centre of Cambridge as the bell tolled forth its tail of loss to the nation, and a hush, as it were, of the chamber of death seemed even to spread itself over the busy market place. Quietly the people filed into the Church and stepped into the first empty pew; none stopping to haggle for a seat. Even as the doors were being closed, as the last bars of the echoing National Anthem waned to science, latecomers yet found room in one or other of the galleries, and no one was turned from the Church CDN 1898 05 28

1898 11 24
Great crowds had been assembling outside Great St Mary's and the railings before the Senate House with the exception of a pathway of about five yards which the police were endeavouring to keep clear for those attending the honorary degree ceremony for Lord Kitchener. It was evidence that the constables were having hard work in keeping the crowds from encroaching. At length the looked-for rush took place and such was the force that the police were quite powerless to check it. A general scramble to get upon the railings ensued when without the slightest warning the railings suddenly gave way and fell outwards carrying many unfortunate persons to the ground with them. The solidity of this great piece of ironwork is well known and it is wonderful that more were not seriously injured. CDN 1898 11 24 1898, 1898 11 28, Rev Yr, 24 03 06] 57 12 14c and more memories – 57 12 28

1898 12 13
The members of her family share with Queen Victoria a dislike to all unnecessary fuss and show. The Empress Frederick paid a visit to Cambridge yesterday, took a drive through the streets and left, but hardly anybody knew we had had a Royal visitor. So much of the lives of those who are in this high station is of necessity lived in public that one can well understand how glad they are to avoid, in as far as it is possible, the observation of the crowd. Cambridge would gladly have done her honour but it is a matter for satisfaction that the Empress's own will in regard to her visit was carried out so faithfully CDN 1898 12 13

1899 05 24
Today, Queen Victoria attains her 80th birthday, and British subjects in all parts of her Majesty's dominions are celebrating the occasion. Cambridge has not attempted anything in the nature of a public demonstration. This was not to be expected, but Cambridge is none the less loyal on that account, and there are in almost all parts of the town, outward and visible signs of rejoicing. Numerous Union Jacks and other national emblems are displayed in the principal thoroughfares, and the church bells have all been rung in honour of the event. At the Roman Catholic Church the national anthem was chimed between 12 and 1 o'clock, and the ringing of the bells may be expected to continue at intervals throughout the day 1899 05 24

1899 06 21
H.R.H. the Prince of Wales is visiting his old University this evening. His arrival by the express from St Pancras was witness by a moderately large crowd, which was not particularly enthusiastic in its reception. The Master of Trinity received him as he stepped from the train. The Prince raised his hat in acknowledgement and then looked round expectantly at the line of spectators. No cheer, however, was raised until he was being driven away in an open carriage 1899 06 21

1900

1900 05 14
The King of Sweden and Norway will doubtless carry away with him many pleasant reminiscences of his visit to Cambridge. The object of King Oscar's visit, as the guest of the Master of Trinity, was quite a private one. The University however were unwilling that the occasion should be allowed to pass without doing honour to their illustrious visitor, and it was resolved to confer upon the King the honorary degree of Doctor in Law. A large crowd gathered around the Senate House. The galleries were thronged with undergraduates and the floor of the house given up to ladies whose summer dresses contributed materially to the brightness of the scene CDN 1900 05 14

1901 01 23
The melancholy news, which everyone knew could not be long delayed, of the death of Queen Victoria, was received in Cambridge in this brief announcement: - "The Queen passed away at 6.30". The Cambridge Daily News gave publicity to the melancholy event to those who in Cambridge were waiting with anxiety for the latest intelligence, and almost immediately telegrams were posted at the University Union Society and at the Guildhall. The tolling of bells at many of the churches and college chapels also served to spread the sad news and this morning the borough bore a complete aspect of mourning for the loss of our beloved Queen. Royal Standards are flying half-mast and black ties and other emblems of mourning are being worn by members of the University and the townsmen CDN 01 01 23

1901 01 26
With the solemnities and ceremonies accustomed on like occasions, His Majesty King Edward VII was proclaimed by the University of Cambridge in succession to Victoria, the Well-Beloved. This morning, while the minute bell was mournfully tolling, while black shutters were up at almost every shop window and flags were at half-mast, crowds of scarlet-robed Doctors, sedate Dons and vivacious undergraduates were hurrying towards the Senate House to take part in the ceremony of a lifetime – to proclaim Edward VII King 01 01 26

Amid every sign of loyalty and with great enthusiasm, Cambridge publicly and impressively proclaimed King Edward VII. The unusual attraction naturally brought a vast crowd together, winding their way to the Guildhall which was accessible to all who presented themselves for admission and the building was soon crowded with a throng of sightseers, the majority being in deep mourning 01 01 26

Many columns have been devoted to the first volume of biography of King Edward VII whose last year of training was spent in Cambridge where he hunted and played tennis. One phase of undergraduate recreation which he especially favoured was the A.D.C. At the club's premises in Jesus Lane the Prince was an appreciative spectator of the farces and extravaganzas to which their programmes were confined and his favour secured the club a fuller academic recognition than it had enjoyed before. Later he accepted the office of Honorary President and revisited from time to time, presiding in 1880 at the Club's 25th birthday 25 03 05

1901 02 12
Mourning for death of Queen Victoria; Addenbrooke's Hospital propose a new wing as memorial (plans abandoned 1904) 01 02 12 [1.11,01 05 06 Rev Yr,1.17]

1901 05 09
The Mayor of Cambridge called a meeting to consider a memorial to Queen Victoria. The large hall of the Guildhall was prepared but there were scarcely a dozen people present and as they appeared lost in the hall, a move was made to the Aldermen's Parlour. The Mayor said it was a very great disappointment to him; he had written letters, placed advertisements and issued handbills. The memory of her Majesty would remain with all of her subjects but they wished for a visible memorial by which future generations might see how deeply Queen Victorian reigned in the lives and affections of her subjects 01 05 09

1902 06 24
The startling and unwelcome intelligence that the Coronation of King Edward VII had been postponed, owing to him having to undergo an operation, created a great sensation in Cambridge. Those who first heard were incredulous and treated the matter as a mere rumour. Scores of enquiries were received at the News by telephone. Crowds assembled round the type-written announcements that were displayed and turned away with expressions of mingled astonishment and pain. CDN 1902 06 24

1902 06 27
Never before has Cambridge Corn Exchange been the scene of such a curious sight as when a distribution was made of the large quantity of food intended to form part of the feast to the old folks in celebration of the Coronation. When the news of its postponement was received the cooking of the food had already begun. Several hundred of the poorest inhabitants gathered outside the front gates of the Corn Exchange as quickly as their too-evident infirmities would allow them. Quite a number wrapped quantities of fruit tart in grimy newspapers that could hardly have improved their semi-liquid contents CDN 1902 06 27

1902 06 28
As soon as the King's illness was announced volumes of telegrams commenced to pour into the Cambridge office. On Tuesday no fewer than 350 telegrams were waiting to come through from London and the abnormal pressure was kept up until Friday. Press wires, commercial wires and private telegrams increased at such a rate that in order to cope with them employees from the postal department were drafted into the telegraph department. Even then it was only by working at very high pressure, and working overtime, that the staff were able to get through their task. 02 06 30

1902 06 30
An alarming report was widely current in Cambridge that his Majesty had succumbed to his operation. One credulous tradesman actually put a shutter up on the strength of an absolutely unofficial report to that effect, which was posted on a shop window adjacent to the office of the Cambridge Independent Press. The tradesman was Mr C.S. Addison who is indignant at being credited with the responsibility of making the erroneous announcement. He had absolutely nothing to do with the report except that he gave permission to the Independent Press to exhibit upon his shop front any intelligence that might come to hand. The announcement caused much pain and indignation & ought not to be made except on the receipt of official news & certainly not upon the strength of a mere rumour. 02 06 30

1902 07 18

Now his Majesty is on the high road to recovery many places are holding the festivities arranged in celebration of the Coronation. Out of sympathy for King Edward these were postponed and now while the bright summer days and long mild evenings are at their best the committees are taking the wise course of holding the jubilations rather than wait until a later stage in the year when there is a greater chance of unfavourable weather. Unfortunately St John's ward, Cherry Hinton picked upon early closing day and any shop employee will say that this is practically synonymous with rain. Nevertheless the festivities must be written of as a success. CDN 1902 07 18

1902 07 22
The problem of the general servant is with us always. The tyranny of the domestic, her varying moods and fluctuating caprices seemingly know no end. Her demands have gradually become more peremptory and extensive for some years past and housekeepers have become painfully familiar with Sundays off, evenings out, cycles in the kitchen and swains in constant evidence. The Cambridge autocrats of the kitchen are now going a step further; the very latest request is a week's holiday at the Coronation. It is not stated whether the majority of them propose attending the Abbey 02 07 22

1902 07 28
The people of Old Cherryhinton participated in festivities in celebration of the Coronation. They took the form of sports and a tea, besides various minor amusements, while music entered largely into the scheme of pleasure. 900 people availed themselves of the opportunity to take tea which took place in a large erection constructed of canvas under trees in a meadow. Beside this temporary tea-room stood a traction engine with steam up but it was not attached to any bread-cutting arrangement such as might have been necessary to cope with the extraordinary demand. It was used to boil water for the tea. CDN 1902 07 28

1902 08 11
The venerable University town can have scarcely witness such as scene as animated gaiety as on Coronation Day. Street after street was bright with flags and blazing in a brave show of scarlet and white and blue. Visitors poured in by road and rail, in vehicles and on foot until it seemed as though the population of Cambridgeshire must have drifted en masse into the town and left the surrounding country empty and desolate. To and fro though the narrow streets, laughing, talking and singing the gay crowds eddied and swirled CDN 1902 08 11

1902 09 05
Yesterday young Cambridge celebrated the coronation of King Edward VII. Half of Parker's Piece was covered with twelve tents and soon the happy throng was taking tea to the strains of music furnished by the Cambridge Police Band. Over 800 gallons of tea were brewed, roughly 6,400 pints. For 6,000 children the quantity was abundant. The Mayor distributed commemorative medals which will doubtless remain treasured possessions for many a year. The centre tent contained a large number of people who were present at Queen Victoria's Coronation CDN 1902 09 05

1902 09 06
The Mayor of Cambridge, Alderman Kett made a tour of sixteen schools for the purpose of distributing Coronation medals to the infant scholars. It had been suggested that they should also be given a tea in the tents on Parker's Piece but it was felt that little mites of four could hardly be expected to walk to and from the Piece and it was more advisable to provide tea for them at the various schoolrooms. At East Road school tea had to be provided for 250 infants and the cutting

up of the large quantity of bread and cake entailed several hours for work for the teachers. CDN 1902 09 06

1903 01 20
The visit of General Sir John French will remain memorable for his reception by all sections of the inhabitants. The famous cavalry leader was sought after, first at the railway station when he arrived and later when he proceeded to the Guildhall where he received the freedom of the Borough. Lord Kitchener's is the first name on the roll of Cambridge Freemen and it's fitting that the name of General French should follow his illustrious Commander in the South African war. Many who have already been presented with the freedom have served under him and learned to admire him as an ideal commander who never asked them to do what he was not prepared to do himself. 03 01 20

1904 03 01
All Cambridge united in welcoming King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra to open the new University buildings known as the Sedgwick Museum, the Squire Law Library, Botanical and Medical Schools in Downing Street. Cambridge University has never stagnated but kept pace with the demands of the time. Newer universities have their place in the general scheme of things but they can never supplant our ancient university of Cambridge, nor her twin sister on the banks of the Isis. With the increasing spread of education their prosperity increases. Windows overlooking parade route offered at 5/- (25p) a head, drop to 1/- (05p) as no takers; in event Royal party travel in closed carriages due to weather. 04 03 01

1904 03 02
The Royal visit to Cambridge was followed by an undergraduate 'rag' which caused wanton destruction of public and private property even though a large body of police, included mounted men, were on duty. One policeman guarding the proctors was singled out for a little 'baiting'. As they surged around he took out his baton which was immediately snatched from his hand. Now unprotected the affair seemed likely to develop into a serious disturbance but mounted policemen began to harry the crowd who fled before the horsemen. Many youths annoyed the riders by throwing crackers near their horses. One animal was so startled by an explosion that it threw its rider and careered across Parker's Piece. 04 03 02

1904 03 07
Owing to the enormous demands for the C.D.N. souvenir of the Royal Visit to Cambridge the whole edition was sold out less than an hour after publication. Now in response to enormous requests a second edition is ready. It contains a full report of the proceedings together with special articles on previous royal visits, King Edward's undergraduate days etc. It has photographs of the new Downing Street buildings reproduced from the series of pictures specially taken by J. Palmer Clarke for presentation to the King. Printed on superior paper and being of a convenient size it is an admirable memento of the auspicious and historic occasion. 04 03 07

1904 05 20
It is little known that the Master of Trinity College has the prerogative of remaining covered in the presence of the Sovereign and on one occasion when Queen Victoria visited Cambridge he kept his hat on. The Queen apparently did not notice the circumstances and he began to feel uncomfortable. At length he said; "Your Majesty has perhaps wondered that I should be so far lacking in respect, but Lord Kingsale in Ireland, Lord Forester in England and the Master of Trinity have a right to keep their hats on in the presence of their Sovereign". "Quite so – ahem – but not in the presence of a lady" was the Queen's freezing reply. 04 05 20

1904 06 16
At the death of Queen Victoria, a little more than three years ago, the Mayor of Cambridge started a subscription to provide a memorial. Plans for a substantial improvement at the hospital had to be abandoned but they agreed to procure a bust of the Queen from Thomas Brock. It was a magnificent work of art by one of the leading sculptors of their generation which the Corporation would always treasure. It would be an ornament to the Guildhall and retain an honourable position in that building as long as it lasted and then take a more distinguished position in more sumptuous surroundings. 1904 06 16

1905 05 20
The King was involved in an exciting scene at the conclusion of racing at Newmarket. Within a few minutes of the finish of the last race a steady stream of traffic poured from the Heath townwards, and in the dozens of vehicles of all sorts and description was the royal equipage. The vagaries of a motor car caused a sudden halt and although the driver of the King's carriage pulled up promptly the horse pulling one behind struck the King a sharp blow in the back with its head. His Majesty, though naturally startled and shaken was not at all injured. 05 05 20

1905 10 23
Nelson Day in Cambridge was marked by flags and on Sunday references to his life and death were made in many of the churches. On Saturday evening a partially successful attempt at a rag was made by a number of University and town youths, thus amply justifying the Mayor's decision not to promote any public demonstration which might have provided the necessary excitement for a serious disturbance. 05 10 23a

Because a hundred years ago Horatio Nelson won the Battle of Trafalgar, the youths of Cambridge, University and town, united in a 'rag' in which the destruction of property was a necessary element. Two constables were mauled by the mob, one at the Parsonage Street fire and the other at the Park Parade fire, but are little the worse for the rough handling they received. A tram was stormed by a large number of undergraduates; dozens of them clambered on to the vehicle until it was a black mass of struggling beings. But despite the heavy load the horse managed to crawl along. 05 10 23b-c

1906 01 01
Painting of Queen Victoria unveiled (removed from Council Chamber in 1930) [06 01 01 Rev Yr, 30 07 19]

1906 07 03
The King concluded his visit to the Earl of Sandwich at Hinchingbrooke Park and drove in his motor car to Newmarket. On his way through Cambridge the royal car was purposely driven more slowly than usual which enabled many people to catch a glimpse of His Majesty. He proceeded to Sir Ernest Cassel's house, Moulton Paddocks, where a Japanese garden with rustic bridges and dwarf trees has been recently added. 06 07 03a

1906 10 15
The King had an excellent day's sport on the famous partridge grounds at Chippenham Park, which Sir Ernest Cassel has leased. Birds were numerous and strong on the wing. His Majesty rode on his pony from point to point and displayed his usual precision of aim. The bag included 669 partridges, 88 pheasants and 82 hares. 06 10 15

1907 01 30

Last week one of His Majesty's motors passing through Ely ran over and killed a dog owned by Mr A. Feast. Mr G.M. Hall brought the matter before the King who, with his customary generosity, has forwarded Mr Feast £5. This is characteristic of his Majesty and is only one of many incidents which have done so much to endear him to his people. 07 01 30

1907 09 30
Magdalene welcomes member English Royal Family as undergraduate for first time – Prince Leopold of Battenberg – 07 09 30b

1907 11 11
King Alphonso and Queen Victoria of Spain visited Prince Leopold of Battenberg who is studying at Magdalene College. Their Majesties toured in motor cars, Prince Leopold, clad as a typical undergraduate in blue lounge suit, brown boots and cloth cap, sat backing the chauffeur while the King was in the dress of an English gentleman playing a ceremonious call and the Queen wore a mauve dress almost covered with a sable coat. 07 11 11

1908 04 11
Her Majesty the Queen, accompanied by the Dowager Empress of Russia, passed through Cambridge station, where a small group of spectators had gathered. Elaborate arrangements had been taken and Inspector Baker and several constables were in attendance, in addition to the Station Master and other officials. There was no demonstration but a kindly act on the part of the Queen was noticed: she waved her hand once or twice to the persons on the platform as the train proceeded without stopping to Six Mile Bottom. 08 04 11

1908 04 13
Much anxiety was occasioned at Newmarket owing to the non-appearance of the Royal motor car in which Queen Alexandra and the Emperor of Russian were travelling. One absurd report was that Anarchists were to blame. Cyclists went out as search parties and Supt Winters set off in a private car in search of the Royals. The chauffeur had taken a wrong turning and the Queens were lost for the better part of an hour as the car threaded the maze of country lanes around Fordham. A burst tyre caused further delay and they were nearly an hour late. 08 04 13

1908 05 06
The King motored from Bucking Palace to St Pancras and left by the 5.7 train for Newmarket. A special saloon had been attached for his use and tea was already laid. At Cambridge the Royal saloon was detached and was run as a special to Newmarket which was reached shortly before seven. His Majesty subsequently motored to Moulton Paddocks and dined with Sir Edward Cassell. He will motor back on Friday. 08 05 06a, 50 10 14

1909 05 07
Prince Henry of Battenberg opened a sale of work in aid of the funds for providing a properly-equipped Children's Ward at Addenbrooke's Hospital. There has been one in the past but some years ago it was done away with as the Hospital' income was not sufficient. Children have not been entirely neglected: urgent cases have been taken in but the staff felt handicapped without a bright, sunny ward where the injured and diseased little ones might be given a fair chance of recovery. 09 05 07 p5

1910

1910 01 14
King in Cambridge – brief stop station - 10 01 14h

1910 05 13
Many in Cambridge had left home before the news of the Death of King Edward VII was known but in an hour or two there were signs of mourning everywhere. Many of the tradespeople draped their shutters, blinds were drawn at private residences, church bells were tolled and flags hoisted half-mast on the public buildings. During the morning when the streets were filled with crowds of country people from the surrounding villages it was almost the exception to find anyone without some note of black in their attire 10 05 13c & d

With fitting ceremonial Prince George Frederick Ernest Albert was proclaimed to the University, the Borough and County of Cambridge, King of Great Britain and Ireland and Dominions beyond the Seas and Emperor of India, in succession to Edward VII. In the Guildhall the Mayor and Corporation assembled in the Large Room with the benign countenance of Queen Victoria looking down on them from the wall to acclaim her grandson as King George V 10 05 13e-g i j

On a certain day 49 years ago several undergraduates while walking along the Madingley Road were overtaken by a heavy rainstorm. They were not provided with any protection against such weather and there was every likelihood they would be thoroughly drenched. An old lady living in one of the brick-built cottages noticed their plight and they gladly took the opportunity to wait in her dwelling until the violence of the storm had abated. Before they left the kindly old dame insisted upon one of the young men accepting the loan of her umbrella. It was returned the next day with a substantial gift in recognition of her kindness. That undergraduate afterwards became King Edward VII 10 05 13h

1910 05 27
Col Theodore Roosevelt, ex-President of the United States of America, was awarded an Honorary Degree in the Senate House. He arrived by train from London and was driven to Pembroke Lodge where he lunched with the Vice-Chancellor and 100 friends. Afterwards he was made an Honorary Member of the Union Society. Only Oliver Wendell Holmes, Lord Kitchen and Mr Waterhouse, the architect of the Union building had received this honour before him. The whole visit was very quietly carried out owing to the death of King Edward VII 10 05 27a

1910 10 21
A public meeting agreed that the best Cambridge memorial to King Edward VII would be an extension to Addenbrooke's Hospital. At present there was a small ward where only eight infants could be accommodated and the outpatients department did more harm than good as people suffering from infectious diseases had to wait in company with others, increasing infection. The boiler needed replacement and there was need for a new room for X-ray apparatus as well as a new lift. There should also be a bust of the late King to be displayed in the Guildhall alongside that of his mother, Queen Victoria. 10 10 21e & f

1911 06 23
The Coronation of King George V and Queen Mary at Westminster Abbey was attended by scenes unprecedented in the history of the Empire. In Cambridge a strong wind struggled wildly with noble flags and dainty decorations alike. Immense crowds of people walked round the streets and endorsed the judges' choice of Stetchford Dairies' premises as having the premier decorative scheme. The Dorothy Café was a very fine second best. Coronation celebrations: electric searchlight on Castle Hill; no drunkenness, include variety entertainment & fireworks on Parker's Piece [MPP.53, 11 05 06 TT] 11 06 23 & a, b,c

1914 04 24

King's Visit - Six thousand schoolchildren will next Thursday line the streets .Although visit is to the Leys School. King will proceed to the school via Newmarket Road, East Road, Lensfield Road and Trumpington Road. Upon arrival will be received by a guard of honour and met by headmaster and members of the governing body. Will view memorial South African War, inspect the gymnasium, swimming baths, science buildings, etc 14 04 24 CIPof 14 05 01

1914 05 01
Appeals for people to decorate their houses along the King's route to lay foundation stone Moulton chapel Leys school to the Leys School were effective. Along Newmarket Road and East Road houses vary in size but an elaborate display of flags and bunting had been arranged. The favourite plan was a Union Jack hung from the bedroom window or bunting arranged along the window ledges, busin3esses were tastefully embellished while scores of streamers were hung across the road with a tremendous banner inscribed 'Cambridge Working Men's Club'. Many of the side streets made good displays 14 05 01e, photos 14 05 01b

Crowds of children lined Newmarket Road to see the King make his way to the Leys School. The vice-chairman of the Education Committee rode along the route on his bicycle to see the children looking happy and not at all tired. The NSPCC inspector was also on duty. A kindly gentleman was standing outside the Jolly Butchers entertaining the children with a cockatoo. The little ones laughed very heartily as the comical bird flapped its wings and laid down the law with its beak whilst conversing with its master. Presently a large Daimler car was seen. "Here comes the King" shouted someone and the shrilling cheering and waving of flags told those at Page's Corner that his Majesty had come 14 05 01d

Two petitions were thrown at the King's car as he made his way to the Leys School, one landed on top of the car, the other struck the chauffeur in the face. That the King would be in a closed car was obviously not anticipated. Very few people observed the actions of the suffragettes, so quietly were they carried out. The petitions begged the King to reconsider his refusal to receive Mrs Pankhurst's deputation. 14 05 01f

The King's car slowed down near Bottisham Vicarage where the schoolchildren had assembled. Bugler Bowers, of the Boy Scouts, gave the signal of the King's approach and the children sang the National Anthem. The well-known house, 'The Swan' was beautifully decorated and the church flag floated proudly in the breeze from the tower. Quite a crowd of people from adjacent villages lined the road towards Cambridge 14 05 01g

1914 06 12
Royal Visit - Prince Arthur of Connaught opened the new School of Physiology erected on the Downing Street site by the Worshipful Company of Drapers at a cost of £23,500. 14 06 12 CIPof

1914 06 12
Ugandan Prince Joseph (cousin of the King of Uganda), and Stanislaus Muganys (one of the three Regents during the minority of the young King) welcomed to Cambridge. Bishop Hanlon (the first Vicar Apostolic of Uganda), who accompanied the Prince and the Regent to Cambridge, preached at Sunday evening's service at the Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs to a large congregation. Outside the Church, large numbers of townspeople assembled in order to get a glimpse of the visitors, who wore their picturesque native robes. 14 06 12 CIPof

1914 12 18
Royal visit Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein to First Eastern General Hospital 14 12 18

1915 02 12
King inspects Troops. The King visited Cambridge yesterday and inspected the Welsh Division which has been stationed in the town during the past few weeks. The Cambs Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment and members of B Company, Cambs. National Reserve paraded with the Welsh Division and were also inspected by His Majesty. The King was accompanied by General Sir Ian Hamilton, the Commander-in-Chief of the Home Forces, one of his equerries (Major Clive Wigram) and members of the staff of the 1st Army Corps and of the Welsh Division Staff. Having inspected the troops and taken the salute at the march past, the King paid a surprise visit to the 1st Eastern Hospital.15 02 12

1915 04 30
Royal Visit.—On Wednesday, HRH Princess Henry of Battenberg and HRH Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig Holstein visited the Research Hospital, Hills Road, and the 1st Eastern General Hospital 15 04 30 CIPof

1916 08 09
King makes private visit, few aware, to inspect the various military units in the town and to visit the 1st Eastern General Hospital. He evinced the keenest interest in everything he saw at the hospital, and stayed for a moment or so by the side of many a wounded hero. They stay in Cambridge lasted exactly 2 ¾ hours. His Majesty was in khaki, and looked fit and well 16 08 09 CIPof. Visit of King, watches cadets, visits Trinity cadets, 1st Eastern 16 08 09d – photos – 16 08 09c

1918 03 27
Princess Mary paid her first visit and saw the old University town under its most modern conditions, its begowned undergraduates replaced by brown uniformed officer cadets and its men in many cases supplemented by women. She presented badges to the Women of the Land Army and the Village Workers 18 03 27 CIPof [2.17]

1918 10 09
Queen Mary's visit; pictures will be shown at Victoria & Kinema cinemas Ch 1918 Oct 9

1918 10 16
Queen and Princess Mary visit First Eastern General Hospital, Cambridge where the Queen, evidently recognising the difficulties which beset a photographer owing to the bad climate conditions, at her own request stood for a few moments to enable him to secure a snapshot. 18 10 16 CIPof Rev Yr]

1919 08 06
Prince Albert and Prince Henry visit Cambridge before coming up to University – 19 08 06b

1919 11 12
Princes at dinner. The Old Persian tercentenary dinner was held in the Perse School Hall on Friday evening, the Bishop of Woolwich presiding. He was supported by Prince Albert, Prince Henry and others. The toast of "The King" having been honoured, the Bishop of Woolwich submitted “The Royal Family." Prince Albert, replying, said: "My brother and I feel at present like two simple minnows among a number of Tritons in a sea of knowledge." He congratulated the school on the prominent position it had taken in the pioneer work of modern education, "due, in so large a measure, to the brilliant and energetic efforts of Dr Rouse (headmaster) and his colleagues". “Your war record," he went on is one you may well be proud of. Your

losses have been I fear heavy, and with you I mourn the brave men from your school who have given their lives for country and Empire 19 11 12 CIPof

1920

1920 02
Duke of York caught smoking when undergraduate – 36 12 12c. In February 1920 Dr Glover was on duty as Proctor outside the Union, waiting for undergraduates offending against University regulations when one of the bulldogs, Lavis, stopped the Duke of York, later King George VI, who was seen smoking in academic dress. The price's equerry dashed over and said he could not have it, but Glover insisted. Next day he sent Lavis round with the usual fine notice when he met the Prince who gave him a drink. Some years later the King recalled the incident and referred to the cigarette as the most expensive one he ever smoked! 53 04 25 36 12 12TT, 36 12 19. R.H. Lavis was bulldog who caught Prince Albert smoking – 36 12 19.

1920 03 17
Prince Albert arrives at Guildhall for Royal Investiture – photo – 20 03 17a

1920 05 12
Queen pays informal visit to two princes at Southacre and Trinity, walk Backs - CDN 20 05 12c

1920 06 19
Prince Albert, Duke of York leaves as undergraduate, describes being 'progged' for smoking - CDN 20 06 19 - speeches [20 04 19 TT]

1921 05 25
Crown Prince of Japan visits Cambridge – 21 05 25b
Prince Hirohito of Japan's visit to Cambridge 1921 recalled – 71 10 06

1921 05 31
Prince of Wales visit to Cambridge, 31 May 1921: souvenir photos; cinema pictures to be shown at Victoria – 21 06 01b-f, j

1921 10 19
King & Queen visit NIAB – 21 10 19d,e

1922 07 04
His Royal Highness the Duke of York unveiled the War memorial which has been erected in Cambridge. The ceremony was attended by thousands of people and was of a deeply impressive nature. It was raining heavily as the Prince mounted the platform for the unveiling ceremony. The band played the opening bar of the hymn "O God, our help in ages past" to the accompaniment of rain drumming on hundreds of umbrellas. A few minutes later the rain ceased and the rest of the ceremony was carried though amid brilliant sunshine. The Prince pulled a rope which released the drapery revealing the bronze figure of an infantryman 22 07 04

When the new King unveiled the War Memorial – 36 12 12

1922 07 07
Before a large assembly at the Senate House his Royal Highness, the Duke of York, K.G. had the degree of Doctor of Law conferred on him by the Chancellor of the University, the Earl of Balfour. When the Duke of York was conducted by the Esquire Bedell to his position before the

Chancellor, a storm of applause broke from the audience, which, led from the gallery, soon developed into a cheer. The Orator said; "Our Duke lives - as we read every day in the Press - a life of toil and thought for his people. We hope that in Cambridge, at least, he feels free from toil and anxiety and is here with pleasure and freedom of mind" c22 07 07

1924 10 30
Princess Mary visits Tapestry works, 24 10 30 p6

1925 11 21
In Cambridge, as throughout the country, the sad tidings of the death of the Queen Mother were received with feelings of profound sorrow. The flags on the University buildings, colleges, churches, municipal buildings were half-masted, and at various places of entertainment the audiences, on hearing the news announced, stood in silence while the National Anthem was played. The Mayor moved a vote of sympathy with their Majesties King George V and the Queen on the loss of their mother. To every Englishman the name of Alexandra has stood for love and sympathy 25 11 21

Queen Alexandra's visits to Cambridge, 25 11 28 p8, 25 12 05, p8

1929 04 25
Prince Olaf of Norway visits Cambridge – CDN 25.4.29

1929 06 19
Ramsey MacDonald prime minister surprise visit Cambridge – CDN 19.6.1929

1929 07 23
Papworth Village Settlement visit by Duke & Duchess of York, 29 07 23 p5 & 24th p8*

1929 09 20
Queen at Papworth, 29 09 20 p8

1930

1930 05 06
The King, who celebrated the 20th anniversary of his accession to the throne today, attended racing at Newmarket this afternoon. He motored from Buckingham Palace during the ceremony of changing the guard and large crowds cheered as his car left. But only a few people noticed his arrival on the Heath. The King spent some moments at the new electric totalisator before proceeding to the grandstand. He will remain at Newmarket for the whole of the Spring Meeting. 30 05 06

1931 10
Ghandi came to Cambridge, Oct 1931 42 08 15a

1932 06 22
The Prince of Wales landed in his red Puss Moth monoplane at Marshall's aerodrome. He jumped hatless from the plane, then donned a boater and drove to the Leys School where he opened the new squash courts and sports ground. On his return he was assisted into his raincoat in preparation for a lofty flight in search of a favourable wind before he stepped into his monoplane, soared gracefully aloft and headed for London. 32 06 22a [2.3]

1932 07 15
The Duke and Duchess of York opened Papworth Village Settlement's Women's Hospital which provides accommodation with the personal appurtenances of a private bed-sitting room so that each of the 62 patients may enjoy cheerful, colourful surroundings in her fight for health. Then they journeyed on to Addenbrooke's Hospital to open a new wing for children. 32 07 15a & b (Queen Mother's first visit) [6.1]

1932 07 15
The visit of Her Majesty, Queen Mary, was kept a close secret and her car was temporarily held up near Northampton Street traffic lights. But the news quickly spread. Later she visited the Fitzwilliam Museum where she consented to be photograph under the picture of Cambridge that she had presented. 32 07 15g

1932 11 18
H.R.H. Prince George toured the Pye Radio Works where 1,500 hands produce 4,000 radio receivers a week. This is the first time a factory engaged in Britain's newest and most progressive industry has been honoured by a Royal visit. The operatives gave him a rousing reception – the girls were especially enthusiastic: it was a wonderful study to observe their varying expressions as he passed through the workshops. "Oh, he's lovely" was the general verdict and every detail of his dress, appearance and manner have furnished a fruitful topic of conversation in Cambridge homes 32 11 18a

1934 01 08
Queen Mary & Duchess of York visit Cambridge Tapestry Company & Woolston's antique shop [6.2,1.6] Thousands of people lined both side of St Andrew's Street when the Queen and Duchess of York paid a private visit to Mr Woolston's antique shop where the Queen chose several tiny ivory objects for her famous doll's house. She also inspected the Cambridge Tapestry Company's premises in Thompson's Lane where they watched the women workers actually engaged at the canvas and saw the tapestry panelling now being made for Lord Fairhaven, depicting his seat at Anglesey Abbey. 34 01 08

1934 01 29
Queen Mary paid another visit to Cambridge when she inspected two antique shops and called at a café on King's Parade. The large crowd who had been waiting was surprised when a small blue car drew up and she stepped out. The Royal limousine had broken down on the Ely Road and Mr Percy Titmous, a brewer's manager, had stopped to offer assistance. He then drove her to Cambridge. The Queen was intensely amused at the somewhat unexpectedness of her arrival and at the little adventure which had befallen her, he said 34 01 29 [1.7, 34 02 02]

Percy Titmous has become famous as a result of driving the Queen to Cambridge after her breakdown. The news spread very quickly and soon pressmen, news agencies and even film companies were hot on his track. One wanted a film specially for America, but he did not feel inclined to do so. He had wanted to slip away unobserved but had not thought to cover the number plate of his car and it was easy to telephone the Council offices to get his name. 34 02 03

The fame of Mr Percy Titmous, the Cambridge man who gave the Queen a 'lift', has spread to the United States of America and did the News Editors lap it up! The New York Herald-Tribune headlined the story 'Percy Titmous Plays Launcelot to Queen Mary in Dire Distress! Motorized Knight Comes Upon His Liege Lady in Broken Down Limousine and Wheels His Trusty Sedan About in Dash for Cambridge Town' 34 02 10, 34 02 17

Another interesting part in the Queen Mary's visit to Cambridge was played by Mr Walter Riddy, proprietor of the St Andrew's Road Garage, Chesterton. After the Royal car had broken down and the Queen had been driven by Mr Percy Titmous, he received a telephone message requesting the hire of a Daimler saloon at short notice. He changed out of his working clothes and drove to Mr Roe's shop in St Andrew's Street to take the Queen to the Copper Kettle Café and then on to Exning. There she invited him to remain for lunch but he had another engagement and could not accept. 59 01 30

1934 10 20
King's visits to Cambridge – 34 10 20

1934 10 22
Thousands greeted the King and Queen when they made their way to the new University Library. Washing and cooking alike was forgotten in hundreds of homes as women formed a great part of the crowds which were thickest in Trinity Street where undergraduates in cap and gown added to the number. Of all the wonderful products of man's skill in art and labour the Library must rank of one of the most inspiring and peculiarly permanent of our national institutions and with while clouds scudding over its lofty tower this unique building occupied the centre of a delightful scene. An exceptionally good film of the visit, taken by Gaumont especially for the Victoria Cinema will be shown next week. 34 10 22 & 25

1935 01 25
Her Majesty, Queen Mary, paid a surprise visit to Cambridge to purchase some antiques for her collection. So informal was the visit that even the police were not told she was coming and did not know she was in the town until her car was recognised. Officers then proceeded to Stanley Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's Street where there was soon a crowd of about 1,000 people. Motor cars parked nearby were removed and for some time bewildered drivers were inquiring the whereabouts of their vehicles. The Queen visiting all 16 rooms and bought a number of choice specimens of china, glass a furniture which were placed gently in her car. 35 01 23a (subsequently becomes a regular visitor) [35 01 25 CIPof 1.5]

1935 05 04
One of the most memorable features of the Jubilee celebrations for King George V will be a retrospect of the reign which has been prepared by Prof Harold Temperley for broadcasting. He calls it a radio dramatic and historical drama. He was assisted in his research in the Royal Archives by Miss Sybil Crowe, a former student of Girton and the gifted and artistic producer was by Lawrence Gilliam formerly of Peterhouse. Both were formerly his pupils. 35 05 04a

1935 05 07
Cambridge was decorated for the Jubilee celebrations of King George V. The gayest part covered the main shopping centre where everyone had apparently tried to do better than his neighbour. One of the most original efforts was seen in a grocery shop where a number of eggs had been dyed red and blue and made with some white-shelled eggs into the shape of the Union Jack. A music and cake shop, neighbours, had joined together to produce an effective display with lengths of red white and blue silk draped across the front of their premises while a gay display outside an insurance office attracted a great deal of attention 35 07 07a

In the evening of Jubilee Day the King's speech was relayed by means of loud speakers on Jesus Green. It came through with great clarity and was listened to with rapt attention by many thousands of people. The relay was carried out by Messrs Morley and Duke by means of

amplifiers installed near Jesus Green Swimming Bath. Afterwards Josephine's Ladies Gipsy Ban played for dancing 35 05 07b

Cambridge Jubilee celebrations – 35 05 07c & d & e & f

1935 05 09
Children celebrate Jubilee, cinema show – 35 05 09a

1935 05 10
End of Jubilee celebrations – big crowds at Christ's Pieces – 35 05 10a

1936 01 15
The Queen motored over from Sandringham to visit Mr Stanley Woolston's antique store where she purchased specimens of needlework and some ivories to add to her collection. As word spread the police had a hard time keeping back the ever-increasing throng of sightseers. It was noticed that one of the tyres of the royal car was a little deflated and an RAC Scout was called in to blow it up again. The Queen also visited the Cambridge Tapestry Company in Thompson's Lane where she saw one piece of tapestry that was being repaired. It had been stolen by thieves who were forced to abandon it in a wood where it had been affected by the weather and some children had also mutilated it 36 01 15a

1936 01 21
The news of the death of our beloved King came to the people of Cambridge by means of the wireless. The late afternoon bulletins prepared listeners for the worst and a solemn vigil began. In hundreds of homes families sat by the fireside waiting anxiously for the quarter-hourly bulletins which were given by the BBC. It was if the whole nation were waiting at the King's bedside. At the Dorothy Café, where the Fulbourn Mental Hospital Staff dance was in progress, the news of the King's death was learned at half-past-twelve. At once the dance was terminated. 36 01 21

The late King George first came to Cambridge as Duke of York in 1894 when he received an Honorary Degree. As King he stayed at Trinity College while inspecting the army manoeuvres in 1912 during which he met a column of troops on the march near Whittlesford and sat on his horse for nearly half an hour waiting for them to pass. He refused to allow them to be stopped in order to give him passage. Earlier he had dismounted to talk to an old soldier at Linton. His final recent visit was at the opening of the new University Library, 36 01 21c, 36 01 25 TT

1936 01 22
Proclaiming new king – 36 01 22

1936 01 23
Several thousand packed Cambridge Market Hill where from a special platform draped in purple the new King Edward VII was proclaimed. But proceedings were interrupted by the appearance overhead of an aeroplane and as a result of the noise from the engine the Mayor (Ald Wing) had to pause. Undergraduates crowded outside the Senate House where the University ceremony was held. Many of them had cameras and four or five, determined to get a good view of the ceremony, climbed into the huge bowl which stands on a pedestal in the court. 36 01 23c

Long before the royal train carrying the dead King was due to leave Wolferton, thousands had assembled at vantage points along the railway route to London line to pay their final homage. Every few yards little knots of people stood in reverent silence. Hundred lined the platform as the funeral train steamed slowly into Cambridge station. 'Charlotte' the parrot, King George's

inseparable companion, was on the train. It had been carried to the station in a covered cage, placed on the knees of a royal servant in a royal shooting brake. 36 01 23a & d

Death of the King, the funeral train driven by Cambridge drivers passes through station [36 01 28 TT]
Royal funeral train at Cambridge – 36 01 23

1936 01 27
Scene in King's college chapel & other services – 36 01 27

1936 08 24
Queen Mary paid a surprise visit to Ely and spent an hour in the Cathedral. A man and his wife in the Cathedral noticed Her Majesty without being immediately aware of her identity. He remarked, however, on her 'likeness to the Queen' and the next moment was astonished to receive a gracious 'Good morning' from Her Majesty. Although she had mingled unnoticed with other visitors the news soon spread and there was a large crowd outside the West Door when her maroon Daimler left for Newmarket Jockey Club 36 08 24a (photo 36 08 25)

1936 12 10
King Edward VIII has abdicated. As Prince of Wales he came to Cambridge in June 1921 to receive an honorary degree and inspect Boy Scouts and Girl Guides. More than 5,000 children lined the route so they could catch a glimpse of 'Prince Charming' as he was called in those days. His last visit in June 1932 was to inspect the Leys School. There have been visits to the County, he opened Sawston Village College in July 1930 and reviewed the Royal Air Force at Duxford in 1935 36 12 10d

There was an enormous demand for copies of the CDN containing official news of the King's Abdication. The first edition was on sale within minutes of the Speaker's historic announcement in the House of Commons. It contained a three-column sketch of the new King and Queen and an appreciation of 'Edward – the Man' together with pictures recalling his visits to Cambridgeshire. The Night Final contained many other interesting details about the crisis. Hours after this London papers were still being sold in the streets that contained only a brief announcement in the Stop Press columns 36 12 10 & b-e.

The depressing fog hung over Cambridge like a gloomy portent of the sad news to come as people awaited the King's decision. Thursday afternoon (early closing day) brought shut shops and deserted streets to add to the atmosphere of depression. The usual football matches were in progress but the topic of conversation was about the Abdication crisis. The first to hear the news was the group gathered in the offices of the CDN awaiting the News Agency 'snap' messages. Shortly after three-thirty it came. Soon after the poster 'The King's Decision – Official' brought people into the streets eager for the latest news 36 12 10f

1936 12 12
All Cambridge listened to the farewell message broadcast by Prince Edward from Windsor Castle. At the Theatre Cinema an announcement was made that the feature film would be interrupted for the relaying of the speech by courtesy of the BBC. Just before ten the curtains over the screen were lowered. When they were drawn back a large receiving set was seen in the centre of the stage with a single spot-light shining on it. The lights were dimmed. A tense, almost painful silence fell on the audience. Suddenly it was broken. Sir John Reith was heard. 'This is Windsor Castle – His Royal Highness, Prince Edward' 36 12 12a

Cambridge and the new King – his various visits – 36 12 12b & c

1936 12 14
Proclaiming King George VI – 36 12 14 & a, b

1936 12 15
The King as a Cambridge undergraduate – photo – 36 12 15

1937 01 16
Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth paid her first visit to Cambridge since her accession. Together with Queen Mary she made a number of purchases from Mr S. Woolston's antique shop. Although a private trip, word had got about and despite the drizzling rain a crowd gathered to cheer the two Queens when they arrived from Sandringham. Police had to institute a single-line traffic system to allow vehicles to pass the crush of people who surged round, cheering enthusiastically, when they departed en route to Exning for lunch. It was Queen Mary's fourth visit to the shop 37 01 16 ,6.3]

1937 05 10
Remarkably fine silken embroideries have been prepared for the embellishment of the thrones to be used at the Coronation of their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. The King's throne is adorned with the Royal Arms while the Queen's also carried her newly-granted Bowes Lyon arms. The Cambridge Tapestry Company was entrusted with the work of embroidering the backs of the thrones. All the preliminary drawings on linen were made in Cambridge and the work was completed at the company's premises at Ickleford, near Hitchin 37 05 10

1937 05 11
Coronation programme – 37 05 11a

1937 05 12
Cambridge celebrated the coronation of King George VI with a decorated vehicle display on Midsummer Common. The entries hardly reached the standard of the Jubilee procession and the crowds did not seem to be quite so thick, but the right spirit was present. Modern decorations in the shape of coloured electric bulbs and weatherproof materials were utilised to the full with triple garlands spanning Market Hill and central streets. The war memorial and the colleges were bathed with floodlighting 37 05 12b

Coronation Celebration rejoicing – 37 05 12a

At the Coronation celebrations one small tent attracted probably more interest than any other with the possible exception of the tea tent. It contained a Pye television apparatus and during the afternoon many availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing the actual Coronation procession taking place. Although Cambridge is almost out of range of Alexandra Palace, everything came through very well. Almost the only interference was experienced when the motor racing was being held in the area only a few yards away 37 05 12b

1937 05 18
Crown Prince of Japan visits Cambridge – 37 05 18

1937 06 01
The King of Egypt arrived in Cambridge on the first visit he has paid to the town. He had been expected at Clare College at about six o'clock but was late as he'd waited for His mother, the

Queen, who'd booked a suite at the University Arms Hotel. The King strolled about Regent Street and visited Barbara Fuller's dog shop where he purchased a wire fox terrier puppy which he played with in the college. Very few people knew of his visit which was to meet Egyptian students. About twenty were introduced to him, many being members of the Pharoahs Club. 37 06 01b

1937 07 09
Emperor of Abyssinia at Trinity – 37 06 09

1938 01 17
Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mary & the Princess Royal visit Woolston's antique shop – 38 01 17

1938 08 05
Queen Mary visits Woolston's antique shop – 38 08 05 & b

1938 08 12
Queen Mary named the first block of the new buildings at Newnham College after Professor and Mrs Fawcett and their daughter Philippa. It was at the Fawcett's house in December 1869 that the first meeting was held to discuss plans which resulted in the foundation of the college. Twenty-one years later Miss Philippa Fawcett justified her parents' faith by being placed above the Senior Wrangler in the Mathematical Tripos. She was amongst the guests and was presented to the Queen who has taken the keenest interest in the College 38 08 12

1938 08 18
Queen Mary visits Folk Museum – 38 08 18

1938 08 19
Queen visits Fitzwilliam Museum & Woolston's antique shop with Queen Mary [38 08 19 CIPof1.2, 6.4]

1939 01 17
Queen and Queen Mary visit Woolston's shop – 39 01 17 & a

The Queen paid her fourth visit and Queen Mary her eighth visit to Mr. Stanley Woolston's antique shop. Both the royal visitors made purchases of furniture, china and objects d'art. A crowd of 400 were thronging the roadway at the lunch hour 39 01 20 CIPof

1939 01 24
Queen Mary and Princess Royal visit Fitzwilliam Museum – 39 01 24 & a

1939 02 01
King and Queen with princesses join Royal train at Cambridge after visit Newmarket - 39 02 01a

1939 05 22
Queen Mary in car accident 39 05 27TT

1939 08 19
Royal visit to Papworth. Queen Mary spent two hours going through several departments of Papworth Industries, and also visited for the first time the new Nurses' Homes. 39 08 19 CIPof

1939 08 25

Queen Mary arrived almost unobserved & when she alighted from her car in St. Andrew's Street, she was only noticed by a handful of people. It was her ninth visit to Mr. Stanley Woolston's shop. With her was a Curator of the Fitzwilliam Museum, and together with Mr. Woolston they went over the whole of the establishment's rooms …showed a great interest in the antiques, inspecting china, furniture, pictures and other works of art. She made several purchases. 39 08 25 CIPof

1939 12 27
Queen Mary and her daughter, the Princess Royal, paid a visit to the Fitzwilliam Museum. Queen Elizabeth was also to have come, but she had a cold 39 12 27 CIPof

1940

1940 08 16
The Duchess of Gloucester visited Cambridge. At an emergency hospital, the whole of the nursing staff, regular and auxiliary, were lined up and inside the ward, the royal visitor talked with some of the patients, including several members of the B.E.F. back from France. An R.A.F. sick quarters, which is entirely nursed by the Red Cross, was the next place of call. After inspecting two of the wards, the Duchess saw a short display of surgical work by the nurses. Proceeding next to the University examination Hall, now an emergency ward of Addenbrooke's Hospital, the Duchess saw some of the American ambulance units presented to the region then inspected the joint war organisation emergency hospital stores 40 08 16 CIPof

1940 11 15
Duchess of Gloucester opened the new WVS Club for Servicemen and Women in St. Andrew's Street. Although the visit had been kept very secret, a crowd of several thousands gathered in the street and gave Her Royal Highness a hearty send-off. The new club has been made possible through the generosity of an anonymous donor, and includes a. separate room for women 40 11 15 CIPof; 40 11 09a & b

1941 09 06
King Peter of Yugoslavia at Clare, 1st reigning monarch 41 09 06 TT

1941 11 10
King of Greece granted Honorary Degree – 41 11 10a

1942 03 03
King Peter and Queen Marie of Yugoslavia visit Cambridge – photo – 42 03 03

1942 06 15
King visits Swaffham Fen, Priory Farm, sees land reclamation, Land Army 42 06 15, 15a-b, 42 06 27 TT

1942 08 26
Duke of Kent killed – Cambridgeshire memories recalled – 42 08 26a, 42 08 29a

1942 11 07
Mrs Roosevelt visits Cambridge 42 11 07 TT
Mrs Roosevelt, American First Lady comes to Cambridge – 42 11 04a1

1943 03 30

Duchess of Gloucester tours Red Cross and St John war organisations – 43 03 30, 31

1943 10 26
Duchess Visits Hospital. An addition to the programme arranged for the Duchess of Kent's visit to Cambridge on Tuesday afternoon was a call at the American Red Cross hostel at the Bull Hotel. Earlier, after visits to Addenbrooke's Hospital and The Leys Annexe, the Duchess had tea with workers in their canteen at the new Falcon Club in Petty Cury. Her Royal Highness chatted with hospital patients, workers and American soldiers at the U.S. hostel in the course of her tour. She was accompanied by Lady Rachel Davidson. During the Duchess's visit to the children's wards at Addenbrooke's the behaviour of the little ones was exemplary. 43 10 29 CIPof 43 10 26

1943 11 16
Regent of Iraq visited University School of Agriculture etc – 43 11 16

1945 07 23
Queen Mary shops Stanley Woolston's antique shop – CDN 1945 07 23 photo – CDN 1945 07 24

1945 08 24
Royal Shopper. People who happened to be in St. Andrew's Street about noon yesterday had the pleasure of seeing Queen Mary, who paid a private shopping visit to Mr. Stanley Woolston's antique shop. Before Her Majesty arrived, there was only a handful or more people in the vicinity of the shop, but as her car drew up outside, the crowd rapidly grew and people pressed forward to catch a glimpse of the distinguished visitor, Queen Mary, who attended by Lady Cynthia Colville, from Sandringham, wore a pretty powder blue frock, a white coat with a large white fur collar and a small white hat. She wore pearl and diamond earrings. As Her Majesty re-entered the car later, the cheers and clapping went up from the crowds, and many people ran behind the car to get a last view of her as she drove for Exning. 45 08 24 CIPof; Queen Mary re-enters car after shopping visit to St Andrew's Street – CDN 1945 08 24

1945 09 07
Two young Ethiopian Princes, both direct descendants of the Emperor, paid a private visit to Cambridge on Saturday, when they were guests of the Vice-Chancellor. The Royal visitors were Prince Sachie Salassie, the 15-year-old son of the Emperor, and Prince Alexander Desta, aged 11, a son of the Emperor's daughter. They arrived at Trinity at midday, where they were received by Mr. A. Marcos, a third year Ethiopian student at the college, before meeting the Vice-Chancellor at Emmanuel and going on to lunch at the University Arms Hotel. Another relative Princess Aida, sister of Prince Alexander, will be coming to Cambridge to study at Newnham 45 09 07 CIPof

1946 01 28
Queen & Queen Mother visit Woolston's antique shop, only Queen's second visit – 46 01 28

1946 07 02
St John Ambulance association exhibition opened by Queen Mary of Yugoslavia – 46 07 02

1947 01 10
Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary shop in Cambridge

1947 06 03
Visiting Cambridge today to attend a celebration associated with age - the 400th anniversary of the foundation of Trinity College - the King and Queen were greeted early by youth, represented by 6,000 Cambridge schoolchildren who cheered wildly as their Majesties drove along Station

Road on the first stage of their journey. In several shop windows in the centre of town goods had been replaced a few minutes before the King and Queen passed, by assistants, etc, and the blue-frocked staff of Messrs Boots had a grandstand view from large packing boxes placed in the front entrance.

Although the Royal visit to Trinity College was mainly a University affair the women of Cambridge had an opportunity of seeing the Queen, aptly described during the recent Royal tour as British womanhood's ambassadress. The question, a natural one, many of the women were asking was "What was the Queen wearing". The Mayoress (Mrs F. Doggett) had the experience of waiting on the Queen almost throughout the day. She said that both the King and Queen asked many questions about the fen floods showing a real interest and sympathy in the difficulties of the flood victims. She was impressed by the Queen's great charm. "She was untiring and knew just what to say to everybody", she observed 47 06 04

1947 08 29
Queen Mary visits antiques (& 30th p6)

1947 11 20
Many people unable to be in their homes listened to the broadcast of the Royal Wedding in Cambridge cinemas, all of which were thrown open for the purpose, free of charge. The biggest audience is reported from the Central Cinema who estimated the total as being in the neighbourhood of 500. The sound equipment at the Regal broke down at the last minute and the small queue which had formed there was diverted to the New Theatre opposite, where a set had been hastily brought from his home and installed in the foyer by the Manager and the thrilling, impressive and historic service of the wedding of H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth, future Queen of England and Lieut. Mountbatten, Duke of Edinburgh, was heard by a number of people. Messrs Miller ad Sons, Sidney Street, to meet many requests from customers, televised the proceedings in one of their studios, which was packed 47 11 20

1948 01 21
Princess Margaret paid her first visit to Cambridge to-day, when she accompanied Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary on a visit to Mr S.N. Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's Street. The Princess wore a pale blue costume, with a pale blue halo hat with a feather in it. Her coast was fawn fur, and she had blue lizard sling back shoes and a grey lizard bag. Her youthful charm drew spontaneous admiring remarks from the crowd which saw the Royal party leave. The Princess showed great interest in all she saw during her tour of the premises and asked several questions. She was obviously fascinated by the shop and its contents

1948 06 05
The Queen came to join in the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the foundation of Queens' college, Cambridge. Exactly on time the Royal car was seen coming round the last curve in the road from Hauxton and only the strong arms of the members of the Cambridge Police Force prevented the crowd from surging into the road. But even they were not strong enough to hold the crowd back once the car had stopped and within a few seconds it was completely surrounded so that Her Majesty, even if she decided otherwise, was forced to remain in the car 48 06 05 [6.9]

1948 08 24
Queen Mary took Cambridge by surprise today when she visited the town on one of her private visits to Mr Stanley Woolston's antique store. At precisely noon the car containing the Queen slid into the kerb outside the shop. It was not her own car, however, but the Ely police patrol car. The green Daimler in which the Queen had been travelling developed a slight defect at Lt Thetford

and Her Majesty transferred to the police patrol car following the Royal car. The Daimler, duly repaired, was waiting outside Woolston's some little time before Her Majesty was ready to leave 48 08 24 47 08 28 TT

1948 10 21
When the Queen stood before the Vice Chancellor in Cambridge Senate House today to receive the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Law she was not only a Queen receiving an Honour but also a symbol of the passing of a 700-years-old "tradition" in the university. For, during the whole of the University's history no Queen - and no other woman - has ever before had a degree conferred upon her, because until the recent changes in the statutes giving women full membership the conferring of such an honour was not possible. As the Queen entered the Senate House there was a burst of cheering and clapping. Her scarlet Doctor's robes and her black velvet doctor's cap, made a charming ensemble with the Cambridge blue shade of her dress 48 10 21

As the Queen left Girton College yesterday evening, following her visit there, many students gathered in the drive made appropriate if unorthodox use of the gowns they now wear as symbols of their recently won rights to be full members of the University. They took off their gowns and waved them in farewell to the Royal lady, who in the morning had symbolised those new rights as she received in the Senate House the first degree to be conferred upon a woman in University history c48 10 22

1949 01 17
The Queen, Queen Mary and Princess Margaret arrived in Cambridge by road from Sandringham to visit Mr Stanley Woolston’s antique shop in St Andrew’s street. They were welcomed by an unusually large “arrival” crowd which had started gathering about half-an-hour earlier. The concentration of police in the area had a magnetising effect. The Queen wore a dress and coat of rich purple, with matching felt hat and sling-back skin shoes, and silver grey fox furs. The hat was trimmed with veiling and small purple flowers. The crowd swelled steadily until there were several hundreds lining both sides of the pavements. The Queen was chatting when she walked from the shop to the car, and those nearest were honoured with the lovely, charming well-known smile 49 01 17 [6.11]

1949 06 13
Princess Margaret was present at the last night of the Footlights Review. Efforts had been made to keep the visit as private as possible. The two front rows of seats at the Arts Theatre remained conspicuously empty in a packed house. All faces craned towards the entrance as while the overture was playing the Royal party entered. The audience was on its feet in a second, and there was a spontaneous burst of clapping and a real cheer. The Princess, a petite girlish figure, looking serious and rather shy, was dressed with the utmost simplicity in an evening gown of deep pink tulle. She seemed to thoroughly enjoy the show

1950

1950 08 16
Queen Mary visits, p7

1951 02 09
The Queen and Princess Margaret came to Cambridge on a private visit to their favourite local antique shop. They came by road from Sandringham and the Royal car was half-an-hour later than expected. It was held up for five minutes in a traffic jam in King Street. The sight of uniformed and plain clothed police in the vicinity of Mr Stanley Woolston’s shop drew a crowd

to the spot and there were well over a hundred people-mostly women with shopping baskets – waiting when the Royal car drew into the kerb

1951 04 27
King grants City Status, King & Queen visit in April, met by Mayor (Capt Taylor of CDN) & celebrate 500th anniversary Kings & completion replacement stained glass window 51 04 27 [6.12]

1951 04 28
A Royal welcome greeted the King and Queen when they arrived for their visit to King's College chapel thanksgiving service for its restoration and the replacement of windows removed for safety during the war. The car flying the Royal standard drew up to the city boundary at Newmarket Road. Many mothers from nearby houses brought their children along with little flags and some enterprising onlookers climbed on to one of Marshall's buildings to get a bird's eye view. Carried away by their enthusiasm many toddlers continued to cheer and wave small Union Jacks long after the Royal party had passed 51 04 28

1951 06 09
The news that the King has been advised to take a complete rest was received in Cambridge with deep concern, because it raises the question "Will the King be able to visit the city, as arranged on July 5th?" His majesty had agreed not only to come for the Royal Show but to pay a short visit to the Guildhall in connection with the city's new status. All of us hope that the King will not have to add Cambridge to the list of cancelled engagements. In the meantime letters inviting a number of people to attend at the Guildhall have gone out from the Town Clerk 51 06 09

1951 07 02
Honorary Degree for Princess Royal 51 07 02

1951 07 03
The finest "Royal" and the finest site – such is the general opinion about Britain's 1951 Festival of Agriculture which opened at Trumpington. Today's blazing sun was a pleasant contrast to the gales and torrential rains which marked Cambridge's last Royal in 1922. From early in the morning cars streamed towards the showground. As traffic pressure increased the effect made itself felt even on the outskirts of town where there were occasionally short hold-ups. But movement into the car parks flowed smoothly and to get from the C.D.N. offices in St Andrew's Street took only 15 minutes

1951 07 05
The Queen visited the Royal Show; her route took her through Grantchester where villagers welcomed the Royal car with a number of Union Jacks which hung from houses and hedgerows, and even the petrol pumps of a garage. Princess Margaret travelled as far as Baldock where she turned back because she had developed a bad headache. The town clerk's daughter, Rosalind Swift, who was to have presented Princess Margaret with a bouquet, handed it to the Queen who said she would see that it reached the princess. Obtaining one of the best views was a small patient from Addenbrooke's Hospital, Terence Harley who has unfortunately lost his hearing and the Queen's words to him were written down by his nurse 51 07 05

1952 02 08
With traditional pageantry Queen Elizabeth II was proclaimed from the steps of Cambridge Guildhall and inside and outside the Senate House on Friday morning. Some inkling of the news of the King's death had reached one or two people in Cambridge before the BBC announcement.

As the news began to spread small groups of incredulous people stood discussing it in the streets. By mid-day Cambridge had become a city of flags. Gas Company men excavating in Park Terrace expressed their sympathy by fixing a Union Jack at half-mast from the ropes surrounding the hole they had made in the road. At Pye Ltd's factory the machinery was stopped so that all the 2,000 employees could heard the announcement over the internal loud-speaker system by Mr L.W. Jones, Words Director.

1952 02 09
Long before the arrival of the ten-coach funeral train bearing the body of King George VI, large crowds had gathered at the main vantage points along the line at Ely to pay their homage. At the station crossing hundreds of people assembled on both sides, whilst lines of traffic extended for some distance. Heads were bared as the train rolled smoothly through the station. Workmen who had given up part of their dinner hour and American servicemen were amongst the crowds. At the little village station of Waterbeach about 100 housewives, farmworkers and children gathered. A crowd of more than 800 people lined the marshalling yards on either side of Mill Road bridge, Cambridge. The long black funeral coach, with all its windows blacked out passed exactly on time. Queen Elizabeth II gazed pensively out of a carriage window as the train passed a group of railwaymen standing caps off near Hills Road Bridge. c52 02 14 52 02 06, 52 02 09, 52 92 11

1952 02 09
There are happy memories of King George VI's undergraduate days at Trinity College, Cambridge in 1919-20 when with his brother he sojourned at "Southacre" in Latham Road. In 1922 he unveiled the war memorial in Hills Road and attended the Royal Show at Trumpington & in 1932 he opened the new wing for children and private patients at Addenbrooke's Hospital. His last visit was last year when he attended the Service of Thanksgiving at King's College. 52 02 09

1952 02 11
As the King's funeral procession was winding its slow way through London's streets, hundreds of Cambridge people at similar services in the city joined in Britain's mourning for her late Sovereign. City and County combined at Great St Mary's church where a separate University service was held later. About a thousand people filled the church. Most of the men wore black ties. The scarlet robes of City aldermen provided the one touch of colour; even the gilt of the maces was subdued by a draping of black. The service was relayed to an overflow gathering in the Guildhall. A crowd of some 300 people gathered on the Market Place for the two minute's silence. As the maroon exploded men removed their hats and heads were lowered.

1952 06 12
With all the familiar colour and dignity of a royal occasion, the date of the Queen's coronation – June 2nd next year – was proclaimed today to the people of the city and county of Cambridge. It was a happy coincidence that it should mark a fitting and optimistic finale to the gay and glittering story of the May Week celebrations. A girl still in her May Ball gown and cloak was amongst a crowd of people outside the Shire Hall courts when the High Sheriff, following a fanfare, read the ancient proclamation. On the Market Square a crowd several hundred strong was silent when the Town Clerk began to read but his voice was all but lost in the howl from jet planes speeding overhead.

1952 11 14
The visit to the University of Cambridge by the Duke of Edinburgh was enriched and enlivened by the reception which the young consort received at every stage of his tour. It was a "dusk and darkness" tour but the car's interior lighting was on and the crowds had a clear view of the slim, fair-haired Duke. The outstanding items in the programme were the conferment of the Honorary

Degree of Doctor of Law upon the Duke at the Senate House, his opening of the new laboratory at the University Engineering Department and his visit to the University Union where he was made an honorary member. The Duke left a happy memory of an unassuming young man with a ready smile and a keen and intelligent interest in all that he saw. 52 11 14

1953 01 20
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, accompanied by Princess Margaret, paid a surprise visit to Cambridge to call at Mr Stanley Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's Street. News of their coming was a secret, but a handful of people appreciated the significance of the 'No Waiting' signs & when the sleek Royal car drew up a crowd of about 200 had been attracted to the scene. The Queen Mother, fresh and charming as ever, returned the cheers of the crowd with a smile and a friendly nod. Princess Margaret, demure, attractive and smiling followed her mother into the shop which has now enjoyed Royal patronage for a great many years. 53 01 20

1953 02 14
Bad weather delayed the Royal Car when Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother came to Cambridge to visit depots where clothing is being stored for East Coast flood victims. She visited the hangar on Madingley Road in which is stacked some 400 tons of clothing sent by post, road and rail from all parts of the country. There she watched undergraduates unloading lorries, saw the clothing being sorted and then went to the canteen where she accepted a beaker of tea, declining sugar. Then she walked into the open to see the Soya boilers used to provide hot meals. During part of the time in the shed Her Majesty was under the glare of television cameras which were recording the proceedings. 53 02 14

1953 03 19
Marshal Tito paid a surprise visit to Cambridge; police took stringent security measures and many people were surprised to see a fleet of a dozen cars, escorted by police patrolmen on motor-cycles, sweeping along the streets. It was not until late in the afternoon when it became known that the distinguished visitor was the Yugoslav President. At the University Library Special Branch detectives screened all visitors in the most stringent security measures ever undertaken on the visit of a foreign statesman. He then visited the Engineering Department and Downing College. 53 03 19

1953 03 21
King Hussein of Jordan had a flight in a helicopter, saw the beauty of King's College Chapel and had dinner at Trinity College during a short visit to Cambridge. His first engagement was a visit to the Bourn works of Pest Control Ltd and as his car covered the last mile to the entrance it was escorted by a crop-spraying helicopter keeping pace 50 feet overhead. News that the locust threat in his own country has become very grave increased the importance of a demonstration of methods employed in the destruction of the pest 53 03 21

1953 03 25
Amid the nation-wide sorrow at the death of Queen Mary, the sadness of the people of Cambridge is of a deeper and more personal nature. For this City has known her not only as a gracious lady but also as a charming, friendly and human personality. For more than 20 years she came at frequent intervals to call at Mr Stanley Woolston's antique shop and the people of Cambridge came to accept it as a normal part of the city's life. But the news was sufficient to cause a flutter of excitement and to attract a crowd to St Andrew's Street to demonstrate their affection. 53 03 25

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

With a rosy glow reflected on the windows of Great St Mary's church, a University, City and County congregation paid their last respects to her late Majesty, Queen Mary. While the beautiful gaunt notes of the Dead March in Saul rang through the pillared church there was a silence so complete, so moving as to be perhaps the loveliest and most memorable part of Cambridge people's memorial to the late Queen. Then led by the Mayor and Corporation the congregation melted out into the brightness of a fine March day. 53 03 25

1953 05 09
The television broadcast of the Coronation ceremony will be shown to some 250 people on big screen projectors in Cambridge Guildhall. The projectors are specialised television receivers and produce a picture four feet wide. The picture quality is remarkable but much depends on the signal strength and the co-operation of motorists and other persons who cause T/V electrical interference is invited in keeping away from the vicinity of the Guildhall on Coronation morning. Seats will be allocated to pensioners, wounded ex-Servicemen and similar deserving cases.1953 05 09

1953 05 27
Flags fluttering in the breeze, decorations in traditional colours lining the streets, special shop window displays – these are but a few of the features which have given the city of Cambridge the Coronation look. The city centre, already a scene of gaiety and colour, heralds the approach of next Tuesday's great event. In roads radiating from the centre, decorations to shops and other buildings are being arranged. The majority of householders prefer to wait a little longer. For them D-Day, with the 'D' standing for Decoration – will be some time this weekend. The cost of decorations is an important consideration for many and consequently the emphasis is on effect rather than on elaboration

1953 05 28
Prince Akihito, the Crown Prince of Japan arrived in Cambridge on a short private visit to the University. He visited the University Library where he was shown the signatures of his father, the present Emperor, who came to Cambridge in 1921, and the Japanese collection of 30,000 volumes, one of the best collections outside Japan. The 19-year-old Prince had lunch with four undergraduates and chatted about student life.

1953 06 03
In cold, blustery weather the City of Cambridge put on a brave show in celebration of the Coronation Day of Queen Elizabeth II. Despite the almost wintry conditions the extensive and varied programme was carried through practically unchanged. Everything testified to the magnificent spirit of the occasion and the unanimous desire of the people of Cambridge to make their contribution to the world-wide acknowledgement of this great day. For much of the time it was a matter of celebrating briefly and then dashing for shelter under the trees or in marquees from another downpour
In every main road and in narrow backstreets in Cambridge the flags are flying & pictures of the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and their children are in every other window. Union Jacks and the flags of the Commonwealth make a vivid splash as they flutter in the wind and at least one American family joined in the display with a huge, brand-new Stars and Stripes. Silver Street Bridge blossomed out in red, white and blue stripes – an unofficial decoration scheme believed to the work of students

1953 06 16
In spite of dull conditions members of the firm of Messrs Kerridge Ltd and their children turned up in force for the Coronation sports and party on Pye Sports Ground. A parade was led by the

Boys Brigade band and there was a whole range of side-shows which were free to the children with roundabouts for the toddlers, real ponies and miniature train rides. After tea 'Len' Palmer and his accordion was supported by his three charming daughters in delightful sketches and dances, culminating with the youngest in Coronation robes and a crown.

1953 06 17
At Ditton Fields Coronation Party 228 children wearing fancy hats and carrying flags and streamers marched to Priory School where they sat down to a grand tea catered by Messrs Hawkins Ltd. Afterwards there were musical games and sing-song and a fancy-dress competition whilst entertainment by Mr F. Cross kept the party spellbound. At the end each child was presented with a small souvenir, sweets and ices.

1954 01 13
A crowd of about 100, including a fair sprinkling of undergraduates, saw Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret arrive at Stanley Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's Street, Cambridge on one of the private shopping visits which they so often make while at Sandringham. The Royal Party remained inside for an hour and during this time one of the biggest crowds to be seen had collected. The pavements on both sides of the street were a solid mass of people and shop assistants took up vantage positions in windows overlooking the scene. The mid-day meal must have been late in many homes judging by the number of housewives with heavily-laden shopping baskets who stood in the crowd. 54 01 13

1955 06 23
Queen of Jordan visits Girton College [55 06 23]

1955 10 12
King Feisal of Iraq paid a private visit to Cambridge as the guest of the Vice-Chancellor of the University. He arrived late because of fog and after lunching at Christ's College visited the Wren Library at Trinity and the Fitzwilliam Museum. He then travelled to Marshall's airfield where he displayed keen interest in a Venom IV jet aircraft and the Comet jet and Viscount turboprop airliners. In the Royal party was Mr Tariq Al Askari who was at Cambridge as a student 55 10 12b

1955 10 20
A tremendous welcome greeted the Queen as she arrived at Cambridge station. Crowds had been waiting in the rain for over two hours and school children were tired of the delay. The glass roof of the station platform sprang a leak and a man was sent aloft to cover it with green waterproof. Exactly on time the train drew in and Her Majesty stepped gracefully onto the platform. The women onlookers gasped as they took in the details of her dress, a fitting emerald green coat with black fur collar, green hat and black handbag.55 10 20a

A crowd of several thousands massed in Cambridge Market Place as the Royal procession moved slowly towards the Guildhall. The Queen looked radiant as the Mayor (Ald E. Halnan) presented her with an Electryte Cardiograph adapted by a local firm to monitor the heart of her thoroughbred racehorses. She thanked him warmly saying "this ingenious machine will be put to good use". Then she made an appearance on the balcony, waving to the crowd who cheered back. 55 10 20b

1955 10 21
There was heavy rain as the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh. arrived for the ceremonial opening of the new Veterinary School where a batch of undergraduates lay down their gowns in a Sir Walter

Raleigh act. The Queen was much taken and amused but her private detective, fearing that Her Majesty might trip on the loose gowns, asked for them to be taken up. But a loud cheer greeted the her smile at the gesture. 55 10 21a & b

1956 01 18
Crowds several hundred strong massed to see the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret as they visited Stanley Woolston's antique shop in Cambridge. As news of the surprise visit spread hundreds of girls from shops and offices set out to cheer the Royal visitors. Police fought to keep the road clear but every time they cleared a space another group of women moved in. The Queen Mother expressed concern about the future of the business – he must leave by June because of building plans for the site – saying "We want to know where we can come and visit you". 56 01 18

1956 01 20
Many people who joined the large crowd outside Mr Stanley Woolston's antique shop did not know who they were waiting for but were quite willing to tag on the end. The minutes ticked by and a group of shop assistants who were due back on duty and had missed their lunch in the hope of seeing the Royal visitors had to leave. The tension was made worse by the frequent appearance of the chauffeur who carefully stowed small packages away in the boot of a maroon limousine. When the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret finally appeared it was a wonder they were not crushed. Within two minutes the street was deserted. 56 01 20a

1956 11 29
The Duchess of Gloucester visited Cambridge to open the Red Cross Society Bazaar. There were nearly 100 people waiting as her train arrived at the station but her progress to the Guildhall by car went almost unnoticed. Even at the Market Place there were few more than the usual afternoon shoppers to see her welcomed by Lady Spens and the Mayor, Counc. C.E. Ridgeon. She toured the stalls and met Mr P.J. North, a Red Cross member for 50 years.56 11 29c

1957 05 29
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother opened a new wing at Homerton, a women's training college which prepares students for teaching in primary and secondary schools. She walked along the main entrance driveway passing groups of pretty girl students making a gay sight in their brightly-coloured cotton frocks. 57 05 29 & a [6.13]

1957 08 01
Two groups of Cambridge people, one small and ageing, the other large and young will always carry vivid and happy memories of Princess Margaret's visit. One are the happy band who are passing away their 'twilight years' in the comfort and beauty of Langdon House, which she officially opened. The other are the young families who live on the new housing estate at Arbury Road where the foundation stone of a new church was laid. The Princess came into their midst, laughing, joking and chatting with them, radiating her charm and personality wherever she went. 57 08 01c & d & e & f

1958 11 06
Princess Margaret was described as a person who could 'blend approachability with majesty in a wonderful way' when she received an Honorary Degree in the Senate House. Looking radiant and beautiful, dressed in a brilliant mauve velvet coat, she was given a rousing welcome by thousands of cheering schoolchildren as she drove from the station. Later she opened the new Chemical Laboratories in Lensfield Road 58 11 06 & a,b,c, 58 11 07 & b,c

Princess Margaret visit 1958 & Tony Armstrong Jones as student – 60 02 27

1959 10 17
Winston Churchill plants tree at new Churchill College – 59 10 17, 59 10 19 & a b c [3.1, 5.5]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 06 08
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother opened Angel Court, the new extension to Trinity College built to ease the student accommodation problem. She travelled by normal passenger train and was fifteen minutes early arriving at the college where she showed interest in some of the ancient pottery discovered during excavation work. Later a crowd of several thousand people gave her a rousing send-off as her special launch left the forecourt of the Pike and Eel at Chesterton to take her to watch the May Races on the River Cam 60 06 08 & a [6.14]

1961 06 05
The Queen Mother opened the new Erasmus Building at Queens' College designed by Sir Basil Spence and West House, a new block of classrooms and living accommodation at the Leys School. By joining it on to the existing range of squash and fives courts opened by the Prince of Wales in 1932 it has created an attractive court with a fine view of Coe Fen and the River Cam. Now all boys can move into a study after two years in the common room. There is a penthouse for two bachelor masters which could provide accommodation for nursing staff in the event of an epidemic. 61 06 05 & a, 61 06 06 & a & [8.13]

1961 07 06
Queen Mother visits Royal Show by helicopter – 61 07 06

1962 05 28
The Queen arrived in Cambridge to a fanfare of trumpets and over 2,000 people stood in the biting wind to welcome her as she opened the new Addenbrooke's Hospital. With Miss M.M. Puddicombe, the hospital matron, she walked past a line of nurses to the marquee where the ceremony was held before touring various wards speaking to patients. Later the Queen visited King's College chapel to see the newly-installed Rubens painting and toured the Papworth Village Settlement 62 05 28 & a 62 05 29a

1963 05 30
Duke of Edinburgh arrives by helicopter to talk to children in his Award Scheme – 63 05 30

1963 07 24
Princess Margaret and the Earl of Snowdon came to Cambridge to watch television cameras and electronic equipment being made at the Pye factory, St Andrews Road. A small industrial closed circuit television camera was trained on them when Lord Snowdon asked to have a go. The Princess then focussed it on a group of press photographers. A great burst of cheering went up when Lord Snowdon went over to attractive Mrs Jean Keeble who was working on a television assembly line. "I was absolutely thrilled", she said. Later they took a voyage on the Cam on Viscountess Bury 63 07 24 & a

1964 06 05
Duke of Edinburgh opens Churchill College, visits Pye Telecom & Airport [64 06 05]

1965 03 08
Shah of Persia tours Cambridge 65 03 08a

1965 06 08
Queen Mother opens 1st phase of New Hall – 65 06 08a, 09a, b

1966 01 15
Prince Charles visits Magdalene College [66 01 15]

1966 07 04
Queen Mother opens Fitzwilliam Museum extensions – 66 07 14

1967 10 09
Prince Charles arrives to study at Trinity College – 67 10 09, 09a

1969 02 08
Prince Charles crowns Rag Queen- 69 02 08b, 69 02 15a

1969 03 01
Prince Philip and Princess Anne watch Prince Charles perform in Trinity College revue, handed protest leaflet about tour of South Africa by undergraduates who broke into auditorium – 69 03 01a

1969 03 12
Queen lunches with Prince Charles at Trinity on official visit to NIAB - 69 03 12. 12a

1969 03 29
Prince Philip opens Churchill College conference – 69 03 29

1969 06 10
Queen Mother attends centenary lunch Girton college [69 06 10,6.18]

1969 07 01
Prince Charles' career since he came to Cambridge – feature – 69 07 01b,c,d,e

1970

1970 02 21
Prince Charles in Trinity Review with bagpipes – 70 02 21

1970 05 06
Prince Charles opens Kettle's Yard – 70 05 06a

1970 05 13
Prince Charles awarded BA, maiden speech at Union Society on technological advance, Lord Mountbatten present – 70 05 13

1973 06 14
Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother, relaxed and obviously enjoying her visit to Wesley House, Cambridge, delayed part of her programme to talk to more members of the college than planned.

The six-year-old daughter of the Senior Tutor - Rosemary Skinner - showed a marked reluctance to hand over a posy of flowers to the Queen Mother, but the three-year-old son of the college students' chairman decided to make his own impromptu and unscheduled offering of a potato crisp. And watched by the Lord Lieutenant, the university's divinity professors and a host of other dignitaries young John Oglesby persisted and all the assembled guests had to wait their turn. The Queen Mother, in a grandmotherly way, accepted his gift with thanks and a brief chat. Also visits Leys School. 73 06 14

1973 07 26
Duke of Edinburgh opens Churchill archives centre [73 07 26]

1975 07 22
The Queen Mother opened the new £½-million extension of the Fitzwilliam Museum. The Royal visitor, dressed in a pale-blue turquoise coloured outfit, paused several times to smile and wave to the crowd before being introduced to Museum staff by Prof Jaffe. She had a good look at the £2½ million collection of Cambridge plate on display and after tea she was driven to a waiting helicopter on the playing fields of St John's college 75 07 22 [6.20]

1975 08 02
Hundreds of people crowded around the entrance to the Senate House to watch Prince Charles arrive in academic cap & gown to collect his MA Degree. They waited patiently for 20 minutes when he emerged again after the ceremony. But the formal schedule of his procession was broken when Mrs Phyllis Hepburn, a friend from his student days, hailed him from the crowd. The Prince turned and stopped to chat with her. She said he used to come to her home in Millington Road to play in a string quartet 75 08 02

1975 12 04
Princess Anne, making her first official visit to Cambridge, insisted on an impromptu chat with some of the thousands of sight-seers who thronged the city centre Lion Yard shopping centre. An estimated 10,000 people packed the Market Square and stood eight deep each side of Petty Cury as she walked into the new shopping centre. She stopped to talk to the delighted shop girls who were crowding their doorways and also to the eager shoppers who pressed forward to get a closer look at her. She explained: "I am not a complete stranger here because I have been shown around the university and city unofficially by two previous students who are both fans of the old city" 75 12 04

Large crowds turned out to see Princess Anne wherever she went in Cambridge during her visit yesterday. Inevitably the criticisms that have been voiced about the architecture of the Lion Yard were referred to during the formal speeches. The city council's Labour leader, Coun Peter Wright, spoke of the 'dissension' which still existed over the complex. And Princess Anne, who declared herself a "VI – that means very independent" observer of the architectural scene, said she would report back on the project to two "former students" at Cambridge University when she returned to London 75 12 04

1976 02 12
Prince Philip is now the strongest contender for the Chancellorship of the University. Informed sources have disclosed that Prince Charles was offered the post but turned it down because of his naval commitments with HMS Bronington. Lord Ramsey, former Archbishop of Canterbury, is thought to have declined the invitation while Mr Selwyn Lloyd, recently retired speaker of the House of Commons, is still regarded by many dons as too close contemporary politics to command unanimous support. Prince Philip has for many years maintained a close formal and

informal interest in Cambridge and has seen Cambridge life from the student viewpoint through unannounced visits while Prince Charles was up at Trinity 76 02 12

1976 10 28
Princess Margaret whisked around Cambridge on a brisk visit. At the Arbury Estate many local people stood out in the rain to welcome her. The royal party then left for Langdon House, which she had opened during the previous visit where she met Mrs Francis Aldrich, the longest-serving member of staff. By now she was 15 minutes ahead of schedule for her visit to the University Clinical Medical School. "It threw us into panic stations" said the Secretary, Mr J.P. Howe c76 10 30 visits Good Shepherd, Langdon House etc 76 10 28

1977 05 18
Duke of Edinburgh succeeds Adrian as Chancellor of University [77 05 18]

1977 06 07
Thousands of people attended Cambridge's main jubilee celebrations – rustic games, music, a river boat procession and fireworks – on Midsummer Common. For the women there was a supermarket trolley race won by a team from Robert Sayles. Rain dampened the start of the carnival but large crowds gathered to watch the jubilee games and the procession of decorated motor boats which followed. The evening was rounded off by a fireworks display and there were cheers when the final set piece spelling out "ER II rules OK" was lit. At Thriplow a "Royal Show" included smashing the Royal Doulton, donkey rides from Anne's Riding Stables and a "Royal Free Hospital" blindfold stretcher obstacle race. 77 06 07

Jubilee celebrations include pole race, supermarket trolley race, fireworks, beacon lit Castle Hill, civic procession, Arbury carnival procession [4.1]

1977 10 22
Duke of Edinburgh opens University Music School [77 10 12]

1978 03 07
Princess Anne was mobbed by student demonstrators when she arrived at the Cambridge Union Society Rag charity debate. She was held up outside the door by demonstrators sitting in her path and screaming abuse. They were protesting that the motion "The woman's place is in the harem" was sexist" and none of the abuse was directed personally against the princess. Nearly 150 demonstrators representing a variety of student groups including Gay Cambridge, Anarchists and Men Against Sexism picketed all entrances to the building. Other guests ran the gauntlet, Derek Nimmo was spat on and Robert Morley was catcalled and buffeted. 78 03 07

1978 11 04
Prince Charles parried questions on his success with women when he spoke at the Cambridge Union. "I often think my best way out is to announce my engagement to Gladys Thrumm. The wedding presents would arrive and then I would call it all off and then I could be free to go about and see all sorts of people", he said. He was presented with a bath plug mounted on a wooden shield which came from the rooms he occupied when a student at Trinity College. It was signed by Mrs Florence Moore who cleaned the rooms and was in the audience. 78 11 04

1979 05 15
Princess Margaret made an unscheduled walk to one of Cambridge's oldest churches, St Peter's on Castle Hill. It followed her visit the University's Gallery of Modern Art at Kettle's Yard, which was opened by Prince Charles in his undergraduate days. She saw a model of the proposed

extensions which if approved would double the exhibition space and provide refreshment facilities for the public. Later, at her own request, she saw a class of medical students at work in the University Department of Physiology. 79 05 15

1979 08 02
Prince Charles opens Cambridge Consultants building [79 08 02]

1980

1980 02 27
Duke of Edinburgh opens Lion Yard law courts, visits Library [80 02 27]

1981 05 29
Robinson College officially opened by Queen 81 05 29, 81 05 30

Newmarket millionaire David Robinson today announced he had given an extra £1 million to the college he founded. The news came shortly before the Queen and Prince Philip arrived in Cambridge to formally open it. But Mr Robinson did not attend the ceremony as he did not feel up to it. He is very frail. But 2,500 employees of the Cambridge University Press took tea with the Queen after she opened their new Edinburgh Building. 81 05 29, 30

1981 07 30
The Royal Wedding had millions glued to their television sets but in side streets and back gardens revellers found a variety of ways to toast Charles and Diana throughout the rest of the day. In De Freville Avenue residents sealed off two streets and several hundred tucked in to tea, at Impington children of Station Road held their 'street party' indoors – the village hall had been booked in case of bad weather. Tea at Home Close old people's home at Fulbourn was a very English affair with handbell ringers and croquet on the lawn. 81 07 30b

Flo Moore was back at work at 4 am today as a char-lady at Trinity College after three dazzling days that took her from Buckingham Palace to St Paul's and then the television studios. They were guests at the Royal Wedding and saw all the ceremonial but, she said "All I want to do now is put a bag over my head like they do to Bernie's parking meters when they're out of order": her husband empties parking meters for the city council. 81 07 30a

1982 01 29
When the Queen Mother opened St Paul's Church of England Primary School, Cambridge, she went from class to class, looking over the shoulders of the children as they continued their work. Three infant classes showed her their Captain Cook project, their dressing-up clothes, demonstrated how a canon works and gave an impromptu music lesson. Some were too busy to talk; one hurried busily up to the teacher with a problem: "I have to do his braces for the loo", she told the Queen Mother. "Oh that's much more important", she replied. 82 01 29a

1982 05 19
Duke of Edinburgh makes first helicopter landing on Parkers Piece [82 05 19]

1983 10 03
Fleet Street's royalty watchers were out in force as Prince Edward started his studies at Cambridge University. Television crews, reporters and cameramen from almost every national newspaper were permitted inside the grounds of Jesus College for the Prince's arrival. Amongst

them was the Sun photographer Arthur Edwards who outraged the Palace with his 'bikini pictures' of the Princess of Wales before the birth of Prince William. 83 10 03 p10, 83 01 18

1983 11 07
Jesus College could be turned into a fortress to stop reporters pestering Prince Edward and his fellow students. One student found a reporter sitting on her bed when she returned to her room and two undergraduates have been asked to pass on information. One photographer has been caught with a long-range lens on the fourth floor of a carpark. He had been trying to spy on the rooms of Edward's fellow undergraduate who will be playing the leading lady opposite the Prince in 'The Crucible' 83 11 07 p5

1984 03 03
Astonished shoppers saw Prince Edward sipping champagne in Kings Parade and shouting at young people dancing on the roof of a taxi. It was his off-beat way of letting people know about the charity show he is producing for the University Rag Week. But his elaborate publicity stunt almost flopped when he failed to find the old London taxi he needed. So he asked the News for help and as a result Londoner Maurice Hamilton made a special trip to Cambridge with his cab. 84 03 03

1984 05 16
The Queen gave her royal seal of approval to Cambridge's multi-million pound Grafton Centre when she unveiled a plaque to marks its official opening. Cheering crowds queued for hours to glimpse her. A fanfare performed by the 20-piece orchestra from the Manor School greeted the royal party. After the opening the queen spoke to many of the children and shop staff. 84 05 16 p12

Hundreds of people turned out to greet the Queen when she unveiled a plaque at the opening of the multi-million pound Grafton Centre. Earlier she met youngsters at the ITek technology centre and made blind teenager Maria Freeman's day by stopping to chat with her as she typed on a special machine invented by the manager, David Battison. Both Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh planted trees at Emmanuel College to mark its 400th anniversary, though Philip quipped "I'm the kiss of death as far as tree planting is concerned" 84 05 17 p9

1985 02 08
An aircraft carrying the Princess of Wales made a dramatic touchdown in Cambridge in a blinding snowstorm. Diana, wearing a red coat, stepped from the plane to a freshly-cleared patch of runway. Then her driver battled through traffic-clogged city streets to get the snow Princess to Peterhouse where she was met by flag-waving students who braved the appalling weather and saw a demonstration of research work into cot deaths. 85 02 08

Princess of Wales visits Foundation for study of infant diseases [85 02 09]

1985 06 08
The Prime Minister of China, Mr Zhao Ziyang, came on a whistle stop tour of Cambridge – but found it so tiring he had to leave after lunch. It began with a formal welcome at the University Senate House where Chinese students gathered to meet him and he was presented with a book by the Vice-Chancellor. He then went to the School of Oriental Studies where he met Prof Joseph Needham, a world authority on China, and presented the department with 3,000 valuable volumes. But he decided to miss a visit to the Science Park. 85 06 08a

1986 06 12

Prince Edward battles to save Cambridge Youth Theatre – 86 06 12a

1985 06 14
Princess Anne, Prince Edward and Prince Philip all together at Jesus College – 85 06 14b & c

1986 06 16
Clown Prince Edward had a right royal audience as he trod the Cambridge boards for the last time as an undergraduate. To the amazement and delight of the Arts Theatre audience, his brother Prince Charles, cousin Lady Sarah Armstrong-Jones and Prince Andrew's fiancée Sarah Ferguson, made a surprise visit to the comic show. They watched him caper through comic sketches, musical numbers and songs with the rest of the Cambridge University Light Entertainment Society cast then spent 45 minutes backstage before leaving for London 86 06 16

1986 06 27
Prince Edward bids farewell to Cambridge – interview 86 06 27a & b

1986 07 24
The bunting was out and champagne corks popped as Sarah Ferguson and the new Duke of York tied the Royal Knot. Everyone from Brownies to Cambridge office workers were in the mood for a patriotic fling. At Addenbrooke's Hospital there was a festive air as celebrations started in every ward and elsewhere dances and even a mock wedding reception were the order of the day. Flags were strung across Roselea in Impington where one of several street parities went with a regal swing. 86 07 24a & b

1987 04 16
Queen distributes Maundy money, Ely Cathedral – 87 04 16

1987 07 23
The Queen Mother became just another Cambridge tourist for a few moments – and won cheers from a waiting crowd. She paused on the famous Mathematical Bridge to wave to a convoy of four punts chained together as they passed gracefully along the Cam. She was visiting Queens' College to mark the restoration of the President's Lodge, the only half-timbered college building in Cambridge. Lunch – at a college which is now health-conscious in its cuisine – was melon and king prawns, then chicken and truffles. 87 07 23

1987 09 31
Princess Margaret at Fitzwilliam Museum – 87 09 31

1988 02 17
Prince Charles meets sponsors of Cambridge Enterprise Agency – 88 02 17a

1988 04 11
Queen Mother opens art exhibition at Fitzwilliam Museum celebrating National Art-Collections fund – 88 04 11

1988 06 07
Princess Diana visited Papworth and Newmarket hospitals 88 06 07b, 88 06 08

1988 07 14
Protest at visit of President of Turkey [CEN 14.7.88]

1989 08 01
Princess Diana opened Cherry Hinton Village Centre 89 08 01

Addenda

1990

1990 05 14
Prince Edward receives MA degree – 90 05 14a

1990 07 05
Duke of Edinburgh opens Ditchburn Place – 90 07 05c, 06, 09b

1990 07 18
Quayside shops and office development formally opened by Duke of Edinburgh – 90 07 18a

1990 08 02
Queen Elizabeth, Queen Mother – visits to Cambridge recalled – 90 08 02a

1993 11 25
Cambridge Regional College 1st phase opened by Queen – 1993 11 25 [Rev]

1994
US President Bill Clinton visited Madingley Cemetery [Rev]

2007 02
Queen opens new laboratory facility on Addenbrooke's Hospital site, Feb

Enid Porter with an addition to the Cambridge and County Folk Museum

123.42

c.03 : Museums
Cambridge MUSEUMS Scrapbook

1897 08 19
Sometime in the course of Tuesday night a desperately determined attempt was made to obtain entrance to the Fitzwilliam Museum which in its invaluable pictures, its gems, and its magnificent collection of articles of ancient and modern art would, if successfully broken into, yield a rich harvest to intelligent burglars. A place so full of objects of art and interest is of course well-guarded, and well prepared for the visits of disciples of Bill Sykes. So the unwelcome ones found who made the attempt on Tuesday night, for after trying two doors and five windows, and using no small amount of violence they had to relinquish their efforts and go empty away. So far as we have been able to gather this is the first attempt which has been made to forcibly break into the Museum in the course of its history 1897 08 19

1897 10 26
The sewerage operations in Cambridge have brought to light a large number of interesting objects which must be of very considerable historical and antiquarian value. There is a danger of their

being dispersed all over the country in years to come, which would be a distinct loss to Cambridge
Perhaps it might be possible to gather these relics together under one roof as the nucleus of a Town Museum. Could not the Town Council appoint a small committee to make an enquiry on the articles available and see whether such a Museum could be formed. If that were found impractical or undesirable arrangements might be made in the University for a Town section in which the names of donors might be preserved. 1897 10 26

1900

1905 01 06
Cambridge rating committee considered the University's Sedgwick Geological Museum. As it was a memorial and not a commercial speculation some difficulties arose. It had cost more than required for business purposes with materials of the very best character, thicker walls and a good deal of superfluous work. There could be no other tenant. The land had been purchased from Downing College at an exorbitant rate - £6,800 per acre. Then there were the specimen cases, should they be considered in the valuation. A museum without cases was no more a museum than a factory was complete without its machinery. 05 01 06

1907 06 20
An extraordinary University report recommends the Director of the Fitzwilliam Museum should be present at least three hours a day when it was open, keeping a diary recording his hours to be placed before the Syndicate. It was an indignity - but all other professors had to make similar returns. His salary should be decreased from £300 to £250 and the money used to pay for another member of staff. This valued his time at seven-and-sixpence an hour compared to ten shillings for an Assistant 07 06 20

1908 05 13
Fitzwilliam Museum statue of Duke of Devonshire unveiled - 08 05 13

1910

1910 05 20
The foundation stone of the first block of the new Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at the corner of Downing Street and Tennis Court Road was laid by the Baroness Von Hugel whose husband is the curator. The ceremony was a very quiet one and the proceedings were very brief because of the death of the King. In a cavity under the stone was placed a bottle containing a couple of newspapers and a number of current coins of the realm. 10 05 20

1910 12 09a
Two undergraduates were charged with stealing three surveying instruments, the property of Professor McKenny Hughes, curator of the University Geological Museum. A glass case had been broken open and two instruments taken. They had later been found in the students' pockets and their fingerprints were on the glass. The lads said "We had a bet of £5 that some instruments could not be got". The Professor told the court he wished to offer no evidence: it was a matter that could be dealt with by the Vice Chancellor 10 12 09a

1911 01 20
Undergraduates charged theft from Geological Museum - 11 01 20i & 20j

1914 02 27
Fitzwilliam Museum. The necessity for enlarging the Fitzwilliam Museum has long been apparent, and by the munificence of the late Mr. Marlay this en¬largement has now been brought within the range of realisation. The Financial Board have for some time been negotiating with the Master and Fellows of Peterhouse for the purchase of the site, nearly two acres, adjoining the Fitzwilliam Museum on the south, known as Grove Lodge, and they now recommend its purchase for £12,000. They further suggest that only one-half of this sum be taken from the Marlay bequest of £80,000 the balance being charged to the fund from the sale of Mr. Marlay's house, known as St. Katharine's Lodge, Regent's Park. 14 02 27 CIPof

1914 06 04
W.B. Redfarn’s Milton Hall museum includes gloves worn by Cromwell and King Charles II, Cromwell’s snuff box & spectacles and pieces of armour from every century 14 06 04 p7

1920

1928 08 15
Cambridge University has lost yet another distinguished son, by the death of Baron von Hugel, founder of the University Catholic Association. In 1883 he was appointed curator of the Museum of Archaeology, to which he had presented a unique collection of Fiji war instruments. Then commenced a period of service which will never be forgotten. He raised the money required for a new building and played a prominent part in the collection of local antiques, carrying out extensive excavations at Girton. During the War the Baron took charge of the Belgian refugees in Cambridge and received a medal. 28 08 15

1930

1931 04
Fitzwilliam Museum Courtauld gallery opened [31 04 RevYr]

1932 07 15
The visit of Her Majesty, Queen Mary, was kept a close secret and her car was temporarily held up near Northampton Street traffic lights. But the news quickly spread. Later she visited the Fitzwilliam Museum where she consented to be photograph under the picture of Cambridge that she had presented. 32 07 15g

1932 08 26
Residents in Little St Mary’s Lane narrowly escaped injury when the chimney-stack of the Museum of Classical Archaeology was struck by lightning. Its extensive double glass roof was completely wrecked and two plaster casts of classical figures were slightly damaged. One brick struck the floor with such force that it rebounded on to the base of a model, which it chipped. 32 08 26i

1933 09 14
Sir - in my old curiosity shop in Trumpington Street I have formed a museum of prison, punishment and other interesting relics, many of which have come from our old Cambridge prisons. They include the clothes, mask, pistol and spurs of Dick Turpin which were left at the Three Tuns Inn, Castle Hill, on the eve of January 12th 1739. I would welcome any items

connected with village punishment or an old police uniform with the beaver top hat - E. Rutter 33 09 14

1934 01 06
Mr E. Rutter of the 'Olde Curiosity Shoppe', Trumpington Street, has purchased a razor which belonged to King George III. It will be added to his other 200 interesting relics that include a Bible dated 1633 which has covers worked in needlework by King Charles I's wife and a pair of very fine silk stockings bearing the royal crown, which were worn by Queen Victoria. He also has a warrant issued by Oliver Cromwell and a cockade worn by Lord Nelson. He attempted to buy the Eton flogging book but that sold for the remarkable sum of £450. 34 01 06

1934 06 30
Two of W.B. Redfern's collection of Cromwellian relics have returned to Cambridge. A pair of grey gauntlets and a pair of spectacles in their original fish skin case which belonged to Oliver Cromwell were purchased by Edwin Rutter and added to his museum at the Old Curiosity Shop on Trumpington Street. 34 06 30 [34 06 30 TT, 34 11 17]

1934 11 03
Councillor Peck suggests Folk Museum [34 11 03 TT]

1934 11 16
Oliver Cromwell's hat is to stay in Cambridge. When put up for auction last April it was withdrawn at £25. But now it has been purchased by Mr E. Rutter of Ye Olde Curiosity Shop and Museum, Trumpington Street. The hat has a very large flat brim and tapering crown. It has been handed down through several generations of the Constable family who ran a very old established hat maker's business where Cromwell left the hat when he was up at Sidney Sussex College. It will be placed alongside other Cromwell relics including his gauntlet gloves and spectacles. 34 11 17c
1934 Scott Polar Research Institute opened 34 11 16

1935 10 28
A folk museum may be established in the old White Horse Inn following a meeting called by Cambridge Rotary Club. It should be a town and county museum for objects of local interest. Dr Palmer offered some of the items which had accumulated in the attic of a house where his ancestors had lived for 300 years. This was only the beginning: the ideal folk museum should be in the open, a space in which old cottages, smithies, a windmill and other things could be shown. 35 10 28 & a

1936 05 09
Fitzwilliam Museum extension to open [36 05 09 TT]

1936 09 23
The new Folk Museum which is to be opened in Cambridge shortly will not be filled with glass cases containing stuffed birds. The rooms will be authentically furnished - one visitor to the bar-parlour even asked for a pint of bitter. It was unfortunate that the front of the old White Horse Inn had been modernised 25 years ago, but interesting old beams were revealed after the interior walls had been stripped of many layers of paper. A modern fireplace had been removed and electricity installed. They now need everyday objects, craftsmen's tools, toys and an old smock, Mr Saville Peck told Rotarians. 36 09 23

1936 10 07
Folk Museum receive toll board from cottage at Clayhithe - 36 10 07

1936 11 04
The Cambridge and County Folk Museum at the old 'White Horse Inn' was opened in the presence of a large company. It would become a clearing house of information on local matters in a town where there is more information about Papua than Pampisford. The Corporation had handed over its old measures, the steelyard used at Stourbridge Fair and the High Constable's stave while the Public Library had loaned portraits and caricatures to give a human touch to the museum. Miss Catherine Parsons has accepted the position of honorary curator with Reginald Lambeth as custodian. 36 11 04b & c

1937 01 30
Folk Museum disappointed about lack of interest - description - 37 01 30

1938 08 17
Exhibition of historic scientific apparatus in Cavendish Laboratory - microscopes etc, steps should be taken to find permanent home - 38 08 17

1938 08 18
Queen Mary visits Folk Museum - 38 08 18

1939 01 27
Queen Mary and her daughter, the Princess Royal, paid a visit to the Fitzwilliam Museum. Queen Elizabeth was also to have come, but she had a cold. 39 01 27 CIPof

1939 02 28
Folk Museum's progress, Catherine Parsons honorary curator - 39 02 28

1939 05 06
Queen Mary gives table & tea caddy to Folk Museum [39 05 06]

1939 11 21
The last Georgian bow-fronted shop window in Cambridge was at 45 Bridge Street It was saved from demolition and re-erected in the yard of the Cambridge Folk Museum by Mr E.C. Lambeth, assistant curator. It is thought that the shop was Ald Nutting's coffee house attached to the old Red Lion Inn in Bridge Street 39 11 21c

1940

1940 08 17
Folk Museum only museum open to public at present; issues pamphlet - 40 08 17a

1941 04 24
Folk Museum treasures - Ald Peck talks to Women's Luncheon Club - 41 04 24

1943 02 20
Folk Museum annual meeting, E. Saville Peck acting chairman, Frost's flying machine had been offered but was nowhere to store it - 43 02 20a

1945 06 06
Folk Museum offered Abbey House in recognition of VE Day; was sold by Askham to Fairhaven on understanding that passed to National Trust. Abbey House bought by Lord Fairhaven from Askham family; house dilapidated & in form of three dwellings; [45 06 06 TT, 66 12 28]

1945 09 17
Part of the War-time story of the Fitzwilliam Museum was revealed to members of the Cambridge Women's Luncheon Club. It was felt that the walls of the original building might not stand up against blast and that the roof were not easy for firewatching. In August 1939 work was begun on a scheme of air raid precautions. The most important works of art sent to a private house in Wales and a bank in Cornwell. Many valuable pieces of pottery and porcelain were stored in a cave which after a time was found to be damp. The rest was packed and stored in the best protected parts of the Museum and measures taken to defend the building against incendiary bombs and the effects of blast and splinters with a small air raid shelter for visitors constructed in the basement. There were applications from societies in London to store books and furniture but this seemed a foolish idea since they themselves were sending things away. They did however store blankets and other Red Cross property in one of the downstairs rooms. Part of the Museum was wanted by the R.A.F. as a training room to install the apparatus by which cadets becoming pilots were given the illusion things were flying at them and of the sky whirling about them when they were sitting firm and motionless. But while the Courtauld Galleries might have been excellent for the purpose, it was likely that the floors and walls would have suffered very serious damage from the setting up of the machinery necessary and the amount of traffic which would have followed. The request was never pressed home. The Museum reopened in part in March 1940 with a range of exhibitions which attracted numerous visitors who were grateful for the refreshment of mind which they got from their visits. Shortly after VE-Day the Museum closed for ten days to re-arrange and re-hang all the rooms. The evacuated works of art had to be received back and the upper galleries put into beautiful order. The lower floors had to be kept shut because time was needed to unpack and clean the smaller objects but all of the departments will be opened in time 45 09 17b

1946 03 07
Folk Museum raises funds to accept Lord Fairhaven offer of Abbey House - 46 03 07

1946 06 13
Declaration of Trust in favour of Folk Museum in recognition of VE Day and thank-offering for deliverance from the perils of war; Folk Museum let off as three dwellings by Fairhaven to Folk Museum - CDN 1945 06 13 Abbey House - historical facts by F.A. Keynes - CDN 1945 06 15. 1973 conveyance to City council [5]

1947 08 16
The annual report of the Fitzwilliam Museum begins by recording "the nine most dangerous and difficult years of its history". The collections had to be packed and removed in 1939 to places of safety as remote as Wales and Cornwall where they remained until they could be gradually be brought back to Cambridge six years later. The Museum itself and those of its possessions too frail to be moved had meanwhile to be protected. By the Sping of 1940 the museum reopened with the first of more than 40 exhibitions arranged during the war, although deprived of all the fit younger members of staff. By 1944 the Museum had more visitors than in 1937 or 1938. The Museum had finally to be restored to order before members of the staff away on National Service had returned. 47 08 16

1948 04 24
Fitzwilliam Museum centenary, 48 04 24 p6

1950

1950 10 21
Cambridge councillors decided not to take over Abbey House and assume responsibility for its future after the Folk Museum had raised £2,000 to effect the transfer of the Museum there from the old White Horse Inn. The house contains some very fine rooms suitable for display of exhibits but would mean they had to rehouse the families now living there. There was no doubt that in ordinary time the council would have been able to take the Museum over but it could not take on anything at the present time because they are so hard up 50 10 21

1951 05 08
The Whipple Museum of the History of Science was opened by the Vice Chancellor. The collection was presented to the University in 1944 and was stored in boxes in the Fitzwilliam Museum until 1948. It was at first proposed to create a museum in the former Shorts Factory on Madingley Road, but this was rendered unusable after Pye' s fire. The present premises in Corn Exchange Street became available in May last year and it has at last been possible to show a large part of the collection. Amongst the guests was Mr Robert S. Whipple, the founder of the collection; the chairman Cambridge Instrument Co, he amassed extensive antiquarian collection scientific instruments & books, gave to University 1945 with money 51 05 08

1953 12 15
Mr Robert Stewart Whipple has died at his home in London, at the age of 82. In 1898 he became private assistant to Horace Darwin, the founder of the Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company, later becoming a joint managing director until his retirement in 1935. Noted for his studies of the history, development and manufacture of scientific instruments he presented his large and varied collection of instruments and books to the University of Cambridge. This formed the nucleus of the Whipple Museum of the History of Science that opened in 1954 53 12 15

1955 05 06
A new room for exhibitions and storage of water colour paintings was opened at the Fitzwilliam Museum. It consists of a gallery and a small reference library for the benefit of serious students of art. It was largely funded by a gift of £10,000 from the executors of the late Walford Graham Robertson who was one of the greatest collectors of the work of William Blake and gave the museum six important works by him which are now on show 55 05 06a

1956 08 23
The Fitzwilliam Museum which strikes visitors by the carpets on its floors and the flowers in its rooms, has now newly decorated its Lower Marlay Gallery with pastel shades of pale mauve and yellow for the ceilings and white for the walls. The museum' s porcelain which used to stand on the extensive landings at the top of the stairs is now seen to better advantage. 56 08 23c

1958 07 25
A little two-bedroomed cottage should be built for Enid Porter, the Curator of the Folk Museum, councillors agreed. The five-bedroomed flat they' d allocated as emergency accommodation was condemned property; it was just a mass of corrugated iron which spoils the beauty of

Northampton Street. It would be an insult to offer it to her and should be used to relieve the housing problem for a larger family 58 07 25a

1959 04 25
Folk Museum objects 'thrown away' - Lambeth; Folk Museum objects discarded - 59 04 25b

1959 05 23
Dr David Diringer has established a unique Alphabet Museum in the back garden of his home in St Barnabas Road. What looks like an extra-large garden workshop contains a treasure house of the alphabets of the word and all forms of writing, the result of 35 years of research. Dr Diringer, whose subject is Semitic Epigraphy, hopes to hold seminars there in the study of alphabets and writing. 59 05 23, 59 06 10

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 08 02
The Alphabet Museum in Dr David Diringer's St Barnabas Road garden is unique. Somewhere in the world there had to be repository devoted to all the means man has used to communicate his ideas by written language. The fact that it should be placed in a back garden of a house in an ordinary residential street is really neither surprising nor unusual. Hundreds of scholars have visited and sent specimens since it opened a year ago. One day it may expand and be adopted by the University. 60 08 02

1961 12 21
Cambridge Folk Museum has been closed for the last nine months while various alterations and extensions have taken place. Several major improvements have been made as part of a programme that started four years ago. First the building was re-roofed, then a house was erected for the resident curator, Miss Enid Porter. This meant the old house at no.3 Castle Street became available for museum use. It has been redecorated, the staircases widened and a new system of oil heating installed 61 12 21a

1964 03 28
Contents of Ely museum, collected by Vernon Cross in Ye Olde Tea Rooms and Museum to be auctioned. Building ransacked by Littleport Rioters in 1816. It was restored by his father in 1905 when the collection was started - photos - 64 03 28

1964 04 16
A turf-digging tool and a fork used for harvesting were among the fenland tools bought for the Folk Museum at the sale of antiquities from Vernon Cross's 'Ye Olde Tea Rooms' at Ely. The curator, Miss Enid Porter, was among the crowd of buyers. She also obtained two Doulton spirit barrels and an 18th-century digester. Plaster moulds from old Ely houses, an unusual type of frying pan and a 19th-century knife cleaner were also purchased 64 04 16

1964 06 10
Enid Porter, Folk Museum curator - profile 64 06 10

1965 07 14
Folk Museum curators pay 'real scandal' - £8 per week [65 07 14]

1965 09 23
Gosh, I' m dumfounded' gasped Miss Enid Porter when she heard after 15 years as Curator of the Cambridge & County Folk Museum, she might be given a pay increase.
Although she is an honours graduate in Modern Languages, the editor of two volumes of Fen tales, and the entire staff of the museum, she earns only £8 a week.
She did not believe the £750 increase would happen. "It is quite out of proportion, I' m not banking on it. Most of the recommended increase will be swallowed up by the needs of the Museum", she said -
65 09 23a

1966 07 14
Queen Mother opens Fitzwilliam Museum extension stage 1, cost £100,000 66 07 14 [66 07 16, 63 10 24]

1967 05 24
Fossey brothers museum at Gt Eversden feature - 67 05 24

1968 08 26
Enid Porter, Folk Museum - profile - 68 08 26

1968 10 11
Cheddars Lane sewage pumping station - fight to prevent demolition; may become museum - 68 10 11

1968 10 31
Enid Porter, the Curator of the Cambridge and County Folk Museum has received national recognition of her researches. She has been awarded a medal by the Folk Lore Society of London for her very valuable work. As an editor and author she has helped to create a national and international reputation both for her own work and for the museum she is in charge of. Her contributions to journals and research projects have furthered knowledge and shortly own book Cambridgeshire Customs and Folklore is due to be published. She is no doubt who the most valuable members of society are they are those in their 70s and 80s she says. We have to get from them what they used to do and believed, and what they heard from their parents and grandparents. When Miss Porter took over the museum in 1947 visits were running at 2,300 a year now they are approaching 8,000. - 68 10 31 # c.03 # c.39

1968 11 19
Cambridge Society for Industrial Archaeology set up to fight proposed demolition of Cheddar' s Lane pumping station, built 1894; 68 11 19a

1969 10 04
Cheddar' s Lane pumping station; council reprieve from demolition

1969 03 19
Enid Porter 'Cambridgeshire customs and folklore' book published; review - 69 03 19b

1970

1970 05 06
Prince Charles opens £70,000 extensions Kettles Yard - 70 05 06a

1970 05 27
Sir Hamilton Kerr gives Mill House Whittlesford to Fitzwilliam Museum [70 05 27]

1970 06 12
Dr Dale has private 'black museum' - feature - 70 06 12 & a

1970 07 29
Dr Dale's black museum sold, no buyers for county gallows - 70 07 29c

1970 10 14
Cheddars Lane should be preserved and listed say Government - 70 10 14

1971 04 30
Museum of Technology opens for steam weekend 71 04 30a

1972 05 17
Revolution swept quietly through the Fitzwilliam Museum, Cambridge when for the first time a modern musician accompanied the preview of an exhibition by a contemporary artist. The folk-singer, Donovan, played his guitar and sang to the predominately-young audience who had come to view the opening of a showing of sculptures by David Wynne. Sitting cross-legged on a lime-green cushion and flanked by the odd Murillo depicting a biblical scene, Donovan's presence was clearly not part of the Fitzwilliam tradition. Donovan was one of the subjects whose heads were depicted in bronze in the exhibition, p16

1972 09 01
The Cambridge & County Folk Museum is run on a shoestring, but thanks to its indefatigable curator, Miss Enid Porter, it has become a model of what a people's museum should be - intimate, quaint and compact. That the museum so ably embraces the local community's way of life is due, undoubtedly, to the skill and reputation of its curator, who is acknowledged as an expert on East Anglian folk lore and witchcraft and is particularly renowned for her understanding of fenland. Miss Porter is a powerhouse of activity since coming to Cambridge in 1947 she has created an invaluable display of bygones and bric-a-brac. When it is remembered that she does it on £3,000 a year the scale and depth of the exhibition is nothing short of miraculous 72 09 01

1972 11 08
Michael Jaffe takes over from David Piper at Fitzwilliam [72 11 08]

1973
Jim Ede leaves Cambridge giving collection to Cambridge University [3.1]

1973 05 03
Lord Fairhaven bequests £1.4M works art, Fitzwilliam - finest since Marlay [73 05 03]

1974 01 05
One of Cambridge's finest medieval buildings, the Abbey House in Abbey Road, was formally presented to the city council as a gift from the Cambridge Folk Museum. The house was

originally given to the museum in 1946 by the first Lord Fairhaven who had hoped it would be an enlarged Folk Museum. But the curator, Miss Enid Porter, said he had come to realise the building was just not suitable and the museum did not have the resources to keep the house in good repair 74 01 05

1975 03 21
An appeal for £30,000 has been launched to convert the old Cheddar's Lane Pumping Station into a technology museum. The existing pumping station provides a centrepiece for the museum, representing technological developments during the 19th century. Single storey extensions with galleries to house exhibits are being built at the Riverside split-level site. A special gallery may be designed to enable children of all ages to participate in the building of working models. The museum began in 1968 when the old pumping station was replaced by an electric plant 75 03 21

1975 07 23
The Queen Mother opened the new £½-million extension of the Fitzwilliam Museum. The Royal visitor, dressed in a pale-blue turquoise coloured outfit, paused several times to smile and wave to the crowd before being introduced to Museum staff by Prof Jaffe. She had a good look at the £2½ million collection of Cambridge plate on display and after tea she was driven to a waiting helicopter on the playing fields of St John's college 75 07 23

1975 08 04
Folk Museum closed due illness curator & no deputy, (Enid retires 1976) [75 08 04]

1976 07 17
At Cambridge Museum of Technology there is no indication that the old Cheddar's Lane sewage station off Newmarket Road, is now a museum. The place looks a shambles surrounded as it is by knee-high weeds and forbidding "Keep Out" signs. Go there; don't be put off by the haphazard arrangement of exhibits and ask the helpful attendants when you fail to understand. A computer in a museum? An electron microscope - both are on display in this potentially breathtaking exhibition. I can't help but suspect that when the lease runs out the museum is going to be transformed into a profitable block of riverside flats. But I hope this does not happen 76 07 17

1976 12 07
The curator of the Cambridge Folk Museum, Miss Enid Porter, is retiring this week because of ill-health, after running it single-handed for about 29 years. At the moment she is in hospital and the museum is closed. Since she took charge of the museum in 1947 its popularity and size have grown considerably. It was started following an exhibition of folk items by the Women's Institute in 1936. Cambridge Rotarians launched an appeal for a folk museum and eventually the present premises in Castle Street were acquired. Miss Porter has been a prolific author, writing books on Cambridgeshire folklore and customs and contributing articles to regional magazines 76 12 07

1977 11 09
A thief only got £5 for an original Constable - because an art dealer thought it was a poor copy of the one in the Fitzwilliam Museum across the road. But it WAS the one across the road, and the dealer only discovered that when he read about the theft in his morning paper. He dashed to his office, checked the painting and discovered it was the original. And while he was checking it the

police walked in on a routine enquiry. So he handed it over. The picture was grubby and finger-marked because the thief had shopped it around five or six other dealers in Cambridge. 77 11 09

1977 11 17
Cambridge City Council is to think again about plans to sell the mid 17th-century Abbey House in Abbey Road. The Folk Museum Trustees had given the ancient house to the city council only four years ago in the hope they would look after it. Coun Warren said: "It is shameful if the council is now considering selling the house and keeping the money itself." Coun John Powley said that money to repair the property was limited and the best course would be to sell it to the person living there and let him carry out repair working costing thousands of pounds. 77 11 17

1978 01 31
A recent move to sell the Abbey House, Cambridge to its long-standing tenant, retired Professor Peter Danckwerts, raised eyebrows among people who know the history of the place. It was bought for the Folk Museum by Lord Fairhaven in 1945. No endowment was made and the museum found it impossible to keep up the house. It was given to the city in 1973 and the city has found it an embarrassment ever since, spending little on repairs. But a former Mayor and chairman of the Cambridge Preservation Society threatened to take the city council to court if it was sold 78 01 31

1980

1982 07 21
One of the most unusual removal jobs has started in Cambridge. A specialist team from Leeds has been brought in to transport hundreds of plaster casts of statues from Ancient Greece and Rome ranging from a giant statue of Hercules to replicas of the Elgin marbles. They are the pride and joy of the University's Museum of Classical Archaeology which is moving from its old home in Little St Mary's Lane to a purpose-built gallery in the new Classics faculty on the Sidgwick site. 82 07 21

1984 01 19
Enid Porter ran the Cambridge Folk Museum single-handed from 1947 for 30 years and the impressive collection now it now houses museum was largely as a result of her endeavour. She took the entrance money, arranged exhibitions and cleaned the museum. In 1968 she had not had a pay rise for 15 years; her wages were £8 a week at a time when comparable jobs were paying £1,500 a year. Richard Wilson, the current curator said "She was a marvellous lively woman who gave her life to the museum" 84 01 19 p6

1984 05 01
Prince Charles opened new Archaeology gallery [84 05 01]

1985 03 22
Cheddars Lane museum restoration 85 03 22d

1986 08 08
Museum of Technology feature - 86 07 08a

1986 12 18
Folk Museum celebrate 50th anniversary - Tom Doig - 86 12 18

1987 04 25
City councillors have stepped in to stave off the shock closure of the Cambridge Folk Museum which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. They decided to give an immediate grant to help it over its financial crisis for the next six months after its curator, Tom Doig, told how it received little income and there were no private financial resources. Councillors are also rethinking proposals to treble the Museum's rent to £12,000 a year. 87 04 25

1987 09 31
Princess Margaret at Fitzwilliam Museum - 87 09 31

1988 08 13
Cambridge & County Folk Museum is facing a cash crisis. Curator Tom Doig says the situation is so desperate he may have to close the 500-year-old museum in Castle Street before Christmas. The County Council has refused any funding and the City has cut its grant, meaning he can no longer afford to pay staff.. The Mayor said is it outrageous that they can't find the money to keep it going The museum is of great importance as an educational resource and it would be a tragedy if it were to close 88 08 13, 88 08 17, 88 08 17a

1989 01 27
Tom Doig has done a very good job as curator of the Cambridge and County Folk Museum for the past five years despite little encouragement and many difficulties. The little museum is a most marvellous means of encouraging a sense of community and plays a central role in teaching young people about their area. Yet it is desperately poorly financed, scandalously cramped and largely failing to exploit its potential. I hope whoever inherits Tom's unenviable task at the museum will also show his enthusiasm and refusal to be cast down by difficulties. Never before has the public been more interested and enthralled by local history. And never has the need for a dramatic re-appraisal of this very valuable museum been more needed - Christopher South 89 01 27a

1989 03 03
Jane Bone new director of Folk Museum faces challenge - 89 03 03c

1989 09 13
Scott Polar to build Polar Museum, £8M, for opening 1992 89 09 13

1990

1990 08 10
University Museum of Anthropology reopens after four years - 90 08 10c

1990 11 26
Fitzwilliam Museum given £15 million art collection by Daniel McDonald; follows £11m gift to Archaeology Dept - 90 11 26a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Delivery vehicles outside Cambridge Daily News offices, St Andrew's Street, 1933 – 143.64

c.04 : Newspapers

Cambridge NEWSPAPERS Scrapbook, by Mike Petty

1886 01 09
Labourers News was published by Ald. W.P. Spalding; started 9th Jan 1886, a small four-page sheet called 'The Labourers Friend; but then changed to 'Labourers' News'; was enlarged in August; was attempt to educate new voters in sense of responsibility, published in Conservative interest; gradually more village news appeared much concerned with start of new Conservative clubs - 43 08 07 ... politically promote good old cause, uphold Union [NS.1.18] [TT 43 08 07] [File in the Cambridgeshire Collection]

1888 05 28
First CDN 28 May 1888, CWN six months later. CDN first editor was a Mr Andrews who stayed a short time, then George William Townsend, previously chief reporter - reminiscences - 38 06 11a
[89 02 08, 21 01 08TT] [File in the Cambridgeshire Collection]

1889
Granta founded, succeeding Gadfly which banned [53 05 23]

1889 02 08
First CWN 8.2.1889 [7.11], claim largest weekly circulation [NS.1.5] [File in the Cambridgeshire Collection]

1889 03 15
Cambridge journalist's presentation [4.6]

1891 04
Death of Dr Robertson, editor & past proprietor of Cambridge Independent Press [1891 04 Rev.Yr]

1892
Daily Independent Press issued [File in the Cambridgeshire Collection]

1894
Institute of Journalists annual conference held in Cambridge [1894 RevYr]

1894
P.C. Maile published CDN from 1894, notes on changes etc [TT 44 01 29]

1895 03 26
Death of Mrs Naylor, late proprietor of Cambridge Chronicle [1895 03 26]

1896 01 03
facsimile of Cambridge Journal & Flying Post issued by Cambridge Chronicle as supplement on its 150th anniversary, 3rd January [45 12 29 TT]

1897 03 20
New daily / weekly paper - costings, 1897 03 20 p3 CDN

1898 05 19
Kilner v Taylor: action by Kilner brothers, proprietor of Cambridge Daily News since death of their father, to restrain William Farrow Taylor, former manager of the paper, from trespassing upon the office and interfering with the business. They had given Taylor notice in lieu of salary. Taylor said had agreement with Dr Kilner to be co-proprietor. He had been carrying on business as printer and publisher of 'The Free Lance' newspaper at Bury and proposed to start CDN. Kilner had advanced him the money. This should be treated as mortgage and repaid CDN 1898 05 19

1898 09 15
Important notice. In connection with an attempt to force upon the public a scheme for promoting a second daily paper for Cambridge, most dishonourable and dastardly tactics have been adopted towards this Journal. The matter is to come before a legal tribunal and a shocking conspiracy will then be revealed to the public. Public or private enterprise we gladly welcome, whether it be in journalism or any other calling. If amateur pressmen have several thousands to throw away - for that is what it means - we do not at all object. But let the fight be fair and square CDN 1898 09 15

1898 09 22
The Cambridge Daily News has made arrangements with the Edison-Bell Phonographs Company Ltd to supply photographs to the readers of the Cambridge Daily News on such easily fulfilled conditions that no reader need be without a photograph - whether he needs it in his business or by his hearth. This phonograph is no toy - it is a perfected machine, endorsed with the power of receiving, retaining, and emitting the human voice. The machine and equipment we suggest cost you seven guineas for the Standard Phonograph and four records selected from the list, together with eight blank cylinders for correspondence purposes or for making home records and a carrying case. Machines sent, carriage paid, upon receipt of the subjoined order and a guinea 1898 09 22

1898 11 26
Readers of the "Cambridge Daily News" will have noticed that for many weeks past the amount of news gathered by our reporters has been so great that to insert the whole in any one edition is quite impossible. Under these circumstances a further enlargement of the paper has become necessary and accordingly we have put down a new type of machine by Messrs Dawson and sons which will print a sheet giving seven, eight or nine columns to the page. This is the fourth machine supplied by them. The three others, although in constant use, are well capable of doing their work (two are more than 10 years old) and are a credit to English workmanship. We hope in a very short time to give our readers the advantages which the laying down of this machine has rendered possible CDN 1898 11 26

1899
Cambridgeshire and Eastern Counties Weekly Gazette launched. "When the Cambridge Gazette was launched with new plant in St Tibbs Row they had a fine yellow cart with rubber tyres. CDN had tall red cart with iron tyres and their poor old mare was beaten by the Gazette's fine trotting horse which got to agents first & CDN lost orders. News roundsman H.C. Bruce's ingenuity resolved issue - TT 48 06 05. The Cambridgeshire Collection has microfilm

1899 01 04
However poor the local newspaper its files are the best source of information as to what has taken place in the district. It is only in the British Museum that files of the newspapers are preserved as a matter of course. In places where there are free libraries a good deal is done but very often the files are incomplete and in some cases the importance of preserving these records is not realised as it ought to be. County councils should undertake the work of filing these newspapers, of binding the volumes and keeping them in a place ready of access by the public 1899 01 04

1899 02 04
Mr J.W. Iliffe told the annual staff dinner of the C.D.N. that he remembered when the Daily News was a puny infant and they were looking forward to the enterprise justifying itself. What Cambridge would be without its Daily News he really could not venture to think. When he first knew this borough they were satisfied with news coming out once a week in several papers, and they thought they were fairly up to date, and progressing satisfactorily, but they had no idea that any daily paper could survive. It was Mr Taylor's proud lot to start the venture, and prove not only that a daily paper could live, but that it could achieve a magnificent success 1899 02 04

1899 05 23

The result of the boat race was awaited with the greatest interest in Cambridge. The news that Cambridge had won was received at the office of the Cambridge Daily News within two minutes of the finish and in less than three minutes the Special Edition of the C.D.N. containing the welcome intelligence was selling on the streets. Needless to say, everybody was delighted that the Light Blues had been victorious 1899 05 23

1900

1900 01 18
An action for libel was brought by Mr W.E. Humphreys, proprietor of the "Cambridge Magazine" against Mr H.D. Catling, proprietor of "The Cantab" with the "Cambridge Gazette" company as co-defendants. Mr Humphreys said he was asked to contribute to "The Cantab" and it was arranged that if the paper was a success he should receive a quarter of the profits, but he received no profit at all. There was a verbal agreement by which he was to buy "The Cantab" for £10 but it fell through and he resolved to start the Cambridge Magazine CDN 1900 01 18

1900 03 29
A debate at New Chesterton Institute was told that while at the beginning of the century. Cambridge could only boast one weekly paper, they now had something like half-a-dozen weeklies and two dailies. During the past few years the Press generally had lost its influence for good upon the public. He did not think in recent years that editors had improved (Laughter). One sometimes heard that editors were "got at" and that sometimes big prices fetched extravagant leaders. There was too much reporting of police-court cases and inquests and they could do with a little less of the tragedy. The minds of the young were being poisoned by these things CDN 1900 03 29

1900 10 08
Two years ago the 'Cambridge Gazette' was brought into being. Its sponsors made a great fuss about it. At last, they said, Cambridge has got a daily newspaper that is worthy of it - an eight page paper with innumerable editions, up to date in every respect. A halfpenny weekly newspaper was also started with a loss on every copy sold. Not only were they bound to fail, but they deserved to fail - and they have failed. The CDN has now beaten off two attacks and our regret is that we cannot say of the second failure as we did in 1892 of the first - that it was a highly respectable sheet CDN 1900 10 08

1900 10 13
Just a week ago publication of the 'Cambridge Gazette' was suspended. This morning an extraordinary meeting of shareholders was held to consider that the company should be wound-up voluntarily. The Secretary of the company was not present and it was stated that he had gone to Manchester. The bank overdraft was stated to be £2,200 and the company was hopelessly beyond retrievement. The affairs are to be wound up as speedily as possible 00 10 13

1900 12 17
Most of the Cambridge pressmen assembled to do honour to one of their number, Mr Charles Kent, who after a 12 years' service with the 'Cambridge Chronicle' as editor, is shortly to sever his connection with Cambridge journalism. Time was when one journalist fraternising with another of a rival paper was suspected of disloyalty to his own paper. All that had passed away and journalists could now meet on the most friendly terms and still be whole-heartedly loyal to

their own papers. In bringing about this spirit Mr Kent had done a great deal. He was presented with an illuminated address CDN 1900 12 17p; death May 1930 [5.2]

1902 01 15
The 'Cambridge Express' charges the police with having supplied the CDN with information and refusing to give it to the other newspapers. This is unfair. The CDN gathered its own news in its own way, without any help from the police at all. We telegraphed to Cork for a report of the hearing before magistrates which gave the probable date of arrival of the suspect in Cambridge. Three reporters were stationed along the railway. One at Gamlingay saw detective Marsh and the prisoner in a compartment, entered the carriage and rode with them, thus securing the information. CDN 1902 01 15

1902 05 15
The Cambridge Gazette Company has been wound up. As the business had proved so unprofitable the daily and weekly papers had been discontinued but a number of hands were engaged in jobbing printing work. Liquidators discharged them and proceeded to realise the assets. They had arranged the sale of the printing plant, machinery and effects in January 1901 but had no funds to meet the claims of the creditors or shareholders. There was no object in delaying the winding up further. CDN 1902 05 15

1902 06 13
The Cambridgeshire Weekly News is acknowledged to be the Cambridgeshire County Journal and possesses an unrivalled circulation and standing throughout the County. It gives the fullest, most accurate and most attractive reports of any newspaper. It contains a carefully-compiled summary of home and foreign news, a bright and attractive London letter written by a journalist of great ability and an illustrated ladies' letter devoted to the newest modes and fashions - Advert CDN 1902 06 13

1902 08 02
The Ipswich Journal has ceased to exist. No newspaper can be produced for a penny per copy without a considerable advertisement revenue and while sales have increased the income from advertisements has as steadily diminished. Few things more vividly illustrate the change over the past 50 years. A paper once a week can no longer satisfy the needs of the busy people in our chief centres of population & unless news is "served hot" it fails to interest them. So the daily paper has become indispensable. However much we may regret the disappearance of weekly journals the inexorably law of change must be accepted. Businessmen are realising that in the matter of advertising there is a great gulf between the weekly and daily newspaper. CDN 1902 08 02

1902 10 11
The proprietors of the CDN also publish the "Ely Weekly Guardian" and is represented in Ely by a reporter who devotes his whole time to our service. Messrs Sharman and Co publish the "City of Ely Standard" which competes in the surrounding district. During the past few months large quantities of news have been taken from the CDN and published in their paper. Now we have received a letter from Mr A. Sharman to say he has requested his staff to refrain from "scissors and paste" in future. CDN 1902 10 11

1902 11 12
On October 30th the CDN published a full list of creditors in a bankruptcy case and paid at the usual rate charged by the Bankruptcy Court. The following day a portion of our list was copied, without permission, by the Cambridge Independent Press and Cambridge Chronicle. We are

determined to put a stop to the unacknowledged appropriation of our news by rival journals and both have now issued apologies. The C.D.N. is the only paper in Cambridge which maintains a staff sufficiently large to deal properly with events and it is intolerable that our rivals should supplement their deficiencies by taking from our columns without permission the news they cannot obtain for themselves. CDN 1902 11 12

1903
CDN editor H. Stanley Jones succeeded by Rough Brookes until 1918 [TT 43 07 31]

1904 01 30
The 'Eastern Morning Gazette', a Conservative organ published at Norwich for the last 12 months, has ceased publication. An editorial states this is not due to the hopelessness of the political situation but to other causes, it will be remembered that the price was recently reduced from a penny to a halfpenny. The 'Norfolk Evening Standard' will continue to chronicle all the news of the day with its customary impartiality, to shape and guide public opinion and to champion the Conservative cause. 04 01 30

1904 03 07
Owing to the enormous demands for the C.D.N. souvenir of the Royal Visit to Cambridge the whole edition was sold out less than an hour after publication. Now in response to enormous requests a second edition is ready. It contains a full report of the proceedings together with special articles on previous royal visits, King Edward's undergraduate days etc. It has photographs of the new Downing Street buildings reproduced from the series of pictures specially taken by J. Palmer Clarke for presentation to the King. Printed on superior paper and being 1922of a convenient size it is an admirable memento of the auspicious and historic occasion. 04 03 07

1904 08 27
CDN run out of all except file copies as so many people write in for copies of the paper which report proceedings of the British Association meeting held in Cambridge [04 08 27 TT]

1904 09 10
Reporter chairs football meeting as nobody else would [04.09.10]

1904 11 14
Some explanation is due to the people who surrounded our offices last night to secure copies of our special edition which we promised for half-past-nine but was not published until an hour later. We had ordered from the Press Association a series of private wires to be dispatched as the Prime Minister's speech was being delivered. But such was the wretched state of the telegraphic arrangements that hardly one of the messages reached Cambridge in under an hour. It is as well that the Post Office is a Government department for any private trader who was so lamentably incompetent would soon find himself in the Bankruptcy Court. 04 11 14

1905 03 17
A CDN reporter had occasion to send a telegraph message from the Swaffham Prior post office to this paper; he then began to return to Cambridge by cycle; after a leisurely ride he found had beaten the wire. This was an annoyance, bearing in mind the reputed speed of electricity. It appears the message had first to be despatched to Ely where it had to wait before being transmitted to London, from which it was retransmitted to Cambridge. It arrived one-and-a-half hours after being sent! 05 03 17

1905 05 06
Owing to the enormous demand for the current issue of the 'Cambridgeshire Weekly News', the entire edition was sold out on the day of issue, and we regret that we are not able to supply the numerous orders that continue to arrive. To avoid disappointment in future, place a definite order with your newsagent. The 'Weekly News' is the best local weekly paper: sale exceeds 10,000 copies 05 05 06a

1905 08 19
With the next issue of the 'Cambridgeshire Weekly News' will be presented an art supplement containing photographs of the late Bishop of Ely and his successor. Both have been specially taken by Messrs. Scott and Wilkinson and are remarkable likenesses. They will be printed on specially prepared art paper in a style suitable for framing. Much disappointment will be saved if those who desire a copy will let their newsagents know without delay. Only a certain number will be printed and the issue will not be repeated. 05 08 19a

1905 10 07
The Cambridgeshire Weekly News has a larger reporting staff than any newspaper within a radius of 50 miles and is enabled to give accounts of all local happenings at first hand. It is non-party and non-sectarian, reporting Conservative and Liberal functions and church and chapel events with strict impartiality. It also publishes a first rate serial story together with columns of Friendly Society, Photographic and Agricultural notes. The guaranteed weekly sale is over 10,000 copies. 05 10 07

1905 12 09
Last night a man was seen careering around the floor at a Covent Garden Ball in a suit made of sateen upon which pages of the CDN was printed. It was made by Mr A.W. Smith of King's Parade to the order of an old University man. The same trader made a similar order two years ago but the material was then white. On this occasion it was pink. 05 12 09c

1906 04 19
Beekeepers Association circulate Table Talk article to raise funds [06 04 19]

1906 06 27
German newspaper editors visit Cambridge - 06 06 27

1907 03 23
Cambridge pressmen assembled at the Sidar Hotel to bid farewell to Mr D.T. Nisbet who is severing his connection with the C.D.N. having secured an important appointment on the 'Midland Evening News'. He was handed a silver cigarette case, a fountain pen and a writer's wallet. In reply he spoke of the good feeling existing between local journalists who, though professional rivals, were personal friends. 07 03 23

1907 05 11
Cambridge Daily News sued for libel - 07 05 11

1907 09 18
Cambridge Chronicle - new company set up to acquire it - A.T. Naylor secretary - 07 09 18

1908 04 25

Press banned from performance of suffrage play at Victoria Assembly Rooms [08 04 25 TT]

1908 05 06
Cambridge was badly hoaxed last night about the result of the Wolverhampton election. Inside the CDN the editor was waiting the news when the noise of cheering penetrated the office, but that was no unusual for the crowds waiting outside frequently engage in shouts. When the official message came through Mr Taylor proceeded outside to find nobody there. Practical jokers had already caused a card to be printed with fictitious figures and left outside the News office. If they aimed at creating a sensation, they have succeeded, causing fits of depression among members of the Liberal party 08 05 06

1908 05 11
The personality of Mr Winston Churchill looms so large in the minds of Cambridge politicians that a crowd of about 3,000 waited patiently outside the offices of the CDN to await the result of the Dundee election, where he was returned as a Liberal MP. When one section of the crowd raised a cheer, the opposing section retaliated. It was a great delight to hear an undergraduate, perched on the shoulder of his friends, declaim against Churchill as a turncoat and hear him answered by one of the Liberal turn of mind. Dundee election night will not soon be forgotten 08 05 11

1908 07 17
The solid form of type representing the news page of the CDN was removed from the printing machine to allow for additions to be made to the late edition when the iron band which holds it together snapped and what had been nicely-arranged columns of print was a shapeless heap upon the floor. That is "printer's pie", the worst catastrophe that can befall a newspaper. Not a moment was wasted: it was quickly gathered up, every available man being set to the task. There was no flurry and exactly 40 minutes later it was on the machine. CWN 08 07 17 p5

1909
"Cambridge Independent Press cut up reports appearing in Cambridge Daily News, added fresh cross-headings & made slight alterations, then published - other memories by Morley Stuart [49 03 26]

1909 03 26
The Cambridgeshire Weekly News has acquired that valuable and old-established journal 'The Cambridge Express' and will henceforth be known as the 'Cambridgeshire Weekly News and Express'. It will be enlarged to 12 pages making it one of the largest and best weekly papers in the United Kingdom. We shall continue to give full reports of all local events, uninfluenced by political or sectarian bias. Our advertisers will receive the benefit of the Weekly News regular sale of 11,000 as well as the circulation hitherto enjoyed by the 'Cambridge Express' CWN 09 03 26 [File in the Cambridgeshire Collection]

1909 04 09
The only complaint we have received at the combined issue of the Cambridgeshire Weekly News and Cambridge Express is that it is now too large. We have the largest staff of reporters within 50 miles of Cambridge and shall report all Conservative gatherings with a completeness that cannot be approached by any other journal. However we will devote equal space to the doings of the opposite party. We shall not hesitate to speak out where local government is concerned and the fact that we are not tied to the strings of any sect or party will enable us to do this with greater fearlessness and independence. CWN 09 04 09

1909 06 04
Cambridge Free Library has acquired at auction a somewhat badly bound volume of Cambridge newspapers which are unique. They start as 'The Huntingdon, Bedford, Cambridge and Peterborough Gazette' of 15 April 1818 but change title to 'The Cambridge Independent Press'. The purchase shows the happy understanding between the University and Town Libraries both of which were anxious it should not pass into private hands. They agreed the Borough Library should have the first chance but that if the price were too high then the University would bid. CWN 09 06 04

1909 07 17
CDN chooses not to report juvenile court cases under Children's Act 1908 [09 07 17 TT]

1909 07 30
Before last June newspapers were received in Swavesey through the railway or by post. They had to be fetched from the station or came by the midday delivery and few people indulged in the luxury of a daily paper. Then W.F. Gleaves of High Street became agent for the 'Daily Mail' and later supplied all newspapers. Daily papers are now delivered immediately after receipt by the 8.25 train and certain London dailies arrive earlier. Under the old arrangement postal or railway charges had to be added to the cost of the paper. Now even in Elsworth, six miles distant, papers are delivered for face value CWN 09 07 30

1910

1910 10 01
Newspapermen hard pressed to report debate of the Church Congress held in Cambridge; 60-70,000 words telegraphed from Cambridge after 6pm on Wednesday & Thursday nights. "Daily News" reporter mistaken for "Delhi News" [10 10 01 TT]

1910 05
CDN 1st photos seem to be May 1910 [NS2.18]

1911 01 27
David Mordecai left school in 1839 and obtained a situation as 'reader' to the Cambridge Chronicle and Cambridge Independent Press newspapers. In 1864 he joined Fred Metcalfe in the founding of the Cambridge Express which was the only penny weekly paper in Cambridge for a number of years. The Cambridge Chronicle, which was regarded as the official Conservative organ, refused to consider reducing their price so some members of the party acquired the Express. It subsequently merged into the Cambridgeshire Weekly News 11 01 27d

1911 11 24
Cambridge Chronicle editorial on its past & future under new management, photographs to be prominent [11 11 24]

1911 12 15
Motor car's fatal plunge into River Nene at Wisbech - photographically illustrated article - 11 12 15d & e

1912 02 24

Cambridgeshire Weekly News permanently enlarged to 12 pages, made possible by the new two-reel electric rotary press from the Northern Press & Engineering Co which can produce 10,000 copies an hour or 60,000 4 page papers such as CDN, power from Theatre substation [12 02 24]

1912 12 12
R.C. Lehmann told the Authors' Club that when he was at University a Trinity Hall undergraduate with plenty of money had published a paper called the 'Gadfly' containing an irreverent account of a Cambridge institution, Mr Oscar Browning, who was then responsible for its closure. Later they'd heard that Browning was planning a serious and thoughtful magazine to be called the 'Granta'. So they immediately launched their own journal of that name before his could come out. Their most brilliant scoop was to publish the answers to the problem paper in the Mathematical Tripos 12 12 12 & a

1912 12 20
Oscar Browning replies on origin of the Granta - 12 12 20i

1913 02 07
During the trial of the manager of Lacon's Cambridge brewery magistrates were shown copies of an illustrated paper containing photographs of the accused taken in the court. But a large notice states 'Photographing in Court is strictly forbidden. Police have instructions to eject anyone attempting to take photographs'. The senior Press representative assured the Court that the reporters present knew nothing whatever about the matter. 13 02 07 p9

1913 03 21
Cambridge Independent Press, Ely Gazette, Soham Gazette, Huntingdonshire Herald, established over 100 years. Advertise your wants in old-established papers which are thoroughly well-known and have a genuine and increasing circulation. Classified columns include situations vacant and wanted, domestic servants and horses, carriages and cycles. Charge for 16 words, one insertion sixpence, three for a shilling 13 03 21 p1 CIP

1913 07 15
Editors petition Borough Council against change of council meetings to Thursday as there is so much happening now it is a half-day for shops 13 07 15

1913 10 17
National Union of Journalists meeting 13 10 17 p12 CIP

1913 11 28
Frederick W. Metcalfe was head of the printing and publishing firm of Metcalfe & Son on the corner of Green Street which at one time produced most of the publications emanating from Cambridge. Soon after he joined the firm the Cambridge Express was started and he had charge of this popular newspaper until his father's death when it was purchased by the Conservative party. He ran a local troupe of Christy Minstrels including the finest voices amongst the senior members of college choirs. It had a very successful career for several seasons and visited all the principal towns in the area 13 11 28 p7 CIP

1914 01 10
Description of linotype machine, Fred Rayner [14 01 10]

1914 05 15

Many Cambridge people were surprised to receive their Sunday papers at breakfast time, instead of about noon as hitherto. After a meeting of London Sunday newspapers proprietors with the new American general manager of G.E.R. trains will in future leave Liverpool Street for the East of England arriving in Cambridge at 6.49 a.m. thus enabling papers to be delivered before many people are out of bed. 14 05 15

1914 09 13
CDN issue war bulletins on Sundays [14 09 13]

1915 07 23
C.W. Giles leaves CDN for post on Press Association 15 07 23 p4

1915 10 06
Cambridge Chronicle appears in new form, 6th October - detailed history 15 10 06 [1.9]

1915 10 13
Cambridge newspaper press - history feature - 15 10 13b; pt2 - 15 10 20b Ch

1915 10 15
Cambridge Independent Press history - details 15 10 15 p4 CIP

1915 10 15
Cambridgeshire Collection buys file of Cambridge Gazette at auction; article in Cambridge Chronicle 15 10 15 CIP

1916
Cambridge Independent Press acquired by Cambridge Weekly News which keeps the CIP title [76 10 14]

1916 03 01
Cambridge Borough Tribunal - Cambridge Chronicle apply for machine minder - 16 03 01c

1916 12 13
Cambridge Chronicle to increase price to 1½ d due cost of paper supply - three times as much as in August 1914; the CWN and CIP doing likewise - 16 12 13e. Cambridge Chronicle prices - previous prices charged - 16 12 27b

1917 03 03
Price of paper has increased 4 x since war, only allowed two-thirds supply; CDN uses thinner paper & reduces columns from 8-6; increase price from 1/2d to 1d; have to restrict paper to half that of 1916 which itself two-thirds of 1914; regular circulation holds up [17 03 03, 17 02 24]

1917 03 10
Central News Service Telegraphs ensure war news up-to-date [17 03 10 TT]

1917 03 14
Cambridge Magazine has had no change of ownership since 1912 and not 'fallen into the hands of a pacifist clique' but its extracts from foreign press are taken from obscure and extremist papers - letter; Lowes Dickinson article on Russian Government - 17 03 14b

1917 03 21
Newspaper difficulties: price of materials risen 100-300%, Chronicle has lost 15 men to army and called in older men such as A.R. Hill, a former editor of Chronicle and Express. But hopes to continue - 17 03 21a

1918 10
Death Dr Walter Malden, chairman Chronicle Board of Directors, Oct [4.5]

1919
A.C. Taylor appointed Managing Director of Cambridge Daily News, becomes Managing Director on death of his father 1920 [61 01 06, 61 01 02]

1919 08 20
Cambridge Chronicle Peace number sold out, reprint issued; 60-page illustrated souvenir with record of Cambridgeshire Regiment and exclusive photos - 19 08 20b

1920

1920 01 22
Cambridge Magazine claims for damage caused during unruly scenes on Armistice Day; Medical Schools damaged; damage had happened out of term time and not done by University people - 20 01 28 Cambridge Magazine riot damage discussed at length - CDN 20 01 22

1920 03 03
Cambridge Chronicle, 176 years of history - entertain workers - Ch 20 03 03b

1920 10 13
Cambridge Chronicle presentation to A.G.S. Draycott - photo of staff - Ch 20 10 13e

1920 12 28
Death W.F. Taylor, founder and governing director of CDN; came to Cambridge in 1888 from Bury St Edmunds and started paper; tributes 29th p3' funeral 31st p3 - CDN 20 12 28

1921 01 01
Death of William Farrow Taylor, Governing Director Cambridge Daily News, appreciation; problems of newspapers in wartime, only be combined effort was able to keep intact its daily and two weekly newspapers. When paper started villages rarely saw a city newspaper till Saturday afternoon when local journals reached them through village shopkeepers. Took time to persuade Cambridge people of need for daily paper and colleges were quite indifferent. London daily newspapers were not on sale in Cambridge till 9am - Ch 20 12 29, 21 01 01

1921 10 11
Long queues for copies of CDN which report King Street murder trial, 4 agents in Mill Road sell 7,000 copies during the 4 evenings [21 10 11 TT]

1922 02 02
"Press intentionally misrepresent Labour" - claim denied [22 02 02 TT]

1922 07 08
CDN publish morning edition for Royal Show [22 07 08 TT]

1925 08 25
At the Institute of Journalists conference it was suggested that Cambridge University should experiment in founding a faculty of journalism with a view to raising the standard of journalism and journalists. But Cambridge had no teachers who could deal with journalistic matters and if they were to institute a diploma which did not include knowledge of the inside working of a newspaper office it would give little weight behind a man applying for a job. Cambridge turned out the raw material and it was up to the journalistic profession to get the men they turned out 25 08 25

1926 05 08
Newspapers continue through General Strike, other newssheets issued [26 05 08 TT, 26 05 15 TT]

1927 05 07
Cambridge Independent Press starts photograph pages, appreciated [5.12]

1928 07 21
Journalist on Cambridge Daily News wins permanent wave [1.12]

1928 10 19
The 'Cambridge Chronicle' newspaper applied for a renewal of the lease of their printing works in Market Hill. For the last 100 years they have carried on business there, they were the best-known works of the kind and if they were obliged to quit the machinery and plant would be very costly to transfer. But the owner said she intended to pull down the premises to carry out a scheme of development. 28 10 19

1929
Cambridge Daily News (1929) formed after shares acquired by Anglo French newspapers ltd, Captain Taylor appointed Managing Director [5.11, 12.2]

1929
Robin Fellowship starts in Cambridge Independent Press & is an instant success, 4,300 enrol in first six months; first Robin is Sybil Rayner of Cherryhinton Road [3.22]

1929 01 30
Mr George Sharman, of March, the head of a well-known Isle of Ely family, was killed through falling in front of an express train at March railway station. He founded the 'Cambridgeshire Times' series of newspapers in 1872 and was actively concerned with the management for many years, two of his sons subsequently taking over the reins. Recently he took over an estate and land agent's business. Several years ago he had a seizure while waiting on the March station platform and fell on the line but was not seriously injured. A widow, five sons and a daughter are left to mourn their loss. 29 01 30

1929 04 10
The Sporting News new paper for Cambridge 29 04 10 - Cambridgeshire Collection has microfilm
1929 04 13

CDN motor fleet photo, p8

1929 04 16
Printing Cambridge Sporting News, photo, p8

1929 04 27
First page of photographs in CDN - 29 04 27

1929 06 01
CDN issue a 'Sporting News' morning edition, 29 06 01, p6*

1929 06 08
CIP start family page, p8

1929 10 03
CDN new block-making process for photos - 29 10 03

1929 10 12
Mr Tillyard dies, former editor Cambridge Independent Press 29 10 12

1929 11 16
The Cambridge Daily News has entered its fifth decade. Times and newspapers have changed since 1888 when the late William Farrow Taylor undismayed by the shoal of gloomy predictions, ventured the first local evening news sheet on the streets of Cambridge. Like every successful paper it has changed with the times. But changes in make-up have not been more radical than those in the personnel of the staff. We have two representatives of the commercial department who have been with us from the beginning year and several on the mechanical side. But there are none in the editorial department who can go back to the time of Mr G. W. Townsend; he treasures a clock with an inscription recording eight years on the C.D.N. terminating in 1897 when he moved to the East Anglian Daily Times. 29 11 16

1929 11 22
A Cambridge Daily News van driver was travelling towards Huntingdon when he attempted to pass a stationary Vauxhall drawn up at the side of the road. His Singer van skidded on the greasy surface, zig-zagged over the road for a distance and then ran on to the grass. It struck a telegraph pole and one side of the body was torn completely off and the windscreen shattered. The van continued on its way tearing through a hedge and over the surface of a stubble field. In all it skidded for nearly 100 yards but did not turn over. The driver, apart from grazes, was unhurt. 29 11 22

1930

1930 03
Cambridge Chronicle leaves 9 Market Hill after 168 years [4.17]

1930 12 12
Today the CDN publishes a 16-page paper for the first time in its 42-years' history. This is because of the demands on our space by national and local advertisers for their Christmas shopping announcements and affords evidence of their confidence of the paper as an advertising

medium. There is an enormous response each day to our Christmas Pages Advertisement Competition. 30 12 12a

1931 01 17
First edition of Varsity produced [1.16] [File in the Cambridgeshire Collection]

1931 04
Death A.B. Driver, sporting correspondent Cambridge Chronicle [4.18]

1931 10
Death Frank Piggott, doyen Cambridge journalists, Oct [5.3]

1931 10 02
In October 1930 the first of a series of 'Who is it?' pictures appeared in the CDN. Now we are celebrating the anniversary by giving readers a different type of puzzle to solve. Our picture shows the rear view of a group of our office staff and five shillings will be awarded to the person who can spot the greatest number or give the best general account of the group as a whole. 31 10 02a

1931 10 09
Cambridge Daily News staff - details of picture of their backs - 31 10 09a

1931 12
Death G.P. Hawkins, chairman Chronicle Board of Directors, Dec [4.19]

1932 02
Col Rushmore, Master St Catharine's College, elected Chairman of Cambridge Chronicle in place of G.P. Hawkins, Feb [5.2]

1933 02 14
When the Cambridge Daily News was founded in 1888 it was produced in premises in Camden Place. All who pass the Theatre Buildings will see we are taking over the premises vacated by D.J. Scott, the photographer The present site, once an arcade of shops and offices in the passage leading between the New Theatre and Scott and Wilkinson, was acquired in 1901-2. Now we are expanding with new presses to enable a 24-page weekly paper, modern Linotype plate casting machinery and a larger photo-engraving department. We have also introduced a fleet of efficient delivery vans 33 02 14a & b

1933 02 17
Death Robert Donald, chairman Directors CDN - 33 02 17a

1933 04 01
Death of Fred Wicks, with CDN since inception [1.17]

1933 04 26
Master printers and new CDN machinery - 33 04 26

1933 08 02
Charles Wilkins took up journalism at an early age. He worked on the Huntingdonshire Post before moving to the editorial side of the Cambridgeshire Times. He became managing editor of

the Cambridge Chronicle and in 1921 he was appointed its managing director. Mr Wilkins was secretary of the Isle of Ely Amateur Football Association and took a prominent part in the Conservative cause and the Catholic Church. He leaves a widow and a family of nine, six sons and three daughters. 33 08 02, 33 08 05

1933 08 12
CDN has more space when news short in August so launches a debate on entertainment needs; also starts 'Old Cambridge' feature using photographs by Palmer Clarke 33 08 12 [1.18]

1933 09 12
Anderson (Andy) Broom was keenly interested from a boy in amateur photography and became the first Press photographer in Cambridge, having been for 20 years on the staff of the Cambridge Chronicle. Before that he worked for 37 years with the firm of Flavell and Ellis, decorators. He was member of St Giles' parish dramatic society and an athlete, chiefly engaged in cycling and skating. 33 09 12

1933 09 23
E.J. Corbell appointed Secretary & Manager Cambridge Chronicle 33 09 23

1933 09 30
The make-up of the Cambridge Daily News is being completely re-modelled and in future the front page will be devoted to the main news of the day instead of small pre-paid advertisements. The London Letter will appear daily, with weekly motoring notes, fashion and household features and book reviews. A new super Crabtree press will allow of larger papers and turn out copies at up to 40,000 an hour. 33 09 30 33 10 02

1933 10 05
CDN starts new printing presses 33 10 05

1933 10 07
Table Talk heading cartoon described 33 10 07

1933 12 06
Making of photographic blocks by CDN Engraving department manager - 33 12 06

1934 06 02
Cambridge Chronicle is incorporated into the Cambridge Independent Press and printed on Cambridge Daily News offices [1.2]

1934 06 02
Notes on weeklies since 1890's TT 2.6.34 [2.2]

1934 12 13
CDN newspaper van collision - photo - 34 12 13

1934 12 31
Charles Gent, who has died aged 80, was one of the oldest newspaper men in the country. Half his life was spent in the service of the Cambridge Daily News which he joined about 18 months after it was started in 1888. He did sterling work as advertising manager and was well respected until his retirement. As a youth he had started in the 'Sherborne Journal' and at the age of 21

was appointed editor and publisher of the 'Poole Telegram', a paper run specially in the interest of the local Liberal candidate. When the Cambridge Association of West Country folk was formed, he became one of the first members. 34 12 31

1935 06 08
The finest Chinese actor of today, Mr Mei Lan-fang, who has to have a three-strong bodyguard to protect him from kidnappers, visited the Festival Theatre. He granted the News his first interview ever to an English newspaper as Chinese actors have a genuine dislike of publicity in every shape and form. Since Mr Mei could not speak English, and the reporter knew no Chinese, the conversation was conducted through an interpreter. He is actually a female impersonator for in China women do not take part in classical drama. 35 06 08

1935 07 27
Sidney Moon, the CDN cartoonist for six years, is leaving to take up a similar appointment on the 'Sunday Despatch'. Speaking in a dual capacity as editor and as 'Uncle Robin' (of the Robin Fellowship), Mr Morley Stuart said Mr Moon had produced cartoons which were full of clever ideas but never objectionable and expressed regret that the special Robin Goodfellow cartoon characters he had created had no 'gone back into the inkwell' 35 07 27. 34 07 18 [2.3]

1935 11 02
G.W. Townsend was one of the first editors of the CDN in its early days; afterwards went to East Anglian Daily Times, dies 35 11 02a [2.4]

1936 05 15
Cambridgeshire Regiment, Major Digby takes command, is University correspondent of CDN specialising in sport and drama - 36 05 15c & d

1936 07 03
Friday Post and Mid-Week Post creditors meeting - 36 07 03

1936 07 20
Reflecting on his 45-year career at the CDN Robert Cleaver remembered when there had been no linotypes but every line had been set by hand - laboriously and painfully slow. The paper was printed only one side at a time, and not folded at all - and the speed about 1,000 an hour! Change had come gradually but the real push and progress had been since Mr Taylor had taken charge. He had transformed the news sheets from their rather dull appearance to a production of which they might justly feel proud. 36 07 20 & a

1936 12 10
There was an enormous demand for copies of the CDN containing official news of the King's Abdication. The first edition was on sale within minutes of the Speaker's historic announcement in the House of Commons. It contained a three-column sketch of the new King and Queen and an appreciation of 'Edward - the Man' together with pictures recalling his visits to Cambridgeshire. The Night Final contained many other interesting details about the crisis. Hours after this London papers were still being sold in the streets that contained only a brief announcement in the Stop Press columns 36 12 10 & b-e

1936 12 10

The depressing fog hung over Cambridge like a gloomy portent of the sad news to come as people awaited the King's decision. Thursday afternoon (early closing day) brought shut shops and deserted streets to add to the atmosphere of depression. The usual football matches were in progress but the topic of conversation was about the Abdication crisis. The first to hear the news was the group gathered in the offices of the CDN awaiting the News Agency 'snap' messages. Shortly after three-thirty it came. Soon after the poster 'The King's Decision - Official' brought people into the streets eager for the latest news 36 12 10f

1937 01
Ronald Searle becomes cartoonist of CDN [4.20]

1937 01 02
'The Cam' issued for first time 37 01 02

1937 02 23
The News made history by holding the first Cambridge and County Press Ball at the Dorothy Café where a gay crowd, some 300 strong, danced, supped and had a really good time. There were two bands - Percy Cowell's and Percy Read's - providing a continuous programme of music for valetas, waltzes and the 'Paul Jones' with spot prizes given by local firms. Two tasty suppers were followed by a midnight cabaret with star turn Tommy Fields (Gracie's brother) who did a spot of female impersonation. His pleasant smile and India rubber legs will be long remembered. 37 02 23 & e - photo - 37 02 20

1937 06 05
The Cambridge Town Magazine, 'The Cam' comes to an end this month with its sixth number. It had hoped to give readers a better appreciation of the town, take an interest in current affairs and emphasise the importance of local trade. But there was a meagre response and it has not been a financial success. The final issue has an article on Cambridge in the '90s, the benefactors of Addenbrooke's Hospital and Cambridge post office. Illustrations include a drawing by H.M. Brock 'Start of the Mays' and a sketch of Ald Mrs Keynes 37 01 02b, 37 06 05

1937 09 27
Microfilm will bring the library resources of the world to the desk of an individual scholar, a Cambridge conference was told. The prodigious daily flood of newspapers can be compressed photographically into little rolls of microfilm making them perpetually 'in print' while censuses, birth and death records and correspondence can be duplicated. The technology is still being developed and will take much longer than expected, but a satisfactory reading machine should cost about as much as a portable typewriter 37 09 27

1937 10 27
Journalist H.G. Hodder told Rotarians he'd started his career at the CDN. He'd reported on the birth of the St Neots quads and on the death of King George V when he was one of 60 reporters crowded into the Feathers at Dersingham waiting for the news. He'd been accused of overdoing the 1937 floods but it was a good story at a rather quiet time and imaginations were stretched slightly. However it meant that the Government did begin to think what might happen in the Fens unless protection is improved 37 10 27

1938 01 27

Morley Stuart, editor of the CDN, said news of events outside Cambridge came from the Press Association over a wonderful instrument known as a Creed. It was received in Morse code being punched out by a system of dots on to strips of paper which were fed into a machine which automatically transcribed them into typescript on sheets of paper. They had long reports of local meetings and councils; sportsmen were well catered for and ladies not forgotten. Due attention was paid to children in the weekly paper 38 01 27a & b

1938 04 04
James Wentworth Day, who has made a reputation in Fleet Street, strongly criticised the sensationalising tendency of the national Press. "The present trend towards the invasion of privacy is scandalous", he told a Cambridge journalists meeting. He got his early training at the C.D.N. where he started at a pound a week and owed a debt of gratitude to Morley Stuart, the editor, who fired him for attempting one boisterous night to set fire to the New Theatre. Next day he joined the 'Cambridge Chronicle' and supplemented his income by writing advertisements for Joshua Taylor. Afterwards he got a job on the 'Daily Express' 38 04 04a

1938 05 07
Mr H.G. Morris had been chief reporter of the CDN for nearly 30 years. In 1911 he was sent out on his push bicycle to collect news of the Army manoeuvres and afterwards Lord Kitchener said his reports were so well done there was hardly any need to publish the usual blue and white papers issued each day. Captain Taylor said Mr Morris need not worry about the future from the financial side. The News appreciated his energy and sound work over the years and the least they could do was to make his future safe and secure. They hoped that, freed from the worries of newspaper life, his health would improve 38 05 07b

1938 05 31
CDN Jubilee supplement causes problems for the newsboys who have to deliver it
Contents
Cambridge in 1888 - 38 05 31a, d
When politics really were exciting: bonfires and torchlight processions - 38 05 31b, c
Churches have changed - the breaking down of intolerance - 38 05 31e, f
Changes in University life, recollections and reflections by T.R. Glover - 38 05 31g, h
CDN Campaigns recalled; former editor A Rought Brooks - William Farrow Taylor - 38 05 31i
Half a century's changes in local government - 38 05 31j
Ralph Starr, photographer recalls early advertisement - 38 05 31k
Women's part in Cambridge's progress: pioneers on Board of Guardians, council and bench by Ald Mrs F.A. Keynes - 38 05 31m
Preparation and production of the CDN, then and now - 38 05 31n, o, p,q,r,s,t
Table Talk feature by Morley Stuart - 38 05 31u,v
Memories of stage and screen - 38 05 31w
Half a century of sport - some personalities - 38 05 31x
CDN staff 40 years ago - 38 05 31y
CDN staff 20 years ago - 38 05 31z

1938 06 04
Cambridge Daily News jubilee - Capt Taylor reminisces about early days and foundation of paper - 38 06 04 & 4a

1938 11 02
Captain Taylor, Managing Director of the CDN, spoke of the many features of newspaper working which are creating financial difficulties. They are paying a very high price for paper and metal prices had risen due to the re-armament programme. With new complicated modern printing machinery they needed much more skilled operators. But a man in one union would not do the work of a man in another one. Unions had done a great deal of good but must not be virtual dictators of the industry. There was no cure to the evils they were suffering and he hoped no diminution in the supply of their life blood, sales and advertising. 38 11 02, a

1939 02 20
H.G. Morris, former chief reporter on CDN, covered 1912 army manoeuvres - 39 02 20a [2.5]

1939 05 03
If war came some kind of press censorship would be inevitable, the Home Secretary told the Newspaper Society dinner. Retiring President, Captain A.C. Taylor, Managing Director of the CDN, said the provincial newspaper editor was very discrete and trustworthy but must make a true and faithful record of events as they take place. Only a free Press, unfettered by Government interference, can be looked upon as a true Press, and a faithful record of everyday affairs.Local news scarce world news subject to censorship, blackout causes problems 39 05 03b [2.6, 2.7, 2.8]

1939 07 15
The Black Out exercise went off satisfactorily but I hope next time it won't be on a Thursday night because the hours between twelve and four are very busy ones in a newspaper officer where there are a series of weekly titles to be made up and printed ready for Friday morning publication. Our own difficulty was increased by the fact that the printers work under glass roofs. We did our best to meet the emergency and the bulk of the work was done before midnight. But the last page or two had to be put together under one small light, suitably shaded. I have never seen pages made up so quickly before - 39 07 15

1939 09 04
CDN reduced to four pages due war conditions - 39 09 04a

1939 11 22
People think that war is good for newspapers because of increased sales, when every day brings fresh sensations, success or disaster on land, sea or the air. But it brings a crop of trouble: rising price of newsprint and the blackout adding to difficulties of distribution. Censorship was not to conceal the truth from the public but to prevent information getting into the hands of the enemy. Local news had to be sent to London to be censored but foreign stories arrived at the CDN over a private wire ready for publication. They were able to give later news than the London evening papers as they had to come on the afternoon train which often took two hours. There was terrible unemployment amongst journalists over 30. They were a reserved occupation and could not enrol in any of the services 39 11 22a

1940

1940 04 20
CDN gets on 30% of normal newsprint due to war, cuts back to 8 small pages instead of 4 large ones & reduces reports [2.9] 40 04 20b

1940 06 04

John William Scott manager CDN photographic & engraving department; worked at Scott & Wilkinson and did occasional photographic work for CDN; also official police photographer. When CDN reorganised in 1929 was asked to form and take control of the Photographic and Engraving Department - 40 06 04

1941 06 24
CDN increases price to 1½ d due costs - 41 06 24b

1941 06 05
Censorship - facts raiders must not know - 41 06 05

1942 03 07
Fred Rayner lino-type operator at CDN - details of changes over 50 years etc - 42 03 07a - memories - 42 04 15 [2.10]

1942 06 26
18,000 miles. A correspondent (Says Watchman), writing of the Cambridge Independent Press, says: An old lady, in pre-war days, bought a copy of the "Independent" ' every week, and after reading it she loaned it to four neighbours. Later on the paper was sent to a son in Newcastle, who then forwarded it to a brother at Plymouth. From Plymouth it went to a brother in Melbourne, in Australia, who then sent it to a brother in Canada. The itinerary or programme was carried out weekly for several years, and according to the correspondent, each copy of the "Independent" must have travelled quite 18.000 miles 42 06 26 CIPof

1942 09 23
Soldiers read CDN in desert - photo - 42 09 23

1943 01 09
Japanese authorities refuse to allow letters to prisoners of war unless they are typed; CDN offer to help with typing [2.11]

1943 07 12
Table Talk column in CDN celebrates 25 years [2.12]

1943 12 24
Fifty years with local Papers. For nearly 50 years associated with the Cambridge newspapers, Mr. C.R. Vincent has died at Malvern at the age of 85. It was only two months ago that he relinquished his association with the "Cambridge Daily News" and "Independent Press," and past and present members of the staff joined warmly in a presentation to him on that occasion. Formerly engaged on clerical work with the Post Office Savings Bank Department in London., Mr. Vincent was obliged by health reasons .to give up his duties. He came down to Cambridgeshire and established his home in Swavesey, becoming, in 1898, village correspondent. In 1922 he was appointed to take charge of village correspondence at the head office of the newspapers. With over 70 villages in the county, his training in the Civil Service came in remarkably useful. It was his duty to keep a record of every paragraph sent in, and it was his proud boast that he could always turn up any item at will. Mr. Vincent gave a helping hand to Uncle Robin in the early days of the Robin Fellowship, and he was affectionately known in the office as "Uncle Cyril." 43 12 24 CIPof [1.1] 43 12 18

1944 01 29

CDN publisher, C. Maile celebrates 50 years - memories - front office was at extreme end of arcade facing the street; on one side entrance to Theatre Royal and on other entrance to kindergarten school when New Theatre wanted old office as refreshment buffet for stalls the front was moved to present editorial offices. Later moved right up to St Andrew's Street in place of Alphonso Smith's boot shop and Scott & Wilkinson's photographic establishment. Helped publish Victoria Diamond supplement. Appointed published in 1913 and has remained. Remembers when 'Weekly' printed four pages a time on the old Wharfedale press when copies had to be 'knocked up' and counted out in dozens. During General Strike of 1926 CDN produced a single morning sheet which circulated widely. Delivery of weekly paper provided problem in absence of trains and buses and with only one horse and cart for town delivery. Managed with help of Bim Hodder and his sports car, the Herts and Beds Bacon Company and a hired lorry - 44 01 29

1944 02 24
Cambridge newspaper of 200 Years Ago. This year (writes Morley Stuart, Editor of the Cambridge Independent Press and Chronicle) marks the 200th anniversary of the first publication of a weekly newspaper in Cambridge. Its title was the "Cambridge Journal and Flying Post," and it was linked by the process of amalgamation and absorption with the present "Independent Press and Chronicle." Such an occasion, I think, even in these days of restricted space, calls for some commemoration. Unfortunately, the earliest copies are not now in existence, or it would be possible for us to add yet another heading to the regular feature which interests so many readers - "From Our Files." Many papers had been published at various times in Cambridge in the interest of one or other of the political parties. Some of them had a brief and inglorious existence; others continued for many years until taken over by more successful publications. CIPof

1944 02 29
This year marks the 200th anniversary of the first publication of a weekly newspaper in Cambridge, the 'Cambridge Journal and Flying Post'. Many papers have been published at various time in the interest of one or other of the political parties. When I first set foot in Cambridge in March 1909 to take up a post on the Cambridge Independent Press, [wrote Morley Stuart) I went into a newsagent's shop and asked for a copy of each of the local papers. There were then four 'weeklies' running in addition to the 'Cambridge Daily News'. One was making its last appearance. The 'Cambridge Express' was being taken over by the 'Cambridgeshire Weekly News' published in conjunction with the C.D.N. It became known as the 'Weekly News and Express'. A few years later, during the last war, the 'Independent Press' which was then more than 100 years old, was amalgamated with its younger rival and the name adopted was the 'Independent Press and News'. Then, a few years before the present war, the 'Cambridge Chronicle', the oldest surviving local weekly, was taken over and the title altered to the 'Independent Press and Chronicle'. There have been other Cambridge papers before and since. [The C.D.N. carried a two-page article charting the development of the press - at a time when paper was severely rationed due to the War] - 44 02 29-29e

1944 05 13
Cambridge Chronicle passing - [TT 44 05 13]

1946 03 30
W.M. Stuart leaves after 16 years at CDN, chief reporter 1938. Was air raid warden who wrote 'Now it can be told' article [TT 46 03 30]

1946 12 31
CDN dinner to welcome home staff from war - if history of what was done in University laboratories is ever written - but will not as scientists so modest; no accommodation for returning men as lodgings taken by Civil Service; memories of W.L. Reynolds - 46 12 31& a

1947 01 04
W.L. Reynolds cashier CDN retires after 43 years; memories of founder [TT 47 01 04]

1947 02 22
Paper restrictions mean only 8 pages daily, had grown to 12 on alternate days [2.20]

1947 07 19
Further Government restrictions on newsprint to save dollars, CDN reduces circulation by 20% rather than cut number of pages [2.21]

1947 10 11
There will be a warm welcome for "Varsity Handbook", the Undergraduate's Guide to Cambridge, produced and published by "Varsity". This is a brand new publication, printed on good paper and contains a mass of information of interest and value to University men. Much of the material has never been collected before. For the first time, for instance, a full detailed list of the 180 odd University societies is published. And then "One Man's Opinion" contains some frank advice - possibly a little too frank - for the Freshman on a variety of matters 47 10 11

1948 05 29
To the dinner held at the University Arms Hotel in celebration of the Diamond Jubilee of the Cambridge Daily News" there came as guests those who formed the happiest possible combination of the "family" and delighted friends. University, town and county joined in tributes to our paper, tributes, too, which made mention of accuracy, good taste and kindliness. The Mayor, (Coun G.F. Hickson) said: "We all feel very strongly that the prosperity of the local Press, even if it sometimes goes by the affectionate name of the "local rag", is a feature of our life today. I think it must gain the admiration of us all in the way the C.D.N. does succeed in giving a fair deal to everyone in the restricted space at its disposal" 48 05 29

1948 06 05
Mr H.C. Bruce of New Fletton, Peterborough has written to say: "I have always had a warm spot for the Cambridge Daily News. It has had some rough passages and I like to think I helped it through one. When the 'Cambridge Gazette' started their new plant in St Tibbs' Row they also came out with a fine new yellow cart with rubber tyres. Every time we went out with our tall red cart with iron tyres and poor old mare they could beat us, because they had a fast trotter. They got to the newsagents first for some time and our returns began to increase, but with a little ingenuity on the round at night we managed to get and keep the lead. I got those papers to the agents before the 'Gazette' and had less returns to parcel up for waste paper" 48 06 05

1949 08 06
Last "Table Talk" by Morley Stuart, 6th August, H.H. Higgins takes over [2.23, 9.5]

1949 09 22
It is with deep regret we record the death of Mr Morley Stuart, editor of the CDN for 31 years. On the Cambridge Independent Press being acquired by the Cambridge Weekly News in 1912 he

took over the editorship in addition to working as assistant editor of the CDN. He used to recall how he would receive a caller who wanted to see the editor of the CDN, and then on being called over subsequently to Llandaff Chambers where the CIP offices were situated, he would find himself confronted by the same caller wishing to see the editor of that paper 49 09 22 [3.1]

1949 09 30
Death of Jack Maile, 56 years with CDN 49 09 30

1949 10 13
B50 bomber crash not mentioned on front page of CDN [4.8]

1950

1950 01 14
CDN stresses its election policy: "an independent line ... equal fairness" [3.3]

1950 01 21
More newsprint so CDN goes up to 16 pages three times a week once more hit by newsprint shortage in August [3.9]

1950 03 16
Captain Taylor, Managing Director appointed Mayor - it proves a momentous years during which Cambridge granted the title of 'City' [3.6,3.8] was son of late William Farrow Taylor, founder CDN, managing director CDN & director of other companies [CDN 50 03 16 p7] Biography [CDN 50 05 25 p6]. Biography of his wife [CDN 50 06 05 p5]

1950 05 20
"There are three speeches: one prepared the night before, one delivered & one press report next day" [TT 50 05 20]

1950 08 12
CDN hit by shortage newsprint [3.9]

1950 11 16
CDN prints Farmer & Stockbreeder during London compositors' strike [3.10]

1950 12 16
Death R. Cleaver, formerly overseer CDN [CDN 50 12 16 p7]

1951
The News 'Motoring' column was started and first written by Brian Lister in 1955. He went off to make one of the very famous names in sports-racing cars, the Lister-Jaguar, which, driven by the late Archie Scott-Brown and tuned by Don Moore of Cambridge Place, dominated the racing scene. Rodney Tibbs took over the column in 1957. 81 01 13b

1951 03 24
"Oxford sink" makes front page news in CDN while bomber crash does not [3.12]

1951 05 02
CDN raise price by ½d to 2d (1p) [3.13]

"More local news wanted" - CDN has 960 inches of space; devotes 117 to London & world, 219 local, 56 film & radio, 63 sport, 503 advertisements.

1952 01 05
CDN appeal for radios for Addenbrooke's raises £6,500 in 3 weeks [3.15 ,3.20]

1952 01 12
Robin Goodfellow corner started in CIP in 1929, maintains Robin & Goodfellow cots at Addenbrooke's Hospital; club hands over 1,000,000 penny since 1929 [3.16]

1952 01 26
Sidney Moon, brilliant international cartoonist for Sunday Despatch, formerly worked CDN [3.17]

1952 02 05
The CDN has added, for one week only, a new publication to the list of eight newspapers which it currently prints each week - an American newspaper. "Brigade Cavalcade" was produced to mark the first anniversary in the U.K. of the 32nd Antiaircraft Artillery Brigade of the U.S. Army. Its editorial offices are a battered war-time hutment overlooking the huge aircraft runway at Beck Row. After a lifetime of spelling English in an orthodox manner it was difficult for our printers to set words like honour and colour without the 'u', and the practised fingers of a linotype operator rebelled against copy which insists that programme should shed its last two letters. 52 02 05

1952 03 29
Keith Clarke appointed News Editor & Chief Reporter in place of S.J.Amyes [3.18]

1952 09 13
Death H.G. (Bim) Hodder 2½ years CDN sub-editor & book reviewer [3.19]

1953 05 21
Granta banned for publishing a blasphemous poem but Gadfly issued instead (the name of a magazine which was banned 65 years ago giving Granta its start) [7.1]

1953 10 03
CDN launch appeal for money to restore bells of Gt St Mary's church [4.11]

1953 11 16
The Cambridge Daily News made their own news when a fire broke out in the front office of the St Andrew's Street premises which are immediately opposite the Fire Station. P.C. Roberts noticed smoke coming from the building and smashed the front doors. While he was under a table smothering the flames the rising heat brought the sprinkler system into operation, preventing the blaze from spreading. The Fire Station send over a pump escape and turntable ladder and the fire was under control within four minutes. A number of replies to advertisements were damaged and it would be advisable if readers who have answered adverts within the last few days would write again. 53 11 16

1954 05 08
CDN defends itself against anti-Labour bias [4.13]

1954 05 29
Death W.A. Howlett, CDN printer [3.21]

1954 07 10
Robin Goodfellow feature inaugurated 25 years ago by Morley Stuart and was an instant success; 4,300 enrolled in first six weeks; first Robin was Sybil Rayner, Cherry Hinton Road. Robin cot endowed [3.22]

1954 11 08
Alfred Leonard, 42 years CDN [CDN 54 11 08]

1955 01 18
Newsboys outing to New Theatre [4.14]

1955 09 10
The Cambridge Express Printing Company has been acquired by W. Heffer & Sons. The 'Express' works have a long history. At one time they published a weekly newspaper which was eventually incorporated with the 'Cambridge Weekly News' which in turn amalgamated with the 'Cambridge Independent Press and Chronicle'. 55 09 10e

1955 11 02
CDN appeals for radios for Papworth Hospital (raise £5,000) [4.15, 5.10]

1957 02 30
CDN starts "America Letter" [5.13]

1957 08 19
'Footballer of the Year', Tom Finney, has been signed to write for the popular 'Cambridge Daily News Football and Sports Review' each Saturday evening. He has been capped 67 times since 1946 and is one of the most versatile forwards of the post-war period. Tom was offered a huge sum to sign for an Italian team but declined, saying he was happy to remain with Preston North End for whom he scored 22 goals last season. He knows the game inside out and will present a lively commentary on the soccer scene each week. Do not miss them.57 08 19

1957 09 25
Retirement W. Kingsnorth, linotype operator 51 years, CDN - 57 09 25b

1957 10 18
CDN editor lectures - 57 10 18d

1959 06 13
CDN sale of ordinary shares for sum in excess of £400,000 to Lord Iliffe; CDN is owned by Greyfriars press which through Associated Iliffe Press is owned by Kelly's Directories, Kelly's is Amalgamated Press subsidiary. Sum is very large appreciation over Grayfriars original investment of 1930s, part of streamlining of Amalgamated Press which acquired by Daily Mirror group at beginning year [5.11,12.1]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960
1960 01 02
The Cambridge Sporting and General News Service is one of the oldest news agencies in the country. It was founded in 1859 by James Drake Digby as 'The University and Sandringham Intelligence Service' and was the originator of the Royal Court system of reporting now adopted by the Press Association and Exchange Telegraph Company. In its office is a label showing that in 1906 King Edward VII personally sent three braces of pheasants from a royal shoot to James Newton Digby. The agency is now lead by E.A. January who took over after the war. It covers sport and news from the University, town and surrounding district. 60 01 02

1960 03 25
University 'Image' magazine launched 60 03 25a

1961 01 02
Captain A.C. Taylor retired after 40 years as Managing Director of the CDN, the paper established by his father in 1888. He is widely engaged in public service having been elected to both county and city councils and was Mayor when Cambridge became a city in 1951. He is chairman of the Ministry of Labour Rehabilitation Committee and keenly interested in sport, ploughing and farming. His successor as Managing Director is Mr A.J.H. Durham who like the Chairman of the Board, Lord Iliffe, is a graduate of Cambridge University 61 01 02b [5.11,7.7] 61 05 05a

1961 03 04
Cambridge Review 2000th issue, founded 1879 - history 61 03 04

1961 03 13
A cocktail party was held at St John's College to celebrate the 2,000th issue of 'The Cambridge Review'. It was founded in Trinity College in 1879 and has appeared every week in full term without interruption for strikes and wars. Its price - sixpence - has not changed at all because the circulation has always been small. The current edition has the usual content of articles, correspondence, book and theatre reviews 61 03 13a

1962 04 16
The Cambridge Daily News moved from its old premises in St Andrews Street to the new buildings in Newmarket Road at the weekend. It began in earnest as soon as the presses stopped running off the late sports editions on Saturday evening. Then the removal men moved in equipped with a five-ton crane for lifting linotype print setting machines to augment new ones already at the new works. To take the machines from the old building a special door was made in the wall opening onto the Post Office Telephone Department yard next door. Runners and skids were placed under the linotype machines then teams of workmen pushed them across the floor into the doorway ready for the crane to do the rest. The offices were easier to move, tables and chairs typewriters and books presenting problems. Throughout the weekend fleets of van, lorries and cars plied backwards and forwards between the two buildings. The move had to be completed in one go. Unlike most offices a newspaper cannot close up for the day. The process of news-gathering must go on. The move is now complete although there is still a branch office in St Andrew's Street for the convenience of the public for the insertion of advertisements and payments of accounts.- 62 04 16c # c.04

1962 05 08

At the modern Cambridge Daily News building on Newmarket Road each reporter has his own desk with a spring loaded device which allows his typewriter to be swung out of sight at a touch of the fingertips. There is a telephone kiosk built into the corner of the room which is used for confidential calls or those coming from a long distance which require quiet surroundings for easy listening. Typists in the copytaking room transcribe telephoned stories while national news and photographs sent by wire or radio are received in the teleprinter room 62 05 08, a, b
Producing the pictures - 62 05 08d, composition of pages - 62 05 08e, foundry - 08f, printing works - 08g, machine produces 40,000 copies hourly - 08h, despatch - 08i, transport - 08j

1962 07 20
Local news now prominent on front page of CDN [5.22]

1962 10 01
CDN changes name to Cambridge News on 1st Oct, people associated Daily with morning paper [12.5]

1962 11 15
Down Your Street articles by Eric Dimock start with Castle Street - 62 11 15a

1963 12 31
Cambridge News new offices on corner St Andrew's Street marks transfer of business from office in New Theatre Building - 63 12 31a [12.6]

1964 02 20
Horace H. Higgins, joined the CDN as a senior reporter in 1921 and became editor on the death of Morley Stuart in 1950, guiding it through many changes since it came into the ownership of Lord Iliffe. He was also the principal drama critic and was present at the opening of both the Festival and Arts Theatres. He launched funds to supply radios for Addenbrooke's and Papworth Hospitals and for improvement the Red Cross Society's 'Edwinstowe'. He is succeeded as editor by Mr N. Keith Whetstone from the Coventry Evening Telegraph. 64 02 20a

1964 04 08
Bring back the sunshine with a bright new colourful deep-woven Axminster or Wilton carpet from the Co-operative House, Burleigh Street. Laurie & McConnal or Peak's Furnishers where you can save up to one pound per square yard. [A three-page advertising feature printed in colour on 8th April, the first time colour was used extensively in the News] 64 04 08a-c

1964 09 24
Avalon furniture - two-page colour advertisement - 64 09 24a-b

1964 11 02
Granta magazine charity show to raise finance, includes Jimmy Edwards, Bernard Braden, Thora Hird, Peter Cook, Frankie Howerd and David Frost, the ex-editor. 64 11 02d

1964 11 07
Cambridge News wins 1964 Newspaper Design Award for evening newspapers; acquired by Lord Iliffe five years ago; he built new works and offices on Newmarket Road which opened April 1962 with printing plant of the latest design. New headline type, old five-column pages gave way to present six. Masthead designed by Will Carter - 64 11 07

1964 11 20
Birds Eye orange juice advertisement with colour for juice- 16 11 20

1964 11 27
Double-page colour advertisement - 64 11 27h

1964 12 18
CIP new look - 4 page Picture Parade, page 2 devoted women readers [12.8]

1965 01 08
CIP acquire St Neots Advertiser & Hunts & Beds Advertiser News, total circulation 28,000 copies covering 7 counties [12.9]

1965 04 08
Reuters news agency monitors Russia from Green End House, Royston - feature - 65 04 08e

1968 01 29
CN sales 44,436 an evening [12.10]

1969 03 13
CDN Makes evening paper history by including full colour pictures less than 24 hours after taken; film flown to Coventry & printed pages driven back in fleet of vans - 69 03 13, 13b [15.1]

1969 06 23
CN new offices, Market St replacing St Andrews Street [7.8, 15.2]]

1969 08 26
Cambridge News changes title to Cambridge Evening News to emphasise fact that it an evening paper - 69 08 26 (old) 69 09 01, 02a; change names on vans - 69 09 02a

1969 11 11
Capt A C ("Archie") Taylor, managing director for 40 years of the "Cambridge Daily News" - forerunner of the present newspaper - died yesterday at the age of 82. He was a former Mayor of Cambridge and one of the best-known figures in the city. As reported in later editions of yesterday's "News," Capt Taylor was taken ill at his home on Sunday evening and died at Addenbrooke's Hospital yesterday. His death ends a long family association with the newspaper. It was just after his birth that his father, the late Mr William Farrow Taylor, founded the "Cambridge Daily News" in 1888. In 1919, Capt Taylor, the third son, became manager and was appointed managing director when his father died the following year. During the succeeding 40 years the newspaper underwent many changes, culminating in its acquisition in 1959 by the late Lord Iliffe.
Capt Taylor retired as managing director the following year but remained a director of Cambridge Newspapers Ltd, the present publishers of the "Cambridge Evening News." Throughout his career he played an active part in the provincial newspaper world. He joined the Newspaper Society almost 40 years ago and was president in 1938 to 1939. For many years he was a member of the society's Labour Negotiating Committee and was a former president of the Home and Southern Counties Newspaper Owners' Association. Capt Taylor was born at Bury St Edmunds and educated at Cambridge University, where he took his MA, in 1926. He had a distinguished record of public service. In 1932, he was elected to the Cambridge local authority as a

Conservative member for the Petersfield Ward. He became an alderman in 1949 and was elected Mayor in 1950 - serving during the year that Cambridge was granted city status. During his year of office he was presented to the late King George VI. He was elected to the former Cambridgeshire County Council in 1946 and became an alderman in 1962. He was elected chairman in 1964, the year before the amalgamation with the Isle of Ely County Council. He served in the Army during both wars and was awarded the Territorial Decoration. He was connected with many organisations in Cambridge, including the Cambridge Flying Group, of which he was the first president in 1956. He was also one of the founder members of the city ATC Squadron organising committee in 1939. Capt Taylor, who was living at 2 Edendale Close, Cambridge, leaves a wife, four daughters and one son. His first wife died after a road accident in 1960. 69 11 11 # c.04

1969 11 12
CEN install two extra rotary presses & 2 folders; 54,000 copies each night [15.4,7.9]

1969 11 18
Hundreds of men work frantically through the night to reduce huge mountains of newspapers to orderly piles ready for collection by newsagents. They are part of a great exercise in teamwork which begins with the Fleet Street newsgatherers and ends with the latest paper being thrust through the letterbox. It is a massive night exercise which has all the precision and efficiency of a military operation. Cambridge is recognised as being one of the trickiest runs of all for it is doubtful whether any other network has to pack and sort so many papers in so short a time. There is a lull before the storm with an opportunity for a short nap on the early train to London. But on arrival at Liverpool Street they are soon inundated by almost 50,000 newspapers. The real ordeal begins when the large orders pile up in every corner of the long narrow carriage which has been specially adapted for newspapers sorting. It soon becomes obvious that this is no pastime for puny weaklings. The papers are heavy and how order is achieved out of such apparent chaos is nothing short of miraculous. As they rattle back to Cambridge in the small hours, struggling to keep their feet in the swaying, dimly-lit railway carriage it is difficult to wonder what persuaded them to remain in the ranks. The trains may start late, deliberately if necessary. The presses might break down and a late news story may mean the hectic revision of a front page. Any one of 100 things can throw the operation out of gear. Generally they get done about 10 minutes before the train comes into Cambridge but if hitches occur then they only just finish the packing by the skin of their teeth. Ron Smith, the train foreman who lives in Alex Wood Road and his colleagues Richard Aves of Ditton Fields and Pat Reagan, a burly, cheerful Irishman from Stretham, keep calm no matter what the crisis. Pat maintains it is just a matter of constant practice making perfect: “You soon develop a rhythm and method which makes the job go like clockwork”, he observes. - 69 11 18a & b

1970

1970 06 20
Keith Whetstone, editor of Cambridge Evening News - profile - 70 06 20

1970 07 04
Jim Smith, machine room manager of Cambridge News for 37 years retires - 70 07 04

1970 12 12
Cambridge News curtails number of editions due power strike - molten metal used to cast type will quickly solidify - 70 12 12

1971 05 24
CN "flyover extension starts [15.6]

1971 07 16
Cambridge News sales top 50,000 for first time - 71 07 16

1971 09 24
Cambridge Chronicle microfilm could make money for city [71 09 24]

1971 11 03
Shilling Paper revived, died nearly year ago after student anarchists gained control editorial production, strident voice and extremist politics offended [15.7]

1971 12 23
Ernest Blows joined CEN in 1914 when circulation was 7,000 copies delivered by horse and cart; now sells more than 51,000 with four editions covering 1,500 square miles - 71 12 23

1972 01 14
Stop Press, student magazine launched challenging Varsity; negotiates merger [8.17,15.9]

1972 02 08
Uncertainty power supply due miners' strike, CN changes format [15.11]

1972 02 10
Cambridge News starts installs new conveyor system to speed packing time - 72 02 10b

1972 02 17
Cambridge News juggles with power cuts to get the paper out - describes printing process etc - 72 02 17

1972 03 30
NGA problems [15.13]

1972 10 06
Stop Press comeback, p12

1973 01 12
Record CEN, 64 pages includes 20 page classified advertising centre section [15.14]

1973 01 14
Spicers aid Varsity which threatened with collapse [15.15]

1973 01 25
Merger Varsity & Stop Press continues [15.16]

1973 02 13
Varsity appears for last time, first published Jan 1931 by William Farquah who sold to friend for £100, post-war Harry Newman founded published wrote & promoted it; used pre-war title to get newsprint when supply rationed. Brash with Trans-Atlantic headline styling & verve. 21st

birthday March 1968; 6,000 buy it. Prince Charles, David Frost, Jonathan Miller etc wrote, Anthony Armstrong Jones photo'd [15.17, 16.1]

1973 03 08
Editorial dispute curtails CEN [16.2]

1973 03 30
Sara Payne CEN women's page editor named Britain's regional wine & food writer for 1972 [16.3]

1973 04 13
Two days disruption by journalists [16.4]

1973 04 17
15 pages of adverts, one page of news [16.5]

1973 04 27
A. Durham president East Anglian Newspaper Society, chairman Evening Newspaper Advertising Bureau [16.6]

1973 09 22
Newsprint shortage restricts number of pages [16.7]

1973 10 17
Disputes NUJ, CEN is 1p tonight; settle 3-day dispute, stop again [16.7]

1973 11 14
Shilling Paper to reappear with two issues this term, in past maintained extreme left image [8.10]

1974 01 26
Romsey Town News started by community in Spring 1973 - opportunity to speak & coalesce [14.1]

1974 03
CEN disputes [16.9, 16.13]

1974 03 08
CEN 99% accuracy record [16.8]

1974 04 22
Chris South column begins twice weekly [16.10]

1974 10 02
Today sees the first issue of a talking newspaper in Cambridge. Carried on tape cassettes it will be issued to 30 blind, elderly and infirm people and will provide a service of news based on material appearing in the C.E.N. Pye radio provided £1,500 worth of tape recorders to launch the project and the Vice Chancellor has offered University recording facilities. The "Talking News" was originated by Mrs D.M.C. Matthews of the Blantyre Home for the Blind in Glisson Rd and is now administered by a special trust 74 10 02 [16.11]

1974 10 22
CEN new printing press units arrive [16.12]

1974 11 27
Stop Press cash shortage, last week failed to appear [16.14]

1974 12 03
CEN fails to publish for 1st time in 86 years due NGA dispute caused by NUJ sanctions [16.15]

1975
Town Crier, free newspaper, starts [10.1]

1975 01 20
Shilling paper coming back 75 01 20

1975 02 27
Robert Iliffe succeeds uncle as Chairman proprietors CEN [8.3]

1975 04 23
Fulton Gillespie, chief reporter CEN, is runner-up in IPC National Press Awards 75 04 23

1975 08 05
Wilfred Morley Stuart, former chief reporter CDN and editor of Hansard dies. Left CDN 1945. Was son of Morley Stuart, former editor 75 08 05

1975 09 03
Frank & Babs Munns, well-known to numerous city centre newspaper buyers, have retired from their Market Passage newsagents. They have been in the business for 45 years. His family started in Newnham, one of only two wholesalers in Cambridge of Sunday newspapers. They started their first business in Castle Street and moved to Market Passage 14 years ago. Over the years there has been a big increase in the number of continental magazines people want to buy. Italians from as far afield as Bedford come to their shop for periodicals in their own language 75 09 03

1975 11 19
Stop Press cash problems [8.11]

1976 06 16
Rodney Tibbs best provincial science writer [8.12]

1976 06 25
CIP becomes first di-litho paper in Britain [8.7]

1976 10 14
CIP publish 12,000th issue. Cambridge Weekly News series incorporated Newmarket Weekly News, Ely Weekly Guardian, Saffron Walden Weekly News & Royston Weekly News. Acquired Cambridge Express 1909, Cambridge Independent Press 1916 but retained that title. 1934 became Cambridge Independent Press & Chronicle. 76 10 14 [8.14]

1976 12 17
CEN new regional edition, reports from area no longer confined to centre pages but displayed throughout news section [15.5]

1976 12 29
CEN surplus £191,278 last year - 16% improvement [8.16]

1976 12 31
CEN increases printing units from 6 to 10 [8.16]

1977 01 28
Stop Press stopped, financial problems [8.17]

1977 04 12
CEN becomes first daily newspaper printed in UK by direct lithography, faster & step on road to photo composition; had toured Scandinavia & USA before deciding [8.6,8.18]

1977 04 25
Printing technology is moving fast and regional newspapers are consistently in the forefront of developments. By concentrating on one major aspect the Cambridge Evening News has more than kept pace. The use of hot metal in printing is giving way to photography & we are the first in the country to print our papers by the Di-Litho method, enabling us to modernise and adapt our dated but sturdy and still efficient presses, improving the quality of reproduction in our publications and making working conditions easier and cleaner for staff. It is an indication of our confidence in the future that we intend to move to photocomposition, stage by stage, until completion in about a year's time. 77 04 25

1977 05 19
Cambridge Graphic facsimile issued 77 05 19

1977 11 11
CEN wins newspaper Design award for best sports pages in evening paper category [9.1]

1978 02 04
He used to stand at the corner of Trinity Street and Green Street in Cambridge, touting his wares. Every few minutes he would break out into a chant which sounded something like "Toodle-oddle-aidie-ar". One day I couldn't stand it any longer - not knowing what it meant. So I went up and asked him. "Two o' clock late London", he said, not so much as raising an eyebrow. "Paper, sir?" Every community, in every day and age, has its 'characters', even if there never seem to be quite as many about as there once were. Today busker Jerry Bol happily makes an exhibition of himself as a one-man band, while 'Snowy' Farr and his menagerie delight thousands of people with their weekly Saturday appearances. 78 02 04

1978 02 24
The Cambridge Evening News has achieved a feat unprecedented among provincial newspapers by winning three awards in British journalism's most important honours list, the British Press Awards. Chief amongst the News winners is cameraman Tony Jedrej who has won the title of News Photographer of the Year for a picture of a gunman and woman hostage at Ickleton. Reporter Alan Rushbridger receives a commendation in the Young Journalist of the Year class for articles on Cambridge Symphony Orchestra and a punk rock group while Assistant Editor John Alexander is commended in the Provincial Journalist of the Year class. 78 02 24

1978 06 02

The News decided to celebrate its 90th birthday by doing something light-hearted and invited 90 members of the Mid-Anglia population to pose for a photograph that would show a cross-section of the diverse community it seeks to serve. People who might never meet in everyday life found themselves jumbled together on the Shire Hall lawns for a photograph. Boxer and bank manager, actress and agronomist, proctor and postman and the Librarian of the Cambridgeshire Collection became neighbours in a marvellous mixture. There was even a dog and a rabbit to represent readers' fondness for household pets. Aqualung diver Bob Kirby was driven to taking ice from the champagne buckets in a desperate attempt to keep cool. 78 05 31 [9.9]

1979 01 22
NUJ stage 7 week pay claim strike, paper run on skeleton staff [9.8]

1979 01 30
Stop Press rescued by business consortium [9.7]

1979 06 01
Cambridge Review centenary issue [9.6]

1979 09 07
CEN fails to publish, NGA claim re new technology over laser plate-maker [9.4]

1980

1980 01 05
CEN uses linotype for last time, now new photo-composition [9.11]

1980 04 02
CEN not published for 7 weeks due NGA national pay claim, back 80 05 13 [9.10]

1980 05
'Grapevine' reports: CEN one of four papers owned by Cambridge Newspapers Ltd; this in turn owned by Coventry Newspapers ltd, which in its turn is owned by the ultimate Holding company Yattendon Investment Trust Ltd this owned & run for benefit of Iliffe family; head Lord Iliffe, 2nd Baron of Yattendon, a prominent member of landed classes in Midlands; was educated at Clare college present running of companies in hands of Baron's nephew R.P.R. Iliffe, Eton & Oxford ... 3rd of four directors is A.J.H. Durham deputy chairman & managing director; has day-to-day control over running of company; senior committee member of Newspaper Society & past president. 1979 was paid £17,671 as highest-paid director Cambridge Newspapers very wealthy company particularly in comparison other provincial newspapers. 1977 had turnover of £4M. Pre-tax profit £529,000 Cambridgeshire Weekly News started by W.F. Taylor in conjunction CDN, changed name as absorbed other papers, becoming CWN & Express, CIP & Weekly News, & CIP & Chronicle

1980 05 13
The News and its sister newspapers are back in production after a seven-week national pay-and-hours dispute which resulted in the loss of 1.75 million copies. The dispute was over wages. The National Graphical Association wanted a flat £80 a week basic and a 37½ hour week. The employers' side offered £75 a week and a reduced working week by 1982. A union official welcomed the agreement and said he was pleased that at Cambridge they had had none of the agro of other newspapers around the country. 80 05 13b

1980 07 26
CEN new typeface Times Roman, have introduced laser plate-making [9.13]

1980 09 23
Granta aim transform into regular international quarterly [9.12]

1981 01 29
CIP issued for last time on 29th January, [9.14]

1981 02 05
CEN launch new Weekly News series of four free newspapers; increases to seven [9.14]

1981 09 05
In 1975 News had healthy circulation of more than 50,000 in Cambridge & surrounding towns & provided Iliffe family proprietors with healthy profit. The figures for 1980-81 by contrast will show the paper to have made a loss of more than £500,000 having already shown a deficit of around £200,000 in 1979-80. The circulation has dropped in one year from 50,059 to 47,109. The main thing to have changed since 1975 is the flood of media into the area once monopolised by the Cambridge paper. Householders in Cambridge now have 3 weekly free sheets. From spring they will be able to listen to BBC Radio Cambridgeshire. In addition most people have commercial station Also free sheets in Hunts, St Neots & Saffron Walden where CEN has district offices. Free papers undercut advertising rates of News by up to 70p a centimetre & have duly reaped the benefits. Virtually all the estate agents deserted the CEN during the provincial journalists strike of 1978/9 & have never come back. Their business was worth £300,000 a year. They now advertise in the Town Crier which circulates in 71,000 Cambridge homes. News now responded by launching 5 of its weekly series of papers as free sheets with a combined circulation of 130,000. Guardian 5.9.1981 [13]

1982 01 16
Ten thousand copies of the Cambridge student newspaper “Stop Press” have rolled off the presses of the News, the first time it has been printed in the city. With the introduction of direct-image camera and laser printmakers student journalists hope it will save them £150 an issue and enable it to be distributed earlier than before. “Stop Press”, a 12-page tabloid-style paper was set up by Cambridge Students Union in the mid 1960s as a radical campaigning alternative to the established student paper, “Varsity”, which subsequently folded. 82 01 16

1982 02 02
Journalists 11 day stoppage due redundancy plans [9.15]

1982 02 25
Cambridge newsagent Bob Truelove has an easier working day now his newspaper delivery boys and girls have been computerised. Once he had to get up with the lark to start marking up the morning newspapers for his delivery team. Now the computer delivers a daily print-out for each of the rounds showing which papers have to be delivered to each house. It is the same story in the evening when the News arrives. The Cifer computer, which was installed by Bob Dear of Glisson Road, has been specially programmed so no technical skills are needed to operate it. 82 02 25

1983 01 25

The 'News' has pioneered a number of new technologies in the newspaper industry. A few years ago its composing rooms looked like a factory, dealing with molten lead, burning gas and tons of heavy metal. Now it resembles a carpeted office with two products of the modern age, lasers and computers, at the heart of the process. More technology could be employed but with several editions to produce every day there is no time to stop to introduce it. 83 01 25b

1983 07 28
Estate agents dramatically increase advertising, 20 page Property section CEN; advertising had switched to Town Crier during 1980 strike [9.16, 10.1]

1984 01 05
A new village industry is booming in Cambridgeshire - compiling village chronicles. It is the result of a major project at the Cambridgeshire Collection which has indexed the village news appearing in the Cambridge Chronicle newspaper between 1770 and 1899. Now these stories are being transcribed and published in a series of village 'Chronicles'. The first was compiled for Stretham and others have followed for Littleport, Barrington and Swavesey with more in the pipeline. 84 01 05 p14

1984 02 24
CEN editor "some people have accused us of going downmarket ... but we're not here to paddle prejudices on social or political issues" [10.2]

1984 03 15
A security man delivering wages to the Cambridge News offices in Newmarket Road was confronted by two armed men wearing balaclavas as he stepped out of a lift on the second floor of the building. They pressed a chloroform-soaked rag on his face before taking a black security bag containing wages of over £8,000. The men, who were wearing boiler suits, then walked calmly down the stairs and out of the front door. 84 03 15 p1

1984 10 24
Attack of Verbals published 'left-wing propaganda rubbish' [10.3]

1984 12 12
CEN not published due industrial dispute [10.4]

1985 03 16
Town Crier taken over by Morgan Grampian group; was first delivered free [10.5]

1985 04 25
Huntingdon & St Ives Weekly News produced [10.6]

1985 07 05
Lord Iliffe, former chairman CEN, retires from board, strong personal connection with paper [10.7]

1985 07 24
Lewis Todd was resident cartoonist of the CDN 30 years ago, following in the footsteps of Ronald Searle and Sid Moon who went on to Fleet Street. He is best-remembered for his composite drawings of cricket and football teams. He enjoyed a long career as an artist with the Ministry of Agriculture but now has an exhibition of his oil paintings of Cambridge scenes

including a view of the Roman Catholic Church which makes it look like a Van Gogh structure. 85 07 24a

1985 09 21
'Cambridge City Herald' issued by City Council [10.8]

1986 02 06
George Blows retires, longest serving employee CEN [10.8]

1986 04 26
Town Crier move to new offices in Cambridge [10.10]

1986 05 02
The Cambridge-based Mason's News Service has won a unique contract to produce a new Chinese newspaper - the first to be published outside China. They will be responsible for the editing, design and printing of the English-language paper which is published by the Peking-based 'Economic Daily', the country's most influential newspaper. It will contain a digest of the main news stories in China as well as articles written specifically for European readers 86 05 02a

1986 09 18
Royston Weekly News revived [10.11]

1986 12 24
The Talking Newspaper has been compiled for the past 12 years by a team of committed people to give visually-handicapped people information to enable them to participate in the normal day-to-day chat that we all indulge in. Without it the blind can feel isolated. The three team editors incorporate many of their own interests in the arts and animal life in an hour-long tape containing a mixture of news culled from local sources, features and information such as death notices and forthcoming events. The newspaper has its own recording studio at Chesterton Hospital and is distributed through the free mailing service offered by the Post Office 86 12 24

1987 02 02
Ian Richard succeeds Tony Durham as CEN MD - 87 02 02

1987 02 16
The 'News' has entered the computer age. Now reporters' typewriters have been replaced by computer screens and their stories are transmitted electronically to the sub-editors who check for mistakes, write headlines and determine what type-size it should be printed. This is done on screen before being sent electronically to be photo-set. When each page is finished it is made into a metal plate using lasers and is ready for printing. If all goes smoothly a story can take just half an hour to go through the entire system 87 02 16a & b

1987 02 27
Trumpington newsagent Bert Truelove is celebrating half a century in the trade - and he is only 57. He started selling papers in his father's Stapleford shop in 1937 when he was so small that he had to stand on a box to see the customers. After the war the family came to Trumpington and battled through years of austerity when a shortage of papers meant demand for copies of the News often succeeded supplies. It is a different picture now with a boom in sales. New

technology ensures he gets the papers on time. He has not forgotten the paper boys and girls who have helped him over the years: they have been invited to a disco in the village hall. 87 02 27a

1987 03 12
Colin Moule succeeds Gordon Richards as editor Weekly News series - 87 03 12

1988 05 28
Mike Petty compiles Cambridge News centenary book - 88 05 28a 88 06 01a

1988 06 02
Loker and Co. Cambridge newsagents since 1861, is to close as a result of sweeping changes in newspaper and magazine wholesaling. Moved from corner of East Road and School House Lane in 1977 - 88 06 02

1988 09 10
Computers are the key weapon in the 'News' battle against deadlines. Previously crucial minutes were lost while journalists' stories were re-set into type by other staff. Now writing and typesetting can be done by one person. The process begins at 7.30 am each day. The newsdesk - run by the news editor, the assistant news editor, the chief reporter and an editorial assistant - decide on the best stories and brief the 15 reporters based in Newmarket Road and another eight in district officers. Stories flood in from every source imaginable and more than 100 press releases and letters are received each day 88 09 10 & a

1988 09 22
Cambridge Weekly News judged best free weekly 88 09 22

1988 12 16
Seven newspapers in Cambridgeshire belonging to the Sharman family are to be sold, but the jobs of all 220 staff are safe. The titles, which include the Hunts Post, Ely Standard and Cambridgeshire Times will be bought by Thomson Regional Newspapers subject to referral to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Other titles included in the deal are the Peterborough, Wisbech and Kings Lynn Standards and the Rutland and South Lincs Classified. The news comes just a week after the funeral of the former managing director, Charles Sharman. 88 12 16

1988 12 29
Cambridge Evening News centenary year reviewed - 88 12 29b

1989 04 21
Yattendon Investment Trust, owners of the CEN & CWN buy Hertfordshire newspaper group - 89 04 21

1989 04 27
Cambridge Newspapers order new web-offset full-colour press to be located at a new printing complex at Milton - 89 04 27

1989 06 09
CEN gets permission to move presses to Milton c89 06 08

1989 10 27

Work has begun to turn the CEN into the most advanced newspaper in East Anglia. By 1991 the News will be printed on a full-colour German press, the first in Britain, at a state-of-the-art press complex at Milton. It will include a paper store, press hall, four storey administration and engineering support block and a despatch area. A separate building will allow the company to service its own vehicles. Editorial, advertising, circulation and administration teams will remain at the head office in Newmarket Road. 89 10 27

Addenda

1990 11 23
'Over the Bridge' community magazine for Romsey to close after 100th issue - 90 11 23a

1991 02 04
Rodney Tibbs retires after 42 years at CEN - 91 02 04a

1992
Cambridge News new high-tech printing complex at Milton official opening [Rev]

2007 01
Cambridge News wins Daily Newspaper of the Year award, Jan [Rev]

2007 05 19
CN starts a morning edition from 21st May - CEN 19.05.2007

2012 11 22
Yattendon Group sell Iliffe News & Media to Local World, a newly-formed media group. CN 22.11.2012 p2

2020 09 05
The company that owns the Cambs Times, Wisbech Standard and Ely Standard has announced it is to come under new ownership. Norwich-based Archant - which also publishes the Eastern Daily Press and many other titles - has been acquired by Rcapital. It takes a controlling share, with a minority holding for the Pension Protection Fund, into which Archant's long-defunct company pension has been transferred. Chris Campbell, partner at Rcapital, said: "We are incredibly pleased to have worked alongside Archant's management team and KPMG to put forward a plan that will restructure finances and inject fresh capital into one of Britain's oldest local newspaper brands. We are hopeful, that with the support of its creditors, Archant will emerge from this challenging period as a stronger business that continues to provide a vital service to its clients and readership." There is no interruption to publishing in the business, which continues to trade as before. CT online

Hockey Estate Agents, Bene't Street c1962

232.55

c.60. Auctioneers, house prices etc

1900

1901 05 02
Mr Arthur Rutter, head of the Cambridge Estate Agency, is to be complimented. Registers of landed estates etc are common enough but we believe the illustrated list he has just issued is the first of its kind. Preceding the thirty pages of "To be let or sold" are four pages, each containing five pictures of residences which he wishes to dispose of. The illustrations are excellently printed on art paper and the whole production is a credit to the agency 01 05 03

1904 12 23
An important property sale was conducted, consisting of various properties in Sidney Street, one of the most central and important positions in the business part of Cambridge. Naturally there was a large attendance and the bidding was spirited. It included the coachbuilder's factory of T. Hunnybun, including carriage showroom and harness-maker's shop. These were withdrawn but sold after the sale at a considerably enhanced price; we understand they will continue their business in Hobson Street. A draper's shop occupied by F. Blott found a purchaser at £3,600. 04 12 23

1907 04 01
James Catling joined the Town Council in 1900, bringing 30 years' experience as an auctioneer and estate agent with an intimate knowledge of local properties. Only last week he was re-elected to the Board of Guardians upon which he had sat since 1876. His hobbies included horticulture, freemasonry and the Rifle Volunteer Corps. Since his marriage to a Bedford lady he has resided there, returning to Cambridge when public duty required. By his death the town loses a talented and conscientious public servant. 07 04 01

1907 09 04
'The Cambridge and District Property Register' published by Hockey, estate agents, comprises a list of 200 houses to be let or for sale. They vary in price from £75 to £2,500 with rents from £14 to £100. There is also a list of shops and business premises including seven lodging-houses. With several excellent coloured views this register is a very creditable production 07 09 04a

1908 92 25
The sale of the estate of Mr R.R. Rowe, late Borough Surveyor, includes a block of property mid-way between the station and the Post Office which would be suitable for the erection of a college, church, hotel or other business purposes. The residence known as Park House on Parkside, together with houses in Fitzroy Street, King Street and French's Road are also offered in the largest sale held in Cambridge for some long time. 08 02 25 & a & 29

1909 11 26
Harry William Wallis, auctioneer, said he taken over the business from his father in 1907 and paid off his debts. As well as the ordinary business of auctioneer he also bought furniture which he sold at his weekly auction sales. He got into difficulties after a man offered him very cheap bicycles for sale for auction but then had not supplied them. Amongst those to which he owed money was a bedstead make in Dudley, a furniture dealer from Bethnal Green, a cabinet-maker from Hackney and P.A. Stevenson a Cambridge outfitter CWN 09 11 26

1910

1910 05 13
William Hockey was the founder of the well-known auctioneering firm based in Bene't Street. As the agent for the De Freville Estate he had much to do with the development and planning of that part of New Chesterton which has rapidly become of so much importance. He also held an important and confidential position at Trinity College, where he was highly regarded, and was Secretary of the Excelsior Building Society. For the past 20 years he was a very well-known and popular figure in the business life of Cambridge. 10 05 13k

1911 01 13
In their report on the state of the property market in Cambridgeshire Messrs Rutter and Company say business has been disappointing during 1910. Only a small amount of property has changed hands in Cambridge for investment but with properties for occupation there had been a very fair demand at satisfactory prices. This has been caused by the scarcity of medium-sized available houses to rent. They have had a number of letters from buyers intimating that they intend to wait until the question of taxation has been straightened out. Prices for farms have been well maintained but the present harvest has been a poor one and the market must feel the effect 11 01 13e

1912 04 26
Arthur Tress Grain, founder of firm of auctioneers & estate agents – funeral – 12 04 26d

1912 12 20
The Mart in King Street has been constructed Mr J. Winship, the well-known auctioneer who has transformed what was originally a bare and ill-lighted bottling store into a fine salesroom. Soon 'The Mart' in 16-inch gold lettering will form a fitting crown to the red and gold colour scheme of the front of the premises. It is intended for the sale of furniture with a large skylight and powerful gas burners, adequate ventilation and heating. From the rostrum the auctioneer can easily see buyers and no serious bidder will fail to catch his eye 12 12 20b

1913 02 28
Mr J. Winship junior conducted his first furniture sale at The Mart, the splendid new auction rooms in King Street. They would conduct the business on business lines. They would have a sale when there was anything to sell and would not buy stuff to sell again. Furniture not sold would be stored and insured against fire free of cost and as the place was heated throughout by hot water pipes, the furniture would be kept in good condition. 13 02 28 CIP

1913 03 21
Messrs Hockey, the well-known Cambridge house agents testified that the owner of no.15 Lyndewode Road had asked them to sell her house. They sent particulars to 26 clients including Mr Neal who asked them to establish the lowest price, which was £1,000. Later the owner said she had sold it privately and disputed payment of their commission, offering three guineas instead. Hockey's agreed, providing it was not sold to Mr Neal. But he had bought it for £900 13 03 21 p5 CIP

1925 03 09
We regret to announce the death of Alderman W.T. See. He entered the office of the late Mr James Catling, auctioneer valuer, house and estate agent, with whom he served for 25 years. He gave up his work and devoted himself to music and became well-known as a teacher or organ and piano playing. He was conductor for many years of the Cambridge Choral Society. About three years ago he re-entered business life, going into partnership with Mr P. Freeman, under the name of Messrs See & freeman, estate agents, Alexandra Street, Cambridge 25 03 09

1926 09 28
An article in "Country Life" relates to the house, no.21 Madingley Road Cambridge in a choice spot beside the Backs which is included in an auction sale. "Everyone knows that building is costly, but there will be curiosity as to how as much as £6,000 could be spent in building a house in which the chief accommodation consisted of only six bedroom. Some four years ago an American laid out that sum on the house which is he now vacating. The auctioneer have orders to treat on the basis of market value, not cost, so someone will get a bargain" 26 09 28

1928 10 23
What is probably the largest single deal in Cambridge business property ever known has just been completed. A well-known local young man has purchased property with frontages in Market Hill, Petty Cury and Sidney Street and this will be developed by a company consisting of Cambridge people. It includes premises occupied by the Craft Shoe Company, the Cambridge Chronicle offices and printing works and Boots the chemist. As Messrs Boots recently secured a large amount of property in Petty Cury and Sidney Street it would appear that big changes will be seen in this part of town when both sites are developed. 28 10 23

1930

1934 19 13
The Perne Road Estate. Charming modern houses from £400 freehold. Every house contains entrance hall, drawing room, kitchen, dining room, three bedrooms, bathroom, separate W.C., H. & C. Water. Room for car. Small deposit (£25). Terms from 13/2 (65p) per week. Over 40 already sold. Drivers, Estate Agents – advertisement. 34 10 13

1935 10 31
Henry Philip Chalk was one of the best-known and respected auctioneers. He started business in Cambridge in 1880 as an agricultural auctioneer and valuer. Beside the stock sale which he conducted at the 'Earl of Derby' he attended the opening of the Cambridge Borough Market in 1885 at the same time as Mr A.T. Grain. In Linton he had a member of the parish council from its inception and chairman since 1907, a foundation manager of the church school and churchwarden for 54 years. In his younger days he was well-known as a fast bowler and represented Cambridgeshire at cricket 35 10 31a

1936 08 22
Cambridge – and indeed the whole of East Anglia – has lost one of its best-known and popular auctioneers by the death of Mr A.L. Rutter. He had carried on business as auctioneer, estate agent and surveyor in Cambridge ever since he left St Catharine's College in 1898. He held office in several professional institutions and was at one time a warden at St Botolph's church where his funeral will be held. 36 08 22c

1937 01 01
Douglas L. January started 1st Jan 1937 [NS3.2]

1937 01 13
Sidney Gordon Clark, antique dealer of Collins & Clark, dies – 37 01 13b

1937 04 19
The death occurred with tragic suddenness at the Gog Magog Golf Club of Percy William Gray, 65, who collapsed while practicing for a round. The club was immediately closed for the day. He was a member of the well-known auctioneer and estate agent firm, Gray, Son and Cook and was director of the Cambridge Waterworks and Gas Light Companies. In his younger days he played cricket, hockey, golf, rugby and 'soccer' and continued to hold various offices including President of the Cricket Association. He married Miss Strange, daughter of the Chesterton boat builder. 37 04 19

1938 12 31
Arthur Rutter auctioneers and estate agents Cambridge branch sold to staff – 38 12 31

1939 02 23
No.7 Petty Cury, comprising a double-fronted shop in the occupation of Messrs Lipton, the upper floors providing part of the bedroom accommodation of the Lion Hotel was offered for sale by auction. Shop property in the heart of the shopping centre of Cambridge seldom came to market by public auction and formed an excellent purchase for occupation, speculation or investment. It would be very difficult to find a much better investment. Demand was especially keen in Cambridge where the best shopping area was limited owing the centre being 'horseshoed' by college buildings. But it failed to reach its reserve and was withdrawn at £11,750 (about £650,000 today) 39 02 23a

1939 11 29
James Starr, a builder who was developing a building estate near Cambridge was approached by the Criterion Publicity Service about preparing a brochure describing the houses for sale. They would supply him with 250 copies free of charge, but had the right to obtain advertisements and retain the profits. But later they wanted £15 for printing blocks so Starr told them he would have nothing to do with the scheme. However they claimed £150 for breach of contract. 39 11 29a

1940

1948 04 22
The many friends of Mr Robert William Bell, auctioneer and estate agent, will learn with regret of his death. He came to Cambridge 35 years ago and became recognised as one of the best auctioneers in Cambs. He was particularly well known not only on account of his business, in which he had a great many connections with agriculture, but also because of his preaching activities in most of the Baptist chapels in the area. Mr Bell loved horses and was a familiar sight in days gone by with his horse and gig, which he reluctantly gave up when motor cars became the fashion 48 04 22

1950

1954
Watson's estate agents founded about 1880, opened in Cambridge 1954 – history – 71 11 23

1959 12 30
The 'average' young couple, where the husband is earning £700 a year, should have no difficulty in the Cambridge of today in finding or building a house for themselves. If they have the kind of status that satisfies bank managers they can get financial help from the building societies up to about 95% of the purchase price of £2,250. Many people have a car nowadays which means a distance of seven miles is no serious obstacle and they can enjoy the advantages of living in the country. They would derive little benefit from renting a house: on the rare occasion that unfurnished accommodation does become available it would equal the loan repayments on a house of their own 59 12 30c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960
1961 05 27

'The Willows', a six and a half acre piece of land at Cam Road, was one of the few building sites left in Cambridge. It was just a mile from the city centre with outline planning permission for the building of 200 flats in six blocks ranging from two to 15 storeys. The proposed new trunk road and bridge linking Chesterton and Newmarket road will pass the site. But it failed to reach the reserve price and was withdrawn from auction at £50,000 61 05 27

1962 12 22
King Street poultry mart held its last Christmas sale. It has existed for nearly 50 years and now the auctioneer Claude Kirkup and clerk, Alfred Harding will retire. Mr Kirkup, a well-known figure, has dealt with about 1,000 chickens, turkeys and geese this week alone. He started in the mart in 1918 and was joined by Mr Harding in 1922. The site was purchased recently by Jesus College 62 12 22

1965 04 02
Westley & Huff, estate agents partnership dissolved; formed in 1951 65 04 02a [1.1]

1965 03 27
Two and three-quarter acres of freehold building land at Grange Road with planning permission for 60 flats and 67 garages sold for £26,000 an acre at auction. Building of high-class flats will start 'almost immediately'. This was probably the best piece of land ever made available for this type of development in Cambridge, said Douglas January & Partners 65 03 27b

1966
Catling Brady & Bliss formed - James Catling started as auctioneer & estate agent 1871, Brady joined 1895, Bliss 1959 [1.3]

1967 11 29
New partnership between Grain & Chalk of Chatteris & A.T. Grain & Sons; become Cheffins, Grain & Chalk [1.2]

1969 05 15
Edward Storey Foundation Trust sell 5 lots city centre land for £ 521,000 as want rebuild Shelley Row almshouses [1.6, 1.7]

1969 07 02
Sale city centre property including Arts Cinema, Miller's Music, Eaden Lilley warehouse, Jarrolds – 69 07 02

1970

1971 03 19
Council paying equivalent of £ 300,000 an acre for parts of Lion Yard site, University want over £770,000 for 1,165 square yards of land entrance new car park [1.9]

1971 07 07
Catling Brady and Bliss celebrate centenary; started by James Catling in Free School Lane; Brady joined 1895, Bliss in 1959 – 71 07 07

1971 11 23
Watson's estate agents founded about 1880, opened in Cambridge 1954 – history – 71 11 23

1972 03 24
Kingston Street terrace house needing great repair fetched £3,050, leaves auctioneers gasping - year ago £1,500 [1.10]

1972 04 13
Millington Road 3-bed house sells £26,250, £10,000 more than year ago [1.11]

1972 06 12
Wilderspin Close neo-Georgian house doubles in year - £11,950 to £25,000 [1.12]

1972 07 14
Terrace house without bath, Halifax road £9,000 [1.13]

1972 07 20
Grantchester Meadows semi sells for record price - £25,600 [1.14]

1973 05 04
House prices fall to new low, well below 18 months ago [2.2]

1973 06
Coleridge Road house prices :

1930s £450
1946 £2,000
1955 £2,500
1965 £4,000
1970 £5,000
1973 £10,000 [2.3]

1973 06 16
Crisps, Kings Parade bought by Kings College for £ 120,000 [2.4]

1974 04 25
City centre sit including Arts Cinema, Millers & part of Eaden Lilley auction, withdrawn at £687,500 (bought 1969 by David Robinson for £230,000 [1.5]

1974 04 04
Coral Estate, 1.5 acre site Coldham's Lane sold for almost £100,000 for industrial use [2.5]

1974 01 11
When Cyril Brady started in a Cambridge estate agents and valuers a new semi-detached house in the city sold for £425 cash or you could rent it for 14s.9d. a week. Now those same houses run to five figures and rent comes out at around £40 a month, unfurnished. The figures reflect the changes in the 41 years that Mr Brady has been in partnership which has been running under the name of Catling, Brady and Bliss since 1969 74 01 11

1977 07 21
One of the most striking features in the property market has been the resurgence of interest in the small terraced city house in the Romsey Town area. Fifteen years ago one could have bought a two up, two down, for about £1,350. By 1967 the price was £2,200 rising to £5,500 by 1972 and is now £8,500 – and increase of 530 per cent. In De Freville Avenue a semi which cost £3,000 in 1962 is now £15,000, and in Queen Edith's Way the figures are £3,350 and £14,500. A post-war semi in Cherry Hinton has risen from £10,000 to £15,000 in the five years from 1972. 77 07 21

1978 06
House prices rocketing by £1,000 a month; 3-bed pre-war semi which £12,500 at Christmas now (June) worth £17,500 [11]

1978 07 19
County Council want sell 16 acres housing land off Northfields Avenue as has adequate for its needs, expects £0.5 million [2.6]

1978 11 21
One of Cambridge's most successful businessmen, Mr Douglas January has died. He built up an estate agent's enterprise from modest beginnings in 1937 to one of the largest in Cambridge, with

branch offices in the main market towns in the area. He was also widely known in other community fields and was responsible for the successful fund-raising drive behind the launch of the Cambridge sports hall. He was President of the Cambridge Golf Union & Amateur Boxing Club and local sports clubs eagerly sought his patronage. 78 11 21

1979 03 29
Building land equivalent £ 100,000 an acre [2.7]

1980

1980 07 12
One of the biggest private houses & the last commercial farm in Cambridge is up for sale. Rectory Farm on Madingley Road, built 16 years ago, is regarded as an outstanding neo-Georgian design with five reception rooms, six bedrooms, two bathrooms and a swimming pool. It is set in three acres of mature gardens & could fetch around £250,000 80 07 12 [2.8]

1981 07 31
130,000 an acre paid for 3.5 acre site Coleridge area; previous record £80,000 acre, Gilbert Rd [2.9]

1983 01 25
Land Pound Hill sold equivalent of £560,000 an acre [2.10]

1983 04 07
Cambridge is close to the top of the house prices league with prices for terraced house comparable to those in parts of Greater London. A three-bed roomed post war terrace in a very desirable area can be as high as £45,000 compared to £21,000 in Ipswich, £31,500 in Brighton or £30,000 in Oxford 83 04 07 p13

1985 10 24
"Little under £30,000" [2.11]

1986 01 30
Prices of terraced houses in the Cambridge area have gone up by 25 per cent in a year and now average £36,346. Flats and maisonettes have risen 20 per cent to £28,885, while semi-detached houses are up 14.2 per cent at £40,700. But detached homes have increased by only 5.2 per cent to £58,927. First-time buyers are borrowing around £28,600 on incomes of about £10,960. Funds are easily available and people still consider that buying a house is probably one of the best investments they can make, says the Halifax Building Society 86 01 30b [2.12]

1986 04 04
Average price Cambridge now £57.000 [2.13]

1986 09 25
"Spiralling house prices drive out city buyers" [2.14]

1987
Januarys taken over by Black Horse [NS2.7]

1987 01 28
City land tops £700-£750,000 an acre (? industrial) [2.15]

1987 03 27
Cambridge's oldest firm of solicitors, Francis & co which was founded in 1789, is to merge with Norwich-based Mills and Reeve to become one of the largest practices outside London. The move follows the merger of leading local accountants Chater & Myhill with Peat Marwick, the UK's leading accountancy practice. And it takes place during a period of extraordinary upheaval in estate agency which has seen the acquisition or merger of many firms including Ekins, Mullucks, Hunters, Gray Cook, Regent Estates and Watsons. Almost all of them have been absorbed by insurance groups or building societies. 87 03 27a

1987 05 20
Estate agents, Cheffins Grain and Chalk are to merge with agricultural specialists Comins to form a new company. They will open a residential sales office in Soham and Cheffins will expand its Cambridge Machinery Sale. The merger occurs at a time of continuing turmoil within the estate agency business as national institutions take advantage of new rules to move on to the property scene. At least nine local agents have been involved in takeovers by banks, building societies or insurance companies. 87 05 20

1987 12 22
More than 500 Christmas turkeys, chicken and geese went under the hammer at Cambridge's turkey auction. Prices for turkeys from 62-83p per lb while chickens fetched 62-72p lb. The biggest seller was a king-sized 35lb stag turkey. 87 12 22

1988 08 12
Drivers estate agents change name to Cornerstone [CEN 12.8.88]

1988 12 30
Hunters Estate Agency to change to Wm H. Brown from Feb 1989, was set up 1984, merged with Brown 1986 [CEN 30.12.88]

1989 02 27
Arnolds estate agency renamed Halifax Property Services, was founded 1974, acquired 1988 [CEN 27.2.89]

1989 05 11
Clark Turner estate agent office sold Town and Country [CEN 11.5.89]

1989 10 25
Solicitors Winter Wilkinson closes due house market slump - opened June 1987 CEN 25.10.89

1990

1990 03 28
Cambridge's most luxurious flat is one of three penthouses in a new block called The Oast House at Pinehurst South off Grange Road. It has three bedrooms with a spiral staircase leading to a striking room like a Kentish oasthouse with a 25-foot ceiling and glass doors on to a roof garden. It will have all the luxury fittings expected including a video surveillance system. The Cambridge-based developer Nigel Grimshaw says "Nothing approaching it has ever been offered in Cambridge". The developers have produced a 52-page book listing its attributes 90 03 28a, b

1990 04 10

Desmond January retires after 50 years in estate agency; houses that sold for £750 in 1938 now make £120,000 – profile – 90 04 10b

1990 04 28
Southacre Park, Chaucer Road, site of mansion in 1880 which housed royal princes Albert & Henry while undergraduates now developed into luxury houses - 90 04 28c

Easter snow, 1908

c.12: Weather (chronological)

1889 06 07
Severe thunderstorm causes extensive damage [2.5]

1891
Wall at Hyde Park corner blows down in gale, girl killed 37 03 20

1894
Serious floods [4.18, 1.5]

1895
Great frost lasted from January to March unbroken except for very brief thaws; from Jan 18 to 25 were snowstorms, floods & north-west gales; frosts of 15 to 20 degrees turned hundreds of acres of flooded land into skating rinks; for 2 months was possible to skate from Cambridge to Grantchester or Ely. Three fields at Newnham flooded & electric lights allowed skaters to flock there in evenings; ice carnivals & skating races on river from Bottisham Lock to Ely 62 01 03

1896 07 07
East Road School hit by lightning. July [1.11]

1896 12 18

Earthquake felt in Cambridge, December [1.12]

1899 07 13
Can the meteorologists tell what has happened to the English climate? Last summer was hot, but the extraordinary protracted heat was set down as a meteorological eccentricity that was not likely to be repeated. Yet this summer the thermometer has been dancing between 80 and 90. If this happens another year it will be necessary to take counsel as to whether England should not adopt Indian usages. The mid-day siesta may come into vogue. But the weather is a fickle thing. One day it is oppressively hot, the next day it is delightfully cool. One summer it is the weather of the tropics; the next may be distinctly suggestive of the Arctic Circle 1899 07 13

1900

1905 11 18
The other evening a large expanse of the north eastern sky was suffered with a rosy glow which waxed and waned in intensity. The light extended upwards from the horizon in a broad band and illuminated the edge of a thick bank of cloud towards the left of the moon. It is believed to be the Aurora Borealis, the famous northern light, though others felt it was caused by the moon shining through falling snow. 05 11 18c [2.13]

1906 01 06
Last night's gale was one of the most severe within living memory. Great damage was done all over Cambridge. On Newmarket Road a tall chimney at the brickworks began to sway violently and then fell with a tremendous crash. The large trees at the Backs suffered considerably; five were uprooted and blown into Queen's Road. During the morning numbers of poor people were busily engaged in taking away the portions they could carry for firewood. Two children took away a branch of considerable weight using a pair of wheels taken from a perambulator 06 01 06e

1906 02 09
The extraordinary weather was experienced in all its bewildering variety. Thunder, lightning, hail, snow and a hurricane provided a new experience. Many pedestrians were blown over by the wind which swept over the mill at Chippenham with such suddenness that before the sails could be adjusted, the top of the mill was blown off. The storm travelled at a remarkable pace. It took less than an hour to travel from Leicester to Cambridge.06 02 09c

1906 09 03
For four days Cambridge has vainly been endeavouring to live in a temperature rising above 90 degrees in the shade, 125 in the sun. The first day of September was as hot as the last day of August and even now the heat shows little diminution. Nobody remembers such a succession of tropical heats so late in the season. The weather is in a curiously topsy-turvey condition 06 09 03 & a

1906 12 27
Such a Christmas as has just been experienced in Cambridge occurs but few times within a lifetime. A good old-fashioned Christmas when the brightly-blazing Yule log, or its modern equivalent, is necessary to counteract the efforts of King Frost is as a rule so old-fashioned that it seems to have existed only in the picturesque imaginations of the novelist and pictorial artist. So also is the Christmas-card Christmas with the country covered with the white mantle of snow. Yet the festival of 1906 has been remarkable for both 06 12 27

1906 12 29
Cambridge byelaws compel a householder to remove the snow from the path in front of his habitation, which provides an opportunity for out-of-works to earn an honest copper. One rang the bell of a corner house and informed the occupier that he had swept the snow from his path. Obviously the only thing to be done was to pay the man for his labour. But when he rang the bell of the adjoining house with many feet of frontage there was no answer: the occupants had gone away for Christmas but not drawn their blinds. Love's labour lost indeed! 06 12 29c

1907 01 26
In such a cold spell undergraduate etiquette is apt to go by the board. It is an unwritten law that no junior member of the University should, on pain of merciless chaffing, appear in academical dress plus an overcoat. The idea of cap and gown and gloves was simply horrifying. Yet both these laws have been broken with impunity. One young man appeared in public with cap, gown, overcoat and a pair of very aggressive yellow-brown gloves. 07 01 26a

1907 06 29
On Midsummer night the thermometer in a Cambridge hotel yard registered one degree less than on Christmas night! The weather has lately been enough to move one to despair – snow and hail fell in Scotland for nearly an hour until the mountains were mantled in white. Truly the gods must be offended. But while the hatters and tailors are lamenting over the lack of orders for straw hats and summer suits, the mackintosh merchant waxes fat on the proceeds of his sales. 07 06 29b

1907 09 30
What extraordinary weather we are experiencing! It reached its climax on September 25th when the hottest day of the year was reported and those on holidays are getting interest for delaying the spending of their annual vacation. The appearance of gardens is not synonymous with autumn, Strawberries are now providing a good crop, whilst roses are doing very well. 07 09 30b

1908 01 17
Ancient inhabitants rack their brains in vain for a parallel to the extraordinary weather of the past fortnight, bringing in its train a record crop of influenza. The changes from 20 degrees of frost to a damp muggy air and then back again have caused the National Skating Association to rearrange the Championships which took place at Lingay Fen in almost perfect conditions. The ice was hard and entries above average. 08 01 17b

1908 04
Heavy snow April [2.15]

1908 06 05
A house in Castle Street was struck by lightning during a heavy thunderstorm which caused tremendous damaged and rendered it uninhabitable. A brick chimney stack fell with an appalling crash into the bedrooms beneath, which have been completely wrecked. It is a semi-detached residence of three storeys and reputed to be the highest inhabited point in Cambridge. CWN 08 06 05 p5 [2.17]

1910

1910 02 25
A hurricane with winds of 80 mph caused considerable damage. Hoardings in Belmont Place, King Street, belonging to the Billposting Company were unable to withstand the onslaught of the wind and fell while a large elm tree opposite Trinity Fellows' Garden was bespoiled of its top. At

Ely Cathedral a window depicting St John the Baptist was damaged; the apostle's head was blown out but falling upon the lawn, the glass was not broken. At St Ives the wind blew down the home signal on the railway line and caught the gable end of Mr Holloway's music shop in Bridge Street, blowing off four yards of tiles. CWN 10 02 25a & b

1911 08 18
The dry weather has led to great scarcity of water in many parts and if the drought continues the Army planned manoeuvres might be abandoned. The brooks and ponds in many places are completely dry, rivers are running lower than in living memory and farmers are at their wits' end to know how to provide water for their cattle. Water trains will soon have to be organised though unfortunately some of the worst villages on the clay hills of Huntingdonshire are remote from the railways. However at most seaside places nearly every room is occupied and the summer of 1911 will be long remembered as the best on record by boarding-house keepers 11 08 18m

1911 08 25
The longest drought since 1887 has happily come to an end and heavy rains have reduced the torrid heat. In Cambridge the hottest day was August 9th when the temperature was 95 degrees in the shade. Messrs Pain's records go back 43 years and the only other record of that figure was on 15th August 1876. During violent thunderstorms lightning set fire to farm buildings at Friday Bridge but the brigade was powerless as there was no water to put it out. 11 08 25a

1911 09 15
A most welcome break in the long-sustained drought came when the first really wet day for months was hailed with the joy and gladness with which people generally welcome fine weather. Rain fell all day, having a marvellous effect in clearing the air and bringing down the temperature. It was like stepping from blazing August to chill gloomy November. Normally everyone would have been dismal and depressed. But everybody has been thoroughly saturated with sunshine and turned to the mud and drizzle with positive delight, splashing through puddles with utmost cheerfulness. This year has been the driest on record. 11 09 15g

1911 09 23
Break in drought – 11 09 23

1912
April a record drought but only 5 rainless days in August [2.14]

1914 12 25
Storm and Floods responsible for considerable damage to telegraph and telephone wires. The heavy downpour of rain and the blinding snowstorm late at night found the weak spots in an enormous number of house roofs in Cambridge, and the exceptional downpour swelled the stream of the Cam until the water flowed over the banks. The greater part of Midsummer Common was covered with water and the paths were impassable. Boathouse and boathouse yards were flooded and military men who were billeted in the boathouses were seriously inconvenienced. In several instances they were compelled to seek billets elsewhere. Thousands of acres of land in and around Cambridge were flooded.14 12 25 CIPof

Heavy snow fell but melted quickly causing floods greater than in 1912. In Cambridge thousands of acres were submerged, Sheep's Green was like an inland sea and a sheet of water extended from Victoria Bridge over Midsummer Common. At Jesus Sluice the river was rushing through the lock like a mill race and there was barely a foot of difference between the levels of the water

at the weir. Some of the military horses and wagons on Butt's Green had to be moved out of the reach of the water. Along the Backs the tennis lawns at Trinity College, where part of the First Eastern Hospital stood in the autumn, was submerged. The telegraph service was completely suspended as wires gave way under the combined pressure of wind and snow. Water forced itself into the junction boxes of the Cambridge Electric Supply Company's main across Jesus Green and sections of the town were without electricity supply. The whole of the valley of the Granta from Newnham to Shelford was extensively flooded. All the skating meadows at Newnham were covered and the University Bathing Sheds were completely cut off. At Grantchester the road by the Orchard Tea Gardens was submerged and near the mill water rushed across the road, knee deep. Considerable damage was done to the road surface, large quantities of metal being washed away. Two organ grinders coming from Trumpington were conversing in broken English over the number of miles they would have to go round to avoid a ducking

1915 01 29
Cambridge Floods. A heavy downpour of rain experienced last week caused the River Cam to overflow its banks, and the low lands adjoining the river were extensively flooded. At Grantchester the road from the mill to Trumpington was submerged for a distance of about 400 yards on Friday and Saturday, the road being impassable except in a vehicle. The water rose very rapidly on Friday, Sheep's Green, Newnham and Coe Fen became impassable, whilst Chesterton Meadows became inundated the water encroaching halfway across the roadway at Water Street, Old Chesterton. The ferries below Victoria Bridge were unable to be worked during the weekend, but were able to resume on Monday. Although the commons were not flooded to anything like the extent they were following the blizzard towards the end of last month, large pools of water existed at places. At Jesus Sluice there was only a difference of about a foot between the levels of the water above and below the locks The river has now gone down, and is almost at its normal level #

1916 02 26
Heavy snow, snow ploughs needed, soldiers snowball fight Parkers Piece [2.25]

1916 03 04
Floods Sheep's Green, Coe Fen etc, boathouses rise from water [2.26]

1916 03 29
March blizzards. The wind, which had been boisterous during the day, developed into a heavy gale, accompanied by snow. A good deal of damage was done to telegraph and telephone wires, trees were uprooted. On Tuesday morning the ground was covered with snow. Trains were late owing to wires being down. Rain set in during the day, but towards the close of the afternoon this turned to snow. The wind, too, increased in violence until it was blowing quite a hurricane. Huge trees gave way before the violence of the wind, chimney pots and slates came crashing down, whilst many fences collapsed. The Corporation workmen had to be called out to assist m clearing away fallen trees, and to assist the police in warning vehicles. Several pedestrians had narrow escapes. Among the many trees which fell was the famous plane tree in the Catholic Rectory grounds, which has been visited by arboriculturists from all over the world. 16 03 29 CIPof

1916 04 05
In the wake of the blizzard – photo feature – clearing trees – 16 04 05

1917

Highest flood between Jesus Lock and Baitsbite Lock was 1917 when nearly two feet water over office floor; river bank broke Brandon Creek and flooded fen around Southery which quickly cleared water at Abbey Road – H.C. Banham – 46 03 02b, 46 03 09a

1918 01 30
Floods. The severe weather and the thaw had further detrimental effects upon the trees at the Backs of the Colleges and our riverside walks. Many old familiar arboreal friends have been dismembered, notably the veteran weeping willow on the south-west side of Trinity College Bridge. The floods which followed the thaw rose to a considerable height and considerable damage is now seen to have been done to the river banks at Sheep's Green. Part of the trouble here is said to have been caused through the flood gates at the Apron being out of repair 18 01 30 CIPof

1918 04 24
A great flood - higher level than has been recorded since the great storm of August 3, 1879 Miles of country were under water on Wednesday; roads and paths were rendered impassable to foot passengers, the ferries at Cambridge were stopped, low-lying houses and premises near the river were flooded and the water was up to the permanent way of the railway between Chesterton and Waterbeach. The river has shown more frequent tendencies to flood of late years than, formerly - one cause is said to be the clearing-out of ditches and water courses by War Agricultural Committees 18 04 24 CIPof

1919 02 26
Serious Floods. Not for many years has the County of Cambridge been visited by floods of such magnitude or of so serious a nature as those experienced within the last ten days. Thousands of| acres are under water, and at Cambridge the water rose at one time to within six inches of the height reached by the memorable flood of 1879. At Ely the river touched a depth beyond any previously attained within the memory of the oldest inhabitants. It is good news to hear that since Sunday the water has been steadily falling. A serious break in the river bank midway between Waterbeach and Upware last Wednesday resulted in the disastrous flooding of hundreds of acres of low-lying land in the vicinity, the temporary isolation of several farms and cottages and considerable damage to stacks. On Tuesday night … above the banks at Waterbeach Fen where the break in the river bank occurred, and farmers took prompt steps to remove their stock to safety, but on Wednesday morning a break occurred, and the breach rapidly becoming wider, the water poured through. Farm buildings and cottages were surrounded, and the Inhabitants in some cases were forced to seek shelter in the village. All Wednesday farm workers and other helpers from Waterbeach and district worked up to their knees in water, but the gap widened, and it was found necessary to sink two barges in the breach. Thousands of sandbags were requisitioned and by this means the hole was filled and the inflow of water at this spot checked. Men have been employed night and day in "cradging" along the banks and strengthening the places where any water was found overflowing, this also being done on the Stretham bank of the Old West 19 02 26 CIPof [1.14]

1919 02 06
Magistrate Summoned. At the Cambridge Borough Court, a County magistrate living in Hills Road, Cambridge, was summoned that, as occupier of premises, he did not as soon as conveniently may be after the cessation of a fall of snow, remove or cause to be removed from the footway and pavement all snow on such footway and pavement. He did not appear, but sent a letter to the Bench explaining that he only had one domestic, and could not call on her to clear the snow away. An odd man, who was called, wanted art extravagant sum for removing it. The Mayor said the case was a proper one for the police to bring before the court. It was a

considerable comfort to the public if every householder cleared away the snow from his own frontage. He warned the public that cases of this kind would be dealt with more severely in the future, but as this was the first of the kind to come before the Bench this year, they had decided to dismiss it on payment of costs.19 02 06 CIPof

1920

1920 06
Cowper Road houses struck by lightning, June [2.18]

1921 07
Intense heat causes fires, including Midsummer Common, July & August; 14 months of drought [1.17, 4.10]

1921 07 21
Bateman Street houses struck by lightning, July [2.16]

1922 07
Wettest July since 1865 [1.18]

1926 02
Floods on Coe Fen & Sheep Green, February [1.20]

1926 08 16
Earthquake shocks of unusual severity were felt on Sunday morning. In Cambridge occupants were awakened by the rattle of windows, crockery and furniture. Two residents in West Road were aroused from sleep by the oscillation of their beds; a lofty wardrobe continued to shake and its contents to rattle for some time. Railwaymen on night duty said the telegraph poles rattled and the windows of signal cabins shook. Several residents of Huntingdon felt three tremors 26 08 16

1927 12
Snow began Christmas day & led to most complete stoppage of road & rail traffic since coming of motor car [1.13]

1928 01 18
Gale damages Fred Hiam's residence Grange Road, Jan [2.20]

1928 11 17
The great gale which swept the country blew down trees, damaged roofs and caused damage. The most serious loss is the removal of the roof of the grandstand on the Cambridge Town Football Club's ground. The cross at St Barnabas church was carried away but no person was injured in its fall. Hoardings on the LNER Railway's property near Cambridge station have been razed to the ground and the line was blocked by a signal that was blown down near Waterbeach. At Trinity College the famous 'Sedgwick Elm' in the Fellows' Garden was partly blown down. At Ely two large sheets of lead were lifted on the roof of the cathedral nave and a huge chicken shed in Lynn Road was completely demolished. 28 11 17 [1.21]

1929 02 14
For the first time since 1895 there was skating on the River Cam. A thick sheet of ice powered with white snow, stretched unbroken from Silver Street to the electric light works. It was too inviting to be resisted and several skating parties took advantage of it. Many undergraduates took

to the ice in front of King's College and at Quayside a man was seen cycling on the slippery surface. However the ice bore and he neither came off nor went in. At Silver Street it was possible to cross to the mill on the ice but below Jesus Lock, where the dredges is at work, the ice was broken up by the flow and black pools and crevices had appeared in the thin surface. 29 02 14
Lent races postponed [1.10, 5]

1929 02 16
All Cambridge seemed to be skating or carrying skates this morning and there is something like five inches of ice on many parts of the Granta. Eight hardy spirits took the plunge at the Town Bathing Sheds though it took nearly half an hour to break the ice. There have been bathers ever since the front began and many of them have hardly missed a day. The cold was so severe that the comb stuck in the head of one of them who was doing his hair. But the Open Flying Mile Straight Race, fixed to take place at Cowbit Wash, near Spalding, was abandoned after the Skating Association reported that it was not possible to provide a straight mile course to conform with the conditions. 20 02 16

1929 02 22
Sir: Quite a number of people took advantage of the frozen river last weekend to skate to Ely and among them were three Newnham girls. It is 34 years since last such a journey was possible. There was only one day's skating on the river in 1901. It was February 1895 that the river last admitted skating to Ely and I and two friends undertook the journey. On arrival it was suggested we continue to Denver Sluice but after two miles the ice was very bad, so we returned. I wonder how many have ever succeeded in it, a distance of 72 miles there and back. I am fond of skating and have been to Ely five times – 'Septuagenarian' – CDN 22.2.1929

1930

1930 01
Worst gale in living memory brings down trees, January [1.25]

1930 08 28
Seven deaths have been reported from various parts of the country and no break is expected in the heat wave. In Cambridge temperatures of 88 degrees were recorded in the shade, two lower than yesterday. A girl in green striped pyjamas was seen in one of the main thoroughfares, an extreme symptom of the heat wave that holds the town in its grip. There was an outbreak of open-necked shirts whilst those who were less courageous fingered the tight damp bands that had once been collars and wondered whether respectability was worthwhile. At midnight there were bathing parties by the banks of the Cam 30 08 28 [2.1]

1931 08 21
Grafton Street house struck by lightning [2.19]

1931 06 12
It was a very gentle earthquake in Cambridge: suddenly in the silence of a calm and tranquil night there came a mysterious, slow, oscillatory motion, quickening and increasing in intensity. It seemed as if a giant hand had seized the bed and was shaking it, gently but with irresistible might. A washstand was overturned at Comberton but houses were rocked at Ely where some of the foundations were heard to crack. At St Ives people sought refuge on the Market Hill and could not be induced to return to bed. 31 06 12c & d & e
Cambridge earthquake 30 years ago – memories – 64 04 23

1932 08 17
Succession of meteorites, August [1.2]

1933 01 06
Does the present succession of mild Januaries suggest something in the nature of a change in climate? Today amateur gardeners have standard and rambler roses in full bloom, primroses blooming in clumps, stocks, polyanthus – indeed a show of flowers usually retarded by frost until spring. 33 01 06

1933 02 11
The mildness of the winter has given gardeners something to talk about. Even the frost has failed to kill off all the roses and some were in full bloom at Cottenham with the first snowdrops flowering between the standards. Flowers gathered before the frost set in and put into water have a more powerful scent than usual. But are these the first roses of summer or the last? 33 02 11b

1934 03 16
Fish two inches long rain on Market Hill, March [1.1]

1935 01 28
Cambridge goes white – snow complaints – 35 01 28

1936 06 20
Damaged houses, a blocked road and wrecked telephone wires marked the route of the great storm through Cambridge and district. The first ominous rumblings were heard comparatively early but not until the crowds began to pour out of the cinemas after the last performance did the rain stream down and great flashes of forked lightning rend the sky. Cambridge seemed to be almost surrounded by thunderstorms, for sheets of light flashed on the horizon at every point of the compass 36 06 20

1936 12 10
Thick fog invaded Romsey Town hours before it reached Huntingdon Road. Once it settled it did so in earnest and visibility was practically nil. Buses were reduced to trailing through the streets on the heels of the conductors and even they could not see their way properly: one stopped himself just in time from leading a No.106 into the pit on Newmarket Road. Where conditions were not quite so bad drivers 'convoyed' and as many as six buses were seen in single file. One conductor walked from Cambridge to Ely, leading his bus – and did the journey in 4½ hours 36 12 10a

1938 01 29
Aurora borealis seen [2.3]

1938 06 18
Earthquake felt, June [2.4]

1938 12 22
After many hours of continuous snow-fall 400 men commenced work on the gigantic task of clearing a path for road traffic and pedestrians and six snow ploughs were brought into use. The three new motor ploughs were a great success and buses were able to keep to schedule exceptionally well. But everything is disorganised at the post office: some of the mail trains are arriving late and it looks as if letter deliveries will have to be pushed right up to Christmas Day. A

large crowd skated on a flooded meadow at Newham but at Milton Sewage Farm the ice was too thickly coated with snow. 38 12 22 & a

1939 01 20
Huntingdon Road house struck by lightning [2.21]

1939 02 20
George Pearson of Fen Road Milton said he was about to milk his cows when the whole yard suddenly lit up and he noticed a brilliant white light moving across the sky. There were no flames coming from it; it was something like an electric light. Then there was a boom like thunder – he thought the I.R.A. was trying to blow up the bridge. The meteor was also seen by Mr Ketch of Corporation Terrace, Cheddars Lane; a blue light followed by a red glow passed over him with a whizzing noise and afterwards came an explosion. 39 02 20 39 02 24 CIPof

1939 12 23
After many hours of continuous snowfall - the longest, if not the deepest fall for many years - a partial thaw set in. In Cambridge 400 men were employed (during the fall of snow) to clear a path for road traffic and pedestrians, and six snow ploughs were brought into use. 38 12 23 CIPof

1940

1940 02 08
Heavy fall of snow on Hauxton Rd, Jan 1940 – photo – 40 02 08

1947
1947 03 07
The work of clearing Cambridge streets of snow is costing £500 a day. Every available lorry and a labour force in the region of 400 men is engaged in the task. There is a generally held view in the town that the snow clearers are ding a hard job very well. Meanwhile there has been an almost cheerful acceptance of the inconveniences. For the second morning in succession, most of Cambridge walked to work today - strange sight in the normally bicycle-crowded streets 47 03 07

1948
1948 06 01
What is thought to be the biggest earth tremor in East Anglia since 1757 occurred in the King's Lynn, Bury St Edmunds, Mildenhall and Cambridge area last Friday. Observers distinctly felt it. In some places it was accompanied by a rumbling noise. A Cambridge resident said; "I distinctly felt a 'bubbling' movement and heard a slight rumbling noise while sitting in the living room after tea. I took no further notice, however, thinking it may have been a passing bus or heavy vehicle" 48 06 01
1950

1952 01 05
For Cambridge 1951 was again a “very wet year”. Ald F. Dogget said the figure of 27.57 inches was well above the average. There were only 150 days without rain. It was an exceptionally wet Spring and gardeners will remember we had only six fine week-ends during that period. The heaviest fall was on August 6th and during a thunderstorm on July 30th. The longest spell of fine weather lasted for 13 consecutive days between May 27th and June 9th. In the county Lt-Col Thornhill of Manor House, Boxworth, said it was the wettest year since 1937 52 01 05

1953 02 16

Queen Mother visits WVS clothing depot dealing with East Coast floods [1.24]

1954 01 09
A large meteorite is believed to have been seen over Cambridge. Following reports that an explosion, thought to have been due to a meteorite smashing into the earth's atmosphere, had rocked Dieppe about 160 miles from Cambridge, several members of the City Police Force have claimed to have seen the object. P.C. R. Barlow, on duty in Drummer Street described 'a meteorite of exceptional size, oval-shaped and green in colour' falling in a south-east direction. Other policemen claim to have seen the flash as it apparently struck the earth. 54 01 09

1954 01 28
Parts of the river Cam were frozen over this morning after a night of extremely cold conditions. The maximum temperature yesterday was 31 degrees F. but last night it dropped to 18 degrees. The severe weather had caused all previous output records to be broken at the Cambridge Gas Works. 54 01 28

1956 02 20
Cambridgeshire was hit by the second arctic spell over the weekend. Snow, ice and biting winds brought treacherous conditions to many of the roads, but no major accidents were reported. Last night the temperature dropped to 18 degrees, at 9am today it was 25.7. The Waterworks Company dealt with over 1,000 burst pipes over the last cold spell and expect there will be many more when the pipes thaw out after the present freeze-up. 56 02 20a

1958 02 26
Snow blocks roads worse than 1947, February 58 02 26b & c [2.6]

1959 01 09
Flooding, January [2.7 2.27]

1959 06 27
1" rain in 20 minutes floods basements [4.1]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 11 02
Many roads were flooded following a torrential downpour. Policemen with red warning lights patrolled parts of Queen's Road which was covered to a depth of 18-inches in parts and the roadway at Chesterton Hall Crescent was also under water. Wilberforce Road was the most seriously affected where water poured off a nearby playing field and fences were pulled up to divert the flow away from houses. The Wheatsheaf Inn at Harlton and a cottage at Barton Road Haslingfield were also inundated. This has been one of the wettest years recorded in Cambridge. 60 11 02b

1961 12 27
It is going to be even colder than it was during most of the Christmas freeze-up when ice on the Cam trapped several swans in the water. On Christmas morning fire appliances went to St Giles' church where a small fire severely damaged an electric motor in the organ. They were also called to Avery's scale makers premises in Regent Street and at Joseph Lucas on Newmarket Road

where pipes in the ceilings burst and flooded the premises. The Waterworks Company dealt with 30 burst pipes on Christmas Day 61 12 27 61 12 30

1962 01 01
Many Cambridgeshire villages are without electricity as eight inches of snow dislocated traffic and communications. Engineers had difficulties getting to the trouble through road blocks, fallen telephone wires and diversions. Snow ploughs have been working on the roads throughout the night. Railways have been badly affected with a drift between Shepreth and Royston making only single line traffic possible. It was the coldest night in Cambridgeshire since February 1917 62 01 01
Queens Road & Earl Street with snowed-up cars – photo – 62 01 01a
Clearing snow St Andrews Street & dumping it at Quayside – photos – 62 01 02b

1962 01 03
Supplies of salt are fast running out at Cambridge grocery shops as people adopt a 'do-it-yourself' policy towards clearing away the snow from their doorsteps. In two of the largest stores stocks of block or crushed cooking salt are negligible. But there is still plenty at the Corporation store yard in Mill Road despite a considerable amount being used on the streets. Hard-packed frozen snow still prevails on all roads and overnight fog reduced visibility. One result of the snow-up in Royston was the postponement of the meeting of the Urban Council 62 01 03
Hundreds of building workers have been laid off because of the severe freeze-up. Many have taken temporary jobs with the City Council as snow cleaners; so far 250 extra men have been put on to help the 50 regular council workmen. In addition 46 extra lorries have been hired with 10 bulldozers and two crawler shovels. Gangs are working 24 hours a day gritting and sanding the roads. The cost of all the extra work will be 'pretty heavy' 62 01 03a

1962 12 05
The fog which came down over the Cambridge area was blown here from London by a twelve-knot wind, says meteorologists. London, having its first clear day since Monday was like an oasis surrounded by a slowly-clearing fog belt though mainline trains were still meeting long delays and London Airport was closed. The number of sudden deaths in the capital has now reached 106. Conditions were still grim in East Anglia with temperatures remaining well below zero and part of the River Cam froze between Pye's Bridge and Garret Hostel Lane. 62 12 05 & 07

1962 12 27
Great blanket of snow, 24 degrees frost, December [2.8, 2.9]

1963 01 01
Seven-foot drifts block county, 400 workmen fight to keep traffic moving – 63 01 01

1963 01 03
People travelling to work were delayed after three buses were put out of action with frozen fuel pipes. Sunshine encouraged many skaters on the River Cam along the Backs where ice is two-inches thick but the Met Office warns there is no sign of a break in the very cold weather. Snow and ice has brought outside work on building sites to a standstill though many firms are keeping on men to help with snow clearing. Demand for coal has shot up as have the number of telephone calls with people ringing up to say they are suffering from the acute weather conditions – 63 01 03

1963 01 14
Cambridge shops dim lights to conserve power 63 01 14 63 01 15

1963 07 05
People in Kings Hedges Road thought a bomb had dropped in the street when a thunderbolt hit no.39 and shattered the windows of houses hundreds of yards away. After crashing through the house it flashed along electricity cables the length of the street. All the pipes in the house split open as well as the asbestos walls and ceilings. Light switches were pushed out of the wall and all the light bulbs in the house next door dropped out. The gas meter caught fire, lumps of concrete and plaster shot out across the room. 63 07 05d

1968 09 16
New sewers save city from floods - no extensive flooding after storm. Riverside people sand bag houses 68 09 16, 68 09 18[4.5,4.6]

1969 02 08
Blizzard causes havoc, snow traps scores in Cambridge [4.7]

1970

1970 06 26
Campkin Road flooded after deluge, June : 2.5 feet of water gushed into houses, waves caused by passing vehicles pushed water back, King St, Northampton St flooded 70 06 26 a & b [2.16,4.8]

1973 06 01
Air pollution in the older parts of Cambridge is currently higher than the urban average for East Anglia. Even so it is well below those of other parts of the country. The National Survey of Air Pollution says "smoke concentrations in the older high-density residential area are currently above the urban average, smoke pollution in the remaining areas should be generally below average". Sulphur dioxide concentration monitored on the roof of the Guildhall is below average, but in other areas of Cambridge were not so favourable

1973 12 21
Total disaster faces the world in about two generations according to Prof Mike Pentz of the Open University. Speaking in Cambridge he said so much energy is now being burnt that the temperature of earth's atmosphere will rise by half a degree. "This will melt the polar caps and start a runaway reaction which will raise the ocean levels by a height which will bring about disastrous flooding." A rise of 100 feet in this country would put Cambridge well beneath the waves 73 12 21

1976 01 03
Hurricane force winds & blizzard bring chaos January [4.9]

1976 06 26
Extreme heat has begun to take its toll of animals and people, with little sign of letting up. For the past three days temperature has been in the 90s and this afternoon was a scorching 98 degrees Fahrenheit. At Cambridge abattoir in Coldham's Lane one animal died on the premises and three others have been dead on arrival because of the intense heat which induces heart attacks. At Haverhill Furniture Ltd, Rookwood, the management has been giving free drinks from an automatic machine while half of the fixed skylights at Taylor's Foundry have been removed to encourage a breeze 76 06 26

1976 09 30
It is NOT the driest summer in the Cambridge are for 500 years, or even 250 years – and that is official. Cambridge Water Company strongly suspected the statisticians were becoming over-excited. Now its doubts have been confirmed. Weathermen have been forced to admit that the months from October 1920 until November 1921 were even drier; during that time there were 13.4 inches of rain in the Cambridge area, compared to 15 inches in the same period up to the end of June this year 76 09 30 [4.10]

1977 01 13
Heavy snow hit Cambridge as the worst weather for 14 years caused nationwide chaos and led to wide-scale disruption on the roads and railways. Weathermen say the snowfalls will be heavy and prolonged and warm winds could produce drifts. In many places there were snowfalls of more than one foot. Thousands of people were late for work as hard-packed snow, freezing fog and black ice made driving treacherous. And many trains were late or cancelled despite an all-night fight against the Arctic conditions by British Rail who called in their full cold weather emergency procedures. 77 01 13

1978 01 03
A tornado cut a two-mile swathe through Newmarket. Roofs were ripped off buildings, windows smashed and cars overturned. Every window in the railway station signal box was smashed. Chief Inspector Trevor Hewitt of Newmarket police said: "It's a disaster area. It was just a freak storm and only lasted a couple of minutes. The damage is appalling. Roofs have caved in, windows have been smashed and cars overturned". In Cambridge the wind lifted the roof from a house in King Street. 78 01 03 [4.12]

1979 02 14
As Britain faced yet another day of icy chaos with more bitterly cold weather on the way, the Army was making plans to move in and clear snowbound roads, said the 'Snow Minister', Mr Denis Howell. In Cambridgeshire workmen battled to clear some of the worst snowfalls, 179 snowploughs and diggers are out but salt stocks are reaching a critical level. Seven weather-hit coach passengers were put up at Parkside police headquarters; they were given mattresses and bedded down in the gym. But there has been a sudden cut back in crime figures; even burglars and thieves are staying at home 79 02 14

1980

1981 08 07
Mid Anglia is counting the cost of the worst storms to hit in more than ten years. At least five homes in Cambridge were damaged by lightning, together with two at Abington. More than 20 houses had to be pumped dry after flooding with water eight inches deep in houses in Eaton Socon. Amateur weatherman, Percy Ashman says the last 24 hours were the wettest since September 1968. 81 08 07b [4.14]

1981 09 10
Percy Ashman has been keeping an eye on the weather since 1935 with the aid of several instruments. His latest is a storm bottle device that dates back to the last century and was used in the mills of the north country as weaving and dyeing were dependent on the weather. It uses an old wooden bobbin taken from a Yorkshire mill attached to a glass phial containing a secret amber liquid which rises when rain is on the way. Percy's predictions can be relied on and his telephone is always busy with people calling for a quick forecast 81 09 10

1981 12 01
Cambridge could be a busy coastal town in 50 years' time due to a 23 feet rise in sea level caused by the melting of the south polar caps, scientists at the British Antarctic Survey say. The increasing amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere means the earth cannot cool itself as efficiently as previously. This is popularly known as the 'greenhouse effect'. 81 12 01

1981 12 14
Motorists faced a nightmare journey to work with several main roads blocked by heavy snow. Saffron Walden was snowed in & Royston and Haverhill were cut off as was Cottenham, Waterbeach, Fulbourn and Sutton. Cambridge police rescued 130 people trapped in their cars and about half the county schools were closed as teachers could not get to work 81 12 14; gritters – 81 12 15

1982 07 15
Violent storm causes chaos, basements flooded sewage etc [3.1]

1985 02
Snow, Feb [4.15]

1986 03 24
Winds gusting up to 70mph brought chaos, killing one man, injuring others and causing thousands of pounds' damage. In Cambridge King's Parade was sealed off after material was dislodged from the chapel roof and an international computer exhibition at the University Centre was called off after windows and skylights were smashed. Duxford Museum closed after gales damaged a replica Spitfire and blew over a security man and a corrugated iron roof was ripped off the old Falcon Hotel ballroom in St Neots 86 03 24

1987 01 13
The AA were inundated by calls to motorists stranded in the snow and hundreds more were caught without anti-freeze as overnight temperatures plunged to -11C. The River Cam was iced up for the fist time in five years and skaters were out in force on the flooded fen at Earith in perfect conditions of ice, sun and no wind. Many were practicing for the Fen Ice Skating Championships but for others it was pure pleasure. 87 01 13

1987 08 28
Summer sizzled into Mid Anglia in the last week of April – hot on the heels of some of the worst gales the country had ever seen. But as winter spirits lifted the temperature took a downward plummet and left us all shivering again. May slid by with some cold, wet and miserable weather and June was no better until the end of the month when the sun wiped away the gloom with a glorious burst of summer that rocked the temperatures into the mid 80s. But it didn't last long and the wet weather was back in July and dripped into August for another gloomy month. But amateur weatherman Percy Ashman says the first two weeks of September should be good – that's when he's going on holiday 87 08 28

1987 10 16
Overnight gales and torrential rain devastated the region with winds of more than 100 mph. The atrocious weather disrupted rail and bus services, trees were uprooted, one falling on the roof of a bungalow in Duchess Drive, Newmarket while Wandlebury Woods was devastated with more than 200 trees blown down. Saffron Walden High School had to close after windows were smashed. Power supplies were disrupted causing chaos at pumping stations and Byron's Pool has been placed on red alert as the threat of serious flooding increased. 87 10 16 & a

1988 01 30
Worst flooding for 10 years [CEN 30.1.88]

1988 12 09
Earth tremor felt [CEN 9.12.88]

1989 03 07
Cambridge to be base for new international unit to co-ordinate ozone layer research ¢CEN 7.3.89

1989 04 11
Cambridge could be a seaside town by 2050, a report by an environmental group claims. Global warming would cause the sea to rise by at least five metres over the next 60 years and Parliament might have to move to Birmingham because vast areas of central London will disappear beneath water. Cambridge Scientists are also working on a study which shows most of the county under water with Ely on an island once again. Currently a fifth of the Anglian Water Authority's area is below the high tide level 89 04 11

1989 11 11
Cambridge air pollution levels amongst worst in country ¢CEN 11.11.89

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

c.12 – weather, by topic

Predictions

1973 12 21
Total disaster faces the world in about two generations according to Prof Mike Pentz of the Open University. Speaking in Cambridge he said so much energy is now being burnt that the temperature of earth's atmosphere will rise by half a degree. "This will melt the polar caps and start a runaway reaction which will raise the ocean levels by a height which will bring about disastrous flooding." A rise of 100 feet in this country would put Cambridge well beneath the waves c73 12 21

1981 12 01
Cambridge could be a busy coastal town in 50 years' time due to a 23 feet rise in sea level caused by the melting of the south polar caps, scientists at the British Antarctic Survey say. The increasing amount of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere means the earth cannot cool itself as efficiently as previously. This is popularly known as the 'greenhouse effect'. 81 12 01

1986 09 10
Percy Ashman has been keeping an eye on the weather since 1935 with the aid of several instruments. His latest is a storm bottle device that dates back to the last century and was used in the mills of the north country as weaving and dyeing were dependent on the weather. It uses an old wooden bobbin taken from a Yorkshire mill attached to a glass phial containing a secret amber liquid which rises when rain is on the way. Percy's predictions can be relied on and his telephone is always busy with people calling for a quick forecast 86 09 10

1987 08 28
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1989 11 11
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Tipping snow into the Cam, Quayside 1963 91.10

c.12.1: Snow, cold

1895
Great frost lasted from January to March unbroken except for very brief thaws; from Jan 18 to 25 were snowstorms, floods & north-west gales; frosts of 15 to 20 degrees turned hundreds of acres of flooded land into skating rinks; for 2 months was possible to skate from Cambridge to Grantchester or Ely. Three fields at Newnham flooded & electric lights allowed skaters to flock there in evenings; ice carnivals & skating races on river from Bottisham Lock to Ely 62 01 03 [5]

1906 12 27
Such a Christmas as has just been experienced in Cambridge occurs but few times within a lifetime. A good old-fashioned Christmas when the brightly-blazing Yule log, or its modern equivalent, is necessary to counteract the efforts of King Frost is as a rule so old-fashioned that it seems to have existed only in the picturesque imaginations of the novelist and pictorial artist. So also is the Christmas-card Christmas with the country covered with the white mantle of snow. Yet the festival of 1906 has been remarkable for both 06 12 27

1906 12 29
Cambridge byelaws compel a householder to remove the snow from the path in front of his habitation, which provides an opportunity for out-of-works to earn an honest copper. One rang the bell of a corner house and informed the occupier that he had swept the snow from his path.

Obviously the only thing to be done was to pay the man for his labour. But when he rang the bell of the adjoining house with many feet of frontage there was no answer: the occupants had gone away for Christmas but not drawn their blinds. Love's labour lost indeed! 06 12 29

1907 10 26
In such a cold spell undergraduate etiquette is apt to go by the board. It is an unwritten law that no junior member of the University should, on pain of merciless chaffing, appear in academical dress plus an overcoat. The idea of cap and gown and gloves was simply horrifying. Yet both these laws have been broken with impunity. One young man appeared in public with cap, gown, overcoat and a pair of very aggressive yellow-brown gloves. 07 01 26

1907 06 29
On Midsummer night the thermometer in a Cambridge hotel yard registered one degree less than on Christmas night! The weather has lately been enough to move one to despair – snow and hail fell in Scotland for nearly an hour until the mountains were mantled in white. Truly the gods must be offended. But while the hatters and tailors are lamenting over the lack of orders for straw hats and summer suits, the mackintosh merchant waxes fat on the proceeds of his sales. 07 06 29b

1908 01 17
Ancient inhabitants rack their brains in vain for a parallel to the extraordinary weather of the past fortnight, bringing in its train a record crop of influenza. The changes from 20 degrees of frost to a damp muggy air and then back again have caused the National Skating Association to rearrange the Championships which took place at Lingay Fen in almost perfect conditions. The ice was hard and entries above average. 08 01 17b

1908 04
Heavy snow April [2.15]

1916 06 26
Heavy snow, snow ploughs needed, soldiers snowball fight Parkers Piece [2.25]

1919 02 06
Magistrate Summoned. At the Cambridge Borough Court, a County magistrate living in Hills Road, Cambridge, was summoned that, as occupier of premises, he did not as soon as conveniently may be after the cessation of a fall of snow, remove or cause to be removed from the footway and pavement all snow on such footway and pavement. He did not appear, but sent a letter to the Bench explaining that he only had one domestic, and could not call on her to clear the snow away. An odd man, who was called, wanted art extravagant sum for removing it. The Mayor said the case was a proper one for the police to bring before the court. It was a considerable comfort to the public if every householder cleared away the snow from his own frontage. He warned the public that cases of this kind would be dealt with more severely in the future, but as this was the first of the kind to come before the Bench this year, they had decided to dismiss it on payment of costs.19 02 06 CIPof

1927 12
Snow began Christmas day & led to most complete stoppage of road & rail traffic since coming of motor car [1.13]

1929 02 14
For the first time since 1895 there was skating on the River Cam. A thick sheet of ice powered with white snow, stretched unbroken from Silver Street to the electric light works. It was too

inviting to be resisted and several skating parties took advantage of it. Many undergraduates took to the ice in front of King's College and at Quayside a man was seen cycling on the slippery surface. However the ice bore and he neither came off nor went in. At Silver Street it was possible to cross to the mill on the ice but below Jesus Lock, where the dredges is at work, the ice was broken up by the flow and black pools and crevices had appeared in the thin surface. 29 02 14

1929 02 16
All Cambridge seemed to be skating or carrying skates this morning and there is something like five inches of ice on many parts of the Granta. Eight hardy spirits took the plunge at the Town Bathing Sheds though it took nearly half an hour to break the ice. There have been bathers ever since the front began and many of them have hardly missed a day. The cold was so severe that the comb stuck in the head of one of them who was doing his hair. But the Open Flying Mile Straight Race, fixed to take place at Cowbit Wash, near Spalding, was abandoned after the Skating Association reported that it was not possible to provide a straight mile course to conform with the conditions. 20 02 16

1929 02 22
Sir: Quite a number of people took advantage of the frozen river last weekend to skate to Ely and among them were three Newnham girls. It is 34 years since last such a journey was possible. There was only one day's skating on the river in 1901. It was February 1895 that the river last admitted skating to Ely and I and two friends undertook the journey. On arrival it was suggested we continue to Denver Sluice but after two miles the ice was very bad, so we returned. I wonder how many have ever succeeded in it, a distance of 72 miles there and back. I am fond of skating and have been to Ely five times – 'Septuagenarian' – CDN 22.2.1929

1935 01 28
Cambridge goes white – snow complaints – 35 01 28

1939 12 23
After many hours of continuous snowfall – the longest, if not the deepest, fall for many years - a partial thaw set in. In Cambridge 400 men were employed (during the fall of snow) to clear a path for road traffic and pedestrians, and six snow ploughs were brought into use. 38 12 23 CIPof

1947 03 07
The work of clearing Cambridge streets of snow is costing £500 a day. Every available lorry and a labour force in the region of 400 men is engaged in the task. There is a generally held view in the town that the snow clearers are ding a hard job very well. Meanwhile there has been an almost cheerful acceptance of the inconveniences. For the second morning in succession, most of Cambridge walked to work today - strange sight in the normally bicycle-crowded streets 47 03 07

1954 01 28
Parts of the river Cam were frozen over this morning after a night of extremely cold conditions. The maximum temperature yesterday was 31 degrees F. but last night it dropped to 18 degrees. The severe weather had caused all previous output records to be broken at the Cambridge Gas Works. 54 01 28

1956 02 20
Cambridgeshire was hit by the second arctic spell over the weekend. Snow, ice and biting winds brought treacherous conditions to many of the roads, but no major accidents were reported. Last

night the temperature dropped to 18 degrees, at 9am today it was 25.7. The Waterworks Company dealt with over 1,000 burst pipes over the last cold spell and expect there will be many more when the pipes thaw out after the present freeze-up. 56 02 20a

1958 02 26
Snow blocks roads worse than 1947, February 58 02 26b & c [2.6]

1961 12 27
It is going to be even colder than it was during most of the Christmas freeze-up when ice on the Cam trapped several swans in the water. On Christmas morning fire appliances went to St Giles' church where a small fire severely damaged an electric motor in the organ. They were also called to Avery's scale makers premises in Regent Street and at Joseph Lucas on Newmarket Road where pipes in the ceilings burst and flooded the premises. The Waterworks Company dealt with 30 burst pipes on Christmas Day 61 12 27 61 12 30

1962 01 01
Many Cambridgeshire villages are without electricity as eight inches of snow dislocated traffic and communications. Engineers had difficulties getting to the trouble through road blocks, fallen telephone wires and diversions. Snow ploughs have been working on the roads throughout the night. Railways have been badly affected with a drift between Shepreth and Royston making only single line traffic possible. It was the coldest night in Cambridgeshire since February 1917 62 01 01 Queens Road & Earl Street with snowed-up cars – photo – 62 01 01a

1962 01 02
Clearing snow St Andrews Street & dumping it at Quayside – photos – 62 01 02b
[4.2]

1962 01 03
Hundreds of building workers have been laid off because of the severe freeze-up. Many have taken temporary jobs with the City Council as snow cleaners; so far 250 extra men have been put on to help the 50 regular council workmen. In addition 46 extra lorries have been hired with 10 bulldozers and two crawler shovels. Gangs are working 24 hours a day gritting and sanding the roads. The cost of all the extra work will be 'pretty heavy' 62 01 03a

1962 10 03
Supplies of salt are fast running out at Cambridge grocery shops as people adopt a 'do-it-yourself' policy towards clearing away the snow from their doorsteps. In two of the largest stores stocks of block or crushed cooking salt are negligible. But there is still plenty at the Corporation store yard in Mill Road despite a considerable amount being used on the streets. Hard-packed frozen snow still prevails on all roads and overnight fog reduced visibility. One result of the snow-up in Royston was the postponement of the meeting of the Urban Council 62 10 03

1962 12
Great blanket of snow, 24¢ frost, December [2.8,2.9]

1962 12 05
The fog which came down over the Cambridge area was blown here from London by a twelve-knot wind, says meteorologists. London, having its first clear day since Monday was like an oasis surrounded by a slowly-clearing fog belt though mainline trains were still meeting long delays and London Airport was closed. The number of sudden deaths in the capital has now reached

106. Conditions were still grim in East Anglia with temperatures remaining well below zero and part of the River Cam froze between Pye's Bridge and Garret Hostel Lane. 62 12 05 & 07

1963 01 01
Seven-foot drifts block county, 400 workmen fight to keep traffic moving,water mains frozen, skaters on Backs – 63 01 01 [2.10,2.11,2.12,4.3]

1963 01 14
People travelling to work were delayed after three buses were put out of action with frozen fuel pipes. Sunshine encouraged many skaters on the River Cam along the Backs where ice is two-inches thick but the Met Office warns there is no sign of a break in the very cold weather. Snow and ice has brought outside work on building sites to a standstill though many firms are keeping on men to help with snow clearing. Demand for coal has shot up as have the number of telephone calls with people ringing up to say they are suffering from the acute weather conditions – 63 01 03 Cambridge shops dim lights to conserve power 63 01 14 63 0115

1963 01 22
Temperatures amongst lowest ever recorded with 35 degrees of frost – 63 01 22

1963 02 26
Temperatures rose above freezing point for the first time in ten days but electricity cuts almost paralysed in the county. 63 01 26

1969 02 08
Snow traps scores in Cambridge – 69 02 08, 08a

1977 01 13
Heavy snow hit Cambridge as the worst weather for 14 years caused nationwide chaos and led to widescale disruption on the roads and railways. Weathermen say the snowfalls will be heavy and prolonged and warm winds could produce drifts. In many places there were snowfalls of more than one foot. Thousands of people were late for work as hard-packed snow, freezing fog and black ice made driving treacherous. And many trains were late or cancelled despite an all-night fight against the Arctic conditions by British Rail who called in their full cold weather emergency procedures. 77 01 13 [4.11]

1979 02 14
As Britain faced yet another day of icy chaos with more bitterly cold weather on the way, the Army was making plans to move in and clear snowbound roads, said the 'Snow Minister', Mr Denis Howell. In Cambridgeshire workmen battled to clear some of the worst snowfalls, 179 snowploughs and diggers are out but salt stocks are reaching a critical level. Seven weather-hit coach passengers were put up at Parkside police headquarters; they were given mattresses and bedded down in the gym. But there has been a sudden cut back in crime figures; even burglars and thieves are staying at home 79 02 14

1981 12 14
Motorists faced a nightmare journey to work with several main roads blocked by heavy snow. Saffron Walden was snowed in & Royston and Haverhill were cut off as was Cottenham, Waterbeach, Fulbourn and Sutton. Cambridge police rescued 130 people trapped in their cars and about half the county schools were closed as teachers could not get to work 81 12 14; gritters – 81 12 15

1985 02
Snow, Feb [4.15]

1987 01 13
The AA were inundated by calls to motorists stranded in the snow and hundreds more were caught without anti-freeze as overnight temperatures plunged to -11C. The River Cam was iced up for the fist time in five years and skaters were out in force on the flooded fen at Earith in perfect conditions of ice, sun and no wind. Many were practicing for the Fen Ice Skating Championships but for others it was pure pleasure. 87 01 13

1988 01 22
Road, rail and air services were all thrown into chaos as heavy snow brought mayhem 88 01 22

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Storey's House residents, 1976 - 155.03

c.12.2: Sun, drought, heat

1899 07 13
Can the meteorologists tell what has happened to the English climate? Last summer was hot, but the extraordinary protracted heat was set down as a meteorological eccentricity that was not likely to be repeated. Yet this summer the thermometer has been dancing between 80 and 90. If this happens another year it will be necessary to take counsel as to whether England should not adopt Indian usages. The mid-day siesta may come into vogue. But the weather is a fickle thing. One day it is oppressively hot, the next day it is delightfully cool. One summer it is the weather of the tropics; the next may be distinctly suggestive of the arctic circle 1899 07 13

1906 09 03
For four days Cambridge has vainly been endeavouring to live in a temperature rising above 90 degrees in the shade, 125 in the sun. The first day of September was as hot as the last day of August and even now the heat shows little diminution. Nobody remembers such a succession of tropical heats so late in the season. The weather is in a curiously topsy-turvey condition 06 09 03 & a

1907 09 03
What extraordinary weather we are experiencing! It reached its climax on September 25th when the hottest day of the year was reported and those on holidays are getting interest for delaying the spending of their annual vacation. The appearance of gardens is not synonymous with autumn, Strawberries are now providing a good crop, whilst roses are doing very well. 07 09 30b

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1911 08 18
The dry weather has led to great scarcity of water in many parts and if the drought continues the Army planned manoeuvres might be abandoned. The brooks and ponds in many places are completely dry, rivers are running lower than in living memory and farmers are at their wits' end to know how to provide water for their cattle. Water trains will soon have to be organised though unfortunately some of the worst villages on the clay hills of Huntingdonshire are remote from the railways. However at most seaside places nearly every room is occupied and the summer of 1911 will be long remembered as the best on record by boarding-house keepers 11 08 18m

1911 08 25
The longest drought since 1887 has happily come to and end and heavy rains have reduced the torrid heat. In Cambridge the hottest day was August 9th when the temperature was 95 degrees in the shade. Messrs Pain's records go back 43 years and the only other record of that figure was on 15th August 1876. During violent thunderstorms lightning set fire to farm buildings at Friday Bridge but the brigade was powerless as there was no water to put it out. 11 08 25a

1911 09 15
A most welcome break in the long-sustained drought came when the first really wet day for months was hailed with the joy and gladness with which people generally welcome fine weather. Rain fell all day, having a marvellous effect in clearing the air and bringing down the temperature. It was like stepping from blazing August to chill gloomy November. Normally everyone would have been dismal and depressed. But everybody has been thoroughly saturated with sunshine and turned to the mud and drizzle with positive delight, splashing through puddles with utmost cheerfulness. This year has been the driest on record. 11 09 15g

1911 09 23
Break in drought – 11 09 23

1912
April a record drought but only five rainless days in August [2.14]

1921 07
Intense heat causes fires, including Midsummer Common, July & August; 14 months of drought [1.17, 4.10]

1930 08 28
Seven deaths have been reported from various parts of the country and no break is expected in the heat wave. In Cambridge temperatures of 88 degrees were recorded in the shade, two lower than yesterday. A girl in green striped pyjamas was seen in one of the main thoroughfares, an extreme symptom of the heat wave that holds the town in its grip. There was an outbreak of open-necked shirts whilst those who were less courageous fingered the tight damp bands that had once been collars and wondered whether respectability was worth while. At midnight there were bathing parties by the banks of the Cam 30 08 28 [2.1]

1933 01 06
Does the present succession of mild Januaries suggest something in the nature of a change in climate? Today amateur gardeners have standard and rambler roses in full bloom, primroses blooming in clumps, stocks, polyanthus – indeed a show of flowers usually retarded by frost until spring. 33 01 06

1933 02 11
The mildness of the winter has given gardeners something to talk about. Even the frost has failed to kill off all the roses and some were in full bloom at Cottenham with the first snowdrops flowering between the standards. Flowers gathered before the frost set in and put into water have a more powerful scent than usual. But are these the first roses of summer or the last? 33 02 11b

1976 09 30
It is NOT the driest summer in the Cambridge are for 500 years, or even 250 years – and that is official. Cambridge Water Company strongly suspected the statisticians were becoming over-excited. Now its doubts have been confirmed. Weathermen have been forced to admit that the months from October 1920 until November 1921 were even drier; during that time there were 13.4 inches of rain in the Cambridge area, compared to 15 inches in the same period up to the end of June this year 76 09 30 [4.10]

1976 06 26
Extreme heat has begun to take its toll of animals and people, with little sign of letting up. For the past three days temperature has been in the 90s and this afternoon was a scorching 98 degrees Fahrenheit. At Cambridge abattoir in Coldham's Lane one animal died on the premises and three others have been dead on arrival because of the intense heat which induces heart attacks. At Haverhill Furniture Ltd, Rookwood, the management has been giving free drinks from an automatic machine while half of the fixed skylights at Taylor's Foundry have been removed to encourage a breeze 76 06 26

1989 04 11
"Costa del Cambridge" possible due greenhouse effect ¢CEN 11.4.89

Fog blanketed King's Parade the day traffic was first banned, 1974 - 89.43

c.12.3: Fog, aurora, meteors

1905 11 18
The other evening a large expanse of the north eastern sky was suffered with a rosy glow which waxed and waned in intensity. The light extended upwards from the horizon in a broad band and illuminated the edge of a thick bank of cloud towards the left of the moon. It is believed to be the Aurora Borealis, the famous northern light, though others felt it was caused by the moon shining through falling snow. 05 11 18c [2.13]

1932 08 17
Succession of meteorites, August [1.2]

1936 12 10
Thick fog invaded Romsey Town hours before it reached Huntingdon Road. Once it settled it did so in earnest and visibility was practically nil. Buses were reduced to trailing through the streets on the heels of the conductors and even they could not see their way properly: one stopped himself just in time from leading a No.106 into the pit on Newmarket Road. Where conditions were not quite so bad drivers 'convoyed' and as many as six buses were seen in single file. One conductor walked from Cambridge to Ely, leading his bus – and did the journey in 4½ hours 36 12 10a

1938 01 29
Aurora borealis seen [2.3]

1939 02 24

Meteor Seen in Cambridgeshire. Mr. George Pearson, of Fen Road, Milton, who said it came into view at 6.10 a.m. "I had got up to milk my cows," he went on. "As I stood outside my cowshed, the yard suddenly became lit up. I saw a brilliant white light moving across the sky. There were no flames coming from it: it was something like an electric light" 39 02 24 CIPof

1954 01 09
A large meteorite is believed to have been seen over Cambridge. Following reports that an explosion, thought to have been due to a meteorite smashing into the earth's atmosphere, had rocked Dieppe about 160 miles from Cambridge, several members of the City Police Force have claimed to have seen the object. P.C. R. Barlow, on duty in Drummer Street described 'a meteorite of exceptional size, oval-shaped and green in colour' falling in a south-east direction. Other policemen claim to have seen the flash as it apparently struck the earth. 54 01 09

1962 12 05
The fog which came down over the Cambridge area was blown here from London by a twelve-knot wind, says meteorologists. London, having its first clear day since Monday was like an oasis surrounded by a slowly-clearing fog belt though mainline trains were still meeting long delays and London Airport was closed. The number of sudden deaths in the capital has now reached 106. Conditions were still grim in East Anglia with temperatures remaining well below zero and part of the River Cam froze between Pye's Bridge and Garret Hostel Lane. 62 12 05 & 07

Flooding on Campkin Road following heavy rain, June 1970 89.33

c.12.5 : flood

1894
Serious floods [4.18,1.5]

1913 01 24
The heavy and almost continuous rains are having a serious effect in Soham. The whole countryside is saturated and ditches full to overflowing. At Greenhills water is level with the cottagers' gardens and paths and roads are impassable. the outlook is extremely serious. A hundred acres are flooded due to the unsafe condition of the river bank which is in a state of collapse. Farmers fear grain will rot in the ground, some having been covered with water since before Christmas. The roads are in shocking condition, the heavy farm traffic having cut them up to such an extent it is impossible to cycle over them 13 01 24 p11 CIP

1914 12 25
Storm and Floods responsible for considerable damage to telegraph and telephone wires. The heavy downpour of rain and the blinding snowstorm late at night found the weak spots in an enormous number of house roofs in Cambridge, and the exceptional downpour swelled the stream of the Cam until the water flowed over the banks. The greater part of Midsummer Common was covered with water and the paths were impassable. Boathouse and boathouse yards were flooded and military men who were billeted in the boathouses were seriously inconvenienced. In several instances they were compelled to seek billets elsewhere. Thousands of acres of land in and around Cambridge were flooded.14 12 25 CIPof

1914 12 29

Gale causes damage, gable end of house Mill Road blown down, Robert Sayle window and others damage – 14 12 29e Ch

1915 01 29
A heavy downpour of rain experienced last week caused the River Cam to overflow its banks, and the low lands adjoining the river were extensively flooded. At Grantchester the road from the mill to Trumpington was submerged for a distance of about 400 yards on Friday and Saturday, the road being impassable except in a vehicle. The water rose very rapidly on Friday, Sheep's Green, Newnham and Coe Fen became impassable, whilst Chesterton Meadows became inundated, the water encroaching halfway across the roadway at Water Street, Old Chesterton. The ferries below Victoria Bridge were unable to be worked during the weekend, but were able to resume on Monday. Although the commons were not flooded to anything like the extent they were following the blizzard towards the end of last month, large pools of water existed at places. At Jesus Sluice there was only a difference of about a foot between the levels of the water above and below the locks. The river has now gone down, and is almost at its normal level 15 01 29 CIPof

1916 03 04
Floods Sheep's Green, Coe Fen etc, boathouses rise from water [2.26]

1916 03 08
Flood scenes in Cambridge following heavy snow – Midsummer Common, Riverside – 16 03 08e

1917
Highest flood between Jesus Lock and Baitsbite Lock was 1917 when nearly two feet water over office floor; river bank broke Brandon Creek and flooded fen around Southery which quickly cleared water at Abbey Road – H.C. Banham – 46 03 02b, 46 03 09a

1918 01 30
Floods.—the severe weather and the thaw had further detrimental effects upon the trees at the Backs of the Colleges and our riverside walks. Many old familiar arboreal friends have been dismembered, notably the veteran weeping willow on the south-west side of Trinity College Bridge. The floods which followed the thaw rose to a considerable height and considerable damage is now seen to have been done to the river banks at Sheep's Green. Part of the trouble here is said to have been caused through the flood gates at the Apron being out of repair 18 01 30 CIPof

1918 04 24
A great flood - higher level than has been recorded since the great storm of August 3, 1879 Miles of country were under water on Wednesday; roads and paths were rendered impassable to foot passengers, the ferries at Cambridge were stopped, low-lying houses and premises near the river were flooded and the water was up to the permanent way of the railway between Chesterton and Waterbeach. The river has shown more frequent tendencies to flood of late years than, formerly - one cause is said to be the clearing-out of ditches and water courses by War Agricultural Committees 18 04 24 CIPof

1919 02 19
Floods highest since 1879; homes inundated Riverside & Newnham, parapet of house in Parker St collapses – 19 02 19a

1919 02 26

Serious Floods.—Not for many years has the County of. Cambridge been visited by floods of such magnitude or of so serious a nature as those experienced within the last ten days. Thousands of| acres are under water, and at Cambridge the water rose at one time to within six inches of the height reached by the memorable flood of 1879. At Ely the river touched a depth beyond any previously attained within the memory of the oldest inhabitants. It is good news to hear that since Sunday the water has been steadily falling. A serious break in the river bank midway between Waterbeach and Upware last Wednesday resulted in the disastrous flooding of hundreds of acres of low-lying land in the vicinity, the temporary isolation of several farms and cottages and considerable damage to stacks. On Tuesday night … above the banks at Waterbeach Fen where the break in the river bank occurred, and farmers took prompt steps to remove their stock to safety, but on Wednesday morning a break occurred, and the breach rapidly becoming wider, the water poured through. Farm buildings and cottages were surrounded, and the Inhabitants in some cases were forced to seek shelter in the village. All Wednesday farm workers and other helpers from Waterbeach and district worked up to their knees in water, but the gap widened, and it was found necessary to sink two barges in the breach. Thousands of sandbags were requisitioned and by this means the hole was filled and the inflow of water at this spot checked. Men have been employed night and day in "cradging" along the banks and strengthening the places where any water was found overflowing, this also being done on the Stretham bank of the Old West 19 02 26,a & b CIPof [1.14]

1922 07
Wettest July since 1865 [1.18]

1926 02
Floods on Coe Fen & Sheeps Green, February [1.20]

1952 01 05
For Cambridge 1951 was again a "very wet year". Ald F. Dogget said the figure of 27.57 inches was well above the average. There were only 150 days without rain. It was an exceptionally wet Spring and gardeners will remember we had only six fine week-ends during that period. The heaviest fall was on August 6th and during a thunderstorm on July 30th. The longest spell of fine weather lasted for 13 consecutive days between May 27th and June 9th. In the county Lt-Col Thornhill of Manor House, Boxworth, said it was the wettest year since 1937 52 01 09

1959 01 09
Flooding, January [2.72.27]

1959 06 27
One inch of rain in 20 minutes floods basements [4.1]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

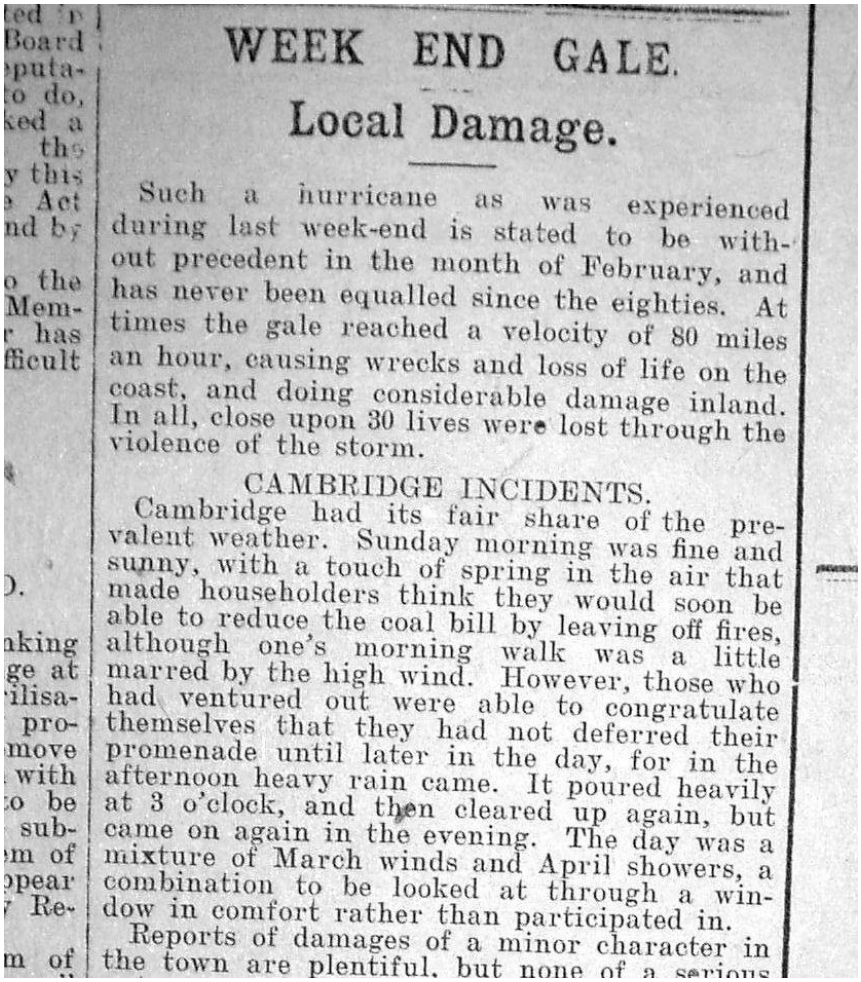
1960 Many roads were flooded following a torrential downpour. Policemen with red warning lights patrolled parts of Queen's Road which was covered to a depth of 18-inches in parts and the roadway at Chesterton Hall Crescent was also under water. Wilberforce Road was the most seriously affected where water poured off a nearby playing field and fences were pulled up to divert the flow away from houses. The Wheatsheaf Inn at Harlton and a cottage at Barton Road Haslingfield were also inundated. This has been one of the wettest years recorded in Cambridge. 60 11 02b

1968 09 16

New sewers save city from floods - no extensive flooding after storm. Riverside people sand bag houses [4.5, 4.6]

1970 06 26
Campkin Road flooded after deluge, June : 2.5 feet of water gushed into houses, waves caused by passing vehicles pushed water back, King St, Northampton St flooded [2.16,4.8]

1982 07 15
Violent storm causes chaos, basements flooded sewage etc [3.1]



WEEK END GALE.

Local Damage.

Such a hurricane as was experienced during last week-end is stated to be without precedent in the month of February, and has never been equalled since the eighties. At times the gale reached a velocity of 80 miles an hour, causing wrecks and loss of life on the coast, and doing considerable damage inland. In all, close upon 30 lives were lost through the violence of the storm.

CAMBRIDGE INCIDENTS.

Cambridge had its fair share of the prevalent weather. Sunday morning was fine and sunny, with a touch of spring in the air that made householders think they would soon be able to reduce the coal bill by leaving off fires, although one's morning walk was a little marred by the high wind. However, those who had ventured out were able to congratulate themselves that they had not deferred their promenade until later in the day, for in the afternoon heavy rain came. It poured heavily at 3 o'clock, and then cleared up again, but came on again in the evening. The day was a mixture of March winds and April showers, a combination to be looked at through a window in comfort rather than participated in.

Reports of damages of a minor character in the town are plentiful, but none of a serious

25 Feb 1910

c.12.6 : Gales, hurricanes

1891
Wall at Hyde Park corner blows down in gale, girl killed [2.2]

1906 01 06
Last night's gale was one of the most severe within living memory. Great damage was done all over Cambridge. On Newmarket Road a tall chimney at the brickworks began to sway violently and then fell with a tremendous crash. The large trees at the Backs suffered considerably; five were uprooted and blown into Queen's Road. During the morning numbers of poor people were busily engaged in taking away the portions they could carry for firewood. Two children took away a branch of considerable weight using a pair of wheels taken from a perambulator 06 01 06e

1906 02 09
The extraordinary weather was experienced in all its bewildering variety. Thunder, lightning, hail, snow and a hurricane provided a new experience. Many pedestrians were blown over by the wind

which swept over the mill at Chippenham with such suddenness that before the sails could be adjusted, the top of the mill was blown off. The storm travelled at a remarkable pace. It took less than an hour to travel from Leicester to Cambridge.06 02 09c

1910

1910 02 25
A hurricane with winds of 80 mph cased considerable damage. Hoardings in Belmont Place, King Street, belonging to the Billposting Company were unable to withstand the onslaught of the wind and fell while a large elm tree opposite Trinity Fellows' Garden was bespoiled of its top. At Ely Cathedral a window depicting St John the Baptist was damaged; the apostle's head was blown out but falling upon the lawn, the glass was not broken. At St Ives the wind blew down the home signal on the railway line and caught the gable end of Mr Holloway's music shop in Bridge Street, blowing off four yards of tiles. CWN 10 02 25a & b

1920
1920 06 09
Cowper Road house struck by lightning during a severe thunderstorm – photo – 20 06 09a

1928 01
Gale damages Fred Hiams residence Grange Road, Jan [2.20]

1928 11 17
The great gale which swept the country blew down trees, damaged roofs and caused damage. The most serious loss is the removal of the roof of the grandstand on the Cambridge Town Football Club's ground. The cross at St Barnabas church was carried away but no person was injured in its fall. Hoardings on the LNER Railway's property near Cambridge station have been razed to the ground and the line was blocked by a signal that was blown down near Waterbeach. At Trinity College the famous 'Sedgwick Elm' in the Fellows' Garden was partly blown down. At Ely two large sheets of lead were lifted on the roof of the cathedral nave and a huge chicken shed in Lynn Road was completely demolished. 28 11 17 [1.21]

1930 01
Worst gale in living memory brings down trees, January [1.25]

1936 06 20
Damaged houses, a blocked road and wrecked telephone wires marked the route of the great storm through Cambridge and district. The first ominous rumblings were heard comparatively early but not until the crowds began to pour out of the cinemas after the last performance did the rain stream down and great flashes of forked lightning rend the sky. Cambridge seemed to be almost surrounded by thunderstorms, for sheets of light flashed on the horizon at every point of the compass 36 06 20

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1970

1976 01 03
Hurricane force winds & blizzard bring chaos January [4.9]

1978 01 03

A tornado cut a two-mile swathe through Newmarket. Roofs were ripped off buildings, windows smashed and cars overturned. Every window in the railway station signal box was smashed. Chief Inspector Trevor Hewitt of Newmarket police said: "It's a disaster area. It was just a freak storm and only lasted a couple of minutes. The damage is appalling. Roofs have caved in, windows have been smashed and cars overturned". In Cambridge the wind lifted the roof from a house in King Street. 78 01 03 [4.12]

1981 08 07
Mid Anglia is counting the cost of the worst storms to hit in more than ten years. At least five homes in Cambridge were damaged by lightning, together with two at Abington. More than 20 houses had to be pumped dry after flooding with water eight inches deep in houses in Eaton Socon. Amateur weatherman, Percy Ashman says the last 24 hours were the wettest since September 1968. 81 08 07b [4.14]

1986 03 24
Winds gusting up to 70mph brought chaos, killing one man, injuring others and causing thousands of pounds' damage. In Cambridge King's Parade was sealed off after material was dislodged from the chapel roof and an international computer exhibition at the University Centre was called off after windows and skylights were smashed. Duxford Museum closed after gales damaged a replica Spitfire and blew over a security man and a corrugated iron roof was ripped off the old Falcon Hotel ballroom in St Neots 86 03 24

1987 10 16
Overnight gales and torrential rain devastated the region with winds of more than 100 mph. The atrocious weather disrupted rail and bus services, trees were uprooted, one falling on the roof of a bungalow in Duchess Drive, Newmarket while Wandlebury Woods was devastated with more than 200 trees blown down. Saffron Walden High School had to close after windows were smashed. Power supplies were disrupted causing chaos at pumping stations and Byron's Pool has been placed on red alert as the threat of serious flooding increased. 87 10 16 & a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Castle Street house struck by lightning, 1908

c.12.7: Lightning

1889 06 07
Severe thunderstorm causes extensive damage [2.5]

1896 07 07
East Road school hit by lightning. July [1.11]

1908 06 05

A house in Castle Street was struck by lightning during a heavy thunderstorm which caused tremendous damaged and rendered it uninhabitable. A brick chimney stack fell with an appalling crash into the bedrooms beneath, which have been completely wrecked. It is a semi-detached residence of three storeys and reputed to be the highest inhabited point in Cambridge. CWN 08 06 05 p5 [2.17]

1920 06
Cowper Road houses struck by lightning, June [2.18]

1921 07 21
Bateman Street houses struck by lightning, July [2.16]

1931 08 21
Grafton Street house struck by lightning [2.19]

1939 01 20
Huntingdon Road house struck by lightning [2.21]

EARTHQUAKE SHOCKS IN CAMBRIDGE

Giant Hand in Silken Glove

COLLEGE BELL TOLLED

Wireless Expert's Eerie Experience

The earth tremors were distinctly felt in Cambridge and the county, although there were some who slept peacefully through it all, and were inclined to be incredulous in the morning. In all directions, however, people were awakened from their slumbers, and not a few got up and compared experiences with their neighbours.

Fortunately the shocks were slight, and so far as can be ascertained no appreciable damage was done. Some curious effects were observed, however, as, for example, small articles being shaken to the floor and retired to bed at 1.15 a.m. At about 1.26, the Inspector, who had not gone to sleep, heard a violent shaking at one of the windows. Thinking that someone was attempting to break in, he struck a match and then saw the dressing table dancing about. It seemed as if someone had got hold of it and was shaking it violently. The bed also moved, but nothing was broken. Other occupants of the house, and P.C. Garner, next door, had similar experiences.

The Inspector added that he was able to get a light in time to see the furniture moving, and it was a very weird experience.

HOUSES ROCKED AT ELY.

The residents of Ely and district were somewhat alarmed about 1.30 a.m., the tremors being distinctly felt in and around the city. No serious damage has been recorded so far, but many houses were rocked for some seconds. The shocks were keenly felt in the west end of the city, where some of the foundations of the houses were heard to crack. Beds and their occupants were shaken, and crockery was displaced from its positions on the dressers.

In many streets the ceilings of houses have been badly cracked, and in one or two places plaster had dropped to the

CDN
12 June
1931

c.12.8 : Earthquakes

1896 12 18
Earthquake felt in Cambridge, December [1.12]

1926 08 16
Earthquake shocks of unusual severity were felt on Sunday morning. In Cambridge occupants were awakened by the rattle of windows, crockery and furniture. Two residents in West Road were aroused from sleep by the oscillation of their beds; a lofty wardrobe continued to shake and its contents to rattle for some time. Railwaymen on night duty said the telegraph poles rattled and the windows of signal cabins shook. Several residents of Huntingdon felt three tremors 26 08 16

1931 06 12
It was a very gentle earthquake in Cambridge: suddenly in the silence of a calm and tranquil night there came a mysterious, slow, oscillatory motion, quickening and increasing in intensity. It seemed as if a giant hand had seized the bed and was shaking it, gently but with irresistible might. A washstand was overturned at Comberton but houses were rocked at Ely where some of the foundations were heard to crack. At St Ives people sought refuge on the Market Hill and could not be induced to return to bed. 31 06 12c & d & e

1938 06 18
Earthquake felt, June [2.4]

1948 06 01
What is thought to be the biggest earth tremor in East Anglia since 1757 occurred in the King's Lynn, Bury St Edmunds, Mildenhall and Cambridge area last Friday. Observers distinctly felt it. In some places it was accompanied by a rumbling noise. A Cambridge resident said; "I distinctly

felt a 'bubbling' movement and heard a slight rumbling noise while sitting in the living room after tea. I took no further notice, however, thinking it may have been a passing bus or heavy vehicle"
48 06 01

1988 02 09
Earth tremor felt [CEN 9.12.88]

χ.18 : Χαμβριδγε ΤΡΕΕΣ ανδ ΠΛΑΝΤΣ Χηρονιχλε

1892
Τρεεσ πλαντεδ αλονγ σιχτορια Αωενυε [1.9]

1894
σιχτορια Αωενυε τρεεσ ρεμοωεδ ασ νεεδ ροομ φορ Ροψαλ Αγριχυλτυραλ Σηοω & πυτ ιν νυρσερψ πλοτ ον Χηεστερτον σιδε οφ ριωερ, ρεπλαντεδ ωηεν οωερ [1.9]

Trees being felled at Trinity College, 1950

254.65

1897
Χηεστερτον Ροαδ λιμεσ πλαντεδ το χομμεμορατε Θυεεν σιχτορια□σ Διαμονδ Θυβιλεε 10]

1897 04 24
Φλοριστσ□ Σοχιετψ δεμισε, 1897 04 24 π2 ΧΔΝ

1900

1906 01 06
Λαστ νιγητ□σ γαλε ωασ ονε οφ τηε μοστ σεωερε ωιτηιν λιωινγ μεμορψ. Γρεατ δαμαγε σ δονε αλλ οωερ Χαμβριδγε. Ον Νεωμαρκετ Ροαδ α ταλλ χηιμνεψ ατ τηε βριχκωορκσ γαν το σωαψ ωιολεντλψ ανδ τηεν φελλ ωιτη α τρεμενδουσ χραση. Τηε λαργε τρεεσ ατ ε Βαχκσ συφφερεδ χονσιδεραβλψ; φιωε ωερε υπροοτεδ ανδ βλοων ιντο Θυεεν□σ Ροαδ υρινγ τηε μορνινγ νυμβερσ οφ ποορ πεοπλε ωερε βυσιλψ ενγαγεδ ιν τακινγ αωαψ τηε πορ τιονσ τηεψ χουλδ χαρρψ φορ φιρεωοοδ. Τωο χηιλδρεν τοοκ αωαψ α βρανχη οφ χονσιδερ αβλε ωειγητ υσινγ α παιρ οφ ωηεελσ τακεν φρομ α περαμβυλατορ 06 01 06ε

1906 04 23
Νο ονε ωηο ηασ σεεν τηε χουρτσ οφ μανψ οφ τηε ολδ χολλεγεσ ιν εαρλψ συμμερ, ωελλ φ υρνισηεδ ωιτη ωινδοω–βοξεσ φυλλ οφ λυξυριαντ πλαντσ χαν δενψ τηεψ αδδ γρεατλψ το τηειρ βεαυτψ. Τηερε ισ νοτ μυχη ωαριετψ ιν τηε χοντεντσ: υσυαλλψ γερανιυμσ, χαλχε ολαριασ ανδ Παρισ δαισιεσ, ωηιλε λοβελια ηανγσ δοων φρομ τηεμ ιν λονγ τραιλσ. Ιν ωι ντερ σμαλλ σηρυβσ, γενεραλλψ ωαριεγατεδ, αρε υσεδ.06 04 23α

1906 05 19
Ψεαρσ αγο Χαμβριδγε ωασ νοτεδ ασ α χεντρε γροωινγ τηε φινεστ τυλιπσ, χραζε διεδ δοω ν βυτ νοω ρεωιωινγ [3.5]

1906 08 04
Γαρδενερσ βεωαρε: ψουρ νεατ λιττλε φλοωερ πατχηεσ αρε ιν δανγερ φρομ αππαρεντλψ ι ννοχεντ ψουνγ χηιλδρεν. Τηεψ ωιλλ μακε φλαττερινγ χομμεντσ υπον ψουρ σηοω οφ ροσ εσ, γερανιυμσ ανδ οτηερ βλοομσ βυτ ωηεν νο ονε ισ αβουτ τηεψ ωιλλ θυιχκλψ οπεν τηε γαρδεν γατε ανδ βεφορε ψου ρεαλισε ιτ, τηε βεστ οφ ψουρ βλοομσ αρε τορν οφφ. Σομετιμ

εσ τηε φλοωερσ αρε ωιτηιν ρεαχη οφ α σμαλλ ηανδ τηρυστ τηρουγη τηε ραιλινγσ ανδ τ ηεψ ωιλλ μψστεριουσλψ δισαππεαρ.
06 08 04

1907
Τρεεσ πλαντεδ ον ωεστ σιδε οφ Θυεενσ Ροαδ βετωεεν Ωεστ Ροαδ & Βυρρελλ□σ Ωαλκ 50
06 19

1910

1910 07 08
Μυχη το τηε ρεγρετ οφ τηε Προπριετορσ οφ τηε Χαμβριδγε Υνιϖερσιτψ ανδ Τοων Ρολλε ρ Σκατινγ Ρινκ, ωηο ηαϖε τακεν α λεασε οφ τηε βεαυτιφυλ Πψτηαγορασ Γαρδενσ, ανδ τ ο τηε δισαπποιντμεντ οφ τηε πυβλιχ γενεραλλψ, ιτ ηασ βεεν φουνδ νεχεσσαρψ, οωινγ το χομπλιχατιονσ αρισινγ ασ α ρεσυλτ οφ α μισυνδερστανδινγ βετωεεν τηεμσελϖεσ, τηε λε σσεεσ ανδ Μερτον Χολλεγε, Οξφορδ, τηε οωνερσ, το δισχοντινυε τηε υσε οφ τηε γαρδενσ φορ πυβλιχ εντερταινμεντ. Φορ σομε τιμε παστ, ηυνδρεδσ οφ ϖισιτορσ ηαϖε σπεντ αν ε νφοψαβλε ηουρ υπον τηε οπεν−αιρ ρινκ ανδ σπλενδιδ λαωνσ □ 10 07 08αα

1911 09 15
Π.Χ. Θοην Ωαλλαγε ηεαρδ α νοισε ιν Στ Θοην□σ χολλεγε γαρδεν, λοοκεδ οϖερ τηε ηεδγε ανδ σαω τηε πρισονερ πυλλινγ υπ βεετροοτ ανδ πυττινγ τηεμ ιν α σαχκ. Τηε μαν ραν οφ φ δοων Μαδινγλεψ Ροαδ. Ωηεν χαυγητ ηε υσεδ ϖερψ βαδ λανγυαγε ανδ τηρεατενεδ το □ βασηη ισ βραινσ ουτ□ ανδ σηοοτ ηιμ. Τηε λανγυαγε ωοκε α γαρδενερ λιϖινγ 100 ψαρδσ αωαψ. Φρεδεριχκ Ηυττ, γαρδενερ ατ Στ Θοην□σ Χολλεγε φουνδ τηε πλαχε ωηερε σομε βε ετροοτ ηαδ βεεν γροωινγ: τηεψ ωερε ϖερψ σιμιλαρ το τηε ονεσ ιν τηε σαχκ. Τηε τηιεφ ω ασ φινεδ τεν σηιλλινγσ 11 09 15β

1912
Ηψδε Παρκ Χορνερ Λομβαρδψ Ποπλαρ χυτ δοων, ωασ πλαντεδ βψ Θυλιαν Σκρινε ιν ηισ γαρδεν ατ Λενσφιελδ, τηε γρουνδσ οφ ωηιχη εξτενδεδ το ωηερε τηε Χατηολιχ Χηυρχη ν οω στανδσ 38 12 24, 51 03 03

1912 02 23
Ιν 1898 α νυμβερ οφ μεν ιν τηε νειγηβουρηοοδ οφ Νεωμαρκετ Ροαδ δεχιδεδ το φορμ αν α λλοτμεντ ασσοχιατιον το αχθυιρε λανδ τηατ τηε Χο−οπερατιϖε Σοχιετψ ωερε ρελινθυισ ηινγ. 12 02 23φ

1913 01 24
Χαμβριδγε Αλλοτμεντ Χομμιττεε ρεγυλατιονσ σαψ ηολδερσ σηουλδ κεεπ πλοτσ φρεε φρ ομ ωεεδσ ανδ νοτ πλαντ ανψ φρυιτ τρεεσ ορ βυσηεσ, στραωβερρψ πλαντσ, ασπαραγυσ, ρηυβαρβ ορ ανψ οτηερ μαρκετ γαρδεν χροπσ ωηιχη προδυχε φορ τωο ορ μορε ψεαρσ Τη εψ χουλδ ερεχτ α τοολ ηουσε, γρεενηουσε, φοωλ ηουσε ορ πιγστψ ωιτη περμισσιον βυτ ν οτ κεεπ μορε τηαν τωο πιγσ νορ τακε ανψ δογ ον τηε αλλοτμεντ. 13 01 24 π7 ΧΙΠ

1913 11 28
Εδωαρδ Ριχκαρδ, α βυιλδερ, ωασ προβαβλψ τηε γρεατεστ αματευρ νατυραλ ηιστοριαν ουτσιδε τηε Υνιϖερσιτψ ανδ πυβλισηεδ α βοοκ ον Λεαϖεσ χονταινινγ αχτυαλ σπεχιμεν

σ. Ηε ωασ αν εντομολογιστ, α βοτανιστ, γεολογιστ ανδ ταξιδερμιστ ωηο ηαδ α χολλεχτι ον οφ νεαρλψ 2,000 ινσεχτσ, 800 βεετλεσ ανδ οϖερ 300 φερνσ. Ηε ηαδ στυφφεδ τηουσανδ σ οφ βιρδσ ωιτη ονε χασε χονταινινγ 129 σμαλλ Βριτιση εξαμπλεσ. Α φεω ψεαρσ αγο ηε ηαδ οϖερ 6,000 σπεχιμενσ οφ ϖαριουσ κινδσ βυτ λαχκ οφ ροομ ηαδ ρεχεντλψ χομπελλε δ α ρεδυχτιον 13 11 28 π4 ΧΙΠ

1915 06 11
Βοτανιχαλ Αλλοτμεντ Φιελδ ενχλοσεδ γαρδεν □ ωομαν φουνδ ιν α συμμερ ηουσε 15 06 1 1 π7

1916 03 29
Μαρχη βλιζζαρδσ. Τηε ωινδ, ωηιχη ηαδ βεεν βοιστερουσ δυρινγ τηε δαψ, δεϖελοπεδ ιντ ο α ηεαϖψ γαλε, αχχομπανιεδ βψ σνοω. Α γοοδ δεαλ οφ δαμαγε ωασ δονε το τελεγραπη ανδ τελεπηονε ωιρεσ, τρεεσ ωερε υπροοτεδ. Ον Τυεσδαψ μορνινγ τηε γρουνδ ωασ χοϖερ εδ ωιτη σνοω. Τραινσ ωερε λατε οωινγ το ωιρεσ βεινγ δοων. Ραιν σετ ιν δυρινγ τηε δαψ, βυτ τοωαρδσ τηε χλοσε οφ τηε αφτερνοον τηισ τυρνεδ το σνοω. Τηε ωινδ, τοο, ινχρεασε δ ιν ϖιολενχε υντιλ ιτ ωασ βλοωινγ θυιτε α ηυρριχανε. Ηυγε τρεεσ γαϖε ωαψ βε–
φορε τηε ϖιολενχε οφ τηε ωινδ, χηιμνεψ ποτσ ανδ σλατεσ χαμε χρασηινγ δοων, ωηιλστ μανψ φενχεσ χολλαπσεδ. Τηε Χορπορατιον ωορκ–
μεν ηαδ το βε χαλλεδ ουτ το ασσιστ μ χλεαρινγ αωαψ φαλλεν τρεεσ, ανδ το ασσιστ τηε πολιχε ιν ωαρνινγ ϖεηιχλεσ. Σεϖεραλ πεδεστριανσ ηαδ ναρροω εσχαπεσ. Αμονγ τηε μα νψ τρεεσ ωηιχη φελλ ωασ τηε φαμουσ πλανε τρεε ιν τηε Χατηολιχ Ρεχτορψ γρουνδσ, ωη ιχη ηασ βεεν ϖισιτεδ βψ αρβοριχυλτυριστσ φρομ αλλ οϖερ τηε ωορλδ. 16 03 29 ΧΙΠοφ

1916 04 05
Ιν τηε ωακε οφ τηε βλιζζαρδ □ πηοτο φεατυρε □ χλεαρινγ τρεεσ □ 16 04 05

1916 04 05
Οριενταλ πλανε τρεε ιν γρουνδσ οφ Χατηολιχ Ρεχτορψ ονε οφ τηοσε δαμαγεδ ιν γαλε, ω ασ πλαντεδ 90 ψεαρσ αγο □ 16 04 05β, χ

1916 04 26
Τηε ροοκεριεσ ιν Χαμβριδγε ηαϖε βεεν α γοοδ δεαλ υπσετ βψ τηε ρεχεντ γαλεσ. Τρεεσ, ωηιχη φορ γενερα–
τιονσ ηαϖε ψεαρλψ βεεν οχχυπιεδ βψ ροοκσ, ηαϖε βεεν βλοων δοων, ανδ σομε οφ τηε χ ολλεγε γρουνδσ μοστ φρεθυεντεδ βψ τηεμ αρε νοω αλμοστ δεσερτεδ, τηε σιλενχε βεινγ Ι μοστ ρεμαρκαβλε το τηοσε αχχυστομεδ το τηε ∀χαωινγ∀ οφ τηε σαβλε βιρδσ. Τηισ ισ π αρτιχυλαρλψ νοτιχε–
αβλε ατ Στ. Θοηνəσ, φορμερλψ ονε οφ τηε μοστ φαϖουραβλε νεστινγ χεντρεσ, ανδ γενερ αλλψ ατ τηε Βαχκσ τηερε αρε φεωερ νεστσ τηαν υσυαλ 16 04 26 ΧΙΠοφ

1917 04 04
Α Δραστιχ Ρεσολυτιον. Τηε φολλοωινγ ρεσολυτιον ηασ βεεν πασσεδ βψ τηε Αλλοτμεντσ Συβχομμιττεε φορ Νεωνηαμ ανδ Χαστλε Ενδ: ∀Τηατ ινασμυχη ασ τηεψ ηαϖε ρεχειϖεδ 50 αππλιχατιονσ φορ αλλοτμεντσ, ωηιχη τηεψ αρε υναβλε το σατισφψ, τηεψ βεγ το ρε–
θυεστ τηε Τοων Χουνχιλ το βρεακ υπ τηε Λαμμασ Λανδ ατ Νεωνηαμ ωιτηουτ δελαψ, ϖι ζ., ωιτηουτ ωαιτινγ φορ φορμαλ αυτηοριτψ φρομ ανψ ηιγηερ αυτηοριτψ□. Ασ α ρεσυλτ τ ηε Βορουγη Μεμβερ ισ το βε ασκεδ το ιντερϖιεω τηε Αυτηοριτιεσ οφ τηε Βοαρδ οφ Αγρι

χυλτυρε ανδ Φισηεριεσ ωιτη ρεγαρδ το τηε αππλιχατιον οφ τηε χομμιττεε φορ περμισ σιον το υσε τηε Λαμμασ Λανδ ανδ εμπτψ χομμον φορ αλλοτμεντσ 17 04 04 ΧΙΠο φ

1917 05 16
ςινερψ Ροαδ αλλοτμεντσ σετ ουτ □ πηοτοσ □ 17 05 16φ

1917 06 13
Αλλοτμεντσ. Α ωαλκ ρουνδ τηε ϖαριουσ αλλοτμεντ γρουνδσ ιν τηε Βορουγη οφ Χαμβρι δγε ισ διστινχτλψ ενχουραγινγ (σαψσ τηε ωριτερ οφ Τοων ανδ Χουντρψ Τοπιχσ), φορ τη ε μοστ υνπρομισινγ πλοτσ οφ τηε νεωλψ–χυλτιϖατεδ λανδ αρε τυρνινγ ουτ βεττερ τηαν τηε μοστ οπτιμιστιχ μιγητ ηαϖε εξπεχτεδ. Τηε χροπσ αρε τηρουγη τηε σοιλ, ανδ σηοω σ πλενδιδ προμισε, ανδ τηε αλλοτ–
μεντ ηολδερσ μυστ φεελ γρεατλψ ενχουραγεδ ανδ ωελλ ρεωαρδεδ φορ τηειρ λαβουρσ, ω ηιχη ηαϖε νοτ βεεν λιγητ. Ωε ηοπε τηατ ασ τηε ρεσυλτ οφ ωαρ–τιμε μεασυρεσ τηε γαρδ ενινγ ηαβιτ μαψ βε ρε––
εσταβλισηεδ ατ Χαμβριδγε. Α θυαρτερ οφ α χεντυρψ ορ σο αγο γαρδενινγ ωασ πραχτισε δ ϖερψ εξτενσιϖελψ ιν Χαμβριδγε, ανδ αματευρ ηορτιχυλτυριστσ ανδ χολλεγε γαρδενερ σ ωερε προδυχεδ ωηο αχχομπλισηεδ ωονδερσ ιν τηε ωαψ οφ ιντενσιϖε χυλτιϖατιον ανδ χαρριεδ οφφ πριζεσ εϖεν ιν Αλλ–Ενγλανδ σηοωσ. Τηε γροωτη οφ Χαμβριδγε ανδ οτηερ χ αυσεσ χηεχκεδ τηε γαρδενινγ ηαβιτσ, ωηιχη ηασ νοω ανοτηερ οππορτυνιτψ, ανδ ωε ηοπ ε ιτ μαψ νοω προγρεσσ 17 06 13 ΧΙΠοφ

1917 11 07
Αλλεγατιονσ αγαινστ σμαλληολδερσ – Α ρεπορτ οφ τηε Σμαλληολδινγσ ανδ Αλλοτμεντ σ Χομμιττεε, μοϖεδ φορ αδοπτιον ατ τηε θυαρτερλψ μεετινγ οφ τηε Χαμβσ. Χουντψ Χου νχιλ ον Σατυρδαψ χονταινεδ α παραγραπη ρεγαρδινγ νοτιχεσ το θυιτ ορ χαυτιονσ γιϖεν το σμαλληολδινγσ ωερε νοτ προπερλψ χυλτιϖατεδ. Αλδ. Ρεδφερν σαιδ ιτ αππεαρεδ φρο μ τηε ρεπορτ τηατ ουτ οφ 73 τεναντσ 61 ωερε νοτ σατισφαχτορψ. Ηε τηουγητ ιτ ωασ τιμε τηεψ ηαδ τηε ασσυρανχε τηατ τηινγσ ωερε νοτ σο βαδ ασ τηεψ λοοκεδ.□Χουν, Η. Γ, Φε ω σαιδ τηεψ ηαδ 400–οδδ τεναντσ ανδ οφ τηατ νυμβερ τηεψ ηαδ 58 ιν τηε Ωεστερν ανδ 15 ιν τηε Εαστερν Διϖισιον ωηο ωερε νοτ εντιρελψ σατισφαχτορψ ωιτη ρεγαρδ το τη ειρ χυλτιϖατιον. Νινε τεναντσ ωερε το ηαϖε νοτιχε το θυιτ ανδ τηεψ οχχυπιεδ 65 αχρεσ 3 ροοδσ 31 πολεσ ουτ οφ 10,408 αχρεσ. Νο μαν χουλδ ποιντ το ανψ πριϖατε εστατε ωηι χη, ιν τηε σαμε πιεχε οφ λανδ τηερε ωασ ασ λιττλε χομπλαιντ ασ τηατ. Τηεψ μυστ βε ρε ασοναβλε ιν τηειρ αττιτυδε τοωαρδσ τηε σμαλληολδερσ ωηο ηαδ γρεατ διφφιχυλτιεσ το μαστερ. Αλδ Ρεφερν σαιδ ηε ηαδ σερϖεδ ηισ πυρποσε ιν οβταινινγ τηε ινφορματιον νε ωαντεδ 17 11 07 ΧΙΠοφ

1919
ΝΙΑΒ εσταβλισηεδ (Κινγ Γεοργε ς οπενσ Ηυντινγδον Ροαδ ΗΘ, 1921) [5.3]

1920

1920 10 13
Στ Χατηαρινε□σ Χολλεγε γροϖε οφ ελμσ χυτ δοων □ πηοτοσ □, νοτεσ ον σιτε – Χη 20 10 13δ ωελλ δισχοϖερεδ, δον λοωερεδ δοων □ Χη 20 12 08

1921
ΝΙΑΒ οπενινγ βψ Θυεεν Μαρψ ιν 1921 □ μεμοριεσ □ 69 03 07

1922 05 06
Μψ ρεαδερσ ωιλλ λεαρν ωιτη γρεατ ρεγρετ τηατ Βροοκλανδσ Αϖενυε (Χαμβριδγε) ωιτη ιτσ χουντλεσσ ρομαντιχ ασσοχιατιονσ αππεαρσ το βε φορε–δοομεδ το δεστρυχτιον. Τηε βεαυτιφυλ τρεεσ ωηιχη προϖιδε τηε λεαφψ τυννελ ωηιχη φορ γενερατιονσ ηασ βεεν σο μυχη αδμιρεδ αρε ελμσ, ανδ ελμσ ηαϖε αν υνπλεασαντ ηαβιτ οφ δισμεμβερινγ τηεμσελ ϖεσ ωιτη αγε. Α γοοδ μανψ οφ τηε τρεεσ μυστ χομε δοων ατ ονχε, ασ τηεψ αρε ιν συχη α δεχαψεδ στατε το βε λιαβλε το σπλιτ ανδ φαλλ ωιτηουτ ωαρνινγ 22 05 06 [3.9]

1922 07 22
Βοτανιχ Γαρδεν λικελψ το ηαϖε ≤1,362 δεφιχιτ [3.11]

1924 07 17
Α νεω αλλοτμεντ σοχιετψ ωασ φορμεδ ιν Χαμβριδγε ατ α μεετινγ οφ αππλιχαντσ φορ λα νδ ιν τηε ζινερψ ροαδ αλλοτμεντσ. Μρ Νεωμαν σαιδ τηισ παρτιχυλαρ λανδ ηαδ βεεν αλ λοχατεδ φορ αλλοτμεντσ υνδερ τηε Τοων Πλαννινγ Αχτ ανδ τηε 11 αχρεσ ωουλδ βε αλ λοτμεντσ φορ εϖερ. (Αππλαυσε). Ιτ ωασ το βε ηοπεδ τηεψ ωουλδ βε μαδε το λοοκ ϖερψ β εαυτιφυλ ανδ τηατ υνιφορμ φενχινγ ωουλδ βε ερεχτεδ. Τηε Χεντραλ Αλλοτμεντσ Χουνχι λ ηοπεδ το εϖεντυαλλψ τακε τηε ωηολε οφ τηε αλλοτμεντσ φρομ τηε Τοων Χουνχιλ ανδ ωουλδ βε αβλε το ρυν τηεμ μυχη βεττερ 24 07 17

1924 11 25
Σιρ □ Το μψ τηινκινγ τηερε αρε, φορ α τοων τηε σιζε οφ Χαμβριδγε, τοο μανψ υσελεσσ τ ρεεσ βψ ηαλφ: τρεεσ τηατ αρε νειτηερ υσεφυλ νοτ ορναμενταλ. Τακε α ωαλκ αλονγ Γρα νγε Ροαδ ανδ λοοκ ατ σομε οφ τηε εξπενσιϖε ϖιλλασ τηερε βεινγ ρυινεδ βψ τρεεσ πλαντ εδ ιν τηε σμαλλ σπαχε οφ γρουνδ αρουνδ τηεμ, βλοχκινγ ουτ τηε αιρ ανδ ηαρβουρινγ αλ λ κινδσ οφ ινσεχτσ. Ωηερε χαν ψου τακε α ωαλκ ανδ γετ α ϖιεω οφ α γλοριουσ συνσετ ο ρ βεαυτιφυλ λανδσχαπε. Ψουρ ϖισιον ισ μαρρεδ βψ α λοτ οφ υννεχεσσαρψ τρεεσ. Ι τηιν κ α γοοδ πυρποσε ωουλδ βε σερϖεδ ιφ ηυνδρεδσ οφ τρεεσ ωερε χυτ δοων ανδ σολδ ασ χη εαπ φιρινγ το μανψ ποορ πεοπλε □ □Αν ολδ λοϖερ οφ Χαμβριδγε□ 24 11 25

1928
Ελμσ χυτ δοων ιν φροντ οφ Στ Χατηαρινε□σ Χολλεγε [1.16]

1930

1930 02 01
Τηε Βαχκσ λοοκ ϖερψ δεσολατε φυστ νοω φορ φιφτεεν οφ τηε γιαντ ελμσ ηαϖε βεεν χον δεμνεδ το δεατη ανδ τηε αξε ανδ σαω ηασ αλρεαδψ αχχουντεδ φορ μοστ οφ τηεμ. Τηε τρ εεσ αρε βεινγ φελλεδ βεχαυσε τηειρ τοπσ ηαϖε βεχομε ροττεν ανδ τηερε ισ α δανγερ οφ πασσερσ–βψ. Χηιλδρεν αρε μακινγ τηε σχενε τηειρ πλαψγρουνδ ανδ γατηερινγ φιρεωοο δ το τακε ηομε ανδ ψουνγ αματευρ ωοοδμεν τρψινγ τηειρ σκιλλσ ωιτη χηοππερσ ωηεν τ ηε ωορκμεν αρε νοτ λοοκινγ ατ τηεμ. Τηε τρεεσ ωιλλ βε ρεπλαχεδ βψ ψουνγ ελμσ. Τηερε ισ α ϖαριετψ οφ οπινιον αβουτ τηε αγε οφ τηε τρεεσ; σομε πυτ τηεμ ατ 180 ψεαρσ βυτ ο τηερ σαψ νονε ισ μορε τηαν 100 ψεαρσ ολδ. 30 02 01

1932 11 09
Τρεεσ ατ Γρεεν Ενδ Ροαδ & Κενδαλ Ωαψ πλαντεδ, οακσ φρομ ΥΣΑ [1.3]

1933 02 23
Σιρ μανψ α λοϖερ οφ τρεεσ μουρνσ τηε χυττινγ δοων οφ τηε φινε Παγοδα τρεε, Σοπηορ ν θαπονιχα, ωηιχη στοοδ ιν Δοωνινγ Στρεετ. Ιτ ωασ αβουτ 200 ψεαρσ ολδ ανδ δουβτλεσ σ αδορνεδ τηε Βοτανιχαλ Γαρδεν τηερε βεφορε ιτ μοϖεδ το ιτσ πρεσεντ σιτε. Α ψουνγ Α μεριχαν ωηο ωασ σαδλψ πηοτογραπηινγ ιτσ ηεαδλεσσ τρυνκ σαψσ ιτ ωασ ονε οφ τηε φι νεστ σπεχιμενσ ιν Ενγλανδ. Ωηψ δο ωε νοτ ϖαλυε ουρ ανχιεντ τρεεσ ασ ωε δο ουρ βυιλδ ινγσ? – Φ.Π. Λεψβυρν–Ψαρκερ 33 02 23α πηοτο 33 03 01

1934 01 30
Τηε γρεενηουσεσ ατ Χαμβριδγε βορουγη χεμετερψ ωερε βεψονδ ρεπαιρ ανδ ωουλδ ηαϖε το βε σχραππεδ. Βυτ μορε γλασσηουσε αχχομμοδατιον ωασ νοω ρεθυιρεδ φορ τηε προπ αγατιον οφ πλαντσ υσεδ ον τηε ρεχρεατιον γρουνδσ. Τωο νεω 120 φτ γλασσηουσεσ χουλ δ βε χονστρυχτεδ ον τηε Ωεστ Χηεστερτον ρεχρεατιον γρουνδ ωηερε α ηουσε χουλδ βε β υιλτ φορ τηε μαν ιν χηαργε, χουνχιλλορσ αγρεεδ. 34 01 30

1935 02 02
Ιν τηε γαλε οφ θανυαρψ 26τη αν ανχιεντ ανδ σομεωηατ δεχρεπιτ σψχαμορε ιν τηε Σιδνε ψ Συσσεξ Χολλεγε Φελλοωσ Γαρδεν ωασ βλοων δοων. Τηισ τρεε ωασ τηε λαστ συρϖιϖ ορ οφ αν αϖενυε οφ σψχαμορεσ πλαντεδ ιν 1607–8 αλονγ τηε εαστ σιδε οφ τηατ παρτ οφ τηε Κινγσ Διτχη ωηιχη χροσσεδ τηε χολλεγε γρουνδσ φρομ τηε ενδ οφ Ηοβσον Στρεετ τ ο θεσυσ Λανε ανδ τηενχε αλονγ τηε σιδε οφ Παρκ Στρεετ. Ιν τηε χολλεγε αχχουντσ αρε παψμεντσ το Τηομασ Ηοβσον, τηε χαρριερ, φορ βρινγινγ τηε σψχαμορε τρεεσ φρομ Λο νδον ιιισ. ξδ 35 02 02

1935 05 11
Μανψ ωηο φρεθυεντ τηε Υνιϖερσιτψ Βοτανιχ Γαρδενσ ωιλλ βε σορρψ το λεαρν οφ τηε δ εατη οφ Τομμψ, τηε ολδ πονψ ωηο ηαδ βεεν α φαμιλιαρ σιγητ φορ 30 ψεαρσ. Ηε ηαδ ρ εαχηεδ τηε γρεατ αγε οφ 35 ανδ ωασ α σπεχιαλ φαϖουριτε ωιτη χηιλδρεν ωηο λοϖεδ το τακε ηιμ συγαρ ανδ οτηερ λιττλε δαιντιεσ. Ολδ λαδιεσ τοο υσεδ το μακε θυιτε α φυσσ ο φ ηιμ. Τομμψ ηελπεδ το πυλλ τηε λαων μοωερ ανδ ωασ ωορκινγ υπ το α φεω δαψσ αγο 35 05 11χ

1935 09 17
Α γαλε ωηιχη ραγεδ αλλ νιγητ ωρεακεδ σαδ ηαϖοχ αμονγστ τηε λεφτψ αϖενυεσ ανδ χλυ στερσ οφ τρεεσ οφ ωηιχη Χαμβριδγε ισ σο προυδ. Τηε Βαχκσ βορε τηε αππεαρανχε οφ η αϖινγ βεεν σηελλεδ βψ α ϖολλεψ οφ αρτιλλερψ ανδ Θυεεν σ Ροαδ ηαδ το βε χλοσεδ. Α Ηυντινγδον ελμ, τηε πριδε οφ Τρινιτψ γαρδεν, ωασ βλοων δοων. Α τρεε ωασ βλοων ηαλφ ιντο τηε ωατερ ατ θεσυσ Γρεεν Βατησ ωηιλε ανοτηερ χαμε δοων νεαρ Παρκ Παραδε. Η υνδρεδσ οφ χονκερσ ωερε βλοων δοων, το τηε δελιγητ οφ τηε κιδδιεσ ανδ λαργε θυαντ ιτιεσ οφ ριπε ανδ υνριπε φρυιτ φελλ ον τηε γρουνδ. 35 09 17

1936 03 06
Σιρ – Γρεατ φαλλσ ανδ βρεακαγεσ ιν τηε μαιν λινε οφ ελμσ αλονγ τηε Βαχκσ βεγαν ιν α γαλε 40 ψεαρσ αγο. Τηεψ ηαϖε χομε ατ ιντερϖαλσ εϖερ σινχε ανδ ωιλλ χερταινλψ χοντ ινυε ασ τηε τρεεσ αρε μυχη μορε δισεασεδ ανδ φεεβλε τηαν τηε πυβλιχ κνοωσ. Τωελϖε

ψεαρσ αγο Κινγ□σ χλεαρεδ φιφτψ ψαρδσ οφ τηε σαδ ωρεχκαγε οφ ολδ τρεεσ ανδ πλαντεδ α δουβλε ρεσερϖε λινε. Τηεσε αρε νοω ωελλ γροων βυτ σομε ηαϖε βεεν βροκεν. Τηε πυ βλιχ μαψ λοοκ φορωαρδ το μορε ρανδομ φαλλσ ωηενεϖερ τηε ωινδ ισ ηιγη ανδ α λιμιτε δ αμουντ οφ χοντρολλεδ φελλινγ ανδ ρεπλαντινγ ωηερε τηε τρεεσ αρε φυδγεδ το βε ωορσ τ. Βυτ τηερε ωιλλ βε νο συδδεν λαργε χλεαρανχεσ ανδ ωε αρε τακινγ τηε βεστ αδϖιχε ωε χαν □ χιχε–Προϖοστ, Κινγ□σ Χολλεγε 36 03 06χ

1936 05 12
Τηε Σεεδ Τεστινγ Στατιον, Ηυντινγδον Ροαδ ωασ εσταβλισηεδ ασ δυρινγ τηε Γρεατ Ωαρ φαρμερσ ηαδ νοτ βεεν γεττινγ τηε βεστ σεεδσ ανδ νεω ρεγυλατιονσ ηαδ το βε ωορκεδ ου τ. Τηε μαιν ωορκ ισ χαρριεδ ουτ βψ α σταφφ οφ 30 γιρλσ. Τηερε αρε σεχτιονσ δεαλινγ ωι τη χερεαλσ, γρασσεσ ανδ χλοϖερ □ ωηερε α βαδ ωεεδ χαλλεδ δοδδερ ηασ το βε σεπαρατ εδ – τογετηερ ωιτη α ϖεγεταβλε γερμινατιον ροομ ωηερε αν ινγενιουσ δεϖισε αυτοματιχ αλλψ πλαντσ 200 σεεδσ ιν α παν. Ονιον ανδ παρσνιπ σεεδσ αρε τεστεδ περιοδιχαλλψ □ τηεψ ωιλλ κεεπ φορ τωο ψεαρσ τηεν γο οφφ αλτογετηερ. 36 05 12

1936 12 07
Σινχε 1921 τηερε ηαϖε βεεν 2,800 αλλοτμεντ ηολδερσ ιν Χαμβριδγε. Ονε μαν ηαδ εντερε δ τηε νατιοναλ ονιον χομπετιτιον ανδ χαμε φιρστ ιν αλλ Ενγλανδ. Τηερε ωερε 187 αππλι χαντσ φορ αλλοτμεντσ φρομ αμονγ τηε υνεμπλοψεδ δυρινγ τηε παστ σεασον. Ωηερε μεν ηαδ το δο ωορκ ον τηε σοιλ το προδυχε φοοδ ιτ μεαντ κεεπινγ ιν ρεαλλψ γοοδ ηεαλτη. Τ ηατ □δαιλψ δοζεν□ ωεεδινγ ορ ηοεινγ ορ διγγινγ τηε γρουνδ ωασ οφ τηε γρεατεστ ιμπορτ ανχε. Βυτ τηε αλλοτμεντσ σηουλδ βε περμανεντ: ιτ ωασ ηαρδ φορ α μαν ωηο ηασ το λε αϖε ηισ λανδ αφτερ αβουτ 18 μοντησ. 36 12 07 & α & β

1937 07 07
Ελμ δισεασε ηασ ατταχκεδ σομε οφ τηε τρεεσ αλονγ τηε Βαχκσ ατ Χαμβριδγε. Σομε ηαϖ ε βεεν τοππεδ ανδ οτηερσ αρε δεφινιτελψ γοινγ βαδ. Βυτ εξπερτσ βελιεϖε τηε δισεασε ισ νοτ σο σεριουσ ασ φιρστ φεαρεδ. Α νυμβερ οφ τρεεσ ηαϖε ρεχοϖερεδ ανδ τηερε ισ νο νε εδ το βε ιν α ηυρρψ το φελλ τηοσε ωηιχη ηαϖε βεεν αφφεχτεδ. Ατ Σηεεπ□σ Γρεεν ανδ Χο ε Φεν τηε τρεεσ αρε χηιεφλψ ωιλλοωσ βυτ σομε αρε νοτ ασ ηαππψ ασ τηεψ μιγητ βε. Τη εψ χουλδ βε ρεπλαχεδ βψ χριχκετ βατ ωιλλοωσ ωηιχη αρε πρεττψ τρεεσ ανδ τηε μοστ π ροφιταβλε γροων ατ πρεσεντ, α Φορεστρψ εξπερτ τολδ Ροταριανσ. 37 07 07β

1937 08 14
Μρ Ω. Ριδγεον εσταβλισηεδ ηισ σηοπ ιν ολδ Συσσεξ Στρεετ ιν 1902 ανδ μοϖεδ το τηειρ ν εω πρεμισεσ ιν 1932 σινχε ωηεν τηε βυσινεσσ ηασ στεαδιλψ γροων. Νοω ωιτη τηειρ οων νυρσερψ ατ Χαστλε Στρεετ ανδ λαων μοωερ ωορκσ ατ Ωεστφιελδ Λανε τηεψ πριδε τηεμ σελϖεσ ον γιϖινγ τηε βεστ ανδ μοστ χομπλετε γαρδεν σερϖιχε ιν Χαμβριδγε. Τηε βυσινε σσ αλσο ινχλυδεσ α μοδερν φλοραλ δεπαρτμεντ ανδ α σεχτιον δεϖοτεδ το αλλ δογ ανδ π ετ φοοδσ ανδ ρεθυισιτεσ. 37 08 14

1940

1947 07 14
Σιρ – Ι τηινκ ιτ ισ σχανδαλουσ τηατ 31 τρεεσ σηουλδ βε ρεμοϖεδ φρομ Νεωμαρκετ Ροαδ , Χαμβριδγε. Τηισ ισ εασιλψ τηε λεαστ ιμποσινγ αππροαχη το τηε τοων ανδ τηε ρεμοϖα λ οφ τηε τρεεσ ωιλλ μακε ιτ τεν τιμεσ ωορσε. Ωηψ ισ τηισ ροαδ αλωαψσ χηοσεν ωηεν α

σιτε ηασ το βε φουνδ φορ α νεω ρεφυσε δυμπ? Ωηψ ηασ ιτ συχη α βαδ ροαδ συρφαχε φο ρ συχη αν ιμπορταντ μαιν τηορουγηφαρε? Τηοσε τηινγσ φυστ ηαϖε το βε τολερατεδ, Ι σ υπποσε, βυτ Ι σινχερελψ ηοπε τηατ Νεωμαρκετ Ροαδ μαψ ρεταιν ιτσ ονε ρεδεεμινγ φεατ υρε – τηε τρεεσ – λεττερ φρομ Λ.Ρ. Τηυρστον 47 07 14

1948
Τρινιτψ Χολλεγε Αϖενυε οφ λιμεσ το βε ρεμοϖεδ [1.13 & 2.2]

1949 09 24
Ραρε ωεεπινγ ελμ χυτ δοων ιν Χηαπμανσ Γαρδεν Εμμανυελ Χολλεγε, ηαδ Δυτχη ελμ δισ εασε [2.1]

1949 11 24
Τρινιτψ νεω Αϖενυε □ 44 τρεεσ πλαντεδ 49 11 24

1950

1950 01 27
Βροοκλανδσ Αϖενυε: 92 ελμσ, μανψ δισεασεδ, ρεμαιν ουτ οφ 180 πλαντεδ 100 ψεαρσ αγ ο; 50 δεστροψεδ 1937 & βψ 1940 δισεασε σο πρεϖαλεντ τηατ τηερε ωασ νο υσε πλαντινγ νεω, τηοσε λεφτ αρε χομινγ δοων ατ ρατε οφ ονε το φιϖε περ ψεαρ 50 01 27 π9

1950 11 30
Εξπλοσιονσ ασ 16 ελμ τρεεσ αγεδ αβουτ 500 ψεαρσ αρε ρεμοϖεδ φρομ τηε Βαχκσ 50 11 30 π7

1951 02 03
Ωιλλοωσ ον τηε εδγε οφ Νεωνηαμ Μιλλ πονδ τοο ολδ, βεινγ ρεπλαχεδ βψ γολδεν ωιλλοω 51 02 03 π9

1951 05 01
Οϖερ τηε λαστ φεω δεχαδεσ Στ Θοην□σ χολλεγε γρουνδσ ιν τηε Βαχκσ ηαϖε συφφερεδ σ εϖερελψ φρομ τηε λοσσ οφ τρεεσ βψ δεχαψ, στορμ δαμαγε ανδ ελμ δισεασε. Α συρϖεψ σ ηοωεδ τηερε ωερε μανψ τρεεσ σο δισεασεδ τηατ τηεψ μιγητ φαλλ δοων ατ ανψ τιμε, ινχλ υδινγ μοστ οφ τηοσε ιν τηε ρεμαινσ οφ τηε Αϖενυε λεαδινγ το Θυεεν□σ Ροαδ. Α χομπρεη ενσιϖε σχηεμε φορ ρεπλαντινγ ηασ βεεν αδοπτεδ. Ιν πλαχε οφ τηε φορμερ ελμσ α νεω α ϖενυε οφ λιμεσ ωιλλ βε πλαντεδ 51 05 01

1951 08 04
Σιρ □ τηε Χαμβριδγε Βαχκσ αρε υνφορτυνατελψ νο μορε □ ατ αλλ εϖεντσ ιν τηειρ φυλλ γλορψ οφ τηε γιαντ ανδ ϖενεραβλε τρεεσ. Ιφ Κινγ□σ Χολλεγε χηαπελ σηουλδ δισαππεαρ φρομ τηε σχενε υντολδ πηοτογραπηιχ ρεπρεσεντατιονσ οφ ιτ ωουλδ ρεμαιν, βυτ οφ τηεσ ε γιαντ μονυμεντσ οφ τηε παστ τηερε ισ λιττλε. Το φιλλ τηε ϖοιδ Ι ηαϖε ρεπροδυχεδ ιν π ιχτυρε ποστχαρδ φορμ α πηοτογραπη οφ μψ οων. Τηερε μαψ βε μανψ περσονσ ωηο ηαϖ ε ωαλκεδ υνδερ τηε σηαδοω οφ τηεσε γρεατ τρεεσ οφ τηε Βαχκσ ανδ Ι χουλδ αρρανγε φο ρ ιτ το βε ον σαλε. □ Σιρ Ηενρψ ΜχΑναλλψ

1952 09 05

Μαγδαλενε Χολλεγε φελλ ηορσε χηεστνυτ ασ δαμαγινγ ωαλλ οφ Ριωερ Χουρτ 52 09 05 π 9

1953 07 03
Βοτανιχ Γαρδεν αννουνχε πλαν το δουβλε σιζε βψ 1960 53 07 03, π9

1953 08 04
Το τηε εωερψδαψ πασσερ–βψ τηε ταλλ στατελψ ελμ τρεεσ ιν Βροοκλανδσ Αωενυε, Χαμ βριδγε, γιωε τηε ιμπρεσσιον οφ βεινγ σουνδ ανδ στυρδψ. Βυτ σομε ηαωε νοω βεεν χυτ δο ων ανδ ιτ χαν βε σεεν τηατ σεχτιονσ οφ τηειρ τρυνκσ αρε ηολλοω! Σιξ ηαωε βεεν τακεν δοων ανδ τηερε αρε α φυρτηερ 20 ωηιχη ηαωε σεριουσ δεφεχτσ ανδ δεχαψ. Ιτ ωασ ιν Απ ριλ 1950 τηατ τηε Χιτψ Χουνχιλ δεχιδεδ το ρεμοωε αλλ τηε τρεεσ ανδ ρεπλαντ τηε Αωεν υε ωιτη νεω ονεσ, βυτ οωινγ το πυβλιχ οπινιον τηε δεχισιον ωασ ρεωερσεδ. Ιφ τηε πρεσε ντ δισεασε χοντινυεσ ιτ ωιλλ νοτ βε μανψ ψεαρσ βεφορε μοστ οφ τηε χομμον ελμ τρεεσ ι ν Χαμβριδγε ηαωε βεεν ρεμοωεδ.

1953 11 30
Σιρ τηε τρεεσ ωηιχη ωερε τηε φοχαλ ποιντ οφ σιχτορια Παρκ, α πλεασαντ χυλ–δε–σαχ οφ υρβαν Χαμβριδγε, αρε νοω λψινγ ον τηειρ σιδεσ αωαιτινγ ρεμοωαλ; ονε ορ τωο ωερε δισεασεδ ανδ σομε οφ τηε ροοτσ ωερε ιντερφερινγ ωιτη σοιλ δραινσ. Βψ α ηαππψ χομβι νατιον οφ σιμπλε γρουπ πλαννινγ ανδ τηε βρεακινγ δοων οφ τηε αρτιφιχιαλ βαρριερ βετ ωεεν ηομε ανδ γρεεν χαυσεδ βψ τηε ρεμοωαλ οφ τηε ραιλινγσ δυρινγ τηε ωαρ, τηε Παρκ ωασ σομετηινγ θυιτε υνιθυε. Το πλαντ ρεπλαχεμεντ αναεμιχ φλοωερινγ στιχκσ οφ τρεεσ ωιτη τουχη με νοτ φλοωερβεδσ ωιλλ τυρν ιτ ιντο ανοτηερ πιεχε οφ συβυρβια. Δ. Μ χΛεοδ.

1954 04 15
Βοτανιχ Γαρδεν νεω ροχκ γαρδεν χονστρυχτεδ 54 04 15 π9

1954 02 12
Τηε ελμ τρεε ον τηε παωεμεντ νεαρ τηε φυνχτιον οφ Δρυμμερ Στρεετ ανδ Εμμανυελ Ροα δ, Χαμβριδγε, ισ προβαβλψ 250 ψεαρσ ολδ. Ιτ ισ α λιττλε οωερ 70 φεετ ιν ηειγητ ανδ σιξτ εεν φεετ ιν χιρχυμφερενχε. Ιν τηε 1940σ σομε οφ τηε λοωερ βρανχηεσ ωερε ρεμοωεδ το π ρεωεντ χονταχτ βψ ομνιβυσεσ βυτ νοω εξτενσιωε ροττινγ ηασ τακεν πλαχε ιν τηε μαιν βρανχηεσ. Τηεσε σηουλδ βε ρεμοωεδ ανδ ανψ ηολλοωσ σχραπεδ ουτ ανδ φιλλεδ ωιτη χ ονχρετε, βυτ ιν ωιεω οφ ιτσ σχιεντιφιχ ιντερεστ ασ μυχη ασ ποσσιβλε σηουλδ βε ρεταινε δ. Τηε Βοτανιχ Γαρδεν ηοπεσ το περπετυατε σαμπλεσ φρομ τηε ολδ τρεε βψ γραφτινγ σο με οφ ιτσ τωιγσ ον το ψουνγ ελμσ 54 02 12

1954 04 13
Τηε ιναυγυραλ μεετινγ οφ τηε Χαμβριδγε Φλοωερ Δεχορατιον Χλυβ ωασ ηελδ ιν τηε Γυι λδηαλλ ωιτη αν αυδιενχε οφ σεωεραλ ηυνδρεδ πεοπλε αλμοστ εντιρελψ οφ ωομεν. Τηε Μαψορ σαιδ τηε χιτψ χουνχιλ ωασ φυλλψ αλιωε το τηε ωαλυε οφ φλοραλ δεχορατιονσ. Ον ονε ρουνδαβουτ αλονε ασ μανψ ασ 4,000 πλαντσ ωερε υσεδ. Τηερε ωασ χριτιχισμ ο φ τηε μονεψ σπεντ ον φλοραλ δεχορατιονσ βυτ ρεσιδεντσ ανδ ωισιτορσ αππρεχιατεδ τηε αδδεδ βεαυτψ τηεψ γαωε τηε χιτψ. Τηε νεω Χλυβ χουλδ βρινγ Χαμβριδγε εξτρα φαμε βψ βεχομινγ ονε οφ τηε χεντρεσ οφ φλοραλ αρτ. Νο φεωερ τηαν 143 πεοπλε ηαωε νοω φοινε δ. 54 04 13

1955 07 16
Τηε Πλαντ Βρεεδινγ Ινστιτυτε□σ νεω βυιλδινγσ ανδ εξπεριμενταλ γρουνδσ ατ Τρυμπινγτ ον ωερε οπενεδ βψ τηε Μινιστερ οφ Αγριχυλτυρε. Ιτ ινϖεστιγατεσ τηε ιμπροϖεμεντ οφ Σ πρινγ ανδ ωιντερ ωηεατ ανδ βρεεδσ οατσ αδαπτεδ το χλιματιχ χονδιτιονσ οφ τηε Εαστε ρν χουντιεσ ωηιλστ ιν ποτατοεσ ιτσ χηιεφ χονχερν ισ τηε βαττλε ωιτη βλιγητ, εελωορμ, ωαρτ ανδ ϖιρυσ δισεασεσ. Α πατηολογιχαλ σεχτιον ηασ ρεχεντλψ βεεν εσταβλισηεδ. 55 07 16α & αα [2.18]

1956 11 10
Χαμβριδγε Πρεσερϖατιον Σοχιετψ αχθυιρε Ωανδλεβυρψ 56 11 10 π9

1956 11 19
Χαμβριδγεσηιρε & Ισλε οφ Ελψ Νατυραλιστσ Τρυστ φορμεδ [2.24, 5.7]

1957 05 09
Χαμβριδγε Νατυραλ Ηιστορψ Σοχιετψ χελεβρατεσ χεντεναρψ [5.6]

1957 09 16
Ψου ωουλδ ηαρδλψ εξπεχτ το φινδ φλοωερσ ανδ πλαντσ ηιγη αβοϖε Χαμβριδγε ιν τηε λ ανδ οφ ροοφ τοπσ ανδ χηιμνεψ σταχκσ βυτ αμονγ τηε σλατεδ σλοπεσ οφ 4, Στ Ανδρεω□σ Στρεετ Μρσ Π. Σουτηγατε ηασ χρεατεδ α ροοφ γαρδεν. Σηε ηασ τυρνεδ α σμαλλ λοββψ ιντο α χονσερϖατορψ ωιτη τραιλινγ πλαντσ ανδ φερνσ, τυβσ ανδ βοξεσ οφ εαρτη μακιν γ αν αττραχτιϖε ρελιεφ το ωηατ χαν σο εασιλψ βε α δισμαλ σχενε. 57 09 06

1958 09 27
Α νεω Χαμβριδγε Γαρδενινγ Χλυβ ηελδ ιτσ ιναυγυραλ μεετινγ. Τηεψ ωουλδ ηαϖε □Χλυβ Νιγητσ□ φορ τηε δισχυσσιον οφ γαρδενινγ προβλεμσ ανδ εξχηανγε χυττινγσ ανδ πλαντσ . Γαρδενινγ ωασ νοτ φυστ περσπιρατιον: τηε γρεατεστ φοψ ωασ το σιτ ιν ιτ ανδ σεε ωηα τ ψου ηαϖε δονε. Τηε υσε οφ μεχηανισατιον μαδε γαρδενινγ εασιερ βυτ ιτ ωασ χονσιδερ εδ αν υννεχεσσαρψ εξτραϖαγανχε το βυψ συχη ιτεμσ. Τηε χλυβ χουλδ προϖιδε μαχηιν εσ ωηιχη τηεψ χουλδ ηιρε. 58 09 27

1959 07 16
Τηε Μινιστερ οφ Αγριχυλτυρε οπενεδ νεω λαβορατορψ ανδ οφφιχε βυιλδινγσ ατ τηε Νατ ιοναλ Ινστιτυτε οφ Αγριχυλτυραλ Βοτανψ. Τηε εξτενσιον ηαδ βεεν νεεδεδ φορ α ϖερψ λ ονγ τιμε: ιτ ηασ βεεν βυρστινγ ατ τηε σεαμσ. ΝΙΑΒ ωασ εσταβλισηεδ ιν 1919 ανδ ιν Οχτ οβερ 1921 Κινγ Γεοργε ς οπενεδ τηε Ηυντινγδον Ροαδ ηεαδθυαρτερσ δεσιγνεδ βψ Μορλε ψ Ηορδερ. Σινχε τηεν τηε αϖεραγε ψιελδ οφ ωηεατ ηασ γονε υπ φρομ 17 χωτ το νεαρλψ 2 5 χωτ ανδ τηατ οφ βαρλεψ ηαδ ινχρεασεδ μορε τηαν ηαλφ. 59 07 16, 18 & α

1959 10 29
Δαηλια Σοχιετψ φορμεδ □ 59 10 29

1960σ

Τηε Χαμβριδγεσηιρε Χολλεχτιον ηασ δεταιλεδ νεωσπαπερ χυττινγσ φιλεσ φρομ τ ηισ δατε

1960

1960 04 21
Χαμβριδγε ωιλλ βε ωιτηουτ ιτσ υσυαλ στρεετ δεχορατιονσ τηισ συμμερ βεχαυσε τηε στ αφφ ατ τηε Χορπορατιον□σ Χηερρψ Ηιντον Ηαλλ Νυρσεριεσ αρε βυσψ πρεπαρινγ πλαντ σ φορ τηε Ροψαλ Σηοω γρουνδ. Τηε Ηαλλ χαμε ιντο τηε χουνχιλ□σ ποσσεσσιον σοον αφ τερ 1934 ανδ νοω τωο αχρεσ αρε υσεδ το γροω πλαντσ φορ ρουνδαβουτσ ανδ ρεχρεατιον γρουνδσ. Τηεψ ινχλυδε φυχησιασ, πετυνιασ, στοχκσ, αστερσ, δαηλιασ ανδ λοβελια το σαψ νοτηινγ οφ 3,000 δαφφοδιλσ, 20,000 πανσιεσ ανδ 40,000 ωαλλφλοωερσ. 60 04 21β

1960 09 23
Μρ & Μρσ Πετερ Ισσιττ οφ Αρβυρψ Ροαδ ηαϖε α βεαυτιφυλ σμαλλ λανδσχαπεδ γαρδεν ωιτη μινιατυρε Αλπινε ουτχροπσ πλαννεδ το γιϖε αν ιλλυσιον οφ σπαχε. Τηε πονδ αττρ αχτσ α ϖαριετψ οφ ωιλδ λιφε. Τωο ηεδγεηογσ, σεϖεν τοαδσ ανδ α χολλεχτιον οφ φρογσ λ ιϖε ιν τηε γαρδεν ανδ βιρδσ χομε εαχη δαψ φορ βατηινγ ανδ δρινκινγ. Τηειρ τωο σμαλλ δαυγητερσ ηαϖε νο χομπλαιντσ. Τηεψ ηαϖε α λαων ωιτη α σωινγ το πλαψ ον ανδ αππρ εχιατε τηε αρτιστιχ σεττινγ 60 09 23

1961 10 31
Τρεεσ βεινγ ρεμοϖεδ φρομ Φουρ Λαμπσ αρεα ιν πρεπαρατιον φορ ροαδ ωιδενινγ σχηεμε ανδ αλτερατιονσ το ρουνδαβουτ 61 10 31α

1962 11 07
Χηερρψ Ηιντον χηαλκ πιτ μαψ βε πρεσερϖεδ ασ αν αρεα οφ εξχεπτιοναλ εδυχατιοναλ ϖαλυε φορ τηε στυδψ οφ νατυραλ ηιστορψ. Ιτ ισ νοτ αν αμενιτψ ατ τηε μομεντ βυτ σηο υλδ βε μαδε ονε ασ τηε χηαλκ χλιφφ ισ αν αρεα οφ ιντερεστ. Χαμβριδγε Υνιϖερσιτψ ηα σ σαιδ ιτ μαψ προϖιδε τηε σερϖιχεσ οφ α ωαρδεν φορ τηε αρεα ιφ ιτ ωερε λεφτ υντουχηε δ. Τηε ειγητ–αχρε σιτε, ρεχεντλψ ϖαχατεδ βψ τηε Χαμβριδγε Χιϖιλ Δεφενχε Χορπσ, ισ ν εξτ το λανδ σχηεδυλεδ φορ εξτενσιονσ το τηε Γραμμαρ Σχηοολ φορ Βοψσ πλαψινγ φιελδ . 62 11 07 [5.8]

1962 02 04
Παρκερσ Πιεχε ελμσ βεχομινγ δανγερουσ [5.13]

1962 04 11
Α σπεχιαλ ροαδ ισλανδ ωιλλ βε βυιλτ σο τηατ α 50 φτ ελμ τρεε χαν ρεταιν ιτσ πρεσεντ π οσιτιον νεαρ Φουρ Λαμπσ Ρουνδαβουτ. Παρτ οφ Βυττ Γρεεν ηασ βεεν χυτ αωαψ το μακ ε ροομ φορ α ωιδερ ροαδωαψ ανδ νοω τηε τρεε, ωηιχη ονχε στοοδ ον τηε Γρεεν, ισ ιν τηε μιδδλε οφ τηε μαιν ροαδ. Οτηερ ελμσ ωερε χυτ δοων ασ παρτ οφ τηε σχηεμε το σπεεδ τη ε τραφφιχ φλοω ανδ ρεδυχε χονγεστιον. Ωορκ ηασ τακεν μυχη λονγερ τηαν εξπεχτεδ βεχ αυσε οφ τηε λαργε νυμβερ οφ χαβλεσ ανδ ωιρεσ τηατ νεεδεδ ρε–ρουτινγ 62 04 11 [5.14]

1964 10 24
Τωο 40–φτ λιμε τρεεσ μοϖεδ φρομ Μιλτον Ρδ το Αρβυρψ Εστατε το μακε ροομ ηουσεσ [5.15]

1965
70 φτ ηιγη ροττεν τρεεσ ρεμοϖεδ Αλεξανδρα Γαρδενσ

1965 01 22
Τηε γρεενηουσεσ οφ Χηερρψ Ηιντον Ηαλλ αρε χομινγ απαρτ ωιτη ωαλλσ βυλγινγ, ροομ σ λεακινγ ανδ δραυγητσ. Δαμπνεσσ ανδ ποορ ηεατινγ μακε τηε τασκ οφ προδυχινγ στυρ δψ πλαντσ σουλ δεστροψινγ φορ τηε σταφφ οφ τηε προπαγατινγ χεντρε. Τηε βοιλερσ αρε ολδ, οβσολετε ανδ τεμπεραμενταλ. Στοκινγ γοεσ ον δαψ ανδ νιγητ ιν βοιλερ ροομσ ωηιχ η ηαωε νο προπερ ωεντιλατιον. Τηε δυστ ισ χηοκινγ ανδ ατ τιμεσ τηε φυμεσ αρε σο ποω ερφυλ τηε στοκερ ισ ιν δανγερ οφ βεινγ οωερχομε. Βυτ ιφ τηε τεμπερατυρε δροπσ πλαντσ ανδ σεεδλινγσ ωιλλ διε βψ τηε σχορε 65 01 22

1967 08 21
Τεδ Πεαχοχκ οπενσ Βψρον Σθυαρε, Τρυμπινγτον, χουνχιλ ηουσε γαρδεν, 1,000 ωισιτορ (αγαιν 1970,71,73,74) [5.1]

1969 01 13
Ν.Ι.Α.Β. χελεβρατεσ 50^{τη} βιρτηδαψ; ωασ οπενεδ βψ Κινγ Γεοργε ς ανδ Θυεεν Μαρψ; στα ρτεδ ωιτη 10 αχρεσ οφ γρουνδσ, ωορκεδ ον ωιρυσ−φρεε ποτατοεσ 69 01 13α

1969 03 13
ΝΙΑΒ Ροψαλ Θυβιλεε Θυεεν ωισιτσ 69 03 13α , β # χ.18

1970

1973 06 29
ΝΙΑΒ : νεω βυιλδινγ το μακε ιτ χεντρε νεω νατιοναλ σεεδ χοντρολ νετωορκ υνδερ ΕΕΧ [5.5]

1975 08 03
Σομε οφ τηε μοστ σουγητ αφτερ σχενερψ ιν Χαμβριδγε ισ βεινγ δεωαστατεδ ασ α ρεσυλτ οφ τηε φιγητ αγαινστ Δυτχη ελμ δισεασε. Τουριστσ ωισιτινγ τηε βαχκσ οφ τηε χολλεγεσ ωιλλ φινδ τρεε φελλινγ ιν φυλλ σωινγ. Τηε δισεασε ηασ σπρεαδ το τρεεσ νεαρ Τρινιτψσ μαιν χολλεγε βυιλδινγσ ανδ σψστεματιχ φελλινγ βεγαν τηερε ιν Μαρχη. Τηε χολλεγε ηα δ χαρριεδ ουτ αν ιντενσιωε προγραμμε οφ τρεε ινφεχτιον βυτ δεσπιτε τηισ τηε δισεασε ι σ σπρεαδινγ & ιτ ηασ δεχιδεδ το φελλ αλλ τηε ελμ τρεεσ ανδ ρεπλαχε τηεμ ωιτη λιμεσ 75 08 03 [5.17,6.1]

1976 01 16
Τρεεσ αλονγ Χαμβριδγεσ ωορλδ−φαμουσ Βαχκσ φελλεδ βεχαυσε οφ τηε σπρεαδ οφ Δυτ χη ελμ δισεασε ηαωε νοω βεεν ρεπλαχεδ. Μορε τηαν α δοζεν λιμε τρεε ηαωε βεεν πλαντ εδ ατ Τρινιτψ Χολλεγε Πιεχεσ το ρεπλαχε 20 ελμσ ρεχεντλψ φελλεδ. Τρινιτψ χολλεγε βυ ρσαρ σαιδ, Νοτ αλλ οφ τηε ελμσ ωερε δισεασεδ βυτ τηεψ ωερε φελλεδ βεχαυσε, ονχε τη ε δισεασε σταρτσ ιν α ροω ιτ ισ διφφιχυλτ το χονταιν υνλεσσ αλλ αρε ρεμοωεδ. Τηε δι σεασε ωασ βεγιννινγ το αππεαρ ιν α νυμβερ οφ οτηερ ελμσ, αλτηουγη ατ τηε μομεντ τηο σε ιν τηε Φελλοωσ Γαρδεν ωερε υναφφεχτεδ 76 01 16

1976 07 12
Ηασ τηερε εωερ βεεν α μορε δισαστρουσ ψεαρ φορ τηε τρεεσ οφ Χαμβριδγεσηιρε τηαν 1 976? Τηε μιλδ ωιντερ αλλοωεδ τηε ελμ βαρκ βεετλεσ το λιωε ον ανδ τηειρ ωορκ οφ ινφεχ

τιον ανδ δεστρυχτιον ισ πλαιν το σεεν. Ιν τηε ηιγη τεμπερατυρεσ ανδ δρψινγ ωινδσ οφ τ ηε λαστ φεω ωεεκσ γιαντ ελμ τρεεσ ηαϖε τακεν ονλψ α φεω δαψσ το τυρν φρομ γρεεν το βροων. Ιν Θανυαρψ, γαλεσ φελλεδ μανψ α φινε τρεε ωηιχη ηαδ τακεν α χεντυρψ ορ μορε το ματυρε. Νοω Ωανδλεβυρψ ηασ χλοσεδ βεχαυσε τηε γρεατ ηεατ ισ χαυσινγ αππαρεντ λψ ηεαλτηψ τρεεσ το σηεδ βρανχηεσ ωιτηουτ ωαρνινγ. Ωηατ ισ μορε φριγητενινγ ισ τηα τ ψουνγ τρεεσ πλαντεδ το μακε γοοδ τηε λοσσ αρε δψινγ τοο 76 07 12

1976 08 26
Α ρεσχυε οπερατιον ηασ βεεν μουντεδ ατ τηε Υνιϖερσιτψ Βοτανιχ Γαρδεν το σαϖε φισηφρομ α λακε ωηιχη ισ δρψινγ υπ. Τηε λακε, ονε οφ τηε μαιν σχενιχ αττραχτιονσ, σταρτε δ το φαλλ αβουτ τεν δαψσ αγο ανδ δοζενσ οφ φιση, μοστλψ λαργερ ροαχη, δαχε ανδ χηυ β, ηαϖε βεεν τρανσφερρεδ το τηε νεαρβψ φουνταιν πονδ. Νοω τηεψ αρε τηρεατενεδ βψ σ ωοοπινγ ηερονσ. Τηε λακε ισ νορμαλλψ φεδ βψ Ηοβσον□σ Χονδυιτ, βυτ αλλ βυτ ονε οφ τηε σπρινγσ ατ Νινε Ωελλσ ηασ νοω δριεδ υπ ανδ εϖεν τηε ονε τηατ ισ αχτιϖε ηασ βεεν ρεδυχεδ το α τριχκλε 76 08 26

1976 09 10
Μοστ οφ τηε 38, χεντυρψ−ολδ ελμ τρεεσ αρουνδ Παρκερ□σ Πιεχε, Χαμβριδγε αρε λικελ ψ το βε χηοππεδ δοων ωιτηιν 10 ψεαρσ βεχαυσε οφ Δυτχη Ελμ δισεασε. Α νυμβερ οφ τηε ελμσ αλονγ Γονϖιλλε Πλαχε αρε κνοων το βε δισεασεδ ανδ φελλινγ ηασ αλρεαδψ σταρ τεδ. Νοω τρεε εξπερτσ φεαρ τηατ ατ λεαστ 80% οφ τηε οτηερσ αρε λικελψ το βε αφφεχτεδ . Ρεπλαντινγ, υσινγ οριενταλ πλανεσ, ωεεπινγ σιλϖερ λιμεσ ανδ ηψβριδ λιμε ωουλδ βε α ν ιδεαλ οππορτυνιτψ το χομμεμορατε τηε Θυεεν□σ Σιλϖερ Θυβιλεε ιν 1977 76 09 10

1977 07 23
Τηε Μαψορ οφ Ηειδελβεργ οφφιχιαλλψ οπενεδ τηε ροοφτοπ γαρδεν αβοϖε Λιον Ψαρδ, Χ αμβριδγε, ωηιχη ηασ βεεν ναμεδ αφτερ τηε Γερμαν τοων το μαρκ τηε λινκ βετωεεν Χαμβ ριδγε ανδ ιτσ τωιν υνιϖερσιτψ τοων. Οβερβυργερμειστερ Ρενηολδ Ζυνδελ σαιδ α σχηεμε σιμιλαρ το Λιον Ψαρδ ωασ βεινγ βυιλτ ιν ηισ χιτψ ανδ τηεψ μιγητ ηαϖε α γαρδεν ναμεδ αφτερ Χαμβριδγε σοον. 77 07 23

1977 12 12
Τηε μψστερψ οφ οριενταλ αχτιϖιτψ ον Χαμβριδγε□σ Χοε Φεν δεεπενεδ ωιτη προοφ τηατ ιτσ ωατερ μαργινσ αβουνδ ιν ωιλδ χρεσσ □ ανδ φυρτηερ εϖιδενχε οφ Χηινεσε ηαρϖεστε ρσ. Στρεαμσ βψ τηε Λεψσ Σχηοολ αρε ϖιρτυαλλψ χηοκεδ ωιτη ωατερχρεσσ ανδ ονε ρεσ ιδεντ τολδ ηοω σηε ωατχηεδ α γρουπ οφ 10 Χηινεσε χαρεφυλλψ χυττινγ ανδ βαιλινγ τηε χρεσσ. Γενερατιονσ οφ Νεωτοων πεοπλε χυλλεδ τηε Χοε Φεν παδδψ φιελδσ φορ τηειρ οω ν σαλαδσ ανδ τηερε αρε μεμοριεσ οφ α προφεσσιοναλ χρεσσ γατηερερ, □Τυγ□ Ωιλσον, ω ηο οπερατεδ βεφορε τηε Φιρστ Ωορλδ Ωαρ ανδ σολδ ιτ ρουνδ τηε πυβσ ανδ ηουσεσ. Ηε υσεδ το ηαϖε α ωοοδεν χαρτ ηε τοωεδ αλονγ ανδ πεοπλε ατε ιτ βεχαυσε τηεψ τηουγητ ιτ ωασ γοοδ φορ τηε βλοοδ. 77 12 12

1978 05 25
Ελμ Εμμανυελ Ρδ & Δρυμμερ Στ το βε φελλεδ, δισεασεδ – 250 ψεαρσ ολδ, στοοδ ον παϖε μεντ, ραρε & τωιγσ φρομ ιτ γραφτεδ ον το ψουνγ ελμ τρεεσ ιν Βοτανιχ Γαρδεν [6.2,5.12]

1978 08 21
Πετερ Ισσιττ, Αρβυρψ Ροαδ 30,000 μινιατυρε τρεεσ [5.2]

1980

1980 09 19
Χαμβριδγε□σ τοπ αματευρ γαρδενερ, Μρ Τεδ Πεαχοχκ, ηασ διεδ. Ηε ηιτ τηε ηεαδλινεσ ι ν τηε εαρλψ □70σ ωηεν ηε δεχιδεδ το οπεν ηισ Βψρον Σθυαρε γαρδενσ σο πεοπλε χουλδ σεε τηε δαηλιασ ωηιχη ωερε ηισ πριδε ανδ φοψ. Ιτ βεχαμε αν αννυαλ εϖεντ ανδ τηε ωε αλτηψ τυρνεδ υπ ιν τηειρ Ρολλσ–Ροψχεσ. Ηε ωασ αν εξπερτ ον μανψ οτηερ φλοωερσ, φρ υιτ ανδ ϖεγεταβλεσ ανδ προβαβλψ ωον μορε γαρδενινγ σηοω πριζεσ τηαν ανψονε ελσε οϖερ α περιοδ οφ 40 ψεαρσ. 80 09 19β

1981 09 22
Μοστ οφ τηε τρεεσ ον Παρκερ□σ Πιεχε αρε αβουτ 150 ψεαρσ ολδ. Βυτ τηεψ αρε υνδερ τ ηρεατ: τηε λιμεσ αρε δετεριορατινγ ανδ Δυτχη Ελμ δισεασε ισ μακινγ συχη ινσιδιουσ π ρογρεσσ τηατ τηερε ωιλλ προβαβλψ βε νο ελμσ λεφτ ιν φιϖε ψεαρσ. Νοω ψουνγ τρεεσ α ρε βεινγ πλαντεδ βυτ ιτ ωιλλ βε τηε ενδ οφ τηε χεντυρψ βεφορε τηεψ μακε τηειρ φυλλ ιμπ αχτ. Ελσεωηερε γεττινγ τρεεσ εσταβλισηεδ ηασ βεεν διφφιχυλτ ωιτη μαιντενανχε τηρου γη ωατερινγ ανδ στακινγ αλμοστ φοργοττεν ονχε τηε βυρστ οφ εντηυσιασμ φορ πλαντινγ ηασ αβατεδ. 81 09 22

1982 07 30
Α ρενεωεδ υπσυργε οφ Δυτχη ελμ δισεασε ισ λεαϖινγ α τραιλ οφ δεϖαστατιον ωιτη ϑεσυ σ Γρεεν συφφερινγ μοστ. Οτηερ τρεεσ ον Παρκερ□σ Πιεχε ανδ Πετερσφιελδ αρε σηοωινγ τηε ψελλοωινγ λεαϖεσ ανδ πρεματυρε λοσσ οφ φολιαγε τψπιχαλ οφ τηε δισεασε Ιτ ηασ βεεν ραμπαντ ιν τηε παστ φεω ωεεκσ ανδ ιτ λοοκσ ασ ιφ τηερε ωιλλ βε ηαρδλψ ανψ ελμ σ συρϖιϖινγ ιν Χαμβριδγε ιν τωο ψεαρσ τιμε. Βυτ α φιϖε–ψεαρ τρεε–πλαντινγ σχηεμε ι σ εξπεχτεδ το μακε γοοδ τηε λοσσεσ 82 07 30 [6.3]

1983 10 07
Αβουτ ηαλφ τηε γιαντ ελμσ τρεεσ ωηιχη ηαϖε λινεδ Παρκερ□σ Πιεχε φορ τηε λαστ 150 ψεαρσ ηαϖε βεεν χυτ δοων □ τηε λατεστ ϖιχτιμσ οφ τηε δεαδλψ Δυτχη ελμ δισεασε. Τωε λϖε ελμσ αλονγ Γονϖιλλε Πλαχε ηαϖε αλρεαδψ γονε ανδ τηε φαμουσ παρκ λοοκσ τοτα λλψ υνφαμιλιαρ ωιτηουτ ιτσ βορδερ οφ τοωερινγ τρεεσ. Τηε χουνχιλ πλανσ το ηαϖε λιμ ε τρεεσ ανδ Λονδον πλανεσ, σομε ηαϖε βεεν πλαντεδ ανδ αλρεαδψ ρεαχηεδ 18 φεετ ιν η ειγητ 83 10 07 π14

1984 01 18
Πλαντ Βρεεδινγ Ινστιτυτε τηρεατενεδ βψ χυτσ (1986 Γοϖερνμεντ αννουνχε πλανσ το πρ ιϖατισε Νατιοναλ Σεεδ δεϖελοπμεντ Οργανισατιον & παρτ οφ Ινστιτυτε), φουνδεδ 75 ψε αρσ αγο (φρομ 1986), γροωσ ϖαριετιεσ οφ ωηεατ, ποτατοεσ & φιελδ βεανσ, (1987 σεϖερα λ δεπαρτμεντσ το μεργε ωιτη ϑοην Ιννεσ ινστιτυτε Νορωιχη, οτηερ παρτσ οφ ρεσεαρχη προγραμμε ηιϖεδ οφφ το ινδυστρψ) [5.9,5.10–11]

1985 04 11
Χηοππεν□σ λινκσ ωιτη Σαφφρον Ωαλδεν γο βαχκ το τηε 19^{τη} χεντυρψ ωηεν τηε φαμιλψ μ οϖεδ τηειρ ενγινεερινγ βυσινεσσ το τηε τοων φρομ Γρεατ Χηεστερφορδ. ϑοην Χηοππεν, τηε φουνδερ, ωασ αλσο α λοχαλ φιρεμαν ανδ δροϖε τηε ηορσε–δραων φιρε ενγινε. Ηισ σ ον Φρανκ, υνδερ ωηοσε χοντρολ τηε βυσινεσσ προσπερεδ, διεδ ιν 1962. Τηεψ εσταβλιση

εδ α βρανχη ιν Φιτζροψ Στρεετ Χαμβριδγε ιν 1964 ωιτη α πυρποσε−βυιλτ γαρδεν μαχηιν ερψ χεντρε ιν Βαρνωελλ ροαδ οπενινγ ιν 1980. Νοω εξπανσιον χοντινυεσ ωιτη α νεω ηε αδθυαρτερσ ωιτη οφφιχεσ, ωορκσηοπσ ανδ σηοωροομσ ιν Τηαξτεδ Ροαδ, Ωαλδεν. 85 04 11

1986 07 28
Μοντησ οφ υνχερταιντψ φορ τηε Τρυμπινγτον−βασεδ Πλαντ Βρεεδινγ Ινστιτυτε ηαωε βε εν ενδεδ ωιτη χονφιρματιον τηατ παρτσ αρε το βε σολδ το τηε πριωατε σεχτορ ανδ οτηε ρσ αμαλγαματεδ ωιτη α νεωλψ−χρεατεδ Πλαντ Σχιενχε Ινστιτυτε. Σταφφ μαψ βε ρελοχα τεδ ανδ σομε ρεσεαρχη μιγητ ηαλτ χομπλετελψ. Τηε συγαρ βεετ προγραμμε ηασ αλρεαδ ψ βεεν ωουνδ υπ ανδ ονε μαν νοω τενδσ τηε γενε βανκ οφ ωαριετιεσ 7,000 φορ βαρλεψ αλονε φρομ ωηιχη μυχη οφ ιτσ χελεβρατεδ ωορκ μακεσ ιτσ ηυμβλε βεγιννινγσ. 86 07 2 8α

1987 07 03
Σχιεντιστσ ατ τηε Πλαντ Βρεεδινγ Ινστιτυτε ατ Τρυμπινγτον αρε πρεπαρινγ το ωελχομε Πρινχεσσ Αννε ωηο ωιλλ πρεσεντ τηεμ ωιτη ανοτηερ Θυεεν σ Αωαρδ φορ Ινδυστρψ, τη ισ ονε φορ βρεεδινγ ηιγη ωιντερ ωηεατσ. Τηειρ ωορκ ιν προδυχινγ χροπσ ρεσιστανταντο τ ηε ραωαγεσ οφ δισεασε ανδ σελεχτινγ ωαριετιεσ τηατ φλουριση ιν ηαρση χονδιτιονσ ισ ωιταλ το ποορ χουντριεσ. Βυτ, αφτερ 75 ψεαρσ, τηε Ινστιτυτε ισ βεινγ σολδ οφφ βψ τηε Γοωερνμεντ ωιτη μανψ οφ τηε σχιεντιστσ ηαωινγ το μοωε το Νορωιχη 87 07 03β

1988 04 22
Πλαντ Βρεεδινγ Ινστιτυτε χηανγεσ ναμε το Πλαντ Βρεεδινγ Ιντερνατιοναλ χο.λτδ [ΧΕΝ 22.4.88]

1990

1999 07
Πρινχεσσ Διανα ροσε γαρδεν χρεατεδ, Θυλ [Ρεω]

c.18: Trees & plants

1892
Trees planted along Victoria Avenue [1.9]

1894
Victoria Avenue trees removed as need room for Royal Agricultural Show & put in nursery plot on Chesterton side of river, replanted when over [1.9]

1897
Chesterton Road limes planted to commemorate Queen Victoria's Diamond Jubilee [1.10]

1897 04 24
Florists' Society demise, 1897 04 24 p2 CDN

1900

1906 01 06
Last night's gale was one of the most severe within living memory. Great damage was done all over Cambridge. On Newmarket Road a tall chimney at the brickworks began to sway violently and then fell with a tremendous crash. The large trees at the Backs suffered considerably; five were uprooted and blown into Queen's Road. During the morning numbers of poor people were

busily engaged in taking away the portions they could carry for firewood. Two children took away a branch of considerable weight using a pair of wheels taken from a perambulator 06 01 06e

1906 04 23
No one who has seen the courts of many of the old colleges in early summer, well furnished with window-boxes full of luxuriant plants can deny they add greatly to their beauty. There is not much variety in the contents: usually geraniums, calceolarias and Paris daisies, while lobelia hangs down from them in long trails. In winter small shrubs, generally variegated, are used.06 04 23a

1906 05 19
Years ago Cambridge was noted as a centre growing the finest tulips, craze died down but now reviving [3.5]

1906 08 04
Gardeners beware: your neat little flower patches are in danger from apparently innocent young children. They will make flattering comments upon your show of roses, geraniums and other blooms but when no one is about they will quickly open the garden gate and before you realise it, the best of your blooms are torn off. Sometimes the flowers are within reach of a small hand thrust through the railings and they will mysteriously disappear.
06 08 04

1907
Trees planted on west side of Queens Road between West Road & Burrell's Walk 50 06 19

1910

1910 07 08
Much to the regret of the Proprietors of the Cambridge University and Town Roller Skating Rink, who have taken a lease of the beautiful Pythagoras Gardens, and to the disappointment of the public generally, it has been found necessary, owing to complications arising as a result of a misunderstanding between themselves, the lessees and Merton College, Oxford, the owners, to discontinue the use of the gardens for public entertainment. For some time past, hundreds of visitors have spent an enjoyable hour upon the open-air rink and splendid lawns – 10 07 08aa

1911 09 15
P.C. John Wallage heard a noise in St John's college garden, looked over the hedge and saw the prisoner pulling up beetroot and putting them in a sack. The man ran off down Madingley Road. When caught he used very bad language and threatened to 'bash his brains out' and shoot him. The language woke a gardener living 100 yards away. Frederick Hutt, gardener at St John's College found the place where some beetroot had been growing: they were very similar to the ones in the sack. The thief was fined ten shillings 11 09 15b

1912
Hyde Park Corner Lombardy Poplar cut down, was planted by Julian Skrine in his garden at Lensfield, the grounds of which extended to where the Catholic Church now stands 38 12 24, 51 03 03

1912 02 23

In 1898 a number of men in the neighbourhood of Newmarket Road decided to form an allotment association to acquire land that the Co-operative Society were relinquishing. 12 02 23f

1913 01 24
Cambridge Allotment Committee regulations say holders should keep plots free from weeds and not plant any fruit trees or bushes, strawberry plants, asparagus, rhubarb or any other market garden crops which produce for two or more years They could erect a tool house, greenhouse, fowl house or pigsty with permission but not keep more than two pigs nor take any dog on the allotment. 13 01 24 p7 CIP

1913 11 28
Edward Rickard, a builder, was probably the greatest amateur natural historian outside the University and published a book on Leaves containing actual specimens. He was an entomologist, a botanist, geologist and taxidermist who had a collection of nearly 2,000 insects, 800 beetles and over 300 ferns. He had stuffed thousands of birds with one case containing 129 small British examples. A few years ago he had over 6,000 specimens of various kinds but lack of room had recently compelled a reduction 13 11 28 p4 CIP

1915 06 11
Botanical Allotment Field enclosed garden – woman found in a summer house 15 06 11 p7

1916 03 29
March blizzards. The wind, which had been boisterous during the day, developed into a heavy gale, accompanied by snow. A good deal of damage was done to telegraph and telephone wires, trees were uprooted. On Tuesday morning the ground was covered with snow. Trains were late owing to wires being down. Rain set in during the day, but towards the close of the afternoon this turned to snow. The wind, too, increased in violence until it was blowing quite a hurricane. Huge trees gave way before the violence of the wind, chimney pots and slates came crashing down, whilst many fences collapsed. The Corporation workmen had to be called out to assist m clearing away fallen trees, and to assist the police in warning vehicles. Several pedestrians had narrow escapes. Among the many trees which fell was the famous plane tree in the Catholic Rectory grounds, which has been visited by arboriculturists from all over the world. 16 03 29 CIPof

1916 04 05
In the wake of the blizzard – photo feature – clearing trees – 16 04 05

1916 04 05
Oriental plane tree in grounds of Catholic Rectory one of those damaged in gale, was planted 90 years ago – 16 04 05b, c

1916 04 26
The rookeries in Cambridge have been a good deal upset by the recent gales. Trees, which for generations have yearly been occupied by rooks, have been blown down, and some of the college grounds most frequented by them are now almost deserted, the silence being I most remarkable to those accustomed to the "cawing" of the sable birds. This is particularly noticeable at St. John's, formerly one of the most favourable nesting centres, and generally at the Backs there are fewer nests than usual 16 04 26 CIPof

1917 04 04
A Drastic Resolution. The following resolution has been passed by the Allotments Subcommittee for Newnham and Castle End: "That inasmuch as they have received 50 applications for

allotments, which they are unable to satisfy, they beg to request the Town Council to break up the Lammas Land at Newnham without delay, viz., without waiting for formal authority from any higher authority". As a result the Borough Member is to be asked to interview the Authorities of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries with regard to the application of the committee for permission to use the Lammas Land and empty common for allotments 17 04 04 CIPof

1917 05 16
Vinery Road allotments set out – photos – 17 05 16f

1917 06 13
Allotments. A walk round the various allotment grounds in the Borough of Cambridge is distinctly encouraging (says the writer of Town and Country Topics), for the most unpromising plots of the newly-cultivated land are turning out better than the most optimistic might have expected. The crops are through the soil, and show splendid promise, and the allotment holders must feel greatly encouraged and well rewarded for their labours, which have not been light. We hope that as the result of war-time measures the gardening habit may be re-established at Cambridge. A quarter of a century or so ago gardening was practised very extensively in Cambridge, and amateur horticulturists and college gardeners were produced who accomplished wonders in the way of intensive cultivation and carried off prizes even in All-England shows. The growth of Cambridge and other causes checked the gardening habits, which has now another opportunity, and we hope it may now progress 17 06 13 CIPof

1917 11 07
Allegations against smallholders - A report of the Smallholdings and Allotments Committee, moved for adoption at the quarterly meeting of the Cambs. County Council on Saturday contained a paragraph regarding notices to quit or cautions given to smallholdings were not properly cultivated. Ald. Redfern said it appeared from the report that out of 73 tenants 61 were not satisfactory. He thought it was time they had the assurance that things were not so bad as they looked.—Coun, H. G, Few said they had 400-odd tenants and of that number they had 58 in the Western and 15 in the Eastern Division who were not entirely satisfactory with regard to their cultivation. Nine tenants were to have notice to quit and they occupied 65 acres 3 roods 31 poles out of 10,408 acres. No man could point to any private estate which, in the same piece of land there was as little complaint as that. They must be reasonable in their attitude towards the smallholders who had great difficulties to master. Ald Refern said he had served his purpose in obtaining the information he wanted 17 11 07 CIPof

1919
NIAB established (King George V opens Huntingdon Road HQ, 1921) [5.3]

1920

1920 10 13
St Catharine's College grove of elms cut down – photos –, notes on site - Ch 20 10 13d well discovered, don lowered down – Ch 20 12 08

1921
NIAB opening by Queen Mary in 1921 – memories – 69 03 07

1922 05 06
My readers will learn with great regret that Brooklands Avenue (Cambridge) with its countless romantic associations appears to be fore-doomed to destruction. The beautiful trees which

provide the leafy tunnel which for generations has been so much admired are elms, and elms have an unpleasant habit of dismembering themselves with age. A good many of the trees must come down at once, as they are in such a decayed state to be liable to split and fall without warning 22 05 06 [3.9]

1922 07 22
Botanic Garden likely to have £1,362 deficit [3.11]

1924 07 17
A new allotment society was formed in Cambridge at a meeting of applicants for land in the Vinery road allotments. Mr Newman said this particular land had been allocated for allotments under the Town Planning Act and the 11½ acres would be allotments for ever. (Applause). It was to be hoped they would be made to look very beautiful and that uniform fencing would be erected. The Central Allotments Council hoped to eventually take the whole of the allotments from the Town Council and would be able to run them much better 24 07 17

1924 11 25
Sir – To my thinking there are, for a town the size of Cambridge, too many useless trees by half: trees that are neither useful not ornamental. Take a walk along Grange Road and look at some of the expensive villas there being ruined by trees planted in the small space of ground around them, blocking out the air and harbouring all kinds of insects. Where can you take a walk and get a view of a glorious sunset or beautiful landscape. Your vision is marred by a lot of unnecessary trees. I think a good purpose would be served if hundreds of trees were cut down and sold as cheap firing to many poor people – "An old lover of Cambridge" 24 11 25

1928
Elms cut down in front of St Catharine's College [1.16]

1930

1930 02 01
The Backs look very desolate just now for fifteen of the giant elms have been condemned to death and the axe and saw has already accounted for most of them. The trees are being felled because their tops have become rotten and there is a danger of passers-by. Children are making the scene their playground and gathering firewood to take home and young amateur woodmen trying their skills with choppers when the workmen are not looking at them. The trees will be replaced by young elms. There is a variety of opinion about the age of the trees; some put them at 180 years but other say none is more than 100 years old. 30 02 01

1932 11 09
Trees at Green End Road & Kendal Way planted, oaks from USA [1.3]

1933 02 23
Sir – many a lover of trees mourns the cutting down of the fine Pagoda tree, Sophorn Japonica, which stood in Downing Street. It was about 200 years old and doubtless adorned the Botanical Garden there before it moved to its present site. A young American who was sadly photographing its headless trunk says it was one of the finest specimens in England. Why do we not value our ancient trees as we do our buildings? - F.P. Leyburn-Yarker 33 02 23a – photo 33 03 01

1934 01 30

The greenhouses at Cambridge borough cemetery were beyond repair and would have to be scrapped. But more glasshouse accommodation was now required for the propagation of plants used on the recreation grounds. Two new 120 ft glasshouses could be constructed on the West Chesterton recreation ground where a house could be built for the man in charge, councillors agreed. 34 01 30

1935 02 02
In the gale of January 26th an ancient and somewhat decrepit sycamore in the Sidney Sussex College Fellows' Garden was blown down. This tree was the last survivor of an avenue of sycamores planted in 1607-8 along the east side of that part of the King's Ditch which crossed the college grounds from the end of Hobson Street to Jesus Lane and thence along the side of Park Street. In the college accounts are payments to Thomas Hobson, the carrier, 'for bringing the sycamore trees from London … iiis. xd' 35 02 02

1935 05 11
Many who frequent the University Botanic Gardens will be sorry to learn of the death of 'Tommy', the old pony who had been a familiar sight for 30 years. He had reached the great age of 35 and was a special favourite with children who loved to take him sugar and other little dainties. Old ladies too used to make quite a fuss of him. Tommy helped to pull the lawn mower and was working up to a few days ago – 35 05 11c

1935 09 17
A gale which raged all night wreaked sad havoc amongst the lefty avenues and clusters of trees of which Cambridge is so proud. The Backs bore the appearance of having been shelled by a volley of artillery and Queen's Road had to be closed. A Huntingdon elm, the pride of Trinity garden, was blown down. A tree was blown half into the water at Jesus Green Baths while another came down near Park Parade. Hundreds of 'conkers' were blown down, to the delight of the kiddies and large quantities of ripe and unripe fruit fell on the ground. 35 09 17

1936 03 06
Sir - Great falls and breakages in the main line of elms along the Backs began in a gale 40 years ago. They have come at intervals ever since and will certainly continue as the trees are much more diseased and feeble than the public knows. Twelve years ago King's cleared fifty yards of the sad wreckage of old trees and planted a double reserve line. These are now well grown but some have been broken. The public may look forward to more random falls whenever the wind is high and a limited amount of controlled felling and replanting where the trees are judged to be worst. But there will be no sudden large clearances and we are taking the best advice we can – Vice-Provost, King's College 36 03 06c

1936 05 12
The Seed Testing Station, Huntingdon Road was established as during the Great War farmers had not been getting the best seeds and new regulations had to be worked out. The main work is carried out by a staff of 30 girls. There are sections dealing with cereals, grasses and clover – where a bad weed called dodder has to be separated - together with a vegetable germination room where an ingenious devise automatically plants 200 seeds in a pan. Onion and parsnip seeds are tested periodically – they will keep for two years then go off altogether. 36 05 12

1936 12 07
Since 1921 there have been 2,800 allotment holders in Cambridge. One man had entered the national onion competition and came first in all England. There were 187 applicants for allotments from among the unemployed during the past season. Where men had to do work on the

soil to produce food it meant keeping in really good health. That 'daily dozen' weeding or hoeing or digging the ground was of the greatest importance. But the allotments should be permanent: it was hard for a man who has to leave his land after about 18 months. 36 12 07 & a & b

1937 07 07
Elm disease has attacked some of the trees along the Backs at Cambridge. Some have been topped and others are definitely going bad. But experts believe the disease is not so serious as first feared. A number of trees have recovered and there is no need to be in a hurry to fell those which have been affected. At Sheep's Green and Coe Fen the trees are chiefly willows but some are not as happy as they might be. They could be replaced by cricket bat willows which are pretty trees and the most profitable grown at present, a Forestry expert told Rotarians. 37 07 07b

1937 08 14
Mr W. Ridgeon established his shop in old Sussex Street in 1902 and moved to their new premises in 1932 since when the business has steadily grown. Now with their own nursery at Castle Street and lawn mower works at Westfield Lane they pride themselves on giving the best and most complete garden service in Cambridge. The business also includes a modern floral department and a section devoted to all dog and pet foods and requisites. 37 08 14

1940

1947 07 14
Sir - I think it is scandalous that 31 trees should be removed from Newmarket Road, Cambridge. This is easily the least imposing approach to the town and the removal of the trees will make it ten times worse. Why is this road always chosen when a site has to be found for a new refuse dump? Why has it such a bad road surface for such an important main thoroughfare? Those things just have to be tolerated, I suppose, but I sincerely hope that Newmarket Road may retain its one redeeming feature - the trees - letter from L.R. Thurston 47 07 14

1948
Trinity College Avenue of limes to be removed [1.13 & 2.2]

1949 09 24
Rare weeping elm cut down in Chapmans Garden Emmanuel College, had Dutch elm disease [2.1]

1949 11 24
Trinity new Avenue – 44 trees planted 49 11 24

1950

1950 01 27
Brooklands Avenue: 92 elms, many diseased, remain out of 180 planted 100 years ago; 50 destroyed 1937 & by 1940 disease so prevalent that there was no use planting new, those left are coming down at rate of one to five per year 50 01 27 p9

1950 11 30
Explosions as 16 elm trees aged about 500 years are removed from the Backs 50 11 30 p7

1951 02 03

Willows on the edge of Newnham Mill pond too old, being replaced by golden willow 51 02 03 p9

1951 05 01
Over the last few decades St John's college grounds in the Backs have suffered severely from the loss of trees by decay, storm damage and elm disease. A survey showed there were many trees so diseased that they might fall down at any time, including most of those in the remains of the Avenue leading to Queen's Road. A comprehensive scheme for replanting has been adopted. In place of the former elms a new avenue of limes will be planted 51 05 01

1951 08 04
Sir – the Cambridge Backs are unfortunately no more – at all events in their full glory of the giant and venerable trees. If King's College chapel should disappear from the scene untold photographic representations of it would remain, but of these giant monuments of the past there is little. To fill the void I have reproduced in picture postcard form a photograph of my own. There may be many persons who have walked under the shadow of these great trees of the Backs and I could arrange for it to be on sale. – Sir Henry McAnally

1952 09 05
Magdalene College fell horse chestnut as damaging wall of River Court 52 09 05 p9

1953 07 03
Botanic Garden announce plan to double size by 1960 53 07 03, p9

1953 08 04
To the everyday passer-by the tall stately elm trees in Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge, give the impression of being sound and sturdy. But some have now been cut down and it can be seen that sections of their trunks are hollow! Six have been taken down and there are a further 20 which have serious defects and decay. It was in April 1950 that the City Council decided to remove all the trees and replant the Avenue with new ones, but owing to public opinion the decision was reversed. If the present disease continues it will not be many years before most of the common elm trees in Cambridge have been removed.

1953 11 30
Sir – the trees which were the focal point of Victoria Park, a pleasant cul-de-sac of urban Cambridge, are now lying on their sides awaiting removal; one or two were diseased and some of the roots were interfering with soil drains. By a happy combination of simple group planning and the breaking down of the artificial barrier between home and green caused by the removal of the railings during the war, the Park was something quite unique. To plant replacement anaemic flowering sticks of trees with 'touch me not' flowerbeds will turn it into another piece of suburbia. – D. McLeod.

1954 04 15
Botanic Garden new rock garden constructed 54 04 15 p9

1954 02 12
The elm tree on the pavement near the junction of Drummer Street and Emmanuel Road, Cambridge, is probably 250 years old. It is a little over 70 feet in height and sixteen feet in circumference. In the 1940s some of the lower branches were removed to prevent contact by omnibuses but now extensive rotting has taken place in the main branches. These should be removed and any hollows scraped out and filled with concrete, but in view of its scientific interest

as much as possible should be retained. The Botanic Garden hopes to perpetuate samples from the old tree by grafting some of its twigs on to young elms 54 02 12

1954 04 13
The inaugural meeting of the Cambridge Flower Decoration Club was held in the Guildhall with an audience of several hundred people – almost entirely of women. The Mayor said the city council was fully alive to the value of floral decorations. On one roundabout alone as many as 4,000 plants were used. There was criticism of the money spent on floral decorations but residents and visitors appreciated the added beauty they gave the city. The new Club could bring Cambridge extra fame by becoming one of the centres of floral art. No fewer than 143 people have now joined. 54 04 13

1955 07 16
The Plant Breeding Institute's new buildings and experimental grounds at Trumpington were opened by the Minister of Agriculture. It investigates the improvement of Spring and winter wheat and breeds oats adapted to climatic conditions of the Eastern counties whilst in potatoes its chief concern is the battle with blight, eelworm, wart and virus diseases. A pathological section has recently been established. 55 07 16a & aa [2.18]

1956 11 10
Cambridge Preservation Society acquire Wandlebury 56 11 10 p9

1956 11 19
Cambridgeshire & Isle of Ely Naturalists Trust formed [2.24, 5.7]

1957 05 09
Cambridge Natural History Society celebrates centenary [5.6]

1957 09 16
You would hardly expect to find flowers and plants high above Cambridge in the land of roof tops and chimney stacks but among the slated slopes of 4, St Andrew's Street Mrs P. Southgate has created a roof garden. She has turned a small lobby into a conservatory with trailing plants and ferns, tubs and boxes of earth making an attractive relief to what can so easily be a dismal scene. 57 09 06

1958 09 27
A new Cambridge Gardening Club held its inaugural meeting. They would have 'Club Nights' for the discussion of gardening problems and exchange cuttings and plants. Gardening was not just perspiration: the greatest joy was to sit in it and see what you have done. The use of mechanisation made gardening easier but it was considered an unnecessary extravagance to buy such items. The club could provide machines which they could hire. 58 09 27

1959 07 16
The Minister of Agriculture opened new laboratory and office buildings at the National Institute of Agricultural Botany. The extension had been needed for a very long time: it has been bursting at the seams. NIAB was established in 1919 and in October 1921 King George V opened the Huntingdon Road headquarters designed by Morley Horder. Since then the average yield of wheat has gone up from 17 cwt to nearly 25 cwt and that of barley had increased more than half. 59 07 16, 18 & a

1959 10 29

Dahlia Society formed – 59 10 29

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 04 21
Cambridge will be without its usual street decorations this summer because the staff at the Corporation's Cherry Hinton Hall Nurseries are busy preparing plants for the Royal Show ground. The Hall came into the council's possession soon after 1934 and now two acres are used to grow plants for roundabouts and recreation grounds. They include fuchsias, petunias, stocks, asters, dahlias and lobelia to say nothing of 3,000 daffodils, 20,000 pansies and 40,000 wallflowers. 60 04 21b

1960 09 23
Mr & Mrs Peter Issitt of Arbury Road have a beautiful small landscaped garden with miniature Alpine outcrops planned to give an illusion of space. The pond attracts a variety of wild life. Two hedgehogs, seven toads and a collection of frogs live in the garden and birds come each day for bathing and drinking. Their two small daughters have no complaints. They have a lawn with a swing to play on and appreciate the artistic setting 60 09 23

1961 10 31
Trees being removed from Four Lamps area in preparation for road widening scheme and alterations to roundabout 61 10 31a

1962 11 07
Cherry Hinton chalk pit may be preserved as an area of exceptional educational value for the study of natural history. It is not an amenity at the moment but should be made one as the chalk cliff is an area of interest. Cambridge University has said it may provide the services of a warden for the area if it were left untouched. The eight-acre site, recently vacated by the Cambridge Civil Defence Corps, is next to land scheduled for extensions to the Grammar School for Boys playing field. 62 11 07 [5.8]

1962 02 04
Parkers Piece elms becoming dangerous [5.13]

1962 04 11
A special road island will be built so that a 50 ft elm tree can retain its present position near Four Lamps Roundabout. Part of Butt Green has been cut away to make room for a wider roadway and now the tree, which once stood on the Green, is in the middle of the main road. Other elms were cut down as part of the scheme to speed the traffic flow and reduce congestion. Work has taken much longer than expected because of the large number of cables and wires that needed re-routing 62 04 11 [5.14]

1964 10 24
Two 40-ft lime trees moved from Milton Rd to Arbury Estate to make room houses [5.15]

1965
70 ft high rotten trees removed Alexandra Gardens

1965 01 22

The greenhouses of Cherry Hinton Hall are coming apart with walls bulging, rooms leaking and draughts. Dampness and poor heating make the task of producing sturdy plants soul destroying for the staff of the propagating centre. The boilers are old, obsolete and temperamental. Stoking goes on day and night in boiler rooms which have no proper ventilation. The dust is choking and at times the fumes are so powerful the stoker is in danger of being overcome. But if the temperature drops plants and seedlings will die by the score – 65 01 22

1967 08 21
Ted Peacock opens Byron Square, Trumpington, council house garden, 1,000 visitor (again 1970,71,73,74) [5.1]

1969 01 13
N.I.A.B. celebrates 50th birthday; was opened by King George V and Queen Mary; started with 10 acres of grounds, worked on virus-free potatoes – 69 01 13a

1969 03 13
NIAB Royal Jubilee – Queen visits – 69 03 13a , b
1970

1973 06 29
NIAB : new building to make it centre new national seed control network under EEC [5.5]

1975 08 03
Some of the most sought after scenery in Cambridge is being devastated as a result of the fight against Dutch elm disease. Tourists visiting the backs of the colleges will find tree felling in full swing. The disease has spread to trees near Trinity's main college buildings and systematic felling began there in March. The college had carried out an intensive programme of tree injection but despite this the disease is spreading & it has decided to fell all the elm trees and replace them with limes 75 08 03 [5.17,6.1]

1976 01 16
Trees along Cambridge's world-famous Backs felled because of the spread of Dutch elm disease have now been replaced. More than a dozen lime tree have been planted at Trinity College Pieces to replace 20 elms recently felled. Trinity college bursar said, "Not all of the elms were diseased but they were felled because, once the disease starts in a row it is difficult to contain unless all are removed". The disease was beginning to appear in a number of other elms, although at the moment those in the Fellows' Garden were unaffected 76 01 16

1976 07 12
Has there ever been a more disastrous year for the trees of Cambridgeshire than 1976? The mild winter allowed the elm bark beetles to live on and their work of infection and destruction is plain to seen. In the high temperatures and drying winds of the last few weeks giant elm trees have taken only a few days to turn from green to brown. In January, gales felled many a fine tree which had taken a century or more to mature. Now Wandlebury has closed because the great heat is causing apparently healthy trees to shed branches without warning. What is more frightening is that young trees planted to make good the loss are dying too 76 07 12

1976 08 26
A rescue operation has been mounted at the University Botanic Garden to save fish from a lake which is drying up. The lake, one of the main scenic attractions, started to fall about ten days ago and dozens of fish, mostly larger roach, dace and chub, have been transferred to the nearby

fountain pond. Now they are threatened by swooping herons. The lake is normally fed by Hobson's Conduit, but all but one of the springs at Nine Wells has now dried up and even the one that is active has been reduced to a trickle 76 08 26

1976 09 10
Most of the 38, century-old elm trees around Parker's Piece, Cambridge are likely to be chopped down within 10 years because of Dutch Elm disease. A number of the elms along Gonville Place are known to be diseased and felling has already started. Now tree experts fear that at least 80% of the others are likely to be affected. Replanting, using oriental planes, weeping silver limes and hybrid lime would be an ideal opportunity to commemorate the Queen's Silver Jubilee in 1977 76 09 10

1977 07 23
The Mayor of Heidelberg officially opened the rooftop garden above Lion Yard, Cambridge, which has been named after the German town to mark the link between Cambridge and its twin university town. Oberburgermeister Renhold Zundel said a scheme similar to Lion Yard was being built in his city and they might have a garden named after Cambridge soon. 77 07 23

1977 12 12
The mystery of oriental activity on Cambridge's Coe Fen deepened with proof that its water margins abound in wild cress – and further evidence of Chinese harvesters. Streams by the Leys School are virtually choked with watercress and one resident told how she watched a group of 10 Chinese carefully cutting and bailing the cress. Generations of Newtown people culled the Coe Fen paddy fields for their own salads and there are memories of a professional cress gatherer, 'Tug' Wilson, who operated before the First World War and sold it round the pubs and houses. He used to have a wooden cart he towed along and people ate it because they thought it was good for the blood. 77 12 12

1978 05 25
Elm Emmanuel Rd & Drummer St to be felled, diseased - 250 years old, stood on pavement, rare & twigs from it grafted on to young elm trees in Botanic Garden [6.2,5.12]

1978 08 21
Peter Issitt, Arbury Road 30,000 miniature trees [5.2]

1980

1980 09 19
Cambridge's top amateur gardener, Mr Ted Peacock, has died. He hit the headlines in the early '70s when he decided to open his Byron Square gardens so people could see the dahlias which were his pride and joy. It became an annual event and the wealthy turned up in their Rolls-Royces. He was an expert on many other flowers, fruit and vegetables and probably won more gardening show prizes than anyone else over a period of 40 years. 80 09 19b

1981 09 22
Most of the trees on Parker's Piece are about 150 years old. But they are under threat: the limes are deteriorating and Dutch Elm disease is making such insidious progress that there will probably be no elms left in five years. Now young trees are being planted but it will be the end of the century before they make their full impact. Elsewhere getting trees established has been difficult with maintenance through watering and staking almost forgotten once the burst of enthusiasm for planting has abated. 81 09 22

1982 07 30
A renewed upsurge of Dutch elm disease is leaving a trail of devastation with Jesus Green suffering most. Other trees on Parker's Piece and Petersfield are showing the yellowing leaves and premature loss of foliage typical of the disease It has been rampant in the past few weeks and it looks as if there will be hardly any elms surviving in Cambridge in two years time. But a five-year tree-planting scheme is expected to make good the losses 82 07 30 [6.3]

1983 10 07
About half the giant elms trees which have lined Parker's Piece for the last 150 years have been cut down – the latest victims of the deadly Dutch elm disease. Twelve elms along Gonville Place have already gone and the famous park looks totally unfamiliar without its border of towering trees. The council plans to have lime trees and London planes, some have been planted and already reached 18 feet in height 83 10 07 p14

1984 01 18
Plant Breeding Institute threatened by cuts (1986 Government announce plans to privatise National Seed development Organisation & part of Institute), founded 75 years ago (from 1986), grows varieties of wheat, potatoes & field beans, (1987 several departments to merge with John Innes institute Norwich, other parts of research programme hived off to industry) [5.9,5.10-11]

1985 04 11
Choppen's links with Saffron Walden go back to the 19th century when the family moved their engineering business to the town from Great Chesterford**.** John Choppen, the founder, was also a local fireman and drove the horse-drawn fire engine. His son Frank, under whose control the business prospered, died in 1962. They established a branch in Fitzroy Street Cambridge in 1964 with a purpose-built garden machinery centre in Barnwell road opening in 1980. Now expansion continues with a new headquarters with offices, workshops and showrooms in Thaxted Road, Walden. 85 04 11

1986 07 28
Months of uncertainty for the Trumpington-based Plant Breeding Institute have been ended with confirmation that parts are to be sold to the private sector and others amalgamated with a newly-created Plant Science Institute. Staff may be relocated and some research might halt completely. The sugar beet programme has already been wound up and one man now tends the gene bank of varieties – 7,000 for barley alone – from which much of its celebrated work makes its humble beginnings. 86 07 28a

1987 07 03
Scientists at the Plant Breeding Institute at Trumpington are preparing to welcome Princess Anne who will present them with another Queen's Award for Industry, this one for breeding high winter wheats. Their work in producing crops resistant to the ravages of disease and selecting varieties that flourish in harsh conditions is vital to poor countries. But, after 75 years, the Institute is being sold off by the Government with many of the scientists having to move to Norwich 87 07 03b

1988 04 22
Plant Breeding Institute changes name to Plant Breeding International co.ltd [CEN 22.4.88]

1990

1999 07
Princess Diana rose garden created, Jul [Rev]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Cows on Midsummer Common, 1967

155.76

c.19: Cambridge ANIMALS Scrapbook by Mike Petty

1897 11 03
A babel of sound greets you as you enter; some four hundred members of the canine tribe lift their voices in chorus. From end to end the Corn Exchange is filled with benches tenanted by dogs of every breed, size and colour - a sight to gladden the hearts of the Cambridge Canine Society committee at its first show which, if excelled in future years, will require a larger hall 1897 11 03

1898 12 21
When Judge Hawkins came to Cambridge on one occasion he essayed to bring his dog with him into Trinity College. But the head porter refused to allow it to be brought within the precincts and persisted even after it had been made known to him that it was the dog of one of her Majesty's judges. The judge was angry at the time, but sent for the head porter and told him that he was right, making him a present in recognition of his trustworthiness 1898 12 21

1900

1901 06 03
"Knackeries", are places where diseased and other horses and cows are slaughtered. The common instrument used is the "pole-axe" which requires a large amount of practice to despatch an animal

properly. Others resort to the gun, shot cartridges being preferable to bullets. The flesh is cut off the bones, boiled and sent to London for cats' meat, the fat is boiled down and sold for greasing carts and the bones ground into manure. Through all this work of killing, bleeding etc the sub-soil becomes saturated with the fluids which soon decompose and create a horrible stench 01 06 03

1901 06 05
Sir – There is now in course of erection a new knackery in Coldham Lane, Cambridge where some 300 horses can be slaughtered daily with improved appliances for their expeditious slaughter at a minimum amount of pain. To throw the expense upon the ratepayers of the erection of a public knackery, whereby individual enterprise is thwarted, should not be encouraged. The fact that there is already a thoroughly efficient slaughterhouse hardly warrants the expense of a new one being thrown upon the ratepayers – "Vigilant" 01 06 05

1901 08 09
Messrs Pink Brothers new 'Knackery' in Coldham's Lane, Cambridge, stands in an isolated spot and is constructed on the most hygienic principles. In one corner is a large dissecting table and there are two huge coppers for boiling down the carcasses, the remains of which are subsequently sent away by rail. Some distance away is a tank ventilated with a shaft considerably higher than the top of the passenger carriages that may pass on the railway. The possibility of any offensive odour reaching travellers is thus quite obviated and the same care has been exhibited in regard to any unpleasantness that may arise from the boiling operations 01 08 09

1903 04 03
Cambridge Horse Club exists for the amelioration of the suffering of the horse as well as the benefit of the members. Not only was a member benefited if he lost a horse, but should the horse become ill it received prompt attention from their veterinary surgeon, Mr Bennett, and this saved money on doctors' bills. The number of horses was 177; during the year eight had been lost and £80 had been paid to the owners who were well satisfied with their compensation. There had been an outbreak of glanders but the disease had been stopped. 03 04 03

1903 05 07
A sale of work was held to raise funds for the furnishing of a 'Cats Home' in Mr Banham's yard, Cambridge. Persons going away from home can have their cats taken care of. The fee is not a large one. There will be room for an odd stray, provided it is a healthy cat; if not it will be mercifully destroyed. 03 05 07

1903 08 19
Sir – last evening I met three horses running loose and apparently unattended along Mill Road, Cambridge. Some distance behind them two men were being dragged along by a young horse which they were evidently trying to 'break in'. Carts, cycles and other users of the road overtaking them had to slow down until they could dash past & foot passengers had to seek safety in doorways. I have also frequently met in St Andrew's Street a high-spirited, high-stepping horse being led by a single rein about 20 feet long, the other end being held by a man on a bicycle! These things ought not to be allowed in our streets – Citizen 03 08 19

1904 03 18
Ratting is a form of amusement which dates back to the dim ages. Usually this practice is carried on in out of the way places but in Cambridge ratting parties are to be seen on Midsummer Common on Sundays. The undergraduate takes a great pride in the sporting qualities of his "dawg's" pedigree, half-bred or mongrel, and certain townees feed this pride for collecting a supply of rats for the alleged sporting dogs to worry. With stout wire cages slung on their backs

the dealers await the arrival of undergraduates and then offer rats at a "bob apiece". Rat after rat is released from the cage, given half a dozen yards start, and then the dogs "course" it to its death. The slaughter over the dead rats are piled on the common to fester and rot. – 04 03 18

1904 04 07
A few years ago such a group such as the Cambridge and Chesterton Horse Club would have been out of the question but over the last six years it had grown beyond all expectations and now has a membership of 185. All who possess horses should join: during the past year they paid £235 to 16 members who lost horses by death. The condition of horses in Cambridge and the treatment meted out to them is much better than previously for if an owner neglected his animal he is prohibited from receiving the benefits of the club 04 04 07

1904 07 30
Grass snakes escape from a collector in Mill Road & are found in numerous gardens [3.4]

1906 09 15
Mill Road has never known anything quite so strange as eighteen cassowaries which have been translated from the Pacific Islands to a piece of ground reached by a short lane down Gwydir Street. They have been collected by the Hon Walter Rothschild who is writing an monograph and placed in the charge of Mr F Doggett as they flourish better here than anywhere else in England. 06 09 15a [3.6]

1906 03 31
The owner of the Holme Wood Estate went to court to restrain four undergraduates from trespassing on his land to catch moths. They had arrived on the reclaimed mere with elaborate paraphernalia for luring unwary insects to their doom and remained twelve days, to the annoyance of gamekeepers. They swung lanterns in the pheasant covers, placed 'sticky stuff' on trees and erected a sheet on the roadway. They were fined one shilling. 06 03 31 & a

1906 09 19
The world-famed travelling Educator of Natural History will pay Cambridge a visit after an absence of 15 years. Bostock and Wombwell's circus was instituted in February 1805 and novel additions are being made to keep pace with the times including specimens of Tasmanian Devil and the gigantic blue and red faced mandrill. In olden days shopkeepers used to close and the public declare a holiday in order to explore the menagerie. The conditions of the animals speaks volumes for the kindness and attention with which they are treated. 06 09 19a

1906 10 08
Much interested was excited by a strange feathered visitor alighting on a pinnacle of King's College chapel. On Sunday afternoon it was attacked by crows but it thrust out its long neck and gave a vicious snap of its large beak. The bird possessed grey plumage on the breast and darker feathers on the back. In flight it presented a remarkable appearance, having enormous wings and legs, similar to those of a stork or heron. – cormorant 06 10 08 [3.7]

1906 10 30
We have received a letter from a lady in Bridge Street complaining of her loss of new fewer than nine cats and that it seems to be the general opinion they are taken to the Anatomical Laboratory for dissection. This is a false as it is odious. The Professor of Biology says he knows of two people who possess air guns and shoot cats but anybody who came there with them would be kicked out of the door. 06 10 30a [3.8]

1906 11 03
Allegations of vivisection by University departments – 06 11 03

1907 01 26
It would show a little more consideration for the feelings of other people if the dog-fancying undergraduate would go a little farther afield than Midsummer Common for their rat-worrying exhibitions. I have no objection to the extermination of the rodents nor to the training of dogs for the purpose, but to many people the sight of the 'sport' in full view of Victoria Avenue is repulsive and disgusting. Such displays should not be permitted in places which force the sight of them willy-nilly upon every passer-by 07 01 26a

1907 04 04
Cambridge Horse Club had many ups and downs during the last ten years. Gentlemen who lost their horse were compensated to the full market value. When the animal was ill it was taken to Mr S. Bennett, the veterinary surgeon where it got skilful attention until it recovered. There had been a small epidemic amongst horses but fortunately it did not extend or it would have been serious for their finances. 07 04 04

1907 06 22
Charles Lawrence's kennels at Chesterton have bred many famous animals in the dog world, winning prizes in Antwerp, Brussels and Rotterdam. Purchasers come from all over the country; Alderman Pratt of Bradford recently bought two pups for £100 while one sold for £300. During term time a familiar sight on Market Hill is a man surrounded by dogs which he sells to undergraduates at fancy prices. Mr Lawrence bought one for £2 cash, then exhibited it at a show and sold it for £150. To see a collection of valuable clumber, field and cocker spaniels gambolling in the paddock is a sight which must appeal even to those who have but the barest acquaintance with a good dog. 07 06 22b

1907 08 28
An RSPCA Inspector saw a box of wild birds in the booking office at Isleham railway station addressed to a man in Islington. He found it contained a number of goldfinches together with some linnets, their wings fluttered through the side of the box. A birdcatcher of The Pits, Isleham claimed they were chaffinches. A linnet or chaffinch was worth fourpence while a goldfinch, newly caught, was worth about a shilling. Goldfinches had been sold for up to 30 shillings, but that was only after they'd been taught. 07 08 28 a & b

1908 01 24
A West Norfolk gamekeeper has shot and killed one of the luminous owls which have appeared in East Anglia of late. Whilst out one very dark night he saw a bright blue light pass close by his face. He fired at it and found a poor, old, half-starved barn owl dead on the ground. He thought it must have been gathering glow-worms as it was getting late in the winter. He has never seen another giving out any light. 08 01 24d

1908 05 11
Two men were summonsed for catching wild birds. P.S. Merry said he found them on ground adjoining Coldham's Common with a number of nets fixed to the ground and some calls birds in cages near at hand. They caught six linnets and at home had 25 others together with three greenfinches, all of which were released. They claimed they had permission from the landowner and so were exempt from prosecution. 08 05 11a

1909 04 02

Cambridge British Beekeepers Association was wound up as they had members who only wanted to get what they could out of it. Cambridge honey was superior to any in the UK and they did not wish to see bee culture go down. So a new 'Cambridge and District Beekeepers Association" was formed to provide mutual help. 09 04 02

1910

1910 07 08
A foreigner, accompanied by a performing bear, stopped to refresh himself and his animal at the Bird Bolt public house, Newmarket Road. Sitting down on some straw next to another man the alien proceeded to break up a loaf of bread he had bought. The bear, who was held by a chain round his foot, evidently thinking the other chap was going to receive its share of the food, clawed hold of the man's leg and then sprang at and clawed his shoulder. The owner showing remarkable promptitude in pulling the animal off but. A performing bear badly mauled the landlady of a public house in Hertfordshire on Saturday. 10 07 08bb

1910 07 08
Court case over larks sent to London from Barnwell junction station – 10 07 08d & e

1910 11 25
The RSPCA entertained 75 Cambridge cattle drovers to a tea and concert in St Paul's Institute. The Master of Trinity College said grace. The Mayor hoped he would not see any of them in the police court for cruelty to animals. Cattle driving was not an easy job; it needs patience, gentleness, skill and endurance. Sometimes they were greatly tried and tempted to be cruel to their animals but they should use forbearance. As the men were leaving each was given a packet of tobacco. 10 11 25c

1911 06 09
The Cambridge Horse Parade Society show on Midsummer Common attracted over 100 entries. Seldom were such glossy coats, spotless harness and glittering brasses seen in the streets of Cambridge on ordinary working days. The huge Shire horse attached to the brewers' drays, coal wagons and farm carts were in striking contrast to the high-stepping, spirited carriage and cab horses and dainty ponies drawing the smaller tradesmen's' carts. Donkeys had a class to themselves; one looked very plump and contented which made him incline towards sluggishness. 11 06 09

1912 01 19
Immense excitement was caused in Glisson Road when a bullock belonging to Charles Wright of Stretham became agitated while being driven to the Cattle Market. It took an aversion to Mr J.S. Palmer, attacking him from the rear. He grasped both horns but was lifted off the ground before slipping out of the way. The animal then dashed into the hall of the Warwick Hotel where Miss Baker closed the inner door just in time. The bullock butted it, then sat down on the mat. Mr Atkins, the butcher, sent two men with a rope and the animal was finally restrained 12 01 19a

1912 05 31
Cambridge Horse Parade show on Midsummer Common – 12 05 31g

1912 07 26
Clayhithe Zoological Gardens have added four beautiful silver seals from the Arctic oceans to the recent pythons and boa constrictors which have proved an immense attraction. The lemurs, apes, baboons, kangaroos, Syrian rats, cockatoos & Mangaby monkey with baby (the only one in

Europe) are also much appreciated while the Shetland ponies are available for boys and girls to ride. Great crowds were here last week but under no consideration can more than 5,000 people be admitted in one day. In addition there are skittles, billiards, swings, and boats with dancing on the lawns or ballroom every evening. Grounds illuminated on Thursdays and Sundays. Everything high class at moderate price 12 07 26f

1912 09 06
Clayhithe zoo – detailed article. The big white cockatoo on the lawn at the Bridge Hotel, Clayhithe, was having an altercation. With her crest erect and her head close to the bars of her cage she was glaring and shrieking at the toucan that shares with several marmosets the big cage hard by. One young lady of 18 months had a biscuit in her chubby fist and presently toddled up to the cockatoo's cage and held it out. Cockie promptly stopped her scolding and accepted the proffered tit-bit. Soon the morsel was devoured. A low, chattering noise from the toucan's cage attracted attention to several of the prettiest little monkeys imaginable; they were not impressed with our English climate and refused to come out of their snug nest. All the animals and birds are in beautiful condition and the cages being in the open, there is no disagreeable smell 12 09 06, 06f & g

1914 05 15
A pair of little brown owls have laid their eggs in the furnace of a portable boiler used for washing beehives on Chivers farm at Histon. Of course the fire has not been lighted recently but the copper is used every day, and when the owls are at home they do not mind this at all. They find their way in and out by the small iron chimney attached to the copper. These owls are not indigenous: Lord Lilford brought a pair from Spain and kept them in captivity near Thrapston. They thrived and he turned them into the open. They have multiplied and are now fairly common 14 05 15a

1915 07 09
A Novel Occurrence. On Monday evening, a party of bathers in the Brook (at Bourn) noticed a large animal disporting itself on the bank and diving into the water. After pursuit, it was eventually shot by Mr. F. Crow. It proved to be a large, well-developed male otter in splendid condition, weighing 11½ lbs and measuring 40' inches from the tip of its nose to the tip of its tail. It was a most unusual visitor to this neighbourhood, an otter never having been known to have been taken here before. If the creature found its way up from the Cam at Byron's Pool, it must have made a journey of over ten miles 15 07 09 CIPof

1916 04 26
The rookeries in Cambridge have been a good deal upset by the recent gales. Trees, which for generations have yearly been occupied by rooks, have been blown down, and some of the college grounds most frequented by them are now almost deserted, the silence being I most remarkable to those accustomed to the "cawing" of the sable birds. This is particularly noticeable at St. John's, formerly one of the most favourable nesting centres, and generally at the Backs there are fewer nests than usual 16 04 26 CIPof

1917 01 13
Bullock escapes from Warrington's yard, Northampton St & gets into river [3.21]

1918 02
Death of Charles Calvert Lawrence, dog fancier, bred Norwich terrier dogs with Hopkins in 1890's [1.14 & 3.2]

1920

1923 08 17
A meeting was held on Cambridge Market Hill under the auspices of the local branch of the World's League Against Vivisection. Some hundreds gathered around the first speaker who was heard amid a running series of questions and interruptions. He gallantly held his post for over an hour, and many of his points were agreed to, even by opponents of the movement generously. Certain diseases had been lowered doing the last 50 years in response to sanitary improvements, he said, but no direct evidence could be found as to any decrease of the death rate as a result of vivisection 23 08 17

1926 05 20
Cambridge court heard that when an undergraduate came to Magdalene College he brought with him a bay gelding, worth £200, which was placed in stables in Cambridge and hunted with the Cambs Hunt and the University Draghounds. In December an agreement was reached with the L.N.E.R. for the carriage of the horse to Berwickshire. During loading into the horsebox at the station it lurched forward, fell out and broke its spine 26 05 20

1927 03 11
Cambridge Women Citizens' Association heard that a cats' shelter should be provided in Cambridge for the reception and humane destruction of neglected, starved diseased and homeless cats. Mrs Norman Mason said last year 478 cats were brought to the home but the council had now ordered the shed to be taken down. Now if a pet cat was brought in they had nowhere to keep it and it had to be chloroformed. 27 03 11

1927 12 06
Cambridge Councillors heard that Mr D. Page had been appointed to act as pindar at a wage of £2 18s. 2d. per week, which included 5s, the value of the cottage now occupied by his predecessor, Mr C. Everitt. As he was unable to occupy the cottage at Coldham's Common there was a difficulty in locking and unlocking the gate and it was agreed that Mr Everitt be paid 10s a week for such services. 27 12 06

1927 12 24
Two heron 3 snipe, & 2 kingfishers seen on Coe Fen: "some wildlife left in spite of the Causeway" [3.1]

1928
Bird sanctuary Adams Road opened by Cambridge ornithological Society on old skating rink site 82 04 29

1928 04 19
Members of the Cambridge Horse Club spent a jolly time at their annual dinner. It was formed 35 years ago when there were a great number of hansom cabs and horses and flys in Cambridge and if a man lost a horse he went round from house to house and collected. Some people thought that was rather objectionable and a man named William Wallis conceived the idea of a club for people who owned horses. It only cost 1d a day to join and they still had 50 members; when they considered the increase in motor traffic it was feather in their cap to know they stood safe financially. The Chief Constable said Cambridge was losing horses very rapidly but he hoped they would not all disappear. 28 04 19

1930

1931 03
Sheep graze on lawn at Kings College for first time in 50 years [2.21]

1931 05 08
An amazing freak, a kitten with two faces, was born at the 'Ramping Lion' garage near Fenstanton but lived only three days. The kitten was an extraordinary little object with its two mouths, two noses and four eyes, but it had only one head and consequently only two ears. 31 05 08o

1931 09 25
A cormorant, presumably the same bird which created something of a sensation when it perched on the tower of Ely cathedral, has been seen at Cambridge. For several nights it has come at dusk to one of the chimneys of the Saxon Cement Works, Coldham's Lane, and aroused great curiosity in the neighbourhood. It leaves its perch in the early morning and is not seen during the day, returning at night 31 09 25d

1932 01 30
"Dukes Walk", the donkey which has been a familiar participant in all Poppy Day 'rags' has died. Rising from the mundane routine of drawing a chimney-sweep's barrow it enjoyed a distinguished career. In addition to being first favourite with undergraduates the animal was equally popular with children at Sunday School treats, as water-carrier at the University fruit-picking campaigns and as mascot to the 17th Lancers. It was while on military service that he earned his title which led to his appearance before the King in the Military Tattoo at Olympia. His owner, Mr A.W. Wyer, is to get another donkey. 32 01 30

1932 06 24
There were three horses for sale on Midsummer Common – which is three more than last year. A group of bored-looking men watched the animals being put through their paces. An elderly man dressed in country clothes patted one of them and looked critically at its teeth. A young man in oil-stained overalls walked over, a pail in each hand. "What's going on", he asked. "The Horse Fair" I replied. "Never heard of it". So pass out ancient institutions. 32 06 24

1934 10 06
The dog trough which stands outside Lloyds Bank in Victoria Road has been in position for some weeks. It was erected by His Royal Highness Prince Chula of Siam in memory of Tony, a dog which gave him friendship and happiness during his Cambridge years. The Prince 'went down' some time ago but left the money for the trough to be erected 34 10 06

1935
Blue Cross home established 1935, cattery buildings built 1960s as result legacy 85 09 21

1935 11 05
Death of "Tommy" - pony at Botanic Garden who pulled the lawn mower and was loved by children [1.8]

1935 05 21
According to the recent census taken for military purposes, Cambridge has a horse population of 779, excluding railway and military animals. This is abnormally high, being roughly twice as many as any other town of its size. In the riding horse and hunter class Cambridge takes fourth place in the country but the town is poorly supplied with carriage and trap horses. People have

forsaken the horse for wheeled outings though there are still a few residents who prefer to sit behind a horse instead of a petrol engine. It seems that the motor salesmen of Cambridge are extraordinarily efficient. 35 05 21

1935 08 03
Prince the Airedale dog owned by Mrs Rowell of Fair Street is one of the most persistent cadgers. His life-long occupation is to sit in a public house and beg for pennies from customers which he does by tapping their pockets with his muzzle to make them jingle. If he is offered a penny he goes to the counter and buyers a biscuit which he lays at the feet of the donor and waits for permission to eat. He also goes to the shop and buys a newspaper for his mistress every morning. 35 08 03b

1936 04 27
The new R.S.P.C.A. clinic for animals at Covent Garden was officially opened. Those who could pay took their animals to the veterinary surgeon but many could not afford the fees and three prominent vets had promised their professional assistance without any charge 36 04 27b

1938 03 31
The Cats' Home in Garlic Row, which opened in 1919, received 604 stray cats last year. Of these 541 were chloroformed, homes were found for 57 and six were claimed. Taken over by the Dumb Friends League in May 1937 – 38 03 31b

1940

1940 05 18
First aid for pets in wartime explained – 40 05 18

1940 05 31
A.R.P. for pets – list of centres – 40 05 31a

1943 02 02
Pindar, pound and pony – horse placed on Stourbridge Common impounded but released by owner – 43 02 02a

1943 06 29
Queue for horse meat for pets in Wheeler Street – photo – 43 06 29

1947 09 20
5 puppies poisoned while making Accident Prevention Council film [1.12, TT 20.9.1947]

1950

1950 04 29
A large white cob swan walked up Cambridge castle Hill and found himself for 15 minutes the focus of much interest from the police, the press, two cats and the borough pindar. He first attracted attention waddling up the hill in the middle of the road – much to the consternation of drivers and cyclists. Oblivious to the hazards of walking in the middle of a Cambridge street, he took a look through the Shire Hall's entrance, but after a critical appraisal of the building he decided to continue his journey. It was then shepherded into the county police station yard where it stood and glared at everything that moved. Two inquisitive ginger cats approached, sniffing at

the strange interloper, but they did not stay long. Neck arched, wings beating and hissing the big bird chased them away 50 04 29

1950 06 27
Hundreds of dead fish in Cam [2.5]

1953 04 22
RSPCA open clinic in Great Eastern Street [2.15]

1954 05 01
Great whale on show [2.20]

1954 08 10
The rabbit-killing myxomatosis disease which has been sweeping the country has been officially confirmed in Cambridgeshire for the first time. Following reports by farmers and gamekeepers that rabbits were dying on their lands with symptoms similar to the disease Ministry of Agriculture inspectors have found Chippenham and Boxworth to be affected areas. Government policy is to the let the disease run its course. CDN 10.8.1954

1956 03 30
Woolworth's application for a licence for a pet shop met criticism from councillors. Everyone knew the vast crowds who went into their Cambridge store and the noise made there - conditions which would worsen as even bigger crowds would be attracted. The animals would be kept in the same premises as food, much of which was open. People who kept pets under these conditions should go out of business. 56 03 30c

1956 05 16
The White Horse Riding Establishment in Barton Road, Cambridge, has been used as a riding school for 35 years and has stabling for 24 horses. Much of the teaching takes place on land down Grange Road and it would reduce the dangers for inexperienced riders taking horses down Barton Road if they had an Indoor Riding School. But neighbours complained that it was noisy and smelly and a relic of the past. Horse boxes unloaded on the pavement and children stacked their bikes against the wall when they popped in to give the horses tit-bits. 56 05 16a

1958 03 04
Shag seen [4.9]

1958 04 23
A gleaming new R.S.P.C.A. clinic in Great Eastern Street was opened at a simple ceremony, a memorial to Sir Arthur Eddington. Dr Rattray traced the history of the clinic from its beginnings in a small house in Covent Garden to the adequate and modern building being opened where hurt and ill animals will be treated with the latest equipment. Last year 2,248 animals were treated by the Cambridge branch but after returning from doing splendid work in the East Coast flood areas Inspector Bartlett had developed pleurisy. The Great Yarmouth branch wrote that his work was wonderful. 58 04 23 c

1958 11 22
Norwich terrier dog originally bred by Jodrell Hopkins and 'Doggy' Lawrence – 58 11 22 & a

1959 12 30

Cambridge Cats Home run by the Blue Cross in Garlic Row was filled to capacity with 75 animals over the Christmas holidays. In the course of a year the Superintendents, Dennis Broomfield and his wife, look after over 1,000 'lodgers' and a very large number of strays. Each cat has a large run to itself and the nights are spent in warm boxes lined with straw and cloth inside spacious 'hutlets'. Each cat eats about half a pound of fish a day – good quality rock salmon steaks - and gets through a good quantity of milk 59 12 30b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 11 22
Ernest Cooper is a furniture dealer who lives in Beche Road. His father began the business with a horse and cart but it has grown since those days and the horse and cart disappeared. However his love for horses was re-awakened when he bought a dapple grey pony named Dandy for his daughter. Then, when she had outgrown him Ernest went to Chingford and bought a trap and put Dandy in the shafts. Each weekend he harnesses the pony up and goes for a trot in the side streets or out into the country enjoying the roughness of a pair of reins and the hardness of the buggy seat. 60 11 22

1961 05 26
A day in the life of Bill, mongrel dog owned by licensee of Fountain pub – 61 05 26

1961 12 08
The collared dove is a new and exciting addition to the birds of Cambridgeshire. The first of these invaders from Eastern Europe settled on the Norfolk coast about five years ago and nested successfully at Overstrand. But they were first recorded in Cambridgeshire only two years ago. Three broods have been recorded from a pair nesting in Littleport and another pair has been seen in Adams Road. It will be interesting to see how they will stand a really hard winter. 61 12 08b

1962 04 04
A wild Muntjak deer, believed to have wandered around Cambridge for more than a year, was cornered and captured by RSPCA officials in the Caius College boathouse. For months people have reported seeing it running across their gardens, nibbling their flowers or walking along main roads. Although tired the deer, about the size of a small dog, was still lively. It was placed in a disused aviary overnight and succeeded in loosening one side with its constant kicking. It was taken to the wooded countryside on the southern outskirts of the city and released. 62 04 04a

1963 06 15
Zoology Department feature article – 63 06 15

1965 01 21
Cambridge Cage Birds Association was formed from the Cambridge Ornithological Society. Its 200 members range from specialists who breed different strains to those content with one bird. W.A. Knights of Argyle Street specialises in speciality border canaries and has 60 birds. Others collect budgerigars, Zebra Finches or waxwings. The cage bird hobby is more expensive than it was but good birds can be bought from two pounds ten shillings. 65 01 21

1965 10 15
Blue Cross cats' home, Garlic Row – feature – 65 10 15f

1968 08 02
Barbara Duff rescues dogs - saves 3 a week [4.1]

1970

1971 07 17
Runciman's veterinary surgeons: profile of Cambridge business; has just moved from Downing Street to Chesterton Road – 71 07 17

1976 01 03
Cormorant seen [4.10]

1979 02
Cormorant seen [4.11]

1980
1980 10 13
Several hundred Animal Aid protestors march through Cambridge [4.2]

1981
Swan rescue service set up - H. Ketch 85 01 04

1983 01 05
Animal Liberation Front steal 6 dogs Central Animal Services Building [4.3]

1983 02 16
Letter-bomb sent Prof Calne [4.4]

1983 08 13
Seventeen animals stolen from dog farm [4.5]

1983 10 17
Two hundred rodents stolen from labs [4.6]

1984 11 16
Cambridge University professorship of Animal Welfare established [4.7]

1984 05 21
The British Percheron Horse Society held its annual show on Midsummer Common. Visitors saw the heavy horses put through their paces in different classes and there were plenty of other events to keep the family amused. Wisbech breeders A.S. Johnson and Son regained the challenge cup for best stallion in show. 84 05 21 p10

1985 02 28
Two scientists banned by Home Office from experimenting on animals after causing unnecessary pain [4.8]

1985 01 31
Barbara Duff has been Cambridgeshire's stray dogs' greatest friend for twenty years. She has devoted all her energy, time and money to saving thousands from death. Her work started when

she visited the council's dog pound near the Milton sewage works. There was a row of pathetic dogs each tied up in a large room, spotlessly clean but unexercised and fed only dog biscuits. She put some in her car and took them to her friends. If they did not want them, she took them to her home. Some she kept in kennels, which can be very expensive and she sold her own antique furniture to raise money. 85 01 31b

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Gwydir Street public baths, 1978

240.61

c.21.1 : Health - see also c. 21.15 – refuse, c. 21.2 cemeteries, c. 24.3 sewage

1888 10 19
Fire in disinfecting building Rifle Butts Row [2.6]

1889 04 19
Juby's Court, King Street described as 'insanitary' [2.7]

1889 09 06
fatal case of typhoid at Cheddar's Lane due to refuse polluting well, spreads to York Street & Coldham's Lane, 44 affected [2.8, 1.17]

1890 02 12
"Sequah", famous Quack Doctor arrives, crowd take horses from carriage & pull through King St, women give him clock; he 'frees people from pain' [5.5]

1893
Sewers started in Coldham's Lanes & Victoria Road [1.1] – *for other sewage stories see c.24.3*

1897 03 16
The "Cambridge Daily News" makes proposals. A municipal washhouse. We believe there are hundreds of women in Cambridge - the wives of working men - who would hail with the liveliest satisfaction the establishment of a place where they could do their week's washing with some degree of comfort. How many homes belonging to the humbler classes are there without anything like proper washing and drying accommodation to the occupants of which such a place would be a boon and a blessing 1897 03 16

1897 03 17

Not 10 per cent of houses in and around Cambridge have a bathroom. There is one public bath in Cambridge and for its use 1s is charged. How many of us workingmen can afford to pay that? The corporation has plenty of land for the purpose such as Petersfield, the cost of the baths would be not more than £20,000 and it would move one of the standing disgraces of Cambridge. (Letter) 1897 03 17

1899 07 10
Dr Dennis Adams, one of the oldest and best-known medical practitioners of Cambridge has passed away. His career reaches back for many years. His practice was a large one; it was chiefly among members of the University. In celebration of the Jubilee of his practice in 1889 he was presented with a splendid collection of silver candlesticks. It is well known that he was not an admirer of the display of expensive flowers and wreaths at funerals and friends will probably wish to show their respect in some other manner 1899 07 10

1900

1900 02 23
Not within our experience has there been so much sickness as during these last few months. It would take a very skilful actuary to make a full account of what influenza has cost the country. At the Hearts of Oak dinner in Cambridge the secretary reported that sickness has been altogether unprecedented, and they have paid out £7,700 in sickness allowances. Happily though influenza frequently develops into something very serious, in itself it is not deadly 00 02 23

1900 07 31
E.S. Payne has opened premises at Alexandra Street, Cambridge for the manufacture of artificial teeth. Complete sets, upper or lower from £1. Single tooth added, 2s.6d. Easy payment taken. Teeth scaled, stopped or extracted. Trusses and elastic stockings made to order – advert 00 07 31

1900 10 25
An epidemic of disease has broken out in Cambridge which is of such serious importance as regards the public health that we should not be discharging a duty we owe to our readers if we did not draw attention to it, notwithstanding the reticence of the medical authority, which to say the least is inexplicable. The Medical Officer of Health has absolutely declined to take the press into his confidence. That diphtheria is prevalent is beyond dispute, nor is it confined to Cambridge for rumour is that deaths have occurred at Chesterton. The death of certain children attending Park Street mixed infants school first brought the matter under the attention of the local medical authorities. Several deaths have taken place which are directly attributed to the disease CDN 1900 10 25

1900 11 01
We have received an official statement from Mr Alderman T. Hyde, respecting the outbreak of diphtheria at Cambridge. ‘Last Friday I stated that we knew of 12 cases of the disease. Since then we have had a rather unexpected increase which made a total of 35 today. There have been four deaths from the disease. With a few doubtful exceptions all cases have been proved to have originated in connection with the Park Street Infants School, although so far investigations have shown no reason for supposing that the actual building on the site has had anything to do with the causation of the disease. No expense or labour will be grudged in the endeavour to stamp out the disease. It is thought advisable not to allow children to attend meetings in public halls during the present conditions” 00 11 01

1901

Underground toilet built at Hyde Park corner [1.4] – *for other toilet stories see c.24.3*

1901 06 13
Yarmouth Guardians received a report on the dissection of paupers' bodies. They had been sent to Cambridge by officials of the workhouse since 1881. Professor Macalister sent a cheque for £6 14s 6d for each body but only £5 10s 0d was really incurred for expenses. The railway charge for the carriage of a body was £4 6s.0d but the Master's clerk said it was £4 9s.0d and that he put the other 3s. in the poor box. £1 was paid for a coffin but he received 1s. from the undertaker. All the clerk had to do was to see the body was screwed down, go to the railway station and pay the charge. He said he gave the porters sixpence each but inquiry proved they only received a pint of beer 01 06 13

1901 07 12
Great Yarmouth board of Guardians revived the question of paupers' bodies being sent to Cambridge Anatomical School for dissection. Every friendless person who died in the workhouse should be asked before death if he had any objection to his body being sent away for dissection. Mr Saul thought that was a gruesome and unseemly idea. Dissection was perfectly legal and right; if they declined to allow unclaimed bodies to be used surgeons would be compelled to make experiments on living people or resort to paying for bodies stolen from newly-made graves. The practice will continue 01 07 12

1901 12 19
During the recent epidemic of diphtheria in Cambridge great assistance was rendered by Dr Cobbett of the Pathological Laboratory. He is one of the greatest authorities on diphtheria and as so little was known about the general treatment quite a new plan had to be adopted. As he will not be available in future the Cambridge Public Health committee recommend that Dr Graham Smith be appointed bacteriologist to the council. It was only a skilled bacteriologist who could examine the throats of those who had been in contact with the patient. One child in school might affect twenty or thirty. Other councillors thought they would be creating a new office when they were overrun with officials at the present time. They had organisations all over the place. The Medical Officer of Health was quite capable of dealing with it 01 12 19

1902 01 28
Dr F.W. Hutchinson of Cambridge made an ascent with Mr Graudron, the aeronaut, from the grounds of the Crystal Palace in a balloon of 38,000 cubic feet capacity, to make observations with respect to the presence of bacilli in the upper reaches of the atmosphere. He took with him eight samples of sterilised gelatine and exposed them at different altitudes in order to capture stray microbes suspended in the air over London. These he intends to bring to Cambridge and cultivate, afterwards determining the nature of the bacilli he had collected. 02 01 18

1902 02 01
Cambridge council heard that no demand appeared to exist for public wash-houses and owing probably to the facilities of bathing in the river. Ald Deck said it was true that every house built now was provided with a bath but they did not come within reach of some people who lived in old houses, of which there was a vast number. Public baths would be a great advantage & not only to the working classes. There was not a Turkish bath in Cambridge and a great many people had to go to London to get one. 02 02 01

1902 03 06
A smallpox case from Richmond Road, Cambridge, has been removed to the small pox hut in Coldham's Lane and all steps taken to minimise any future danger. The clothes and the whole of

the bedding had been destroyed and the house was thoroughly disinfected. The public vaccinator had vaccinated persons willing to be vaccinated 02 03 06

1902 03 10
Another case of smallpox has occurred at Cambridge Prison, Castle Hill. The spread of the disease is a mystery. The first case was in a prisoner from Maidstone. Prompt isolation followed. Another was found suffering from an infectious disease diagnosed as scarlet fever and he was moved to the Sanatorium. Other symptoms developed and he died. A few hours after a warder was smitten with smallpox and now there is a fourth case, a prisoner confined in the gaol for several months. Elsewhere infection has been traced to letters that have come from London where the epidemic is now raging. At Cambridge gaol mailbags are repaired in large numbers. They come from all parts of the country and may have carried the microbes that cause the disease. 02 03 10

1902 03 12
Dr Dalton said that in the case of smallpox taking a real hold upon Cambridge the very fact of waiting two or three days for vaccination would be the cause of more cases. He would prefer to pay for vaccination rather than pay for the erection of new smallpox huts. He hoped more people would go openly to the public vaccinators to show it was not accompanied by any taint of pauperism; some believed they would be vaccinated with purer vaccine than they would get if they went to their own medical men. 02 03 12

1902 03 14
Sir – A man from the Cambridge prison, which they knew to be infected with smallpox, was admitted to the Sanatorium and yet no precautions were taken in the way of vaccination. His nurses passed into the room day and night. I object strongly to the want of promptitude in telephoning me as soon as smallpox was suspected so that I might be aware of the possible danger and be able to take precautions. I would not allow my patients to go to the Sanatorium if they are to be exposed to such risks – E. Lloyd Jones. 02 03 14

1902 03 20
Cambridge councillors considered possible sites for public baths, including Mackenzie Road, Quayside and Castle Street. The most suitable is Christ's Pieces. In order to provide a good swimming bath, length baths, a Turkish bath installation, together with boilers etc a sum of £8,000 would have to be expended, exclusive of the purchase of the site. £500 a year would be required for maintenance. In view of the half-hearted character of the public meeting they could not recommend expenditure of so large a sum of money 03 03 20 c

1902 04 03
Chesterton U.D.C. had asked the Prison Commissioners to provide accommodation for small-pox patients at Cambridge Gaol but they did not see their way to do that and urged the local authorities to provide room for the patients in their own accommodation. Chesterton would be prepared to place the small-pox hospital at the disposal of the gaol authorities but felt the prison should guarantee expenses and pointed out the difficulty of the safe custody of the prisoners. CDN 1902 04 03

1902 05 13
A young Cambridge man who was imprisoned through being in arrears on a wife's maintenance payment contracted small-pox whilst lying at the county gaol, Castle Street. He was removed to the hut but succumbed to the disease on Sunday last. Deceased, we believe, had only been in gaol 18 days. He was buried last night. CDN 1902 05 13

1902 11 14
A piece of work, involving operations similar to those by which the "Tube" railway was constructed, is on the point of being finished, having been in progress for nearly twelve months. It is the sewer connecting the New Cemetery with the Sewage Farm, Cambridge. Its length is over a mile and in some places it is laid to a depth of 24 feet. The greater part of the work has been done by the "tunnelling" system and carried out entirely by Cambridge men under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor 02 11 14

1903 05 23
Typhoid fever was present in Cambridge during the year, 17 cases in 14 households having been notified. Four were county cases admitted into Addenbrooke's Hospital for treatment; five were imported from Fenstanton, Swaffham, Norfolk, Littleport and London. Two cases were probably due to eating shellfish. Two were nurses who had charge of typhoid patients and others could not be accounted for. Three of the cases proved fatal 03 05 25

1903 05 23
A man living in Ainsworth Street, Cambridge was diagnosed with small-pox. He was forthwith removed to the small-pox huts, Coldham's Lane, and all known contacts vaccinated and kept under observation. He was a goods guard on the Great Eastern Railway whose train shunted opposite the small-pox camp in Tottenham Marshes and there was reason to believe there was communication between persons in the camps and the officials on the train. It is highly probable the disease was incepted from the camps. He made a good recovery. 03 05 23

1903 06 03
The new municipal cemetery, which Cambridge Corporation has prepared on Newmarket Road, was opened for interments. In anticipation of the time when the general public will regard burial more from a sanitary than from a sentimental point of view, a part of the ground adjoining Ditton Lane has been reserved for the erection of a crematorium. The first interment was a child named Alfred Willet Whitmore; the coffin was borne by six young ladies and Mr Ellis Merry was the undertaker. 03 06 03 – *for other cemetery stories see c. 21.2*

1903 06 18
There has been a recurrence of small pox in Cambridge. A well-known tradesman was removed to the Isolation Hospital and everybody who had been in contact with him was vaccinated and the premises and clothes disinfected. Had the information about smallpox spread it must have had a very deterrent effect upon the trade of the town and driven away many 'May Week' visitors. Ladies especially view possible disfigurement with feelings of revulsion. We considered we were justified in withholding the news until the close of festivities. The smallpox is contemporary with a widespread epidemic of scarlet fever which has taxed the Sanatorium almost to its limits. 03 06 18

1903 07 16
Dr Dalton has confirmed that the dangerous epidemic prevalent in Cambridge is smallpox and there have been no less than three deaths from the disease. Nobody who has been vaccinated recently had it but two unvaccinated children had the disease badly. He must insist absolutely on isolation of every case, however mild. He had ordered one tent which held 15 people – tents were very suitable at this time of year – and must order sufficient to provide for every case which required isolation 03 07 16

1903 07 17

On June 18th we informed the Cambridge public that a case of smallpox had appeared in the town. The day following we were officially instructed that it was not of smallpox at all, but of chicken pox, there was nothing like an epidemic and there was no cause for alarm. Now the announcement that there have been three deaths from smallpox is so astounding as to be almost incredible. Midsummer Fair has been held, probably the best means of disseminating an infectious disease that could be imagined, and no warnings issued to the public. A terrible scourge has been allowed to run riot without check or hindrance and we are afraid that Cambridge is face to face with a disastrous epidemic 03 07 17

1903 07 21
Since the outbreak of smallpox in Cambridge was official announced there has been a large increase in the number of cases reported. Unfortunately the infection has spread to surrounding villages and a case has broken out at Histon. This has resulted in the abandonment of the Histon Show and Sports, the Waterbeach Show has been postponed, the Promenade Concert on Christ's Pieces cancelled, schools have been closed and the Barnwell Theatre Mission have suspended operations. Wherever crowds assemble in a town where smallpox is prevalent there is danger of infection. 03 07 21

1903 07 28
Sir - An exciting scene occurred at 11.30 pm when the small-pox hearse was just reaching its destination and turning round previous to receiving the body of a young man who had died that morning. The night was very dark and the hearse overturned on its side, the smashing of glass and the bumping of the vehicle on the road causing a great commotion. After some delay it was righted again, the body duly deposited inside and it rumbled and groaned off to the cemetery, grating on the road with its iron-shod wheels in the dead of the night in a most unpleasant manner. Any private firm would have an India-rubber tyred vehicle for such work but Cambridge Corporation have apparently yet to discover that such 'luxuries' exist – 'Mill Road' 03 07 28

1903 08 03
Three additional cases of smallpox have been notified in Cambridge. In a large business house a young lady engaged in taking money became ill and the cause was traced to the money received into the establishment. Some businesses are now disinfecting coins as soon as they are received and none but disinfected coins are given in change. At Foxton the horticultural show has been postponed owing to an outbreak in the village. 03 08 03

1903 08 04
Cambridge Borough has had its pride wounded by the London Express charging it with having incurable slums and possessing filthier homes than Whitechapel. In reply Mr Campkin, a Guardian said: "There is no doubt there is an amount of poverty and squalor in Cambridge but there has been a vast improvement in the St Matthew's district over the last 40 years. There is evidence of the effects of drink in some parts of the town but in the Romsey and Petersfield district the residents are respectable working people". Commenting on the Cambridge slums Dr Roper said: "I think even the very worst are fast becoming demolished; take St Peter's Court, Castle Street, they are pulling that down. In consequence that there are large families in the poor quarters a woman very often has to go out and work as well as her husband to keep things going, and they can't keep their houses quite so clean as they otherwise might. In New Street you will not see much dirt or dilapidation, though in summer time the people are sitting outside nearly half-dressed in consequence of the heat. But their homes are not so bad as you might imagine"

1903 08 06

The slight put upon Cambridge by comparison of its slums with those of Whitechapel continues to call forth indignant protests. "In many working class homes there is only one room for doing everything and it is difficult to keep it scrupulously clean. Poor people can be taught to cover their floors with oilcloth but where is the money coming from? How can it be expected for them to spend all their earnings on beautifying their homes when there is a family to be provided for? Need it be said that the 'better' class people who would equally as dirty were it not for the working people to keep them clean

1903 08 10
Sir – whatever may be said about slums, in Whitechapel you could go into any house in the poorest district but you would find a flushing cistern to every w.c., and that is more than you can find in Cambridge. When we had the sewers put in the Corporation tried to have the flushing cisterns put in but they were ruled out by the objections of the large property owners. Until these matters are remedied we shall always be in trouble, either with this epidemic of some other – Ratepayer 03 08 10

1903 08 26
A meeting arranged by the Cambridge Anti-Vaccination League was held on Market Hill. A large crowd of people assembled but the opinions of the principal speaker aroused some opposition & a little heckling took place. Someone placed a quantity of calcium carbide into the water of the fountain. & the acetylene gas which was generated was borne among the audience to whom the disagreeable odour was most objectionable. 03 08 26

1903 09 29
Sir – a report is circulating that a lad was sent from Cherry Hinton to the tents on Coldham's Common supposed to be suffering from smallpox and that after a week he was sent home, only to be taken away a second time in a few days. Another report is that during the recent heavy rains the beds in the tents were surrounded by water and the deaths that have occurred there have been caused by cold and not by smallpox, as reported. As ratepayers we have a right to know whether this is true or false. – Villager 03 08 29 c

1903 09 09
The Mayor of Cambridge read a letter: "The teacher of the school which my daughter attends has asked that she be sent away from Cambridge during the last 18 days of her holiday in order she may have a period of quarantine before returning". He was sorry Cambridge had such an unenviable reputation. It was not deserved. There was no town in which a smallpox epidemic had been got under with such rapidity and this was due to vaccination. Not one who had been vaccinated had taken the disease. Six weeks ago there were 95 cases under treatment, now there were only 24 (applause) 03 09 09

1903 10 05
At St Matthews' church, Cambridge a service of thanksgiving to Almighty God for his mercies in delivering many from small-pox, scarlet fever and diphtheria was conducted by the Vicar. Since the parish was formed 37 years ago nobody had known anything like the amount of sickness God had been pleased to send them this year. In eight months they had been visited by three terrible diseases, each taking a large number of victims, 12 of which had proved fatal. How the people in the small-pox huts on Coldham Common suffered and longed for health so as to escape what seemed a prison. Those who were still convalescent wondered what was going on in their homes and were looking forward to the time of their release. No one wanted to stay in the huts a day longer than there were obliged to. 03 10 05

1903 10 07
A discovery has been made which seems to throw some light on the now happily disappearing epidemic in Cambridge. A professor claims to have discovered a new species of blood nematode which is productive of a disease called 'craw-craw' & has many points in common with small-pox. He contacted the Cambridge Medical Office and obtained blood films of a doubtful case of small-pox and on examining them found the same nematode. But an expert who was consulted was quite clear that the Cambridge outbreak must be an exceptional form of small-pox 03 10 07

1904 03 29
There is still a doubt in scientific circles as to whether last year's epidemic in Cambridge was really small-pox or a similar disease with another name: 'Craw-craw'. A lecturer on Patho-Histology at Birmingham University has sampled some blood films and is convinced that this the disease which has been puzzling the authorities at Cambridge, Smethwick, Kidderminster and Burton-on-Trent amongst other places. CDN 29.3.1904

1904 04 09
Anti-vaccination movement active, magistrates grant exemption certificates [2.14]

1904 04 22
The Cambridge Medical Officer of Health reported that during the recent small-pox epidemic 154 people had been infected of whom 15 had died. At the start the Small-pox hospital consisted of two huts with an administrative block and a caravan for the use of men employed. Subsequently an addition hut and two tents were provided to give a total accommodation of 85 beds. There was also a tent for the nursing staff, a discharge tent, a dining tent, a mortuary hut and an additional caravan for the male staff. 04 04 22

1904 05 09
The Association of Managers of Sewage Disposal Works inspected the Cambridge pumping station destructors where all kinds of refuse turned out from households daily, sweepings and other undesirable matter is tipped into huge trucks and burnt, giving off heat used whose steam is used to pump sewage. During winter months some 40 tons of refuse is burned each day. The disinfector was examined with interest; it was installed in 1902 and during the smallpox of 1904 was of great service in disinfecting a great number of articles using super-heated steam. They then moved to the Corporation sewage farm, Milton Road, for a practical demonstration of sewerage analysis 04 05 09

1904 05 18
The placid life of Linton has been stirred by a rumour that the dead body of a pauper had been sold by the Master of the Workhouse to the Cambridge School of Anatomy. This was a perfectly lawful proceeding under the Anatomy Act which provides that the bodies of unclaimed paupers may be used for scientific study. The matter had been debated by the Board of Guardians who voted five for and five against but the Chairman declined to give the casting vote. The Master had taken it upon himself to send the body to Cambridge. But it was not 'sold'. 1904 05 18

1904 05 19
Cambridge cemetery committee considered whether to close the whole of the Mill Road burial ground. They had asked the various incumbents as to the number of grave spaces allotted to their parishes and whether it was possible to identify the graves of all persons buried there. It appeared to be dependent on the knowledge of the sexton and there was no way of identifying the position of each grave. There should be a public enquiry. But there were many timid widows who had husbands buried there and would like to be buried there too who would not go to an enquiry.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Alderman Kett agreed: he would like his bones to be laid there and had six or seven unoccupied spaces for members of his family. What would an inspector care about such sentiments. He would be overruled by those fanatics of sanitary improvement. 04 05 19

1904 08 25
The Local Government Board have decided to close those parts of Mill Road cemetery which are assigned to the parishes of St Andrew the Less, St Mary the Less and St Botolph but say there is no need for the protection of public health for other areas to be closed. The three portions will be sealed while in the rest of the burial ground interments will continue as usual. This is in accordance with the deep feelings expressed at the inquiry where representatives of the other parishes had protested strongly against their grounds being closed, with the single exception of the Rev Wood who was acting in direct opposition to the wishes of his parishioners. His 'aesthetic' vapourings were appreciated by the Inspector for their true worth. CDN 25.8.1904

1904 11 24
Since September 14 cases of diphtheria have been diagnosed among Cambridge school children, 11 of whom have been removed to the Infectious Diseases Hospital. Swabs have been taken from their classmates and any harbouring the diphtheria bacillus are removed to the Isolation Home. Three cases have proved fatal. One was of a child who died through medical advice not having been sought in time. It had been ill for four days before a doctor was called in. Steps were taken to remove the patient to the Hospital as quickly as possible but when the conveyance arrived at the house death had taken place only a few minutes earlier. CDN 24.11.1929

1904 11 29
Lincolnshire has long been a county noted for drug-taking. A chemist said that he had sold more opium and laudanum in four years at Spalding than during the previous twenty in other parts of the country. The habit had been handed down amongst the inhabitants for many generations. It was originally resorted to as a means of allaying pains resulting from ague but the present generation are not such slaves to the habit as their predecessors. More opium is sold at Peterborough than in any other town in England but it is not one-tenth of what it was 30 years ago. The sale is now mainly confined to villagers, especially women, and the evil appears to be gradually dying out CDN 29.11.1904

1905
Council Medical Officers department reorganised following smallpox outbreak [2.15]

1905 02 23
Serious allegations have been made against the sanitary administration of Cambridge in a letter to 'The Times'. As that newspaper reaches but a small section of the burgesses it would normally have been reprinted in the columns of the C.D.N. We were, however, requested by the Town Clerk not to give publicity to the complaints until a reply had been given. But now we can print both. The manner involved a furnished apartment in which a child died from diphtheria. Finding the apartments to let 'The Times' journalist took them. She claimed it had not been disinfected and a survey showed very serious defects in the W.C. between the two bedrooms. 05 02 23

1905 03 27
Midwives Act comes into force [2.16]

1905 04 20
Cambridge Medical Officer reported on the recent scarlet fever epidemic which affected undergraduates at one college. The only common link was the milk supply. He discovered that

the dairy had obtained a supplementary supply from fifteen different sources. One of these had a milker who had visited relatives at a village where scarlet fever had been present and had suffered from a sore throat. But there was no definite proof he had suffered from the disease. The dairy had stopped distributing any milk other than that of its own cows and no further cases have occurred. 05 04 20 a-c

1905 04 25
A valued correspondent asks whether the Cambridge Town Council are going to take any action in regard to the recently-constructed drinking place for cattle on Midsummer Common. "In view of the recent scarlet fever epidemic which was directly traced to infected milk their apathy is remarkable. Unless something is done the cattle from which the milk supply of Cambridge is principally derived will shortly be feeding on sewage" An iron trough should be inserted in the existing waterway so that the water the cattle are drinking would escape the sewage which currently mingles with it. 05 04 25

1906
Voluntary Association for Maternity & Child Welfare originated [2.17]

1906 03 28
Dr Bushell Anningson has served as Cambridge Medical Officer of Health since 1875. Then the whole sewerage was most unsatisfactory and 800 houses in Sturton Town had only middens and cesspools. 2,000 houses had no water supply other than pumps or wells – in many cases contaminated with sewage – and there were no arrangements to cope with a serious epidemic. Household refuse was collected by private individuals who did the work for what they could get out of it. They used donkey carts which were emptied in their own backyards in the neighbourhood of Gas Lane where it was examined for saleable material such as bones and cinders. 06 03 28a

1906 04 16
One of the most important activities of Friendly Societies is the provision of skilled medical advice in time of sickness. Cambridge Medical Association was formed in 1883 with a membership of 1,740 and one medical officer. It now serves 7,350 and has engaged two and sometimes three. It is important to keep good doctors: you must treat them as gentlemen and their services should be made as pleasant as possible 06 04 16a

1906 04 19
The Borough Surveyor bought a new watering van at a cost of £52. They had 11 vans but four were unfit to travel as the wheels would not go round. With the sudden arrival of hot weather there was not one fit for use. They should have been overhauled at the end of the season. But scavenging in two districts had been let out to contractors and the vans belonging to the council were in their hands. 06 04 19b

1906 06 14
Cambridge water supplies might be polluted from sewage from Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn. Householders use pails for the collection of excreta and if this is spread on the land then the possibility of typhoid organisms finding their way into the water supply must be remote. A more serious menace is the soakage of infected matter from improperly-constructed cesspools and the sewage from the Asylum. Some Cambridge people have started to boil their water. 06 06 14a & b

1906 11 02

Eugen Sandow has opened consulting rooms in Sidney Street where advice regarding health matters may be obtained. Provided your ailment is not an incurable one he guarantees to bring you to a pitch of physical perfection. The Cambridge Manager will take particulars of your case and forward them to him in London where Mr Sandon will plan your course and the Cambridge Manager will show you how to correctly carry out instructions. 06 11 02b 06 11 22a

1906 12 05
Sir – each scarlet fever patient leaving the Cambridge Sanatorium has to have a final disinfecting bath, after which he is put into clean clothes sent from home. But the patient is bathed and dressed in the bathroom in which all the patients have been peeling for an indefinite period. The room is therefore more infectious than the wards themselves. Discharged patients risk carrying home the infection they have been isolated to obviate – J.H. Dalton 06 12 05

1906 12 10
Though blind from birth, Miss Mary Start was never one to sit down hopelessly under the infirmity and as a masseuse found a means of supporting herself and conferring service upon many sufferers gaining a distinguished clientele. Her skill was not reserved for the rich; many poor people had reason to be grateful to her. She played chess, studied Esperanto and read practically every book published in Braille. 06 12 10

1907
Dental inspection for children introduced [1.3]

1907 01 24
Mr G.A. Mackenzie of Ross Street has organised services for deaf and dumb children at Tracey Memorial Hall. They have been attended by nearly 30 people, many of whom have received excellent training in institutions and some have already been confirmed He was formerly Diocesan Missioner at Oxford and secretary of the Liverpool Deaf and Dumb Association. 07 01 24a

1907 09 28
Sir – the cartage of the sewage filth into Milton is again in full swing. Considering the outbreak of fever at the Hospital and at Cherry Hinton everyone must agree this is a terrible risk to run and it should be stopped. Crude sewage was run as usual on Sunday down a ditch to Baitsbite Lock which should supply the lower fen with pure water. This is within a few feet from where the University boats start, and would hardly commend itself to rowing clubs – 'Ratepayer' 07 09 28

1907 10 17
Cottages in Cave's Yard, Union Road, Chesterton are as about as bad as any in the district, an inquest into an infant was told. Vermin found on the child's body were not the fault of the mother: it would be impossible to keep such a house in that district free from vermin; the district ought to be burnt down. The slums in Old Chesterton are as bad as any you will find in London, a doctor testified. But people had to live somewhere. 07 10 17

1908
Dental clinic opened: Cambridge the first town to give proper attention to children's teeth & only one with complete scheme for regular dental examination of every school child once a year [1.11]

1908
One in eight infants under 12 months die [2.17]

1908 04 15
Cambridge MOH report- 08 04 15 & a

1908 09 18
The Cambridge Church of England Mission to the Deaf and Dumb was started two years ago to meet their spiritual needs. It meets at St Philip's church and attracts people from Swaffham Bulbeck, Milton and Trumpington. Several special services of Holy Communion have been held with Mr G.A. Mackenzie interpreting in the sign language CWN 08 09 18 p5

1908 11 06
The Cambridge District Nurses moved into their new home standing in its own grounds on Newmarket Road. Designed by W.M. Fawcett and built by Coulson and Lofts, it has a smart exterior appearance. Facing the road is the entrance to the surgery with the dining room, and kitchen with sitting rooms for the Superintendent and nurses on the first floor together with four bedrooms and another three on the second floor. The building is lighted by incandescent gas and fitted with electric bells CWN 08 11 06 p5

1909 01 29
Children's teeth – Cunningham, dentist – 09 01 29

1909 05 21
Health of Cambridge report – 09 05 21

1909 09 03
Dr George Cunningham told an International Congress in Berlin of the work of the Cambridge School Dental Clinic, the only one of its kind in England. Mr Sedley Taylor of Trinity College had been shocked at the state of children's teeth and funded a dentist to investigate. He found the condition of their temporary teeth was so bad that proper treatment was impossible. The best thing was to concentrate exclusively on permanent teeth which appear after the sixth year. The results were so convincing that the Town Council decided to fund the clinic. CEN 09 09 03

1910

1910 02 11
If the death rate for consumption continues to fall at the present rate it should be extinct in Cambridge in the next 20 years, said Dr Laird at the Tuberculosis Exhibition in the Corn Exchange. Last year there were about 200 cases and 65 deaths. If a patient stays at home a Health Visitor provides spittoons, proper handkerchiefs and disinfectant; if they go to the Sanatorium the house is disinfected, cleansed throughout, re-papered and limewashed. A new pavilion will be built for those who live in overcrowded rooms or who cannot have a bed to themselves. 10 02 11d & e

1910 02 12
Complaint that bathrooms not provided in new houses 10 02 12

1910 05 06
Under the Midwives Act no woman can habitually attend women in childbirth unless she is certified. There were 54 midwives on the register of whom 30 were trained. Ten of the untrained women were between the ages of 65-75 and might need replacing before long by reason of death or infirmity. There was only one trained midwife at Willingham and an untrained woman at

Landbeach. There were none at Isleham, Burwell, Wicken, Upware, Milton, Cottenham, Swavesey or Histon. Some mothers can afford the fee of a medical practitioner but are unable also to pay the full fee of a skilled nurse and so may turn to unregistered women 10 05 06b & c

1910 06 24
Amongst those who took their degrees in Theology at the Senate House was G.A. Mackenzie the Missioner of the Church of England Deaf and Dumb Mission for Cambridge. He has attained his degree in spite of the fact that he was born deaf. He started the present mission in the Tracy Hall, Cockburn Street in 1906 where services and Bible-classes are held every Sunday in the finger and sign language. About 30 deaf persons attend regularly 10 06 24g

1910 12 30
Death of Walter Edward Pain, chemist – 10 12 30b

1911 01 28
Red Cross Society Voluntary Aid Detachments formed to complete medical establishment required for Territorial Force in invent of invasion, County Council hold courses [3.3]

1911 02 18
Milk depot established to provide pasteurised milk in sealed containers for infants [3.4]

1911 03 10
Measles is very widely prevalent in Cambridge just now, largely due to the fact that it is nearly three years since there was an epidemic and a large population of susceptible children has grown up. Parents should be familiar with the symptoms which are similar to those of a common cold and should keep the children at home until quite certain measles will not develop. This is not a trifling complaint: the average deaths from measles is five to six times higher than from scarlet fever and a doctor should be called in immediately it is suspected 11 03 10

1911 07 15
Byelaw proposed that refuse must be placed in galvanised receptacles, feel tenants might use them for wheelbarrows, coal scuttles or to give babies baths; cost high, byelaw with drawn [1.5,4.1]

1911 08 12
Surprise at number of ladies who smoke [3.6]

1911 10 27
The Cambridge Society for the Blind was established at a meeting attended by the Masters of several colleges. The number of blind were gradually tapering off as there were few diseases of the eye that were not understood and most were preventable or remediable. But there should be a society to watch over their interests. Sadly H.M. Taylor of Trinity was unwell. When his sight first failed he had the greatest difficulty in learning anything about the blind. He had given his powerful intellect for others who suffered the same trouble and had established a firm to publish embossed scientific works for the blind. 11 10 27e [1.5]

1912 02 03
Proposal to ban smoking in New Theatre rejected [2.22]

1912 02 17
Romsey Town Institute have bath that members can use, 1d cold, 2d hot, few use it [2.23]

1912 05 17
Assistant dentist to be appointed to look after children's teeth – 12 05 17c

1912 07 12
Since Midsummer Fair there has been a very great increase in the number of cases of scarlet fever. The disease had been epidemic in Cambridge for a long time and owing to the mildness of the cases it is proving most difficult to cope with. Many are only discovered during the 'peeling' stage. Numbers of children in an infectious state attended the fair resulting in the sudden jump of reported cases 12 07 23e Interview with a victim – describes symptoms – 12 07 12l

1912 07 19
Scarlet fever outbreak statistics, started Castle End – 12 07 19b

1912 07 19
The Medical Officer's report on pure milk supplies includes excellent photographs showing the good caused by pulling down old cow sheds and their replacement with up-to-date buildings. There are 305 milch cows in Cambridge, kept by 30 cowkeepers, but a large number of purveyors buy supplies from Huntingdon, Norfolk and Buckingham while cream is brought from as far away as Wiltshire or Somerset. The average consumption is less than half-a-pint per head per day. Amongst the poorest milk is a luxury and used chiefly in tea. The practice of ladling out milk from a deep can is a source of contamination: the milkman's hand may enter it or rain and dust get in when the lid is removed. 12 07 19

1912 07 19
The National Insurance Act has seen a great rush of insurable people to join approved societies and applications for cards have reached stupendous figures. Cambridge General Benefit Society was one of the first to be approved and have admitted 100 new members. To their disgust members of the Cambridge Police Force have been called on to contribute their fourpence a week under the Act. This is difficult to understand as they get almost full pay during sickness and receive free medical attendance from the Police Surgeons 12 07 19f & g

1912 10 04
Chelmsford Board of Guardians passed a resolution in favour of the bodies of paupers who die in the Workhouse and are not claimed by relatives being sent to the University Medical School, Cambridge, for experimental purposes. One Guardian described the proposal as a scandal, but others, including two clergymen, said they would be willing to allow their own bodies to be used for a similar purpose. 12 10 04j

1913 01 03
January 15th, the date on which medical benefits are due to begin under the National Insurance Act, will find Cambridgeshire prepared. Up to last Saturday Cambridge doctors showed a solid front against working the Act but a meeting was hurriedly called at which they agreed a resolution: "That to save from absolute ruin many of our fellow practitioners … we can no longer condemn those who are forced in self-preservation to go on the panel". But they express 'bitter animosity' against the Government's methods. 13 01 03a

1913 06 20
Cambridge Provident Medical Institution was established in 1883 to secure medical assistance during illness for the working classes, domestic servants and others unable to pay the usual professional fees. At one time 2,000 names were on the books but this declined as other friendly

societies were established and now the Insurance Act means it must be wound up. W.R. Brown served as assistant collector and secretary till disabled by an illness which ultimately proved fatal 13 06 20 p5 CIP

1913 08 08
The British Dental Association conference heard of the work of the Cambridge Dental Clinic 13 08 08 p5, 6, 10 CIP

1913 10 17
Big public baths were really a luxury but the council should spend money on cottage baths in the poorer quarters of Cambridge. They were necessities for those who had not opportunities in their own private houses to wash themselves. In Germany schools were built with baths and the children were required to bathe once a week. In backward Russia there was the village bath for everyone. Bradford had seven different types. Could not the Corn Exchange be put to double use by making a bath at the bottom and have the corn merchants above? 13 10 17 p4 CIP

1913 12 05
Huntingdonshire & Cambridgeshire are amongst the most serious cancer localities in England, research over the period 1901-1910 shows. 13 12 05 p5 CIP

1914 03 20
Amongst those who took their M.A. was Mr G.A. Mackenzie who is the first to attain the degree despite being born deaf. For some years he was a well-known artist in Liverpool, then became a diocesan missioner in Oxford. In 1906 he came to Cambridge and founded the Ely Diocesan Association in aid of the Deaf and Dumb. At the same time he read for his degree, attaining his B.A. in 1910. He learned to speak with the aid of his mother and an elocutionist and can now conduct all his business by speech. 14 03 20a

1914 03 21
Need for bath houses & cleansing stations for school children stressed [3.8, 5.4]

1914 12 18
Professor Sims Woodhead, said while members of the Sixth Division were based in Cambridge, before going to the front, one man was found dead in his tent. There were rumours he had succumbed to typhoid inoculation but a post-mortem showed he had not been given one. To get the best results from inoculation men should be rested and given light food. Then they would be well again after one or two days. But a man who would not rest and have his arm in a sling was four of six days in a very uncomfortable condition 14 12 18

1915 05 14
Dentist in wartime – work at 1st First Eastern General Hospital 15 05 14 p7

1915 07 16
Measles epidemic accelerated due 20,000 men of Welsh division who billeted in private houses 15 07 16 p4

1915 08 29
Tuberculosis conference at New Medical Schools addressed by Dr Varrier-Jones 15 08 29 p2

1916 07 26
Bushel Anningson, Medical Officer of Health - port, obituary – 16 07 26e, f

1916 07 01
Half sewage passed into river untreated, resignations from committee [2.2]

1916 07 08
Sewage: due lack of care when laid pipes crack & water gets in from soil, but has transformed Cambridge from damp place to dry & healthy - few years ago impossible to dig down seven feet without hitting water, now 20 feet, mists stopped [2.2]

1916 07 29
Flooded state sewage farm due to experiments to see what possibilities; daily flow 3 million gallons, can dispose of only 2 [2.3]

1917
300 babies at Corn Exchange show [Rev Yr 7.1919]

1918 10 30
Influenza Epidemic - no signs of abatement of influenza, outlying districts, which were immune a week or two ago, are now attacked, and the epidemic still proceeds. Public schools, which were to have re-opened next Monday, will in all probability remain closed for a further period. The doctors agree that the present type of the disease is very virulent, and one of its features is the great rapidity with which it spreads. There has been a tremendous run on the chemists for eucalyptus, quinine, etc., but the great preventative is, we are told by the highest authority, "open air and free ventilation." 18 10 30 CIPof

1918 12 04
Influenza Scare— shops were complaining that they were getting large stocks of bacon on hand because people would not buy it on account of the idea that influenza was due to eating it. Dr. Laird (Medical Officer) could not find the slightest evidence in support of the idea that the present outbreak of influenza was attributable to the eating of bacon from animals which had suffered from swine fever. There was no evidence of swine fever being transmissible to man 18 12 04 CIPof

1919 09 24
VAD in Cambs; notable record of work in days of peace and war, by Alex Wood – detailed account – 19 09 24b

1920

1920 02 21
Cambridge branch of council for combating venereal disease presents play - CDN 20 02 21

1920 05 10
National council for combatting venereal disease, Cambridge branch 3rd annual meeting - CDN 20 05 10

1920 07 21
British Red Cross Society motor ambulance service a boon – details – Ch 20 07 21a
For anybody at charge of 1s 3d per mile, reduction if poor - CDN 20 07 17 [6.7]

1920 10 06

Borough dentist, William H. Jones, resigns – Ch 20 10 06a

1920 12 29
Disabled ex-servicemen employment, 18 men being trained in tailoring, 12 each in jewellery, clock repairing and carpentry, 40 in diamond-cutting; photos in English Leather Co boot repairers and man driving traction engine – Ch 20 12 29a

1922 02 15
Motor ambulance to replace old push ambulance which the only means the police had for dealing with street accidents and emergencies presented by special constables – 22 02 15, photo – 22 02 15a [1.10,2.19,3.2]

1922 03 07
Faith healing in Cambridge. Remarkable evidence at inquest on diphtheria victim. An inquest was held by the Borough Coroner on a boy aged five, the son of a bricklayer, who had died from diphtheria. The parents had not called in a doctor until it was too late. The father said the boy had been ill for the last week or so, and had been away from school. "I belong to the Peculiar People and we believe in faith healing – the laying on of hands and anointing with oil". On March 4th the boy appeared to be worse and could not get his breath easily. He sent his wife for the Doctor at midnight and while she was gone the boy collapsed in his arms and could not draw his breath. The doctor said that if one went out to every child that was unwell one would be out half the night. Next morning the mother called and told him the child was dead. The child's brother had been swabbed at school as there were cases there. Unfortunately deceased was absent from school then. The Coroner said "When a case like this occurs it not only affects the parents and their children, but it may have a very serious effect upon the whole town" 22 03 07

1922 04 29
At the Grand Council of the Red Cross Society and St John Ambulance Association Mrs Hartree raised the question of the police ambulance, and said she understood that the police ambulance was to be kept in the town, and that the Red Cross Ambulance should be used for long distances. However it was seen that the Police ambulance had gone on long distances - Ipswich and Norwich. Mrs Pryor said she knew the ambulance had been used extensively at the Evelyn Nursing Home. The Chief Constable said that the objection to the Red Cross Ambulance was that it was not heated, but they had very quietly informed him that it was heated and the ambulance had been much improved lately 22 04 29

1923 10 26
Cambridge public health committee have asked the surveyor to prepare plans for the erection in Gwydir Street of a building containing about 18 slipper and two douche baths. Dr Dalton said there was great need for washing baths in Cambridge. Three quarters of the houses in the town were without baths, and he believed there was only one place in the town - a hairdresser's - where there were baths available for the use of the public. There were 20,000 people in Petersfield, St Matthews and Romsey town districts alone. This was not a luxury, but a necessity 23 10 26

1924 11 02
The first of a series of film displays with the object of educating public opinion of certain dread diseases was held in Newnham. Of all the dread diseases which devastated civilise countries to-day, venereal diseases were perhaps the most serious. A centre was established at Addenbrooke's where treatment was free and secret. Since 1917 the number of attendances was 11,905. The disease was so serious as to warrant the most vigorous propaganda. The responsibility of parents in the education of their children in sex matters ought not to be shirked. 24 11 02

1925 03 20
Cambridge Chief Constable reported that the present motor ambulance is showing signs of wear and in need of a thorough overhaul. It had travelled upwards of 13,000 miles and conveyed 1,500 patients. It had cost was £800, the chassis was second-hand. During this time £700 has been received for its use by private persons. The committee recommended the purchase of a new motor ambulance, built by a special ambulance body builder, at a cost not exceeding £1,000 25 03 20

1925 06 09
Speaking of the need for a Bath House in Gwydir Street, Cambridge, Dr Laird said the only houses in the area with baths were 50 being built by the Corporation in Vinery Road and about 80 houses in Guest, Willis and Collier roads. A very small proportion of the houses in Cambridge had baths. The absence of such facilities was a contributory cause of disease. The Ministry wished to defer it because they thought bricklayers should be employed on housing schemes and hesitated to sanction schemes that would take bricklayers from houses 25 06 09

1925 12 12
The Cambridge Women's Welfare Association was formed recently to bring a knowledge of birth control methods within reach of poor mothers. It is a rule that every woman attending must be seen by a doctor and the Cambridge Centre, Fitzroy Hall, Wellington Street has both a lady doctor and a certified midwife in attendance. The London Society for the Provision of Birth Control Clinics began its work in a small way at Walworth and now has centres at North Kensington and Wolverhampton as well as Cambridge. At Walworth 5,275 separate cases have been dealt with since its work began in 1921 - 25 12 12

1926 03 02
The motor ambulance service in Cambridge continues to prove of great benefit and increased demands have again been made both for accidental and private cases. An additional motor ambulance has been purchased and has proved of great assistance. The number of calls received was 701, 175 to accidents and cases of sudden illness in the streets and 526 to private removal cases. The Watch Committee have excused payment in several cases of private removals, where the persons were in necessitous circumstances. The ambulances are available at any hour of the day or night upon application to the Central Police Station or Fire Station 26 03 02

1926 03 12
A Cambridge school girl died of small-pox at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Mill Road and as a result the East Road Boys', Girls' and Infants' Schools have been closed for at least a week for disinfection. The Medical Officer strongly advises people to get vaccinated. The last outbreak occurred in 1921 when a man was affected. There was also an isolated outbreak in 1919 - 26 03 12 [1.13]

1926 11 19
A Cambridge dispenser claimed he used drugs to make up "pick-me-ups" for undergraduates in the morning. The judge: "Do they require 'pick-me-ups' in the morning?" (Laughter.) "They do things now that we never thought of". He made them up out of his head, usually mixing three tinctures. They were drunk in a wineglass of water. They were used every day during term time. The undergraduates looked something of a wreck in the morning and owned to having had a little refreshment at night. (Laughter.) 26 11 19

1927 01 22
Public Baths open in Gwydir Street [1.16]

1927 07 05
A state bordering on perfection" is the report of the Cambridge Public Dental officer on the treatment of elementary school children during 1928. 642 parents had written to refuse treatment for their children but we shall slowly educate the public that dental treatment for children is well worth while, he says. The improvement in the condition of the teeth has advantageously affected the physique of the children – in 1908 17 per cent of the Cambridge children were or poor physique, whereas in 1925 only 1.8 per cent were found to be so. 28 07 05

1927 08 06
Discuss provision of maternity home [2.5]

1928 05 08
The work of the Cambridge Birth Control Clinic was explained to Cambridge Women's Welfare Association. The foremost difficulty was the absence of a contraceptive method so simple and effective as to meet the needs of the over-tired, feckless, under-housed, unintelligent or mentally-deficient woman. But although they should do something to enable people to have just the children they could manage, their methods, generally called 'birth control', were disgusting and filthy. There was danger in the free use of contraceptive methods by unmarried young people. They might be getting to the morals of the poultry yard. 28 05 08

1928 10 16
In Salisbury Villas, Station Road, Cambridge is an embryo Missionary School of Tropical Diseases and Hygiene. Since its inception 85 missionary candidates have received instruction in anatomy, bacteriology and medicine to enable them to care for their own health when far from qualified aid and alleviate sickness and suffering on the field where they will be working. It was founded by the Rev. E.S. Fellowes-Farrow and housed in rooms in his private residence. 28 10 16

1928 11 22
1928 has been a bad year for the prevalence of diphtheria with over 100 cases in Cambridge, resulting in 14 deaths. There have been 37 cases in elementary schools since September and six have ended fatally. Taken early the disease can be treated with a serum but parents are liable to mistake the first symptoms for those of a slight cold, a sore throat or the mumps. There is no traceable cause for the outbreak and personal contact, not insanitary conditions, is a primary cause of its spreading. 28 11 22 [1.18]

1929 01 12
Sir – The Cambridge Surveyor offers to supply 'Standard Bins' at 4s. 9d and limit the amount of refuse. These are certainly tidy but judging from the state of some of the bins one feels that potential disease forces lurk under the lids, especially on murky warm nights. The advantages of the old wooden box or tub is that when the bacteria and damp have done their work the said container perforce refuses refuse – I.M. Tired. Editor: I believe the sanitary dustbins are infinitely preferable to the old wooden boxes without lids that often decorate our pavements and provide a happy hunting ground for stray dogs. 29 01 12

1930

1930 02 28
Two bottles of dead flies were produced at Cambridge council meeting in support of the contention that a rabbit skin factory in York Terrace was still a public nuisance. They had been caught in neighbouring houses. Residents said life was unbearable on many occasions and a man

suffering from tuberculosis had to sleep with his windows shut because of the obnoxious smells which were worse at night. But the Medical Officer said that in spite of careful inspection no smells, flies or bugs were found. 30 02 28

1930 03 08
Sir – the rabbit factory in York Terrace, Cambridge, is a disgusting nuisance, excluding a horrible stench. Had this factory been on Grange Road the foundations would never have been dug but York Terrace stands for poverty and insignificance and so maggots, flies and stenches should apparently be borne with that humility that has been the bane of the workers all down the ages – P.J. Wright. 30 03 08
Sir – I am one of the fortunate ones employed at the rabbit warehouse in York Terrace, Cambridge. I came here about two years ago to grade these skins. It is a warehouse, not a factory; there has never been an outbreak of fever among the employees and a healthy child of 13 may start work there. To close it would add about 20 names to the unemployment register – T.A. Edwards 30 03 08b

1930 04 30
Cambridge Guildhall was crowded with an audience chiefly composed of young men and women, but with a fair leavening of older folk, who had come to hear Dr Marie Stopes give an address on birth control. She spoke rapidly for an hour and replied to many questions. Thousands of mothers, having had three or four children, with perhaps only one year between them, finding it difficult to get sufficient food and worn out were in dread of another unwanted child. What was wanted was spaced babies from radiant mothers. Dr Stopes had been abused, insulted and misrepresented but she made people think and talk about birth control. 30 04 30a & b

1931 10 02
A new luxury ambulance will soon be seen in the streets of Cambridge, replacing the older of the two Borough Police ambulances. It is an Armstrong-Siddeley fitted with self-changing gears and equipped with a wheel stretcher and Mosley 'float-on-air' bed. It is the last word in comfort with a Thermorad exhaust heater to warm the interior in cold weather and opaque glass so patients can see out. 31 10 02b

1931 10 23
Residents of York Terrace protested about the rabbit-skin warehouse in Sturton Street. They had large blue-bottles in their homes and maggots had been seen crawling on the pavement within a few inches of their doors. The proprietor had put in different machinery but had not obviated the nuisance. It should be moved from that crowded area so people could live free from the smells, maggots and flies. 31 10 23c & d

1932 01 18
Complaints have been received about the rabbit skin warehouse in Sturton Street. Inhabitants of York Terrace say it caused effluvia and was a nuisance injurious to their health due to abominable smells which prevented them opening their windows and because of the maggots which escaped from the works and entered their houses. 32 01 18

1932 02 19
York Street residents signed a petition complaining about the Sturton Street rabbit skin factory. It had started in 1928 and the skins were stored and dried on the premises. The smell was very offensive and unhealthy, like old bones burning, there were maggots in the streets and blow flies as big as small bees. It was very bad in August – but the factory was only open from September to March. 32 02 19 & 19a

1932 06 17
Dr F.C. Searle is giving up his practice in Cambridge and will take up an appointment as a medical attendant on a ranch in Kenya Colony conducted by former students of Trinity College, known to him as patients during their stay at the University. "I have always felt the call of the wild and shall be in my element roughing it hundreds of miles from civilisation", he said. He has resigned from the Rotary Club and as medical officer to the Cambridge Home of Mercy. He will not be accompanied by his wife and children, for whom he has taken a house in Cambridge 32 03 14

1932 06 17
A Cambridge doctor claimed payment from an undergraduate for a course of sun ray treatment. He sent his account to the college but the tutor had not been told the student had been ill and queried the charge. When undergraduates are going down it is extremely difficult, if not impossible to get them to pay their bills, he lost more from undergraduates than any other kind of patients, the doctor complained. 32 06 17 c& d

1932 12 03
White walking sticks for blind provided [1.7]

1933
New Health Centre established [1.11]

1933 02 28
The Medical Superintendent reported a rather severe epidemic of influenza at Fulbourn Mental Hospital involving a large number of inmates and staff. The epidemic spread to the female side and 105 patients were affected, 30 dying. None of the staff died. The epidemic lasted nearly a month. The Visitors expressed their appreciation to the staff for the extra and hard work during a very trying time. 33 02 28b

1933 03 29
School dentist's report – 33 03 29b & c

1933 05 18
Cambridge Mothercraft Clinic gives information and teaching which saves women many hours of anxiety and babies many terrible pains. They have held classes for expectant mothers and six have come to the clinic for help and advice. It is open two days a week and has seen 160 attendances but needs 360 people to pay a guinea a year to cover expenses. 33 05 18 a & b

1933 05 26
Deaf-mute people were cut off socially and industrially, many became a burden on their families and were sent to institutions at the age of seven. The answer lay in one word: 'Papworth'. A village settlement should be established in pleasant surroundings where they could live in an entirely self-contained community. They could make their own township and find a suitable vocation in working the land. The difficulties of normal children born in such a colony, of the marriage of deaf-mutes and the sterilisation of the unfit were touched upon at a meeting in Cambridge 33 05 26d

1933 10 16
The new Municipal Health Centre in Auckland Road houses the school dental and medical clinics as well as maternity and child welfare centres. After health visitors started in 1906 infant

mortality had dropped from 114 per 1,000 down to 38 last year. As for the dental clinic it was Dr Charles Cunningham and Mr Sedley Taylor whose combination of science and benevolence set an example which had been followed all over the civilised world. 33 10 16

1933 11 30
Dr Charles Frederick Searle's name removed from Medical register – 33 11 30

1935 05 27
Thomas Henry Connor, Cambridge dentist dies – 35 05 27

1935 09 02
A widow, married woman and a waiter were charged with procuring a miscarriage. The man said a girl arrived in Cambridge and told him she wanted something done. He went to Mrs S—who said she knew a woman to go to. There was only one thing that might be effective. It would cost £3. But Mrs D--- said she'd been only paid £1.10s for what she had done. 35 09 02

1935 12 18
Death statistics show that measles and whooping cough had caused as much loss of child life as diphtheria and scarlet fever. Since 1910 influenza had caused at least 1,400 deaths in Cambridgeshire, even higher than in the five years preceding the Great War. Improved travelling facilities and cheap cinema entertainment were great causes of the spread of infections and until people refrained from exposing others to risk in those surroundings there could be little improvement, Dr F Robinson warned Rotarians 35 12 18a

1937 01 30
Horace Coulson, the well-known chemist, was one of the best-liked men in Cambridge. – 37 01 30a

1937 03 20
St Dunstan's organised a reunion of war-blinded men at the Dorothy Café. Their aim has always been to re-establish the men in their own homes and consequently they have lost touch with fellow sufferers. There were demonstrations of the Talking Book Machine, a kind of gramophone which can be used to play both ordinary records and special recordings of books which run for about 25 minutes. The machine has only been in production for a year but already 100 books have been recorded. 600 have been distributed, half to soldiers, and half to civilians. 37 03 20b & c

1937 07 29
Dr A.J. Laird has served as Cambridge Medical Officer of Health for 29 years. Since 1908 the death rate, infant mortality, tuberculosis and all ailments had dropped with the possible exception of cancer. There'd been no complaints about the Infectious Diseases Hospital and he'd twice saved Cambridge from epidemics of smallpox. Nor had there been a quarrel with the County Council over matters of public health – the medical officers had always come to an agreement. His work had been largely unseen and unspectacular but Cambridge owed him a very great deal. 37 07 29d

1938 12 16
Crematorium opens, Huntingdon Road [1.4]

1939 03 04
Tuberculosis work has been carried on in Camden Place for 25 years. Now the old dispensary is being demolished with a new clinic adjoining Shire Hall, Castle Hill opened by Prof Ryle. It is

equipped with an X-ray apparatus of the highest quality with a skilled radiologist in charge of it. Now the death rate from tuberculosis in Cambridgeshire was one of the lowest. The new dental caravan was also on display 39 03 04a

1940

1942 07 31
Death of Dr. F.L. Nicholls. The news of the death of Dr. Frederick Lucius Nicholls, O.B.E., on Thursday of last week, came as a great shock to the village of Fulbourn and to a wide circle of friends, colleagues and admirers in the county and still further afield. For nearly 55 years Dr. Nicholls had practised in Fulbourn and the neighbouring villages, and his skill, kindliness and ever-present sense of public duty endeared him to all with whom he came into contact. Some of the older residents will remember him many years ago, when he was to be seen on horseback visiting his patients, and will have seen him riding up to the doors, and, whilst still in the saddle, knock with his riding whip, and often prescribe by the road-side; and now that he has passed on, his generosity of heart can recorded with gratitude, for many families have benefited by his care and attention, but never received a bill for his professional service. He refused to be enrolled as panel practitioner, preferring to retain the old family doctor tradition, but he was always ready respond to all appeals for his services. During the last war successfully conducted a hospital in the village without any remuneration, and for which he received the O.B.E. in the post-war honours list. During these years of national difficulty he made it a rule never to make any charge for professional services to any members of servicemen's families 42 07 31 CIPof

1942 10 05
Frank Robinson, former Medical Officer Health Cambs dies in river, career – 42 10 05a

1943 01 11
Mobile Operating Theatre attached to Red Cross Flying Squad – 43 01 11

1943 07 03
E. Saville Peck retires from Pharmaceutical Society council – career - 43 07 03

1945
Blantyre Home for blind formed [446.12.3]

1946
Voluntary Association for Maternity & Child Welfare wound up [2.17]

1947
Ambulance service jump gun to become first to carry patients free of charge - unique- comes under NHS June 1948 [5.4, 446.1 1.3]

1948
Nursing Association wound up [1.4]

1948 02 16
The first case dealt with by Mr Harry Edwards, a leading psychic healer at the service of healing of the Cambridge Spiritualist Healing Guild was a four-year old of Ramsey who was afflicted with infantile paralysis last August and has not been able to walk properly since. He was carried by his mother on to the dais wearing an iron support on his left leg. This was removed. Mr

Edwards placed his hands around the boy's back and a few seconds later he was walking. For the remainder of the afternoon he was romping around the front of the hall as happy as any child could be 48 02 16

1948 05 12
Sir - "In reply to a gaily-coloured invitation to have my eight-month old daughter immunised from diphtheria, free of charge, I took her to the Auckland Road Clinic, Cambridge. I had experience of this clinic during the war as an ambulance driver. What I found horrified me. I found makeshift surroundings completely unsuited and of dubious cleanliness and that instead of the babies being isolated at this special time the room was occupied by 20 or 30 school children, some with scabs on their faces, some with colds, some hardly clean, all waiting for treatment. I waited for half an hour from the time of my appointment and as the doctor had not yet arrived I decided not to risk the baby's health any longer in such an environment and went home. If we are to have any kind of National Health Service that will work this kind of thing will have to stop" - Margaret Phillips 48 05 12

1948 06 23
By June 18th 89% of the general practitioners in Cambridge and county had accepted service under the new Health Service Act. A preliminary list of the doctors was pinned up in all post offices yesterday. Formerly the number of insured people in this area was 75,000. From July 5th the number will have more than doubled - the population of the area being 160,000. In spite of all that has been written about the National Health Service many are fogged about what they should do. Everyone over 16 can choose his or her own doctor. People wishing to do so may still go to their usual doctor as a private patient 48 06 23

1949 07 19
Mass radiography is gradually gaining popularity throughout the country and larger numbers of people are showing willingness to have an X-ray examination. One way in which the length of time taken has been cut down is through the mobile van – thought to be one of the first of its kind in the country. Cambridge is one of the lucky towns included in its area and quite a number of local factory are taking advantage of the facility. Recently it visited Pyes, where approx 1,900 people submitted themselves for X-rays. This represents 84% of the employees

1950

1950 03 01
A swifter and more efficient ambulance service is in action this week – thanks to radio control. This innovation, which has already proved its worth with the police and fire brigade, has had a successful trial with the county ambulance service. Radio control was fitted to their four ambulances and two utilicons by Pye Telecommunications and all vehicles are in constant call from the control room, newly equipped with receiver, transmitter and microphone. A number of Cambridge commercial firms have now followed the lead of Camtax in installing radio telephones and Cambridge must be among the world's most advanced towns in the field of radio control 50 03 01

1950 06 09
The Cambridge Communist Party has presented a further 100 signatures – making 400 in all – to Cambridge Town Council protesting against the proposed increase in the price of Gwydir Street baths. Many people in Cambridge were without proper washing facilities and have to use the public baths. Judging by the addresses of the petitioners many have also to bear the expense of

bus fares and the proposed increase of 50% would be a further burden - particularly for those with large families and old age pensioners 50 06 09

1950 09 28
Polio victim dies in Iron Lung [1.14]

1951 01 20
Flu epidemic - 900 cases in week [1.15]

1951 11 13
Four more cases of poliomyelitis have been reported in Cambridge, bringing the total to eight. Three of the new cases are schoolchildren, the other is an adult. They have all been reported in the earliest stages of the disease. The four earlier cases are rapidly getting better 51 11 13

1953 05 16
Step against cancer - opening of new University Laboratories at Addenbrooke's, director Prof. Mitchell [1.19]

1953 08 01
Mass chest X-Rays introduced [1.20]

1955 11 12
Archibald Rayner, dentist, dies – 55 11 12a

1955 11 22
St John Ambulance Brigade has been given a new headquarters building in memory of the later Rev. Dr T. Fitzwilliam, President of Queens' college. It is one of the most marvellous things that has ever happened in the history of the organisation and when finally opened next year Fitzpatrick House will be something to be proud of. 55 11 22c & d

1956
Polio vaccine declared safe, wholesale vaccination programme planned [1.21]

1956 09 08
The Queue to join the 'Quiet Service' – ambulance article 56 09 08a & b & c

1957 04 29
Countess Mountbatten of Burma visited Cambridge to receive the gift of Fitzpatrick House in Barton Road and declare it open as the new county headquarters of the St John Ambulance Brigade. Then on Lammas Land she inspected more than 300 men, women, boys and girls who make up the Brigade and presented the Grand Prior's Badge to nursing cadet Averil Turville. 57 04 29a & b & c [1.23] [4.5]

1957 09 20
The Cambridge Christian Spiritualist Church held a service of spiritual healing at the Guildhall to commemorate their 25th jubilee. Mr Gordon Taylor lead the demonstration, treating a man with rheumatoid arthritis: when he walked onto the stage he was unable to comb his own hair, after Mr Taylor had manipulated his joints he could. He also improved hearing and restored sight. 57 09 20 & a

1957 11 21

A Selwyn College undergraduate has died in Addenbrooke's Hospital after being seriously ill with poliomyelitis. The Medical Officer said there are eight recently-notified cases in Cambridge; the others are all children ranging from infancy to 11 years. Two are members of the same family. All are in hospital. 57 11 21

1958 08 19
The Gray Club began in 1955 for ex-pupils of the Open Air School but now works with handicapped people organising a programme of outings and competitions. Long lines of cars, invalid carriages and the occasional ambulance can be seen outside the City Football Club ground where they meet. Lady Adrian, herself physically handicapped, is its President and the search for new members goes on. There is a very real need for a permanent club building open every day where they could find companionship while their carers go shopping. 58 08 19b

1958 09 01
Dr Henry Roderick came to Cambridge as police surgeon and surgeon to the post office and was present at the last hanging at the old Cambridge Gaol. He came particularly interested in the treatment of crippled children in the 1920s though some parents refused to have their children treated by what were then new methods of surgery. He started the first orthopaedic out-patients sessions at Addenbrooke's Hospital together with country clinics where nurses visited people in their own homes. 58 09 01 & a

1959 04 25
The Cambridgeshire Branch of the British Red Cross Society celebrated its Golden Jubilee. The first detachment (women) was formed in Cambridge in 1910 and followed by Bourn, Swavesey, Shelford & Willingham. The first men's detachment was formed at Melbourn in 1913. With the coming of the First World War valuable work was done at hospitals in Cintra Terrace and Wordsworth Grove which laid the foundation for their well-established reputation for invaluable service 59 04 25c [2.10]

1959 11 26
Cambridge has a problem with smoky chimneys. Domestic smoke contains a high proportion of tar which sticks to everything it touches. The 'prefabs' at Church End, Cherry Hinton and Histon Road are a very bad example of the smoking low chimney. The 'cosy coal fire' is by no means as innocent outside the house as it looks to be inside the grate and the rights of the individual should not include the right to choke his neighbour. Smoke Control Orders should be sought, the Public Health Inspector reported. 59 11 26a, b & c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 08 11
The mobile Mass Radiography Unit has taken 200,000 X-ray photographs in the region since it extended its service to the general public in 1949. Since then deaths from TB have fallen from 24,000 to 3,000 a year. But there has been a marked increase of tubercular infection amongst young people in Cambridge. The town plays host to a large number of people from abroad who come seeking building or factory work and one source could infect ten others. 60 08 11a

1960 10 17
Cambridge's public health inspector told how he entered one house to find the occupants had long ceased to use the lavatory. They threw all their rubbish screwed up in papers into one of the

streets. Later a police woman, looking at photographs, noticed a baby wrapped up in newspapers lying in a corner of the room. Restaurants could be unhygienic and in one he found a waiter with leprosy. The standard of housing in Cambridge is low: there are streets and streets of houses which in northern cities would have been pulled down many years ago. A smoke control order should be imposed on the centre of the city as smoke from ordinary household fuels is the most pernicious of all. 60 10 17

1960 10 19
Solomon Greenburgh, public analyst describes role – 60 10 19

1960 11 11
The school dental service in Cambridgeshire is rapidly becoming a mere toothache service: in the rural area there is half a school dentist for 12,000 children. The amount of dental decay in children has doubled in the last ten years and is increasing. Half the youngsters will require artificial teeth in their late teens or early twenties but they will not get them as there will not be dentists to make them. Parents are meeting increasing difficulty in arranging treatment for their children with fully occupied N.H.S. practitioners and new residents find it practically impossible. 60 11 11a

1962 02 01
A 19-year old Cambridge undergraduate now in an Ipswich isolation hospital as a smallpox suspect may not have the disease at all. Although living in Bradford he had not been in contact with smallpox victims there and may be suffering from vaccine poisoning. All those at Pembroke College who have been in contact with him are being traced but other students are not being vaccinated. 62 02 01

1962 03 19
A chapel for the deaf and dumb in Romsey Terrace was packed with people for its ordination. The service was taken and translated into deaf and dumb language by Mr E.G. Gollup, the Missioner. More than £900 is still needed to finish paying for the timber-built chapel which seats about 60 and has an expected life of 30 years. The Ely Diocesan Deaf and Dumb Association's work began a great many years ago and a hall – close to the chapel – had been used as a meeting place. But people found it easier to pray in a church or chapel and needed a space apart where they could worship. 62 03 19

1962 09 26
Mrs C. Clark has been secretary of the Cambridgeshire Society for the Blind for 15 years. She supervises two homes for the blind in Cambridge as well as the blind workers' shop in Regent Street. But there is more: she deals with the loan of wireless sets – there are over 250 at present, visits blind people in need of help and arranges parties or outings. There is a 'talking books' system and two blind undergraduates who had difficulty in finding textbooks were grateful to the people who read the information to them. Volunteers are needed to take people out for walks or help with teas at the weekend when the domestic staff are off-duty. 62 09 26

1963 06 14
The firm of J.E. Hanger of Brooklands Avenue is concerned with the supply and repair of artificial limbs. For nearly 50 years they have dealt entirely with legs. Measurements are taken, appliances fitted and minor or emergency repairs are undertaken. The workshop has legs of all shapes, sizes and styles, with or without shoes and socks or stockings. Repainted wooden feet are hung up to dry and a grinder is used for smoothing rough metal surfaces. Shelves of screw-top jars contain nuts, bolts and screws 63 06 14a

1963 10 21
St Raphael Club opened, set up 8 years ago to help physically handicapped [Misc.1.1]

1964 03 20
Although the pharmacy of A. Sidney Campkin and Sons of Rose Crescent is modern, it retains unique links with a long history. It still offers for sale Brewster's balsham of squills, horehound and aniseed as well as ear canker lotion for dogs. In 1955 the business passed to Mr T.E.W. Howell and now has a labour force of more than 60. It has had a 'facelift' but is still one of the older-fashioned chemists of Cambridge. 64 03 20d

1964 09 17
Dust from Norman Cement works about average [13.2]

1964 10 09
Cambridge air is only a little less dirty than that of Newcastle-on-Tyne with a considerable health hazard from smoke. Now a programme of control orders will be introduced at a cost of £18,000 a year to make Cambridge a smoke-free city by 1985. But the greatest danger came from vehicle emissions, there was an inadequate supply of smokeless fuel and it would involve hardship for old people, councillors argued. 64 10 09

1964 10 23
Solomon Greenburgh, Cambridge Public Analyst undertakes post-mortems and food contamination – feature – 64 10 23c

1964 11 20
The Cambridge Society for the Blind runs two homes in Glisson Road providing comfortable surroundings for 20 people and operates a small shop in Regent Street selling handicrafts made by the blind. Those registered are allowed craft materials at cost price, receive a free radio licence or get a rebate on the cost of a television licence. They also have access to the Nuffield Talking Book Library. The newly-formed Cambridge Rehabilitation Centre for the Blind provides the opportunity for meetings and discussion at the Barnwell Community Centre 64 11 20 cdef

1964 12 18
Cyril Eastwood, Cambridge Medical Officer of Health, profile – 64 12 18b

1965 02 06
Extra smoke control area agreed (1966 exempt college fire places which only used ceremonially) [13.3]

1967 07 20
Cambridge Advisory Centre for Young People offers advice on birth control and relationships; most of clients from university – 67 07 20

1967 11 21
St Raphael Club opened in Hawthorn Way in 1963, have 150 handicapped people – feature – 67 11 21

1969 05 14
Guide Dogs for Blind branch formed [4.9]

1969 03 19
Gwydir Street public baths opened in 1927; part may be turned into sauna – 69 03 19c

1970

1970
University Dental service set up 1970 - 71 07 20 [8.6]

1970 02 27
National Health Service new buildings in Vinery Road – 70 02 27a

1970 09 01
New smoke control orders agreed, (1971 Newnham area added, protest over log fires but get chop 1973) [13.4]

1970 10 26
Area VD rates increased 300% since 1959 [8.5]

1972 11 07
First health centre set up, Brookside. GPs surgeries, school clinics, private dentists, health visitors etc under one roof [8.8]

1973 03 05
Ambulance HQ moved to New Addenbrooke's after 19 years at Ditton Walk [4.2]

1973 09 04
Parking places reserved for disabled [6.4]

1973 08 21
A group of doctors who set up a hard drugs clinic in Cambridge during the 1960s believe they have now contained the spread of heroin addiction in the city. The first full report on almost seven years work by the Containment Unit for Drug Misuse has been produced by Dr Ross Mitchell, a Cambridge consultant psychiatrist. The unit was established to deal with hard drug addiction and he is not sure whether the same methods could be used to deal with the spread of "soft" drugs. "The misuse of drugs like cannabis and LSD have a large personal, political and ideological component. Our concern should be with young people at risk and we should attempt to set up facilities which will recognise this risk and try to provide continuing support", he said 73 08 21

1974 03 26
First year review (1975) says it catastrophic & chaotic, service too big to be intelligently run from an administration in London which pumps out enormous quantities of paper to Area Health Authorities with less staff [12]

1974 04 02
NHS reorganisation - administrative change only, to bring together hospital service, general practice & local community health services which used to function independently. Old admin bodies scrapped & new are: Dept of Health East Anglian Regional Health Authority, based Union Lane (succeeding EA Regional Hospital Board). Under them are 3 Area Health Authorities responsible for day-to-day running of each of their areas - Cambridgeshire, Suffolk & Norfolk. Cambridgeshire based at Purbeck House, Hills Rd. They have below them district management

teams of trained health service administrators & between them will replace the present individual hospital management committees & boards of governors. There will be two district management teams, one based at Cambridge, one Peterborough. Liaising with these bodies will be Family Practitioner Committees who are replacing the NHS Executive councils, dealing with matters affecting family doctors, dentists, opticians & pharmacists. To represent the public interest & protect consumer Community Health Councils set up to be consumer watchdogs [9]

1975 01 02
by end of year "NHS locally grinding to juddering halt under a snowdrift of paper & legislation which had neither cash nor manpower to cope with"; doctors, surgeons & specialists well off, hospitals well equipped & all best of medical sciences gadgetry is on hand; what in great demand is nursing power ... people have been forgotten [11]

1975 09 16
"Now NHS sinks in a paper sea" (9.75) [13]

1975 10 02
Gwydir St baths losing £7,000 pa, boilers 2nd hand when installed 50 years ago [8.2]

1975 11 01
Cambridge's £60,000 Hester Adrian Centre was described as an "outstanding achievement" by the Minster for the Disabled, Mr Alf Morris at its official opening. The Centre provides work facilities for both mentally and physically handicapped people. He paid tribute to the co-operation between Cambridge St Raphael Club, the Cambridgeshire Mental Welfare Association and the County Social Services Department. "It is a matter of deep concern to the Government that in the field of the handicapped, there is so much that still needs to be done to bring facilities up to the standard we accept as necessary", he said 75 11 01

1977 04 04
St John Ambulance new HQ opened [4.5]

1977 03 09
Doctors not move Brookfields Health Centre as will be too expensive to run [12.2]

1977 07 05
Cherry Mann's fight for independence has ended because she has died. And only death could have been her conqueror. She died weighing less than five stones. For 36 years – she was 38 when she died – she was the victim of a rare disease which turned 80 per cent of her body to chalk. She was incurable, and knew it; she could only move the forearm and three fingers on one hand. Yet she wrote in laborious long hand stories for BBC's Children's' Hour, poetry and gained her O & A levels. She fought for a home especially adapted to her needs and moved in when others like her had given up hope to wither away in geriatric hospitals. Her ambition was to help people. "I'll fight", she used to say, "To the day I die". And that was just what she did. 77 07 05

1978
Camtad - Cambridge campaign to tackle acquired deafness established [6.2]

1978 07 11
King's Hedges junior and infants' schools in Cambridge have closed because of a dysentery outbreak, three weeks after the first pupils went down with the disease. The number of children being kept at home has been rising daily – over 120 children and staff absent yesterday – and it is

obvious they can no longer function normally. They may never know where the infection came from, with a changing number of children with the symptoms. If there is just one case in the school the very number of people using the building means it is likely to be passed on repeatedly 78 07 11

1979 08 20
Britain's latest heart transplant patient, London builder Keith Castle, was sitting up in a chair at Papworth Hospital less than 48 hours after his major operation. Mr Terence English, the consultant surgeon who led the 12-strong heart transplant team said the 5½-hour operation went very smoothly and the new heart was functioning perfectly normally without assistance. Mr Castle received the heart of 21-year-old golf professional Duncan Prestt who died after a car crash in Ely. CEN 20.8.1979

1980

1980 08 19
Cambridge Diet launched USA, devised Dr Alan Howard from Dept Medicine, Addenbrooke's; (forms charitable trust, puts £100,000 pa into medical research 1984) [8.1]

1981 03 27
George Pateman Court, Tennis Road established by Cambridge Housing Society for disabled [6.6]

1982 01 05
Secret wartime experiments involving the production of deadly anthrax serum were conducted at the Institute of Animal Pathology on Milton Road. Now doubts remain about the safety of a piece of land where the carcasses of 12 horses were buried. Details have emerged as the university has applied for planning permission for housing on land close to the Dunn Nutritional Laboratory. The risk of infection is minimal and they plan to cover the immediate area with a concrete slab. 82 01 05 & 05a

1982 07 28
The Cambridge Blind Shop in Regent Street is to close, ending a tradition that goes back 50 years. Its original purpose was to provide an outlet for the work of local blind people who relied on basket-making, chair-caning or knitting for an income. Today the same necessity does not really exist and the number of local craftsmen has dwindled, making the shop no longer viable. 82 07 28 [4.12]

1984 08 30
Experts say Cambridge has as many as 350 drug addicts, a bigger proportion than in London and five times the official number. But it has fewer facilities and no proper advice centre for anyone to turn to. Last year there was a 44 per cent increase in arrests for dealing and 577 for drugs offences generally. In addition there is the massive and hidden drugs world serviced quite legally by family doctors who supply prescriptions for tranquilisers and sleeping pills to a quarter of a million patients, mainly housewives and pressurised businessmen 84 08 30

1985 05 22
Cambridge has a big drug abuse problems with as many as 800-1,000 young people thought to be dependent on hard drugs. Twenty years ago the 'News' went on the city streets and found drug abusers when the agencies claimed there was no problem. As a result of the publicity Cambridge

police set up a drugs squad which lead to an Association for the Prevention of Drug Addiction. Now an advice centre, 'The Bridge Project' will be opened in Mill Road. 85 05 22

1986 05 08
Panic-stricken callers are jamming the switchboard of Addenbrooke's Hospital asking if they can be tested for signs of radioactivity after the Chernobyl nuclear reactor disaster. A monitoring service has been set up for people who have visited Eastern Europe and fear they may have been contaminated. But most of the calls are from Cambridge people who have not been abroad. Scientists assure them there is no cause for alarm and environmental health officials say it is unnecessary to test milk and water supplies in the city 86 05 08

1986 10 03
Dedicated GP Rex Salisbury Woods began general practice and surgery in Cambridge in 1919 and retired aged 91 in 1983. He was an old-style family doctor to whom the most important people were his patients. His consulting rooms were a delight to wait in with comfortable armchairs and a cabinet in which he displayed his many sporting trophies. He was British Weight Champion – the old name for putting the shot - and a member of the Olympic teams in 1924 and 1928. 86 10 03

1986 12 17
Ambulance HQ moves to Fulbourn Hospital [4.7]

1987 05 21
A Government blunder over the ambulancemen's pay award last year landed Cambridgeshire ambulance service in trouble. They'd said the award would be funded by a rationalisation of budgets throughout the country and so would be funded at no extra cost. But this did not happen, resulting in a £1m bill. There was a 90 per cent cutback in the volunteer hospital car service where management alleged some drivers were making a fortune. The resulting row led to many drivers resigning. Now an investigate reveals it is more cost-effective than running ambulances 87 05 21

1988 03 23
New ambulance control centre opens Fulbourn Hospital [CEN 23.3.88]

1988 06 09
Health Food stores Rose Crescent closes after 57 years, one of first in country [CEN 9.6.88]

1988 09 29
New Institute of Public Health to be set up in Cambridge to pool knowledge etc [CEN 29.9.88]

1988 10 29
Chesterton Hospital new role as Cambridge's premier community health centre [CEN 29.10.88]

1989 01 30
City-centre doctors move to outskirts city - Buchanan of Trinity St ¢CEN 30.1.89

1989 07 27
Cambridge to have prestige medical research institute - Cambridge Institute of Public Health, a partnership of University Medical Research Council & NHS ¢CEN 27.7.89

1989 09 08

Cambridge Biosynthetic Blood Products Unit to produce cancer-killing drugs, opens next year
¢CEN 8.9.89

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Women street cleaners c1916 168.16

c.21.15 : Refuse Collection and Street Sweeping

1897 05 07
Will you allow me a small space to refer to the arrangements for sweeping and cleaning Fitzroy Street? After one gets one's place thoroughly cleaned and dusted, ready for business, we have three men commence sweeping the street and it is impossible sometimes to see across the road for dust. After this is done and the cart takes the rubbish away the water cart makes its appearance about two hours later. Considering that Fitzroy-street is one of the busiest streets of Cambridge I think these things could be altered to the benefit of the tradespeople of the street - letter from "Shopkeeper 1897 05 07

1900

1901 03 08
Miss W—of Regent Street, Cambridge was summoned for causing an obstruction by leaving some refuse tins in the street. P.C. Cole said he saw the tins outside her premises at 10.11 pm and they were still there at one o'clock the next morning. She said she placed the rubbish outside overnight because the scavenger came so early in the morning – 6.35am - before she was up. The Chief Constable said something had to be done to stop the practice of putting pails of rubbish out overnight. The defendant was cautioned and dismissed 01 03 08

1902 03 03
Sir - Cambridge Corporation has its roads cleaned between the hours of eight in the morning and five in the evening. As soon as the roads become busy a one-horse sweeping machine makes its

appearance and begins to sweep the mud from the centre of the road to within three inches of the kerb, and there leaves it for 36 hours. By that time the public have removed it on their clothes, or it has been splashed on the front of adjoining houses, or else the Corporation employ a few boys to sweep it into nice heaps which they leave at some place that it is convenient for the public to step into. But should there by any chance be any left the Corporation kindly send two men and a cart to remove it – Grateful Ratepayer 02 03 03

1902 04 22
Sir – may I call attention to an almost intolerable nuisance that maintains on Mill Road, Cambridge? The shopkeepers are in the habit of sweeping the refuse from their establishments into the streets (especially on Saturday night) with the result that dirty paper is blown about the streets and into the gardens of private houses. It is most objectionable and annoying to have one's gardens and yards filled with rubbish of this description. Is it not an offence against the bye-laws? – Resident 02 04 22 c

1904 05 09
The Association of Managers of Sewage Disposal Works inspected the Cambridge pumping station destructors where all kinds of refuse turned out from households daily, sweepings and other undesirable matter is tipped into huge trucks and burnt, giving off heat used whose steam is used to pump sewage. During winter months some 40 tons of refuse is burned each day. The disinfector was examined with interest; it was installed in 1902 and during the smallpox of 1904 was of great service in disinfecting a great number of articles using super-heated steam. They then moved to the Corporation sewage farm, Milton Road, for a practical demonstration of sewerage analysis 04 05 09

1906 04 19
The Borough Surveyor bought a new watering van at a cost of £52. They had 11 vans but four were unfit to travel as the wheels would not go round. With the sudden arrival of hot weather there was not one fit for use. They should have been overhauled at the end of the season. But scavenging in two districts had been let out to contractors and the vans belonging to the council were in their hands. 06 04 19b

1909 12 17
It is highly desirable that the footways should be kept clean and it may come as news to many that there is a bye-law which requires occupiers of any premises fronting or adjoining any street to cleanse the adjoining footways and pavements at least once every day, when necessary, excepting Sunday. The Chief Constable has been informed so Cambridge householders had better look out in future. CWN 09 12 17

1910

1910 01 29
Description of road sweeper at work [1.21]

1910 07 09
Water cart drivers turn off the supply when passing cyclists [1.22]

1911 06 10
Byelaw proposed that refuse must be placed in galvanised receptacles, feel tenants might use them for wheelbarrows, coal scuttles or to give babies baths; cost high, byelaw with drawn [1.5,4.1]

1911 06 16
Every house should be furnished with a proper metal refuse container. At present all sorts of receptacles – pails, wooden boxes, tin pans etc – were stuck on the edge of pavements, without covers, so that the wind and dogs scattered their contents about the streets and children picked over the rubbish. In hot weather the refuse lay exposed to sun, fermenting, decaying and attracting swarms of flies. But who would provide for the damage done to receptacles: the dust carts were so high that dustmen had to throw them up to a man on top to catch as best he could. Wooden boxes would be cheaper and could be burnt in the destructor 11 06 16f

1913 04 26
"In De Freville men collect rubbish from the back of the house, in poorer areas people need to take it to the front" [1.23]

1913 02 14
PC Law said he was on duty in Hills Road when he noticed the pavements outside no.36 were in a filthy condition: there were pools of water and refuse lying about. He's asked the occupant to clean them up, but the man had refused. The bye-law said occupiers should cleanse the footway adjoining their property once a day. But this had taken place at 9.10 am and that was too early; there was no evidence it was not clean at 10 o'clock. The case was dismissed. 14 02 14 p9 CIP

1917 02 14
Women Scavengers. The following is an extract from the minutes of the Paving (etc.) Committee which will come before the Cambridge Town Council, tomorrow. The chairman reported that Mrs. Keynes, Chairman of the Advisory Committee for Women's War Employment, had suggested that some of the workmen employed by the Corporation might be released for National Service and the scavenging of the streets be carried out by women. The Borough Surveyor explained that he had placed no obstacle in the way of the men going, but he had not pressed any men to go. The Committee approved the action taken by the Borough Surveyor. 17 02 14 CIPof

1918 01
Council buy 2 electric & 2 motor vehicles to collect refuse due to difficulties in getting horses & drivers [1.6]

1918 04 03
Women are now employed by the Cambridge Corporation as street scavengers and are performing the duties very capably, too 18 04 03 CIPof

1918 07 10
Uniformed Women Scavengers. A notable feature of Cambridge streets is the women scavengers, who are now turned out in a smart uniform. They are doing their work in a very capable fashion, and keep the thoroughfares wonderfully spick and span 18 07 10 CIPof

1918 11 13
Corporation Motor Lorry for house refuse collecting and general haulage. The body was built on to a Ford chassis at the Corporation Works Department, Mill Road 18 11 13 CIPof

1919 01
New Council dust cart damaged by fire [1.8]

1920

1923 06 16
A remarkable story of how a large sum of money was snatched from the jaws of death, as typified by the corporation refuse destructor reached me the other day. It appears that a certain tradesman on Peas Hill, Cambridge, had by some strange mischance consigned a wallet containing money to the dustbin. A frenzied telephone message to the contractor revealed that one of his dustcarts had collected at the address that day. The cart was searched, but without success. Eventually the missing wallet was discovered on the very threshold of destruction and found to contain Treasury notes to the value of between £200 and £300. Some people back Derby winners and others have luck in other directions 23 06 16 [1.20]

1925 04 21
The borough surveyor reported that the reconstruction of the cells at the refuse destructor had been completed and it was now taking all the town's refuse. Under the old system there were three "topmen" and six "shovellers" employed to feed the cells, now no shovellers were necessary and all men were doing similar work. He recommended they should be called "chargers" and should all receive the same amount of pay 25 04 21

1925 10 26
Sir – in the course of clearing the refuse from the household dustbins the employees now have instructions to sort out all empty fish, fruit and other tins from the refuse and leave them behind for the householder to dispose of how he may. This regulation may not be a hardship for those who have a spacious garden where they can dig a hole and bury their tins. But we, the ratepayers of Petersfield Ward, blessed with councillors who have suggested homes in the fields for our poultry, ask them in their wisdom to be good enough to provide us with a home for our empty tins – A.M. Morley 25 10 26

1927 10 04
A motor road sweeper and street cleaner was demonstrated in Jesus Lane, Cambridge. The makers claim it has a small capital outlay, low operating costs, small turning circle and ease of control. The brush can be lifted when not in use and sprays fitted to damp down dust in hot weather. The machine worked over 150 yards of road which had been specially covered with a layer of refuse. It showed a fine turn of speed - with the brush not in use it can do 20 mph - and the rubbish was quickly and neatly removed to the gutters. Compared with the horse sweeper now used it is much superior. 27 10 04

1927 10 26
Cambridge councillors spent a couple of hours observing the capabilities of another motor road sweeper, the "Karrier" Patent Road Sweeper, Sprinkler and Collector". It was first tried in Jesus Lane where a large quantity of newly fallen plane tree leaves were thickly scattered about the roadway and had drifted to a depth of four inches. A quantity of road sweepings had also been laid and pressed down firmly by passing traffic. Some of this and patches of horse droppings proved very difficult to remove and the large leaves presented a serious problem. A great quantity of the leaves was removed and lifted into the tipping truck at the back of the vehicle but some of the leaves spun round with the brush and were deposited on the roadway again behind it. 27 10 26

1929 01 12
Sir – The Cambridge Surveyor offers to supply 'Standard Bins' at 4s. 9d and limit the amount of refuse. These are certainly tidy but judging from the state of some of the bins one feels that potential disease forces lurk under the lids, especially on murky warm nights. The advantages of the old wooden box or tub is that when the bacteria and damp have done their work the said

container perforce refuses refuse – I.M. Tired. Editor: I believe the sanitary dustbins are infinitely preferable to the old wooden boxes without lids that often decorate our pavements and provide a happy hunting ground for stray dogs. 29 01 12

1929 03 16
Whilst shaving the other morning I caught sight for the first time of one of the brand new motor dust waggons and called other members of the household to see it. "Freighters" is the correct word for them and they have the reputation for being dustless loaders and more hygienic generally. There are four openings each side with sliding covers so that everything is closed in & when the men are on the way back to the destructor with their load there is none of that unsightly mass of paper and rubbish above the loading line with which we have been familiar in years gone by. Altogether a great improvement. 29 03 16

1929 10 05
Some authorities have been recovering useful matter from old tin cans and something could be done in Cambridge. Soft metal articles – tubes and tinfoil – are already collected by the authorities of Addenbrooke's and there are persons who collect bottles and jars. But tinned articles seem not to be regarded as anything but mere waste. A start on a small scale would need hardly any capital but how to dispose of it is the problem. 29 10 05

1930

1937 01 21
Sir – Cambridge's dustbins are insanitary. Until late in the morning they decorate the edges of the pavements and their ugly and battered forms render the streets hideous. But worst of all, they stay there without lids, old tin baths, bent and dented zinc tubs, even cardboard boxes, all filled with garbage, scattering their dust and filth in the winds. In summer they stew in the hot sun. In winter they lie open to the bleak rain and drip their dust and ashes on the pavement. Babies have to run the risk of dust and infection in the streets while mothers at home strive to keep them protected from germs. Can nothing be done? – A maternity nurse 37 01 21c

1938 04 20
Millions of tons of refuse have been tipped into the disused blue gault pit belonging to Messrs Watts and Son in Newmarket Road during the past 35 years. The Corporation and innumerable householders have dumped their rubbish there until an area of nearly two and a half acres has been filled to a depth of fifty feet. Now the tipping has got to stop. There is a grave danger that, in the event of a heavy rainstorm, part of the area filled in will be carried over a slender barrier and encroach upon the adjoining pit being worked by the Cambridge Brick Company. The blue gault is used for making bricks for the majority of local houses and is the best wearing material because of its remarkable durability. 38 04 20a

1939 11 02
The Corporation want to construct a refuse-dump at Swann's brickyard, Newmarket Road. Their destructor could only incinerate two-thirds of the town's refuse and the remainder disposed of by controlled tipping. It was a deep disused clay pit and brick-making works and when filled a good part of the area could be added to Stourbridge Common. There were houses only on one side and it was quite remote. There would be a seven-foot high screen around the pit and the estimated life of the tip was ten years 39 11 02b

1940

1940 04 19
Waste material collects in Cambridge being compressed at Newmarket Road dump & turned into handy bales – photo – 40 04 19a

1947 04 08
Sir, I am interested in the letter of H.O. Fleming on the collection of refuse. The only way to have the old dustbin removed is to see the dustmen personally and make a suitable arrangement with them. I have had to do this myself and have found them very civil and helpful. The dustmen are highly selective and seem to go through the bins carefully, taking out anything they do not fancy and strewing it about. They also batter the bin out of shape very quickly and in may case leave it some distance away from where it is placed outside my premises. Now that we have provided cars for officials they might perhaps get around a little and see what is being done (letter from J.R.Partington, Maids Causeway, Cambridge) 47 04 08

1947 09 29
Sir - A dustman's wage is £3.16s.0d a week, irrespective of loads or journeys. I wonder if your readers would like to try this job for a while. They would then find out the discomforts which are a dustman's lot. He mustn't mind when lifting a bin if water and filth trickle down his neck through a hole; he mustn't mind if somebody puts some acid in a bin which when emptied sprays on one's clothes and burns holes in them (these are not replaced). One pair of overalls a year is the limit. Each motor is given a district and that has to be cleared, and if the dust and smell should make him feel ill he must just carry on. With all this we are expected to sort all the paper from the dirt. If all householders kept it separate it would be different. Critics should try on a windy day, emptying a bin that has been crammed full. It is impossible to to it without some dropping but if the loaders top to pick it up every time, the driver would be in the next street" - a Dustman 47 09 29

1948 06 18
Strong protests with regard to the filling of the tip opposite the Gasworks in Newmarket Road were voiced at Cambridge Town Council and it was recommended that a corrugated iron fence be erected along the whole of the frontage to Newmarket Road. Moving an amendment requiring owners to remove "the existing barrier of motor bodies", Councillor Gilbert said that residents had complained about the smell and inconvenience caused by the owners putting a number of dismantled motor bodies along the frontage. Coun. Cutting said there was filth, disease and "the most unsightly heap of rubbish you have ever seen in England" at this place and it was increasing day by day 48 06 18

1950

1950 01 11
Mr Owen Duce of Scrapbanks works, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, told an inquiry that he used the pit for dumping waste from his scrap business & also accepted other materials such as brick rubble and old wire, but no domestic rubbish which might give rise to vermin or the risk of fire. He has recently erected a high steel fence along the road frontage. It has already resulted in the production of 4,000 tons of scrap for steel works besides valuable quantities of platinum for export 50 01 11

1952 01 02
After Monday wash day it's Tuesday bucket-and-shovel day for the women of the Cambridge's Queen Street, or Dustmen's Folly as it has been re-named by the residents. Tuesday is the day when the dustcart calls to empty the conglomeration of tin cans, ashes, kitchen waste and other

refuse. Every Tuesday morning as regularly as clockwork 20 housewives place 20 dustbins on the pavements for the dustmen to empty. Promptly at mid-day the dust-cart hoves in sight and the contents are emptied into the cart with a liberal application for the road as well. And 20 housewives wait for the metallic clang that is the signal for them to go into action with brushes, buckets and shovels to clear up the mess the dustmen leave behind – for the street is in a worse state than it was before they called. And so seldom is a street cleaner to be seen that to the majority of the residents he is a legendary figure, though Mrs Fry who runs a little general stores does claim to have seen the Abominable Dustman 52 01 02

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 01 23
Refuse collection comes in for a good deal of criticism. Visitors are shocked and ashamed by the exhibition of dustbins on the pavements and the trails of garbage left by the lorries on dustbin day. The old and infirm feel it is a strain and an imposition to lift or drag their bins to the kerb. But it is hard work for the dustmen and three-wheeled bases to fit the standard bins may be supplied to help both. It is illegal to put garden refuse in a dustbin but this will be collected separately for a modest charge. Very little rubbish, other than offal, is burned. Paper is sold, other rubbish sorted and the bulk of solid waste tipped into worked-out brick fields. It is then covered with earth and the land will eventually be reclaimed for recreational purposes. 60 01 23

1960 04 29
For most people sweeping the roads would be a boring and wholly irksome task. But to Arthur Morgan, who has done it for 20 years, it is always interesting and occasionally exciting with ample scope for meeting people. Arthur, a sprightly man of 63 was once an army sniper but now sweeps the Market Square twice a. day though he dislikes having to dodge the traffic. Cinema queues shed a quantity of litter which he carts away in his barrow without complaint. He has come across many items of values including rings, watches and on one occasion a car bonnet! 60 06 03a
1960 The news that part of the worked-out British Portland Cement clay pits at Cherry Hinton are to be used as a Corporation rubbish dump have aroused opposition. There had to be some better way of getting rid of refuse than putting it in a pit. It would take 25-30 years to get it filled and unless every cartload of rubbish was immediately covered with earth it would become rat-infested. But other pits had been reclaimed: Herbert Robinson's garage in Newmarket Road was built entirely on a filled-in pit. 60 04 29

1962 01 19
Radioactive waste materials with a short life, from University departments, can be buried under six feet of earth at the Cambridge rubbish dump off Newmarket Road. There were concerns that children might dig it up before the radioactivity had dropped or rats might become contaminated and spread it around. Dangers might also arise if a fire broke out on the dump or if some of the material got into sewers or drains. Councillors recommend the waste, wrapped in plastic, should be delivered by University vehicles and buried after strict safety checks have been observed by University officials. 62 01 19

1962 09 28
The last resting place of many Cambridge vehicles is Rich's yard off Coldham's Lane. To this graveyard of motor vehicles come hundreds of cars and lorries worn out with old age or cut off in the prime of life through accidents. If they are of a type still running on the highway they are

stripped of anything that might be transferred to a similar vehicle. So the yard is a mass of broken bodies and skeleton parts, old shafts, old springs and old engines. The bodies are broken up further and sent away for export, mainly to Japan where they are crushed and melted down. 62 09 28

1962 10 05
Rag and metal merchant Ronald Arber of Newmarket Road says rags are still in great demand. He receives as much as six tons a week often brought in by children during the holidays and when the Midsummer Fair is being held, so that they can get a few more coppers to spend. They are baled up and sent to a London merchant where they are sorted into various categories and used for such things as cleaning materials and roofing felt. Considerable quantities are exported to Italy. Metals are similarly sorted. Lead is delivered to London mills to be made into lead piping, roofing materials and the lead bricks used at atomic power stations, such as Harwell. The demand for iron and steel has decreased in the past few years both at home and abroad. Most metal merchants are finding they can get more scrap iron and steel than they are able to sell. Bones, which used to provide an extremely good trade, no longer interest Mr Arber because the glues for which they were used are now made from other substances. Much of the material comes from the public. They bring their odds and ends in all the time: bed rails, gardening tools, bicycles, brass pots, radiators, car batteries, mangles, even refrigerators and fish-frying ranges along with aluminium saucepans and kettles. Jumble sale left-overs also provide a source of trade. An electric guillotine cuts as many of the items as possible into short lengths for easy transportation. After pressing, melting and recasting at other factories, it its surprising how many of these waste articles find their way back into the home. Looking at a rag and metal merchant's premises is like looking at a wilderness of destruction. But there is order in the wilderness and every item has its place. The firm has been established for 40 years and he is confident it will remain for many years to come 62 10 05a

1962 12 17
Rubbish from the corporation tip in Coldham's Lane was spread over a wide area by the gales on Saturday; gardeners were littered with paper and other refuse. But residents claim this is nothing new: "We get smells in our houses, flies and rats frequently visit us and the floors are covered with dust each morning; and these nuisances all come from the rubbish pit", one claims. 62 12 17b

1963 11 29
The Duce's Tip site between Coldham's Lane and Newmarket Road may become a new suburban shopping centre with a two-storey supermarket, a garage and filling station with parking 1,000 cars. Space would be available for relocating premises affected by any redevelopment. But there was a danger that the Lion Yard scheme might not start commercially if trade were drawn away to another area, planners fear 63 11 29

1964 10 12
Mill Road shift workers say dustbins left in darkened streets are a menace and danger. Residents drag their dustbins into the street ready for an early collection. But at midnight all the street lights go out and people bump into them in the blackness of dreadful dustbin alleys. Elderly people say refuse collectors could take bins from the rear of their homes. But this would mean dustmen going through their houses. 64 10 12a

1964 11 12
Cambridge council launched a pilot scheme to test the reactions of householders to putting their refuse in paper sacks instead of the traditional dustbins. There are various faults: it will not be

possible to put hot ashes or wet refuse such as potato peelings in the bags. And there is the question of cost: it seems the paper bag scheme could prove more expensive. Meetings have taken place with various paper sack manufacturers to discuss the types of refuse bag now available. 64 11 12

1965 01 20
Plan to build shopping centre with parking for 1,000 cars at Duce's Pit may be blocked if council acquire adjacent site – inquiry – 65 01 20a; photo – 65 01 22a

1970

1970 04 01
Richard Duce took over Coldham's Lane site in 1948 after a brickyard closed and since then recovered 23,000 tons of copper and aluminium from scrap metal' has sold most site to London property company for new trading estate; to demolish chimney and move to bottom of the site between railway line & Newmarket Road – 70 04 01

1971 02 04
Refuse disposal problems as cement works pits fill up, plans for pulverisation plant at Cheddar's Lane – 71 02 04

1972 04 12
Hundreds of seagulls are leaving their mark on Cherry Hinton. But the people who live there are not impressed nd have asked Cambridge councillors to start a clean-up campaign in the area. The seagulls live on the refuse tip at Coldham's Lane where the pickings are good. But they do not confine their activities to the waste ground and have started to make themselves felt on the residents. And this has upset the housewives who have told the councillors that they prefer their white washing to stay that way. Some residents have referred these problems dropped on them unexpectedly from the heights to the council's Conservative leader, Ald Stanley Bowles. Today he admitted "I just don't know what we can do about the problem. Perhaps we should issue the seagulls with nappies 72 04 12

1972 09 21
A rubbish-filled claypit off Coldham's Lane, Cambridge, bought by a firm of London property developers less than four years ago for little more than £100,000, has just been resold for £300,000 without a single building being put on it. The former claypit was filled with rubbish in the late 1940s before being bought by Mr Richard Duce in 1948 for "a matter of a few pence". In the mid-1960s attempts were made to build a shopping centre on the site but these fell through. Then at the end of 1968 Summerfield Developments bought the seven- acre block with an option on the remaining seven. Plans were announced to build warehouses but these in turn fell through. Now the land has been bought by J. Coral Estates, another firm of London developers at around £40,000 an acre. Coral also intend building warehouses 72 09 21

1975 03 19
Cambridge city council will drop its controversial waste paper collection experiment next week after losing almost £1,800 of ratepayers' money on the project. Now they intend to encourage voluntary bodies to organise their own collections. More than eight tonnes of waste paper were collected during the first week but the average had now dropped to below five tonnes. In addition the price which they obtained had dropped from £18 to only £14 a tonne 75 03 19

1978 10 28

The Cambridge rubbish tip at Coldham's Lane, which has been frequently criticised on windy days for its smells and the large amount of paper blown from it, is to close. But the tip which is now full up will be replaced by a massive hole in the ground just a few hundred yards away at the worked-out quarry by the side of the Norman Cement Works, where the city's refuse will continue to be dumped. In time there will be a special section for household waste like old furniture and garden waste not normally collected by dustmen. It is expected the new tip will last about five years after which rubbish will be carted to a new tip at Milton. 78 10 28

1980

1984 11 12
Pilot scheme paper sacks rather than bins [3.9]

1985 05 10
Messrs Richard Larkinson Ltd has warehouses and sidings equipped with modern lifting equipment at Station Works, Hills Road to load non-ferrous metal direct on rail wagons. The family originated in Biggleswade dealing in rabbit skins then diversified into household rags using imported labour from the London area. Richard Larkinson started his business in Baldock in 1958, establishing a branch at Cottenham in 1972. Today they purchase and process all grades of scrap and export to Germany in their own company vehicles, returning with wine for their associated company, Fen Vinters Ltd. 85 05 10

1988 11 04
The dustmen leave the depot at 6.10 am and begin collecting bins, cracking jokes and shouting good-natured abuse at each other. Each man is almost trotting between houses, often lifting bins on to a shoulder with one hand while grabbing bulging plastic sacks with the other. David, a veteran of 15 years, drives the dustcart a few yards at a time; too far and they would carry the bins further than necessary, too little and they waste precious minutes waiting for him. They have incentives to get the work done quickly – they knock off as soon as they are finished 88 11 04b & c

1989 01 12
"Wheelie bin" system to be extended whole city, from Sept. ¢CEN 12.1.89 25.4.89

Mill Road Cemetery
Chapel demolition 1954

244.20

c.21.2 : Cemeteries, Crematoria, Undertakers

1898 10 19
Mr Dixon said that Mill Road cemetery was always locked up on Sundays, because, if not, swarms of little children rampaged about over the graves; and while he was conducting a funeral it was very annoying to have some little urchins come up and say, "Oh, my! Ain't that a little coffin!". The children jumped about over the graves, while labourers going to work made the cemetery a thoroughfare. The matter was giving the committee a great deal of trouble. 1898 04 13

1898 10 19
Sir - for many years I have constantly visited the Mill road cemetery, Cambridge, and feel quite certain that if the present cemetery were made into a general and open place of burial it would last for many years. When the time arrives to provide a new cemetery, why not use that which is situated on the Huntingdon Road, which has a field adjoining sufficient to make a very large cemetery. I know that the Castle End hill is an obstacle, but an extra horse could be used to assist in drawing the hearse over this spot. This would be far preferable to going through Barnwell – R.R CDN 1898 10 19

1899 06 02
The custodian of the Mill Road cemetery, Cambridge, Thomas Stanbridge, said he saw the defendants approaching with a handcart containing a headstone. There was a funeral taking place

against the entrance gate so endeavoured to prevent them from entering the cemetery. In so doing he was pushed right under one of the coaches attending the funeral and got his leg fixed between the wheel and a headstone. He called out and the people at the funeral were disturbed by his remarks. Then the defendant stuck him under the chin, and threatened to pull his beard out 1899 06 02

1899 12 23
While making excavations at the junction of City Road and Fitzroy Street some workmen in the employ of the Cambridge Electric Lighting Company came upon some gruesome remains. They dug up some coffins. It is supposed the site is that of the old burial ground of Eden Street chapel. The remains were removed to Mill Road cemetery, where they were interred. For some reason efforts are being made to prevent the real facts becoming known. The employees of the Electric Light jealously guard what they deem an important secret, and refuse to give any details - 1899 12 23

1900

1900 11 28
An Inspector of the Local Government Board held an inquiry at Cambridge Guildhall with reference to the application of the Town Council to borrow £15,500 for the provision of a new cemetery at a spot near Fen Ditton. Dr Cooper said there was a good deal of talk and it was of the utmost importance to the inhabitants that the formation of the new cemetery would not in the slightest degree be of risk to the purity of the water supply of the town CDN 1900 11 28

1901 06 13
Yarmouth Guardians received a report on the dissection of paupers' bodies. They had been sent to Cambridge by officials of the workhouse since 1881. Professor Macalister sent a cheque for £6 14s 6d for each body but only £5 10s 0d was really incurred for expenses. The railway charge for the carriage of a body was £4 6s.0d but the Master's clerk said it was £4 9s.0d and that he put the other 3s. in the poor box. £1 was paid for a coffin but he received 1s. from the undertaker. All the clerk had to do was to see the body was screwed down, go to the railway station and pay the charge. He said he gave the porters sixpence each but inquiry proved they only received a pint of beer. CDN 1901 06 13

1901 10 09
Cambridge Guardians heard that a coffin had been supplied by the undertaker minus the plate and the funeral had had to be postponed. The people concerned had a desire to avoid, as far as possible, what might be termed a pauper funeral and were willing to pay half the expense. The coffin should be provided by the parochial authorities but the relative wanted it made by someone other than the man who did the work on behalf of the Union because, with some of that pride which they had seen so frequently exemplified by paupers, they wanted to escape the eyes of Mrs Grundy. That had probably led to a little friction with the undertaker CDN 1901 10 09

1901 11 25
The funeral of Mr C.F.G. Stanhope, who was better known by the stage name of Mr Charles Gervase, under which he played the part of Harry Bronson in Mr W. Greet's "Belle of New York" Company, took place at Mill Road Cemetery. The deceased actor contracted typhoid fever whilst at Cambridge and died at Addenbrooke's Hospital. The internment took place in the presence of a large number of persons who showed deep sympathy with the mourners 01 11 25

1902 05 10

The funeral of P.C. Thompson of the Cambridge police was conducted on military lines. His comrades, accompanied by members of the Borough Fire Brigade, marched to Sturton Street. As the coffin was brought out of the house the police band played the death march in "Saul" and Drum Major Inspector Johnson, his staff draped with crepe, led the hearse & mourning coaches in procession to Mill Road cemetery. The route was line by people and many were the manifestations of sympathy with the mourners. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr Ellis Merry 02 05 10

1903 06 03
The new municipal cemetery, which Cambridge Corporation has prepared on Newmarket Road, was opened for interments. In anticipation of the time when the general public will regard burial more from a sanitary than from a sentimental point of view, a part of the ground adjoining Ditton Lane has been reserved for the erection of a crematorium. The first interment was a child named Alfred Willet Whitmore; the coffin was borne by six young ladies and Mr Ellis Merry was the undertaker. 03 06 03

1903 07 28
Sir - An exciting scene occurred at 11.30 pm when the small-pox hearse was just reaching its destination and turning round previous to receiving the body of a young man who had died that morning. The night was very dark and the hearse overturned on its side, the smashing of glass and the bumping of the vehicle on the road causing a great commotion. After some delay it was righted again, the body duly deposited inside and it rumbled and groaned off to the cemetery, grating on the road with its iron-shod wheels in the dead of the night in a most unpleasant manner. Any private firm would have an India-rubber tyred vehicle for such work but Cambridge Corporation have apparently yet to discover that such 'luxuries' exist – 'Mill Road' 03 07 28

1903 11 21
A growing demand for the stone, marble and granite objects with which the memory of the dead are perpetuated indicates an expansion of business for those who provide these melancholy tokens. Messrs Ivett and Reed have found their premises on Mill Road and Regent Street inadequate and have opened a new branch on Newmarket Road, appropriately near the new cemetery. The premises consist of a dwelling house and show-room and are built of Bath stone with a portico supported by two graceful Corinthian pillars. Inside is a chimney-piece of statuary marble upon which delicate-looking foliage is represented in the Italian style.03 11 21

1903 12 19
Cambridge Cheap Funeral Furnishing. Polished Elm Coffin, Glass Hearse, 2 Carriages, Bearers, and Attendance complete £5 5s. – C. Osler, Mawson Road. Glass Hearse and Pair, with rubber tyres, 7s.6d. Brougham with single horse, 5s. No extra charge for Black Plumes or Velvets if required. Coffins finished and delivered in two hours if required. Guaranteed five per cent cheaper than anyone else – Ellis Merry, Abbey Walk [Adverts] 03 12 19

1904 05 18
The placid life of Linton has been stirred by a rumour that the dead body of a pauper had been sold by the Master of the Workhouse to the Cambridge School of Anatomy. This was a perfectly lawful proceeding under the Anatomy Act which provides that the bodies of unclaimed paupers may be used for scientific study. The matter had been debated by the Board of Guardians who voted five for and five against but the Chairman declined to give the casting vote. The Master had taken it upon himself to send the body to Cambridge. But it was not 'sold'. 1904 05 18

1904 05 19

Cambridge cemetery committee considered whether to close the whole of the Mill Road burial ground. They had asked the various incumbents as to the number of grave spaces allotted to their parishes and whether it was possible to identify the graves of all persons buried there. It appeared to be dependent on the knowledge of the sexton and there was no way of identifying the position of each grave. There should be a public enquiry. But there were many timid widows who had husbands buried there and would like to be buried there too who would not go to an enquiry. Alderman Kett agreed: he would like his bones to be laid there and had six or seven unoccupied spaces for members of his family. What would an inspector care about such sentiments. He would be overruled by those fanatics of sanitary improvement. 04 05 19

1904 07 05
An inquiry into the proposed closure of Mill Road cemetery, Cambridge heard objections from several parishes. The All Saints portion would not be absolutely full for another 23 years and was as sanitary as any other. There were 142 spaces available for Holy Sepulchre and 120 for St Paul's parish which was strongly opposed to closure. The Rev E.C. Pearce of St Bene't's said there were 60 vaults and brick graves likely to be used again; he had never seen remains exposed when a new grave had been made. At St Edward's there had been 47 interments in the last 10 years, 23 of which were not parishioners and had no right to burial in the ground & there was space for another 120 graves. But St Michael's parish only had space for 50 - 1904 07 05

1904 08 25
The Local Government Board have decided to close those parts of Mill Road cemetery which are assigned to the parishes of St Andrew the Less, St Mary the Less and St Botolph but say there is no need for the protection of public health for other areas to be closed. The three portions will be sealed while in the rest of the burial ground interments will continue as usual. This is in accordance with the deep feelings expressed at the inquiry where representatives of the other parishes had protested strongly against their grounds being closed, with the single exception of the Rev Wood who was acting in direct opposition to the wishes of his parishioners. His 'aesthetic' vapourings were appreciated by the Inspector for their true worth. 04 08 25

1905 05 16
A Cambridge lady has patented a coffin to minimise the possibility of premature burial. It contains an electric bell, the button of which is fixed near the hand of the occupant with the bell on the top of the grave. There is also a glass plate in the lid together with a hammer to allow the person to break out, though it is hardly conceivable that anyone would have sufficient strength to scramble to the surface 05 05 16a

1905 07 18
The new Cambridge cemetery on Newmarket Road is nothing less than a small farm with oats, wheat and barley covering over 20 acres. As yet very few interments have taken place and years must elapse before graves encroach upon a great expanse of the site which would otherwise be lying unproductive. The crops have a very promising appearance and will produce a profit for ratepayers 05 07 18a & b

1908 02 22
Cambridge Guardians discussed the case of an old soldier who had served in the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny for whom they pad 2s 6d a week for a nurse. The old man had saved £20 out of his pension to pay for his funeral expenses, so that he should not be buried in a pauper's grave. But this had been seized by the relieving officer. They did not want the old man to have the money back so that his children should have the pleasure of spending it for their own comfort and then send him to the Union 08 02 22a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1908 04 16
Newmarket Road cemetery was too expensive, ratepayers claimed. The land had cost four times what adjacent ground had fetched, the walls were crumbling and the cottage built of the poorest bricks so the papers hung in strips inside. There were four greenhouses and a kind of chapel where part of the service was held – all of which had to be heated. A number of beds had been planted with bulbs and expensive flowers whereas herbaceous plants would do quite well. A number of people visited on a Sunday bringing children who played in the open space, but it should not be a recreation ground. 08 04 16

1909 01 15
On Friday night a man died in an East Road Lodging House and the landlady was naturally anxious to relieve her house of the body at the earliest moment. She had no knowledge of the man's relatives and a 'parish burial' was ordered. The undertaker said she had wanted to put the body in the yard covered up with clothes but he had removed it at his own expense. But relatives complained that the coffin was too small and the body laid on bare wood with the feet sticking to the pitch. All there was to cover him was a piece of thin stuff which did not meet in the middle CWN 09 01 15

1909 02 19
The gallant band of old soldiers who fought in the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny gets smaller every year. Cambridge man James Gray died in the workhouse, where the poor are so well looked after and was buried at Mill Road cemetery. There was no time to arrange for a military funeral but Captain Heal sent a large Union Jack to be placed on the coffin. Four members of the Territorial Force volunteered to act as pall bearers but assembled at Newmarket Road cemetery. On realising their mistake they drove to Mill Road which they reached just after the sorrowful ceremony had concluded and the mourners had left 09 02 19

1909 05 14
Two spinsters, aged 50 and 30, appeared in court charged with stealing carnations value sixpence from a grave in Mill Road cemetery. The custodian said he saw them take the flowers from the side of the grave of Trooper Truscott; he took the ladies to his house, locked the door and sent for a policeman. They were respectable Sunday school teachers who had known the deceased well and picked up flowers that had dropped from a wreath to take home and press in remembrance of him. The custodian was legally correct but for him to lock them up, send for a policeman and cart them through the streets to the police station was very regrettable 09 05 14

1909 11 19
Frederic William Hodgson carried on the business as plumber and decorator for nearly 30 years. He was a life-long abstainer and the oldest Deputy Grand Worthy Patriarch of the Cambridge Sons of Temperance, having cycled some thousands of miles whilst engaged in propaganda work. The sad cortege proceeded from his house in Peas Hill to Mill Road cemetery where the first part of the funeral service was conducted in the chapel. The coffin was borne by fellow members of friendly societies. 09 11 19

1910

1912 10 18
Cambridge Medical Schools recently applied to Chelmsford Guardians for unclaimed bodies of paupers for dissecting purposes. These are indispensable for the education of a surgeon. Prof Courtney Kenny refutes the belief that a person has no legal right to bequeath his own body for

anatomical examinations. If he directs that after death his body shall be examined anatomically then the person having lawful possession of the corpse shall direct such an examination to be made. However the deceased relatives can require the body to be interred without such examination 12 10 18i

1914 10 16
Two military funerals took place from the First Eastern General Hospital at Trinity College. One body was sent in a coffin wrapped in a Union Jack to the station and put on a train to Durham. The railway expenses were generously defrayed by Nurse Keep. The funeral of other, Arthur Larkin of the Royal Scots, was held at Newmarket Road cemetery. He'd been wounded at Mons and the cause of death was tetanus. Bugler Royston sounded the 'Last Post' 14 10 16

1915 11 26
Newmarket Road cemetery worked at a loss – 11 acres under cultivation by permanent staff; other cemeteries were few but graves were being used by other members of family 15 11 26 p5

1916 03 22
John Robert Peck funeral at Mill Road Cemetery. He was sexton at St. Andrew's the Less for about 29 years. It was impossible to visit the cemetery without seeing Mr. Peck, and having been there for so many years he knew the situation of every grave. Six of the sextons from other churches offered to act as bearers 161 03 22 CIPof

1916 08 23
Mill Road Cemetery lamentable condition of a considerable part of the Mill Road Cemetery under the jurisdiction of the parish of Christ Church. The whole area is a howling wilderness with grass reaching to a tall man's waist. We appreciate the labour and other difficulties which have to be encountered at this time and we are prepared to make reasonable allowances, but the present state of things in the Christ Church portion of Mill Road Cemetery is past all excuse 16 08 23 CIP0f

1917 06 13
Crosses erected over graves of those died in service buried at Newmarket Road cemetery – photo – 17 06 13a

1920

1922 04 221
Impressive scenes were witnessed at the funeral of an Indian undergraduate. The funeral was carried out according to the Mohammedan ritual, and the interment was at St Giles' cemetery, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge. The coffin was conveyed in a hearse and was followed on foot by over 50 Indian undergraduates. Arrived at the cemetery the coffin was placed on the lawn at the entrance. Then several of the mourners, removing their shoes, conducted a short form of service, after which the coffin and mourners were photographed by an Indian student. The body was carried to the graveside and lowered by a party of the mourners. Nobody who was not directly concerned with the ceremony was allowed within 25 yards of the grave 22 04 21

1922 09 16
The condition of Mill Road Cemetery for long past has not been creditable to a town like Cambridge. The Borough Cemetery is a delightful flower garden compared to the Mill Road Cemetery which is an amalgamation of the parish churchyards. Some parts of the cemetery are well tended, others are dreary wastes whose evidence of neglect have now been removed by the

unemployed at the expense of the ratepayers. The question is whether these reclaimed spaces are again to be permitted to run wild. No church which lets its graveyards get into the deplorable state of the Mill Road Cemetery can be truly described as a live church 22 09 16 [1.7]

1925 11 04
Sir – if all the grumblers would combine to get the custodian of the Histon Road cemetery, Cambridge, a better wage they would do some real good. Each man begins cheerfully and willingly, but how can he be expected to keep a good heart and pay for auxiliary labour out of a 25s. wage. Every man who had taken the job has gone out owning himself beaten by a starvation wage. I heard one say he had to buy his own grass-cutting machine and bedding-out plants. Even with a house thrown in the job appears to be more a 'man-trap' than cemetery. – 'Anti-Fat' 25 11 04

1926 10 26
The Imperial War Graves Commission has undertaken on behalf of the Belgian Government to erect headstones over the graves of deceased members of the Belgian Forces in various cemeteries, including Cambridge. They will be made in Belgium and forwarded to this country for erection. There are two graves of Belgian soldiers in the Cambridge Borough Cemetery, two bodies being interred in each grave, and permission was given for the erection of the headstones 26 10 26

1930

1935 05 14
Cambridge General Cemetery Company asked that the Corporation take over control of the Histon Road Burial Ground which was established nearly 100 years ago by a private company. There are still a number of private grave spaces available for burials and it would be in the public interest. This was agreed 35 05 14

1936 01 29
Arrangements have been made with the Cambridge General Cemetery Company for the Histon Road Cemetery to be transferred to the Borough Council as from February. The cottage, chapel and old mortuary required considerable repairs, the paths regravelled and the grounds cleared up. The cottage should be made habitable for a man to live there and have general charge of the ground, a report recommended. 36 01 29a

1936 10 13
Crematorium proposed design – 36 10 13a

1936 10 16
Councillors had considered the erection of a municipal crematorium before 1900 and earmarked a piece of land at the cemetery on Newmarket Road. Now a private company had come forward and it was time to act. It would cost £12,000, including land, a chapel, furnace and accessories together with a garden of rest. Running costs were extraordinarily low. Quite half the senior members of the University who died were cremated and it would soon pay for itself. 36 10 16

1936 11 14
Trumpington petition for faculty to have plain marble kerb to enclose grave – 36 11 14

1936 12 10
Private crematorium at Barton turned down – protest – 36 12 10h

1937 03 24
When the Salvation Army first came to Cambridge Ellis Merry gave them what was then his wash-house in which to hold their meetings. He was one of the early sergeant-majors and associated himself with their work in the villages, using a concertina and violin to good effect. He was the first to run a penny bus, from Mill Road into town and also did the horse mail work. Until his retirement Mr Merry carried on the business of undertaker. 37 03 24c

1937 10 29
Cambridge & Counties Crematorium Ltd was incorporated on 8th June 1936 to establish a crematorium on an attractive site on the main Huntingdon Road with a chapel, incinerating chambers, columbaria for the reception of urns and waiting rooms. The Borough Council have decided not to proceed with a Municipal Crematorium so this will be the only one within 50-60 miles and has every prospect of success. The Company's revenue will consist not only of fees for cremations but also for the storage of urns and for niches. Shares are now available – advertisement 37 10 29a & b

1938 06 16
The Bishop told the clergy he had money to make Mill Road cemetery chapel more dignified and beautiful. He would ask an architect to prepare plans. The chapel was used from time to time and more funerals might be held there. But it was felt that as so few burials took place, it was not worth the expenditure. It was extremely damp, there was no heating, it was difficult to ring the bell and it was such an ugly building it could never be made beautiful. But it was too drastic to close it altogether 38 06 16a & b

1938 12 16
The Bishop of Ely spoke in favour of cremation at the opening of the Cambridge Crematorium: it overcame the difficulty of overcrowded cemeteries and the danger of water pollution which might arise from earth burial – 38 12 16a, b Advert 38 12 17c [1.4]

1939 03 25
Mill Road cemetery chapel to be decorated by Reginald Hallwood – 39 03 25

1939 04 01
Mill Road cemetery chapel has been redecorated and a dedicatory service was conducted by the Bishop of Ely who said he was very keen about cemetery chapels, some of which were in a very sorry condition. Before this chapel was redecorated it was much better than some others. It is exceptional for a cemetery chapel to be inspiring and uplifting; they should be beautiful and eloquent of the Christian faith. He thanked the decorators for their work and a collection was taken in aid of the fund for the re-adornment of the chapel. 39 04 01a

1940

1944 05 25
Madingley cemetery dedication, famous service chiefs present – 44 05 25a, 44 05 30a, 44 05 31a

1944 06 02
U.S. Military cemetery dedicated. Memorial Day - the day when Americans pay special honour to their dead - was marked in Cambridgeshire on Tuesday, with a service at the U.S. Military Cemetery (at Madingley). High ranking officers of the American and British Armies, as well as the R.A.F. were present together with leading civic representatives of the Eastern Region and the

Town, University and County of Cambridge. A detachment of the British Legion, with their colours, members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society, and members of the W.V.S., who have undertaken to provide flowers for the chapel, were also among the large gathering. Centrepiece of the service was a small grass mound, rising from which flew the Stars and Stripes. The Bishop of Ely (Edward Wynn) walked to the mound from the little chapel, followed by the senior officers carrying wreaths. The ceremony opened with an invocation, followed by a scripture reading and a prayer for the fallen. An Order of the Day was read from the Allied commander-in-chief (Gen Eisenhower). During the service either by accident or design three Fortresses flew low over the company. Official and private wreaths were laid and the proceedings came to a close with the National Anthems of America and Britain, the Benediction by the Bishop of Ely and finally "Taps" by two buglers. 44 06 02 CIPof

1948 12 11
Council debate take-over of crematorium [1.1]

1948 03 03
Several hundred people gathered round the flagstaff at the Cambridge American Military Cemetery for a simple service of benediction. The reason for the service was emphasised by the long rows of empty, tarpaulin -covered caskets bear the scene of the service - the caskets in which will be returned to the United States the remains of those American service men and women buried at the cemetery whose relatives wish their last resting-place to be at home. For this reason the cemetery is to be closed for a period, and for the purpose too of reburying the bodies of those interred in the now-to-be -closed Brookwood and Lisnabrenny (Northern Ireland) American Military Cemeteries whose relatives wish them to rest in England

1949 07 06
Cambridge borough council have applied to borrow £25,000 for the purchase of the crematorium in Huntingdon Road. In 1936 the council took active steps towards building a crematorium on their own site, but, in the meanwhile the Cambridge and County Crematorium Company had been formed and they were talking steps to build their own crematorium. The demand for cremations had increased and there was every indication it would continue to do so. The figures for the Cambridge crematorium had increased for 228 in 1941 to 421 in 1948 49 07 06

1950

1951 08 01
Members of the armed forces, the church and hundreds of relatives, totalling more than 1,000, gathered at the Cambridge city cemetery to do honour to the men and women buried in the special Air Forces plot. A Stone of Remembrance was unveiled by Marshall of the R.A.F., Lord Tedder and blessed by the Bishop of Ely. Training aircraft flew over the cemetery in formation 51 08 01

1954 06 02
Mill Road cemetery chapel dismantled [1.3 – CDN 54 06 02 p6]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 12 19
Weyman Funeral Service whole-page advertisement – 60 12 19

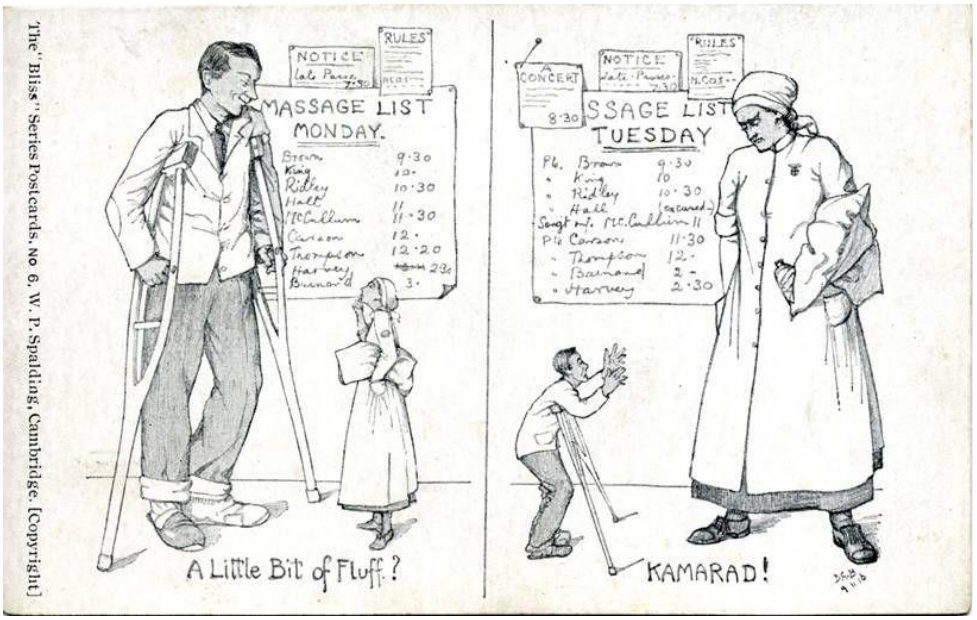
1961 03 24
American Military Cemetery superintendent – 61 03 24a

1962 10 18
Mill Road cemetery gravestones – 62 10 18

1980

1981 03 12
A basic funeral is likely to cost £300 – that is 10 times the death grant. It includes £58 for a cremation and service, not including an organist or any memorials. Burial can work out cheaper, because if a family buy a grave it can be used for two or three people. At Cambridge the charge for land is going up 50% to £75 and there is a charge of £40 for opening the grave and burial. Things are cheaper in the villages where local people have a right to be buried in the parish churchyard without buying the land, if there's space. 81 03 12

1986 11 06
Crematorium history – 86 11 06



First Eastern General Hospital soldier's view of a nurse – before and aftermassage – 189.11

c.21.3: Nursing

1897 05 03
Jubilee appeal – nurses, p2

1900 03 23
At Addenbrooke's Hospital there is a training home for nurses, which is one of the most successful institutions of its kind. It makes a significant contribution to the funds of the Hospital. For this reason alone it is well worth the while of the Governors to give their best efforts in maintaining it in a high state of efficiency 1900

1900 06 06
We regret to announce the death of Miss Mary Kingsley, the West African traveller and writer. She did not go South Africa to nurse but it seem that, on landing, she found opportunity for using her overflowing energies in tending the sick and wounded. While thus engaged she was herself taken ill. A few months ago Miss Kingsley attended and spoke in Cambridge at a meeting of the "Magpie and Stump".

1902 03 14
Sir – A man from the Cambridge prison, which they knew to be infected with smallpox, was admitted to the Sanatorium and yet no precautions were taken in the way of vaccination. His nurses passed into the room day and night. I object strongly to the want of promptitude in telephoning me as soon as smallpox was suspected so that I might be aware of the possible danger and be able to take precautions. I would not allow my patients to go to the Sanatorium if they are to be exposed to such risks – E. Lloyd Jones.

1902 04 14

Sir – a recent article in the "Cambridge Express" stated that the Chairman of the Public Health Committee had to stop 'larking' between a nurse and an undergraduate in the scullery of the Sanatorium, and that another professional man had been pestered by a nurse to take her to the Theatre and upon this being indignantly refused he was insulted by with a letter asking him to visit the nurse's rooms at night. These are serious allegations against the character and conduct of the nurses. Not one of the statements is correct – J. Congreve

1902 10 01
A fire broke out in the women's ward at the top of the left wing of Addenbrooke's Hospital. In a very short time the flames secured a firm hold and the unfortunate patients had to be removed. Flames burst through the roof and worked towards the centre of the building. Nurses and probationers heroically entered the wards and brought their patients to a place of safety. Many scenes, tragically distressing, were witnessed. To such proportions did the fire assume that it was deemed advisable to remove other patients and several afflicted old men were brought to the lawn. The news of the outbreak spread quickly throughout Cambridge and some thousands of people gathered in front of the Hospital.

1923 05 23
Typhoid fever was present in Cambridge during the year, 17 cases in 14 households having been notified. Four were county cases admitted into Addenbrooke's Hospital for treatment; five were imported from Fenstanton, Swaffham, Norfolk, Littleport and London. Two cases were probably due to eating shellfish. Two were nurses who had charge of typhoid patients and others could not be accounted for. Three of the cases proved fatal

1906 04 09
A fatality occurred at the portion of the river known as Paradise; two nurses from Addenbrooke's Hospital hired a Canadian canoe but it overturned and they were precipitated into the water. One clung to the boat and with the aid of a pair of horse reins was brought to the bank. A man pluckily jumped into the river after the other nurse but the depth of the water – about 15 feet – made it impossible for him to reach her. Eventually the clothing of the unfortunate lady was hooked but she had obviously succumbed. 06 04 09d

1908 10 02
A nurse at Fulbourn Asylum had died from typhoid fever: she was in the habit of drinking the water unboiled and a specimen had been sent to be bacteriologically examined. A scheme for the improvement of the disposal of sewage had been suggested but not yet carried out. The nurses were lunacy trained and not competent to nurse a case of enteric fever. Patients were treated in the Asylum infirmary but the attendants were moved as early as possible to Addenbrooke's Hospital. CWN 08 10 02 & 08 10 02 p5

1908 11 06
The Cambridge District Nurses moved into their new home standing in its own grounds on Newmarket Road. Designed by W.M. Fawcett and built by Coulson and Lofts, it has a smart exterior appearance. Facing the road is the entrance to the surgery with the dining room, and kitchen with sitting rooms for the Superintendent and nurses on the first floor together with four bedrooms and another three on the second floor. The building is lighted by incandescent gas and fitted with electric bells. CWN 08 11 06 p5

1910

1910 05 06

Under the new Midwives Act no woman can habitually attend women in childbirth unless she is certified. There were 54 midwives on the register of whom 30 were trained. Ten of the untrained women were between the ages of 65-75 and might need replacing before long by reason of death or infirmity. There was only one trained midwife at Willingham and an untrained woman at Landbeach. There were none at Isleham, Burwell, Wicken, Upware, Milton, Cottenham, Swavesey or Histon. Some mothers can afford the fee of a medical practitioner but are unable also to pay the full fee of a skilled nurse and so may turn to unregistered women 10 05 06b & c

1911 04 28
An Inspector's report on Cambridge Workhouse criticised arrangements in the sick ward, the dietary, bathing arrangements and care of children. The sick ward contained 25 male and 28 females with only one partially trained nurse and a woman who came in to sit up at night. The majority of the bed-ridden cases were helpless and a great deal of the actual nursing was done by paupers. There were no modern conveniences and the female side top floor had only a drinking water tap fixed over a basin. A new midwifery ward had been erected with no sink or hot and cold water 11 04 28e

1911 11 24
The Intelligence Department of the War Office have been busy making a minute return of everything likely to be of use in case of war. The number of horses available, places suitable for camps, locality of wells, blacksmiths' shops and farms have all been noted. Cambridge would be a great medical base and a Red Cross hospital would receive medical and surgical cases from all the county hospitals in East Anglia. The headquarters of the surgical division would be at King's College and the medical wards in the Senate House. The nurses would be quartered in Downing College. 11 11 24c

1911 12 01
There is no doubt that lunacy is steadily increasing owing to the strenuousness of modern conditions. The asylums were never so full as they are today. We have a higher sense of duty to those bereft of reason than obtained fifty years ago and place under restraint cases that would formerly have been allowed to be at large. Fulbourn Asylum is overcrowded and there is no accommodation for further nurses which is especially important as the female side is understaffed. Unless there is some decrease in the number of patients additional expansion will be necessary 11 12 01c

1912 07 12
Chesterton workhouse has been criticised by a lady inspector. The nursing staff was totally inadequate at the time of her visit with a solitary nurse on duty in the sick wards doing the work of three. Another complaint was that the young children were relegated to the care of incapables or undesirables. The lady visitor may be somewhat faddy but there must be some foundation for her strictures. 12 07 12d

1913 03 07
Addenbrooke's Hospital nurses dies typhoid *

1914 05 08
County health visitors scheme – district nurses not qualified – 14 05 08f

1914 07 10

Cambridge Voluntary Aid Detachments and Red Cross held an exercise at Newnham College. It assumed severe fighting had been going on in Norfolk and a large number of casualties had been sent to the First Eastern General Hospital. When another train load of wounded arrived they received orders to convert Sidgwick Hall into a temporary hospital where eleven beds were provided and patients were treated for crushed hands and fractured tibia Other nurses were prepared splints and bandages and a sceptic ward was set up 14 07 10 p4

1914 08 14
Arrangements are in hand for the accommodation of a very large number of wounded in the event of Cambridge being established as a base hospital and completely equipped wards have been fitted up in many of the colleges. Nearly 100 Army Nursing Corps nurses have been quartered at Downing College and a large number of beds lent by various colleges. Scores of voluntary workers are making clothing. Accommodation for 500 wounded may be required when the Great Court of Trinity College would become a huge temporary hospital 14 08 14 p5

1914 12 25
Nurse Boutle of South Street volunteered for foreign service with the Red Cross Society. She was taken prisoner in Brussels and sent to nurse wounded German and French soldiers. When the Germans refused to let them go she disguised herself and after a risky journey and an exciting incident with a German sentry – three minutes afterwards a man was shot at the same spot – she reached the coast. On the crossing the steamer passed two floating mines. She had no complaints about the conduct of the Germans who saluted nurses in the street.

1916 10 25
VAD nurse at First EGH, occupied rooms at Selwyn where large number of nurses have been accommodated; dies after dressing gown catches fire – 16 10 25e

1917 02 07
Dorothy Nicholls of Fulbourn – nurse on Russian front; description of journey – 17 02 07a

1918 02 20
Fulbourn Nurse Honoured. Nurse Dorothy Nicholls, daughter of Dr and Mrs. Nicholls, of Fulbourn, has been awarded the 1914 Bronze Star by the Red Cross Society, which has been forwarded with notice from the War Office. Nurse Nicholls has been in France for six months. Previous to that she was for 18 months on the Russian Front, and has had some wonderful experiences and marvellous escapes.

1920

1920 10 02
Kate Martin of Kingston Street awarded OBE for her work as nurse in explosives factory; was at Woolwich Arsenal and reduced number of girls suffering from TNT poisoning - CDN 20 10 02

1930

1930 06 19
The New Cherryhinton Nursing Association was wound up; the nurse's time has been by no means fully occupied and much has been of an unskilled nature. Now Nurse Hodges has left. 2,204 visits had been made during the year but many people prefer to employ a private nurse rather than the district nurse, although she is fully qualified for every branch of the work. The district was growing but new people seemed disinclined to join the Association. 30 06 19d

1938 04 02
Miss Moggach has retired as Matron at Addenbrooke's Hospital after 13 years. There have been many changes: the number of beds has increased from 190 to 320 and the number of nurses from 48 to 180. A preliminary training school for nurses has been established, a bed endowed at Delhi in memory of former matron Mary Cureton and a fund started for a chapel for nurses. She took a keen interest in nurses' recreations, starting the various sports clubs and presenting the first cups for tennis. 38 04 02a

1930 03 03
The A.R.P. First Aid post at Auckland Road will be staffed by a doctor and trained nurse and give more extensive first-aid. Two practices have already taken place. A sham air raid was enacted last night with casualties brought in by ambulance and unloaded by stretcher bearers. Nurses and orderlies under the direction of Dr Walker, dealt with them. Realism was added by squibs which were let off and red paint was used to give the impression of real wounds. 39 03 30 & a

1939 04 29
In the event of war there would be several hundred thousand casualties in the first few weeks. Cambridge was tolerably safe from air raids but patients would be transferred to Addenbrooke's Hospital from other areas. But there was a shortage of nurses. A nurse could do a great deal for a casualty with no hospital, but a hospital could do nothing for a casualty without a doctor and a nurse – 39 04 29 & a

1940 08 16
Duchess's Tour. The Duchess of Gloucester visited Cambridge on Tuesday. At an emergency hospital, the whole of the nursing staff, regular and auxiliary, were lined up and inside the ward, the royal visitor talked with some of the patients, including several members of the B.E.F. back from France. On leaving the Hospital, the Duchess chatted to nurses and members of a Scottish regiment. An R.A.F. sick quarters, which is entirely nursed by the Red Cross, was the next place of call. After inspecting two of the wards, the Duchess saw a short display of surgical work by the nurses. Proceeding next to the University examination Hall, now an emergency ward of Addenbrooke's Hospital, the Duchess saw some of the American ambulance units presented to the region. After inspecting the joint war organisation emergency hospital stores, the Duchess had tea with Sir Montagu and Lady Butler at Pembroke Lodge.

1941 07 04
Leg-up, — Stockings (writes Watchman) are to be provided as part of the uniform supplied to nurses at institutions controlled by the Cambridgeshire Public Assistance Committee. At a meeting of the Committee on Wednesday, the chairman (Mrs Hellish Clark) said the nurses could not possibly afford coupons for stockings to wear with uniform.

1942 02 14
Nurse Gertrude Prior awarded for distinguished service in Middle East – 42 02 14a

1942 11 06
Call for more Nurses, — A very large audience assembled at the Cambridge Guildhall to hear an appeal by Miss Florence Horsbrugh, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, for more women to take up nursing both nationally and locally. The occasion was a concert contributed to by distinguished artists, who gave their services for the Civilian Nurses Air Raid Victims Fund.

1947 11 13

There is a need for part-time nurses in Cambridgeshire and a campaign to recruit them is to be launched. Fulbourn was described as being "in a dangerous position" and one of the main difficulties mentioned by the Matrons of hospitals in the area was getting people for night and weekend work. Asked for their views Mrs Ditchburn said: "We at the County Hospital are very fortunate. We are well staffed and have our full complement". Mrs Mace explaining the position at Chesterton said approximately a third of the present staff was part time, which meant the night, weekend and early morning duties fell to the permanent staff. Mrs Bradley said that Linton was only one short of the full complement. At Fulbourn they had 32 permanent and 27 part time nurses to look after 528 patients

1948 07 05
Under the new National Health Service the Nursing Association service is to be taken over by the County Council. In reviewing their history it was reported that Mrs Marcus Dimsdale and Mrs Mellish Clark were put on the newly set up County Insurance Committee in 1911 one of the tasks was to provide nursing for patients suffering from tuberculosis who, owing to the acute shortage of sanatorium beds, had to be treated in their own homes. It was discovered that less than half the villages in the county had the services of a district nurse. A public meeting was held in 1913 and it was agreed to form a County Nursing Association

1948 11 10
At Cambridge town council Councillor Knox Shaw said “The nursing position is very serious. We do need a large number of nurses if we are to carry out the instructions of the ministry - that they should not work more than 96 hours a fortnight. Unless we can get more accommodation for nurses, we might find that we will have to close down wards in the hospitals. The waiting list in the hospitals at the moment is over 1800 and if we have to close down the wards the position will be more and more serious”. Accommodation for over one hundred nurses was required

1949 03 23
Cambridge is pioneering in Britain a scheme by which suitable cases, instead of being nursed in hospital, will be nursed in their own homes, thereby saving up to 30 hospital beds. There was unanimous agreement that the scheme for home nursing and care could and ought to be bought into operation at the earliest possible moment. “It has tremendous possibilities”, said Dr Banks. The local health authorities can do practically anything for the person ill in his own home except give him money.

1949 10 31
“Are the County Health Committee washing their hands of conditions in Fowlmere?” asked Counc. Mrs R. Briggs. “There are at least 200 Poles living there in the most squalid conditions possible and liable to be a source of disease to others in the village”. A Polish speaking nurse was needed to overcome the language difficulty as doctors were finding it a complete waste of time trying to treat Polish children without any knowledge of the language. The Polish families had squatted on the site of a disused aerodrome. Now they were subjects of the country, they should be absorbed into the population and enjoy the amenities of the place where they were living

1952 02 21
Sixteen patients were moved to safety when fire broke out in the nurses’ quarters at the Evelyn Nursing Homes, Trumpington Road, Cambridge. One of them was 102 years old. The Fire Brigade tackled “the biggest job for a long time” and brought the fire under control. Chief Fire Officer, Mr Tom Knowles, paid a tribute to the conduct of the nurses: “They were cool, calm and collected and completely unflurried; they might just have been making a cup of tea”, he said

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1952 07 19
The nursing staff position on the female side at Fulbourn Hospital remains serious. It has the valuable services of 41 part-time nurses but owing to their domestic commitments it is often difficult to get enough at peak periods such as weekends when the burden of nursing is borne by the depleted full-time nursing staff who number 26 instead of 80. A total of 1,426 patients were treated during the year and there were 925 in the Hospital on December 31st 1951

1954 01 27
The extension to the nurses' training school in Owlstone Road, Cambridge has everything for the convenience of the nurses. There are two shampoo rooms where the girls can wash their hair, two ironing rooms and a drying room for doing their washing and provision may be made for a small kitchen so they can fill a hot water bottle at night. Each bedroom has its own washbasin, while the dressing tables are really dressing-tables-cum-writing desks. A games room has been provided where they can enjoy table tennis or listen to the radio. There is also a piano so they can hold dances there if they wish. With such ideal conditions it will not be surprising if would-be-nurses will want to come to Cambridge for their training.

1954 02 17
Extensions to the Owlstone Road training school for nurses in Cambridge will provide accommodation for 70 more nurses in a fine new building with all the advantages that new methods in architecture can produce. In the nursing career there is none of the 'too old at 40' business. The fully qualified nurse has a secure career in a variety of appointments until she chooses to leave at the retiring age. But she must always remain receptive to new ideas and changing methods

1954 06 18
The new Mayoress, Mrs H.R. Mallett, came to Cambridge during the Great War as a young nurse at the First Eastern General Hospital and there she met her husband who was a sergeant-major in the Medical Corps. Nurses in those days received £10 a year, plus £3 beer money but the uniform, lodgings and washing were all found. They mostly lived in their uniform and had nothing to spend the money on except a few clothes. The beer money went in afternoon teas and cakes on their off-duty days. The job was fun but the discipline strict.

1957 03 29
Nurse G.A. Dorrington of Coleridge Road is a midwife who has brought over 3,800 babies into the world. For 30 years she has been on call night and day, attending women in their own homes across Cambridge. Occasionally she visits a woman having a baby and finds she actually delivered the mother many years ago. Now she has been awarded the M.B.E. 57 03 29

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1962 05 29
The Queen arrived in Cambridge to a fanfare of trumpets and over 2,000 people stood in the biting wind to welcome her as she opened the new Addenbrooke's Hospital. With Miss M.M. Puddicombe, the hospital matron, she walked past a line of nurses to the marquee where the ceremony was held before touring various wards speaking to patients. Later the Queen visited King's College chapel to see the newly-installed Rubens painting and toured the Papworth Village Settlement 62 05 28 & a 62 05 29a

1963 01 10
Recently qualified State Registered Nurses were present with their certificates at the Preliminary Training School, Owlstone Road. Miss Puddiscombe, the Matron, outlined the current situation at Addenbrooke's Hospital and its various departments 63 01 10b

1964 11 20
Nurses cartoon – 64 11 20a

1970

1972 10 28
Addenbrooke's Hospital will have to use many self-employed agency nurses to cope with the extra beds in Stage II of the new site. The hospital could need 100 extra nurses. Miss Mary Bonner, the chief nursing officer said; "Our total complement is somewhere between 800 and 900 nurses in the hospital group - but we will need all those for Addenbrooke's alone in 1973. With 841 beds, eight suites of theatres, the new accident admissions units and the out-patients department we will still need between 200 and 300 more nurses. An agency nurse can expect to earn around £25 for a 30-hour week, a little more than the hospital-employed nurse

1973 01 18
Nurses desk jobs, p18

1973 04 13
Nurses at Chesterton Hospital have dreaded what might happen if flames gripped the most vulnerable of their wards. Sister Pat Hough, of Harston ward, said, "Our ward has 19 continuous care patients. It has a wooden floor and it is above the kitchen". But yesterday she was a lot happier after a mock fire exercise at the old people's home in which a new invention came through its first test. The invention - a harness that lies under the mattress and clicks like a car safety belt into an emergency hammock for the patient - is the brain child of the Hospital's fire officer. She said: "The first patient was down the fire escape 35 seconds after the alarm went off. That is about four times quicker than we could have expected if we had used the conventional method"

1973 07 17
A "stress centre" may be set up in Cambridge for student nurses under pressure in their professional and personal lives. This is because stress is causing many of them to give up their careers while still in training. For a number of reasons such a centre could not be established for some time, but in the meantime doctor are thinking about carrying out a psychological assessment of those nurses who want to give up their jobs, and appointing a full-time counsellor to give advice to hospital staff generally. It is thought that as many as 15% of those leaving could be suffering, unknowingly, from some form of psychiatric illness

1973 11 03
Nurses under stress, p5

1974 05 13
An experimental five-day ward at New Addenbrooke's hospital, Cambridge, has opened. Five patients requiring minor surgery were admitted, and barring any unlikely complications, they will be back home by Friday. The ward is an attempt at cutting the hospital's long waiting list and at the same time offering a five-day week for nurses. On Friday night, they pack up for the weekend

and the patients go home. The free weekends, it is hoped, will be more attractive to staff, and it is staff the hospital is very short of.

1974 11 11
Sir – In the death of Mrs Doris Ditchburn, Cambridge has lost a much-loved citizen who will be missed by a wide circle. She and her husband came to Cambridge in 1934 to work at the old County Hospital in Mill Road. Together they worked to improve the standards of the hospital and towards her dream of a first-rate maternity hospital. Mrs Ditchburn was a most understanding person and most unlike the old-fashioned dragon of a matron, but insisted on a high standard from her nurses and gained their affection and respect. – Margaret Reed

1974 12 10
Large-scale ward closures at both Old and New Addenbrooke's hospital are planned over Christmas and New Year because not enough nurses will be available to staff them. Patients will be sent home and only emergencies dealt with. The closures have been made necessary because the Health Minister, Mrs Barbara Castle, has ordered than nurses should take an extra six days holiday before March 31st next year and wants the leave taken as soon as possible. A nurse said: "We obvious welcome the extra leave, but it was not necessary for Mrs Castle to order it to be taken right away. We feel she took the measure to placate the more militant member of the profession"

1975 12 22
Charges should be made for treatment in hospitals, doctors should be freed from committee work and top-heavy administration should be pruned to bare essentials if the National Health Service is to be cured of its present malaise, the Cambridge surgeon, Prof. Roy Calne, says in a long letter to 'The Daily Telegraph'. He says the service is afflicted by what little money there is being spent on the organisation and administration of care and not on the improvement of conditions in the hospitals. Doctors and nurses are being taken away from patients to sit on committees and become involved in administration. Token payments from patients towards food and medicines whilst they were in hospital would help ease cash problems in the service.

1980

1981 09 04
As a midwife, Phyllis Baker has brought 2,001 babies into the world. She started at Mill Road Hospital in 1940 when the maternity ward was full of pregnant evacuees and most local people had their babies at home - only going into hospital if there was something wrong or her housing conditions were particularly bad. She has made numerous friends: "I walked into Sainsbury's and somebody said 'Hello, Nurse Barker, this is one of yours' pointing to her child". 81 09 04

1982 01 15
Community nurses along with home helps and the meals-on-wheels service form the basic support for many old people. They treat burnt legs – quite common in cold weather as the elderly tend to sit very close to fires and fall asleep. Many ladies cling stubbornly to the homes in which they have lived for half a century or more, often without central heating, indoor lavatories and in some cases electricity or hot water. Two or three elderly people in Romsey have only gaslight while others insist on using candles. 82 01 15

1986 01 30
Hard-up Cambridge nurses are having to moonlight in pubs and cafes just to make ends meet. Some even go on 'sick' leave so they can hire themselves out to nursing agencies for extra cash.

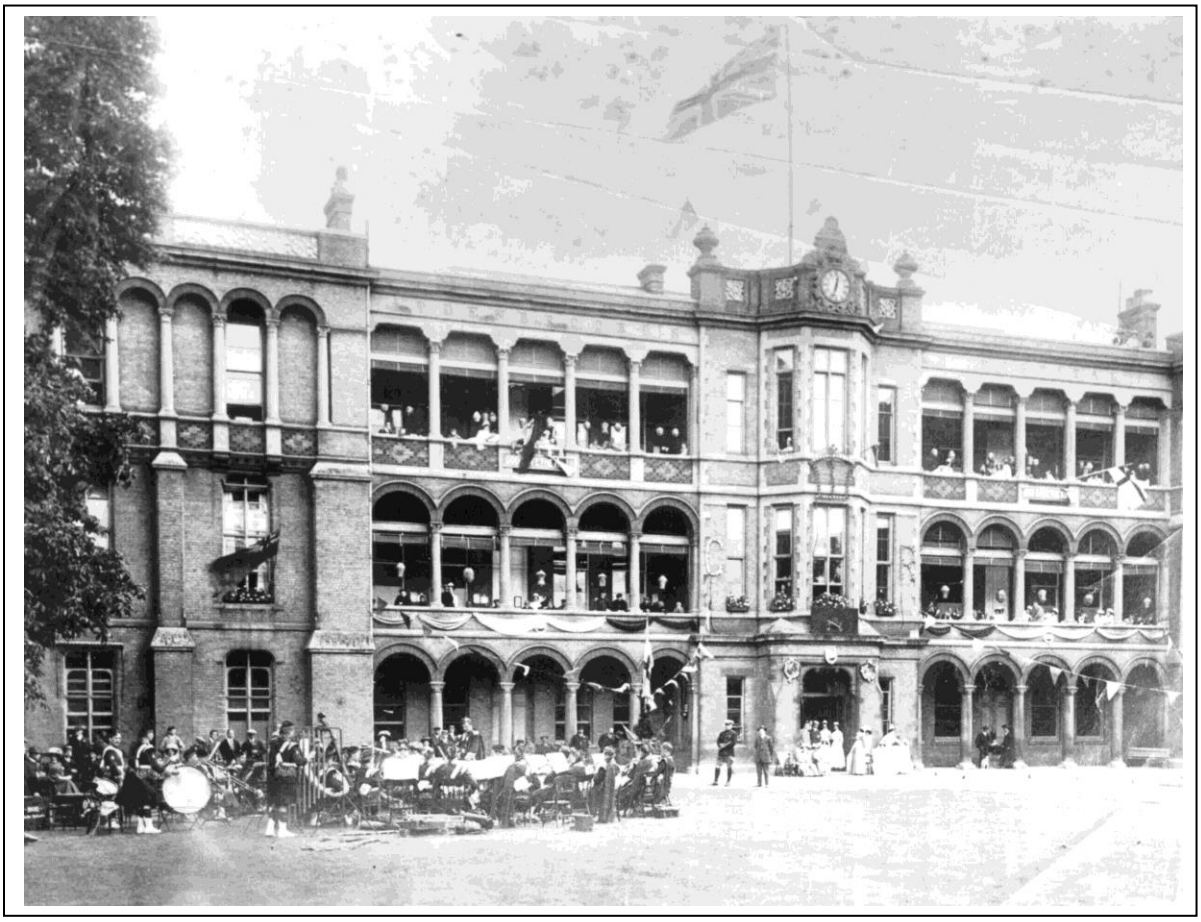
A staggering 40 per cent of nursing staff working full-time earn less than the official poverty level of £111.60 a week and some qualify for rent rebates. Nurses who are exhausted and burnt-out cannot provide the quality of care they should and fine staff are being forced out of the profession, they claim. 86 01 30

1987 10 01
Low salaries are driving thousands of nurses out of the National Health Service. A 28-year-old staff nurse at Addenbrooke's Hospital earns just over £8,000 a year (worth about £18,400 today) for her highly skilled, highly rewarding and highly frustrating job in neuro-surgical ward, A3. Major brain surgery has become a routine operation. Twenty beds are housed in a room off one long corridor with four others in 'The Annexe' intensive care unit. 87 10 01c

1988 02 03
Cambridge's nurses took to the city's streets for a day of action – and praised the public for backing their battle to save the NHS. More than 100 nurses marched from Shire Hall to Addenbrooke's Hospital where at a mass rally they spoke about their low pay and poor working conditions. Wages range from £5,400 for a newly-trained nurse (worth about £11,934 today) up to £12,000(£26,500) for a sister. But a bed-sitter cost £100 a week - what many nurses take home in net pay. Some can claim supplementary benefit, even though they are in full-time employment, and many have to 'moonlight' in shops and bars. 88 02 03, 88 02 08

1988 02 08
Nurses too poor to live in Cambridge – 88 02 08

1990 04 05
Hundreds of low-paid Cambridge nurses are hunting for second jobs to pay their poll tax, a union chief claims. Some 500 nurses in training who on salaries ranging from £5,695 to £6,630 are paying between £48 and £82 a month for bed-sitter flats at Addenbrooke's Hospital. Now they face an additional bill of £428 for poll tax 90 04 05b



Addenbrooke's Hospital, 1911 91.41

c.21.4 : Hospitals
Includes Addenbrooke's Hospital, Mill Road Hospital, First Eastern General Hospital and others

Note
The story of Addenbrooke's Hospital was covered in far more detail in "The history of Addenbrooke's hospital, Cambridge" [by] Arthur Rook, Margaret Carlton, & W. Graham Cannon. Cambridge, University Press, 1991.

1889
By now Addenbrooke's Hospital a large & important medical school with lectures given by people not members of hospital staff 1895

1889
New outpatients & nurses buildings

1898

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Finance unsatisfactory, management changes opposed [1.5]

1899 02 02
The amount of good which results from the presence in our midst of Addenbrooke's hospital is incalculable. In one important particular, however the work is limited and confined: the want of a suitable home for convalescent patients. The Hunstanton home is much appreciated but receives no surgical cases which require the smallest dressing, which limits its usefulness to patients, many of whom linger on in hospital for several weeks, when probably a very short time at the sea side would restore them to compete health. Now some friends have guaranteed to start a convalescent home exclusively in connection with Addenbrooke's, and another donor has promised to give a house at Hunstanton in furtherance of the scheme 1899 02 02

1900
1900
Regius Professor of Physic & Professor of Surgery elected as additional members of medical staff

1901 05 06
In debt, plan a new wing as memorial to Queen Victoria [1.6]

1901 06 13
Yarmouth Guardians received a report on the dissection of paupers' bodies. They had been sent to Cambridge by officials of the workhouse since 1881. Professor Macalister sent a cheque for £6 14s 6d for each body but only £5 10s 0d was really incurred for expenses. The railway charge for the carriage of a body was £4 6s.0d but the Master's clerk said it was £4 9s.0d and that he put the other 3s. in the poor box. £1 was paid for a coffin but he received 1s. from the undertaker. All the clerk had to do was to see the body was screwed down, go to the railway station and pay the charge. He said he gave the porters sixpence each but inquiry proved they only received a pint of beer

1901 07 02
Great Yarmouth board of Guardians revived the question of paupers' bodies being sent to Cambridge Anatomical School for dissection. Every friendless person who died in the workhouse should be asked before death if he had any objection to his body being sent away for dissection. Mr Saul thought that was a gruesome and unseemly idea. Dissection was perfectly legal and right; if they declined to allow unclaimed bodies to be used surgeons would be compelled to make experiments on living people or resort to paying for bodies stolen from newly-made graves. The practice will continue 01 07 02

1901 09 24
The Infectious Diseases Hospital, long known as the Sanatorium, in Mill Road, Cambridge is at the centre of the system under which all cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria, typhoid fever and small-pox are notified and wherever isolation at home is difficult the patient is removed for treatment to the hospital. Although Romsey Town has encroached extensively upon what not very long ago were open fields, the Sanatorium is still upon the verge of the country. From the grounds the view of a fine expanse of rural scenery is commanded; the air is fresh and invigorating. There is a large field behind and in this the new diphtheria block has been erected 01 09 24

1902 10 01
A fire broke out in the women's ward at the top of the left wing of Addenbrooke's Hospital. In a very short time the flames secured a firm hold and the unfortunate patients had to be removed. Flames burst through the roof and worked towards the centre of the building. Nurses and

probationers heroically entered the wards and brought their patients to a place of safety. Many scenes, tragically distressing, were witnessed. To such proportions did the fire assume that it was deemed advisable to remove other patients and several afflicted old men were brought to the lawn. The news of the outbreak spread quickly throughout Cambridge and some thousands of people gathered in front of the Hospital. The scene on the open plot of greensward in front of Addenbrooke's Hospital presented a curiously medley of hastily-improvised arrangements for caring for patients evacuated from the blazing building. Bed after bed, each with its living freight, was carefully lifted with stalwart arms and borne steadily to the quarters assigned to it in neighbouring houses. In the meantime the dull clouds of smoke rolling skywards from the Hospital gradually grew less in volume. The ceaseless exertions of the firemen were telling their tale and soon water pouring in a cascade down the staircase adjoining the blazing wing made it clear that the building was flooded to the extent that rendered the further spread of the fire improbable. The police report on the Addenbrooke's Hospital fire says they found a man at the top of a ladder with his head through the trap door leading to the roof of Victoria Ward, using a small hosepipe. Shortly afterwards the firemen arrived and after much trouble, mainly through the low pressure of water, got to work, but could not extinguish the flames before the roof and contents of Victoria Ward were destroyed. Police assisted to maintain order, regulate the traffic in Trumpington Street where there was a large crowd, and remove and restore patients, many of whom were in a fainting condition. CDN 1902 10 01-02-03

1902 11 12
The report of the committee on the fire at Addenbrooke's Hospital shows that the fire did not originate from any carelessness, but from the improper construction of the building itself. Joists have been found extending to the interior of the chimneys, which the committee regards as dangerous. The marvel is that it was ever permitted. If this method of construction prevails generally then some rather extensive alterations will have to be faced. CDN 1902 11 12

1903
New form of administration introduced - change from 600 Governors to 24 elected representatives [1.8]

1904
Reopen wards but face large overdraft, Peckover gives £1,000 & granted Freedom of Borough in acknowledgement of his munificence

1904
Not possible to proceed with Memorial wing [1.9]

1904 02 01
The recent decision to reduce the number of days on which the Cambridge Sanatorium can be visited from two a week to one a month has effected a change to which the patients' parent are not becoming easily reconciled. On Sunday afternoon several made the journey hoping to see their children through the windows. But all the blinds had been drawn and the children instructed not to look out. The parents waited for half an hour in the rain and then all but one departed. One man, who had not seen his son for five weeks, waited in an adjoining field. His vigil was rewarded when one of the blinds was raised and a timid little face peeped out and waved. The father went away somewhat gladdened at having seen his child in the distance. 04 02 01

1905
Cambridge Research Hospital founded by T.S.P. Strangeways (moved Worts Causeway 1912; tries find cures of killer & crippling diseases) [CEN 20.6.87]

1906
Cambridge Voluntary Association for Maternity & Child Welfare set up with milk kitchen in Newmarket Road & a few destitute mothers who had given birth cared for amongst geriatrics at Mill Road workhouse - its first connection with babies [15.1]

1906 01 06
A fire broke out in the roof of Addenbrooke's Hospital and extensive damage by fire and water has been wrought. A laundry maid saw wreaths of smoke above the roof of the operating theatre. The staff devoted themselves to the safety of the patients; those who could walk were hurriedly clad in warm wraps and led down the emergency staircase down which the more infirm, some on stretchers and some in their beds were carried. A similar fire broke out in October 1902. 06 01 06a-c

1906 01 01
Addenbrooke's Hospital fire – further report on cause – 06 02 01a

1906 07 12
It was alleged that the matron of the Cambridge Infectious Diseases Hospital had given a private supper party to friends and corporation officials. A councillor had stood in the pouring rain for two hours and watched through the window! The patients were in isolation and there was no objection to having a friend occasionally, but a large-scale party was not suitable. It had been the custom to have tea and bread and butter when the committee met there – that too should be stopped. 06 07 12 b & c

1906 12 05
Sir – each scarlet fever patient leaving the Cambridge Sanatorium has to have a final disinfecting bath, after which he is put into clean clothes sent from home. But the patient is bathed and dressed in the bathroom in which all the patients have been peeling for an indefinite period. The room is therefore more infectious than the wards themselves. Discharged patients risk carrying home the infection they have been isolated to obviate – J.H. Dalton 06 12 05

1908 07 31
Addenbrooke's Hospital is now secure in the possession of half the estate of the deceased Polish Jew of Romsey Town, Harris Norman. The other portion has been left to the London Jewish Synagogue for the poor and needy Jews. A bachelor, he had amassed a fortune of £12,000 by the sale of cheap jewellery and by investments. At his death an envelope thought to contain the will was fetched from the safe but found to contain only a blank piece of paper. Subsequently the will was found in the lining of an old silk hat he had given away. 08 07 31

1908 11 06
The Cambridge District Nurses moved into their new home standing in its own grounds on Newmarket Road. Designed by W.M. Fawcett and built by Coulson and Lofts, it has a smart exterior appearance. Facing the road is the entrance to the surgery with the dining room, and kitchen with sitting rooms for the Superintendent and nurses on the first floor together with four bedrooms and another three on the second floor. The building is lighted by incandescent gas and fitted with electric bells CWN 08 11 06 p5

1908 12 04
Cambridge is not too well supplied with private nursing homes for the treatment of medical and surgical cases so the Priory Nursing Home almost opposite Christ Church, Newmarket Road, is

welcome. It stands in grounds of nearly an acre with a garden sloping down to the river, isolated from the throb and vibration of traffic in one of the healthiest spots in Cambridge. A sense of comfort pervades the rooms and lurks in the corners and it seems hard to realise one is in a place associated with sickness and physical discomfort. 08 12 04

1909 05 07
Prince Henry of Battenberg opened a sale of work in aid of the funds for providing a properly-equipped Children's Ward at Addenbrooke's Hospital. There has been one in the past but some years ago it was done away with as the Hospital' income was not sufficient. Children have not been entirely neglected: urgent cases have been taken in but the staff felt handicapped without a bright, sunny ward where the injured and diseased little ones might be given a fair chance of recovery. 09 05 07 p5

1910

1910 06 04
Cambridge & District Workers Hospital Fund set up - regular contributions to fund to maintain hospital Addenbrooke's hospital daily menu includes 50 cabbages, 6 stone of potatoes, 60 eggs etc, some given by gardeners in villages served [3.10]

1910 06 10
Monday marked an important epoch in the history of Addenbrooke's Hospital when the electrical department, containing the new X-Rays and other appliances, was formally opened. The installation of the X-Rays is yet another evidence of the determined effort made by the Hospital Authorities to keep place with modern scientific discovery and have all the latest appliances. A 16-inch coil is used, with a motor generator and Wehnell brakes, and currents can be obtained up to 35 amps. By means of the Rays cases of bone disorder, injuries, cancer, rodent ulcer and ringworm can be dealt with. 10 06 10a & b

1910 10 07
Although the Cambridge Workers' Hospital Fund has only been in operation for 13 weeks it has already collected £166. Great difficulty has been experienced with some employers: hundreds of firms have been written to but few had replied. More accommodation was needed at Addenbrooke's Hospital but this could not be undertaken unless the workers would raise an extra £1,000 a year to maintain the extensions. The hospital charges for bandages and medicine were very reasonable but although subscribing workers should have them, this could not apply to their family or relatives 10 10 07e

1910 10 21
A public meeting agreed that the best Cambridge memorial to King Edward VII would be an extension to Addenbrooke's Hospital. At present there was a small ward where only eight infants could be accommodated and the outpatients department did more harm than good as people suffering from infectious diseases had to wait in company with others, increasing infection. The boiler needed replacement and there was need for a new room for X-ray apparatus as well as a new lift. There should also be a bust of the late King to be displayed in the Guildhall alongside that of his mother, Queen Victoria. 10 10 21e & f

1911 08 18
Addenbrooke's Hospital death under chloroform; anaesthetist exonerated. Richard Harris son of Newmarket licensee 11 08 18b

1912
Additional accommodation for Infectious Diseases Hospital [3.11]

1912
Cambridge Research Hospital (Strangeways research Laboratory) opens, Hills Road, principally engaged in cancer research [3.12, 369.15.11]

1912 05 24
Mrs H. Bonnett of Lensfield Road has offered to build, equip and endow a Clinical Laboratory for the benefit of Addenbrooke's Hospital as a memorial to her son, the late Mr John Bonnett, who was for many years secretary and legal adviser to the Hospital and one of its most earnest advocates and supporters. It is not often that such a generous, one might almost say princely, benefaction is offered for such an invaluable object. It is a most generous gift at a time when the Governors are about to decide on plans for a new Children's Ward and out-patients' department. 12 05 24f

1912 05 31
Mr Strangeways was the heart and soul of the Cambridge Research Hospital which was opened on Hills Road. There has been a remarkable progress of science. It is now possible to examine bones and joints as if the flesh was transparent and to take photographs of them. The position of bullets and needles can be ascertained and diseases of internal organs elucidated by the X-rays. 12 05 31a & b

1912 06 24
The wealth of Cambridge in scientific fields seems to grow almost daily. Today is to be opened the new Cambridge Research Hospital for the study of rheumatoid arthritis. The condition can be one of almost ceaseless pain but it arouses less sympathy and lacks the sentimental element that helps hospitals for children and the consumptive. Success will bring about a greater diminution in human misery than the discovery of a cure of cancer. 12 06 24g

1913 01 10
Addenbrooke's Hospital big falling off in church contributions – report, gifts in kind 13 01 10 p6 CIP

1913 02 21
Now the council had acquired land adjoining the Infectious Diseases Hospital, work on two new isolation blocks should be started. Each would have twelve beds in a sort of cubicle closed in with glass partitions, so that it would be quite possible to have in one bed a patient suffering from scarlet fever and diphtheria and only a few yards away, but separated by glass, another patents for whom it was extremely important that there should be no risk of catching diphtheria. This needed a skilled architect to design 13 02 21 p7 CIP

1913 05 02
Addenbrooke's Hospital John Bonnet memorial clinic stone-laying 13 05 02 p2 CIP

1913 07 18
Mrs Almeric Paget has again shown her support for Addenbrooke's Hospital. A new lift is required to replace the existing one for moving patients from one floor to another or to the operating theatre on the top storey. The cost is £1,000 (about £98,000 at today's prices) and she promised £500 with a further £250 if the remainder could be raised. Lord Peckover immediately wrote the cheque needed to match the generous offer 1913 07 18 p12 CIP

1913 08 01
Red Cross VAD detachments had a field day at Newton Hall Park. Shepreth send a complete detachment of both men and women. The village has a pensioned R.A.M.C., Mr A. Smith, who they made Quartermaster and threw himself heartily into the work. He improvised stretchers using ash poles but slings. These are necessary for it is quite impossible for bearers to carry wounded men long distances without them 13 08 01 p2 CIP

1913 08 22
Infectious disease hospital may be extended by two additional blocks, one a twelve-bed observation ward, the other a twelve-bed pavilion with two single-bed wards, a convalescent room & additions to the administration block 13 08 22 p4 CIP

1913 10 24
An alarming accident occurred during the building operations at Addenbrooke's Hospital. An iron girder which had been hoisted to the roof slipped and crashed through the roof and the floor of the topmost ward into the ward below. Considerable alarm was naturally caused, particularly as the second ward was occupied by patients, but providently the girder fell clear of the beds and nobody was injured. It was quickly hoisted out and the holes in the roof were temporally boarded up 13 10 24 p8 CIP

1913 10 31
College Servants formed a VAD so they could train to join the First Eastern Hospital. This was at a skeleton stage. Cambridge was an ideal place with all its colleges capable of holding a large number of people. It needed to be run on military lines 13 10 31 p10 CIP

1914-18
Various casualty hospitals opened

1914 02 13
John Bennett clinical labs open, he was secretary to hospital governors Addenbrooke's – 14 02 13b, c [1.10,2.5,3.13]

1914 08 07
Men of the First Eastern General Hospital were quartered in Corn Exchange Street. An elaborate scheme was drawn up fir constituting Cambridge a great hospital centre and the various college buildings were mapped out for conversion into wards. But this scheme is intended in case of invasion and it is to be hoped will never be needed. At present the need is for accommodation at places were wounded men are likely to be landed 14 08 07

1914 08 14
Arrangements are in hand for the accommodation of a very large number of wounded in the event of Cambridge being established as a base hospital and completely equipped wards have been fitted up in many of the colleges. Nearly 100 Army Nursing Corps nurses have been quartered at Downing College and a large number of beds lent by various colleges. Scores of voluntary workers are making clothing. Accommodation for 500 wounded may be required when the Great Court of Trinity College would become a huge temporary hospital 14 08 14 p5 Shepreth VAD could have a hospital for 26 patients ready within 24 hours.

1914 08 14

Red Cross hospitals have been equipped throughout the county. At Cottenham 40 beds are ready at one hour's notice, 25 are ready for wounded at Histon Council School, Oakington has 15. At Waterbeach the Baptist Sunday Schoolroom is equipped as a hospital with nurses in uniform presenting a neat appearance. At Newmarket thirty beds are fitted in the King Edward VII Memorial Hall. Should 100 wounded men be sent further beds will be fitted in the Astley Institute, Town Hall and Technical Institute. 14 08 14 p8

1914 09 04
Cambridge is one of the principal base hospitals to which the brave men wounded at Mons have been brought, 150 are now being cared for at King's College, to which the First Eastern General Hospital has been transferred from the Leys School. They include a Cambridge man, Leonard Cornwell of Gwydir Street, who was the very last to be placed in the train. So within a month of his departure he is back in his own town bearing marks of the terrible conflict. 14 09 04

1914 09 04
The train with wounded from the front was delayed. Rooms on the Great Northern platform were converted into wards for serious cases before being taken to hospital. Outside a fleet of motor cars and tradesmen's vans converted to ambulances were ready to take the men to the First Eastern Hospital now at Trinity College. It was not easy to lift the badly-wounded men out of the carriages but stretchers were placed on luggage trolleys and wheeled slowly along the platform. There were tears in the eyes of onlookers 14 09 04 p7

1914 09 25
A complete military hospital to accommodate 520 patients is to be built on college playing fields, Burrell's Walk. The hospital has to be completed within a month – indeed a considerable part is required within a fortnight so that the present hospital at Trinity College may be vacated before term commences. It will comprise of five wards with 100 beds in each, a supply block, operating theatre, mortuary kitchens etc. This means working at top pressure, night and day. When complete it will be one of the largest of its kind 14 09 25

1914 10 09
A soldier from the Gloucester Regiment, lying in Trinity College, writes "I am a wounded soldier who has lost his leg whilst fighting at the front. I had it taken off by Lieut.-Col. Deighton at Cambridge Hospital, which was a great relief to me and saved my life. I wish to thank all the visitors who came in to see us wounded soldiers and for the presents I have received. We get treated very well and the nurses and sisters are so kind and gentle. A choir comes to sing on two evenings. It is lovely and we enjoy it so much. I am proud to say that I lost my leg for King and country. Others including Sawston 14 10 09

1914 10 16
Two military funerals took place from the First Eastern General Hospital at Trinity College. One body was sent in a coffin wrapped in a Union Jack to the station and put on a train to Durham. The railway expenses were generously defrayed by Nurse Keep. The funeral of other, Arthur Larkin of the Royal Scots, was held at Newmarket Road cemetery. He'd been wounded at Mons and the cause of death was tetanus. Bugler Royston sounded the 'Last Post' 14 10 16

1914 10 30
As motor ambulances are much needed Cambridge Red Cross have decided to hire a chassis from the Cambridge Automobile and Engineering Company and build an ambulance upon it. Other chassis have been lent by Mr Briscoe of Longstowe, Lady Inchcape and Mr Douglas Newton while Lady Waldstein has also converted one of her cars into an ambulance. These, together with

those lend by Messrs King & Harper will convey wounded with increased comfort from the station to the First Eastern General Hospital 14 10 30 p8

1914 12 18
Royal visit Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein to First Eastern General Hospital 14 12 18

1914 12 25
Nurse Boutle of South Street volunteered for foreign service with the Red Cross Society. She was taken prisoner in Brussels and sent to nurse wounded German and French soldiers. When the Germans refused to let them go she disguised herself and after a risky journey and an exciting incident with a German sentry – three minutes afterwards a man was shot at the same spot – she reached the coast. On the crossing the steamer passed two floating mines. She had no complaints about the conduct of the Germans who saluted nurses in the street 14 12 25

1915 02 12
C.T. Skipper, architect of FEGH and Cherry Hinton huts appointed to War Office to produce new hospitals 15 02 12

1915 03 05
Addenbrooke's Hospital has experienced exceptionally difficult conditions due to the extension and alteration of the buildings and the disorganisation of staff arising from the war. Various surgeons had been commissioned into the army and nurses had volunteered for service with Queen Alexandra's Naval Nursing Service. But the X-Ray department is now working in the new out-patients department and Dr Roderick had supplied radium for the benefit of patients for whom this treatment is required. They'd offered 60 beds for wounded soldiers but these had gone to the First Eastern General Hospital 15 03 05

1915 04 23
Red Cross – no more small convalescent homes to be opened – are waiting at Balsham, Cottenham, Gt Shelford & Cambridge; Seven hospitals now open with 158 beds. First Borough Hospital temporarily closed & would reopen at St Chad's; also one at Linton. A private hospital opened at Cheveley by Lady Savile Crossley. New scheme for large convalescent camps 15 04 23 p7

1915 05
Isolation hospital new block added, cost £5,600 [1.11]

1915 05 07
Cambridge Sanatorium additions Isolation Hospital complete – block of 14 beds; enter from Vinery Road 15 05 07 p4

1915 05 14
Isolation Hospital, Mill Road opened, history 15 05 14 p4; 15 05 14a Ch

1915 05 14
Dentist in wartime – work at 1st First Eastern General Hospital 15 05 14 p7

1915 06 18
First Eastern pamphlet by Shipley 15 06 18 p6

1915 06 18

Formation of 5th (Depot) Company authorised 2nd Dec and on 11 Dec moved into the new Hut Barracks, Continued to grow. Two Depot companies will remain in Cambridge to train any further drafts. Fighting strength that will move out comprises 26 officers, 1,084 other ranks …1915 06 18

1915 07 16
Consider disposal of sewage from the Military Hospital in course of erection Newmarket Road 15 07 16 p4

1915 07 16
Measles epidemic accelerated due 20,000 men of Welsh division who billeted in private houses 15 07 16

1915 07 16
Consider disposal of sewage from the Military Hospital in course of erection Newmarket Road 15 07 16

1915 07 23
Red Cross – 12 hospitals now open in Cambridge and county 15 07 23 p4

1915 08 06
Addenbrooke's Hospital – Albert and Griffiths wards to be used as extension of EGH for 60 wounded soldiers; payment 4s per head per day; new out-patients and casualty departments completed 15 08 06 p8

1915 09 24
Shepreth VAD hospital scandals and false accusations lead to application to dismantle hospital – Ald Webber, Wimbish Manor 15 09 24 p7

1915 12 01
Red Cross – what the VADs are doing – collect wounded form railway station – 15 12 01h Ch

1915 12 15
First Eastern General Hospital, opening of new recreation room m- 15 12 15b Ch

1916 01 12
Mount Blow, Gt Shelford, VAD Hospital & staff – photo – 16 01 12c

1916 01 26
Albina Lucy Wherry, wife of Lieut-Col Wherry of RAMC & surgeon, organiser of Red Cross VAD activity; author of pamphlets on various subjects – profile – 16 01 26b

1916 01 26
Fulbourn VAD hospital - photo nurses, ward – 16 01 26c

1916 01 26
Wordsworth Grove Hospital new recreation room opened – 16 01 26a

1916 02 09
Addenbrooke's Hospital extensions and alterations completed – roof had been bad, parapet taken down – 16 02 09a

1916 02 09
Linton VAD Hospital – feature – 16 02 09d

1916 03 03
Hospital mystery. Soldier dies from acute alcohol poisoning – soldier patient at Cherryhinton Road Hospital. A private in 16th Canadian Scottish Regt. There were no facilities for leaving the hospital at all and no visitors were allowed. Whatever a man received in hospital was provided by hospital and place was under proper guard. Should have been in detention ward which was five yards from roadway. Between road and window was six-foot ditch and a hedge. Would have to get over ditch and hedge to give liquor through window. But was easy to pass a bottle from outside in the darkness when the sentry could not see. Guard inspected through little hole. The man appeared dead, the hut was locked. Doctor said body smelt of alcohol. Alcohol must have come from outside 16 03 03

1916 03 01
St Chad's VAD Hospital – photo profile – 16 03 01

1916 03 01
Cherry Hinton Road military hospital patient dies alcoholic poisoning in detention ward – 16 03 01d

1916 03 08
Wordsworth Grove VAD Hospital – photo feature – 16 03 08d

1916 03 08
Military Isolation Hospitals – grave danger; men escaped Newmarket Road and plundered orchards, indecent assault; guards should be increased – 16 03 08f

1916 03 15
Ontario Military Hospital designed by C.F. Skipper, architect of Cambridge & erected by William Sindall; others on similar lines include First Eastern, Canadian Red Cross, Scottish National Red Cross Hospital Glasgow – 16 03 15b

1916 03 15
Tuberculosis colony, Bourn – detailed feature – 16 03 15d,e, f

1916 03 22
Huntley VAD Hospital – photo feature – 16 03 22a

1916 03 29
1st Balsham VAD – photo feature – 16 03 29c

1916 04 05
Balsham Park House VAD – photo feature - 16 04 05f

1916 05 24
St Chad's Red Cross Hospital celebrate first anniversary by an outing to Ely – photos – 16 05 24b

1916 07 19
100th ambulance train arrives – 15 07 19a

1916 09 16
Swavesey VAD photo feature – 16 09 16b

1916 10 25
Red Cross – activities of year, VAD hospitals, 26 10 25b

1916 10 25
VAD nurse at First EGH, occupied rooms at Selwyn where large number of nurses have been accommodated; dies after dressing gown catches fire – 16 10 25e

1916 10 27
To combat venereal disease – public meeting – 16 10 27

1916 11 15
Mr and Mrs. Charles Finch Foster had given to the Hospital the sum of £1,000 commemoration of their golden wedding. Mr. Foster had asked that the Hospital should assign a bed, in consequence of this gift, in accordance with their by-laws. The General Committee had gratefully accepted this very liberal donation, and the inscription on the bed would be as follows: "A Golden Wedding Gift. 1866. October 2. 1916. Mr. and Mrs. Charles Finch Foster endow this bed to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of their wedding day". This was, added Mr Lock a very valuable present and he ventured to say it was an example which they might hope others would follow 16 11 15 CIPof

1917 02 28
Cherry Hinton military hospital – suicide of soldier, gassed – 17 02 28b

1917 03 22
Mr Paget asked in parliament about town council resolution of 2nd March 1916 drawing attention War Office to lack of control of and the insufficient guards placed at military isolation hospitals in Cherryhinton Rd & Newmarket Road whereby patients were enabled to escape and thereby cause danger to the health of the community. Mr Churchill, Sec of State for War asked – 4th registrar of Cherryhinton military hospital reported to local medical officer of health that the previous day a soldier had been discharged from hospital at his own request suffering from venereal disease … was due for demobilisation 1917 03 22 Hansard

1917 12 19
Red Cross Hospital beds unoccupied and those sent require no nursing – 17 12 19a

1918 03 20
The Secretary of State for War, Lord Derby, made an unofficial inspection of the 1st Eastern Hospital. He visited the administrative offices, the Nurses' Mess and went round several of the wards & the recreation room, where the Irish ladies of the town had provided a sumptuous tea on the eve of St. Patrick's Day for the Irish patients. This pleased him much. The kitchen and operating theatre were then inspected, and he expressed himself as being extremely satisfied especially with the open-air wards 18 03 20 CIPof

1918 05
Addenbrooke's Hospital £1,500 in debt [2.3]

1918 05 10

PC Barnes saw two soldiers in hospital uniform going towards Mill Road each carried a full sack. Said it was bread for the hospital from Bainbridge's shop. Until six weeks ago breaking out of the hospital bread been reduced to a minimum – one or two cases a month. But recently had increased to 2-3 per night, mainly owing to reduction rations. But they got more than ordinary peropld.10 ounces of meat, 14.5 ounces of bread and a pudding each day. In course of their treatment some were put on a milk diet for 24 hours and got hungry. They were encouraged by baker to break out and obtain large quantity of brad which they sold in the hospital when they got back at rate of 1s a loaf. It was doing men a great deal of harm and was very derogatory to discipline. Baker gave them stale loaf, they came back for 40 loaves, came into the house and wife made them cocoa. Did not know that bakers came under Shop Hours Order – should close not later than 8pm except Saturday 18 05 10

1918 12 11
Wordsworth Grove Hospital, Cambridge, has Newnham gymnasium lent to them for their massage and electrical department, a large, airy bright building where between 30 and 40 cases a day are treated—men in hospital in the mornings, and out-patients and discharged soldiers in the afternoons from Swavesey, Newton, Harston, Duxford and outlying villages. The treatments are massage, galvanism and Faradism, radiant heat, hot air and ionisations and exercise. The work here, as in all other Red Cross Hospitals in the county, is carried on under the supervision of Miss Laven, who has been untiring in her efforts on behalf of the wounded ever since the outbreak of war. 18 12 11 CIPof

1919 03 05
Oxygen treatment for gas poisoning, specially erected chambers at 'Springfield', Sidgwick Avenue in connection EGH. Research started in Physiological Laboratories early in 1917 under Joseph Barcroft who made Superintendent in Physiology to Ministry of Munitions. Thirty cases have been treated. Requires exercise and physical training in spacious grounds. Has inner chamber of iron and glass which is airtight. Oxygen added. – 19 03 05a

1919 04 30
Red Cross Society; closing down the hospitals, most closed this month – 19
04 30g

1919 05 14
Shelford VAD Hospital winding up ceremony – 19 05 14a

1919 06 18
Memories of Albina Wherry, VAD nurse on station and aircraft precaution squads; describes scenes on Red Cross railway trains full of wounded soldiers – 19 06 18f

1919 08 06
Soldiers on strike. At a meeting of the Cambridge War Pensions Committee, the story was told of a strike of discharged soldiers undergoing treatment, at the Papworth Tuberculosis Colony. Dr Aldren Wright told the committee that on July 2 something not quite satisfactory occurred with regard to the food. There had been a little dissatisfaction before, and on this occasion they asked the Superintendent. (Dr. Varrier-Jones) to receive a deputation. Mr Varrier-Jones said he would quite willing to listen to the individual complaints but would not interview them collectively. Three representatives however went in to see him and discussed with him the food situation and some words took place with the result that two of the men were dismissed, and this incident was followed by the whole of the discharged soldiers in the building, with one or two exceptions leaving the same day 19 08 06 CIPof

1919 09 10
First Eastern General huts to be converted into houses; 120 applications already received. One long ward to accommodate 16 small families; divided by concrete slabs – 19 09 10b

1919 09 24
Cambridge provisional limb depot began last January, a workshop established by Red Cross Society; provides light peg legs for amputees – 19 11 05b VAD in Cambs; notable record of work in days of peace and war, by Alex Wood – detailed account – 19 09 24b

1919 11
Nurse dies after she cuts her hand on scissors [2.7]

1919 11 07
Isle War Pensions Committee – discuss buildings adaptable for training purposes. Most promising two hospitals at Cambridge. One Barnwell erected for 780 patients, other Cherry Hinton for 800, each complete accommodation residential staff - Barnwell 1,000, Cherry Hinton 1,110. Buildings commodious, well planned & well provided with first class roads, drainage done. Both used for venereal cases but practically vacated & notices could be put up about new use; men would not go to buildings associated with VD. Barnwell temporarily occupied by 80 general cases from 1st Eastern General Hospital while few VD cases being treated – ES 19 11 07 p6

1919 11 14
Training centres for discharged soldiers … venereal diseases hospitals …is no risk of infection but would men go into them … hospitals at Barnwell and Cherryhinton Road, one having accommodation for 750 men and the other for 800 are most suited. A matter of sentiment – VD Hospitals as training centre – meeting convened by Church League for Women's Suffrage … military established two hospitals and prevented men getting out a d mixing with inhabitants …if buildings taken down and re-erected on another site with delay, construction of new roads and paths and new system of draining there would be no objections … when FEGH taken over by Town Council some of patients were sent to these hospitals but had great difficulty getting the men to go there … there was a moral taint about the place 19 11 14

1919 12 17
First Eastern General Hospital – first tenants move in – 19 12 17a photos – 19 12 17c

1920

1920
Evelyn Nursing Home opened as result of £30,000 given by Mr Agnew in thanks for wife's recovery after serious operation [1.2] 1919 the local nursing home was a sizeable house in Thompson's Lane next to electricity works (later Magdalene lodging house). Primitive theatre on 1st floor & no porter, patients needed to be carried up & down narrow zig-zag stairs on stretcher angle 60 degrees; Charles Agnew's - of Agnews Bond St art dealers - wife Alice operated on & in gratitude he built new nursing home in about 1922 by extending a large house called The Orchard in Trumpington Road & named after his wife Evelyn. In early 30s extension & new theatre added. Fees charged sometimes waived & University could use money from Crane's Charity to pay for needy undergraduates. A non-profit making institution for town & gown 81 09 24

1920 01 02

1st Eastern Hospital reunion … Griffiths says early in war was asked make provision for treatment of diseases amongst British and Colonial troops … established two hospitals where nearly 2,000 patients were at one time accommodated 20 01 02

1920 02 18
Burrell's Walk hut – experiences of resident – Ch 20 02 18a

1920 03 10
Cherry Hinton Military Hospital patients get out of institution – questions to military – Ch 20 03 10b

1920 03 30
Burrell's Walk – 242 applications for accommodation, 74 in occupation of tenements and on completion of the first part of the housing scheme would be accommodation for further 60; 108 for whom no accommodation. Two of the wards were still in occupation of military who could not vacate for another month - CDN 20 03 30

1920 06 05
First Eastern General Hospital arrangement with colleges only temporary, when agreement comes to an end there will be over 200 more families to be provided for. At present are 128 families in occupation – CDN 20 06 05

1920 07 17
Motor ambulance of Red Cross Society now available for public, charge 1/3 per mile, reduction if poor [6.7]

1920 09 04
First Eastern General Hospital alterations being carried out in three parts, the first providing for 134 tenements, the second for 48 and the third (now being proceeded with) for 31, making 213 in all. Even when all taken will still be more than 100 unsatisfied applicants - CDN 20 09 04

1920 09 08
Training of the disabled; how Cambridge war heroes are treated - Ch 20 09 08

1920 09 24
CEMS members in Cambridge was asked to visit men in Cherryhinton Road Military Hospital but 'suggestion was not well received and the matter was dropped' – 'Men,, Masculinities and Religious Change' 1920 09 24

1920 11 24
Cherry Hinton Road military hospital sale wooden huts etc; buyers Ely county council, Cambridge Steam Laundry, Cambridge Gas Company – Ch 20 11 24

1920 12 16
First Eastern – during snowy weather water leaks through roof, the only obtainable as pipes are frozen; coke ran out and no hot water, water cistern frozen and ten lavatories between 32 flats - CDN 20 12 16

1921 07
Nurses' salaries compared with those of Corporation scavenger [2.9]

1921 06 11
Voluntary hospitals in financial difficulties [3.14]

1921 10 15
Motor ambulance for use of townspeople provided by Special Constables [1.10, 2.19, 3.2]

1922 01 28
Special Constables thanked for their work during War; provide motor ambulance for use of townspeople; did 49 jobs and travelled 500 miles [2.19,1.22,2.8]

1922 04 29
At the Grand Council of the Red Cross Society and St John Ambulance Association Mrs Hartree raised the question of the police ambulance, and said she understood that the police ambulance was to be kept in the town, and that the Red Cross Ambulance should be used for long distances. However it was seen that the Police ambulance had gone on long distances - Ipswich and Norwich. Mrs Pryor said she knew the ambulance had been used extensively at the Evelyn Nursing Home. The Chief Constable said that the objection to the Red Cross Ambulance was that it was not heated, but they had very quietly informed him that it was heated and the ambulance had been much improved lately 22 04 29

1922 07 15
Something more than a talking-to ought to be administered to the boys who have committed so much wilful damage to the remains of the Barnwell Military Hospital adjoining the Newmarket-road just beyond the Cambridge Borough boundary. For some reason the boiler house and one complete section of the wooden hutments have been left, apparently totally uncared for, and are rapidly going to wreck and ruin. The site of the hospital, overgrown with weeds and littered with debris, forms a happy hunting ground for children who are able to get through the gap where the gates used to be. The bolder and most mischievous of the boys have found the remaining buildings a tempting target for stones, and scarcely a pane of glass remains undamaged 22 07 15

1923 04 21
Speaking to Cambridge Rotary Club Dr H B Roderick compared Addenbrooke's Hospital 50 years ago with today. In 1872 the average stay in hospital was 37.87 days and in 1922 to it was 27.46 days, so that with practically the same number of beds, owing to the more rapid turnover due to shortened convalescence, they were are able to deal with a considerable number more patients. In 1922,2,376 operations were performed, and 2,231 in-patients and 4523 outpatients were treated. This great increase in work naturally involves increased demands both on the medical, surgical, and nursing staffs of the hospital, as well as on its financial resources. The present operating theatre was constructed in 1897 and today it is out of date. Two theatres, on modern lines, are urgently needed in order to cope with the ever-increasing work 23 04 21

1926 03 01
The motor ambulance service in Cambridge continues to prove of great benefit and increased demands have again been made both for accidental and private cases. An additional motor ambulance has been purchased and has proved of great assistance. The number of calls received was 701, 175 to accidents and cases of sudden illness in the streets and 526 to private removal cases. The Watch Committee have excused payment in several cases of private removals, where the persons were in necessitous circumstances. The ambulances are available at any hour of the day or night upon application to the Central Police Station or Fire Station.

1926 09 23

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Cambridge Workers' Hospital Fund raised nearly £3,900 last year but expenses of Addenbrooke's Hospital were liable to increase. They were now installing new operating theatres, two of the women's wards were being remodelled to provide sanitary annexes and in the near future they would have to build a new ward on the top of Victoria. This all cost money and unless their income was increased they would have a drop in efficiency. It was a worry to know where the money was coming from. One bright spot was the parades; before the war they only received £600 from them, this year it would be over £4,000 26 09 23

1927 04 09
In view of the increasing numbers of road accidents and increased road traffic, the British Red Cross and the St John Ambulance Association are endeavouring to cover the country with road ambulance stations consisting of (a) motor ambulance stations, (b) first-aid detachment with equipment and (c) posts where a haversack of first-aid equipment will be kept. It is hoped to have the scheme running during weekends and Bank Holidays. There must be a number of young people in Cambridge who have qualified in first aid who can come forward to help in this great humanitarian work.

1927 05
Authorise construction of maternity department, May; decide not to proceed August & discuss maternity home [2.12]

1927 05 14
Radium fund introduced [2.29]

1927 07
Proposed enlargement at cost of £37,400 - new ward on top of Victoria, at present waiting list of 23 men & 56 women [2.13]

1927 03 01
Dr Francis Shillington Scales one of the foremost radiologists in the country has died. He was appointed medical officer in charge of the X-ray department at Addenbrooke's Hospital and made much of the apparatus himself. He had an extensive private practice in the special branch of medicine to which he had elevated himself, and had an elaborate X-ray apparatus installed at his residence in Adams Road 27 03 01

1928 06
Two operating theatres opened [2.14]

1928 07 19
Ely Urban Council considered the advisability of obtaining a motor ambulance. Cases were frequently happening where a person was ordered off to the Hospital at once. Last week frantic efforts were made to find an ambulance but the only vehicle that might be termed an ambulance was being used at a funeral and they had to telephone to Cambridge for one. This was a standing disgrace to Ely. Their friends at March had purchased a first-class ambulance for £880 and Soham had one

1929 02
Appeal for £90,000 for rebuilding [2.15]

1930

1930
Mill Road Poor Law Infirmary & workhouse closed when responsibility passed from Poor Law Guardians to County council; becomes County Municipal Infirmary for infirm & able-bodied homeless with nursery for children; some huts for mothers in childbirth [15.2]
Chesterton poor house taken over by local authority [12.7]

1930 03 15
The time is drawing near for the opening of the new Musgrave Ward at Addenbrooke's Hospital. The name is a reminder of the great service rendered by T. Musgrave Francis, chairman of the General Committee. The hospital wards get their names in various ways; sometimes it is after royalty as in 'Victoria' and 'Albert' but the most interesting in 'Tipperary' which was built in 1913-14. For a long time it was known as the 'New' Ward but the 'long, long way' that one had to travel to get to it reminded people of the popular song and gradually the name stuck. The 'Tipperary' Ward always made the hospital look rather lop-sided from the front, but the new 'Musgrave' restores the balance. 30 03 15c

1930 03 28
With the sun's warm rays streaming in at the windows – a fitting herald of life and health – the new Musgrave Ward was opened at Addenbrooke's Hospital. It is an addition to the top floor and intended as the second women's surgical ward. It contains 18 beds with three single-bed side wards and a balcony accommodating six beds for open-air treatment. Its name commemorates T. Musgrave Francis, chairman of the General Committee, who provided a tea and concert in the out-patients' department. 30 03 28b-c [1.12]

1930 04 01
The disappearance of Boards of Guardians and the transference of the Poor Law work to the Public Assistance Committees has caused some bewilderment. The chief institution in Cambridge is that at 81a Mill Road; it was erected in 1838 as a 'Union' to replace numerous small parish workhouses. The name has been changed to Poor Law Institution in recent years. The demand for accommodation became so acute that in 1923 they had to build a new block. The Infirmary of the old Workhouse has become a hospital with 124 beds in up-to-date wards with a large nursing staff including three certified midwives. 30 04 01a-c

1930 06 19
The New Cherryhinton Nursing Association was wound up; the nurse's time has been by no means fully occupied and much has been of an unskilled nature. Now Nurse Hodges has left. 2,204 visits had been made during the year but many people prefer to employ a private nurse rather than the district nurse, although she is fully qualified for every branch of the work. The district was growing but new people seemed disinclined to join the Association. 30 06 19d

1930 08 20
There are only seven patients at Oakington Isolation Hospital, the cases were chiefly scarlet fever and the virulence of this disease was decreasing. The matron and porter have retired due to ill-health. It would be best to close it and arrange for Cambridge sanatorium to take the patients. But the cost of maintenance there was three shillings and sixpence more a week, councillors were told. 30 08 20d-e

1931 08
Given £6,000 to enlarge X-ray department [2.24]

1931 10 02

Addenbrooke's Hospital contributory scheme encourages people to pay twopence per week. Treatments get more expensive as doctors discover new methods of helping people and owing to lengthening waiting lists extensions to the hospital become necessary. But it is no use having additional wards unless there is an increase in funds. Those who do not join may be required to pay a substantial charge if they need treatment. 31 10 02 o,p

1931 12 11
William Darnell, the head porter at Addenbrooke's Hospital is the best-known and most popular man to be featured in our 'Mystery Backs' series. Almost every writer identified him. They described him as 'genial', 'kind-hearted', and say 'the hospital would be a sorry place without him for he has a smile and kind word for every one'. Many asked that if they should win the five-shilling prize that it should be donated to Addenbrooke's. 31 12 11a

1932
New wing opened, eye ward opens, X-ray clinic opens after £8,500 anonymous gift [2.26, 2.25, 2.27]

1932 07 15
The Duke and Duchess of York opened Papworth Village Settlement's Women's Hospital which provides accommodation with the personal appurtenances of a private bed-sitting room so that each of the 62 patients may enjoy cheerful, colourful surroundings in her fight for health. Then they journeyed on to Addenbrooke's Hospital to open a new wing for children. 32 07 15a & b

1932 09 09
Members of the Cambridge Workers' Hospital Fund say they cannot accept the new Addenbrooke's Hospital Contributory Scheme. There have been no discussions with the Hospital who have rejected every approach. They had refused permission to put posters on the gates of the Hospital saying it would not look nice – although notice boards advertised a staff dance for the nurses. 32 09 09a

1932 10 01
Private wards cost 12/- (60p) a day [1.13]

1933 03 04
First Eastern General Hospital reunion – 33 03 04d

1933 03 14
Arthur Cooke, senior Surgeon at Addenbrooke's Hospital, owned one of the first steam cars in Cambridge. He was founder of the University Automobile Club which wound up about 1926 when the funds went to form the Ricardo Prize for Thermo-dynamics at the Engineering School. 33 03 14 & a

1936
Mill Road: County announce development of maternity side & establish 20 beds, 96 births during year, by 1939 was 300 [15.3]

1938 01 26
Oakington Isolation Hospital to be closed with cases transferred to Cambridge – 38 01 26

1938 04 02

Miss Moggach has retired as Matron at Addenbrooke's Hospital after 13 years. There have been many changes: the number of beds has increased from 190 to 320 and the number of nurses from 48 to 180. A preliminary training school for nurses has been established, a bed endowed at Delhi in memory of former matron Mary Cureton and a fund started for a chapel for nurses. She took a keen interest in nurses' recreations, starting the various sports clubs and presenting the first cups for tennis. 38 04 02a

1938 04 11
The First Eastern General Hospital is to be revived as part of a War Office plan. The site has not been officially approved but will not be far from Cambridge. It would have 600 beds on mobilisation, possibly expanding to 1,200. There will be a permanent staff of three officers and 24 other ranks with 19 medical officers, a matron and 49 nursing sisters. On mobilisation the staff will be increased by other ranks largely composed of V.A.D. men and women. They hoped it would never be called into action, but they must be prepared, ex-servicemen were told. 38 04 11a & b

1939
Mill Road transformed into AI Hospital under Emergency Medical Service to cater for expected casualties from East Coast hospitals in event invasion; takes Dunkirk evacuees, civilians still dealt with; 'temporary' theatre & X-Ray block set up in wooden huts (functioned till Hospital closed) [15.4]

1939 02 08
The Grove Nursing Home was opened in 1920 with three beds. Nine years ago it was moved to Chesterton Road where there were nine beds. The most recent expansion is to 159 Hills Road where a newly completed extension gives accommodation for 20 patients as well as an up-to-date operating theatre with anaesthetising room and all the modern apparatus. The home is, of course, centrally heated 39 02 08b

1939 03 03
Cambridge is to raise a 600 bed Military Hospital (Territorial) with an establishment of 23 officers, 50 nursing sisters and 145 other ranks. Steps are being taken to provide temporary accommodation for officers and social purposes pending the erection of permanent buildings. This new unit replaces the original 1st Eastern General raised in Cambridge and the Isle of Ely in 1908. After the war, the hospital was disbanded, but in 1938 it was reconstituted under the command of Lt.-Col. C. H. Budd. M.C. T.D. 39 03 03 CIPof

1939 04 17
The old First Eastern General Hospital had been born again last year, but it had a short life and died in the September crisis. Then the Cabinet decided to form eight Territorial General Hospitals and it was revived as the "2nd (1st Eastern) General Hospital". There are 23 officers and 145 other ranks, a matron and nurses and it will have the same number of beds, about 600. Old Comrades can assist training recruits in the initial stages, they were told at their annual dinner 39 04 17

1939 06 29
Emergency plans envisage that as London will probably be attacked before Cambridge the County Infirmary should provide for 250 casualties from Central London. The Ministry would provide bedding and equipment but mattresses and pillows would be supplied as cases only, to be filled as required. It would be up-graded with an operating theatre and X-ray rooms, emergency lighting and better sanitary conveniences. But in the event of local casualties the London cases would be transferred to other hospitals 39 06 29

1940

1940
Hope Nursing Home acquired by Roman Catholic Sisters of Holy Family after evacuated from London 1940 [446.9.8]

1940 06 16
The Duchess of Gloucester visited Cambridge. At an emergency hospital, the whole of the nursing staff, regular and auxiliary, were lined up and inside the ward, the royal visitor talked with some of the patients, including several members of the B.E.F. back from France. An R.A.F. sick quarters, which is entirely nursed by the Red Cross, was the next place of call. After inspecting two of the wards, the Duchess saw a short display of surgical work by the nurses. Proceeding next to the University examination Hall, now an emergency ward of Addenbrooke's Hospital, the Duchess saw some of the American ambulance units presented to the region then inspected the joint war organisation emergency hospital stores 40 08 16 CIPof 40 08 14a

1940 11 29
Hospital Inspected. Cambridgeshire's first convalescent home and auxiliary hospital under the Joint War Organisation and the Ministry of Health is staffed by two trained sisters, Miss Simmons and Mrs. Bailey, and B.R.C.S. members of detachments Cambridgeshire 14 and 38. Commandants Mrs. Martin Wright and Miss S Phillips 40 11 29 CIPof

1942 07 24
Isolation Hospital Mill Road temporary extension opened for infectious diseases – 42 07 24

1943
Radiotherapeutics centre established [7.1]

1946
Mill Road: County plan to turn into maternity unit, delay due imminence of National health Service in 1948 [15.10]

1946 05 13
Plans for new hospital at Chesterton on site of present one approved by county council and will go to Ministry. There were beds at Chesterton which could have been used for a long time and enable them to close down the disreputable, disgraceful, uncomfortable and insanitary beds which patients now occupying. But this 50-bed ward was away from the main building and the Medical Officer would not take responsibility of opening it when they did not have enough trained people to look after it – 46 05 13

1946 11 20
County hospital, Mill Road, largely used as Maternity Unit – feature – 46 11 20

1948
National Health Act abolishes Contributory scheme as becomes part of new National Health Service, East Anglian Regional Hospital Board established, Chesterton hospital becomes part [4.2, 12.7]

1948

Mill Road formally becomes Maternity Hospital with 91 beds & premature baby unit of 6 cots, still had 24-bed female geriatric ward (till 1965) [15.11]

1948 07 05
Under the new National Health Service the Nursing Association service is to be taken over by the County Council. In reviewing their history it was reported that Mrs Marcus Dimsdale and Mrs Mellish Clark were put on the newly set up County Insurance Committee in 1911 one of the tasks was to provide nursing for patients suffering from tuberculosis who, owing to the acute shortage of sanatorium beds, had to be treated in their own homes. It was discovered that less than half the villages in the county had the services of a district nurse. A public meting was held in 1913 and it was agreed to form a County Nursing Association 48 07 06

1949 03 23
Cambridge is pioneering in Britain a scheme by which suitable cases, instead of being nursed in hospital, will be nursed in their own homes, thereby saving up to 30 hospital beds. There was unanimous agreement that the scheme for home nursing and care could and ought to be bought into operation at the earliest possible moment. "It has tremendous possibilities", said Dr Banks. The local health authorities can do practically anything for the person ill in his own home except give him money.

1950

1950 03 01
A swifter and more efficient ambulance service is in action this week – thanks to radio control. This innovation, which has already proved its worth with the police and fire brigade, has had a successful trial with the county ambulance service. Radio control was fitted to their four ambulances and two utilicons by Pye Telecommunications and all vehicles are in constant call from the control room, newly equipped with receiver, transmitter and microphone. A number of Cambridge commercial firms have now followed the lead of Camtax in installing radio telephones and Cambridge must be among the world's most advanced towns in the field of radio control.

1950 05 19
During the Nazi "blitz" of 1940, members of the Roman Catholic Order The Sisters of Hope were driven from their home in London and came to settle in Bateman Street, Cambridge. In 1944 they moved to Brooklands Avenue. "So good has come out of evil", said the Bishop of Northampton as he laid the foundation stone of the new nursing home at Hope House. This large extension to the present premises will be completed in 12 months' time and will increase the capacity of the nursing home from its present nine patients to 30 50 05 19

1950 08 01
As from next Sunday, relatives and friends of patients in Addenbrooke's Hospital will be able to visit them for an extra ¾ of an hour. Previously the Sunday visiting time was from 2-3pm, but consultant staff have agreed to a suggestion made by matron regarding the extension of visiting time from 2.15 to 4pm. Staff also asked for consideration to periods of visiting by near relatives on weekdays between 7 & 8pm and whether there was any way of avoiding queues in the main corridors and staircases on visiting days

1950 11 28
Changes in the arrangements for visitors to Addenbrooke's Hospital were outlined by the Board of Governors. The present system of brass tokens will be discarded and the porter admitting visitors will be provided with a copy of the daily bulletin sheet for each ward and place a tick

against each patient's name for every visitor.. A maximum of four visitors will be allowed with not more than two by the bed at any time 50 11 28

1951 06 06
Authorisation for purchase of land for new site [2.10]

1952 01 12
Cambridge Daily News Robin & Goodfellow cots established, January. [2.11]

1952 02 21
Sixteen patients were moved to safety when fire broke out in the nurses' quarters at the Evelyn Nursing Homes, Trumpington Road, Cambridge. One of them was 102 years old. The Fire Brigade tackled "the biggest job for a long time" and brought the fire under control. Chief Fire Officer, Mr Tom Knowles, paid a tribute to the conduct of the nurses: "They were cool, calm and collected and completely unflurried; they might just have been making a cup of tea", he said. 52 02 21

1952 07 17
Hospital reopens after two months closure due to infection [2.16]

1952 11 17
CDN hand over radio sets as result of appeal run by paper, November [2.18]

1952 04 17
Cambridge Trades Council strongly objected to the closing of Romsey Municipal Restaurant. It will deny a good mid-day meal to many old people & working class men could not afford to go into places in Cambridge and pay high prices for meals. Transport workers could not get a meal if the facility were taken away. The profit of the combined restaurants is more than enough to cover losses and as municipal restaurants are a public service and not run for profit they urged the continuation of the service in Romsey. 52 04 17

1953 05 16
New Cancer labs - Prof. Mitchell - policy of linking hospital & science [2.20]

1954 01 27
The extension to the nurses' training school in Owlstone Road, Cambridge has everything for the convenience of the nurses. There are two shampoo rooms where the girls can wash their hair, two ironing rooms and a drying room for doing their washing and provision may be made for a small kitchen so they can fill a hot water bottle at night. Each bedroom has its own washbasin, while the dressing tables are really dressing-tables-cum-writing desks. A games room has been provided where they can enjoy table tennis or listen to the radio. There is also a piano so they can hold dances there if they wish. With such ideal conditions it will not be surprising if would-be-nurses will want to come to Cambridge for their training. 54 01 27 [2.22]

1955 04 22
Chesterton R.D.C. received a letter from Addenbrooke's to say that cases of diphtheria would no longer be admitted to the hospital. There were outbreaks at Impington and Trumpington, the fourth in the village. The provision of an isolation hospital had been postponed for a long time, with the object of avoiding expense but was now imperative. They could erect one at a cost of about £650 which would meet the needs of the district for a long time to come. 55 04 22b

1955 07 02
New Addenbrooke's approved [2.23]

1956 01 31
When Addenbrooke's Hospital was opened in 1766 it had no kitchens and some time later the Governors bought a small adjoining tenement. But now they celebrate the opening of new spacious and luxurious kitchens. The large dining room is artistically decorated with red curtains, yellow walls and blue Venetian blinds with separate spaces for medical and nursing staff. 56 01 31a [2.28]

1956 04 10
The resignations of Mrs and Mr Ditchburn as matron and secretary of Cambridge Maternity Hospital were accepted with regret. They were jointly appointed in 1934 when it was a ten-bedded public assistance institution and during the war became a transit hospital. Now it had grown to a 100-bedded institution and maternity training hospital of high repute and much of its success was owed to them. 56 04 10b

1956 05 08
Addenbrooke's Hospital Home of Recovery at Hunstanton is used for pre-convalescent and post-operating patients. Cases can be sent down much sooner than to their own homes; hospital beds are cleared quicker and they are able to take in other patients. In 1955 687 patients stayed at the home which has now been extended with a new sitting room and sun lounge. 56 05 08 & a

1956 09 08
In Cambridgeshire there is a whole corps of volunteer unpaid drivers who put their cars at the disposal of patients, driving them in to the hospital, wait for perhaps a whole morning and then taken them home again. The service is administered by Mrs Sybil Edwards and Miss Peggy Pointer who liken the outpatients department of Addenbrooke's Hospital to the booking hall at Piccadilly Circus tube station at rush hour. 56 09 08c

1956 10 05
Mr & Mrs Ditchburn have seen many changes at Mill Road Maternity Hospital in the 22 years they have been Senior Administrative Officer and Matron. When they came in 1934 it was the County Infirmary and was mostly for old people. During the next five years a new wing was built, together with a new ward and theatre. Gradually the chronic patients became fewer and now there are only 23. During the war it was an emergency Medical Services Hospital with only one bed left for maternity patients. In 1934 there were only 56 births at the Hospital but 1,831 were recorded in 1954. 56 10 05a & b

1958 02 19
A new W.V.S. Out Patients' canteen opened at Addenbrooke's Hospital. It supplies light meals and refreshments to 2,000 people a week. The welcome food and hot drinks help reduce tension and enable patients to be ready to benefit from medical advice and treatment. The canteen was started in 1911 by members of the British Women's Temperance Association and Miss Olive Golding who began the work, still does three shifts a week. 58 02 19

1958 04 23
Miss L.J. Ottley was appointed matron of Addenbrooke's Hospital in January 1944 when the war-time annexes at the Leys School and Examination Halls were in full use, giving a total complement of over 800 beds. A year later these were closed, adding to the waiting lists. The Hunstanton Home of Recovery was opened in 1947 and an unoccupied ward at Brookfields

Hospital opened for medical cases. She has worked tirelessly for the betterment of the hospital and many will miss her now she is retiring. 58 04 23

1958 07 30
Addenbrooke's Hospital new site work starts August – 58 07 30

1959 04 07
Addenbrooke's central sterile supply department - first in country [5.4]

1959 07 28
Work has begun on the new Addenbrooke's Hospital in Hills Road. The first stage will include a ward block of 100 beds and although the final size has not yet been decided it will be between 600 and 800 beds. "Our responsibilities are to the future and we shall be very much to blame if in 20 years' time we find ourselves looking for a bigger hospital", said the Chairman of the Governors' building committee. It will stand in a landscape planned by a woman architect, Mrs J.M. Hayward, in collaboration with the Director of the University Botanic Garden 59 07 28 [5.5]

1959 09 02
Excavations for the foundation of the first buildings of the new Addenbrooke's Hospital have started. It is hoped the ward block, radiological, outpatients and casualty departments will be completed in about two years. The architects are Easton and Robertson who have been responsible for many new buildings in Cambridge, including the new Engineering and Chemistry Laboratories, and the general contractors are Messrs Kerridge. 59 09 02a

1959 12
Private patient's advantages, Addenbrooke's Hospital – 59 12

1960s - the Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1961
Ministry of Health agree to resiting Mill Road maternity hospital at New Addenbrooke's 'by 1975' [15.12]

1961 04 18
When completed by 1968 the second stage of the new Addenbrooke's Hospital will have been probably the greatest single building project ever embarked upon in Cambridge at one time. Described as 'a hospital in a park' it will be the most up-to-date in Britain with beds for about 1,100 patients. It will comprise five ward blocks each ward having 25 beds and a site for the Chest Clinic, Blood Transfusion and Artificial Limb Centres. In addition five acres have been leased to the University for Clinical Research and medical teaching. 61 04 18a

1961 06 01
Private patients in Addenbrooke's Hospital are to pay lower charges for their rooms. At present a single room costs £4.9s.0d. a day and this will drop by one pound. A double room comes down six shillings to £3.19s.0d. The Board of Governors have also set aside £5.12s.6d. for the purchase of a budgerigar cage for the Mill Road maternity hospital 61 06 01

1961 08 12

Chesterton Hospital has 166 beds for the elderly sick and 74 custodial beds for able-bodied elderly people with no homes of their own. After decades of neglect geriatric medicine has come into its own. The number of elderly people is the highest it has ever been while a declining birth-rate has diminished the number of children available to care for their parents. Now 25 per cent of Britain's elderly are left without children to look after them in their old age. But of these 95 per cent are living independent lives and a quarter make some contribution to society until the age of 75 61 08 12

1961 10 03
Neurological surgery department opens in new hospital [5.6]

1961 10 23
Nearly 300 people had the distinction of being the first out-patients to attend clinics at the new Addenbrooke's Hospital. Long before nine they were filing into the spacious entrance hall and being dispersed to six clinic suites each of which has a receptionist to prepare them for the consultation. Only a few clinics remain at Trumpington Street, including orthopaedics, radiotherapy and psychiatry. By January it is hoped to have nearly all the wards transferred 61 10 23

1962 02 14
Cambridge's new Addenbrooke's Hospital is the first with an accident service. This brand new idea deals with everything from a minor cut on the thumb to major high-speed road accident. Eventually the idea will spread all over the country. Many labour saving devices have been introduced: electronically controlled containers in a pneumatic tube system deliver records and drugs to all parts of the hospital, oxygen can be piped to the wards, there are special chutes for the disposal of rubbish and doctors carry small wireless bleepers to tell them where they are wanted. Patients are assured of the finest attention in some of the finest hospital surroundings in the country 62 02 14

1962 04 04
Addenbrooke's Hospital to install two-way closed circuit television between Operating Theatre and X-Ray department – 62 04 04

1962 05 15
'Mill Road maternity accommodation has reached crisis point' - Matron [13.1,14]

1962 05 28
The Queen arrived in Cambridge to a fanfare of trumpets and over 2,000 people stood in the biting wind to welcome her as she opened the new Addenbrooke's Hospital. With Miss M.M. Puddicombe, the hospital matron, she walked past a line of nurses to the marquee where the ceremony was held before touring various wards speaking to patients. Later the Queen visited King's College chapel to see the newly-installed Rubens painting and toured the Papworth Village Settlement 62 05 28 & a 62 05 29a

1962 05 30
Demand for plastic surgery threatens out-patient sessions [5.9]

1962 06 28
Addenbrooke's Hospital development plans – 62 06 28

1965 01 12

Chesterton Hospital staff shortages are nothing new. Since the invention of antibiotics people do not die of disease at early ages, but live on. Geriatric nursing is not something you would be glad to see your daughter doing. Particularly when there is such a wide choice of less demanding and better-paid jobs. It is hard work: patients have to be fed, washed and helped to a degree unimaginable in other forms of illness. Sometimes their very helplessness makes the patients feel resentful at their dependence on the goodwill of others, so that they are critical rather than grateful for the help that is offered. If Chesterton is one of the most up to date in the country, one shudders to think what the rest must be like. 65 01 12

1965 02 01
Plans for second phase of Addenbrooke's Hospital approved – 65 02 01 [5.12]

1965 02 18
East Anglian Regional Hospital Board new offices next Chesterton Hospital – feature – 65 02 18a

1965 05 20
Mill Road 108 bed hospital full, geriatric patients transferred to Chesterton [13.2,15.11]

1965 11 30
R.S. Calne, University professor of surgery to pioneer setting up of kidney graft unit at Douglas House – 65 11 30

1966 03 15
Addenbrooke's Hospital: first glimpse of new proposals – profile – 66 03 15b

1966 03 21
First kidney graft, one of few done in country – 66 03 21 (13 done by October) [5.15]

1966 03 31
Hole in heart operation at Addenbrooke's as Papworth stopped, "may transfer to Addenbrooke's" [5.14]

1967 05 31
Chesterton: £1.5M scheme for new Hospital announced [12.9]

1967 09 04
Addenbrooke's Hospital site excavates vast crater 25ft deep during construction – 67 09 04, 04a

1968 03 19
Retinal detachment unit set up, new operating table designed by Donald Mackay [6.1]

1968 05 03
First liver transplant in country by Calne (patient lives 11 weeks) [6.2]

1968 07 30
"New kidney unit could upset hospital balance sheet" [6.3]

1968 11 26
Transplant consultant agreed [6.4]

1968 12 31

Try computer filing system [6.5]

1969 02 24
Liver swap on 2 year-old boy [6.6]

1969 06 19
Dons favour school of post-gradual clinical medicine [6.7]

1969 08 23
Chesterton becomes one of first geriatric hospitals to have cardiac monitoring system due to charity [12.10]

1969 10 08
Mill Road premature baby unit costing £80,000 opened, part of £500,000 work over 5 years, 'the site has almost reached saturation point' - Hospital secretary – 69 10 08 [13.3,14]

1969 11 25
New artificial limb & appliance centre, first as integral part of new hospital [6.9]

1969 12 16
Nurses fear "hospital will grind to halt in five years" [6.10]

1970

1970 03 20
Trains male nurses - only 5th hospital to do so [6.11]

1970 04 28
Evelyn relicenced for abortions, one of top 5 private clinics in country [16.1]

1970 06 03
Kidney Unit at Douglas House can be opened following permission for junior doctor; team headed by Prof Roy Calne; unit contains ten kidney machines – 70 06 03, 03a

1970 11 09
Renal dialysis unit opens Douglas House [6.13]

1971 07 09
Alan Howard of University Department Investigative Medicine pioneers new treatment for heart cases – 71 07 09b

1971 09 29
New central laundry opens [6.14]

1972 03 08
Pioneer computer medicine for processing blood test results [6.15]

1972 05 26
Campaign to be chosen centre for training physiotherapists & radiographers [6.17]

1972 05 27

An unlovely and inhumane heap. That is how the "Architect's Journal" describes the £12 million second stage of New Addenbrooke's Hospital, Cambridge now complete after six years of building. "One would have to go a long way to find such an unlovely and inhumane heap, which looks as if it was designed piecemeal by a team of untalented temporary assistants 72 05 27 [6.16]

1972 09 27
Only hours after moves began to cut its food bill, a Cambridge hospital has learned that it is one of the top four in the country for its bill of fare. New Addenbrooke's Hospital is only one of four hospitals named in a national survey by the Egon Ronay organisation as providing "completely good meals". The Ronay accolade is a tribute to the efforts of New Addenbrooke's head chef Douglas Lambert and catering officer Miss Mary Chivers - still working together in the kitchens after 24 years. General hospitals visited spend an average of £2.40 each week on food for patients. The food bill at New Addenbrooke's has risen recently to £3.20, and the Hospital's estimates committee recommended the bill should be cut back to about £2.50 72 09 27

1972 09 29
Faced with choice - finance for either five new kidney machines or new gas fired boiler system - chose machines [6.18]

1972 12 20
Brookfields (old infectious diseases hospital in Mill Road) to become old peoples hospital in March 1973[12.1]

1973 03 02
Radiotherapeutical centre develops cancer drugs [7.1]

1973 04 12
First liver transplant for year, have developed anti-rejection drug [7.2]

1973 04 13
Nurses at Chesterton Hospital have dreaded what might happen if flames gripped the most vulnerable of their wards. Sister Pat Hough, of Harston ward, said, "Our ward has 19 continuous care patients. It has a wooden floor and it is above the kitchen". But yesterday she was a lot happier after a mock fire exercise at the old people's home in which a new invention came through its first test. The invention - a harness that lies under the mattress and clicks like a car safety belt into an emergency hammock for the patient - is the brain child of the Hospital's fire officer. She said: "The first patient was down the fire escape 35 seconds after the alarm went off. That is about four times quicker than we could have expected if we had used the conventual method" 73 04 13

1974 03 11
Frank Lee centre opens [7.4]

1974 04 26
Report says Addenbrooke’s planned figure of 1,700 beds too many to manage, 1,200 now recommended; may need to keep old hospital [7.5]

1974 05 06
Laundry block fire [7.6]

1974 05 13

An experimental five-day ward at New Addenbrooke's hospital, Cambridge, has opened. Five patients requiring minor surgery were admitted, and barring any unlikely complications, they will be back home by Friday. The ward is an attempt at cutting the hospital's long waiting list and at the same time offering a five-day week for nurses. On Friday night, they pack up for the weekend and the patients go home. The free weekends, it is hoped, will be more attractive to staff, and it is staff the hospital is very short of.

1974 09 12
Kidney transplant stop due new rules - can only remove when have relatives' consent [7.7]

1974 09 16
NHS reorganisation - administrative change only, to bring together hospital service, general practice & local community health services which used to function independently. Old admin bodies scrapped & new are: Dept of Health East Anglian Regional Health Authority, based Union Lane (succeeding EA Regional Hospital Board). Under them are 3 Area Health Authorities responsible for day-to-day running of each of their areas - Cambridgeshire, Suffolk & Norfolk. Cambridgeshire based at Purbeck House, Hills Rd. They have below them district management teams of trained health service administrators & between them will replace the present individual hospital management committees & boards of governors. There will be two district management teams, one based at Cambridge, one Peterborough. Liaising with these bodies will be Family Practitioner Committees who are replacing the NHS Executive councils, dealing with matters affecting family doctors, dentists, opticians & pharmacists. To represent the public interest & protect consumer Community Health Councils set up to be consumer watchdogs [9]

1974 09 24
Chesterton first with new invalid 'standing chair' [12.11]

1974 11 11
Sir – In the death of Mrs Doris Ditchburn, Cambridge has lost a much-loved citizen who will be missed by a wide circle. She and her husband came to Cambridge in 1934 to work at the old County Hospital in Mill Road. Together they worked to improve the standards of the hospital and towards her dream of a first-rate maternity hospital. Mrs Ditchburn was a most understanding person and most unlike the old-fashioned dragon of a matron, but insisted on a high standard from her nurses and gained their affection and respect. – Margaret Reed 74 11 11

1975 01 02
By end of year "NHS locally grinding to juddering halt under a snowdrift of paper & legislation which had neither cash nor manpower to cope with"; doctors, surgeons & specialists well off, hospitals well equipped & all best of medical sciences gadgetry is on hand; what in great demand is nursing power ... people have been forgotten [11] First year review (1975) says it catastrophic & chaotic, service too big to be intelligently run from an administration in London which pumps out enormous quantities of paper to Area Health Authorities with less staff 75 01 02[12]

1975 01 11
First hole-in-heart operation in city [7.8]

1975 09 16
"Now NHS sinks in a paper sea" [13]

1975 10 13

Evelyn appeal £¨M extend facilities, was gift 50 years ago, grandson of Sir George Agnew, head art-dealers, leads committee; 45 beds [16.2]

1975 12 13
Department of nuclear medicine opened - one of first [7.9]

1975 12 22
Charges should be made for treatment in hospitals, doctors should be freed from committee work and top-heavy administration should be pruned to bare essentials if the National Health Service is to be cured of its present malaise, the Cambridge surgeon, Prof. Roy Calne, says in a long letter to 'The Daily Telegraph'. He says the service is afflicted by what little money there is being spent on the organisation and administration of care and not on the improvement of conditions in the hospitals. Doctors and nurses are being taken away from patients to sit on committees and become involved in administration. Token payments from patients towards food and medicines whilst they were in hospital would help ease cash problems in the service.

1976 01 15
Government change policy - now suggest only 900 beds at Addenbrooke's, also cut budget; hospital goes into red [7.10,9]

1976 02 19
Chesterton: two wards described as fire traps but no money to rebuild [12.12]

1976 03 04
Mill Road get £300 cardiac monitor from Friends, money raised by jumble sales; has ultra-sound which draws pictures foetus by sound rays [13.5, 13.6]

1976 04 13
Twenty private beds will be axed at Cambridgeshire hospitals in the first phase of Government plans for phasing out pay beds from the National Health Service. There are 56 private beds in Cambridgeshire, 29 of them at Addenbrooke's & Mill Road Maternity Hospitals, Cambridge. Others are at Papworth (3), Huntingdon (1) & 23 in the north of the county 76 04 13

1976 05 05
Clinical research unit for rheumatic diseases opens [7.11]

1976 08 04
Agnew House nurses hostel from public appeal which also raised money x-ray dept, wins award [16.3]

1976 11 30
Rehabilitation unit for disabled opens, first in hospital grounds [7.13]

1977 01 10
Polio victim confirmed [7.14]

1977 02 17
500,000th patient since 1948 [7.15]

1977 04 06

Mill Road Maternity Hospital in Cambridge, a former workhouse, was slammed for its cramped and appalling conditions. A report highlights overcrowding, complete lack of privacy for patients, appalling residences for nurses & pregnant women having to sit clad only in a dressing gown in draughty corridors waiting for attention. It is virtually impossible to expand the hospital, access is difficult and car parking impossible. This is a disgraceful state of affairs for a maternity hospital doing the standard of work that Cambridge does. It should be replaced by a 100-bed obstetrics hospital on the New Addenbrooke's site as soon as finance is available 77 04 06

1977 09 22
320 bed extension called for [7.16]

1977 11 23
Major breakthrough in Leukaemia - lead world [7.17]

1977 12 13
Mill Road - three babies die due virus, conditions condemned, call for new building,

1977 12 16
Mill Road "new unit could start 1988" (1978);

1978 06 17
Unit for terminally ill to be built beside Brookfields [12.2]

1978 11 24
"Can Addenbrooke's high-class frontier medicine be afforded" [10]

1979
East Anglian Regional Health Authority established in place of E.A.R.H.B. [4.3]

1979 02 05
The best place to be during the current strike by members of the Public Services union is tucked up in bed in new Addenbrooke's Hospital. Those outside are at the mercy of a skeleton ambulance service, ever-growing waiting lists and a soon-to-be crippled out-patients service. Those inside simply have to put up with a reduced menu and eating off paper plates. At this time of the year it is normally at bursting-point with about 86 per cent occupancy but on Friday there were 150 beds at both new and old hospitals empty. The real suffering is in the homes of the 3,500 people waiting for operations. Waiting lists vary from about six months from gynaecological to 18 months for general surgery 79 02 05

1979 04 02
International kidney donor appeal launched in Cambridge [4.4]

1979 09 04
First trial of transplant reject drug [7.19]

1979 09 18
Mill road bed occupancy twice national average & above safety limit, 3,898 babies last year [14]
They carry on the business of life and death at Mill Road Maternity Hospital in what is little better than a clinical slum. Yet when the question of replacing it comes up this week, those with the power to close it are committed to keeping it open for another 10 years. In that time all that stands between the death of a baby, the death of a mother, or both, is the determination of the

highly-motivated people who work there. But it snows on the patients in the X-ray department and there is only one lavatory for a dozen pregnant women. The operating theatre needs creosoting – it's an ex-Army hut – and boxes, bottles and laundry-bags littler the tunnel they call corridors. 79 09 18

1980

1980 02 13
Mill Road "start likely" in 1983 [13.7]

1980 06 13
Britain's top maternity hospital is the one in Mill Road, Cambridge – and that's official. It handles the most difficult births and a fifth of all babies in the region are born there. Government figures show that it copes with 4,000 births annually, many referred from other hospitals for specialist care, but its only operating theatre is a wooden shed built for the Dunkirk wounded during the last War. 80 06 13

1980 11 22
New University clinical school opens [8.2]

1981 05 22
The seven-ton electronic camera known to thousands of fund raisers as the cancer scanner has arrived at Addenbrooke's Hospital on the back of a lorry. It was made near Nuremberg and shipped to Gravesend before going to the Siemens works for checking. It takes three-dimensional pictures of the body in micro-thin slides which can be studied to reveal the site of deep-seated disease without the need for investigative surgery. After two years the organisers are now only £100,000 short of their £1 million target 81 05 22

1981 06 03
New Medical Research Council centre opens on Addenbrooke's site, marks over 50 years medical research in Cambridge [36.9.13.1]

1981 06 03
First arm transplant (unsuccessful) [8.3]

1981 07 08
Prince Charles opens cancer body-scanner after public appeal [8.4]

1981 09 16
The Evelyn Nursing Home, founded over 50 years ago, had brought its facilities up-to-date to match the increasing demand for private medicine. Its new Agnew House nurses' home won architectural awards, then came the provision of modern x-ray facilities and finally the building of a new operating theatre which has been used extensively by most local surgeons.
With the official opening of a new £450,000 operating theatre at the Evelyn Nursing Home, private medicine in Cambridge takes a decisive step forward. Most of the operations are of a routine kind for which patients can wait a long time on the National Health Service. With the growth of private health insurance an employee can have now his operation at minimum inconvenience to his firm or himself. 81 09 16

1981 10 16

The Duchess of York officially opened Arthur Rank House for the care of cancer patients in the grounds of Brookfields Hospital, Cambridge and spoke to each patient. Retired Cottenham farmer, Horace Simpkins, a life-long fan of the Royal Family, had never met Royalty before and spent five minutes chatting to her and was delighted when she gave him a flower from her posy. £200,000 out of £530,000 came from Arthur Rank Charities 81 10 16

1981 10 28
Duke of Edinburgh opens operating theatre, in use since Dec 1980, gift from Charles Morland & Evelyn Agnew [16.4]

1982
Area Health Authorities abolished, replaced by District Health Authorities. "Previously Cambridge Health managed by United Cambridge Hospitals Board, prestige medicine burgeoned apace while services for handicapped etc subsisted on what was left. Reorganisation brought hospital, community & family doctor services together but so much had been done by the UCHB that officials at a loss to trace the origins of some arrangements. New Health Authorities were officer dominated & much less involvement by lay members. Budgets drawn up under defined headings for first time & all had to justify spending - in theory - but old ways continued & budgets got out of hand. By the time Cambridgeshire Area Health Authority disbanded in 1982 it had still not sorted the financial & administrated web, money continued to be spent on what was considered important leading to criticism by Auditors" 84 03 01 [4.12]

1982 01 12
866 abortions carried out in Cambridge [4.11]

1982 06 02
New £750,000 wing, started; Robinson wing [16.5]

1983 04 19
Regional health chiefs delivered a massive snub to both Cambridge City and the University by placing the Mill Road maternity unit and the old Addenbrooke's Hospital sites on the open market. They will go to the highest bidder which rules out the chance of the city buying Mill Road for an old peoples' sheltered housing scheme. They have also disregarded a gentleman's agreement with the University to give them first refusal on the Addenbrooke's site which is worth between £1 and £2 million 83 04 19 p12

1983 07 22
As Addenbrooke's Hospital prepares to close more than 100 of its beds for the summer holidays, 7,000 people are waiting for operations. Some have been waiting up to four years and waiting lists in some specialities have increased 340 per cent since 1977. Until September 1st the hospital will be on an official red alert – emergency and urgent cases only. But medical staff believe it is not far off that status without any summer closures. "It is a ghastly situation and it gets worse, week by week", said a senior surgeon 83 07 22 p1

1983 07 28
Evelyn changes status & known as Evelyn Hospital with opening new Robinson Wing [16.6]

1983 09 10
Government plans for private contractors in hospitals announced [4.9]

1983 09 16

Rosie Maternity hospital opening in September – delayed [13.9]

1983 10 06
Rosie hospital first baby, [13.9]

1983 10 22
The Rosie, Cambridge's much-awaited maternity hospital, is Liz Earl's baby. The top midwife in the area, she has been involved in its planning right from the outset. No sooner had it opened than Miss Earl had the satisfaction of delivering a baby herself, the new hospital's second arrival. The Rosie has all the 'high-tech' that could be needed – two operating theatres, an improved monitoring room and new equipment - but the general atmosphere is as comfortable and homely as it can be with bright curtains and attractive play areas for older children 83 10 22 p12

1983 11 24
"Cambridge is ... the best place in the world to be ill in. From bunions to brain surgery there is a resident expert ..." but inadequate finance [11]

1983 11 24
"Old people face 3-year wait for ops" due insufficient rehabilitation beds [11.2]

1983 12 30
More emphasis on care in the community [4.10]

1984 01
Ben Hardwick liver transplant - a two-year old, featured on 'That's Life' tv programme; BBC offers £110,000 for intensive care but fear Addenbrooke's cannot meet running expenses (dies March 1985 - 85 03 23) [2.1, 8.6, 8.8]

1984 01 15
Aids case successfully treated at Addenbrooke's [36.9.13.6]

1984 01 24
Mill Road old hospital sold to City [13.10]

1984 03 31
It was Mrs Thatcher herself who sliced through swathes of Whitehall red tape to allow Cambridge's new maternity hospital to be built in record time. Her role in the crucial discussions was disclosed by the chairman of the Regional Health Authority, Sir Arthur South, at the official opening of the Rosie Maternity Hospital. Mr David Robinson had agreed to give £2.9 million towards the cost but only on condition that it was completed by the end of 1983. But he wanted to appoint his own architect and builder. Government contracts usually took a long time to plan but this hospital was built probably faster than any other in the country 84 03 31 p1

1984 05 12
Brookfields opens day room for elderly patients [12.4]

1984 06 13
MRC units face cutback: Neurochemical Pharmacology - mental illness like senile dementia, vacant directorship not to be filled; Biostatics Unit moved Cambridge from London 1980, involved front-line studies from breast cancer to organ transplantation; all units except Molecular Biology have budgets axed by 21% [36.9.13.3-4]

1984 07 03
Addenbrooke's cot-death unit saved by CEN readers after cash axed by MRC, Sultan of Brunei gives £130,000 which saves for 3 years [36.9.13.5]

1984 09 25
Cleaning at standstill after OCS win contract under privatisation scheme, (collapses in August 1986) [8.10]

1984 10 10
Old Addenbrooke's Hospital has provided care and cure for ordinary people for more than 220 years. This month it is to close and when the last patients vacate the gynaecology, plastic surgery and ear, noses and throat wards it will be sold. 84 10 10 p26 (sold February for £5.75 million) [8.11,8.14]

1984 10 20
Government rules which restricted beds to 900 scrapped [8.12]

1984 11 22
Day hospital & outpatients clinics for elderly open [8.9]

1985 01 30
New cancer-treatment machine [8.13]

1985 02 07
The Old Addenbrooke's Hospital site in Trumpington Street has been bought by Cambridge University for a record £5.75 million – double the expected price. This reflects nationwide interest in what is the last major site likely to become available in the central area. There had been a gentleman's agreement to give the university first refusal when the old hospital closed, but East Anglian Regional Health Authority decided to go out to tender. It will now be used for expanding university teaching, research and laboratory departments. 85 02 07

1985 05 16
Mill Road £1M conversion announced for old peoples flats [13.11]

1985 06 26
The Addenbrooke's Hospital cleaning row has now rumbled on for nine months. It started when some 150 health workers refused to work with a private cleaning firm which beat an in-house tender for the contract. Since then nurses and doctors have joined the picket line claiming cleaning standards have fallen below acceptable levels and operations have had to be delayed because of filthy conditions. But the firm insist they are doing a good job and that newspaper reports were biased. 85 06 26a

1985 08 29
Routine tests for Aids begin, 4 patients get revolutionary new treatment [5.1, 8.15]

1985 09 26
Major shake-up of NHS management [5.3]

1985 10 03

Patients are having to bring their own bed linen to Addenbrooke's Hospital because a new laundry cannot cope. Some patients are lying on paper sheets and some doctors are doing their own laundry at home. One nurse said she had not seen any clean bed linen for three weeks. One man walked a mile home to bring his wife a proper pillow case. The centralised laundry at Fulbourn handles all the soiled linen; it does such massive amounts that get stuck in the system when the machines break down, an administrator said 85 10 03

1985 12 18
New child development centre opened [8.16]

1986 06 16
Hope Nursing Home run sisters of Holy Family of Bordeaux, stop operations so concentrate on curing elderly; surgery since 1952 in Brooklands Ave [16.7]

1986 08 16
"Quarter of beds at Addenbrooke's empty due cash shortage [8.19]

1986 06 18
The University's plans for the old Addenbrooke's Hospital site will see the former outpatients' department being converted to a restaurant. The main hospital block and some single-storey buildings will be demolished and replaced with a commercial car park, the private patients' wing let for commercial use and the nurses' buildings on Tennis Court Road used for student hostels. The southern half of the site will be redeveloped to house the departments of biotechnology, pharmacology and biochemistry 86 06 18b

1986 09 04
Midwife Phyllis Baker started as a trainee at Mill Road in 1940. Then the hospital mainly catered for geriatrics though there was a maternity ward which was full of pregnant evacuees. In 1958 she became a community midwife when a high percentage of deliveries were at home and mothers only went to hospital if there was something wrong. Mill Road is a very happy hospital and she is happy to have been associated with it for so long. Now staff are compiling a photographic album of all the 2,001 babies she has delivered during her career 86 09 04

1986 09 24
Debate on future of Old Addenbrooke's, vote for demolition by made a Listed Building Brookfields : plans announced for £2M facelift to transform into centre for care of elderly & young disabled; ultimately 3 24-bed geriatric wards, 1 for mentally ill, 25-place day hospital & 24 places disabled on site; Fulbourn hospital alcoholics unit also to move sometime; to be finished by 1995 [12.5]

1986 11 10
Old Addenbrooke's Hospital has been made a grade II listed building which means it cannot be pulled down without listed building consent from the city council. A copy of the notice under the Town and Country Planning Act has been sent to the University who want to demolish it, turn the site into a car park and later build extra space for bio-sciences. Their surveys have shown that £3½ million would have to be spent in just making good the structure and £650,000 needed just to keep the façade even if the main wards behind were demolished. Now dons are to vote on the issue. 86 11 05 vote to go ahead – 86 11 08 A major new car park could be built under the site of Old Addenbrooke's Hospital after Dons voted in favour of demolishing the buildings which they bought a year ago. – 86 11 10

1986 12 17
Ambulance HQ moves to Fulbourn Hospital [4.7]

1987
Plans expand Addenbrooke's from 800 to 1,300 beds by 2001 [NS.1.4]

1987 01 09
Killer-bug at Addenbrooke's [8.22]

1987 06 12
Addenbrooke's Hospital vision for the turn of the century – 87 06 12a

1987 07 22
When the Evelyn Hospital was officially opened in 1921 there were 12 beds. Today on its pleasant site off Trumpington Road, it has a total of 56 and last year admitted 3,012 patients. There have been many improvements recently including the Robinson Wing, built in 1983 with money donated by Sir David Robinson, a modern nurses' home and a new operating theatre which opened in 1981. Each patient room has a telephone, colour television and all will soon have attractive en-suite bathrooms. 87 07 22 & a

1987 08 03
Hope Nursing Home closes - Holy Family of Bordeaux, 1st opened 1940 Bateman St, Brooklands Ave 1944; top reopen 18 months as non-surgical nursing & residential home [CEN 3.8.87]

1987 09 15
New £2.5M scanner, 1st kind Britain at varying magnetic field strengths; Duchess of York opens [CEN 15.9.87, 8.10.87]

1987 10 01
Low salaries are driving thousands of nurses out of the National Health Service. A 28-year-old staff nurse at Addenbrooke's Hospital earns just over £8,000 a year (worth about £18,400 today) for her highly skilled, highly rewarding and highly frustrating job in neuro-surgical ward, A3. Major brain surgery has become a routine operation. Twenty beds are housed in a room off one long corridor with four others in 'The Annexe' intensive care unit. 87 10 01c

1987 12 16
Addenbrooke's Hospital £1million cleaning contract has been a disaster, health chiefs admit. It led to the longest-running dispute in the hospital's history with health workers picketing the gates for 17 months in protest against cuts in cleaning time. One operation had to be cancelled when blood and bone fragments were found on a theatre floor. Cleaning is still not satisfactory in many areas and contractors have had problems recruiting staff on low wages. 87 12 16

1988 02 10
Welcome Trust & Cancer Research Campaign to establish new world-leading research institute [CEN 10.2.88]

1988 02 12
University has withdrawn its application to demolish the historic main ward block of the disused Old Addenbrooke's Hospital. A £7 million research institute to be set up on another part of the site 88 02 12

1988 04 27
A major row is brewing over the future location of Papworth Hospital and its world-famous heart transplant programme. Health Chiefs are debating whether it should be closed completely or relocated to Cambridge or Huntingdon. The benefits of Addenbrooke's sophisticated support services have been overtaken by worries that an upsurge in university research-based medicine could adversely affect routine patient care. Whatever happens it will stay put for at least 10 years. 88 04 27

1988 06 24
Addenbrooke's cleaning to switch back from contractors [CEN 24.6.88]

1988 09 24
Addenbrooke's cleaners OCS lose money, officials say contract a disaster [CEN 24.9.88]

1988 10 29
Chesterton Hospital new role as Cambridge's premier community health centre [CEN 29.10.88]

1988 11 03
City council back idea of arts centre at Addenbrooke's [CEN 3.11.88]

1988 11 16
Imperial Cancer Research Fund tumour virus group lab opens [CEN 16.11.88]

1988 12 01
Cambridge scientist pioneers Aids treatment, kills the virus [CEN 1.12.88]

1988 12 21
'Honest' Paul Tippett was one of the first traders to set up shop at Addenbrooke's Hospital 15 years ago. Now he has taken over a new purpose-built supermarket on the main concourse. The shop has been designed to accommodate wheelchairs or patients coming in with their drip stands. It does them good to get out of the wards and back into the real world for a little while. Although Concourse Mini Market sells alcohol and medicines staff check with the patient's ward sister before supplying them. 88 12 21b & c

1989 01 11
Addenbrooke's establish psychiatric unit for 1st time ¢CEN 11.1.89

1989 01 05
The new shopping mall in the main concourse at Addenbrooke's Hospital is the first money-making venture to be undertaken by a joint NHS-private sector partnership. Under the deal the British Airport Services paid for the redevelopment in return for a five-year contract to manage the businesses on the site. The NHS is guaranteed income from a profit-sharing agreement with the 20 private commercial concerns which have taken space; they include a hairdresser's, florist, grocery store and cafeteria. It will be unveiled by the Health Secretary, Kenneth Clarke 89 01 05

1989 01 24
Addenbrooke's Hospital intensive care unit designed to cope with major disaster opens – 89 01 24

1989 03 11
Addenbrooke's ban private cleaning contractors ¢CEN 11.3.89

1989 03 18
Bone marrow transplant unit to be set up in new ú2.5M leukaemia research development ¢CEN 18.3.89

1989 04 21
O.C.S. lose Addenbrooke's cleaning contract ¢CEN 21.4.89

1989 04 26
Cambridge Lea private hospital sold BUPA ¢CEN 26.4.89

1989 05 08
The opening of new research laboratories at Addenbrooke's Hospital will boost Cambridge's standing as a leading centre of molecular biology. It is a joint venture between the University Clinical School and one of America's lading drug giants, SmithKline Beckman and will include the MRC Molecular Genetics Unit. The laboratories will probe the origins of a wide range of disorders including heart disease, Aids and auto-immune problems affecting the body's ability to combat infections. 89 05 08 & 10

1989 05 22
MRC to open £400,000 protein & function design unit next month ¢CEN 22.5.89

1989 07 03
New £10 M interdisciplinary research centre to be established within MRC complex, Addenbrooke's ¢CEN 3.7.89

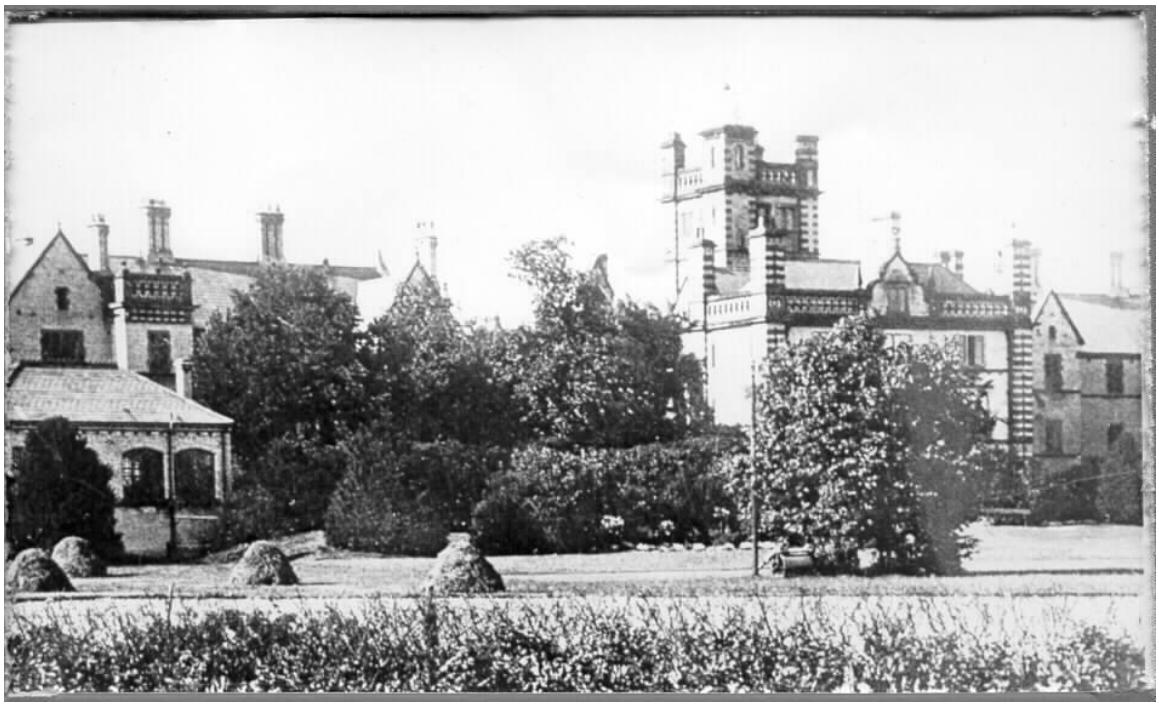
1989 09 05
OCS contract at Addenbrooke's collapses with 3 weeks to run ¢CEN 5.9.89

1989 10 26
New multi-million children's hospital given go ahead Addenbrooke's site - start building 1992, £3.3m 100-bed hospital ¢CEN 26.10.89

1990
1990 04 12
Addenbrooke's Hospital major blast which shattered main incinerator may have been caused deliberately; a 42 inch oxygen cylinder was buried in hospital waste – 90 04 12a

1990 06 06
Addenbrooke's Hospital transplant thigh bone of teenage girl into 73-year-old woman; first in country – 90 06 06

1990 07 04
Addenbrooke's Hospital staff evacuated after chemical spillage – 90 07 04a



Fulbourn Hospital, c1910 54.70

c.21.5: Mental health

1908
Cambridgeshire Mental Welfare association founded 1908 as sub-committee of Charity Organisation Society, affiliated National Association of Mental Health; at time about 30 backward children attending elementary schools might be helped by special teaching & only 3% people discharged. Mental homes became self-supporting and three years later special class was begun by Education committee which grown into Lady Adrian School. In 1914 a small home for high grade feeble minded boys of school age, Littleton House, was transferred from Uxbridge to Girton after 1913 Mental Deficiency Bill County council set up statutory committee for care of mentally defective. Committees amalgamated with new Cambs Voluntary Association for care of mentally defective formed under auspices county council. 1921 medical superintendent Cambridgeshire Mental hospital asked for reports on home conditions of patients about to be discharged; this undertaken & name changed to Cambs Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare. In1929 scheme for occupation & training centre opened. In 1958 Winston House half-way home opened. In 1961 sheltered workshop. Now lease home for women discharged mental home or hospital [14] 7.3

1910

1911 05 12
There are a number of patients from Cambridgeshire in the Royal Eastern Counties' Institution for Idiots, Imbeciles and the Feeble-Minded at Colchester which started in 1859. Many patients were so crippled and helpless that they needed individual attention. The youngest was only four, the oldest 65 and they were of every grade. They reserved a number of beds for life cases who remained on payment of £10 per annum. It was not merely a home but a training school were every ray of intelligence was welcomed. Older girls worked in the kitchen or laundry in the

morning and then at basket work, rug making, cane-seating or on the knitting machine. Nearly 100 lads were employed in the basket, brush, tailor's or carpenter's shop or in wood carving. 11 05 12b

1911 12 01
There is no doubt that lunacy is steadily increasing owing to the strenuousness of modern conditions. The asylums were never so full as they are today. We have a higher sense of duty to those bereft of reason than obtained fifty years ago and place under restraint cases that would formerly have been allowed to be at large. Fulbourn Asylum is overcrowded and there is no accommodation for further nurses which is especially important as the female side is understaffed. Unless there is some decrease in the number of patients additional expansion will be necessary 11 12 01c

1913 05 23
The Cambridge Association for the Feeble-minded was formed in 1908 to gather information on the number of feeble-minded children in schools. It was difficult to find vacancies in suitable homes for special cases. Some were so far from Cambridge that parents were unwilling to send their children to them and had made application for the care and protection they were unable to give their mentally-deficient youngsters. The Eastern Counties Institution is the only one taking unimprovable imbeciles and idiots from this district and was already full with a long waiting list. So there was no alternative but a pauper lunatic asylum or the Workhouse 13 05 23 p05 CIP

1914
Small home for high-grade feeble-minded boys of school age, Littleton House School transferred from Uxbridge to Cambridge [7.3]

1920

1921
Medical superintendent Cambridgeshire Mental hospital asked for reports on home conditions of patients about to be discharged; this undertaken & name changed to Cambs Voluntary Association for Mental Welfare. [14]

1929
A small centre opened in Hope Street in 1929 under the old Voluntary Mental Welfare Association.. [14]

1930
1933 02 28
The Medical Superintendent reported a rather severe epidemic of influenza at Fulbourn Mental Hospital involving a large number of inmates and staff. The epidemic spread to the female side and 105 patients were affected, 30 dying. None of the staff died. The epidemic lasted nearly a month. The Visitors expressed their appreciation to the staff for the extra and hard work during a very trying time. 33 02 28b

1940
County Council took over responsibility for mental health in 1948

1950
1956 03 03

A new villa to accommodate 40 female patients at Fulbourn Mental Hospital was opened by the Minister of Health. It will be used as a social therapy unit. He referred to the 'terribly cramped conditions', saying 'if you had 900 villagers living like this you would say the Government must take immediate steps to put in right. That is the problem at Fulbourn and is typical of what is happening all over the country' 56 03 03b & d

1958
Winston House, county's first half-way house aimed at getting psychiatric patients back into community, house belongs SOS Society, London-based charity set up 1929 to help homeless. After WWII Cambridge streets full of destitute youngsters from homes broken by wartime upheaval, Cambridge Rotary Club approached SOS for help & between them opened Winston House; in 1958 changed roles from helping youngsters to helping mentally ill [7.7]

1958 10 24
A new Occupation Centre for mentally handicapped children was opened at Coldham's Lane to provide daytime accommodation for the youngsters and give their parents a respite from their responsibilities. A small centre had opened in Hope Street in 1929 under the old Voluntary Mental Welfare Association. After the County Council took over responsibility in 1948 it moved to St Giles' parish rooms at Pound Hill. 58 10 24a & b

1959 03 23
Fulbourn and Riversfield Hospital Management Committee will 'not even think' of parting with their Riversfield Home for mentally defective children – in spite of the Ministry of Health suggesting that the 'reasonably small, accessible and fairly modern' home could be made into a useful hostel under changes proposed in the Mental Health Services. There was nowhere in the Eastern Region run so efficiently as this little place and until the Ministry can provide a place of similar comfort for these little ones, they will not think of parting with it. 59 03 23

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960s
Cambridge Society Mentally Handicapped Children open residential home at Milton [7.2]

1960

1960 06 24
Gone are the days of custodialism at Fulbourn Hospital; gone are the days of locked doors, padded rooms and ever-watchful gaolers. In their place has evolved an open hospital with a relaxed, homely atmosphere with no suggestion of the stigma which has at times been attached to it. Ten years ago there were few effective treatments for mental illnesses but now through various therapies and drugs even the most acute cases no longer need to be imprisoned under lock and key. In the Derby and Joan Club the elderly and most disturbed people spend the days playing dominoes, cards and board games while patients in the Ely Ward travel into Cambridge each morning to work 60 06 24a

1961 03 02
Winston House, an experiment in mental after-care in Brooklands Avenue, was opened in 1958 to provide temporary accommodation for those recovering from mental and nervous sickness and looking for permanent homes of their own. It can accommodate 23 people in a homely atmosphere and since January 1960 there has been a waiting list. Last year 48 people left the hostel, 26 of them having gained benefit from their stay. 61 03 02a

1962 02 23
The Cambridge Society for Mentally Handicapped Children, formed seven years ago, hopes to establish a residential home for those who are capable of an amount of self-help but need accommodation when their parents can no longer care for them. At present the only option is admission to a large hospital catering for all types of mental defect. The Society have purchased a large sombre-looking Victorian house in Milton which will be transformed with the careful use of colour to meet the best of modern standards. There will be a sheltered workshop for those capable of industrial work 62 02 23d

1965 04 07
Cambridgeshire Mental Welfare Association pioneers in their field – feature – 65 04 07b

1965 07 14
Pioneers who combat mental disorders: detailed feature article – 65 07 04 [14]

1966 05 05
Ida Darwin Hospital to admit first patients – 66 05 05

1966 12 09
Kent House hospital for psychiatric patients – feature – 66 12 09

1970

1970 03 10
Fulbourn Hospital renovation – feature – 70 03 10

1975 11 01
Hester Adrian Centre to provide work facilities for both mentally & physically handicapped people opened [7.4]

1979 05 19
Forty per cent of Cambridge students are potential psychiatric cases, according to a report published by the Students' Union. There are a large number of reasons but whether Cambridge attracts people with a predisposition to mental illness or creates that illness once they arrive, the university has a responsibility to its students. The women in men's colleges are far more stressed than their counterparts in single-sex colleges and the male students about to be introduced into Girton, the oldest women's college, could end up suffering a corresponding weight of stress. The report is bound to spark off controversy among dons. 79 05 19

1980
1981 07 21
new home for mentally handicapped, 128 Suez Road - Granta Housing Society, houses seven people [7.5]

1981 11 11
New hostel for mentally handicapped, 41 Russell St for 18, Cambridgeshire Social Services Department [7.6]

1983 05 19

Winston House in Cambridge, the country's first halfway house, has helped hundreds of people to get back into the community, some after more than 20 years in mental hospitals. Much of the impetus came from Dr David Clark, then psychiatric chief at Fulbourn Hospital. After the last war Cambridge streets were full of destitute youngsters, many from homes broken up in the wartime upheaval. Cambridge Rotary Club approached the SOS Society to see whether the help they were giving to London's bombed-out homeless could be extended and between them they opened Winston House. In 1958 it changed for helping youngsters to assisting the mentally ill 83 05 19 p9 88 05 20

1985 05 29
The Castle Project, which provides work experience for people who have mental health problems, has two workshops in Gwydir Street which are used for furniture repair, printing and painting. There are 20 craftworkers using the facilities and manufacturing toys, small furniture and plastic signs. Cambridge's Mayor, Jim Johnson, and local councillors inspected the facilities to see work which people in need of rehabilitation can do. The Project has been disappointed not to receive any Urban Aid grant but hope the city council could assist with finances. 85 05 29

1985 06 07
Hoint Cambridge Housing Society & Mencap & Cambridgeshire Social Services centre opens 82 Russell Street. Allows mentally handicapped independent life [7.8]

1989 02 15
Douglas House, Cambridge's 'slum' psychiatric unit for disturbed teenagers with its crumbling décor, cell-like rooms and graffiti-covered walls is to be closed down. A new unit will be built on the corner of the Robinson Way entrance to Addenbrooke's Hospital with proper facilities specifically designed for their needs. 89 02 15a

1989 05 19
Winston House in Brooklands Avenue, established in 1959, is a psychiatric rehabilitation centre owned by the SOS charity. There are 20 residents staying on average a year with care and advice on hand all day. All are encouraged to lead a full life and to do something constructive outside the house. But privacy is a problem in the 13-bedroomed house and an appeal has been launched to provide more single rooms and larger kitchens. 89 05 19b

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Mike Petty Chronicle of Cambridge News

Laying sewers, Kendall Way, c1930 88.03

c.23 : Building, housing, council houses, slum clearance

headlines

Rattee & Kett history – feature – 88 04 28a
Cambridge Brickworks on Newmarket Road – memories of Hilda Swann – 89 03 16c

1888 04 20
Huntingdon Road estate - 21 acres of building land newly sold 1888 04 20 [3.15]

1891
Building strike for 22 weeks brings intimidation & reprisals [1.6]

1892 12 16
Plan of new De Freville estate published 1892 12 16 [1.25]

1895
Brignell builders founded 76 07 29 [7.11]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1898
Blinco Grove building 81 10 01[446.9.4]

1899 07 17
A fatality occurred today. The scene of the accident was the new stores being erected in Burleigh Street, Cambridge for the Co-operative Company. The outer walls have been built up and the workmen are engaged on the interior. One scaffolder, named Thomas Filby, aged 60, was engaged on the scaffolding erected above the top floor. He fell sheer into the basement on to a heap of broken brick. Before he lapsed into a state of utter insensibility he was heard to murmur, "It's all up" - 1899 07 17

1900

1901 02 18
An outbreak of fire occurred at the works of the Cambridge Brick Company, situated between Coldham Lane and Newmarket Road on the outskirts of the densely populated district of Barnwell. The fire attracted large crowds and the flames, aided by a gentle breeze, spread rapidly, soon mounting in the air a distance of about a hundred feet. In just over two hours everything had yielded to the flames and all that remained was the damaged and broken parts of the valuable machinery. Fortunately the conflagration was confined to the corrugated iron roofed wooden building covering the machinery or the entire works could easily scarcely have escaped destruction 01 02 18

1902
Death of Francis Thoday, builder [1.7]

1902 08 21
Sir – Is Cambridge becoming overbuilt? As one looks around it is palpable that many of the recent erections of new houses is hardly the result of demand, but of speculation. Its effect must be the deterioration of older properties, and wasted energy and capital in the newer. The census shows the population to be moving slowly and the demand for new properties correspondingly small. To see a town dotted over with properties "to let" has a dispiriting effect to strangers and residents alike, and more especially to those whose capital must be sunk in them – Observer CDN 02 08 21

1902 08 25
The growth of the population in Cambridge is not keeping pace with the building of houses and in various parts many houses are constantly empty. But the absence of overcrowding is in the highest degree beneficial, not only to public health, but to the public morals as well. The housing problem is one of the most difficult of the day and the proportion of income which has to be paid as rent by artisans in the neighbourhood of London is so great as to make the problem of obtaining sufficient food almost insoluble. It is to be hoped that such a state of things will never exist in Cambridge CDN 1902 08 25

1903 08 04
Cambridge Borough has had its pride wounded by the London Express charging it with having incurable slums and possessing filthier homes than Whitechapel. In reply Mr Campkin, a Guardian said: "There is no doubt there is an amount of poverty and squalor in Cambridge but there has been a vast improvement in the St Matthew's district over the last 40 years. There is evidence of the effects of drink in some parts of the town but in the Romsey and Petersfield

district the residents are respectable working people". Commenting on the Cambridge slums Dr Roper said: "I think even the very worst are fast becoming demolished; take St Peter's Court, Castle Street, they are pulling that down. In consequence that there are large families in the poor quarters a woman very often has to go out and work as well as her husband to keep things going, and they can't keep their houses quite so clean as they otherwise might. In New Street you will not see much dirt or dilapidation, though in summer time the people are sitting outside nearly half-dressed in consequence of the heat. But their homes are not so bad as you might imagine". 03 08 04

1903 10 14
The recent completion of the Atlas Stone Company works at Coldham's Lane will add to the industrial importance of the Romsey Town and Cherry Hinton districts of Cambridge. A complete plant for the manufacture of artificial paving slabs on the most up-to-date principles has been installed with a hydraulic press capable of 500 slabs per day worked by electric power. The chief market is in London and the Eastern Counties where the value of artificial flags for footways has been firmly established. 03 10 24

1904 06 10
Deep holes excavated at Central Building Estate, New Chesterton 04 06 10 [3.19]

1905 10 28
Winter means dismissal of large number of building workers - "as soon as building ceases in Cambridge distress begins 05 10 28 [3.20]

1906
Corona Building Association founded

1906 04 19
Collins Passage, off Northampton Street, consisted of a number of very dilapidated houses closely packed together. They had low ceilings and the floor was insecure. There was no ventilation behind and a high brick wall at the front so they got no sun at all except for half-an-hour at the height of summer. They were unfit for human habitation. A good many other premises in the area were defective but did not justify wholesale demolition. 06 04 19c

1906 07 12
Any clerk or artisan with £25 can become the owner of a well-built convenient house just outside the borough boundary in Grantchester within ten minutes' walk of Market Hill. The houses contain eight good rooms with bathroom, 2 w.c.'s and nice garden. Gas and water laid on. The price is £250 and the balance can be spread over any number of years to suit the purchaser's convenience – E. Parcell & co., Builders, Newnham – advert. 06 07 12a

1906 09 08
Building trade in Cambridge is comparatively slack just now as suburban expansion on any large scale has ceased. Six months ago there was considerable activity in the Newnham district and on the Central Estate where a large number of houses sprang up suddenly. Then there was an extension of New Cherryhinton through the erection of many houses on the Hills Road. It is now planned to open up a building estate by cutting an avenue from Hills Road to the Trumpington Road. 06 09 08c [3.21]

1907 08 08

Cambridge councillors recommended that a site in Albion Row occupied by the weigh-bridge and the Nag's Head should be offered on a building lease for 75 years and in case no satisfactory offer was received they should prepare a scheme for the erection of cottages. But first they must adopt the Housing of the Working Classes Act. 07 08 08

1907 10 17
Cottages in Cave's Yard, Union Road, Chesterton, are as about as bad as any in the district, an inquest into an infant was told. Vermin found on the child's body were not the fault of the mother: it would be impossible to keep such a house in that district free from vermin; the district ought to be burnt down. The slums in Old Chesterton are as bad as any you will find in London, a doctor testified. But people had to live somewhere. 07 10 17

1908 12 31
The Cambridge Railway Building Works, better known as the firm of William Saint and Sons, entertained 170 employees to dinner at the Lion Hotel. It started in 1880 and the first job was two villas on Mill Road, later came the Cattle Market contract but Westminster College, in 1900 was the largest project they had ever tackled. They were known for the quality and execution of their work which was due to men such as Vigers, Hodson, Coe, Willmott, Taylor, Lobb and Haynes. 07 12 31 & a

1910

1910 02 04
Luke Hosegood, the Master, told Guardians there were 26 children in Cambridge workhouse. A large number of men had brought in their wives and families simply because they had been evicted from their houses as the result of slum clearance. There were several cases from Cambridge Place and a number from Castle End and if they went in at this rate all Castle End would be pauperised soon. It was getting a very serious matter. 10 02 04g

1910 02 12
Average Cambridge builder omits bathroom in otherwise tolerable house - whole streets of new houses without a bathroom amongst them" 10 02 12 [4.5]

1910 03 04
It was incredible to hear of the conditions that existed in Barnwell, said the Rev Gwinn. There was one road which in winter was almost knee-deep in mud. The children could not step from their doors without going ankle-deep and always went to school wet-footed. Five children in that street had been taken away with scarlet fever recently, partly owing to the sanitary arrangements and partly due to the stuff that was thrown out into the road. There was another street of 11 houses – or rather hovels – containing only two rooms apiece. In one of these lived seven people CWN 10 03 04f & g & h

1910 07 09
"Very few plans of cheap homes passed, other property being condemned so working people go outside the Borough for housing & need bicycles to get to work" 10 07 09 [4.6, 4.23]

1911 06 02
The Storey's Charity Estate occupies one of the most elevated and healthy positions in Cambridge. The greater portion of the sites front the new road known as Storey's Way which is likely to become a major thoroughfare between Huntingdon & Madingley roads. Gas, water and electric light mains are laid on. Given its proximity to the Backs of the Colleges it should become

one of the most popular residential estates in the neighbourhood. Judging from the interest the plots should be readily disposed of. 11 06 02c

1911 07 19
Prefabricated houses, Milton Road 11 07 19 [6.7]

1911 09 30
Model houses Castle End snapped up, but have pulled down more old than put up new & former residents live in the Workhouse; ought to build cheap houses but so many new byelaws it cannot be done 11 09 30 [6.1]

1911
Cyril Ridgeon builders formed [8.3]

1912
Sanction to spend £1,600 on working-class dwellings Stanley Road site [4.9]

1912 03 29
It was wicked for the council to pull down insanitary houses without building cottages for the people displaced. Where were the people turned out to go? Landlords were getting twelve shilling a week for a cottage divided up amongst seven families. In one house there were five occupiers of six rooms, one family having two and the others one room each. They each paid four-shillings a week whereas the normal rent was only three shillings, councillors were told. 12 03 29d & e
Slum demolition means 4 families in 1 house, thus 10/- to 12/- (50 - 60p) paid per week for 2/9 (14p) cottage [4.8]

1912 06 28
Poorer Cambridge used to house itself in courts tucked away behind the streets. Some of them are now mere empty sites from which the wretched buildings have been cleared away. They are not even building sites. The requisite amount of space under the present laws is lacking even for one dwelling where they may perhaps have been half a dozen. Others contain old cottages which will come down when others can be built for the occupants. In the meantime disposed families herd in with other families. The Borough Council have applied for a loan to provide new dwellings but the amount of bricks and mortar bears no proportion to that applied to the University 12 06 28

1912 12 27
A serious case of overcrowding was reported at a lodging house at 57 Fitzroy Street. The Medical Officer said there were four rooms, two of which were bedrooms. The front sitting room was used as a bedroom by night. It was occupied by the owner, his wife and five-month-old baby, a man and 10-year-old daughter and Mr & Mrs Smith with two girls aged 14 & 12 and three boys of seven, five and two years. Such overcrowding was injurious to the people and a danger to neighbours as infectious diseases could easily spread 12 12 27c

1913 07 25
A serious crisis has occurred in the building trade in Cambridge owing to the men's dissatisfaction with the present working conditions. Negotiations have been going on between the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners and the Master Builders' Association but without agreement. Among the demands is for walking time allowed to jobs to be paid at twenty minutes a mile and not less than 3s 6d for lodgings. Wages should be 9d per hour (£3.66 at today's values). Now a strike will start on Monday. 13 07 25 p7 CIP

1913 08 01
Building strike averted 13 08 01 p 6 & 12 CIP

1913 11 21
Cottages were recently erected under the Housing of Working Classes Act in Stanley Road. One block of 12 tenements for old people consists of a living room with bed recess, scullery, larder and w.c.. Costs were higher than expected due to problems with the foundations meaning rents had to be higher. No ordinary person would have built such horrible houses. But they had been erected as an experiment to see what was needed and been successful, councillors heard. 13 11 21 p7 CIP

1914
Corporation urged to build 150 new houses for rent under £15 pa [6.16]

1914 03 27
Cambridge Town Planning Committee had been in existence only a few months and had not yet decided anything in the way of town planning or building houses, the Mayor told a conference on Rural Housing. The Public Health Committee had erected dwellings for the poorer class in one part of town, some people thought them ideal and some otherwise. Some of the houses he would be sorry to lose from an antiquarian point of view but others, from a public health point of view, they would be exceedingly glad to lose 14 03 27, aa

1914 03 27
It would be fatal to erect houses in Cambridge without a parlour. It was the place where the family relics were kept and was needed when daughters started courting. They wanted to end the building of brick boxes with slate lids on them, but builders were the most conservative people on the face of the earth. If they were going to put baths in at great expense they would do more harm than good, said Mr Campkin. But people were rapidly realising the amenity of the bath and were using it properly, said others. 14 03 27aa

1914 04 24
Housing Difficulty - plans for the erection of six roomed cottages on the Victoria Road estate. The estimated cost of the houses will be £200 each. The Stanley Road experiment in the erection of cottages was criticised and to invite offers for the lease of the ground in Stanley Road for a term of 75 years. 14 04 24 CIPof

1914 05 08
It is with deep regret we record the death of ex-Alderman George Kett, J.P. It was only in November he resigned his council seat after long and valued service, having been Mayor three times. The firm of Rattee & Kett, ecclesiastical builders was founded in 1854 and he became head on the death of his father in 1872. The Catholic Church was erected under his direction but the work of his life was the restoration of Arundel Castle where 400-500 men were employed at one time. He retired in 1904 and his son, G.R. Kett is now head of the firm 14 05 08f [1.26]

1914 07 24
The whole of the Watts' Timber Yard on Newmarket Road., including sawmills, drying sheds and kilns were destroyed by fire. The blaze started in the stoke hole from which flames spread to the engine room and brick-making shed adjoining. The saw-mill nearby, containing a lot of wood, was soon alight and the wind blowing from Newmarket Road swept the blaze to the drying sheds and kilns where workmen removed the bricks. The tall chimney was expected to fall at any

moment but the gable end of the saw-mill fell outwards, just missing firemen standing beneath it. However sheds holding valuable stock of flooring boards were put out. 14 07 24

1915 09 17
Fire Kidman, builders, Abbey Walk; 15 09 17 p5, 7

1915 11 10
A mysterious outbreak of fire in the boiler house and blacksmith's of the Stourbridge Brick Co. Newmarket Road (Cambridge) on Thursday evening resulted in injury to a fireman and the total destruction of a large portion of the premises concerned. So far as can be ascertained, no one was working on the premises after 5 p.m, and the outbreak was discovered by the foreman Mr James Ingle, at 7,30 p.m. The Fire Brigade were telephoned and when they arrived with the motor escape and tender, the flames had got a grip on the buildings. Shortly after, the engine arrived. The roofs of the blacksmith's shop and the boiler house were burnt off and practically the whole of the contents of the building destroyed. Fireman Papworth, of the Cambridge Fire Brigade had a narrow escape. On entering a burning room, he fell into a deep pit, but fortunately sustained only slight bruises. The premises, we understand, were not insured 15 11 10 CIPof

1919 05 07
Stanley Road cottages, council decide not to proceed with the scheme; was error in tender price – 19 05 07d

1919 05 21
'Cottages of the future; workmen's dwellings in Stanley Road; four-roomed houses better than six as men who had been in the army could not furnish larger houses – 19 05 21b

1919 12 17
First Eastern General huts to be converted into houses; 120 applications already received. One long ward to accommodate 16 small families; divided by concrete slabs – 19 09 10b. – first tenants move in – 19 12 17a photos – 19 12 17c

1920

1920
Housing situation difficult with returning troops and increasing numbers of undergraduates [1.28]

1920
First Borough housing scheme - 100 houses built at Cavendish Avenue, Hills Avenue & Hinton Avenue [1.18]

1920
First block of post-war Corporation dwellings in Stanley Road completed October [2.1]

1920 03 30
Burrell's Walk – 242 applications for accommodation, 74 in occupation of tenements and on completion of the first part of the housing scheme would be accommodation for further 60; 108 for whom no accommodation. Two of the wards were still in occupation of military who could not vacate for another month - CDN 20 03 30

1920 05 05

Plan and sketches of houses to be erected in Cherry Hinton district to relieve housing shortage – Ch 20 05 05b

1920 06 02
Woollard family not to be evicted from Sturton Street home, follows meeting on Parkers Piece to consider treatment of soldiers and sailors who had come back disabled and with nothing to fall back on. A cordon of people should stand round the house and prevent the planned eviction said Stubbs - CDN 20 06 02

1920 08 30
Is no accommodation at First Eastern General Hospital, are three applicants for every unit of two, three or four rooms; were ten rooms vacant and 140 applicants for them; ex-soldiers had preference - CDN 20 08 30

1920 09 04
First Eastern General Hospital alterations being carried out in three parts, the first providing for 134 tenements, the second for 48 and the third (now being proceeded with) for 31, making 213 in all. Even when all taken will still be more than 100 unsatisfied applicants - CDN 20 09 04

1920 12 07
Highworth Estate one of highest and healthiest parts, advertisement for new houses - CDN 20 12 07

1921 07 27
A serious position has arisen in connection with the scheme for the erecting of houses by Cambridge Borough Council at Chesterton Road & Milton Road. The site was purchased some time ago and prepared for erection of 60 houses by direct labour. Construction of roads and sewers put in place. But Minister refuses to sanction other work unless whole of expense is borne by local rates. Work to stop and town will have a building site which cost over £14,000. It is impossible to proceed with building scheme without Government assistance – 21 07 27c

1922 05
Council resolution that the slums of Cambridge are a disgrace & that steps should be taken to abolish them [2.3]

1922 05 19
At the Cambridge Housing Committee meeting Mrs Rackham said that there were 430 marriages in the borough during the year, and only 72 new houses were built. They were also told that there would have been more marriages had it not been for the housing difficulty. In 116 homes in which babies were born there was overcrowding to the extent, in some cases, of six or seven persons per bedroom. Before the war they used to talk of legal overcrowding as two persons in a room. Then there was some hope of getting the matter put right, but now there was none - 22 05 19

1922 05 20
Great fall in cost of building means councils get permission to submit tenders for schemes previously turned down. Houses that cost £750 a year ago now tendered for at £300 22 05 20 [1.20,4.2,4.4]

1922 07 29
Council scheme for erection of 500 houses - 22 07 29 [4.7]

1923 01
'Unassisted' housing scheme: 878 new dwellings required - 615 for the homeless & to replace First Eastern General Hospital huts & 263 to replace slums [2.4]

1923 08
Coleridge Road under construction [4.15]

1923 08 18
Housing Committee recommend 239 houses in Chesterton Road & Milton Road at cost of £101,000 no private building - only 61 houses for working people built since 1919 & most of these owner-occupied; pre-war 168 houses per year houses to let very rare - over 100 applications for one advertised at £40 per annum 23 08 18 [4.3]

1923 10 24
Sir, - In some provincial towns the local authorities have adopted a scheme whereby tenants are given the option of purchasing the houses they occupy, upon slightly increased rent-purchase terms. Cambridge town council will soon have some hundreds of houses under their control, and it would surely be of advantage if some such arrangements were come to. Some hundreds of houses will eventually be erected on the Chesterton Hall site. Even now one cannot view the place without being struck with the depressing uniformity of all the houses - all one design, all one size, all one colour - not forgetting the flap over the front door. Considering that the council employ architects one would have expected something more varied to relieve the horrid monotony – "Chestertonian 23 10 24

1923 12 14
A recommendation that a subsidy equivalent to £8 per house for 20 years be given to induce private enterprise to proceed with the erection of houses was carried by Cambridge town council. Councillor Few thought those who built would take advantage of the law of supply and demand. Only last week a case occurred of a landlord of a house in Romsey town raising the rent from 7s.9d. to 14s.9d. when the father died, declaring that the house had become vacant and telling the daughter she could have it at the increased rent – nearly 100% advance 23 12 14

1924 01 12
Cambridge must face the growing danger and disaster of its housing shortage. In our not very large town between 7 and 800 families are in immediate need of a house, not because they are unemployed, or very poor, or in any way unable to pay a fair rent, but because there are no houses for them to go into. Families are divided. The husband is here where his work lies, the wife and children are living elsewhere. Some dare not have children. Others have them and find that they are no longer welcome tenants. It is not easy for a young wife and mother to make good when her two rooms are rented and when the use of the kitchen, bathroom and lavatory by her family are looked upon as an intrusion 24 01 12

1924 02 09
Cambridge council heard that 240 slum houses still remained and none had been treated except where the structural condition was so unsafe that the buildings had to be abandoned. The slums were getting worse and worse and there was no means of cleaning them. Some small cottages should be built to relieve the pressure so there might be transition from houses which were quite unfit for human habitation. But if they built such houses they would later have to spend money on sanatorium treatment. There would be no room for air space, and they would be a disgrace to Cambridge

24 02 09

1924 05 03
An inquest was held on a 57-year-old general labourer, in the employ of the Cambridge Brick Company, who died as a result of injuries received in a fall of earth. Charles Peters, 62, said he was working some nine feet from the deceased in a clay pit. He was picking and the deceased was filling trucks. The front fell off from the face of the pit, two tons fell. Not three minutes before the accident he had examined the top of the pit. There were two sets of railways and the clay fell between these two. The work had been carried on for many years and all were fully alive to what might happen 24 05 03

1924 11 23
The death occurred at his residence, Devonshire Road, Cambridge of Mr William Saint. Born at St Ives in 1851 he came to Cambridge and started business as a builder in Hooper Street. In 188 he transferred to St Barnabas Road where the present works are situated and in 1918 it was turned into a limited company. A flourishing concern has now been built up, but the builders' strike in the early months of this year had a serious effect and gave him a great deal of worry & hastened his end 24 11 24

1924 12 05
Cambridge Council have asked the Ministry of Health if they are prepared to grant a subsidy in respect of wooden houses. Coun. Stubbs asked if they intended to build the workers wooden rabbit hutches to live in. Coun. Briggs said it was a retrograde matter, they ought never to touch such a thing as wooden houses in 1924. Councillor Ambrose said they were not putting houses up because they had not the men to put them up. There were rows of houses waiting for men to come along and finish them off. If they put up a wooden frame construction they would do any amount of good 24 12 05

1925
Steel houses to be erected, will cost £435 and become Corporation property [2.25]

1925
Coleridge Road - 200 houses built [1.21]

1925 01 31
A house advertisement brings 134 in first day, 412 in 3 days – 25 01 31 [4.20]

1925 07 17
The acquisition by Jesus College of the old Newmarket Railway has enabled them to develop the Station building estate by the construction of Coleridge Road, and they are offering freehold land in suitable plots for the erection of private dwelling houses in open and healthy surroundings, with ample garden ground. Coleridge Road has been constructed by the college at great expense & is the first in Cambridge constructed of reinforced concrete. Lots are offered at prices from £225 to £250. 25 07 17

1925 09 19
Sale of council houses to people with no capital 25 09 19 [1.10]

1926 02 05
Coun Few said they were very proud of the houses they had built in Vinery Road and Coleridge Road, but they were now proposing to build houses that in a few years would become a slum

area. They would be spoiling Cambridge if they built non-parlour houses with only one living room. They ought to consider the women who had to live in those houses. "We men only pop in and pop out, as it were, we are only lodgers; it is our working women who have to put up with them all the time. I call that type of house unfit for human being to live in as far as the wife and children are concerned", he said 26 02 05

1926 09 11
Cambridge Women's Housing Association has been formed to assist in the supply of houses for the town and, in particular, to meet the urgent demand for the provision of more housing accommodation at an economic rent for the educated woman worker and others. It proposes to purchase suitable houses and convert them into self-contained flats of one, two or three rooms with kitchenettes. At a later stage it is hoped to build a residential club. Already nearly £1,000 has been subscribed 26 09 11

1927 02 19
The newly-formed Cambridge Housing Society has lost little time in getting to work. It has obtained a site in Green End Road, Cambridge and plans for 22 hoses have been approved. The houses are to cost about £420 each and are to be let at a weekly rental of 5s.6d. It is hoped to have them complete by September. 27 02 19

1927 04 27
"I feel it should be the utmost endeavour to get townspeople now existing in Burrell's Walk out of those hutments and into council houses with the greatest expediency", said A.C. Taylor, the Independent candidate in the Castle Ward by-election. He was gravely concerned with the sanitary conditions of the place and while the huts served a very useful purpose years ago they were never intended to be permanent abodes of civil population. There were some worse cases in Cambridge but for young people with families the cramped conditions and colourless surroundings did not make for the bringing up of bright, healthy children. 27 04 27

1927 05
Cambridge Housing Society founded to provide housing to rent for larger families unable afford council houses, first scheme 22 terraced 3-bed houses Green End road completed 1928 & let at 7/3 (36p) a week; other building Montreal Square, Hobart Rd & French's road, Ditton Walk; part of campaign against slums [1.22,2.12,6.3]

1927 05 16
New Chesterton Hall Estate called a 'charming place'; green verges along Milton Road collect the dust caused by cars on road on windy days and are being introduced throughout the town 27 05 16 [3.12]

1927 12 17
Corporation sell houses on Milton Road & Coldham's Lane for £5 down & the balance in weekly instalments - Milton Road cost £579 repayable at 21/1 (£1.05) for 2 years & 17/- (85p) for 18 years (rates 3/- (15p) a week. "Those who can afford to pay such amounts to contact Treasurer" 27 12 17 [3.14]

1928
Cambridge Preservation Society founded due to concern over unregulated development [4.1]

1928 01 28

Cambridge borough council considered plans from the Cambridge Estates Ltd for the construction of roads and sewers on the Hurst Park Estate which has an acreage of 30 acres, nine being in Cambridge and 21 in the parish of Impington. It is proposed to erect approximately 190 houses. Ald Raynes thought the public who were considering purchasing plots should be fully aware of what they were doing. Only a small portion of the estate was within Cambridge and the rest was in the Chesterton Rural District Council's area who did not have a single bylaw affecting buildings or the construction of roads 28 01 28

1928 11
Tablet on house in Montreal Square as this the 45th house erected by Cambridge Housing Society [2.13]

1928 02 04
The first annual report of the Cambridge Housing Society shows they have built 22 houses at Green End Road to be let at an average rent of 5s.6d. per week. Twenty-two families with 91 children are accommodated and thus given the chance of growing up in healthy surroundings in houses with three bedrooms, modern sanitation and good gardens. But there are still problems of providing modern houses for poor families at rents they can reasonably afford 28 02 04

1929 01 18
Cambridge Councillors considered erecting 50 houses of a type within the pecuniary means of the people who would have to be moved from insanitary houses. In some places eight people were living in a single room under exceptional circumstances of poverty. But a man might say 'I am paying 3s. 6d. a week for two rooms and I cannot afford any more'. So what type of house was going to be built? In some of the houses there were elderly people and moving them perhaps two miles would be quite out of the question. 29 01 18

1929 09 24
Green End Road land needed for housing inquiry - 29 09 24

1930

1930s
Battle for housing between the wars – feature – 89 07 27

1930 05 12
The Cambridge branch of the Association of Plasterers and Granolithic and Cement Workers celebrated its 50th anniversary. Mr G. Cook, their first secretary said they had experienced strikes and lock-outs; they had acted on the defensive and had been aggressive. They had a proud record for bettering the conditions for the workers. At one time they were 100 per cent organised and still had 95 per cent membership 30 05 12

1930 12
Barrow Road houses built [4.12]

1931 02 20
Cambridge slums – 31 02 20b

1931 04 03
Mr J. Sainsbury, head of the famous provision firm, opened a new residential club that will accommodate 15 young men. In a place like Cambridge it is difficult for a young man to get

lodgings and this large house in Brooklands's Avenue has been modernised and redecorated and is a model of its kind. The bedrooms, which have two beds, have a wardrobe and cupboard for each occupant; it has a room with facilities for games and reading and dispels any gloomy feeling about what used to be called 'living in'. There were few local firms who had made such provision for their staff. Many firms had a contributory pension scheme but they had decided against such a scheme. 30 04 03k

1931 04 24
A Cambridge builder was granted possession of a cottage at Mill End, Cherry Hinton. He had purchased it three years ago when the occupant paid 2s 9d a week. That man had left but there were now nine people living there in just a living room and kind of kitchen with a bedroom and a lean-to on the landing above. It was in a very bad state and he intended to carry out improvements; it should not have been re-let until in proper repair. 31 04 24f

1931 06 12
The new road under construction between Milton and Histon Roads provides some exceptionally attractive sites for those wishing to erect a private house. It has much to recommend it as Chesterton is a very popular district but most of the available land within a reasonable distance of town has already been taken up. The plots are for the erection of private dwellings only and no bungalows or inadequate houses can be erected. 31 06 12k

1931 10 02
Modern house on Madingley road – photo – 31 10 02s

1932 01 21
A Ram Yard plumber told Cambridge bankruptcy court he had been successful until 1929 but due to the trade depression he could not get sufficient work and certain customers did not pay. He built a house in Belvoir Road for his own occupation with the very best plumbing and if this sold for £1,100 he could repay his creditors 32 01 21

1932 02 17
First houses new corporation estate, Histon Road 32 02 17 [6.4]

1932 02 26
St Andrew's Court, off St Andrew's Street, was a disgraceful place in the centre of Cambridge. It was not only an eye-sore, but dangerous. Properties were dark, damp, reeking with age and decay. The houses were not fit for human habitation, children under school-leaving age will not be permitted to live there – but what of young mothers and old people? Such slums should be demolished, the Medical Officer urged 32 02 26

1932 03 09
Kendal Way contract charges 32 03 09 [3.7, 6.6]

1932 03 30
Described by its builders and furnishers as 'the ideal home at the ideal price on the ideal terms' there is a newly built house in King's Hedges Road which all prospective purchasers should inspect. With two receptions, three bedrooms, a bathroom and large garden it is on sale at the remarkably reasonable price of £625 freehold or for £35 deposit and 19/6 (97p) weekly. Robert Sayle has completely furnished it at a price of £140.10s. Lucky will be the wife whose husband presents her with this home. 32 03 30

1932 06 16
The new Trinity Hall Estate off Milton Road is one of the highest, healthiest and more popular residential districts of Cambridge. It has been developed on garden suburb lines with grass verges and street lighting. The rooms are airy and spacious, hot and cold water is supplied to the bathroom, and there is a good garden with space for a garage. The first seven houses were sold before they were complete 32 06 16b

1932 09 23
On the Kendal Way Estate 375 new panels had had to be put in the front doors as they had cracked badly and fallen out on the mats. To put them in workmen had nailed pieces of wood at the back of the doors and nailed the new panels on to them. Such bodged-up doors should be taken out straight away and replaced with new ones. In every house one can find one or more of the ceilings and walls cracked. Jobs were only done properly when the clerk of the works was around. 32 09 23e

1933
Master Builders & Decorators advert: "Do you realise that 1,653 able-bodied men are totally unemployed in your own town. Do you realise that of this appalling total 543 men are of the building trade". Help the unemployed by spending money on home improvement

1933
Hundred Houses Society founded [1.24]

1933 01 19
Some of the buildings erected during 1932 in Cambridge and district by Kidman and Sons Ltd, Abbey Walk. 'The British Queen', Histon Road, Sedley Taylor School, Cambridge Co-operative Society cooked meat factory and milk depot, St Paul's church hall in Suez Road and Spicer's Cinema, Sawston (Full page advertisement with photos) 33 01 19 a & b

1933 02 03
Demolition orders were made in respect of houses in Wellington Passage, Sun Court, Smith's Gardens and Newmarket Road. Some were in such a precarious state they would not last much longer. But the people moved from slum dwellings just found accommodation in lodgings, which meant two families in one house. It would be no kindness to rebuild on the site of demolished houses. People should be moved to more spacious sites on the outskirts of Cambridge. 33 02 03d

1933 02 20
Waterworks company list of plumbers – 33 02 20b

1933 06 16
The latest feature of building development at Cambridge is the erection of two blocks of modern flats at Pinehurst, Grange Road. The site, formerly occupied by a large house used as a private school, has been acquired by the Strand and Savoy Properties. Each block has 20 flats at rentals from £145 to £175 per annum. Messrs Stockbridge furnished on display flat in antique style including a Queen Anne bureau-bookcase, another had modern furniture by Papworth Industries with an 'all-electric' kitchen. 33 06 16a [6.2]

1933 07 04
George Robert Kett was one of Cambridge's best-known and respected builders. He studied medicine before joining Rattee & Kett, becoming managing director in 1926 and was a founder of

the Federation of Building Trades Employers in 1918. During the Great War he was Executive Officer for Food Control for Cambridge and served as a special constable.. Despite his outspoken manner his genial personality maintained for him an almost unrivalled popularity. 33 07 04 p8

1933 08 10
Cambridge is well ahead with its slum clearance schemes. In the Newmarket Road area there was a case for clearance near the Tabernacle but most of the people worked in the neighbourhood and if they were rehoused on the outskirts it would mean increased cost in getting to work. They had displaced 342 people and only provided homes for 218 of them: would the rest be put onto the street? There was controversy over the fate of one old lady whose house had been demolished, but it was better than leaving her in a building so dangerous it might collapse and bury her. 33 08 10

1933 09 20
Well-built houses, Perne Road. An attractive position, situate on the beautifully-made new ring road, close to bus stop. Prices £690 and £710. £50 down, balance £1 weekly. See Walter Driver's announcement in the auction columns for detailed particulars. Sole Agent: Drivers, 1a Post Office Terrace. Tel.468 (Advertisement) 33 09 20

1933 10 03
Speaking of slum clearance, Mrs Stevenson said there was no trouble about building houses, but the psychological side of rehousing is difficult. Slum dwellers became very cosy in their 'dirty little places' and when transferred to the spacious amenities of a new estate, the families felt terribly lost. Cambridge had 1,700 council houses yet there were 1,269 people on the waiting list with names added at the bottom as fast as they were removed from the top. The situation was helped by the newly-formed Hundred Houses Society. 33 10 03

1933 12 15
Rents of houses in Dalton Square, Linden Close and Scotland Road were subsidised and because of the low cost of building they were remarkably low – houses with four bedrooms were six-and-ninepence (34p) a week. These rents could be reduced if tenants could show their income was insufficient. The general public did not fully realise the facilities now provided to the re-housing of very poor people, councillors were told. 33 12 15

1933 12 09
Hundred Houses Society work – 33 12 09

1934 02 02
Kirby & son, woman builder and contractor, bankruptcy 34 02 02

1934 02 16
A home of his own for even the lowest paid worker – such was the prospect opened up at Coldham's Lane when the first brick was laid on the new Cromwell Road housing estate. Cambridge Ideal Homes will build about 200 houses at prices from £350 which can be purchased on a small weekly payment of about ten shillings. They will contain three good bedrooms, two large sitting rooms, scullery, bathroom and garage space. If every family could own their own house they would be happier and more contented. 34 02 16 [4.19]

1934 03 08
A plastering contractor said he'd been told there was "a bag of money for plasterers in Cambridge" and had come from Sutton Bridge with £900 to his credit. There was a strike on at

the time and he started on 20 houses in Huntingdon Road for Mr John Brignell then contracted to plaster 212 houses in Kendal Way. But another workman's strike arose – a strike that never ceased. His last contract was for houses at Harston, Eversden and Coldham's Lane. He attributed his failure to other people's bankruptcy and bad debts 34 03 08

1934 04 10
An inquiry into the sale of land in Scotland Road heard it had been offered to the corporation by Mr A.E. Few in 1929 but they'd turned it down. The land was subsequently bought by a private individual for £2,600. But when it was needed for the Hundred Houses Society the new owner had sold it to the council for £3,200. It was a good profit but the inspector cleared the council of any maladministration. 34 04 10 [1.11]

1934 06 23
The Mayor opened Cambridge's 2,000th council house situated on Bateson Road and a large number of spectators gathered to watch. He unveiled a memorial tablet high up on the front wall to commemorate the occasion. The Housing Committee was formed in 1920 to construct houses for the working classes and the estates are a great credit to the architect. Mr Bland. Most houses had three bedrooms with spacious gardens. But there was a need for more for young people who find it difficult to get a home and remain unmarried year after year, disappointed and tired of waiting 34 06 23 [1.12,1.23]

1934 12 28
William Sindall was one of the most prominent of Cambridge business men. Born at Isleham he served his apprenticeship and established the well-known building firm 60 years ago. It has erected many University and college buildings besides undertaking a number of other important contracts. A councillor and Alderman, Mr Sindall was director of the Waterworks Company and the Cambridge Chronicle. He was also associated with the arts and crafts side of the Cambridgeshire Technical School. 34 12 28a

1935 02 22
Cambridge Ideal Homes Ltd laid the first brick on the Cromwell Park Estate on 16th February 1934 and now 128 houses were built or under construction – one third of the total houses built in Cambridge during that period. Builders Johnson Bailey and road contractors Lavender & Bateman had worked whole-heartedly to assist the scheme. The low prices they charged meant houses had got to be sold as soon as they were built, bringing them within the reach of the ordinary working man. But there are still 900 people on Council house waiting lists. 35 02 22a

1935 07 31
The Hundred House Society realised that young married people were not getting a very good chance of obtaining a house. Nothing in the world matters more than that they should have happy home lives and that marriage and the bringing up of children should be the happiest and jolliest business that could ever happen to them. Eastfields was the most beautiful housing scheme and those who had been selected would make very good tenants. The rents were set at what they could more-or-less comfortably pay, without the Society making excessive profits 35 07 31 erects 100th house 35 08 22 [1.1]

1935 10 04
Much building Storeys Way, Gilbert Road, Cromwell Road 35 10 04 [1.2]

1935 12 14
Erection of new houses means depopulation in Castle End area 35 12 14 [1.13]

1935 10
Brampton Road new housing estate [4.13]

1935 10 02
Building of Cromwell Park housing estate – photo – 35 10 02a Perne Road – 35 10 03

1935 12 16
Sir – the de-population of Castle End has brought a serious decline in trade in this district. Slum clearance has seen the departure of many young families to the new residential estates in other parts of Cambridge and we are left with the old people whose requirements are practically nil. When a house is vacant it is condemned and pulled down so consequently no new residents come to take their place. Some sites have been empty for years and are growing a plentiful supply of weeds and thistles. When are we going to have new houses built on these vacant sites – Tradesman 35 12 16

1936 02 22
Meadowlands Estate Newmarket Road, Cromwell Park estate – adverts 36 02 22c & e

1936 02 22
Harvey's Church Farm Estate at Eversden & Harlton offers a brick-built bungalow with an acre of well-drained land suitable for nurseries, glasshouses or poultry fattening - Mr Creighton, who lives on the Estate, is an expert and would be pleased to show you the methods. The basis of a house is the foundations and the material comes from our own sand pits at Cottenham. We use Fletton Bricks and tiles fitted by the Marley Tile Company who give a 40 years guarantee with each roof. Window frames and doors come from Newsums of Lincoln, ranges and locks by Cakebread Robey & Co while Sir William Rose & Company supply the paints and distemper and electrical installations are carried out by A.W. Matthews of Mill Road, Cambridge. Advert 36 02 22d

1936 04 11
Plans for the new Meadowlands Estate show 277 houses and six shops. The builders proposed to construct the primary roads with concrete but run the risk that the council will not take them over. They have suggested the names Meadowlands Road, Meadowlands Way, Meadowlands Terrace, Brightside and The Sunnyside but councillors want some alternatives 36 04 11

1936 04 11
Death Charles Kidman, builder 36 04 11b

1936 05 15
There were a large number of single people in Cambridge living under very unsatisfactory housing conditions and few of the public lodging houses were suitable for them. The council could cooperate with the Church Army or Salvation Army but this meant robbing people of their freedom as individuals. It was about time they erected a municipal lodging house where people could live under decent, humanitarian conditions, Dr Wolf urged 36 05 15a & b

1936 10 13
The Housing Committee was told that over 170 people would be displaced by the demolition of buildings in Cambridge Place; the houses would have to be vacated within two months from the date of the clearance order. Plans would be drawn up to build 47 houses to re-home residents on

land off Newmarket Road which the Council would purchase from G.P. Hawkins and W. Boyton for nearly £10,000. 36 10 13b

1936 12 15
Cyril Ridgeon recalled the early days of his business at a dinner in to celebrate its silver jubilee. When the Great War came ruin had started him in the face. But he managed to get some army contracts and started as an English timber merchant selling thousands of trees to the Midlands and Cambridge builders. At times he worked up to the knees in snow. He bought his first lorry, a Wolverine, in 1922 and put up a sawmill in Cavendish Road. It had been hard work and success was due to the loyal staff 36 12 15a & b

1936 12 31
Cambridge Place was a long, narrow cul-de-sac with a narrow entrance from Hills Road. It used to have an unenviable reputation but had now greatly improved. It was a convenient place for residents engaged in unskilled work who left their houses early and returned late. But the houses were unfit for human habitation. Nearly all the roofs were sunken, the doors perished, the plaster was decayed, the stairs dark and steep. They were all were damp, thirty-three shared a water tap with another house and none had a water closet inside nor any proper place to keep food, an Inquiry heard. 36 12 30b & c, picture 36 12 31

1937 03 27
Have you seen the luxury houses on the Fendon Estate (new road leading from Hills Road to Queen Edith's Way?). Make a visit this Easter. Architect designed houses, built with best materials and labour by a firm which is rapidly gaining a fine reputation. Houses have sold quickly to discerning buyers. Every house is detached and different. Schools and churches nearby. Prices from £975 to £1,500. Advert 37 03 27b

1937 04 02
Hundred Houses Society annual report – 37 04 01, Water Street estate, 37 04 02

1937 07 02
Cherry Hinton houses sell for £499 37 07 02 [4.18]

1937 09 11
Thompson's houses sell because they are quality built, using only the best materials and stand on good sites. The 'Windsor Estate' is being rapidly completed with houses for sale from £585 to £850 (£32,500 - £45,200 today). It is in a very healthy position on one of the highest points and served by two main bus routes. The 'Thornton Estate' houses cost from £800 to £1,500 (about £83,340). Each is freehold and the price includes roads and paths, fencing, decoration and large gardens. Ralph Thompson Ltd, Fulbourn – Advert 37 09 11a

1938 02 03
Many unscrupulous Cambridge landlords are charging more than they are entitled under the Rent Restriction Act. There should be a crusade against them. One railwayman about to retire on a pension had been paying three shillings and ninepence rent for over 20 years (about £10.04 today). Now this had been raised by three shillings (£8). Tenants in Cavendish Avenue had been told they would have to pay sixpence a week more because the landlady was supplying sanitary dustbins. Those who felt exploited should see the Poor Man's Lawyer 38 02 03c

1938 02 08
Swann's brickyard damaged by undergraduates- seemed old and disused - 38 02 08

1938 02 26
The Fendon Estate, (new road leading from Hills Road to Queen Edith's Way). Architect designed houses built with best materials and labour by a firm which is rapidly gaining a fine reputation. Near golf course. Schools and churches nearby. Houses have sold quickly to discriminating buyers during the short period this Estate has been open. Prices £1,050 to £2,000. Secure your site now to avoid disappointment. House now ready for sale, £1,475 (about £79,000 today). Specifications include large oak hall, dining room, coal and coke stores, larder, central heating with three radiators, electric lighting, power and bell points. – Advertisement 38 02 26a

1938 03 16
Young couples are caught in a trap: they cannot have Council houses until they have produced a family, and they must not produce a family unless they have a proper place to live, Prof John Hilton told the Cambridge Housing Society. The nation was taking no steps to provide houses for young people who wanted to marry. They might try the hire purchase system but are required to find about £50 deposit – where are the working-classes to find such a sum (about £2,700 at present prices). And is it desirable that those starting out should begin by buying a house? They are not settled in their work and may want to move only to find that because of a change in the value of the house, they have lost all they have poured into it. 38 03 16

1938 10 27
Park Street was a very congested area in the heart of Cambridge and the houses were upwards of 100 years old. The brickwork was weather worn and crumbled, the walls were damp, natural light was poor and the staircases narrow, winding and dark. The ceiling plaster was cracked and liable to collapse and the floor boards were weak, springy and worm-eaten. In some cases there was no copper or sink and no proper food store. Some had no water supply. They were unfit for human occupation and should be demolished, an Inquiry was told. But residents objected 38 10 27 & a also Saxon Street

1939 02 25
Fendon Estate new choice residential area of Cambridge – advert – 39 02 25a

1939 04 06
St Regis luxury flats, Chesterton Road. The main staircase has Rexine-finished walls with soft lights dispensing an atmosphere of well-being. The stairs are covered with cork to silence the noise. All flats are expensively fitted out and a resident caretaker will remove refuse and arrange for domestic cleaning. A unique feature is the provision of a large air raid shelter built under the garages. It has a concrete roof and will be perfectly safe against all but a direct hit by a heavy bomb. Provision has been made for gas-proofing it in case of emergency. 39 04 06a

1939 05 09
For many couples contemplating marriage, the biggest obstacle is a home. Mr L.M. Parker, a local bricklayer, was faced with that problem in 1935 and set to to build his own. It took him three years to finish but if you go along to 187 Hinton Way you will agree his time has been well spent. It is a home any working-class man would be proud to possess with six rooms, modern labour-saving devices and inlaid cupboards. Above all the cost was comparatively negligible. 39 05 09

1939 05 18
Jack Brignell carried on business as a builder and undertaker in Newmarket Road for over 40 years. He erected many large buildings in Cambridge but was recently mainly engaged on

Council schemes such as the erection of the Coleridge Senior School. He was a county councillor and took a keen interest in the Mill Road Infirmary, Salvation Army, Victoria Institution and Cambridge Brotherhood. He died on the eve of his only son's 21st birthday so a coming of age party arranged at his college, Sidney Sussex, has of course been abandoned. 39 05 18c

1939 10 14
Spalding's Directory lists 20 new roads 39 10 14 [1.14]

1940

1940 03 05
Cambridge Brick Company (1937) formed Apr 1937 to take over business Cambridge Brick Company; reconstruction and new machine meant it became short of capital. War brought standstill – 40 03 05a, 40 04 24b

1940 05 17
Cambridge Building Material Supply Co started by Charles Lovell Naylor in 1930; built considerable number of houses in Scotland Road and King's Hedges Road and sold all bar five. But problems at outbreak of war lead insolvency. Bought Rendezvous in 1930 and rebuilt it 1931 after fire. He lost £2,000 over fire. In 1935 a limited liability company took over the cinema but sold it again because of his ill health – 40 05 17

1941 04 28
Land Army – 100 assemble on Parker's Piece for rally; need billets – 41 04 28

1941 05 19
Gt Shelford farmer fined as failed to plough land at Stapleford – 41 05 19b

1941 07 14
Miracle of reclaimed fenland – potatoes grow on land that was derelict a few months ago At Feltwell Fen; new branch of the light railway known as 'Bread and Butter Express' and owned by Ministry of Agriculture – 41 07 14

1942
Cambridge Housing Society took over properties from Corona Building Association (founded 1906)

1942 01 10
Cyril Ridgeon, timer and builder's merchant dies; started with Watts & Son, then Bristow & Copley timber importers at King's Lynn. Started on own in 1913 in Tenison Road, took son C. Elliott Ridgeon into partnership 1925; formed limited company 1931 – 42 01 10

1943 05 07
Cambridge will need 4,000 new houses after war say planners – 43 05 07

1944 10 14
Steel houses find few friends but are houses - 44 10 14 [1.15] 1944 11 21

1944 11 21
First pre-fab house erected on Parker's Piece – 44 11 21

1945 06 21
25 Germen Prisoners of War at work on Lichfield Rd housing site; the 100 temporary houses will be pre-fabricated 'Unisec' type – photo – CDN 1945 06 21

1945 09 28
First pre-fabricated houses on Histon Rd site – CDN 1945 09 28

1946
Start building pre-fabs as temporary (10 year) measure to cope with increasing housing demand; reached peak of 435 in Church End, Walpole Rd & Fishers Lane; 40 at Gilbert Close, 100 in Lichfield-Golding Road area 69 04 03 [12]

1946
Mowlem build concrete 'Easiform' houses at cost of £1,400, providing houses within capacity of people to pay - not everybody can afford 35/- (£1.75) per week 52 12 17 [2.18]

1946 10 16
Steel re-fabs being erected at Trumpington – photos – 46 10 16a

1946 10 18
Lichfield Road estate pre-fabs from air – photo - 46 10 18a

1947 04 21
Simplicity and speed is the key-note in the Cambridge Borough Council's Birdwood Road building site, when 158 permanent concrete houses are being erected. Machinery used in the work of construction - like cranes, cement- mixers and lifts for conveying concrete to the scaffolding tops - is electrically powered from the Electricity Company's supply. Briefly the method of construction is this : a concrete foundation is laid and on it a steel case is placed in position. Concrete is poured into this steel "skeleton" and after the mixture has set the case is removed - leaving concrete walls with an air-space between. The roofs will be tiled. Ninety per cent of the labour, incidentally, is Polish 47 04 21

1947 05 02
Alderman Dr Wood, chairman of Cambridge Housing Committee said "We are in an extremely difficult situation. We have got perhaps a hundred and fifty cases where we have a man working in Cambridge with his wife and family elsewhere - cases where after six years of separation during the war the family and the father are still separated". It appeared that it is going to take ten to twelve years at the present rate to find accommodation for all wanting it. Coun Cutting said "I think we will have a very ugly situation before us next winter. I cannot imagine that those who suffered and fought are going to endure this for many more months" 47 05 02

1947 06 26
Plans for providing Airey houses at a number of villages in the Chesterton R.D.C. area in lieu of permanent brick houses are being prepared. The Ministry of Health have ruled that during the next 18 months, rural authorities must erect one Airey house per three houses constructed. The architect is preparing revised lay-out plans for the sites at Fulbourn, Teversham, Longstanton and Elsworth. A lay-out plan for Coton, providing for a total of 54 houses was approved. Housing progress up to May 29th 1947 reveals 77 houses completed (includes 31 prefabs, 4 bungalows and 5 Swedish), 136 permanent houses and 19 temporary houses in course of erection

1947 07 22

The death occurred at the Catholic Nursing Home in Brooklands Avenue of Mr Edmund Joseph Kett who has been ill for the past week. Mr Kett who was 85, was a partner in the firm of Messrs Rattee and Kett, builders and contractors where he started as a boy immediately on leaving school. He retired from the firm in 1925 when the business became a limited company. During his time with the firm he was responsible for the building of the Cambridge Catholic Church and was also connected with the restoration of Arundel Castle, the Duke of Norfolk's country seat. This took 16 years to complete 47 07 22

1947 10 10
Ald Dr Alex Wood, chairman of the Cambridge Housing Committee said that 500 houses had been completed, of which 206 were permanent. The number of houses completed by private contract was 68. The greatest difficulty was in regard to labour. On one site he discovered but one bricklayer at work. He commented "We are attaching no blame to the contractors; I met two of them and found both almost broken-hearted about the difficulties with which they had to contend, and the shortages they were up against. The slow rate of building means that people have got to keep on living in emergency accommodation and other families which ought to be moved into emergency accommodation are, therefore, kept waiting. They were still completely unable to deal with a number of families living separated in almost impossible conditions of overcrowding - sometimes 11 people in three bedrooms - and in property which ought not to be inhabited 47 10 10

1948 04 26
Dr Alex Wood, chairman of the Cambridge Housing Committee spoke of the factors which had largely created the housing problem in Cambridge. There had been an influx of a very large number of people whose property elsewhere was destroyed during the war and they had settled in the area. The second "complication" was that the University was being urged by the Government to take larger numbers of students, thus adding to the competition for the housing accommodation available. "In the third place there is a very large increase in the Civil Service personnel in Cambridge," said Dr Wood amongst laughter. "While we like them all very much personally, they do complicate our problem" 48 04 26

1948 12 16
The first important milestone in Cambridge post-war housing drive was reached when the Mayor opened the council's'1,000th house – an "Easiform", at 27 Peverell Road on the Newmarket road site, where tenant, Mrs Betson, was waiting. Beforehand they had been taken on a tour of some of the principal housing estates in the town and saw estates at all stages of development - ranging from the neat, well-established looking one at Trumpington, only lacking the shops which will come one day, to the unfinished but partly-tenanted. At these mothers with perambulators have to be helped through the mud, and children kept in wellington boots 48 12 16 [3.11]

1949
"Council put in Gilbert road after WWI & sold off individual plots to spec developers to erect villas; Gurney Way & Courtney Way built prior WWII by Ginn & Son, then Metcalfe Rd & Carlton Way; building ceased for duration, land used allotments. Started Metcalfe soon after war; regulations forbade buildings over a certain floor area & covenant from St Johns forbade buildings under certain area; thus first half of Metcalfe Rd have appearance of pairs of large semis but were built as 4 flats, designed for easy conversion into semis; one flat satisfied Government, 2 flats converted to semis satisfied St John's; 1st houses E side Carlton Way at college's specified density of 8 to acre" [81 07 23]

1949 02 11

Sir – I want to call your attention to the despairing fact that Cambridge landladies seem to hate babies. My husband and I have been trying for countless months to rent a house, flat or rooms but as soon as we haltingly mention the criminal fact that we have a baby, the answer is "Sorry". Why, he is far too young to do any possible damage and cries less than the average. We are not paupers, and can afford a reasonable rent. I would give a hand in the house if need be, so that my husband, baby and I can be together. Will landladies please tell me why they refuse accommodation to people such as we? – "Norrie" 49 02 11

1949 12 05
Tenants of Gothic street and Doric street have sent a petition to Cambridge health department protesting "most vigorously against the prolonged occupation of these slum dilapidated properties, seriously affecting the health, particularly of the children forced to live under absolutely shocking conditions, which foster ill health and the spread of disease; being vermin-infested and in a very bad state of disrepair, some without kitchen fires, others with collapsed interior walls and ceilings". They recall that the properties were actually purchased by the council before the war for demolition. Tenants were told this accommodation was only temporary some one to three years ago 49 12 05

1949 12 06
Cambridge housing committee has authorised the Surveyor to negotiate tenders for the erection of 217 houses during the first six months on the Ditton Lane, Queen Edith's Way and Coleridge Road sites, and for 250 more and one at Ventress Farm for the remainder of the year. They have informed Marshall's Flying School that they are unable to give priority to workers holding "key posts" and also said that until the present housing position eases they cannot consider providing accommodation for further single persons.

1949 12 08
Sir – Has Smart's Row ever been condemned? My landlord is trying to make my house water-tight, but because the roof is dilapidated to such an extent that no contractor will undertake the job to put it right, every time there is a heavy rain I get flooded out. There are 13 houses in this Row and no matter how many of a family you have there is only one bedroom. It is impossible to get a 4ft 6in bed into the room, either by stairs or window – these are so small. There is no garden but a rat-infested back way. We have no sink and it is detrimental for my wife to try and keep the place clean. We should not be allowed to stay in these houses until we develop T.B. & other diseases – F. Byrne

1950

1950 02 03
Notice of the first compulsory purchase order ever to be made in Cambridge by the central Land Board is given today. It is in respect of a plot of land on the western side of Strangeways Road, Cherry Hinton and authorises them to purchase the land for the purpose of disposing of it for development. Their object is to make land available at the proper price for persons who have a licence to build a house.

1950 02 04
A start has been made on the construction of 38 garages on the Walpole Road housing estate in Cambridge using a new system of mortar less block construction known as "Dri-crete". This patented concrete block is the invention of a local businessman, Mr B.F. Hartley, who has been a manufacturer of concrete products for several years. The British Art Tile Company of Cambridge and Whittlesey are the patentees and manufacturers 50 02 04

1950 04 28
Cambridge housing commission received a deputation from the Gothic and Doric streets tenants' committee asking that the houses be demolished. A number were living in over-crowded conditions and the houses were infested with vermin. Coun. Proctor said "We have definitely got very bad houses and the housing position is terrible". But the council informed the Ministry of Health that they did not require a NAAFI hut at Fenner's sports ground which had been offered to be taken over as temporary housing accommodation

1950 07 06
Using pre-cast and interlocking concrete blocks three men laid the equivalent of 3,000 bricks in just under 3½ hours on the Newmarket Road housing estate, Cambridge. The blocks, patented under the name of "Dri-Crete" are the results of research by Mr B. F. Hartley, director of the British Art Tile Co. of Mill Road. During 1950 two houses have been erected at the new satellite town of Newton Aycliffe, near Darlington, using the blocks. Members of the Dri –Crete Association visited Papworth to see farm buildings erected form the blocks and to Waterbeach RAF station to inspect Dri-Crete walls 50 07 06

1950 08 12
Cambridge's population now 90,000. Borough have built 1,347 new houses, 350 temporary houses, private builders 215 new & 6 rebuilt - 50 08 12 [2.7]

1951 02 03
A pair of "Unity" houses have been completed on the council estate between Queen Edith's Way and Cherry Hinton Road. There are 48 three-bedroomed and four two-bedroomed flats being built with a steel frame covered with concrete slabs in two colours – buff and brown. Lattice steel floor joists are used to save timber. The council have entered into a contract for these houses to speed up production and augment their programme of traditional building 51 02 03

1951 03 14
Approval of the layout of the new housing estate between Gilbert Road and Arbury Road is to be recommended by Cambridge council. Sites are provided for three-storey flats, semi-detached and blocks of four houses, a church, community centre, shops, cinema, public house and a nursery school.

1951 03 21
An appeal for the introduction of "a colossal scheme of temporary housing" to try and surmount the present housing difficulties in Cambridge was made by the chairman of the Cambridge Housing Society. The need for two-bedroomed houses is still desperate and young married couples with no children who applied for a council house in the latter part of 1946 still have to wait two or three more years, they report

1951 05 19
Borough's 2,000th house, 38 Whitehill Road - 51 05 19 [2.9]

1951 09 07
Tenants of 34 huts on the Donkey Common "Estate", Cambridge, are feeling anxious about their security of tenure. They regard a letter from the City Treasurer as a veiled threat for them to leave their make-shift homes. Residents say they have no bath facilities, water closets adjoin each other and are therefore not fully private, there are no doors on the bedrooms and that they suffer from

dampness, mice, ants and 'many other forms of insect life'. They add: "We intend to remain here until equal or better accommodation is provided by the City Housing Committee"

1951 09 17
There must be a great many single business and professional women living in "digs" in Cambridge who just long for a small self-contained flat or flatlet of their own. One organisation anxious to do something is the National Federation of Business Professional Women's Clubs, which has a building society of its own, the Probus Women's Housing Society. The Cambridge B.P. club is now considering whether to buy houses. If they do go ahead it will look out for a house suitable for conversion into flats. It is good to see this club, which has a strong social sense, trying to do something really practical for its members 51 09 17

1951 10 20
Problems of vandalism by under-5s on council estates – 51 10 20 [2.11]

1952
Advertisement invited people to build own homes, Brimley Rd; formed self-build association [446.9.7]

1952 08 09
Minister grants City appeal over Queen Edith's Way houses, County had opposed – 52 08 09 [2.14]

1952 08 09
Cambridge city council won its appeal against the refusal of the County Council to grant planning permission for the erection of houses on land fronting Queen Edith's Way on either side of the approach to Wulfstan Way. The plots were intended for former owners of land which had been sterilised by the revocation of planning permission on the Ventress Farm Estate. They could be sold at a reasonable price as compared with that now commonly asked for building land near Cambridge, where there was a serious shortage of sites available for private builders. The county had wanted sufficient land left open to preserve a view of the shopping centre. 52 08 09

1952 09 04
"The more houses the City Council give us to build, the more we can put up. We have been in Cambridge five years and can put up 400 houses as quickly as it takes to erect 50", said the foreman of Messrs John Mowlem's 150-house estate at Fisher's Lane, Cherry Hinton. A flag is now flying from the chimney of their 1,000th house in Cambridge. The fitting of the chimney stack is the traditional moment for celebration in the form of a bottle of beer all round for the workmen. The Poles working on this site are familiar with the practice which has existed in Europe for hundreds of years. A dinner-dance is being planned to celebrate when the house is handed over to the Council 52 09 04

1952 10 13
Sales of council houses discussed – 52 10 13 [2.16]

1952 10 11
City have built 2,000 non-traditional houses since war – 52 10 11 [2.15]

1952 10 18

5000th Unity steel & concrete house opened by Ernest Marples, on need to cut costs by reducing standards he says one has 'got to stop somewhere, otherwise would be building little pigeon-houses with one room downstairs & one upstairs - 52 10 18[2.17]

1952 12 17
Mayor suggests now clear slum areas & build large blocks of flats instead of taking acres of agricultural land [2.17]

1953
Despite all the building by 1953 there was a 15 year waiting list for council houses & in 1954 1,250 houses were reported unfit for human beings to live in with another 160 condemned before the war. Planned replacement of 500 houses every year was exceeded & 200 of every 500 new council houses built each year were set aside for rehousing people from little streets of unfit houses. However as properties deteriorated by 1959 there were between 3,000 or 4,000 houses worthy of clearance under the 1957 Housing Act such as those in Prospect Row many people did not want to move however production means standardisation to keep prices down [14]. Residential homes for old people were also started, Langdon House being completed in 1955 by Cambridge Housing Society to be followed by warden-controlled flats.

1953 01 13
A large number of Cambridge people have made applications to the City Council for licences to build their own homes, since the Government announcement that anyone could build a house of up to 1,000 square feet. Circulars have been sent to all people on the council housing list asking them if they want to build. Provided the authority is satisfied that the cost of erecting a house is reasonable the licence is granted automatically. The cost of building a house is about £1,300 and with the aid of a mortgage comes within the scope of an £8-a-week wage-earner. It is possible to have more expensive fittings than those generally used in council houses; if a bath in a council house costs £5 a person wanting to install one costing £25 would be allowed the difference in building his own house. 53 01 13

1953 03 13
15 year waiting list for council house – 54 03 13 [3.1]

1953 03 13
Plans for slum-clearing within Cambridge and for the transfer of tenants from under-occupied properties were outlined at the city council. At present people on the 5,000-strong waiting list will have to wait as long as 15 years for a home. Ald Langdon said: "Cambridge has been expanding into the countryside, but inside it is rotten to the core. We have got to clear the slum houses which are a great expense to the council, but what are we going to do with the people living in dilapidated houses which were condemned before the war". The council is now concentrating on providing smaller dwellings and blocks of flats, but land will be very scarce in the future. 53 03 13

1953 10 07
For four years Mr Ken Allen had had his name down on the waiting lists for a council house. After all that time he decided he would wait no longer – and he set to work to build his own home. On Monday he stood under his own roof. Inside and out nearly a score of self-builders, members of the Cambridge Self-Build Housing Association were putting in the window frames, hammering home the floorboards, measuring here, sawing there and generally completing the interior of his house in time for moving in before Christmas. The six-roomed semi-detached

dwelling on the Arbury Road housing site will have cost £1,300 – and for that he gets a house worth £2,000. 53 10 07

1953 10 29
Arbury smallholders given notice that the land is required for building – 53 10 29 [3.3]

1953 12 10
A house has been erected in Cambridge using 'Niblock' mortarless concrete block units for the external and internal walls. Patented by a local man and made by Messrs Jackson Bros of Coldham's Road, they are hollow, allowing a high degree of thermal insulation and the actual building of the walls can be carried out quite quickly, largely by unskilled labour saving cost. Other buildings such as boundary walls or pigsties have proved singularly dry and warm and without doubt 'Niblocks' will figure greatly in future building activities. 53 12 10

1954
Only major items not approved are site of bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel & the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Rd during 1st 5-yearly period of the plan. 10 houses Netherhall Way for key workers recruited from away by CUP [18]

1954 03 12
The Mayor said that 1,000 council houses had been built in Cambridge in less than two years but the waiting list continued to grow so that today we have more people waiting for houses than we had at the start; the list stands at over 5,000. How many will get council houses within the next two years is hard to say; the land in the Council's possession is sufficient only to build another 1,800 houses and flats. Replying to criticism of 'housing foreigners' he said that applicants of foreign nationality had been given council houses but they were naturalised and had a right to be considered in their turn. It is imperative that the fullest use be made of the accommodation at their disposal 54 03 12

1954 12 01
The Ministry of Housing is prepared to hand over the emergency housing units on Donkey Common to Cambridge city council. Planning permission for the continued use of the huts as living accommodation has been given until 30th September 1957 or until such time as major repairs are required. The huts can then be removed and the land reinstated as a public open space. 54 12 01

1955
Cambridge Housing Society Langdon House residential home old people completed [18]

1955 01 21
A proposal to sell up to 300 plots of the Arbury Road housing estate for private building was question by City Councillors. Messrs Mowlem had asked for plots for 100 houses and William Sindall were interested in another 29 fronting Arbury Road. The council was faced with slum clearance and would have to buy land to re-house the people displaced. The Housing Committee existed to provide as many houses for people as possible and if builders offered to erect 300 houses with subsidy, without adding to the rates or national taxation then they could to welcome them. But people affected by slum clearance would not be able to afford these houses 55 01 21

1955 02 02

Plans are going ahead for the new Arbury Road Estate which should in time take a large bite out of Cambridge's 4,337 housing waiting list. Stage one will include about 240 houses, flats and bungalows; a shopping centre; two churches (Church of England and Methodist); a cinema and a public house. Already roads and sewers have been laid and it is hoped to start building some of the houses this year. But the shops will be a longer-job and will be built to keep pace with the demand. The new Primary School should be occupied this September. The land to the south of Arbury Road will ultimately accommodate 1,600 families in Council and privately-owned houses and it is possible the land to the north may be developed along the same lines. 55 02 02

1955 02 18
Houses in York Street were "drab and monotonous"; they were typical of the "very densely populated part of Cambridge and the sort of house you visualise when you talk of slum property", a Judge was told when a man claimed possession of a property in Milford Street. He had bought it in 1944 and now wished to live there; he'd offered the tenants alternative accommodation in York Street. But they objected to the move saying it was "a most unattractive and drab street" and that changing houses would put them "down the social scale". The Judge agreed saying the two streets were entirely different in character and the houses not in any way comparable" 55 02 18

1955 06 29
Cambridge has 1,350 dwellings unfit for human habitation including 100 in the East Road, Gothic and Doric Street areas. The Council is to submit proposals for the demolition of 500 dwellings in the next five years and the remainder within the following seven. But three condemned cottages at Brookside in Toft have been reinstated by the Cottage Improvement Society and now make a charming group in this beautiful yet little known corner of the village - 55 06 29

1955 07 27
The Medical Officer for Cambridge says houses in Trinity Place together with warehouses to the rear of King Street are unfit for human habitation; they are dangerous and injurious to the health of the inhabitants & should be demolished. People living there will be asked to quit within two months with the Council finding alternative accommodation - 55 07 27

1955 09 16
On the map in 10 weeks. The first completed dwelling on the Arbury Road estate extension, designed and built by Monkman of Halifax Road, Cambridge was started on 1st July 1955 and occupied on the 17th September. – Advert 55 09 16b [3.5]

1955 10 15
The condition of the huts on Donkey Common has steadily deteriorated and they should only be let to families requiring emergency accommodation who can be rehoused by September 1957. Some are so bad they will have to be closed before that and when the worst of them become vacant they should not be re-let. The Council should purchase 50 premises due for demolition and carry out minimum repairs to allow them to be occupied temporarily. 55 10 15b

1955 10 24
Since 1952 Cambridge has sold 84 pre-war and three post-war council houses. They were going to be lived in whether they were bought or rented and people ought to be able to buy them if they wanted. They had plenty of money to spend and wanted to use it for repayments on house loans instead of frittering it away. If we can sell the whole lot, we shall", declared Ald Langden. But pre-war council houses sold for £400 and it cost about £1,300 to replace them at present day prices. To say that encouraging people to own the houses would make more them responsible citizens was a most unworthy argument. 55 10 24a

1956
Arbury Road rapidly growing, a new town in miniature; in 1st decade century little but County Council smallholdings, poultry farm & laundry; by 1920 most houses on West side near Milton Rd erected; post WWI fields converted University Tennis Courts, George VI & Duke of Gloucester played; Arbury Camp farm the central pedigree poultry farm of Chivers Farms, established 40 years [446..8.5]

1956 01 03
Cyril Bailey, partner in the well-known building firm of Johnson and Bailey, spent the whole of his life in Cambridge. He was apprenticed as a carpenter and joiner, working on aircraft production in the First World War and founded the firm in 1919. He devoted his life to the business up to the time of his death and was a past President of the Master Builders' Association. A man of pleasing personality and of a charming and unassuming manner he will be greatly missed. 56 01 03

1956 03 06
The Lord Mayor of London visited Cambridge to open a new block of flats for old people at Honey Hill, Northampton Street. It was the first such visit and brought a glimpse of the pageantry in which the true Londoner takes great pride. In 1936 the frontage had been bought by the council with a quarter of the cost paid by Cambridge Preservation Society and Magdalene College. But the war intervened and the site was a blot for many years. Now the Mayor presented the keys to the first tenants, Mr & Mrs H.C. Rogers 56 03 06a-d

1956 06 25
Cambridge Business and Profession Women's Club opened their block of flats on Harding Way and handed six lucky women their keys to brand new self-contained homes. They have coal bunkers and Ascot hot-water heaters for sinks and baths. Faced with the overwhelming need for accommodation for single ladies in Cambridge, when it proved impossible to find a house, they had the braveness and energy to find £1,000 to form their own housing society. 56 06 25

1956 11 10
Garry Drive, a private street and a cul-de-sac just off King's Hedges Road which ends at the railway, was constructed by a Mr Naylor. He put down kerbs and channels and in May 1939 was contemplating finishing the road himself, but the war intervened. He then left for Australia but his wife owns three properties and has written from Melbourne objecting to the council's proposed charge for making up the road. 56 11 10b

1957 01 08
Cyril Ridgeon and Sons staged a gala night for their 160 employees at Cambridge Guildhall. The company began in 1911 and in 1913 took a small piece of ground in Tenison Road for their first depot and in 1922 bought their first solid-tired lorry. During the second war they worked with the Ministry to get materials off to the bombed areas quickly. Now they had a staff of 160 with 28 lorries and vans and 13 cars. 57 01 08 & 08a

1957 02 25
Keys to a bungalow at 246 Green End Road House were officially handed over to its first occupants, Mr & Mrs L. Hart, by the Mayor. It is the 4,000 council house completed since 1945- an average of 353 houses each year. The 1000th was opened in Peverel Road in December 1948, the 2,000th in Whitehill Road in May 1953 and the 3,000th in Colville Road, March 1952. The

site had been an eyesore, now it is a tremendous improvement. 57 02 25c, 57 02 09, 57 02 22[3.10,3.11]

1957 04 16
Cambridge city council may purchase the 350 temporary bungalows from the Ministry of Housing for £150 each. They are suitable for elderly couples and can be kept sound for another ten years. They could also purchase big houses to let as flats to business people, starting with no.20 Beche Road which has already been converted into five flats. 57 04 16

1957 07 25
John Mowlem, 'a famous name in building' have a number of houses in Tedder Way, Hurrell Road and Harding Way on the Arbury Road Estate ready for immediate occupation. First class construction, part central heating and decorations to the purchaser's choice. Prices from £2,550 on easy purchase terms: deposit £255 and repayments from £3.9.6. per week. You are cordially invited to inspect the show house at 42 Hurrell Road which is open daily – advert 57 07 25a

1957 09 25
3-storey flats being built Cherry Hinton housing estate - 57 09 25 [3.2]

1957 10 03
The tallest residential block in England may be erected in Hills Road. It would tower 135 feet high and, with a series of smaller blocks, accommodate 161 families. The 15-storey building would be of slender design, using modern materials to create homes for today, not pale imitations of the past. It will provide homes for the middle classes who have been saddled with houses at a cost beyond their means which, on re-sale, show a loss of hundreds of pounds. 57 10 03 a & b [494.4.2] [3.16]

1958 03 11
East Road district heating plan abandoned – 58 03 11

1958 04 09
Are you looking for an elegant, spacious, contemporary flat in Cambridge? Situated at Newton Road, a first-class residential district, and designed by a leading domestic architect, this flat is civilised. It is acoustically insulated, thermally insulated, light, labour-saving and spacious. There are two bedrooms, a most un-British kitchen and bathrooms, your own drying balcony, space heating and a garage if you want it. Price £3,200. Span Developments advertisement. 58 04 09b, 58 03 29a

1958 08 23
James Ison of Girton is a well-known stonemason who has worked on many college buildings including King's college chapel, where he made the pinnacles, and Caius where he assisted William Topper with the carvings on the Gate of Honour and Gate of Virtue. He also made the foundation stone for the new Catholic Church in Milton Road. Now he started his own business and has carved the gargoyles and medallions that are going to help restore the second court of St John's. 58 08 23a

1958 10 09
Doric Street & Gothic Street demolished for car park – 53 10 09 [3.17]

1959 01 08
Ridgeons celebrate their silver jubilee – 59 01 08 [3.9]

1959 02 09
The new Span flats at Newton Road have been built around a central garden court and amongst the carefully preserved remains of an old orchard. More trees and shrubs have been planted and the whole outlook is truly Arcadian. The flats are, briefly, superb with practically every mod.con. yet developed including unfreezable plumping, effective thermal insulation, built-in wardrobes and an incredibly convenient kitchen. Each has two double bedrooms, bathroom and breakfast-cornered kitchen. The price is £3,200 for a 99-year lease – Advert 59 02 09

1959 02 27
Having completed their flat project at Applecourt on Newton Road, Span Developments have just announced several big redevelopment plans. One is a 15-story high tower block of flats in Hills Road where two Victorian houses have been demolished but the magnificent trees standing in their gardens are to be left undisturbed. Another is a complete new village planned for Histon Road. They are also negotiating a scheme for factory development which will bring more well-paid work to the Cambridge area. 59 02 27, 59 03 01 & 01a

1959 04 01
All the 100 houses planned for the first part of the Scotland Farm Estate by the Hundred Houses Society were completed last year and handed over to tenants at rents of £3 a week. Already the new character of the estate is taking shape. The design of the terraces of houses in varying numbers and the use of contrasting colours for individual doors avoids the danger of monotony. Inevitably the ground still has a somewhat bare appearance but much solid spade work is being put into the gardens. These well-designed houses are making a real contribution to the accommodation problem in Cambridge 59 04 01b

1959 05 20
One of the recently-built council flats in Carlton Way has been opened to give prospective tenants an opportunity to inspect the types of homes to be offered, get an idea of the amount of furniture they will hold and take measurements for curtains and carpets. Each has an indoor coal bunker and its own shed. They are intended for older people whose families have grown up and left them with empty rooms. The rent is 16s.8d (84p) a week 59 05 20

1959 10 30
John Line new wallpaper showroom – 59 10 30c

1959 12 21
Cambridge has a slum problem - damp & lack air & light; in 1954 had 1,250 unfit & 160 condemned before war but now probably 3-4,000 merit consideration for clearance; Robert Davies : people 'do not want to move to Arbury Rd, people replaced with demolition should get new houses in old area; plans for East Rd clearance area will provide 100 new homes for lucky ones many of houses now to be demolished are over 100 years old; built by small speculators to standards of time near centre meet demand of natural increase in population; now concern at inadequate ventilation - blank wall at back, artificial light, lavatories, water supply, drainage through people do not want to move but like it when they move - 59 12 21 [17]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960s
Cambridge Housing Society warden controlled sheltered flats Oban Court & Crossways Gardens & 6 more houses CUP employees Chartfield Rd 60s & 70s Cambridge Housing Society

properties modernised; Castle Row property improved & let to castle Project for people recovering psychiatric illness

1960

1960 01 26
The first of five blocks of flats at Sherlock Close have been completed. Designed by the London architects, James and Bywaters, and built and owned by Peploe and Partners Ltd, the estate will eventually have 60 flats and 40 garages. Designed around two enclosed gardens they will resemble college courts. They have two bedrooms and are warmed by a gas operated space heater. The use of pine panelling, which has been lightly waxed, and polished hardwood-lined doors give the flats a Swedish appearance 60 01 26

1960 03 12
The Minister has confirmed compulsory purchase orders concerning houses in Norfolk Street which the City Council are anxious to pull down for the second stage of the East Road redevelopment scheme. The area affected was generally dilapidated, over-crowded and of a demolition standard with some of the buildings giving a general impression of decay. Now they can go ahead with erecting new houses, flats and shops 60 03 12

1960 03 16
One of the landmarks of Cambridge which has overlooked the city for about 60 years was demolished. The 100-foot chimney on the Newmarket Road once belonged to one of the city's brickworks which closed down about a year ago owing to the lack of clay. A large portion of the base of the chimney was cut away and propped up by wooden supports. These were then set alight using paraffin and wood shavings and smoke gushed from the top of the chimney for the last time before it fell slowly and gracefully to the ground. The actual kilns have already been demolished to make way for Watts and Son, timber importers 60 03 16

1960 04 26
William Topper who left school when he was nine years old and who has worked with his hands for the last 70 years is to be made an honorary Master of Arts of the University, becoming the first master stonemason to receive one. He has restored the Gate of Honour at Caius College, replacing pieces which had been missing for 300 years and has been in the Senate House once before, when he laid some tiles. Now he will take the day off from work and in mortar board and gown receive the degree from the Vice-Chancellor. 60 04 26b

1960 08 26
Houses in Prospect Row and Brandon Place will be compulsorily purchased and demolished. Most of the 62 properties were overcrowded, suffering from dampness, deteriorating woodwork and perishing plaster. A Government Inspector agreed they were unsuitable for human habitation. But resident say the Council are trying to get the property 'on the cheap' and they are not being offered adequate compensation. 60 08 26

1960 08 31
People living in cottages shortly to be demolished in Prospect Row and Brandon Place described conditions. One housewife told of hearing rats at the back door, "I found the hole and covered it with coal". Another spoke of having two rats in the house which is so damp she has to redecorate once a year. "My eldest boy, who is four, catches cold after cold and I shall be glad when we move. I don't care where it is as long as it has three bedrooms and a bathroom", she says. A Ministry inspector said the properties were unfit for human habitation. But an 81-year-old lady

who has lived in her house for 11 years said: "I can't understand why they want to knock them down". 60 08 31a

1960 09 09
McManus, the company that caused a stir when they agreed to pay £4,500 an acre for land have decided to put up terraced houses rather than the traditional semi-detached properties on their projected estate between Histon Road and Windsor Road. They call it an experiment in contemporary living that can accommodate the same number of families but with a greater amount of open space around the houses for children to play on. The houses are selling for nearly £2,400 60 09 09a
1960

1960 09 20
Are 32 thatched properties in Cambridge – 60 09 20 [9.1]

1960 10 20
Stanton House flatlets in Christ Church Street provide luxurious accommodation for 29 old people. Each has a bed sitting room, with the bed space behind a curtain partition, a small electric cooker and fitted wall electric fire. Lavatory and bathroom accommodation is in conformity with Ministry requirements with an emergency bell. There is a large lounge with an open fireplace where old folk can spend their evenings in each other's company and a large open patio with fish pond and fountain. Central heating and lighting is included in the rent of thirty shillings a week. 60 10 20

1961
Demolition of house at entrance to Manor Farm to form Campkin Road [4.10]

1961 02 07
Rattee & Kett working in Downing Street – 61 02 07

1961 02 24
Houses in Chesterton High Street and Green End Road have been subject to a demolition order since January 1960. Their occupants have gradually been re-accommodated and their homes abandoned. Now only two families remain. It is an eerie feeling to have empty houses on either side, especially when they are broken into, the wallpaper ripped and the boarded-up windows damaged. Once they have been rehoused the rickety four-roomed homes with their primitive sanitation will be pulled down for re-development. 61 02 24

1961 05 25
In 1911 Cyril Ridgeon set up in timber and the products of the Cam Cement Company at Meldreth. These prospered and he was able to rent a small area in the Tenison Road Wharf of the Great Eastern Railway Company. The initial buildings were modest and deliveries could only be made by horsed horse drawn transport – very different from the fleet of lorries and vans now in operation. Over 50 years it has grown into a concern employing 200 people supplying every kind of building material required. 61 05 25

1961 09 22
Demolition in Ram Yard has revealed a brick inscribed '1509'. Its size indicates that it was part of a batch produced shortly after 1790 when the Government imposed a brick tax. As a result bricks suddenly became larger so fewer were needed to build a house. A firm at Bourn made outsize bricks of a four-inch depth, which can be seen all over the village. A very handsome gault

brick was made by a Barnwell firm. These are still very much in demand and when properties are demolished they are salvaged for reuse. The Shire Hall was built from such old bricks which fetch £11 a thousand. 61 09 22a

1961 10 06
A newly-built Canadian wooden house on the Girton Road is attractive visually. The exterior is finished in cedar shingles, the interior panelling and door frames are pine, the doors mahogany, the lounge has parana wood panelling and the ceilings are of plaster-board. Decorating costs have been cut to a minimum: the interior walls are papered, then covered with a thin film of plastic. It cost more than a comparable five-bedroomed house, but its upkeep costs far less. The new owners are delighted 61 10 06a

1961 10 10
Cyril Ridgeon is celebrating 50 years of service to the building trade. Never before has Cambridge seen so many outstanding changes as old out-dated premises are giving way to the modern shops and houses demanded by today's standard of living. Its depot at Cavendish Road has a specialised department dealing in Formica while fully-loaded lorries carry timber treated against rot by a Tanalising Plant, ensuring it an almost indefinite life. In the Slabbing Shop a large range of artistic fireplaces are manufactured in tile, mosaic and marble 61 10 10a

1961 12 01
Nightingale Avenue means something new in elegant living. It means spacious, modern four-bedroomed detached houses of quality and character by Trend Homes. Here is a rare opportunity to buy an exclusive architect designed house in a first-class position. Each will have the wonderful boon of oil fired heating, built-in wardrobes and French doors to a paved terrace. Price from £5,250 – Advert 61 12 01c

1962
Arbury 11-storey flats plan - protest [494.4.13]

1962 02 01
The changing face of old Cambridge will soon see further demolition. Already a number of houses have been pulled down in Shelley Row and four more are to follow including one boasting an elegant example of a Mansard roof. The building on the corner of Leeke Street and Newmarket Row, known as Mendicity House, formerly provided lodgings for beggars following the Napoleonic War. It was later purchased by the Industrial Dwellings Company, set up to improve the inadequate housing in the Barnwell area. It is now Harris' butcher shop. 62 02 01b & c

1963 02 12
Cambridge City Council may sell 16 of its new homes, which have cost about £2,700 each to build (about £44,500 today), for a deposit of only £5 – with the buyer being allowed up to 30 years to repay the balance. The houses are in Jolley Way and Kent Way, new roads on the Arbury Estate. The City Treasurer says the scheme has been proposed as an experiment; it is the first time the idea has been suggested for Cambridge 63 02 12

1962 03 03
None of the aluminium bungalows owned by Cambridge city council is in urgent need of demolition because of corrosion, an inspection has found. However work should be started on pulling down the 100 bungalows at Church End, Cherry Hinton, within two years. This would allow for the area to be cleared for redevelopment. The 135 temporary bungalows in Fisher's

Lane, Roseford Close, Walpole Road and on the Green Park Estate were not in such as bad state 62 03 03 a & b

1962 03 22
A police dog and handler make nightly patrols of Prospect Row where Irish labourers are camping out in empty houses, sleeping on wet mattresses and ripping up floor boards to make fires in the open grates. The houses will be demolished when a home is found for 82 year-old Lily Wilkin, who has lived in the Row all her life. Meanwhile Corporation workmen are stapling strong wire mesh over doors and windows in nearby Brandon Place and Adam and Eve Street. But no attempt can be made to clear the rubbish which litters many of the tiny backyards. 62 03 22

1962 05 02
Highsett, Hills Road, comprises elegant town houses in a sheltered green and pleasant place. Designed by a leading architect, they include a large living room, study, two double bedrooms and well-equipped kitchen. House warming is by underfloor heating, thermostatically controlled. No cold spots, no stoking, no dust. Good insulation keeps running costs down. They are grouped round a central landscaped green maintained through a Residents Society which is also responsible for structural repairs and external decoration. First house ready soon on 99 years lease, £4,975. Span Developments. Advert 62 05 02a

1963
1963 04 24
Building Information Centre opens [8.6]

1963 04 04
Rapidly developing McManus estate, Histon Rd; 400 units of housing built by 1969 [446.13.6]

1963 05 24
McManus for value in Cambridge. The Chesterton Estate, Histon Road, offers spacious three-bedroom terrace houses with attractive tile-hung elevations and in-built fuel stores with a garage nearby if required, for £2,895. Detached two-bedroom bungalows, £3,395; semi-detached £2,695. A decorated show house is available for inspection fitted with central heating in the form of Sager Tangential Flow fan heaters. Maximum Mortgages available – Advert. 63 05 24a

1963 07 05
Electronic computers are being used by W. & C. French to speed the building of New Hall at Huntingdon Road. The severe weather delayed progress for three months but with their aid it is hoped they will still finish within the deadline. It is the first time computers have been used in this region to devise a logical schedule of jobs to be carried out & grading them according to importance. The college dining hall is taking shape with its elegant dome using ferro-concrete previously used in boat building. A huge crane is playing a major part to gain lost time 63 07 05f

1963 09 11
Council offers almost 100% mortgages over periods of up to 30 years for houses selling £2,850, Haviland Way – 63 09 11[9.4]

1964 01 25
Darwin Drive houses built 30 years ago, many have no hot water, bath in scullery & outside lavatories – 64 01 25 [9.5]

1964 03 26
Clunch was for centuries an important material but now the old quarries have fallen into disuse except as sources of stone for road-mending and fen-embanking. Sometimes the waste rubble was burnt for unslaked lime and the limekilns in Carter's Quarry at Burwell were used as air raid shelters. They are still there, derelict and tumble-down with the shed that once housed the transport horses. Part of the interior of Heydon Church, bombed during the war, was rebuilt with clunch and at Lode a new chapel, built entirely with clunch, was added by Lord Fairhaven when builders had to be specially trained for the work. 64 03 26

1964 05 05
Sindall Concrete Products Ltd have built a pair of semi-detached houses on their Cherry Hinton Rectory Farm estate which could lead to revolutionary changes in the building industry. The houses can be erected and completed in two days using precision-made concrete panels with built-in insulation and wallpaper or emulsion can be applied direct to the walls. There is a choice of pitched or flat roof types lifted into place by a crane and a brick outer face can be added to give a traditional appearance. 64 05 05 (little success- 1967) 67 12 13 [9.6]

1964 06 07
Building boom, new & vast housing estates mushrooming in Cambridge builders never had it so good; but shortage of bricks, industrialised methods being considered 64 06 17 [13]

1964 06 13
Pre-fabricated aluminium bungalows Church End Cherry Hinton to be made safe, suffer corrosion – 64 06 13a

1964 06 15
Cambridge housing squalor – squatters; 500 houses have no hot water, 5,000 no bath, 640 no flush lavatories – 64 06 15a

1964 06 16
City council housing problems : up to about 10 years ago cars were hardly considered when planning new estates, now average parking provisions for 1.3 cars per family; latest Kings Hedges road project includes central heating; move in emphasis from 3-bed family houses to individual units; mass production means standardisation to keep prices down – 64 06 16 [14]

1964 06 16
Prefabs may be answer to city's house problems; cars not considered when planning new estates; survey King's Hedges – 64 06 16a

1964 08 29
Kite vast rehousing unenviable task- nearly 1000 houses & 65 acres in twilight zone [494.8.10]

1964 11
Over 8,500 houses built since war, 5,619 by council, 2,973 private; 1,000 houses demolished as part of slum clearance scheme 1955-64 [7.5]

1965
1965 01 08
A shortage of bricks and labour problems, caused by the high wastage of recruits who complete their training before deciding that building is not for them, has forced Cambridge Council to experiment with a timber-based system for 32 houses on the Arbury Estate. Each costs nearly

£800 more than conventional houses but traditional methods mean they would not be able to provide the 500 houses needed. The situation was exacerbated by the 200-odd eroding prefabs that have to be completely replaced almost immediately. But the Ministry of Housing rejected their plans saying it was too expensive– 65 01 01 Cambridge Factory-built houses rejected by minister but approves industrialised dwellings for Fulbourn – 65 01 08a

1965 01 12
A new German machine at Milton owned by Cambridge Precast Stone can produce enough bricks to build a house in less than two hours, thus helping to beat the national brick shortage. It is the biggest installation in the country and will enable the firm to supply orders from builders' merchants. It comprises a dragline feeding aggregate to a mixer where cement and colouring are added. The moisture content is measured by an automatic 'Hydrobot' device. The mix is fed to the moulds for vibrating and tamping before the completed bricks are delivered on pallets to an off-loading conveyor 65 01 12a

1965 08 18
final phase of Arbury plan, 25 acres between Arbury Road, Campkin Road & Kings Hedges Road, taking 11 acres from Green Belt but providing 20 acres for recreation, 2 primary schools & nursery schools to be built; well-balanced development – 65 08 18 [9.7]

1966 08 13
Since 1945 council built 5942 houses & 344 under construction; private builders 3398 completed, 324 started - 66 08 13 [9.8]

1967 02 03
Kings Hedges master plan goes ahead, revised plan accepted [494.5.7]

1967 03 30
Demolition in Newtown district [494.5.8]

1967 06 13
City council sub-standard houses to be updated with prefabricated bathrooms and lavatories attached to back of homes – 67 06 13, 67 06 28

1967 06 28
51 bolt-on bathrooms installed Akeman St area, 500 complaints within year - 67 06 28, 68 06 06 [9.9,9.10]

1967 08 09
Is shortage of £3,000 houses for young couples – 67 08 09 [9.11]

1968 01 29
City build 309, private 135 houses in 1968 – 69 01 29 [9.13]

1968 03 08
McManus to quit Cambridge. Sell 6a building land for £100,000 as planners will not allow them to develop it as commercially as they wish 68 03 08b

1969 03 19
Front of McManus estate on Histon Road, which has been derelict for several years, is to be developed; new firm hopes to start work on 63-house estate – 69 03 19a

1968 03 26
Fitzroy Street – Burleigh St residents fear city council intend to demolish good houses under slum-clearance scheme – 68 03 26

1968 03 29
Large-scale slum clearance scheme Kite - 68 03 29 [9.12]

1969 04 03
Cambridge prefabs to be demolished – feature; have gone from Church End, Walpole Road and Fisher's Lane; leaves 40 at Gilbert Close and in Lichfield Road – Golding Rad area – 69 04 03

1969 04 25
Seek permission buy 58 slum houses, Kite, at £80,000 – 69 04 25

1969 05 01
Tanner and Hall roofers move from Hills Road railway siding to new offices at Harston, formed in 1953 – 69 05 01, 01a

1969 12 04
New estate at Church End, Cherry Hinton built to Parker Morris standards, laid out on Radburn plan grouping houses in courtyards without traffic; lay out standards but difficult keep within cost allowed; can exceed by 10% but lose Ministry subsidy on extra amount, if cost any higher ministry refuse loan sanction; rents for 2-bed £3.12.2, 3-bed £4.3.0 (rates etc extra) – 69 12 04 [15]

1970

1970
Cambridge brick Company wound up [7.7]

1970 03 11
James Street resident commits suicide – 70 03 11 [9.14]

1971 03 19
Arbury residents cut off from shops; is functional and austere, offering adequate homes at economic rents and a place to sleep. But few pensioners can afford price of bus ride to centre and council puts off cheap bus fare scheme – 71 03 19a

1971 04 02
6,000 properties could become the slums of tomorrow unless deterioration is halted and basic amenities installed – feature – 71 04 02

1971 10 18
Cambridge first local authority get Improvement Area projects off ground since Government announced them 2 years ago – 71 10 18 [9.15]

1971 12 22
Prime, Cambridge building firm started more than 150 years ago cease trading, main yard at Adam & Eve Street – 71 12 22

1972 01 01
3-bed semi costs over £6,000 – 72 01 01[10.1]

1972 04 27
Government plans to release land for private housing, stop hoarding which causing house prices to spiral; 6 acres sold Arbury – 72 04 27, 72 07 08 [10.2,10.4]

1972 05 08
Are 2,700 outstanding planning permissions – 72 05 08 [10.3]

1972 05 24
Cambridge Squatters group formed May, 2 mothers take house Milton Road; 2nd house Huntingdon Rd; evicted by Kings from Milton Road house – 72 05 24 [15.5]

1972 10 02
City Council taken over John St squat – 72 10 02 [15.6]

1972 10 05
Squatters in John St (others in 1974 & 75) – 72 10 05 [10.18,19]

1972 03 21
As Cambridgeshire house prices soar - in one area up by 100 per cent in six months - estate agents report an acute shortage of houses for sale. And the houses that do come up on the market are snapped up immediately. The agents put the blame on the lack of building land released by the planners and that fact that more people than ever are able to buy their own homes 72 03 21

1972 04 18
The Conservative chairman of the Cambridgeshire Planning Committee, Tony Cornell, has told the Government that local councils should be allowed to buy land compulsorily unless land prices come down quickly. The cheapest houses in Cambridge and county will cost £9,000. And only one fifth of the young couples who want their own home will be able to afford one. What land is coming on the market now is changing hands at £30,000 -£40,000 an acre and rising 72 04 18

1972 05 12
Robinson and Gimbert, the Cambridge builders with reputation for high class work have been taken over by one of the "big boys" of British home building. From next week they will be trading under the direction of T & E Homes ltd of Reigate. The Cambridge firm who started in Guildhall Street 25 years ago and moved to Victoria Road six years ago have 60 full time employees. Robinson and Gimbert currently have schemes on the go at Oakington and Stapleford, and recently completed one at Waterbeach. They build about 50 houses a year 72 05 12

1972 09 16
Cambridge City Council have halted the demolition of some of their old prefab bungalows at Histon Road while officials find out if they could be used for housing Ugandan Asians. The bungalows, which were built shortly after the Second World War as temporary homes, are being demolished to make way for a large council houses and flats development. A few of the buildings are still occupied but the tenants are due to move shortly 72 09 16

1973
200 squatters occupy Owlstone Croft, Whitehall changes mind & can stay [Misc.5.3];

1973 01 23
Squatters forced from Bateman St – 73 01 23[15.7]

1973 04 25
Plans for 1,200 houses, Cherry Hinton – 73 04 25 [10.5]

1973 06 22
Claims by a prominent Cambridge trades unionist that many bored and disgruntled Cambridge city council tenants were demanding to be moved from the Arbury estate were rejected this afternoon by the Housing Committee chairman, Coun John Powley. The claims were made by Don Millard. He said both young and old people were asking to be moved nearer to the city centre because they were bored with life at Arbury. He added that the boredom was due to the lack of social and community facilities and a dearth of public houses. The claims were supported by Counc Mrs Janet Jones, a Labour county councillor for the area. "Arbury and Kings Hedges are just like an isolated satellite town", she said. "People are always asking us to help them move away because they do not like living there" 73 06 22

1973 10 11
CCAT occupy Owlstone Croft which closed since 1969 – 73 10 11[15.8]

1973 11 01
"All available council housing land will be used up by 1978" – 72 11 01[10.6]

1973 11 19
No more Cambridge council houses will be sold after April 1st – because the waiting list of people who want to rent them is growing daily and building land is running out. The new Labour controlled Cambridge district council also intends to clamp down on speculators who buy old houses cheaply and sell them at big profits after modernising them with the aid of improvement grants. During the last five years almost 300 city council houses have been sold to tenants and a number of other possible sales are in the legal pipeline 73 11 19

1973 12 11
A 160-foot-high chimney that was used in the old days as a furnace for brick-making in the heyday of the Cambridge brick industry is now a pile of bricks, strewn about a sticky clay building site off Coldham's Lane, Cambridge. The chimney was abandoned well before the last war and remained as a blackened reminder of the glories of an industry past its peak. The new owners of the site, J. Coral Estates Ltd, decided they did not need it at their £3 million warehouse and industrial development on the 11 acres they have bought so they blew it up. The bricks will become the fill for part of the new warehouse development already christened the Coral Park Estate 73 12 11

1974
Housing Corporation became major funding source for housing associations 1975

1974 08 07
"Planning controls are responsible for high prices" - Parry Lewis [10.8a]

1974 08 07
£1.24 million land purchase will mean 600 council houses Ditton Lane; first phase 218 agreed 1975 74 08 07 [10.8]

1974 10 10
Rent Act hits landladies, students housing advisory service set up - 75 10 10[15.4]

1977 02 05
32 lived in boarded-up James street houses – 77 02 05 [15.3]

1977 03 03
Cambridge councillors are considering a new plan for building large numbers of low-price houses. A major building company would build houses to a standard design on a number of council-owned sites; the council would prepare the land, put in sewers and build estate roads. They would then buy the houses from the builders and sell them to young people living in council houses or who are on the waiting list. The plan is linked with a savings scheme aimed at giving first-time homebuyers enough money to put down as a mortgage deposit. Coun. John Powley said: "We are determined to give as many of our tenants as possible the opportunity of buying their own homes – and this is a new way of doing it". 77 03 03

1977 11 14
There are almost 400 properties standing vacant in Cambridge according to the Empty Property Action Group. More than 200 are houses of which the great majority are privately owned. There are 1,026 people on the council's "live" waiting list and another 1,400 seeking council accommodation at some future date. Numerous organisations are seeking accommodation for special groups like the College of Arts and Technology, Women's Aid, Fulbourn Hospital and Cyrenians Night Shelter. The Kite and Castle Street areas share the highest concentration of empty property. The city council are worried that the list could serve as a kind of housing register for squatters. 77 11 14

1977 12 08
Next stage of development announced - 155 houses at Kings Hedges – 77 12 08 [7.3]

1978 04 06
Squatters protest over eviction Kite [494.7.8]

1979 01 04
Kerridge builders into liquidation due financial difficulties (had been sold to Matthews Holdings in 1973 when employed 1,000 & taken over by others) – 79 01 04 [7.8]

1979 01 26
Two hundred people employed by Cambridge building firm R.H. Smart have lost their jobs. Work has ceased on the firm's major council housing jobs at King's Hedges, Arbury, where it contracted to build 214 houses and flats and employed 80 people. The firm began in 1960 as a plumbing business; it started on its first council housing contract in 1974 and took over Newmarket builders M. Carrick. Next year it had contracts worth £4 million to build 400 council houses 79 01 26 [7.13]

1979 07 20
Council house sales stopped, 4,000 on waiting list – 79 07 20 [10.9]

1980

1980

Cambridge Housing Society Danesbury Court for older people on ground floor & young couples on first

1980 01 15
"Self-sufficient house" experiment started 1971 abandoned after death of originator,– 80 01 15 [8.7]

1980 07 21
The name Kerridge is to appear again in the title of a Cambridge building firm. Mr Paul Kerridge, great-grandson of the man who started the group has taken a 75 per cent share in the company which operated for 100 years. It was sold to Matthews Holdings but when that group was taken over the Kerridge part was put up for sale and has since been in several hands. The business will be run from Sturton Street on the site of the original firm's small works department and in the shadow of its former headquarters 80 07 21

1980 08 18
Pre-fab bathrooms need replacing, £320,000 bill- 80 07 18 [10.10]

1980 09 30
Government Housing Act frees council house sales; threaten to put in special commissioner if Labour council don't sell; first sale July; ordered to complete sales preliminaries for 800 houses by December 80 09 30, [10.13-14]

1980 11 14
Over 2,000 people are waiting for a council house in Cambridge with 900 applications this year. New legislation enabling tenants to buy their properties at discount has also caused problems as the Government has banned spending on new building. One way to house more is to reduce the time between a house being vacated and the new occupant being allowed in. But the council often has to call in specialists in dry rot or roofing. Unimproved terrace housing is very expensive costing twice that in Peterborough 80 11 14b [10.12]

1981 05 14
Since 1962 the price of a semi in Perne Road Cambridge has risen from £3,000 to £30,000 and in De Freville it is much higher. The leap in prices in the early 1970s meant that first-time buyers they turned to the Mill Road area and prices rocketed. If you had bought a terraced house in Romsey Town in 1962 it would have cost £1,350. Now it is worth more than £20,000. 81 05 14c

1981 07 09
Mr & Mrs Jack O'Dell, the first Cambridge council house tenants to buy their own homes were given a potted plant when handed the keys to their house in Carlton Way. With a 50 per cent discount the three-bedroomed house has cost them £9,375. More than 800 other tenants have asked to buy since the law was changed last October 81 07 09

1981 07 09
George Pateman Court was built by the Cambridge Housing Society to provide homes for the disabled because they were told the need was acute. But few have applied. The project on Tenison Road has a prime site close to shops and transport and is designed with wide doors for wheelchairs; there are raised gardens and places to charge up electric cars overnight. 81 07 09a

1982 03 18

Cambridge City Council have just sold 191 council houses at an average price of £11,500, with another 550 sales in the pipeline. Anyone who has been a council tenant for three years is entitled to a 30 per cent discount on his house valuation if he decides to buy. It can be a good investment as houses in Cambridge are at such a premium that everything sells, provided the price is right. 82 03 18

1982 09 16
Cambridge isn't an easy place for a couple to buy a house for the first time. The average purchase price is around £22,000 which means finding a deposit of £2,500 and with mortgage interest rates of 12 per cent over 25 years would cost £148.82 a month after tax relief. Currently a modernised Victorian house in Newmarket Road is on sale for £22,250 and a two-bedroomed, centrally-heated house in Stanley Road costs £21,500. 82 09 16 & a

1982 11 04
Newnham is a unique and quite exceptional area of Cambridge, and planners intend to keep it that way. Its 'up-market' aspect is reflected in property prices. A 10-bedroomed house at 5 Cranmer Road recently sold for £145,000 while £38,000 buys a three-bedroomed house in Owlstone Road. Properties in Gough Way fetch about £65,000, Grange Road £59,000 and Hardwick Street £39,500. A flat at Cherwell Court, Barton Road is £38,000 for a 99-year lease while one in Westberry Court is £60,000 82 11 04

1983 04 29
A much-heralded district heating scheme which was installed in 234 council houses and flats at Lichfield Road and Neville Road is being scrapped after only 10 years. The pipes which are buried deep underground leak. There were claims it would be much cheaper but tenants said their homes were unnecessarily hot, giving 70 degrees in living rooms and 65 in bedrooms when temperatures outside were freezing. It will be replaced by individual central heating units in each property. 83 04 29 p9

1983 08 04
Seventeen flats and maisonettes being built as part of the Grafton Centre are now on the market. The flats in Fitzroy Street have a bedroom, living room, kitchen, bathroom & private rooftop terraced areas and sell for £29,500. The maisonettes are on two floors and have two bedrooms, they sell for £42,000. The scheme also includes 22 one-bedroomed flats in Christchurch Street which will be available on a share-ownership basis through the King Street Housing Society. Most have been allocated already 83 08 04 p12

1983 12 05
Three-quarters of lodgings converted homes & hostels in Cambridge area substandard – 83 12 05 [15.1]

1984
Cambridge Housing Society Norwich St group home elderly

1984 02 07
£1M scheme for permanent baths combat mould & damp – 84 02 07 [10.11]

1984 03 01
New flats in Anstey Way, Trumpington, are selling like hot cakes even though the show flat is not yet open. Six were released as an initial step and were sold immediately. They appeal to older people wanting to put an end to the problem of maintaining a big house and garden and most of

the ground floor flats have gone to senior citizens. Prices range from £28,450 to £29,450 84 03 01

1984 04 02
Coulson builders celebrate centenary, founded 1884 became Limited Company 1921 – 84 04 02 [7.10]

1984 09 07
"The colonel" was one of Cambridge's best-known characters in the 50s and 60s, John Ingersol Turpin was the oldest of the brothers who ran a timber yard in Mill Road. It started in 1929 selling timber from Sweden, Russia and Canada but supplies stopped in 1939 so he started attending household sales. He became as well-known for his second-hand goods shop as his timber-selling; people often spoke of the wonderful bargains they bought for a few shillings, his daughter Margaret Lusher recalled 84 09 07

1984 11 02
Sindall's builders move Headquarters to Sawston, were founded 1881 & incorporated as private company 1953 – 83 11 02 [8.1]

1985
Hostel for 8 mentally handicapped & eight single young Russell St, won award Cambridge Housing Society

1985 07 02
"High-Tech" puts stress on housing", only 20 council houses started past year – 85 07 02 [10.15]

1985 09 24
"Unity" houses unsaleable – 85 09 24 [10.16]

1986
Railway Houses project Mill Rd - hostel 13 young coming out of care & flatlets young couples & Corona Road refurbished to become hostel for single homeless women, 1st Cambridge

1986 01 02
Cyril Ridgeon began his tiny timber business in one room in St Barnabas Road in 1911. Now the company is celebrating 75 years of trading. During the war they stored timber on behalf of the Government sending supplies down to London to repair blitz-damaged houses. The firm opened branches at March and Saffron Walden and is now planning to move its Tenison Road and Cavendish Road operations to a new site on Coldham's Lane 86 01 07 &a 86 01 02

1986 02 19
When Charles Kidman decided in 1876 to start up his own building business Britain was in the midst of a recession. Yet within 20 years he had built most of Romsey with its distinctive terraced houses plus a whole series of large contract work which enabled him to retire at the tender age of 40! Today, 110 years later, Kidman & Son is a thriving business with another Charles Kidman at the helm determined to maintain the family tradition of personal service coupled with flexibility. From their workshops in Victoria Road teams of bricklayers, carpenters and labourers are on hand for the craft of building 86 02 19b & c

1986 09 18

Clay Farm sit, Trumpington, 70 acres open farm & woodland would give space for 900 houses – 86 09 18 [10.17]

1986 10 07
Squatters at the old Salvation Army shop in Mill Road doze on sofas and chairs by the log fire or in sleeping bags in the eaves of the roof, and when they need a toilet they wander to the public lavatories just down the road. The squat is a protest to high-light the social depression, unemployment and lack of facilities for the young. Anarchist slogans have been painted boldly over the shop front replacing the old religious messages. 86 10 07a

1986 10 26
The Council is undertaking its biggest renovation to wipe out some of Cambridge's worst living conditions. After 15 years the damp-prone bathroom 'pods' stuck on to brick kitchens will be removed from Darwin Drive, Akeman Street, Stretten Avenue and other streets. The modernisation programme will transform pokey 50-year-old homes into spacious, modern accommodation. There will be a new bedroom and bathroom, fully-fitted kitchen, central heating and new windows. Residents who move out for the 20 weeks of renovation can claim a disturbance allowance of several hundred pounds. 86 10 28a

1986 12 05
Cherry Hinton massive new development, 51a site [494.8.2]

1987
Cambridge Housing Society had changed emphasis to single people [Misc.2.3]

1987
Firm quits as house prices soar - cannot recruit staff [NS.1.6]

1987
Rapidly rising costs caused by glut of building work hits projects [NS.1.11]

1987 03 23
A local building firm marked 30 years of existence in style with a special celebration. C.G. Whitmore & Son started in a garage at the bottom of its founder's garden. It is still firmly ensconced behind 159 Cherry Hinton Road, the terrace house that was home as well as business headquarters for company founder Cyril George Whitmore who died in 1980. In the early days they undertook mainly decorating jobs and domestic repairs. Now they will undertake any building project from house extension to house building. 87 03 23a

1987 03 24
Store giant Sainsbury's has announced plans for a superstore on the Arbury Camp site, creating more than 300 jobs. The supermarket could occupy a six-acre site closest to the interchange between the Northern Bypass and Histon Road. It would have a petrol station, coffee shop and parking for 500 cars. There would also be a park-and-ride site.This would be part of a mixed development of retail and research areas with a large ornamental lake. An Inspector has recommended that the site be taken out of the belt because it made a minimal contribution to the special character of Cambridge. But planners have so far disagreed 87 03 24

1987 08 10
The search for somewhere to live is becoming increasingly desperate. Yet more than 400 council homes in the region are standing empty. In Cambridge – where the council housing list tops 4,000

– one property in Fen Road has been empty for a year, another in Long Reach Road for nine months and one in Oak Tree Avenue for 20. At Girton four police houses have been empty for almost two years. Officials say some need repair, campaigners claim it is down to inefficiency. 87 08 10b

1987 10 20
Cambridge Housing Society celebrates diamond jubilee – 87 10 20a

1987 11 04
The family-run small works roofing and plumbing company of TR Freeman began trading from a terraced house in Histon Road in 1887. Their early customers were Cambridge colleges who demanded an exacting standard of work on superb buildings and companies in the Freeman Group still work for them, fulfilling the need for traditional skills using traditional materials. The firm has expanded into an internationally operating combine with a workforce of more than 300. Now celebrating its centenary, it is shortly to move into new corporate headquarters on the outskirts of Cambridge 87 11 04

1987 12 14
When it comes to housing, Cambridge is a victim of its own economic success. A traditional flow of brains drawn to the university has been bolstered by a growing influx of well-paid workers attracted by a booming high-tech sector resulting in rocketing property prices. More and more native Cambridge people are being squeezed out of the property market: 35 per cent of locals cannot afford to buy, with an average home costing £70,000 (about £161,000 today). Private housebuilders say they are hampered by the Green Belt while Councils are struggling against a Government keen on ending their roles in housing provision. There are 4,000 people on the city council waiting list, many of whom will never get a home 87 12 14b

1988 02 04
Builders William Sindall have handed over the first new home in a new joint low-cost Cambridge housing scheme of 30 properties at Banff Close. The council provided the land for development and, in co-operation with Sindall, has made the houses available at prices well below market levels for people who would otherwise be on the council's waiting list. 88 02 04a

1988 02 25
An Australian economist predicts that by the year 2000 there would be large terraced houses in Cambridge costing £500,000. House prices can be expected to rise by at least eight per cent a year. The price of a terraced house north or east of the city centre has risen from £4,000 in 1970 to £35,000 in 1981 and is now (1988) £90,000 A flood of rich Londoners and foreigners will keep the heat on the housing market. There will be no hope for first-time buyers and pressure on the private sector could push rents up drastically forcing workers to live further from the city 88 02 25

1988 07 14
City housing "too costly" for top people [CEN 14.7.88]

1988 08 23
1st Cambridge Assured Properties introduce new housing scheme for more than 60 rented houses [CEN 23.8.88]

1988 09 09
Coulsons move from East Rd site, were established 1884 [CEN 9.9.88]

1988 10 22
Property price bubble burst, inundated with houses which do not sell [CEN 22.10.88]

1988 11 03
House price boom halts [CEN 3.11.88]

1988 11 04
Owlstone Croft to be used by Queens as hostel [CEN 4.11.88]

1988 11 16
Housing shortage means at least 2,000 houses are in multiple occupation [CEN 16.11.88]

1989 01 19
House prices sliding backwards ¢CEN 19.1.89

1989 02 09
Rent arrears rise "people in state of poverty in Cambridge" ¢CEN 9.2.89

1989 03 30
Report shows house prices risen 73% in 2 years; 1st time buyers have no chance ¢CEN 30.3.89

1989 04 21
1 in 10 former council tenants being forced to sell up ¢CEN 21.4.89

1989 05 20
Homelessness increased by third in last 3 years, now 5,152 on council waiting list ¢CEN 20.5.89

1989 06 08
100 houses Brownlow Road approved on appeal ¢CEN 8.6.89

1989 09 19
Harold Ridgeon was one of Cambridge's most famous self-made men. From humble beginnings, he graduated from Cambridge University and began his own business in 1927 with a couple of men and an agreement to build a pair of houses in Perne Road. His success was such that in 1936 he was able to purchase William Sindall, an old-established Cambridge builder. During the war they took on responsibility for airfields and defence work and today the company has a turnover of £60 million a year. His other business interests included Abington Farms, W.J. Atkins meat producers, the Gonville Hotel and the Cambridge Building Society. He was also chairman of Cambridge City Football Club for many years. 89 09 19

1989 20 02
City to spend 2nd £|M on subsiding houses for council workers ¢CEN 2.10.89

1989 11 22
Kerridge taken over by John Lelliott (Eastern) ¢CEN 22.11.89

1989 11 23
600 houses planned for allotments, Arbury ¢CEN 23.11.89

1989 12 22

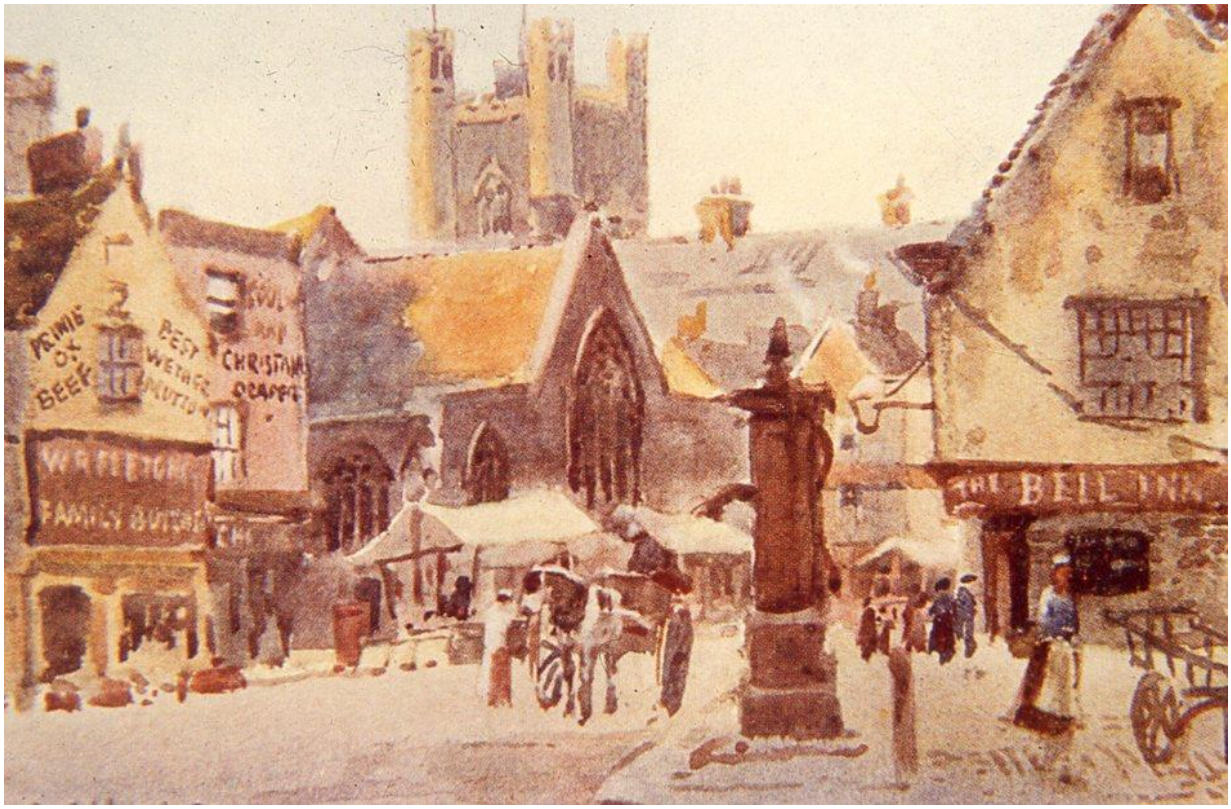
Government clampdowns on local council spending mean no new Cambridge housing schemes will start next year, even though there are 4,000 people waiting for a home and the council has £39 million in the bank ready to spend. And council house maintenance and improvement schemes will also be cut back under rules that come in with the new poll tax. There are 100 homeless families for whom the council provides temporary accommodation. Nearly 30 are in private bed and breakfast accommodation for which the Government pays most 89 12 22

1990 02 23
H.C. Moss, the building company, was started by Cliff Moss in 1962 with two employees; now it has 150 based at Cottenham, to which it moved in 1977. Much of their workload is construction projects of which the majority is housing estates. It also specialises in the renovation and conversion of period buildings into flats and apartments. One such project is the Riverside Mill at Godmanchester. Now they are working on a Maltings renovation at King's Lynn with an indoor waterfall and 19 luxury flats opposite Tattersalls in Newmarket. – 90 02 23b, c

1990 03 28
Cambridge's most luxurious flat is one of three penthouses in a new block called The Oast House at Pinehurst South off Grange Road. It has three bedrooms with a spiral staircase leading to a striking room like a Kentish oasthouse with a 25-foot ceiling and glass doors on to a roof garden. It will have all the luxury fittings expected including a video surveillance system. The Cambridge-based developer Nigel Grimshaw says "Nothing approaching it has ever been offered in Cambridge". The developers have produced a 52-page book listing its attributes 90 03 28a, b

1990 05 04
Harold Ridgeon leaves £12 m. Left school at 14 to become railway clerk, got to St Catharine's College, joined Cyril Ridgeon builders merchants then set up on his own. – 90 05 04

1990 06 29
Cambridge has more than 1,200 empty houses and flats while people desperate for homes – 90 06 29a



Pump on Peas Hill, 1907 170.69

c.24.2 : Water supply

1888

1888 10 26
Scheme to obtain further supplies from a spring at Fulbourn, foundation stone laid in October [1.24]

1891
New supply from Fulbourn starts

1897
New pumps installed to supply combined total of 2.5 million gallons a day

1899
Borough council seeks to promote a Bill to allow municipalisation of tramways, lavatories, crematoria & water supply but this is rejected by ratepayers in December [1.10]

1900

1902 12 18

Cambridge Water Company sued Messrs Kerridge and Shaw for water supplied for a building in course of construction in Rose Crescent, Cambridge. The supply recorded by a water meter had increased from 78,000 gallons one quarter up to 220,000 gallons the next. A new meter was installed and consumption fell. They claimed the old meter must have got out of order. But it was quite possible considering the number of taps they were using that one was left running and the water wasted. CDN 1902 12 18

1906 04 04
According to a Government expert who was sent down to inquire into last year's outbreak of typhoid at Fulbourn there is a 'potentiality of danger' that the water supply of Cambridge might become contaminated with the Asylum sewage. Their present system is antiquated - it is irrigated over grass land and may percolate through the soil into the vast subterranean lake beneath from which the Water Company pumps their supplies. We do not want even the 'potentiality of danger': the public health is too serious a matter about which to take any risks whatever. 06 04 04

1906 04 24
News that the Cambridge water supply might be polluted by sewage from Fulbourn Asylum has spread alarm and is getting the town into disfavour. More than one anxious father or mother as they read the report in 'The Times' will decide "We must send Jack to Oxford" and we fear that the entrance at the University next academic year will suffer considerably. No trace of contamination has been discovered up to present but even the possible risk must be removed. 06 04 24

1906 06 14
Cambridge water supplies might be polluted from sewage from Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn. Householders use pails for the collection of excreta and if this is spread on the land then the possibility of typhoid organisms finding their way into the water supply must be remote. A more serious menace is the soakage of infected matter from improperly-constructed cesspools and the sewage from the Asylum. Some Cambridge people have started to boil their water. 06 06 14a & b

1906 07 25
Considerable panic has prevailed in Cambridge following a rumour that typhoid germs have been found in the water supply. Recently certain organisms known as 'coli' which closely resemble the typhoid bacilli were discovered but they are absolutely innocuous. However in view of the boring operations near Fulbourn Asylum and the remote possibility of contamination experts suggest that all drinking water should be boiled. 06 07 25b

1907 04 27
It is alleged that Hobson's Stream is being 'tapped' by some unauthorised body and the supply of water for public purposes is fast diminishing. Not so. To restore its former volume it simply needs flushing. Water comes from Shelford to the conduit in as plentiful a supply as ever but it is many years since the pipe which feeds the Market Hill fountain was adequately flushed and an accumulation of rubbish prevents it receiving the amount of water it should. There is some difficulty in deciding whether the town council or the Hobson's Charity are responsible, but the cost would not exceed £5. 07 04 27

1908 02 19
An inquiry into Cambridge water supplies heard that the bulk of the sewage from the female side of Fulbourn Asylum was disposed of in the Rectory Field and that from the male to the west. This was found to be faulty, very faulty. In 1905 there was a serious outbreak of typhoid fever at Asylum with some 70 cases and 16 deaths after which Dr Copeman investigated. He did not want

to be alarmist but an inquiry into possible sewage contamination would reassure the public. 08 02 19 & 20 [1.11]

1908 12 11
Government Inspectors say a large source of Cambridge water should be abandoned as it is dangerous to the lives and health of the inhabitants. It had been suggested that contamination came from Fulbourn Asylum sewage but the experts say the danger comes from the villages of Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn where the method of sewage disposal are at the very least primitive. Even if sewage was excluded from the present leaky sewers it would still be disposed of in cesspools and there is no certainty that these would not leak. CWN 08 12 11

1909
Investigation finds bacillus but Water Company reluctant to give details [1.12,1.13]

1910

1910
Company seek a Bill to sterilise by chlorine or ozone both Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn works but this fails. Parliamentary approval given to construct a new well and pumping station at Fleam Dyke, work starts

1910 04 15
Cambridge Waterworks Company's Bill passed by select committee of the House of Lords. It would allow for the sinking of a new well outside the polluted area.. But if the prehistoric methods of sewage disposal in villages been corrected the whole problem could have been ended. 10 04 15, 15c & d

1911
Borough council try to acquire powers to purchase water undertakings. Bill passes Select Committee of House of Lords on April 8th but with conditions that involve scrapping the existing water works & providing for a fresh supply from Fleam Dyke. Later the Select Committee decline to add the clause to the Waterworks Bill [1.14]

1911 01 27
'Water supply pure' claim [1.15]

1911 08 25
The longest drought since 1887 has happily come to an end and heavy rains have reduced the torrid heat. In Cambridge the hottest day was August 9th when the temperature was 95 degrees in the shade. Messrs Pain's records go back 43 years and the only other record of that figure was on 15th August 1876. During violent thunderstorms lightning set fire to farm buildings at Friday Bridge but the brigade was powerless as there was no water to put it out. 11 08 25a

1912 02 02
A conference on rural water supplies heard that many villages are supplied with drinking water from shallow wells just a few yards from a leaky cesspool or privy-pit. These often leak: the emptying of such receptacles is very unpleasant work and if they are made water-tight needs doing more frequently so it often happens that a crowbar is used to make a water-tight cesspool leaky. The roofs of average village cottages are scarcely desirable gathering grounds for drinking water but often the water thus collected and stored underground is infinitely safer than from wells

and being soft is usually preferred for use in tea making and cooking 12 02 02a Constance Cochrane evidence – 12 02 02b

1920

1921
Fleam Dyke station opens, was delayed because of World War 1 Fulbourn and Cherry Hinton works close down

1921 03 23
Waterworks Company proposed Parliamentary Bill opposed by local authorities – 21 03 23h

1930

1931 04
Borough Council promote Bill to acquire the Waterworks company in April, [1.21, 1.22]

1931 04 10
Since 1904 the charges for the water and the poor rates have each risen by over 300 per cent. But whereas the services of lighting, better paths, roads and sewerage have increased enormously the supply of water has been just the same. The Water Company has simply passed any extra charges on to the consumer. Now they are unwilling to agree to a take-over by Cambridge Town Council. But no parliament will refuse any town the right to its own water supply. The anti-Socialist composition of our legislators leaves no doubt that the stockholders will be generously treated 31 04 10l-n

1931 04 10
Waterworks purchase proposal – history of water company – 31 04 10d-n

1931 12 18
A crowded meeting at Cambridge Guildhall threw out proposals for the Corporation to take over the Waterworks Company. Were they going to get a cheaper or more efficient service? No. There had been no serious criticisms of the management and there would be heavy legal expenses and compensation to directors. But the creator had given mankind three essential things: sunshine, air and water and it was immoral for water to be kept from the people by private enterprise. 31 12 18 e f g

1933 01 27
Water Company's scheme – new main for Cambridge – 33 01 27e & f

1933 02 20
Waterworks company list of plumbers – 33 02 20b

1934 11 24
"This is the first time in history that a water company has of its own free will undertaken the softening of its supply", the Chairman of the Cambridge Waterworks Company said at the laying the foundation stone of its new water-softening station on Fulbourn Road. Cambridge water is abundant and pure but being drawn from a chalk formation is of necessity hard in quality. A considerable number of private water-softening plants have been installed but these will soon not be worth their salt and people should ignore the blandishment of salesmen. 34 11 24b

1935 06 07
It will cost less to wash in Cambridge from now on, thanks to the Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company's new water-softening station at Cherry Hinton whose plant was designed by Messrs Roby of London. They were a public utility company which while it had a duty to their shareholders, also had a duty to the public. So when in 1934 the Company had at long last freed itself from the heavy financial drain incurred by the obsolescence of the old Fulbourn pumping station, much consideration was given to the problem of how subsequent revenue surplus could be handed back to its customers. 35 06 07 & a (continued until 1975)

1936 10 20
King's College had employed a firm to supply a pump to serve half-a-dozen jets of water at their fountain. They had intended to use the water over and over again but found that with the heavy wind the water was blown over the gravel and did not go back into the fountain. So they had connected the mains to make up the loss. This contravened Water Company byelaws and there was a danger of contaminating the supply 36 10 20a

1937 03 27
Waterworks Company new workshop and depot foundation stone, Rustat Road – 37 03 27c [1.5]

1937 10 23
Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company's new workshops and depots in Rustat Road would lead to improved service, enhanced efficiency and – sooner or later – reduced charges. The old premises in Bene't Street had been a veritable shambles and disgrace with pipes stored at the disused Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn pumping stations. They would wage ceaseless war against waste by leakage and had a gang of plumbers ready to deal with any emergency 24 hours a day with the promptitude of the London Fire Brigade. 37 10 23b

1938 03 22
Market Hill fountain water not fit for human consumption – 38 03 22e

1938 05 30
Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Co, new workshops & depot – 38 05 30g

1939 04 27
Progress is being made on the construction of the Cambridge Waterworks Company's new reinforced concrete service reservoir on Lime Kiln Road. With a capacity of two million gallons, it will double the available storage so that in the event of a breakdown at the pumping station the supply could be maintained for practically two days. Over 1,400 tons of concrete and 150 tons of steel will be used. When finished the banks and roof will be soiled and sown with grass seed to provide effective camouflage for something which would doubtless prove attractive to raiding aeroplanes 39 04 27a

1939 05 01
It is unlikely that the Water Company's source of supply, the Fleam Dyke pumping station, would be chosen as a target by enemy bombers or that a direct could put both duplicate sets of machinery out of action. However the disused Fulbourn pumping station has been completely reconditioned as a precaution. But if Cambridge was raided it is almost inevitable that water mains would sustain considerable damage the Manager said. The Company supplied water to 81,000 people but this may well be increased to over 110,000 by evacuations from London, 39 05 01 & a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1939 07 22
Waterworks new service reservoir is most up-to-date in country; Fulbourn pumping station brought back into use as ARP standby; history – 39 07 22

1939 12 16
The new concrete reservoir on Lime Kiln Hill has been built partly below ground and covered with earth which will be sewed with grass seed, adding a pleasant green mound to the skyline. To guard against an interruption in supply due to a breakdown of pumping machinery or the bursting of trunk mains, the Water Company now had a duplicate plan together with a reserve of four million gallons – nearly two days' supply – in its three reservoirs. 39 12 16

1939 12 22
Cambridge Waterworks Company's new 2,000.000 gallon reservoir on Lime Kiln Hill, Cherry Hinton, opened. 39 12 22 CIPof

1940

1943 10 20
East Huntingdonshire Water Company wound up – set up 1887 to establish water works in Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire, recently taken over by a joint water board formed by the Ministry of Health – 43 10 20

1945 07 13
Waterworks booster station, Castle Hill opened to boost supplies to north Cambridge – CDN 1945 07 13

1947 01
Housewives are dealt yet another blow today. Cambridge University & Town Waterworks company will reluctantly be compelled to close down the water softening plant at Cherry Hinton. Cambridge's water will then be about twice its present hardness. There have been drastic reductions in the coal required to evaporate the brine at the salt works in Cheshire. Mr Philip Porteous, managing director of the company told a reporter "The Government takes the view that water softening is one of those amenities without which we can manage in times of crisis, but we appreciate only too well the difficulties of the housewife in these days of soap rationing"

1950

1953 06 18
Cambridge Waterworks Company celebrate centenary, June [1.18]

1953 06 24
There is no need for Cambridge people to be stingy about water, said the Chairman of Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company. "The company in all its 100 years' history has never had to tell people that they must not water their gardens", he said. But he also stressed the need for consumers to avoid wastage. With an average of four people in each household domestic water cost each person about 1d a week – half the cost of one cigarette.

1953 10 12
The condition of the stone of the conduit head on Cambridge Market Hill has been found to be much worse than anticipated during recent demolition work and so the Council will be recommended not to rebuild it. The condition of the stone was such that the only part which could

be safely re-used was the four pillars and the cost of restoration would be at least £4,000, double the previous estimate. They propose to loan the carved figures from the conduit to the Folk Museum. 53 10 12

1953 10 12
A decision not to rebuild the Conduit head in Market Hill, Cambridge was described as a retrograde step by Ald James. "I know it is the fashion to run down Victorian architecture but I think it was very seemly. I think we should rebuild it in the same style". But Ald Priest said "If in ten years' time people see pictures of the Conduit as it was, there will be nothing to prevent them from replacing it by photographs. The majority of people are quite satisfied and the Secretary of the Preservation Society has written to say how nice we have made it". 53 10 12

1954
Fulbourn pumping station reopens September [1.19]

1954 03 01
The Cambridge Water Company is to start work immediately on a new five-million-gallon reservoir on Lime Kiln Hill which will double the reserves of water. Rainfall during the winter months had been substantially below average and the replenishment of underground water storage severely diminished. A low rainfall next year might endanger their ability to maintain supplies during periods of peak demand. Improvement had also been made to the Fulbourn Pumping Station where new machinery would soon be installed; this will afford temporary relief from the situation where demand for water had equalled their maximum yield

1955 09 25
Cherry Hinton water-softening station opens, July [1.20]

1955 11 17
Cam valley water supply scheme – 55 11 17b

1956 08 03
Sir George Thomson, a Nobel prizewinner in physics and Master of Corpus, said that by 1975 the majority of the electricity generating stations would be driven by nuclear energy which in future would replace 'fossil fuels'. At present motor cars run on fuel derived from oil, but nobody knew how long this would last. A more immediate problem was a shortage of water; even the rainfall of Cambridge was near the desert limit, we are taking out more than is going in and shall have to cut down. 56 08 03

1957 11 28
Hobson's Run, the water channel down each side of St Andrew's Street near Christ's Lane is neither picturesque nor traditional, councillors said. It was originally built to carry away the refuse thrown from houses in St Andrew's Street but was a danger to cyclists and shoppers were often splashed. Now it will be diverted underground to allow the road to be widened. 57 11 28

1958 01 17
suggestion to put Hobson's Conduit underground between Emmanuel & Christ's college, only 50 years old, no water runs down it; decide to go ahead [3.1]

1958 01 31
Should Hobson's run be preserved – 58 01 17 and history – 58 01 31a

1958 03 03
Cambridge Water Company originally hoped the new Great Wilbraham pumping station would help meet the ever-growing demand, even in times of severe drought, until 1965. But the experiences of last summer have prompted a less optimistic view and they were sinking a trial bore near Stapleford. They are also moving from Bene't Street, where they have been since 1866, to new offices in Rustat Road. 58 03 03

1958 09 20
Cambridge Water Company opened its new office block in Rustat Road. It was formed 106 years ago by twelve townsmen and ten prominent members of the University and now supplies 120,000 people. There was an exhibition of nylon sink tops, Perspex baths and fibre glass cisterns instead of the old-fashioned ones made of galvanised iron 58 09 20a[1.25]

1960s the Cambridgeshire Collection has taken newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1961 05 12
Chesterton and St Ives Joint Water Board to transfer water undertakings to Cambridge University & Town Waterworks Company – 61 05 12a

1962
1962 01 06
Water undertakings administered by local authorities in St Ives, Ramsey, Chesterton and South Cambridgeshire are to be transferred to the Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company – 62 01 06a

1962 07 17
Hobson's Conduit section Gonville Place & University Arms abandoned, causing problems under houses & new pipe laid Parkers Piece [3.3]

1963
1963 01 24
City water mains frozen, January [1.26]

1963 04 01
Company's area of supply extended from 60 to 453 square miles & name changed to 'Cambridge Water Company' : have taken over other supplies, including South Cambs & Chesterton RDC following many objections after discussions since 1959 [4.3-6]

1966 05 20
New £4.75 reservoir Lime Kiln Hill in use within year [4.7]

1967 04 08
Hobson's Conduit: plaque to commemorate restoration [3.2]

1967 10 16
Parish Pump Peas Hill removed for repairs but no re-erection due to cost, was used to wash down old fish market; goes to Folk Museum [3.5]

1970

1973 04 19
Water Act creates Anglian Water Authority but Cambridge Water Company functions as agent for water supply drought, water levels lower than ever before [4.9]

1976
Fleam Dyke steam pumping engines finally stop after 56 years

1976 04 30
Eleven month drought, only half rainfall in last 12 months (to July) some County houses cut off due shortage but Cambridge Water Company supplies adequate [4.11]

1976 07 19
Cambridge Water Company fight AWA take over [4.10]

1976 08 26
Hobson's Brook dries up possibly for first time [3.4]

1977 07 14
Cambridge Water Company stays stays independent AWA [4.12]

1980

1981 04 29
More than 8,000 old wells could be tapped if water supplies are threatened. But many have fallen into disuse, are capped or not officially recorded. The water could be quite usable since they are on underlying chalkland which acts as a great purifying agent but the Anglian Water Authority are concerned about the risk of pollution: it wouldn't do for them to distribute contaminated water. 81 04 29

1983 03
Water workers strike [4.13]

1983 06 17
The giant Fleam Dyke steam engines that supplied Cambridge's water for more than 50 years are slowly disappearing. The twin 180-horse-power horizontal engines, named Anderson and Lilley, stopped working back in 1976 and are now being dismantled for scrap. They were a showpiece for parties of visiting schoolchildren until a massive piece of machinery flew off. Now parts will be going to steam engine centres or sold to private buyers. They are just too big and expensive to move 83 06 17 p24

1987 06 10
A water pumping station at Fulbourn is to be closed and replaced by two others costing £1 million. The old pumping station, which opened in 1888, will be sold raising money to offset the cost. It was too close to a built-up area, posing danger of pollution, and did not produce enough water. The new stations are at a field at the edge of the village and Weston Colville. 87 06 10

1987 06 17
Fleam Dyke engines dismantled [4.14]

1988 07 07

Cambridge Water Company subject to French take-over bid [CEN 7.7.88]

1988 12 01
Fulbourn water pumping station was built by the Cambridge University & Town Waterworks Company in 1888. The pump was taken out of service last year. Now it may be turned into a house and four flats. Sale by auction 88 12 01b

1989 01 23
Cambridge Water Co now safe from French takeover ¢CEN 23.1.89

1990 05 25
Cambridge Water Company state of emergency following mains burst – 90 05 25a

Underground toilets on Market Hill and Newmarket Road

c.24.3: Sewage, Toilets

1890
1893
Sewers started in Coldham's Lanes & Victoria Road [1.1]

1895
Main sewage scheme in full flow involving deep sewers & new pumping station at Cheddar's Lane, streets choked by work, much grumbling [1.2, 1.19]

1897
Discover new sewage scheme inadequate & needs vertical shafts at great additional expense (ratepayers protest at costs and throw out proposals to rebuild Guildhall) [1.3]

1897 10 12
Sir - The poisonous exhalations from the ventilating gratings in the Cambridge streets continue as bad as ever. The authorities apparently neglect to make any effort to mitigate the intolerable nuisance, and seem to court an epidemic of diphtheria and typhoid. Having occasion myself to pass along Castle-street and the Huntingdon-road I can testify to the particularly offensive conditions. Nausea, headache, sore throat, and a general low state of health are some of the minor results of the pestilential state of the town. The constant use of disinfectant in the streets might do something to diminish the dangers with which we are threatened - a Resident M.A. 1897 10 12

1897 10 23
Sir, - On Wednesday morning my attention was called to the state of the River Cam near Baitsbite Sluice. The water was covered with an oily matter and the stench arising therefrom was beastly.

The whole atmosphere was apparently impregnated with some vapour. The havoc amongst the fish was appalling. Thousands upon thousands - I might say tons - of pike, eels, roach and dace were dead and dying, struggling to liberate themselves from their putrid, poisonous liquid. I never witness such a lamentable sight before - Thomas Banyard 1897 10 23

1897 11 15
The Cambridge public may rest assured that though there may be a great nuisance from smells yet there is very little chance of their being harmful to health. We have found out that in some of the worst cases it is due to the sewer taking away the wash from the college kitchens and everyone knows what green water smells like. It has been noticed that the smells are more particularly unpleasant when the kitchens are being washed up. That is probably one of the chief causes in the greater part of the borough of smells from the fresh sewage 1897 11 15

1897 12 09
Fred Morley called the attention of Cambridge Council to the state of the new sewers. He thought it was time people were protected from the smells which at present arose from them. The worst of them arose where three or four streets joined and the tradesmen at the corner of the streets were in a worst position than those in the middle. They were losing customers who went where there was not so much smell and one butcher said the smells had affected the colour of the meat in his shops. Further people thought it was the meat that smelt and not the manholes (Laughter) 1897 12 09

1898 01 06
On Sunday last the inhabitants of Castle End, Cambridge, were surprised by a violent explosion, and were anxiously searching for its whereabouts. It was noticed that at the time of the explosion the grating over a manhole in the street was lifted up several inches. The explosion was, undoubtedly, in the sewer. It is said that there has been an objectionable smell of coal gas in the neighbourhood, so a leakage many have taken place into the sewer. Cambridge people will soon begin to regard the sewers as something more than a nuisance - a positive danger - and expect the streets to be upheaved as by a subterranean minec1898 01 06

1899 02 16
Mr Slingsby drew the attention of Cambridge council to the want of public conveniences. He thought the present state of affairs was a disgrace and a scandal to this civilised and intellectual town. They should consider underground lavatories for males and females at Hyde Park Corner (under the shelter), Market Hill (under the Conduit) & at the junction of East Road and Newmarket Road 1899 02 16

1900
1901
Underground toilet built at Hyde Park corner [1.4]

1902 06 03
Peace in South Africa produced strife in Cambridge – one of those fierce contests between the police and the united forces of town and gown which, combined with the destruction of property, constitutes a “rag”. In King Street a large double gate was attacked as wood for a bonfire but a vigorous-looking dame appeared from the other side. Her only weapon was a duster, but such a formidable appearance did she present that the crowd melted away before her advance. Skirmishers went towards the Circus of Varieties to obtain a hoarding but this was well guarded and soon they were retracing their steps. The hoarding which surrounded the underground toilets on Market Hill was torn down and lighted. More wood was wanted and the mob pulled down

glazed bricks and girders, door-posts and window frames. Next morning the appearance of the projected underground lavatory was more like an archaeological excavation. Thousands of bricks were lying in the bottom mixed up with the dirt and pieces of wood and the general appearance of the place showed how wanton and reckless had been the young hot heads who had wrought the damage

1902 11 14
A piece of work, involving operations similar to those by which the "Tube" railway was constructed, is on the point of being finished, having been in progress for nearly twelve months. It is the sewer connecting the New Cemetery with the Sewage Farm, Cambridge. Its length is over a mile and in some places it is laid to a depth of 24 feet. The greater part of the work has been done by the "tunnelling" system and carried out entirely by Cambridge men under the supervision of the Borough Surveyor CDN 1902 11 14

1903 08 10
Sir – whatever may be said about slums, in Whitechapel you could go into any house in the poorest district but you would find a flushing cistern to every w.c., and that is more than you can find in Cambridge. When we had the sewers put in the Corporation tried to have the flushing cisterns put in but they were ruled out by the objections of the large property owners. Until these matters are remedied we shall always be in trouble, either with this epidemic of some other – Ratepayer 03 08 10

1904 05 09
The Association of Managers of Sewage Disposal Works inspected the Cambridge pumping station destructors where all kinds of refuse turned out from households daily, sweepings and other undesirable matter is tipped into huge trucks and burnt, giving off heat used whose steam is used to pump sewage. During winter months some 40 tons of refuse is burned each day. The disinfector was examined with interest; it was installed in 1902 and during the smallpox of 1904 was of great service in disinfecting a great number of articles using super-heated steam. They then moved to the Corporation sewage farm, Milton Road, for a practical demonstration of sewerage analysis 04 05 09

1905 02 23
Serious allegations have been made against the sanitary administration of Cambridge in a letter to 'The Times'. As that newspaper reaches but a small section of the burgesses it would normally have been reprinted in the columns of the C.D.N. We were, however, requested by the Town Clerk not to give publicity to the complaints until a reply had been given. But now we can print both. The manner involved a furnished apartment in which a child died from diphtheria. Finding the apartments to let 'The Times' journalist took them. She claimed it had not been disinfected and a survey showed very serious defects in the W.C. between the two bedrooms. 05 02 23

1906 03 28
Dr Bushell Anningson has served as Cambridge Medical Officer of Health since 1875. Then the whole sewerage was most unsatisfactory and 800 houses in Sturton Town had only middens and cesspools. 2,000 houses had no water supply other than pumps or wells – in many cases contaminated with sewage – and there were no arrangements to cope with a serious epidemic. Household refuse was collected by private individuals who did the work for what they could get out of it. They used donkey carts which were emptied in their own backyards in the neighbourhood of Gas Lane where it was examined for saleable material such as bones and cinders. 06 03 28a

1906 06 14
Cambridge water supplies might be polluted from sewage from Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn. Householders use pails for the collection of excreta and if this is spread on the land then the possibility of typhoid organisms finding their way into the water supply must be remote. A more serious menace is the soakage of infected matter from improperly-constructed cesspools and the sewage from the Asylum. Some Cambridge people have started to boil their water. 06 06 14a & b

1906 10 04
An extraordinary sight, which ought never to occur again, is to be witnessed at Baitsbite Lock. For a hundred yards the surface of the water is literally covered with dead and dying fish – pike, roach, bream, dace and a host of smaller fry. Fishermen would never have dreamed there were as many fish in the waters. They have been slaughtered by the introduction of some noxious substance into the river. 06 10 04 & a

1907 09 28
Sir – the cartage of the sewage filth into Milton is again in full swing. Considering the outbreak of fever at the Hospital and at Cherry Hinton everyone must agree this is a terrible risk to run and it should be stopped. Crude sewage was run as usual on Sunday down a ditch to Baitsbite Lock which should supply the lower fen with pure water. This is within a few feet from where the University boats start, and would hardly commend itself to rowing clubs – 'Ratepayer' 07 09 28

1911
River Cam fish poisoned possible by sewerage [4.2]

1912
Borough council byelaw re siting wcs etc [NI.3.4]

1912 02 02
A conference on rural water supplies heard that many villages are supplied with drinking water from shallow wells just a few yards from a leaky cesspool or privy-pit. These often leak: the emptying of such receptacles is very unpleasant work and if they are made water-tight needs doing more frequently so it often happens that a crowbar is used to make a water-tight cesspool leaky. The roofs of average village cottages are scarcely desirable gathering grounds for drinking water but often the water thus collected and stored underground is infinitely safer than from wells and being soft is usually preferred for use in tea making and cooking 12 02 02a Constance Cochrane evidence – 12 02 02b

1913 07 04
The automatic boxes on the doors of a number of Cambridge public conveniences have been rifled lately, the last to receive attention being the convenience on the corner of Mill Road and Hyde Park corner. One attendance is in charge of several of these places and the thefts have been committed during his absence 13 07 04 p7 CIP

1915 11 24
A. Sidney Campkin – profile – council involvement, includes sewage disposal scheme 15 11 24a,b,c Ch

1916 07 01
Half sewage passed into river untreated, resignations from committee;

1916 07 08

Due lack of care when laid pipes crack & water gets in from soil, but has transformed Cambridge from damp place to dry & healthy - few years ago impossible to dig down seven feet without hitting water, now 20 feet, mists stopped [2.2]

1916 07 29
Flooded state sewage farm due to experiments to see what possibilities; daily flow two million gallons, can dispose of only two 10 07 29 [2.3]

1917 10 24
Sewage farm overworked – result of examination; present plant is sufficient, improvements suggested – 17 10 24a

1918 08 07
The effluent from the Corporation sewage discharge pipe, just below Baitsbite most impure, even containing crude sewage, which badly pollutes the river and the effluvia from which is most obnoxious 18 08 07 CIPof

1919 08 06
Sewage in Cam; reports says pollution in river near sewage farm. More land needed for filter beds, German labour had been asked for; hope that profits from growing crops will pay for disposal of sewage – 19 08 06e

1920
1926 04 26
An inquiry was held into the provision of two underground public conveniences at the junction of Milton and Chesterton and Newmarket and East Roads where there would be an island in the middle of the road. The Inspector asked whether they had designed the roof to carry the weight of a heavy motor lorry; it would be a very simple matter for a lorry to jump a kerb on a foggy night as had happened at Southend when people had been injured. He also raised the question of a convenience for women and the Mayor said the matter had been very carefully considered by the committee who were anxious to get on with the work as quickly as possible 26 04 26

1926 06 24
Councillor Briggs said he was very pleased the Committee were raising the wages of men working at the Cambridge Sewage Farm by about one farthing an hour. He remembered when there was skating on the farm the chairman said it was dangerous, because there were germs about. (Laughter). These men were there daily and were engaged in a dangerous occupation, and a very unpleasant one. The men got 38s. (£1.90) a week, and extra for sludge work. They had the best of conditions. (Laughter). They had a shed which they ran into when there was a shower. What better conditions could they have? The rate for farm labourers was 30s a week 26 06 24

1930
1936 06 25
Councillor Wilding asked if the new sewage plant would prevent “the effluvia we all notice so strongly along Milton Road” and if not, whether consideration would be given to the moving the works further from the road. Lately the smell had been terribly bad, although people in the neighbourhood got used to it. The Mayor said he was frequently at the farm and never smelt anything which could be described as “terribly bad”. Mr Edwards remarked, amid laughter, that he thought the Mayor should receive nasal attention 36 06 25 & a

1939 06 27

Cambridge has expanded but the sewage disposal plan has remained practically unaltered. People were invited to the opening of the new bacteria beds which will treat half the dry-weather flow and can be expanded later. 39 06 27

1940

1948 11 02

Pollution of the river Cam above Baitsbite Lock which resulted in thousands of fish dying was described at a meeting of the Federation of Anglers as "appalling and dreadful". Mr C. Baxter stated that on Wednesday evening the lock was "absolutely clogged" with fish of every conceivable type, not dead, but on top of the water, gasping. 2nd November 1948

1949 07 28

Cambridgeshire federation of anglers were told there were thousands of fish in distress in the River Cam near Jesus Green footbridge on July 15th. The lock keeper opened the locks to let them through. Unfortunately a lot of the fish were dead, but there was no doubt that thousands were saved. Many big fish were taken in nets by men and placed in water downstream. Many dead fish had since been seen further downstream and Major Gordon Fowler said there were dead fish “as far as the eye can see” 28th July 1949

1949 11 22

People passing over Magdalene Bridge this morning were surprised to see the usual colour of the River Cam had changed to a bright green. The discoloration extended from the bridge along the Backs of the colleges and beyond. It will be recalled that following a discoloration of the Cam last year – not then green – a public meeting of protest was called by the Federation of Anglers. 22nd November 1949

1950

1950 05 03

Sir – It is with dismay we hear the Cambridge council’s decision to defer the provision of outside lavatories for four-bedroomed council houses. Most of these have many occupants, in one case 14 in one house. Imagine the congestion and also the wear and tear of stair carpets; also think of the mother with several small children, up and down stairs, especially on wet days. Had the lavatory been built outside in the first place there probably would have never been an application for an extra lavatory. Our estate is a very pleasant place. What we have asked for is a vitally necessary thing – S.A. Charge, Trumpington Estate Tenants Association 50 05 03

1952 07 29

Sir – I write to protest against the proposed new public conveniences on the corner of Chapel Street & High Street, Chesterton. There are plenty of old men who like to congregate on the iron seat around the ash tree, for even with the existing police box it is undeniably a pleasant corner such as it will never be with a lavatory right in the middle. But there are numerous condemned cottages in the High Street and extensive rubbish dumps behind crumbling walls, not only unsightly but filthy, which would be improved for having public lavatories built on them – Mrs M. Sugden

1954 05 01

Government Inspectors have turned down an application from Cambridge city council to build a public convenience on the island at the junction of High Street and Chapel Street, Chesterton. It is the site of the old village green and in its centre stands a fine old ash tree encircled at its base by a seat much used in summer evenings. The Council contended that only five houses overlooked the site and they would improve the island with a cycloramic wall and flowers. But the Preservation

Society said it would destroy the pleasantest survival of Old Chesterton and there were three alternative sites.

1956 04 26
Since the Cambridge sewage purification works at Milton Road were first built, over 60 years ago, treatment has consisted of settlement in tanks followed by passing the sewage to land areas from which is drained into the river. Now new extensions are being built, all sewage will be properly purified and land treatment will be ended for ever. At a later stage gas driven off during the drying process will be burnt to drive electricity generators for the works and for a new pumping station at Cheddars Lane. 56 04 26a

1956 06 29
Something must be done about the 'intolerable stench' from the Milton sewage farm; the recent smells were the worst for 24 years; perhaps disinfectant could be used to tone them down. Farmers wanted a plant to convert the sewage sludge into compost – many were buying it from places like Manchester 56 06 29c

1957 04 16
The central island containing the underground public convenience at Hyde Park Corner is to be removed to make way for new traffic signals. The toilets might be resited on Lensfield Road where trees and a fence will provide a screen from the Scott Polar Research Institute. But the University suggests that Parker's Piece would be a better location. 57 04 16a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 10 17
Cambridge's public health inspector told how he entered one house to find the occupants had long ceased to use the lavatory. They threw all their rubbish screwed up in papers into one of the streets. Later a police woman, looking at photographs, noticed a baby wrapped up in newspapers lying in a corner of the room. Restaurants could be unhygienic and in one he found a waiter with leprosy. The standard of housing in Cambridge is low: there are streets and streets of houses which in northern cities would have been pulled down many years ago. A smoke control order should be imposed on the centre of the city as smoke from ordinary household fuels is the most pernicious of all. 60 10 17

1960 11 04
The original pumping machinery at Cheddars Lane sewage station is still in use today with its pumps driven by steam operated engines. Until the war the city's combustible refuse was employed for supplying the engines with steam, boosted slightly by coal or coke. Then the calorific value of refuse dropped to such an extent that it did not do the job efficiently so the system was reversed with steam being obtained from coke boilers to which odd loads of refuse are added. Now a new station will be build running entirely on electricity to be generated from the methane gas produced by the sewage itself at Milton, so completing the circle. 60 11 04a

1960 11 23
The threat of flooding has hung over Cambridge for as long as people can remember. Some residents regularly take up their carpets and pile up their furniture when they go away on summer holiday in case a storm should occur. When this does occur premises, yards and gardens are left with a deposit of sewage and filth. This should not be tolerated, the City Surveyor told councillors. In Abbey Road the old six-foot high brick sewer has collapsed and been replaced by

a pipe only two feet in diameter. A five-year improvement scheme incorporating a new sewage pumping station would cost £1.5 million. 60 11 23

1960 12 02
£1.3M sewage improvement scheme approved, 4.5 miles new pipes Fen Causeway - Halingway; new sewage pumping station combat threats foul flooding & many residents in constant fear of flooding in storms, take up carpets & pile furniture when go on holiday; basis present sewers 1890s [10,3. 11, 3.12]

1962 01 11
Concern pollution effluent gas works [3.4]

1962 06 13
New sewerage scheme plans [1.18]

1964 01 09
A report on the condition of the 24 public lavatories in Cambridge notes a range of minor criticisms concerning the absence of toilet paper and soap or damaged taps. But such essential supplies are replaced every day and are generally as a result of theft. The council is not causal or neglectful but frugal and aims to provide the essentials at the cheapest cost consistent with hygiene standards. Over 80 per cent of repairs are a result of wanton damage, doors have been ripped off and made targets for flick knives, the City Surveyor reports. 64 01 09

1964 04 03
Cambridge city council are to spend up to £2,300 on taking penny slot machines from doors of toilets; they will also install wash basins and hot water supplies in the 24 toilets within the next few months – 64 04 28, major report suggest 4 are obsolete - Milton Road, King St, Newmarket Road & Petersfield [3.1,3.2]

1965 07 22
Water & sewage floods as clouds burst over city [3.13]

1967 12 06
New sewer will lift ban on housing in Cherry Hinton & Shelford areas [3.14]

1968 06 27
Riverside new electric pumping station opened [2.5]

1968 09 16
New sewers save city from floods - no extensive flooding after storm. [4.5]

1968 11 19
Cambridge Society of Industrial Archaeology set up to save Cheddars Lane and develop as museum of technology - 68 11 19a

1968 12 17
New techniques for sewer-laying and new pumping station which will use current derived from effluent – detailed feature – 68 12 17, a

1969 08 16

Newmarket Rd lavatories, seediest, gloomiest & least used, demolished due Chesterton Bridge route [3.3]

1970

1971 03 14
Offer to give away Petersfield lavatories; ladies section had been reprieved but men's closed demolished, are new at Gonville Place [3.3] [3.17]

1971 04 30
Cheddars Lane pumping station to open for steam weekend – 71 04 30a

1971 06 17
Toilet at East Road – Mill Road junction being demolished – 71 06 17a

1973 06 27
Discharge of raw sewage from pumping station kills fish [3.8]

1971 07 10
Cambridge police spy on homosexual's haunts, says Liberal; photos toilets – 71 07 10

1972 09 20
Cost £500,000 bring effluent up to GORA standards [3.16]

1974 04
City lose sewage powers at reorganisation [3.17]

1974 07 12
River Cam "in filthy condition" [3.8]

1974 11 19
Untreated sewage escaped into the streets of Cambridgeshire villages with pumping stations unable to cope with the volume of rainwater. At least 11 pumping stations were overwhelmed. With the pumps unable to get rid of the water fast enough, raw sewage forced its way up through manhole covers into the streets. A South Cambs Health Officer said "The smell doesn't give rise to any health hazard". The heavy rain also meant the sewage would be diluted. Provided people washed their hands before handling food there was very little to worry about 74 11 19

1975 06 11
Eight million gallons of effluent from sewage daily, 7.6m gallons unsatisfactory [3.10]

1975 06 14
The River Cam is not only so polluted as to be a bather's health hazard, but in recent years has had to be artificially aerated to keep fish alive, an Anglian Water Authority spokesman has confirmed. He spoke of children who suffered "diarrhoea and tummy upsets" after accidentally falling into the river in the Clayhithe area, and of skin divers who were ill after a sponsored Cam swim. He agreed that via Milton Road sewage works some 8 million gallons of effluent were going into the Cam daily. 14th June 1975

1975 07 18
Cambridge planners have decided to refuse permission until January 1978 for all major developments in the city – because of the serious overloading at the sewerage works. But because

of the general economic situation, the cut-back in private building programmes and the acute shortage of development land anyway the decision is unlikely to have serious effects on the city. A similar ban on development has been operated for nearly a year in the "necklace villages" surrounding Cambridge 75 07 18 c

1975 11 06
AWA object all new major development till sewage works extended, January 1978 [3.17]

1976 03 18
New Lion Yard lavatories cost £22,000 a year to run [3.5]

1976 05 02
The River Cam is so polluted at Waterbeach that people who fall in it suffer from skin trouble and are sick if they swallow any of the water, claimed Coun Hilda Hatley. She said that a special anti-algae paint had been stripped off the bottom of a boat by the water. Councillors agreed the problem was the severely over-loaded Cambridge sewage works. 2nd May 1976

1976 06 22
The annual swim through Cambridge, organised by the Granta swimming club, has had to be cancelled for the first time in about 40 years because of the low level of water in the river Cam. Because of possible pollution problems they dare not risk the health hazards involved but hope to put the event on again next year. Typically 70-75 women and about 80 men would enter the event 22nd June 1976

1976 07 17
Giant oil slicks choked the River Cam following failures in the city's drainage system at the height of last night's storm. Oil poured into the already heavily polluted river as interceptor tanks were overwhelmed by the sudden surge of water and workmen erected booms at points where drains entered the river. It appears the oil could have come from the Garlic Row area and may have resulted from oil which has collected in the drains during the spell of hot dry weather 17th July 1976 [3.13]

1976 12 18
The River Cam is being downgraded from its present status as a top-class river because of its deteriorating condition, mainly due to sewage and oil pollution. Downgrading would be a black mark against the Anglian Water Authority. More money will have to be spent on sewage treatment. Its Scientific Director said there had been an improvement during the past year, but low flow had aggravated the situation. 18th December 1976

1977 02 22
Market Hill lavatories closed during day, reprieved for while [3.7]

1977 04 21
£3M spent improving sewage avoid river pollution

1977 07 29
There are those who say that swimming in the Cam is only marginally less dangerous than going for a dip in an oceanful of sharks. There are others who swim in the river day in, day out and are the very model of health. The two sides met at the annual visit of the City councillors to the slowly decaying bathing huts on Sheep's Green. The Mayor said: "We're told the Cam is

polluted. All we can say is: Swim, drink it and kill yourselves. Only don't say you weren't warned" 77 07 29

1978 10 20
Cambridge sewage treatment works have been accused of turning the River Cam into one of the dirtiest, smelliest and most turgid stretches of water in the country. Now the works have been transformed into Anglian Water Authority's pride and joy – almost. It has been their top priority project but has generated fierce controversy with an eighteen-month sewage embargo prompting sharp criticism from local councils anxious to go ahead with development plans. At present the works cope for a population of 120,000, and there is scope for 165,000. But the river itself is already near the top of the Department of the Environment classification for chemical pollution. 78 10 20

1978 11 27
£3M had been spent improving sewage avoid river pollution; AWA found city scheme did not get to root of problem & scrapped; 83 years after first opened Cambridge sewage treatment works £4M improvement scheme unveiled, cope with up to 200,000; Milton Road land bought 1895 for sewage farm serve 39,000; conversion from farm to sewage treatment works began 1937 but not until 1958 that use of land treatment finally abandoned; prior 1895 dumped straight into river 78 11 20

1981 01 29
The best thing that can happen to anybody who falls in the River Cam is to drown; the alternative is to catch all kinds of horrible diseases, a councillor said. Everything goes into the river, which is one big drain. They would like it to be made safe for bathing but it was impossible to stop chemicals and fertilisers being washed in and would mean higher water rates. 81 01 29

1981 07 14
Thousands of fish die after storm brings pollution, restocking take more than 10 years. Pollution blamed on AWA as Riverside pumping works unable to cope, raw sewage flowed into river at height of storm, 93% total fish stock killed 81 10 01[4.1]

1981 07 15
It is likely to take more than 10 years to restock a polluted stretch of the River Cam in which hundreds of thousands of fish died. Anglers say that fishing in the city has now been entirely wiped out. Around four tons have been removed from the river near Bait's Bite lock but many are still floating. It is feared that as well as causing a smell, the rotting fish could cause further pollution. It is suspected that raw sewage was washed into the river during heavy rain. 81 07 15a

1981 07 16
Drummer Street lavatories are smelly, bits of string helped tie the lavatory chains and the pipes were lagged with sacking. At Park Street t there was no paper in any of the cubicles, no soap and no towels. One seat was missing entirely. Valiant efforts are being made to keep the subterranean convenience on the market square clean – you have only to look at the gleaming brass handrail and inhale the disinfectant smell. But I wouldn't want to have to take a child in there, even in an emergency. 81 07 16

1981 10 09
Market Hill lavatories would cost £36,000 to modernise, closed [3.7]

1984 09 22

New lavatories planned Silver St [3.8]

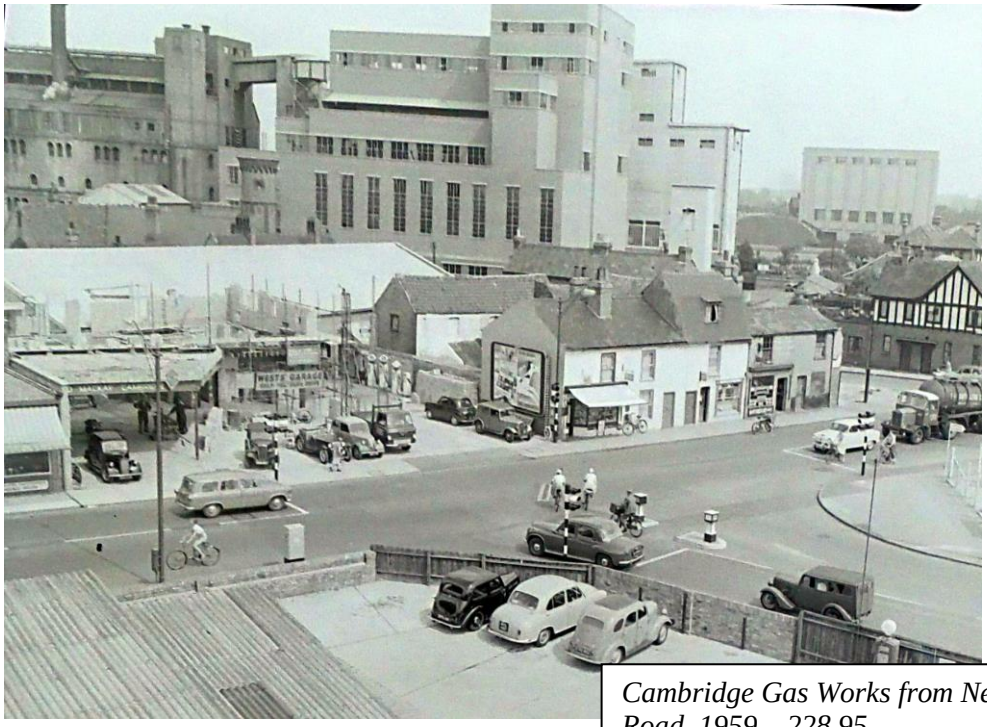
1984 09 22
Pembroke Street is to close to start 'absolutely essential' work in a collapsed Victorian sewer and will be a dead road for 13 weeks. The sewers are blocked in at least three places, probably by fallen brick rubble, and television cameras have been lowered into them. The answer is to replace them with new plastic pipe but this would be a long and expensive business and the city council does not have the money. Pembroke College and other people in the area are having to use restricted toilet facilities and Carter's Shoes, Pembroke Gifts, Alf Droy sports and Henry's tea and coffee shop are up in arms. 84 09 22

1986 12 01
"Sewers cannot cope with extra building" [4.3]

1987
Mill Road crater caused by sewage pipe break 'are 12 collapses a year in Cambridge' [NS3.12

1988 09 07
Sewer collapse closes Hills Rd ¢CEN 7.9.88

1989 02 17
Sewer repairs to close Silver St for six months ¢CEN 17.2.89



Cambridge Gas Works from Newmarket Road, 1959 228.95

c.24.4 : Gas

Cambridge GAS Chronicle, compiled by Mike Petty

1896 11 13
Serious gas explosion, Park Street [1.3]

1897 carbonising & purification plants enlarged at cost of £10,000

1898
Pre-payment meter introduced, consumers provided with a cooker on loan & 30 feet of service pipe free of charge. Heating stove also available for hire

1898 10 11
Thrifty wives, hopeful maidens, and even thoughtless bachelors assembled in large numbers when an exhibition under the auspices of the Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company was opened. Some disappointment was occasioned by the announcement that Miss Richmond would not be able to give her lecture owing to the fact that her cooking utensils had not arrived, but as a solace a male assistant gave an illustration of how a bachelor's breakfast could be cooked in 12 minutes on one burner, and with a very small expenditure of gas. An attractive feature of the show is the penny in the slot cookers. These should prove a boon to the working classes, a single penny releasing enough gas to keep a single burner alight for 5½ hours
1898 10 1

1899
Act extends area supplied

1900

1900
Consumption up to 255 million cubic feet

1904 02 10
A clay gas pipe has been dug up in Newmarket Road. It is probably one of those used when coal gas was first introduced to Cambridge about 1836. Previous to this oil gas was manufactured by John Grafton from works in Staffordshire Street and found considerable favour with inhabitants until about 1830. Six years later he began to manufacture coal gas; there were only two small gas holders and by 1848 only 400 street lamps. Now the Cambridge Gas Company supplies 1,160 public lamps in the town alone. 04 12 10

1904 12 10
"It used to be the common opinion that electric light would entirely supersede gas but actual experience has exposed that fallacy"; Gas Company maintain mantles at bare cost & supply appliances on deferred payment scheme - up to £300 payable by instalments [1.10]

1905
Further modifications to plant, 11,095 cubic feet of gas produced from one ton of coal

1906 02 07
Most people have seen gas works and will remember the great gaping mouths of the retorts, belching forth hungry flames and intense heat, where perspiring half-naked men laboriously shovelled-in coal and at the end of the process raked the cokes out under even more trying conditions. They could not work many hours at a stretch and needed much beer. Contrast this with the De Bronwer method which now obtains at the Cambridge gasworks and seems marvellously simple 06 02 07 & a & b

1907 01 09
A new development of gas lighting in St Andrew's Street renders the exterior of the New Theatre almost as light as day. By the use of an automatic compressor the power of ordinary incandescent light is increased fourfold but cost of the gas consumed is halved. There are two other installations in Cambridge, one in the locomotive department at the railway station and the other at Messrs Crossman's knitting factory in Norfolk Street. 07 01 09

1909
Co-partnership scheme enables employees to become shareholders recreation club founded

1909 09 24
An explosion occurred at the Cambridge Gasworks on Newmarket Road. Two men working on the top of the beds of the retorts were badly cut but managed safely to descend a ladder to the ground. Covered with tar and bleeding profusely they were conveyed in a cab to Addenbrooke's Hospital. One refused to be put under chloroform whilst his injuries were dressed as that would necessitate his detention in the Hospital. CWN 09 09 24

1909 10 30
"Gas shop set out like a restaurant due to the popularity of gas for cooking; despite electricity gas continues to prosper, the great red gasometers rise up daily like red mushrooms. New showroom Sidney Street attracts great attention [1.11]

1909 11 05
The Cambridge Gas Company's Employee's Institute includes hot and cold baths, a reading-room and a large hall heated by hot water pipes making it a place where they may find healthy recreation out of working hours. The Company hope to introduce a system of co-partnership, making every employee a shareholder and giving a bonus in shares every profit-making year. CDN 09 10 26

1909 11 05
An old Fenlander walked to Cambridge seeking a good square meal. He searched a goodish few streets and wandered into colleges seeking a good juicy steak. Getting desperate he noticed a shop in Sidney Street where spread out on a gleaming white tablecloth was an amplitude of appetising cold viands. He entered only to emerge swearing: "That be a gas shop, and I am starving". He was right. It has been opened to demonstrate the popularity of gas for lighting, heating and cooking. CWN 09 11 05

1910

1912 01 06
Mains extended to villages around Cambridge workers laying main Huntingdon Rd find skeleton, rebury it alongside pipe [1.12]

1913 09 27
Half people in old Cherry Hinton now converted to gas, new penny-in-slot meters fail to work [1.13]

1914
War results in shortage of labour & women employed at gas works

1915
Motor transport introduced; during War some operated by gas, supply being carried in bag fixed to roof (repeated during World War II)

1917 02 14
Gas Explosion. A gas explosion under the floor of the bar of the The Jolly Butchers public house, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, caused a fire to break out on Thursday morning. The landlord, Mr. A. W. Hawes, had a narrow escape, for, although knocked down by the force of the explosion, he escaped injury. The cause of the explosion was apparently a leakage of gas, but exactly how it occurred is unknown. The gas meter was blown from its position, and three large windows and a quantity of glass in the bar were broken. The floor boards became ignited, and although the licensee took prompt action, he found it impossible to extinguish the flames with buckets of water, and so gave the alarm to the Fire Station. The firemen, with motor tender and escape, were speedily on the scene, and the fire was soon extinguished. An examination of the gas pipes failed to reveal from where the gas escaped 17 02 14 CIP0f

1919 02
Supply dwindles due to coal shortage [1.4]

1920

1920

Record year consumption 540 million cubic feet

1920 04 20
Gas Company workmen return from war – Ch 20 04 14c

1921
Gas charged by therm rather than 1,000 cubic feet

1921 06 21
Gas Company war memorial unveiled – 21 06 29c; photos 21 07 27a

1923
'Regulo' controlled ovens appear; major rebuilding, including new coke handling plant

1924 03 28
Six men were injured at the Cambridge University and Tow Gas Works this morning. It appears that 16 men were engaged in the oxide of iron purifier, when an explosion occurred. Oxide of iron is used in the manufacture of coal gas, and after having been in use is revivified by the generation of heat. The explosion was followed by a fire. It was found necessary to send for the Dennis motor engine so that water could be pumped from the river 24 03 28

1927 10
New monster gasholder - largest in East Anglia [1.5]

1929
Coldham's Lane railway sidings (constructed 1867) increased to 2© acres & rotary wagon tippler installed; by 1949 handle 1,500 tons a week

1930

1930
New plant introduced throughout decade

1931 05 01
Mr J.W. Autherlonie, manager of the Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company since 1902 has seen many changes. During the Great War 70 women worked there, doing exactly the same hard tasks as the absent men. But on the return of the men they retired and today only one is engaged in this capacity. Eighteen of the employees fell and the war memorial, placed in a garden surrounding the works, is counted amongst the best of its type. 31 05 01a

1932
Mains extended to Cottenham & Milton

1933
New plant means that ammonical liquor no longer sent by barges to Kings Lynn chemical works, two gallons of benzole obtained from each ton of coal carbonized

1933 01 23
A house in Parkside was severely damaged when an explosion, suspected to have been caused by gas, blew out almost the whole of the front upper part of the building. There was a flash, followed

by a tremendous explosion and the wall appeared to be driven across the road. James Langdale, heedless of danger, broke in the front door and searched for the old lady inside. He found her on the top landing, terribly injured with her clothing alight. 33 01 23 & a & b was first house to be building bordering Parkers Piece

1933 01 25
Parkside gas explosion – inquest - 33 01 25; cause of gas explosion – 33 01 31 & a

1933 03 20
Gas exhibition – 'housewives wonder' – 33 03 20

1934 08 10
James William Auchterlonie was for over 30 years manager and engineer of the Cambridge Town & University Gas Light Company during which the annual output has risen three-fold. He was responsible for the adoption of a co-partnership scheme by which employees as well as shareholders enjoy a proportion of the profits. After the war he received Government recognition for his services in connection with the supply of high explosives. His loss will be keenly felt in Masonic and Rotarian circles 34 08 10

1935
Authorised to extend mains to further 11 villages including Coton, Waterbeach & Willingham

1936 11 09
Gas demonstration platform at Premier Hall, Union Lane – photo – 36 11 09

1937
The Cambridge Gas Bulletin started

1937 01 15
The head offices and showroom of the Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company in Sidney Street, where all the most modern and efficient appliances for heating, cooking, refrigeration and lighting can be seen, were built in 1909. Today the total number of consumers is in the region of 25,000. Recently the villages of Willingham, Longstanton and Oakington were supplied with gas and mains are being laid to Sawston. 37 01 15b

1939 02 24
University Gas Light Company install new carbonising plant – 39 02 24a

1939 12 22
Petrol rationing is focussing attention on town gas as an alternative fuel for motor vehicles. One of the Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company's coke lorries has just been fitted with a gas container to enable it to run without petrol. The lorry carries enough gas for 11 or 12 miles, which is adequate for deliveries of coke in the district. The range could be extended by putting a second bag on the trailer CDN 39 12 22

1940

1941
New plant produces 40 tons of crude tar a day.

1942

1942
During war make hydrogen for barrage balloons

1942 04 04
Gas Works tar storage tank catches fire, two men die – 42 04 04b

1945 06 27
Cambridge and the balloon barrage: war work at the Gas Works – were 2,400 balloons. In 1940 supply of hydrogen became difficult and Cambridge approached as to facilities available such as blue water gas and steam or existing plant such as purifiers and gasholders. Was one of 19 sites selected and production hydrogen started early 1942, producing enough for 8,000 balloons. They brought down enemy aircraft over an East Anglian city. Output increased due large number balloons required for the flying bombs. Loads of long round steel cylinders on long trailers carried them. Ascents from Midsummer Common before the last war needed gas supplied from the Newmarket Road works by a main specially aid for the purpose. Recently have made nitrogen of very high degree of purity for Air Ministry – CDN 1945 06 27

1946 06 25
Gasworks explosion and fire injures seven workers – 46 06 25

1949
205 miles of mains now in use Cambridge University & Town Gas Light Company nationalised under Gas Act 1948

1950

1951 06 16
Residents of Abbey Ward, Cambridge, described as "a constant menace to health" the dust which comes from the Gas Works and enters their houses. Mr W. Barling produced a sugar bag half filled with dust which he said was collected in his house in one week. Another resident said she could not put her children in a pram in the garden because of the dust. A Gas Board official said a contributory factor may have been the burning of wood owing to the shortage of coal resulting in more dust and smoke getting into the atmosphere. The works had the reputation of being one of the cleanest in the country. As soon as the gas industry was nationalised endeavours would be made to reduce the problem 51 06 16

1954 08 28
Sir - The best part of our charming city of Cambridge is the Abbey Estate as during the past few weeks No.1 Retort House at the Gas Works has been out of commission. No dust; No smoke; No fumes; No hauling lumps of coke out of your eyes. All is peaceful. The old grinding noise and clattering of the elevator has stopped. Washing can be hung out free from grit and blacks and you can see the spire of St Andrew's church nestling among the trees. Delightful – but how long will it last? – J.E.S.

1955 03 16
Cambridge Gas Works is progressing with its new retort house near the Newmarket Road end of River Lane. The interior of the old disused retort house has been completely demolished and the new one should be completed by 1957. Coal will then flow into the retorts through closed hoppers and the coke will be extracted already quenched, eliminating a prolific source of dust and grit which has caused complaints from nearby residents. 55 03 16c

1956 03 01
A fire-eating gargantuan of a bygone era made its last journey when a steam-powered 'Super Sentinel Wagon' completed its last run at the end of a degrading tow from another vehicle. For the monster, which started service with the Gas Company in 1928, is no longer able to run on its own steam. It carried coal from Coldham's Lane sidings to the works but today stands in Messrs Silverman's scrapyard in Ditton Walk awaiting the oxy-acetylene cutters which will render it a heap of metal. 56 03 01f [1.17]

1956 11 23
A Sentinel steam wagon has been recommissioned at the Cambridge Gas Works as a means of conserving petrol. It has been out of action since May when it was taken off the road because of its age. It is the only vehicle of its type now working in the country and will be used for conveying coal from the Coldham's Lane sidings to the Gas Works. 56 11 23

1957 10 22
New carbonising plant installed, now entirely supplied by coal gas, will ensure self-sufficiency in coke for many years [1.9, 2.1]

1959 08 21
Severe damage was caused to a newly decorated house at 48 Beche Road when a gas main in the hallway blew up with tremendous force. Neighbours thought a jet bomber had crashed, so fierce was the explosion. Many people dashed into the street and saw flames bursting through the front door. The Fire Brigade could not get to the blaze until the gas company people turned off the mains. The owners had noticed a terrible smell of gas which made them feel dizzy but said the Company had been blowing out the pipes and had warned them of a smell. 59 08 21b

1960

1961 04 27
A new plant at Eastern Gas Board's works in Newmarket Road will produce gas from oil, replacing a 22-year-old retort installation which produced tar and coke as well. It will be more economical and reduce some of the dust emissions which have caused many complaints. The new plant is housed in a sound-proofed building and any surplus will be pumped into the gas grid which now covers the local area. But it will still use 400 tons of coal each day so grit will not be completely eliminated. 61 04 27 & a [2.2]

1961 09 08
Joseph Farrington has worked for the Gas Board since 1917. He operates a Super Sentinel Loco, called 'Lucy', at the Coldham's Lane depot. Every morning he gets it going on a diet of wood and coke, eases her out of her shed and down to the six trucks with which they move supplies of coal from the main railway line, depositing it in a tipper. The operation is repeated until 400 tons have been shifted. The coal is then taken up into a hopper and unloaded into a lorry which transports it to the gasworks on Newmarket Road. 61 09 08c

1961 10 26
New gas plant operates without causing dust and smoke – 61 10 26

1962 01 25
Gas Board to pay cost of decontaminating River Cam after oil from the Gas works polluted the river – 62 01 25

1968 03 12
North Sea gas conversion begin (Cambridge given priority because of numbers of student suicides) [1.2, 2.5]

1969 06 06
Gasworks ceases production after 140 years to make way for sea gas, 60 lose jobs – 69 06 06c

1970

1970 08 17
Science laboratories devastated in big explosion laboratory on New Museums site – 70 08 17, 18; caused by natural gas – 70 08 22

1971 03 06
Fire at gas works when oil residue caught alight as workmen using acetylene torches cut metal plates from demolished gas storage tank – 71 03 06

1971 10 08
Gas works retort house demolition – 71 10 08

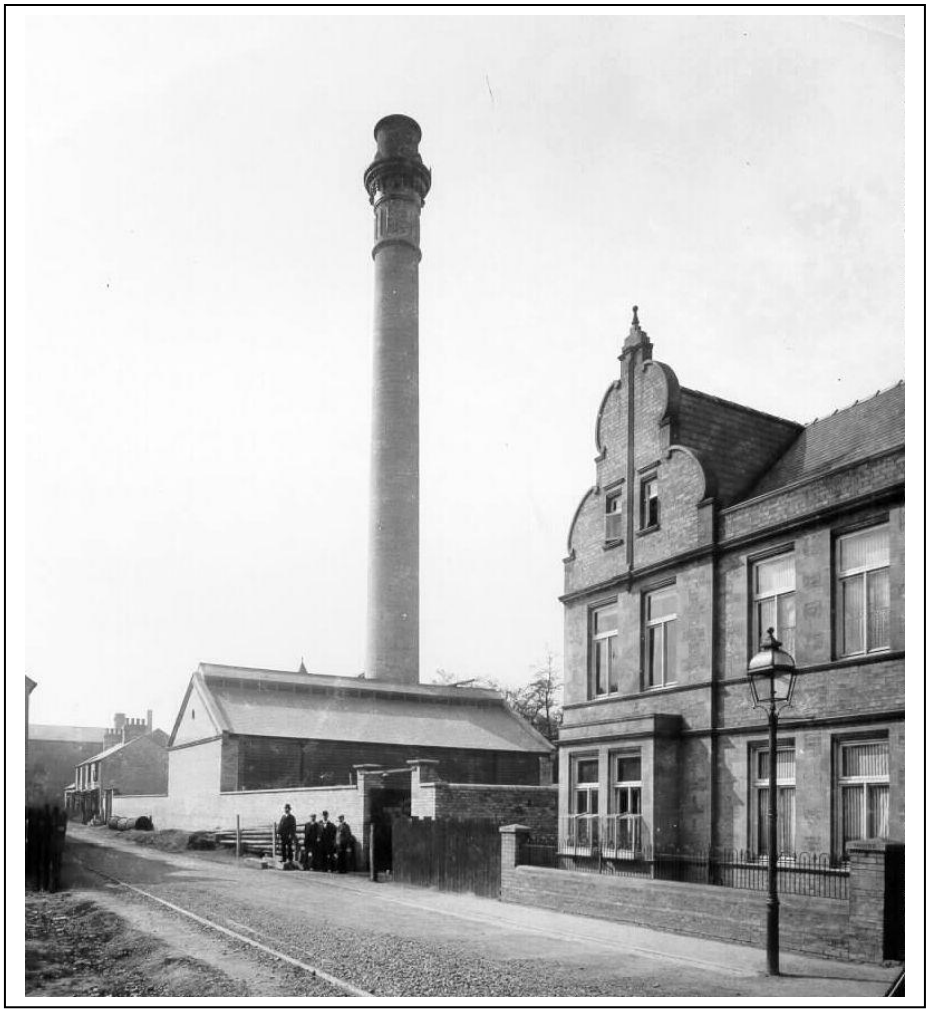
1973 12 13
90 foot high gas holder demolished, was erected 1908 [2.11]

1979 04 03
Six miles of gas pipe replaced with plastic pipes [2.12]

1980

1983 01 10
A terraced house in Bateson Street was destroyed following a massive gas explosion in a kitchen at the back of the house which blew out walls and windows. The occupier fled with his back in flames. Neighbours said they had smelled gas and a service pipe to the meter inside the premises was found to have been cut through. Council workmen demolished part of the house to make it safe. 83 01 10 [2.13]

1990 06 01
Fifty families were forced to flee their homes after a gas pipe blew up in Alpha Terrace, Trumpington, sending gas streaming into the street. Emergency teams were called and the street sealed off. Residents were taken to the Fawcett School – 90 06 01



Electricity generating station, Thompson's Lane 1984 *57.91*

c.24.6 : electricity

Entries marked [P] are taken from 'Trams in Cambridge' by Nigel Pennick, 1983

1889
Cambridge Improvement Commissioners consider four schemes for the provision of electricity, Council favour municipal electric generating scheme [P.14]

1890
Obtain Cambridge Electric Order

1891
Bailey Grundy & Barrett produced first lighting 1891, sold goodwill to Cambridge Electric Supply Co 1896; supplied private electrical generating plant to colleges & country houses till 1914-18 war; sale premises 1973 [271.7.5]

1891
The building where the first electricity for lighting in Cambridge was generated is now on the market. The property, No.2 Market Passage, was the premises of Bailey, Grundy and Barrett, electrical contractors. In 1891 the firm produced the first electricity for lighting in the city with a

gas engine and a dynamo installed in the basement. In those early days private electrical generating plants were supplied by the company to several of the Cambridge colleges. Until after the 1914-18 war such plants continued to be installed in country houses in outlying districts. As this business declined, the company moved into wireless, the design and making of temperature control equipment for laboratories and other specialised apparatus 73 03 01

1891
Council authorised to borrow £35,000 for scheme but run into technical & financial difficulties [P.14]

1892
Cambridge Electric Supply Company established, begin construction of power station at Thompson's Lane, Magdalene College objections unsuccessful [P14]

1892
Electric light introduced into ten colleges & business establishments [1.4, P14]

1895
Electric floodlighting installed to illuminate ice skating at Newnham [P14]

1897 09 04
An extraordinary general meeting of the Cambridge Electric Supply co. ltd was held at the Company's offices, Thompson's Lane, Cambridge. The chairman reported that their first capital had been £40,000 which had been spent on plant and the necessary things to equip the station. They had gone over that and had borrowed £2,250 from the bank. The business of the company was increasing and the capital must be increased too. Now was the time for shareholders to reap the reward of their enterprise if the use of electric light became universal in Cambridge 1897 08 04

1898 09
St Mary's substation equipped & Guildhall sub-station demolished [2.10.11]

1898 11 05 c
That electricity is a great boon everyone is prepared to admit, but we shall enjoy better when scientists have solved more of its mysteries, and when it has dropped the tendency to drop and die away just at the time when it is most required. The New Theatre is one establishment where loss of light means loss of money. The incandescent lamps with which the interior is efficiently illuminated drooped and finally the current failed all together. Having been accustomed to brilliant electric light, the fact that the theatre was illuminated by means of ordinary lamps gave rise to much comment amongst the audience. As far as the stage was concerned the management had taken the precaution of retaining the gas. However before the performance commenced the truant current resumed its ordinary course and gave the steady light which continued the remainder of the evening 1898 11 05

1899 05 16
Messrs Bailey, Grundy and Barrett, electrical engineers were summoned by the Cambridge Electric Supply Company for connecting a wire in a house in Bridge Street house without their consent. The Supply Company had laid mains to Mr Nichol's house with a meter, and a wire leading from the meter to light the house. The wires were placed there in 1893 and were temporarily reconstructed last year. Subsequently Bailey's were called in to put in wires for

additional lights for the house. The new wire was connected with the main whereby it was possible for current to be consumed without being register by the meter 1899 05 16

1900

1902 02 12
Cambridge Electric Supply Company reported that they would probably outgrow the present site, in Thompson's Lane. They had secured a site at Chesterton, situated at the side of the railway line so they would be able to bring coals into the yard and they had also arranged for the use of the river and the road. The site would not be required yet but as no other spot on the river was so placed they were justified in buying the land. CDN 1902 02 12

1902 12 27
The demand for electric light is continually on the increase and Messrs Millington and Everett, King's Parade, Cambridge, have a good show of high-class electric lamps which they are selling at 1s. These lamps are guaranteed to be much more economical than the ordinary electric lamp. Telephone and electric bells are also well displayed here. CDN 1902 12 27

1904
St Pauls & All Saints churches lit by electricity [1.5]

1907 06 27
Mr E.E. Marshall, electrician of Castle Street said he was formerly employed at the University Laboratory and afterwards had sole charge of an electric plant at Holt. In 1905 he installed the electric light at Leonard Mortimer's hairdresser's saloon in All Saints Passage. Messrs Bailey, Grundy & Barrett said the work did not test high but not low enough to condemn it. The claim was settled 07 06 27a

1908 04 04
Sir – the idea of electricity generated by peat gas appeals to residents in the Fen country where peat is so plentiful. The black swamp possesses theoretical heat values not far below coal when thoroughly dried. When economically farmed, stored, dried and made fit for burning by steam boilers or 'producer gas plants' it becomes a formidable rival to coal with its ever-fluctuating price – James Smith 08 04 04a

1910

1912 02 10
Cambridge Daily News becomes first newspaper printed by electricity in Cambridge, is sub-station at New Theatre [1.13]

1913 02 21
Electric supply company report 13 02 21 p10 CIP

1913 02 28
Electric Supply Company annual meeting 13 02 28 p4 CIP

1920

1923 11 21

Mr R C Pierce the manager of the Cambridge electricity Supply Company said that there was there had been three central generating stations built in 1891 of which Cambridge was one. They were built to prove that the turbines could work for in those days everyone was afraid because of the speed of the machine. The dynamos gave trouble and used to burn out at inconvenient moments. Cambridge started in 1892 and was run by very carefully trained men whose motto was "Never mind what happens, keep it going". Some people thought that the power in the town was very costly but it compared favourably with others of the same kind 23 11 21

1925 02 13
The Bill to electrify Cambs., Beds & Hunts comes before Parliament this session. A great generating station will be erected at Lt Barford. At first they propose to develop the central area including St Neots, St Ives and Ely & to give a supply in bulk to Cambridge and Newmarket. To help the electrical development of the railways it is proposed to link up with the transmission lines of the North Metropolitan Electric Power Supply Company and to afford a supply to the main railway lines within the area 25 02 13

1927 07 16
virtual reorganisation of the Cambridge Electricity Supply Company by association with Edmundsons Electricity Corporation, speculation over reactions of Corporation, perhaps a reduction of price ... “High time Cambridge brought more up-to-date in public & private electricity supply”[1.9, 1.11]

1927 12 10
Expanding net-work of electricity power cables reach Cambridge & one of terminals installed in field adjoining the Observatory, Madingley Road [1.12]

1929 01 23
Caxton Rural Council received a letter from the Beds. Cambs. and Hunts Electricity Company seeking permission to fix an overhead wire from St Ives to Eltisley. The line would go through Hilton and Papworth and be a great boon. Mr Moss asked if the wires would be high enough to clear a man on a loaded cart. He had seen the wires near Cambridge and they seemed very low. The Chairman said this was a matter for the owners of the land. He pointed out that it was the top wire that was the dangerous once, and the lower ones were merely guards. 29 01 23

1929 12 04
An explosion in St Andrew’s Street plunged a considerable part of Cambridge’s shopping centre into darkness. The cover plate of a junction box of the Electric Supply Company was blown off and several people had a narrow escape from injury. Flames leapt up from the hole and blazed fiercely. For some minutes there was great excitement, people rushing hither and thither. Police whistles were blown and the Fire Brigade turned out but found that the fire had already been put out by a motorist with a fire-extinguisher from his car. Shops and houses in a large area were deprived of light and the printing of the 6.30 edition of the C.D.N. was held up. 29 12 04

1930

1930
New Electricity Company offices & showrooms opened 4 Market hill [Cam p109]

1930 08 20
The Beds, Cambs and Hunts Electricity Company sought permission to erect a power line across the Waterbeach Lodge estate. They wanted to supply the village with electricity and had secured

way-leave for the whole route apart from this one pole. But the owner, T.C. Lethbridge said the overhead wires would cross a paddock and he would be unable to let it. He wanted an underground cable laid instead 30 08 20c

1931 05 08
When R.C. Pierce took up an appointment with the Cambridge Electric Supply Company in 1908 it was a small affair with about 1,400 consumers. Now it has risen to 8,000 with 150 employees. During the war he was a Coal Conservation Officer and made much of the apparatus used by the V.A.D. massage and electrical treatment department. He was one of the original members of the Cambridge Rotary Club and Commodore of the Cambridge Motor Boat Club 31 05 08b

1933 11 16
Cambridge was thrown into a state of chaos by the failure of the electric light system over a very wide area. The breakdown started when lights grew dimmer and dimmer and finally went out altogether. Shops, offices and private homes brought candles into use. One ingenious garage owner switched on the lights of the cars in his shop window showrooms. At the CDN office reporters wrote by bicycle light and headlines were set by hand with the aid of a supply of wax tapers 33 11 16

1935 03 07
Electricity supply company future - 35 03 07a & b 35 05 08 & a

1935 03 09
Cambridge council's decision not to purchase the 1890 electricity undertaking hardly came as a surprise. Only the members of the Labour Party who believe in public ownership of all utility services were in favour. The undertaking would have had to be split into two parts but the Company offered to reduce the price of supply by 25 per cent if the council waived their option. Several councillors are not averse to taking over the whole concern when it comes up again in 1945 35 03 09e

1938 01 08
R.C. Pierce retired as general manager & engineer of the Cambridge Electric Supply Company. Since he came in 1909 the Company has changed almost out of recognition. None of the original generating plant remains; recently the old-fashioned 90 cycle single-phase supply was replaced by the modern 50 cycle three-phase system and whereas when he started the annual output was only 600,000 units now it has risen to 15 million. 38 01 08

1940

1940 06 07
After 50 years' service with the Cambridge Electric Supply Company, Mr. J.H. Taylor has just retired. He began when it was first formed in 1892. He was actually on the staff before the first power station was built. Nine years later he became secretary, an office which he has held for the past 39 years 40 06 07 CIPof

1947
Nationalised under Electricity Act of 1947, boards constituted 1st January 1948 [3.1]

1947 12 03
It was a bewildering experience to visit the Cambridge Electric Supply Company's power station, Thompson's Lane, during one of yesterday's peak periods. Bewildering because of the steady hum

of the generating plant, the mass of gauges and dials, the terrific heat thrown out as the inspection doors in the coal-burning "stokers" were opened and because of the comparatively small number of men engaged in controlling this veritable image of machinery. While the bulk of Cambridge's power is generated at the station a proportion comes off the nationally controlled "grid - 47 12 03

1948 04 03
Some of the proud achievements of the Cambridge Electric Supply Company were recalled at the last meeting of the Company at the University Arms. The Company ceased to exist from April 1st having been absorbed by the Eastern Electricity Board, one of 14 boards set up under the new Electricity Act. The Cambridge company is one of the oldest in the electricity supply industry, and first started work of supplying electricity to the citizens of Cambridge in 1892. Today over 25,000 consumers are supplied with electricity by the Company at prices which compare more than favourably with those made in towns similar in size 48 04 02

1949 04 04
Cambridge, like the rest of Britain, shrugged off a little bit of austerity when display lights went on again after ten years. It was only a little bit. For every lit up shop window in the town centre there were at least ten wrapped in gloom. Many hotel and public house signs were illuminated and the “great light up” had a good send off at the flag-bedecked Regal cinema where Mr Morley Stuart, editor of the C.D.N. operated a specially installed master switch in the foyer. It was the Regal’s 12th birthday, all but a day 49 04 04

1949 04 08
“I think within 20 years’ time a considerable quantity of our electricity will be produced by the disintegration of uranium rather than the burning of coal”, Dr T. Allibone told the British Electricity Authority’s school at Cambridge. Within the next 30 years possibly all the world’s power would be produced from uranium. “You will have to get rid of about 200 tons of fission products per annum. Where are you going to take it? What you produce is like radium. It is terribly dangerous, and goes on being dangerous for a decade”. The problem of the disposal of radio-active fission products is one of the greatest sociological problems of the whole lot 49 04 08

1950

1953 01 12
A well-known figure for many years, Mr Robert Pierce, has died. He joined the old Cambridge Electric Supply Company in 1908 as manager and engineer and stayed until 1938 when he retired and was placed on the Board of Directors where he remained until the industry was nationalised in 1948. In his own private workshop he built a good deal of the equipment used at Addenbrooke's Hospital in the early days of X-ray. 53 01 12

1957 08 03
The Eastern Electricity Board has installed V.H.F. Radio control in its mobile vehicles which range from heavy field vehicles to vans used by electricians engaged in house repairs. One lady from Bassingbourn telephoned to report a fault but before she put the receiver down the electrician was knocking on the door! The main transmitters run night and day allowing communication between vehicles and there is a portable transmitter that can be taken home by the controlling engineer in case of an emergency during the night. 57 08 03a

1958
Works in conversion of electricity voltage from 200 to 250 volts begin

1959 05 19
The inaugural meeting of the Cambridge Electrical Association for Women heard that when the Association started in 1924 electrical appliances were just beginning to find their way into the home. Housewives joined to get over the fear of electricity and to get the best value from their appliances. With machines men always want to know how they work and women are contented if they work but now they are giving a scholarship to a girl wanting to study engineering at Cambridge University. 59 05 19 & a

1959 08 20
Mackays of East Road has donated a Blackstone horizontal diesel engine to Freetown, Sierra Leone. The engine was first installed in 1930 and gave them complete independence to power cuts. It ran throughout the war with virtually no maintenance. They have completed the electrification of their plant and John Mellanby, the well-known Cambridge electrician, suggested it be offered to the Technical Institute over there. Similar engines have been working at Heffers printing works and Coulson's wood mill 59 08 20

1960

1963 02
Thompson's Lane power station feature Feb 1963 [2.12]

1964
Generating station can produce 7,000 kw hour but only used as peak periods [446.17.4]

1964 07 24
Electrical engineers are busy analysing the damage from recent storms. Special devices have been fitted to minimise damage – feature – 64 07 24

1964 11 13
Eastern Electricity's new Fens Sub-Area control room knocks spots off the old system used at Thompson's Lane. A huge panel displays the entire electrical network while control desks have radio communications and lists of emergency engineering staff who can be called out. There is a standby generator which starts automatically should the main power fails. All this is the work of Pye Ltd. There is not a second when it is left empty. But it is unlikely that full-scale automation will ever be introduced. 64 11 13

1965 07 08
Thompson's Lane power station to close March 1966[2.2]
Works in conversion of electricity voltage from 200 to 250 volts, hoped to complete by 1971 when 25,000 consumers will have been put on new voltage which will be standard throughout City. Changeover to cost £249,000

1966 04 01
Electricity power station Quayside wreathed in scaffolding prior demolition – photo – 66 04 01

1966 04 23
Electricity generating works – scaffolding erected to demolish chimney – photo – 66 04 23a

1970

1970 12 10

Electricity strike cuts expected to black out central Cambridge – 70 12 10 [2.3]

1972 02 11
Blackouts - cuts extended to 9 hours [2.4]

1972 03 23
Last house converted to 240 volts, 35,000 houses converted in 10 years [2.7]

1973 11 07
Eastern Electricity this week produced a detailed rota and chart to help the public tell when their area would most likely suffer power cuts. A cutback in electricity supplies could take place tonight. Voltage reductions were feared during last night's period of peak demand - usually the largest of the week - but they were not necessary. The men's associations have agreed nationally with the electricity industry that they should get special payments for "unsocial hours" they have to work, but the agreement has been blocked by the government 73 11 07 [2.8]

1974 01 09
Cambridge has escaped lightly so far from the effects of the three-day working week. Only about 250 workers are being paid benefits by the Department of Employment. The vast majority of those temporarily laid off are receiving benefits from their own firms under a "do-it-yourself dole" scheme. The firms will be reimbursed later by the Department. At Saffron Walden the town's largest firm, Acrow Engineering Ltd, are treating Thursdays and Fridays, when industry in the area is without power, as part of their workers' normal holiday entitlement 74 01 09

1977 11 05
Retailers in Cambridge city centre are angry because the power cuts threaten to deprive them of electricity for up to three hours every Saturday afternoon. They feel it is unfair that the same shops should face being cut off during a peak period every week. The manager of the Abbey Boutique said it could cost traders thousands of pounds. But Eastern Electricity say they have to think of the needs of all their consumers and the traders would do well to see how it goes this weekend before they start complaining 77 11 05

1980

1980 08 14
Working windmills may return to the East Anglian countryside – not the drain the fens or mill corn, but to generate electricity. Scientists at Cambridge University's Cavendish Laboratory have been working on wind turbine design with the Central Electricity Generating Board who will shortly begin looking for an inland site for the first large wind-powered generating machine. These could be sited in flat lands where their impact on the environment would be less that on exposed hilltops. They would be mounted on towers 150 feet high and when their 200-foot blades turned each machine should generate enough electricity to heat 100 single-bar electric fires. 80 08 14b

1982
Thompson's Lane power station demolished [P.14]

New lights switched on, 1955 *110.04*

c.24.8 : street lighting

1894
Parkers Piece lamp standard erected, cost £39 [1.1]

1900

1907 01 09
A new development of gas lighting in St Andrew's Street renders the exterior of the New Theatre almost as light as day. By the use of an automatic compressor the power of ordinary incandescent light is increased fourfold but cost of the gas consumed is halved. There are two other installations in Cambridge, one in the locomotive department at the railway station and the other at Messrs Crossman's knitting factory in Norfolk Street. 07 01 09

1907 12 14
Cambridge Gas Light Company told a meeting in St Mark's parish room that they would erect street columns, lanterns and piping, ready for lighting in any street in Newnham where the mains

were laid and also lay mains in King's Road and Selwyn Road. They would keep lights burning all night for £2 12s 3d per lamp, including gas, lighting and extinguishing them, maintaining mantles and keeping the lamps clean and in repair. This was agreed unanimously. 07 12 14c

1911 04 08
Barnwell Bridge dangerous due to bright gas lamps dazzling road users [1.11]

1915 03 12
Extinguishing of Lights. A new order, dated March 10, has been issued by the military directing the extinguishing of lights in the Borough. The order is issued by the Competent Military Authority for the district under the powers conferred upon him by Regulation 12 of the Defence of the Realm (Consolidation) Regulations, 1914. The order directs that all lights in the Borough other than lights not visible from the outside of any house, and such public street lamps as a Competent Military Authority, in writing, conditionally permit to be lighted, shall from the 10th inst. and until otherwise ordered, be kept extinguished or obscured between the hours of 7 p.m. and 6a.m. 15 03 12 CIPof

1920

1928 09 01
Motoring friends have remarked that they consider the new island and lamp standard at the bend of Victoria Avenue, Cambridge, a danger to road users, and although the Corporation's object was to prevent accidents they may do more harm than good. The motorist who was unfortunate enough to crash into the standard this week had his vision partially obscured by heavy rain but it would be the easiest thing in the world for a stranger to meet with an accident there. Because of the green background of the trees the standard is not visible to motorists until they are nearly on top of it – why not paint it white? 28 09 01

1930

1934 02 01
Cambridge council is to restore full all-night lighting in the streets following numerous complaints. The gas lighting is obsolete and the time would come when they would have to consider electric lighting. Even policemen were nervous about going down some of the unlighted streets: it is enough to make any policeman nervous when we know what is happening in the way of gangsters, one councillor said. 34 02 01

1935 08 01
After a very close debate Cambridge councillors voted to continue lighting the streets with gas. Councillor Kenney said the lighting was bad and it was ridiculous to think of giving a ten years' contract to gas. Street after street was almost entirely one-sided as regarded lighting. Beyond Hills Road railway bridge all the lamps were on the left hand side and the place was in shadow. Nothing could take the place of electric lamps suspended over the streets. But in London where there were no long lines of electric wires from remote stations there had been a number of breakdowns. How much more would that apply to Cambridge? 35 08 01

1936 07 04
Cambridge street lighting is being brought up to standard. Hills Road and St Andrew's Street are already ablaze. So is Sidney Street. Twenty-three miles of streets will be illuminated by autumn. Side lights properly equipped with seven watt bulbs are all that are now required by motorists. Pedestrians and cyclists are now visible from afar after dark. The lamps are lit automatically by

clock devices and soon the familiar figure of the lamp-lighter will disappear from the streets forever 36 07 04

1936 07 04
"Cambridge is now almost entirely covered with new street lamps, which will hardly be of any use until the dark evenings. Suggestions have been made as what to do with them during the long wait – as hanging baskets, clothes lines and even wireless aerials. But it is more than likely that owing to the summer holidays our streets will become so congested that we shall have to turn them into - police traps!" (Ronald Searle cartoon showing policemen with telescopes mounted in crows' nests high on lamp posts) 36 07 04a

1936 07 30
Specimen lamp standards had been put up so that everybody had equal chance of commenting and not one criticism had been received. So standards had been ordered and work was proceeding well. But then criticism poured in from the Preservation Society and Colleges who said the standards were not in keeping with the buildings around them. But while they had antique buildings in King's Parade, they also had modern traffic passing along the road at the modern fast rate. Where were the protests going to stop? 36 07 30b & c

1936 10 15
More than 737 new street lamps had been installed and from Milton Road to Northampton Street there was excellent lighting. But the council had deliberately left a big black patch along the Backs. Discussions had taken place with the Cambridge Preservation Society and Heads of Colleges; Queen's Road was unique, they had to reconcile its beauty and character with the efficient lighting which would protect life 36 10 15

1940

1944 09 12
Gas Company work on streetlights in anticipation of removal of blackout – 44 09 12

1944 09 26
Street lights turned on – 44 09 26, 44 09 27; how it was done – 44 09 28

1949 01 21
Sodium lighting tried in Trumpington street - the first such experiment [1.4]

1946 09 05
Central lamp standard Parker's Piece restored after being damaged on VE night – photo – 46 09 05a
Parkers Piece lamp redesigned; becomes first fluorescent light in England; was replaced by a local metalworks firm, George Lister & Sons, Cambridge. The work was done by foreman Mr Sam Mason, assisted by a young apprentice, Tony Challis, who did the iron scrollwork at the top of the lampost.

1950

1951 07 24
Proposal to convert street lights from gas to electricity [1.5]

1952 09 26

Conversion to sodium lighting, 400 in 4 months [1.6,2.1]

1953 01 03
Cambridge will be one of the first cities in England to be lit almost entirely by "sodium" street lighting. And, said the Mayor, it will be one of the best-lighted in the world. A motorist can appreciate sodium lighting better than any pedestrian can. Black spots and fog are obliterated. Trunk roads will be lit, stopping at the inner ring-road, as this type of light is not thought suitable for the historic city centre. A completely new type of lantern is being used which gives an exceptionally high light output in relation to the electrical energy consumed.

1953 05 01
Cambridge councillors approved a scheme for replacing gas lamps with sodium lighting along 'The Backs'. Ald Hickson wanted assurance this would not be a prelude to Queen's Road becoming a trunk road. It was becoming more frequently used. But the beauty was only apparent during daytime and at night it was only a blur of trees. The same arguments were probably put forward when the present gas standards were installed and in ten year's time the university would say what a lot of fools they were to oppose the scheme

1953 05 13
Dr A.L. Peck lectured to Cambridge Antiquarian Society on old street lamps of Cambridge, using a collection of lantern slides to illustrate many of the distinctive types of lamp standard, most of which can be date back to 1840 and can still be seen in the streets. They are some of the finest and most varied to be found in any part of the country and merit preservation as valuable examples of the iron founder's work. The most remarkable is one in New Street which for over 50 years stood in front of the Pitt Press in Trumpington Street

1954 02 15
Sir Albert Richardson's "Candles" installed [2.2]

1955 10 07
New fluorescent light Regent St switched on [1.8]

1957 01 18
The Cambridge Design Society considers the proposed new street lamps unsuited to the city. It is basically a glass cylinder five feet high, enclosing fluorescent tubes and mounted on fluted cast-iron columns. The design was adapted by a member of the Royal Fine Arts Commission from one used extensively in Birmingham. But a proposal of this scale should be brought to the notice of a wider public. 57 01 18a [1.9, 1.10]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 06 01
Sir – Orchard Street is one of the minor beauties of Cambridge. Its old gas lamps harmonized well with the curving row of low-roofed cottages, enhanced their picturesqueness and were charming objects in themselves. But they are to be uprooted and replaced by hexagonal aluminium obelisks which are out of character among old tiles and climbing roses. Orchard Street is not a bypass and does not need glaring lights. – Guy Ottewell 60 06 01c also: Opinion on new street lamps divided – Warkworth Terrace – 60 06 02a

1961 01 26
Having installed big sodium lamps to light the radial roads and then put the tall candle-shaped fluorescent lamps in the city centre, the council is now extending electric lighting into the side streets. Until now Hooper Street has been so dark that people avoid it at night and Gwydir Street would be in darkness were it not for two pubs shedding their homely light on the pavement. But the lantern of the gas lamp opposite the end of Sleaford Street is regularly knocked off by big industrial vehicles and elsewhere youths smash the lamp glasses with stones immediately after the gas man has replaced the last breakage. 61 01 26

1970

1973 12
Side street lights switched off, Christmas lights banned [2.4]

1973 10 29
A group of people found an unusual way to spend an afternoon on Saturday - using paint to pick-out the detail on a Cambridge lamp-post. The lamp-post which stands at the paths junction in the middle of Parker's Piece has for many years been painted plain grey. Now after some hard work by five friends part of it is resplendent in blues, yellows and red. The friends who are all students were led by brothers Sandy and David Cairncross. They obtained permission of the City Surveyor's department before beginning 73 10 29 [2.3]

1980

1987 09 14
The replacement of old lampposts in the centre of Cambridge has aroused opposition. The old 'Candle' laps were designed in the early 1950s by Sir Albert Richardson, President of the Fine Art Commission. Coun Andrew Duff says they are of considerable interest and are appropriate in the historic centre. Now the County Council is replacing them with modern steel columns which are cheaper to run, give out more light and make the roads safer for motorists and pedestrians. 87 09 14

1987 10 20
Cambridge residents should be given the chance to air their views about old-fashioned lampposts that are being replaced as an economy measure, says Coun Rosensteil. The 'Richardson Candles' along Magdalene Street were designed nearly 40 years ago by Sir Albert Richardson, President of the Royal Fine Arts Commission to fit in with the street. But the County Council claims they are expensive to run and that spare parts are no longer available. However the modern steel columns have angered environmentalists who say they are unsuitable for such a sensitive area. 87 10 20

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Heffer's Bookshop, Petty Cury, 1962 152.47

c.25 : printing, books, bookshops

Articles relating to book selling, printing and publishing (but not Cambridge University Press in detail), 1888-1990

1896
Gustave David sets up book stall on Market Hill (by 1912 he is described as 'an institution') 59 05 07 [1.17]

1899 'Bowes & Bowes' name established 86 10 16 [2.2]

1900

1902 02 01
A new branch of trade has been opened by the buttery of Christ's College, Cambridge in the direction of a stationery store. The CDN has been favoured with samples, but the party had omitted to enclose his name or even say when he intends to "call for orders". This omission is either intentional or points to a certain amateurism pardonable in a new venture. The samples are small post quarto Club writing paper priced at 1s.6d. per 5 quire packet; envelopes 1s.3d per 100 and writing paper with the college arms embossed in blue at 2s. Can any Cambridge stationer improve on these quotations? CDN 1902 02 01

1904

Mechanised typesetting introduced by Cambridge Express Newspaper Co ltd, 1st in Cambridge to install monotype 60 10 08 [3.2]

1907 08 10
Messrs Macmillan and Bowes, the well-known booksellers, have recently acquired the house over their premises at the corner of Trinity Street. On the new staircase, designed by Mr T.D. Atkinson, hangs a portrait of 'Maps' (John Nicholson) and old views of Cambridge. In the new reading room are exhibited manuscripts and autograph letters from Wordsworth, Tennyson and Thackeray. One room is devoted entirely to Cambridge material of which Mr Bowes published a catalogue in 1894. 07 08 10 & a [1.13]

1908 06 05
Quite recently, the Burlington Press, which for a number of years carried on business in East Road, has removed to larger premises at Foxton. Dr Briggs, the founder of the business as an adjunct of the University Correspondence College entertained the entire staff to dinner inside the works and proposed a toast of 'Success to the University Tutorial Press' CWN 08 06 05 p6

1910

1911
Heffers printers begin Hills Rd 61 01 14 [3.5, 4.2]

1911 03 03
The Black Bear Press was started by Mr Dixon, a printer and stationer, with premises in Hills Road and machinery had been bought. It had been placed on the Paris Bourse stock exchange but this had proved unsuccessful and had accepted contracts at unremunerative prices. They had now sold the printing plant and machinery as well as "The Gownsman" but not "The Hairdresser" or "The Cambridge Directory" and there were shares in the Maxwell Publishing Company, for whom they did printing, creditors were told. 11 03 03b

1912 03 08
Assistant Booksellers Association formed – 12 03 08e

1913
1913 11 28
Frederick W. Metcalfe was head of the printing and publishing firm of Metcalfe & Son on the corner of Green Street which at one time produced most of the publications emanating from Cambridge. Soon after he joined the firm the Cambridge Express was started and he had charge of this popular newspaper until his father's death when it was purchased by the Conservative party. He ran a local troupe of Christy Minstrels including the finest voices amongst the senior members of college choirs. It had a very successful career for several seasons and visited all the principal towns in the area 13 11 28 p7 CIP

1914 12 11
Deighton Bell now a limited company 14 12 11

1916 03 22
Death of Ald. W. P. Spalding. He was the eldest son of a printer, stationer and bookseller, Mr. William Spalding (Ipswich), and was apprenticed to his father. He started business in Cambridge on his own account in Sidney Street, Cambridge, in 1873. This prospered and was enlarged in many ways, and in 1881 he became a member of the Cambridge Town Council, proving an expert

debater and administrator. Mr. Spalding was elected to the aldermanic bench and in 1908 was chosen Mayor in succession to his friend, Mr. H. G. Whibley. He had been appointed a J.P. in 1897. During 35 years of faithful public service, Ald. Spalding left his mark in many ways upon the affairs of the borough 16 03 22 CIPof

1916 07 22
Two booksellers – C.P.Porter & Leavis - help unemployed man, one supplies books the other a barrow, books sold at 1/- each [1.16]

1919 02 12
Robert Bowes, bookseller – obituary – 19 02 12d, photo 12g

1920

1920 11 04
Bookbinders Union branch reopened 1917 after being closed for 50 or 60 years; three years ago average wage very low and negotiations had taken place. Employees resisted minimum wage for women; 60 women had been on strike for a fortnight - CDN 20 11 04

1920 12 08
W.H. Smith dinner staff includes J.F. Ballinger, bookstall manager at Cambridge station – memories – Ch 20 12 08c

1922
University Press celebrates 400th anniversary of first Cambridge printing press [1.6.]

1923 05 26
Cambridge is justly proud of its business veterans, and it may truly be said that no one is held in higher respect than Mr William Heffer. He started as a groom but resolved to make a start in business on his own, and opened as a stationers and newsagents in a shop which is still his, the Post Office in Fitzroy Street. It has been said that Mr Heffer to a large extent altered the character of Fitzroy Street, for when he introduced to Cambridge the 25% discount off books, university men and others not accustomed to frequenting that part of the town, began to stream up there, and, of course, other tradesmen - benefited in consequence c 23 05 26

1925 06 06
Very many residents of Cambridge who in their leisure moments wander round the Market Place to see what literary treasure may there be picked up will be interested in a movement set on foot by prominent members of the University to do honour to Mr G. David, the well-known bookseller, who has had a stall there for close on thirty years. A luncheon will be given in the Old Combination Room, Trinity College in appreciation of the conspicuous service he has rendered to 25 06 06 [1.2]

1927 02 19
Nicholson's publish sketch of David [1.12]

1927 07 08
Messrs Galloway and Porter, Cambridge, whose business operations extend to all parts of the world, have formed a private limited company. Mr Charles P. Porter, for many years sole proprietor, becomes chairman. He is well known as a Cambridge councillor and was formerly

chairman of the Free Library Committee. His clients range from queens to factory boys and include foreign and colonial libraries extending to every part of the globe. 27 07 08

1929 12 05
Heffer's wonderful new shop in Petty Cury, Cambridge, is a book lovers' paradise. In the basement are 'remainders' at reduced prices while the ground floor is devoted to the latest publications and an extensive foreign literature section. A wide range of second-hand volumes occupies most of the first floor where connoisseurs of original editions will find much to interest them at prices from £5 to £250. On the second floor are oriental, foreign travel and fine art books while higher still are Heffer's own publications, many of local interest. There is a special reference department and out-of-print books service. The front design successfully combines and old-world impression with a modern style. 29 12 05

1930

1930 01 15
From modest beginnings in Fitzroy Street the history of the House of Heffer is one of continuous progress. The Printing Works on Hills Road has been considerable enlarged, last year saw reconstruction of the Petty Cury Bookshop which is now twice its original size, and this year sees the reconstruction of the Sidney Street Stationery and Art Shop. It will be a shop worthy of its central position. The new premises will have five floor, the frontage will be in the Georgian style with pilasters, fascia and columns of grey polished granite and the upper part will be faced with red Flemish bricks with Weldon stone dressings to the windows. A unique feature will be the Picture Gallery on the third flood with a barrel-shaped ceiling 30 01 15

1930 05 28
The bookshops of Cambridge are a special feature of the town; no visitor can possibly miss David's stall on the Market Place where the book-lover may pick up a bargain. He came to Cambridge in 1896 and started his career at this stall; in 1906 he took a shop in St Edward's Passage, which is full of interesting old books and though often locked can be viewed at leisure in the window. In such esteem is he held that a luncheon was held in the Hall of Trinity College and a lithograph cartoon by Mr William Nicholson presented to him. 30 05 28a & b (major feature)

1931 04 17
George Brimley Bowes joined his father in the firm now called Bowes and Bowes in 1897 in the building known to be the oldest bookshop in the country. He became intimately connected with the business, as bookseller and printer and published the first works of J.B. Priestley. He founded the Cambridge branch of Toc H and Cambridge Rotary Club. People who associate many books with mustiness should speedily make his acquaintance and be disillusioned. 31 03 27c

1931 04 17
Counc. A Spalding – profile – 31 04 17a

1931 11 06
Arthur Heffer death – folk dancing leader – 31 11 06g

1932 08 19
John Austin Fabb started in business as a printer, moving to Guildhall Street in 1881 and Corn Exchange Street in 1920. He printed the Cambridge Review from its inception in 1879 and conceived the idea of a list of Resident Members of the University in 1890. During the war he

compiled seven editions of the list of Cambridge University men on active service. He was a prominent Freemason and founded the York Street Sick Club.32 08 19e

1932 12 09
J.T. Lambeth told the bankruptcy court he had started as a second-hand bookseller from a stall on Market Hill. Then he took a shop at 17 Peas Hill selling antiquarian books. But a slump in trade 18 months ago meant Americans were not buying books so he had to borrow from moneylenders. 32 12 09a & b

1933 01 19
Spaldings printers sued a University lecturer over an unpaid bill for publishing 'Forestry Journal' a magazine of the Cambridge University Forestry Students' Association. He had brought in a considerable amount of copy, articles and advertisements together with photographs from which they had to make blocks. But the don claimed it was run entirely by undergraduates and it was the responsibility of the editor. He could not say who that had been. 33 01 19c & d

1933 04 26
Master printers and new CDN machinery – 33 04 26

1936 02 01
G.J. Gray was born in Pembroke Street and entered the firm of Bowes and Bowes in 1876. He was encouraged by the late Robert Bowes to prosecute his bibliographical work beyond the requirements of business and his publications on Cambridge booksellers and printers won him the esteem of University librarians. In earlier life he was connected with the Higher Grade and Camden Cricket Clubs, Old Chesterton Institute and Men's Bible Class. He also organised the Penny 'Pops' concerts held in the Guildhall in years gone by. At his retirement The Publishers' Circular praised his 60 years in the book trade 36 02 01

1936 03 14
Broadsheets were once very popular in Cambridge and now Dr F. Carr of Sawston has revived the tradition with one featuring Mr David who has been selling books for 40 years. He pays tribute in a poem printed on antique paper with two admirable sketches of David and his stall by his son, Mr Hubert David. The broadsheet is published at a shilling and should make a strong appeal to the friends and customers (the words are almost synonymous) of one of Cambridge's celebrities 36 03 14a

1936 10 12
George John Gray entered the firm of Bowes and Bowes in 1876 and completed nearly 60 years' service. Encouraged by Robert Bowes he carried out bibliographical work and researches, publishing several works on early Cambridge printing and bookselling. He also indexed the William Cole manuscripts in the British Museum. Mr Gray was a member of the Library Committee, secretary of the Higher Grade Cricket Club and YMCA and organiser of the Penny 'Pops' held in the Guildhall. He also played an active part in Chesterton Institute, Cricket Club and Men's Bible Club, amongst others. 36 10 12a

1936 11 20
Gustave David, known as 'David' to generations of undergraduates has died hours after returning by the midnight train having attended a London auction. He came to Cambridge forty years ago, opening his now-famous stall on Market Hill. Later he opened a shop in Green Street before moving to St Edward's Passage. He was the first man in Cambridge to sell rare and old books at low prices. So appreciative were Universitymen of his services that in 1925 a number of

distinguished members entertained him to lunch at Trinity in recognition of the 'conspicuous services he has rendered the cause of humane letters'. 36 11 20 a & b

1936 11 20
W. Heffer & sons history – Advertisers – 36 11 20c

1940

1940
Severs printing works set up [3.9]

1942 05 21
Printers face wartime problems – lack of paper, increase wages etc – 42 05 21

1942 07 04
David's bookstall featured in Canadian radio broadcast, started 1886 now one of oldest on market– 42 07 04

1943 12 04
Macmillan publishers and booksellers Bowes & Bowes – history by Charles Morgan – 43 12 04

1946 02 01
Francis Gatward Metcalfe, head of printers and stationers, dies. Known as 'Metcalfe's' in 1730 and as Metcalfe and Palmer before then. Original premises in Green St. He joined 1884 – 46 02 01

1946 12 09
George Brimley Bowes, former head of bookshop – appreciation – 46 12 09

1946 12 14
Heffers bookshop night blaze causes £25.000 damages, CID investigate – 46 11 13; Heffer's fire arson case – 46 12 14

1949
Rampant Lions Press set up by Will Carter 65 11 26 [3.11]

1950

1950 04 15
Notes on George Stoakley, bookbinder, 80 [1.7]

1951
Laurence Fletcher was given the challenge of opening a new Christian book shop in Cambridge in 1951; now Mowbrays which was founded in Oxford almost 140 years ago has a world-wide reputation. At his retirement party the Bishop of Ely read a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury paying tribute to Mr Fletcher's enthusiasm and knowledge of books: "I can't imagine King's Parade without him", he wrote 88 11 16

1951 07 12
The staff of Messrs S.C. Marshall & Sons, the old established local printers, spent an enjoyable evening at the Lion Hotel to mark 25 years of printing under the present ownership. A

presentation was made to Mr B.G.T. Cox for 37 years' loyal service. In a witty speech he recalled that in those days there was no electric light or power, the premises were lit by gas and the machines – such as they were – were driven by foot treadles and the posters were hand-rolled and printed on hand presses. Since 1928 fully automatic machinery and plant have been installed 51 07 12

1953 03 14
The site of England's oldest bookshop has just changed hands for the 14th time in more than 350 years. Messrs W.H. Smith have acquired Bowes and Bowes' shop on the corner of Trinity Street which has a heritage of bookselling, publishing and binding that goes back as far as 1581. In 1807 it belonged to John Nicholson, son of the celebrated 'Maps' who went his rounds of the University with a moveable stall laden with textbooks and called out "Maps and pictures". Later Kingsley and other literary men held 'tobacco parliaments' on religion and politics, Wordsworth reclined there, Thackeray dined there and Tennyson first read "Maud" in the Long Room, now the Foreign Department. 53 03 14

1955 01 22
Cambridge has a new publishing company. The Golden Head Press has been formed to promote the production of fine books with original subject matter that for economic reasons would normally fall outside the province of larger publishers. It has been run on a limited scale by Mr Raymond Lister but with its formation into a company the scope may be widened. The Chairman is Dr Philip Grosse, a Trinity don well known for his 'History of Piracy' and the secretary A.K. Astbury is a London journalist 55 01 22a [1.8]

1955 09 10
The Cambridge Express Printing Company has been acquired by W. Heffer & Sons. The 'Express' works have a long history. At one time they published a weekly newspaper which was eventually incorporated with the 'Cambridge Weekly News' which in turn amalgamated with the 'Cambridge Independent Press and Chronicle'. 55 09 10e [1.9,4.4]

1957
Heffers acquire Severs [4.4]

1957 01 10
A Cambridge Christmas card publisher told the Bankruptcy Court that he went into business in 1951, designing cards that proved very popular. Next year the cards were despatched by the printer direct to his customers. But some were sub-standard and he lost orders. In 1955 he hired a printing works in Baldock but the press broke down. Then the bank restricted his overdraft. His skill as an artist exceeded his ability as a businessman. 57 01 10a

1957 02 23
New publishing house, P.R.Macmillan, poetry [1.11]

1957 05 06
A Penguin Bookshop has opened opposite the University Press in Trumpington Street. This is an innovation by Heffers for they will devote the entire shop to the display and sale of the thousand titles at present in print. The shop has been designed by Peter Bicknell who has preserved the pleasant original stone front whilst making the inside both gay and light. 57 04 06b

1958 02 01

Harry Ingrey was the first monotype operator in Cambridge in 1904 and apart from the Great War has been at the keyboard ever since. In the early years people from the University Press would call into the Cambridge Express Printing Works in King Street to see things new in the printing line. Harry recalls the pleasure of printing 'Granta' and its undergraduate editors – "everything always went nice and smooth with them", he says. 58 02 01b

1959 05 05
Modern traffic problems have brought to an end a Cambridge tradition. David's Bookstall has occupied its site on Peas Hill on Saturdays for more than 60 years but recently the street has been turned into an area where the parking of cars is prohibited during the busiest time of the day. Motorists objected that the stall took up as much space as any car so Mr Ashley Hubert David was asked if he would move his Saturday stall to its weekday position on the market square. Many customers are indignant about the change. 59 05 05 & a [1.17]

1959 11 21
Percy Piggott was owner of a printing business, a journalist, a keen Tory, an Amateur theatrical producer and a leading light in the Cambridgeshire Sailing Club. His father, Frank, founded the printing business in what was then called Caxton Court (now the front of Boots' in Sidney Street) and had been editor of the Cambridge Chronicle. Following in his father's footsteps he was University Correspondent for 'The Times' and official scorer of the University Cricket team, managing them on tours and producing a booklet '50 Years at Fenners' 59 11 21a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960
Foister & Jagg, established 150 years, move from St Andrews Hill due Lion Yard to Abbey Walk [3.1, 446.8,2]

1961
Heffers rebuild Hills Rd printing works [4.2]

1961 01 14
W. Heffer printers and booksellers celebrate 50 years at Hills Road – 61 01 14

1961 02 04
Heffers Printers celebrate 50 years – 61 02 04c

1962 07 14
CUP install new rotary presses increasing speed 4 times [5.3]

1963 05 15
In 1869 William Weatherhead purchased the business of John Hatt, a bookseller and printseller in Union Street, now Peas Hill. Then in 1886 took over an established stationers' shop in Trinity Street. The two merged at his death in 1907, added a wholesale department and flourished until 1936 when they moved to its present premises in the Caius College development on Market Hill. Now it has been acquired by W.H. Smith 63 05 15a

1963 10
CUP new building Brooklands Ave opened [2.15]

1964
1964 11 19
Marshall's printing business, Round Church Street established 1826 by Mr Wilson; were nearly destroyed by bombs in 1942; to be sold – 64 11 19e

1966
F & P Piggott move Round Church street, established Caxton Court Sidney St 1881, moved Alexandra St 1916 [3.4]

1966 04 18
J.S. Wilson bookbinders since 1830, now to be run by employees – 66 04 18a

1966 10 03
Hubert David inherited business from his grandfather, Gustave, in 1936 – profile – 66 10 03

1968
CALL founded, started last year as printing section NEC [4.6]

1968 08 20
David book stall on Market increases prices – feature – Davids raise price of 1/- books 68 08 20

1969 02 13
W. Heffer & sons open new children's bookshop in Trinity Street, plan to move main shop from Petty Cury – 69 02 13

1970

1970 032 04
Cambridge Instantprint set up, new US idea, marks birth of new printing service (moves to Foxton, bought out Burlington 1976) [4.5]

1970 05 29
George Porter of Galloway & Porter profile –firm started in 1901 – 70 05 29b

1970 10 02
Heffers bookshop Petty Cury closes, 90,000 books moved to new Trinity Street shop – 70 10 02 [1.4,2.6]

1971 02 01
John Arliss moves Histon Rd after 97 years St Tibbs Row [4.8]

1971 07 23
University Press celebrate 450 years of book printing – 71 07 23

1972
Melrose Press moves to Cambridge, goes to Soham 1978 [3.14]

1972 09 15
Woodhead-Faulkner (Publishers) ltd started [3.6]

1973
Spencer Brown & co ltd publisher set up [3.7]

1973
Heffer's shut Hills Road & transfer to subsidiary Severs, Kings Hedges Rd [3.9,4.2]

1973
Book Production Consultants set up [4.7]

1974
Jean Pain bookshop opened [2.3]

1974
Oleander Press moves to Cambridge; produces a range of booklets on aspects of Cambridge history not previously reported [3.13]

1974
Hobson press set up as offshoot CRAC, founded by Adrian Bridgewater (goes public 1987) [4.1]

1976
500th anniversary introduction printing to England by Caxton [3.3]

1976
S-Print set up [3.10]

1977 07 19
Dillons bookshop in Silver St sold (opened 1973) [2.12]

1979 09 03
Grapevine bookshop opens in Fitzroy St [2,9]

1979
Pevensey Press launched [3.12]

1980

1980 Heffers start full photocomposition [4.2]

1981 03 03
J.P. Gray & son moving from Green St, there since 1847 [446.12.6]

1981 05 20
Cambridge University Press's new £6 million office and warehouse complex, named the Edinburgh Building after the Duke, will be officially opened by the Queen. It has a number of unusual design features and can store up to 15 million books 81 05 20

1981 05 29
Newmarket millionaire David Robinson today announced he had given an extra £1 million to the college he founded. The news came shortly before the Queen and Prince Philip arrived in Cambridge to formally open it. But Mr Robinson did not attend the ceremony as he did not feel

up to it. He is very frail. But 2,500 employees of the Cambridge University Press took tea with the Queen after she opened their new Edinburgh Building. 81 05 29, 30

1981 06 20
Sinclair Brown pub co launched [3.8]

1982 07 28
More than 100 years of bookbinding comes to an end when the old established firm of John P. Gray closes down its Green Street premises. The firm was begun in 1847; it established a high reputation for the restoration and repair of ancient books and carried out special commissions for the leading private collectors. Planning permission has been obtained to turn the site into a restaurant and wine bar 82 07 28a [6.8]

1982 11 11
Equus bookshop opens, King St [2,11]

1983 03 02
Woodhead-Faulkner establish new company, ICSA publishing [3.6]

1984 02 06
CUP celebrate 400 years printing [5.7]

1985 05 24
Heffers Penguin bookshop, Trumpington street closed [2,8]

1985 07 19
Reuben Heffer death – 85 07 19

1987 04 28
One of Britain's oldest booksellers, Deighton Bell in Trinity Street, which dates back to 1700 and specialises in antiquarian and rare volumes, has been sold to nearby Heffers. It takes them back to second-hand books, a department it gave up in 1974 because of lack of space. Then they had sold their stock to Deighton Bell and had maintained a good relationship ever since. The shop will remain on the corner of Trinity Street and Green Street and continue to be run by John Beech and his staff 87 04 28 [NS2.11]

1986 07 09
W.H. Smith, a familiar sight on Cambridge Market Hill for the past 25 years is to close. Staff will be transferred to their other shops in Lion Yard and at Cambridge railway station. 86 07 09

1987 07 29
Black Bear Press was formerly known as Heffers Printers which was set by William Heffer in the 1920s. Now a new management are investing in the future. Black Bear does not produce the 'mainstream' books. Much of its work is producing journals including 'The Analyst' which has been printed by the firm for the Royal Society of Chemistry since 1922, and catalogues for Stanley Gibbons and other companies. They provide a data retrieval system when authors submit their disks and the data is transcribed into whatever printed format required. 87 07 29 [4.3]

1987 10 16
Bowes and Bowes, Cambridge's oldest bookshop, marked the end of an era and the beginning of a new. The building on the corner of Trinity Street started as a bookshop under William Scarlett

in 1581. It was acquired by Daniel and Alexander Macmillan who in 1845 laid the foundations for one of the largest publishing firms in the world. It became a literary centre where figures like Thackeray and Charles Kingsley were frequent visitors. Now it has been completely redesigned and reopened under its new name of Sherratt and Hughes. 86 10 16 [2,2]

1987 11 11
Sydney Cockerell, the Grantchester bookbinder who helped preserved some of the world's most important works has died, aged 81. An expert at restoring and repairing ancient manuscripts and early books, he revived the art of marbling paper. He bound works by Wordsworth, Milton and Tennyson and he designed and tooled binding for the House of Commons Book of Remembrance and many historic volumes. He was awarded the OBE and received an honorary degree from Cambridge University. 87 11 11

1988 02 20
Cambridge is set for a battle of the booksellers after news that the Waring and Gillow furniture store in Sidney Street will be refurbished as Dillons Bookstore. 88 02 20

1988 10 01
Dillon's bookstore, the largest in Britain, opens on site of old Dorothy – 88 10 01b

1988 11 16
Laurence Fletcher was given the challenge of opening a new Christian book shop in Cambridge in 1951; now Mowbrays which was founded in Oxford almost 140 years ago has a world-wide reputation. At his retirement party the Bishop of Ely read a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury paying tribute to Mr Fletcher's enthusiasm and knowledge of books: "I can't imagine King's Parade without him", he wrote . 88 11 16

1990 04 17
Hobson's Publishing, Bateman Street, which has announced losses may be taken over by Daily Mail and General Investments group – 90 04 17a

1991 01 10
Sherratt and Hughes, Sidney Street to close. Is part of Waterstone's Booksellers and seeking larger premises. In recent times was known as Bowes & Bowes which was owned by W.H. Smith in the 1950s and then involved in a number of mergers. Its site of the oldest bookshop – 91 01 10a

Spitfires at Marshall's, 1938 *169.40*

c.26.1 : Flying, aviation

Note: this heading includes non-Cambridge town stories
It does not seek to include stories about the RAF bases nor the detail of Marshall's airfield

Arthur Deck was one of the best-known inhabitants of Cambridge. Hundreds annually gathered on King's Parade to witness his quaint tradition of firing rockets at midnight every New Years Eve. As a young man he made balloon ascents including one from Fenner's when the balloon tore a slice off the pavilion roof. CWN 08 09 04 p5

E.P. Frost ornithopter recalled – 61 05 05b
Frost ornithopter photo 1887 – 61 05 12c
Royal Flying Corps history – feature – 62 05 17a
Balloon ascents – historical feature – 62 07 21

1888

1898 06
Death Colonel Frost, West Wratting aviation pioneer [1.10]

1900

1901 12 18
Mr Frank Cooper, an undergraduate of Clare College, made an ascent in a balloon from the grounds of the Welsh Harp, Hendon and dropped in a parachute from an altitude of 1,500 ft into the grounds of a private mansion about a mile and a half away. The parachute did not open immediately and the daring aeronaut had a dead fall of at least 300 ft after which the canvas inflated and then descended gradually. Mr Cooper is engaged in the study of aerostatics and intends to apply himself to the problem of aerial navigation, which he believes is possible by mechanical means CDN 1901 12 18

1902 01 28
Dr F.W. Hutchinson of Cambridge made an ascent with Mr Graudron, the aeronaut, from the grounds of the Crystal Palace in a balloon of 38,000 cubic feet capacity, to make observations with respect to the presence of bacilli in the upper reaches of the atmosphere. He took with him eight samples of sterilised gelatine and exposed them at different altitudes in order to capture stray microbes suspended in the air over London. These he intends to bring to Cambridge and cultivate, afterwards determining the nature of the bacilli he had collected. CDN 1902 01 28
Frederick William Hutchinson was born in 1868 and studied engineering at Cambridge University. He founded the Cambridge Autocar Co., Ltd., of which he was Manager and Director. He was also concerned with the design of the aeroplane in association with Edward Frost, described in Autocar July 1906 86 03 07

1902 08 12
All day the great mass of silk which was presently to make a journey to the skies was a source of deep interest. Around Parker's Piece where the balloon was taking its huge meal of 32,000 feet of coal-gas were rings of spectators. Slowly the gas inflated the silk, the aeronauts loosened the ropes and the balloon rose from the grass a graceful pear-like shape. After settling the final details Spencer gave the word for the two passengers to jump aboard, then with a startling rapidity the balloon leaped up and was soon several hundred feet above the earth. It first travelled in the direction of Hills Road but then, caught by a current of wind, sailed over to the Newmarket side. CDN 1902 08 12

1902 08 13
Enquiries were being made as to what had become of the balloon and her cargo which left Parker's Piece, where it had landed, and whether the two Cambridge voyageurs had returned safely. No one knew. One wag said that the quartet had been blown across the English Channel and landed at Dieppe. And there were those gullible enough to believe it. As a matter of fact the balloon did an hour's trip and covered 28 miles, landing in the grounds of Spencer's Grange at Great Yeldham in Essex c 02 08 13

1903 03 06
The well-known aeronaut, Rev J.M. Bacon, an old scholar of Trinity College said the afternoon of his first balloon ascent was a very boisterous one and it was only the consummate skill of Captain Dale that brought them safely to earth again. Not long afterwards Captain Dale was dashed to pieces and lost his brave life. He made one ascent to witness a wonderful shower of meteors when, instead of being up for two hours, he was drifting helpless for 10. His experiments in the use of a balloon in time of war and his races, carrying despatches against 70 cyclists, are well known and the graphic views which illustrated them made the lecture at Cambridge Guildhall additionally attractive. 03 03 06

1904 07 25

Residents in Cambridge were among the witnesses of a race between two balloons which started from the Crystal Palace. The first, named the Norfolk, contained Mr C.F. Pollock, D. Lloyd and J.T.C. Moore Brabazon and the second, the Aero Club No.1 contained the Hon C.S. Rolls, a former Cambridge man, Prof Huntingdon and Mr Frank Butler. Mr Pollock obtained a lead of several miles by trailing – keeping very low and trailing a rope along the ground – but this could not be done for long as a village had to be 'jumped'. When approaching Bottisham it was very near the ground and a number of cyclists awaited the descent; their hopes were doomed when the occupants threw out a quantity of ballast and ascended to a good height. A safe landing was effected near Ely for one balloon and the second was captured by a motor that was sent to chase it. CDN 25.7.1904

1904 08 04
Sir – last Monday night I was cycling from Eltisley to Cambridge and some time before I reached Caxton I saw on the right a large bright circular red light which disappeared soon afterwards. Shortly afterwards I saw it again, but this time it was an orange colour. It soon disappeared, just as a lighthouse light would. Next time it appeared it was green. It kept on appearing until I was close to Madingley. Later the moon rose in a directly opposite direction and I saw no more of the light. Can any of your readers explain? 'Curious' CDN 4.8.1904

1905 07 08
Mr Hutchinson of Brooklands Avenue attached a pair of natural wings to a swinging balance and actuated them by means of an electric motor in the way in which a bird's wings move. Encouraged by the experiments he constructed a larger machine with wings of 60 feet square, the power being supplied by a petrol cycle engine. The results are encouraging but no actual attempt at unrestrained flight has been attempted due to the probability of an unpremeditated decent. Were it to be exhibited at the Mammoth Show what a 'draw' it would be. 05 07 08b

1906 01 24
Haverhill Gale Committee told the court they arranged to have a balloon ascent with a double parachute descent. Mr Bidmead of Plaistow, an aeronaut and balloon manufacturer, agreed to perform for £21 and sub-contracted Mr Mizen and his wife to make the jump. The committee provided the gas, labour and sand; Bidmead brought the balloon but it was porous and when the gas was turned on it did not fill. The balloon did not go up and they sued for their costs which including posters came to £10 12s. 06 01 24a & b & c

1907 09 07
Arthur Deck, senior, is Cambridge's oldest balloonist. In 1877, when he made an ascent from York, he initiated the custom of throwing cards from a balloon with a request that they should be posted by the finder. At that time considerable nerve was needed to brave the almost unknown dangers of high altitude. His adventures have not been confined to this side of the channel: many years ago he made an ascent from Paris 07 09 07b

1908 02 15
Some excitement was caused in Fulbourn by the descent of a large balloon with two aeronauts on board. Coming from the direction of Shelford it passed over the golf course and dropped into a field. The aerial travellers – one an old Trinity Hall man – said they left London at noon with Cambridge as their objective. The balloon was deflated and packed on a cart ready for the return journey per Great Eastern Railway. 08 02 15d

1908 10 09

A sensation was created at Sutton by the descent of a monster balloon near the Chain Causeway. It was the renowned 'Valkyrie' carrying the champion lady balloonist, the Hon Mrs Assheton Harbord which had been inflated at Battersea Park Gas Work hoping to sail as far as Peterborough. It landed without the slightest difficulty and was packed in a cart for conveyance to Sutton station. Mrs Harbord's motor car had followed the balloon for some distance but the chauffeur had lost sight of it so, after being entertained by Walter Haddock of the Brooklands, she took the train from Ely. CWN 08 10 09 p8

1908 11 13
Perhaps it will be some comfort to the party of revellers near Selwyn College the other night to know that the balloon they saw was a real one and the occupants living men and not huge white rats. It was the 'Daily Graphic' balloon on its unsuccessful attempt to reach Siberia and contained an old Trinity man, Capt E.M. Maitland. He says he distinctly recognised the Roman Catholic church and burnt some red flares as they passed over the town. CWN 08 11 13 p5

1909
University undergraduates built biplane in vacation – Flight Magazine May 1909, ebook 693

1909 02 19
Airships were the real menace, Burwell Rifle Club was told. Foreign nations had an immense number of them capable of living up in the air for 48 hours away from their base. They could carry half a ton of dynamite. They could not dodge over floating ironclads and attack them but they could drop dynamite into our naval dockyards and a navy without a base was not a navy at all. The authorities in the United States were very worried about them 09 02 19

1909 05 22
The unknown airship whose nocturnal wanderings in East Anglia have caused such a sensation is said to have been seen in Downham Fen eight days ago. Mr James Wilkin thought he heard the noise of a motor car but could not see one. His son said "Didn't you see it! It was an airship!" Other people in the locality observed the mysterious stranger, which is said to have gone in the direction of Littleport 09 05 22

1909 06 04
Mr William Lack states that when he was in Taylor's Lane, Swavesey, at 2.30 am, he saw a large object in the sky which had every appearance of being an airship. The object had a strong light at its head and another at its tail. It appeared to be passing towards Huntingdon along the line of the old road from Cambridge. A police constable however, who was patrolling at the same time, saw nothing of the apparition 09 06 04

1909 06 09
Concern that airships might land on Parkers Piece, fear that flag found on Midsummer Common was dropped from German airship [3,20)

1909 06 11
It is a surprise that Cambridge has long been immune from the raids of the 'scareship'. There are splendid places such as the roof of King's College chapel where a Zeppelin might find a lovely anchorage. Now a flag flaunting an eagle rampant has been picked up in the dead of night. This gaudy tinselled thing lies stowed away in the police station bearing the inscription 'This flag, believed to have been dropped from an airship, was found on Midsummer Common'. Nervous readers should be assured that it is a flimsy trifle, two inches square, and it is thought improbable that the owners will return in search of their missing property 09 06 11

1909 06 25
Something strange was seen in the air over Knapwell. The policeman hurried to the scene on his bicycle where a crowd had collected, confident they had caught an airship. It proved to be a balloon which contained one passenger. The aeronaut's name was not known but 'C.S. Rolls' was marked on the canvas and it is thought it came from London. The balloon was packed up and conveyed by horse and cart to Old North Road Station. 09 06 25

1909 07 10
Rumours of airship being built near Cambridge {3.21J

1909 09 17
At Oakington and all-British monoplane being built by Grose and Feary … embodies patent stabilising apparatus – OF 09 09 17

1909 09 17
All Cambridge will soon be taking a deep personal interest in aviation. In a large barn at Oakington is the slim wooden skeleton of one of the first all-British monoplanes. The plane, which will soon be completed and ready for trial spins, is the joint work of Messrs A.M. Grose and N.A. Feary, two expert London engineers. It will be fitted with a 20 horse-power engine and has already been entered for the 'Daily Mail' £1,000 prize for the first circular flight by an all-British aeroplane. They selected Oakington for the express purpose of dodging inquisitive Press but gave a courteous interview to the News representative CWN 09 09 17 & CWN 09 09 24

1909 09 28
Notes on Mr Frost's flying machine at West Wratting, now beyond recovery [3. 22]

1909 10 08
Oakington aircraft news – 09 10 08

1909 10 22
Shoppers had the unusual opportunity of seeing an aeroplane in the streets of Cambridge. It was an all-British monoplane invented and designed by Jack Humphreys, founder of the British Aeroplane Syndicate and one-time Cambridge resident. He had worked day and night at Wivenhoe to get the machine ready for the Blackpool meeting and had hoped to put it on the train there. Instead he had it towed it to Cambridge but missed the turning at Station Road and had to drive through the narrow central streets until he could get back. A crow of railway officials, crossing-sweepers and daintily-dressed ladies quickly clustered around it. CWN 09 10 22

1909 11 26
Mr Dennis, a man of the utmost credence in Isleham, states quite seriously that on Tuesday night he saw a floating light in the sky. Struck by the unusual spectacle he watched it proceed in a straight light across the railroad and on to Fordham. Mr Dilley, the Newmarket and Isleham carrier was on the road near Fordham at the same time but saw nothing CWN 09 11 26

1910

1910 02 25
Mr F.C. Pruden has been experimenting with a new cycloplane which he has invented and which he kept in a shed at Needham Hall, Elm. The machine embodied some very novel ideas and great care was observed in keeping the thing secret. It was all but completed and a trial trip had been

arranged but about midnight flames were seen bursting from the shed where the machine was stored along with a motor car. Both were completely destroyed. It is believed the fire was the work of an incendiary as villagers saw a man riding quickly on an unlighted bicycle. CWN 10 02 25

1910 02 25
A fine aviation ground is to be established Huntingdon on the site of the old racecourse due to the enterprise of a syndicate to be known as 'Aviation Courses Limited' who hope to have flying in progress during the Whitsuntide holidays. It will be started under the aegis of the Royal Aero Club supported by Lord Sandwich and a Huntingdon and Midland Counties Aviation Club will be formed. A grandstand is being erected, the Humber Company are erecting workshops and they anticipate the co-operation of the Bleriot School of Aviation. There will be periodical race-meetings and international gatherings of aviators 10 02 25o

1910 04 01
Huntingdon proposed aviation course proceeding and the first machine, a Bleriot monoplane has already arrived. The owner, James Radley has been granted permission to use the ground for trial flights OF 10 04 01

1910 04 08
The first real flying machine ever delivered in Cambridge arrived at the Hobson Street garage of Cambridge Automobile and Engineering Company. It is an exact counterpart of the monoplane with which M. Bleriot flew across the channel. On Friday the engine, tractor and ignition were tested. It worked splendidly and developed great power, the screw creating a tremendous draught and exerting such a force that, although the machine had not its wings and tail fitted, it took half-a-dozen men to hold it down. 10 04 08a

1910 05 20
Inspired by the Oakington aeroplane four young scientific instrument makers named Wallis, Knightley, Booth and Miller, all living in Chesterton, decided to build a flying machine. For their workshops they hired a large barn in High Street, Chesterton, where the machine now lies practically finished. The only thing that has been copied is the warping of the wings for steering which is a Wright patent. In the whole machine there not a single nail, but it is all fixed together with some 3,000 brass screws. It is expected that flights of about a quarter-mile will be obtained. It is throughout an all-British machine and the first and only biplane that has been made in Cambridge, It is to be removed to Royston in a few days where some trial flights are to be made. If there are successful as is probable, an engine will perhaps be fitted to the machine OF 10 05 20 Oakington aeroplane – 59 10 30a & b, f & g

1910 07 08
A peculiar accident occurred to the new Wallbro' airplane built by Messrs P.V. & H.S. Wallis during the course of a trial run. Through some means or other the machine turned a complete somersault and, although Mr P.V. Wallis, who was driving, jumped to the ground unhurt, the aeroplane suffered considerable damage. The machine, which is housed in a field near Abington, landed upside down. Messrs Wallis Bros are by no means disheartened through the accident OF 10 07 08

1910 08 06
Wallbro all-British aeroplane made by R.S. & P.V. Wallis, the Cambridge motor ***cycle cracks***, was exhibited at the Mammoth Show in a large marquee and the engine and tractor were set going at intervals attracting an enormous amount of interest … between 4,000 & 5,000 people

inspected it. The committee decided that a flight should not be attempted owing to insufficient space for starting and possible risk to the public … August - TT 10 08 06, CDN 10 08 02

1910 04 08
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1910 05 13
Snugly housed in a shed in the rear of a house in St Barnabas' Road reposes a brand new flying machine of the monoplane variety which has been designed and built by the Bros Wallis. The CDN had an opportunity of inspecting the machine and seeing the engine and elevating and steering apparatus tested. We came away greatly impressed with the graceful and workmanlike lines on which it is built. The machine embodies a number of novel ideas and is one of the lightest and strongest yet made. If not exactly the first flying machine that has been seen in Cambridge it is certainly the first one built in the town 10 05 13 a & b

1910 06 03
An Elm man told the court that two years ago he commenced to build a cycloplane. It ran on the lines of a bicycle or tricycle and if one pedalled hard enough it made it fly. It had planes and various things attached to it and was of considerable interest. But it was absolutely worthless as a flying machine. It was destroyed when its shed had been set on fire and now he was charged with defrauding his Insurance Company. 10 06 03 & a

1910 07 08
The new 'Wallbro' aeroplane built by P.V. & H.S. Wallis of 12, St Barnabas Road, met with a very remarkable mishap during the course of a trial run in a field near Abington. They intended to test the pulling powers of the engine and not attempt a flight but the machine suddenly rose completely off the ground and sailed along at a height of three or four feet. She continued to fly like this for several yards and then the back part was seen to rise in the air and the front to sink towards the ground. Finding himself unable to right the machine Mr Wallis stopped the engine and sprang out. The monoplane slowly turned a complete somersault, eventually landing upside down and there lay with its wheels in the air like some giant insect on its back. 10 07 08b

1910 07 29
Cambridge Bank Holiday Mammoth Show in aid of Addenbrooke's Hospital. Exhibition of the 'Wallbro' Aeroplane fitted with engine complete but owning to lack of space and possible danger t the public a flight cannot be permitted. Thurston's electric bioscope. Firework Display – advert 10 07 29b & 29d

1911
Aviation at Hardwick, 1911 – exploits – 58 01 24b and 58 01 31c

1911 03 31
A scheme for the development of Port Holme, Huntingdon, as an aviation centre is virtually an established fact. Mr James Radley, who was the first aviator to use the meadow will play a prominent part in the undertaking. Hangars will be placed on the meadow near the Great Northern Railway where his original hangar was erected. Works have already been taken for the

construction of aeroplanes and numerous sheds are expected to be erected shortly. Most aviators consider Port Holme to be the best aviation ground in England, easily accessible from London and the North 11 03 31f

1911 06 09
What were believed to be five aeroplanes passed over Cambridge for a few minutes on Thursday afternoon. They were at a great height and travelling at a rapid rate and were out of sight in about a minute and a half. When observed, two were first noticed. These were followed at some considerable interval by three others. One of the spectators suggested they were pieces of paper, and another that they were birds. But their colour – they looked perfectly white –the absence of lateral movement and their peculiar oscillating flight with occasional glides, seemed to contradict this idea. They crossed the town in a north-westerly direction, evidently moving at a great speed 11 06 09b

1911 07 28
Littleport Show held in the grounds of Highfield House was a gratifying success. A great many were attracted by the announcement that an aeroplane flight would be attempted and they were not disappointed. The machine – one of the Bleriot type belonging to the Midland Aviation Syndicate – was wheeled to an adjacent field and the aviator made several flights. He would have continued longer but for an accident to the propeller, one of the arms having broken in the course of a descent. The machine was exhibited in a tent until five o'clock when it was wheeled out. A force of police kept the crowd under control. A large field was selected for the start. The fen men, who had never seen an aeroplane before, described it as 'like a self-binder'. There was a large cheer when the aviator took his seat and started the engine. In the first attempt the machine travelled from one end of the field to the other at a height of about 15 feet. It then headed towards Lt Downham and rose beautifully while the crowd cheered. It had travelled some hundreds of yards when the aviator, for reasons best known to himself, descended in a field of corn. In order to facilitate a start for another ascent the aeroplane was taken to a clover patch. There was a considerable delay and the majority of the crowd had returned to the show ground when the machine was seen again to rise to 50 feet but then the aviator planed down to earth again. It did not descend so well as on previous occasions and it was reported that an accident had happened. A proportion of the propeller had broken off. This put an end to the flying and the crowd dispersed, satisfied that a flight had really been made 11 07 28c

1911 08 25
The proposed army manoeuvres have been abandoned due to the drought. This is a disappointment to local tradesmen. The tender of G.P. Hawkins had been accepted for the supply of bread to troops expected at Cambridge, Gt Wilbraham, Babraham, Fulbourn and elsewhere. Bicycles hired for the use of the advance party engaged in constructing telegraphs were returned to Robinson's bicycle showroom. The Royal Engineers encamped near Whittlesford station will take down the telegraph posts and wires already erected. Landlords of village inns have cause to regret the abandonment for the advance party of troops had evidenced a liking for a variation of camp fare. 11 08 25b [4,
4,4,5]

1911 08 26
Plane designed by Lieutenant Holt & built by him & H Williams, Victoria Park, metal work done in University Engineering Laboratories, to fly in September; Holt, a graduate of Kings College has built 3 others which unsuccessful [4.3]

1911 08 11

A captive balloon attached by a steel hawser to a powerful traction engine, made a number of ascents at Cambridge Mammoth Show, giving passengers a magnificent view.The display culminated with a thrilling parachute descent from 1,600 feet by the famous aeronaut Captain Spencer. He dropped like a stone, then the parachute spread out and he floated down near Jesus College grounds. The balloon, freed from his weight sprang upwards, the sun glistening on its yellow casing before descending at Exning where it was the object of a great deal of attention from a large crowd 11 08 11 & a

1911 08 11
Alphonso Smith, one of the passengers along with Messrs King, Pamplin and Wallis in Captain Spencer's balloon describes the landing in a field near Exning. 'Some horses were greatly frightened and rushed about frantically, one breaking down a fence and escaping. Some oxen proved more sensible. They looked quietly on and took it all in. Many willing villagers squeezed the gas out of the balloon and were rewarded for their services. After ten minutes one of Mr King's drivers arrived in a motor car and we were rapidly covered back to the Mammoth Show in time to witness the splendid display of fireworks' 11 08 11i
An ancient certificate will stir memories of older readers who remember the Mammoth Shows. It was presented to Alphonso Smith, a boot and shoe maker, and records that he ascended in balloon 'Enchantress' from Cambridge on August 7th 1911 and descended at Exning one hour later. It is signed by Percival Spencer, aeronaut of Highbury whose other activities included parachute descents and airship flying. 56 07 06a

1911 08 25
There was considerable excitement near Histon railway station on Wednesday evening when the Army monoplane which has been manoeuvring in the district was seen flying towards the village. Not being at a great altitude, the queer-looking machine was seen quite plainly and the public had a good view of it as it hovered towards Dry Drayton before finally alighted at the military manoeuvres camp at Hardwick 11 08 25g

1911 09 01
A practical joker drove into Wisbech in a powerful racing car and announced that Grahame-White, the famous airman would fly into the town that evening. A large crowd gathered in a field selected for the landing but there was a high wind blowing and it was announced he had landed at St Ives. The crowds reassembled next morning and scores of cameras were placed in position. But the news broke that the whole thing was a hoax. The man had circulated the same story at March and crowds of people also waited there 11 09 01g

1911 09 01
Large crowds have witnessed successful flights during the week by the Army airmen encamped at Hardwick. Lieut. Cammell, flying his own Bleriot monoplane, was expected to arrive from Hendon shortly after dark on Friday night and petrol flares were lit on the camp ground which acted at once as beacons and as a guide to the most convenient place to land. But at Baldock he ran into a storm and was compelled to alight. He arrived early next morning. He later made another flight when the sight of the aerial monster combined with the noise it created terrified some farm horses. 11 09 01f

1911 09 01
Aviation is much too expensive to be enjoyed by the ordinary man. But Mr H.W. Holt, a graduate of King's College, has been building from his own patents a machine to carry one person. When finished the 'Dihehededral triplane biplane tandem' will be one of the lightest and smallest of flying machines. The greatest part of the metal work has been done by Mr Holt at the University

Engineering Laboratory and the machine is being erected on the premises of Mr Harry Williams in Victoria Park. It should soon be complete and ready for flying 11 09 01e

1911 09 01
Lieut. Barrington Kennett in his aeroplane descended in a field midway between the villages of Elsworth and Papworth, his flight being interrupted by the wind. Many people went to see the machine, a Bristol biplane no.F8 of the Air Battalion. He resumed his flight next morning, six or seven people being interested enough to view the start at 5am. The aeroplane rose gracefully as a bird and was soon out of sight in the direction of Huntingdon 11 09 01h

1911 09 22
Cambridge folk will regret the death of Lieut Reginald Cammell, the gallant Army airman who was killed at Hendon while flying a new Valkyrie machine. He had extensive service with army dirigibles but then took up the heavier-than-air type of machine and had flown a Bleriot monoplane to the recent Army Air Battalion encampment at Hardwick where it had been in a hangar for several days 11 09 22c & d

1911 10 13
Mr Moorhouse, who was recently an undergraduate in Cambridge, caused a good deal of excitement by making an unexpected decent on in his monoplane on Parker's Piece. He was flying from Brooklands to Huntingdon and was making a good trip in perfect weather when, on nearing Cambridge, which he at first thought to be Huntingdon, he found himself short of petrol. At Trumpington his monoplane was flying at a height of 9,000 feet and then commenced gradually to descend. Mr Moorhouse alighted near the large central electric light standard on Parker's Piece. An immense crowd quickly ascended, the airman's visitors including the Mayor (Ald. George Stace). With some of his college friends, Mr Moorhouse attended a performance of 'Niobe' at the New Theatre and for some hours the monoplane was the centre of attraction. Wheeled up by the University Arms, it was temporarily housed under a tarpaulin and protected by police. The next morning, with 20 policemen keeping the crowd 'clear', Mr Moorhouse left for Huntingdon. 11 10 13 CIPof

1911 10 13
Mr Moorhouse paid a second 'flying visit' to Cambridge. The footballers playing on Midsummer Common abandoned their game at once when the machine came into view over Castle Hill. The aeroplane looked as if it must come down among the crowd, but the airman managed the descent very cleverly, and, travelling a short distance only a few feet from the ground, eventually alighted very smoothly rather less than a hundred yards from the railings on the Maid's Causeway side. On his ascent the machine rose gracefully and easily over the trees and the river. It quickly attained a height of nearly 1,000 feet before he made a circle over Chesterton and then sped off towards Huntingdon, He is an intrepid young man of whom more will doubtless be heard in the future 11 10 13b

1911 11 03
The airman who made two wide circuits of Cambridge on Wednesday evening was Mr W.B. Moorhouse, who had flown from Huntingdon, whither he returned in the dark, guided by the flarelights on Portholme. The journey of 40 miles occupied 42 minutes – 11 11 03

1911 11 24
On Wednesday afternoon a monoplane was observed to be flying over the fields to the west of the allotments at Bourn, going in a northerly direction and apparently following the Old North Road. The airman seemed to be flying at a height of three or four hundred feet. Meanwhile work on the

church tower is progressing. Outside the spire had been nearly covered in new lead sheeting and inside workmen are shoring up the tower above the great western arch. 11 11 24g

1911 12 01
The young airman, W.B.R. Moorhouse flew over to Cambridge and alighted on Butt's Green, departing two hours later. He took with him a parcel of shoes made for him by Frank Dalton of Bridge Street that he'd ordered a week ago. Several improvements had been made in the monoplane since his last visit including a bottle labelled 'Cherry Brandy' fixed inside the 'conning tower' fitted up with a flexible tube with a mouthpiece so that he could take a 'nip' when so disposed. The news rapidly spread and several hundred spectators watched his take off. 11 12 01j

1911 12 08
Mr Moorhouse made a fine cross-country flight from Huntingdon aerodrome, landing at Northants County Golf Course. After lunch he made a circuit of several villages before returning. He found travelling slow and the cold was so intense he had to descend to a lower altitude. On Tuesday he made a flight by moonlight, making a number of circuits, descending safely by the light of petrol flares 11 12 08b

1911 12 29
Several Cambridge people cycled to Huntingdon to view the flying at Portholme Meadows. They saw two machines in the air and watched Mr Moorhouse make a beautiful spiral volplane (guide with the engine cut off), then give chase to some sea-gulls. The landing ground was practically flooded and when descending his machine entered the water, causing the tail to lift and turning it completely over. Down it went into the water with Mr Moorhouse in the well of the machine. Numbers rushed to help but before they arrived they saw the aviator come crawling out from under the plane and walk knee deep to a horse and trolley. He seemed none the worse for his involuntary cold plunge 11 12 29 also another plane crashes on landing

1912
Military manoeuvres 1912, airships – feature – 82 09 24a

1912
Colonel Cody flew over Cambridge during Army manoeuvres at Hardwick, 1912 – photo – 39 09 30

1912 04 19
E.P. Frost letter of appreciation from Aeronautical Society on his retirement as president – 12 04 19h

1912 04 26
Mr W.B.R. Moorhouse covered the 80 miles between Huntingdon and Brooklands at a speed of a mile a minute. Steering a 50 h.p. Gnome engined Bleriot monoplane, the aviator started at 7.05 am, the weather being perfect. A little more than an hour later he was passing over Hendon but then ran into a thick mist at Hampton Court and had to descend to within 60ft of the earth in order to steer a good course. He made a safe landing at Brooklands at 8.25am. 12 04 26f

1912 06 28
A crowd of about 10,000 watched Mr H. Ewen, the 'Daily Mail' airman give a flying demonstration from the University O.T.C. parade ground. The Caudron biplane was wheeled out of the enclosure and the engine started up. He ran along the ground for about 150 yards then rose

into the air amidst the cheers of the crowd. On reaching a height of 600 feet he flew over Grantchester and Trumpington. The wind was too treacherous for him to attempt any risky manoeuvres but the public were quite satisfied and cheered as he landed. Mr Ewen was called upon for a speech but felt he had given a 20 minutes exhibition and had done his task. 12 06 28e [1.16, 3.25]

1912 06 28
Some little excitement was caused on Saturday evening by several balloons travelling over Gamlingay in a northerly direction. One dropped within shouting distance and having ascertained its whereabouts, rose and floated away. The aeronauts were taking part in a long-distance contest from Hurlingham and some reached Yorkshire before descending. 12 06 28k

1912 07 12
Nardini, the Italian airman, landed at Huntingdon after an adventurous journey from Birmingham. His destination was Hendon but he lost his way in the Midlands and ran into a terrific thunderstorm, his machine being buffeted in an alarming manner by the hurricane. Suddenly he observed an open space, and making a volplane landed by pure luck in the centre of Huntingdon aerodrome. The airman was almost frozen and his hands were numbed. The monoplane suffered some slight damage in the storm 12 07 12h

1912 09 27
Mr W.H. Ewen who conducts the orchestra at the Cambridge New Theatre won fame as one of the first airman to fly to Cambridge. He founded the first flying school in Scotland and flew across the Firth of Forth in 1911. He made a flying tour on behalf of the 'Daily Mail' and chose Cambridge as his first stopping place, landing his Caudron biplane on the University Rifle Range, Grange Road on 27th June 1912 - CDN 30 09 27a, b & c

1913 04 11
A new water plane designed and constructed at the Huntingdon Aeroplane Works by Messrs J. Radley and Gordon England was taken to the Port Holme in the hope of a trial flight. High winds made this impossible until Tuesday morning, when the breaking of a driving chain just as a start was being made, still further delayed operations. The first flight was made on Thursday, Mr England, covering about two miles at 20 to 30 feet from the ground, and demonstrating the power of the machine to remain in the air with only two of the three engines running 13 04 11 p12 CIP

1913 04 18
Percival Spenser was the first balloonist to take an active part in military aeronautics when his balloon was attached to an armoured-plated train drawn through dense tropical forests then released to rise so he could give the position of the enemy's forces. He made balloon ascents at the last two Mammoth Shows which will be long remembered. On the first occasion the balloon was carried to Exning and on the second Mr Spencer and Miss Spencer made a double parachute ascent and later ascended again, coming down near Manea Station. 13 04 18 p8 CIP

1913 04 18
Some excitement was caused at Cottenham by the descent of a balloon in a field of Mr Lewin's on the Oakington Road. There were two occupants who hailed from Farnborough and were out for military practicing purposes. The balloon was packed up and conveyed to Cambridge station by Mr F. Norman 13 04 18 p12 CIP

1913 08 07

Colonel Cody killed; on visit to Hippodrome many years ago spend mornings on Midsummer Common with man-lifting kite – 13 08 07

1913 10 24
Future of aeroplanes – their part in war, lecture by Hiram Maxim, inventor of Maxim guns, to University Engineering Society. Considered helicopters, balloons and aircraft powered by steam engine 13 10 24 p5 CIP

1913 04 25
Sir Charles Rose, the Liberal MP for East Cambs, died with tragic suddenness in his motor car as he was returning from Hendon Aerodrome where he had taken a flight in a biplane. It had circled at a moderate height for seven minutes and on landing he said he had enjoyed the trip. The Coroner ruled that the excitement and exhaustion of the new experience had brought on a heart failure. An aeroplane was not suitable for those getting on in years. Aeroplaning should be left to the young, vigorous and robust. Sir Charles might have survived many years had he lived a placid and quiet existence. 13 04 25 p10 CIP

1913 11 14
The Bovril airship encountered a strong headwind while passing over St Ives and the pilots decided to land. But it was impossible to bring the machine to earth. Repeated efforts were made to descend but the airship refused to answer to the landing gear and they were compelled to remain aloft in a wind sufficiently strong to render the situation distinctly dangerous. It was not until within six miles of Cambridge that they were at length able to come to ground. The pilots set it down to some extraordinary atmospheric phenomena which cannot be explained. 13 11 14 p8 CIP

1914 03 07
School of Aviation to be established near Cambridge- [4.7]

1914 03 27
Mr John Edmund Thornely, the 17-year-old son of Thomas Thornely of Merton Hall, 'looped the loop' at the Eastbourne aerodrome. He is believed to be the youngest airman to perform this feat and the first Englishman to do so on a biplane. He intends to do so again, with and without passengers. A native of Cambridge, he was educated on the Army side of Malvern College and began training a year ago. He has always been interested in all forms of sport and is a good rider, a good shot and has driven motor cars in races at Brooklands – 14 03 27i & j

1914 05 22
Gustav Hamel monoplane - 6,000 people assembled in the Rock Meadow for sensational .exhibition of flying in an 80 h.p. Morane-Saulnier of compact build. He circled above the field, skimmed the ground and then looped the loop to the accompaniment of loud cheering. Opportunity was given to fly with Mr. Hamel and the fee fixed with £5 5s. There were six bookings.14 05 22 CIPof [1.25,4.2] 14 05 22k

1914 05 22
Mr. Hamel after his brilliant display at Cambridge he departed for Paris with the intention of bringing back a new Morane-Saulnier monoplane, driven by a 160 m.p.h Gnome motor. He is said to have left Boulogne at half past one o'clock, and afterwards to have been seen at Calais, but after that all traces of his flight have been lost. The weather in the Channel on Saturday was extremely unfavourable for flying. Search was made in the Channel and the North Sea by ships, but on Tuesday all hope was given up 14 05 29 CIPof 14 05 22l

1915 01 22
German Aircraft Raid. German aircraft made a raid on the East Coast on Tuesday evening and dropped bombs on Gt. Yarmouth. Sandringham, King's Lynn, Cromer and Sheringham. The accounts of the attacks vary in details, notably in regard to the number of people killed, but they agree on the main facts. The first attack would seem to have been made on Yarmouth at about half-past eight o'clock. It was too dark to discern the hostile craft, but nine bombs appear to have been dropped on the town and two people killed. A soldier was also injured, and several of the townspeople sustained wounds from broken glass. The damage to buildings does not seem to have been extensive. Subsequent raids were made on Sandringham and King's Lynn, and on Cromer and Sheringham, where bombs were dropped. Two people were killed at Lynn. The accounts in this case speak definitely of a Zeppelin. Whether the raids were made by the same aircraft cannot be said but a telegram from Amsterdam speaks of four German airships passing over the Dutch islands earlier in the day. 15 01 22 CIPof

1915 05 07
W.B.R. Moorhouse, airman, died of wounds 15 05 07 p4
William Rhodes Moorhouse, early flier – history – 65 08 14b

1915 08 06
Playhouse to feature Capt Villiers' wireless airship to fly around the auditorium controlled by wireless apparatus from stage and bomb audience with balls 15 08 06 p4

1915 08 20
Down in field. —An Army plane came down recently at Thurling, in the neighbouring county of Northamptonshire. The pilot was Lt. Broughton, said to hail from Cambridge, who was on his way from Farnborough to Cambridge, and descended at Thurlng to ascertain the locality. By a piece of bad luck he landed in a ditch, in the middle of a field 15 08 20 CIPof

1915 08 20
Cambridge aviator lands in dyke – Lieut Broughton lands in Thuring – photo – 15 08 20d

1915 09 10
Zeppelin Raid. The Press Bureau on Wednesday issued the following report; Three Zeppelins visited the Eastern Counties last night and dropped bombs. Anti-aircraft guns were in action. Aeroplanes went up, but were unable to locate the airships. Fifteen small dwelling houses were demolished or seriously damaged and a large number of doors, windows, etc., were broken. Several fires were caused but were promptly extinguished. There was no other serious damage. The following casualties have been reported: Killed 10, seriously wounded 20, slightly wounded 23, missing (believed buried in debris) 3. Incendiary and explosive bombs were also dropped in London. Total casualties in all areas: Killed 20, seriously injured 14, slightly injured 72 15 09 10 CIPof

1916 08 23
A captured German aeroplane of the Albatross type, the gift of the Government to the University. When the aeroplane is erected it is to be housed in the Engineering Laboratories when a small charge to view. The machine, is to remain in Cambridge as the property of the university. All the parts are here and the machine appears to be in good condition with the exception of the propeller, which was smashed, and a British one substituted for use in this country. The aeroplane is a two-seater Mercedes six-cylinder, 130 horsepower machine, and was used: for observation

purposes only. The number is A374, and it weighs exactly a ton 16 08 23 CIPof 16 10 11 CIPof 16 08 23a [1.14]

1917
Cambridge School of Flying operated from field at Hardwick, had French Caudron biplanes – memories of visit in 1917 – 66 12 03

1917 05 16
Flight Serg. Frederic Slingsby, RFC, awarded Military Medal – was attacked by German, he fired 140 rounds then landed plane after pilot killed – 17 05 16g

1917 05 30
Future of aviation, E.P. Frost envisages transatlantic aerial ship with ten engines, fuel being picked up mid ocean; had been writing about such things in 1883 – 17 05 30b

1917 06 06
Cambridge School of Flying and Aerodrome Company Ltd at Hardwick is equipped with hangars housing five Tractor Dual Control biplanes; until recently was only open to military pupils but now training for pupils intending to enter the Royal Flying Corps or Royal Naval Air Service. The machines are Cauldron biplanes. Frequently open for the public to witness exhibition flights – 17 06 06a; illustrated advert 17 06 06b

1917 09 26
Stackyard fire at Eversden. Fire had broken out in the stackyard at the Manor Farm, Great Eversden. It was sad to see the corn stacks burning, and the stables and granary were burnt to the ground. A heap of nine ton of coal also caught fire. To add to the excitement, an aeroplane was seen hovering around, and descended in a field behind the fire. The airman had lost his bearings and thought the fire was an aerodrome. The volunteers were put on guard while the airman had a night's rest, and next day he started off for has destination. 17 09 26 CIPof

1917 12 03
Lighting offences at time of the Zeppelin raid, 19th October – 17 10 31a

1918 05 01
Aeroplane crash. Two men of the R.A.F. were up in an aeroplane ten miles out of Cambridge when some portion of the wings broke away & the machine came to earth. One man was found among the wreckage and the other about 20 yards away. An R.A.F. officer spoke at an inquest of seeing the machine stunting 18 05 01 CIPof

1919 05 05
Histon raised £13,800 and had plane named after it; account of its service when piloted by Cambridge man – 19 05 05b

1919 10 21
The Cambridge School of Flying started in 1916 and was open to those applying for commissions in the Royal Flying Corps for training as air pilots. A field was rented from Mr Lilley, a farmer in the old world village of Harston. Soon afterwards only cadets entering the R.F.C. were admitted. After the serious side was finished for the day it was natural that young men of high spirits should have an occasional ‘rag’. They removed the sign from the village pub and fixed it to the gate of the church. An investigating policeman found his bicycle missing; it was found in the branches of

the highest tree. The villagers were very tolerant and forgiving, friendships were formed and some found life's partners in this romantic old village 19 10 21b & c & d

1919 11 10
Undergraduate. M.P.'s son killed in aeroplane accident at Fowlmere – 19 11 10d

1920

1920 09 01
Hardwick Aerodrome sale of airplanes and equipment owned by Cambridge School of Flying; planes including Avro two-seater, some damaged, sold cheaply; hangars – Ch 20 09 01b

1920 11 11
Air supremacy, discoveries will be made at Cambridge; when undergraduates fly – address to scientists - CDN 20 11 11

1921
Oxford v Cambridge air race established 1921 – feature – 90 12 20a

1921 02 16
Parachute descent by Major Orde Lees witnessed by several thousand in Huntingdon Road meadow – 21 02 16a, b

1921 08 24
Croxton air smash; two Duxford officers killed – 21 08 24a

1922 02 01
Squire Frost of West Wratting – obituary – 22 02 01c portrait – 22 02 01a

1922 08 12
Parachute jump from balloon at Cambridge by children of Captain Spencer the well-known aeronaut; came down at Burwell [3.24]

1923 10 15
An Avro biplane was taking two passengers over Cambridge yesterday afternoon and when returning to the licenced aerodrome on Barton Road, the under-carriage fouled the hedge, causing the machine to fall almost vertically on its nose. The pilot was slightly injured. The passengers were uninjured and motored the pilot to the Evelyn nursing home where he was detained. The machine, which stands in the field in an almost vertical position, appears to have suffered but little damage other than that sustained by the under-carriage 23 10 15 [4.1]

1924 03
Two planes collide Duxford, men killed [1.27]

1924 05 13
An aeroplane came to grief while alighting in a field on Barton Road, Cambridge, and the pilot and two passengers had a narrow escape from serious injuries. The plane was attached to Edward's Flying Service, which provides flights from a field off Barton road. It appears that the pilot was about to land and was manoeuvring for a position suitable to the direction of the strong wind when the engine stopped, and he was forced to land. The aeroplane crashed into a hedge and turned completely over, its back being broken 24 05 13

1924 05 19
A Belgian balloonist came down at Ely in a pond ten feet deep. He was taking part in a big race from Brussels for a £2,000 prize. He crossed the Channel during the night and had a very rough journey. His balloon is said to be the smallest in existence and the pilot had to stand all the time he was in the air. It came down at Norney farm and was pulled out by Mr Herbert Cross, an Ely farmer 24 05 19

1924 11 05
Four R.A.F. men had an exciting experience in an aeroplane crash at Barway. The Vickers Vimy developed engine trouble and a landing was made in a stubble field. For a score of yards the aeroplane ran along the ground at the rate of nearly 80 mph and all would have been well had not a four-foot dyke barred the way. The machine crashed into the opposite side of the dyke, its nose penetrating the earth. The impact caused the 'plane to swerve completely round and almost turn a somersault. Fortunately it rebounded on a even keel and the airmen were able to alight, only one sustaining slight injuries 24 11 05

1925
Cambridge University air squadron formed [5.10]

1925 04 04
R33 airship passes over Cambridge [1.15]

1925 08 29
Duxford air crash, 25 08 29 p5, inquest 25 08 31, p5

1926 06 07
A large crowd assembled in the grounds at Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge to see the daring leap from an aeroplane by Mr Geoffrey V. Peck. The descent was made with a Guardian Angel parachute from an aeroplane travelling at nearly 100 mph and 1,000 feet high. Crowds rushed to the adjacent field where Mr Peck had landed; he was surrounded by eager autograph hunters and signed innumerable photos. Passenger flying was very popular and the pilot will loop the loop and corkscrew at a slightly higher cost. The two aeroplanes belong to the Southern Counties' Aviation Company and are quite reliable so anyone who would like to fly should avail themselves of this opportunity 26 06 07

1926 06 08
Sir – the aeroplanes which make daily trips from a field off the Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge, are becoming something of a nuisance. They have been here nearly a month and show no signs of going away. They fly low over the houses and are even more of a nuisance on Sundays. A quiet residential district like the Rock Estate is not an appropriate district for amusements of this kind which should be carried on over open country, far from places where people live and work – John Bousfield, Cavendish Avenue 26 06 08

1926 06 09
Sir – you published a letter complaining of the noise and inconvenience caused by aeroplanes at present operating from a field on Cherry Hinton Road. These 'gypsy' aircraft companies which tour up and down the country giving joy-rides are educating the country up to aerial transport. They are giving people an "air-sense" which is essential before aviation can become at all general; people have to be made to realise how extraordinarily safe flying is even at present,

when several problems of control have yet to be completely solved – S.V.C., Christ's College c26 06 13

1926 08 18
A Duxford aeroplane crashed on the Gog Magog golf course, killing the pilot. The fatality occurred on the first tee, the machine first hitting the road and crashing through the hedge; as it struck the ground it burst into flames and was soon reduced to ruins. Bullets were flying around all over the place. Some time after the accident the pilot's tunic was found with a fountain pen and letter, both only slightly damaged. His hat was found intact and inside this was his name. We understand he had recently inherited a large sum of money 26 08 18

1926 09 03
Capt Ronald Leavey, who was burnt to death when an aeroplane he was piloting crashed and burst into flames near Leatherhead, is not unknown to Cambridge. Two months ago he visited Cherry Hinton where he took many passengers up at different times for pleasure flights, and also accomplished many noteworthy feats of daring in the air. His untimely end will be regretted by all who met him 26 09 03

1926 10 30
Two aeroplanes from Duxford Aerodrome came down on Coldham Common, one being overturned and considerably damaged. One of the machines in a flight of five passing over Cambridge was observed to be in trouble. The single seater fighter had been engaged in firing practice at the Wash. He made a good landing, coming to rest near the bathing-place with just a buckled wheel. A similar machine went to its assistance but was not so fortunate; it struck some bumpy ground and turned right over, coming to rest flat on its back with the wheels in the air 26 10 30

1927 04 19
Sir – there are a large number of persons of both sexes who are intensely interested in aeronautics and would welcome the formation of a light aeroplane club. Learning to fly in this way is moderately cheap and invigorating. This county specially suited for flying as in almost every village several fields may be selected which would make excellent landing grounds. – R.C. Jonas 27 04 19

1927 09 26
Duxford plane crash inquest, 27 09 26 p6

1928 03 28
The largest bombing aeroplane in the British service, the "A" came down on Newmarket Heath and was exceedingly fortunate to make a safe landing. P.C. Bacon saw the aeroplane cross over Newmarket and turn back. It was evidently in distress for it had a strong searchlight turned on the ground as if seeking a landing and was firing red warning lights from its signal pistols. The descent was rather hurried and the plane bounced ten feet into the air from the impact with the earth. One of its two engines had ceased to work; mechanics put it right and stopped a leak in a petrol tank and the plane resumed its flight. 28 03 28

1928 09 10
Captain Harry Spencer, the famous balloonist, was killed while attempting to release a balloon piloted by his son which had descended on the roof of a house belonging to Rugby School. He became affected by the escaping gas and rolled off the roof. He was responsible for the design of the famous parachutes with which he made hundreds of descents and in 1922 his son and

daughter, then 14 and 16 years of age, made simultaneous parachute jumps with him at Cambridge from a height of 3,000 feet. 28 09 10

1928 12
Aircraft collide, Whittlesford [2.9]

1929 03 16
The University Proctors have considered regulations for students who desire to use aircraft during term time. Undergraduates flying their own or civilian aircraft may lead to annoyance from low flying and accidents. A Light Aeroplane Club has already been formed which gives facilities for flying within a few miles of the University. Now no student may fly as pilot or passenger during term time without written permission from his parents and tutor. Those offending will be liable to be punished by suspension, rustication, expulsion or otherwise. 29 03 16 c

1929 03 26
The new edict with regard to flying by undergraduates is well timed. Conington aerodrome is used by the Aeroplane Club and now comes news of a private aerodrome for Cambridge. Marshall's, automobile engineers of Jesus Lane are opening it shortly. It is on the main Newmarket Road less than two miles from Cambridge. There is a railway station 200 yards away and a 20-minute bus service connection. One hangar has already been erected and the whole site is about to be put down to grass. Marshall's are agents for the de Havilland Aircraft Company and already have their own demonstration machine ready at the aerodrome. 29 03 26 c

1929 04
Cambridge Aero Club opens airfield at Conington [2.10]

1929 04 20
Visiting R101 at Cardington – 29 04 20

1929 04 27
Duxford aircraft crash - 29 04 27 p7

1929 05 15
Alan Cobham's flying circus plans; Varsity flying rules – 29 05 15, p5

1929 05 29
Flying pageant on Sunday opposed, 29 05 18 p7*

1929 06 10
Cambridge air pageant for opening Marshall's, 29 06 10, p8

1929 06 11
Conington air thrills, p8* 29 06 11

1929 06 11
Sunday air pageant, 29 06 11 p8*

1929 11 01
The R.A.C. has decided to extend the benefits of its 'Get You Home' service to members of the Club whilst flying. It has hitherto provided a relief car free of charge for their members who have broken down on the road but a considerable number are now either owners of light aeroplanes or

are members of flying clubs. Should any of them whilst flying be compelled to make a forced landing they will be able to send for an R.A.C. relief car and be conveyed to the nearest railway station. If the plane is of the folding wing type that can be towed on a public road the R.A.C. is prepared to pay for its conveyance to any town within the limits of the scheme. CDN 1.11.1929

1929 11 01
The giant airship R101 passed over Cambridge after a visit to Sandringham. It appeared shortly before three on its way towards Cardington. The great ship glittered in the low November sun as though made of silver and hundreds of people came running into the streets as they heard the noise of the engines. As it receded into the distance it appeared like some strange monster floating on the misty horizon. At Newmarket races there was a cessation in the betting and all race glasses were trained towards the sky. CDN 1.11.1929

1929 12 14
F.A. Ridgeon, the Cambridge Town Football Club's inside left, travelled by aeroplane to Sussex for the F.A. Amateur Cup tie with Southwick. There was some doubt whether he could make the match owning to duties in Stamford preventing him from travelling by train. Hearing of his difficulty Mr D.G. Marshall of Aviation Hall generously placed his Moth aeroplane at his disposal. His son, Arthur Marshall, would have piloted the machine but he had gone on an air trip to Austria so a de Havilland pilot was engaged for the journey. This is, we believe, the first time an amateur footballer has travelled to a match by air. Cambridge won 2-0. CDN 14.12.1929

1930

1930 01 17
The R100 airship which made a long flight from Cardington in fog was seen as a fleeting but fascinating object over Swavesey. Emerging from the mist like a spectre of the sky, the giant vessel attracted admiring attention as the sun glinted on her silvery nose, which, approaching head-on, was turned into the semblance of a full moon. She circled round the locality before disappearing in the fog in the direction of St Ives. 30 01 17

1930 04 23
A News reporter experienced the thrill of looping the loop in the joy-ride aeroplane now giving flights from the Cherryhinton Road ground: "We bounced across the bumpy field and before I was aware of it we had left the ground. We climbed until I saw the hand of the pilot's altitude clock creep round to the 2,000 feet mark. Suddenly we seemed to be hurtling downwards at a tremendous speed and I felt I had left my tummie up above. I saw fields and roads above, then the sky came back over the top. I suppose we had been upside down, but it seemed as if it was the world that had turned over. It was great fun" 30 04 23a

1930 06 16
By the courtesy of A.G. Marshall of the Newmarket Road Aerodrome, who placed a plane at the disposal of the C.D.N., our representative was able to secure a bird's eye view of the bumping races. "I could hear nothing of the general buzz which must be going on by the river, only the roar of the engine and the voice of my companion through the speaking tube. He tells me he is regulating his height so that we are well in gliding distance of a landing place all the time. I am very comforted – I should hate to drop on Jesus or a crew just making a bump", he writes. 30 06 16 & 16a

1930 06 21

Aviation history was made when a Puss Moth aeroplane, one of the latest models of its kind, arrived at Cambridge airfield. It carried English oak caskets of samples of Leicestershire granite chippings. A cargo such as this has never before been transported by air. The idea of the flight was to further the interests of commercial aviation and to test opportunities afforded by this method of increasing sales 30 06 21aa

1930 08 12
The air exercises have begun and squadrons of fighting planes took off to engage in bitter combat. Until the very last minute of peace 250 aeroplanes were being secretly moved to vulnerable points and the men in command have been planning their attacks. Five night bomber squadrons, nine day bomber squadrons and 11 fighter squadrons will be engaged. Some are fitted with robot controls which can relieve the pilot for extended periods on long flights. 30 08 12

1930 10 06
Rumours of the R101 airship disaster were received with incredulity in Cambridge where thousands of people had seen it passing over. Early on milkmen and postmen had the story that it had crashed in flames, but details were lacking. Inquiries in London confirmed that the greater part of the passengers and crew had perished and a special edition of the C.D.N. was issued. Amongst the victims was Walter Radcliffe, a rigger on the airship, whose wife is a daughter of the late Mr Charles Isaacs, the well-known Newmarket racing correspondent. 30 10 06b-e

1930 10 20
The 'Westland Wessex' three-engined six-seater cabin monoplane de luxe arrived at Marshall's aerodrome. A CDN representative, seated in a padded brown leather seat with arm and head rests found it glided so smoothly that he could scrawl down his experiences in his best hand. From the air the new estate at Milton Road gave the appearance of a toy town, King's College chapel was a landmark and the white-fronted Central Cinema very prominent. There is no vibration and the businessman can take his secretary, for letters and notes are typed with ease. 30 10 20

1931
In 1931 Dr Norman de Bruyne, then aged 26, set up the Cambridge Aircraft Construction Company which produced the Snark, a rakish four-seat light, strong monoplane monoplane. The first flight was uneventful, apart from the engine stopping while it was flying over Cambridge, but it landed safely. It was held together with casein glue which had been used on all wooden aircraft. Then he set up a new company, Aero Research at Duxford where he developed Aerolite, formaldehyde glue which was used during WW2 for the construction of motor boats and transport gliders. In 1947 the firm became part of CIBA 87 09 11

1931 01 23
Huntingdonshire county council sanctioned the use of Wyton Aerodrome as a municipal airport. Some said it was wrong for the children at the nearby county sanatorium to have aeroplanes always buzzing about, especially if one crashed near the building. 85 per cent of the 120 children were from other districts and if parents knew there was an element of danger they would not send them. But it was an ideal site and were the council going to say 'We don't like it because it is going to frighten little children". (Laughter) 31 01 23c & d

1931 04 24
A thrill of romance marked the departure from Marshall's Aerodrome of a gleaming silver Puss Moth monoplane bearing its bridegroom pilot, Mr A.G. Marshall, and his bride on the first stage of their honeymoon. He took his seat at the controls, the propeller whirred and the graceful machine glided forward. In the next few seconds it was rising steeply into the wind, while rain

fell from a heavy cloud. The bridal couple however were quite cosy in the saloon cockpit. 31 04 24e

1931 06 19
An aerobatist was killed at the University air pageant. He was flying an Avro, looping the loop, rolling and spiral diving when the machine appeared to break and crashed to the earth. Mr Honour, ground engineer at Marshall's Flying School, said that tools were kept at the aerodrome for extricating pilots but some delay was caused as the machine was made of metal, not wood. He obtained a hacksaw to cut part of the wreckage and within 20 minutes the pilot was taken to Hospital, terribly injured. 31 06 19b

1931 07 17
Marshall's Aerodrome was visited by a party of continental airmen when ten planes, including two containing young ladies, flew in from Heston Aerodrome. After tea and a chat they left by motor coach for a hurried tour of the colleges before flying out again. It is the first time any private French and Belgian pilots have paid an organised visit to England. 31 07 17I

1931 07 31
A serious accident occurred during a performance by Capt. Barnard's aerial circus at Port Holme, Huntingdon following a passenger flight. A young woman had just been up for a trip and, on alighting, walked around the wings into the revolving propeller. The blade struck her left shoulder, smashing the bone. It was not revolving at great speed, otherwise she would have been killed outright. The force of the blow stopped the propeller instantly. Despite the mishap the programme of aeronautics continued and the passenger flights proved very popular 31 07 31a

1931 08 21
A heavy, gusty wind and driving rain greeted Captain C.D. Barnard and his famous monoplane, the Spider, when he visited Cambridge. But when it abated a number of people took trips knowing they would be dry in the plane. 20 readers of the CDN had been given free tickets for a ten-minute flight and enjoyed the experience; one young lady laughingly remarked she felt 'a bit funny' coming down. 31 08 21e

1931 10 09
Glider built by Slingsby and Armstrong of Scarborough on display in Slingsby's workshop – photo – 31 10 09f

1932 06 22
The Prince of Wales landed in his red Puss Moth monoplane at Marshall's aerodrome. He jumped hatless from the plane, then donned a boater and drove to the Leys School where he opened the new squash courts and sports ground. On his return he was assisted into his raincoat in preparation for a lofty flight in search of a favourable wind before he stepped into his monoplane, soared gracefully aloft and headed for London.32 06 22a

1932 07 29
Littleport was plunged into gloom after a fatal accident at the Show. A man died when his parachute became entangled in the rudder of the plane. The machine at once tail dived and drifted backwards over an oatfield. The right-hand wing struck the ground and the propeller dug into the soil. The pilot lay bleeding and about 30 feet from the tail was a mark caused by the body of the parachutist striking the ground. His wristwatch was still going. 32 07 29f

1932 10 01

Alan Cobham's Flying Circus visits Cambridge [1.17]

1932 10 14
Cambridge town councillors saw their constituencies from a new angle when they took the air in Sir Alan Cobham's big liner. He was visiting Marshall's aerodrome with his fleet of planes and many gathered to see his display. The Mayor was unable to be present and the deputy mayor preferred solid ground. When the party was about to take off it was discovered to number 13, so the County Chief Constable stepped into the breech and the plane both ascended and descended safely. They made a comprehensive survey of the town with its ring of new housing estates though the new County Hall looked more impressive than the huddled roofs of the Guildhall. 32 10 14a

1933 05 18
Hangman's Corner, Barton Road presented a scene of excitement when the British Hospital's Air Pageant visited Cambridge and all afternoon there was the incessant 'zoom' of aeroplanes 'taking off' and landing. All-in advanced aerobatics provided a thrill; the 'crazy' flying drew many a gasp whilst equally entertaining was the dancing to music by the tiniest machines in the show. Wing-walking and parachute jumping were presented, together with balloon bursting and a chase after a 'kidnapped' bride. One machine which caused amusement was Mr Heath Robinson's conception of a Chinese dragon: the 'flying motor cycle' 33 05 18

1933 05 19
Air pageant held at Barton Road [1.9]
Pauline Gower and Dorothy Spicer were friends of Amy Johnson – indeed they had plans to go into business together, but when Amy continued her record flying the other girls set up a company to give joy-rides to the public, Pauline as the pilot and Dorothy keeping the plane in good trim. They joined the flying circuses which visited the Cambridge area in the early 1930s. The programme always began with a formation flight on which passengers were carried, so that everybody around would know there was an air circus in town. There would be balloon bursting, paper cutting, bottle shooting from the air – an endless supply of beer bottles lined up in front of a screen at which the pilot fired as she flew past. The bottle always smashed (but, say Harry, the gun fired blanks and the bottle was hit from behind the screen with a sledgehammer). Later in the '30's the girls based themselves at Hunstanton, living in a gipsy caravan on Searle's donkey field and giving flights to holidaymakers. Memories 3 Sep 1998

1933 05 26
Sir Alan Cobham's great air display at Marshall's Aerodrome showed all kinds of flying and many were the thrills his pilots provided. During a demonstration aerobatic flight with a passenger the plane dived and looped, twisted and turned and did everything a plane could do. But at the end the hardy individual who had decided to take the flight actually managed to walk without assistance and appeared to have enjoyed his literally hair-raising trip immensely. 33 06 01 33 05 26f

1933 06 08
A Newnham College student was summoned for dangerous flying. Mary Barnard said she had taken off from Marshall's flying school on a solo flight and descended to 1,000 feet over her College. But Dr John Bury, who had flown for five years, said she had descended rather rapidly, then flattened out and crossed Corpus Christi gardens at about 600 feet, he could read the letters on the plane quite clearly. As it was the first prosecution of its kind the magistrates decided to dismiss the case with a caution. 33 06 08a

1933 09 20
The pilot of a Gypsy Moth was summonsed for low flying at Fen Ditton. He had hired the plane at Marshall's aerodrome but then began 'hedge hopping', looping-the-loop and narrowly missing telegraph poles. Roy Fisher, the ground engineer at Marshall's waved a piece of white fabric to try and attract the pilot's attention and then Mr Marshall went up in a Puss Moth in an attempt to bring him down. They flew together but the man did not land with him. He told magistrates he had served in the RAF but was fined £5 33 09 20

1933 09 27
Flying-officer Norman Styche, who formerly lived in Fordham and Cambridge, was one of two men who perished when their bomber crashed at Bamburgh after a successful "battle" against the Home Fleet. Having attending Soham Grammar School he had got books on flying out of the library and learnt all he could. He had previously been in two crashes, but was unhurt in both. 33 09 27

1934
Site sought for aerodrome near Coldham's common [1.24]

1934 03 03
Marshall's Flying School had offered to buy Elfleda Farm, Fen Ditton for a public aerodrome, county councillors were told. Financially it would be a very good deal, giving them a profit of £3,000 for land they'd earmarked for smallholdings. But it was a very growing neighbourhood and the aerodrome would be a source of great annoyance to residents who didn't want these noisy things coming at all hours of the day and night. Mr Marshall would be getting a thunderingly good deal, others argued. The sale was agreed 34 03 03

1934 05 05
Air circus, Barton Road – 34 05 05, 34 05 07

1934 05 11
Sky Devils air circus held, Barton Road [1.6, 1.8]

1934 05 15
Marshall's Flying School propose to carry out improvements to their aerodrome and had purchased Elfleda Farm through which the proposed Ring Road would run. They asked the Council to move the route slightly east. But the Surveyor said this was not possible. The whole of the land is zoned for dwelling houses and this would be have to be borne in mind if any proposals were made to them for further developing this aerodrome 34 05 15

1934 06 15
A student, Cecil Hutchinson, made a dramatic race against time to attend the Cambridge Entrance Examination. He docked at Cherbourg early today on the Olympic on which he had travelled from New York, then chartered an Imperial Airways taxi which arrived at Croydon at 8.45. After snatching a hasty breakfast he flew on the Cambridge where he arrived a few minutes before the examination was due to start. The ship had decided in mid Atlantic not to dock at Plymouth, from which he had arranged to travel by train, so he cabled his father who arranged the air taxi. 34 06 15

1934 07 11
The first air display by the recently-formed Ely Aero Club attracted 2,000 people to their flying field on the Downham Road. An attractive programme of aerobatics had been billed but was

marred somewhat by the non-arrival of a number of machines. Despite this the crowd had plenty of thrills and many opportunities for joy riding. Mr H.R. Dimock was the first Ely citizen to own a private plane and his activities in the air had been watched with interest. The club hoped to have its own ground, own staff and own machines. 34 07 11

1934 09 13
Many thrilling flying feats were seen during Sir Alan Cobban's air display at Ely. The most popular machine was the multi-engined Handley Page 'Youth of New Zealand' in which passengers, seated in comfortable chairs in a roomy saloon enjoyed the experience of soaring over the Cathedral. Flight-Lieut Godfrey Tyson flying a 'Lincock' did aerobatics at high speed and took every liberty with the machine while Miss Jean Meakin's wonderful demonstration of gliding was outstanding and Ivor Price made a thrilling parachute descent. As a humorous item an old battered motor cycle was pelted with 'bombs' from the air 34 09 13

1934 09 22
A London pilot from the Klemann Air Services offered people flying trips in his blue Klemm monoplane from a field near the Gibbet Inn, Caxton. But he did not hold a proper licence to carry passengers for reward and the field was not approved as a regular place of landing and departure for aircraft. The landlord said the pilot had landed in his field and said he was looking to start a flying school. He had got permission from the owners, Paines the brewers, to put up an air indicator and applied to the Air Ministry for a licence which had not yet been granted. 34 09 22

1934 09 27
For the convenience of people wishing to travel to Newmarket races by air, the Stewards of the Jockey Club have approved the laying out of a private landing ground on the exercise ground north-east of the Rowley Mile Stand. It will be open each race day. No hangars have been erected but picketing gear and chocks will be available. Petrol and oil can be obtained by arrangement with Turner and Hore, Heath Garage. Charges will be two-and-six for landing plus one-shilling a head for all occupants 34 09 27

1934 10 02
Sir – since the demolition of the military aerodrome at the end of the war, Newmarket has taken a back seat in aviation activities because of the possible danger of aircraft upsetting nervous racehorses. But the opening of the special landing ground on the Heath may dispel the fears of trainers. Newmarket has a bigger call for speedy air transport than most towns. Bury St Edmunds will soon become an airport, Cambridge has the advantages of a splendid flying school and there is an Aero Club at Ely. Now perhaps we may look forward to a local flying club here – Edward Milner, Heath Villa, Newmarket. 34 10 02

1934 10 16
Col Roscoe Turner and Clyde Pangbourn, the Americans, arrived at Mildenhall for the England to Melbourne air race. Their plane, a huge dull grey Boeing Transport, was the 15th to reach Beck Row. Another machine landed on the old aerodrome at Conington. No damage was done, the monoplane being forced down through engine trouble. The pilot was Mr Lowdell, and the 'plane has been entered by Lord Nuffield. Mechanics were at work on the machine early this morning. Competitors are to see a film of the route to Australia at Mildenhall Town Hall on Thursday. 34 10 16

1934 10 19
Mildenhall air race to Australia – 34 10 19, 34 10 20

1934 12 11
A young airman who set out from Marshall's aerodrome ended his flight in the River Thames which he chose as a landing-place in order to save his own life and those of many Londoners after he had nearly run out of petrol. He had landed at Cambridge in his Moth aeroplane but did not fill up with petrol then ran into fog on his journey home and got lost. To land on the Thames was the best thing he could have done, for a Moth tearing down a street at 50 miles per hour does not give people walking there much chance of escaping injury. His machine floated and he was taken off by tug. 34 12 11

1935
Cambridge University gliding club formed - University Gliding Club celebrate jubilee 1960 – when formed in 1935 they used a horse to retrieve aircraft – 60 09 23e

1935 01 31
Gypsy Moth forced landing field Long Road – photo – 35 01 31

1935 03 01
A flight of three RAF aeroplanes were forced down near Cambridge. Two landed in rough fields near Dry Drayton and turned upside down. None of the pilots was injured. The other made a forced landing at Smithy Fen, Cottenham. The flight was of a very recent pattern single-seater fighters and had taken off from Duxford to practice for the Hendon Air Pageant. They ran into thick fog and received wireless instructions to make a forced landing. The squadron leader mistook a field of wheat for grass and turned his plane completely over on the rough surface. His flying helmet was covered with mud as a result of his skidding along upside down 35 03 01

1935 06 15
I dialled '0' and asked for Teversham 331. The answer came, "Marshall's Aerodrome". I said "How about that little trip we spoke of earlier". "Righto, come along at once. In a few minutes I arrived at the aerodrome and found a 'plane awaiting me. I tied my camera to a buttonhole in my mackintosh as we took off and made for Baitsbite where we could see the boats at First Post corner. Close co-operation between the pilot and myself was made easy by the speaking tubes and my helmsmen showed adaptability to the requirements of aerial photography, allowing me to obtain some interesting photographs. 35 06 15

1935 06 20
A number of readers of the 'CDN' saw the town from a new angle. Winners of our Free Flights Competition in connection with Sir Alan Cobham's air display went on a formation flight round the town. A number went up in the 10-seater air-liner while others took a 'flip' in the open planes which take part in the display. The rush of air past the face, the thrilling sensation as the plane dipped and the sight of Cambridge spread out mosaic-like made for an exhilarating experience and the winners walked more jauntily after their trip than they did before it! 35 06 20a

1935 07 02
The largest number of British warplanes every assembled in one spot have arrived at RAF Mildenhall for the Silver Jubilee review. Three hundred and fifty in number, from 38 squadrons, 'planes of the bomber, night bomber and fighter type have turned the green aerodrome into a sea of silver. But poor visibility caused the practice take-off to be postponed twice and owing to the time it takes to get airborne only 200 of them will actually participate in the fly-past 35 07 02a

1935 07 05

The King had 'Jubilee Weather' for his review of the Royal Air Force at Mildenhall Aerodrome where he inspected 28 squadrons of the RAF – five miles of aircraft in all – on the vast landing ground. The machines ranged from tiny 230 mph Gauntlets to giant bombers. Twice he left his car to learn some of the secrets of our latest flying machines including the power-driven machine guns mounted in the turret of an Overstrand bomber 35 07 05 & a

1937 07 19
Wyton aerodrome sold [1.5]

1935 07 25
Two RAF 'Bulldog' planes taking part in night flying exercises over Cambridge had to make forced landings when they were caught in a thick mist which came up suddenly. The pilots looked for an emergency landing ground and saw the lights of Marshall's aerodrome below. One succeeded in landing just before the fog blotted out the lights but the other five had to keep on flying until one ran out of petrol and had to make a forced landing at Duxford. In doing so the machine crashed and the pilot was slightly injured. 35 07 25

1935 08 15
A special meeting was called to discuss a complaint from Marshall's Flying School who felt the council was obstructing their business by aligning a road across the existing aerodrome site so they could not compete with a planned municipal airfield. Councillor A.C. Taylor had gone away on vacation but on receiving the agenda had chartered an aeroplane to get to the meeting. Ald Stephen said there had been a number of underhand actions and he wanted an assurance that Marshall's would not be prejudiced. It was agreed that the previous resolution was not in order. 35 08 15

1935 09 04
A crowd of 2,000 people invaded Marshall's Aerodrome to see a demonstration by M. Henry Mignet of his marvellous little machine, 'The Flying Flea'. Thousands of people would love to fly but could not afford an ordinary plane so he had built 'The Flea' which was a combination of kite and parachute. It cost £70 to build and can do 40 miles per gallon. He took it up to 1,000 feet and then cut the engine. The little machine floated gently to earth like a parachute and made a perfect landing. 35 09 04b – photo – 35 09 04

1935 11 22
The London branch of the Civil Aviation Corps was founded in 1934 and approached Marshall's Flying School who realised that such a corps could become of national importance. They have been coming to the Aerodrome regularly each Sunday and are now building a hangar for themselves where they hope to build a 'Flying Flea' and 'B.A.C. Drone'. Now Cambridge has started a local squadron; any young fellow over 20 years of age who is keen to fly will be welcomed. 35 11 22

1936
A 'Flying Flea' airplane was built by Mr W.V. Smedley of Wisbech in 1936 and tested in Cambridge. But when the test pilot was killed elsewhere, the machine was abandoned 63 10 11d

1936 01 28
The Air Ministry say it is very desirable that a new Cambridge municipal aerodrome site should be provided in the near future. Land at Milton had been recommended by Sir Alan Cobham but this would cost more than £33,000 and take at least two years to build. Messrs Marshall's

existing flying ground at Newmarket Road is quite inadequate for present requirements and they could have a new site at Teversham ready in a year, councillors heard. 36 01 28b & c 36 01 30a

1936 02 07
The question of a Municipal Aerodrome for Cambridge has at last been settled. Messrs Marshall's new aerodrome at Teversham will be of sufficient size to enable Cambridge to have a fully licensed airport competent to meet the needs of commercial and civil flying. The council will remove the present restrictions on the site and divert a footpath but will have the option of purchasing the undertaking in 40 years and afterwards every ten years 36 02 07

1936 07 24
A former undergraduate told the court he had hired a plane from Marshall's Flying School and flown to Caxton where he landed and then taxied towards the Gibbet. There was a haystack between him and the hotel and he hit a pole which had been erected with a wind-sock, but there was no wind-sock. The propeller and two wings were damaged. But he disputed the cost of repairs and said the job could have been done in three days and two wings were not necessary: he'd had a similar accident at Lympne when the machine had been repaired next day for £35. 36 07 24c

1936 09 21
Mr H.R. Dimock of Ely, an enthusiastic air pilot, had a lucky escape from serious injury when his machine crashed at Cardiff Airport. He had been demonstrating a Super Drone machine in which the pilot sits at the front, the propeller being above and behind his head. Mr Dimock's hat flew off and caught in the propeller, which snapped. Luckily he was flying fairly low and was able to bring the machine down with only a minor crash. His injuries were very slight 36 09 21

1936 09 22
An RAF pilot had a remarkable escape when his Bulldog machine – a single engine fighter – landed on the railway line near Six Mile Bottom. He was engaged in taking weather observations in thick fog when he got into difficulties and descended in a field, crashing through a fence and on to the railway track. The force of the impact cocked the tail up into the air and it became entangled on the overhead wires running beside the railway line. This probably saved the pilot's life. An oncoming train was stopped and passengers wheeled the plane into a field. 39 06 22b pic 36 09 22

1936 10 01
A pilot summonsed for flying at a low altitude over the Cam at Fen Ditton told the court he was carrying a photographer for the Sport and General Press Agency. Herbert Cook was taking pictures of the Bumping Races from a side window using an ordinary camera with a long focus lens. They had to fly across the river and would not have got good photographs if they'd come down to the tree tops. There were a number of other planes from Marshall's flying about. Spectators complained he was too low and had caused one of the waitresses at The Plough to spill the things on a tray in the tea garden. The case was dismissed. 36 10 01 & a

1936 11 03
An RAF pilot and observer had remarkable escapes from death when their plane came down and overturned in a field near the Gogs. The pilot thought the place looked safe enough to land on from the air but when the plane touched earth the rain-sodden ground caused it to smash its nose into the ground and turn over. The pilot's helmet was covered with dirt as a result of being dragged along the ground but he escaped with a bruised lip. The observer was entirely unscathed. Jack Utteridge, who has a petrol station nearby, was an eye-witness. 36 11 03a & 03

1936 11 06
Bassingbourn RAF proposed [1.3]

1936 12 12
Farmer killed in aircraft crash near Caxton Gibbet – 36 12 12c

1937 03 04
Sir Alan Cobham, the world-famous airman, spoke in favour of a nine-bedroom Airport Hotel on Newmarket Road. Every Continental airfield had a hotel where accommodation was available in the same way as at a terminal railway station. A man had a terrible inconvenience when he landed at an airport and a first-class hotel was one of the amenities which was going to make people fly. A rival proposal by Lacons Brewery was withdrawn: people like Mr Marshall who were training pilots were doing a work of very great importance and entitled to reasonable facilities. 37 03 04a & b 37 03 05l

1937 04 01
Airport Hotel approved – 37 04 01a & b

1937 04 09
Civil Aviation Service Corps first open day at Cambridge aerodrome; bomb dropping contest – 37 04 09

1937 04 29
Five RAF men were killed when two bombers collided near Methwold. Three machines were flying in V formation when the propeller of one caught the tail of the leading machine. Both 'planes fell, one bursting into flames and coming down in a field, the other crashing on the bank of the river Wissey. Part of this machine was submerged in the river. Men rushed to help from Wissington Beet Sugar Factory, half a mile away, and tugs were sent up river with tools. Inhabitants of Stoke Ferry saw the planes collide and two men make parachute decent. The squadron only moved to Feltwell from Scampton a few days ago. 37 04 29

1937 04 30
Marshall's Aerodrome's special fire engine meets Air Ministry specifications for fire, first-aid and crash equipment. It is finished in fire engine red and black, the front seats are upholstered in best selected black hide and fitted with outsized fire and alarm bells. It is designed to meet any possible emergency with an impulse magneto which, together with the dash carburettor flooder and emergency gravity feed petrol tank ensures instant and easy starting in all weathers. 37 04 30

1937 06 24
Fatal air crash at Fen Ditton kills Horningsea man – 37 06 24 & a

1937 09 10
Many people assembled at Marshall's Aerodrome to see the competitors in the King's Cup air race pass over on their journey northwards. The first swept in from the direction of Cherry Hinton, roared over the 'drome and were lost in the void beyond, travelling at over 200 mph. But the majority of the entrants made for the wrong aerodrome, heading towards the new one near Teversham and when they discovered their mistake had to bank round towards the town. 37 09 10a

1937 10 19

Major-General Ernst Udet, ace pilot during the war, was amongst top German airmen who inspected two squadrons of giant Heyford bombers and the latest Battle Bristol-Blenheims, Harrow, Wellesey and Whitley aircraft at R.A.F. Mildenhall. They went into the body of the Harrow plane and three sat in the cockpit of one of the others before watching the engines starting. The visitors, some carrying small dress daggers, also toured the station buildings including the mobile wireless transmitting, photographic and automatic control sections. 37 10 19 & a

1937 11 19
The new aerodrome at Teversham Corner is a great improvement. Pilots can glide down without having to dodge or scrape over trees or other obstacles and it is a pleasure to land on a flat piece of ground after the ridges on the old airfield. The size and spaciousness of the main hangar is impressive with huge sliding doors allowing any one of the single and twin engined civil airliners in use today to be accommodated with ease. A control tower is being built to replace the small one on the tarmac and a start has been made on a hotel. They should be in full swing when the aerodrome is officially opened next spring. 37 11 19 & a

1937 11 26
An inquest heard that three fighters had been attacking three bombers over Therfield when two machines touched wings and spun to the ground. One man fell out but his parachute did not open. – 37 11 26b – photo – 37 11 24

1938 01 20
Ely Aero Club (Humphrey Roger Dimmock, proprietor) let out planes for private hire but not commercial purposes. They'd received a telegram from a man in Coventry asking to hire a machine for a day. He'd been offered a Hawk for £5. But as the certificate of Air Worthiness was at the Air Ministry the man refused to hire it, saying he was not satisfied with the condition of machine. He'd flown to Ely, having to land at a village because he could not find the airfield, and claimed expenses for the journey and hire of another plane. 38 01 20a

1938 05 05
Charles Daisley, a library assistant of Coronation Street, was injured when the aeroplane he was piloting crashed at Quy. He was practising forced landings when the two-seater, of which he was the sole occupant, landed in a field and tipped sidewards. The front cockpit was damaged by the engine being forced into it. He was in the rear cockpit but sustained a broken nose and concussion. He was one of the first to join the RAF Volunteer Reserve when they started training in Cambridge a few months ago and was doing part of his 15 days' annual training. 38 05 02b

1938 06 18
Trainee pilot crashes at Marshall's aerodrome in Hawker Audax two-seater plane – 38 06 18

1938 08 04
Pilot parachutes from plane into beech tree at Thriplow, plane crashes Duxford 38 08 04

1938 08 05
Some 900 aircraft are taking part in an exercise testing the air defence of Great Britain. The attacking force will have 36 bomber squadrons (some from Bassingbourn and Wyton) while the defenders will consist of 23 fighter stations and 14 bomber squadrons, including planes from Duxford, Debden, Feltwell, Mildenhall and Stradishall. Anti-aircraft and searchlight batteries will be spread across the Eastern Counties. Bombers will fly without navigation lights unless other aircraft approach and fighters are forbidden from attacking below 1,000 ft 38 08 05a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Plane crashes at Melbourn – 38 08 08.
Mayor made tour of town, all in darkness apart from one or two lighted windows – 38 08 08b

1938 10 06
Cambridge aerodrome has been in use for some months but the building operations have only recently been completely finished. The immense aeroplane hangar already houses over 20 machines and has room for more. The engine overhaul and repair shops are every well-equipped and all the parachutes are stored, packed and aired. The airport hotel has lounge bar, dining rooms and kitchen with guest rooms on the second floor. I have seen a lot of aerodromes but this takes a lot of beating for its well-planned layout 38 10 06

1938 10 07
Cambridge airfield was opened by Secretary of State for Air. There was no airport in Europe, with the possible exception of Berlin, which is so conveniently placed in relation to the town. D.G. Marshall recalled that in 1919 he purchased his first hangar from the Disposal Board and bought his first aeroplane. Some of his neighbours had told them to take their business elsewhere and now they had moved further out. The Flying School has been run in full understanding of University regulations; in most aerodromes the most profit-making department is the club bar, but there is not one here. 38 10 07b & c

1938 10 10
Spitfires first public appearance at opening Marshall's airport – 38 10 10a, b

1938 10 15
New Cambridge aerodrome opened – 38 10 15a

1938 10 19
Two RAF Wellesley bombers collide over Gt Dunmow – 38 10 19a

1938 11 01
Mid-air plane collision near Dunmow inquest – 38 11 01a, b

1938 12 21
RAF plane crashes in snowstorm near Milton Road railway crossing – picture – 38 12 21

1939-45
Crashed aircraft in Cambridge WWII – Mike Bowyer article – 58 01 25 & a

1939 02 06
Ralph Ernest Wright, a 19-year-old Ely pilot, set out in a Hawker Hind for his usual Sunday "flip" from No. 22 Training Centre of the R.A.F. Volunteer Reserve at Marshall's on Sunday morning. Over Ely he attracted attention with his stunting. Later more aerobatics thrilled the people of Chatteris. Then the plane dived from about 1,000 feet, straightened out and rose slightly at about 500 feet, then dived again, striking the ground with a sickening thud. The machine narrowly missed a house and buried its nose deeply into the grass turf, killing the pilot instantly. 39 02 10 CIPof 39 02 06

1939 02 10
Inquest on pilot Wright of Ely, who crashed at Chatteris – 39 02 10

1939 03 01

Blenheim crash at Wyton inquest – 39 03 01c

1939 03 30
The A.R.P. First Aid post at Auckland Road will be staffed by a doctor and trained nurse and give more extensive first-aid. Two practices have already taken place. A sham air raid was enacted last night with casualties brought in by ambulance and unloaded by stretcher bearers. Nurses and orderlies under the direction of Dr Walker, dealt with them. Realism was added by squibs which were let off and red paint was used to give the impression of real wounds. 39 03 30 & a

1939 03 27
Marshall's airfield new hangars – 39 03 27

1939 05 19
An R.A.F. Volunteer Reserve pilot had a narrow escape at Marshall's Aerodrome. As he landed, his machine overturned, finishing up on its back. He ducked his head inside the cockpit, so escaping injury. The machine was badly damaged, but did not catch fire. 39 05 19 CIPof

1939 06 09
A young member of the R.A.F.V.R at Marshall's Aerodrome received concussion and the sergeant with him slight injuries when their plane crashed at Lode on Saturday. The crash occurred during practice flying. It is understood the plane hit a tree. Sgt. Stearn is a son of the Rev. A. J. S. Stearn, Vicar of Swaffham Prior. 39 06 09 CIPof

1939 07 28
Waterbeach Aerodrome. The Air Ministry of County Council proposed acquiring land at Winfield Farm, Waterbeach, as an aerodrome. The Council had 20 tenants there. Two of them won cups for the best smallholdings this year; both lost legs in the war. The Committee wrote to MP and made a strong protest to the Air Ministry. They said there was nowhere else they could possibly go. 39 07 28 CIPof

1939 08 19
Blinded by the dazzling beam of a searchlight and unable to see his instrument panel, an RAF pilot leaped by parachute from his plane as it dived to the ground and burst into flames at Steeple Morden. Flying Officer Jeff, of Debden, was flying a Hawker Hurricane in formation with two other planes when he was caught by the searchlight. He dare not move out of the beam for fear of colliding with the other planes and, unable to see his panel, got into a spin. He jumped out and landed in a churchyard. The machine fell near a cottage, setting fire to some trees and killing several chickens. There were several small explosions as flames reached the ammunition. All that remained was a charred and tangled mass of metal strewn about an orchard 39 08 19a

1940

Cambridge Military Chronicle 1939-1949 incudes reports of bombing raids not included in this summary. RAF airfields are also not included here

1940 09 20
Dornier Down. A Dormer 215 was brought down by anti-aircraft gunners in Cambridgeshire shortly before midnight on Friday. The three-inch guns damaged the bomber just sufficiently to force the German pilot to land. All five of the crew were taken prisoner 40 08 30 CIPof

1940 09 13

A man was killed when a barrage balloon drifted over Cambridge. Daniel Dunston was near the railway between Mill Road and Coldham's Lane Bridge when he was caught by a steel cable trailing from the balloon. He was carried for a distance of over 30 yards and then dropped, sustaining fatal injuries. Before the accident the balloon had passed over the town at a considerable height. In the Mill Road area it came lower, and the cable threw a wireless pole through the roof of a house in Mill Road. The interior of the house was not damaged and nobody was injured in this incident. The balloon then gained height and drifted in the direction of Teversham. At Teversham Hall an old chimney stack on a scullery was struck by the cable. A piece of the cable was snapped off and the balloon at once shot up into the air and continued in an easterly direction. Telephone wires were damaged and the electricity supply for a village was affected for a time 40 09 13 CIPof

1940 09 20
Junkers 88 crashed near Cambridge after being engaged by RAF fighters; four occupants taken into custody – 40 09 20a

1940 11 01
Nazis Surrender to Woman. When a Junkers 88 bomber was shot down at Stuntney two occupants, aged about 18 to 20, threw down their revolvers and gave themselves up to a woman, who was the first person on the scene. The two other members of the crew, who had baled out by parachute, were captured in Soham Fen and taken to Newmarket. The machine had been badly damaged by R.A.F. fighters and was finished off by another fighter. The Nazi pilot crashed on Mr. Owen Ambrose's farm at Quanea Fen. Mr. Ambrose told a reporter "The plane touched down in a ploughed field, jumped a ditch and came to rest in a beet field. The first person on the scene was Mrs. Ashman, who lives at the farm. As she approached the two men, they emptied their revolvers and threw them away. Other men from the farm came up and the Germans were driven away in a lorry by Mr. Brooks." The two who baled out were uninjured 40 11 01 CIPof

1941 09 27
Plane crashes garden Bene't Place, pilot killed – photos - 41 09 27

1942 04 03
Daring Rescue. The British Empire Medal (civil division) has been conferred on Mr Frederick Bertram Pearson farmer, of Westwick Hall Farm, Oakington, for the courage and determination he showed in saving the lives of two airmen when their machine crashed and caught fire. The plane, which was "bombed up", narrowly missed Mr Pearson's house, crashed through his garden and landed in an adjoining field, where it burst into flames. Rushing to the spot Mr. .Pearson found one man trying to pull another more seriously injured from the burning wreck. With great coolness, Mr. Pearson cut of the harness of the badly injured man and carried him clear of the flames on his back, giving a hand to the other man at the same time. While he was doing this the heat was discharging bullets and the bombs were liable to explode. Two horticultural workers from Oakington, Wilfrid Josiah Brickwood and Edward Jabez Smith, have also received commendations for their share in the rescue. 42 04 03 CIPof

1942 07 10
David Gregory Marshall killed while riding, founded flying school and motor company; bought first plane at end war and erected hangar; founded Flying School in 1929 and built airfield 1938 – 42 07 10a

1942 07 10

Tests of the first jet-powered fighter were conducted at Newmarket Heath where on 10th July 1942 taxying trial were held and two attempted take-offs made. It was then abandoned until more powerful engines became available. The first flight from the Heath took place in April 1943 but due to the bumpy surface fuel loads had to be kept to a minimum - 54 97 16

1942 10 06
Plane crashed in middle of Somersham, eight killed and six cottages wrecked – 42 10 06, caused by ignition of flare – 42 10 16

1943 01 04
Civil training plane, piloted by a woman, failed to take off from a local flying field at Cambridge and crashed into house, three trapped, pilot killed. House previously occupied by the head of the firm operating the flying field – 43 01 04, 43 01 06a

1943 01 30
Harry Denton Hartle awarded medal after plane taken off from airfield crashed and burst into flames near home, lived Milton – 43 01 30

1943 02 20
Folk Museum annual meeting, E. Saville Peck acting chairman, Frost's flying machine had been offered but was nowhere to store it – 43 02 20a

1943 04
Tests of the first jet-powered fighter were conducted at Newmarket Heath where on 10th July 1942 taxying trial were held and two attempted take-offs made. It was then abandoned until more powerful engines became available. The first flight from the Heath took place in April 1943 but due to the bumpy surface fuel loads had to be kept to a minimum 54 07 16

1943 04 12
Bringing bombers back to earth – work of the Flying Control during fog or when damaged – 43 04 12

1943 04 14
Construction of airfields – problems addressed – 43 04 14

1943 04 28
Plane crashes at Wilbraham Fen, kills pilot – 43 04 28a

1943 05 13
Plane crashes Newmarket racecourse, racing postponed – 43 05 13a

1943 09 06
University Air Squadron receive picture of Flying Officer Kenneth Campbell, the squadron's first 'VC', the pilot of a lone Beaufort that carried out low level attach on German battle cruisers in Brest harbour' Was 'up' 1937-1939 43 09 06

1943 09 17
Wonders of the Flying Fortress – visit to Memphis Belle – 43 09 17

1943 09 17

Wings for Victor" trophy presentation; includes five aircraft log books to be used in planes bought by Cambridge which will be returned after the war as a permanent memento – 43 09 17a

1944 02 24
Dornier 217 crashes on allotments – 44 02 24, photos 44 02 25

1944 03 06
Town Clerk's daughter killed in plane crash when testing Tiger Moth after repair – 44 03 06

1944 08 16
RAF plane crashes in flames at Burwell, civilian and three crew killed – 44 08 16

1944 09 04 Bomber crashes Pampisford, four crew and civilian killed; farmhouse damaged – 44 09 04; four American soldiers also killed – 44 09 05; inquest – 44 09 06

1945 02 06
Two aircraft crash in mid-air, one fell at Putney Hill Farm near Prickwillow and killed two children – Patricia Legge and Pamela Turner and three others who in bed were injured; - Mrs E. Legge, Mrs G, Howe and Mr R Howe; thought second fell at 'The Bracks' Wicken – CDN 1945 02 06a

1945 06 27
Cambridge and the balloon barrage: war work at the Gas Works – were 2,400 balloons. In 1940 supply of hydrogen became difficult and Cambridge approached as to facilities available such as blue water gas and steam or existing plant such as purifiers and gasholders. Was one of 19 sites selected and production hydrogen started early 1942, producing enough for 8,000 balloons. They brought down enemy aircraft over an East Anglian city. Output increased due large number balloons required for the flying bombs. Loads of long round steel cylinders on long trailers carried them. Ascents from Midsummer Common before the last war needed gas supplied from the Newmarket Road works by a main specially aid for the purpose. Recently have made nitrogen of very high degree of purity for Air Ministry – CDN 1945 06 27

1946 02 08
Elementary Gliding Training School at Marshall's hopes to increase 'field' activities – 46 02 08

1946 02 15
Battle of Britain pilot killed in Meteor crash at Milton – 46 02 15

1946 02 25
Landing planes in fog; radar wonders at RAF Bassingbourn – 'Fido' demonstration – 46 02 25

1946 03 02
Richara Morrow-Tait completes flying test for Air Ministry A Licence; has flown solo and will shortly attempt some long distance solo flights. Is first woman pupil to fly alone since war stopped civilian flying – 46 03 02a; photo – 46 03 13

1946 06 12
Cambridge University Air Squadron ceases its wartime function and reverts to peace-time role as flying centre for undergraduates – photo – 46 06 12

1946 09 13

First Meteor jet plane on exhibition at Marshall's – 46 09 13

1946 09 18
Lancaster crashes in field off Cambridge Road, Waterbeach – 46 09 18

1947 07 04
Oakington plane crash, 47 07 04 p8

1947 07 08
Flying officer R.W. Ford was ferrying a Meteor jet-aircraft from Gloucester to West Raynham yesterday, when turbine trouble forced him to attempt a landing at Cambridge Airport. He crash-landed in a barley field about 200 yards short of the airfield. The tail unit broke off, and the aircraft turned completely round before skidding to a stop. Flying Officer Ford stepped out, uninjured except for a chip in the skin on the bridge of his nose. Within an hour he was on his way in an Anson that had been sent to fetch him. Crash-apparatus from the airport was quickly on the scene and R.A.F., Waterbeach, provided a guard 47 07 08

1948 08 18
Flying a proctor light aircraft Mrs Richarda Morrow-Tait of Cambridge set out from Marshall's airport on her attempt to be the first woman to fly a light aircraft round the world. She was accompanied by her navigator and co-pilot Mr Michael Townsend of Cranmer Road, Cambridge. They carried only a minimum amount of baggage but included in it was a .303 rifle and ammunition, as part of the flight will be over uninhabited territory. Maps and baggage stowed away, including some sandwiches cut for Mrs Morrow-Tait by her husband the two climbed into the aircraft. Her husband said, "She is a wonderful person, full of courage and determination. The machine is an ex-RAF aircraft which has been thoroughly overhauled and fitted with a reconditioned engine. 48 08 18

1948 08 19
Miss Morrow-Tait, 24-year-old flying mother, today abandoned her around-the-world flight attempt. She left Marshall's airport yesterday but her plane was damaged in landing at Marseilles last night. She told Reuter's correspondent, "I hit a small ditch owing to bad visibility. The propeller was twisted, a wing damaged and the undercarriage also suffered. Our plan for a round-the-world flight in 200 hours is no longer realisable. I think I will probably go back to London and start again". When a C.D.N. reporter told her husband of her accident he said, "I don't care twopence about her abandoning the flight. I expect she will have another go" 48 08 19

1949 07 12
Sir - On 2nd July two Hornet aircraft flew over Kings College in perfect visibility at a height of well below 200 feet. My two children were very badly frightened indeed. I feel certain that even at the phenomenal speed of 400 mph in a somewhat out-of-date aircraft, a pilot should be able to avoid the centre of a town the size of Cambridge. There are some parents who have flown in aircraft, and their children too, and they have even been bombed by them. The curious fact is that young children are still scared to death of low-flying aircraft – Edward Leigh 49 07 12

1949 08 19
Cambridge's "flying housewife", Mrs Richarda Morrow-Tait, was resting following her arrival at Croydon last night on completion of her round the world flight, claimed to be the first to be made by a woman. She landed in England 366 days after she had set out from Marshall's airport where she learned her flying. She took off in a single-engined Proctor which was damaged in a forced landing and was replaced by a Vultee Valiant 49 08 19

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1949 08 29
Murrow-Tait film Central, 49 08 29 p6

1949 09 02
Mrs Richarda Morrow-Tait's famous round-the-world flight is now complete to the very last mile. Yesterday she flew "New Thursday's Child", the plane in which she completed her journey on August 19th, from Croydon airport to Marshall's aerodrome, the place where she set off on her mission just over a year ago. Flying alone, she got a particular thrill out of wearing a normal dress for the trip instead of the flying kit to which she had become accustomed 49 09 02

1949 10 13
Newmarket and surrounding districts were shaken by an enormous explosion when a giant 6-engined American B50, the latest type of US bomber still on the secret list, crashed at Isleham. All members of he crew, believed to consist of 12 airmen, were killed instantly. The blazing remains of the aircraft were scattered over the area of 500 square yards on the Beck Road. Neighbouring farm buildings and haystacks at Worlington were set afire. The B50 is designed for long-distance bombing and is said to be specially adapted for carrying atom bombs 49 10 13

1949 11 10
The Chief of Air Staff, Marshall of the R.A.F. Lord Tedder came to Cambridge to unveil the war memorial at Magdalene college and to open the new Headquarters and Mess of the Cambridge University Air Squadron at Chaucer Road. The Cambridge unit was the first University air squadron not only in Britain but the world 49 11 10

1950 02 18
Cambridge University Air Squadron's silver jubilee dinner at the University Arms also celebrated the arrival at Marshall's airport of an appropriate "gift" from the Air Ministry – the first batch of the eagerly-awaited new Chipmunk training aircraft which are replacing the squadron's Tiger Moth. In its 25-years the squadron had three types of trainers – the Avro 504, then in 1934 the Tutor and in 1940 the Tiger Moth 50 02 18

1950 04 25
An RAF jet "Meteor" fighter blew up in mid-air while flying over Newmarket, the pilot being killed instantly. The explosion, which shook the windows of houses and shops in the High Street, was seen by a large crowd of housewives who were out shopping. One witness said it completely broke up, folding into nothing. Only the fuselage held intact. The Meteor crashed into the ground some way off the Bury Road on the edge of Moulton Paddocks, and wreckage was strewn over an area a mile square. 50 04 25

1950 10 11
The crew of 11 of a USAAF B50 Super Fortress escaped when it crash-landed in flames at Mildenhall last night. The aircraft was returning from a routine flight and had one engine feathered. The right wing tip caught the runway and the external petrol tank burst into flames. The aircraft slid, burning furiously, for 500 yards but the crew scrambled to safety and were uninjured. The aircraft was a total loss 50 10 11

1951 02 05
Three survived out of a crew of eight when a US Superfortress crashed and burst into flames at Manor Farm, Abington Piggots shortly after taking off from Bassingbourn RAF station. The survivors were in the tail unit which broke away and somersaulted over the main wreckage into a

neighbouring field. The crew inside stepped out almost unhurt. Firemen entered the blazing fuselage in their search for the rest of the crew. Exploding ammunition added to the danger of the work 51 02 05

1951 05 04
All three members of the crew of a Wellington bomber were killed when it crashed at Brampton. The plane grazed the tower of the church, damaged the roofs of four cottages, struck a "keep-left" sign and ploughed into the garden of a house, demolishing a summer-house. The aircraft disintegrated, the main part of the wreckage lying in the Thrapston -Huntingdon road. 51 05 04 Inquiry 8th p6

1951 05 19
Weather conditions permitting, a helicopter will be used over Cambridge to make an experimental traffic count. It is believed to be the first time an aircraft has been used for this purpose. If the experiment succeeds it will mean a great saving in manpower. A series of aerial photographs will be taken from the helicopter by means of an R.A.F photographic reconnaissance camera operated by Mr G.P. Reece of University Cameras. A cine-film was also being taken of the flow of traffic at important junctions in the town. 51 05 19

1951 06 28
Waterbeach jet crash, 51 06 28 p7

1951 07 04
A partly-open parachute was found in the wreckage of a training plane that crashed in a field at Yelling, Hunts. It belonged to the pilot of one of two planes which collided in mid-air. The occupant of the other machine descended by parachute. Arthur Larkin, agricultural labourer of Staploe, Beds., said: "I heard a noise in the sky. I looked up and saw one plane diving to earth with a wing missing; the other one was coming in my direction but turned and dived". Parts of both machines were strewn over a fairly large area and the engine of one of them was buried in the ground 51 07 04

1951 07 13
The Royal Show brought considerable activity at Marshall's airport when an average of a dozen or more charter planes landed daily. Most of them were Rapides. The longest flight was from Prestwick, some 600 miles distant. The aviation side was represented on the stand of Pest Control Ltd; one of their Hiller 360 helicopters, fitted for spraying, rested on top of their stand. It was flown to the ground and landed without difficulty on the small platform 51 07 13

1951 08 09
A lorry driver was killed and an aeroplane crew of two seriously injured when a plane crashed at Ely. The Harvard two-seater from RAF Feltwell, first struck the top of a forge owned by Messrs Brand Brothers, then careered across the street, ending up with the tail and part of the body in St Mary's street, and the engine and forepart of the aircraft in a showroom belonging to Messrs T.W. Nice, garage proprietors. During its journey it hit a lorry owned by Darby's Sand and Gravel; its cab was hurtled into the showroom and the driver buried under the engine. One wing of the plane came off and overturned a car, the other ploughed into the middle of the road. 51 08 09

1951 08 29
An American F.84 Thunderjet hurtled out of control between the houses on either side of St John's Street, Beck Row and finally crashed outside the police station, killing the pilot. Several

houses were damaged by pieces of wreckage but there were no civilian casualties. The aircraft, carrying out a routine flight over Mildenhall airfield, struck the runway with a wing when doing a banking turn. The pilot attempted to regain control but the aircraft hit the wing of a bomber standing near, ripping it off. It flew down the road with bits of wreckage falling off it. Then the tailplane fell off and it crashed. 51 08 29

1951 08 30
Witnesses said that a Scimitar Wing Handley Page 88 experimental jet plane "bucked like a horse" and exploded in mid-air before crashing at Stansted aerodrome. The high-speed prototype research plane was only taken off the secret list this summer. A main feature is the wing (swept back and then swept forward), the design of which, with the speed and performance of the plane is still secret. A farmer said: "The right wing appeared to come off and then the plane turned and the left wing came off and the plane broke up". 51 08 30

1951 09 17
The pilot of a Meteor jet fighter was killed before 3,000 to 4,000 horrified spectators following a mid-air collision with another Meteor at the Battle of Britain "open day" display at R.A.F. Station, Waterbeach. His mother was among those who saw the accident. One Meteor crashed within 200 yards of the crowd, burst into flames and exploded. The other fell on the edge of the airfield near the Cambridge-Ely road. It too burnt and exploded. The display was abandoned and the station commander said over the loudspeaker: "In view of the tragedy you have just witnessed there will be no more flying to-day. You are asked to go home as quickly as possible". 51 09 17

1951 09 27
The cause of the aeroplane crash in St Mary's Street, Ely, in August when a lorry driver was killed instantly and a pilot instructor received injuries which proved fatal, will always remain a mystery. At the resumed inquest the surviving member of the Harvard training plane's crew of two could remember nothing from the time when he was asked if he would like to try some new aerobatics to regaining consciousness in the R.A.F. hospital several hours later. A verdict of misadventure was returned. 51 09 27

1951 11 02
Jets collide, Waterbeach 51 11 02

1951 11 06
Meteor crash, Waterbeach, 51 11 06 p8

1951 11 26
Jet explodes, Huntingdon Road [2.15]

1951 12 17
Training aircraft crashes at Marshall's [2.7]

1952 01 04
An R.A.F. Meteor jet fighter crashed near Melbourn and wreckage was spread over a wide area. The pilot died on arrival at Royston Hospital after bailing out. A farm worker, Mr Stanley Wing, who was working on a stack near the crash received a fright when an engine whistled past him to bury itself in the ground nearby. Villagers in Melbourn reported that bits of the wreckage landed in the streets and on houses. There was, however, no fire. 52 01 04 Inquest 7th p7

1952 01 23

Five of the crew were killed when an R.A.F. Lincoln bomber from Upwood, Huntingdonshire, crashed and caught fire at Fincham, near Downham Market. Rescuers pulled one survivor from the wreckage and took him to hospital. The bomber had been diverted to Marham and was waiting to land. It flew low over the main road from Downham Market to Swaffham, struck a tree and burst into flames after crashing. Explosions were heard and wreckage was flung over several fields. 52 01 23

1952 08 13
Jet crashes Coton, p6, (inquest 18th p6) 52 08 13

1952 08 16
The public concern about jet fighter crashes is not shared by the men most affected – the pilots who fly the R.A.F.'s 600 m.p.h. Meteors and Vampires. On a special visit to the Advanced Flying School, Oakington, I found not the slightest trace of alarm or despondency. The atmosphere fairly crackles with energy and enthusiasm. Dozens of flights took place with smooth precision and at frequent intervals the gleaming silver Meteors howled down the runway and shot up into the sky, many flown by young National Servicemen who by the time they have finished their course are not only skilled jet flyers but are beginning to know how to use their aircraft as weapons. The Chief Instructor, Wing Commander Tomalin, persuaded me to accompany him on a half-hour trip in a Meteor two-seater. 52 08 16

1952 08 21
The first National Servicemen to be trained as Canberra jet crews are receiving their final training at 231 Operational Conversion Unit R.A.F. station, Bassingbourn. In one room twenty young men in flying helmets were busily working with slide rules and graph paper in small box-like cubicles containing an exact replica of what they would have in the plane, including the latest radar equipment. Another block was fitted out for "ejector seat" drill and it should take only 10 seconds to get from the nose of the aircraft back to one's seat prior to being ejected. Since the National Service aircrew scheme started in 1949 some 4,000 men have been accepted for flying duties 52 08 21

1952 08 23
Canberra crash, Therfield, 52 08 23 p6

1952 09 10
Two Meteor jet aircraft collided in mid-air over Over. One of the pilots landed near the church & the other near the Pike and Eel public house. The landlady observed: "We often have pilots calling here – but not by parachute". The electricity supply was cut when one of the planes struck an electric cable in Mow Fen, Swavesey. The other fell in a meadow behind Station Road, Over. Firemen put out magnesium flames which broke out in one of the engines after its impact on hitting the ground. The two aircraft were on a training flight from R.A.F. Station, Oakington 52 09 10

1952 10 23
Three farm labourers beet singling in a field at Westley Waterless had a lucky escape when they decided to break off for lunch two minutes before a Meteor jet fighter crashed into the field. Due to the heavy rain they decided to go home for lunch. The engines landed on the spot where the men had just finished working. Two of the men had reached the road but Mr V. Clements had stayed an extra minute or two in order to complete a row and was 50 yards from the crash. The pilot of the plane, on a flight from RAF Waterbeach, was killed. 52 10 23

1952 11 24
Confirmation from Newmarket of the Cambridge flying saucer report. Mr J. Beirne reported seeing 'a definite circular object while cycling along Madingley Road, Cambridge. Now comes a report from a bus conductor of seeing a 'bright cigar-shaped object' flying at great speed at Newmarket. It gave out an orange-coloured tint and was fire by three small tappets at the rear. There have been isolated cases of practical demonstrations of guided missiles being carried out in the Mildenhall area and on the Norfolk coast. These guided weapons are known to be capable of speeds over 2,000 m.p.h. 52 11 24

1952 11 26
Jet explodes Huntingdon Road, Cambridge – 52 11 26 p8, inquest 28th p8

1952 11 28
Jet crash, Dry Drayton, 52 11 28 p8

1952 12 15
Jet crashes Swaffham Prior fen, 52 12 15 p9

1952 12 20
Bomber crash, Bassingbourn, 52 12 20 p6 & 23rd p7

1953 02 03
Jet crashes Oakington, 53 02 03 p7 & 53 02 06 p9

1953 02 17
Croydon plane crash, 53 02 17 p6

1953 03 19
Marshal Tito saw two Meteor jets collide in mid-air and crash in flames as he was watching an air display at Duxford airfield. He jumped to his feet in horror as a great burst of red flame rose hundreds of feet into the air behind some trees at Chrishall. They were two of the four jets which had swept past his armchair before taking off. From their open cockpits the pilots each gave an "eyes left" to the Marshal who saluted back. Just after the crash there was a poignant moment when the two surviving Meteors touched down. Tito rose from his armchair, stood to attention and saluted the planes in tribute to the dead pilots. 53 03 19

1953 04 08
After an all-night search a Meteor jet fighter from R.A.F. station, Bassingbourn, was found near Field Barn, Orwell. The pilot's body was found in the wreckage. At midnight last night the BBC broadcast an appeal for the plane when it was reported missing on a routine flight. Police were asked to look out for the aircraft which was eventually found by an R.A.F. search plane. Mrs D.L. Hallett of Orwell said she was watching her television set when the house was shaken, but she did not hear what had happened until morning. Elsewhere in Orwell nothing was heard. 53 04 08

1953 04 22
Cottenham plane crash, 53 04 21 p5. 22 p8

1953 06 05
Jet crashes Lode fen, 53 06 05 p8

1953 06 17

Jet crashes Caxton, 53 06 17 p9

1953 06 19
An open verdict was recorded at an inquest into the Venezuelan pilot of a Meteor jet plane which crashed near Pasture Farm, Caxton. Wreckage was scattered over a wide area. PC Leonard from Caxton described how he was awakened at 1.20 am by the roar of a low-flying aircraft. From his window he saw a red flash and heard an explosion. The pilot had taken off from Oakington just before midnight. He was in Britain as head of a Venezuela training mission. 53 06 19

1953 07 27
West Wickham plane crash, 53 07 27 p5

1953 08 10
The first question asked by the pilot of the Meteor aircraft which crashed near Bourn village was "Did it hit any houses? Was anyone hurt". Wing Commander Leonard Trent, V.C., had bailed out; many people saw the parachute and gave the alarm. The plane plunged into the earth in a field and buried itself; fuel escaped and set fire to the standing barley but farm workers beat it out with branches and sticks 53 08 10

1953 08 24
Swavesey plane crash, 53 08 24 p6

1953 11 05
The navigator of a RAF Canberra jet bomber was rescued when the plane crashed into a café at Beck Row, near Mildenhall. The pilot was killed. The proprietor of the café said the plane destroyed the back of his premises, smashed his kitchen table, flattened his car and plunged the whole place into darkness. The jet finished up in his back garden, straddling a chicken run and churning up his vegetables. It must have missed the roof by inches and it was a miracle no one in the café was killed. 53 11 05

1953 12 04
The possibility that Marshall's airfield might be used by jets and other high-powered aircraft provoked a vigorous debate at Cambridge City Council. Coun Warren protested at the construction of a hard landing strip: "The town is going to be menaced by high-powered aircraft which we know nothing about". But Coun Collins suggested that more powerful aircraft must come in time and added "The aircraft now landing there will soon be obsolete". Ald James asked: "If it is essential should the ground have not been moved further out into the country?" 53 12 04

1953 12 16
Four meteor jet fighters crashed in the Duxford area; three pilots parachuted to safety and one was pulled from his wrecked plane by farm workers. They were on a training flight from Waterbeach airfield and were not in collision in the air before crashing. It is possible the pilots abandoned their machines after running short of fuel. It is the second time that a plane has crashed at White House Farm, West Wickham; a Meteor came down at the back of the farm just before harvest. 53 12 16

1954
Cambridge Flying group formed, teaches flying on Tiger Moths [5.19]

1954 01 09

A large meteorite is believed to have been seen over Cambridge. Following reports that an explosion, thought to have been due to a meteorite smashing into the earth's atmosphere, had rocked Dieppe about 160 miles from Cambridge, several members of the City Police Force have claimed to have seen the object. P.C. R. Barlow, on duty in Drummer Street described 'a meteorite of exceptional size, oval-shaped and green in colour' falling in a south-east direction. Other policemen claim to have seen the flash as it apparently struck the earth. 54 01 09 09 20

1954 02 19
As a result of the Air Ministry decision to close Reserve Flying Schools the V.R. Social Club bar at Cambridge Aerodrome is to shut. It provided recreational facilities for R.A.F. Reservists in training and since 1947 has hosted an annual ball and Christmas party. Many members loaned Squadron crests to decorate the Club premises and a fine array of silver and pewter pots adorn the bar shelves; these should now be reclaimed. . The lounge, television room and billiards room will still be available for use by Reservists until the end of April. 54 02 19

1954 05 14
The pilot of an R.A.F. Swift jet aircraft from Waterbeach airfield was killed when it crashed within 200 yards of a group of houses in Stretham fen. Had the blast from the aircraft, which exploded, gone in the direction of the houses then wreckage would most certainly have struck them. As it was pieces of the aircraft were strewn in a half circle for about 200 yards. Eye-witness Mr Leslie Pinion said: "the plane dived straight down in the field and exploded". It left a crater about 15 feet deep. Waterbeach was the first unit to be equipped with Swift jet fighters and the lightning-fast silver machines with their distinctive swept-back wings have become a familiar sight. 54 05 14

1954 05 21
People passing Cambridge airport were intrigued to see the arrival of a German-built ultra-light aircraft, the Zaunkoenig. The tiny plane which can land and take off from the proverbial sixpence and is virtually 'unstallable' is the only survivor of a group of ten; the others were destroyed in Germany towards the end of the war. It is present on loan to the Cambridge Private Flying Group, but the members hope to make it their property. With a cruising speed of only 56 mph it is an ideal aerial runabout and can be hired out for a mere 30 shillings an hour. 54 05 21

1954 06 04
Would-be pilots can now learn to fly for as little as ten shillings a week. A scheme introduced by Cambridge Aero Club now brings the cost within the reach of most pockets. For an initial payment of £1 plus the weekly amount they can then carry out one and a half hours flying in a four-week period, or more if they pay extra. The Club has been operating continuously – except war years – since 1929 and offers training facilities for the Student Private and Commercial Pilots' licences including instrument and night flying 54 06 04

1954 06 25
RAF authorities are investigating reports that two parachutes were seen to appear from a Canberra jet bomber shortly before it crashed in a sugar beet field near Six Mile Bottom. It had taken off from Bassingbourn a few minutes before. The three crew, who include a Royston man, have been reported as missing believed killed but only one body has yet been found. Mystery surrounds the crash but the finding of the aircraft's cockpit canopy in the Melbourn area indicates it might have become detached and been the cause of the accident. The plane hurtled into the ground in a field half-a-mile from the railway and made a hole about 40 feet deep, the sides of which collapsed almost burying the aircraft. 54 06 25

1954 07 14
Jets crash Six Mile Bottom, 54 07 14 p6

1954 08 14
Canberra crash, Wyton, 54 08 14 p6

1954 08 16
The pilot of an RAF Vampire jet trainer from Oakington airfield was killed when his plane crashed into a cornfield at Dry Drayton. He succeeded in missing 18 Council houses and women picking fruit in a nearby orchard before the plane – smoke pouring from its tail – crashed into a field off the Oakington Road. It is thought the pilot might have been attempting to make a forced landing and crashed through a hedge before skidding along the ground for some distance. The engine and tail-plane were 40 yards apart but still intact after the crash 54 08 16

1954 08 28
Just after 9.30 on Thursday evening a CDN reporter was cycling along Victoria Road, Cambridge when suddenly a green coloured ball of light flashed over at great speed in the direction of Huntingdon. At the same moment his cycle developed all kinds of mechanical troubles. Wheels began to creak and groan and the chain parted company with the rear cogs. Then on Friday a lady at our Saffron Walden office asked 'Did you see the flying saucer last night', saying she too saw a light in the sky, this time red in colour, travelling fast towards Cambridge. Shortly afterwards her television had failed. CDN 28.8.1954

1954 08 31
Was it a flying saucer or an ice-blue star-shaped machine that flashed across the Cambridge sky? The 'star' description comes from Herbert Finbow who said: "My wife and I were taking the dog for a walk when we saw 'the thing' flash across the sky near our home. It was like a huge star, apparently mechanical and similar to the wartime 'doodle-bug' glow before it fell. We heard a swish as it passed overhead". The 'ice-blue' description completed the colour-trio for the object: it was reported green over Cambridge and red over Saffron Walden CDN 31.8.1954

1954 09 20
A perfect black smoke ring topped by a mushroom cloud hung in the air over a bombed fort hit by Meteors highlighted Waterbeach 'Battle of Britain' Saturday. Small boys clutching identification manuals pestered their less knowledgeable fathers with technical questions or casually recognised jet planes and provided exact data for ignorant mothers. They elbowed their ways into the cockpits of fighters on display – except the Swift, which was closely guarded. A mass scramble split the eardrums as the jets roared down the runway in pairs but most impressive was the tight formation flying of the modern fighters at low level. Stateliest aircraft were the long-range submarine killer Shackletons while 'Old Faithful', the Vampire V flew some skilful aerobatics. 54 09 20

1954 09 27
A 78-year-old gardener was cycling across the perimeter track at Oakington RAF Station when he was struck by a Vampire jet plane that was taxi-ing before take off. The pilot saw the cyclist crossing the dispersal area when travelling at 25 mph. He assumed the man would look to see if anything was coming and would certainly hear the plane. It was a rule that aircraft always had the right of way. He added: "the cyclist took a 90 degrees turn towards me suddenly. I turned slightly to the right and my left wing caught his neck". All employees were required to sign a document that under no circumstances could claims be made against the Air Ministry in the event of accidents to and from work. 54 09 27

1954 11 09
British military officers and civilian personnel from the Lakenheath air base witnessed a 'Skysweeper' firing demonstration at Weybourne range, Norfolk. This is the U.S. army's largest calibre automatic anti-aircraft artillery weapon – an artillery machine gun. It is the first weapon with radar, computer and gun on one carriage with fully integrated gun and fire control. The units are designed to spot and track with radar and aim and fire the gun semi-automatically at enemy aircraft flying near-sonic speeds at low and medium altitudes. 54 11 09

1954 12 03
A Vampire jet aircraft from RAF Oakington attempting to land on a disused runway at Bourn aerodrome overshot and crashed across the main Cambridge to St Neots Road. It landed in a field and burst into flames. The pilot managed to pull himself clear of the wreckage suffering from severe burns and was given first aid by Sister Joan Webb of the Medical Research Department of Bourn Pest Control. All that was recognisable of the wreckage was the tail assembly and jet engine propulsion unit. The pavement on the other side of the road was smashed and crumpled by the impact when the plane crashed. 54 12 03

1955 02 02
Flames shot 30 feet into the air as a Vampire Jet aircraft crashed in Landbeach, narrowly missing the church, school and rectory. Villagers crowded round the Rectory paddock where the plane fell. The crash stopped at meeting of the Women's Institute in the Rectory; the ladies ran out and saw the planes in flames but when they found they could not help they resumed their meeting. The body of the pilot was found almost at the door of the church, about 50 yards from the aircraft. 55 02 02a

1955 02 16
A Vampire jet aircraft on a training flight from Oakington crashed and exploded at Comberton, killing the pilot. Flaming twisted mangled parts of the plane carpeted a 500 yards radius, a bullock was badly injured and chickens were killed. A car was badly damaged. Pieces of the plane wreckage went through the roof of the kitchen of Fox's bridge Farmhouse where the farmer's wife was working. She described the noise as a 'terrific tornado' and flung herself down for safety. She tried to dial 999 but the telephone wires had been cut by the crashing aircraft. 55 02 16a

1955 02 16
A Meteor jet aircraft made a successful forced landing at Newmarket. The pilot informed his companion that he had run out of fuel and had to attempt a landing. He missed the racecourse runway at his first approached and was compelled to land on the Heath. The landing was perfect and the aircraft came to a halt at the finishing post on the Rowley Mile course, immediately opposite the photo-finish camera. A guard was mounted round the plane all night and the pilot took off next morning. 55 02 16b

1955 03 11
Cambridge University Airborne Club organised a parachute jump from a balloon on the Pemberton Estate. In the first cage for jumping, which took place from the usual height of 800 feet, were four regular soldiers; they were followed by 28 members of the Airborne Club in drops of five, all of whom were attached to regiments of the 16th Parachute Division, Territorial Army. The wind was quite sharp and gusty and most of those who landed were dragged yards by their inflated canopies. Quite a crowd of spectators gathered to watch the descents and many cars and lorries were drawn up on the Trumpington Road. All ended happily, with a cup of tea. 55 03 11

1955 07 30
Plane crashes, Upware, 1955 07 30, p12

1955 09 10
Pye demonstrated their new aircraft instrument landing system with a series of flights in Dakotas between Cambridge and the De Havilland works at Hatfield. The trips are also open to factory staff so they can see how the system allows the pilot to land without having to be 'talked down' from the ground. They had barely time to unfasten the seat belts, say 'Thank you' to the air hostess for packets of 20 cigarettes and the treble scotches before a loudspeaker commentary was started on the landing. 55 09 10a-b

1955 09 13
A 'flying saucer' object – one of which has been seen in the vicinity recently – will make an appearance at the Battle of Britain Show at R.A.F. Debden along with Hunters, Sabres and Shackletons. The Valiant and Vulcan 'V' bombers will also fly over. There will an attack by Meteor fighter-bombers and the R.A.F. Regiment will deal with the 'flying saucer'. There are strong rumours that 'Dan Dare, Special Agent' will help the Regiment. 55 09 13

1955 11 15
When a Hawker Hunter jet fighter crash-landed near Upware pumping station the pilot was pulled from the aircraft and taken to the Ely RAF Hospital by a helicopter which had taken off from Waterbeach airfield carrying the Station Commander, Gp Capt Chackfield, to the scene of the crash. Units from Cambs and Fordham fire brigades were called but the aircraft did not catch fire. 55 09 30a

1955 11 15
A Vampire jet from RAF Oakington skimmed over Rampton before crash-landing in a field. The pilot managed to miss council houses and touched down, bouncing over and ditch and hedge before coming to rest in an orchard. Several villagers did not hear any explosion and only realised a plane had crashed when the saw the flames. 55 11 15

1956
First season of operations of independent airline from Cambridge airport

1956 01 05
A practice bomb, inadvertently released from an American B47 bomber, fell in a ploughed field near Newport and buried itself in a crater 15 feet deep and 20 feet wide. It caused hundreds of pounds worth of damage to Biggs' nurseries; one man was wounded when sheets of glass were blown out and five other men ran clear. The crater was surrounded by large sheets of metal which was burned and twisted and scattered over a wide area. A lorry-load of RAF men wearing bow ties and white gloves with Wellington boots collected the fragments and men with picks and shovels removed a large container from the bottom of the crater. 56 01 05

1956 03 06
A captive balloon will be used for parachute jumping at Trumpington. Although intended primarily for members of the University Parachute Club, 50 'chutes have been allotted to the Cambridgeshire Regiment Parachute Light Regiment. All men now have a reserve parachute strapped to his middle as a second line of defence 56 03 06e

1956 03 13

Marshall's Flying School were granted permission to double the width of the 'hard land strip' on the airfield and extend it from the boundary of Coldham's Lane to the boundary of Teversham Road provided they erect suitable fences to prevent the possibility of jet slipstreams from reaching the roads. However planners feel the aerodrome is wrongly sited adjoining a residential area and that no further development should be given approval. 56 03 13a

1956 03 29
Waterbeach airfield to receive standard, history 56 squadron 56 03 29

1956 04 26
A Central School girl claims to have seen a flying saucer over Milton and Impington. "It came towards me at a very fast rate and disappeared back in the direction it had come. There were little windows all round it", she said. Asked whether it could have been the airborne elephant from Bertram Mills circus straying slightly off course she laughed and said "That is impossible". Nothing would shake her belief that this was a flying saucer. 56 04 26b

1956 06 06
The pilot of a Mark 5 Vampire training jet based at R.A.F. Oakington was forced to bale out of his machine while flying over Littleport. He landed safely in Camel Road and the plane crashed at the side of a cornfield at Black Bank, Lt Downham causing a crater 15 feet deep. Norah Garner and Neville Constable ran to the wreckage and could see there was no one in it. The nose was sticking up in the air. 56 06 06a

1956 07 28
All four members of the crew of an American B.47 strato-jet were killed when it crashed a caught fire at Lakenheath air base while practising landings and take-offs. American fire-fighters were joined by the Mildenhall Fire Service in extinguishing the blaze and personnel working in buildings nearby were evacuated because of the danger of fuel tanks exploding. The B.47 is a swept-wing medium bomber designed to carry a bomb load of 20,000 lbs and can carry an Atomic Bomb. 56 07 28a

An American newspaper, the 'Omaha World-Herald' has reported that after a B-47 bomber crashed at Lakenheath RAF station in 1956 flaming fuel pouring from the ruptured tanks engulfed a building containing three nuclear bombs. If they had exploded radioactive material would have been showered over a large area. But a major accident was averted when the base Fire Chief ignored the burning bomber and its four-man crew and concentrated on dousing the flames surrounding the nuclear storage building. The incident was kept secret, as the British people had not been told that nuclear bombs were being kept in the U.K. 79 11 05

1956 08 31
At Oakington airfield there is a station cinema, the NAAFI provides television and haircuts and shoe repairs are free. A civilian tailor comes every week to fit the men for their uniforms and pyjamas are part of the Service issue. There is one full armed parade a month but most time is devoted to teaching young pilots to fly. It has enough ground staff for a large village since it takes from 50 to 80 people to keep one plane in the air, most are fitters and mechanics who tend the Vampires 56 08 31d & e

1956 09 29
The pilot and navigator of a Venom night fighter taking part in the Air Defence Exercise, 'Stronghold, were killed when it crashed in a sugar beet field near Sutton. Portions of the aircraft

were strewn over a large area and flames were still visible in the bottom of a large crater some times later. 56 09 29a

1957 01 22
Jet crashes, Dry Drayton 57 01 02 p9, 57 01 05 p9, 57 01 07 p8

1957 02 01
Cambridge was visited this week by a flying saucer that appeared to be about 500 feet above the ground, says a reader from Fanshawe Road. It had a dome-shaped structure on top with a series of windows around the edge, one of which was blacked out while the base glowed with a vivid green fluorescent colour that seemed to be bubbling. He contacted the University Observatory who says it might have been a meteor. 57 02 01a [3,9,7,1]

1957 02 04
Jet crash, Barway 57 02 11 p9, 57 0

1957 02 18
A farmer from Craft Hill Farm, Dry Drayton probably saved the life of a pilot who crashed in a Vampire jet aircraft in a field. He gave first aid to the airman who'd been thrown from the wreckage and was unconscious. He removed his harness, helmet, leggings and the watch from the pilot's swollen and discoloured arm. Then when an ambulance, a Jeep and a fire engine became bogged down he got a tractor and pulled them out. If the plane had exploded he'd have been blown sky high. 57 02 18

1957 08 09
Cambridge residents watched a short aerobatics display and heard a radio commentary by the pilot of the aircraft at the same time. It was the first such broadcast. The commentator was Raymond Baxter, the aircraft a Tiger Moth of the Cambridge Private Flying Group. This was formed in 1953 to bring private flying within the reach of the man in the street. One of the lady members, Betty Willink, hopes to qualify for her Private Pilot's licence soon. 57 08 09

1957 08 17
Jet crash, Bassingbourn 57 08 17 p7, 57 08 20 p6

1958 06 26
Jet crash, Whaddon 58 06 26 p8

1958 09 11
Jet crash, Duxford 58 09 11 p8

1958 09 12
Air link to Jersey, scheduled services due to start. May 1959 [3.14]

1958 12 05
Plane crash blocks railway, Oakington 58 12 05 p17

1959 05 08
Cambridge University Gliding club – history – 59 05 08a

1959 05 20

The facilities for private flying and gliding in Cambridge are as good as those in many larger cities. At Cambridge Airport there exists a flying school, a flying group and a gliding club, and a few miles distant at Duxford another gliding club run by the R.A.F. Gliding and Soaring Association which caters for a limited number of civilians. In April 1935 the Cambridge University Gliding Club made its first flight field at Caxton Gibbet. A St Neots butcher, Tom Ayres, placed a field at their disposal and loaned them a barn for use as a hangar. (History) 59 05 20a & b & c & e

1959 07 09
Jet crash, Bassingbourn 57 07 09 p10, inquest 57 07 13 p9

1959 10 02
More than 900 passengers flew from Cambridge to Jersey in Derby Airways' first season's operations. The aircraft used were 19-seat Marathons and Pullman DC-3s, a 36-seat luxury version of the well-proven Dakota. The extremely good flying weather, coupled with a high standard of aircraft serviceability enabled the service to operate with almost 100 per cent punctuality. An inclusive tour service between Cambridge and Ostend, which is only available to passengers booking hotel accommodation, was also successful. Applications have now been made to open similar services to Zurich, Barcelona, Pisa and Zagreb. 59 10 02a [5.12]

1959 10 03
Jet crash, Willingham 59 10 03 p9

1959 10 15
A Vampire jet trainer aircraft which was formation flying with three others ploughed through electricity cables before crashing on its back in a field at Meadow Farm near Elsworth. Thousands of gallons of foam were poured on the wreckage by members of the Oakington RAF Station Fire Brigade and spectators were told to keep well clear as one of the ejector seats in the aircraft had not gone off and bare electricity cables were smouldering and sparking in the stubble 59 10 15b

1959 10 20
Vampire crash near Conington inquest – 59 10 20

1959 11 03
Oakington plane crash – 59 11 03

1959 12 27
Britain's first gyrocopter has been built by an Ely officer, Wing-Commander Ken Wallis, who is serving at RAF Stanmore. It takes off in less than 100 yards and cruses at 80 mph. A second, much-improved version is now in the pipeline. Flying and building aeroplanes is a family tradition for in 1909 his father made a 'Wallbro' monoplane and his cousin, B.P. Wallis, is chief flying instructor at Marshall's Flying School 59 12 27b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 05 03
Passengers can now fly from Cambridge to almost anywhere in the world after Customs made available facilities for checking passports and luggage at the airport. Three large buildings are

being converted into comfortable passenger transit, baggage and customs halls in readiness for the holiday rush. Marshall's have installed specialised electronic equipment and hope to develop it into the largest civil flying field in Eastern England. They also hope to capture the valuable trade of US service personnel from nearby bases to the Continent 60 05 03a [5.13]

1960 05 20
The remains of a large Stirling bomber which crashed just outside Icklingham during the last war, loaded with incendiary bombs, are now being unearthed by a team of RAF experts. The area is wired off and notices saying 'Danger. Unexploded Bombs' erected in the field. There are not many large pieces of the bomber left, as it exploded on crashing, but 20 live bombs and 1,000 rounds of ammunition have been recovered. They will be detonated on site when the work is completed. Things have been made more difficult with the large quantities of phosphuretted earth in the pit which can cause a nasty and painful burn. 60 05 20

1960 06 17
Direct and easy air travel to the Continent from Cambridge Airport is now possible for holidaymakers and businessmen as Airline operators and travel agents have taken advantage of the granting of customs facilities. Scheduled and chartered flights together with all-inclusive air tours will be available this summer, eliminating time-wasting journeys to London. The development of an international airport is also important to University undergraduates as well as hundreds of students taking exchange summer courses at the colleges 60 06 17c

1960 07 08
Jet crash Hardwick, 60 07 08 p17, inquest 60 07 12 p11

1960 08 24
A young Cambridge businessman has started a contract-hire scheme for light aircraft. Anyone who can fly a plane can hire one of four Austers from Grantair of Grantchester for a day, week or longer. Some Oxford University students recently flew one to Ghana; their trip proved profitable for they have been offered executive jobs in the newly-formed Ghanaian Air Force. Another plane is giving holidaymakers joy rides off an improvised landing strip on Blackpool beach. The firm also have an aerial taxi service and plan to import kits of special ultra-light aircraft from France so do-it-yourself pilots can build their own planes. 60 08 24

1960 11 04
Cambridge University Air Squadron has six little Chipmunk trainers with nine experienced full-time RAF instructors. Every facet of flying is covered and when the examinations and tests have been passed students are the proud possessors of their pilot's "wings". As an additional attraction each receives a £35 bounty at the end of each year to say nothing of the six shillings a day pay for each complete day's training. Trainees can resign at short notice if they feel their academic studies are suffering and only a very small percentage enter the RAF 60 11 04c

1961 01 06
Cambridge University Gliding Club has a membership of more than 350, only half of whom are members of the University. They include Prince William of Gloucester, who is studying engineering. The instructors include John Hulme who was former holder of the UK record for a distance flight and Mrs Ann-Mari Neumann, a school teacher. Mr Bryce Smith, a civil engineer, is one of the Club's tug pilots. He says you can't glide without a team of people to help but you must be an individual to be successful at soaring. 61 01 06

1961 05 29

A leading RAF glider expert, Ernest Walter Clarke of Duxford, was killed when his sail plane broke up in the air over Fen Ditton – 61 05 29

1961 06 19
A workman had an amazing escape from death when an American F-100 Super Sabre jet fighter crashed less than ten yards from him, blowing a hole 15 feet deep in the centre of the main Sawston-Babraham Road. The blast of the exploding aircraft, which broke windows 200 yards away, picked him up and threw him into a field. The plane narrowly missed the Simplex dairy and farming equipment factory and a large housing estate. The pilot ejected and landed in the grounds of Pampisford Hall 61 06 19

1961 06 30
The number '22' has been a feature of life at Cambridge Airport for some time. In the immediate pre-war years No.22 Elementary and Reserve Flying and Training School was based there; during the war it became No.22 Elementary Flying Training School and with the return of peace Cambridge became home of No.22 Reserve Flying School. Now Cambridge Private Flying Group has included the number in its blazer badge. It was formed in 1953 by local businessmen John Peak who owned a Gemini, John Chapman with a Chrislea Ace, G.P. Reece (a Proctor) and Reg Marsh with his Taylorcraft Plus D. They are the 22nd group of the Popular Flying Association 61 06 30f

1961 07 05
A visitor to the Royal Show asked if he could park on the playing field of Fawcett School in Alpha Terrace, Trumpington, less than a mile from the showground. But the headmaster told him he could not. So he climbed back into the cockpit of his plane and took off with a 30 yard run. The machine had circled low before landing and Mr F.N. Walker thought it had made a forced landing. But the pilot, who was wearing a Royal Society member's badge, jumped down and asked if he could leave the plane there while he went to the Show. 61 07 05

1961 07 06
Queen Mother visits Royal Show by helicopter – 61 07 06

1961 08 18
The Dragon Rapide, one of the most popular types of aircraft from de Havilland, is disappearing from the local scene. Until recently Marshall's Flying Services used a fleet of four to operate charter services for jockeys and trainers from Newmarket. Built between 1934 and 1946 they are economical to operate and maintain and even now are a common sight. Some firms use them as executive machines while others still plod the air routes. Marshall's has not entirely said farewell to the bi-plane era: they still have five Tiger Moths for instructional flying 61 08 18

1961 11 28
Two young fliers from RAF Waterbeach were given lifts by passing motorists when they landed safely by parachute after abandoning their Javelin jet fighter-interceptor aircraft high over Cambridgeshire. The 700 mph aircraft plunged into a field on Rectory Farm at Fox End Balsham and blew up, scattering wreckage over a wide area. Crash investigation work was hampered as live ammunition from the aircraft's canons was lying in the thick mud of the field where it crashed. 61 11 28

1962 01 12
How Cambridge caters for would-be pilots – Marshall's flying school, University Gliding Club & Royal Aeronautical Society – 62 01 12b

1962 02 23
The small puddle-jumping aeroplane is becoming part of the modern scene. Wing Commander K.H. Wallis, a member of the well-known Ely family, imported a Benson autogyro in 1957 and has carried out an intensive modification programme. The result is a practical single seat machine known as the Beagle-Wallis WA-116, far-removed from the original American design. It will leap into the air in about 25 yards and climb very steeply at over 1,000 feet per minute before landing n half the length of a tennis court 62 02 23e

1962 03 01
A young pilot escaped serious injury when he used his ejector seat at low level shortly before his Vampire jet aircraft crashed on the airfield at Graveley. 62 03 01

1962 04 23
Tiger Moth crashes at Caxton – 62 04 23b

1962 08 22
Two fliers parachuted to safety when their Hunting Jet Provost aircraft crashed into a corn field at Girton. It came down less than 100 yards from the spot where one of the first flying machines in the country force-landed 50 years ago. The same man who ran to the rescue of the pilot then was one of the few eye witnesses to the recent crash. He was 65-year-old Herbert Moore of Histon, a special constable in the County Police. The plane is believed to have been on a flight from the experimental centre at Boscombe Down 62 08 22

1963 05 25
A 1916 Sopwith Pup aircraft was forced to make an emergency landing in a field near Waterbeach. Police stopped traffic on the A10 while it was manhandled across the road on to the airfield 63 05 25a

1963 06 07
Stapleford man builds ultra-light monoplane in garage – 63 06 07c

1964 09 23
Cambridge airport, an asset to city – feature on Marshall's – 64 09 23a

1964 11 27
Wallis Autogyros Ltd, formed by Wing Commander Kenneth Wallis and his cousin, produce some of the world's smallest aircraft. Military versions of his autogyro have been tested by the Army and reached more than 10,000 feet. Now the design is being simplified for amateur flyers. Twelve are being completed at a factory at 121 Chesterton Road. His father built the 'Wallbro' monoplane in St Barnabas Road in 1909, but it was destroyed by a storm 64 11 27b

1965 03 17
Cambridge airport seek runway extension of 1000 feet, would divert Teversham road (opposition, inquiries, approved 1972) [5.15]

1965 04 22
Wallis Autogyros, Chesterton Road set up by Ken Wallis & Geoff Wallis of Coton Court – 65 04 22a

1965 10 12

Wallis Autogyro – first export order – 65 10 12e, 13a

1965 10 27
Barrage balloon from Cardington trailing 2,000 feet steel wire hits Magdalene college; 50 students evacuated due to fear of explosion – 65 10 27, a, 28a,b 6, 2J

1966 08 09
Cambridge airport main runway may be extended across main Teversham Road but must not be used more than eight days a year, will enable larger and heavier aircraft to use it – 66 08 09a

1967 04 18
Canberra bomber crashes into empty house, Steeple Morden – 67 04 18

1970

1970 09 12
Autogyro crash kills test pilot, Farnborough (5.4]

1971 01 08
Hot-air balloons launched over Cambridge by Perse schoolboys – 70 01 08a

1971 07 15
RAF Oakington trains pilots – feature – 71 07 15

1975 06 12
Cambridge airport new £100,000 custom's centre [5.16]

1975 08 04
UFO spotted [7 .2]

1976 07 15
Cambridgeshire planners are asking major international airlines to start a high-speed airbus service linking Cambridge with Heathrow, Gatwick and Luton airports. They also want the network to extend to the other provincial airports in East Anglia. The journey between Cambridge and London airport frequently forced businessmen to stop overnight and the Philips electrical organisation thinks it is worth while running a trip for businessmen between its Dutch factory and Cambridge every week. But a director of Premier Airlines of Cambridge said he did not think there is a regular demand, at the price one would have to pay 76 07 15

1977 07 15
Aircraft sabotaged at Cambridge airport (5,17]

1977 11 24
There was confirmation from Newmarket of the Cambridge flying saucer report. Mr J. Beirne reported seeing 'a definite circular object while cycling along Madingley Road, Cambridge. Now comes a report from a bus conductor of seeing a 'bright cigar-shaped object' flying at great speed at Newmarket. It gave out an orange-coloured tint and was fire by three small tappets at the rear. There have been isolated cases of practical demonstrations of guided missiles being carried out in the Mildenhall area and on the Norfolk coast. These guided weapons are known to be capable of speeds over 2,000 m.p.h. 77 11 24

1979 01 05
First Thomson holiday jet Boeing 737 leaves Cambridge airport for Tunisia [5.18]

1979 05 14
Wartime memories came flooding back to the ex-servicemen who strolled across Witchford airfield. A giant hangar here, a derelict office there, and bits of crumbling runway everywhere: all helped them to remember the days when four-engined Lancaster bombers rumbled off the airfield on bombing runs to Germany. Other colleagues were at the nearby Shoulder of Mutton pub, supping pints & swapping yards. All were members of 115 squadron who had returned for reunion celebrations 79 05 14

1979 09 21
Three people died and seven were injured when two RAF jets crashed at Wisbech. One plane narrowly missed two schools and a college before plunging into Ramnoth Road, demolishing two houses and a bungalow. Hundreds of people, including the Mayor, frantically searched through the rubble for survivors. Police put a 'disaster plan' into immediate action and emergency services rushed to the area which was evacuated and cordoned off. The second plane crashed at New Drove, near the town's industrial area. The aircraft, single-seater Harrier jump jets, were based at RAF Wittering. 89 09 21

1979 09 22
Stunned and exhausted the Mayor of Wisbech spoke of the appalling tragedy which rocked his town. Coun Bob Lake was one of the first on the scene of the disaster in which an RAF Harrier jump jet totally destroyed two houses and a bungalow following a mid-air collision. "I just ran for the smoke as fast as I could. When I arrived in Ramnoth Road my heart stopped", he said. "I was informed that there was a man and a child trapped so I started tearing at the rubble. The remains of the three buildings were on fire and gas filled the air. The three people who died were a former Mayor of Wisbech, a 40-year old man and his 2½ year-old son. There were stories of narrow escapes as the plane passed narrowly over two schools and an 800-pupil college 79 09 22

1979 10 31
A US Air Force F111 fighter-bomber crashed at Harlton. Nearby houses were rocked and a great sheet of flame was sent up as the plane plummeted into a spinney. Trees were pushed downwards and branches torn off and only the tail section was visible embedded in the ground. First on-the-spot rescuers dashed around the meadows trying to find the crew, but they had parachuted down several fields away. The crash came after a series of low-level flying missions over the area. Only two weeks ago two RAF Harrier jump jets crashed at Wisbech 79 10 31

1979 11 05
An American newspaper, the 'Omaha World-Herald' has reported that after a B-47 bomber crashed at Lakenheath RAF station in 1956 flaming fuel pouring from the ruptured tanks engulfed a building containing three nuclear bombs. If they had exploded radioactive material would have been showered over a large area. But a major accident was averted when the base Fire Chief ignored the burning bomber and its four-man crew and concentrated on dousing the flames surrounding the nuclear storage building. The incident was kept secret, as the British people had not been told that nuclear bombs were being kept in the U.K. 79 11 05

1980

1980 01 04

One of the strangest new shapes in the sky has lifted off the runway with its Elsworth designer, John Edgley sitting next to a test pilot. His aircraft, the Optica, has been nicknamed the Bug Eye because of its odd looks. The cabin is a Perspex bubble and it is designed to have the low-speed capability of a helicopter but be as cheap and easy to fly as a conventional light aircraft, making it an economical observation plane. Its future roles could include powerline inspection, fire-watching, traffic patrol and pleasure flying CEN 4.1.1980

1980 01 11
Reports of a UFO which held Harston villagers spellbound have been received from other parts of the world. A researcher who investigated the phenomenon says they appear to be genuine descriptions of an unknown technology. Other reports have been received locally. Desmond January, a Cambridge estate agent, said he watched a line of three white lights which he thought at first were helicopters, but there was no noise and one shot away at right angles up into the sky. Another resident of Hauxton reported something similar that evening while on New Years Day a lady described seeing a dark cylindrical object pass over her home in Hills Road, Cambridge. The following day two teenagers at Girton told of a light 'burning like magnesium ribbon' 80 01 11

1980 09 17
An undertaker sitting in his van on the outskirts of Barkway saw a saucer-shaped unidentified flying object cruise silently past at a height of 60 feet. "We were eating our lunch and this brilliant silver object went past us", he said. "It was travelling about 30 mph and looked like two dustbin lids stuck together; it was moving in a straight line, not going up or down". Police say the Army had troops on manoeuvres in the area but it was nothing to do with them. 80 09 17

1981 03 04
The famous autogyros produced by Ely-born aviation expert Wing-Cmdr Ken Wallis may soon go into production. They can carry out many of the roles of a helicopter but are much cheaper, costing around £17,000. A fighter version was used by James Bond in the film 'You Only Live Twice'. His father built his own an aircraft in the garden of a house in St Barnabas Road in 1908; it flew from a field near Fulbourn but was later destroyed in a storm. 81 03 04a

1981 06 30
Just over 70 years ago an enthusiastic CDN reporter wrote about a 'brand new flying machine of the monoplane variety' built by Horace and Percy Wallbro in their back garden in St Barnabas Road. With an astonishing eye for technical detail he described the world's first aircraft built from light steel tubing. Now, using his notes, their sons have built a replica and proved it really could have flown 81 06 30a

1982 05 19
Prince Philip flew into Cambridge and made what is believed to be the first helicopter landing on Parker's Piece. It made quite a stir among people making their way to work. It may also have made them late because police cordoned off the Piece for the landing, special permission for which had been obtained from the City Council 82 05 19 [02,4.22]

1982 06 11
The new flying craze, sport and business of microlights has arrived in Cambridgeshire. Taurus Aviation has been set up at Haddenham and with the co-operation of farmers they now have a choice of fields from which they can take off and land. Meanwhile a Haverhill Company is selling an American-made microlight for £3,000 including five hour's free instruction. It can be assembled in half-an-hour and carried on a car roof-rack. 82 06 11 b&c

1982 09 02
If you want to buy a microlight aircraft in Cambridgeshire there is only one place you should go – Taurus Aviation of Haddenham. They are agents for Puma aircraft with prices ranging from £2,317 for a single-seater to £3,230 for a two-seater model. A trial flight, just to see if you like the sensation, will cost £11.50 and dual instruction is £23 an hour. It seems a lot of money, but middle-aged people find it thrilling. 82 09 02

1983 02 17
A 130-ton TriStar airliner, the largest ever to land at Marshall's, marks the start of a six-plane conversion programme that will keep the firm's 800-strong aero-engineering staff in work for the next four years. The £50 million contract is to convert four into 37,500-gallon tankers for flight refuelling duties and the others to freighters with big cargo doors. 83 02 17

1984 03 21
Sonerai light racing plane built, Perne Road [5,7]

1984 03 21
A back garden in Perne Road has become a makeshift aircraft factory. Two plane enthusiasts, Peter Fabish and Andy Crumphorn have been chiselling, sawing and shaping the sheet metal, struts and spars which will eventually become a Soneral light racing plane capable of looping the loop and acrobatic flying. They intend to find a farmer's field from which to fly it 84 03 21 p7

1984 05 11
Millie Howes of Houghton will be reliving fond memories when she settles down to watch her television. She worked in the Portholme aircraft factory at Huntingdon during the First World War helping build Camel fighters. A film made in about 1917 is to be shown on the programme showing Millie working in the factory. "When we first started we were given carpentry lessons, then put on fuselages and had to put the struts in and wire them up, I supposed where worked on two planes a day", she remembers. We earned £2 a week, which was good money, but it wasn't very warm and we had no canteen", she says 84 05 11 p13

1984 10 19
Ken Wallis, the aviator who invented James Bond's "Little Nellie", has notched up two world records at RAY Wyton. Following a measured course along the 16ft drain at Chatteris he attained a speed of 117.8 mph – beating the previous record held by an American by almost 10 mph. He now holds 15 of the 16 world records associated with an autogyro. The Wallis family are no strangers to Cambridge. In 1910 his father took their Wallbro monoplane to a field near Fulbourn for a maiden flight. But after a couple of hops and a bump they called it a day. Now Ken hopes to arrange a commemoration to mark his father's efforts 84 10 19 p18 (16 by 1985) (5.9,5.10)

1985 02 14
The bug-eyed Optica plane designed in Cambridgeshire has won its certificate of airworthiness. It can loiter at under 60 miles and hour, carries three people and is intended for observation work, aerial photography and sight-seeing. It was invented by John Edgley of Elsworth who planned to build it locally. But because of difficulties in finding a suitable site the firm has moved to Wiltshire. 85 02 14a

1985 02 14
Ken Wallis sets off for another record – 85 02 14

1985 05 22

Autogyro pioneer Ken Wallis has just notched up his 16th world record. Flying from Waterbeach, Ken completed his remarkable record-breaking flight to mark the 75th anniversary of the first public viewing of a monoplane built in Cambridge by his father and uncle. "It seemed that the anniversary should be marked in some way, so I made an attempt upon the one work record not held by my autogyro aircraft", he said. 85 05 22a & b

1985 10 23
Edgley Aircraft, producers of Optica which was first flown 1979 goes into liquidation – 85 10 23

1986 02 23
Two Newmarket families had a miracle escape when a blazing American jet crashed just a few feet from their home. The F-111 plane plummeted into the garden of a house at Clarehaven Stables in Bury Road. Wreckage was scattered over the garden and holes were made in the house roof. But miraculously no one inside was hurt. The plane's two crew members were blasted clear by their ejector seats and were treated by a team from the Magpas 'flying doctor' service. 87 02 23

1986 02 23
The F-111 jet crash at Newmarket is the latest in a string of accidents. Two months ago two RAF Tornadoes plummeted into the countryside, one close to Peterborough and the other just missed a Norfolk school. In 1985 a Canberra exploded into flames when it smashed into fields near Alconbury. In 1981 a F-111 crashed while approaching Lakenheath and another rocked houses at Harlton when it hit the ground with practice bombs aboard. In December 1977 a fighter came down a few hundred yards from a Newmarket school sparking a major scare as police feared one of the plane's bombs could have gone off 87 02 23a

1986 10 10
Inquiry into Cambridge airport plans for £15 million hangar [6.1]

1987 01 12
It was pitch dark at 3am one Sunday morning as a Newmarket lorry driver was making his way north of Littleport towards Welney. He was talking to his wife on CD radio when suddenly a bright green light appeared in the sky. It was heading down to earth at tremendous speed, then changed direction and zipped across the road before disappearing. His experiences follow that of two Burwell women who saw huge orange lights above the fields near Swaffham Prior. These are the first unidentified flying objects reported locally for six years. 87 01 12

1987 02 23
The F-111 jet crash at Newmarket is the latest in a string of accidents. Two months ago two RAF Tornadoes plummeted into the countryside, one close to Peterborough and the other just missed a Norfolk school. In 1985 a Canberra exploded into flames when it smashed into fields near Alconbury. In 1981 an F-111 crashed while approaching Lakenheath and another rocked houses at Harlton when it hit the ground with practice bombs aboard. In December 1977 a fighter came down a few hundred yards from a Newmarket school sparking a major scare as police feared one of the plane's bombs could have gone off 87 02 23a

1987 06 06
Cambridge graduate Michael Foale has been named by Nasa as its first English-born space shuttle astronaut. Mr Foale, whose parents live in Cambridge, graduated from Queens' College and completed a PhD in Astrophysics at Lucy Cavendish College six years ago. He first learned to fly

at Marshall's airfield while a student. "He is absolutely over the moon", said his father retired Air Commodore Colin Foale who lives in Cambridge. 87 06 06

1987 10 06
An amazing plan to relocate Marshall's Airport to Waterbeach airfield and use the hundreds of acres vacant for a massive housing estate will be put to county councillors. It would solve the city's shortage of land for housing and end aircraft noise problems for residents. The move would create more jobs and relieve traffic. There would then be no need to spend millions of pounds on a proposed new overspill village in the fens. But the airport authorities do not agree. 87 10 06

1987 10 15
Cambridge's first airborne pleasure trip service has just taken off. Techair, a charter company, offers flights from Marshall's Airport in a five-seater Piper Aztec. They charge £14 for a 15-minute trip over the city. The weather for the inaugural flight was dull, raining and windy, buffeting the plane as the pilot pointed out landmarks. The flights are nice for foreign tourists but are mainly aimed at local people who have no experience of flying a small plane. 87 10 15a

1989 04 18
An A-10 tankbuster jet taking part in close ground attack manoeuvres ploughed into a field near Ramsey Forty Foot and exploded in a ball of flame. It came down close to several farms, tearing across a road and narrowly missing two vans as it disintegrated. US troops scoured the wreckage for potentially dangerous training ammunition. It is the third accident locally in four months: one crashed into a field at Earith and another crashed off the end of the Alconbury runway 89 04 18

1990 01 15
UFO hovers over Marshall's [7.3]

Chesterton school pupils with locomotive 1956 *110.45*

c.26.2 : Railways

NOTE: these stories relate to Cambridge itself. For a more detailed abstract of articles about the whole of Cambridgeshire please see the Cambridgeshire Railways Scrapbook
https://archive.org/details/CambridgeshireRailwaysScrapbook

Railway Traveller's Guide history 60 03 22

1845
After several abortive starts a railway finally arrives at Cambridge in 1845, the station having been sited far from the centre of the town because of University objections to the line coming within a mile of their buildings. An additional clause prohibited trains from stopping within three miles of Cambridge on Sundays. Although this restriction was not repealed until 1908 it had long ceased to be observed.

1849

A reader has sent a picture of a locomotive engine built by Headley Bros of the Eagle Foundry, Cambridge in 1849. It was a small single-tank affair with two big driving wheels, painted bright green and named the 'Eagle'. At first there was no tender, only a small place for the driver, though later it was extended to carry a saloon. It was intended for the use of the Eastern Counties Railway's engineer but its career was marred when in 1850 it ran over and killed the district superintendent. 30 08 19a

1863
A wooden island platform connected by footbridge & tunnel under the lines was added only to be abandoned during rebuilding work in 1863 which lengthened the original platform.

1886
In 1886 a new two-platform Station was planned but this would have involved taking part of Coldham's Common which Parliament refused to sanction.

1888

1888 09 14
Plans for Mill Road Bridge nearly ready [2.8]

1888 09 14
Proposed new Goods Yard, Mill Road [2,7]

1889 08 03
Sir – The Mill Road footbridge over the railway line was opened to the public on Monday August 3rd 1889. I was the last one to take the keys of the gates to the station – William Nelson. Sir - The iron footbridge over the railway on Mill Road had wooden steps and gave access to the open fields beyond it. In fact, so countrified was the area that when the Royal Standard was built it was known as 'Apthorpe's Folly' from William Apthorpe the brewer who built it. The bridge now stands on Coldham Common where it spans the Newmarket Line – H.D.C. 35 01 26

1892
Opposition to divert section of line across Coldham's Common [1,5]

1893
Great Eastern Railway Act empowers new station at. Cambridge & diversion of the Newmarket line as trains crossing all main lines at station presents danger [1.6]

1893 02 11
Station improvements [1.15]

1896 04 29
Coldham's Lane bridge built & new track of railway opened [1.9]

1897
A fast train to London takes 1 hour 22 minutes & costs 10/- (50p); in 1947 it took 1hour 13 minutes & cost 4s.7d (23p) [1.10]

1897 02 01
Propose new GER station – present station dangerous, extension to Mill Road, Coldham's Common site proposed, Hyde Park Corner possible 1897 02 01 p3

1897 07 05
The Cambridge employees of Messrs Rattee and Kett, Station-road, had their annual outing to Scarborough. The party, numbering upwards of 100, left Cambridge by special train (to which, by the courtesy of Mr Holditch, the G.E.R. station-master, three saloons had been attached for their convenience) at 5 a.m., Scarborough being reached at 11 a.m. Through the generosity of the firm refreshments were liberally supplied both going and returning.

1898 08 31
The securing of the Midsummer Common for the show grounds of the Barnum and Bailey's Circus, having been completed, they have found it necessary to make a change in a number of their plans for the visit to Cambridge. The large number of excursionists from the country districts who will be attracted by the presence of the show will be thankful for the change. It will be possible to enjoy the evening show with comfort, in the consciousness that it is easy to catch the trains afterwards. The big show will arrive in Cambridge on four special trains, with a total of 74 railway cars. The unloading will be done in the G.E. railway yards, and the entire city of canvas, 14 tents in all, will be put up in the morning before the parade starts out. Every bit of the show is coming to Cambridge

1898 09 29
Henley Arthur Bedwell, a Cambridge piano and organ builder claimed £2 from the Great Eastern Railway for damages sustained by a piano and a case which had been considerably damaged by wet. The manager of the Cutter inn, Ely said he packed the piano before it was sent back. He took it to Ely station and deposited in a goods shed. James Merry, goods foreman at the station, gave evidence as to loading the piano safely on a truck. A tarpaulin was tied over it. There were some barrels of beer in the same wagon, but they were not leaking. Harold Pain, an optician, produced a register proving that there was no rain during the transit of the piano.

1898 10 27
The population of the town of Cambridge has increased very much during the past 10 years, especially in the Petersfield and Romsey town area. Up till 10 years ago the chancel of the present St Barnabas Church was the only place of worship in the extensive district. Mainly by reason of the enterprise of Mr Sturton in providing land for building purposes, the district became so large that it became necessary to carry out the building of the complete Church; this was done in 1887. The substitution by the Great Eastern Railway Company of a handsome bridge for the old level crossing in Mill Road gave a great impetus to building in what is now Romsey town and the church of ease of St Phillip's was established. Now the time has come for Romsey town to be raised to the status of an ecclesiastical Parish, with St Phillip's as the parish church

1898 12 28
A strange discovery was made on Boxing Day at the Cambridge railway station by a cleaner. It appears that in the performance of his ordinary duties he was sweeping the carriages of a London and North Western train working between Cambridge and Bletchley, when he came across a brown paper parcel concealed under the seat of a third class compartment. Suspicious of its contents, the man removed it to the cloak room. The parcel was opened without delay and discovered to contain the dead body of a newly born male child.

1899 07 05
The Great Eastern Railway Company has for many years been engaged in carrying the workpeople of East London to and from their work and Liverpool Street and Fenchurch Street stations every morning are thronged with the wage earners of East London. Now within a few

miles of Cambridge Messrs Chivers have established a jam factory and in the fruit picking season employ an average of 8,000 people, most drawn from Cambridge. For their benefit the Great Eastern Railway has now provided trains to Histon, morning and night. These are of immense convenience to the fruit pickers and in putting them on the railway company has in promoting its own welfare promoted also that of Cambridge - 1899 07 05

1899 11 02
When residents in St Andrew's street, Cambridge, saw a procession of cabs passing onward "all mournful and slow" to the railway station the people knew that someone had been sent down from the University. From Emmanuel College a youth emerged and under a shower of rice made hurriedly for the cab waiting at the door. The driver, "Gentleman Joe" wore a tall hat draped with crape, and so did the drivers of some four cabs what followed. The hero of the hour entered the Great Northern Station, the train moving out to the strains of "Auld Lang Syne". Meanwhile the cabbies grove back to their respective stands. They were of more cheerful aspect on the return journey and each puffed a festive cigar.

1899 11 13
Cambridge has got a long railway station, but there would not have been an inch of standing room to spare on the platform if all the people who desired to get in had been permitted to do so. Shortly before noon the procession of Reservists arrived and from that time till the train left all was wild excitement. The difficulty was to get the men who were leaving away from their friends, and in the long run there was nothing for it but to effect something like a forcible separation. Eventually, amid vociferous cheering the train got away and the defenders of the country were fairly on their way to do the country's bidding

1899 11 14
Mr Richard Langford of James Street, Cambridge, has passed away within a fortnight of obtaining the great age of 100 years. He was early in life placed in a gang of lighters which plied between King's Lynn and Cambridge and acquired a gang of his own. For many years he brought coals to Cambridge until the railway was opened, when he retired.

1900

1900 01 20
For the second time since the Boer ultimatum the consequences of war have been brought very close to Cambridge. This morning there was a second demonstration in which Town and Gown joined hands in a common feeling of respect for those who, though not compelled by laws to leave the old country, were nevertheless anxious to lend a hand in the war. Shortly after ten o'clock the special train steamed out of the siding, kisses were blown and the Volunteers who will represent Cambridge at the front were out of sight, but not out of mind 1900

1900 03 06
Sir – At present gates cross the railway line on Milton Road, Cambridge, and a sub-way is provided for vehicular traffic. After heavy rains it is flooded some feet deep and a few days ago the driver of a carriage containing an invalid lady found over five feet of water there, and no room to turn round. The invalid and her attendant had to sit up to their knees in water, and in their saturated clothes had to proceed to the Hospital. – Viator 00 03 06

1900 08 14

An accident happened at Cherry Hinton. The 8.55 passenger train was due, but the gates over the Cherry Hinton crossing remained closed; consequently the engine, which was travelling backwards, dashed into them with horrific force and smashed them to pieces. The head lamp on the engine was broken, but no other damage was done. The gatekeeper has been suspended 00 08 14 c

1900 08 15
An accident happened at Cherry Hinton. The 8.55 passenger train was due, but the gates over the Cherry Hinton crossing remained closed; consequently the engine, which was travelling backwards, dashed into them with horrific force and smashed them to pieces. The head lamp on the engine was broken, but no other damage was done. The gatekeeper has been suspended.

1901 01 17
For some time the Cambridge Borough Surveyor had hired a wharf in the L.N.W.R. railway yard, principally for the purposes of stone breaking. The rent had been £2 but the Company now proposed to increase it to £3 per annum. The surveyor considered it would be advantageous to continue the tenancy.

1901 01 29
Few spots in and around Cambridge have become more notorious for the number of fatalities which they yield than the vicinity of Barnwell Junction and the stretch of line between that point and the level crossing on the Chesterton side of the railway bridge which spans the Cam. And probably nothing has ever surpassed in ghastliness the gruesome discovery made there during the early hours of Tuesday morning. The unfortunate victim was a telegraph linesman.
Barnwell junction accident, p3 *, inquest 31st p3

1901 02 12
As we tread the borders of the 20th century we wonder whether the people of the year 2001 will find the railway train be a thing of the past because they are using flying machines as a means of locomotion. Will the fact of sending a message along a wire be deemed romantic at that period or will the telegraph appear to them as old fashioned and romantic as the first efforts of telegraphy by means of wooden arms do to us. The romance of looking forward is to us not to be compared with that of looking back.
1901 04 09
The atmospheric conditions in Cambridge on Easter Monday were on the whole delightful and the people made the most of the opportunities for outdoor amusement and recreation. There was an increase of traffic on the Great Eastern Railway. Excursions were run to Hunstanton, 50 persons leaving, and 70 went to Yarmouth, 20 to Cromer, 20 to Lowestoft and 150 to London by excursions that day. Another excursion brought 362 persons from London to Cambridge.

1901 05 06
Today Cambridge formally recognises and honours the loyalty of her sons who have been at the war in South Africa. The arrival of the Volunteers at Cambridge Station was very quiet and orderly. There were no decorations but a barrier had been drawn across the platform & as time wore on the railway officials became more stringent as to whom they allowed within. There was excitement as a train was seen slowing steaming in with khaki-coloured arms and bronzed faces thrust out of the windows and in another minute the men were standing on the platform, after fifteen months' experience of war and travelling.

1901 06 13

Yarmouth Guardians received a report on the dissection of paupers' bodies. They had been sent to Cambridge by officials of the workhouse since 1881. Professor Macalister sent a cheque for £6 14s 6d for each body but only £5 10s 0d was really incurred for expenses. The railway charge for the carriage of a body was £4 6s.0d but the Master's clerk said it was £4 9s.0d and that he put the other 3s. in the poor box. £1 was paid for a coffin but he received 1s. from the undertaker. All the clerk had to do was to see the body was screwed down, go to the railway station and pay the charge. He said he gave the porters sixpence each but inquiry proved they only received a pint of beer

1901 07 08
About 100 employees of Messrs Rattee and Kett spent a most enjoyable day at the Crystal Palace, seeing the Naval and Military Exhibition being held there. The great feature was the stupendous Military Band Concert. The employees of Messrs Redding & Son spent an enjoyable day at Brighton; a saloon carriage was attached to the Great Northern Railway train which left Cambridge at 4.45 am. Messrs Scales and Robins employees enjoyed a combined sea and rail trip and journeyed from Lowestoft to Yarmouth by steamer

1901 11 26
A Chesterton lady, Miss A. Masterson of Humberstone Road, was among a number of passengers who underwent an alarming experience while travelling by the Central London Railway, which is better known as the "Twopenny Tube". A train was suddenly stopped as it was about to enter Marble Arch Station. The tunnel became filled with dense and suffocating smoke. Several ladies fainted and others became hysterical. People were rushing pell-mell from the front of the train, scrambling over seats to get out of danger. Then the lights went out. It was twenty minutes before the train moved back slowly. There was a terrible smell of burning flesh and it was learned that a gentleman had fallen in front of the train and been crushed to death.

1902 02 12
Cambridge Electric Supply Company reported that they would probably outgrow the present site, in Thompson's Lane. They had secured a site at Chesterton, situated at the side of the railway line so they would be able to bring coals into the yard and they had also arranged for the use of the river and the road. The site would not be required yet but as no other spot on the river was so placed they were justified in buying the land

1902 04 21
The King passed through Cambridge on his way from Sandringham to London. The special train steamed through at a slow pace. The king was plainly visible reading a daily paper. A barrier was thrown across the station where the London trains go out. A number of people assembled on that part of the platform which was open to the public, but there was no demonstration.

1903 03 23
A two-year-old baby boy was found on a seat on the Cambridge Railway Station platform. Nobody could be found to claim the youngster who was contentedly munching a bun and entirely oblivious to his surroundings. He was fairly well dressed but had no parcel containing extra clothes or anything that could lead to his identification. The Great Northern stationmaster's wife (Mrs Fenn) took charge of the little fellow and he was subsequently given into the charge of the police and removed to the Workhouse to await identification.

1903 07 30
Cambridge Commercial Traveller's Association submitted a petition to the Great Eastern Railway Company praying for an improved service. The want of a train between Cambridge and London

which would permit business men to reach the City before 10 am is very badly felt and there is no return to Cambridge between 5.15 and 8.20 pm which causes great inconvenience. Such provision would render it possible for gentlemen engaged in business in London to reside in Cambridge, which at present is found impossible, owing to the absence of convenient trains. 03 07 30

1904 04 30
At midnight Friday, the driver of a goods train from Cambridge discovered that several of his trucks were on fire. He got to Audley End station as quickly as possible when it was found that a truck of straw, another containing corn, and also one loaded with mangolds had become ignited. The burning trucks were promptly shunted on to the Walden branch siding, and strenuous efforts were made to extinguish the flames. However the trucks of wheat straw was burnt out. The corn is somewhat damaged, and also the truck containing the mangolds

1904 07 09 c
Mr F.B. Kelly has retired as District Manager of the Great Northern Railway at Cambridge after 55 years' service. He began at Lincoln when the railway began to compete with a boat that used to ply between Lincoln and Boston. Instead of seeking to attract custom by providing a more comfortable means of travelling they decided that anything cheap, though nasty, would do. They provided fourth-class carriages which had neither seats nor covering and packed them in like so many sheep. He also recalls the better type of carriage that was modelled on the stage coach and remembers how before the introduction of vans luggage used to be piled on the top of the carriages and covered over with a sheet

1904 09 03
Children throw stones on trains from Mill Road bridge [2.15]

1904 11 11
Cement making has already become a very important Cambridge industry. Extensive new works are rapidly approaching completion and have made a great change in the landscape of Cherry Hinton. The pleasant path through the fields from the end of Mill Road is hardly recognisable now. It has been diverted to make room for a huge collection of buildings from which a new siding leads to the railway line close at hand. These are the Norman Cement Company's works

1905 02 25
It would appear as though the automobile is going to revolutionise transit in all departments and the next application is likely to be the railways. The Great Northern Railway Company have been allowing a motor manufacturing company to make experiments upon their lines with a petrol car as a conveyance over branch lines passing through sparsely-populated districts. It is being seriously considered whether the automobile carriage carrying a few passengers shall not supersede the ordinary locomotive-drawn train. The car with which experiments are being made ran into

1905 09 06
Sir – thousands of people in Romsey Town are anxious for a shorter route to the railway station. Some years ago they had a private path but this was closed; a shorter route, known as Coulson's Path, was also taken away and passengers have to go by the Devonshire Road. The erection of one of the old foot bridges, now lying useless, somewhere near Charles Street or David Street would be a boon to both railway and inhabitants – S. Hurrell. 05 09 06

1905 12 09

Cambridge Corporation's new Mill Road storeyard is nearing completion on land behind the Free Library. Here material for the repair and making of roads is stored, vehicles housed and mended and appliances for any contingency kept in readiness. It has a siding to the railway for granite or cement, an open shed for refuse vehicles and stables together with accommodation for two steam rollers. There are blacksmiths, carpenters and wheelwright's shops and a men's mess room 05 12 09a & b

1906 08 09
Cambridge station platform will be lengthened by 270 feet and widened with new awnings. The booking hall will be enlarged nearly three times, the waiting room, lavatories and parcels office doubled. A subway connecting the eastern side of the line with the town would be a convenience but only a small proportion of those people using it would be railway passengers. However the railway would allow a wayleave under their line to anybody who wishes to construct one. 06 08 09

1906 08 23
A woman of about 30 years of age journeyed to Cambridge to meet the man who was the author of her 'trouble'. While she was in the train alone the child was born but on arrival at the station she behaved with such extraordinary circumspection that none of the railway officials suspected anything unusual had occurred. Carrying a bundle wrapped in underlinen under her arm, this extraordinary woman walked the length of the platform, hailed a cab and asked to the driven to the Workhouse. There her strength gave way and she swooned on the floor with the new-born babe beside her. They are both doing well. 06 08 23

1907 01 03
A signalman at Cherry Hinton signal box experienced the agony of seeing his son killed before his eyes. While he was on duty his three-year-old lad toddled across the line to visit his father, just as a passenger train was approaching. Unable to leave his post and unable to prevent the accident, the father saw his son knocked down by the train. He was picked up, shockingly injured, and conveyed by the train to Cambridge station and from thence to Hospital but was dead before he arrived. 07 01 03b

1907 07 08
Sir – I should much like to live in Cambridge but am unable to do so because of its trains. If I could get to London before nine in the morning and return after 10.30 at night I could do so. There are numbers of commercial travellers and tradesmen who have to go to market who would live here and patronise whichever railway company gives this facility first. A route via Bedford would only take some 20 minutes longer and would be a great benefit. – Effigy. Two years ago the railway asked for the names of 10 people would be regular passengers – but no names were forthcoming - Editor 07 07 08

1907 07 20
For some years the manufacture of Portland cement had been carried on in the district, but it is today that the new Saxon Portland Company is seriously undertaking the scientific manufacture of the product on a large commercial scale. One of the largest and most modern cement works in the kingdom is being erected on the Coldham Lane, Cambridge. Sidings have been connected with the railway capable of holding three trains of 20 trucks each. The buildings, rapidly approaching completion, include eight large cement kilns & an enormous building will provide storage for the manufactured cement. The works will be open by night and by day. The electric light will be extensively used and the current will be generated at the works.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1907 12 07
When the Cambridge station Night Inspector heard of a fire at Bishops Stortford he despatched telegrams summoning workers from their homes. A truck specially designed for the conveyance of the fire engine is always kept ready but the engine itself is kept unmounted, ready for local fires. Within an hour a special train comprising a locomotive, the fire-emergency truck and a brake van was thundering down the line as, on board, a little band of half-a-dozen men busied themselves with preparations for the grim contest that lay before them. 07 12 07

1908
Clause re trains not stopping on Sundays formally repealed (stopped before) [4.10]

1908 07 17
A shocking railway accident, resulting fatally, occurred at the Cherry Hinton level crossing. Two light engines were approaching and the gatekeeper, Mr West, being absent at the back of his house, his daughter was closing the gates. One easily shut but before she had time to close the second the engines were upon her and she was thrown to the ground. The unclosed gate was badly damaged. The gatekeeper was 71 years of age and on duty all hours. For the last four weeks he had been called at four o'clock in the morning and was on duty till 10.30 pm. CWN 08 07 17 p5

1908 09 18
There will be considerable reorganisation at Cambridge station following the agreement between the London and North Western and the Midland Railways. There will now be a combined staff for goods, cartage and passenger traffic and one town office will do the business of the two. But passengers taking ordinary tickets to London by the Great Eastern Railway still have the privilege of returning by the Great Northern, or vice versa. CWN 08 09 18

1908 12 04
Cambridge railway station – major article from Railway Magazine – 08 12 04

1909 01 22
The line near Cambridge station was blocked by a collision between two goods trains. One engine and four trucks were derailed and the goods thrown in all directions. One was completely overturned and its contents scattered over the line while others loaded with granite had the sides ripped open. The accident happened under Mill Road bridge where a crowd of spectators watched the arduous task of clearing the line 09 01 22

1909 04 02
Improvement work has started at Cambridge railway station to provide better facilities for branch trains. But other work to enlarge the booking, parcel and lavatory accommodation, to widen the main platform by twelve feet, provide another exit for parcel traffic and erect another colonnade in the yard is a task of considerable magnitude and will not be undertaken at once. 09 04 02

1909 04 09
The stationmaster of Barnwell Junction found the ticket office had been entered, the till broken open and cash and stamps stolen. The burglar entered the waiting room where he obtained a poker and forced the booking office window. After smashing the till he visited the stationmaster's office and made a meal of bread and cheese. 09 04 09

1909 05 28

A shocking accident occurred at Cambridge Railway Station when George Meade of Shepreth fell in front of an engine and received such injuries as necessitated the amputation of both his legs. It was fully twenty minutes before he could be extricated and removed to Addenbrooke's Hospital 09 05 28

1909 10 22
Shoppers had the unusual opportunity of seeing an aeroplane in the streets of Cambridge. It was an all-British monoplane invented and designed by Jack Humphreys, founder of the British Aeroplane Syndicate and one-time Cambridge resident. He had worked day and night at Wivenhoe to get the machine ready for the Blackpool meeting and had hoped to put it on the train there. Instead he had it towed it to Cambridge but missed the turning at Station Road and had to drive through the narrow central streets until he could get back. A crowd of railway officials, crossing-sweepers and daintily-dressed ladies quickly clustered around it. CWN 09 10 22

1910

1910 04 01
Easter 1910 will be long remembered for its delightful holiday weather. The religious services both on Friday and Sunday were remarkably well attended and on Friday evening a large audience attended a performance of the 'Messiah' at the Guildhall. Many Cambridge people went out of town by train. Yarmouth, Lowestoft and Cromer were the most popular watering places, Hunstanton attracting fewer people than usual. There were scores of cyclists and motorists on the roads, all very cheerful in spite of the dust nuisance. The Territorials held a parade for 250 men and the 1st Eastern General Hospital were busy training at Haslingfield. A miniature rifle range was opened at the Working Men's Institute in Fitzroy Street. 10 04 01a

1910 10 28
Cambridge station railway worker decapitated by train – 10 10 28d

1911 08 04
The Great Eastern Railway says that despite the increase in motor travelling, which renders wealthy people independent of railway trains, the first-class returns show a considerable increase. The third-class returns are also up which is more surprising for the development of tubes and trams in the London suburbs means keen competition. But the second-class passenger seems to be gradually dying out and on many lines has been abolished altogether 11 08 04

1911 08 18
The railway strike has begun and its effects are impossible to say. A complete stoppage would paralyse the trade of the country. Meat would be unobtainable and flour and corn exhausted in a week leaving cities starving for bread. No doubt road and river traction would bring some mitigation but fruit and fish would leap to famine prices and without coal no gas or electricity can be produced. Mills, factories and workshops would be closed down for lack of power and the great majority of people become dependent upon public relief. 11 08 18e

1911 08 18
The effects of the rail strike are not seriously felt in Cambridge. All trains are running though supplies are considerably delayed with shortages in butter, bacon and petrol. Representatives of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants have been in town but only a very few local employees are society men. Cambridge Station is looked upon as a 'fat job'; guards, porters and platform hands know when they are well off and there are plenty of reserve men to take the places of any who come out. 11 08 18h

1911 08 25
Had the railway strike not been settled on Saturday there is little doubt that nearly 100 of the men employed at Cambridge station would have come out. The GER trains ran as usual and the London and North-Western Railway will give double pay to the men connected with the movement and handling of traffic who have remained loyally at their posts. Although no actual disturbances were feared the Chief Constable very properly took the precaution of stopping all leave in case of need. 11 08 25f

1911 11 03
The Cambridge stationmaster, Mr Holdich, was presented with a gold watch and a cheque for 100 guineas on his retirement. When he'd started with the Eastern Counties Railway in the 1850s the rolling stock was in a wretched state. He'd ridden in a carriage with no roof, others had a roof but no windows. In 1894 he'd been appointed to Cambridge, dealing with Masters of Colleges, learned Professors, royalty and other distinguished personages. Then there was the Royal Show. But they'd got through all right. 11 11 03d

1911 11 24
John Stanley, poulterer of Peas Hill sued the G.E.R. Company for damages sustained in the carriage of 84 ducklings and three geese from Liverpool Street to Cambridge. They were to have been sent by passenger train the same day. But instead they were taken on to Doncaster. He made numerous inquiries but it was not until 9pm that the birds arrived at the station but the GER could not deliver them until Monday, by which time they would have been bad. But he had an old contract that said the goods were sent at his risk and he lost his case. 11 11 24f

1912 02 16
The biggest fire seen in Cambridge for nine years broke out at Clement Johnson's rope, sack and tarpaulin factory facing the railway station. The building was completely gutted. The walls which must have been very strongly built when the factory was erected nearly 50 years ago, remained intact, but everything inside - sacks, ropes, twine, tarpaulins and marquees - was totally destroyed. Mr Johnson knew nothing about the catastrophe until he left a train and walked out of the station when he saw the whole factory ablaze 12 02 16f & 16a

1912 03 01
A slight mishap occurred at the Milton level crossing when the down gate was smashed by the 6.05 pm train from Cambridge to St Ives. Beyond the smashing of the gate and some slight damage to the brakes, due probably to the sudden stopping of the train, no damage was done. Immediately before this Chivers' work-girls train had passed on the up line. The gateman said that earlier he had let through some sheep and the gates were securely fastened. But the down gate became opened in some way and was run into by the train. This is the fourth accident at this crossing in the last three years. 12 03 01f

1912 06 07
When retiring Stationmaster, George Kimm, first came to Cambridge the Superintendent's office was on the old island platform that stood opposite the present platform before it was lengthened. There was a bridge by which passengers reached it but all luggage was transferred by means of a trolley and then shouldered by porters to a cab or van for conveyance to its destination. This caused very great delay, especially at the beginning or end of term, and it was largely for the convenience of the University that the present long single platform was made. It was opened in

October 1863. He has seen the opening of the Haverhill and Sudbury line amongst others, welcomed Royalty. Stretham fen accident described: the balance-weight of the engine of an express train fell off just as a down express was approaching, and, the weight rolling on to the line, threw the down train into the dyke. A number of people were injured. Litigation followed and the company were found liable 12 06 07k

1912 07 19
An important change in railway administration means that the whole of the G.E.R. and G.N.R. work at Cambridge station will now be carried out by the Great Eastern staff. All passengers will obtain their tickets in the central booking hall while all parcel traffic will now be dealt with in the former Great Northern booking hall which will provide cloak room accommodation as well. A total of 50 G.N.R. men will be found new employment, some as far away as Doncaster or St Neots. 12 06 28i

1913 01 31
Most of the passengers had left the G.N.R. train from King's Cross at Cambridge station when an official noticed a gentleman, apparently asleep. He opened the carriage door and gently shook him by the knee. As he did so he was startled to see a revolver lying on the floor of the carriage and a small trickle of blood. Examination showed that the passenger was dead, apparently from a bullet wound in the head. The body was identified as that of Longstanton man. The village stationmaster was told to break the news to his wife. The news caused great consternation in the area 13 01 31 p12 CIP

1913 05 09
There was a huge increase in heavy motor traffic carrying goods that had previously gone by train. In prosperous Cambridge there were 26 heavy motor lorries, including the motor-'buses, and 21 motor drays. Most of their running was done on the county roads at a fairly high speed. It was important to have good roads, not only for the ordinary motor-cars but for the heavy commercial vehicles, because they helped to promote industry in various parts of the county, councillors were told. 13 05 09 p09 CIP

1913 05 30
Suffragettes attempted to blow up a railway crossing gate at Granhams Road, Shelford. The gatekeeper found a treacle tin with a bootlace through the lid connecting with a long red squib inside. It was surrounded by cotton wool soaked in oil and lumps of charcoal. On the outside was written 'Votes for Women'. There is little doubt it was a genuine article that could have set fire to the gate had the lighted lace not gone out. It was immersed in a bucket of water. Rumours said that two strange women had been seen near the site 13 05 30 p11 CIP

1913 09 26 p7
Railway shed fire

1913 12
Two killed at Coldham's Lane crossing [1.8]

1913 12 26
Concern was expressed about the petroleum tanks on the Great Eastern Railway Company's yard in Devonshire Road. If there were an explosion all the station would be blown down and Tenison Road as well. There had been great trepidation when Mr Clement Johnson's sack factory caught fire because of the danger of the wind blowing parks towards the tanks. But the Inspector of Explosives had examined them and nothing short of wilful determination would set them alight. It

was petroleum, not explosive oil gas. The tanks in the ground would not be affected even if a man lit a pipe whilst pumping it out from the tank 13 12 26 p3

1914 06 04
Trains to Cambridge p5

1914 07 02
Railwaymen's union meeting 14 07 02

1914 07 10
Cambridge Voluntary Aid Detachments and Red Cross held an exercise at Newnham College. It assumed severe fighting had been going on in Norfolk and a large number of casualties had been sent to the First Eastern General Hospital. When another train load of wounded arrived they received orders to convert Sidgwick Hall into a temporary hospital where eleven beds were provided and patients were treated for crushed hands and fractured tibia Other nurses were prepared splints and bandages and a sceptic ward was set up 14 07 10 p4

1914 08 07
How Cambridge Mobilised. Throughout the first two or three days of the week Cambridge residents experienced the feeling of tension which has been typical of the country. Large crowds of townspeople have assembled outside newspaper offices during the week, in order to learn the latest war news, and such anxiety has not been displayed since the dark days of the South African War. Until the early hours of Wednesday morning, large numbers of Cambridge people paraded the streets in the hope of hearing some news as to the reply of Germany to the British ultimatum, and when the intelligence of war with Germany became known, the tension of the previous few days was partially relieved. Late on Sunday, and early on Monday morning, Cambridge members of the Naval Reserve received notices calling upon them to report themselves at their respective headquarters. There was a large number of Naval Reservists in Cambridge, and the men immediately proceeded to Portsmouth, Chatham and other important naval centres. While the effect of the withdrawal of the naval men did not have so drastic an effect as the orders had in coast towns, it was rather surprising to find that in Cambridge there were so many ex-naval men and Marines who had settled down to landsmen's work in the inland town. The calling up of the Army Reserve had an even wider operation, employees in colleges, railwaymen, policemen, postal officials, Vanmen, etc., abandoning their civil occupations at the call of the State. The railway station presented an animated scene, hundreds of Reservists arriving from all parts of the town and district and proceeding to their regimental headquarters. The local Staff officers of the Territorial Force also responded to the summons, and rejoined their regiments. 14 08 07 CIPof

1914 08 14
Cambridge Yeomanry marched from the stores in Panton Street to the railway station where they loaded their baggage into luggage vans. A number of horses were requisitioned in the station yard, including a cab horse which was taken out of the cab, unharnessed, then placed in a horse van. A butcher's horse was handed over. A country trap came into the yard to convey sad tidings to three of the men that their father had died. It was impossible for them to return home and they had to remain with their comrades. Finally a special train including vans loaded with machine guns and ammunition pulled out while the crowd sang 'Rule Britannia' 14 08 14 p6

1914 09 04
The train with wounded from the front was delayed. Rooms on the Great Northern platform were converted into wards for serious cases before being taken to hospital. Outside a fleet of motor

cars and tradesmen's vans converted to ambulances were ready to take the men to the First Eastern Hospital now at Trinity College. It was not easy to lift the badly-wounded men out of the carriages but stretchers were placed on luggage trolleys and wheeled slowly along the platform. There were tears in the eyes of onlookers 14 09 04 p7

1914 09 25
Wounded Soldiers Return. About five weeks ago, thousands of British soldiers, summoned from all parts of the United Kingdom, were under canvas at Cambridge in readiness for departure to the Front. Their destination was unknown, and it was naturally surmised by the men that they would be going to Belgium. Yesterday afternoon some of these soldiers returned to Cambridge, maimed in some cases and badly wounded in other cases. The ambulance train arrived at Cambridge about 5 p.m., and contained 130 wounded men from infantry, cavalry and artillery regiments. In 30 cases the soldiers were unable to walk, and were carried from the train on stretchers by the local members of the Voluntary Aid Detachments, and thence to Trinity College, the headquarters of the 1st Eastern General Hospital (T). Included in the wounded were men of the East and West Yorks. Regiments, Royal Fusiliers, R.H.A., Norfolks and Suffolks, and a large proportion of them were men of the Brigade which was encamped in Cambridge recently.

1914 09 25
Nearly 200 wounded soldiers arrived at Cambridge in two specially-fitted ambulance trains. They had come straight off the hospital ship that had brought them from France; some had been travelling for four days. They lay on beds arranged in two tiers along the sides of long compartments and were carried on stretchers to the ambulance vans waiting outside the station. Quite a large crowd waiting patiently for several hours to see them arrive and give them a cheer as they were brought out.

1914 09 25
Wounded Soldiers. — About 200 wounded soldiers arrived in Cambridge in the early hours of Wednesday morning after a long and tiring journey by rail and sea from the front. There were comparatively few Cambridge people at the railway station when the special trains arrived, and with all possible speed under the circumstances the wounded men were conveyed to the East Anglian Divisional Hospital at Trinity College.

1914 10 23
Railway Tragedy. — A fatality on the Great Eastern Railway line at Cambridge on Saturday, when a platelayer named William James Thurlow was knocked down by a truck while engaged in oiling points near Mill Road Bridge. Thurlow was working with a man named Jack Andrews, who was also knocked down and injured. Thurlow died after admission to hospital, and at an inquest the jury returned a verdict of "accidental death." 14 10 23 CIPof

1915 02 05
Presentation. On Thursday a presentation was made to Mr. W, B. Allen, for ten years London and North-Western and Midland Stationmaster at Cambridge. The gifts consisted of an easy chair, a case of pipes and a tin of tobacco. A welcome was extended to Mr. Bradley, the successor to Mr. Allen 15 02 05 CIPof

1915 02 05
Well-known G.E.R. Stationmaster. It is with deep regret that we record the death of Mr. John Ablitt, the Gt. Eastern Railway stationmaster at Cambridge, which occurred at his residence. Morecambe House, Mill Road, on Thursday. The news of his demise will be received with universal regret throughout the whole of the Gt. Eastern system. Mr. Ablitt was in his 58th year.

At the age of 21, he was appointed relief Stationmaster in the London district, and when Huntingdon joint railway station was opened, he took up duties there as stationmaster. He was afterwards transferred to Shelford, where he remained for 10 years, proceeding to Hunstanton (two years), St. Ives (two years), and Wisbech (six years) as stationmaster. In 1911 he secured the appointment at Cambridge railway station. 15 02 05 CIPof

1915 02 19
New Stationmaster. The vacancy caused at the Cambridge Station (G.E.R,) by the death of Mr. J. S. Ablitt has been filled by the appointment (made by Mr. Win. C. May, the Chief Traffic Manager of the G.E.R.) of Mr. Frederick Randall, Stationmaster at Ely. Mr. Randall, who this week took up his duties as stationmaster at Cambridge, has been in the service of the company for 28 years. He succeeded Mr. Bedford (now District Superintendent at Ipswich) as stationmaster at Ely in 1911. By his large and varied experience in the practical working of a railway, he is particularly well-fitted to discharge the responsible duties which the management of so important a junction will devolve upon him. Cambridge is regarded, as the most difficult to work of the company's provincial stations 15 02 19 CIPof

1915 09 03
The Fire Brigade received three calls to borough fires during the past week. In the early hours of Wednesday morning they were called to a serious outbreak in Fitzroy Street, and on the following day they were called upon to pay two visits to the London and North-Western Railway, where an engine shed had caught fire.15 09 03

1915 11 17
Trumpington VTC on duty guarding railway bridge – photo -15 11 17b

1916 02 21
Wounded Arrive. Another heavy convoy of wounded arrived on Saturday night. The train, which steamed in about 8 o'clock, con¬tained.107 cot cases and 93 sitting cases, 200 in all. The work was smartly carried out by Cambs. 13 V.A.D., assisted by members of Fulbourn detachment. The work was supervised by Commandant Percy Alger, and the train was unloaded in an hour and 20 minutes

1916 03 29
Sidney Frederick Lofts, aged 19, of Thoday Street, Cambridge, was engaged in shunting operations on the G.E.R. at Barnwell Junction when he was knocked down by an up express. The down express train had just passed, and this Lofts had noticed approaching. In avoiding it, however, he did not notice the other train. A motor ambulance was telephoned for and obtained from the military hospital, the man being taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital. Here it was found necessary to amputate both legs.16 03 29 CIPof

1916 07 26
Stationmaster Honoured. – All Cambridge will join in extending heartiest congratulations to Mr. A. Peacocke, the new stationmaster at Cambridge, upon the honour conferred upon him by His Majesty the King, who has graciously awarded him the Royal Victorian Medal in recognition of long and faithful personal service rendered during the period he was travelling inspector in charge of the Royal train on the G.E.R's system. Although Mr. Peacocke only took over the duties of stationmaster at Cambridge at the beginning of the present month, he was well-known in the town, having, up to two years ago, resided in Mill Road for upwards of 15 years. The presentation was made at Buckingham Palace last Friday

1916 10 11
Great Eastern Railway campaign for egg and poultry development; demonstration train with models of poultry houses, hatching and rearing. Other branches of agriculture might follow – 16 10 11e

1916 12 13
Temperance Worker. His many friends in Cambridge and district have learned with considerable regret of the pending departure of Mr. Horace Brown, the known temperance worker and advocate, a regret which is shared by Town, County and University residents who have, in business matters, been brought into contact with him. Mr. Horace Brown has been a member of the Cambs. Band of Hope Union Executive Committee, representing the Eastern Division for the past three years, whilst he took a leading part in the Band of Hope pageants which were presented at Cambridge with so much success, his role being respectively Oliver Cromwell and the Mayor in "Stourbridge Fair". He has been in the employ of the Midland and. L. and N.W. Railways for 17 years and during the past ten years has been in charge of the joint inquiry office at Market Hill, Cambridge.

1916 12 27
Christmas Railway traffic. — Altogether this year the Christmas traffic on the G.E.R. has been slacker than usual at Cambridge. There was, in the early part of last week, a good deal of passenger traffic, particularly among munition workers and soldiers. The general public, evidently responding to the appeal made to them, did not travel as in previous years. The extra trains on Sunday, however, were well filled. There were fewer passengers than usual, and the pressure on this department therefore was not so great as in previous years.

1919 07 16
Railwaymen commemorate staff who died – 19 07 16d, photos – 19 07 23l

1919 10 01
Rail Strike. The action of the N.U.R. Executive in forcing on the country, without warning, a national railway strike, bound up as it is with so many evil consequences and endangering the country's food supply, met with universal condemnation in Cambridge, as indeed it has throughout the British Isles. The situation is being met with calmness and fortitude. Cambridge railway station went to sleep on Friday night at the behest of the N.U.R. Goods traffic and perishable articles were held up, cattle suffered similarly and the mere man in the street was faced with the necessity of arranging his own transport if he wished to get home during the week-end. Four or five passenger trains were handled at Cambridge on Saturday. About 90 per cent of the men are out. A few trains have been run daily during the week. The Divisional Superintendent of Operations said a large number of Cambridge civilians had volunteered for service on the railway. The strike affected the gas supply and postal services and food rations were reduced to the following amounts: Meat 1s. 8d. worth per-week, bacon 6 ozs. sugar 8 ozs. butter 1 oz, margarine 4 ozs, lard 2 ozs. An old lady walked ten miles on Saturday to fetch margarine. Coal deliveries were restricted to deliveries of one cwt. 19 10 01b

1919 10 08
Strike scenes – Royal Engineers arrive in readiness; Milk dump at Cattle Market; Mass meeting of railwaymen – photos – 19 10 08c

1919 10 08
Railway Strike Ends,—The railway strike terminated on Sunday after an existence of nine days. Speaking generally, Cambridge felt but little ill effect from the national railway stoppage. Volun-

teers and loyal employees carried on a skeleton passenger service and voluntary effort in connection with road transport proved an invaluable asset in the movement of food supplies for the community. Travellers were incommoded, the public generally showed annoyance and anxiety in turn, and the man in the street exercised a Briton's privilege of "grousing" and carrying on the best he could, Cambridge railway employees returned to work on Monday, and about 8 a.m. 500 of the strikers marched to the station to report for duty. Others arrived in the course of the day, but owing to some misunderstanding in connection with the re-instatement of certain labour, the goods operatives declined to resume work. A deputation waited upon the local railway authorities and subsequently returned to the strike headquarters in Devonshire Road. Here the goods men were told to report for work next morning, the difficulties having been overcome. The men received the instruction with general pleasure, and one enthusiast called for cheers for the "brothers" who had settled the matter. A member of deputation discountenanced any form of demonstration, and the men dispersed quietly 19 10 08 CIPof [1.18] 19 10 08g

1919 10 15
Scenes during railway strike – lorries, traction engine, milk churn in motorcycle sidecar – photos – 19 10 15c

1919 11 05
"Our Jimmy" at Cambridge. The Rt Hon. J. H. (Jimmy) Thomas, P.C., M.P., visited Cambridge on Sunday and received a cordial welcome from railwaymen. He was met at the station by an enthusiastic crowd, who hauled his Carriage through the streets of the town, and in the afternoon the Guildhall was crowded when Mr. Thomas, introduced to the gathering as "Our Jimmy," gave an address. He referred to the future of the railwayman's union from the political and industrial standpoints, and spoke of the strain which he underwent during the railway strike, coming as it did upon five years of war-time anxieties. – 19 11 05a photo – 19 11 05c

1919 12 10
GER motor service between Cambridge & London, 30 huge lorries operating each day – 19 12 10e

1920

1920 05 31
Coldham's Lane signal box destroyed by fire - CDN 20 05 31

1920 06 17
Railway accident station; wagon lifter crushed

1920 07 22
Train crashes into buffers at station and mounted platform, front came to stop short distance from station buildings; platform ploughed up for some yards – 20 07 22

1920 07 28
Railway station accident – engine mounted the platform, no injuries – Ch 20 07 28a

1920 09 01
First post-war excursion train from Cambridge to Gt Yarmouth – photos – 20 09 01

1920 11 24
Railway station fatal accident – Melkjohn crushed between buffers – Ch 20 11 24b

1920 12 08
W.H. Smith dinner staff includes J.F. Ballinger, bookstall manager at Cambridge station – memories – Ch 20 12 08c

1921 04 06
Miners; strike crisis; railwaymen decide against strike, passenger trains cancelled; emergency declared, lighting restricted, coal stocks controlled – 21 04 06b

1921 05 04
Rumours that University end term early due to miners' strike discounted; residents supply coal to allow essential services; railwaymen's' guaranteed week suspended – 21 05 04b

1921 10 21
Man killed on railway at Marriott's crossing near station; need of bridge for 1,000 allotment holders – 21 10 19h

1921 11 30
G.E.R. staff new club house – photos – 21 11 30a,b

1921 12 10
death of 'Crutchy' Newman, boot cleaner Cambridge station [2.22]

1922 01 25
Great Eastern Railway Cambridge staff photo – 22 01 25a

1922 05 06
The local Labour and Co-operative Parties were well represented on Parker's Piece on Saturday when a May Day Demonstration was held. The proceedings commenced with a procession which marched in the following order: Railway Silver Band, officers of the party, banner of the A.S.L.E. and F., Co-operative banner and party, smaller unions and women's sections, Cherryhinton band, builders' banner and banner of the N.U.R.

1922 05 13
Bencro timetable indicators at station giving details of platforms etc [2.20]

1922 07 03
A glance at the huge entries in all sections of the Royal Show will give one some idea of the heavy burden imposed on the Railway Company, and the colossal task of arranging for the distribution of traffic. The G.E.R. has built unloading docks situated at the Trumpington signal-box on the Long-road, Cambridge, where there is also another entrance to the Show ground. The work of unloading machinery and materials has been in progress since May 25th and considerably more than 2,000 tons will have been handled before the closing date for delivery. The intensive period will be when the livestock are received. About sixty special trains have been booked to arrive commencing at 3.40am on Saturday morning.

1923 01 01
Until grouping in 1923 Cambridge served by 4 independent companies - Gt Eastern which owned station & most things around it, Gt Northern from Kings Cross, London & North Western from Bletchley & Midland Railway from Kettering; LMS & LNER only came it 1st Jan 1923 [87 05 21]

1923 03 03
First LNER engine at Cambridge [2.19]

1923 07 28
The offer of the London and North Eastern Railway Company in connection with the acquisition of the site of the old Newmarket railway line for the purpose of linking up Cherry Hinton road with Mill road, Cambridge, led to a good deal of discussion at the town council. For many years they had tried to get the company to come to terms, so that they could join the Rock Estate with Romsey town. The line was the key of the situation, and there were great possibilities of development on that side of the town. Mill Road too was strangled at present. Councillor Ambrose hoped the negotiations would be conditional on some promise of a bridge or railway for the people to get to the station from the Rock estate 23 07 28

1923 08 24
The staff of the Cambridge division of the L. & N.E. Railway gathered to show their appreciation on the retirement of Mr Frederick Harradine after nearly half a century. He entered the service in 1875 as a porter at Cambridge station and two years later became a single line pilot on the old Newmarket line. In 1880 he went to Shelford as a signalman and later transferred to Ely. Returning to Cambridge he was made a divisional inspector. One of his duties was to be in attendance after any serious mishap. He was the best known railwaymen in the division, if not on the railway.

1923 12 08
Fatal railway accident, Barnwell 23 12 08

1924 01 21
The railway strike has now begun, and reduced services are everywhere being run. No Cambridge locomotive man has taken an engine out of the sheds this morning, said W Few, secretary of the local branch of ASLEF at their headquarters, the Kingston cafe, Mill road. "The whole of our members, with the exception of 2, have ceased to work and if any driver in the NUR of whom there are 20 at Cambridge, signs on duty, there is no firemen to work with him". Tomorrow a large covered-in motor charabanc will leave the Ortona depot for London King's Cross at 8.30. The return fare is 12s.6d. 24 01 21

1924 02 10c
As a motor lorry, owned by Mr Parnell of Stretham and laden with 500 cans of petrol was approaching the Milton railway level crossing at a very slow speed the driver found the gates were closed to allow trains to pass. He applied his brakes, but they would not act and the lorry, which carried a very heavy load, smashed through the nearest gate, and stopped with the back part blocking the line. A coal train was approaching from Histon and a light engine from Chesterton Junction and quick action was necessary to avoid a serious accident. Gatekeeper Ernest Carter seized some fog signals and was able to stop the coal train and similar action taken by Patrol-Leader F.B. Pearson. The line was blocked for over an hour by which time the lorry was, after a small repair, able to proceed on the journey.

1925 01 21
Certain alterations are to be made in the railway station at Cambridge. The L.N.E.R. propose to extend the main line platforms at each end so that the whole of long trains may be accommodated. The goods yards on the Cherry Hinton side are to be re-arranged and extended for the storage of carriages. Up to the present the old Newmarket line had been used but this is

being handed over to Jesus College and the Corporation in connection with the building of the new arterial road from Cherry Hinton to Romsey Town 25 01 21

1925 09 07
Enthusiastic scenes marked the close of the Brass Band Contest in Cambridge Guildhall, which was won by the Cambridge Railway Silver Prize Band, the only local competitors. When the result was announced there was a furore of applause from the large audience present, and the bandsmen themselves momentarily lost their heads in their enthusiasm. The dignity of the large hall, which had rung for well-nigh two hours with the blare of brass instruments was quite forgotten. Hats were thrown high into the air and trombones and cornets waved to delighted friends among the audience.

1925 12 07
The advent of Father Christmas in Cambridge marked the approach of the festive season. He entered the town by means of the railway line. Crowds of young and old alike assembled outside the station and as the train steamed in a vision of scarlet and white, with a long white flowing beard, was seen at the window. The coach that awaited his arrival might have featured in the pages of some Hans Andersen's story with his coachman resplendent in his green and gold livery, a footman in blue, & two trumpeters attired in old gold facings and velvet breeches. To the sound of a fanfare of trumpets and the strains of the band he started on a triumphal tour of the town. On his approach to his temporary home at Heyworth's stores in Burleigh Street he was officially welcomed to 'Treasure Island'

1926 01 11
Cambridge Railway Clerks' Association annual dinner heard of the serious commercial encroachment which road transport is making upon the railways. It was entirely unfair that railway companies should have their business taken away from them by this new form of transport. The country would have to make up its mind whether it was going to have an efficient railway service or an inefficient, anaemic railway system hampered by this new form of competition with which it was unable to compete. Railwaymen were getting very restless about this question

1926 02 26
Sir – as a business man obliged to use the railways I wish to draw attention to the lack of punctuality of trains from the St Ives branch at Cambridge station. The 8.25 pm is invariably anything from a quarter to half-an-hour late, generally waiting ten minutes at Mill Road bridge whilst room is being found to run up to the platform. There is a rumour that the Ortona Motor Bus Company is shortly linking up with the National Bus Company at St Ives. The railway companies grumble about road transport competition, but it is their own fault and they have a remedy by being more punctual with the passenger service – H.G. Parker 26 02 26

1926 05 08
Cambridge station looked exceptionally bright this morning. Undergraduates in gaily coloured blazers added colour to the scene. The train services are gradually improving and great keenness had been shown on the part of undergraduates in bringing down supplies from London for the Station refreshment room. Tilly, the popular little tea shop girl, remarked while serving hot coffee and doughnuts to hungry undergraduates that she had never seen such cheerful and plucky workers as the volunteers who visited her counter during the General Strike.

1926 10 30

Cambridge Borough Surveyor submitted four schemes for the lay-out of land at the Cattle Market. The site comprised 11½ acres and was purchased about 1884 from Jesus College. The west side was used for vehicles of those attending the market, the east side was partly used for allotments and the question had arisen of developing part for conveniences, a free library and an abattoir, which was most important. The Railway Company wanted to provide up and down platforms at the station. It was unlikely the bridge would be widened for railway traffic was decreasing.

1927 03 02
Tragedy on line, p5 – 27 03 23 inquest 24th p5

1928 12 05
A passenger train travelling from March to Cambridge at over 40 mph crashed through one of the level crossing gates at Milton during dense fog. A motor lorry was practically on the rails. The engine driver appears to have been ignorant of the accident until he stopped some distance from the gates to await a signal. He then sent the fireman back to see what had happened. The passengers were unaware of any mishap. The Milton gates seem to be ill-fated. Numerous similar accidents have occurred there.

1929 08 17
Big Cambridge fire – sheds and railway trucks destroyed at Hills Road – 29 08 17

1930

1930 04 28
The railway came to Cambridge in 1845 and was carried onwards to Ely by a trestle bridge; this was replaced by a low girder bridge until April 1930 when crowds descended to witness its replacement by a much larger and stronger bridge. The operation was a spectacular one, commencing at midnight engineers worked in the light of white acetylene flames to cut the steelwork in the centre of the old bridge and remove the track at either end. It was then raised on hydraulic jacks before being removed. Then the new bridge which had already been erected alongside was carefully moved into place, the lines reconnected and all was ready for trains to run again. 30 04 28 [2.1]

1930 05
Most up-to-date engines displayed at station to raise money for Addenbrooke's Hospital building appeal [2.2]

1930 09 19
A reader has sent a picture of a locomotive engine built by Headley Bros of the Eagle Foundry, Cambridge in 1849. It was a small single-tank affair with two big driving wheels, painted bright green and named the 'Eagle'. At first there was no tender, only a small place for the driver, though later it was extended to carry a saloon. It was intended for the use of the Eastern Counties Railway's engineer but its career was marred when in 1850 it ran over and killed the district superintendent. 30 08 19a

1930 10 09
The King and Queen will experience a sense of regret at the retirement of Inspector John Harrison of St Philip's Road, Cambridge. He has been Royal inspector since 1916 and was on the Royal train which took their majesties to Sandringham at the weekend. He remembers one occasion

when he saw assembled on Wolferton station two kings, five queens, two princes and two princesses. Inspector G. Goddard, also of Cambridge, will succeed him. 30 10 09 & b

1930 11 14
Great anxiety is being felt by Cambridge's 2,000 railway employees over the Companies drastic proposals on rates of pay and conditions of service. The tobacco and other luxury trades were affected at the time they accepted a reduction in wages to ease the companies' financial difficulties temporarily but this would have a serious impact on the spending power of a large number of relatively high-salaried men. Coming at a time when trade enterprise in Cambridge is approaching its zenith and the University is being appealed to for commercial support the prospects may be regarded with concern. 30 11 14

1930 11 22
Cambridge Co-operative Society opened a new bakery in Sleaford Street equipped with the most modern machinery. 500 sacks of flour a week arrive from their own private railway siding close by. They are lifted to the third floor and the flour passes through a series of automatic machines which mix and knead it into dough that is baked in steam-heated ovens. The confectionery department has a wonderful machine turning out a wide range of cake mixtures. 30 11 22a-c

1930 12 27
The booking hall at Cambridge railway station was the scene on Christmas Eve of one of the most extraordinary happenings ever witnessed. As a taxicab was being driven back to the station rank its driver suffered a seizure; the vehicle careered through the booking hall entrance and crashed into the collapsible iron gates near the ticket collector's box. If the barrier had been wide open it would have gone right on to the track, and a train was just due. 30 12 27

1931 05 01
At Cambridge the railway companies have a financial interest and working agreement with the Ortona bus company. The time will come when co-ordination will be very close; already they have had two experiments when railway return tickets could be used on the buses and vice verse, the Ortona chairman told an inquiry. In both borough and county they worked routes which were good and bad and excursions and long-distance tours helped to pay for unremunerative town services. 31 05 01c

1931 08 28
Great changes are planned at Cambridge station. The locomotive shed and yard is to be increased from 111 to 150 locomotives and an automatic coaling plant with a bunker capacity of 200 tons will be provided, equipped with the latest measuring devices so that enginemen may take their own supplies. There will be a 70 feet turntable capable of taking the largest express locomotives in use together with three new water columns 31 08 28b [2.3]

1931 10 02
New type of railcar being tried on branch lines – pic – 31 10 02q

1932 01 18
Cambridge suffered the loss of a centenarian with the death of Mrs Sarah Ann Howes of Glisson Road. She was a charming old lady with many interesting reminiscences. She attended the dinner on Parker's Piece to celebrate the coronation of Queen Victoria and remembered the opening of the Cambridge railway station and her first journey to Ely by train. Things are very different today, she would say: the poor people are much better off than they were and people have more sympathy with each other. 32 01 18b

1932 02 01
Cambridge stationmasters were told that protection from unfair and illegal road transport was essential. In the last year the number of passenger journeys have dropped by 16 million, goods trade decreased by 15 million tons and the livestock by a million head. Motor lorries were running away with the traffic they used to carry. A man can buy an old bus chassis, stick a lorry body on it and pick up traffic here and there, charging different prices as it suits him. 32 02 01

1932 03 16
Automatic coaling plant installed [1.4]

1932 12 23
Cambridge Railway Silver Prize Band opened their new hall at Fletcher's Terrace, Romsey Town. They started in 1919 and still had 10 foundation members of the band. They won the Grand Shield at the Crystal Palace in 1922 and in 1926 won the Junior Cup. It showed what an extremely progressive band they were. 32 12 23f

1933 01 30
railway v motor traffic – 33 01 30f & g

1933 04 01
Cambridge taxi drivers protested against the amount charged by the Railway Company for the use of the station ranks. Each owner is charged £6 a year, which they regard as excessive and want reduced to £2. But the LNER says it has already cut it from £9 and that drivers could pay eighteen pence weekly. Although taxi earnings had fallen off in recent years most paid the rent without difficulty. They also had the use of a shelter provided by the Company. 33 04 01a photo: 33 04 03c

1933 05 08
A motorist had a narrow escape at the Milton Road railway crossing subway. A medical student was driving towards Cambridge when two boys ran out into the road. One was knocked down. The car continued on a short distance before crashing into the fence and being left with one wheel suspended over the ten-feet drop. 33 05 08b

1933 10 04
Railways are a never-failing source of interest to young and old. Cambridge Rotarians were told that trains between Cambridge and London occasionally attain 72 mph and tunnels on the Newmarket line were constructed so that trains should not frighten racehorses in training. In the fens one could stand 100 feet away from the railway track and be shaken like a jelly when a train passed. The outer rail settled half-an-inch owing to the 'draw' when the dykes dried and telegraph poles and even buildings leaned outwards. But the permanent way was practically immune from flooding. 33 10 04

1934 04 14
The LNER will shortly be releasing a new crop of posters calling attention to holiday resorts and other places of interest on their lines. Cambridge is to be represented by a picture of St John's college gate which shows the artist, Fred Taylor, at his best. The poster advertising York shows Dick Turpin on his famous 'Black Bess' with the Minster in the distance. 34 04 14

1934 07 28

The 'His Master's Voice' show train arrived at Cambridge station as part of a national tour. It is one of the greatest collections of radio and gramophone instruments ever assembled. Visitors can see everything from a Columbia self-contained battery receiver to a luxurious ten-valve automatic record-changing radiogram. Other exhibits include a radio receive with no visible loud-speaker, the music being heard from behind the dial of an electric clock. The train carries its own power station, café and sleeping accommodation. 34 07 28

1934 11 27
Two local railwaymen died when the Cambridge to Liverpool Street passenger train struck a lorry on a level crossing near Broxbourne. The train consisted of a locomotive, tender and six coaches, two of which completely overturned. The engine fell upside down but its fire was still burning three hours later. Other coaches came to rest lying at all angles and passengers had remarkable escapes. 34 11 27 & a

1935 01 26
Sir – The Mill Road footbridge over the railway line was opened to the public on Monday August 3rd 1889. I was the last one to take the keys of the gates to the station – William Nelson. Sir - The iron footbridge over the railway on Mill Road had wooden steps and gave access to the open fields beyond it. In fact, so countrified was the area that when the Royal Standard was built it was known as 'Apthorpe's Folly' from William Apthorpe the brewer who built it. The bridge now stands on Coldham Common where it spans the Newmarket Line – H.D.C. 35 01 26

1935 02 20
The first passenger service to be run by a petrol rail motor will be operated as an experiment between Cambridge and Oxford. The vehicle is a 56-seater, painted red and silver with a glass-covered conning tower from which the driver obtains a clear view of the line. There are two sets of eight pneumatic-tyred wheels, the car being kept on the rails by the usual metal flange. It runs equally well backwards or forwards, cruising about 55 mph with none of the roar of an ordinary train. Inside it is a cross between an underground carriage and a single-decker motor bus. On a test run the rail motor was the object of great interest. Similar vehicles have been popular in France for some time. 35 02 20 & a

1935 08 27
Widening Long Road railway bridge – photo – 35 08 27a

1935 12 11
Long Road railway bridge photo – 35 12 11d

1936 03 03
Long Road new railway bridge – photo – 36 03 03

1936 07 02
Improvements have been made at Cambridge station yard to provide better parking accommodation and cope with the heavy vehicular traffic. Three car parks have been allotted with an in-way and out-way for 'through' traffic. The Eastern Counties Omnibus Company's services are located at the south side of the passenger station and will 'set down' and 'pick up' at the same place. The taxi-cab accommodation has also been divided into three parks with an in-way and out-way between them. It is hoped that with the co-operation of the owners of road motor-vehicles this will facilitate safe movement into and out of the station premises 36 07 02 (photo)

1936 08 01
The L.N.E.R. has made provision for a heat wave by giving orders that new trolleys which serve light refreshments to the passing travellers from station platforms should be equipped with refrigerating apparatus to ensure minerals and other soft drinks are kept cool. They also serve tea, coffee, cakes, cigarettes and the dainty modern successor to the railway sandwich of grandfather's day. Two of the new barrows will be placed at Cambridge and Ely stations 36 08 01a

1936 08 29
Rail times for the journey from Cambridge to Oxford have increased since 1886 when the quickest journey took three hours. But although a noisy minority quick through journeys there were insufficient of them to make such a service pay. The railway company had experimented by running an express petrol rail car but it was a complete failure from a commercial point of view: the patronage was so small they had to give up within a few weeks. Additional stations had been opened on the line since the war, necessitating more stops. 36 08 29

1936 10 05
Six people were injured following a collision near Milton Road level crossing. A passenger train struck a light engine which was stationary on the reception goods line and its driver and fireman had a fortunate escape from being buried under tons of coal from the tender. The crossing-keeper said the passenger train was on the wrong line. Its front was badly smashed and a coupling broke but it did not leave the track. The passengers received a severe jolting. 36 10 05

1936 12 24
Chesterton Gravel Pits have been transformed into a flourishing business working from dawn to dusk. A Priestman dragline gets the gravel out of the ground, grabbing a third of a ton in its great steel jaws and depositing it in a truck which a patient horse drags to a narrow-gauge railway. It needs no driver but stands still while the load is emptied, then lumbers slowly back to fetch more. An ever-moving belt feeds a constant stream of raw gavel into the washing and grading machine from which it pours into appropriate heaps where a fleet of lorries cart it to its destination. 36 12 24a

1937 03 06
Motor vehicles are to be substituted for the horses engaged in railway cartage traffic in Cambridge. They will displace 18 horses after which the railway would have no horses in use 37 03 06a

1937 07 27
Milton Road railway crossing bridge proposed – 37 07 27

1937 08 05
A.M. Morley member of Cambridge Railway Ambulance team – 37 08 05a

1937 08 14
Travellers between London and Cambridge will soon have three additional fast trains performing the journey non-stop in 65 minutes. All will have buffet cars, bringing the total to 10 each way daily, in addition to the restaurant trains already running to Liverpool Street. The first service of five buffet cars was inaugurated between Cambridge and Kings Cross in 1932 when the trains each consisted of three coaches. So popular has the service become that at least double this accommodation has to be provided regularly 37 08 14b

1937 11 04
Milton Road railway bridge over level crossing proposed – 37 11 04

1938 01 01
The L.N.E.R. have just issued a new lantern lecture on Cambridge that may be borrowed free of charge by societies through the country. The 70 slides, which depict the colleges and other places of interest, should be of real value, because they will awaken interest in our town and University and may be the means of bringing us many visitors in days to come. Suitable reading matter has been prepared by Mr P.C. Fitzgerald beginning at the Round Church and describing a walk around the centre. This is one of 276 sets of lantern slides available from the Railway Company at King's Cross Station. 38 01 01

1938 01 15
The LNER is going to make a big effort to ensure that the interior of their trains is kept up to drawing room standard. A staff of travelling train attendants and cleaners is to be appointed who will accompany the train throughout the whole journey. They will ensure an adequate supply of clean towels and soap in the lavatories, remove litter from corridors, dust window ledges and empty ashtrays in compartments not occupied by passengers. When trains stop at stations they will polish up the outside door handles. Where conditions are suitable women will be appointed for this work as it is felt that the feminine touch will yield the most satisfactory results. 38 01 15a

1938 05 06
New diesel train tried on Cambridge-Oxford service – 38 05 06

1938 05 07
Railway exhibition with rolling stock opens – 38 05 07c

1938 08 24
One of original 'Flying Scotsmen' locomotives runs through Cambridge – 38 08 24a

1938 09 13
An experimental stream-lined Deisel-driven light passenger unit, something new in rail transport, made its first trip on the Oxford and Cambridge route. The unit consists of three cars permanently coupled together with a driver's cab at each end of the train. Acceleration was much more rapid than a steam train and instead of the familiar 'chugging' there was a pleasant whirr. Soon it was travelling at 75 mph with unusual smoothness. It has loud-speaking communication between driver and guard and the seats are reversible, so passengers can face whichever way they please. 38 09 13a & b

1938 10 08
At long last a start is to be made on the construction of a railway bridge on Milton Road in place of the present level crossing. Ministry of Transport approve has finally come through and work is expected to take 18 months. The crossing is frequently closed to road traffic and the adjacent subway, which has not sufficient head-room for larger vehicles, is narrow with steep gradients. Now there will be a bridge 44ft wide with a 30 ft carriageway and two footpaths. In 1935 2,000 motor vehicles and 1,000 pedal cycles used the road each day 38 10 08 [2.4]

1939 06 02
Three women were killed & other passengers injured when an express train from Hunstanton to London, via Cambridge collided with a lorry on an occupational crossing near Hilgay. The dead were all in the second carriage of the train, which toppled over on to a stationary goods

train. The driver was D. Barber, of Hills Avenue and the fireman.R. Miller, of Brookflelds, Mill Road, Cambridge. 39 06 02 CIPof

1939 07 15
Although a considerable number of Militiamen from Cambridge travelled to their depots the scene at Cambridge railway station was little different from a normal Saturday. I expected to see goodbye and good luck messages being given to the first of the young men who are to give the next six months to the service of their country. But there were no martial strains to cheer them on their way. The explanation is that the men were free to travel as they wished and by travelling in small parties they avoided any publicity – and any reporters 39 07 15a

1939 09 01
The first children who have been separated from their London families by the dark threat of war arrived at Cambridge station. The train contained 800 boys and girls, all had a label bearing their name and address, a few carried a football, several had oranges. They were handed bags containing their rations and helped on to the waiting buses 39 09 01a

1940

1940 05 17
Driver Saves Train.The driver of a passenger averted a serious accident near the Long Road Bridge when some goods wagons became derailed across the passenger train's path. Rapidly applying his brakes, he brought the train to a standstill just as it touched one of the wagons. Its four leading wheels were derailed, but neither passengers nor train crew were hurt. The goods train, which was on a loop line adjacent to the main line was derailed by safety points designed to prevent any train from the loop line entering the main line when the line has been signalled as clear and some dozen trucks came off the rails. The front of the passenger train ploughed ten or 12ft. into one of the waggons before coming to rest. The goods engine fell on its side, and the driver and fireman scrambled clear 40 05 17 CIPof

1940 09 13
Killed by Drifting Balloon.—A man was killed and considerable damage done when a barrage balloon drifted over Cambridge yesterday afternoon. The dead man was Daniel Dunston, a platelayer, of 146 Mill Road, Cambridge. Aged over 60, he was near the railway between Mill Road and Coldham's Lane Bridge when he was caught by a steel cable trailing from the balloon. He was carried for a distance of over 30 yards and then dropped, sustaining fatal injuries. Before the accident the balloon had passed over the town at a considerable height. In the Mill Road area it came lower, and the cable threw a wireless pole through the roof of a house in Mill Road. The interior of the house was not damaged and no-body was injured in this incident. The balloon then gained height and drifted in the direction of Teversham. At Teversham Hall an old chimney stack on a scullery was struck by the cable. A piece of the cable was snapped off and the balloon at once shot up into the air and continued in an easterly direction. Telephone wires were damaged and the electricity supply for a village was affected for a time

1940 09 21
Firemen deal with truck load of ammunition which caught fire at the Coldham's North yard and spread to three other trucks – 40 09 21b

1941 01 09
Cambridge railway control centre in bomb-proof shelter – feature – 41 01 09a

1942 10 10
Shunter dies after falling from railway engine in shunting yard – 42 10 10a

1944 11 24
To police office in rail truck. — A goods wagon was used by a railwayman late one night to convey a suspected thief to the L.N.E.R. police, office at Cambridge, it was stated at Cambridge Borough Quarter Sessions, when a man was sent to prison for 21 months with hard labour. He was charged with stealing two cartons, containing cigarettes and shoes, together valued at £51 5s. the property of the L.N.E.R. The prosecution described how a railway policeman, on special duty at Coldham's Lane siding heard a noise coming from one of the wagons. He then saw the accused jump out of the wagon, and then stand on a carton, reach into the wagon, take another and put it on the ground beside the first one. As he was fastening the doors, the policeman arrested him.

1945 04 13
G.P.O. Van Burnt —The N.F.S. were called out at, about tea time on Tuesday to deal with a G.P.O. engineer's van which caught fire, whilst standing in the Cambridge railway station yard. The man in charge of the van was Robert William Benton of 49 Great Eastern Street. Cambridge, and also with him was Ernest Napier, another employee of the G.P.O., who lives at 106, Thoday Street. The men were engaged on work connected with the railway, and it is thought that a blow lamp which was standing near blew up, and ignited the contents of the van. The N.F.S. quickly dealt with the fire, although the body of the van was burnt out. Both men attempted to put the fire out with extinguishers. Mr. Benton received burns to his right hand, and Mr. Napier singed eye brows and hair. Both men were given first aid by the Ambulance Division of the L.N.E.R.

1945 06 20
Evacuees go back – cheery picture at Cambridge railway station – 45 06 20

1945 09 10
‘Behind the scenes with the railway, problems of the Blitz, Cambridge’s special efforts at train control room – details – CDN 1945 09 10

1946 09 16
Fire near engine sheds, railway station – 46 09 16

1946 10 17
Cambridge station would be improved with spacious ticket halls and wide platforms, refreshment and buffet rooms under new plans – 46 10 17a

1946 12 06
Railway station £1.2M plan; double single line from Ely Dock to Soham, restore pre-war standards – 46 12 06

1947 06 13
The road was partially blocked and a single line of traffic caused at Milton road crossing, Cambridge, yesterday when an engine loaded with tanks at the army camp, G.23, ran into the buffers and was carried on to the road. It came to a standstill with the engine projecting across the grass verge. It is understood that the engine began to move whilst each of the 12 trucks was being loaded with a Sherman tank. We understand that the front wheels of the engine were buried in the ground and that the rails are being burnt up. It may be some time before the engine can be lifted off the road by crane

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1947 07 24
Seven members of the Cambridge National Fire Service were at Addenbrooke's Hospital this morning suffering from slight burns from mustard gas sustained in dealing with a fire involving a truck-load of 60 112lb American gas bombs on the railway line between Six Mile Bottom and Fulbourn late last night. The main line between Cambridge and Ipswich was closed to traffic as a result of contamination over 100 yards. Later the damaged wagon was tipped off the rails to the side of the line. The truck was one of a train of 30 to 40 carrying mustard gas bombs from Warren Wood, near Thetford, to Barry in Wales, for dumping in the sea. As it passed through Six Mile Bottom the stationmaster saw that the truck was ablaze. The burning wagon, the third from the engine, was uncoupled, and the engine restarted to pull it away from these. An eye witness said to a "Cambridge Daily News" reporter: "It was a spectacular sight. About fifty per cent of the bombs exploded with a "whoosh" and a burst of flame which shot fifty feet into the air. Poisonous fumes spread over a range of fifty or sixty yards. The police afterwards sealed off an area around the blaze to await decontamination

1947 11 10
The question of providing access to Cambridge railway station from the east side of the town was mentioned at the Town Council. Coun Amey said that at one time the people of Romsey had a bus service to the station but that had been taken away. Many railway workers lived in the Romsey area and the lack of any access to the station from that side caused them unnecessary miles of cycling and walking. He considered the 25 per cent of the population of the town should have access to the station. He understood that in the plan for rebuilding the railway station such an access is provided for

1947 11 29
The Garner family's 271 years service on the railway [1,11]

1947 12 20
The mustard gas bomb train fire at Six Mile Bottom last July had a sequel on Thursday when two L.N.E.R. drivers, Frederick Smart and William Thorburn, and two firemen, Joseph Westland and Alfred Chandler, all of Cambridge, were presented with the L.N.E.R. Medal. A special goods train included 40 open wagons of mustard gas bombs. When passing Six-Mile-Bottom driver Smart observed a fire in the third wagon. Fireman Chandler jumped down immediately and uncoupled the burning wagon from the rear part of the train. The engine then proceeded forward for 50 yards. The engineers tried to subdue the fire with buckets of water, fully aware of the dangerous nature of the contents of the wagon. 47 12 20

1948 01 02
The question of providing week end leave transport for personnel at the RAF Station, Oakington, evoked a good deal of discussion at the sitting of the Eastern Area Traffic Commissioners. Mr Lainson (for Premier Travel) mentioned that his company sought to provide a new express service from Oakington RAF to King's Cross, London. The proposed fare was 12s.6d return. He also said they were willing to provide a "feeder" service between Oakington and Cambridge Railway Station as his company could not hope to carry 600 odd personnel direct to London. There were approximately 1,100 personnel on the camp and something like 600 were on weekends each week. In view of the limited station transport it was impossible to cater for all the troops by running into Cambridge Railway Station

1948 06 25
Fifty years railway service has been brought to an end by the retirement of Mr S.N. Wright from his post as Station Master at Cambridge. In Sept 1930 he was appointed Yard Master at

Whitemoor, the only mechanised marshalling yard in this country, as a replica of the famous Hamm Yard in Germany. He was the first Yard Master to see the new working layout. At the time he took over the up yard had just been completed and the down yard was started the following year. He became Station Master in Cambridge in 1934. Recalling the war years he spoke of the high level of troop trains and special oil trains for the supply of various depots and dromes in East Anglia. During the war he was also Air Raid Master for station, goods and shunting yards, and in addition in charge of the fire watching for the same area

1948 10 23
Everyone will agree that Cambridge is very "full". The railways have had a particularly busy time. "We always prepare for a heavy October", said one official, "but the amount of luggage this term has been abnormal, especially bicycles, which are not easy things to handle in bulk". There is now the record number of 7,500 undergraduates in residence, a thousand more than this time last year. This is accounted for to some extent by the admission of Newnham and Girton to the University, but there are something like 400 more men. "This is a peak year", according to Mr E. Welbourne of Emmanuel, who does not think that a major decrease can be expected until 1951-2

1950

1950 05 10
Two Cambridge railwaymen, driver John Collingwood and guard Alfred Palmer have been awarded the “Daily Herald” Order of Industrial Heroism. The rescue which won them the “Workers VC” was made just a year ago at the Air Ministry’s private siding at Lord’s Bridge. Coming round a blind corner a goods train collided with a RAF motor lorry loaded with bombs. The driver was knocked unconscious and trapped in his cab; the petrol tank was smashed and petrol splashed onto the bonnet which was smoking fiercely. Several bombs fell off the lorry and rolled towards a pool of petrol. Despite the danger the railwaymen ran to the lorry, released the driver, lifted him out of the cab and carried him to safety 50 05 10

1951 05 27
To most the mention of a railway waiting room conjures up a vision of a dismal, dingy place. But that at Cambridge station is a very different state of affairs – in fact such a bright and cheerful room that I felt it would be quite a pleasure to lose one’s train and have to sit there and wait for another! The colour scheme is a bright green and cream and the old-fashioned leather bench type seats have been replaced by small brown leather armchairs. In the ladies’ waiting-room one beholds the astonishing sight of fresh flowers c51 05 27

1951 06 29
Two railwaymen whose prompt action averted serious damage being caused to a goods train were commended for their action. Driver C.V. Bloy and Fireman L.R. Gardiner of Cambridge each received a cheque for two guineas. The incident took place at Elsenham when Driver Bloy noticed that one of the wagons of his train was on fire. He immediately stopped and isolated it from the rest of the train. They stopped another train and asked the driver to use his slacker pipe to damp the fire on the wagon. In view of their action more serious damage was averted, bearing in mind that a number of petrol wagons were included in the train 51 06 29

1951 12 20
Cambridge undergraduates are acting as porters at Cambridge railway station to help cope with the “very heavy” Christmas postal parcel traffic. Temporary porters are paid daily on the basis of £5 10s.6d for a 44-hour week. The Post Office staff handle all letter mails, but only deliver the parcel traffic to the station, where it is handled by rail personnel. On Sunday and Christmas day

there will be certain local withdrawals and additions to passenger services and on Boxing Day there will be nine additional afternoon and evening passenger trains to London.

1952 01 11
Cambridge Council agreed to include a £75,000 scheme for a sub-way approach to the railway station; thousands of people would benefit from it and it could take the place of another item on the priority list - £150,000 for a multi-deck car park. Coun H.C. Ridgeon aid it would mean a tremendous saving to traffic from Hills Road and Mill Road and prove a great advantage to the town as a whole. Ald Briggs vigorously supported the suggestion to make it a top priority and pointed to the present "nightmare congestion" to press the need.

1952 02 09
Long before the arrival of the ten-coach funeral train bearing the body of King George VI, large crowds had gathered at the main vantage points along the line at Ely to pay their homage. At the station crossing hundreds of people assembled on both sides, whilst lines of traffic extended for some distance. Heads were bared as the train rolled smoothly through the station. Workmen who had given up part of their dinner hour and American servicemen were amongst the crowds. At the little village station of Waterbeach about 100 housewives, farmworkers and children gathered. A crowd of more than 800 people lined the marshalling yards on either side of Mill Road Bridge, Cambridge. The long black funeral coach, with all its windows blacked out passed exactly on time. Queen Elizabeth II gazed pensively out of a carriage window as the train passed a group of railwaymen standing caps off near Hills Road Bridge. 52 02 09

1952 02 09
The Royal Train bearing the King's body from Wolferton to King's Cross had two local men as its crew. The driver was Mr S. Harding who first drove the Royal train when the King came down to Trinity, and the fireman Mr C. Pearman from Weston Colville. Also on the train, as fitter, was Mr W.H. Simmons of Kelvin Close, Cambridge. Another local link is that the stationmaster at Wolferton, Mr Bernard Hodge, was formerly in charge of Whittlesford Station. At Cambridge South signal box The Welbeck Abbey, a Sandringham class engine, spick and span in polished olive green, was one of three trains standing by on the route in case of breakdown on the journey 52 02 09, 52 02 13

1953 04 09
A goods engine crashed through the buffer stops at Coldham's Bridge, Cambridge. The buffer stops were completely demolished and the engine buried itself up to the footplate in soft earth. The driver and fireman were both admitted to Addenbrooke's Hospital with slight injuries. Before the engine could be moved the boiler had to be emptied to lessen the weight. A 45-ton crane was needed to drag it backwards across a platform of sleepers until it was replaced on the rails. Work was hampered by the soggy ground and the presence of overhead telegraph wires. 53 04 09

1953 04 20
The circus has come to town – and it was greeted by thousands of smiling Cambridge faces. Six of Bertram Mills' Burmese elephants marched from the railway station, trunk to tail as the midget clown, Nikki, distributed leaflets about the circus from the basket of his fairy cycle. Elephants Lechney and Company did not lose their way – they've taken the same stroll for the last 18 years. Crowds covered the roundabout at Hills Road. The one at the Four Lamps was unrecognisable, the circus-gazers had swept half-way across the road. Soon afterwards the 'two-ton-tessies; were under canvas, chained to a platform.

1953 11 16

Premier Travel and Percival Motors have applied to combine their express carriage services from Cambridge to Oxford. They have been competing on the route since 1951. During term time there was mostly University traffic and in summer a great deal of tourists. The University World Service, said the new service would be of great convenience to students from abroad, many of whom toured England after coming to Cambridge to study. The Eastern Counties, Associated Motorways and United Counties bus companies and the City of Oxford Motor Services opposed the application as did the Railway Executive who said the bulk of the Cambridge-Oxford traffic was moving by rail via Bletchley.

1954 02 08
A large new railway depot is to be established at Chesterton sidings. One area equipped with two Goliath cranes will store new and second-hand rails and emergency stock; another will refettle serviceable switches and crossing units while a third will be equipped for the mechanised pre-assembly, loading and despatch of complete lengths of plain line for permanent way renewals. There will also be dismantling and sleeper areas together with a chair and smalls area and a flash butt welding plant. New access roads will be built together with a canteen.

1954 07 19
The Minister's decision on the County Development Plan has been announced. The only major Cambridge items not approved are the site of the bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel and the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Road. All the central area road proposals including the 'spine relief road', the new Guildhall Street and a cross-town route joining Emmanuel Street with Downing Street have been approved together with the new Chesterton Bridge over the Cam near Walnut Tree Avenue, a multi-storey car park in Corn Exchange Street and a subway at the railway station.

1954 07 21
The attention of county planners has been drawn to a press report setting out proposals by the British Transport Commission to establish a new railway depot at Chesterton. At no time have they given any indication of these intentions; indeed the council has pressed for the reduction of railway activities on this site. It is clear that the arrangements are so far advanced that there is no likelihood of them being held up or abandoned at this late stage. When completed the depot will require a large additional labour force, which is clearly in contradiction to the agreed industrial policy for Cambridge. Future schemes should be discussed well in advance with the planners and the matter will be placed in the hands of local Members of Parliament. 54 07 21

1954 10 27
Railway engines seem to be making a habit of running off the lines into the cottage garden of the crossing keeper at Coldham's Lane, Cambridge. For the second time in recent months a goods locomotive has gone astray there when the engine travelling light (without wagons) made a mess of his well-kept plot. The large crane used in lifting the heavy vehicle was brought to the scene and the engine was lifted back on to the line. Dislocation to other traffic was very light. 54 10 27

1954 12 06
The Government has partially allowed an appeal by Moss (Cambridge) Ltd over two advertising boards displayed at first floor level on a shop in Hills Road. It says that one of them seriously detracts from the appearance of the building. The premises are at a busy junction in a mixed locality. On the opposite side are two large garages and a parade of shops. To the north the road crosses over the railway and adjoining the bridge are the rail goods yards and the market. There are large advertising hoardings on each side of the bridge and numerous other advertisements on buildings in the vicinity

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1955 02 11
Diesel train on test [l.22]

1955 03 04
British Railways had considered closing the Cambridge-Mildenhall line because of its steady loss in revenue and uneconomic running costs. But now they hope that by the introduction of two-car diesel units and cheaper fares they can make the line a paying proposition. But people in Isleham had to walk to the station and in some instances this was three miles away; others had to go to Kennett station. They wanted convenience and had petitioned for a bus service. Messrs Murfet's would provide a bus into Cambridge for those who wished to shop or visit the cattle market; it would also serve Chippenham and Snailwell. 55 03 04

1955 03 28
Stationmasters were told that they have been Cinderellas for long enough and should take everything that is coming. It would take some time before modernisation could fully come into being but next year a scheme will start in Cambridge for a diesel yard. Electrification will take place in due course, but must take its place with other urgent schemes. People were always complaining about the lack of courtesy on the railways and very few letters of appreciation were received. 55 03 28

1955 05 13
British Railway's new weedkiller train can cover up to 100 miles of track a day and recently made the Ely-March run handing out lethal doses of weed-killing concentrate at up to 20 mph. It is operated by two Cambridge men, Bob Lee and Jack Aldhouse. Working away from home has its disadvantages but their living accommodation is as luxurious as any caravan with interior-sprung mattresses, dining room, galley and chemical lavatory. Jack attends to the living accommodation and Arthur keeps an eye on the machinery. 55 05 13 b & c

1955 09 10
Cambridge station improvements - cartoon – 55 09 10aa

1955 10 13
For the passengers on the Cambridge to Kettering train it was a normal journey; but for the guard, Archie Sear of Cambridge it brought an end to a career lasting 50 years on the railway, 23 of them on the Kettering line. He became a familiar figure to regular travellers and gained the title of 'The Varsity Guard'. He has had a remarkably smooth career and has never been asked to look after anything more unusual than dogs, kittens and schoolchildren. The train has remained accident-free and he has never had anything unusual to report – which in itself is extraordinary. 55 10 13

1956 02 07
A revolutionary new kind of rail transport has been the centre of attraction at Cambridge Railway Station. The huge shining dark green diesel-engined unit is unlike the traditional train. It has higher speed, greater comfort and a complete absence of smoke. The drivers cab looks more like a scientist's workshop than the dirty, greasy footplate and the carriages resemble long-distance buses with electric devices which circulate hot air during cold weather and cooling breezes in the summer. 56 02 07a & b & c

1956 09 01

Last year Cambridge station sent over 900,000 people safely on their way, another 1,000 a day were transferred from one train to another without passing through the ticket barriers. During rush periods they can send 'The Fenman' on its way only two minutes after arriving although hundreds of passengers get on and off and scores of parcels taken from brake vans. In the telegraph office where the most up-to-date teleprinters and signalling equipment are installed, 1,300 telegrams and 1,200 phone messages a day are dealt with. 56 09 01-a-b

1957 11 01
British Railways modernisation plans involve conversion from steam to diesel traction. A diesel instruction train has come to Cambridge where it will be open for inspection by drivers, firemen and fitters. It consists of two coaches including a complete set of driver's controls and a room with cinema projectors where lectures are given by the Resident Instructor. When it was at March 523 people visited with a record attendance at one of the lectures. 57 11 01

1956 12 08
Christmas tree in railway station entrance – 56 12 08a

1957 01 26
Cambridge Civil Defence ambulance section carried out a successful exercise in rendering first aid to the injured. It was assumed a serious railway accident had taken place near the Eastern Gas Board sidings in Coldham's Lane. Casualties were evacuated to Swann's Yard Civil Defence Rescue Site where the Hospital Nursing Mobile First Aid Unit, under Dr C. Attwood, set up a Receiving Centre. 57 01 26

1957 06 07
A Cambridge biologist found radio-active particles in samples of air he took near his house in St Barnabas Road. He claimed it was contaminated by smoke from the railway and contained minute particles of dirt which harboured germs. He sought a reduction on his rating assessment from £46 to £35. 57 06 07c

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1957 12 06
A Greville Road resident gained a rate reduction because of the railway. He complained of "great clouds of belching smoke, very unpleasant to breathe, at all hours of day and night". Shunting noises during the night woke residents and the obnoxious smells coming from trucks left standing in the sidings were especially objectionable at mealtimes. The "sooty and sulphurous atmosphere" made the properties deteriorate before their time and layers of soot in the gardens choked plants. 57 12 06a

1957 12 19
Great Eastern House, the new British Railways office in Tenison Road, is a functional modern building with the high standard of architectural design necessitated in a University city. Shaped like a vast cube, its tiers of windows catch the light row upon row. Inside is the railwayman's dream. Gone are the rickety stairs, the walls in green or chocolate and cramped offices with old-

fashioned coal fires. Instead there is light, ivory-coloured walls and glass partitions, a lecture room, bar and two billiard tables 57 12 19a, b, c [2.9]

1957 12 19
Railway modernisation means that steam-hauled passenger services will soon be replaced with modern two-car diesel trains. They will be maintained at a new up-to-date diesel depot being erected in Coldham's Lane. In addition to great efficiency this will eliminate the smoke nuisance in built-up areas. 57 12 19e & f & g

1958 01 24
A derailment in the Coldham's Lane arrival sidings, visible from Mill Road Bridge, attracted a good deal of public attention yesterday. Engine, tender and three wagons of a goods train came off the rails while the train was moving at reduced speed into the sidings. The driver and firemen got clear but the guard suffered some facial bruises. 58 01 24a

1958 07 03
German-build lightweight diesel engines will shortly go into service on Eastern Region branch lines. Based at Cambridge they will be used initially on the Witham-Maldon, Witham-Braintree and Audley-End- Bartlow services. Each rail-bus provides seating for 56 passengers and standing room for a further 40. Powered by a 150 h.p. engine, it has a six-speed gearbox and can attain a speed of 55 mph. 58 07 03

1958 10 25
The era of smoky trains has gone and the "dieselisation" of Cambridge railway services comes into operation today. Passengers will travel in fast, clean and comfortable two-car light-weight diesel trains with accommodation for 103 second-class and 12 first-class passengers. The return fair to Peterborough has been halved and journey time reduced. For too long railways have suffered from old equipment and services planned for the steam age; it is not 'jam tomorrow', it is jam today, a rail official promised. 58 10 25 & a

1958 11 04
Diesel trains inaugural run Cambridge to Peterborough – 58 11 04 & a [1]

1958 12 19
Traffic over Hills Road railway bridge, a bottleneck on the principal road into Cambridge, is extremely heavy. Visibility over the summit is severely restricted and many accidents have occurred there. The existing steel plate girder bridge has deteriorated with age and now work will start to provide a new twin two-lane carriageways and footpaths. The new bridge will be designed to allow for widening should additional railway tracks be needed in the future 58 12 19b

1959 01 06
Great Eastern Railway now offers a service which is second to none. Speedy and comfortable trains leave at regular minutes past the hour and take the same time to reach their destination. Fast services have open up East Anglia to the man who was forced to journey by road – and it is no better than the rest of the country in its trunk road network. Now those who previously used cars must now ask themselves whether it is really worthwhile driving 59 01 06

1959 01 13
The widening of Hills Road Railway Bridge may be delayed as negotiations have still to be completed on what proportion of the cost will be borne by the County Council. The East side of the new bridge should run straight from the frontage line of no.129 Hills Road to the entrance of

the coal-yard opposite the junction with Brooklands Avenue. There could be a new access from Cherry Hinton Road to the Cattle Market and railway sidings. 59 01 13d

1959 03 31
The progressive dieselisation of the branch line services has seen the construction of a maintenance depot near Coldham's Lane bridge. It affords facilities for carrying our examinations for multiple unit trains, rail-buses and diesel-mechanical and diesel-electric shunters. It is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week and has a staff of 100 men. 59 03 31d & e

1959 05 27
British Railways announce that passenger train services between St Ives and Kettering and the freight train services from Buckden and Grafham stations will be withdrawn on June 15th. In addition trains running between Cambridge and St Ives on weekdays which at present serve Kettering will also be withdrawn. Arrangements will be made to augment the service to St Ives by the 10.17 am Cambridge to Peterborough train calling at Histon, Oakington, Longstanton and Swavesey stations and an additional train leaving for St Ives at 5.15pm calling at all stations 59 05 27a

1959 11 04
Reuben Taylor, who has been Cambridge Station Master since 1948, has hung up his top hat and frock coat for the last time. He started as a junior clerk at Haverhill station in 1910 and has seen immense changes. When he first took over at Cambridge some 700,000 passengers a year went through his hands. Last year it was double, to say nothing of the tremendous increase in parcel and freight traffic. "Road transport will never take the place of railways: we get no end of people coming into Cambridge from the country and leaving their cars at the station park before catching trains to London", he said. 59 11 04c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 04 28
Costs of building the new Hills Road railway bridge have increased by £20,000 because unusually difficult ground conditions mean it needs deeper and more substantial foundations. But the County Council hopes to construct a bridge over the level crossing on the Cambridge Road at Histon. It will mean the demolition of five houses and affect the gardens of 17 other properties as well as the complete rebuilding of the Histon nursery school. 60 04 28

1960 05 13
The change from steam to diesel at the Cambridge railway depot has transformed train drivers' lives. The rattling, hissing, gritty foot-plate - where in cold weather they were frozen on one side and baked on the other - has been exchanged for the enclosed windowed cabin of the new engines with its upholstered driver's seat and armrests, its foot warmers, compact controls and ashtray. Driver William Creek who worked with steam for 40 years says it used to be rough – his insides were shaken up by the rattling. There was a wooden seat but it was more comfortable standing up. Fellow drivers William Thulborn and Sidney Hutton agree. – 60 05 13b

1960 06 21
It took twenty men twenty hours at the week-end to demolish Cambridge's old Hills Road Bridge – twice as long as the contractors had anticipated. Originally it was thought that the removal of

140 tons of steel girders would take a little over eight hours, but the trains passing underneath proved a little more troublesome than expected. The men took advantage of the frequent breaks to wipe the sweat from their brows and light a cigarette. The scene resembled firework night for, as the oxyacetylene guns cut through the girders, a spray of red hot sparks would fall on the ground giving an impression of a 'golden rain' 60 06 21

1960 08 06
Mill Road Railway Bridge was built in 1889 and Percy North, the well-known chiropodist, remembers playing under the bridge arches when they were being constructed. There was a level crossing over the railway then but it was not much used because there was hardly any traffic. There was nothing beyond, Great Eastern Street and Argyle Street were just ballast pits for the railway and the only house was a large one where the Broadway stands today, he recalls. 60 08 06 & a

1960 09 03
Barnwell Junction seems the perfect model of a small Victorian railway station with its lacy wooden canopy and the initials of the Great Eastern Railway intertwined among the cast iron legs of its platform seats. It has two passenger trains a day but handles 30,000 tons of merchandise and minerals a year including sugar beet, grain and potatoes, malt from Barnwell Maltings and scrap iron from the railway's own engineering depot. It's one porter, Mr Bidwell keeps the platform swept and is also gardener, handyman and weekly replenisher of the oil lamps in the semaphore signals. 60 09 03b

1960 12 09
'The Cambridge Late Arrivals" group was set up to co-ordinate the indignation rail travellers felt during the upheaval of electrification. Now the trains are much more comfortable and carriages have the air of a club-room. Men – some 200 of them – willingly pay £9 15s (£9.75) for a monthly season ticket and the privileged of leading a quieter family life in the province. It is still cheaper to make the daily journey and avoid the great expense of finding a house or flat in London. 60 12 09a

1960 12 17
Hills Road Railway Bridge is functioning almost as normal again. After a year's work during which the traffic has had to contend with considerable difficulties, the road is now suitable for two-lane traffic. Resurfacing will not be carried on for another 12 months in order to allow for subsidence and for several more weeks workmen will be patching up. Work on Churchill College continues as does work on 13 three-storey terrace houses and 60 maisonettes at East Road. Most have their roofs on and one block of houses has its windows in. 60 12 17b

1961 02 04
Rail passengers had a narrow escape when a car was driven straight through Cambridge station booking hall and came to rest with its front wheels on the platform. Ticket collector Mr W. Franklin was standing in his booth by the barrier at the time and was taken to hospital suffering from shock. An undergraduate who had driven to meet a friend from the train failed to swing round in front of the booking hall and burst through the right-hand door smashing the indicator board and barrier gate before coming to a standstill. It is 12 years since a similar accident involving a taxi driver occurred at the station. 61 02 04 photo 61 02 06a

1961 03 14
Gerald Tweedie of Cherry Hinton Road has assured himself a place in the railway history of this country. He can now call himself Britain's Number One Train Spotter as he has seen, listed and

made notes on every one of the 60,000 or so steam railway engines operated during the last 30 years – the first man ever to have completed such a mammoth task. Now the CDN has arranged for him to have a ride on the footplate of an A4 streamlined Pacific engine 61 03 14. Gerald Tweedie, trainspotter has ride on footplate – 61 04 10

1961 04 21
A motorist who drove his car through the booking hall of Cambridge Railway Station and crashed into its exit gateway pleaded not guilty to careless driving and driving a vehicle with inefficient brakes. William Franklin said he was collecting tickets at the station barrier when he turned round and saw the car in the hall, one man buying a ticket was knocked down. The driver said he was going to meet a train but his brakes failed as he approached the station and he was placed in a terrible dilemma. He changed down to second gear but as there were people by the side of the entrance hall he decided to drive straight through. As it was a mechanical failure he was given an absolute discharge. 61 04 21b

1961 09 08
Joseph Farrington has worked for the Gas Board since 1917. He operates a Super Sentinel Loco, called 'Lucy', at the Coldham's Lane depot. Every morning he gets it going on a diet of wood and coke, eases her out of her shed and down to the six trucks with which they move supplies of coal from the main railway line, depositing it in a tipper. The operation is repeated until 400 tons have been shifted. The coal is then taken up into a hopper and unloaded into a lorry which transports it to the gasworks on Newmarket Road. 61 09 08c

1961 10 04
Austin Beales and Coote and Warren opened their new fuel oil terminal and solid fuel depot in Clarendon Road, the most modern in Europe. Oil arrives from Mobil's refinery chiefly by rail and is discharged into three main storage tanks before being sent by road tanker over a wide area. Solid fuel deliveries are concentrated in Cambridge itself. Each year 45,000 tons is unloaded from rail wagons by two cranes with 65 wagons of solid fuel arriving each week. 61 10 04b & c

1961 11 02
Chesterton Railway Bridge with approaching train – photo 61 11 02

1961 12 20
The railway line between Cambridge and Mildenhall opened on Whit Monday 1884 with the Fordham to Mildenhall extension nine months later. The branch line was probably never self-supporting and today there are two trains daily. All the villages between Barnwell and Fordham are well served by buses and it is only Mildenhall and Isleham that do not have a satisfactory alternative service. All existing parcel facilities would remain except at Isleham and Quy stations which would be reduced to unstaffed sidings. Even at Quy staff would be provided during the heavy sugar beet season to assist farmers loading traffic, an Inquiry heard. 61 12 20a & b

1962 04 01
Police are searching for a silver-grey American car which smashed down level crossing gates in Milton Road. Crossing keeper, Edward Dyson, had just closed the gates ready for the train when a large American car coming from the Milton direction rammed them. It reversed and headed back the way it had come. Members of the Cambridge City Reserves football team returning from their evening match at King's Lynn left their coach and helped drag parts of the broken gates from the rails. Mr Dyson telephoned Chesterton Junction and had a goods train diverted through Ely. 62 04 01a

1962 06 08
Cambridge railway station will become the "Gateway to East Anglia" when a new high speed passenger service to Oxford is introduced. At present there is only one through train a day between the two University cities but now a further seven will speed the service, some taking only two hours for the journey. From Cambridge there is easy access to Norwich and resorts such as Hunstanton, Lowestoft and Yarmouth. 62 06 08b

1962 06 18
Two local men were on the footplate of a B.1 class locomotive when it steamed out of Cambridge Railway Station to close an 80 years' period of railway history. Driver Bertram George and fireman Ivor Wilson were in charge of the 100-ton engine as it left the goods sidings with one carriage and a truck. It was the last train to leave Cambridge hauled by a steam engine. During the weekend a dozen other steam locomotives were driven or pulled to engine sheds in London as railwaymen finally severed their connections with the 'steamers'. Now all trains are being hauled by the new high-speed diesel locomotives 62 06 18

1962 08 20
Railway station on listed buildings list – 62 08 20a

1962 12 07
Two railway lines in Cambridgeshire are under threat following Dr Beeching's proposals. All lines transporting less than 10,000 people and 10,000 tons of freight a week may close. This includes the line from Cambridge through Histon and Oakington and the one to Mildenhall through Burwell. Fruit growers would be seriously affected and have to switch to road transport, putting up prices. Rural bus services are another failure of Government policy and had been cut because they were unprofitable, a Labour meeting was told 62 12 07c

1963 01 30
The delivery period for coal in Cambridge is still about a fortnight even though snow has released many frozen supplies. But reports of 'coal racketeering' are unfair, according to Austin Beales, one of the largest coal distributors. Certain small merchants have been in great difficulties during the past few weeks as the freeze-up of stocks at the pit-heads had brought immeasurable problems to the industry. People must wait until the National Coal Board in co-operation with the railways, regain their normal smooth functioning. 63 01 30

1963 03 27
The Beeching report on the future of British Railways suggests the closing down of 19 stations in the Cambridge area – including three serving the main towns of Haverhill, Saffron Walden and St Ives. There would be the complete withdrawal of passenger services from branch lines, Cambridge-March, Gt Shelford-Marks Tey, Audley End & Bartlow lines. Amongst the village stations closed to passenger traffic would be Histon, Wimblington and Chatteris, Bartlow, Pampisford and Linton together with Soham and Fordham. Services from Black Bank would also cease 63 03 27 & a

1963 04 02
The withdrawal of passenger train services from St Ives would be a great blow to trade; people in villages would not use buses with that tedious journey, the town's Chamber of Commerce heard. The line from March to Cambridge would remain open for freight and a rail conductor service for passengers might be provided. But it would deter industrialists who were considering setting up business. More light industries should be encouraged; they would supply the population to fill

houses and the factories would contribute towards the rates and help meet the high cost of the new sewerage system. 63 04 02a

1963 04 10
Flying Scotsman arrives at Cambridge station en route to London where it will pull an enthusiasts' train 63 04 10

1963 04 13
Parcels which arrived at Cambridge railway station in a tremendous rush just before Easter have caused a bigger backlog on deliveries than they did at Christmas. The parcels, mainly for local shops changing and increasing their stock for the beginning of the University term, are lining the platforms in barrow loads. "We just can't cope with them. We hope people expecting parcels will come to the station and collect them themselves if they're in a hurry. It will be the end of next week before we clear them", a railway spokesman said. 63 04 13

1963 04 25
The Beeching report says the Cambridge main line would be retained but the branch lines that feed it are going to be withdrawn, meaning the business will fall off and putting it in future jeopardy. Three miles away a bridge was being built over a railway line where passenger services may be withdrawn and nobody knows how long it was going to be used for freight. Yet at the same time funding for the road bridge over the Cam at Walnut Tree Avenue was deferred time after time, councillors complained. 63 04 25b

1963 07 05
The G.P.O.'s experiment to improve the parcel post service started with five new lorries operating from the parcels centre in Rosemary Lane. The present system is slow and costly. The new method will operate partly by rail and partly by road with parcels moved in bulk consignment. They hope it will reduce costs, speed the service and improve reliability. 63 07 05

1963 07 31
Railway workers ran along the main lines just outside Cambridge Railway Station to warn the driver of an oncoming passenger train when a 100-ton diesel locomotive was derailed and fell across the tracks near the end of the platforms. Two platforms were put out of action because of blocked lines and the points mechanism was damaged. Repair gangs using a heavy mobile steam crane worked through the night to get the engine back on the track but the incident caused heavy delays to passenger traffic. Two other derailments occurred within 48 hours 63 07 31b, 63 08 01

1963 08 09
Gerald Forbes Tweedie, the Cambridge travel enthusiast, became the first man to have 'spotted' every steam or electric engine on use on Britain's railways during the last 24 years. Now the 41-year-old printing machine minder hopes to record his 1,000th night spent in a Youth Hostels Association building. As he travels through the country lanes seeking fresh railway lines to explore and new YHA hostels in which to stay, he makes a note of every new inn and public house sign he sees. So far he has collected 3,000 names of pubs and breweries. 63 08 09

1963 12 06
British Railways announced plans to close the Oxford to Cambridge line through Bletchley and Bedford, despite proposals in the Beeching Report for modified passenger services. A financial appraisal shows the line is losing money. MP Francis Pym says he has been approached by constituents in Gamlingay and Longstowe and will take every step to make local views known to

the Minister of Transport. There will be a detailed examination and consultations before closure takes effect. 63 12 06

1964 01 11
The Oxford to Cambridge railway line links the two important university cities and should remain open, a Reinvigoration Society says. It bisects the line from King's Cross to Peterborough at Sandy where the two sets of platforms are adjacent. But no attempt has been made to encourage interchange of passengers. Through trains could be run from Norwich to Bristol in five hours using inter-city diesel units with miniature buffet facilities. But the route is divided between three of British Railway's regions and an overlord – line manager should be appointed to co-ordinate services 64 01 11b

1964 02 17
Cambridge to Oxford railway line too important to be lost – feature – 64 02 17b

1964 07 11
With a shuddering roar, a diesel locomotive disturbed the sleepy silence of Mildenhall railway station and with four empty wagons trundled away on the last trip to Cambridge. The station's freight line, which opened in 1885, had fallen under the Beeching axe. The stationmaster, Mr N.S. Sykes, stood on the platform among weeds and wild flowers and waved as the train pulled out. Passenger services were withdrawn in 1961 and freight limited to coal, cattle seed and worn tyres which were sent to Harwich for export. 64 07 11

1964 07 16
If Oxford to Cambridge passenger rail services are withdrawn alternative road services will add congestion – 64 07 16

1964 09 05
Cambridge Railway station to build park for 200 cars, coal tower to be demolished; Histon station prepare for garden competition – 64 09 05

1965 04 15
Barnwell railway station children of children of D.B. Thornhill – photo – 65 04 15a

1965 09 10
Cambridge railway station– photo feature – 65 09 10b, 10c

1965 09 14
Railway signalman Cambridge South Box H. Andrews reflects on 45 years' service – 65 09 14a

1965 09 15
Minister rejects protest over closure Cambridge to Oxford railway line – 65 09 15a

1965 10 25
Railway not hopeful about bridge from Davy Road to link large housing estates at Cherry Hinton – 65 10 25a

1966 01 18

Upper freight yard depot of British Railways to close on January 31st and part of the land may be used in a new road scheme connecting Brooklands Avenue and Newmarket Road. The public depot on the other side of the main line to remain open 66 01 18c

1966 04 01
Rail services between Cambridge and Oxford to continue as no adequate alternative bus service – 66 04 01c

1969 01 24
Cambridge-St Ives railway line could be kept running – feature – 69 01 24 23

1969 03 20
Dunsmore Close, modern development astride old Cambridge- Mildenhall railway line – photo – 69 03 20

1969 06 19
Gelignite used to blast away one of four brick piers which carried the old Cambridge to Bedford railway line over the Cam at Trumpington – 69 06 19

1970

1970 10 05
Cambridge to St Ives railway line final journey – 70 10 05

1971 02 16
Railway station façade facelift – 71 02 16

1971 08 05
Cambridge to Fen Ditton road closed for removal Railway Bridge on old Mildenhall line – 71 08 05

1971 08 05
Railway station new travel centre and entrance hall opened – 71 08 24

1972 08 05
The long-awaited Cambridge Transportation Study was finally published yesterday. It is two years overdue and has cost £113,000 - almost £1,000 a page. It was jointly commissioned in 1967 by the Cambridge city and County Councils and the University. It was to be carried out by R. Travers Morgan and Partners and was estimated at that time to cost £78,000. Its major proposals include a Railway Road leaving the A10 south of the Trumpington street traffic lights, hugging the northbound railway track all the way to Newmarket Road. After crossing the Cam the new road would veer sharply west to follow the St Ives railway line along to the A10 Milton Road before linking up with Arbury Road. The Railway Road should be largely dual two-lane carriageway. Full construction could take many years

1972 12 16
The last five plots of the old Cambridge to Bedford railway were sold yesterday for a total of £137,250. The line was once the link between Cambridge and Bedford but those days went when Beeching axed the route. Since then British Rail have taken up the rails, and sold the land on which they stood to neighbouring farmers. Yesterday four of the stations and their accompanying yards came under the auctioneers hammer. The last plot was the Old North Road station at

Longstowe. The buyer who paid £23,000 for it said he had no idea what would be done with the 1.25 acres site and the station house, booking office, waiting rooms and goods shed

1973 02 14
The Government have abandoned the Hovertrain project. They decided two weeks ago not to plough more money into the project, but the decision was kept secret because the Aerospace Minister, Mr Michael Heseltine, hopes to sell of parts of the project to two contractors. Mr Heseltine said nearly all the 150 workers on the project would lose their jobs. An arrangement has been made with Hawker Siddeley to develop the linear motor. British Rail had agreed to continue development of the magnetic suspension system. The Tracked Hovercraft Company was set up in 1967 and £5,250,000 was originally earmarked for the project

1973 07 11
The possible reopening of the St Ives - Cambridge passenger rail service is a very real priority, said Mr Robert Gemell, the Chief Passenger Manager of British Rail. He gave an assurance that he was doing all he could to get the line reopened. But the future was really in the hands of local councils and the people living in the area to make their demands for this service heard in the right places, he said. The final decision was with the Government on the advice of British Rail. The recent estimated cost of re-opening the service was £100,000 but British Rail were trying to see if this could be reduced

1974 05 24
British rail passenger fares will go up by an average of 12% from June. Cambridge commuters to London will pay £1.79 instead of £1.60 for a second-class day return, while the ordinary return fare goes up from £2.55 to £2.87. Other increases affecting local travellers are: Huntingdon-London day return up to £1.79; Ely to London day return now £2.36 while a second-class single from Cambridge to Ipswich goes up 10p to 85p

1974 12 31
The Earith site of the Tracked Hovercraft trials is up for sale. The main "hangar" area of 6,300 square feet of industrial floor space is on offer. The prototype train ran at 107 mph before being scrapped in February last year because the Government would not put in the £4 million necessary to finance the second stage of the project which had, at that time, cost £5 m. The Government gave the go-ahead last August for the dismantling of the three-mile test track. The technology is now being pursued in Japan, Western Germany, France & Canada

1975 04 15
Eight old houses near the railway line, at Mill Road, Cambridge, are being offered by the city council, which owns them, to dossers and down-and-outs. The houses are scheduled for eventual demolition to allow British Rail to widen the bridge when it starts work on electrifying the main Cambridge-London line. But because no date has been set the council has offered them on an annual basis to Cambridge Night Shelter. The council considers the houses which stand on the Argyle Street corner to be suitable because there are no other occupied houses immediately adjacent.

1975 07 23
Cambridge city council has accepted an invitation from the County Council to build an £8,500 bus-rail interchange improvement outside Cambridge railway station. The scheme includes bus waiting bays and shelters.

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1975 12 19
A plea was made for British Rail to open a station at Cherry Hinton. The existing traffic problems would get even worse when more than 4,000 extra people went to the village with the new council development. Passenger trains could easily stop there. The idea had already been suggested informally by British Rail and was under consideration. Coun Taylor said a mother with children could pay £1 just to get to Cambridge and back by bus. Coun Rowley thought his was evidence of how the bus service had failed

1976 04 02
A plan for building a £13,000 halt at Cherry Hinton on the main Cambridge-Ipswich railway line was rejected by the county highways committee. Cambridge city council had asked for the halt, saying it would be useful for commuters and people working in the expanding office development in Station Road. Councillor Charles Swift (Peterborough) who is a train driver said that halts usually consisted of just a few old railway sleepers by the side of the track and not the station and buildings proposed for Cherry Hinton.

1976 06 29
Railway workers spent almost seven hours repairing a section of the main King's Cross to Cambridge line at Shepreth which became distorted because of the heatwave. As temperatures hit 94 degrees in the centre of Cambridge one sour note came from King's College chapel where the organ was out of tune because of the weather.

1977 01 13
Heavy snow hit Cambridge as the worst weather for 14 years caused nationwide chaos and led to widescale disruption on the roads and railways. Weathermen say the snowfalls will be heavy and prolonged and warm winds could produce drifts. In many places there were snowfalls of more than one foot. Thousands of people were late for work as hard-packed snow, freezing fog and black ice made driving treacherous. And many trains were late or cancelled despite an all-night fight against the Arctic conditions by British Rail who called in their full cold weather emergency procedures.

1978 05 24
Barnwell station will not be reopened to deal with next season's influx of soccer fans … because British Rail does not own it. There has been growing support for the idea since Cambridge United won promotion to the Second Division, as a way of stopping fans who come by rail from wandering through the city. But the station has ceased to exist and the land is part of a private dwelling. Any new halt would be an expensive and complicated business. The station house, platform and access were sold off in the 1960s and now form the flourishing Kindrum Kennels.

1978 12 15
The East Anglian Railway Development Society urges the restoration of passenger trains on the Cambridge to St Ives line. Large domestic and industrial developments have taken place along the route and the new housing on the Arbury Road Estate would make for increased usage at Histon and even warrant a new halt in the Kings Hedges area. A Parkway station should be built to serve the Sawston area and Meldreth become the boarding point for Kings Cross trains.

1979 01 23
The railway line between Swavesey and Cambridge will be used for a passenger service on March 31st for the first time since its closure in 1971. Trains will call at Longstanton, Oakington and Histon – at least for one day. A special train is being organised by the Railway Development Society in conjunction with British Rail. It will leave Swavesey at 1pm and arrive at Cambridge

an hour later, returning at 5.30 pm. The fare for adults will be about £1, children 75p and cycles free.

1979 09 13
The Cambridge area may increasingly become a territory for commuters due to the combined effect of the M11 and railway electrification; estate agents say people should buy houses now, while they can afford them. Heydon is among the more sought-after villages but unfortunately opportunities to buy homes there are rare. One of the few is a four-bedroomed detached house situated in large grounds, including a shower room, carpets and kennels. It is priced at around £69,950

1979 09 17
There are three telephone operators on duty at Cambridge railway station; they can tell someone the train times between Madras and Bombay, but don't want to. Because Cambridge isn't on the main line most cross-country rail inquiries involve looking up train times and co-ordinating them on several different pages of the standard published timetables. So every year they compile their own timetables to take passengers to every station in the country. It takes two people a month's work but has proved so useful that travel agents are now buying copies from the station. They have also collected their own file of useful information such as how long it takes to walk from one Birmingham station to another.

1979 11 27
Cambridge Councillors want British Rail to spend £500,000 on building a footbridge over the railway lines from Rustat Road to the railway station, and also want a footpath from Devonshire Road to the entrance. It would assist many people who currently have to travel long distances and now BR is about to begin electrification they want a commitment to them. But British Rail is opposed to both plans claiming they would bring security problems as well as affecting future land development potential. The high cost is caused by the length of the bridge and the difficulties building it over the mass of rail lines.

1980

1980 02 27
Senior dons at Girton are pursuing an astonishing plan to link their college with Cambridge by railway. They are proposing a mono-rail link which would run mainly at ground level on university and college-owned land to the Sidgwick Avenue arts site and University Library. The main difficulties are the high cost of the project, which would need to cross the Huntingdon and Madingley Roads and the delicate negotiations with other colleges. The college's undergraduates have to cycle two miles in all weathers to attend lectures and many have been injured in road accidents. But two recent changes may ensure it is never built: the opening of the Western By-pass has reduced the amount of traffic and there will soon be a cycle lane. 80 02 27

1980 03 13
More details have been released of the amazing project to run a mono-rail between Girton College and Cambridge. The Swiss system employs a steel rail carried on concrete pillars about 20 feet above the ground. Electrically-powered trains carrying 100 people in two 50-seater cars would run five journeys each way at rush hour at a speed of 30 mph. It would do the journey in five minutes. The train would not be obtrusive and would make less noise than a motorcar. The scheme would cost about £500,000 and need a private Act of Parliament. 80 03 13

1980 03 24

Rail transport enthusiasts who want the Cambridge to St Ives branch line re-opened have hired a 10-coach Inter-City train. It will set off from Swavesey station and call at Longstanton, Oakington and Histon before running non-stop to Liverpool Street. The branch line closed to passengers in October 1970 but the track has been kept open by block freight trains carrying Spanish oranges and pulp to Cadburys at Histon and bringing out sand from Amey Roadstone. But the track has recently been lifted beyond Fen Drayton and the station site at St Ives has been obliterated by the new by-pass. 80 03 24

1980 06 06
Girton College's imaginative plan to build a two-mile aerial roadway into Cambridge has been shelved. A driverless 100-seater train would have run 20 feet above ground taking students from the college to Grange Road. But they have had difficulty crossing land owned by other colleges and raising the money and there has been an improvement in traffic conditions since the opening of the Western by-pass 80 06 06a

1980 07 11
A steer escaped from Garnham's meat wholesalers of Coldham's Lane Cambridge while it was on its way to be slaughtered. It jumped from a loading bay and got on to the railway line where it was nearly hit by one train before galloping at full speed towards another. Then it spotted a group of heifers on Stourbridge Common and jumped a four-foot high fence to get into the field. It was finally shot dead by a marksman after being surrounded by squads of police. 80 07 11c

1980 09 02
Cambridge's railway electrification came a step nearer when contractors handed over the shell of the new power signal box near Hills Road Bridge. It will take another 18 months to install the mass of circuitry which will enable a couple of men to control every train, point and signal for miles around. The plan includes floodlit carriage sidings with automatic washing plant for carriages. It is expected to come into operation in May 1982 80 09 02a

1980 09 03
The first football excursion train to leave Cambridge station in almost three years set off for Wolverhampton packed with United fans hoping to cheer John Docherty's men to a place in the third round of the League Cup. The train was one of the first to use the no-alcohol regulation which British Rail hopes will reduce the incidence of vandalism. There was no problem. No matter who they were – schoolboys, skinheads, middle-aged mothers and fathers – no-one tried any surreptitious supping. 80 09 03a

1980 10 03
The new High Speed Train accelerates quickly by railway standards (but not by those of a Mini). And it just keeps on accelerating. At around the 120 mph mark it felt fast. The railway men have padded armchairs but the ride at the guard's end is so bad that BR are contemplating putting the space over to parcels and putting the guards elsewhere. The drivers are dismissive of their skill: powerful engines, powerful brakes, an air-conditioned cab and unrestricted vision make it a bit of a doddle, they say, compared to driving a clapped-out diesel. 80 10 03c

1980 10 10
The Railway Development Society have hired British Rail's experimental railbus, a mustard-yellow Leyland Experimental Vehicle which looks like two buses bolted back to back for trips from Cambridge to Bury St Edmunds. It is an important step in the development of a new generation of cheap, light-weight railcars which could replace the present diesel multiple units. 80 10 10a

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1980 12 06
Cambridge railway commuters said goodbye to their two most popular stewards with presents and champagne. British Rail is replacing the three buffet cars and replacing them with micro-buffets and stewards Colin Taylor and Robbie Davidson are resigning. Simon Spanswick of Newport, who fought to save the service, decorated the 20-year-old buffet car with black crepe and Ron Knowles of Horseheath produced a wreath in loving memory. The regulars gathered round the counter and got through quite a lot of drink. 80 12 06

1981 03 13
Services on the Cambridge to St Ives railway line stopped in October 1970 and researchers want to assess the effects of the closure. But they had difficulty tracking down former users, because of the mobility of the Ouse valley towns. The line closed because the populations they served were small and used trains infrequently; in winter they carried only 10 to 20 passengers, most for non-food shopping or visiting families. Most switched to buses which took between 35-79 minutes for the journey, compared to 27 minutes by train. 81 03 13

1981 05 15
Cambridge ecologists say a bus which can run on railway lines is the solution to transport problems in local villages. They plan to borrow a prototype and run it from the city centre to Huntingdon, using British Rail's tracks. It would stop at Mill Road, Chesterton and North Arbury was well as the former stations en route to Swavesey. From this point the tracks have been removed but it would run along the trackbed to St Ives and the Hemingfords. 81 05 15a

1982 08 21
British Rail's controversial plans to install automatic half-barriers at Cherry Hinton level crossing have been rejected. It marks a victory for the large numbers of protestors who considered they would be dangerous so close to two primary schools. Had they been put in residents were prepared to stand on the lines and stop trains. 82 08 21

1982 08 27
City councillors want a full-scale transport complex to give quick interchange for rail and bus passengers on long distance and local services to be sited at the railway station. There is plenty of parking with toilet and refreshment facilities already on hand. The County Council's controversial plans to spend £400,000 on rebuilding Drummer Street bus station would still leave it a cramped site with poor access. 82 08 27

1982 08 31
Cambridge heaved a sigh of relief at the weekend as the 4,000-strong 'invasion' by Chelsea football fans passed off in relative peace. There were 51 arrests and one man needed 27 stitches for a stab wound. But as the last 'soccer special' pulled out of the railway station police were congratulating themselves at preventing a repeat of the violence that flared after the club's previous clash at the Abbey Stadium when fans went on the rampage. Chelsea won 1-0. 82 08 31 & 31aa

1982 12 22
Whenever retired railwayman Bill Last gives a talk on the great love of his life he calls it 'Steam in my Blood'. In 1932 he was employed as an apprentice fitter at Cambridge railway station; it was the beginning of a career which saw the end of steam, the coming of diesel and finally the much-heralded onset of electrification. Now a new book, "55 years of East Anglian Steam", has been dedicated to him. 82 12 22b

1983 01 20
Railway stations at Cambridge, Ely, Newmarket, Audley End, Stansted and Royston could be closed if a Government plan is accepted. Even the electrified Hitchin to Royston line would be abandoned, leaving only the London to Norwich line in East Anglia. Bus services would be provided instead. By cutting BR to the prime Inter-City routes it would be possible to produce an annual profit of £34 million for a 'commercially viable railway'. 83 01 20

1983 06 23
Mill Road bridge rebuilt to allow room for electrification cables [446.14.4]

1983 08 22
£650,000 facelift station, frontage bricks cleaned & restored; new telephone inquiry bureau etc [5.4]

1983 11 19
Richard Spendlove is best known in Cambridge as the announcer at the railway station. But he is also a journalist, TV presenter and historian whose lifetime association with railways is sealed by the fact that he lives in Brickyard Cottage Coldham's Lane, hard up against the railway line. He is also an authority on weapons whose discovery of a Colt Navy percussion revolver is to be the subject of a television documentary. 83 11 19 p9

1984 09 28
British Rail has bowed to public opinion and re-introduced famous name, The Fenman, for its 8.43 am train from Cambridge to London. The name was introduced by the LNER in the 1930s for its premier train on the London – Cambridge – King's Lynn line. It lost its headboards over 20 years ago when electrification came and BR feared drivers might be injured taking them on and off. But everyone went on calling it The Fenman.

1985 03 11
A major shake-up to cope with the forecast massive increase in Cambridge traffic has been unveiled by the County Council. It suggests an underground car park at the Butts Green end of Midsummer Common and a new road following the main railway line with a new bridge over the Cam. There could be reconstruction of a number of major road junctions including East Road - Newmarket Road and at Hyde Park Corner with widening of dual carriageways and new cycleways. A park-and-ride system of new car parks linked to the centre by frequent buses is also proposed 85 03 11

1985 05 07
The new-look Cambridgeshire County Council may descend into political chaos unless a compromise over who works with whom can be worked out. The Liberal SDP Alliance with 26 seats is seeking a three-way administration with the Conservatives (29 seats) or the Labour with 21. But Labour has turned down the Alliance Plan and the Conservatives will agree to power sharing only if the new council accepts their financial policies. Controversial plans to widen East Road have been scrapped as has a railway-road plan which would have destroyed large housing and commercial areas of Cambridge. 85 05 07

1985 06 06
Coleridge Community College art students are being commissioned to brighten up the concrete and metalwork of Mill Road Railway Bridge. They will paint a mural depicting a night-and-day changing scene of Cambridge and Romsey featuring some of the better-known buildings of the

area. The City Council hopes it will make people respect the environment more and reduce vandalism. The mural will be coated with special anti-graffiti paint. 85 06 06

1985 06 14
The controversial 'railway-route' road plan for Cambridge has been killed off for the second time in 10 years. It was intended to relieve traffic & would have run around the southern and eastern outskirts of the city, following the main railway line. Ten years ago Conservative county councillors discovered it would have cost millions of pounds to build and destroy at least 100 houses. Their revival of the plan earlier this year caused a furious outcry: they were swept from control at the recent elections and admit it was one of the main factors in their downfall 85 06 14

1985 09 27
Cambridge Cattle Market opened 100 years ago. Before 1885 it was held at Castle End but the stalls were inadequate for the number of beasts. Then Jesus College provided land near the railway station. Cattle docks from all four railways were within two minutes' walk and there were direct railway links to Scotland and Ireland. There are still weekly sales of stock, with horse sales every five weeks, but the area nearby that was used for grazing is now the Clifton Industrial Estate. It is filled with large corrugated boxes housing a wide variety of light industry and a 'Park and Ride' site 85 09 27

1986 02 01
Cherry Hinton railway crossing protest – 86 02 01

1986 02 06
British Rail's new Sprinter multiple unit has uprated suspension, tinted windows and new livery. With their improved sound proofing, modern décor, heating systems and facilities for the disabled they are being introduced to replace existing units which are over 25 years old. The new service should encourage more people to use trains and ease pressure on the county's overloaded roads between Peterborough and Cambridge 86 02 06

1987 01 19
History was made in Cambridge as the first electric trains arrived and departed at the station, although passengers travelling on the new-style trains seemed unaware of their historic first-day journey. The electrification has cost £10 million with a further £20 million being spent on resigning and improvements, and the main line from Cambridge to London was completed four months ahead of schedule. The operations manager said electrification was not yet fully implemented and electric engines would not be introduced until May 87 01 19

1987 02 24
Electric trains speed service – 87 02 24b

1987 02 24
Cambridge station is receiving a major facelift. As the service changes from diesel-hauled locomotives to more environmentally-acceptable Electric Multiple Units, the last vestiges of the steam trains – which disappeared in the early 60s – have been scrubbed away. The smoky grime of those decades has gone as the whole building received a sandblasted clean-up. The bright brickwork now reveals sets of the heraldic crests of the colleges that were part of the original building in 1845. These have also been restored and crests of those colleges formed since then are being added. 87 02 24a #

1987 03 06

Commuters are suffering from a culture shock say British Rail chiefs who have set out to defend their newly-electrified service between Cambridge and London. Since trial runs began in January, complaints have poured in. The electric trains have disappointed many passengers who are used to a spacious inter-city style service. They say the new carriages are cramped with little luggage space, small seats and no tables. Yet BR is faced with a surge in passengers – especially during the rush hour – and can only cope in this way, even if it means making the quality of the ride slightly less comfortable - 87 03 06

1987 03 23
A new style electric train took just 47 minutes to travel from London to Cambridge breaking the previous speed record of 55 minutes set by a steam loco in the late 1950s. The train brought a group of VIPs to the city for a ceremony to mark the opening of a £650,000 revamp to the railway station. There are new offices and lavatories together with a telephone inquiry bureau while outside the forecourt paving has been extended and trees planted. It is part of a bid to improve train services, which includes electrification of the line to Royston 87 03 23

1987 06 01
A young man became a human torch in a horrific accident at Cambridge station. He had been at a party in Hooper Street when he climbed over the fence separating the garden from the railway, crossed the tracks and climbed to the top of a carriage. Seconds later terrified party guests heard a huge explosion as he was struck by a massive electric shock from the overhead cables. Two others were badly burned when they went to help. All are lucky to have survived 87 06 01

1987 09 18
The Cambridge - St Ives railway line could be reopened to passengers and linked with Stansted as part of a major new project. The service, shut for nearly 20 years, would be launched with a show-piece electric service along the 14-mile line which is at present only used by freight trains. There would be three new stations at the Science Park, Coldham's Lane and Long Road. Other stations would be built or reopened, under plans announced by the County council, including Chittering, Fulbourn and Cherry Hinton. 87 09 18a

1987 10 27
An overhead cable car system between St Ives and Cambridge has been suggested by the Willingham-based Alternative Transport Society as an alternative option to a rail link. There would be a lack of noise and fumes and cables would be high enough over level crossings, eliminating congestion. It would have simple platforms for alighting with cars slowed automatically by computer control and the total all-weather system would ensure safe and reliable transport. But opponents describe it as a non-starter and just pie in the sky. 87 10 27b

1987 12 18
Cherry Hinton level crossing is being restored by volunteers at the Museum of Technology in Cheddars Lane, Cambridge. The aim is to resite the crossing somewhere in the area on private land. Former mayor John Woodhouse, who has campaigned against British Rail replacing the gates with automatic barriers will be asked to perform the opening ceremony 87 12 18

1988 01 07
A new railway station designed to ease Cambridge's worsening transport problems could be sited near the A10 at Milton, says British Rail. No costs for the 'Cambridge Parkway' halt have yet been worked out but BR would almost certainly look for cash from the community to build the new station and car park. Last year the City and County Councils provided £125,000 help pay for new crossing gates at

Cherry Hinton 88 01 07c

1988 02 17
Three new railway stations at Cherry Hinton, Fulbourn and the Chittering area have been suggested in a County council report. But stations at Harston, Offord and Soham have been rejected on grounds of cost. British Rail plans to build a new 'parkway' station to the north of Cambridge to meet growing commuter passenger growth. But calls to re-open the Cambridge to St Ives freight line to passengers are firmly ruled out. It would cost £4.84 million, greatly outweighing potential income, consultants say 88 02 17

1988 04 22
Cambridge to Royston goes electric. Gala day on Bank Holiday Monday with personal appearance by TV personality Gary Wilmot, live music, exhibit of railway rolling stock and special shuttle service of electric trains free to everyone on the day between Cambridge and Royston. 88 04 22

1988 10 18
Cambridge may have a city-wide high-speed monorail system linking with all nearby villages allowing shoppers to leave their cars at home and travel high above the traffic jams. It could be expensive to set up but would have low running costs and be reliable. Eight years ago dons at Girton College came up with a plan for a monorail to link it with the university quarter but nothing ever came of it. The County Council has already commissioned experts to consider a light railway system linked to the proposed park-and-ride system 88 10 18a

1989 01 20
Seasoned commuters on the Cambridge line will go to almost any lengths to avoid catching the 'cattle-truck' electric 321 multiple-unit trains to London. Even being crammed on to the older locomotive-hauled trains is preferable. "There are just two carriages where you can smoke on the 8am train from Cambridge; every day I have to stand, nothing ever happens when you complain", said one regular traveller. Many will either work late or go for a drink at the end of the day to catch the 6.35pm locomotive-hauled train. Life will be only marginally better when the new electric units come into full operation, seating will still be cramped, there will be no tables for people to work, no buffer, no phones and not enough first class seats, some claim. 89 01 20a

1989 02 08
Rail electrification to Kings Lynn announced by end 1991. House prices to soar following electrification of railway line – 89 02 08

1989 03 09
Railway cuts of Beeching era – feature 89 03 09b & c, 89 03 10a
1989 04 24
British Rail is planning a second Cambridge railway station, provisionally known as Cambridge Parkway, close to Milton and the A45 northern bypass. It is unlikely to be ready in time for the start of electrification services to King's Lynn in October 1991, but could follow shortly afterwards. However the site needs much better access and provision of parking space. It would serve the high-tech Science Park and provide a way for commuters to join trains without having to struggle through the city. 89 04 24

1989 05 17
A light railway may be built, with private cash, linking the centre of Cambridge with the main line station on the outskirts. It could form a part of an extensive park-and-ride network based on a

light railway system around the northern and eastern industrial sections of the city. County Councillors have also asked experts to consider building a gigantic car park under the Butts Green end of Midsummer Common. A new road system to relieve the heavily congested areas of Milton Road and Elizabeth Way are also being examined to sort out the growing traffic chaos quickly 89 05 17

1989 06 09
Cambridgeshire's new traffic chief has vowed to end Cambridge's traffic and parking chaos within four years. A 'grand traffic management plan' will be drafted by officials and meetings arranged with business bosses. He wants a better road system to serve the industrial quarters, a new light railway system linked to a park-and-ride scheme and a possible car park under Midsummer Common. 89 06 09

1989 09 14
Rail commuters banned from taking bikes on peak-hour trains – 89 09 14

1989 10 03
A light railway system running in a tunnel under Midsummer Common is the latest official suggestion to help solve traffic problems in the centre of Cambridge. It would be an alternative to a line running down a widened section of Newmarket Road. The underground railway would link with a number of other lines from surrounding villages as far out as Fenstanton and terminate at a station in Malcolm Street. The County Council will invest £60,000 to see if a car park under Midsummer Common is feasible and another £150,000 in a feasibility study for a 60-mph light rail system. 89 10 03a

1989 10 04
Jim Paice, MP, has launched a bid to reopen the Cambridge to St Ives branch railway and extend it to link with the East Coast main line at Huntingdon. He says it could reduce traffic on the heavily-congested A604. Enthusiasts packed British Rail 'specials' up and down the 14-mile line which is normally used by just one freight train a day carrying mineral workings from Fen Drayton; it is also used occasionally by Chivers jam company. 89 10 04b

1989 11 28
The new South East Cycleway from Market Square to Cherry Hinton follows quiet back roads, avoiding the nightmarish Mill Road which can reduce cyclists to a nervous wreck. It includes a new £2million bridge across the railway near Cambridge station. This is a striking structure with a triangular tower from which cables support a cycle and walkway fully protected from the elements by a transparent polycarbonate tube. It is thought to be the longest bridge of its type in Western Europe. 89 11 28a, 29

1990 03 12
A major new railway station could be built behind Cambridge Business Park. It would become the main station for Cambridge with the original one becoming just a stop-over point– 90 03 12

1990 03 24
Hundreds of people swamped the first passenger train between Swavesey and Cambridge for 20 years and at least 200 were left standing. The special service, chartered by the Railway Development Society was overwhelmed. There were 500 waiting at Swavesey, 100 at Longstanton, 200 at Oakington and another 100 at Histon. The train arrived at Cambridge station more than 20 minutes late. 90 03 24b 90 03 26a

1990 06 23
Cambridge to Swavesey railway line – support for reinstatement; special train – 90 06 23a

1990 09 07
Light railway system to beat traffic chaos would cost £100m – 90 09 07

1990 10 17
More buses, a cycling scheme and shop-to-home delivery service suggested as ways solving Cambridge traffic; light railway is not answer says Prof Plowden – 90 10 17a

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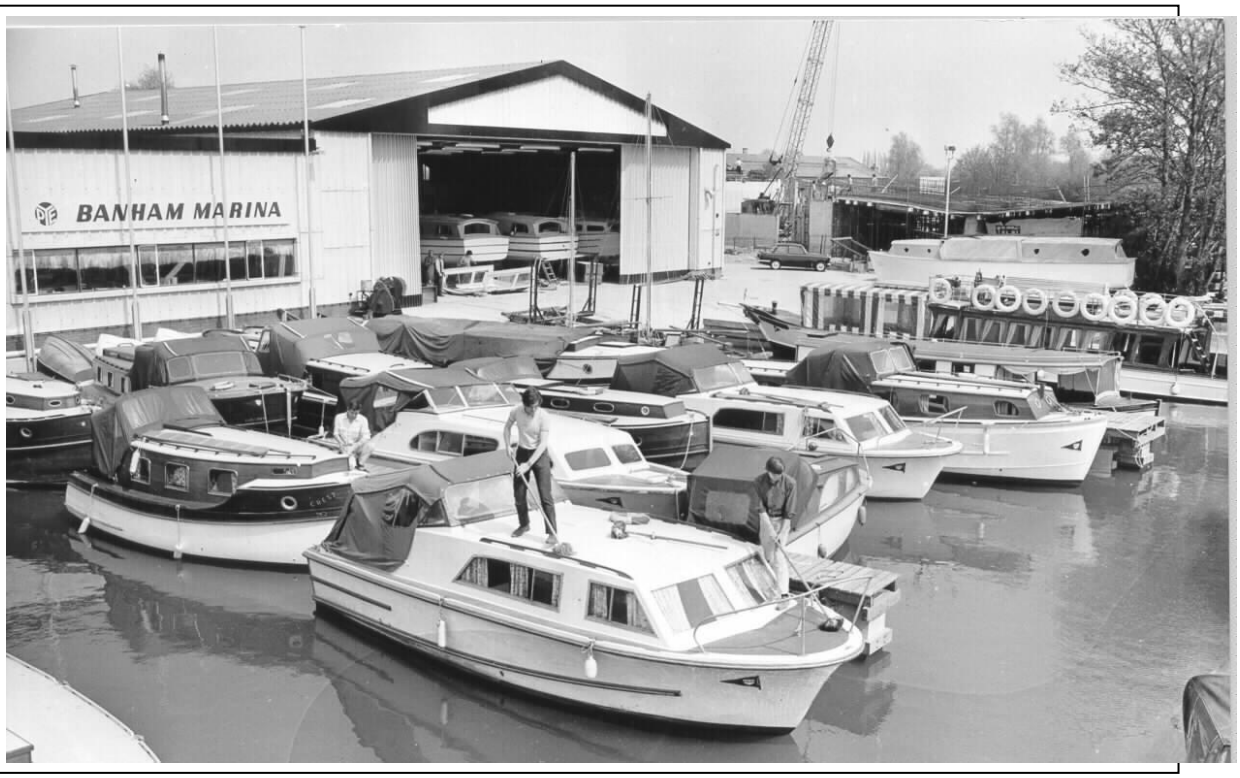

Banham's boatyard, 1969 *124.96*

c.26.3 : Boats & Punting

Notes marked [W] are from J. Wilson Fenland barge traffic. 1972

Dant, Cutter ferry history and account of barge traffic – 62 08 03b & c

Sir – I remember Ditton Docks some 70 years ago. It was then a small landing stage, long disused and out of repair. There was also a more pretentious one further down the river – Horningsea Pier we used to call it. - and I was told that in pre-railway days this had been extensively used. My father would speak of the times, before the present locks were installed, when strings of barges were kept waiting sometimes for several weeks for the river to rise sufficiently for them to come up. They carried coal and corn to Mill Lane or timber and sand to Walnut Tree Lane (now Avenue). Dant of Dant's Ferry had a fleet of barges at that time – A. Cox 37 02 13

1890
1890s
Dant owned Cutter, first steam tug to work on Cam; in 1890s the barge business, then in decline, was auctioned [W.16]

1897 03 18
Fred Richardson, foreman of the second gangs of lighters belonging to Messrs Brown and Goodman, met with a serious accident which ultimately proved fatal. It appears one of the lighters ran aground at Littleport on the same side as the horse. To get the boat off again block

and tackle were fixed on the opposite bank, and the rope from the boat to the through the pulley to the horse. The rope got entangled around his neck, quite crushing the windpipe, and the poor fellow was taken more dead than alive up to the Globe Inn, Littleport where an operation was resorted to. We regret to learn that Mr Richardson died at three o'clock. The unfortunate victim was conscious when his friends visited him yesterday 1897 03 18

1898 09 14
Otter and Otter Hound advert CDN 1898 09 14, p3

1899 06 13
Logan boat builder creditors, 1899 06 13p3 * & 14th p3

1900
1900 08 18
Sir. I have hired boats at nearly every place in Cambridge and always found the boat-people most obliging. The charge has been 1s each person for a whole day. Today I hired a boat for one hour and was charged 1s 6d. I asked why the extra cost. "Well sir, bicycling is off, and the river is more in demand. We have had a bad season, so are now making up for it". Vacation is a strange time for raising the prices. It would be as well to arrange the prices before starting on a trip, as that would save a lot of wrangling when a party returns. – "A lover of the river" 00 08 18

1901 06 01
After the rowing races at Ditton Corner & when the crush of small boats was at its height, a steam launch crowded with people endeavoured to force its way through the block of boats. Frantic endeavours were made to get out of its way but the launch crashed into a boat which contained two men, who were thrown into the river. Shouts from bystanders eventually brought the launch to a standstill but no effort was made to render any assistance. What would have been the results had the boat contained ladies. All launches should have a look-out man on the bow as it is impossible to see from the stern what is happening in front CDN 1901 06 10

1904 06 10
A serious accident occurred following the 'Mays'. After the half-past six race there is usually a scramble from the course to the boat-yards and collisions are frequent. But when a steamer and pleasure craft collide the consequences are unpleasant for the occupants of the smaller boats. Two of these were overturned and their eight occupants, including ladies, were precipitated into the water but happily all were rescued. One lady excited admiration for her cool behaviour in a perilous position and managed to climb into one of the small craft. 1904 06 10

1904 06 13
The Rev N.W. Shelton, vicar of Old Chesterton and his party, half-a-dozen in all, met with an unpleasant experience at the 'Mays'. The party, in an ordinary rowing boat, had left the scene of the action and arrive, after the usual difficulty, at the Pike and Eel ferry where their progress was barred for a time. During the period of waiting a big houseboat, towed by a horse, 'crashed' into the boat which it sunk and precipitated the occupants into the water. After a short period of excitement the party, which included several ladies, were landed safely on the houseboat, which proceeded on its course. It is an abominable shame that these large houseboats are allowed to travel on the river when it is crowed with smaller craft. It was going at from six to seven miles an hour and was in charge of a small boy on a horse. 1904 06 13

1905 08 29

A number of fishermen and fireman had an enjoyable outing on board the 'Majesty'. On arriving at Upware they sat down to one of Host Peachey's liberal dinners after which the fishermen went fishing and the remainder had a trip to Ely, returning for tea and games. The return journey was enlivened by songs accompanied by Mr Sid Smith on his banjo. They reached home by 10 pm. 05 08 29d

1906
Herbert Charles Banham starts boat building, Riverside 53 01 01 [1.1, 2.1]

1906 05 08
Mr H.C. Banham has launched a motor boat service on the Cam. Last season he ran trips to Clayhithe with steam launches but now 'The Enterprise' has been specially built to carry 50 people. The body is of oak with a snug cabin with glass superstructure where one can retire when winds are too boisterous. It is powered by a twelve horse power engine giving speeds of 7½ mph without any of the 'blacks' given off by a steam launch and an entire absence of smell. It glides through the water so smoothly one can forget there is any motive power on board. 06 05 08c & d

1906 06 22
On Thursday Messrs Bullen, boatbuilders of Magdalene Street started their first trip of the season with their steam launch and tender His Majesty and Queen Alexandra It was a free outing and 84 people availed themselves of the voyage to Ditton Plough when an enjoyable time was spent. 06 06 22b

1906 09 15
River trips, motor launch 'Victory' to Clayhithe – Pocock – 06 09 15b

1906 11 30
Traffic on the Cam – motor boats, byelaw – 06 11 30b & c

1907 08 24
Otter and Otter hound advert – 07 08 24

1907 10 19
Last year there was hardly a punt available, and before that such a thing was not known in Cambridge. Yet this summer every boatyard possessed quite a flotilla of these comfortable craft, which were in great demand. Like golf, punting seems to have contributed in great measure to the humour of the nation and funny spectacles have not been entirely absent from our local ditch. Every dog has his day, and it is pretty evident the 'Canader' canoe has almost had his 07 10 19 [1.5]

1908 06 12
At the bottom of Mill Lane there was a kind of wharf with steps to allow people to get down to the river. Recently Mr Scudamore had fastened a sort of wooden punt as a mooring for pleasure boats, now nobody in a boat could get to the steps without trespassing on it. But no loading of boats had been carried on for nine years, the water was only a foot deep and there had been no complaints. Anybody in a punt could use it, Scudamore claimed. However as the river was a navigable highway, this was an obstruction magistrates decided and fined him five shillings CWN 08 06 12 p2

1909 08 13

A petrol-driven motor boat owned by Mr John Scudamore, boat-builder of Mill Lane, and occupied by a party of five undergraduates caught fire when at the back of King's College and was burnt down to the water's edge. They had experienced difficulties with the 3½ horse-power engine and Mr Scudamore went to their assistance. He was examining it when it burst into flame. The cause is a mystery: nobody was smoking, the engine-bearings were not overheated and there was no escape of petrol. CWN 09 08 13

1909 12 24
The Directors of the Ouse Navigation Ltd have been unable to raise the necessary funds and deposits have been returned to those who subscribed for shares. They had offered £5,000 for the toll-rights and property belonging to the Navigation, which was declined. They expressed surprise at the indifference shown by people in Cambridgeshire. But few people knew about it. Looking through the Files of the C.D.N. and Cambridgeshire Weekly News we are unable to trace any reference to the enterprise. If the Directors did not take the trouble to explain their proposals to the public they can hardly blame the public for not being interested in them. CWN 09 08 13

1909 12 24
New bye-laws relating to the illumination of chain ferry boats and barges after dark were adopted. CWN 09 12 24

1910
1910 04 08
Bargemen objected to proposed bylaws regarding lighting on barges saying they can travel more safely without them. Mr Charles Dyson of North Street Burwell said "My barges are required to carry oil, sedge, turf etc and the use of lights might prove dangerous. I have travelled on the river for 40 years and never seen any accident caused by not using lights". E.H. Godby of Littleport says he does a lot of hay and chaff work and cannot afford to have his cargo burnt while Colchester and Ball of Burwell says their boats do not travel at night and see no reason why they should show a light when stationery. Ferry boat owners also say it would be a serious expense to have to keep lights burning all night. 10 04 08 b & c

1910 08 19
George Fawcett Winter, the well-known boat builder, became the proprietor of the boatyard near Victoria Bridge in 1876, succeeding the late Edward Searle. Ten years later he was connected with the boat-building industry at Eton: he used to spend the summer there and the winter at Cambridge. In 1900 he decided to relinquish his Cambridge business which came into the hands of Mr F. Pocock who is now carrying it on. He was well-known amongst University and Town rowing men and took an interest in the affairs of Old Chesterton. 10 08 19h

1911
Viscountess Bury" started [2.12]

1911 06 02
A serious rival to sailing on the river Cam has now to be reckoned with. This is 'botoring' which to the uninitiated stands for motor boating. There are today about 80 of this type of craft of various sizes and power. Now owners have formed the Cambridge Motor Boat Club to work with other river users to make the waterways even more safe and pleasant. Already membership has reached 35 which is proof of the popularity of the sport 11 06 02a

1913
Boathouses guarded due to fear of Suffragette attack [1.8]

1913 05 30
Ebenezer Driver, an Isleham gravel and shingle merchant told the court he owned 16 lighters and a steam tug. He'd delivered eleven lighter loads of sand and gravel to Southery for the Methwold & Feltwell Drainage Board to use as concrete at the pumping station. Heber Martin, surveyor of Littleport said he'd measured the barges and worked out the amount supplied. Joseph Whitehead said he'd carted it from the lighters. But the Board disputed the quantity. The suggestion that being fenland it had acted as a quick-sand and swallowed up the materials could not be accepted since the ground was so hard people could not get a pick into it. It was possible more sand and gravel had been used in making the concrete than they'd allowed for. 13 05 30 p8 CIP

1913 05 30
Two undergraduates told the court they were coming up the Cam in light sculling boats when they met a tug towing a string of six barges belonging to Colchester and Ball of Burwell. The barges smashed their boat and threw them in the river. The bargee said the wind had blown the rear barges across the river and the scull had got nipped between them and the bank, despite attempts by two men with poles to avoid the accident. But a Met Office witness testified there had been little wind that day. The judge said were too many barges in the chain and the back ones would always swing. He spoke from personal experience as an old oarsman on the Cam 13 05 30 p10 CIP

1913 06 06
Cambridge Sea scouts opened their new riverside headquarters at Pocock's Boatyard. It consists of two capital rooms like cabins on board ship, one fitted up as a workshop, the other containing various games. They also launched their new boat, named The Albert, built of pine and elm with six oars and a mast, capable of carrying 10 boys. 13 06 06 p10 CIP

1913 06 27
William Harding testified he'd had charge of a tug and string of six barges belonging to Messrs Colchester and Ball. There were two men on the tug and two more on the hind lighter who were shoving with poles as hard as they could. He'd shouted to warn two undergraduates in a scull to stop, but they just rowed on and been struck. Walter Parr said he knew the 'Nancy'. At one time there had been as many as 20 barges in a string on the river. The keeper at Jesus Lock said he'd known a lot more than six barges in a string and three men were quiet sufficient. 13 06 27 p09 CIP

1913 07 25
Colchester and Ball barge collision undergrad rowers – judgement for the undergrads 13 07 25 CIP

1913 12 19
Motor Boat Club dinner – motor boats and May races; reflections on Conservators – difficult to work with; navigation for commercial interest now practically dead 13 12 19 p3 CIP

1914 02 13
Lighters owned by West Norfolk Manure and Chemical Co had touched the lower sill at Baits Bite Lock. They were carrying about 42 tons but if this was reduced it would not be economical and they would abandon the river and take the materials by rail. The sills could not be lowered without putting in new doors. The uprights are practically decayed and the two ploughs are never used except in emergency. The keeper was fearful of opening the doors and if there were a flood the whole might go. Urgent repairs were needed, the Conservators heard – 14 02 13d

1914 05 08
The Conservators had written to the West Norfolk Chemical Company concerning damage done to the sills at the locks by their barges, owing to their bumping when heavy laden. The Company replied that if they lightened their barges to such an extent that they no longer bumped, if would become cheaper for them to transfer the residuals from the gasworks by rail, which would ruin the traffic on the Cam. They could not lighten the tugs, which were heavier than the barges. The barge Charles, which has been running on the Cam for more than 50 years, drew two inches more water than the present barges 14 05 08, b c

1914 08
Nancy steam barge laid up, used to bring timber Kings Lynn to Cambridge stopped running 30 Aug 1914, previous year takings £409 for 46 weeks work. The Nancy was a fine steam tug, one of the largest to be used on the River Cam. She was about 70 feet long with a capacity of about 70 tons and was owned by the Eastern Counties' Navigation Company carrying coal, bricks and timber. The boat was laid up in 1914 because of the war and rotted at her moorings near the railway bridge at Ely until the river was widened in 1947. Then the rusting boat was buried on the Babylon marina site. Four years ago the remains were unearthed and now the stern has been given a permanent home at the Cambridge Museum of Technology in Cheddar Lane 85 11 01

1914-18
Banham build a number of boats for the Admiralty and, through Pye Ltd, undertook contracts for Air Ministry carries out Service contracts. In charge of fire float manned at Banham's expense 53 01 01[1.1]

1915 11 26
Barges on Cam should have cask water for drinking – never made use of them – 15 11 26 p7

1918 10 23
Boat proprietor sued an R.A.F. officer who hired a boat one Sunday afternoon and left it on the Granta to float where it would, with the result that the contents were taken possession of by someone else. They included sculls, three cushions, a tea basket, a flask and cups, saucers and plates 18 10 23 CIPof

1919
Banham buys rowing boat business near Victoria Bridge 53 01 01 [1.1, 2.1]

1920
1922
Cam Conservancy Bill progresses [1.6]

1927 06
Nancy II, 70 foot steelmotor barge built for Banham's makes maiden voyage, unloads at Pike & Eel Banhams bought large steel diesel-driven barge from Holland, really too large & had difficulty in passing through locks & navigate tidal sections; probably insufficient trade & taken out of service after 9 months [W.17, 1.9]. History 85 12 12b

1927 07 07
The Conservators of the River Cam considered a scheme to make the river navigable for cargo boats up to the Quayside near Magdalene Bridge. Mr Banham had recently bought a vessel for conveying cargo and at present it can only come as far as Jesus Lock. There had been no traffic

for years and the state of the river was very bad. There was a possibility that the river could be dredged but the Commons Committee had taken a lot of trouble to make Jesus Green a beauty spot and would not sanction the deposit being placed on the Common. 27 07 07

1930

1932 11 04
Cambridge Motor Boat Club decided to take over a new piece of land at Clayhithe to enlarge their present ground. Although some people thought the scheme too ambitious, they could provide tennis courts and bungalows which would be rented for £3 as well as providing a motor way and parking place. Mrs Banham said the Ladies' Committee would contribute £20 towards the costs. 32 11 04g

1933
Last consignment of ammonia water sent by barge from Gas Works

1935 03 22
The new motor tug 'Sheldrake', which has been built for the Great Ouse Catchment Board for use in the Wash, took advantage of the seasonal rise in the water to travel from King's Lynn to St Ives towing a string of barges to collect osiers for the East Stone Bank contract. It is the first time for 20 years that a vessel of this kind has been seen as far up-river. The last vessel to carry a cargo through St Ives arrived in August 1915 with potatoes. 35 03 22a

1936 08 14
Friendly rivalry between the owners of two 50-years-old steamboats led to a unique race on the Cam. 'Kathleen' owned by Mr & Mrs Leach, performed so well that, although the older craft, she beat 'Sunbeam' owned by Mr Barlow of Jesus College by a quarter of a mile over the course from Pretoria Road bridge to Baitsbite and back. An old fire engine boiler was a big help to Mr Leach in the construction of 'Kathleen's engine, which drives the boat at about eight knots 36 05 07 – photo

1936 08 14
A retired schoolmaster, F.J. Fuller, has built a large motor-boat in his back garden in Ascham Road with 'tips' from Mr H.C. Banham. He laid the keel in October and it was launched on August Bank Holiday. It has an engine from an Austin Seven car and features oak and spruce steamed to the required curves with mahogany lining. The craft has been named 'Butterfly', reviving that of a steam launch that his father had 50 years ago. 36 08 14a

1936 11 07
Model liners built by F.W. Thiem floated in tank in garden at corner Chesterton Hall Crescent – 36 11 07d

1938 09 05
Mr M.C. (Jack Scudamore) served his apprenticeship with Mr J. Stranger, boat builder of Chesterton and, after serving in the Boer War, started business as a boat and launch builder in Mill Lane about 1903. He had considerable success in building motor boats and his craft won prizes for motor boat racing. When the Thames punt became the vogue he turned his attention to the building of this type of boat and was the pioneer of their use on the Backs and Granta. Since the popularity of the punt in Cambridge he has supplied them to users all over the country. 38 09 05c

1939-45

Banham builds boats for Admiralty & Air Ministry; runs fire float throughout the War manned at his own expense 53 01 01 [1.1]

1939 10 23
Mr. A. J. Scudamore was in business with his brother, the late Mr. J. C. Scudamore, who died about a year ago, assisting him in the carrying-on of the well-known business in Mill Lane and the Granta Boathouse. When motor launches were first introduced on the Cam, deceased built several of them, and they attained considerable success in the races promoted by the Motor Boat Club. He was also one of the first members of the club. . In the summer months he was a well-known and genial figure in Mill Lane, being in charge of the new Granta boat houses which he'd helped to plan. 39 10 23, 39 10 27 CIPof

1940
1949 07 22
The Mayor of Cambridge attended the re-opening of the Cambridge Motor Boat Club's pavilion at Clayhithe. The secretary said how fortunate the club had been recently. Last year it was presented with a pair of gates by Rear-commodore H. Lister; since then it had been given a ship's bell, a silver cup by Mr Norman, and now, through the kindness and generosity of Commodore R. C. Pierce, it had a practically new pavilion

1950
1952 12
Death of H.C. Banham [1.1] (CDN 1.1.53 p7)

1953 06 26
A recent decision by St Ives Council to break up and dispose of an historic Fenland lighter – presented last year – has had serious repercussions. Before donating it as a museum-piece Mr R. Cory of Brinkley had received several offers for its purchase from people wishing to convert it into a house-boat. The hatches were not perfect but it could easily have been repaired. There was a considerable 'bash' in the bow as a result of an accident on its last trip when carrying sugar beet. It had sunk because of heavy rain, strong winds and a lack of interest and attention. A half-hearted attempt had made to raise it at the worst possible time. The barge is at present a total wreck outside the Norris Museum 53 06 26

1954 11 05
Death of F.J. Lincoln [1.2]

1957 07 05
The motor vessel 'Phosphorous' lazily riding at her moorings off the 'New Spring' pub is the perfect answer to Cambridge's housing difficulties. It does have disadvantages: all the washing-up water must be pumped from the river and boiled while drinking water has to be obtained and conserved in a tank in the bows. But when the owners are cruising the river it is not an empty house that callers see, just a clear view of the opposite bank. 57 07 05a

1959 11 21
Houseboat sunk near Jesus Lock – 59 11 21b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 06 17

Members of Chesterton Youth Club have made week-end canoe camping trips down the Granta, Rhee and Brandon Rivers using boats of their own making. No fewer that six two-seater canoes have been built in the Chesterton Evening Centre wood-work room and the finishing touches of paint and varnish are now being applied. The hobby is so popular they will shortly be starting canoe building classes 60 06 17

1961
Banhams become part of Pye group 73 05 31 [2.6]

1962 07 03
H.C. Banham launch first fibre-glass hulled boat – 62 07 03a

1965 07 31
T.S. Moyes of Peterborough navigates 75-foot barge from Cambridge to Lynn to see whether canal traffic can be revived – 65 07 31b

1965 08 14
64-year-old Houseboat at Jesus Lock home to generations of veterinary students since 1958 – 65 08 14c

1969 03 05
Banham's Boatyard old premises being switched to new building to make way for Elizabeth Bridge – 69 03 05

1970
1970 04 03
Two Tees Boat Yard opened by Ernest Tyler and Mo Tyrrell, worked for Banham's – 70 04 03a

1971 03 19
Banhams boatyard transformed from home of traditional craftsmanship to an industrial production line of fibre-glass boats – 71 03 19

1973 07 05
Banhams executives buy back boat hire & chandlery parts [2.7]

1974 07 13
Old wooden barge raised from river bed at Ely & brought to Museum of Technology [2.8]

1975 03 19
Mr Edwin Appleyard's partnership with a Shell oil barge has ended after 18 years. The 60-year old barge was first introduced to the fens from Holland about 1910 and was used for delivering tulip and daffodil bulbs growing in the fens to Ely station. It next became a cargo boat plying between King's Lynn and Cambridge before being bought by Shell in the 1920s. It was then used to supply pumping stations with gas oil. Now it has been sold to a canal and passenger boat operator of Manchester 75 03 19

1975 11 20
It looks like plain sailing from now on for one of Cambridge's best known sights, the Viscountess Bury pleasure boat. It was confirmed that a new site for her mooring near the gas works had been approved by Cambridge city council. It means the 87-year-old boat will still be plying the Cam

next season. Earlier it looked like it may have had to leave Cambridge as Banham Marine, the firm who own the boat, have to move to a new site at Upware 75 11 20

1976 08 12
Banhams move business to Ely [2.10]

1977 04 22
Plans for marina Logan's way agreed despite protest, opens 77 07 07, (closed 1981 as unprofitable) [2.11]

1978
Baitsbite Lock most expensive in Kingdom through which take boat [3.17]

1980
1980 05 15
The 'Viscountess Bury', best-known pleasure boat on the Cam is in danger of leaving the river – only eight years short of her centenary. Banham Marine have decided to advertise it for disposal on the Thames. It was launched as a battery-powered vessel at Chiswick in 1888 and was patronised by Edward VII. It was bought by H.C. Banham in 1910, fitted with a petrol engine and sailed up the North Sea to the Wash, narrowly escaping loss in a storm outside Wells. Since 1911 she has been regularly used for club outings and private festivities. 80 05 15a

1980 11 25
Viscountess Bury to go up for sale – 80 11 25

1981 01 31
The Viscountess Bury plopped into the Ouse with a new nose, a new right arm and a dud battery. The 93-year-old doyenne of pleasure boats was relaunched at Ely after a refit that included restoration of its figurehead, a well-upholstered Victorian lady. But she would not start and it took over an hour to get her under way. It should be available for hire by the end of April. 81 01 31

1981 05 08
The Viscountess Bury, one of the oldest pleasure boats in the world, has made a come-back after a £10,000 restoration. The 93-year-old boat began the new season with a 16-mile round cruise along the Ouse north from Ely. She originally ran on electricity but is now diesel-powered and ready to ply the rivers, 24-hours a day, for many years to come. 81 05 08

1981 06 24
Scudamore's has decided to close its motor boat marina at Logan's Way, Chesterton – just four years after its controversial plans were given the go-ahead by the city council. The marina was only open for a month last summer and was no longer considered to be profitable. They ran the marina on council-owned land and negotiations are now taking place to work out what to do with the site. 81 06 24c

1981 10 09
Excavation work on a new marina at Annesdale, Ely is unearthing remains of The Nancy, a steam-driven cargo barge which plied the River Ouse until she was laid up in 1914. It was then towed near the railway bridge to be cut up for scrap but the work proved too expensive and it was left to rot until the 1940's when the Ouse was widened. It was then in the way so Ted Appleyard dug a hole on the Babylon site, dragged it out of the water and dumped her in it. 81 10 09c

1987 06 30
Tyrells Marina began in the 1950s as a company hiring out punts on the river. Gradually business has increased and for 25 years it has operated from premises in Bermuda Road where they sell a range of boats including inflatables, skiboats, sailboats and canoes. 87 06 30

Punts

Punts

1897 12 15
Sir - The fearful state of the Chesterton roads at the present time calls for comment: they are worse than ever. Trees have lately been inserted on either side of this avenue of mud & slime. Omnibuses are running to and fro daily that are a credit to any town, especially are the horses in splendid form ready to take you from Chesterton church to the Cambridge station for twopence! The wear and tear on such roads must be very great. How very surprised people seem to be now-a-days that Victoria Bridge should have been opposed by some people. But the hour has struck when the necessity for another bridge is of equal importance. The folk at Old Chesterton, all employed in Cambridge, have to cross the classic stream either by grind or punt. The sooner both councils wake up to their duty in the matter of this great necessity, the better for people on both sides of the river - "Chestertonian"

1899 07 11
Sir – The population of Chesterton is mainly composed of people who have been turned out of Cambridge to make way for college and other improvements, and nearly all are employed in that ancient town. Every day brings evidence of the great need of another crossing of the Cam & that Abbey Road is the place goes without saying. The De Freville Estate, are absolutely dependent upon the old punts and other obsolete marine structures for crossing over to Cambridge. . It must be conceded that a bridge over this part of the Cam is of the highest importance – "Chestertonian"

1905 08 05
Two undergraduates said they were fishing at Holywell when Baron de Ketschemdorf arrived in another punt and asked them to move. They declined, saying the river was public, at which the Baron said he would throw them in the river. There was a wrestle during which he tried to throttle them. The German said he had driven a pole in the bed of the river showing that he had already occupied that water and it was a point of etiquette not to fish there. The men had threatened to hit him with a bucket. He was fined £1.05 08 05b – d

1907 10 19
Last year there was hardly a punt available, and before that such a thing was not known in Cambridge. Yet this summer every boatyard possessed quite a flotilla of these comfortable craft, which were in great demand. Like golf, punting seems to have contributed in great measure to the humour of the nation and funny spectacles have not been entirely absent from our local ditch. Every dog has his day, and it is pretty evident the 'Canader' canoe has almost had his 07 10 19

1908 06 05
Considerable annoyance has been caused to the dons of Trinity and St John's by gramophone concerts given by undergraduate punting parties. As the Cam is technically a highway the police were asked to put a stop to the nuisance and a constable patrolled the river in a 'tub'. As he was rowing quietly along an undergraduate propelled his craft with such force that its gunwale was

smashed in and the policeman narrowly escaped a ducking. The lad has now received a summons for 'obstructing the highway'. CWN 08 06 05 p3

1908 06 12
At the bottom of Mill Lane there was a kind of wharf with steps to allow people to get down to the river. Recently Mr Scudamore had fastened a sort of wooden punt as a mooring for pleasure boats, now nobody in a boat could get to the steps without trespassing on it. But no loading of boats had been carried on for nine years, the water was only a foot deep and there had been no complaints. Anybody in a punt could use it, Scudamore claimed. However as the river was a navigable highway, this was an obstruction magistrates decided and fined him five shillings. CWN 08 06 12 p2

1912
Dolby's build punt 59 08 22 [1.3]

1914 08 14
Tom Jolley acted as ferryman at Caron's Ferry at the Pike & Eel, Old Chesterton for 39 years. The ferry is a small punt boat near the larger ferry and is used by members of the University boat clubs who pay the ferryman a termly allowance. It was worked by his father and grandfather before him. Mr Jolley was universally known as 'Caron' and his cheery good nature made him a great favourite. 14 08 14 p4

1926 05 24
An appeal for the modification of the ban on gramophone music has been addressed to the Vice Chancellor on behalf of a party of musical undergraduates. University orders forbid the playing of gramophones in punts on the river during the May terms and gramophone music has been banned from certain colleges altogether. "We have no wish to express any opinion upon the playing of jazz records but suggest the playing of good music, such as the London String Quartet, by students in their hours of relaxation on the river could do nothing but enhance the beauty of the surroundings and the taste of the modern young man", they say.

1926 12 02
The official testing took place of the bridges along the new road through Coe Fen, The Fen Causeway. They are Snobbs' Bridge, Flood Water Bridge and the River Bridge. The last is the most important and five steam rollers and one steam tractor, together weighing 63 tons were driven across it, passing each other, thus making 63 tons rolling weight, equivalent to about 100 tons dead weight. The Cambridge Borough Surveyor and councillors boarded a punt and viewed the deflectometer under the bridge, which gave a satisfactory reading. The foundations consist of 100 piles of 40 feet length, weighing about four tons each

1928 07 28
A great cosmopolitan army has invaded and captured Cambridge. It is no new thing this descent by the legions from overseas but probably never before have they been drawn from so many nations or corners of the world. The 'Backs' heard such a murmuring of strange tongues as would have puzzled the most expert linguist. One reason was the International Geographical Congress attended by members of fifty nations, but ever since the 'Long Vac' started foreign visitors have poured into Cambridge, nearly all armed with cameras and a determination not to miss anything. They saw the river girl – and her flannelled companion – brought out by the heat wave; she was there at the punt pole with her light bright frock, so cool, so self-possessed and efficient, and even in this heat – no shiny noses.

1929 06 14
Punt accident, p5

1933 06 07
The Backs near King's bridge were crowed with punts when the Cambridge University Madrigal Society performed the annual rite of singing on the river. As the sun went down and the moon rose from behind the Gibbs' Building, the cawing of the rooks and the noises of the town ceased, and over the water came the sounds of a Brahms' motet. An aeroplane buzzed like an angry wasp across the sky but failed to break the spell of magical voices which softly floated in the air. 33 06 07

1938 09 05
Mr M.C. (Jack Scudamore) served his apprenticeship with Mr J. Stranger, boat builder of Chesterton and, after serving in the Boer War, started business as a boat and launch builder in Mill Lane about 1903. He had considerable success in building motor boats and his craft won prizes for motor boat racing. When the Thames punt became the vogue he turned his attention to the building of this type of boat and was the pioneer of their use on the Backs and Granta. Since the popularity of the punt in Cambridge he has supplied them to users all over the country. 38 09 05c

1940 06 07 R.A.F. Man's Rescue.—A Royal Air Force man, Cpl. R. A. Laxton, effected a river rescue at Cambridge on Sunday afternoon. Seeing a man in the water, near the Fen Causeway Bridge, he dived in from the bank and brought him to safety. It is understood that the man, Mr. P. C. Phillips, of Milton Road (Cambridge), had fallen into the water from a punt.

1942 09 17
Punts and canoes placed on NFS reservoir on lawn in front of King's – photo – 42 09 17a

1944 03 08
Salute the Soldier advertisement shows swastika on punt- 44 05 08

1947 08 20
Sir - May I join the protest against the excessive charges now being asked for the hire of a punt on the river. It is within easy memory that it was possible to hire a punt out for and afternoon and evening for five or six persons and still have 10s change from a pound note. I can see nothing which warrants the present-day prices. Is it that the ordinary townsfolk are being slowly squeezed from the river in order to allow the varsity men and the more wealthy visitors to the town to enjoy "our" river? The Borough Council should either consider setting up a municipal boatyard for the hire of punts or investigate the charges with a view to softening the blow to the everyday working-class family of Cambridge - letter from "Constant User"

1947 08 27
Sir - a recent letter in defence of present punt charges prompts me to indulge in some mathematical calculation. At a large boathouse on the upper river I counted seventy punts recently. On any fine summer afternoon there is usually a queue waiting to hire them. Assume that each punt is hired for three hours only at 3s.per hour, and it must be clear that the weekly turn-over must be approximately £200. Deduct from this the wages of four men (say £25), allow £25 for running costs and there is a clear profit of £150 per week - J.A. Parkinson, Newnham Rd, Cambridge

1948 07 15
The River Cam Conservators considered a request from the Eastern Electricity Board to run cables under the river from Magdalene College to Thompson's Lane. The Board propose to cover the cables with bags of cement in order to protect them from punt poles. Mr Burrows informed the meeting that dredging of the river was proceeding most satisfactorily. Following the meeting the Conservators set off for Bottisham Locks on board the "Viscountess Bury", but had barely left Jesus Lock when it became stuck in a sandbank

1950 06 08
In the sweet perfection of a fine tuned evening on the Backs, a record crowd listened to what is surely the loveliest of all events of May Week, the programme of madrigals sung by the Cambridge University Madrigal Society from punts moored beneath King's Bridge. An audience estimated at between 7,000 and 8,000, lined both sides of the bank as the oppressive heat of the day became tempered by the cool of evening. Even the loud moo of a cow in the paddock failed to break the spell, nor did the faintly-threatening note of a high-flying bomber, reminder of the sterner world out of which the magic of the setting and the sweetness of the singing lifted the listening thousands.

1950 08 09
This year I have noticed a "cosmopolitan invasion" of the river Cam. Practically every other boat one passes is manned by some of our foreign friends and I counted as many as four nationalities in one punt. This intermixing of young people from neighbouring countries is one of the best things that could happen, especially at the present time, and we must feel honoured that they choose Cambridge as the place in which to better international relations!

1951 07 21
Entries for the men's and boys' swim through Cambridge broke all records. 104 swimmers came under starter's order, 98 of whom completed the course. The Mayor saw them off at the start from "The Mill" and then travelled to the finishing post at Jesus Green where he presented prizes. Punts accompanied the swimmers in case of distress. The Adie cup went to Alec Cook who completed the course in 18 minutes, 50 seconds. The Watling Cup (for boys under 16) was won by John Watling, son of the donor but he was actually beaten by his younger brother David, who won the Webb Cup for boys under 14. The youngest competitor was 10 years old Graham Norden who finished in 41 minutes 55 seconds.

1955 05 09
The annual punting race between the Oxford University Charon Club and Cambridge Damper Club is a relay with the lady member of the team acting as baton and hastily jumping from punt to punt at the end of each 'leg'. For the eight gentlemen on each side it was a perspiring afternoon; both wind, water and pole were playful and both of the 'batons' nearly suffered a ducking. Gradually it developed into a cross between a water-polo match and a life-saving exhibition. 55 05 09a

1959 06 10
The banks of the Cam were lined when the Cambridge University Madrigal Society gave its annual concert on the Backs. It was a very English scene: crowds of impassive spectators defied the fickle weather and a forest of coloured umbrellas rose from the punts on the river. Even the roar of a passing aeroplane and the threat of rain never put the singers off their stride. As the strains of the last madrigal – 'Draw on Sweet Night'- wafted slowly across the river, lanterns were lit and the punts carrying the singers began to move slowly downstream. 59 06 10c & d

1960 006 08
Students lounged on the river banks using their gowns as table cloths for alfresco meals and thousands of people crowded the Backs for the University Madrigal Society's punt-borne concert. Madrigals for five voices did not carry far against the chilly breeze and aeroplanes ('most tiresome' said the conductor, Raymond Leppard) and ducks competed for attention. But the audience listened in rapt silence until the singers' raft moved slowly away to the strains of 'Draw on, Sweet Night'. 60 06 08b

1961 07 26
Scudamore's boat yard at Quayside is experimenting with a prototype fibreglass punt, the first of its kind in Cambridge. The red-and-blue punt with its yellow cushions is much livelier and virtually impossible to overturn or sink. Built in Hull it costs £110, the same as a wooden punt, but the cost of maintenance is much lower. If it proves a success there will be a gradual take-over from the traditional mahogany boats. Scudamore's already have several fibreglass dinghies and other boat yards have similar canoes 61 07 26

1962 03 27
Robinson Crusoe Island, the strip of grassland in the River Cam between Fen Causeway Bridge and the Mill Pool, is to be developed as a beauty spot. Scudamore's boat building company will plant flower beds and lay lawns; old tree stumps will be uprooted and an old boat store pulled down. It will probably be used as a stopping-off point for people punting or rowing to Grantchester. Extensive works are also being carried out to the river bank along the frontage of the Garden House Hotel as part of a gardens improvement scheme 62 03 27a

1963 03 25
Longstanton farmer's daughter, Sarah Stroude, travelled by punt to reception – 63 03 25b

1964 08 17
'Focus on Cambridge' is a new documentary film seen through the eyes of two tourists as they drift along the Cam in a punt. Made by Norman Mason-Smith of Forgeron Films it is intended for people lecturing on Cambridge or tourists wishing to take home a memento of their visit. It was filmed in Technicolor, lasts 16 minutes and is available in 16mm format for £22 10s [about £370 at today's prices]. Cambridge City Libraries have agreed to take a copy 64 08 17

1964 08 21
Punt owners say trade is bad with eighty per cent of those available for hire lying idle. Until 1950 students would take their books to the river in term time, but they don't do it nowadays. Some hirers use up their £1 deposits and leave the punts, then long-haired types jump in and smash them. Foreign visitors do much of the damage and the French treat the punts a lot rougher Scudamore's say. Their new fibreglass punts have been found too weak: they are too low and not really big or steady enough for hire work 64 08 21d

1965 08 19
Scudamore's introduce fibreglass punt – 65 08 19a

1969 06 05
Steam punt with paddle wheel launched by student – 69 06 05

1971
Scudamores punts sold 71 10 14 [2.14]

1972 07 21
Punt-hire firms, p18

1974 05 07
300 young people mobbed BBC disc jockey "Diddy" David Hamilton as he tried to punt down the Cam and forced him to abandon a live radio broadcast. As he crouched under a plastic mack in a Trinity college punt trying to conduct interviews and introduce records to several million Radio 1 listeners the crowd squirted gallons of water at him and threw pepper. Mr Hamilton, who had been keeping up a radio microphone link with an outside broadcast van at Garret Hostel Bridge was rescued after a chaotic half-hour during which several people including a representative of the city's entertainment department, tumbled into the river.

1975 07 25
Chauffeurpunt started, p17

1975 08 01
It was a wet welcome that Cambridge was offering any tourist foolhardy enough to punt past Sheep's Green bathing place, Newnham. Young swimmers aged about 15 kept up a barrage of dive-bombing from springboards at the bathing place and from the footbridge nearby. A custodian said: "It's a hazard that people who come punting have to put up with. There's no way I can keep an eye on the whole lot: on a busy day there's probably 3,000 people here. Only a few every complain, I think most people enjoy being splashed"

1976 02 12
Punters, p5

1976 06 09
Cambridge chauffeur-punt service on the Backs can go ahead again this summer. Third-year Law student at Trinity Hall, Mr Jeremy Nicholson ran the service for a limited period last year but his application for a new licence was refused by the city council because of complaints from fishermen. Now it has been renewed with conditions about insurance and the condition of the boats.

1979 07 13
Cambridge's first punt restaurant is now in business serving tourists with lunches, strawberries and cream teas and cocktails by candlelight. The venture has been launched by the Cambridge undergraduate son of the Headmaster of Eton. For a mere £3 a head up to eight people can be accommodated for a full strawberry tea to the accompaniment of pre-war music from a pre-war wind-up gramophone. A wide-ranging lunch menu costs £6 and later on as the sun dips behind the University Library there is candlelight for a service of fruit cocktails and cheese. The restaurant comprises two punts lashed together.

1979 07 17
A grocery salesman, Derek Thomson, went on his rounds in the heart of Cambridge by punt to try and beat the traffic problem. His firm supplies many of the colleges and he thinks the river is the quickest and cheapest way of servicing them. He set off from Silver Street and was met at Queens' by their chef, Mr Tony Tingey; then at King's Hugh McCann climbed down almost to water level to meet him. But, distracted by passing tourists Mr Thomson all but caught him a hefty blow to the head with his punt pole. He then glided on towards Clare, the Bridge of Sighs and Magdalene. "It is the obvious way to get around a lot of colleges quickly", he said. But the Queens' chef commented: "the way he's handling the pole he'd do better with a motor boat"

1979 10 16
Time-travelling Dr Who and his companion Romana arrived in Cambridge to meet a university 'professor'. Tom Baker and Lalia Ward, who play the characters, acted out the meeting as part of the latest Dr Who adventures. A BBC film unit is recording location shots for the six-part story to be called 'Shada' which is being made for viewing next year. It opens with the Doctor punting along the Cam and encountering the villain, Skagra, played by 'Colditz' star Christopher Neame. The famous Tardis time-capsule is likely also to play a part. It was safely tied down in the back of a removal van in a Cambridge hotel car park.

1979 12 24
Christmas punters on the Cam were astonished when confronted by a Royal Navy submarine laying quietly at anchor near Queens' College. HMS Zander, one of the new shallow-draught killer submarines arrived under the cover of darkness ending an incredible 10-hour voyage from the coast. The appearance of the sub, armed with the latest American missiles, marked the successful conclusion of a naval exercise designed to test its ability to navigate hostile waters undetected. [An article from a 'Spoof' supplement to the News of 24th December 1979]

1980 06 01
Chanting demonstrators broke through a security cordon at Queens' College Cambridge to protest at a stag night being held by male undergraduates. They 'invaded' from punts and burst through padlocked college gates before marching around outside the dining hall where 150 people were watching two strippers. The entertainment which included a blue comedian and a dirty limerick competition was organised to mark the college's last days as an all-male preserve 80 06 10b

1983 07 16
The occupants of Island Hall, Godmanchester, used to have a punt in the cellars so when the river at the bottom of the garden flooded, the footman could punt his way around the wine bins to make the daily selection. It was just about derelict when Simon Heritage bought it in 1979 for £23,000 and £200,000 has been spent on its restoration. Today it is quite breathtaking and it is on the market for £250,000. 83 07 16 p12

1984 08 31
Cambridge, considered one of the most beautiful cities in England, gets a hammering in 'Holiday Which'. It is criticised for poor restaurants, exasperating parking difficulties and shortage of good accommodation. There are several tea shops but those which aren't sleazy or overpriced tend to get hopelessly overcrowded at peak times. It is a relaxed place to visit and punting is the best way to see the scenery but take away the colleges and there is nothing left, it says. 84 08 31

1985 03 11
Cambridge's student prince, Prince Edward, has helped to make this year's Rag Week a record-breaker. His appearance in the Rag Revue made the show a sell-out and he is guest-of-honour at the first Charity Ball where the raffle winner will lead off the first waltz with the fair-haired prince. Other rag events included mud wrestling, birdmen leaping from Silver Street Bridge and silly sports such as a tug-of-war across the river and an egg-throwing competition. It ended with punt-jousting and a mixed three-legged rugby match. 85 03 11b

1985 05 07
Councillors considered proposals for a floating restaurant and waterbus on the River Cam. Two electrically-powered boats would run from Jesus Green through the Backs. One would be used as a quality restaurant and the other provide visitors with a running commentary in various

languages. But they would destroy the beauty and serenity of the river; it is not a commercial waterway and there is already a lot of disturbance from punts. 85 05 07a

1985 07 25
Quayside will be transformed with new shops, office buildings, a restaurant and a café with tables spilling outside into the square. Magdalene College's planned development will change the face of one of the city's most important riverside sites. Punting and public rights of way will be retained as will the newly-created cantilevered walkway linking Bridge Street with Jesus Green. The design by Hughes and Bicknell and will be built in narrow two-inch red bricks to match those of the college. 85 07 25a

1986 06 18
A K-registered Ford Escort was found dangling from Clare College bridge. The vehicle came from a scrapyard but it remains a mystery how it got there. One theory is that it was brought down the Cam on punts then hoisted up and lashed into place with ropes and chains. The jolly jape brought laughter from river users but now the college is faced with removing it. They are seeking advice from King's who last year removed a Fiat that was 'parked' in the middle of the river on stilts 86 06 18c

1987 06 30
Tyrells Marina began in the 1950s as a company hiring out punts on the river. Gradually business has increased and for 25 years it has operated from premises in Bermuda Road where they sell a range of boats including inflatables, skiboats, sailboats and canoes. 87 06 30

1987 07 23
The Queen Mother became just another Cambridge tourist for a few moments – and won cheers from a waiting crowd. She paused on the famous Mathematical Bridge to wave to a convoy of four punts chained together as they passed gracefully along the Cam. She was visiting Queens' College to mark the restoration of the President's Lodge, the only half-timbered college building in Cambridge. Lunch – at a college which is now health-conscious in its cuisine – was melon and king prawns, then chicken and truffles. 87 07 23

1988 09 09
A 'park-and-float' scheme is being considered to beat traffic chaos in Cambridge. Commuters would park beside the river at Fen Ditton, Horningsea, Waterbeach or Clayhithe and take a river bus into the city, having breakfast en route and reading the morning newspapers. Meanwhile the Cam Conservators may appoint its own trouble-shooter patrolling from Byron's Pool to Bottisham Lock in a specially-adapted electric craft. He would crack down on unregistered punts and also clear rubbish and broken branches in a new drive against pollution. 88 09 09a

1988 12 15
The former Tivoli cinema building which opened on Chesterton Road in 1925 has been converted into 'The Exchange' with two large cocktail bars and a 120-seater restaurant. Later will come a basement gym, a punt landing stage and a roof garden restaurant with panoramic views over Jesus Green. Entertainment facilities include a huge electronic roll-down screen, the latest audio equipment and closed circuit television relaying film of the dance hall, But great care has been taken to preserve the distinctive atmosphere with plaster ceiling mouldings and a combination of rich dark and red wood 88 12 15a

The last day of the trams, 1914 *149.81*

c.26.44 : Trams

Note: many of the references come from two publications
[P]: Pennick, N. Trams in Cambridge. 1983
[Sw]: Swingle, S.L. The Cambridge Street Tramways. 1982

1888
Tramways Company announce record profits [Sw.14]

1888
Talk of steam tramway from Cambridge to Histon [P.10]

1890
Tramways Company dispute with Council over area of road they are to maintain [Sw.15]

1892
Tramways agree annual rental of £325 for 25 years for repair of road, confirmed in Cambridge Street Tramways Act [Sw.15]

1894
Tramways profits boosted by Royal Show held in Cambridge [Sw.15]

1895
Tramways propose viaduct road from Trumpington Road across meadows to Newnham [Sw.16]

1896

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

The Cambridge Omnibus Company introduce horse-buses on routes between Railway station, Chesterton Rd & Huntingdon Road; the Cambridge Street Tramway Company also start horse buses in opposition [S.1, Sw.17]

1897 03 04
Trams & buses, p2

1897 05 20
Watering tram lines, p3

1897 09 02
The meeting of the Cambridge Street Tramways Company were told that they had been very unfortunate with their horses. Two had been lost through death. Worse still - these troubles never came singly - they had had influenza right through the stables; but thanks to the veterinary surgeon they had no loss from that and the experts considered now that the horses were better for the influenza. If that were so they must be very different to human beings.

1898 02 22
Bus and tram assault, p3

1898 03 02
Tramways Company consider electrification of trams proposals by British Electric Traction Co., ask for new lease from Council who commission report [Sw.18,P16]]

1898 06 14
The Cambridge surveyor gave particulars of what the council propose to do to the roads. From Station Road to St Andrew's street it was proposed to lay Australian "Jarrah" hardwood blocks in the whole of the carriageway. These blocks would also be laid between the tramlines. In Corn Exchange Street the paving was now granite, very rough, large setts being used. They had been put down probably 30 or 40 years. It was now proposed to substitute the wood blocks.

1898 08 11
At the general meeting of shareholders of the Cambridge Omnibus Company there was no exuberant spirit of jubilation. In fact, the company seems to have fallen on bad times. Trading for the year had resulted in a very considerable loss. In September an unfortunate accident occurred to one of the company's vehicles, injuring several persons more or less severely. They had the misfortune to lose by death nine horses. One thing that had swelled the amount of loss was the state of the roads. It must be patent to everyone that the rooms were very destructive to the wheels, more particularly the main streets where there were tram lines.

1898 09 19
On Saturday morning the horses attached to a heavily laden Omnibus, going to Cambridge railway station, stopped short and refused to budge after drawing the vehicle right across the tramway. A tramcar was close behind, and was also full of country folk leaving to catch their trains and, of course, had to stop also. Full five minutes elapsed before the unruly steeds could be induced to resume their journey, during which period many of the passengers decided to alight and resume their journey on foot

1898 11 09
Sir - If it be true that the tramway company are anxious to adopt electric trams, I trust the council will be very careful not to allow our narrow and dangerous streets to be made still more

dangerous by unsightly overhead wires and posts, or by the death-trap known as the underground current. In these days of motor cars, buses etc it is unnecessary to pull up our roads again as surely a good service of motor omnibuses would answer every need. If not, why not adopt the system of gas trams? – A Ratepayer CDN 1898 11 09

1899
Valuable tram horse breaks leg because of tramrails, considerable problems caused by the lines in the road, further problems due to subsidence caused by new sewage works [Sw.17]

1899
Council apply for powers to municipalise Tramways Company, ratepayers reject proposal

1899 03 02
Next year the lease under which the Cambridge Tramways Company has the use of the streets expires. They have entered into negotiations with the British Electric Company for the sale of their undertakings. Subject to the Town Council giving its assent a sale has been arranged. They will introduce electric trams and considerably extend the present system of tram lines. 1899 03 02

1899 03 21
Weather of a wintry character was experienced in Cambridge when a heavy snowstorm of upwards of two hours duration entirely changed the aspect of things and everything is now wearing a mantle of snow, some to a depth of eight inches. The tramways were forced by the state of their lines to suspend their service and ordinary vehicular traffic was rendered extremely uncomfortable, if not dangerous. Corporation employees were soon dispatched in all directions with shovels, brooms and carts to clear the principal streets.

1899 11 02
Tram to Chesterton, p4

1900

1900
First fatal accident on tramway [Sw.19]

1900 09 12
The Cambridge Omnibus Company and the Tramways Company have entered into an arrangement whereby the Omnibus Company is to leave the whole of the trams route free for the Tramways Company. They in their turn will withdraw all their one-horse ‘buses, thus leaving to the Omnibus Company all parts of the town not covered by the tram lines. The arrangement comes into operation on Monday next 00 09 12 [Sw.18]

1900 10 06
Sir – I see that several shareholders of the Tramways Company suggest that small buses only should be allowed to run between Cherry Hinton and the Market. If it means that we are to fold and squeeze ourselves up like figs into the wretched boxes that we hoped had long since been turned into firewood the company has reckoned without their hosts. We have had enough of the stuffy snail-paced coffins and if the company can do no better we are ready to start a couple of rattling good two-horse buses of our own – G. Bland.

1900 12 24

A Corporation employee descended beneath the surface of the road in St Andrew's Street, Cambridge, with a candle in his hand and approached the gas main running under the tramlines. This pipe contained a leakage, and a quantity of gap was escaping. The flames of the candle caused the escaped gap to explode and flames shot up out of the cavity in an alarming manner. The employee arrived at the surface little the worse for his experience. Traffic was suspended for some time until the leakage was repaired.

1901 05 02
The annual meeting of the Cambridge branch of the R.S.P.C.A. heard that all the local secretaries were ladies - they were usually more tender-hearted than men. Newmarket had no subscribers; there were a lot of wealthy people there, and they were generally very generous. The speaker referred to the common habit of stopping a tram a few yards before it would be stopped in the ordinary course, and said much unnecessary work was thus given to the horses. People who would be horrified at the idea of cruelty do this in order to save themselves walking a few yards.

1901 05 13
While playing about on East Road, Cambridge, a two-year-old child was knocked down by a tram horse and run over by the vehicles, sustaining such injuries that she succumbed shortly after. The tram driver said that when he first saw the child she was about a yard from his tram. He applied his brake immediately but it was impossible to stop the heavy car before reaching her. The wheel went over her thigh and she was fearfully mangled about her limbs and lower body

1901 07 13
What say the shareholders of the Cambridge Tramways Company to the advent of a new service of motor buses working only from Market Hill to the Station – a penny service running from 8.30am to 9.30 pm. I have been assured by one of the promoters that the first of a batch of six new motor 'buses intended to be used on the new smooth road from the Post Office to the station will be tried in Cambridge within a month. It is certain such rivalry would destroy the present useful and satisfactory tram service – "A" CDN 1901 07 13

1902 01 24 c
An accident of somewhat curious character occurred in St Andrew's Street, Cambridge. A butcher's cart collided with a tram and the wheel of the cart went on to the platform of the tram. A mail van then collided with the tram and cart and for a while everything was in disorder. The vehicles were with difficulty separated without, fortunately, anyone being injured.

1902 07 09 c
At a sale at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge a terrace of three newly-erected villas upon the Cherryhinton Road was put up for auction. A hint was made about electric trams which it was hoped would shortly be in vogue and increase the value of such a property. At £1,125 the three villas were knocked down to Mr Goldsmith. Two dwelling houses in Catharine Street were sold for £160. The auctioneers stated they failed to see how such property could depreciate in value. Bidding for four cottages at Toft started at £7.10s. apiece and were eventually sold for £65

1902 09 03
At present owing to the long interval between the running of the trams thousands of people walk to and from Cambridge station who would gladly ride if they could do so without waiting longer than it would take to walk. Remarkable developments in electrical traction have been witnessed recently. The electric cars are speedy, clean and cheap but whether it would be possible to install in Cambridge a system of electric tramways depends upon a variety of considerations among which is the extreme narrowness of the streets and the appearance of wires to convey the current.

The electric tram with its two minute service and low fares has improved conditions in London and it is to be hoped its advantages will be extended to Cambridge. CDN 1902 09 03

1902 09 16 c
Sir – Many people have felt genuine concern at the announcement that the Cambridge Omnibus Company is to be "wound up". Huntingdon Road, Old and New Chesterton, Mill Road and the rapidly growing suburb of New Cherryhinton have all benefited by its service. It is regretted that in spite of the hundred the Company has conveyed daily, the venture does not pay. Their difficulty is the Tram Company's opportunity and they should arrange for a good suburban service of 'buses to run in conjunction with their cars – New Cherryhinton

1902 10 17
The manager of the Cambridge Tramways Company was summoned for damaging, injuring and spoiling the public convenience situated at Hyde Park Corner by scribbling on the woodwork with a pencil, thereby doing damage to the amount of 2s. After looking round to see if the custodian, Mr Thompson, was there he had scribbled "Thompson, old pig" on the woodwork.

1903 08 12
Tram fatality, p3

1903 09 02
Tramway & smallpox, p3

1903 11 06
Bus & tram, p4 *

1904 01 23
British Electric Traction abandon scheme, sell their tramways shares to Cambridge Electric Traction Syndicate public meeting debates proposed electrification of trams with lines to Chesterton, Romsey, Silver Street & along Backs, opposed due to overhead power lines & price, people would prefer motor buses [2.19, 3.2, 3.7 Sw.20]

1904 04 21
Cambridge Paving Committee received a memorial from a number of residents in the Hobson Street area calling attention to the present state of the carriage-way. They directed the Surveyor to report the cost of paving the street with wood blocks, together with the portion of St Andrew's Street from the tramway terminus. But Hobson Street was used by very few people; traffic was not half what it used to be and as the trams were likely to be electrified it would be better to wait. However a great amount of traffic came from Newmarket Road to the centre of town down King Street; very often there was a great block of traffic in Sussex Street because it was dangerous to go down Hobson Street where the pebbles were very uneven. Traffic went on dropping, and business went on dropping, simply because the street was so badly paved.

1904 09 15
A poorly-attended council meeting considered an offer from the Cambridge Electric Tramways Syndicate to electrify and extend the present tramway system. The overhead trolley system for running the cars would not to be employed in King's Parade without the consent of the council. But consultants say that the existing lines in Kings Parade should be abandoned & they cannot recommend new lines in the town centre because the narrowness of the streets would generate great opposition from residents. A new line should be laid in Silver Street but this is so narrow that the trams would take their turn with ordinary road traffic and keep to the left. There may be

some objection to a track down Queen's Road which has the character of a boulevard but this would not be disturbed by the working of the tramways. The busiest section would be Hills Road where trams would run at about 2 ¾ minute intervals. 04 09 15

1904 09 29
Trams editorial, p3 *

1904 10 12
Trams alternative, p3

1904 10 15
The apathetic manner with which the Cambridge public have received the important decision of the council in regard to tramways does not display that healthy interest in matters municipal which ought to prevail. The terms upon which the streets should be handed over to a private traction company were settled without keen controversy and public excitement. They were passed by a 'holiday' council and only one letter on the subject has since appeared in the press. This public indifference is difficult to explain. 1904 10 15

1904 11 09
Sir – while Cambridge is hesitating in what course should be adopted with regard to the tramway system two of the London bus companies have adopted motor traction. It is strange that after all the progress made by the petrol engine that one has adopted steam. The difficulties for a good petrol bus are many as frequent stopping and starting is required with much changing of gear. The steam bus has many advantages as any variation of speed is got by merely turning on more or less steam. Electric buses are out of the question as the batteries are too heavy and will only travel about 40 miles on one charge. The overhead electric trolley system disfigures the street by the overhead wires but can be relied upon and with ornamental trolley poles they do not look half as bad as it is made out – C. North, Cambridge. 04 11 09

1904 12 10
The latest development in street traction comes from Perth where the council is to experiment with a petrol motor tram car on the ordinary tram lines. This is the first such vehicle to be built in this country and great things are anticipated from it. It might be worth considering by the Cambridge Corporation along with another invention: a motor fire engine with a high-pressure pump equal to an ordinary London Brigade steamer that also carries a fire escape. Built by Messrs Merryweather is it specially valuable for areas where horses are not always immediately available for drawing a steam engine to a fire

1905 02 09
In the light of recent developments of the motor bus, Cambridge people must feel devoutly thankful for the failure of the proposed electric tramway scheme. When it was proposed we felt compelled to protest against the introduction of an ugly and cumbersome system, totally unfitted to our narrow and crowded streets. We advised the provision of 'motor buses and the gradual abolition of even those tramlines which exist at present. The great objection to the motor 'bus was that it was only in an experimental stage but now the London trials show they stand out as the road vehicle of the future. Railway companies are adopting them as 'feeders' instead of constructing additional branch lines or light railroads. We do not think anyone would seriously argue that an electric tram system would be preferable to an efficient motor 'bus service for Cambridge. 05 02 09

1905 02 16

Public interest in growing in the development of the motor omnibus service. The most recent improvements in construction largely obviate noise and other inconveniences. The cars travel smoothly, pick their way through traffic with ease and are amenable to all the controls essential in crowded streets. Unlike the tramways it involves no expense of electric installation, no overhead wires or underground conduit and may thread its way among vehicles of all sorts without led or hindrance. Village travellers may shortly see the carriers' carts which have laboured up the hill roads for generations replaced by a swift locomotion which will make the remotest hamlet seem no more than a suburb of the market town 05 02 16

1905 04 08
The Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company has been formed. It is nowadays essential for the business of the town to have a convenient and quick means of transit and the omnibuses will be appreciated by the public and become a source of income to the shareholders. With eight vehicles it will be quite easy to maintain a 15-minute service from Chesterton and the Huntingdon Road to the centre of town and a seven-minute service to the railway station. Should these prove successful it will be extended to outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton. There is little doubt that horse traction for omnibuses and tramcars will shortly be superseded by petrol and electricity. 05 04 08a

1905 04 17
The arrival of the motor buses does not appear to be disturbing the Cambridge Tramway Company who are about to introduce a better service on the Post Office – Station Road route by constructing an extra loop line. So many made bus rides 'for the fun of the thing' that the trams gave many on business bent their only opportunity for quicker transit to and from the station. The conditions will change when 'abnormal' passengers on the buses have been reduced and those whose object is facility in travelling and not amusement will have unrestricted access to the automobiles. 05 04 17a

1905 04 20
Cambridge Street Tramways Company have determined to improve their service by constructing an extra passing loop in St Andrew's Street opposite Emmanuel College to enable them to double the number of trams on that route. But no cart would be able to pass if two trams were standing together and there was already a great deal of traffic at the dangerous corner with Downing Street. There was talk of some 20 motor 'buses and if so it was unlikely whether any other traffic would venture in the streets at all 05 04 20c

1905 04 22
Not a week ago motor 'buses commenced running in Cambridge and already there is a smart skit upon the horse trams on sale in the form of a picture postcard. The artist has used his talent to depict a tram, a woe-begone vehicle, harnessed to an antique horse which is fit only for the knacker's yard. There is one solitary passenger. With humorous impertinence he has dubbed it "A bit of old Cambridge" 05 04 22d

1905 05 07
The motor 'bus has now passed the experimental stage and is likely to supersede electric traction in towns such as Cambridge. 'Motorbustle' is the new word invented by a gentleman on Westminster Bridge. He was going to Peckham and a friend supposed he would travel by the electric tramcar. "No I am I in hurry, so I shall motorbustle" he said as he stepped into the 'Times' motor omnibus. It is a handy word expressive of the latest locomotion and the modern need for quick movement.

1905 07 25
A bus driver employed by the Cambridge Town and University Motor Omnibus Company was summoned after an accident with a tram. He had tried to overtake a trolley when one of his mudguards touched the tram's front handrail. The collision caused the tram to leave the line and go to the other side of the road. He claimed he could have got through but the tram horse had become frightened at the noise of the bus and quickened its pace; he had seen the horse 'dance about' on several occasions. But magistrates said the bus driver had been too anxious to pass; the state of the roads necessitated the greatest care and patience. 05 07 25a

1905 09 19
Tram company a/m, p3

1905 10 23
Because a hundred years ago Horatio Nelson won the Battle of Trafalgar, the youths of Cambridge, University and town, united in a 'rag' in which the destruction of property was a necessary element. Two constables were mauled by the mob, one at the Parsonage Street fire and the other at the Park Parade fire, but are little the worse for the rough handling they received. A tram was stormed by a large number of undergraduates; dozens of them clambered on to the vehicle until it was a black mass of struggling beings. But despite the heavy load the horse managed to crawl along. 05 10 23b-c

1906 02 22
In 1901 an agreement was made with Emmanuel College for the closing of Emmanuel Street and the opening of a new one nearer Christ's Lane. It had been needed when electric trams were being planned to remedy a dangerous corner with St Andrew's Street – but there would be a more dangerous corner to the proposed new street. Now some councillors called for the agreement to be cancelled. However the council had entered a binding contract and they were honour-bound to carry it out.06 02 22a,b,c

1906 03 03
Trams, p4

1906 04 07
The motor omnibus has now had a fair trial on the streets of London and has shown its worth despite more vibration, noise and smell than the electric tramcar. It is quicker and subject to less obstruction than a vehicle on rails. The liability to fire, the unpleasant smell and noise are receiving the attention of engineers and the future prospect is that the 'Mobus' will become assistants and feeders to all classes of rail vehicles. 06 05 07a

1906 09 20
Trams v buses, p3

1906 10 20
A remarkable event happened in Cambridge the other day. Put on its mettle, no doubt, by the performance of the motor 'buses, a tram horse, determined to show that it could go, and ran away at quite a terrifying pace along King's Parade. The petrol 'buses will have to look to their laurels when acetylene horses begin to show their true powers like this. 06 10 20

1907 02 16
When the hook attaching a horse to one of the Cambridge tram cars broke the animal dashed down the street at a furious pace, leaving the tram in the road. The horse, frightened by the

clanking iron it was dragging, escaped a collision with a cart coming in the opposite direction, Near Sidney College it fell and before it could resume its career a scavenger had it in his grip and its period of liberty was at an end. No damage was done to anything except the prestige of the Tram Company. 07 02 16b

1907 05 03
Trinity Hall undergraduates have subscribed £6 3s. towards the fund for repairing the damage done to Mr Glasscock's cab on the night of the visit of Kier Hardy to Cambridge. It was smashed beyond repair but as vehicle was not covered by the Riot Damages Act he had no compensation for the loss sustained. At the commencement of term the News published the facts, calling the attention of undergraduates to the heavy loss they had caused and inviting them to put the matter right. 07 05 03

1908 01 10
Josiah Chater came to Cambridge in 1843 as a clerk to Mr W. Eaden Lilley and commenced business as an accountant in 1850. He was a Director of the Cambridge Permanent Building Society and General Cemetery Company and secretary of the YMCA and Cambridge Street Tramways Company. He was one of the best-known and most-respected men in town. 08 01 10d

1908 02 15
'Honest John' Burford embarked in the business of manufacturing perambulators and hard cash rolled into keep him in comfort. After he retired from the profitable premises in Trumpington Street his energy demanded an outlet which it found in public work. He was a Guardian of the Poor, Town Councillor, a keen supporter of Temperance, Sturton Town Liberals and the Salvation Army. But his chief hobby was the Cambridge Tramways Company; no company ever had a more devoted Director who worked hard for the dividends of the shareholder. Cambridge is the poorer because of his death but richer because of his life, said the Mayor. 08 02 15 & a & b

1908 09 18
One of the Cambridge Street Tramways Company's horses was injured in an accident. Walter Morley was driving towards the station when his horse fell down and swerved across the road. At the same time Robert Surtees was approaching in his motor car (no.Y826). He was unable to pull his car up successfully and inflicted a cut on the near side eye of the animal CWN 08 09 18 p5

1908 09 25
Cambridge Street Tramways' income from fares was down because of the competition from motor buses. If they had more passing places they could increase the number of trams. But the Corporation refused on the ground of excessive traffic and then granted four more licences to run great, unwieldy motor buses up and down the streets. But unlike their competitors the trams had to pay £325 a year towards the upkeep of the roads. CWN 08 09 25 p3

1909 07 10
Completion of tram stop in St Andrews Street blocks traffic [3.9]

1910

1912 09 27
Tramways Company complain at costs of maintaining track, defaults on payments to Council for maintenance of roads [Sw.23] – 12 09 27h

1913 03 07

Street Tramways meeting – decline 13 03 07 p9 CIP

1913 03 14
Lacons brewers applied for the renewal of the licence for the Turnstile on East Road. This was a small cottage before it became a licensed house. It had been in the same family for over 40 years and the tenant, James Hobbs was anxious to continue. The pub was near the tram terminus and when people were waiting for the trams they did so in his house. He got a good lot of customers and sold a good deal of wine. 13 03 14 p8 CIP

1913 05 16
Council – tramways closure foreshadowed

1913 09 05
Cambridge Street Tramways Company has reported a loss of revenue. The reason is obvious: it is the terribly slow rate at which the trams travel - it is almost as quick to walk. Horse trams were all right years ago when there were no motor buses, but their day has long past. London has a new tram with a petrol-driven engine under the stairs connected with a dynamo which drives an electric motor. Its acceleration is slower and it cannot pull up so quickly but this would not concern us here in Cambridge. 13 09 05 p4 CIP

1913 09 26
Cambridge Street Tramways Company owed a considerable amount to the Council for the repair of the road. It was a large amount and was rising week by week. The only thing was to present a petition to wind-up the company 13 09 26 p7 CIP

1913 10 24
Cambridge Tramways future – long report 13 10 24 p10 CIP

1913 12 19
The existing horse tram service was absolutely obsolete and should be wound up, councillors were told. Under the Cambridge Tramways Act of 1879 the Corporation had laid out the roads with the tracks and expected to recover £325 a year from the Company. But they now had no money to pay and no balance in hand. The cost of taking up the rails and making good the road would not be less than £2,550. (Sensation). From this was to be deducted about £750, the value of the rails. But the moment the rails were up the road would become a main road and the County would have to pay for its maintenance. 13 12 19 p7 CIP

1914 01 09
Tramway Company's Stern Struggle.—When the Cambridge horse trams cease to run not a few of the town and county will lament the closing down of a Company which has for over 20 years struggled hard against overpowering opposition to maintain a service of conveyance. None will deny that the horse-drawn tram today is as out-of-date as it is rare, but it is well to recollect that at the time of their introduction they were hailed as a "boon and a blessing" by all classes. Despite keen competition - they have seen the decease of three horse bus companies and one motor bus company - the Transport Co. have managed to survive until now and the management for 34 years have carried out their by no means easy task with commendable consideration for the interests of the shareholders and the convenience of the general public 14 01 09 CIPof

1914 02 06
Trams winding up petition granted – increasing number of motor buses hit passenger numbers, cost of maintaining roads – 14 02 06m, n

1914 02 13
Effects to be Sold. Within a week, the street tramway cars which had been a feature of Cambridge for 30 years will have ceased to run. Auctioneers have received instructions from the Official Receiver to sell the whole of the effects of the Cambridge Street Tramways Company, which has been compulsorily wound up on the application of the Cambridge Corporation. The sale will take place at the Company's headquarters, East Road, at noon on Friday next. On inquiry yesterday a Press representative was informed that the date on which the trams will cease to run will be announced within a few days, but it is probable that Wednesday next will be the last day of running. The effects for sale include 24 draught horses, 8 tramway cars (4ft. gauge), including six-double-deck cars to carry 18 persons inside, and 22 to 25 outside, two single-deck cars to carry 18 persons inside, 10 sets of harness, a Crossley 2 h.p. engine and oat-crushing machines etc. 14 02 13 CIPof

1914 02 13
David Reader is one of the oldest servants of the Cambridge Street Tramways Company by whom he has been employed since 1888 until recently, when ill-health compelled him to relinquish his duties. Prior to coming to Cambridge he drove horse trams in London between Stamford Hill and Holborn. Only one driver has served the Company longer, Mr E. Skinner. Another old servant is Harry Willis, the horse keeper 14 02 13

1914 02 18
Cambridge Street Tramways Company go into liquidation, last trams have notices urging people to let their children ride so they would remember them; last journey 18th February, undergraduates in mourning attire escort last tram to depot chanting funeral dirge; stock sold by auction, trams £10 each [3.4, 3.5,6.1]

Mr Ben Sharpe, who drove the last Cambridge horse tram, has died aged 86. It was on 18th February 1914 that he took a single-decker tram on its last ceremonial journey from its East Road depot to King's Parade. Within the year public transport was motorised and most of the men who had manned the horse trams were in France with the British Expeditionary Force. Mr Sharp served with the Cambridgeshire Regiment and was both wounded and gassed. Afterwards he worked for the Ortona Omnibus Company and later Eastern National operating between Cambridge and Bedford. 81 07 20

1914 02 20
The end of the trams – 14 02 20, 14 02 20c-e [see Memories 24 February 2014]

1914 02 27
Sale of tram cars – 14 02 27d

1914 02 27
Tram Company staff photo - 14 02 27j

1914 03 20
The Official Receiver's report on the Cambridge Street Tramways Company shows they were obliged to repair and maintain the road where the tramways were laid. In 1892 the Council had agreed to do this on payment of £367 per annum. But the company failed to pay in 1912 claiming their receipts had been greatly reduced by the motor omnibuses the council had licensed. They'd also prevented them employing mechanical traction in place of horses. 14 03 20i

1914 04 03
Tramways Company winding up meeting of contributors – 14 04 03e

1914 06 26
Tram lines removal p7

1914 12 18
Tramways end litigation 14 12 18

1915 03 20
Tram lines removed from junction East Road/Mill Road, granite setts replaced with Macadam surface [49.62.1.9]

1915 04 23
Tramways Company proceedings completed, assets paid Corporation; value of rails £2,316 but considerable cost making good roads 15 04 23 p4

1918 05 29
Tram line removal necessary as were becoming dangerous except in King's Parade and past the side of Gt St Mary's – 18 05 29a

1920

1923 11 19
The Cambridge undergraduates have once more been the source of innocent amusement. The "rag" consisted in the purchase of one of the old 4- wheeled tram cars that used in bygone days to be both a convenience and an adornment to the streets of Cambridge. On Saturday when it was expected that the tram would be towed in state through Cambridge streets the authorities were alarmed by the appearance of numbers undergraduates outside the yard where the tram was stored. At this moment another tram made its appearance, a tram of Lilliputian dimensions, towed with steady ropes by a happy band of undergraduates. The miniature car was solemnly dragged into the centre of town and along old tram lines, which have for many years or so useless a feature in King's Parade 23 11 19

1924 01 22
Councillor Gentle raised the question of the removal of the tram rails along King's Parade and Trumpington Street, Cambridge. He had had complaints, and their removal would give employment. Alderman Stanley said that if one was cycling along the Parade the rails made it most dangerous. The reason they were not taken up was because King's Parade was a new round, and it would be a waste of money to do it now. They desired to wait until the road needed substantial repair and then do the work 24 01 22

1927 10 22
Last stretch of tram lines removed from St Mary's Street [3.6]

1930 05 03
Tram photo, p8

1931 03 20
Tram lines, p9

1933 11 08
Old Cambridge tram photo – 33 11 08

1937 08 27
Drivers and staff of Street Tramway Company – photo – 37 08 27

1957 01 19
Trams memories – sold by Gray, picture by J.W. Rignall - 57 01 19

1961 07 18
Haddenham Bowls Club, believed to be the first in the Isle of Ely, celebrated their Diamond Jubilee with a match against the County Bowling Association's Executive. Founded in 1911, their first pavilion was an old Cambridge tram. Today they have facilities which would do justice to many larger clubs. They have provided several county players and represented Cambridgeshire in the National Championships 61 07 18

1964 02 21
Cambridge tram history by Robin Cox – 64 02 21a

1980 10 23
Celebrate centenary of trams - little attention [7.2]

1981 07 20
Mr Ben Sharpe, who drove the last Cambridge horse tram, has died aged 86. It was on 18th February 1914 that he took a single-decker tram on its last ceremonial journey from its East Road depot to King's Parade. Within the year public transport was motorised and most of the men who had manned the horse trams were in France with the British Expeditionary Force. Mr Sharp served with the Cambridgeshire Regiment and was both wounded and gassed. Afterwards he worked for the Ortona Omnibus Company and later Eastern National operating between Cambridge and Bedford. 81 07 20

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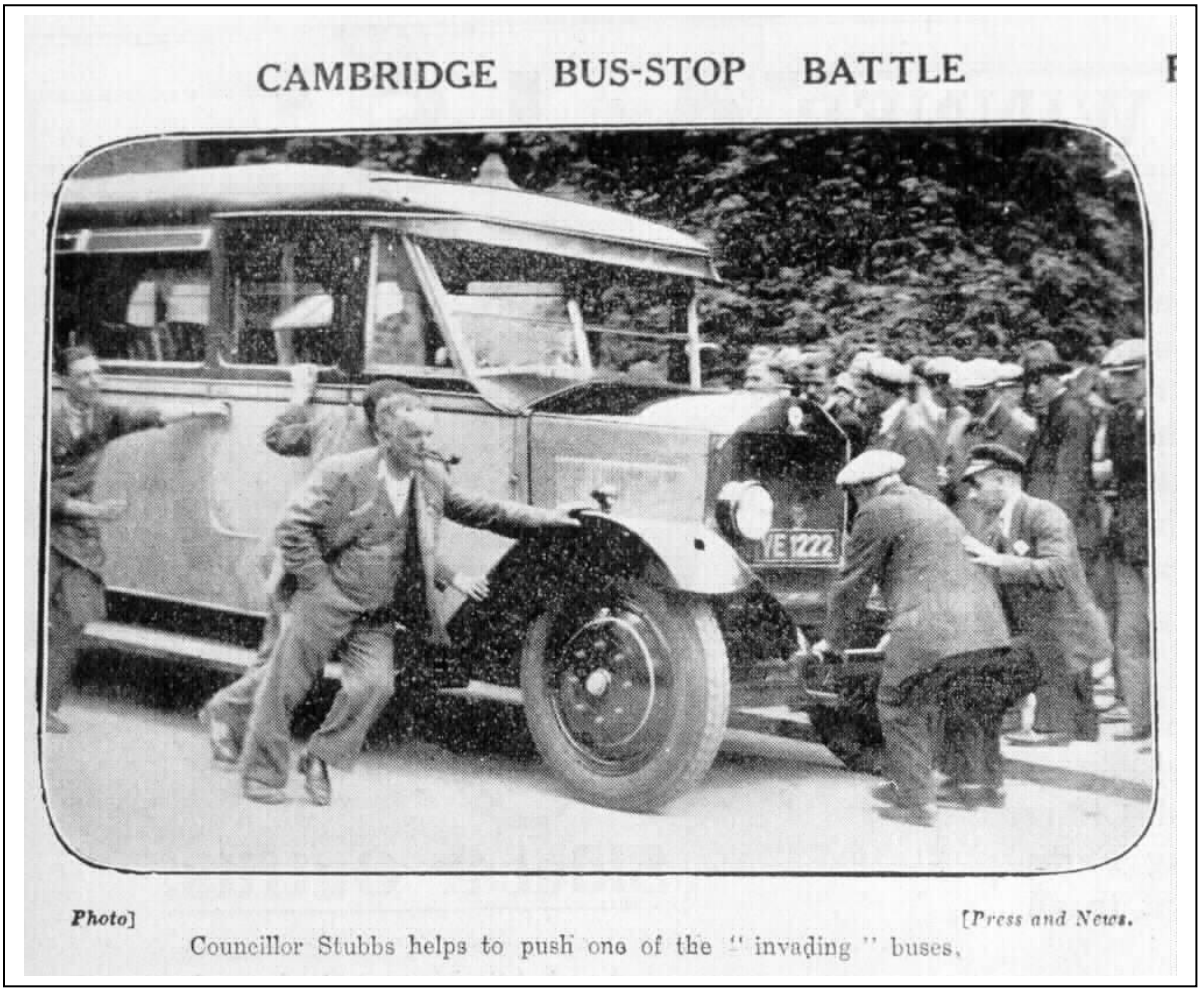

Opposition to parking of buses in Drummer Street *64.05*

c.26.46 : Buses

Note
I took some of the notes from
N. Pennick. Trams in Cambridge. Electric Traction Publications, 1983 - [P]
M. Seal. Cambridge buses. Oleander Press, 1978 - [S.2]
S. Swingle. Cambridge Street Tramways. Iakwood Press, 1972 - [Sw]
Richard Haughey – [RH]

Background
In August 1851 the first horse buses appeared, double deckers drawn by four horses which ran between Cambridge & Shepreth where they connected with trains from Kings Cross; however in 1852 the railway line was extended to Cambridge & the buses withdrawn. 1878 plans for horse drawn trams announced, 2 companies each called Cambridge Tramways Co. submit schemes.

1879 The Cambridge Street Tramways Company was formed & in 1880 the service opened & enjoyed a monopoly of the public transport scene. Tramsheds were opened in East Road in 1881

John Leverington was Ortona bus driver in 1920s – memories – 86 07 10b

History of motor buses – feature article by Robin Cox – 65 06 04c

1896
The Cambridge Omnibus Company introduce horse-buses on routes between Railway station, Chesterton Rd & Huntingdon Road; the Cambridge Street Tramway Company also start horse buses in opposition [S.1, Sw.17]

1897
Horse flu epidemic hits both Tramways & horse buses [P.15]

1897 12 22
Cambridge Omnibus Company were sued for damages sustained in an accident of September 25th in Emmanuel Lane, Cambridge. The omnibus in question was licenced to carry 12 passengers inside and 14 outside. On the day in point there were no less than 23 outside, an excessive weight of more than half a ton and in consequence the vehicle swayed. In Emmanuel Lane there was a cart standing on the left side of the road causing the 'bus to move to the right when the hind off-wheel of the omnibus went sharply against the kerb and immediately collapsed like a pack of cards and all those unfortunate passengers were thrown to the ground. Some of the passengers were shot into a solicitor's office 1897 12 22

1898 08 11
At the general meeting of shareholders of the Cambridge Omnibus Company there was no exuberant spirit of jubilation. In fact, the company seems to have fallen on bad times. Trading for the year had resulted in a very considerable loss. In September an unfortunate accident occurred to one of the company's vehicles, injuring several persons more or less severely. They had the misfortune to lose by death nine horses. One thing that had swelled the amount of loss was the state of the roads. It must be patent to everyone that the rooms were very destructive to the wheels, more particularly the main streets where there were tram lines 1898 08 11

1899 08 26
The annual meeting of the Cambridge Bus Company was told they had taken £500 more than last year, and £400 more in d. fares. Shareholders must bear in mind that the year before they had a loss of £1,563 of which about £1,100 was due to losses in consequence of accidents. All must admit that the Company had gained more of the confidence of the public, and the natural outcome would be increased prosperity in the future 1899 08 26

1900

1900 09 14
The Cambridge Omnibus Company and the Tramways Company have entered into an arrangement whereby the Omnibus Company is to leave the whole of the trams route free for the Tramways Company. They in their turn will withdraw all their one-horse ‘buses, thus leaving to the Omnibus Company all parts of the town not covered by the tram lines. The arrangement comes into operation on Monday next c00 09 14 [Sw.18]

1900 04 21
A serious bus accident happened in Mill Road, Cambridge. The omnibus was waiting for passengers opposite the Royal Standard public house and while the driver was talking on the path, the horses for some unknown reason bolted. The driver and conductor immediately ran after the horses, but were unable to catch them. Two passengers named Annie & Frances Scull, who were on the top of the 'bus jumped off. When the bus was about to pass the Durham Ox it collided with a market cart belonging to Jonas Wilmott, carrier of Orwell and then another cart in charge of Eli Newman, a hawker, of Bottisham CDN 1900 04 21

1901 07 13
What say the shareholders of the Cambridge Tramways Company to the advent of a new service of motor buses working only from Market Hill to the Station – a penny service running from 8.30am to 9.30 pm. I have been assured by one of the promoters that the first of a batch of six new motor 'buses intended to be used on the new smooth road from the Post Office to the station will be tried in Cambridge within a month. It is certain such rivalry would destroy the present useful and satisfactory tram service – "A" CDN 1901 07 13

1902 08 06
Popular Country Drives. The "Alexandra" and "Coronation" char-a-bancs will leave Cambridge Market Hill on Wednesday for Shelford, Newton and Whittlesford; return fare 1s. Thursday special drive to Royston, Friday Haslingfield and Saturday Earith bridge. Special Sunday drive to Whittlesford Bridge pleasure gardens. H. Buck, jobmaster, Crown Inn, Jesus Lane, Cambridge – advert CDN 1902 08 06

1902 09 16
The news that it has been decided to wind up the business of the Cambridge Omnibus Company will be received with a great deal of regret. If they cease running they will be very seriously missed. Many employees in shops and offices now live so far from their places of employment that without the benefit of the omnibuses it would be a serious tax on their strength to get to and from their homes in the hour usually allowed for dinner. The distance of the remoter parts of the town from the station will be a serious disadvantage to residents and lead to depreciation in the value of property. CDN 1902 09 16

1902 09 16 c
Sir – Many people have felt genuine concern at the announcement that the Cambridge Omnibus Company is to be "wound up". Huntingdon Road, Old and New Chesterton, Mill Road and the rapidly growing suburb of New Cherryhinton have all benefited by its service. It is regretted that in spite of the hundred the Company has conveyed daily, the venture does not pay. Their difficulty is the Tram Company's opportunity and they should arrange for a good suburban service of 'buses to run in conjunction with their cars – New Cherryhinton c02 09 16

1902 10 01
It was a foregone conclusion that the business of the Cambridge Omnibus Company should be wound up. It was finally agreed to endeavour to dispose of it as a going concern and we are still convinced that under thoroughly effective management the business could be conducted at a profit. In the statement of company assets the horses were valued at £16 apiece but within three weeks their condition had changed considerably for the worse and the average is now about £6. The most valuable assets of the Company had been allowed to become seriously depreciated at a time when the Directors knew that to continue the business was impossible. This is one of the "glaring mistakes" which have been made CDN 1902 10 01

1902 11 20
Unfortunately the Cambridge Omnibus Company have been unable to find a purchaser for their business as a going concern and their horses, omnibuses etc had to be sold at their stables in Chesterton Road. A two-horse omnibus to carry 26 passengers fitted with garden seats on the top sold for 20 guineas. Buses by the 'Star Omnibus Company' were not in such good condition and realised £10 while others went for as low a sum as £4.10s. The one-horse 'buses did not sell for much but a four-horse charabanc, "The Cambridge Belle" sold for 62 guineas to Mr Ellis Merry. Prices for horses dropped to as low as three guineas. CDN 1902 11 20

1902 11 26
The new motor omnibuses which are being constructed for the London streets promise well. If they fulfil what is claimed for them they will beyond question be a great boon. They are capable of speeds up to fourteen miles an hour and Cambridge people will heartily wish some speculative philanthropists would put two or three such vehicles on our roads. The old omnibus company is being sorely missed, especially by people living in the suburbs; the old familiar vehicles, unsatisfactory as they were, were yet better than nothing CDN 1902 11 26

1902 12 13
A meeting of residents in St John's Ward, Cherry Hinton considered what support could be given to a scheme for running a line of omnibuses into Cambridge. Now buses had been taken off the road the value of their property would depreciate and the new houses being built would not be let readily as people would not come down that end of Cambridge if there were no buses. There was a possibility of their finding sufficient money to run a line of buses themselves if 15 people put £10 each into the concern CDN 1902 12 13

1904
British Electric Traction abandon scheme, sell their tramways shares to Cambridge Electric Traction Syndicate public meeting debates proposed electrification of trams with lines to Chesterton, Romsey, Silver Street & along Backs, opposed due to overhead power lines & price, people would prefer motor buses [2.19, 3.2, Sw.20]

1904 03 16
A meeting of Cambridge Omnibus Company shareholders was convened to receive the Liquidator's accounts, showing the manner in which the winding up of the Company has been conducted. It had been impossible to sell the business as a going concern. The livestock and machinery were sold by auction for £768 but there was still a considerable deficiency. Not a single shareholder attended the meeting and the Board of Trade will be contacted to sanction the destruction of the company's books and the Liquidator's accounts. – 04 03 16

1904 09 15
A poorly-attended council meeting considered an offer from the Cambridge Electric Tramways Syndicate to electrify and extend the present tramway system. The overhead trolley system for running the cars would not to be employed in King's Parade without the consent of the council. But consultants say that the existing lines in Kings Parade should be abandoned & they cannot recommend new lines in the town centre because the narrowness of the streets would generate great opposition from residents. A new line should be laid in Silver Street but this is so narrow that the trams would take their turn with ordinary road traffic and keep to the left. There may be some objection to a track down Queen's Road which has the character of a boulevard but this would not be disturbed by the working of the tramways. The busiest section would be Hills Road where trams would run at about 2¾ minute intervals. 04 09 15

1904 11 10
Sir – while Cambridge is hesitating in what course should be adopted with regard to the tramway system two of the London bus companies have adopted motor traction. It is strange that after all the progress made by the petrol engine that one has adopted steam. The difficulties for a good petrol bus are many as frequent stopping and starting is required with much changing of gear. The steam bus has many advantages as any variation of speed is got by merely turning on more or less steam. Electric buses are out of the question as the batteries are too heavy and will only travel about 40 miles on one charge. The overhead electric trolley system disfigures the street by the overhead wires but can be relied upon and with ornamental trolley poles they do not look half as bad as it is made out – C. North, Cambridge. 04 11 10

1905 05 23
motor buses start : 2 companies formed to compete for passengers: Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company & Cambridge Town & University Motor Omnibus Company; 2,000 carried on first day but within week a postcard is issued depicting buses running over dogs & knocking down lampposts; Cambridge Town & University Company wound up [2.20, 2.21, S.4]

1905 02 16
Public interest in growing in the development of the motor omnibus service. The most recent improvements in construction largely obviate noise and other inconveniences. The cars travel smoothly, pick their way through traffic with ease and are amenable to all the controls essential in crowded streets. Unlike the tramways it involves no expense of electric installation, no overhead wires or underground conduit and may thread its way among vehicles of all sorts without led or hindrance. Village travellers may shortly see the carriers' carts which have laboured up the hill roads for generations replaced by a swift locomotion which will make the remotest hamlet seem no more than a suburb of the market town. 05 02 16

1905 03 10
A company is being formed to provide a service of motor 'buses for Cambridge. Eight 'buses will be put down at first by which it is hoped to run a 15 minutes' service from Chesterton, another from the Huntingdon road district to the centre of town and a seven minutes' service to the railway station. Should the venture prove successful the more outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton will be catered for 05 03 10

1905 04 08
The Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company has been formed. It is nowadays essential for the business of the town to have a convenient and quick means of transit and the omnibuses will be appreciated by the public and become a source of income to the shareholders. With eight vehicles it will be quite easy to maintain a 15-minute service from Chesterton and the Huntingdon Road to the centre of town and a seven-minute service to the railway station. Should these prove successful it will be extended to outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton. There is little doubt that horse traction for omnibuses and tramcars will shortly be superseded by petrol and electricity. 05 04 08a

1905 04 10
A keen struggle is to be witnessed in Cambridge for the privilege of conveying people by means of that modern convenience, the motor omnibus. On Saturday the prospectus of the Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company made its appearance and today we carry one for another company, the Cambridge University and Town Motor Omnibus Company. They hope to have their first bus on the streets soon. Owing to the boom in buses there is difficulty in securing these vehicles but they

have five chassis (the working parts) and the coach work is being pushed forward as quickly as possible 05 04 10c

1905 04 14
The battle of the 'buses in Cambridge commences in real earnest. The 'bus armies are known as the Motor Omnibus Company Ltd and the Cambridge University and Town Motor Omnibus Company Ltd and will battle on practically even terms. They are of different manufacture, the first by Thorneycroft will accommodate 32 passengers, 14 inside and 18 out. Its body is dark blue with yellow decoration. The other is the Straker-Squire type, painted Cambridge blue. Both are driven by petrol, have non-slipping tyres and upholstered with spring cushions inside and seats like light garden chairs outside. 05 04 14d&e

1905 04 15
The rival Cambridge buses ran trial trips round the town to demonstrate the suitability of this form of traction and both were eminently successful. The Thorneycroft's hill-climbing capacities were tested on Castle Hill and seemed to present no difficulties except a decrease in speed; the Straker-Squire passed with the greatest ease. Both naturally created somewhat of a sensation in the streets and the way they threaded their way in and out of the busy traffic excited much admiration. They were under perfect control and could pass through traffic where a horsed vehicle would have to wait its turn. 05 04 15

1905 04 15
Both Cambridge buses started to ply for hire and the novelty induced people to make trips. Had several more 'buses been running they would have been crowded. The scene on Market Hill was unprecedented. Apart from those who lined one pavement in the hope of obtaining a seat it was alive with folk who were content with watching. As soon as a vehicle drew up a crowd swarmed around the steps, clutching the handrail and endeavouring to get a foothold on the step. Each time there were many left waiting on the pavement disappointed and most waited until it returned. 05 04 15 & a

1905 04 17
The new Cambridge buses have experienced their first small accident. The 'Light Blue' was slowing down in St Andrew's Street and drew up close to the kerb in order to take in a passenger. The incline of the road naturally caused a slight tilt of the bus and as the cradles of the street lamps project over the road the two met with the result that the top of the lamp was bent and a pane of glass smashed. 05 04 17a

1905 04 17
The arrival of the motor buses does not appear to be disturbing the Cambridge Tramway Company who are about to introduce a better service on the Post Office – Station Road route by constructing an extra loop line. So many made bus rides 'for the fun of the thing' that the trams gave many on business bent their only opportunity for quicker transit to and from the station. The conditions will change when 'abnormal' passengers on the buses have been reduced and those whose object is facility in travelling and not amusement will have unrestricted access to the automobiles. 05 04 17a

1905 05 26
Chesterton residents will be glad to see the inauguration of a new motor 'bus service by the 'Light Blue' company. Special arrangements have been made for the convenience of residents intending to travel to London by the early morning train. The 'bus will leave Old Chesterton Green at 8.25 and run through to the station in time for the 8.53 train. It will also run as

frequently as possible between one and two-thirty for the convenience of residents employed in Cambridge who go to the suburbs for their midday meal 05 05 26

1905 06 15
Almost before Cambridge has had time to recover from the shock of the Fen Ditton ferry tragedy another sad fatality has occurred. A conductor employed by the Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company was on the front of the vehicle talking to the driver when another bus passed. He leant out to shout something to it, hanging on to the handrail when his head struck a lamppost. He was thrown underneath the 'bus and one of the hind wheels crashed over his head, which was battered out of recognition. 05 06 15a (& others)

1905 06 16
Sir – whilst regretting the shocking death of the bus conductor it must be said that my company, the Cambridge University and Town Motor Omnibus Company (the 'Light Blue') have carried 68,000 passengers in the last two months without a single accident having been reported to me – James Hammond, Manager. 05 06 16

1905 07 01
The 'Light Blue' bus was chartered to take 20 King's College men to Hunstanton and back. The driver sent telegrams reporting their progress. The bus departed at 6.40 and reached at Ely at 7.50 where the party breakfasted before finally arriving at 2.20 in the afternoon. The return journey commenced at 4 pm and the passengers were safely landed in Cambridge just before eleven. All agreed the trip was successful: the roads were perfect, the scenery appreciated and only one light shower fell. The bus pulled well and travelled the 120 miles without the slightest hitch. 05 07 01a

1905 07 25
A bus driver employed by the Cambridge Town and University Motor Omnibus Company was summoned after an accident with a tram. He had tried to overtake a trolley when one of his mudguards touched the tram's front handrail. The collision caused the tram to leave the line and go to the other side of the road. He claimed he could have got through but the tram horse had become frightened at the noise of the bus and quickened its pace; he had seen the horse 'dance about' on several occasions. But magistrates said the bus driver had been too anxious to pass; the state of the roads necessitated the greatest care and patience. 05 07 25a

1905 08 01
A Cambridge motorist was summoned for driving a motor omnibus without having a hackney carriage driver's licence. PC Wade said the bus, carrying passengers, was driven on to the pavement, damaging a lamp and flagstones. The driver said he lost control as it was not the same gear he was used to. It was the usual practice to try a man before applying for a licence and he was being taught to steer under the supervision of a qualified person. He was fined 5s.05 08 01

1905 08 19
Sir – the present motor buses are exceedingly disappointing. They are far too cumbrous and top heavy; in the narrow streets people on the paths run the risk of being struck by the projecting bodies. In damp or frosty weather the top heaviness may cause the wheels to skid and one fears the consequences should one overturn. They are very noisy and the stench from the oil is intolerable – in fact the streets are contaminated all day long with the disgusting effluvia – 'Ratepayer' 05 08 19

1906

Magistrates refuse to relicense buses, the experiment ends. Mr Buck of Chesterton operates horse-bus from Chesterton [S.8]

1906 05 07
The motor omnibus has now had a fair trial on the streets of London and has shown its worth despite more vibration, noise and smell than the electric tramcar. It is quicker and subject to less obstruction than a vehicle on rails. The liability to fire, the unpleasant smell and noise are receiving the attention of engineers and the future prospect is that the 'Mobus' will become assistants and feeders to all classes of rail vehicles. 06 05 07a

1906 09 05
PC Wright said he was in Regent Street when he saw the Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company's bus discharging a great quantity of black smoke, it was filling the street as it went along and was the worst he had ever seen. The driver said they had just had a refill of oil and agreed to take it back to the garage, smoking all the way along Park Terrace. The company said there was nothing wrong but was fined £2. 06 09 05 & a

1906 10 10
A Cambridge bus driver appeared in court for dangerous driving in Hills Road. He said he was going 15 mph because he was obliged to pass another bus. It was not illegal as Parliament had fixed the maximum as 20 mph. The road was wide and there were no pedestrians about. The policeman admitted he had little experience of motors but had never seen one go faster. The driver had now been dismissed because of the complaint. 06 10 10

1907
Hills Road garage opens [RH]

1907 08 03
Four new motor buses (three single and one double-decker) will commence their careers of usefulness by running to the Mammoth Show. Regular routes will be arranged as soon as possible. They are as noiseless as it is possible for motor buses to be, free from obnoxious odours, do not drop oil over the streets and are very easily handled. They are the property of a private speculator who took over the late Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company and will be managed by Mr J. Berry Walford. Called 'Ortona' after name of a cruise ship 07 08 03

1908 08 22
The Ortona Motorbus Company, inaugurated a year ago, now possesses five double-deckers, a char-a-banc and a big 'bus'. They have two services from the railway station, one to De Freville and the other to Huntingdon Road. At the well-equipped garage on Hills Road there is always one car that can be despatched the instant a breakdown is reported and even replacing a broken axle can be carried out by their own mechanics. Now country people who used to disfavour these 'machinations of the evil one' patronise them with perfect confidence. CWN 08 08 22 p5

1909 12 03
The Ortona Motor Bus Company, whose enterprise has proved such a boon in Cambridge and Chesterton, intend to commence a service to Sawston via Trumpington, Shelford and Stapleford. A fine new Maudsley bus has been obtained which will do the full journey in 50 minutes. Parcels as well as passengers will be carried CWN 09 12 03

1910

1910 02 04
Since the Ortona Bus Company was established in Cambridge they have done much towards linking up the station and the town with outlying suburbs. A few weeks ago they commenced a service of motor 'buses to Trumpington, Shelford and Sawston and have now inaugurated another to Histon and Cottenham which has been well patronised by passengers 10 02 04m

1912
Harry Bevan joined the Ortona Motor Company in 1912 and for seven years drove the bus to Sawston, for which he was allowed 50 minutes each way. Carrying parcels as well as a steady stream of passengers he made five journeys a day and using the maximum speed of 12 mph always had time for a good smoke break at the end. The first double-decker ran from Station Road Corner to the Rock Hotel on Cherry Hinton Road and back via Blinco Grove. It was not allowed to go through the town because it was a menace to shop signs. 60 08 18a & b

1912 11 04
A serious collision in Silver Street between two motor buses was only averted by the skill of the drivers. A horse and cart were standing in the road near the Capital and Counties Bank, opposite the Automobile Garage where alterations are taking place. The bus to Chesterton made a sharp angle to clear the cart but the on-coming heavily laden bus had approached a little too far. The mudguards came in contact and the front wheels were inter-locked. The passengers were much alarmed but little damage was done. Ortona have not had a single serious accident since they have been established in Cambridge. 12 11 04d

1913 04 18
The enterprising Newmarket and District 'Bus Company plans a motor bus service for Soham on market days departing from the Crown Hotel at 12.30 on Tuesdays and arriving at Newmarket an hour later . On Thursdays they leave from the Market Square for Ely. The vehicles, supplied by the London General 'Bus Companies, present an exceedingly smart appearance, being painted yellow picked out with dark blue. They have electric light and are exceptionally quiet running. The company has already started a service of buses between Burwell and Newmarket, doing three journeys a day 13 04 18 p11 CIP

1914 02
Cambridge Street Tramways Company go into liquidation, last trams have notices urging people to let their children ride so they would remember them; last journey 18th February. Undergraduates in mourning attire escort last tram to depot chanting funeral dirge; stock sold by auction, trams £10 each [3.4, 3.5, 6.1]

1914 04 24
Motor Bus Service between Cambridge and Royston was commenced. At present the buses are making three journeys each way, calling at the intermediate villages. 14 04 24 CIPof

1914 07 17
The Ortona Motor Bus Company agreed to make payment to the council for every mile their buses travelled on their roads to cover wear and tear. This meant where traffic was very heavy the motor buses would pay for all expense and something over. Both recognised that the council had no real legal claim but Mr Walford was most anxious to meet them. However the Motor Bus Company was not prepared to give them anything whatever. The huge 'buses running in an almost continuous stream every six or seven minutes were sufficient for public service but their speed should be regulated 14 07 17 p7

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1914 11 27
Ortona buses requisitioned for war 14 11 27

1915 01 29
Walter Gilbert told the court he was travelling in an Ortona motor bus towards the station. Since the war began there had been a considerable demand for motor buses for purposes connected with the war and the company was running a very antiquated vehicle of very faulty condition. The wheel base was short, making a tendency for the bus to swerve round with great force and made it very unwieldy. The conductor might become accustomed to these acrobatic feats but it was not safe for passengers. On most buses there was a bell at the back which could be pulled when one wanted to get off and another at the top. But on this one passengers had to go downstairs or wait for the conductor to come up 15 01 29

1915 03 26
The Ortona Motor Company had agreed to pay Cambridge Corporation £100 a year for the right to erect posts advertising the running of the buses. As the Corporation had no power to charge mileage for the use of the road this was a substantial income. With the outbreak of war the military had commandeered nine of the vehicles but they would agree to the terms after the conclusion of the war. But the council had really granted them a monopoly: the trams used to pay £100 per annum and they were paying nothing 15 03 26

1915 08 13
Covers on Bus Seats.—The attention of the Cambridge Watch Committee has been called to the fact that the Ortona Motor Bus Company has not provided covers for the seats of the omnibuses and it was agreed that the Town Clerk write to the Company requesting them to provide waterproof aprons for the seats on top of the buses. 15 08 13 CIPof

1916
Eastern Counties introduce conductresses on Cambridge services; pictures of conductresses from 1916 – 40 05 28 [6.4]

1918
12 mph speed limit for buses ends [S.12]

1918
Introduction of motor bus services after 1918 greatly enhances Cambridge as a county shopping centre [3.6]

1919
Whippet operate service to Cambridge from St Ives [S.16]

1919 03 12
Bus service allegations of inadequacy, irregularity and overcrowding; interview with J.B. Walford of Ortona with details, including wartime when ran buses to Ministry of Munitions works at Hauxton and Grantchester – 19 03 12b

1919 10 08
Termination of the railway strike; marching back to work, Ortona under pressure but bring in more supplies of petrol – 19 10 08g

1920

1920
Cambridge Belle motor coach first to operate regular excursions from Cambridge [Ch.13.12.33.p14]

1922
Burwell & District Motor Services ltd formed [S.16]

1923 11 24
Sir with reference to the continuation bus service from Chesterton to Old Chesterton, I would like to point out that we ran the service in 1919 but it was an absolute failure and we were compelled to drop it. However as there seems to be a fresh demand I am giving it a trial. The terminus of the cars will be at Chapel Street, Old Chesterton, instead of De Freville Avenue as heretofore. The fare from Market Street to Chapel Street will be twopence. You will realise that it is quite impossible to revert to the penny fare over the whole of the services. It is true that the price of petrol has dropped, but the price of wages and labour generally has not decreased - John Walford, Ortona Motor Company

1924 12 02
The question of a parking place for buses and private motor cars was discussed at some length by Cambridge town council. The Watch Committee suggested that Drummer Street should be used as a parking place for motor cars and buses. The Surveyor submitted a plan which included taking in a portion of Christ's Pieces. It was resolved that the scheme should not be entertained and a proposal be considered for constructing a parking place on Butts Green

1925 08 09
The Corporation seems to have stirred up a good deal of indignation by their proposals with regard to the Drummer Street "motor park". In a town like Cambridge it certainly seems unwise to do anything that may detract from its attractiveness. A suggestion has been put that the 'park' should be established on Butt's Green and not at Drummer Street at all. A petition has been presented to the Mayor asking her to call at Town's meeting and it is hoped that the request will be acceded to c25 08 09

1925 08 23
As the result of an open-air meeting on Parker's Piece efforts are being made to form a Ratepayers' Association whose first business will be to contest the legality of the Cambridge Town Council's action in encroaching on Christ's Pieces for the purpose of providing a parking place for motor vehicles. This was absolutely illegal. Within twelve months the continual movement of vehicles on what was virtually a made-up bog the road would drop six inches. The Ortona Bus Company will be the first people to say they have been pushed into a rotten corner that is of no use to them c25 08 23

1925 11 28
Drummer Street proposals go ahead, opens in November & various country buses stop there rather than on Senate House Hill; later Ortona also use it, causing overcrowding & disputes [1.14]

1926 02 27
Householders in Chesterton Road have petitioned Cambridge Borough Council to lodge protest against the speed at which vehicles of the Ortona Motor Omnibus Company are driven down the road. "The effect of the excessive speed at which these jolting juggernauts are driven is to produce an intermittent earthquake which is doing great damage to our houses". They should not

be allowed to exceed 10 mph, increasing to 15 mph when pneumatic tyres are fitted. The present indulgence, which allows solid-tyred vehicles to bump along at 20 to 25 mph, is altogether unreasonable, they claim c26 02 27

1926 07 24
County Council squabble over whether they should pay for Drummer Street [1.15]

1927 04 03
A small group had a very enjoyable trip to London on one of the new Varsity Pullman motor coaches which it proposed to run daily between the metropolis & Cambridge & Oxford. The handsome saloon coach provides plenty of elbow and leg room for 20 passengers, completely enclosed and protected from the weather. Small mahogany tables can be raised at will for dining and other purposes. Balloon tyres and four wheel brakes are fitted and at all speeds the coach travelled smoothly and steadily. The journey to the West End was accomplished in 2¼ hours. c27 04 03

1928 05 07
Cambridge Town Council granted licences to Messrs Brown Bros for a new Lancia saloon motor coach and the Westminster Coaching Services for three additional coaches. Coun. Doggett asked if the vehicles were fitted with pneumatic tyres and if they would not licence any with solid tyres from the point of view of wear and tear of the roads and the comfort of travellers. It was only a matter of time before solid tyred vehicles would be barred from using the roads at all. There was a nuisance with regard to bus tickets being thrown down in the roads and the Ortona Motor Bus Co are to be asked to provide receptacles for bus tickets on the buses plying in Cambridge. c28 05 07

1928 09 30
Cambridge Watch Committee granted Messrs Brown Bros a further licence for a Lancia coach to ply for hire at Drummer Street on condition that only one of their buses is to stand there at any one time. But Ortona had six to 14 buses there at a time & Messrs Brown advertised fares at 6d to a shilling cheaper. Ortona paid the Council £250 towards the rates but if the public was being charged extra it was time this was dispensed with. A custom had grown up amongst police and other to give Ortona preference because they sent buses to various places, whilst the others went to only one. c28 09 30

1928 12 05
Ortona extend garage [4.12]

1929 02
Ortona announce their passengers have increased from 2 to 10million over last 10 years [2.7]

1930

1930 05 15
A councillor complained that in 1921 an agreement had been signed with the Ortona Bus Company allowing them a monopoly of buses on the streets of Cambridge for a payment of £250 a year. “They have had a jolly good picking. There are no workmen’s tickets, no children’s tickets, no cheap tickets, which you get in any other town”. The Mayor said the streets were already so congested that it was not possible to have competitive services in operation. But Ortona had been issued with extra licences to run buses on those same narrow streets. 30 05 15 & a

1930 06 19
Since 1921 the Ortona Bus Company has paid Cambridge Corporation £250 annually; this was for permission to fix bus stop signs on lamppost but in practice constituted a monopoly. Much had been made of the problems of running buses owing to the narrowness of the streets but Ortona had increased its services from nine to 33 for which the Corporation received the wonderful sum of 14s. a day. A maximum number of licences should be fixed and granted between the other companies who could run buses at a cheaper rate and reduce fares. 30 06 19b

1930 06 21
Six Cambridge bus drivers involved in the 'battle' of Sidney Street on the first day of the May races appeared in court charged with obstruction. Only Ortona buses were allowed to stop there but a long line of coaches had filled the whole side of the road. The drivers said the monopoly was unfair. They also complained that Ortona had increased the price of a ticket to Fen Ditton from twopence halfpenny to sixpence a trip. 30 06 21aa & b

1930 08 14
Hubert Gautrey a Cottenham motor car agent claimed £60 from Messrs M. Mack, motor coach proprietors. They had advertised two Gilford 1929 sunlight saloon coaches for sale. They wanted £1,120 per coach or £2,240 for the two and agreed to pay him £40 per coach commission if he found a purchaser. This he had done, but Mack's claimed the buyer had only paid £1,850 and they had reduced the sum to £20. 30 08 14c

1930 09 09
An Ortona omnibus collided with a stationary Ford van at Old Chesterton and the impact was so great that the van was hurled twenty yards along the road. William Holmes was delivering meat when the bus crashed into the rear of his butcher's vehicle. He was taken completely by surprise and flung across the footpath but managed to save a 70-year-old lady, Mrs Mansfield, by pulling her away. The van's steering gear was smashed, the body splintered and meat to the value of £10 scattered on the road. 30 09 09

1930 11 28
A drastic reduction in Cambridge to London motor coach prices is the latest phase in an intensive 'war' between the two established 'outside' companies and local proprietors. There were two independent daily services provided by Westminster Coaches and the 'Varsity but then A. & H Brown of Lord Astor coaches started another at four shillings return. They have now allied with Royal Blue and Comfort coaches to reduce the fare by a shilling and increase services. Westminster and Varsity are now charging 2s 6d and Cambridge is awaiting the next move with interest 30 11 28

1930 12 06
Sir – we are a locally owned firm with its own garage, employing 57 people and we try to give a good service. Between October and March each year we lose a considerable amount of money and rely on summer business to get profits. We do not discharge staff because we overhaul and repaint our rolling stock. We stick to our own service and do not interfere with our competitors. But now our rivals have starting cutting fares. We have got to defend ourselves and the public will benefit from cheap rides until further notice. –Varsity Express Motors 30 12 06a

1930 12 08
Cambridge coach war – Cambridge Comfort Coaches reply to Varsity – 30 12 08

1931
Road Transport Act restricts number of buses [S.20]

1931 01 10
An Ortona conductor was summoned for allowing 60 passengers on to a single-decker bus licensed to carry 37. It was a very busy day just before Christmas. The bus had started from Sutton and the trouble arose at Denny End, Waterbeach where there were a number of passengers wanting to go to Cambridge market. The bus had to pull up at the railway station to set down passengers and people waiting there wanted to get on. The conductor did his best to prevent them but was helpless. He tried to get them to transfer to a relief bus but they would not get off. 31 01 10b

1931 04
Drummer Street bus shelters erected [3.15]

1931 05 01
At Cambridge the railway companies have a financial interest and working agreement with the Ortona bus company. The time will come when co-ordination will be very close; already they have had two experiments when railway return tickets could be used on the buses and vice versa, the Ortona chairman told an inquiry. In both borough and county they worked routes which were good and bad and excursions and long-distance tours helped to pay for unremunerative town services. 31 05 01c

1931 07 24
Reliance Coach Services of Cottenham had three coaches and had contracted to purchase another vehicle for £1,500. They operated services from Cambridge to Cottenham and Willingham; their buses ran five minutes before Ortona's but usually they waited for the Ortona drivers to start up and then got away faster in their smaller vehicle. Now they planned a new service from Haddenham via the Twentypence Bridge 31 07 24b & c

1931 08 28
Passengers had a remarkable escape when a motor coach overturned in a field near the Granta bridge, Great Chesterford, making a double somersault before coming to rest on its side. Pandemonium reigned for a few minutes and the shrieks of the women and children rent the night air. The Greyhound public house was turned into a dressing station; there was hardly a passenger who escaped without a scratch of some kind and it was pitiful to hear the children crying from fright. Many had not been on a coach trip before. 31 08 28b

1931 10 02
Heydon bus operator – E.E. Weeden, Withers of Haverhill, Raynham of Saffron Walden – applications – 31 10 02 m & n

1931 10 03
Ortona taken over by Eastern Counties, bus colour changes from green to red [1.17]; all routes have 100 added to their number - thus route 1(Chesterton to railway station) becomes 101 [1.16]

1931 11 06
The keenness of competition between omnibus operators in the March area was apparent when the Traffic Commissioners heard applications for bus licences. The March Motor Co. operated services to Chatteris carrying 1,826 passengers a week. But the Railway Company objected saying they were the only operator to keep to a timetable. Their Benwick service averaged 350 on

the two days a week that it ran. It had begun in 1922, but lapsed for some years until resumed in October 1930. W. Spriggs of Parson Drove had one of his buses stopped by police for being overcrowded and it had twice broken down. 31 11 06c

1931 12 19
Varsity Express coach refused licence for London to Bournemouth service [1.18]

1932
Fifty years ago (from 1982) a trip to London by coach did not take much longer that it does today. Gordon Carter, aged 72, who used to drive for Varsity coaches, remembers that it took about two and a half hours. It was a journey he did three times a day: "We would just have time for a cup of tea and then start off again". It cost seven shillings (35p) day return until a customer battle with the opposition, Browns based in Occupation Road, drove the fare down to half-a-crown (12p) 82 10 01

1932 05 09
The old Ortona bus company had a sort of family arrangement with the workers. But with the formation of Eastern Counties the men had suffered cuts in wages. A midnight meeting of 200 employees instructed the Transport and General Workers' Union to open negotiations for wages of 1s 4d (07p) an hour for drivers, 1s 2d (06p) for conductors, for a 48-hour week. On public holidays the pay should be double time. 32 05 09

1932 05 14
Ortona garage – line of men applying work as bus drivers and conductors – photo – 32 05 14

1932 07 08
Sir – since Eastern Counties Omnibus Company took over from Ortona the conditions of employment are far worse. Conductors now have to write numbers in tiny squares all day and only get 2s 6d a week extra for working a double-deck bus. The old firm granted a permanent pass for employees' wives, now they get none. Cleaners and fitters - the highly-skilled men who tend the fleet - earn over a pound a week less than before. – A Ratepayer 32 07 08c

1932 10 07
Varsity Express Motors asked to be allowed to increase the average speed of their motor coaches on the Cambridge-London route to 25 mph – it would cut 15 minutes off the journey. The early morning coach leaving at 6.30 made very few pickups and it would be useful if it arrived in London before 9 o'clock as most of the coaches leave for the coast then. They manage to catch some by dropping passengers on their route but it was difficult to get to Regent Street in time for the Bournemouth coach. 32 10 07b

1932 10 28
Bus companies applied for an increase in fares due to the threepence a gallon rise in the cost of petrol. Buses averaged about nine miles per gallon. But there was no doubt the number of bus services now running were not justified. Before the Road Traffic Act of 1931 there had been a feverish rush of bus owners on to the road. Services were put in which did not pay, except by causing the extinction of rival operators. 32 10 28

1932 10 28
A Baroness complained that without buses it was impossible for people in Storey's Way to keep cooks – they are elderly people and cannot ride bicycles. Many households had reduced the number of servants. She herself had been obliged to give up her car and lower her expenditure

considerably, consequently she was an ardent bus-rider. Lady Hope of Herschel Road said the buses ran irregularly and never in connection with one to the railway station. But very few Grange Road residents used them and some would even object to a service. 32 10 28d

1933
Varsity sell out to Eastern Counties [RH]

1933 01 04
Bus season tickets – 33 01 04 & a

1933 01 17
The owner of Reliance Motors, Cottenham, sued Eastern Counties Omnibus Company for damages. They alleged he'd run two hackney carriage licensed cars between Cottenham and Midsummer Fair, picking up and putting down passengers en route. To use private cars or taxis as motor coaches was misconduct of a very bad kind. He had four motor buses and two taxicabs which he'd used that day for private hire, charging four shillings return. He produced his order book – written on blotting paper – as proof. 33 01 17 & 17a

1933 02 16
Reliance and Comfort coaches merge – 33 02 16

1933 03 16
"Undergraduate Roadways" want route to Skegness – 33 03 16 [1.13]

1933 07 18
Two Cambridge bus drivers had their lives saved by the use of new equipment acquired by the Borough Ambulance. D.G. Boyd & R.A. Doe became overcome by exhaust fumes after doing duty on the starting gang at the Hills Road garage and were removed to hospital. Boyd was revived from a state of unconsciousness through the use of the Novox resuscitation apparatus and Doe also benefited by the oxygen mixture. A conductor was also slightly affected by fumes, but quickly recovered 33 07 18

1934
Paddy Harris started Progressive Coaches in 1934 with one 28-seater Daimler coach and one hire car. By purchasing second-hand vehicles he built up a fleet of 16 and during the war ran them for the benefit of farmers who needed transport for the German prisoners-of-war who worked for them. In 1942 he bought Camtax, his greatest competitor, then Harvey's Coaches. Now nine new coaches have been bought. They have provision for small tables and the roofs have transparent panels so as to give the impression of riding inside a glass bubble. 59 04 02a

1934 03 12
Who is the author of a manifesto issued at the Eastern Counties' Cambridge garage? Headed "The Cambridge Busmen" it alleges victimisation in the dismissal of George Proctor, secretary of the Busmen's Union. He has been made redundant after working as a turner for 12 years. The reasons for this are clear: our resistance to future wage cuts must be broken by getting rid of the man who has done most to build it up. If we let the Company get away with this they will get worse and worse, it claims 34 03 12

1934 10 04

Sir – since the Eastern Counties Company bought the Cambridge bus service the wages of conductors have started at nine pence and drivers ten pence per hour. Recently pressures have increased as buses are larger than formerly and faster times demanded from drivers. But now the Company have announced restrictions of the overtime which many of the men have always worked since they are buying homes. It does not seem right that more arduous service is rewarded by lower wages – R. Pascal, Cambridge. 34 10 04

1935 01 23
busmen's dispute with Eastern Counties – 35 01 23b

1936 02 05
Premier Travel Ltd has been formed to take over the services of Royal Blue Coaches of Chesterton Road and the Harston and District Motor Services. Managing director, E.A. Lainson, says there is a definite need for a good independent transport company. They will offer special excursions to Hunstanton, Southend and Yarmouth, run motor tours to Europe all year round and also conduct a travel agency for steamship, motor coach and aeroplane services. 36 02 05

1936 12 10
Thick fog invaded Romsey Town hours before it reached Huntingdon Road. Once it settled it did so in earnest and visibility was practically nil. Buses were reduced to trailing through the streets on the heels of the conductors and even they could not see their way properly: one stopped himself just in time from leading a No.106 into the pit on Newmarket Road. Where conditions were not quite so bad drivers 'convoyed' and as many as six buses were seen in single file. One conductor walked from Cambridge to Ely, leading his bus – and did the journey in 4½ hours 36 12 10a

1937 02 23
New-constructed bus turning point Newnham route, Barton Rd – 32 02 23d

1937 03 24
When the Salvation Army first came to Cambridge Ellis Merry gave them what was then his wash-house in which to hold their meetings. He was one of the early sergeant-majors and associated himself with their work in the villages, using a concertina and violin to good effect. He was the first to run a penny bus, from Mill Road into town and also did the horse mail work. Until his retirement Mr Merry carried on the business of undertaker. 37 03 24c

1937 04 24
Hundreds of Cambridge people had to walk to work and home again, or to find lunch in the town, because the bus stoppage at the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company's depot was complete. Not a single bus left and two which arrived from March and Peterborough were met by pickets and not allowed to leave. There was no violence, but men surrounded one bus which attempted to leave on the Chesterton-Station service. No other efforts to take out buses were made. Premier Travel services are not affected. Meanwhile Herbert Robinson have taken delivery of 500 Raleigh bicycles. CDN issues stickers for car drivers willing to take passengers 37 04 24 & a. & c

1937 05 11
It came as something of a surprise to most Cambridge people to find buses on the streets again after a strike of 17 days. When the Eastern Counties Omnibus garage doors opened on Hills Road pedestrians and even motorists stopped to see what would happen. Then drivers and conductors appeared in uniform. Managers say the men have returned to work unconditionally and there

would be no victimisation; every man would be reinstated except those who had caused wilful damage to buses. 37 05 11

1938 03 21
Eastern Counties Omnibus Company complained of difficulties manoeuvring their buses at the Drummer Street terminus. They suggested the Corporation reduce the width of the footpath. The Borough Surveyor disagreed. He suggested that the space reserved for the parking of cars should be reduced by 54 feet from the high kerb against the coffee stall. But the Watch Committee decided that the time was now approaching when Eastern Counties should cease to use Drummer Street and consider the provision elsewhere of their own bus station 38 03 21a

1938 03 25
Drummer Street park was made for private cars, and now they seemed to be letting the Bus Company monopolise it; they should find a parking place of their own, a councillor urged. But Ald Starr said it was opened not for private cars but for the benefit of the working men and women who came into Cambridge by bus. Now it was used as a car park by professional and business people who left their vehicles there all morning and afternoon. Coun Stubbs said they were at their wits' end to know what to do with the traffic. It was easy to talk about telling the Bus Company to find a new park, but where could they go? 38 03 25a

1940

1942 04 13
Ministry of Transport order makes bus queues compulsory when six are waiting – local effects – 42 04 13a

1942 04 25
Buses painted grey as no red paint [1.22]

1943 03 05
Non-petrol buses. — It is proposed to adapt 55 more Eastern Counties buses to producer gas in 1943. The Tilling group aim at converting 651 in all during the present year. Already they have adapted 107 including 26 of the Eastern Counties, and these had run 2,500.000 miles, so saving 415,000 gallons of important fuel. 43 03 05 CIPof [1.12]

1944 10 13
Bus overturns in Sidney Street – 44 10 13

1945 01 13
Woman drives Cambridge bus [1.23]

1947 04 05
Sunday bus service starts [1.24]

1947
"Drummer Street too small for buses", suggest use New Square [3.1]

1949 05 03
Women's Institute condemns Drummer Street - fear fatal accident [2.3]

1950

1950 04 18
The naming ceremony of "The county of Cambridgeshire", a new kind of luxury double-deck vehicle owned by Premier Travel Ltd was performed by the chairman of the County Council. Tearing an adhesive strip off the small nameplate Ald Frost wished good luck to everyone who drives it. Afterwards he and other guests went for a ride in the coach. It's smooth running, luxury seating and smart appearance drew favourable comment. An unusual safety feature is the fitting of a pneumatic door normally opened by the driver. The coach will carry 53 passengers on its two decks. It is designed for long-distance travel and will be used to carry private parties c50 04 18 [2.5]

1952 02 18
The first man to drive a bus from Cambridge station to Chesterton has died at Peterborough. He was Mr T. Aldham who had been employed by the old Ortona Company where he rose from the ranks to be a senior driver and subsequently traffic foreman. Shortly after the Eastern Counties Company took over in 1932 he transferred to Peterborough. At the funeral Mr A. Darby represented Mr J.B. Walford, the original owner of Ortona and there were several of his old colleagues including Messrs R. Peat, A. January, W. Harding and H. Bullock CDN c 18.2.1952

1952 10 23
Proposals for the bus station at Drummer Street, Cambridge, were discussed at the Planning Inquiry. The bus company preferred a station to be sited on New Square which was double the area of Drummer Street. But would passengers agree – and they are entitled to be considered sometimes. Half to two-thirds would use Emmanuel Street. The amount of bus traffic would increase if greater provision was made & there would be a traffic blockage at Four Lamps roundabout

1952 11 13
In swerving to avoid a dog in the road a 101 bus being driven along Green End Road, Cambridge on Sunday morning crashed into a house. The conductress, E. Chalker, who was taking an 11-year-old girl passenger's fare, was slightly injured. The girl, Marilyn Hall, was also injured when she was shot forward almost into the house. As she was being lifted into the ambulance Marilyn asked her mother "Can we have our fares back now? We didn't go anywhere". c 52 11 13

1952 11 20
Edward Lainson of Premier Travel told the Development Plan Inquiry that it would be highly undesirable to move the bus station from Drummer Street to New Square. Access would be difficult and the crossing of Emmanuel Road by a large number of people would constitute a danger. It would cause congestion because a lot of people who found the buses handy would start using their cars.

1952 11 20
County Development Plan discusses Drummer Street, debate over using New Square [2.9, 2.10]

1953 02 20
A travel-worn motor coach came to rest on Market Hill, Cambridge, after a 3,000-mile, seven week "Go to Clacton" tour of the Midlands. And Mr E.A. Lainson, Managing Director of Premier Travel Ltd hopes it will bring him £6,000 worth of business this summer. The 35-seater is no ordinary vehicle for the passengers cannot see through the windows. But as a mobile cinema it has taken the golden sands and sunshine of Clacton to hundreds of housewives and factory

workers in industrial towns and cities far away from the sea, showing an eight-minute colour film 'Back to the Sun' c53 02 20

1953 07 09
Building operations are in progress to modernise the garages at the Hills Road depot of the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company and give appreciable increase in accommodation. A modern canteen and new offices and cycle racks are to be constructed. With commendable optimism, the Company are demolishing a bomb shelter which was installed during the war. Luckily it was never put to the test, but workmen are finding it a difficult assignment – an indication of the strength and protection it would have afforded. At present only one third of the garage space can be used. Buses which are now without a home are being parked in railway sidings nearby. 53 07 09

1953 11 14
Premier Travel and Percival Motors have applied to combine their express carriage services from Cambridge to Oxford. They have been competing on the route since 1951. During term time there was mostly University traffic and in summer a great deal of tourists. The University World Service, said the new service would be of great convenience to students from abroad, many of whom toured England after coming to Cambridge to study. The Eastern Counties, Associated Motorways and United Counties bus companies and the City of Oxford Motor Services opposed the application as did the Railway Executive who said the bulk of the Cambridge-Oxford traffic was moving by rail via Bletchley. c53 11 14

1954 02 26
The death of Mr John Berry Walford, founder of the Ortona Motor Company has recalled memories. He bought up the old Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company; its double-deck vehicles had swept down lamp-posts, been involved in several accidents and were continually breaking down. The Ortona service started in August 1907 with four single-deck buses, but ran at a considerable loss because passengers felt safer in the old horse trams. When the First World War broke out a number of bus chassis were commandeered, the bodies were stored and later re-mounted on other chassis. In 1936 they became part of the Eastern Counties Omnibus Co. 54 02 26

1954 07 19
The Minister's decision on the County Development Plan has been announced. The only major Cambridge items not approved are the site of the bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel and the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Road. All the central area road proposals including the 'spine relief road', the new Guildhall Street and a cross-town route joining Emmanuel Street with Downing Street have been approved together with the new Chesterton Bridge over the Cam near Walnut Tree Avenue, a multi-storey car park in Corn Exchange Street and a subway at the railway station.

1955 07 28
Patrick Conway told magistrates he was driving a bus on Newmarket Road, intending to turn right. He gave a hand signal and pulled into the centre of the road. A car behind began to overtake forcing a motorcyclist to swerve. The motorist said he thought the bus had stopped for passengers. Conductors in Cambridge buses should give hand signals from the rear of the bus to supplement those of the driver, as they did in London. 55 07 28

1956 04 25
S.E. Pennell, Coach driver of the year – Premier Travel – 56 04 25 & a

1956 07 07
A Chivers bus which has covered over one million miles since 1929 has been handed over to the British Transport Commission museum. It is a Leyland Titan petrol-engined double-deck vehicle acquired from by the National Omnibus Transport Co., London in 1937 to transport fruit pickers. It has an outside staircase by which passengers made their way to the fully enclosed and comfortable compartment above. 56 07 07a

1958 02 10
Whippet Coaches were refused permission to use Drummer Street. Eastern Counties had paid for improvements to the bus station and 85 per cent of their country services were not remunerative. This would add to competition. The Chief Constable said it was already filled and if granted other operators from the Northampton Street terminus would also apply, leading to increased congestion. 58 02 10

1958 08 26
Harvey's coaches fined – 58 08 26 & a

1959
Miller Bros start based at Stapleford [RH]

1959 04 02
Paddy Harris started Progressive Coaches in 1934 with one 28-seater Daimler coach and one hire car. By purchasing second-hand vehicles he built up a fleet of 16 and during the war ran them for the benefit of farmers who needed transport for the German prisoners-of-war who worked for them. In 1942 he bought Camtax, his greatest competitor, then Harvey's Coaches. Now nine new coaches have been bought. They have provision for small tables and the roofs have transparent panels so as to give the impression of riding inside a glass bubble. 59 04 02a, 59 04 04

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 05 13
Jim Wooders, minds parcels at Drummer Street bus station - 60 05 13c; started in 1922 – feature – 65 04 30e , –

1961 11 03
The most modern and up-to-date double-decker buses are coming into service in Cambridge. Fitted with fluorescent lighting, internal heaters, a wider staircase and closing doors, they are the result of many years' research into passenger comfort. The new suspension makes for a much smoother ride and top-deck vibration has been eliminated. The interior has been streamlined to give more room and newly-designed seats reduce 'travel fatigue'. Any minor faults will be corrected in later models 61 11 03 [5.8]

1963
Hard winter brings chaos as buses freeze up [S.39]

1963 06 08
Firemen had to lift passengers down from the top deck of a No.115 bus at the Bentley Road junction with Trumpington Road after a heavy lorry had demolished part of the bus' stairway.

The rear of the bus was extensively damaged in the impact. The bus had pulled into a stop when the collision took place and it was pushed nearly 30 yards along the road. The bus conductor was taken to hospital with head injuries and shock after being trapped by his ankle in the collision. Two lady passengers were also hurt. 63 06 08b

1963 10
Bus crashes in house Chesterton High St [7.3]

1965 05 07
Last Colony bus - Papworth [9.8]

1965 09 23
Poor rural bus services – feature – 65 09 23c

1968 11 12
Emmanuel Street widened - substitute for Drummer Street with 750ft lay-by [494. 5.13]

1970

1971 03 19
Arbury residents cut off from shops; is functional and austere, offering adequate homes at economic rents and a place to sleep. But few pensioners can afford price of bus ride to centre and council puts off cheap bus fare scheme – 71 03 19a

1973
Cambridge bus routes totally rearranged to link Arbury with New Addenbrooke's Hospital, route 101 renumbered as 180 [S.45]

1975 07 28
Cambridge city council has accepted an invitation from the County Council to build an £8,500 bus-rail interchange improvement outside Cambridge railway station. The scheme includes bus waiting bays and shelters c75 07 28

1976 08 06
Cambridge's first bus and bicycles lane comes into operation along Victoria Avenue after the Government approved the city council's experimental plan to put down a special lane from the Four Lamps junction to Victoria Bridge. The plan also bans all parking along the Midsummer Common side; this means the hundreds of motorists who leave their cars there will have to find somewhere else. The aim is to speed up the substantial number of buses using Victoria Avenue, particularly during the evening peak period when traffic congestion causes extensive delays c76 08 06

1978
County announce plans to extend Drummer St into Christ's Pieces, protests, scrapped [8]

1979 06 14
Burwell & District bus co ceases [5.14]

1979 03 07
Double-decker plan for Drummer Street announced, proposals to resite elsewhere [5.13, 8]

1980

1980 03 13
Angry reaction to bus station plan [7.1]

1980 07 02
A former Burwell and District double-decker bus which was saved from the scrapyard near Lincoln has arrived back in the village. The Daimler Fleetline was driven the 120 miles by two former Burwell and District drivers, Jim Neale and Brian Camps. The bus ran faultlessly on the long journey home. Enthusiasts hope to restore it to its former glory so that it can be used for charity work. 80 07 02a

1981 05 15
Cambridge ecologists say a bus which can run on railway lines is the solution to transport problems in local villages. They plan to borrow a prototype and run it from the city centre to Huntingdon, using British Rail's tracks. It would stop at Mill Road, Chesterton and North Arbury was well as the former stations en route to Swavesey. From this point the tracks have been removed but it would run along the trackbed to St Ives and the Hemingfords. 81 05 15a

1981 08 12
Eastern Counties is in the international travel business, advertising trips to France or Sweden. But they have no brochure so people have to queue to ask a clerk. This means the staff are so busy that they do not have time to answer the telephone: it can take hours to get through to find times of local buses 81 08 12

1981 09 15
A park-and-ride bus service linking shops in the Burleigh Street area with the car park in Cherry Hinton Road has started disastrously. Nobody used the service for several hours. It is being funded with £400 from city lottery profits with Kite traders adding another £100. But councillors say the money should have been earmarked for charity 81 09 15a

1982 07 08
Chaotic Drummer Street is a nightmare for passengers and bus drivers during the busy rush hours. Nobody knows where their buses are and if you go to the information offices the queues are so long that by the time you get to the desk the bus will have gone anyway. Premier Travel driver Hedley Hammond said he was five minutes late already and couldn't get round to his bay. Dismal and dilapidated the worn-out bus station just can't cope with the traffic of the 1980s. 82 07 08a & b

1982 08 27
City councillors want a full-scale transport complex to give quick interchange for rail and bus passengers on long distance and local services to be sited at the railway station. There is plenty of parking with toilet and refreshment facilities already on hand. The County Council's controversial plans to spend £400,000 on rebuilding Drummer Street bus station would still leave it a cramped site with poor access. 82 08 27

1983 06 29
New plans for Drummer Street announced with 'floating' roof [5.2]

1984 05 12
Cambus starts as part of National Bus Company restructuring programme [5.3]

1984 11 20
Cambridge's Hills Road bus depot is to be moved to the outskirts of the city in a multi-million pound swap deal between Cambus and the Stetchworth-based Unex property group. Cambus will exchange its one-acre site for a much larger section of the former D & H Contractor's site in Cowley Road. In return Unex will get control of the bus depot virtually next door to the former Heffer's printing works site which they successfully redeveloped as Botanic House, headquarters of Cambridge Electronic Industries, BBC Radio Cambridgeshire and Betjeman House which was subsequently sold for more than £4 million 84 11 20 p1

1985 10 22
Minister approves Drummer Street plans, follows objections & inquiry [5.6, 5.4]

1986 01 07
Premier Travel history – 86 01 07b & c

1986 06 27
A new minibus shuttle service has been launched using 16-seater converted Transits running from the Railway Station to Chesterton. It stops at normal bus stops but can be hailed like a taxi between the Fen Estate, the Golden Hind and the Yorkshire Grey pub. The accent is on a fast, frequent, comfortable service and smoking in the nine new vehicles is banned. By increasing frequency the service becomes more convenient and more likely to attract customers, Cambus claim. A second minishuttle from Coldham's Lane to Teversham Drift may start later 86 06 27

1986 12 08
Cambus bought out by Management Team 1986 [5.7]

1987 12 01
Cambus has bought the entire coach operation of arch rivals Premier Travel. Premier, founded in 1936 has dominated the Cambridge travel scene in recent years and is expecting record profits. It has a fleet of 75 coaches based in Kings Hedges Road and all 129 employees in the coach division will become employees of Cambus. Earlier this year the two companies started a joint venture involving a travel centre at Drummer Street bus station. 87 12 01

1988 01 02
Premier Travel, one of Cambridge's biggest coach firms, has been bought out by its management after an earlier deal with Cambus fell through. Its founder, Arthur Lainson is delighted the company will be retaining its identity. Premier Travel, founded in 1936, has dominated the local travel scene with a fleet of 75 coaches based in King's Hedges Road. The travel part of the business, which includes 14 travel agencies across East Anglia, is to be sold off separately. 88 01 02

1988 12 28
Foxton based Millers Coaches is taking over several major routes in Cambridge following revised legislation relating to bus services. The biggest impact on travellers has been the introduction of the popular 'Noddy Bus' with its low floors and wide doors making it popular with pensioners and young mums with children and pushchairs. Soon they will take delivery of a fleet of Leyland Lynx buses which each carry 51 passengers. 88 12 28c

1989 04 24
Privatisation of bus routes in Cambridge "a disaster", subsidies up 96% ¢CEN 24.4.89

1995 12
Cambus Holdings bought by the Stagecoach group in £12.6 million deal, Dec

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Taxi drivers Market Hill, 1970's *145.19*

c.26.47 : Taxis & Hansom Cabs

1888
Cabmen's defence fund set up to pay fines incurred when summonsed for 'loitering about streets' - claim insufficient space on cab ranks [26.4.1.4]

1898 05 11
Fair St, Cambridge was the scene of an unpleasant and dangerous accident. A Hansom cab add belonging to Mr Andrews, of Salmon Lane, was on its way to the stable when the horse unaccountably bolted. The animal ran full tilt into the window of a small grocer shop, kept by Mr Cox. Then ensued a melee, in which the window with its frame were utterly demolished. A good deal of stock was damaged, and several articles lying about were smashed. The course kicked wildly, and bled to a dangerous extent from a multitude of cuts inflicted by broken glass and debris.

1898 05 19
Cambridge town council was requested to consider permitting a cabmen's shelter to be placed on the Market Hill. Mr Darwin said that he received a petition asking for the provision of some place for them to warm themselves during the cold months in some central position in the town. At present there was only one cabmen's shelter in the town and that was very widely used. If they provided another the public would gain some advantage because the cabmen, instead of going to the public houses, as they now did, would go to the shelter. The only possible harm it would do was that perhaps it would make the neighbouring public houses sell less beer 1898 05 19

1899 02 17
Yesterday afternoon the attention was attracted by what seemed to be an imposing funeral procession. But this was no ordinary funeral for instead of the usual hearse an open landau led the way and this was occupied by three young men who wore "the trappings of woe" very lightly. Following were nearly a score of hansoms. It is alleged that at the end of last term at student of Queens' college "ragged" a couple of Freshmen's rooms. The matter was reported to the University authorities who came to the conclusion he should be sent down for a year. His friends resolved to show their disapproval. Before the train left the company whistled the "Dead March" and it left amid ringing cheers.

1899 05 04
Cambridge cabmen union, p3

1899 10 03
Cambridge cabmen's union was told that certain ladies had volunteered to provide a cabmen's shelter on Peas Hill, close to St Edward's church. The chairman hoped the cabmen would always maintain their proper rank of respectability, and keep themselves above suspicion of rowdyism or anything approaching to it

1900

1903 06
Cabmen find good business transporting people who want to see murderer conveyed from Cambridge gaol to the railway station en route to trial at Saffron Walden [26.4.1.3]

1904 02 19
A Cambridge cab proprietor was summonsed for not keeping his cab in a proper condition. A policeman said he found the near side window completely smashed, and the front seat saturated with water. He moved the cushion and found it was mouldy underneath so that it must have been in that condition for some time. The side panel had come away from the body and when it was washed water ran on to the cushions. Defendant said that the driver was responsible for the cleanliness of the cab but magistrates said he should know the state of his vehicles and fined him five shillings 04 02 19

1904 10 18
An additional cabman's shelter was opened on the ground floor of Cambridge Guildhall in a room formerly used as a temporary police office. There is a stove where for a small payment a man will warm food brought by the cabmen and will also sell tea, coffee and light refreshments. It is comfortably furnished, a few pictures as well as flowers being among the adornments. All cabmen will welcome the shelter where they can dry their clothes in wet weather 04 10 18

1906 06 01
One evening the boots at the Castle Hotel, Cambridge, beckoned a cab from the nearby rank and a lady and gentleman in evening dress stepped in. 'The New Theatre' said the gentleman and the cabby quickly crossed the road to the theatre opposite. One shilling was tendered as the fare but the cabby demanded the full amount of 1s 6d. His actions over such a remarkably short drive were sharply criticised but it is only fair to remember that he lost his position on the rank. 06 06 01b

1907 05 03

Trinity Hall undergraduates have subscribed £6 3s. towards the fund for repairing the damage done to Mr Glasscock's cab on the night of the visit of Kier Hardy to Cambridge. It was smashed beyond repair but as vehicle was not covered by the Riot Damages Act he had no compensation for the loss sustained. At the commencement of term the News published the facts, calling the attention of undergraduates to the heavy loss they had caused and inviting them to put the matter right. 07 05 03

1908
Introduction of motor taxis approved, 10 licences granted, become familiar sight [26.48.1.14]

1908 03 30
Cambridge Watch Committee inspected a motorcab, one of twenty which a London firm wish to place for hire upon the Cambridge streets. It was a luxurious vehicle of the brougham class built to accommodate four passengers. It is proposed to put the cars on hire on the taximeter principal, the fares being threepence per quarter mile. We understand the cabmen will present a petition against the granting of the application 08 03 30

1908 04 06
Cambridge cabmen opposed plans for 20 motor cabs to be licenced: "Our living is a very precarious one. Most of us are married men with large families and it is as much as we can do to make ends meet as it is. It would mean semi-starvation for some families and ruination for the rest. Some have put all our savings into buying a horse and cab of our own. Motor cabs are unnecessary and would be a constant source of street accidents", they told magistrates 08 04 06a

1908 08 22
The Ortona Motorbus Company, inaugurated a year ago, now possesses five double-deckers, a char-a-banc and a big 'bus'. They have two services from the railway station, one to De Freville and the other to Huntingdon Road. At the well-equipped garage on Hills Road there is always one car that can be despatched the instant a breakdown is reported and even replacing a broken axle can be carried out by their own mechanics. Now country people who used to disfavour these 'machinations of the evil one' patronise them with perfect confidence. CWN 08 08 22 p5

1908 10 09
Smart taxi-cabs will soon be plying for hire in the streets of Cambridge. The Watch Committee have decided to licence ten vehicles of the Provincial Motor Cab Company and as soon as staff, garage and other matters have been arranged the local cabmen will have to face this formidable form of competition, although ten taxies cannot monopolise all the trade CWN 08 10 09

1908 10 16
Cambridge cabmen protested against the decision to licence ten motor taxi-cabs. Ellis Merry said that for weeks the cabmen had not averaged two fares a day and many were on duty 18 hours a day to get a living. If they ousted the hansoms from the streets what would they do during the busy times: when the undergraduates came up it took at least 100 men and cabs to accommodate the railway company but at ordinary times six taxi-cabs could do the work required. CWN 08 10 16 p3

1908 10 23
It would be wrong to license motor taxis in Cambridge, councillor Wootten said. There were 120 hansom cabmen, probably married and with families who owned the cabs they drove and had spent money on renovating them. There were 500 people who were getting a livelihood out of the cabs including those supplying harness and fodder for the horses. It is just like other things in

England, inviting foreigners to come in and make as much unemployment as they can CWN 08 10 23

1908 10 23
Councillors were told that they had no power to prevent anyone coming to Cambridge and running motor taxi-cabs, though they could refuse to licence them plying for hire or using the cab ranks. They could have a garage, be on the telephone and receive orders to drive people in their taxis, just as the hansom cab proprietors did. If they were to come it was better that they be licensed. They would create a new, long-distance trade as ordinary street traffic would not pay them. It would be wrong to license motor taxis in Cambridge, councillor Wootten said. There were 120 hansom cabmen, probably married and with families who owned the cabs they drove and had spent money on renovating them. There were 500 people who were getting a livelihood out of the cabs including those supplying harness and fodder for the horses. It is just like other things in England, inviting foreigners to come in and make as much unemployment as they can. CWN 08 10 23

1908 11 07
To meet the competition horse cab men work on Sundays, something not done before [4.9]

1908 11 13
William Cooking, Manager of the Taxi-meter Cab Company of Cambridge was summonsed for driving a taxi-cab at the dangerous speed of 23 miles an hour in Trumpington. He was liable to a penalty of £20 and to have his licence suspended but magistrates only fined him £3. They were determined to put down fast driving through the villages. CWN 08 11 13 p3

1908 11 13
A singular accident in which a taximeter cab played a singular part occurred in Peas Hill. The lamp of taxi cab number 214, driven by a man named Darby, caught the awning connecting a couple of stalls and there was a general upset. The stall of Mr Reynolds was practically demolished and the sweets strewn about with the result that a number of boys had a scramble and pocketed as much as they could. The adjoining drapery stall of Mr Nicholls fared better. The affair caused a great deal of commotion CWN 08 11 13

1908 11 13
William Cooking, Manager of the Taxi-meter Cab Company of Cambridge was summonsed for driving a taxi-cab at the dangerous speed of 23 miles an hour in Trumpington. He was liable to a penalty of £20 and to have his licence suspended but magistrates only fined him £3. They were determined to put down fast driving through the villages. CWN 08 11 13 p3

1909
Are 213 licensed cabs but only 150 spaces on ranks; average number for hire is 50 during vacation, 70 term time [1.5]

1909
Taxi driver fined £2 for driving at dangerous speed - 10 to 12mph [16]

1909
Hansom cabs now much more luxurious with rubber tyres, cabbies wear Top Hats; one has circus horse that sits on haunches & ‘thank’ for tips [1.6]

1909 01 29

Col. Caldwell, Master of Corpus Christ College, was being driven in a taxi cab back from Milton when owing to the density of the fog, the driver, Charles Glasscock, made a miscalculation where the railway divides from the main road and ran his cab into a stout post. The Master was thrown violently forward and sustained cuts on his face, the driver was taken to hospital. The taxi, the forepart of which was damaged, was towed back during the night. CWN 09 01 29

1910

1910 06 17
One of the biggest mock funerals for many years resulted as a difference of opinion between the authorities of Emmanuel and several junior members of the college as to the proper conduct of a 'bump supper' after which they had lit a bonfire on the lawn in the front court. Some ten undergraduates in their third year were rusticated for a week. A string of hansom cabs appeared at the gates, the 'corpses' clambered on to the roofs and mourners in evening dress and wearing old silk hats swathed with crape accompanied them to the station. 10 06 17a

1910 07 29
A cab man blamed his failure on the change from horse cabs to taxi cabs. He had started as a cab proprietor in January 1905, paying £118 for the cab, horse and harness. He paid his way until after the taxi-cabs came to Cambridge and then became a taxi driver. But he lost that position when his employer gave up the business. He had sod his horse, harness and cab at a considerable loss and now had nothing but a small quantity of furniture which was not enough to meet the landlord's claim. 10 07 29a

1911 02 17
A taxi driver was summoned for dangerous driving. Richard Glasscock, cabdriver was driving a horse attached to a brougham on King's Parade with three passengers when a taxi came out of Bene't Street on the wrong side of the road at about 12 mph. He had to pull the horse on to the middle of the road and hit it with the whip to get away. The taxi caught the hub of the hind wheel and smashed the springs. Its driver had said his steering gear had been locked for two days. The Mayor said taxi-cabs were driven too fast and fined the driver five shillings 11 02 17

1911 03 10
At the head of the funeral procession was a hansom. Seats on the top with legs dangling over the side, was the undertaker. His mournful calling seemed to have cast a settled gloom over his countenance. His eyes were mournful and sad, and his clothing was of the deepest black, save for his socks (he wore no shoes), which were of the brightest scarlet. In his hand he waved a long whip (an emblem of his mournful trade), with a bright handkerchief to match his wonderful socks tied to it. Behind the hearse were nine carriages filled with loudly lamenting mourners – extract from a report of a 'Mock Funeral' for an undergraduate sent down from university 11 03 10b

1911 05 12
The camp of the Loyal Suffolk Hussars Regiment of Yeomanry has been pitched in Grantchester Meadows and already the greater part of the canvas village has been erected and presents a very picturesque appearance. There is a large marquee where men will take their meals and portable wooden buildings for the officers' mess. But it is a long walk into Cambridge and local motor-bus and taxi-cab proprietors and waggonette and cab proprietors might find it worth their while to run a service. There will be something like 500 men in camp and many who will gladly pay to be taken in to town for the evening. 11 05 12h

1911 05 19
In a little side passage in King Street a barrel organ was draped with black and mauve as hansoms, taxis and growlers arrived in their dozens. The coffin was covered with crepe surmounted by cap and gown while plumes barely concealed the lines of an express delivery van in which sat the 'corpse' smartly dressed in grey suit and felt bowler. There were about 100 horses and motor vehicles in the procession to the station where the tops of the railway carriages were filled with figures clad in varying garb from pyjamas and rowing shorts to mourning suits and dress suits. It was the most imposing mock funeral ever seen in Cambridge 11 05 19d & e

1912 02 16
A Cambridge man, Mr H.P. Allin, has recently invented a novel and ingenious indicator for taxicabs. Hitherto it has been difficult at night to ascertain whether an approaching taxi is engaged or not. His device consists of a metal case in the front of which is fixed a glass panel bearing the words 'For Hire' and illuminated from behind with a suitable artificial light. A hinged flap is connected by rods to the flag of the meter. On the cab being hired, and the flag lowered, the flap falls and hides the sign. 12 02 16b

1912 03 08
A mock funeral started from the "corpse's" lodging in Lensfield Road. There was a long line of taxis, hansoms and even four-wheelers stretching some distance down Trumpington Street. There was no elaborate "hearse" as in previous funerals: the body was placed quite simply in a hansom bearing the words "Alas! My poor brother" and smoked cigars throughout. His "cabby's" hat was draped with crepe while the majority of the fancifully-dressed mourned wore complimentary black-eyes out of respect for the 'deceased'. There were an extraordinary number of "flappers" – quite stunning flappers some of them were too. One of the best was a suffragette and Mrs Pankhurst also figured in the procession. 12 03 08

1912 12 21
Walter Mansfield ("Lame Walter"), best known of Cambridge cabmen, cab fails to pass inspection, friends open subscription to buy a new landau. 12 12 21

1913 03 14
Four Cabmen were summonsed for taking their cabs on to the Senate House rank when it was already fully occupied and leaving their horses and cabs unattended. Pc Pettitt said there were four unattended cabs standing two abreast facing the reverse way to the other five waiting for business. The rank was authorised for two cabs during the week and three extra on Saturday because the Market Hill rank could not be used then. One man said he'd gone to the lavatory on Market Hill and had asked others to look after his horse. More had been to the coffee shop or had gone to breakfast. They must obey the byelaws. 13 03 14 p8 CIP

1914 01 02
A shocking fatality occurred in the early hours of Christmas morning on the road between Great Wilbraham and Fulbourn. A driver for the Provincial Motor Cab Company overturned the taxicab he was driving and was pinned underneath in his seat, sustaining fatal injuries to his head. The accident occurred about one o'clock in the morning and he lay in the road until found by the Wilbraham mail driver at 6.40. The car was badly knocked about. The offside front wheel was broken completely and thrown several yards up the road. 14 01 02 & a

1914 07 24
National Union of Vehicular Workers trade union meeting on Parker's Piece heard many workers were underpaid and underfed. When taxis came to Cambridge the old cab-drivers should have

been given the chance of leaning the new trade. Instead the taxies were the property of private firms 14 07 24

1914 12 04
George Lucas, a taxi driver, was driving along Huntingdon Road, when after passing the Traveller's Rest, he saw a large portion of an elm tree that had been blown across the road. He could not stop in time and the car crashed into the tree. The windscreen and headlights were shattered but no occupant was hurt. Immediately afterwards another large piece of the tree fell and the road was completely blocked. Police in a taxi hurried to the scene. They removed the side-lamps of their motor and put one each side of the obstruction to warn traffic of the danger. Then with saws and pickaxes borrowed from people in the vicinity they cut a way through the obstruction

1914 12 18
Taxis allowed Market Hill near Great St Mary's

1917 11 10
Death of Phil Stocker cabman with slowest horse - had specialised at night, his ancient four-wheeler meeting late trains; now only 'Lame Walter' left - 17 11 10

1920

1920 04 24
Varsity garage engineer sues taxi-cab proprietor over repairs

1920 11 17
'Chariot of fire' rag –cab soaked in petrol – Ch 20 11 17e, f

1921 03 30
William Radford taxi catches fire, Arbury Rd – 21 03 30b

1923 08 07
A driver for the Taxi Side-car company was summoned for driving a motor cycle taxi cab in a dangerous manner in Castle Street, Cambridge. Walter Langford, labourer, spoke to seeing a taxi side-car coming down Castle Hill. At the crossing it dodged in front of a motor car, and the side-car caught the front of the motor car which struck the side of Messrs Clark's shop in Northampton Street. The motor car hit a man and knocked him down.

1924 02 06
Wallman, taxi cab bankruptcy, p5

1925 06 06
"I cannot go out the backway or the front door without she throws some insult at me. I cannot knock a nail into the wall, she threw two pails of water over the taxi-sidecar that was standing in the road, and if a taxi is left there she goes for a policeman", said Mrs Ellis Riseley of Russell Street, Cambridge, the wife of a taxi-sidecar owner in enumerating some of the failings of her neighbour. In reply the neighbour said they kept a couple of taxi-sidecars outside the house from early morning until late at night, she was simply throwing a pail of water over the pavement for the sake of cleanliness because of all the oil and petrol which came from the taxi 25 06 06

1926

Motor-cycle taxis introduced carrying two passengers & a little luggage 85 01 25

1927
Trojan motor taxis start, quickly oust motor-cycles 85 01 25

1927 04 12
Two Cambridge taxi men applied for hackney carriage licences to ply for hire at Newmarket, particularly during race week. Both had invested all their spare capital to purchase three cottages in the town, having been persuaded this would enable them to obtain a licence. The Clerk said four others had also applied. If was manifestly unfair. Newmarket men were supplying the town's wants for the other 44 weeks of the year, during which time they were often standing idle. Yet when the races came and they expected to recoup themselves they were rushed off the road by these men from Cambridge who brought in their fares and wait to take them back at night. They want to compete with Newmarket cabmen on the streets. The licences were refused.

1928 04 19
Members of the Cambridge Horse Club spent a jolly time at their annual dinner. It was formed 35 years ago when there were a great number of hansom cabs and horses and flys in Cambridge and if a man lost a horse he went round from house to house and collected. Some people thought that was rather objectionable and a man named William Wallis conceived the idea of a club for people who owned horses. It only cost 1d a day to join and they still had 50 members; when they considered the increase in motor traffic it was feather in their cap to know they stood safe financially. The Chief Constable said Cambridge was losing horses very rapidly but he hoped they would not all disappear.

1929 03 15 c
A Cambridge undergraduate was fined for an assault on a taxicab driver who attempted to push him off the running-board of a stationary cab. It took place after a bump supper when he was in a very excited condition. Robert Osborne said he went to the ADC Theatre and left his cab on the rank on Jesus Lane. The undergrad and others came along the road and turned the starting handle of the taxis. He jumped on his running-board and would not get off, so he pushed him off. The lad then hit him several times.

1930

1930 12 27
The booking hall at Cambridge railway station was the scene on Christmas Eve of one of the most extraordinary happenings ever witnessed. As a taxicab was being driven back to the station rank its driver suffered a seizure; the vehicle careered through the booking hall entrance and crashed into the collapsible iron gates near the ticket collector's box. If the barrier had been wide open it would have gone right on to the track, and a train was just due. 30 12 27

1932 04 30
Cambridge parted with the last of its hansom cabs a long time ago, but there are still a couple of four-wheelers to be seen on the stands, one driven by George Jolley and the other by Arthur Carter. George has been driving for 40 years but says things are not what they were. Cabbies used to assist undergraduates who were locked out of their college by backing the hansom against the wall to allow the belated reveller to climb over, negotiate the spikes on top and slip in unobserved. 'Growlers' were always available for mock funerals. 32 04 30

1932 05 16

Flames reached the roof of King and Harper's garage in Jesus Lane when a taxi-cab caught fire as it was being filled with petrol. Cars in the garage were pushed out and the blaze extinguished. The cab was taken to the Thompson's Lane depot but some part of it still smouldered for at four in the morning it again blazed up. This time it was totally destroyed. 32 05 16

1933 02 23
Sidney Wisbey, a hackney carriage taxi proprietor from Wellington Passage, told the court he started driving in 1908. He had bought an old Buick, VR 6151, because he wanted to use the chassis and had made one car out of two. He altered the body from a box van to a saloon and changed the colour to blue. He tried it out but the engine was no good so he put it back in the garage. 33 02 23

1933 04 01
Cambridge taxi drivers protested against the amount charged by the Railway Company for the use of the station ranks. Each owner is charged £6 a year, which they regard as excessive and want reduced to £2. But the LNER says it has already cut it from £9 and that drivers could pay eighteen pence weekly. Although taxi earnings had fallen off in recent years most paid the rent without difficulty. They also had the use of a shelter provided by the Company. 33 04 01a photo: 33 04 03c

1934 01 11
George Gault of Blossom Street has been a horse and motor cab driver in Cambridge for 41 years – 18 years of taxi work and the remainder with a horse cab. During the past 18 years he has had two Ford cars – 16 years with one. He is a familiar figure on the rank at Hyde Park Corner and has carried many undergraduates who are now far across the seas. Now in his 63rd year he is a total abstainer and non-smoker 34 01 11

1936 07 02
Improvements have been made at Cambridge station yard to provide better parking accommodation and cope with the heavy vehicular traffic. Three car parks have been allotted with an in-way and out-way for 'through' traffic. The Eastern Counties Omnibus Company's services are located at the south side of the passenger station and will 'set down' and 'pick up' at the same place. The taxi-cab accommodation has also been divided into three parks with an in-way and out-way between them. It is hoped that with the co-operation of the owners of road motor-vehicles this will facilitate safe movement into and out of the station premises 36 07 02

1938 03 25
'Luxicabs', an entirely new fleet of taxis has begun operation in Cambridge, providing a handy and economical alternative to a private hire for driving to dances, shopping or trips into the country. Long or short journeys will cost eightpence per mile (about £1.80 at today's prices). Luxicabs are saloons of the latest type, notable for their modern, streamlined bodywork, luxurious riding comfort and swift, silent performance. They will be in the charge of courteous chauffeurs and the taximeters will be concealed from the outside public. In view of the difficulties of parking private cars such an attractive service will meet a wide need 38 03 25b

1939 02 14
Camtax one year old today – 39 02 14b

1940

1947 08 12

Taxi radio controls – film, p5

1947 08 20
Taxi radio control savings, p5

1947 09 20
Cambridge the first town in England with radio-controlled hire cars [26.48.3.7]

1948 10 08
Sixty-four years' service as a cab driver is a fact of which 79-year-old Mr George Clark of Gloucester Terrace, Cambridge, can be justly proud. It was one day in 1884 when the young George, at the age of 15 first drove a cab for his father. Finding he liked the occupation he continued with it and has driven for one firm, Easy's for the past 44 years. In his younger days he lived in that gay period at the end of the last century when there was no such thing a mechanised vehicles and the cabs were the old four-wheel horse-drawn type and there were only ten or eleven "cabbies" altogether. The only time he was not driving a hansom or a taxi was during the South African War and the 1914-18 war 47 10 08

1947 08 12
Taxi radio controls – film, p5 47 08 12

1950

1950 11 23
A young taxi proprietor and motor mechanic of Barton Road, Comberton, argued his right to erect two petrol pumps in front of his bungalow. He told a planning inspector the house had been built about 1937 and was previously used as a post office and later for a taxi hire service. The petrol pumps would enable him to make a better living. The road past his house was a fairly busy one and with the custom of farmers he hoped to be able to sell 200 to 400 gallons a week.

1951 07 27
Two hundred London taxis took the road this morning under orders for the first time, over a short wave radio network system pioneered by Pye Radio technicians from Cambridge. In London, at a big party attended by top stage and screen stars to celebrate the inauguration of this new radiocab service was Mr Harry Woolgar, a director of Pye Telecommunications Ltd. He said: "This is the largest radio-telephone system taxi network in Europe and we are planning a larger system capable of directing 1,000 taxis". Pye got the job because it pioneered fitting radio telephones to police cars and ambulances and was the first to use short-wave radio for agricultural use 51 07 27

1952 06 14
Camtax & Bedford Lodge bankruptcy, 52 06 14 p5

1952 05 31
Camtax, first to be radio-controlled, goes into voluntary liquidation; (Camtax (1953) formed; followed amalgamation Airflow Taxis & Newnham Car Hire Service which first became A& N cabs) [85 11 07] [26.48.5.18]
1957 12 18
Listeners to the BBC "Women's Hour" heard Doris Foster, of Occupation Road, talking about her job as radio receptionist at a Cambridge taxi firm. She handles hundreds of calls a day with fantastic speed and ease. Most drivers memorise landmarks such as pillar boxes but one knows

practically every street, the position of each house and can go straight to any number in the pitch dark. 57 12 18a

1960

1961 05 19
Frederick Andrews, has been a Cambridge taxi-driver for about eight years on and off and finds it 'quite relaxing and leisurely. As a boy he went into the cinema industry, first as a page, then working his way up to the projection room and finally to the film studios. He worked at the New Theatre for quite a time, then bought a car and became a taxi-driver. He also spends a good deal of his spare time compering child dance shows. 61 05 19

1963 09 12
Taxis annual inspection – photos – 63 09 12

1968 01 30
Taxi licence plates sell for over £1,000, (by 1974 £3,000) 68 01 30

1968 12 09
Walter Easy drives Cambridge taxis for 50 years; was provincial car company in 190 which started at old tram depot in East Road; father one of first to have motor transport – T-model Ford, later motor-cycle taxis – details – 68 12 09

1970

1970 05 37
Taxi drivers push cabs – photo – 70 05 27

1970 10 07
Taxis running on propane gas with United Taxis private gas tanks in Hills Road – 70 10 07a

1972 0 25
ABC Taxis of Cambridge, have taken over one of their biggest rivals, United Taxis Ltd, and now run one of the largest fleets of hire cars in the area. United were in the news two years ago when they decided to run all their cabs on petroleum gas which, they claimed, gave a considerable cost saving in spite of expensive conversions to the engines 72 05 25

1974 04 13
Taxi licence plates sell for over £3,000) 74 94 13

1974 05 16
Taxi fares are to go up in Cambridge by 24% if the city council agree. The new rate for the first three-quarters of a mile of any journey will be 26p. The present rate is 18p. Subsequent rates will remain at 3p per quarter-mile.

1975 03 27
A bus ride from the outskirts of Cambridge to the city centre is slightly cheaper than a taxi fare. It's a close thing if you share a taxi with three other people, but if four are travelling together the private car journey, even with a 10p parking fee, is still the cheapest course. Camtax say from Cherry Hinton to the city centre the fare would be 53p. plus 2p VAT

1977 05 03
Dennis is a Cambridge taxi driver who finishes work at two or three in the morning. But when he gets home there is no way he can get a night's sleep because he, his wife and nine-month-old baby share one room, 12 feet by nine, in which they have to live, eat and sleep. They leave a two-bar electric fire burning to dry out the damp. The family share a three-bedroomed terrace with two other families. There is no bathroom, the outside lavatory does not flush properly. There is just one kitchen. The house in Gwydir Street Cambridge is owned by the city council. The Housing manager agrees that conditions are far less than ideal but says the property is the last resort for dealing with real emergencies. A few years ago the family would have been split up with the wife and child going into a social services hostel.

1979 07 07
Cambridge's oldest taxi driver Ernie Zarattini has taken his final fare – aged 80. And he has disclosed some of the cheeky goings-on he has witness during 39 years as a cab driver. On one occasion he picked up a couple who wanted to go to Regent Street. "Suddenly I saw them misconducting themselves on the floor of the cab. I said 'Not for half-a-crown you don't' and flung them out", he said. Fares used to be eight pence – old money – for the first mile and tuppence-a-mile after that, but now customers have to pay 45p for the first three-quarters of a mile and 25p for every one-sixth of a mile after that.

1979 12 14
Still-born babies are being ferried by taxi from Cambridge's maternity hospital to the mortuary at Addenbrooke's Hospital because of inadequate facilities at Mill Road. Twice a week a hospital porter makes the grisly two-mile journey carrying an anonymous coffin – a small stone-coloured metal box. This morbid shuttle-service accounts for just a few of the two dozen emergency runs made each week by S & H Taxis, often with a police escort to beat the traffic jams.

1980

1980 11 26
A clampdown on the 600 motorists who every day defy traffic bans along King's Parade, Cambridge, will involve blocking off the road outside the Senate House to all traffic except cyclists and emergency vehicles. But it has angered taxi drivers who say it would make longer journeys. The move is part of a plan to improve city centre conditions for pedestrians and cyclists. 80 11 26

1982 03 12
Two of Cambridge's best-known taxi firms are now under the same ownership. The Harris family, which owns the Camtax car-hire firm, has bought control of United Taxis from its owner, John Phillips for a 'considerable' sum. The deal, one of the best-kept Cambridge business secrets for years, came as a surprise to other operators in the competitive taxi and car-hire business. 82 03 12a

1984 03 04
Astonished shoppers saw Prince Edward sipping champagne in Kings Parade and shouting at young people dancing on the roof of a taxi. It was his off-beat way of letting people know about the charity show he is producing for the University Rag Week. But his elaborate publicity stunt almost flopped when he failed to find the old London taxi he needed. So he asked the News for help and as a result Londoner Maurice Hamilton made a special trip to Cambridge with his cab. 84 03 03

1986 08 28
Fury over daytime ban taxis 86 08 28

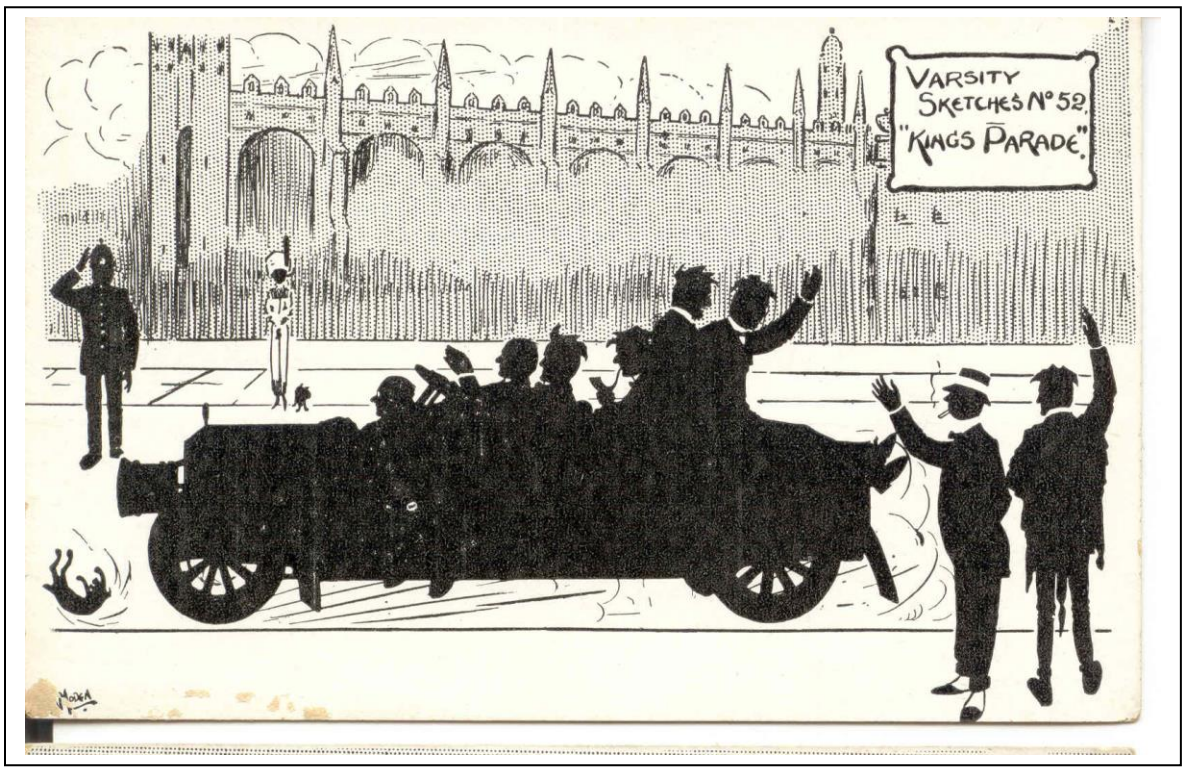
1987 03 13
Cambridge's traditional transport, the bicycle, will be deliberately used to slow down city centre traffic. The medieval central streets will be made even narrower which will make it even more difficult to overtake bikes. Traffic restrictions will also be introduced, including the banning of taxis. The streets have been reshaped and cleaned up with York stone used in areas considered 'visually sensitive'. But workmen in Trinity Street have been delayed by having to remove hundreds of wooden blocks dating back to the days of horse-drawn vehicles 87 03 13b

1988 01 07
A taxi guard of honour lined Cherry Hinton High Street in tribute to John Phillips, the big-hearted former cabbie who helped raise millions of pounds for health care. Twenty-seven cars were on parade as the funeral cortege made its way to St Andrew's Church which was packed with mourners including past and present Mayors and MPs. Mr Phillips was a former director of United Taxis and ran his own firm. He was chairman of an appeal for Addenbrooke's Hospital scanner unit opened by Prince Charles in 1981 and a magnetic response scanner opened by the Duchess of Kent last year. 88 01 07a

1988 03 04
A novel new executive taxi service may be launched in Cambridge.' Destination Direct' will transport executives from the company car park to open ground nearest their destination – by helicopter. It will feature Bell Jet Ranger four-seaters and the three-seater Hughes 500's travelling at about 100 road miles per hour. The cost of a journey from Cambridge to Heathrow would be about £470 return. The man behind the scheme believes there are a lot of people who would make use of the advantages 88 03 04

1988 03 25
Camtax revolutionised the Cambridge taxi service with the introduction of a 24-hour telephone link to their headquarters in 1938 and in 1947 they were granted the country's number one licence to operate radio-controlled cars, following experimental work with Pye. At first there were only 15 vehicles, all painted Cambridge blue with smartly-uniformed drivers. Now it has a fleet of 65 cars transporting 3,000 people every day. 88 03 25a

1989 06 17
Taxis converted to take wheelchairs to start – 89 06 17



Undergraduate motors cartoon c1905 *120.34*

c.26.48: Motoring, garages
see also c 26.481 – parking, c.49.62 – Transport planning

Headlines
Arthur Cooke, senior Surgeon at Addenbrooke's Hospital, owned one of the first steam cars in Cambridge. He was founder of the University Automobile Club which wound up about 1926 when the funds went to form the Ricardo Prize for Thermo-dynamics at the Engineering School. 33 03 14 & a

Cambridge worthies' motor trip to Brighton – 59 01 03
A Bleirot car driven to Brighton to mark renovation of Arundel castle – 59 01 10
History of car in Cambridge – Reeve – 60 08 02a

The first Model T Ford to arrive in Cambridge was owned by a Dr Graham who lived at Parkside and was driven by his chauffeur, Bert Jackson. For many years the car, CE 1464, was a familiar sight and remained in the area until only a few years ago. Now Model T Fords will be having their own Brighton Run to commemorate the centenary of Henry Ford. Amongst the entrants is George Webb of Shepreth with a Model T lorry which was recently restored to its original glory 63 06 20

1890
First electric brougham [10.7]

1896 11 14
Regulations about carrying red flags in front of cars abolished [1.1]

1897
Hon C.S. Rolls brings first motor car to Cambridge, a 4-seater single cylinder Peugeot; supposed to have man with red flag but Charles would make 8-hour dash to London; after abolition of Red Flag Act Charles imported 2¼ h.p. De Dion tricycle with French mechanic, unfortunately dropped cylinder head & broke it; Charles had made acquaintance of Mt King & Mr Harper who specialised in making bicycles to order who repaired it. On test drive Mr King ended up driving. Built their own King motor cycle, exhibited 1902 Crystal Palace Motor show & awarded only gold medal for best motor tricycle of English manufacture fitted with a foreign engine 60 03 28 [15]

1898
in 1898 Rolls drove motorcycle inside Corn Exchange, King & Harper among spectators, had small cycle repair shop Sussex St; was De Dion tricycle with coach-built trailer attached. [11.1]

1899 04 01
An outcome of the exhibition of motors at the Corn Exchange is a new company under the title of the Cambridge and Eastern Counties Auto Mobile Company. The first instalment of the new vehicles have already arrived and they can be booked for parties. They are driven by the Daimler motors, and are in charge of qualified drivers from the manufactory - 1899 04 01

1900

1900 09 03
The first summonses under the new Cambridge Bye-laws with regard to the lighting of vehicles were of sufficient number to make an effective demonstration in favour of the new order of things. The police court was more crowded than it has been for many a day and of the 38 people who were called upon to appear none had been in that predicament before. The Chief Constable advised magistrates that as the new bye-laws were not generally known the defendants should be dismissed with a caution. Of course this leniency will not be repeated but they have secured, free of cost, a capital advertisement for the new bye-law 00 09 03

1902 02 25
The Cycle and Motor Show at the Cambridge Corn Exchange has undoubtedly "caught on"; those who do not cycle are a steadily decreasing minority, while motorists are daily increasing in number. Messrs Macintosh are exhibiting a Sunbeam Mabley Motor Car which is a very handsome-looking vehicle with several distinctive features. The riders are in a position to face each other, although occupying different ends of the motor. The car is not of extraordinary width and can be manipulated with the greatest ease; a small exhibition run was made even on the limited floor space of the now-crowded Corn Exchange 02 02 25

1903 03 03
Joshua Taylor are making a special show of all kinds of leather and rubber motor clothing for drivers of cars and cycles. The exhibit includes the latest styles of long-thigh motor leggings, leather & tweed motor caps, gauntlet gloves, wind cuffs and foot muffs. They also specialise in mechanics' clothing including waterproof, wooden-soled clogs for washing down cars. – Advert 03 03 03

1903 09 30
Coun Morley said the Cambridge Borough Surveyor had met with an accident when driving in the Corporation trap. It was time they should come more up to date and go in for a motor. (Laughter). The Corporation had laughed at this before – they generally did at any matter that was up to date. It was said that motors were not reliable but he had one that had travelled 3,000 miles in six months and never had a breakdown. Motor traction cost considerably less than a pony and trap - £20 a year including petrol and everything else. He proposed that they buy a motor tandem tricycle which would cost £75. c03 09 30

1904
Mr King won Motor Cycling Club competition for Albert Brown -Trophy on an all-British 'King' machine. 2nd car to reach Cambridge belonged to Dr Arthur Cooke & third to Prof Inglis

1904 01 16
Some London people having an artistic sense come to Cambridge for identification marks for motor cars. Under the new Act motor cars may be registered in any county; each has one or more letters of the alphabet allotted to it and underneath are printed the number of the car. London has but one letter, 'A', and as the registered cars there already number over a thousand the one letter perched over four numbers looks awkward. Cambridgeshire is endowed with two letters 'C.E.' and has presently only two numerals beneath, making a nicely-balanced identification mark. But the demand may not continue as the number of motor cars, as well as of drivers in this county, rapidly approaches the hundred. c04 01 16 [7.4]

1904 04 22
Cambridge Paving Committee received a memorial from a number of residents in the Hobson Street area calling attention to the present state of the carriage-way. They directed the Surveyor to report the cost of paving the street with wood blocks, together with the portion of St Andrew's Street from the tramway terminus. But Hobson Street was used by very few people; traffic was not half what it used to be and as the trams were likely to be electrified it would be better to wait. However a great amount of traffic came from Newmarket Road to the centre of town down King Street; very often there was a great block of traffic in Sussex Street because it was dangerous to go down Hobson Street where the pebbles were very uneven. Traffic went on dropping, and business went on dropping, simply because the street was so badly paved. c04 04 22

1904 06 25
"A few years ago the problem was bikes, now the real terror is the motor car & motor bike scorching by at 30-40 mph [8.5]

1904 09 10
Number of cars increasing, 30 motorcycles, 27 cars licensed up to January, 113 & 42 by April; are 202 licensed drivers [8.6]

1905 03 11
The Hon C.S. Rolls lectured on 'The History of the Motor Car' to the University Engineering Society. He told them he owned the first motor car ever seen in Cambridge and frequently got into trouble through getting back late at night after a breakdown, but he squared numerous Dons by taken them out in the car. Many of these runs ended in pushing the car home with the assistance of his venerable passengers. 05 03 11a-c

1905 05 20

It is doubtful if any town the size of Cambridge has as many motors and motor-cycles running about the streets as are to be seen in term time. All day long the 'pouf-pouf' of panting engines is to be heard in our streets and we are becoming quite accustomed to having an undergraduate motorist fly by within a foot on one's elbows. Some are expert drivers, some are not, but there is no class determined to get more pace out of his machine. Numerous small accidents occur; within a week a couple of motor-cyclists smashed into a couple of cows.05 05 20b [8.8]

1905 07 14
"Sir – the motor-car has come to stay, and some day everyone will wonder how people could ever have done without it. The dust nuisance is very serious, but this will soon come off the road, the noise is objectionable and so is the smell but they are not unbearable. But the terror is the sight of an approaching car coming at the rate of 30 or 40 miles an hour. Recently an increasing number of cars have been taking the road between Cambridge and St Neots. Near the village of Croxton there are two cross roads and several cottages and the village school stand on the high road. Past these the motors dash by at such a furious rate that the numbers at the back cannot be read. There would certainly be much rejoicing if the police 'happened' on one of these offending cars as it was racing past the school" 05 07 14

1905 08 05
Jesse Boot chauffeurs speed trap – 05 08 05a

1905 09 09
The absurdity of the system by which the Government issues licences to drivers of motor cars has again been illustrated. Last year a licence was secured for a blind man, now Hertfordshire County Council has issued one to an inmate of Leavesden Asylum. A driving licence should be a certificate of competence to undertake certain duties or what use is it? 05 09 09b

1905 09 23
The Motor Car Act of 1903 lays down that a horse rider can indicate to a motorist that he must stop. A driver told Buntingford magistrates that saw the signal but his single brake would not act as he was going down a fairly steep hill and he could not stop until he reached the bottom. He did his best to avoid the horse but it was a timid animal ridden by a boy and it swerved into his car sustaining injury. He was fined. The law says a motorist must be prepared to stop and the defects of his brake will not excuse him 05 09 23b

1905 09 30
Buntingford magistrates, after inflicting a number of fines on too-speedy motorists, now admit that milestones are not legal evidence of distance. They cannot be sure that they are accurate to within a quarter-of-a-mile. Police should employ a professional land surveyor to measure the distance and give evidence on oath on each charge, which will add tremendously to the cost of prosecution. If this ruling is upheld it will have an impact far beyond the motor-driving world as county surveyors use them to calculate road maintenance costs. 05 09 30a

1906 06 14
The junction of Castle Street and Northampton Street, Cambridge, was continually congested and the corner ought to be improved. The council wanted to demolish a cottage and widen the road, but the owner wanted £260 for a property that a few years ago was worth £120: that was too great an increase 06 06 14a-c

1906 06 16
H.R. Pope beats C.S. Rolls' motor car record for trip from Monte Carlo to London – 06 06 16c

1906 07 28
A Cambridgeshire Automobile Club was formed at a meeting of motor car owners at the University Arms Hotel. It would discourage reckless and inconsiderate driving, which bought motoring into disrepute, organise social and sporting events such as hill climbs and gymkhanas and see that roads were properly looked after. It was decided to admit ladies as members. 06 07 28a

1906 09 08
Many residents have been plagued by the clouds of dust raised by motor cars and other traffic. Dust-destroying measures have usually involved evil-smelling solutions but now Cambridge is to experiment by pouring boiling tar over the surface of Hills Road and sprinkling it with granite chips. The section chosen where the wood paving ends near Brooklands Avenue, but it carries heavy traffic and is constantly watered so the new surface may peel off. 06 09 08c [8.11]

1906 11 22
The corporation steam roller was employed in Bradmore Street when there was a slight subsidence owing to the bursting of a water main near an old brick sewer. The heavy weight of the engine caused a further drop and one wheel became firmly embedded, the roller lying at a dangerous angle on its side. Means are being taken by council employees to remove it and their efforts are being watched with interest by a crowd of people 06 11 22b

1907 02 12
A Chinese undergraduate of St Catharine's college was summoned for driving a motor car in Jesus Lane at a furious rate. Frederick Siggers, a college porter, said he was wheeling a plate basket when the car passed within two feet of the wall on the wrong side of the road at 18 miles an hour. The student said it would be a wonderful car that could get up to that speed after a sharp corner. But he was convicted and his licence endorsed. 07 02 12

1907 05 22
Cambridge Union Society discussed the regulation of motor traffic. Motorists rushed about the country and to remedy the dust nuisance they should be taxed, the money being spent to improve the condition of the roads. There should also be a 'smell limit'. But village boys ran out, cap in hand after a car to get the sweet, sweet smell. Noise was the only guarantee of safety, yet some would like a car to steal along like a robber in the night. In France there were no speed limits and the percentage of accidents was smaller. 07 05 22b

1907 09 24
Cambridge Automobile Company applied for a licence to store 1,000 gallons of petroleum and 200 lbs of carbide of calcium on their premises in Hobson Street. The petrol would be stored in an underground chamber, brick-built and lined with concrete. The Inspector of Explosives is satisfied so the council will recommend approval. 07 09 24a

1908
Undergraduates forbidden to keep vehicles without permission [8.12]

1908 03 12
Cambridgeshire Motor-Cycle Club has been formed to organise club runs, hill climbs, speed judging and petrol consumption trials. It will also provide legal information and touring facilities. Officers include W. King, H.H. Harper, A.R. Marshall and Col. Harding of Madingley Hall. It is intended for motor-cycles – cycles and tri-cars, not car owners 08 03 12d

1908 03 30
Cambridge Watch Committee inspected a motorcab, one of twenty which a London firm wish to place for hire upon the Cambridge streets. It was a luxurious vehicle of the brougham class built to accommodate four passengers. It is proposed to put the cars on hire on the taximeter principal, the fares being threepence per quarter mile. We understand the cabmen will present a petition against the granting of the application 08 03 30

1908 04 06
Cambridge cabmen opposed plans for 20 motor cabs to be licenced: "Our living is a very precarious one. Most of us are married men with large families and it is as much as we can do to make ends meet as it is. It would mean semi-starvation for some families and ruination for the rest. Some have put all our savings into buying a horse and cab of our own. Motorcabs are unnecessary and would be a constant source of street accidents", they told magistrates 08 04 06a

1908 10 09
Smart taxi-cabs will soon be plying for hire in the streets of Cambridge. The Watch Committee have decided to licence ten vehicles of the Provincial Motor Cab Company and as soon as staff, garage and other matters have been arranged the local cabmen will have to face this formidable form of competition, although ten taxies cannot monopolise all the trade CWN 08 10 09

1909
Taxi driver fined £2 for driving at dangerous speed - 10 to 12mph 60 08 02 [16]

1909
Marshall's founded [12.1]

1909 01 15
Albert Watts came to Cambridge as a shoeblack at Downing College where part of his duty was to clean undergraduates' bicycles. One possessed a motor cycle and he became smitten with the motor fever, mastered the mechanism and was allowed to take a ride upon it. When the first motor bus company was formed in Cambridge he forsook the college and ultimately became a driver. He subsequently secured a position in a London garage and then became a private chauffeur. Now his picture has appeared in an illustrated paper as the chauffeur who has attained notoriety in the Missing Lady Mystery 09 01 15

1909 01 29
Col. Caldwell, Master of Corpus Christ College, was being driven in a taxi cab back from Milton when owing to the density of the fog, the driver, Charles Glasscock, made a miscalculation where the railway divides from the main road and ran his cab into a stout post. The Master was thrown violently forward and sustained cuts on his face, the driver was taken to hospital. The taxi, the forepart of which was damaged, was towed back during the night. CWN 09 01 29

1909 09 03
The advent of the motor has thrown upon the highway authority the burden of maintaining roads at a much higher pitch of efficiency with the result that county rates have increased by leaps and bounds. It is manifestly unfair that the average ratepayer should pay through the nose for the benefit of the wealthy motor car owner or that the motorist should defray the entire cost of improvements which benefit the whole community. Something must be done. Cycling for pleasure has become quite impossible for people of nervous temperament and even the pedestrian is attended by danger. Now the Government proposes new roads for the exclusive use of

motorists to scorch along and the imposition of a ten mile an hour speed limit on the others. CWN 09 09 03

1910

1910
Bill Walton joined the staff of King and Harper at their Thompson's Lane garage in 1910. In his early days he was concerned with the extremely temperamental racing car 'Chitty-Bang-Bang II'. This powerful monster consisted mainly of an ex-Zeppelin airship engine mounted on a Mercedes chassis. Another of his charges was a 'Prince Henry' Metallurique which in 1912 was the fastest car ever seen in Cambridge. He once went to a customer's house to collect a car only to find it could only be moved in reverse. He drove it backwards to the Bridge Street garage through Saturday afternoon traffic. 60 09 01

1911
Motorists petition about notoriously bad egress from Silver Street into Trumpington St [1.16]

1911 06 09
The bursting of a motor tyre caused considerable consternation in Trumpington Street on Sunday morning. The car's tyres were filled with a kind of solution used to fill the tube instead of air which is supposed to increase the resiliency. Through being too tightly filled, or having expanded with the great heat of the sun, one burst and the solution was scattered far and wide with great force. The pavement was covered along the whole frontage of Peterhouse but most heart-breaking damage was the adhesion of the sticky reddish solution to ladies' dresses; ten were spoiled 11 06 09

1912
Garrett Hostel Bridge & Burrell's Walk closed to motorcycles [9.8]

1912 04 05
Cambridge Automobile Co, Sidney Street; list of second-hand cars for sale – 12 04 05

1912 05 24
Cambridge Automobile & Engineering Company, Sidney St action against George Dash, motor and garage proprietor, Jesus Lane for work done - 12 05 24b

1912 05 31
Cambridge police are dealing with the question of dangerous driving in the town. Our narrow and crowded streets are ill-fitted for fast traffic, yet motorists and motor-cyclists tear about them as though they were on a racing track. A speed that is safe on the open road may be dangerous in narrow streets. Indeed it is questionable whether any speed over eight miles an hour is ever safe in Cambridge. There have been several prosecutions this week, including that of a chauffeur fined for driving at 12mph who knocked over an old man who was crossing the road. Undergraduate motorists frequently career up and down the town with no apparent purpose than personal amusement. The University might do something to stop this nuisance 12 05 31c

1912 07 19
A motor mechanic told the Receiver he had taken the management of the University Automobile Club in Jesus Lane. Finding that the membership of the club was not large enough the garage had been given up by them and he opened it on his own four years ago. He had no money but some of the members of the club continued to use the garage and paid deposits. He had entered into

partnership and paid the first instalment on a motor landaulette. But they'd had a row and he'd continued on his own. 12 07 19h

1912 08 17
Council apply to Home Secretary for regulations about driving on the left & stopping people cutting corners; use of mirrors to assist visibility at certain corners considered but were fears these would be 'ragged' [9.5]

1912 10 25
Messrs King and Harper's magnificent new motor garage and showroom in Bridge Street is one of the most commodious in the Eastern Counties. It has accommodation for over 100 motor cars and several hundred motor cycles, there is a large stock of new and second-hand machines and the workshops are completely equipped with up-to-date plant driven by electric power. It is on three storeys with an electric lift capable of conveying the largest car to the top floor in a few seconds. The architect is Sidney French and the builder J. Brignell of Newmarket Road. 12 10 25

1912 12 21
Direction posts to be erected [9.6]

1912 12 28
Son of late Bishop Selwyn killed in accident Chesterton Lane corner [9.7]

1913 01 03
Huntingdonshire magistrates were often simply country farmers whose hostility to the car had not been tempered by the teaching of the times, Max Pemberton alleged in a letter to 'The Field'. One of his friends who'd met 'one of these shallows' going home after the police court on a day when some £60 had 'been bagged' said the magistrate showed him the money taken and declared it was about to become a nest egg for the county. Yokels used to be hired week by week to go into the witness box and swear to the narrow escapes they had had. But nowadays it was sufficient for two constables to swear that a car was being driven dangerously to secure a conviction. 13 01 03 p10 CIP

1913 01 18
Suggestion to make Petty Cury & Market St one-way [9.9]

1913 01 24
E.T. Saint's are agents for Napiers, De Dion, B.S.A. and Morris-Oxford cars. Their garage at Hyde Park Corner includes seven private lock-ups, stores crammed with lamps, horns and sparking plugs and a waiting room for chauffeurs. They also do a big business in tyre repairs at their Newmarket Road works with a range of inner tubes and covers from Dunlop, Michelin, North British and Palmer. The machine shop has lathes, smith's forge and anvil. No matter how badly damaged a car may be they can heal its wounds and set it on the road as handsome as if it had just left the makers 13 01 24c & d

1913 02 08
15 mph speed limit in any inhabited part of borough [9.10]

1913 02 28
Cambridge Autocar Company told the court that the manager for Messrs Lacon, the well-known brewer, told them he had been supplied with a motor car to visit & supply licensed houses across the region and that they would have the orders for petrol and oil. But Lacons had refused to pay

the monthly bill, saying the car did not belong to them. Almost every brewer in the district had a motor car and it was reasonable to suppose this belonged to them although there was no sign saying 'Lacon's Pale Ale' on it. However they agreed to pay a part of the bill the man had run up. 13 02 28 p9 CIP

1913 03 15
Work starts on new road from St Andrews St to Maids Causeway, via Clarendon St, will save at least 5 minutes [9.11]

1913 05 16
Motor Cars Act, 1903. Cambridge Borough Council have made application for a regulation to be made under the act to prohibit the driving or motor bicycles in Senate House Passage, Garret Hostel Lane & Burrell's Walk 13 05 16 p6 CIP

1914 03 20
A new 'Puncture Seal' cure was demonstrated at Saint's garage, Hyde Park Corner; 250 spectators attended. A heavy motor car was driven over a board through which 40 sharp-pointed nails had been driven. Although it came to rest with the nails completely penetrating the tyre, no deflation resulted. More nails were driven in. The preparation consists of a semi-solid black mass including pure Para rubber. It can be applied though any cycle or motor agent 14 03 20g [4.4]

1914 05 08
The Provincial Motor Cab Co. Ltd. (In liquidation). The Receiver is authorised to receive tenders for the business of Motor Cab and Automobile Garage Proprietors recently carried on by the Provincial Motor Cab Company Ltd at is garage on East Road, Cambridge, and for the cabs, tools, plant and accessories of a Motor Cab Garage therein. The number of cabs at the garage is nine, of which eight are in use. – Notice. 14 05 08f

1914 06 13
Cars owned by 138 undergraduates, motorbikes by 454; others hire (often without a licence) [9.21]

1914 06 13
Abbey residents oppose new road bridge, "the class of traffic that makes East Road one of the most unpleasant thoroughfares in the town would pass through Abbey estate [10.1]

1916 10 11
"Petrol Plague" — "Resident" writes: "Are we to realise that the unfortunate dwellers in towns are to be condemned in perpetuity to endure the fate of inhaling an atmosphere of noxious petrol fumes owing to the supineness and neglect of the so-called auth¬orities? At any moment our nar¬row streets can be poisoned from end to end by dirty and callous motorists. Can it be won¬dered that rates are paid with great reluctance when the rate¬payer reflects that what he gets for his money is a preventable horrid nuisance, not to mention other discomforts? 16 10 11 CIPof

1916 11 04
traffic island at junction Victoria Avenue & Chesterton Road - for 12 months wooden structure with posts dumped each morning, removed evening to amusement of residents [10.9]

1919
Hallen's demonstrate power tricycle at Mammoth show [12.3]

1919 01 08
Corporation truck for collecting household refuse and general haulage; the first electrically-driven vehicle for Cambridge – photo – 19 01 08b

1920

1920 01 28
Motoring Boom. The great revival which has occurred in British motoring is disclosed by the records of' new members joining the Automobile Association. During the first week of the new .year 1.015 new members were enrolled; the full significance of this figure will be realised when it will be remembered that during the winter motor vehicles are used less than at any other season of the year. During the first week of 1914, when motor vehicles were easily obtainable at a pre-war cost, and were con¬siderably less expensive to run and. maintain, new A.A. members numbered 288. The 1,015 motorists have joined in the corresponding week in 1920, when cars and motor cycles are realising abnormal prices, and are difficult to obtain, augurs well for the growth of motoring in Great Britain, especially when the vexed problems of "production" are solved 20 01 28 CIPof

1920 10 22
Is insufficient garage accommodation in Cambridge, particularly on market days when cars are seen standing unattended in many of the thoroughfares. Some owners draw up at the garages and when informed there is no room for them leave the vehicles outside and proceed to do their business. - CDN 20 10 22

1920 12 29
New garage for 100 cars, Herbert Robinson – Ch 20 12 29a

1921
12,240 motor licences issued [1.6]

1921 03 21
King & Harper Ford garage, Hills Road – full-page photo feature – 21 03 23c, d, e

1921 10 15
Suggestion that lunch hours be altered to 12.30-1.30 to relieve traffic congestion [9.14]

1922 04 22
Every years sees an increase in the number of people killed and injured on the roads, and the proposed abolition of the speed limit for private cars will not lessen the dangers of the highways. Although the speed limit of 20 miles an hour is habitually disregarded, it has some effect as a check on reckless driving, which will disappear when the evidence of the stopwatch can be ignored. It is the hired driver who has to suffer the penalties, but not infrequently the real offender is the owner of the car sitting inside. The majority of road motor accidents are due to excessive speed and it will be purely a matter of opinion what is excessive speed - Table Talk 22 04 22

1922 07 08
Royal Show reveals how much motors are a part of life, people now go home rather than stay overnight in Cambridge [9.3]

1923 05 12

Tremendous increase in number of undergraduate motorcycles, consider new regulations [8.13]

1923 06 09
Figures for number of cars, motorbikes & bikes in Trinity Street [8.14]

1924 04 26
The new showroom of Messrs Herbert Robinson Ltd, Regent Street, Cambridge was formally opened. There is room for the display of 15 cars at a time, and those at present on view include such well known makes as Vauxhall, Fiat, Hillman, Citroen, Daimler and Calthorpe, all of the latest type. Demonstration runs will be given, with no obligation to buy. They will take your present motor car in part exchange for a new one, and arrange deferred payments if you wish 24 04 26

1924 05 31
Petrol in London is ¼d to 1/6 (7p-8p) a gallon, when are these prices coming to Cambridge? [1.18]

1924 12 02
The question of a parking place for buses and private motor cars was discussed at some length by Cambridge town council. The Watch Committee suggested that Drummer Street should be used as a parking place for motor cars and buses. The Surveyor submitted a plan which included taking in a portion of Christ's Pieces. It was resolved that the scheme should not be entertained and a proposal be considered for constructing a parking place on Butts Green 24 12 02

1924 12 19
Speaking to the Cambridge Motor Club the Mayor said that today it was quite easy and within the means of most people to get a motor car. In 20 years they would have thousands more cars on the road and what conditions were we likely to have with regard to traffic and the storage of cars? Police had made it easy for those who wished to park but in a few years' time every place would be filled and they would require something like Parker's Piece to provide parking accommodation for Cambridge 24 12 19

1925 01 09
Petty Cury and Market Street, Cambridge, today commenced their career as one-way streets with the object of relieving congestion in these streets whose narrowness has ever been the subject of discussion. Petty Cury will only be used for vehicular traffic towards Market Hill. At present these regulations do not apply to bicycles. A policeman agreed that someone was bound to make a mistake – "It wouldn't be Cambridge if they didn't", he said 25 01 09 [1.19, 1.20, 1.21]

1925 02 10
Cambridge University Senate agreed that no member of the University shall be allowed to keep or use a motor car unless he obtained a licence through his college. If any tradesman or keeper of motor garage shall let out any motor car or motor cycle for hire to any person in statu pupillari he shall be liable to be discommuned. Anyone who houses upon his premises a motor vehicle on behalf of a member of the University must furnish a written description to the Junior Proctor 25 02 10

1925 04 08
To celebrate the 25th anniversary of the well-known motor firm of King & Harper, nearly 200 people attended a reception and dance at the New Rendezvous. Mr King, the senior partner said: "In 1897 or 1898 I saw a motor for the first time. It was a De Dion tricycle brought from Paris by

the Hon C.S. Rolls who was then up at college; he also brought a French mechanic to take care of it. He lent me his tricycle and mechanic and we drove it to Ely and back without a breakdown. This made me anxious to learn more about motors 25 04 08

1925 05 14
The minds of motoring undergraduates in the University are greatly perturbed over certain proposals which have been made for the total prohibition of motor vehicles by junior members. The proctors state that "a few undergraduates use their cars and motor cycles after dark to drive undesirable young women into the country and they consider it their duty to prevent them". It is ridiculous for them to walk the streets after dark chasing pedestrian undergraduates for having no caps whilst boisterous merry-markers rush by in cars 25 05 14

1925 06 10
Proctors debate prohibition of University motors, from next term Freshmen unable to use motor cars or motorbikes & forbid any undergraduate to use motors before 12.30 & after 10pm in May term, 8.30 others [4.9]

1925 07 01
A very important addition to the garage accommodation of Cambridge is the new depot just opened by the enterprising firm of Messrs King & Harper in Hills Road. It is situated just off the busy centre of the town so that people who are timid can drive up without much trouble and receive attention without being hustled by the police. King & Harper sell so many cars that it is quite impossible for them to give the service at Bridge Street to all the people who wish to come to them. In front of the garage is a petrol filling station from which four different kinds of petrol can be obtained at a moment's notice. Two large wash-downs have been provided which owner-drivers may use for the purpose of washing their cars 25 07 01

1925 07 07
The Ministry of Transport inquiry into the one-way vehicular traffic scheme in Petty Cury & Market Street, Cambridge, was held in the Guildhall. There was a very small attendance. Cambridge suffered, in common with other old towns, from the traffic problem. There had always been a great deal of traffic in these streets and the congestion was very serious. Both streets were used by motor buses. There were no objections but a great body of people wanted the regulation to cover bicycles as well as other vehicles 25 07 07

1925 10 17
During the last few days undergraduates have been busy taking out licences for motor cars and motor cycles under the new regulations made with a view to decreasing the traffic in our narrow streets. Undergraduates are not allowed to use any motor vehicle before 12.30 in the morning or after 8.30 at night. An amusing rumour is that proctors are to patrol the streets in a motor car, followed by 'bulldogs' on motor cycles, but there is no necessity for such 'flying squad' methods as garages are to report any undergraduate who has his car out during the prohibited period 25 10 17

1925 12 12
Council considers 10 mph limit [1.22]

1926 12 09
Fen Causeway, the new and important link between Newnham and the rest of Cambridge, was opened by the Mayor. The bridge and its approaches were gaily decorated with bunting and presented a colourful scene. The project of relieving Silver Street traffic had started as long ago

as 1904 and discussion had gone on for nearly 20 years before the Town Council approved the plan in 1923. Nine proposals had been put forward and had it not been for the urgency of the unemployment question the same position would have existed today, only instead of nine there might have been nineteen different schemes (Laughter)

1926 12 24
Motorist told it 'irresponsible' to leave car parked for 25 minutes [1.24]

1927 01 31
Police motorcycle patrols report lorries which are slower now [1.27]

1927 03 02
Proposal to use New Square as parking place, CDN refuses to lead protest: "most people smile when they think of tremendous agitation worked up against Drummer Street ... nobody one penny the worse ... only fault is that Drummer Street not big enough hence need for New Square" [1.25]

1927 03 03
The chief engineering feature of regional planning will be a new ring road all around Cambridge about two miles from the centre of the town. One length would be a road running north and south joining the Hills Road with the Newmarket Road, a length of about three miles. Certain roads and bridges were contemplated to obtain an inner ring road around the central portion of the town. Mr C.H. Tebbitt said that what had been done haphazard in the villages was the joy of the countryside and he wondered what would have happened to these beauty spots if they had been regional planned. 27 03 03

1927 04 30
A demonstration of a new British invention which insures motorists against tyre trouble was given at Messrs Saints' garage, Newmarket Road, Cambridge. The Otomatic Service is a powder composed of particles of raw rubber and cork and flakes of mica which is inserted into the inner tube of a tyre through the valve hole with a small quantity of liquid formalin and water. When the tyre is inflated and the car put in motion a thin film is distributed inside the tread which automatically seals any puncture which may occur. In event of a burst the inner tubes will be repaired free of charge for 12 months, no matter how numerous the bursts, provided they are not over three inches in length. 27 04 30

1927 07 23
Council debate Huntingdon Road / Histon road junction [7.6]

1927 07 26
A remarkable demonstration of the new "Bibendum Comfort" tyres was given at "The Backs", Queen's Road, Cambridge. The test consisted of driving a car along the road at about 38 mph and bursting the inner tube of the back tyre by means of a special device. The car was driven to the same spot at about 30 mph with the tyre half deflated and then purposely skidded and again with the tyre fully deflated. These tests were particularly severe, the car skidding right round, leaving skid marks 25 feet long, but the tyre never budged from the rim. c27 07 29

1927 09
First traffic lights installed, bottom Castle Hill required extra police - half to keep crowds back, half to attend to accidents" [3.21, 5.16]

1927 09 23
Petrol caused quite an explosion at a meeting of the Cambridge Town Council. For some time the Corporation has been obtaining petrol at the rate of 11d. per gallon and the Public Works committee now recommend that 200 gallons be obtained at 1s. 1d. Some members objected to paying more and suggested the change had been made because the cheaper grade was of Russian origin. Were the housing committee going to stipulate that no Russian wood should be put in houses they are building? The cheaper petrol was known as Power petrol and used by all the large firms in Cambridge. 27 09 23

1927 09 24
Damage estimated at £2,000 was caused by a fire which broke out at the Cambridge Motor Service Co. Hobson Street. The night watchman found that motor cycle department, which also stored several cars, was alight and among the vehicles which were badly burned were a Bugatti racing car, an Austin Seven, a Trojan van and a number of motor cycles and bicycles. Some people returning from the New Theatre were attracted down Hobson Street and watched the Fire Brigade at work. 27 09 24

1927 12 24
Concern that car registration CE may run out, next letters will be VE [7.9]

1927 12 15 c
Some of the best-known makes of motor cars are to be seen at Cox's Motor Company, Cambridge, the firm being agents for Armstrong-Siddeley, Riley and Vulcan. Their showroom windows always attract the person interested in cars and accessories and just now they are making a special feature of Riley models, including the San Remo saloon at £265 and the Monaco model at £285. They also specialise in the Lea-Francis cars. c27 12 15

1928 01 04 c
At the annual dinner of the Cambridge Motor Club Mr King said that 32 years ago there was only one motor car in Cambridge, the owner being the Hon C.S. Rolls, then a student at Trinity College. He had seen him riding in the car with a friend with another man walking in front with a red flag. The speed was two miles an hour in the town and four miles per hour in the country. He did not know what some of them would do if that regulation came in force again. c28 01 04

1929
Tyre Service Company founded in 1929 – history – 89 05 26b, c, d

1929 01 08
Too much time is now taken up by the police in traffic management, which is not a primary police duty; it could be controlled by the RAC and AA patrols, County Councillors argued. They were better than the police because they had motors. It would be difficult to make arrangements with the associations and would probably mean the motor scouts becoming special constables. Others felt traffic control should be dealt with by a special police, though the time was not ripe for them to increase the numbers. But Col Tebbutt said he would not like to see two sorts of police in the country. 29 01 07

1929 01 29
Sir – It is extraordinary that in an age when the importance of fresh air is being recognised the open motor car body should be apparently on the verge of extinction. Few saloon cars are adequately ventilated and on a long journey the choice is between a draught and a headache caused by fumes from the engine percolating into the body. To people advanced in years the

closed car is probably wise but to young people taking so freely to such an enervating mode of transport is pitiable. The excuse is that our climate is so uncertain that a closed car is necessary but I motor for hours every day of the year and rarely find it necessary to put the hood up – 'Saloonatic' 29 01 29

1929 03 22
Cambridge council is to introduce automatic traffic signals at the crossroads at Northampton Street and Chesterton Lane for a three-month trial. The present cost of a policeman on point duty was about £400 a year and the signals, with purchase, would be about £200 with about £25 a year maintenance and repairs. But Coun Stubbs described it as "robot policemen"; a friend in Liverpool had had to wait ten minutes with a clear road before he could get a move on. He did not see how traffic could be controlled as well as by human means: "I can see myself telling it to mind its own business" (Laughter). It was at the wrong place, being at the bottom of a steep hill; it would be better at the East Road – Mill Road crossing. 29 03 22

1929 05 22
First car in Cambridge, 29 05 22 p5*

1929 09 04
Cambridge traffic lights start – CDN 4.9.1929

1929 11 01
The R.A.C. has decided to extend the benefits of its 'Get You Home' service to members of the Club whilst flying. It has hitherto provided a relief car free of charge for their members who have broken down on the road but a considerable number are now either owners of light aeroplanes or are members of flying clubs. Should any of them whilst flying be compelled to make a forced landing they will be able to send for an R.A.C. relief car and be conveyed to the nearest railway station. If the plane is of the folding wing type that can be towed on a public road the R.A.C. is prepared to pay for its conveyance to any town within the limits of the scheme. 29 11 01

1930

1930 01
Opposition to Regional Planning Scheme proposals for a Ring Road [6.14]

1930 01 15
An application was made for the winding up of the Cambridge Service Motor Company of Hobson Street. It had been incorporated as a private company in 1923, taking over the Service Motor Company engineering business. Their account was considerably overdrawn for much of its existence and it now had an overdraft of £6,744. The assets consisted of a number of used motor-cars of no great value. It was unable to pay its debts and should be wound up. 30 01 15 & 15a

1930 02 25
Sir – we Cambridge market traders notice that Councillor Longley wants to move our stalls into the Corn Exchange but we challenge him to produce a transferred market that has been a success. He wants to replace the stalls with car parking spaces. Cannot he see the utter foolishness of congesting the very centre of a town with cars. Those on Market Hill consist of business townsmen, clerics and travellers who sit in their expensive car, eat bread and cheese, but do little business. The Market Hill and Peas Hill are open-air markets. An arcade was tried years ago. The building stands today, a sorry sight, in St Andrew's Hill. The stallholders all failed – W.J. Sambridge. 30 02 25

1930 03 27
Cambridge Motor Service Company had taken over a firm of motor engineers and garage proprietors in Hobson Street and hoped to acquire the business of Hunnybun and Son, coachbuilders and painters. Then in 1927 they spent £2,000 to purchase a large stock of electric lamps which were being retailed at a considerable profit. But the British Thompson-Houston Company issued a writ and the present stock of lamps was now valueless. In addition the depression in the motor trade for used cars and dealings in sports cars for which there was at one time a good demand among undergraduates had contributed to their failure. 30 03 27a & b

1930 04 07
The new electric traffic signals are generally working well but it seems that the average motorist accelerates when the green light is showing in order to get through before it changes. This is particularly evident at the Northampton Street – Castle Hill crossing in Cambridge as a driver going towards Huntingdon seeing a stiff climb directly ahead naturally tries to get through and up the hill. But a driver coming down often finds his car has a tendency to accurate of its own and tries to get into Chesterton Lane a little too fast, swinging out into the standard erected in the centre of the road. 30 04 07

1930 04 23
A series of events contributed to an 'extra special' in traffic jams, even for Cambridge. Deadlock resulted after a motor bus, endeavouring to pass a brewer's dray in Bridge Street fouled a trolley used in cable laying operations. An outsize in motor lorries added to the general melee which took P.C. Lilley fully ten minutes to sort out. The first day of term also brought with usual 'crop' of taxis and cars which added to the jam. Altogether one of the narrowest and busiest parts of the town provided for the greater part of the afternoon something like a slow motion traffic scene. 30 04 23f

1930 05 09
The Chief Constable said he was unable to effectively enforce the new 30 mph speed limit in Cambridge. He needs two more constables to carry out motor patrol work, bringing the total up to four, and a Ford V8 30 hp motor car should be purchased for £210 to replace the solo motor cycle. The combination machine should be retained. 30 05 09 [1.5]

1930 05 19
Cambridge has found dealing with motor traffic increasingly difficult in recent years, Counsel told an inquiry. He emphasised the inconvenience to motorists when no central parking places were available but now the council had made an agreement with Jesus College for the use of New Square as a car park in exchange for Butt Green and a piece of Midsummer Common. It would mean the surrender of 2 ½ acres of Common Land, but it would remain undeveloped & would allow the college to make a new entrance. The scheme was approved. 30 05 19 & b

1930 06 12
An attempt was made by private bus owners to run buses to the May Races from the Ortona Company's stop at Holy Trinity Church. Six coaches blocked the bus-stop; they refused to move when ordered by police and a number of the drivers were arrested. But when the police attempted to move the coaches they found the magneto brushes had been removed. The traffic disorganisation which followed lasted for over an hour 30 06 12b-d

1930 07 12

General regulations affecting the use of motor vehicles first-year men are already in force but in view of the numerous road fatalities last term much more stringent bans will be in operation next year. Clare College says that the possession of motor cars and motor bicycles prevent undergraduates from making the best use of their residence in Cambridge and none of its students will be allowed to bring or drive a motor vehicle. Cars must be kept in a public garage or in one of the college garages on Castle Hill. 30 07 12a

1930 08 21
'Ethyl', as every motorist knows, is a super motor spirit with remarkable properties. It causes engines to run more smoothly, delivers more power and eliminates the 'knock' without retarding the spark. A few years back it was obtainable at petrol filling stations almost everywhere and many motorists cheerfully paid the extra penny a gallon. But sinister rumours circulated that the lead tetra-ethyl it contained was injurious to health and gradually it disappeared. Now following tests it will shortly be on sale again at the Olde Castle Hotel garage in Cambridge. 30 08 21 & a

1930 08 23
One of the new Willys-Manchester 35 cwt lorries arrived in Cambridge as part of its 10,000-mile demonstration run. The lorry, which is fully laden & fitted with a special publicity body, toured the town attracting considerable attention. It carried 60 pennants of agents which have been visited and the proprietors of the Queens' Garage, Newnham Road added theirs before it left for Hitchin. The garage is to be shortly extended, provision being made for a showroom and toilet rooms. 30 08 23

1930 11 15
Messrs Windover's disused motor carriage works in George Street, Huntingdon have been sold. For years the firm employed hundreds of skilled workers until they acquired more extensive works in London. It was a sad sight to see the great works standing idle but now Chivers are to establish a factory for canning vegetables, the most up-to-date of its kind in the country. Already local vegetable growers are alive to the fact that a regular output for their produce will be available close at hand. 30 11 15

1930 12 06
Under the Road Traffic Act Cambridgeshire has been allotted one motor car and three motor cycles to deal with the enormous growth of motor traffic. Such a force should be recruited from men best suited for the job but there is a limit to the number of tasks they can perform. This is another example of the Government forcing local authorities to make the new law work somehow. 30 12 06d

1930 12 27
The booking hall at Cambridge railway station was the scene on Christmas Eve of one of the most extraordinary happenings ever witnessed. As a taxicab was being driven back to the station rank its driver suffered a seizure; the vehicle careered through the booking hall entrance and crashed into the collapsible iron gates near the ticket collector's box. If the barrier had been wide open it would have gone right on to the track, and a train was just due. 30 12 27

1930 12 19
Accident, Blue Circle steam wagon – 30 12 19

1931 03 06
For years King and Harper have been striving to secure an alternative entry at their Bridge Street garage for the convenience of their valued customers. Now three houses have been acquired and

members of staff gave a rousing cheer when a Morris Oxford Isis Six Saloon became the first car to enter at Bridge Street and leave in Jesus Lane. 31 03 06l

1931 04 10
Under the new Road Traffic Act the speed limit for ordinary motor cars has been abolished. But it is now an offence to drive a motor coach at over 30 miles an hour and invalid carriages must not exceed 20 mph. Goods vehicles can be driven at 30 mph, if fitted with pneumatic tyres and not drawing a trailer, but heavy vehicles with solid tyres must not exceed eight miles and hour when drawing a trailer. Drivers must not remain on duty for more than 5½ hours. It is also an offence to drive while under the influence of drink or drugs. 31 04 10 I

1931 05 22
Messrs Murkett Bros, the well-known garage proprietors and motor agents, are now installed in their imposing new premises on the Huntingdon Road, Cambridge. They were pioneers in the motor industry and their extensive new motor showrooms and repair shops will provide the best of sales and service. If all garages installed such up-to-date machinery and gave such service then insurance companies could bring down their premiums 31 05 22 e f g

1931 09 25
The biggest demonstration ever held of anti-dazzle devices for motor car headlights was held on Midsummer Common. The crowds were dense, however, in more senses than one: drivers had to pick out a route marked with white stakes but these were constantly obstructed and some got completely misled and finished up on the south side of the common. Amongst those attending were Ministry of Transport and Scotland Yard officials, chief constables and scientific experts who carried out technical measurements. 31 09 25f & g

1931 10 02
Ring road from Cherry Hinton Road across Coldham's Lane under construction – photo – 31 10 02t

1931 12 04
A Trinity Hall undergraduate appeared in court following a collision. Students were not allowed to have motorcars and he was endeavouring to leave Cambridge without being seen, but had an accident in Coleridge Road and failed to stop. A number plate was knocked from his car and by that means the driver was traced. As a result he had been sent down for good. He did not think the penalty would have been so severe. 31 12 04d

1932 03 23
After all the controversy and heated arguments of a few years ago, there was no excitement at the opening of the New Square parking place. The council turned up in force and from under the shelter of umbrellas watched the Mayoress drive her car through the pale blue ribbon that had been knotted across the opening. At last motorists have a place where they can leave their cars and not come into the police courts. The Master of Jesus suggested that path inside the trees should be known as Coleridge Walk. 32 03 23b 188 use it [1.12, 1.13]

1932 04 09
Sir – as motorists do not appear to need the new New Square car park I suggest something useful should be done with it. It could be turned into tennis courts or used as a model yacht pond, a skating rink or the site for the new Guildhall. Meanwhile the surface should be coloured an appropriate shade of green as the white grey of the desolate expanse of concrete hurts my eyes.

And could passers-by spare a few books for the attendant to read while he is waiting for the customers who never come – Ratepayer 32 04 09

1932 05 16
Flames reached the roof of King and Harper's garage in Jesus Lane when a taxi-cab caught fire as it was being filled with petrol. Cars in the garage were pushed out and the blaze extinguished. The cab was taken to the Thompson's Lane depot but some part of it still smouldered for at four in the morning it again blazed up. This time it was totally destroyed. 32 05 16

1932 05 20
Fire broke out in three lock-up garages owned by S.B. Wallis of St Barnabas Road, Cambridge. An Austin 'Seven' was completely burnt out - so fierce was the heat that the wheels collapsed, leaving the car resting on its frame. The fire spread to a 1932 Morris Major; its petrol tank exploded and before the flames subdued a Fiat had been reduced to a charred and twisted wreck of wood and metal work. But the Morris' instruction booklet was practically unscorched. 32 05 20c

1932 08 06
"Milton Road merry-go-round" - Mitcham's roundabout installed [2.3]

1933 01
Hallen's garage opens Jan 1933 [12.3] [6.5]

1933 01 27
Herbert Robinson garage reopening – advert – 33 01 27b & c & d

1933 03 31
Sidney Wisbey, a hackney carriage taxi proprietor from Wellington Passage, told the court he started driving in 1908. He had bought an old Buick, VR 6151, because he wanted to use the chassis and had made one car out of two. He altered the body from a box van to a saloon and changed the colour to blue. He tried it out but the engine was no good so he put it back in the garage. 33 02 23

1933 03 31
Safety First movement – 33 03 31 & a

1933 04 01
Mitcham's roundabout working well, another planned for Four Lamps [1.10, 2.4]

1933 04 10
Four Lamps roundabout picture – 33 04 10b

1933 07 19
Crowds of about 5,000 persons witnessed the thrilling demonstrations of the wonderful non-skid properties of Michelin Zigzag tyres at New Square car park. After It was drenched with water two Austin Sevens, a Morris '14' commercial van and a Citroen saloon went whizzing round at a dizzy speed, twisting, turning, swerving abruptly to right and left, corkscrewing and turning figures of eight in a perfectly hair-raising fashion. Their tyres gripped like octopuses. 33 07 19

1933 09 21

Herbert Robinson opened a small shop in Regent Street, 30 years ago, where he commenced selling Premier bicycles. Today his extensive new garage occupies the site of Llandaff Chambers and the old Fountain Inn. It embraces motorcars, motor cycles, bicycles, baby carriages, wireless and gramophones and features a turntable for cars and an overhead runway which enables parts to be conveyed from one side to another. 33 09 21

1933 12
Centaur motorcycle club starts 53 02 25 [6.2]

1934 01 11
George Gault of Blossom Street has been a horse and motor cab driver in Cambridge for 41 years – 18 years of taxi work and the remainder with a horse cab. During the past 18 years he has had two Ford cars – 16 years with one. He is a familiar figure on the rank at Hyde Park Corner and has carried many undergraduates who are now far across the seas. Now in his 63rd year he is a total abstainer and non-smoker 34 01 11

1934 01 29
The Queen paid another visit to Cambridge when she inspected two antique shops and called at a café on King's Parade. The large crowd who had been waiting was surprised when a small blue car drew up and she stepped out. The Royal limousine had broken down on the Ely Road and Mr Percy Titmous, a brewer's manager, had stopped to offer assistance. He then drove her to Cambridge. The Queen was intensely amused at the somewhat unexpectedness of her arrival and at the little adventure which had befallen her, he said. Another interesting part in the Queen's visit to Cambridge was played by Mr Walter Riddy, proprietor of the St Andrew's Road Garage, Chesterton. After the Royal car had broken down and the Queen had been driven by Mr Percy Titmous, he received a telephone message requesting the hire of a Daimler saloon at short notice. He changed out of his working clothes and drove to Mr Roe's shop in St Andrew's Street to take the Queen to the Copper Kettle Café and then on to Exning. There she invited him to remain for lunch but he had another engagement and could not accept. 34 01 29, 59 01 30

1934 02 15
A blindfolded motorist drove through Cambridge at the height of the rush hour as people made their way home to lunch. Professor Popjie's claims that he has 'second sight' enabling him to sense anything in the way was tested when a pedal-propelled invalid chair caused him to slow somewhat abruptly He threaded his way through traffic down Petty Cury, round the Market and back to the New Theatre where he is appearing with his electrical figure 'Radiana' 34 02 15 [1.4]

1934 05 04
Now 41,000 motor licences issued [1.6]

1934 05 18
New traffic island at Four Lamps [1.7]

1934 07 28
Sidney Street & Petty Cury widened [2.6]

1934 10 20
Newmarket Road traffic heavy at night - "the sight of the wide open road ahead tempts drivers to accelerate near Christ Church [2.7]

1934 11 17

Parking controls urged "sometimes cars & bikes parked so closely in line in Petty Cury & Sidney Street that pedestrians cannot find space to cross over" [2.8]

1935
"If we have cars we must be prepared to make parks for them, using portions of common lands" - S.C. Roberts [3.20]

1935 01 19
On one of the finest main roads of Cambridge has arisen a new garage that has been named 'Riley House'. No hastily conceived building this with its rows of pumps and oil cans bedecked in signs and colours. Here is a garage of dignity and restraint, logical in planning and design, fitted to be the new local headquarters of 'the Finest Light Car in the World'. Here one can fill up with petrol completely under cover while the workshop is equipped with the latest pressure greasing plant. Tom Cox Motor Co., Chesterton Road, Cambridge – Advert 35 01 19

1935 03 14
The New Traffic Signals. Traffic signs announcing the 30 mph restrictions, which comes into force next Monday are being erected on the approaches to all 'built-up areas'. (Thursday). New Traffic Signs Disappear. Several of the new 30 mph signs on the outskirts of Cambridge were unofficially removed during the weekend, but have since been replaced. (Monday). Missing Speed Limit Signs. A Trinity College undergraduate appeared in court charged with the theft of three of the new speed limit signs. (Thursday) 35 03 14, 35 03 21c

1935 04 02
There are 4,000 road haulage contractors in the area today and 1,000 will be out of it in the next two or three years. They will lose their jobs, licences, vehicles and livelihoods. The Government was railway minded. Legislation never seemed to stop and it always seemed to favour the railways rather than the roads. But the whole transport world cannot be swept out at the pleasure of the railway companies. Somebody has got to carry on the road service of this country. Membership of the Cambridgeshire Road Haulage Association had jumped to 120. More would follow as even a haulage contractor had a flash of intelligence sometimes! Instead of being caned by successive government they should go to the Minister and speak with one voice, a meeting was told 35 04 02 & a

1935 04 06
30 mph speed limit brought back after 4 years due to number of accidents [1.5]

1935 05 21
According to the recent census taken for military purposes, Cambridge has a horse population of 779, excluding railway and military animals. This is abnormally high, being roughly twice as many as any other town of its size. In the riding horse and hunter class Cambridge takes fourth place in the country but the town is poorly supplied with carriage and trap horses. People have forsaken the horse for wheeled outings though there are still a few residents who prefer to sit behind a horse instead of a petrol engine. It seems that the motor salesmen of Cambridge are extraordinarily efficient. 35 05 21

1935 05 24
Matthew's bakery electrically-driven delivery van – 35 05 24

1935 07 27

Belisha Beacons have now been installed in Cambridge, whether we like them or not. They are on Market Street corner near Sainsbury's, between Christ's college and St Andrew's church, near the Midland Bank in Petty Cury, the 'Jolly Waterman' on Victoria Avenue and between Christ's Pieces and New Square. It is just as well the undergraduates are not here to see their erection. Perhaps we shall all have become thoroughly accustomed to them where our young friends come up 35 07 27b

1935 10 12
Roundabouts proposed for Cherry Hinton Road/Hills Road, Cherry Hinton Road/Perne Road [2.16]

1936 03 21
Many people have wondered about the object of the black and white poles which have sprung up along St Andrew's Street and Hills Road. The Ministry of Transport have finally given permission to the system of unilateral parking and the posts will be adorned with notices warning motorists not to park on the wrong side of the road on the wrong day. There is also some reason for believing that the new 'one-way' streets will also be brought into operation before very long. 36 03 21a

1936 03 23
Unilateral parking came into force in Cambridge on Saturday. Between Regent Street and the Old Post Office parking is now allowed for 15 minutes in any one hour on one side of the road on even dates and on the other side on odd. There is one short stretch against Emmanuel Street in which no parking is allowed, owing to the difficulty of traffic coming in and out of the town through this narrow street. Readers should remember they cannot now leave their cars for any longer than 15 minutes as this is the limit. 36 03 23b

1936 03 27
Cambridge Police had a busy time when the new system of one-way traffic came into being. They were based at the end of all the affected streets and strangers must have wondered at the cordon thrown round the town. But it was necessary for despite all the notices many motorists attempted to make their way along the street from the wrong end and were stopped. And, by the way, the new restrictions apply equally to cyclists who will not be allowed to walk with their machines against the streams of traffic – 36 03 27

1936 03 28
Under new restrictions Cambridge motorists may not travel from Market Hill towards Trinity Street or into Bene't Street from King's Parade. You may not drive into Sussex Street from Hobson Street or into Corn Exchange Street from Downing Street, nor turn at Burton's Corner, Petty Cury to go to the Victoria Cinema or from Wheeler Street into Peas Hill to get to the Arts Theatre. But cyclists may walk with their bicycles either way as they do at present in Petty Cury and Market Street. Restaurants will have to speed up their service if they wish to cater for those who leave their cars outside, for only a quarter of an hour is permitted. Travellers who do not want to get indigestion had better make use of a parking space! 36 03 28b

1936 07 15
James Street was the scene of one of the most serious blazes Cambridge has experienced in years. It started when a Ford van caught fire at the premises of William Scott, house decorators, builders, motor and coach painters. It spread to their motor-body room where a number of cars were in for renovation. The place was soon a veritable inferno as drums of paint and oil exploded. Flames engulfed ladders and handcarts belonging to the Cambridge Window Cleaning Company

then Messrs Pate's builders workshops which were reduced to ashes or scrap. The damage must run to many thousands of pounds 36 07 15 & a

1936 10 09
King & Harper open new garage Hills Road [10.2]

1936 12 10
Murkett Brothers, automobile engineers, who have large garages in Huntingdon, Peterborough and Bedford, opened their new premises on the corner of Huntingdon & Histon Road in May 1931. Owing to the satisfactory service they have given business has developed to such an extent that an additional garage is shortly to be built. This will cater for commercial vehicles and heavy repairs, whilst the Huntingdon Road depot will be for new and second-hand cars, with light repairs and service facilities 36 12 10i

1937 02 06
Although rebuilt as recently as 1935, Robinson's garage in St Andrew's Street has again been enlarged to meet ever-increasing business. This has enabled them to enlarge their radio department which is quite distinct from the motoring side of the business. It is staffed by men who have made radio their special study and offers hundreds of brand-new sets (some in their original cases) at pounds below list prices. The radio service department is one of the finest in the entire country with engineers from Marconi, H.M.V. and Pye factories. 37 02 06c & d

1937 02 10
Roy Fox, the famous band leader who is appearing at the Theatre-Cinema, toured Cambridge businesses. He travelled in his own Rolls Royce to the main showrooms of Cambridgeshire Motors in Cherry Hinton Road. He always likes to visit the showrooms of the main Ford dealers because so many of his boys use this make of car. "I like Fords. They are a fine job and Cambridgeshire Motors have a wonderful range of them. Their service department struck me as being O.K. Being an American I like this town of yours. It is a great change to find such a wonderful shopping centre in such a beautiful setting", he told our reporter before continuing his tour. 37 02 10a

1937 02 27
The Cambridge Light Car Company opened premises in Hills Road about six years ago as Used Car Showrooms. The business rapidly increased and within two years the management found it necessary to take larger garage premises in Norwich Street for car storage and repairs. They were appointed distributors for the now famous High-class Triumph cars that have come rapidly to the fore during the last four seasons. They are also Morris deals and stock Standard, Austin and other popular makes of car 37 02 27

1937 03 15
Ministry of Transport proposals to minimise street parking have called forth dissention from many motorists. We in Cambridge know there has been a steady increase in our shops by the more modern method of road transport. A large proportion of those who come from outlying districts to buy the week's commodities are private car owners. To refuse to allow cars to be parked for a reasonable period outside the place of purchase would cause many to give Cambridge a wide berth. Motorists are already taxed up to the hilt and police courts would be more than ever congested with these trivial offences. 37 03 15

1938 01 29
Cyclists want cars banned - cartoon [6.19]

1938 10 07
Underground car park on Market Hill proposed [6.20]

1938 10 15
Marshalls' spacious new motor premises on Jesus Lane include an entrance and exit to the petrol and oil filling stations, wide enough for three lines of traffic. There are showrooms on three upper floors which are approached by ramps, with the stores department in the basement. The garage and workshops behind is equipped with the most modern and up-to-date machinery and run by a large and efficient staff. The whole is laid out to afford every luxury and comfort for the motorist 38 10 15, b

1938 11 29
In 1903 it was a small cycle shop. Today it is a handsome building comprising car showrooms, up-to-date workshops, radio and cycle showrooms with an efficient service department. Such is the remarkable history of Messrs Herbert Robinson whose modern premises are one of the features of Cambridge. Herbert Robinson senior, the present Managing Director, was the founder of the firm and other members of his family are directors 33 11 29b

1939 03 02
Butts Green parking place debated [1.26]

1939 08 23
King & Harper garage – reminiscences of H.H. Harper – 39 08 23a, b

1940

1941 01 25
Council debate prohibition car parking in Drummer Street [3.2]

1942 07 10
David Gregory Marshall killed while riding, founded flying school and motor company; bought first plane at end war and erected hangar; founded Flying School in 1929 and built airfield 1938 – 42 07 10a

1943 06 24
Liddiards Garage demonstration of how 80,000 vehicles engaged on essential work may be kept running without calling on motor manufacturers for spare parts and replacement – welding – 43 06 24

1944 02 26
W. King started as bicycle maker and agent in 1896, built motor bicycles and motor tricycles and won Gold Medal for Best Motor Bicycle at Motor Exhibition in Crystal Palace, 1902' reliability medals. Saw 4 h-p Peugeot car with man walking in front with flag, driver C.S. Rolls. First motor experience was to Ely and back on a De Dion tricycle with coach-built trailer attached which, with French mechanic, Rolls brought from France – 44 02 26

1944 10 11
Underground petrol storage tanks which were filled with water as an anti-invasion measure now being emptied and will be filled with petrol; soon lorries and cars will not have to queue for petrol at 'official' stations – 44 10 11

1945 08 31
Volunteer Car Pool provided cars and drivers for the sick and those engaged on work of national service for whom no alternative means of transport, Cambridge drivers in their 70's have done over 40,000 miles – CDN 1945 08 31a

1946 07 19
Undergraduates under 22 banned for keeping a motor vehicle within 25 miles Gt St Mary's if proposals accepted; those eligible to drive will need licence from Proctor – 46 07 19

1946 12 07
A.G. Mackeggie of Foxton garage builds own motor car – 46 12 07

1947 01 14
One-way system introduced Sidney Street, St Johns St & Trinity St, Green St

1947 07 12
Council discuss acquiring Lion Hotel yard for car park at cost of £44,665 [3.6]

1947 07 30
Sir - When will something be done about the disgraceful state of the traffic in Petty Cury, Cambridge. I understood some time ago that steps were being taken to stop the parking of cars on the left side of this narrow thoroughfare. Far from this being done, it is now worse than ever. Saturday, with the exception of the entrance to the Lion Hotel there were 15 large cars parked from Sidney Street to Guildhall Street, and as prams and mail carts can only use the sidewalks, pedestrians who venture on the street are taking serious risks of getting knocked down. Truly a street only fit for the quick or the dead - letter from W.M.F., Gt Shelford 47 07 30

1947 09 30
The Chief Constable (B.N.Bebbington) told Cambridge Rotary Club that he would like to see a scheme whereby traffic was banned - at least buses and heavy traffic - in the centre of Cambridge. "In Petty Cury on Saturdays there is insufficient room for traffic, let alone pedestrians. It would be more satisfactory if that central part of the town was for pedestrian traffic only. That is a sweeping thing to say and will not find favour in all quarters". Referring to criticism that the one-way traffic scheme soon to be introduced in the centre of town was "the wrong way round" he explained that it diverted from the town centre the large amount of traffic going to the station from the Chesterton direction and would encourage lorry drivers passing through Cambridge to take the route through the Backs. More car parks in the centre of the town were obviously a need, and there were plans in existence to provide them c47 09 30

1947 12 08
One thing I found out on making a tour of the Regional Petroleum Office in Chaucer Road, Cambridge was that stories of endless delay and general chaos in dealing with applications for petrol coupons are quite unfounded. I went into the hut in the garden where the coupons are prepared for despatch - an envy-evoking sight for petrol-thirsty motorists. A score of men were counting, rubber stamping and recording the issue of hundreds of coupons of all kinds. Each one deals with between 150 and 200 applications at day; the quickest worker in the room, a woman, has dealt with 300 a day, She seemed to stamp coupons almost as quickly as you can flick over the pages of a book 47 12 08

1948 05 01

Council announce intention to acquire Lion Yard as parking place [3.8]

1948 06 01
Today the one-way traffic system designed to relieve congestion in the centre of Cambridge came into operation. In Sidney Street and Bridge Street the traffic will flow in a northerly direction towards Magdalene Street from the town centre, while in St John's Street and Trinity Street it will flow in a southerly direction towards King's Parade. In Green Street traffic will flow in one direction from Gifford Place to Trinity Street - and the remainder of Green Street will be open for two-way traffic. This extension of "one-way" traffic will link up with the system now in operation at St Mary's street, Market Hill (north side) and Market Street

1948 11 26
Traffic scenes on Market Hill were televised to the Accident Prevention Exhibition in the Corn Exchange. 'Closed-circuit' as it is called is the latest development of the Cambridge firm of Pye Ltd. Two cameras were operated, one fixed to the balcony of the Guildhall and the other on top of a van at the corner of Petty Cury. Along this narrow, one-way street, between 8am and 6pm approximately 7,000 bicycles and 2,000 other vehicles pass each weekday. [CDN 26th November 1948].

1949 02 19
Driving summons against an MP fails - car, pedestrian & cyclist in accident Mill Road [4.1]

1949 03 17
Death of Mr king of King & Harper, firm celebrate Jubilee 1950[4.2, 4.13]

1949 12 20
Holford proposed Inner Relief Roads Christ's Pieces to Huntingdon Road, East Road to Milton Road, Barton Road to Madingley Road to Huntingdon road [4.12]

1950

1950
'50 car club formed 53 01 17 [6.1]

1950 06 03
Petrol rationing ends, Petroleum Regional Office received 300,000 applications over 10 years, 180,000 motorists in receipt of petrol when rationing ends [4.14]

1950 06 12
Traffic congestion is not yet as serious in Cambridge as it is in some other towns. Except at peak hours a car can do the run from the University Arms to the Round Church in less than three minutes. But if within the next ten or twenty years cars become cheaper, and if the population of urban Cambridge continues to grow at its present rate, the volume of traffic in the centre may easily double. How long will the narrow awkwardly aligned streets and difficult junctions be able to cope with a load that is steadily increasing and may without warning experience a sudden increase?
1950 11 18
An unseen stationary radar 'eye' checked the speed of vehicles on the Madingley Road during the last fortnight. The 'eye' belonged to a 'radar speed meter', an American device which is having its first full-scale operational test in England. A small green van on the roadside house the equipment. The 'eye' was concealed in an ordinary cardboard box on top of the vehicle 50 11 18

1950 11 30
Local tradesmen are becoming worried about the parking situation in Cambridge. They fear that if this goes on the people will not come shopping in the town, said a solicitor appearing for a motorist summoned for a parking offence. Altogether there were 16 cases before the court and fines totalling £12 10s were imposed. One motorist, whose car was punctured late one night, parked it in a side street off Mill Road and knowing that the battery would last only two hours at the most had not put his lights on. There was nothing else he could do. He was fined 10s.

1950 12 04
Sir – Cambridge tradesmen are beginning to fear lest they should lose an appreciable amount of custom as a result of the prohibitions regarding shopping by car in the principal streets of the town. Let the general body of tradesmen follow the example which a few far-seeing individuals have already set – that of opening suburban branches to which the main trade can, in course of time, be transferred. Let nothing be done to retard the growth of the brave new Cambridge visualised by our civic leaders – a dream city from which vehicular traffic of every kind has been excluded and from which all the crumbling and deserted business premises have gradually been swept away – D.B.M.C.

1950 12 30
A plea for the Borough Court to bring pressure to bear on the corporation to provide better parking facilities in Cambridge was made by a solicitor when he appeared on behalf of a motorist summoned for causing a motor car to wait in St Andrew's Street for a longer period than the permitted 15 minutes. "I feel it is only a matter of time before every motorist in Cambridge comes to court because he is forced to leave his car somewhere. The parking situation is a nightmare', said Mr A.H. Wild. 'One feels the police are carrying this vendetta to extreme lengths", he added.

1951 01 09
First lollipop man starts at Morley School, first lollipop lady at St Luke's school [5.2, 5.11]

1951 01 25
Cambridge council agreed to a proposal that Mr Liddiard's garage on St Andrew's Hill should be pulled down and the space used as a private car park at £12 per annum. Ald Priest said: "Here is a simple scheme whereby anybody who likes to pay £1 a month can be reasonably assured of his car park any time of the day he likes". Ald James opposed saying those who started their business at 9am had no difficulty in finding parking spaces c51 01 25

1951 01 29
"More central space needed for parking ... people shop in other towns" [5.5]

1951 03 14
Council consider ramped car park, Lion Yard, to have space for180 cars but would be scaled down to 325 if Holford plans were approved [5.3, 5.6]

1951 03 17
Improvements to Island at junction Hills Road & Scotland Road [5.8]

1951 03 17
Survey of parking shows 59,257 cars parked on Market Hill 43,582 on New Square 80,585 on Lion Yard during 1949-50 – 51 03 17 [5.7]

1951 04 05
Regent Terrace park proposed April, complaints May, deferred June [5.9, 5.12]

1951 04 20
"Despite shortage of new cars traffic is only slightly less than in 1938, but commercial traffic has doubled" [5.10]

1951 06 15
A new one-way traffic system around the Cambridge guildhall comes into operation on Monday. The direction of traffic in Wheeler Street will be reversed to complete the circulatory flow around the guildhall into an anti-clockwise direction and traffic around Market Hill in a clockwise flow. Buses will be unaffected by the new order but say instead of hordes of cyclists crossing over in their path all vehicles will turn in the direction the buses approach the guildhall. The scheme has resulted from the necessity to ease traffic around the guildhall in view of the proposed Lion Yard car park development

1951 06 21
Trades Council call for car parks on outskirts & all waiting in Cambridge abolished [5.13]

1951 07 20
"Utmost vigilance" on the part of the Cambridge Trades Council was needed to make sure the city council does not "pull a fast one" in its proposals to reserve a slice of Parker's Piece for car parking facilities. "I think the City council have put this back for six months and will bring it up again when they think it has all died down", said the chairman. "We don't want to lose even a piece of one of the city's cherished beauty spots". There was no need for a parking site in Regent Terrace as the accommodation of other parking places was not being overtaxed c51 07 20

1952 01 05
Zebra crossing installed Petty Cury [5.14]

1952 01 21
Sir. Twenty-five years ago Magdalene College started a scheme which might have involved the widening of Magdalene Street and the removal of buildings opposite the college. But it does not now contemplate the completion of the scheme and is now strongly opposed to the widening of the street and the demolition of the buildings on the west side. The College would be strongly prejudiced if it should be divided by a street similar in character to the widened part of Bridge Street and would strongly object to such a change of character and loss of amenity in the neighbourhood – Henry Willink, Master. CDN c 21.1.1952

1952 01 23
33 out of 45 pedestrian crossings retained after Ministry calls for a reduction in number [5.15]

1953 05 01
Six zebra crossings abandoned because of high cost of installing flashing lights, (crossings technically illegal until July 1954 when lights installed) [6.4, 6.8]

1954 01 22
Proposals to erect traffic lights at the junction of East Road and Newmarket Road, Cambridge were debated by councillors. One said: "Lights are not needed here; they are an obstruction and an annoyance to drivers, another added: "The speed of traffic is about half of other towns and

now we are proposing to slow it up still further". A roundabout would be better than lights. But another said: "As a cyclist I am conscious of danger every time I pass the junction, which is blind in more than one direction, you have to be darned quick or you are dead" CDN c 22.1.1954 [3.12]

1954 03 15
Propose to demolish properties Corn Exchange Street to enlarge Lion Yard parking [6.6]

1954 11 17
The Automobile Association has put into service a new radio transmitting station from their Cambridge headquarters in Hills Road which gives continuous communication with 'A.A.' patrols with a radius of 40 miles. There are six radio-controlled motor-cycle combinations together with a Land Rover to provide prompt assistance for motorists whenever a breakdown occurs on the road. CDN 17.11.1954 [6.7, 6.11]

1955 04 23
34 Belisha beacons stolen between January & April [6.13]

1955 06 21
Cromwell Road petrol station development for Esso opened [6.9]

1955 06 30
The latest car being offered for sale by Brian Lister Light Engineering of Cambridge is a Lister-Bristol which costs £2,150. They are sold as chassis or complete vehicles and fitted with disc brakes. Already more than a dozen are running in the hands of private owners. Meanwhile a racing car has been rebuilt at Parkside from an original 'Iota' chassis by Tony Crosse and Jim Denholm. It is intended for sprints and speed trials and has a maximum speed of 105 mph. 55 06 03a 55 06 03b

1955 12 13
Current trends in two-wheeled transport seem to be moving in favour of the motor-scooter. Now Hallen's have opened a new showroom in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge devoted solely to scooters and 'mopeds' (known to the uninitiated as auto-cycles) which illustrates the increased public demand for this form of transport. 55 12 13

1956
Birches garage started, moved Milton road 1970 [12.4]

1956 03 01
A fire-eating gargantuan of a bygone era made its last journey when a steam-powered 'Super Sentinel Wagon' completed its last run at the end of a degrading tow from another vehicle. For the monster, which started service with the Gas Company in 1928, is no longer able to run on its own steam. It carried coal from Coldham's Lane sidings to the works but today stands in Messrs Silverman's scrapyard in Ditton Walk awaiting the oxy-acetylene cutters which will render it a heap of metal. 56 03 01f

1956 03 30
If the number of cars increases motorists won't be able to get in to Cambridge very easily because of all the stationary cars cluttering up the streets and the whole problem of parking is extremely frustrating. It is time to get tough. If we must set up car parks outside the city and run the people in by special buses then we mustn't hesitate. But the land once occupied by the old Shire Hall courts on Castle Hill would make a good site for a multi-deck car park. 56 03 30b

1956 06 18
Herbert Robinson's contemporary-style filling and service station has opened on the London Road at Trumpington. It is one of the most up-to-date in the country. All groups of Shell petrols are supplied from the latest type pumps and an Avery Hardoll 'Petroiler' for two-stroke motor-cycles is also available while the latest type Weaver auto-wash equipment will clean any car in 15 minutes. 56 06 18a

1956 10 16
Councillors say that multi-storey car parks should be provided at Lion Yard, Saxon Street, Park Street and New Square and 170 cars should be parked on the site of the existing police flats at Parkside. But traffic congestion in Cambridge has become so acute that 'No Waiting' restrictions should be imposed in the central area and King Street made one-way. 56 10 16a

1956 10 20
Cartoon – Cambridge parking – car on spike – 56 10 20d

1956 10 20
Suggestion for car parks outside centre rather than in Lion Yard [6.23]

1956 11 23
A Sentinel steam wagon has been recommissioned at the Cambridge Gas Works as a means of conserving petrol. It has been out of action since May when it was taken off the road because of its age. It is the only vehicle of its type now working in the country and will be used for conveying coal from the Coldham's Lane sidings to the Gas Works. 56 11 23

1956 11 23
A 15-minute car washing service is a feature of the new car valeting station opened by King and Harper in Cherry Hinton Road. Now the farmer who arrives at the Cattle Market with a muddy car will have little excuse for returning home with it dirty. The new station has been growing rapidly; the latest island type petrol pumps provide a full range of fuels and an up-to-date greasing bay can cope with lubricating problems. 56 11 23a

1956 11 29
Preparation for petrol rationing began in mid-November and thousands of applications for supplementary rations are arriving at the Ministry of Fuel and Power at Brooklands Avenue. Local garages say there has been little panic buying as most motorists already have their tanks full and merely call in for the odd gallon to remain topped up. But when rationing is introduced garages will only be able to obtain supplies on production of coupons handed to them by customers. Should a garage run out of petrol they will have to go without for as long as the rationing continues. 56 11 29 a & b

1956 12 03
This is a bad time for motorists. Not only are we faced with a meagre petrol ration but it is likely to cost more as (because of the Suez conflict) every gallon of Middle East oil has to be brought by the long route via the Cape. The Chancellor should reduce the tax on petrol to keep the price the same. Many people depend on a motor car for their livelihood and why should they have to use their allowance of 200 gallons a month to travel to work. But Marshall's report a good response to their economy tune-up service. 56 12 03b

1957 02 16

At long last there is a street in Cambridge where cars can be parked during the hours of darkness without lights. Eleven lamp-posts in Station Road bear a special sign that mean motorists can park without even switching on the new 'clip-on' parking lights. Police say this is for the convenience of car owners who wish to travel by train and live some distance from the station. 57 02 16

1957 03 22
US jeep heading convoy of high explosives collides with ambulance [6.27]

1957 04 03
The opening of Herbert Robinson's new Sales and Service department on Newmarket Road, equipped with every aid to modern truck servicing techniques, marks another important step in the development of the company who are Rootes Group dealers for Cambridgeshire. From a cycle shop bought in 1905 has grown the present concern embracing the motor, cycle and radio industries. 57 04 03

1957 04 06
New traffic lights, Lensfield Rd [6.30]

1957 05 15
A revolutionary – even fantastic – scheme has been put forward to use Cambridge Castle Mound as a multi-deck car park. Tunnels would be driven into it to provide space for hundreds of cars with be entrances from Chesterton Lane, Huntingdon Road and Magrath Avenue. The dirt excavated could be used for filling in Coldham's Lane pit, providing more parking spaces or building land. There will no doubt be many objections. 57 05 15

1957 05 17
Proposals have been announced for an underground car park at Parker's Piece capable of accommodating about 5,000 vehicles. When complete it would be unaltered on the surface but beneath would be many acres of car parking space with four sloping entrances. It will take two years to build and be cheaper the present scheme for a multi-deck park on Lion Yard a councillor claims 57 05 17a [6.25, 6.30]

1957 05 23
Messrs C. Holland won their appeal to erect a petrol filling station on the corner of Ross Street and Mill Road. The site is at present occupied by a house and garden, the surrounding area is predominately residential but with some schools, shops, social clubs and industry. In such areas motorists prefer to fill their tanks locally at the start of the day & it would not increase traffic risks to children. 57 05 23

1957 06 18
It could cost less than £400,000 to build a car park for 800 vehicles under Parker's Piece. This is less than a multi-deck on the Lion Yard site that could only take 500 cars. The charge would be 1s 3d (07p) a session, whereas Lion Yard would be at least twice that sum. If motorists are going to be charged half-a-crown (12p) a time for the 'honour' of parking in the centre they will leave their cars outside the city or not even come at all. Then local trade would suffer, councillors claim. 57 06 18 [7.1, 7.2]

1957 07 23
Plans for a new car park at Parkside should be deferred until the proposed underground park at Parker's Piece is debated, councillors say. But they would deplore anything which would affect

its amenities. The ground would take three years to be 'reinstated' ready for playing and there would be an area of the Piece which would be permanently sterilised by the construction of entrance and exit ramps, emergency escapes and ventilation apparatus. 57 07 23

1957 08 24
National Benzole want to open a three-pump filling station on Newmarket Road opposite the junction the Coldham's Lane. The property belonged to Mr West and was used for the maintenance and storage of motor vehicles with three pumps behind a screen wall. They would knock down two adjoining properties to widen the frontage. But planners say the city fire station was across the road and it would hold up the flow of traffic. There were eight other petrol stations on the left-hand side of the road as far as Bottisham. 52 08 24 & a & b

1957 09 05
R.W. Suttle has been connected with the motor industry since serving his apprenticeship with Cambridge Automobile Engineering Company. In 1912 he drove an army staff car when Lord Roberts took the salute during the Army manoeuvres. He later moved to Detroit where he worked on Henry Ford's Model 'T' on which he had his first driving lesson. Now he is in charge of the Cambridge branch of the British School of Motoring. 57 09 05b

1957 10 14
Proposals for an 800-space car park under Parker's Piece are technically impossible, opponents say. There are 'certain unsound features', it would be detrimental to the area and it would take years for the ground to be reinstated. The cost would probably be as great as that of the planned scheme in Lion Yard, though no car park of this nature has yet been constructed. But Labour councillors want it carried out as a matter of urgency. 57 10 14

1957 10 18
In 20 years' time Lion Yard car park will be outdated as the centre of the City will eventually have to be roped off from traffic, Canon Mervyn Stockwood told the council. He had frequently been up to the top of Great St Mary's and seen the appalling havoc of the central area in recent years. Now they proposed to put up a 'cheap and efficient sort of skyscraper'. He continued: "We are custodians of one of the most famous cities in the world. That sort of building cannot add to the dignity and loveliness of Cambridge" 57 10 18c

1957 10 18
Parker's Piece scheme rejected – 57 10 18b

1957 10 19
Trumpington petrol station appeal – 57 10 19a

1957 11 20
Park Street car park inquiry at Shire Hall – 57 11 20b

1958 03 27
Park street plan approved, Mar [7.13]

1958 05 12
Radar trap meters have been in action in Cambridge during a speed checking programme. Results showed the majority of motorists were travelling at 36 mph with 276 vehicles going 40 mph or over and the highest recorded was 52 mph. The police say the use of the radar instrument was not

publicised so speeds were what was normally experienced. They have no intention of using it to bring offenders to court at present 58 05 12

1958 09 27
Parking facilities in Cambridge were inadequate, said the Chief Constable. With more than 600 vehicles passing over Magdalene Bridge each hour, Park Street was a convenient site for a car park. Saxon Street park had been finished last week, work on King Street had not started and the Parkside car park was only a small one. Park Street was the one that should have first priority as a surface and multi-deck car park. But a thatched house in Clement Street built about 1700 should not be destroyed by 'this cement desert' 58 09 27 b c d

1958 10 09
Houses in Gothic street & Doric street demolished for new car park, Oct. [7.14] - pic 58 10 09a

1958 11 28
Proposal to take part of Parkers Piece for car park, Nov [7.15]

1959 01 16
Pedestrianisation plans announced [7.17]

1959 02 23
The Lucas depot on the Newmarket Road offers expert overhaul of fuel injection diesel engines with special equipment beyond the financial reach of many garages. They also check and overhaul Lucas electrical equipment. The stores hold nearly 4,000 bits and pieces each sealed in polythene and 'factory fresh'. There are batteries for scooters, tractors, whoppers for special jobs and units for the locally-built Lister Jaguars. Practically everyone who works there lives in Cambridge 59 02 23

1959 04 24
Parkers Piece reprieved, consider Donkey common, Apr [7.18]

1959 04 29
Lion Yard underground car park suggested, Apr [7.19]

1959 06 20
Park & ride suggested, Jun. [7.20]

1959 10 16
Cleveland Discol garages listed – 59 10 16c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 01 21
council drop Butts Green plan [7.21]

1960 04 26
Parking meters may be installed in Cambridge. It would cost sixpence to park for half-an-hour in an inner zone. When the time has expired a yellow flag flicks up and a patrolling parking attendant will place a yellow excess charge notice on the car. It can then stay for a further period

when a red flag flicks up. This makes the motorist subject to prosecution in the courts. Two hours later and the car can be towed away. Councillors expect a certain amount of objections from shop-keepers and think yellow lines on the roads will injure the town's appearance. 60 04 26a [7.22]

1960 07 01
For more than a year now, Cambridgeshire police patrol cars have been fitted with 35mm cameras mounted behind the windscreen. The photographs of road offenders in action have been used to obtain several convictions of careless drivers. Far more pictures are taken than actually used in prosecutions and constables are encouraged to use the cameras on every possible occasion. It also saves time waiting for a photographer to be sent out from Cambridge to record details of a road accident 60 07 01d

1960 09 01
Bill Walton joined the staff of King and Harper at their Thompson's Lane garage in 1910. In his early days he was concerned with the extremely temperamental racing car 'Chitty-Bang-Bang II'. This powerful monster consisted mainly of an ex-Zeppelin airship engine mounted on a Mercedes chassis. Another of his charges was a 'Prince Henry' Metallurique which in 1912 was the fastest car ever seen in Cambridge. He once went to a customer's house to collect a car only to find it could only be moved in reverse. He drove it backwards to the Bridge Street garage through Saturday afternoon traffic. 60 09 01

1960 09 07
Sidney Street widened to ease traffic flow [7.23a]

1960 10 10
Harold H. Harper was one of the outstanding men of the motor world. Born in 1878, the son of the village blacksmith at Therfield, he had an early enthusiasm for things mechanical, taking an interest in pedal cycles. In 1897, whilst the academic quiet of Cambridge was being disturbed by its first motor car, he started working in a small Cambridge cycle shop with another enthusiastic young man, W. King. It was the start of a business association which developed into King and Harper. He was a founder member of the Cambridge Rotary Club and took a keen interest in the Air Training Corps.60 10 10a

1960 10 12
Sir – plans to make the centre of Cambridge a 'Pink Zone' with parking meters will have serious implications. Whereas currently 50 cars are parked in Jesus Lane, only 30 can be accommodated at meters. The result will be chaos with cars milling round in vain trying to find a parking space. Can anyone imagine a motorist being prepared to pay sixpence or a shilling to leave his car for three minutes while he takes his suit to the cleaners? Lion Yard is often full by 9.30 am and if the city is to prosper we must have space for vehicles. The only answer is to provide some very large multi-deck parks, then make motorists use them by restricting waiting on the street – 'Fair Play' 60 10 12

1960 12 09
"Parking problem continues to grow" feature [7.23]

1961 01 20
New Square was a very good site for a multi-deck car park, councillors were told. But Coun P.J. Warren said that when the site was conveyed to the Corporation in 1923 they'd given an undertaking that no building would ever be erected there. Even now they were spoiling the best

example of domestic lay-out in Cambridge. People who lived in New Square already had enough to put up with without such a suggestion. It should never be raised again in their lifetime, the Traffic Committee agreed 61 01 20

1961 01 25
Corner at Northampton St traffic lights being widened [19.8]

1961 02 04
There are battered wrecks of old bangers at the Coldham's Lane scrap yard. Doors are missing, wheels stripped of their tyres, bonnet reveal nothing but hanging wires and windows have either been broken or removed. "When we turn vehicles upside down we can see what a state the rusty chassis, worn steering and braking systems are really in," said Mr Les Rich who runs the yard. Business has increased since the roadworthiness tests were introduced for vehicles made before 1937 and hundreds more will now find their way to the breakers' yards 61 02 04a

1961 05 04
Cambridge garages will be affected by new regulations designed to reduce the number of swinging arm type petrol pumps which serve petrol through a hose extending over the footpath to reach the vehicle. Some garages say they expect a reduction of 50 per cent in their sales as people will not drive into the garage building to get their petrol and will go elsewhere. But serving petrol in the street, as opposed to a forecourt, causes traffic jams 61 05 04b

1961 07 20
Herbert Robinson's premises in Regent Street were erected in the early 1930s to the design of George Banyard, a well-known architect responsible for a number of Cambridge's principal buildings. They comprise extensive showrooms, garages and workshops together with substantial office premises known as Llandaff Chambers. Now they are transferring to spacious new premises on Newmarket Road and the property is being offered for sale. The firm are retaining the electrical showrooms at 14 Regent Street 61 07 20 [12.8]

1961 10 20
We're giving away petrol! To mark the opening of our new garage in Newnham Road, Cambridge, we will give each customer on the opening day one gallon of Shell petrol completely free of charge. We are open every day from 8 to 8 offering a Super Service and the kind of attention that makes so much difference to your motoring. B.E. Cocks & Co. – Advert. 61 10 20c

1961 12 01
Traffic lights installed at junction Brooklands Avenue and Trumpington Rd – 61 02 01

1962 01 26
Mitcham's experiment - sends traffic along Milton Rd to Chesterton Hall Crescent before back Chesterton Rd, protests, leads jams Chesterton Hall Crescent, dropped [19.10] [19.9]

1962 02 02
The city council want a three-storey car park in King Street, between Malcolm Street and Manor Street. There would be space for 260 cars together with a filling station and a maximum of nine shops. It would form part of the pattern of perimeter car parks with another in Park Street. There would be an inner 'control zone' and an outer area for car parking administered by meters. This would accommodate over 400 more vehicles and relieve congestion. Motorists were reluctant to use parks away from the city centre as they wanted to get as near as possible to their places of work, an Inquiry was told. 62 02 20 & a 62 03 22a [7.24]

1962 04 17
Parking meters approved [7.25]

1962 05 29
Fuel cells may soon provide power for motor cars, writes Rodney Tibbs, News motoring correspondent. The cells, which were developed by Mr Bacon of Great Shelford, have an ability to produce electric current. I remember that at the original demonstration in Cambridge the cell was shown operating a fork lift truck. Now the Chrysler Corporation say they may take the place of conventional car power units within the next ten years. The immediate goal is to produce a cell which will use a simple hydrocarbon fuel such as petrol mixed with air in place of dangerous gases 62 05 29

1962 06 05
Traffic speed limit outskirts now 40 [19.11]

1962 06 09
"Leave all cars at city boundary & travel by bus" [19.12]

1962 09 15
Herbert Robinson's electrical premises with a large double frontage in Regent Street have been sold to a Messrs Skertchley, the cleaners and dyers for a price in the region of £100,000 (c£1.7m today). The firm has been selling the remaining electrical equipment at reduced prices with two-year old television sets down to £15 (£263 now). On two occasions the shop together with the adjacent garage and Llandaff Chambers have failed to reach the reserve price at auction 62 09 15

1962 09 28
The last resting place of many Cambridge vehicles is Rich's yard off Coldham's Lane. To this graveyard of motor vehicles come hundreds of cars and lorries worn out with old age or cut off in the prime of life through accidents. If they are of a type still running on the highway they are stripped of anything that might be transferred to a similar vehicle. So the yard is a mass of broken bodies and skeleton parts, old shafts, old springs and old engines. The bodies are broken up further and sent away for export, mainly to Japan where they are crushed and melted down. 62 09 28

1963 03 22
Logie scheme for underground loop road & car parks from Emmanuel Road to Jesus Lane to give traffic access but unspoilt centre [7.26]

1963 04 03
The new car park at the rear of Queen Anne Terrace has now been completed and is open for public use, free of charge. It adjoins the car park at the new swimming pool which can accommodate 67 cars and has been constructed as part of the council's policy for traffic control in anticipation of the Minister's approval of the parking meter scheme. The multi-storey car park in Park Street should be in use by the middle of the year and a decision is awaited on an application for another in King Street 63 04 03

1963 04 20
Ministry receive 53 objections to meters, Apr; charges would be1/- hour inner zone, 1/- 2 hours outer zone; would be profit of £10,000 pa on controlled scheme, income from meters would pay for themselves within 3 years [8.2, 16.6]

1963 07 16
The introduction of parking meters will cure Cambridge's traffic problems, say councillors. There will be sufficient off-street parking for motorists staying for any length of time. At present people move police 'No Waiting' signs and hope they will not be caught. When they drive away others pull into the gap without bothering to check whether they are in a restricted zone. Although police decorate them with pink tickets, the cars still obstruct a length of street until they are eventually moved. But many of the new parks are a considerable distance from the centre and motorists will just not park in Saxon Street or Queen Anne Terrace and walk in. Rooftop parking will have to be employed, perhaps at the former Herbert Robinson property. 63 07 16

1963 10 28
Park street multi-storey car park opens, Oct, thatched cottage to come down if extensions [8.4, 446.15.6]

1963 11 12
Chesterton Bridge scheme is top priority [19.14]

1963 11 15
Cambridgeshire Motors, the well-known Ford Main Dealer, was founded in 1923 and quickly grew from strength to strength. It established a reputation for personal attention and in 1928 purchased a new site in Cherry Hinton Road. In 1925 a branch was founded in Wisbech. Now it has been taken over by J.J. Wright, the Dereham motor and agricultural engineers which makes it one of the largest firms of its kind in East Anglia having grown from a one man concern started 75 years ago. 63 11 15a & b

1964
Granta Tyre Services ltd founded Ainsworth St, renamed Associated Tyre Specialists 72 03 10 [12.6]

1964 01 16
Logie wants traffic-free centre, traffic conditions frightful in centre on Saturday afternoons [19.15]

1964 04 02
The Mayor of Cambridge fed a parking meter on Peas Hill with a shilling "to make them hungry and ready to bite" as one official put it, and set the new parking scheme in motion. . Long queues of traffic soon formed in streets leading to the Lion Yard car park and motorists had some acid remarks about the meters. A moped rider complained about finding a ticket stuck to his bike with thirteen inches of sticky tape. From the number of excess charges shown on the meters the city coffers will soon begin to bulge 64 04 02b first parking meters empties streets, queues for car parks which fill & not enough meters; traders say meters upset sales, one reports 78% dip - 64 04 02b [12.9,16.7]

1964 07 07
"We must take action over parking", off-street parks near perimeter town centre [16.9]

1964 10 15
The City Architect will prepare a scheme for car parking on Cambridge council estates. This could be on the verge side, by rear access roads, garage courts and in front gardens. Coun. Reilly said it was wrong that people in private houses should be allowed to park in front of their

property while council house tenants were barred from doing so. This was especially clear in roads where there were both council and private properties. But his pleas for council tenants to park cars on their front gardens were defeated. 64 10 15a

1964 12 14
King & Harper showrooms in Bridge Street to be sold to Trinity College with a new sales centre built at Milton Road says Oliver Rix who acquired company in November 64 12 14c

1965 04 08
Double-yellow lines introduced, began painting March, 16 miles [16.10]

1966
Frank Holland introduced self-service pumps – 74 11 21 [12.2]

1966 01 19
New Square car park bridge, redevelopment [12.11]

1966 10 01
Ted Salisbury rented small garage in Cam Road in 1919, moved other side of road, kept Pye lorries on road during war, now retires – 66 10 01

1966 11 08
Motor show exhibition, Corn Exchange – 66 11 08

1966 11 22
First new 'blended' petrol pumps installed at BP garage, King and Harper's, Milton Rd – 66 11 22

1966 12 14
How much more traffic can Cambridge take – article – 66 12 14, 14a

1967 02 28
King & Harper garage clock tower crashed through roof, killing one man and injuring two others - 67 02 28

1967 05 19
Histon Road new Esso petrol station has showroom and servicing facilities – 67 05 19

1967 06 02
Traffic wardens start issuing on-the-spot tickets; if pay £2 fine motorists avoid a conviction – 67 06 02

1967 08 02
Mitcham's Corner redevelopment leaves row of houses on island [12.10,19.16]

1967 11 01
Surveyor's report on 'Cambridge Roads, Traffic & Car Parking' one of most comprehensive ... also instructive in another context - a notable lack of reference to the City Architects dept. & almost total absence of any obvious exchange of views [19.17]

1968 12 09

Walter Easy drives Cambridge taxis for 50 years; was provincial car company in 190 which started at old tram depot in East Road; father one of first to have motor transport – T-model Ford, later motor-cycle taxis – details – 68 12 09

1969
Cars stopped parking Market Hill [12.7]

1969 02 25
Wallis open new garage Mitcham's Corner – 69 02 25a,b

1969 05 02
Victoria Ave traffic 30,000 a day & worsening by 1,000 per hour in 7 years up to 1967 [17.1]

1969 05 30
Rose Crescent to close to traffic [17.2]

1969 12 12
Double parking meter charges [16.11]

1969 12 13
Christmas traffic kos police, streets blocked by cars en route Lion Yard, close Downing Street from St Andrews Street end, open outer parks; police use emergency powers 69 12 13

1970

1970
Ted Salisbury build new garage with showrooms on site of Elizabeth Way; started 52 years ago when heard rumours of new bridge – 71 03 18

1970 04 21
Park & ride suggestion [17.4]

1970 05 16
Birch's Garage began Victoria Road in 1956, moved Milton Road – feature – 70 05 16

1970 09 21
One-way scheme around Lion Yard car park experiment, causes one of biggest jams ever [17.5]

1970 12 31
Autoxhaust 1st of kind in Cambridge [12.5]

1971 02 22
Speed limits raised from 30-40 mph [16.1]

1971 03 24
Pelican crossings introduced [16.2]
1971 03 18
Magdalene St made one way from centre outwards due road works [17.6]

1971 05 22
100 more meters, double charges and double yellow lines introduced – 71 05 22

1971 07 13
Elizabeth bridge opened July [3.9]

1971 10 07
Queen Anne car park opened – 71 10 07

1971 11 15
Pressure to ban all traffic from Petty Cury [17.7]

1972 02 01
Petty Cury closed to traffic February, councillor celebrates with lunch in street, reopens end of month but closed & Corn Exchange Street opened June [12.13] [3.10]

1972 05 31
A free parking bonus will be given to motorists using Cambridge's show-piece Lion Yard car park during its first weeks operation after the opening date on July 24 The city's Traffic and Parking Committee decided to cut parking charges by 5p during the working day for the first week, which means one hour's free parking during each parking period. If a motorist leaves his car at Lion Yard for one hour or less it will be completely free 72 05 31

1972 06 05
Petty Cury, Cambridge, was closed to all vehicle traffic today and handed back to pedestrians for the second time this year. It is likely to stay closed to traffic for at least two years and perhaps permanently. The same city centre street was closed to traffic for a month's experiment in February which was rated highly successful. The whole of the southern side of Petty Cury will be demolished in the next three months and a new central library will appear within the next three years 72 06 05

1972 07 15
For simple country folk, such as myself, living to the north of Cambridge, the Elizabeth Bridge is a godsend. For a year now it has enabled me to leave my home, 17 miles from the city, at a civilised hour and be at my office desk within 30 minutes. And in the evenings all I have to do is find my lane and with minimal traffic hold-ups be out on the A10 to Ely again. It now seems hard to remember than once one allowed at least 20 minutes for the Newmarket road- Arbury road run at either peak hour: that to be stuck interminably at Mitcham's Corner was a commonplace. Today my only wish is that more and more improvements are allowed by the planners so that everyone can enjoy a quality of life freed as much as possible from traffic pollution c72 07 15

1972 12 07
Network of cycleways urged [17.8]

1973 01 26
Petty Cury & Guildhall St to be blocked Market Hill end, extend Petty Cury pedestrian scheme [17.9]

1973 01 27
I hope it will not have escaped notice that in the absence of any signals, traffic is now flowing through the Trumpington Road / Lensfield Road / Fen Causeway junction nearly as quickly as it did a year ago, when there was a power strike and the lights were not working. I am an everyday user of this particular junction and have noticed that traffic will always be clear, and on no

account is there any traffic jam, when the lights are not working. As soon as the council turns them on there is chaos everywhere. When will they ever learn the more they do to that particular junction the worse they make it - letter G.D.Mills 73 01 27 [16.3]

1973 03 09
Council adopt Travers Morgan report to cut central spine route but Government refuse ban traffic Kings Parade [17.10]

1973 03 15
Cambridge's notorious Trumpington Road - Lensfield Road junction was back to its old bunged-up state last night, with queues of smoking traffic and frustrated drivers paralysed by £3,000 worth of new, improved, traffic lights. Having been out of action for the best part of two months the lights came on again having been retimed, moved and the traffic flow redesignated by the traffic experts of the Department of the Environment's Bedford-based traffic unit. The junction's real test came at teatime and by 5.40 p.m. mutinous drivers were breathing imprecations through their exhaust fumes. Drivers were saying that 15 minutes had been added to their travelling time 73 03 15

1975 01 17
Until Sainsbury's opened their new filling station alongside the supermarket in Coldham's Lane, Holland Motors at the end of Mill Road provided the cheapest petrol in Cambridge. Sainsbury's station opened this week offering 4-star petrol only and no other forecourt services. Their price of 68p a gallon is regarded as something of an opening offer. Holland motors comes second with 4-star at 71p a gallon. The dearest is Oliver Rix at 74p 75 01 17

1975 02 13
Experimental closure in centre, close Kings Parade, Sidney St, St Andrews St; tea-party marks closure King's Parade [17.11]

1975 03 10
Magdalene Bridge closed 10 days for tests [17.12]

1975 03 13
Railway-route proposals buried [20.3]

1975 04 04
"Expense rules out East Road dualling" [17.13]

1975 06 11
2nd stage - one way Emmanuel Rd, Parkside, Parker St brings chaos & abandoned [17.14]

1975 07 17
Traders protest re central closure in advert CEN attacking councillors ... fear centre will die if no activity [17.15]

1975 09 17
First mini-roundabout Queens Road/Northampton St [18.1]

1975 11 11
Yet another traffic survey (£120,000 spent on Travers Morgan 1967) [18.2]

1975 12
Parking chaos at Christmas - 400 cars going round & round looking for parking places 76 01 08 [19.1]

1976 03 09
Work to turn Newmarket Rd into dual carriageway [18.3]

1976 05 05
'City traders who have lost business as result of traffic restrictions ... will just have to accept it' [18.4]

1976 06 08
Pound a gallon petrol, now a nightmarish possibility, would not only present problems to the motorist but to petrol companies as well. National Benzole gave a demonstration of futurist forecourt equipment, including a petrol pump head which could not only cope with metric measurements – litres instead of gallons – but which was also geared up for prices of a pound a gallon or more. If prices were to rise to 85p a gallon then most existing blender pumps would not be able to cope with it. Originally pumps were designed for prices like 33p per gallon 76 06 08

1976 07 30
The garage business of B.E. Cocks and Co. at Newmarket Road, Cambridge, has been bought by Marshall of Cambridge, and is to become a Leyland car centre. The purchase includes almost four acres of prime garage site next to the main A45 road, modern showrooms and repair facilities and the goodwill of a business which has been running in the city for almost half a century. This and the capturing of the Daimler, Jaguar, Rover and Triumph franchises from Wallis and Sons means the Marshall group is a real force against the big garage chains operating in the region 76 07 30

1976 08 02
An experimental free bus service for the Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge commenced at the weekend, providing the public with the first buses in the area for almost three years. 67 people made use of the first bus run at 10am on Saturday. The owner of the Talk of the Town shopping arcade, Mr Carl Owen, has hired one bus from the Eastern Counties Bus Company at a cost of £30 per day. He said he will hire more for a four-week period to prove the company were wrong to stop the service 76 08 02

1976 08 03
Traffic ban made permanent by Government [18.5]

1976 08 05
Bus lane Victoria Ave starts [18.6]

1976 11 06
Cambridge's experimental "Park-and-ride" scheme got off to a slow start today. The first bus left from the Cattle Market at 10 am and carried only 10 passengers. The scheme is designed to relive the normal pre-Christmas traffic congestion by allowing motorists to park free of charge and then buy a 15p return ticket to the city centre. It will operate each Saturday until January 8th with buses leaving every 15 minutes. The first passengers were enthusiastic about the acres of parking space available. "Its marvellous being able to park so easily" said Mr John Blackman, who had driven in from Sawston 76 11 06

1977 03 09

The experimental mini-roundabout at the junction of Newmarket Road and Coldham's Lane, Cambridge was working well on the first morning of its operation. Even at the height of the rush hour traffic was flowing smoothly. It has been put in temporarily while the traffic lights at the junction are being taken down; they will eventually be replaced with more up-to date lights as part of the Newmarket Road improvement scheme. Police Chief Inspector Maurice Murden said: "To think our problems have been solved by an old tractor tyre! It is something we have advocated for years, and now we just hope that it will become permanent". One driver said his driving time to his home in Chesterton had been cut from 20 minutes to five. 77 03 09

1978 09 08
RAC say profit of £134,293 on meters over 12 years, '... to show big deficit this year' [19.2]

1978 10 29
Experimental mini-roundabouts at the Lensfield Road – Trumpington Road junction in Cambridge have been approved by the Government and will be made permanent. They replaced traffic lights which for years caused long delays and have speeded-up traffic at the once-notorious bottleneck. In addition a pelican crossing is to be built at Fen Causeway at the entrance to the Engineering Laboratories with another at Trumpington Road. There will also be one over Brooks Road when the new and controversial link with Newmarket Road is opened shortly. 78 10 29

1978 12 21
The northern bypass, described as a 'Christmas present to Cambridge' was officially opened at noon and then closed after police expressed reservations about the state of the nine-mile road and its interchanges. But as dusk was falling the barriers were pushed back and it was opened to the public. It includes one of the longest straight stretches of dual carriageway in the country and police asked drivers to get used to the road slowly. With the completion of the interchanges next year and the opening of the M11 Cambridge will have a road system surrounding it for which many other cities would give their eye-teeth 78 12 21

1979 01 09
Charges at Cambridge car parks and parking meters are to rise. Prices will increase from 25p to 30p for an hour at Lion Yard and a day's parking at Queen Anne Terrace will now cost 30p. Park Street will remain unchanged. Parking meter charges have not gone up since 1976 and will double to 10p, with the excess charge rising to £5. Increased use of the three central car parks is expected to bring an extra £15,000 next year but because of the rates forecast an extra £45,000 needs to be raised. 79 01 09

1979 09 12
Computer lights opposed [18.8]

1980

1980 02 01
King's Parade reopened during road repairs, 'may stay open as impressed by lack of congestion' [18.9]

1980 02 26
Calm descends on Castle Hill after by-pass opens [18.10]

1980 05 13

Wallis' garage, which has been on the same site in Cambridge for 40 years, is to close in July. The managing director said the decision stemmed from adverse trading conditions and that he had already cut the price of second-hand cars on sale. The garage also sells new Lancias. The premises at Mitcham's Corner are up for sale. The garage has show rooms, petrol pumps and an accessory shop together with a repair side which is thriving in spite of other problems with the car trade. 80 05 13a

1980 06 26
Four people were taken to hospital after a car careered across a corner of Cambridge Market Square. It ploughed across the Barclays Bank edge of the market, striking a flower stall, scattering fruit and vegetables and hitting two shoppers before ending up four feet from the railings of Gt St Mary's church. A Girton lady working on the flower stall said: "I just saw the car out of the corner of my eye and ran for it. The stall just folded up with its legs in the air" 80 06 26

1980 09 12
RAC survey wrong, city meters lost £12,000 since 1974 [19.4]

1980 09 18
Anyone who has sat in a traffic queue tailing back into Downing Street from the Lion Yard car park will know the frustration of arriving in Cambridge at peak times. The tourist office says parking is atrocious and directs visitors to Saxon Street where you can stay all day for 30p. The County Structure Plan foresees a need for three new multi-storey car parks to cope with future demand. But rising petrol prices or decreasing oil supplies could mean fewer cars on the road in the future. 80 09 18b & c

1981 02 18
Cambridge councillors have thrown out the idea of ever building a multi-storey car park anywhere near the Backs. They condemned as 'barbaric' suggestions from senior officials that such a park, either above or below ground, could be built on college gardens, playing fields or open spaces along Queen's Road. "It is even more ridiculous than the plan to put a major road cross Grantchester Meadows", said Councillor Rosenstiel. 81 02 18a

1981 07 17
All traffic banned KP with bollards as experiment [18.11]

1981 09 15
A park-and-ride bus service linking shops in the Burleigh Street area with the car park in Cherry Hinton Road has started disastrously. Nobody used the service for several hours. It is being funded with £400 from city lottery profits with Kite traders adding another £100. But councillors say the money should have been earmarked for charity 81 09 15a

1981 10 31
Chaos - Kite parks lost & protests about parking on commons [18.12]

1981 11 25
A startling £3.5 million plan to tunnel under The Backs has been prepared secretly by county road engineers. It would be 20 feet wide and run under Queen's Road from the Madingley junction right up to Silver Street. Meter controlled parking would then be allowed up to Garret Hostel Lane and the area to West Road would be grassed over to give an uninterrupted view of King's College chapel. The plan is certain to raise a violent storm of controversy. 81 11 25 & 26b

1981 12 07
Park & ride suggested [19.5]

1982 02 24
Computer lights approved, though city object [18.13]

1982 07 22
Protest over War Memorial move suggestions [18.13]

1982 09 08
Frank Holland Motors was formed 25 years ago with the franchise for Hillman and Sunbeam cars, then in 1966 they obtained the distributorship for Simca on their present site at Mill Road. Four years later Frank Holland took over a second garage in Coldham's Lane trading as F.H. Motors and selling Datsuns. They have now introduced the Holland Hyperwash – a new-style car wash centre which can handle 60 cars an hour. 82 09 08a

1982 09 24
Peace bid over roads - city & county clash over East Rd widening & Drummer St rebuilding [18.14]

1983 09 01
Park & ride resurfaces [18.15]

1983 09 06
County plan to enforce traffic restricted zone Sidney St, reduce number cars in triangle & reverse central one-way flow [18.16]

1984 03 20
traffic lights introduced Mill Rd bridge in bid to cut incidents last June have increased them, [446. 14.4]

1983 04 25
Hallen's of Cambridge is celebrating its golden jubilee. It was founded in 1933 as a used motor-cycle dealership soon moved to premises in Chapel Street, Chesterton which it shared with a haulage business, fish and chip shop and furniture removal firm. Today these premises still house the motorcycle service and parts centre. It then moved into a former dance hall in Union Lane which became the first car workshop and stores. During the war it was requisitioned with a new workshop and an air raid shelter underneath 83 04 25 supp p10

1983 04 26
The County Council has been urging Cambridge councillors to provide more city centre parking space. They say 1,000 extra parking spaces are needed. Now they have suggested six sites: a 250-space extension to the present Lion Yard multi-deck, land behind Telephone House in Regent Street-Park Terrace (220 spaces on a four-deck park), the old Addenbrooke's Hospital site (250 spaces), land behind Shire Hall (450 spaces on a three-deck park), Saxon Street (480) and Adam and Eve Street (460 spaces) 83 04 26 p5

1983 06 20
Cambridge computer wizard Clive Sinclair may buy the factory of the failed Northern Ireland sports car company De Lorean to manufacture his electric car. His Sinclair Vehicle Project is developing what is hoped to be the first mass-produced electric vehicle for some years. Intended

for city travellers it is due for release in 1985. The technology was developed by the Norfolk based Lotus Company, which Sir Clive has also shown an interest in buying 86 06 20 p3

1983 07 06
Petrol prices caused chaos and confusion amongst motorists as charges ranged between £1.75 and £1.86 a gallon. Frustrated garage owners cursed their suppliers as they took down the new prices they had been asked to put up last night. Frank Holland of Mill Road said that yesterday prices started at £1.77, later he was told to raise them to £1.86.9 from midnight, then in the morning told to bring them down to £1.85.7. Meanwhile motorists used up petrol as they searched for the best bargains The cheapest price in Cambridge is at Sainsbury's which has kept its prices at 1.75p a gallon 83 07 06 p6

1983 12 29
More than £1 million has been collected from Cambridge parking meters since they were first introduced in 1964. Motorists have put £1,065,574 in the meters but the operating costs have been £849,480 leaving a profit of £216,094. This goes towards helping the councils provide more off-street car parks 83 12 29 p8 [19.6]

1984 03 27
West's, the motor dealers, celebrates a special 25th anniversary of their association with Renault cars. Having developed their one acre site on Newmarket Road into a glittering glass-walled showroom they have stayed true to the French company and are looking forward to the next 25 years with them. The business began with Sidney and Ethel West operating a small vehicle tuning workshop in Gloucester Street 55 years ago. They now employ 64 people 84 03 27

1984 09 25
Restrictions on entry triangle start, St John's St 8.30-6.30 [18.17]

1984 10 01
The Cambridge-based Marshall Group celebrated its 75th birthday as early examples of motorised transport of all kinds were on show at the Motoring Milestones Pageant at the East of England Showground. They included cars from the humblest Austin Chummy to the most magnificent Rolls-Royce, lorries, buses, vans a motor-cycles. There was also a display of the latest vehicles sold by the group. Sir Arthur and Lady Marshall cut an anniversary cake 84 10 01 p13

1984 11 21
Computer lights installed 6 months ago reduce delays by up to one-fifth [20.1]

1985 02 11
More than 5,000 Sinclair C5 electric vehicles have been sold during the first four weeks of production. At the moment it is sold by mail order but they are already talking to a number of High Street retailers who would sell the £400 machine direct to the public. Interest has come from as far away as the Outer Hebrides and Cornwell and from both teenagers and old age pensioners. In Cambridge the Eastern Electricity showrooms on Market Hill report continued interest in the machine they have on display and have distributed over 2,000 order forms 85 02 11

1985 05 16
The history of Wills and Thompson Ltd runs parallel with the history of the motor car since it was founded 50 years ago. It was bought by William Skeels in 1958 whose his son Tom now runs the family business and their mechanics, Gerry Flack and Nick Wright, service any make or car or

light commercial vehicles. When the firm start there were very few cars on the road, now their premises in George IV Street are packed and parking is a nightmare. But the site is right where people need the services of a garage. 85 05 16

1985 12 18
Robert Sitton and Alfred Mothersole commenced business on the Newmarket Road in 1945 for the repairing and refurbishing of motor vehicles. They moved to Abbey Street in 1952 and from there to premises at the corner of Coldham's Lane and Henley Road in 1973. They were the first in Cambridgeshire to install a stoving oven for the refinishing of car paintwork and further up-to-date equipment is being installed. 85 12 18a

1986
Within Cambridge city the traffic flow has reached the 1978 pre-bypass level, though number HGVs remains approx half 1978 flow [16.4]

1986 11 28
Meters may rise by 33% despite £31,000 profit pa [19.7]

1986 01 23
Since 1960s Elizabeth Way, M11 & centre closed [20.5]

1987 03 13
A new purpose-built car park providing 67 long-stay spaces has opened in Castle Hill, with another 57 places coming in a few months; time. City councillors say the park, near the junction with Victoria Road, will offer convenient access to shops and businesses in the north of Cambridge. It will have a park-and-display system charging 50p for any period on weekdays, doubling to £1 on April 1st. But there will be free parking in evenings and Sundays 87 03 13a

1987 03 13
Cambridge's traditional transport, the bicycle, will be deliberately used to slow down city centre traffic. The medieval central streets will be made even narrower which will make it even more difficult to overtake bikes. Traffic restrictions will also be introduced, including the banning of taxis. The streets have been reshaped and cleaned up with York stone used in areas considered 'visually sensitive'. But workmen in Trinity Street have been delayed by having to remove hundreds of wooden blocks dating back to the days of horse-drawn vehicles 87 03 13b

1987 11 02
Churchill Service Station, on the corner of Huntingdon and Victoria Roads, has been sold to oil giant Texaco and will be renamed Star Cambridge. They plan to turn the garage workshop area into a supermarket, expanding the grocery section which has been serving the local community for several years. Its founder, Tom Sharpley, moved to Cambridge from Benfleet in 1976, initially selling Chevron fuel. He has mixed feelings: "I have met some horrible creatures in the business but also some first-class people while I've been here". 87 11 02a

1988 10 18
Hallens have converted their Shell garage at Mitcham's Corner to become self-service with the latest electronic pumps. There has been a petrol station on the site for many years. Previously it was operated by Oliver Rix and sold Texaco fuel. Hallens has sold petrol since the 1930s and until now has maintained the traditional attended service. This will continue at its garage in Union Lane for customers who value the personal service. 88 10 18e

1989 01 20
Cambridgeshire road accidents twice national average ¢CEN 20.1.89

1989 01 26
park & ride costs treble to £15M ¢CEN 26.1.89

1989 03 01
Queen Anne car park to switch to short term charges per day up from £1 to £10 ¢CEN 1.3.89

1989 03 01
To introduce resident parking for fee ¢CEN 1.3.89, 3.3.89

1989 03 09
Cambridge Tyre Company, which celebrates its 60th anniversary, has a number of early tyres in stock. They include an American Swineheart tyre for a Model T Ford and a beaded edge Michelin from the same period. Ernest Brown founded the company in 1929 based in a small shop in Jesus Lane when many tyres were of solid construction. By 1935 they'd moved to Burleigh Street when tyres were fitted at the side of the road and in 1964 took over premises owned by Winston Smith the butcher in Histon Road. 89 03 09a

1989 03 20
Traffic growing at twice national rate Cambridge 40% up in 8 years ¢CEN 20.3.89

1989 03 22
"Boom city grinding to a halt" rush hour traffic now 14 mph ¢CEN 22.3.89

1989 03 31
New £10M bid to beat jams ¢CEN 31.3.89

1989 04 25
Parking charges cause slump sales small shops ¢CEN 25.4.89

1989 06 08
Grafton centre price rise for car park leads to 25% drop in number using it ¢CEN 8.6.89

1989 06 10
Park & ride scheme formally buried ¢CEN 10.6.89

1989 07 13
City advertise car park prices to attract shoppers back ¢CEN 13.7.89

1989 10 02
Park and ride scheme starts ¢CEN 2.10.89

1989 11 22
Queen Anne car park fees cut often two thirds empty ¢CEN 22.11.89

1989 12 21
Cambridge's new £200,000 car space scheme with signs around the city linked to the county council's traffic computer which monitors the five main car parks, hits teething troubles leaving shoppers driving round trying to find a parking space. 89 12 21

1990 05 22
West's of Cambridge founded 65 years ago; started Gloucester Street in 1925, moved Newmarket Road when took Renault dealership 1959 – 90 05 22a

1990 08 10
Lion Yard car park underground extension opened – 90 08 10a; brings relief 90 08 17a

Problems of parking, 1950's *91.38*

c.26.481 : Car parking problems and plans

See also c.49.62: Transport Planning stories

1920

1920 10 22
Is insufficient garage accommodation in Cambridge, particularly on market days when cars are seen standing unattended in many of the thoroughfares. Some owners draw up at the garages and

when informed there is no room for them leave the vehicles outside and proceed to do their business. - CDN 20 10 22

1924 12 02
The question of a parking place for buses and private motor cars was discussed at some length by Cambridge town council. The Watch Committee suggested that Drummer Street should be used as a parking place for motor cars and buses. The Surveyor submitted a plan which included taking in a portion of Christ's Pieces. It was resolved that the scheme should not be entertained and a proposal be considered for constructing a parking place on Butts Green

1924 12 19
Speaking to the Cambridge Motor Club the Mayor said that today it was quite easy and within the means of most people to get a motor car. In 20 years they would have thousands more cars on the road and what conditions were we likely to have with regard to traffic and the storage of cars? Police had made it easy for those who wished to park but in a few years' time every place would be filled and they would require something like Parker's Piece to provide parking accommodation for Cambridge 24 12 19

1925 08 06
The Corporation seems to have stirred up a good deal of indignation by their proposals with regard to the Drummer Street "motor park". In a town like Cambridge it certainly seems unwise to do anything that may detract from its attractiveness. A suggestion has been put that the 'park' should be established on Butt's Green and not at Drummer Street at all. A petition has been presented to the Mayor asking her to call at Town's meeting and it is hoped that the request will be acceded to 25 08 06

1925 08 12
The protest meeting against the taking of part of Christ's Pieces for parking motor vehicles attracted a crowd of over 2,000 people to Drummer Street & was marked by a remarkable climax. After a resolution of protest had been passed the crowd voted a desire to take it to the Mayor that night. Speeches had been delivered from a four-wheeled waggon and the shafts were quickly manned and the waggon containing councillors who had spoken was dragged at a good pace to the Mayor's house in Newton Road. Something like a 1,000 people followed in its wake.

1925 08 24
As the result of an open-air meeting on Parker's Piece efforts are being made to form a Ratepayers' Association whose first business will be to contest the legality of the Cambridge Town Council's action in encroaching on Christ's Pieces for the purpose of providing a parking place for motor vehicles. This was absolutely illegal. Within twelve months the continual movement of vehicles on what was virtually a made-up bog the road would drop six inches. The Ortona Bus Company will be the first people to say they have been pushed into a rotten corner that is of no use to them 25 08 24

1925 11 28
Drummer Street proposals go ahead, opens in November & various country buses stop there rather than on Senate House Hill; later Ortona also use it, causing overcrowding & disputes [1.14]

1926 12 24
Motorist told it 'irresponsible' to leave car parked for 25 minutes [1.24]

1927 03 02

Proposal to use New Square as parking place, CDN refuses to lead protest : "most people smile when they think of tremendous agitation worked up against Drummer Street ... nobody one penny the worse ... only fault is that Drummer Street not big enough hence need for New Square" [1.25]

1929 02 19
Cambridge councillors debated the proposed exchange of Butts Green for New Square in order that it might be converted into a parking place. If I lived in New Square I should not be at all pleased at the idea of that nice little patch of green giving way to a parking place, but if I had a business establishment in Fitzroy Street I should say "Yes, let the cars park there by all means". There is a danger of New Square being built upon in the near future and residents may consider a car park the least of two evils. Others are concerned about using the amenities of Butts Green, though one questioned whether it was used for anything but beating carpets.

1929 10 03
Cambridge Labour Party was told that if they wanted Butts Green as a parking place they must be prepared to face the question: 'Are you in favour of free parking?' They could not charge for cars on common land. Councillor Stubbs said there was no more objection to free parking than to free recreation. He personally objected to paying rates and then being charged for parking his 'Rolls'. Would residents in New Square like to have the noise and smell of the motors?

1930

1930 02 25
Sir – we Cambridge market traders notice that Councillor Longley wants to move our stalls into the Corn Exchange but we challenge him to produce a transferred market that has been a success. He wants to replace the stalls with car parking spaces. Can not he see the utter foolishness of congesting the very centre of a town with cars. Those on Market Hill consist of business townsmen, clerics and travellers who sit in their expensive car, eat bread and cheese, beg an onion to go with it but do little business. The Market Hill and Peas Hill are open-air markets. An arcade was tried years ago. The building stands today, a sorry sight, in St Andrew's Hill. The stallholders all failed – W.J. Sambridge. 30 02 25

1930 04 17
For years men have beaten carpets on Butt Green and children have used New Square as a camping-out ground. But these ancient customs are soon to pass away with the transfer of the Green to Jesus College, and the construction of a parking place in the Square. 30 04 17

1930 05 19
Cambridge has found dealing with motor traffic increasingly difficult in recent years, Counsel told an inquiry. He emphasised the inconvenience to motorists when no central parking places were available but now the council had made an agreement with Jesus College for the use of New Square as a car park in exchange for Butt Green and a piece of Midsummer Common. It would mean the surrender of 2½ acres of Common Land, but it would remain undeveloped & would allow the college to make a new entrance. The scheme was approved. 30 05 19 & b

1930 07 12
General regulations affecting the use of motor vehicles first-year men are already in force but in view of the numerous road fatalities last term much more stringent bans will be in operation next year. Clare College says that the possession of motor cars and motor bicycles prevent undergraduates from making the best use of their residence in Cambridge and none of its students

will be allowed to bring or drive a motor vehicle. Cars must be kept in a public garage or in one of the college garages on Castle Hill. 30 07 12a

1932 03 23
After all the controversy and heated arguments of a few years ago, there was no excitement at the opening of the New Square parking place. The council turned up in force and from under the shelter of umbrellas watched the Mayoress drive her car through the pale blue ribbon that had been knotted across the opening. At last motorists have a place where they can leave their cars and not come into the police courts. The Master of Jesus suggested that path inside the trees should be known as Coleridge Walk. 32 03 23b 188 use it [1.12,1.13]

1932 04 09
Sir – as motorists do not appear to need the new New Square car park I suggest something useful should be done with it. It could be turned into tennis courts or used as a model yacht pond, a skating rink or the site for the new Guildhall. Meanwhile the surface should be coloured an appropriate shade of green as the white grey of the desolate expanse of concrete hurts my eyes. And could passers-by spare a few books for the attendant to read while he is waiting for the customers who never come – Ratepayer 32 04 09

1934 11 17
Parking controls urged "sometimes cars & bikes parked so closely in line in Petty Cury & Sidney Street that pedestrians cannot find space to cross over" [2.8]

1935
"If we have cars we must be prepared to make parks for them, using portions of common lands" - S.C. Roberts [3.20]

1936 03 21
Many people have wondered about the object of the black and white poles which have sprung up along St Andrew's Street and Hills Road. The Ministry of Transport have finally given permission to the system of unilateral parking and the posts will be adorned with notices warning motorists not to park on the wrong side of the road on the wrong day - 15 minutes, park different sides of street on odd or even days There is also some reason for believing that the new 'one-way' streets will also be brought into operation before very long. 36 03 21a

1936 03 23
Unilateral parking came into force in Cambridge on Saturday. Between Regent Street and the Old Post Office parking is now allowed for 15 minutes in any one hour on one side of the road on even dates and on the other side on odd. There is one short stretch against Emmanuel Street in which no parking is allowed, owing to the difficulty of traffic coming in and out of the town through this narrow street. Readers should remember they cannot now leave their cars for any longer than 15 minutes as this is the limit. 36 03 23b

1936 03 28
Under new restrictions Cambridge motorists may not travel from Market Hill towards Trinity Street or into Bene't Street from King's Parade. You may not drive into Sussex Street from Hobson Street or into Corn Exchange Street from Downing Street, nor turn at Burton's Corner, Petty Cury to go to the Victoria Cinema or from Wheeler Street into Peas Hill to get to the Arts Theatre. But cyclists may walk with their bicycles either way as they do at present in Petty Cury and Market Street. Restaurants will have to speed up their service if they wish to cater for those

who leave their cars outside, for only a quarter of an hour is permitted. Travellers who do not want to get indigestion had better make use of a parking space! 36 03 28b

1937 03 15
Ministry of Transport proposals to minimise street parking have called forth dissention from many motorists. We in Cambridge know there has been a steady increase in our shops by the more modern method of road transport. A large proportion of those who come from outlying districts to buy the week's commodities are private car owners. To refuse to allow cars to be parked for a reasonable period outside the place of purchase would cause many to give Cambridge a wide berth. Motorists are already taxed up to the hilt and police courts would be more than ever congested with these trivial offences. 37 03 15

1938 03 15
Drummer Street park was made for private cars, and now they seemed to be letting the Bus Company monopolise it; they should find a parking place of their own, a councillor urged. But Ald Starr said it was opened not for private cars but for the benefit of the working men and women who came into Cambridge by bus. Now it was used as a car park by professional and business people who left their vehicles there all morning and afternoon. Coun Stubbs said they were at their wits' end to know what to do with the traffic. It was easy to talk about telling the Bus Company to find a new park, but where could they go? 38 03 25a

1938 03 21
Eastern Counties Omnibus Company complained of difficulties manoeuvring their buses at the Drummer Street terminus. They suggested the Corporation reduce the width of the footpath. The Borough Surveyor disagreed. He suggested that the space reserved for the parking of cars should be reduced by 54 feet from the high kerb against the coffee stall. But the Watch Committee decided that the time was now approaching when Eastern Counties should cease to use Drummer Street and consider the provision elsewhere of their own bus station 38 03 21a

1938 10 07
Underground car park on Market Hill proposed [6.20]

1939 03 02
Butts Green parking place debated [1.26]

1940

1941 01 25
Council debate prohibition car parking in Drummer Street [3.2]

1946 05 03
Proposal for car park at rear of Regent Terrace, would take 85 cars and no parking ban on St Andrew's Street – opposed – 46 05 03

1947 07 12
Council discuss acquiring Lion Hotel yard for car park at cost of £44,665 [3.6]

1947 07 30
Sir - When will something be done about the disgraceful state of the traffic in Petty Cury, Cambridge. I understood some time ago that steps were being taken to stop the parking of cars on the left side of this narrow thoroughfare. Far from this being done, it is now worse than ever.

Saturday, with the exception of the entrance to the Lion Hotel there were 15 large cars parked from Sidney Street to Guildhall Street, and as prams and mail carts can only use the sidewalks, pedestrians who venture on the street are taking serious risks of getting knocked down. Truly a street only fit for the quick or the dead - letter from W.M.F., Gt Shelford 47 07 30

1947 10 01
The Chief Constable (B.N.Bebbington) told Cambridge Rotary Club that he would like to see a scheme whereby traffic was banned - at least buses and heavy traffic - in the centre of Cambridge. "In Petty Cury on Saturdays there is insufficient room for traffic, let alone pedestrians. It would be more satisfactory if that central part of the town was for pedestrian traffic only. That is a sweeping thing to say and will not find favour in all quarters". Referring to criticism that the one-way traffic scheme soon to be introduced in the centre of town was "the wrong way round" he explained that it diverted from the town centre the large amount of traffic going to the station from the Chesterton direction and would encourage lorry drivers passing through Cambridge to take the route through the Backs. More car parks in the centre of the town were obviously a need, and there were plans in existence to provide them c47 09 30

1948 05 01
Council announce intention to acquire Lion Yard as parking place [3.8]

1949 09 06
Sir - None of our streets in Cambridge is wide enough to allow vehicles to be parked all down one side, as they do now. Petty Cury, on a Saturday especially, is almost a death-trap. The pavements are not wide enough for people to walk more than two abreast; therefore they walk on the road, thus giving bus drivers in particular a nightmare. This could be relieved to a certain extent if there were no vehicles parked all down one side. I suggest a big improvement would be the abolishing of all street parking and a municipal car park made on Midsummer common – Frederick Prior 49 09 06

1950

1950 11 30
Local tradesmen are becoming worried about the parking situation in Cambridge. They fear that if this goes on the people will not come shopping in the town, said a solicitor appearing for a motorist summoned for a parking offence. Altogether there were 16 cases before the court and fines totalling £12 10s were imposed. One motorist, whose car was punctured late one night, parked it in a side street off Mill Road and knowing that the battery would last only two hours at the most had not put his lights on. There was nothing else he could do. He was fined 10s.

1950 12 04
Sir – Cambridge tradesmen are beginning to fear lest they should lose an appreciable amount of custom as a result of the prohibitions regarding shopping by car in the principal streets of the town. Let the general body of tradesmen follow the example which a few far-seeing individuals have already set – that of opening suburban branches to which the main trade can, in course of time, be transferred. Let nothing be done to retard the growth of the brave new Cambridge visualised by our civic leaders – a dream city from which vehicular traffic of every kind has been excluded and from which all the crumbling and deserted business premises have gradually been swept away – D.B.M.C.

1950 12 09

"The almost hopeless state of parking in Cambridge" was referred to when Ald F.J. Priest urged the demolition without delay of Liddiard's garage on St Andrew's Hill – thus providing parking spaces for some of the season-ticket holders at Lion Yard. The building had been scheduled as an 'architectural novelty' but there would be no objection to its immediate demolition

1950 12 30
A plea for the Borough Court to bring pressure to bear on the corporation to provide better parking facilities in Cambridge was made by a solicitor when he appeared on behalf of a motorist summoned for causing a motor car to wait in St Andrew's Street for a longer period than the permitted 15 minutes. "I feel it is only a matter of time before every motorist in Cambridge comes to court because he is forced to leave his car somewhere. The parking situation is a nightmare', said Mr A.H. Wild. 'One feels the police are carrying this vendetta to extreme lengths", he added.

1951
Council consider ramped car park, Lion Yard, to have space for 180 cars but would be scaled down to 325 if Holford plans were approved [5.3,5.6]

1951 01 26
Cambridge council agreed to a proposal that Mr Liddiard's garage on St Andrew's Hill should be pulled down and the space used as a private car park at £12 per annum. Ald Priest said: "Here is a simple scheme whereby anybody who likes to pay £1 a month can be reasonably assured of his car park any time of the day he likes". Ald James opposed saying those who started their business at 9am had no difficulty in finding parking spaces 51 01 26

1951 01 29
"More central space needed for parking ... people shop in other towns" [5.5]

1951 02 26
A number of proposals to alleviate Cambridge's parking problem have been compiled by the Chamber of Commerce. They include the triangular site on the corner of Silver Street & Queen's Road used as a military car park during the war; the site on Trumpington Road formerly occupied by army huts but now in temporary occupation by squatters; at Castle Street opposite the Shire Hall and also on Butts Green during the building operations at Lion Yard.

1951 03 14
Cambridge Council is to recommend a scheme for a multi-deck car park at the Lion Yard. He submitted a plan showing a building of six floors which could accommodate 825 cars. The Surveyor suggests all adjoining property owned by the council should be demolished, the opportunity being taken to widen Corn Exchange Street and St Tibb's Row and that the possibility of further extensions to St Andrews Hill for offices, shops or increased car park facilities should be borne in mind.

1951 03 17
Survey of parking shows 59,257 cars parked on Market Hill 43,582 on New Square 80,585 on Lion Yard during 1949-50 – 51 03 17 [5.7]

1951 04 05
Regent Terrace car park proposed April, complaints May, deferred June [5.9, 5.12]

1951 05 26

Regent Terrace carpark plans spark fears about Parker's Piece; but 'should not be over-sentimental about a small piece of grass [5.12]

1951 06 16
Regent Terrace carpark plans deferred for six months [5.12]

1951 06 21
Trades Council call for car parks on outskirts & all waiting in Cambridge abolished [5.13]

1951 07 20
"Utmost vigilance" on the part of the Cambridge Trades Council was needed to make sure the city council does not "pull a fast one" in its proposals to reserve a slice of Parker's Piece for car parking facilities. "I think the City council have put this back for six months and will bring it up again when they think it has all died down", said the chairman. "We don't want to lose even a piece of one of the city's cherished beauty spots". There was no need for a parking site in Regent Terrace as the accommodation of other parking places was not being overtaxed 51 07 20

1952 11 05
Much of the congestion in the central area of Cambridge could be dealt with by providing car parks in the right places rather than the provision of extra circulatory routes the Chief Constable told the Development Plan inquiry. Closing of Magdalene Street would inevitably lead to an increased use of the Backs and the proposed spine relief road would not afford relief to traffic in the city centre. The police had received many complaints concerning the amount of noise at Drummer Street bus station late at night. By moving it to New Square this objection would be alleviated

1952 11 06
Multi-storey car park plan, p6

1954 03 15
Propose to demolish properties Corn Exchange Street to enlarge Lion Yard

1956 03 30
If the number of cars increases motorists won't be able to get in to Cambridge very easily because of all the stationary cars cluttering up the streets and the whole problem of parking is extremely frustrating. It is time to get tough. If we must set up car parks outside the city and run the people in by special buses then we mustn't hesitate. But the land once occupied by the old Shire Hall courts on Castle Hill would make a good site for a multi-deck car park. 56 03 30b

1956 07 16
Cambridge is beginning to taste the bogey of a serious traffic problem for the first time. The council has tried roundabouts, one-way street and traffic lights but the situation will worsen unless some drastic is done soon. It takes so long looking for a parking space that it would be quicker to leave the car a mile away and walk. It is better to ban all traffic from the city centre than to knock down buildings to accommodate new relief roads. Maybe this answer is too easy and not costly enough for our planners. 56 07 16b

1956 10 16
Councillors say that multi-storey car parks should be provided at Lion Yard, Saxon Street, Park Street and New Square and 170 cars should be parked on the site of the existing police flats at

Parkside. But traffic congestion in Cambridge has become so acute that 'No Waiting' restrictions should be imposed in the central area and King Street made one-way. 56 10 16a

1956 10 20
Cartoon – Cambridge parking – car on spike – 56 10 20d

1956 10 20
Suggestion for car parks outside centre rather than in Lion Yard [6.23]

1957 02 05
Motorists should be charged for parking on the road as a way of reducing traffic chaos in the centre of Cambridge. People who wanted to pay visits to shops or offices could park for short periods but a car park would be cheaper for stays of more than one hour. At present motorists take little notice of the 15-minute only restrictions, many staying for two hours. People will not walk a quarter of a mile if they can find a space closer to the centre, planners claim.57 02 05 & 05a

1957 02 16
At long last there is a street in Cambridge where cars can be parked during the hours of darkness without lights. Eleven lamp-posts in Station Road bear a special sign that mean motorists can park without even switching on the new 'clip-on' parking lights. Police say this is for the convenience of car owners who wish to travel by train and live some distance from the station. 57 02 16

1957 05 15
A revolutionary – even fantastic – scheme has been put forward to use Cambridge Castle Mound as a multi-deck car park. Tunnels would be driven into it to provide space for hundreds of cars with be entrances from Chesterton Lane, Huntingdon Road and Magrath Avenue. The dirt excavated could be used for filling in Coldham's Lane pit, providing more parking spaces or building land. There will no doubt be many objections. 57 05 15

1957 05 17
Proposals have been announced for an underground car park at Parker's Piece capable of accommodating about 5,000 vehicles. When complete it would be unaltered on the surface but beneath would be many acres of car parking space with four sloping entrances. It will take two years to build and be cheaper the present scheme for a multi-deck park on Lion Yard a councillor claims 57 05 17a [6.25, 6.30]

1957 06 18
It could cost less than £400,000 to build a car park for 800 vehicles under Parker's Piece. This is less than a multi-deck on the Lion Yard site that could only take 500 cars. The charge would be 1s 3d (07p) a session, whereas Lion Yard would be at least twice that sum. If motorists are going to be charged half-a-crown (12p) a time for the 'honour' of parking in the centre they will leave their cars outside the city or not even come at all. Then local trade would suffer, councillors claim. 57 06 18 [7.1, 7.2]

1957 07 23
Plans for a new car park at Parkside should be deferred until the proposed underground park at Parker's Piece is debated, councillors say. But they would deplore anything which would affect its amenities. The ground would take three years to be 'reinstated' ready for playing and there

would be an area of the Piece which would be permanently sterilised by the construction of entrance and exit ramps, emergency escapes and ventilation apparatus. 57 07 23

1957 10 14
Proposals for an 800-space car park under Parker's Piece are technically impossible, opponents say. There are 'certain unsound features', it would be detrimental to the area and it would take years for the ground to be reinstated. The cost would probably be as great as that of the planned scheme in Lion Yard, though no car park of this nature has yet been constructed. But Labour councillors want it carried out as a matter of urgency. 57 10 14 Parker's Piece scheme rejected – 57 10 18b

1957 10 18
In 20 years' time Lion Yard car park will be outdated as the centre of the City will eventually have to be roped off from traffic, Canon Mervyn Stockwood told the council. He had frequently been up to the top of Great St Mary's and seen the appalling havoc of the central area in recent years. Now they proposed to put up a 'cheap and efficient sort of skyscraper'. He continued: "We are custodians of one of the most famous cities in the world. That sort of building cannot add to the dignity and loveliness of Cambridge" 57 10 18c

1957 11 20
Park Street car park inquiry at Shire Hall – 57 11 20b

1958 03 27
Park Street multi-storey car park plan approved, Mar [7.13]

1958 09 27
Parking facilities in Cambridge were inadequate, said the Chief Constable. With more than 600 vehicles passing over Magdalene Bridge each hour, Park Street was a convenient site for a car park. Saxon Street park had been finished last week, work on King Street had not started and the Parkside car park was only a small one. Park Street was the one that should have first priority as a surface and multi-deck car park. But a thatched house in Clement Street built about 1700 should not be destroyed by 'this cement desert' 58 09 27 b c d

1958 10 09
Houses in Gothic street & Doric street demolished for new car park, Oct. [7.14] - pic 58 10 09a

1958 11 28
Proposal to take part of Parkers Piece for car park, Nov [7.15]

1958 12 22
New schemes for the rebuilding of the Lion Yard car park and the surrounding area are being examined by town planning experts. It may be comprehensively re-developed to include a multi-storey car park and additional shopping facilities served by a new road passing through the middle of the area. But some say that instead of a broad shopping street, which might attract more traffic into the already overcrowded centre, it should be a 'pedestrian shopping precinct' with cars being parked a short distance away 58 12 22 [2.4]

1959 04 24
Parkers Piece reprieved as car park, consider Donkey Common [7.18]

1959 04 29

Lion Yard underground car park suggested, Apr [7.19]

1959 06 20
Park & ride suggested, Jun. [7.20]

1959 07 04
A Cambridge man living in Los Angeles cautions against the new Lion Yard proposals. "Who is going to occupy the new offices and shops? If Cambridge thinks they can concentrate business in town and solve the car parking problem with a few hundred spaces they are indulging in the fondest of illusions. Parking meters in the streets don't help: they only add to the irritation of shoppers, free parking has become the essential stock-in-trade. In America down-town shopping areas are dying and shopping centres miles out of town are the new thing." 59 07 04

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 01 21
City councillors decided to drop proposals to use Butts Green as a car park for two years - even with the Lion Yard car park finished and new car parks in King Street and Park Street, there would still not be enough parking and it would never be reinstated. The income would never meet expenditure. Eventually Cambridge would have a city centre park charging about one shilling an hour. If Butt Green was to be charged at sixpence nobody would use Lion Yard and the council would be sabotaging their own scheme. 60 01 21

1960 04 24
Parking meters may be installed in Cambridge. It would cost sixpence to park for half-an-hour in an inner zone. When the time has expired a yellow flag flicks up and a patrolling parking attendant will place a yellow excess charge notice on the car. It can then stay for a further period when a red flag flicks up. This makes the motorist subject to prosecution in the courts. Two hours later and the car can be towed away. Councillors expect a certain amount of objections from shop-keepers and think yellow lines on the roads will injure the town's appearance. 60 04 26a [7.22]

1960 10 12
Sir – plans to make the centre of Cambridge a 'Pink Zone' with parking meters will have serious implications. Whereas currently 50 cars are parked in Jesus Lane, only 30 can be accommodated at meters. The result will be chaos with cars milling round in vain trying to find a parking space. Can anyone imagine a motorist being prepared to pay sixpence or a shilling to leave his car for three minutes while he takes his suit to the cleaners? Lion Yard is often full by 9.30 am and if the city is to prosper we must have space for vehicles. The only answer is to provide some very large multi-deck parks, then make motorists use them by restricting waiting on the street – 'Fair Play' 60 10 12

1960 12 09
"Parking problem continues to grow" feature, Sept [7.23]

1961 01 02
A questionnaire shows that most people think the Lion Yard area should include a concert hall, civic restaurant, hotel and assize court together with a library. This should feature a record section, an art lending department, reading room and small exhibition area. There should be a

municipal crèche where children could be left while their parents shopped and a car park reserved for those who worked in the Guildhall. Half of the respondents were in favour of traffic wardens and parking meters, though some said they had no experience of them, while 81 per cent wanted a pedestrian precinct. Other suggestions included a news cinema where people could wait in comfort for evening buses and supermarkets near the edge of the city 61 01 02a

1961 01 20
New Square was a very good site for a multi-deck car park, councillors were told. But Coun P.J. Warren said that when the site was conveyed to the Corporation in 1923 they'd given an undertaking that no building would ever be erected there. Even now they were spoiling the best example of domestic lay-out in Cambridge. People who lived in New Square already had enough to put up with without such a suggestion. It should never be raised again in their lifetime, the Traffic Committee agreed 61 01 20

1961 04 28
City councillors decided to go ahead with a plan for a multi-deck car park with shops and filling station on the ground floor, in King Street. Steps will be taken to acquire the land from Jesus College by compulsory purchase if necessary. Congestion in the city centre is getting near to desperate: eventually parking meters would be needed and there had to be somewhere for cars to go. But it would commit the council to building a multi-deck car park when there were no details of the financial implications, Councillor Warren warned. 61 04 28c

1961 06 30
The proposed King Street car park would have to earn three shillings and three pence per car space per day. But apart from Saturdays the car park would not be filled by members of the public. The Lion Yard only took three shillings – though councillors and employees parked there free. However they would also put in parking meters and with car parking meters there would be no worries about the multi-storey car park. But a shop and filling station were an important part of the project 61 06 30a

1962 02 20
The city council want a three-storey car park in King Street, between Malcolm Street and Manor Street. There would be space for 260 cars together with a filling station and a maximum of nine shops. It would form part of the pattern of perimeter car parks with another in Park Street. There would be an inner 'control zone' and an outer area for car parking administered by meters. This would accommodate over 400 more vehicles and relieve congestion. Motorists were reluctant to use parks away from the city centre as they wanted to get as near as possible to their places of work, an Inquiry was told. 62 02 20 & a 62 03 22a [7.24]

1962 04 17
Parking meters approved [7.25]

1962 06 08
Sir – the subject of traffic problems is perennially popular. I suggest building an orbital road around Cambridge with a number of tiered car parks. All cars would be required to park and the journey would be completed by bus. Since everyone would use them the service would be well patronised. It would spare Cambridge from being a mere island set amid roads and car parks, bathed in swirling mists of exhaust, serenaded by that odious sound of creeping, choking traffic – R. Hennessey, Brookside. 62 06 08c

1962 09 05

Bulldozers and heavy earth-moving machinery have been followed by a fleet of lorries as clearance work starts on the site of the new multi-deck car park in Park Street. It should be completed within nine months and will form an integral part of the new parking meter system for which the City Council is to seek Ministry approval. Councillors are still waiting a decision on their earlier application for another multi-storey car park about 200 yards away in King Street 62 09 05

1963 03 28
Editorial: "They come thick & fast - plans for the University's New Museums Site, plans for underground carparks with an attendant underground road, plans for parking meters, plans for a new surface water sewer, plans for a design policy for the control of the visual appearance of Cambridge. Indeed never in the history of Cambridge has there been such a paradisical period for planners. And now ... County's turn with a scheme for a new village to the North of Cambridge" 63 03 28 [2.14]

1963 04 03
The new car park at the rear of Queen Anne Terrace has now been completed and is open for public use, free of charge. It adjoins the car park at the new swimming pool which can accommodate 67 cars and has been constructed as part of the council's policy for traffic control in anticipation of the Minister's approval of the parking meter scheme. The multi-storey car park in Park Street should be in use by the middle of the year and a decision is awaited on an application for another in King Street 63 04 03

1963 04 20
Ministry receive 53 objections to meters, Apr; charges would be1/- hour inner zone, 1/- 2 hours outer zone; would be profit of £10,000 pa on controlled scheme, income from meters would pay for themselves within 3 years [8.2,16.6]

1963 05 01
Minister criticised over delays King St multi-storey which would supplement Park St, waiting 13½ months. City-controlled scheme first discussed 1960. Charges would be 1/- an hour in inner zone, 1/- for two hours in outer. Would be profit of £10,000 pa on controlled scheme, income from meters would pay for them within three years [16.6]

1963 05 15
The Government rejected the City Council's scheme to build a multi-storey car park together with shops and a petrol filling station on land near the Malcolm Street junction at King Street. The site is obscurely located in a residential area and the roads leading to it are narrow, awkward and unsatisfactory. It would cause serious detriment to adjoining properties and initiate a substantial commercial encroachment to the detriment of the special qualities of the cultural and central area of the city. An alternative site should be found, the Minister says 63 05 15, 63 05 11

1963 07 16
The introduction of parking meters will cure Cambridge's traffic problems, say councillors. There will be sufficient off-street parking for motorists staying for any length of time. At present people move police 'No Waiting' signs and hope they will not be caught. When they drive away others pull into the gap without bothering to check whether they are in a restricted zone. Although police decorate them with pink tickets, the cars still obstruct a length of street until they are eventually moved. But many of the new parks are a considerable distance from the centre and motorists will just not park in Saxon Street or Queen Anne Terrace and walk in. Rooftop parking will have to be employed, perhaps at the former Herbert Robinson property. 63 07 16

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1963 10 28
Park street multi-storey car park opens, Oct, thatched cottage to come down if extensions [8.4,446.15.6]

1963 11 12
Cambridgeshire has a higher ratio of road vehicles per head of population than the national average – about one to every six. Peak hour travel is increasing as more people use their cars to journey to work. If this continues the demand for all-day parking space will increase at a greater rate than the demand for shorter parking. Increased parking and traffic loads have given rise to severe congestion and journey times have steadily increased. But one third of the traffic in the central area has no business there. The proposed Chesterton bridge scheme is thus of the highest priority, a report says. 63 11 12 & a

1964 01 16
Gordon Logie, the City Architect spoke of his desire to see the central area of Cambridge used for pedestrians only. Traffic conditions were 'frightful', especially on Saturday afternoons. "It will be impossible for everyone to drive into the centre in the future. I am afraid that most people will have to walk in from the outer fringe car parks or travel by shuttle-service public transport", he told the Trades Council. He would like to see a new city hall and central library to replace some out-of-date shops in an attempt to make the central area more pleasant. 64 01 16

1964 02 20
Cambridge police are looking for 24 traffic wardens to patrol streets when parking meters are installed. They will help motorists to do their business in the city centre and enforce regulations to allow free movement of traffic. There will be 450 meters giving one hour for a shilling in the central shopping district, two hours further out. Men with a genuine desire to serve the public will find it an interesting and rewarding job. The salary starts at £13 a week. 64 01 20b

1964 04 01
Lion Yard car park as traffic meters come into operation – 64 04 01

1964 04 02
The Mayor of Cambridge fed a parking meter on Peas Hill with a shilling "to make them hungry and ready to bite" as one official put it, and set the new parking scheme in motion. . Long queues of traffic soon formed in streets leading to the Lion Yard car park and motorists had some acid remarks about the meters. A moped rider complained about finding a ticket stuck to his bike with thirteen inches of sticky tape. From the number of excess charges shown on the meters the city coffers will soon begin to bulge 64 04 02b

1964 04 30
A Regent Street trader has lost 78 per cent of his usual turnover since parking meters were introduced, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce was told. A survey of over 30 shops showed the average loss in turnover as 45%. There should be a reduction in rateable values and compensation for businesses which are forced to close. Meters should be closed down and a return made to unilateral parking supervised by wardens. But the Parking Committee chairman said that if motorists used the meters to the full they would get most of their customers back 64 04 30

1964 06 18
Meters fail to pay new Park Street car park losses – 64 06 18

1964 06 30
A car park was needed on the West side of the river to help clear Queen's Road and they should consider an underground car park at the Backs, councillors heard. Park Street was a mistake because it was too near the city centre but Coe Fen was one of the best places for a surface car park. Queen Anne Terrace was a marvellous site as it could have a basement, three orfour storeys of flats and a roof garden restaurant. There would be a mini-bus to get shoppers into the centre which meant the Lion Yard would be used more by people who came to park for the day. 64 06 30

1964 07 07
"We must take action over parking", off-street parks near perimeter town centre [16.9]

1964 10 15
The City Architect will prepare a scheme for car parking on Cambridge council estates. This could be on the verge side, by rear access roads, garage courts and in front gardens. Coun. Reilly said it was wrong that people in private houses should be allowed to park in front of their property while council house tenants were barred from doing so. This was especially clear in roads where there were both council and private properties. But his pleas for council tenants to park cars on their front gardens were defeated. 64 10 15a

1964 12 04
Frederick Drayton Porter, Cambridgeshire's Chief Constable has 30 years' experience and vivid memories of the 18 murder cases he has investigated in Nottinghamshire where there were 14,000 indictable offences last year. By contract in Cambridge there were 2,300 crimes, of which a large proportion concerned cycles. Traffic and parking is the major problem. Since the introduction of parking meters the movement of traffic is much better, but a policeman should be able to tell a motorist where to park, he says. 64 12 04

1965 02 18
Meters are killing city says trader – would die as regional centre unless handles cars efficiently – 65 02 18i

1965 03 30
Western bypass a priority along with ban on all vehicles parking Queen's Road – 65 03 30b

1965 04 08
Double-yellow lines introduced, began painting March, 16 miles [16.10]

1965 10 15
Shire Hall car park not to be opened to public – 65 10 15b

1966 01 19
New Square car park bridge, redevelopment [12.11]

1967 06 02
Traffic wardens start issuing on-the-spot tickets; if pay £2 fine motorists avoid a conviction – 67 06 02

1968 10 24
Parker's Piece plan to be re-examined, shelved 10 years ago, scrapped [4.4]

1968 10 31
Relief Road: Proposed tunnel allowing New Square to go back to grass [2.15]

1968 11 01
Problems of multi-deck car park – photo Park Street and Lion Yard – 68 11 01b

1969 07 25
Queen Anne Terrace car park plans approved, to open next June – 69 07 25

1969 09 20
Proposal to cut Market Place in half five days for car parking, in Oct 43 cars parked when under new scheme would be space for 36;stallholders protest, 6000 petition, plans delayed; experimental parking ban with every stall occupied 6 days a week - at present only half occupied Monday-Friday; new stalls introduced [4.5]

1969 09 24
Market holders discontent over plans for Market Square – 69 09 24; plans delayed – 69 09 25; plans outlined – 69 10 01, 01a

1969 12 12
Double parking meter charges [16.11]

1969 12 13
Christmas traffic kos police, streets blocked by cars en route Lion Yard, close Downing St from St Andrews St end, open outer parks; police use emergency powers [17.3]

1970

1970 04 21
Park & ride suggestion [17.4]

1970 09 21
One-way scheme around Lion Yard car park experiment, causes one of biggest jams ever [17.5]

1971 05 22
100 more meters, double charges and double yellow lines introduced – 71 05 22

1971 10 07
Queen Anne Terrace car park opened, proposal 400 sq yds entrance Queen Anne car park, petition, Department of Environment inquiry, postponed [4.5]

1971 11 01
Queen Anne car park unused; photo parking Kings Parade – 71 11 01

1972 05 31
A free parking bonus will be given to motorists using Cambridge's show-piece Lion Yard car park during its first weeks operation after the opening date on July 24 The city's Traffic and Parking Committee decided to cut parking charges by 5p during the working day for the first week, which means one hour's free parking during each parking period. If a motorist leaves his car at Lion Yard for one hour or less it will be completely free 72 05 31

1972 07 24
The Lion Yard multi-deck car park opens on Monday proving another 500 car spaces within a stone's throw of the centre of Cambridge. The completion marks the first stage of he city council's multi million redevelopment project for the area - which was first proposed nearly 25 years ago. The new park, which aims to cater for the shopper and the shortstay motorist, is the second major car park to open in the city in less than a year. The other is at Queen Anne Terrace, which opened last October. The usual parking fees will be 5p for the first hour, 15p for two hours, 25p for three hours, up to a maximum of 75p for 10 hours. The council hope the prices will encourage people who work in the city centre to leave their cars in the parks away from the centre, like New Square and Prospect Row, where the charges are considerably less. 72 07 24

1972 08 08
I was among the first into the new Lion Yard multi-deck car park when it opened. The public hadn't really caught on, and the vast concrete halls echoed emptily to the dumpers and merry shouts of workmen still constructing it. Later in the week I returned. Now the park was known and very full. It was clearly making an impression on the parking situation in Cambridge for there were now more parking meters available than usual. It won't be until all the decks are in use at Lion Yard that the final effect on Cambridge parking will be seen. In my view it must be beneficial – Rodney Tibbs

1972 09 11
Scrap city centre parking meters call, p12

1974 05 01
Parking may soon cost up to 50% more at some of the Cambridge's city council parks. If suggestions are accepted the charge at Park Street will go up from 5p to 7p an hour with a maximum rate of 75p for more than five hours. The present maximum is 50p. The daily charge for the Queen Anne Terrace (multi) and the Saxon street ground level park will go up from 10p to 15p. At New Square the maximum for more than five hours will rise to 40p.

1975 12
Parking chaos at Christmas - 400 cars going round & round looking for parking places [19.1]

1976 11 06
Cambridge's experimental "Park-and-ride" scheme got off to a slow start today. The first bus left from the Cattle Market at 10 am and carried only 10 passengers. The scheme is designed to relive the normal pre-Christmas traffic congestion by allowing motorists to park free of charge and then buy a 15p return ticket to the city centre. It will operate each Saturday until January 8th with buses leaving every 15 minutes. The first passengers were enthusiastic about the acres of parking space available. "Its marvellous being able to park so easily" said Mr John Blackman, who had driven in from Sawston 76 11 06

1977 01 13
The Cambridge "park and ride" scheme is to be continued indefinitely on Saturdays because of its success during the Christmas and New Year periods. At present the cattle market on the south side is used as a temporary car park and people can get at 15p return trip into the city centre on a bus. The service was started by the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company with the backing of the Chamber of Commerce and the City Council. The cattle market has spaces for about 700 cars and was constantly three-quarters full immediately before Christmas. The service might end if the city council wanted it to cease being a car park or if the bus company lost a lot of money on it.

1978 06 22
"Parking is so easy on the Kite" advertising feature [494.7.6]

1978 09 08
Cambridge parking meter charges - up to 15p an hour in the city centre and already among the highest in the country - are expected to increase in the New Year. This is mainly to help to pay for the traffic wardens' latest wage rises of 9.4 per cent, which takes their starting rate to £2,566 a year. The city's 426 meters, which have been run at a handsome profit for some years, will show a big deficit this year.

1979 01 09
Charges at Cambridge car parks and parking meters are to rise. Prices will increase from 25p to 30p for an hour at Lion Yard and a day's parking at Queen Anne Terrace will now cost 30p. Park Street will remain unchanged. Parking meter charges have not gone up since 1976 and will double to 10p, with the excess charge rising to £5. Increased use of the three central car parks is expected to bring an extra £15,000 next year but because of the rates forecast an extra £45,000 needs to be raised. 76 01 09

1979 03 14
The 600-plus parking meters in the centre of Cambridge may be scrapped as one of the options for helping to sort out traffic chaos. But if they continue the city council is backing a 67 per cent increase in all meter charges because they are facing a £12,000 loss due to increased pay for the traffic wardens. Councillors are also considering residents' parking schemes to meet mounting demand for this facility. They may also provide the city's first cycle lane along the Huntingdon Road from Girton College to Murkett's Corner.

1979 04 02
The centre of Cambridge is well off for parking space. There are 600 spaces on the Lion Yard multi-decker, a slightly smaller number at Park Street and substantial parking at New Square. Then there are more than 500 meters dotted around. But during peak periods these are barely enough and queues build up at the park entrances. Motorists complain it is not easy to reach the city centre since King's Parade was severely restricted to through traffic. At first shopkeepers feared virtual bankruptcy but now even the most 'anti' tradesman is happy with the result – an increase in trade.

1979 08 17
Many of Cambridge's traffic problems may soon be solved by silicon chip technology. The chips would operate micro computers geared to all the city's traffic lights to ensure smooth traffic flows at all times. Such an elaborate computer system would originally have cost around £5 million but now County Council officials consider the new technology could reduce the cost to as low as £100,000. It could be connected with all the car parks giving motorists instant information through street corner signs and also tie in with temporary one-way workings and pedestrian crossings.

1980

1980 09 12
RAC survey wrong, city meters lost £12,000 since 1974 [19.4]

1980 09 18

Anyone who has sat in a traffic queue tailing back into Downing Street from the Lion Yard car park will know the frustration of arriving in Cambridge at peak times. The tourist office says parking is atrocious and directs visitors to Saxon Street where you can stay all day for 30p. The County Structure Plan foresees a need for three new multi-storey car parks to cope with future demand. But rising petrol prices or decreasing oil supplies could mean fewer cars on the road in the future. 80 09 18b & c

1981 02 18
Cambridge councillors have thrown out the idea of ever building a multi-storey car park anywhere near the Backs. They condemned as 'barbaric' suggestions from senior officials that such a park, either above or below ground, could be built on college gardens, playing fields or open spaces along Queen's Road. "It is even more ridiculous than the plan to put a major road cross Grantchester Meadows", said Councillor Rosenstiel. 81 02 18a

1981 06 17
Kite car parks close [494.7]

1981 10 31
Chaos – Kite Parks lost & protests about parking on commons [18.12]

1981 A park-and-ride bus service linking shops in the Burleigh Street area with the car park in Cherry Hinton Road has started disastrously. Nobody used the service for several hours. It is being funded with £400 from city lottery profits with Kite traders adding another £100. But councillors say the money should have been earmarked for charity 81 09 15a

1981 11 25
A startling £3.5 million plan to tunnel under The Backs has been prepared secretly by county road engineers. It would be 20 feet wide and run under Queen's Road from the Madingley junction right up to Silver Street. Meter controlled parking would then be allowed up to Garret Hostel Lane and the area to West Road would be grassed over to give an uninterrupted view of King's College chapel. The plan is certain to raise a violent storm of controversy. 81 11 25 & 26b

1981 12 07
Thousands of motorists may soon be asked to leave their cars on the outskirts of Cambridge and cycle into the city to solve the parking problem. They would park in west Cambridge or near Stourbridge Common and make their way by hired bikes through the Backs or along the river. The park and cycle scheme is being suggested as an alternative to the park and ride bus scheme by road engineers who are also planning a tunnel under Queens Road. 81 12 07a

1983 park & ride resurfaces [18.15]
1983 county plan to enforce traffic restricted zone Sidney St, reduce number cars in triangle & reverse central one-way flow [18.16]

1983 04 26
The County Council has been urging Cambridge councillors to provide more city centre parking space. They say 1,000 extra parking spaces are needed. Now they have suggested six sites: a 250-space extension to the present Lion Yard multi-deck, land behind Telephone House in Regent Street-Park Terrace (220 spaces on a four-deck park), the old Addenbrooke's Hospital site (250 spaces), land behind Shire Hall (450 spaces on a three-deck park), Saxon Street (480) and Adam and Eve Street (460 spaces) 83 04 26 p5

1983 08 30
Four major car parks on the outskirts of Cambridge linked to the city centre by a frequent park-and-ride bus service are suggested in a new report aimed a sorting out the city's traffic tangles. They are on fields at Barton Road, a small piece of disused land between the bypass interchange at Histon Road, allotment land near Newmarket Road cemetery and the old Cattle Market site at Cherryhinton Road. It also proposes extensive residents-only parking schemes with a tightening-up of long-term parking in the city centre. 83 08 30 p1

1983 09 01
Park & ride resurfaces [18.15]

1983 12 29
More than £1 million has been collected from Cambridge parking meters since they were first introduced in 1964. Motorists have put £1,065,574 in the meters but the operating costs have been £849,480 leaving a profit of £216,094. This goes towards helping the councils provide more off-street car parks 83 12 29 p8 [19.6]

1984 09 07
The County Council chairman condemned councillors for their 'pathetic attempts' to sort out the Cambridge traffic problem. "There is no doubt whatever that what we do in Cambridge is pathetic compared to what is done elsewhere. We really do not know what we are doing in this city", he said adding that the county must keep up pressure on the city council to provide more parking facilities in Cambridge. 84 09 07

1985 03 11
A major shake-up to cope with the forecast massive increase in Cambridge traffic has been unveiled by the County Council. It suggests an underground car park at the Butts Green end of Midsummer Common and a new road following the main railway line with a new bridge over the Cam. There could be reconstruction of a number of major road junctions including East Road - Newmarket Road and at Hyde Park Corner with widening of dual carriageways and new cycleways. A park-and-ride system of new car parks linked to the centre by frequent buses is also proposed 85 03 11

1985 03 11
A furious political row has erupted over the sudden and unexpected publication by the Labour-controlled City Council of its new roads and traffic plan just before the County Council issued their proposals. It envisages a park and ride system, converting long-term city centre parking spaces to short-term shoppers' parks, an extension of Lion Yard car park, road closures, pedestrian areas and a special coach-bus interchange near the railway station. The Liberals describe it as a waste of paper. It has been produced without any councillors or officials being told about it before its release to the press 85 03 11a

1986 11 28
Meters may rise by 33% despite £31,000 profit pa [19.7]

1987
"Cambridge is doomed as major shopping centre unless it can cure parking problems" [20.7]

1987 03 13
A new purpose-built car park providing 67 long-stay spaces has opened in Castle Hill, with another 57 places coming in a few months time. City councillors say the park, near the junction

with Victoria Road, will offer convenient access to shops and businesses in the north of Cambridge. It will have a park-and-display system charging 50p for any period on weekdays, doubling to £1 on April 1st. But there will be free parking in evenings and Sundays 87 03 13a

1987 05 19
Thousands more Cambridge motorists may be charged for parking outside their homes during working hours. No fees have been agreed but present schemes cost up to £60 a year. In addition hundreds more parking meters would allow one or two hour parking for shoppers with additional traffic wardens employed to enforce the restrictions. But Conservatives on the traffic management team are strongly opposed to a park and ride scheme which might come into operation in three years if the Government gives permission for the city council to buy the land needed. 87 05 19

1989 01 26
Park & ride costs treble to £15M ¢CEN 26.1.89

1989 03 01
Queen Anne car park to switch to short term charges per day up from £1 to £10 ¢CEN 89 03 01

1989 03 01
To introduce resident parking for fee ¢CEN 89 03 01, 3.3.89

1989 03 22
Traffic chaos in Cambridgeshire is growing so severe that in five year's time drivers may have to set off at 7 am to be in work by nine. A massive upsurge in traffic has already extended the rush hour. Congestion is choking Cambridge city centre and deepening the parking nightmare, a report says. Action must be taken with new roads around the outskirts and controversial park-and-ride schemes or it will grind to a halt over the next ten years. 89 03 22

1989 04 25
Parking charges cause slump sales small shops ¢CEN 89 04 25

1989 06 09
Grafton centre price rise for car park leads to 25% drop in number using it ¢CEN 89 06 08

1989 06 09
Cambridgeshire's new traffic chief has vowed to end Cambridge's traffic and parking chaos within four years. He wants a better road system to serve the industrial quarters, a new light railway system linked to a park-and-ride scheme and a possible car park under Midsummer Common. A 'grand traffic management plan' will be drafted by officials and meetings arranged with business bosses.. 89 06 09

1989 06 10
The £15 million park-and-ride scheme planned for Cambridge is now officially buried. County Conservatives had promised during the election campaign that the plan would be dropped if they took control and have told officials to stop work on the joint scheme with the city council. And a plan for an interchange where Madingley Road meets the M11 has been delayed. Work was due to start in 1990 but now the M11 is to be widened into a three lane carriageway between Cambridge and Stansted Airport. The council is now looking for alternative road schemes to spend the money on. 89 06 10

1989 09 04
City advertise car park prices to attract shoppers back ¢CEN 89 07 13

1989 09 25
A mass boycott by drivers has forced a climbdown over charges at Queen Anne Terrace car park. Motorists have stayed away since fees were increased, leaving two-thirds of the spaces empty during peak periods. Now, just months after making it one of the most expensive car parks in Cambridge, it could become one of the cheapest. The present 40p one-hour parking will be extended to one-and-a-half hours for 50p, allowing shoppers extra time to walk into the city centre. But the maximum charge of £10 for more than five hours will remain 89 09 25

1989 10 01
The controversial Cambridge park and ride scheme has started with a whimper. At peak commuter time there were 17 cars at the 400-space Cowley Road and even fewer at the 150-space car park on Clifton Road. Users were enthusiastic: Sophy Moxley of Willingham, a sales assistant, said "It will save me money because it only costs 50p which is cheaper than parking in the city centre though Steve Field from Stretham says it is inconvenient as you don't have access to our car during the day. Councillor Andrew Duff said the area around Castle Hill, where residents-only zones have been introduced, was 'almost pastoral' though Canterbury and Benson Street were packed with cars. 89 10 01

1989 11 22
Queen Anne car park fees cut often two thirds empty ¢CEN 89 11 22

1989 12 21
Cambridge's new £200,000 car space scheme with signs around the city linked to the county council's traffic computer which monitors the five main car parks, hits teething troubles leaving shoppers driving round trying to find a parking space. Cambridge's Park and Ride scheme is failing to attract its major target – the city's commuters. Yesterday morning there were only 15 cars parked at Cowley Road while queues of vehicles drove bumper-to-bumper down Milton Road. But it is drawing off-peak shoppers and tourists. The County say it is too soon to draw conclusions. A similar scheme in Oxford had taken a long time to become established. 89 12 21, 89 12 21a

1990 08 10
Lion Yard car park underground extension opened – 90 08 10a; brings relief 90 08 17a

1992 Tow-away scheme starts, cars impounded with £95 release charge [Rev]

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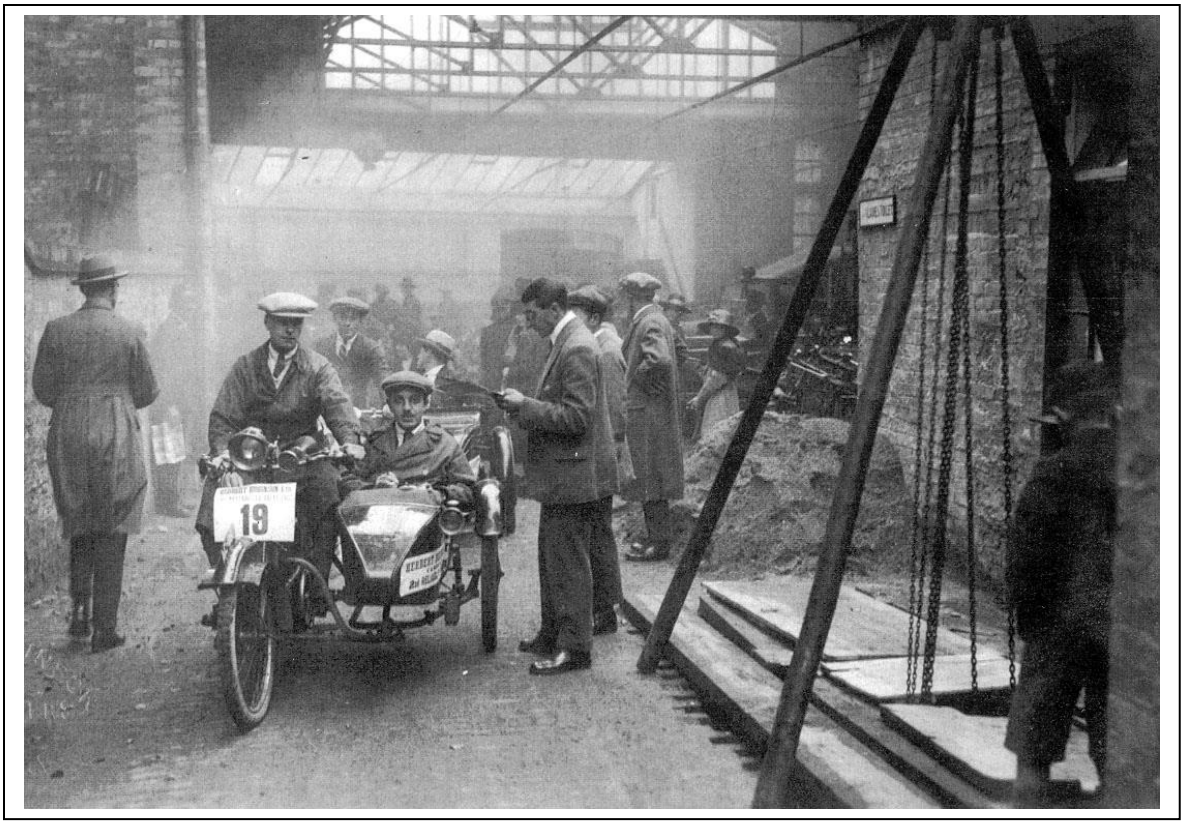

Motor cycle and sidecar in Herbert Robinson garage during reliability trial, 1930s 105.10

c.26.484 : Motor cycling

1898 02 07
Cycle traders of Cambridge have put on one side petty jealousy, and uniting under the title of the Cambridge City Traders' Association have prepared an exhibition in the Corn Exchange. Every description of cycle is here, from the child's small machine and the slim one of the fair sex to the stout roadster of the hardy, touring, record-making male. The latest novelties find a place, and motor cycles and tricycles tempt those to whom ease and novelty are more than exercise. In this connection we may mention that it is proposed to have a motor car running during the week about the town in connection with the show. Special railway facilities have been granted and the exhibition should be an immense success. To all we would say "Go", whether a wheeler or not.

1899 03 01
Motor cycle exhibition, p3

1900

1903 02 23
The Cambridge Corn Exchange exhibition of cycles and motors has become an annual event. Motors and motor cycles are as yet in their infancy and each year sees great strides taken towards perfection. There are on view some fine, up-to-date specimens of motor cars. The Mayor said he was a cyclist of some years' standing but his experiences of motor cars was very limited. He had been for a ride on a motor car, and thoroughly enjoyed it. Manufacturers were handicapped by stringent laws as to the pace motors might travel over public roads. While so many horses were

about it was startling for them to find a vehicle coming at 20 miles an hour and making rather a peculiar noise. 03 02 23

1903 08 19
Motor cycle trials, p3

1903 08 29
Motor cycle reliability trials are taking place at the Crystal Palace. One Cambridge competitor, Mr W. King, of Messrs King and Co, Bridge Street, has been holding his own on a 'King' machine manufactured by the firm. The machine is 2¾ hp which took a gold medal for the best motor cycle of its class in February 1902. Journeys of about 150 miles are being made daily and then the machines go back to the Palace and are locked up. Next morning the competitor is allowed time to fill up and then set off on another journey. The 'King' machine is doing well and all interesting in motoring in Cambridge will wish it continued success. 03 08 29

1904 05 17
A Waterbeach man was summoned for riding a motor bicycle in Downing Street, Cambridge, with the mark obscured. P.c. Rowlingson said he saw the number CE 110 on the front but could not see one on the back. Defendant said the number was on when he left and was there later. But it was close up to the saddle and had perhaps been obscured by his coat. The police were right to bring the case; the number was there but could not be seen. However there was no intention to obscure it and the defendant was convicted and discharged.

1904 08 16
Motor cycle trials, p3

1904 08 29
The 'King' machine manufactured by the Cambridge firm of Messrs W. King and Co. of Bridge Street has been awarded a silver medal in the motor-cycle reliability trials. This is not the first success the motor cycle has achieved and the reliability of this high-class machine has been amply demonstrated. It was ridden by Mr King, a member of the firm, but during a stop for luncheon at the Lamb Hotel Ely a certain meddlesome individual removed the trembler spring from the induction coil of the machine. This piece of wanton mischief has resulted in an award of £100 being offered by the Star Cycle Company. CDN 29.8.1904

1906 03 03
Sir – for the past two Saturday afternoons a young Freshman has been disporting himself on a motor bicycle, making a circuit of the main thoroughfares of Cambridge, starting from Jesus Lane and ending at the Catholic Church, taking in Petty Cury and the Market Place. Being market-day the already too-congested streets are filled with many country folk, ladies and children, both on foot and on bicycles. He evidently likes to hear the sound of his hooter and the stench from his machine is disgusting. L.P.C. Macquaid. 06 03 03

1907 07 16
Messrs King and Co are displaying a number of cycles and motor cycles at Cambridge Corn Exchange. There is with a 'Rex' motorcycle which can be bought for 24 guineas, one of the cheapest on the market, and the 'King' bicycle with Crabbe brakes, Warwick tyres, Hyde free-wheel, Perry chain and Brooke's saddle, costs six guineas. Standardisation of parts has indeed wrought a revolution in the cycle industry. 07 07 16 King motorcycle history 60 03 28

1908 03 12

Cambridgeshire Motor Cycle Club has been formed to organise club runs, hill climbs, speed judging and petrol consumption trials. It will also provide legal information and touring facilities. Officers include W. King, H.H. Harper, A.R. Marshall and Col. Harding of Madingley Hall. It is intended for motor-cycles – cycles and tri-cars, not car owners 08 03 12d

1910

1910 05 27
A Trinity College undergraduate was summoned for riding a motor cycle on the footway in Garret Hostel Lane. P.S. Merry said there were about 100 people on the bridge watching the boats when defendant rode down the lane and, without sounding his horn, went through the posts on to the bridge at a speed of five miles an hour. It was a public footpath and even if police had not prosecuted cyclists before, there was no reason why they should not if necessary. The lad said police had seen him do it before and he'd since asked at the Police Station and been told it was all right. The case was dismissed. 10 05 27b

1911 05 26
An impudent robbery was committed at Robinson's Motor Cycle Garage in Green Street. The lock was forced and a couple of 1911 Triumph motor-cycles stolen together with two complete suits of the most expensive motor-cycle waterproof clothing, sparking plugs, repair outfits and goggles. The thieves were evidently possessed of a nice discrimination for they took only the best they could lay their hands on. The Triumphs are the thoroughbred of the motor cycle word and would sell at sight for a large sum anywhere. They could easily average 30mph so that the thieves would have had no difficulty in getting to London before the loss was discovered. 11 05 26h

1914 05 01
Even the casual observer cannot fail to have noticed the remarkable increase in the number and variety of motor cycles and their greatly increased popularity not only among the young bloods of the Varsity but among staid and sober individuals of maturer ages and less agility. At Robinson's Motor Cycle Garage in Green Street one can have one's machine stored, cleaned and kept in tune and where, should occasion unfortunately arise, have it repaired by workmen who are not mere 'bodgers' but really skilled in this class of work 14 05 01c

1913 05 16
Motor Cars Act, 1903. Cambridge Borough Council have made application for a regulation to be made under the act to prohibit the driving or motor bicycles in Senate House Passage, Garret Hostel Lane & Burrell's Walk 13 05 16 p6

1915 09 17
Motorcyclists testing machines on Huntingdon Road 15 09 07

1919 10 15
Scenes during railway strike – lorries, traction engine, milk churn in motorcycle sidecar – photos – 19 10 15c

1920

1920 01 28
Fined. Penalties amounting to 30s. were imposed at Cambridge Police Court on Friday on Eric Scot Burns, 'undergraduate' of St Catharine's College. He was proceeded against for driving without an identification plate; and for driving a motor cycle without a licence at the same time

and place and for driving a motorcycle without a silencer in Hills Road on January 19th. He admitted each of the offences and was fined 10s in each case 20 01 28

1920 05 05
Dangerous Driving Epidemic. A number of undergraduates appeared at Cambridge Police Court on Friday to answer summonses in respect to their alleged Dangerous driving of motor vehicles in the town. A stern magisterial warning was given by Alderman A. S. Campkin the chairman of the magistrates, and the driver's licence of one of the offenders was suspended for a month. Alderman Campkin said that there was quite an epidemic of furious driving by motor cyclists, who were greater offenders than the drivers of motor cars. The epidemic seemed to have broken down again, and some strong effort would be made to prevent it if possible. Motor cyclists were racing up and down the streets. There were dangerous corners and dangerous cross streets in the town, and some people felt that it would be desirable to make some regulation to restrict the pace of motor vehicles to 10 miles an hour. Such a regulation would have a salutary effect.

1921 10 05
Herbert Robinson motor cycle reliability trial – photos – 21 10 05a

1922 01 04
Herbert Robinson motor cycles and sidecar bargains – advert 22 01 04b

1922 12 18
Christmas in the shops. Messrs E.T. Saint & co., the well-known automobile engineers of the Hyde Park Corner Garage, Cambridge, are proud of the facts that as agents for the "Sirrah" motor cycle they are able to place within the reach of the Cambridge public a real motor cycle at a cost of 25 guineas. In the way of cars their agencies include the popular 10 h.p. Swift 4-seater at £275

1923 08 07
A driver for the Taxi Side-car company was summoned for driving a motor cycle taxi cab in a dangerous manner in Castle Street, Cambridge. Walter Langford, labourer, spoke to seeing a taxi side-car coming down Castle Hill. At the crossing it dodged in front of a motor car, and the side-car caught the front of the motor car which struck the side of Messrs Clark's shop in Northampton Street. The motor car hit a man and knocked him down.

1924 06 16
Motorcycle accident, Christs Lane, p3

1925 02 10
Cambridge University Senate agreed that no member of the University shall be allowed to keep or use a motor car unless he obtained a licence through his college. If any tradesman or keeper of motor garage shall let out any motor car or motor cycle for hire to any person in statu pupillari he shall be liable to be discommoded. Anyone who houses upon his premises a motor vehicle on behalf of a member of the University must furnish a written description to the Junior Proctor. 1950

1925 10 17
During the last few days undergraduates have been busy taking out licences for motor cars and motor cycles under the new regulations made with a view to decreasing the traffic in our narrow streets. Undergraduates are not allowed to use any motor vehicle before 12.30 in the morning or after 8.30 at night. An amusing rumour is that proctors are to patrol the streets in a motor car,

followed by 'bulldogs' on motor cycles, but there is no necessity for such 'flying squad' methods as garages are to report any undergraduate who has his car out during the prohibited period.

1926 04 16
PC Bird told magistrates he saw the defendant riding a motor cycle in James Street, Cambridge. He was standing on the saddle and with his hands on the handlebars. Witness told him he had no control over the machine, and he replied "None whatsoever". There were other machines in the street and some children playing on the footpath. Defendant who pleaded guilty said: "I did not think there was any harm in doing it in a quiet street near my house", he said. Magistrates took a lenient view and dismissed him with a caution.

1927 09 24
Damage estimated at £2,000 was caused by a fire which broke out at the Cambridge Motor Service Co. Hobson Street. The night watchman found that motor cycle department, which also stored several cars, was alight and among the vehicles which were badly burned were a Bugatti racing car, an Austin Seven, a Trojan van and a number of motor cycles and bicycles. Some people returning from the New Theatre were attracted down Hobson Street and watched the Fire Brigade at work.

1930

1931 01 23
Cambridge motorists were on their best behaviour when the Borough Police mobile squad went out for their first time. P.C.s Edwards and Ward are the permanent members of the squad, which is equipped with a fast motor cycle combination. The setting up of the squad has made several changes necessary. The new warrant office is P.C. Ives of the detective department and P.C. Brooks is Coroner's Officer. 31 01 23a

1940

1940 07 24
Motor cyclists appealed to sell motor bikes for war purposes; photo of civilian machines in front of Hallens, Chesterton Road – 40 07 24a

1945 03 22
Disused brickworks in Coldham's Lane being used as Army motor cycle store damaged by fire but only nine of the several hundred machines inside were affected – 45 03 22c

1947 09 16
Clerks, shopkeepers and mechanics during the week, fifty motor cyclist enthusiasts of the South Midland Centre took their courage - and their machines - in both hands on Sunday to give 5,000 cheering spectators the sports thrill of their lives. The occasion was the Cambridge Centaur Motor Cycle Club's second scramble of the season at Cherry Hinton chalk pits and, unhappily the last for an indefinite period because of the abolition of the basic petrol ration. For five exciting hours, the competitors urged their snorting, bucking, skidding mounts over a gruelling course which comprised nearly a mile of the toughest ground in the county

1950

1952 06 03

Ever since he was a young land "Shorty" Hallen has been fascinated by motor cycles. Some 20 years ago he started a business of his own in a small shed in Chesterton. Then in 1936 he opened his showrooms at Chesterton Road, Cambridge. Now he has opened another shop at the Bridge Garage, St Ives. Who could have visualised that the rather tumbled-down buildings could have been turned into the magnificent premises they now are? Instead of a musty-looking building it is a brightly painted, well set out and amply stocked showroom with everything for the motor cyclist. It will add to the usefulness, drawing capacity and charm of the town. c52 06 03

1953 08 21
An ever-increasing number of Vespa Clubs is being formed as more and more people from all walks of life decide to solve their transport problems by becoming owners of Vespa two-wheel runabouts. The latest in this international league is the Cambridge Branch. A large number of onlookers was attracted by the sight of a fleet of Vespas parked outside The Anchor, Silver Street while the owners met. The first outing will be a run to the Ferry Boat Inn on Sunday. 53 08 21

1954 01 08
Motor cycle scrambles have gradually caught on and last year the number of spectators has reached 10,000, the Centaur Motor Cycle Club were told at their annual dinner dance at the Dorothy. Mr L.W. Hallen, who was celebrating 21 years of business, welcomed a local prodigy, Mr Tommy Price the former World Champion speedway rider. Mr George Savage, 'Dickie' Davies and Aubrey Thompson – men whose names are bye-words in the motorcycling world – were also present. Highlights of the year included trick riding events arranged as part of the Coronation celebrations and the revival of the old game of grass track racing 54 01 08

1954 03 09
Mr L.W. Hallen started his motor cycle trading 21 years ago in a low-roomed malting shed opposite Union Lane corner and shortly afterwards acquired premises in Hawthorn Way. During the war Government contracts for repair work on RAF vehicles helped the firm to expand and premises which were a dance hall were converted to the use of the business. They have now opened a spacious new showroom on the site of former almshouses that jutted on to Union Lane. Their empire now occupies an extensive stretch of Chesterton High Street. 54 03 09

1954 05 04
Cambridgeshire Police have been experimenting with a radio equipped motor cycle. The wireless equipment supplied by Pye Telecom gives the same facilities as that fitted to police cars. A patrolling motor cycle officer hears his call on the set; pulls up and then can receive his message through a loudspeaker, or alternatively through the hand microphone he uses for his own transmission. The range of the radio is sufficient to cover any part of the county. If adopted it would enable motor cycles to be used for many duties which at present require radio cars.

1954 12 23
One cold December night just before Christmas 1933 a dozen motor cycling enthusiasts gathered in a room over a public house in Chesterton and decided to form the Centaur Motor Cycle Club. Pre-war it was mainly a social club catering for the weekend rider. With war came petrol rationing and shortage of oil but the club somehow kept going. In 1945 it began to get back on its feet, organising the first scramble at Caxton. They then pioneered events such as trials, grass track racing and sidecar events. Now, 21 years later, over 160 members crowded into the Dorothy Restaurant to celebrate the club's coming-of-age CDN 23.12.1954

1955 07 26

Cambridge police may use 'Vespa' motorcycles to combat the shortage of officers and reduce overtime. They are currently under-strength but by using police on Vespas on the outskirts of the city could increase mobility at a reduced cost. It would cost £1,440 to purchase eleven machines together with £300 for clothing and equipment and £600 for petrol but would enable a saving of £4,000 a year. 55 07 26

1955 09 24
Police issued with motor scooters – cartoon – 55 09 24a

1955 12 13
Current trends in two-wheeled transport seem to be moving in favour of the motor-scooter. Now Hallens have opened a new showroom in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge devoted solely to scooters and 'mopeds' (known to the uninitiated as auto-cycles) which illustrates the increased public demand for this form of transport. 55 12 13

1956 03 20
Hallen's presented a feast of films to suit the taste of motor cyclists. Most were manufacturer's promotions but it was the film produced locally which aroused the most interest. It presented an entertaining picture of local scramble scenes with shots of local characters and celebrities. Those attending can also inspect the improvements to the workshops with special stands for the repair of the increasingly popular auto-cycle and scooter forms of transport. 56 03 20a

1956 11 01
A Lambretta Service Station has been opened by King and Harper at their Milton Road branch. It features all the necessary service tools and equipment. Now routine checks can be completed in a matter of minutes with even the most extensive overhaul carried out within a week. Cambridge people have been quick to adapt to this modern form of transport and already own many hundreds of machines. For many housewives, typists and office workers the scooter is here to stay. 56 11 02b

1959 10 22
Brian Stonebridge, the ace scrambler, was sponsored by King and Harper and had several seasons riding BSA and Francis Barnett machines. Later he rode Matchless, then moved to B.S.A. to become one of their 'works' riders. Recently he went to work for Invacar, producing the Greeves motor cycles which were used for scrambles. He was killed when his Austin Atlantic coupe collided with an Austin 16 and was then hit by a lorry. 59 10 22

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 01 03
The 'Grand Old Man' of Cambridge cycling, Mr C.M. Woods, was secretary of the New Chesterton Cycling Club for 35 years. He arranged ten motor and cycle race meetings on the Amalgamation Ground in Queen's Road and was sports secretary for the Mammoth Show on Jesus Green which included the famous rodeo which attracted a record 'gate' of 35,000 people. During his career he came into contact with many famous cyclists including Albert White, Jack Sibbit, Ernie Payne and Reg Player. 61 01 03

1961 11 21

The Cambridge Scooter Club is a new 'all-makes' club which also caters for three-wheelers. It will organise social activities, displays and film shows. However the Cambridge Lambretta Club specialises on topics such as scooter care and maintenance. Its members have completely dismantled and reassembled a machine to gain a better insight of its works and electrics. Members average 120 miles a week with almost all using their machines every day. 61 11 21

1963 03 13
Police motor scooter fleet – photo – 63 03 13

1963 12 17
Centaur Motor Cycle Club organises training scheme for motor cycle and scooter riders - 63 12 17

1970

1973 05 31
The skid-lid industry is booming in Cambridge where sales of motor cycle crash helmets are rocketing. The reason for the boom is the June 1st deadline when police start enforcing the new law that all riders of motor-cycles must wear securely-fastened crash helmets. While 80 per cent of motorcycle owners currently wear crash helmets far fewer passengers own or wear them. Now they will have to. At Halfords in Bridge Street, Cambridge a spokesmen said their sales were up by at least 50 %. Hallens of Cambridge, probably the city's biggest motor cycle and accessory firm said; "Saturday was chaotic"

1974 08 17
Ossie Neal motorcycles, p5

1975 08 09
Cambridge's top businessmen are swapping their bowlers for crash helmets and joining the motorbike brigade. Mr Andy Lee, who has been in the trade for 16 years said: "It's my best year ever". His customers include doctors, housewives and businessmen. They are just the latest recruits to a fast growing army who are finding that motorcycles can be more fun than four wheels

1980

1980 03 31
A 250-strong cavalcade of motor cyclists rode through Cambridge in a protest against the helmet-wearing law. But police were lying in wait and the ride ground to a halt while a dozen riders were booked for not wearing helmets. The protest organised by the Motor Cycle Action Group continued with a police motor cycle escort who held up traffic so that they could all stay together. The Group plans to take their protest to the court of human rights in Strasbourg. 80 03 31

1983 04 25
Hallen's of Cambridge is celebrating its golden jubilee. It was founded in 1933 as a used motor-cycle dealership soon moved to premises in Chapel Street, Chesterton which it shared with a haulage business, fish and chip shop and furniture removal firm. Today these premises still house the motorcycle service and parts centre. It then moved into a former dance hall in Union Lane which became the first car workshop and stores. During the war it was requisitioned with a new workshop

Cyclist on Peas Hill c1910 *56.89*

c.26.485 : Cycling, bicycles

See also Cycle Racing - c.38: cycling

1890
1890
John Howes made own ‘Granta’ cycles [27.2. 8.12] [26.485]

1897 07 05
A trades and cycle exhibition was opened at the Cambridge Corn Exchange yesterday. A large part of the exhibition is devoted to the cycling trade and local firms are showing cycles of the finest and best patterns. At the stand of the Cycle Supply Co, (whose place of business is 23 Sussex-street) can be seen some fine specimens of the King, Granville, Ensign and Vanguard Cycles. The King cycles are made by the firm and three of the machines exhibited have been made to order for Cambridge people. The machines are a remarkably neat and well-finished lot. Ladies' machines can be obtained from £9 and gents' from £8 1897 07 05

1897 11 09

A company has been formed to acquire the rights of an invention for automatically securing and holding cycles upon the principles of the penny in the slot. The public cycle racks will be placed in convenient centre, and, by putting his penny in the slot and thereby unlocking a lid which closes over the wheel, the owner can place his machine in perfectly safe custody, and take away with him a key, by which key alone the locker can be undone. To get his machine out the cyclist opens the lid, replaces his key, turns it and lets the lid down; the wheel is released by the falling of the lid, the penny drops into a receiver, the key is secured and the apparatus closed. 1897 11 09

1897 12 14
At the Cambridge Wanderers Cycle club annual dinner Mr G. Edwards, the Captain, said he did not say all cyclists were angels, because they were not. There were men who went tearing about, whistling down the street, ringing their bells and expecting to have the whole street cleared for them. There was another class who went for a ride in the country and had a sort of liking for riding on the path. Had the chief constable put a constable in the road in proper uniform no one would have complained. But he had to go and put a man in plain clothes to capture the people. The speaker was sure that the chief constable had a rise in his salary for the smart capture of cyclists 1897 12 14 CDN

1898 02 07
Cycle traders of Cambridge have put on one side petty jealousy, and uniting under the title of the Cambridge City Traders' Association have prepared an exhibition in the Corn Exchange. Every description of cycle is here, from the child's small machine and the slim one of the fair sex to the stout roadster of the hardy, touring, record-making male. The latest novelties find a place, and motor cycles and tricycles tempt those to whom ease and novelty are more than exercise. In this connection we may mention that it is proposed to have a motor car running during the week about the town in connection with the show. Special railway facilities have been granted and the exhibition should be an immense success. To all we would say "Go", whether a wheeler or not. CDN 1898 02 07

1898 02 14
After a considerable period of immunity from serious fire outbreak, Cambridge was visited with a fire which, but for the prompt measures taken for its suppression, must have caused widespread destruction of property in the vicinity. The conflagration occurred at Mr Varty's cycle stores in Bridge Street. The cause is supposed to have been a large lamp which was hanging up in the shop falling to the floor and igniting. The building is a very old one and contains an enormous amount of timber and this, upon being seized by the flames, burnt rapidly and fiercely. A large number of bottles of lubricating and lamp oils in stock added to the conflagration. Some 60 bicycles which were stored at the back of the house, belonging chiefly to University men, were rescued, together with some horses stabled in a shed at the side of the house CDN 1898 02 14

1899 06 26
There was a special temptation to the members of the Cambridge Wanderer's Cycling Club yesterday. It was "photo day"! We went away slowly for were we not mindful of the fact that a perspiring group would not make the best of photos? Moustaches shining in all the glory of a recent application of cosmetic had also to be studied. Our destination was Ditton Plough and when we arrived there was a general "spruce up", so anxious were we that such a "galaxy of beauty" should not be lost to posterity. Mr Lord placed us in position, endeavouring to look pleasant, keeping our heads on high and remaining perfectly still all at the same time. Three plates were used. That photo should be a good one - 1899 06 26

1900

1901 06 26
The other day on a road outside Cambridge I met the Vice Chancellor of the University. Mr Chawner was not walking – he was not driving – he was riding a bicycle. I was not surprised. Were the Chancellor himself to take to bicycle riding, or the Bishop of Ely, there would be no comment to be made, except, perhaps on their style of riding. I would remark that on a bicycle the Vice-Chancellor carries himself with the grace and dignity becoming his office 01 06 26

1902 02 03
Sir – Allow me to warn cyclists using Hills Road that if the large patches of stones on the road tempt them to save their tyres by riding on the footpath they will probably be taken by constables in plain clothes. I am told they use a convenient post for observation, where they can watch the progress of cyclists along the footpath. Their action can be expected to yield a good crop of cases before the magistrates and fines of five or even ten shillings. Authorities who set constables to pounce on cyclists have devised a mean and contemptible means of employing a set of honourable men. This is against the spirit by which the law is meant to be administered – G.F. Searle. CDN 1902 02 03

1902 02 26
How often is the extremely low-priced machine a pitfall and a snare to the unwary novice? Glittering plate and enamel make it as attractive as the more reliable cycle, but also serve to hide a crowd of defects. The sensible cyclist knows that good value can only be obtained in one way and Messrs J. Howes and son of Regent Street, Cambridge have proved that good value is the foundation of good business. Their own bicycle, the Granta, is a fine piece of workmanship constructed with the greatest care. Now that the free wheel has come to stay, brakes have become absolutely essential. CDN 1902 02 26

1903 02 23
The Cambridge Corn Exchange exhibition of cycles and motors has become an annual event. Motors and motor cycles are as yet in their infancy and each year sees great strides taken towards perfection. There are on view some fine, up-to-date specimens of motor cars. The Mayor said he was a cyclist of some years' standing but his experiences of motor cars was very limited. He had been for a ride on a motor car, and thoroughly enjoyed it. Manufacturers were handicapped by stringent laws as to the pace motors might travel over public roads. While so many horses were about it was startling for them to find a vehicle coming at 20 miles an hour and making rather a peculiar noise. 03 02 23

1903 03 21
A large number of ladies interested in cycling met for the purpose of forming a cycling club for the benefit of those ladies engaged in business during the day in order to provide some recreation in their evening and leisure time. Runs and picnics will be arranged during the summer with socials and dances in winter. No opposition was aroused until the question of colours was arrived at and light blue and pink were decided upon. There was a little more discussion as to how they were to be worn but it was decided to leave it to the discretion of the members. 03 03 21

1903 04 21
At a meeting held at the Horse and Groom Hotel, Cambridge, it was resolved to form a new cycling club to be named the "Belmont Cycling and Motoring Club". Mr Lawrence, of the Belmont Cycle Works, who is the founder of the club promised members a very substantial reduction on all goods and repairs at the Works and also offered a 10-guinea challenge cup to be competed for yearly. The club promises to become very popular 03 04 21

1904 04 09
Cycle dealer hides medallion, finder gets bicycle - will lend bikes to people looking for it [7.5]

1904 06 25
"A few years ago the bicycle was looked upon by pedestrians as a real terror, accidents were frequent. Those that grew with the machine now simply regard it as one of the ordinary dangers now regarded as one of the ordinary dangers &lookout for the 'wheeler' who comes scorching by at the phenomenon speed of 20 mph. Today the real terror is the motor car and motor bike scorching by at 30-40 mph … begoggled motorists" [8.5]

1904 06 10
Professor Darwin was summonsed for riding a bicycle on the footpath on Coe Fen. Pc Ridgewell said he had got off when he spoke to him but then mounted his bicycle and rode off. The Professor said he thought he had better get off the common as quickly as possible and it never occurred to him that he should walk. He had ridden the path for ten or twelve years and had never been spoken before. He was fined five shillings. 1904 06 10

1904 09 14
The Official Receiver examining the affairs of a cycle dealer in King Street, Cambridge heard that he had begun business in 1895 and made a fair income until two years ago. The causes of his failure were bad trade, loss on a motor car and the illness of his wife and family. Since the receiving order had been made he had kept two men on the premises at work doing repairs to keep the business going. The New Hudson people had written asking what he would take for the whole thing and Mr Ison had also been after it. The Receiver said 'A man who would work would do very well. Of course when a man stands outside for an admiring crowd to gaze at you cannot wonder …' Among his creditors were Macintosh and Sons, J.F. Amps, Enfield Cycle Co, The Cycle Exchange and H. Swainland. CDN 14.9.1904

1904 10 22
Cyclists now allowed on more paths over commons [8.7]

1905 07 08
'Cyclist' writes that he started on a long ride into the fen districts and distinctly remembers placing a repair outfit in his saddlebag. When in one of the most benighted parts of the fen he discovered a puncture he turned his machine in readiness to repair it. To his disgust he found his repair outfit had been abstracted from his bag. The theft is one of those paltry offences that only an excessively mean nature would cause a man to commit. 05 07 08c

1905 09 27
Mr S.W. Lack, the Histon cyclist has just completed another season during which his successes have firmly established him in the front rank of cyclist athletes. Since he began racing five years ago he has won prizes worth more than £2,000 which are now on display at Joshua Taylor's. They include the Ely Challenge Cup which he won outright in 1903, despite fierce competition from London cyclists. They have all been won on a 'New Chesterton' manufactured by W.J. Ison of Cambridge. 05 09 27a & b

1905 09 27
Cambridge possesses a road-racing cyclist of repute in Mr A.G. Markham one of the most prominent of the North Road Club. Road-racing is not extensively advertised and his achievements are not widely-known. Last Saturday he took part in the Club's 12 hours' unpaced time trial when he covered 193 miles including a ride to King's Lynn against a stiff breeze.

Earlier he covered 100 miles in the good time of five hours, 23 seconds. He rides a 'Belmont' Cycle made in King Street 05 09 27c

1906 03 10
Cat punctures new pneumatic tyres [8.9]

1906 06 30
Isaac Wilderspin, implement maker of Elsworth won first prize in an international competition for the best non-skid tyre for bicycles. The trial lasted five days with machines tested on a slanting asphalt track, besmeared with Thames mud and soft soap before being sent on a 300 mile run on the high road. It was ridden by W. Tolliday of the firm of Parker and Son, cycle makers of St Ives. Now he has invented a similar tyre for motor cars. 06 06 30a

1906 11 06
Cyclists are petitioning Cambridge town council against the use of flints in the streets during wet or frosty weather. Something must be done to stop the spreading of these puncture traps. Surely some other material can be found. The flints are also driven into the wooden paving blocks by heavy traffic and must damage them. Cambridge is not such a hilly town as to present unusual difficulties in this respect. We trust everybody will sign the memorial of protest. 06 11 06a

1907 07 16
Arthur Markham held world cycling records - 307 miles in 24hours, also 50 miles in 2 hours & 100 miles in 5 hours [38.3.3]

1907 07 16
Messrs King and Co are displaying a number of cycles and motor cycles at Cambridge Corn Exchange. There is with a 'Rex' motorcycle which can be bought for 24 guineas, one of the cheapest on the market, and the 'King' bicycle with Crabbe brakes, Warwick tyres, Hyde free-wheel, Perry chain and Brooke's saddle, costs six guineas. Standardisation of parts has indeed wrought a revolution in the cycle industry. 07 07 16

1908
Consider banning cyclists from Senate House Passage [1.15]

1908 04 17
Herbert Robinson bicycle showrooms expansion – 08 04 17b

1908 05 09
Quinsee, cycle dealer and repairer, factory case – 08 05 09

1908 05 12
Cambridge Ladies' Social Cycling Club held 30 runs last year which were not so well attended as before, owing to the unsettled weather. Three invitation runs were arranged to get other cycle clubs to join, and they were well patronised. Successful picnics were given at the Swan House Tea Gardens, Harston and at Whittlesford. A prize will be awarded to the lady who attended the most runs during the season. 08 05 12

1910

1910 02 09

Through the enterprise of Mr W.J. Ison, the Cambridge public is able to see the latest developments in bicycles as exhibited at the great cycle exhibition at Olympia, London. In the windows of his depots in Chesterton Road and St John's Street are to be seen samples of the all-steel Raleigh cycles which attained such wide fame. Doubtless many local cyclists will take the opportunity of inspecting these latest models of all that is best and most modern in the bicycle – 10 02 09c

1910 03 05
"Bicycles a nuisance, pavements full of parked machines whilst college courts empty - it will be 20-50 years before the problem is solved" [8.16]

1910 03 25
Two London youths were charged with stealing and receiving cycles. A clerk in the booking office at Shelford station said one lad had come in with a cycle which he had sent to London by the 2.14 train. It had been collected from St Pancras station next morning and taken to a pawnbroker who was suspicious and informed a detective. The lad confessed: "Me and Wilson went to Cambridge on Saturday and stole two. We rode over to Shelford and booked them to London then walked back to Cambridge and I got another one" 10 03 25c [8.17]

1910 07 09
"Bikes needs as working people cannot afford to live in Cambridge" [8.18]

1910 11 19
Cycle dealer invited by De Freville resident to offer price for second-hand bike, she wants £3, he offers 35/- (£1.75) & at that price woman sells it to neighbour [9.1]

1910 12 17
Complaint that chipped flints put on roads to provide footholds for horses during snow destroy cycle tyres [9.2]

1911 02 04
Robinsons do large business hiring bikes to undergraduates, lost 20 bikes in a year, bikes so plentiful & left in such a reckless way that remarkable so few lost [9.16]

1911 09 23
"Bicycles have solved the housing problem - people have to go so far from centre to find houses to rent [9.19]

1912
Ben Hayward cycle & electric shop opened [NS2.13]

1912 02 24
Pranksters replace bicycle light oil with cold tea [9.4]

1912 03 01
Belmont Cycle and Motor Club is in a very flourishing condition with an increased membership and improving balance sheet. It will continue to support amalgamation of other clubs to promote the social side of cycling and to arrange the club fixture cards to fit in with amalgamated club runs for the coming season. This would foster friendly feeling and attract fresh members, members were told. 12 03 01c

1912 08 12
Mr A.G. Markham, the ex-holder of the 100 miles' world's tricycle record and present holder of the 24 hours' Eastern Counties tricycle record, covered the splendid distance of 192 miles in twelve hours. For over 60 miles he had to struggle with a dead head wind which blew with tremendous strength across the open fenland. To make things worse, at 140 miles his stomach went wrong and he went all to pieces. Four times he gave up the ride as hopeless but his followers would not let him rest and after dosing him with brandy and bathing his head they managed to keep him at it. It is doubtful if any other man of his age – he is 44 and has been taking part in violent athletics for 26 years – would have done such a ride. 12 08 02aa

1913 11 01
Cycleways suggested [9.13]

1913 07 04
Some astonishment was caused in Histon one evening by the appearance in the village of two cyclists, mounted not upon the ordinary 'safety' so common nowadays, but astride the high velocipede, with the large and smaller wheels, which were much in vogue some two decades ago. 13 07 04 p12 CIP

1915 04 02
Mr A.G. Markham, the well-known Cambridge cyclist, met with a serious accident. He was riding a cycle along Victoria Road and was about to pass some horses ridden by soldiers, when one of the animals shied and, backing into Mr Markham, knocked him on to the kerbstone. The result was he was badly thrown, dislocating his shoulder. 15 04 02

1916 03 15
Cambridge Automobile and Engineering Company new works on corner Hobson St & Sidney Street – profile – 16 03 15h, advert 26 03 08g

1916 08 30
The military cyclist: Cambridge pioneers of the past and present – feature – 16 08 30d

1919
Hallen's demonstrate power tricycle at Mammoth show 73 10 31 [12.3]

1920
1920s
"bicycle standard transport, dons had machines of more than ordinary height & unusual construction, a Regent Street cellist had one with tyres twice normal diameter to protect cello from shock" - Acres 70 03 04 [4.3]

1920 04 14
Cycle Locks. For a good many years Cambridge has suffered from the depredations of the cycle thief, despite the vigilance of the police and numerous convictions of offenders. At a time when a bicycle is such an expensive Item, and thieves are as active as ever, the invention of a simple lock has corns as a great boon to cyclists and motor cyclists. A well-known Cambridge scientific engineer—Mr. O. W. Hallen, of 58a Bridge Street —gave some thought to the matter, and he has devised a simple invention which will readily command itself to owners of bicycles and which should effectively reduce the number of thefts of machines from the streets. The lock is a permanent attachment to the cycle or motor-cycle, and when it is thrown into action it prevents

the rotation of the wheels. The device consists of a clip to fix on the forks of a bicycle, and a moving lever secured by a padlock. When the bicycle is left unattended the lever is pushed inwards towards the wheel and locked. It is then impossible to ride the machine, as the lever obstructs the spoke of the wheel. When the lever is withdrawn by the rider it does not interfere with the free movement of the spokes. Small and unobtrusive, Mr. Hallen's device weighs but a few-ounces, and is practically stamped from one piece of metal. A thief could neither unscrew it nor break it without the use of extreme force, and as the lever will probably be case hardened when produced on a larger scale, it will be almost impossible to file through it. The device should not prove expensive, and the largest item will lie in the cost of the padlock selected by the cyclist himself. Mr. Hallen is at present negotiating with several large firms of cycle accessory makers for mass production of the device on a large scale. 20 04 14 CIPof

1920 10 27
Method of disposal of bicycles stolen from streets disclosed at court – taken to Shelford station and sent to London - Ch 20 10 27

1923 09 18
Sir - During the time that Silver Street, Cambridge, has been closed for traffic, some hundreds of persons have used Mill Lane, Sheep's Green to Newnham mill path. This opens a solution of the problems of relieving Silver Street of a great number of bicycles, especially during the dinner hour. I would like the Corporation to consider widening the wooden bridges, lessening the gradients, covering in the outlets of Newnham mill, and improving the cobble stones in Mill Lane, in order to encourage cycle riders to use this way. The one drawback to this scheme is the sharp turn at the King's mill corner, but this might also be overcome – "Newnhamite" c23 09 18

1925 02 07
Cyclists allowed to go against stream of traffic when Market St & Petty Cury made one-way - 25 02 07 [1.20]

1926 03 12
Of 1996 bikes found by police in 1926 1,709 were reclaimed – 27 03 12 [6.26]

1927 10 29
Appeal for bike parking places [7.8]

1929 05 13
Cycle paths proposed CDN 13.5.1929

1930 08 30
There are a five-seater, a quad, a triplet and a tandem bicycle to be found at the Belmont Cycle and Motor Works, King Street, Cambridge. They were formerly part of the fleet of pacing multicycles used by the famous Dunlop racing teams at the old Herne Hill track. Owing to the amount of motor traffic nowadays it is not advisable to ride the 'quint', a lengthy machine, but the others are still available for use. 30 08 30b & c

1931 04 03
William James Ison started as a cycle dealer in Chesterton Road in 1897; his business prospered and at one time he had four shops selling and repairing cycles. He also put one of his own machines on the market. The 'New Chesterton' has become deservedly popular and a special racing model won over 100 prizes in 1908. His late wife was sister of Fred Lawrence of the Belmont Cycle Works in King Street. 31 04 03f [6.16]

1935 10 18
Sir – while I was at the Theatre Cinema some kind individual stole the dynamo from the back wheel of my bicycle which was in the theatre cycle shed. It could only have been undone with the aid of a screwdriver and whether the lamp-snatcher is an amateur or professional, he certainly made a good job. Some people seem to have a mania for collecting, pumps and lamps and should by now be able to set up a retail store. I hope something will soon be done about these thefts which are happening every night by the dozen. – R.H. Stanton 35 10 18

1936 08 15
The Christian Science Monitor observes: 'In Cambridge, Saturday afternoon shoppers parked their bicycles along the street and left all sorts of packages unmolested in open baskets on the handlebars. Other cycles were left in racks beside the college buildings. If one missed his machine, we were told, he had only to wait till the morrow; someone had taken it by mistake and would return it to its place'. Evidently our American friend has not heard of our undergraduates and their 'taking little ways'. Their 'mistakes' are more frequent than some of us like and both pumps and lights also have a habit of disappearing 36 08 15a

1937 03 01
Cycle history lecture – 37 03 01a

1937 08 14
More ladies have come forward in the search for Britain's oldest women cyclists. Mrs Cross of Toft (81) still rides her ordinary lady's bike regularly while Annie Long of Withersfield (75) has a machine she bought in 1898. Mrs N. Plint of Gt Shelford rides into Cambridge each day to deliver fruit grown in her garden & Mrs H. Ball of Staploe (68) also bikes five miles a day to work. Mrs L.M. Mortimer (63) of Chedworth Street is one of the most consistent riders, having done thousands of miles since she was ten years of age. 37 08 14a

1938 01 29
Ronald Searle cartoon of cycling problems, 1938 – [6.19] 90 03 22d

1938 02 04
Councillors refused the erection of a small cycle shelter in the front garden of a house in Scroope Terrace. There were already two such shelters and it was hard to refuse another. But they had to stop somewhere. This was one of the loveliest terraces in Cambridge and should be preserved. They hoped to get the other shelters removed. There were a great number of front gardens where people would like to have sheds but would never dream of asking the council for permission. They would have many applications if they acceded to this one. 38 02 04b

1938 04 24
Herbert Robinson takes delivery of 500 bikes just before bus strike – 37 04 24 [6.18]

1939 05 27
A feature of the newly-finished ring road between Ditton Walk and Newmarket Road in Cambridge is a special track for cyclists, which is an innovation in this district – 39 05 27

1939 12 18
Police are dragging the river for two local cyclists who disappeared during the black-out after they had set out to cycle to their homes. Following a report that what appeared to be two cycles had been seen lying on the bed of the river near Dant's Bridge police commenced dragging and

recovered a lady's machine. Later a man's cycle was brought to the surface. They have been identified as belonging to the missing couple. The man could swim but had a disabled leg due to a football injury. The girl is the daughter of a stone mason and worked at a local factory. 39 12 18 & a

1940

1943 08 03
Cyclist killed in collision with tank, one of a number in a big convoy in a Polish unit in Lime Kiln Road – 43 08 03

1948 05 08
There must have been many conjectures as to how many cycles do pass up and down St Andrew's street, Cambridge, in the course of a day. A special cable apparatus used by Cambridge Borough Police yesterday recorded an average of 1,400 cycles per hour. During the peak period from 12.30 to 1.30 pm nearly 2,000 cyclists were clocked. Motor traffic figures are negligible by comparison only 460 vehicles an hour being "clocked" regularly over the whole day. The census was organised in connection with the one-way traffic system which will shortly be brought into operation 48 05 08

1949 05 17
Cycling history was made when the Cambridgeshire Road Club promoted its first open time trial on roads west of Cambridge. It is believed that this is the first open road event ever to be organised by a Cambridge cycling club, and the experiment proved to be an unqualified success. An entry of 183 was received from clubs but only 120 could be accepted. The Cambridgeshire Road Club team of B. Curtis, F. Krebs and V. Avis came second in the team race 49 05 17

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 01 03
The 'Grand Old Man' of Cambridge cycling, Mr C.M. Woods, was secretary of the New Chesterton Cycling Club for 35 years. He arranged ten motor and cycle race meetings on the Amalgamation Ground in Queen's Road and was sports secretary for the Mammoth Show on Jesus Green which included the famous rodeo which attracted a record 'gate' of 35,000 people. During his career he came into contact with many famous cyclists including Albert White, Jack Sibbit, Ernie Payne and Reg Player. 61 01 03

1962 02 24
Bicycles. Battered ones, shiny ones. Fiery racers and aged trundlers with baskets. Bicycles for traffic weaving in town or gentle rolling down country lanes. All have seen better days. They have laid at the police station unclaimed and yesterday were sold off by auction with prices ranging from ten shillings for boneshakers to £8 for superior machines. 62 02 24a

1964 06 06
Blind-folded student cycles rush hour traffic 64 06 06

1965 03 11
Ward's move to new premises in Burleigh Street marks another stage in the long history of a firm which started when Jonas Ward made a living mending bicycles in East Road. For some time they made the famous Crown cycles, one of which was ridden from Cambridge to Monte Carlo in 1930. They also supplied carrier cycles and box tricycles. Later they diversified into wireless,

gramophones, washing machines and baby carriages and became one of the first to stock televisions in 1938. – 65 03 11a, b

1970

1971 08 26
John Howes move Regent St, founded 1840, 1869 turned velocipede, 1890 made own 'Granta' cycles move into new showrooms, Regent Street – 71 08 26

1971 11 29
Anti-car demonstration, 450 cyclists take part [11.3]

1974 03 04
Anti-car demonstration, 250 cyclists take part, call for bus &cycle lanes [11.4]

1975 06 11
7,000 petition for cycleways, proposals announced for route from Arbury to centre & for cycle lanes [11.5,11.7]

1976 08 06
Cambridge's first bus and bicycles lane comes into operation along Victoria Avenue after the Government approved the city council's experimental plan to put down a special lane from the Four Lamps junction to Victoria Bridge. The plan also bans all parking along the Midsummer Common side; this means the hundreds of motorists who leave their cars there will have to find somewhere else. The aim is to speed up the substantial number of buses using Victoria Avenue, particularly during the evening peak period when traffic congestion causes extensive delays c76 08 06

1979 03 05
300 sign another petition for cycle lanes [11.9]

1979 07 16
4-wheel 'cyclomobiles' hired to tourists [11.10]

1979 03 05
The Mayor of Cambridge, Coun Alec Molt, faced 300 chanting cyclists outside the Guildhall and signed their petition demanding better provision for cyclists. The demonstration began with a lecture on road safety and bike maintenance by the police, then led by a Panda car, they took at 15-minute tour of the city centre streets before returning to Peas Hill to hear councillors' views. Their priorities include cycle lanes on the Huntingdon & Madingley Roads and a contra-flow cycle lane in Downing Street. 79 03 05

1979 04 27
What is claimed to be the largest cycle shop in Cambridge, with a stock of thousands of new and used machines has opened on the corner of East Road and Norfolk Street. The new shop – 'Thakes – the Cycle King' – is the fourth in a rapidly-growing string owned by Nick Thake who calls himself 'the 27-year-old work maniac'. His other shops are in the London suburban and Southend areas. It will offer discounts of up to 50 per cent with a guarantee of rapid service and total satisfaction and also specialise in finding parts for very old cycles or obscure foreign makes. 79 04 27

1980

1980 02 14
Arbury cycle route opened [11.12]

1980 06 17
Downing street contra-flow starts amidst protests re safety [11.11]

1980 09 24
There are twice as many bicycles in Cambridge than in other towns, but there are three times as many bike shops. The proprietor of University Cycles of King Street says the overheads are high but with hard work it is possible to make a comfortable living. Second-hand bike sales peak at the start of a university term and winter is a good time for repairs as with ice and snow there are frequent breakages. But Cedar Cycles of Cottenham say people travel out to them because they are the cheapest in the area. 80 09 24b-c

1981
Cycling on footpaths experiment starts [11.13]

1987 04 23
Major moves to curb cyclist and pedestrian accidents in traffic-choked Cambridge are now under way. New pavements have been laid and roads have been narrowed with the aim of using bikes as 'traffic regulators'. This has made it very unpleasant for cyclists who have to choose either to ride in the middle of the road and be harassed by impatient drivers or at the side and have pedestrians stepping out in front of them and cars squeezing dangerously by. Motorists drive menacingly close so that the cyclist in panic pedals even faster like a frightened hen. 87 04 23

1987 05 21
Ben Hayward opened a small bicycle and electrical business in Cambridge in 1912. Today it is still going strong as a bicycle specialist in Trumpington Street maintaining a tradition of good service and friendliness. They can build a bicycle especially for you, assembling the whole machine to create something unique and if necessary a frame can be made by a company in Leeds. Customers also get a free first service done by the firm's own workshop in Laundress Lane 87 05 21b

1989 07 06
Townsend's take over Ison's cycles which was started by W.J. Ison in 1893 and made the New Chesterton cycle. Albert Townsend started in 1890s making Cambridge Light Blue Cycles in Norfolk Street, moving to Burleigh Street in early 1960s 89 06 30 Townsend's history – profile – 89 07 06

1989 11 03
Townsend cycle experts since the 1890s – feature – 89 11 03 & a

1989 11 28
The new South East Cycleway from Market Square to Cherry Hinton follows quiet back roads, avoiding the nightmarish Mill Road which can reduce cyclists to a nervous wreck. It includes a new £2million bridge across the railway near Cambridge station. This is a striking structure with a triangular tower from which cables support a cycle and walkway fully protected from the elements by a transparent polycarbonate tube. It is thought to be the longest bridge of its type in Western Europe. 89 11 28a, 29

1990 05 17

John Brown family made custom-built bicycles, awards Town and County Cycling Club cup – feature – 90 05 17b

1993
Community 'green bike' scheme launched; most machines vanish [Rev]

Addenda

General articles reviewing history

"Early cycling" - notes TT - 31 07 11 [2.2]

Cambridge Liberal cycling club history – 33 01 14a & b

The appeal for pioneer women cyclists heard from Dorothea Conybeare. Her father, Rev Edward Conybeare of Barrington, had bought her sister a bike on 28 July 1893. By 1894 women's bicycles still rather unusual and fellow Perseans were much impressed when they'd cycled in from Barrington to be present at an examination for which the train would have been too late. She does not remember seeing any Cambridge women or girls bicycling before 1893 but saw two during a visit to Leicestershire in 1892 and was agreeably surprised by their grace and dignity 37 07 31a
King motorcycle history - 60 03 28

"In 1847 Cambridge had giant tricycle with 12 foot wheelbase" - 57 02 02 [6.24]

First bike made & ridden in Cambridge in 1863 ("73 years ago" from 1934) - 34 11 17 [2.8]

Robert Taylor of Soham made bike, biked to London 1870 & his was first bike seen there - 35 07 12 [2.10]

One of first bicycles seen in Long Road in 1868 - 13 11 01 [9.10]

Cambridge blacksmith invented 'suspension wheel' - thin iron spoke for bike wheels 31 07 04 [2.1]

Old velocipedes with wooden wheels hired by Mr Howes in 1868 [9.10]

Townsends made own bikes till competition from large manufacturers, 1868 - 62 12 06

Howes bikes to Cambridge 1840, built bone shakers 1868 after seeing one in Parish exhibition, introducing it to Cambridge 81 11 26

John Howes founded 1840, 1869 turned velocipede c1881

East Anglian Cement workers, 1930s *95.08*

c.27.1 : Industry

Reports of industry and manufacturing in Cambridge 1888-1990: a chronology followed by sections on Cambridge Instrument Company, Marshall's, Pye of Cambridge and Sinclair

1881
Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company founded by Horace Darwin, makes equipment University, develops electrocardiograph

1895
Cambridge Instrument Company formally registered, (established1881) [1.13]

1896
In 1896 William George Pye left Cavendish Laboratory & began to design scientific instruments for university students [1.14]

1898 07 26
A meeting in connection with the proposed Cambridge Ice and Cold Storage Company was held at the University Arms Hotel. A central site had been secured at Petty Cury and they had customers both for ice and cold storage. The two biggest firms in Cambridge had agreed to have cold storage, beside many other gentlemen, and they would have orders for eleven hundred tons of ice for the first weeks working. Some hundreds of shares were taken up before the meeting ended - CDN 1898 07 26

1900

1900 05 14
The extensive Portland Cement Works which are being erected in the neighbourhood of Coldham's Lane and Mill Road are now assuming enormous dimensions; in fact the buildings already completed are ample evidence that one of the largest and most modern cement works in England will be situated near Cambridge. The celebrated gun-makers, Messrs Krupp of Essen, are supplying most of the extensive machinery for the company and a cement will be manufactured that conforms to the specifications of the Board of Admiralty and the London County Council CDN 1900 05 14

1900 07 20
For some years the manufacture of Portland cement had been carried on in the district, but it is today that the new Saxon Portland Company is seriously undertaking the scientific manufacture of the product on a large commercial scale. One of the largest and most modern cement works in the kingdom is being erected on the Coldham Lane, Cambridge. Sidings have been connected with the railway capable of holding three trains of 20 trucks each. The buildings, rapidly approaching completion, include eight large cement kilns & an enormous building will provide storage for the manufactured cement. The works will be open by night and by day. The electric light will be extensively used and the current will be generated at the works 00 07 20

1901 02 18
An outbreak of fire occurred at the works of the Cambridge Brick Company, situated between Coldham's Lane and Newmarket Road on the outskirts of the densely populated district of Barnwell. The fire attracted large crowds and the flames, aided by a gentle breeze, spread rapidly, soon mounting in the air a distance of about a hundred feet. In just over two hours everything had yielded to the flames and all that remained was the damaged and broken parts of the valuable machinery. Fortunately the conflagration was confined to the corrugated iron roofed wooden building covering the machinery or the entire works could easily scarcely have escaped destruction.

1901 08 28
Cambridgeshire enjoys the reputation of being an agricultural and fruit-growing county but now must be added the reputation of manufacturing centre. There are several factories within a few miles of Cambridge and another on a large scale no further away than Fen Ditton is promised. The Poplar Hall Estate has been purchased where the beds of limestone and clay marl contain every natural ingredient for the manufacture of the highest class Portland cement. In addition blue gault or brick earth underlies the estate and this should make the best white bricks. It has a frontage of nearly half a mile to the Cam on which is already erected a wharf or loading dock which would put the works in direct touch with the steamboat companies running into Lynn docks CDN 1901 08 29

1901 10 10
A number of Cambridge gentlemen interested in the cement industry have formed the Cambs Cement Chamber of Commerce to further in every possible way the interests of cement manufacturing in the county. To them Mr W. Abbott is prepared to make over by deed of gift fifteen acres of the Poplar Hall Estate, simply asking that the land shall be efficiently worked and from time to time reports published. He is convinced it would put beyond all question that there is money in Cambridgeshire cement 01 10 10

1902
The Atlas Stone Company was established in 1902 alongside the Portland cement works in Coldham's Lane (the present Sainsbury's site). It moved to Meldreth where during the Second World War they worked round the clock producing asbestos-reinforced concrete sheeting to

repair bomb-damaged cities. Then in 1984 with concern over the use of asbestos they switched to other fibres. Today the works are the UK headquarters of Eternit TAC which has a workforce of over 400 89 10 19

1902 09 15
Under proper conditions Cambridge cement is equal to the finest the world produces. The up-to-date methods of the Saxon Cement Company has resulted in it commanding a considerable advance per ton in the open market. The Admiralty, after protracted tests, has placed a contract for Cambridge Portland Cement which will extend over a considerable period, proving beyond doubt that the local deposit is in every way suited for producing a perfect natural cement CDN 1902 09 15

1903 10 24
The recent completion of the Atlas Stone Company works at Coldham's Lane will add to the industrial importance of the Romsey Town and Cherry Hinton districts of Cambridge. A complete plant for the manufacture of artificial paving slabs on the most up-to-date principles has been installed with a hydraulic press capable of 500 slabs per day worked by electric power. The chief market is in London and the Eastern Counties where the value of artificial flags for footways has been firmly established. 03 10 24

1904 11 11
Cement making has already become a very important Cambridge industry. Extensive new works are rapidly approaching completion and have made a great change in the landscape of Cherry Hinton. The pleasant path through the fields from the end of Mill Road is hardly recognisable now. It has been diverted to make room for a huge collection of buildings from which a new siding leads to the railway line close at hand. These are the Norman Cement Company's works. 1904 11 11

1904 11 14
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1906 05 21
'Kleno' is a liquid cleanser for domestic and industrial use manufactured in Broad Street, Cambridge. Chemical changes take place in a locked room before it is refined in a series of vats from which it emerges clear and bright. The bottle washing apparatus is worked by steam and the factory has its own warehouses making packing cases ready for despatch. It is a matter of satisfaction that the factory has been established here, for it involves the employment of more labour and all the benefits of a growing industry. 06 05 21a b c

1906 10 27
English people face a great crisis: the gradual monopolisation by huge Trusts of the supply of the necessaries of life. Now it is soap. Cambridge has its own manufactory – the Castle Soap Company – which opposes the Trust - has seen its sales rise. But if customers continue to ask for Sunlight brand then the monopoly will refuse to supply the retailer who stocks the 'free' soaps. 06 10 27 abc

1906 11 26
Soap Trust collapse – impact locally on Soap Company – 06 11 26a & b

1907 01 03
One of the most flourishing of Cambridge's small industries is the confectionery factory of Pollard and Co. in Garden Walk, Victoria Road. From this delightfully-situated establishment some tons of pure boiled sweets are exported to various parts of the country. Not even with the recent extensions to the factory can they cope with the demand. One of their specialities are honey and butter balls and the marzipan for the centre of their satin pralines is made of the finest almonds. 07 01 03 & 03a

1907 01 11
Castle Soap Company – detailed article – 07 01 11 & 11a

1907 01 18
When Dew Smith and Horace Darwin commenced the manufacture of certain scientific instruments for physiological work at the University Laboratory it was more as a hobby and not financially profitable. But it grew and in 1895 was turned into a limited liability company which is now flourishing at its pleasantly situated works off Chesterton Road. Among its important products is a kite used in meteorological observations and a machine for standardising small screws which has been supplied to the Japanese government. 07 01 18

1908 08 28
Great blocks of glittering, iridescent ice are manufactured on the site of the Falcon Inn, Petty Cury, every hot midsummer morning. Mr J.V. Pryor, the fish-monger has installed plant for this modern miracle and the shrill insistent note of the dynamo is joined by the plunk-plunk of the gas engine exhaust. Like the flying machine, the ice factory is at present only in its infancy and the plant is expensive but the method of manufacture is simplicity itself, taking 50 hours to produce slabs weighing two cwt apiece and makes more than Mr Pryor needs for his ordinary fish business CEN 08 08 28 p3

1910

1910 01 14
The annual dinner of the Saxon Cement Works, the Norman Cement Works and the Atlas Stone Company took place at the Lion Hotel, Petty Cury. The cement industry was important for Cambridge. They had started with 128 men, today they employ over 300 with a permanent staff of 70 clerks and supervisors. They'd spent over £150,000 in coal and coke, another £150,000 in materials from machinery to stationery. Close on £200,000 had paid in wages, most in Cambridge, and the railway companies had received more than £300,000 over the last seven years. CWN 10 01 14i & j

1910 03 11
Norman Cement works timekeeper threatened 10 03 11d

1910 11 25
The late Mr Alfred Simper was a well-known rope-maker who formerly carried on business at Great Shelford. For the past 21 years he lived at Rope Walk, New Street and visited all the markets around Cambridge. He had a stall in the Corn Exchange for 20 years and was highly respected by all with whom he came in contact. Mr Simper was a prominent Cambridge

Christadelphian and the funeral service was conducted according to the custom of the Christadelphian community by Dr W.J. Young of Harston. 10 11 25f

1911
London Instrument Co founded, make athletic equipment (used every Olympic games since 1948; change name to 'Cantabrian'1974) [6.2]

1911 12 29
The Saxon and Norman Portland Cement Company, whose works form a well-known landmark near Cambridge, is to sell its local factories to the British Portland Cement Manufacturers Ltd which has been formed to control most of the important cement works in Britain. It is gratifying to note that Mr A.C. Davis, to whose energy and business acumen the Saxon Works owe so much of its success, is to be the Managing Director of the new Company 11 12 29c

1912 01 26
Dr Waldstein of Newton Hall says Cambridge is a place where there should be some industry where people who are often idle might be employed. There are women who work - bedmakers for instance - who have husbands who do not. Some years ago he tried a scheme for wood carving but it fell through and the local clay is not right for pottery. Now he proposed the establishment of a heraldic bureau to become a centre of inquiries from architects and provide private individuals with authoritative information on family coats of arms. 12 01 26f &g

1912 04 26
A serious accident occurred to an employee of Messrs Watts and Son, timber merchants, on Newmarket Road. He was working at his tile machine when he caught his right hand in the gault knives, which drew his arm into the machine. His fellow worker was able to stop the machine at once. Drs Naish and Pain were called and it was found necessary to chloroform him and take the machine to pieces before the arm could be extricated. He was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital where the arm was amputated speedily. He is doing as well as can be expected 12 04 26e

1912 12 20
The Meldreth Portland Cement Company works have been purchased by the Standard Cement Company Ltd and will be reopened for the manufacture of Portland Cement. It is proposed to put down suction gas plant, new kilns and grinding machinery and generally overhaul the works. The old machinery has been adapted for the manufacture of ground lias lime which the company is now marketing. The reopening of these works after two years closure has naturally affected favourably the employment of workers and mechanics in the district. 12 12 20aa

1913
W.G. Pye & Co new scientific Instrument works opened by Prof Thomson [2.2]

1913 05 30
A blaze broke out at Messrs Macintosh's foundry in Thompson's Lane. After the day's work is done the men draw the furnace to allow the fire to die out. When this is done huge sparks fly up, giving the impression that the place is on fire. But one of these sparks was blown on to the roof and set light to a beam. Had it been left the entire premises would have burnt down. But firemen, aided by undergraduates, put it out. 13 05 30 p11 CIP

1913 05 30
Ivett & Reed stonemasons noisy stone-cutting machine 13 05 30 p10 CIP

1913 07 18
The prosperity of Cambridge is so much bound up with the success of the two large wage-paying undertakings, the Saxon and Norman Cement Works that it is good news to hear that British Portland Manufacturers have announced a dividend of seven per cent for their first year's working. It was registered in November 1911 to acquire several undertakings, including the Cambridge works. The profits for the year amount to £306,092 (about £30m at today's prices) 13 07 18 p12

1914 05 29
Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company welcomed visitors to their workshops, test room, drawing office and stores. They were also shown the manufacture and operation of the various instruments made. Many are of great commercial value. The extension is the fourth addition since the works were moved from Panton Street to Chesterton Road. It is the chief of the few manufacturing concerns in Cambridge and now employs 180 hands 14 05 29d & e

1914 05 29
A mysterious illness, believed to be ptomaine poisoning, attacked 50 people who attended the Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company's dinner. A considerable number of the employees had to quit work and go home, several are still seriously ill. The dinner had been given to 300 employees and their wives and was attended by the Chairman, Horace Darwin and other directors. One of their wives is amongst the sufferers. Suspicion had fallen upon the salmon served as the second dish at the dinner which included Ox-Tail soup, roast lamb, gooseberry tarts and ginger beer. 14 05 29f

1914 07 24
The whole of the Watts' Timber Yard on Newmarket Road., including sawmills, drying sheds and kilns were destroyed by fire. The blaze started in the stoke hole from which flames spread to the engine room and brick-making shed adjoining. The saw-mill nearby, containing a lot of wood, was soon alight and the wind blowing from Newmarket Road swept the blaze to the drying sheds and kilns where workmen removed the bricks. The tall chimney was expected to fall at any moment but the gable end of the saw-mill fell outwards, just missing firemen standing beneath it. However sheds holding valuable stock of flooring boards were put out. 14 07 24

1914 09 04
The presence of the military has greatly improved the trade prospects of Cambridge and there is no immediate fear of unemployment. The end of the Long Vacation is always a slack time but at the moment the town is busier than usual. It is not certain the town can rely on the continued presence of troops throughout the war and many firms are not sure how they can keep going. The printing trade has been hit by the stoppage of trade circulars and advertisements, builders say contracts have been postponed putting plasterers & stonemasons out of work and the position of college servants and is being considered. The problems of lodging house keepers may be overcome by the billeting of officers and the presence of relatives of the men in the hospitals. But they may no get the rent usually paid by undergraduates. In laundry work the hospitals and military have gone to the larger laundries and demand from ordinary householders has decreased due to motives of economy. Tailors have sufficient work owing to the army orders but women's outfitting department report a shortage of custom. Several jobbing gardeners are out of work & owners of unused plots should consider putting them into cultivation to grown vegetables. 14 09 04 p

1916 11 04
Local Chamber of Commerce formed [2.12]

1916 11 06
Glove making – a new industry; when undergraduates left there was grave unemployment and Rutherford & Clothier of King's Parade introduced glove making, now producing 600 pairs a week by women working at home on machines provided by the firm; are difficulties obtaining fabric – 16 11 01b

1919 04 02
Cambridge industries: what firms have done during the war; how to encourage factories; address by H.S. Whipple. Includes: Chivers for jam and food stuffs, W. Saint made heavy crates and repaired ammunition boxes; Coulson & Lofts – locker cabinets for munitions; C. Kerridge – crates for jam and doors for huts; H.J. Gray – signal flag poles; P.H. Allin = Stokes shells and Mills grenades; Engineering Labs – high-explosive shells and gauges for manufacture other war equipment' Gas Light Company – benzol for high explosive and ammonical liquor for agriculture, tar for distilling for navy; CUP printed 1.6M copies of New Testament for troops; Suttle made chevrons and badges, part of 15,000 officers' uniforms; Mackintosh made gas chambers for treatment of those gassed in France, includes order from American army; King & Harper controlled all the mechanical tractors and implements within 15 miles which ploughed 16,000 acres in 1918; first two had been intended for hauling Russian guns but ploughed eight furrows at time; W.G. Pye mad height finders for aeroplanes, special telescopes, sights for guns, electrical instruments etc; Cambridge Scientific Instrument Co made pyrometers for controlling temperature in manufacturing of war materials such as cartridge brass, manufacture of cordite etc; optical pyrometers formerly only made in Germany; special workshop for thermometers for aircraft ensuring water did not freeze in high-flying planes as well as instruments to determine height and special experimental work. Also considers future industries, need for housing etc – 19 04 02a

1919 11 19
F. Winton Smith's new food factory, Wellington House, East Road – detailed feature article – 19 11 19a ; formally opened – 19 11 26b [1.9]

1920

1920 03 03
Cambridge Town Planning inquiry considers objections of cement manufacturers about land Cherry Hinton Road; proposes new road from Cherry Hinton Road to Fen Ditton Road across Coldham's Common; had been excavation for coprolites and foundations were bad, brick pits. Was good supply for Cement works but this meant noise, dust and smoke – Ch 20 03 03a

1921
Pye Ltd changed to radio 1921 when lapse in demand for instruments; 210 ft aerial mast put up at start war to help develop defence systems & once used very low power experimental tv programmes [446.17.1]

1921 07
Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company big blaze [1.5]

1922 05 20
"Cambridge a splendid site for industry ... university can look after itself" [2.1]

1922 11 21

The growth of wireless since its first invention is truly wonderful, and one cannot fail to be impressed with the way in which it has been simplified. The present arrangements for "broadcasting" have resulted in the setting up of many private installations in Cambridge and some of the finest "sets" are being produced at Messrs G.H. Pye's works in Cam Road. In 1921 this firm experienced a very slack time, and in order to keep their workers employed, they commenced experiments in wireless. They are now producing as fast as they can simplified receiving sets of two to five valves

1922 12 09
The Cambridge & District Wireless Society had a "full house" at their demonstration on broadcasting. Mr T. Robinson, manager of Pye's Scientific Instrument Co. had very kindly consented to demonstrate their latest broadcast receiver of five valves attached to which was a Magnavox loud-speaking telephone. Mr Robinson tuned up for the London broadcasting station and amongst the items heard were Mr Vivian Foster, known to Cambridge theatre-goers as the "vicar of mirth" who entertained the audience by his witty sayings. During the evening the Birmingham and Manchester broadcasting stations were also received. The latest news, billiard scores, market reports and latest weather report were items among a very varied programme

1926 06 01
Now that the excitement of the General Strike has passed away it may be of interest to note the effect of the strike upon local employment. Messrs Pye have only had about 2½ days short time but at the Cement Works the coal difficulty has resulted in a spell of enforced idleness for some of the hands. The Saxon Company's employees are being given their usual holidays on full pay and since short time started have been given work turn and turn-about on repairs but unless the coal comes along there will be no more work for the present.

1928 09 11
The Cambridge works of Messrs W.G. Pye, the well-known scientific instrument and wireless apparatus makers were entered and the workshops and office ransacked. The works consist of several blocks of buildings extending from Cam Road to St Andrew's church at Old Chesterton. The visitor got into the transformer shop and then into a corridor by means of a hole which had been made in the wall for the fixing of a checking clock. Practically no damage was done and only a small sum of money is missing. It appears he was not a wireless enthusiast because none of the wireless parts were taken

1930

1930 02 28
Two bottles of dead flies were produced at Cambridge council meeting in support of the contention that a rabbit skin factory in York Terrace was still a public nuisance. They had been caught in neighbouring houses. Residents said life was unbearable on many occasions and a man suffering from tuberculosis had to sleep with his windows shut because of the obnoxious smells which were worse at night. But the Medical Officer said that in spite of careful inspection no smells, flies or bugs were found. 30 02 28-

1931 10 23
Residents of York Terrace protested about the rabbit-skin warehouse in Sturton Street. They had large blue-bottles in their homes and maggots had been seen crawling on the pavement within a few inches of their doors. The proprietor had put in different machinery but had not obviated the nuisance. It should be moved from that crowded area so people could live free from the smells, maggots and flies. 31 10 23c & d

1931 11 27
The question of the development of the industrial side of Cambridge has cropped up periodically over a good many years. Hitherto works and factories have not been encouraged - the serene, academic atmosphere should be maintained at all cost. But economic pressure, the diminution in the spending power of the undergraduates, depression of agriculture and trade have hit the town very hard. Cloistered calm is all very well, but people must live. 31 11 27b & c

1932 01 18
Complaints have been received about the rabbit skin warehouse in Sturton Street. Inhabitants of York Terrace say it caused effluvia and was a nuisance injurious to their health due to abominable smells which prevented them opening their windows and because of the maggots which escaped from the works and entered their houses. 32 01 18, 32 01 22b

1932 01 22
Pye Radio invited people to inspect their works and queues five or six deep stretched halfway up Haig Road. It is amazing that a non-industrial town should have such fine works and few realised that we in Cambridge had such an important and highly organised industry in our midst. In these times of depression it is a novelty to find a works which is really flourishing. Despite making 4,000 sets a week, demand is greater than supply and they are planning to increase the size of the works by 50 percent. 32 01 22c & d

1932 02 19
York Street residents signed a petition complaining about the Sturton Street rabbit skin factory. It had started in 1928 and the skins were stored and dried on the premises. The smell was very offensive and unhealthy, like old bones burning, there were maggots in the streets and blow flies as big as small bees. It was very bad in August – but the factory was only open from September to March. 32 02 19 & 19a

1932 02 22
New Cambridge Industry (employing only local men). Same day dry-cleaning service by the new British wonder machine which cleans and actually strengthens fabrics leaving no smell. Special opening offer: suit, costume, coat or dress, dry cleaned, hand pressed, collected and delivered for three shillings. The Forum Cleaners and Dyers, Market Hill, Cambridge (Advert) 32 02 22

1932 03 21
Cambridge Metal Stamping Company applied for permission to erect a modern factory at the rear of St Andrew's Road. This was an area zoned for residential use but was nearly opposite the Gasworks, which was not entirely a thing of beauty and the Corporation's pumping station, which was not quite as attractive as the gasworks. Pye's works close to the river were not at all objectionable, nor was Banham's boat building establishment. Despite reservations it was agreed. 32 03 21, 23 & a

1932 05 03
Cambridge Metal Stamping Company's plans for the erection of a factory on land off St Andrew's Road, Chesterton would endanger the beautiful prospect from the river. Alderman Starr said he had viewed the site and been surprised to see a very large building for Pye's Radio Works had already been erected on the opposite side of the road. Factories were being built without consent of the council but this one could be blocked under the town planning scheme. There were other places it could go. 32 05 03 & a Metal stamping factory turned down – 32 05 05

1932 05 20
Rabbit skin factory, Sturton Street now improved – 32 05 20

1932 11 18
H.R.H. Prince George toured the Pye Radio Works where 1,500 hands produce 4,000 radio receivers a week. This is the first time a factory engaged in Britain's newest and most progressive industry has been honoured by a Royal visit. The operatives gave him a rousing reception – the girls were especially enthusiastic: it was a wonderful study to observe their varying expressions as he passed through the workshops. "Oh, he's lovely" was the general verdict and every detail of his dress, appearance and manner have furnished a fruitful topic of conversation in Cambridge homes 32 11 18a

1933 05 27
Finch's Walk name and ironfounders – 33 05 27 & 33 06 03a

1934 01 12
H.J. Gray, the Cambridge sports manufacturers are flourishing and announced plans to extend their Playfair Works into which they moved from Searle Street 25 years ago. Now a new mill and motor engine would be introduced to keep up with demand. Henry John Gray started his career in a racquets court on the site of the present University Arms Hotel nearly 90 years ago. He became champion racquets player of England – a title that had stayed in the family for 22 years - and two his brothers became champions of the world. 34 01 12

1935 09 24
Messrs H.J. Gray of Cambridge, who manufacture sports requisites at the Playfair Works is to establish a new company in Ireland where the Government has imposed Customs duty on finished racquets, hockey sticks and cricket bats. Suitable wood is available and the quality of the goods made will compare favourably with those previously imported 35 09 24

1936 12 24
Chesterton Gravel Pits have been transformed into a flourishing business working from dawn to dusk. A Priestman dragline gets the gravel out of the ground, grabbing a third of a ton in its great steel jaws and depositing it in a truck which a patient horse drags to a narrow-gauge railway. It needs no driver but stands still while the load is emptied, then lumbers slowly back to fetch more. An ever-moving belt feeds a constant stream of raw gavel into the washing and grading machine from which it pours into appropriate heaps where a fleet of lorries cart it to its destination. 36 12 24a

1937 03
Annual Business review: description of activities:
Dorothy Café, Morlin's, Greene King, W.H. Pratt, Rendezvous cinema, Bowes & Bowes, J. Sanders, Murkett Bros, Otto Wehrle, Provincial Homes – 37 03 05
Arnold Bros, A.H. Careless, Dolphin's shoe repair, Whitmore, English Bros, W. Delph, S.A. Rose, Cherry Hinton Granaries, Coulson, S. Ginn – 37 05 05a
Smart tailors, Sennitt's game, Hayward cycle, Marshall's, F.J. Prime, Bird's Chemical works, Flack & Judge, Banham, Leys Laundry, Bell & co travel agents, Hallen's motor cycles – 37 03 05b
Allen & Welcher painters, H. Tredgett florists – 37 03 05c
Miller's music, Cam electrical, Cambs Permanent Benefit Building Society, George Stace costumiers, Trustee Savings Bank, Hyman & Cox opticians, Edw Harper funerals, F. Winton Smith butchers, Austin coal, Cambridge University Gas Light Co – 37 03 05d

Cambridge Brush, Cambridge Secretarial training school, J. Holliman furnishers, F.W. Drake medical herbalist, Cambridge Steam Laundry, A Sidney Campkin pharmacists, F.M. Wilson insurance, Collins & Clark antiques – 37 03 05e
Williamson's furnishers, Robert Sayle, J. Ward cycle, Riding School, Dale's Brfewery, Hockey auctioneers, Cambridge Billposting Co, Electric Wiring & Repair, Cambridgeshire Motors, New Cambridge Tyre co – 37 03 05f
Ivett & Reed monumental masons, Evans Flanders chemist, E.E. Harmer income tax, Layton & Leech masons, H.J. Gray sports, S. Rampling surgical appliance, Cambridge Health Spa, George Bolton removal, Kwick cleaners, Wm Farren furrier – 37 03 05g

1937 05 12
At the Coronation celebrations one small tent attracted probably more interest than any other with the possible exception of the tea tent. It contained a Pye television apparatus and during the afternoon many availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing the actual Coronation procession taking place. Although Cambridge is almost out of range of Alexandra Palace, everything came through very well. Almost the only interference was experienced when the motor racing was being held in the area only a few yards away 37 05 12b

1937 12 04
Cambridge was a prosperous town but much of the trade depended upon the students and members of the University. The colleges are becoming self-contained so the need for lodgings was drying up. On Sunday it is like walking along the streets of a lost city with the shop fronts in darkness. Cambridge should appoint a publicity agent to attract visitors and conferences, said Mayor, Ald Briggs. A great deal of progress is due to the two or three large light industries who have made their home here and it needs more 37 12 04 & a

1938 02 08
Swann's brickyard damaged by undergraduates- seemed old and disused - 38 02 08

1938 03 10
Cambridge Reference Library was packed to capacity for a lecture and demonstration on television by Mr D. Jackson of Pye Ltd. Severe electrical interference unfortunately ruined the first half of the programme from the Alexandra Palace but when after half-past-nine this eased off they were able to see some quite good vision signals and appreciate the high standard which can be expected in an area where interference is not so acute as it is in the centre of the town. 38 03 10

1938 10 06
Cambridge aerodrome has been in use for some months but the building operations have only recently been completely finished. The immense aeroplane hangar already houses over 20 machines and has room for more. The engine overhaul and repair shops are every well-equipped and all the parachutes are stored, packed and aired. The airport hotel has lounge bar, dining rooms and kitchen with guest rooms on the second floor. I have seen a lot of aerodromes but this takes a lot of beating for its well-planned layout 38 10 06

1938 10 07
Cambridge airfield was opened by Secretary of State for Air. There was no airport in Europe, with the possible exception of Berlin, which is so conveniently placed in relation to the town. D.G. Marshall recalled that in 1919 he purchased his first hangar from the Disposal Board and bought his first aeroplane. Some of his neighbours had told them to take their business elsewhere and now they had moved further out. The Flying School has been run in full understanding of

University regulations; in most aerodromes the most profit-making department is the club bar, but there is not one here. 38 10 07b & c

1939 c
Pye build 210 foot mast St Andrews Rd at beginning war to help develop defence systems; once used for very low power tv programmes during war to help Pye develop receivers [27]

1939 04 19
British Portland Cement has constructed an emergency headquarters at the disused Saxon Cement Works in Coldham's Lane. Built by William Sindall it includes a complete set of offices with bombproof shelters and all A.R.P. necessities. There are two decontamination rooms with gas proof windows and splinter-proof steel shutters. Seven bomb-proof dugouts covered with eight inches of reinforced ferro-concrete and two feet of earth can each accommodate 30 people. It has an air-filtration plant, central heating and electricity supplied from an accumulator driven by a crude oil engine 39 04 19b & c

1939 06 13
Stepney and Son applied for an additional lorry to cope with the increase of work owing to Eastwoods having opened up a depot in Cambridge. The firm made use of vehicles from fifteen other contractors to haul their bricks and there was keen competition. Even if Stepney got the licence there would still be a shortage of vehicles for the haulage of bricks – they would need dozens of extra vehicles. The Corona Company had also approached them to carry two loads a week. But the licensing authority did not believe haulage power for the building material was exhausted and they refused to licence another vehicle. 39 06 13

1939 11 17
Horace George Gray was managing director of Messrs. H. J. Gray and Sons Ltd., the sports goods manufacturers. The early premises were off Grange Road and later had a factory in Searle Street before moving to Benson St 39 11 17 CIPof 39 11 16

1940

1940 02 12
Cambridge Brick Co (1937) Ltd petition for compulsory winding up adjourned – 40 02 12a
Cambridge Brick Company (1937) Ltd wound up – 40 03 05a
Cambridge Brick Co (1937) formed in April 1937 to take over business carried on by Cambridgeshire Brick Co; reconstructed and modernised works, adding new plant but hit by outbreak of war – 40 04 24b

1942 03 26
Simper, rope and tarpauling maker, New Street – was one of few people who could spin hemp two-handed – 42 03 26

1944
Pye Telecom founded [446.15.3]

1945 06 08
Secret jobs by Labs & Pye – Radiolocation – Ground Control of Interception designed and built by University Cavendish scientists in conjunction Pye engineers – put fighters at right height on tail of enemy aircraft near enough to pick them up on Airborne Interception equipment – 45 06 08

1945 11 01
Revolutionary new television system demonstrated by Pye Ltd in their television theatre – would allow production receivers for £40 – CDN 1945 11 01

1947 03 04
There is to be no night-shift in Cambridge. Instead there will be an attempt by local industry to save, during normal hours, 30 per cent of its electricity consumption. To do this the larger firms, among them Pye's and Marshalls Flying School, will make use of stand-by generator sets which will relieve the grid at peak periods. The breweries have worked out plans to transfer part of their share of the load by running a proportion of their machinery outside the peak hours. A spokesman said this might be described as "a semi-nightshift". A large proportion of the peak load is accounted for by domestic users who will have to make a drastic reduction in the use of electrical appliances if industry is to avoid cuts in power, p5

1947 12 11
Cambridge Instrument Company plans for research laboratory and office block in Carlyle Road referred for further consideration; area primarily residential and fear will destroy view – 47 12 11

1948 01 20
Often it happens that a visitor to Cambridge says: "Well there's the University; what industries have you?" The answer is invariably on the lines "Oh nothing much - wireless and jam and so on". A visit to the "Cambridge at Work" exhibition in the Corn Exchange will give a much better insight into the activities at the wireless and jam factories, and the other industrial concerns, and will enable him to gain a true appreciation of the part that a light industrial centre like Cambridge is playing in the country's struggle. Pye Ltd are showing the latest in radio and television receivers.

1948 01 21
Any local viewers of television might recently have seen a rather surprising cookery demonstration - during which fish and vegetables were cooked in the space of three minutes. This astonishing revolution in cookery timing was accomplished by means of a pressure cooker. These utensils, which look like ordinary saucepans, were shown at last year's Ideal Homes Exhibition. They are now finding their way in the shops and are being demonstrated at Messrs Herbert Robinson Ltd's Regent Street store. They are made by a subsidiary firm of Messrs Pye Ltd

1948 03 18
Pye Ltd, celebrating their golden jubilee this year, are to mark the occasion by the gift of two television sets to every college in the University. Describing Pye Ltd as "a fairly important company in the industrial life of Cambridge" Mr C.O. Stanley said that during the war the firm employed nearly 12,000 people, today they had between three and four thousand. He went on to speak of the firm's association with the University - one "so happy and so close that I believe it will always make a mark with the people working with this business". Professor Sir Lawrence Bragg said he had always been very interested in the relation between science and industry and the co-operation that existed during the war showed there were contributions to be made from both sides. He hoped this co-operation would continue in the future 48 03 18

1948 09 27
Marshall motor body industry, p7

1948 10 09 c

Cambridge Trades council is backing an effort being made by local industry to obtain additional houses. The initiative in this matter has been taken by Marshall's Flying School. Pre-war they employed 3-400 people. At the war's end they had 3,700 on the payroll. They had purchased 7 houses and had converted an office block to flats to house a further 12 workers but it had reached a limit to which it could tie up capital in housing. There was a problem of workers lodged in the town who had families elsewhere. Added to this the regional Ministry Headquarters being stationed in Cambridge had created a demand for girls as clerks and typists

1948 11 26
For the first time anywhere in the world, a new series of television was used to promote road safely at Cambridge. Traffic scenes on Market Hill were televised to the Accident Prevention Exhibition in the Corn Exchange. “Closed-circuit” as it is called is the latest development of the Cambridge firm of Pye Ltd. Two cameras were operated, one fixed to the balcony of the Guildhall and the other on top of a van at the corner of Petty Cury. Along this narrow, one-way street, between 8am and 6pm approximately 7,000 bicycles and 2,000 other vehicles pass each weekday. The slow speed of the traffic and its one-way direction helps to keep the accident rate down

1949 02 12
The BBC have completed tests and accepted delivery of a new Outside Broadcast Control Vehicle from Pye ltd of Cambridge. Everything required for the production and transmission of a complete television broadcast is contained in this unique mobile unit, the most modern equipment of its kind in the world, including a set of three of the latest Pye turret-headed television cameras. It is the first Pye outside broadcast vehicle produced for the BBC and the first to go into regular service since the war.

1949 03 26
Television brought the boat race into thousands of homes with equipment produced by Pye Radio Ltd playing a prominent part. A Pye transmitter was on the launch “Conseuta” and the static cameras from Barnes Bridge onwards were a product of the Cambridge firm. The relay was a tremendous success, with viewers sharing every one of the thrills of this greatest of all boat races. Approximately 600 people heard the broadcast in the Central Cinema. This evening there will be a free television show by Pye in the circle lounge

1949 03 29
A Cambridge firm has scored another technical triumph. The first demonstration of television in Australia was given in Melbourne with equipment made in Cambridge by Pye Ltd. The complete television transmitting station and a supply of receivers were flown to Australia. British enterprise has again won through in face of strong competition from America.

1949 04 29
Cambridge council were told that some 20 years ago Messrs Pye asked for the Church meadow, Chesterton, to build a factory. There was strong opposition in letters to the press. It was one of the beauty spots of “a drab place called Old Chesterton”. It was pointed out then that the firm would spread out and that was what had happened. The land concerned was 2½ acres of valuable front land which the council purchased before the war and which the people of Chesterton were told was going to be a park. If the council did not sell the land Pye might move their factory. The decision to sell was confirmed.

1949 09 16

Sir - I should like to see a stop put to the continued attempts to introduce new industries and build up Cambridge into an administrative centre. No one can deny that the town centre is grossly overcrowded consequent upon the locust-like plague of foreigners and civil servants that have descended during and since the war years. Wherever the spread continues the town centre will still be the main shopping centre and conditions will steadily deteriorate until it becomes imperative to demolish and rebuild and so destroy the old and loved Cambridge with its unique old-world charm, and transform it into something unattractive and ordinary – "Simplicitas" 49 09 16

1949 09 27
A story of high-pressure work since last March under a top-secret cloak lies behind the announcement that Pye Ltd of Cambridge will give the first successful demonstration of colour television in this country at Radiolympia. Research into colour television has proceeded for a long time, but it was only in March that the decision was made to produce the intricate equipment required. The secrecy with which this work proceeded is indicated by the fact that Pye's employees themselves have not yet seen a demonstration. The firm say that colour television is still many years off 49 09 27

1949 11 01
Holford Report presented to Borough for consideration - "did not consult them while preparing it". Considerable disagreement

1949 11 08
Pye Ltd have entered the American television market as part of the British campaign for dollars. The equipment consists of a complete television station, including cameras and telecines to project films. A team of five technicians have gone and will help in the demonstrations along with two officials, Mr B.J. Edwards and Mr John Lakin who will demonstrate it to the Federal Communications Commission in Washington.

1949 11 29
Damage believed approaching £900,000 was done when fire destroyed several thousand of finished wireless sets, 300-400 television sets and numerous components stored in a hangar rented by Pye Ltd at the former stereo works in Madingley Road. A director said: "Many of the sets were for export. Included in the stock destroyed were several thousand television cabinets. Some of our telecommunication equipment was also stored there, including a complete set of blind landing equipment due to be shipped today" 49 11 29

1949 12 22
The Mayor of Cambridge, Ald W.G. James, spoke of the new town plan and said: "Planning has ceased to be a phase in our national existence; it tends to be a disease. Looking back through the ages I don't think Cambridge is really such a bad old town, and I think if the planning of our borough was left a little more to the people who live in it – and have to pay for that planning – that we should not make such a dreadful mess of it as people living outside think we might. Some of the current proposals are so drastic that if I come back in 100 years I shall not be able to recognise the Cambridge I knew. I believe in planning for the future, but to live in chaos for a generation for the sake of one's grandchildren is a little too altruistic"

1950

1950 02 11

Cambridge Instrument Company erect factory Finchley, 200 workers leave Cambridge as blocked by planning [1.7]

1950 03 01
A swifter and more efficient ambulance service is in action this week – thanks to radio control. This innovation, which has already proved its worth with the police and fire brigade, has had a successful trial with the county ambulance service. Radio control was fitted to their four ambulances and two utilicons by Pye Telecommunications and all vehicles are in constant call from the control room, newly equipped with receiver, transmitter and microphone. A number of Cambridge commercial firms have now followed the lead of Camtax in installing radio telephones and Cambridge must be among the world's most advanced towns in the field of radio control

1950 07 26
Cambridge Council is considering purchasing sites for industrial purposes at Brooklands Farm, between Cromwell Road and the railway and at Union Lane. The committee recommends the Union Lane site is more suitable for housing, Brooklands Farm is unsuitable for industry owing to drainage difficulties and that the Allotments Committee's views be sought on the Cromwell Road site. They also reject proposals for a site off Clarendon Road for the University Press printing works owing to traffic difficulties and the need to preserve the existing green wedge 50 07 26

1950 09 16
World's smallest milking machine made by H.E.M. Ltd, Ditton Walk [1.13]

1950 11 01
Mr C.O. Stanley, Managing Director of Pye Ltd told the Radio Industries Club luncheon, "we have now arrived at a time when we should put down a second television system in this country – a system which operates two programmes on the ultra-high frequency band, both in colour at the same time; one to be operated by the BBC and the other by commercial interests. We have to have alternatives, I don't think it is possible to put out a single programme and cover the tastes of everyone

1951 01 11
The Minister of Supply, Mr G.R. Strauss, toured Cambridge industry. He visited Pye Ltd, the Marshall organisation and the Cambridge Instrument Company and said he had been 'very favourably impressed by the spirit in all the works'. Although production of radio sets would be curtailed, work on the electronics side of rearmament would absorb employees affected. Rearmament made more demands on the aircraft and electronic industries than on most others, he said.

1951 01 12
The Associated British Portland Cement Company sought sanction to develop new marl pits in the Coldham's Lane area and chalk quarrying at Lime Kiln Road, Cambridge, to ensure supply of raw materials to their Norman Works for the next 65 years. They were appealing against the County Council's refusal of their applications. It had been estimated it would be possible to work the present Lime Kiln Road quarry to a further depth of 40 feet. This would allow for an extra 71 years working. The residents of the Orchard Estate were very apprehensive about development planned to come up to their back gardens 51 01 12

1951 01 19

Local firms are amongst those to whom the De Havilland enterprise has paid public tribute for their contribution in supplying parts for the two Comet jet airlines whose achievements have been acclaimed throughout the world as an outstanding example of British enterprise. They are Aero research of Duxford, whose 'Redux' metal-to-metal bonding is used throughout the airframe, Magnetic Devises, Ditton Works, Cambridge who supply relays and Pye Ltd who developed micro-switches for the plane.

1951 04 30
The woollen products of Messrs I & R Morley Ltd have a world-wide reputation and the label is accepted for value, hard wear and reliability. But perhaps people do not associate the name with Cambridge, which is on the whole, not a particularly industrial city. Yet they do have a factory in Abbey Walk, which produces as many as 135 dozen garments a week. At present 120 workers are employed but a plan is under way to turn it into a modern up-to-date knitwear factory

1951 07 27
Two hundred London taxis took the road this morning under orders for the first time, over a short wave radio network system pioneered by Pye Radio technicians from Cambridge. In London, at a big party attended by top stage and screen stars to celebrate the inauguration of this new radiocab service was Mr Harry Woolgar, a director of Pye Telecommunications Ltd. He said: "This is the largest radio-telephone system taxi network in Europe and we are planning a larger system capable of directing 1,000 taxis". Pye got the job because it pioneered fitting radio telephones to police cars and ambulances and was the first to use short-wave radio for agricultural use. 51 07 27

1951 08 22
Some of the world's leading television scientists are in Cambridge for a Convention at the Cavendish Laboratory. So far as can be seen, television receivers will never again be so cheap as they are today. New valves, new circuits and new T.V. cameras form part of the discussions; two papers have been written by members of local firms. Messrs J.E. Cope, L.W. Germany & R. Theile of Pye-Cathodeon will speak on the Image Iconoscope Type Television Camera Tube

1952 05 03
A hitherto undreamed-of use for the television camera unit – to facilitate under-water research and the location of wrecks – was demonstrated at Pye's Radio works. It was this type of camera which located the submarine Affray and was manipulated from the recovery vessel H.M.S. Reclaim. At present she is being fitted with additional Pye Radio T.V. equipment and when this is completed the BBC will arrange an outside broadcast from the ship. Its visual range is far greater than that of a diver and it can operate at a greater depth. For the purposes of the demonstration the camera was set up in front of a goldfish tank owing to the high mud content of the River Cam

1952 06 21
Mr Lloyd Stokes, owner of land at Trinity Hall Farm, Milton, said there were 140 armoured vehicles on the land waiting to be shipped. He wanted an access from Green Park because he had a number of tanks coming through the back and wished to enlarge the front entrance on to Milton Road. It was dangerous and an agricultural machine such as a 12-foot combine could not get through. The County council suggested the city should buy this piece of land and put there light industry, not likely to cause any nuisance. 52 06 21

1952 12 13
The inquiry into the County Development Plan has concluded. Its main object is the preservation of Cambridge as a University town & the deliberate prevention of its character becoming that of an industrial town or a town with large straggling suburbs. The problem of Cambridge was

largely a traffic problem but measures to deal with this by the widening of streets would be a negation of the true object of planning which is to preserve the Cambridge we know today 52 12 13

1953 06 03
On Coronation Day Pye Ltd of Cambridge operated the first colour television outside broadcast ever done in this country. It was seen in a well-known Children's Hospital and several other selected places. Three colour cameras used in transmission were sited on top of Government buildings facing Parliament Square and Whitehall. Hundreds of people assembled in Cambridge Guildhall to watch the ceremony on television. The latest television screens were used. The picture was clear and precise but there was, of course, no control over the usual interference from electrical appliances which all TV owners are forced to suffer in silence. Six domestic TV sets were installed in the Corn Exchange and because of the bright light, shields were fitted around the screens 53 06 03

1953 09 08
Pye Ltd of Cambridge are showing on their stand at the Radio Show a 27-inch direct view cathode ray television receiver with automatic picture control. It is the largest ever seen in the country and will allow at least 200 people to watch in comfort. Pye have also provided a miniature 'staticon' television camera which is being used on the Celebrity Dais, the pictures being relayed throughout the exhibition.

1953 11 27
A Cambridge brush manufacturer was ordered to disclose a 'secret formula' for dressing hair for brushes, which had been used by his father. He had started business on his own in School House Lane in 1947, making brushes for one wholesale firm on terms which proved unprofitable. He became insolvent, but had kept no books. He'd been offered £1,500 for the 'secret formula' and should reveal it to the Bankruptcy Court as there must be some value in it 53 11 27

1954 01 23
Pye Ltd of Cambridge has set up the first television station on the African continent, at Casablanca. It has also received another substantial order for cameras and equipment from the Japanese public service broadcaster. During last year alone Pye delivered equipment to many countries including the U.S.A., Italy, Belgium, Norway, Germany and France and the continuing expansion of television throughout the world promises to bring even more valuable export orders.

1954 02 04
Pye's new underwater television camera has been rushed to Italy to aid the search for the Comet airliner which crashed into the sea. It is more sensitive and much smaller than any previous model and had at the time of the crash hardly gone beyond the drawing-board stage, many of the parts had not even been made. Within six days a casing had been built for operation at a depth of 250 feet, all the parts had been made and the camera assembled. Information was then received that the Comet was probably lying 600 feet below the surface and consequently a much stronger case of different design was required. It was completed in seven days and flown out.

1954 05 04
Cambridgeshire Police have been experimenting with a radio equipped motor cycle. The wireless equipment supplied by Pye Telecom gives the same facilities as that fitted to police cars. A patrolling motor cycle officer hears his call on the set; pulls up and then can receive his message through a loudspeaker, or alternatively through the hand microphone he uses for his own

transmission. The range of the radio is sufficient to cover any part of the county. If adopted it would enable motor cycles to be used for many duties which at present require radio cars

1954 07 19
Minister announces decision on County Development Plan, City Council challenge it in Court but is approved. Basic principles: Cambridge should remain principally a university city … to limit industrial expansion in & near Cambridge and to discourage the establishment of large industries of the mass-production type within the county (certain sites may be compulsorily purchased for purpose of rehousing those industries within city which require to be moved from existing sites);generally follow lines of original proposals submitted more than 2 years ago [18] [3.2,3.3,3.4]

1954 08 25
The first demonstration in Britain of 3-D television attracted large crowds to the Pye Radio works stand at the Radio and T.V. Exhibition at Earls Court, London. From a miniature studio built on a raised platform in the middle of the stand 3-D television pictures were being screened on experimental sets a few feet away. The viewers had to wear polarised spectacles. Pye do not expect sets to be on sale to the public in the near future; as a home entertainment 3-D television is a very long way off yet. At the moment they are perfecting it for use in industry

1954 10 15
Pye take first tv Middle East [1.8]

1955 01 26
Pye Telecommunications has just despatched the first consignment of equipment to the Sui Gas pipeline in West Pakistan. It includes an extensive communications system providing speech and teleprinter channels, a fixed-to-mobile scheme giving complete coverage of the pipeline route and a duplex HF radio-telephone between Karachi and Sui. Last year a team of Pye engineers completed a survey of the route and in a few weeks the installation team will be flying out for the final stage of the contract. 55 01 26

1955 08 20
Pye has produced a radio clock. It incorporates an electric alarm clock with a 5-amp socket so that either an electric fire or a tea maker can be set for the same time as the alarm, which switches on the radio automatically. It operates on the medium waveband with one pre-set long wave station and has a ‘sleep switch’ to enable it to be turned off automatically when the owner falls asleep. 55 08 20b

1955 09 10
Pye demonstrated their new aircraft instrument landing system with a series of flights in Dakotas between Cambridge and the De Havilland works at Hatfield. The trips are also open to factory staff so they can see how the system allows the pilot to land without having to be ‘talked down’ from the ground. They had barely time to unfasten the seat belts, say ‘Thank you’ to the air hostess for packets of 20 cigarettes and the treble scotches before a loudspeaker commentary was started on the landing.
55 09 10a-b

1955 12 16
The world-renowned firm of Grays of Cambridge was founded 100 years ago by H.J. Gray who, with four other brothers, held the racquets championship of the world for several years. They started as boys in the racquets courts of St John’s college where they strang the racquet hoops,

which led to the founding of the firm years before the game of lawn tennis started. Afterwards they produced cricket bats. 55 12 16a&b

1955 12 17
Unicam Instruments celebrated its 21st birthday; it had started in a stables on St Andrew's Hill, Cambridge. Despite setbacks, when paying the staff became a problem, the firm thrived. At the outbreak of war, after a skirmish with the Ministry of Aircraft Production, they acquired Riley House opposite the Tivoli Cinema. Finance problems arose again and they established a relationship with Pye Ltd. 55 12 17a

1956 02 11
Pye's new television camera is the first of its kind anywhere. It's designed to see inside a nuclear reactor and much ingenuity has gone into its manufacture. The camera will not become radio-active, but the dust it collects from the inside of the pile will be dangerous so it will be washed with detergent after use. 56 02 11b

1956 03 21
Councillors want to acquire land at Coldham's Lane to resite existing industry from the East Road and Lion Yard area. Previously the land's only use was agricultural but there would be no difficulty in selling the land for industry. There had been plans for housing development on the north side of Church End but would probably now never take place. The present houses in Rosemary Lane were on cesspools and the council put in a foul sewer. 56 03 21a-d

1956 04 14
A robot cigarette lighter which works when it is whistled to has been installed in the Earl Grey public house by a Pye research engineer. For those who cannot whistle it will oblige when the word 'light' is spoken to it; it will even light a cigar, but puts its foot down when confronted with a pipe. The small, one-valve gadget, is also a money collector for the blind people of Cambridge. 56 04 14a

1956 05 11
Cambridge Instrument Company develop electrocardiograph [11.1]

1956 12 01
New equipment developed by Pye of Cambridge means that six times as many people can use radio communications and foreshadows immense developments. Telephones for the use of the travelling public in aeroplanes, railways and road services are now a possibility and a radio-telephone could become a standard fitting in all road vehicles, C.O. Stanley predicted. 56 12 01b

1957 01 05
Pye has designed a special camera to enable engineers at Calder Hall to carry out an extremely complicated inspection inside a nuclear reactor. It has been reduced to under 24 inches in length so it can form part of a mechanical grab which will be lowered into the fuel channels of the graphite core to remove obstructions 57 01 05 & 05a

1957 02 22
The long association of Pye and King and Harper of Cambridge will be celebrated in a 'Pye Parade' exhibition at Harper's Bridge Street premises. The highlight will be a specially-erected television studio and each evening programmes of local interest will be transmitted. The shows can be viewed on receivers in many parts of the premises with a limited number of seats in the studio itself. 57 02 22

1957 05 04
A Pye Magnetic Tape Data Store will be shown at an Exhibition at Olympia. It is the first to incorporate electro-pneumatic tape control allowing very high-speed movement. They were commissioned to produce six special units for experimental work in computer design and development. One has been delivered to the University Mathematical Laboratory for use with their new powerful computer EDSAC II. 57 05 04

1958
Spillers new Central Laboratory Station Rd [2.17]

1958 01 16
Percy John Todd was apprenticed to the scale and weighing machine trade at the firm of Headley and Edwards. In 1931 he started Todd's Scale Work on East Road and was the senior partner until his death. In his younger days he played for the Cambridge Victoria and Cambridge Hotspurs Football Clubs and ran with the Albert Institute Harriers. 58 01 16a

1958 04 18
Stereophonic sound on disc sold at popular prices and played on equipment within the reach of most people – that is the revolutionary event just announced. The first public demonstration will be given at the London Audio Fair using equipment specially designed by Pamphonic Reproducers Ltd and Pye who are to issue both popular and classical stereophonic records. In the home loudspeakers can be placed about the width of a fireplace apart and listeners sitting more than nine feet away will get the full 3D effect. 58 04 18a

1958 07 09
Cantabrian Athletics equipment made by the London Instrument Company of Newnham Mill will be used at the British Empire Games at Cardiff. It includes pole vault standards, hammers, javelins and gauges for the high jump. Much of it was designed by Henry Rottenburg, the owner of the firm which moved to Cambridge in 1910. They have also supplied the Olympic Games and European Championships. 58 07 09a

1958 08 22
A portable short-range guided missile intended to be used against armoured vehicles has been produced by Pye Limited. It incorporates rocket motors with a new jet steerage system and is guided to its target by thin wires which carry signals from a controller's "joystick". It can be fitted with periscopic binoculars which switch from low to high-powered magnification as the missile travels away from the launcher. Many successful test firings have taken place and it can go into production on receipt of orders. 58 08 22c

1959 08 25
A fuel cell which produces useful quantities of electricity by consuming hydrogen and oxygen has been invented by F.T. Bacon of Lt Shelford and developed by Marshall's under a National Development Corporation contract. The present cell, containing two electrodes immersed in a solution of caustic soda or potash, is still in its rudimentary stages but it can supply enough electricity to operate a circular saw, a fork lift truck or even carry out welding. The Americans are interested in using it for manned space stations or space rockets. 59 08 25 & a

1959 09 21
High-ranking Service officials, including some from Russia, went for a 20-minute helicopter ride over Cambridge without moving from the comfortable dining rooms of the University Arms

Hotel. They watched one of the first-ever air to ground television transmissions carried out by Pye Radio from a Bristol Sycamore. The pictures were broadcast to several 21 inch screens and showed the view from 1,100 ft. before zooming down to catch an express train just leaving the station. 56 09 21, 21a

1959 10 15
Cambridge Instrument Company opened its new research headquarters in Chesterton Road. Its four floors comprise laboratories for the development of instruments for mechanical engineering, electronics and physical chemistry together with a specious drawing office. It was a tribute to the unswerving devotion of the men who had worked there over the last 80 years, said Lord Adrian, University Vice-Chancellor. He had declined the use of a car and arrived on bicycle for the opening ceremony where he was presented with a compass 59 10 15c

1959 10 28
Thousands of new Anglia Television viewers are unaware that almost every piece of equipment that goes into the transmitting of the programmes was built in the Cambridge factories of Pye Limited. The Norwich studies are equipped with their cameras and control gear and 'remote' programmes use Pye mobile outside broadcast units. This is the latest version of the most successful unit ever produced and over 50 have been sold to television networks all over the world. 59 10 28b

1959 11 05
Pye Instrument Group engineers have designed a remarkable new piece of medical equipment, the Barnet Ventilator, to assist polio sufferers. Polio causes paralysis of the respiratory muscles and patients have had to be put in an iron lung. But now they can be linked to the ventilator by two plastic tubes and breathing is precisely kept within physiological limits. The machine has built-in batteries from which its transistorised circuit will run up to twenty hours allowing patients to be moved without difficulty. It can also be used in operating theatres for the administration of anaesthetics. 59 11 05a

1959 11 06
Did you ever build a television station, or a radio-telephone, or equipment for an atomic reactor? And have you ever been involved in helping ships at sea, providing entertainment for the home – or bouncing speech off the moon? Thousands of people who live in East Anglia are doing this sort of thing every day at W.G. Pye. It is one of 60 companies which make up the Pye Group whose name is respected all over the world for achievements in radio, television, telecommunications, nucleonics and electronics generally. 59 11 06c & d

1959 12 05
The Westminster Bank in Manchester has introduced the first permanent inter-branch television network. Customers can check their accounts on private television screens which relay pictures from a centralised book-keeping department a mile away. The system has been supplied by the Pye Industrial Television Division and features a small camera which looks downwards, by means of a mirror, at cheques placed on a desk. It incorporates a sound system so the operator can hold instant two-way conversations with the customer. 59 12 05a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960

Cambridge Consultants formed; expand 60% pa till move to first Bar Hill factory 1968, first commercially established contract research & development company in country, move Science Park79; Minto left CC to form Domino [7.6, 8.4]

1960 03 16
One of the landmarks of Cambridge which has overlooked the city for about 60 years was demolished. The 100-foot chimney on the Newmarket Road once belonged to one of the city's brickworks which closed down about a year ago owing to the lack of clay. A large portion of the base of the chimney was cut away and propped up by wooden supports. These were then set alight using paraffin and wood shavings and smoke gushed from the top of the chimney for the last time before it fell slowly and gracefully to the ground. The actual kilns have already been demolished to make way for Watts and Son, timber importers 60 03 16

1960 05 03
Light industries already accommodated in Cambridge may be moved to a site to the east of Milton Road. S.G.B. have applied for eight plots for workshops on land used for breaking up Army vehicles. Part is used by the Cambridge Pre-Cast Stone Company and is within the proposed Green Belt. It is an area of no great beauty, is primarily derelict and very little use for anything else, an Inquiry was told. 60 05 03b

1960 06 13
Pye engineers envisage vastly improved overseas telecommunications by the use of space satellites and the moon, complete newspapers transmitted during the night through existing television sets and the establishment of more than 100 local broadcasting stations. Active relay equipment to be carried in a space vehicle is practicable now. Their design requires a single valve operated from solar cells and could be easily launched by the Blue Streak missile. It would bring undreamed-of improvements in world-wide communications, J.R. Brinkley of Pye Telecommunications told a conference. 60 06 13

1960 08 04
Pye Telecommunications scientists are considering sending satellites into outer space so that high frequency radio waves can be 'bounced' off them and make television transmissions between England and America an everyday occurrence. It would enable clear messages to be sent to any part of the world without long-range interference. A number of civilised countries had no effective methods of communicating with one another and the radio-telephone system would cut costs, W.K. Stevenson told businessmen 60 08 04b

1960 08 25
The credit squeeze is a serious attack on industry, C.O. Stanley, chairman of Pye Ltd told the annual meeting. The sales of TV sets are down which must affect profits. But when the electronics side of the business was established 12 years ago they had little idea how successful it would be. Communications makes possible bouncing messages off the moon and the devilish weapons of the future can be controlled only by electronics. Shareholders were then taken on nation-wide tour of the company's factories by closed-circuit T.V. 60 08 25

1960 09 06
Marshall of Cambridge Electronics develop analyser used in nuclear physics – 60 09 06

1960 09 22
Cathodeon Crystals open at Linton after being told cannot build factory in Cambridge [6.1]

1960 10 14
The first full-size completely portable television is made by Pye of Cambridge. It has a 14-inch screen, covers all the usual BBC & ITA channels and includes a built-in aerial. It can be operated entirely from a built-in battery or connected to a car-battery system. It uses super modern transistors which are spreading rapidly through the development laboratories and production lines. One day there may be 'all-round' tv sets in 3D and colour, the company predicts 60 10 14a

1960 10 29
Pye-Ekco merger [27]

1960 11 30
'Telex' is the system businesses use for sending printed messages to one another – a kind of private telegraph service by which the operating of a typewriter keyboard at one end produces a typed impression on a roll of paper at the other. It is used by 40 local subscribers including Cambridge police, Pye, Fisons, Corrugated Cases at Histon, Herbert Robinson and the American Air Force. Now it has been converted to automatic working so by a simple dialling action followed by some work on the keyboard a business in Cambridge can send a typed message to an associate in Glasgow 60 11 30

1961 01 02
The warehouses of Radio and Television Services Ltd, Gloucester Street, were gutted by fire. Scores of people living nearby went into their gardens as showers of sparks and splinters from exploding radio valves and television tubes showered down on their premises and residents of Clare Street used garden hoses to prevent the fire endangering their garden sheds. Arthur Brett (80) said the blaze and noise was just like the battle of the Somme. Employees will be moved to other buildings in the Pye group and there will be no serious interruption in the repair and servicing facilities operated by the company. The two-storey high building also houses a technical school for overseas radio experts.61 01 02c

1961 04 07
At the Lister works in Abbey Road they like to take on smaller, unique, prototype jobs. Men were making parts for the Emeryson racing car, parts to go into the focussing mechanism of television cameras and gear-rings of enormous diameter for some special task which would have required too much disruption for a great factory to undertake. Elsewhere others were making a mysterious stainless steel tent for one of the University laboratories while in the drawing office a draughtsman was working out production details for a machine which nuns will use to cut and bake the very thin altar-breads for the Catholic Mass. 61 04 07d

1961 08 21
The Earls Court Radio Show features two 'smallest-ever Pye Pocketable' sets whose transistors and printed circuits make them smart travelling companions. One has a black morocco leather case, the other moulded plastic. They cover Long and Medium wavebands and have a two-inch loudspeaker. The Pye TV range are designed to be easily convertible to 625 lines and include 'Transista TVs' with 23 inch square tubes bringing added realism to television. 61 08 21

1961 12 14
Pye launch domestic equipment 61 12 14

1962
Trinity Hall Farm Industrial estate designated; bought compulsory by city but Whitehall limit use to firms displaced by council redevelopment 72 11 30 [13.2]

1962
Sinclair founded; started with miniature radio sets

1962 04 07
Pye components on first space research satellite – 62 04 07

1962 04 14
The new Scientific Instrument Centre comprising laboratories and factories of Unicam Instruments and W.G. Pye in York Street were opened. The two small companies, both members of the Pye Group, have won international renown. Unicam is one of the leading manufacturers in the world of photo-electric spectroscopic instruments while W.G. Pye is making a major contribution towards improved accuracy of physical measurements and in the field of chemical analysis. They have more than 1,000 employees with exports exceeding £1m during the last financial year. 62 04 14 marks stage in development which widens horizons for collaboration of science & industry; could be equally fruitful for both [19] [1.12]

1962 05 22
Jerzy Kazimerz Starnecki, the chief engineer and head of development at W.G. Pye, York Street, was born in Poland and served with their armed forced during the war. In 1947 he joined Pye as leader of a small team engaged in problems encountered in armoured fighting vehicles. He was responsible for the design of a complete new optical system used in the gunsight of the Conqueror tank, servo-controlled automatic stabilising gear and the C 42 Army V.H.F. communications set. His far-sighted thinking and sound engineering knowledge influenced the design of many instruments, one of his latest products being a multi-way rotary switch 62 05 22

1962 08 10
Cambridge Instrument Company history feature – 62 08 10 & a

1962 08 16
The Cam Foundry in Thompson's Lane once had 20 men making cast iron, lamp posts, grating and road ironworks. Friday was the usual day for mould filling. The fire could be kindled in the cupola early in the morning and loaded up with hard furnace coke. The furnaceman was a real 'character'. A labourer, tough and very strong he would swing a 32 lb hammer to break up the scrap and pig iron. He distained the use of gloves or goggles, his bare hands and unprotected eyes in constant danger from molten splashes and sparks. It closed in 1923 and Messrs Macintosh transferred the business to the old Romsey Town Cement Works at Mill Road 62 08 16a & b

1962 09 08
A familiar landmark of the Cambridge skyline is being taken down. The Pye mast was built at the start of the war to help them develop defence systems and also broadcast very low power experimental television programmes. It was originally 185 feet tall but extra aerials were added. At the top is a small cabin used to house experimental equipment and large enough for a man to work in. The mast will be replaced with a later type suitable for newest television techniques. 62 09 08a

1962 10 11
Master-slave manipulators for radio-active material featured in 'Dr No' made by Pye 62 10 11

1962 12 14

Mr E.J. Wesley Coe was a glass-blower for one of the University laboratories who practiced his craft at home, making quaint little animals and glass pipettes for artificial insemination. In 1952 he formed his own company making electronic valve components for the radio industry and apparatus for the semi-conductor field. Soon he was employing a dozen people and now supplies the needs of the most recent Nobel prize-winners, the Admiralty, Air Ministry, atomic energy and radio industry at home and abroad 62 12 14a

1963 01 22
London Instrument Company manufactures athletics equipment in the Old Mill, Newnham Pond. It employs 30 people annually producing 5,000 hurdles, 1,500 javelins as well as starting blocks and shots. It was founded by Henry Rottenburg in 1911, Fellow of Kings and lecturer in the University Engineering Laboratories. In collaboration with the University Athletic Club they developed a long jump measuring device, scoreboards and an ill-fated starting gate which nearly strangled a competitor. 63 01 22c

1963 02 01
Simpers rope works in New Street was established 200 years ago to meet the demand for tow-ropes for horse-drawn barges which plied along the Cam. They were made by hand on the Ropewalk which once marked the borough boundary. Today, with the coming of machinery, they are among the biggest rope and fibre merchants in the country making canvas covers for lorries, marquees, tents & flags. Since the war tremendous development has taken place in the agricultural ironmongery department where farmers can find cattle-troughs, shovels or forks and builders buy barrows, water-proof clothing and nuts.63 02 01a

1963 04 17
Often youngsters who fail the eleven-plus choose an apprenticeship in the engineering industry. They start in a company at age 15 and serve a 12 month's probationary period after which the normal apprenticeship runs until their 21st birthday. They will study at a Further Educational Centre one day a week and also attend classes one or two nights. W.G. Pye and Unicam have played an important role in maintaining and improving standards in their large and well-equipped apprenticeship schools and more recently Pye has opened an entirely new Training Centre to cater for apprentices throughout their group. 63 04 17c

1963 05 22
Plans by the Pye Group to tour the country with their new mobile 625-line television transmitter and studio have been blocked by the Post Office who says they do not have a licence. It was launched in Cambridge when the Mayor, Ald Hickson, became the first public figure to appear on the system. The whole of the television industry has been devoted to the development of the new equipment which was featured at the last Radio Show. Pye has called for the ban to be immediately reversed 63 05 22

1963 07 24
Princess Margaret and the Earl of Snowdon came to Cambridge to watch television cameras and electronic equipment being made at the Pye factory, St Andrews Road. A small industrial closed circuit television camera was trained on them when Lord Snowdon asked to have a go. The Princess then focussed it on a group of press photographers. A great burst of cheering went up when Lord Snowdon went over to attractive Mrs Jean Keeble who was working on a television assembly line. "I was absolutely thrilled", she said. 63 07 24 & a

1963 09 05

The Pye 625 mobile television test station which was closed by the Post Office in May, is to start broadcasting again. Agreement has been reached with the G.P.O. over a broadcasting licence for the station which will start a tour of the Midlands. The station, which was first publicly shown at Cambridge, will transmit pictures and captions together with commentaries to inform the public about 625-line television. 63 09 05

1963 09 27
Pye Printed Motors Ltd formed to manufacture electric servo motors - 63 09 27

1963 09 27
Pye Develop television telephone 63 09 27

1964 05 13
Pye group in the space race – 64 05 13d

1964 07 17
Pye equipment used in 1st commercial radio station on Isle of Man, closed down 64 07 17

1964 07 21
Cam Controls of Ainsworth Place, are a small company in what is a virtually new electrical industry. They specialise in control equipment for heating, ventilating and air conditioning and have fulfilled a contract for a New Delhi college and an aircraft testing building at Farnborough where the Concord is undergoing trials. They train their own staff as it is impossible to find men experienced in this kind of work and take a pride in their maintenance service.64 07 21a

1964 08 07
A transistorised nuclear reactor developed by Pye Ltd is cheap yet provides immense opportunities in the field of research. It will produce short-lived isotopes for medical diagnosis and neutron activation. The reactor was built under licence to an American company and modified to raise the power to 100 kilowatts. In the event of overheating, boiling water within the reactor shuts down the output of the pile. Accidentally-dropped radio-active material is far more likely to bring the warning system into use that uncontrolled goings-on within the system. 64 08 07 64 07 30

1964 08 19
Cambridge Consultants set up 4 years ago in back streets, now has 21 staff [3.1]

1964 09 16
Pye Thermal Bonders formed – 64 09 16a

1964 09 26
Unicam blacklisted by Russia because of dealings with Greville Wynne who sentenced for spying – 64 09 26a

1964 11 02
Pye Electrical is to go into the twin tub washing machine market with a model that will sell for 49 guineas (about £910 at today's prices). The specification is very similar to that of the Rolls washing machine which went out of production when John Bloom's company collapsed. It is finished in white enamel and fitted with twin tubs and aluminium lids. Simple controls are fitted to the top, right hand corner of the front panel and a table top is available as an extra. 64 11 02a

1964 11 13
Eastern Electricity's new Fens Sub-Area control room knocks spots off the old system used at Thompson's Lane. A huge panel displays the entire electrical network while control desks have radio communications and lists of emergency engineering staff who can be called out. There is a standby generator which starts automatically should the main power fails. All this is the work of Pye Ltd. There is not a second when it is left empty. But it is unlikely that full-scale automation will ever be introduced. 64 11 13

1964 12 04
Cambridge Instrument Company has developed the 'Stereoscan', the first commercial scanning electron microscope. It is a result of whole-hearted co-operation between university departments and a Cambridge firm with the ability to develop a proved commercial product. Work was begun in 1952 and now the first model has been bought by the Du Pont de Nemour and Company of America 64 12 04b

1965 02 04
Marshall's on knife-edge due Government cut P1154 jump jet [14.6]

1965 02 08
A great deal of money is spent on training scientists at the university and village colleges. If light industrial firms were encouraged to come to Cambridge and set up small factories employing 50 people, there would be a ready supply of skilled technicians, creating better employment prospects, says Coun. Ron Thulborn of Fulbourn. He is against heavy industry. The city council has been pressing county planners to lift their ban on industrial development. But they say it would alter the whole concept of Cambridge as a university town and allow it to grow in size out of hand 65 02 08b

1965 04 13
TR-2 men at Marshall's sacked following Government cancellation project – 65 04 13a

1965 05 22
Pye hi-fi stereoscopic record projection system flourishes 65 02 22b

1965 05 27
Metals Research Ltd to close sites at King Street and Milton and open at Melbourn. The firm, which has a world lead in the production of metal single crystals was formed in 1957 and now employs 120 workers – 65 05 27

1965 10 14
Pye not to spend large sums on colour television until Government reach decision on future – 65 10 14a

1966
Cambridge Computer Services set up, (taken over by Geest 1976) 76 01 26 [8.3]

1966 04 04
Pye incur large losses in radio and television side of group – 66 04 04

1966 04 19
Pye respond to report of resignations following large losses – 66 04 19, 19b

1966 04 21
Pye Telecommunications and Unicam Instruments granted Queen's Award for Industry – 66 04 21b

1966 05 04
Charles Orr Stanley replaced as chairman of Pye by Francis Duncan – 66 05 04

1966 05 15
Cambridge Consultants form new company Aim Electronics, (into liquidation 1971) [8.4]

1966 08 17
Sinclair launches smallest tv [4.8]

1966 08 22
Sinclair Radionics mini-tv shown at Television and Radio Show at Earl's Court – 66 08 22

1966 09 03
George Lister engineering moves from Abbey Road to Coldham's Lane, been there since 1890 – feature – 66 09 03a

1966 09 07
Pye pocket radio-telephone exhibited – 66 09 07

1966 10 25
£1m dive in Pye share value; dissatisfaction with new management – 66 10 25

1966 11 10
300a Science Park proposed by University [4.9]

1966 11 17
Pye urged to appoint Receiver following losses if to remain independent – 66 11 11; J.O. Stanley voted off Pye's Board – 66 11 17, 61 11 18

1966 11 24
Pye shares rise as big international take-over battle develops; bid from Philips – 66 11 24a, c

1967 01 14
Bright future for 26 year old; Sinclair Radionics established HQ Cambridge a year ago; announce miniature tv & digital watch - 67 01 1 [21]

1967 02 17
Philips win take-over battle for Pye, set up Pye Holdings 62 07 17
30 separate Pye group companies classified A & B, the As being larger & producing finished goods - Pye - Telecom (mobile radio equipment), Unicam (scientific instrumentation), TVT (broadcast equipment) TMC (telephone equipment) & Business communications (intercoms, pa, security surveillance cameras etc. B include Cathodeon, Cathodeon Crystals, Labgear, Pye Electro-devices, Thermal Bonders & Varelco. A companies report direct Philips London, B to have new Cambridge HQ. 79 10 30

1967 10 02

Pye chairman F.R. Duncan who took over from C.O. Stanley in May last year now hands over to Peter Thoneycroft, chairman of Pye Holdings, the Company set up by Philips to control Pye following their take-over – 67 10 02

1967 12 28
Hovertrain development work on city site with linear motor test rig Ditton Walk 1970, (reaches 106 mph but threatened cuts, scrapped 1973, confirmed 1974) [12.1]

1968 01 01
Cambridge manufacturing operations of the Cambridge Instrument Company Ltd groups under a new subsidiary called Cambridge Scientific Instruments Ltd – 68 01 01a

1968 04 30
Instrument Company takeover bid by Rank; outbid by George Kent [11.1]

1968 06 14
Government's Industrial Reorganisation Corporation buys shares in Cambridge Instrument Company following bid by George Kent firm of instrument makers – 68 06 14, 68 07 09

1968 07 01
Pye Unicam formed through merger W.G. Pye & Co. Ltd and Unicam Instruments – 68 07 01

1968 08 02
"Mini industrial estate may be erected" [3.3]

1968 09 11
Aim Associates Cambridge Ltd, formerly Cambridge Consultants, form new company, AIM Physical Sciences – 68 09 11

1968 10 14
Prosser Scientific Instruments may move because of veto on industrial development – 68 10 14

1968 11 01
Pye Group – 400 jobs at Pye Telecommunications and Combined Electronic Services – 68 11 01

1969
Pye want to develop on Trinity Milton Rd (Science Park) site

1969
Laser Scan founded by three Cavendish Laboratory scientists, designed own equipment & finance from Technical Development Capital, (first on Science Park, 73 03 20, Laser Scan move bigger premises Science Park 86 02 12)

1969 01 31
Lloyd Stokes sells land at Trinity Hall industrial site; as farmland would be worth £130 an acres, now sold for £200,000 – 69 01 31

1969 02
Pye Telecom develop pocket phones [19]

1969 02 11

Industrialists asked to support University's fight to throw off Cambridge's restrictions on industrial growth [3.5]

1969 02 20
Marshall Group a combination of aircraft work, shipping container manufacture, commercial bodies & research & development work on ministry vehicles project [15.1]

1969 04 29
Combined Electronic Services factory, part of Pye group, closes – 69 04 29

1969 05 17
Baldry's move to new factory in Harvest Way from Gold St; started in 1923, first to use all-automatic crown cork sealed bottles; took over Cambridge Soda Works and in 1925 acquired important contract for mineral waters with a local brewery; began bottling cider in 1930 and in 1935 extended range to confectionary, cocktail sausages, pickles and groceries. Bought Sawston Aerated Water Company – 69 05 17a, b, c

1969 06 20
Pye want to develop on Trinity Milton Rd (Science Park) site 69 06 20

1969 10 10
Prosser move Hadleigh due planning veto on industrial development Cambridge [9.9]

1969 10 22
University-commissioned Mott report - chaired by Sir Nevill Mott, then head of Cavendish Laboratory - called for development of science-based industry; immediately after publication Trinity idntified130a site - former tank marshalling site during war - which became Science Park [3.4, 4.4, 4.3]

1969 11 06
Pye establish new computer centre opposite St Andrew's Road HQ – 69 11 06

1970

1970 01 09
County to ease ban on city industry, approve science-based industry – 70 01 09, 09a

1970 02 20
15a scrap pit, Coldham's Lane to be developed for commercial use [446.11.1]

1970 04 02
Applied Research of Cambridge set up by members of Centre Land Use & Built Form Studies, probably first such formed; (20students put £100 each into company, by 1984 profits £0.5m; taken over by McDonnell Douglas 1985) [7.1]

1970 04 25
Trinity College plan 13a Science Park on land formerly military tank park & minor gravel excavation [494.5.17] - 70 04 25a

1970 05 05
"Cambridge does not need more industry" - County councillor opposing Science Park [13.1]

1970 05 14
Kent Cambridge Scientific set up in USA to market electron probe made by Cambridge Scientific Instruments – 70 05 14

1970 10 10
Pye Unicam redundancies follow news of sacking at Cambridge Scientific Instruments – 70 10 10

1970 10 13
Planners may ease band on industrial development; suggest land be earmarked for science industry park – 70 10 13a

1970 11 03
City Electrical Factors join queue for development site [6.5]

1970 12 11
Pye have 10% share colour tv market 70 12 11

1971
Cambridge Instrument Company develops stereoscan electron beam microscope

1971
Sinclair turnover £100M but profits down; set up new computer bureau - Cambridge Data Processing

1971 01 21
Pye plan new complex for production, storage and offices in St Andrew's Road – 71 01 21

1971 02 26
Pye sack 250 Cambridge area, rising costs [18]

1971 04 05
Pye Group turnover £100M but profits down - 71 04 05

1971 04 13
Cambridge Instrument Company sack 150; follows Pye redundancies earlier – 71 04 13

1971 04 16
Pye set up new computer bureau - Cambridge data processing 71 04 16

1971 05 04
Sinclair move to St Ives

1971 05 17
County dash city's hopes for more industry "heavy door of Cambridgeshire planning bureaucracy was slammed shut on ...hopes of attracting more industry" [494.6.3]

1971 07 24
Pye Unicam close Kings Lynn factory, 168 redundant - 71 07 24

1971 08 24

Science Park will not be stopped by Government, (approved by planners 1972) [494.6.5]

1971 09 13
Cambridge Microfilm Services a success story, set up two years ago – 71 09 13

1971 09 13
Aim Electronics, Cambridge Consultants company set up in 1966, goes, into liquidation 1971

1971 12 07
Mackay plans to extend engineering factory and build more shops and offices on East Road blocked – 71 12 07a

1971 02 18
Stokes plans develop 20a industrial estate opposite proposed Science Park, (failed to get permission) [10.1]

1972 02 26
Production of the noses of the Concorde supersonic airliner, which was planned to be in Cambridge, has been taken away by the British Aircraft Corporation. All the research and development work on the nose has been done by Marshall's at Cambridge airport. The senior shop steward is to see the Cambridge MP, Mr David Lane to try to get the decision reversed

1972 03 22
BBC order Pye TVT transmitters

1972 04 26
Pye colour tv, p13

1972 06 29
A Mid-Anglia firm claim to have pocketed a world market with a new electronic calculator announced yesterday in London. Sinclair Radionics Ltd of St Ives Mill, who are mainly known for their hi-fi equipment, launched the Sinclair Executive calculator, which is smaller than a 5p bar of chocolate. The Executive is 5 1/2 inches long, 2 inches wide and just over 1/4 inch thick, and will easily fit in the breast pocket of a suit. It will sell for £70. The calculator uses 7,000 transistors, 10 times as many as in the normal colour television set. The calculator has an illuminated display of up to eight digits. It will add, subtract, divide and multiply instantaneously, p12

1972 07 29
The Department of the Environment have squashed a plan to develop a 20-acre industrial estate in Milton Road, Cambridge, opposite Trinity College's proposed 13-acre science park. Bitter controversy has shadowed the scheme from the start. It was first approved by Cambridge City Council but later vetoed by the County Council who said they had already earmarked sufficient land for industry. The planning permission was for construction of roads and sewers as a first step to an industrial estate being sought by Stokes of Cambridge ltd. When they were turned down by the County council they appealed to Whitehall and a public inquiry was held in February this year

1972 09 22
Cambridge Instrument Company Medical division becomes separate company - Kent

1972 01 13

Cambridge Consultants sold to American Arthur D. Little organisation – 72 01 13

1972 08 11
First stage of industrial & warehouse development at Ditton Walk nears completion [3.7]

1972 09 22
Cambridge Instrument Company Medical division becomes separate company - Kent Cambridge Medical Ltd [11.1]

1972 10 12
A charge that they are workshy has been levelled against the unemployed of Cambridge by a shop stewards committee representing the largest engineering business in the city, Marshall of Cambridge. The senior union men are angry at the inability of their firm to find sufficient labour to maintain an important long-term Government contract. They cannot understand why with 897 registered unemployed in Cambridge it is proving impossible for Marshalls and other firms in the area to fill their labour needs. They ask "Do the men rally want work? Or do they have sidelines which make it unnecessary for them to take up jobs paying up to £30 a week?"

1972 11 30
Trinity Hall Farm Industrial estate designated 10 years ago, still only 2 firms with premises there; bought compulsory by city but Whitehall limit use to firms displaced by council redevelopment [13.2]

1973 01 08
Pye Telecommunications of Cambridge have opened a Middle East office to service their expanding interest in that part of the world. The office in Beirut, capital of Lebanon, opened for business on Monday. Their director of International Marketing said "Pye Telecommunications look upon the Middle East as a key territory in their international operations and intend from these arrangement to provide an improved service for their existing and potential customers throughout the territory"

1973 01 11
Industrial development on 16a Coldham's Lane to be launched by J. Coral Estates, (completed 1982); site bought 1948 for pence, mid 1960s attempt build shopping centre without success; 1963 bought by development co. seven acres £100,000; Sept1972 sold Coral £300.000 [3.7,4.1,6.4]

1973 01 13
Pye of Cambridge Ltd have become the first company in the modern electronics industry to be granted armorial bearings. They grant which has royal assent has been made in recognition of the company's contribution to the nation. One reason for Pye receiving this rare distinction was their role in designing and producing equipment which helped to bring the Second World War to a close. They switched their production to inventing and making military equipment and by setting up a village network of 14,000 people. They led the field in radio location, radar, bombing aids, radio communications, and one of the first guided missile devices

1973 03 05
Sinclair Radionics Ltd, whose launch of a miniature electronic calculator less than a year ago bred a host of imitators on the market, are still cock-a-hoop. For today, with eight month sales behind the, the St Ives firm still dominates the market, sending out from their riverside mill factory each month more than half the United Kingdom sales. Now the firm have hit harder still

at their competitors with a £20 reduction to £59. The executive calculator is smaller than a 5p bar of chocolate. It uses 7,000 transistors, 10 times as many as in the normal colour television set

1973 03 06
One of the largest single orders - £2.1 million - ever placed to a Pye group company has been won by Pye TVT Ltd of Coldham's Lane, Cambridge, to supply colour television equipment to the government of South Korea. Many Far East observers believe that Korea could be expanding industrially to the point where it could become another Japan so the long-term prospects for business there seem very good. The contract is for a full colour television installation for the national broadcasting system. TVT will supply four colour television studios, a monochrome studio, colour and monochrome cameras, mobile studios, a master control and associated equipment. It also covers the training of Korean engineers

1973 03 20
Laser-Scan Ltd, who will become the first Cambridge company to move on to the Trinity Collage science park at Milton Road, are a typical science-based concern. Founded in 1969 the Company was the brainchild of three Cavendish Laboratory scientists. They could not afford the type of equipment which could do the work they wanted, so decided to design their own apparatus and get it made. Within two years they had established firmly the principles they wished to follow, within two further years they had built the necessary working equipment, known as a "sweepnik". However a firm cannot stand still and the firm hopes to be in their 5,000 square feet factory on the Science Park by the end of the summer. As a high-technology business Laser-Scan are precisely what the planners have in mind for the science Park. Work on laying the spine road and sewers began this month and developers hope to have the first phase completed by August. When fully developed the 13-acre site is planned to provide up to sixteen factory units. Trinity College expect the final development to provide jobs for up to 1,000 people 73 03 20

1973 03 27
The Pye group intend to maintain their workforce at about 23,600, the chairman, Lord Thorneycroft, said today. This followed four years of staff pruning in which 6,000 people have lost their jobs. Since the Philips takeover in February 19sixtyseven a policy of rationalisation has been carried out in all companies and operations within the Pye group. Staff cuts were made from a peak of 29,636 employees in 1969. Over the past five years sales per employee have almost doubled and trading profit has shot up from 8.4 to 22.4 per cent

1973 06 18
Marshall of Cambridge (Engineering) have just finished a nose transplant - on a giant Hercules transport aircraft. The successful transplant "operation" took two years to perform. The modified aircraft will investigate turbulence in clear and cloudy weather and is the only one of its kind. Inside the Hercules the transformation has been no less striking. A laboratory has been constructed and four scientists can keep track of data as it flows from the nose instruments to the aircraft's "brain centre"

1973 06 28
A £750,000 deal has been signed for Sinclair Radionics Ltd, of St Ives, to supply more than 30,000 electronic pocket calculators to Japan over the next 18 months. Sinclair, who claim to be the largest European manufacturer of electronic calculators say that the order will mean a 50 per cent increase in the present staff of 120. To help with production they have just taken a lease on a second factory at St. Ives. Mr Clive Sinclair claims the Executive is the world's smallest pocket calculator - it is the size of a 5p bar of chocolate. It sells at a price which puts it at the top end of

the market in Japan, in line with their policy of selling a product which has quality and features which make it a prestigious purchase

1973 07 24
There are 17 vacancies for every unemployed school leaver in Cambridgeshire, it was disclosed yesterday. The principal careers advisory officer, Miss G. Miller, said the jobs glut had highlighted last year's raising of the school leaving age. Most of the vacancies were in shop and offices. Jobs were also plentiful in manufacturing industry - chiefly unskilled labour. A spokesman for Pye, who employ more than 6,000 workers in Cambridge, confirmed they were having difficulties in recruiting school leavers

1973 08 14
Just how important is one product in the range of a group which has 40 companies turning out a whole range of products? The answer for Pye - when it comes to colour television - is very important. For continuing good sales of colour television is one of the main reasons for the group's record sales and profits in the first six months of this year. The chairman, Lord Thorneycroft forecasts continued high sales: "I think the actual rush is over but with the Royal wedding coming along in November and the World Cup series next year there is no knowing where it is going to end". The sales of the group rose 29% to £84 million

1973 10 19
Laser-Scan Laboratories Ltd, a science-based Cambridge firm set up four years ago, made history when they became the first tenants of the new Cambridge Science Park this week. The Trinity College scheme is being developed on land off Milton road. The Senior Bursar, Dr John Bradfield said they believed it was the first science park in England. "We are 99 per cent certain on signing a contract with a second tenant and we have two more in advanced stages of negotiation", he said. "The idea was first mooted four years ago by the Mott committee and I think we have done very well to get this far in four years". He said the college were looking for a commercial return on their venture, but not necessarily in the usual financial expectations of recovering costs in a given number of years 73 10 19

1973 11 12
Sinclair send out over 100,000 calculators a month, p8

1973 11 25
Cambridge Medical Ltd moves Rustat road

1974
Warehouses developing due geographical location, price of land lower than nearer London or Midlands [12.3]

1974 01 03
Something of the wartime spirit has crept into Mid-Anglian managements who are faced with the three-day electric week and oil shortages. The Pye Group employ a large percentage of women, so they don’t want to ask them to work Saturdays, as the power rota demands, because of family commitments. So they will be using generators to give basic power on the other days, and will do as much as possible on those days that does not need power tools. They'll also cut down the lunch break

1974 01 07
Pye allowed full week during electricity cuts, p1

1974 03 08
The announcement of a return to the five-day week was greeted with relief by mid-Anglia's industrialists. Pye of Cambridge said that all their factories would be back to normal working on Monday. The secretary of Cambridge Trades Council said that for workers the main gain was a return to normality. "In this area we were not hit very hard by the three-day week, but it is a good thing it is over"

1974 03 14
Pye record £18.5M profit – 74 03 14

1974 08 17
Pye profits drop by 50% due consumer credit restrictions – 74 08 17

1974 10 07
About 7,000 men and women in the Cambridge area work for the Pye Group of Companies. More than 1,000 employees travel daily to work by Pye bus. The first of the 40 buses in daily use sets out from Wisbech in time to make the Cambridge works by 8am. Almost 30 per cent of the workers get to and from work by the buses. A special crèche has allowed the mothers of some 40 youngest children to return to work. Without a firm commitment to planned industrial expansion Cambridge could well fall behind more dynamic centres within commuting distance, and, in time, become a quaint but declining tourist backwater in the fens, say the company 74 10 07

1974 10 17
Cambridgeshire planning department may be asked to scrap the ban imposed 25 years ago on industrial development in Cambridge, & they may also be asked to allocate up to 100 acres of land in Cambridge for industrial use. At present less than 30 acres are earmarked for this. The Holford report which was published in 1949 recommended that no new industry employing more than five people should be allowed to develop in the city. In 1965 the planners raised the limit of employees to 12. Repeated requests by the city council for the ban to be removed were all refused 74 10 17

1975
Cambridge Instrument Company taken over by Metals research, Cambridge Scientific & Cambridge Medical Instruments merge into Cambridge Instrument Company

1975 06 23
H.J. Gray celebrate 120th anniversary - founded was England champion at Rackets for 3 years [14.1]

1975 06 25
Cambridge Science Park was officially opened by Sir Alan Hodgkin, President of the Royal Society and Fellow of Trinity College. The park came from an idea by Sir Neville Mott, who led a committee which first proposed the setting up of a Science Park in Cambridge to further scientific industrial development in the city. Trinity College has spent £650,000 to date on developing the centre. The site has four tenants so far c75 06 26

1975 07 16
St Ives based Sinclair Radionics Ltd, one of Europe's biggest manufacturers of packet calculators has introduced a new model. The Scientific Programmable Calculator is aimed at scientists, students, engineers and statisticians. Initially it will be available only by mail order

1975 08 21
The finance director of the Pye Group, Cambridge's largest employer, is a worried man. Not that the group is going to the wall or even likely to run into the red in the current year – but the fact is that the group's profits are going to be less than 1974. Already this year it has cut out 2,000 of its 21,000 UK jobs and is making expensive efforts to sell goods. The problem is that the recession in Britain and Western Europe shows no signs of ending 75 08 21

1976 01 26
Cambridge Computer Services taken over by Geest 76 01 26 [8.3]

1976 07 08
Pye sell off tv rental side – 76 07 08

1976 11 25
Sinclair: National Enterprise Board put in £650,000, ends three-year quest for new capital

1976 12 08
More than 1,000 jobs in the Cambridge area have been saved with the supply of £3 million of public money to the Cambridge Instrument Company, following a £1.85 million trading loss. The company has suffered serious financial troubles since it was set up after Metals Research Ltd of Melbourn took over Cambridge Scientific Instruments Ltd 15 months ago. The company is one of the leading British manufacturers of scientific instruments with opposition coming from Japan, the USA and West Germany. It is to retain this technology in Britain that the Government has put up the new money 76 12 08

1976 12 14
For the first time in two years Pye is going to see its television and radio division make money, but final details of the deal in which Philips Industries will take it over have still to be settled. Jobs are reasonably safe despite the selling off of the radio, television and audio side of its activities: Philips will take on those still working at factories at Lowestoft and King's Lynn. It is prepared to pay hard cash for companies whose losses were running at about £2 million last year because of the commercial benefits of expansion. Both have been busy on research and development work on radio, televisions and hi-fi equipment. Elimination of half the work brings an immediate saving. The Pye group will in future concentrate its efforts on scientific and technical "professional" equipment 76 12 14

1977 01 10
Sinclair unveil world's smallest tv

1977 04 07
Pye top-out building, p9

1977 08 19
Pye profits rocket, p10

1978 03 29
A Cambridge businessman, Lloyd Stokes, has submitted plans to build a 21-acre industrial estate just north of the old railway on the A10. It is opposite the Trinity Hall Farm science park which he developed from farmland worth about £130 an acre and has recently sold for £200,000. Mr

Stokes is still involved in a four-year planning wrangle over what the District Council considers an illegal road at the rear of the Milton Industrial Estate.

1978 04 07
Sinclair loses £1.3M, axe 56 jobs due US dollar fall value

1978 04 08
The Cambridge Instrument Company is being taken over by the Government following a trading year in which it lost £2.8 million. That's the effect of the National Enterprise Board's decision to increase its shares to 80 per cent. The intention is to let the company go independent again in three years' time if it makes enough sales generating cash flow and profits by then. The chairman of the Company said: "This is the best thing for us in the short and medium term. Now we can go forward with confidence and have a lot more scope and room in which to manoeuvre" 78 04 08

1978 05 15
Pye open new Telecom works one week after flood

1978 05 25
Lloyd Stokes plans 21a industrial estate opposite Trinity Hall Farm Science Park; had laid roads before permission which rejected 1972; now supported by City [3.9]

1978 08 09
A major aircraft building job is being given to Marshall's of Cambridge by the Ministry of Defence. It involves the stretching of the fuselages of 29 Hercules aircraft to allow it to carry extra cargo. The conversion will be fitted into the normal overhaul and serving work which the firm carries on. Sir Arthur Marshall said: "At the moment we are on various major contracts for the Hercules – replacement of wing centre sections and outer wings – as well as work on military and civil aircraft from all over the world". 78 08 09

1978 09 14
At least 4 important science-based manufacturing firms started by Trinity men - Cambridge Scientific Instruments & Metals Research (now combined as Cambridge Instrument Company), Aero Research (CIBA-Geigy) & Torvac [3.10]

1979
Acorn computers launched by Chris Curry

1979 01 02
Eldon Griffiths, the Conservative MP, has asked for East Anglia, and particularly Haverhill and Cambridge to be considered an area for building new 'silicon-chip' factories. It has a clean uncluttered environment with abundant 'greenfield' sites together with easy access via the modern ports of Ipswich and Felixstowe. There is a population with a high proportion of teenagers, especially in the 'overspill' towns, capable of being trained in the new techniques of the 'micro-chip' revolution. He cites an absence of obsolete buildings and embittered industrial relations that inhibit the introduction of modern machinery and a sturdy foundation for electronic-type development arising from companies such as Pye and world-famous university science departments.

1979 01 31
Instrument Company announce £3M loss, more NEB money [11.1]

1979 02 15
Two hundred workers at Pye Engineering Services will lose their jobs when the firm closes this summer. The company designs and manufactures press, tools, jigs, fixtures and special purpose machines and closure is blamed on the lack of demand due to changes in technology and product types. It started in 1946 as a small engineering shop with a dozen workers and at its peak employed 350 people. But large losses have been made annually and two years ago 130 workers were put on a three-day week because of a collapse in sales.

1979 05 10
Sinclair lost £2M, sack 160

1979 05 12
It is costing the Pye Group £1.3 million to close two factories and meet redundancy payments for those thrown out of work. They are Pye Engineering Services in Cambridge, which closes next month with the loss of 200 jobs, and Pye Ether of Stevenage. It is also closing Pye TMC's factory at Livingstone, Scotland. The profits of Pye Telecom – the largest single earner – were hit by competition from major international suppliers but the Business Communications side had a good order book and Pye Unicam orders were 20 per cent up. Sales of the Labgear television Teletext adaptor were initially disappointing but are showing a marked improvement

1979 05 18
Niggling away in the minds of 1,500 people who work at the Cambridge Instrument Company and at Sinclair Radionics at St Ives is the question: "Will we still be here next week?" The two companies are part of the National Enterprise Board without whose contributions of public money both would certainly have gone to the wall in the last three years. Now Mrs Thatcher's new man for industry, Sir Keith Joseph is planning to restrict the NEB's activities. Sinclair's history has been one of total innovation. It was the first in the field with a pocket-sized electronic calculator, it made an all-new digital watch – plagued with technical problems - and the world's smallest television with a two-inch screen. But it made a £2 million loss last year. Both may disappear for good if the new Government pulls the financial rug out now.

1979 05 26
Pye Engineering Services sold to Amin 79 05 26

1979 06 16
Sinclair sack 160

1979 07 06
Margaret Thatcher, Britain's scientist Prime Minister, came to Cambridge to see scientific industry at work and was promptly taken over by children from Bar Hill Primary School who had been given a morning off to see her. She talked to them for ten minutes then got on with the business of the day, meeting Mike Harrison, managing director of H.H. Electronics. The company employs more than 300 people designing and selling audio electronic sound equipment. Later Mrs Thatcher visited Laser-Scan, another company using chip technology

1979 07 07
Cambridge is a scientific and industrial gold mine where the brains and talents of those in the university can be harnessed and developed by industry so that new products can be made and new jobs created, said Margaret Thatcher. At Laser-Scan she saw techniques developed to digitise maps using laser beams and computers. She was delighted to be told that one system they used was called 'Maggie' for short. "So it should be if it's a scientific system", she said. But when told

it was a dump file she quipped "Oh no, you can't do that to me – you'd better find another name for it"

1979 07 31
In June 1968 George Brown M.P. arrived to open the new building for Cambridge Consultants Ltd at Bar Hill. He didn't find anyone to receive him because CCL don't believe in receptionists. Instead he found a telephone which said 'Please ring 47 and ask for the person you wish to speak to'. He did so and created a mild panic among the company dignitaries whose job it was to receive him. But when Prince Charles arrives to open the latest building on the Science Park he will find receptionists in the regulation plate glass front office, surrounded by rubber plants and other foliage.

1979 08 01
Instrument Company announce 150 jobs go [11.1]

1979 08 02
Prince Charles opens Cambridge Consultants building [02.4.20]

1979 08 10
Clive Sinclair, the 38-year-old former electronics 'whizz-kid' who founded Sinclair Radionics when he was 21 has set up a new company, Sinclair Research. He hopes to develop a television with an extra-large flat screen the size of a normal home cine screen which would hang on the wall like a picture. He has previously developed miniature radio sets, pocket-sized electronic calculators and a mini-television which he manufactured at a factory at St Ives.

1979 09 05
Philips Group complete Pye take-over; had 60.7% from 1967 when Pye in financial trouble but offered rest British investors; but with increasing competition from Japan & USA arrangement looked shaky. Even sale to Philips 2 years ago of consumer division - tv, radio electrical did little to help & take over the only answer; 4 years ago put some top financial men into Pye to shake-up management; likely to continue Pye name [18]

1979 10 01
Cambridge Consultants on the Science Park have spent nine years developing ink jet printing, opening up new frontiers. They have carried out trials on surfaces ranging from the petals of an orchid to the roughest grade of sandpaper and have developed systems able to produce 50,000 lines of text a minute on fast-moving surfaces up to two metres wide. Their work is attracting world-wide interest and has already been put to commercial use.

1979 10 30
The name of Pye has been around since 1896. To most people it conjures up a picture of radios, televisions, record players and even records. But none of the UK companies in the Pye of Cambridge group now makes any of these and since October 1st this year, legally speaking, Pye Holdings, the parent group, ceased to exist as a public company. About 12 years ago Philips made a successful bid for the Pye group and it has now become a fully-owned subsidiary. This will improve the future prospects of the companies and the long-term opportunities for employment within them, management claim.

1979 10 12
Instrument Company - NEB sell off majority interest to new company, Gladecrown [11.1]

1980

1980 01 29
The ZX80 personal computer was launched by Sinclair research of Cambridge. It can be used in the office, the factory and the home. The creator, Mr Clive Sinclair, says any child of 10 with normal arithmetical ability could use it. The new machine is smaller than anything of comparable performance and also four times as cheap. In kit form it costs £77.95 and a completely-built version will be available in March at £99.95. It can be plugged into an ordinary television set or standard computers. The 'software' can be operated through a standard tape cassette and it comes with a 130-page, step-by-step manual. 80 01 29

1980 04 19
Cambridge Electronic Industries - smaller Pye companies set up management company after Philips take over

1980 05 19
Structure Plan encourages growth of small new enterprises whose initial development dependent on use of locally-based skills & expertise [3.11]

1980 07 08
Sinclair Research, the company founded by Mr Clive Sinclair who pioneered the world's first pocket calculators and micro-televisions wants to buy the church of St Andrew the Great and turn it into a laboratory. They are currently researching computers and electrically-powered vehicles and are looking for premises in central Cambridge. But the church say he is unlikely to get permission because schemes for offices, shops, a language school and a mosque had already been rejected. 80 07 08g

1980 08 01
Cambridge Civic Society fears a scheme to convert St Andrew the Great Church into an electronics laboratory could open up the site for office building in the future. They believe it would be more logical for Sinclair Research to move to the city Science Park. The church has no access, is in a completely congested area and it would be an enormous job to convert. But the planning watchdogs are away on holiday and applications for some of our major planning disasters have gone through in August, they say. 80 08 01

1980 10 03
Cambridge Consultants are breaking new frontiers with technology which can print words in 22-carat gold on egg shells or in edible ink on biscuits. They are pioneering a process known as ink jet printing and have just opened a purpose-built laboratory to develop specialist inks. Commercial applications include textile printing, letters and labelling and a line printer can produce an incredible 10 miles of text an hour. 80 10 03b

1980 12 10
Anyone who can afford it can now 'pick the brains' of a central computer via Prestel, a specially adapted tv set connected to the telephone. A remote control keypad enables it to dial up the local computer and access material stored in its memory which travels down the ordinary telephone line. In the future one might use on-screen displays to teach children, transmit newspaper-type material with a domestic print-out facility, exchange letters and conversations by text displays and vote in general and local elections. 80 12 10a

1981 01 26

Microelectronics have caused some major shake-ups in the way we live and work; Cambridge's electronics wizard, Clive Sinclair brought us the first pocket calculator and pocket television and now launches Britain's first complete personal computer, the ZX-80. It plugs into the aerial socket of your television and is tuned in like a video-game. But then you have to type in a program from the 128-page instruction manual. The computer is not really all that bright and must be given a clear list of instructions before it can do even the simplest sums. 81 01 26a & b

1981 02 18
Cambridge electronics wizard, Clive Sinclair, has launched the world's first flat-screen television. Working with Timex he hopes to produce a million tubes in 1982. The first will be a 6 x 4 x 1-inch pocket television costing £50 able to pick up transmissions anywhere. It may eventually lead to a large screen which can be hung on a wall 81 02 18c

1981 04 02
Cambridge Medical becomes part of Picker International 1981 [11.1]

1981 04 01
Pye Business Communications is marketing a revolutionary office intercom system, the M100S, which, literally, speaks for itself. A voice unit will verbally tell a caller if a particular extension is in a meeting or on holiday. It can also take a video screen which will flash up information such as a user transferring to another extension or an absence or holiday list. All the information is put into a microcomputer exchange by the keys or dials of the intercom and telephones. 81 04 01a

1981 04 20
Pye TVT win Queens Award to Industry for Export achievement – 81 04 20

1981 05 27
Sinclair start cut-price war with Acorn over microcomputers for secondary schools 81 05 29

1981 06 30
Cambridge Electronic Industries sold off by Philips (prospers, Philips sell last of stake 1986) [7.9]

1981 08 16
"Can Acorn become an oak tree overnight" - Guardian 1981
Netherhall School has won a £35,000 computer development grant for its pioneering use of new technology in education. The funding is coming from the Department of Industry, Cambridge colleges and Acorn Computers who will supply 16 of their new BBC Microcomputers. They will now develop computer programmes to teach science, geography, economics and history in schools around the country. 81 10 09b

1981 10 23
Sinclair invades Japan - 81 10 23

1981 11
Anglia Business Computers set up [7.2]

1982 01 29
Clive Sinclair, managing director of Sinclair Research Ltd of Cambridge has been chosen as Personality of the Year in a new series of awards for achievements in technical innovation. It follows the success of his ZX 81 personal computer of which some 40,000 are now being sold

every month in this country. Production of the model, which has been a major force in bringing computers into everyday use, is now greater than any other computer in the world 82 01 29

1982 02 13
Sinclair set up deal with Timex – 82 02 13

1982 04 02
'Uncle Clive' Sinclair is close to becoming part of the legend of the microchip. He brought to the word innovative calculators, digital watches and pocket-sized televisions. Then in 1976 he formed Sinclair Research to conceive new projects in the consumer electronics field, including an electric car. He started with a little computer then produced a ZX81 version priced at just under £70. Now he has moved into the flat-screen television tube and mini-tv set. 82 04 02c

1982 04 02
Acorn computers has hardly had time to catch its breath since it won an agreement with the BBC to supply microcomputers suitable for use alongside a television series. But the broadcasts to schools began with only 200 of the 500 schools which wanted to take part having received their computers and programmes for the general public were postponed. Now 6,000 have been despatched with an order for 15,000 from Western Australia. 82 04 02d

1982 04 06
Pye TVT of Cambridge may lose a £100,000 order for television transmitters from Argentina because of the Falkland Islands crisis but Pye Telecom are still working on a £4,000 order for a communications system for the Falklands Islands. Stansted Airport's three giant Belfast military planes may be drafted into military use to ferry bulk loads nearer the scene of the action. Although they can land on medium-sized runways like Cambridge it could not land on the airstrip at Port Stanley. 82 04 06a

1982 04 24
Cambridge electronics wizard Clive Sinclair shook the computer world by announcing a new powerful machine at a fraction of the price of its rivals. The Sinclair ZX Spectrum costs £125 with a 16k memory, capable of high-resolution colour graphics. A mini floppy disc-drive memory device will shortly be available at the staggeringly low price of £50. 82 04 24

1982 04 30
Marshall's engineers have provided the Falkland Islands task force with a vital new component in their armoury – a transport aircraft that can be refuelled in mid-air. They have carried out conversion work on a prototype Hercules 130, the RAF's workhorse, in record time. The giant transporter had its first test-flight from Cambridge this week when the system worked without problems. The Marshalls men are jubilant that they got it right first time and so quickly. 82 04 30a

1982 05 07
A small sprig of yew to help ward away evil spirits was placed in the concrete during the ceremonial topping out of a futuristic new building at Cambridge Science Park. It will become Napp Laboratories central research and medical centre bringing facilities from four other bases. Around 200 people will work at the new complex which stands in a landscaped site with the main access provided by way of a plaza and a bridge across a canal. 82 05 07

1982 07 19

Work is continuing on the Clifton industrial estate, a joint development between the City Council and Dencora Securities on the site of the former of cattle market. There will be 31 units providing 225 jobs in light industry and warehousing with the first opening shortly. Much emphasis is being placed on a good quality of construction and landscaping to ensure a good working environment. 82 07 19

1982 08 05
New firms have been springing up in rural Cambridgeshire at an astonishing rate. Napp Laboratories searched for two years before bringing all their British-based operations under one roof in a futuristic £8 million building on Cambridge Science Park. Harcostar picked Huntingdon to make industrial plastics as it was a London overspill centre with housing. In East Cambridgeshire more than 40 per cent of all manufacturing firms are new, employing just over 20 per cent of manufacturing workers. But now industrialists are taking a gloomy view of the area's prospects. 82 08 05a &

1982 08 25
The final phase of the Coral Park development in Coldham's Lane is now complete. Work began in December 1973 with the demolition of a 160-ft high chimney which had been part of the Cambridge landscape for more than a century. The first warehouse was let to E. Laxton, a national cash and carry operation, and other tenants include W.H. Smith (Wholesale), Pye Telecommunications and Linfood. 82 08 25

1982 09 15
Pye Telecom shed 170 jobs 82 09 15

1982 10 02
Electronics wizard Clive Sinclair unveiled his new Cambridge headquarters. The building is based on a soft-drinks works with a futuristic new wing added. Sunlight coming through the glass roof of the new wing and water from a spring under the original building will be used to control air temperatures. Telephone and security systems will be heavily computerised. The reception area includes the largest polished bronze sculpture in the work by Helaine Blumenfeld who lives in Grantchester. 82 10 02

1982 11 03
Cambridge Instruments returns profit 1982 [11.1]

1982 11 16
Torch Computers was formed last year and has already produced a powerful business computer, opened a factory in Wales to manufacture it, opened offices in America and Canada and seen production climb above 250 a month. Now it's new research and development centre at Abberley House, Great Shelford has been officially opened by the Technology Minister, Kenneth Baker. 82 11 16a

1982 11 30
Cambridge innovator Clive Sinclair is using well water to help heat his new headquarters building in Willis Road. Instead of cold tap water, the boiler uses water from a deep borehole which has already been pre-warmed, free of charge, with the heat from the centre of the earth. It is the first installation of its type in the country. Looking after the system is a Sinclair ZX81 computer. 82 11 30

1982 12 09

Accommodation for computer-based companies in Cambridge is at a premium. Several firms are run from private houses with others based around King's Parade and Jesus Lane, where buildings are available and rents favourable. Now a technology square is planned for land at the rear of Shire Hall similar to Trinity College's Science Park but at smaller rents. There might be dual-purpose buildings for start-up companies providing both a home and an office to work in. 82 12 09

1982 12 10
Scientists at the University Microcircuit Engineering Laboratory, set-up among the high-tech industries on the Science Park, are building intricate electronic components which are so small that even microscopes are hard-pushed to reveal their structure – 200 of them could be placed along a human hair. Such shrinking chips reduce power consumption, increase performance and dramatically cut costs. They have already found commercial use in industry. 82 12 10

1982 12 30
Cambridge Interactive Systems founded five years ago; sold American company for £ millions [7.8]

1983 01 13
Cambridge was the first place to provide a science park. Now the County Council propose to establish a technology village on the Shire Hall redevelopment site. The novel scheme would provide both houses and workshops in an attempt to create a 21st-century high technology community. It would have offices, shops, a pub and recreational facilities. Secretaries and photocopiers could be shared. 83 01 13

1983 03 24
Clive Sinclair went to London in January to learn he was worth £129 million on the Stock Exchange. Now the head of Sinclair Research told a Guardian 'Young Businessman of the Year' award that he has created 2,000 new jobs. The firm was founded in 1979 and launched the world's first under £100 personal computer in 1980, followed by improved models including the colour ZX Spectrum. 83 03 24 p20

1983 04 22
Pye Telecom win £10M contract 83 04 22

1983 05 03
Torch Computers to become most powerfully backed computer company, take-over by GEC but deal crashed; bought by Acorn 1984 [10.4]

1983 05 05
Kent Industrial Measurements is to end its century-old Cambridge link with the closure of its works in Rosemary Lane. The firm, which makes gas monitoring equipment, is transferring production as part of a restructuring plan. Most of the 82 staff are being offered jobs at other Kent sites at Eaton Socon and Stonehouse in Gloucestershire. Originally it was part of Cambridge Instruments but have been totally separate for many years 83 05 05 p6

1983 05 11
Sinclair affected by Timex strike – 83 05 11

1983 05 25
Sinclair to set up Metalab, £2m research centre – 83 05 25

1983 06
Clive Sinclair knighted – 83 06

1983 06 18
Sinclair invests £12.9m in electric car – 83 06 18

1983 06 20
Cambridge computer wizard Clive Sinclair may buy the factory of the failed Northern Ireland sports car company De Lorean to manufacture his electric car. His Sinclair Vehicle Project is developing what is hoped to be the first mass-produced electric vehicle for some years. Intended for city travellers it is due for release in 1985. The technology was developed by the Norfolk based Lotus Company, which Sir Clive has also shown an interest in buying 86 06 20 p3

1983 07 02
Sinclair Research has bought the 18th-century Milton Hall as its centre for research into revolutionary and high-risk ideas called Metalab. Milton Hall which was built in 1772 was bought by Eastern Electricity in 1950 as a regional office and research centre. Two large modern wings were added. The cost of the purchase is around £500,000. 83 07 02 p5, 83 07 07 p15

1983 08 31
The Cambridge computer industry has suffered its first casualty. Grundy Business Systems, based on the Science Park, launched its NewBrain microcomputer in May last year, based on a design by Sir Clive Sinclair. It became one of the best-selling in the UK but an unexpected decline in sales and a failure to meet deadlines led to cash difficulties. 83 08 31 p1

1983 09 21
Sinclair launches flat-screen tv – 83 09 21

1983 10 25
Jupiter Cantab small computer company into liquidation, second in three months, set up by ex-Sinclair designer [9.3]

1983 11 18
Sinclair seeks BBC contract – 83 11 15

1984 01 13
Sinclair launches QL – 84 01 13

1984 02 06
Pye TVT in battle for long-term commercial survival 84 02 06

1984 02 20
Toltec liquidation, fourth city computer business in six months - previously Grundy, Jupiter & HH Electronics Bar Hill [10.5]

1984 02 24
Sinclair hit by US price war & production delays - 84 02 24, 84 03 02

1984 04 02

The pharmaceutical industry is not a large employer with just 75,000 people in the UK. In mid 1983 Napp employed 225 which will have risen to 265 by the end of 1984. It opened its Cambridge office in June 1980 when 70 employees relocated from its locations in Aberdeen, Watford and West Drayton and moved into the Science Park last June. The modern air conditioned environment is unique; the atmosphere is hard working but informal with widespread use of Christian names 84 04 02

1984 05 15
A telephone in one's car must represent one-upmanship. Pye Telecom has just introduced its new radiophone. Electricians are using them, so are plumbers. Not only is it a boon, it is also the most infuriating device ever invented by man. It costs around £2,350 to buy and a further £100 to have it fitted. Then there is a maintenance contract and British Telecom fees of £105 a quarter. For this it is theoretically possible to send and receive ordinary telephone calls to and from your car. In practice they are patchy in the Cambridge area 84 05 15 p16

1984 07 13
Sinclair China deal – 84 07 13

1984 08 01
Acorn Computers has been presented with the Queen's Award for Technological Achievement for the innovating design of the BBC Microcomputer system. It was presented to Chris Curry, joint managing director at their offices in Fulbourn Road. He praised the company's research team who have produced a computer of such elegance of design that three years after its introduction it still knocks spots off the competition. The ceremony comes three weeks after Acorn won a four-year renewal of its important BBC contract 84 08 01 p3

1984 10 03
Darwin Instruments, the Cambridge educational supply company which two years ago won a £37 million Mexican export order, has opened its new headquarters. It has completely refurbished the Old Paper Mills on the corner of Newmarket Road and Ditton Walk which two years ago was completely derelict 84 10 03

1984 10 28
Norman Portland Cement works closes, in production since 1904, reserves of Marl almost worked out, dust was problem; continues to grind cement on site but shuts completely 1987 [15.3]

1984 10 31
Cambridge Business Park to open opposite Science Park with no restriction on manufacturing [13.6]

1984 12 14
Foreign competition is forcing Gray's to stop volume production of wooden squash racquets early next year due to the difference between the cost of labour and overheads in Cambridge and Taiwan. But production of a limited range of top-quality specialist racquets will continue as will its cricket bat and ball factories in Sussex and Kent. The129-year-old company, which has its headquarters at the Playfair Works in Benson Street and a sports shop in Sidney Street, employs around 110 people locally 84 12 14

1984 12 28

St John's College is to go ahead with plans to develop its 22-acre science park site in North Cambridge, even though part of it has been rejected by planners. The college has owned the land since 1530 but it has been semi-derelict since 1945. The site, sometimes known as 'the teardrop' lies between the new and old A10 roads at Milton and has been split by the building of the Northern by-pass with its raised interception. The Government says part lies in the Green Belt and should remain undeveloped. 84 12 28

1985 01 10
Sir Clive Sinclair's new electric car is quite unlike anything else on the road. It is shaped like a plastic torpedo and equipped with handlebars beneath the driver's knee and a set of large bicycle pedals. Top speed is around 15mph on the level and the range on a single battery is around 20 miles. It can be recharged in eight hours and has a space for a reserve battery. The price is right: at just under £400 on the road it represents another highly-successful gamble on the part of the Cambridge-based millionaire 85 01 10a & b & c

1985 01 21
Skilled technicians, computer programmers and systems analysts are now at a premium in Cambridge and are being bought and sold like footballers between firms who pay transfer fees to get the staff they want. The Itec centre in Hooper Street is making a small dent in the problem by taking youngsters with no formal qualifications and training them on technical subjects. Of 28 taken on so far, all but one have got good jobs. 85 01 21a

1985 01 23
Pye has been in consumer electrical goods since 1922 when W.G. Pye and Co began selling wireless kits. Now from its headquarters in St Andrew's Road, Chesterton it sells a wide range of televisions and radios under the Pye brand name though they are not made in Cambridge and have Philips internals. People have a very strong loyalty to the name 'Pye', so now they are moving back into areas which have been abandoned to the Japanese. Video cassette recorders have been selling since July and hi-fi music-centres will be launched this year. 85 01 23a

1985 01 23
Acorn route into future – 85 01 23

1985 02 11
Clive Segal rescued Cambridge Instrument Company, joined 1979 when £3 million loss and now business increasing

1985 02 11
Cambridge Innovation Centre, designed to provide facilities and support services essential to small companies during their initial development, was opened by the Duke of Edinburgh at the Science Park. For three companies, Cambridge Robotics, Torus Systems and Prelude Technology Investments it represents expansion from previous Science Park premises. Altek Automation and Data Analysis and Research have come from outside Cambridge while Synoptics, which is involved in image processing, has been established by two Cambridge University academics. 86 02 11a

1985 02 21
Acorn's future following the Olivetti rescue – 85 02 21

1985 03 01

Sir Clive Sinclair is taking a £3 million high-tech centre as part of a major expansion of his Cambridge-based research company. The present headquarters at Willis Road is bursting at the seams so he is moving to the Camtec Centre off Rustat Road. Other high-tech companies in the area include Cambridge Electronic Industries, Acornsoft and Logica. Sinclair this week launched a big advertising campaign for its £100 pocket TV and hopes to sell 200,000 units of their QL computers in 1985. 85 03 01a

1985 03 11
King's Court, four research and development blocks on the site of Solus Electronics in Kirkwood Road, is a further step in the creation of a silicon belt near Trinity College's Science Park. Others are St John's Innovation Centre and a 20-acre Cambridge Business Park. Plans which have failed to gain permission are for a 60-acre Cambridge Technology Centre off King's Hedges Road and St John's 'teardrop' site on Milton Road. There is a tremendous demand for high-tech property with half the new development under offer before it has been advertised. 85 03 11d

1985 03 26
Clive Sinclair offered four-acre site for 'superchip' plant – 85 03 26

1985 03 29
Sinclair production C5 suspended – 85 03 29a

1985 04 08
Ups and downs of Clive Sinclair – 85 04 08a

1985 04 25
Massive development Cowley Road - D & H site [4.2]

1985 05 26
Sinclair in tight financial difficulties – 85 05 26

1985 05 28
Cambridge computer company Sinclair Research needs to raise up to £15 million and is also looking for a new chief executive officer. – 85 05 28

1985 05 29
Castle Park, the £10 million high-tech development on County Council land next to Shire Hall has been inaugurated. It offers 'thinking space' to scientists and academics involved in research and development of high-technology ideas. The project will be fully self-contained with its own conference facilities, restaurant, gymnasium, squash courts and overnight accommodation as well as centrally available office equipment and secretarial support. A key attribute is its location in the heart of the city close to many of the University's colleges. 85 05 29b

1985 06 26
For 50 years the name of F.H. Fry has been associated with scales and scale-making in Cambridge. It was started by Frederic Fry in East Road in 1935 and moved to Perowne Street in 1962. Now they have branched out to include cash registers, gravity-feed slicers and sausage fillers. Modern scales are so clever they can not only weigh and automatically calculate the price but they also check themselves to see they are in working order. Yet despite all this progress a brass weight is used to check they are accurate. 85 06 26b

1985 09 20

Sinclair Research is selling its award-winning headquarters at Willis Road, Cambridge. The class and stainless-steel conversion of a Victorian bottling plant has been in use since 1982. Now the company's activities are to be concentrated at Milton Hall where their advanced research centre, Metalab is already operating. It is part of a restructuring programme to slim the company in the face of an estimated £15 million debt. 85 09 20

1985 09 26
Spillers' new flour packing factory in Station Road is a model of modern efficiency. Combined with the existing Homepride mill it will be capable of producing 20 million packets of flour annually, making it their main processing plant in Britain and enabling cost increases to be kept to a minimum. It is part of a major centralisation plan by Spillers Homepride which is moving its headquarters into Cambridge. 85 09 26 - CEN 13.12.88

1985 10 14
Sinclair call in Receiver for C5 – 85 10 14

1985 11 07
Dr Clive Sinclair is one of the few British industrialists to challenge the Japanese and American dominance in electronics. Although his C5 vehicle venture went into liquidation this week he is still afloat, still only 45 and has enormous resources. So it is a very good time for Rodney Dale, a literate man who knows Cambridge science well, to have produced his biography giving an invaluable glimpse of a significant period in Cambridge's electronic history. 85 11 07

1985 11 29
Pye TVT, the Cambridge television equipment company is to close its studio systems plant which employs 230 people – 85 11 29

1985 12 02
H.J. Gray stop volume production of wooden squash rackets in Cambridge by December have 30 staff compared to 150 year ago [14.2]

1985 12 12
Office rents soared 35% in year, shops and industrial rents also up ¢CEN 12.12.88

1985 12 13
Spillers' new flour packing factory in Station Road is a model of modern efficiency. Combined with the existing Homepride mill it will be capable of producing 20 million packets of flour annually, making it their main processing plant in Britain and enabling cost increases to be kept to a minimum. It is part of a major centralisation plan by Spillers Homepride which is moving its headquarters into Cambridge. 85 09 26 - CEN 13.12.88

1985 12 13
Sinclair Research HQ Willis Rd bought by county council – 85 12 13

1986 01 03
Local firms such as Pye Unicam, Barnwell Engineering and Cambridge Instruments have shown that there are rich pickings in exporting to Eastern Bloc companies. Now two new companies have been established to assist exports. Anglia Instruments deals in Hungary, Bulgaria and Russia on behalf of several small firms including Techne at Duxford, while Anglo-Polish Exhibitions based at Histon provides a complete back-up service to firm who want to exhibit at major trade fairs in Poland. 86 01 03a

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1986 02 11
Cambridge Innovation Centre, designed to provide facilities and support services essential to small companies during their initial development, was opened by the Duke of Edinburgh at the Science Park. For three companies, Cambridge Robotics, Torus Systems and Prelude Technology Investments it represents expansion from previous Science Park premises. Altek Automation and Data Analysis and Research have come from outside Cambridge while Synoptics, which is involved in image processing, has been established by two Cambridge University academics. 86 02 11a

1986 02 12
Laser Scan move bigger premises on Science Park - 86 02 12

1986 02 17
Clifton Industrial Estate started in 1982 with the City Council leasing the old cattle market site to Dencora Securities Ltd who built the industrial units. Now they are constructing a modern hi-tech research and office complex on the Cherry Hinton Road frontage with considerable emphasis on landscaping to provide an attractive working environment. From specialist electronics to every day motor parts, car valeting services to furniture upholstery it has a wide range of industries providing several hundred jobs for a large variety of skills. 86 02 17a & b

1986 04 08
"Sinclair has become a legend as one of most prestigious inventors since Leonardo. 1st pocket calculator, one of first digital watches, first sub-£100 home computer & first pocket tv set ... thanks Spectrum his name as familiar to generation of under-18s as Superman; few products emerged without serious teething troubles & major delays 2 separate companies: Sinclair research makes computers & flat screen tv; he sold some shares to group institutions two years ago Sinclair Vehicles founded on back of that money to make C5 but problems at each company simultaneously - Vehicles lack sales Research hit by lack sales, dealers left with surplus & not reordering & home computer market saturated mini-tv not in High St but selling in USA – 86 04 08a
Sinclair sell marketing rights of computers to Amstrad – 85 04 08

1986 04 15
Sinclair to sell Milton Hall – 85 04 15

1986 04 24
Employment at Cambridge's booming Science Park has gone up 30 per cent in a year and now stands at around 1,940 jobs. And this does not take account of the growing army of temporary and ancillary staff who keep the park cleaned, fed, serviced and patrolled. Four companies have left over the past year, but 17 new ones arrived. The biggest growth has been shown by Cambridge Life Sciences where staffing has risen from 28 to 50, LKB Biochrom, Napp Laboratories and Torus Systems. Further growth will come by GEC's Marconi Underwater Applied Research Laboratory and the London International Group which is building a research laboratory. 86 04 24a

1986 05 26
Sinclair launches Anamartic - superchip – 86 05 26

1986 06 17

Grays of Cambridge, the 130-years-old sports firm, has reached the end of an era with the closure of its Benson Street headquarters. The only remaining presence locally is a small racquet-making factory at Coton on the site of their former sawmill. The last 18 months have seen the workforce dwindle from 150 to just six. The main reasons for decline have been increased competition from Taiwan and a change away from wooden frames towards graphite and metal racquets and. Now they produce them for the small market of real tennis and rackets players 86 06 17a (others Sussex & Kent) [14.3]

1986 07 01
Chris Curry resigns from Acorn starts General Information Systems based at Croxton – 86 07 01c

1986 07 07
Torch Computers of Gt Shelford has developed a revolutionary Triple X computer using the Unix-based computing system with a revolutionary 'Opentop' facility that allows more than one page to be seen at a time. Around the edges of the screen are a number of symbols called 'icons'. Using a control known as a 'mouse' the user can direct a floating arrow and by clicking the 'mouse' twice the accounts package comes up on the screen. By then double-clicking the calculator icon it appears on top of the accounts. This is known as 'multi-tasking'. It means that for the first time one doesn't need programming knowledge to take advantage of the Unix system's benefits 86 07 07a

1986 07 21
St John's innovation centre opposite Science Park to stimulate ideas [4.5]

1986 07 21
"Much of area economic success due low employment in traditional manufacturing industry" [4.6]

1986 08 02
Developers Camtech announced plans for a massive new science-cum-shops development for the giant 55-acre Arbury Camp Farm. It comprises a mixture of high-tech research and development buildings and two retail units either side of a five-acre lake. One would be a food superstore and the other sell D-I-Y and gardening products. There would also be a park-and-ride site with room for 600 cars. But an Inquiry into another scheme for the same area was told that it would have a detrimental impact on local stores and shops. 86 08 02 & 2a

1986 09 24
Pye Ltd move to Croydon - departure of original radio works from which other Pye group companies have grown 86 09 24

1986 10 13
Sinclair starts new company Moduliser - portable micro-computers – 86 10 13

1986 11 17
At Logica's smart Cambridge offices a strange clipped voice rises above the human chatter. By the end of the decade it may well become commonplace. For the firm is devising a computer which can talk to train travellers on the telephone. They are also working on a computer which will help Shell devise formulae for lubricating oils. The company, which has 2,400 staff working in 3 countries, opened its Cambridge offices two years ago but has difficulty recruiting staff because of a national shortage of trained workers. 86 11 17

1987
Government ends distinction office use & research & development, city has used it to restrict firms wanting come Cambridge because of status etc [NS2.15]

1987
MacKay celebrates 75 years [NS.1.3]

1987 01 24
The Blue Circle Cement Works in Coldham's Lane is to shut in June with the loss of 22 jobs. The news comes less than three years after a decision to reduce the 70-acre site from a quarry to simply a grinding and distribution depot. Workers have been worried about their future ever since the 1983 decision to wind down the operation with the loss of 91 jobs. The manager said it hadn't come as a total surprise and people had resigned themselves to it. It means that a prime development site could soon be on the market. 87 01 24

1987 05 12
The ink jet printer can be traced back to 1971 when Graeme Minto was leader in a project at Cambridge Consultants. In 1978 he formed Domino whose first product, the Unijet was used in numbering lottery ticket books and in the food packaging industry. In 1982 they moved from Milton to large new premises at Bar Hill, joined forces with American Technologies Inc and gained the Queen's Award for Technological achievement in 1985. 87 05 12a

1987 06 04
Aim Technology high-tech firm shuts, 50 jobs go; 9 year growth to staff of 60 [7.4] 87 06 04

1987 06 08
An era in Cambridge business will end when Pye Telecom changes its name to Philips Telecom. Pye has been part of Philips since 1966. The former name has been on the retreat elsewhere. Pye TVT has been sold to the American company Varian and Pye Unicam uses the name Philips Analytical. The last reminder of the old firm, which began when W.G. Pye set up an instrument company in 1896 is the Pye TV and radio business which has now moved to Croydon. 87 06 08c

1987 06 09
A small Cambridge research and development company has beaten international giants to win a prestigious engineering award. W.A. Technology, based in French's Road has clinched the Finniston Award for designing and building the world's first commercial instrument for viewing the atomic structure on the surface of materials. The scanning tunnelling microscope emerged from research by two Nobel prizewinners in conjunction with scientists at Cambridge University. The company was founded in 1982 by Barry Ambrose and Dr Colin Wilson who met when they worked at the Cavendish Laboratory 87 06 09

1987 06 12
Clive Sinclair opens new factory at Waterbeach for engineering company Win-Born Products. – 87 06 12f

1987 06 12
Donald Mackay reviews firm's history – 87 06 12d

1987 07 03
Domino Printing Sciences acquires US firm – 87 07 03

1987 10 08
Tansley Typewriter Company celebrates 65 years - 87 10 08

1988 01 05
Pye Unicam, direct descendant of the original W.G. Pye instrument company founded in 1896 has now changed its name to Philips Scientific. It was formed from the merger of W.F. Pye and Unicam in 1947 and was the last of the Cambridge companies to keep the name Pye in its title. It has now been recognised as a group with four divisions including the once separate Philips Communications and Security in Cromwell Road. It specialises in making analytical instruments for laboratory use, much of which is sold to Eastern Europe and the Far East 88 01 05 history of company – 88 01 05a, 88 01 06 & a

1988 02 01
One of Cambridge's best-known landmarks was removed from the skyline as the chimney at the 70-acre Blue Circle cement works in Coldham's Lane went out in style. The surrounding roads were full of cars before a sudden and extremely loud bang rang out. In a few seconds the old chimney took a clean dive to the ground and was reduced to a pile of rubble. The Norman cement works had opened in 1908 and frequently modernised, finally closing last June. For the last three years it was used as a grinding and distribution plant 88 02 01a

1988 05 10
Lintech, Science Park collapses, auction ¢CEN 10.5.88,7.7.88

1988 95 28
Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, tours Science Park – 88 05 28

1988 07 11
Castle Park, Cambridge's showpiece research and development village was opened by the Duke of Edinburgh. Developed by Sheraton and financed by Royal Life, it was designed to provide 'thinking space' for scientists and academics involved in high-technology developments. The initiative came from the County Council who were faced with the need to provide more office accommodation for its staff and developed land adjoining Shire Hall. The first phase, Castle House, Babbage House and Sheraton House was completed last year 88 07 11b, c. d

1988 10 06
Sir Clive Sinclair is moving out of Cambridge, though his business interests will bring him back to the city regularly. One of his companies, Anamartic is based at Milton Hall and another, Cambridge Computers has flats in Bridge Street, where he can stay. His home, The Stone House on Madingley Road, which dates back to 1896, has a white marble hall floor with a central oak staircases leading to eight bedrooms and three bathrooms, and a drawing room more than 30 feet long, is now for sale. 88 10 06

1988 10 20
IBM take more offices, had presence since 1984 ¢CEN 20.10.88

1988 10 20
Three Cambridge computer pioneers hope to revolutionise communications with a fibre-optic cable-TV service carrying eight or nine TV channels, some collected by satellite dishes. Eventually there would be 50 channels, an independent phone service, teleconferencing, a security alarm system, home shopping and remote banking. Cambridge Cable might link with

Cambridge University's Project Granta to provide a data transmission service network from Girton to Addenbrooke's Hospital 88 10 20

1988 10 27
The chimney of the Blue Circle cement works on Coldham's Lane is the last remnant of more than 75 years of cement production in Cambridge. It stands alone on the 70-acre site which ceased production in 1984. It opened in 1908 as the Norman cement works and was frequently modernised with a new kiln installed in 1948. It finally closed in June after being a grinding and distribution plant for its last three years. Mystery still surrounds the future of the site which is still partly used as a waste dumping ground in a former quarry 88 01 27

1988 10 28
Cambridge AppleCentre was officially opened by Schnorbitz the dog and his well-known owner, comedian Bernie Winters in the presence of Directors from Apple Computers UK. It provides hardware and software on site at Clifton Court with a resident training consultant offering courses on the Apple Macintosh as well as a service department. The Apple is especially suitable for the busy executive with its friendly graphic interface and is suitable for updating company literature or starting a newsletter. They can be rented for special occasions such as exhibitions with a rental/conversion scheme for those who wish to evaluate it before buying. 88 10 28a

1988 10 29
Sir Clive Sinclair's Stone House, on Madingley Road was built in 1896. If he had chosen a fortress to protect him from prying eyes he could hardly have found a more solid building. The walls are more than a foot thick in solid stone and even the front door is a formidable structure of metal and class. It has a Middle Eastern annexe with a fabulous hand-painted ceiling and a collection of calculators and computers in a large glass cabinet. It is on the market for £750,000 88 10 29a

1988 12 19
Scientist of Nobel-prize-winning standard are to offer their services to industry as part of a new initiative to foster better links between the university and businesses in Cambridge. They will operate through consultancy companies which will provide a new source of university funds. Disciplines will include veterinary science, mathematics and surface analysis under an initiative from the Wolfson Industrial Unit 88 12 19

1989 02 16
St Johns Innovation Centre to expand to business park ¢CEN 16.2.89

1989 02 21
CITS - county council computer buffs to close ¢CEN 21.2.89

1989 03 17
"Cambridge Phenomenon failing?" - many small firms reached plateau - lack of manufacturing why they stay small ¢CEN 17.3.89

1989 03 22
"Boom city grinding to a halt" - part problem due Government regulations allowing change of use from light industry to office development ¢CEN 22.3.89

1989 04 07
"East Anglian salaries need to rise 27% to keep pace with inflation" ¢CEN 7.4.89

1989 04 12
Acorn, the computer company which helped found the Cambridge Phenomenon, has bounded back into profitability after a worrying loss in 1987. They started getting into difficulties with the collapse of the home computer market in late 1984 and, apart from a recovery in 1986, have shown a loss ever since. But now the company, which employs around 230 people, is on course for expansion in its new role as a high-volume low-cost manufacturer of computers and work stations. 89 04 12

1989 05
Labgear Cablevision, the television communications equipment company makes good profits but its business in the area of satellite dishes, aerials and cable TV distribution systems does not fit into CEI's new strategic plans. It employs 125 people on the Cambridgeshire Business Park at Ely with 100 more at its main base at Abbey Walk, a site being considered for redevelopment for housing. It is one of three that Cambridge Electronic Industries plan to sell, leaving Cathodeon Crystals at Nuffield Road, Newmarket Microsystems, PED & Varelco at Newmarket in the local area. Cambridge Interconnection Technology, which used to be on the Cambridge Science Park has moved to Scotland 89 05

1989 05 25
Next Technology have launched Voyager, a super-computer which stores some 270 compact discs carrying micro-pictures of pages of books. It works like a jukebox and can 'play' more than one disc at a time. It is similar to the Domesday Project which allowed schoolchildren to retrieve information from a massive disk. If whole libraries were put on it then researchers could look-up and cross-reference items in seconds. Machines cost from £13-£21,000 and worldwide interest has been shown. 89 05 25b

1989 06 09
Electronics wizard and Cambridge tycoon Sir Clive Sinclair has been hailed as a visionary – and castigated as a mere marketer. In his career he has reflected the best in British enterprise but also suffered the embarrassment of failure. He has seen the field of electronics change out of all recognition in his lifetime. He formed his first company, Sinclair Radionics in 1962 and moved to Cambridge five years later where he produced an early digital watch, then began the calculator craze and made a miniature television. But it was when he made personal computers that his business took off. But he will still be remembered for the ill-fated C5. 89 06 09bb

1989 07 05
Department of Trade & Industry office in Cambridge to be upgraded to full regional status ¢CEN 5.7.89

1989 07 11
Cambridge Instrument Company taken over by Leitz ¢CEN 11.7.89

1989 08 16
Moves to encourage firms to leave city ¢CEN 16.8.89

1989 10 25
Cambridge is considered by many to be the computer capital of East Anglia. Now Evesham Micros has opened a new computer store in Glisson Road offering a wide range of micro-computer hardware, software and advice. They have computers from Amstrad, Olivetti, Epson and Atari with the latest IBM system arriving soon. Epson and Star printers together with

modems from Mirrorcom, Amstrad and Pace are also stocked. Hard disks are put in operating condition so everything is ready by the time it gets to customers 89 10 25b & c

1989 11 01
Topexpress, once heralded as glowing example of Cambridge phenomenon axes 20 jobs, taken over two years ago ¢CEN 1.11.89

1989 12 02
Total back out of move to Cambridge - follows squabble over its use of Quayside offices, bringing 2,000 jobs ¢CEN 2.12.89

1989 12 09
Cambridge Science Park boomed in the early 1980s but now has trouble recruiting and keeping skilled staff. There are fewer school leavers and, coupled with the problems of high living costs and expensive housing, this has led to a fall in the potential working population. There should also be a slip-road direct to the A45 or a private bus service from the city centre to ease traffic congestion. A crèche for working mothers, banking facilities and a shop are also needed. 89 12 09

1990 01 08
Cambridge Electronic Industries was initially comprised of companies that did not fit into the Philips group. Today nearly half have been sold or have merged. Casualties include Pye RF Systems which sold equipment for the rapid drying of printed work, Cathodeon Crystals which merged with Newmarket Microsystems and Labgear Cablevision which has been sold to a Finnish company. But they have acquired seven American companies and exports represent half of CEI's total business – 90 01 08a

1990 01 19
Science park feature – 90 01 19a b

1990 01 24
The Ronald Rolph Court consists of 23 workshop units has helped several new companies make a positive start over the last seven years. Firms represent all aspects of industry in Cambridge from established concerns specialising in traditional trades to high-tech firms developing electronics and computers. They include J.S. Wilson, whose bookbinding business was established in 1830 and Ditton Binders which supplies company ring binders and menu covers 90 01 24c

1990 01 26
Plans to develop the site of the old Cattle Market into a light industrial estate met an angry response. But now it has been transformed into the Clifton Road Industrial estate with 56 units providing jobs for several hundred people. There is ample car parking and good office accommodation. The estate is fronted by the attractive Clifton Court office complex. Situated alongside the railway station, close to the city centre with park and ride facilities on its doorstep it has good access to major roads. With its landscaping it provides an industrially useful estate and a pleasant working environment for employees 90 01 26c

1990 02 26
Trinity Hall Industrial Estate in Nuffield Road was developed in 1982 housing firms such as Cathodeon, Camlab, Serck Services, Allgoods and Andrew McCulloch. Now it includes Dan Morley Engineering, Platonoff and Harris and TeleTape Video which produces commercial videos. The estate is located on land formerly owned by Cambridge businessman, Mr Lloyd

Stokes, who also owned the site on which the adjacent Cambridge Business Park is still being developed. 90 02 26a

1990 04 09
Tadpole Technology formed in 1984, now Cambridge Phenomenon success, moves into new headquarters on Science Park – 90 04 09b

1990 05 02
Rabbit, the new cordless phone system based in Cambridge is to be launched in September. Based at Westbrook Centre. To install numerous base stations – 90 05 02

1990 05 12
Philips Scientific, York Street makes redundancies in manufacturing division, making analytical instruments. Sister company Philips Radio Communications axed 120 jobs St Andrew's Road – 90 05 12a

1990 05 29
George Lister engineering company celebrates centenary, built motor racing cars; set up in Abbey Road 1890 – feature – 90 05 29a

1990 06 30
Sir Clive Sinclair's Cambridge Computer firm is moving to Scotland; meteoric rise and fall; started Sinclair Radionics in 1962, moving to Cambridge in 1967; produced digital watch and calculator, tv and computers. Won Queen's Award in 1975 and knighted 1983. But C5 flopped, marriage broke up and sold his house on Madingley Road in 1989 – 90 06 30a

1990 06 30
Sir Clive Sinclair's Cambridge Computer firm is moving to Scotland; meteoric rise and fall; started Sinclair Radionics in 1962, moving to Cambridge in 1967; produced digital watch and calculator, tv and computers. Won Queen's Award in 1975 and knighted 1983. But C5 flopped, marriage broke up and sold his house on Madingley Road in 1989 – 90 06 30a

1990 11 28
Acorn Computers backed by Apple Corporation to form Advanced Risc Machines – 90 11 28b

1990 11 30
Philips to axe 300 jobs including Philips Radio Communications Systems, St Andrews Road – 90 11 30

1991 02 26
Philips Scientific, which employs 525 people at its York Street plant may be bought by Analytical Technology Inc; was formerly Pye Unicam – 91 02 26a

1994
'Cambridge Phenomenon' – success for Tadpole Technology, Advanced Risk Machines, Xaar, Ethical Pharmaceuticals, Cantab Pharmaceuticals, [Rev]

1998
Ionica, set up as a rival to BT, was placed in hands of administrators, Oct

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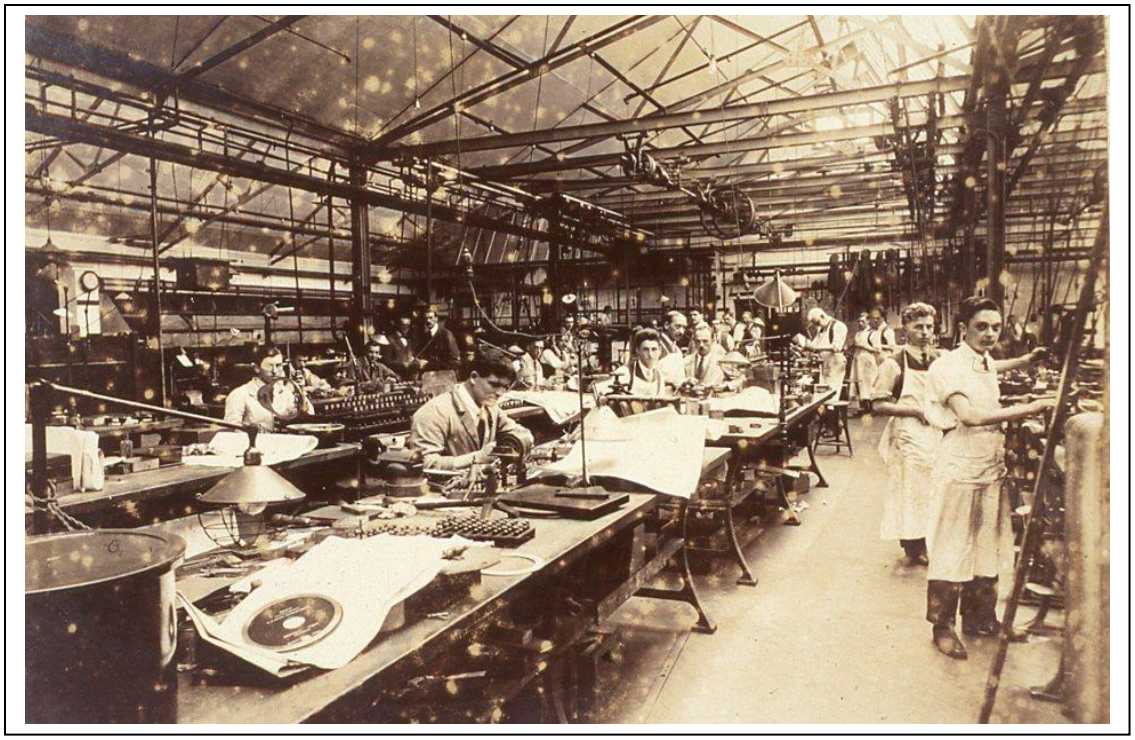

Cambridge Instrument Company works, 1920s *168.08*

c.27.1 : Cambridge Instrument Company

1881
Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company founded by Horace Darwin, makes equipment University, develops electrocardiograph;

1895
Cambridge Instrument Company formally registered, (established1881) [1.13]

1900

1907 01 18
When Dew Smith and Horace Darwin commenced the manufacture of certain scientific instruments for physiological work at the University Laboratory it was more as a hobby and not financially profitable. But it grew and in 1895 was turned into a limited liability company which is now flourishing at its pleasantly situated works off Chesterton Road. Among its important products is a kite used in meteorological observations and a machine for standardising small screws which has been supplied to the Japanese government. 07 01 18

1910

1914 05 29
Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company welcomed visitors to their workshops, test room, drawing office and stores. They were also shown the manufacture and operation of the various instruments made. Many are of great commercial value. The extension is the fourth addition since

the works were moved from Panton Street to Chesterton Road. It is the chief of the few manufacturing concerns in Cambridge and now employs 180 hands 14 05 29d & e

1914 05 29
A mysterious illness, believed to be ptomaine poisoning, attacked 50 people who attended the Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company's dinner. A considerable number of the employees had to quit work and go home, several are still seriously ill. The dinner had been given to 300 employees and their wives and was attended by the Chairman, Horace Darwin and other directors. One of their wives is amongst the sufferers. Suspicion had fallen upon the salmon served as the second dish at the dinner which included Ox-Tail soup, roast lamb, gooseberry tarts and ginger beer. 14 05 29f

1920

1921 07
Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company big blaze [1.5]

1940

1947 12 11
Cambridge Instrument Company plans for research laboratory and office block in Carlyle Road referred for further consideration; area primarily residential and fear will destroy view – 47 12 11

1950

1950 02 11
Cambridge Instrument Company erect factory Finchley, 200 workers leave Cambridge as blocked by planning [1.7]

1956 05 11
Instrument Company develop electrocardiograph [11.1]

1959 10 15
Cambridge Instrument Company opened its new research headquarters in Chesterton Road. Its four floors comprise laboratories for the development of instruments for mechanical engineering, electronics and physical chemistry together with a specious drawing office. It was a tribute to the unswerving devotion of the men who had worked there over the last 80 years, said Lord Adrian, University Vice-Chancellor. He had declined the use of a car and arrived on bicycle for the opening ceremony where he was presented with a compass 59 10 15c

1960

1962 08 10
Cambridge Instrument Company history feature – 62 08 10 & a

1964 12 04
Cambridge Instrument Company has developed the 'Stereoscan', the first commercial scanning electron microscope. It is a result of whole-hearted co-operation between university departments and a Cambridge firm with the ability to develop a proved commercial product. Work was begun in 1952 and now the first model has been bought by the Du Pont de Nemour and Company of America 64 12 04b

1968 01 01
Cambridge manufacturing operations of the Cambridge Instrument Company Ltd groups under a new subsidiary called Cambridge Scientific Instruments Ltd – 68 01 01a

1968 04 30
Instrument Company takeover bid by Rank; outbid by George Kent [11.1]

1968 06 14
Government's Industrial Reorganisation Corporation buys shares in Cambridge Instrument Company following bid by George Kent firm of instrument makers – 68 06 14, 68 07 09

1970

1970 05 14
Kent Cambridge Scientific set up in USA to market electron probe made by Cambridge Scientific Instruments – 70 05 14

1971 04 13
Cambridge Instrument Company sack 150; follows Pye redundancies earlier – 71 04 13 #

1972 09 22
Cambridge Instrument Company Medical division becomes separate company - Kent Cambridge Medical Ltd [11.1]

1973 11 25
Cambridge Medical Ltd moves Rustat road [11.1]

1975
Taken over by Metals research, Cambridge Scientific & Cambridge Medical Instruments merge into Cambridge Instrument Company

1976 12 08
More than 1,000 jobs in the Cambridge area have been saved with the supply of £3 million of public money to the Cambridge Instrument Company, following a £1.85 million trading loss. The company has suffered serious financial troubles since it was set up after Metals Research Ltd of Melbourn took over Cambridge Scientific Instruments Ltd 15 months ago. The company is one of the leading British manufacturers of scientific instruments with opposition coming from Japan, the USA and West Germany. It is to retain this technology in Britain that the Government has put up the new money 76 12 08

1977 12 02
Instrument Company announce another £2m loss [11.1]

1978 04 08
The Cambridge Instrument Company is being taken over by the Government following a trading year in which it lost £2.8 million. That's the effect of the National Enterprise Board's decision to increase its shares to 80 per cent. The intention is to let the company go independent again in three years' time if it makes enough sales generating cash flow and profits by then. The chairman of the Company said: "This is the best thing for us in the short and medium term. Now we can go forward with confidence and have a lot more scope and room in which to manoeuvre" 78 04 08

1979 01 31
Instrument Company announce £3M loss, more NEB money [11.1]

1979 08 01
Instrument Company - 150 jobs go [11.1]

1979 10 12
Instrument Company - NEB sell off majority interest to new company, Gladecrown [11.1]

1980

1981 04 02
Cambridge Medical becomes part of Picker International 1981 [11.1]

1982 11 03
Cambridge Instruments returns profit 1982 [11.1]

1983 05 05
Kent Industrial Measurements is to end its century-old Cambridge link with the closure of its works in Rosemary Lane. The firm, which makes gas monitoring equipment, is transferring production as part of a restructuring plan. Most of the 82 staff are being offered jobs at other Kent sites at Eaton Socon and Stonehouse in Gloucestershire. Originally it was part of Cambridge Instruments but have been totally separate for many years 83 05 05 p6

1985 02 11
Clive Segal rescued CIC, joined 1979 when £3 million loss and now business increasing

1989
Cambridge Instrument Co dates back to 1881, founded by Sir Horace Darwin to design & make instruments for experimental research in the university & other laboratories; registered as company in 1895 ... collaboration with university establishments important & many distinguished scientists co-operated in design of instruments; Research Department in Chesterton Rd has three laboratories covering physics with electronics, chemistry & mechanical engineering

1989 07 11
Cambridge Instrument Company taken over by Leitz ¢CEN 11.7.89

Marshall's hangars, 1960s *158.16*

c.27.1 : Marshall's

note: see also c.26.1 : Aviation, c.26.1 and c.26.48 : Motoring

1900

1909
D.G. Marshall set up Brunswick Gardens 1909 [12.1]

1910

1912
Marshall's moved King St & Jesus Lane 1912

1920

1929 03 16
The new edict with regard to flying by undergraduates is well timed. Conington aerodrome is used by the Aeroplane Club and now comes news of a private aerodrome for Cambridge. Marshalls, automobile engineers of Jesus Lane are opening it shortly. It is on the main Newmarket Road less than two miles from Cambridge. There is a railway station 200 yards away and a 20-minute bus service connection. One hangar has already been erected and the whole site is about to be put down to grass. Marshalls are agents for the de Haviland Aircraft Company and already have their own demonstration machine ready at the aerodrome.

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1929 06 10
Cambridge air pageant for opening Marshall's airfield CDN 10.6.29

1930

1931 06 19
An aerobatist was killed at the University air pageant. He was flying an Avro, looping the loop, rolling and spiral diving when the machine appeared to break and crashed to the earth. Mr Honour, ground engineer at Marshall's Flying School, said that tools were kept at the aerodrome for extricating pilots but some delay was caused as the machine was made of metal, not wood. He obtained a hacksaw to cut part of the wreckage and within 20 minutes the pilot was taken to Hospital, terribly injured. 31 06 19b

1932 10 14
Cambridge town councillors saw their constituencies from a new angle when they took the air in Sir Alan Cobham's big liner. He was visiting Marshall's aerodrome with his fleet of planes and many gathered to see his display. The Mayor was unable to be present and the deputy mayor preferred solid ground. When the party was about to take off it was discovered to number 13, so the County Chief Constable stepped into the breech and the plane both ascended and descended safely. They made a comprehensive survey of the town with its ring of new housing estates though the new County Hall looked more impressive than the huddled roofs of the Guildhall. 32 10 14a

1934 03 03
Marshall's Flying School had offered to buy Elfleda Farm, Fen Ditton for a public aerodrome, county councillors were told. Financially it would be a very good deal, giving them a profit of £3,000 for land they'd earmarked for smallholdings. But it was a very growing neighbourhood and the aerodrome would be a source of great annoyance to residents who didn't want these noisy things coming at all hours of the day and night. Mr Marshall would be getting a thunderingly good deal, others argued. The sale was agreed 34 03 03

1934 05 15
Marshall's Flying School propose to carry out improvements to their aerodrome and had purchased Elfleda Farm through which the proposed Ring Road would run. They asked the Council to move the route slightly east. But the Surveyor said this was not possible. The whole of the land is zoned for dwelling houses and this would be have to be borne in mind if any proposals were made to them for further developing this aerodrome 34 05 15

1935 08 15
A special meeting was called to discuss a complaint from Marshall's Flying School who felt the council was obstructing their business by aligning a road across the existing aerodrome site so they could not compete with a planned municipal airfield. Councillor A.C. Taylor had gone away on vacation but on receiving the agenda had chartered an aeroplane to get to the meeting. Ald Stephen said there had been a number of underhand actions and he wanted an assurance that Marshall's would not be prejudiced. It was agreed that the previous resolution was not in order. 35 08 15

1936 01 28
The Air Ministry say it is very desirable that a new Cambridge municipal aerodrome site should be provided in the near future. Land at Milton had been recommended by Sir Alan Cobham but

this would cost more than £33,000 and take at least two years to build. Messrs Marshall's existing flying ground at Newmarket Road is quite inadequate for present requirements and they could have a new site at Teversham ready in a year, councillors heard. 36 01 28b & c 36 01 30a

1936 02 07
The question of a Municipal Aerodrome for Cambridge has at last been settled. Messrs Marshall's new aerodrome at Teversham will be of sufficient size to enable Cambridge to have a fully licensed airport competent to meet the needs of commercial and civil flying. The council will remove the present restrictions on the site and divert a footpath but will have the option of purchasing the undertaking in 40 years and afterwards every ten years 36 02 07

1937 03 04
Sir Alan Cobham, the world-famous airman, spoke in favour of a nine-bedroom Airport Hotel on Newmarket Road. Every Continental airfield had a hotel where accommodation was available in the same way as at a terminal railway station. A man had a terrible inconvenience when he landed at an airport and a first-class hotel was one of the amenities which was going to make people fly. A rival proposal by Lacons Brewery was withdrawn: people like Mr Marshall who were training pilots were doing a work of very great importance and entitled to reasonable facilities. 37 03 04a & b 37 03 05

1937 03 05
Annual Business review: description of activities: Marshall's – 37 03 05b

1938 10 06
Cambridge aerodrome has been in use for some months but the building operations have only recently been completely finished. The immense aeroplane hangar already houses over 20 machines and has room for more. The engine overhaul and repair shops are every well-equipped and all the parachutes are stored, packed and aired. The airport hotel has lounge bar, dining rooms and kitchen with guest rooms on the second floor. I have seen a lot of aerodromes but this takes a lot of beating for its well-planned layout 38 10 06

1938 10 07
Cambridge airfield was opened by Secretary of State for Air. There was no airport in Europe, with the possible exception of Berlin, which is so conveniently placed in relation to the town. D.G. Marshall recalled that in 1919 he purchased his first hangar from the Disposal Board and bought his first aeroplane. Some of his neighbours had told them to take their business elsewhere and now they had moved further out. The Flying School has been run in full understanding of University regulations; in most aerodromes the most profit-making department is the club bar, but there is not one here. 38 10 07b & c

1938 10 15
Marshalls' spacious new motor premises on Jesus Lane include an entrance and exit to the petrol and oil filling stations, wide enough for three lines of traffic. There are showrooms on three upper floors which are approached by ramps, with the stores department in the basement. The garage and workshops behind is equipped with the most modern and up-to-date machinery and run by a large and efficient staff. The whole is laid out to afford every luxury and comfort for the motorist 38 10 15, b

1939 03 27
Marshall's airfield new hangars – 39 03 27

1939-45
Marshall's repair & overhaul operational RAF bombers & fighters, including Whitley bombers with women workers; for time was operational squadron of Lysanders & Newmarket Road closed for security with traffic diverted through Fen Ditton, Teversham Lane closed civilian traffic, also Mosquito, Typhoons & Dakotas [15.1]

1940

1940 01 30
Ministry veto new houses, price agreed for Marshall's land, ring road work continues – 40 01 30b, c

1944 10 26
Marshall's Flying School strike - 44 10 26a

1946 10 19
If an aircraft brought to Marshalls and found to be unusable it was certified to be broken up; certain parts had to be salvaged if in order, if not a hammer put through them and put on salvage dump; one workman had taken clock from Dakota; during war he had won B.E.M. for putting out fire in main hangar – 46 10 19

1948 08 07
A Cambridge firm is to help the air-lift to Berlin. Messrs Marshalls are to service some of the RAF Dakotas taking part in the lift. Marshalls did a big job servicing RAF planes in the war and have more recently worked on Mosquitoes. This however will be the first time the planned maintenance system has been operated by the firm, though a similar system is in use in their vehicle repair shop

1948 09 27
Marshall motor body industry, p7

1948 10 09 c
Cambridge Trades council is backing an effort being made by local industry to obtain additional houses. The initiative in this matter has been taken by Marshall's Flying School. Pre-war they employed 3-400 people. At the war's end they had 3,700 on the payroll. They had purchased 7 houses and had converted an office block to flats to house a further 12 workers but it had reached a limit to which it could tie up capital in housing. There was a problem of workers lodged in the town who had families elsewhere. Added to this the regional Ministry Headquarters being stationed in Cambridge had created a demand for girls as clerks and typists

1950

1951 01 11
The Minister of Supply, Mr G.R. Strauss, toured Cambridge industry. He visited Pye Ltd, the Marshall organisation and the Cambridge Instrument Company and said he had been 'very favourably impressed by the spirit in all the works'. Although production of radio sets would be curtailed, work on the electronics side of rearmament would absorb employees affected. Rearmament made more demands on the aircraft and electronic industries than on most others, he said.

1953 02 25

Messrs Cheffins put Allen's Farm, Teversham, up for sale by auction. The farm of 187 acres which lies about 3½ miles from the City Centre attracted a large company and the bidding quickly advanced to £17,700 at which figure it was knocked down to Marshall's Flying School. It is understood that this was the first auction of property in Teversham since 1906.

1953 09 24
Marshall ambulance, p4

1953 12 04
The possibility that Marshall's airfield might be used by jets and other high-powered aircraft provoked a vigorous debate at Cambridge City Council. Coun Warren protested at the construction of a hard landing strip: "The town is going to be menaced by high-powered aircraft which we know nothing about". But Coun Collins suggested that more powerful aircraft must come in time and added "The aircraft now landing there will soon be obsolete". Ald James asked: "If it is essential should the ground have not been moved further out into the country?" 53 12 04

1955 08 05
After vigorously debating for over ninety minutes Cambridge councillors voted to protest to the Minister of Housing about plans for the erection of a hangar at Marshall's airfield. It would be a "fearful monstrosity being shoved up within 50 feet of peoples' back gardens". Having lost their planning powers to the county in 1947 they were perhaps impotent to help residents but should register their views. 55 08 05a & b

1955 10 12
King Feisal of Iraq paid a private visit to Cambridge as the guest of the Vice-Chancellor of the University. He arrived late because of fog and after lunching at Christ's College visited the Wren Library at Trinity and the Fitzwilliam Museum. He then travelled to Marshall's airfield where he displayed keen interest in a Venom IV jet aircraft and the Comet jet and Viscount turboprop airliners. In the Royal party was Mr Tariq Al Askari who was at Cambridge as a student 55 10 12b

1956 03 13
Marshall's Flying School were granted permission to double the width of the 'hard land strip' on the airfield and extend it from the boundary of Coldham's Lane to the boundary of Teversham Road provided they erect suitable fences to prevent the possibility of jet slipstreams from reaching the roads. However planners feel the aerodrome is wrongly sited adjoining a residential area and that no further development should be given approval. 56 03 13a

1959
Marshall's bus division started 1959 [14.6]

1959 08 25
A fuel cell which produces useful quantities of electricity by consuming hydrogen and oxygen has been invented by F.T. Bacon of Lt Shelford and developed by Marshall's under a National Development Corporation contract. The present cell, containing two electrodes immersed in a solution of caustic soda or potash, is still in its rudimentary stages but it can supply enough electricity to operate a circular saw, a fork lift truck or even carry out welding. The Americans are interested in using it for manned space stations or space rockets. 59 08 25 & a

1960

1960 05 03
Passengers can now fly from Cambridge to almost anywhere in the world after Customs made available facilities for checking passports and luggage at the airport. Three large buildings are being converted into comfortable passenger transit, baggage and customs halls in readiness for the holiday rush. Marshall's have installed specialised electronic equipment and hope to develop it into the largest civil flying field in Eastern England. They also hope to capture the valuable trade of US service personnel from nearby bases to the Continent 60 05 03a

1960 09 06
Marshall of Cambridge Electronics develop analyser used in nuclear physics – 60 09 06

1961 04 11
Whitehill and Peverel housing estates have no claim to antiquity but their names have considerable historical interest. The Whitehill Estate occupies an area which was for about eight years, the first Marshall's airfield, and before that Whitehill Farm. The first houses to be built in the area was Elfleda House, alias Whitehill, which after 70 years occupation, has just been demolished to make room for maisonettes.

1961 08 18
The Dragon Rapide, one of the most popular types of aircraft from de Havilland, is disappearing from the local scene. Until recently Marshall's Flying Services used a fleet of four to operate charter services for jockeys and trainers from Newmarket. Built between 1934 and 1946 they are economical to operate and maintain and even now are a common sight. Some firms use them as executive machines while others still plod the air routes. Marshall's has not entirely said farewell to the bi-plane era: they still have five Tiger Moths for instructional flying 61 08 18

1964 98 23
Cambridge airport, an asset to city – feature on Marshall's – 64 09 23a

1965 06 23
Marshall's design men strike over wages – 65 06 23

1965 02 04
Marshall's on knife-edge due Government cut P1154 jump jet [14.6]

1965 04 13
TR-2 men at Marshall's sacked following Government cancellation project – 65 04 13a

1965 11 19
Marshall's design interiors of luxury jets [14.6]

1966
Marshall's start to service Hercules aircraft (modify 1973 & 1978, convert for in-flight refuelling for Falklands, work day & night, stretch Hercules (1982) [15.1]

1966 10 26
Marshall's build buses for all parts of world [14.6]

1968 04 29
Marshall's garage move into new extension at Cambridge Airfield – 68 04 29

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1968 11 04
Marshall's to divert road for runway extension [15.1]

1969 02 20
Marshall Group a combination of aircraft work, shipping container manufacture, commercial bodies & research & development work on ministry vehicles project [15.1]

1970

1971 08 05
1st Vulcan bomber, Marshall's [15.1]

1972 02 26
Production of the noses of the Concorde supersonic airliner, which was planned to be in Cambridge, has been taken away by the British Aircraft Corporation. All the research and development work on the nose has been done by Marshall's at Cambridge airport. The senior shop steward is to see the Cambridge MP, Mr David Lane to try to get the decision reversed

1972 10 12
A charge that they are workshy has been levelled against the unemployed of Cambridge by a shop stewards committee representing the largest engineering business in the city, Marshall of Cambridge. The senior union men are angry at the inability of their firm to find sufficient labour to maintain an important long-term Government contract. They cannot understand why with 897 registered unemployed in Cambridge it is proving impossible for Marshalls and other firms in the area to fill their labour needs. They ask "Do the men rally want work? Or do they have sidelines which make it unnecessary for them to take up jobs paying up to £30 a week?"

1972 12 07
A large out-of-town shopping complex covering about 10 acres is being planned for Newmarket Road, just outside the Cambridge boundary. But Cambridge planning committee decided to resist the project. Fears were expressed about the effect the shopping centre would have for the city council's plans for redeveloping the Burleigh Street - Fitzroy Street area. Marshalls of Cambridge (Engineering) made an application to develop the shopping complex, together with car parking and garages on a site immediately to the East of their vehicular workshops off Newmarket Road. The site faces Cambridge airport

1973 06 18
Marshall of Cambridge (Engineering) have just finished a nose transplant - on a giant Hercules transport aircraft. The successful transplant "operation" took two years to perform. The modified aircraft will investigate turbulence in clear and cloudy weather and is the only one of its kind. Inside the Hercules the transformation has been no less striking. A laboratory has been constructed and four scientists can keep track of data as it flows from the nose instruments to the aircraft's "brain centre"

1973 07 25
A commercial radio consortium backed by three of the largest firms in Cambridge are asking other city organisations to join them in making plans for local broadcasting. The group have the support of Cambridge Newspapers ltd, the Pye group and Marshall of Cambridge. They represent the first major opposition to the Cambridge Community Broadcasting Company - a consortium set up several years ago by Mr Brian Jackson of the city-based Advisory Centre for Education. It may be almost 1980 before there is any chance of Cambridge getting a commercial station

1974 01 02
Marshalls exempt from three-day week, p13

1976 07 30
The garage business of B.E. Cocks and Co. at Newmarket Road, Cambridge, has been bought by Marshall of Cambridge, and is to become a Leyland car centre. The purchase includes almost four acres of prime garage site next to the main A45 road, modern showrooms and repair facilities and the goodwill of a business which has been running in the city for almost half a century. This and the capturing of the Daimler, Jaguar, Rover and Triumph franchises from Wallis and Sons means the Marshall group is a real force against the big garage chains operating in the region.

1977 01 18
Marshall buy Oliver Rix, p11

1978 08 09
A major aircraft building job is being given to Marshall's of Cambridge by the Ministry of Defence. It involves the stretching of the fuselages of 29 Hercules aircraft to allow it to carry extra cargo. The conversion will be fitted into the normal overhaul and serving work which the firm carries on. Sir Arthur Marshall said: "At the moment we are on various major contracts for the Hercules – replacement of wing centre sections and outer wings – as well as work on military and civil aircraft from all over the world". 78 08 09

1980

1982 02 26
The revolutionary government of Iran tried to buy spare parts for military aircraft from Marshall of Cambridge, despite the Western arms embargo. The order was hidden in a web of false documentation but Marshall had immediate doubts as only a limited number of countries could need spares for the giant C-130 Hercules. They discovered the parts were to be shipped to Libya after arriving in Italy and contact the anti-terrorist squad. 82 02 26

1982 04 93
Marshall's engineers have provided the Falkland Islands task force with a vital new component in their armoury – a transport aircraft that can be refuelled in mid-air. They have carried out conversion work on a prototype Hercules 130, the RAF's workhorse, in record time. The giant transporter had its first test-flight from Cambridge this week when the system worked without problems. The Marshalls men are jubilant that they got it right first time and so quickly. 82 04 30a

1982 06 29
RAF Brampton, headquarters of Support Command had the job of ensuring that every item needed for the Falklands war arrived where they should. They were charged with recovering refuelling probes from scrapped Vulcans around the country, baffling onlookers when a lorry-load of engineers came screaming up to a plane on public display, leapt out, disconnect the probe and drove off with it. They were then sent to Marshall of Cambridge who have been converting Hercules C130s for in-flight refuelling. 82 06 29 & 29a

1982 11 15
Marshall's giant hanger plan [15.1]

1983 02 17
A 130-ton TriStar airliner, the largest ever to land at Marshall's, marks the start of a six-plane conversion programme that will keep the firm's 800-strong aero-engineering staff in work for the next four years. The £50 million contract is to convert four into 37,500-gallon tankers for flight refuelling duties and the others to freighters with big cargo doors. 83 02 17

1984 03 07
George Webb Haulage, which started over 40 years ago, are willing to move anything. Now they have moved themselves from Willingham to new offices in Longstanton. Two years ago Marshall's of Cambridge rang to ask why they did not use British trucks. When they heard the Webbs' specialist needs were not catered for they arranged a meeting with the manager of Leyland trucks. The resulting vehicle is now in production at the Scammell factory. 84 03 07

1984 10 01
The Cambridge-based Marshall Group celebrated its 75th birthday as early examples of motorised transport of all kinds were on show at the Motoring Milestones Pageant at the East of England Showground. They included cars from the humblest Austin Chummy to the most magnificent Rolls-Royce, lorries, buses, vans a motor-cycles. There was also a display of the latest vehicles sold by the group. Sir Arthur and Lady Marshall cut an anniversary cake 84 10 01 p13

1985 11 07
Dr Clive Sinclair is one of the few British industrialists to challenge the Japanese and American dominance in electronics. Although his C5 vehicle venture went into liquidation this week he is still afloat, still only 45 and has enormous resources. So it is a very good time for Rodney Dale, a literate man who knows Cambridge science well, to have produced his biography giving an invaluable glimpse of a significant period in Cambridge's electronic history. 85 11 07

1985 11 16
Marshalls retains contract on Hercules transport aircraft – 85 11 16

1986 07 10
Marshalls contract for Lockheed early-warning plane – 86 07 10c

1987 10 06
An amazing plan to relocate Marshall's Airport to Waterbeach airfield and use the hundreds of acres vacant for a massive housing estate will be put to county councillors. It would solve the city's shortage of land for housing and end aircraft noise problems for residents. The move would create more jobs and relieve traffic. There would then be no need to spend millions of pounds on a proposed new overspill village in the fens. But the airport authorities do not agree. 87 10 06

1988 03 17
Marshalls granted permission for Jumbo jet repair & maintenance hangar – 88 03 17

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Pye employees leaving Radio works 1930s *147.57*

c.27.1 : Pye

Pye.
In 1896 William George Pye left Cavendish Laboratory & began to design scientific instruments for university students; WWI expanded, made gun sights; Pye radio formed 1929, experimented with tv & in early 1930 able to receive a 30-line picture, by 1936 405-line sets in production; with WWII turned to radar; Pye telecom devised first infantry walkie-talkie & large numbers made 1947 mobile television transmission station, printed circuits incorporated 1956. 1961 first convertible 405/625 sets 1947 installed 2-way radios in fleet of Cambridge taxis; electronic stethoscope ... there were upwards of 100 individual companies of Pye group majority in Cambridge or East Anglia

1896
W.G. Pye started & after 1918 specialised in wireless, Pye Radio formed 1929; by 1952 was largest manufacturer of tv sets in Britain [1.14]

1910

1913
W.G. Pye & Co new scientific Instrument works opened by Prof Thomson [2.2]

1913 04 25
Local inventions patents – W.G. Pye

1919 04 02
Cambridge industries: what firms have done during the war; how to encourage factories; address by H.S. Whipple. Includes: W.G. Pye made height finders for aeroplanes, special telescopes, sights for guns, electrical instruments etc; 19 04 02a

1920

1921
Pye Ltd changed to radio 1921 when lapse in demand for instruments; 210 ft aerial mast put up at start war to help develop defence systems & once used very low power experimental tv programmes [446.17.1]

1922 11 21
The growth of wireless since its first invention is truly wonderful, and one cannot fail to be impressed with the way in which it has been simplified. The present arrangements for "broadcasting" have resulted in the setting up of many private installations in Cambridge and some of the finest "sets" are being produced at Messrs G.H. Pye's works in Cam Road. In 1921 this firm experienced a very slack time, and in order to keep their workers employed, they commenced experiments in wireless. They are now producing as fast as they can simplified receiving sets of two to five valves

1922 12 09
The Cambridge & District Wireless Society had a "full house" at their demonstration on broadcasting. Mr T. Robinson, manager of Pye's Scientific Instrument Co. had very kindly consented to demonstrate their latest broadcast receiver of five valves attached to which was a Magnavox loud-speaking telephone. Mr Robinson tuned up for the London broadcasting station and amongst the items heard were Mr Vivian Foster, known to Cambridge theatre-goers as the "vicar of mirth" who entertained the audience by his witty sayings. During the evening the Birmingham and Manchester broadcasting stations were also received. The latest news, billiard scores, market reports and latest weather report were items among a very varied programme

1926 06 01
Now that the excitement of the General Strike has passed away it may be of interest to note the effect of the strike upon local employment. Messrs Pye have only had about 2½ days short time but at the Cement Works the coal difficulty has resulted in a spell of enforced idleness for some of the hands. The Saxon Company’s employees are being given their usual holidays on full pay and since short time started have been given work turn and turn about on repairs but unless the coal comes along there will be no more work for the present.

1928 09 11
The Cambridge works of Messrs W.G. Pye, the well-known scientific instrument and wireless apparatus makers were entered and the workshops and office ransacked. The works consist of several blocks of buildings extending from Cam Road to St Andrew’s church at Old Chesterton. The visitor got into the transformer shop and then into a corridor by means of a hole which had been made in the wall for the fixing of a checking clock. Practically no damage was done and only a small sum of money is missing. It appears he was not a wireless enthusiast because none of the wireless parts were taken

1930

1932 01 22
Pye Radio invited people to inspect their works and queues five or six deep stretched halfway up Haig Road. It is amazing that a non-industrial town should have such fine works and few realised that we in Cambridge had such an important and highly organised industry in our midst. In these times of depression it is a novelty to find a works which is really flourishing. Despite making 4,000 sets a week, demand is greater than supply and they are planning to increase the size of the works by 50 percent. 32 01 22c & d

1932 03 21
Cambridge Metal Stamping Company applied for permission to erect a modern factory at the rear of St Andrew's Road. This was an area zoned for residential use but was nearly opposite the Gasworks, which was not entirely a thing of beauty and the Corporation's pumping station, which was not quite as attractive as the gasworks. Pye's works close to the river were not at all objectionable, nor was Banham's boat building establishment. Despite reservations it was agreed. 32 03 21, 23 & a

1932 11 18
H.R.H. Prince George toured the Pye Radio Works where 1,500 hands produce 4,000 radio receivers a week. This is the first time a factory engaged in Britain's newest and most progressive industry has been honoured by a Royal visit. The operatives gave him a rousing reception – the girls were especially enthusiastic: it was a wonderful study to observe their varying expressions as he passed through the workshops. "Oh, he's lovely" was the general verdict and every detail of his dress, appearance and manner have furnished a fruitful topic of conversation in Cambridge homes 32 11 18a

1934 12 22
All records connected with Pye Radio dances were broken when over 600 attended the annual Christmas ball at the Dorothy. Practically everybody knew everybody else and consequently the crowd was a thoroughly cheerful and merry throng. Not one glum face was to be seen either in the ballroom or the bar. Fancy hats and novelties added greatly to the carnival gaiety and the Percy Cowell and the Pyradians bands rose to the occasion in a lively manner. 34 12 22

1937 05 12
At the Coronation celebrations one small tent attracted probably more interest than any other with the possible exception of the tea tent. It contained a Pye television apparatus and during the afternoon many availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing the actual Coronation procession taking place. Although Cambridge is almost out of range of Alexandra Palace, everything came through very well. Almost the only interference was experienced when the motor racing was being held in the area only a few yards away 37 05 12b

1937 09 18
Pye Radio Sports and Social Club held their first dance at the Rendezvous ballroom. Les Walton and his band were in fine form playing some of the 'hit' numbers of the past two months which were danced with gusto. The high spot was a cabaret item by Sammy Parker whose rendering of 'September in the Rain' was followed by his speciality dance which even the 'hula-hula' girls would have envied. The attendance was one of the largest the ballroom has known with dancers arriving until quite late. 37 09 18

1938 03 10

Cambridge Reference Library was packed to capacity for a lecture and demonstration on television by Mr D. Jackson of Pye Ltd. Severe electrical interference unfortunately ruined the first half of the programme from the Alexandra Palace but when after half-past-nine this eased off they were able to see some quite good vision signals and appreciate the high standard which can be expected in an area where interference is not so acute as it is in the centre of the town. 38 03 10

1939
Build 210 foot mast St Andrews Road at beginning war to help develop defence systems; once used for very low power tv programmes during war to help Pye develop receivers [27]

1940

1944
Pye Telecom founded [446. 15.3]

1945 06 08
Secret jobs by Labs & Pye – Radiolocation – Ground Control of Interception designed and built by University Cavendish scientists in conjunction Pye engineers – put fighters at right height on tail of enemy aircraft near enough to pick them up on Airborne Interception equipment – 45 06 08

1945 11 01
Revolutionary new television system demonstrated by Pye Ltd in their television theatre – would allow production receivers for £40 – CDN 1945 11 01

1947 02 08
2,500 Pye employees workless though power cut, p4

1947 03 04
There is to be no night-shift in Cambridge. Instead there will be an attempt by local industry to save, during normal hours, 30 per cent of its electricity consumption. To do this the larger firms, among them Pye's and Marshalls Flying School, will make use of stand-by generator sets which will relieve the grid at peak periods. The breweries have worked out plans to transfer part of their share of the load by running a proportion of their machinery outside the peak hours. A spokesman said this might be described as "a semi-nightshift". A large proportion of the peak load is accounted for by domestic users who will have to make a drastic reduction in the use of electrical appliances if industry is to avoid cuts in power, p5

1948 01 20
Often it happens that a visitor to Cambridge says: "Well there's the University; what industries have you?" The answer is invariably on the lines "Oh nothing much - wireless and jam and so on". A visit to the "Cambridge at Work" exhibition in the Corn Exchange will give a much better insight into the activities at the wireless and jam factories, and the other industrial concerns, and will enable him to gain a true appreciation of the part that a light industrial centre like Cambridge is playing in the country's struggle. Pye Ltd are showing the latest in radio and television receivers.

1948 01 21
Any local viewers of television might recently have seen a rather surprising cookery demonstration - during which fish and vegetables were cooked in the space of three minutes. This astonishing revolution in cookery timing was accomplished by means of a pressure cooker. These

utensils, which look like ordinary saucepans, were shown at last year's Ideal Homes Exhibition. They are now finding their way in the shops and are being demonstrated at Messrs Herbert Robinson Ltd's Regent Street store. They are made by a subsidiary firm of Messrs Pye Ltd

1948 01 24
Yesterday's "Workers' Playtime" radio programme came from Pye's canteen, Cambridge. Some 850 workers selected by ballot crowded in to enjoy the programme. After preliminary community singing practice the "on the air" red light signal in front of the stage lit up and the audience broke into the programme's signature tune, "Side by Side". The Radio Revellers sang "There's Nobody Here But Us Chickens", "Shoemaker's Serenade" and "Chinatown" in brisk, amusing and original style. They were followed by Forsythe, Seamon and Farrell, the wise-cracking American trio.

1948 03 18
Pye Ltd, celebrating their golden jubilee this year, are to mark the occasion by the gift of two television sets to every college in the University. Describing Pye Ltd as "a fairly important company in the industrial life of Cambridge" Mr C.O. Stanley said that during the war the firm employed nearly 12,000 people, today they had between three and four thousand. He went on to speak of the firm's association with the University - one "so happy and so close that I believe it will always make a mark with the people working with this business". Professor Sir Lawrence Bragg said he had always been very interested in the relation between science and industry and the co-operation that existed during the war showed there were contributions to be made from both sides. He hoped this co-operation would continue in the future 48 03 18

1948 03 24
Pye profit-sharing scheme, p6

1948 05 05
Pye factory development proposals, p8

1948 11 26
For the first time anywhere in the world, a new series of television was used to promote road safely at Cambridge. Traffic scenes on Market Hill were televised to the Accident Prevention Exhibition in the Corn Exchange. “Closed-circuit” as it is called is the latest development of the Cambridge firm of Pye Ltd. Two cameras were operated, one fixed to the balcony of the Guildhall and the other on top of a van at the corner of Petty Cury. Along this narrow, one-way street, between 8am and 6pm approximately 7,000 bicycles and 2,000 other vehicles pass each weekday. The slow speed of the traffic and its one-way direction helps to keep the accident rate down

1949 02 12
The BBC have completed tests and accepted delivery of a new Outside Broadcast Control Vehicle from Pye ltd of Cambridge. Everything required for the production and transmission of a complete television broadcast is contained in this unique mobile unit, the most modern equipment of its kind in the world, including a set of three of the latest Pye turret-headed television cameras. It is the first Pye outside broadcast vehicle produced for the BBC and the first to go into regular service since the war.

1949 03 26
Television brought the boat race into thousands of homes with equipment produced by Pye Radio Ltd playing a prominent part. A Pye transmitter was on the launch “Conseuta” and the static cameras from Barnes Bridge onwards were a product of the Cambridge firm. The relay was a

tremendous success, with viewers sharing every one of the thrills of this greatest of all boat races. Approximately 600 people heard the broadcast in the Central Cinema. This evening there will be a free television show by Pye in the circle lounge

1949 03 29
A Cambridge firm has scored another technical triumph. The first demonstration of television in Australia was given in Melbourne with equipment made in Cambridge by Pye Ltd. The complete television transmitting station and a supply of receivers were flown to Australia. British enterprise has again won through in face of strong competition from America.

1949 04 29
Cambridge council were told that some 20 years ago Messrs Pye asked for the Church meadow, Chesterton, to build a factory. There was strong opposition in letters to the press. It was one of the beauty spots of "a drab place called Old Chesterton". It was pointed out then that the firm would spread out and that was what had happened. The land concerned was 2½ acres of valuable front land which the council purchased before the war and which the people of Chesterton were told was going to be a park. If the council did not sell the land Pye might move their factory. The decision to sell was confirmed.

1949 10 22
Death W.G. Pye, p9

1949 11 08
Pye Ltd have entered the American television market as part of the British campaign for dollars. The equipment consists of a complete television station, including cameras and telecines to project films. A team of five technicians have gone and will help in the demonstrations along with two officials, Mr B.J. Edwards and Mr John Lakin who will demonstrate it to the Federal Communications Commission in Washington.

1949 11 09
Sir – I would like to voice my opinion of the canteen prices of Messrs Pye Ltd. Main meal (choice of two) 1s., was 10d. Sweet 4d., was 3d. Bread & butter ¾ d a slice, was ½d. I fail to see why employees wish to take a matter like this to the Trades Council, as these prices still constitute the lowest that can be obtained in normal factory canteens. We now get a choice of two main meals and two sweets as against one in the past, also we now get bread and butter, instead of margarine. I am sure that the staff themselves can only say that the meals now worth every penny of the rise in cost – W.E. Wilmhurst

1949 11 29
Damage believed approaching £900,000 was done when fire destroyed several thousand of finished wireless sets, 300-400 television sets and numerous components stored in a hangar rented by Pye Ltd at the former stereo works in Madingley Road. A director said: "Many of the sets were for export. Included in the stock destroyed were several thousand television cabinets. Some of our telecommunication equipment was also stored there, including a complete set of blind landing equipment due to be shipped today" 49 11 29

1950

1950 03 01
A swifter and more efficient ambulance service is in action this week – thanks to radio control. This innovation, which has already proved its worth with the police and fire brigade, has had a

successful trial with the county ambulance service. Radio control was fitted to their four ambulances and two utilicons by Pye Telecommunications and all vehicles are in constant call from the control room, newly equipped with receiver, transmitter and microphone. A number of Cambridge commercial firms have now followed the lead of Camtax in installing radio telephones and Cambridge must be among the world's most advanced towns in the field of radio control

1950 07 09
One of the most impressive firework displays seen in Cambridge since VJ Day came as a climax to the Pye Radio Jubilee Sports, held on the sports club ground. Starting at 2pm and lasting until midnight there was something to cater for all tastes – with the added attraction of a specially imported fairground complete with dodgems. A crowd estimated at 4,000 passed through the gates during the day and the refreshment tents and ice-cream sellers did record business

1950 09 22
Television viewers in De Freville district found themselves "looking in" to an extra programme after the BBC transmission had finished. An explanation from the Chairman of Pye Ltd, "we were televising at the works on a closed-circuit and there was a leaky cable", he said. A viewer said, "We saw Annette Mills and her puppet kitten doing some washing, Dickie Murdock also appeared as did Jack and Daphne Barker. There was some advertising matter including a reference to the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce. The transmission came from a transmitter the Pye Company was testing out prior to ending it to an exhibition in Berlin

1950 11 01
Mr C.O. Stanley, Managing Director of Pye Ltd told the Radio Industries Club luncheon, "we have now arrived at a time when we should put down a second television system in this country – a system which operates two programmes on the ultra-high frequency band, both in colour at the same time; one to be operated by the BBC and the other by commercial interests. We have to have alternatives, I don't think it is possible to put out a single programme and cover the tastes of everyone"

1951 01 11
The Minister of Supply, Mr G.R. Strauss, toured Cambridge industry. He visited Pye Ltd, the Marshall organisation and the Cambridge Instrument Company and said he had been 'very favourably impressed by the spirit in all the works'. Although production of radio sets would be curtailed, work on the electronics side of rearmament would absorb employees affected. Rearmament made more demands on the aircraft and electronic industries than on most others, he said

1951 01 19
Local firms are amongst those to whom the De Havilland enterprise has paid public tribute for their contribution in supplying parts for the two Comet jet airlines whose achievements have been acclaimed throughout the world as an outstanding example of British enterprise. They are Aero research of Duxford, whose 'Redux' metal-to-metal bonding is used throughout the airframe, Magnetic Devises, Ditton Works, Cambridge who supply relays and Pye Ltd who developed micro-switches for the plane.

1951 07 27
Two hundred London taxis took the road this morning under orders for the first time, over a short wave radio network system pioneered by Pye Radio technicians from Cambridge. In London, at a big party attended by top stage and screen stars to celebrate the inauguration of this new radiocab

service was Mr Harry Woolgar, a director of Pye Telecommunications Ltd. He said: "This is the largest radio-telephone system taxi network in Europe and we are planning a larger system capable of directing 1,000 taxis". Pye got the job because it pioneered fitting radio telephones to police cars and ambulances and was the first to use short-wave radio for agricultural use. 51 07 27

1951 08 22
Some of the world's leading television scientists are in Cambridge for a Convention at the Cavendish Laboratory. So far as can be seen, television receivers will never again be so cheap as they are today. New valves, new circuits and new T.V. cameras form part of the discussions; two papers have been written by members of local firms. Messrs J.E. Cope, L.W. Germany & R. Theile of Pye-Cathodeon will speak on the Image Iconoscope Type Television Camera Tube

1952 05 03
A hitherto undreamed-of use for the television camera unit – to facilitate under-water research and the location of wrecks – was demonstrated at Pye's Radio works. It was this type of camera which located the submarine Affray and was manipulated from the recovery vessel H.M.S. Reclaim. At present she is being fitted with additional Pye Radio T.V. equipment and when this is completed the BBC will arrange an outside broadcast from the ship. Its visual range is far greater than that of a diver and it can operate at a greater depth. For the purposes of the demonstration the camera was set up in front of a goldfish tank owing to the high mud content of the River Cam

1952 12 23
The first children's Christmas party given by Pye Ltd since the war was held in the Canteen, St Andrew's Road, Cambridge, when more than 450 children of employees thoroughly enjoyed themselves. After tea they were entertained by the antics of Mr Shipp and then watched a marionette show presented by the Frith family of Histon. This is a real family show with son Roger, 13, manipulating the puppets, Mrs Lilian Frith making off-stage sounds and her husband Oliver providing the voices. Then Father Christmas arrived with sacks of presents and the children went home – the younger ones tired but happy

1953 02 03
More evacuees from the Married Quarters at Felixstowe RAF Station arrived at Waterbeach RAF station, bringing the total to about 150. The matron of the Glanely Rest, at Exning, says that 35 flooded-out residents of the Bristol House Home at Felixstowe had been accommodated at the late Lord Glanely's house. Pye's factory at Oulton Broads, Lowestoft, was flooded by 28-ft waves and put out of action. Salt water covered much of the equipment. Yesterday Mr L.W. Jones, Works Director and Mr C.A. Harmer, Technical Director went to Lowestoft to survey the damage and make plans for sending help from Cambridge

1953 06 03
On Coronation Day Pye Ltd of Cambridge operated the first colour television outside broadcast ever done in this country. It was seen in a well-known Children's Hospital and several other selected places. Three colour cameras used in transmission were sited on top of Government buildings facing Parliament Square and Whitehall. Hundreds of people assembled in Cambridge Guildhall to watch the ceremony on television. The latest television screens were used. The picture was clear and precise but there was, of course, no control over the usual interference from electrical appliances which all TV owners are forced to suffer in silence. Six domestic TV sets were installed in the Corn Exchange and because of the bright light, shields were fitted around the screens 53 06 03

1953 07 31

All work at the Pye Factory ended early and the employees dined off sandwich instead of their customary hot meal as they crammed into the works canteen for a visit of the BBC "Workers' Playtime" broadcast. The entertainment featured the close-harmony quintet 'The Coronets', Lionel Saxon, 'genial host of the Winkle Club', who put plenty of energy into his comic impersonations & Monica Owen with her intimate songs. The broadcast ended with Beryl Reid, who was greeted with shrieks of laughter when she appeared in black stockings and green gym tunic with her handkerchief tucked away in the traditional schoolgirl place for her caricature of Monica, the awful child

1953 09 08
Pye Ltd of Cambridge are showing on their stand at the Radio Show a 27-inch direct view cathode ray television receiver with automatic picture control. It is the largest ever seen in the country and will allow at least 200 people to watch in comfort. Pye have also provided a miniature 'staticon' television camera which is being used on the Celebrity Dais, the pictures being relayed throughout the exhibition.

1954 01 23
Pye Ltd of Cambridge has set up the first television station on the African continent, at Casablanca. It has also received another substantial order for cameras and equipment from the Japanese public service broadcaster. During last year alone Pye delivered equipment to many countries including the U.S.A., Italy, Belgium, Norway, Germany and France and the continuing expansion of television throughout the world promises to bring even more valuable export orders.

1954 02 04
Pye's new underwater television camera has been rushed to Italy to aid the search for the Comet airliner which crashed into the sea. It is more sensitive and much smaller than any previous model and had at the time of the crash hardly gone beyond the drawing-board stage, many of the parts had not even been made. Within six days a casing had been built for operation at a depth of 250 feet, all the parts had been made and the camera assembled. Information was then received that the Comet was probably lying 600 feet below the surface and consequently a much stronger case of different design was required. It was completed in seven days and flown out.

1954 05 04
Cambridgeshire Police have been experimenting with a radio equipped motor cycle. The wireless equipment supplied by Pye Telecom gives the same facilities as that fitted to police cars. A patrolling motor cycle officer hears his call on the set; pulls up and then can receive his message through a loudspeaker, or alternatively through the hand microphone he uses for his own transmission. The range of the radio is sufficient to cover any part of the county. If adopted it would enable motor cycles to be used for many duties which at present require radio cars

1954 06 12
Pye workers photo, p10

1954 08 25
The first demonstration in Britain of 3-D television attracted large crowds to the Pye Radio works stand at the Radio and T.V. Exhibition at Earls Court, London. From a miniature studio built on a raised platform in the middle of the stand 3-D television pictures were being screened on experimental sets a few feet away. The viewers had to wear polarised spectacles. Pye do not expect sets to be on sale to the public in the near future; as a home entertainment 3-D television is a very long way off yet. At the moment they are perfecting it for use in industry

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1954 10 15
Pye take 1st tv Middle East [1.8]

1955 01 26
Pye Telecommunications has just despatched the first consignment of equipment to the Sui Gas pipeline in West Pakistan. It includes an extensive communications system providing speech and teleprinter channels, a fixed-to-mobile scheme giving complete coverage of the pipeline route and a duplex HF radio-telephone between Karachi and Sui. Last year a team of Pye engineers completed a survey of the route and in a few weeks the installation team will be flying out for the final stage of the contract. 55 01 26

1955 08 20
Pye has produced a radio clock. It incorporates an electric alarm clock with a 5-amp socket so that either an electric fire or a tea maker can be set for the same time as the alarm, which switches on the radio automatically. It operates on the medium waveband with one pre-set long wave station and has a 'sleep switch' to enable it to be turned off automatically when the owner falls asleep. 55 08 20b

1955 09 10
Pye demonstrated their new aircraft instrument landing system with a series of flights in Dakotas between Cambridge and the De Havilland works at Hatfield. The trips are also open to factory staff so they can see how the system allows the pilot to land without having to be 'talked down' from the ground. They had barely time to unfasten the seat belts, say 'Thank you' to the air hostess for packets of 20 cigarettes and the treble scotches before a loudspeaker commentary was started on the landing.
55 09 10a-b

1955 12 17
Unicam Instruments celebrated its 21st birthday; it had started in a stables on St Andrew's Hill, Cambridge. Despite setbacks, when paying the staff became a problem, the firm thrived. At the outbreak of war, after a skirmish with the Ministry of Aircraft Production, they acquired Riley House opposite the Tivoli Cinema. Finance problems arose again and they established a relationship with Pye Ltd. 55 12 17a

1956 02 11
Pye's new television camera is the first of its kind anywhere. It's designed to see inside a nuclear reactor and much ingenuity has gone into its manufacture. The camera will not become radio-active, but the dust it collects from the inside of the pile will be dangerous so it will be washed with detergent after use. 56 02 11b

1956 04 05
Bridge Street is usually one of the most congested points in Cambridge but even the pavement suffered from overcrowding when pedestrians stopped to look at a television camera which had appeared in King and Harper's showrooms. The firm has arranged demonstrations of domestic appliances and for the first time Pye industrial television equipment, operating on a closed circuit, is being used to relay them to other audiences. Everybody is assured of a clear view of what is going on. 56 04 05

1956 04 14
A robot cigarette lighter which works when it is whistled to has been installed in the Earl Grey public house by a Pye research engineer. For those who cannot whistle it will oblige when the

word 'light' is spoken to it; it will even light a cigar, but puts its foot down when confronted with a pipe. The small, one-valve gadget, is also a money collector for the blind people of Cambridge. 56 04 14a

1956 12 01
New equipment developed by Pye of Cambridge means that six times as many people can use radio communications and foreshadows immense developments. Telephones for the use of the travelling public in aeroplanes, railways and road services are now a possibility and a radio-telephone could become a standard fitting in all road vehicles, C.O. Stanley predicted. 56 12 01b

1957 01 05
Pye has designed a special camera to enable engineers at Calder Hall to carry out an extremely complicated inspection inside a nuclear reactor. It has been reduced to under 24 inches in length so it can form part of a mechanical grab which will be lowered into the fuel channels of the graphite core to remove obstructions 57 01 05 & 05a

1957 02 22
The long association of Pye and King and Harper of Cambridge will be celebrated in a 'Pye Parade' exhibition at Harper's Bridge Street premises. The highlight will be a specially-erected television studio and each evening programmes of local interest will be transmitted. The shows can be viewed on receivers in many parts of the premises with a limited number of seats in the studio itself. 57 02 22

1957 05 04
A Pye Magnetic Tape Data Store will be shown at an Exhibition at Olympia. It is the first to incorporate electro-pneumatic tape control allowing very high-speed movement. They were commissioned to produce six special units for experimental work in computer design and development. One has been delivered to the University Mathematical Laboratory for use with their new powerful computer EDSAC II. 57 05 04

1958 04 18
Stereophonic sound on disc sold at popular prices and played on equipment within the reach of most people – that is the revolutionary event just announced. The first public demonstration will be given at the London Audio Fair using equipment specially designed by Pamphonic Reproducers Ltd and Pye who are to issue both popular and classical stereophonic records. In the home loudspeakers can be placed about the width of a fireplace apart and listeners sitting more than nine feet away will get the full 3D effect. 58 04 18a

1958 08 22
A portable short-range guided missile intended to be used against armoured vehicles has been produced by Pye Limited. It incorporates rocket motors with a new jet steerage system and is guided to its target by thin wires which carry signals from a controller's "joystick". It can be fitted with periscopic binoculars which switch from low to high-powered magnification as the missile travels away from the launcher. Many successful test firings have taken place and it can go into production on receipt of orders. 58 08 22c

1959 09 12
Pye, the Cambridge television and radio firm, have helped to relieve the discomfort of a patient in Griffith Ward, Addenbrooke's Hospital, who is forced through illness to lie on his back for an indefinite period. They have loaned the hospital a television set which has been mounted on a high metal frame to enable him to view with ease. 59 09 12b

1959 09 21
High-ranking Service officials, including some from Russia, went for a 20-minute helicopter ride over Cambridge without moving from the comfortable dining rooms of the University Arms Hotel. They watched one of the first-ever air to ground television transmissions carried out by Pye Radio from a Bristol Sycamore. The pictures were broadcast to several 21 inch screens and showed the view from 1,100 ft. before zooming down to catch an express train just leaving the station. 56 09 21, 21a

1959 10 28
Thousands of new Anglia Television viewers are unaware that almost every piece of equipment that goes into the transmitting of the programmes was built in the Cambridge factories of Pye Limited. The Norwich studies are equipped with their cameras and control gear and 'remote' programmes use Pye mobile outside broadcast units. This is the latest version of the most successful unit ever produced and over 50 have been sold to television networks all over the world. 59 10 28b

1959 11 05
Pye Instrument Group engineers have designed a remarkable new piece of medical equipment, the Barnet Ventilator, to assist polio sufferers. Polio causes paralysis of the respiratory muscles and patients have had to be put in an iron lung. But now they can be linked to the ventilator by two plastic tubes and breathing is precisely kept within physiological limits. The machine has built-in batteries from which its transistorised circuit will run up to twenty hours allowing patients to be moved without difficulty. It can also be used in operating theatres for the administration of anaesthetics. 59 11 05a

1959 11 06
Did you ever build a television station, or a radio-telephone, or equipment for an atomic reactor? And have you ever been involved in helping ships at sea, providing entertainment for the home – or bouncing speech off the moon? Thousands of people who live in East Anglia are doing this sort of thing every day at W.G. Pye. It is one of 60 companies which make up the Pye Group whose name is respected all over the world for achievements in radio, television, telecommunications, nucleonics and electronics generally. 59 11 06c & d

1959 12 05
The Westminster Bank in Manchester has introduced the first permanent inter-branch television network. Customers can check their accounts on private television screens which relay pictures from a centralised book-keeping department a mile away. The system has been supplied by the Pye Industrial Television Division and features a small camera which looks downwards, by means of a mirror, at cheques placed on a desk. It incorporates a sound system so the operator can hold instant two-way conversations with the customer. 59 12 05a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 06 13
Pye engineers envisage vastly improved overseas telecommunications by the use of space satellites and the moon, complete newspapers transmitted during the night through existing television sets and the establishment of more than 100 local broadcasting stations. Active relay equipment to be carried in a space vehicle is practicable now. Their design requires a single valve

operated from solar cells and could be easily launched by the Blue Streak missile. It would bring undreamed-of improvements in world-wide communications, J.R. Brinkley of Pye Telecommunications told a conference. 60 06 13

1960 08 04
Pye Telecommunications scientists are considering sending satellites into outer space so that high frequency radio waves can be 'bounced' off them and make television transmissions between England and America an everyday occurrence. It would enable clear messages to be sent to any part of the world without long-range interference. A number of civilised countries had no effective methods of communicating with one another and the radio-telephone system would cut costs, W.K. Stevenson told businessmen 60 08 04b

1960 08 25
The credit squeeze is a serious attack on industry, C.O. Stanley, chairman of Pye Ltd told the annual meeting. The sales of TV sets are down which must affect profits. But when the electronics side of the business was established 12 years ago they had little idea how successful it would be. Communications makes possible bouncing messages off the moon and the devilish weapons of the future can be controlled only by electronics. Shareholders were then taken on nation-wide tour of the company's factories by closed-circuit T.V. 60 08 25

1960 10 14
The first full-size completely portable television is made by Pye of Cambridge. It has a 14-inch screen, covers all the usual BBC & ITA channels and includes a built-in aerial. It can be operated entirely from a built-in battery or connected to a car-battery system. It uses super modern transistors which are spreading rapidly through the development laboratories and production lines. One day there may be 'all-round' tv sets in 3D and colour, the company predicts 60 10 14a

1960 10 29
Pye-Ekco merger [27]

1960 11 30
'Telex' is the system businesses use for sending printed messages to one another – a kind of private telegraph service by which the operating of a typewriter keyboard at one end produces a typed impression on a roll of paper at the other. It is used by 40 local subscribers including Cambridge police, Pye, Fisons, Corrugated Cases at Histon, Herbert Robinson and the American Air Force. Now it has been converted to automatic working so by a simple dialling action followed by some work on the keyboard a business in Cambridge can send a typed message to an associate in Glasgow 60 11 30

1961 12 14
Pye launch domestic equipment 61 12 14

1962 04 07
Pye components on first space research satellite – 62 04 07

1962 04 14
The new Scientific Instrument Centre comprising laboratories and factories of Unicam Instruments and W.G. Pye in York Street were opened. The two small companies, both members of the Pye Group, have won international renown. Unicam is one of the leading manufacturers in the world of photo-electric spectroscopic instruments while W.G. Pye is making a major contribution towards improved accuracy of physical measurements and in the field of chemical

analysis. They have more than 1,000 employees with exports exceeding £1m during the last financial year. 62 04 14 marks stage in development which widens horizons for collaboration of science & industry; could be equally fruitful for both [19] [1.12]

1962 05 22
Jerzy Kazimerz Starnecki, the chief engineer and head of development at W.G. Pye, York Street, was born in Poland and served with their armed forced during the war. In 1947 he joined Pye as leader of a small team engaged in problems encountered in armoured fighting vehicles. He was responsible for the design of a complete new optical system used in the gunsight of the Conqueror tank, servo-controlled automatic stabilising gear and the C 42 Army V.H.F. communications set. His far-sighted thinking and sound engineering knowledge influenced the design of many instruments, one of his latest products being a multi-way rotary switch 62 05 22

1962 09 08
A familiar landmark of the Cambridge skyline is being taken down. The Pye mast was built at the start of the war to help them develop defence systems and also broadcast very low power experimental television programmes. It was originally 185 feet tall but extra aerials were added. At the top is a small cabin used to house experimental equipment and large enough for a man to work in. The mast will be replaced with a later type suitable for newest television techniques. 62 09 08a

1962 10 11
Master-slave manipulators for radio-active material featured in 'Dr No' made by Pye 62 10 11

1962 12 01
C.O. Stanley, head of Pye, warned of redundancy in the tv industry unless people bought 625-line sets. 62 12 01b

1963 04 17
Often youngsters who fail the eleven-plus choose an apprenticeship in the engineering industry. They start in a company at age 15 and serve a 12 month's probationary period after which the normal apprenticeship runs until their 21st birthday. They will study at a Further Educational Centre one day a week and also attend classes one or two nights. W.G. Pye and Unicam have played an important role in maintaining and improving standards in their large and well-equipped apprenticeship schools and more recently Pye has opened an entirely new Training Centre to cater for apprentices throughout their group. 63 04 17c

1963 05 22
Plans by the Pye Group to tour the country with their new mobile 625-line television transmitter and studio have been blocked by the Post Office who says they do not have a licence. It was launched in Cambridge when the Mayor, Ald Hickson, became the first public figure to appear on the system. The whole of the television industry has been devoted to the development of the new equipment which was featured at the last Radio Show. Pye has called for the ban to be immediately reversed 63 05 22

1963 07 24
Princess Margaret and the Earl of Snowdon came to Cambridge to watch television cameras and electronic equipment being made at the Pye factory, St Andrews Road. A small industrial closed circuit television camera was trained on them when Lord Snowdon asked to have a go. The Princess then focussed it on a group of press photographers. A great burst of cheering went up when Lord Snowdon went over to attractive Mrs Jean Keeble who was working on a television

assembly line. “I was absolutely thrilled”, she said. Later they took a voyage on the Cam on Viscountess Bury 63 07 24 & a [4.7]

1963 09 05
The Pye 625 mobile television test station which was closed by the Post Office in May, is to start broadcasting again. Agreement has been reached with the G.P.O. over a broadcasting licence for the station which will start a tour of the Midlands. The station, which was first publicly shown at Cambridge, will transmit pictures and captions together with commentaries to inform the public about 625-line television. 63 09 05

1963 09 27
Pye Printed Motors Ltd formed to manufacture electric servo motors - 63 09 27

1963 09 27
Pye develop television telephone 63 09 27

1964 05 13
Pye group in the space race – 64 05 13d

1964 07 17
Pye equipment used in 1st commercial radio station on Isle of Man, closed down 64 07 17

1964 08 07
A transistorised nuclear reactor developed by Pye Ltd is cheap yet provides immense opportunities in the field of research. It will produce short-lived isotopes for medical diagnosis and neutron activation. The reactor was built under licence to an American company and modified to raise the power to 100 kilowatts. In the event of overheating, boiling water within the reactor shuts down the output of the pile. Accidentally-dropped radio-active material is far more likely to bring the warning system into use that uncontrolled goings-on within the system. 64 08 07 64 07 30

1964 09 16
Pye Thermal Bonders formed – 64 09 16a

1964 11 02
Pye Electrical is to go into the twin tub washing machine market with a model that will sell for 49 guineas (about £910 at today’s prices). The specification is very similar to that of the Rolls washing machine which went out of production when John Bloom’s company collapsed. It is finished in white enamel and fitted with twin tubs and aluminium lids. Simple controls are fitted to the top, right hand corner of the front panel and a table top is available as an extra. 64 11 02a

1964 11 13
Eastern Electricity’s new Fens Sub-Area control room knocks spots off the old system used at Thompson’s Lane. A huge panel displays the entire electrical network while control desks have radio communications and lists of emergency engineering staff who can be called out. There is a standby generator which starts automatically should the main power fails. All this is the work of Pye Ltd. There is not a second when it is left empty. But it is unlikely that full-scale automation will ever be introduced. 64 11 13

1965 05 22
Pye hi-fi stereoscopic record projection system flourishes 65 02 22b

1965 07 22
Pye strike threat increases in dispute – 65 07 22

1965 10 14
Pye not to spend large sums on colour television until Government reach decision on future – 65 10 14a

1966 01 29
Pye huge slump in profits, Government squeeze hits sales of tvs 66 01 29

1966 04 04
Pye incur large losses in radio and television side of group – 66 04 04

1966 04 16
Pye still silent as rumours mount – 66 04 16

1966 04 19
Pye respond to report of resignations following large losses – 66 04 19, 19b

1966 05 04
Charles Orr Stanley replaced as chairman of Pye by Francis Duncan – 66 05 04

1966 05 20
Pye lay-off 800 at Southend tv factory 66 05 20

1966 04 21
Pye Telecommunications and Unicam Instruments granted Queen's Award for Industry – 66 04 21b

1966 07 20
Pye demonstrate first mass-produced colour tv set 66 07 20

1966 09 07
Pye pocket radio-telephone exhibited – 66 09 07

1966 10 10
Pye withdraw from rental connection disputes 66 10 10

1966 10 25
£1m dive in Pye share value; dissatisfaction with new management – 66 10 25

1966 11 11
Pye urged to appoint Receiver following losses if to remain independent – 66 11 11; J.O. Stanley voted off Pye's Board – 66 11 17, 61 11 18

1966 11 24
Pye shares rise as big international take-over battle develops; bid from Philips – 66 11 24a, c

1967 02 01
Pye speculation over resignation of one of the managing directors – 67 02 01, 67 02 02

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1967 02 17
Philips win take-over battle for Pye, set up Pye Holdings 62 07 17
30 separate Pye group companies classified A & B, the As being larger & producing finished goods - Pye - Telecom (mobile radio equipment), Unicam (scientific instrumentation), TVT (broadcast equipment) TMC (telephone equipment) & Business communications (intercoms, pa, security surveillance cameras etc. B include Cathodeon, Cathodeon Crystals, Labgear, Pye Electro-devices, Thermal Bonders & Varelco. A companies report direct Philips London, B to have new Cambridge HQ. 79 10 30

1967 10 02
Pye chairman F.R. Duncan who took over from C.O. Stanley in May last year now hands over to Peter Thoneycroft, chairman of Pye Holdings, the Company set up by Philips to control Pye following their take-over – 67 10 02

1968 07 01
Pye Unicam formed through merger W.G. Pye & Co. Ltd and Unicam Instruments – 68 07 01

1968 11 01
Pye Group – 400 jobs at Pye Telecommunications and Combined Electronic Services – 68 11 01

1969 02
Pye Telecom develop pocket phones [19]

1969 04 29
Combined Electronic Services factory, part of Pye group, closes – 69 04 29

1969 06 20
Pye want to develop on Trinity Milton Rd (Science Park) site 69 06 20

1969 11 06
Pye establish new computer centre opposite St Andrew's Road HQ – 69 11 06

1970

1970 12 11
Pye have 10% share colour tv market 70 12 11

1971 01 21
Pye plan new complex for production, storage and offices in St Andrew's Road – 71 01 21

1971 01 26
Pye close avionics operations Southend, 500 laid off 71 01 26

1971 02 26
Pye sack 260 works, rising costs blamed – 71 02 26

1971 04 05
Pye turnover £100M but profits down - 71 04 05

1971 04 16

Pye set up new computer bureau - Cambridge data processing 71 04 16

1971 07 24
Pye Unicam close Kings Lynn factory, 168 redundant - 71 07 24

1970 10 10
Pye Unicam redundancies follow news sacking at Cambridge Scientific Instruments – 70 10 10

1972 03 22
BBC order Pye TVT transmitters

1972 04 14
Pye mark 25th year, p20

1972 04 26
Pye colour tv, p13

1972 08 15
Pye profit, p8

1973 01 08
Pye Telecommunications of Cambridge have opened a Middle East office to service their expanding interest in that part of the world. The office in Beirut, capital of Lebanon, opened for business on Monday. Their director of International Marketing said "Pye Telecommunications look upon the Middle East as a key territory in their international operations and intend from these arrangement to provide an improved service for their existing and potential customers throughout the territory"

1973 01 13
Pye of Cambridge Ltd have become the first company in the modern electronics industry to be granted armorial bearings. They grant which has royal assent has been made in recognition of the company's contribution to the nation. One reason for Pye receiving this rare distinction was their role in designing and producing equipment which helped to bring the Second World War to a close. They switched their production to inventing and making military equipment and by setting up a village network of 14,000 people. They led the field in radio location, radar, bombing aids, radio communications, and one of the first guided missile devices

1973 03 06
One of the largest single orders - £2.1 million - ever placed to a Pye group company has been won by Pye TVT Ltd of Coldham's Lane, Cambridge, to supply colour television equipment to the government of South Korea. Many Far East observers believe that Korea could be expanding industrially to the point where it could become another Japan so the long-term prospects for business there seem very good. The contract is for a full colour television installation for the national broadcasting system. TVT will supply four colour television studios, a monochrome studio, colour and monochrome cameras, mobile studios, a master control and associated equipment. It also covers the training of Korean engineers

1973 03 27
The Pye group intend to maintain their workforce at about 23,600, the chairman, Lord Thorneycroft, said today. This followed four years of staff pruning in which 6,000 people have lost their jobs. Since the Philips takeover in February 19sixtyseven a policy of rationalisation has

been carried out in all companies and operations within the Pye group. Staff cuts were made from a peak of 29,636 employees in 1969. Over the past five years sales per employee have almost doubled and trading profit has shot up from 8.4 to 22.4 per cent

1973 07 24
There are 17 vacancies for every unemployed school leaver in Cambridgeshire, it was disclosed yesterday. The principal careers advisory officer, Miss G. Miller, said the jobs glut had highlighted last year's raising of the school leaving age. Most of the vacancies were in shop and offices. Jobs were also plentiful in manufacturing industry - chiefly unskilled labour. A spokesman for Pye, who employ more than 6,000 workers in Cambridge, confirmed they were having difficulties in recruiting school leavers

1973 07 25
A commercial radio consortium backed by three of the largest firms in Cambridge are asking other city organisations to join them in making plans for local broadcasting. The group have the support of Cambridge Newspapers ltd, the Pye group and Marshall of Cambridge. They represent the first major opposition to the Cambridge Community Broadcasting Company - a consortium set up several years ago by Mr Brian Jackson of the city-based Advisory Centre for Education. It may be almost 1980 before there is any chance of Cambridge getting a commercial station

1973 08 14
Just how important is one product in the range of a group which has 40 companies turning out a whole range of products? The answer for Pye - when it comes to colour television - is very important. For continuing good sales of colour television is one of the main reasons for the group's record sales and profits in the first six months of this year. The chairman, Lord Thorneycroft forecasts continued high sales: "I think the actual rush is over but with the Royal wedding coming along in November and the World Cup series next year there is no knowing where it is going to end". The sales of the group rose 29% to £84 million

1974 01 03
Something of the wartime spirit has crept into Mid-Anglian managements who are faced with the three-day electric week and oil shortages. The Pye Group employ a large percentage of women, so they don’t want to ask them to work Saturdays, as the power rota demands, because of family commitments. So they will be using generators to give basic power on the other days, and will do as much as possible on those days that does not need power tools. They'll also cut down the lunch break

1974 01 07
Pye allowed full week during electricity cuts, p1

1974 03 08
The announcement of a return to the five-day week was greeted with relief by mid-Anglia’s industrialists. Pye of Cambridge said that all their factories would be back to normal working on Monday. The secretary of Cambridge Trades Council said that for workers the main gain was a return to normality. “In this area we were not hit very hard by the three-day week, but it is a good thing it is over”

1974 03 14
Pye record £18.5M profit – 74 03 14

1974 08 17

Pye profits drop by 50% due consumer credit restrictions – 74 08 17

1974 10 02
Today sees the first issue of a talking newspaper in Cambridge. Carried on tape cassettes it will be issued to 30 blind, elderly and infirm people and will provide a service of news based on material appearing in the C.E.N. Pye radio provided £1,500 worth of tape recorders to launch the project and the Vice Chancellor has offered University recording facilities. The "Talking News" was originated by Mrs D.M.C. Matthews of the Blantyre Home for the Blind in Glisson Rd and is now administered by a special trust.

1974 10 07
About 7,000 men and women in the Cambridge area work for the Pye Group of Companies. More than 1,000 employees travel daily to work by Pye bus. The first of the 40 buses in daily use sets out from Wisbech in time to make the Cambridge works by 8am. Almost 30 per cent of the workers get to and from work by the buses. A special crèche has allowed the mothers of some 40 youngest children to return to work. Without a firm commitment to planned industrial expansion Cambridge could well fall behind more dynamic centres within commuting distance, and, in time, become a quaint but declining tourist backwater in the fens, say the company 74 10 07

1975 08 21
The finance director of the Pye Group, Cambridge's largest employer, is a worried man. Not that the group is going to the wall or even likely to run into the red in the current year – but the fact is that the group's profits are going to be less than 1974. Already this year it has cut out 2,000 of its 21,000 UK jobs and is making expensive efforts to sell goods. The problem is that the recession in Britain and Western Europe shows no signs of ending 75 08 21

1976 04 15
Pye colour tv vans, p25

1976 04 22
Pye museum, p10

1976 07 08
Pye sell off tv rental side – 76 07 08

1976 11 10
A proposal to set up nursery and crèche facilities within Cambridge University for the children of its staff and students was "wholly impracticable", dons were told. Parents ought to bear the responsibility for their children, "it was not something for the university or colleges to shoulder". But trades union officials said that Pye's had already provided nursery facilities for their staff. It would provide refreshment and revitalisation & allow women freed from family ties to become workers, students and academics.

1976 12 14
For the first time in two years Pye is going to see its television and radio division make money, but final details of the deal in which Philips Industries will take it over have still to be settled. Jobs are reasonably safe despite the selling off of the radio, television and audio side of its activities: Philips will take on those still working at factories at Lowestoft and King's Lynn. It is prepared to pay hard cash for companies whose losses were running at about £2 million last year because of the commercial benefits of expansion. Both have been busy on research and development work on radio, televisions and hi-fi equipment. Elimination of half the work brings

an immediate saving. The Pye group will in future concentrate its efforts on scientific and technical "professional" equipment 76 12 14

1977 04 07
Pye top-out building, p9

1977 08 19
Pye profits rocket, p10

1978 05 10
Pye supplement

1978 05 15
Pye open new Telecom works, St Andrews Road, one week after flood – 78 05 15

1979 01 02
Eldon Griffiths, the Conservative MP, has asked for East Anglia, and particularly Haverhill and Cambridge to be considered an area for building new 'silicon-chip' factories. It has a clean uncluttered environment with abundant 'greenfield' sites together with easy access via the modern ports of Ipswich and Felixstowe. There is a population with a high proportion of teenagers, especially in the 'overspill' towns, capable of being trained in the new techniques of the 'micro-chip' revolution. He cites an absence of obsolete buildings and embittered industrial relations that inhibit the introduction of modern machinery and a sturdy foundation for electronic-type development arising from companies such as Pye and world-famous university science departments.

1979 02 12
Pye celebrate 50 years in radio – 70 02 12

1979 02 15
Two hundred workers at Pye Engineering Services will lose their jobs when the firm closes this summer. The company designs and manufactures press, tools, jigs, fixtures and special purpose machines and closure is blamed on the lack of demand due to changes in technology and product types. It started in 1946 as a small engineering shop with a dozen workers and at its peak employed 350 people. But large losses have been made annually and two years ago 130 workers were put on a three-day week because of a collapse in sales.

1979 03 21
Opposition to a bid by Pye of Cambridge to sell about six acres of land near their Cathodeon Crystals factory at Linton for 50 to 60 houses came to a head at a planning inquiry. The site is lying derelict and there was no prospect of it being developed as a factory extension because of difficulties in getting the right kind of skilled labour. It is surrounded by housing with schools and shopping conveniently near. A high proportion of their local employees came from the village but a lot had to be bussed in. Planners originally thought Pye might make the land available for council housing but their decision to redevelop has upset the Parish Council

1979 05 12
It is costing the Pye Group £1.3 million to close two factories and meet redundancy payments for those thrown out of work. They are Pye Engineering Services in Cambridge, which closes next month with the loss of 200 jobs, and Pye Ether of Stevenage. It is also closing Pye TMC's factory at Livingstone, Scotland. The profits of Pye Telecom – the largest single earner – were hit by

competition from major international suppliers but the Business Communications side had a good order book and Pye Unicam orders were 20 per cent up. Sales of the Labgear television Teletext adaptor were initially disappointing but are showing a marked improvement

1979 05 26
Pye Engineering Services sold to Amin 79 05 26

1979 09 05
Philips Group complete take-over; had 60.7% from 1967 when Pye in financial trouble but offered rest British investors; but with increasing competition from Japan & USA arrangement looked shaky. Even sale to Philips two years ago of consumer division - tv, radio electrical did little to help & take-over the only answer; four years ago put some top financial men into Pye to shake-up management; likely to continue Pye name 79 09 05

1979 10 30
The name of Pye has been around since 1896. To most people it conjures up a picture of radios, televisions, record players and even records. But none of the UK companies in the Pye of Cambridge group now makes any of these and since October 1st this year, legally speaking, Pye Holdings, the parent group, ceased to exist as a public company. About 12 years ago Philips made a successful bid for the Pye group and it has now become a fully-owned subsidiary. This will improve the future prospects of the companies and the long-term opportunities for employment within them, management claim.

1980

1980
90 jobs to go as Unicam cut back

1980 04 19
Cambridge Electronic Industries - smaller Pye companies set up management company after Philips take over, sold off 1981prospers, Philips sell last of stake 1986 [7.9]

1981 04 01
Pye Business Communications is marketing a revolutionary office intercom system, the M100S, which, literally, speaks for itself. A voice unit will verbally tell a caller if a particular extension is in a meeting or on holiday. It can also take a video screen which will flash up information such as a user transferring to another extension or an absence or holiday list. All the information is put into a microcomputer exchange by the keys or dials of the intercom and telephones. 81 04 01a

1981 04 20
Pye TVT win Queens Award to Industry for Export achievement – 81 04 20

1981 11 25
Pye Telecom old Ditton Walk works empty since September – 81 11 26

1982 04 06
Pye TVT of Cambridge may lose a £100,000 order for television transmitters from Argentina because of the Falkland Islands crisis but Pye Telecom are still working on a £4,000 order for a communications system for the Falklands Islands. Stansted Airport's three giant Belfast military planes may be drafted into military use to ferry bulk loads nearer the scene of the action.

Although they can land on medium-sized runways like Cambridge it could not land on the airstrip at Port Stanley. 82 04 06a

1982 08 25
The final phase of the Coral Park development in Coldham's Lane is now complete. Work began in December 1973 with the demolition of a 160-ft high chimney which had been part of the Cambridge landscape for more than a century. The first warehouse was let to E. Laxton, a national cash and carry operation, and other tenants include W.H. Smith (Wholesale), Pye Telecommunications and Linfood. 82 08 25

1982 09 15
Pye Telecom shed 170 jobs 82 09 15

1983 04 22
Pye Telecom win £10M contract 83 04 22

1983 09 30
Pye Ltd move St Andrews Rd from Ditton Walk 83 09 30

1984 01 19
Telecom lose £3M Philips strong men in TVT in battle long-term commercial survival Philips battle to stay a world leader 84 01 19

1984 02 06
Pye TVT in battle for long-term commercial survival 84 02 06

1984 05 15
A telephone in one's car must represent one-upmanship. Pye Telecom has just introduced its new radiophone. Electricians are using them, so are plumbers. Not only is it a boon, it is also the most infuriating device ever invented by man. It costs around £2,350 to buy and a further £100 to have it fitted. Then there is a maintenance contract and British Telecom fees of £105 a quarter. For this it is theoretically possible to send and receive ordinary telephone calls to and from your car. In practice they are patchy in the Cambridge area 84 05 15 p16

1984 10 29
Philips battle to stay world leader against Japanese 84 10 29

1985 01 23
Pye has been in consumer electrical goods since 1922 when W.G. Pye and Co began selling wireless kits. Now from its headquarters in St Andrew's Road, Chesterton it sells a wide range of televisions and radios under the Pye brand name though they are not made in Cambridge and have Philips internals. People have a very strong loyalty to the name 'Pye', so now they are moving back into areas which have been abandoned to the Japanese. Video cassette recorders have been selling since July and hi-fi music-centres will be launched this year. 85 01 23a

1985 03 15
Pye TVT profits 85 03 15a

1985 08 05
Death of Edward Stanley, one of original directors of Pye of Cambridge 85 08 05

1985 10 24
Pye director John Stanley dies – 85 10 24a

1985 11 29
Pye TVT, the Cambridge television equipment company is to close its studio systems plant which employs 230 people – 85 11 29

1986 01 03
Local firms such as Pye Unicam, Barnwell Engineering and Cambridge Instruments have shown that there are rich pickings in exporting to Eastern Bloc companies. Now two new companies have been established to assist exports. Anglia Instruments deals in Hungary, Bulgaria and Russia on behalf of several small firms including Techne at Duxford, while Anglo-Polish Exhibitions based at Histon provides a complete back-up service to firm who want to exhibit at major trade fairs in Poland. 86 01 03a

1986 02 03
Philips set up new tv studio system in Germany 86 02 03

1986 09 24
Pye Ltd move to Croydon - departure of original radio works from which other Pye group companies have grown 86 09 24

1987 06 08
An era in Cambridge business will end when Pye Telecom changes its name to Philips Telecom. Pye has been part of Philips since 1966. The former name has been on the retreat elsewhere. Pye TVT has been sold to the American company Varian and Pye Unicam uses the name Philips Analytical. The last reminder of the old firm, which began when W.G. Pye set up an instrument company in 1896 is the Pye TV and radio business which has now moved to Croydon. 87 06 08c

1988 01 05
Pye Unicam, direct descendant of the original W.G. Pye instrument company founded in 1896 has now changed its name to Philips Scientific. It was formed from the merger of W.F. Pye and Unicam in 1947 and was the last of the Cambridge companies to keep the name Pye in its title. It has now been recognised as a group with four divisions including the once separate Philips Communications and Security in Cromwell Road. It specialises in making analytical instruments for laboratory use, much of which is sold to Eastern Europe and the Far East 88 01 05 history of company – 88 01 05a, 88 01 06 & a

1990 01 08
Cambridge Electronic Industries was initially comprised of companies that did not fit into the Philips group. Today nearly half have been sold or have merged. Casualties include Pye RF Systems which sold equipment for the rapid drying of printed work, Cathodeon Crystals which merged with Newmarket Microsystems and Labgear Cablevision which has been sold to a Finnish company. But they have acquired seven American companies and exports represent half of CEI's total business – 90 01 08a

1990 05 12
Philips Scientific, York Street makes redundancies in manufacturing division, making analytical instruments. Sister company Philips Radio Communications axed 120 jobs St Andrew's Road – 90 05 12a

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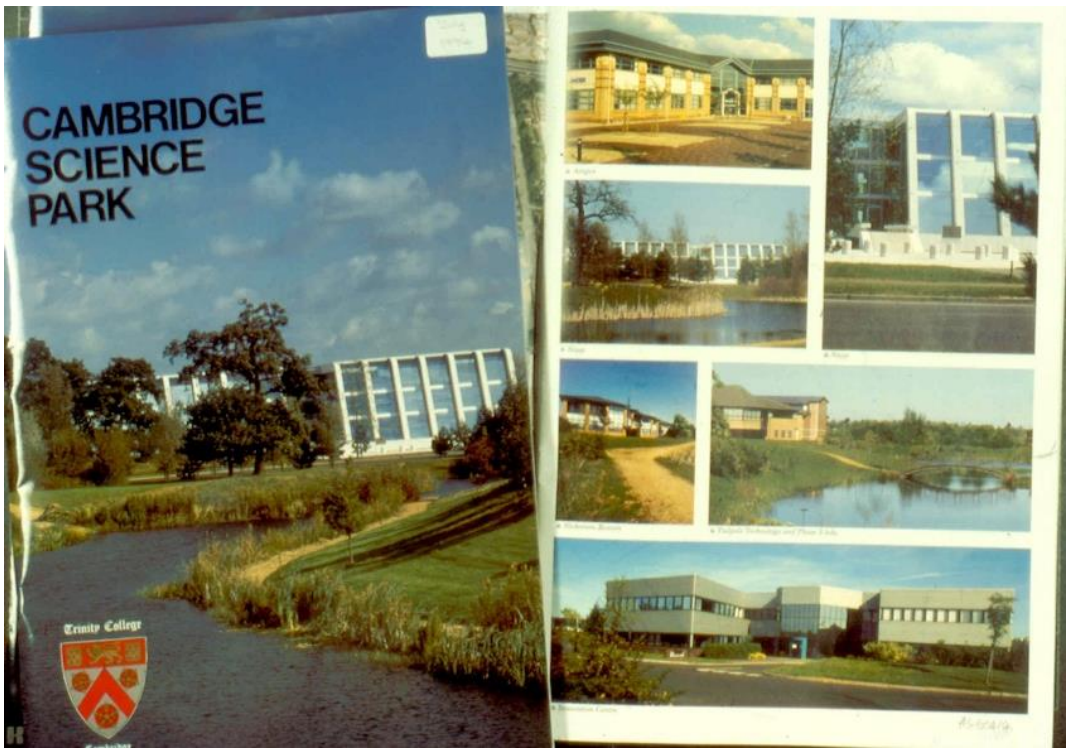
1990 11 30
Philips to axe 300 jobs including Philips Radio Communications Systems, St Andrews Road – 90 11 30

1991 02 26
Philips Scientific, which employs 525 people at its York Street plant may be bought by Analytical Technology Inc; was formerly Pye Unicam – 91 02 26a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk



c.27.1 : Science Park

1960s
The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1970

1970 04 25
Trinity College plan 13-acre Science Park – 70 04 25a

1970 10 13
Planners may ease band on industrial development; suggest land be earmarked for science industry park – 70 10 13a

1972 07 29
The Department of the Environment have squashed a plan to develop a 20-acre industrial estate in Milton Road, Cambridge, opposite Trinity College's proposed 13-acre science park. Bitter controversy has shadowed the scheme from the start. It was first approved by Cambridge City Council but later vetoed by the County Council who said they had already earmarked sufficient land for industry. The planning permission was for construction of roads and sewers as a first step to an industrial estate being sought by Stokes of Cambridge ltd. When they were turned down by the County council they appealed to Whitehall and a public inquiry was held in February this year

1973 03 20
Laser-Scan Ltd, who will become the first Cambridge company to move on to the Trinity Collage science park at Milton Road, are a typical science-based concern. Founded in 1969 the Company was the brainchild of three Cavendish Laboratory scientists. They could not afford the type of equipment which could do the work they wanted, so decided to design their own apparatus and get it made. Within two years they had established firmly the principles they wished to follow, within two further years they had built the necessary working equipment, known as a "sweepnik". However a firm cannot stand still and the firm hopes to be in their 5,000 square feet factory on the Science Park by the end of the summer. As a high-technology business Laser-Scan are precisely what the planners have in mind for the science Park. Work on laying the spine road and sewers began this month and developers hope to have the first phase completed by August. When fully developed the 13-acre site is planned to provide up to sixteen factory units. Trinity College expect the final development to provide jobs for up to 1,000 people

1973 10 19
Laser-Scan Laboratories Ltd, a science-based Cambridge firm set up four years ago, made history when they became the first tenants of the new Cambridge Science Park this week. The Trinity College scheme is being developed on land off Milton road. The Senior Bursar, Dr John Bradfield said they believed it was the first science park in England. "We are 99 per cent certain on signing a contract with a second tenant and we have two more in advanced stages of negotiation", he said. "The idea was first mooted four years ago by the Mott committee and I think we have done very well to get this far in four years". He said the college were looking for a commercial return on their venture, but not necessarily in the usual financial expectations of recovering costs in a given number of years

1975 06 25
Cambridge Science Park was officially opened by Sir Alan Hodgkin, President of the Royal Society and Fellow of Trinity College. The park came from an idea by Sir Neville Mott, who led a committee which first proposed the setting up of a Science Park in Cambridge to further scientific industrial development in the city. Trinity College has spent £650,000 to date on developing the centre. The site has four tenants so far.

1978 03 29
A Cambridge businessman, Lloyd Stokes, has submitted plans to build a 21-acre industrial estate just north of the old railway on the A10. It is opposite the Trinity Hall Farm science park which he developed from farmland worth about £130 an acre and has recently sold for £200,000. Mr Stokes is still involved in a four-year planning wrangle over what the District Council considers an illegal road at the rear of the Milton Industrial Estate.

1979 07 31
In June 1968 George Brown M.P. arrived to open the new building for Cambridge Consultants Ltd at Bar Hill. He didn't find anyone to receive him because CCL don't believe in receptionists. Instead he found a telephone which said 'Please ring 47 and ask for the person you wish to speak to'. He did so and created a mild panic among the company dignitaries whose job it was to receive him. But when Prince Charles arrives to open the latest building on the Science Park he will find receptionists in the regulation plate glass front office, surrounded by rubber plants and other foliage.

1979 10 01

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Cambridge Consultants on the Science Park have spent nine years developing ink jet printing, opening up new frontiers. They have carried out trials on surfaces ranging from the petals of an orchid to the roughest grade of sandpaper and have developed systems able to produce 50,000 lines of text a minute on fast-moving surfaces up to two metres wide. Their work is attracting world-wide interest and has already been put to commercial use.

1980

1982 05 07
A small sprig of yew to help ward away evil spirits was placed in the concrete during the ceremonial topping out of a futuristic new building at Cambridge Science Park. It will become Napp Laboratories central research and medical centre bringing facilities from four other bases. Around 200 people will work at the new complex which stands in a landscaped site with the main access provided by way of a plaza and a bridge across a canal. 82 05 07

1982 08 05
New firms have been springing up in rural Cambridgeshire at an astonishing rate. Napp Laboratories searched for two years before bringing all their British-based operations under one roof in a futuristic £8 million building on Cambridge Science Park. Harcostar picked Huntingdon to make industrial plastics as it was a London overspill centre with housing. In East Cambridgeshire more than 40 per cent of all manufacturing firms are new, employing just over 20 per cent of manufacturing workers. But now industrialists are taking a gloomy view of the area's prospects. 82 08 05a & b

1982 12 09
Accommodation for computer-based companies in Cambridge is at a premium. Several firms are run from private houses with others based around King's Parade and Jesus Lane, where buildings are available and rents favourable. Now a technology square is planned for land at the rear of Shire Hall similar to Trinity College's Science Park but at smaller rents. There might be dual-purpose buildings for start-up companies providing both a home and an office to work in. 82 12 09

1982 12 10
Scientists at the University Microcircuit Engineering Laboratory, set-up among the high-tech industries on the Science Park, are building intricate electronic components which are so small that even microscopes are hard-pushed to reveal their structure – 200 of them could be placed along a human hair. Such shrinking chips reduce power consumption, increase performance and dramatically cut costs. They have already found commercial use in industry. 82 12 10

1983 01 13
Cambridge was the first place to provide a science park. Now the County Council propose to establish a technology village on the Shire Hall redevelopment site. The novel scheme would provide both houses and workshops in an attempt to create a 21st-century high technology community. It would have offices, shops, a pub and recreational facilities. Secretaries and photocopiers could be shared. 83 01 13

1983 08 31
The Cambridge computer industry has suffered its first casualty. Grundy Business Systems, based on the Science Park, launched its NewBrain microcomputer in May last year, based on a design by Sir Clive Sinclair. It became one of the best-selling in the UK but an unexpected decline in sales and a failure to meet deadlines led to cash difficulties. 83 08 31 p1

1984 04 02
The pharmaceutical industry is not a large employer with just 75,000 people in the UK. In mid-1983 Napp employed 225 which will have risen to 265 by the end of 1984. It opened its Cambridge office in June 1980 when 70 employees relocated from its locations in Aberdeen, Watford and West Drayton and moved into the Science Park last June. The modern air conditioned environment is unique; the atmosphere is hard working but informal with widespread use of Christian names. 84 04 02

1985 02 11
Cambridge Innovation Centre, designed to provide facilities and support services essential to small companies during their initial development, was opened by the Duke of Edinburgh at the Science Park. For three companies, Cambridge Robotics, Torus Systems and Prelude Technology Investments it represents expansion from previous Science Park premises. Altek Automation and Data Analysis and Research have come from outside Cambridge while Synoptics, which is involved in image processing, has been established by two Cambridge University academics. 86 02 11a

1986 04 24
Employment at Cambridge's booming Science Park has gone up 30 per cent in a year and now stands at around 1,940 jobs. And this does not take account of the growing army of temporary and ancillary staff who keep the park cleaned, fed, serviced and patrolled. Four companies have left over the past year, but 17 new ones arrived. The biggest growth has been shown by Cambridge Life Sciences where staffing has risen from 28 to 50, LKB Biochrom, Napp Laboratories and Torus Systems. Further growth will come by GEC's Marconi Underwater Applied Research Laboratory and the London International Group which is building a research laboratory. 86 04 24a

1988 05 28
Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, tours Science Park – 88 05 28

1989 05 11
Labgear Cablevision, the television communications equipment company. It makes good profits but its business in the area of satellite dishes, aerials and cable TV distribution systems does not fit into CEI's new strategic plans. It employs 125 people on the Cambridgeshire Business Park at Ely with 100 more at its main base at Abbey Walk, a site being considered for redevelopment for housing. It is one of three that Cambridge Electronic Industries plan to sell, leaving Cathodeon Crystals at Nuffield Road, Newmarket Microsystems, PED & Varelco at Newmarket in the local area. Cambridge Interconnection Technology, which used to be on the Cambridge Science Park has moved to Scotland 89 05 11

1989 12 09
Cambridge Science Park boomed in the early 1980s but now has trouble recruiting and keeping skilled staff. There are fewer school leavers and, coupled with the problems of high living costs and expensive housing, this has led to a fall in the potential working population. There should also be a slip-road direct to the A45 or a private bus service from the city centre to ease traffic congestion. A crèche for working mothers, banking facilities and a shop are also needed. 89 12 09

1990 01 19
Science park feature – 90 01 19a b

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1990 04 09
Tadpole Technology formed in 1984, now Cambridge Phenomenon success, moves into new headquarters on Science Park – 90 04

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W.H. Smith's computer shop with display of Sinclair computers, December 1983 *143.51*

c.27.1 : Sinclair

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1962
Sinclair founded; started with miniature radio sets,

1966 08 22
Sinclair Radionics mini-tv shown at Television and Radio Show at Earl's Court – 66 08 22 [4.8]

1967 01 14
Bright future for 26 year old; Sinclair Radionics established HQ Cambridge a year ago; announce miniature tv & digital watch - 67 01 14 [21]

1970

1971
Sinclair turnover £100M but profits down; set up new computer bureau - Cambridge Data Processing

1971 05 04
Sinclair move to St Ives

1972 06 29
A Mid-Anglia firm claim to have pocketed a world market with a new electronic calculator announced yesterday in London. Sinclair Radionics Ltd of St Ives Mill, who are mainly known for their hi-fi equipment, launched the Sinclair Executive calculator, which is smaller than a 5p bar of chocolate. The Executive is 5 1/2 inches long, 2 inches wide and just over 1/4 inch thick, and will easily fit in the breast pocket of a suit. It will sell for £70. The calculator uses 7,000 transistors, 10 times as many as in the normal colour television set. The calculator has an illuminated display of up to eight digits. It will add, subtract, divide and multiply instantaneously, p12

1973 03 05
Sinclair Radionics Ltd, whose launch of a miniature electronic calculator less than a year ago bred a host of imitators on the market, are still cock-a-hoop. For today, with eight month sales behind the, the St Ives firm still dominates the market, sending out from their riverside mill factory each month more than half the United Kingdom sales. Now the firm have hit harder still at their competitors with a £20 reduction to £59. The executive calculator is smaller than a 5p bar of chocolate. It uses 7,000 transistors, 10 times as many as in the normal colour television set

1973 06 28
A £750,000 deal has been signed for Sinclair Radionics Ltd, of St Ives, to supply more than 30,000 electronic pocket calculators to Japan over the next 18 months. Sinclair, who claim to be the largest European manufacturer of electronic calculators say that the order will mean a 50 per cent increase in the present staff of 120. To help with production they have just taken a lease on a second factory at St. Ives. Mr Clive Sinclair claims the Executive is the world's smallest pocket calculator - it is the size of a 5p bar of chocolate. It sells at a price which puts it at the top end of the market in Japan, in line with their policy of selling a product which has quality and features which make it a prestigious purchase

1973 11 12
Sinclair send out over 100,000 calculators a month, p8

1975 07 16
St Ives based Sinclair Radionics Ltd, one of Europe’s biggest manufacturers of packet calculators has introduced a new model. The Scientific Programmable Calculator is aimed at scientists, students, engineers and statisticians. Initially it will be available only by mail order

1976 11 25
Sinclair: National Enterprise Board put in £650,000, ends 3-year quest for new capital

1977 01 10
Sinclair unveil world’s smallest tv

1978 04 07

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Sinclair loses £1.3M, axe 56 jobs due US dollar fall value

1979 05 10
Sinclair lost £2M,

1979 05 18
Niggling away in the minds of 1,500 people who work at the Cambridge Instrument Company and at Sinclair Radionics at St Ives is the question: "Will we still be here next week?" The two companies are part of the National Enterprise Board without whose contributions of public money both would certainly have gone to the wall in the last three years. Now Mrs Thatcher's new man for industry, Sir Keith Joseph is planning to restrict the NEB's activities. Sinclair's history has been one of total innovation. It was the first in the field with a pocket-sized electronic calculator, it made an all-new digital watch – plagued with technical problems - and the world's smallest television with a two-inch screen. But it made a £2 million loss last year. Both may disappear for good if the new Government pulls the financial rug out now.

1979 06 16
Sinclair sack 160

1979 08 10
Clive Sinclair, the 38-year-old former electronics 'whizz-kid' who founded Sinclair Radionics when he was 21 has set up a new company, Sinclair Research. He hopes to develop a television with an extra-large flat screen the size of a normal home cine screen which would hang on the wall like a picture. He has previously developed miniature radio sets, pocket-sized electronic calculators and a mini-television which he manufactured at a factory at St Ives.

1980

1980 01 29
The ZX80 personal computer was launched by Sinclair research of Cambridge. It can be used in the office, the factory and the home. The creator, Mr Clive Sinclair, says any child of 10 with normal arithmetical ability could use it. The new machine is smaller than anything of comparable performance and also four times as cheap. In kit form it costs £77.95 and a completely-built version will be available in March at £99.95. It can be plugged into an ordinary television set or standard computers. The 'software' can be operated through a standard tape cassette and it comes with a 130-page, step-by-step manual. 80 01 29

1980 07 08
Sinclair Research, the company founded by Mr Clive Sinclair who pioneered the world's first pocket calculators and micro-televisions wants to buy the church of St Andrew the Great and turn it into a laboratory. They are currently researching computers and electrically-powered vehicles and are looking for premises in central Cambridge. But the church say he is unlikely to get permission because schemes for offices, shops, a language school and a mosque had already been rejected. 80 07 08g

1980 08 01
Cambridge Civic Society fears a scheme to convert St Andrew the Great Church into an electronics laboratory could open up the site for office building in the future. They believe it would be more logical for Sinclair Research to move to the city Science Park. The church has no access, is in a completely congested area and it would be an enormous job to convert. But the

planning watchdogs are away on holiday and applications for some of our major planning disasters have gone through in August, they say. 80 08 01

1981 01 26
Microelectronics have caused some major shake-ups in the way we live and work; Cambridge's electronics wizard, Clive Sinclair brought us the first pocket calculator and pocket television and now launches Britain's first complete personal computer, the ZX-80. It plugs into the aerial socket of your television and is tuned in like a video-game. But then you have to type in a program from the 128-page instruction manual. The computer is not really all that bright and must be given a clear list of instructions before it can do even the simplest sums. 81 01 26a & b

1981 02 18
Cambridge electronics wizard, Clive Sinclair, has launched the world's first flat-screen television. Working with Timex he hopes to produce a million tubes in 1982. The first will be a 6 x 4 x 1-inch pocket television costing £50 able to pick up transmissions anywhere. It may eventually lead to a large screen which can be hung on a wall 81 02 18c

1981 05 27
Sinclair start cut-price war with Acorn over microcomputers for secondary schools 81 05 29

1981 10 22
Sinclair is almost wholly owned by the National Enterprise Board – 81 10 22

1981 10 23
Sinclair invades Japan - 81 10 23

1982 01 29
Clive Sinclair, managing director of Sinclair Research Ltd of Cambridge has been chosen as Personality of the Year in a new series of awards for achievements in technical innovation. It follows the success of his ZX 81 personal computer of which some 40,000 are now being sold every month in this country. Production of the model, which has been a major force in bringing computers into everyday use, is now greater than any other computer in the world 82 01 29

1982 02 13
Sinclair set up deal with Timex – 82 02 13

1982 04 02
'Uncle Clive' Sinclair is close to becoming part of the legend of the microchip. He brought to the word innovative calculators, digital watches and pocket-sized televisions. Then in 1976 he formed Sinclair Research to conceive new projects in the consumer electronics field, including an electric car. He started with a little computer then produced a ZX81 version priced at just under £70. Now he has moved into the flat-screen television tube and mini-tv set. 82 04 02c

1982 04 24
Cambridge electronics wizard Clive Sinclair shook the computer world by announcing a new powerful machine at a fraction of the price of its rivals. The Sinclair ZX Spectrum costs £125 with a 16k memory, capable of high-resolution colour graphics. A mini floppy disc-drive memory device will shortly be available at the staggeringly low price of £50. 82 04 24

1982 10 02

Electronics wizard Clive Sinclair unveiled his new Cambridge headquarters. The building is based on a soft-drinks works with a futuristic new wing added. Sunlight coming through the glass roof of the new wing and water from a spring under the original building will be used to control air temperatures. Telephone and security systems will be heavily computerised. The reception area includes the largest polished bronze sculpture in the work by Helaine Blumenfeld who lives in Grantchester. 82 10 02

1982 11 30
Cambridge innovator Clive Sinclair is using well water to help heat his new headquarters building in Willis Road. Instead of cold tap water, the boiler uses water from a deep borehole which has already been pre-warmed, free of charge, with the heat from the centre of the earth. It is the first installation of its type in the country. Looking after the system is a Sinclair ZX81 computer. 82 11 30

1983 03 24
Clive Sinclair went to London in January to learn he was worth £129 million on the Stock Exchange. Now the head of Sinclair Research told a Guardian 'Young Businessman of the Year' award that he has created 2,000 new jobs. The firm was founded in 1979 and launched the world's first under £100 personal computer in 1980, followed by improved models including the colour ZX Spectrum. 83 03 24 p20

1983 05 11
Sinclair affected by Timex strike – 83 05 11

1983 05 25
Sinclair to set up Metalab, £2m research centre – 83 05 25

1983 06
Clive Sinclair knighted – 83 06

1983 06 18
Sinclair invests £12.9m in electric car – 83 06 18

1983 06 20
Cambridge computer wizard Clive Sinclair may buy the factory of the failed Northern Ireland sports car company De Lorean to manufacture his electric car. His Sinclair Vehicle Project is developing what is hoped to be the first mass-produced electric vehicle for some years. Intended for city travellers it is due for release in 1985. The technology was developed by the Norfolk based Lotus Company, which Sir Clive has also shown an interest in buying 86 06 20 p3

1983 07 02
Sinclair Research has bought the 18th-century Milton Hall as its centre for research into revolutionary and high-risk ideas called Metalab. Milton Hall which was built in 1772 was bought by Eastern Electricity in 1950 as a regional office and research centre. Two large modern wings were added. The cost of the purchase is around £500,000. 83 07 02 p5, 83 07 07 p15

1983 08 31
The Cambridge computer industry has suffered its first casualty. Grundy Business Systems, based on the Science Park, launched its NewBrain microcomputer in May last year, based on a design by Sir Clive Sinclair. It became one of the best-selling in the UK but an unexpected decline in sales and a failure to meet deadlines led to cash difficulties. 83 08 31 p1

1983 09 21
Sinclair launches flat-screen tv – 83 09 21

1983 10 25
Jupiter Cantab small computer company into liquidation, second in three months, set up by ex-Sinclair designer [9.4]

1983 11 18
Sinclair seeks BBC contract – 83 11 15

1984 01 13
Sinclair launches QL – 84 01 13

1984 02 24
Sinclair hit by US price war & production delays - 84 02 24, 84 03 02

1984 07 13
Sinclair China deal – 84 07 13

1985 01 10
Sir Clive Sinclair's new electric car is quite unlike anything else on the road. It is shaped like a plastic torpedo and equipped with handlebars beneath the driver's knee and a set of large bicycle pedals. Top speed is around 15mph on the level and the range on a single battery is around 20 miles. It can be recharged in eight hours and has a space for a reserve battery. The price is right: at just under £400 on the road it represents another highly-successful gamble on the part of the Cambridge-based millionaire 85 01 10a & b & c

1985 02 11
More than 5,000 Sinclair C5 electric vehicles have been sold during the first four weeks of production. At the moment it is sold by mail order but they are already talking to a number of High Street retailers who would sell the £400 machine direct to the public. Interest has come from as far away as the Outer Hebrides and Cornwell and from both teenagers and old age pensioners. In Cambridge the Eastern Electricity showrooms on Market Hill report continued interest in the machine they have on display and have distributed over 2,000 order forms 85 02 11

1985 03 01
Sir Clive Sinclair is taking a £3 million high-tech centre as part of a major expansion of his Cambridge-based research company. The present headquarters at Willis Road is bursting at the seams so he is moving to the Camtec Centre off Rustat Road. Other high-tech companies in the area include Cambridge Electronic Industries, Acornsoft and Logica. Sinclair this week launched a big advertising campaign for its £100 pocket TV and hopes to sell 200,000 units of their QL computers in 1985. 85 03 01a

1985 03 26
Clive Sinclair offered four-acre site for 'superchip' plant – 85 03 26

1985 03 29
Sinclair production C5 suspended – 85 03 29a

1985 04 08

Ups and downs of Clive Sinclair – 85 04 08a

1985 05 26
Sinclair in tight financial difficulties – 85 05 26

1985 05 28
Cambridge computer company Sinclair Research needs to raise up to £15 million and is also looking for a new chief executive officer. – 85 05 28

1985 09 20
Sinclair Research is selling its award-winning headquarters at Willis Road, Cambridge. The class and stainless-steel conversion of a Victorian bottling plant has been in use since 1982. Now the company's activities are to be concentrated at Milton Hall where their advanced research centre, Metalab is already operating. It is part of a restructuring programme to slim the company in the face of an estimated £15 million debt. 85 09 20

1985 10 14
Sinclair call in Receiver for C5 – 85 10 14

1985 11 07
Dr Clive Sinclair is one of the few British industrialists to challenge the Japanese and American dominance in electronics. Although his C5 vehicle venture went into liquidation this week he is still afloat, still only 45 and has enormous resources. So it is a very good time for Rodney Dale, a literate man who knows Cambridge science well, to have produced his biography giving an invaluable glimpse of a significant period in Cambridge's electronic history. 85 11 07

1985 12 13
Sinclair Research HQ Willis Rd bought by county council – 85 12 13

1986 04 08
"Sinclair has become a legend as one of most prestigious inventors since Leonardo. 1st pocket calculator, one of first digital watches, first sub-£100 home computer & first pocket tv set ... thanks Spectrum his name as familiar to generation of under-18s as Superman; few products emerged without serious teething troubles & major delays 2 separate companies: Sinclair research makes computers & flat screen tv; he sold some shares to group institutions two years ago Sinclair Vehicles founded on back of that money to make C5 but problems at each company simultaneously - Vehicles lack sales Research hit by lack sales, dealers left with surplus & not reordering & home computer market saturated mini-tv not in High St but selling in USA 86 04 08a
Sinclair sell marketing rights of computers to Amstrad – 85 04 08

1986 04 15
Sinclair to sell Milton Hall – 85 04 15

1986 05 26
Sinclair launches Anamartic - superchip –86 05 26

1986 10 13
Sinclair starts new company Moduliser - portable micro-computers – 86 10 13

1987 06 12

Clive Sinclair opens new factory at Waterbeach for engineering company Win-Born Products. – 87 06 12f

1988 10 06
Sir Clive Sinclair is moving out of Cambridge, though his business interests will bring him back to the city regularly. One of his companies, Anamartic is based at Milton Hall and another, Cambridge Computers has flats in Bridge Street, where he can stay. His home, The Stone House on Madingley Road, which dates back to 1896, has a white marble hall floor with a central oak staircases leading to eight bedrooms and three bathrooms, and a drawing room more than 30 feet long, is now for sale. 88 10 06

1988 10 29
Sir Clive Sinclair's Stone House, on Madingley Road was built in 1896. If he had chosen a fortress to protect him from prying eyes he could hardly have found a more solid building. The walls are more than a foot thick in solid stone and even the front door is a formidable structure of metal and class. It has a Middle Eastern annexe with a fabulous hand-painted ceiling and a collection of calculators and computers in a large glass cabinet. It is on the market for £750,000 88 10 29a

1989 06 09
Electronics wizard and Cambridge tycoon Sir Clive Sinclair has been hailed as a visionary – and castigated as a mere marketer. In his career he has reflected the best in British enterprise but also suffered the embarrassment of failure. He has seen the field of electronics change out of all recognition in his lifetime. He formed his first company, Sinclair Radionics in 1962 and moved to Cambridge five years later where he produced an early digital watch, then began the calculator craze and made a miniature television. But it was when he made personal computers that his business took off. But he will still be remembered for the ill-fated C5. 89 06 09bb

1990 06 30
Sir Clive Sinclair's Cambridge Computer firm is moving to Scotland; meteoric rise and fall; started Sinclair Radionics in 1962, moving to Cambridge in 1967; produced digital watch and calculator, tv and computers. Won Queen's Award in 1975 and knighted 1983. But C5 flopped, marriage broke up and sold his house on Madingley Road in 1989 – 90 06 30a

Shoppers in Sidney Street, 1964 155.58

c.27.2 : Shopping *includes trades & services – milk, tailors, rock-making, ice-cream, office services, butchers etc*

see also c.27.1 : Industries

Mill Rd 'often compared to Portobello Rd; wide range of speciality & local shops ... in 1890s could buy anything from pianos to tombstones [446.14.4] [446.14.4]

1880
1882 09 30
Samuel Ballard & Son carried on fashion business in Petty Cury for 40 years on corner Alexandra Street; hit by rise of Co-operative Society 1882 09 30

1883
Laurie & McConnal opened [446.12.1]

1888 06 01
Bankruptcy of J.L. Bacon tobacconist [2.16]

1889 08 23
Ice-cream vendor knocked out by falling branch [2.5]

1888 03 02
Agitation for covered market [27.3.1.17]

1889 03 29
Joshua Taylor's premises in Sidney Street rebuilt in three months, now finest block in Cambridge [2.17]

1890

1891
Hallack & Bond sketch of new building [NI.1.14]

1892
University Typewriting office established [10.8]

1897
Hallack & Bond new premises Petty Cury [NI.1.14]

1897 09 01
Boots advert, p4

1898 07 26
A meeting in connection with the proposed Cambridge Ice and Cold Storage Company was held at the University Arms Hotel. A central site had been secured at Petty Cury and they had customers both for ice and cold storage. The two biggest firms in Cambridge had agreed to have cold storage, beside many other gentlemen, and they would have orders for eleven hundred tons of ice for the first weeks working. Some hundreds of shares were taken up before the meeting ended - CDN 1898 07 26

1898 09 19
The site in Sturton Street, Cambridge on which the new buildings of the Co-operative Society have been erected has a frontage of exactly a hundred feet. To the East are erected to substantial houses, to be occupied by servants of the society - who are to have the care of the dairy department, and on the North is a shop with plate glass front, fitted with marble top counters. Behind this has been erected a dairy and slaughter-house. There is a space for washing and cleaning the carts, vans and horses. Pens for sheep, pigs and cattle are also provided CDN 1898 09 19

1898 11 11
In vacation time Cambridge shopkeepers have early closing on Thursday afternoons. But so soon as term opens early closing ceases. With the shop assistants in their desire to have a half-holiday once a week our sympathy must go out. The work of serving in a shop from morning to night from Monday to Saturday is a heavy strain even on those who are robust. The only way to secure this half-holiday is to get the shopkeepers to consent to it. That is easy in the case of most of them. The difficulty is with those who refuse to fall in with the majority. One man who refuses to close may deprive all the assistants in a town of their holiday 1898 11 11 [1.3]

1898 12 17
A stroll through Petty Cury, Cambridge and a glance at the shop windows of Boots Limited gives a good idea of the effort which this firm has made to cater for all tastes and all classes in the selection of Christmas presents. The windows have been dressed in a most skilful and artistic

fashion and they look very effective. Articles of every conceivable description are on view and an inspection of the interior of the shop soon convinces one that for price and quality, the old adage, "go further and fare worse", very aptly applies. Those desirous of purchasing suitable presents for their cousins, their aunts, and sweethearts should pay a visit to Boots, in the Cury

1899 02 24
Cambridge Sturton street Co-operative branch were told of the progress during the past year. Sales in the grocery department amounted to £5,500, an increase of 10 per cent. The butchery department had made a steady increase and there was a great increase in the coal trade. In the drapery department such a satisfactory state of affairs did not exist, for the trade was stationary, if not on the decline. The management or its members were to blame somewhere or other

1899 07 17
A fatality occurred today. The scene of the accident was the new stores being erected in Burleigh Street, Cambridge for the Co-operative Company. The outer walls have been built up and the workmen are engaged on the interior. One scaffolder, named Thomas Filby, aged 60, was engaged on the scaffolding erected above the top floor. He fell sheer into the basement on to a heap of broken brick. Before he lapsed into a state of utter insensibility he was heard to murmur, “It’s all up” - 1899 07 17

1899 09 27
Early closing movement formed [1.14]

1900

1900 01 25
The Cambridge Co-operative Society has erected spacious new premises in Burleigh Street. The building is imposing and by contrast with the other not very ornate premises in Burleigh Street is rendered all the more conspicuous. On the ground floor are spaces for the butchery, drapery and boot and shoe department. The first floor is well laid out for other branches with a ready-made clothes emporium and on the top floor is a really fine meeting room. The old building in Fitzroy street will be retained for the grocery portion of the business CDN 1900 01 25

1900 04 07
The shopkeepers of Cambridge who have agreed to close early on Thursday afternoons during the May term have shown a consideration for their employees which is deserving of the highest praise. There is much to be said for early closing all the year round but the next best thing is that throughout the summer months, while the attractions of the open air hold out, shop assistants should have a few hours of breathing space every week. The shopkeepers will gain a good deal. Their assistants will serve them all the better because they are considerately treated, and the approval of the general public will be theirs also CDN 1900 04 07

1900 09 07
At Cambridge police court a girl of 11 years of age was charged with stealing various articles of food, salmon and shrimp paste, tea, herrings, potted ham and preserved peaches from the shop of Messrs Hallack and Bond, Petty Cury. The Chairman said she was very young and the Magistrates felt she had been more sinned against than sinning. Her mother was evidently not a fit person to have charge of her, and she would therefore be sent to a reformatory for five years. They hoped at the end of that time she would be a better girl. The mother was sent to prison for three months with hard labour.

1901 08 09
Messrs Pink Brothers new 'Knackery' in Coldham's Lane, Cambridge, stands in an isolated spot and is constructed on the most hygienic principles. In one corner is a large dissecting table and there are two huge coppers for boiling down the carcasses, the remains of which are subsequently sent away by rail. Some distance away is a tank ventilated with a shaft considerably higher than the top of the passenger carriages that may pass on the railway. The possibility of any offensive odour reaching travellers is thus quite obviated and the same care has been exhibited in regard to any unpleasantness that may arise from the boiling operations 01 08 09

1901 11 05
A fruitless burglary was committed at the Mill Road branch of the Cambridge Co-operative Society. The object was obviously cash but they were scantily repaid for their trouble, because on Saturday evening the money is cleared and lodged in the strong room of the central stores in Burleigh Street. The manager noticed the disarrangement of some sugar bags, which had been left ready for the weighing up of sugar. A steel for sharpening knives had been used in breaking open the till. The back door was unfastened but nothing is missing, the thieves preferring not to take away goods which might have been identified.

1902 04 22
A Cambridge butcher was charged with obtaining money from Caius College. A system of frauds had been in operation since 1886 in reference to the supply of meat to various colleges. He had been asked to produce his books but said they had been burnt on the bonfire on Ladysmith night. A detective visited the shop and found some ledgers in the safe. There were more in the stoke hole of the conservatory and in a large meat basket tied up with rope CDN 1902 04 22

1902 04 29
Outside Cambridge police court there was an air of suppressed excitement. As soon as the doors of the court were opened the space allotted to the public quickly filled. Hundreds were unable to obtain admission and eagerly waited outside for the chance of catching some details. A butcher from Petty Cury was accused of cheating and defrauding Caius College since January 1888. It was alleged that meat was constantly booked to the college which was not delivered at all and the cook was supplied his own meat gratis. 02 04 29

1902 07 22
The problem of the general servant is with us always. The tyranny of the domestic, her varying moods and fluctuating caprices seemingly know no end. Her demands have gradually become more peremptory and extensive for some years past and housekeepers have become painfully familiar with Sundays off, evenings out, cycles in the kitchen and swains in constant evidence. The Cambridge autocrats of the kitchen are now going a step further; the very latest request is a week's holiday at the Coronation. It is not stated whether the majority of them propose attending the Abbey CDN 1902 07 22

1902 12 23
At the spacious premises of Laurie and McConnal, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge readers can secure anything they require for a seasonable gift. A special showroom is set apart for the display of cards, pictures, books, toys, games etc and they have a chose selection of mechanical toys which are quite a novelty in themselves. There is also a variety of artificial grasses and plants which it would be difficulty to tell from real; these would make very pretty decorations. There has just recently been added a lending library which includes books of the best-known writers.

1903 01 08

Cambridge tradesmen complain bitterly of the tipping system in vogue by the 'Varsity men by which they are compelled to pay blackmail on a very extensive scale. There is quite an army of college servants clamouring for tips and all must be satisfied if the tradesmen wishes to keep his University clients. The college porter 'farms' for Freshmen's lists. The minimum price for a list is 1s. Then there are the bedmakers, gyps and shoeblacks, all of whom expect to receive presents from the shops where 'their gentlemen' give orders. 03 01 08

1903 02 14
Messrs Laurie and McConnal are almost universal providers, for their extensive premises, nos.121-124 Fitzroy Street, contained many departments. Today they are no more. In their place is a great gap, a space which instead of containing the thousand and one articles wherewith to furnish the homes of Cambridge has nothing to show but heaps of charred timber, twisted iron girders and dismembered masses of masonry. The whole premises have been destroyed as completely as fire can destroy. In less than three hours they licked up goods and buildings valued at up to £100,000 03 02 14

1903 02 17
Many thousands of Cambridge people witnessed the spectacle of the fire at Laurie and McConnal's in Fitzroy Street. The crowd increased to gigantic proportions and to keep them in check it was necessary to stretch ropes across on either side. The Mayor, Aldermen and members of the Fire Brigade Committee watched the progress of the fire and the unremitting efforts of the firemen. The interested crowd did not let the firemen work without encouragement and the fireman with the nozzle working in clouds of smoke was cheered heartily when he commenced his task. As soon as the hopelessness of saving Lauries was recognised special attention was turned to defending the adjoining premises of Messrs Sturton and Mumford. 03 02 17

1903 02 20
The Great Fire. Laurie & McConnal, Ltd., Universal stores, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, will open their temporary premises in Fair Street with brand new stock of furnishing, general ironmongery, stationery, haberdashery, china and glass. Business usual in the Boot and Tool department, right opposite the destroyed building. – Advert 03 02 20

1903 02 20
After the great fire in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, public opinion was strongly expressed in favour of the Volunteer Fire Brigade being in possession of a steam fire engine. It would require, with driver and stoker, eight men to work the engine and, with reliefs of the same number, would necessitate 16 men being engaged. But with only one engine they would have been able to play four jets on either the front or back of the fire, and one side would be entirely unprovided for. The engines and paid brigade would be so expensive that the town authorities would not be justified in incurring the outlay for protecting the few buildings at which they might be necessary. 03 02 20

1903 05 21
Cambridge councillors discussed plans for the erection of new premises for Laurie and McConnal, Fitzroy Street. The bye-laws said there should be a certain amount of air-space behind domestic buildings – house, office or shop - and these had no such space. There was no doubt the plans were in contravention of the bye-laws, the question was whether the Council would refuse them. If they were passed it would be an illegal act. They should not alter the bye-laws to suit the convenience of any class of people. 03 05 21

1903 06 13

Messrs Simpson and Co's bakery in Cherry Hinton Road Cambridge is as up-to-date and hygienic as any in the Kingdom. It is the only steam and machine bakery, a substantially constructed building fitted with machinery of a strange appearance. Electricity supplies the light and driving power but exquisite cleanliness is the feature which most strikes the visitors. The public have not yet realised the importance of insisting on such conditions though they send a whole-hearted grumble at finding a cremated insect, stray pieces of the miller's sack or unusual traces of potato in their bread. c03 06 18

1903 08 20
Laurie and McConnal applied for permission to erect a bridge over Fitzroy Lane to connect the two buildings which they propose to erect on either side of the lane. It would be 33 feet above the level of the street in the centre and 28 ft 6 inches at each end. They also desired to lay an iron pipe under the roadway from one portion of the premises to the other for heating purposes. The application was approved on payment of a rent of 5s. per annum 03 08 20

1903 11 21
One of the events of the year was the great fire which swept away the extensive premises of Messrs Laurie & McConnal in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge. Now within nine months the ruins have been replaced by more convenient, commodious and up-to-date premises and the business is in full swing in its new home. They are the first entirely steel-frame buildings erected in this country. Those who remember the former premises cannot but be struck with the immense improvement effected, with lifts, driven by an electric motor, at the service of customers any time of the day. 03 11 21

1903 12 08
Christmas Day happening to fall on a Friday means that trade generally will be at a standstill for three days in succession. Housewives must either purchase their stocks of meat, bread, fish and vegetables on the Thursday or dealers in these goods must open on Saturday. Opinion is divided. Some bakers say they cannot make enough bread on Thursday for the three following days but others say they sell practically no bread on Boxing Day as people do not each so much at Christmas. Butchers are inclined to close on the Saturday but fishmongers, where the supply of ice is an item of the trade, will open for a few hours only. Unless united action is taken some persons engaged in the four trades will have their holidays considerably cut into. 03 12 08

1903 12 16
The new bakery of Mr G.P. Hawkins in Parsonage Street, Cambridge is a substantially built erection with deep foundations. The visitor passes through an artistic lobby covered with green and white newelite tiles of white glass which fit tightly together so no dirt or insect can attach itself to the walls. The floors are of granolithic and the electric light is installed in every compartment The bread is produced by up-to-date machinery. In a short time a continuous electric current and an automatic kneader will be installed. There is a glass roof in the yard so the carts can be loaded comfortably, irrespective of the vagaries of the weather. 03 12 16

1904 01 26
Cambridge magistrates said the custom of sending round for 'Christmas Boxes' was a bad one and liable to be greatly abused. They heard how a groom from Castle Street had obtained a shilling from the cashier at Hallack and Bond's shop after claiming that he was an ostler at the Carrier's Arms. He also tricked Eaden Lilley's into giving him a similar sum. No less than 11 similar charges could have been made against the prisoner who was sentenced to seven days hard labour.

1904 02 12
Messrs. Church and King's establishment in Sidney Street is the first business in Cambridge to be cleaned by the Eastern Vacuum Cleaning Company. The settees in the showroom were a fair test of the process. In thick upholstery dust must necessarily accumulate but after the cleaner had been applied no amount of beating could raise a speck of dust. The carpet also was cleaned effectually and the colours brightened. Mr King said: "It takes absolutely all the dust out" 04 02 12

1904 04 14
Boot repairers business hit by invention of rubber heel protectors [2.4]

1904 05 18
A fire destroyed Mrs Cornell's fishmonger's shop on Mill Road, Cambridge. It was caused through the ignition of some fat used for the purpose of frying fish. Although the shop was sparsely stocked there was sufficient inflammable material in it to make it impossible to arrest the fire in its early stages, and soon the interior was a mass of flames which rapidly penetrated through the ceiling and attacked the contents of the front room on the first floor. The alarm was given by means of the Thoday Street fire alarm and the firemen arrived within twelve minutes with the horsed fire escape and tender and prevented the flames attacking adjoining premises. 1904 05 18

1904 10 08
"Tradesmen commission people to recommend services to undergraduates & supply items to bedders for which give commission if sold" - claim [3.4]

1905
Belfast Linen warehouse opened, Regent Street 72 10 27 [7.11]

1905 05 02
An outbreak of fire occurred at the premises of Messrs Hallack and Bond, wholesale grocers, Petty Cury, Cambridge. About 11.18 pm smoke and flames were discovered issuing from a store room. The alarm was at once given and the horsed fire escape, tender and hose cart were soon on the scene. With the aid of one hydrant, the inmates of the building and the firemen succeeded in extinguishing the outbreak just in time to prevent a serious conflagration 05 05 02b

1905 07 01
Tea dealers have been running down their stock prior to the reduction in tax announced by the Budget. Last night there was a tremendous rush to get tea out of bond to replenish supplies. At Cambridge the stores of the four railway companies have been converted into bonded warehouses where tea has been accumulating and by Friday they had 245 chests ready for delivery. At six o'clock this morning about 23 tons was taken away to the shops so customers can be supplied. 05 07 01

1905 12 16
Death E.A. Wadsworth, mineral water manufacturer – 05 12 16a

1906 04 19
'Cambridge for Cantabrigians' was a sentiment voiced by two prominent men. W.B. Redfern objected to looking outside the county when appointing a new council surveyor while Mr A.S. Campkin said Cambridge tradesmen were being ousted by large combinations of non-resident traders. Money spent in the shops of genuine local tradesmen remains in the town; already many find it hard work to keep their heads above water. 06 04 19a

1906 09 12
The recent hot weather and absence of rain has resulted in a scarcity of milk through the scorching of the pasture and some dealers have been compelled to buy from rival tradesmen and sell at the price at which they bought, merely to retain their customers. One has already increased his price from twopence to threepence a pint but larger dairymen have retained their customary charge of fourpence a quart 06 09 12a

1906 11 17
Money lending allegations – Cambridge tradesmen and students – 06 11 17d

1907 03 20
The Stetchworth Dairy Company delivered milk in cans stamped with their name and round number. Percy Atkins, one of their roundsmen noticed the Babraham Dairy Company using a can which had the words 'St' and 'Dairy' on it; the rest of the name had been soldered over. But they said it was old and rusty, so they thought it had been abandoned. The diary could have it back if they wanted. Magistrates said that obliterating the name was ill advised, but the charge of theft was dismissed. 07 03 20 & a

1907 03 23
National Union of Shop Assistants establish branch [3.7]

1907 04 10
The University bought all kinds of foreign meat as cheap as they could, never mind the quality – from Argentina where they bought mutton at three ha'pence a pound - butchers were told. Then there was the poultry. Years ago they bought poultry from the farmers, nowadays they got it from Russia, frozen, as they got their eggs. The public should know what they were buying and foreign and English meat should be marked as such. (Applause) 07 04 10

1907 05 20
The old-time bakery was a low-roofed, gloomy compartment, reeking with a variety of odours, lighted by the flat flame gas burners, inhabited by perspiring men and lads working in temperatures suggestive of an inferno. Compare that with the conditions of Mr G.P. Hawkins' Model Bakery in Parsonage Street where unlimited supplies of pure air and natural light are obtainable and the most modern electrical appliances are installed with three ovens baking 160 loaves every hour. 07 05 20 & a

1907 08 10
Messrs Macmillan and Bowes, the well-known booksellers, have recently acquired the house over their premises at the corner of Trinity Street. On the new staircase, designed by Mr T.D. Atkinson, hangs a portrait of 'Maps' (John Nicholson) and old views of Cambridge. In the new reading room are exhibited manuscripts and autograph letters from Wordsworth, Tennyson and Thackeray. One room is devoted entirely to Cambridge material of which Mr Bowes published a catalogue in 1894. 07 08 10 & a [1.13]

1907 11 27
The Stetchworth Dairies vans supply 400 gallons a milk daily to 18 colleges and 1,800 families in Cambridge and three tons of butter and 8,000 eggs are sent out each week from their depot in King Street. People may have sterilised milk if they wish but the aim is to get good milk at the consumer's door within two hours of it being taken from the cow. Milking takes place at four in the morning and one in the afternoon so it is fresh for afternoon tea. 07 11 27 & a

1908 01 31
For years bachelor Harris Norman lived the life of a miser in Romsey Town. He was endowed with a positive genius for accumulating money but never spent more than would suffice to keep soul and body together. He laid the foundations of his fortune as a hawker of cheap jewellery, then speculated in stocks and shares. In his will he bequeathed the whole of his property to be divided between Addenbrooke's Hospital and the London Jewish Synagogue. 08 01 31b – details 08 02 07 & a

1908 02 15
Careless wholesale confectionary, Burleigh St, bankrupt – 08 02 15e

1908 03 04
The price of butter has recently been exceptionally high and for many poorer families it is regarded as a luxury. Hallack and Bond say they had to increase their butter by 3d in the lb and even then were selling at almost cost price. The 'Butter Famine' has been caused by the formation of a 'ring' and wholesale merchants were very chary of buying in at the enhanced rate. Now almost all Cambridge establishments are selling at the old prices. 08 03 04a

1908 04 20
The confidence trickster has been active in Cambridge. Three jewellers received telephone messages purporting to come from well-known residents, asking for a selection of gold chains to be sent to their houses on approval. Messrs Reed sent an employee for confirmation, who found no order had been given. But Otto Wehrle sent a messenger with several chains to Mr Verrinder of the Avenue. He met a gentleman on the steps of the house who promised to select one and return the remainder. Nothing has been heard from him since. 08 04 20

1908 05 02
Sir – I have traced the history of Blackmoor Head Yard, Bridge Street, for nearly 100 years, and find it has been the custom for occupants to hang their washing across the yard. Laundresses have lived there and dried everything in the same way. Dr Dennis Adams had the stables at the bottom of the yard and when our King was up at Cambridge he often used to come there and hold the linen up with his stick to pass under it without making any fuss at all. Where must we dry them now? In the bedrooms? – S. Collingwood 08 05 02b

1908 05 04
Mrs Briggs' First-class registry office, Regent Street, Cambridge, has all classes of superior, reliable town and country servants. Ladies requiring to be quickly and well suited should apply now. Includes: Cook-General, tall, superior country girl, good worker, 2½ years' reference; £16. House-parlourmaid, tall, superior country servant, carve, valet, good waitress and needlewoman, £21. Twenty young country servants, requiring first situations as nurses, housemaids, generals, between maids and kitchen maids, small wages, to be trained. – advert 08 05 04

1908 09 18
Butchers had no means of knowing whether meat was from an animal infected with tuberculosis. Now they would insist on a warranty from the farmer who is in a queer fix. If farmers who sell in Cambridge market refuse to give the warranty then local butchers will buy London-killed meat. If they give a warranty they risk having to pay compensation for any meat found to be tuberculous. CWN 08 09 18

1909

Mitcham's shop opens [2.23]

1909 02 12
Hallack and Bond can trace their association with Cambridge back over 100 years: it was there that Elizabeth Woodcock purchased her groceries before being lost in the snow in 1799. Tea was a luxury then, now it is a necessity and their delicate Katharata blend produces pleasing results. A visit to their tea room is a revelation: upon a tea-tasting day fragrant bouquets from the Far East assail the nostrils and the palate including one with a beautiful peach-like perfume 09 02 12

1909 06 05
"Please don't shop on Bank holiday" written in tar on shop that opened [3.9]

1910

1910
Joshua Taylor's centenary [3.1]

1910
F. Winton-Smith set up, Mill Rd butchers [1.9]

1910 01 21
Leon Rothschild, a Russian tailor's cutter and Israel Schnitzer a tailor of Prospect Row appeared in court. Leon said he worked from 8am to 8pm and earned two guineas a week, but had then been given the sack. Israel however said he gave Leon work when there was any for him to do and he was paid at the rate of seven pence an hour. He had lent Rothschild money for his wedding expenses, paying for a ring and a pair of ear-rings. An IOU was produced but there was dispute as to whether a Russian word on the document meant 'received' or not so an interpreter was called in. 10 01 218f

1910 05 20
Residents from Cherry Hinton Road complained that if linen were hung out to dry in the garden 'smuts' caused by smoke from the chimney of the Swiss Laundry made it so dirty that it had to be taken in and washed again. The air ought not to be polluted by this offensive smell and dirt and they suggested the chimney be carried up another 50 feet and the manager of the laundry be requested to use different fuel. 10 05 20a

1910 07 15
The proprietor of the Swiss Laundry, Cherry Hinton was summonsed for allowing the chimney to send forth black smoke, causing a nuisance to residents. Complaints went back to 1903 but had stopped when they put in a new boiler in 1908 and started burning Welsh coal. Since then it had started again. It was impossible to hang clothes out to dry. Mrs Robjent said she'd washed a tablecloth three times and eventually had to send it to the laundry. The fruit in the garden got covered with black smuts and those who worked there looked like sweeps. 10 07 15a

1910 07 29
The Cambridge Cooperative Bakery in James Street is now the best-equipped and most up-to-date in the country. The yard used for loading vans has been built upon and the old bread-room demolished and replaced with a spacious new model bakery. A large rotary mixer can covert four sacks of flour into perfectly mixed dough in ten minutes and an ingenious piece of machinery turns out 2,000 loaves an hour. After the opening a procession of the Society's 30 vans and carts preceded by a brass band paraded the principal streets 10 07 29d

1911 04 15
The day after Bank Holiday is busiest of year for pawnbrokers due to the loss of three days wages - Good Friday, Saturday & Monday [3.18]

1911 04 15
Hot-cross buns sellers start shouting their wares at 5.30am [3.19]

1911 11 10
Two daring swindlers victimised a number of University tradesmen by representing themselves as 'Varsitymen and ordering goods to a small amount to be sent to their rooms. They paid with cheques for £5 'from their father' which they got the shopkeeper to cash. The swindlers looked typical undergraduates in grey flannel trousers and tweed jackets, one of them had a gown over his arm. They gave Magdalene as their college and their names were found on the University register. 11 11 10g

1911 11 24
John Stanley, poulterer of Peas Hill sued the G.E.R. Company for damages sustained in the carriage of 84 ducklings and three geese from Liverpool Street to Cambridge. They were to have been sent by passenger train the same day. But instead they were taken on to Doncaster. He made numerous inquiries but it was not until 9pm that the birds arrived at the station but the GER could not deliver them until Monday, by which time they would have been bad. But he had an old contract that said the goods were sent at his risk and he lost his case. 11 11 24f

1912
D. MacKay set up [9.8]

1912 01 26
Dr Waldstein of Newton Hall says Cambridge is a place where there should be some industry where people who are often idle might be employed. There are women who work - bedmakers for instance - who have husbands who do not. Some years ago he tried a scheme for wood carving but it fell through and the local clay is not right for pottery. Now he proposed the establishment of a heraldic bureau to become a centre of inquiries from architects and provide private individuals with authoritative information on family coats of arms. 12 01 26f &g

1912 05 03
The new Shops Acts means all workers in shops are secured one legal half-holiday in the working week. This has been the case locally for several years with the majority of shops closing voluntarily. Now the others must fall into line whether they like it or not. Certain businesses are exempt such as licensed premises, railway refreshment rooms, cycle shops and purveyors of milk, flowers and similar articles of a perishable character. It is desirable that the University traders should close on the same day and a petition is being signed asking for Congregation Day to be moved from Thursday. 12 05 03c & d Shops Act brings Thursday early closing [3.11]

1912 05 17
Cambridge tobacconists are organising a petition in favour of compulsory closing. Many wish to close but a tobacconist in St Andrew's Street complains that although he would be glad of a rest on Thursday afternoons he cannot afford to do so as shops on either side of him are doing a good trade and his regular customers would desert him. College kitchens have stores of tobacco which they will sell to members of the University and this will have to be fought out in the future.

Amongst the signatures are John Kitteridge, A.J. Ransom, Albert Maile, S.P. Ora and Bacon Bros. 12 05 17

1912 07 19
The Medical Officer's report on pure milk supplies includes excellent photographs showing the good caused by pulling down old cow sheds and their replacement with up-to-date buildings. There are 305 milch cows in Cambridge, kept by 30 cowkeepers, but a large number of purveyors buy supplies from Huntingdon, Norfolk and Buckingham while cream is brought from as far away as Wiltshire or Somerset. The average consumption is less than half-a-pint per head per day. Amongst the poorest milk is a luxury and used chiefly in tea. The practice of ladling out milk from a deep can is a source of contamination: the milkman's hand may enter it or rain and dust get in when the lid is removed. 12 07 19

1912 12 21
Butchers sell less meat at Christmas - people go for poultry [3.10]

1913 05 16
Death William Eaden Lilley 13 05 16 p6 & p7 CIP [1.4]

1913 06 07
Winton Smith convicted for selling ham on half-day, had claimed it was perishable [3.12]

1913 07 18
Kate Betsy Cleverley carried on business as a practical watchmaker and jeweller for 24 years. She came from a family of watchmakers and jewellers named Hayward who formerly owned a flourishing business at Norwich and gained a certificate in the craft, becoming one of the first ladies to enter upon such a career. On her marriage she and her husband opened a business at 25 City Road in which she practically assisted until her death. Women watchmakers are not common and she showed herself to be a highly-skilled worker. 13 07 18 p6 CIP

1913 07 26
J.S. Banyard produces pipe & cigarettes using tobacco grown in Suffolk [3.13]

1913 12 12
The Mayor of Cambridge was asked by the National Union of Shop Assistants to recommend that shops should not open on the Saturday following Christmas so that the assistants' holiday might extend over the weekend. But he declined to do so. However a large number of traders, representing every firm of importance, including grocers and provision dealers have said they will definitely close. They include Joshua Taylor, W. Heffer, Eaden Lilley, Belfast Linen, the Co-operative Society, Barrett and Son, Alphonso Smith and the London Rubber Company 13 12 12 p7 CIP

1913 12 19
Charles Dixon said he came to Cambridge 50 years ago as a journeyman tailor and worked from three in the morning till eleven at night. Then he learnt the 'cotton' and took a manager's place in a large firm opposite St Johns after which he opened a business for himself in Downing Street. He worked hard for 40 years and built up a big trade. He built a little mission room in Victoria Street uplifting the fallen, acquired the Hoop Hotel to do away with the licence and plunged into house property. But this went wrong and he'd lost everything 13 12 19 p9

1914 01 17

Fishmonger summoned for crying his wares, discharged [3.23]

1914 04 17
The unhappy conjunction of the name Sadd and Greef on King's Parade has been a well-worn joke. Now it is about to be broken. Mr Sadd is soon to move to premises in St Edward's Passage while Mr Greef is moving further up the Parade. The Sadds began business last century as dealer in antiques and a hairdresser in one of a row of old-fashioned houses standing in front of King's College. When the cottages were pulled down they moved opposite. His son made a sketch of the old houses 14 04 17g

1914 09 11
Sadd, Antique dealer, fell roof Kings Chapel 14 09 11

1915 05 07
Tradesmen in distress: French polisher said tradesmen could not to have their shop fronts polished, lodging house keepers said rooms empty – rates relieved 15 05 07 p7

1915 05 21
Friebourgh & Treyer, tobacconists, to prevent further misrepresentation, will carry on business under the name of the present partners, G & W. Evens (both Englishmen by birth and descent) in whose family the business has been for the last 125 years. The name will in future be Evans and Evans, 12 Market Hill, Cambridge 15 05 21 p1

1915 08 21
W.K. Bird & son vinegar works Magdalene Street closes after 108years (founded 1807), premises sold Magdalene College [2.11]

1916 05 31
Tailors Busy. We understand that' the result of the agitation carried; on some months ago to secure work, for Cambridge has been .the placing of a large order for officers' uniforms with Cambridge tailors. An order for at least 800 uniforms has been distributed between the tailors of the town. No doubt a little difficulty is being experienced in getting labour at the present time, so many tailors having long since patriotically responded to the call 16 05 31 CIPof

1916 10 08
Chamber of Commerce to be formed following meeting of traders; had been accustomed to give very long credit … would have to shorten terms– 16 10 08c

1916 11 06
Glove making – a new industry; when undergraduates left there was grave unemployment and Rutherford & Clothier of King's Parade introduced glove making, now producing 600 pairs a week by women working at home on machines provided by the firm; are difficulties obtaining fabric – 16 11 01b

1916 12 06
Growing popularity of King's Parade as a shopping centre; a war-time evolution; traders have to adapt to loss of undergraduates and impression of high-price goods; notes on traders: A.R. Crossman, Ryder & Amies, Rutherford & Clothier, A.W. Smith, Lily Masters, Tredgett – 16 12 06c, d

1916 12 20

Round the shops – Matthew, G.P. Hawkins, George Stace, Robert Sayle, Laurie & McConnal – 16 12 29a; W.K. Vawser and others – 16 12 20b Ch

1917 12 26
Queues in Perry Cury assume alarming dimensions, one fainted. Margarine chief commodity sought and traders transfer stocks to Corn Exchange, 1,000 transactions took place – 17 12 26a

1918
Introduction of motor bus services after 1918 greatly enhances Cambridge as a county shopping centre [3.6]

1919 11
Winton Smith opens food production factory, East Road 1919 [1.9]

1918 11 27
Ald. George Stace came to Cambridge in 1872, and was for some years with Mr. J. O. Pain in a drapery business. When Mr. Pain retired, Mr. Stace set up the business in Petty Cury with which his name has for so long been associated 18 11 27 CIPof

1919 11 19
F. Winton Smith's new food factory, Wellington House, East Road – detailed feature article – 19 11 19a ; formally opened – 19 11 26b [1.9]

1920 12 22
Laurie & McConnal advert – 20 12 22
G.A. Heyworth advert – 20 12 22a

1921
MacFisheries opened, sells bulk ice for hospitals etc [446.16.]

1921 04 06
Frederick Woor, Master Tailor, Sidney St, paid less than minimum wage to his women – 21 04 06c

1922
Fitzbillies established [1.13]

1922 02 11
Cambridge & district butchers association formed [2.8]

1922 03 03
The employees of the firm of Messrs Robert Sayle & co. ltd spent a very enjoyable time together when they were the guests of the Directors at a supper and "social". The assembly took place in the furniture department at 15 St Andrew's Hall, which, thanks to the energetic efforts of Mr P. Norrington had been wonderfully transformed for the occasion. Screens, curtains & carpets had been used to excellent purpose and varied flags and coloured lamp shades enhanced the effect. Mr Chaplin (the veteran governing director) mentioned the first party he ever attended in connection with the firm was in 1866 when the late Mr Sayle had been in business for about 25 years. In those days things were very different. They had no Bank Holidays and no half-holidays except one, and that was Flower Show day when they closed at four o'clock. (Laughter). Business hours

too were much longer. People often spoke of the "good old times" but "men could do a good deal more work then than many of us can do today"

1922 05 20
"50 years ago Cambridge was notorious for its trading exclusiveness & backwardness, it was self-centred, localised, jealous of intruders & generally stuck in the mud. A vastly different state of affairs exists today... due in part to the introduction of multiple shops & up-to-date proprietors but even old concerns have changed. For three months of the year Cambridge is almost a deserted city & trade dwindles to a mere trickle, yet might be made a most attractive holiday centre & also splendid site for factories" 22 05 20 [3.8]

1922 06 03
MacFisheries ice factory fire, p5

1922 11 25
We regret to announce the death of Mr Joshua Taylor at the age of 76. Mr Taylor was the eldest son of the late Mr Joshua Taylor, who carried on a tailoring business in Cambridge and Ely. One small shop in Sidney-street doing what was mainly a country trade was all that comprised the Cambridge branch when Mr Taylor took charge. The little shop of sixty years ago developed steadily under his guidance into the present flourishing business of Messrs Joshua Taylor & Co. Ltd, tailors, hatters, bootmakers and general outfitters, which is on the same site as the shop occupied by the founder of the business

1923 03 23
Robert Sayle diamond jubilee, p5

1923 05 26
Cambridge is justly proud of its business veterans, and it may truly be said that no one is held in higher respect than Mr William Heffer. He started as a groom but resolved to make a start in business on his own, and opened as a stationers and newsagents in a shop which is still his, the Post Office in Fitzroy Street. It has been said that Mr Heffer to a large extent altered the character of Fitzroy Street, for when he introduced to Cambridge the 25% discount off books, university men and others not accustomed to frequenting that part of the town, began to stream up there, and, of course, other tradesmen - benefited in consequence c 23 05 26

1924 10 31
Laurie's new arcade, p7

1925 03 13
Messrs Bodgers of Sidney Street, Cambridge intended to reconstruct the interior of their premises, constructing a new shop front. Cambridge Council Surveyor suggested that the firm put the premises back 11 feet as required for their street widening policy. The Council must legislate for the future and in view of the serious traffic problems must attempt to widen Sidney Street. They would pay the proprietor half the cost of the land at the present time and the remainder when the setting back took place. Some of the committee felt these terms were not as favourable as those offered to Messrs Sainsbury and Woolworth.

1925 12
Sainsbury opening [4.2]

1926 07 07

A visit to the Industrial Trades Exhibition of Household Requirements at Cambridge Corn Exchange is well worth while. Housewives will be interested in a gas saver by which three sets of pans can be heated on one jet. At the Nugget Boot Polish Co's stall "boots" will clean your shoes free of charge. Messrs Robert Sayle have armchairs and some luxurious baby carriages while Messrs Miller & Sons are displaying pianos and gramophones.

1927 03 03
Sir – I read of the sale of the old-established grocery and provision business of Hallack and Bond. It is regrettable that the ownership of another great business passes away from Cambridge. To many the name has been a by-word and a guarantee of quality and good service through the personal supervision of people resident in Cambridge. This must become a serious menace to the welfare of the town and all good citizens should avail themselves of the service ably rendered by locally owned firms - Loyal Citizen 27 03 03

1927 07 08
Messrs Galloway and Porter, Cambridge, whose business operations extend to all parts of the world, have formed a private limited company. Mr Charles P. Porter, for many years sole proprietor, becomes chairman. He is well known as a Cambridge councillor and was formerly chairman of the Free Library Committee. His clients range from queens to factory boys and include foreign and colonial libraries extending to every part of the globe. 27 07 08

1927 08 12
An outstanding feature in the reconstruction of our new premises at 2, Market Hill, Cambridge, are the windows which are unique for a grocery business and compare in style with a London west-end store. We welcome an opportunity of showing you a store fitted and stocked in the most complete and scientific manner and where prized traditions inherited from our predecessors (Messrs Hallack and Bond) are upheld and carried forward with modern equipment. Shoppers may actually see their coffee roasted and ground. International Stores, the greatest grocers in the world. Advert. 27 08 12

1927 09 01
Sir – I wish to protest against the almost intolerable nuisance caused by the beating of college carpets on "The Backs", which is robbing not a few of us of all possibility of quiet thought and study. A vast number of visitors can hardly carry away an agreeable impression of a place where their ears have been so persistently assailed and affronted. Why cannot the Colleges do what is done by all the great hotels. The resources of modern science and ingenuity lie equally open to them. Why then these means of barbarism? – Thomas Thornely. c27 09 02

1927 10 17
Cambridge Co-operative Society opened its new model dairy at Sleaford Street. The manager, Mr J. Quincey said they were now retailing nearly 400 gallons a day. They served the purest and cleanest milk possible. "People say they want milk straight from the cow. But if they only saw the cleaning machine when it was taken to pieces it would surprise and probably stagger them to know the filth and dirt which came from the milk, even though they were getting the best milk from clean producers". 27 10 17

1928 04 18
At the diamond jubilee celebrations of the Cambridge Co-operative Society the Chairman, Mr G.J. Golding, said he wondered what the people concerned with the little business in City Road, Cambridge, sixty years ago would think of the Society today with annual sales of £190,000, a

membership of 16,000, 20 branches and 370 employees. Half the population of Great Britain, directly or indirectly, was now within the Co-operative movement 28 04 18

1928 06 07
A dealer who kept a stall at Cambridge market and said that a few years' back he was taking big money and making a profit of £7 a week, ascribed his failure to a variety of causes. They included bad weather, law costs and keen competition since Woolworth's Stores had been opened. He bought a Ford lorry but it caught fire as he was going to Lakenheath for a sale and all the goods were burnt at the roadside.

1928 10 23
What is probably the largest single deal in Cambridge business property ever known has just been completed. A well-known local young man has purchased property with frontages in Market Hill, Petty Cury and Sidney Street and this will be developed by a company consisting of Cambridge people. It includes premises occupied by the Craft Shoe Company, the Cambridge Chronicle offices and printing works and Boots the chemist. As Messrs Boots recently secured a large amount of property in Petty Cury and Sidney Street it would appear that big changes will be seen in this part of town when both sites are developed.

1929
Moons shop taken over by Joshua Taylor [27.9.7]

1929 01 16
Joseph Ashworth Sturton, principal director of Messrs Sturton Ltd of Fitzroy Street and a former Mayor of Cambridge has died at Bournemouth. The son of Joseph Sturton, the founder of the business 100 years ago who developed the land now known as Sturton Town, he was born above the shop and proved an industrious business man, opening branches throughout the region. In 1919 he purchased Thurston's bakers and confectioners and soon added a café. Mr Sturton was one of the first in Cambridge to interest himself in the motor car and took up the commercial car in connection with his business. He was a prominent nonconformist and founded the flourishing New Street Men's Bible Class. 29 01 16

1929 02 14
Woolworth's buy the adjoining premises of Mr Pain [2.5]

1929 05 09
Coad's shop opens CDN 9.5.1929 [3.14]

1929 11 29
A meeting of the creditors of Messrs Headley and Edwards of Corn Exchange Street, Cambridge, in voluntary liquidation, was told they had been trading under difficulties for some time. They experienced a period of prosperity just after the war but the last account to show a profit was 1923 and they had got into financial difficulty. A buyer had been found to take over the assets as a going concern and a new Company would be formed to carry on the business. CDN 19.11.1929.

1929 12 02
An interesting improvement scheme will shortly be undertaken in Petty Cury and Sidney Street. Messrs Boots the Chemist have acquired extensive property with a view to re-housing their old establishment which has grown during some 30 years. Now the time is ripe to erect an emporium to provide an attractive shopping centre for patrons of all classes. The architect is Mr Percy J.

Bartlett of Nottingham and his primary consideration is an external appearance that will harmonise with Cambridge's noble architectural traditions and raise the standard of commercial architecture. Building operations will commence early in the New Year CDN 2.12.1929

1929 12 05
Heffer's wonderful new shop in Petty Cury, Cambridge, is a book lovers' paradise. In the basement are 'remainders' at reduced prices while the ground floor is devoted to the latest publications and an extensive foreign literature section. A wide range of second-hand volumes occupies most of the first floor where connoisseurs of original editions will find much to interest them at prices from £5 to £250. On the second floor are oriental, foreign travel and fine art books while higher still are Heffer's own publications, many of local interest. There is a special reference department and out-of-print books service. The front design successfully combines and old-world impression with a modern style. 29 12 05

1930

1930 01 15
From modest beginnings in Fitzroy Street the history of the House of Heffer is one of continuous progress. The Printing Works on Hills Road has been considerable enlarged, last year saw reconstruction of the Petty Cury Bookshop which is now twice its original size, and this year sees the reconstruction of the Sidney Street Stationery and Art Shop. It will be a shop worthy of its central position. The new premises will have five floor, the frontage will be in the Georgian style with pilasters, fascia and columns of grey polished granite and the upper part will be faced with red Flemish bricks with Weldon stone dressings to the windows. A unique feature will be the Picture Gallery on the third flood with a barrel-shaped ceiling 30 01 15

1930 02 24
Theophilus Percy Gallyon, the well-known gunsmith, has died. He was head of one of the oldest Cambridge businesses, established by his great-grandfather 150 years ago. Born at the very address in Bridge Street where his shop still stands, he took over the business from his brother & will be succeeded by his eldest son. Deceased was recognised as a master of his craft and at one time indulged in shooting, a sport for which he turned out some first0class guns. 30 02 24

1930 04 03
Mr J. Sainsbury, head of the famous provision firm, opened a new residential club that will accommodate 15 young men. In a place like Cambridge it is difficult for a young man to get lodgings and this large house in Brookland's Avenue has been modernised and redecorated and is a model of its kind. The bedrooms, which have two beds, have a wardrobe and cupboard for each occupant; it has a room with facilities for games and reading and dispels any gloomy feeling about what used to be called 'living in'. There were few local firms who had made such provision for their staff. Many firms had a contributory pension scheme but they had decided against such a scheme. 30 04 03k

1930 05 28
The bookshops of Cambridge are a special feature of the town; no visitor can possibly miss David's stall on the Market Place where the book-lover may pick up a bargain. He came to Cambridge in 1896 and started his career at this stall; in 1906 he took a shop in St Edward's Passage, which is full of interesting old books and though often locked can be viewed at leisure in the window. In such esteem is he held that a luncheon was held in the Hall of Trinity College and a lithograph cartoon by Mr William Nicholson presented to him. 30 05 28a & b (major feature)

1930 07 24
Mrs Elizabeth Haslop has been described as a woman possessed of splendid business acumen. She carried on her late husband's butcher's business in Silver Street Cambridge and was the last link with the well-known firm which has been in existence for nearly 100 years and will be carried on. In her earlier life she was well-known in the Mill Road district where a small shop near Tension Road was run in her name. 30 07 24

1930 11 22
Cambridge Co-operative Society opens new premises of central building in Burleigh Street and a new bakery in Sleaford Street equipped with the most modern machinery. 500 sacks of flour a week arrive from their own private railway siding close by. They are lifted to the third floor and the flour passes through a series of automatic machines which mix and knead it into dough that is baked in steam-heated ovens. The confectionery department has a wonderful machine turning out a wide range of cake mixtures 30 11 22a-c, 30 11 24

1930 11 22
A.E. Clothier, tailor, death – 30 11 22d

1931 04 30
Mr J. Sainsbury, head of the famous provision firm, opened a new residential club that will accommodate 15 young men. In a place like Cambridge it is difficult for a young man to get lodgings and this large house in Brookland's Avenue has been modernised and redecorated and is a model of its kind. The bedrooms, which have two beds, have a wardrobe and cupboard for each occupant; it has a room with facilities for games and reading and dispels any gloomy feeling about what used to be called 'living in'. There were few local firms who had made such provision for their staff. Many firms had a contributory pension scheme but they had decided against such a scheme. 30 04 03k

1932
Gordon Thoday fabrics start Sussex Street [10.2]

1932 01 21
King Street shoe repairer – John Motley – bankruptcy – 32 01 21a

1932 02
Death of Mr A.H. Miller of music firm [2.10]

1932 02 04
The Bankruptcy Court was told that the Autoservice Company based at Haig Road, Cambridge offered an automatic vending service using machines supplied by Pelpas and Uneeda Automatics of Edgeware. When the debtor was ill the manager of the Uneeda Company, feeling the illness was a bluff, interviewed him in bed. He immediately got up, against doctor's orders. The proprietor had previously invented his own penny-in-the-slot machines but never gained patents for them. 32 02 04 & 04a

1932 02 16
The Deck family has played an important part in pharmacy and public life in Cambridge for 130 years. Isaiah introduced the custom observed for 80 years of firing rockets on New Year's Eve, Arthur made balloon ascents with his friend Henry Coxall, while Alderman Deck was chemist to the Prince of Wales while a student at Trinity. He presented his Royal Arms to the Corporation

and these are now in the Cambridge police court. The business continues to thrive under Reginald, with a new optical department. 32 02 16b

1932 02 22
New Cambridge Industry (employing only local men). Same day dry-cleaning service by the new British wonder machine which cleans and actually strengthens fabrics leaving no smell. Special opening offer: suit, costume, coat or dress, dry cleaned, hand pressed, collected and delivered for three shillings. The Forum Cleaners and Dyers, Market Hill, Cambridge (Advert) 32 02 22

1932 06 15
Ebenezer Haynes, shoe maker – 32 06 15

1932 06 16
An 'automatic laundry' has been opened in Hartington Grove Cambridge. Dignitaries inspected the Forum Cleaning and Dyeing Company machines where several garments were cleaned and dried before their eyes in less than ten minutes. After cleaning clothes pass to a dusting wheel where they are tumbled and dried in a current of cold air before passing the eagle eye of a 'spotter' to the pressing room so that obstinate stains can be removed 32 06 16a

1932 06 18
The Stokesay Laundry of Histon Road is a happy hive of industry where women and girls work under ideal conditions in a healthy atmosphere. They have installed a wonderful ironing machine which is the last word in efficiency. The extensive drying grounds in a very large garden ensure final cleanliness and sweetness. 32 06 18 & 18a

1932 10 28
John Yeomans came to Cambridge at the age of 19 in 1857 and purchased the shop at the corner of Petty Cury and Sidney Street from Mr Lyons where he carried on business as a chemist for 40 years. He had a vivid recollection of events: he knew George Stephenson personally and was a passenger in the first railway engine to run in England. 32 10 28e

1932 12 09
J.T. Lambeth told the bankruptcy court he had started as a second-hand bookseller from a stall on Market Hill. Then he took a shop at 17 Peas Hill selling antiquarian books. But a slump in trade 18 months ago meant Americans were not buying books so he had to borrow from moneylenders. 32 12 09a & b

1933 02 02
The annual domestics staff ball at the Dorothy attracted 450 servants. Although the ballroom became on the crowded side, everybody was happy. Nothing is nicer that a good servant's ball and it was good to see so many heads of households present. Percy Cowell and his band was in a particularly bright mood and led a 'merry dance; with a varied programme. The great attraction was the fancy dress parade. 33 02 02

1933 02 04
A young salesman employed at Sainsbury's in Sidney Street was found dead in the bathroom over the shop. The housekeeper said there were about 80 employed; eight boys lived on the premises, three maids and herself. They were the only ones to use the bath. They were told to turn off the gas before getting in. People might be enjoying the delights of a bath and suddenly find themselves overpowered by carbon monoxide fumes. The coroner hoped Sainsbury's would not use the geyser again or see it was placed outside the bathroom. 33 02 04a

1933 02 06
The London Co-operative Society opened their new creamery in Ditton Lane. Four years ago representatives met Cambridgeshire farmers and now hundreds supplied them with milk. They could have bought it some parts of the country at pence per gallon cheaper than in Cambridge but believed in sourcing as near as possible to London. But some small retailers who found cheap milk available had started price-cutting. 33 02 06 & a

1933 02 09
Cambridge has lost an old-established tailor by the death of Mr Byron Thomas Wait of Mill Road. His father was a tailor at St Ives but Byron came to Cambridge 52 years ago and opened the shop in Hills Road. Thirty-five years ago he extended the business to the shop at 28 Mill Road and four years later to 100 Regent Street. Two of his sons are carrying on the business. 33 02 09b

1933 05 20
Augustine Crossman started as a tailor in King's Parade over 40 years ago. There he installed a novelty in the shape of a tie-knitting machine and this developed to such an extent that he came out of the outfitting business and started the A.R.C. Knitting Company with a factory at St Tibb's Row. From there it moved to Eden Street, Norfolk Street and then Abbey Walk. 33 05 20b

1933 05 27
Finch's Walk name and ironfounders – 33 05 27 & 33 06 03a

1933 06 03
W.D. Nicholes, Mill Road store refurbishment – 33 06 03

1933 06 14
George Bolton, furniture remover, death – 33 06 14

1933 08 26
Miller's Music shop, Sidney Street – 33 08 26

1933 11 27
Joel Smart was the son of a Gloucestershire cloth manufacturer. Coming to Cambridge shortly after the battle of Waterloo he commenced business at 59 Bridge Street in 1826, removing in 1840 to Petty Cury and in 1853 to 11 Market Street. Here he purchased the clothing business of Watson Taylor who had been trading from early in the century. He took his son, Charles, into partnership, in whose family the business still remains. Such is the history of one of the oldest firms in Cambridge where customers will find all the latest materials and the most fashionable styles at keen prices. 33 11 27

1934 01 23
Robert Brown sold two million gallons 'Somerlite' lamp oil a year around Cambridge. He got oil from various sources, mixed it together and told the public that it had no equal. So when his sister-in-law, an oil and hardware merchant at Fordham, started selling oil that did not come from him under the 'Somerlite' name he took the case to court. Their vans both carried that name and there was a danger that people might assume the two were the same, he claimed. But the case was dismissed. 34 01 23 & 26

1934 05 15

Marks and Spencer's new shop will be opened on Friday morning. The premises have a frontage to Sidney Street. The ground floor space is devoted entirely to sales while the first and second floors contain stock rooms, offices and other accommodation for the staff of 60 assistants who have been mainly recruited locally. There is a dining room where staff can obtain lunch at a cost of sixpence. There will be no 'stunt' lines at opening and 90 per cent of the goods sold are of British manufacture 34 05 15 [1.2]

1934 05 18
Within a few hours of the official opening of Marks and Spencer's Cambridge stores two of their windows were broken. There was a large crowd both inside the shop and on the pavement when suddenly a man went up to the left-hand centre window and, taking a large stone from his pocket, threw it and broke the glass. Shaking with rage, he then walked to the other centre window and smashed that with another stone. Nearby policemen took him into custody. 34 05 18

1934 05 29
One of the best-known Cambridge hairdressers Alexander Joseph Priziborsky was born in Cambridge 54 years ago. It was his father who founded the hairdressing establishment in Round Church Street about 1856 and on his death in 1905 his son took it over. He shaved his first customer when nine years old and built up a first class reputation, the majority of his customers coming from outside the town 34 05 29

1934 06 27
Robert Sayle's great reconstruction sale. On account of extensive alterations we need to move the whole of the stock and are marking goods at prices which convey positively unique values. Fully laundered linen sheets, single bed size – 21/- (£1.05). Tennis shorts of pique, white and colours 4/11 (25p). Boys' double-breasted tweed suits 10/6 (52p). Bargains from the shoe department: summer shoes to clear at 12/1 (60p) – Advertisement. 34 06 27

1934 08 01
After a history of 100 years it is hardly surprising that there is a thorough tobacco atmosphere about the shop of Messrs Bacon Bros which has stood on Market Hill since 1805 and the news that it is to be pulled down with cause regret to many. A number of ledgers over 100 years old, containing fascinating information about the smokers have come to light including the original accounts sent to C.S. Calverley whose 'Ode to Tobacco' appears on the outer wall of the shop. A new shop will be built on almost the same spot. 34 08 01

1934 09 21
Messrs George Stace's new windows in his Petty Cury Arcade are absolutely the latest idea. They curve inwards to reduce reflections making the glass invisible. Spotlights inside, which can be given any colour, provide the perfect finish and one feels one has only to reach out and touch the articles. Showrooms upstairs have been reconstructed and one of the workrooms moved to make space room for the new arcade 34 09 21

1934 09 27
Hot Bargains at the great re-building sale at the Peas Hill Cash Drapery Stores. Household linens, blankets, dress and underwear fabrics at knock-out prices including Wigan sheeting, Jaspe bedspreads, Gent's fancy socks, Ladies artificial silk knickers (slightly fleeced) and interlock woven pyjamas. From college hire, 50 pairs of single bed sheets, once used and laundered, from 3/6 each. Six dozen heavy white Turkish Towels (one used and laundered) nine-pence three-farthings each. – Advertisement 34 09 27

1934 11 24
The old-established business of Messrs Robert Sayle has been acquired by Selfridge's Provincial Stores but the name remains, the General Manager remains and the staff remains – "I like the look of them and the merchandise is tastefully displayed", said H.G. Selfridge, junior. He studied at Trinity and was treasure of the Boat Club Ball in 1920-21 when it was held for the first time in a marquee at the college, instead of in the Corn Exchange. 34 11 24

1934 12 07
Barratt shoes have just opened their 126th branch at 6 Market Street Cambridge. When you consider that ten years ago they had fewer than 20 you must allow that they'd progressed. Some of the lines are stocked in no fewer than fifty alternative fittings. They are made in Barratt's own factory and sold only through their branches. From start to finish every detail is under their control and there are no middleman's profits – advert 34 12 07

1934 12 17
Arthur Colin Lunn was born over his tobacconist's shop premises in Bridge Street in 1896 and assumed control of his father's business founded nearly a century ago. His brother carried on the same trade in Oxford. When the business was turned into a limited liability company seven years ago he became governing director. Although one of the best-known business men in Cambridge he did not take a prominent part in either public or social life. 34 12 17

1935 01 12
We felt customers would like to know something about our dairy. Our cows graze on our fields at Chesterton, Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Shelford Bottom, the finest pasture in the county. They are thoroughly groomed and their udders washed before being milked using electrical apparatus at our Abbey Street premises. The milk is cooled and bottled without being touched by hand, then kept in a cold storage chamber before delivery. The cream is separated daily. We guarantee early delivery twice daily to all parts of town. Arnold Brothers (established over 75 years), Abbey Street, Cambridge –advertisement. 35 01 12a & b

1935 03 07
S.A. Rolfe's wholesale confectioners and tobacconists business started 25 years ago in a very small way on East Road. Now it is the largest of its kind in the Eastern Counties with nine full-time travellers and 15 motor vans. New premises in Newmarket Road house an enormous variety of brands including chocolates from R.S. Murray and 'Classic' bottle sweets made by Messrs Parkes. Mr Rolfe was hailed as a hard-working and keen young business man who by sheer determination and grit had made his mark in his chosen trade. 35 03 07, 35 03 09 & a

1935 03 27
Coad's new store, beside Woolworth's in Sidney Street, with its new arcade and island cases is a glowing example of the shop fitter's craft. There are now three floors and the splendid oak-panelled stairway has been retained. The fashion salons are already quite famous for their remarkable values in coats, woollies and blouses and the millinery salon is well lit. At the farther end lies the Lingerie and Corsetry Salon and a Younger Ladies' Department where the woman to today can shop like mother does. 35 03 27a

1935 04 10
Corporation proposals for the widening and improvement of Sidney Street and the lower part of Petty Cury met with vigorous opposition. In 1922 they had taken powers to prescribe frontage lines and in 1924 when Messrs Woolworth's and Sainsbury's came to Cambridge they agreed to set back their premises and gave the land to the Council. Various other places were reconstructed

and now the frontage line had been prescribed from Sainsbury's to Millers with the exception of Almond's and the Prudential Assurance Company. The Surveyor said the street was urgently in need of widening to cope with increased traffic. The Livingstone Hotel had been carried on in Sidney Street for 30 years. Under street widening proposals they would be left with the second, third and fourth floors which they could not get at at all. It was used by travellers who could not afford more expensive hotels. 35 04 10 & a, 35 04 11

1935 04 11
At Laurie & McConnal buyers can see what new furniture will look like in a room. One of their big showrooms has been partitioned off to represent drawing rooms, bedrooms and even a kitchen. Each has been furnished and decorated with harmonised carpets and wallpapers. Chesterfield suites can be bought for nine guineas cash or through a no deposit hire purchase scheme. There is no other display like this in the Eastern Counties. So popular has it proved that the firm are going to build another forty rooms! 35 04 11a

1935 05 03
A number of shoppers at Messrs Robert Sayle's new store accepted the invitation of Mr J.W. Pretty to take morning coffee in the library, in celebration of the opening of the store after the improvements which have been carried out. These have made conditions very much better for shoppers: there is now twice as much sales room as before and the whole store has been opened up. The fact that it is now one of a chain means that values are better than ever before, and will remain so 35 05 03

1935 05 07
Joshua Taylor 'Six Reigns of Service' history published– 35 05 07h

1935 09 27
The opening of Bacon Bros' new premises on Market Hill will forge a new link in a unique chain of tradition. Old ledgers record the names of customer who became famous in every walk of life including the Prince of Wales, the future Baron Rothschild and both Alfred and Charles Tennyson. The new interior fittings are made of cedar so that the shop is like a giant cigar box with many relics of bygone days. Verses from the 'Ode to Tobacco' by Charles Stuart Calverley which featured on the wall of the old building in Rose Crescent until its demolition last year are to make their reappearance in the form of a bronze tablet. 35 09 27b & 28a

1935 10 01
Charles Kidman of the well-known Cambridge building firm was inspecting work on the Co-op's new bakery in Sleaford Street when he almost fell from the scaffolding. He was caught and held by the foreman. Doctors decided he must be kept lying down and the Fire Brigade's new water tower was brought to the scene. The escape ladder was extended over the spot where Mr Kidman lay. He was placed on a cradle made of planks, swung out into the air and lowered to the ground. 35 10 01b

1935 12 05
John Whitehead, 65, has been in the fruit and vegetable trade all his life. He started hawking goods on a barrow and then with a horse and cart. About 40 years ago he took a shop in Fitzroy Street and struggled to bring up a big family – he had 13 sons. It was difficult to obtain goods during the Great War but afterwards got a motor lorry and in 1933 went to London for goods for the Christmas trade. They were brought to a garage in Cambridge from which they were stolen. Then a run-away horse smashed up his van and the lorry ran into a lamp post. 35 12 05b

1935 12 05
Walter Nicholas told the court he'd started as a confectioner at Little Downham. He knew nothing about the business and only took £8 a week of which thirty shillings was profit. So he added a little vegetable round, buying from neighbouring farmers. He had a motor van and later a lorry for £75, paying by instalments. As business was poor he came to Cambridge in September 1934 and started in the wholesale vegetable business, but lost more money. He disposed of his lorry for £10 and paid off some of his debts. Then he was refused a potato licence, which was a major reason for his failure. 35 12 05c

1936 01 03
With the enlargement of the drapery section, the Co-operative Society's premises in Burleigh Street comprise the finest Departmental Store in Cambridge. On the ground floor, the Butchery has finest home-killed and imported meat, Grocery sells bread and confectionary, Outfitting has made-to-measure suits while Furnishing has three-piece suites and mirrors. Every Department is equipped in the most modern manner with lifts to all parts of the building. 36 01 03d & e

1936 01 30
Benjamin Rayment was first apprenticed to the shoemaking trade at a shop in Trumpington Street but decided to try his fortune elsewhere. He walked to Birmingham for work before entering the hat industry in Luton when the first hat-blocking machine was introduced from America. He returned to Cambridge and carried on business in Burleigh Street as a straw and felt hat maker for close on 70 years. When the straw hat industry was in its prime he used to supply 'boaters' to most of the University shops in the town. He had a wonderful memory with recollections of the Crimean War, the Chartist Riots and the great exhibition in Hyde Park and died in his 100th year. 36 01 30

1936 03 25
Roger Roe carried on the antique business in St Andrew's Street in succession to his father and many times had the honour of waiting upon royalty, dies – 36 03 25c

1936 03 26
Modern living with its flats, bungalows and almost stream-lined houses, can no longer accommodate the fine old heavy furniture of our ancestors. Today the cult is for comfort and utility in limited space so Robert Sayle has equipped their basement to show this new furniture. Here you can see complete rooms set out with wallpaper decoration, carpets, curtains, lamps and all the etceteras which make a house a home. There is even a little nursery that is wallpapered with a new type of American cloth which is washable and most hygienic. What home-proud woman will want to refuse such advice? – Advert 36 03 26

1936 04 09
Important Notice. Peak's furnishers, King Street, Cambridge have built up the name and reputation for selling reliable goods. We give an expert furnishing service with 150 bedroom, dining and drawing room suites always on show. Don't be misled. We have no branch shop and no connection with any other furniture store. – Advert 36 04 09b

1936 04 30
John Whitaker, the well-known Cambridge antique dealer who has died in his 92nd year, was a craftsman of skill and taste, a carver of wood and stone and many buildings were enriched by his work. He had travelled extensively in India, the Cape, America and the Continent and also had a great knowledge of local history. The business of a dealer in antiques never ceased to appeal to

him and he could discuss items with shrewdness and judgment. He was Bohemian in appearance, whimsical and entertaining and with an optimism unbounded. 36 04 30

1936 05 12
Marks & Spencer tender £26,000 for 10-11 Sidney Street as a general stores – 36 05 12a

1936 07 09
Much regret will be felt at the death of John Morris Bull, the dairyman. Born in Landbeach, he assisted his father who was village smith before buying a diary business from Mr Thompson of Russell Street, Cambridge in 1891. During the War he was one of the organisers of the Dairyman's Association that ensured a regular supply of milk. A life-long Liberal, he had a good record of public service on the Board of Guardians and County Council. He leaves a widow and three sons 36 07 09a

1936 07 28
A tapestry showing a panoramic view of Windsor Castle that was produced as a personal Silver Jubilee gift for the late King George V and Queen Mary is now on view in London. It represents the very finest modern English weaving and was designed and woven by the Cambridge Tapestry Company in their workshops at Thomson's Lane. The weavers were Ellen Nichols, Sylvia Corby, Ethel Lander, Dorothy Pettit, Elsie Blunt and Alice Haylett working under the direction of Hilda Lister. 36 07 28a

1936 08 22
Mr & Mrs Ben Mills of Sleaford Street received a telegram of congratulations from the King on their diamond wedding. Born at Hardwick, he lost his right arm in an accident at the age of nine. Refusing to allow that disability to mar his life, he came to St Paul's School, Cambridge and soon qualified as a teacher. He worked for W.G. Chater, the woollen merchants before joining the Co-operative movement in 1876, starting at the old shop in Fitzroy Street. In 1901 he opened the new shop in Burleigh Street with a silver key and has seen the premises grow. He became Provincial Grand Master of the Oddfellows. His wife has been a familiar figure at the functions, quietly lending a hand 'behind the scenes' and catering for juvenile outings. 36 08 22a

1936 09 03
When John Brown took charge of Freeman, Hardy & Willis shop on Market Hill in 1897 boots were cheap, and needed to be: "I can remember country women coming in with a dozen children and saying their husbands only earned twelve shillings a week". When he started brown boots were so scarce that people stopped and gazed at someone who sported a pair in Peterborough. Most had hob nails in the sole – even those for infants - and women wore elastic-sided boots – it didn't matter what they wore, because you never saw their feet. The shop was enlarged into premises next door in 1905 36 09 03a

1936 10 17
Two old Churchwardens pipes over the string course of the parapet of Messrs Almond's shop at 11 Sidney Street, now being demolished, are a reminder that it was once used by Joshua Lee for the making of clay pipes. Mr A.T. Potter recalls that there had once been a large kiln in the centre of the shop in which the pipes were baked. There is also a very fine old lead head to the down pipe which has cross clay pipes embossed on it. 36 10 17b

1936 10 19
Joshua Taylor – 'Our advertisers' photo – 36 10 19b

1936 10 30
Eaden Lilley – our advertisers feature – 36 10 30b

1936 11 06
A. Mackintosh, ironmongers – advertisers feature – 36 11 06a

1936 11 07
Messrs W.T. Thrussell and Sons, the well-known Cambridge firm of shoemakers, held a dinner in honour of Mr F.H. Lucchesi's 70th birthday. 'Fred' has been with the firm for 56 years and recalled many amusing incidents connected with the 'good old days' of shoemaking. Mr E.W. Brett, an employee of 38 years' service also spoke of the early days of the firm. The speeches were interspersed with musical entertainment 36 11 07

1936 11 20
W. Heffer & sons history – Advertisers – 36 11 20c

1936 11 20
Gustave David, known as 'David' to generations of undergraduates has died hours after returning by the midnight train having attended a London auction. He came to Cambridge forty years ago, opening his now-famous stall on Market Hill. Later he opened a shop in Green Street before moving to St Edward's Passage. He was the first man in Cambridge to sell rare and old books at low prices. So appreciative were Universitymen of his services that in 1925 a number of distinguished members entertained him to lunch at Trinity in recognition of the 'conspicuous services he has rendered the cause of humane letters'. 36 11 20 a & b

1936 11 20
W. Heffer & sons history – Advertisers – 36 11 20c

1936 12 05
Bacon's tobacconist history – 'Advertisers' series – 36 12 05

1936 12 19
Smart & Son, Bridge Street – advertisers – 36 12 19a

1936 12 24
S.A. Rolfe, wholesale tobacconist – advertisers – 36 12 24

1937 01 22
Belfast Linen Warehouse – advertisers – 37 01 22b

1937 01 30
Peaks Furnishers of King Street was commenced in 1924 by Mr W.H. Peak and by dealing in reliable goods, together with a sound service, he has rapidly built up business. The premises have been extended and improved from time to time and a very large floor space is now devoted to the display of floor coverings and furniture. Consistent advertising in the CDN for a number of years has helped considerably to make this firm so widely known. 37 01 30f

1937 02 06
Robert Hensher, draper business – advertisers – 37 02 06

1937 02 12

Mr G.H. Jacob specialises in his tailoring for ladies and gentlemen and holds Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in addition to thirteen trade diplomas. He offers a complete gentlemen's outfitting service. The shop at 34 and 35 Burleigh Street was established in 1859 by Mr P.S. Stevenson and taken over by Mr Jacob in 1912. In 1926 the business was extended by the opening of a branch shop at 23 St Andrew's Street where extensive enlargements and alterations have just been completed. 37 02 12, 37 02 24b

1937 03 05
Annual Business review: description of activities:
Dorothy Café, Morlin's, Greene King, W.H. Pratt, Rendezvous cinema, Bowes & Bowes, J. Sanders, Murkett Bros, Otto Wehrle, Provincial Homes – 37 03 05
Arnold Bros, A.H. Careless, Dolphin's shoe repair, Whitmore, English Bros, W. Delph, S.A. Rose, Cherry Hinton Granaries, Coulson, S. Ginn – 37 05 05a
Smart tailors, Sennitt's game, Hayward cycle, Marshall's, F.J. Prime, Bird's Chemical works, Flack & Judge, Banham, Leys Laundry, Bell & co travel agents, Hallen's motor cycles – 37 03 05b
Allen & Welcher painters, H. Tredgett florists – 37 03 05c
Miller's music, Cam electrical, Cambs Permanent Benefit Building Society, George Stace costumiers, Trustee Savings Bank, Hyman & Cox opticians, Edw Harper funerals, F. Winton Smith butchers, Austin coal, Cambridge University Gas Light Co – 37 03 05d
Cambridge Brush, Cambridge Secretarial training school, J. Holliman furnishers, F.W. Drake medical herbalist, Cambridge Steam Laundry, A Sidney Campkin pharmacists, F.M. Wilson insurance, Collins & Clark antiques – 37 03 05e
Williamson's furnishers, Robert Sayle, J. Ward cycle, Riding School, Dale's Brewery, Hockey auctioneers, Cambridge Billposting Co, Electric Wiring & Repair, Cambridgeshire Motors, New Cambridge Tyre co – 37 03 05f
Ivett & Reed monumental masons, Evans Flanders chemist, E.E. Harmer income tax, Layton & Leech masons, H.J. Gray sports, S. Rampling surgical appliance, Cambridge Health Spa, George Bolton removal, Kwick cleaners, Wm Farren furrier – 37 03 05g

1937 04 23
Wm Scott and Son, art decorators and painting opened their new premises in James Street. On the site of the disastrous fire which gutted the old site in July last has arisen one of the most up-to-date works equipped with the very latest plant and materials for high quality motor-body and van repairs, cellulose spraying, painting, lettering, joinery work etc. They are specialists in glass & sign writing, plumbing and repairs to residential and business property and have achieved distinction for the high quality of all work. – Advert. 37 04 23e

1937 04 23
Barwell Tyre Renewing Company – advertiser – 37 04 23f

1937 05 10
Remarkably fine silken embroideries have been prepared for the embellishment of the thrones to be used at the Coronation of their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. The King's throne is adorned with the Royal Arms while the Queen's also carried her newly-granted Bowes Lyon arms. The Cambridge Tapestry Company was entrusted with the work of embroidering the backs of the thrones. All the preliminary drawings on linen were made in Cambridge and the work was completed at the company's premises at Ickleford, near Hitchin 37 05 10

1937 05 29
Bull's diary has cowsheds behind shop in Hills Road – advertisers – 37 05 29a

1937 07 24
Messrs J. Johnson and Son's premises at 51 Sidney Street, usually referred to as 'Johnson's Shirt Shop' is probably one of the oldest outfitters in Cambridge, the premises being first opened in 1880. In 1922 the business was acquired by Mr A.G. Mole and is now under the sole charge of his son, Cecil. Much of the success of this specialised Men's Outfitting business has been due to consistent advertising in the C.D.N. 37 07 24

1937 09 10
The Rycroft Rubber Company commenced business in Cambridge in 1904, specialising in waterproof and rainproof garments, surgical and mechanical rubber goods, water hose and all classes of rubber and reinforced rubber tubing and Wellington Boots. It now the finest and most complete shop of its kind in the Eastern Counties and a regular advertiser in the CDN 37 09 10

1937 09 17
Gallyon gun makers – advertisers – 37 09 17c

1937 10 08
Matthew's new bakery in Cherry Hinton Road has a complete absence of machinery in the confectionary department as it was staffed by excellent craftsmen trained specially for the job. Night bakers work from 10pm to 5am when the confectionary bakers and delivery men start. There is a special oven for making Vienna bread with a thermspray boiler operated by gas which manufactures wet or dry steam that is introduced under pressure into the dough, ensuring a crisp crust. An ultra-violet ray lamp, similar to those used in hospital, floods the flour before mixing and the dough before baking, From the ovens the bread is loaded into racks which are placed bodily into electric delivery vehicles 37 10 08b

1937 10 23
A.W. Morlin, ironmongers and builders' merchants started 1909 – 37 10 23

1937 11 04
Cambridge Co-operative Society's new store on corner of Histon and Windsor Road serves the needs of this new and populous district. The attractive up-to-date building has been designed with a dignity worthy of its position; the elevations are faced with Portland Stone and multi-coloured red bricks, forming a frame for the blue and gold mosaic panels incorporating the Society's name. The shop fronts are of bronze with oak entrance doors and polished granite stall board risers. The floor of the butchery shop is covered with marble mosaic and the grocery shop with rubber flooring 37 11 04a

1937 12 04
Cambridge was a prosperous town but much of the trade depended upon the students and members of the University. The colleges are becoming self-contained so the need for lodgings was drying up. On Sunday it is like walking along the streets of a lost city with the shop fronts in darkness. Cambridge should appoint a publicity agent to attract visitors and conferences, said Mayor, Ald Briggs. A great deal of progress is due to the two or three large light industries who have made their home here and it needs more 37 12 04 & a

1937 12 15
E.M. Vinsen, Newmarket Road post office – advertisers – 37 12 15b

1938 03 04

The Health Foods and Herbal Store of Green Street has been established several years and specialises in non-fresh foods of many kinds; unrefined cereals, wholemeal flour, biscuits and cake; choice fruits, nuts, honey & oils – in fact everything nearest to nature and consequently the cheapest for man, woman and child. Now they have bought a speedy little delivery van to distribute their goods to customers. Some of their products however travel by post almost to the ends of the earth 38 03 04e

1938 05 30
S.A. Rolfe's wholesale tobacconist and confectioners business began in a very small way in East Road, in 1911. Now it is the largest in the Eastern Counties employing nine full-time travellers. In March 1935 they moved to Newmarket Road where the stock is kept in perfect condition and its 20 motor vans can be loaded completely under cover. They cover a territory reaching as far as Clacton, Frinton-on-Sea, Peterborough and Luton conveying tons of tobacco every day. All leading brands are stocked including R.S. Murray (chocolates and confectionary) and Messrs Parkes 'Classic' boiled sweets – Advert. 38 05 30b

1938 07 22
Sussex Street is the most striking of the many improvements made in Cambridge during the past few years. Those who recall the dark, narrow lane of bygone days, with its overhanging roofs on either side and its small ill-lit shops, will hardly recognise the imposing street that has emerged from the builders' hands with its line of modern shops and shop-fronts. It is now Cambridge's latest shopping centre. 38 07 22

1938 10 29
The West End comes to Cambridge. Paris House, the beautiful new fashion rendezvous in Sussex Street caters specifically for the High Class trade. The Inner Court, richly executed in Indian Padouk and Australian Walnut, displays the most lovely garments, becoming the rendezvous for ladies of taste. To Car Users – our Commissionaire will attend to your car with pleasure while you are in our salon – Advert 38 10 29b

1938 11 18
Messrs W.A. Bull commenced business in Burleigh Street over 30 years ago – Advertisers – 38 11 18

1938 11 29
Mayfair, Cambridge's new fashion specialist opened its salon at 75 Regent Street, transforming an empty shop into a revelation of smartness and beauty. Mannequins displayed a collection of the loveliest prevailing fashions comprising a galaxy of dresses grave and gay, day and evening gowns, tailored suits and winter coats. They will supply only exclusive models with special attention to smart styles for the fuller figure. 38 11 29

1938 11 29
Eaden Lilley's 'Toyland' department has toys of all kinds, sizes and prices and for sixpence the young visitor can pay a trip in the Flying Comet to the Land of the Midnight Sun and (perhaps more important) Father Christmas. There is a range of Meccano and Hornby products together with the Mickey Mouse Circus Train. Dinky toys, marionettes worked by hand and outfits to transform the wearer into a bus conductor or soldier are obtainable from a shilling upwards. Games including the still popular 'Monopoly', its successor 'Totopoly' and home cinemas are a strong feature 38 11 29a

1939 02 23

No.7 Petty Cury, comprising a double-fronted shop in the occupation of Messrs Lipton, the upper floors providing part of the bedroom accommodation of the Lion Hotel was offered for sale by auction. Shop property in the heart of the shopping centre of Cambridge seldom came to market by public auction and formed an excellent purchase for occupation, speculation or investment. It would be very difficult to find a much better investment. Demand was especially keen in Cambridge where the best shopping area was limited owing the centre being 'horseshoed' by college buildings. But it failed to reach its reserve and was withdrawn at £11,750 (about £650,000 today) 39 02 23a

1939 05 26
The packing room of the Forum Cleaning Works, Hartington Grove was destroyed by fire that started in a machine in one of the cleaning rooms. This was put out with the aid of a fire extinguisher. The clothing was then put in one of the tanks and was run through a press room. When some of the staff reached the door, however, the handles of the tank burst, and the whole lot went up in flames; there was some danger of the fire spreading to a 500-gallon tank of white spirit. 39 05 26 CIPof

1939 08 11
Ben Mills was one of the pioneer workers of the Cambridge Co-operative Society. He joined in 1873 & appointed part-time secretary in 1882. He served as secretary until 1910 39 08 11 CIPof

1940

1940 11 23
Duchess of Gloucester shops at Eaden Lilley – 40 11 23a

1942 03 26
Simper, rope and tarpauling maker, New Street – was one of few people who could spin hemp two-handed – 42 03 26

1942 09 24
A.E. Stearn started as grocer in East Road in Jan 1893; in 1908 wholesale side transferred to Fitzroy Street where carried on by sons. – 42 09 24

1943 07 03
Beales tailors & robemakers, Sidney Street: association ends after 143 years with retirement of B.W.Beales [1.7]

1946 12 14
Heffers bookshop night blaze causes £25.000 damages, CID investigate – 46 11 13; Heffer's fire arson case – 46 12 14

1947 03 05
Belfast Linen reopens – queues, p6

1947 08 30
Flack & Judge grocers for 50 years passes to Matthew & Son 47 08 30

1948 02 28
Death of Harry Davenport last of Cambridge's Victorian & Edwardian tailors, worked for Thurlbourns, Trinity Street [1.8]

1949 01 05
Several Cambridge shops have their January sales in full swing. Messrs W. Eaden Lilley, Market Street, find that the possibility of the ending of clothes rationing is having a psychological effect. "People are inclined to be a bit rash with their coupons and the half-price, half-price coupon goods are going well". Messrs G. Stace, Petty Cury, have cleared some of their Old Look stock and a number of suits have been sold at a quarter of their price - £20 coats at £4.19s.6d. It was pointed out that the "shorter lady" scores, as some of the old length garments look new length on her

1949 08 27
Cambridge Trades Fair Association hold Festival, 66,000 visit [1.10]

1950

1950 01 05
The January sales are in full swing in a number of local shops. As far as clothes are concerned these are the first no coupon sales for eight years. At Laurie and McConnal's coloured cotton sheets were reduced from 58/5 (£2.90) pair to 40/- (£2). Messrs Eaden Lilley had a queue of some 200 waiting when they opened on Saturday. A few discontinued lines are still left and there remain bargains in blouses and oddments in material at half price. An outstanding bargain is in prams, which because of their delicate colour (beige), have hung fire and are being heavily reduced.

1950 01 06
About half-a-dozen women bargain hunters waited all night for the opening of Messrs Heyworth's Sidney St, Cambridge, sale today. The first queuer had waited 15 hours for a brown suit reduced from 79/6 (£3.95) to £1. All the fur coats marked down from £37 to £10 have been snapped up but the main rush was in the children's section. It was expected that the bargains will just about last out the two days of the sale.

1950 03 01
Messrs W. Eaden Lilley, Market St, Cambridge this year celebrates their 200th anniversary. Senior member at present, whose period of service numbers just on 60 years, is Mr George Heath, who has worked his way up and is now responsible for the grocery, household goods, painting and hardware department, both wholesale and retail. His long service and keen interest in the firm have earned him a directorship. "I should they are the kindest people you could possibly work for. There is a long family tradition behind them", he said.

1950 07 17
Are men becoming sale minded? When Joshua Taylor's summer sale started there were a number of men waiting in the queue for the door to open. "It is the first time we have ever had men queuing" I was told. It appears that what they were after was shirts reduced from 35/6 to 25/- and 30/- to £1; a particularly natty line in pyjamas at ties and socks at almost half price. It is a sign of the hard-up times in which we live that the store is finding people more selective than ever.

1950 09 04
Cambridge's own Olympia-in-miniature opened on Midsummer Common. The Cambridge Trades Fair Summer Festival attracted over 15,000 people on one day alone. In opening the fair the mayor said: "We in Cambridge know that at one period anything in the way of localised

industry was frowned upon. Today I am thankful to say that old spirit has died and we can be proud of the industries which have crept up over a long period of years" 50 09 04

1950 09 09
Messrs G. Heyworth of Sidney Street took the opportunity to let their suppliers see their stand at the Cambridge Trades Fair. Mr Heyworth said theirs was one of the older types of family business with a progressive outlook. Special reference was made to the excellent standard set by the CDN and the trouble the editorial staff went to in order to get inside knowledge and get their facts right on any particular matter they wished to present to the public.

1950 09 27
The news that Mr Douglas Nicholes is disposing of his well-known drapery and outfitting business in Mill Road will be received with regret by local people who admire the pioneer spirit and enterprise of a family concern. There are still people who can remember the early days of what was then a small lock-up shop surrounded by fields – known as Feke's Meadows - on both sides of the roads on the town side. It is 68 years since Mr W.D. Nicholes founded the business. In those early days they were the largest wholesalers of foreign goods in East Anglia. The retail side was developed later and menswear has always been a speciality 50 09 27

1951 01 02
The weather when the Belfast Linen Warehouse started their January sale did not daunt the determination of housewives. A large queue was waiting for the doors to open. Therein was an abundance of real bargains at 'slaughtered' prices, for example full size down quilts with bedspreads to match were marked down from £12 15s. to £4 19s. The manager said: 'The patience of the women during their uncomfortable vigil in the snow was truly remarkable. Everyone was in good humour. Not a grouse was heard from the customers or the good-tempered, much harassed assistants"

1951 01 29
"More central parking urged, people go shopping in other towns" - (headline) [1.19]

1951 03 10
Modern machinery has already done much to revolutionise food manufacture, and the tremendous advances it has brought to bread-making – from the old days when a baker kneaded dough all night in a hot, often unhygienic bakehouse, to today when bread can be made between mid-day and midnight, entirely by machine and practically untouched by hand, was demonstrated by Mr George Hawkins at the new automatic plant for bread making installed at the Model Bakery, Parsonage Street, Cambridge 51 03 10

1951 03 24
Cambridge Plate Glass Mutual Insurance Company centenary, started 25 March 1851 at King's Head Inn, Sidney Street [1.15]

1951 04 30
The woollen products of Messrs I & R Morley Ltd have a world-wide reputation and the label is accepted for value, hard wear and reliability. But perhaps people do not associate the name with Cambridge, which is on the whole, not a particularly industrial city. Yet they do have a factory in Abbey Walk, which produces as many as 135 dozen garments a week. At present 120 workers are employed but a plan is under way to turn it into a modern up-to-date knitwear factory

1951 04 30

Messrs Spillers celebrated the official opening of the Company's new Central Laboratories in Station Road, Cambridge, built to replace a laboratory destroyed in a bombing raid in London four days after the outbreak of the last war. Work went on at Birkenhead and then in 1947 it was decided to build and erect a new building at Cambridge, started in 1949. The mill has been renewed and remodelled on the very latest lines, designed primarily for milling home-grown wheats 51 05 30

1951 07 02
The announcement of the closing down of Messrs George Stace Ltd's Petty Cury store marks the closing of yet one more old-established firm that has filled a special niche in the local fashion trade for many years. The name had come to stand for a good, solid, middle class trade. It was not necessarily a smart one, but it met the needs of a definite section of the community. It catered for the matron, and for the essentially well-to-do family of both town and county. Its place is to be taken by a big, modern multiple tailoring stores; the original 'Alexandra House', a small single fronted shop was built in 1869 51 07 02

1952 01 08
The January sales are now in full swing and queues of bargain hunters are to be seen outside various shops. Messrs Coad opened its sale on Monday and the main demand was for all-wood lumber jackets reduced from 29s 11d (£1.50) to 14s. 11d. (75p). The first arrival at Rose's Fashion Centre sale was there at 5 a.m. and by the time the store opened there were about 100 people waiting, so many that the doors had to be closed and a few shoppers let in at a time. The biggest run was on heavily reduced taffeta dresses. At Joshua Taylor people came in from a radius of 50 miles and the first bargain hunter arrived at 4 a.m. to secure a handbag which at £2. 2s. was one-third of its original price.

1952 06 05
While 26 assistants searched for smoke they could smell in their living quarters above the premises of Messrs Robert Sayle in St Andrew's Street, Cambridge, a thick pall poured out of one of the windows on the top floor. When the alarm was raised a score of them dashed downstairs and through the shop carrying their belongings with them. One assistant, Miss Ann Todd, said: "I thought of all of my clothes and I struggled down from my room with masses of them. I wasn't going to leave them behind". As it was Thursday afternoon there were only about 30 people in the premises at the time. Staff organised a chain of buckets until the arrival of the Fire Brigade.

1952 07 18
First arrival in the queue at Heyworth's, Sidney Street, Cambridge, sale was a man. He arrived at 3.45 a.m. to buy his wife a red whipcord coat reduced from £10.10s. to 29s.11d. He was joined at 4 a.m. by a commercial traveller who got up at this early hour to buy his wife a grey gabardine suit marked down from £21.10s. to 59s.11d. One or two bargain hunters had walked three or four miles to join the queue and by 9 a.m. tickets had been given out to 370 waiting to secure the many half-price bargains. Everybody was happy, and there were no sale fights.

1952 09 01
With a fanfare from six scarlet-suited trumpeters Cambridge's third Trades Fair on Midsummer Common was opened. Immediately afterwards the Mayor went to the Interflora stand and sent a basket of roses by air to the Mayor of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Three local firms, Messrs Biggs of Peas Hill, Messrs J. Rogers of Newnham and Messrs Ridgeon's of Sussex Street, pooled their dollar allocations to provide the roses for America. In the first six hours 12,642 people paid for admission

1952 09 06
The Cambridge Co-operative Society's new bakery in Sleaford Street, Cambridge was opened and more than 100 people were shown round by Mr V. Grimes, the bakery manager. It is possible to turn out 1,200 loaves an hour. At no point is a draught, the enemy of good bread, allowed to enter the building, doors being surrounded by hygienic glass brick screens. It is the fourth bakery; the first was built in 1872, the next in 1888 and then in 1930 a "model bakery" was built in Sleaford Street. But the Society grew at such a rapid pace a new building became necessary with the latest machinery to turn out the bread 52 09 06

1952 10 08
It has long been the ambition of Heyworths of Sidney Street, Cambridge, to be able to claim that they catered for their women customers from head to foot. But there was one thing missing. They did not stock shoes. This has now been rectified and a brand new women's shoe department was opened in the basement. Only "Lotus" and "Delta" shoes will be sold, including shoes for day (fashion and walking) and evening wear. The innovation is welcomed by customers and trade has been brisk.

1952 11 12
"East Road traders face bankruptcy" - 91% of properties are in short life or no life categories - 100 years old & poorly constructed. Propose using Norfolk Street as local shopping centre & keep East Road for traffic route [2.6]

1952 11 17
Mr George Hawkins, who has been the sole owner of G.P. Hawkins Ltd has announced that he has disposed of his entire shareholding to the Cambridge Co-operative Society. The firm was founded in 1838 in Fitzroy Street, which is still one of their shops. At the beginning of the century the late Mr G.P. Hawkins opened a shop and café in Sidney Street. In 1929 these premises and the adjoining site were extensively developed resulting in the opening in 1931 of 'The Dorothy' as it stands today.

1952 11 20
Discuss possible shopping centre Fitzroy Street. Co-op have acquired Hawkins & may take opportunity to move from Burleigh Street into centre [2.7]

1952 12 02
Mrs Dale (Ellis Powell) of BBC fame will have something different to note in her diary when she opens the Cambridge Co-operative Society's new block of three shops on the corner of Whitehill Road. This imposing site accommodates an up-to-the-minute food store surmounted by dwellings. The three shops comprise a wet, dried and fried fish department, a butcher and a modern 'self-service' grocery with counters for the sale of rationed goods, confectionery and tobacco.

1952 12 08
The familiar voice of Ellis Powell – of Mrs Dale's Diary fame – was heard coming over a loudspeaker instead of a radio by a large crowd waiting outside the new branch of the Co-op on the housing estate at Whitehill Road, Cambridge. Mrs Dale, hatless, but looking warm in a fur coat over her royal blue dress, declared the new store open. She was then the first customer of this modern self-serving grocery store which also has butchery and fish departments attached. People flooded in under the neon strip-lighting and, picking up baskets, made their way round the well-packed shelves, which seem to include every grocery imaginable. 52 12 08

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1953 01 02
About 200 cups of tea were served to bargain hunters as they queued waiting for the opening of the Belfast Linen Store's January sale. The queue started to form along St Andrew's Street soon after 5 a.m. and the long, chilly vigil was relieved by a welcome cup of piping hot tea at about 8 o'clock. It was dispensed from a van supplied by Hobbs' Pavilion, Parker's Piece. First bargains to go were quilt sets slashed from 12 to four guineas, spring interior mattresses reduced to £3 19s. and pillow cases at 1s. each.

1953 03 14
The site of England's oldest bookshop has just changed hands for the 14th time in more than 350 years. Messrs W.H. Smith have acquired Bowes and Bowes' shop on the corner of Trinity Street which has a heritage of bookselling, publishing and binding that goes back as far as 1581. In 1807 it belonged to John Nicholson, son of the celebrated 'Maps' who went his rounds of the University with a moveable stall laden with textbooks and called out "Maps and pictures". Later Kingsley and other literary men held 'tobacco parliaments' on religion and politics, Wordsworth reclined there, Thackeray dined there and Tennyson first read "Maud" in the Long Room, now the Foreign Department. 53 03 14

1953 05 29
Albert Butler, proprietor of Messrs Haslop & Co, butchers of Silver Street, Cambridge, retired after 53 years in the butchery business. He recalled going to market to buy his first bullock – the dearest one he ever bought - & remembered when families ordered 8 lb joints and rump steak was 1s 2d a pound. He prophesised the end of meat rationing within a year but thinks the trade would find itself in a serious position: while boys were not entering the business as they used to, even those who did received no slaughtering experience. "I don't know where our slaughtermen of the future are coming from", he said. 53 05 29

1953 09 23
Joshua Taylor staged a Fashion Parade, a popular event to which the womenfolk of Cambridge look forward with keen anticipation. One of the mannequins modelled clothes for the woman with the larger figure whilst another showed teenager styles from the "Young Cambridge" department. There was no sign of M. Dior's new shorter skirt – this will not reach the provinces until next Spring, so women need not rush to turn up the hems of the clothes they are wearing in order not to give away the fact that they are not new. Drain-pipe corduroy slacks in navy and red vertical stripes were worn with an off white wool and mohair jacket and there was a beautiful fur coat in Russian ermine, priced at only £1,195 – pity I hadn't got my cheque book with me!

1953 11 11
A new agency on the lines of the successful "Universal Aunts" in London has opened in Cambridge. It is fully prepared to undertake any job, large or small, including travelling arrangements for children, transport to dancing classes and catering for their parties. The care of invalids will also be undertaken for certain periods, as well as shopping of all kinds. Any domestic emergency will be catered for and there will be a bachelor mending service. After Christmas interior decoration and catering of all kinds will be undertaken. Charges will be moderate.

1953 11 27
A Cambridge brush manufacturer was ordered to disclose a 'secret formula' for dressing hair for brushes, which had been used by his father. He had started business on his own in School House Lane in 1947, making brushes for one wholesale firm on terms which proved unprofitable. He

became insolvent, but had kept no books. He'd been offered £1,500 for the 'secret formula' and should reveal it to the Bankruptcy Court as there must be some value in it 53 11 27

1954 01 22
A tenancy variation of a shop on King's Parade, Cambridge, is a rare occurrence and rarer indeed is the appearance of a new trade to this world-renowned street. From being used as premises for University outfitters A.R. Crossman, no.12a will become K.P. Camera Shop and promises to become as well-known as its parent, Campkins of Cambridge. The firm was established in 1800 and has remained in its present premises at Rose Crescent since 1867 54 01 22 c

1954 07 07
The old-established department store of Laurie and McConnal of Fitzroy Street, Cambridge has been purchased by the London firm of Shirley Bros, but they say the public will not notice the changes. The store was opened by Mr James Laurie in 1901 and in recognition of advice given by his friend Mr McConnal he decided to use both names as a trading title, though only members of the Laurie family actually held shares. It prospered as an ironmongers shop but following a major fire in 1902 was rebuilt as one of the biggest departmental stores in East Anglia, increasing its scope to include almost everything for the home and garden. 54 07 07

1954 11 01
Miller's music shop has transformed its Sidney Street Cambridge premises with an up-to-date, spacious and extremely attractive front of an entirely unique design. The windows are non-reflective and the lower ground floor, which is so popular with record lovers but previously almost completely hidden way, now has a mirrored view from the street. You can now pause in your shopping and look in the window, whether it be the television set your husband has promised the family for Christmas or one of the many different instruments on display. CDN 1.11.1954

1955 03 16
The Belfast Linen shop is celebrating its jubilee. 50 years ago a young man of 23 cycled into Cambridge with £100 in his pocket and an ambition to start his own business. He was Harry Nichols. He took an empty shop in Regent Street and Belfast Linen Warehouses had begun. It was not all easy going and there were times when he could not even afford to buy a new suit. It is still a family concern. Royalty, famous hotels and colleges are among his patrons and the R.101 airship on its ill-fated flight had sheets and towels supplied by the firm. 55 03 16a

1955 08 09
Cambridge abattoir suggested – 55 08 09b

1955 09 02
In opening their enormous new showrooms in King Street Cambridge the firm of H.W. Peak have passed another milestone. Everything for furnishing a home is here in astonishing array. Apart from furniture there is electrical equipment such as vacuum cleaners and washing machines together with televisions and Hi-Fi sound equipment. They started just under 50 years ago selling second-hand furniture and opened a large branch at King's Lynn in 1937 55 09 02b

1955 09 03
Fireworks and flying saucers celebrated the opening of the new showrooms of H.W. Peak in King Street, Cambridge. Giant rockets were released from the roof of the floodlit and gaily decorated building and the city was 'bombed' with balloons released from aircraft. Each contained a numbered card and winners will share in the distribution of £200 worth of furniture. 55 09 03

1955 10 15
Two bothers, both of whom carry on house furnishing business in Cambridge, brought their fourth High Court action against each other. A woman customer had gone to buy a refrigerator, saw a shop named Peak's in King Street and assumed it was the same as Peak's Furnishers of Fitzroy Street where she had an account. It was delivered to her house but then she went to Fitzroy Street to pay for it. The judge said this was a case of the utmost triviality and it was surprising it had not happened many times before. 55 10 15

1955 12 21
Employees of Messrs R. Buttress & co, shirt makers, tailors and robe makers, gathered in their workroom for a presentation to Mr J. Hewish who is retiring at the age of 83. He has been a tailor for 65 years; he was apprenticed at Newmarket where he helped to make riding breeches and started in Cambridge for fivepence an hour. 55 12 21

1956 02 21
Laurie & McConnal's warehouse catches fire [2.12]

1956 03 08
The lease of 'The Spindle', a little shop selling scarves, woollen items and glass animals in Downing Street, Cambridge has been extended. But the rent will increase from £150 to £260 a year. Miss Maud Pattinson said she took the premises in 1935 and converted storage space above the shop into living accommodation. During the war years – 'the American invasion' – she made a good profit. But it was a 'poky little place and Downing Street was a 'dead street' for shopping 56 03 08

1956 03 24
Miller's Music Shop began a 100 years ago when Mr A.T. Miller opened a workshop in Hobson Street as an organ builder and piano repairer. The family home was above his wife's millinery shop in Sidney Street and one of the rooms was opened as a pianoforte showroom. His son introduced the sale of instruments and sheet music and later came harmoniums, gramophones, radio and television and now electronic organs and tape recorders. 56 03 24d [2.13]

1956 06 30
Woolworth's application for a licence for a pet shop met criticism from councillors. Everyone knew the vast crowds who went into their Cambridge store and the noise made there - conditions which would worsen as even bigger crowds would be attracted. The animals would be kept in the same premises as food, much of which was open. People who kept pets under these conditions should go out of business. 56 06 30c

1956 07 14
Mr Stanley Woolston has removed his antiques business to Pembroke Street. It is a wrench to leave his former premises in St Andrew's Street after 30 years where he has been honoured by the gracious patronage of members of the Royal Family. But the buildings have been affected by the redevelopment of Emmanuel Street and plans to link Drummer Street with a shopping arcade. He will retain his warehouse at the end of Bradwell's Yard until the area is ripe for rebuilding. 56 07 14

1956 09 19
Miller's Music Shop has been reshaped, redecorated and reorganised from top to bottom. There are spaces where walls used to be and the radio department is where the pianos were. Frank

Chacksfield, the television and recording star, was the first person to make use of the special record booths built into the record departments downstairs. There is now a 'browsery' where 'discophiles' may browse through records. Long playing records are played over high fidelity equipment and there is a section for 45 rpm records with remote control. 56 09 19 & a

1956 11 02
W. Holliman and Sons, the well-known Cambridge firm of removal contractors have again chosen a Morris vehicle for their fleet of pantechnicons. Every vehicle since 1926 has been a Morris, proof of their faith in this make. They are also house furnishers and their showrooms, the King Street Furniture Galleries, were the first 'Walk Round Showrooms' in Cambridge, dating back to 1923 when they moved from Mill Road. 56 11 02

1957 01 10
A Cambridge Christmas card publisher told the Bankruptcy Court that he went into business in 1951, designing cards that proved very popular. Next year the cards were despatched by the printer direct to his customers. But some were sub-standard and he lost orders. In 1955 he hired a printing works in Baldock but the press broke down. Then the bank restricted his overdraft. His skill as an artist exceeded his ability as a businessman. 57 01 10a

1957 02 08
The National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service at Brooklands Avenue has doubled its strength since 1954 and has now moved to Queen Anne Terrace. It was set up to investigate the tremendous amount of waste of fuel through faulty plants, poorly insulated buildings or by untrained stokers. They help bring industrial plants up to high standards of fuel utilisation enabling savings of 15 per cent during 1955-56. 57 02 08

1957 05 06
A Penguin Bookshop has opened opposite the University Press in Trumpington Street. This is an innovation by Heffers for they will devote the entire shop to the display and sale of the thousand titles at present in print. The shop has been designed by Peter Bicknell who has preserved the pleasant original stone front whilst making the inside both gay and light. 57 04 06b

1957 11 31
A new Supermarket in Fitzroy Street was picketed by shop workers protesting against late opening. Fine Fare has a policy of opening until eight o'clock on Friday nights for the convenience of the public and the shop was full of people. But the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers see this as leading to a return to the twelve-hour days shop assistants used to have to work. 57 11 31c [2.18]

1958
Woolworths extensions & Boots begin new construction [5.3]

1958 01 06
Percy John Todd was apprenticed to the scale and weighing machine trade at the firm of Headley and Edwards. In 1931 he started Todd's Scale Work on East Road and was the senior partner until his death. In his younger days he played for the Cambridge Victoria and Cambridge Hotspurs Football Clubs and ran with the Albert Institute Harriers. 58 01 16a

1958 01 24
W.J. Adkins, butchers and provision merchants announce the opening of their new modern abattoir at Cherry Hinton with stunning pens, humane slaughter, mechanical handling of

carcasses and hygienic condition. Adkins will purchase and collect animals from farmers at market prices, accept commissions from butchers and sell direct to retailers. (Full-page advert with photos of slaughter hall and carcasses) 58 01 24

1958 07 22
Mr Walter Pearson was one of the first milk roundsmen to be employed by the Cambridge Co-operative Society and took out the first load of milk after the dairy was opened in 1927. In those days it was quite a small affair comprising seven or eight rounds, now it has 51 rounds and an annual gallonage of 2,100,000. He likes the modern electric vehicles but says the old horse-drawn ones would follow him down the street whilst he made his deliveries. He was presented with a set of pipes, pouch and tobacco. 58 07 22a

1958 08 23
Cambridge Co-op ventured into the specialist field of gramophone records with the opening of a modern record bar in its Burleigh Street department store. Recordings are filed in classified order to make for ease of selection of the standard L.P. and E.P. records. Six sound booths give superb reproduction for customers who wish to hear the recordings. It also stocks a selection of record players, radiograms and tape recorders. 58 08 23b

1958 10 18
Miller's may be the oldest music shop in Cambridge. They started trading as music and musical instrument dealers about 1886 when the late A.H. Miller joined the firm. Now they have taken over the business of Messrs Murdoch. In the 1920s Murdoch took over Leavis and Bedwells who had a retail shop on the corner of Glisson Road before moving to Regent Street. 58 10 18

1958 12
Suttle, Tailor, closed following death Dec 1958 [446.11.5]

1958 03 06
The owner of Searle's Stores in Searle Street told the bankruptcy court he was making a profit of £8 a week until July 1956. Then the business started to decline. People moved from the area to council estates and he could not compete with the prices of cut-price shops. In addition his rates had increased from £5.6s.3d to £20. 58 03 06a

1958 06 14
Two former employees of the Hide and Skin Market Company of Cambridge appeared in court accused of the theft of 'sheep runners' (intestines used for making sausage skins). They had taken 10 sacks of runners, hidden them under the seat of their lorry and sold them in Letchworth for ten shillings. One said he was short of money, he felt envious when other friends went for drinks and had cigarettes and he could not afford them. The other said his wife had recently had a baby and this had 'gone to his head'. 58 06 14b

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1958 07 24

Should there be shops on the corner of Coldham's Lane and Vinery Road? Two local shopkeepers, H. Wilson and H. Sykes, said there was no room for more shops in the area. Mill Road, East, is quite a substantial shopping centre; there are 80 to 90 shops at present with more planned. The houses in the area were built between 1928 and 1940 and that site was bought in 1924 for possible development as a public house. The owners had tried for shops, houses, flats and garages. Now they wanted a chemist's shop, fish shop and newsagents. 58 07 24 & a

1958 07 25
Cambridge Milk Bottling Works washes 65,000 bottles every day. Out of the empties come notes, thimbles, teaspoons, dead flowers and even bicycle brake blocks and dead mice. People use them as containers for paraffin, paint brushes, home perm solutions and creosote. Another tiresome business is the punching in of foil tops, squashing them down into the bottle. Some people hoard them: 672 were found in a house in Chesterton High Street and dozens are found down wells. 58 07 25

1958 08 09
Messrs Coads' department store in Sidney Street will cease trading on September 27th with a special feature sale prior to closure. It is intended to replace the Cambridge store, which has limited accommodation, by the acquisition of premises nearer London. The site has been acquired by F.W. Woolworth as an extension to their existing store which adjoins it. 58 08 09a [2.19]

1958 10 18
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1958 11 15
Miss Lake's toy shop closes – history of shops – 58 11 15

1959 02 12
Work has begun on greatly increasing the area of Messrs Boots the Chemist's premises in Sidney Street by the demolition of the old Essex and Suffolk Assurance Company buildings. It will double the width of the frontage and the shopping area behind and provide twin entrances on to the street. The staff accommodation will be more than doubled and the facilities vastly improved. Boots believe that the staff cannot be expected to look after customers properly unless their own interests are properly served by the company: contented staff means contented customers. 59 02 12b & c

1959 02 26
Gordon Thoday has specialised in fabrics for over a quarter of a century. At the new contemporary shop in St Andrew's Street modern display counters give the advantage of self-selection, or if you prefer our staff will be happy to serve you from the immense and exciting variety of the newest British and Continental fabrics. Our Sussex Street shop continues as usual – Advertisement 59 02 26

1959 03 02
The Wellbrook Laundry on Girton Road was originally opened for the benefit of Girton College in the days when they sent the clothes by horse and carts, so it was fitting that the Mistress performed the formal opening ceremony of the new dry cleaning department. After wards visitors

viewed the laundry which included the sorting of customers' work by tape recording and sheets automatically folded by machine 59 03 23c

1959 03 12
To progress from a back kitchen near the Rex to a cowshed in Abbey Road is not a very great step, but finally to settle in a brand new building in Occupation Road is indeed a larger stride. This is what the Homewash Laundry had done and this was the cause of wonderment expressed by the many trade and press journalists from London at the opening of the Laundry by the Mayoress of Cambridge, who was a long-standing customer in its less contemporary days. 59 03 12

1959 07 02
Exclusive shoemakers for over a century – that is the proud tradition of A. Jones and Sons who came to Cambridge as successors to Thrussells of St Andrew's Street – a name known for courtesy, quality and value. Their fine new shop is the latest of 35 Jones branches and stocks Airborne, Joyce, Rayne, Scandies and Van-Dal shoes for ladies – advertisement 59 07 02

1959 10 01
Mitcham's Golden Jubilee Celebration celebrating 50 years at Mitcham's Corner, 1909-1959. To mark this occasion we have had extensive alterations and decorations to our fashion showroom where you will find 'up to the minute' fashion ranges of coats, suits, dresses and separates. We will present two-shilling 'Jubilee Celebration Cheque' on all purchases of £1. Bring the children – there will be a balloon for them. Advert 59 10 01b [2.3]

1959 10 30
John Line new wallpaper showroom – 59 10 30c

1959 11 04
In the past few years the Fitzroy/Burleigh Street area, with its easy access, ample car-parking facilities and huge variety of shops, has become increasingly popular as Cambridge's most convenient shopping centre. Many of the shops were formerly in ramshackle buildings, combining timber and corrugated iron with a minimum of brickwork, often built over the front gardens of houses which had their ground floors converted. But now these have made way for up-to-the-minute shopping premises and improvements are constantly going on. 59 11 04 & a

1959 11 17
Co-op new self-service super food store, Burleigh Street - 59 11 17

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 01 20
Supermarkets are undercutting smaller shops – an identical tin of coffee varies by as much as sixpence. But Mr L.C. Cherry of Milton Road has banded together with several other grocers to buy goods in bulk, enabling him to give customers special offers. A high percentage of orders are now taken over the telephone, credit is given and goods delivered. At Sutton Mr L.F. Lindsell has seen no decline since the opening of a supermarket at Ely: the customer saves a bus fare, get good service and can always come back and complain. Several housewives praised the supermarket but others said it tempted them to buy rather more than they first intended 60 01 20

1960 01 23

Bradwell's Court, the new public footway linking St Andrew's Street with Drummer Street, was opened for the first time this week. At the same time Christ's Lane, the old cobbled pathway, was closed. With an arcade at each end and an 'open style' court in the centre, the new thoroughfare is flanked by 13 shops 60 01 23c

1960 02 18
The first escalator to be installed in a Cambridge shop is in position at the extension of F.W. Woolworth and Co. Ltd. and is all ready to go into operation when the new premises are opened at the end of June. It will convey customers up to the sales floors relieving congestion on the stairs which will remain for energetic customers and 'down' passengers. It is among a number of innovations in the building which will include a shed for 120 cycles on the roof and an unloading bay in the building itself so that lorries can drive in and unload directly on to lifts. There will also be an air conditioning plant, deep freeze and delicatessen counters, Formica walls and an asbestos-lined ceiling. 60 02 18 [5.2]

1960 04 01
Macintosh and Sons, the long-establish firm of ironmongers have moved their showrooms from Cambridge Market Hill to Mill Road owing to the congestion in the town centre. "The days have gone when farmers could pull up with their horse and trap to purchase instruments", they say. From the new warehouse and instrument shed they sell anything from a hand tool to a combine harvester costing over £2,000. Nearby stands the foundry that was in use until 30 years ago where they made lamp standards and ploughshares for the Town Council. 60 04 01a

1960 04 30
Joshua Taylor is taking over the Arts Theatre to celebrate their 150 years of business. The production of a play telling their story has been put in the hands of Mr Gabor Cossa, the antique dealer and dramatic critic. It is in the nature of an undergraduate revue, not unduly concerned with advertising the merits of the firm. There will also be window displays with contemporary costumes showing the range of clothes they have sold over the years 60 04 30a

1960 05 05
A Cambridge tailor recalled that in the mid-1920s undergraduates wore sports jackets and grey flannel trousers with 27-30 inch bottom, now the average was 18. Some 80 per cent of undergraduates today are studying on grants and wear duffle coats and sloppy-joes, tartan windcheaters and jeans. But the demand for suits, although much reduced is still steady. A man in his third year will buy a dark grey suit to mark the start of his career. 60 05 05

1960 05 11
Joshua Taylor story Arts Theatre – 60 05 11

1960 06 17
Peak's Furnishers Ltd of Fitzroy Street have opened large premises in the new covered shopping arcade in Bradwell's Court. The electrical appliances section is well-stocked with the leading makes of washing machines, spin-dryers; demonstrations are a daily event and prompt delivery guaranteed. It also has a number of model kitchens fitted right down to the last detail and attractive displays of bedroom, lounge and dining furniture are beautifully displayed in room settings. 60 06 17a & b

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1960 09 05
Cambridge Steam Laundry on Cherry Hinton Road was founded in 1880 making it the oldest in Cambridge. Coldham Model Laundry purchased a motor van in 1910 becoming the first with motor transport. Ely and District Laundry is housed in a modern, spacious building and employs 85 personnel handling 52,000 garments a week. It has canteen facilities with free tea twice a day and 'Music While You Work' – a great favourite with younger employees. Homewash is the 'bouncing baby' of local laundries, starting very humbly on V.J.Day 1945 when two recently-demobbed ex-Servicemen started to 'take in washing'. 60 09 05a b

1960 10 14
Romsey has gained new shopping facilities with the opening of the Co-operative Society's Supermarket in Mill Road. It occupies practically the whole block between Catharine Street and Thoday Street and is a complete transformation of their former grocery, butchery, pharmacy and cottage property. The shop front features anodised aluminium metal work while the four check-out stations are finished in an attractive shade of plastic. 60 10 14b

1960 10 21
New Co-op supermarket, Mill Road – 60 10 21aa

1961 02 14
Boots new building with oriel windows – 61 02 14

1961 05 09
The whole of 'The Broadway' on Mill Road is being put up for sale. It runs from Cavendish Road to Sedgwick Street and is the largest shopping area in the eastern half of Cambridge. It was built 23 years ago and consists of 14 shops with eight flats above. The London company that owns the site says it is a good investment: the properties currently realise £2,848 a year in rents which will increase to more than £4,000 in three years time. 61 05 09; The Broadway, Mill Road sold for £35,000 – 61 05 16

1961 06 25
Roe Antique shop Christ's Lane closed due Bradwell's Court, moves Downing St [5.5]

1961 07
Lion Hotel in Petty Cury purchased July 1961 by Jack Cotton & Chas Clore for City Centre properties; largest single property transaction in Cambridge; by 1964 hotel closed & just bars open [446.16.3]

1961 07 01
The Roe family has been well known in Cambridge since Joseph Roe started in the antiques trade in Petty Cury in 1826. Now one more facet of the old times will disappear with the demolition of their shop on the corner of Christ's Lane and St Andrew's Street. It has been in existence since 1882, having been rebuilt in 1897. New buildings will rise on the site in keeping with the contemporary Bradwell's Court. The business has relocated to Downing Street where it will be continued by Owen Roe. 61 07 01a

1961 07 03

Stanley Rose's old-established butchers is one of the few properties in Petty Cury remaining in private hands. He acquired the premises in the early 1930s, moving from a site in Market Hill which was then being demolished for make way for the new Guildhall where the family firm had been established for three generations. He is now retiring and the business will be transferred to W.J. Adkins, the local firm of butchers. The premises have been acquired by Messrs Peter Lord, the shoe specialists. 61 07 03d

1961 08 02
We never swank. But we are proud to know that during our 64 years of trading we have acquired the reputation for being the suppliers of the finest quality home-killed meat and imported lamb in Cambridge and district. Years ago we displayed meat outside our shop, today the interior counters and shelves are stocked with everything that is good in meat, groceries and provisions. Our prices are right & we give a free and regular delivery service. A.E. Page, 62 Cherry Hinton Road – Advertisement 61 08 02

1961 08 10
Last summer's bad weather was the culmination of the vicissitudes faced by an Italian ex-prisoner of war. Gaetano Risitano, who traded as 'Guys', bought an ice cream business on Mill Road but problems started when he became involved in litigation with the previous owner. This was followed by a bad season in 1960 and profits were not big enough to support his outgoings so he put it up for sale. 61 08 10

1961 08 30
Miss M. Pate began learning shorthand in the 1880s by taking down family conversations and sermons. Then she got a job copying manuscripts at Downing College which is where she first saw a typewriter. She joined an office for typewriting and shorthand, taking over the business in 1900. After 1918 every member of the University wanted his work typed including Rupert Brooke who cycled in from Grantchester each morning with the next chapter of his dissertation for King's College. She was awarded an Honorary Cambridge MA and now spends many hours preparing an enormous scrapbook of material 61 08 30

1961 08 31
Przibórsky's barbers shop in Ram Yard is to be swept away by demolition and redevelopment. The site is to be incorporated into a new road leading to Park Street car park. It was founded in 1879 by Count Przibórsky after he left his position as barber at the Imperial Austrian court. The family connection elapsed in 1934 when the Count's son died and Mr Frederick Osborne took over the business. A ladies' hairdressing side catered for Girton and Newnham girls but was discontinued during the war 61 08 31a

1961 10 04
Austin Beales and Coote and Warren opened their new fuel oil terminal and solid fuel depot in Clarendon Road, the most modern in Europe. Oil arrives from Mobil's refinery chiefly by rail and is discharged into three main storage tanks before being sent by road tanker over a wide area. Solid fuel deliveries are concentrated in Cambridge itself. Each year 45,000 tons is unloaded from rail wagons by two cranes with 65 wagons of solid fuel arriving each week. 61 10 04b & c

1962 02 01
Macintosh and Sons of Market Hill, Cambridge, one of the oldest ironmongery firms in the country, has been sold to an unknown purchaser. The firm's earliest records date back to 1688 when the business was sold to the Finch family. They kept it going for 200 years before it was taken over by William Macintosh who'd been in business in Sidney Street. A major

redevelopment scheme is proposed for the site after their retail premises close in September. The wholesale, agricultural and workshop departments will continue to trade from 349 Mill Road 63 02 01a [3.2,5.6]

1962 04 21
Fitzroy Street endorsed as a shopping centre [3.3]

1962 04 05
The new slaughterhouse in Cheddar Lane, originally a two-storey builder's store, can deal with 60 to 80 cattle units and will be used for the wholesaling of fresh and chilled meat. The premises, provided by Mr R.S. Speechley, a wholesale butcher and slaughterer, replace one built by his father 60 years ago which has fallen behind modern standards. The business was taken over by the Ministry of Food from September 1940 to July 1954. 62 04 05b

1962 04 27
In 1851 Mr Alfred Bodger, 'Hosier, Glover and Shirtmaker', founded his Gentlemen's Outfitting shop opposite Holy Trinity Church. As business grew he added a tailoring shop and in 1934 moved to the present site on the corner of Sidney Street and Green Street. In 1946 the ready-to-wear site was enlarged. More expansion followed in 1954 and now internal alterations are complete allowing a full range of goods to be shown. But friendly and personal attention is always available – Advert 62 04 27b

1962 06 04
Mackay engineering firm celebrate 50-year jubilee – 62 06 04

1962 06 07
Shipowners' Refrigerated Cargo Research Association new research lab opened, Newmarket Rd 62 06 07

1962 07
Miller's music shop opening [4.3]

1962 08 11
Bradwell's Court arcade and shop development has been a joint venture between Jesus and Christ's Colleges and Ravenseft Properties. It stretches from St Andrew's Street through to Drummer Street bus station and provides a continuous covered route to the city centre. Work on demolishing the out-of-date shops and buildings started as long ago as October 1957 but was held up by difficulties over leases. The last tenant to go was the well-known antique dealer, Mr K.A. Rowe. By the time the University term begins again the development will be complete and all the 20 new shops and showrooms fully occupied. 62 08 11a

1962 09 15
Herbert Robinson's electrical premises with a large double frontage in Regent Street have been sold to a Messrs Skertchley, the cleaners and dyers for a price in the region of £100,000 (c£1.7m today). The firm has been selling the remaining electrical equipment at reduced prices with two-year old television sets down to £15 (£263 now). On two occasions the shop together with the adjacent garage and Llandaff Chambers have failed to reach the reserve price at auction 62 09 15

1962 10 13
Pratt, Manning and Co of Trinity Street, Cambridge's oldest bespoke tailoring firm, is to close. It was established in 1865 by Thomas Pratt and acquired by Ald H.T. Wing in 1897. Until the First

World War about 80% of the trade was from undergraduates who ordered three or four suits at a time. Today students on grants cannot afford high prices for hand-made clothes and they rely on professional and business men for their trade. Customer's patterns and records will be transferred to their London office and a cutter will visit Cambridge at regular intervals. 62 10 13a

1962 11 30
"It's a dying trade this. I can remember the days when there used to be 15 of us down here and we never used to go home until eight in the evening", recalled Arthur Starr, a tailor. "We used to do a lot of undergraduate trade: we worked hard for about seven months, then we'd have the rest of the year free. The only thing I do now is jackets. I won't touch trousers and waistcoats. I've been doing it for 50 years. I always sit cross-legged. It's the only way to do it. I rest sitting like this, you now. I even sit in bed like it" 62 11 30

1962 12 17
Adkins Corner. For the convenience of those who prefer out-of-town shopping with good parking facilities, W.J. Adkins have opened a self-service store by the Perne Road island in Cherry Hinton Road where you will find the same quality – the best – which has made Adkins famous for English and Scottish meat, sausages, pies, cooked meats and other provisions. You pay less for the best – and you get Green Shield Stamps as well – Advert 62 12 17c

1963 01 07
J.G. Horne is no ordinary garment manufacturing business. Tucked away in a building at the top of a wooden staircase, amidst brightly-coloured materials and the clatter of sewing machines, 20 girls are employed making articles which range from college scarves to rowing shorts, academic gowns to schoolboys' blazers. Since it was established in 1927 it has concentrated on the club and colours trade, producing 7,000 scarves each year. Many are made by 'out-workers' and each stripe is individually added. But gowns, blazers and sportswear are made in the premises in St Barnabas Road. 63 01 07a

1963 05 04
Sidney Street hostel on site of Sainsbury's – 63 05 04a

1963 05 15
In 1869 William Weatherhead purchased the business of John Hatt, a bookseller and printseller in Union Street, now Peas Hill. Then in 1886 took over an established stationers' shop in Trinity Street. The two merged at his death in 1907, added a wholesale department and flourished until 1936 when they moved to its present premises in the Caius College development on Market Hill. Now it has been acquired by W.H. Smith 63 05 15a

1963 05 21
The firm of E.J. Pigott (Tools) was established in Sidney Street 100 years ago and moved to Sussex Street before the war. It has been handed down from father to son with always some member of the family behind the counter. Its handicraft shop in Hills Road was the first of its kind in East Anglia and they've recently opened an ironmongery department. It has ceased to sell hip and slipper baths but stocks 140 different types of pocket knife 63 05 21a & b

1963 06 11
Miss Minnie Pate, University Typewriting and Secretarial Service – appreciation – 63 06 11a

1963 06 29
Co-op supermarket Milton Rd is largest suburban one in county [5.9]

1964 01 20
A ‘round house’ at the rear of Robert Sayle’s has been demolished to make way for car parking; it originally covered a well which provided water for a local brewery’s beer making – 64 01 20

1964 03 04
Tesco to open store in Regent Street in former Herbert Robinson garage site – 64 03 04

1964 04 13
The Cambridgeshire Deep Freeze Company was formed in 1952 in adapted buildings on Pound Hill, then extended into pre-fabricated cold rooms nearby. Soon however the whole of the Pound Hill area became part of a redevelopment plan and they moved to a new site at Girton during the severe winter of 1962-63. It accommodates bulk quantities of raw materials such as raspberries and blackcurrants for national processors but one cold room is sub-divided into lockers which can be hired to private individuals for the storage of game or garden produce. 64 04 13b & c

1964 04 28
Matthew & son closes after 134 years, cannot afford traditional grocery service from large city centre site at present rentals [9.4]

1964 04 30
A Regent Street trader has lost 78 per cent of his usual turnover since parking meters were introduced, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce was told. A survey of over 30 shops showed the average loss in turnover as 45%. There should be a reduction in rateable values and compensation for businesses which are forced to close. Meters should be closed down and a return made to unilateral parking supervised by wardens. But the Parking Committee chairman said that if motorists used the meters to the full they would get most of their customers back 64 04 30

1964 05 22
Peaks new carpet centre, Fitzroy St – 64 05 22

1964 05 30
Screaming teenage girls besieged the Co-op in Burleigh Street when the Merseybeats, a ‘pop’ music group from Liverpool, made a personal appearance. Four policemen pushed the crowds back when the group arrived in a taxi and inside girls clambered on to radiograms, refrigerators and television to see them as they signed autographs in the record department. Some girls wept and others grabbed publicity photographs. Finally John Banks, Tony Crane. Aaron Williams and Johnny Gustafson escaped and relaxed with coffee before departing for Manchester 64 05 30

1964 06 11
Fitzroy Street area being knocked flat so no local customers to pop in ... rely on weekend shoppers cars [446.11.8]

1964 06 11
Laurie & McConnal closed branches Ely & Wisbech but keeps wholesale round; lost some floor space but still largest area in Cambridge [446.11.8]

1964 06 27
London Co-operative Society are to close their creamery at Ditton Walk because they have not go sufficient milk in the area to keep it going since Cambridge Co-op now want an extra 1,000

gallons to mean increasing population. The creamery supplied milk only to London areas. Many of the staff of 22 have been there for 30 years 64 06 27a

1964 08 27
Parking problems in centre have encouraged people to do everyday shopping Fitzroy/Burleigh ... lined with small personally-run shop [446.10.1]

1964 10 22
Petty Cury - only three locally-owned businesses left [446.16.3]

1965 01 14
Smart & Son, the outfitters in Market Street, has been run by the same family for more than 150 years. But now they are to move to Mill Road and the shop sold – 65 01 14

1965 03 11
Ward's move to new premises in Burleigh Street marks another stage in the long history of a firm which started when Jonas Ward made a living mending bicycles in East Road. For some time they made the famous Crown cycles, one of which was ridden from Cambridge to Monte Carlo in 1930. They also supplied carrier cycles and box tricycles. Later they diversified into wireless, gramophones, washing machines and baby carriages and became one of the first to stock televisions in 1938. – 65 03 11a, b

1965 04 04
Walker & Walker, Market Hill tailors since 1849 close, served Edward VII when Prince of Wales, undergraduates no longer use them [13.2]

1965 07 30
Laurie & McConnal modernising the whole of their shop frontage in Fitzroy Street; new display windows will replace the arcade-type ones there since 19th century; "faith in City Road as new shopping centre – 65 07 30a [13.8]

1965 10 19
City centre shops to be allowed to open six days a week - end of compulsory half-day closing for central shops with two or more principal trades – 65 10 19a [5.1]

1965 10 28
New parking restrictions affect business, Fitzroy Street [446.10.1]

1965 11 01
'Filth from demolition keeps shoppers away' Fitzroy Street [446.11.8]

1971 04 03
Jack Baldry, mineral water manufacturer – profile and history – 71 04 03

1966 08 15
"A number of large multiples have eyes on Fitzroy-Burleigh area" [5.12]

1966 08 19
Eve shopping report says centre shopping will become congested by 1981, need 2nd centre [5.11]

1966

First fashion boutique - Pussy Cat, Alexandra Street [4.5]

1966 09 10
Eaden Lilley men and boys clothing shop in Market Street is for sale; will more to main department store; have owned since 1907; have recently bought Smart's outfitters' shop – 66 09 10

1967 04 24
Joshua Taylor make coronation robes for Queen of Tonga – 67 04 24, 67 05 04

1968
Co-op request permission build computer centre & HQ on industrial land off Newmarket Road – 71 08 10

1968 04 04
Walker and Walker, Market Hill tailors, to close; been there since 1849 and departure will leave only Bacons as original member of Colonnade group of shops; have served Edward VII when Prince of Wales; blame expiration of lease, rising rates and fewer old-style customers – 68 04 04

1968 08 22
Eaden Lilley move out of Sidney Street store for new student hostel – 68 08 22

1968 10 22
Eaden Lilley alterations, bedding department entered from Green Street – 68 10 22

1968 11 19
Marks & Spencer extension opens; came in 1934, extended 1937, 1938 and 1966. Present expansion on site former Millers Music shop – 68 11 19

1969 02 13
W. Heffer & sons open new children's bookshop in Trinity Street, plan to move main shop from Petty Cury – 69 02 13

1969 03 19
Milletts outfitters, St Andrew's Street damaged by fire which threatened a whole block of shops and offices; may have been raided – 69 03 19, 19f

1969 05 17
Baldry's move to a new factory in Harvest Way from Gold St; started in 1923, first to use all-automatic crown cork sealed bottles; took over Cambridge Soda Works and in 1925 acquired important contract for mineral waters with a local brewery; began bottling cider in 1930 and in 1935 extended range to confectionary, cocktail sausages, pickles and groceries. Bought Sawston Aerated Water Company – 69 05 17a, b, c

1969 06 06
Sainsbury's want two self-service shops to replace their antiquated premises in Sidney Street, one in Trinity Street, the other in the Kite – 69 06 06, 06a

1969 07 02
Sale city centre property including Arts Cinema, Miller's Music, Eaden Lilley warehouse, Jarrolds – 69 07 02

1970

1970 03 09
Moore Pianos yet another victim fast-dying family firms, lack skilled craftsmen [9.6]

1970 04 01
Otto Wherle jewellers shop clock may disappear as shop closes after 125 years – 70 04 01a

1970 07 31
Co-op increase Burleigh Street floor area by 50%; introduce divi stamps 70 11 11 [13.4]

1970 10
Co-op open for discount warehouse for people wish to purchase in bulk on industrial land, Newmarket Road.

1970 10 02
Heffers bookshop Petty Cury closes, 90,000 books moved to new Trinity Street shop – 70 10 02 [1.4,2.6]

1971 04 03
Jack Baldry, mineral water manufacturer – profile and history – 71 04 03

1971 06 25
Sunday opening rejected by City council [5.16]

1971 07 26
Harry Cooper opened furniture shop in Newmarket Road about 50 years ago; would pull down shutters for fear bullocks would get in – 71 07 26

1971 08 10
Co-op warehouse, Newmarket Road becomes retail as Beehive One – 71 08 10
Co-op drive coach & horses through local government policies with Beehive One 1969 asked for discount warehouse for people wishing to purchase in bulk, opened Oct 1970 & becomes retail - Beehive One; wins public inquiry to continue 1972; apply for another site 1974 which approved after inquiry 1977) [13.4] [6.6]

1971 09 13
Cambridge Microfilm Services a success story, set up two years ago – 71 09 13

1971 10 01
Thrussell & son 131 year-old boot firm closes, one of last firms in bespoke shoemaking trade, undergraduates stayed with them [27.10.7]

1971 11 26
Chamber of Commerce strongly disapprove of shops giving discounts to students, but 'students could retaliate by taking their business to London & leave some city shops with hardly any customers' [26.3, 369.23.6]

1971 12 07

Mackay plans to extend engineering factory and build more shops and offices on East Road blocked – 71 12 07a

1971 12 07
Problems of where to put extra shops – reflections on last eight years – 71 12 07, 71 12 08, 71 12 09, 71 12 10b

1972 01 27
Co-op which drove coach & horses through local government policies with Beehive One 1969 asked for discount warehouse for people wishing to purchase in bulk, opened Oct 1970 & becomes retail - Beehive One; wins public inquiry to continue 1972; (apply for another site 1974 which approved after inquiry 1977) [13.4] [6.6]

1972 03 10
Sainsburys are planning a major supermarket development on a four-acre site at the corner of Coldham's Lane and Brooks Road, Cambridge. The group seeks either to build a supermarket with a petrol filling station, four shops and parking for 355 cars, or a supermarket with four shops and space for 390 cars Sainsburys, whose city centre supermarket is expected to open in July, describe their new proposed development as a "district shopping facility". "We believe that edge of town developments are the thing of the future" said a company spokesman. "Cambridge needs two Sainsburys, one to serve the centre needs and one to serve the district shopper. This one must have plenty of parking. We would sub-let the shops and filling station and the parking development would serve adequately the whole development" 72 03 10

1972 03 23
First sex shop, Go-Go, (closed by police after 6 months 1973) [8.14]

1972 05 05
Sainsbury's "edge of town" shopping scheme for Coldham's Lane has been rejected by Cambridge City Council's Planning Committee because it does not conform with their policy. The "edge of town" policy would have been fully exploited in Cambridge for the first time. The Planning Committee refused the scheme because the land is zoned for industrial use, p18

1972 05 30
Sainsbury, who open a new supermarket on the Matthews site in the centre of Cambridge on August 1st, are to auction their old shop in Sidney Street. Property values in central Cambridge are soaring, agents talk confidently in top rental terms of £6 and more a square foot on prime sites. The closure of the Sidney Street premises is part of Sainsbury's policy to do away with service stores. The new shop is in standard supermarket style, p30

1972 06 06
Sainsbury plan shops conference, p10

1972 06 09
Dorothy sold for £800,000 [14.4]

1972 08 01
Sainsbury's new shop opens on Matthews's site sell old shop for £615,000 [4.4, 14.2]

1972 09 26

The Wolfson Building of Trinity College, Cambridge, once described as a liner stranded in a dry dock, opened its doors yesterday for an official tour of inspection. The building rises lozenge-shaped behind the historic and preserved facades of Trinity Street in the city centre. It is topped by two large winged roof-lights, which, the architects said, were added deliberately to be a modern feature of the city skyline. The scheme provides rooms for 125 Trinity students. Beneath the college buildings are the commercial premises which include the Sainsbury supermarket, Heffer's booksellers, Horne's the men's outfitters and Barclays Bank.

1972 10 26
Although the credit card is obviously here to stay, the euphoria surrounding this week's launch of "Access" does not appear to be shared generally by traders and the public. Local traders objection is simple and forthright; "It is costing us money to provide credit" In the city centre firms like Heffers, Joshua Taylor and Robert Sayles are not members of the scheme. Eaden Lilley's have joined and on the first day the firm took £174 from 12 customers using the card

1972 11 09
Marcade opened East Rd - 6 days a week enclosed market, 100 stalls (destroyed in fire 1975) [9.6]

1973
Parry Lewis report suggests Trumpington as site new shopping centre [7.4]

1973 01 17
This year could see the beginning of changes in the pattern of shopping for people who live in Cambridge and the surrounding areas. Plans have been put forward to build several "out-of-town" shopping complexes and a public inquiry next week will hear an appeal by J. Sainsbury Ltd against Cambridge City Council's refusal to allow their "edge of-town" supermarket at Coldham's Lane. Last month the Council turned down an application by Marshall to develop a 10-acre site on the Newmarket Road as a shopping complex. A scheme by Brierley's to build a big drive-up shop on a 3½- acre site at Bar Hill with parking for several hundred cars was withdrawn

1973 04 06
Mr Jack Baldry, chairman of Cambridge's last remaining soft drinks factory died yesterday at the age of 71. He started as a mineral water manufacturer in the city 50 years ago. When the company was started it faced competition from 32 firms in the city. Initial output was 100 dozen bottles a day, but business increased and four years ago a new plant was built which enabled an output of 400 dozen bottles an hour on each of its two units 73 04 06

1973 04 26
The scheme to build a hypermarket for Tesco on the outskirts of Cambridge has been rejected by the city council. The scheme was put forward on behalf of Tesco by Stokes of Cambridge Ltd. They asked permission to build a 100,000 square foot hypermarket with a car park for 900 cars on land off Milton Road next to the railway line. The store would have been one of the largest in Cambridge. In turning it down the planning committee said it was outside the area allocated for development, would encourage extra traffic on a fast trunk route and was against the shopping policy for Cambridge in which large scale development is aimed at the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh Street area

1973 05 03
The government has overruled the Cambridge city planners and given Sainsbury's the go ahead to build a large supermarket and shopping complex in Cambridge. Last autumn planners rejected an

application to build on what used to be a precast concrete factory site at the Brooks Road - Coldham's Lane corner. Now the Department of the Environment has granted permission. There is little doubt that city planning officials are embarrassed by it - because it cuts sharply across their own proposals to safeguard the council's Burleigh Street shopping re-development project 73 05 03

1973 07 13
Latest small shop quit Hills Rd, squeezed out when rent shot up £1,000 pa [446.13.5]

1973 09 21
Huge rent rises shock Cambridge shopkeepers, Trinity Hall & Corpus raise rents by up to nine times [6.2]

1973 11 28
Trinity Hall raise University Camera rent £600-£3,500, Colin Lunn £500-£4,700 - 'do not gross that much in year; "college Rackmans"; but sale empty shops in block for £130,000 & £150,000 & seek fair rent of 5% market value [446.14.1]

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1973 08 27
The second oldest business in Cambridge, G.P. Jones, the grocer of Trumpington Street closed down at the weekend. They were established in 1623, three years after the oldest business in the city, Bowes and Bowes. Now the old-world grocery shop, famous for their blends of teas and statuesque tea jars, will become a fine art shop. Mr Sidney Jones looks back with resignation to the days when the shop had its own tea blending room before the war and produced over 20 blends. He said, "It was inevitable that the grocery had to close as our regular customers became fewer and fewer. More people have come in to try and buy the jars and old furniture of the shop but I'm not parting with it for the moment 73 08 27 [8.10]

1973 09 21
Like some great suicidal spider Cambridge will have eaten its heart out by the turn of the century. Such is the dramatic prophecy of Professor John Parry Lewis who has been making a complete study of its future. Specifically he is saying is that if Cambridge proceeds with the scheme to

build a twin shopping centre in the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh street area it will be signing the death knell of the present Market Square area. He concludes that a new focus for commercial activity must be developed on the edge of the city either in the Trumpington area or to the east near Marshall's airport. This cannot be done if the Fitzroy-Burleigh scheme proceeds, as the indications now are that it will 73 09 21

1973 11 10
A crowd of several hundred greeted BBC disc jockey, Tony Blackburn, when he arrived at the Cambridge Co-operative Society store in Burleigh Street. Store officials, red faces streaming with perspiration, linked arms and strained hard to keep the ground, largely consisting of weeny-boppers in order. He was appearing at the store to mark its £40000 ground-floor refit. The new hanging racks of jackets and jumpers were under almost continuous siege with children of all sizes, as they tried to get nearer to Mr Blackburn. After 40 minutes he left the store pursued by young fans. Nevertheless a number of children left in tears clutching unsigned photographs

1974
Jean Pain bookshop opened [2.3]

1974 06 04
The site of the Co-operative laundry in Cambridge, which closed at Easter, is now up for sale. The company bought the site in Histon road during the last war and began operations in 1941. At their peak 100 people worked there compared to the 60 at the time of their closure. “The problem was getting staff. It was terrible,” said the Chief executive. They are keeping open three shops at Histon Road, Arbury Court and Mill Road

1974 06 25
The Newmarket millionaire racehorse owner, Mr David Robinson, is to sell Cambridge city centre property in Sidney Street. The site, which includes Millers Music Centre, the Arts Cinema and part of the Eaden Lilley store is due to be auctioned in London. But the future of the Arts cinema, on which the lease does not expire until 1981, is safe. Any future owner will have to retain its use as a cinema

1974 07 18
Seven generation of Barretts have been supplying the citizens of Cambridge with pottery and glass since the C18. This week the family business is virtually “coming home to roost” in opening up new premises in Gt St Mary’s Passage – only a stone’s throw from the spot where Simon Barrett opened up his first shop nearly 200 years ago. The long-established premises in St Andrew’s Street will still remain in business 74 07 18 [7.13]

1974 08 23
Millers Music centre moves Sussex Street (founded 1856, moved Sidney St 1966) [9.3]

1974 12 03
Traffic came almost to a standstill in Coldham’s Lane, Cambridge, as queues built up for the newly-opened Sainsbury’s supermarket and freezer centre. By 9.15 the car park, which holds nearly 400 cars, was almost full and queues had formed outside the door. After Mr John Sainsbury had opened the store the eager shoppers converged on the packed shelves and crowds formed round the plentiful supply of sugar 74 12 03 [14.3]

1973 12 05

Winton Smith closes pork sausage & Royal Cambridge pork pies; start production Cheshire 73 12 05 [1.9,10.9]

1974 10 05
Cambridge Co-operative Society announced that only customers spending at least 50p on food in their shops would be allowed a 2lb packet of sugar. "To ensure that distribution reached as many customers as possible and the minimum purchase set at 50p to avoid embarrassment to our pensioned customers with limited purchasing power", said a spokesman. Sainsbury's say they were not operating any such system although they were asking customers to restrict sugar purchases to 2lb each. A Budget spokesman said they were limited supplies to regular customers only

1974 12 06
The new Sainsbury's supermarket in Coldham's Lane, Cambridge, was almost overwhelmed with customers last night. The car park was filled, and the traffic jams built up to such an extent that the police were called to help to get things moving again. And there were jams inside the store. The doors were closed at 7.30 pm – half an hour earlier than advertised - in the interest of safety.

1973 12 24
Shoppers in Cambridge defied the gloom of crisis-torn Britain and were out in force to do their last-minute Christmas shopping. At Woolworth's in Sidney Street the manager said: "People are determined to enjoy Christmas despite the gloom and doom". Tesco, in Regent Street, said they were fairly busy. The general manager of Joshua Taylor said that trade was about 20% up compared with last year.

1974 12 11
Co-op apply for another site, Coldham's Lane 74 12 11 (approved after inquiry 1977) [13.4] [6.6]

1975 02 14
Andy's records shop opened [7.15]

1975 07 03
The Environment Minister, Mr Anthony Crosland has rejected a plan to build a supermarket on the Scotsdale Garden Centre site at Gt Shelford. He says that the development would be in the wrong place, at the wrong time and would result in the over-provision of large-scale shopping. If it was permitted in addition to the recently built Sainsbury's supermarket at Brooks Rd, Cambridge and the centre planned for Bar Hill it would overprovide shopping facilities in the "20-minute zone" car shopping journey area from Cambridge. In the longer term, however, population growth might justify further substantial additions to the food retailing outlets.

1975 07 17
Advert: An open letter to the citizens of Cambridge. We, the traders in the centre of Cambridge, have served you for many years. Thanks to ill-considered action by our elected representatives in stopping the free and unrestricted flow of traffic through the city centre we find that our livelihood is being threatened. It is a fact that without a city centre which is alive and throbbing the city will die. By taking trade away from the centre the city fathers have betrayed the trust we have placed in them. Let us make 1975 Cambridge Conservation Year and protest against the creeping paralysis which is being forced upon us by these out-of-date idiots – Cambridge City Centre Action Group 75 07 17 [17.15]

1975 09 01
Stallholders at the Marcade, East Road, Cambridge, were today counting the cost of a blaze which gutted the indoor market on Saturday night, destroying more than £100,000 worth of stock. The fire was first spotted at about 11.45pm and within half an hour the market was a raging inferno as clothes, antiques, records and household goods went up in flames and asphalt and glass sections of the roof began to cave in. The Marcade was opened two and a half years ago and many of the stallholders were just beginning to build up a profitable livelihood 75 09 01

1975 12 03
Lion Yard opening supplement

1975 12 04
Princess Anne, making her first official visit to Cambridge, insisted on an impromptu chat with some of the thousands of sight-seers who thronged the city centre Lion Yard shopping centre. An estimated 10,000 people packed the Market Square and stood eight deep each side of Petty Cury as she walked into the new shopping centre. The city council's Labour leader, Coun Peter Wright, spoke of the 'dissension' which still existed over the complex

1976 01 09
Doubts over Kingsbury on Coral Park Estate - problems parking [27.9.2]

1976 02 25
When Texas open the door of their new super-store at Coldham's Lane on Saturday, Cambridge will have the largest Do-It-Yourself centre in East Anglia. Spurred on by the success of their year-old store which took over from Peaks Furnishers in Fitzroy Street, Texas are sure that Cambridge shoppers will make extensive use of the new premises, which are packed with all kinds of goods for the handyman 76 02 25 [10.4]

1976 03 11
A new store, the Talk of the Town, is to open in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge in the building formerly occupied by Peaks Furnishers. The store is divided into individual sections, some let to local traders & some rented to national companies. An Elizabethan Tea Room complete with period furniture and fittings and a wedding dress section are on the top floor. The store has special design features such as log cabins for changing rooms in the fashion section and thatched roofing for the farm produce section 176 03 11

1976 05 05
'City traders who have lost business as result of traffic restrictions ... will just have to accept it' [26.48.18.4]1

1976 12 02
Co-op appeal for second site "Fitzroy Burleigh no nearer solution than in 1952" [13.5]

1976 12 17
A storm of protest followed the building of a line of office blocks in Hills Road, Cambridge, about three years ago. Public meetings were organised and people claimed the character of the area was being ruined, good housing lost and small shops demolished or forced out of business. Most of the offices replaced large terraced houses of little architectural interest. But the busy main road was not an ideal site for housing and several were no longer private homes. The new buildings are individually of quite a high standard, but they appear completed isolated and out of character with the shopping area. They need something to break up their long facades and link

them with the variety and bustle of the shopping area. But the offices have injected a new source of life into the area; already a bank and several eating places have opened up, presumably to catch the lunch time trade from the offices 76 12 17

1977 02 02
The Dorothy Continental delicatessen on the corner of Sussex Street, Cambridge, ceased trading at the weekend. It was the last remaining part of the former Dorothy restaurant and ballroom, sold by G.P. Hawkins in 1972 for £850,000. The Dorothy contained a supermarket, restaurant, large ballroom and other rooms used by many organisations for official functions. It was taken over by the Co-op in 1952. The above-ground part of the Dorothy was acquired by Waring and Gillow, the London-based furniture chain, the remainder now forms the Henekey Tavern. When the Dorothy closed, Hawkins moved it's outside catering section to the Alma Brewery site in Russell Street.

1977 02 04
Every one of four generation of the Reynolds family is a past, present or future "rock king". They are Mr James Robert Reynolds, aged 85, his son Jack, his grandson John and his great grandson James Robert, seven. Jack still makes old-fashioned brown rock – square, not lettered - in a tiny plant at the back of his shop in Newmarket Road, Cambridge which he mans seven days a week.. He joined his father when he left school at the age of 14. There have been "rock kings" in the family for at least six generations. "It would be nice to see it go on – and every one of them a 'J'" he said. 77 02 04

1977 02 17
"Lion Yard rents jumped enormously with result that most small local concerns were priced out of the market leaving the brigade of high mark-up multiples - Golden Egg, Dixon's, Van Allen, Chelsea Girl et all to take the units paying between £3,000 & £18,000 pa rent ... the variety of shops reduced; if Kite ... then identical effect could occur. Leader of city council Powley feels best rate of return is one of commercial facts of life ... believes influx of national multiple stores into Cambridge will be only short term growth ... [15]

1977 02 17
What kind of shopping facilities will we see in Cambridge in the future? If recent events are pointers then the small operator will be replaced – just as quaint non-conformist Petty Cury was replaced with the corporate dullness of Lion Yard. The rents jumped enormously leaving the high mark-up multitudes – Golden Egg, Dixons, Van Allen, Etam, Chelsea Girl et al to take the units paying between £3,000 and £18,000 a year in rent. It meant that the variety of shops was reduced. If the Kite complex proposals were to see the light of day then an identical effect could occur. 77 02 17

1977 02 17
"Small city traders under siege" [6.4]

1977 03 22
Cambridge & District Co-operative Society's plan to expand the Beehive complex, which was turned down by the county planners, has been given the go-ahead by the Department of the Environment. The scheme, using the former Cadbury-Schweppes warehouse near Coldham's Lane will provide an extended shopping space, a garden centre and leisure goods sales centre. The Inspector said that as there were still no definite plans for the Fitzroy/Burleigh Street redevelopment the Beehive scheme would meet some of the shopping need without detriment to the city centre. 77 03 22

1977 06 27
Tesco opened Bar Hill, doubles in size 1983 [14.7]

1977 07 02
Dorothy continental delicatessen closes, last part Dorothy restaurant, Dorothy taken over by Co-op 1952 [8.4]

1977 07 19
Dillons bookshop in Silver St sold (opened 1973) [2.12]

1977 09 14
At 2.00 am while Cambridge slept a solitary light shines in Belgrave Road. Master baker Roy Markillie has arrived at the family bakery. His aim – to turn out 4,000 loaves in time for the bread queues that inevitably form outside his shop at 9 am. All his working life he has been an independent baker and so isn't affected by the strike that has crippled the big bread firms. He doesn't relish the thought of tripling his normal production rate – it simply means he will have to work flat out for the next eight hours. At 9 am the bread goes on sale – rationed to one loaf for each person 77 09 14

1977 10 04
The Cambridge department store Laurie and McConnal in Fitzroy Street is to close in December. Indecision over plans for the Kite area redevelopment is the reason, said Mr Anthony Frais. "We have tried everything we know to get something moving in the Kite, and while the council is now at last seeing sense we cannot afford to wait the two years before anything actually happens. As a small family company are paying penal rates." The business was established nearly 100 years ago. 77 10 04

1977 10 05
The sudden news of Laurie's closure has come as a shock to the City Council team involved in drawing up the Kite plans. Council leader, John Powley, said he was "very sorry indeed" and could well understand their frustration at the indecision. "Gradual renewal of the are, as some people want, just will not happen and will lead to a speedy decline of the whole area. A satisfactory scheme must be produced as speedily as possible. Constant delays are not good for the area, for the people of the city, or for Cambridge as a whole". 77 10 05

1977 10 05
The news that Laurie and McConnal's department store is closing will have come as a surprise to most people. But to anyone who regularly used the store it was only a question of time before they succumbed to the inevitable. Even at the height of the shopping day you could be the only potential customer in any one department. It had 50,000 sq ft of selling space, spread over five floors to service, heat, decorate and keep full of merchandise and the passing trade had dropped off dramatically as so many houses have been knocked down and food shops have disappeared from the Kite area. 77 10 05

1977 10 08
More shops in the Kite area will be forced to close unless something is done quickly to rejuvenate the area. A number of stores have been teetering on the brink for some time and could go out of business. This has been caused by all the little ginger groups, all pushing for their own things. They hack and maul among themselves and all they succeed in doing is to cause the sort of intolerable position that Laurie's found itself in. It is all very well saying the Kite should stay

exactly as it is. But it cannot. It has changed markedly over the years and is still changing. It either has to be redeveloped in some fashion, or it dies. 77 10 08

1977 10 14
Mitcham's, the Cambridge department store, is to close after 68 years. Mr Charles Mitcham converted a house in 1909 and opened up the store. It spread into adjoining buildings and today sells almost everything but furniture. The shop was sold when Mr Mitcham died during the war and was taken over two months ago by a Manchester-based insurance group. The manager said: "It is more than just a shop closing. It is part of the city about to vanish" 77 10 14

1977 11 11
A Cambridge tailors, James Neal Ltd, which has been in Cambridge for 107 years, has been taken over by another tailors which is even older. The firm which has bought out the Trumpington Street business is Ede and Ravenscroft which started trading in 1689. It specialises in ceremonial and academic robes and is a leading manufacturer of wigs and legal wear. 77 11 11

1978 01 19
Laurie & McConnal's department store in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, opened its doors for the last time as the auctioneers moved in, just over a month after closing. Between 200-300 people milled around the five floors as the left-overs of almost 100 years of trading went under the hammer. Most of the faces were strangers, but a few of the old employees called in just to pay their respects. The sale will strip the building down to its last box of light bulbs – even part of a tin of toilet soap was in the catalogue. According the agents the building itself has attracted a few offers around the asking price of £250,000, but no-one has signed anything yet. 78 01 19

1978 03 21
The new Beehive home interiors centre opened in Cambridge by the Co-operative Society is unique in Britain. With more than 25,000 square feet of space, home interiors are laid out in authentic room settings and the Co-op has gone up-market. There is a four-piece suite which costs a cool £1,000. They hope to supply all the goods on show from the stock carried in the ground-floor warehouse and people will be able to hire roof racks or vans to get it home if their cars won't take it. It has a children's cinema so that parents can leave their children occupied while they discuss furniture with the sales staff. 78 03 21

1978 07 29
Laura Ashley, one of the fastest rising fashion and fabric business in the world is coming to Cambridge. They are taking over the ground floor of what was the Turk's Head restaurant. The rest will become separate eating areas. The Granary in the cellar will offer international cuisine, the first floor restaurant will be based on English cuisine and the Pasta Kitchen on the top floor will feature an a la carte menu. It will be one of the few English businesses to offer hot foods late at night in Cambridge. 78 07 29

1978 08 11
Boots close Mill Road branch [7.8]

1978 09 20
Loker & co, started East Rd 1861 to close, concentrate on wholesale side business [8.8]

1978 11 04
A wave of panic buying hit shops as housewives rushed to buy bread a full three days before a threatened national bakers' strike is due to start. Sainsbury's store in Coldham's Lane Cambridge

has rationed people to just two loaves and How's bakery in Mill Road said that all stocks were sold out by lunchtime. A Tesco in Regent Street exceptionally heavy buying emptied the shop of bread by mid-morning. Anxious shoppers out to stock up their freezers with loaves were described as "greedy" by shopkeepers. The strike is not yet a certainty and independent bakeries are not involved.

1978 12 14
Cambridge Co-operative Society was fined for Sunday trading at the Beehive Shopping Centre. The Society, which has opened its garden centre every Sunday since spring said: "Our competitors will still be trading just outside the city; all we have done is over the same service other garden centres do, and other councils turn a blind eye." It had opened after consultations with planners who welcomed the prospect of a garden centre occupying this then derelict piece of land; if it was stopped a great deal of harmless leisure activity would be spoiled for thousands of people. 78 12 14

1979 02 06
Expansion plans for Robert Sayle's shopping complex in the centre of Cambridge were supported by the City Council's controlling Conservatives who say the extensions will improve shopping facilities and bring much needed car parking space into the city centre. But Labour says the extra cars would cause traffic problems and in any case the centre of Cambridge should not be put up for sale. Sayle's want to extend their shop floor space facing Lion Yard and provide more than 100 public and private parking spaces. It would benefit city traders and motorists alike

1979 03 05
The closure of the Allied Bakeries' plant in Sleaford Street, Cambridge with the loss of 200 jobs means the end of bread making on a site which was poised to celebrate its golden anniversary. For a long time it was owned by the Cambridge Wholesale Society until it sold its interest in the sixties to F.W. French. In 1971 it became part of Spillers but last April they sold off this side of their business and Allied British Foods moved in. They gave a guarantee of a year's employment provided there were no disruptions but when the bakers went on strike the plant stood idle for many weeks. It has operated at a loss from then on. 79 03 05

1979 08 09
A major Cambridge store which put up new 'Thieves will be prosecuted' notices on its doors recently, had the lot stolen. Even the store detective had to smile. In Cambridge in summer the problem gets worse: school holidays and the influx of visitors contribute to the peak and magistrates have expressed concerns about this unacceptable face of tourism. Professionals come in teams for the day and wreak enough damage to seriously concern the Chamber of Commerce. Store detectives are in the front line in the fight, Joshua Taylor has recently reintroduced one and the Co-op are advertising for more

1979 08 30
Shoppers at Boots in Cambridge can now start using the store chain's own credit cards. They are the latest to leap on the 'plastic-money' bandwagon following in the wake of Woolworth, Marks and Spencer, Tesco and International. Most schemes require the cardholder to be over 18, have a bank account and pay by standing order. It needs care: the temptation is always there to overspend. Whether or not we all end up with wallets full of little plastic cards remains to be seen. In the long run it may all link up to a totally cashless shopping exercise with your goods and card going through an automatic till.

1979 09 03

Grapevine bookshop opens in Fitzroy St [2,9]

1979 09 27
The arrival of a sex shop at Mitcham's Corner, Cambridge has provoked protests over the deterioration of the area's shopping facilities. Where residents once enjoyed a varied range of shops catering for most day-to-day needs, they now find themselves with banks, building societies, a betting shop and winter sports stockist. A wine shop and take-away restaurant look set to follow. The major change came at the end of 1977 when Mitcham's department store succumbed to the economic pressures of shifting shopping styles.

1979 10 05
Sainsbury 6-day trading, p13

1979 10 06
Tesco's superstore at Bar Hill is to open on Mondays following a switch to six-day trading by Sainsbury's supermarkets. The store says that it was demand from customers living in the local community which had led to the move: "Since we have been here we have tried to blend in with the community", said their Public Relations Director. "We really owe it to everyone here to provide the service they want". Tesco's store in Regent Street Cambridge already opens on Mondays

1980

1980 01 10
Customers at Cherry's Stores in Norwich Street, Cambridge, have said goodbye to the couple who have run the shop for 34 years. Lionel Cherry and his wife Kathleen took over in 1946 and built up a business which, in days when petrol was cheaper, offered a free delivery service to Newnham and Arbury. The shop was the place where Robert Sayle started as a draper and has been a grocers for more than 100 years, owned in all that time by just three shopkeepers. It will be the end of a long family connection with the trade. Mr Cherry's uncle had a shop on the junction of Arbury and Milton Roads which became known as Cherry's Corner 80 01 10

1980 05 20
Rose Crescent new shops 'best planning gain for long time' [446.16.7]

1980 10 07
J. Ward & Sons close Burleigh Street to concentrate on Bradwell's Court; opened East Rd 1890s, made bikes, 1930s produced own wireless 'Wards three-valve', late 30s became one first country sell black & white tvs [10.12]

1980 12 04
The age of the microchip has taken all of us by surprise but now sons and daughters crave for the latest computer game, digital watch or radio-controlled car. Since Tandy came to Cambridge five years ago they have found rapidly-increasing demand in the home electronics field and have now divided their Emmanuel Street operation into two shops. One will house a veritable treasure trove of hi-fis, tv games and intercoms appealing to the young 80 12 04b

1980 12 11
The time taken to get through supermarket check-outs varies; at 6pm on a Thursday evening Tesco's Regent Street store, Cambridge was fairly busy and five out of the seven checkouts were in operation; it took nine minutes to get through. But at their Bar Hill store we queued for 21

minutes. At Bishop's, Arbury Court, paying by cheque meant the cashier had to get it approved by her colleague, which delayed the neighbouring queue. 80 12 11a & b

1981 02 18
Percy Wing's shop has been in business in Clarendon Street, Cambridge, since 1912. A grocer's and off-licence, it sells all sorts of things from Chelsea buns and bundles of firewood to apricot wine and John Smith's beer. It's the sort of shop where customers can still hold weekly or monthly accounts and have their orders made up and delivered. One customer has had an account there since 1914. Young customers ask for advice and recipes, elderly customers come in for a quarter of a pound of butter or a couple of rashers of bacon. On occasions they have sold a single egg at a time. 81 02 18b

1981 04 10
You might suppose that the Cambridge Pianola Company is a dusty relic of the 19th century, but it was started less than five years ago. Pianolas are those 'magic' pianos that play all by themselves, the keys go up and down, prompted by machinery. They are in demand from pubs, clubs and hotels and the company stocks the world's largest range of pianola rolls. It also sells nickelodeons, player organs and pianocorders and helps people trying to restore their own pianolas with materials and spare parts. 81 04 10a & b

1981 05 07
Mainstop, a subsidiary of the giant British American Tobacco Industries, has its eye on the Cambridge Cattle Market site with an outline planning application for a £5 million scheme providing more than twice the space of Sainsbury's in Coldham's Lane. Mainstop already have a superstore in the new Orton 'township' being built outside Peterborough, an area quite different from the site in Cherry Hinton Road which is currently scheduled for light industrial development 81 05 07

1981 05 16
A £5 million plan for a superstore with space for nearly 600 cars on the old Cambridge cattle market has been scrapped. City councillors who were not consulted in advance laughed at the idea saying it was against their policy of only small-scale industrial development on the site. It also provoked fierce criticism from residents who felt the massive traffic it would generate could make life intolerable. The London-based development company has now withdrawn its application. 81 05 16

1981 06 19
The crack of blazing shotguns was head for the last time at Madingley as Gallyons closed their shooting ground after 70 years. Ernie Johnson has spent his entire working life there and so after 44 years of teaching, advising and correcting the technique of sporting gunmen from all walks of life he is facing his first change of job. The site is surrounded by roads and cannot expand to stage big shoots. 81 06 19

1981 07 17
The first privately-owned British company specialising in biotechnology has been formed by a consortium of leading scientists and businessmen. CLEAR – Cambridge Laboratories for Energy and Resources Ltd – will use genetically engineered organisms for processes ranging from obtaining energy from waste to combating Legionnaires Disease in hotels. It has leased laboratories from Cambridge University and will offer a full technical service to industry for the commercial applications of biotechnology. 81 07 17

1981 07 28
Laurie & McConnell site sold Grosvenor Estates [13.10]

1981 08 08
Johnsons, the menswear shop in Sidney Street has closed down after 150 years' trading in Cambridge. It started on its present site in the 1830s; the founder Octavius Johnson handed the business to his son and it passed down the family until Alfred Mole bought it. Cecil Mole who took over in 1930, said the shop's three employees had all found other work. 81 08 08

1982 08 24
The final phase of the Coral Park development in Coldham's Lane is now complete. Work began in December 1973 with the demolition of a 160-ft high chimney which had been part of the Cambridge landscape for more than a century. The first warehouse was let to E. Laxton, a national cash and carry operation, and other tenants include W.H. Smith (Wholesale), Pye Telecommunications and Linfood. 82 08 25

1981 09 03
Marks and Spencer's newly-extended Cambridge store includes a roof garden for staff. A three-course lunch in the staff canteen (with flowers on the table), costs 10p. A shampoo and set is £1.25 and a visit to the chiropodist costs 50p. There is a staff medical room and a dentist calls every six months to check teeth. Wages are not high – though the £64.50 a week gross pay for a full-time sales assistant is above the average - but there is a pension and profit-sharing scheme 81 09 03

1981 09 22
Jack Carter, the Portugal Place outfitters which has been hiring gowns, tails and dinner suits to students and townsfolk since 1937 is to close. Their lease, owned by Jesus College, has run out and the rent has trebled. The business has been hit in other ways – last year they sold just six gowns because colleges now buy their own supplies, and there are not as many formal functions as previously. 81 09 22

1981 10 03
Alley boutique Lion Yard closes due rent increase; started 1966 in Falcon Yard & moved Lion Yard 1975 [8.3]

1981 10 06
W. Eaden Lilley's department store, now under one roof in Market Street, is Cambridge's oldest business. The shop front, built in 1930, was in the form of a deep arcade but in 1971 the store reduced it by half and used the space to increase the sales floor. They also have a warehouse in Mill Lane housing the funeral department with its private chapel while their vans are garaged and maintained in Glisson Road. 81 10 06a & b

1981 10 09
Wards have been in Cambridge for more than 70 years, originally making and selling cycles. By the 1930s they were involved in electronics, making their own wireless receiver, the Wards Three Valve. In the 1950s they expanded into communications, selling televisions and other electronic equipment, moving from East Road to a new shop in Burleigh Street in 1965 with another in Bradwell's Court. At its peak in the 1970s they won contracts with Iraq and the Defence Ministry. Now it will close for the last time. 81 10 09d

1981 10 09

The closure of Wards, means another long-established name will disappear from the streets of Cambridge. Recently Jack Carter, the outfitters in Portugal Place announced it was to close, before that Johnsons menswear shop in Sidney Street decided to end 150 years of trading and last year Walker Wallpapers, a family firm for nearly 60 years also called it a day. Reasons vary from rising rates and rent bills to increased competition or simply that the old family has run out of members. 81 10 09e

1981 11 05
Shocked traders at Cambridge's Beaumont Centre in East Road have been given notice to quit, just weeks before Christmas. The indoor market, which was gutted by fire six years ago and reopened after a £100,000 facelift, is to be closed down and demolished. Now they are desperately searching for new premises to try and keep their businesses going. 81 11 05a

1982 02 11
Friar House gift shop – 82 02 11

1982 02 19
Alkit, the Cambridge menswear shop in Regent Terrace is shutting after 35 years as the lease has run out. Staff who have been given two weeks' notice say trade has fallen off recently. The Citizens' Advice Bureau offices and a flat used by University Arms Hotel staff may also be affected because they are sublet from Alkit. 82 02 19

1982 02 21
"Kite scheme will see some of the best known names in the chain store world doing battle with family firms which monopolise city centre" [1.15]

1982 03 23
Traders are deserting Magdalene Street in the face of rent rises up to four times the present level, imposed by their college landlords. Several shops already have whitewashed windows and locked doors. Within a year, less than one-third of the original row could remain. Magdalene College says they want to keep it a specialist shopping area but have to get the market rent. 82 03 23 & 23a

1982 05 27
One of Cambridge's first self-service grocery stores, Traylen's of Newmarket Road, is to concentrate on the butchery side of its business. Before the War the shop had its own slaughterhouse on the premises and cattle were driven along the streets from the market. But the opening of Elizabeth Way, increasing traffic and parking restrictions mean customers have found it hard to get to the store Went self-service 22 years' ago but now Beehive kills trade 82 05 27. [9.10]

1982 06 03
Boots open extended shop, Petty Cury [7.9]

1982 07 20
Gallyons close Cambridge shop after 198 years, closed Madingley shooting ground (est 1911 to improve shooting) in 1981) [8.15]

1982 08 24
W. Thompson and Son, the Fitzroy Street furniture firm, is closing after 150 years' trading in Cambridge. It started as a cabinet makers in Willow Place in 1832 and a fully-fledged furniture

makers and sellers had been established by 1881. They had an undertakers' business for years, as well as selling china wholesale. But Peter Thompson says their style of business was becoming outdated: customers were now more conscious of price than quality with big warehouses changing the way furniture is sold. 82 08 24

1982 11 11
Equus bookshop opens, King St [2,11]

1983 01 31
George Webb was one of Cambridge's best-known personalities. He introduced all-in-wrestling, indoor roller skating, 3-D movies and cups of tea during the intervals at the cinema. In his later years he built up one of the largest heavy haulage and public works contracting businesses in East Anglia. His bald head, the huge cigars which he chain-smoked and the large American cars he loved to drive became his accepted 'trade-marks' during his colourful business career. 83 01 31

1983 04 23
Les Neal is retiring after half-a-century of dedicated, devoted and skilful service as a gentleman's hairdresser. Apprenticed at the age of 14 in 1932 to Walter George Ambrose, he served with the Priziborsky business in Round Church Street before moving to Watson's in Mill Road. He is a dedicated supporter and leader of the Scout movement and an enthusiastic and expert player of the bagpipes. – Frank Matthews. 83 04 23

1983 06 03
Bacons closes, came Cambridge 1810, moved Rose Crescent 1830 [7.14]

1983 06 22
W. Stockbridge & sons to close (centenary 1970, moved Cambridge 1874 in Sidney St, moved Bridge St c1854) [10.6]

1983 07 06
The closure of Stockbridge's 113-year-old antique shop in Bridge Street follows closely on that of another shop bearing the same name. C.P. Stockbridge of Histon set up two years ago when the other branch of the family left its prime site on King's Parade. The main reason for closure is that the antique trade is depressed and the new shop never took off. 83 07 06 p5

1983 09 21
Tesco is to close its Cambridge Regent Street supermarket. The store, which opened in 1964, has been left behind by developments in supermarket design. Managers now consider it too small – it is 11,000 square feet as compared to 30,000 at Bar Hill – and there is no provision for car parking. It would need a major refit to bring it up to modern standards and this could not be justified. 83 09 21 p16 83 09 22 p5

1983 09 24
"Goodbye to the little stores": faced with massive increases in overhead costs they can no longer continue to trade; as the family shops close with them goes part of Cambridge's inheritance, atmosphere & charm. The goods they sold & the services they offered are often not obtainable elsewhere & are usually replaced by fashion, jewellery or shoe shops, all branches of national concerns [11]

1983 09 29

Gray's the bookbinders of Green Street has been sold, the latest of a long line of small Cambridge specialist shops which are rapidly disappearing. Victims in recent years have included Bacon Brothers cigar merchants, S.P. Ora tobacconists, Gallyon the gun and fishing tackle dealers, F.O. Sennitt, fish, game and poultry merchants and Jack Carter, University robes. They are forced out by the three R's – rent, rates and recession. As the family shops close with them goes part of Cambridge's inheritance, atmosphere and charm 83 09 29 p16

1983 10 11
The new Grafton Centre, the biggest shake-up in Cambridge retailing for a century, is only medium sized in terms of city centre redevelopments but is enough to upset the balance of trade in Cambridge. "No one would pretend that it is linked to the existing shopping centre to the extent that people can use both on the same day", said the man in charge of the project for Grosvenor Estates. The next six moth's trading will be keenly watched by shops in the historic centre. The attractiveness of the Grafton Centre will depend on easy access and whether it offers value for money and diversity. They have accepted lower rents in order to get shopkeepers which cannot afford big overheads. 83 10 11 p11

1983 10 19
Businessmen and shopkeepers in the Fitzroy-Burleigh Street area are hoping that trade which has been depressed in recent years by the area's lack of glitter and by the large-scale building works, will now come bounding back. Traders such as the Cambridge Co-op, now in the throes of a re-development plan which will see the conversion of its second floor to a suite of offices for letting, should do well. 83 10 19 p14

1983 10 20
Shopkeepers in Burleigh Street feel they will be crippled by the opening of the Grafton Centre. Trade has been disastrous since the road was dug up five weeks ago and left with piles of sand, rubble and deep, wide holes. Now some are refusing to pay their rates bills. They feel developers want to make the area look like a tip so customers would stay in the Grafton Centre. But the City Surveyor says the road is going to be pedestrianised and will be completed on time 83 10 20 p16

1983 10 20
A quarter of a century of planning wrangles ended today when the £27 million Grafton shopping centre development opened. Part is still unfinished but there was a general sense of relief that the Kite at last had its new prestigious shopping development. It looks slightly bare as many of the shop units were still unfilled however shoppers seemed happy as they walked through the new arcade of the main concourse. 83 10 20 p1

1983 11 06
The new Presto supermarket in the Grafton Centre caters for a wide range of customers with its instore bakery, fresh meat, wet fish and delicatessen counters offering an up-market choice alongside a wide range of Red Dot bargain lines and specially-packaged basics. What its competitors want to know is what kind of shoppers it will attract, and how many. It will offer a cheque-cashing service where customers can withdraw £50 at a time 83 11 06 p5

1983 12 13
An old Cambridge family business which closed 20 years ago is being 'revived'. Matthew and Son was once a prosperous department store founded in the 1830s in Trinity Street with its own tea rooms and restaurant. It closed in 1963 because of high rents but now the great-great-nephew of the founder, Michael Matthew, has started up the tea and coffee business again in much humbler surroundings of a market stall 83 12 13 p12

1983 12 19
Vogue, one of Cambridge's most distinctive fashion shops is closing but for them a closing-down sale does not mean a wild scrimmage as customers fight over coats and dresses. Instead a locked door keeps the bargain-hunters out on the pavement while staff deal with two or three clients at a time. Vogue first opened in 1934 when Mark Harris set out to build a high-class trade which today means dresses of up to £500 in price. They are the top fashion house in East Anglia but soon the old shop and its garden will disappear. His father opened Modiste in a former public house further down St Andrews Street in the 1920s and all of his six bothers and sister were in business in Cambridge. 83 12 19 p5 [13.3]

1984 03 30
It is exactly 50 years since Marks and Spencer moved into Cambridge at a time when there were major alterations in the narrow Sidney Street which attracted several major stores. It quickly established itself, extending to 10,000 feet in 1937 and doubling its space in 1966. There was further development four years ago when a third floor was added. In 1965 the firm established a warehouse in a former garage in Occupation Road previously owned by Progressive Coaches. Now they are appealing for memories from previous members of staff for a special display 84 03 30 p24

1984 04 14
A Cambridge department store has come up with an amazing cash off to help cure the city's traffic chaos. Eaden Lilley has pledged to pay £75,000 towards the cost of building an underground car park beneath Parker's Piece. The shop hopes it will prompt other major businesses to dig into their pockets too, felling shoppers are not prepared to leave their cars outside the city and travel to and fro by buses. Councillors say the offer was very magnanimous of the firm but the money would only fund about seven spaces in the estimated £4 million scheme 86 04 14

1984 05 14
Work on rebuilding the Cambridge Co-op store in Burleigh Street has reached the half-way mark. It will transform the historic building, bringing in new kinds of goods, a hairdressing salon and a coffee shop. For the first time it will have departments for self-assembly furniture and lighting as well as counters for the Burleigh Street post office and the Co-op Bank. A three-storey atrium at the Fitzroy Street end of the building will provide an airy display centre for shoes and furniture. 84 05 14 p5

1984 05 16
The Queen gave her royal seal of approval to Cambridge's multi-million pound Grafton Centre when she unveiled a plaque to marks its official opening. Cheering crowds queued for hours to glimpse her. A fanfare performed by the 20-piece orchestra from the Manor School greeted the royal party. After the opening the queen spoke to many of the children and shop staff. 84 05 16 p12 [1.10]

1984 07 12
Cobblers Yard 'forgotten courtyard' [446.15.2]

1984 09
Colin Lunn tobacconist opened 1899; 50 years ago Cambridge boasted 40 tobacconists, with demise of Bacons this the only one [8.9]

1984 09 28
Cambridge's oldest greengrocer's business, Naylors of Mill Road which been trading since January 1900 has closed. It was founded by William Thomas Naylor who moved from his family's farm at Duck End, Guilden Morden. Before long he had opened a second shop, now a delicatessen and a greengrocer's in Norfolk Street. The Mill Road shop had a better clientele in those days. Many of the houses were owned by fairly wealthy families. Now they are let as bed-sitters and most of the custom has been from students. Doctors and maternity hospital staff were good customers but the hospital has now closed. Courgettes, kiwi fruit and aubergines have joined traditional English products in recent years 84 09 28 [7.1]

1984 10 01
Ninety years ago a shrewd and enterprising woman was born, Mrs Catherine Holland. Her first husband died young and she needed to make a living by supplying yeast which was much in demand among the many local bakers. Although vital it was only used in minute amounts so Mr Holland was able to cycle around making his deliveries. The yeast was supplied in huge sacks and the secret was to keep it fresh by selling it in small amounts at regular intervals. For a long time the business was continued in the family home in Sedgwick Street but during the First World War they got the sole agency for a major brand and moved to Mill Road. After that the business prospered 84 10 01 p15

1984 11 02
Own Roe, the St Andrew's Street antiques dealer, is the latest in a line of specialist private shops owners to be driven out of the centre of Cambridge by massive rent rises. His great-grandfather started in business at the corner of Christ's Lane in 1822 but that shop was pulled down to make way for Bradwell's Court in the 1960s. Recently E.J. Pigott (tools) left Sussex Street after nearly 50 years and now the Granta Wool Shop is concerned about a rent review. Model Mania in King Street has also moved 84 11 02 p8 [7.2]

1984 11 14
The redevelopment of the huge Co-op site in Burleigh Street has been beset with problems ever since the first report on Cambridge shopping in the fifties. Now it has transformed its flagship store inside and out, demonstrating its faith in the twin shopping centre concept. It says much for the Co-op's business acumen that it has kept pace with the latest trends, adapting to the needs of the times and retaining a hard core of loyal support from its members. 84 11 14 suppl6 [13.6]

1984 12 27
"Late night shopping is here to stay" [7.3]

1984 10 08
Pigott's, the Cambridge hardware chain has closed its central branch in Sussex Street. They have been in the street since the 1930s and always did a good trade but had increasingly severe problems with parking and with wholesalers getting to the shop. Then a rent review was the final thing, the manager said. 84 10 08 p7 (celebrated centenary 1963) [9.8]

1984 12 14
Salisbury's newly-restyled store in Petty Cury is just what Cambridge needs. It is one of their latest generation, combining fashion, function and fun. For many years the Salisbury name stood for leather handbags but perhaps mother and grandmother didn't carry so much around as girls today – maybe she didn't go out to work, read so much, do aerobics, jog, drive or make herself up as frequently! Now there are casual bags, executive cases and travel bags as well as umbrellas,

hats and knitwear. From the moment the doors opened customers have been pouring in. 84 12 14a & b

1985 01 03
Mr Douglas Winton-Smith who headed the Cambridge sausage and pie-making firm of Winton-Smith Ltd, has died aged 72. The company was set up by his father and taken over by a London businessman in the 1960s. Production continue at Winton Smith (Foods) Ltd until the Cambridge works closed 11 years ago and moved to Cheshire 85 01 03

1985 02 01
The closing down a Scurfield's shop must bring a sense of loss to anyone who has brought up a family in Cambridge. It catered for all the basic essential of kitchen life – a little brown teapot, storage jars and black casseroles like benign witches' cauldrons. Then there were the mugs from the earthy pottery mugs to the bold primary colours of 1984. Another joy were the cookery books from the original George Scurfield's basic primer on the baking of bread to the classics of today – Ken Lo and Madhur Jaffrey 85 02 01a

1985 03 06
Cambridge's Sunday trading row could flare up again following a decision by the Co-op to resume opening at its Beehive Garden Centre. Two of its main competitors – Scotsdale at Shelford and Ansells at Horningsea - are in South Cambridgeshire where the district council had not so far taken action against them. The City council's policy is to respond to complains about Sunday trading some of which come from shop unions like Usdaw which fears that members could be exploited. However the Beehive staff get premium rates for their Sunday stint and the following day off. 85 03 06b

1985 03 21
Pipe smokers and cigar lovers will welcome a specialist shop which will fill the gap left by the closure of Bacons in 1983. Harrison and Simmonds, which was founded in Bedford in 1928, is taking the shop at 17 St John's Street, Cambridge. The fixtures and fittings have the traditional look offering a standard of service that matches the timeless quality such a store should have. Customers will be able to try tobacco from all over the world labelled with Dickensian names such as Barnaby Rudge and Pickwick and the shop offers hand-blending to give the pipe smoker optimum choice and also stock a wide range of fine pens. 85 03 21b

1985 03 26
Mill Road once one of city's largest & thriving shopping centres ... shops closing & take-always springing up [446.14.4]

1985 05 24
Heffers Penguin bookshop, Trumpington street closed [2,8]

1985 05 29
Millers Yard, is a £3million courtyard office and shop development on the site of the former Eaden Lilley furniture depository in Mill Lane. It retains the façade of the original premises which were probably built around 1830 but the rest has been totally reconstructed in an imaginative new development consisting of a wine bar and restaurant, seven ground-floor shops and two floors of offices. 85 05 29a

1985 07 24
D. Muncey jewellers celebrate centenary [9.1]

1985 08 08
Cambridge could soon get a third new superstore competing with Tesco at Bar Hill, Sainsburys in Coldham's Lane and the Beehive complex off Newmarket Road. Asda plans to build a huge new complex on Milton Road opposite the Arbury and King's Hedges housing estates. It would take up almost half of the Cambridge Business Park and .include a 750-space car park 85 08 08

1985 08 21
One of Cambridge's oldest family butcher's is closing. Derek Traylen's grandfather opened the first shop in Newmarket Road 113 years ago. They had their own slaughterhouse until 1937 and ran three butcher's vans that toured the villages. Derek started in 1938 and is one of the few people in the business who can rear animals, slaughter them, dress them, cut and prepare them, advise people about them and cook them. But people now buy pre-packed meat in supermarkets 85 08 21

1985 10 02
Bodger's founded 1851, moved Sidney St 1934, sold as going concern, freehold worth £800,000 (which affects rents chargeable elsewhere) [7.10] Bodger's, one of Cambridge's oldest-established university menswear shops which has been on the corner of Green Street and Sidney Street since 1922, is up for sale as a going concern. It is a very prosperous business employing ten full-time staff but the most valuable part of the concern is the freehold of the shop. It includes sales areas on two floors, a cutting room and canteen together with an attached doctor's surgery with a separate entrance and is valued at £800,000. 85 10 02

1985 10 15
Pigott's, the family ironmongers which has traded in Cambridge for more than a century, is up for sale. It was in 1863 that John Pigott, son of a Landbeach farmer, opened an ironmongers shop in Sidney Street and a chain of shops were set up in Market Hill, Mill Road, Norfolk Street, Bridge Street and Hills Road. The Sussex Street branch, an established feature of the street since the late 1930s, shut down last September. The business, now in Victoria Road, includes two shops, a warehouse, stores and office. 85 10 15a

1985 10 23
Eight years after Laurie's doors closed forever, the tiers of galleries round the central well which gave the old store such a distinctive character will be alive with shoppers once again. On the official opening a band will once again occupy the bandstand on top of the building in Fitzroy Street. Traders are hoping that the arrival of Habitat will bring an influx of new shoppers to boost the whole area. Sofas are their best-selling furniture line in a range which includes lighting, self-assembly kitchens and fabrics. 85 10 23

1985 10 28
For almost 200 years every gentleman of Cambridge popped in to the little King's Parade shop of Bays and Sons, the hatters. It was started in 1787 and the present shop was built in 1825. It was a traditional firm and never followed fashions. Each time the demand for hats dropped they added another line and eventually sold more blazers, trousers and boaters than gowns and hats. But rents tripled and the premises were taken over by New and Lingwood, shirtmakers. Now with the retirement of Jimmy Bays, the family link has been broken. 85 10 28

1985 10 28
Bays & son, hatters Kings Parade, 200 year old firm, rents tripled, taken over by New & Lingwood [7.12]

1985 11 22
Sally Ann's, Cambridge Salvation Army's highly successful charity shop set up five years ago is now open for business at its new home on the site of the former Fine Fare supermarket in Mill Road, having moved from the Tesco shop in Regent Street. It sells everything from bric-a-brac to books but also has second-hand furniture such as wardrobes, dressers, beds and three-piece suites. These can be used to assist 'distress cases' where a family urgently needs furniture. About 100 volunteers price the items, launder and iron the clothes and operate a delivery service but more are desperately needed to keep up with all the jobs that need doing. 85 11 22b

1985 12 12
Office rents soared 35% in year, shops and industrial rents also up ¢CEN 12.12.88

1985 12 17
Cambridge's Victoria Cinema has been sold to make way for a new Marks and Spencer store. The prime market square site has housed the city's largest cinema since 1931 and underwent a major refurbishment following a fire two years ago. The sale will leave Cambridge with two other cinemas, the ABC 1 and ABC 2 complex and the Arts Cinema. But there are plans to change the old Kinema bingo hall in Mill Road back into a cinema 85 12 17

1986 01 06
Dearer car parking charges in Cambridge will drive motorists to shop in other towns, says a Director of Joshua Taylor. At Peterborough the charge for four hours is 60p compared to £1.50 in Lion Yard. The Grafton Eastern park costs just 50p for three hours which is unfair to city centre traders. But Lion Yard prices are likely to increase to 30p for the first hour following the end of a 'freeze' on charges which has been operating for the past 16 months to try and attract more shoppers 86 01 06

1986 01 09
Plans for Trumpington shopping centre, first suggested 1973 by Parry Lewis, now revived [7.4]

1986 02 08
Plans have been revealed for a multi-million pound shopping centre on the outskirts of Cambridge. Marks and Spencer and Tesco have proposed a double superstore with park-and-ride facilities on land bounded by the M11 and Hauxton Road, Trumpington. A dual carriageway would connect the A10 to the privately-owned Clay Farm area which has already been identified for potential housing. 86 02 08

1986 03 14
The Cambridge Plate-glass Mutual Insurance Society which has helped traders for 135 years is to be wound up. Membership has shrunk to less than 30 as many local shopkeepers have given up trading and the large chain stores do not insure at all. It was formed in 1851 when plate glass was replacing small paned windows of the Georgian days. Then the most frequent cause of breakages was by a gas light but lately traffic accidents and vandalism have been the main problems. 86 03 14a

1986 06 11
Asda propose Milton Road, three week inquiry [7.6]

1986 06 06

Camtech's plans for two giant supermarkets at Arbury Camp would fit in with the Unex Group's proposal for a major supermarket and non-food shops on a retail park off King's Hedges Road. But it would offer competition to other schemes currently under discussion. These are the giant Marks and Spencer / Tesco plan for two superstores, a 300-bedroom hotel and multi-screen cinema at Trumpington, Asda's ideas for a supermarket at the Cambridge Business Park on Milton Road and the proposed Tesco store in the Milton Park housing development 86 06 06

1986 07 09
W.H. Smith, a familiar sight on Cambridge Market Hill for the past 25 years is to close. Staff will be transferred to their other shops in Lion Yard and at Cambridge railway station. 86 07 09

1986 07 16
Cambridge planners rejected proposals to demolish the Victoria Cinema at Market Hill and replace it with a Marks and Spencer superstore. It would deprive many people of a first-class city centre entertainments facility, the shopping proposal was contrary to development plans and it would result in added traffic congestion. But they might change their minds if Cannon reopened the Central Cinema in Hobson Street instead of using it as a bingo hall or provided a new multi-screen cinema 86 07 16

1986 07 17
Co-op plan £6.5M superstore Beehive site which proposed April 1984 now approved [13.7]

1986 08 06
Tesco propose store at Milton rejected by planners [7.5],

1986 08 21
Woolworths close 5 weeks for facelift [10.10]

1981 09 03
The newly-extended Marks and Spencer store in Cambridge includes a staff canteen with flowers on the table, where a three-course lunch costs 10p. A shampoo and set in the staff hairdressing salon costs £1.25 and a visit to the chiropodist is priced at 50p. A Doctor attends the staff medical room weekly with a dentist each six months. Wages are above average at £64.50 for a 38-hour week with a profit-sharing scheme. The store has no difficulty recruiting staff with 800 applicants for 90 new positions. 81 09 03

1986 09 12
Sainsbury to expand Brookes Road [14.5]

1986 09 22
Jack Carter, the Portugal Place outfitters which has been hiring gowns, tails and dinner suits since 1937 is to close. The shop's lease, owned by Jesus College, has run out and the rent has been trebled. The business has been hit in other ways: last year they sold just six gowns because colleges now buy their own supplies and there are not as many formal functions as previously. The remaining stock will be sold off at the start of the new university term. 86 09 22b

1986 11 05
Cambridge Toy Shop, which has been trading for almost 20 years, is planning to close at Christmas. They blame rent increases 86 11 05a

1986 11 18

Cambridge Co-op's new Beehive Centre is the first step in a major redevelopment scheme which is going to give the city a shopping complex for the 21st century. They have obtained additional frontage on to Coldham's Lane including the former Eastern Gas Social Club and will construct a roundabout to ease traffic congestion. The shop has been given a bright new image with additional departments and specialist services including the Kauffman Hair Salon, G & H Kitchens and BMB Windows. 86 11 18

1986 11 26
Thousands of shoppers are heading into massive debt as they spend, spend, spend for Christmas. The Citizens' Advice Bureau said that last year everybody got everything on shop credit cards; now everyone they see has three, four or sometimes five credit cards and many of these are taken out to get presents. Robert Sayle say the season had started late because of the mild weather but already profits had rocketed by 14 per cent. Eaden Lilley, Joshua Taylor and Boots report tremendous sales. But many managers say poor parking facilities were driving Cambridge shoppers elsewhere. 86 11 26

1986 12 05
Shoplifting has rocketed by a quarter with 862 arrests in the first six months. They can be men or women, well-dressed or shabby, of any age range. Now Cambridge shops have banded together with a pyramid telephone system alerting others when a suspicious person is at large. An increasing problem are the professionals and the M11 has brought in more. Some can be violent. One young woman store detective in Marks and Spencer has twice been assaulted by male shoplifters. One got away, one didn't. 86 12 05

1986 12 08
Plans convert Gt St Andrews into shops [7.7]

1987
"Cambridge is doomed as major shopping centre unless it can cure parking problems" [20.7]

1987 02 18
Joshua Taylor is a household name in Cambridge. The department store which has stood in the centre of the city for 150 years remains in the hands of the original family. Today it is run by Annabel, daughter of the fifth Joshua Taylor who remains chairman. She has a staff of 160 and finds the challenge of giving each department its unique character is a marvellous way of expressing her personality 87 02 18 & a

1987 03 14
Barrett's China and Glass shop in St Mary's Street is to close after 200 years in Cambridge with the business transferred to Newmarket. The owner says that the appalling parking problems are one factor for the move. In January a city centre gift shop and a doctor's surgery both moved out for the same reason. The Parsley Pot shop in Lion Yard has also closed. The Managing Director of Eaden Lilley has warned the parking crisis in traffic-choked Cambridge could only get worse. 87 03 14

1987 03 24
Store giant Sainsbury's has announced plans for a superstore on the Arbury Camp site, creating more than 300 jobs. The supermarket could occupy a six-acre site closest to the interchange between the Northern Bypass and Histon Road. It would have a petrol station, coffee shop and parking for 500 cars. There would also be a park-and-ride site.This would be part of a mixed development of retail and research areas with a large ornamental lake. An Inspector has

recommended that the site be taken out of the belt because it made a minimal contribution to the special character of Cambridge. But planners have so far disagreed 87 03 24

1987 04 28
One of Britain's oldest booksellers, Deighton Bell in Trinity Street, which dates back to 1700 and specialises in antiquarian and rare volumes, has been sold to nearby Heffers. It takes them back to second-hand books, a department it gave up in 1974 because of lack of space. Then they had sold their stock to Deighton Bell and had maintained a good relationship ever since. The shop will remain on the corner of Trinity Street and Green Street and continue to be run by John Beech and his staff 87 04 28 [NS2.11]

1987 05 26
The Victoria Cinema site on Market Hill is to become a Marks and Spencer store following an Inspector's decision. M & S is planning to put up a completely new building behind the existing façade and the store will also stretch into the shoe shop next door. Refusing permission would not have saved the cinema as the owners wanted to sell the property. But planners fear traffic chaos unless the firm is responsible about deliveries: they can as of right bring huge great articulated trucks down Bridge Street and Trinity Street in the middle of the working day if they so wish. 87 06 26

1987 06 12
Donald Mackay reviews firm's history – 87 06 12d

1987 09 29
A new-look Co-op has come to Cambridge with the refurbishment of the old premises in Burleigh Street producing the latest of the Society's Homemaker stores. Although it now occupies only the ground floor it has a more modern look and concentrates on electrical goods bringing it more in tune with the Grafton Centre. None of the staff have been made redundant though some have moved to the Beehive site. 87 09 29a, b & c

1987 10 07
A vast new shopping complex, described as the largest and most exciting of its kind for many years, has been approved by planners. The joint Co-op and Texas Homecare development on the Beehive site of Coldham's Lane will enable Cambridge to compete with other major shopping cities like Peterborough and Bedford. It will comprise a large supermarket and extensive do-it-yourself store with parking for 1,100 cars. The existing Home Interiors building and garden centre are already being enlarged. Texas will leave its building at the nearby Coral Park trading centre when the new one is ready 87 10 07

1987 10 08
Tansley Typewriter Company celebrates 65 years - 87 10 08

1987 10 14
Jack Reynolds, rock maker and confectioner, is to retire after 40 years in the rock business. His father, James, was known as 'The Rock King' whose stall at the fairs on Midsummer Common was a familiar sight. Jack opened a shop on Newmarket Road about 1947 and has lived in the area all his life. The road has changed a lot; when he came there were houses in Occupation Road and several businesses have disappeared. He no longer makes his own rock but his son and grandson are carrying on the family name. 87 10 14a

1987 10 27

Joshua Taylor, the 127-year-old Cambridge department store is up for sale. The Taylor family say they can no longer carry on in the face of fierce competition from national shop chains. The sale is expected to excite nationwide interest. Three factors have brought about the decision: the need to refit the two shops, a rent review due in 1990 and pending changes in the rating system. The retail market is fast changing and premises must be constantly upgraded. Ironically the present year has been the best they have ever had 87 10 27 & a. Joshua Taylor history – 87 10 28a & b

1987 10 27
A multi-million-pound shopping, hotel, cinema and parking project planned for south Trumpington by Marks and Spencer and Tesco has been scrapped. The vast hypermarket-type development attracted more complaints than any other single planning application ever made in Cambridge. It would have been on green belt land, where building was banned, and the city had shown no support. Residents say this is a wonderful day and there will be great rejoicing in the Trumpington area. 87 10 27

1987 10 28
Joshua Taylor history – 87 10 28a & b

1987 11 03
Your new Debenhams is here at the Grafton Centre! Step into a new shopping experience and discover the delights of Debenhams. Floor upon floor of fashion and home furnishing to please both eye and pocket. And to celebrate our opening we've some really special offers including a range of fondues, Meyer Tensi Cookware, Oneida 44-piece stainless steel canteen (£149), Royal Doulton 'Delphi bone china 18-piece tea set (£75). Late night shopping Wednesdays till 8pm. (Advertisement) 87 11 03b

1987 11 24
First phase of Redevelopment of the Beehive Shopping Centre on Coldham's Lane complete – 87 11 24

1987 12 24
Frantic food shoppers put supermarket under siege, crowding stores to bursting point and some people with full trolleys abandoned their goods after waiting for more than an hour to get through the checkouts at Sainsbury's in Coldham's Lane. Outside a tail-back of cars stretched for hundreds of yards as more tried to park. At Bar Hill Tesco's shoppers queued half an hour before opening time and Marks and Spencer shelves were stripped bare after fears that food supplies would run down over the Christmas shut-down. 87 12 24

1988 01 15
Lights went up for the last time at the Victoria Cinema as the final performance of its last show came to an end. As the audience left after seeing 'Spaceballs' or 'Predator', manager Richard Wright reflected on the cinema's long history. Memories of MGM musicals, Saturday morning minors and all-night horror shows came flooding back. Mick Wells, who has been the chief projectionist for 24 years recalled the halcyon days when 'South Pacific' ran for two solid years and 'The Sound of Music' for three. Now the building on Cambridge Market Hill will make way for a new Marks and Spencer store. 88 01 15

1988 01 26
Joshua Taylor, one of Cambridge's most prestigious department stores has been sold. The new owner, London property developers Arlington Security plans to retain the name and upmarket image. Each of the 160 staff have their jobs guaranteed and will get an average loyalty bonus of

£1,500. Included in the deal are the main Sidney Street shop, the Bridge Street houseware shop and the Taylor family's academic robe-making business. The deal ends three months of doubt over the 128-year-old store's future following the Taylor family's decision to sell up in the face of fierce competition from national chains 88 01 26

1988 02 04
Tesco Milton superstore approved ¢CEN 4.2.88

1988 02 20
Cambridge is set for a battle of the booksellers after news that the Waring and Gillow furniture store in Sidney Street will be refurbished as Dillons Bookstore. 88 02 20

1988 04 21
Major refurbishment work has been completed at Cambridge's long-established department store. Joshua Taylor opened his first shop in Ely in 1810 which continued until 1923. His son started in Sidney Street Cambridge in 1860, spreading to Bridge Street in 1955. It became a household name to shoppers, symbolising a traditional way of life. This will continue say the new owners Arlington Securities who plan 'an exciting future' for the shop. They have retained the elegant sweeping central staircase and now with expansion and financial backing, the future looks rosy. 88 04 21c & d

1988 05 02
Grafton plans for huge extension ¢CEN 4.5.88

1988 05 03
Presto in Grafton Centre to close, "no longer economic", Centre fashion orientated ¢CEN 3.5.88

1988 05 12
Grafton expansion plans "everyone knew it too small" ¢CEN 12.5.88

1988 05 19
Petition for grocery shop to replace Presto ¢CEN 19.5.88

1988 05 24
Sainsbury's hopes to buy Cambridge United's famous Abbey Stadium for a DIY superstore and give the club a new ground, perhaps at the former Blue Circle cement works site off Coldham's Lane. The Abbey site covers four acres and United have already put forward plans to develop the car park for offices. Trafford Park Estates have won permission to build four office blocks on the front of the Cambridge City ground, three of which are already half-let. 88 06 24

1988 05 26
Eaden Lilley history feature – 88 05 26

1988 06 07
Johns furnishing to move from Bridge St, blame parking ¢CEN 7.6.88

1988 06 09
Health Food stores Rose Crescent closes after 57 years, one of first in country ¢CEN 9.6.88

1988 06 17

Josies fruit & veg shop Newmarket Rd closes after 37 years due traffic & supermarket competition ¢CEN 17.6.88

1988 06 25
Arlington Development plan shopping shake-up involving Joshua Taylor, Eaden Lilley and the Arts Cinema, realigning Market Passage & link with Rose Crescent to form modern shopping precinct – 88 06 25

1988 06 25
Co-op say acute shortage in retail trade staff, need to bus staff in ¢CEN 25.6.88

1988 07 23
A.A. Roper's traditional tailor's shop in Trinity Street is closing after nearly 80 years and three generations of trading. Stanley Roper, son of the founder Arthur, is retiring as is 77-year-old cloth-cutter Fred Bland who is irreplaceable – his is a dying craft outside London. David Roper is sad to close the shop but says "It is not like before the war, when we used to make suits for five guineas – today the same suit would cost £300" 88 07 23a

1988 09 23
"In the last few years Regent Street has rapidly changed from retail trading to mainly commercial and therefore ceased to attract the shopper" ¢CEN 23.9.88

1988 09 28
Morley & Duke, an electrical company founded in Cambridge in 1926, has become part of the Jakubowski group of companies. It had an excellent reputation for its domestic electrical services and has built up a vast catalogue of clients. 88 09 28

1988 11 03
Planning granted for £30M expansion Grafton Centre, including cinema ¢CEN 3.11.88

1988 11 08
Late night shopping (9pm Wed) likely to continue, began a year ago ¢CEN 8.11.88

1988 11 26
Shops hit by staff crisis, hundreds of retail jobs going begging at Xmas ¢CEN 26.11.88

1988 12 12
Office rents soared 35% in year, shops and industrial rents also up ¢CEN 12.12.88

1988 12 15
St Andrew the Great conversion to shops rejected by Govt. ¢CEN 15.12.88

1989 01 05
Sir M. Macdonald merges with Mott Hay & Anderson to form Mott MacDonald ¢CEN 5.1.89

1989 01 19
W.E. Hunt trophy shop Mill Road to close, opened 1918 ¢CEN 19.1.89

1989 03 01
Milton Tescos to open ¢CEN 1.3.89

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1989 03 07
Jewellers leave Grafton centre - "down market"; rent rise from £5,000 to £12,500 ¢CEN 7.3.89

1989 04 25
Small shops claim sales slump due parking charges - people dash to big shops no time for small ¢CEN 25.4.89

1989 06 08
Grafton centre car park rise leads to 25% drop in number using them ¢CEN 8.6.89

1989 06 16
Ede and Ravenscroft is a firm where you can still find tailors leaning over tables, hand-cutting and hand-stitching gowns and suits. They are the only bespoke tailors who make garments on the premises in Cambridge. There is even a sports coat they made in the 1950s which a client brought back to be repaired. This is the reason top professionals, the wealthy and the peerage are willing to pay upwards of £500 for one suit. Quite simply, they last and you still get your own name tag carefully stitched into a pocket. There has been a tailors shop on the site for more than 200 years. Part of the original opaque glass door of James Neal's – the shop they took over 10 years ago – is still displayed 89 06 16 & a

1989 06 27
Bodgers the outfitters founded its reputation on old-fashioned courtesy and service, specialising in the sale of traditional clothes for traditional gentlemen. For 138 years generations of both town and gown have visited its respectable Sidney Street premises. But the shop, founded in 1851 is to close because of soaring interest rates, four years after it was bought by rival company Shepherd and Woodward of Oxford. The site is one of the only central freeholds not in college hands and is a prime site for speculators. 89 06 27

1989 07 05
Dept of Trade & Industry office in Cambridge to be upgraded to full regional status ¢CEN 5.7.89

1989 07 13
City advertises car park prices to entice shoppers back ¢CEN 13.7.89

1989 07 18
Planners approve phase two expansion Grafton Centre ¢CEN 18.7.89

1989 09 03
"Days of major office development are over" following DoE rejection office site at Mitcham's corner ¢CEN 3.8.89

1989 09 14
Marks & Spencer - 3 years ago city refused permission to build Market Hill, overturned on appeal - opens ¢CEN 14.9.89

1989 11 07
Rumbelows to close Petty Cury, follows close of Laskys, Grafton Centre - interest rates & high rents ¢CEN 7.11.89

1989 11 10

Jarrolds to close Jan 1990 - "too small for number of lines ... turnover no longer in line with value of property" ¢CEN 10.11.89

1989 11 16
Robert Sayle plans to switch from the heart of traffic-choked Cambridge to a proposed new shops complex at Duxford. Their present site is too cramped and the lack of space is blocking their expansion plans. The news sent a shock wave through Cambridge with fears it could create a commercial vacuum in the main shopping area. Conservatives blame the Labour administration's failure to provide more city centre car parking. 89 11 16

1989 11 21
Co-op chiefs have been forced to sell off the freehold of their Burleigh Street store to fend off a cash crisis. The Victorian building has been sold to a London Investment Company and they will lease back the premises. The Co-op began trading in Burleigh Street in 1908 but has been hit by soaring interest rates on loans taken out to cover major projects such as the massive Beehive Centre. It has already put branches up for sale in Mill Road, Milton Road, Waterbeach, Duxford & Cherry Hinton. 89 11 21

1989 12 14
W & G Taylor of Trinity Street, one of Cambridge's oldest family menswear shops, is closing after 809 years of business. The firm started when George and Walter Taylor (no relation) who both worked at Ryder and Amies, decided to set up in business together but now a threefold increase in the lease is simply beyond their means. The shop describes itself as a gentleman's outfitters and specialises in hats. Bowlers for Cambridge colleges have been a regular line of business. 89 12 14

1989 12 15
The closure of W & G. Taylor is the latest in a line of small stores squeezed from the city centre by rocketing rents. Two other men's outfitters, Ropers and Bodgers closed this summer. Another famous shop which closed six years ago in the face of mounting rent and rates was Bacons in Market Street. The Parsley Pot in Lion Yard, Cambridge Fine Jewels of Emmanuel Street and upmarket furnishers, Johns, left their Bridge Street premises for Histon Road last year blaming the traffic chaos and high parking charges 89 12 15

1990
1990 04 25
Cambridge Co-op in precarious financial state and the Beehive shops complex would have to be sold unless merge with Co-operative Retail Services – 90 04 25a

1990 09 26
Waits outfitters celebrates centenary, opened Cutter and Tailor at 70 Hills Road 1890, moved 49 Hills Road 1936 with other branches – 90 09 28c

1990 10 08
Cambridge Robes made ceremonial robes for monarchs, bishops at Portugal Place since 1947; to close – 90 10 08b

1990 10 16
Colin Lunn tobacconist on King's Parade, opened 1899 to close – 90 10 16a

1990 11 24

Planned demolition of Arts Cinema and part of Joshua Taylor department store for new cinema, 19 shops, restaurant and refurbishment of shops & offices – 90 11 24a

1991 01 03
High rents turning Hobson and Sussex Street into a ghost town, closing shops; area being converted to student accommodation – 91 01 03a

1991 01 10
A long line of small shops has fallen victim to rocketing rents, rates and interest charges and big department stores retailing methods have changed with the introduction of the franchise system of 'shops within shops'. Latest victims are Bodgers outfitters after 139 years – 91 01 10c

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Bank Holiday auction, Cattle Market, 1960s *97.97*

c.27.3 : Markets

1888
1885
New Cattle Market opened [NI.1.6]

1888 03 02
Agitation for covered market at Cambridge [1.17]

1889 02 15
Royal Commission on Market Rates & Tolls enquiry [1.18]

1890
1897 04 24
A memorial from certain inhabitants of the Cambridge in favour of covering the Market Hill with a permanent covering of iron and glass was read by the Town Clerk. Coun Nichols thought the state of their present market was a disgrace to civilisation. They were paying at least L400 a year for putting up and taking down those wretched wooden structures and the cloths that covered them were of no use whatever. Mr F. Morley did not believe in the Corporation entering into

competition with the shopkeepers of the town and driving the trade into the hand of people who paid no rates. Mr Campkin felt the question of a covered market elsewhere was too serious a matter for them to consider for many years to come. (The council voted against the proposal 97 04 24

1897 12 11 c
Cambridge Market Committee recommended that a new form of market stall known as the "Diamond Stall" be erected on Market Hill. Mr Nichols remarked that the long vexed question of covering in the market was the objection to a permanent structure being erected on Market Hill. They were paying now £850 per year for putting up and taking down all those wretched stalls and their repairs. At some length he described the advantages to the town that the scheme would bring about, amid some manifestations of impatience on the part of the Council c1897 12 11

1900
1900 08 22
In 1885 a large cattle market was erected & shortly after some buildings were erected for providing refreshment for those who required it. These were very small & now the Star Brewery wished to erect a commodious hotel with 10 bedrooms which would be used to put up those who came to the market to buy cattle. At the present there was no accommodation for Irishmen attending the market. Many come on Friday night with their stock & it was necessary for them to be constantly attending to them. It would be put a considerable way back from the road and have space for 50 to 70 horses. The nearest hotel was the Great Northern but it had only a few beds so they had to go to the Red Lion in Petty Cury. CDN 1900 08 22

1901 08 21
The Star Brewery renewed its application for a proposed new hotel on the Hills Road, adjacent to Cambridge Cattle Market. There were farmers, dealers in cattle coming from Norwich and Essex who regularly attended the market, coming by train. It was desirable that they should sleep on the spot and take care of the cattle. Mr Grain said there was opposition from Homerton College, a ladies college. What on earth they opposed for he did not know. None of those young ladies, he was sure, would go near a public house. CDN 1901 08 21

1908 11 13
A singular accident in which a taximeter cab played a singular part occurred in Peas Hill. The lamp of taxi cab number 214, driven by a man named Darby, caught the awning connecting a couple of stalls and there was a general upset. The stall of Mr Reynolds was practically demolished and the sweets strewn about with the result that a number of boys had a scramble and pocketed as much as they could. The adjoining drapery stall of Mr Nicholls fared better. The affair caused a great deal of commotion CWN 08 11 13

1909 07 09
There had been an outcry after Cambridge Corporation destroyed eight tenements when improving Northampton Street. Now they wanted to erect houses for persons of the working class on land in Albion Row, Lady Margaret Road and the Haymarket. Some would be on the site of the old cattle market. This had previously been moved to St Andrew's Hill, then in 1842 to Pound Hill and in 1887 to its present site near the railway station, an Inspector was told CWN 09 07 09

1909 11 26
Councillors considered a police report on the auctioneers or cheap-jacks who visit Cambridge Market Hill on Saturday evenings and the Peas Hill in daytime with 'mock' jewellery. It was

agreed such persons be not allowed and that in future 'Hoop-la' stalls be not allowed on Market Hill. A suggestion from the Cambridge University Automobile Club as to the placing of mirrors at the Bridge Street end of Jesus Lane was rejected. Drains in City Road and Eden Street were a nuisance and injurious to health, owners should do the necessary work or it will be done by the Surveyor and charged to them CWN 09 11 26

1910

1911
Number of stalls reduced by 62 from 250 & roads around square widened [1.24]

1911 01 13
Stall holders on Cambridge Market have been troubled by repeated small thefts. The elusive genius of the pilfering urchin is well known but Cambridge boys have resorted to other devices. One favourite plan is for two boys to walk past and for one to throw the other's cap on the stall. In recovering the cap the boy generally manages to get an orange or two underneath it. Another is for a boy to have a piece of wood with a nail on the end and to spike an apple or other fruit with it. The police have been keeping a sharp look-out with the result that a lad of 14 was arrested for stealing nougat from Mr Careless's sweet stall. 11 01 13g

1912 09 13
Sir - Cambridge fruit costs more on Cambridge market than in London since most cannot be sold locally at any price and is sent to larger towns. Good apples from Histon sold in Manchester for a shilling per half bushel. But expenses consumed 10d and the grower got only 2d. In his own market the grower tries to sell at remunerative prices. The only people who can sell cheaper than market traders are the hawkers. There are dozens of large lorries that hawk all over Cambridge and pay not one penny towards the expenses of the town. Yet market stallholders have to pay a very heavy toll – John Hall 12 09 13f

1919 08 20
Open mart for sale of fruit and vegetables under auspices of Cambs Fruit and Vegetable Society in Bridge Street; first auction – 19 08 20h

1919 09 03
Sale of army horses at Cattle Market. The present shed was erected in 1908; Grain & Son increasing their horse sale but object to them allowing purchasers to try horses and mules in harness on Sundays – 19 09 03a

1920
1926 10 30
Cambridge Borough Surveyor submitted four schemes for the lay-out of land at the Cattle Market. The site comprised 11½ acres and was purchased about 1884 from Jesus College. The west side was used for vehicles of those attending the market, the east side was partly used for allotments and the question had arisen of developing part for conveniences, a free library and an abattoir, which was most important. The Railway Company wanted to provide up and down platforms at the station. It was unlikely the bridge would be widened for railway traffic was decreasing 26 10 11

1928 01 10
An inquiry was held into proposals to alter the charges for stalls on Cambridge market. There were 112 stalls, 64 of which were interior stalls but some, particularly those at the four corners of

the market were more valuable than others. The present charge was 2s. 6d. per day and it was proposed to increase it to 6s. 10s for corner stalls, with frontage stalls increased to 4s.8d and the interior stalls raised to 3s. 4d. But the proposals had not been received with enthusiasm by the traders. 28 01 11 [1.26]

1930

1930 02 25
Sir – we Cambridge market traders notice that Councillor Longley wants to move our stalls into the Corn Exchange but we challenge him to produce a transferred market that has been a success. He wants to replace the stalls with car parking spaces. Cannot he see the utter foolishness of congesting the very centre of a town with cars. Those on Market Hill consist of business townsmen, clerics and travellers who sit in their expensive car, eat bread and cheese, beg an onion to go with it but do little business. The Market Hill and Peas Hill are open-air markets. An arcade was tried years ago. The building stands today, a sorry sight, in St Andrew's Hill. The stallholders all failed – W.J. Sambridge. 30 02 25 [1.3]

1934 12 17
Merchants at Cambridge Corn Exchange traditionally end the year by throwing about samples of their wares. The signal for the commencement of the battle was the explosion of a cracker near the door. The 'firer' was immediately bombarded and soon covered with flour, wheat and artificial manure. Crackers banged merrily, bags burst with marked effect and very soon all the dignified corn-merchants were life-like imitations of snowmen. Even the rather grim-looking statue of Jonas Webb looked comical with the flour-bag headgear that was placed on it. After 30 minutes the ammunition ran out and combat ceased, though the debris-covered floor was witness of the fight that had been in progress. 34 12 17a

1936 07 30
Cattle Market needed modern facilities and expansion – 36 07 30d

1940

1948 05 07
The death occurred on Monday of Fred Markham, familiarly known as "Cuthbert". He will be missed by many stallholders in Cambridge Market Place where from early morning till evening he could be seen, either pushing his barrow or at times helping to hold down stalls in squally weather. Farmers, cattle dealers, auctioneers too, will miss him both at the Cattle Market in Cambridge and throughout East Anglia. "A very sociable man and a good mixer" would describe his personality. He was an ex-cavalry man, and had much foreign service to his credit. He was 56 48 05 07

1950

1950 01 13
Cambridge's chief sanitary inspector says the stalls on Market Square are unnecessary. "We don't like these open-air stalls at all, and I don't see that in 1950 we need them at all. I think it is an anachronism". Questioned about dogs that 'wet and sniff all over the place' he said he had spoken to stallholders and asked if they did not realise that people had to eat vegetable which had been fouled by dogs 50 01 13

1951 06 20

Cambridge councillors heard that the cattle market has become one of the most important cattle centres in the country as a result of the great increase in the amount of business transacted since the war. Problems had arisen because of the serious congestion of traffic in Hills Road when large sales are held and the need for better facilities for traders and customers. It was not designed for holding large sales of agricultural machines nor for the provision of parking accommodation for upwards of 1,200 motor vehicles

1952 10 31
Within the last 60 years Cambridge Cattle Market, once one of the smallest in the country, has become one of the largest. When the Mayor opens the latest addition – the new store cattle sale yard with its covered-in accommodation for about 500 people and penning facilities for upwards of 1,000 head of cattle – it will mark the beginning of a new era in which the Cattle Market may well become a national centre for livestock sales. The present market was opened in 1885 and until 1912 was small; by 1939 it was handling 200-300 fat cattle, 1,000 sheep and 500 pigs a week.

1952 11 04
The Mayor of Cambridge auctioned ten first-cross blue and white store pigs for the good price of £7 5s. He was opening the new sales yard at Cambridge Cattle Market. They were 12 months overdue due to difficulty in getting steel because of the Government's re-armament policy but were part of the council's plans to make it one of the best in the country. "We hope these extensions will make producers send more cattle and livestock and thus attract buyers from all over the country", he said. They were awaiting Government policy on the question of an abattoir and there was a move to start a wool market.

1955 04 26
At the last two sales of machinery at Cambridge Cattle Market there has been considerable congestion in all the main roads and residents complained that nearly 600 cars had been parked in the streets in addition to more than 1,000 in the market car parks. The City Surveyor suggested demolishing loose boxes and a Nissen hut to provide 250 more spaces. The machinery sales were probably the largest in the world attracting buyers from overseas. About 250 tractors were refused for sale owing to the lack of space. 55 04 26

1959
David moves his Saturday stall from Peas Hill to Market Place, most of others went some time before War [2.3]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 12 03
Market stall holders are among Cambridge's most colourful characters. Many have taken over the stalls from their fathers or grandfathers, often reaching back five or six generations. There are a handful of names which provide the nucleus of the traders – Whitehead, David, Sharp. Reynolds, Simpkins and several others. Charles Whitehead has stood at his greengrocery stall since he was 14, Messrs Miller and Beresford are in charge of the pets stall and Mrs Sharp has been selling old silver and brasses for 52 years. They believe that as long as they are straight and fair in their dealings, competition cannot harm them – 60 12 30b

1961 07 12

A new car park attendant's hut has been installed on Cambridge Market Square. The original hut was badly damaged by fire during the Guy Fawkes celebrations two years ago and replaced by a temporary one. It is expected to be in use later this week 61 07 12

1961 11 23
Claude Kirkup became manager of Cambridge cattle market in 1936 and has seen tremendous changes. He can remember the days when sheep and pigs were brought to the market in tumbrel carts or by horse and cart. With the advent of motor traffic the market increased ten-fold and animals now come from a very wide radius. Many Continental buyers attend the Monday agricultural machinery sales. 61 11 23

1962 12 22
King Street poultry & produce mart to close after nearly 50 years due to rent increase [3.17]

1964 01 24
At 84, Harry Capon is the oldest stallholder on the Cambridge market. He sells the same type of fancy goods as when he first set up the stall at 16. "Every Monday and Saturday I get up at 5.30 and load up the trolley with the goods and pull it from my house in Coronation Street. I set the stuff out on the stall then it's sell, sell, sell until 6pm when I start to pack up. Again another hour or so to load the trolley and then back home to bed about 9 pm. Two days a week I go up the London and the warehouses; I often get a lift with a fruitier and he leaves me at Hyde Park Corner on the way to Covent Garden", he says., adding "The market is slowly dying … fewer people and fewer stalls" 64 01 24

1964 07 01
Produce market now open Cattle Market, for nearly year without market after King St closed [3.18]

1965 03 27
The new corn market building on the Cattle Market site will replace the old Saturday corn market held in the Corn Exchange. Merchants have been advocating a move for 10 years and now it is hoped the market will revive. An encouraging number of people want to take stalls. The cost of desk or box in the new building is £10 a year. People who attend to buy or sell are charged £3 for an annual ticket. Visitors are admitted free. It will also provide a small new hall for the Cherry Hinton Road – Hills Road district 65 03 27a

1965 04 05
New £8,000 corn market opened Cattle Market, marks end of trading in Corn Exchange

1965 09 16
Fruit and vegetables for Cambridge brought from London markets by Whitehead and Pordage – feature – 65 09 16a

1967 01 31
Tubular stalls proposed for Market which removable for weekend car parking [4.4]

1967 02 02
Plans to move Cattle Market to Milton Road [4.2]

1967 11 02

Trading at Cambridge Corn Market on the Cattle Market site has sunk almost to zero and the specially designed £8,000 hall launched two years ago is tottering towards its doom. Council was under legal obligation to provide a new corn market once they decided the old one was not viable. 47 merchants said they wanted a stand, it opened with 32 but this has dwindled to 22; on Mondays it is often empty – 68 11 02

1968 01 11
Cambridge Cattle Market flourishing but farmers find Bury more convenient – 68 01 11a

1969 04 15
Horse sales revived after 15 years [4.5]

1969 09 20
Proposal to cut Market Place in half five days for car parking, in October 43 cars parked when under new scheme would be space for 36;

1969 09 24
Market holders' discontent over plans for Market Square – 69 09 24, plans delayed – 69 09 25;

1969 10 01
Plans outlined – 69 10 01, 01a

1969 10 02
6000 petition, plans delayed

1969 10 21
Experimental parking ban with every stall occupied 6 days a week - at present only half occupied Monday-Friday; new stalls introduced [4.5]

1970

1972 11 02
Sunday market plans rejected [4.6]

1972 12 08
An estimated 2,000 people turned up for the first day's trading at the Marcade, Cambridge's first indoor market. The Marcade is the brainchild of two city businessmen, one of whom said "We have spoken to every trader today and most of them have said they have taken as much in five hours todays as they usually take in a week" There are 48 stands in the market, which is in the old Eastern Electricity buildings in East Road and they hope to have a total of 100 by January. "The whole idea is to make it a good market where someone can buy anything at competitive prices and of good quality". They were aiming at at market where a customer could buy everything from a kitchen sink to a fur coat, said Mr Smith 72 12 08

1973 11 22
It was the Second World War which boosted the trade in used agricultural machinery at Cambridge cattle market. Now, after 30 years on the Hills Road site, it is hoped that the move to the new sales area down Milton Road will give a similar fillip to what is generally regarded as one of Europe's outstanding second-hand implements market. The cattle market developed over the years and continued unchanged until 1966 when the advent of an £8,000 new corn market proved more or less a flop from the start and received negligible support from farmers and

auctioneers. There have been frequent prophecies that the cattle market will eventually go the same way. Obstinately though, it refuses to die 73 11 22

1974 04 16
Traditional Easter Monday market, Cattle Market [4.9]

1975 02 18
New machinery market opened Cowley Road [4.5]

1976 12 16
With move of implements is fall off at Cattle Market which also hit by swine vesicular disease, closure recommended as costs£11,000 subsidies per year [5.1,4.6]

1977 01 14
The Cambridge cattle market, which has stood at Cherryhinton Road for almost 100 years, should be closed on its present site as soon as possible, the city council decided, because the ratepayers receive no benefit from the thousands of pounds spent on subsidising it each year. It is the only sizeable market in the whole of the county and played an important part in the city's life. Its closure did not exclude the possibility of its re-opening elsewhere. In the meantime the market should be accommodated on a smaller part of the site, thus releasing an amount of valuable land for industrial development. 77 01 14

1978 02 02
Sunday market proposals vetoed on Market Hill & Cattle Market[5.2]

1979 02 15
Cattle Market to be laid out for industry [5.3]

1980

1980 06 20
Sunday Market City Football club starts May, closed June [5.4]

1980 06 26
Four people were taken to hospital after a car careered across a corner of Cambridge Market Square. It ploughed across the Barclays Bank edge of the market, striking a flower stall, scattering fruit and vegetables and hitting two shoppers before ending up four feet from the railings of Gt St Mary's church. A Girton lady working on the flower stall said: "I just saw the car out of the corner of my eye and ran for it. The stall just folded up with its legs in the air" 80 06 26

1981 10 15
City Football Club Thursday market starts, moves Cowley Rd 1984 [5.5]

1981 11 05
Beaumont centre - indoor market, gutted 6 years ago & reopened after £100,000 facelift to be demolished [5.6]

1982 02 03
Andy Gray decided 13 years ago to move his collection of 500 second-hand singles from Bury market to serve the more discerning musical tastes of Cambridge. He can still be found in the market square today, though now he has eight shops in the region. He puts his success down to

undercutting the traditional record retailers as well as offering the obscure stuff you just couldn't buy elsewhere. Rather like John Peel he has kept abreast of changes, opening 'The Beat Goes On' to cater for new trends. 82 02 03b

1982 03 02
Sunday market plans Cowley Road scrapped after months waiting [5.7]

1982 07 19
Work is continuing on the Clifton industrial estate, a joint development between the City Council and Dencora Securities on the site of the former of cattle market. There will be 31 units providing 225 jobs in light industry and warehousing with the first opening shortly. Much emphasis is being placed on a good quality of construction and landscaping to ensure a good working environment. 82 07 19

1984 09 05
Cambridge City Football Club's expanding Thursday market moved to its new base in Cowley Road. Started as part of the club's solvency drive it has developed to become a popular city attraction that has survived the sale of its old site – part of the club's ground in Milton Road. The 70 market traders are hoping to take their regular big crowd to the new site. There will be special buses run by the club from various points in the city. Since it began three years the quality of merchandise has steadily improved. 84 09 05

1982 10 04
Market announces worst months trading for 30 years due to parking problems [5.8]

1985 01 23
Hundreds of farmers and traders flocked to Milton Road sale ground for the biggest traction auction in the country. Yilmaz Alademir had come all the way from Farmagusta, Cyprus looking for a tractor he could ship home as they were much cheaper in England. A more typical buyer was Gavin Hamilton of Manor Farm, Great Chesterford. He was looking for wheels and rollers among the dozens of machines and implements at the back of the saleground. The sale was started in the early 1940s by Mr Henry Grain & Cambridge auctioneers Cheffins, Grain and Chalk have been pulling the crowds ever since
85 01 23b

1985 09 27
Cambridge Cattle Market opened 100 years ago. Before 1885 it was held at Castle End but the stalls were inadequate for the number of beasts. Then Jesus College provided land near the railway station. Cattle docks from all four railways were within two minutes' walk and there were direct railway links to Scotland and Ireland. There are still weekly sales of stock, with horse sales every five weeks, but the area nearby that was used for grazing is now the Clifton Industrial Estate. It is filled with large corrugated boxes housing a wide variety of light industry and a 'Park and Ride' site 85 09 27

1987 01 08
Traders are blaming Cambridge's parking problems for turning the market into a 'morgue' and 'cutting trade by up to 50 per cent'. They say shoppers are going elsewhere and the centre is dying simply because there is nowhere to park. There are too few car parks, too high parking fees, a loss of meter spaces and cuts in bus services. A Consultant's report commissioned by leading retailers and hotel bosses has also said that poor parking facilities are costing shops lost trade and a pressure group has called for a 1,000-space underground car park 87 01 08a

1987 03 26
Chirpy market trader Bill Gray has gone to extreme lengths to keep his customers happy. He even skinned a rabbit for one person who stopped to buy some fruit and veg. His beaming smile and friendly small-talk has been a big boost for business. And the smile does not fade when the rain lashes down. Bill, of Gt Shelford, has been a familiar face during the past 31 years. But now he is calling it a day and will hand the business over to his son and daughter-in-law. But his regulars – who include the wife of the former Master of Trinity - will be pleased to know that he will still help out sometimes. 87 03 36

1988 07 21
The future of Cambridge market could be in doubt due to parking problems, stallholders say. Until 1969 drivers could park their cars in the middle of the market area – an attendant collected the fees – while stallholders occupied all the outside area. Then the council came up with a proposal that the area be divided into two – half stalls, half cars. But this provoked indignation and all parking was banned with new metal-framed plastic-covered stalls instead of wood and canvas set out over whole area. – 88 07 21

1990

1990 08 15
Market traders put forward plan to pedestrianise the square with a quarter left free for stalls – 90 08 15a

1990 09 26
Market Hill revamp plans include new fountain – 90 09 26a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Midsummer Fair proclamation 1956

123.63

c.27.31 : Fairs

headlines

“Midsummer probably best known fair in world ... Henry Thurston born 1847 son of Cambridge brickmaker worked in brickyard & 1868 acquired children’s street roundabout ... 1887 purchased four-abreast set of gallopers ...painted on the rounding boards scenes from Oxford & Cambridge Boat Race (other details) [6]
Did you know that coconut shies had their origin at the Cambridge Fair? A Showman’s Guild official says: “These old fairground games are a traditional part of England. They have been in existence for centuries. At the old Cambridge fair they used to shy at live cockerels; then an Act was passed forbidding it because of the cruelty. So the showmen substituted lead dummies and these were the origin of the coconut shies” 36 08 29a

1890

1897 09 25
At Cambridge's ancient Stourbridge Fair there is no lack of "local colour". Mongrel dogs lurch around after cross- eyed men and towsy-headed women; a maudlin old tippler recites, stuttering, the composition of one of the great unknowns of long ago, to a blear-eyed little nosed party, whose only comment is "Ugh", and females of substance offer curious visitors sticks of doubtful looking toffy, wherewith to wage war upon their digestions. There is no lack of that kind of amusement usual to such gatherings. You can shy at cocoa nuts, ring the bell with a rifle shot, mount an electric lighted roundabout or submit to a ha'porth of grey "ice", just according to the state of your finances 1897 09 25

1899 05 23

An accident having a fatal termination occurred on Midsummer Common Cambridge. During the day there had been an open-air fete, the amusement consisting chiefly of a steam roundabout, swings and the like. The bulk of the paraphernalia was the property of Messrs Thurston. Business ceased about eleven o'clock and in preparation for an early departure the work of packing was commenced immediately. The steam circus was in course of demolition when a covered van capsized and the unfortunate man was thrown to the ground. - 1899 05 23

1899 06 27
Midsummer Fair with its unmelodious music, its stertorous roundabouts, shooting galleries, crockery ware, linoleum, pea soup, fried fish and its brave show of tinsel is out of keeping with the genius of classic Cambridge. It is a link with the England of long ago, when there were no steam roundabouts and no cinematographs. If there are any who would like to do away with it they are in a miserable minority. Young Cambridge would be up in arms at once if such a proposal were to be seriously made - 1899 06 27

1899 09 22
During the tempestuous weather a hot pea stall, belonging to James Gerald, of Wilton terrace, East Road, Cambridge, which had been erected at the corner of Garlic Row in readiness for Stourbridge horse fair, was blown away bodily and carried by the boisterous wind across the road on to a piece of land forty yards away, used by Mr Robert Lee as a market garden. Another booth belonging to David Odell was also overthrown by the storm - 1899 09 22

1899 09 26
Cambridge's Stourbridge Fair has scarcely so strong a hold on the people as it exercised a decade ago. The vendor of hot peas, sweet stuffs, trashy toys and nut brown ale, to say nothing of the fishmonger and other salesmen, all seem to receive a certain amount of public patronage. The only monstrosity on view this year is a cow with six legs. There are coconut shies, swings and shooting galleries in plenty. At the "Oyster House" there is dancing and conviviality reigns supreme 1899 09 26

1900

1900 06 22
Midsummer four days' fair was opened this morning. Of roundabouts there are plenty and there are two resplendent switchbacks. Half-a-dozen shows include a menagerie and cinematograph exhibition and the remainder of the fair is made up of shooting galleries, coconut shies, toy and sweet meat stalls, cheapjack wares and drinking booths. There are no less than 15 refreshment saloons, some of which serve a double purpose in supplying thirsty ones and providing accommodation for dancers. CDN 1900 06 22

1900 06 25
Business transactions at Midsummer Horse Fair were carried out under uncomfortable conditions. Horses of all sizes were put through their paces on the sodden grass. Business however was brisk, cart horses and nags forming the major portion of the stock. Buyers from many part of the country were at the fair and quite an average amount of buying and selling was done CDN 1900 06 25

1900 09 04
Those who now assemble to witness the ancient ceremony of proclaiming Stourbridge Fair can guess to what extent its glory has departed. The fair has dwindled down to almost the level of the village feast. At one time business and pleasure stalls extended from the railway bridge to East Road and down to the rivers

edge on Stourbridge common. The custom of proclaiming the different portions of the fair is still religiously observed – the leather fair, the hop fair, the wood fair and so on, when no such exist or are likely to be revived. The Toll Collector broke down a portion of the fence dividing Newmarket road from what was in years gone by part of the fairground, and hurled the portion of broken fence on to the now cultivated ground thereby signifying the right of the Corporation to that ground for six weeks. This concluded the ceremony and the Mayor and town officers departed CDN 1900 09 04

1901 06 22
Midsummer Fair, the delight of children and the pleasure of not a few adults was formally opened. On reaching an open space councillors in their carriages commenced throwing the coppers. A spirit of mischief seemed to be present in the first carriage for the coins fell thickest in close proximity to the crockery-ware stalls, one or two even finding a resting place amongst plates. The children pushed and hustled with such energy that a few of the articles were damaged, much to the disgust of the proprietor CDN 1901 06 22

1902 09 26
All that is now left to the trader at Stourbridge Fair is the horse fair. This survives and flourishes where other branches of trade have declined. Buyers were in fair number and trading was brisk. Cart horses, hackneys and hunters, foals and ponies were offered for sale. One dealer, Mr Titchmarsh of Barrington got rid of about 40 carthorses during the morning. The pleasure fair consists largely of refreshment saloons and stalls from which pungent odours proclaim, even at a distance, the nature of the edibles on sale. Some roundabouts, swing boats and one peep show, in Garlic Row, complete the fair CDN 1902 09 26

1904 06 20
Sir – why was it necessary to have 20 drinking booths at Midsummer Fair? No reasonable person can contend they were all required. The licences have to be applied for and the magistrates appear to be too faint-hearted to deny one applicant what they grant to another. I am concerned that either through their negligence or the apathy of temperance people the annual pleasure fair should become a drinking debauch. There was practically a whole street of drinking saloons. Apart from their presence being a strong incentive to a serious amount of unnecessary drinking this is unfair to the public houses in the vicinity who would have done an increased trade in a legitimate way for a few days. – Disappointed - 04 06 20

1904 06 24
The Midsummer Fair brought its usual amusements but the cinematograph held undisputed sway: it is the autocrat which swallows hundreds of ‘tuppences’ and is always ready for more. It was patronised liberally and showed some very excellent representations of national and local life. War pictures form no inconsiderable part of the programme and among the turns of local interest were views of the May Races and the boiler explosion at Linton. In other respects it was much as other times. A food deal of space was occupied by stalls filled with souvenirs of gaudy hue, swing boats, coca-nit shies, vending machines of more or less domestic utility and a long array of refreshment saloons. CDN 24.6.1904 [1.19]

1904 06 25
Now Midsummer Fair is over again it is appropriate to consider how much the carnival costs Cambridge. The switchback, roundabout and show proprietors were taking money as quickly as they could. One machine carried an average of 60 persons and as it travelled for a minute at intervals of half a minute the takings must have averaged £10 an hour, multiplied by five to give the total for one evening. The thirteen coconut shies were in charge of impulsive maidens whose invitation, “Ave a shy, my dear” must have been almost irresistible. There were 20 drinking

booths on Horse Fair Day when an immense amount of drink was consumed. Adding it all together it comes to £645 an evening to say nothing of the amount expended during the afternoons. 1904 06 25

1904 10 01
This week the once famous Stourbridge fair has been held and the question arises, how much does the Borough of Cambridge benefit by allowing its ground to be used for trading purposes. Last year £30 10s. was paid in tolls but council expenditure was £18 17s. including wages for the collectors of tolls, carriages in which the Civic Fathers rode to the proclamation and printing bills. Then there is 'new copper'. That is the shining pence our benevolent Borough rules have the privileged of hurling to crowds of children. That cost 18s. But in the case of Reach fair we have actually to pay in hard cash for the privilege of exercising jurisdiction over the village merrymaking and horse-dealing transactions. CDN 1.10.1904 [1.21]

1905 06 27
Sir – is it not about time that the annual Bacchanalian orgy known as Midsummer Fair was abolished? On Saturday night men, women and even children intoxicated by drink were behaving like maniacs. There were 14 tents for the supply of intoxicating liquors whilst behaviour in the dancing tents is indescribable. In one booth I saw two tiny mites whose mothers had given them too much to drink, for they were quite intoxicated and outside another I saw five perambulators standing unattended – A.J.L.B. 05 06 27a & b

1905 06 27
Sir – may I protest against the needless pandemonium Chesterton residents are forced to endure during the Midsummer Fair by the hideous orchestrations attached to shows and merry-go-rounds, grinding out harsh and discordant sounds which make day and night a time of torture. No sane people can find pleasure in the ear-splitting metallic sounds emanating from these machines. Such a noise, coupled with the hooting of horns and the screeching of steam whistles render rest an impossibility – Nerves 05 06 27e

1905 06 27
Sir – every year our Midsummer Fair is visited by a number of itinerant merchants selling pots, pans, linoleum, furs, drapery and various oddments. They pay little rent and no rates and taxes and yet they take away hundreds of pounds which ought to be spent in local shops. In many cases people actually pay more for the goods at these mock auctions than they would in a proper shop – Tradesman 05 06 27c

1906 05 12
Stourbridge Fair was once very important but now was of very small dimension. The council took a toll of 4d for each horse, 2d for each pony and 1d for a cow. They also got money from the roundabouts and shows, making £33. But they had the expense of opening the fair, which meant a couple of carriages. Most of the fair was held on the side of Garlic Row but now there was a scheme for bringing a road right through from the Newmarket Road. Mr Banyard had started to erect some house and wanted to stop fair people putting their vans upon his ground. 06 05 12c &d

1906 06 23
An alarm of fire was raised at one of the cinematogaph shows at Midsummer Fair. A film and various odds and ends near the operating box became ignited and flames shot up above the front staging. Some alarm was shown by the audience who were assured there was not the slightest danger but all the exits were opened and those who wished were enabled to leave without

difficulty. The flames were quickly extinguished and the entertainment proceeded as usual. 06 06 23a & b

1906 06 23
Midsummer Fair visited and described – 06 06 23a & b

1906 09 26
Stourbridge Fair has, with the exception of the horse fair, become the shrine of gaiety. Its centre is a lonely house whose gable windows are decorated with fairy lights. Inside the stairs are carved and wide like those of a prosperous mansion and lead to an extensive room with bare floor and white-washed walls. A harpist can be dimly seen through the haze of tobacco smoke and a concertina joins in the melody, dancers swirl around: girls with girls and youths with youths with no conventions of the ball-room. 06 09 26a

1907 06 22
This year's Midsummer Fair is the biggest for many years with large shows, roundabouts and switchbacks. A special feature is Charles Thurston's "Helter Skelter" and Canadian sport of Mat – tobogganing – should prove popular. Another attractive feature is Baker and Thurston's motor cars which race over a specially-prepared track at s speed of 50 miles an hour 07 06 22

1907 06 24
Time was when the visitor to Midsummer Fair had to risk a miniature shower bath in the form of 'squirts' wielded by girls and youths. These were officially banned and this year also the throwing of confetti has been put a stop to. While this no doubt curtails the enjoyment of the young and frivolous, it is a boon to more sedate visitors and the harmless 'ticklers' which the law allows did not appear to be in very great request 07 06 24a

1907 10 19
One hundred years ago all kinds of goods from furniture to cheese were sold at Stourbridge Fair. But it is now only a shadow of what it used to be. When the Mayor proclaimed it on 4th September the only sign of anything unusual was one solitary gipsy brush van. It continues until October 16th but only about the 26th does anything in the nature of a fair take place. The railway has probably had more than anything to do with the dying out of these ancient marts 07 09 07

1907 10 19
Extra fair on Midsummer Common – too many – 07 10 19

1908 06 26
Dealers spoke very pessimistically of trade at the Horse Fair on Midsummer Common. There are periodic shows of horses at Cambridge and St Ives and that is where most of the good local horses go. Added to the scarcity of horses in the country, the trade on the Common is decreasing year by year and in a few years this old-established sale will be no more CWN 08 06 26 p7

1908 09 18
Last year Cambridge magistrates granted eleven occasional licences for the period of Stourbridge Fair. But this year they have been reduced to just six, three for the horse fair and three for the pleasure fair. They are to the landlords of the Dog and Pheasant, Birdbolt and Burleigh Arms on Newmarket Road, The Ship in Princess Street, Empress on Thoday Street and City Arms, Sturton Street. CWN 08 09 18 p3

1910

1910 06 24
There are again no drinking booths at Midsummer Fair after magistrates refused permission. Up to 1874 certain people had the right to sell intoxicating liquor without an occasional licence and before 1908 the lowest number of licences had been 15. A large number of people – sometimes 10,000 – came from a distance and wanted a glass of beer and a sandwich in the evening. It was impossible for the nearest pubs to cater for them. Then there were the proprietors of shows & stallholders. Messrs Thurston and Barker employed no less than 100 hands with the roundabouts and they should be able to get food on the fairground. 10 06 24 & a

1910 07 29
Cambridge Bank Holiday Mammoth Show in aid of Addenbrooke's Hospital. 620 dog entries. The Horticultural Section is tremendous. Splendid array of cats. Fine bee and honey show. Wonderful sports entry. 17 motor riders including Martin the world's record holder and Dayrell the flying kilometre and mile champion at Brooklands. Exhibition of the 'Wallbro' Aeroplane fitted with engine complete but owning to lack of space and possible danger t the public a flight cannot be permitted. Thurston's electric bioscope. Firework Display – advert 10 07 29b & 29d

1910 08 05
The attendance at the Mammoth Show on Bank Holiday was a record one. The triple ring of seats around the sports ground was occupied by a close-packed mass of humanity and behind them spectators stood six or seven deep. The grand stands by the river, capable of accommodating 2,000 persons, were filled to capacity while the sloping bank near the Victoria Bridge was also black with people. And outside the ring the exhibition tents, refreshment booths, band enclosure and the fair ground, where the great roundabouts whirled and spun, were crowded with sightseers. 10 08 05 & a & b 10 07 29e

1911 09 08
Stourbridge Fair proclaimed – 11 09 08

1912 06 21
For the first time in Cambridge a service under the auspice of the Showman's Guild was held at Midsummer Fair when about 650 people assembled in Mr Charles Thurston's tent. The Rev T. Horner, preacher, began life as a showman and after taking Holy Orders his heart was still with the showmen and he had given himself to the work. At the Midsummer Horse Fair trade was none too brisk. Mr Pink had a drove of 80 unbroken Welsh cobs and ponies, there were a few cart horses, half-a-dozen mares and a good number of nondescript cart and nag horses 12 06 21f

1913 05 02
Reach fair proclaimed; Corporation spend £17 to collect £1.18.9d 13 05 02 p9 CIP

1913 06 27
The Church of England's service on Midsummer Common was about to begin and the clergy and choir had taken their places when one side of the platform gave way and those standing on it were thrown down. The people on the other side were about to go to their assistant when that side also collapsed and they disappeared from view. The Rev F.B. Gwinn had one leg caught between two boards and Councillor Hawkin's face was cut. The service was proceeded with as soon as possible. The platform had only been put up during the day and insufficient props had been placed under it 13 06 27 p11 CIP

1913 06 27

Mrs Elizabeth Pont and her late husband were familiar figures at fairs and feasts for miles around where their stall of feast rock etc was always to be found. For over 40 years she took her stall on Histon village green at exactly the same place where her goods were always sought by a large number of visitors 13 06 27 p12 CIP

1913 09 05
Historic Stourbridge fair was the cause of many disputes between the University and the Town. Now there is nothing left to fight over. The Town Clerk, accompanied by the Mayor and ten members of the Corporation read the proclamation to an audience consisting mainly of urchins at the Leper Chapel. Standing on a carriage he commanded silence 'under pain of imprisonment', a penalty to which only a horse and a motor cycle laid themselves open. The procession then drove back to Garlic Row where, beside some old houses which must have seen the Fair in its flourishing state, the same formality was gone through. A single caravan was the only sign of the forthcoming fair. 13 09 05 p8 CIP

1913 09 26
Stourbridge fair horse sales were up to the average but the amusements consisted of a dozen swing boats, two coconut shies, a shooting gallery and a few stalls laden with gaudy trifles. Doubtful-looking sweetmeats attracted the younger generation who predominated after the horse fair was over. Any 'grown-ups' came from curiosity rather than a desire for amusement. One burly policeman said he has seen more attractions at village flower shows that at this fair, which was once one of the largest in Europe. 13 09 26 p12 CIP

1913 12 19
The tolls at Reach fair have been steadily diminishing but the cost of proclaiming it and colleting the money were increasing. The time had come to discontinue it or for members of the Council to throw away their own coppers. But the deficit was trivial for such a historically important event that dated back to the time of King John. What would Americans think if they recklessly dispensed with such an interesting custom for the sake of a few pounds? 13 12 19 p7 CIP

1914 05 08
Reach fair proclamation – new arrangements mean no more free carriage rides for councillors – 14 05 08l

1914 05 22
Reach fair procession made by motor car, councillors paid own expenses in view small amount raised from tolls – 14 05 22d, 14 05 22h

1914 10 02
Stourbridge Fair & horse fair – few booths. Regular horse sales have diminished the importance of the horse fair and with no other attractions than gazing on stalls displaying doubtful-looking sweetmeats, trying to knock cocoanuts off a stand and taking a swing or a roundabout, very few are likely to go for pleasure 14 10 02

1915 06 21
Midsummer Fair proclaimed but no extravagant lights, closes earlier and hooter to warn of air raid & p3; application extension refused 15 06 21 p2

1915 09 10
Proclaiming Stourbridge Fair - Stourbridge Fair was proclaimed on Saturday, six members of the Corporation, with the Town Clerk (Mr. J. E. L. Whitehead), the Town Crier and the mace bearers

attending the ceremony. . . . The civic procession left the Guildhall about 10.30 in three motor cars. Coppers were distributed en Road. On arrival at the fairground the usual proclamation was read by the Town Clerk – no stalls or booths, audience just band of urchins who had chased the motor cars in hope of pennies 15 09 10 CIPof

1916 19 11
Stourbridge Fair one of the has beens: some memories of its busy days 16 19 11b

1917
Stourbridge Fair: only horse fair remains [1.23]

1918 10 02
Stourbridge horse fair was deserted, first time in 50 years Ch 1918 Oct 2 p3

1920
1922 06 22
Midsummer Fair was proclaimed this morning by the Mayor (Councillor G.P. Hawkins) when crowds of people attended to witness the time-honoured ceremony. The old cry of "Biggest fair I've seen for years" suggests that the Fair is still growing. Thurston's roundabout are again present and number about six in all. They include their famous golden dragons, gondolas and motor scenic railways. Three circuses and numerous "laugh and grow fat" shows make up a good square mile of pleasure ground. There are the usual crockery and sweet stalls, rock kings, cheap jacks, fortune tellers and the like in unusual profusion. An objectionable feature this year is a diabolical engine that emits a banshee-like wail at frequent intervals. It ought to be smothered 22 06 22

1922 09 04
Monday morning Cambridge saw the performance of a very ancient ceremony - but a showy relic of more palmy days - the proclamation of "Ye Ancient Faire of Sturbridge". Shortly before mid-day the Mayor, accompanied by the Town Clark, the Bailiffs, the Mace-bearer and councillors proceeded to Barnwell Bridge for the first proclamation. Both side of Newmarket Road bore a sprinkling of small boys and others curious to see the ancient ceremony. Arrived at the bridge the party alighted from their cars and the Clark read the customary proclamation and new bright coins freely distributed, resulting in a wild scramble. The party next proceeded on to the Common by way of Garlic-row, turned round and repeated the proclamation at the old oyster house. The Fair will commence on September 25th 22 09 04

1923 06 22
Sir- I was interested to read your article about donkeys at Midsummer Fair. The rides are no doubt appreciated by the kiddies, but it is surely going too far when "kiddies" of 18 and 25 are seen mounting on the backs of our four-footed friends. The ponies are started off on a run of 100 yards, and tear backwards and forwards, sweating and blowing, without a minute's rest, beaten with sticks and sundry kicks, yells and curses. The police should look into the matter for there is nothing more painful to watch than the ill-treatment of a dumb animal and if a young man of 18 cares to make an ass of himself to ride on something intended for a child, it will be easy to discover the bigger donkey of the two. - A Lover of Animals 23 06 22

1923 09 04
With the proclamation of the ancient Cambridge fair of Stourbridge there is the prospect of a six weeks fair in that locality, though it is not likely to reach the magnitude of more balmy days. This morning there was not a caravan in sight, but kiddies with a few pennies need not give up; something is sure to turn up, even if it's only a rock stall. Spectators were but small in number,

consisting mainly of youths and babies. According to the proclamation no unlawful disturbances should be made, and "all idle and disorderly persons" should depart forthwith. Apparently none of the spectators were offenders in these respects for no one made a move until they had scrambled for the coppers thrown to them by the mayor, neither did the rain-soaked constable on duty have to assist any ill-disposed individual in search for pastures new 23 09 04

1923 09 25
Stourbridge fair, Cambridge, has been for the last few years dwindling in size and seemed likely to become nothing more than a custom. This year it has taken a new lease of life through the enterprise of Messrs Thurston and Sons. The amusements are of the usual varied type, the most noticeable absentee being the once popular Hoop-la. One may however indulge in the excitement of "Housey, Housey". Thurston's scenic railway, Manning's flying horses and the swing boats provide the thrill of the rush through space. Need we add that the whelk stall occupies the place of honour c23 09 24

1924 09 04
In accordance with the age-old custom the Fair of Stourbridge was official proclaimed by the Mayor. Also in accordance with custom, within recent years at any rate, there was no outward signs of a fair. The spectators consisted of little knots of "idle persons" but far from being ordered to depart their presence was encouraged by showers of golden-coloured coins thrown by the Mayor c24 09 06

1925
Steps taken to abolish Stourbridge Fair [1.5]

1925 06 22
Yet another precedent was created by the Mayor (Councillor Mrs Hartree) when under Midsummer Fair was officially opened in the presence of a good crowd. This is the first time in its long history that the Fair has been opened by a lady. There followed a liberal scattering of shining coppers and children, their elders as well as Fair hands pushed and scrambled in the dust to securer the coveted coins. The roundabout horses were soon laden with merrymakers while housewives, for a more serious purpose, haunted the innumerable crockery stalls in search of bargains in china 25 06 22

1925 09 26
Five donkeys and two horses composed Stourbridge Horse Fair. Year by year this once famous animal sale had dwindled. Twenty years ago there were about 100 animals brought to the Fair. As far as the main fair is concerned there are a few more booths than there were last year. The licence allows the Fair to last six weeks. Actually it goes on for three day 25 09 26

1926 06 26
Midsummer Fair shows no sign of declining popularity. The increase in motor travelling facilities has tended to swell the number of visitors. The crockery and curtain stalls seemed more numerous and attracted large crowds nightly. One feature which appears open to criticism is the increasing number of gambling devices. A good deal of effort has been taken to put down such devices in public houses and some of the things at the fair are at least as dangerous. They place temptation in the way of young children who do not go to public houses and are not likely to meet it in any other way 26 06 26

1928 06
Large fair Midsummer Common 4,000 attend by train [1.14]

1930

1930 06 26

A fortune-teller arrested at Cambridge Midsummer Fair appeared in court for palmistry. Two policewomen told how they had visited the 'Royal Gypsy Reader'. They were told that the face was character and the charge 1s.6d., the hands palmistry and the cost 2s.6d. One was assured that her worst financial worries were over and she would not go to the grave single; "You have not met the man yet, but he will come". Amelia Hazelhurst admitted the charge and was fined £1. 30 06 26a

1931 05 08

Midsummer Fair is to be held this year on Stourbridge Common; money had been spent reseeding Midsummer Common and would be wasted if heavy traction engines and other fair equipment were allowed on it. The fair was getting bigger and bigger with complaints about the noise and it is extremely unlikely it will ever return there. But showmen objected; the music could be reduced but most of the noise came from the 'Walls of Death' which ought to be banned. 31 05 08 g-I

1931 06 19

Midsummer Fair counterblast – Showman's Guild arranges rival show at Arnolds Meadow near Barnwell junction – 31 06 19c

1931 07 03

The last vans, trains of tractors and heavy wagons have made their way from the Showman's Guild fair ground, Newmarket Road, bearing the dismantled remains of the devices which have thrilled thousands during the week. The Guild have eliminated the undesirables and shown Cambridge that travelling folk are as sober and industrious as the rest. Midsummer Common was more central but the only complaints were about the bus fares to the ground. 31 07 03a

1931 10 02

It is easier to kill a man than to kill a custom so every year on Sept 25th the Mayor, Town Clerk, Bailiffs and Town Crier form a solemn procession which proceeds to Stourbridge Common to open the Fair. But this year not even schoolchildren were there to greet them and a News reporter was the sole representative of the public until a solitary figure strolled up. There were no roundabouts, swings or stalls, not even the traction engine that last year was the final relic of a dying fair, puffed and snorted in welcome. 31 10 02d

1932 06 22

Midsummer Fair returns to original site, opening – 32 06 22b

1932 06 24

There were three horses for sale on Midsummer Common – which is three more than last year. A group of bored-looking men watched the animals being put through their paces. An elderly man dressed in country clothes patted one of them and looked critically at its teeth. A young man in oil-stained overalls walked over, a pail in each hand. "What's going on", he asked. "The Horse Fair" I replied. "Never heard of it". So pass out ancient institutions. 32 06 24

1933 09 25

Stourbridge fair proclaimed – 33 09 25

1934 07 21

Stourbridge Fair abolished by order of Secretary of State, Home Department confirming council resolution [1.7]

1936 05 05
Undergraduates, tired of their boring existence at the University, found a new way of letting off their spirits. A party 'invaded' the fair on Midsummer Common and obtained permission from the proprietor of the Wall of Death to give a display. Two mounted on motor cycles and the others on bicycles then gave a short show with plenty of impromptu thrills and spills. Fortunately no proctors appeared on the scene. 36 05 05a

1936 06 23
Midsummer Fair showmen were in a state of indignation after police banned games and competitions for which prizes are offered, practically paralysing the fair. "They stopped everything, including darts and hoop-la, but these are games of skill or where the element of gambling is of a trivia nature" showmen complained. The games were for amusement, not to encourage gambling and the Home Secretary had said no objections would be raised to people playing for prizes or money not exceeding one shilling in value 36 06 23a

1936 12 03
Clara Harris, the grand old lady of showland, celebrated her 100th birthday in her caravan at Haslingfield. She was the daughter of a showman, Larry Shaw, who was the first steam roundabout proprietor. In 1869 she married Moe Harris of Gamlingay and assisted him at fairgrounds around England. Clara worked until she was 93; the last fair was at Royston where she sat behind her stall selling sweets she'd made herself. Two of her five daughters carry on the tradition. 36 12 03b

1939 05 16
There was only a solitary sweet stall on the green which is usually well-filled with swings and roundabouts when the Mayor of Cambridge came to open Reach Fair. After lunch two or three side-shows had arrived, but they were unrepresentative of the noise and excitement traditionally associated with the event. But the ceremony followed its time-honoured procedure, pennies were thrown and the Town Clerk read the proclamation. Though it seems a little decrepit, the fair may flower again, the Master of Magdalene predicted 39 05 16 & a

1939 06 09
The fair folk at the May Fair had a day of celebration on Tuesday, when a granddaughter of old Harry Bailey, of Barnum and Bailey's circus, was married at Fen Ditton Church. Show people came from all over the country. The bride was Miss Maud Amey Bell, and her bridegroom Mr. Charles Baron Prestney. Both of them are on the shooting galleries, and they are busy at work today. At the ceremony were a hundred friends. Among them were members of the celebrated Thurston family. In the evening there was dancing on the Plough lawn 39 06 09 CIPof

1940
1940 05 03
Reach fair consisted of one sweet stall. Owing to the petrol restrictions, the Mayoral party was much smaller than usual, and the lunch in the village schoolroom was also cancelled. Apart from these differences, the procedure followed the usual lines. The Town Clerk (Mr. C. H. Kemp) read the proclamation at two places in the village and: new pennies were distributed in the villages en route. Several of the visitors made purchases at the "fair" and went up on to the bank before returning home 40 05 03 CIPof [1.1]

1940 06 21

Midsummer fair cancelled. Considering what has happened recently it would be unwise to hold it following an address from residents in the *vicinity 40 06 221* CIPof [MMC.36]

1941 05 20
Reach Fair proclaimed, but no fair – 41 05 20

1942 01 30
Midsummer Fair not to be held – 42 01 30a

1943 05 29
Midsummer Fair held despite danger - first wartime fair [1.10]

1945 05 11
Reach Fair. Even though we are in the midst of world-shaking events, the old tradition of proclaiming the opening of the Reach Fair was not neglected on Monday morning. The Mayor of Cambridge (Mr. G. Wilding), together with the Town Clerk (Mr. C. H. Kemp) and the Sergeant-at-Mace (Mr. W. H. Ingle), made the journey out to the village for the formal proclamation, which is the only remaining feature of the Fair, but though much of the old glory has gone, the children were still able to scramble for halfpennies. For the youngsters, at least, Reach Fair still means something 45 05 11 CIPof

1946 06 22
Biggest-ever Midsummer Fair opened, includes Wall of Death, Big Wheel, new Dodgem and the Moonrocket – 46 06 22

1950
1951 02 17
Ten minutes after Friday's funeral service of Mrs Grace Thurston, wife of the well-known amusement contractor was due to start, the cars containing mourners were still pulling up in front of Christ Church, Newmarket Road, Cambridge. In all there were 20 cars bringing mourners and 30 additional cars parked near the church, which was crowded for the service. At one time the funeral procession, which was headed to the church by three flower-decked cars before the actual hearse itself, caused a traffic jam more than a quarter of a mile long, and it took the efforts of two police officers to get Newmarket Road normal again 51 02 17

1951 03 30
As a nearby loudspeaker blared out the song, "My heart cries for you", 200 fairground attendants at Thurston's fair, parked on Midsummer Common, Cambridge, watched anxiously for a break in the weather on Easter Monday and the crowds that normally throng the common for the opening of the fairground season. The break in the weather did not come; neither did the crowds, and Bank Holiday Monday became, for the showmen, Black Monday. Takings were at an all-time low, total receipt amounted to only £9. A brand new £17,000 dodg'em car ride's taking amounted to only a few shillings – a fraction of the running costs 51 03 30

1953 06 23
A miniature town of tents, side-shows and enormous gaily-coloured structures housing a thousand thrills for the venturesome has made its annual appearance on Midsummer Common. But this year the Fair seems to be bigger and brighter than ever; it offers a more animated scene than in the past and there is an air of friendly gaiety, shared by showmen and their patrons which suggests the influence of Coronation year. The Town Clerk read the proclamation then all members of the Mayoral party threw handfuls of half-pennies among the crowd. The many

children present were in their element and scrambling amongst the feet of the adults made a fair harvest of this welcome crop of shining coins. The Fair is the biggest in the Eastern Counties and can boast no fewer than 24 roundabouts. The 'Dodgems' are a special feature, reputedly amongst the best of any fair in England. 53 06 23

1955 06 23
Hundreds of excited youngsters crowded round one of the large 'jollity farm' roundabouts for the traditional proclamation of Cambridge Midsummer Fair after which out came the blue paper bags full of brand new halfpennies and up went the youngsters' hand as the coins were tossed into the crowd. Then it was free rides for everybody. All the old favourites are back again – the 'Moon Rocket', 'Octopus' and 'Galloping Horses'. "'Ere only a tanner a bash, keep all yer knock down" yelled the man at the coconut shy while the carpet and lino sellers competed to see who could shout the loudest 55 06 23

1956 06 23
Crowds swarmed around the 'Jollity Farm' for the traditional opening of Midsummer Fair by the Mayor. Excitement rose as Mr S. Thurston announced that all rides on the 'Dodgems' would be free. The music started and 'Davy Crocket' blended happily with 'Sugar Bush' from the other side of the fairground. Space rockets and high-powered machines have been introduced but they will never outdo the old favourites such as the ghost house, the mat and the horses. 56 06 23a

1957 01 10
The Oyster House in Garlic Row was named after hundreds of oyster shells found in the garden. It dates from 1707 and was originally known as the Tiled Booth in which the Mayor and Vice Chancellor would feast at the traditional opening of Stourbridge Fair. The house was bought for a small amount by John Lee, a coprolite digger, whose initials can be seen on a plaque on the building. Now it is scheduled for demolition. 57 01 10

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960
Oyster House pulled down [1.11]

1960 07 01
It is an unsettling life with a fair and you have to be born and bred within the sound of the roundabout to be able to dwell peacefully with a community which is virtually a small world on its own. Many have grown up through a sequence of homes on wheels. They have seen the pack horse and tents, the two wheeled tilted cart with canvas covering, the four-wheeled wagon, the 'whoopee' which introduced the modern luxurious caravans complete with running water, sink units, kitchen stoves and television. If owners do not have a bath sunk into they floor they go to public baths or even knock on the door of a private house and request one for a small fee. 60 07 01

1964 05 04
Reach fair opened by ringing a bell for first time – 64 05 04

1966
City of Cambridge order 1966 enacts that Midsummer Fair starts on 3rd Wed June (or 4th if 3rd 15, 16, 17) & continue for 4 days [MMC.9]

1966 04 13

Midsummer Fair to last 4½ days under new decision by Minister – 66 04 13b

1966 05 20
Stanley Thurston fairground memories – 66 05 20a

1969 09 24
Midsummer Fair china seller feature – 69 09 24a

1970
1975 06 07
Strawberry Fair [5.10]

1980
1981 05 13
Midsummer Fair may be called off if the Showmen's Guild and Cambridge City Council can't reach agreement over proposed rent increases or proposals for more attractions. It has been described as the second largest fair in Britain but this includes many market traders who take stalls; in terms of fairground rides there are many larger. "The fair is quite honestly not that good – it's large, but not well-attended" one showman said. 81 05 13

1981 06 03
Cambridge Midsummer Fair may be reduced to a small handful of trade stalls because of a squabble between councillors and showmen. The showmen's guild has decided to boycott the fair because its members are refusing to pay a 25 per-cent rent increase. It would mean large machines like the 'jollity farm' would be charged £125 for the four-day period. Sideshows would have to pay about £4 more a day. But commercial traders still want to take space on the common and hope there will be 'some sort of fair'. 81 06 03a

1981 07 08
Master showman, Stanley Thurston, who never missed a Midsummer Fair in his life, has died aged 83. He ran his travelling fair for many years before turning it over to his twin sons and daughter eight years ago. He was born in a caravan and later had one of the best vans ever built – solid mahogany throughout. He believed that British fairs were the best in the world and just as popular now as they ever were 81 07 08a

1981 07 15
Funeral of Stanley Thurston, fair proprietor. 81 07 15b

1981 06 06
Move to save Midsummer Fair – 81 06 06

1981 06 10
Midsummer fair set to go ahead – 81 06 10

1985 06 26
Cambridge Midsummer Fair passed off without incident. Councillors are pleased with their £20,000 security operation which involved blocking the entrances to all council-owned land in the city and hiring strong security patrols to roam the streets and protect commons against unwanted caravan dwelling itinerants. For years previously they had cut a swathe of trouble and destruction during their visit. But it is likely to take at least a month, given good weather, to get

the churned-up parts of Midsummer Common back to its former lush state following the week-long deluge that soaked the grass 85 06 26

1986 06 18
Midsummer common – feature on families – 86 06 18 & a

1987 06 08
Strawberry fair – 87 06 08a

1989 02 11
Council ban Easter fair from Midsummer Common - "provided for 45 years" - to protect common ¢CEN 11.2.89

1989 04 03
May have May Day fair if Midsummer Common not waterlogged; Easter fair banned – "traditional for 50 years" ¢CEN 3.4.89

1990 01 25
Cambridge's Easter fair has been banned for the third year running. The Showmen's Guild has been told they cannot set up their rides on Midsummer Common because the grass needs time to recover from the winter. But the fair has been held for 50 years or so and damage was minimal. Its loss causes hardship to showmen and deprives citizens of the opportunity to enjoy the sights and sounds. Last year what should have been the city's first May Day fair was cancelled because the common was waterlogged. 90 01 25b

Eagle Inn, Bene't Street, 1964

169.67

c.27.4 : Pubs and Breweries

1888
Wrestlers Inn, Petty Cury demolished [2.13]

1889 c
Sir – My father, J.R. Bennett, a master builder, constructed a chimney for the Star Brewery at Newmarket Road, Cambridge. Boy-like I used to play round the site and one day about 1889, when the work was almost complete, he made me climb the ladders up the scaffolding and stand on the extreme summit, saying 'You will be the only one who will ever stand there' – G.A. Bennett, Wisbech. 56 08 20

1889 04 19
Frederick Bailey sells Star brewery to Charles Armstrong, late of Scarsdale brewery, Chesterfield. Bailey built up concern, managed it for 50 years & made it the largest of its kind in the county [3.5]

1895
When Mr Plumb became landlord of The Prince of Wales pub, Gwydir Street in 1895 the tailors and shoemakers always used to observe 'Saint Monday' and never worked that day. It was common for them to spend the whole time in the bar from early morning until 11 pm. And unless they had two or three sing-songs a week a house was 'not in it'. During the Great War when beer was rationed he had to go out during the day to avoid the crowds who wanted the beer he could not supply them with. When the brewers' drays arrived with fresh supplies they were besieged 36 12 10j

1897 03 04
Mr B.W. Beales has the pleasure to announce that he has disposed of the business carried on for many years by him as a brewer and wine and spirit merchant at the Panton Brewery in this town, to Messrs Harold Barber Bailey (son of the late Mr Frederick Bailey, of Burleigh House, Newmarket Road) and Herbert Hazeldine Tebbutt, the continuing partner in the late firm of Robinson & Tebbutt, and the business will in future be carried on by these gentlemen under the style of Bailey & Tebbutt CDN c 4.3.1897

1897 07 22
The Red Cow public house and premises adjoining in Guildhall-street, Cambridge, belonging to Mrs Charles Armstrong and forming three frontages, are to be rebuilt in red brick and stone from designs by Messrs Rowe & Scott, architects. Mr Armstrong is about to sell to the Corporation a piece of the site to widen Guildhall-street, which will be a public advantage and the erection of these buildings will greatly improve the neighbourhood 1897 07 22

1897 08 02
Messrs Gain, Moyes and Wisbey offered for sale the Shakespeare Brewery, Newmarket-road, Cambridge and 15 freehold licensed inns, public houses and beerhouses. Lots commenced at £500 and rose rapidly - in the case of the Red Bull, Barton Road to £2,050. Other prices included The Shakespeare Brewery and Inn (£2,000), The Greyhound, Lt Wilbraham (£800), The Bakers' Arms, Fulbourn (£950), The Railway Inn, Harlton (£725) and The Cherry Tree beerhouse, Swaffham Fen (£600) 1897 08 02 CDN

1898 07 11
Messrs Green, Moyes and Wisbey attended the Lion Hotel, Cambridge, and offered by auction several beerhouses. The Lion and Lamb at Denver sold for £765. The Queen's Head at Hilgay realised £510. Lot three was the freehold beer house known as the Volunteer, Mildenhall which, together with a cottage, realised £710. The Swan beerhouse Isleham realised £460. The last lot was the fully licensed freehold public house in East Road, Cambridge known by the sign of the Red Lion. The bidding started at £600, and ultimately reached £975 at which figure it was disposed of. The prices realised are considered very satisfactory by the vendors CDN 1898 07 11

1898 09 23
Rose, Rose Crescent licence not renewed CDN 1898 09 23 & 24th

1899 08 23
Albert Hart applied for a licence for ‘The Sirdar’, Market St, Cambridge. The place had been largely patronised but he laboured under a disadvantage of not being able to provide his customers with spirits or beers. The fashion of drinking wine in the middle of the day had been discountenanced for many years past by doctors and everybody that went to a place for lunch required spirits or soda water. He had to send out for such drinks to some public house in the vicinity. The money had to be extracted from the customer who had to wait until his refreshments were brought to him through the street. That was not an advantage to the liquor itself, especially with the dust flying about and the intense heat of the sun 1899 08 23

1899 12 08
New Hotel, “Fleur-de-Lis”, Humberstone road, Chesterton. This first-class hotel is now open and replete with every comfort. Billiards room in course of erection. Gentlemen visiting the hotel will find the Smoke Room fitted with every comfort – advert 1899 12 08

1900

1900 09 28
Cambridge magistrates received a petition against renewal of the licence of the Windmill public house in Mill Road. Frederick Hodson considered the neighbourhood was overcrowded with them. Mr Papworth said he had visited the house on many occasions but never seen more than two people at the bar at a time. Freeman & Sons, brewers and owners said the house was in a bad state and had been closed for repairs, not because there was no trade. They had no right to take away the licence even if the tenant only sold a barrel of beer a week. Albert Brand, the new tenant said business had trebled, 60 people patronised the house every day and last Saturday he had upwards of 100 customers. The licence was not renewed 00 09 28

1900 10 19
An appeal was heard against the refusal to grant a licence to the Windmill public house in Mill Road, Cambridge. It had good stabling and in fact was the only public house with stabling. It had been licensed since 1835 and had been thoroughly renovated. It was a labourer's house in a neighbourhood of labourers. A petition signed by 112 residents was opposed to the licence but another signed by 230 was in favour. The decision was reversed and the licence renewed 00 10 19

1901 03 20
A shocking accident occurred at the Panton Brewery, Cambridge, when one of the brewery employees lost his life. The man fell into the copper which contained a large quantity of boiling liquid and was frightfully scalded. He scrambled out as speedily as possible but even then it was seen that his injuries were so awful as to leave little hope of recovery. He died from shock the following morning. 01 03 20

1901 06 15
Messrs Sutton and Phillips, brewers' chemists of Stowmarket claimed £10 3s.6d. from the Rodney Brewery, Cambridge. They make Burton spring liquor and ask for a sample of the customer's brewing water which they analyse and make up a mixture to make it as near as Burton water as possible. If they did not subsequently receive an order they were to be paid for the analysis. Mr Swan for the brewery said they had never used the liquor and did not like trying those sorts of things. When he said the traveller could have a sample of water he had no idea he was to be charged with the analysis of it 01 06 15

1902
Anchor Brewery Quayside closed [16]

1902 01 20
Cambridge Star Brewery shareholders were told that the Directors had purchased the Fenstanton Brewery together with licensed premises and sundry private houses & cottages. That brewery has now been closed. On the whole the accounts were extremely satisfactory. Going back to the first report of the company in 1892 the assets had been increased by nearly £18,000 CDN 1902 01 20

1902 10 03
Earl Grey's Public House Trust movement is spreading to Cambridgeshire. Moderate temperance advocates see in a public house specially organised to push the sale of food and non-intoxicants, but supplying drink to those who desire it, one of the best and most certain means of lessening the terrible amount of excessive drinking which unhappily prevails in this country. The managers have absolutely no financial interest in the sale of drink which strikes at the root of an abuse

which goes on far too extensively – the supplying with drink of men, who if not absolutely drunk, have obviously had more than is good for them. CDN 1902 10 03

1902 11 28
The well-known fully-licensed Hoop Hotel, Bridge Street, Cambridge was offered to public auction. The establishment has had a long career, having been established in 1729, and was referred to by Wordsworth – "And at 'The Hoop' alighted, Famous Inn". Bidding commenced at £2,000 and rose to £4,000 at which figure the property was withdrawn. 02 11 28

1903 04 17
Magistrates considered the renewal of the licence of the Unicorn Inn, Trumpington. The accommodation consisted of three bedrooms, two were furnished and used by those living in the house. The third, the guest chamber, was at present bare. The Chairman: Poor guest. Mr Ralkes: He would be a very poor guest who came there. There was no stabling; the landlord did keep a pony and trap, but whether he kept them in the unfurnished room he did not know. (Laughter). It was difficult for a man to make a living there; the actual consumption of beer in the house per week was half a barrel. 03 04 17

1903 08 11
Falcon Inn Yard, Petty Cury demolished Our attention has been drawn to the fact that another link with the fascinating past of Cambridge is being severed by the almost entire demolition of the one-time famous 'Falcon Inn'. Many years ago the front of the building, with its fine old gables facing Petty Cury, disappeared and about eight years ago the buildings on the left side of the Falcon Yard were demolished to make way for business extensions. Now the rooms on the right side are in process of demolition for extra accommodation for the Lion Hotel. The back part possessing a small specimen of the open gallery remains – CDN 11.8.03

1903 12 03
Some 20 years ago premises in Gwydir Street Cambridge were used as a brewery; they became dismantled but now through the enterprise of Mr Frederick Dale it has been converted to an up-to-date brewery where beer made from pure malt and hops will be manufactured. Its speciality will be family pale ales and nourishing or invalid stout, an article a small brewer seldom undertakes to manufacture. Messrs Adlam of Bristol have installed the most improved machinery and the most up-to-date methods are employed. 03 12 03

1904
Death of William Warboys, brewer, Sturton St [3.23]

1904 02 13
Samuel Bell of the Brookfield beer house, Cambridge, applied for a full licence. It was in a growing neighbourhood, near the Saxon and Norman Cement Works where 300 men were employed. It was doing a good beer trade and he had received numerous applications for spirits. The nearest full licensed house was the Royal Standard, a quarter of a mile away. Two petitions had been extensively signed, some be people who were teetotallers. 04 02 13

1904 02 13
The Cambridgeshire Public House Trust Association was registered in 1903 and has taken over the Tharp Arms Inn at Chippenham, the Duncombe Arms at Waresley with the George Inn, Babraham soon to follow. The movement was a commercial undertaking with a philanthropic end. They wanted to raise the tone of the public house and promote temperance. The managers obtain no benefit from the sale of alcoholic liquors but make a profit on non-intoxicants; hot soup

is supplied and villagers seem to appreciate the change as more and more public houses are ready to supply non-alcoholic refreshments. 04 02 13

1904 03 26
Cambridge Licensed Victuallers' Protection Association was started 14 years ago with 15 members and now they have 260. People must have drink in the shape of alcohol and they must have persons who would supply it. It was not always their fault if they got into trouble because it was impossible to see what every individual did who came into their house. But they failed to see why the persons who sat on the Bench and were known to be teetotallers should exercise their jurisdiction in dealing with licensed houses. There were people connected with the Trade quite as competent to act as magistrates who would not be so biased in favour of the Trade as the teetotallers were against it. CDN c 26.3.1904

1904 06 20
Sir – why was it necessary to have 20 drinking booths at Midsummer Fair? No reasonable person can contend they were all required. The licences have to be applied for and the magistrates appear to be too faint-hearted to deny one applicant what they grant to another. I am concerned that either through their negligence or the apathy of temperance people the annual pleasure fair should become a drinking debauch. There was practically a whole street of drinking saloons. Apart from their presence being a strong incentive to a serious amount of unnecessary drinking this is unfair to the public houses in the vicinity who would have done an increased trade in a legitimate way for a few days. – Disappointed - 1904 06 20

1905 03 13
Cambridge magistrates were told there were about 440 houses on the Rock Estate with one full-licenced house, the Rock Hotel and one off-licence. Either of these sent out beer to houses as ordered. There are also at least four brewers' vans to deliver beer in gallon jars and bottles, and grocers from Cambridge send up pint bottles. If they granted a new licence to William Conder of Marshall Road, which was a new and fairly populous district, it would lead to secret drinking, more especially by women at their homes. The licence was refused. 05 03 13a-c

1905 06 27
Sir – is it not about time that the annual Bacchanalian orgy known as Midsummer Fair was abolished? On Saturday night men, women and even children intoxicated by drink were behaving like maniacs. There were 14 tents for the supply of intoxicating liquors whilst behaviour in the dancing tents is indescribable. In one booth I saw two tiny mites whose mothers had given them too much to drink, for they were quite intoxicated and outside another I saw five perambulators standing unattended – A.J.L.B. 05 06 27a & b

1906 03 08
The Beehive public house, Honey Hill, Cambridge had four rooms on the ground floor, including a parlour and a taproom for the use of customers. There was a front entrance from Honey Hill and a side entrance which also gave access to four cottages. It was therefore impossible for the police to maintain proper supervision as a constable would be seen going down there and people could slip out. There were 15 other public houses within 200 yards. Also: Golden Cross, Suffolk Hotel Grafton St, White Horse Coronation St, Sun in Sun St - The Beehive public house, Honey Hill, Cambridge had four rooms on the ground floor, including a parlour and a taproom for the use of customers. There was a front entrance from Honey Hill and a side entrance which also gave access to four cottages. It was therefore impossible for the police to maintain proper supervision as a constable would be seen going down there and people could slip out. There were 15 other public houses within 200 yards, Star in Castle St, Boot in King St 06 03 08c & d

1906 03 27
When Cambridgeshire magistrates started the task of extinguishing licences of public houses thought to be superfluous the offers of compensation were accepted in all but three cases. These were the Wait for the Bus at Bottisham, the Sir Harry Smith at Swavesey and the King's Head, Oakington, all owned by Hudson's Brewery of Pampisford. Now the Inland Revenue Commissioners have awarded larger sums for two, but reduced the amount offered for the Wait for the 'Bus from £355 down to £120. Now the brewery may appeal 06 03 27a

1906 06 30
Fourteen public houses have been closed under the Licensing Act of 1904. They include a beer house at Heath Road Litlington, which sold one barrel a week, including stout, and a gallon of ginger wine. All their beer was made from pure malt and hops and it was a better house than the two nearest to it. There were four fully-licensed houses, four beer houses and one off-licence in the village. The Dolphin at Stapleford had been shut up for six weeks as the former landlord had run away and the village appeared to do well without it. The present tenant was a cycle agent and taxidermist as well, 'So you stuff people first and put them on wheels afterwards?' Also Cambridge: Jolly Butchers, Star, Sun; Bassingbourn: Crown; Bottisham: Plough; Comberton: Plough; Fordham: Six Bells, Landbeach: Red Cow; Lt Shelford: Carrier's Cart; Stapleford: Dolphin; Steeple Morden: beer house; Waterbeach: Haunch of Mutton, Plough and Horses; Willingham: William IV, Rose and Crown 06 06 30d,e, f

1906 The Compensation Authority considered claims for premises closed under the Licensing Act. They included a beerhouse at North Brook End, Steeple Morden, The Plough at Comberton, the Red Cow, Landbeach and Carrier's Cart at Lt Shelford. Potton Brewery said they would lose £275 if the licence of a beerhouse at Heath Road, Litlington was taken away but accepted £240 as compensation. However Benskin's Watford Brewery refused £251 for the Sun in Newmarket Road, Cambridge. also Stapleford Dolphin, Waterbeach Haunch of Mutton & Plough & Horses, Sawston – Flower Pot, Willingham – King William IV, Bottisham Plough, Soham Queen's Arms and Old Brewery, 06 11 16a & b

1906 11 17
Licensing compensation – Sawston Flower Pot, Cambridge: Newmarket Road Sun, Honey Hill Beehive; Willingham King William IV – 06 11 17 a & b & c

1906 12 29
Hudson's brewery applied for the transfer of the licence of the Golden Fleece, Ram Yard, an old beer-house attached to Brown's billiard rooms, which years ago was a celebrated resort of University billiard players. The house had been closed for eight months but now there was a new tenant. Some days ago it was refused, but now it was granted. Are 14 ale houses in Barnwell. 06 12 29a

1906 12 29
A London newspaper describes Barnwell as a slum area of Cambridge chiefly inhabited by brickmakers; it claims there is little traffic along the road but within four minutes walking one passes 14 alehouses, some positively next door to each other. However in recent years the area has undergone a great improvement with the building of the Abbey Estate, and the amount of traffic has increased. But no one will gainsay the comments on the number of superfluous public houses. 06 12 29d

1907 02 23

Cambridge Fire Brigade received news that a fire had broken out at Rhadegund Brewery, James Street, occupied by F.J. Swann. Fortunately the services of the steam engine were not required. The fall of live coal on a rug left the room full of smoke but Mr Swann threw buckets of water towards the grate while furniture was removed from the room below. 07 02 23

1907 03 07
The White Swan in Castle Street, Cambridge, was in a dilapidated condition. There were large rat holes in the bar floor, the parlour floor seemed shaky and the whole place was permeated by a very unwholesome smell. It was impossible to open the windows, the plaster work of the ceilings was poor and occupants of bedrooms on the second floor had no proper means of exit. The licence was renewed provided an outside iron staircase was constructed and structural deficiencies rectified. Also the Spotted Cow, Thatched House, Red House, Claremont, Woodman's Arms, Golden Fleece, Marquis of Granby 07 03 07a & b

1907 03 13
Earl of Durham landlady bankruptcy – 07 03 13

1907 06 29
The Milkmaid was one of 13 licenced houses in Willingham and they could do away with half of them, magistrates were told. But there were 100 acres of market gardens all round where a great many men and girls were constantly employed and some came to the house for lunch. The trade had increased since the King William was closed and now did over a barrel a week. Also: Marquis of Granby, Woodman's Arms, Claremont, Golden Fleece; Swaffham Prior Anchor, Harston Green Man, Lt Shelford Three Horseshoes, Over Duke of Cumberland, Willingham Milkmaid - details, Isleham Bell, Fen Ditton Pike & Eel. Bassingbourn Tally Ho, 07 06 29 & a

1907 06 22
Wrestlers' Arms reminiscence – boxing – 07 06 22d

1907 10 15
Temperance Societies have every reason to rejoice: the Cambridge of today is far more sober than 50 years ago and far less money is now spent on intoxicants. The first society was the Independent Order of Rechabites in 1841 but this closed after the 'Illegal Assemblies' Act. It was revived in 1905. Now 3,300 adults and children pledged to total abstinence paraded on Parker's Piece. 07 10 15

1907 10 07
Fire mineral water works, Hobson Street – 07 10 31

1907 11 05
A brewer's drayman was fined for hawking beer. An Inland Revenue officer said he saw a boy stop a cart belonging to William Pegg, brewer of Newmarket Road, and say "They want you over there", pointing to some men engaged in harvesting. The man had taken them a gallon jar off the cart for which he received one shilling. It was extremely unfair to sell beer that way as it took away from the custom of those who were legally entitled to sell it. The brewer said he had told the drayman not to sell beer without an order; the brewing business was a hobby of his and he would not be intentionally guilty of an illegal practice. 07 11 05 & a

1907 11 29
The Licensing Compensation Authority considered nine public houses including the

Pike & Eel at Fen Ditton, Green Man Harston, Three Horse Shoes at Lt Shelford and Duke of Cumberland in Over. The Bell at Isleham, owned by Treadway and Percy brewers of Soham was awarded £100. In Cambridge they discussed the Marquis of Granby in Staffordshire Street, Claremont in Ainsworth Street, Woodman's Arms on Newmarket Road and the Golden Fleece in Ram Yard, a beerhouse owned by Hudson's of Pampisford. 07 11 29

1907 12 02
Cambridge pubs - historical notes - 07 12 02 & a

1908
Great Temperance activity due to proposed Licencing Bill [3.27]

1908 01 24
The owner of the Cow and Calf public house in Shelley Row has told councillors that if they will surrender the licences for the Nag's Head and Baker's Arms pubs – which they own – then he will give up land to allow for the widening of Albion Row. If they agreed to extend his lease he'd also give land for the construction of more cottages and a backway to the Pound in St Peter's Street. 08 01 24a & b

1908 03 05
The Waggon and Horses on the corner of Burleigh Street and East already held a music licence. They had a commodious room capable of holding 50 people which they wished to use for public dancing once a week. But the Chief Constable said it was in an awkward part of Cambridge. A lot of people visited the house and it would not be well to offer further facilities. The licensee had his hands full in looking after the pub as it was at present. also Nags Head, Albion Row; Spotted Cow, Northampton St; Carpenter's Arms, King Street 08 03 05 a & b

1908 03 09
The Long Reach public house stands on the river bank a quarter of a mile from Old Chesterton. The landlord paid no rent and was allowed five shillings a week to keep the house open. The trade was about 21 barrels of beer and 12 gallons of spirit a year. It should be closed together with the Jolly Waterman in Waterbeach Fen. It had no road leading to it and the nearby Jolly Anglers was more convenient and had a ferry attached 08 03 09 & a

1908 07 31
Twenty-six licensed houses are to close, magistrates decided. They include the Robin Hood at Litlington, Chesterton Long Reach, Swaffham Prior's Uncle Tom's Cabin and the Three Jolly Watermen in Waterbeach Fen. But the Fox in the Wood at Soham and the Cock at Isleham were spared after Police Superintendent Winter failed to appear to give evidence. The licence of the Black Horse at Over was renewed after the Star Brewery appealed. Also Barrington Boot & Shoe, Bassingbourn Yew Tree, Steeple Morden Lion, Swaffham Prior John Bull, Bottisham Rose & Crown, Cottenham Six Bells, Oakington Lion and Lamb, Stapleford Hammer & Anvil, Swavesey Chequers, Willingham Little Rose, Castle Camps George, Balsham Ram, Linton White Hart, Cambridge Yorkshire Grey, Old Red Lion, Nine Pines, Thatched House, Baker's Arms, Red Lion, Brewery Tap & Carpenters' Arms CWN 08 07 31

1908 09 25
Tenancy of Nag's Head – to close, Albion Row houses – 08 09 25 p6

1908 10 02

Three hundred Cambridge men journeyed to London to protest against the Government's Licensing Bill. They joined a procession of 2,000 men from King's Cross station in front of a band from Hull which did much to enliven the long and tedious walk. But the main London arteries were so choked with traffic that they were late in arriving at Hyde Park. It was a sober and serious protest with not one drunken man in sight. 33 10 02

1909 03 05
The Rose and Crown, Pound Hill, was damp with paper peeling from the wall. There were seven other licenced premises nearby which all did better trade. But the landlord said he exercised great discretion in the customers he encouraged. Other pubs were frequented by the lower class. If it were closed it would be an inducement to the others not to cater for the better and quieter class but to draw a larger number just so they could boost their sales of beer, Magistrates renewed the licence. Also Traveller's Rest Huntingdon Road, White Horse in Coronation Street, Prince of Wales in Church St, Fox & Duck South Street, Oxford in Crispin Street, Johnny Gilpin in Gold Street & Prince Albert Castle Street CWN 09 03 05

1909 07 02
A number of village public houses are no longer economic and should close, magistrates were told. They included the Bell at Meldreth, Melbourn's Old Elm Tree, The Royal Oak Fulbourn, The Lamb and Lord Nelson at Cottenham, British Queen Chesterton, Queen's Head Dry Drayton, Over's Hare and Hounds, Balsham Five Awls and Soham's Fox-in-Wood. But the licensee of the Green Man at Swavesey said he did not want to leave it. also the Prince of Wales, Church Street and White Horse in Coronation Street, Cambridge CWN 09 07 02 – includes Cambridge Prince of Wales & White Horse – CWN 09 07 02

1909 12 03
Lacon's brewery should receive £143 in compensation for the closure of the Red Lion public house at Orwell, the tenant, George Everitt, £16 and the Lord of the Manor £5, councillors decided. They awarded £200 compensation for the Fox and Duck in South Street Cambridge and £325 for the White Horse in Coronation Street. Agreement was also reached on The Bell at Meldreth, The Old Elm Tree Melbourn and the British Queen and Prince of Wales in Chesterton CWN 09 12 03

1910

1910 02 04
Licencing – Fox & Duck South St, White Horse Coronation St, Prince of Wales Church St, George IV East Road, Cardinal's Cap Guildhall Place, Borough Boys Northampton St, & others – 19 92 04e & f

1910 07 01
Licences for: Cambridge Star & Garter Petty Cury, Cardinal's Cap, Crown & Anchor, Borough Boys, Ship, Merry Boys, Prince Albert, Oxford – all refused. Melbourn White Lion & Swavesey Little Rose renewed 10 07 01 & a

1911 01 06
Petition calls for closure of 50 public houses – 11 01 06e & 11 01 13a & 11 01 13b

1911 02 24
The Cambridgeshire Public House Trust Association says that inns that are well conducted have to bear a much heavier burden of taxation than pubs which merely serve alcoholic liquors. To add

refreshment rooms or bedrooms to existing houses is now impossible but improvements have been made to the Hardwicke Arms at Arrington and the Bell Inn, Kennett. Others including the Tharp Arms, Chippenham, George and Dragon Snailwell and the Spread Eagle at Croxton have been maintained in good condition though profits are down again 11 02 24

1911 07 14
The Crystal Palace pub in Mill Road Cambridge was difficult to supervise, police reported. The only way to get to the back was down a narrow passage at the side, the door of which was always locked. The Bell in Northampton Street was in bad repair with terrible accommodation, the house was damp and the only cooking facilities were in an underground kitchen. The landlady of the Chequers Impington said it was the only place to get a good glass of beer and if it closed many a man would become a teetotaller. The Gravel Diggers was right down in Cottenham fen but there was a considerable amount of labour at certain seasons. The tenant had held the licence for 30 years. It was renewed 11 07 14

1911 07 21
The Little Rose in Trumpington Street was close to Addenbrooke's Hospital and the landlord believed that no matter what time of the day it was on a Sunday, if anybody came and said they had been to the Hospital he was perfectly justified in serving them liquor. If they had come from a longer distance than that required by law this was quite right. But a policeman said he had watched two men who neither came from or went to the Hospital and had been served with a drink. Next time anybody was brought to court they would be severely dealt with. 11 07 21

1911 10 20
Dale's Brewery of Cambridge has been awarded the world's championship (and a 50-guinea cup) for the best bottled beer at the Brewers' International Exhibition held in London. The championship beer is selected from those entries winning first prizes in the various bottled beer classes. The first prize won by Dale's was for the best pale ale and this was unanimously judged as champion. They also won an award for their draught beer. Considering the firm is hardly 12 years old this is a remarkable achievement. 11 10 20b (also wins Brewers Journal Silver Challenge Cup & 20 medals for best beer [1.23]

1911 10 27
The 1904 Licensing Act gave justices power to close pubs with compensation on grounds of redundancy. Then Cambridgeshire had 675 'on' licences, Cambridge 241; in six years 115 houses had closed, of which 35 were in Cambridge. The 1908 bill had suggested formula for the number of licenses. Under it Cambridge would have had entitlement of 82, a loss of 124 pubs. In Fen Ditton three of the existing pubs would have been closed and customers concentrated into the remaining two. But there was no evidence that a reduction in the number of pubs meant less drunkenness. Some people thought it was a crime for a working man visit to a pub to get a glass of beer but the drink is not the chief attraction: it is the social intercourse. 11 10 27a-c

1912
Kings Head, Magdalene Street demolished [2.25]

1912
Two Swans, Clarendon St closed & becomes grocery & off-licence (plans to reopen in 1987 blocked) [13.5]

1912 04 19

One of the ancient University privileges is the power to grant licences for the sale of foreign wines. Licences have been granted to Bursars or stewards of colleges, college butlers or managers of college kitchens and to the custodian of Fitzwilliam Hall. Hotel keepers, grocers, chemists, confectioners, restaurant keepers, the manager of the refreshment room at the railway station and wine merchants also have a Vice-Chancellor's licence which is free. But a wine-dealers licence cost ten guineas annually. Now this last relic of University control over the market and sale of provisions in Cambridge may be abolished 12 04 19b & c

1912 07 26
Licensing: Cambridge: Duke of Gloucester Prospect Row, Rose & Crown & Windmill in Russell St, Danish Flag in Fitzroy St, Lamb in Guildhall St (details), Compasses in East Road Cherry Hinton Russian Arms, 12 07 26 o&p

1912 11 15
Licensing compensation for Duke of Gloucester, Windmill, Danish Flag & Compasses in Cambridge – 12 11 15

1912 11 15
Fire at Still & Sugar Loaf, Market Hill – 12 11 15a

1913 01 10
Liquidators of Whitemore & company, the wine merchants founded in 1905, heard that there were good cellars and stock at its headquarters in Downing Street. In addition it owned a very good public house known as the Bun Shop on St Andrew's Hill and the Queen's Arms nearby. There were also premises on Market Hill with cellars let to the Cadet Corps who were using them as shooting galleries. In Trinity Street there was an off-licence which was close to the colleges and just the sort of little place where there was a sale of good wines to better-class customers. 13 01 10b & c 13 01 03 p7 CIP

1913 01 24
Lacons brewers court action against the manager of their Cambridge agency – 13 01 24n & o

1913 02 14
Cambridge licensing – pubs closed Crystal Palace in Mill Rd, Priory Tap Newmarket Road, Bell in Northampton St; are 250 licences, Star Brewery apply sell smaller quantities of beer from brewery 13 02 14 p9 CIP

1913 02 28
Progress of temperance work – apathy in Cambridge: there had been a decrease in drunkenness among men but women have got less shame at entering public houses than they formerly did. 13 02 28 p3 CIP

1913 02 28
Cambridge Autocar Company told the court that the manager for Messrs Lacon, the well-known brewer, told them he had been supplied with a motor car to visit & supply licensed houses across the region and that they would have the orders for petrol and oil. But Lacons had refused to pay the monthly bill, saying the car did not belong to them. Almost every brewer in the district had a motor car and it was reasonable to suppose this belonged to them although there was no sign saying 'Lacon's Pale Ale' on it. However they agreed to pay a part of the bill the man had run up. 13 02 28 p9 CIP

1913 03 14
Cambridge pubs – Newmarket Road - Bird Bolt; East Road, Shakespeare; Norwich Street – Norwich Arms; Cambridge Place – Three Pigeons; Fitzroy Street – Old English Gentleman adjoined Wesson's Brewery and had been in the Wesson family for 70 years. The accommodation was good, the rooms were spacious, lofty and airy. It had a good bottle and jug department, a good bar, billiard room, smoke room, cellar and bedroom accommodation. Lacons brewers applied for the renewal of the licence for the Turnstile on East Road. This was a small cottage before it became a licensed house. It had been in the same family for over 40 years and the tenant, James Hobbs was anxious to continue. The pub was near the tram terminus and when people were waiting for the trams they did so in his house. He got a good lot of customers and sold a good deal of wine. 13 03 14 p8 CIP

1913 03 17
Captain Heal, manager of Lacons guilty of forgery 13 03 07 p7 CIP

1913 04 04
Captain Heal – Lacons, first meeting creditors 13 04 04 p7 CIP

1913 06 09
Captain Heal, the former manager of Lacon's Cambridge Brewery told the bankruptcy court he had purchased licensed houses as ventures on his own account as a way of increasing the brewery's business. But the Black Swan and the Sirdah in Cambridge lost money, as did the Victoria Bar in Newmarket and the White Horse at St Ives. He was a Town Councillor and Guardian and had been extravagant 13 06 06 p9 CIP

1913 07 25
Cambridgeshire licensing; includes Melbourn Tailor's Arms, Over Black Horse, Swavesey Lt Rose, Cambridge Place Three Pigeons 13 07 25 p8 CIP

1913 09 26
Lacon's brewery had 132 pubs in Cambridge; one of the best was the Spring Hotel Chesterton but a bath was essential if it was to do a good trade. Running and boating men were constantly complaining that saucer baths were inconvenient. So Lacon's Manager ordered a new one from Messrs Macintosh and they also replaced the lavatory which gave off a most offensive smell. But the brewery disputed payment and said it was up to the tenant to meet the cost. 13 09 26 p10 CIP

1913 10 17
Gt Chesterford Brewery, successfully carried on by Messrs Pilgrim for over half a century, has been acquired by Dales Brewery of Cambridge. They intended carrying it on as before. There was no better barley-growing district and with good barley they could ensure good beers such as those brewed by Dale which won the championship gold cup for bottled beers at the International Brewers Exhibition in 1911. 13 10 17 p10 CIP 13 11 14 p12 CIP

1913 11 14
University wine privileges abolition notice 13 11 14 p6 CIP

1914 01 30
Captain Heal, the former Cambridge manager of Lacon's Brewery, told the bankruptcy court that when the Black Swan had come on market he'd reported to the company and they'd favourably considered it. But the owner received another offer from the Star Brewery; so he signed to take the property on Lacon's behalf. However Mr Lacon refused to back him and said he'd better take

the place himself. So he'd borrowed £600 from his wife. This was the beginning of events which had led to his downfall. He'd bought pubs on his own account to try and increase the firm's business. Now he was a broken man 14 01 30b

1914 02 13
Cambridge licenses – Duke of Gloucester Prospect Row, Rose and Crown & Windmill in Russell St, Danish Flag in Fitzroy St, Compasses on East Rd have closed; are 233 licensed for sale intoxicating liquor on premises and 36 off – 14 02 13, a

1914 03
Death of P.L. Hudson of Pampisford Brewery [1.17]

1914 07 17
Death W.H. Apthorpe, brewer 14 07 17 p5

1914 07 24
Licences – Butchers Arms, Rutland Arms, Ram, Rose, Red House 14 07 24

1914 11 06
Dale brewery award 14 11 06

1914 11 13
Dale Brewery medals – wins silver medals for best stout & best bottled ale at Brewers' Exhibition; has acquired a maltings and brewery stores at Gt Chesterford & improved machinery 14 11 13

1914 12 15
Soldiers are to be supplied with liquor in Cambridge public houses only between 12 noon and 8.30 p.m. by order Headquarters of the visiting troops. The Mayor has addressed a letter to the licence holders in the town strongly recommending the order is strictly obeyed. 14 12 25 CIPof

1914 12 25
The Red Lion public house at Trumpington was completely gutted by fire but the landlord and his family escaped out of the bedroom window. Flames burst through every window and the inside was completely burnt out but the roof was hardly damaged. Very little commotion was caused in the village and people living in a cottage opposite were not aware of the fire until the following morning. The contents were completely destroyed, including £50 in notes of Slate Club money. But gold and silver were recovered from the ruins 14 12 25

1914-18
During War Star brewery manned almost entirely by women: Reminiscences of the First World War when the Star Brewery, Cambridge, was manned almost entirely by women were shared by Major Freeman at the celebration of the firm's diamond jubilee anniversary. 51 12 08

1915 02 12
Cambridge pubs closed during 1914 – Lamb Guildhall St, Shakespeare & Bird Bolt in Newmarket Road, Norwich Arms Norwich St, Three Pigeons Cambridge Place; there are now 218 licensed premises; to be referred Queens Arms in St Andrews St, Half Moon Lt St Mary's Lane, Wheatsheaf Old Chesterton, Tally Ho in Newnham 15 02 12

1915 05 07

Improvement street from Newnham Mills to Lammas Land; Coach & Horses reconstructed, now new building 15 05 07 p3

1915 07 23
Pub licences refused - Black Horse, Lt St Mary's Lane – Half Moon, St Andrew's Court – Rose & Tulip; Newnham Rd – Tally Ho, St Andrew's Street – Queen's Arms – details 15 07 23 p1, p7

1916 03 08
licensing sessions – King's Arms, Union Rd; Horse & Gate, Victoria Rd; Cross Keys, Saxon St; Swan & Pool, New St. – all referred – 16 03 08a

1917 02 14
Gas Explosion. A gas explosion under the floor of the bar of The Jolly Butchers public house, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, caused a fire to break out on Thursday morning. The landlord, Mr. A. W. Hawes, had a narrow escape, for, although knocked down by the force of the explosion, he escaped injury. The cause of the explosion was apparently a leakage of gas, but exactly how it occurred is unknown. The gas meter was blown from its position, and three large windows and a quantity of glass in the bar were broken. The floor boards became ignited, and although the licensee took prompt action, he found it impossible to extinguish the flames with buckets of water, and so gave the alarm to the Fire Station. The firemen, with motor tender and escape, were speedily on the scene, and the fire was soon extinguished. An examination of the gas pipes failed to reveal from where the gas escaped 17 02 14 CIPof

1917 07 18
Jolly Butchers in Newmarket Road, 'Magpie & Stump' Chesterton and 'Sotted Cow' Northampton Street to close – 17 07 18a

1919
True Blue inn closed [4.12]

1919 07 16
Licenses refused: White Swan, Castle St; Corn Exchange Inn, Grafton Arms, Salmon on Newmarket Road; White Swan, Staffordshire St; granted Butcher's Arms, Newmarket Rd, Bird in Hand, Newmarket Rd – 19 07 16a

1920

1920 03 10
Licensing sessions: refer East Road: Turnstile, George IV, Smith & Wheelwright Arms. King St: Boot. Gwydir St: Dewdrop. Newnham: Tally Ho. Chesterton: Indian Chief. Cherry Hinton Hopbine. Renew St Andrew's St: Queen's Arms – Ch 20 03 10b

1920 07 14
Public houses considered for closure – Victoria, Barrington; Guilden Morden Pig & Whistle, Cherry Hinton Hopbine, Castle Camps George & Dragon, Linton Axe & Saw, King Street Boot, Chesterton High Street Indian Chief, Newnham Road Tally Ho, East Road Turnstile, Gwydir Street Dew Drop - CDN 20 07 10 Ch 20 07 14b

1920 08 04

Hotel sold. Considerable interest was taken in the sale conducted by Messrs. Chalk at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge, on Saturday afternoon, when the auctioneers offered for disposal the valuable freehold hotel, known as 'The Rock Hotel," Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge. The "Rock" is the only fully-licensed house in the district the nearest on the Cambridge side being three-quarters of a mile away and on the Cherry Hinton side a mile distant. The house was built 24 years ago, and is let to Messrs. Lacon and Co. (whose tenancy expires on October Inn next) at the annual rent of £175. The bidding was keen, offers coming from many parts of the room. The property was put in at £3,000 (offered by 'a well-known. local tradesman'), and rapidly rose by bids of £50 to over £4.000. £25 bids carried the amount to approaching £5.000 and £20 bids to the final figure of £5.040. For this sum the property was bought by Mr. H. Ambrose, the licensee of "The Panton Arms" Cambridge. The auctioneers then offered the freehold house adjoining, known as "Ray Bert" Cottage, and this was purchased by the tenant, Mr. B. Jeffrey, for £700 20 08 04 CIPof

1922 03 04
Det-Constable Abbott presented his report (to the Borough Licencing panel). He said the trade in beer of the Bird in Hand, Newmarket Road, was better than that of the Hare & Hounds which was 107 yards away. The next nearest house was the Crown in Wellington-street. Charles Byatt, the tenant, said he had held the licence for about 20 years. He was quite satisfied with the living he was making. Arthur E.W. Payne, secretary for Messrs Bailey & Tebbutt said the house had been doing four barrels a week. John W. Pate, architect and surveyor said he had produced plans to rebuild the premises as soon as the company took over the house in January 1919. The work had not been done owing to the difficulty in getting tenders from builders through lack of skilled labour and materials. Joshua Charles Newman, a builder, said the best part of the local skilled labour had been commandeered by the Government for housing schemes. 27 03 04

1924
Black Swann, Guildhall Street, converted to Fisher House

1924 11 14
Compensation was approved in respect of six licensed houses, which have been closed. They were The King's head, Cottenham, The Dolphin, Waterbeach, The Little Rose at Swavesey, The Coach and Horse, Linton, The Morning Star at Sawston & The Duke of Wellington in Cambridge, licensee Mr A.S. Scales where compensation was agreed at £1,000 24 11 14

1925 01 18
The well-known Cambridge brewery business which has been carried on for 28 years in Panton Street by Messrs Bailey & Tebbutt is to change hands. They acquired the brewery in 1897. At that time they were carrying on the Granta Brewery under the name of "Robinson & Tebbutt". Mr Bailey's late father was owner of the Star Brewery. The business has now been acquired by Messrs Greene, King & Son c25 01 18 [1.20]

1926
Scales King Street brewery taken over by Barclay (later sold Wells & Winch & Greene King [4.21]

1926 07 17
The Star Brewery applied for the renewal of the licence of the Crown beerhouse in Wellington Street, Cambridge. There were seven fully-licensed houses and three beerhouses within 260 yards. They had lost the licenses of the Woodman's Arms & Crown and Anchor in Newmarket Road in 1907 & 1910, the Oxford, Crispin Street in 1916 and the Priory Tap in 1911. The brewery had rebuilt and brought the Crown up to date in 1914 but as the tenant's family increased

the trade was neglected: It was not a good thing for a house of this kind when there was a lot of children running about 26 07 17

1926 07 18
Trade at the George the Fourth public house in East Road, a beer drinking, working-class residential neighbourhood, had been carried on for years without complaint. There were about 20 persons living there every night of whom 16 had been there from one to 12 years; one old man, aged 83, had been living there for ten. Housing conditions in Cambridge are very bad, there were 700 or 800 applications for houses at the present time. It was difficult to see what was going to happen to these people if the license was withdrawn and the pub closed down c26 07 18

1927 12 24
Thousands of bottles of old ale, specially brewed for Trinity College and matured in the college cellars, have been sent this Christmas to Cambridge men all over the country. Trinity Audit Ale is declared by brewers to be the finest known. Every year there is a big demand for it, but not a bottle is allowed to be sold to the public and only present and past members of the college are allowed to buy it. The ale is matured for two years before it is sold and treated with all the care of an old wine. The recipe of the drink, which until fairly recently was brewed in the college itself, is kept a secret. 27 12 24

1928 02 04
Justices turned down an application for the removal of the licence of the Elm Tree, Orchard Street, Cambridge to premises proposed to be erected at the junction of Milton Road and Green End Road. The Elm Tree was redundant and not necessary for the needs of the locality and there were over 100 people in favour of the new site. Large numbers of houses were being erected in that area which would be inhabited by people who would not be able to afford a wine cellar of their own and have to go to a public house for their bottle of beer. But the residents were people who had been taken from the slums; their incomes were very small and there was no margin for drink in their budget. 28 02 04

1928 07 18
The future of the Bell public house, Botolph Lane and the Plume and Feathers, Park Street, Cambridge was considered by the Licensing Committee. The Bell was difficult for police to supervise. It had no downstairs accommodation for the tenant and meals had to be taken in the smoke room during closing hours. The renewal was refused. The Plume and Feathers had little accommodation and was frequently congested with a few customers. It had been done up and the yards had been covered over. The trade had gone up and was better than the Maypole. 28 07 18

1929 11 20
The Royal Institute of British Architects has presented a bronze medal to be awarded annually for a building of outstanding merit erected in Essex, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire. One of the conditions is that it must front to a street, road, square or court to which the public has access. Its first award is for the Rose and Crown public house on Newmarket Road, Cambridge designed by Basil Oliver and built by W. Sindall for Greene, King & Sons. A suitable tablet will be fixed to the building CDN 20.11.1929

1929 12 27
Cambridge has also lost a popular figure in Mr Frederick Dale, head of the brewery that bears his name. He started it 25 years ago and it rapidly became one of the largest in the district. He took a keen interest in the affairs of many local clubs and many forms of sport enjoyed his patronage,

but he shunned political life. One of his chief hobbies was the collection of antiques and he had an extraordinarily fine collection of old English silver CDN 27.12.1929

1930

1930 02 01
Architects, brewers and builders gathered outside the Rose and Crown public house on Newmarket Road, Cambridge, to witness the unveiling of a plaque proclaiming it one of the best buildings erected in East Anglia during 1928. They then adjourned to the very attractive club room for speeches. The Vice Chancellor said that Cambridge had a good tradition for good beer. When he was an undergraduate there was a college servant who sang: "I likes a glass of good beer, I does. It does you no harm, and does you a lot of good" 30 02 01

1930 02 19
Grapes Inn, Castle Street demolished [3.1, 4.4]

1930 07 16
Milton Arms opens [2.27, 4.9]

1930 08 20
Isaac Newton, Castle Street rebuilt [3.2, 4.3]

1930 10
Carriers Arms, St Tibbs Row closes "one of the best known hostelries amongst older generations of country folk [2.3]

1930 10 23
Herbert Robinson, the motor engineer told the court he had purchased the leasehold of 'The Fountain' pub, Regent Street, Cambridge from the Star Brewery intending to add the site to his business premises. He granted the lease to a landlord for five years with a provision that he could regain possession earlier and now wanted it back 30 10 23a-c

1931 02 13
Cambridge justices heard that the Crown and Sceptre in Clarendon Street was only open from Monday to Saturday and closed at nine o'clock instead of ten, which was the ordinary time for licenced houses. It was a comfortable house and the company was good but customers found early closing irksome and went to other pubs of which there were five within 200 yards. A full licence was granted subject to improvement in the sanitary arrangements. 31 02 13c-d

1931 02 13
The Robin Hood at Cherry Hinton was the only licensed house on the main Cambridge-Fulbourn Road but only had a beer licence. The brewery had spent a good deal of money improving the amenities and the introduction of motor buses and charabancs had made a great difference in trade. During the summer people came in almost every day for teas and meals like bread and cheese. It was much used by walkers including ladies who asked for port. 30 02 13e-f

1931 03 13
Hudson's brewery had closed six public houses in Cambridge: the Brewery Tap in Bridge Street, the White Swan and Prince Albert in Castle Street, the Beehive on Honey Hill, Spotted Cow in Northampton Street and Golden Fleece in Ram Yard. But they wanted to renew the licence for

the Baron of Beef. The application was supported by a petition from the Sick Benefit Society and was granted. Also Cow & Calf & Crown & Sceptre 31 03 13f

1931 10 23
Prompt action averted a serious fire at the Panton Brewery, Cambridge. The premises were deserted at the time of the outbreak as the mechanics and other employees were away at breakfast but as soon as the alarm was given many hastened to the spot with chemical extinguishers, but flames spread to the roof and loft of a small workshop. The fire brigade arrived in under five minutes and prevented a big fire. 31 10 23b

1932
Baron of Beef rebuilt last year. 33 10 06 [1.6]

1932 03 05
Magistrates refused to relicense the Bowling Green public house, High Street, Chesterton. The landlord said a billiard room had been re-decorated, he had regular customers and it had become more or less an institution. But there had been a decrease in trade, despite the growing estate nearby. The Maypole in Portugal Place was the headquarters of the Whippet Club; the tenant was 70 years of age and his only means of support would be the old-age pension. This together with the Alhambra in East Road, the Eagle Tavern beerhouse in Victoria Road and the Clarendon Arms was relicensed. 32 03 05 & a

1932 03 05
Justices approved a licence for the Vine Hotel proposed at the corner of Vinery Road and Coldham's Lane. Basil Oliver, the architect of the award-winning Rose and Crown on Newmarket Road would design it with a large dining which many workmen would use for lunch. Over 200 of the residents of new houses recently erected in the area had signed a petition in support. 32 03 05c

1932 03 11
The record success of Dale's Brewery at the Brewery Exhibition was celebrated at the Dorothy Café when the cups and medals won were on show. It was a local firm, founded by Frederick Dale in 1903, their capital was all local, the majority of their barley was grown within a radius of 20 miles of Cambridge and malted locally at Barnwell. Eight of their tenants have over 20 years' with the firm. If they were Britain's best brewery then Mr Hawkes was the best brewer 32 03 11 & a

1932 04 05
Magistrates decided not to confirm the licence of the Vine Hotel, proposed on the junction of Vinery Road and Coldham's Lane to serve the needs of a new locality developing at a rapid rate. It would not be an ordinary public house but a catering establishment – though residents would not use it for breakfast, lunch or dinner. 207 had signed a petition supporting it, 100 signed another against it. 32 04 05

1932 07 08
The publican of the Prince of Wales, Histon Road, Cambridge became licensee in May 1914. His wife ran it while he served in the army during the war and afterwards he made 25 per cent profit on beer and a third on spirits. But his furniture was not very good and there was no inducement for people to come there. There were four other pubs in the locality and he lost trade when the depression set in. 32 07 08b

1932 12 09
A Cambridge publican told the bankruptcy court he had taken the Horse and Groom in King Street in October 1925 and made a profit until the General Strike when trade was hit throughout the country. He borrowed money and in May 1930 took the Rose Hotel, Rose Crescent. But the increase in beer by a penny a pint hit sales so he left and moved to a pub in Maidstone 32 12 09b 32 12 09c

1933 03 24
Three Tuns licence to be withdrawn, Coach & Horses, Newnham – 33 03 24c

1933 03 08
British Queen, Histon Road newly built [2.23]

1933 03 04
Licencing – Maypole, Alhambra, Carlton - 33 03 04

1933 07 03
Councillors agreed to renew the licence of the Three Tuns, Castle Street, Cambridge on the understanding that a new public house would be erected on the adjoining site of the old White Swan, which is also the property of the Corporation. This would avoid the demolition of the Three Tuns, which has a definite local history and connections to Dick Turpin, but is structurally unsound. 33 07 03 p6

1933 07 07
The Carlton public house in Lensfield Road owned by Lacons brewery had seen an increase in trade following the Budget decrease. There had been no complaints about the tenant, Edward Bettesworth, who was getting a living and wanted to retain it. Its licence was renewed but not those of the Coach and Horses on Newnham Road or the Alhambra on East Road where there were five other pubs within 220 yards and the trade was decreasing. 33 07 07 p12

1933 10 04
The Baron of Beef public house in Bridge Street was partially destroyed by fire. Firemen found flames shooting half-way across the Blackmoor Head Yard and people living at the Mitre pub began to get alarmed. It is one of the fire danger zones in Cambridge, congested with plenty of old property. The Baron was almost entirely rebuilt in 1932 which involved the demolition of four old cottages and three others were destroyed to make room for the new garages. 33 10 04 [1.6,2.21]

1933 10 17
New Fountain inn plans, Regent Street – 33 10 17

1934
Jolly Waterman rebuilt [2.24]

1934 01 30
Three Tuns public house plans, White Swan to close – 34 01 30

1934 02 02
White Horse public house, Castle Street bought by council – 34 02 02

1934 03 02

The tenant of the Rhadegund public house in King Street had been there since 1893 but his wife had died and trade had gone down. There were six other pubs within 300 yards, three belonging to Lacons, two to Greene King and one to Mr Dale. A good many of the customers were getting on in years and some had fallen away. But it served a useful purpose socially for a certain class of people and should be kept open, magistrates were told. 34 03 02

1934 03 28
Magistrates approved the transfer of a licence from the old Three Tuns on Castle Hill to a new County Arms nearby. There would be increased facilities for meals to cater for the new County Hall opposite. But the proprietor of Ye Olde Castle Tea Rooms and the Castle Inn objected. None of the county council staff came in and there was no trade in the winter. The neighbourhood was decreasing and it would have an effect on their businesses 34 03 28

1934 06 29
In spite of its delightfully antique appearance the inside of the new Fountain public house in St Andrew's Street is the last word in modern efficiency. Owned by William Younger of Edinburgh, the architect was C.M. Quilter and the Tudor style mirrors their other pubs up and down the country. The Scottish atmosphere is maintained by the variety of tartan panels and coats of arms which decorate the windows. 34 06 29

1934 11 30
Star brewery acquired by Tollemache [1.4]

1935 02 01
County Arms, Castle St opens – 35 02 01

1935 03 09
Anchor inn demolished photo 35 03 09d

1935 07 05
The tenant of the Red Lion at Trumpington had been there since 1916. Ff the licence was taken away he would be deprived of his livelihood & the Red Lion Self-Help Club would be broken up, magistrates heard. There were 34 allotment holders on ground belonging to the pub and half the allotment land in the village had already been lost on account of building. It was an old-fashioned house, very quiet and homely and the Feast was held in a field at the rear. They served teas to anybody who asked for them, but not much beer. The licence was renewed 35 07 05b

1935 07 05
The Five Bells was one of five fully-licensed houses in Cherry Hinton. In 1920 the Hop Bine, next door, was done away with and the Russian Arms had been closed in 1912. Lacons the brewers said the extra penny on beer had hit sales. The Five Bells had been ringing harmoniously for a good many years to the comfort and convenience of the inhabitants and should be allowed to continue to ring a litter longer. The licence was renewed – 35 07 05b

1935 09 12
The White Horse Inn at the foot of Castle Hill is a 15th-century building surrounded with mystery. Between the two chimney stacks is said to exist a small secret room once used by Royalists as a hiding place from their enemies. The entrance was probably by way of the chimney but as the wide fireplaces have been bricked up there is no means of ascertaining whether there were iron rungs on one side. But inside a cupboard on the first floor landing is an iron door built a

few years ago to enable a sweep to enter. The mystery may be solved if and when the building is demolished, as it may be in the near future for road widening purposes. 35 09 12a

1935 10 26
The Three Tuns public house at Castle Hill was a picturesque building and there were too few of that sort remaining. Dick Turpin was supposed to have stayed there at one time, but that was purely legendary. Mr Northfield had restored it some years ago so as to make people think it was really an ancient building but it had just been painted to look like a half-timbered house. It was not fit for human habitation and the Cambridge Preservation Society could not appeal for its retention 35 10 26a

1935 12 07
A map entitled 'A plain delineation of … Cambridge setting for the inns and taverns thereof' and drawn in the eighteenth-century style has just been produced by Ian Cox. Together with two of his University friends he has been making a tour of the aforesaid inns, sampling the ales sold and the pastimes witch which customers amuse themselves. There is a list of 199 places were beer and ale can be obtained and notes on the 15 brewers whose products are sold, as well as the Audit Ale. Five pastimes are named: darts, skittles, table-skittles, ring the ball and shove-halfpenny. The map is sold at half-a-crown uncoloured with hand-coloured versions at six shillings 35 12 07c

1936 02 08
Two new pubs in Coldham's Lane were considered. The Star Brewery's 'Haven Hotel' at the junction of Vinery Way would be like an Elizabethan Manor in red brick with stone dressing and red tiled roof. Greene King planned the 'Merry Monarch' opposite Brooks Road as a plain up-to-date pub with a Cumberland turf bowling green attached – far more appropriate than the 'Brewers Jacobean' proposal. But this was a new housing area in which many people were starting out in life and taking of a narcotic drug like alcohol was subversive to the economic, moral and spiritual welfare. Both applications were refused 36 02 08 & a

1936 02 13
Wells and Winch Ltd, brewers of Biggleswade, announce the opening of the new 'Yorkshire Grey' Chesterton. This house has been designed to ensure the comfort of its patrons, both new and old, and is the latest endeavour of Messrs Wells and Winch to make licensed premises clean, healthy and attractive. A spacious clubroom is available for parties – this room having a private entrance and conveniences. Tenant Thomas Evans. Architect E.H.C. Inskip & Son, Bedford 36 02 13

1936 03 06
The Star Brewery want a new pub, The Golden Hind, on Milton Road, an area of 1,010 houses of which the majority had been built since 1927. It was not ribbon development but housing estates on each side and practically built up to the railway gates. King's Hedges Road would form part of the new Ring Road so further development might be expected there. If granted the brewery would surrender the licence of the 'Racehorse' on Newmarket Road and the 'Plume of Feathers'. The Women's Total Abstinence Union opposed the application. Licence applications Elm Tree, Hare and Hounds & Dog & Pheasant. Licence of Bowling Green Chesterton transfer to new Golden Hind 36 03 06 Golden Hind application granted – 36 03 07b & c

1936 03 27
Alfred Scales carried on his father's business as wine and spirit merchants, formerly well-known as Scales Brewery. He retired in 1925 when the estate was disposed of and the business taken over by Messrs Barclay, Perkins & Co. During the war he arranged sports and entertainments for

the patients at the 1st Eastern General Hospital and took special interest in the bath ward where wounded soldiers used to lie continually in baths of warm water. 36 03 27c

1936 05 15
Rose and Crown, Newmarket Road – Greene King advert – 36 05 15e

1936 08 28
Ye Olde Three Tuns, Castle Street demolished [1.2]

1937 02 04
Magistrates received an application from the Star Brewery for the removal of the licence of the Garden Gate at Little Wilbraham to premises to be erected on Newmarket Road to be known as the Airport Hotel. However Lacons Albion Brewery asked for the removal of the licence of the Cow and Hare at Lode to a new pub to be known as the King George, also on Newmarket Road near the borough boundary. While they might regard one application with sympathy, two were out of the question and the decision was deferred. 37 02 04c

1937 02 06
The Star Brewery applied for the transfer of a licence from the Crown and Compasses in Coronation Street to a new 'Vine' pub in Vinery Way. There had been 817 new houses nearby and many residents supported the application. But several residents thought it would devalue their property and Mr Skeel, who has an off-licences in Vinery Road, opposed it. Greene King also wanted to erect 'The Running Footman' in Coldham's Lane opposite Brooks Road. It would be open at all times for the sale of teas and would have a Cumberland turf bowling green. Both were refused. 37 02 06b

1937 03 05
Magistrates heard that the Old Guinea public house in Russell Street was owned by the Star Brewery who had redecorated it and fitted a new fire and sink. There were seven fully-licensed houses and two off-licences within 400 yards. The Burleigh Arms in Burleigh Street was a beerhouse which provided a living for the tenant who found great difficulty in getting any work. The Rabbit in Gold Street was a comfortable little house; it had two extremely nice trade rooms and Green King had put in new windows. The residents of East Road might be 'scared off' a big place. The Cross Keys in Saxon Street was the only beer house in the neighbourhood which had five fully-licences housed within 400 yards. Beer was drawn straight from the wood, which was an attraction and trade was good. 37 03 05j

1937 03 05
Proposed Weathervane on Perne Road refused – 37 03 05n

1937 07 02
Magistrates heard that the Old Guinea public house in Russell Street was redundant: it sold a little over two barrels of beer a week and there were nine other premises within 400 yards. The Star Brewery was happy for it to close. But brewers Greene King opposed the closure of the The Rabbit in Gold Street. It was a nice clean little house and they had recently made alterations and repairs. It was close to the Burleigh Arms in Burleigh Street and they would not oppose closing that instead. This was agreed. 37 07 02 & a

1937 07 02
Dales brewery modernised with new bottling units and pure air plant; group photo – 37 07 02c

1937 07 30
The historic 'Ye Olde Castel Hotel', which dates back to pre-Cromwell days, enters another phase as Messrs Barclay, Perkins and Co. open a new and modern building. The old character of the house, from the time when its stables were filled with horses and latterly its garage with cars, has disappeared and upon the site has risen the Regal Cinema and a smaller, but more modern 'Castle'. 37 07 30

1938 02 05
Greene King wanted a new pub, 'The Running Footman' on Coldham's Lane, opposite Brooks Road. It would cater for people needing non-alcoholic drinks and keep open outside licensing hours. There were 1,700 residents within a quarter-of-a-mile with more coming soon when the ring road opened. But the licensee of the Brookfield Tavern said it would hit his trade while the Temperance Council claimed alcohol was a narcotic drug and dangerous to motoring – that was why insurance companies offered a rebate to drivers who abstained. It was refused as was another on Perne Road to be called 'The Weathervane' 38 02 05 & a

1938 03 04
The White Swan was one of four pubs in Norfolk Street; in five years the sale of beer had doubled but spirits had gone down.- working classes could not afford spirits. The licensee had been barman at the New Theatre for 37 years but had to leave when it was converted to a cinema. The Tailors Arms nearby was a beerhouse and it would be better to cut down methylated spirits licences rather than beerhouse licences. Trade at the Gwydir Arms had declined as the licensee, Mrs Newman had got old so the brewery had offered her ten shillings a week for life to give it up. It was one of the 'nicest little houses in Cambridge' and they would add a bathroom if the license was renewed 38 03 04a & b

1938 08 01
The Gwydir Arms was a fully licensed house. Within a radius of 400 yards there were seven fully-licensed houses, two beer houses and one beer-off. The area was fully developed and did not need this number. Its trade was small and declining. But Greene King had spent money on improvements since they bought it in 1925 and would put in a bathroom and private lavatory. There was an atmosphere in the building which puts it in a street by itself. The licence was renewed. But that of the Tailors Arms beerhouse in Norfolk Street was refused. 38 08 01 & a

1939 06 30
The Red Bull in New Street was redundant, magistrates said. It was in a poor state. There were twelve other licensed premised within 400 yards and the population had reduced following slum clearance schemes. The licensee had another job and his wife did most of the work at the pub. But the Star Brewery said it was doing a trade of barrels a week and other pubs did less. They had already re-built the Fives Bells and the Star, nearby, and had plans for rebuilding it when cash became available 39 06 30a

1940

1940 07 12
Drink Curfew. — Cambridge licensees are not to serve soldiers with drinks after 9.30 p.m. on the instructions of the military authorities. Local Defence Volunteers are not affected 40 07 12 CIPof

1949
Vice Chancellor found to have no powers over licences to sell British wine [11.7]

1950

1950 02 03
"I feel that beerhouses are an anachronism" said the Cambridge chief constable at the Borough licensing meeting. "They were invented in the days when spirits were very cheap and was done to prevent people from imbibing too much gin. Nowadays people can't afford too much spirits. I now see little difference between a full licence and a beer licence". The committee considered an application for a full licence by the licensee of the "Dew Drop" beer house, Gwydir Street. He said members of visiting darts teams asked for "shorts" c50 02 03

1951 03 22
Cambridge has some 150 inn signs hanging outside licensed premises. It is probable that Cambridge was the first place where public house signs were made compulsory by law. An Act passed in 1430 laid down "whoever shall brew ale in the town of Cambridge with intention of selling it must hang out a sign, otherwise he shall forfeit his ale. The Eagle and Child in Bene't Street was called by irreverent undergraduates "The Bird and Baby". There was also a "Swan and Sugarloaf", (now the Still and Sugarloaf) which was nicknamed the Duck and Acid Drop 51 03 22

1951 12 08
Reminiscences of the First World War when the Star Brewery, Cambridge, was manned almost entirely by women were shared by Major Freeman at the celebration of the firm's diamond jubilee anniversary. When he joined in 1903 there were 30 public houses on the Newmarket Road. It had come into being in 1891; in 1935 it became a subsidiary of the Tollemache Company and recently the firm of Messrs Whitmore, in St Andrew's Hill, had been acquired. The brewery had stabling for 25 horses up to 1935 when motor transport was first introduced. It had been a great success and was now considered to be the county's "star" brewery 51 12 08

1952 09 12
Fire caused thousands of pounds worth of damage at Jack N. Baldry's Mineral Water Works at Gold Street, Cambridge. It broke out in the first floor of the factory where corks, labels and bottles were kept & ran the whole length of the roof of one wing, most of which was destroyed. Firemen were hampered by extremely dense smoke, melting lead from the valleys of the roof and by many of the mineral water bottles exploding 57 09 12

1953
Plume of Feathers, Park Street demolished [2.19]

1954 02 09
The landlord of the Baron of Beef does not mind how much money he spends to make it the brightest public house in Cambridge. Music is the order of the day and this certainly suits his customers, many of whom are American servicemen. A large white organ arrived on Monday but was too big to go through the door and had to be taken away. His latest brainwave is to install an electric Hammond organ worth £2,000 and an experience man, formerly a cinema organist, has been engaged to play it. CDN 9.2.1954

1954 07 03
Huntingdon will probably lose one of its oldest industries with the cessation of the brewing of beer. For more than 300 years the brewery in the High Street has been active. Now it will stop. The score of women in the bottling department and the men on the brewery staff will be found other employment. None of the office staff will be affected and the off-licence premises will carry

on as usual. Malting will also be continued and the dozen lorry drivers and loaders will not be affected. It will be used as a distribution centre for the Ely produced beers. Throughout the century many amalgamations have taken place but in 1950 they culminated in the combination between the Huntingdon Brewery and Messrs Hall, Cutlack and Harlock of Ely to form the East Anglian Breweries ltd – CDN 3.7.1954

1955 01 08
Dales brewery no longer brew draught beer, taken over by 1954 Whitbreads [2.1, 4.20]

1956 03 23
Globe public house restructured 56 03 23

1956 12 03
Fire severely damaged a workshop at the Star Brewery in Auckland Road but the prompt arrival of the Fire Brigade prevented the outbreak from spreading to adjoining garages. Mr Harold Jones, a mechanic, was welding when the fire started and raised the alarm. Young art students who were sketching nearby buildings when the fire started were able to make drawings of the damage. 56 12 03

1957 03 02
A new public house, The Weathervane' can be built on Perne Road but the Star brewery must transfer the licence from The Crown and Compasses in George IV Street and will close the Crown, Wellington Street and the Star on Newmarket Road. People living in the new houses in the area objected, one lady saying she'd saved her money to buy a house there to be away from pubs. Pupils at Coleridge Evening Centre, one of the finest institutions in the country, might be degraded while people who drank were more likely to catch disease than those who did not. 57 03 02

1957 03 02
Plans were agreed for a new public house, 'The Robin Hood and Little John' to be built on land adjoining a pub of the same name at Cherry Hinton. Designs originally submitted two years ago had been revised and a small smoke room omitted. There was also a large car park. 57 03 02a

1957 04 01
Despite a vigorous protest, magistrates agreed the erection of a new public house, 'The Weathervane' on Perne Road. There was a definite need; since 1936 around 2,500 new houses had gone up in the area with about 9,500 professional and working people. It was a respectable middle-class area and scholars would not be tempted to enter it. 57 04 01b & c

1958 02 14
Greene King's Panton Brewery is no more. The modern machinery at Bury St Edmund's is capable of meeting requirements so the premises in Panton Street will be used as a storage and dispersal depot. It was a small brewery but had been producing very good beer for more than 60 years, latterly turning out 15,000 barrels a year. Greene King acquired it in 1925. It is a pity that such long-standing traditions must be broken and the beer connoisseur will mourn its loss. 58 02 14a [3.10]

1958 03 10
"Every issue of the CDN reveals on every page the heartbreak and suffering caused by alcohol", said Dr Rattray in objecting to plans for a new public house on the corner of Alex Wood Road. It would be close to two new secondary schools and exactly opposite the Church. Nearby houses

would suffer the noise of car doors and shouting and laughing outside. But residents said it was almost a mile to the nearest pub on Milton Road. 58 03 10

1958 03 27
Alex Wood pub licence granted, Arbury – 58 03 27b

1958 12 16
Demolition of the Robin Hood – 58 12 16c

1959 11 13
The Weathervane, a new public house at Perne Road, is the first to be built to serve new Cambridge housing restates. The site was purchased by Tollemache Breweries in 1937 but has been delayed for 22 years because of the war and building restrictions. Today it is uneconomic to build palatial mansions but this house is just as comfortable, the sort of place one can bring a family for a pleasant drink with its bright contemporary decorations, skirting heating and low fireplaces. "You may ask why the name 'Weathervane' was chosen, but I cannot give you any reason at all", Lord Tollemache told guests at the opening. 59 11 13c, 12 [3.12, 13.4]

1959 12 16
The Arbury Estate gained its second public house within 12 days with the opening of the Carlton Arms. It is unique in that it is sponsored, owned and run by two breweries, Wells and Winch and Whitbread's. Designed in a conventional fashion, it has a brightly-decorated public bar and a saloon bar that can be separated into a lounge bar by means of a Bolton gate. The new landlords, Mr & Mrs Alan Davis were previously at the Still and Sugar Loaf on the Market Square. 59 12 16b [3.13,12.8]

1959 12 04
Snow Cat opens [13.6]

1959 10 24
Gaming machine in Royal Arms, King St – 59 10 24c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 02 03
The picturesque 'Free Press' public house in Prospect Row stands in an area which the City Council wish to clear for redevelopment and is likely to be demolished one day. It once catered for printers from the old University Press in Brandon Place and consists of two cottages knocked into one. The licensee, Geoffrey Nichols, has been in occupation since 1927. When he first came it was 'an old spittoon sort of place' but now businessmen like its smoke room, workmen and their wives enjoy a drink in the public bar, and the snug, the slip and the bottle and jug department each cater for a public of their own. The walls are covered with photographs of actors and variety artists who used to lodge nearby while appearing at the New Theatre. 60 02 03

1960 03 18
Call to tradesmen to relinquish University wine licences 60 03 18d

1961 02 15
Cup over Dales brewery taken down 61 02 15

1961 04 21

Lacon's the brewers want to knock down the Travellers Rest public house in Huntingdon Road, Cambridge and erect another one further back. A petrol filling station would then be built on the site with no major repair facilities, just a routine check of oils, tyre pressures and sparking plugs. There was no filling station on that side of the road until passing the Lolworth Transport Café. But planners say there is already a petrol station opposite. There is heavy traffic visiting the nearby Cattle Breeders Association and Messrs French's Flour Mills and many coach parties would continue to use the public house. A lighted cigarette end thrown from an open coach window by a passenger would land near the petrol pumps. 61 04 21a

1961 09 23
History of the Dog and Gun, Castle Street – 61 09 23

1961 12 14
Queen Edith public house opens, Wulfstan Way – 61 12 14 [14.1]

1961 12 21
Tollemache and Cobbold Breweries announce the opening of The Racehorse, Newmarket Road, Cambridge. This house has been designed for maximum comfort and service. There are three well-appointed and furnished bars and decoration is tasteful and modern. Sandwiches and snacks will always be obtainable. One of the rooms will be available for clubs and private parties. Apply to the manager, Arthur Shatford. – Advert 61 12 21b [13.14]

1962 04 06
Angel public house, Market Street bought by the unknown purchaser of Macintosh's – 62 04 06c [3.17,12.15]

1962 04 23
The massive square building of the Cambridge Maltings on Newmarket Road is where barley is converted into malt for malted food and beverages but mainly for brewing into light ale. The loading room holds row upon row of sacks bulging with fat, glossy barley grains which has to be dried in a huge perforated drum. It is carried to bins where it is rested for six weeks and then conveyed to the square brick tower which rises higher than the main malt-house roof. When the process is complete it is hauled by electric elevators on to lorries to be taken to the leading breweries. 62 04 23 & a

1962 05 12
Renovations being carried out at the Green Dragon Public House in Chesterton have led to the discovery of coins and business cards over 100 years old. They were found by the licensee, John Harrison, after a mantle shelf was taken down over the fireplace in the public bar. The coins include a Rochdale halfpenny from the 1790s showing a spinner at a weaving loom while one of the cards relate to a General Election of 1835. The pub itself is of considerable age, having been granted an inn licence in 1630 when it afforded 'sufficient entertainment for 20 men and horses in bedding and stable rooms' 62 05 12

1962 09 21
Free Press "stands alone in area of demolition [3.20]

1963 02 02
Are 239 licensed houses in Cambridge [11.1]

1963 07 08

Blackamoor's Head in Victoria Road demolition – 63 07 08a (rebuilt) [12.13]

1964 05 28
Man on Moon, Norfolk St open, replaces pub demolished for East Rd redevelopments [14.14]

1965
King Street run 2 x per term, record 28 minutes, founded by Ted Dexter [10.17]

1965 02 26
Jack Baldry, the Cambridge mineral water firm, has installed a new soft drink production plant which has doubled their bottle output and cut factory staff by a third. Two production lines now complete the cycle of washing, filling, capping and labelling the drinks, a job preciously done by three bottle lines and about 35 employees working on equipment which was up to 18 years old. Now 10,000 bottles an hour can be made up at the Gold Street factory 65 02 26c

1965 06 04
Maypole dancing official opening Maypole pubic house, Portugal Place – photo – 65 06 04a [14.12]

1965 08 24
Jenny Wren, St Kilda Avenue opens - Arbury [11.11]

1965 09 04
Milton Arms likely to close - protests [14.10]

1966 07 20
Protests that colleges are becoming public houses by providing drinks with meals [11.2]

1966 02 21
Dales brewery has just closed – photo – 66 02 21a

1966 04 11
University authorities ban King Street run; started 40 years ago – 66 04 11a; does not take place 66 04 21c; takes place in defiance of proctors – 66 04 28c

1966 04 18
Milton Arms cannot be demolished and replaced with petrol station and 30 flats – 66 04 18c

1966 04 28
Morley's Wine Bar in Petty Cury to close; will be off-sales in Wellington St; established since turn of the century, need to expand – 66 04 28b

1966 08 23
Cambridge Maltings on Ditton Walk to be sold; was in use until recently when bought by Associated British Malsters; work stopped month ago – 66 08 23 advertisement – 66 10 21

1966 09 01
House of Dolamore bought wine and spirit business of George Morley in Petty Cury and Guildhall Street some 80 years ago; now has new address in Wellington Street – 66 09 01 & 1a

1967 03 08
Pelican, East Rd, closed [14.6]

1967 03 15
Licence granted to supermarket to sell drinks, protests from LVA [11.3]

1967 04 19
Greene King to transfer Cambridge depot from Panton Street to new premises Newmarket Road; stopped brewing in Cambridge in 1957 – 67 04 19

1968 03 26
Criterion pub, Market Passage to close – brewery cannot afford new rent asked by owners, the Edward Storey Trust – 68 03 26b

1968 12 06
Plough & Harrow Madingley Rd opened September, built with young in mind (trouble with disco noise 1976, taken over by Berni 1978) [14.2]

1969 02 24
James Ritchie, Cambridge's only head brewer at Star Brewery – profile – 69 02 24

1969 05 17
Baldry's move to new factory in Harvest Way from Gold St; started in 1923, first to use all-automatic crown cork sealed bottles; took over Cambridge Soda Works and in 1925 acquired important contract for mineral waters with a local brewery; began bottling cider in 1930 and in 1935 extended range to confectionary, cocktail sausages, pickles and groceries. Bought Sawston Aerated Water Company – 69 05 17a, b, c

1969 08 24
House of Commons closed - uneconomic [11.12]

1970

1970 05 06
Rhadegund, Cambridge's only lock-up pub, King St, closed [13.12]

1970 05 18
Free Press licensee Geoffrey Nichols there 43 years – memories – 70 05 18

1970 05 25
Wheatsheaf, Castle Hill demolished [13.3]

1971 02 13
Golden Rose landlady retires, pub closes – memories – 71 02 13

1971 03 06
Old English Gentleman closed - Kite [14.8]

1971 04 03
Jack Baldry, mineral water manufacturer – profile and history – 71 04 03

1971 05 28
Britannia, East Rd closes [12.11]

1971 09 24
Greene King draught beers withdrawn from 22 public houses brought by Whitbread from Dale's Brewery – 71 09 24

1971 10 06
Millers Wine Parlour frequented by dons, lawyers and businessmen who petition against closure – 71 10 06a

1971 11 13
Charles Perrin joined Bailey and Tebbutt brewery in Panton Street in 1920; has seen take-over by Greene King in 1925, closing of brewing in Cambridge and launch of new depot in Harvest Way – profile – 71 11 13

1972 05 25
Millers Wine parlour closed (reopens as Shades 1974) [11.4]

1972 01 07
Star Brewery to cease brewing this year – illustrated feature – 72 01 07, a & b
Star brewery closes, last of almost 20 formerly active [1.16]

1972 04 10
The last pint was pulled in the "George and Dragon" in Thompson's Lane, Cambridge, last night. The pub, on the corner of Jesus Green by the river is to come down to make way for a modern pub-restaurant. Although the pub, more than 100 years old and owned by St John's College was a Tolly House its successor, to be called The Dragonfly, will be a joint venture. Undergraduates and many University organisations have used the George and Dragon, once known as the Spade and Becket. The outgoing hosts, Jack and Wynn Asplin, take over the Great Northern Hotel by the Station Road roundabout 72 04 10

1972 05 20
Kings arms opens King St, replaces old Royal Arms [14.17]

1972 07 11
Brewers Arms, Gwydir St closed [12.12]

1972 12 20
Alma Brewery, Russell St opens, new pub embracing former Alma pub [13.2]

1973 04 08
Mr Jack Baldry, chairman of Cambridge's last remaining soft drinks factory died yesterday at the age of 71. He started as a mineral water manufacturer in the city 50 years ago. When the company was started it faced competition from 32 firms in the city. Initial output was 100 dozen bottles a day, but business increased and four years ago a new plant was built which enabled an output of 400 dozen bottles an hour on each of its two units c73 04 08

1973 10 03
Tolly, the East Anglia brewers may sell off their £1 million Star Brewery site in Newmarket Road, Cambridge within the next three years. The 4½acre site includes the brewery buildings and

the Burleigh Arms public house. The old Star Brewery stopped production last year and the buildings have been used as a storage depot. It is understood the directors have been considering various possibilities for the Newmarket Road site, which is bounded roughly by Auckland Road, Midsummer Common and Parsonage Street. One includes building luxury flats, a hotel and public house on the site. "There is no possibility of us leaving Cambridge. It is a very important place for us", said Tolly's managing director 73 10 03

1973 10 04
Mitre remodelled [14.9]
Now 262 licensed premises

1974
Red Cow closed during Lion Yard redevelopment [4.5]

1974 01 31
Since the traditional bar in Alexandra Street was closed down for the Lion Yard development, the name of Henekeys has been missing from the city scene. The Henekey Tavern, which has just been completed under the former Dorothy Restaurant has brought it back in style. The Alexandra Bar keeps a link with the past and adjoining it is a farmhouse-style chop bar. In the contrasting Squires Bar a more substantial meal can be eaten in plush surroundings 74 01 31

1974 02 15
Millers Wine parlour King's Parade reopens as Shades [11.4]

1974 05 21
Residents of the north Arbury estate did not need a heat wave to remind them of their need for another pub and the opening of The Ship will meet with eager response. Campaigners for real ale will be pleased to find that Wells of Bedford are making this their fourth Cambridge pub, providing beer connoisseurs with their prize-winning bitter as well as a wide range of other beers, wines and spirits in spacious new premises 74 05 21
Name transferred from Coronation St pub which itself transferred from original Ship pub Quayside

1975 10 02
Granta reopened after rebuilding [12.1]

1975 03 03
Bath converted to Beefeater steak house [12.14]

1975 05 01
The Campaign for Real Ale has bought a disused pub, the Salisbury Hotel in Cambridge for £22,000 – with the house next door thrown in. Secured at an auction it is their fourth public house acquisition in the country. The auctioneer described the price as very poor for such a commodious property. The licence was never rescinded or transferred and so is available for an application to the city licensing magistrates for renewal. At the same auction the King William IV pub at Histon was taken off the market at £17,500 75 05 01

1975 06
Bun Shop, St Andrews Hill demolished [2.15]

1975 11 29

King William IV, Newmarket Rd closed, demolished for road widening [14.18]

1975 12 13
Red Cow reopens, was closed last year during Lion Yard redevelopment [13.13]

1975 12 19
Pike & Eel transformed [14.4]

1976 04 09
Elm Tree fire, publican dies [12.5]

1976 04 30
Panton Arms refurbished in old Panton Brewery demolished 10 years ago s [14.7]

1976 06 15
The first 1000 pints were on the house as friends of traditional British draught beer packed the Salisbury Arms, Tenison Road, Cambridge for its reopening under the ownership of CAMRA Investments Ltd. The pub was bought from Whitbread last year for £22,000 and has been renovated from top to bottom. It is their first pub in East Anglia c76 06 15 had closed 1973; celebrates centenary 1986 [13.8]

1976 11 09
Spade & Becket opens, Thompson's Lane (formerly George & Dragon, residents had fought plans to rebuild as pub restaurant [12.2]

1977 06 10
One of Cambridge's best-known characters, Trevor Hughes, clocked up his 100th recorded conviction at the city magistrates' court when he admitted being drunk and disorderly in the Market Square. As he came into court, Mr Hughes, looking thinner and without his famous bobble hat or bushy beard said: "Good afternoon everybody". In court he said: "I won't deny it, but I can't remember. I like a little drop of tiddly, but I'm not abusive. But people say: 'look at that dirty old so and so', and I lose my temper". He was sent to prison for a month. 77 06 10

1978 01 26
Christ's College granted full beer licence for its college bar; previously they had operated under Vice Chancellor's wine licence which felt not to cover beer or spirits, licensing means have to follow normal pub closing times which students oppose. Emmanuel College advised that Vice Chancellor's licence does cover them [11.7]

1978 02 17
The battle for the Free Press has been won and this celebrated Kite survivor was officially reopened in all its renovated glory. It is a small street corner public house, originally on the end of a terrace of cottages. In 1964 it was purchased by Cambridge City Council as part of a clearance area and the cottages were demolished. But the pub was leased back to Greene King so it could continue to trade until required for demolition. The challenge has been to preserve and enhance the original character, retaining all the interesting features while enlarging the premises. It was reopened by Miss Brenda Nichols whose family ran the pub for 48 years. 78 02 17 [12.3]

1978 05 06

Cambridge Magistrates may have acted outside their powers in seeking to license college bars. Cambridge colleges have operated student bars in the past, arguing that the Vice Chancellor has the right to issue licences within the university to authorise the sale of all alcoholic liquors, including wine. But while the right to authorise wine-selling has not been challenged, the sale of beer has come under official scrutiny. At King's College students fear the grant of a licence would affect many social events; it would become a criminal offence for a student to be drunk at his college bar and the police would have the right to enter without warrant or invitation. 78 05 06

1978 07 01
"Wine bars will make city pubs redundant" fear [11.8]

1979 10 31
Pickerel alterations [14.5]

1980

1980 04 10
Major alterations have been made to the Cambridge Arms in King Street ensuring the conservation of the old Cambridge Brewery building which has stood semi-derelict since brewing ceased in 1925. It was established by George Scales in 1866 and then supplied 13 public houses. The new Scales Bar extends beneath the old brewing floor and features brick arches which supports the heavy coppers and chimney on the upper level. Various items of brewing equipment that were removed for safe keeping have now been returned and are displayed. 80 04 10 [12.9]

1980 11 05
Rose & Crown, Northampton St reopened [13.9]

1980 12 20
One of the oldest pubs in Cambridge, the Rose in Rose Crescent, may soon be just a memory. The brewery, Whitbread, is to sell the premises and it is likely to be converted into student accommodation. Landlord Alf Barnett said it was a place where a man in gumboots and work clothes could stand alongside a businessman with brolly and bowler hat and get along together. Sons of the gentry, over late-night cups of coffee, would ask to borrow the phone to ring 'Mum' and he used to vet their girlfriends. 80 12 20

1981 01 20
Cambridge's newest pub, The Lord Byron is part of a facelift at Cambridge railway station. It has been created in space that was once part of the cab entrance beneath its distinctive colonnade. The original bar faced the platform and could only be reached by buying a platform ticket, the new one can only be entered from the street. Already regulars have formed darts and crib teams and draught ale should be on sale from next week. 81 01 20a [14.15]

1981 04 29
Rose, Rose Crescent (ancient site) closes, converted to accommodation, shops & wine bar [13.10]

1981 05 27
Milton Arms refurbished, including restaurants [14.11]

1981 07 18
Old Spring pub reopens [11.10]

1981 09 08
Amid much music and good cheer, the Ancient Druids closed – the last of nine pubs in Fitzroy Street. Soon the 200-year-old rafters will collapse under the developer's sledge-hammers to make way for the multi-million pound Kite shopping development. But last night they rang to the rollicking rhythm of Irish ceilidh music from Ted Stacey's melodeon, accompanied by guitars, penny whistles, banjo and drums. The wake ended when it ran out of beer. The brewers, Charles Wells, are building another when the development is completed. 81 09 08 [12.6]

1982 02 13
Baldry's soft drinks firm has shut down. It was founded by Jack Baldry in 1928 in the face of stiff competition from 32 other soft drinks firms in Cambridge. They moved to Sawston from premises in Harvest Way in 1979 because it needed more storage space. Two firms are interested in buying the assets and maintaining the Baldry name. 82 02 13

1982 05 06
The Travellers Rest, the 100th Beefeater Steak House, has opened at Girton. Weathered bricks and dark wood have come from an old mill in Lancashire to give the former Whitbread pub a warmth and intimacy. Hundreds of plants with an unusual water feature add both colour and life but the over-riding ingredient for success is value for money with no extra costs hidden within the menu. 82 05 06

1982 07 20
The Alma Brewery in Russell Court is reopening as a free house under the control of CAMRA. The pub, which dates back to 1835, was one of the first buildings to be erected in the former Balls Folly Field. It took its name from the Battle of the Alma in the Crimean War. Brewing stopped in 1909 but it continued to be run as a pub until it closed in March. 82 07 20a [13.2]

1983 07 08
Racehorse, Newmarket Rd reopens as Hoofers - young persons pub with flashing lights, music etc [11.14]

1983 02 11
Weathervane refitted, becomes Master Mariner [14.13]

1983 06 16
British Queen reopens as Bumpers, fun pub (closed for lack of custom 1984 & reopens with nautical flavour 1986) [12.10]

1983 12 08
Beer at 1930s prices attracted drinkers when the Burleigh Arms, Newmarket Road, re-opened. It had been closed for six months while the front wall was rebuilt and the two bars redecorated. It now has a 1930s theme deliberately chosen in an attempt to go up-market and attract shoppers from the new Grafton Centre. The Zebra and the Bird in Hand have also been revamped. The sparkling image of the roaring twenties has been revived in the evocative décor of a Cambridge public house which has just reopened after a complete face-lift. The Burleigh Arms in Newmarket Road is making a complete break with its history with no pains spared to develop surroundings which are unique to the Cambridge area. Music from the past will form part of the repertoire of a pianist performing four nights a week. Its profusion of potted plants gives a further touch of atmosphere 83 12 08 p6 83 12 12

1983 12 29

Britain has about 75,000 pubs but experts say the number will have dropped by 10,000 by the end of the century. Six Cambridge pubs have closed in the last ten years and most were knocked down and redeveloped. The Rose in Rose Crescent is the only one still standing with its basement now housing Flambards wine bar. The Bun Shop went after years spent in splendid isolation as the Lion Yard was built, The King William IV in Newmarket was flattened as was the Prince Albert in Chesterton. The Ancient Druids and Old English Gentleman were demolished as part of the Kite clearance. 83 12 29 p12

1984 05 06
Pinks Wine bar opens in old Rhadegund premises; closes again 1984 08 15 [13.12]

1984 06 21
A Victorian atmosphere will be the theme for the Dobblers Inn, Sturton Street, the former City Arms. Older residents can just remember a colourful and eccentric character called Dobbler, who kept a large yard renowned for the unusual items which could be obtained there. Now a whole range of bric-a-brac from stone jars to old prints and plants will enhance the period flavour 84 06 21 p18 [12.6]

1984 07 13
The Rock in Cherry Hinton Road has been shaken to its foundations and put back together as a bright inviting pub offering real ale, good food and music. The bars have been reconstructed and the snug has made way for spacious through bars with split level floors and a swirling glass faceted container which sends rainbow beams over customers. Saturday night sing-alongs to suit all age groups will return and modern jazz may be featured. The new kitchens will offer dishes like chilli con carne and spare ribs 84 07 13 [13.11]

1984 09 27
A bar 'unique to Cambridge' is the claim made for J. Millars on Newnham Road. It is not a wine bar or a cocktail bar. When the Chinese beer ran out they tracked down an alternative in Brighton. Apart from tsing tsio they have beers from Germany, Czechoslovakia and Holland and claim to offer the widest range of import beers, liquors and spirits outside London. They offer all-day faculties for business conferences and hold wedding receptions 84 09 27

1984 11 30
The Champion of the Thames pub in King Street has just been completely refurbished with an Edwardian atmosphere featuring reinstated oak panelling matched up with new boarding bars, ceilings and floors. The familiar 'Champion' emblem of a sculler has been superbly etched on the new glass but the Landlord would like to know something more about him so that he can add to a selection of old rowing and sculling prints which now adorn the walls. He thinks the name may have come from either a lodger or resident who was a Thames sculling champion. 84 11 30c

1984 12 08
The very new Ancient Druids pub has opened its doors for the first time – but not without a slight delay. The pub brews their own ale on the premises but when Cambridge's mayor pulled the pump for the first pint all he got was an eggful of the new Charles Wells brew, Kite Bitter, and a lot of home-brewed air. However, after a rapid change of pump, a glass was drawn to be sampled by Ale Conner Alfie Howard from Lambeth, who revives the centuries-old tradition of testing the beer before a pub can start serving. Dressed in his 17th-century costume he passed it as fit and hoisted aloft an ale garland signifying the new brew was ready for drinking. The old Ancient Druids, remembered as an old-fashioned boozer with its own particular charm, was one of nine to go under the developers' bulldozer. 84 12 08

1985 04 24
Hopbind restyled & reopened [11.13]

1985 07 23
The Little Rose in Trumpington Street, believed to be one of the oldest pubs in Cambridge dating back to 14th century has been totally refurbished. The Brewhouse has been converted into an open-sided loggia with climbing roses and the oldest room has an inglenook fireplace with nooks and crannies giving a convivial atmosphere. Worthington best bitter and Charrington IPA will be served together with a range of pub grub including jacket potatoes and a choice of cheeses 85 07 23 [14.6]

1986 09 08
The Ancient Druids closed down amid much music and good cheer at a wake featuring Irish ceilidh music from Tom Stacey's melodeon. Soon the 200-year-old rafters will collapse under the developers' sledge-hammers to make way for the Kite shopping development. It is the last of the nine pubs in Fitzroy Street – the others were the Cherry Tree, Danish Flag, Fitzroy Arms, Duke of Wellington, Harp, Queen's Arms, Golden Cross and Old English Gentleman. The brewers, Charles Wells, are building a new pub when the development is complete. 86 09 08

1986 12 13
In most pubs the air is thick with cigarette fumes but now sections of the Free Press and Cambridge Blue have been turned into non-smoking zones at lunchtimes. Some drinkers approve as it makes the atmosphere much nicer. One Cambridge music lecturer said: "I don't approve of smoking. I think it should be banned. It's much more serious than taking drugs." Breweries are also waking up to the idea that clean air is important with improved air conditioning and smoking bans in food areas. It's not very common at present but may become so in the medium term. 86 12 13a

1987 05 08
The Little Rose in Trumpington Street, a 17th-century listed building, may be converted into a restaurant by its owners, Peterhouse. The Campaign for Real Ale say it is extremely popular and one of the few Bass Charrington pubs in the area. The brewery is disappointed. It is one of the oldest licensed premises in Cambridge and they thought there was a strong case for retaining it, extending the eating facilities in line with demand 87 05 08

1987 07 15
The historic Eagle Inn, one of the oldest pubs in Cambridge which became a meeting place for the American forces during the Second World War is to close for two years. Corpus Christi College, the owners, are refurbishing adjacent buildings and hope to concentrate student accommodation in the area. They say the site would be too dangerous and dirty to allow it to stay open. Greene King, the brewers, are appalled by the news but the pub, with its famous gallery, will certainly not be closed permanently. 87 07 15

1987 11 17
One of Cambridge's most picturesque pubs, the Fort St George, has been completely renovated and revitalised. But it has not lost its charm now the old photographs and oars have been rehung and the old hearth is lit by a roaring fire on cold evenings. Until the 1830s it was surrounded by water with the river on one side and a toll house on the other. Now it is encircled by bicycle trails and there is parking for motorists just across the footbridge. 87 11 17

1987 12 02
Eagle planned renovation delays ¢CEN 2.12.87

1987 12 16
The Sir Isaac Newton, once a tiny street corner pub in Castle Street, has undergone a complete transformation by Greene King. Only the façade of the building remains the same as it is listed. The pub, which fronts the new Castle Park Research & Redevelopment Village, is now three times its original size with a futuristic Perspex sculpture reflecting the life of the famous scientist. Its impressive transformation incorporates one continuous bar with cleverly designed seating areas to retain the cosy, intimate nature of the original. 87 12 16a

1988 01 10
De Vere buy University Arms ¢CEN 10.1.89

1988 04 18
Regulars at the Free Press in Prospect Row are toasting success after it was named one of Britain's 100 classic pubs in the new CAMRA guide. The little pub, packed with settles, panelled walls and memorabilia was first licensed in 1834 when a home brewer named Sarah Horne turned her cottages into a commercial establishment. It takes its name from a local temperance paper named the Free Press which railed unsuccessfully against the evils of alcohol. The bar carries a notice warning of the 'degradation of drunkenness' but is a jolly, uninhibited place, the haunt of students, cricket and rowing enthusiasts. 88 04 18a

1988 05 19
The Merton Arms pub in Northampton Street, which belongs to St John's College, will closed at the end of September. It is one of the few pubs in the city centre which provide bed and breakfast. Now it may be converted into student accommodation 88 05 19

1988 05 23
Dobblers Inn in Sturton Street used to be called the City Arms but was renamed after a rag-and-bone man who lived nearby. It has a varied collection of old pictures and a fascinating assortment of bric-a-brac quite in keeping with his interest in junk and knick-knacks. It is a traditional pub but has an entertainment time on Friday evenings with everything from a magician to a piano player. It sells Steam Beer, a very strong brew from Newcastle, and wines by the glass 88 05 23

1988 06 07
The Little Rose in Trumpington Street, until recently one of Cambridge's oldest pubs, has reopened as a restaurant. The building dates back to the 14th century and boasts rare examples of domestic Tudor architecture. Now the interior has been refurbished and many of the old timbers are exposed for the first time. A cocktail bar has been installed and a spacious new conservatory added. 88 06 07a

1988 09 23
The Merton Arms in Northampton Street is closing because the owners, St John's College, has not released the lease held by Greene King. 88 09 23a

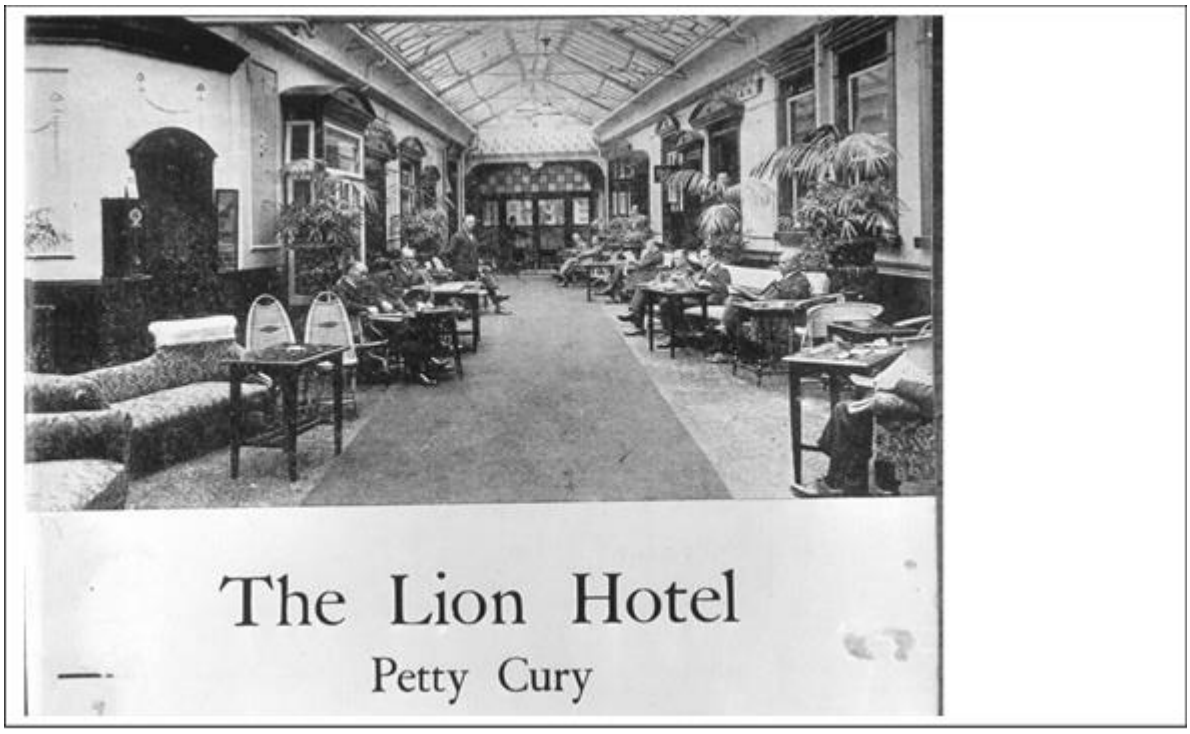
1988 12 15
The former Tivoli cinema building which opened on Chesterton Road in 1925 has been converted into 'The Exchange' with two large cocktail bars and a 120-seater restaurant. Later will come a basement gym, a punt landing stage and a roof garden restaurant with panoramic views over Jesus Green. Entertainment facilities include a huge electronic roll-down screen, the latest audio

equipment and closed circuit television relaying film of the dance hall, But great care has been taken to preserve the distinctive atmosphere with plaster ceiling mouldings and a combination of rich dark and red wood 88 12 15a

1988 12 19
Mill pub refurbished & renamed Tap & Spile CEN 19.12.89

1989 08 18
The Rock pub has changed a lot since it opened in 1923. Now its biggest transformation brings an almost nightclub type of appeal. In the public bar a pool table has been removed but there is an area for dart playing. A discmonitor (compact disc jukebox) has been installed together with a new stage, enhancing its reputation for live music three nights a week. This is usually rhythm and blues though Thursdays are free for local bands and other types of music. 89 08 18

1992
Eagle pub reopened after four-year shutdown [Rev]



c.27.45 : Hotels

1891 01
University Arms hotel opens [8.4]

1897 10 20
Bankruptcy landlord Bath hotel, 1897 10 20 p2 CDN

1899 12 08
New Hotel, "Fleur-de-Lis", Humberstone road, Chesterton. This first-class hotel is now open and replete with every comfort. Billiards room in course of erection. Gentlemen visiting the hotel will find the Smoke Room fitted with every comfort – advert. 1899 12 08

1900

1901 08 21
The Star Brewery renewed its application for a proposed new hotel on the Hills Road, adjacent to Cambridge Cattle Market. There were farmers, dealers in cattle coming from Norwich and Essex who regularly attended the market, coming by train. It was desirable that they should sleep on the spot and take care of the cattle. Mr Grain said there was opposition from Homerton college, a ladies college. What on earth they opposed for he did not know. None of those young ladies, he was sure, would go near a public house CDN 1901 08 21

1903 01 16
Samuel Sleigh, formerly occupier of the Blue Boar Hotel, Trinity Street, Cambridge, sued an architect for damages. In 1899 he took the lease of the Blue Boar which was very much out of repair, both structurally and otherwise. Trinity College, the owners, recommended Coulson and Lofts to carry out alterations and consented to expend £3,000, but no more. When the costs went

over budget he had been sued for the extra but claimed the architect had been negligent. His case was dismissed 03 01 16

1903 12 05
The Central Temperance Hotel and Coffee Tavern, Market Hill, Cambridge was for sale by auction. It has been an important and famous inn for centuries; originally known as the 'Three Tuns' it was visited by Pepys in 1660. The large ballroom with the minstrels' gallery still exists with valuable panelling and carved chimney pieces. It occupies an excellent position in a busy thoroughfare and is freehold. 03 12 05

1904 01 04
Considerable damage was done by a fire that started in the attic at the Rose Hotel, Rose Crescent, Cambridge. News was received at the Fire Station by means of the fire alarm post on Market Hill and they were soon on the scene with the horsed fire escape and tender. Much damage was done in a comparatively small area but every room in the hotel suffered from the effects of water, which saturated the ceilings. Fortunately none of the bedrooms were occupied at the time 04 01 04

1905 07 18
The landlord of the Central Hotel, Cambridge, told how a man rang the bell in the commercial room and as if he could have a 'number''. This was the customary way in which commercial travellers asked for a room. Later the man said he could not pay his bill. He did not believe he was a commercial traveller and called the police. The man carried a parcel, neatly done up similar to those carried by travellers but when opened it contained two racing calendars, a tin of boot polish and some newspapers. 05 07 18d & e

1906 06 28
Mrs Moyes of the Lion Hotel claimed payment from an undergraduate for the hire of horses. He had entered Trinity College and associated with men of means and even of wealth. He stated his allowance was £300 a year (this was denied by his father who said it was £15 per term plus tailor's bills – about £150). The bill was for the hire of three horses on the same day – he had tossed up with two friends and lost. But this was not a 'necessary' and, being under 21 years of age, he was not liable to pay it. 06 06 28

1907 09 07
The University has extended the area within which lodging-house licences will be granted as the number of Freshmen expected to take up residence is so large. That might seem good news for lodging-house keepers and traders generally but the real reason is the steady growth of the suburban areas. A comparison between lodging houses in some of our closely-packed central streets and those in the roomy, healthy suburbs is in favour of the latter. 07 09 07c

1908 03 20
Robbery from lodging house, New Street – 08 03 20

1908 05 22
A case of great importance for lodging house keepers and traders came to court when Messrs Murdoch, Murdoch and Co, of Regent Street, claimed the return of an organ which had been hired by a Downing undergraduate. He had rented a room in a University lodging house but left without paying for his board and lodgings. So the landlord had kept it together with pictures and other goods, until he got his money. CWN 08 05 22 p5

1910

1910 12 23
A gruesome relic has been discovered during renovations at the Hoop Hotel. It is a human skeleton grimly suggestive of a crime committed in days gone bye, a victim's remains ingeniously hidden by a murderer. For hundreds of years generations of people have passed along Bridge Street recking nothing of the horrible trophy which lay some ten feet beneath the pavement. A workman discovered the bones of a woman placed just below the wall and floor of the wine cellar and above the foundations. The hotel had been acquired by Charles Dixon who wanted to do away with the licence 'which blasting & blighting lives of young men that went to it' 10 12 23 [3.29,4.7]

1912 03 08
University lodging-house keepers have been venting their grievances. One woman has three sets of rooms; if she lets them all the year she gets £84. For rent, rates, taxes and wages of servant she pays £53; that leaves her £31 for whitewashing, papering, staircloth, carpet etc and for food and clothes for herself. But this term all the rooms are empty. However in Chesterton there are many householders who let rooms to undergraduates; when they come part of Cambridge will the rateable values of their houses be increased? Lodging housekeepers should form themselves into a trades union. 12 03 08f

1913 02 28
Respectable women found it difficult to get lodgings in Cambridge at a low price. There were three common lodging houses but they were mixed, taking both men and women. They were all in the Barnwell district and all on licensed premises. There were also furnished rooms often let for the night, but they were not under inspection and presented a serious problem from the moral point of view. Nearly a third of the women and girls were engaged in some sort of industrial occupation and made their own living to that extent, moving about the country and needed lodgings 13 02 28 p5 CIP

1914 06 26
There is no lodging house accommodation for women only in Cambridge. Two licensed houses cater for only the painted or vagrant classes. There is a need for some place to which respectable women and girls in need of a night's lodgings could go. Formerly they were taken at the White Ribbon Coffee Tavern on East Road but this has stopped. Now the council have purchased a house for the purpose and plans for conversion are underway 14 06 26 p4 CIP

1914 09 04
The presence of the military has greatly improved the trade prospects of Cambridge and there is no immediate fear of unemployment. The end of the Long Vacation is always a slack time but at the moment the town is busier than usual. The problems of lodging house keepers may be overcome by the billeting of officers and the presence of relatives of the men in the hospitals. But they may no get the rent usually paid by undergraduates 14 09 04 p

1920

1922 02 01
Death of Mrs Moyes, proprietor of Lion Hotel; she made each guest personally welcome & under her management Lion grew famous, particularly as commercial hotel & headquarters of sports & athletics teams; had started at the Bath where her menus for public dinners were talk of county & smoking concerts famous 22 02 01d [3.26]

1923
Garden House converted from private house into hotel [8.5]

1926 03 11
The Bankruptcy court was told a woman had taken the Glengarry Hotel, Regent Street, Cambridge, in January 1921. It was entirely a licensed University lodging house for the students of Downing college only and continued so until 1924. It had not been successful owing to the college being unable to fill all the rooms. Subsequently she converted it into a private commercial hotel and made a profit of about £2 a week. The major part of the deficiency arose while it was a lodging house 26 03 13

1929 10 19
With the passing of Mrs Eliza Jane Mason of the Livingstone Hotel, Petty Cury, Cambridge has lost a prominent member of the restaurant business. She commenced business with a university lodging house on Market Hill which became known as 'Masons' and was converted into a restaurant. It was largely used by cadets and catered for the officers stationed here during the Great War. Almost the first Belgian wounded soldiers were billeted there and she acted as a sort of nursing mother to them. Her next move was to Sadd's before she bought the Livingstone Hotel which was then only a coffee house. It is now one of the best commercial hotels in Cambridge. She also built the Rendezvous, Magrath Avenue as a skating rink in 1909. 29 10 19

1930

1930 07 05
The policy of building more rooms in college and drawing in as many men from the lodging houses is creating a serious outlook for the lodging-house keepers. Many have been told their rooms will not be required next term. If the University cannot continue to utilise services which came into existence to serve their needs some then other employment will be needed. If the University ceases to provide adequate support Cambridge will have no alternative but to seek other means of livelihood. We will be loath to see the town industrialised but people must live. 30 07 05b

1930 07 17
A stockbroker's wife told the court that she had stayed at the University Arms; in the morning she threw her pink satin pyjamas on the floor and left her door open when she went out. That night when she returned to her room after a ball she found the bed had been turned down but the pyjamas were gone. They had cost £7 17s 6d the year before and had scarcely been worn. Other guests had also lost their pyjamas and nightgowns. But the judge said she was negligent in not closing her bedroom door. 30 07 17 d-f

1931 12 16
Crown Hotel, Hills Road renovated [2.8]

1933 02 03
Councillors heard that a common lodging house on Newmarket Road accommodated 16 or 17 lodgers without any sort of bathroom. But none of the users had asked for one. There were three girls sleeping in a small room separated only by a narrow wall from a room in which 15 men slept. This was not right: the language in a common lodging house was not always what it should be. It was time the council consider setting up a municipal lodging house for women as well as men. 33 02 03a

1933 07 26
The reputation which Cambridge enjoys as the home of many women prominent in public life has been enhanced by the appointment of a new secretary of the University Lodging Houses Syndicate. Miss Mary Kennett is the daughter of the late Professor of Hebrew. She trained at Guy's Hospital and her knowledge of hygiene will be valuable when she inspects the houses licensed to accommodate undergraduates. 33 07 26

1934 03 06
The proprietor of the Garden House Hotel proposed to make alterations and additions and wanted to acquire a portion of Coe Fen lying in front of Coe Fen Terrace, an annexe to the hotel, to add to the gardens. There was a public footpath across it which would have to be diverted. He was the owner of the piece of land opposite the Ladies Bathing Place which would be added to the common in exchange for the land he wanted. Councillors agreed to the scheme. 34 03 06

1934 08 16
Ye Olde Castle Hotel in St Andrew's Street was devastated by fire. Every fireman and policeman was called from other duties as smoke billowed from the gabled windows leaving people gasping at its pungency. Staff and volunteers busied themselves removing furniture. The Hotel ranked as one of the oldest inns in Cambridge, dating back to the 13th century. It was reconstructed about 1620 and the last extensive additions were in 1891. It is doubted whether it will be possible to restore the damaged parts of this historic building. 34 08 16 [1.2, 1.13] (Regal Cinema built on site) [1.3,1.11,2.14]

1935 04 10
The Livingstone Hotel had been carried on in Sidney Street for 30 years. Under street widening proposals they would be left with the second, third and fourth floors which they could not get at at all. It was used by travellers who could not afford more expensive hotels. 35 04 10 & a, 35 04 11

1935 12 31
Castle Hotel's demolition to make way for cinema – photo – 35 12 31

1936 02 04
Mrs A.A. Moyes' charming, pleasant nature was well-known to countless visitors to the Lion Hotel in Petty Cury hotel. Her memory was outstanding: many commercial travellers recall how she could take up a conversation practically where it had been left off, even after many months. Undergraduates had the greatest respect: even during the liveliest of moments she was able to quell impending trouble without outside assistance. She had the present glass roof put above the former courtyard, which was used for traffic up to 1907. Now the family have severed their links with the hotel after over 80 years. 36 02 04c

1936 02 22
A new Blue Boar hotel, refined and distinctive yet homely has been taking shape in Trinity Street. A new Georgian cornice and canopy has been installed with flood-lighting producing a beautiful effect. Internally structural alterations, redecoration and refurbishing make the hotel a place of comfort and restful beauty with every modern refinement to ensure the enjoyment of residents who have a choice of gas, coal or electric fires in the bedrooms. The main lounge was originally a cobblestone yard into which coaches were driven. It was covered in in 1900 36 02 21 advert – 36 02 22a

1937 04 01
Airport Hotel approved – 37 04 01a & b

1939 05 12
Harry Pink Lion Hotel porter 28 years also had charge of the stock rooms. He went to the hotel in 1911 as "buttons," and except for the war when he joined the 203rd Field Company of the Royal Engineers, remained a member of the staff. 39 05 12

1939 09 18
The University Arms pleaded guilty to failing to obscure lights in the hotel and preventing them being visible outside the building. Mr Bradford, the manager, said he had 400 windows and 40 skylights. It had been impossible to screen all these within 36 hours of war being declared. The skylight in the kitchen took four men three days to screen properly. Four of the six hotel porters who would have done the work had been called up and although they'd bought dark blinds some light shone through little cracks. They'd also put notices in each room asking visitors not to open the windows until they had put the lights out. 39 09 18 & a

1940

1943
Trust House Forte acquire Blue Boar Hotel [9.15]

1944 04 03
YWCA Hostel in Lensfield Road opened – two roomy houses standing side by side; the old hostel in Rose Crescent outgrown; many hundreds had stayed in earlier years of the war. Can now accommodate65 service women; 1,400, including Land Army have stayed. 44 04 03

1949 12 21
A link with nineteenth-century Cambridge was broken last week when 79 year-old William ("Little John") Parish died suddenly. "Little John" – so called because he was barely five-foot tall – was a waiter at the Lion Hotel for 50 years. He was head waiter to two exclusive University dining clubs, the True Blue Club and the Beef Steak Club, which were both limited to a membership of five. Both clubs met every term at the Lion Hotel with members of the True Blue Club wearing powdered wigs, blue knee breeches and buckled shoes and Beef Steak members black coats and tails with silver buttons and buff waistcoats 49 12 21

1950

1952 06 29
Mr W. Levett (just "William" to everyone at Cambridge's Lion Hotel) recalled some of the dinners he had served there over the last 50 years. There was a special private party for Prince Albert while he was up at Trinity and his list of Very Important Diners ranged from barons to Sultans and Prime Ministers. "I've served most of them … Balfour, Asquith, Lloyd George (he used to live here almost), Baldwin – and Churchill". Undergraduate members of renowned clubs like the Beef Steak, True Blue, Caledonian and Carlton have dined there. "Twelve to 15 courses we used to carry, and they took two-and-a-half hours to serve. And, mind you, nothing less than a magnum for the table". He is a cheerful, energetic little man and it would be a good idea if the hotel management entertained "William" to dinner and let someone wait on him – just for a change.

1956 10 06

The Cambridge lodging-house landlady is part of the education of every young man who comes to study at the University. She is part-mother, part-landlady & part-disciplinarian who must maintain a difficult blend of deference and firmness in dealing with her young gentlemen. He is told how much rent he must pay, that he pays extra for a piano, hot water for his bath or a scuttleful of coal. But unless lodgings are peaceful and conformable men will not study well. 56 10 06a & b

1958 02 15
Fire seriously damaged the Garden House hotel; part of the roof and several bedrooms were affected. Hundreds of people lined the banks of the Granta watching while thick white smoke gushed from under the roof. But within an hour Angela Parfitt and her 'groom Michael Lean were celebrating their wedding reception there. 58 02 15 58 02 17 [3.7]

1958 06 06
Six members of the Order of the Irish Christian Brothers lived together in a Victorian house in Hills Road. There was a retired teacher in charge, a practically bed-ridden man, one who acted as a general factotum, one who did the cooking and two members they were sending to the Technical School and University. The house closed in the vacation. The Valuation Panel decided it was not a hostel but a private house, which reduced their rating assessment. 58 06 06

1958 12 12
Central Hotel: Kings college announce plans for demolition, great opposition [3.9,3.14]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 03 24
Central Hotel, Peas Hill demolished after great controversy, (opens as hostel 1962) [3.15,3.16]

1960 04 05
'Diggings' are in short supply in Cambridge. Over the last 15 years the temporary accommodation problem has gone from bad to worse, and unless one really strikes it lucky a furnished flat or a room in a 'middle class' lodging house with meals provided is right out of the question. There is a natural hostility towards children and most landladies just have not got the room for complete families. They prefer to let rooms to students who only want a bed for the night. Legislation has done little to ease matters and the small investor has practically disappeared from the market. It is now only economically worthwhile for the man who buys whole houses to convert them into flats. 60 04 05

1961 07
Lion purchased July 1961 by Jack Cotton & Chas Clore for City Centre properties; largest single property transaction in Cambridge; by 1964 hotel closed & just bars open [446.16.3]

1962 08 16
Gonville Place Hotel sold 62 08 14

1963 01 02
Royal Cambridge acquired by Garden House Hotel [8.3]

1963 02 23
Lion hotel closes next month [8.2]

1965 01 15
Royal Hotel modernisation progress – 65 01 15a

1965 12 21
University Arms 200 bed extension opens, has seen removal of stone pillars on Regent St [8.4]

1966 11 04
Bene't Hostel, Cambridge's only hostel for girls closes; has been on verge of bankruptcy for much of its 23 year history; gave shelter to women stranded in city; was used by women teachers and social workers as well as girls sent by welfare organisations; now accommodation easier to rent – 66 11 04

1968 04 15
De Vere apply to build "biggest hotel in East Anglia" on Huntingdon Road; becomes instead one of biggest planning wrangles when Ministry rejects scheme, backs down, calls new inquiry, delays announcement; De Vere changes plans, gets permission, abandons scheme, 1973 [8.6,8.10]

1969 05 02
Lion Hotel demolition under way [10.12]

1969 10 10
Royal Cambridge Hotel fire – 69 10 10

1969 12 04
Airport Hotel sold to Marshall's for hostel; built by Star Brewery about twenty years ago 69 12 04

1970

1970 01 15
Gonville Hotel planned to grow into one of city's biggest with rooms up from 20 to 100 – 70 01 15a

1970 02 14
Garden House Riot against Greek holiday promotion – 70 02 14, 14a, 14b

1970 06 10
De Vere granted permission for hotel and office block at Pound Hill – but will be inquiry – 70 06 10

1970 08 01
Suffolk House private hotel converted from house [10.3]

1971 01 12
"City hotels inadequate" headline [8.11]

1971 03 30
Garden House Hotel launches £1M expansion – 71 03 30 [8.12]

1971 04 16

De Vere Hotel plans rejected by Government – 71 04 16b

1972 04 24
Two middle-aged women who jumped from a first-floor window into the Garden House hotel's back
gardens to escape the fire were later found by a Cambridge milkman wandering along Fen Causeway in their nightclothes. A friend said "The women looked like refugees with smoke-blackened hands and faces. They had walked across Coe Fen. The milkman stopped his float and asked if he could help them". Miss Sarah Wilhelm from Ohio said she was woken by a burning smell. She saw the room starting to fill up with smoke and saw the paint on the inside of the door turning brown. She jumped from the window and the other lady followed 72 04 24. Two die [1.15,8.13]

1972 04 27
Trust House plans for hotel in Trumpington Road blocked 74 02 27

1972 07 05
"Need 500 extra hotel beds" [8.15]

1972 08 24
It has been an irritating summer for the hundreds of visitors to Cambridge who have been forced to scour the surrounding countryside for hotel rooms. Cambridge has always had a notorious reputation for being unable to accommodate all the summer visitors. This year the situation was made worse by the Garden House Hotel fire in April which left the city the poorer by 75 bedrooms. Help is already on the way. The Garden House Hotel is being rebuilt; the Gonville Hotel will open again after alterations and work has started on a 100- bedroom hotel at Bar Hill. Whitbread have outline planning permission to build a 60-bedroom motel extension at the Red Lion Hotel, Trumpington and De Vere Hotels are awaiting the outcome of the inquiry into their application to build a 200-bedroom hotel on Castle Hill 72 08 24

1972 10 28
New fire regulations introduced; Glengarry Hotel to close [8.16]

1973 02 19
Gonville Hotel reopens after £400,000 improvements [8.18]

1973 07 13
Garden House reopens after £2M rebuilding, 16 months after fire [8.20]

1973 07 26
Inquiry into Trust House Forte plans for hotel on corner Trumpington Road and Brooklands Avenue 73 07 26

1973 09 04
De Vere's have been given final planning permission to go ahead with their plans to build a £2 million-plus hotel at the Huntingdon Road - Mount Pleasant junction, Cambridge - almost five years after the project was first proposed. But the London-based company are not saying yet when they intend to start building on the derelict site overlooking one of the city's busiest road junctions. It was at the beginning of 1969 that De Vere Hotels and Restaurants Ltd submitted their original plans for the hotel 73 09 04

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1973 10 25
De Vere have finally abandoned their plans to build a 5-star 200-bedroom hotel at Cambridge's Mount Pleasant - Huntingdon Road junction. Instead the company have suggested to planners that the site could be used for a four-storey block of residential flats with a restaurant, showrooms, offices and a bank included in the development. The company say it is "no longer economically viable" to go ahead with the hotel project which has been on the stocks for four years. It is being suggested that the originally estimated building costs of around £2 million has now risen to about £3.8 million 73 10 25

1974 05 10
The placing of the Garden House Hotel into the hands of a receiver-manager illustrates all too clearly the fine line between success or failure in business plans. At one moment the £2 million scheme was all go, and even at an interest rate of 10½ %, would have been viable for the family business. But then, almost overnight, rocketing interest rates killed off all hopes of doing anything other than paying a loan. Even though the hotel is making a profit on a day-to-day basis they could not contemplate it. To pay off a bank overdraft accrued since the fire that gutted the original buildings two years ago, they had to expand and create a higher turnover 74 05 10

1974 10 24
Great Northern hotel closed over a year ago due to fire regulations [9.4]

1974 11 08
Trust House Forte plans for hotel Trumpington Road corner Brooklands Avenue approved, (they drop scheme 1975 & later build at Impington) [8.14, 9.1, 9.9]

1975 08 05
Plan for 100 bed hotel at Brookside rejected [9.5]

1976 11 02
The signing of a £1 million sales contract for the Garden House Hotel in Cambridge marks the end of speculation and rumour about its future. Essentially a family business established in 1910, the hotel hit world headlines in 1970 when for five hours it was the scene of some of the worst violence Cambridge has ever experienced. About 500 students besieged the hotel, hurling bricks and abuse as a protest against the Colonel’s regime in Greece and caused £2,000 damage. Two years later fire gutted the premises killing two guests. This disaster led to financial trouble and the appointment of a receiver-manager in May 1974 76 11 02

1977 11 30
Arundel Hotel opens: A new hotel opens in Cambridge this week - and with 33 bedrooms it becomes the fourth largest in the city. The new Arundel House Hotel is a complex of red brick houses on Chesterton Road overlooking the River and Jesus Green. The development follows the purchase of number 61 Chesterton Road last year and its conversion into a 12-bedroomed hotel. Now John Norfolk has converted two other adjacent properties he owns - from flats and bedsitters to an integrated hotel complex. "With house prices as they are now it is virtually impossible to charge a proper rent related to these new values", he said. "The transition of Chesterton Road into a hotel was the obvious answer to get a proper return" 77 11 30 [8.17]

1979 10 22
Garden House announces £2M expansion plans [9.3]

1980

1980 09 08
Regent House hotel (part including old Glengarry) opens [9.7]

1980 11 27
Plan for 150 bed hotel Chaucer Road (rejected by Dons 81 02 11) [9.8]

1981 09 12
Lion Yard Hotel plan 81 09 12

1982 05 07
Planners fear that the traditional Cambridge landlady is an endangered species, as more and more colleges press to change their family lodging houses into student hostels or 'outside staircases'. But Mrs Winifred Phillips who runs a lodging house for 24 undergraduates says students think they can cope, but they can't. They come here to study and want to enjoy themselves in what time they have to spare, not worry about the domestic side of life. Her grandmother ran a lodging house, as did two aunts; and her father, husband and son have all been college porters. 82 05 07a & b

1982 10 07
There are several types of student seeking landladies. If you are prepared to cook an evening meal for a language student – and all meals at weekend – then the Davis School would pay £38 a week. CCAT students who just want a room pay £17 a week, without heating. The greatest shortage is in independent provision for postgraduates. The ideal is a terraced house housing three and with shared kitchen. They would pay about £18 rent each and meet their own heating and hot water bills. 82 10 07

1983 01 13
Garden House doubles in size [9.11]

1983 01 28
Trust House Forte deny closure of Blue Boar when their new hotel opens at Impington in July; they had acquired it in 1943 and recently modernised and refurbished 93 01 28

1983 06 28
Centennial Hotel opens Hills Road, former Guest Houses knocked together [9.12]

1984 05 15
Trust House Forte open new hotel at Impington 84 05 15

1984 10 22
Garden House fire in linen room, 100 evacuated [9.14]

1984 12 24
Garden House Hotel changes hands 84 12 24

1985 12 11
Regent Hotel – formerly Glengarry – refurbished – 85 12 11c [9.18]

1986 02 25

Plans for new hotel on Lion Yard site announced, Holiday Inns wins competition for site 86 03 11 [9.19,10.1]]

1986 04 15
The historic Blue Boar Hotel in Cambridge closes forever on Saturday after 300 years. But the management is making sure they go out with more than a whimper. Food prices will be slashed, drinks sold at a discount and the customer who buy's the bar's last drink will be given a bottle of champagne. Trinity College is to build student rooms, a lecture theatre, wine bar and four shops on the site. The hotel's distinctive blue-and-white frontage with its shutters will be retained as will the graceful canopy that had to be repaired after being damaged by lorries. The famous Westmorland stone blue boar, which hangs in the reception room will be also incorporated into the new design 86 04 15a. To be converted by Trinity College for student accommodation [10.2] Blue Boar hotel feature on closure – 86 04 15b & c

1986 08 01
One of Cambridge's better-known private hotels, the Suffolk House in Milton Road, is for sale at £250,000. The main structure was built in about 1930 by a Cambridge doctor and later owned by a professor of botany who stocked the garden with many kinds of trees and shrub. Outbuildings include a summer house and two-bedroomed timber chalet for the owners' occupation. It was converted from a private house in 1970 and is primarily used by business clients connected with Pye group of companies and firms on the Science Park 86 08 01a

1987 01 10
One of Cambridge's top hotels, the Garden House, is planning a £3 million expansion. Luxury apartments and 16 hotel rooms are proposed as well as a sophisticated leisure complex including swimming pool, sauna, gymnasium and health-food snack bar. Penthouse suites will be built along the River Cam front. The 117-room hotel has to compete with the Post House at Impington and the Moat House at Bar Hill while a new hotel is planned for Downing Street 87 01 10b

1987 12 03
A major multi-million-pound expansion scheme for the Garden House Hotel has been thrown out by planners who fear it would encroach on 'sacrosanct' land. Opponents had complained the proposals would destroy the open character of Sheeps Green and Coe Fen. Others were worried about traffic congestion. The planning officer said the original Garden House had grown into a hotel served from narrow streets. "It would be quite clearly wrong to extend further with urban scale development into a tongue of land between two critical open pieces of land", he said. 87 12 03

1988 11 15
The prestigious Garden House Hotel has been taken over by Queens Moat Houses, the first national chain to gain a foothold in the city. Its main competitor, the four-star University Arms is owned by the Bradford Family while the Ridgeon family own the Gonville and Arundel House belongs to Major John Norfolk. The Garden House was first opened in 1922 but has had an unsettled time with five different owners in the last 20 years. In 1970 it was damaged during the 'Garden House Riot' and two years later gutted by a fire. It reopened in 1973 and has since been extended. Now it will be redecorated 88 11 15

1989 01 10
The University Arms Hotel has been sold to the De Vere chain which owns 30 luxury hotels across the country. They plan to refurbish the 115-bed four-star hotel. Built as a coach house in 1830, the University Arms was acquired by Marcus Bradford in 1891. The 160 staff will be

retained. De Vere hoped to build a hotel in Cambridge several years ago and bought a site in Mount Pleasant, but the scheme fell through. 89 01 10

1989 01 12
The University Arms Hotel has been owned by the Bradford family for almost a century and its sale marks the end of an era. Opened in 1834, the original hotel was a three-storey building with just 15 bedrooms. It was bought by Marcus Bradford in 1891 and rebuilt, with a further extension in 1925, then substantially modernised in the 1960s and 70s. It was the first hotel in Cambridge to install electric lighting, and the first heating system was installed in 1900 when there was also 'telephonic communication with all parts of the United Kingdom'. Today it has 115 bedrooms, a restaurant for up to 250 people, several bars and conference rooms. 89 01 12b

1989 09 08
Garden House Hotel's expansion plans include a glass-walled swimming and leisure centre with pool, squash court, saunas and solaria. There would be an extension housing 16 bedrooms, each of which would have a balcony, together with six two-bedroom apartments with kitchens, designed for longer-stay residents such as senior managers or academics. These will run along the east bank of the River Cam and be screened by trees. In addition there will be bed-sitters for staff and a two-storey car park. This would complete the hotel's business plan. But there have been criticism from preservationists. 87 11 16a Garden House Hotel expansion approved ¢CEN 8.9.88

1990 10 11
Garden House Hotel taken over from Queens Moat House group by Paul Breen, plans leisure complex 90 10 11a

Expresso coffee machine, Dorothy café, 1955 *110.50*

c.27.4 : Cafes & Restaurants

1899 08 23
Albert Hart applied for a licence for 'The Sirdar', Market St, Cambridge. The place had been largely patronised but he laboured under a disadvantage of not being able to provide his customers with spirits or beers. The fashion of drinking wine in the middle of the day had been discountenanced for many years past by doctors and everybody that went to a place for lunch required spirits or soda water. He had to send out for such drinks to some public house in the vicinity. The money had to be extracted from the customer who had to wait until his refreshments were brought to him through the street. That was not an advantage to the liquor itself, especially with the dust flying about and the intense heat of the sun 1899 08 23

1900

1907 02 02
All over the country old Pittites offer sighs of relief at the comparatively small amount of damage caused to the Pitt Club, whose dining room was burnt out. The committee is to be congratulated on the speed with which it made new arrangements for dining, and the fortitude of the cook, who sent out breakfast on Saturday morning from a kitchen several inches deep in freezing water, deserves to be recorded in letters of gold and hung up in every kitchen. 07 02 02

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1907 05 18
Dinner for the ordinary, healthy undergraduate is an event of importance. But students at one of the largest colleges trooped into the dining hall, bowed their heads while grace was said, and then to the utter astonishment of the senior members, rose and without a word solemnly walked out. The action was a protest against the kitchen management: there has been dissatisfaction not so much with the quality of the food, but with the quantity and the manner in which it has been served. The protest has caused an improvement in the cuisine. 07 05 18

1908 05 02
Three terms ago the undergraduates of Caius College indulged in a strike against the kitchen arrangements. They refused to eat what was provided – but still had to pay for what they would not eat. Their example was infectious and spread to Trinity. But there they meals have now returned to their old price and standard – they are as exorbitant as they are disgusting. The present arrangements present all the worse features of the less cultured American municipalities. But whoever met an undergraduate who didn't grumble about 'Hall' 08 05 02d

1910

1917 06 20
First Cambridge War Kitchen on corner of Church Street opened; to promote economy by cooking on a large scale and enabling people to purchase food at small prices – 17 06 20b, photo 17 06 27c

1918 12 25
Communal Kitchen.—the Mayor opened a new communal kitchen at Mill Road, Cambridge, last week. Later he and Councillor Thompson (treasurer) partook of the first meal 18 12 25 CIPof

1919 08 06
Refreshment hut on Parker's Piece proposed; should acquire an army hut and place at back of University Arms – debate – 19 08 06f

1920

1920 12 09
Mill Road communal kitchen a failure, unlike others – CDN 20 12 09

1920 12 15
Four National Kitchens bill presented council; lost £200 – Ch 20 12 15

1927 10 29
The fascinating experience of lunching in Cambridge in the atmosphere of our Elizabethan forefathers is made possible by the opening of new rooms at Messrs Matthew's Café in Trinity Street. They have acquired the two upper storeys of the building & turned rooms which were formerly part of a lodging house into a charming medieval retreat. The original beams and window frames remain as well as some beautiful old carvings and the rooms have been furnished in the style of the period, pains having been taken to securer faithful reproductions even down to lamps and pewter pots. 27 10 29

1929 01 17
Competition in the tea-shop line is terrific, Cambridge is stiff with them, a court was told. Two ladies had taken the tenancy of 11 St John's Street in 1923 and increased the takings with a large

number of resident customers as well as undergraduates. They made everything they sold except for sweets and cigarettes & paid themselves between £60 and £80 a year out of the takings. Trinity College said if the premises could not be used as a tea shop the rental value would drop from £120 down to £85 as it was in a bad position for an ordinary retail business 29 01 17

1929 04 27
Cambridge to have a modern caravanserie matched the modern splendours of Oxford St & Regent street where a thousand people may dine without strain on the service & dance too if they are so minded, a place of dignity & comfort & of surpassing resource. The old Dorothy cafe is to disappear - not so very old though as a modern restaurant - & a building of 3 storeys spanning space between Sidney St & Hobson street. Ground floor entrance Sidney St is shop & showroom & on eastern side a dining hall or restaurant. Principal staircase to first floor will be from hall at Hobson street entrance & access to a dance hall with black hornbeam floor on springs. This accommodation for 320 diners at a public banquet but specially prepared for dancing for 450 at once. At western end another dining hall. Another on second floor, seat 80, suitable private dinner of clubs & organisations. perhaps this will be the oak room which intention of Hawkins to decorate; also roof garden looking across to gardens of Christ's college. Nags Head inn will not disappear but be given place in the basement. Will take 18 months but Hobson St side will be completed before start made with Sidney St front to ensure restaurant open throughout

1930

1930 10 30
A labourer engaged in excavation work at the new Dorothy Café was killed, and another seriously injured. The men, who were employed by Coulson and Sons, were clearing the old brickwork and masonry under Hobson's Passage when a considerable mass of brickwork gave way without warning and they were smothered in the ruins. The ambulance was sent for and a crowd quickly gathered. The police had some difficulty in controlling the traffic, owing to its density at one time. 30 10 30d

1931
Health Food Stores of Rose Crescent was ahead of its time when it started under the name of Sandwiches and Health Food in Green Street in 1931. The brainchild of an Australian, Clarence Dowell and his wife, who worked in the kitchen making sandwiches, it introduced many Cambridge people to the delights of nut rissoles and vegetarian food. 88 06 09c

1931 04 03
G.P. Hawkins opened the first tea shop in Cambridge at the corner of Sussex Street in 1900. It could hold 10 people with a waitress & two assistants. As adjoining space became available the premises were enlarged. Today the Dorothy Café can accommodate 2,000 and there is no brand of catering which cannot be undertaken. In 1904 he erected a bakery with two ovens at the side of Midsummer Common; today with seven ovens working six days a week he produces about 200,000 loaves. It also manufactures a ton of ice a day plus sufficient ice cream to supply the entire needs of Cambridge. 31 04 03a

1931 07 15
Dorothy cafe reopens after redevelopment; barrel roof of Banquet Hall & vaulted ceilings of restaurant are unique; part of basement Prince of Wales hotel; first floor restaurant where Percy Cowell & his players are daily delighting a host of people; shop sells confectionery, sweets & cold cooked meats, fruit, flowers ... on Sundays 5,000 pass through cafe, shop & restaurant; in

Oak room some of original oak panelling from old building preserved; two smaller rooms known-as Hobson room & Cromwell room Jul 1931 [1.28] [17]

1931 12 11
G.P. Hawkins occupied a unique place in Cambridge life. Few men are twice Mayor and play such a part in the political and business life of the town. He opened Cambridge's first tea shop and later the Dorothy Café which can easily accommodate 2,000 people at one time. In the bakehouse in Parsonage Street tributes fell like water from the lips of the employees and 1,400 crowded into the church for his funeral. 31 12 11f

1932 05 21
Soon to have Chinese restaurant? [1.10]

1934 06 19
An agreement has been reached in the long-running dispute over the rebuilding of the Dorothy Café in Sidney Street. In spite of the conflict over details Messrs G.P. Hawkins now have a really beautiful, modern and commodious building that has earned praise from the Cambridge Preservation Society and the Illumination Congress while the builders are no longer under any imputation of incompetence 34 06 19

1936 03 21
Albany coffee shop St Mary's Passage notes; frontage between St Mary's Passage and St Edward's Passage sold - 36 03 21b

1936 12 09
The Cambridge Milk Bar opened on Market Hill where all the shakes and soups can be purchased at the standard price of four pence. You have only to visit it once to become an addict. The first milk bar opened in Fleet Street two years ago and they have spread rapidly attracting business men, workmen and shoppers. In cold weather what could be more sustaining that a bowl of soup made with milk while in summer a cold milk shake flavoured with fresh fruit syrups, made 'crisp' with cream and whipped is a creamy delight 36 12 09b

1937 10 06
The famous Festival Grill has been reborn. Connoisseurs of good food and good wine need no longer journey to Newmarket Road as the Grill has opened in more commodious premises at the corner of Bene't Street and King's Parade. It has a new name, the Festival Restaurant with a new sherry and oyster bar which together with the restaurant under the direction of Toni, is first-class in every respect. Its delightful colour scheme of red, black and cream ensures the rooms are bright but not garish and it will become one of the best-known rendezvous. 37 10 06a

1937 12 13
The late Professor of Mineralogy, Arthur Hutchinson, made his way entirely by his own ability. He was elected to a Fellowship at Pembroke and later Master. He did important research during the war in connection with gas masks He was a Director of the CDN and chairman of the Coffee House Association which ran a cafefor the use of cab-men in a passage beside the Guildhall until the recent redevelopment. The Cottage Home for Orphan Girls in Fitzwilliam Road was a charity near his heart as was the Evelyn Hospital 37 12 13a

1939 08 18
Alphonse Felex Lienard, better known as "Toni", proprietor of the Festival Grill, on King's Parade received fatal injuries in a car crash. 39 08 18 CIPof

1940

1942 03 12
Council take over Pitt Club as British Restaurant – detailed review 42 03 12

1946 12 11
British Restaurant at Pitt Club may transfer for Old Post Office – 46 12 11

1947 01 22
Propose adapt old Post Office to replace Pitt Club as British Restaurant, p4

1947 12 08
Further discussion with the Ministry of Food was essential in the problem of undergraduate rations, a Cambridge University officer said. "Undergraduates do not get enough on their rations and their main subsidiary food has been potatoes and bread. Certain colleges in Cambridge laid in a store of potatoes and should get through the winter but in other colleges who rely on week-by-week purchases there will be a very real hardship". A recent survey by "Varsity" shows that the charges for meals vary per day in the colleges from 6s 6d to 4s.3d - 47 12 08

1949 05 13
A director of the firm of Findlater, Mackie and Todd, brewers, applied to turn the premises known as the Festival Grill, King's Parade, Cambridge, into fully licensed premises with meals provided. In April 1946 he had acquired the business of the Hope Inn, Bene't street, the ground floor of which was used as an ordinary bar, whilst the first floor was converted into two wine parlours. These had become very popular but attracted a totally different type of clientele from the ground floor bar c49 05 11

1950

1950 02 11
Cambridge University & Town Coffee Palace Company wound up; founded 1860s to attract custom from gin palaces & supply needs of artisans etc. At one time had several premises but now only Central Hotel left [1.22]

1951 01 28
Scotch Hoose gets licence, founded by Cambridge graduate concerned about limited means of students - plain well-cooked food at nominal price [1.21]

1951 06 29
The new Civic mobile canteen was officially opened by Ald W.J. Briggs, chairman of the Cambridge Communal Feeding Committee. The brand new, beautifully equipped caravan will be a great asset to the city as a whole, and even more so to the people who use the Drummer Street bus station. It replaces the old stall which used to be there. The whole thing is in charge of the City Catering Officer, Mrs C. Howson. It is expected to be open from 8.30am to 10pm on week-days and from 2pm to 9pm on Sundays 51 06 29

1951 09 22
The retirement of Mr A.V. Williams after nearly 25 years' service with Messrs G.P. Hawkins means a loss of a familiar figure at the Dorothy Café. He has waited upon many celebrities, including film and radio stars Freddie Grisewood, Wilfred Pickles, Jessie Matthews, Richard

Murdoch and Kenneth Horne and Don Bradman's Australian Cricket Team in 1938. A pre-war recollection is of Sir Oswald Mosley and William Joyce (remembered later as "Lord Haw Haw" on the German radio). On one occasion Joyce deputised as a Fascist meeting for Mosley, whom the Proctors had advised not to come to Cambridge, and the basement at the Dorothy was filled with police – just in case!

1952 04 17
Cambridge Trades Council strongly objected to the closing of Romsey Municipal Restaurant. It will deny a good mid-day meal to many old people & working class men could not afford to go into places in Cambridge and pay high prices for meals. Transport workers could not get a meal if the facility were taken away. The profit of the combined restaurants is more than enough to cover losses and as municipal restaurants are a public service and not run for profit they urged the continuation of the service in Romsey

1952 11 17
Mr George Hawkins, who has been the sole owner of G.P. Hawkins Ltd has announced that he has disposed of his entire shareholding to the Cambridge Co-operative Society. The firm was founded in 1838 in Fitzroy Street, which is still one of their shops. At the beginning of the century the late Mr G.P. Hawkins opened a shop and café in Sidney Street. In 1929 these premises and the adjoining site were extensively developed resulting in the opening in 1931 of 'The Dorothy' as it stands today. 52 11 17

1952 11 22
Mr George Hawkins has disposed of his holdings in the firm of G.P. Hawkins Ltd to the Cambridge Co-operative Society and a new company has been formed. But he has insisted that 'The Dorothy' will continue on the same lines as in the past and did not agree to the change-over until given that assurance. Running a catering establishment of this size is no easy task, made greater during the war when he was also the Regional Bread Officer for the Ministry of Food. 52 11 22

1954 08 27
Cambridge Civic Restaurant has a new cafeteria counter which keeps food clean and will save labour. Mrs C. Howsen, the catering manager, said there is anti-sneeze glass which protects the food from germs and infra-red lamps not only heat the plates but keep the food warm. There is also a refrigerator top that makes its own snow and maintains the salads and ice cream at a low degree. The added cupboard room for plates helps the staff as they can store the made-up plates under the counter instead of having to leave them in the ovens

1956 01 11
'The Coffee Anchor' down Laundress Lane is an innovation: the first licensed coffee bar in Cambridge. The new rooms, delightfully done out in contemporary style on the second floor overlooking the Cam, were opened by the President of the Cambridge University Boat Club with a flourishing swish of the magic machine that drew out the first official cup of hot coffee 56 01 11

1957 05 10
The coffee habit has grown up in the last ten years out of the need which young people have to talk without interruption. Beer-drinking is too absorbing an occupation and the tankard has to be refilled. But a single cup of coffee will last a whole night. One public house has converted two former billiard rooms, where everything is provided from the serenity of the shaded lights to the

stimulus of Espresso Coffee. People come from places as far apart as Moscow and Addis Ababa, Hong Kong and Puerto Rico. 57 05 10b

1957 10 15
Firemen called to the Dorothy Café took one look at the amount of smoke pouring from the upper floor windows and immediately sent for reinforcements. The fire started under a sideboard in the second floor Oak Room and flames spread up the walls to the ceiling, damaging the floor of the Cromwell Room above. But business carried on as usual and management say they will honour all obligations. The usual dances will be held. 57 10 15a [2.6]

1958 03 08
The "Samba" Restaurant in Fitzroy Street applied for a liquor licence. There had never been a restaurant in the area serving meals like the ones they offered: on a busy day as many as 90 lunches were served and the evening trade was building up. But the landlord of the Hopbine in Fair Street said he served 40 three-course meals a day and it would hit his trade. 58 03 08b

1958 03 28
The Koh-i-Noor restaurant has been in St John's Street since 1936, the owner, Krishna Vir, told magistrates. Now they wanted a licence to sell beer and cider. They provided 700 meals a week and to send out for drinks from the Mitre or Baron of Beef took too much time. Dr Glyn Daniel, a Fellow of St John's College, said he occasionally visited and would like to be able to get a drink of beer 'when the curries are very hot'. 58 03 28

1958 06 28
Kinema cafe allowed Juke box [3.8]

1959 04 15
'Milkmaid' new milk and cheese bar, Market Hill – 59 04 15 [3.11]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 04 07
The owner of the Kinema Café in Mill Road said that when he took it over in 1957 he tried to make it attractive and spent a great deal of money on putting it in order. At first he deterred teenagers by taking out the automatic phonograph and tried to attract the student trade by dressing up the tables with white cloths and menu card. But this failed. The only clients he could draw were teenagers, 85 per cent of the sales were of tobacco and the rest cups of tea. 60 04 07

1961 04 14
Cambridge Civic Restaurant produces over 1,000 meals a day either for consumption in its spacious contemporary dining room or for the Drummer Street Mobile Canteen or W.V.S. Meals-on-Wheels service. The premises at the Old Post Office in Petty Cury may have to be demolished as part of the Lion Yard scheme but the Manageress, Mrs Gillett and her staff of 30, including Mrs E. Stubbings who has been vegetable cook for the last 18 years have become very attached to the restaurant and regard their customers as 'one big family' which needs feeding. 61 04 14b

1962 12 29
Turks Head restaurant plan [3.21]

1963 02
Alterations to Dorothy, including new ballroom [10.5]

1963 05
Alterations to Whim [10.8]

1963 09 18
Business at the Cambridge Civic Restaurant and Snack Bar has 'really been phenomenal' under the efforts of manageress, Mrs J. Gillettes and her staff, councillors heard. July takings in the restaurant reached £3,620 and those in the snack bar were also the highest on record. But overall profits are down because of the cost of repairs and improvements. The Parks Superintendent will be asked to supply shrubs to brighten 'the rather desolate spot' near the rear exit 63 09 18b

1963 10 12
Cambridge's night life is waking up! The opening of the Café Royale, Regent Street, is positive proof that Cambridge is not so dead after all. Now at last you can wine and dine amidst the splendour of majestic elegance. The only restaurant where you can enjoy English, French, Italian, Spanish, German and Oriental cuisine. Starlit dining room, bar, dancing, resident band. Cabaret presenting stars of radio, television and stage. – Advert 63 10 12a & b

1963 12 29
Reconstruction of Matthew's restaurant in Trinity Street would provide three modern restaurants – a separate steak bar, a wine and cheese bar and a chicken and ham restaurant. It would probably be called 'The Turk's Head Restaurant'. The British public should be able to have wine with their food and were becoming more educated to this fact because they 'occasionally escaped abroad', an Inquiry was told. Mr Bernard Matthews, managing director, said the firm was leasing the restaurant from Trinity College who were not opposing the application 62 12 29

1964
Turks Head fire badly damages bar [4.22]

1966 04 13
J. Lyons café redecorated in grey, used to be an airy place of white and gold – letter – 66 04 13c

1967 12 18
Turks Head fire, upper floor; third in four years – 67 12 18 [4.22]

1968 10 11
Civic Restaurant closure would be a calamity but site needed for Lion Yard – 68 10 11

1968 11 28
Civic Restaurant – detailed feature – 68 11 28

1969 10 03
Civic Restaurant to end when building demolished for Lion Yard, to be no new home – 69 10 03

1970

1972 03 07
Cambridge's Civic Restaurant, one of the last in the country, will be closed on March 30 after 30 years of service stretching back to the days of British Restaurants The old Post Office building,

where it is situated, is to be demolished to make way for the next stage of the Lion Yard development. The restaurant which for several years has served an average of 1,000 lunches a day has been there since 1947. Before then its previous home since 1942 had been the Pitt Club in Jesus Lane. It was then that it was known as a British restaurant, one of the thousands set up by the Government throughout the country to provide a communal feeding service during the war years. 72 03 07 [10.13, 10.16]

1972 03 30
Civic Restaurant shuts, p22

1972 04 20
The Dorothy in Cambridge has been sold. A new role for the city's best-known catering and dancing centre has not been decided by the new owners, but may include a "quality" department store. The Dorothy's present owners, G.P. Hawkins ltd said that parking restrictions have hit the firm's business. The Dorothy contains a supermarket, restaurant, large ballroom and other rooms used by many organisations for official functions CEN c 21.4.1972

1972 09 28
A collection of Cambridge nostalgia went under the hammer as the fixtures and fittings of the Old Dorothy restaurant and ballroom were auctioned. "The Dot" as it was affectionately known to Saturday night dancers down the years was a mecca of weddings, parties, dinners and thousands of personal memories. It was a child of the tea dance and potted palms of the 1920s and survived the Second World War to outlive nearly all its contemporaries. It closed its doors to the public in August and now its future is uncertain. Today it looked drab and tattered with mirrors, lights and other fittings ripped from the walls. About 150 attended the auction but many were only there to pay their last respects. 72 09 28

1972 10 13
At the Pagoda Chinese restaurant in Regent Street Cambridge there are over 100 items listed on the menu. The easy way out might have been to opt for Special Meal (£2.55 for two persons) but that sounds too much like totalitarianism so we sifted out portions of Sweet and Sour Pork (large 48p, small 42p), Chicken on bean sprouts (48p, 40p) and Sliced Beef, green pepper and Black Bean Sauce (55p). Fried rice (14p) went almost without saying. Cheefoo White Wine, bottled in the People's Republic was not worth the £2.15 it cost per bottle. After all this only a sense of duty led us to share a dish of lychees (25p). The meal cost us £6.57 for two, but if you did not fall for the "wine of the country" bit, it would be very good value 72 10 13

1973 03 12
Bath announces remodelling on lines of Turks Head; (to be 'McCawbers' 75 01 23) [8.19]

1974 03 14
Lyons restaurant in Cambridge city centre is to close at the end of the week. It opened first as a tea shop just over 42 years ago in Petty Cury. Lyons said that the restaurant was closing because of reorganisation within the group. A spokesman said: "The shop does not fit in with our plans for the future" 74 03 14

1975 11 22
Arts Roof Garden closed, p7

1977 02 02

The Dorothy Continental delicatessen on the corner of Sussex Street, Cambridge, ceased trading at the weekend. It was the last remaining part of the former Dorothy restaurant and ballroom, sold by G.P. Hawkins in 1972 for £850,000. The Dorothy contained a supermarket, restaurant, large ballroom and other rooms used by many organisations for official functions. It was taken over by the Co-op in 1952. The above-ground part of the Dorothy was acquired by Waring and Gillow, the London-based furniture chain, the remainder now forms the Henekey Tavern. When the Dorothy closed, Hawkins moved its outside catering section to the Alma Brewery site in Russell Street. G.P. Hawkins (Co-op) said new lease rent increase makes business unviable so Sidney Sussex lease to Wimpy International 77 02 02 [272.15]

1978 01 18
The Turk's Head, one of the largest eating places in central Cambridge, has served its last meals and drinks. Many of the 30 staff hope to be given the first chance in the project to turn the Plough and Harrow public house in Madingley Road into a restaurant. The Turk's Head opened in the 1960s as a restaurant where a range of inexpensive meals could be had across a wide price band but it was too close to another Berni Steak Bar around the corner in Rose Crescent. Now there are plans to turn it into two smaller restaurants together with a 'mini Burlington Arcade' with some 11 shops aimed at tourists. c78 07 30 takes over Plough & Harrows [14.3]

1980

1980 03 14
Waffles' waffles have been selling like hot cakes in Cambridge for seven years. Now the small Kite café has been mentioned in the Egon Ronay guide 'Just A Bite'. "Queues of hungry students form outside the door every evening at this most welcoming of little cafes", it writes. But Waffles' days at its present address are numbered because the little shop on the corner of Gold Street and Fitzroy Street is marked for demolition as part of the Kite redevelopment programme. Set in a devastated urban wasteland of rubble and decaying brick the café with its steamy windows, Edwardian interior and babbling conversation provides a friendly island of humanity. 80 03 14d

1980 11 08
An exclusive university dining club may open its doors to the public. The Pitt Club is a miniature men-only London club where prospective members are vetted carefully and anyone without a public school education is likely to be black-balled. It also houses the Hawks Club for university sporting Blues. But it is no longer making money and is looking for tenants to share the former Turkish bath house in Jesus Lane. Strudels, one of the restaurants in the Kite facing eviction, is amongst a number to express an interest. 80 11 08

1981 11 12
It was a sad day when Strudels – one of Cambridge's most unusual restaurants – was forced to abandon their premises in the Kite Area. But now they have reopened as a high-class restaurant in the famous Pitt Club in Jesus Lane. The old favourites are still on the menu though they have an eye for the really unusual such as stuffed acorn squash. House wine is £4 a bottle. 81 11 12

1983 03 08
The historic Whim restaurant in Cambridge is fighting for its life. A receiver has been called in by the restaurant manager who hopes to trade out of the problem. It employs 27 full and part-time staff and was traditionally the haunt of undergraduates – including Prince Charles – until it was converted into a fast-food operation in November 1980. 83 03 08 p1

1983 03 26
It is 30 years since Charles Antoni took over the Varsity Restaurant in St Andrew's Street. His philosophy is to provide a warm and pleasant atmosphere coupled with good food and service at a price which did not leave you with a full stomach and light wallet. The menu offers Greek, French, Cypriot and English dishes. Starters cost between 40p and £1.05 and apart from a range of charcoal-grilled steaks and a couple of kebab dishes, none of the main courses cost more than £2.70. Sweets are priced between 60 and 80p 83 03 26 p10

1983 07 01
A visit to Waffles on Castle Hill is like stepping back in time to the heyday of the unique Kite café which was such a popular venue until the bulldozers moved in. The highly successful venture was built up by Mrs Virginia Le Charite over nine years until its closure in 1981. The familiar tables and chairs, the ornate cash register, the dresser and clock are all there and it is still producing those scrumptious and filling savoury and sweet batter rolls with a variety of toppings at prices from 90p 83 07 01 p24

1984 02 03
The Turks Head sign swings once more in Trinity Street. Its unique charm lies in the eccentric architecture and ancient beams with rich red carpeting and soft lighting. The Tudor grill room can cater for 200 and with so many nooks and crannies they can usually find room for diners. The new charcoal grill will do delicious things to steaks and chops and there is an extensive table d'hote menu offered at £3.95 for three courses with wine at £3.95 a bottle 84 02 03 p29

1987 05 22
Cambridge's newest venue, Browns – a 200-seat restaurant and bar – has opened in what was formerly the out-patient's department at Old Addenbrooke's Hospital. The entrance is a revolving door which ushers visitors into a scene where potted palms and antique mirrors form a background to the clink of cocktails and tinkling of a baby grand piano. The menu features fisherman's pie with cheddar cheese crust (£4.55), exciting salads and spaghetti dishes and leg of lamb chargrilled with rosemary served with Oxford sauce at £6.65 87 05 22

1987 12 21
The Maharajah, a stylish new Indian restaurant, has opened in a former Castle Street pub but now has an interior decorated with original hand painted silk pictures creating an up-market image. It specialises in authentic Indian cooking with a particular emphasis on Kahari food served on sizzling plates. Pasanda and Tandoori Shaleeka dishes are recommended for those seeking a milder flavour while Jalfreesi, made using fresh green chillis, is popular with established Indian food lovers. A special feature is a Sunday lunchtime buffet when diners can sample various dishes. 87 12 21

1988 06 09
Health Food Stores of Rose Crescent was ahead of its time when it started under the name of Sandwiches and Health Food in Green Street in 1931. The brainchild of an Australian, Clarence Dowell and his wife, who worked in the kitchen making sandwiches, it introduced many Cambridge people to the delights of nut rissoles and vegetarian food. Now it is to close and Peppercorns delicatessen will open in the premises 88 06 09c

1988 10 01
Copper Kettle, feature of life since 1930s closes for refurbishment ¢CEN 1.10.88

1989 02 28

Myttons restaurant and brasserie takes up most of the ground floor of the Pitt Club in Jesus Lane. A complete transformation has taken place behind the classical façade of the building which was originally built as a Roman bath house last century. The elegant dining room provided a traditional atmosphere for substantial dining with a fully licensed bar for liquid refreshment. The brasserie offers economic lunches and dinners with most dishes under £5 89 02 28a

1989 04 07
"96" restaurant closed ¢CEN 7.4.89

1989 05 03
Blue Boar restaurant opens on site Blue Boar hotel ¢CEN 3.5.89

1989 07 13
The Dorothy was the social centre of Cambridge for many years, a place where town met gown and people enjoyed the regular afternoon dances. During the 50s its Blue Room became a major attraction for the young with rows of motor bikes and scooters lined up outside. Its oyster and fish restaurant opened in 1965 with an air-conditioning unit wafting away fishy odours and meals were cooked at the tables, under customer's noses Now the property's owner, Dillons Bookshop has leased part of the Sidney Street building to Festival Catering and the building has been reborn with a teashop, pub, restaurant and function room. 89 07 13

1989 08 09
The Gardenia in Rose Crescent is a Mediterranean restaurant, run for the last 20 years by the Loizou family who have never lost their strong Cypriot identity. Mum Paraskevi prepares all Greek meat dishes such as shevtallia meatballs while Dad, Andreas, mans the tills. They were the first to introduce the kebab into Cambridge. But now they have decided to close and the restaurant is up for sale. 89 08 09a

1989 09 29
Dorothy restaurant that reopened 12 weeks ago goes into receivership after refit debts –rebuilding costs over by 100%, to sell as going concern 89 09 29

1990 01 03
Michel's Brasserie closes, plan to reopen as a café bar. It opened six years ago by Michael Sardones – 90 01 03a

1990 06 27
Dorothy restaurant and bar closed ending bid to revive and modern it. Was put up for sale last autumn, one month after reopening, but failed. Cambridge Jazz Club will need new venue – 90 06 27a

Netherhall School computers, 1981 *154.41*

c.27.5 : Computers

1950

1954 11 09
British military officers and civilian personnel from the Lakenheath air base witnessed a 'Skysweeper' firing demonstration at Weybourne range, Norfolk. This is the U.S. army's largest calibre automatic anti-aircraft artillery weapon – an artillery machine gun. It is the first weapon with radar, computer and gun on one carriage with fully integrated gun and fire control. The units are designed to spot and track with radar and aim and fire the gun semi-automatically at enemy aircraft flying near-sonic speeds at low and medium altitudes.

1957 04 26
The Appointments Board in Chaucer Road is the undergraduates' "labour exchange". The Secretary, J.G. Davies interviews 1,500 students every year, some after they have done National Service or after a year's not-to-successful search on their own. A small intake, a dozen each year, go into atomic research where the standards are very high. There is a demand for mathematicians because of the development of automatic computers and economic analysis in Government offices but a desperate shortage of teachers specialising in science. 57 04 26

1957 05 04
A Pye Magnetic Tape Data Store will be shown at an Exhibition at Olympia. It is the first to incorporate electro-pneumatic tape control allowing very high-speed movement. They were

commissioned to produce six special units for experimental work in computer design and development. One has been delivered to the University Mathematical Laboratory for use with their new powerful computer EDSAC II. 57 05 04

1957 10 18
Water-powered computer – 57 10 18a

1959 10 08
The Chartered Institute of Secretaries paid a fascinating visit to the University Mathematical Laboratory. Mr E.N. Mutch, the Superintendent, outlined the development of electronic computers since 1944, after which members were given a practical demonstration of the latest machine in action. They saw the computer being used by Sir Edward Bullard who explained how scientific data had been recorded on the tape which was then fed into the machine. The results of the computer's analysis and interpretation of the data that had been given it, were then outlined. 59 10 08

1960

1960 08 16
A Cambridge bio-physicist could provide the answer to cancer and leukaemia if he had the use of a modern computer to work out millions of observations. John Kendrew is working in a prefabricated building and with a first-class computer costing about £1,000,000 could tackle problems beyond contemplation, says Professor Fred Hoyle, the Cambridge space expert, in an article in the 'New Scientist'. He goes on to attack a Government decision to spend £60,000,000 on space research which would be repeating American and Russian projects. They should put the money into sciences that are held up by lack of funds 60 08 16

1962 03 27
A Cambridge scientist is building a new electronic computer between 10 and 100 times faster than any existing machine, capable of over 500 million basic decisions per second. Neil Wiseman, chief engineer at the University mathematical laboratory, is putting all this brain power into a six-inch cube. It may take two years to complete. The existing ESDAC II computer occupies space equivalent to a large living room and has so many valves it needs air conditioning to cool it. 62 03 27

1963 06 28
More computers and automatic machines should be installed in City Council departments instead of extra highly paid officers, said Ald. P.J. Warren. Some firm which deals with computers should examine the structure of the City Treasurer's Department to see how it would be susceptible to treatment by modern machines. But computers could cost as much as £200,000 (about £3.5M today) and the problems that arose were new ones only an officer could solve. 63 06 28

1963 07 05
Electronic computers are being used by W. & C. French to speed the building of New Hall at Huntingdon Road. The severe weather delayed progress for three months but with their aid it is hoped they will still finish within the deadline. It is the first time computers have been used in this region to devise a logical schedule of jobs to be carried out & grading them according to importance. The college dining hall is taking shape with its elegant dome using ferro-concrete previously used in boat building. A huge crane is playing a major part to gain lost time 63 07 05f

1963 08 08
Cambridge firms may be able to hire the use of 'Titan', the University's new computer which is being installed at the Mathematical Laboratory in Corn Exchange Street. Their present computer has done work for 36 departments, even Archaeology have put it to use. The University was one of the pioneers and was using a computer as far back as 1949. There is one in the Engineering Department and two small ones were used by the Examinations Syndicate for processing marks. At present there are 500 computers being used in the country by the coal, car and gas industries, businessmen were told 63 08 08

1963 10 28
Perse School make digital computer – 63 10 28

1965 09 24
Cambridge University may become one of work's leading centres in use of computers to index texts – Linguistic Computing Service produces word indexesorjo – 65 09 24a

1966 04 01
CCAT offer courses in computers and mathematics for school-leavers – 66 04 01d

1969 01 15
Mathematical Laboratories in Corn Exchange Street to be demolished; how to move Titan computer; EDSAC 1 started in 1949, EDSAC 2 in 1958 – 69 01 15

1969 03 27
Titan computer lowered into place after being transferred from old mathematics laboratory into New Museums Site – photo – 69 03 27

1969 11 06
Pye establish new computer centre opposite St Andrew's Road HQ – 69 11 06

1970

1970 02 04
Ministry of Technology Computer Aided Design Centre, Madingley Road operating nine months; staff outnumber the firms who have found anything useful to design by computer – 70 02 04

1970 02 16
Cambridge Computer Services ltd take delivery £200,000 computer, 10-unit ICL 1903a delivered through window at Juniper House – 70 02 16

1971 01 01
Coulson's builders celebrate 50 years by installing a computer – 71 01 01

1971 02 26
CCAT new computer will be used by hundreds of schoolchildren as part of their normal syllabus – 71 02 26a opens – 71 03 11a

1971 02 26
University to buy new £1.7m computer – IBM 370/165 to take over from Titan – 71 02 26c

1971 04 16

Pye Group to set up new computer bureau, Cambridge Data Processing – 71 04 16

1971 07 07
Cambridge Computer Services to be centre of major new computer services group – 71 07 07a

1972 03 08
Addenbrooke's Hospital computer blood tests

1972 07 21
Mid-Anglia police were very happy with their new Volvo patrol cars - until they found that using their VHF radio cut the car's speed by about 15 miles an hour. Drivers doing 50 m.p.h. found that when they made a radio call their speed dropped to 35 m.p.h. – alarming for them and for anyone travelling behind. The Volvos bought on the insistence of the Chief Constable in the face of opposition by some members of the police authority came into service earlier this year. They have a special computerised fuel injection system, and when drivers made radio calls the VHF signal sent the computer haywire. The result was that the engine was starved of petrol supply and the car quickly slowed down. But the mystery fault has been cured - by a mechanic from Sweden and a roll of baking foil.

1972 08 01
Two Cambridge University computers half a mile apart have been operationally linked by an infra-red beam - the first system of its kind to be set up in Europe. The computers involved are the massive new £1.7million machine just installed in the mathematics laboratory, and the smaller, older, instrument in the Department of Engineering. The link is established by a beam transmitter and receiver at the top of each building and an essential condition of operation is that no obstruction lies in the path of the beam.

1972 11 07
Addenbrooke's Hospital computers, p9

1972 12 27
An electronic design team lead by a Wendens Ambo man have produced a miniature power supply unit which could revolutionise whole fields of electrical equipment. Now with this single vital piece of equipment greatly reduced in size, the desk top computer becomes a reality. What Malcolm Murchall and his team of four engineers at Advance Industrial Electronics have done is cut down the size of the normal power supply unit to one-eighth of its present size. Already a number of large orders have been received with Japan, Australia and Canada all showing a strong interest in the new device

1973 01 30
To most people Value Added Tax means a slightly worrying period round about April 1st of this year when the prices of familiar objects are likely to do funny things. But to the staff of the new V.A.T. wing of the Customs and Excise Department it means a massive piece of reorganisation to be undertaken in a remarkably short period of time. Although 6,00o extra people have been employed nationally the Cambridge sub-office does not have a particularly large staff. When fully up to establishment it will employ about 26 people involved in the administration of VAT and this number will include officers and secretarial staff. From dealing with 500 people over Purchase Tax the officers of the department will now have contact with 10,000. But against this the tax is easier to administer in some areas and has been designed for computer control from the outset

1973 10 01
A close-circuit funeral for an "old friend" will be televised at Cambridge University. A special eulogy will be delivered and he will be dismembered for research studies and sent to the scrap heap. The "body" will be the much-loved 10-year old Titan computer. It has been on light duties since the end of its 18-month phasing out link with his more powerful replacement £1.7million worth of I.B.M. 370/165. The 370's memory is being doubled in size & the main disc memory for holding all the files is now 1,000 million characters

1974 06 08
A computer device which will enable police to produce statistics in four hours instead of the present four weeks, is to be installed at Police Headquarters, Hinchingbrooke. It is a data entry system which will replace the present manual system used for drawing up quarterly and annual statistics. The information will then be run through the County Council computer at Shire Hall. Cambridgeshire Police do have another computer carrying criminal records and names on police files. This machine will eventually be linked with the national police computer terminal at Hendon. It has come in for criticism nationally because of "big brother" fears

1974 09 19
Police cars throughout Cambridgeshire have been fitted with a controversial American speed trap. Known as VASCAR (visual average speed computer and recorder) it enables a police offer on patrol to measure the speed of a vehicle whether he is in front or behind the target, waiting in a side-road or even travelling in the opposite direction. Before bringing the instrument into operation use the police will be demonstrating the machine to the press and public

1976 07 17
At Cambridge Museum of Technology there is no indication that the old Cheddar's Lane sewage station off Newmarket Road, is now a museum. The place looks a shambles surrounded as it is by knee-high weeds and forbidding "Keep Out" signs. Go there; don't be put off by the haphazard arrangement of exhibits and ask the helpful attendants when you fail to understand. A computer in a museum? An electron microscope – both are on display in this potentially breath-taking exhibition. I can't help but suspect that when the lease runs out the museum is going to be transformed into a profitable block of riverside flats. But I hope this does not happen.

1977 07 08
Teddy Boys, ban-the-bomb and the Suez crisis are now all part of the history syllabus. Pupils at Netherhall School have been entering into the spirit of the 1950s by coming in wearing home-made "Ted" jackets and bootlace ties, with their hair slicked back – part of a competition for the best period costume. Parents have contributed 1950's "bygones" including ration books, a wedding dresses, pieces of pioneering Titan computers and valve amplifiers. The lads have borrowed school table knives to substitute for the dangerous 16th November flick-knives of the 50's.

1977 12 02
Sir – some months ago Cambridge central library introduced a new computer system. The computer broke down and 250 borrowers were notified that books which they had already returned were overdue. The Electronic machine is our century's God and to suggest that a human being with ballpoint pen would be more efficient than a computer is, to those idol-worshippers, plain blasphemy. Since the Browne system was abandoned folly reigns in the pixilated Library – Mrs M. Daniels.

1979 02 16

Police computer, p10

1979 07 07
Cambridge is a scientific and industrial gold mine where the brains and talents of those in the university can be harnessed and developed by industry so that new products can be made and new jobs created, said Margaret Thatcher. At Laser-Scan she saw techniques developed to digitise maps using laser beams and computers. She was delighted to be told that one system they used was called 'Maggie' for short. "So it should be if it's a scientific system", she said. But when told it was a dump file she quipped "Oh no, you can't do that to me – you'd better find another name for it"

1979 08 17
Many of Cambridge's traffic problems may soon be solved by silicon chip technology. The chips would operate micro computers geared to all the city's traffic lights to ensure smooth traffic flows at all times. Such an elaborate computer system would originally have cost around £5 million but now County Council officials consider the new technology could reduce the cost to as low as £100,000. It could be connected with all the car parks giving motorists instant information through street corner signs and also tie in with temporary one-way workings and pedestrian crossings.

1980

1980 01 29
The ZX80 personal computer was launched by Sinclair research of Cambridge. It can be used in the office, the factory and the home. The creator, Mr Clive Sinclair, says any child of 10 with normal arithmetical ability could use it. The new machine is smaller than anything of comparable performance and also four times as cheap. In kit form it costs £77.95 and a completely-built version will be available in March at £99.95. It can be plugged into an ordinary television set or standard computers. The 'software' can be operated through a standard tape cassette and it comes with a 130-page, step-by-step manual. 80 01 29

1980 06 30
Frank Stoakley has retired from Heffers Bookshop which he joined in 1920. He is a walking encyclopaedia when it comes to sorting out problems and even after the firm installed a computer the staff still needed his expert knowledge. He spent 37 years managing the scientific books department and since 1965 has been sorting out the trickier requests for unusual or hard-to-come-by books 80 06 30a

1980 07 08
Sinclair Research, the company founded by Mr Clive Sinclair who pioneered the world's first pocket calculators and micro-televisions wants to buy the church of St Andrew the Great and turn it into a laboratory. They are currently researching computers and electrically-powered vehicles and are looking for premises in central Cambridge. But the church say he is unlikely to get permission because schemes for offices, shops, a language school and a mosque had already been rejected.
80 07 08g

1980 02 04
The age of the microchip has taken all of us by surprise but now sons and daughters crave for the latest computer game, digital watch or radio-controlled car. Since Tandy came to Cambridge five years ago they have found rapidly-increasing demand in the home electronics field and have now

divided their Emmanuel Street operation into two shops. One will house a veritable treasure trove of hi-fis, tv games and intercoms appealing to the young. 80 12 04b

1980 12 10
Anyone who can afford it can now 'pick the brains' of a central computer via Prestel, a specially adapted tv set connected to the telephone. A remote control keypad enables it to dial up the local computer and access material stored in its memory which travels down the ordinary telephone line. In the future one might use on-screen displays to teach children, transmit newspaper-type material with a domestic print-out facility, exchange letters and conversations by text displays and vote in general and local elections. 80 12 10a

1981 01 26
Microelectronics have caused some major shake-ups in the way we live and work; Cambridge's electronics wizard, Clive Sinclair brought us the first pocket calculator and pocket television and now launches Britain's first complete personal computer, the ZX-80. It plugs into the aerial socket of your television and is tuned in like a video-game. But then you have to type in a program from the 128-page instruction manual. The computer is not really all that bright and must be given a clear list of instructions before it can do even the simplest sums. 81 01 26a & b

1981 01 28
A Cambridge student has set up a computer dating service for lonely hearts in the university. For just 50p the unattached undergraduate is promised an introduction to the partner of his dreams. Confidential questionnaires drawn up by a student of experimental psychology were sent out and the results loaded on a computer. It matches them up to produce ideal partners and bliss ensures. It is hoped the first couples will be paired off by St Valentine's Day. 81 01 28

1981 04 01
Pye Business Communications is marketing a revolutionary office intercom system, the M100S, which, literally, speaks for itself. A voice unit will verbally tell a caller if a particular extension is in a meeting or on holiday. It can also take a video screen which will flash up information such as a user transferring to another extension or an absence or holiday list. All the information is put into a microcomputer exchange by the keys or dials of the intercom and telephones. 81 04 01a

1981 04 10
The hopes of many Cambridge scientists rest on a successful launch of the US space shuttle. One of the planned missions will be to put into orbit a space telescope which will be used along with Spacelab which the shuttle will be taking into orbit on its first operational mission. It will only be in orbit for a week but may lead to a permanent space station. University astronomers are using Starlink, a computer network which links the Cambridge institute with five other astronomy centres in Britain to process vast amounts of astronomical images. 81 04 10

1981 09 11
Cambridgeshire schools will have no help or guidance in the field of computer studies, even though it is the fastest growing subject on their timetables. 81 09 11a

1981 09 17
Netherhall School is to take a leap into the computer age with a £35,000 development programme. Their involvement in micro-processors began long before the current upsurge of interest shown by schools in computers. Two years ago staff began working out how they would like to see computer studies develop in the school. An extra teacher will be provided at

Government expense and a programmer employed. They expect the delivery of 15 micro-computers soon. 81 09 17a

1981 10 09
Netherhall School has won a £35,000 computer development grant for its pioneering use of new technology in education. The funding is coming from the Department of Industry, Cambridge colleges and Acorn Computers who will supply 16 of their new BBC Microcomputers. They will now develop computer programmes to teach science, geography, economics and history in schools around the country. 81 10 09b

1981 10 23
The video boom is taking over lecture halls and laboratories in Cambridge University as more and more students are being taught with the help of home-made films. Medical students watch in close-up how to cut up a body, vets are shown outside broadcasts of animal behaviour and trainee priests film sermons to learn about preaching techniques. Thousands of other students have learned how to use a computer as a result of a training film made by the University Audio-Visual Aids unit. 81 10 23

1981 11 26
The early electronic portable games were big, bright, brash boxes for children that made silly noises. Now they include the internationally best-selling Electronic Master Mind. Many of the TV games use cassettes providing some striking and original computer graphics as well as taxing adversary games. The silicon chip will bring about a still greater revolution. One expert says that in the future children will be communicating around the world through computer games. 81 11 26c

1981 12 02
Cambridge Computer Store was established by Claude Cowan in the spring of 1978 at the very start of the microcomputer boom. The first computer they offered was a Tandy TRS-80 which proved popular and is still going strong. Computers now span the full gamut of power, size and cost – all the way from about £70 to £5,000 - and the customers have widened dramatically covering everybody from schoolchildren studying computer science to experienced professionals in industry or the laboratory. 81 12 02

1981 12 21
The television is at the centre of a major boom in consumer electronics, with everything from home computers to video recorders, video discs, Teletext and Prestel information services, games and, probably within the next few years, programmes beamed from satellites. But many TV addicts are prepared to watch a picture of bad quality. Now Labgear which has factories at Abbey Walk and Ely have produced plug-in amplifiers to increase the strength of television signals. 81 12 21

1982 01 29
Clive Sinclair, managing director of Sinclair Research Ltd of Cambridge has been chosen as Personality of the Year in a new series of awards for achievements in technical innovation. It follows the success of his ZX 81 personal computer of which some 40,000 are now being sold every month in this country. Production of the model, which has been a major force in bringing computers into everyday use, is now greater than any other computer in the world. 82 01 29

1982 02 25

Cambridge newsagent Bob Truelove has an easier working day now his newspaper delivery boys and girls have been computerised. Once he had to get up with the lark to start marking up the morning newspapers for his delivery team. Now the computer delivers a daily print-out for each of the rounds showing which papers have to be delivered to each house. It is the same story in the evening when the News arrives. The Cifer computer, which was installed by Bob Dear of Glisson Road, has been specially programmed so no technical skills are needed to operate it. 82 02 25

1982 04 02
'Uncle Clive' Sinclair is close to becoming part of the legend of the microchip. He brought to the word innovative calculators, digital watches and pocket-sized televisions. Then in 1976 he formed Sinclair Research to conceive new projects in the consumer electronics field, including an electric car. He started with a little computer then produced a ZX81 version priced at just under £70. Now he has moved into the flat-screen television tube and mini-tv set. 82 04 02c

1982 04 02
Acorn computers has hardly had time to catch its breath since it won an agreement with the BBC to supply microcomputers suitable for use alongside a television series. But the broadcasts to schools began with only 200 of the 500 schools which wanted to take part having received their computers and programmes for the general public were postponed. Now 6,000 have been despatched with an order for 15,000 from Western Australia. 82 04 02d

1982 04 24
Cambridge electronics wizard Clive Sinclair shook the computer world by announcing a new powerful machine at a fraction of the price of its rivals. The Sinclair ZX Spectrum costs £125 with a 16k memory, capable of high-resolution colour graphics. A mini floppy disc-drive memory device will shortly be available at the staggeringly low price of £50. 82 04 24

1982 10 02
Electronics wizard Clive Sinclair unveiled his new Cambridge headquarters. The building is based on a soft-drinks works with a futuristic new wing added. Sunlight coming through the glass roof of the new wing and water from a spring under the original building will be used to control air temperatures. Telephone and security systems will be heavily computerised. The reception area includes the largest polished bronze sculpture in the work by Elaine Blumenfeld who lives in Grantchester. 82 10 02

1982 11 16
Unicorn, Cherry Hinton reopened after redecoration, p10
Torch computers research and development centre, Abberley House, Gt Shelford, p16

1982 11 30
Cambridge innovator Clive Sinclair is using well water to help heat his new headquarters building in Willis Road. Instead of cold tap water, the boiler uses water from a deep borehole which has already been pre-warmed, free of charge, with the heat from the centre of the earth. It is the first installation of its type in the country. Looking after the system is a Sinclair ZX81 computer. 82 11 30

1982 12 09
Accommodation for computer-based companies in Cambridge is at a premium. Several firms are run from private houses with others based around King's Parade and Jesus Lane, where buildings are available and rents favourable. Now a technology square is planned for land at the rear of Shire Hall similar to Trinity College's Science Park but at smaller rents. There might be dual-

purpose buildings for start-up companies providing both a home and an office to work in. 82 12 09

1983 01 19
A former baby wear factory tucked out of sight behind the Great Northern Hotel is to be the home of an ambitious new project to help women break into the new technology jobs market. The Cambridge Women's Resources Centre will start computer courses taught by women with crèche and child-care facilities. Eventually they want to offer lessons n carpentry, trade unions and the law. 83 01 19

1983 01 25
The 'Cambridge News' has pioneered a number of new technologies in the newspaper industry. A few years ago its composing rooms looked like a factory, dealing with molten lead, burning gas and tons of heavy metal. Now it resembles a carpeted office with two products of the modern age, lasers and computers, at the heart of the process. More technology could be employed but with several editions to produce every day there is no time to stop to introduce it. 83 01 25b

1983 02 12
Plans to move the Cambridge War Memorial from the Hills Road – Station Road junction have been scrapped. Instead of making way for a new system of computer-controlled traffic lights, the memorial will remain as an island. Originally the County Council wanted to relocate it to a small shady spot under the trees in the Botanic Garden, but the City refused to co-operate. 83 02 12a

1983 02 16
Cambridge is rapidly becoming one of the country's leading computer centres. The latest to enter the fray is Herald Computers of East Road. They are convinced there is a gap in the market for tailor-made systems designed to help small businesses choose the right computer and programmes for their particular purposes and so their activities will be outside the range of the man-in-the-street. 83 02 16

1983 03 24
Clive Sinclair went to London in January to learn he was worth £129 million on the Stock Exchange. Now the head of Sinclair Research told a Guardian 'Young Businessman of the Year' award that he has created 2,000 new jobs. The firm was founded in 1979 and launched the world's first under £100 personal computer in 1980, followed by improved models including the colour ZX Spectrum. 83 03 24 p20

1983 08 31
The Cambridge computer industry has suffered its first casualty. Grundy Business Systems, based on the Science Park, launched its NewBrain microcomputer in May last year, based on a design by Sir Clive Sinclair. It became one of the best-selling in the UK but an unexpected decline in sales and a failure to meet deadlines led to cash difficulties. 83 08 31 p1

1984 07 02
Children at Hoker's Pre-Preparatory School in Comberton are being given an early introduction to the computer age. They are being taught the whole range of computer skills from the age of four to help them deal with the demands of the next century. Ann Hoker, the principal says "Small children are not inhibited on a computer – they are going to be the first adults of the 21st century and computers will be to them what ballpoints are to us". 84 07 02

1984 07 06

Computerised control of traffic in Cambridge by means of traffic lights has been in operation along two major routes since March. Chaos has not ensued and the county council's traffic management scheme claims it has knocked several minutes off journey times in peak periods. 'Scoot' operates in Hills Road and Queen's Road by marshalling traffic into 'platoons' of vehicles and then pilots them through as many sets of lights as possible. 84 07 06

1984 07 25
Cambridge's office space is going fast. Mount Pleasant House on Castle Hill is now fully let as is the former Heffers printing works in Hills Road whose Betjeman House is used by two computer software firms, Acornsoft and Logica. Citibank has taken the first floor of Hunting Gate's Carlyle House while Standard Life's development on the corner of Glisson Road was let prior to the completion of the building. 84 07 25

1984 08 01
Acorn Computers has been presented with the Queen's Award for Technological Achievement for the innovating design of the BBC Microcomputer system. It was presented to Chris Curry, joint managing director at their offices in Fulbourn Road. He praised the company's research team who have produced a computer of such elegance of design that three years after its introduction it still knocks spots off the competition. The ceremony comes three weeks after Acorn won a four-year renewal of its important BBC contract. 84 08 01 p3

1984 11 24
Home computers put hi-tech game sales under fire – 84 11 24a

1984 12 06
Youngsters at Earith school will have a computer at their fingertips, thanks to a 280-year-old will drafted to help education in the village, The money left by Thomas Skeeles brought writing slates in the 1700's but will now supply computer and monitor equipment that will be a big boost for the 175-pupil school. 84 12 06

1985 01 10
Experts at Voice Input, a small company at St Ives have become one of the world leaders in voice control computer programming. It can direct a computer to turn the TV on and off, dial telephone numbers, print letters, speak foreign languages or just open and close the curtains. The firm hope to have a table-top micro-processor with inbuilt microphone and voice recognition equipment ready by April and forecast a mini office revolution with a semi-automatic typewriter which will type a letter as it is spoken. 85 01 10d

1985 01 21
Skilled technicians, computer programmers and systems analysts are now at a premium in Cambridge and are being bought and sold like footballers between firms who pay transfer fees to get the staff they want. The Itec centre in Hooper Street is making a small dent in the problem by taking youngsters with no formal qualifications and training them on technical subjects. Of 28 taken on so far, all but one have got good jobs. 85 01 21a

1985 03 01
Sir Clive Sinclair is taking a £3 million high-tech centre as part of a major expansion of his Cambridge-based research company. The present headquarters at Willis Road is bursting at the seams so he is moving to the Camtec Centre off Rustat Road. Other high-tech companies in the area include Cambridge Electronic Industries, Acornsoft and Logica. Sinclair this week launched

a big advertising campaign for its £100 pocket TV and hopes to sell 200,000 units of their QL computers in . 85 03 01a

1985 06 18
Cambridge Medical Answer Service to install computer link for elderly - 85 06 18 & a

1985 10 05
The new Amstrad PCW 8256 is a complete word processing package of no less than 256K for £399 plus VAT. The Cambridge Computer Store sold eight inside two hours. It is a system designed to be attractive to anyone who uses a typewriter with a full-size keyboard, green monitor, built-in disc driver and printer. It comes with a Locomotive word processing software kit which is said to be self-explanatory and particularly easy to use. "Start using the machine and then, if you're stuck, refer to the handbook", they advise the user 85 10 05

1986 01 28
Tansley Typewriter Company, which has been selling and servicing typewriters for over 60 years, has made a successful transition into the world of computers. Their showroom in Longstanton High Street features the Olivetti MP24 SP personal computer with a 20 megabyte hard drive. The company has a team of four engineers who travel as far as Peterborough and Bedford to carry out installations and also service electronic typewriters and word processors 86 01 28a

1986 03 05
Fire Brigade control centre computerised - 86 03 05

1986 07 07
Torch Computers of Gt Shelford has developed a revolutionary Triple X computer using the Unix-based computing system with a revolutionary 'Opentop' facility that allows more than one page to be seen at a time. Around the edges of the screen are a number of symbols called 'icons'. Using a control known as a 'mouse' the user can direct a floating arrow and by clicking the 'mouse' twice the accounts package comes up on the screen. By then double-clicking the calculator icon it appears on top of the accounts. This is known as 'multi-tasking'. It means that for the first time one doesn't need programming knowledge to take advantage of the Unix system's benefits 86 07 07a

1986 11 17
At Logica's smart Cambridge offices a strange clipped voice rises above the human chatter. By the end of the decade it may well become commonplace. For the firm is devising a computer which can talk to train travellers on the telephone. They are also working on a computer which will help Shell devise formulae for lubricating oils. The company, which has 2,400 staff working in 3 countries, opened its Cambridge offices two years ago but has difficulty recruiting staff because of a national shortage of trained workers. 86 11 17

1986 12 12
Milton Road Infants is one of eight Cambridgeshire schools linked through a modem to an electronic mail system, the 'Times Network System'. Using word processors the children begin a story which is then finished by children at the Beeches School in Peterborough where 70 per cent of the pupils are Pakistani. They are also hoping to link up with Newcastle and America or a kibbutz in Israel. If teachers use the links imaginatively the pioneering new project will prove its worth. 86 12 12 & a

1987 02 16
The 'Cambridge News' has entered the computer age. Now reporters' typewriters have been replaced by computer screens and their stories are transmitted electronically to the sub-editors who check for mistakes, write headlines and determine what type-size it should be printed. This is done on screen before being sent electronically to be photo-set. When each page is finished it is made into a metal plate using lasers and is ready for printing. If all goes smoothly a story can take just half an hour to go through the entire system 87 02 16a & b

1987 05 07
Three years ago Harston Mill was a stinking derelict building that had been abandoned by its animal feed-producing owners with an assortment of odd sheds which had been used for storage. Now it has been transformed into the home for one of the new electronic generation of companies, Cambridge Interactive Systems. The old building has been restored with a modern office block clad in mirrored glass and an artificial pool where the real river once ran. Now computer chips perform their electronic miracles in air-conditioned silence in the same place where cogs once slowly turned as they ground the corn. 87 05 07

1987 10 27
An overhead cable car system between St Ives and Cambridge has been suggested by the Willingham-based Alternative Transport Society as an alternative option to a rail link. There would be a lack of noise and fumes and cables would be high enough over level crossings, eliminating congestion. It would have simple platforms for alighting with cars slowed automatically by computer control and the total all-weather system would ensure safe and reliable transport. But opponents describe it as a non-starter and just pie in the sky. 87 10 27b

1987 12 29
Procyon Research began at Cavendish when research students produced an interface for the BBC Computer; compiles programmes for industry – 87 12 29a

1988 02 26
Cambridge University Department of Geography was founded 100 years ago and trained surveyors for the colonial service. The first Professor, Frank Debenham was a member of Shackleton's artic expeditions, Prof Alfred Steers studied the British coastline while Prof Sir Clifford Darby analysed data in the Domesday survey. Today it concerns itself with satellite information, computerised data for mapping, the study of the environment and a host of other modern problems. 88 02 26

1988 05 17
Netherhall & Bar Hill schools use computers for local history projects 88 05 17 & a

1988 09 10
Computers are the key weapon in the 'News' battle against deadlines. Previously crucial minutes were lost while journalists' stories were re-set into type by other staff. Now writing and typesetting can be done by one person. The process begins at 7.30 am each day. The newsdesk – run by the news editor, the assistant news editor, the chief reporter and an editorial assistant – decide on the best stories and brief the 15 reporters based in Newmarket Road and another eight in district officers. Stories flood in from every source imaginable and more than 100 press releases and letters are received each day 88 09 10 & a

1988 10 20

Three Cambridge computer pioneers hope to revolutionise communications with a fibre-optic cable-TV service carrying eight or nine TV channels, some collected by satellite dishes. Eventually there would be 50 channels, an independent phone service, teleconferencing, a security alarm system, home shopping and remote banking. Cambridge Cable might link with Cambridge University's Project Granta to provide a data transmission service network from Girton to Addenbrooke's Hospital 88 10 20

1988 10 28
Cambridge AppleCentre was officially opened by Schnorbitz the dog and his well-known owner, comedian Bernie Winters in the presence of Directors from Apple Computers UK. It provides hardware and software on site at Clifton Court with a resident training consultant offering courses on the Apple Macintosh as well as a service department. The Apple is especially suitable for the busy executive with its friendly graphic interface and is suitable for updating company literature or starting a newsletter. They can be rented for special occasions such as exhibitions with a rental/conversion scheme for those who wish to evaluate it before buying. 88 10 28a

1988 12 01
St Mary's school Headmistress Sister Christina is quick to dispel thoughts of the former convent as a cocooned world for over-privileged young ladies: all 575 have the opportunity of using the computers from the age of 11. "It is not just needlework and good manners, we have never gone in for embroidery. I am very keen the girls should go into a man's world as people, not as feminists", she says. The school has a strong background in science and engineering and many go on to polytechnics to study electrical, mechanical and chemical engineering 88 12 01

1988 12 07
Next Technology developing device to make moving pictures and photographs as easily accessible on computers as words and graphics 88 12 07a

1989 04 12
Acorn, the computer company which helped found the Cambridge Phenomenon, has bounded back into profitability after a worrying loss in 1987. They started getting into difficulties with the collapse of the home computer market in late 1984 and, apart from a recovery in 1986, have shown a loss ever since. But now the company, which employs around 230 people, is on course for expansion in its new role as a high-volume low-cost manufacturer of computers and work stations. 89 04 12

1989 04 04
A high-tech computer system set to revolutionise Cambridgeshire's 15 main libraries has gone on line. Chief librarian Brendan Dwyer checked out the first book on the 'Cambook' system at Arbury Court. It will provide instant information about books on loan and a faster reservation system. "Pioneering the latest technology will help us to continue to offer a faster efficient service throughout the 1990s", he said 89 04 04a

1989 05 25
Next Technology have launched Voyager, a super-computer which stores some 270 compact discs carrying micro-pictures of pages of books. It works like a jukebox and can 'play' more than one disc at a time. It is similar to the Domesday Project which allowed schoolchildren to retrieve information from a massive disk. If whole libraries were put on it then researchers could look-up and cross-reference items in seconds. Machines cost from £13-£21,000 and worldwide interest has been shown. 89 05 25b

1989 06 23
A new bridge over Hobson's Conduit is part of a scheme to beat traffic jams at the junction of Lensfield and Trumpington Roads. Vehicles would turn along a short stretch of Brookside then cross the stream towards Trumpington. The rest of the junction would be controlled by a complex system of traffic lights based on the successful new computer system on Huntingdon Road. Some of the cost would be met by whichever company develops the ground-level car park in Saxon Street, county engineers say. But it was rejected as 'devastating and environmentally disastrous' by city officials. 89 06 23 & b

1989 07 19
Cambridge Library is to close for two weeks as part of a computerisation programme to streamline efficiency. It will replace the system installed in 1976. But the Cambridgeshire Collection will be open as normal 89 07 10a

1989 08 23
Central Library to close for two weeks as part of computerisation programme; plans to rebuild the entrance poston3ed as would result in unsatisfactory entrance to a major public building 89 08 23

1989 09 07
Cambridge Central Library is closed while details of every book in stock are fed into an ambitious new computer programme. When complete staff will be able to pinpoint exactly who has borrowed which book and when it is due back. That was the information that was recorded on handwritten ledgers when it opened in 1855. Open access, allowing readers to select their own books by browsing the shelves was introduced in 1922. Now on an ordinary weekday 2,500 people call at the library in Lion Yard 89 09 07

1989 09 08
Cambridge scientists are part of an international team involved in a 10-year project to map the human genome. The double helical structure of the DNA was discovered by Crick & Watson. Its genetic language was identified by Dr Sydney Brenner, now heading the University Molecular Genetics Unit and Dr Fred Sanger invented ways to read the message. Dr Aaron Klug is working out how the DNA is packaged. They will have to invent technology as yet unknown, create a new scientific language and build super computers. The end produce will be used by medical geneticists in Cambridge and elsewhere 89 09 08a

1989 10 25
Cambridge is considered by many to be the computer capital of East Anglia. Now Evesham Micros has opened a new computer store in Glisson Road offering a wide range of micro-computer hardware, software and advice. They have computers from Amstrad, Olivetti, Epson and Atari with the latest IBM system arriving soon. Epson and Star printers together with modems from Mirrorcom, Amstrad and Pace are also stocked. Hard disks are put in operating condition so everything is ready by the time it gets to customers 89 10 25b & c

1989 12 21
Cambridge's new £200,000 car space scheme with signs around the city linked to the county council's traffic computer which monitors the five main car parks, hit teething troubles leaving shoppers driving round trying to find a parking space. 89 12 21

1990 01 24
The Ronald Rolph Court consists of 23 workshop units has helped several new companies make a positive start over the last seven years. Firms represent all aspects of industry in Cambridge from

established concerns specialising in traditional trades to high-tech firms developing electronics and computers. They include J.S. Wilson, whose bookbinding business was established in 1830 and Ditton Binders which supplies company ring binders and menu covers 90 01 24c

1990 02 15
East Anglia's hospital service is to be linked by sophisticated computer systems able to keep track of patients wherever they go. While Addenbrooke's Hospital is developing is own patient information system the Ipswich Hospital has unveiled their answer to lost medical records and mix-ups over appointments. It should mean an end to form filling, chasing paperwork and hours on the phone. Computer links between wards and departments will instantly transmit patients' records, requests for tests or treatments, find empty beds and lay on ambulance transport 90 02 15a

1990 03 02
Physicist Prof Stephen Hawking, a victim of the wasting motor neurone disease, has been given a new computerised speech synthesiser to help him communicate. The American-developed Digital DECTalk device allows him to use a screen to select words and phrases which are then translated into speech. 90 03 02b

1990 03 05
Desperate families in Mid Anglia are plunging deeply into debt. Citizens Advice Bureau staff have been flooded with pleas for help but are having to turn some people away. They are begging local councils to give money to allow computers to be bought to lift the load. Until now many clients have been jobless people, single parents or council tenants. But an increasing number are married, working people with mortgages. Many have no cash to buy essential items such as food and clothing. – 90 03 05

1990 03 06
Cambridgeshire Police's budget has been slashed by the Government which has approved less than a third of the money needed. Schemes to buy communications equipment and computers will have to be deferred and police cars leased to save money. A kitchen extension at police headquarters will also be cancelled. The Home Office says the system of allocating money has changed and if Cambridgeshire is aggrieved they will look into it – 90 03 06

1990 06 30
Sir Clive Sinclair's Cambridge Computer firm is moving to Scotland; meteoric rise and fall; started Sinclair Radionics in 1962, moving to Cambridge in 1967; produced digital watch and calculator, tv and computers. Won Queen's Award in 1975 and knighted 1983. But C5 flopped, marriage broke up and sold his house on Madingley Road in 1989 – 90 06 30a

1990 07 25
Computer history in Cambridge; memories of Prof Maurice Wilkes who ran the first-ever programme 1949 – feature – 90 07 25a, b

1990 11 28
Acorn Computers backed by Apple Corporation to form Advanced Risc Machines – 90 11 28b

Γιαντ λεττερ βοξ ιν Σιδνεψ Στρεετ, 1964

232.62

c.27.7 : Post Office Postal Deliveries

see also c.27.75 : Telephones

Robert Knights memories of a mail coach driver before WWI between West Wratting and Cambridge 72 01 14a

1885
Petty Cury post office built [1.22]

1885
Protest over use of University stamps [1.16]

1900

1905 10 28
Morning letters are being delivered much earlier than formerly. The gradual growth of Cambridge suburbs had lengthened the postman's walks until it was almost impossible to get out the deliveries in the time prescribed. Now the number uniformed letter carriers has been increased from 98 to 110 with more men on each of the seven daily delivery rounds. The number of collections has also increased with six tricycle carriers appointed. 05 10 28b [1.26]

1907 02 23
Until recently a letter box was situated at the top of Abbey Road within a yard of a fire alarm. Both were painted red. Now its removal has led to curious incidents, to say nothing of vigorous

language on those who have weathered the storms by night to utilise the post, only to find it removed. One young woman was seen minutely examining the alarm, saying she'd "never seed a letter box without a hole before". When it was explained she expressed language which approximated to that of Billingsgate. 07 02 23a

1907 05 06
Post office thefts – 07 05 06aa & b

1907 09 10
Post Office telegraph messenger boys are subject to a short drill every morning; they learn discipline, obedience and punctuality and can become members of the Albert Institute with its facilities for further education and sport. They must leave the job when aged 16 and have previously become postmen. But now half the vacancies have to be reserved for ex-servicemen and the Cambridge Postmaster has a list of boys ready for jobs in the outside world. 07 09 10

1910

1913
Charles Henry Kirkup awarded Georgian Imperial Service Medal for 37 years' service, first time it awarded in Cambridge [2.6]

1913 06 06
Death Henry Hitzman, sub-postmaster, Trinity Street 13 06 06 p7 CIP

1915 12 22
Female postmen start duties – photos (including march past poster 'Grand Varieties') – 15 12 22b Ch

1916 04 19
The Postmaster-General has decided that, except in the largest towns, the number of deliveries of letters per day is to be restricted to two. We are informed by Mr. A. Bell, the Cambridge Postmaster, that this would take effect in Cambridge as from Monday, May 1, when the number of deliveries will be reduced from three, as at present to two 16 04 19 CIPof

1917 03 07
The Mail Cart. On Wednesday evening last the mail cart, which has been running for about 20 years between Cambridge and Willingham, via Milton. Landbeach, Cottenham and Hampton, could be seen making its last journey. Arrangements have now been made for the Cottenham and Rampton mail in future to come from Cambridge to Oakington station by train. Mr. Albert Young, of Rampton, has been appointed to fetch the mail from Oakington in the morning and to carry it to Oakington in the evening, Owing to these alterations, the Cottenham letters will be delivered an hour later than usual. The mail in the evening will so out at 8.45 instead of 8 o'clock, necessitating the posting of letters an hour and a quarter earlier than usual. The mid-day delivery will remain as before. 'There will in future be no delivery or dispatch on Sundays. 17 03 07 CIPof

1920

1920 09 15
Post Office war memorial, details – Ch 20 09 15c, d

1925 03 28

The stamp machine attached to the door of the General Post Office in Cambridge is such a boon that I hesitate to complain. But on no fewer than five occasions I have found the penny slot fail to act correctly. On the first occasion the machine delivered me two penny stamps for one copper. I was wondering what to do when another purchaser came along and slipped a penny in the slot without result, so I handed one over. The next time I received no stamp for my penny, and wiped that off as a loss. On the third occasion I got two stamps for the price of one, so cried "quits". For those who like a little speculation these stamp machines are ideal 25 03 28

1929 06 09
Cambridge Post office talk – CDN 19.6.1929

1930

1932 09
Work starts on new post office, St Andrew's Street [1.21]

1932 12 16
The Post Office says every effort will be made to deliver by Christmas day all parcels, packets and newspapers for distant places posted not later than the22nd December and all letters and cards posted by 23rd December. The latest time of posting for letters and cards for local delivery and in towns within 30 miles radius will be 6pm on Christmas Eve. There will be one delivery of letters and parcels on Christmas Day. 32 12 16c

1933 08 11
A travelling posting-box has been started by the Post Office on the Eastern Counties' service which leaves Cottenham at 8.15pm. The letterbox is painted Post Office red and will be fixed on the front of the bus, giving a later posting time than is now the case. It will operate from Monday to Saturday and letters will be delivered in practically any part of England by the first post in the morning. 33 08 11

1933 10 02
Sir – needing a stamp for a letter I hied down to the G.P.O. feeling certain its automatic machines would duly deliver the goods. The nimble penny did function, but the halfpenny, though absorbed into the digestive machinery of the apparatus, obdurately refused to pass out the little bit of green paper. Obviously a serious crime as that of obtaining halfpennies under such circumstances was a matter for our every ready Borough Police. An officer detailed to investigate proceeded to test my story twice, with the result that the Revenue was again the richer, and he, alas, the poorer by the sum of one penny. 33 10 02

1934 05 29
The new Cambridge Post Office in St Andrew's Street was needed to meet ever-growing demand. People knew they could obtain wireless licences, motor licences and gun licences but not that they could get marriage licences as well. There was criticism that the stamps remained the same but it was not policy to make money out of philatelists by creating unnecessary issues and would mean altering stamp machines. Now deliveries would improve and the 26,000 letters a week delivered by second post will in future secure first post delivery. 34 05 29 & 30 [1.3]

1935 09 10
The new Post Office sorting department at Petersfield has a vast and spacious garage complete with repair and painting shops for the upkeep of a fleet of vans. Altogether 50 vehicles are sent out and should anything go wrong a staff of mechanics can tackle the job at once. Even painting

and complete overhauling is done. The various sections in the sorting department now have plenty of room with the latest equipment including two electrical stamping machines which deal with the letters at an incredible speed. 35 09 10a

1936 02 08
Cambridge Post Office placed new pens on their counters for a six-month trial. But at the end of a month they had all disappeared. A special locking device held the stainless steel nibs in position, but this did not deter the members of the public who took a fancy to them, as both pen and holder were taken away! Many inquiries have been made with regard to the type of nib used and where they could be purchased (possibly following unsuccessful attempts to abstract them from the pen holders). Now a special red pen holder bearing the letters 'G.P.O.' is being issued for use at public counters of head post offices. But these are not intended for the purposes of ornamenting writing desks in houses and business offices. 36 02 08b & c

1940

1947 12 13
First stamp-label issuing machine installed at Cambridge Post Office – 47 12 13

1950

1954 07 15
The Post Office is to experiment with pedestrian-controlled electric trucks for its parcel delivery service to determine whether they can be operated economically in areas where traffic conditions make the use of motor vans rather difficult. The trucks have a normal speed of 3½ mph on the level. Cambridge is one of the first provincial towns to have them.

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 05 27
At Cambridge about 250 postmen are employed for sorting and delivery work. They arrive at 5am, sort their walks until seven and then leave for the first delivery which has to be completed by 9.30. After breakfast they sort again until 11 when they start the second delivery. This finishes two hours later, leaving the postman the rest of the day free. When letters are posted to overseas destinations with insufficient stamps the Post Office makes up the correct amount, then notifies the sender requesting him to return stamps to cover the cost. This service is greatly appreciated and few fail to comply. 60 05 27

1960 11 18
The postman in his navy-blue uniform riding his red-painted bicycle carrying a bag containing a variety of messages, happy and sad, is a permanent fixture of everyday life. Doug Carter is responsible for the city centre round. The first despatch takes him from 6.45 to 9.15, when he returns to the Sorting Office for breakfast. He then sorts for the second round which has to be completed before 1pm. People confide in him, they make a friend of him and in spite of appalling weather conditions and the irksome irregular hours, he feels he is providing a useful service. 60 11 18b

1962 11 28
Demolition of PO sorting depot, Mill Road [2.9, 3.2]

1962 01 08

To have Emergency Postal Centre set up by Peoples League for Defence of Freedom [3.1]

1962 06 30
Cambridge's last surviving Victorian post-box outside King's College main gates is to disappear for a month while workmen redo the surface of the college forecourt. It will be replaced in a slightly different position and the lamps will also move back a bit. At the moment the workmen are preparing to re-lay flagstones and cobbles, which are badly worn. The side walls are also to be moved back about four feet on each side. 62 06 30

1963 07 05
The G.P.O.'s experiment to improve the parcel post service started with five new lorries operating from the parcels centre in Rosemary Lane. The present system is slow and costly. The new method will operate partly by rail and partly by road with parcels moved in bulk consignment. They hope it will reduce costs, speed the service and improve reliability. 63 07 05

1964 02 04
The biggest pillar box in England, in Sidney Street, may be moved to relieve traffic congestion – 64 02 04

1964 06 27
A giant post box has been moved from its position in Sidney Street to a spot a few yards away. It has been there for 30 years. The box is one of the largest in the provinces 64 06 27

1964 06 30
Sidney Street post box originally erected as only air mail box in Cambridge, 2 slots one marked 'Colonial Airmail', 'Other Countries' & painted dark blue [3.3]

1965
Mill Rd sorting office opens [3.4]

1966 07 15
Old Post Office, Petty Cury, Ministry of Pensions manned by a single clerk in room that precious housed counter activities; small corner occupied by National Savings Movement. Wide corridors lead to Overseas Students Club used by 10-12 students. Petty Cury shops well-maintained but accommodation above ground floor level has been condemned for years. Must all be demolished – letter – 66 07 15

1966 08 23
Fitzroy Street sub-post office moved to Co-op in Burleigh Street, petition in protest – 66 08 23a

1968 10
Two-tier post introduced, 4d & 5d [3.5]

1968 10 21
Postal codes start October [3.6]

1970

1971 01 27
Donald Hofford offers emergency postal service during 7 week strike 71 01 27, 27a, 71 01 30

1971 03 06
Regent Street post office modernised 71 03 06a

1971 09 14
Arbury Estate gets new post office, Cameron Road – 71 09 14

1971 10 10
First automatic mail sorting machines delivered to Post Office in Mill Road – 71 10 10

1972 05
Mechanised sorting introduced May [3.10]

1972 10 31
Twenty-five thousand second class letters are being deliberately held up every night at the Post office's mechanised sorting centre in Mill Road, Cambridge. The letters are sorted into bundles by the 2pm to 10pm shift ready for loading on to trains from Cambridge. But they do not leave the centre until the next morning after the rest of the second class post has been sorted. Assistant Post-master for Cambridge, Mr Reginald Starkey said "It is a second class standard of service. They have paid only 21/2 pence". Ironically it is only the second class post which goes through the £500,000 worth of equipment installed at the Mill Road office five months ago. 72 10 31

1980

1981 05 14
Cambridge's unique 100-year-old spiky pillar box has been moved from the corner of Newmarket Road and Cheddar's Lane after local firms protested that its seven-inch aperture was too small for modern-day packages. It was built about 1880 and does not have the royal cipher or the words 'Post Office' on it. But nobody knows why it has spikes on the top. Some say it was to stop people climbing over the gas works wall, others that it was to frighten away a troublesome swan that used to perch on the top or provide an uncomfortable landing for a hapless German parachutist. 81 05 14a

1983 06 09
No-one is likely to support a local post office out of charity. Business has been falling off in recent years, not helped by Government encouragement to pay many social security benefits monthly instead of weekly and to pay direct into a bank account. Some sub-postmasters have given up because their income has dropped by £1,000 a year but so far somebody else has been persuaded to take on the business. Now a 'rationalisation' programme is being carried out. First to be hit is the King Street post office which is likely to close, just as the street has a new lease of life with new shops and flats 83 06 09 p11

1983 07 13
Hundreds of Cambridge residents have lost their long battle to save the sub-post office in King Street from closure. Despite massive protests the Head Postmaster has decided it must shut when the owners retire. Now the council may consider buying the building in the hope they can keep it open. Mr & Mrs Mansfield have given a first class personal service for 30 years which would be difficult to match even if the post office were to remain. 83 07 13 p7

1983 08 20
Dozens of Cambridge residents gathered outside King Street Post Office to protest against its closure. It was the last day of business for the owners, Tom and Ivy Mansfield who are retiring

after 30 happy years. The decision to close was taken despite vigorous opposition from the city council. "They haven't given a thought to the inconvenience it will cause people", say protestors, but the Head Postmaster says there are too many post offices in Cambridge. 83 08 20 p3 pic31768399

1983 08 22
King Street post office closes after 85 years [3.11-12]

1984 09 12
Campaigners have lost their battle to save two Cambridge post offices in Arbury Road and Gywidr Street. They will close within a few months, but the threatened Richmond Road sub post office will remain open in view of the weight of public opinion. Coun Andrew Duff, one of the Liberal members fighting to keep the Richmond Road office going says he is delighted at the change of heart 84 09 12 [3.13]

1986 06 19
New mechanised letter sorting office Clifton Road agreed [3.14]

1987 05 14
The last post has sounded for the most painted pillar box in Cambridge. Post office chiefs have removed the box from Trinity Lane, angry at the psychedelic treatment a phantom artist has been giving it with increasing frequency. Last month the prank painter left it in pink, white and maroon stripes. Some yellow ducks followed soon after. Markham Towler, a member of the Letterbox Study Group, says the pillar box was of a rare type and was one of the city's oldest, being installed before 1887. 87 05 14

1988 06 17
New PO sorting office to cope growing mail business, sort all outgoing mail, growing at 12% ¢CEN 17.6.88

1988 06 23
The very latest, sophisticated machinery is being installed in the Post Office's new sorting office in Clifton Road. Mill Road became a Mechanised Letter Office in 1972 but its technology is now in need of replacement. Conditions for the 650 staff are cramped and noisy. Now high-speed sorting machines will hold 16,000 items an hour and Mill Road will be refurbished to act as delivery centre for mail coming into Cambridge. 88 06 23a

1989 03 11
Post Office to open mechanised letter office, Clifton Road housed there since 1988 ¢CEN 11.3.89

1989 03 25
The new £5.5 million mechanised letter office in Clifton Road was built to cope with the area's rapidly increasing volumes of mail. Letters are handled by some of the latest sorting technology including machines which operate at a rate of 25,000 an hour and has scope for expansion so it can continue to grow with the city. It was formally opened by TV personality Anne Gregg, presenter of "Holiday '89". Later she waved off a special train to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the travelling post office. 89 03 15

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Mayor vists telephone exchange, 1950s *110.22*

c.27.75: Telephones

Wireless telegraphy discovered in Cambridge – CWN 08 08

1878
Telephones were curiosities in 1878 when an undergraduate at Pembroke College fixed up two between his digs in St Andrew's street and a little summerhouse at the bottom of the garden. These were absolutely the first seen in Cambridge 24 09 27, 24 10 04 [1.6]

1892
National Telephone Company institutes phone service [2.2]

1896 06 20
Telephone trunk line between Cambridge & London to open [1.18]

1898
Council forbid erection telephone wires across Christ's Pieces [2.4]

1899 01 23
The telegraph service in Cambridge is insufficient as the Telegraph office is closed at 10 o'clock. Only a few years ago it kept open until eleven. In villages whose residents seldom need to send a telegram at night the outlay would not be justified but as far as Cambridge is concerned an all night service would be very much appreciated. The cost would be small in comparison to the convenience afforded. When it is borne in mind that the university has ties with all part of the world, can it be doubted that it is very often a matter of great inconvenience that it is impossible to send a message by telegram, between 10 at night and eight in the morning? 1899 01 23

1900

1900 02 05
The snowstorm at Cambridge had very serious effects upon the telephone service in consequence of the wires being exposed. On Saturday no less than 100 subscribers of the local company were affected and although the company has brought in assistance from Norwich to hurry the repairs it must be two or three days before the complete system is restored. The company is endeavouring to arrange for permission to lay the whole of the wires underground so the general public will be saved a repetition of the present serious inconvenience 00 02 05

1901 08 15
Councillors considered establishing a municipal telephone system for Cambridge. All the firemen could be wired and every office connected with the Corporation. The first system had opened in Tunbridge Wells where the charge was £5.17.6 to cover an unlimited number of calls. The best instruments were used and each subscriber had a wire to himself, so that he did not hear any other people's secrets and they did not hear his. The existing company had dropped their charges from £10 to £4 to be under the Corporation; if it went down to £4 in Cambridge the ratepayers would get the benefit 01 08 15

1902 05 15
Cambridge councillors considered a report on a scheme for the establishment of a municipal telephonic system. The probable cost for a system with 500 subscribers would be £10,000. This was a small sum when the council spent nearly double that amount on certain luxuries. £12,000 would cover the cost of putting down facilities for another 500 lines. If the system were adopted subscribers would be able to get on to the trunk line CDN 1902 05 15

1902 08 16
The Cambridge Express has joined us in sounding a note of warning with regard to the proposed establishment of a municipal telephone system for Cambridge. From a financial point of view the experiment would be decidedly risky. Moreover no one can reasonably find fault with the efficiency of the existing telephone service, although everyone would like to see a reduction in the charges. Even in Tunbridge Wells where municipalisation was taken up with peculiar enthusiasm, they have done little than to pay working expenses. CDN 1902 08 16

1903 05 21
The Cambridge Telephone Committee reported that the mass of existing telephone subscribers lie grouped in the centre; the number of existing lines belonging to the National Telephone Company does not exceed 450 in Cambridge and 20 in Shelford. They would provide for 600 lines with poles for 600 more. Wires would be put underground and out of sight. The Council should apply for a licence to work a telephone system of their own with modern instruments 03 05 21

1903 06 06
Sir – I was surprised to read that Cambridge Town Council is to apply for a licence to establish a municipal telephone. Any scheme of municipal trading which involves large public expenditure should be based on the fullest knowledge. The council has no local experience and are certain to have all the competition of a powerful company, admirably managed and not too scrupulous. They have asked advice from a man whose business is to sell schemes and to be the engineer to carry them out; of course he said it would work. Will a ferret suck a rabbit? – G.A. Matthew 03 06 06

1903 10 10
An instance of the usefulness of the telephone as an aid to the detection of crime was demonstrated at the Cambridge Police Court. Detective Marsh was informed of the theft of a bicycle from Mr Edwards of Emmanuel Street and given the description of the suspect. He telephoned to Bishop Stortford and Herts police arrested the man near Buntingford. The prisoner told the court "If I had had another hour I should have been in London". 03 10 10

1904 01 18
A Warkworth Terrace man told Cambridge magistrates that he believed his neighbours had some artificial means of making their voices heard by him alone: "They use talking machines and electric wires contrived to convey sound to a certain point only. I have seen what look like an electric telegraph wire in their garden beside a system of beams, boards and ropes which I conclude to be part of some telephoning system. Nearby in Melbourn Place there lives a telegraph clerk who searches my room with an exceedingly strong electric searchlight and conveys a message by Marconi's wireless telegraphy to let them know the right time to call out and wake me" 04 01 18

1904 01 27
As I passed through the huge swing doors, the crisp tinkling of electric bells, mingled with a loud confused chatter of female voices, smote on my ear. I was standing for the first time in a Telephone Exchange. I passed through another door into a long low room along the sides of which ran what appeared at first sight to be a huge 'Upright Grand' piano and seated in front of it a long row of girls stretching into an almost dim perspective. Each girl has 200 subscribers to attend to and immediately one lifts his receiver a lamp emits a golden glow and the girl puts a small brass plug in a hole, pushes a lever forward and speaks to him. She then puts another plug in the requested number. 04 01 20

1904 11 14
Some explanation is due to the people who surrounded our offices last night to secure copies of our special edition which we promised for half-past-nine but was not published until an hour later. We had ordered from the Press Association a series of private wires to be dispatched as the Prime Minister's speech was being delivered. But such was the wretched state of the telegraphic arrangements that hardly one of the messages reached Cambridge in under an hour. It is as well that the Post Office is a Government department for any private trader who was so lamentably incompetent would soon find himself in the Bankruptcy Court. 1904 11 14

1905 03 17
A CDN reporter had occasion to send a telegraph message from the Swaffham Prior post office to this paper; he then began to return to Cambridge by cycle; after a leisurely ride he found had beaten the wire. This was an annoyance, bearing in mind the reputed speed of electricity. It appears the message had first to be despatched to Ely where it had to wait before being

transmitted to London, from which it was retransmitted to Cambridge. It arrived one-and-a-half hours after being sent! 05 03 17

1905 08 29
Cambridge councillors refused to allow the Post Office to lay an underground cable along Emmanuel Road to complete a telegraphic communication with Ely if telephone wires belonging to the National Telephone Company were also laid. Now the Postmaster will have to exercise statutory powers to complete the work. There is already direct communication with Ipswich, Norwich and Peterborough; recently a private wire giving the state of play in the Cambs v Norfolk match was handed in at Norwich Post Office and in the offices of the C.D.N. eight minutes later. 05 08 29a & b

1905 09 02
Cambridge council refuses to allow telephone company to lay underground cables & they unable to erect poles; want wayleave payment - 05 09 02

1905 09 23
The differences between the Cambridge Town Council and the National Telephone Company have resulted in a grave situation. A writ ordering the removal of poles from Corporation property has been issued which, if obeyed, would disconnect the whole of Fitzroy Street and Newmarket Road from the rest of the system. The crux of the matter is the Council's decision not to allow the Company to lay underground wires. But this would give a more efficient service and they have offered to pay the Council to do the work and give them half-a-crown per subscriber. 05 09 23 & a

1905 12 15
The telephone trouble – charge for poles – 05 12 15

1905 12 22
Telegrams between Ely and Cambridge are transmitted via London and much time is lost. A Cambridge physician received a wire from Ely requesting his immediate presence. He at once despatched a telegram saying he would travel by the next train, haled a cab and drove to the station. At Ely he had to walk a mile to the house he was visiting – and arrived before the telegram! Considering the intimate connection that exists between the two towns, particularly in the fruit season, this is most undesirable. 05 12 22a

1907 02 09
Sir – when the National Telephone Company started its 'Local Message Rate' in Cambridge the charge was 20 shillings paid in advance for 240 calls with any balance carried forward to next year. After a short time the rate was raised to 30 shillings for 360 calls, now it is to be 50 shillings for 600 calls, but there is no rebate for unused calls. The company says that the use made by some subscribers is too small, but they are seeking to enlarge their profits before being taken over by the Post Office – J.C. Simpson 07 02 09

1907 07 20
The Amalgamated Radio-Telegraphy Company, who own the experimental wireless telegraph stations at Cambridge and Oxford, are converting their appliances to the wireless telephone system of Mr Poulsen, the Danish inventor. It is believed that when the arrangements are completed the voice of a person in Cambridge will be audible at Oxford sixty miles away 07 07 20a

1907 08 27
The telephone system has become such an important factor in daily life that the numbers of new subscribers are matters of moment to every telephone user. In order to keep our readers up to date we will publish monthly lists of alterations and additions which include Cambridge Automobile Co, Illsley and Son, Bull Hotel Stables & Sirdah Hotel 07 08 27

1907 10 19
The public telephone, placed at a railway station, in a shop or hotel is one of the cheapest and most useful of modern conveniences. The telephoned message is far quicker than the telegram and there are over 500,000 telephones in the country. The National Telephone Company has already established over 7,800 'call offices' so one is seldom out of sight of one of the familiar public telephone signs. 07 10 19

1908 03 23
Telephone cables being laid, National Telephone Company - 08 03 23a

1908 06 05
There has been an Alpine fever amongst undergraduates, finding a vent in climbing trees along the Backs. The wireless telegraphy station on the Huntingdon Road has been the site of the latest exploit. This is a pole over 200 feet in height which receives messages from Cumnor Hill near Oxford. Two undergraduates merrily commenced the ascent by means of the metal spikes driven in at convenient intervals and managed to reach the top. But the return voyage was not so easily accomplished and they reached terra firma with a distinct sigh of relief. It is a matter for common wonder what object will next receive the attention of this strange species. CWN 08 06 05 p5 [2.3]

1909
"National Telephone Co opened exchange in Alexandra St" [4.2]

1910

1910 08 19
The Crippen capture has caused Cambridge citizens to pay far more respect to the wireless telegraphy pole standing near the Huntingdon Road. More interest has been aroused by the fact that Crippen and Le Neve's whereabouts were noted by wireless than has been manifested since the invention was first made. 10 08 19c

1910 10 28
The National Telephone Company sought to recover rent for a telephone installed at the premises of Herbert Quinsee cycle and motor engineer, East Road. Quinsee said he'd wanted to be cut off immediately it was installed in 1909. It had been fixed in his workshop, whereas he'd asked for it in the showroom. The company said they would put on extra bells, which he would have to pay for. He could not take the apparatus down because it was not his property but as it was not removed people rang him up. 10 10 28e

1911 03 17
Immediately facing the counter at Cambridge Post Office is a 'penny in the slot' telephone call-box, the property of the National Telephone Company. On Saturday it was discovered that the box containing the pennies had been forced open and emptied of just over eight shillings. The culprit must have been a very cool hand for there were clerks at work opposite as well as members of the public continually passing in and out. 11 03 17g

1911 12 02
National Telephone Company instituted 1892, passed to State [2.2, 2.5]

1912 01 19
Telephonic communication between the police-station and certain police-officers' houses was discussed. Some police houses were simply hired in an ordinary manner and they might have to move the telephone when a new policeman came to a village and took a different house to his predecessor. At Shelford the call office was only about 20 yards from the constable's house, but you couldn't call him. The Chief Constable said he didn't want a constable sitting in the house waiting to be called. His business is to be outside, looking after the property in the village. 12 01 19

1912 04 19
Sir – Cambridge Corporation have instructed all persons in the out-lying parts to telephone the Central Fire Station in case of fire. We in Chesterton are in a very awkward position. We have no telephones for public use. The nearest fire alarm post is at Quayside and one would have to walk, run or cycle there, and then fumble about in a very poor light trying to find out how to work the apparatus. We need a telephone call office instead. A doctor might be sent for, goods ordered from various tradesmen or one might even ring up his best girl – Philip Clare 12 04 19f

1917 07 25
Wireless telegraph mast Huntingdon Road damaged by high winds, old sailor climbed to top, 214 ft to repair – 17 07 25a

1920

1920 05 12
Telephone Kiosks. The Borough Council will tomorrow be asked to approve of the erection of telephone kiosks under the shelter at Hyde Park Corner, and near Sidgwick Avenue (or the side of Queens' Road). Suggested sites on the Newmarket Road (near Abbey Road) and on the public footpath on Mill Road (near Catharine Street) have failed to secure the approval of the Paving etc., Committee, and in the former case the Borough Surveyor has been asked to select a suitable position in Sun Street, whilst in the latter the Post Office authorities have been requested to obtain another site on private property. The attention of the Post Office authorities is to be drawn to the need of a kiosk in the Cambridge Without District and a request made for the erection of one at the junction of Cherry Hinton 20 05 12 CIPof

1920 06 18
Telephone for deaf demonstrated - CDN 20 06 18

1924 09 27
Nowadays telephones are accepted as belonging to the general order of thing that are, and even the proverbial small boy ceases to be curious. Businessmen alternately regard the telephone was an infernal nuisance or an indispensable instrument. Telephones were curiosities in 1878 when an undergraduate at Pembroke College fixed up two between his digs in St Andrew's street and a little summerhouse at the bottom of the garden. These were absolutely the first seen in Cambridge 24 09 27

1927 01 22

With the extension of the Trans-Atlantic telephone service it was appropriate that the first "call" from Cambridge should be to one of the leading American universities. A room at Sidney Sussex College had been fitted up with plenty of receivers and the Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University and the President of Harvard exchanged greeting. Sir Ernest Rutherford then spoke to the President; he said: "We have snow on the ground in Cambridge. Have you also snow". "No I wish we had", was the reply. All were surprised at the clearness of the reception although occasionally it was difficult to distinguish a word owing to the loud volume of sound. Nevertheless effective conversation was possible, there being an entire absence of atmospherics 27 01 22

1928 06 05
The first paid Marconigram was transmitted on June 3rd, 30 years ago. It was sent by Lord Kelvin who was visiting Senatore Marconi's experimental wireless station on the Isle of Wight. In order to illustrate his belief in its commercial future, Lord Kelvin insisted upon paying one shilling for a wireless telegram to be sent to Sir George Stokes at Lensfield Cottage, Union Road, Cambridge. 28 06 05

1928 11 20
Members of the Cambridge public who have been mystified by the appearance of wooden huts in various places will be interested to learn they are police telephone boxes. They will be small sub-police stations. Each will contain a telephone in a cupboard which the public can use to get in touch with the Central Police Station, but not for general calls. The box itself will only be accessible to the police. Thirteen are to be

1929 06 19
Cambridge Post office talk – CDN 19.6.1929

1930

1930 12 20
Cambridge people can now send their Christmas greetings by picture telegraphy – at a price. They must post their picture telegram direct to the Central Telegraph Office at a cost of £1 for the minimum size picture of 15 square inches up to 70 square inches for which the charge is £4 13s 6d. 30 12 20c

1934 01 13
New equipment connects trunk calls in 120 seconds instead of half-an-hour [1.7]

1934 08 28
The opening of the new exchange at Trumpington is the first step towards the great change-over to automatic telephones. Engineers dashed to remove the wooden plugs which set the system working and waited for the first call. Soon a line crackled and a bulb lit up. But it was a false alarm. The second caller had forgotten the changeover and, not getting a verbal answer, hung up. Twice more this happened but after eleven minutes a call came through from the Trumpington A.A. box and the new apparatus was officially launched. 34 08 28

1934 09 08
Cambridge automatic telephone exchange progress – 34 09 08

1935 04 06

Post office telephone engineers have been installing the switches and relays necessary to complete the new Cambridge automatic exchange. It the most up-to-date in the country and incorporates new features. Soon subscribers will hear what is known as the 'ringing' tone -'burr-butt-burr-burr'. If the number is engaged another tone – 'buzz-buzz-buzz-buzz' will be heard while a continuous high-pitch sound means it is unobtainable. Those uncertain of what these mean can dial '91' for a demonstration 35 04 06 & b

1935 05 03
Automatic telephone exchange opens [1.9, 1.1, 1.2]

1936 03 23
The King's Coronation may be televised as will next year's boat race, Post Office engineers were told. "How are we going to do that? Some think that in 10 years' time people who have got the telephone service will want to use those wires for a re-diffusion service for broadcasts. It means that every wire has got to carry a much greater frequency and you will have to re-lay the undergrounds. I cannot see the end of these expansions. None of us can", the Superintending Engineer asked. 36 03 23 & a

1936 10 24
New telephone calls boxes being installed – cartoon – 36 10 24b

1937 06 14
Car struck a telephone kiosk on Trumpington Road smashing it so completely that only the base remained; the roof land upside-down some distance away – photo – 37 06 15

1938 03 30
Telephone Manager's office opens in Cambridge – amalgamation of various telephone services into one body; engineers provided the lines and apparatus but needed sales department & operating staff. Superintending Engineer's office had been in Cambridge for 70 years – 38 03 30

1938 04 25
Telephone developments of future described – 38 04 25b

1939 03 04
Demolition of Camden Place to make way for Cambridge telephone area head office [1.11]

1940

1944 05 05
Telephone supervisor, Grace Curzon retires after 45 years; was one of two telephone operators in Trunk Exchange of Old Post Office. The local telephone exchange was on Market Hill under control of the National Telephone Company. In 1913 the Post Office took control and a combined trunk and local exchange was installed in old Telephone Exchange premises in Alexandra Street. When automatic telephone working was introduced in 1925 it moved to new head Post Office in St Andrew's Street – 44 05 05a

1945 10 08
How the Post Office beat the 'Blitz' – 'fixed bayonets' at G.P.O., Americans and phone boxes – CDN 1945 10 08b

1946 02 12

Post Office launches '999' scheme – instead of '0' for calls to fire, police and ambulance – 46 02 12

1948 07 29
D.E. Knapman, telephone manager of the Cambridge area told Rotarians that there were 4,000 people in the area waiting for telephones. He said there are two separate wires running from the exchange right back to your house which are yours and only yours. It would be impossible to run out a separate pair of wires every time somebody asked for a telephone. They try and forecast 30 years ahead the number of subscribers they will get and then lay cable under the ground. In Sidney Street are seven or eight thousand wires serving Chesterton and the Milton Road districts 48 07 29

1950

1951 10 01
Some 80 Post Office engineers in the Cambridge Telephone area – stretching from North London to the Wash - began work today on converting 1,700 coin boxes on telephones to take 3d instead of 2d for local calls. The increased charge came into operation today when the additional charge for trunk or toll calls was also increased. Some 300 boxes are being converted in Cambridge and work will be completed in a the next few days 51 10 01 [1.15]

1951 12 24
Please give your phone a rest on Christmas Day unless a call is really essential – and allow many Cambridge Exchange operators to have their Christmas dinners at home in peace. The Telephone Manager, Mr W.E. Dance, has made special staffing arrangements which means there will be 30 operators at the switchboard. On other days there are 130 day and 80 night operators at the controls. The normal daily number of calls dealt with is about 11,000 (quite apart from dialled calls). For those who still intend to telephone on Christmas day he offers this gentle reminder – "Sorry but we can give you no concession charges between 6 pm and 10.30 pm on those days" 51 12 24

1953 01 23
A decision to build a new £100,000 telephone exchange in Cambridge was revealed at the annual Christmas party of the male telephonists of Cambridge G.P.O. It will be quite a big new building, in Trumpington Road. Mr G.S. Cumming, the Chief Night Supervisor, said that the night telephonist's job was very important and evening calls provide the greatest degree of happiness that the telephone service gives. During the night most of the calls were vitally important. His staff were really wonderful and their wives had a lot to do with it – they sent the men to work happy.

1955 12 12
The G.P.O. has connected over 6,300 new telephones in the Cambridge area during the past year. Although this is a record achievement the demand for new connections has also exceeded all previous figures. Seven new major exchanges and 30 minor building extensions are planned. During the past year the called handled each day by the operators has approached half a million 55 12 12b-c

1956
Calls up from 3d to 4d [1.24]

1956 11 02

A new telephone exchange to be built in St Tibb's Row will one day house the equipment for Cambridge's link-up with the rest of the country on a national trunk dialling system. Old cottages used for storage, small office units and workshops facing on to Post Office Terrace will be demolished for an extension of the present telephone exchange and in early 1961 engineers will install equipment to meet the needs of 3,000 new subscribers. In 1935 there were 2,700 telephone subscribers on the Cambridge exchange; now this has trebled to 7,700 and will reach 10,000 by 1960. 56 11 02d & e

1956 12 01
New equipment developed by Pye of Cambridge means that six times as many people can use radio communications and foreshadows immense developments. Telephones for the use of the travelling public in aeroplanes, railways and road services are now a possibility and a radio-telephone could become a standard fitting in all road vehicles, C.O. Stanley predicted. 56 12 01b

1956 12 04
If you have seen a street fight and want to report it or are a motorist lost in Cambridge and want to know your way, it is simple. You go to the nearest Police Pillar, open the door and pick up the telephone inside. At once you are in touch with the information room at police headquarters. The Mayor made the first 'emergency' call from the Police Pillar in Drummer Street and within minutes a sleek black saloon containing two stalwart policemen drew up. 56 12 04

1957 02 01
Elsie Cousins of Histon works as a switchboard operator at the Guildhall. She really enjoys her job with hundreds of calls daily. With 94 telephone extensions and 13 exchange lines she is pretty busy. She can remember over 100 telephone numbers including those of the homes and offices of most councillors. She cannot remember when last a caller was difficult. Many ask her questions like 'Where can I get married' or want directions to the colleges. 57 02 01

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 11 30
'Telex' is the system businesses use for sending printed messages to one another – a kind of private telegraph service by which the operating of a typewriter keyboard at one end produces a typed impression on a roll of paper at the other. It is used by 40 local subscribers including Cambridge police, Pye, Fisons, Corrugated Cases at Histon, Herbert Robinson and the American Air Force. Now it has been converted to automatic working so by a simple dialling action followed by some work on the keyboard a business in Cambridge can send a typed message to an associate in Glasgow 60 11 30

1962 06 11
New telephone exchange opened, Long Road [1.25]
New Post Office trunk telephone exchange planned – feature – 62 06 11

1965 03 26
New Cambridge Automatic Trunk Switching centre in Long Road opened. Subscriber trunk dialling provides a better trunk service 65 03 26b [4.1]

1966 09 07
Pye pocket radio-telephone exhibited – 66 09 07

1970

1972 07
National Telephone Company opened an exchange in Alexandra Street in 1905, now to demolish demolition [4.2]

1974 06 19
The £2 ½ million extension to the Cambridge trunk telephone exchange in Long Road was declared open. It has more than doubled the size of the original building which was opened in 1965. The ceremony also celebrated the recent completion of STD facilities. Cambridge is the first area in the Eastern region to have 100% STD facilities. By 1976 Cambridge people should be able to telephone direct to North America and most of Europe, covering 65% of the world's telephones 74 06 19 [4.3]

1976 03 12
Direct-dialling to USA opens [4.4]

1980

1980 04 03
International telephone bureau Lion Yard opens [4.5]

1980 04 21
An entirely new kind of telephone has been developed by Patcentre International of Melbourn. It uses a high-frequency radio link which would 'beam up' to a microwave receiver installed on an ordinary telephone poles or high buildings. A user wanting to make a call would simply stand under one, dial and speak. The cost of his call would automatically be added to his bill. The company think it has a real future but might take time to get accepted and production is years into the future. 80 04 21

1980 10 28
First new blue payphones [4.6]

1981 02 05
Cambridge is one of the centres for a new electronic mail network launched by the Post Office. The pioneer Intelpost service means than information can be delivered in hours in a replica of its original form. Drawings and hand-written matter can be transmitted to 17 other post offices The service is confidential and operating staff who see documents are under legal obligations not to reveal their contents. The rate is £2 for the first page and is backed up by a speedy hand-delivery system. which costs £2.50. 81 02 05a

1981 04 01
Pye Business Communications is marketing a revolutionary office intercom system, the M100S, which, literally, speaks for itself. A voice unit will verbally tell a caller if a particular extension is in a meeting or on holiday. It can also take a video screen which will flash up information such as a user transferring to another extension or an absence or holiday list. All the information is put into a microcomputer exchange by the keys or dials of the intercom and telephones 81 04 01a

1981 09 05
The traditional job of a telephone operator, to connect calls, has virtually disappeared now people can dial most numbers direct with STD. They take 999 calls, intercept calls when numbers have changed and deal with faults. Directory Enquiries is one of the busiest sides of the work. This is

easier now they use screens to look up the numbers on microfilm instead of going through 'phone books. They are allowed about a minute a call so if an inquiry takes a long time, others may pile up. Calls are taken in sequence: if a caller hangs up and dials again they go to the back of the queue. 81 09 05a

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1982 01 28

The 670 telephone subscribers at Arrington have become part of a significant step in providing a more reliable telephone network in Britain. For their exchange and the one in Cambridge, both System X, have been directly interconnected – the first such pairing by digital means. Arrington customers will notice faster dialling on the computer-controlled electronic exchange of the future 82 01 28

1982 09 30

System X, optical fibre tested [4.7]

1984 02 03

Cleaners of telephone kiosks have defended their work in keeping them spick and span. One man cleans 50 kiosks a day, washing the inside with disinfectant, cleaning the handsets, wiping the parcel shelf and light fittings. He also has to sweep up cigarette ends, apple cores, sweet papers and other bits. It can take a gallon of disinfectant to clean up after it has been used as a lavatory. On one occasion someone tried to commit suicide by slashing his wrists on the glass panel and the cleaners had to mop up the blood. Kiosks are also a target for vandals with every pane of glass broken and even the door missing. 84 02 03 p25

1984 05 15

A telephone in one's car must represent one-upmanship. Pye Telecom has just introduced its new radiophone. Electricians are using them, so are plumbers. Not only is it a boon, it is also the most infuriating device ever invented by man. It costs around £2,350 to buy and a further £100 to have it fitted. Then there is a maintenance contract and British Telecom fees of £105 a quarter. For this it is theoretically possible to send and receive ordinary telephone calls to and from your car. In practice they are patchy in the Cambridge area 84 05 15 p16

1985 03 21

Cambridge University's proposed new telephone system has met with an angry response from dons. The scheme was 'buying a racehorse to harness a milk float' and members in scientific departments had already suffered enough with sophisticated equipment that became obsolete in five years. A central switchboard is no substitute for the personal service offered by receptionists in individual departments who had detailed knowledge of staff habits. Departments also object to having to collect the cost of private calls rather than just logging them through the local operator. 85 03 21a

1985 09 24

First cellnet call [4.8]

1986 06 22
System X, optical fibre in operation [4.7]

1987 01 10
What could be the oldest phone box in the county has gone on sale in Cambridge. The wooden box with leaded windows has been at the Cambridge & County Bowling Club for more than 50 years. But time has taken its toll and the phone has been moved inside the pavilion. The kiosk, which dates back to the 1930s, is on sale for £50 to anyone who could use a strange-looking shed or has a penchant for the past. (It was bought by a Gt Shelford newsagent who planned to restore it as a garden hut for his children.) 87 01 10 & 13b

1987 11 30
Melbourn-based PA Technology is behind the launch of a pioneering public phone service. ZonePhones are second-generation cordless telephones designed for use in the home, office or street. Owners of the new equipment, which will retail for about £250, can use base stations at distances of more than 200 yards. Its operation is entirely digital with speech transmitted over British Telecom's system like an ordinary call. In time mobile telephones and mobile data terminals will become as common as the ordinary telephone is today, they predict 87 11 30

1989 02 28
Camfax is a new Cambridge company specialising in the supply of facsimile machines. The Harris/3M transmits a standard page of text in as little as ten seconds. As it uses the telephone line, the faster it transmits, the lower the communication costs. It has a no paper memory, retaining communications until more paper is loaded. The most popular model sells for £1,200 and can be connected to a car phone to be used in conjunction with cellular radio 89 02 28

1990 05 02
Rabbit, the new cordless phone system based in Cambridge is to be launched in September. Based at Westbrook Centre. To install numerous base stations – 90 05 02

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Televising boxing match, 1955 *201.14*

c.27.8: Radio and Television

Developments in radio & television

1896
Rutherford transmits first radio signal from Cavendish laboratory to Madingley Road Observatory [1.15]

1910

1913 02 28
Cambridgeshire has been chosen for a series of experiments with the new patent wireless telegraphy apparatus invented by Senor Marconi, which can be fitted on four pack horses and erected in six minutes. The first experiment was made at Saffron Walden when the new 'Pack Station' consisting of a small petrol motor, transmitter and receiver and 30ft high aerial mast was erected on the common and wireless messages were received from Chelmsford. Next day it was erected at Somersham where experiments were continued. It will be moved across Cambridgeshire 13 02 28 p8 CIP

1920

1921

Pye Ltd changed to radio 1921 when lapse in demand for instruments

1922
Broadcasting in public sense starts, Pye radios sell well [1.15]

1922 07 22
Cambridge Daily News start series of articles instructing in use of radio receiver [2.11]

1922 09 16
Wireless amateurs who are not owner-occupiers are discovering that landlords object to the putting up of aerials. Radio enthusiasts will probably do better to wait until it becomes certain on what lines the broadcasting hobby will be developed and perfected. It is not making such rapid progress as people expected and those who wait a little will probably save money. By all accounts it will not be necessary to have aerials at all. Any ordinary electric light installations will provide all that is necessary for an efficient wireless aerial. It there is neither electric light or bells, gas pipes can be used, or failing this a wire garden fence, or it may be said nothing more than a pair of knitting needles will be essential. All this remains to be proved and just as it took a long while to perfect the gramophone so we must expect it to be with wireless developments 22 09 16

1922 11 21
The growth of wireless since its first invention is truly wonderful, and one cannot fail to be impressed with the way in which it has been simplified. The present arrangements for "broadcasting" have resulted in the setting up of many private installations in Cambridge and some of the finest "sets" are being produced at Messrs G.H. Pye's works in Cam Road. In 1921 this firm experienced a very slack time, and in order to keep their workers employed, they commenced experiments in wireless. They are now producing as fast as they can simplified receiving sets of two to five valves 22 11 21

1922 12 09
The Cambridge & District Wireless Society had a "full house" at their demonstration on broadcasting. Mr T. Robinson, manager of Pye's Scientific Instrument Co. had very kindly consented to demonstrate their latest broadcast receiver of five valves attached to which was a Magnavox loud-speaking telephone. Mr Robinson tuned up for the London broadcasting station and amongst the items heard were Mr Vivian Foster, known to Cambridge theatre-goers as the "vicar of mirth" who entertained the audience by his witty sayings. During the evening the Birmingham and Manchester broadcasting stations were also received. The latest news, billiard scores, market reports and latest weather report were items among a very varied programme 22 12 09

1923 07 30
Soon after seven o'clock on Sunday evening passers-by in the vicinity of Newmarket Road were somewhat surprised by the appearance of a saloon car carrying a wildness outfit. The aerial was comparatively large, and was suspended from two poles at either end of the roof. The sight was sufficiently rare to cause much curiosity and comment. A number of new inventions have been referred to in our wireless articles and it is easy to foresee that in a few years, far from being a novelty, no car will be complete without its wireless installation 23 07 30

1924 04
Crowds on Market Hill listen to Kings speech at opening of Wembley exhibition [2.12]

1925 05 20
Cambridge Poor Law Guardians considered installing wireless apparatus at the Institution. Mrs Keynes said some members were not entirely satisfied that it would be a very great boon to the inmates, partly because of the nature of the entertainment and partly because the best part of the performance usually came on after their inmates had gone to bed. The chairman handed round copies of the "Radio Times" to enable members to see the types of programmes given. Messrs Allin's estimate for a six-valve set with five loud speakers was £65. Chesterton Institution had installed three loud speakers and they were appreciated 25 05 20

1925 08
Mammoth Show committee launch 'wireless year' aiming to provide Addenbrooke's Hospital with a phone at each bed [1.16]

1926 03 24
The action of the Master of the Cambridge Workhouse in ordering without authority the fixing of five extra wireless plugs evoked an indignant discussion. The Wireless Committee reported that they had provided for 12 plug points, one of which was in the Master's dining room. He had ordered five extra, including one in his drawing room and another in his bedroom. Mr Lofts asked: "Does the Master want singing to sleep" (Laughter). They did not consider it necessary for the Master to have three plugs in his own quarters and they should be removed 26 03 24

1926 12 16
The Cambridge Camera and Wireless Co. of Alexandra Street offers a very complete range of component parts or complete wireless sets. The famous Pye sets can be seen in their windows, also the self-contained "Britamax All-Wave" receivers. Specialities of this firm include reliable, but cheap H.T. batteries, valves and loud speakers 26 12 16

1927 06 13
One of the largest crowds in memory witnessed the last of what may go down in history as the "Microphone Mays". Both banks of the Cam at Ditton presented the spectacle of an unbroken line of sightseers. There were three men up a tree at Ditton Paddock; they and their friend the microphone were telling all England what was happening and theirs was truly a romance of the tree tops. One wonders how many old Cambridge men were listening-in to a drama in which they once played a part. 27 06 13

1929 08 21
Wireless broadcasting masts, Ely – CDN 21.8.1929

1929 09 18
New wireless station transmitter benefits Cambridge CDN 18.9.1929

1930

1930 09 12
The Edison Bell Gramophone and Radio Works at Huntingdon employ over 300 people. About 30,000 'Radio' records are made each week; they are stamped out between dies and passed to girls to put the edge and finishing touches. Various gramophones and wirelesses are manufactured including compact two and three valve 'all-main' sets in preparation for the Radio Exhibition. Amongst the machinery used are automatic lathes which need no human attention. 30 09 12

1930 12 20
Miller's all-electric wireless receivers photos – 30 12 20

1931 07 17
A wireless broadcast relay service may be installed in Cambridge. Rediffusion wish to place wires over the streets and would pay the Corporation £250 per annum for the first 1,000 subscribers. The charge would be 1s 6d a week, plus sixpence for a loud speaker and ten shillings for the Post Office wireless licence. But the service was limited to one programme and was nothing like as good as having a set of your own 31 07 17f

1931 08 28
The Cambridge Radio Relay Company has been formed by local firms. Many people who would not go to the bother of erecting aerials could get really good reception for a moderate outlay. The best programmes would be broadcast, trouble free and without the erection of unsightly posts and wires. The mains are carried by arrangement with G.P.O. telephone lines to the various districts. The service would also be useful for local S.O.S. messages by locating people at short notice. 31 08 28c

1931 08 28
'Hello! Folks', the wireless celebrity entertainment which presents world-famous BBC stars in person will be produced at the Cambridge New Theatre. It will be presented by Tommy Handley, the renowned comedian, and include the Fayre Sisters, Mabel Marks, Wilson Hallett who mimics children, Mario Lorenzi the West End concert harpist and Jack Payne the whistling newsboy 31 08 28d

1931 10 19
A combined exhibition by members of the Wireless Retailers' Association opened at the Cambridge Guildhall. J.T. Harvey of Aylestone Road is showing sets all of his own manufacture, the receivers being especially adapted for Cambridge listeners. W.K. Islip displayed Murphy Ultra products as well as Cossar kits and Beethoven portables while R. Lathbury of Castle Street sells Kelster Brandes including the Kobra three-valve complete with loud speaker. 31 10 19g & h

1933 05 22
Wireless relay service report – 33 05 22a

1933 05 25
Cambridge councillors rejected plans for the provision of a wireless relay service. People who could not afford expensive wireless sets could receive programmes by possession of a loud-speaker. The continual exchanging of unsatisfactory wireless sets was an expensive item for meagre incomes while subscription to a relay would secure perfect reception. But it would give a monopoly of news and programmes into the hands of one company and increase the number of unsightly wires over back gardens 33 05 25

1933 11 10
Sir - The London and North-Eastern Railway are to withdraw wireless from their London-Leeds trains blaming the 'prohibitive' charges announced by the Performing Rights Society for the use of its copyright music. But the fee is only three shillings a week per train and when challenged they now say the service was uneconomic and had never covered its cost. The payment of a fee to the composer is as much a cost of production as the ten shilling licence to the BBC or the installation of earphones – C.F. James, Performing Rights Society. 33 11 10

1933 11 14
The University Engineering Society was packed for the first public demonstration of television in Cambridge with the picture being transmitted from one side of the room to the other and projected on a four foot square screen. After a pause while the transmitter and receiver were synchronised, the room was plunged into total darkness, then suddenly there appeared on the screen the blurred and flickering figure of an undergraduate's head and shoulders. He caused some amusement by blowing his nose several times. Later a microphone was brought into use and sound, as well as pictures, 'came across' 33 11 14 [1.3]

1934 11 29
Many Cambridge people listened to the Royal Wedding of the Duke of Kent and Princess Marina by medium of the wireless. Some of those without a set hired one for the occasion. A CDN report who listened to the broadcast in a car was able to hear every word of the ceremony as microphones followed the progress of the two lovers inside the Abbey. The sweet singing of the choir and the pealing of the organ mingled into one glorious harmony. Then millions of listeners in cottage and mansion, in office and home heard the royal lovers plight their troth – and heard the voice of the beautiful Princess Marina for the first time. 34 11 29 & a

1935 04 06
"A broadcast of the future": old rowers watch race on large TV screen – 35 04 06

1935 10 07
The Cambridge Wireless Retailers Association show has several stands carrying a full range of the local product, Pye, including the all-wave model, the radiogramophone and the battery and all-elect superhets and portables. For those who have a preference for non-factory made sets there is the Harvey model. This locally-made receiver is made by hand with all the skill and care which expert workmanship can give it. One of the features for which it is noted is its great reliability. 35 10 07b

1936 01 17
It is many years since Raymond Bennett was a Cambridge semi-professional entertainer who made early appearances in cine-variety at the Playhouse, Mill Road. He has progressed rapidly and Cambridge audiences now have an opportunity of seeing him at the Theatre Cinema with his partner of many broadcasts. Bennett and McNaughton have achieved great success on the music halls, including the Holborn Empire, and have attained great popularity as broadcasting stars. Those who have listened to their broadcasts will be glad of this opportunity of renewing acquaintance with a popular local artiste 36 01 17

1936 03 23
The King's Coronation may be televised as will next year's boat race, Post Office engineers were told. "How are we going to do that? Some think that in 10 years' time people who have got the telephone service will want to use those wires for a re-diffusion service for broadcasts. It means that every wire has got to carry a much greater frequency and you will have to re-lay the undergrounds. I cannot see the end of these expansions. None of us can", the Superintending Engineer asked. 36 03 23 & a

1936 04 23
Cambridge Short Wave Club was formed to foster and maintain interest in short wave radio, discuss problems, provide technical literature and exchange 'junk'. They hoped to install a club transmitter and arrange instruction in Morse for beginners. H.W. Scott presided at the first

meeting when a large number of short wave fans attended together with transmitters 5JO, 2PL, 6HD, 2KW and 5PU 36 04 23

1936 06 06
Friends of the Cambridge Town Silver Band will be glad to know that they are to give another broadcast on Saturday afternoon. This will be on the 'National' wave length but all B.B.C. stations are taking the programme. Last time the band opened with an original item by the conductor (Mr R.E. Austin) called 'Cambridge Bells' which featured the melody of the Roman Catholic Church chimes. This time they will start with his new military march 'Cantabrigia'. The band will be having a busy day for that evening they will be playing for the promenade concert on Christ's Pieces 36 06 06b

1936 11 28
The Truevoice Recording Studio in Jesus Lane is now open every day for the producing of gramophone records. Your opportunity to hear yourself on a perfect 10 inch double sided wax record for a fee of 10/6. Children's voices faithfully reproduced. Specially equipped studio for music and orchestral recordings. These records make ideal Christmas Gifts to your friends. Why not make one and send it to them. They will be delighted – Advert. 36 11 28b

1937 02 06
Although rebuilt as recently as 1935, Robinson's garage in St Andrew's Street has again been enlarged to meet ever-increasing business. This has enabled them to enlarge their radio department which is quite distinct from the motoring side of the business. It is staffed by men who have made radio their special study and offers hundreds of brand-new sets (some in their original cases) at pounds below list prices. The radio service department is one of the finest in the entire country with engineers from Marconi, H.M.V. and Pye factories. 37 02 06c & d

1937 03 03
Cambridge transmitter, G2XV, is one of the most successful amateur short wave radiotelephony stations in the country. Its semi-vertical antenna enables it to be heard on the 20-metre band in almost all corners of the world, including Australia, New Zealand, India, Honolulu and every state in the USA. It is owned by G.A. Jeapes of Perne Road, whose interest in short-wave transmissions goes back to the days before radio broadcasting was ever thought of. 37 03 03

1937 05 12
At the Coronation celebrations one small tent attracted probably more interest than any other with the possible exception of the tea tent. It contained a Pye television apparatus and during the afternoon many availed themselves of the opportunity of seeing the actual Coronation procession taking place. Although Cambridge is almost out of range of Alexandra Palace, everything came through very well. Almost the only interference was experienced when the motor racing was being held in the area only a few yards away 37 05 12b

1937 11 06
Cartoon showing new Mayor, Saville Peck in a Council radio studio – 37 11 06a

1938 03 10
Cambridge Reference Library was packed to capacity for a lecture and demonstration on television by Mr D. Jackson of Pye Ltd. Severe electrical interference unfortunately ruined the first half of the programme from the Alexandra Palace but when after half-past-nine this eased off they were able to see some quite good vision signals and appreciate the high standard which can

be expected in an area where interference is not so acute as it is in the centre of the town. 38 03 10

1940

1942 07 04
David's bookstall featured in Canadian radio broadcast, started 1886 now one of oldest on market– 42 07 04

1943 04 10
Radio programme features Cambridge requests [1.4]

1943 12 11
Anglo-American Christmas party broadcast from Guildhall , 43 12 11, 44 01 28[1.5]

1944 10 24
Gardeners' Question Time broadcast from Guildhall – 44 10 24

1945 11 01
Revolutionary new television system demonstrated by Pye Ltd in their television theatre – would allow production receivers for £40 – CDN 1945 11 01

1947 08 09
Fens floods story broadcast, 47 08 09 p6

1948 03 23
Sir - May I remind correspondents that they are expecting their television receivers to operate satisfactorily under extremely adverse conditions. Not only are they over 40 miles from Alexandra Palace, which is considered the optimum distance for reliable reception, but they are resident in areas of high density of population, with its resultant interference from all forms of domestic apparatus, such as reaction receivers, vacuum cleaners, thermostatically controlled irons, cookers and water heaters, electric fans and motors, cars and other heavy road transport. They are extremely lucky to be able to receive and signal at all - Radio Engineer 48 03 23

1948 06 26
Six undergraduates have published a report setting forth the possibilities of creating a University Radio Station in Cambridge, operated by undergraduates and broadcasting regular programmes in term time for a local audience. A specimen programme shows it would have excepts from local functions, interviews, reading, dramatic and musical productions, sport, news and talks on a variety of subjects 48 06 26 [1.8]

1948 07 23
Radio is to be brought into place shortly to help Cambridgeshire fire fighters. Two fire engines and four staff cars at the Newmarket Road Headquarters are to be fitted with a V.H.F.-type speech transmitter and receiver, similar to those fitted to R.A.F. planes. The fixed 12-watt transmitter will also be used by the police force to originate their message operation. The two fire engines fitted with radio are the ones normally sent out immediately on receipt of a fire call. "The advantage of using radio is that we have no need to depend on telephone for getting reinforcements," said Chief Officer Knowles 48 07 23

1948 11 06

Numbers of viewers increase, "788 tv viewers in Cambridge" [1.10]

1948 11 13
"972 licences now" [1.9]

1948 11 26
For the first time anywhere in the world, a new series of television was used to promote road safely at Cambridge. Traffic scenes on Market Hill were televised to the Accident Prevention Exhibition in the Corn Exchange. "Closed-circuit" as it is called is the latest development of the Cambridge firm of Pye Ltd. Two cameras were operated, one fixed to the balcony of the Guildhall and the other on top of a van at the corner of Petty Cury. Along this narrow, one-way street, between 8am and 6pm approximately 7,000 bicycles and 2,000 other vehicles pass each weekday. The slow speed of the traffic and its one-way direction helps to keep the accident rate down 48 11 26

1949 01 28
"Down Your Way" came down this way when a BBC mobile recording unit spent a day "canning" material for next Sunday's broadcast in the Light Programme. Various personalities of the town, university and district were interviewed by Richard Dimbleby.. Amongst them were Mr R. Shorrock who works for Pest Control Ltd, Miss M. Stuart, secretary of the Arts Theatre, Mr Fred Hudson, a television tester at Pye Ltd, Mrs Maltby who made the robe in which the Queen received her honorary degree, and Mr R, J. Pointer who is a CND linotype operator 49 01 28

1949 02 04
Sir – I should like to appeal to local amateur radio transmitters to refrain from transmitting during the limited periods of the day and evening when television programmes are broadcast. The interference can blot out the picture on all television screens in the vicinity, taking the form of a "trellis" pattern or light an dark bands on the picture. Radio dealers and service engineers have only two hours a day during business hours when they can demonstrate and test television receivers and would appreciate more consideration from the radio amateurs who have the remaining 20 hours during which to transmit (evening programmes occupying about two hours) – Televiewer 49 02 04

1949 02 12
The BBC have completed tests and accepted delivery of a new Outside Broadcast Control Vehicle from Pye ltd of Cambridge. Everything required for the production and transmission of a complete television broadcast is contained in this unique mobile unit, the most modern equipment of its kind in the world, including a set of three of the latest Pye turret-headed television cameras. It is the first Pye outside broadcast vehicle produced for the BBC and the first to go into regular service since the war c49 02 12

1949 03 26
Television brought the boat race into thousands of homes with equipment produced by Pye Radio Ltd playing a prominent part. A Pye transmitter was on the launch "Conseuta" and the static cameras from Barnes Bridge onwards were a product of the Cambridge firm. The relay was a tremendous success, with viewers sharing every one of the thrills of this greatest of all boat races. Approximately 600 people heard the broadcast in the Central Cinema. This evening there will be a free television show by Pye in the circle lounge c49 03 26

1949 04 18

A police radio network covering Cambridgeshire, the Isle of Ely, Huntingdonshire and Peterborough has come into operation. Now within a few minutes of any incident being reported the nearest cruising police cars can be speeding to the spot. Radio will help greatly in car theft cases, enabling descriptions of missing vehicles to be circulated in a few seconds over a wide area. The Fire Brigade is also in the scheme. The master station through which the whole scheme is controlled is situated at County Police Headquarters, Castle Hill, Cambridge 49 04 18

1949 09 27
A story of high-pressure work since last March under a top-secret cloak lies behind the announcement that Pye Ltd of Cambridge will give the first successful demonstration of colour television in this country at Radiolympia. Research into colour television has proceeded for a long time, but it was only in March that the decision was made to produce the intricate equipment required. The secrecy with which this work proceeded is indicated by the fact that Pye's employees themselves have not yet seen a demonstration. The firm say that colour television is still many years off 49 09 27

1949 11 25
"Ben", the talking dog owned by Mr Alfred Brissenden of Royston, is to make another broadcast. Now eight years old "Ben" will appear on the Light Programme. It will be remembered that "Ben" is no stranger to the microphone, having appeared in television "Picture Page" in September 1946, when he almost "let down the side" by mistaking a fellow artiste's fur coat for a cat. Eminent veterinary surgeons have examined "Ben's" vocal apparatus and have been considerably impressed by his accomplishment. Unfortunately when making his NBC broadcast in 1946, "Ben" developed mike-fright and it is hoped his performance on Thursday will reproduce perfectly for the delight of his many fans. 49 11 25

1950

1950 03 01
A swifter and more efficient ambulance service is in action this week – thanks to radio control. This innovation, which has already proved its worth with the police and fire brigade, has had a successful trial with the county ambulance service. Radio control was fitted to their four ambulances and two utilicons by Pye Telecommunications and all vehicles are in constant call from the control room, newly equipped with receiver, transmitter and microphone. A number of Cambridge commercial firms have now followed the lead of Camtax in installing radio telephones and Cambridge must be among the world's most advanced towns in the field of radio control 50 03 01

1950 03 25
Workers Playtime broadcast from Marshall's [1.19]

1950 05 13
One in four Cambridge homes have radio licence (43,246) [1.20]
"2848 tv licences holders in Cambridge area, an increase of 1,227 in year" [1.20]

1950 09 22
Television viewers in De Freville district found themselves "looking in" to an extra programme after the BBC transmission had finished. An explanation from the Chairman of Pye Ltd, "we were televising at the works on a closed-circuit and there was a leaky cable", he said. A viewer said, "We saw Annette Mills and her puppet kitten doing some washing, Dickie Murdock also appeared as did Jack and Daphne Barker. There was some advertising matter including a

reference to the Cambridge Chamber of Commerce. The transmission came from a transmitter the Pye Company was testing out prior to ending it to an exhibition in Berlin. 50 09 22

1950 10 18
Cambridge housing committee recommends the installation of television sets should not be allowed at Donkey Common, as it would not be advisable to erect aerials on the roof of the huts. If erected independently they would have to be supported by guy-ropes which might prove a nuisance to other tenants and a danger to children 50 10 10

1950 11 01
Mr C.O. Stanley, Managing Director of Pye Ltd told the Radio Industries Club luncheon, "we have now arrived at a time when we should put down a second television system in this country – a system which operates two programmes on the ultra-high frequency band, both in colour at the same time; one to be operated by the BBC and the other by commercial interests. We have to have alternatives, I don't think it is possible to put out a single programme and cover the tastes of everyone" 50 11 01

1951 03 31
Workers Playtime broadcast from Pye's [1.21]

1951 07 27
Two hundred London taxis took the road this morning under orders for the first time, over a short wave radio network system pioneered by Pye Radio technicians from Cambridge. In London, at a big party attended by top stage and screen stars to celebrate the inauguration of this new radiocab service was Mr Harry Woolgar, a director of Pye Telecommunications Ltd. He said: "This is the largest radio-telephone system taxi network in Europe and we are planning a larger system capable of directing 1,000 taxis". Pye got the job because it pioneered fitting radio telephones to police cars and ambulances and was the first to use short-wave radio for agricultural use. 51 07 27

1951 08 22
Some of the world's leading television scientists are in Cambridge for a Convention at the Cavendish Laboratory. So far as can be seen, television receivers will never again be so cheap as they are today. New valves, new circuits and new T.V. cameras form part of the discussions; two papers have been written by members of local firms. Messrs J.E. Cope, L.W. Germany & R. Theile of Pye-Cathodeon will speak on the Image Iconoscope Type Television Camera Tube c51 08 21

1951 11 05
A team of six etymologists was selected for the BBC Programme of "Say The Word" and coached with practice questions at the Houghton Hall, Cambridge. In the basement an elaborate apparatus was connected to the G.P.O to relay the programme directly to the recording chambers of the BBC. A brilliant five-minutes dissertation was provided by Dylan Thomas, the well-known poet, who was filling the role as visiting word expert. Bringing piquant Welsh humour to a funereal topic he illuminated his audience as to the origin of the phrase "Kicking the Bucket" 51 11 05

1952 01 01
The first Provincial 4½ hours' night T.V. service for viewers if their sets go wrong is being operated by Messrs H.W. Peak Ltd., King Street, Cambridge. To the 100 feet aerial above the firm's premises the Fire Service will tomorrow bracket a V.H.F. transmitted aerial for radio contact with their engineers. A phone call will reach an operator who will contact by radio one of

the firm's two servicing engineers who will be at home with a van (and a spare T.V. set) at the ready. He will go to the caller's home. Mr John Peak said: "I feel a T.V. night service is essential, as it is mainly used for evening viewing, when it is annoying for the public to find their set has a fault and they are unable to get in touch with anybody to put it right" 52 01 01

1952 02 22
The first BBC television play to be directed by a Cambridge-born man was seen on Thursday. It was "The Prisoner", a new play by Andrew Cruickshank, produced by Ian Atkins and directed by Julian Amyes who is an Old Persean and brother of Mr S.J. Amyes, news editor of the CDN. He began his professional stage career after leaving the University in 1939 & was President of the University Mummers in 1938-39 CDN 22.2.1952

1952 09 13
New-look tv aerials on one in five city homes [1.22]

1952 10 11
Seven thousand Cambridge television viewers are promised almost perfect reception if official sanction is received for a new T.V. broadcasting station to open early in the New Year. The original BBC signal will be picked up on a 50-foot-high aerial on the "Gogs" and beamed down on the city. John Peak, manager of Peak's King Street television service, the sponsors of the scheme said: "Viewers will receive an almost unmarred signal well in time for the Coronation". The large "H" aerial now on chimney-pots would no longer be necessary; instead a small rod can be hung from the bedroom window. 52 10 11

1952 11 17
The wired radio system at Old Addenbrooke's Hospital in Trumpington was installed in 1952 after a public appeal organised by the News. Originally it provided the BBC Home and Light programme. The name Radio Addenbrooke's was coined in 1954 when Toc H. started football commentaries which were recorded on tape and late related to patients. Then in 1956 Don Hale started a record request programme. When the new hospital opened a studio was also provided by public subscription 81 08 28 [2.1]

1953 05 02
Are 8750 tv licences in Cambridge [2.3]

1953 05 09
The television broadcast of the Coronation ceremony will be shown to some 250 people on big screen projectors in Cambridge Guildhall. The projectors are specialised television receivers and produce a picture four feet wide. The picture quality is remarkable but much depends on the signal strength and the co-operation of motorists and other persons who cause T/V electrical interference is invited in keeping away from the vicinity of the Guildhall on Coronation morning. Seats will be allocated to pensioners, wounded ex-Servicemen and similar deserving cases. 53 05 09 [2.4]

1953 06 03
On Coronation Day Pye Ltd of Cambridge operated the first colour television outside broadcast ever done in this country. It was seen in a well-known Children's Hospital and several other selected places. Three colour cameras used in transmission were sited on top of Government buildings facing Parliament Square and Whitehall. Hundreds of people assembled in Cambridge Guildhall to watch the ceremony on television. The latest television screens were used. The picture was clear and precise but there was, of course, no control over the usual interference from

electrical appliances which all TV owners are forced to suffer in silence. Six domestic TV sets were installed in the Corn Exchange and because of the bright light, shields were fitted around the screens 53 06 03

1953 07 31
All work at the Pye Factory ended early and the employees dined off sandwich instead of their customary hot meal as they crammed into the works canteen for a visit of the BBC "Workers' Playtime" broadcast. The entertainment featured the close-harmony quintet 'The Coronets', Lionel Saxon, 'genial host of the Winkle Club', who put plenty of energy into his comic impersonations & Monica Owen with her intimate songs. The broadcast ended with Beryl Reid, who was greeted with shrieks of laughter when she appeared in black stockings and green gym tunic with her handkerchief tucked away in the traditional schoolgirl place for her caricature of Monica, the awful child. 53 07 31

1953 08 25
While the National Radio Exhibition at Earls Court offers the best in radio and television under one roof, Cambridge's own exhibition goes on throughout the year in the windows and showrooms of the city's radio stores. Langham Radio Services of Mill Road have the Sobel 14-inch tv for 64 guineas or the Cossor 12-inch at 50 guineas. Morley & Duke offer a free demonstration in your own home of the Pye V4 television with automatic picture control which costs £64.18.0 or on H.P. at 15/- weekly 53 08 25

1953 09 08
In Fallowfields 58 out of 129 houses have aerials - 45% [2.5]

1954 03 18
The proposed arrangements for an alternative television programme will not give a satisfactory signal in the Cambridge area. Multi-channel convertors now being incorporated in some makes of set may be outdated and unserviceable when the Cambridge viewer wants to use them. Our advice is to have the convertor fitted when – and only when – Cambridge comes within the range of the proposed new stations. To buy a set with a convertor at present means paying 5-7 guineas more for what is, to the Cambridge viewer, a useless article. – H.W. Peak, Radio & Television Dept, King Street – advert. 54 03 18

1954 05 04
Cambridgeshire Police have been experimenting with a radio equipped motor cycle. The wireless equipment supplied by Pye Telecom gives the same facilities as that fitted to police cars. A patrolling motor cycle officer hears his call on the set; pulls up and then can receive his message through a loudspeaker, or alternatively through the hand microphone he uses for his own transmission. The range of the radio is sufficient to cover any part of the county. If adopted it would enable motor cycles to be used for many duties which at present require radio cars. 54 05 04

1954 08 25
The first demonstration in Britain of 3-D television attracted large crowds to the Pye Radio works stand at the Radio and T.V. Exhibition at Earls Court, London. From a miniature studio built on a raised platform in the middle of the stand 3-D television pictures were being screened on experimental sets a few feet away. The viewers had to wear polarised spectacles. Pye do not expect sets to be on sale to the public in the near future; as a home entertainment 3-D television is a very long way off yet. At the moment they are perfecting it for use in industry. 54 08 25

1954 11 27
Kings College carol service to be shown on tv [2.7]

1955
Tv service from Norwich starts, (up to full power 1957) [2.6]

1955 08 20
Pye has produced a radio clock. It incorporates an electric alarm clock with a 5-amp socket so that either an electric fire or a tea maker can be set for the same time as the alarm, which switches on the radio automatically. It operates on the medium waveband with one pre-set long wave station and has a 'sleep switch' to enable it to be turned off automatically when the owner falls asleep 55 08 20b

1956 04 05
Bridge Street is usually one of the most congested points in Cambridge but even the pavement suffered from overcrowding when pedestrians stopped to look at a television camera which had appeared in King and Harper's showrooms. The firm has arranged demonstrations of domestic appliances and for the first time Pye industrial television equipment, operating on a closed circuit, is being used to relay them to other audiences. Everybody is assured of a clear view of what is going on. 56 04 05

1956 06 29
Special precautions were taken by the BBC to avoid disturbance from the League of Empire Loyalists when 'Commonwealth Town Forum' was broadcast from Cambridge Guildhall. Four stewards and a plain-clothed detective stood by for possible annoyance and a special microphone was ready to cut out audience noises. But the only trouble was a small outburst from obvious members of the party which passed almost un-noticed. 56 06 29a

1956 08 23
Cambridge has 18,336 television licence holders but there may well be 360 sudden new applications in the next few weeks with the arrival of the Television Detector Van. It makes no attempt to hide its purpose, there are three loop aerials on the roof and it contains an operator who listens in to detector equipment that can pinpoint the precise house in a row where a set is being used. People can be fined up to £10 and their sets may be forfeited. 56 08 23b [2.8]

1956 09 21
High-ranking Service officials, including some from Russia, went for a 20-minute helicopter ride over Cambridge without moving from the comfortable dining rooms of the University Arms Hotel. They watched one of the first-ever air to ground television transmissions carried out by Pye Radio from a Bristol Sycamore. The pictures were broadcast to several 21 inch screens and showed the view from 1,100 ft before zooming down to catch an express train just leaving the station. 56 09 21

1956 12 01
New equipment developed by Pye of Cambridge means that six times as many people can use radio communications and foreshadows immense developments. Telephones for the use of the travelling public in aeroplanes, railways and road services are now a possibility and a radio-telephone could become a standard fitting in all road vehicles, C.O. Stanley predicted. 56 12 01b

1957 02 22

The long association of Pye and King and Harper of Cambridge will be celebrated in a 'Pye Parade' exhibition at Harper's Bridge Street premises. The highlight will be a specially-erected television studio and each evening programmes of local interest will be transmitted. The shows can be viewed on receivers in many parts of the premises with a limited number of seats in the studio itself 57 02 22 57 02 27b

1957 03 13
Cameras film Cambridge from rooftops – photo – 57 03 13

1957 04 02
Television sets are to be installed at Chesterton Secondary Modern School in an experiment to assess the value of this type of visual aid. In the years to come they may be as common as radios. However Coun Gardner-Smith claimed children spent a lot of time watching television: "Is it any wonder they are illiterate. This is simply another way of wasting time". 57 04 02a

1958 11 58
The BBC have opened a new sound broadcasting studio in Cambridge to give better coverage to the city, University and county and transmit programmes with more local appeal. The studio, which is 'unattended' – there is no resident engineer – occupies part of the ADC Theatre buildings. It can be operated by BBC staff-men and other broadcasters without any technical wireless knowledge. All they have to do to broadcast is press a switch to be in contact with the BBC's engineers in Birmingham. 58 11 13 [3.1]

1959
Anglia tv opens highest mast in Europe, at Mendlesham [2.9]

1959 10 28
Thousands of new Anglia Television viewers are unaware that almost every piece of equipment that goes into the transmitting of the programmes was built in the Cambridge factories of Pye Limited. The Norwich studies are equipped with their cameras and control gear and 'remote' programmes use Pye mobile outside broadcast units. This is the latest version of the most successful unit ever produced and over 50 have been sold to television networks all over the world. 59 10 28b

1959 12 03
A monitor screen at the back of the church, shirt-sleeved technicians tip-toeing around, cameras rolling silently up and down the aisle and bright glaring lights pointing in every direction. This was just a part of what was involved in the telerecording of a Christmas service in Gt St Mary's church. It is to be shown by Anglia Television on Christmas night. The service was intended as a corporate act of worship for overseas students in Cambridge and a reminder of how the nations of the world might live together 59 12 03b & c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 10 14
The first full-size completely portable television is made by Pye of Cambridge. It has a 14-inch screen, covers all the usual BBC & ITA channels and includes a built-in aerial. It can be operated entirely from a built-in battery or connected to a car-battery system. It uses super modern

transistors which are spreading rapidly through the development laboratories and production lines. One day there may be 'all-round' tv sets in 3D and colour, the company predicts 60 10 14a

1960 12 16
Cambridge Relayed Television Service comprises 24 television dealers who may combine with Multisignals Ltd to allow viewers to pay a rental for the use of a telephone cable to bring programmes to the house, saving the cost of putting an aerial on the chimney. People can continue to buy, hire or hire-purchase ordinary televisions but by fitting an adaptor to a single-channel set they will also be able to receive London and Anglia ITV. Cable also has provision for the future transmission of colour signals or 625-line broadcasts. 60 12 16d e f

1962 05 14
A Cambridge electronic engineer says his research work into colour television has been set back by six months after highly secret plans were stolen. A specialist gang got into the Golden Rule Laboratory at a converted public house, the Seven Stars in Litlington, and went straight for the files. They also took another device to enable the blind to see electronically. Edward Jaggers has warned his agents in Paris and Geneva about the raid. 65 05 14

1962 08 28
Piped television begins in Cambridge on Saturday when 30 Arbury Estate subscribers tune in to receive three television and four radio programmes via a 170 ft mast in King's Hedges Road. The British Wireless Relay Company says the cost of laying a complete underground network was prohibitive but wherever possible the cables were being put in the least conspicuous places. People can hire sets for between 7s6d and 13s a week 62 08 28 [3.4,2.10]

1962 09 07
Cambridge now has British Relay wired television which is all ready for 625-line viewing of the new programmes and colour when it comes. It cuts out aerials and gives the crispest pictures without knob twiddling receiving the current BBC, London ITV and Anglia TV programmes, plus all BBC Home, Light and Third radio programmes and popular Radio Luxembourg. . Your own television set can receive Relay TV by means of the 'Relaydapta' which simply plugs into the aerial socket. Advertisement – 62 09 07c

1962 09 08
A familiar landmark of the Cambridge skyline is being taken down. The Pye mast was built at the start of the war to help them develop defence systems and also broadcast very low power experimental television programmes. It was originally 185 feet tall but extra aerials were added. At the top is a small cabin used to house experimental equipment and large enough for a man to work in. The mast will be replaced with a later type suitable for newest television techniques. 62 09 08a

1963 02 22
BBC engineers have been carrying out tests to find a suitable site for a relay booster television station in Cambridge. It follows a petition signed by 5,000 viewers that was organised by the Cambridge Radio and Television Retailers Association. The tests on Stourbridge Common involve the use of a barrage balloon which lifts a transmitting aerial to different heights. The signal is picked up by a mobile control room which travels around Cambridge testing reception in different areas – 63 02 22a

1963 10 05

A series of television lectures will be given by members of Cambridge University in a programme called 'Dawn University'. They will be transmitted at 7 a.m. over the whole of the ITV network to demonstrate the usefulness of television as a teaching medium. It is the first time such programmes have appeared so early and it is impossible to say how many people will get up early to watch them. There will also be two-way lectures between Cambridge and the new University of East Anglia at Norwich and a closed-circuit link with scientists at Imperial College, London. 63 10 05

1964 03 09
'Dawn University' tv experiment review – 64 03 09a

1965 02 08
The world's largest and most advanced amateur television station is based in Jeremy Royle's home at Duddenhoe End and he puts out a regular transmission each evening. Another station is owned by Douglas Wiles of Mill Road whose equipment and home-made camera is fitted into his living room. Both are members of the Cambridge Amateur Radio Club and the audience consists of about half-a-dozen people who can switch on their transmitter and chat to the figure on the screen. The availability of cheap war surplus material gave amateur radio and television a boost in the post-war years but today the supplies have died away 65 02 08c

1965 06 30
BBC producing film showing residents in Cambridge to be broadcast on Channel Five transmitters not visible in Cambridge – 65 06 30

1965 10 22
Edward Milner plans a library of recordings of music, intellectual and sports material featuring Cambridge – 65 10 22b

1966 06 10
Pirate radio station may go on air as May-Week stunt – 66 06 10

1966 08 22
Sinclair Radionics mini-tv shown at Television and Radio Show at Earl's Court – 66 08 22

1966 09 07
Pye pocket radio-telephone exhibited – 66 09 07

1966 12 20
Cambridge could be chosen as one of nine sites for experimental local radio service by BBC – 66 12 20

1967 03 10
Cambridge does not want to be considered for local radio station yet – 67 03 10a

1969 02 22
Local radio discussion [3.6]

1969 09 10
First-class colour reception now on BBC 2 (only) (on all 3 channels with opening of Sandy Heath transmitter 1971) [3.7,3.9]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1970

1971 02 19
Cambridge Free Radio off air after being hunted down by Post Office engineers – had been broadcasting over a 25-mile radius from Histon – 71 02 19a

1971 02 26
Community radio concept for city: Brian Jackson of Advisory Centre for Education has developed a proposals for new form of broadcasting; Enid Porter would speak on fen customs – 71 02 26b

1971 04 23
Commercial radio: culture or canned music – feature – 71 04 23

1971 04 29
Commercial radio discussed [3.10]

1972 03 10
CEN owners will tender for licences local radio [3.11]

1972 03 15
A group of educationalists today unveiled detailed proposals for a community radio in Cambridge. If the trust get a licence they will cover everything from university talks to darts matches. They make it clear that they do not want a station which resorts to excessive pop music, peak listening periods would be devoted to local news, light entertainment and pop music. From 5pm to 6.30 pm there would be a children's programme followed by news. The late night slot from 11pm to 1 am would be aimed at the University age group with a programme on the lines of the old television favourite "That was the week that was" 72 03 15

1972 07 10
A pirate radio station operating from a Cambridge council house was pounced on by GPO officials and police yesterday. They took away a transmitter and a cassette recorder. The raid on the house came exactly six minutes after the illegal radio station – calling itself Radio Caroline - started its regular Sunday lunchtime pirate broadcast. For more than a year GPO engineers have been trying to track down the wavelength and whereabouts of the radio and using detector vehicles they closed in on the Cherry Hinton area. The station had been broadcasting fairly regularly each Sunday for almost 18 months 72 07 10 [3.8]

1973 01 17
Cambridge Community Broadcasting Company set up [3.13]

1973 07 25
A commercial radio consortium backed by three of the largest firms in Cambridge are asking other city organisations to join them in making plans for local broadcasting. The group have the support of Cambridge Newspapers ltd, the Pye group and Marshall of Cambridge. They represent the first major opposition to the Cambridge Community Broadcasting Company - a consortium set up several years ago by Mr Brian Jackson of the city-based Advisory Centre for Education. It may be almost 1980 before there is any chance of Cambridge getting a commercial station 73 07 25

1974 05 07

300 young people mobbed BBC disc jockey "Diddy" David Hamilton as he tried to punt down the Cam and forced him to abandon a live radio broadcast. As he crouched under a plastic mack in a Trinity college punt trying to conduct interviews and introduce records to several million Radio 1 listeners the crowd squirted gallons of water at him and threw pepper. Mr Hamilton, who had been keeping up a radio microphone link with an outside broadcast van at Garret Hostel bridge was rescued after a chaotic half-hour during which several people including a representative of the city's entertainment department, tumbled into the river 74 05 07 [3.15]

1974 06 20
Cambridge not on list of 24 radio stations issued by Government [3.12]

1975 02 20
Four men ran a pirate commercial radio station from remote spots in the Cambridgeshire countryside, magistrates were told. They were caught in a field near Histon as they had just closed down a two-hour broadcasting session of Anglia Free Commercial Radio. They had previously put out two-hour broadcasts on Sundays from various spots in Cambridgeshire, and the programmes were heard in places as widespread as Exning, Waterbeach and Fenstanton. The magistrates ordered the transmitter to be forfeited. The men were fined between £50 and £70 each 75 02 20

1976 01 21
The Cambridge pressure group Kite Community Action are making a half-hour television film to be screened as part of the Open Door series and will put the case against the proposed re-development of the Kite as a regional shopping centre. They are trying to show something about the people who live there. The film will show the kind of neighbourhood which is likely to be sacrificed in the interests of motorised shopping 76 01 21

1976 02 23
In 1974 the Crawford Committee recommended Cambridge as an ideal centre for a small-scale radio station but neither the BBC nor the IBA has included it in firm plans. There is however some chance of improved stereo reception. The BBC says they "hoped" that stereo transmission will begin from Tacolneston, near Norwich, in the spring. A booster transmitter on the Cambridge gasworks for stereo was a "very long-term project" for which there was no date 76 02 23

1977 02 26
BBC announce plans for city radio station [3.16]

1977 11 11
Cambridge University Broadcasting group formed [3.17]

1979 05 01
Cambridge University Radio has on the air after months of delay. Broadcasting from a studio at Churchill College started with news taken from London Independent Radio and was followed by local items prepared by students. At the controls - slotting in their own jingles between records and other programmes – was the radio enthusiasts' chairman, Mr Simon Cooper of Queens' college. At present reception is confirmed to the college but they hope to expand to Fitzwilliam and Jesus as soon as examinations are over. National radio DJs were amongst the guests at a celebration party. 79 05 01

1980

1980 04 09
Eastern England TV plans Cambridge base if wins IBA tv franchise from Anglia (fails) [3.18]

1980 05 30
'Roundabout East Anglia', the BBC's early-morning programme was launched in 1974 as the local newspaper of the air. But now it has been axed leaving Cambridge without any local radio service. The final programme included a nostalgia spot recalling the days when Chris Trace and Tony Scase worked there. Hundreds of listeners have written letters of condolence saying it was comforting to wake up with a familiar voice, some breezy story from the fens and a batch of other people's views on the region's social and economic climates. Now the Corporation has saved another fraction of a penny on the licence fee 80 05 30b

1980 07 02
Cam Radio - Cambridge's only community radio restarts, two- hour programme Sunday [4.3]

1980 07 10
Hereward Radio starts broadcasting from studios in Peterborough, July [1.11, 4.2]

1980 09 12
When Radio Norfolk went on the air last night it gave a sneak preview of what the future could hold for Cambridgeshire. It will be exactly the same economy-style package – a small staff with highly sophisticated equipment broadcasting six hours each weekday and ten at weekends and Radio Two at other times. It will look for audience participation with phone-ins, sport and news. A manager for the Cambridgeshire station will probably be appointed in the autumn 80 09 12b

1980 10 07
J. Ward & Sons close Burleigh Street to concentrate on Bradwell's Court; opened East Rd 1890s, made bikes, 1930s produced own wireless 'Wards three-valve', late 30s became one first country sell black & white tvs [27.2.10.12]

1980 11 15
Cambridge University radio doubled its potential audience when it went on the air in a second college. Now New Hall undergraduates have joined those of Churchill College in being able to listen to the amateur broadcasters. Home Office regulations mean they cannot transmit beyond college confines which requires low-strength transmitters and a forest of aerials over the city skyline – New Hall now has 12. 80 11 15a

1981 01 29
CB radio causes interference [4.5]

1981 03 02
CB radio jams emergency lines 81 03 02 [4.5]

1980 12 23
Radio Cambridgeshire – Hal Bethell plans – 80 12 23a

1981 02 18
Cambridge electronics wizard, Clive Sinclair, has launched the world's first flat-screen television. Working with Timex he hopes to produce a million tubes in 1982. The first will be a 6 x 4 x 1-inch pocket television costing £50 able to pick up transmissions anywhere. It may eventually lead to a large screen which can be hung on a wall 81 02 18c

1981 03 02
There are at least 300 Citizen Band Radio enthusiasts in Cambridge; they range from The Womble who at seven years of age can exchange patter with the best of them on her dad's set to Silver Fox who is 85. But their rigs are illegal, smuggled in and sold for between £65 and £150. The Government says they interfere with television sets and emergency services but the enthusiasts operate a 'bust fund' to replace any set seized. 81 03 02a

1981 07 15
"To have commercial radio" [4.6]

1981 08 18
The microchip revolution has made the television set the central feature for a host of things from plug-in videos to home computers. The latest is a service called 'Teletext' which allows viewers to view pages of information on their television screen. Eventually it will be accepted just as colour television is today. Now Labgear, who employ 170 people at Cambridge and Ely, have come up with a device which can adapt conventional television sets to receive Teletext. It costs around £250 and is aimed at people who wish to keep their own sets rather than buy a more expensive receiver. 81 08 18

1981 08 28
The wired radio system at Old Addenbrooke's Hospital in Trumpington was installed in 1952 after a public appeal organised by the News. Originally it provided the BBC Home and Light programme. The name Radio Addenbrooke's was coined in 1954 when Toc H. started football commentaries which were recorded on tape and late related to patients. Then in 1956 Don Hale started a record request programme. When the new hospital opened a studio was also provided by public subscription 81 08 28

1981 10 14
Shops selling CB equipment have mushroomed in the last year and now the legalising of new FM frequencies has given it a boost. Electroshop at Cambridge Cattle Market have orders for 40 legal rigs and Cycle City Breakers Club say the majority of their members will move over to them, though 150 hard-core members will keep their AM rigs. The problem is children who use bad language on air. 81 10 14

1981 11 10
Four groups bid for commercial radio (does not materialise) [4.6]

1982
Cambridge University Radio broke, go off air, relaunched briefly1983 & 1984 [5]

1982 04 29
Radio Cambridgeshire, launched today, will broadcast six hours a day. Not long enough, says Hal Bethell, the manager, but all the BBC can afford at present. It will be a 'talk' station, rather than putting out music that aims to provide a new dimension in reflecting the local scene. He has a team of 25, three in Peterborough, and a shifting body of freelances who have been building up the widest range of background knowledge and contacts 82 04 29

1982 05 01
Radio Cambridgeshire goes on air broadcasting from studios at Hills Road, Cambridge – 82 05 01

[1.12, 4.7]

1982 06 21
Cambridge Community Radio, pirate station, silenced for 2nd time in year [4.8]

1982 11 06
Saxon radio starts [4.9]

1983 02 02
There can be no doubt about the popularity of film libraries; they range from cinema classics to soft porn. Some shops have the cassettes on shelves behind the counter leaving the hirer to choose from catalogues, others kept the cases on open display. It costs about £1.50 to hire a film for 24 hours with a deposit of £30. It is usual to leave a signed cheque which is exchanged for the return of the film. But tapes only have a limited life; constant use results in 'stretching' and tape 'slap' caused by poor rewinding. 83 02 20

1983 09 30
If you are accustomed to awaking to the dulcet tones of Julia Booth, Radio Cambridgeshire's early morning presenter, you are in for a shock. Station manager, Ian Masters' new line-up sees John Richards where Julia used to be, Nick Barraclough takes over his old slot and Anne Bristowe winds up weekdays. There is now no room for long wedges of worthy and dull speech; the news and information has to be presented brightly and accurately. When it opened 18 months ago it was an all-speech station but music is now an integral part of their output 83 09 30 p22

1984 11 30
Cambridge could have a new radio station. Churchill College has a custom-built system for piping radio into everyone's rooms from a studio in the basement. Much of the equipment has been soldered together by engineering students, but it works. They run news bulletins and features on discount travel as well as art reviews and general student gossip. Now students have applied for a community radio licence and hope to transmit their 12 hours of music and chat from Girton to Homerton. 84 11 30a & b

1985 03 07
Independent radio "unlikely" [4.13]

1985 07 26
To be one of first with Community radio (plans shelved 1986) [4.14]

1985 10 17
It was standing room only in Queens' College as undergraduates and dons crowded in to watch the first part of a BBC documentary about their college. Even the bar was quiet as hundreds of college members jostled for the best positions around television sets. There were cheers of recognition for college personalities and hoots of derisions as candidates attending interviews for admission flunked the questions. The Senior Tutor has always supported the project because he believes Queens' has nothing to hide but does not want students to get too excited about the media attention. 85 10 17

1986 07 01
Community Radio plans shelved [4.14]

1986 11 28

Ian Masters has a face and voice that is instantly recognised in East Anglia. He has had a highly successful career in radio and television as anchorman with BBC 'Look East', doing stints on 'Nationwide' and other shows including 'Come Dancing' with Terry Wogan. In 1982 he became boss of Radio Cambridgeshire where he started an early-morning 'Countywide' programme with dual presentation from Cambridge and Peterborough. Listening figures have shot up. Now having carved a new image for local radio in the county he is off to pastures new 86 11 28a & b

1987 02 05
When Margaret Hyde succeeds Ian Masters as head of BBC Radio Cambridgeshire she will be the only serving female station manager. Currently chief assistant to the head of broadcasting in the North West, she has worked for local radio in Merseyside and Radio Lancashire and will miss the 'anarchy' of Liverpool. She sees little reason for changing what is already a winning formula but is looking forward to bringing a 'fresh ear' to the station. 87 02 05

1987 12 17
IBA announce new radio station contracts ¢CEN 17.12.87

1988 05 06
Granta Radio is one consortium wanting to run a new commercial radio station. It includes the Unex Group and Newmarket entertainer Pete Sayers who know the area. CN.FM is backed by Cambridge Newspapers, Hereward Radio, Trinity and Jesus colleges. They would provide a high standard of service and provide an acceptable return to investors. Cambridge Radio would have high-quality talks with an evening slot for students while the Cambridge & Newmarket Broadcasting Company would be popular and entertaining yet informed on, concerned with and involved with the area. 88 05 06b

1988 06 13
CN-FM has been chosen by the IBA as the new 24-hour radio station for the area around Cambridge. Backed by Hereward Radio and the Cambridge News it will be the most modern radio station in the country, with all the latest broadcasting equipment. It will aim programmes at the 15-45 age group and hope for a listenership of around 120,000 when it starts next spring. It will co-exist with BBC Radio Cambridgeshire. The other contenders, Granta, CNBC and Cambridge Radio wish them good luck 88 06 13

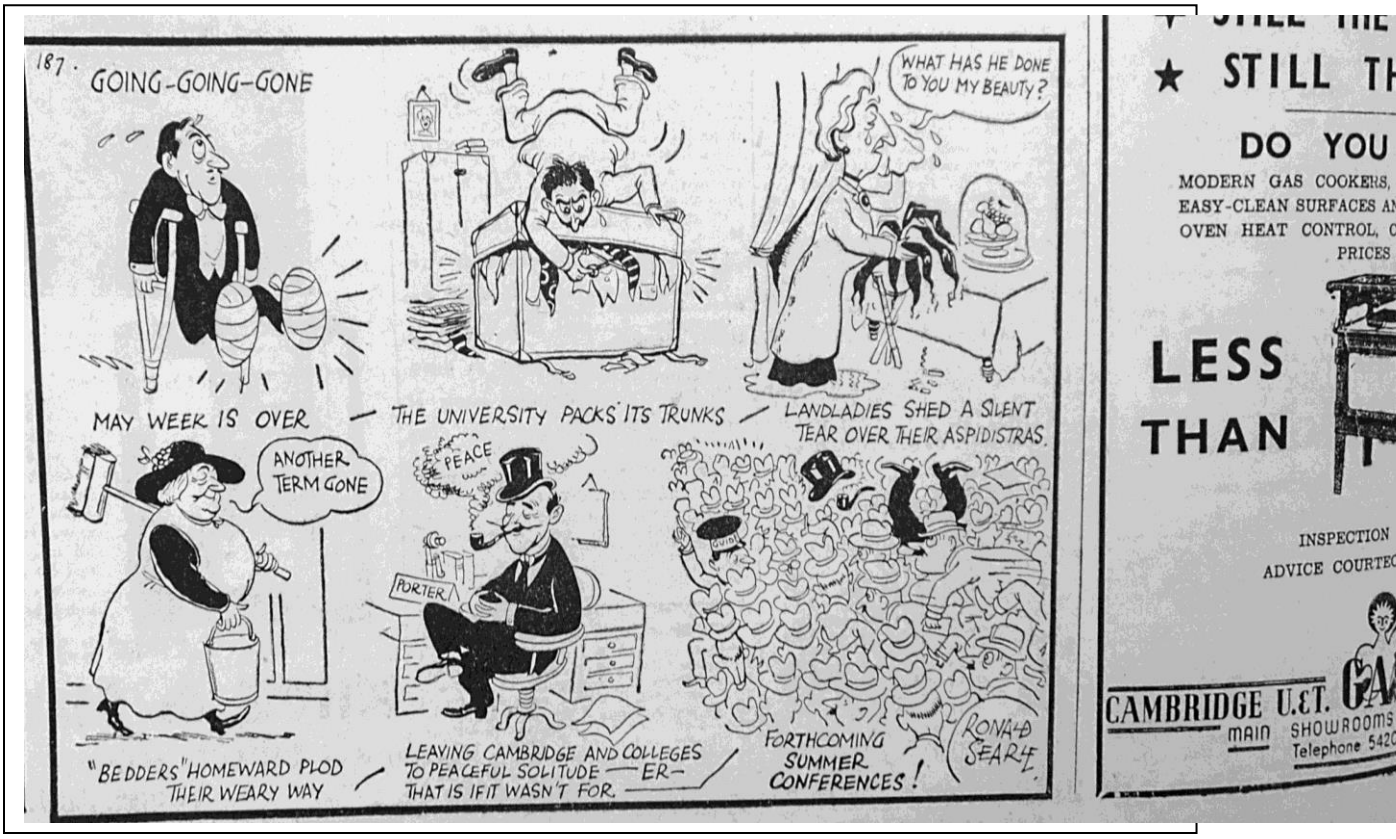
1988 06 16
CN FM selected to operate IBA radio contract ¢CEN 16.6.88

1988 10 20
Three Cambridge computer pioneers hope to revolutionise communications with a fibre-optic cable-TV service carrying eight or nine TV channels, some collected by satellite dishes. Eventually there would be 50 channels, an independent phone service, teleconferencing, a security alarm system, home shopping and remote banking. Cambridge Cable might link with Cambridge University's Project Granta to provide a data transmission service network from Girton to Addenbrooke's Hospital 88 10 20

1989 02 10
CN-FM 103, Britain's newest commercial station, aims to provide local news, information and music to listeners in a 20 mile radius of Cambridge. It broadcasts from their main studios at Histon using the latest high tech broadcasting equipment with all its music on compact disc or digital audio tape. It has headhunted some of broadcasting's top presenters such as Dixie Peach,

David Hamilton, Nicky Horne and Nino Firetto. They have also signed up ‘Bungalow’ Bill Wiggins to host a Sunday lunchtime show. 89 02 10a & b

1989 12 01
Anglia TV officially opened its new base in Jesus Lane – 89 12 01a



Ronald Searle cartoon, June 1939

c.27.9 : Conferences & Shows, Meetings

1894
Ancient Order of Foresters High Court meeting {NI.1.3]

1900

1904 01 21
Mammoth Show Society formed, p4

1904 08 01
Mammoth Show, p3

1904 08 18
Members of the British Association meeting in Cambridge witnessed the making of scientific instruments, the process of lithography, the making of cement and the method of cleaning the interiors of buildings by the Eastern Counties Vacuum Cleaner Company. By the operation of their machinery the whole of the dust contained in a building, saturating its carpets, clinging to inaccessible portions of its furniture and permeating its curtains and draperies, is removed entirely. At present expense is an obstacle but the company intends to institute a method by which a series of rooms can be cleaned at one time, minimising the expense of conveying machinery

backwards and forwards. Medical men taking part in the present scientific pilgrimage will find themselves well rewarded by a visit to the exhibition.

1904 08 20
The visit of the British Association has affected Cambridge. Hotels and tradesmen – particularly butchers and confectioners – are busy, public servants are feeling the pressure, notably pressmen, postal officials and police. Almost every important daily paper has a special representative and to cope with the labours of these journalists four Wheatstone telegraphic machines have been installed at the Post Office. 04 08 20

1904 08 25
The 1904 meeting of the British Association is over, our distinguished visitors have departed from our midst, and we are settling quietly down to the dreary dullness of what remains of the Long Vacation. It has been a memorable week. Considered numerically and socially the meeting has been one of the most successful they have ever held. In no other town could greater hospitality have been offered than that displayed in Cambridge; all the important buildings – municipal and university were placed at their disposal. Garden parties and receptions were as plentiful and bounteous as even the most frivolous of savants could desire. Cambridge Daily News runs out of copies as people write for issues containing reports of speeches, the Prime Minister attends, "it livens up the Long Vacation" the paper comments 04 08 25

1905 08 24
The Library Association Conference in Cambridge discussed Sunday opening. To believe opponents Sunday was a season of celestial peace where only the sound of church bells and the hymns of devout worshippers broke the sacred silence. By opening libraries were doing a noble work in providing young men with a place to read periodicals or great fiction. But others said Sunday opening had failed because the average working man did not want to go there. It involved extra expenditure which would be better devoted to new books. 05 08 24 & 24a

1907 08 12
Esperanto has seized Cambridge like a raging fever. Genuine and spurious Esperanto fills the air as the autolycus of the gutter shouts unintelligent jargon to a street comrade and calls it Esperanto. But when a picturesque figure from the Swiss Canton appeared in the street the impudence of the street Arab was silenced. He was impressed by the tight green breeches and head capped by genuine Alpine hat. A Turk and Indians in national costume add considerably to the effect of this new kind of circus. 07 08 12a

1907 08 16
The Cambridge Police Athletic Society festival was attended by a large crowd, including many Esperantists. Dr Zamenhof presented an Esperanto Cup for the policeman who has performed the most efficient ambulance work to Sergt Gates for his action in saving the life of a man who had taken poison. 07 08 16

1907 08 17
All other events in Cambridge have been dwarfed in comparison with the third International Esperanto Congress which has brought money into the town when trade was at its lowest ebb. It was hoped the University might have bestowed an honorary degree upon Dr Zamenhof, the Warsaw genius, but apart from a formal reception at the Fitzwilliam Museum it has generally stood aloof from the movement. 07 08 17a

1908 08 07

Mammoth Show weather will soon be a synonym for a cloudless sky and a balmy atmosphere. There have been five of these huge exhibitions on successive August Bank Holidays attracting thousands of visitors to Midsummer Common and discouraging Cambridge residents from scampering off to other places. There were competitions for dogs, poultry, cage birds and fancy rats together with athletics and motor cycle races. CEN 08 08 07

1909 02 19
Darwin centenary celebrations – 09 02 19

1910

1910 07 29
Cambridge Bank Holiday Mammoth Show in aid of Addenbrooke's Hospital. 620 dog entries. The Horticultural Section is tremendous. Splendid array of cats. Fine bee and honey show. Wonderful sports entry. 17 motor riders including Martin the world's record holder and Dayrell the flying kilometre and mile champion at Brooklands. Exhibition of the 'Wallbro' Aeroplane fitted with engine complete but owning to lack of space and possible danger t the public a flight cannot be permitted. Thurston's electric bioscope. Firework Display – advert 10 07 29b & 29d

1910 08 05
The attendance at the Mammoth Show on Bank Holiday was a record one. The triple ring of seats around the sports ground was occupied by a close-packed mass of humanity and behind them spectators stood six or seven deep. The grand stands by the river, capable of accommodating 2,000 persons, were filled to capacity while the sloping bank near the Victoria Bridge was also black with people. And outside the ring the exhibition tents, refreshment booths, band enclosure and the fair ground, where the great roundabouts whirled and spun, were crowded with sightseers. 10 08 05 & a

1910 09 30 CWN
Signal success has attended the Cambridge Jubilee Church Congress. Fifty years ago when a few ardent Churchmen met together in the Hall of King's College, public interest in their proceedings was practically non-existent. Since then great changes of thought have taken place and this week three thousand members of Congress together with an Archbishop and 28 Bishops have attended. 10 09 30 & a 13 05 11 p7 CIP

1913 08 08
July and August used to be the quietest months of the year in Cambridge. But now they are regarded as months for conferences and hotels, lodging houses and tradesmen are reaping the benefit. Last week it was the Institution of Mechanical Engineers for their summer meeting, now the British Dental Association. Those who arrange the programmes always combine business with pleasure in a delightful way and invariable one of the first items is a Reception on behalf of the Town and University. Cambridge is always ready to welcome strangers and has raised the reception of conferences to a fine art 13 08 08 p06 CIP

1914 08 28
The Cambridge Summer Meeting concluded with an enjoyable social meeting. The attendance was not large, many of the students having been compelled to leave prematurely because of the war, while some are unable to return to their own countries. Hospitality for these unfortunate students is being kindly provided by Cambridge friends. 14 08 28

1914 10 23

When the war broke out a number of German women were in Cambridge for the University Extension Course. One of them has described her experiences in the 'Cologne Gazette' which is strictly anti-English. She says that they had been cut off from their families and were without money. They were taken into families who helped them, raised funds, took them to the station and arranged for their journey home. They were treated courteously in every respect. 14 10 23

1915 09 03
Suffragette summer school, Bertrand Russell lectures

1918 07 31
J.W. Jacob resigns as Guildhall hall keeper, reminisces about conferences – 18 07 31d

1920

1920 03 10
Royal Show. It is pleasing to notice the enthusiastic manner in which the Mayor (Councillor G. P Hawkins), supported by an active sub-committee of the Borough Council, and other co-opted members are proceeding with the preliminary arrangements for the Cambridge "Royal" show. It has been decided that the Eastern Counties Farmers' Association Ltd., and Messrs. Gautrey and Sons (Cottenham) should supply the grass seed mixtures which it is necessary to sow on about 103 acres of the Trinity College Farm, situate between the line on the London and North Western Railway and Trumpington Road. The Committee desire to acknowledge the generosity of .the Master, Fellows and Scholars of Trinity College in providing such an excellent site for the show, and to express their appreciation of the personal efforts of their agents (Messrs. Bidwell and Sons) and the tenants Messrs. Arnold Bros, and Mr. G. Duke to facilitate the work of the sub-committee in sowing the grass seeds, and carrying out the necessary preliminary arrangements to meet the requirements of the Royal Agricultural Society, The Hon. Treasurers report that in response to the first appeal for contributions to the Local Fund, the sum of £900 has been promised.

1920 05 12
Mammoth Show abandoned due prohibitive expense – 20 05 12a

1920 07 03
The first great conference since 1914 has been eminently successful, receptions and visitors have enjoyed privilege of taking meals in colleges; not since Darwin Centenary of 1909 has there been such a brilliant display of colour in the streets when guests hurrying to events. 1,000 doctors from around world attended the British Medical Association conference - CDN 20 07 03

1921 07 20
Catholic Bible Congress – 21 07 20b

1922 06 28 c
The great week to which we have all looked forward so eagerly and for which such extensive preparations have been made, will shortly be upon us. The Royal Show promises to be one of outstanding importance. This will be the third visit of the Show to Cambridge. It is probably true to say that in no other country in the world is there to be found a show of anything like the same magnitude as that which will be seen on the Trumpington-road ground.

1922 07 03

A glance at the huge entries in all sections of the Royal Show will give one some idea of the heavy burden imposed on the Railway Company, and the colossal task of arranging for the distribution of traffic. The G.E.R. has built unloading docks situated at the Trumpington signal-box on the Long-road, Cambridge, where there is also another entrance to the Show ground. The work of unloading machinery and materials has been in progress since May 25th and considerably more than 2,000 tons will have been handled before the closing date for delivery. The intensive period will be when the livestock are received. About sixty special trains have been booked to arrive commencing at 3.40am on Saturday morning.

1922 07 06
The great agricultural city on the Trumpington-road (the Royal Show) is in full blast today - in more senses than one. A stiff south-westerly gale had been sweeping over the show ground for the greater part of last night and it continued with unbated strength during the day. The tents and shedding for the most part withstood the gale remarkably well but a dozen of the larger structure were blown down wholly or in part and the Mayor's tent was levelled to the ground. In the latter a man was sleeping but escaped unhurt, although the circumstances gave rise to an erroneous rumour that a man had been killed

1922 07 08
Anyone who has taken any note of the motor traffic in and out of Cambridge during Royal Show week cannot fail to have been impressed with its volume, and the great number of people who have been conveyed to and from the show by this means. Nothing that has hitherto occurred at Cambridge has served to show so clearly what a factor the motor vehicle has become in the life of the nation. Many visitors who a few years ago would have stayed in the town and come and gone without spending a penny outside the show ground

1922 08 05
The return of the Cambridge Mammoth Show to its old time variety and importance will recall to many minds the last occasion of its so presenting itself to the public. The gloom which rested over the Bank Holiday and show in 1914 will never be forgotten by those who experienced it. The megaphone calls in all parts of the ground for postmen to repair to their duty at once told the tale that war was regarded as inevitable, and that the mobilisation notices were to go out. On the following Friday Cambridge suddenly found itself an armed camp, through the arrival on mobilisation of the Sixth Division. One remembers the sight of the humble little shopkeepers on Newmarket-road coming out to greet the tired artillerymen and make offerings of fruit, sweets and cigarettes and the great wave of united purpose and offer of service which swept over Cambridge.

1922 08 05
The Summer Meeting is proving a gratifying success, and is in every way the best that has been held since that memorable meeting of 1914 when the war caught both the students and the Syndics unaware, and there was great trouble in repatriating some of the foreigners who had come to Cambridge for the meeting. This year once again there is a good sprinkling of foreign students, who seem to be thoroughly enjoying themselves. The students, too, include a number of working men from the North, who have been most regular and attentive at the lectures on Control in Industry, but a trifle dogmatic in the discussion

1922 08 12
The success of the Summer Meeting demonstrates once again the appreciation and possibilities of Cambridge as a holiday centre and yet Cambridge appears to be as indifferent as ever to its opportunities. Every person who has this experience is an advertisement for Cambridge, but it is

an advertisement which ought to be supplemented by other kinds of publicity, the sort of propaganda which every progressive town makes use of these days. Money spent in this way would be money well spent - Table Talk 22 08 12

1924 08 05
A huge crowd witness Cambridge Mammoth Show events. The Rodeo displays, which were expected to be a great attraction, were disappointing. The only part of the programme that created any real enthusiasm were the steer riding, steer wrestling from an automobile and broncho riding. Montana Bob, the world's champion steer rider was the chief performer. He had no easy task in overtaking the steer and even when he had done so he had considerable difficulty in bringing it to the ground. In doing so the steer trod on his arm but he was in sufficiently good form to ride the bucking broncho a few minutes afterwards

1925 08
300 foreign students assemble for vacation course [2.1]

1926 04 21
Cambridge Mammoth Show Society expressed indignation at the council for "abruptly refusing" the use of part of Midsummer Common on August Bank Holiday for the first time in 22 years. It cost £700 to maintain the racing track but it was no use unless they raced upon it. The council had refused permission to the only society who could afford to spend money in putting a hoarding around the track and ensure gate money. They obviously did not desire over 20,000 people should enjoy themselves on Jesus Green.

1926 05 27
Cambridge councillors agreed to allow the Mammoth Show Society to use part of Jesus Green on August Bank Holiday, on the understanding it is the last occasion they will be permitted to use it. No roundabouts are to be allowed on to the show ground. It was amazing that when ratepayers' money had been spent in laying out one of the finest recreation grounds anything should be permitted which would plough it up again. The Mammoth Show Committee seemed to be trying to convince the public that the council were trying to deprive them of a show. It had got bigger than a town of this size need for a single day

1926 08 09
A Country Dance party on Christ's Pieces, organised by the English Folk Dance Society who are holding a Summer School in Cambridge, attracted a large audience. The party comprised some 500 dancers from America and all parts of England whose dances such as "Rufty Tufty", "Newcastle" and "Sellenger's Round" took one as far back as 600 years. The natural and care-free movements were a pleasant relief from the Bunny Hug, Cakewalk and Charleston.

1926 08 21
Dear Sir – Do you think you could use your influence to get August and September kept free from holidaymakers and visitors to Cambridge. Landladies and most traders could do with the rest & business premises require internal cleaning and lime-washing which cannot be done while going full speed. The students hang on so long now during vacations, and the position is not as it used to be – A Trader. No one would be more pleased than journalists if conferences came a little less thickly, but the presence of hundreds of delegates presumably means benefit to some people and a big effort has been made in recent years to advertise Cambridge as a holiday resort to help tradesmen in the "lean time".

1927 07 09

The Long Vacation promises to be as full as ever of conferences, congresses, summer schools and the like. It is sometimes said these conferences cause a good deal of distraction to residents in Cambridge but they bring trade to the town and give an immense amount of pleasure, and perhaps, edification, to those who confer in the pleasant surroundings of Cambridge. 27 07 09 [1.3]

1927 06 22
Mammoth Show wound up, p6

1928 04 11
National Union of Teachers conference

1928 07 28
A great cosmopolitan army has invaded and captured Cambridge. It is no new thing this descent by the legions from overseas but probably never before have they been drawn from so many nations or corners of the world. The 'Backs' heard such a murmuring of strange tongues as would have puzzled the most expert linguist. One reason was the International Geographical Congress attended by members of fifty nations, but ever since the 'Long Vac' started foreign visitors have poured into Cambridge, nearly all armed with cameras and a determination not to miss anything. They saw the river girl – and her flannelled companion – brought out by the heat wave; she was there at the punt pole with her light bright frock, so cool, so self-possessed and efficient, and even in this heat – no shiny noses.

1929 04 03
Advertising Cambridge – Chamber of Commerce – pictorial posters issued, illustrated guides; more conferences wanted

1929 08 23
Adult education world conference, p6

1930

1930 03 01
History was made on Parker's Piece, Cambridge, when thousands of farmers and farm workers attended a mass demonstration. The meeting was originally intended to bring together workers in East Anglia but interest had become so wide that nearly all the agricultural counties in England were represented. They passed a resolution protesting against the increase in unemployment amongst unless effective steps are at once taken then nothing but calamity faces the industry. Visitors arrived by train, car, motor coach and bicycle, the ordinary parking facilities were quite inadequate and cars were parked around Parker's Piece itself and along Victoria Avenue. More than an hour before the start crowds assembled in front of the platform of motor lorries covered with a Union Jack and fitted with a battery of amplifiers. They whiled away the time listening to the Railway Band and broke into song when they played 'Farmer's Boy'. 30 03 01a-d

1931 03 27
Rotary clubs conference at Cambridge. 31 03 27 j

1931 09 18
An International Illuminations Congress opened at Cambridge Guildhall. The Mayor said there had been no proposals to floodlight the front of the building – it is not of the finest. But the front of the Dorothy Restaurant and the Fitzwilliam Museum were lit. Floodlights might be used in

recreation grounds to allow sport at night and people with nice gardens might like to enjoy their beauty under new conditions. 31 09 18g

1936 07 29
The Fellowship of Reconciliation, a peace movement born in Cambridge during the dark days of 1914 was founded by people united in the conviction that the way of war could not be the way of Christ for righting wrongs and had now spread to many countries. Some 250 people from Germany, France, Italy, Bulgaria and Belgium together with the USA, Japan and the Argentine are attending a conference at Selwyn College on 'Christ: the Peace of the World". 36 07 29b

1936 08 01
Various conferences have been the principal means of bringing visitors to Cambridge and when one meeting disbanded over the weekend at least two others were in process of starting. One was the International Conference of the Fellowship of Reconciliation when representatives from nineteen countries met at the Guildhall. The University Summer School on 'Tudor England' includes papers on Cambridge and Cambridgeshire 36 08 01

1936 09 10
National Conference of Friendly Societies held at Cambridge Guildhall – 36 09 10 & 12

1938 08 18
Nearly 3,000 scientists gathered in Cambridge for the inaugural meeting of British Association for the Advancement of Science held in the Regal Cinema. It last met here in 1904 38 08 18a

1937 06 19
A conference delegate described his college room: "It was well lighted, but the walls were covered with a chilly blue 'distemper'. The grate had a dreadful purple plaque surround with a horrid mantelpiece and neither the carpet nor tablecloth was clean. As for the bedroom, few servants would have tolerated its meanness; three things were cracked or broken. For closet or bath a man had to go out and round the quad, through a passage and some distance further to a huddle of buildings where baths, w.c.s and urinal were all ill-kept. It is doubtful if the taps had been cleaned since they were put in". 37 06 19

1937 12 04
Cambridge was a prosperous town but much of the trade depended upon the students and members of the University. The colleges are becoming self-contained so the need for lodgings was drying up. On Sunday it is like walking along the streets of a lost city with the shop fronts in darkness. Cambridge should appoint a publicity agent to attract visitors and conferences, said Mayor, Ald Briggs. A great deal of progress is due to the two or three large light industries who have made their home here and it needs more 37 12 04 & a

1938 07 18
The Spanish people were fighting our battle & the British Government should take strong measures, a Conference on Spain in the Cambridge Masonic Hall was told. If Franco were to win as the pawn of Mussolini and Hitler another European war would be much closer. Meanwhile a service of prayer on behalf of religious persecution in Germany was held at the Synagogue in Thompson's Lane. Cambridge Refugee Committee exists to help all German and Austrian refugees and would be pleased to receive gifts of money 38 07 18 & a

1939 02 27
Arab delegation from Pakistan conference visit Cambridge – 39 02 27b

1939 06 17
Cartoon about summer conferences in Cambridge by Ronald Searle – 39 06 17b

1939 07 22
The new Cambridge Guildhall will be opened on October 9th by the Earl of Derby. The grand staircase is much more imposing than the old one, the new small room, complete with carpet, will be very convenient and the large hall improved though it is not nearly large enough for conferences, political mass meetings or big musical enterprises. The new Council chamber also seems on the small side and the aldermanic bench has been considerably shortened. 39 07 22b

1939 08 07
Czechs rose to their feet and cried 'Long Live Czechoslovakia' when ex-president Dr Eduard Benes broke his silence to address the Liberal Summer School at Cambridge. Special precautions had been taken against demonstrations. He told the crowded audience that democracy would be victorious. He analysed the background of 'a Duce and a Fuehrer'. They were persons of adventurous character, ambitious, emotional and amoral. Such regimes finished in catastrophe, war and revolution, he said. 39 08 07

1940

1946 03 13
Bull College closing. 140 students have left mark all over the University, members of various colleges during Michaelmas term but because of overcrowding this term moved to billets formerly occupied by War Office. Studied under barrack-room conditions. Played sports and one elected president Union Society – 46 03 13a

1946 08 21
Dorothy L. Sayers speaks to Italian Summer School – 46 08 21

1947 07 01
Summer school for prisoners of war, p5

1947 07 14
Homes specially intended for old people should be in towns rather than in the country said Lord Amulree in addressing the Woman Public Health Officers' Association Summer school in Cambridge. It was a great advantage to have the home in a town, he said. For a large majority of people a home in the country did not work at all. "Most of our population are townspeople and also, when they are growing old, their interests become rather contracted. Old people do enjoy calling on their friends' houses. They like to go to the local pub or to the pictures, and if they cannot do that they like to sit in the window and watch other people going to the pub and to the cinema"

1948 07 03
The annual dinner of the British Medical Association Conference was easily the largest function of its kind that has been seen in Cambridge since the outbreak of the war. The company in the Dorothy ballroom numbered 420 and I don't think it would have been humanly possible to get another dozen in. Mr George Hawkins told me that once before the Dorothy had 464 at a Builder's Federation but this was only rendered possible by having an overflow in the foyer adjoining the ballroom. Such a dinner means elaborate arrangements over a long period beforehand. It is definitely not the sort of function that can be undertaken at a moment's notice

1948 08 27
The townsman's urge to escape to the countryside should be encouraged contended Mr Geoffrey Clark at the Town and Country Planning Summer School at Cambridge. Undoubtedly the most important aspect of country life was the development of agriculture but the holiday interest can be satisfied by the provision of certain facilities such as hostels, camps, eating places and well-defined footpaths. Villages must have a detailed plan to deal with the addition accommodation which will be required

1949 06 07
Cambridge county agricultural show fully lived up to its well-earned reputation of being one of the best one-day events of its kind in the country. The show covered 45 acres of ground at Trumpington that will form part of the site for the Royal Show in 1951 and can with truth be described as a "dress rehearsal" for the country's premier agricultural event. Banker's row, smart caravan banking establishments – emphasised the fact that this was a business occasion. There was an unusual machinery demonstration where Messrs Sindall, public works contractors, had several giant bulldozers and excavators working in a pit.

1950

1950 09 02
The biggest trades show under canvas organised in England opened in Cambridge today. The value of the exhibits displayed is estimated at nearly £1m. and the show can be regarded as the first big demonstration of the many industrial activities and specialised trades for which Cambridge has been famous for so hundreds of years 50 09 02 76,722 visit, "will be the memory of 1950"[1.10,1.12]

1950 09 04
Cambridge's own Olympia-in-miniature opened on Midsummer Common. The Cambridge Trades Fair Summer Festival attracted over 15,000 people on one day alone. In opening the fair the mayor said: "We in Cambridge know that at one period anything in the way of localised industry was frowned upon. Today I am thankful to say that old spirit has died and we can be proud of the industries which have crept up over a long period of years" 50 09 04

1951 07 03
The finest "Royal" and the finest site – such is the general opinion about Britain's 1951 Festival of Agriculture which opened at Trumpington. Today's blazing sun was a pleasant contrast to the gales and torrential rains which marked Cambridge's last Royal in 1922. From early in the morning cars streamed towards the showground. As traffic pressure increased the effect made itself felt even on the outskirts of town where there were occasionally short hold-ups. But movement into the car parks flowed smoothly and to get from the C.D.N. offices in St Andrew's Street took only 15 minutes

1951 07 05
The Queen visited the Royal Show; her route took her through Grantchester where villagers welcomed the Royal car with a number of Union Jacks which hung from houses and hedgerows, and even the petrol pumps of a garage. Princess Margaret travelled as far as Baldock where she turned back because she had developed a bad headache. The town clerk's daughter, Rosalind Swift, who was to have presented Princess Margaret with a bouquet, handed it to the Queen who said she would see that it reached the princess. Obtaining one of the best views was a small

patient from Addenbrooke's Hospital, Terence Harley who has unfortunately lost his hearing and the Queen's words to him were written down by his nurse. & 6th p7

1951 07 07
The Royal Show at Trumpington came to an end with the total paid attendance of 131,333. The business done by stand holders has been most encouraging, one exhibitor said that on the first day he had taken orders to the value of £100,000. Even before the showground had closed work had begun on dismantling some of the stands. The steady flow of private cars from the car parks was interspersed with cattle lorries, horse boxes and commercial vehicles – a sign of the end of the year's work which goes into a Royal Show.

1951 07 13
The Royal Show brought considerable activity at Marshall's airport when an average of a dozen or more charter planes landed daily. Most of them were Rapides. The longest flight was from Prestwick, some 600 miles distant. The aviation side was represented on the stand of Pest Control Ltd; one of their Hiller 360 helicopters, fitted for spraying, rested on top of their stand. It was flown to the ground and landed without difficulty on the small platform

1952 09 01
With a fanfare from six scarlet-suited trumpeters Cambridge's third Trades Fair on Midsummer Common was opened. Immediately afterwards the Mayor went to the Interflora stand and sent a basket of roses by air to the Mayor of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Three local firms, Messrs Biggs of Peas Hill, Messrs J. Rogers of Newnham and Messrs Ridgeon's of Sussex Street, pooled their dollar allocations to provide the roses for America. In the first six hours 12,642 people paid for admission Trades Fair held, visitors are down, at 78,000 57 09 01

1956 05 23
Cambridgeshire Agricultural Society was formed in 1863 and held its first show in a field between St Paul's Church and Station Road, Cambridge. Today the County Show requires 70 acres of land with covered accommodation for stock, displays and catering to cope with an attendance of some 20,000 people a day. Apart from 1924 when there was an outbreak of foot and mouth disease it has been held every year except during the wars and when the Royal Show was held in Cambridge in 1894, 1922 and 1951. It is a shop window for agriculture and enables the farmer to keep abreast of modern developments in mechanisation. 56 05 23a

1957 08 14
Scouts from 84 parts of the world attended an International Conference in Cambridge, following the World Jubilee Jamboree. The bright blue caps from Finland, flowing white kaffyeh and agae from Lebanon, broad hats from Mexico and the red tarbouch from Morocco were a colourful sight in the Guildhall where they were welcomed by the Mayor, Councillor B. White. 57 08 14a & 17

1957 08 31
A four-storey hostel for Clare College between the Shire Hall mound and Chesterton Road will provide the most modern accommodation in the University. Each of the 40 students will have his own bed-sitting room with adjoining washroom and clothes cupboards and central blocks of bathrooms and w.c.s. During vacations it will be used by delegates attending conferences. When the proposed Spine Relief Road is constructed the North side will face an up-to-date motorway. 57 08 31c & d

1960

1960 07 05
There was a damp welcome for early visitors to the Royal Show at Trumpington. But those who ventured out stared at the sheep, peered at the pigs and commented on the cattle and horses being paraded in the Grand Ring. In the Demonstration Area six red hot forges, each manned by two blacksmiths, were busy fitting horses with new shoes. One of the strangest sights was of farmers standing in the pouring rain watching demonstrations of artificial irrigation machines pumping gallons of water on grass already soaked by overnight rain. 60 07 05

1961 07 05
A visitor to the Royal Show asked if he could park on the playing field of Fawcett School in Alpha Terrace, Trumpington, less than a mile from the showground. But the headmaster told him he could not. So he climbed back into the cockpit of his plane and took off with a 30 yard run. The machine had circled low before landing and Mr F.N. Walker thought it had made a forced landing. But the pilot, who was wearing a Royal Society member's badge, jumped down and asked if he could leave the plane there while he went to the Show. 61 07 05

1961 07 06
Queen Mother visits Royal Show by helicopter – 61 07 06

1961 12 01
Harper House in Portugal Place houses 10,000 books devoted to the British Empire. It started in 1919 with informal tea parties at which students met for cultural discussions. By 1921 these had become so popular that 'Cambridge University International Teas' and conferences were started. In 1940 Mrs Irene Harper formed the Birdwood Club open to British children whose families were 'not pacifists' and had some connection with the armed forces. The postwar years which produced a Motherland 'bewitched, bothered and bewildered about the Common Market' have thinned the ranks of the membership 61 12 01 & a

1962 06 25
University plans for the future of Cambridge envisage that in the Lion Yard there would be a new hall for conferences, concerts and all kinds of music with a new library, small shops, cafes and homes for 300 people. A new regional shopping centre in City Road would be free of all vehicular traffic and there could be more homes on the site than before. The housing areas which are close to the centre are also the oldest and many are in need of redevelopment. Already 4,000 people have had to leave since 1950 but the University wants to see at least as many living in these areas as were there ten years go. 62 06 25

1967 03 31
International Bilderberg Conference attended by 90 leading politicians, businessmen, bankers and publishers re technological gap between America & Europe at St John's College – 67 03 31, 67 04 01, 67 04 03

1970

1974 10 05
A £2 million plan for converting the old Cambridge corn exchange into a multi-purpose concert hall was accepted by the City Amenities Committee. An early warning of stormy times ahead was given by Coun. Peter Cowell who said: "There is bound to be a lot of opposition". In their report the architects claim that "not only Cambridge but England as a whole will gain a concert hall of potentially international stature which could attract the finest musical talent". They suggest the

reshaped building could hold up to 1500 people and would also be ideal for events such as boxing, wrestling, operas, plays, exhibitions and conferences.

1977 08 03
Cambridge's £3 million concert and conference hall that never was began with a £2 million promise to pay for the conversion of the Corn Exchange. But that promise, made in 1974 was short-lived. Mr David Robinson decided that the Corn Exchange was ugly and should be pulled down. Instead he favoured a purpose-built concert and conference hall on the Downing Street end of the Lion Yard complex. The man at the centre of those protracted negotiations was Coun Jack Warren who told him it was a listed building and could not be pulled down but he pooh-poohed this. In October 1976 Mr Robinson wrote to say it would be impossible for him to provide the money, and then gave another £7 to Robinson College.

1977 10 15
Prime Minister, Jim Callaghan, arrived in Cambridge to address a Labour Party Conference in the Guildhall and talk to the Fabian Society in the Union Society building. Leaders of the city's Sidewalk Surfers skateboarding group waiting outside got no promises of support for their skateboard rink campaign. Over lunch local Labour Party leaders – including Mrs Janet Jones talked of next year's rate support grant settlement for the county. In his speech Mr Callaghan welcomed President Carter's willingness to reduce nuclear weapons and said he sought a comprehensive ban on nuclear explosions

1978 12 06
The increasing use of Cambridge colleges as conference centres may result in irreparable damage to life in the University, dons have warned. Studious undergraduates are unable to remain in residence over the vacation, opulent undergraduates are forced to remove objects from their shelves and dons and graduates find their work disturbed by riotous assemblies of exuberant conferees. But the real danger is that colleges may think of themselves as conference centres first and colleges second. This follows the installation at Trinity College of bed sitting rooms with integral bathrooms rather than communal facilities and the construction of a conference centre at New Hall. 78 12 06

1979 07
Top-level conference on Ireland [3.2 [

1979 07 05
Prime Minister in secret law & order conference

1980

1980 03 29
A big security operation surrounded Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher and the German Chancellor, Helmut Schmidt, when they flew into Cambridge to attend the 30th Anglo-German Conference which is being held in the city. Their two helicopters landed within minutes of each other on the lawns of Trinity College and the Queen's Flight fire service stood by in case of emergency. They were then whisked to the dinner in a heavily-guarded police convoy 80 03 29

1980 11 12
Letting university rooms and facilities during the vacation has grown from a profitable sideline into a virtual necessity. Next year it will bring in £2 million to colleges such as Robinson which was designed with conferences in mind. Previously colleges would send their staff away to the

coast during the vacations where they would work in hotels but now they keep them on to help with corporate catering. At prices averaging £16 a day there is a great demand for the 2,500 beds the colleges can muster either in the historic beauty of King's or the modern facilities of Churchill 80 11 12d

1984 09 15
Top British & Irish politicians meet at Union Society [3.4]

1984 09 27
A bar 'unique to Cambridge' is the claim made for J. Millars on Newnham Road. It is not a wine bar or a cocktail bar. When the Chinese beer ran out they tracked down an alternative in Brighton. Apart from tsing tsio they have beers from Germany, Czechoslovakia and Holland and claim to offer the widest range of import beers, liquers and spirits outside London. They offer all-day faculties for business conferences and hold wedding receptions. 84 09 27

1984 11 16
Conferences only organised on commercial basis 10 years ago, last year £6,009,258 [3.5]

1985 04 18
The new high-tech development on Castle Hill will include full secretarial back-up facilities, a gymnasium, squash courts, restaurant and overnight accommodation. Conference rooms and access to an underground car park will also be available to those who rent rooms. The 'village' will be self-contained and will appeal to people like university lecturers who might also be a consultant and needs his own space. Rents will be 25 percent less than average in central Cambridge 85 04 18

1985 04 20
South Cambridgeshire ratepayers can be assured there are no frills or trimmings in the new £2 million council headquarters on Hills Road. The new base is an energy-saving building which will be workmanlike and maintenance-free. There is an air-conditioned council chamber with video facilities that may be rented out for conferences. Bullet-proof glass will increase security. The idea of moving out into a village was rejected as Cambridge was felt to be a central point. But car parking is likely to be a problem with 105 spaces for the 200 staff many of whom will have to park in the streets when councillors are meeting 85 04 20

1985 05 29
Castle Park, the £10 million high-tech development on County Council land next to Shire Hall has been inaugurated. It offers 'thinking space' to scientists and academics involved in research and development of high-technology ideas. The project will be fully self-contained with its own conference facilities, restaurant, gymnasium, squash courts and overnight accommodation as well as centrally available office equipment and secretarial support. A key attribute is its location in the heart of the city close to many of the University's colleges. 85 05 29b

1986 11 17
Plan for international conferences up to 1450 people using Corn Exchange & University buildings behind [3.6]

1986 11 26
The Corn Exchange, Cambridge's new entertainment and conference complex, has opened after years of political wrangling. The four wall shell used for pop concerts, roller skating and badminton has been developed into an auditorium with stage and versatile seating together with a

tiered balcony and mezzanine terrace that can be used for a variety of purposes. At the back are changing rooms, dressing rooms and workshops while the King Room upstairs will be available for private functions 86 11 26d & e

1988 06 23
George Hales, retiring head bulldog of Trinity, once ticked off Prince Charles for riding his bike in the college. For the last eight years he has been responsible for 20 staff and almost 500 college rooms with 60 business conferences each year. He has been the butt of practical jokes. When England won the world cup students released 30 white rabbits through Queen's Gate on to the Great Court. It took until 2am to capture them all. He is renowned for his gargantuan memory and is passing on important details to his successor 88 06 23b

1989 01 12
The University Arms Hotel has been owned by the Bradford family for almost a century and its sale marks the end of an era. Opened in 1834, the original hotel was a three-storey building with just 15 bedrooms. It was bought by Marcus Bradford in 1891 and rebuilt, with a further extension in 1925, then substantially modernised in the 1960s and 70s. It was the first hotel in Cambridge to install electric lighting, and the first heating system was installed in 1900 when there was also 'telephonic communication with all parts of the United Kingdom'. Today it has 115 bedrooms, a restaurant for up to 250 people, several bars and conference rooms. 89 01 12b

1989 02 22
The Cambridge bedmaker might be an endangered species. Many potential bedders are being wooed by supermarket and 'Yuppie' couples prepared to pay above-average rates for a suitable cleaner. There are almost permanent advertisements but they attract fewer applicants. The standard rate is £2.75 an hour, around 50p less than that offered privately. Bedmakers usually work a 20-hour week but with the current shortages many take on more hours. But there are bonuses during the conference season and regular chats with the fellows make the job different each day 89 02 22a & b

1989 09 21
Cambridge Arts Theatre is to launch an appeal to replace its 650 aging and tatty seats, worn carpets and poor ventilation system. Despite artistic success it has financial problems. Even when a show is a roaring success and playing to packed houses, the theatre makes a £3,000 loss. The problem is worse when operas are performed as a full orchestra reduces seating capacity from 650 to 580. Small profits from catering services, costume-hire and renting out the building for conferences only makes a dent in the overall loss. 89 09 21

1990 03 30
Speaking at the Koenigswinter conference at St Catherine's College, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher spelled out her vision for the future of Europe. Britain and Germany did not yet see eye-to-eye on the future of Europe and was not ready to withdraw all its troops. Nato should continue to have nuclear weapons based there. German Chancellor, Dr Helmut Kohl said he would press for faster progress towards political union in the Community. 90 03 30a

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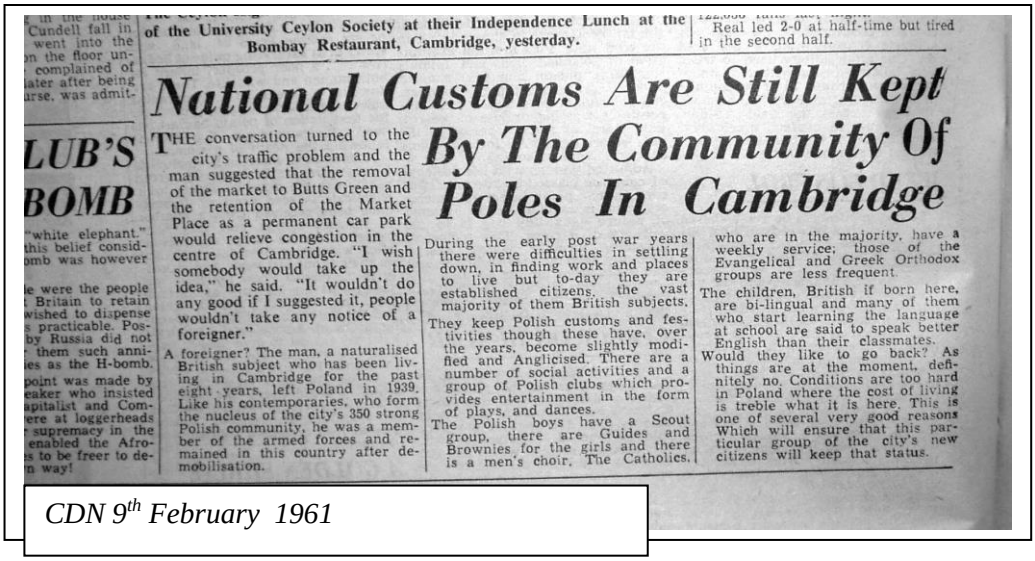

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of the University Ceylon Society at their Independence Lunch at the Bombay Restaurant, Cambridge, yesterday.

Real led 2-0 at half-time but tired in the second half.

National Customs Are Still Kept By The Community Of Poles In Cambridge

THE conversation turned to the city's traffic problem and the man suggested that the removal of the market to Butts Green and the retention of the Market Place as a permanent car park would relieve congestion in the centre of Cambridge. "I wish somebody would take up the idea," he said. "It wouldn't do any good if I suggested it, people wouldn't take any notice of a foreigner."

A foreigner? The man, a naturalised British subject who has been living in Cambridge for the past eight years, left Poland in 1939. Like his contemporaries, who form the nucleus of the city's 350 strong Polish community, he was a member of the armed forces and remained in this country after demobilisation.

During the early post war years there were difficulties in settling down, in finding work and places to live but to-day they are established citizens, the vast majority of them British subjects.

They keep Polish customs and festivities though these have, over the years, become slightly modified and Anglicised. There are a number of social activities and a group of Polish clubs which provides entertainment in the form of plays, and dances.

The Polish boys have a Scout group, there are Guides and Brownies for the girls and there is a men's choir. The Catholics, who are in the majority, have a weekly service; those of the Evangelical and Greek Orthodox groups are less frequent.

The children, British if born here, are bi-lingual and many of them who start learning the language at school are said to speak better English than their classmates.

Would they like to go back? As things are at the moment, definitely no. Conditions are too hard in Poland where the cost of living is treble what it is here. This is one of several very good reasons Which will ensure that this particular group of the city's new citizens will keep that status.

CDN 9th February 1961

c.31 : Population, Immigrants, Refugees

1897 06 21
Such has been the general progress during the Victorian era that it is difficult from the point of view of today to recall the Cambridge of 1837. In the year of her Majesty's accession but few houses stood on the marshy spot which we now know as the populous district of New Town. There were a few residents in Newnham and some scattered dwellings in the neighbourhood of New-square while beyond on the Newmarket-road lay Barnwell of historic note. Chesterton, as a part of Cambridge, was confined to the outgrowth of the town in the neighbourhood of Castle Hill and a plan of the town stops short at the Mill-road corner of Parker's Piece. In 1837 the population would be about 21,000. Recently it has been estimated at over 50,000.

1898 09 03
Cherry Hinton is the meeting place of the old and new; a study in contrasts. St John's ward contains trim villas, modern residences, and a population increasing rapidly year by year. On the other hand, St Andrew's ward is intensely rural, the scene of scattered dwellings and old thatched gables. In short, St John's is suburban, while St Andrew's yet retains its agricultural character. Thus a drainage scheme is less needed in the latter than the former and the inhabitants of St Andrew's insist that they will have none of it, while in the former it has long been common knowledge that emphatically "something must be done", and that quickly, for the constantly growing population

1898 10 27
The population of the town of Cambridge has increased very much during the past 10 years, especially in the Petersfield and Romsey town area. Up till 10 years ago the chancel of the present St Barnabas Church was the only place of worship in the extensive district. Mainly by reason of the enterprise of Mr Sturton in providing land for building purposes, the district became so large that it became necessary to carry out the building of the complete Church; this was done in 1887. The substitution by the Great Eastern Railway Company of a handsome bridge for the old level crossing in Mill Road gave a great impetus to building in what is now Romsey town and the church of ease of St Phillip's was established. Now the time has come for Romsey town to be raised to the status of an ecclesiastical Parish, with St Phillip's as the parish church

1899 07 11
Sir – The population of Chesterton is mainly composed of people who have been turned out of Cambridge to make way for college and other improvements, and nearly all are employed in that ancient town. Every day brings evidence of the great need of another crossing of the Cam & that Abbey Road is the place goes without saying. The De Freville Estate, are absolutely dependent upon the old punts and other obsolete marine structures for crossing over to Cambridge. . It must be conceded that a bridge over this part of the Cam is of the highest importance – "Chestertonian"

1900

1902 07 16
Sir – if Cambridge and Chesterton are excluded from the County Council it will become a superfluous organisation whose few remaining functions could well be carried out by the Rural Councils. The loss of revenue would impose upon the rural districts a burden which would be simply crushing. What would Cambridge gain – nothing unless it is made a County Borough. But with the population of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and Newnham Croft added Cambridge would still be short of the 50,000 requisite to form a County Borough – John Bester

1902 08 25
The growth of the population in Cambridge is not keeping pace with the building of houses and in various parts many houses are constantly empty. But the absence of overcrowding is in the highest degree beneficial, not only to public health, but to the public morals as well. The housing problem is one of the most difficult of the day and the proportion of income which has to be paid as rent by artisans in the neighbourhood of London is so great as to make the problem of obtaining sufficient food almost insoluble. It is to be hoped that such a state of things will never exist in Cambridge

1904 09 03
Green Street, Cambridge would hardly be suspected of any pretensions to the romantic. Its well-ordered lodging-houses, the policemen who parade it and the milkmen who visit it, all seem to bar the entrance to anything more fanciful. Yet it is home to a Russian Pole, Mr Ignatius Knaster who became a political offender by the publication of a political pamphlet dealing with the conditions in Poland and was given the alternative of incarceration or banishment. 1904 09 03

1910

1912 03 29
Today the population of the Borough of Cambridge is 40.560. On Monday it will be 57,073. The extension of the boundary now brings in Chesterton and the urban portions of Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Grantchester. These suburbs were inhabited almost entirely by people whose living lay in Cambridge but were separated from it by the River Cam or purely artificial borders. It means that the residents will now be under the care of the Cambridge Town Council. 12 03 29c

1914 09 18
Belgian refugees & p5

1914 10 16
Another trainload of wounded Belgian soldiers arrived at the station and were taken to the Hospital at Trinity College. Now 100 Belgian refugees are expected who will be housed temporarily in the Corn Exchange before they are found homes. Not many households can take a

whole family but streets might share them. Professors from the University of Louvain professors have arrived and a room at the Engineering Laboratory made available for lectures

1914 10 23
Belgian refugees Sawston, Histon, concert, Huntingdon, list Cambridge names & where billeted; p3 Caxton Infectious Diseases Hospital to be used

1914 11 27
The Hospitality Committee for Belgian refugees has equipped four houses in which 55 refugees have been accommodated. They are 'Scotsdale' on Grantchester Road where a Flemish priest has been lodged with nine members of his family and 'South House' Barton Road which houses 14 members of doctor's family. A young lace maker and a family of eight from Louvain lodges at No.4 West View Newnham while at No.11 Brookside there are 22 refugees from Malines and Ostend. In Regent Street a studio has been converted into a fair-sized reading room where Dutch, French and English papers are supplied. * & p5

1915 11 03
Mrs Elizabeth Fanny Pryor has assisted Belgian refugees and organised flag days for other causes; warden of Primrose League – 15 11 03d

1916 05 10
Hugel homes for Belgian refugees – detailed report – 16 05 10d

1919 12 24
Cambridge and the Belgians – account of refugees – detailed report – 19 12 24a

1920

1927 01 18
H.L. Hughes spoke on how town planning could be improved. The last 100 years have seen an enormous increase in population and as a result town planning if not a problem for the future but more for the immediate present. The traffic, the sewers, the gas or electricity all have to be thought of. There are roads from the foot of the Gogs to Shelford and Stapleford which only contain one or two houses along them. Buses may pass the door but one has to go miles for a doctor, a church or a school. In a few years' time people will not live in such places and these houses will be left to fall down and spoil the approach to the town

1930

1930 04 30
Cambridge Guildhall was crowded with an audience chiefly composed of young men and women, but with a fair leavening of older folk, who had come to hear Dr Marie Stopes give an address on birth control. She spoke rapidly for an hour and replied to many questions. Thousands of mothers, having had three or four children, with perhaps only one year between them, finding it difficult to get sufficient food and worn out were in dread of another unwanted child. What was wanted was spaced babies from radiant mothers. Dr Stopes had been abused, insulted and misrepresented but she made people think and talk about birth control. 30 04 30a & b

1930 11 07
Mrs Emma Gunton is celebrating her 100th birthday; she is the second Cambridge lady this week to reach this wonderful age. She is remarkable: she walks without assistance, has her own teeth

and eats her meals regularly. She has never had an illness and only required the attention of a doctor on one occasion she met with an accident. Born at Bottisham she possesses a fine memory and can recall the coming of railway trains. 30 11 07

1932 01 18
Cambridge suffered the loss of a centenarian with the death of Mrs Sarah Ann Howes of Glisson Road. She was a charming old lady with many interesting reminiscences. She attended the dinner on Parker's Piece to celebrate the coronation of Queen Victoria and remembered the opening of the Cambridge railway station and her first journey to Ely by train. Things are very different today, she would say: the poor people are much better off than they were and people have more sympathy with each other. 32 01 18b

1932 03 30
The residential population of All Saints church in Cambridge is dwindling on account of commercial progress. Of 1,500 residents when the church was built, only 600 now remain due to the conversion of houses into shops and offices. The time is rapidly approaching when parishioners will have to consider the state of the church, the vestry meeting was warned. 32 03 30a

1933 05 22
The 1931 census report shows a population increase in Cambridgeshire of seven percent since 1921. The number of married women has increased assisted by the high marriage rate in recent years, despite the prevailing economic depression. The net result of all the new building, structural alteration and demolition has seen the number of dwellings rise by 13.7 per cent and the instances of 'overcrowding' has reduced notwithstanding a large increase in the numbers of families. 33 05 22c

1933 08 16
"Pakistan" name given and National movement founded by Choudray Rahmat Ali, Emmanuel college 1933 ¢TT 16.8.1947

1935 01 10
Who can claim the greatest number of living descendants? J. Haynes of Thoday Street says: "I am 80 and have eight children living. There are 37 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren. My eldest daughter is 39 and the youngest great grandchild 14". Miss K. Brand of Gloucester Street says "My grandmother (87) has had 12 children; there are 62 grandchildren, 62 great grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren. 35 01 10

1935 12 16
Sir – the de-population of Castle End has brought a serious decline in trade in this district. Slum clearance has seen the departure of many young families to the new residential estates in other parts of Cambridge and we are left with the old people whose requirements are practically nil. When a house is vacant it is condemned and pulled down so consequently no new residents come to take their place. Some sites have been empty for years and are growing a plentiful supply of weeds and thistles. When are we going to have new houses built on these vacant sites – Tradesman 35 12 16

1937 06 09
A meeting at Cambridge Guildhall to raise funds for the Basque children's hostel at Pampisford brought several promises of 'adopting' children by guaranteeing fifteen shillings a week. There will be 29 young refugees at Pampisford Vicarage and volunteers were needed to do cleaning,

carpentry and plumbing. Leah Manning described the terrible tragedy of Guernica and the conditions in Bilbao where everyone from the President to the poorest refugee had only black bread, coarse cabbage and a little rice to eat. 37 06 09a & b 37 06 12a

1937 06 23
Sir - The 29 Basque refugee children are now settled in the Vicarage at Pampisford after their ordeal in Spain. There have been heavy initial expenses in creating a home in an unfurnished house not designed for the purpose and insufficiently provided with sanitation. Several firms have supplied goods free or at cost prices and individuals have given their labour in repairing, paintings and cleaning the Vicarage. We hope to employ a cook-housekeeper and charwoman as well as a part-time gardener to grow vegetables for the winter – F.M. Cornford. 37 06 23

1940

1940 03 21
German refugee offended under aliens' regulations – 40 03 21a

1941 01 23
First wedding of refugees in synagogue – 41 01 23a`

1945 05 03
Jewish refugees should stay, says meeting – 45 05 03

1947 05 19 c
"However any calamities the war brought, it brought one great saving - it has resulted in closer relations between England and Poland than ever before in history. The Poles have 'discovered' the English, and learned to appreciate their great qualities, and in the same way many English people have 'discovered' the Poles. This opinion was expressed in Cambridge on Saturday by Dr Z. Lubienski, lecturer in the department of education, Cambridge University, when he addressed members of the Cambridge Women's Luncheon Club, after a luncheon in the Dorothy Cafe.

1947 12 11 c
Separated from their own families on St Nicholas Day which in Poland, being the day of the patron saint of children, is celebrated with childrens' parties, the 200 Poles at the Agricultural camp at Cherry Hinton did the next best thing . They gave a Christmas party for English children, entertaining about 75 youngsters from the village at their hostel in Walpole Road. The Poles, who have been doing agricultural work since they were demobilised about six months ago, gave up their sweet ration for two weeks and part of their special Christmas allowance to provide the tea. During the meal the kiddies were entertained with lively Polish folk songs, played on two accordions and to Polish carols sung by the newly formed hostel choir

1949 03 04 c
Speaking to a crowded assembly at the opening of the Free Poles Club in St Andrew's Hall, Emmanuel Road, Cambridge the Vice Chancellor described the need for friendly relations between Britons and the Free Poles in this country, as a step which would foster inter-national harmony. The club is open not only to Poles all over the country but to anyone showing interest in Anglo-Polish relationship

1950

1951 04 14

The results of the census is awaited with particular interest locally. Because if it shows that the population of Cambridge has greatly increased, it might well be that the city would be in a position to apply for county borough status. Before it can put forward a claim a town must have a population of at least 100,000. County boroughs are completely self-contained local authorities, exercising all local government functions within their area. If Cambridge were to be granted this new status the city council would be very largely masters in their own house, a state of affairs what cannot be said to exist at the present moment owing to the rate demands of the county

1953 12 30
From 1953 have Polish culture lessons St Albans School ¢CEN 30.12.1976

1955 02 09
When the 1951 census was take a record was made of birthplace and nationalities. From a total population in Cambridgeshire of 166,887, 158,383 were English born while 2,112 came from Scotland, 1,613 from Wales and 1,151 from the Irish Republic. There were 318 people born in the colonies and 6,476 from foreign countries including 3,757 aliens. Whereas 63 per cent of the population of the Isle of Ely were born in the county, only 47 per cent of Huntingdonshire residents were actually born there thus illustrating the expansion of the population by immigration 55 02 09

1956 03 24
The University Pakistan Association celebrated the country's first Republic Day with a visit to the Cambridge cemetery to lay wreaths and say 'Fateha' (Moslem funeral prayers) at the grave of Chaudhri Rahmat Ali, the man who first coined the word Pakistan (meaning 'the Land of the Pure'). Mr Ali lived here for a number of years and died about five years ago. The day was rounded off by a Grand Mogul Dinner at the Taj Mahal restaurant. 56 03 24c

1958 09 24
Miss Mary Cattley was Headmistress of the Perse School for Girls from 1926-1947. She introduced the house system, saw the building of the new school block in 1930, the establishment of the games field and the river bathing place which was acquired in 1934. During the war the school welcomed refugee girls from Europe, many of whom have married and settled down in Cambridge. 58 09 24

1959 12 20 c
Trumpington industrial hostel is one of the few remaining hostels opened in 1947 to accommodate Poles from the Polish Resettlement Corps on the transfer to civilian status. It has continued as an industrial hostel with Polish residents numbering more than half the total. The 130 residents are employed locally but it is a costly business and it will shortly be closed. Many of those displaced will probably find lodgings with other Polish workers who have homes in the neighbourhood.

1960

1961 02 04
Three years ago there were perhaps one or two West Indians working in Cambridge. Now the number must fast be approaching 100. They have all been invited by the Cambridge Brotherhood to attend their international service at the Mill Road Baptist Church when the address will be delivered by Canon Hay, the Chaplain appointed by the Anglican Church to serve Jamaican immigrants. The invitation is extended to all friends and includes a social gathering after the service 61 02 04a

1961 02 09
Many of Cambridge's 350-strong Polish community found it difficult finding work and places to live in the early post war years. They keep Polish customs and festivities and there are clubs which provide entertainment in the form of plays and dances. The boys have a Scout group, there are Guides and Brownies and a men's choirs. The Catholics have a weekly service, those of the Evangelical and Greek Orthodox are less frequent. The children are bi-lingual and many speak better than their classmates. Would they like to go back? No. Conditions are too hard in Poland where the cost of living is treble what it is here and the vast majority are now British subjects 61 02 09b

1962 01 02
The school population in Cambridge has increased by 80 per cent since 1939. Council houses have been built in large numbers leading to a movement of population into new estates and new schools could not be provided in time. Serious overcrowding of infants classes reached a peak in 1953 and spread on to secondary schools in 1957. Over-large classes have been unavoidable and children are taught in halls, dining rooms and even store rooms. 62 01 02 & a

1962 01 19
West Indians in Cambridge are having difficulty in finding a clubroom in which they can meet. At a social evening in the Romsey Labour Hall over 50 were present to dance, listen to calypso music and meet new friends from the British Commonwealth. Many of the 150 West Indians at present in the city would be keen to join a club of their own and others would travel from Ipswich 62 01 19a

1963 06 18
Steps are being taken to solve the problems of the current increase in the West Indian working population of Cambridge. Though small, the increase in the number of coloured people is causing problems of housing, child care and general social welfare. Housing is one problem: often the only way they can make ends meet is to fill the house with many paying tenants. When both parents go out to work there are difficulties with getting child care facilities 63 06 18

1965 05 01
County Development Plan rejected by Minister with plans to limit Cambridge population to 100,000 and place virtual bans on all industry – 65 05 01

1966 01 12
By year 2000 the population of Cambridge and area within six miles may have doubled from present size of 300,000 and light industrial development may be firmly established. High-speed roads will by-pass a star-shaped city with network of cycle tracks, says City architect, Gordon Logie – 66 01 12

1966 02 25
Mill Road becoming a coloured area – organisation to give practical help to immigrants – 66 02 25, a

1966 06 28
450 Poles in Cambridge; mark 1000 years Christianity in Poland ¢CEN 18.6 & 20.6.1966

1967 08 11
Colour prejudice in Cambridge – difficulty of accommodation, feature – 67 08 11

1970

1972 04 17
Population stats, p6

1972 12 08
Polish Polonia House registered as club, raised £28,000 to buy ¢CEN 8.12.1972

1974 12 16
This year for the first time in more than 30 years a group of Polish people will have a family-style Christmas in their own homes. After the war they arrived in this country as displaced persons or refugees. Because they were sick, they were admitted to mental hospitals, and they did not learn the English language. The new house, bought by the British Council for Aid to Refugees, has been simply but comfortably furnished. As a group, they are now working out what they will have for Christmas diner. The occasion marks the beginning of a new life

1976 11 23
There are now more than 1,000 Italians in Cambridge; the largest immigrant group in the city. Apart from a few prisoners-of-war who stayed on after 1945, the majority arrived in the 50s and 60s. Many have earned enough to start their own businesses and establish their own homes. The head of one Italian family says that with 88 hours a week spent on running a continental corner shop and bakery there is not much time for family or social life. He emigrated from Naples in 1961 to achieve a standard of living in which he could raise a family. His first job was in a college kitchen but he soon launched his own business from a bed-sit room supplying bread and cakes to the growing Italian communities from Nottingham to London and Ipswich.

1978 03 31
20 Asian families settled after Amins expulsions ¢CEN 31.3.78

1980

1981 03 17
Nine Vietnamese boat refugees ¢CEN 17.3.1981

1982 01 30
Polish community protest over Solidarity sentences ¢CEN 30.1.1982

1983 03 17
Vietnamese - about 30 families ¢CEN 17.3.1983

1988 11 23
Cambridge's large Polish community celebrated 40 years in the city at the Polonia Club in Chesterton Road. They have built up an impressive network of activities ranging from a drama society and folk song ensemble called Klosy to a school founded in 1952 to teach Polish language and culture. When Josef Mazur came in 1947 the only employment open to Poles was labouring, work in the mines or domestic positions. The older members of the community are suspicious that youngsters will not uphold the traditions. 88 11 23c

1989 02 23
Pakistan ambassador honours Chaudri Rahnat Ali – 89 02 23

1990

1996 12 31 c
The Cambridge Polish community has a simple though to reflect upon. Fascism drove them out of their country and brought them to Britain & the advent of communism back home kept them here when the war ended. Poles like Henio Muszynski and Czeslaw Rataj, young infantrymen in 1945 recall the camaraderie of a post-war further education camp at Fowlmere where many were taught English and eased into British life. Cultural and social activities thrived; there was dancing and drama, "but we would just hire a place so that people would meet every week to talk Polish and just play cards", said Mr Muszynski. Four years ago the community raised the money needed to buy a three-story club house in Chesterton Road. It has 300 members and is a comfortably furnished piece of Poland in Cambridge.

Cambridge ladies in Sidney Street, 1965

246.17

c.31.3 : Women *(see also c.36.98 : University Women)*

1890 06 13
The announcement that Miss P.G. Fawcett was in reality the Senior Wrangler caused much excitement for, although it was well-known that she would attain a higher position in the class list than has ever yet been attained by a woman, it was regarded as improbably that she would obtain higher marks than the Senior Wrangler. Twentieth Wrangler is the best place previously obtained by a woman since women's names have been published in the class list. In 1887 Miss Ramsey (now Mrs Butler, the wife of the present Vice Chancellor) was Senior Classic. Miss Fawcett was educated at the High School, Clapham, and obtained a scholarship at Newnham. She was present at the reading of the list and was heartily cheered by the undergraduates as she left the building in company with Miss Clough, the principal of Newnham. On Saturday night there were great rejoicings at Newnham 1890 06 13 Ch

1891 02 20
Jane Elsden had been sentenced for 14 days detention but escaped from Spinning House through window into St Andrew's Street. She had been arrested at Dullingham by men who had acted more in the character of Russian police and dragged through three courts. She was not legally represented and had no opportunity of obtaining a solicitor. But she had committed no offence under Common Law: she had not broken out and had not escaped from lawful custody of a constable – it was the Vice Chancellor. The offence for which she was detained was not one

known to Common Law or University charter. The case was gone into in a manner unknown in any civilised country; she was examined and cross-examined and the charge made out against her. The Vice Chancellor's court savoured rather of the Inquisition. The 'court' was a small room at the Spinning House and it was not a court of justice. While it existed no women were safe and ladies of the highest respectability had been subjected to the indignity and annoyance of detention. The judge said the prisoner was in lawful custody. She was found guilty and sent back to undergo remainder of her term of imprisonment. Incident excited great interest all over country, questions in House of Commons and remission of portion sentenced granted. 1891 01 17 1891 02 20 Ch

1891 02 27
The MP for Cambridge has contacted the Vice Chancellor & suggested a conference between the University and Town with a view to a modification of the ancient powers of arrest, trial and imprisonment at the Spinning House. He will raise it in the House of Commons. The Home Secretary has released the girl – escape was entirely due to the negligence of the matron. The University Senate will meet the Mayor and Borough on question of jurisdiction. Large number of articles and letters in London newspapers over Spinning House and questions continue to be asked in Parliament. CIP

1891 03 20
Report of committee appointed by Borough to confer with Council of Senate with referenced to jurisdiction exercised by University over persons not members of the University over Spinning House cases. The Vice-Chancellor's court is held in secret, evidence is not given on oath, accused cannot obtain professional assistance. They urge abolition of University jurisdiction or it be held in abeyance for a time. University would obtain advice of Counsel. Council seek Bill in Parliament to abolish all University jurisdiction over residents not members of the University. Councillor Nichols drew a highly coloured picture of an unfortunate woman being hunted down the streets by a Proctor and his two men and taken to the Spinning House where she was made to don a prison garb and on the following morning appear before a secret tribunal, without allowing anyone to be called on her behalf, and without hearing evidence on oath, sentenced to a term of imprisonment. The University had not seen their way to abolish these laws, saying they did not think the streets would be properly kept by policemen. University students often created great disturbances, rushing arm in arm and insulting everyone. This was what Proctors ought to see after, not hunt unfortunate women down.

1891 04 10
Special meeting of Town Council - should reconsider ancient privileges of University. The University were now represented on council. Reviews activities of 1852 when sought inquiry into state of discipline, studies and revenues of University including search for common women, power over ale-houses, theatres, trade regulations and University Courts. Proctors patrolled the streets for only a brief period and powers could be suspended. The Watch Committee of town and university, dealt with some of the matters. Jane Elsden case; she had broken no law but the University law, was sentenced to three week's imprisonment. She broke out of prison then taken before the magistrates, having committed an offence against the common law. She said 'Don't send me to the Spinning House, send me to gaol. She was convicted. Application made to Home Secretary and she was released. Two years ago a Local Government Inquiry was held, nothing said about University privileges. The Council of Senate willing to remedy grievances. Now they had a system of police controlled by a Watch Committee on which University represented, the powers were no longer needed. Ch

1891 04 18

Spinning House death of girl in 1846 – details of inquest; describes conditions then – graphic account CIP

1891 12 04
Editorial: to keep silence about the Spinning House wrong … an undergraduate is himself suggester of evil to a girl; the proctor takes his name and college and lets him go. The proctor's men arrest a girl a distance from the scene, take her to Spinning House and next morning the undergraduate is called as the principal witness – he ought to have been in the dock and the girl in witness box. The first trial at the Spinning House had better be the last. The undergraduate, a married man, overwhelmed with shame has taken his name of the College books and left the town; a girl little more than a child has been branded with infamy and the whole sickening question will have to be gone into anew. CIP

1891 12 11
Daisy Hopkins application for Habeas Corpus; Lord chief justice quashed conviction. She had been apprehended and charged with walking with a member of the university in a public street; was committed to Keeper of Spinning House or House of Correction. Claims illegal custody – no offence, merely walking; was not stated she was of bad character or suspected of evil. It said she told undergraduate he could go with her to her rooms but this was not offence alleged. She was illegally committed. There was no appeal from this court, no limit to term of imprisonment. Would like to see it the prison was a legal prison. University proctor had requested police to produce register of prostitutes. Reference to 1860 case in which woman arrested. CIP

1891 12 18
Council supported promoting Bill for abolishing powers exercised by University over persons not members of that body. Coun Vinter considered powers under which Daisy Hopkins case took place – power of searching without a warrant by day or night in any house in the town for persons suspected of evil; persons arrested might be imprisoned by Vice Chancellor and no limit to imprisonment. Vice Chancellor the sole judge without appeal and had only to find the person suspected of evil to pass sentence. Could accept evidence on oath or not at his pleasure, could refuse to accept evidence, could pass sentence and was absolute authority within his own court. Spinning House was a place which the visiting justices could not enter by right; public were absolutely in the dark as to the mode of treatment the prisoners subjected to. Were no rules permitting visits of friends, prisoners not allowed to write letters and proceedings absolutely private. Ch

1892 01 01
Daisy Hopkins to bring action for damages for false imprisonment. Review of incidents in Spinning House case The Spinning House business has taken up the whole of the year. It was on January 17th that Baron Pollock sent Jane Elden back to undergo the remainder of her term of imprisonment. The incident excited great interest all over the country. Questions were asked in the House of Commons. On March 2nd Town Council private meeting decided negotiate with University. No settlement satisfactory which does not abolish jurisdiction of University over inhabitants of town. First negotiations with University proved abortive, the University willing to make its Court open and allow prisoners professional representation but declining to make any alteration in its powers over townspeople. Two Town Council meetings on negotiations or whether to promote a Bill in House of Commons; decided continue negotiations. On May 14th a full report of all town grievances discussed by Council and adopted. July 11th University reply discussed – refused to depart from original position. Council decided to communicate with Oxford Town Council over Bill – they in favour but could do nothing for moment. Seemed about to collapse through lack of interest but then Daisy Hopkins imprisoned; trial and application to

Supreme Court for writ of Habeas Corpus lead to release. On 18th December Council voted for Bill for abolition of University jurisdiction. CIP says University jurisdiction should be for University only and townspeople dealt with by common law of the land. University position confirmed by Act and by an Act it must be curtailed – expensive. Public meeting, turbulent proceedings – very large attendance of townspeople partial to total abolition of University powers – detailed reports. Ch, CIP

1892 01 08
Letter disputes jurisdiction rights and Patterson arbitration of 1854-55 and rights of university by G.F. Browne, Disney Prof and ex Proctor over problems of prostitution. Ch

1892 01 08
Oscar Browning's opinion university jurisdiction over Hopkins, sites case of washer-woman who brought similar action; claimed she had washed linen for young people of immoral character; had said Spinning House a filthy dungeon to which comforts of police station were incomparable. CIP

1892 03 25
Daisy Hopkins case commenced at Ipswich Assizes – details. It was important to protect young men but equally as important that women should not be deprived of freedom simply because of breath of suspicion; she had gone to Newnham to meet a young man with whom she was keeping company. He did not keep his appointment. When going home she was stopped by a man wearing a Macintosh and asked the way to Tennis Court Road. He was a complete stranger. She answered and went on but shortly afterwards the office of the Proctor came up and pinned her against the railings, holding her until Proctor came. She was arrested and taken Spinning House where detained under great hardship and suffering. In Vice Chancellor's court the University solicitor was asked how he could tell the man was a University gentlemen – what is his name. But the Vice Chancellor at first declared this was not a question which ought to be put and he would not allow it; then allowed. She was sentenced to 14 days imprisonment for talking with an undergraduate, whom she did not known to be an undergraduate and who was a perfect Stanger. An appeal made to Court of Queen's Bench and judges took view that Vice Chancellor had no power to imprison anyone for walking with an undergraduate. The plaintiff released and present action bought. Daisy said she was 17. She had asked to see parents – refused – and sentenced 14 days. Was not charged with anything. Was taken down to the cell which was not warmed. There was a small wooden bed with a mattress of straw but she could not lie on it as so cold. She asked for water as her throat was bad and had to go out in the passage to get it. Was locked up all night. Was not allowed to see her father, friends or the solicitor who appeared for her. Said not guilty, sentenced to 14 days imprisonment. Prison dress put on and she had to clean floors. At end of 10 days was released. She claimed she never had improper relations with any one, had never associated with bad characters or smoked with other women who had been found in ale house under suspicious circumstances. She had been engaged over two years. Had been warned before by a Proctor who said he would lock her up if she was shopping a six o'clock in the evening Her solicitor said the untaxed costs of getting her released was £138.10. He had not been paid a farthing with the exception of a sovereign by her brother. A collection at Cambridge had reached only £26. Promisers were not kept because people were afraid of the University. University solicitor said no respectable woman ought to have been in Tennis Court road at that time of night and she had no good reason to be there. Jury found verdict for defendant with costs – good grounds existed for suspecting her and Proctor acted in good faith. CIP, Ch

1892 04 15
Council special meeting over University Jurisdiction Bill to repeal section of 13 Elizabeth giving power to police to arrest prostitutes & theatre licences. Senate willing to meet objections on court

being secret, evidence not given on oath and accused not having professional assistance. Happy to see Town possessed of additional powers to maintain decency in streets but a different thing to abolish entirely the present system without waiting to see how new powers work. CIP

1892 06 03
Second of Spinning Houses cases to be heard in public; 20 persons outside Senate House awaiting trial, University men excluded. People had to knock to seek admission. Girl imprisoned one week – decision greeted with hisses and signs of disapproval. CIP

1892 11 18
Female Refuge told of good which Spinning House doing. CIP

1893 05 26
Town council on University jurisdiction – special meeting over powers over persons not members.
Senate co-operate with Borough to promote bill – right to arrest women suspected of evil to be repealed; women to be taken to police station; university jurisdiction will disappear and be vested in Justices. Regulation of theatres – does away with consent of Vice Chancellor before any stage plays – be responsibility county council. Music and dancing – need licence from Licensing Justice. Public exhibition or performance need permission of Mayor – including Midsummer Fair. Cambridge University Jurisdiction Act 1894 – details. Spinning house might be converted into a sort of jail for women – but under entire control of Borough Justices. Proctors could enter pubs. Ch

1894 05 11.
Corporation Bill before House of Commons – a compromise between University and Corporation, reducing friction re prostitutes … students were young and inexperienced freshly released from discipline of school life and would fall east prey to worm of bad character if precautions not taken … women would be attracted from country and London … women of bad character might be perfectly quiet in their behaviour and abstain from open solicitation yet their presence in the streets would be a great temptation … proctors would exercise exceptional powers at own peril. During last two years a marked deterioration in state of the streets. Objection to omission of words 'behaving in a riotous and disorderly manner'. Bill a compromise and impossible to take out any part without rendering it unacceptable. Bill allowed police to arrest bad characters wandering in streets unable to give satisfactory account … and similar power to proctors who on same footing as police. Vice Chancellor's court and Spinning House to be abolished and persons tried before ordinary court
University jurisdiction founded on very ancient charter and was much resented by town – but now come to unanimous accord. Select committee of House had approved the special clause. There was no need for this private bill. Would be similar to affairs in Oxford

1894 06 22
Corporation Bill. The House of Lords carried the Cambridge Spinning-house Bill by an overwhelming majority. The measure, which re-enacts in a modified form at the end of the nineteenth century the much-abused medieval powers of the Cambridge authorities, came up for third reading. The question was practically decided on party lines. Lord Leigh (Trinity College) moved to leave out Clause: "Every common prostitute loitering or being in a street or public place for the purpose of prostitution or solicitation." He said he regarded it a most dangerous power to place in the hands of a policeman that he should be given authority to say whether woman was out in the streets of Cambridge for the purpose of prostitution or not, unless she was seen actually to solicit, and the object of his amendment was to provide that a police-constable should not have

that power unless he proved solicitation. Under the Bill, a poor woman going home after her day's work might be arrested by policeman. The Duke op Devonshire (Chancellor of the University) regretted that he was unable, on behalf of the University of Cambridge, to assent to the amendment. The University of Cambridge had from very ancient times been invested with very extensive powers of dealing with vagabonds, prostitutes, and other suspected persons, and those powers had from time to time caused good deal of conflict between the University and the Municipal authorities. It was very generally admitted that, in towns such as Cambridge and Oxford, where large number of young men resided for a very considerable portion of the year, for the purposes of education, the University and Municipal authorities should be armed with somewhat larger powers than were necessary in the case of other towns. The effect of the amendment would be to make it impossible for either the University or Municipal authorities to arrest any prostitute unless the act of soliciting were actually proved, and the powers conferred would be insufficient if the amendment were adopted. Unless these special powers were given to the Municipal and University authorities, there was considerable danger that the state of the streets of Cambridge would become a serious scandal, and a moral danger to the undergraduates would arise. The Bill passed. CIP

1894 11 09
Parliamentary committee report that owning to passing of Cambridge University and Corporation Act 1894 the use of university portion of the Spinning House is no longer required; need more accommodation for police station … take steps for disposition of portion of spinning house used by university by purchase or otherwise. CIP

1894 12 28
Spinning House abolished. Ch

1897 02 04
Women suffrage bill

1897 03 08
At St Paul's church on Sunday morning the Rev Dr Stokes said "The town owes a debt of gratitude to the authorities for their elaborate and extensive efforts to check the gambling evil which for some time past has been rampant in our midst. It has for many months been a matter of public scandal that certain men have been at the corners of some of our streets enticing young men and lads, as well as unwary men and even women into betting and gambling. It was of great importance to capture not one or two only but the whole band, and especially those who finance the business. As the guilty parties promised never again to infringe the new bye-law it is not to be wondered at that the magistrates only imposed a small fine but it is a matter of regret that no severe punishment could be inflected on these corruptors of the morals of our town"

1897 03 16
The "Cambridge Daily News" makes proposals. A municipal washhouse. We believe there are hundreds of women in Cambridge - the wives of working men - who would hail with the liveliest satisfaction the establishment of a place where they could do their week's washing with some degree of comfort. How many homes belonging to the humbler classes are there without anything like proper washing and drying accommodation to the occupants of which such a place would be a boon and a blessing

1897 03 20
Mr Edwin Bays, architect, forwards particulars of a scheme for erecting a viaduct, with Bathing Sheds under, leading from the Trumpington Road, Cambridge, to Newnham. The proposed

viaduct road would start from the Leys School grounds, Coe Fen, Newnham and terminating at Grantchester and Barton-roads. It will be necessary to construct two river and three road arches and it is intended to utilise one as a Swimming Bath for women, and the other two as dressing rooms

1897 05 05
While the members of the University Senate are engaged in a fierce contest to decide whether women shall be admitted to the titles of degrees, the undergraduates have given most emphatic expressions to their opinion. A committee was formed and within six days over 2,100 signatures (the total number of undergraduates and Bachelors is only 2.840) have been sent to a memorial expressing the conviction that the giving of degrees to women would prove injurious to the position and efficiency of the University as a University for men 1897 05 05

1897 05 12
Last night a brilliant debate took place in the Debating Hall of the Cambridge University Union on the question of Women's Degrees. Mr T.F.R. McDonnell of St John's College said that one would suppose that as soon as the report had been passed a plague of women would descend upon Cambridge and infest everything. It was asked why women did not found a University of their own. A University was not built in a day and this would not prevent them from building one 1897 05 12

1897 05 21
After the Senate House scenes yesterday (when the University voted against degrees for women) there was a brief respite. It was the calm before the storm. About 7 o'clock there was a grand gathering of the clans. Undergraduates began trooping through the streets to what was obviously a pre-arranged rendezvous - the Market Hill. From the four corners of the square fire was opened upon everybody and everything within range. Bombs, hand-rockets, and every description of firework manufactured were flung haphazard into the crowd until the scene resembled nothing so much as the bombardment of a hostile camp, It is no exaggeration to say that hundreds of pounds worth of stuff were got rid of during the five hours the proceedings lasted 1897 05 21

1897 05 21
'The University of Cambridge' (the "Daily News" thinks) 'has not improved its reputation for sense and judgement by its votes (not to award women degrees). Not a single argument worthy of the name has been produced in favour of the decision'. 'Of the wisdom shown by the Cambridge Senate there can be but one opinion' (says the "Morning Post"). 'In rejecting by an overwhelming majority the Graces for giving Titles of Degrees to ladies they have done much to revive the reputation of their University for forethought and discretion' 1897 05 21

1897 12 23
A laundress of Gloucester Street, Cambridge, was charged at the Borough Court with keeping a woman at work for more than 14 hours. Annie Sindell said she commenced work at 9.30 am Friday and worked until ten past six the next morning. She had an hour and a quarter for meals. The day was supposed to be of 12 hours, less meal times, and for that they got 1s.3d. She never agreed to work all night but the laundress would have the work done. She earned 7s.6d. for the whole week. The overtime pay was a penny an hour. The laundress was fined 7s.6. and costs

1898 06 03
The Cambridge YWCA, having found its old quarters growing too small and inadequate to its requirements has obtained Geneva House, Regent Street, and there established its head-quarters. Yesterday a meeting was convened at which the Vice Chancellor of the university presided and

spoke. He said that the new premises were in every way more suited to the needs of the Association. In their new house the windows of the back rooms, which he fancied would be those most used by the young women, overlooked his garden, and he was unable to disabuse himself of an idea they would keep an eye on him. The Master of Trinity then rose. He said he had known nothing of the removal, and had been ignorant of the nature of the gathering he was to address. He did not like to trust his eyes, which were not of the best. He had never in all his experience known an educational establishment change its quarters without bettering itself

1898 09 05
Awful was the fate of an aged women residing in East Road Cambridge, on Saturday night. Her body was found scorched, blackened and blistered in her burning house. Every article of clothing was
burned, and not a hair remained on her head. Those who saw it were sickened at the uncanny sight. As quickly as possible she was carried to a costermonger's barrow and covered up with the first things that came to hand, after which she was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital. The fire brigade was hampered as the telegraph wires are set so low in that part of the town that it is impossible to run the fire escape along without catching the wires and causing not only damage but delay. In this instance the escape was delayed by catching the wires in Burleigh Street

1898 11 29
Female Refuge: Vice Chancellor spoke of Spinning House – women had been taken to a place where they were under the careful hands of women and were visited by a chaplain and others. New arrangements not equal – no proper cells for women, no female warder to look after them. Ch

1899 01 03
A most extraordinary story has just come to light respecting the matrimonial affairs of a young woman residing in Cambridge. It appears she has been keeping company with a young man who lived away from Cambridge and it was arranged that the wedding should take place on Christmas Day. It transpired however that the laws with respect to residence in the district had not been complied with and the wedding was postponed until Sunday. The appointed hour drew near, but no bridegroom turned up, nor has he been seen since. Upon being shown the groom's photograph a police officer identified him as being "wanted" in connection with an assault which has since proved fatal. It is hoped the efforts of the police to bring such a heartless fellow to justice will prove successful

1899 04 19
An inquiry held heard that half of the Spinning House was occupied as a police station. It had been built about 1840 and was far from up to date. There was no difference between the accommodation for male and female prisoners, and any women that might be kept in the police station all night had to be attended to by police constables on duty, there being no female warders or matrons. The cells were clean and in good order but were quite inadequate for the requirements of the town

1900

1900 02 22
"It is very hard lines", writes an anonymous correspondent, "for poor washerwomen to go to their work at 9am and then for their employers not to let them leave off until between 9 and 10 pm. It ought to be known that they don't allow the poor women time to swallow their meals before they want them to start again". The writer hopes her letter by induce "the laundresses to give the poor

washerwomen a chance". If it is at all common for women to be kept at work for more than twelve hours without sufficient intervals for meals, a state of matters exists which urgently calls for redress.

1901 09 07
Sir – some days ago I discovered that a strong young woman was required to attend to the laundry and do the scrubbing at a neighbouring workhouse. I became a candidate and enclose a copy of my application, which received scant courtesy. "Having passed a course at the Royal College of Music I could, when not employed in laundry work, amuse the inmates on the piano, violin, banjo or tambourine. I am adept at cycling and should be glad to teach the young or aged inmates to ride. I could also give the Guardians a lesson on the art of riding. I am tall and fairly good-looking and shall be glad to send my photograph if required" – Gladys Jones

1901 11 25
The most militant of religious organisation had a field day at Cambridge on Sunday. Mrs Bramwell Booth, of the Salvation Army, addressed three large meetings at the Guildhall. "Fire a volley" was the command of a senior officer as Mrs Booth mounted the platform. A waving of handkerchiefs, a clapping of hands, a deep sound from the big drum, was the response. She is not a great woman speaker, but she has earnestness & spoke for nearly an hour. She is not sweet-throated but her manner impels one to listen.

1901 12 05
The Church Street Mission is quite distinct from the Cambridge Female Refuge but is auxiliary to it. Miss Elsden walks about the street at night and is able to persuade women who have gone astray to go with her to the Mission House and stay in safety for a few days until they can be received into the Refuge. Sometimes women come voluntarily and sometimes they are brought by the police. She also provides an escort for female prisoners on their discharge, meeting them at the prison and escorting them to the railway station, thus protecting them from evil influences in the town at the first moment of their freedom.

1902 0130 c
Cambridge Discharged Prisoners Aid Society heard that Cambridge prison has not been fully occupied by local prisoners during the past year but the Commissioner had sent down a number of military prisoners as well as others from London and other prisons. These transfer cases had added considerably to their work. They had investigated 186 cases, including 53 female. The Church Army Home in Fair Street & the Cambridge Female Mission had been most helpful. An Association of Lady Visitors had been established to adopt measures for setting up in honest life of those unfortunate women who come under the grip of criminal law, in whose case the attendant shame is always attended with peculiar difficulty

1902 07 29
A Cambridge man from Thoday Street, was charged with stealing two brooms and a pair of boots, the property of the Corporation. He worked as council yardman. A woman in Staffordshire Street said she had been living with the prisoner as his wife for the last four years. She saw him bring home brooms with "C.C." burnt in the top, which he filed off. He'd sold a pair of boots for 6s having told the buyer that the Corporation had provided him with them to go down the manholes and when he'd finished the surveyor said he might have them. He was sentenced to two month's imprisonment with hard labour.

1902 09 15

The mystery attaching to the discovery of a suit of khaki clothing on the river bank at Clayhithe has been solved in a remarkable manner. The person seen by four labourers is declared not to have been a
man at all, but a woman in disguise. When the khaki clothed individual carrying a brown paper parcel was lost sight of a woman appeared from the same direction. The theory is that the parcel contained not only a woman's attire but was further intended to be the means of removing property which was that night to be stolen from Norman Bradley's pawnbrokers premises in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge.

1902 10 01
A fire broke out in the women's ward at the top of the left wing of Addenbrooke's Hospital. In a very short time the flames secured a firm hold and the unfortunate patients had to be removed. Flames burst through the roof and worked towards the centre of the building. Nurses and probationers heroically entered the wards and brought their patients to a place of safety. Many scenes, tragically distressing, were witnessed. To such proportions did the fire assume that it was deemed advisable to remove other patients and several afflicted old men were brought to the lawn. The news of the outbreak spread quickly throughout Cambridge and some thousands of people gathered in front of the Hospital

1902 12 08
The Provost of Kings said that whatever good had been done by the University Spinning House it was of a very rough and ready kind. It succeeded in arresting women in a course of evil, and sending them to their homes, but one could not say much for the humanising and Christianising influence that was brought to bear upon the women there. In any town there was a probability of evil and if they added 3,000 young men in they hey-day of youth, many of them without fixed principles of right and wrong, and a number of young women coming from bad homes and bearing an hereditary disposition for evil there must be some danger. 02 12 08

1903 02 04
The most famous wise woman in the fens lives in the town of Cambridge itself. On market days farmers and labourers and servants come to seek her advice, cross her hand with silver and go away with spells for love and marriage, for the cure of all kinds of ills and good luck in cattle-dealing. Another famous Wise Woman lives in a cottage in a village near Newmarket. She does a good business in spells and charms, from wart-curing to love philtres. She has cured thousands of warts by a process of rubbing the root of the dandelion plant on the hard skin to the accompaniment of some incantation gibberish. On stormy nights she is still fondly believed to go for midnight rides on a broomstick.

1903 02 07
A joint committee on the employment of barmaids has sent a resolution to the London magistrates asking them to recommend the employment of women in public bars shall be discontinued and no new employees be engaged. They believe the conditions of work are unsuitable for women and girls; it is quite customary for hours to range from fifteen to eighteen hours a day, seven to nine hours on Sundays. Thousands of women are employed in serving intoxicating liquors and find difficulty into settling into other occupations.

1903 05 13
At Cambridge police court a married woman was charged with having stolen a piece of pork, value 1s.2d. from Joseph Butler, a butcher of Mill Street. He said he heard the shop bell ring and noticed the pork was missing from the counter. He found it underneath her cloak. The magistrates

had to convict, but in consideration of the fact that the prisoner had ten children she would be bound over.

1903 06 06
There is no doubt that the supply of lady housekeepers greatly exceeds the demand. The salaries asked are pitifully small – an undertaking to act as a good plain cook, to be musical and cheerful, for £20 a year, with board and lodging! A middle-aged woman is often preferred to a skittish young thing, but she must be comely and needs to have 'a face for a rainy day' and not a countenance on which the tragedy of failure in life is too strongly marked.

1903 08 04
Cambridge Borough has had its pride wounded by the London Express charging it with having incurable slums and possessing filthier homes than Whitechapel. In reply Mr Campkin, a Guardian said: "There is no doubt there is an amount of poverty and squalor in Cambridge but there has been a vast improvement in the St Matthew's district over the last 40 years. There is evidence of the effects of drink in some parts of the town but in the Romsey and Petersfield district the residents are respectable working people". Commenting on the Cambridge slums Dr Roper said: "I think even the very worst are fast becoming demolished; take St Peter's Court, Castle Street, they are pulling that down. In consequence that there are large families in the poor quarters a woman very often has to go out and work as well as her husband to keep things going, and they can't keep their houses quite so clean as they otherwise might. In New Street you will not see much dirt or dilapidation, though in summer time the people are sitting outside nearly half-dressed in consequence of the heat. But their homes are not so bad as you might imagine".

1903 10 06
From certain events that occurred in Shamrock Passage, Newmarket Road, Cambridge recently it appears that the virtues of the flat-iron as an aid to argument continues to meet with dangerous recognition. One woman adopted this method of silencing her neighbour who was rendered insensible. Complainant: "She flew out of the house, shouted 'You old ---, take that'. I went down and remember nothing afterwards. Defendant: "When I came home you was wonderful drunk … you kicked me and 'busted my door open"

1904 03 09
Cambridge Women's Temperance Association heard of the misery of a bright country girl desirous of obtaining employment in a South London gin palace. She had to be at the bar at nine in the morning and there stand in unutterable weariness until two o'clock the next morning, with two hours off for all her meals and rest. She could never get out into the fresh air except on her alternate Sundays. Inside the atmosphere was foul and the country flower sickened, the roses faded from her cheek; she needed a pick-me-up so much that she took the beer which was allowed three times a day and a glass of spirits at night. At last she became an inebriate and swelled the ranks of out-cast women.

1904 04 28
The danger of wearing celluloid combs was revealed at an inquest. A young woman who wore her hair in a semi-circular comb was reading before the kitchen fire when suddenly her head became enveloped in flames. The heat of the fire had ignited the ornament, a cheap French imitation of the tortoiseshell comb. The father produced a portion of it and on the coroner applying a match there shot up a long tongue of flame. The comb did not require fire to cause it to ignite – heat was sufficient.

1904 07 16

Shopkeepers are urged to ensure that their sun blinds are sufficiently high. Two well-dressed ladies were passing along the footpath of a certain Cambridge thoroughfare and were shielding themselves from the glare of the sun beneath a parasol, when suddenly the sunshade was dragged from the lady's hand, and came in contact with the other lady's hat, with the result that the head gear was torn with considerable force from its resting place and fell upon the pavement. The most unfortunate part of the whole affair was that not only the hat but the hair became enfastened and fell at the wearer's feet. The lady looked what most men would have said

1904 07 25
Two young ladies visited Cambridge as part of a tour in a coster's cart. Arriving at Ye Olde Castel Hotel they attracted a large crowd as much for their costume as their conveyance. They wore Holland dresses, large sun hats, sandals and were without stockings. Needless to say the sight of such attire created astonishment among the hotel staff which increased when the travellers requested a bed for a donkey as well as themselves. Their departure next morning was attended by a great crowd who minutely examined the East End turn out, the cooking stove and the harness of the donkey which would not have been despised in the Old Kent Road

1904 07 29
Numbers of people who saw a lady at Coe Fen on Sunday evening with nothing on her head but a large quantity of woman's crowning glory, imagined her to be one of the enthusiastic hygienic faddists known as the hatless brigade. Her courageous defiance of custom aroused much admiration inspired by her profuse and glistening golden locks. The belief that the new custom of going hatless had found followers is however groundless. The prosaic explanation is that lady had left a boat, in which her headgear was, and walked along the Coe Fen path to the bridge to avoid passing through the bathing place.

1904 10 28
A London court was told that complainant's son had an infatuation for the defendant's daughter, a young actress now acting at Cambridge, and was engaged to be married to her. Her parents were not favourable to the match but the girl left their house and went to live with her intended husband's parents. Since then the young couple, both under age, had had the banns published in church but owing to the parents' objections the marriage was not proceeded with. However on hearing that the girl had been married her mother went to the house and demanded to see the 'marriage lines' before labouring the complainant about the head with her umbrella, breaking the weapon into two pieces

1904 11 12
At Divorce proceeding a Cambridge medical practitioner alleged his wife had been guilty of misconduct with a Worcestershire man. She counter-claimed on charges of cruelty and adultery, alleging that while practising he had been guilty of impropriety with lady patients. In the evidence will be strange stories of violent scenes at their residence, of the wife taking poison and so forth.

1904 11 23
The Cambridge Female Refuse is sorely in need of increased support for their accounts show a deficit of over £250. The amount realised by laundry work during the last six weeks was very much higher than for a considerable time past but they could not rely on a continuance of a large amount of washing and must get more subscribers. During the year nine girls had been admitted to the Home and eight sent out to service after the completion of their training. But for the first time in many years there were four cases to record of probable failure.

1904 11 26

The bedmaker is an institution. Without her the University would be sadly disorganised. Now The Granta has been conducting a bedmakers' competition which Mrs Jacob of Magdalene has won. She was born in 1829 and has served the college for 62 years. Mrs Hills of St Johns has a record of continuous service since 1839 while Mrs Nichols has served 28 years at Corpus with 11 at Peterhouse before that. But several ladies entirely declined to take the contest seriously, one saying she had read in The Granta 'articles which no gentleman could possibly have written'

1905 02 14
Cambridge Women's Temperance Association have acquired the tenancy of an East Road property formerly known as the Barnwell Coffee Palace which they have transformed into 'The White Ribbon', a well-conducted temperance establishment at which palatable food and clean lodgings can be obtained at moderate prices. The position of the building in one of the poorer districts has led to some apprehension but care is to be taken to ensure that the frequenters of the establishment are somewhat more select than formerly. It is not intended for the tramp class but for young people who require lodgings. It contains 16 bedrooms with a tastefully-furnished sitting room 05 02 14a

1905 03 13
Cambridge magistrates were told there were about 440 houses on the Rock Estate with one fully licensed house, the Rock Hotel and one off-licence. Either of these sent out beer to houses as ordered. There are also at least four brewers' vans to deliver beer in gallon jars and bottles, and grocers from Cambridge send up pint bottles. If they granted a new licence to William Conder of Marshall Road, which was a new and fairly populous district, it would lead to secret drinking, more especially by women at their homes. The licence was refused. 05 03 13a-c

1905 03 25
Those motherly ladies, the motherly nurses of our land – 'Sarah Gamps' as they have been designated – have rendered great service in assisting into the world the offspring of poor parents who cannot afford to pay for a doctor. But under the Midwives Act all such women must be qualified by training. However those who have carried out the trade are not swept away by one stoke of the pen. In many instances the village clergyman or doctor has paid the ten-shilling registration fee to allow the ladies to continue. 05 03 25

1905 06 03
The revival of the use of the crinoline has long been heralded with ladies misguided enough to appear arrayed in the hideous appliance. With a feeling of dismay I report that it has now made an appearance in Cambridge. It cannot be said it was of the abnormal type that helped make women ridiculous in the sixties but it resembled them entirely in form. The wearer was a lady well known locally for the prominent part she takes in local political affairs.05 06 03

1905 11 30
Two young women were charged with frequenting the streets of Cambridge for the purpose of prostitution. One explained she was a native of Dundee, living at a common lodging house; she had been a domestic servant at Newmarket but had to leave on account of illness. Being destitute she was obliged to 'go on the streets' for a living. 05 11 30a

1906 07 19
Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association held a well-attended meeting in the grounds of The Lodge, Mill Road when addresses were given by Miss Isabella Ford, a prominent suffragist, Mrs Rackham and other local ladies. Women could be guardians or medical officers but could not

vote for a representative in Parliament. The grounds, which present a beautiful appearance, proved an ideal venue. 06 07 19

1906 08 23
A woman of about 30 years of age journeyed to Cambridge to meet the man who was the author of her 'trouble'. While she was in the train alone the child was born but on arrival at the station she behaved with such extraordinary circumspection that none of the railway officials suspected anything unusual had occurred. Carrying a bundle wrapped in underlinen under her arm, this extraordinary woman walked the length of the platform, hailed a cab and asked to the driven to the Workhouse. There her strength gave way and she swooned on the floor with the new-born babe beside her. They are both doing well. 06 08 23

1906 11 06
A large number of supporters of Women's Suffrage met at the Victoria Assembly Rooms, Cambridge, to hear an address by Mrs Henry Fawcett. Dr A. North Whitehead presided and was supported by Miss Kennedy, Mrs Heitland, Mrs James Ward, Mrs Rackham and Dr Westlake, Professor of
International Law. Mrs Fawcett said ladies had lobbied the Prime Minister then jumped on the forms, made speeches and waved their flags. They were carried outside by police and as they came out a young factory worker who said 'Votes for Women' was immediately arrested and sent to prison. 06 11 06d & e & g

1906 11 24
Bigamy – Downing undergraduate – 06 11 24c

1907 01 15
When Parliament re-assembles there will be a stupendous effort on behalf of the enfranchisement of women. A canvass is being organised in Cambridge which already includes the heads and staffs of Newnham and Girton Colleges and the Secondary Training Colleges for Women. Small informal drawing-room meetings are being held and addresses on suffrage given to meetings of the Women's Liberal Association and the Co-operative Women's Guild. 07 01 15b

1907 02 15
Suffrage meeting, Cambridge – 07 02 15

1907 03 18
A movement is on foot amongst English Roman Catholics to establish a college for women, on the lines of Girton or Newnham, at the University. The leader is Miss Eleanor Warner who recently visited the Catholic Convent in Bateman Street. She is now in Rome for a meeting with the Pope. Opinion is strongly favourable and that Cambridge may soon see an addition to her institutions. 07 03 18a

1907 05 14
A Women's Suffrage meeting heard that even in Cambridge there were many signs of women's desire for the vote; once they only had one meeting a year, now they were continually having them. Bertrand Russell was contesting Wimbledon in the interests of the movement. They might be proud that the first man to do this was a Cambridge man, and a man of such intellectual distinction. 07 05 14c

1907 06 11

Some disappointment has been occasioned by the moderate success of women mathematicians this year. Only ten sat for the Tripos and Miss Eva Smith of Newnham is the only wrangler. The highest position ever attained by a woman was in 1890 when Miss Fawcett, daughter of the former blind Postmaster-General, was placed above the Senior Wrangler – G.T. Bennett, Fellow of Emmanuel College. 07 06 11

1907 07 09
Cambridge Association for Women's Suffrage organised a meeting at Cambridge Guildhall with a series of admirably-delivered speeches by Mrs Fawcett, the Hon Bertrand Russell and others, supported by 80 delegates from across the country. It was said that men had all the logic and women sweetness and morality. But men could not be expected to know everything that women required. Young women should throw themselves with all the ardour and power they could command on this, one of the very great questions of the world. 07 07 09

1907 07 20
A matrimonial epidemic is raging among the lady school teachers and shop assistants of Cambridge. No fewer than three are leaving New Street School to assume marital responsibilities. Mr Sturton said that marriage was the crowing point of a woman's life and also her duty. He hoped other teachers would follow their example, but do it one at a time in future. 07 07 20

1907 10 21
An interesting wedding took place at St Luke's Church when the Master of St John's College, Rev Charles Taylor, (67), was married to Miss Margaret Dillon. Dr Taylor is a noted Hebrew scholar, theologian and mathematician who was Vice Chancellor of the University in 1887. Miss Dillon supports the Factory Girls' Holiday Fund and is a prominent member of the Women's Total Abstinence Union. 07 10 21

1907 12 14
Suffragettes, unable to gain admission to the Guildhall, held a meeting outside in the rain. Two ladies from the Women's Social and Political Union picketed the entrance, distributing leaflets. Then they climbed on a market stall and addressed the crowd. To the credit of Cambridge the ladies were accorded a very fair hearing, but when Mr Keeling of Trinity mounted the platform there was such an uproar that, though his mouth was seen to be moving, not a word could be heard. Later they were surrounded by such a crowd that the police escorted them to a four-wheeler which drove off. - 07 12 14 & a

1907 12 14
Whatever the detractors say about the 'unsexed suffragette", the little band of "pesterers" who visited Cambridge last night amply vindicated their femininity. Mr Haldane, the War Minister's last memories of our town will not be the ringing cheers of his supporters but the shaken fists of the suffragettes as they shouted 'Votes for Women". As his car glided out of Downing Street there was a flutter of petticoats and a liberal display of shapely ankles and the suffragettes were at the windows, shouting their battle cries. - 07 12 14d

1908 04 14
Three women were summoned for hanging clothes on a line stretched across the street at Blackmoorhead Yard, Bridge Street. Edward Hopkins, livery stables proprietor, said the Yard was not a thoroughfare, having no outlet, but it led to stables. The lines were hung right across so anybody driving could not get down. Elizabeth Burton and Ellen Clark pleaded guilty, but Sarah Collingwood said she did not obstruct the yard. If they did it again they would be arrested. 08 04 14

1908 05 04
Mrs Briggs' First-class registry office, Regent Street, Cambridge, has all classes of superior, reliable town and country servants. Ladies requiring to be quickly and well suited should apply now. Includes: Cook-General, tall, superior country girl, good worker, 2½ years reference; £16. House-parlourmaid, tall, superior country servant, carve, valet, good waitress and needlewoman, £21. Twenty young country servants, requiring first situations as nurses, housemaids, generals, between maids and kitchen maids, small wages, to be trained. – advert. 08 05 04

1908 06 19
The greatest demonstration that woman has yet made of her desire for the suffrage was the gigantic procession through the streets of London to the Albert Hall. Ten thousand strong, it comprised almost every class: lady doctors marched with factory girls, famous lady novelists and domestic servants. Cambridge played an active part: about 130 ladies joined in, including Mrs Heitland, Mrs Ward and Mrs Rackham bearing a splendid blue silk banner with in gold lettering 'Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association, founded 1883'. At the Albert Hall both Newnham and Girton colleges took a box, many ladies attired in academic dress. 08 06 19 p2 08 06 19 p2

1908 08 21
Members of the Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association, including Mrs Rackham, Mrs Dutt and Mrs Ramsey, visited Whittlesford and Fulbourn canvassing women during the afternoon and arranging an open-air meeting on the green at which the wives bring their husbands. There had been a certain amount of difference of opinion but people have been most friendly and willing to listen. CWN 08 08 21 p3

1908 08 29
George Hutt has been the respected headmaster of Trumpington National School for the last 44 years. It was not for want of energy that he is leaving but the wisdom of the Government in compelling him to give up his post at the age of 65. He would not advise teaching as a vocation for men but felt sure there was a future for women as educational instructors. CWN 08 08 29 p5

1908 09 11 In Cambridge the University vacations continually throw many boys and men out of work and create a class of idle and useless men who live on their wives' earnings when they can, and at other times are destitute. Many women work as bedmakers but others can neither cook nor keep their houses tidy. Improvident early marriages between young men and women who have no savings to furnish a house, no experience to teach them economy and no solid mutual affection to help them bear hardship are the source of great and prolonged misery. CWN 08 09 11 p2

1908 10 09
As soon as dusk fell, the heavy gates of the Cambridge Workhouse opened upon the first of a tattered regiment of out-of-works, willing-to-works and never-will-works who demanded hospitality. Reports from all local unions show an abnormal leap in the number of vagrants who are seeking the shelter of the casual wards due to unemployment consequent on trade depression. The first were a pair of women, one pale and gaunt, one rotund and healthful. They are a washerwoman and a charwoman from Lancashire; neither has yet found work and they are returning to the North. CWN 08 10 09 p2

1908 10 30
Women on town councils discussion – CWN 08 10 30

1908 11 13

The women candidates for Cambridge borough councillors have quickened interest in the recent elections. All though the day rumours of the arrival of the Pankhurst brigade were flying about with speculation that 50 militant females had arrived from London, but nobody saw any suffragettes. The crowd expressed their pleasure in cheers when it was announced that both the lady candidates, Miss Kennedy who stood in New Town and Miss Philpott who stood in Petersfield, had been defeated. A band of militant ladies disrupted a meeting attended by a Cabinet Minister in Cambridge Guildhall when they informed him and an unsympathetic audience that they wanted votes. It was known that members of the warlike organisation of women had arrived, but which of the many well-dressed women present were they? It soon became clear when a slight form crowned by a 'Merry Widow' hat rose from her seat and vomited words like a Gatling gun. They caused a disturbance and a few had the pleasure of being ejected with more or less violence. CWN 08 11 13

1908 11 21
A young married woman lies in Cambridge gaol accused of wilful murder. In the tiny parlour of a typical country cottage is the dead body of her year-and-four-month old baby, a bonny dark-eyed plumped-cheek babe, drowned in the filth of a cesspool. Upon a little bed in another room lies another little girl slowly recovering from the effects of immersion in the same cesspool. Too young to realise the terrible experience she has been through she murmurs "Mummy did it; she said it was best". CWN 08 11 21 p8

1909 02 19
The meeting organised by the Anti Female Suffrage League in the Guildhall was crowded with many undergraduates who regarded the whole question as a humorous diversion. Speakers were constantly disrupted except from the one lady who was not subjected to a single interruption. Whilst conceding the importance of Women's work in national life it would be dangerous to allow a vote to people lacking the average political knowledge and experience open to men. 09 02 19

1909 03 05
An inquest was held into the death of a domestic servant at a private residence in Grantchester Meadows. She had been standing in front of the fire in a newly-starched dress when it burst into flames. Her employer, a private tutor, wrapped her in a rug and telephoned for the doctor but she was extensively burnt and despite the services of two trained nurses the woman died. 09 03 05

1909 05 07
A number of undergraduates played havoc with the meeting of the Cambridge Association for Women's Suffrage. The Corn Exchange has a seating capacity of about 1,500 but by utilising the farmers' desks and standing in every available space, an audience of 2,000 listened to – or interrupted – the arguments. Quite 80 per cent of the meeting was composed of women, of whom Newnham and Girton contributed a considerable quota. But it was the minority whose increasingly violent disruptions caused the meeting to break up in a disorderly manner, though not before the resolutions had been carried by a large majority. 09 05 07

1909 05 14
Two spinsters, aged 50 and 30, appeared in court charged with stealing carnations value sixpence from a grave in Mill Road cemetery. The custodian said he saw them take the flowers from the side of the grave of Trooper Truscott; he took the ladies to his house, locked the door and sent for a policeman. They were respectable Sunday school teachers who had known the deceased well and picked up flowers that had dropped from a wreath to take home and press in remembrance of

him. The custodian was legally correct but for him to lock them up, send for a policeman and cart them through the streets to the police station was very regrettable. 09 05 14

1910

1910 01 07
The Cambridge branch of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies works on constitutional lines, using only lawful and orderly methods. Its meeting in the Romsey Council School was a decided success: the speeches were listed to by a crowded audience most attentively, although there were some interruptions and cat-calling from the back of the building. Mrs C.D. Rackham urged the candidates at the forthcoming General Election to support votes for women on the same terms as men. CWN 10 01 07c

1910 01 14
To have filled the large hall at the Guildhall to the very doors and held the attention of a crowded audience for nearly two hours would have been a great score for the Cambridge Union of Women's Suffrage Societies at any time. But to have done so when both political parties are working at high
pressure and three big political meetings were being held the same night, was a veritable triumph. Nobody who listed to the clear, forcible, eloquent speeches of the ladies could fail to have been impressed, the few interruptions from the back of the hall being of a very mild and harmless character. But few of those present backed a call for women to have the same right to vote as men. CWN 10 01 14e

1910 01 07
Votes for women – suffrage meeting – 10 01 07b & c, 10 01 14b & c, campaign in Cambridge – 10 01 14d

1910 03 04
Cherry Hinton was the most rapidly-increasing district in the neighbourhood. It was popularly believed that the dwellers in St John's parish were all well-to-do and able to supply their needs themselves, but that was quite a fallacy, said the rector. There were a very large proportion of artisans and some who were very poor. One woman, whose husband was in the Asylum, had to work at a laundry to keep herself and three children on nine shillings a week. CWN 10 03 04g

1910 03 11
A stable in Water Street, Old Chesterton, was the scene of a shocking tragedy. A 50-year-old labourer had been living with a 58 year-old woman who earned her living by travelling about the county with a caravan in the summer, visiting fairs, and in the winter time she hawked coal and coke about local villages. When he appeared in court his complexion stamped him at once as a man used to working in the open air. His face and neck were alike brick red in colour and seamed with thousands of wrinkles,
the black hair was cut fairly short, but the grizzled moustache was rather ragged. He was dressed in corduroys and heavy boots. He had no collar or neck wrap and his vivid red shirt showed at the top of the sleeved waistcoat he was wearing. 10 03 11a & b

1910 03 11
A party of five undergraduates attempted to repeat the 'Merry Widow' hoax at the New Theatre but were sadly unsuccessful. It is a well-known rule that undergraduates may not purchase boxes unless accompanied by ladies or some elderly chaperone. A box was ordered in the name of the

Hon Miss Neville of Magdalene College, which aroused suspicion. The party comprised three undergraduates and two 'ladies' who were very tall, walked with mannish strides and spoke in a quaint high-pitched falsetto. Mr Redfarn did not take many seconds to spot the disguise. 10 03 11f

1910 06 03
Mrs Pankhurst made her first acquaintance with the undergraduate at a meeting organised by the Cambridge University Men's League for Women's Suffrage at the Guildhall. She is used to lively meetings but usually there is some point to the interruptions to which she is subjected. This time the undergraduate section of the audience had come fully determined to turn the meeting into a sort of variety entertainment for their own delectation, and in this they succeeded. She stuck to her guns during her address which lasted, counting the interruptions, for about 70 minutes and then invited questions. About 9.30 a Proctor arrived and one man was led out of the hall, amidst much groaning. 10 06 03f & g

1910 11 04
Advocates of votes for women made their first platform appearance at Gamlingay, a crowded meeting being held in the Boys' Council Schoolroom. Mrs Rackham from Cambridge said she did not believe in the actions of the militant suffragettes. They were not asking for women to go to Parliament but women were taxed like the men and ought to vote like them. However Mrs Stanley of Merton Grange thought it would be terrible thing if in future England were governed by women. (Applause). It would mean 'petticoat government' and they did not want that. (Applause). The majority of ladies did not want the franchise and 400,000 of them had petitioned against 'votes for women'. The meeting rejected the idea. 10 11 04b

1911 04 07
Cambridge advocates of women's suffrage decided to protest against legislation without representation. A number of people of well-known name and position in the University and town spent the night at the houses of suffragists who had decided to defy the Census and not fill in their papers. One of these was Mrs Vulliamy of Maitland House, Barton Road who is on the Executive Committee of the Women's Freedom League. She wrote across her paper 'No vote, no Census' and entertained a house full of ladies. 11 04 07a

1911 03 31
Two nursemaids appeared in court for walking side by side with perambulators. Several people had to get off the pavement or stand up against the wall on account of the obstruction caused. But one said "My Mistress, Lady Donaldson of Magdalene Lodge, told me to take no notice of the police as they could do nothing in the matter, and I shan't either. It's a pity you haven't got something better to do". Where were they to be wheeled: children must go somewhere and the path was the only safe place. They had not stopped to look in shop windows and nobody had complained. They were found guilty but no penalty was inflicted 11 03 31c

1911 04 28
An Inspector's report on Cambridge Workhouse criticised arrangements in the sick ward, the dietary, bathing arrangements and care of children. The sick ward contained 25 male and 28 females with only one partially trained nurse and a woman who came in to sit up at night. The majority of the bed-ridden cases were helpless and a great deal of the actual nursing was done by paupers. There were no modern conveniences and the female side top floor had only a drinking water tap fixed over a basin. A new midwifery ward had been erected with no sink or hot and cold water 11 04 28e

1911 08 18
Is smoking amongst ladies on the increase? At a leading Cambridge hotel the smoking room was filled with a dozen lady diners. After glancing round a smartly-dressed woman produced a cigarette case and handed it to her two female companions. Did the other ladies in the room look indignant? Not a bid of it. On the contrary, they looked intensely relieved and immediately proceeded to follow suit. The most significant feature was that most of the fair smokers possessed their own cases and smoking materials 11 08 18f

1912 01 26
Dr Waldstein of Newton Hall says Cambridge is a place where there should be some industry where people who are often idle might be employed. There are women who work - bedmakers for instance - who have husbands who do not. Some years ago he tried a scheme for wood carving but it fell through and the local clay is not right for pottery. Now he proposed the establishment of a heraldic
bureau to become a centre of inquiries from architects and provide private individuals with authoritative information on family coats of arms. 12 01 26f &g

1912 03 08
University lodging-house keepers have been venting their grievances. One woman has three sets of rooms; if she lets them all the year she gets £84. For rent, rates, taxes and wages of servant she pays £53; that leaves her £31 for whitewashing, papering, staircloth, carpet etc and for food and clothes for herself. But this term all the rooms are empty. However in Chesterton there are many householders who let rooms to undergraduates; when they come part of Cambridge will the rateable values of their houses be increased? Lodging housekeepers should form themselves into a trades union. 12 03 08f

1912 03 15
A Cambridge branch of the National Union of Women Workers would bring together the existing 60 societies. By uniting women of various religious and political opinions a higher standard of work in municipal, educational and philanthropic matters would be reached. It grew from the work of Miss Ellis Hopkins who formed the Care of Young Girls Societies 12 03 15 & a

1912 05 10
Miss Mary Elizabeth Hargood of The Tiled House, Panton Street took an interest in various movements on behalf of women and was a great educationalist, being one of the first members of the Borough Education Committee. She was a founder of the Order of United Sisters Insurance Society, instilling into women principles of thriftiness. She also supported the Association for the Care of Girls and the Charity Organisation Society and was an ardent supporter of the women's suffrage movement. Her death will be deeply deplored by all 12 05 10 & a
& c

1912 07 12
Women's suffrage meeting, Market Hill – 12 07 12g

1912 08 02
Whether one is in favour of militancy or not, the courage of those ladies who use it as a means for gaining the vote for women cannot be denied. Two ladies stood on Market Hill on Friday evening and faced the jeers and derision of a gang of rowdy youths who did all they could to make the meeting a farce. Popular songs formed the favourite medium employed for drowning the voices of the speakers and the confusion was heightened by the use of cycle bells and whistles. But Miss Roff and Miss Kate Jarvis persisted and managed to make their arguments audible 12 08 02a

1912 08 16
A meeting of the Women's Social and Political Union was being held and soon after Miss Kathleen Jarvis began her speech the bells of Great St Mary's struck up a deafening peal. The fair speaker's voice, pleasing but not powerful, was almost completely lost and it was only by her gesticulations that the crowd could see she was still expounding her principles. For something like an hour the unequal contest was maintained. And Miss Jarvis was the winner. A woman who had earned three periods of imprisonment was not to be daunted and was still pouring out a stream of argumentative bullets when the ringers retired - 12 08 16aa & b

1912 08 23
Youths and children clustered closely to the lorry from which Mrs Brailsford was speaking to the crowds on Parker's Piece; they pushed it six inches in one direction, then a foot back. The crowd moved with it. Then it was pushed right across towards Park Terrace. She thanked the boys for the nice ride and picked up her speech exactly where she'd left it. The lads then pushed her into the middle of a cricket match before a policeman chained up one of the back wheels. Later they scrambled on to the lorry and tore up the 'Votes for Women' papers. "For a University town, it is absolutely disgraceful, I never had such a thing happen before, not even in Whitechapel", she said before heading down Regent Street followed by a crowd, booing and shouting 12 08 23i

1912 10 04
Cambridge Women's Suffrage meeting & petition against forcible feeding – 12 10 04f

1912 10 25
The non-militant Cambridge Association for Women's Suffrage held a well-attended meeting in the Guildhall. 12 10 25d

1912 11 01
Women's social & political union meeting Market Hill on suffrage – 12 11 01e

1912 11 22
Votes for women debate at Union Society – 12 11 22a

1912 12 06
Women's suffrage meeting addressed by Rackham – 12 12 06b

1912 12 06
Mrs Pankhurst visit to Guildhall – opposition – 12 12 06c; advert 12 12 12aa

1912 12 06
The Cambridge Home of Mercy (Female Refuge) afforded women who have been following a sinful court of life a home where they may be usefully employed and instructed in religion. The Mission House on Newmarket Road provided temporary shelter for girls and women while inquiries were made, then placed them in homes and situations. It was unfortunate that men led women astray and women led men astray and the blame must be borne by both. The girls were grateful to be rescued; one who had led a notorious and openly evil life had married and now leads a respectable life 12 12 06e

1912 01 31
There are ten Common Lodging Houses in Cambridge occupied by over 1,100 people each week. Of these, seven were licensed. Where lodging houses had licences for the sale of intoxicating

liquor it made enforcement of regulations difficult. Men and women wanting lodgings were tempted, instead of purchasing food, to buy and consume drink at all hours until their slight means are exhausted. Residence in such common lodging houses tends to degrade and where both men and women are received, does not tend to morality, magistrates were told 13 01 31 p6 CIP

1913 02 28
The master of Cambridge workhouse reported that one girl refused to take food – whether she had the suffragettes' complaint or not he did not know – and could only be persuaded to take milk. She was once a plump, comely young woman but was fast reducing to a shadow. It was distressing. He had even provided special food and inmates often tempted her to eat, but she obstinately refused. It might be case for compulsory feeding and the medical officer should be consulted – 13 02 14 p6 CIP Progress of temperance work – apathy in Cambridge: there had been a decrease in drunkenness among men but women have got less shame at entering public houses than they formerly did. 13 02 28 p3 CIP

1913 02 28
Respectable women found it difficult to get lodgings in Cambridge at a low price. There were three common lodging houses but they were mixed, taking both men and women. They were all in the Barnwell district and all on licensed premises. There were also furnished rooms often let for the night, but they were not under inspection and presented a serious problem from the moral point of view. Nearly a third of the women and girls were engaged in some sort of industrial occupation and made their own living to that extent, moving about the country and needed lodgings 13 02 28 p5 CIP

1913 03 07
Mrs Pankhurst, leader of the militant suffragists addressed a meeting at the Blue Boar Hotel. A gramophone in the window of an undergraduate's room was playing the Dead March as she entered the hotel but there was no demonstration. A vigorous anti-suffrage campaign has also been conducted with meetings at Newnham Croft and Fen Ditton disagreeing with votes for women. If women ever sat in Parliament they would insist on a debate on the flannelette question before consideration of foreign policy. 13 03 07 p4 CIP

1913 03 14
Women's work – girls given pocket money, not living wage

1913 04 24
University Proctors give notice that any innkeeper, dealer, livery-stable keeper, motor warehouse keeper, boat-keeper, keeper of a place of entertainment or other person who has any dealings with members of the University who admits to his premises, or to the use of any vehicle or boat in his charge, any woman who he knows to be of loose character in circumstances which may lead her to associate with any student, shall be liable to be discommuned and forbidden to trade with the University. 13 04 24 p5 CIP

1913 05 02
Women Workers Union first meeting *

1913 05 09
Politics – women's suffrage bill defeated; women vote speaker heckled by undergraduate 13 05 09 p04 CIP

1913 08 15

The Romsey Town holiday play centres organised by the National Union of Women Workers have met with great approval. The centre for girls and infants is the Cambridge United Football Ground. It is a pretty sight to enter the spacious well-shaded field and see the children all at their happy occupations, crayoning, building castles out of bricks or tugging toy engines about. On the grandstand children dress dolls or knit while in a shady spot there are swings. Games such as cricket, shuttlecock and the maypole have been arranged. 13 08 15 p12 CIP

1913 09 28
Harrods are offering 12 positions to girls educated at Girton College, though they are not sure such a class of women are appropriate: “I cannot imagine the Girton girl selling woollens over the counter”, a manager says. Their temperament is altogether unsuitable and they would find it difficult to adapt to the surroundings. The girls agree: their training fits them for professions. They could do no good in a shop and their knowledge would be wasted. They lead a healthy outdoor life and do not want to be boxed up with just a fortnight’s holiday. 13 09 28 p6 CIP

1913 10 17
At the Assizes the top gallery was filled with women when a suffragette was accused of setting fire to a house in Storey’s Way. She denied having started the blaze but had been at the site and dropped her watch. It was identified by her uncle, a Norwich policeman. Pink flannelette smelling strongly of paraffin had been wound round a ladder and set alight. Her coat smelled of paraffin. She asked the jury: “Do I look like a person who would go about with flannelette and cans of petrol and set fire to houses”. She was convicted. 13 10 17 p8

1913 11 28
Women policemen discussed

1913 12 12
Suffragette militant methods defended

1913 12 12
Tragedy of sweated women – sad stories

1914 01 23
Tom Hay ward's Marriage. Mr. Tom Hayward, of Cambridge, the Surrey cricketer, was on Tuesday married at the Registrar's Office, Wandsworth, to Miss Matilda Emma Mitchell, daughter of Mr. Sydney Edward Mitchell, of Putney. Elaborate preparations had been made to keep the wedding a secret, and only about half a dozen people, including a Press photographer, saw Mr, and Mrs. Hayward leave the register office. Mrs. Hayward told a Pressman that she had known "Tom" for 18 years, but that they had lost sight of one another for a long time. In 1911 it was by chance that they met again, and she agreed to marry him. "The bride is one of the most famous women detectives," says the "Daily Mail." At times dressed as a man, looking and acting the part, as actors say, she did work for the South-Western Railway Company, and then entered the service of the Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, riding about the country on horses to detect unlicensed "vets." Afterwards she became head of the secret service staff at Selfridge's. "Divorce has really been my speciality in the past," said Mrs. Hayward, smiling, "but I have finished with it now. Tom and I go to Paris tomorrow, and we are going to be very happy." After next season Tom will retire from cricket – Mrs Hayward says so. And it is for this reason it is to be feared that the oft-deferred farewell will at last be made, to the regret of cricketing England.

1914 03 27

Miss Ethel Sargent, the well-known botanist of Girton College, enjoys the distinction of being the first woman to hold the office of President of any section of the British Association. But she is refusing to pay the King's Taxes as a protest against being taxed without having a vote. Articles, including microscopic accessories and Zeiss lenses were seized and sold by auction on the Green at Girton. It is the third such sale since 1912 14 03 27b & c

1914 06 26
There is no lodging house accommodation for women only in Cambridge. Two licensed houses cater for only the painted or vagrant classes. There is a need for some place to which respectable women and girls in need of a night's lodgings could go. Formerly they were taken at the White Ribbon Coffee
Tavern on East Road but this has stopped. Now the council have purchased a house for the purpose and plans for conversion are underway 14 06 26 p4

1914 07 10
Gaol closure female side: The Chief Constable reported that as there were so few prisoners, the female side of Cambridge Prison had been closed, and in future all commitments of women will have to be made to the prisons at Ipswich and Northampton 14 07 10 p4

1914 07 10
Suffragette campaign Market Hill: Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association organising a series of open-air meetings on Market Hill every Tuesday evening during July. Cartoon women bathing. Miss P.H. Peckover's Wisbech Local Peace Campaign comprised eight thousand men women and children bound by the declaration that war is contrary to the mind of Christ. She had spent a little fortune in helping the movement, publishing a quarterly magazine, Peace & Goodwill' and her beautiful home had long been a place of pilgrimage Women's work in Cambridge

1914 07 17
Women constables were needed in Cambridge to look after the girls. It would be a most valuable innovation if they had one or two women to go about at night and influence the young girls about in the streets and take them home. There was a need of them in public parks and open spaces. Their work would be entirely in connection with women, girls and young children, Miss Cochrane said. But no other Guardians agreed. 14 07 17 p8

1914 10 02
It was hoped that Cambridge municipal elections would pass off without a contest but the Labour Party, who are still without a seat, have decided to attack two seats. One of these is Romsey Town where Tom Orrey will again be the candidate for the sixth time. In Fitzwilliam Ward we have the novel experience of a lady candidate for the first time under the new Qualification Act., Mrs J.M. Keynes, chairman of the National Union of Women Workers 14 10 02

1914 10 23
When the war broke out a number of German women were in Cambridge for the University Extension Course. One of them has described her experiences in the 'Cologne Gazette' which is strictly antiEnglish. She says that they had been cut off from their families and were without money. They were taken into families who helped them, then raised funds, took them to the station and arranged for their journey home. They were treated courteously in every respect.

1914 10 30
Cambridge Women Suffragette Association has published a leaflet 'How to Help in Cambridge in time of war' listing organisations rendering public service. It includes the local branches of the

National Relief Fund Committee and the Soldiers' and Sailors' Families Association, relieving distress and supporting dependents of men serving. The Red Cross Society conveys wounded to the First Eastern Hospital and supplies blankets. Others are the Ladies' Recruiting Committee, the Sidgwick School of Needlework and the Charity Organisation Society

1914 12 04
Chance for Women Policemen. It is not so long ago since Lady Darwin suggested the appointment of one or two women policemen for the Borough of Cambridge, and if only part of what I hear is correct, there would be plenty of scope for the services of such an official in Cambridge Just now. Reports reach me of a most undesirable state of things existing after nightfall on Parker's Piece and other open spaces and it is suggested that clergy and ministers should take the matter up with a view to asking the military authorities whether it would not be possible to keep these places under keen surveillance at night. The Women's Franchise Association, too, now that they are experiencing a time of more or less inactivity, might with advantage, exercise their influence upon the young girls to be found in these spots at such undesirable hours.

1914 12 11
Trade & employment in Cambridge have not been hit by the war. But with nearly 600 students missing, colleges that are hardest hit will be unable to keep on all their servants. Twenty per cent of builders are now out of work. Many women are employed in the jam factory at Histon and in the two knitting factories where War Office order shave provided more work than usual. Women have obtained posts vacated by men clerks who have gone to war but a large number of day girls are out of work owning to the light of the lodging-house keepers. As these girls are in many cases the daughters of women who are themselves injured by the war, this state of affairs means a further depletion of an already scanty income. For good general servants there is a greater demand than supply, but there is very little demand for the services of any of the better class of servants and the number of between maids out of employment is especially large. Hand laundresses have been very hard hit by the war. The great majority of these women are normally engaged in working for the colleges and, owing to the stoppages of games, the amount of washing sent per man is much less this term. When the woman is the chief breadwinner of the family their position is extremely serious. The laundresses themselves are not in such a bad plight, for many have made considerable sums during the busy six months of the year and many of them have savings laid by. Buy only in very few cases have they got husbands in independent work. A large number of tailoresses are entirely unemployed and the remainder are working short time. Some have gone to Leeds to work making khaki uniforms and others will probably follow. The better class dressmakers seem more affected than the inferior ones Business is slack just now and is expected to be much worse after Christmas when business is usually slack. The dressmakers and milliners' hand employed in shops seem to be on short time. Here too the better class shops are worse hit than the cheapest establishments and several employees say they will be unable to keep their hands for a prolonged period without a considerable improvement, Shirt makers are busy at present but their usual work is almost entirely replaced by the making of shirts for officers' outfits and there is apprehension that at the end of this term this work will be to a large extent cease

15 02 26
Tipperary rooms open – centre for women and girls; completion of Fitzroy Hall – 15 02 26a

1916 01 05
Pte E.E.H. Wright in uniform of Women's Volunteer Reserve – photo – 16 01 05c

1916 05 17

Miss E.C. Jones, Mistress of Girton – profile – 16 05 17b

1916 09 13
Adopted from Germany. What has induced our working class women in Cambridge to dress their hair with the Gretchen braid plaited over their heads? This is entirely a German fashion, and one would have thought German fashions were out of favour, particularly with women. It has simplicity to recommend it, and it is becoming to a certain type of beauty, but it is a German style, and we do not wish to copy German ways of doing things. Surely our women can find some different manner of doing their hair. The adoption of the fashion at this moment is another illustration of the insinuating way in which German ideas are spread amongst the people of this country women's war employment

1916 10 18
Cambridge girls join munition workers at Woolwich Arsenal – 16 10 18d

1916 11 01
Glove making – a new industry; when undergraduates left there was grave unemployment and Rutherford & Clothier of King's Parade introduced glove making, now producing 600 pairs a meek by women working at home on machines provided by the firm; are difficulties obtaining fabric – 16 11 01b

1916 11 22
Photo women on land, Milton women – 16 11 22e

1917 02 28
Women Scavengers. The following is an extract from the minutes of the Paving (etc.) Committee which will come before the Cambridge Town Council, tomorrow: The chairman reported that Mrs. Keynes, Chairman of the Advisory Committee for Women's War Employment, had suggested that some of the workmen employed by the Corporation might be released for National Service and the scavenging of the streets be carried out by women. The Borough Surveyor explained that he had placed no obstacle in the way of the men going, but he had not pressed any men to go. The Committee approved the action taken by the Borough Surveyor.

1918 03 27
Women scavengers – photo – 18 03 27e

1918 05 28
Women's Land Army demonstration – 200 parade with motor tractor and traction engine; demonstration of hay bailing on Parker's Piece; need for more labour – 18 05 29b, c

1918 06 05
Women's Land Army recruiting rally – photos – 18 06 05b

1918 07 10
Women road sweepers photo – 18 07 10d

1918 08 07
Women workers at gas works – photo feature – 18 08 07c

1918 10 09

Women's Institutes work in Cambridgeshire, various industries – cobbling, hurdle-making, pig keeping; are over 200 National Service girls working on farms in Cambridgeshire – 18 10 09d

1918 03 27
Princess Mary at Cambridge. Princess Mary paid her first visit to Cambridge on Saturday afternoon, and saw the old University town under its most modern conditions, its begowned undergraduates replaced by brown uniformed officer cadets and its men in many cases supplemented by women. It was in recognition of the women to the winning of the war that Her Royal Highness honoured the town with her presence. Her task was to present badges of various kinds to the Women of the Land Army and the Village Workers and to encourage more to come forward in "support of the food line"

1918 04 03
Women Scavengers. — Women are now employed by the Cambridge Corporation as street scavengers and are performing the duties very capably, too.

1918 04 24
The woman thatcher. — The Women's Branch of the Food Production Department are being asked for thatchers. Mole catching and hurdle making are also to be numbered among the young ladylike accomplishments nowadays. Land Army women are excellent hurdlemakers, too, though their first instructor was sceptical of their capacity to learn the art.

1918 05 08
Morality of Cambridge. Speaking at the Cambridge Ruri-Decanal Conference on Friday, the Mayor of Cambridge (the Rev. Dr. E. C. Pearce, Master of Corpus Christi) referred to the question of immorality. He said he very much feared it was rife in the town. It was not only the young girls who were the offenders, it was also the older married women whose husbands were very often on active service. The Watch Committee were quite alive to the state of the streets, and the audience might be interested to hear that they had just decided to appoint two police-women (applause). That was a start and he hoped there would be more in time.

1918 05 29
Women of the Cornfield. A demonstration given by members of the Women's Land Army at Cambridge on Saturday afternoon - attracted a good deal of public attention and interest and should result in large numbers of girls in the district flocking to play their part by filling the gaps left in the ranks of the agricultural workers.

1918 07 10
Uniformed Women Scavengers. A notable feature of Cambridge streets is the women scavengers, who are now turned out in a smart uniform. They are doing their work in a very capable fashion, and keep the thoroughfares wonderfully spick and span

1918 12 11
40 cases a day.—Wordsworth Grove Hospital, Cambridge, has been fortunate in having the Newnham gymnasium lent to them for their massage and electrical department, a large, airy bright building where between 30 and 40 cases a day are treated—men in hospital in the mornings, and out-patients and discharged soldiers in the afternoons from Swavesey, Newton, Harston, Duxford and outlying villages. The treatments are massage, galvanism and Faradism, radiant heat, hot air and ionisations and exercise. The work here, as in all other Red Cross Hospitals in the county, is carried on under the supervision of Miss Laven, who has been untiring in her efforts on behalf of the wounded ever since the outbreak of war.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1919 07 08
Cambridge Bedmakers' and helps outing – group photo; National Federation of Women Workers number 2,000 including wood-workers, tin-workers, scientific instrument, laundry, hosiery and glove workers; settle terms of work, pay – 19 07 08c

1919 12 03
Women's Land Army demobilisation conference at Cambridge; National Association of Land Women set up as successor and to assist in agriculture – 19 12 03b

1919 02 19
Out of Work.—We are very much concerned (says the writer of Town and Country Topics) at the announcement made to the Mayor last week-end that there are some 1,031 people out of employment at Cambridge. This is a very serious matter, and the question we should like to have decided at once is whether this unemployment is a matter of necessity or choice— in other words, whether it is due to lack of opportunities of work or is being fostered and maintained by the unemployment pay. We are disposed to believe that the latter is the case, especially with regard to the unemployment of women. Everywhere one hears of women being wanted in domestic service, but apparently the majority of them have: made up their minds not to take up such service, except upon terms and conditions which they cannot seriously hope to obtain. We believe that the out of work pay is responsible for a good deal of the (existing) trouble and we hope and believe that the nation will insist upon a prompt and thorough revision of the situation

1919 06 04
Women's Land Army. The County Land Girls (Women's Land Army) were given an "At Home" at the Lion Hotel. A number received Good Service Ribbons from Mrs. Adeane and eight were presented with special badges for meritorious service.

1920

1920 01 14
Chesterton war orphans – 70 children entertained by Women's Liberal Association – photo – 20 01 14c

1920 02 28
College bedmakers and women working at Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company discussed' bedmakers wages so low they need to go on parish for relief; wages should be subsidised by colleges

1920 02 25
Cambridge Shelter for Girls established 1851 by undergraduates and occupied building in Church St; had workshop in Newmarket Road till temporarily closed in 1918 because of lack of a worker. Reopened 1918 as first-aid station for women in distress; needs support – 20 02 25a

1920 05 12
Women and degrees – syndicate appointed to consider whether they should be admitted to membership or how university could co-operate with the women's colleges, are unable to agree - CDN 20 05 12

1920 07 28

The Women Magistrates. On the occasion of the members of the Cambridge and District Women Citizens' Association last evening, pleasure was expressed at the appointment of women magistrates in Cambridge. The rally was held in the garden of Sidney Sussex College under the presidency of Mrs. Heitland At the outset, Mrs. Heitland said the association had taken its part in the consideration of important questions of the day, and the members were exceedingly pleased that local women had now been appointed magistrates for the administration of the law (Hear hear.). The Vice-chairman of the Association (Mrs. Keynes) was one of the new justices and another member who had been appointed was Mrs. Bethune Baker, whose work in the police court with Mrs. Hutchinson had been of so much value in the past (Hear, hear). Other women who had worked to advance the interests of women, children and the poor had also been appointed to the Bench, and were extremely gratified by the appointment of Lady Newton in the County (Applause). They hoped that other women would be associated with Lady Newton in the near future. The Chairman referred also to the work of women who had been elected to the local authorities, and to the splendid part which they had taken in connection with the housing problem.

1920 08 28
Cambridge first women J.P.s photographed in Daily Graphic

1920 10 13
German rifle presented to Cambridge Women's Liberal War Savings Association; Cambridge had been offered a tank but declined – 20 10 13

1920 11 03
Women's' Institutes. The quarterly meeting of the committee and delegates of the Cambs Federation of Women's Institutes was held on Saturday afternoon. Mrs Jenyns (Bottisham) presided supported by Miss Briscoe (Cambridge) hon. secretary Miss Warrington (Waterbeach), the treasurer; Mrs. Haslam (Girton), the Fete secretary; Mrs. Bafnell (Little Shelford), Miss Stanton (Linton), Mrs. Sidney Fordham (Odsey), Mrs. Kellett the area organiser etc. The treasurer's statement showed there was a balance of £20 1s 6d for use during the first quarter of the year. It was decided to continue the rest room at Cambridge for the use of the members .The meeting considered the advisability of starting an Institute stall in the Cambridge Market. The chairman said a stall would not be available for two months and the cost would be 2s 6d a day. The hon. secretary said if the Federation got a better office in some public place they might have the produce on sale at the office. It was decided that the matter should be considered further at a later meeting. An interesting and Instructive lecture was given by Mrs Wootton of Girton College on 'High Prices." Mrs. Wootton said each time she had given a lecture she had spoken with increasing cheerfulness of prices coming down and now she thought she might say they were coming down. There were two chief reasons for high prices, viz there were not enough things, and there was too much money to buy those things. There was less coal mined and less steel made before the war, and these were the things upon which everything depended. Modern civilisation was built up on coal. There was certainly profiteering, but this could not be if there was enough to go round. It was no use having money unless there were things to buy. There were £350,000,000 of paper money in the country, and it was the increase of the money that had helped to send prices up. The money was only put into circulation because the Government could not get it any other way. The Government and the people of the country were really bidding for the goods. The country was now not only paying for imports but they had a surplus of £200,000.000 a year which helped to lower prices. The making of paper money had been checked. The Government was paying its way, and on the whole the two sides of the budget balanced.

1920 11 04

Bookbinders Union branch reopened 1917 after being closed for 50 or 60 years; three years ago average wage very low and negotiations had taken place. Employees resisted minimum wage for women; 60 women had been on strike for a fortnight

1920 12 09
University reject admission of women by 192 votes - CDN 20 12 09

1920 12 22
Girton Village Women's Institute new hall erected – 20 12 22e

1921 04 06 Frederick Woor, Master Tailor, Sidney St, paid less than minimum wage to his women – 21 04 06c

1921 10 26
University votes against women's degrees; undergraduate mock funeral – photos – 21 10 26b

1922 03 25
There was issued yesterday the report of the Royal Commission on Oxford and Cambridge Universities. "We are unanimous in thinking" (says the Commissioners) "that ample facilities should be offered for the education of women. On the other hand we strongly desire that Cambridge should remain mainly and predominantly a men's university. To give a sense of security we consider that the number of women undergraduates should be 500, which would give a proportion of about one in each ten of the total number of undergraduates" c22 03 25

1922 04 15
The wartime procedure of dispensing with the chaperon is no longer tolerated in "polite society". For the chaperon times have altered considerably in the past eight years and at balls instead of sitting in state up a dais, bored to extinction, she takes her place among the dancers and combines with her duties as guardian pleasurable exercise. Owing to heavy taxation and general increased expenditure many women bearing titles and possessed of ancestral homes are glad to become professional chaperons

1922 07 31
The "No More War" demonstration held on Parker's Piece, Cambridge, was attended by a gratifying measure of success. The procession extended more than half the length of Gonville-place, and the crowd at the meetings held on the Piece afterwards was so large that the two platforms provided were not sufficient, and a motor-car had to be requisitioned for the purposes of a third meeting. In addition to the banners of the various societies there were numerous bearing inscriptions such as "For Peace and Freedom" (Women's International League), "Patriotism is not enough", "Cambridge Sisterhood says No More War". In addition there were scores of bannerettes bearing the words "No More War". Mrs Nevinson referred to the number of deaths from influenza in 1918 which was really a war plague. They kept the memory of the dead alive but did they remember the maimed, the blind, shell-shocked and the mad? No one was worrying about those men

1922 11 06
The Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment hope to open a centre in Eden Street, Cambridge, for training girls in all branches of women's work including cookery, laundry, housewifery and health subjects. It is believed that many girls are prevented from taking up domestic work through lack of the money to buy the necessary outfit. In their needlework classes they will make their uniform and at the end of the training each girl will be completed with a

complete uniform. The period of training is generally 13 weeks and the chance which this course gives to unemployed girls to make a fresh start is one which may not recur, and which should not lightly be refused

1923 01 29
The third annual meeting of the Cambridgeshire Federation of Women's Institutes was held in the Cambridge Guildhall. Representatives from 28 out of 29 institutes attended and steady expansion was reported in all branches. The office and shop at 10 St Edward's Passage has been a great factor in this advance. Institute members now have a central meeting place where they can view each other's work and exchange ideas, whilst inhabitants of Cambridge have the opportunity of getting into touch with country women and are glad to profit from the results of the homecrafts practiced by their country sisters

1923 11 27
The accommodation on the women's side at Fulbourn hospital is now strained to its utmost limit. The chairman said they had 71 more women on their books than they could accommodate and they dealt with the problem by sending 20 patients to Worcester. If they sent the other 50 to another hospital they would find they were sending out some of their best workers and they would have to have a larger staff to do the work of these 50. Dr Reardon said they could not recommend reconstructing the male part of the asylum and use it for females

1924 04 30
Sir - Cambridge council practically excludes modest women - and men - from the new bathing place, unless they are prepared to do violence to their own decent instincts. What the council practically declares is in effect, ‘Go and bathe as domestic animals do, male and female all together - they never object so why should you?’ What this atrocious decision means is that decent men and modest women are to be excluded from all reasonable participation in a very pleasant summer exercise - A Decent Englishwoman

1924 07 11
King’s Meadow and Fellow’s Garden made an ideal setting for such a gay function as the Cambridge Pageant and Gala held there yesterday. The chief attraction was the pageant depicting Stourbridge Fair in 1450, a brilliant affair for which the Women’s Institutes were responsible. Over 500 performers took part. Among the gay throng were monks and nuns in the sober habits of their orders and an undergraduate or two. Morris dancers, jongleurs and mummers, with a dancing bear have a merry performance

1924 11 10
Councillor Mrs Hartree was elected first lady mayor of the Borough of Cambridge. She accepted the honour as a representative of the women of Cambridge who desired to work side by side with the men in the service of their town. She had consulted some authorities, and some of the women, and it had been decided the best mode of addressing the Mayor would be “Mr Mayor” as usual. (Hear, hear and applause).

1924 11 13
The deepest regret will be felt at the death of Mrs A.C. Steward, wife of the Master of Downing College. From its foundation in the dark days of 1915 she was the life and soul of the Cambridge Tipperary Club which did much to help and cheer the sorrow-stricken women of Cambridge during the anxious years of war-time, ever-ready to advise and console. When peace came they

continued the club to be a centre of social enjoyment and of mutual improvement for all women without distinction of class, creed or political opinion

1924 12 23
The Policeman in his time plays many parts, but it is doubtful if he ever plays such a delightful part as members of the Cambridge Force did when the distribution of gifts to the poor and needy took place. PC Hagger acted as butcher. Aproned in the approved style and armed with a steel and murderous knives, he chopped and boned joints of meat with a happy smile. Sergt Sharman wrapped up good things, struggling with newspaper and grease-proof paper and slippery meat. Policewomen Jude & Carnegie Brown dealt with the milk and looked after the children. Every recipient met with a cheery wish for a Happy Christmas and all took their gifts with a smile and profuse thanks

1925 06 08
The Bishop of Ely formally opened Stanton House, the new Cambridge Shelter for Women and Girls at Glisson Road. The Home is open day and night, not only for what are generally known as "rescue cases" but for all those who find themselves stranded in the town without means of getting lodgings. Many cases are brought by the police. The inmates stay until they can be restored to their friends or arranged for in suitable institutions. Originally started in 1854 by a few undergraduates it has several times been temporarily closed down on account of financial difficulties and as often re-opened at the request of town authorities

1925 12 12
The Cambridge Women's Welfare Association was formed recently to bring a knowledge of birth control methods within reach of poor mothers. It is a rule that every woman attending must be seen by a doctor and the Cambridge Centre, Fitzroy Hall, Wellington Street has both a lady doctor and a certified midwife in attendance. The London Society for the Provision of Birth Control Clinics began its work in a small way at Walworth and now has centres at North Kensington and Wolverhampton as well as Cambridge. At Walworth 5,275 separate cases have been dealt with since its work began in 1921.

1926 02 05
Coun Few said they were very proud of the houses they had built in Vinery Road and Coleridge Road, but they were now proposing to build houses that in a few years would become a slum area. They would be spoiling Cambridge if they built non-parlour houses with only one living room. They ought to consider the women who had to live in those houses. "We men only pop in and pop out, as it were,
we are only lodgers; it is our working women who have to put up with them all the time. I call that type of house unfit for human being to live in as far as the wife and children are concerned", he said.

1926 03 18
Sir – I shall be grateful if you will allow me to call attention to the urgent need of a gramophone for Stanton House (Cambridge Shelter for Women and Girls). There can be no doubt as to the desirability of providing counter attractions for the girls who seek amusement in the streets but it is not easy to do so without some form of music. An unused gramophone (or still better, an old piano) would be most thankfully received – Shirley Blanch

1926 05 18
The Cambridge Joint Emergency Committee wish to place on record their gratitude to the many friends who have helped the men who were on strike; the ministers and clergy who lent rooms

and the members of the University who gave lectures and concerts, helped in the club rooms and took parties to see the colleges. Many lent their cars to distribute the "British Worker". By means of the Strike Fund the committee have been able to relieve many cases of distress. The last gathering took place in the Co-operative Hall which was crowded with hundreds of women who enjoyed their entertainment.

1926 06 15
One of the contingents of Women Peacemakers who are converging on London from various parts of the country arrived in Cambridge. Meetings had been held in village after village by the side of the war memorials. They were met by members of the local Pilgrimage Committee and proceeded to the Market Hill where an impromptu meeting was held. They carried various banners and red and blue flags. Mrs Rackham said the gathering recalled the great Women's Suffrage Pilgrimage of 1913 when crowds gathered on the same spot. The Pilgrims leave for Saffron Walden tomorrow.

1926 06 16
A meeting of the Women's Peacemakers' Pilgrimage was attended by a large audience at Cambridge Guildhall. In the next war they would have aeroplanes dropping poisonous bombs that would destroy civilians who had never been near the firing line. They must create such an atmosphere of repugnance that the nations dare not go to war. There were hundreds of people in Newmarket who were not yet converted to the idea of the League of Nations and it was their duty to make converts of al who had not yet joined them.

1926 09 11
Cambridge Women's Housing Association has been formed to assist in the supply of houses for the town and, in particular, to meet the urgent demand for the provision of more housing accommodation at an economic rent for the educated woman worker and others. It proposes to purchase suitable houses and convert them into self-contained flats of one, two or three rooms with kitchenettes. At a later stage it is hoped to build a residential club. Already nearly £1,000 has been subscribed.

1927 03 11
Cambridge Women Citizens' Association heard that a cat's shelter should be provided in Cambridge for the reception and humane destruction of neglected, starved diseased and homeless cats. Mrs Norman Mason said last year 478 cats were brought to the home but the council had now ordered the shed to be taken down. Now if a pet cat was brought in they had nowhere to keep it and it had to be chloroformed.

1927 04 23
There is quite a fluttering in the political dovecotes of Cambridge over the Government's decision to give the Parliamentary vote to women at 21 on the same terms as men. This may produce as many as 15,000 new votes. The strongest criticism comes from Cambridge Conservatives who fear for the effects on their own prospects at the poll. In the county very few young girls remain in the country but take up positions in the towns and so do not come on the county registers. Seeing the new bill would bring in women nine years younger, and in addition a number of women of 30 years of age who have not now got the vote, it is estimated the number of new women electors at 5,000.

1927 06 15
Three well-known Cambridge sportsmen who have completed their academic careers distinguished themselves by spending part of the night in the grounds of one of the women's

colleges and part in another. At midnight on Saturday they climbed into Newnham, taking with them a tent which they pitched in full view and were not discovered until they were all snug in "bed", when they commenced community singing. Newnham Dons became alarmed and phoned for the police, who turned them out. They then motored to Girton, scaled a twelve-foot wall and pitched the tent. They were not discovered until the early hours of the morning when the earliest risers amongst the lady students saw the strange sight in the middle of the court. 27 06 15

1927 08 20
Sympathies go out to the President of Magdalene College and all concerned in the tragic motoring accident near Godmanchester. Cambridge is the poorer by the loss a lady of high ideals who had devoted much of her time and energies to the advancement of women. She was an experienced and extremely careful driver who had taken three-quarters of an hour to cover 14 miles and there cannot be the slightest suggestion of reckless driving or excessive speed. 30 mph is reckoned a safe speed, provided there is a clear, straight road but the consequence of a momentary swerve may be fatal. There is no doubt that nowadays few people stand in greater jeopardy than those who venture on the road.

1927 10 10
No woman has photographed more Royalty or distinguished people than Miss Olive Edis, the well-known expert in the production of monochrome and colour photography. She has her third annual exhibition in Cambridge, although she has worked in the town for some 20 years. One wall has a display of portraits of well-known Cambridge people but the greatest attraction will be the colour photography of local scenes

1928 02 18 c
A women's section of the Cambridge branch of the British Legion came into existence at a meeting held in the Guildhall. Since 1921 they had been growing at a tremendous rate and now had 745 branches of the women's section. It was a national organisation which welcomed applications for grants for training widows in employment and for assisting orphans in train journeys to school. The mayoress (Mrs E.W. Amies) was elected President with Mrs Turner as Chairman, Mrs Cutlack as secretary and Mrs Salisbury Woods as treasurer.

1928 03 01
An interesting debate on "the flapper vote" was held at the Liberal Assembly Rooms, Cambridge. In many spheres of life women were giving valuable service yet they could not have the vote until they were 30 years of age. But the modern girl knew practically nothing about politics. Give the woman of 21 the vote and they would out-vote the men – was that fair? ("Yes"). If women got the vote then the country would only be just "flapping" about. The vote should be used properly and a group of giggling girls could not do that.

1928 03 24
The Women's Institutes Home Crafts Exhibition at the Guildhall features a display of the rooms of village homes, the furniture and other smaller articles of which had been made by the villagers themselves. A sitting room had been made by Balsham members, including a carved sideboard, tables and chairs, a settee made out of boxes and cushions, and a screen made by 23 men. The Barton group showed a bedroom with a wash-hand-stand with marble top. Even the soap was home-made and a pair of candlesticks were made of cotton-reels.

1928 05 08
The work of the Cambridge Birth Control Clinic was explained to Cambridge Women's Welfare Association. The foremost difficulty was the absence of a contraceptive method so simple and

effective as to meet the needs of the over-tired, feckless, under-housed, unintelligent or mentally deficient woman. But although they should do something to enable people to have just the children they could manage, their methods, generally called 'birth control', were disgusting and filthy. There was danger in the free use of contraceptive methods by unmarried young people. They might be getting to the morals of the poultry yard.

1928 05 14
The Cambridge Social Hygiene Council discussed how to interest young men in the development of the proper sex outlook. Their attendance at lectures and film displays was poor and the majority were undergraduates who clearly came to hear and learn, for their conduct was unexceptional. The meetings for women were attended by about 200 each day, a good part of them adolescent middleclass girls and young married woman, a type not often seen at such meetings.

1928 06 27
Mary White, alias Zeta was charged with using palmistry and crystal gazing to deceive at Midsummer Fair. Two policewomen gave evidence of visiting her tent and paying 3s to have their hands examined. But she had applied to the Borough Surveyor for the ground, six foot by four feet for a palmistry tent and had enclosed 5s for premium. She had a letter giving her permission to stand as palmist. Why was the ground let for business which was said to be illegal. The Bench decided to convict, but with no penalty.

1923 07 11
1,700 women members of the West Ham Central Mission Women's Meeting descended upon Cambridge on their annual outing. The huge party arrived in 56 motor coaches which drew up in a long line in Queen's Road. In a solid mass they came over King's Bridge like an army of Amazons on the march, some expressing disappointment that the Cam was not as wide as the Thames. But as they entered the cool sanctuary of the chapel there was a continuous stream of enthusiastic remarks. The chairs were quickly occupied with mothers with their babies. We doubt there was ever such a scene in the historic chapel before.

1928 12 12 Women having been granted the Parliamentary vote the Cambridge Committee for Equal Citizenship celebrated this great event. Invitations were sent out to all members of the Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association to meet Dame Millicent Fawcett at Newnham College. There was a very large attendance. Mrs Bethune-Baker traced the history of the movement in Cambridge. Among the first subscribers were the Mayor and Vice Chancellor but the cause fell on evil days. Members of the voteless sex had stood all day at polling booths on a wet day and undergraduates had tried to force their way into a meeting at the Guildhall.

1929 03 30
Twenty years ago there were four weekly newspapers published in Cambridge in addition to the C.D.N. Then the Cambridgeshire Weekly News acquired the Cambridge Express and the joint production enlarged from eight to twelve pages. Much has happened since, including the incorporation of the Cambridge Independent Press and the introduction of a picture page. There has been a marked increase in paragraphs of village news; in 1909 three columns were needed, now they claim the whole of the last page of the paper and frequently overflow on to another. Members of the Women's Institutes may be interested to learn that last year we published about 600 reports of their meetings.

1929 11 27

Women students packed the gallery at the Cambridge Union Society when a motion supporting full University rights for women was carried. A sensation was caused before the debate when it was proposed that in view of the importance of the issue involved the gallery should be cleared but the President ruled that this would cause too much disturbance. Women students lived under a code of rules that could only be described as fatuous; one of the women's colleges allowed its students to go unchaperoned to King's Chapel, but to no other. Girton allowed them to go to the theatre 'provided the party was of reasonable size', whilst Newnham were permitted provided the party 'was not of unreasonable size' (laughter)

1930

1930 02 26
A woman was summoned for allowing a barn at Fen Ditton to be used for immoral purposes. She had converted it into a dance hall, teas were advertised and dances held. Det-Sergt Willis said he looked through the window and observed people inside. Some of the women attending were known to be of an undesirable character and the men mostly members of the University. The girls were dancing by themselves down the centre of the room holding up their dresses; another girl got on top of the piano and danced. Couples frequently left and went to a nearby cottage. Later the University Proctor
arrived; he went to the dance room which was in darkness and by the light of his lamp could see four undergraduates and seven girls. They said they were telling ghost stories. 30 02 26a-d

1930 04 08 Councillor Mrs Rackham first came to Newnham College in 1895. Returning on her marriage in 1901 she entered into public life as school manager, Guardian and town councillor. In 1902 she started the first local branch of the Women's Co-operative Movement. Her clear-cut voice is well-known on radio and she has recently completed a series of six talks from Savoy Hill on Local Government. She is also a journalist of standing and has contributed a column to 'The Woman's Leader' for the last seven years. 30 04 08a

1930 04 30
Cambridge Guildhall was crowded with an audience chiefly composed of young men and women, but with a fair leavening of older folk, who had come to hear Dr Marie Stopes give an address on birth control. She spoke rapidly for an hour and replied to many questions. Thousands of mothers, having had three or four children, with perhaps only one year between them, finding it difficult to get sufficient food and worn out were in dread of another unwanted child. What was wanted was spaced babies from radiant mothers. Dr Stopes had been abused, insulted and misrepresented but she made people think and talk about birth control. 30 04 30a & b

1930 06 26a
A fortune-teller arrested at Cambridge Midsummer Fair appeared in court for palmistry. Two policewomen told how they had visited the 'Royal Gypsy Reader'. They were told that the face was character and the charge 1s.6d., the hands palmistry and the cost 2s.6d. One was assured that her worst financial worries were over and she would not go to the grave single; "You have not met the man yet, but he will come". Amelia Hazelhurst admitted the charge and was fined £1. 30 06 26a

1930 07 24
Mrs Elizabeth Haslop has been described as a woman possessed of splendid business acumen. She carried on her late husband's butcher's business in Silver Street Cambridge and was the last link with the well-known firm which has been in existence for nearly 100 years and will be

carried on. In her earlier life she was well-known in the Mill Road district where a small shop near Tension Road was run in her name. 30 07 24

1930 09 04
A Cambridge women told the court she had locked the door of her home at no.5 Guildhall Place but left the front window unfastened to allow her son to get in during the night. She was awakened by her estranged common-law husband who had got in and was flourishing a revolver. He said it was a dummy revolver loaded with blank cartridges and explained they had lived together for 14 years until she took up with a new man. 30 09 04a

1930 09 17
Miss Kitty Willers of Trumpington is a member of the Ladies' Guild of Change Ringers and is one of the very few women who regularly ring church bells. She has rung in over 200 towers in 14 different countries, once cycling 55 miles each way. On Saturday she biked 65 miles – partly in the rain - to attend the opening ceremony of the bells at St Mary's church, Bocking by the Bishop of Chelmsford. 30 09 17b

1930 11 04
It was with a certain amount of trepidation that I called on the Mistress of Girton College, Miss E.H. Major, for this little article. "Ten minutes" I said to the driver of the car that had taken me out. It was two hours before I started on the return journey. For I had been received by a most sympathetic woman in a room harmonious, of gracious proportions, with dishes of woodland flowers on the table; cakes and coffee and cigarettes had been offered to me in friendliness. We touched upon everything under the sun, from starvation in Ruthenia to the making of the college gardens. 30 11 04a

1930 11 25
Never did learning of so weighty a nature sit so lightly on so smiling a personality as Miss Wood, principal of the Cambridge Training College for Post-graduate Women. She has a formidable list of classical achievements but proves that learning does not inevitably mean dullness. The College opened in two small cottages in Newnham Croft in 1885 and has provided hundreds of teachers for secondary schools in many parts of the Empire. 30 11 25

1930 12 01
The sensational Fen Ditton case when a woman was accused of keeping a disorderly house will be sent back to be heard by magistrates. Police had kept watch on a room called the dance hall where it was alleged acts of immorality took place; some women were held upside down and couples found in very suggestive attitudes. The men were Cambridge undergraduates and the girls of the working-class type but there was no evidence of prostitution. 30 12 01d

1930 12 08
The Home of Mercy in Christchurch Street, Cambridge has been more or less full of girls, almost all aged between 16 and 20. Seventeen girls had been admitted and ten provided with outfits and placed in domestic service. Five have been baptised, six confirmed and three restored to Holy Communion while two girls formerly in the home have been well married. The chapel had been redecorated and beautified. There were fewer illegitimate births but the moral standard of the country had broken down and a very large number of outwardly respectable women were morally corrupt. 30 12 08a-c

1931 01 02

Christmas Day festivities at the Home of Mercy in Christchurch Street, Cambridge were spent in the usual manner. The chapel was decorated with lilies and carnations presented by two of the married girls as a mark of appreciation. Everyone attended Christ Church at 7 and 11 am and then enjoyed a bountiful dinner. Each girl found in her pudding a piece of money which is to be presented to Addenbrooke's Hospital building fund. Evensong was sung in chapel after which a pantomime (on the wireless) was enjoyed until the day came to a close at 9.30. 31 01 02e

1931 01 09
Lady Darwin, wife of Sir George the Professor of Astronomy, is an American with an interest in the feminine movement. In 1914 she wrote an article on policewomen; the idea of creating a female police corps created tremendous excitement and during the war a small number were appointed... She is very hospitable and is never happier than when her house, Newnham Grange, is full of guests, particularly American undergraduates. Her eldest daughter is Mrs Gwen Raverat, a distinguished wood-engraver. 31 01 09a

1931 02 13
Mrs Harold Gray of Wandlebury House was elected to the executive of the Women's Institute movement at the end of the war and started an Institute at Stapleford. She resigned when her husband became Member of Parliament for the county but was elected President when his term of office ended. She says it is a strong social instructive link between women of each village, irrespective of rank. She is a true Bohemian at heart and has crossed the desert on a camel and almost gone 'back to Nature' on the Cocos Islands in the Pacific. 31 02 13a

1931 03 06
Miss Enright came to Cambridge in 1924 to help in the reorganisation of the School of Arts, Crafts and Technology and became the first woman to be elevated to be head of a technical school in the UK. There were odd classes for unemployed boys and girls with 54 students, now the number in the Day Trade School has grown to 151. They train women in domestic science, needlework and simple home hygiene but few show much interest in so essential an art. 31 03 06a

1931 03 13
Every woman who plays hockey is proud of Miss Gaskell. In 1914she took the first women's hockey team to Australia and has taken teams to the United States and South Africa. During the war she became Commandant of the Red Cross Convalescent Hospital for soldiers at St Chads that was open until 1919. She then started Barton W.I. and joined the Folk Dancing Society. 31 03 13a

1931 05 01
Mr J.W. Autherlonie, manager of the Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company since 1902 has seen many changes. During the Great War 70 women worked there, doing exactly the same hard tasks as the absent men. But on the return of the men they retired and today only one is engaged in this capacity. Eighteen of the employees fell and the war memorial, placed in a garden surrounding the works, is counted amongst the best of its type. 31 05 01a

1931 06 12
Mrs Keynes elected first woman alderman – 31 06 12aa

1931 07 17
A Cambridge women resident in Salmon Lane, off Fair Street, told the court she went out for a bottle of stout when another punched her in the mouth and tore the sleeve of her dress. "I have had to endure this life for two years", she said. "Each time I go out of my house I'm insulted

because I'm a respectable married woman & won't mix with them". She denied that she'd hit her husband and cut his head open or that her baby kept neighbours awake with its crying. 31 07 17e

1932 04 11
A woman had a narrow escape from injury when the pavement blew up as she was walking down Fitzroy Street. She had almost passed the 'Fitzroy Arms' when an electrical junction blew opposite Williamson's shop sending a shower of stones into the air. Smoke coming out of the cracked pavement turned into a sheet of flame six foot high after a man threw a bucket of water on it. 32 04 11

1932 05 28
Sensational disclosures are expected in connection with a fivefold shooting tragedy. While the shooting was taking place a girl operator in the telephone exchange was listening to it, powerless to help. The dead woman was in the act of putting through a telephone call. Before the bullet entered her head she had taken off the receiver which was found hanging on its wire when the police entered the house. 32 05 28

1932 06 18
The Stokesay Laundry of Histon Road is a happy hive of industry where women and girls work under ideal conditions in a healthy atmosphere. They have installed a wonderful ironing machine which is the last word in efficiency. The extensive drying grounds in a very large garden ensure final cleanliness and sweetness. 32 06 18 & 18a

1932 12 23
Former Mayoress, Mrs Catherine Tillyard was an accomplished yet humble woman. Under the penname of 'Pertelote' she contributed a women's column when her husband edited the Cambridge Independent Press. Her daughter, Aelfrida, is an authoress of some distinction and her son, Eustace, has a number of important books to his credit. She belonged to the old aristocratic school, worshipped at St Columba's and took an active interest in the temperance cause. 32 12 23e

1933 02 18
A woman sued a Cambridge dentist after he broke her jaw. She told the court she was a trained masseuse and had carried on business in Cambridge for some years earning about £4 a week. She'd gone to have a wisdom tooth extracted under anaesthetic but when she 'came round' the dentist said "Do you know what bad luck we've had. Your jaw has gone". After hearing the details the court adjourned for lunch. 33 02 18a & b

1933 01 07
Woman dead in river after engagement broken – 33 01 07a

1933 05 18
Cambridge Mothercraft Clinic gives information and teaching which saves women many hours of anxiety and babies many terrible pains. They have held classes for expectant mothers and six have come to the clinic for help and advice. It is open two days a week and has seen 160 attendances but needs 360 people to pay a guinea a year to cover expenses. 33 05 18 a & b

1933 05 22
The 1931 census report shows a population increase in Cambridgeshire of seven percent since 1921. The number of married women has increased assisted by the high marriage rate in recent years, despite the prevailing economic depression. The net result of all the new building,

structural alteration and demolition has seen the number of dwellings rise by 13.7 per cent and the instances of 'overcrowding' has reduced notwithstanding a large increase in the numbers of families. 33 05 22c

1933 06 16
Community and Labour opinions were so divided at a conference in Burleigh Street that a proposal to form a Cambridge Anti-War Council had to be adjourned after three hours. The University Anti-War Council said workers in Cambridge laboratories had been organised against war. Mrs Foster of the Women's Cop-operative Guild wondered who were being prepared as the next enemy of Britain. It used to be the French, then the defenceless Boers and last of all the Germans. She appealed to women to play their part against the wickedness of war before the catastrophe arrived. 33 06 16 & b

1933 07 26
The reputation which Cambridge enjoys as the home of many women prominent in public life has been enhanced by the appointment of a new secretary of the University Lodging Houses Syndicate. Miss Mary Kennett is the daughter of the late Professor of Hebrew. She trained at Guy's Hospital and her knowledge of hygiene will be valuable when she inspects the houses licensed to accommodate undergraduates. 33 07 26

1933 11 07
Mrs Keynes 2nd woman Mayor review of year – 33 11 07

1933 12 09
Policewomen were urgently needed in Huntingdonshire: they were useful in taking statements from women and children in sexual crimes and were on duty near schools to protect children from molestation. But the Rev O'Connor thought an unhealthy sex obsession had intruded into every aspect of life today and this should be exorcised rather than appoint women police officers. The Chief Constable said there was very little sexual crime and no work for women officers to perform. 33 12 09

1934 01 08
Thousands of people lined both side of St Andrew's Street when the Queen and Duchess of York paid a private visit to Mr Woolston's antique shop where the Queen chose several tiny ivory objects for her famous doll's house. She also inspected the Cambridge Tapestry Company's premises in Thompson's Lane where they watched the women workers actually engaged at the canvas and saw the tapestry panelling now being made for Lord Fairhaven, depicting his seat at Anglesey Abbey. 34 01 08

1934 02 02
Kirby & son, woman builder and contractor, bankruptcy. 34 02 02

1934 09 22
Life in the University would not be complete without humour, Ald Tweedy told a dinner. He mentioned a professor who was lecturing on a part of the world where men greatly outnumbered the women. "I believe that even the young women of Girton and Newnham would be able to find husbands there", he said. As a protest all the members of these colleges rose and turned to go out. "Wait a minute", said the Professor. "There's no hurry. The boat doesn't go till Friday". 34 09 22

1934 11 12

Until recently it was customary for some of the Cambridge Corporation documents to be in the private possession of the town clerk. When Thomas Yorke died in 1756 he had a large quantity of treasurer's accounts in his possession. His executor put them into a chest in St Michael's Church for safe keeping, but then he died and nobody claimed them. They did not belong to the parish and when space was wanted the clerk was authorised to sell them as waste paper. John Bowtell, the University bookbinder, bought the whole lot, Dr Palmer told the Women's Luncheon Club. They were now preserved in Downing College. 34 11 12a & b

1934 12 09
In George Stace's new showrooms Christmas shoppers can choose gifts for the womenfolk in comfort. A splendid stock of furs, dresses, gloves and handkerchiefs may be found. The Rycroft Rubber Company have tempting lines in stockings in either the silk or fish-net styles together with some very diverting surprises in the way of Christmas jokes while hot water bottles are a very acceptable gift. Legerton's well-stocked establishment offers a comprehensive range of children's wear, from the tiny tot upwards. Hosiery and underwear are featured in great variety together with jumpers and house coats. 34 12 09a

1935 03 27
Coad's new store, beside Woolworth's in Sidney Street, with its new arcade and island cases is a glowing example of the shop fitter's craft. There are now three floors and the splendid oak-panelled stairway has been retained. The fashion salons are already quite famous for their remarkable values in coats, woollies and blouses and the millinery salon is well lit. At the farther end lies the Lingerie and Corsetry Salon and a Younger Ladies' Department where the woman to today can shop like mother does. 35 03 27a

1935 09 02
A widow, married woman and a waiter were charged with procuring a miscarriage. The man said a girl arrived in Cambridge and told him she wanted something done. He went to Mrs S—who said she
knew a woman to go to. There was only one thing that might be effective. It would cost £3. But Mrs D--- said she'd been only paid £1.10s for what she had done. 35 09 02

1935 11 19
The first of a series of lectures on 'Sex Guidance' were given by the Welfare of Youth. An excellent audience of young women greeted the lecturer who, with blackboard, lantern slides and cine films demonstrated her subject in a most graphic way. The meeting for young men attracted fewer people to a talk on the evolution of sex. But those who attended were equally appreciative 35 11 19a

1936 01 15
Debate on Women's Suffrage in 1910, the first time an inter-college debate opened by a woman – 36 01 15 b & c

1936 02 06
The Cambridge University Mummers, who are still the only University Dramatic Society to admit women members equally with men in all their activities, are presenting 'Heartbreak House' by Bernard Shaw. In the cast there are four members of Newnham, the most prominent of whom is Miss Teresa Mayor. She will be supported by Beryl Eeman, Cecilia Hopkinson and Deirdre Moore. The play will be produced by George Rylands who is well known for productions at the A.D.C. 36 02 06a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1936 03 26
Cambridge Beauty Spa is probably the most up-to-date and best equipped of its kind in the country with expert assistants, modern appliances and the best of materials. Zotofoam Baths ensure Cambridge is not behind in the now-awakened national cult of health and beauty. By deep cleaning of the pores they clear the system of poisonous secretions. Aches and stiffness gives way to supple firmness, unwanted weight is pleasurably sweated away and the skin is made clear with real skin-deep beauty – Advert 36 02 15b Modern living with its flats, bungalows and almost stream-lined houses, can no longer accommodate the fine old heavy furniture of our ancestors. Today the cult is for comfort and utility in limited space so Robert Sayle has equipped their basement to show this new furniture. Here you can see complete rooms set out with wallpaper decoration, carpets, curtains, lamps and all the etceteras which make a house a home. There is even a little nursery that is wallpapered with a new type of American cloth which is washable and most hygienic. What home-proud woman will want to refuse such advice? – Advert 36 03 26

1936 04 04
The Policewoman's Review includes an article in praise of policewomen by Cambridge Councillor Mrs Rackham. The main obstacles to an increase in their numbers are prejudice against women police constables and ignorance of the work they perform. 36 04 04

1936 04 27
"This country will never be saved by young men with permanently waved hair. They may be mother's darlings and favourites of the girls, but they will never be any good to the country because he is a 'she-man' and the country will never be saved by 'she-men'. Women are all very well, but they should know their place and the danger of the present day is that there is too much feminism about. A man has got to be prepared to stick up for his own. The Territorial Army is preferable to spending evenings in cinemas and smoking round corners", the Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades were told. 36 04 27a

1936 06 02
Cambridge Training College for Women celebrated its Jubilee. It had started in two cottages at Newnham when Miss Hughes, the principal, was the sole staff and lectured on every subject. Early staff, if they did receive their salaries, paid them back into the college in some way until the new buildings were started. When it moved into Queen Anne Terrace 1,000 guests gathered in a marquee for the ceremony. So great was the crush that those who were to sit on the platform could only get to it through a hole cut in the marquee. 36 06 02 & a

1936 06 04
"I never let people pose" said Mrs Lettice Ramsey at an exhibition of modern photography. Her Solarised photographs are striking and new, giving the effect of charcoal drawing, while the unusual angle in the beautiful picture of Mrs Victor Rothschild is becoming as well as arresting. But the child studies are the most interesting: none of the usual sentimental darlings, but vigorous, animated children, almost walking out of their frames. Feminine sitters appreciate a women photographer's experience in matters of clothes and hair dressing while men – often vainer than women – can be flattered into good humour. Here is something new and original in photographic technique 36 06 04b

1936 08 22
Cambridge has sent its sons and daughters to places all over the world. Miss Freda Mary Sennitt, 27year-old daughter of F.O. Sennitt of Milton Road, received training in nursing and midwifery and has now been appointed to the charge of one of the hospitals in Nigeria under the Methodist

Missionary Society. She will be the only white woman at the hospital where her first spell of duty, owning to the climate and conditions, will be for only 18 months. 36 08 22d

1936 09 03
When John Brown took charge of Freeman, Hardy & Willis shop on Market Hill in 1897 boots were cheap, and needed to be: "I can remember country women coming in with a dozen children and saying their husbands only earned twelve shillings a week". When he started brown boots were so scarce that people stopped and gazed at someone who sported a pair in Peterborough. Most had hob nails in the sole – even those for infants - and women wore elastic-sided boots – it didn't matter what they wore, because you never saw their feet. The shop was enlarged into premises next door in 1905 36 09 03a

1936 11 14
Woman council bailiff appointed – 36 11 14a

1936 11 25
An airman challenged the validity of his marriage to a Cambridge woman. He claimed that her former husband, a Cambridge taxi driver, had gone to Canada after getting into financial difficulties. But had still been alive when the two married at Kensington Register Office, though the woman told him she was a widow. As a result the airman had refused to live with her until she produced evidence of the first husband's death. The woman however petitioned for the restitution of her conjugational rights. She lost her case 36 11 25a

1937 01 01
Dr Paul Dirac was appointed as-old Lucasian Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge University in 1932 a few days before his 30th birthday, becoming the youngest occupant of this famous chair which was once occupied by Isaac Newton, and remains the youngest professor in Cambridge. He has a reputation for being of a particularly shy and retiring disposition." A London newspaper stated: "More than publicity he fears women. He has no interest in them and even after being introduced to them cannot remember whether they are pretty or plain". He has now wed in London. The marriage was
unexpected in Cambridge and even his colleagues at St John's College were unaware of the ceremony. 37 01 07

1937 01 12
Albert Stubbs told the Agricultural Wages Board that farmers must pay workers a living wage or they would not get the labour. The minimum should be £2 for a working week of 48 hours. Rates for horse-keepers, cowmen and shepherds should be seven shillings more while women should earn from five to seven pence an hour. He would advise the men to take work on the roads or aerodromes where pay was higher. Young men would cycle 12-15 miles into Cambridge where they could earn more. But farmers had had a monstrous year and could not afford it. 37 01 12 & a

1937 07 10
The B.S.A. Company's offer of a brand new bicycle to Britain's oldest woman cyclist has brought several responses. Mrs Mortimer of Chedworth Street is 63; she has ridden a cycle since she was 10 and has toured Ireland, Scotland and much of England on it. Mrs F. Plumb of Gt Shelford is 68 and delivers fruit grown in her garden to Cambridge every day. But the oldest so far is Mrs Cross of Brookside, Toft, who was born at Tydd St Mary's in 1856 and still rides regularly. 37 07 10a

1937 07 22

The Home of Mercy in Christchurch Street is one of the oldest Rescue and Preventive Homes in the country. Miss Meeking, who completed 29 years as manager, had a remarkable understanding of the young girls; many sent to her as 'hopeless cases' were restored to self-respect and received a fresh start in life. In the Home she was affectionately known as 'Mam', but there was no weak sentimentality in her treatment of the girls and she fully understood the need of firmness and discipline. She knew that when they left the shelter of the Home they would meet many difficulties and kept in touch with scores of girls. She was consulted frequently by other moral welfare workers and recognised as a wide and sympathetic counsellor 37 07 22a

1937 07 31
The appeal for pioneer women cyclists heard from Dorothea Conybeare. Her father, Rev Edward Conybeare of Barrington, had bought her sister a bike on 28 July 1893. By 1894 women's bicycles still rather unusual and fellow Perseans were much impressed when they'd cycled in from Barrington in order to be present at an examination for which the train would have been too late. She does not remember seeing any Cambridge women or girls bicycling before 1893 but saw two during a visit to Leicestershire in 1892 and was agreeably surprised by their grace and dignity 37 07 31a

1937 08 14
More ladies have come forward in the search for Britain's oldest women cyclists. Mrs Cross of Toft (81) still rides her ordinary lady's bike regularly while Annie Long of Withersfield (75) has a machine she bought in 1898. Mrs N. Plint of Gt Shelford rides into Cambridge each day to deliver fruit grown in her garden & Mrs H. Ball of Staploe (68) also bikes five miles a day to work. Mrs L.M. Mortimer (63) of Chedworth Street is one of the most consistent riders, having done thousands of miles since she was ten years of age. 37 08 14a

1938 01 11
Mr W. King showed three of his films at the Dorothy Café. The first dealing with the fen floods of 1937 had been seen before but the others were new. One showing the inspection of the Cambridgeshire Regiment by General Kirke caught the spectacle admirably: the marching of the Territorials was transferred to the screen in colour and many town and county notabilities were seen. Another showed the demonstration given by the Cambridge Women's Physical Culture Club, concentrating on the beauty and grace of their movement and showing the great advance they have made in the art of keeping fit by easy, pleasure-giving exercises. 38 01 11a

1938 01 15
The LNER is going to make a big effort to ensure that the interior of their trains is kept up to drawing room standard. A staff of travelling train attendants and cleaners is to be appointed who will accompany the train throughout the whole journey. They will ensure an adequate supply of clean towels and soap in the lavatories, remove litter from corridors, dust window ledges and empty ashtrays in compartments not occupied by passengers. When trains stop at stations they will polish up the outside door handles. Where conditions are suitable women will be appointed for this work as it is felt that the feminine touch will yield the most satisfactory results. 38 01 15a

1938 02 02 c
About 200 members of Joe Davis' billiards club in Mill Road, Cambridge, watched an exhibition by Miss Joyce Gardiner, six times the world's woman billiards champion who was paying her first visit to the hall. A stylist, she was watched with rapt attention all through her demonstration. Her highest break in an exhibition is 213 but in practice she has made one of over 300.

1938 04 22

Mrs Ethel Robinson, described as "Hinxton's Lady Bountiful" has died. She came to live with her husband at Hinxton Hall in 1917 and took an active interest in village life, being connected with the Mothers' Union and Women's Conservative Association. Every Christmas she entertained the children at the Hall and extended similar hospitality to the old folk in the New Year. She ran a clothing and coal club and was a willing supporter of anything which had as its object the benefit of the village. 38 04 22b funeral 38 04 26

1938 06 01
Mrs Margaret Heitland, the well-known worker for women's causes was the daughter of the Master of St John's. She became secretary of the Cambridge suffrage society in 1884, an interest she continued all her life. She was a member of the Women's Industrial Council, travelling extensively in Europe studying the conditions in factories and writing articles in many periodicals. During the war she served on the Cambridge Women's War Employment and the Belgian Hospitality Committees. Later she helped establish the Cambridge Women Citizens' Association which has played an important part in local politics 38 06 01b

1938 09 28
Ladies lead the war – women with respirators picture – 38 09 28

1938 11 12
Mrs F.A. Keynes has rendered magnificent service to Cambridge council; her election for Fitzwilliam Ward in 1914 followed the passing of the County and Borough Councils Qualification Bill. Previously a married woman, although otherwise qualified, could not be a councillor, whereas an unmarried woman could be. Mrs Keynes was largely instrumental in persuading the Government to alter this state of affairs and it was fitting that she should be among the first women in the country to be elected. She was elected first woman alderman of Cambridge in 1931. 38 11 12

1938 11 26
Collins' Agency, High-Class Registry for Servants at 55 Regent Street has been established in Cambridge for over 28 years and now has offices in Bridge Street, at Peterborough and Chelmsford. The extent of the business is shown by the fact that in 1937 more than 1,500 ladies were suited with maids in spite of the great dearth of servants. Collins' Agency advertisements regularly appear in Cambridge newspapers 38 11 26

1938 12 10
The Home of Mercy dates back to 1836 when residents concerned about the lack of provision for women, hired Dover House in East Road as a place of refuge. Then in 1838 the Cambridge Female Refuge opened in Christchurch Street in which girls who have fallen into evil ways can receive Christian guidance and discipline in a home-like atmosphere. Last year nine left to go into service and four were returned to their parents. One was baptised and three received Confirmation. 38 12 10b & c

1938 12 14
Councillor Dorothy Thirza Stephenson worked for women's causes; elected Board of Guardians 1912, councillor 1919. Original member of Cambridge Housing Society, founder Hundred Housing Society, organised soldiers' canteen during war, Chesterton National Kitchen Committee, Belgian refugee and communal pig keeping committee 38 12 14 38 12 15

1939 01 12

Much opposition to women taking holy orders came from a spirit of trade unionism among the clergy, a conference at Ridley Hall was told.. The present position was illogical: women were allowed to give addresses, but seldom to preach and were not permitted to use the pulpit. The ministry of the Sacrament was denied, the priesthood was forbidden. Women had intelligence and wit worthy to be matched against the finest masculine brains and had to receive the opportunity to make full use of their God-given powers. But if they came crowding into the church it would bring competition for male clergy – a job that though poorly paid was safe and still fairly respectable. 39 01 12

1939 03 14
There are too few women councillors in Cambridge, said Mrs Hartree. Political parties have had the wisdom to put forward women candidates but it was better to be independent. 39 03 14

1939 03 28
Cambridge members of the Women's Voluntary Services for Civil Defence are being trained as ambulance and car drivers. A feature of the classes is tuition in driving in the dark in gas masks and without lights and in changing wheels, fuses etc under the same conditions. This instruction is being given by Mr North of Messrs Marshall's, Jesus Lane. Women wishing to enrol for this important National Service should apply to the W.V.S., Old Post Office, St Andrew's Street - 39 03 28

1939 05 06
Miss Dorothy Annie Elizabeth Garrod, of Newnham College, was elected the first woman professor at Cambridge University. Miss Garrod, who is an archaeologist of distinction, was educated at both Oxford and Cambridge, and succeeds Dr. E. H. Minns, of Pembroke College in the Disney Professorship of Archaeology 39 05 12 CIPof [1.1] 39 05 06

1939 05 12
Miss Dorothy Annie Elizabeth Garrod, of Newnham College, was elected the first woman professor at Cambridge University - women are not officially members of the university and have no gowns. Miss Garrod, who is an archaeologist of distinction, was educated at both Oxford and Cambridge, and succeeds Dr. E. H. Minns, of Pembroke College in the Disney Professorship of Archaeology 39 05 06, 39 05 12 CIPof [1.1] 39 05 06

1939 07 08
Women farm workers wages – 39 07 08a

1939 07 13
N.F.U. meeting: women to be trained for Land Army – 39 07 13

1939 08 28
There are to be two anti-aircraft batteries and one anti-aircraft signalling unit based in Cambridge. Recruiting for the batteries opens at 45 Parkside and Salisbury Villas for the signalling unit. Cambridge has already responded to the call for National Service. The Cambridgeshire Regiment is over establishment, the Royal Engineers unit, 2nd General Hospital and the Cambridge National Defence Company are complete. A second Auxiliary Territorial Service (clerical) company for women will also be raised. 39 08 28

1939 10 05
Dressmaker, hairdresser, dancing expert, officer clerk, shop assistant and television worker. All these are working side by side potato picking, milking cows, muck spreading and clearing out

pigsties at the Cambridge University Farm on Huntingdon Road. The girls are members of the Women's Land Army undergoing a month's training before being sent to work for farmers. The majority are in their late teens and early twenties but some are older. One has her two grown-up daughters with her; her son and his brother are doing their bit in the Tank Corps in France. 39 10 05

1939 11 25
Soldiers and women window cleaners, WWI photo – 39 11 25a

1939 11 28
Something should be done about the housing of old people: the number of old people is growing out of all proportion to the number of children and people of working age, Cambridge Women's Luncheon Club was told. In the old days people with nobody to look after them had to go to an institution. Now most live with relations but are not wanted, cause overcrowding, are treated as unpaid nurses and servants and appreciated very little. Some live in attic rooms in other people's houses with no water or cooking arrangements. It would be better to convert middle-class houses for them where they could form some sort of community. 39 11 28b

1940

1940 03 05
War service for women in 1914-18 and today contrasted – 40 03 05b

1940 04 25
Soldiers … Family Association will get illegitimate children of serving men adopted and made weekly allowance while process takes place – 40 04 25b

1940 12 11
Sharing the kitchen stove – evacuation – a woman's point of view – 40 12 11a

1940 12 19
Women help sort & deliver mail at Post Office – photo – 40 12 19a

1940 12 23
Trumpington first-aid post opened – 40 12 23a

1940 12 23
Post women WWI – group photo – 40 12 23b

1941 01 29
Engineers in the making – Technical college courses, demand for women workers – 41 01 29a & b

1941 04 19
Women register at Senate House with 1920 class – the first batch to be called under the Government new Registration for employment Order – 41 04 19

1941 05 19
Women's Institutes war work; food production – 41 05 19a

1941 10 04
Women, war and victory campaign – 41 10 04a

1941 10 20
Women shoot with Home Guard – photo – 41 10 20a

1941 12 18
Women make camouflage netting; two-hour shifts of 50 women work till 10pm – 41 12 18

1942 02 06
Cambridge leave hostel for serving women opened Rose Crescent – 42 02 06a

1942 02 20
New Cambridge YWCA Hostel opened for women in forces – 42 02 20

1942 02 24
Women's war work bureau set up in Eaden Lilley's store – 42 02 24

1942 02 26
How the 'Call-up' affects the women of Britain: an official explanation – 42 02 26

1932 07 27
National Fire Service – women train at Homerton – 42 07 27

1942 09 19
Women to register for fire-watching duty – 42 09 19

1942 10 05
Women to undertake vital work – advert – 42 10 05

1943 01 04
Civil training plane, piloted by a woman, failed to take off from a local flying field at Cambridge and crashed into house, three trapped, pilot killed. House previously occupied by the head of the firm operating the flying field – 43 01 04, 43 01 06a

1943 01 13
Hostel for civilian women stranded in Cambridge may be established – 43 01 13

1943 02 10
Fanny Johnson, 87, notable lady, organised amateur plays, suffragist, Women's International League, Labour Party member, wrote play 'Earth and her children' – 43 02 10b

1943 06 18
"Going to be a bit late Home," -The following message was sent by Second Lieut. Charles Roland Brown, Tl90473 (a prisoner of war) to his wife, Marjorie Dodd Brown, 31 Trafalgar Road, Cambridge, over the German radio: "Hello, Marjorie darling. I am afraid I am going to be a bit late home. Complications seem to have arisen, so I thought I would spend the time in Germany. It is really a pretty country … But even though I am far away, my body will be absent, but you will have my heart. Remember the Browns always smile. The German frauleins are pretty, but I am socially confined, so you don't have to worry."

1943 06 18
Growing Land Army. At the end of May, the Women's Land Army numbered 65,406 strong. Over 19,000 were in direct employ of the County War Agricultural Executive Committees and nearly 3,700 were engaged on forestry work. May showed a net increase of 3,626 in the total number employed. There are, however, still many vacancies to be filled.

1943 07 09
Women's Land Army Parade. Nearly 300 members of the Women's Land Army from the County of Cambridge paraded before the Duchess of Gloucester at a W.L.A. rally at Cambridge on Saturday afternoon. Clad in their distinctive green and fawn uniforms, the women made an impressive sight as they marched through the town from Parker's Piece to the Guildhall, where the Duchess presented awards for good service. Her Royal High-ness wore a summer dress in pink and white, with a white summer hat and gloves to match

1942 12 06
Queues outside Mothercraft Clinic, Willis Road, for toys made by the women whose children attend the clinic – photo – 43 12 06

1944 04 03
YWCA Hostel in Lensfield Road opened – two roomy houses standing side by side; the old hostel in Rose Crescent outgrown; many hundreds had stayed in earlier years of the war. Can now accommodate 65 service women; 1,400, including Land Army have stayed. 44 04 03

1944 10 20
Woman jailed. A woman, who lived for three years with a man, left him and married his son, and four years later bigamously married an American soldier, was sent to prison by Mr. Justice Singleton at Cambs. Assizes on Monday on a bigamy charge. It was stated that the woman introduced her real husband to the American as her son', and that the husband referred to his wife as "Mum." Accused was sentenced to 15 months' imprisonment — nine months on the bigamy charge and six months for stealing and receiving a wallet containing £20 and papers.

1944 10 26
All Saints church new windows in honour of womanhood – 44 10 26

1945 01 13
Woman drives Cambridge bus – Mrs Atkinson from Fulbourn – 45 01 13

1945 07 07
Woman shot through heart by coloured sentry at American camp in Milton Road; said she had spent the night in the camp, called guard names, refused to stop – 45 07 07

1945 07 28
Lady Bragg may stand for council and might be elected mayor – have been two women Mayors – Mrs Hartree 1924-25 & Mrs Keynes 1932-3 - 45 07 28

1945 09 15
Falcon Club for War Workers were set up for women, now open doors to civilians – 45 09 15

1946 03 13

Richara Morrow-Tait completes flying test for Air Ministry A Licence; has flown solo and will shortly attempt some long distance solo flights. Is first woman pupil to fly alone since war stopped civilian flying – 46 03 02a; photo – 46 03 13

1946 12 12
Business and Professional Women's Club established – 46 12 12

1947 03 11
"We all have our share of food and those who want more are greedy - and when they take illegal means to get extra it is something far more serious. A charwoman of Coldham's Lane heard these words from the chairman of Cambridge Borough Magistrates (Mr W.L. Briggs) at the Magistrates court when she was fined £2 and £3 respectively for stealing a ration book and using it when it was not issued to her. The defendant was 59 years old. On leaving school she took up domestic work. In the 1914-18 war she worked as a charwoman and was still employed as such. Her husband died two years ago and there were six in the family - all married with the exception of a daughter aged 18. Defendant's earnings, a widow's pension and an allowance from her daughter, amounted to £2 a week

1947 05 07
Some 200 local women took part in the Guildhall in the first big physical culture display to be held in Cambridge since before the war. It was a first-rate demonstration given by members of the Cambridge Women's Physical Culture Club, which is run by the Misses Marjorie and Mary Vinsen. In a display lasting and hour and a half they gave eloquent proof of the buoyant elasticity which can be attained through exercise and an indication of the physical fitness which results, for at the end of a strenuous performance they appeared as fresh as when they started.

1947 05 10
Cambridgeshire County Council made history today by electing its first woman chairman, and many friends will join in congratulations to Ald Mrs Clarke on the distinction accorded her. Mrs Clark is the first woman chairman of a County Council outside London.

1947 06 04
Although the Royal visit to Trinity College was mainly a University affair the women of Cambridge had an opportunity of seeing the Queen, aptly described during the recent Royal tour as British womanhood's ambassadress. The question, a natural one, many of the women were asking was "What was the Queen wearing". The Mayoress (Mrs F. Doggett) had the experience of waiting on the Queen almost throughout the day. She said that both the King and Queen asked many questions about the fen floods showing a real interest and sympathy in the difficulties of the flood victims. She was impressed by the Queen's great charm. "She was untiring and knew just what to say to everybody", she observed

1947 06 18
On Saturday, after a quarter of a century of service to the public Sergt Policewoman Carnegie Brown, one of the pioneers of women police, goes into retirement and the Cambridge Force loses its senior woman member and the Cambridge public a well-known figure. The history of women police has evolved during her lifetime. One of the earliest policewomen in the country, starting at a time when women police were not generally recognised by local authorities, Miss Brown has done much to override any prejudice that might have been held at the time and now has the satisfaction of knowing that women police are considered an essential part of the police service. In the early days women police did only welfare work, such as helping patch up matrimonial

difficulties. Today they handle all matters connected with women and children who are involved in any way with the police

1947 07 30
History was made in the Shire Hall Council Chamber on Saturday, when Ald Mrs Mellish Clark, first woman chairman of the Cambridgeshire County Council, and of any County Council outside London, took the chair for the first time. She brought to it exactly the same degree of competence she brings to all meetings over which she presides, conducting the proceedings in a practical, business-like way, wasting no time on unessentials. She did not hesitate to call the meeting to order - doing this on two occasions when more than one tried to speak at the same time

1947 08 06
Only in cases of "exceptional hardship" can private householders hope to employ in domestic service the displaced persons now coming into the area to help relieve the labour shortage in certain industries. Since the beginning of June some 1,400 of these displaced persons have arrived from Germany at a West Wratting holding camp. Their nationalities are Latvian, Lithuanian, Estonian and Ukranian. Ages range from 25 to 40. The jobs woman can take include laundry work, domestic service in hospitals and hostels, and agriculture, and these are the sort of jobs they have taken in this region. Men, too have gone into agriculture. I understand that another camp accommodating about the same number will shortly be opened in Bottisham

1947 10 29
A notable honour in the world of fencing was won by a Cambridge girl when Miss Caroline Drew, aged 16, won the Schoolgirls' Foil Challenge Cup Competition held at the London Fencing Club - and brought the cup to Cambridge for the first time. Caroline is a pupil of the Cambridgeshire High School for Girls and a member of the Cambridge Ladies Fencing Club which was founded some 20 years ago has a membership of about 40, comprising girls and women of both University and town

1947 11 07
The President of the Coton Women's Institute said that such was the pressure on the present bus services from the village that housewives had to shop "by proxy". When people did eventually get into Cambridge they found "the cupboard bare". Mrs Burbage of Cambridge Road, Coton, said that people were often left behind and had to reply on motorists to give them a lift into Cambridge. The last time she travelled back on the 12.20 bus from Cambridge she said, "We were really packed in like sardines and I was really scared to travel"

1947 12 08
The word "Placet" (Latin for "It pleases") said by the Senior and Junior Proctors in unison as they raised their caps concluded the less-than-a-minute-long part of the Congregation in Cambridge Senate House by which it was formally agreed that women should have full status within the University. A handful of women students, undergraduates and other visitors in the gallery heard the decision made. It is planned that the new regulations shall come into force at the beginning of the next academic year in October; they will come under Proctorial supervision and will wear academic dress - 47 12 08

1947 12 08
University formally agree that women should have full status – 47 12 08

1948 05 05

The women students of Newnham and Girton will emerge in their New Look in the October term. The gowns which their full University status now entitles them to wear have now been designed, and are on sale at £3 3s. each, no coupons. They are identical with those of the men, except that they have closed sleeves instead of a slit at the opening. This is because it was felt it would be unsuitable to have bare arms showing in summer time, when the girls wear short sleeved dresses. As far as headwear is concerned stiff board was preferred to a soft cap, and squares have been decided upon. These are still in such short supply that most girls will, like the men, go bareheaded for the moment 48 05 05

1948 05 05
The experience of being stranded in a strange town, with nowhere to stay, is particularly unpleasant for young women. There must be many who, stranded in this way in Cambridge, have heard themselves being directed to the Bene't Hostel for Women which exists to provide such shelter. The hostel was started in Brooklands Avenue in 1943 to meet a wartime need and during the last year of hostilities 1,060 applications were received and the total number occupying beds was 8,265. Its continuing need being proved, a house was later bought at 1, Drosier Road where an average of 21 beds have been occupied nightly ever since

1948 06 25
"Out of every four marriages celebrated in Cambridge this week the ratio of breakage will be one" the Rev John Crowlesmth, director of the Cambridge Marriage Guidance Centre said. He gave five main reasons. The transition in the pattern of family life in which the father was only one of a circle in which his authority counted for nothing. "The wheel has turned quite obviously and we men are now the submissive sex", he said. He also considered that attempts to get married women into industry were in the long run going to be a fatal mistake in the development and encouragement of family life. Sexual ignorance and the wrong sexual technique, housing difficulties and hasty marriages were other causes and the fifth was the lack of personal conviction about the meaning of life.

1948 07 01
To prevent unhappiness in marriage caused by sterility Dr Bethel Solomons recommended fertility tests before marriage during a session of the British Medical Association conference in Cambridge. He said more men and women were miserable from the lack of children than from most other complaints. Sex education should be given in schools and by parents. "Trial marriages" had been suggested, but even if these were socially possible, non-fertility for six months did not mean it was necessarily lasting

1948 07 14
The starting of a home help scheme in the county, similar to that already in operation in Cambridge, will be an innovation welcomed by many village mothers with new born babies and any sick people who can produce a doctor's certificate showing the necessity for them to have someone to help in the house while they are unable to do much work themselves. This comparatively new social service is open to all women between 25 and 55 who will not have to take on the duties of a "char" but simply asked to perform the functions of any ordinary housewife. It has been provisionally agreed to pay 1s.9d. an hour and when necessary bus fares and cycle maintenance will be paid

1948 08 11
The five Cambridge laundries which handle the college washing when the men are up must be having something of a respite just now. During term they handle something like 150,000 pieces every week. Stiff shirts and white waistcoats are also a feature of the college wash - especially

during May Week when hundreds have to be dealt with. The limited wardrobes of present day students due to rationing, calling for a quick return of the work, is another problem with which these laundries have to deal. Before commercial laundries came into being the students' washing was usually done at home by the bedmakers. Each would undertake to wash for 20 to 30 men, and collect the bundles in a handcart. Village carriers too used to come in to collect washing which was undertaken by cottage women in nearby country areas

1948 08 18
Flying a proctor light aircraft Mrs Richarda Morrow-Tait of Cambridge set out from Marshall's airport on her attempt to be the first woman to fly a light aircraft round the world. She was accompanied by her navigator and co-pilot Mr Michael Townsend of Cranmer Road, Cambridge. They carried only a minimum amount of baggage but included in it was a .303 rifle and ammunition, as part of the flight will be over uninhabited territory. Maps and baggage stowed away, including some sandwiches cut for Mrs Morrow-Tait by her husband the two climbed into the aircraft. Her husband said, "She is a wonderful person, full of courage and determination. The machine is an ex-RAF aircraft which has been thoroughly overhauled and fitted with a reconditioned engine.

1948 08 19
Miss Morrow-Tait, 24-year-old flying mother, today abandoned her around-the-world flight attempt. She left Marshall's airport yesterday but her plane was damaged in landing at Marseilles last night. She told Reuter's correspondent, "I hit a small ditch owing to bad visibility. The propeller was twisted, a wing damaged and the undercarriage also suffered. Our plan for a round-the-world flight in 200 hours is no longer realisable. I think I will probably go back to London and start again". When a C.D.N. reporter told her husband of her accident he said, "I don't care twopence about her abandoning the flight. I expect she will have another go"

1948 08 25
Every housewife knows what it is like to spend a tiring time round the shops, perhaps queuing at some, and then having to wend her way home, laden with a heavy shopping basket and numerous parcels. Women in particular therefore will be interested to hear about a delivery system which is to be started in Cambridge by means of which the public can have their shopping delivered, instead of having to carry it home themselves. The firm will operate from a stall on the market place. Shoppers will be able to take their shopping to the stall and have them delivered at their home the same morning. The charge will be 6d in the borough and 1s. in the county within a five mile radius. The originators are Delivery Services, Cambridge, who started up in business as "errand boy" to local firms last year

1948 09 24
The forthcoming Territorial Army recruiting campaign will include women as well as men. We prefer to think of them as A.T.S., and to refer to them under a title to which they brought so much credit during the war. What is being formed in Cambridge is E Company no1 (eastern) group which will, presumably be very similar to its "Mother" unit, formed at Cambridge in 1938 - a general duties company. A local Commander is a great asset to any Territorial Unit and E Company have secured Miss A.M. Hales, who was born in Linton

1948 10 21
When the Queen stood before the Vice Chancellor in Cambridge Senate House today to receive the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Law she was not only a Queen receiving an Honour but also a symbol of the passing of a 700-years-old "tradition" in the university. For, during the whole of the University's history no Queen - and no other woman - has ever before had a degree conferred

upon her, because until the recent changes in the statutes giving women full membership the conferring of
such an honour was not possible. As the Queen entered the Senate House there was a burst of cheering and clapping. Her scarlet Doctor's robes and her black velvet doctor's cap, made a charming ensemble with the Cambridge blue shade of her dress

1948 10 21
As the Queen left Girton College yesterday evening, following her visit there, many students gathered in the drive made appropriate if unorthodox use of the gowns they now wear as symbols of their recently won rights to be full members of the University. They took off their gowns and waved them in farewell to the Royal lady, who in the morning had symbolised those new rights as she received in the Senate House the first degree to be conferred upon a woman in University history

1948 11 03
For what is probably the first time in the 360 years that gowns have been worn by students of Cambridge University, they are being regarded from the fashion viewpoint. This was the natural development of the wearing of them by women, for, while men seem happy enough wearing their gowns, which are often torn and dirty, slung on anyhow, the more dress-conscious sex was bound to look at the matter from a different angle. A contributor to "Varsity" newspaper makes suggestions as to what might be worn under them and advocates cheerful colours, rather than browns, greys and beiges

1948 11 13
Because his wife nagged him a husband was granted a decree-nisi Cambridge divorce court on the grounds of cruelty. The Commissioner described the wife as a woman with a very hasty temper, very fond of the sound of her own voice. The husband said, “She nagged me in such a way as to annoy me with the coarseness of her language. She would stand over me and talk to me and complain to me when, after a hard day's work, I was trying to get a bite of supper in peace, and when I went away upstairs she pursued me with shouting”. The Commissioner mentioned that this was the sort of thing that happened from time to time in a great many homes but this was practically a daily occurrence. The wife denied that she had been guilty of this sort of conduct at all

1948 11 15
It really was women's day at the university Senate House on Saturday. Following the Queen's visit last month came the first historic degree ceremony to include women graduates. Previously they had held only the title of their degrees but now a decree has been passed admitting them to full membership they can proceed in person to take them. 114 were conferred in all. The recipients included a number who had left the colleges many years go - two from Girton had graduated in the 1890s. Side by side with them were young women who had graduated last year. All were enjoying the first fruits of a successful outcome of a struggle that had lasted 70 years

1948 11 17
Soon the sight of women students in their gowns and proceeding to degrees alongside the men, will become common place, and no one will give them a second thought. It is the “first time” however, which makes news and even the occasion of the first woman to be “progged” becomes a minor act of University history. Members of the colleges had awaited with interest to see on whom this “honour” would befall. Their curiosity was satisfied within three weeks of the beginning of term. The “honour” – said to have be coveted by a number of women students, who

tried to attract the attention of the proctor – fell to a third-year anthropology student of Girton, Miss Valida Turner, who was fined for not wearing her gown after dark

1949
Training college for women teachers changes name to Hughes Hall after first principal as becomes recognised institution; had been founded 1885 in Newnham, expanded; new buildings 1895 [3.15,13]]

1949 04 20
Cambridge shopkeepers reported good Easter business in all departments. But very few women were able to buy a new pair of nylons for the holidays. All first grade nylons are now exported. Only a trickle of "seconds" is coming into the shops. But for all the "Easter bonnets" bought, few were to be seen in the streets. The heatwave weather which bought people out in their thousands made hatlessness more than ever the order of the day

1949 05 17
The audience remained in their seats and the play continued when fire broke out in the men's cloakroom at the A.D.C. theatre during a performance by the Cambridge Training College for Women Drama Group. The blaze was caused by a smouldering pipe left in the pocket of one of the coats in the cloakroom. At the height of the blaze, the auditorium became hazy with smoke as it drifted in through the ventilators. The audience, composed largely of university members did not panic and cheers greeted an announcement that the fire was under control.

1949 05 23
A "Happy Homes" exhibition was opened at the Co-operative hall, Burleigh Street. Several of the exhibits are of goods which are being made again for the first time since the war. One, a welcome sight, is the man's fitted wardrobe, with shelves for his underwear, ties and hats, and sliding rods and rails for suits and footwear. One exhibit which drew the women, was a cream and green electricallydriven washing machine, with automatic wringer, which does the family wash in an hour and a half, at a cost of about 1d in electricity a week.

1949 05 30
At the rate of two a minute some 370 men employed by the Cambridge Instrument Company voluntarily underwent a free examination making possible the early discovery and treatment of any trouble in their chests. Facilities for such a high-speed search are the result of the war-time development of mass radiography, which enables X-ray photographs to be taken without fuss. Already some 4,000 men and 600 women have taken advantage of the opportunity. Women attend for X-ray separately from men, and are each provided with a freshly-laundered chest cover.

1949 06 23
The fact that two families had to be rehoused owing to the direct harm done children through being in the proximity of a slaughterhouse was mentioned at the meeting of the Cambridge National Council of Women. Three children in one family have been recommended for the Open Air School as they were in a nervous condition, entirely due to being near a slaughterhouse. They expressed "grave concern" at the council's decision to renew the slaughterhouse licence in Fitzroy Street, which was in a congested residential area & urged the council to provide a municipal abattoir with the most modern hygienic equipment for the humane slaughter of animals, situated away from a residential district.

1949 08 19

Cambridge's "flying housewife", Mrs Richarda Morrow-Tait, was resting following her arrival at Croydon last night on completion of her round the world flight, claimed to be the first to be made by a woman. She landed in England 366 days after she had set out from Marshall's airport where she learned her flying. She took off in a single-engined Proctor which was damaged in a forced landing and was replaced by a Vultee Valiant.

1949 09 28
Cambridge men and women were featured in a new series broadcast in the BBC Women's Hour programme. A few weeks ago a mobile recording unit visited Messrs Chivers Factory at Histon. Among those selected to describe their jobs was Miss Ruth Blows, who has been with Chivers for over 30 years. She is employed as a "tapper" – she tests the glass jam jars to make sure they are airtight. The name of the firm was not mentioned of course, because the BBC does not advertise.

1949 11 01
A great worker in the field of women's suffrage has died. Mrs Edith Bethune-Baker devoted her life to the advancement of women's suffrage. When she first came to live in Cambridge she joined the small suffrage society, the first meeting of which was held at Christ's college. On one occasion she spend 11 hours on a cross-country journey to address a meeting of 12 women. After the suffrage battle was won she carried on the work to secure equality for women. Although firm and courageous in her stand, she was essentially gentle and courteous

1950

1950 01 06
About half-a-dozen women bargain hunters waited all night for the opening of Messrs Heyworth's Sidney St, Cambridge, sale today. The first queuer had waited 15 hours for a brown suit reduced from 79/6 (£3.95) to £1. All the fur coats marked down from £37 to £10 have been snapped up but the main rush was in the children's section. It was expected that the bargains will just about last out the two days of the sale.

1950 06 19
Not many people seem to realise that women have been playing cricket now for over 50 years and that in these sex-equality days there are still some who think it is still not quite the right sort of sport for young ladies to indulge in. Cambridge Women's Cricket Club has been in existence for just over two years – and as yet no one quite experienced enough has played for her county. Cambridge has an overarm bowling rule and has little or no experience against the underarm method. They were rather flummoxed when they first played a village women's team who used this style of delivery, but they are getting accustomed to it now

1950 08 14
In another 20 years Cambridge should be certain of having a strong and healthy community of young men & women, for surely the present day babies must be the best of any generation. This was brought to mind at the Bonny Baby Show when proud mothers watched their babies judged by an expert authority, Sister Sparrow, of the Mill Road Maternity Hospital. One has only to walk along the street and look into every pram you pass to see that all the occupants, with a few very rare exceptions, are happy and contented little souls.

1950 10 09
Girls in their teens, middle aged women and some in their sixties mingled together at a jubilee reunion of the Cambridgeshire High School for Girls. For many it was their first visit to the new school in Long Road. Their own memories took them back to the Drill Hall in East Road, where

the school began, or to the Collier Road premises, now the Technical College and School of Art. The happy times spent there were recalled often during the evening

1951 02 14
Despite official denials, rumours of a return to clothes coupons are gaining ground. Women are buying sets of undies with that in view, remembered that underclothes were the last to be renewed in the war-time rationing. Their buying has spread to nylon blouses, nighties and underwear. "All the nylon will be going into parachutes", people are whispering. Housewives have started to hoard soap too, for fear of a shortage.

1951 02 21
Mrs Jean P. Silver has the distinction of being the first woman to be accepted as a special constable for Cambridge. She will be issued with a uniform and receive a course of instruction in police work generally. Her work will consist of help to regular policewomen, at office work, enquiries, matters affecting women and girls, and patrol duties. The Cambridge police force requires a limited number of women special constables. They must be over the age of 30, and physically fit

1951 04 18
Cambridge's first woman traffic warden takes up her duties on Monday, to help children cross the road before and after school. She is Mrs M.E. Vail who will be attached to St Luke's school, Victoria Road. The idea of having civilian traffic wardens was taken up in January when the education committee appointed a man for Morley memorial school; a second started at St Barnabas school this week.

1951 07 23
Members of the Cambridgeshire Women's Voluntary Service deserve a rest, with regular work teams doing jobs in hospitals, serving and driving meals on wheels, collecting salvage, helping in Infant Welfare Centres and distributing welfare foods in the villages. A lot of welfare work for the Forces is done, ranging from canteens and clubs to sending magazines to Korea. Nor should the steady work to help the old people and the pensioners in the county be forgotten. On all sides one hears the same remark: "I am glad to be of use"

1951 09 17
There must be a great many single business and professional women living in "digs" in Cambridge who just long for a small self-contained flat or flatlet of their own. One organisation anxious to do something is the National Federation of Business Professional Women's Clubs, which has a building society of its own, the Probus Women's Housing Society. The Cambridge B.P. club is now considering whether to buy houses. If they do go ahead it will look out for a house suitable for conversion into flats. It is good to see this club, which has a strong social sense, trying to do something really practical for its members.

1951 11 26
Fines totalling £20 were imposed upon a woman stallholder summoned for overcharging for nylons. She sold a pair of fully fashioned nylon hose stamped with the words "15 dernier" at 17s.11d, a price exceeding the maximum retail price, at Midsummer Fair, Cambridge. A housewife said she paid 10s 11d for a pair of nylons and had been told they were not perfect – one being longer than the other. When she got home she found they were both laddered. She exchanged them for another pair, which cost an additional 7s and these also had ladders in them. The nylon quality was good but she did not like paying 17s.11d for them and she made a complaint to the Price Regulation Committee

1951 12 08
Reminiscences of the First World War when the Star Brewery, Cambridge, was manned almost entirely by women were shared by Major Freeman at the celebration of the firm's diamond jubilee anniversary. When he joined in 1903 there were 30 public houses on the Newmarket Road. It had come into being in 1891; in 1935 it became a subsidiary of the Tollemache Company and recently the firm of Messrs Whitmore, in St Andrew's Hill, had been acquired. The brewery had stabling for 25 horses up to 1935 when motor transport was first introduced. It had been a great success and was now considered to be the county's "star" brewery.

1952 01 30
Does the best food go to the colleges? Miss R.N. Small, the first woman Steward of Caius College, was asked. Most colleges like to trade with local shops and the quality had its ups and downs. The college could not afford to give poultry to undergraduates more than once a term. While Fellows could give dinner parties in their own rooms, undergraduates were only allowed the facility during May Week when she made an all-out effort to help the men who wish to impress other people. It was the custom these days for undergraduates to work off their hospitality by means of stand-up sherry parties.

1952 04 22
A local schoolgirl's experiences in London over Easter was related to Cambridge Juvenile Court magistrates. She said that she met an American who gave her £2 and her fare to London, saying he would meet her there. She stayed two nights with a woman who was known to be an "undesirable character" and two further nights in the company of another girl whom she met. She had posed as 17, frequented the amusement arcades and snack bars and associated with several "spivvy people". She was sent to a remand home until a place could be found at an approved school.

1952 04 28
It was a rather sad moment when Miss Gaskell got up to make her farewell speech as chairman at the annual meeting of the Cambridgeshire Federation of Women's Institutes. She has held office since it was first formed over 30 years ago, first as assistant secretary to Miss Ellen Briscoe, and became chairman in 1941. She also served on the National Executive for 14 years. Now having reached her three score years and ten she will be able to rest on her laurels in the satisfaction of a job well done.

1952 05 03
The Foreign Secretary, Mr Anthony Eden opened the Anglo-U.S.A. and Allied services Club on Castle Hill, Cambridge. A year ago the city council was approached by the Women's Voluntary Service with the object of providing the site for the club. Since then much work had been done by the W.V.S. together with valuable assistance of the U.S. Air Force and the Air Ministry. The club will be open every evening during the week and, Mr Eden said, will lure out American Service men from the attractions of their camps so they could learn "what extraordinary animals the English are"

1952 06 12
Cambridge University is considering the possibility of increasing the number of women permitted to the University in any one year. The Council of Senate recommends there should be a new autonomous foundation for women students, the number not exceeding 100. They consider there is a great need for women graduates but any increase should not lead to a lowering of standards.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Present regulations permit of 1,400 women, one-fifth of the total of men students. Cambridge is doing considerably less than other Universities in providing women with a University education.

1952 10 08
It has long been the ambition of Heyworths of Sidney Street, Cambridge, to be able to claim that they catered for their women customers from head to foot. But there was one thing missing. They did not stock shoes. This has now been rectified and a brand new women's shoe department was opened in the basement. Only "Lotus" and "Delta" shoes will be sold, including shoes for day (fashion and walking) and evening wear. The innovation is welcomed by customers and trade has been brisk.

1953 02 04
Varsity, the university student magazine, reports that the rooms in women's colleges may be poky, unsuitably furnished and dimly lighted but they are not dowdy. At Newnham all the rooms are attractive but dim lighting and inadequate heating are the main faults and there is a dearth of food cupboards. Male visitors may be shocked to see that their hostess keeps food and crockery in her wardrobe together with damp towels and that the desk drawers contain undies. At Girton some rooms contain antique furnishings which give an air of luxury but others are completely modern with unique mobiles and original paintings by Avante Garde artists.

1953 02 24
Almost 200 members of the Cambridge Branch British Legion Women's Section celebrated their jubilee at the Dorothy Café. Mrs A.A. Sampson, Chairman, expressed thanks to their officers and mentioned in particular the only two standard bearers the branch had had in its 25 years. Mrs Barnard, who had retired for health reasons in 1936, and her sister, Mrs Garner, who took over the duty at that time. After dinner the guests danced to the music of Wally Scott's Band and were entertained by a cabaret by members of Mrs Joan Metcalfe's School of Dancing

1953 09 23
Joshua Taylor staged a Fashion Parade, a popular event to which the womenfolk of Cambridge look forward with keen anticipation. One of the mannequins modelled clothes for the woman with the larger figure whilst another showed teenager styles from the "Young Cambridge" department. There was no sign of M. Dior's new shorter skirt – this will not reach the provinces until next Spring, so women need not rush to turn up the hems of the clothes they are wearing in order not to give away the fact that they are not new. Drain-pipe corduroy slacks in navy and red vertical stripes were worn with an off white wool and mohair jacket and there was a beautiful fur coat in Russian ermine, priced at only £1,195 – pity I hadn't got my cheque book with me!

1953 09 23
Cambridge Women's Physical Culture Club has now reached the mature age of 21 years during which hundred of women have benefited by the teachings of the Misses Marjorie and Mary Vinsen. In its early days the club received support of eminent local gynaecologists. Teenagers, young mothers, housewives, businesswomen and "young grandmothers" exercise at the Dorothy Café, building health and improving their figures.

1954 04 13
The inaugural meeting of the Cambridge Flower Decoration Club was held in the Guildhall with an audience of several hundred people – almost entirely of women. The Mayor said the city council was fully alive to the value of floral decorations. On one roundabout alone as many as 4,000 plants were used. There was criticism of the money spent on floral decorations but residents and visitors appreciated the added beauty they gave the city. The new Club could bring

Cambridge extra fame by becoming one of the centres of floral art. No fewer than 143 people have now joined.

1954 04 28
New Hall opens as third foundation for women [2.14,8.6]

1954 10 06
A new chapter in Cambridge University history has opened on an informal note at New Hall, the third foundation for women, where the first 16 students are now in residence. They drew lots for the rather Spartan bedrooms while a 'combination' room is being used for (voluntary) morning services – there is no chapel - and other activities. A rather gloomy downstairs study room is well-equipped with desks and chairs and nearby is an out-of-doors wringer of hefty make. "We can do our own washing and save on laundry bills", said Miss Angela Holder, a petite, attractive Freshman, giving the handle an experimental turn. Miss A.R. Murray, the tutor, says she welcomes the building – a converted guest house - as a temporary home but looks forward to moving to Byron House in 1960

1957 10 16
Is a university education wasted on a woman? Many people are convinced that for a girl to have a long and expensive education, only to get married at the end, is a waste of time and money. Now Cambridge graduate, Judith Hubback, has interviewed married university women for a book 'Wives who went to college'. It is impossible to forecast who will marry and who will not: if a woman never marries she will have to compete with men in her profession, but if she has a family she will need education of other skills. 57 10 16

1954 11 26
The women of Cambridge on the whole seem to prefer casual clothes although these can look smart, said the Vogue Pattern Stylist who is at Eaden Lilley's all this week helping people with their fashion problems. This is beneficial to the home dress-maker who saves a lot of expense by making her own clothes. If she is in need of any help or wants to know some trade hints she cannot ask a professional dress-maker but can ask her. Some cannot summon up enough courage but they need not be timid. She advises women to buy patterns one size smaller because they allow two inches on all their patterns. "It is not the amount of money you spend that makes you well dressed, but good taste and knowing how to wear your clothes", she said.

1955 04 13
Police Sergeant Harold Holden was on the Cambridge traffic patrol when it first started and was in charge until wireless was introduced into police vehicles. In 1946 he passed the 1st Class Police Driver's Test and has been instructing and examining police drivers. Now on his retirement he will run his own Driving School using a Ford Anglia with dual controls. His mother was one of the first women to hold a driving licence in 1908 and taught driving during the First World War. 55 04 13

1955 05 03
Cambridge University Officers Training Corps is to have a wing of the Women's Royal Army Corps with most of the recruits coming from Girton, Newnham and New Hall. All work would come after the prior claims of their courses and no decisive steps would be taken until after they have graduated. The main object would be to produce good officers but driving, vehicle maintenance, radio and photographic interpretation may also be available. However large the numbers it will have to face a considerable drain on the 'marriage market'. 55 05 03a

1955 11 02
Ida Maxwell, well-known for her stage, film and photographic work, is to open a Mannequin Academy at Overstream House, Cambridge. The course will last 12 weeks and include tuition in etiquette, make-up, hairstyles and general appearance. Students who pass an examination will receive a certificate to say they are a professional model which will help them find jobs in London. The course is also suitable for mature women wanting to acquire a well-groomed appearance for social or business reasons. 55 11 02b

1956 06 25
Cambridge Business and Profession Women's Club opened their block of flats on Harding Way and handed six lucky women their keys to brand new self-contained homes. They have coal bunkers and Ascot hot-water heaters for sinks and baths. Faced with the overwhelming need for accommodation for single ladies in Cambridge, when it proved impossible to find a house, they had the braveness and energy to find £1,000 to form their own housing society. 56 06 25

1956 08 16
The pink-overalled corps of women known as the 'Home Helps Service' are available to homes where there are expectant mothers, elderly people, those who are ill and small children in need of care. The 250 ladies cook, clean, shop, wash and iron, receiving 2s 10d an hour. One helper isn't exactly a housewifery expert but was always in some small trouble of her own. 'We like having her', the old people said, 'she brings us a bit of excitement!' 56 08 16

1956 09 14
One marriage in six breaks down and the emancipation of women has contributed to the rise in divorce figures, the director of the Cambridge Marriage Guidance Council said. During the last ten years they have helped 500 couples training for marriage and of these only 50 had their own homes. The rest were living with in-laws and in rooms. But wilful refusal to consummate a marriage, artificial insemination of the wife by an unknown donor without the husband's permission or if one partner is mentally defective should be grounds for divorce. 56 09 14a

1957 03 29
Nurse G.A. Dorrington of Coleridge Road is a midwife who has brought over 3,800 babies into the world. For 30 years she has been on call night and day, attending women in their own homes across Cambridge. Occasionally she visits a woman having a baby and finds she actually delivered the mother many years ago. Now she has been awarded the M.B.E. 57 03 29

1957 07 17
Cambridgeshire Women's Bowling Association was founded in 1937. Now their new flag in the County colours of light and dark blue and old gold was hoisted for the first time at a bowls drive at Brooklands Avenue to celebrate its 21st anniversary. 57 07 17

1957 08 21
University Aunts offer a wide range of services from their offices in Wheeler Street, including arranging accommodation, escorting foreign visitors, typing theses, personal shopping or finding people to look after babies. Students form a large part of their clientele seeking bachelor mending, quick laundry or girl partners for dances. The Head Aunts depend on a network of part-time helpers and need women with initiative to act as emergency housekeepers. 57 08 21

1957 10 04
A mannequin parade at the Dorothy Café ballroom attracted over 300 women. They were shown clothes stocked in the Cambridge Mayfair store modelled by seven girls. But they were not all the

slender, willowy types. Two larger models – one a 42 hip – wore some of the most attractive creations ranging from evening dresses to winter coats. 57 10 04

1957 10 16
Is a university education wasted on a woman? Many people are convinced that for a girl to have a long and expensive education, only to get married at the end, is a waste of time and money. Now Cambridge graduate, Judith Hubback, has interviewed married university women for a book 'Wives who went to college'. It is impossible to forecast who will marry and who will not: if a woman never marries she will have to compete with men in her profession, but if she has a family she will need education of other skills. 57 10 16

1957 12 18
Listeners to the BBC "Women's Hour" heard Doris Foster, of Occupation Road, talking about her job as radio receptionist at a Cambridge taxi firm. She handles hundreds of calls a day with fantastic speed and ease. Most drivers memorise landmarks such as pillar boxes but one knows practically every street, the position of each house and can go straight to any number in the pitch dark. 57 12 18a

1958 01 03
Cambridge artist Mrs Pamela Townshend had been commissioned to paint a portrait of Princess Margaret to commemorate her visit to open Langdon House. This young and vivacious woman has quickly become established as an artist and the Queen has bought one of her views of a French street scene. 58 01 03

1958 02 13
Miss Florence Ada Keynes, a former Mayor of Cambridge and a noted historian and social welfare worker, has died aged 97. She was one of the earliest students of Newham College and one of the first women members of the Borough Council and old Board of Guardians. She started the Cambridge Juvenile Employment Exchange – the first in the country - and was the first secretary of the Cambridge Charity Organisation Society. 58 02 13

1958 02 19
A new W.V.S. Out Patients' canteen opened at Addenbrooke's Hospital. It supplies light meals and refreshments to 2,000 people a week. The welcome food and hot drinks help reduce tension and enable patients to be ready to benefit from medical advice and treatment. The canteen was started in 1911 by members of the British Women's Temperance Association and Miss Olive Golding who began the work, still does three shifts a week. 58 02 19

1958 03 21
Neale House, the Cambridge base of the Society of St Margaret, was opened in December 1955. It is a small hostel for young professional or University women of any denomination and the chapel is open all day for private prayer. The Anglican sisterhood was founded by John Mason Neale of Trinity College, widely known for his English versions of Greek and Latin hymns. 58 03 21

1958 09 12
Attendance was very poor indeed at a meeting called to hear how women could take measures in their own households to protect families in the event of nuclear war. The WVS had invited 130 women, but only nine turned up. However the three speakers explained how to shelter from the atom bomb's heat flash and how the thick whitewashing of windows could stop penetration of radio-active dust. 58 09 12

1958 10 28
Cambridgeshire Women's Institutes fear the history of our villages will soon disappear in the welter of new housing estates. So they have organised a Village Histories Scrapbook competition to tell their stories from earliest times up to the present day. The histories have been compiled into books, many of them lettered and illustrated by hand. Cherry Hinton's scrapbook was awarded top prize, followed by Soham and Papworth Everard. A special award was given to the small isolated Institute of Chrishall which made an outstanding effort. 58 10 28a

1958 11 14
Mrs Veronica Volkertz and Mrs Anne Duncan, two women who spent the war years ferrying aircraft of all types, flying more than 4,000 hours between them are now back at Marshall's Flying School – learning to become instructors. Both learned to fly under the short-lived Civil Air Guard scheme in 1939 when one could qualify for an A Licence for about £2.10.0. Nowadays the equivalent Private Pilot's Licence costs pupils around £100! 58 11 14

1959 04 25
The Cambridgeshire Branch of the British Red Cross Society celebrated its Golden Jubilee. The first detachment (women) was formed in Cambridge in 1910 and followed by Bourn, Swavesey, Shelford & Willingham. The first men's detachment was formed at Melbourn in 1913. With the coming of the First World War valuable work was done at hospitals in Cintra Terrace and Wordsworth Grove which laid the foundation for their well-established reputation for invaluable service. 59 04 25c

1959 05 19
The inaugural meeting of the Cambridge Electrical Association for Women heard that when the Association started in 1924 electrical appliances were just beginning to find their way into the home. Housewives joined to get over the fear of electricity and to get the best value from their appliances. With machines men always want to know how they work and women are contented if they work but now they are giving a scholarship to a girl wanting to study engineering at Cambridge University. 59 05 19 & a

1959 06 06
The Cambridge Association for Social Welfare told how in 1854 a group of undergraduates opened a Mission in Church Street, later to be called Stanton House, where spiritual and material help was given to women and girls in serious moral trouble. Then in 1883 a group of University ladies formed the 'Cambridge Association for the Care of Girls' finding work for girls living under dangerous circumstances 59 06 06 c

1959 07 28
Work has begun on the new Addenbrooke's Hospital in Hills Road. The first stage will include a ward block of 100 beds and although the final size has not yet been decided it will be between 600 and 800 beds. "Our responsibilities are to the future and we shall be very much to blame if in 20 years' time we find ourselves looking for a bigger hospital", said the Chairman of the Governors' building committee. It will stand in a landscape planned by a woman architect, Mrs J.M. Hayward, in collaboration with the Director of the University Botanic Garden. 59 07 28

1959 09 11
Barbara Smith, woman butcher, Akeman Street – 59 09 11

1959 10 19

A 21-year-old blonde sat down with 200 students in the dining room of Christ's College – and went completely unnoticed. That was not surprising because she was dressed in a grey suit, bright yellow waistcoat and wore thick glasses and a black beard! Elizabeth Grant, a third year medical student had decided to avenge the fair sex for a hoax played on Girton students last week. College regulations allow students to bring in their (male) friends but women are banned. Everything went off beautifully. She kept her voice down during the meal and although second glances were cast by some, nobody said anything. 59 10 19d

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 02 12
Mrs J. Blackburn has been chosen to play at right inner for the East Anglian Women's Hockey Association team in their match against the Midlands, becoming the first Cambridgeshire-born player to represent the East since the 1920's. She is the daughter of Sir John Cockcroft the atom bomb scientist who is to be the first Master of Churchill College. 60 02 12

1960 04 01
George Pickering the King Street jeweller took up ear-piercing as a sideline eight years ago. Since then he has pierced the lobes of more than 7,000 pairs of ears – about 20 'patients' a week. Girls come in groups from Haverhill, Ely, Huntingdon and Northampton and often queue up to go behind the screens for the three-and-a-half minute procedure which will turn them into women capable of wearing ear-rings. Very few of them faint. He has also had a few boy customers who just want the left ear pierced. 60 04 01

1960 06 22
Mrs Louie Wallace of Maid's Causeway has been the ladies champion of Cambridgeshire Small-bore Rifle Association for ten out of the past eleven years. She is a member of the Gogs Rifle Club which was originally the 5th Battalion Home Guard Club. It is a good sport for women as it needs enormous concentration and self-discipline. Club and county badges are worn on the back of the shooting jackets so they can be seen while the competitor is actually firing. 60 06 22

1960 07 22
Every day an army of Cambridge women leave their homes early in the morning and begin their work as bed-makers at the colleges. One is Miss L. Hagger of Sturton Street who started work at Trinity in 1924 when the women had to be at the college gate at six o'clock. She clears the living room, washesup the dirty crockery and glasses, cleans the rugs, carpets and surrounds and dusts. Breakfast is then cooked for the Fellows and while the undergraduates have gone down to hall for their meal, their bedrooms are tidied and the beds made. At one time bed-makers used to wear cuffs when she made the bed and changed her clothes after cleaning. A hat was always worn. 60 07 22

1961 02 03
An advertisement in a student newspaper offering the job of guiding tourists round Cambridge for a payment of £8 a day has attracted a wide response. They would use their own cars to bring small parties of Americans from London and smart girls would take American women shopping. But Mrs Ruth Mellanby of the well-established Cambridge guide service views the idea with trepidation. Her guides are carefully trained and charge 10/6 (52p) an hour for a party of eight. 61 02 03

1961 02 20
A team from Pan American Airways visited Cambridge speaking to applicants from the girls' colleges to fill their quota for air stewardesses, one of the most glamorous carers in the 20th-century.. One said "We thought we might get a nice type of girl from the University – the sort who, once she has got her degree, would like to spend a year or 18 months flying with us. By the time they're 23 they want to marry; you can't blame them really". The firm were quite reconciled to it and it kept their service fresh and active. In spite of the attractive prospects there were very few applicants for interview from Girton or Newnham students 61 02 20

1960 03 21
Women undergraduates are rather spoiled, with ten men to each girl, and marry at a younger age so Newnham has problems finding College Fellows, the Principal complained. Sometimes girls staying in Cambridge after their marriage could continue their work but often it meant recruiting Dons from outside. This brought other problems as Newnham could not afford to pay a good income meaning many candidates were unable to take up the appointment 61 03 21

1961 05 04
Women undergraduates should stop trying to be competitive with the men and become complementary to them instead. There should be optional University classes in cookery, needlework and floral arrangements for the benefit of women, a Girton undergraduate writes in the 'Cambridge Review'. But two Newnham students are indignant that anyone should suppose they are not already proficient in domestic matters when they came up to Cambridge and deny women have no recreation other than working or taking tea 61 05 04

1961 09 08
Members of the Women's Royal Army Corps Territorial Association are examining aerial photographs at the new Air Photo Interpretation Centre at the Drill Hall in East Road. Until April they were a Motor Transport Company and when reorganised were divided into two sections with the other studying signals at Coldham's Lane. The women have to sign on for two years and receive full army pay with an annual bounty of ten guineas. Uniforms are given and they train each Monday evening. But it is difficult if there are small children for in wartime the T.A. are the first to be called up. 61 09 08b

1961 10 18
A 20-year old law student at New Hall was carried unconscious from the Cambridge Union Society debating chamber. She was one of three girls who fought their way in as a protest against 'a niggling absurd and out-of-date rule' which forbids women as debating members. As the guest speakers, Peter Thorneycroft, the Minister of Aviation and Labour MP Richard Crossman looked on, the debate was
adjourned. In the scuffles that followed the girl fainted. She was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital. The debate then continued. 61 10 18a

1962 03 02
Two women are virtually controlling the publication used by senior University members to express themselves on policies and topics for the first time in its long history. 'The Cambridge Review' is entirely edited by Dr Mary Hesse and Mrs Karen Needham. The Review has no official status but is mostly read and contributed to by senior academics. It recently celebrated its 2,000th edition. 62 03 02

1962 06 29

Violet Stormont combines the duties of housewife with her job a petrol attendant at a Cambridge garage, providing a cheerful on-the-spot service to passing motorists. Dark haired and smart in her official uniform she finds the work more interesting than her previous job as a children's nurse. She says that male motorists are invariably more polite and considerate that the average woman driver. 62 06 29

1962 11 21
Union Society women may now speak [26.8

1963 01 18
Miss Alice Haslop, 95, Trumpington's oldest parishioner; was born and lived all her life in the village where he father was bootmaker and carrier to Cambridge. She was a laundress of no mean repute and a good plain needlewoman, particularly in making pillow-slips. She insisted on doing her own housework as long as she could and possessed a sense of humour. As a child the nearest doctor was near Woollards Lane, Shelford, and medicine had to be fetched, walking to the surgery before breakfast. "I liked going", she said with an impish gleam in her eye, "because then I was late for school". Her death closes a chapter in the village's history. 63 01 18c

1963 09 11
Cambridge girls seem to have a reluctance to wear eye make-up says a beauty consultant working at a local store. Women do not look after their skins properly, cleansing the face carefully each night to take away all trace of the day's make up. The cosmetics she was promoting are the most expensive in the world but are extremely economical in use. Some of the colours are intriguing. Gossamer green neutralises ruddy or florid complexions, a soft mauve lightens sallow skins white a whit blots out shadowed, darkened and lined areas and will highlight cheekbones, shorten or lengthen a nose and make small eyes seem larger. 63 09 11c

1963 11 05
History was made when Janet Hogg, a 321-year-old New Hall undergraduate, became the first woman member of the University Union Society since its formation in 1815. Two Girton women became the first to take part in a debate on the motion "Till death do us part is ridiculous". The motion was rejected. To return home to a wife and family after a day of fighting for his existence was one of the most pleasant and happy things that could happen to a man. 63 11 05, 13a

1964 06 26
A group of women meet twice a week in a corner of Cambridge police station. Some are typists, some work in laboratories and banks, but the majority are ordinary housewives. They are all rifle shooting enthusiasts who practice on the police range. They change into slacks and firing jackets, then erect target cards and collect ammunition. Their ambition is to be selected for the county women's smallbore team. Husbands and boy friends used to be rather patronising when they took up shooting as a hobby. That is until they were invited to the range one evening and given the opportunity to shoot. 64 06 26c

1965 02 13
Strict male-female segregation rule scrapped by Queens College which makes way for new foundation taking both sexes [15.9]

1965 06 08
New Hall new college buildings opened Queen Mother [8.8]

1965 10 11

Lucy Cavendish college, Britain's 1st graduate college for women to be all-woman college helping those whose careers interrupted : one of a number of 'recognised collegiate societies' rising in Cambridge to meet need of the growing numbers of University officers and active senior members without fellowship and the increasing number of research students, are experimental & University reserves right to withdraw recognition of any that fails; others are Darwin college for men founded by Trinity, St John-s & Caius & University College founded by the University for men & women[1.16,7.19.14]

1966 04 22
Cambridge Conservative Club admit women members – 66 04 22b

1966 05 09
Women workers at gas works – memories & photo – 66 05 09

1966 11 04
Bene't Hostel, Cambridge's only hostel for girls closes; has been on verge of bankruptcy for much of its 23 year history; gave shelter to women stranded in city; was used by women teachers and social workers as well as girls sent by welfare organisations; now accommodation easier to rent – 66 11 04

1967 06 01
Union Society first woman president Anne Mallelieu [26.10]

1969
Churchill announce plans to admit women in 1972 - first co-ed move in Cambridge undergraduate college in 700 years [5.9]

1969 01 03
Girton College celebrate centenary [6.7]

1969 02 08
Prince Charles crowns Rag Queen- 69 02 08b, 69 02 15a

1969 05 28
King's College to become second to admit women – 69 05 28

1969 09 23
Alison Quiggin memories of Women Citizen's Association and women's activities – 69 09 23

1970

1971 03 02
'Women are People' group protest about restrictions on taking pushchairs into colleges – 71 03 02

1971 12 17
Clare College to offer places to 36 girl undergraduates – 71 12 17

1972
Clare, Kings & Churchill become mixed [5.9]

1972 04 15
Women's Lib is fighting a losing battle. Though they are trumpeting the call for greater freedom for women, modern pressures are making it more difficult for women to break free from domestic chores. So said Dr Edward Leach, social anthropologist at King's College, Cambridge. With more use of contraceptives families could be created at will. This meant the old way of having large families spread over the years with older daughters helping at home with the babies was disappearing. "Daughters are now more in the nature of parasites. They cannot really help at home. Again, the modern woman is more tied to the home" said Dr Leach

1972 04 17
In due course all Cambridge colleges will be co-residential, according to a senior University tutor. So far Churchill, Kings and Clare have agreed to open their doors to women but there was little likelihood of any more colleges following suit at present. A student from St Catharine's college said "They would never think of it at my college. The reason is basically because we have a large proportion of the public school type on the governing body and they feel their role is to promote the college in the public school image"

1972 10 04
Since 1892 the University Typewriting Office has provided the link between thousands of Cambridge
graduates and their doctorate degrees. In the 80 years hundreds of Cambridge women have typed out millions of words on every discipline in the alphabet. Now, for the first time, the business has a man at its helm. Founded by a Mrs Marion Marshall, guided for 50 year by a Miss Minnie Pate, then by Miss Marjorie Sutherland and finally by Miss Mary Noble, the business was sold in May this year to Mr Walter Falles, a chartered secretary.

1972 10 05
The bulldozers and demolition gangs may have ruined the character of Petty Cury and destroyed Falcon Yard forever, but for those who appreciate the past two crumbs of comfort : Fisher House was saved. Reprieve too for Ramsey and Muspratt, the photographers in Post Office Terrace, where silver bitch trees have sprouted in the old courtyard behind the studio. There have been photographers in Post Office Terrace since the 1860s. Lettice Ramsey and Helen Muspratt took over from Palmer Clark in 1933. "We took over the whole thing, lock, stock and barrel, with about 50,000 old negatives. We have been here ever since", said Mrs Ramsey, competing with the noise of a pneumatic drill. Now she and her women assistants battle through the noise and dust every day to maintain a "business as normal" service

1972 11 04
Britain's top female liberationist, Miss Germaine Greer, told Cambridge undergraduates of the sexual tensions she had become aware of in the university while studying at Newnham College five years ago. She said: "Most people feel that this university enshrines the most incapacitating mistakes about the relationship between men and women. Why was it when it came to May Balls male undergraduates always invite girls from the language schools, or their cousins from London?. The thing that amazes me is that the girls do not break into the May Balls by inviting all kinds of truck drivers as their escort. I went to most of the balls over the fence and what I cannot understand is why girls have baulked at this male confidence trick"

1973 03 03
The Master of St Catharine's College, Professor Edwin Rich, was involved in a scuffle with women's lib demonstrators last night when 30 of them interrupted the Cambridge College's dinner. College Fellows left the high table and with waiters rushed to the 69-year-old Master's

assistance when women demonstrators began struggling with him after he had grabbed a bugle which one woman attempted to blow in his face. The demonstration was aimed at drawing attention to the lack of places for women in Cambridge University. The trouble started immediately after grace had been said and halted waiters in their tracks leaving them poised with trays of grapefruit. The demonstrators - all women - swept into the hall led by a bugler and carrying an assortment of placards on the theme "Sexism - out"

1973 05 12
A woman doctor spoke last night about sexpot girls from Cambridge schools who wander around trying to be sexual objects. Dr Shirley Emerson, a family planning advisor, said "I have met girls who have never learned anything about sex except that sex is the thing to do but that you have to be successful at it. Boys and girls are trying to do sex at "O" levels, I have 17-year-olds coming to me complaining that they are frigid"

1973 05 23
After 700 years of male domination the first woman to be chosen as Vice Chancellor - the effective head of Cambridge University - does not anticipate any particular problems in dealing with her male colleagues. Miss Rosemary Murray, who is president of New Hall, was nominated by the Council of Senate. She will take up her post in two years if the nomination is accepted by the university, usually a formality. She is due to take charge at a difficult time in the university's history, when students are demanding more and more say in the running of its affairs

1973 08 11
Three young women in distress have put Cambridge public health inspectors in a tight spot. They are victims of a mystery wind-borne attacker that makes holes in their tights - but only on Monday mornings when the trio are walking to work. "Little holes suddenly start appearing in our tights", said 20-year-old Sally Chapman. “There are small black holes like burns around the holes. Jo gets holes round her ankles. I get them round the knees and down. All sorts of places.” The public health department has twice taken pairs of tights away for examination.

1973 11 22
1200 march try admit more women & abandon single-sex colleges - oppose attempts to get special Oxbridge legislation in Equal opportunities Bill [24.6]

1973 12 18
Thousands of women planning to look just a bit prettier this Christmas with a holiday hairdo will be disappointed. For leading Cambridge hairdressers have announced they have been forced to cut their bookings by almost half because of Government measurers that say only five out of the next ten days can be worked. Joshua Taylor’s hairdressing department “Raymond” said, “We can do simple appointments which won’t involve the use of electricity but I estimate we will have to turn about 1,000 people away”

1974 12 16
Trinity Hall to admit women [10.6]

1975
Dame Rosemary Murray first women Vice Chancellor [5.10]

1975 05 08
It seems to take a certain sort of woman to cope successfully with the life of being the wife of a professional football player or manager. The wife of Cambridge United’s new and highly

successful manager fulfils the role perfectly. Ron Atkinson's life is football. Apart from cutting the grass once a week and taking his car to the car wash he leaves to his wife all the responsibility for the day-to-day running of the home and garden. From the time she takes Ron's breakfast up to him in bed with the papers – he reads them all avidly – life in their home revolves around the one subject. When Ron does have a spare moment he reads football books and magazines.

1975 05 16
Fourteen Cambridge student bodyguards were out in the city last night looking after single girls who fear the rapist may strike again. The Eden Street based Townswomen's Liberation Group has arranged for a self-defence demonstration. It will be for the benefit of anyone fearing assault. The Cambridge Evening News has offered a reward of £1,000 for information leading to the rapist's arrest and conviction.

1975 05 24
For the first time since it was produced almost 20 years ago a prize-winning history of Cherry Hinton is to be available for reference at libraries. The contents were compiled by the Women's Institute in 1958. But the book, hand-written and with water-colour sketches, was too fragile to be easily available. But now staff from the Cambridgeshire Collection have made three complete copies of the book. One will be at Cherry Hinton library.

1975 05 28
Cambridge's largest all-male college, Trinity is to admit women. Graduate women students will be admitted from October 1976 and undergraduate women from October 1978. The college decision puts Trinity fourth in line amongst previous all-male colleges who are now planning to open their door both to women dons and students. In 1976 Sidney Sussex and Selwyn colleges will become coeducational, followed in 1977 by Trinity Hall

1975 10 20
A hunt begins to find former women dentists living in the area. If they can be persuaded to come back into the profession they may save dental services form imminent collapse. Health chiefs fear that unless the women are found quickly, an already serious shortage of dentists could become critical

1975 11 15
Male chauvinist drivers in Cambridgeshire beware – for the police driver who pulls you in could well turn out to be a woman. Cambridgeshire Traffic Division has just successfully trained its first three female drivers. WPCs Jill Melville, Susan Ashwell and Penny Bailey have sailed through the very stringent advanced police test and will be working with senior traffic patrols. They are the first in the country to become traffic drivers in a totally integrated force. They can handle £5,000-worth of police Range Rover as professionally as any man.

1975 11 20
The number of women seeking Cambridge University places has remained virtually unchanged despite the opening of three previously all-male colleges to girl applicants. At present, with three women's and three mixed colleges about 500 women a year are being admitted. By 1978 four more colleges will have become mixed, bringing the expected number to 650 women. Miss Sheila Edmonds, Vice-Principal of Newnham College said while some well-qualified candidates still do not secure a Cambridge place, this would not be true if the total admission were 650, instead of 500.

1976 04 24

A Cambridge researcher has collaborated in helping a 35-year-old woman become pregnant by using the test-tube baby technique. Dr Bob Edwards, from Cambridge University Physiology Department, has been working on the technique for ten years in collaboration with Mr Patrick Steptoe of Oldham and District General Hospital. The success is the first documented case using the method, but the pregnancy developed in the tube connecting an ovary to the womb and the foetus died.

1976 05 30
Selwyn start to take women [9.9]

1976 11 10
A proposal to set up nursery and crèche facilities within Cambridge University for the children of its staff and students was "wholly impracticable", dons were told. Parents ought to bear the responsibility for their children, "it was not something for the university or colleges to shoulder". But trades union officials said that Pye's had already provided nursery facilities for their staff. It would provide refreshment and revitalisation & allow women freed from family ties to become workers, students and academics.

1976 12 07
The curator of the Cambridge Folk Museum, Miss Enid Porter, is retiring this week because of ill-health, after running it single-handed for about 29 years. At the moment she is in hospital and the museum is closed. Since she took charge of the museum in 1947 its popularity and size have grown considerably. It was started following an exhibition of folk items by the Women's Institute in 1936. Cambridge Rotarians launched an appeal for a folk museum and eventually the present premises in Castle Street were acquired. Miss Porter has been a prolific author, writing books on Cambridgeshire folklore and customs and contributing articles to regional magazines.

1977 04 06
Mill Road Maternity Hospital in Cambridge, a former workhouse, was slammed for its cramped and appalling conditions. A report highlights overcrowding, complete lack of privacy for patients, appalling residences for nurses & pregnant women having to sit clad only in a dressing gown in draughty corridors waiting for attention. It is virtually impossible to expand the hospital, access is difficult and car parking impossible. This is a disgraceful state of affairs for a maternity hospital doing the standard of work that Cambridge does. It should be replaced by a 100-bed obstetrics hospital on the New Addenbrooke's site as soon as finance is available

1977 07 11
A woman celebrated 50 years as a typist with the University Typewriting Office Ltd in Cambridge. Miss Dulcie Smith from Histon joined the firm when staff were enjoying new found freedom. "We were never allowed to come to the office unless we were properly dressed with hats and gloves and just before that the staff were never allowed to go into colleges unless they were chaperoned", she said. She has typed thousands of letters, accounts, theses and reports for dons and students and had to master the art of typing in a number of languages without having any knowledge of them.

1977 11 12
A Cambridge genetics student has been refused a place in the university's late-night firewatch patrols, because she is a woman. But after she threatened to take the university before an industrial tribunal unless she is allowed to apply for the £16-a-night job an official said the policy was being reconsidered, adding: "At the time we started these patrols we did not think it would be right to subject young ladies to walking around all night". The patrol involves walking around

different university sites and anybody who was worried by the prospect would not apply in the first place

1978
Girton College admits men

1978 01 24
Members of the National Women's Aid Foundation have worked long and hard to establish a refuge for battered women in Cambridge. After they were given the use of an old three-storey house which had been used for emergency accommodation came the physical hard work of cleaning, stripping, decorating and plumbing. The task is not yet complete; work is still going on to provide a sitting room for the women, most of who arrive with only clothes for themselves and their children. Once they are in the refuge they run the house themselves as a group and make rules about such things as children's bedtimes and bathtimes. It is a temporary resting place until they get some permanent accommodation of their own

1978 03 07
Princess Anne was mobbed by student demonstrators when she arrived at the Cambridge Union Society Rag charity debate. She was held up outside the door by demonstrators sitting in her path and screaming abuse. They were protesting that the motion "The woman's place is in the harem" was sexist" and none of the abuse was directed personally against the princess. Nearly 150 demonstrators representing a variety of student groups including Gay Cambridge, Anarchists and Men Against
Sexism picketed all entrances to the building. Other guests ran the gauntlet, Derek Nimmo was spat on and Robert Morley was catcalled and buffeted.

1979
Dr Marie Axtom first woman Proctor [5.11];

1979
Six more colleges take women [16.7]

1979 05 19
Forty per cent of Cambridge students are potential psychiatric cases, according to a report published by the Students' Union. There are a large number of reasons but whether Cambridge attracts people with a predisposition to mental illness or creates that illness once they arrive, the university has a responsibility to its students. The women in men's colleges are far more stressed than their counterparts in single-sex colleges and the male students about to be introduced into Girton, the oldest women's college, could end up suffering a corresponding weight of stress. The report is bound to spark off controversy among dons.

1980

1980 07 25 Arthur Prior joined the staff of Trinity in 1935 as the youngest porter ever employed by a Cambridge college for the princely wage of £2.15s. a week in the days when porters expected tips for their services; today he retires after being Head Porter for 14 years having served five different Masters. He is philosophical about major changes such as the admission of women. "These youngsters think they invented sex, but we had women here when I first came. They used to stay all night even then, and we knew all about it", he said. 80 07 25

1980 11 08

An exclusive university dining club may open its doors to the public. The Pitt Club is a miniature men-only London club where prospective members are vetted carefully and anyone without a public school education is likely to be black-balled. It also houses the Hawks Club for university sporting Blues. But it is no longer making money and is looking for tenants to share the former Turkish bath house in Jesus Lane. Strudels, one of the restaurants in the Kite facing eviction, is amongst a number to express an interest. 80 11 08

1981 01 28
A Cambridge student has set up a computer dating service for lonely hearts in the university. For just 50p the unattached undergraduate is promised an introduction to the partner of his dreams. Confidential questionnaires drawn up by a student of experimental psychology were sent out and the results loaded on a computer. It matches them up to produce ideal partners and bliss ensures. It is hoped the first couples will be paired off by St Valentine's Day 81 01 28

1981 03 12
The first refuge for battered women opened in Cambridge three years ago; about 285 women and 450 children have been through its doors. At one stage 10 women and 20 children were sharing the threestorey five-bedroomed house. It can take six months before alternative accommodation can be found and some women, depressed by the long wait are driven into returning home. Now a second refuge has been provided to relieve some of the pressure. 81 03 12a

1981 09 28
Miss Annie Carnegie-Brown has died at the age of 90. She was Cambridge's first policewoman in 1923 at a salary of £3 a week. Slightly built, she was stabbed with a carving knife while arresting a well-built Ely woman. A doctor clipped her wound and she returned to duty next day. During the war, as a fluent German speaker, she was involved in the interrogation of spies and retired as a sergeant in 1947. Until the end she was a clear-thinking determined old lady who enjoyed fishing but never talked about the past 81 09 28

1981 09 29
Dame Rosemary Murray, retiring President of New Hall and the first Woman Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, has often been mistaken for the college gardener. As handyman, tutor and administrator she has been responsible for shaping the character of the college almost singlehandedly. It opened in 1954 with 16 women undergraduates and has now built up to 300 students. But though none of the undergraduates can be men, some of their teaching Fellows are: the Sex Discrimination Act works against them 81 09 29a

1981 10 26
Corpus admit women [6.2]

1982 01 07
A rape crisis centre is to open in Cambridge following the initiative of a group of women, mostly university students. They will provide sympathy but also give information on where to get VD and pregnancy tests and accompany victims to the police station. Most of the cash to set up the telephone advice line has come from the university. There has been no hostile reaction, but they have been surprised that many of the women who phone up were raped years ago. 82 01 07b

1982 05 25
Jane Barrett, the joint managing director of the Cambridge china and glass specialists, has become the first woman in the world to have a Royal Doulton crinoline lady named after her. 'Jane', a portrait of an Edwardian lady holding a parasol, has been created exclusively to

celebrate Barretts bi-centenary this year and will only be sold at their shop in St Mary's Passage. 82 05 25 & a

1982 06 11
Pembroke College has bowed to the trend and decided to admit women students for the first time in its 635-year history. But the first arrivals are not expected until October 1984. Now only two colleges will be left as male-only preserves. Peterhouse has voted not to admit women in the foreseeable future and Magdalene has not even debated the issue. The Leys School is also to open its doors to girls with 50 admitted into the sixth-form in 1982. 82 06 11

1982 09 24
St John's to take women from October [9.7]

1983 01 19
A former baby wear factory tucked out of sight behind the Great Northern Hotel is to be the home of an ambitious new project to help women break into the new technology jobs market. The Cambridge Women's Resources Centre will start computer courses taught by women with crèche and child-care facilities. Eventually they want to offer lessons n carpentry, trade unions and the law. 83 01 19

1983 01 27
Lady Nicol of Newnham, the former Cambridge councillor, took her seat in the House of Lords. Lady Nicol, who was the first woman president of the Cambridge Co-op, was sponsored by Lady David, a former Labour Cambridgeshire County Councillor. She does not know when she will make her maiden speech but it will probably be on the environment in which she has a special interest. 83 01 27

1983 03 15
Peterhouse, the oldest of Cambridge's 25 colleges, is to open its doors to women undergraduates from October 1985. The college, which is renowned for its traditionalism, had always opposed the admission of women until last year, when a surprise bid to reverse its policy was only narrowly defeated at a governing body meeting. Now only one Cambridge College – Magdalene – is remaining men-only. 83 03 15 p6

1984 01 19
Enid Porter ran the Cambridge Folk Museum single-handed from 1947 for 30 years and the impressive collection now it now houses museum was largely as a result of her endeavour. She took the entrance money, arranged exhibitions and cleaned the museum. In 1968 she had not had a pay rise for 15 years; her wages were £8 a week at a time when comparable jobs were paying £1,500 a year. Richard Wilson, the current curator said "She was a marvellous lively woman who gave her life to the museum". 84 01 19 p6

1984 10 01
Ninety years ago a shrewd and enterprising woman was born, Mrs Catherine Holland. Her first husband died young and she needed to make a living by supplying yeast which was much in demand among the many local bakers. Although vital it was only used in minute amounts so Mr Holland was able to cycle around making his deliveries. The yeast was supplied in huge sacks and the secret was to keep it fresh by selling it in small amounts at regular intervals. For a long time the business was continued in the family home in Sedgwick Street but during the First World War they got the sole agency for a major brand and moved to Mill Road. After that the business prospered. 84 10 01 p15

1985 08 03
One hundred years ago 14 women students enrolled in a new pioneering college set up in two houses in Merton Street, Newnham. Its aim was to train women to teach in secondary schools. Over the century that college has changed character and direction several times and under its present name of Hughes Hall it has just been awarded Approved Foundation status within Cambridge University. Despite the financial problems of the present day it is planning new buildings at its site in Wollaston Road. 85 08 03a

1985 11 19
Hundreds of Muslims in Cambridge regularly make their way to the mosque, tucked discreetly away near bustling Mill Road. Leading the gathering was the Imam, an Egyptian PhD student in chemistry at Cambridge University. He spoke in Arabic and English, stressing the importance of unity among Muslims. Many of the congregation were of Middle-Eastern origin but there were also several Orientals and English people. They were predominately in the 25 to 40 age range and listened intently. Upstairs a woman followed the service alone, out of sight. After 40 minutes the meeting ended, as it had begun, with a reading from the Koran. 85 11 29b

1986 10 10
Magdalene, the one college in the Oxbridge system where a chap could count on being in the exclusive company of other chaps, is set to go co-educational. The governing body has voted to overturn 444 years of historical precedent and amend the statutes. The news was greeted with glum resignation by some of the present undergraduates. That other bastion of entrenched traditionalism, Peterhouse, finally said yes to women students last year, a trend that started in 1972 when Churchill, Clare and King's went mixed. 86 10 10 [8.5]

1987 02 13
Tributes to Conservative County Council leader Mrs Emily Blatch have been flowing in following the news that she is to become a baroness. Social Security Minister, Mr John Major, said "She was an outstanding leader and will make a very substantial contribution to the work of Parliament" while Sir Anthony Grant MP thinks it's very good news. Mrs Blatch is the fifth woman in Cambridgeshire to be made a baroness. Among her colleagues in the Lords will be Baroness Nicol of Newnham 87 02 13

1988 03 15
Three Japanese women are visiting Cambridge to collect wartime memories of families in Britain, West Germany and Japan who took in evacuee children. 88 03 15b

1988 04 14
For half a century Roger Asbury has coaxed women's hair into place while listening to their confidences and problems. There has been an Asbury cutting hair in Cambridge since his father, Wilfred, took over a business called Alma Mater in Trinity Street in 1919. Perms were very different when Roger started in hairdressing at 17. In his Cherry Hinton Road salon he keeps the old perming equipment from the days when women would site with their hair in curlers strung up to an electrical machine. In those days they expected perms to last six months. 88 04 14a

1988 05 20
Magdalene is the only college in Cambridge to host candle-lit dinners in the grand hall every night of the week. But other traditional values are changing. The decision to admit women dons and undergraduates has prompted refurbishment of the college's Spartan amenities, bringing in

floral curtains and pastel pink wallpaper to the rooms of even the hardiest rugby players. Today much of the opposition to the decision has subsided, although the 'Black October' dining society still celebrates the masculine virtues of single-sex colleges. Whether the college's character can survive this quantum leap into the present remains to be seen 88 05 20b

1988 05 20
The trend towards admitting female undergraduates began in 1972 when Churchill, Clare and King's Colleges went mixed. Two of the first girls were from Cambridge schools. By June 1982 when Pembroke 'fell' there were only two colleges left as all-male preserves, then Peterhouse reluctantly bowed to pressure. But when Magdalene's governing body overturned 444 years of historical precedent by voting to let in women an indignant porter flew a black flag at half-mast and
undergraduates sported black armbands. Three of the original four women's colleges are still single sex, though Girton admitted men in 1977. 88 05 20c

1988 07 13
The Women's Royal Voluntary Service delivered a staggering 413,226 meals in Cambridgeshire last year and their Books on Wheels made 289 visits to the housebound. A further 1,856 people were helped with clothing, 160 children were given a week's summer holiday and 15 people received the service of a chiropodist. There is much more: they man mobile canteens, set up rest centres and provide blankets and clothing for victims of emergency. Organiser Muriel Humphrey says "It's a rich and rewarding job and you meet such lovely people" 88 07 13b

1988 10 12
Thirty-six women undergraduates arrived at Magdalene College amid a blaze of publicity breaking 444 years of history as a male-only college, the last in Cambridge. They had been warned about the dreaded Black October dining society whose members donned funereal armbands when it was announced that the college was to 'fall', and expected a lukewarm welcome. Surprisingly the reverse is true. One said "I think some of the men were frightened that the girls were going to be extremely militant or feminist. But they seem quite pleased and say it is a lot more social" 88 10 12

1989 04 14
Lady Alice Bragg, Cambridge's first woman mayor from 1945-46, read history at Newnham College between 1918 and 1921. In the year she finished she married Sir Laurence Bragg who was already a renowned scientist, having won the Nobel Prize for physics six years previously, aged 25. She served as an independent councillor, magistrate and chairman of the National Marriage Guidance Council in recognition of which she was made a CBE 89 04 14

1990 06 06
Addenbrooke's Hospital transplant thigh bone of teenage girl into 73-year-old woman; first in country – 90 06 06

1990 10 19
Cambridge Escort Agency – profile – 90 10 19d

A Holiday for Old Folk, 1954 – 110.86

c.31.4 : Old People

1897 06 24
One of the most interesting events of the Jubilee week was the dinner to 1,000 aged people of Cambridge which took place on Parker's Piece. From 10 a.m. an army of helpers 400 strong, all as busy as bees, were engaged in preparing the tents, two in number, for the expected guests. The old people began to arrive very early, with beaming faces and expectant eyes. "It's not the dinner so much", said an old lady of some 75 summers, "it's taking part in the Jubilee dinner and meeting with all the others". Gowns of antique stuff, redolent of sweet lavender, that had lain by for years protected against the ravages of moth, were brought out in honour of the occasion. One old gentleman had hunted up a pair of white jean trousers that he went courting in 50 years ago.

1908 02 22
Cambridge Guardians discussed the case of an old soldier who had served in the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny for whom they pad 2s 6d a week for a nurse. The old man had saved £20 out of his pension to pay for his funeral expenses, so that he should not be buried in a pauper's grave. But this had been seized by the relieving officer. They did not want the old man to have the money back so that his children should have the pleasure of spending it for their own comfort and then send him to the Union 08 02 22a

1908 07 31
The Old Age Pensions Bill promises relief to many old people. But those who anticipate that old age pensions will mean a great saving to the poor rate are making a big mistake. It is more than ever necessary that every possible encouragement should be given to the teaching of thrift at school, it is quite as important as gardening, amateur carpentering and things of that kind. Friendly Societies should see there are qualified teachers. CWN 08 07 31

1908 09 25

A new economic era in the life of England has begun with the introduction of old age pensions. Every man or woman of 70 who has less than twelve shillings a week is entitled to walk into a post office and fill up a form to claim a supplementary income from public funds. In Cambridgeshire there are about 1,500 who are eligible and in Cambridge about 1,300. There are those who forecast an age of thriftlessness, improvidence and national bankruptcy. But we do not think there is any need to be alarmed. CWN 08 09 25 p5

1908 09 26
500 aged poor can apply for Old Age Pensions - "5/- (25p) a week for nothing"; have problems proving age [2.21]

1909 01 01
The Old Age Pensions Act comes into force and the post office is busy making the first payments to some half-million old people. In this part of the country many old folk are incredulous about the act, which they believe is too good to be true. But some pensioners in the East End of London have been borrowing money against their pension order. But if a moneylender has taken a pensioner's book as a security for debt, the book can be recovered. CWN 09 01 01

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Now the Old Age Pensions Act has come into force the post office is busy making the first payments to some half-million old people. In this part of the country many old folk are incredulous about the act, which they believe is too good to be true. But some pensioners in the East End of London have been borrowing money against their pension order. But if a moneylender has taken a pensioner's book as a security for debt, the book can be recovered. CWN 09 01 01

1909 01 08
Cambridgeshire took the advent of Old Age Pensions with very little fuss. For the first time in history veterans of toil claimed from the country the wherewithal to end their days in comparative comfort, free form the haunting dread of having to enter the 'House'. The pension varies from one to five shillings a week through the issue of what is known as the poor man's cheque book which is presented at the post office 09 01 08

1910

1911 01 06
Legislative changes have removed the pauper disqualification in connection with the Old Age Pensions Act. At Cambridge workhouse 22 men and 16 women were eligible for the pension but only three have declared their intention of leaving the House. All three are men between 70 and 75 years of age who are going to live with relatives. At Chesterton Workhouse 48 inmates are entitled to the pension but again only three are leaving, one being over 80. Another old man has not yet made up his mind. Perhaps the coming of more genial weather will bring him to a decision to accept his pension and forsake the shelter of the House. 11 01 06f

1913 04 25
Mrs Emma Hosegood was Matron of workhouse, for 36 years. As Miss Porter she started as schoolmistress at Caxton workhouse before moving to Cambridge where Luke Hosegood was schoolmaster. They married and were offered the posts of Master and Matron at Mill Road. All her life was devoted to her work, striving to improve and maintain the high standard of efficiency she set up. 13 04 25 p10 CIP

1913 10 03
Luke Hosegood was at Cambridge workhouse for 42 years, most as manager. When appointed the Union ad not been attended to and he set to work most energetically to get it into perfect condition, making it home-like. There were many poor old people and it was the Guardians' wish that they should be treated with the greatest kindness and their somewhat grey lives made brighter. The Master was a disciplinarian and quelled the most turbulent inmate without undue severity. When his wife, the Matron, died, he resigned, even though not at a pensionable age. They hoped he would find something to supplement his pension. 13 10 03 p6 & 9 CIP

1913 11 21
Cottages were recently erected under the Housing of Working Classes Act in Stanley Road. One block of 12 tenements for old people consists of a living room with bed recess, scullery, larder and w.c.. Costs were higher than expected due to problems with the foundations meaning rents had to be higher. No ordinary person would have built such horrible houses. But they had been erected as an experiment to see what was needed and been successful, councillors heard. 13 11 21 p7 CIP

1914 07 17
The parishes of St Philip and St Barnabas have been enriched by the gift of six new almshouses which Mrs Waters has recently endowed and built on her land in Seymour Street, Vinery Road. They are intended for old age pensions of 70 upwards; three will be occupied by old ladies from each parish. They are of good quality red brick with a living room, bedroom and scullery fitted with a sink. The coal hole and lavatory adjoin the scullery. Mrs Waters selected the first tenants.14 07 17 p5

1916 02 16
Soldiers in the Workhouse. A report by Cambridge Board of Guardians states that three soldiers recently discharged, from the Army had been admitted to the casual ward within the previous fortnight. It is a lamentable thing that the Workhouse should become the abode of so many old soldiers towards the close of their lives. We shall be ingrates indeed if we let the men who have engaged in this great war for world liberty end their days as paupers, if any effort of the community can save them from that fate

1917 01 03
Inquest into elderly woman of Shelly Terrace, died in deplorable state of neglect – 17 01 03b

1920

1926 10 27
An important new block is about to be opened as an extension of the Cambridge Poor Law Institution. The Mill Road workhouse received its first inmates in September 1838; just before Christmas married couples and the aged women arrived, and the sick and infirm were brought 'in fives' from the Poor-house of St Sepulchre and St Mary-the-Less. As tea was then 3s.3d. a lb 'small beer' was allowed in its place and sometimes given in excess so the quantity was limited to one quart daily per inmate. It has served with certain alterations and additions for three generations but now is inadequate for present requirements. The new block contains sick wards, maternity wards and nurseries. It will prove very useful and be a credit to the town 26 10 27

1927 03 10
An inquest was told how an 82 years old lady, who had fallen, was moved about from one institution to another until she had, against her relative's inclination, to find a last refuge in the

Cambridge Workhouse Infirmary. Addenbrooke's Hospital had said she was noisy and disturbing the rest of the ward and could not be detained. She was sent to the Infirmary from which she was removed to the Devonshire Nursing Home by her relatives. But they said that whenever she moved she cried out very loudly on account of the pain and was too noisy to keep. So she was returned to the Infirmary where they diagnosed a broken rib. 27 03 10

1927 09 01
The foundation stone of two new cottages were laid at the Cambridge Victoria Friendly Society's Institution in Victoria Road, Cambridge when. One is to house the nurse-matron and the other will be for an extra inmate. They have been made possibly by the generosity of the late Miss Emily Flack. They will be one-storey buildings containing a living room, a bedroom and a scullery. The nurse's cottage will have a bathroom in addition. It was only right that old people who had worked all their life and exercised thrift by belonging to a Friendly Society should in their old age find a haven of rest, said the President, Dr E.H. Parker.

1929 01 18
Cambridge Councillors considered erecting 50 houses of a type within the pecuniary means of the people who would have to be moved from insanitary houses. In some places eight people were living in a single room under exceptional circumstances of poverty. But a man might say 'I am paying 3s. 6d. a week for two rooms and I cannot afford any more'. So what type of house was going to be built? In some of the houses there were elderly people and moving them perhaps two miles would be quite out of the question.

1930

1933 11 28
Cambridge Victoria Friendly Society's Institution opened its new pavilion with a verandah from which residents could watch Cambridge Town Football Club's matches. It had started in hired cottages in James Street but in 1841 the foundation stone for the present building was laid. Cottages were added in 1888 and 1899 thanks to the Jubilee fund with the four others known as Miller's Buildings opened in 1906. It provides accommodation for 37 residents whose average age is 70 years. 33 11 28

1938 11 28
Something should be done about the housing of old people: the number of old people is growing out of all proportion to the number of children and people of working age, Cambridge Women's Luncheon Club was told. In the old days people with nobody to look after them had to go to an institution. Now most live with relations but are not wanted, cause overcrowding, are treated as unpaid nurses and servants and appreciated very little. Some live in attic rooms in other people's houses with no water or cooking arrangements. It would be better to convert middle-class houses for them where they could form some sort of community. 38 11 28b

1939 04 21
The Victoria Friendly Institution was inaugurated at a meeting at the Wrestlers Inn, Petty Cury in 1837 and the foundation stone of the old building laid in 1841. A programme and a number of coins were also placed in a bottle. But there is no trace of them. Now six houses have been erected to mark their centenary, providing happiness for those fortunate enough to be elected tenants. It was a great satisfaction to know there were such places in which people could spend the eventide of life 39 04 21

1940

1946 10
Edwinstowe old peoples home opened Oct [446.10.3]

1947 06 16
"There is a general feeling throughout every grade of society that we want to have a brighter old age - and this is one of the first steps taken towards it". This comment was made by Alderman W.L. Briggs when he opened the first Old People's Welfare Club in the Tracy Memorial Hall, Romsey Town, Cambridge. This club is the first of its kind in the town, and more will be opened. "This new movement throughout the county was to take an interest in people who had reached the sensible years of life". Remarking that as far as pensions were concerned things were getting better every day - and it should be. "After all, we are the people who have borne the heat and burden of the day and have made England what she is"

1947 07 14
Homes specially intended for old people should be in towns rather than in the country said Lord Amulree in addressing the Woman Public Health Officers' Association Summer school in Cambridge. It was a great advantage to have the home in a town, he said. For a large majority of people a home in the country did not work at all. "Most of our population are townspeople and also, when they are growing old, their interests become rather contracted. Old people do enjoy calling on their friends' houses. They like to go to the local pub or to the pictures, and if they cannot do that they like to sit in the window and watch other people going to the pub and to the cinema"

1948 04 01
“An aspiration set too high for practical achievement in these days of Government interference” was how the Chairman of the Cambridge Old People’s Homes Ltd described the position of the Society at the present time. The possibility of having to wind up the Society was openly discussed. The committee had abandoned a scheme for the erection of a home in Queen Edith’s Way owing to building costs having soared. They had explored the possibility of converting existing property and careful thought had been given to Hinxton Hall and detailed sketch plans of the interior prepared. It was pointed out that a place nine miles away from Cambridge which old people’s friends would have some difficulty in reaching was not “ideal”
Difficulties old peoples homes, p8

1948 08 25
The need for utilising Chesterton hospital for the elderly and infirm people of Cambridgeshire and of housing casuals in some other part of the county was discussed at a meeting of the Board of Governors of the United Cambridge Hospitals. Dr R. Ellis said "There is a tremendous need, with the closing of infirmaries, to know what to do with the people who were housed in such places. A great hardship is being imposed on people who are old - they are literally living in houses in some villages in semi-starvation and dirt. There is no hope for them living in the way they are". Mr Dennard thought that as far as casuals are concerned they should get a hut at Bourn and house them there 48 08 25

1948 10 28
The "really crying need" for the provision of residential homes for old people, both for the infirm and the bedridden, and for elderly people with no one to look after them was emphasised by the Bishop of Ely. A special type of "short stay" home would alleviate the otherwise never-ceasing strain on relatives looking after old people. Nursing annexes attached to hospitals were cited as a possible solution of the filling up of hospital beds by elderly permanent patients

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1950

1950 06 14
Old people in this country used to be about the most neglected section of the community, but since the war various bodies have sprung up to give them help when needed and make the even-tide of their lives happier and more conformable. Cambridge is doing its bit through the Old Peoples' Welfare Council. As an experiment they decided to organise a small party of members for a week's holiday in Westcliff-on-Sea. Special terms were offered by a number of hotels and boarding houses at a cost of £3.7.6 including transport by a private coach.

1950 10 20
Coun. Mrs Henn said the majority of old couples were willing to move into smaller accommodation to make room for larger families. But there are a very few who are so selfish and anti-social that they have not got the pity, the sympathy or the imagination to cast their eye for a moment at the housing-list queue. It was a natural desire for old people to have spare rooms for visiting children but Cambridge has 5,000 families who have no house at all. It is perfectly normal for five adults and two children to live in one bedroom with no sanitation, and cooking done in that bedroom.

1951 07 19
"The problem of old age will get the county down unless we learn ways of doing it economically as well as efficiently" said the speaker at Cambridgeshire Old People's Welfare Council. Her interest had started over half a century ago when she was taken to the old workhouse in Mill Road and had been absolutely appalled at the condition of the old ladies. Some of them looked after babies for twelve hours a day with no reward except extra cups of tea. "They paid for the sin of being old in those days", she said.

1952 04 17
Cambridge Trades Council strongly objected to the closing of Romsey Municipal Restaurant. It will deny a good mid-day meal to many old people & working class men could not afford to go into places in Cambridge and pay high prices for meals. Transport workers could not get a meal if the facility were taken away. The profit of the combined restaurants is more than enough to cover losses and as municipal restaurants are a public service and not run for profit they urged the continuation of the service in Romsey

1952 07 14
When the British Red Cross Society decided to make "Edwinstowe" at Chaucer Road, Cambridge a home for old people, there were questions in the minds of the organisers. Although residents would be well looked after and have all the material comforts, would the old people want to come? It is now an established and happy home and the public flock each year to the annual fete, not only to help the funds of the home but to renew acquaintance with the residents who seem to be having an "at home" in their own beautiful gardens. Pupils of the Betty Ripley-Carter School of Dancing made a charming contribution to the enjoyment with a dancing display

1952 12 01 c
Cambridge Council will start negotiations for the purchase of sites in Northampton Street to build cottages for old people. The Cambridge Preservation Society has offered £100 towards the cost of each dwelling on condition that the cottages in Kettle'' Yard are kept in being and modernised. Because of the urgent need in Chesterton for more cottages for old people's use the Housing Committee are to consider buying land on the Scotland Farm Site.

1953 01 21
The Deputy Mayor of Cambridge, (Ald. H.O. Langdon) told a public meeting to launch an appeal for funds for a residential home for old people that it was a challenge to every one of them. "Can we stand aside and see old people who have spent a useful life in the service of our country suffer the pangs of loneliness and hardship, and let them die in despair, uncared for and unwanted", he asked. It is proposed to provide bed sitting rooms, both single and double, centrally heated and with modern amenities together with a dining room, reading and writing rooms where people can spend their declining years in the company of others and be tended and cared for.

1953 08 01
A Pageant for Coronation year is to be performed in the grounds of St John's College in aid of the Cambridge Residential Home for Old People. In this enterprise Town and University combine. About 150 people take part from a distinguished historian to a little girl of six. It includes a genuine ancient broadsword lent by Prof G.M. Trevelyan, Master of Trinity and greatest of living historians. Amongst those taking part are Michael Cogman, a nine-year-old pupil from Milton Road School, Charles Batts, Timothy Roach and David Bartlett.

1953 12 31
"There are cities with rotten cores and bad outsides and Cambridge is in danger of that" said the Vice Chancellor of the University and Chairman of the Preservation Society adding: "I would not be averse to a certain number of four-storey flats rather than development spreading further and further out". Cambridge was probably the only town in England which was now more beautiful than 30 years ago. But in Northampton Street was a 'horrid desert' only adorned by a small brick-built convenience; now the land has been acquired for 19 old people's cottages in a delightful architectural scheme.

1954 01 28
Some people have the idea that it will cost £4 a week to obtain admission to the Cambridge Residential Home for Old People when it is built. "But", said the Mayor, "I would like to make it clear that this does not mean everybody will have to pay that sum and whether or not they have the full means they will not be excluded from the Home". Each resident will have a bed-sitting room with running water and will share the dining and sitting rooms. There will be a small sick bay and a guest room where elderly people can stay for limited periods. All meals will be provided and there will be central heating throughout

1954 05 03
The general trend at the moment is to keep old people in their homes as long as possible and to provide services to keep them happy and comfortable. Housing Societies will no longer give money to the provision of residential homes for old people. They have three different kinds of schemes. The able bodied are being provided with flats, bungalows and converted flatlets with a residential warden, the slightly less able need residential clubs or hostels where meals and staffing is provided and the really old inform people require more in the way of care and attention. The important thing is that the needs of their minds and spirits, as well as their bodies, were thought of, the Cambridge Central Aid Society was told

1955 07 05
The Mayor cut the first sod for the building of the Cambridge Residential Home for Old People to be known as 'Langdon House'. It will take 37 residents with special provision for elderly married couples. Each will have a bed-sitting room with running water and they will share dining and

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sitting rooms. It will cost them £4.10s a week, but inability to meet this charge will not debar worthy residents from being admitted as it will be open to all without distinction. 55 07 05a

1956 03 06
The Lord Mayor of London visited Cambridge to open a new block of flats for old people at Honey Hill, Northampton Street. It was the first such visit and brought a glimpse of the pageantry in which the true Londoner takes great pride. In 1936 the frontage had been bought by the council with a quarter of the cost paid by Cambridge Preservation Society and Magdalene College. But the war intervened and the site was a blot for many years. Now the Mayor presented the keys to the first tenants, Mr & Mrs H.C. Rogers. 56 03 06a-d

1956 03 09
An elderly spinster living alone in one room of a six-roomed house in Beche Road, Cambridge is an 'unpardonable extravagance in these days of shortage' said a judge who ordered her to leave. The rooms were in a filthy state, with four cats in one room. The kitchen was indescribable, one of the bedrooms bunged up with rubbish and builders had refused to go inside to assess the repairs needed. The owner wanted to regain possession so his newly-married son could live there. 56 03 09b & c

1956 08 16
The pink-overalled corps of women known as the 'Home Helps Service' are available to homes where there are expectant mothers, elderly people, those who are ill and small children in need of care. The 250 ladies cook, clean, shop, wash and iron, receiving 2s 10d an hour. One helper isn't exactly a housewifery expert but was always in some small trouble of her own. 'We like having her', the old people said, 'she brings us a bit of excitement!' 56 08 16

1956 10 05
Mr & Mrs Ditchburn have seen many changes at Mill Road Maternity Hospital in the 22 years they have been Senior Administrative Officer and Matron. When they came in 1934 it was the County Infirmary and was mostly for old people. During the next five years a new wing was built, together with a new ward and theatre. Gradually the chronic patients became fewer and now there are only 23. During the war it was an emergency Medical Services Hospital with only one bed left for maternity patients. In 1934 there were only 56 births at the Hospital but 1,831 were recorded in 1954. 56 10 05a & b

1957 04 16
Cambridge city council may purchase the 350 temporary bungalows from the Ministry of Housing for £150 each. They are suitable for elderly couples and can be kept sound for another ten years. They could also purchase big houses to let as flats to business people, starting with no.20 Beche Road which has already been converted into five flats. 57 04 16

1957 08 01
Two groups of Cambridge people, one small and ageing, the other large and young will always carry vivid and happy memories of Princess Margaret's visit. One are the happy band who are passing away their 'twilight years' in the comfort and beauty of Langdon House, which she officially opened. Named after Alderman Langdon,1952 Old People Welfare Council urged him as Mayor for home old people, pledged his personal help; Cambridge Housing Society would manage it if £10,000 by public subscription, foundation stone laid1955, finished Dec1956, for 36 able-bodied elderly; new wing 1963 for old who unable to move far & need constant attention 57 08 01c & d & e & f [3.8,15.1]

1957 09 18
I had always thought of old peoples' homes being sad places where equally sad old people spend the end of their life. But Primrose Croft stands in a lovely garden filled with flowers backing onto school playing fields. Each of the 35 residents has an airy room with attractive curtains and a lock-up cupboard. The women were busy doing knitting and crocheting, the wireless in the lounge is also enjoyed and the matron hopes one day to afford a television set. 57 09 18

1958 02 18
Civic leaders have backed the News' appeal for emergency funds for Edwinstowe Old People's Home in Chaucer Road. It needs money to replace furnishings, including mattresses and the hot water system. This pioneer Home has catered for 90 elderly people since it opened in 1946 but rising costs have made it impossible for money to be found other than by an appeal to the warm-hearted generosity of local people. 58 02 18a

1959 03 16
Frederick Archibald Mace arrived as Master of Chesterton Hospital in 1946 and implemented the changes which have turned it into the bright, happy National Health Service establishment it is today. But to several old people, some of whom have been in the hospital from their childhood and until ten years ago knew it only as an institution, he was still 'the Master', but a Master who contradicted all the old Dickensian ideas of institutional life. 59 03 16

1959 05 08
Chesterton Hospital held an open day so people could see for themselves what life is really like in a modern old people's home. The exterior resembles structures of the Dickensian era but give no hint of the warmth, gaiety and colour prevailing inside. Every department bore testimony to how even formidable mansions can be transformed into gay fairy-like palaces. None of the old folks had the slighted complaint and had nothing but praise for the staff. 59 05 08b

1959 08 26
Sir – in the area between Warkworth Street and Burleigh Street there are many little houses which have been bought by elderly people for their retirement and by young couples starting a new home. Now having been put in good order they are to be demolished by the Council in a 'development scheme'. It is cruel, unnecessary, and wasteful to pull down houses which are in liveable condition because in the same neighbourhood there are a number that are neglected and damp. I hope ratepayers will protest – Hilda Finney, Prospect Row. 59 08 26

1959 09 12
Henrietta Street and St Eligius almshouses – 59 09 12c & d, 59 09 26, 59 09 28

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 01 08
The present generation of old people grew up before the welfare state came into being and had to go without many of the things which today makes life easier for everyone. A recent survey showed that 96 per cent of old people lived independent lives. But those who were in care were very much frailer than those being looked after 10 years before and this made for greater demands on the staff. It is very rare to find married couples entering old people's homes. The only couple at present in the care of the County Council married after entering the home. 60 01 08a

1960 10 20
Stanton House flatlets in Christ Church Street provide luxurious accommodation for 29 old people. Each has a bed sitting room, with the bed space behind a curtain partition, a small electric cooker and fitted wall electric fire. Lavatory and bathroom accommodation is in conformity with Ministry requirements with an emergency bell. There is a large lounge with an open fireplace where old folk can spend their evenings in each other's company and a large open patio with fish pond and fountain. Central heating and lighting is included in the rent of thirty shillings a week. 60 10 20

1960 11 22
Stanton House flatlets old people, luxurious accommodation opened [3.9, 15.10]

1961 02 17
The Old People's Welfare Council believes the best thing for the elderly is for them to live independently as long as possible. But many cannot and there are an increasing number of people wanting care in their old age. The main problem is finding suitable premises to make into old people's homes. In 1948 the County Council had to do with Linton Hospital and a few beds at Chesterton Hospital. Since then they have been modernised and improved. After the war buildings were very difficult to get because of competition from firms wanting office accommodation and the rising cost of land. The first new home was The Grove, Fordham in 1951, followed by Willingham House and in 1956 Primrose Croft was adapted to take 35 elderly residents. The future plans are to erect purpose-designed buildings 61 02 17b

1961 08 12
Chesterton Hospital has 166 beds for the elderly sick and 74 custodial beds for able-bodied elderly people with no homes of their own. After decades of neglect geriatric medicine has come into its own. The number of elderly people is the highest it has ever been while a declining birth-rate has diminished the number of children available to care for their parents. Now 25 per cent of Britain's elderly are left without children to look after them in their old age. But of these 95 per cent are living independent lives and a quarter make some contribution to society until the age of 75 61 08 12

1962 12 04
Whitelocks Yard, Trumpington is a quit oasis from traffic thundering by on the main road. Now the twelve 100-year-old houses are being put up for sale by the trustees of the charity of George Whitelock who say they need considerable improvements and a lot of money spending on them. But the elderly tenants are concerned for the future, fearing they may be thrown out on the streets. The homes, with a half-acre site, are being sold for £4,750 62 12 04a

1962 12 08
Collections at the Round Table's Christmas tree in St Andrew the Great churchyard began in 1953. Last year they raised money to provide 415 parcels for old people, each containing £1-worth of Christmas cheer. The names of old people who benefit from this magnificent effort are revised each year and every person is visited before Christmas. One year a 30-foot high tree was delivered and putting it up meant dislocating the traffic outside Christ's College for some time. 62 12 08

1962 12 21
One third of the institutions which house our old people are just former workhouses. Terrified of losing their individuality in an institution plenty of old folk prefer merely to exist in poverty-stricken solitude. The real problem is of lonely old age – and no place can be lonelier for an old

person that a 60-bed workhouse dormitory full of strangers. But the Abbeyfield Society integrates people in their own neighbourhood in houses with separate bed-sitting rooms with personal belongings and an electric hot-plate for minor cooking. Now one may be set up in Cambridge. 62 12 21

1964 11 18
Cherry Trees, a club for the elderly, has opened in new buildings in St Matthew's Street which have been donated by Miss Evelyn Boake. It will be run by the W.V.S. on similar lines to their successful Hill Top Club on Castle Hill. The main room with a lounge opens out to a sun terrace. The décor is rich and colourful with easy chairs in orange blue, green and red. Coffees and lunches will be served each weekday to men and women of pensionable age who are not in full employment. At present the main problem is obtaining sufficient volunteers to help serve. 64 11 18

1965 05 06
Oban Court flatlets for elderly people in Union Lane; have kitchenettes, bed-sitting room and dressing room with washbasin and lavatory. The double ones have bathroom. To be officially opened – 65 05 06

1966 03 29
Cherry Trees club for elderly in St Matthew's Street – feature – 66 03 29a

1967 02 28
Edward Storey almshouses originally built in 1729 for clergymen's widows; houses built in 1844 converted to flats – feature - 67 02 28a

1967 11 04
Seymour House day centre for elderly opened [15.8]

1968 09 31
Local authority homes for old or handicapped people – feature – 68 09 13

1969 04 25
Abbeyfield Cambridge Society houses for elderly – feature – 69 04 25

1970

1970 01 13
Vicarage Terrace now site of Cherry Trees Old People's Centre – photos before and after – 70 01 13a

1970 09 15
Several charities to merge in bid to build new almshouses on Old Manor House site at Church Street, Chesterton to replace old Wray's Court Houses; Henry Wray trustees apply city council – 70 09 15

1970 12 21
Victoria Homes demolish part building make way modern flatlets for old people [10]

1971 05 10
National Federation Old Age Pensioners association founded Cambridge branch [15.4]

1973 97 24
Cambridge pensioner claims that old people are being forced to stay away from their church on Sunday mornings because they are baffled by the Series Two Holy Communion service. But now, claims Mr Richard Pettit, who has been going to St Augustine's church, Cambridge, they are outraged by a plan to do away with Series Two and bring in Series Three - a new version of the service in modern English. "They are being forced to sit at home because they can't follow the services, and it's a crying shame" he said 73 07 24

1974 04 09
A gang of hooligans are terrorising old folk living on the Arbury estate in Cambridge, says County Councillor Mrs Janet Jones. She said the gang have let off fire extinguishers in the Edgecombe flats, cut down washing lines in the gardens of old peoples' bungalows, gathered at Arbury Court refusing to allow old people to pass and rampaged along the alleyways linking Crowland Way with Campkin Road, smashing dozens of windows in garden sheds. "There appears to be a gang going round and there is not much else one can do except to ask them to behave themselves", she said

1974 06 06
Storeys House 49 flats elderly women Mount Pleasant opened, Edward Storey Foundation one of richest in country with income12,000 [17.4]

1975 02 11
Voluntary workers in Cambridge are battling to keep an old peoples' day club and meals on wheels service going while they wait for new premises. The WRVS Hill Top Club for the elderly is run in a dilapidated "pre-fab" on Castle Hill. The workers took the building over in 1958 from American servicemen who had used it as a social club. It has been feared the building would not last until new premises at Primrose Croft were built.

1975 09 26
The fire risk wards at Chesterton Hospital have been drawn directly to the attention of the Health Minister, Dr David Owen, by the city MP, Mr David Lane. He expressed concern over the Hospital's Harston and Hardwick wards where 36 elderly patients are housed in cramped conditions. Both wards are 130 years old and were condemned more than two years ago as fire risks, but because of lack of cash nothing has been done to replace them

1975 12 11
A state of emergency has been declared for hundreds of old people living in Cambridge. The County social services leader, Coun. Mrs Janet Jones, claims that they are in serious danger of grave illness, injury or even death because they cannot afford to use the electric heating provided in many city council old people's flats. Because of this they are either shivering in the old or buying oil heaters which they could easily overturn

1975 11 04
Cambridge City Council has set itself a house-building target of 400 a year. Completions for 1976 are expected to number 250 but the new target should be met for the next five or six years. Councillor Don Mackay said he was worried that building such numbers might lead to "little houses being dotted all over" – as they were at Haverhill. Coun Liz Gard was concerned about the shortage of sheltered accommodation for elderly people in some parts of the city.

1976 01 28

New Hill Top Club opens Primrose Croft, anon £20,000 donation two years ago [15.6]

1976 07 23
Geriatric hospitals are old workhouses, each one days march from the other [15.7]

1978 11 14
Parsons Court meeting place for elderly opens [15.9]

1976 09 29
A new flats complex for elderly people in Sturton Street, Cambridge, was opened by Mrs Rae Linnett, widow of the former Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University after whom it is named. He was chairman of the appeal which raised money for the scheme which was promoted by the Anchor Housing Association. Linnett House, which includes communal rooms, a laundry room and a warden's flat, is the first new development for the use of Cambridge residents named after a senior member of the University 76 09 29

1979 10 13
Cambridge Corn Exchange may be turned into a civic restaurant. The old one in Petty Cury was demolish amid a public outcry nearly eight years ago to make way for the Lion Yard redevelopment. It was started during the Second World War under the Government's British Restaurant plans for providing cheap meals and was continued by the council. It became something of a social centre and meeting place for many old people with nowhere to go during the day

1979 10 19
In the past fifteen years the number of people aged 65 or over has risen by a million and a half. By 1986 there will be 24 per cent more over-75's than now. National policy has been to encourage old people to lead as independent an old age as they can with as much help as they need on hand. Back-up services must be provided. But the County Councils say that neither centre or local government should promise more than can be delivered and, faced with the need to prune their budgets, they have imposed restrictions on home help services and charges for meals-on-wheels and lunches at day centres.

1980

1981 12 31
The number of elderly people is rising so fast it is putting a strain on the health and social services. Many people who have recently settled in the area have brought their elderly relatives with them because of the rural and relatively peaceful setting. There should be a change in emphasis from residential to community care but the family must bear more of the responsibility.
80 10 01a
Simons House, the Histon Road sheltered housing for the elderly, and the nearby Rackham Close bungalows have won a major Housing Design Award. The scheme was judged to provide 'most agreeable homes for elderly people' and many of the residents agree. Mrs Bertha Kent described it 'as a lovely little place', Daisy Woodcock says it's very friendly and John Manning thinks 'it's really ideal'. 81 12 31a

1982 01 15
Community nurses along with home helps and the meals-on-wheels service form the basic support for many old people. They treat burnt legs – quite common in cold weather as the elderly tend to sit very close to fires and fall asleep. Many ladies cling stubbornly to the homes in which

they have lived for half a century or more, often without central heating, indoor lavatories and in some cases electricity or hot water. Two or three elderly people in Romsey have only gaslight while others insist on using candles. 82 01 15

1982 06 10
Newmarket millionaire David Robinson has given church authorities just seven weeks to come up with plans to convert Cambridge's St Andrew's Church into an old people's centre, or risk losing a £1/2 million windfall. The future of the church, threatened with redundancy for the past 10 years because of falling congregations, has long been the subject of debate. Previous plans have included conversion into an electronics laboratory, language school or a mosque. 82 06 10

1982 07 06
Plans for the conversion of St Andrew the Great church into an old people's day centre have angered parishioners. They include ripping out the old organ, replacing the present altar and covering up the memorial plaques which line the walls and floor of the church, although the memorial to Captain Cook would remain. 'God is being put in the back room with his back to a couple of loos' one worshipper complains. 82 07 06

1982 10 05
Newly-modernised almshouses in King Street were re-opened by Baroness David. They were built in 1880 to replace the original houses dating back to 1647 which had decayed beyond repair. The new houses for single retired women have modern kitchens, bathrooms and central heating. Already they have six tenants. 82 10 05a

1982 12 31
Simons House, the Histon Road sheltered housing for the elderly, and the nearby Rackham Close bungalows have won a major Housing Design Award. The scheme was judged to provide 'most agreeable homes for elderly people' and many of the residents agree. Mrs Bertha Kent described it 'as a lovely little place', Daisy Woodcock says it's very friendly and John Manning thinks 'it's really ideal'. 81 12 31a

1983 04 19
Regional health chiefs delivered a massive snub to both Cambridge City and the University by placing the Mill Road maternity unit and the old Addenbrooke's Hospital sites on the open market. They will go to the highest bidder which rules out the chance of the city buying Mill Road for an old peoples' sheltered housing scheme. They have also disregarded a gentleman's agreement with the University to give them first refusal on the Addenbrooke's site which is worth between £1 and £2 million. 83 04 19 p12

1983 07 19
Many old age pensioners in Cambridge are finding it difficult to struggle to the main Post Office and harder still to stand, often in a long queue, to collect their pensions. The News deserves full credit for highlighting the plight of many frail, elderly residents. The lack of hospital beds for long stay patients means than more than 80 former residents are now separated. There is also a chronic shortage of accommodation in old peoples' homes and a shortage of warden-supervised sheltered housing – Chairman, City Housing Committee. 83 07 19 p6

1984 02 03
A £1 million scheme is being planned for 100 Cambridge council houses in the Akeman Street and Darwin Drive areas because a 'modernisation' project carried out 20 years ago has gone wrong. Prefabricated units, constructed mainly of wood and plastic were installed as a quick way

of bringing the houses up to standard, but they have deteriorated badly. Now ten houses in Darwin Drive maybe pulled down to make space for flats suitable for old people or those in need of sheltered accommodation. 84 02 03 p15

1985 06 18
Cambridge Medical Answer Service to install computer link for elderly - 85 06 18 & a

1985 06 18
Abbeyfield Society homes for frail elderly – 85 06 18b

1985 09 04
Cambridge Labour councillors are to work out the cost of giving free bus travel throughout the city to all elderly and handicapped people. They will also investigate ways of increasing the off-peak use of buses. The present concessionary bus fare scheme is organised by the County Council but Alliance and Conservative councillors have combined to throw out proposals for free travel by Christmas 85 09 04a

1985 11 15
Almost 100 years of school history is about to bite the dust as the last remaining building of the former St Phillip's School in Thoday Street is demolished. It will be replaced with 30 self-contained flats for elderly people. The children moved to new premises in Vinery Road last year. 85 11 15

1985 11 25
Stanton House residents celebrated its silver jubilee with a ploughman's lunch and old-time music hall. It has 28 bedsits with shared bathrooms, giving elderly people their independence while under the watchful eye of a warden who lives on the premises. It was the first sheltered housing scheme to open in Cambridge and has proved very popular. But the fact that residents are made so comfortable means they live longer, and more and more homes of this kind are needed. Now Mill Road maternity hospital and St Philip's School in Thoday Street are to be converted. 85 11 25

1988 06 13
The first residents have moved into Ditchburn Place, the former Mill Road Maternity Hospital which is being turned into an assortment of 100 flats and houses for young single people and elderly couples. A small number of units have been built for people who have moved out of psychiatric institutions. When complete next year it will incorporate a laundry, restaurant, coffee bar and day centre for the frail and elderly. It is a very attractive scheme, offering a higher standard than the private sector could have afforded and is unlikely to be repeated in current financial circumstances. 88 06 13a

1988 09 21
Frail elderly people are waiting hours for ambulances: some have been waiting at 8pm for transport home from afternoon appointments. The service was crippled by cash shortages and hopelessly inadequate for the demands placed on it, a senior Cambridge doctor claimed. It had got to improve, either managerially or by pumping more resources into it. A Director admitted the service has been cut back after running over budget and was not as good as it should be. 88 09 21

1989 10 25
Five old people's homes may be sold to private companies to raise cash to peg back the county council's poll tax demands. People living in the homes would either be sent to other council

homes, put into hospital or allowed to remain provided the Government pays for part of their upkeep. Officials claim the homes are not worth investment because of their high refurbishment and replacement costs. But with an expected glut of such homes coming on to the market prices are likely to be depressed. Other money-saving measures include scrapping cheap bus passes for pensioners and making the elderly pay for home helps. 89 10 25

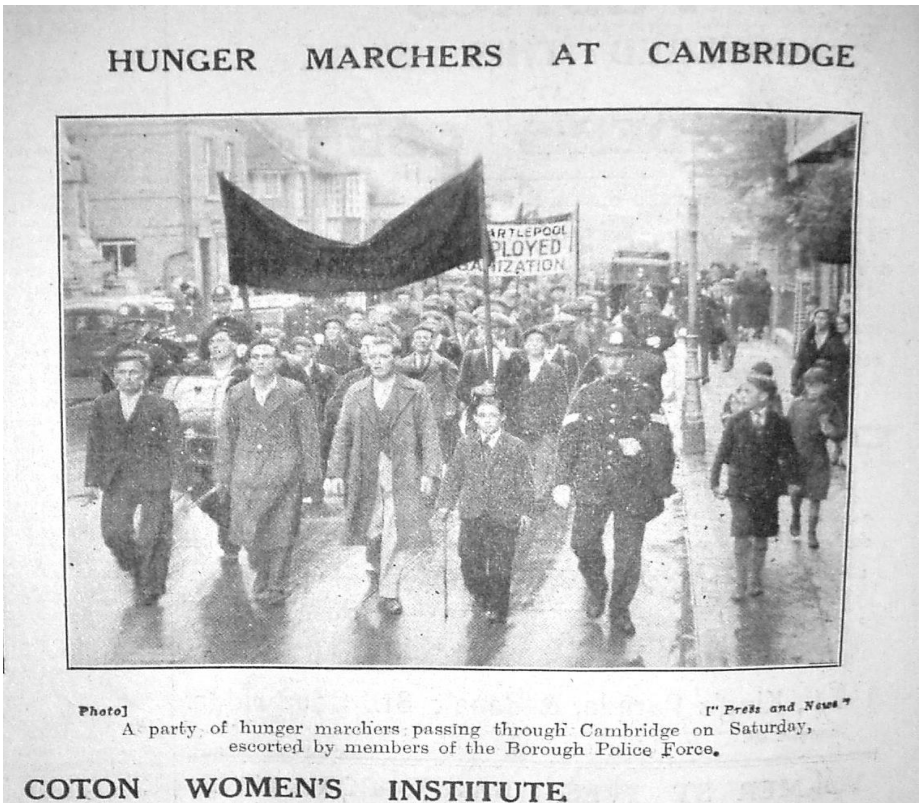
1989 11 02
A high proportion of the 5,500 patients on the books of a small practice in Hills Road are elderly but they may be squeezed out by government plans to pay doctors by the number of patients they attract. Young, healthy bodies will be more profitable than older, unhealthy ones which are much more time-consuming, one GP says. Surgeries with older patients would also lose one-off payments covering immunisation, contraception or cervical smears. "It has got very political and it's a shame", she says 89 11 02a

1989 12 20
Ditchburn Place, the former Mill Road Workhouse celebrates transformation into home for the elderly and meeting place for the community – 89 12 20a

1990 01 05
Old People's Homes sell-off plans axed – 90 01 05

1990 05 25
Buchan House residential home and day centre to be kept closed until county find company to run it under new privatisation policies – 90 05 25b

1990 07 05
Duke of Edinburgh opens Ditchburn Place – 90 07 05c, 06, 09b


HUNGER MARCHERS AT CAMBRIDGE

Photo] ["Press and News"

A party of hunger marchers passing through Cambridge on Saturday, escorted by members of the Borough Police Force.

COTON WOMEN'S INSTITUTE

Hunger marchers, October 1932 *139.03*

c.32.1 : Employment and Unemployment

1900

1903 03 26
Since the declaration of peace last year the ranks of the unemployed in Cambridgeshire have been swelled by the steady influx from South Africa of thousands of discharged soldiers and reservists which has seriously upset the labour market. One cannot pay a visit to the tramp ward of any Workhouse without being impressed by the number of inmates who are evidently returned "heroes". In 1901 7,754 vagrants were relived at the various Unions in the district, last year the number had risen to 9.591. Cambridge spends the least per head – two shillings and three farthings – whilst Linton spends the most, six shillings and eightpence halfpenny. 03 03 26

1904
Corporation reject suggestion they should start work to aid unemployed [1.13]

1904 10 06
The coming winter will be one of the worst for the employment of labour known for many years. The building trade, so important to Cambridge, is the one most affected. The reason is in part the wave of depression that is sweeping over the whole industrial life of the country but also because Cambridge is rapidly becoming overbuilt. The conclusion of the new University buildings have also thrown a number of artisans upon the labour market. We have never known so many men out of work at this season of the year. One bright spot is that the three cement companies will provide work for some 350 men CDN 6.10.1904

1904 11 26
Distress is likely to be more acute in Cambridge this winter than for many years past owing principally to the slump in the building boom locally and the depression in trade generally. The Church Army has evolved a scheme through which married men may obtain work. A number of tickets are issued to philanthropists who fill in the name of a married man in need of employment and offers to repay the Army one shilling towards the cost of employment. The man is found work wood chopping or log sawing and is paid about 2s.6d. a day. But the Home is now overloaded with the produce of its labour and there are 25,000 bundles of wood which must be sold to the public before it can continue. CDN 26.11.1904 [1.4]

1904 11 30
Cambridge Corporation has made arrangements to provide extra work at their stone-breaking yard with the object of relieving distress. The granite used for the roads is customarily brought here in its broken condition. Just now however much of it is being reduced to the requisite size at the stone-yard where they are prepared to employ any applicant who lives in Cambridge. The rate of payment is 3s.6d. for every cubic yard of granite broken and it is possible to earn about 14s weekly, enough to keep a man from actual starvation. But the pinch of want has not been keenly felt by the lower class of labourer at present for only one application has been received. 1904 11 30

1905 10 28
Building trade dull, "as soon as building ceases in Cambridge distress begins", but Corporation set aside work of great magnitude, trench for Cherry Hinton sewer, for winter season to aid unemployed [1.14]

1905 12 09
This distress this winter must be greater than usual; already 28 unemployed men have been found work at the Botanic Garden for four days a week for which the receive 10s. About 60 loads of compost have been prepared, leaves raked and much washing of glass accomplished. One man with heart disease has been found sitting-down work picking moss for orchid culture. Further men may be employed depending entirely upon contributions; the curator is willing to receive any sums for the Winter Employment Fund 05 12 09b

1906
Council seeks to join in Queens unemployment fund, building trade dull [1.5]

1906 10 30
Unemployment – 250 carpenters and joiners etc – 06 10 30b

1907 05 16
Not one Cambridge boy in 30 learns a trade; parents grasp at a few shillings as early as possible. Some were taken up by printers and the University offices but the most promising work was in the motor and cycle industry. One eleven-year old worked 28 hours a week outside school hours cleaning stables during the dinner hour, all Saturday and three hours on Sunday. Another, aged 14, put in 32 hours a week selling papers. They spent the money on food and cigarettes. 07 05 16 & a

1907 09 10
Post Office telegraph messenger boys are subject to a short drill every morning; they learn discipline, obedience and punctuality and can become members of the Albert Institute with its

facilities for further education and sport. They must leave the job when aged 16 and have previously become postmen. But now half the vacancies have to be reserved for ex-servicemen and the Cambridge Postmaster has a list of boys ready for jobs in the outside world. 07 09 10

1907 12 28
The Somerset Winter Employment Fund has found work for 30 men at the University Botanical Garden. Some have been leaf raking, others clipping hedges, cutting trees or digging plantain out of grass. They were labourers, painters, carpenters and bricklayers, many of them with families dependent on them. Subscriptions have been received chiefly from members of the University but there is good reason more should come from townspeople – the garden is freely open to the public. 07 12 28a

1908 06 05
To the casual observer there seems a minimum of child labour in Cambridge so it is something of a shock to learn that 266 are engaged in some occupation out of school hours. Now no child may be employed as a lather boy in any barber's shop, nor in connection with the sale of intoxicating liquor on licensed premises, nor in billiard or bagatelle marking, nor in the kitchen of any hotel or refreshment room. Badges must be worn by those engaged in street trading for which a deposit of threepence will be charged, councillors decided. CWN 08 06 05 p7

1908 09 11
In Cambridge the University vacations continually throw many boys and men out of work and create a class of idle and useless men who live on their wives' earnings when they can, and at other times are destitute. Many women work as bedmakers but others can neither cook nor keep their houses tidy. Improvident early marriages between young men and women who have no savings to furnish a house, no experience to teach them economy and no solid mutual affection to help them bear hardship are the source of great and prolonged misery. CWN 08 09 11 p

1908 10 02
Although we are far removed from the din of industrial strife, the wave of depression that is sweeping over the trade of the country is making itself felt even in Cambridgeshire. What local industries we possess appear to be flourishing, labour on the land is fairly constant and the labour required by the colleges varies but little. But the number of people making use of the casual ward of Cambridge workhouses has been increasing with 818 vagrants during the previous fortnight as compared to 184 last year. CEN 08 10 02 p5

1910

1911 03 24
Cambridge Labour Exchange to open – 11 03 24d

1911 03 31
The new Labour Exchange in Guildhall Street was visited by large numbers of people, most of whom contented themselves with scanning the red-boarded notices of situations vacant posted up in the windows. But about 40 applicants for work gave their names and some were at once notified of vacancies. Exchanges all over the country are linked up and the Cambridge office communicated by telephone with the Aberdeen Exchange to help a Scottish man find work. There are vacancies for motor repairers, electrical fitters and shorthand typists and a good demand for healthy men expert in pick and shovel work who are willing to go to Australia as railway labourers. 11 03 31e

1911 04 15
Day after Bank Holiday is busiest of year for pawnbrokers - due to loss of 3 days wages on Good Friday, Saturday & Monday [2.7] 6

1911 04 29
Labour Exchange opens Guildhall Street, moving to Regent Street in September; Aberdeen man one of first to use service, asks "why are there so many hard-working ... men on the scrapheap … degradation & misery" [2.7, 2.9]

1911 06 06
The Cambridge offices of the Board of Trade Labour Exchange have been removed from Guildhall Street to Regent Street and the work of finding and filling vacant situations is going on smoothly. The site near Hyde Park Corner most convenient with larger rooms for men and women. Every effort is made to encourage applicants to make use of the office as a waiting room – not a smoke room – with daily papers and magazines where they may remain in the hope they will be the right person in the right place when a job turns up. 11 10 06

1912 06 28
The Unemployment Insurance Scheme provides for payment of contributions by all employers and workpeople in certain trades and for the payment of benefit to the workpeople when unemployed. In Cambridge it will be administered by the Labour Exchange in Regent Street who are distributing leaflets. The scheme covers house building, railway construction and shipbuilding – which applies to local boat builders – while 'vehicle construction 'will include people repairing cars and bicycles. 12 06 28f

1914 12 11
Trade & employment in Cambridge have not been hit by the war. But with nearly 600 students missing, colleges that are hardest hit will be unable to keep on all their servants. Twenty per cent of builders are now out of work. Many women are employed in the jam factory at Histon and in the two knitting factories where War Office orders have provided more work than usual. Women have obtained posts vacated by men clerks who have gone to war but a large number of day girls are out of work owing to the plight of the lodging-house keepers. As these girls are in many cases the daughters of women who are themselves injured by the war, this state of affairs means a further depletion of an already scanty income. For good general servants there is a greater demand than supply, but there is very little demand for the services of any of the better class of servants and the number of between-maids out of employment is especially large. Hand laundresses have been very hard hit by the war. The great majority of these women are normally engaged in working for the colleges and, owing the stoppages of games, the amount of washing sent per man is much less this term. When the woman is the chief breadwinner of the family their position is extremely serious. The laundresses themselves are not in such a bad plight, for many have made considerable sums during the busy six months of the year and many of them have savings laid by. But only in very few cases have they got husbands in independent work. A large number of tailoresses are entirely unemployed and the remainder are working short time. Some have gone to Leeds to work making khaki uniforms and others will probably follow. The better class dressmakers seem more affected than the inferior ones Business is slack just now and is expected to be much worse after Christmas when business is usually slack. The dressmakers and milliners' hands employed in shops seem to be on short time. Here too the better class shops are worse hit than the cheapest establishments and several employees say they will be unable to keep their hands for a prolonged period without a considerable improvement. Shirt makers are busy at present but their usual work is almost entirely replaced by the making of shirts for officers' outfits

and there is apprehension that at the end of this term this work will be to a large extent cease 14 12 11

1919 02 19
Out of Work. We are very much concerned (says the writer of Town and Country Topics) at the announcement made to the Mayor last week-end that there are some 1,031 people out of employment at Cambridge. This is a very serious matter, and the question we should like to have decided at once is whether this unemployment is a matter of necessity or choice— in other words, whether it is due to lack of opportunities of work or is being fostered and maintained by the unemployment pay. We are disposed to believe that the latter is the case, especially with regard to the unemployment of women. Everywhere one hears of women being wanted in domestic service, but apparently the majority of them have: made up their minds not to take up such service, except upon terms and conditions which they cannot seriously hope to obtain. We believe that the out of work pay is responsible for a good deal of the (existing) trouble and we hope and believe that the nation will insist upon a prompt and thorough revision of the situation. 19 02 19 CIPof

1919 08 27
Long vacation brings problems of seasonal unemployment; far-sighted men planned scheme for employment not dependent on University with industry and advertising Cambridge as holiday town. Town Planning Scheme formulated – feature – 19 08 27b

1920

1920 02 20
Prince Albert visits Cambridge Labour Exchange & Unemployment centre - CDN 20 02 20

1920 07 09
Cinemas or houses – work wanted for unemployed, no skilled men are out of work; cinema could be finished before any housing scheme would be ready and men had pledged to leave any work for housing when needed - CDN 20 07 09

1920 12 22
Two new roads to make work unemployed – from Cherry Hinton Road to Mill Road (near huts to Brookfields) and from The Grove, Newnham to Trumpington Road via Coe Fen Lane – 22 12 22b

1920 12 29
Disabled ex-servicemen employment, 18 men being trained in tailoring, 12 each in jewellery, clock repairing and carpentry, 40 in diamond-cutting; photos in English Leather Co boot repairers and man driving traction engine – Ch 20 12 29a

1921 09
Deputation to Mayor and Guardians of the Poor, within a week they start scheme which employ 263 men [1.7]

1921 09 17
721 unemployed [2.4]

1921 10 12
'Cambridge Unemployed' – Labour Party demonstration Parker's Piece – photos – 21 10 12b

1922 01 14
Unemployment Committee opens soup kitchen at back of Barnwell theatre [2.2]

1922 04 08
The designs of Cambridge town council to provide work for the unemployed by the construction of a road between Cherry Hinton and Newmarket road which had the sanction of the authorities have so far failed owing to what on the face of it appears to be a squabble between the committees concerned and the owners of property affected. It is high time something was done as at the present rate of delay - two winters have passed and a commencement has not yet been made - the unemployment crisis will be over before a pick or shovel has been set going. Meanwhile approaching £200 a week of ratepayers money is being spent upon relieving destitution caused by lack of work in Cambridge - "Table Talk" 22 04 08

1922 05 10
T.A. Reavell, the manager of the Cambridge Labour Exchange is leaving. The Deputy Divisional Controller from the Ministry explained that in the interests of economy two of the large divisional offices had been closed and posts had to be found for the officials. Mr Almond felt it was but a sample of the high-handed and autocratic system which prevailed in which Ministers were now permitted to over-ride and interpret Acts of Parliament according to their own idea. This was seconded by Mr Shadbolt on behalf of the workers panel and echoed by the Master of Downing, chairman of the Local Employment Committee 22 05 10

1922 05 15
Sir. Cambridge is a University town, supposed to respect and consider its inhabitants. My husband served with his Majesty's Forces abroad for four years. He has been unemployed nearly two years and willing for any kind of work. His labour dole now being finished, and I myself not being able to work to keep our home going, he was forced to apply to the Guardians for relief and was told this morning that relief could not be granted but that he could have a ticket to go into the Workhouse. Is this the reward our men receive for all they have done? - letter from An Ex-Serviceman's Wife 22 05 15

1922 11 06
The Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment hope to open a centre in Eden Street, Cambridge, for training girls in all branches of women's work including cookery, laundry, housewifery and health subjects. It is believed that many girls are prevented from taking up domestic work through lack of the money to buy the necessary outfit. In their needlework classes they will make their uniform and at the end of the training each girl will be completed with a complete uniform. The period of training is generally 13 weeks and the chance which this course gives to unemployed girls to make a fresh start is one which may not recur, and which should not lightly be refused 22 11 06

1922 12 08
The urgent need for carrying out schemes of public importance in order to relieve the unemployment situation in the Borough were admitted on all hands at the meeting of the Cambridge Town Council. During the past two years they had been endeavouring as far as possible each winter to find work for those men who unfortunately were out of employ. Last year they were able to place 200 men on the Sewage Farm. That work had nearly come to a close. It was stated that there were 800 men out of work in the Borough which was an increase of nearly 100 over last year. Suggestions for further work included underground lavatories at the junction of Victoria Road, Chesterton Road and Milton Road, a bridge across the Cam at the bottom of Walnut Tree Avenue and a recreation ground on the Rock Estate 22 12 08

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1922 12 09
Council start construction of road from Cherry Hinton Road to Mill Road to make work [2.3]

1923 05
Men employed doing relief work strike as they are not getting Trade Union rates [1.8]

1923 09
Coe Fen road scheme agreed to provide work for unemployed [1.9]

1923 10 04
Under the Government's immigration scheme, the Cambridge Juvenile Unemployment Bureau has sent out to Australia five boys. The first of these has return home a interesting letter in which he says: "It is a pleasure to me to write and tell you my experiences in Aussie, and if you are the means of inducing any other young fellow to come to the land of sunshine, it would please me more. J. and I have stuck together. We were in the same cabin in the boat, which held eight bunks. Ours was a slow boat. It took us over two months to reach Australia. I have been at Moss Vail over 10 months and am never short of a few pounds. I think it is a pity that more boys do not come from Cambridge. You have such a number of unemployed. Of course one has to work fairly hard but work has done me a power of good. I would not hesitate one minute to recommend any young fellow to come to Australia 23 10 04

1924 12 06
There is considerably less unemployment in Cambridge. The figures at the Labour Exchange show that last year there were 806 on the live register and today it is 490. There are 200 men on relief work and the Committee have five jobs on which they could start in the near future as a means of absorbing men who might become unemployed through other work ceasing. 24 12 06

1925
Unemployment grants committee contribute £320 towards labour on Jesus Green sports ground [NI.1.17]

1926 08 28
Sir – Probably the hardest-worked and the poorest paid college servant is the kitchen porter. In full term he puts in from 13 to 14 hours a day and at the end of the week if he draws 25s. (£1.12) (his food included) he may consider himself lucky – and perhaps the less said about the quality of some of the food the better. They get few tips – an average of 4s. (20p) a term, and perhaps nothing, and in all probability have to stand off during the Long Vacation. These men are honest and trusted servants who should be paid a living wage – A British Worker 26 08 28

1926 08 30
Sir – the average wages of porters in college kitchens before the war were about ten or eleven shillings per week of 85 hours. At that time they got more money in tips than now. I have known many kitchen hands whose pay per hour worked out at three-farthings to a penny. Today they have a pension scheme (I believe at 65) but few live to that age. Some of the humane employers now pay wages during Vacations having come to the conclusion that an employee wanted something to eat, even when resting in the purer air of Parker's Piece – A.D. Somme 26 08 30

1926 12 09
Opening of Coe Fen Road. Mayor & Corporation arrived on bus, 'project of relieving Silver Street traffic & making better communication between Newnham & town started as long ago as

1904. In 1923 plans approved, had been nine different proposals; 'if not for urgency of the unemployment question we should be in the same position today only instead of nine there would have been 19 schemes. It was built as 'employment job', 90 unemployed men had been found work on scheme. Public enquiry held Feb 924, work started May 1924. Had been considerable opposition – 'ugly & spoil amenities of Coe Fen & Sheeps Green - but this some monstrosity they had conjured up"

1928 05 17
Undergraduates were packed like sardines in a tin at the Cambridge Police court when King's College and Trinity College were fined for employing male servants with having in force licences as required. It was unthinkable that such bodies should attempt to evade payment but they had received no reminder from the County Hall. This was not an acceptable excuse: they were large and responsible bodies accustomed to regularly employing a number of servants and should be more scrupulous than ordinary citizens to see the duties were paid in proper time. 28 05 17

1929 01 18
There are about 800 unemployed men in Cambridge, due to seasonal work and the closing down of the Cement Works, one of which had closed permanently though the others would reopen in a short time. They include 84 builders' labourers, 138 painters, 32 carpenters and 16 plasterers. The council has drawn up a programme and 134 men are working for the Borough Surveyor but they urge all who had work for painters, plasterers or builders to put it in hand at once. 29 01 18

1929 10
A programme of work approved which would give employment to 250 men for 12 months at cost of £108,263 & is submitted for Government approval [1.11]

1929 10 12
Cambridge did not become a munitions-manufacturing area on the outbreak of the Great War. The consequence was that its full quota of men joined the ranks and left the district. Now, ten years after the Armistice, we are being reminded that hundreds of baby boys and girls did not come into the world at all. There is now a real lack of errand boys with 60 employers seeking them. This will create a serious position for shopkeepers in years to come. About 100 domestic vacancies for girls are also waiting to be filled. If the school-leaving age is raised the difficulties will be increased. CDN 12.10.1929

1930

1930 07 05
The policy of building more rooms in college and drawing in as many men from the lodging houses is creating a serious outlook for the lodging-house keepers. Many have been told their rooms will not be required next term. If the University cannot continue to utilise services which came into existence to serve their needs some then other employment will be needed. If the University ceases to provide adequate support Cambridge will have no alternative but to seek other means of livelihood. We will be loath to see the town industrialised but people must live. 30 07 05b

1930 07 12
Work has started on the provision of a model yacht pond and paddling pool as part of an extensive scheme for the improvement of Sheep's Green. This is one of numerous schemes for providing work for the unemployed and when operations are in full swing about 70 men will be employed. The Ladies' and Men's Bathing Place will also be extended 30 07 12b

1930 07 25
Cambridge councillors have received consent for a new road from Milton Road to Histon Road at a cost of £18,135. St John's College would give the land which was required for housing purposes, it would be one of the best estates and the frontages would sell at very high price. Grants have been received for King's Hedges and Green End Road as part of the unemployment scheme with one-third of the labour being imported from the distressed areas. 30 07 25d

1930 10 17
New stone paving laid parallel to Queens Road [2.5]

1930 11 14
Great anxiety is being felt by Cambridge's 2,000 railway employees over the Companies drastic proposals on rates of pay and conditions of service. The tobacco and other luxury trades were affected at the time they accepted a reduction in wages to ease the companies' financial difficulties temporarily but this would have a serious impact on the spending power of a large number of relatively high-salaried men. Coming at a time when trade enterprise in Cambridge is approaching its zenith and the University is being appealed to for commercial support the prospects may be regarded with concern. 30 11 14

1931 08 21
Sir – what prospects are there here for a healthy, ambitious man anxious to get on. The colleges are nice to look at but not much use in finding employment for men with growing families to clothe. The nearest factory is Chivers and when one sees the cleanliness of Histon and signs of prosperity and happiness of the villagers one marvels at how anyone who has to work for their daily bread can like Cambridge where the majority of local men are underpaid and discontented – 'King without a castle' 31 08 21k

1932
Cambridge people rally to government call to sell gold, jewellery & trinkets to help national financial crisis: "This is a time to spend ..." get local cash flowing as an aid to unemployment; "buy new clothes, furniture or extra food. Have your house decorated or painted. A prompt response to this appeal will lift thousands of homes from misery into happiness by Christmas [32.1]

1932
Suicides on increase caused by unemployment; mayors appeal for jobless gathers £1,122 within two weeks; money devoted to creating work schemes put forward by Borough surveyor offering employment to 68 men in alternate weeks; new road started from Cherry -Hinton Road to Coldham's Lane [1.2]

1932 09 30
Members of the National Unemployed Workers' Movement organised a meeting opposite a house in New Street, Cambridge in the interests of a resident who was threatened with eviction. The man was a rag and bone dealer with two children whose application for relief from the Public Assistance Committee had been refused on the grounds that he was not starving. A Defence Committee was formed to oppose his ejection and a demonstration will be arranged on Parker's Piece 32 09 30bb (picture 32 09 30d)

1932 09 31

Thirteen unemployment relief schemes being carried out; includes new road from Cherryhinton Road to Coldham's Lane [1.2]

1932 12 16
About 1,400 men are unemployed in Cambridge but there were plenty of jobs to be done by unskilled labourers. The Mayor proposed a subscription fund to pay for work over the Christmas people. The alternative was to levy a special rate for the relief of unemployment – it would save spending money on benefit. But there were hundreds of people who had the hardest difficulty in meeting the existing rates – some going without food. 32 12 16b & c

1933
Master Builders & Decorators advert: "Do you realise that 1,653 able-bodied men are totally unemployed in your own town. Do you realise that of this appalling total 543 men are of the building trade". Help the unemployed by spending money on home improvement [1.1]

1933 02 03
The Mayor, (Ald Mrs Keynes) expressed her appreciation for the support her fund for providing work for the unemployed is receiving. There are 1,600 unemployed men in Cambridge but 120 who have done no work for a year are now making the path on Long Road and levelling Coldham's Common. Another 80 will level the building ground in Brook's Road and the site of the new school and playground in Gilbert Road. 33 02 03e

1933 05 22
Unemployment situation – 33 05 22

1933 10 21
The club for unemployed men at Fellowship House, Fitzroy Street has been renovated by members and now present a very cost appearance. It has a club room and canteen, a workroom fitted with benches at which men do woodwork and picture framing, a concert and lecture room complete with a piano purchased for three shillings, and a ping-pong and billiards room. During the war the Welsh troops had used it as a cookhouse, later it became a brush factory and furniture store but no better use could possibly be made of it. 33 10 21

1933 10 20
Unemployment in Cambridge is serious: 965 men and 84 women were out of work. The University Library was nearly finished and the great building projects in the town completed. But work continued on Queen Edith's Way, Long Road and the Hundred Houses Estate as well as the paddling pool on Coldham's Common. The Minister of Transport was keen to do away with level crossings and replace them with bridges; this could mean serious expenditure but provide employment for a great number of men. 33 10 20

1933 11 26
Collins' Agency, High-Class Registry for Servants at 55 Regent Street has been established in Cambridge for over 28 years and now has offices in Bridge Street, at Peterborough and Chelmsford. The extent of the business is shown by the fact that in 1937 more than 1,500 ladies were suited with maids in spite of the great dearth of servants. Collins' Agency advertisements regularly appear in Cambridge newspapers 38 11 26

1935 02 25
An open-air demonstration under the red flag against the new Unemployment Bill was held on Parker's Piece supported by the University Socialist Society and Labour Clubs. A crowd of

nearly 100 assembled. There are two-and-a-half million registered unemployed but there had been an increase in production without an increase in wages. The worker had become the slave of the machine, not the machine the tool of the worker. Mr H.C. Bibby spoke on camps for the unemployed: many who took part had the best of motives but they could develop into terrible concentration camps. 35 02 25

1936 03 06
Byelaws that prevented children doing agricultural work for more than four hours a day during school holidays were a hardship for farmers – they could not even employ their own sons to help with the harvest. But one 13-year old boy had worked in the harvest field from eight in the morning to eight at night, six days a week, for a full harvest, and was paid the magnificent sum of twelve shillings. The farmer did not put his own children in the harvest field – would they allow their own children to do that? Councillors agreed to allow children to be employed in light agricultural work, not involving heavy strain, for up to nine hours during the summer holidays. 36 03 06b

1936 11 02
Undergraduates demonstrated support for 130 hunger marchers from Durham on their way to London to protest against the Means Test and new scales of benefit. At Girton College girl students served them tea and buns before 250 undergraduates joined the procession carrying torches and banners. There were meetings in the Co-operative and Labour Halls before the protestors had an evening meal in the students' rooms. At Cheshunt College some of the marchers ate in hall. Having slept in the Corn Exchange they continued to Saffron Walden where the Labour Party entertained them with lively tunes from a loudspeaker van. The march is due to arrive in London next weekend. 36 11 02 & a

1939-48
Central Government increase employment by 350% at 'Butlins', Brooklands Avenue (due to establishment of regional government during war)

1940

1947 08 06
Only in cases of "exceptional hardship" can private householders hope to employ in domestic service the displaced persons now coming into the area to help relieve the labour shortage in certain industries. Since the beginning of June some 1,400 of these displaced persons have arrived from Germany at a West Wratting holding camp. Their nationalities are Latvian, Lithuanian, Estonian and Ukranian. Ages range from 25 to 40. The jobs woman can take include laundry work, domestic service in hospitals and hostels, and agriculture, and these are the sort of jobs they have taken in this region. Men, too have gone into agriculture. I understand that another camp accommodating about the same number will shortly be opened in Bottisham 47 08 06

1950

1950 05 03
Central Government employment up 350% at 'Butlins', Brooklands Avenue; manufacturing up 40% on average (in some cases 180%). Going to make employment difficult for returning men "unless all go to 'Butlins'" [1.10]

1952 02 04

Nearly 1,000 college servants in Cambridge are being urged to join a trade union – and enjoy the benefits of a first-ever "College Servants' Charter" as a result of the Industrial Disputes Tribunal decision affecting more than 80 workers at Gonville and Caius college. Circulars are going out from the Transport and General Workers' Union to college employees, including bedmakers, cleaners, porters and gardeners impressing on them the importance of "getting together". Since the wage claim at Caius was first submitted individual pay has gone up in some cases by as much as £1 12.6. a week. A kitchen porter now gets £4.15s.0d. minimum, a maximum of £5. A buttery man who received £5 now gets £6.7s.6d. There has been a £1 a week increase for cooks. 52 02 04

1956 05 12
The Cambridge Employment Exchange at Newnham used to be a school and the exterior is a little drab. But inside an astounding transformation has taken place. Now it is bright and pleasant, with pastel shades and the setting up of cubicles in which business may be conducted with a welcome degree of privacy. The Women's Section too has been decorated. 56 05 12

1956 11 22
Several hundred civil servants at Brooklands Avenue will be out of work as a result of the Government's decision to close down this regional centre. Nine departments will be affected and only a very small nucleus will be retained at the site. It is more economic to have them operate from London. Cambridge sprang up as a Regional Centre during the last war. 56 11 22

1959 04 07
Employment exchange offices move to Brooklands Avenue, at Newnham for nearly 30 years after move from Regent St; 1st set up under Labour Exchange Act 1909, with extension of Unemployment Insurance Scheme & resettlement following WWI work of exchange increased tremendously & local district offices set up to help; at present only 340 men & 67 women unemployed in Cambridge area; 27 years ago 1,500 registered, July 1938 1,400; since war average monthly figures varied 188 in 1951 & 539 last year [14.1]

1959 04 07
The Employment Exchange which has been sited in Newnham for nearly 30 years is moving to Brooklands Avenue. It provides a register of people seeking professional, managerial and senior executive posts and employees wishing to fill such vacancies. Nearly 200 men and women as well as ex-officers from HM Forces are included. The passports department and National Service registration office will also be affected. 59 04 07

1957 04 26
The Appointments Board in Chaucer Road is the undergraduates' "labour exchange". The Secretary, J.G. Davies interviews 1,500 students every year, some after they have done National Service or after a year's not-to-successful search on their own. A small intake, a dozen each year, go into atomic research where the standards are very high. There is a demand for mathematicians because of the development of automatic computers and economic analysis in Government offices but a desperate shortage of teachers specialising in science 57 04 26

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1961 06 13

Unemployment in Cambridge 0.4% (national average 1.3%) [3.1]

1963 11 25
Several Cambridge colleges have increased the wages of their bedmakers. At Jesus, where unrest led to union meetings, they have risen from two-shillings and tenpence to three-and-six an hour (about £3.10 at today's prices). Members of the kitchen staff have been given one free Sunday in three, a substantial improvement on their previous situation. But the question of overtime rates remains in dispute. St Catharine's and Selwyn have also raised wages 63 11 25b

1970

1972 01 07
Referendum of change of wage negotiations, Cambridge University Assistants oppose ASTMS claim to share bargaining, vote is a tie; NALGO & NUPE start; 22.5% increase agree non-technical grades - cleaners etc; CU formally recognise Trade Union for wage bargaining [19.8]

1973 02 26
"High cost of living & shortage & cost of accommodation together with dearth of ordinary entertainment facilities are creating a shortage of labour" [3.3]

1973 07 24
"Job glut for school leavers - 17 vacancies for every unemployed school leaver" [3.4]

1975 12 02
Jobcentre opens in Guildhall Place [3.5]

1976 02 02
Because of its low unemployment figure Cambridge is a labour-importing city. Up to £3,000 worth of government grants could be given to a man and his family in an area of high unemployment to persuade them to live and work here. The new Jobcentre in Guildhall Place has aptly been described as a job supermarket. An inviting window display tempts people into the well-carpeted warmth. The centre employs 26 people who find their work far more enjoyable now than ever they did in the days of the Labour Exchange 76 02 02
"Cambridge has lowest rate of unemployment in country, 2,343 unemployed [3.6]

1976 07 15
"500 city area school leavers could be jobless" [3.7]

1976 09 08
ACUA wins recognition of TU, not affiliated TUC [19.10]

1979 01 26
Attempts are being made by Cambridge's 'dirty jobs' strikers to close a number of city schools in support of their £60 a week minimum pay claim. Hundreds of workers are on strike. Householders are being urged to take their own refuse to the Coldham's Lane refuse tips as collections have been suspended indefinitely during the pay dispute. There were several minor accidents as drivers faced treacherous roads made worse by the overnight freeze and the supply of salt for roads is almost exhausted. Yesterday the Botanic Garden recorded 4½ inches of snow – the biggest fall since 1963. 79 01 26

1979 05 02

Spillers close Sleaford St bakers, 200 jobs lost; adds to crisis with R.H. Smart builders & Pye Engineering Services ¢CEN 2 & 5.3.1979

1980

1980 11 10
400 in rally to highlight youth unemployment [3.8]

1981 09 03
Marks and Spencer's newly-extended Cambridge store includes a roof garden for staff. A three-course lunch in the staff canteen (with flowers on the table), costs 10p. A shampoo and set is £1.25 and a visit to the chiropodist costs 50p. There is a staff medical room and a dentist calls every six months to check teeth. Wages are not high – though the £64.50 a week gross pay for a full-time sales assistant is above the average - but there is a pension and profit-sharing scheme 81 09 03

1982 12 16
Many of the 500 hard core of youngsters at present on the dole in the Cambridge area will probably never have jobs, a Careers Officer says. "We are writing off a generation; at one school three out of 100 wanted to go to work, the rest were going into further education". Youth Opportunities courses in electronic and mechanical engineering have only four applicants for 22 places as youngsters don't want to do them. They prefer outdoor work, such as building labouring. 81 12 16

1983 02 21
Cambridge unemployment at 6% is half national average and better than Northern towns with 20%, Thatcher says this due to success in harnessing brains and talents in University for new projects which can be made so helping to create new jobs - eg Science Park [1.6]

1985 01 21
Skilled technicians, computer programmers and systems analysts are now at a premium in Cambridge and are being bought and sold like footballers between firms who pay transfer fees to get the staff they want. The Itec centre in Hooper Street is making a small dent in the problem by taking youngsters with no formal qualifications and training them on technical subjects. Of 28 taken on so far, all but one have got good jobs. 85 01 21a

1985 12 02
The Andrew Murden Centre for the Unemployed and Unwaged is not just for the bored and depressed. Its main aims are to give advice on welfare rights and organise activities to stop people going stale in body and mind. But too few of Cambridge's 4,000 jobless are aware of it. The Centre would like more women to make use of the crèche and to expand their work with schools and youth groups. But there is not significant youth unemployment and the few out of work often join Government training schemes. 85 12 02c

1987
Midsummer Glassmakers quits, cannot recruit new staff due house prices [NS.1.6]

1987 09 11
Crisis finding staff, jobs at all levels begging with recruiting campaigns in Liverpool etc; problems cheap housing for people taking low-paid jobs (but specify age, ability, skills etc) ¢CEN 11.9.87)

1987 09 11
NHS scheme help low-paid staff buy houses ¢CEN 11.9.87

1988 06 25
Co-op say acute shortage in retail trade staff, need to bus staff in ¢CEN 25.6.88

1988 07 14
Unemployment under 3% - "full employment" ¢CEN 14.7.88

1988 08 19
A major staff crisis is threatening to cripple Cambridge's service industries. Firms are desperate to recruit but cannot get the people they need. The problem is deepest in the lower-pay sector where sky-high property prices and soaring cost of living are deterring potential workers from applying for jobs. The Health Authority has acute problems getting domestic, catering and nursing auxiliaries as well as clerical staff. The city has achieved 'full employment' with only three per cent jobless. 88 08 19

1988 11 26
Shops hit by staff crisis, hundreds of retail jobs going begging at Xmas ¢CEN 26.11.88

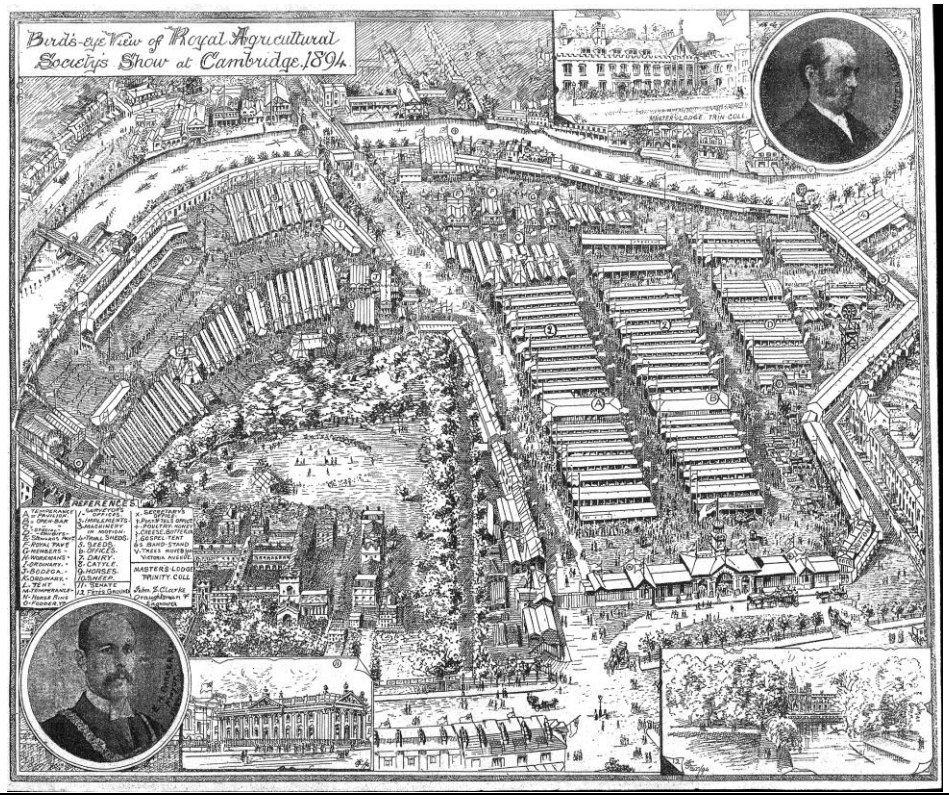
1989 04 07
"East Anglian salaries need to rise 27% to keep pace inflation" ¢CEN 7.4.89

1989 04 20
City council staffing crisis - poor pay & severe work pressure ¢CEN 20.4.89

1989 06 08
County Durham officials try to attract Cambridge firms to North ¢CEN 8.6.89

1989 09 22
The Cambridge bedmaker might be an endangered species. Many potential bedders are being wooed by supermarket and 'Yuppie' couples prepared to pay above-average rates for a suitable cleaner. There are almost permanent advertisements but they attract fewer applicants. The standard rate is £2.75 an hour, around 50p less than that offered privately. Bedmakers usually work a 20-hour week though with the current shortages many take on more hours. But there are bonuses during the conference season and regular chats with the fellows make the job different each day 89 02 22a & b

1989 11 01
Topexpress, Science Park axes 20 jobs ¢CEN 1.11.89



Royal Show, Midsummer Common 1894 148.81

c.32.3 : Commons, Parker's Piece, The Backs and other open spaces

Note:
Ena Mitchell researched two publications containing details of developments on Parker's Piece and four Cambridge commons. Many of the items below refer to these publications
Notes on the history of Parker's Piece, Cambridge, by Ena Mitchell. 1984 'MPP'
Notes on the history of four Cambridge commons, by Ena Mitchell. 1985 'MMC'
Covers Midsummer Common, Jesus Green, Butt Green, Donkey's Common and Petersfield.

1894
Cambridge University & Corporation Act gives considerable power of regulation over commons including power to enclose from time to time all or some part of Midsummer or Jesus Common & Butt Green [MPP.49, MMC.28]

1894
Royal Show held on 64a of Midsummer Common, Midsummer Fair held on Stourbridge common [MMC.9]

1894
Christ's Pieces bandstand erected, was originally built for Royal Show on Midsummer Common 56 04 21 [1.18]

1894
Parker's Piece lamp standard erected at cost of £39 [1.4]

1895
Coldham's Common new railway line & sketch of excavator [NI.1.8]

1896
Parker's Piece protest re closure to footballers [NI.2.1]

1897
Great Jubilee celebrations include dinner to old folks on Parker's Piece, largest witnessed in Cambridge & sports on Midsummer Common [MPP.51, MMC. 29]

1897 06 07
A good number of people are attending the fete on Midsummer Common. In that part of the enclosure nearest Maid's Causeway, shooting galleries, stalls, cocoanut shies and one of Thurston's steam roundabouts were gathered and kept matters lively. During the afternoon a fancy dress bicycle carnival took place, handsome prizes were awarded for the best costumes. The first prize for the ladies, a diamond and ruby crescent brooch, was awarded to Miss L. Unwin of Newnham who, with helmet, breastplate, shield and trident made a dignified Britannia. Miss Unwin will also receive the silver "King of the Road" lamp and baby bell given by the Humber Cycle Supply Co 1897 06 07

1897 06 19
Cambridge will have its bonfire on Jubilee night and from the nature of the site we shall have it all to ourselves. Midsummer Common is to be the venue, and as that is about the flattest part of Cambridge there is not much prospect of its being seen beyond the limits of the town, although should the fire be a big one and the night fairly dark, the glow in the sky ought to be seen all over the fen country. One of the most interesting experiments will be that of the search- light on Ely cathedral. The great shaft of light sent out by the search-light, first in one direction and then another, should send a message not only to Cambridge, but over a great portion of East Anglia – editorial 1897 06 19

1897 06 24
One of the most interesting events of the Jubilee week was the dinner to 1,000 aged people of Cambridge which took place on Parker's Piece. From 10 a.m. an army of helpers 400 strong, all as busy as bees, were engaged in preparing the tents, two in number, for the expected guests. The old people began to arrive very early, with beaming faces and expectant eyes. "It's not the dinner so much", said an old lady of some 75 summers, "It's taking part in the Jubilee dinner and meeting with all the others". Gowns of antique stuff, redolent of sweet lavender, that had lain by for years protected against the ravages of moth, were brought out in honour of the occasion. One old gentleman had hunted up a pair of white jean trousers that he went courting in 50 years ago 1897 06 24

1897 06 25
It is a matter of satisfaction that the subscriptions which have been received by the Jubilee Dinner Committee were sufficient to give a tea to some 4,000 school children of Cambridge between the ages of seven and 12. A mug and plate was provided for each child, and the plates when they sat down were furnished with bread and butter and two lumps of cake. Once in the enclosure they were each presented with a medal commemorating the Jubilee. Until tea commenced the enclosure was a perfect babel with the children's' chatter. Far more children than expected came, and some of the school teachers had written their own tickets. Not a few of the children attending were obviously either over or under the age which had been decided. All were soon provided for and the committee were able to keep replenishing the tables. As they finished tea the children left

the tables, and, shouting, rompted and danced to the band's music. The sight was enough to set the milk of human kindness surging through the heart of the most misguided misanthrope 1897 06 25

Here and there among the little folk: impressions of an onlooker. The five immense tents pitched on Parker's Piece were crammed with youngsters full of the restless energy of youth. What a sight it was to see them come dancing down the various roads leading to Parker's Piece, swarming over the iron fences, racing across the greensward, and roguishly crying the policemen on duty in the vicinity of the feast. Not one could walk sedately or cease from whistling for very joy. The desertion of teachers, the near approach of the end of the Jubilee holiday, everything was forgotten in the delight of the children's day 1897 06 25

1898 06 25
At last, but not at length, for only part of it is ready yet, the spot known hitherto as the St Matthews recreation ground, Cambridge, has had an official opening. Now it is rechristened "St Matthews Piece". The aspect is as yet of the distinctly "clean and not gaudy" type, comprising a rectangular enclosure, around which a spiked fence rears its effective points, and the inside is gravel all over, offering unbounded scope for young Barnwellians to develop "gravel rash". In 1892 the Corporation had represented the desirability of obtaining a piece of open ground in that thickly populated neighbourhood. Many delays occurred, and in 1895 the Commons committee took the ground over. They found a great many obstacles in the way of levelling and preparing the ground and there were many legal questions which took a long time. CDN 1898 06 25

1900

1900 07 25
Sir – I was pleased to notice that someone has at last had the courage to write about the wretched condition of Parker's Piece. Our last wicket was not only full of holes but we had a little hill rising a yard and a half in front of the block. Twelve shillings were paid for this wicket and a tent, whereas a college ground and pavilion (with a splendid wicket) can be hired for 7s.6d. Our cricket club have been so disgusted with the wickets that we have decided not to play again this season on Parker's Piece unless it is impossible to get a wicket elsewhere – Disgusted Cricketer 00 07 25

1900 09 10
The controversy relating to the maintenance of Parker's Piece is by no means a new one. It is several years since footballers and cricketers perceived that the ground, both in summer and winter was not all that could be desired and each year the feeling of dissatisfaction has become more apparent. But with the increasing number of persons crossing and re-crossing Parker's Piece it was impossible to keep the cricket pitches in a perfect condition; and with regard to forbidding football in times of frost, it was absolutely impossible to tell within a few hours whether or not a ground would be in a fit state for play 00 09 10

1902 09 24
Cambridge Football Association heard that on many college grounds football was played up to Christmas and the ground was prepared for cricket afterwards. The same thing should be done on Parker's Piece. Manuring had already begun. The manure was the sweeping of the streets, which had not been sifted, but had been raked. People were going over the ground and picking up stones. To start to play football and then proceed to manure the ground was giving with one hand and taking away with the other. The surveyor had said he hoped that some rain would come and wash it in. CDN 1902 09 24

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1904 11 03
Chesterton Council has purchased land in Carlyle Road, Cambridge, for a recreation ground. They bought rights in the Brickfield Estate from Mrs Wragg-Gurnie and frontages to Alpha Road from Mr Thoday for £1,350. They then sold off the frontages and after paying for the land were left with a bill for £425 together with a further amount for fencing, laying out and planting the ground. This was a very small sum for so large a piece of land and they had carried out a great improvement in Carlyle Road by widening it from Dalrymple Terrace to the end of the road. 1904 11 03

1905 05 16
An attempt has been made to remedy the serious defect of the new cattle drinking places on Midsummer Common. A concrete wall has been built to prevent the sewage flowing into the water. Unfortunately it also stops the majority of the cattle from drinking at all and so the stockmen have to drive them some distance to another site which rapidly gets into an indescribably filthy condition. The cattle are in fact consuming their own sewage 05 05 16b

1905 07 15
Coe Fen was the scene of an interesting fire-extinguishing demonstration by the Valor Company. A light wooden erection had been constructed coated by three gallons of tar and a shavings and straw saturated with motor spirit was heaped around. It was ignited by a match and with such violence did the flames break out that the watching crowd was forced to fall back. The representative brought the appliance into operation and the fire was subdued in about 25 seconds. 05 07 15dd

1905 08 15
Proposed cycle track, Midsummer Common – 05 08 15a & b

1905 10 26
Cambridge councillors discussed an alternative route from Madingley Road to the Cattle Market by constructing a road from Barton Road over the river by Newnham Mill Pit and along Coe Fen Lane to Trumpington Road. Two bridges would have to be erected and the Leys School would give up a strip of land. But there was no argument in favour of making a winding lane into a straight road unless it was for traffic. It was a bad system to introduce a big scheme piecemeal and commit the council first by one step and then another. 05 10 26b

1906 06 23
Sir – I remember the winter of 1860 when Midsummer Common was covered with water. A severe frost set in and for two months there were torchlight processions and skaters appearing and disappearing like phantoms along the course. There was horseracing in the summer and two large wooden stands erected. Some things have not changed: the miserable, horrid, slow old ‘grinds’ or ferries. When will Cantabs wake up and have free bridges for foot passengers? – An Ely Old Boy 06 06 23c & d

1907 04 06
Alexandra Garden opened - was a rubbish tip bought for £300, Alpha Road frontage sold for building for £1,000, garden area sold to council for £350 [1.22]

1908

Commons committee recommend tennis on Parker's Piece, bowls & tennis on Christ's Pieces (sees that distinction between common for recreation only & recreation ground had become blurred) MPP.52]

1909 09 03
The unanimous opposition to the scheme to drive a road across Parker's Piece should have disposed of it for ever. Should some rash member of the Council wish to make his name by re-introducing it he should first study the indenture made on March 23rd 1612 between the Master and Fellows of Trinity College and the Mayor and Burgesses of Cambridge by which the Piece became the property of the people. One clause stipulates that either body 'consenting to any act to impeach this agreement' should forfeit £300 to the other. It seems to me that the recent proposals would come under this head CWN 09 09 03 [2.1]

1910

1910 08 19
Christ's Pieces affords a welcome glimpse of colour to hundreds of workers as they pass from one side of Cambridge to the other and numerous people in their spare time spend many a pleasant half-hour there. To tired mothers it is a boon unspeakable for there children can be allowed to run about at will, free from the imminent deadly peril of the recklessly-ridden bicycle and the death-dealing motor. The grass is as smooth as a tennis lawn, the trees and shrubs beautifully green and the garden plots a delight to the eye thanks to Mr Nunn who has been keeper of the Pieces for nearly 30 years. 10 08 19

1911
Coronation George V celebrations include variety entertainment & fireworks on Parker's Piece & military tournament on Midsummer Common

1911 05 05
An undergraduate from Trinity College was fined for playing golf on Jesus Green to the danger of passers-by. The lad said there was no notice and he had seen people playing there for the last two years. There could be a danger if anyone had been on the Green, but there was nobody there when he was playing. The constable had seen him with his club and could have stopped him but allowed him to play before asking for his name, college and year saying third year men generally got more heavily fined than Freshmen. But the Chief Constable said that Freshmen were often let off with a caution 11 05 05

1911 06 23
The Coronation of King George V and Queen Mary at Westminster Abbey was attended by scenes unprecedented in the history of the Empire. In Cambridge a strong wind struggled wildly with noble flags and dainty decorations alike. Immense crowds of people walked round the streets and endorsed the judges' choice of Stetchford Dairies' premises as having the premier decorative scheme. The Dorothy Café was a very fine second best. Coronation celebrations: electric searchlight on Castle Hill; no drunkenness, include variety entertainment & fireworks on Parker's Piece [MPP.53, MMC.p30] 11 05 06 TT] 11 06 23 & a, b,c

1911 10 13
Mr Moorhouse, who was recently an undergraduate in Cambridge, caused a good deal of excitement by making an unexpected decent on in his monoplane on Parker's Piece. He was flying from Brooklands to Huntingdon and was making a good trip in perfect weather when, on nearing Cambridge, which he at first thought to be Huntingdon, he found himself short of petrol.

At Trumpington his monoplane was flying at a height of 9,000 feet and then commenced gradually to descend. Mr Moorhouse alighted near the large central electric light standard on Parker's Piece. An immense crowd quickly ascended, the airman's visitors including the Mayor (Ald. George Stace). With some of his college friends, Mr Moorhouse attended a performance of 'Niobe' at the New Theatre and for some hours the monoplane was the centre of attraction. Wheeled up by the University Arms, it was temporarily housed under a tarpaulin and protected by police. The next morning, with 20 policemen keeping the crowd 'clear', Mr Moorhouse left for Huntingdon. 11 10 13 CIPof

1911 10 13
Mr Moorhouse paid a second 'flying visit' to Cambridge. The footballers playing on Midsummer Common abandoned their game at once when the machine came into view over Castle Hill. The aeroplane looked as if it must come down among the crowd, but the airman managed the descent very cleverly, and, travelling a short distance only a few feet from the ground, eventually alighted very smoothly rather less than a hundred yards from the railings on the Maid's Causeway side. On his ascent the machine rose gracefully and easily over the trees and the river. It quickly attained a height of nearly 1,000 feet before he made a circle over Chesterton and then sped off towards Huntingdon, He is an intrepid young man of whom more will doubtless be heard in the future 11 10 13b

1911 12 01
The young airman, W.B.R. Moorhouse flew over to Cambridge and alighted on Butt's Green, departing two hours later. He took with him a parcel of shoes made for him by Frank Dalton of Bridge Street that he'd ordered a week ago. Several improvements had been made in the monoplane since his last visit including a bottle labelled 'Cherry Brandy' fixed inside the 'conning tower' fitted up with a flexible tube with a mouthpiece so that he could take a 'nip' when so disposed. The news rapidly spread and several hundred spectators watched his take off. 11 12 01j

1912
Corporation purchase 12½ acres at Cherry Hinton & Romsey for recreation ground & suggest using cattle market field in mean time [2.4]

1912 05 17
Romsey Town residents presented a memorial containing 1,018 signatures suggesting the council should purchase a piece of land for use as a recreation ground. In March 1898 a committee had backed the idea and various efforts had been made to secure a suitable site without result. They contributed to the upkeep of other open spaces and felt it was their turn to have one. It was too far for the young children and old folk to go to Parker's Piece. Meanwhile a public-spirited individual had offered to buy a piece of building land in Castle End to be kept open for perpetuity. 12 05 17b

1913 11 01
Girl drowns in ditch on Coe Fen, want lights on public footpath [2.5]

1913
Lammas Land acquired as recreation ground [2.7]

1913 01 24
Plans have been announced for the creation of a recreation ground on Midsummer Common between Victoria Avenue and Park Parade. One acre will be levelled for cricket, belts of shrubs

and avenues of trees planted and a footpath from Park Street to the High Bridge abolished. It was not intended to lay it out as an ornamental park but provide space for healthy physical exercises enabling youth to develop both muscle and brain. 13 01 24g

1913 04 25
An Inquiry into plans to acquire land adjoining Vinery Road as a recreation ground for Romsey heard that it was quite a new neighbourhood; 35 years ago there were very few houses. But one of the streets was only 27 feet wide. Children had to play in the street and there a large number of police and railway men living in the area who needed to sleep during the daytime. They needed a recreation ground: it was not safe for youngsters to go to Parker's Piece and Coldham's Common had two rifle ranges and burgesses could pasture cattle there 13 04 25 p10 CIP

1913 05 16
Proposals to turn Jesus Green into a recreation ground and exclude animals met with protests from stockholders. It was important to maintain the standard and quality of milk and their animals preferred that part of the common because it was quieter and more shaded. If they had to move their cows off on to other commons these would become congested. They should fight to maintain their ancient grazing rights. Sportsmen had already got Parker's Piece for cricket and football, Christ's Pieces for bowls and tennis with Donkey Common and Petersfield for resting in. If the Corporation wanted another recreation ground they should buy one. 13 05 16 p9 CIP

1913 06 13
Lammas Land should be made into Newnham recreation ground 13 06 13 p7 CIP

1914 05 08
Although there was a crowd of 2,000 at the annual demonstration of the Cambridge Trades Union on Parker's Piece on Sunday afternoon, everything was exceedingly quiet and orderly, the speeches were mild almost to dullness and did not provoke the smallest opposition. The resolution in favour of a 48 hours' working week and a minimum wage of thirty shillings was carried. It remained for the irrepressible suffragettes to create the only diversion, but even that was mild.14 05 08d

1914 06 19
An Inquiry was held into council proposals to borrow money to purchase a recreation ground in Newnham. It was Lammas Land where people had common rights to pasture a cow between August and April. At present it was being used for cricket, football and golf. There was no golf course, play being with a club and ball. But they had no business there which is why it should become a recreation ground giving access to the whole of the river. At present the lands belonged to colleges and others and were fenced only by hedges 14 06 19 p10 [MMC.31]

1914 08 14
Territorials paraded on Parker's Piece then marched at ease, their rifles slung or at the slope as it pleased them off to the station 14 08 14 p6

1914 08 16
Soldiers encamped on Common, Brunswick Walk residents bring pails of water for men, hot meals etc; people flock to see & give fruit though soldiers pestered by hawkers; refreshment tents & waiting rooms established, Wesley Church opens recreation room & would pray for individuals, but pubs close at 9pm - 14 08 16 [4.21,5a.13,6.9]

1914 08 24

Cambridge people are adding to the comfort of the soldiers encamped here. A refreshment tent has been set up for the artillerymen on the Polo Ground at Trumpington with another on Mr Matthew's meadow, Cherry Hinton Road. The Church Institute allows soldiers the use of their billiard table. There is a reading room in the Newnham School for the camp on Lammas Ground and a games room at the Prospect Church in Eden Street with writing material and picture postcards. Many socks for soldiers are being taken to the small striped tent on Midsummer Common and shirts would also be appreciated 14 08 28 p4

1914 08 28
A novel concert was given for men encamped on Midsummer Common: the motor launch Viscountess Bury was moored beside the bank at Stourbridge Common and its top deck used by the Magpies Concert Party was a platform. The launch was a pretty sight, decorated with vari-coloured lights and hundreds of men, including officers, sat on the sloping bank. Each song was enthusiastically enjoyed. The vicar of Chesterton gave an address during the interval and invited the men to attend Holy Communion on Sunday morning 14 08 28 p7

1914 08 28
A respectable Chesterton chimney sweep was charged with buying two pairs of woollen pants from soldiers camped on Midsummer Common. A constable on duty in plain clothes saw a soldier put something in a white pillowslip he was carrying; when challenged accused said it was food for his children. He found banana, meat and some mackerel, but there were also two pairs of pants with a regimental number – 6178, also W.D. and the broad arrow. The soldier said he was short of money and did not want them; they were hot, woollen things and not necessary at this time of year. Other men stole pants soldiers had washed and put on railings to dry 14 08 28 p7

1914 09 11
When the war began Cambridge Scouts were anxious to help and a committee was formed. Requests came from every quarter. For the first fortnight Scout patrols, aided by members of the C.U.O.T.C., guarded by day and night the important telegraph wires on the Newmarket to London road. Some were sent to Ramsgate and Sandwich to do coastguard work until replaced by military authorities. Others assisted in the recreation and refreshment tents for the military camps on Midsummer Common, Coldham's Common, Coe Fen, Parker's Piece, Huntingdon Road and Stourbridge Common. They have provided a secretary and bugler for Major Comber at Pembroke College and at Corpus the Board of Military Studies has used them as messengers. They have collected large quantities of magazines and papers for the military hospitals at the Leys School and Trinity College. Now they are returning to school

1914 10 16
Troops may be based Parker's Piece, p5

1914 10 23 Bethune inspects troops Parkers Piece

1914 11 20
The Germans had a great network of spies, County Councillors were told. The county should be purged of all spies or people of treasonable actions. The Emergency committees which were being formed should ensure people were not installing secret petrol stores for Zeppelins or watch for partisans with carrier pigeons or wireless apparatus. University Laboratories were doing much undisclosed research involving explosives and chemicals and employed a high proportion of aliens. A man who had watched army evolutions on Parker's Piece was pursued and arrested by two police constables after an old lady denounced him as a spy. A large number of naturalised

German people lived locally but in the zeal to put down espionage an enormous amount of injustice had been done. 14 11 20

1914 12 04
Cambridgeshire Battalion inspection Parker's Piece

1914 12 04
Chance for Women Policemen. It is not so long ago (writes Free Lance) since Lady Darwin suggested the appointment of one or two women policemen for the Borough of Cambridge, and if only part of what I hear is correct, there would be plenty of scope for the services of such an official in Cambridge just now. Reports reach me of a most undesirable state of things existing after nightfall on Parker's Piece and other open spaces and it is suggested that clergy and ministers should take the matter up with a view to asking the military authorities whether it would not be possible to keep these places under keen surveillance at night. The Women's Franchise Association, too, now that they are experiencing a time of more or less inactivity, might with advantage, exercise their influence upon the young girls to be found in these spots at such undesirable hours.

1914 12 11
Parker's Piece parade cancelled due state ground

1914 12 25
Storm and Floods responsible for considerable damage to telegraph and telephone wires. The heavy downpour of rain and the blinding snowstorm late at night found the weak spots in an enormous number of house roofs in Cambridge, and the exceptional downpour swelled the stream of the Cam until the water flowed over the banks. The greater part of Midsummer Common was covered with water and the paths were impassable. Boathouse and boathouse yards were flooded and military men who were billeted in the boathouses were seriously inconvenienced. In several instances they were compelled to seek billets elsewhere. Thousands of acres of land in and around Cambridge were flooded.14 12 25 CIP

1915 01 22
Troops Inspected. General Sir Ian Hamilton, on Wednesday inspected the troops quartered in Cambridge. Accompanied by General Bruce Hamilton and a number of staff officers, the Inspecting Officer took up a position in Gonville Place and the troops marched past the saluting base in column of route. Earlier in the day the men had marched by various routes, and on their return they concentrated in three columns on Hyde Park Corner and then marched down Gonville Place past General Sir Ian Hamilton. A large crowd assembled on Parker's Piece to witness the imposing military scene, and townspeople assembled in large numbers at other points of vantage. A great crowd gathered to watch General Hamilton inspect troops on Parker's Piece. After the mounted officers came the communications company – cyclists, field telegraphs and flag signallers on horseback. An armoured car and a squad of motor-cyclists came next, then the cavalry, infantry, Maxim guns, Howitzer batteries and ammunition train. One horse took fright at the music of the drums and bugles and dashed towards the Inspecting Officer. It seemed as if would be run down but he stood his ground and a staff officer dashed forward to seize the bridle and pull it up. However one trooper was thrown from his horse, his foot caught in the stirrups and he was dragged some distance15 01 22 CIP

1915 02 12
King visits to inspect troops quartered in Cambridge on Parker's Piece, visits FEGH. Khaki-clad soldiers drawn up on Parker's Piece received his majesty with the Royal Salute … inspected

signal section consisting of a couple of motor cars and a number of motor cycles and inspecting a wireless station … Then visited EGH and motored to station … no civic reception … no public announcement so small crowds … streets cleared of traffic … fleet of cars seen coming from station … Officers and staff on foot – no horses, cannon or vehicles as impossible to get all these on Piece …. Troops occupied four sides of Piece … cavalry along Regent Terrace … various artillery units … King wore khaki military top coat, riding breeches … flagstaff in middle … Inspected cavalry, artillery, infantry, ASC, RAMC and National Reserves … march past …. Inspected motor cars, motor cycles … At FEGH visited kitchen, operating theatre where operations actually going on, X-Ray room … have permission for photographing a group by Palmer Clarke near entrance to operating theatre in which the Commanding Officer, the Registrar, Quartermaster and two matrons were included 15 02 12 - – photo feature – 15 02 12a Ch, photo – 15 02 19d

1915 08 13
Cattle on commons during night – military to be alerted to danger to cattle through the trenches on the commons being left unprotected; a fence should be erected on Coe Fen 15 08 13

1915 10 08
Recruiting rally, Parker's Piece 15 10 08 p7

1916
Commons used by military : Parker's Piece drilling as was Midsummer Common; Butt Green bayonet gallows & trenches, Coldham's Common artillery park, bomb throwing in trenches, rifle shooting [MPP.55]

1916 02 26
Soldiers practice throwing hand grenades on Parkers Piece - using snowballs [7.17]

1916 07 05
Field Marshal Viscount French, Commander-in-Chief of the Home Forces, visited Parker's Piece, where inspected the Cambridgeshire Territorials from the Administrative centre, Cambridge; the Cambridge University Training Corps and the 2nd and 5th Battalion Officer Cadet Corps. Many hundreds of inhabitants had assembled. He was received with the General Salute, and when he inspected the Cambridgeshire Territorials, he told them they belonged to a regiment in which he took the utmost interest, as he had the honour of being their Colonel. He had watched the behaviour of the 1/1st Battalion in France, and had been proud. He congratulated the officers and instructors on the splendid appearance of the men on parade, and said that great credit was due to them for the men's appearance, steadiness and marching (the recruits had been at the Administrative Centre, Cambridgeshire Regiment Drill Hall, East Road, for periods varying between a few days and five weeks). The troops later formed in column and left Parker's Piece for the University Arms entrance, Lord French taking the salute. Later he addressed a meeting at the Guildhall. 16 07 05 CIP French inspects OCC & Territorial recruits, Parkers Piece & Volunteers on Market Hill – 16 07 05a; photos 16 07 05b

1917 04 04
A Drastic Resolution. The following resolution has been passed by the Allotments Subcommittee for Newnham and Castle End: "That inasmuch as they have received 50 applications for allotments, which they are unable to satisfy, they beg to request the Town Council to break up the Lammas Land at Newnham without delay, viz., without waiting for formal authority from any higher authority". As a result the Borough Member is to be asked to interview the Authorities of

the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries with regard to the application of the committee for permission to use the Lammas Land and empty common for allotments 17 04 04 CIPof

1918 05 29
Women's Land Army demonstration – 200 parade with motor tractor and traction engine; demonstration of hay bailing on Parker's Piece; should result in large numbers of girls in the district flocking to play their part by filling the gaps left in the ranks of the agricultural workers need for more labour – 18 05 29b, c

1918 08
Photos: intercession service on Parker's Piece Aug 1918 – 18 11 20h

1919 01 22
Returned Prisoners Welcomed. Cambridge gave an enthusiastic welcome home to the returned prisoners of war on Wednesday last. A ready response was made to the request that the Inhabitants should hang out flags and decorations and thousands of people assembled on Parker's Piece and lined the streets to watch the men pass. The proceedings commenced with a general muster on the Piece, which was fortunately favoured by fine weather. Invitations had been issued to some 900 men, and the parade, when assembled, showed a response of about 850. Most of the men were in khaki, and were members of the Cambridgeshire Regiment, the Cambs. Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment (Kitcheners) or the Suffolk Regiment. A few were in plain clothes or in naval uniform. The men paraded through the streets to the Guildhall, where the Lord Lieutenant gave a heart-to-heart address, saying "Welcome, home to England," and adding that the country was proud of them. He wished them, on behalf of the county, a happy return to their homes, great prosperity in the future, and forgetfulness of the horrors they had been through. List of names – 19 01 22b; photo – 19 01 22c CIP

1919 07 09
Peace Day Festival. The Peace Day Festival in Cambridge may be written down as a decided success. In the main event of the day—a huge dinner on Parker's Piece to the discharged and demobilised men of the Borough—there was not a hitch of any kind. The arrangements were as near perfect as could be secured and the men seemed thoroughly to enjoy themselves. The town presented a gay appearance, all the principal thoroughfares being decorated with flags, streamers, etc. Nearly every side-street, too, had its decorations - there were flags and bunting everywhere. Immediately under the Guildhall clock was a large laurel wreath in the centre of which were the words "Their name liveth for evermore." At intervals during the day peals were rung on church bells. Several of the business premises in the town were illuminated with coloured lights during the evening 19 07 09a 19 07 23f-k, photo 19 07 23e

1919 08 06
Refreshment hut on Parker's Piece proposed; should acquire an army hut and place at back of University Arms – debate – 19 08 06f

1920

1920 04 27
Skeleton of woman dug up by plain clothed police on Midsummer Common - CDN 20 04 27

1921 07
Midsummer Common catches fire due to intense heat

1922
Corporation Act allows restriction on grazing, commission swimming pool, also permission to buy certain Lammas Lands & extinguish certain Lammas rights against compensation [3.10 MPP.59]

1922 07
Coldham's Common bathing pool opened [2.21]

1922 08 26
Parker's Piece grass so long it needs cutting as hay [2.2]

1922 08 05
The commencement of the school holidays has at once placed a great strain upon those who are responsible for the conduct of our recreation grounds and open spaces, and nowhere has it been more felt that at Sheep's Green, Cambridge, where our young water-rats spend the greater part of their vacations in alternating river-bathing and sun-baths. The place is in a great state of dilapidation and at any moment might become an utter ruin. The rottenness of the woodwork of the bathing shed is concealed by paint and putty, timbering on both sides of the river is falling to pieces and on the Newnham side the banks are crumbling to bits. It really does seem that before any new bathing places are built this grand old one should be put into a state worthy of its reputation and popularity - Table Talk 22 08 05

1922 08 26
This is the age of new things and I am able to report that harvest operations are in full swing on Parker's Piece. Such economy has been shown in the use of the mowers on our principal ground that the grass has grown to an extent beyond the power of the customary lawnmower to cut, and so a hayreaper has been employed and the resulting heavy swathes have been removed by horse and cart. Two horses and three or four men have been engaged on the work, so if money-saving was the thing intended by keeping to mower off Parker's Piece it has not been very effective 22 08 26

1922 10 19
The proposed new bathing places provided a lively debate at Cambridge Town Centre. Plan A was for a bath on the far side of Sturbridge Common, not far from the railway. Plan B was for a bath on Jesus Green parallel to the river and a little above Victoria Bridge. It would be supplied by water taken from the Cam through pipes from above Jesus weir. The Bullen's Grove site on Sturbridge Common was less overlooked but the great point in favour of Jesus Green was that it was far more accessible and it was finally agreed to approve it 22 10 19

1923
Lammas rights over Lammas Lands, Newnham extinguished [MMC.32]
Council approve exclusion of animals from Jesus Green [MMC.32]

1923 02 01
An attempt to settle the question of the construction of an open-air bath on Jesus Green or Midsummer Common was made at the meeting of the Cambridge Town Council and provide work for the unemployed. Councillor Briggs said unemployment was becoming a serious menace to the town. If they could get this scheme through at once with old enable the Unemployment Committee to have something when they met the unemployed later that day

1923 06 01

Those who attend the Christ Pieces promenade concerts will learn with interest that the Cambridge Town Council approved extensive improvements, including lighting to the bandstand there, to purchase some 500 chairs "for the comfort of the concert goers", and to set up a fenced enclosure, lined with a privet hedge, to accommodate the seats. They further empowered the Committee to set up - as cheaply as possible - glass screens, which will protect the musicians from summer and other breezes, besides effecting an improvement in the acoustics of the stand. The superintendent also produced a plan for the construction of ladies and gentlemen's lavatories on Christ's Pieces 23 06 01 [1.23]

1923 08 25
Jesus Green swimming pool opened [2.24, 6.25]

1923 09 28
Cambridge town council agreed a scheme to construct a road across Coe Fen from the Coach and Horse public house, Newnham, to Coe Fen Lane. The Ministry of Transport have agreed to pay half the cost, and the road will be commenced almost at once so as to provide work for the unemployed during the coming winter. The scheme had been before the Council for nearly 20 years. Nine or 10 schemes had been presented and each member of the council appeared to think his particular scheme was the best. The great advantage of the present scheme was that the whole length of the road would be on the council's own land. 23 09 28 [3.2]

1924
Works starts conversion Jesus Green to sports ground [MMC 33]

1925 07 29
Sir. I was stopped by an aged and indignant citizen who drew my attention to the insertion of wooden pegs about a large proportion of Christ's Pieces. It seems that a large slice is to be taken off for the accommodation of motor cars and buses. Seven or eight lime trees will have to be cut down. It is vandalism to sacrifice a shady pleasance in the centre of town in order to make a motor park. Must Christ's Pieces be mutilated? – F.E.Y 25 07 29

1925 08
Proposals to create a bus station at Drummer Street cause great protest; 3,000 sign petition, 1,000 march to Mayor's house to demand another Council meeting, August [2.4]

1925 07 31
For an hour and a half Cambridge Town Council discussed the question of taking a portion of Christ's Pieces for the parking of 'buses and private cars. Strong opposition to the scheme was forthcoming but in the end the council agreed. The site will conveniently accommodate 12 buses and at least 35 cars. It would apply to country bus services only, of which there are nine belonging to the Ortona bus company and three belonging to other persons. The whole of the Ortona country service buses, which now stand on Senate House Hill will be removed to the new parking centre 25 07 31

1925 08 09
The Corporation seems to have stirred up a good deal of indignation by their proposals with regard to the Drummer Street "motor park". In a town like Cambridge it certainly seems unwise to do anything that may detract from its attractiveness. A suggestion has been put that the 'park' should be established on Butt's Green and not at Drummer Street at all. A petition has been presented to the Mayor asking her to call at Town's meeting and it is hoped that the request will be acceded to c25 08 09

1925 08 12
The protest meeting against the taking of part of Christ's Pieces for parking motor vehicles attracted a crowd of over 2,000 people to Drummer Street & was marked by a remarkable climax. After a resolution of protest had been passed the crowd voted a desire to take it to the Mayor that night. Speeches had been delivered from a four-wheeled waggon and the shafts were quickly manned and the waggon containing councillors who had spoken was dragged at a good pace to the Mayor's house in Newton Road. Something like a 1,000 people followed in its wake 25 08 12

1925 08 24
As the result of an open-air meeting on Parker's Piece efforts are being made to form a Ratepayers' Association whose first business will be to contest the legality of the Cambridge Town Council's action in encroaching on Christ's Pieces for the purpose of providing a parking place for motor vehicles. This was absolutely illegal. Within twelve months the continual movement of vehicles on what was virtually a made-up bog the road would drop six inches. The Ortona Bus Company will be the first people to say they have been pushed into a rotten corner that is of no use to them 25 08 23

1925 11 28
Drummer Street proposals go ahead, opens in November & various country buses stop there rather than on Senate House Hill; later Ortona also use it, causing overcrowding & disputes [1.14]

1926
End of Mammoth Show which had boarded off large areas of Jesus Green council state this last occasion can have Jesus Green [3.10, MMC 33]

1926 04 29
Rouse Ball pavilion opened, Jesus Green [3.2]

1926 10 28
The name of a well-known onion – Nuneham Park – as a fitting one for the new recreation ground at Newnham, because of the many tears it has caused on the ground of cost, was suggested by Councillor Edwards at Cambridge council. Another name proposed was Lamentations Land as a perpetual reminder that they had been guilty of the most extravagant and wilful expenditure of public money. Finally the Council decided on Lammas Land. It would signify that the ground formerly opened during certain seasons of the year was now closed permanently against any private owner's rights and the public had the rights for the whole of the year 26 10 28

1926 10 30
Two aeroplanes from Duxford Aerodrome came down on Coldham's Common, one being overturned and considerably damaged. One of the machines in a flight of five passing over Cambridge was observed to be in trouble. The single seater fighter had been engaged in firing practice at the Wash. He made a good landing, coming to rest near the bathing-place with just a buckled wheel. A similar machine went to its assistance but was not so fortunate; it struck some bumpy ground and turned right over, coming to rest flat on its back with the wheels in the air 26 10 30

1926 12 02
The official testing took place of the bridges along the new road through Coe Fen, The Fen Causeway. They are Snobbs' Bridge, Flood Water Bridge and the River Bridge. The last is the

most important and five steam rollers and one steam tractor, together weighing 63 tons were driven across it, passing each other, thus making 63 tons rolling weight, equivalent to about 100 tons dead weight. The Cambridge Borough Surveyor and councillors boarded a punt and viewed the deflectometer under the bridge, which gave a satisfactory reading. The foundations consist of 100 piles of 40 feet length, weighing about four tons each 26 12 02

1926 12 09
Fen Causeway, the new and important link between Newnham and the rest of Cambridge, was opened by the Mayor. The bridge and its approaches were gaily decorated with bunting and presented a colourful scene. The project of relieving Silver Street traffic had started as long ago as 1904 and discussion had gone on for nearly 20 years before the Town Council approved the plan in 1923. Nine proposals had been put forward and had it not been for the urgency of the unemployment question the same position would have existed today, only instead of nine there might have been nineteen different schemes (Laughter) 26 12 09

1927 06 04
The Mercury Press has produced a verse by Quentin Nelson, in which an undergraduate learns that a road is to be built across Coe Fen, and gives vent to his feelings: "Every frog and every toad, Will croak damnation to your soul!" Well in the first place we don't speak of Coe Fen Road now – it is Fen Causeway – and secondly most of us believe the Fen is being appreciated more nowadays that ever it has been in the past. Still Mr Nelson's poetic outburst is none the less interesting because we do not happen to agree with him

1928 05 25
Amid scenes of enthusiasm the Mayor of Cambridge opened the new Coleridge Road recreation ground which has just been completed at a total cost of £7,000. It was in September 1925 the Corporation bought the ground for the public and ever since then the Surveyor and his merry men had been preparing it. By the autumn they would be able to play football on it and by next summer cricket. They wanted to make a garden as well and if any person felt disposed to present them with a dozen flowering trees the council would make good use of them. Critics said it was not wanted but in the future many would be grateful for it. It would keep the children off the streets and from the danger of the traffic. 28 05 25

1929 02 25
Cambridge councillors debated the proposed exchange of Butts Green for New Square in order that it might be converted into a parking place. If I lived in New Square I should not be at all pleased at the idea of that nice little patch of green giving way to a parking place, but if I had a business establishment in Fitzroy Street I should say "Yes, let the cars park there by all means". There is a danger of New Square being built upon in the near future and residents may consider a car park the least of two evils. Others are concerned about using the amenities of Butts Green, though one questioned whether it was used for anything but beating carpets. CDN 25.2.1929

1930

1930 03 01
History was made on Parker's Piece, Cambridge, when thousands of farmers and farm workers attended a mass demonstration. The meeting was originally intended to bring together workers in East Anglia but interest had become so wide that nearly all the agricultural counties in England were represented. They passed a resolution protesting against the increase in unemployment amongst farmers, unless effective steps are at once taken then nothing but calamity faces the industry. Visitors arrived by train, car, motor coach and bicycle, the ordinary parking facilities

were quite inadequate and cars were parked around Parker's Piece itself and along Victoria Avenue. More than an hour before the start crowds assembled in front of the platform of motor lorries covered with a Union Jack and fitted with a battery of amplifiers. They whiled away the time listening to the Railway Band and broke into song when they played 'Farmer's Boy'. 30 03 01a-d

1930 03 27
Ideal cricket weather favoured the long-awaited opening of the Hobbs Pavilion on Parker's Piece by the Mayor of Cambridge in the presence of Mr & Mrs Jack Hobbs. He was the greatest cricketer the world had ever known and had learned to play within sight of this new pavilion. All that was needed was a record of his achievements to hang in the building, but those were not yet over. It would induce the younger sportsmen to become keen again and to carry on the traditions so that in future Cambridge would never be without its representatives in first-class cricket. 30 03 27

1930 07 12
Work has started on the provision of a model yacht pond and paddling pool as part of an extensive scheme for the improvement of Sheep's Green. This is one of numerous schemes for providing work for the unemployed and when operations are in full swing about 70 men will be employed. The Ladies' and Men's Bathing Place will also be extended 30 07 12b

1930 07 22
Cambridge councillors rejected plans for the erection of a bungalow on Robinson Crusoe Island & decided the existing old cottage and shed should be demolished and that the Surveyor should report on the erection of suitable sheds for boating purposes. They also considered land at Town Close, Old Chesterton which is occupied by numerous caravans; their appearance is most objectionable and they should be moved 30 07 22c

1930 09 18
Jack Hobbs came for the first time since the opening of the pavilion that bears his name. He brought one of the most brilliant cricket teams that Parker's Piece has ever seen with seven who have captained England including Hobbs himself and O'Connor, both of whom learned the game in Cambridge. By two o'clock there were at least 5,000 spectators massed three and four deep round the entire field. Others stood on the running boards of cars drawn up in Park Terrace to see the game. 30 09 18b-c

1930 12 06
Sir – all Cambridge men will be alarmed at the threat to build an arterial ring road bisecting Grantchester Meadows. The meadows are owned by King's College; we regard their preservation as a trust; and will not build on them, nor near them. We will do nothing to change their character and refuse to contemplate such a calamity – The Dean of King's 30 12 06b

1931 06 05
The Mayor of Cambridge formally opened the new paddling pool on Sheep Green. It was the result of the Corporation's scheme of work for the unemployed with a £12,000 Government grant. As it has already been 'patronised' by the youngsters for some time now, no great ceremony was observed beyond that of letting with water in again. It is now open to old and young to paddle, but he declined the invitation to do so. 31 06 05k [1.17]

1931 07 17

The question of cricket on Lammas Land, Newnham produced a spirited debate: old ladies crossing the grass might be hit with the hard cricket ball. The Commons Committee is going through a spasm of kill-joy spirit: boys played on the streets but as soon as they went to open space they were told they must not do so. Perhaps a soft ball could be used – or a golf ball. Newnham Institute sought permission for a cricket pitch, but this would turn it into a second Parker's Piece 31 07 17f & g

1932
Cambridge Corporation Act gives council further powers over Midsummer Common or Jesus Green & Butt Green [MPP.61]

1933 01 07
Sir – Coldham's Common could be turned into a municipal nine-hole golf course now it is no longer required for shooting. The Corporation have £700 from the War Office in compensation for not putting the Common in the state it was before the rifle range was constructed. The various firing points and the lower portion of the butts could be used in the construction of a very sporting course, providing work for the unemployed. It would be no new thing to have golf played on the Common as the first University course was there – RG 33 01 07d

1935 02 17
Coldham's Common being levelled – photo – 35 02 17

1935 08 02
The new swimming bath on Coldham's Common was opened by the Mayor, Alderman R. Starr. There was some regret that his Worship did not take the first plunge into the 150 feet long pool, which takes its water from the high level stream, and youthful spectators had to be restrained from going in as soon as the doors were unlocked. There is a diving tower and spring board at the deep end with dressing sheds and a space fenced off for sun bathing. 35 08 02a

1936 03 03
Trinity Hall had purchased Cherry Hinton Hall Estate with a view to development and asked the council to let them proceed or to buy it as a public park for £13,000. This was more than they'd paid but the land had recently been brought within the Borough boundary and if they were to acquire open space in areas ripe for development they should have to pay building land price. They would move the Horticultural Department there and let the grazing but parts of the house would probably be demolished– 36 03 03a 36 03 05a & b

1937 05 03
Labour Party's May Day demonstration on Parker's Piece, 500 marches – 37 05 03a & b

1937 05 26
Sir – today I wandered down to Christ's Pieces. Hearing the band I came to the entrance and behold there was a sign 'Admittance 3d'. I am told that an ancient footpath crosses there. But it must be kept select or perhaps a poor woman with her pram might mix with the few who have paid their threepence. Besides poor people cannot be expected to enjoy the music of a band. The hedge around the bandstand is thick enough to protect those inside from the gaze of the vulgar crowd. So we listened and looked at the band from the street. Cambridge knows how to keep the common herd in their place. But did I not hear somebody say that the people, not the council, own the park? – Canadian 37 05 26a

1937 08 04

Sir, as a former critic of Histon Road Cemetery may I now acknowledge the improvement which is so apparent, especially to the curator who had no easy task in taking over such a neglected place. However Alexandra Gardens in Carlyle Road is probably the worst kept of all the recreation grounds. The grass verges have been neither mown nor trimmed this year and no hoe has been used on the shrubbery border which is a mass of thistles and other weeds. It seems difficult to believe that no member of the Council ever pays a visit – 'Observer' 37 08 04

1938 03 21
Cherry Hinton Hall was a 'white elephant' and should be let as a Youth Hostel. Some 2,000 people a year would use it, spending money in Cambridge. To turn the hall, which had many rooms, into a place for meetings would mean expensive interior alterations – it would be cheaper to put up a smaller place. When the council had bought the area, the house had not even been valued, it was bought on land value alone. Parts of the ground could be used for recreation with an outdoor swimming pool - there was a stream to provide the water. 38 03 21b, 38 03 25

1939-45
Donkey common requisitioned & afterwards the huts that had been erected there were used for emergency housing [MMC.55]

1940

1941 07 24
War-time allotments – over 50 acres under cultivation, 2,000 provided with vegetables; first piece of land was in Ainsworth Street in Oct 1939 – 41 07 24

1944 12 08
"Stand down" parade. The famous sward of Parker's Piece has been the scene of many historic ceremonies, but none, surely in what feelings of those taking part as principals or spectators have been so mixed as on Sunday, when Cambridge saw her own part in the great Home Guard "stand down". After an impressive last parade, the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Home Guard marched away, conscious not only of the thanks of the King, but of the gratitude of their own fellow citizens. 44 12 08 CIPof

1945 09 21
Parker's Piece lamp standard broken during VJ celebrations [1.7]

1947 07 09
May I explain why St Matthew's Piece has not yet been restored to its former state. It was requisitioned by the War Department for a vehicle car-park. The surface and foundations were not suitable for such purposes and the military authorities were told that their vehicles would cause extensive damage to the playing area and would involve them in a heavy claim for compensation. When the War Department released the site the Corporation lodged a substantial claim for reinstatement. The claim has now been referred to higher authority for arbitration. My committee sincerely regret that the ratepayers of St Matthew's ward and their children in particular, have been deprived of the use of this ground for so long – letter from G.F. Nobbs, Chairman Cambridge commons and cemetery committee 47 07 09

1947 07 23
Sir. It is very interesting to read that those in authority on our local Council at last have abandoned the idea of spoiling Petersfield by spending nearly £2,000 on a paddling pool and reverting to its former condition, the present static water tank will therefore be demolished.

Would it be out of place to suggest some sort of supervision be given to safeguard the beautiful trees and shrubs from destruction and grounds kept in decent condition? Perhaps, at the same time, those unsightly and out of date notices "To the shelter" could be removed - letter from E.H. Tatchell, 1 Willis Rd, Cambridge 47 07 23

1949
Only one stall on Parker's Piece but no Good Friday skipping, in 1948 only three groups of people who continued it & that year stalls dwindled to one which set up at junction of East Road & Gonville Place & sold tinsel-covered balls on elastic [4.2]

1949 05 221
Cambridge was the scene of a "ceremony of the keys" about midnight on May 12th when the borough pindar, Mr Bill Clee, went round a number of Cambridge commons unlocking the gates so that in accordance with rights dating back hundreds of years those who wished could have access to the commons to graze their stock. Travelling on an auto-cycle he unlocked no fewer than 17 gates on his journey. I gather there were no queues of stock waiting to sample the fresh green grass. There is a wild west touch about the animals on the commons now, for each one is branded to indicate that the owner has paid the required fee c49 05 26

1949 06 02
The Secretary of State for War, Mr Shinwell, states that there are 43 huts on the camp site at Donkey common, Cambridge. They were originally intended to accommodate three officers and 224 other ranks. There is now one Women's Royal Army Corps unit and a small detachment of Pioneers, comprising three officers and 76 other ranks in all 49 06 02

1949 08 13
Sir – Many of your readers will be perturbed to hear of the recent happening on Coe Fen camp. The council has forced the removal of all chickens and rabbits kept by tenants. The real reason in my view is the marring of the view from Trumpington road by the camp. Nissen encampments are not beautiful but the solution to the problem is the building of proper homes for the people at present forced by the acute housing shortage to live there – Jane Wolstencroft 49 08 13

1950

1950 10 18
Cambridge housing committee recommends the installation of television sets should not be allowed at Donkey common, as it would not be advisable to erect aerials on the roof of the huts. If erected independently they would have to be supported by guy-ropes which might prove a nuisance to other tenants and a danger to children 50 10 18

1951 05 26
Protests over proposals for parking at Regent Terrace "should not be over sentimental about a small piece of grass [1.14]

1951 06 21
Strong protests were voiced at the District Trades Council when the proposed car park site on Parker's Piece came under discussion. Mr C. Hatton said: "We have seen parts of Christ's Pieces and the whole of Donkeys Common disappear and now there are proposals to encroach on Parker's Piece. We cannot too jealously guard such a priceless amenity". He would like to see all car waiting in the centre of Cambridge abolished and car parks instituted on the outskirts of the city 51 06 21 [1.15]

1951 07 20
"Utmost vigilance" on the part of the Cambridge Trades Council was needed to make sure the city council does not "pull a fast one" in its proposals to reserve a slice of Parker's Piece for car parking facilities. "I think the City council have put this back for six months and will bring it up again when they think it has all died down", said the chairman. "We don't want to lose even a piece of one of the city's cherished beauty spots". There was no need for a parking site in Regent Terrace as the accommodation of other parking places was not being overtaxed

1951 09 07
Tenants of 34 huts on the Donkeys Common "Estate", Cambridge, are feeling anxious about their security of tenure. They regard a letter from the City Treasurer as a veiled threat for them to leave their make-shift homes. Residents say they have no bath facilities, water closets adjoin each other and are therefore not fully private, there are no doors on the bedrooms and that they suffer from dampness, mice, ants and 'many other forms of insect life'. They add: "We intend to remain here until equal or better accommodation is provided by the City Housing Committee 51 09 07

1952
The Common Lands of Cambridgeshire – a detailed account of the commons – published by County Council [MMC.]

1952 10 28
Elms on Parker's Piece felled for roundabout at East Road junction [1.16]

1953 12 04
Cambridge councillors approved a £22,000 scheme for the improvement of Jesus Green Swimming Pool despite fears that this might prejudice chances of an indoor pool. It was an outdoor pool, used for about 110 days a year; last year 55,000 people used it but it ran at a loss and each one cost the City sixpence. It would be filled from the mains & filtered to remove impurities. More would use it if they could go into water that looked like water and not soup. Others thought they ought to enclose half the present bath so it could be used all year – but this would make it look like a shed and bring criticism

1955 04 29
Cambridge City Council has decided to proceed with the erection of an indoor swimming bath on Donkey Common. It is to be used for swimming only and not for dances, concerts or meetings. But some objected as they wanted to preserve all the open spaces they could. There were sometimes as many as ten cricket matches on Parker's Piece and Donkey Common was a place where mothers could allow their children to play in safety avoiding the flying cricket balls. The huts had been placed there as a war-time expedient and it should be returned to its former state. 55 04 29e & f

1955 10 15
The condition of the huts on Donkey Common has steadily deteriorated and they should only be let to families requiring emergency accommodation who can be rehoused by September 1957. Some are so bad they will have to be closed before that and when the worst of them become vacant they should not be re-let. The Council should purchase 50 premises due for demolition and carry out minimum repairs to allow them to be occupied temporarily. 55 10 15b

1956 03 13
Christ's Pieces bandstand to go 56 03 13b

1956 04 21
The demolition of the bandstand on Christ's Pieces jogged memories for Robert Austin who played on it as a band-boy, bandsman and conductor for over 45 years. It was originally built for the Royal Show on Midsummer Common and afterwards re-erected on the Pieces. It was lighted by naked gas jets which usually blew out and had to be re-lit several times during a performance. The Volunteers, Police and Town bands - between all of whom there was intense rivalry – played there. It was also used for mass meetings and an annual open-air service of Cambridge Men's Brotherhood. 56 04 21c

1956 04 28
Christ's Pieces bandstand from Royal Show 1894 – 56 04 28c

1957
Royal Commission on Common Lands takes evidence [MMC.37]

1957 05 17
Parker's Piece underground carpark proposal May [1.19]

1957 07 20
A giant super-modern heated indoor swimming pool with a roof-top restaurant may be constructed on Donkey common. It would have space for 230 bathers with 600 spectators, parking for 35 cars and 200 cycles and a view across Parker's Piece from the restaurant. Changing rooms for footballers and crickets could be installed later. It could be in use within three years. 57 07 20a & c

1957 10 14
Proposals for an 800-space car park under Parker's Piece are technically impossible, opponents say. There are 'certain unsound features', it would be detrimental to the area and it would take years for the ground to be reinstated. The cost would probably be as great as that of the planned scheme in Lion Yard, though no car park of this nature has yet been constructed. But Labour councillors want it carried out as a matter of urgency. 57 10 14

1958 11 28
Scheme to take part of Parker's Piece for cars [1.21]

1958 12 01
Putting the park in Parker's Piece – 58 12 01 & a

1959
Minister gives permission for swimming pool on Donkey Common [MMC.56]

1959 04 24
Parker's Piece edges not to be used for parking, Donkey common instead – 59 04 24 & a, b

1959 04 27
Sir - Few can remember Donkey Common's original use as a common grazing ground for ponies. The A.T.S. officer who occupied the war-time hutments did her best to maintain such legal grazing rights by getting a flock of geese to keep the grass down. The Royal Engineers Colonel who had the hutments built drew up his plans so as not to destroy the main avenue of well-grown limes nor any of the acacia, hawthorn and other trees. The sappers built so soundly that the

Corporation was able to make use of the buildings in the post –war housing shortage until this year. Now if it is to be used as a swimming pool or car park, may I plead to let it perish under its old and correct name of Donkey (not 'Donkey's) Common – B. Nevinson 59 04 27

1959 06 26
Donkey Common is to be cleared and used as a car park until needed for the new swimming pool. Two years ago the Housing Committee had said they still needed the huts for emergency accommodation but the cluster of rusty scabs were an eyesore and disgrace to the city and should be removed as soon as possible, councillors were told. 59 06 26c

1959 10 19
Donkey Common – trouble over huts – 59 10 19c

1959 11 26
Butt Green protest over plans to use as temporary car park – 59 11 26e

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 12 07
Indoor swimming pool Donkey common starts work – 60 12 07f

1962 08 09
Henry Merton, commons pinder – 62 08 09

1963 02 02
Parts of the Backs should be flooded and turned into skating rinks, says a Cambridge botanist. There are a few natural ideal spots, used for lawn tennis, which could be easily flooded to provide skating. The initial cost would be insignificant but the benefit for the young and 'young at heart' (meaning dons) would be enormous. The maintenance of the skating rink would be easily covered by a small entrance fee. And it wouldn't spoil the tennis courts as ice and snow give the best protection for the species of grasses which might otherwise be damaged by the continuous cold. 63 02 02a

1963 02 18
Parker's Piece covered with packed ice & snow - skating [4.1]

1963 04 01
Parkside indoor pool was opened by Ald Ridgeon and dozens of young members of Cambridge swimming clubs who had been sitting round the edges of the pool jumped into the water, splashing and cheering. A colourful and exciting gala followed featuring Linda Ludgrove, the double gold medallist at the Empire Games, and several Olympic swimming stars. The new building, which took three years to erect at a cost of £250,000, contains two heated pools; the main one has diving boards while the beginners' pool has a constant depth of two feet six inches. 63 04 01 talked of for 100 years [6.16, 17.8]

1963 07 29
Lime Kiln Hill was closed to traffic and pedestrians while Sappers used high explosives to blow up the kiln shaft and the tunnel leading to it. They blasted six-foot deep holes which they gouged deeper so as to blow in the thick pit walls. Then sentries ensured everyone was clear before a tremendous bang carried rocks and earth high in the sky. The shaft walls were cracked or ripped apart and surrounding trees and shrubs were almost non-existent. Electricity wires some way

away from the explosion were broken. But a practice climbing wall used by the CU Mountaineering Club was left standing. 63 07 29a

1966 07 29
City planner Gordon Logie revels six possible scheme for a new Cambridge shopping centre; one would build on part of Christ's Pieces and extend grass over the King St area – 66 07 29, a, b

1963 11 26
Proposed 750 vehicle underground car park between central lamp standard & Regent Terrace (abandoned 1964) [4.3]

1966 08 05
'Before the sacrifice of our heritage' – article by Dr D.R. Taunt, Bursar of Jesus College following 'Shopping growth in Cambridge' report dealing with Christ's Pieces – 66 08 05a, b

1966 11 21
King's Hedges estate 10 acre site for recreation ground agreed near proposed housing development off Campkin Rd – 66 11 21

1968
Common lands registered under Commons Registration Act 1965, does not include Parker's Piece (leads to disputes throughout following decade) [MPP.64,MMC]

1968 10 24
Parker's Piece plan to be re-examined, shelved 10 years ago, scrapped [4.4]

1968 11 01
Parker's Piece plan scrapped

1971 10 07
Queen Anne Terrace car park opened, proposal 400 sq yds entrance Queen Anne car park, petition, DOE inquiry, postponed [4.5]

1975
Sports Hall opened [MMC.60]

1976 09 10
Most of 38 century-old elms face chop due Dutch elm disease [4.6]

1978 03 18
Ena Mitchell wants Parker's Piece registered as town green, but would stop council hiring out sporting facilities there [4.7]

1978 09 12
Problems of illegal parking on commons continue, park on commons not New Square [3.4]

1979
Objection on registration common lands

1981 03 21

Cambridge City Council may go into small-scale farming to try to raise extra money for the ratepayers, buying 20 Hereford store cattle for grazing on Lammas Land and Sheep's Green. The cost could be taken from money earmarked for maintaining the common lands where, under an old law, people can graze cattle, paying a nominal rent of £32 for the right to pasture nearly 200 animals. Most are not really farmers but come together to buy ten animals each and never go near them, taking advantage of rules which prevent the council charging an up-to-date rent. 81 03 21

1982 05 19
Prince Philip flew into Cambridge and made what is believed to be the first helicopter landing on Parker's Piece. It made quite a stir among people making their way to work. It may also have made them late because police cordoned off the Piece for the landing, special permission for which had been obtained from the City Council 82 05 19

1984 03 17
Lammas Land car park plans dropped [3.7]

1985 08
Peace garden open Christ's Pieces [3.a9]

1985 11 14
Cambridge City Council Act passed without difficulty: gives up- to-date control over commons, grazing rights, fairgrounds, recreation grounds & river [7.12]

1987 08 13
A news reporter visited Cambridge's three main swimming pools. First stop was the Abbey outdoor pool where each morning attendants try to remove the frogs which hop into the water from a nearby ditch overnight. The changing room is a bench behind a hut and the water felt like freshly-melted ice. Jesus Green may only have 20-30 swimmers a day but they are real regulars, including Arthur Mansfield, 77, who swims a quarter of a mile most days as he has since 1922. Then I followed the smell of the chlorine to Parkside Pool which was the hottest but far from enjoyable 87 08 13a & b

1988 03 17
Parkside swimming pool plans for water sports complex – 88 03 17a

1989 02 11
Blanket ban on events Midsummer common to protect common ¢CEN 11.2.89

1989 04 22
£1M plan convert Parkside swimming pool into water leisure centre scrapped ¢CEN 22.4.89

1989 04 24
Labour to press ahead ¢CEN 24.4.89

1989 07 05
Wandlebury 164a site proposed for sanctuary, nature & recreation ¢CEN 5.7.89

1990 03 24
Cambridge University boat crews are backing the campaign to stop a road and bridge being built between Ditton Meadows and Coldham's Common as part of a traffic management plan to tackle

Cambridge' chronic road congestion problems. Socam – Save Our Commons and Meadows – say the environment would be ruined and there is no justification for it. 93 03 24a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Amalgamated Engineering Union march in Sidney Sreet, 1963

257.21

c.32.5 : Trade disputes, Trade Unions
Reports of strikes, disputes and trades union 1888 to 1988

1891
Building strike for 22 weeks intimidation results in imprisonment [1.1]

1899 08 04
William Askham, a labourer in the employ of Messrs Coulson & Lofts told Cambridge police court that he was at work at Bridge Street and saw the prisoner, who was a striker, standing on the pavement. He came upon the building and said he would fight anyone on the job for half-a-crown to a shilling. Prisoner said he was not picketing that day. They only went on duty three days a week. He never asked the men to "come out" and it was no use asking Askham to come out on strike because the Society would not have him. He was sent out by the Society to induce men to come out on strike, for which he received a shilling a day - 1899 08 04

1899 10 11
A meeting of Cambridge carpenters and joiners was held to obtain an increase of wages. At Newmarket the wages had advanced to 8d an hour and the carpenters and joiners of Cambridge were beginning to agitate and follow in their wake. In many other places men were only working a 49 hour week and left off at half past five. There were some Cambridge firms employing carpenters who were offering 9d an hour but most men were content to go on dribbling with 7½d because they thought they had good berths and good masters. There was only one remedy for this evil and that lay in organisation - 1899 10 11

1900

1904
Cambridge Master Tailors Association set up [2.3] (1721 case 82 06 22)

1907 03 25
National Union of Shop Assistants establish branch [1.16]

1910 07 10
Cambridge Master Tailors Association agree wages (echoing first dispute 1721) [1.17]

1911 08 18
The railway strike has begun and its effects are impossible to say. A complete stoppage would paralyse the trade of the country. Meat would be unobtainable and flour and corn exhausted in a week leaving cities starving for bread. No doubt road and river traction would bring some mitigation but fruit and fish would leap to famine prices and without coal no gas or electricity can be produced. Mills, factories and workshops would be closed down for lack of power and the great majority of people become dependent upon public relief. 11 08 18e

1911 08 18
The effects of the rail strike are not seriously felt in Cambridge. All trains are running though supplies are considerably delayed with shortages in butter, bacon and petrol. Representatives of the Amalgamated Society of Railway Servants have been in town but only a very few local employees are society men. Cambridge Station is looked upon as a 'fat job'; guards, porters and platform hands know when they are well off and there are plenty of reserve men to take the places of any who come out. 11 08 18h

1911 08 25
Had the railway strike not been settled on Saturday there is little doubt that nearly 100 of the men employed at Cambridge station would have come out. The GER trains ran as usual and the London and North-Western Railway will give double pay to the men connected with the movement and handling of traffic who have remained loyally at their posts. Although no actual disturbances were feared the Chief Constable very properly took the precaution of stopping all leave in case of need. 11 08 25f

1911 09 15
A number of Cambridge schoolboys 'came out' on strike, some because they had a half-holiday and others because they hadn't. Some say there were several hundred boys and girls carrying 'On Strike' banners and they had chalked the same on the doors of their schools. They held a mass meeting on Christ's Pieces then marched down Emmanuel Street where they came into contact with the police (one constable). The demonstration then collapsed. But teachers say there was no strike. They were not schoolboys but hooligans; they made a disturbance outside the school but the flashing eye of the schoolmaster made them retreat 11 09 15c

1912 03 08
If the coal strike continues more than three weeks Cambridge will be faced with a bread famine. One of two of the leading bakers have supplies of fuel and flour to last about five weeks but a small baker consumes over a ton of coal a week and has little storage capacity. If the coal merchants cannot keep the bakers going, there will be no bread. Flour might be available and those people with stocks of coal or gas ovens might bake their own bread but the poor would be hit very hard. 12 03 08c

Whatever hardships may be inflicted on Cambridge inhabitants through the coal strike, it is improbable that their linen will have to go unwashed. Most laundries have a good supply of coke. The situation at Haverhill is generally favourable: Messrs Gurteen, the staple industry, has ample supplies but the coal merchants are nearing exhaustion. However at Saffron Walden the street lamps have not been lighted for two nights and the gas has been at a lower pressure. 12 03 08c Newmarket unaffected, Ely not alarmed – 12 03 08d

1912 03 15
Cambridge undergraduates formed a Strike Emergency Committee to avert the disaster with which the nation is threatened by the coal strike. The men were extremely enthusiastic and any reference to 'getting the coal' brought vociferous cheers. If they carried out their desire to work in the mines they would require protection: while half were underground the others should be on guard to see the cages and ventilation apparatus were not interfered with. Police would not be able to send help. Postcards were distributed on which students placed their names and addresses which would find them in the vacation if an emergency arose 12 03 15b
Mass Undergraduate plans to organise a strike emergency committee have been attacked by the 'Cambridge Magazine'. It reports: "The strike-smashing Saturnalia of Mr Calderon and his Comic Coal Heavers, which began in Cambridge to the mingled disgust and amusement of King's was continued on Friday night. We hope they will not take themselves seriously, and that their endeavours to make this ancient seat of learning ridiculous will soon cease 12 03 15c
Meeting of undergraduates form Coal Strike Emergency Committee prepared to work in pits, but strike ends [1.18]

1912 03 15
Coal strike – local railway services – 12 03 15g

1912 03 29
Work on the new schools in Melbourne Place is practically at a standstill owing to the strike and 50 men are idle. The contractors cannot get delivery of the facing bricks they require. "We have several thousand blue bricks on the rail somewhere between Staffordshire and Cambridge" said Mr C. Kidman. "We are promised red bricks a month after the brickmakers receive coal but they cannot get any". An interesting little machine with massive steam-powered steel jaws was champing up bricks from the curious little row of cottages which had no back premises and no back windows. Five trees had been cut down to provide log for fuel for the engine. 12 03 29f

1913 07 14
The Trade Unionist Demonstration took place on Parker's Piece on Sunday afternoon, despite the council ban. Thousands of people turned out in the expectation of seeing a conflict with the police but no attempt was made to stop the proceedings. Over 1,100 trade unionists took part, marching through the streets of Romsey and New Town. They halted outside the house of Mr I.W. Hornsby, one of the oldest members of the National Union of Railwaymen in Gwydir Street. The old veteran gazed out of the upper window over a crowd which stretched down the street and many hats were raised to him in sympathy 1913 07 18 p10 CIP trades union demonstration on Parker's Piece : 1,100 take part, march Romsey to New Town , call for minimum wages of 30/- (1.50) per week & 8 hour day. Council ban erection of platform & this seen as attack on the rally [1.19]

1913 07 25
A serious crisis has occurred in the building trade in Cambridge owing to the men's dissatisfaction with the present working conditions. Negotiations have been going on between the Amalgamated Society of Carpenters and Joiners and the Master Builders' Association but without

agreement. Among the demands is for walking time allowed to jobs to be paid at twenty minutes a mile and not less than 3s 6d for lodgings. Wages should be 9d per hour (£3.66 at today's values). Now a strike will start on Monday. 13 07 25 p7 CIP

1913 08 01
Building strike averted 13 08 01 p 6 & 12 CIP

1913 09 12
Cambridge bakers are to form a trade union – everyone, barring errand boys, had one and it was a disgrace that there were married men with children, earning only 22 shillings a week. At present men were working 80 to 100 hours a week for the miserable pittance of fifteen shillings. Even though the Cambridge Co-operative bakers were getting 28 shillings that was still below what was earned elsewhere. Theirs was a highly-skilled trade and they should be paid a proper wage. A union had been formed in 1902 which started with a bakers' dozen and lasted for eight years. 13 09 12 p8

1913 10 31
A Trades Union demonstration Parkers Piece was marred by heavy rain but some 400 unionists marched in procession through the rain and mire. The Bakers' Union was the latest to be formed. Members of the Labour Party cycled out into the villages and set up branches. The formation of the Labour Party had led to far greater interest in municipal seats. Before that the Liberals and Tories used to arrange the seats between themselves. 13 10 31 p5 CIP

1914 05 08
Although there was a crowd of 2,000 at the annual demonstration of the Cambridge Trades Union on Parker's Piece on Sunday afternoon, everything was exceedingly quiet and orderly, the speeches were mild almost to dullness and did not provoke the smallest opposition. The resolution in favour of a 48 hours' working week and a minimum wage of thirty shillings was carried. It remained for the irrepressible suffragettes to create the only diversion, but even that was mild.14 05 08d [1.9, 2.2]

1914 07 24
National Union of Vehicular Workers trade union meeting on Parker's Piece heard many workers were underpaid and underfed. When taxis came to Cambridge the old cab-drivers should have been given the chance of leaning the new trade. Instead the taxies were the property of private firms 14 07 24

1918 09 18
Men just back from the front on leave have a very strong feeling indeed about the mania for striking, which is running through this country at the present time There is no lack of sympathy with labour among the men out at the front, but these men are in touch with actualities and see for themselves that a crisis can be turned signally to our immediate advantage if we all put our backs into it, and that any contrary action will have the effect of prolonging the war. They are making enormous sacrifices and passing through horrifying experiences which, the imagination of the people at home cannot picture, and they are naturally indignant at the selfish action on the part of their fellows which is disturbing the comfort of the soldiers' families and tends to keep the soldier himself longer out in this awful hell 18 09 18 CIPof

1919 04
Bedmakers' unrest [1.10]

1919 10 01
Rail strike; military at station; food supplies assured but shortage inevitable; road transport development, strikers interfere with volunteers – 19 10 01b

1919 10 08
Rail Strike. The action of the N.U.R. Executive in forcing on the country, without warning, a national railway strike, bound up as it is with so many evil consequences and endangering the country's food supply, met with universal condemnation in Cambridge, as indeed it has throughout the British Isles. The situation is being met with calmness and fortitude. Cambridge railway station went to sleep on Friday night at the behest of the N.U.R. Goods traffic and perishable articles were held up, cattle suffered similarly and the mere man in the street was faced with the necessity of arranging his own transport if he wished to get home during the week-end. Four or five passenger trains were handled at Cambridge on Saturday. About 90 per cent of the men are out. A few trains have been run daily during the week. The Divisional Superintendent of Operations said a large number of Cambridge civilians had volunteered for service on the railway. The strike affected the gas supply and postal services and food rations were reduced to the following amounts: Meat 1s. 8d. worth per-week, bacon 6 ozs. sugar 8 ozs. butter 1 oz, margarine 4 ozs, lard 2 ozs. An old lady walked ten miles on Saturday to fetch margarine. Coal deliveries were restricted to deliveries of one cwt. 19 10 08 CIPof

1919 10 08
Railway Strike Ends. The railway strike terminated on Sunday after an existence of nine days. Speaking generally, Cambridge felt but little ill effect from the national railway stoppage. Volunteers and loyal employees carried on a skeleton passenger service and voluntary effort in connection with road transport proved an invaluable asset in the movement of food supplies for the community. Travellers were incommoded, the public generally showed annoyance and anxiety in turn, and the man in the street exercised a Briton's privilege of "grousing" and carrying on the best he could, Cambridge railway employees returned to work on Monday, and about 8 a.m. 500 of the strikers marched to the station to report for duty. Others arrived in the course of the day, but owing to some misunderstanding in connection with the re-instatement of certain labour, the goods operatives declined to resume work. A deputation waited upon the local railway authorities and subsequently returned to the strike headquarters in Devonshire Road. Here the goods men were told to report for work next morning, the difficulties having been overcome. The men received the instruction with general pleasure, and one enthusiast called for cheers for the "brothers" who had settled the matter. A member of deputation discountenanced any form of demonstration, and the men dispersed quietly 19 10 08 CIPof
Termination of the railway strike; marching back to work, Ortona under pressure but bring in more supplies of petrol – 19 10 08g
Strike scenes – Royal Engineers arrive in readiness; Milk dump at Cattle Market; Mass meeting of railwaymen – photos – 19 10 08c

1919 10 15
Scenes during railway strike – lorries, traction engine, milk churn in motorcycle sidecar – photos – 19 10 15c

1920
1920 01 21
University Servants. We are all keenly alive to the domestic service troubles at Cambridge (University) within and without college walls, but I am informed that they are a good deal more acute at Oxford, where no female labour is admissible. Oxford college servants, like those at Cambridge, have sprung a Trades Union upon an astonished and bewildered University. Presum-

ably a satisfactory arrangement has been come to here, as no one has heard more of the rumblings of the revolt which threatened during the Long Vacation, but at Oxford they have the whole of the thorny and difficult road to tread. 20 01 21 CIPof

1920 05 01
May Day in Cambridge – building workers take a holiday to celebrate; procession through the town - CDN 20 05 01

1920 05 22
Trinity College waiters strike; more money demanded; undergraduates serve themselves - - CDN 20 05 22

1920 10 09
Cambridge Master Tailors Association wound up & replaced by National Federation of Master Tailors [2.3]

1920 11 04
Bookbinders' Union branch reopened 1917 after being closed for 50 or 60 years; three years ago average wage very low and negotiations had taken place. Employees resisted minimum wage for women; 60 women had been on strike for a fortnight - CDN 20 11 04

1921 04 06
Miners; strike crisis; railwaymen decide against strike, passenger trains cancelled; emergency declared, lighting restricted, coal stocks controlled – 21 04 06b

1921 05 04
Rumours that University end term early due to miners' strike discounted; residents supply coal to allow essential services; railwaymen's' guaranteed week suspended – 21 05 04b

1922 05 06
The local Labour and Co-operative Parties were well represented on Parker's Piece on Saturday when a May Day Demonstration was held. The proceedings commenced with a procession which marched in the following order: Railway Silver Band, officers of the party, banner of the A.S.L.E. and F., Co-operative banner and party, smaller unions and women's sections, Cherryhinton band, builders' banner and banner of the N.U.R 22 05 06

1923 04 09
For the purpose of putting before the public the point of view of the strikers in the building trade, a meeting was held on Parker's Piece where there was a very large attendance. Mr Haynes said that 44 hours a week were enough for any of them to work. They had to remember that every man who was not with them was against them. In the event of the building operatives going down in the struggle, the railway men and workers in every other industry would have to look out, for the employers everywhere were out to reduce wages to a lower level than they were before the war. Urging the need of the workers standing together, Mr Overton said they were either partners in each other's poverty, or partners in each other's prosperity. The Trades Council were asking the other trade unions to come to the support of the building trade workers 23 04 09

1925 04 08 c
Cambridge Board of Guardians discussed the question of securing the repayment of the relief granted in loans to those concerned in the building strike in August last year. Mr Branston said he was not sure they had acted legally in giving relief to able-bodied people who were on strike, all

they could do was to relieve the wives and children of those men. Several of the men started to pay the loans back by instalments and had stopped for the reason that other people were not attempting to pay back the money they had had. Others stopped at the instance of "so-called friends of the unemployed" who seemed to do nothing but stir up trouble 25 04 08

1925 04 13
The employees of the East Anglia Cement Company, who are on strike at Shepreth, visited Cambridge. They marched in procession to Parker's Piece where a platform was in readiness for a mass meeting organised by the Cambridge Trades Council. On the arrival of the strikers a very large crowd quickly gathered. The speaker protested against the idea that because the wages of agricultural labourers were low, those of cement workers should also be low. 25 04 13

1925 05 04
Large crowds witnessed the Cambridge Labour and Co-operative Party's May Day demonstration on Parker's Piece. It was addressed by E.V. Watering. He said the cement workers had been on strike for eight weeks and not a single man had retracted because they had received magnificent support from the Labour movement. At a recent meeting of the Cambridge section of the Fascisti movement he had been alluded to as a "breeder of strikes". So far as the Shepreth dispute was concerned he denied that statement. The strike was brought about by the directors of the East Anglian Cement Company and only after every possible avenue leading to arbitration had been wiped away that the men forced the issue by striking 25 05 04

1926 03 29
Something of the progress of Trade Unionism in Cambridge was indicated at a meeting of the Workers Union at which 150 members participated. Twelve years ago there was hardly any trade unionism in the town, with the exception of the craft unions. Agricultural workers had met with tremendous disappointments. The Wages Board had sent the wages of agricultural labourers up from 12s (60p) a week up to £2. Then had come the scrapping of the Board, wages went down to 25s (£1.25) and the worker was faced with the wreck and ruin of his home. The men had lost faith in trade unions 26 03 29

1926 04 10
Steps are being taken to set up an "Organisation for Maintenance of Supplies" committee in Cambridge. It is a non-political organisation for enrolling and classifying lists of volunteers for the use of the Government in the regrettable event of a general stoppage of the essential public services. One may be quite sure that such volunteers would be readily forthcoming in a grave emergency, but for the sake of efficiency it is thought better to have personnel ready beforehand. It does not question the right to strike but exists to prevent the mass of the population being victimised by a far-reaching strike that affects the well-being of the community 26 04 10

1926 04 13
An "Organisation for Maintenance of Supplies" Committee for Cambridge was the outcome of a meeting held at Christ's College, its aim being to enlist and classify volunteers for the use of the Government in the event of a general stoppage of the essential public services. The questioners included Coun W. Few, President of the Cambridge Trades Council and Labour party who declined to allow his name to go forward as a member of the Executive Committee 26 04 13

1926 05 03
Cambridge is the administrative centre for East Anglia for the arrangements being made to meet the National Strike emergency. Mr F. Morris Warren of St Ives is the district coal officer. There are three Food Officers who will deal with complaints relating to the supply of provisions. The

big job of the moment is the securing and registering of volunteers willing to help in any way with the maintenance of essential services and supplies with a recruiting office in the Guildhall. The Mayor of Cambridge, Ald Edward O. Brown, said: "Today we stand on the edge of an important crisis in the history of our nation. A dark cloud is overshadowing the life of our people. I appeal to all our people to prepare for sacrifice, and remain steady. God grant it may be averted 26 05 03

1926 05 03
A public meeting organised by the Cambridge Trades Council, the Labour Party and the Co-operative Party was held on Parker's Piece and for an hour and a half speeches were addressed from two red wagons to a crowd numbering about 5,000. They were for the most part attired in red hats, scarves and rosettes and almost encircled by red banners. Lloyd George had said when the miners came back from the war they would find a country fit to live in but they had been asked to accept a reduction in wages and an increase in hours. Socialists were out to help the poorer classes. The meeting closed with the singing of the Red Flag 26 05 03

1926 05 08
Cambridge station looked exceptionally bright this morning. Undergraduates in gaily coloured blazers added colour to the scene. The train services are gradually improving and great keenness had been shown on the part of undergraduates in bringing down supplies from London for the Station refreshment room. Tilly, the popular little tea shop girl, remarked while serving hot coffee and doughnuts to hungry undergraduates that she had never seen such cheerful and plucky workers as the volunteers who visited her counter during the General Strike 26 05 08
General Strike: newspapers, gas and light carry on, fleets of cars leave Grange Road taking undergraduates into the country to assist in maintaining services [1.2, 1.5, 1.8, 1.11]

1926 05 08
The effects of the general strike were brought more closely home than hitherto. In many a Cambridge home the housewife found she had less to "manage on" and tradesmen large and small found their takings considerably decreased in consequence. Parties of undergraduates who had been doing volunteer work were seen coming home for a Sunday rest carrying kit bags over their shoulders. The University has further postponed examinations so that a clear three weeks interval for study will be allowed after the present emergency has ended. A further contingent of 30 undergraduates left in cars to take up tramway services in Hull; the windscreens were protected with wire netting 26 05 08

1926 05 10
Five hundred of the Civil Constabulary reserve, mostly undergraduates, left Cambridge early this morning for duty in the East End of London. An advance party of 100 went off yesterday. The journey was made by road, the procession of cars stretching for a distance of nearly a mile. In addition some are cleaning carriages at Paddington and Waterloo stations and others unloading cargo at Tilbury Docks. A large number are at dock work and engineering jobs at Hull, while a small contingent is at Grimsby employed at the quayside. A number of Girton and Newnham girls are working as cyclist messengers in the district 26 05 10

1926 05 12
When the news of the end of the General Strike was broadcast on Market Hill, Cambridge enthusiastic cheers broke out. "What rotten luck!" an undergraduate was heard to remark, "I only started work to-day and was looking forward to driving a lorry up to Town". "Never mind, old boy", cynically replied his companion, "They'll be out again in a few weeks". "I'm glad it's all over", remarked a flapper, and then added demurely, "All the 'Varsity boys will be coming

back". In many parts of the town children were carrying flags within two hours of receiving the news 26 05 12

1926 05 13
The situation was quiet at Romsey Town this morning, the railwaymen concerned in the new crisis patiently waiting developments which are taking place between the railway companies and the various unions in London. At the Co-operative Hall a telegram was read instructing the Cambridge men to remain out on strike until the unions got satisfactory assurance with regard to the men's reinstatement 26 05 13

1926 05 18
The Cambridge Joint Emergency Committee wish to place on record their gratitude to the many friends who have helped the men who were on strike; the ministers and clergy who lent rooms and the members of the University who gave lectures and concerts, helped in the club rooms and took parties to see the colleges. Many lent their cars to distribute the "British Worker". By means of the Strike Fund the committee have been able to relieve many cases of distress. The last gathering took place in the Co-operative Hall which was crowded with hundreds of women who enjoyed their entertainment 26 05 18

1926 06 01
Now that the excitement of the General Strike has passed away it may be of interest to note the effect of the strike upon local employment. Messrs Pye have only had about 2½ days short time but at the Cement Works the coal difficulty has resulted in a spell of enforced idleness for some of the hands. The Saxon Company's employees are being given their usual holidays on full pay and since short time started have been given work turn and turn-about on repairs but unless the coal comes along there will be no more work for the present 26 06 01

1926 06 02
Mr Ramsay Macdonald, ex-Labour Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition will not be one of the recipients of honorary degrees at Cambridge. His name was included in the Grace to come before the Senate but certain members intended to "Non Placet" it & a flysheet was to be issued declaring this intention. News to this effect reached Macdonald who signified that he did not wish it to go forward unless it was absolutely unanimous. Opposition was more or less spontaneous because he was a party to an illegal act in bringing about the General Strike 26 06 02

1926 06 11
The Mayor of Cambridge told members of the Special Constabulary that the general strike had come as a "staggerer" to him. They had had to appoint various officers to control the various department of work – the food, transport, coal, volunteer service and Special Constabulary. It was impossible to forget their service and the willingness to help their town and country. No one on May 3rd knew what lay before them. They had been as near to revolution as they would ever be, but they faced the situation as Britishers should. What would have happened had the people been disloyal and untrustworthy he could not bear to think 26 06 11

1930

1930 05 12
The Cambridge branch of the Association of Plasterers and Granolithic and Cement Workers celebrated its 50th anniversary. Mr G. Cook, their first secretary said they had experienced strikes and lock-outs; they had acted on the defensive and had been aggressive. They had a proud record

for bettering the conditions for the workers. At one time they were 100 per cent organised and still had 95 per cent membership 30 05 12

1937 05 11
It came as something of a surprise to most Cambridge people to find buses on the streets again after a strike of 17 days. When the Eastern Counties Omnibus garage doors opened on Hills Road pedestrians and even motorists stopped to see what would happen. Then drivers and conductors appeared in uniform. Managers say the men have returned to work unconditionally and there would be no victimisation; every man would be reinstated except those who had caused wilful damage to buses. 37 05 11

1940

1944
Mineworkers Federation (now NUM) buy 8 Selwyn Gardens as HQ after London HQ damaged by bomb; sold it 1945 when moved back London [3.5]

1944 10 26
Marshall's Flying School strike - 44 10 26a

1949 12 09
An appeal for the organisation of college servants into a union was made at a meeting of Cambridge Trades Council. Mr Betteridge maintained that conditions in some of the colleges were "600 years behind the times". There are some people who are working seven days a week and a number of the college servants are not enjoying the amenities enjoyed by other individuals. Some men even have to go back during their lunch hour to serve meals to make up their time, he added

1950

1951
Trades Council dates from 1951

1951 09 04
For the first time college servants of Cambridge University have taken a Transport and General Workers' Union dispute to arbitration by the Industrial Disputes Tribunal and a period has been fixed for the servants & Gonville and Caius college to negotiate and come to terms. The servants want minimum wages of £5 8s.for men & £4 1s. for women, payment for split duties and overtime, and protection of holidays and working weeks. A Union official said: "We must not antagonise the colleges who thought the servants were kidding. We can make friends with them or we can make enemies of them for evermore 51 09 04

1952 02 04
Tribunal raise Kitchen Porters wages from £3.7.6 to £4.15.0 per week (£3.35 to £4.75); first ever "college servants charter" [1.14]

1960 the Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1963 11 25
Bedmakers' wages up from 2/10 to 3/6 (14-18p) per hour [1.15]

1969 11 07
Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers centenary [3.4]

1970

1970
"Strike-torn 70s" - various strikes against Government legislation [1.6]

1970 05 20
First Trade Union branch ASTMS formed [369.19.8]

1972 01 07
Referendum of change of wage negotiations, Cambridge University Assistants oppose ASTMS claim to share bargaining, vote is a tie; NALGO & NUPE start; 22/- increase agree non-technical grades cleaners etc; CU formally recognise Trade Union for wage bargaining [369.19.8]

1972 11 28
The opening of the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technician's eastern regional headquarters in Cambridge marks a major step forward in acquiring the "modern image" required in today's union activities. For several years the Union, known then as the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, operated from small offices in Newmarket Road. Now with the move completed to new offices at the corner of Abbey Road "the union are in a position to project their image", says regional secretary Ivor Jordan. The offices were to have been opened in July but the ceremony was put off because of the building workers strike 72 11 28

1973
Trades Council dates from 1951, previously was industrial section City Labour Party, now independent, 10,000 Unionists affiliated, wants close relationship local authority especially when Labour-controlled District Council takes power 1974 [Misc.1.4]

1973 05 02
May Day strike - TUC Day of protest against Government [3.1]

1974 01
Three-day week [1.7]

1976 09 08
ACUA wins recognition of TU, not affiliated TUC [369.19.10]

1977 09 20
Bread was being made at the large Spillers-French bakery in Cambridge for the first time in 11 days, as staff returned to work after settlement of the national strike in "plant" bakeries. The accountant at the Sleaford Street bakery said some loaves were coming off the production lines by mid-morning. But they would have to cool and then be wrapped before they could be sent out. During the strike the small independent bakers have been working flat out to try to meet demand. Most have managed to produce around double their normal output. 77 09 20

1977 11 05
Retailers in Cambridge city centre are angry because the power cuts threaten to deprive them of electricity for up to three hours every Saturday afternoon. They feel it is unfair that the same

shops should face being cut off during a peak period every week. The manager of the Abbey Boutique said it could cost traders thousands of pounds. But Eastern Electricity say they have to think of the needs of all their consumers and the traders would do well to see how it goes this weekend before they start complaining 77 11 05

1980

1980 05 15
The TUC Day of Action was ignored by thousands of trade unionists in the Cambridge area who turned up for work as normal. But this failed to dampen the spirits of those who organised the protest against Government policies. The highlight was a mass public meeting in Market Square, preceded by a march through the city by 250 trade unionists. It was the biggest turn out the organisers can remember in Cambridge; when May Day marches were held there were fewer on the march than attended a normal trades council meeting 80 05 15b

1980 09 05
Cambridge University will now pay its clerical and administrative staff the same overtime rates as other universities and the working week will be reduced by an hour. They are outside the national pay structure but had agreed to be bound by the results of negotiations by the Central Arbitration Committee in London. NALGO members are now likely to accept a 13.5 per cent pay offer 80 09 05a

1982 09 22
Millions of trade unionists took part in the TUC's Day of Action in support of the health workers' pay claim. In Cambridge about 1,000 people joined a march through the city centre with representatives from health workers, uniformed firemen, NALGO, Trades Union and the city Labour Party. It was the biggest demonstration seen in the city for years. 82 09 22 [3.2]

1984 11 28
Miners from Nottinghamshire thank Cambridge people for support during strike, 20,000 raised [3.3]

Lloyd's Band during Lion Yard redevelopment, 1972

154.41

c.32.8 : Banks and banking, Building Societies

headlines
History of Cambridge savings banks – 35 04 15b & c

1889 04 05
Mortlock's Bank now registered as a Limited Company with dissolution of partnership Edmund John Mortlock & Mr Ainslie. New partner E.M. Parker. Due Mortlock's years and no sons formed private company under name of 'John Mortlock & Co.Ltd' [1.10]

1893 11 15
Foster's Bank moves from Trinity Street to new building in Sidney Street [1.6]

1896
Mortlock's Bank amalgamated with Barclays [1.11]

1897 03 24
Permanent Benefit Building Society a/m, p2

1899 02 07
Building Society secretary missing, p3

1899 03 22
The shareholders of the Cambridge and District Starr-Bowkett Building Society are now in full possession of all the facts concerning the absconding secretary. The news of his departure from the town leaked out in February when he failed to appear at the annual audit of the Society's accounts. The disclosures were of a startling character, showing defalcations amounting to upwards of £700. The society has been in existence about 12 years and has a membership roll of upwards of 430

1899 06 05
Starr-Bowker Building Society verdict, p3

1899 08 16
Starr-Bowkell Building Society defalcations, p2

1900

1900 05 01
A branch of the Capital and Counties Bank Ltd has been opened in Cambridge at 63 Sidney Street. The fact that it has been thought desirable to set down another banking establishment is proof of the outside belief in the prosperity of the town. The bank was established in 1834 and have numerous branches in various parts of the country CDN 1900 05 01

1901 08 09
The Cambridge Starr-Bowkett Building Society is to be dissolved. They had £2,339 with which to pay £3,028. Members were told an endeavour was made to sue the old directors but the costs would have been very heavy and they would have obtained practically nothing. The meeting, we are informed, was "lively".

1902 08 25
Oak Building Society contracts, p2

1903 12 10
Local Building Societies, p4

1903 09 25
Cambridge is a unique place in many respects, some not altogether enviable. The number of judgement summonses is out of all proportion to the number of inhabitants. The cause is easily explained. It is due to the enormous extent to which the credit system obtains here, an extent unheard of in any other town in the world. An excessive credit system inevitably means a number of bad debts – usually for small amounts – and these gradually get into the hands of the professional debt collectors who do not hesitate to bring their debtors into the County Court. 03 09 25

1903 11 25
An agreement has been reached for the incorporation of the Capital and Counties Bank, London and Messrs Foster's bank in Sidney Street, Cambridge. The Capital was established more than 69 years ago and holds eminent rank among the leading London clearing banks. It is already well known here, having a branch in Cambridge under the management of Mr Guilmant, and others at Newmarket, Haverhill and Wisbech. We feel confident that the enlargement by this amalgamation with Messrs Foster of the Bank's sphere of operations cannot but prove of general advantage. 03 11 25 [1.9]

1904 09 06
Sir – In November a Cambridge man borrowed £20 from a money lender, agreeing to pay £30 back by payments of £5 per month. He duly made the first four payments, thus returning all that was advanced in cash. The last two payments were made, on in May, five weeks after it was due, and the other in July, six weeks late. The borrower still owes £21. In times of depression and bad trade as in Cambridge at present is it unreasonable to ask newspapers not to carry advertisements for such moneylenders? – Citizen 04 09 06.

1904 09 08
A number of complaints have reached the CDN as to the impertinence of a moneylender in Russell Street. His circular reads: "Do you want a little temporary assistance without the usual money-lending routine, without publicity, without delay. If you do call at my offices". Regarding as we do all men of this stamp as dangerous to society we hope his tenancy will be terminated by the owner of the property and that the police will prevent this man thrusting upon the citizens of Cambridge by means of their letter boxes, circulars of this unsavoury trade. 04 09 08

1904 09 10
A correspondent points out that the circular issued by the Russell Street moneylender bears no printer's imprint, indicating that the printer was ashamed of his task. This is an offence against the law of the land and both he and the person who distributes it are liable to a fine of £3 for every copy. The police thus have two grounds for taking action. We express our appreciation of the spontaneous thanks which have reached us from all classes of Cambridge people for our attitude in this matter. It shows that the evil results of the presence in a community of these advertising moneylenders is widely recognised. 04 09 10

1905 11 03
A new branch of the Union of London and Smith's Bank has opened in St John's Street. They have 150 other branches and a subscribed capital of £23 million. This makes the fifth banking institution in Cambridge, the other being Barclay's, Capital and Counties', Lloyds and the London and County. It includes almost the cream of the important joint stock banking concerns 05 11 03b

1906 04 10
George Edward Foster was the principal partner in the banking firm of Foster and Co which was amalgamated with the Capital and Counties Bank. He never married and concentrated his whole energies on the undertaking which attained great dimensions through his skilful direction. His wealth enabled him to be munificent to an unusual degree. When St Andrew's Street Baptist Church was replaced he gave £1,500 towards the new structure 06 04 10a

1906 11 17
Money lending allegations – Cambridge tradesmen and students – 06 11 17d

1908 07 31
Ebenezer Bird Foster of Anstey Hall, Trumpington together with his late brother, George, were directors of the Capital and Counties Bank. Their personal estates were nearly equal to the whole of the deposits for which the bank was liable. It must be remembered that the capital of a partner in a private bank may be withdrawn in consequence of his death. Ebenezer left £50,000 to each of his nephews, £500 each to his butler Thomas Harrington, and gardener Charles Forbes, as well as annuities to his housekeeper, coachman and housemaid CWN 08 07 31

1909
National Provincial establish branch at 6 Kings Parade [1.13]

1910

1913 02 07 CIP
Second Peers Economic Building Society a/m

1913 08 22
First Cambridge Peers Economic Building Society report

1914
Midland establish branch Petty Cury [1.14]

1914 03 06
The London, City and Midland Bank opened a new branch in Petty Cury next door to the Head Post Office. The offices are handsomely fitted up; the counters and doors are of fumed oak and the electroliers and other fittings are of brass. The walls are panelled and the floor paved with tessellated marble. The exterior is finished in freestone with marble columns and the offices warmed by hot water radiators and lighted by electricity. 14 03 06a

1919
Foster's Bank absorbed into Lloyds [1.12]

1919 07 16
Victory Loan Race. No-one anticipated that anything like the million mark would be reached by Cambridge in the Victory Loan Week effort; indeed, it was thought that if half a million was subscribed the Borough would be doing wonderfully well. The result, which must be highly gratifying to all concerned, placed Cambridge far ahead of Oxford in the Victory Loan race, the figures being: Cambridge £913.290; Oxford £485,300. This represents all new money; with conversions the Cambridge total reached £1,116,710. Such a large sum, besides indicating that Cambridge is in a prosperous state, also shows that those who had any money to spare invested it, no doubt with a view, not so much to take advantage of a sound investment in gilt-edged securities, as to assist in the work of reconstruction of the trade of the country. 19 07 16 CIPof

1920

1922 01 14
Slate clubs have practically died out - shared out money unallocated for sickness, hit by War, defaulting or absconding treasurers, undermined by National Savings movement [1.17]

1923 02
Proposal to close banks Saturday afternoons rather than Thursday afternoons [1.7]

1930

1930 01 11
The new night safe at Lloyds Bank in Sidney Street is not yet in working order but I had a peep and was impressed by the ingenious working of the arrangement. The safe is Lloyds' own invention and the Cambridge branch is amongst the earliest to have it installed. There was a time when people of small means did not trouble the banks very much but now the humblest investor

seems to be welcomed. There are various kinds of home safe including a tasteful little book safe in four colours. 30 01 11 [1.2]

1933 03 15
Cambridge Permanent Building Society had a record year: there were 1,266 mortgages, most for amounts of under £500, and arrears were only £339, which was very satisfactory. The staff were a happy family, they worked hard and the books were all balanced. Rates for borrowers and shareholders had remained at four percent for the past 36 years. 33 03 15

1934 10 27
Trustees Savings Bank formed (opens in Downing Street, June 1935) [1.3, 1.4, 1.1]

1935 06 06
The Mayor (Ald R. Starr) opened the Cambridge Trustee Savings Bank's new offices in Downing Street. "I believe there are people in this town who do not trust the banks", he said. "They still keep their savings in old stockings and I often come across people who keep their money in old pewter pots. If the people of Cambridge will only feel it is their bank, and that they can deposit their money feeling it is safer than it would be in their own cottages, it would be a good thing". The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Neville Chamberlain, sent a telegram wishing the bank success. 35 06 04 & a 35 07 08

1935 08 28
New front to Lloyd's Bank, Sidney St – photo – 35 08 28a

1935 09 25
Lloyds Bank Sidney Street extension hailed as splendid addition" [1.5]

1936 02 22
House purchase through a Building Society – 36 02 22b

1938 10 05
Martin's bank opens new branch on Market Hill – 38 10 05, 38 10 06a

1939 09 01
A full rehearsal for evacuating the staff at Lloyds Bank, Cambridge, and the various offices in Lloyds Bank Chambers to air raid shelters provided by the two strongrooms adjoining the main hall of the bank was conducted with full satisfaction 39 09 01 CIPof

1940
1940 03 16
Cambridgeshire Permanent Benefit Building Society celebrates 90 years – 40 03 16c

1948 03 22
A remarkable increasing in the lending activities of the Cambridge Building Society was reported at the annual meeting. The average debt was £477. The figures were all the more remarkable when one considered that the whole of the advances made since the war were on houses already build. The Chairman said "it is a sad state of affairs that since the termination of hostilities we have made only nine advances to members to build their own homes. The demand for houses is as great as ever and there would be no limit to our lending capacity if the supply was there. It is for this reason our secretary has had to refuse many thousands of pounds from would-be investors"

1949 03 21
A movement which has done, and is doing, a great work all over the country is that of the Building Societies. Cambridge has a building society of which its members can be justly proud. George Newman, vice president said: "I think this society, which is 99 years old, is by no means senile and is more active than at any time during its history. In spite of the high costs of property and higher mortgages applied for, the average mortgage is £576."

1950

1950 01 25
100 years of service to the community by the Cambridge Building Society was celebrated with a centenary dinner. The Cambridgeshire Permanent Benefit Building Society was established 21st January 1850. Its first advance was £150 on ten cottages in Bottisham Lode. Ald James referred to the tragedy of the housing problem, describing it as like a hidden leprosy, undermining the social life of the country, breaking up homes and families and probably causing more communism than any political speeches. The possession by young married couples of their own homes would do a lot to prevent the breaking up of family life

1951 05 28
Halifax opens branch, p9

1951 09 17
There must be a great many single business and professional women living in "digs" in Cambridge who just long for a small self-contained flat or flatlet of their own. One organisation anxious to do something is the National Federation of Business Professional Women's Clubs, which has a Building Society of its own, the Probus Women's Housing Society. The Cambridge B.P. club is now considering whether to buy houses. If they do go ahead it will look out for a house suitable for conversion into flats. It is good to see this club, which has a strong social sense, trying to do something really practical for its members.

1951 10 13
TSB open branch Mill Road, review progress: by 1939 funds were 20,000, at end of war 1,300,000, now 3,500,000

1953 02 23
A new branch of the Westminster Bank opened in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, a fairly busy district which up to now has not been served by a bank of any sort. Inside the visitor is greeted with an attractively decorated modern interior. Cheques will be taken to the parent branch in Bene't Street where they are photographed and available for the customer to examine. An interesting feature is that a night safe has been provided. The first person to open an account was Geoffrey Nichols, of the Free Press, Prospect Row.

1953 03 17
Business at the Bene't Street, Cambridge, branch of Barclay's Bank has expanded to such a degree over recent years that additional premises are required to handle an 'overflow' of work. Now a new bank has been built at 3, St Andrew's Street. The counter is made of Honduras mahogany and glass panelling is extensively used, a modern feature which nevertheless preserves the traditional dignity of a bank. There is a unique feature about the new bank. Alongside the wall facing the church is a line of thirty tombstones, some 250 years old, which had to be displaced during building operations.

1954 01 01
A building in Cambridge that probably started life as a private house has just been rejuvenated at a cost of several thousand pounds. Number 70 Regent Street will be remembered as the wholesale warehouse formerly used by Barwells, the tyre company. It is now the Co-operative Permanent Building Society, a luxurious block of offices with the latest in equipment and a full-length plate glass window, complete with neon sign. In the past Cambridge has been neglected by building societies. Until recently there was only one but there are now four more.

1954 08 13
This year marks the 150th anniversary of Lloyd's Bank in Cambridge. In 1804 two bothers named Foster who were already trading as millers established a bank in Bridge Street. In 1835 they transferred to the Turk's Head in Trinity Street and opened branches in St Ives, Saffron Walden and Ely. In those days two members of staff were boarded on the premises, one sleeping on a bed in front of the strong room armed with a rusty sword. At no time was the building left unattended. In 1890 they acquired a site at the junction of Hobson Street and a new building in Renaissance style was opened in 1894. The Capital and Counties Bank took them over in 1904 and 14 years later they amalgamated with Lloyd's. In 1919 the two offices were merged and the Sidney Street premises chosen as the main branch. In 1935 a considerable extension was built on the corner site.

1956 03 01
The National Savings Committee says 880 new street savings groups are needed and village postmasters and shopkeepers should be approached. In the last six months many groups have closed down. Savings must be made: in the 1930s when there was no money available for industry, factories closed down and there was a serious unemployment problem. We do not want that to happen again. 56 03 01d & e

1956 06 16
The first Cambridge Committee for National Savings was formed in December 1916 and two of the first workers still living are R.P. Thorne and Mrs Widdison. In 1919 the Chairman was persuaded by the head of the Cambridge School of Flying to drop six War Bonds together with lots of leaflets from a low-flying aircraft. He suffered only temporary discomforts from stunt flying in the open type of aircraft of those days. 56 06 16

1956 11 01
Ald F. Doggett, chairman of the Cambridge National Savings Committee, purchased the first Premium Bond at a special counter set up at Cambridge post office. The Head Postmaster, C.A. Plouvier, later reported that bonds sold steadily during the morning with many customers taking the full over-the-counter quota of £10 worth of bonds. 56 11 01d

1956 11 02
Premium bonds rush – post office stays open late – 56 11 02c

1959 06
National Provincial opens [3.4]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 03 17

Barclays new Mill Road premises 60 03 17a

1961 03 22
The strong room at Barclay's Bank in Chesterton Road was blown open and £75,000 in notes stolen in the City's biggest bank robbery. The raiders piled stacks of office furniture and cushions to muffle the noise of the explosion which blew a hole three feet across in the strong room wall, then crawled through to help themselves to the money. Arrangements have been made to transfer the silver and copper coinage the thieves left behind. 61 03 22

1961 05 29
Westminster Bank opened their first Cambridge branch at the junction of Trumpington Street and Bene't Street in 1845. It was closely connected with University and College life and the original premises have been enlarged several times. Now a continued expansion in business has seen a handsome new bank in St Andrew's Street together with the modernisation of the one in Fitzroy Street which opened in 1952 to cater for that active and expanding shopping area 61 05 29a

1961 09 20
Barclays Bank has opened a new branch at 35, Sidney Street. The front of the building is in Portland Stone and mahogany has been used for the counters, cashiers tills and doors. The first floor is sound-proofed from the banking hall and accommodates the typewriters and customers' statement machines. These statements are sent to the banking hall by means of pneumatic tubes, a quick means of communication which helps to keep the noise down without impairing the speed of the service 61 09 20

1961 10 27
Security-minded Cambridge businessmen will soon be able to hire armoured cars for wage-carrying or uniformed guards to patrol premises at night. These are two services offered by Securicor which has opened an office in All Saints Passage. The vans have radio contact with headquarters during the whole of a cash transit run and it is impossible for bandits to get into the money chamber while the guards are judo experts. Specially trained dogs can also be provided. 61 10 27d

1963 03 08
Cambridge firms, University department and the City Council who employ large numbers of people have been encouraging their employees to change from wages in cash to payment by cheque. Pye says it would cut down the risk of hold-ups. But banks have not experienced any sudden swing to cheque payment 63 03 08b

1963 07 11
Lloyds Bank, Cambridge, is using new high speed electronic equipment for transferring information on to bank statements 63 07 11 [2.3]

1963 09 11
Market Hill modernisation of offices of Leicester Permanent Building Society – 63 09 11

1963 09 17
Lloyds new bank on Newmarket Road is the only one in Cambridge with its own private car and cycle park. Facing Sun Street, it will take three cars and five bikes. The bank replaces the temporary wooden structure which has housed the business for more than a year and will offer a full range of services. It is under the supervision of Mr E.J. Furley, manager of Lloyds main local branch at Sidney Street 63 09 17

1964 10 17
Barclay's open seventh branch, Newmarket Road 64 10 17

1964 12 02
Deacon's Bank opened a branch in a 19th century Georgian building in Trinity Street. The banking hall has illuminated writing desks for customers, a night safe, interview room and manager's office. Although new to Cambridge, William Deacon's Bank can trace its history back to 1771 and was acquired by the Royal Bank of Scotland in 1930. It is strongly represented in the North but has been extending and now has a network of over 250 branches. 64 12 02a

1966 11 15
TSB open Victoria Avenue branch 64 11 15

1967 01 18
TSB new city office, Jesus Lane 67 01 18

1967 03 30
Lloyds Bank moving district office from Hobson Lloyds Bank move district office to Brooklands Avenue building that housed Gt Ouse River Authority – 67 03 30 [2.8], 67 07 06 & a

1967 11 30
Cambridge Building Society offices in Port Office Terrace since 1884 to move to St Andrew's Street 67 11 30, a

1968 01 12
Lombard's Bank open, Trinity St [2.10]

1968 05 01
Lloyds open new branch, 41 High Street, Cherry Hinton 68 05 01

1968 09 23
TSB issue cheque card 68 09 23

1969 01 01
TSB open fourth branch, Burleigh Street 69 01 01

1969 07 02
Trustee Savings Bank introduce first 24-hour self-service banking – 69 07 02a

1969 07 01
Banks close on Saturdays from 1st July [2.15]

1970

1970 05 14
Midland Bank restyle Market Hill branch 70 05 14

1970 06 25
Barclays Bank modernise Bene't St HQ – feature – 70 06 25b & c

1971 02
Banks close 4 days for Decimal currency changeover [2.17]

1971 02 12
Banks coped with Decimal Day – feature – 71 02 12a; The D-day non-event – 71 02 13a

1972 09 20
Protest over Barclays' changes former Martin's Bank, Market Hill 72 09 20

1973 02 13
National Westminster introduce first electronic cheque cashing machine [2.19]

1973 10 08
Students at Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology today began searching for a hall in an emergency plan to beat what they claim is the city's worst-ever shortage of rented accommodation. The situation at the Technical College, where there are more than 1,000 students who have to live in rented accommodation in the city, has been aggravated by the failure of a plan to buy up houses for use as hostels. A housing association was set up earlier this year and agreement reached with a Building Society over 100 mortgages. But then came the Building Societies' financial difficulties and the whole plan has been shelved

1974 01 07
House prices are still falling in Mid Anglia. Even after a £1,000 tumble in the last six months further falls are expected. Until now the brunt of the drop has been carried by standard three-bedroomed homes in the £10-£12,000 price range. It appears unlikely the housing market will move out of stagnation until three-bedroomed semis are on sale from around £9,500. The Cambridge Building Society said "We have funds for members, but with interest at 11% house buying is not very brisk

1976 04 05
A new branch of Lloyd's Bank is due to open on the corner of Regent Street and Gonville Place, Cambridge. It will be the first entirely new branch of Lloyds opened in the city since 1964, when a branch was set out at Cherry Hinton. Five cashier positions have been provided inside the bank, together with a cash dispenser for quick service 76 04 05

1979 08 19
Barclay's branch reopens on Saturdays [2.22]

1980

1980 05 21
Cambridge customers who have missed their Mitcham's Corner branch of Barclays' Bank over the past two and a half years will be delighted to visit their brand new premises with its large car park. On the ground floor is the main banking hall housing 10 cashier positions and one Foreign till. There will be two receptionists to help customers with their enquiries, whilst two managers and two assistant managers have offices on the first floor. 80 05 21

1985 04 10
Cambridge Mortgage Centre has opened in Regent Street. The idea of Cambridge Insurance, a firm of brokers who offer pensions, investment and life policies, it will help people find a mortgage and advise which payment suits the applicant best. The staff will make sure clients pay

the lowest rate possible: it is possible for someone with a £30,000 mortgage to be paying around 15 per cent or even less 85 04 10

1985 05 30
Cambridge Capital, a new merchant banking venture has been launched in Green Street. It is another step in the growing complexity of Cambridge's financial community. Merchant bankers Singer and Friedlander are already here and two more big-league accountants, Arthur Andersen and Robson Rhodes are getting established this summer. All this is in addition to the existing structure of bankers, accountants and financial advisers and means Cambridge could be a professional and financial centre of really some significance 85 05 30 [2.24]

1987 07 29
Cambridge Light Blue Trading Company was opened on Mill Road in 1933, its name an indication of the all-pervasive influence of the University. Then it dealt mainly in small loans to citizens. Now known as Cambridge Credit one of its main activities is secured loans of from £1,000 to £100,000 which are guaranteed by the borrower's property. But they would rather turn down an application than see the loan become an insupportable commitment. It has also entered the very competitive vehicle leasing business 87 07 29a & b

1989 04 17
Standard Chartered Bank to move to Cambridge, also Hill Samuel ¢CEN 17.4.89

1989 07 14
Charles Stanley first stockbroking firm in Cambridge, set up about 8 years ago ¢CEN 14.7.89

1990

1990 05 09
Armed robbery at TSB bank, Mill Road – 90 05 09

1990 06 22
Armed robbery at TSB Bank, Jesus Lane – 90 06 22

1990 01 21
TSB to close branches in Burleigh St & Jesus Lane – 90 09 21a

Church Army Hostel, Willow Walk, 1978 *143.60*

c.32.9 : Social issues including homelessness, drunkenness, provision for the elderly

Includes reports on workhouses, almshouses and hostels etc., homelessness, drunkenness, provision for elderly etc; see also c.31.4 : Old People

headlines
Clara Rackham recalled conditions in the Cambridge workhouse when she was a Guardian. There were a number of children with their parents. These were either illegitimate or the families of tramps who took refuge in the winter and took to the roads again in summer. The children and babies were cared for by the best of the inmates. Orphans were boarded out in foster homes. Aged people sat in their crowded day-rooms, clothed in their workhouse garb, allowed out on alternate Mondays. Dinner three days a week was a plate of pea soup and hunk of bread. 64 03 20a

1891
Stephen Mansfield founds four almshouses, South Terrace [2.5]

1894
Description Bedder's slum house, Cambridge Review vol.15 p221 [NI.3.5]

1895

Victoria Friendly Society build Millers Almshouses, Victoria Road [2.2]

1896 07 07
Description of visit to Cambridge workhouse [1.7]

1897 05 26
A considerable amount of misapprehension appears to exist in regard to the provision of music for the use of the inmates of the Cambridge Workhouse. As a matter of fact that institution is unusually well provided with musical instruments. In addition to the organ recently erected in the chapel there are five or six other instruments - harmoniums and pianos – distributed throughout the house so that the inmates have frequent opportunities of enjoying music in their own rooms. Indeed it is safe to say that more music is heard in the wards in a single week than the majority would have heard in their own homes in 12 months 1897 05 26

1900

1901 10 30
A new Diocesan Lodge for the Girls' Friendly Society was opened at Hills Road, Cambridge. Several spacious apartments will be used as recreation and classrooms with lectures on nursing, home hygiene, needlework and astronomy and classes for musical drill and singing. There are rooms for girls being trained for domestic service & accommodation for lady boarders and visitors. The old Servants' Training Home, formerly situated in King Street has ceased to exist as a separate institution. It had been established for 80 years and more than 400 girls had passed through; it had also afforded a home to many strange and friendless girls 01 10 30

1901 11 15
The Cambridge Church Army Labour Home was not a lounging place. It was a place where men worked. Each man won something like 6s per week by his work at the Home, by which he provided for his lodging and keep while he was there. Five had left for the pathetic reason that they did not like work. It was a home, not a mere workhouse, nor a shelter, nor a pastime, where men were taken at their best instead of at their worst. Its intention was not to draw drunkards, criminals and vagrants to Cambridge. As it offered work, which the careless vagrant abhorred, the Home's negative effect was almost more important that its positive effective 01 11 15

1901 12 05
The Church Street Mission is quite distinct from the Cambridge Female Refuge but is auxiliary to it. Miss Elsden walks about the street at night and is able to persuade women who have gone astray to go with her to the Mission House and stay in safety for a few days until they can be received into the Refuge. Sometimes women come voluntarily and sometimes they are brought by the police. She also provides an escort for female prisoners on their discharge, meeting them at the prison and escorting them to the railway station, thus protecting them from evil influences in the town at the first moment of their freedom 01 12 05

1903 08 04
Cambridge Borough has had its pride wounded by the London Express charging it with having incurable slums and possessing filthier homes than Whitechapel. In reply Mr Campkin, a Guardian said: "There is no doubt there is an amount of poverty and squalor in Cambridge but there has been a vast improvement in the St Matthew's district over the last 40 years. There is evidence of the effects of drink in some parts of the town but in the Romsey and Petersfield district the residents are respectable working people" 03 08 04

1903 08 04
Commenting on the Cambridge slums Dr Roper said: "I think even the very worst are fast becoming demolished; take St Peter's Court, Castle Street, they are pulling that down. In consequence that there are large families in the poor quarters a woman very often has to go out and work as well as her husband to keep things going, and they can't keep their houses quite so clean as they otherwise might. In New Street you will not see much dirt or dilapidation, though in summer time the people are sitting outside nearly half-dressed in consequence of the heat. But their homes are not so bad as you might imagine". 03 08 04

1903 12 28
The idea of a happy Christmas being spent by those who are unfortunate enough to inhabit a workhouse is to most people incomprehensible. But in Cambridge workhouse Christmas Day is a happy day. The master tempers discipline with mercy and sheds a small ray of sunshine upon those whose lives have been darkened with misfortune. He has done more for the salvage of wrecked humanity that is ever likely to be known by the public at large 03 12 28

1904 05 18
The placid life of Linton has been stirred by a rumour that the dead body of a pauper had been sold by the Master of the Workhouse to the Cambridge School of Anatomy. This was a perfectly lawful proceeding under the Anatomy Act which provides that the bodies of unclaimed paupers may be used for scientific study. The matter had been debated by the Board of Guardians who voted five for and five against but the Chairman declined to give the casting vote. The Master had taken it upon himself to send the body to Cambridge. But it was not 'sold'. 1904 05 18

1904 09 06
Sir – In November a Cambridge man borrowed £20 from a money lender, agreeing to pay £30 back by payments of £5 per month. He duly made the first four payments, thus returning all that was advanced in cash. The last two payments were made, on in May, five weeks after it was due, and the other in July, six weeks late. The borrower still owes £21. In times of depression and bad trade as in Cambridge at present is it unreasonable to ask newspapers not to carry advertisements for such moneylenders? – Citizen CDN 6.9.1904 et seq

1904 11 23
The Cambridge Female Refuse is sorely in need of increased support for their accounts show a deficit of over £250. The amount realised by laundry work during the last six weeks was very much higher than for a considerable time past but they could not rely on a continuance of a large amount of washing and must get more subscribers. During the year nine girls had been admitted to the Home and eight sent out to service after the completion of their training. But for the first time in many years there were four cases to record of probable failure. 1904 11 23

1904 11 26
Distress is likely to be more acute in Cambridge this winter than for many years past owing principally to the slump in the building boom locally and the depression in trade generally. The Church Army has evolved a scheme through which married men may obtain work. A number of tickets are issued to philanthropists who fill in the name of a married man in need of employment and offers to repay the Army one shilling towards the cost of employment. The man is found work wood chopping or log sawing and is paid about 2s.6d. a day. But the Home is now overloaded with the produce of its labour and there are 25,000 bundles of wood which must be sold to the public before it can continue. 1904 11 26

1904 11 30

The anticipation of the probability of distress in Cambridge some weeks ago, before the wintry weather came to give a keener edge to hunger and a more painful and sharp reminder to the poor of their inadequate resources in food and clothing, was widely discussed but was felt to be unduly magnified. The Town Council vetoed a proposal to supply aid to the unemployed. But Miss Wilson of the Nursing Institution on Newmarket Road began to undertake the provision of free dinners to which the children of poor parents resort for their midday meal of soup and bread. "We give the children as much as ever they can hold", she said. Boys in pitiably ragged garments and decrepit old women and little girls with starvation all too plainly written on their features come with jugs to take soup home to those unable through illness or lack of clothing to come themselves. CDN 30.11.1904

1904 12 31
For some time Miss Wilson and her hard-working band of ladies have been daily allaying the pangs of hunger in hundreds of little children and their mothers in the Newmarket Road area of Cambridge by giving them free dinners. Now their effort is brought to an end. Not only are the financial resources exhausted but the staff have physically worked themselves out. But on the very day that these free meals cease the CDN Shilling Fund commences its distribution of tickets for food, fuel and clothing, continuing the work they have been compelled to give up. Subscriptions continue to come steadily in with cheques from Messrs Starr and Rignall photographers, Moore and Company tobacconists and the Cambridge Waterworks Company CDN 31.12.1904

1905 02 14
Cambridge Women's Temperance Association have acquired the tenancy of an East Road property formerly known as the Barnwell Coffee Palace which they have transformed into 'The White Ribbon', a well-conducted temperance establishment at which palatable food and clean lodgings can be obtained at moderate prices. The position of the building in one of the poorer districts has led to some apprehension but care is to be taken to ensure that the frequenters of the establishment are somewhat more select than formerly. It is not intended for the tramp class but for young people who require lodgings. It contains 16 bedrooms with a tastefully-furnished sitting room 05 02 14a

1905 03 24
The begging fraternity appear to regard Chesterton as a Happy Hunting Ground. On the new estates, the De Freville and the Central the evil is particularly rampant and when the male members of the households are mostly away at business the weaker sex are particularly intimidated into relieving the able-bodied tramps who frequently threaten violence unless they receive assistance. One actually walked right into the kitchen and demanded money or food. The police have made an attempt to suppress this nuisance but when the principal penalty inflected by magistrates is to discharge the beggar on his promising to leave town the evil quickly becomes as bad as ever. 05 03 24a

1905 08 19
Caxton workhouse inmates had a pound of suet pudding with treacle for dinner on Wednesday but left a great deal of it. On Thursday they had suet pudding again with a little bread and cheese but simply ate the bread and cheese and left the suet pudding. It was a waste of good stuff. Surely nobody could eat a pound of suet pudding for dinner? But the Master said some of them ate three or four pounds of it. It was decided to change to Irish stew on Wednesdays. 05 08 19

1905 09 21

The will of the late Mr Stephen Mansfield of Trumpington includes a bequest of £250 to Chesterton Baptist chapel where he once a teacher in the Sunday School. This is not his only benefaction to the village; there are five almshouses erected by him and their upkeep and stipends for the inmates are provided out of other property. He also subscribed to the Royal Albert and Victoria Friendly Societies' asylum and left £100 to the poor of Trumpington 05 09 21

1906 03 03
Church Army Home, Fair Street, report average age of inmates 33, average stay 63 days & 78 admitted [1.18]

1906 03 21
Since 1886 the parish of St Andrew the Less has theoretically been richer by the sum of £5,299 through the munificence of Frederick Bailey, a well-known brewer who resided at Burleigh House, Newmarket Road. Up to the present the riches have conferred no practical benefit but now a scheme has been formulated and income will flow to the relief of poor residents. There is also to be a commemoration service on his birthday. Now a poor parish will receive a substantial charity and the memory of a generous benefactor will be kept green for many an age. 06 03 21a

1906 08 23
A woman of about 30 years of age journeyed to Cambridge to meet the man who was the author of her 'trouble'. While she was in the train alone the child was born but on arrival at the station she behaved with such extraordinary circumspection that none of the railway officials suspected anything unusual had occurred. Carrying a bundle wrapped in underlinen under her arm, this extraordinary woman walked the length of the platform, hailed a cab and asked to the driven to the Workhouse. There her strength gave way and she swooned on the floor with the new-born babe beside her. They are both doing well. 06 08 23

1907 08 08
Survey of local pauperism, its extent & cost [2.19]

1908 02 22
Cambridge Guardians discussed the case of an old soldier who had served in the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny for whom they pad 2s 6d a week for a nurse. The old man had saved £20 out of his pension to pay for his funeral expenses, so that he should not be buried in a pauper's grave. But this had been seized by the relieving officer. They did not want the old man to have the money back so that his children should have the pleasure of spending it for their own comfort and then send him to the Union 08 02 22a

1908 04 11
Stokys almshouses history – 08 04 11a

1908 04 30
Cambridge Poor Law children policy – 08 04 30 & a

1908 09 25
A new economic era in the life of England has begun with the introduction of old age pensions. Every man or woman of 70 who has less than twelve shillings a week is entitled to walk into a post office and fill up a form to claim a supplementary income from public funds. In Cambridgeshire there are about 1,500 who are eligible and in Cambridge about 1,300. There are those who forecast an age of thriftlessness, improvidence and national bankruptcy. But we do not think there is any need to be alarmed. CWN 08 09 25 p5

1908 09 26
500 aged poor can apply for Old Age Pensions - "5/- (25p) a week for nothing"; have problems proving age [2.21]

1908 09 25
Old age pensions – committee constituted – 08 09 25 p8

1908 10 02
Although we are far removed from the din of industrial strife, the wave of depression that is sweeping over the trade of the country is making itself felt even in Cambridgeshire. What local industries we possess appear to be flourishing, labour on the land is fairly constant and the labour required by the colleges varies but little. But the number of people making use of the casual ward of Cambridge workhouses has been increasing with 818 vagrants during the previous fortnight as compared to 184 last year. CEN 08 10 02 p5

1908 10 09
As soon as dusk fell, the heavy gates of the Cambridge Workhouse opened upon the first of a tattered regiment of out-of-works, willing-to-works and never-will-works who demanded hospitality. Reports from all local unions show an abnormal leap in the number of vagrants who are seeking the shelter of the casual wards due to unemployment consequent on trade depression. The first were a pair of women, one pale and gaunt, one rotund and healthful. They are a washerwoman and a charwoman from Lancashire; neither has yet found work and they are returning to the North CWN 08 10 09 p2

1909
On occasions all provision for tramps at workhouse full [1.3]

1909 01 01
The Old Age Pensions Act comes into force and the post office is busy making the first payments to some half-million old people. In this part of the country many old folk are incredulous about the act, which they believe is too good to be true. But some pensioners in the East End of London have been borrowing money against their pension order. But if a moneylender has taken a pensioner's book as a security for debt, the book can be recovered CWN 09 01 01

1909 01 08
Cambridgeshire took the advent of Old Age Pensions with very little fuss. For the first time in history veterans of toil claimed from the country the wherewithal to end their days in comparative comfort, free form the haunting dread of having to enter the 'House'. The pension varies from one to five shillings a week through the issue of what is known as the poor man's cheque book which is presented at the post office 09 01 08

1910

1910 01 14
Boarding out of pauper children, workhouse – 10 01 14f & g

1909 01 15
On Friday night a man died in an East Road Lodging House and the landlady was naturally anxious to relieve her house of the body at the earliest moment. She had no knowledge of the man's relatives and a 'parish burial' was ordered. The undertaker said she had wanted to put the

body in the yard covered up with clothes but he had removed it at his own expense. But relatives complained that the coffin was too small and the body laid on bare wood with the feet sticking to the pitch. All there was to cover him was a piece of thin stuff which did not meet in the middle CWN 09 01 15

1910 05 20
Vagrants at Chesterton workhouse were kept for two nights, being given work according to their ability during the day and liberated at seven o'clock on the second morning. They had eight ounces of bread and water for breakfast and supper and eight ounces of bread and 1½ ounces of cheese for dinner. But is it fair to starve their poor wretches to this extent; not everyone is a rogue: many are just the failures of life and cannot help themselves, one Guardian said. 10 05 20

1911
Queens College sells one of its almshouses in Queens Lane to Kings College & demolishes rest [1.20]

1911 01 06
Legislative changes have removed the pauper disqualification in connection with the Old Age Pensions Act. At Cambridge workhouse 22 men and 16 women were eligible for the pension but only three have declared their intention of leaving the House. All three are men between 70 and 75 years of age who are going to live with relatives. At Chesterton Workhouse 48 inmates are entitled to the pension but again only three are leaving, one being over 80. Another old man has not yet made up his mind. Perhaps the coming of more genial weather will bring him to a decision to accept his pension and forsake the shelter of the House. 11 01 06f

1911 04 28
An Inspector's report on Cambridge Workhouse criticised arrangements in the sick ward, the dietary, bathing arrangements and care of children. The sick ward contained 25 male and 28 females with only one partially trained nurse and a woman who came in to sit up at night. The majority of the bed-ridden cases were helpless and a great deal of the actual nursing was done by paupers. There were no modern conveniences and the female side top floor had only a drinking water tap fixed over a basin. A new midwifery ward had been erected with no sink or hot and cold water 11 04 28e

1911 08 25
Night in Cambridge Casual Ward (see Memories 5 Sep 2011). – 11 08 25d & e

1911 09 29
The proposed way-ticket system would mean a casual who was really tramping for work would present his ticket at the workhouse manager on arrival and have his bath, his supper and bed in the ordinary way. Then in the morning he would be allowed to go on his way without doing any work. The manager would direct him to a place where he could, by showing the ticket, obtain bread and cheese for one meal. He would not need to beg. But 30 per cent of tramps were liars and wherever there was a 'soft place' it was smothered with vagrants, a Cambridge conference was told. 11 09 29 c d e

1911 09 30
Slum demolition means poor people have nowhere to live except workhouse [2.24]

1911 09 30
Conference on tramps - habitual work-shy keep clear of 'hard' Unions & honour 'soft' [2.25]

1911 12 22
During the week 274 persons have been supplied by the Mayor's soup kitchen and 73 gallons of soup, nine lbs of dripping and six stone of bread have been distributed. Meat, bones etc have been received from Mr W. Robinson of Bene't Street and other butchers, while G.H. French of East Road has given pea flour and Mr Wallis of Haslingfield, swedes. The sale of bone has realised one shilling and tenpence. The mayor has promised to distribute oranges today and Mrs Prior, Furniss Lodge, has kindly promised 150 mince pies. 11 12 22a

1912 03 01
The way-ticket system: a tramp's impression – 12 03 01b

1912 03 22
Tramps were worthless idle people who did not want to work. They should be taken and dumped into the sea – but this would poison the fishes. Last weekend there were 172 of them in Cambridge. The majority of the men slept together in one common room and loved to be together. If they were separated the number of vagrants would decrease because tramps had a system of signs and would warn others 'That's a bad place, don't go there', a conference was told. 12 03 22a & b

1912 03 29
Luke Hosegood is retiring from Cambridge Workhouse after 42 years, 36 as Master. During his long service he has made it a model institution as far as the limitation of the old-fashioned building will allow. He first came as school-master when 19-years old and married the schoolmistress, a girl from Bourn. When a vacancy for Master and Matron occurred in 1876 the Guardians, without advertising, selected them. Their daughter is assistant matron and their son honorary organist. Luke was award the 'Victoria Cross of Civil Life' for rescuing inmates from a fire in 1883. 12 03 29

1912 05 24
Harry Payne, 'the literary tramp' says that Cambridge is one of the best towns in Britain for 'needies' (travellers). "The 'beaks' are our best 'pals'. When we are 'pinched' for 'gagging' (begging) we ought to get seven days. The 'rozzers' will snap us up but might as well spare their 'trilbies'. Magistrates understand us, they do. They know what we require. No seven, 14 or 21 days 'hard', not even a reprimand. Just a polite request that we leave town within 12 hours. We do not contrive to get 'pinched' until we have 'worked' the town to a standstill and it is no hardship to get on to another 'uhie'" 12 05 24c

1912 07 12
Chesterton workhouse has been criticised by a lady inspector. The nursing staff was totally inadequate at the time of her visit with a solitary nurse on duty in the sick wards doing the work of three. Another complaint was that the young children were relegated to the care of incapables or undesirables. The lady visitor may be somewhat faddy but there must be some foundation for her strictures. 12 07 12d

1912 07 12
Dr Barnardo's Homes – 12 07 12j

1912 07 19
The National Insurance Act has seen a great rush of insurable people to join approved societies and applications for cards have reached stupendous figures. Cambridge General Benefit Society

was one of the first to be approved and have admitted 100 new members. To their disgust members of the Cambridge Police Force have been called on to contribute their fourpence a week under the Act. This is difficult to understand as they get almost full pay during sickness and receive free medical attendance from the Police Surgeons 12 07 19f & g

1912 09 13
Luke Hosegood had been Master of Cambridge Workhouse since 1876 and was most assiduous in his duties; inspectors had commented favourably on the improvements he'd made. No fault had been found with his work and although he was some 60 years of age, he had a good ten years in him yet. There was not a gentleman's house in Cambridge which was cleaner and better kept and regulated than the Workhouse. But he had submitted his resignation, Guardians were told 12 09 13a & b

1912 10 04
Queens' College new building stands on the site of a row of almshouses founded by the first President of the college, Andrew Dokett. Architecturally they were of no value and their removal can scarcely be regretted. His charitable bequest will be continued as weekly pensions. Planned on traditional lines forming three sides of a court with the main façade to Queens' Lane, they provide accommodation for 26 undergraduates as well as the Bursar's rooms, guest room and clerks' offices. They were built by Rattee and Kett in a remarkably short time for such first-class work. 12 10 04h

1912 10 04
Chelmsford Board of Guardians passed a resolution in favour of the bodies of paupers who die in the Workhouse and are not claimed by relatives being sent to the University Medical School, Cambridge, for experimental purposes. One Guardian described the proposal as a scandal, but others, including two clergymen, said they would be willing to allow their own bodies to be used for a similar purpose. 12 10 04j

1912 10 11
An Ely Diocesan report on housing conditions says that the greatest sufferers are the mothers of families. The fathers go out all the day to work, the children are in school but the women are anchored in the house. The combined effect of insufficient space, bad sanitation, poor water supply and air deprived of oxygen produces a kind of torpor which disinclines her to any exertion and she cannot control high-spirited children who seek amusement in the streets. Many women allow their homes to remain dirty but an untidy house drives the husband to the tavern where he spends the money which might make the house more comfortable 12 10 11b & c

1912 12 06
The Cambridge Home of Mercy (Female Refuge) afforded women who have been following a sinful court of life a home where they may be usefully employed and instructed in religion. The Mission House on Newmarket Road provided temporary shelter for girls and women while inquiries were made, then placed them in homes and situations. It was unfortunate that men led women astray and women led men astray and the blame must be borne by both. The girls were grateful to be rescued; one who had led a notorious and openly evil life had married and now leads a respectable life 12 12 06e

1913 02 28
Workhouse – Hosegood offers resignation, daughter clerk controversy 13 02 28 p7 CIP

1913 04 25

Mrs Emma Hosegood was Matron of workhouse, for 36 years. As Miss Porter she started as schoolmistress at Caxton workhouse before moving to Cambridge where Luke Hosegood was schoolmaster. They married and were offered the posts of Master and Matron at Mill Road. All her life was devoted to her work, striving to improve and maintain the high standard of efficiency she set up. 13 04 25 p10 CIP

1913 06 20
Workhouse master Luke Hosegood retirement & p7 13 06 20 p6 CIP

1913 07 04
Workhouse new master, G. Foden 13 07 04 p7 CIP

1913 10 03
Luke Hosegood was at Cambridge workhouse for 42 years, most as manager. When appointed the Union ad not been attended to and he set to work most energetically to get it into perfect condition, making it home-like. There were many poor old people and it was the Guardians' wish that they should be treated with the greatest kindness and their somewhat grey lives made brighter. The Master was a disciplinarian and quelled the most turbulent inmate without undue severity. When his wife, the Matron, died, he resigned, even though not at a pensionable age. They hoped he would find something to supplement his pension. 13 10 03 p6 & 9 CIP

1914
Waters almshouses, Seymour Street, founded (Mrs Waters dies Feb 1915) [2.16, 4.10]

1914 02
Poor Law Union representatives meet to discuss tramp problem [1.8]

1914 07 02
Cambridge Workhouse needed a new boiler and pipes for the kitchen. There were serious structural defects. The cooking arrangements were antiquated, the stove out of repair, and the boiler liable to burst at any moment. The smell of cooking and heat from the kitchen made the Master's room most unpleasant. Greasy water overflowed on to the floor, the drain grease trap had partially rotted away. A large boiler in a shed supplied the hot water for cleaning the House and was a meeting place for all the male and female cleaners. The laundry had insufficient space and had no labour saving contrivances 14 07 02 14 07 17 p3

1914 07 17
The parishes of St Philip and St Barnabas have been enriched by the gift of six new almshouses which Mrs Waters has recently endowed and built on her land in Seymour Street, Vinery Road. They are intended for old age pensions of 70 upwards; three will be occupied by old ladies from each parish. They are of good quality red brick with a living room, bedroom and scullery fitted with a sink. The coal hole and lavatory adjoin the scullery. Mrs Waters selected the first tenants.14 07 17 p5

1914 10 23
New workhouse opposed 14 10 23

1915 02 26
Cambridge Guardians discussed the appointment of a foster-mother for the Children's Home which would be apart from the Workhouse. At present the Matron did not have time to supervise them. Bread, meat, groceries and cleaning materials would be obtained from the contractors and

firewood from the Workhouse. But Mr Coulson claimed the committee had deliberately underestimated the costs; the report was the most misleading one ever sent out. They now had the expense of two Houses instead of one 15 02 26

1916 02 16
Soldiers in the Workhouse. A report by Cambridge Board of Guardians states that three soldiers recently discharged, from the Army had been admitted to the casual ward within the previous fortnight. It is a lamentable thing that the Workhouse should become the abode of so many old soldiers towards the close of their lives. We shall be ingrates indeed if we let the men who have engaged in this great war for world liberty end their days as paupers, if any effort of the community can save them from that fate

1916 03 15
Florence Ada Keynes, founded Charity Organisation Society – profile – 15 03 15a

1917 06
Communal kitchens opened Church Street [3.4]

1918 08 14
Inmate of Chesterton Workhouse objected to stone-breaking in time of war and damaging the bolts of his door and a lock on a cupboard. Sentenced to seven days' hard labour on the first charge and 14 days' hard labour on the second 18 08 14 CIPof

1918 12
National kitchen opened Mill Road [3.5]

1919
King's college nominate last almswomen (last payment 1928) [1.19]

1919 05 19
Save the Children fund started in Cambridge by Eglantyne Jebb 19 May 1919 ¢CEN 5.5.89

1920

1920 02 25
Cambridge Shelter for Girls established 1851 by undergraduates and occupied building in Church St; had workshop in Newmarket Road till temporarily closed in 1918 because of lack of a worker. Re-opened 1918 as first-aid station for women in distress; needs support – Ch 20 02 25a

1920 06 02
Woollard family not to be evicted from Sturton Street home, follows meeting on Parkers Piece to consider treatment of soldiers and sailors who had come back disabled and with nothing to fall back on. A cordon of people should stand round the house and prevent the planned eviction said Stubbs - CDN 20 06 02

1920 07 17
Y.W.C.A. Hostel moves from Barton Road to Chesterton Road overlooking the river - CDN 20 07 17

1921c
Ely Diocesan Unmarried Mother & Baby Home opened [5.4]

1921 03 19
Ministry of Health condemns Cambridge workhouse, will be closed at first opportunity [6.3]

1921 04 09
Cambridge Home for waifs & strays closed last year & land procured for new home at cost £10,000 [6.4]

1922 01 14
Unemployed committee open soup kitchen Barnwell Theatre [3.12]

1922 05 27
Among the charitable institutions of Cambridge is the Cottage Home for Little Orphan Girls in Fitzwilliam-road. Its work has been carried on so quietly and unassumingly that the majority of townspeople are probably unaware of its existence. More than fifty years ago two wealthy Cambridge undergraduates were so distressed at the sight of many poor and neglected children in the town that they gave a certain sum of money for the founding of a home for orphan girls. Girls are admitted between the ages of four and twelve and are trained for domestic service and I am assured that those who have passed through the Home had done exceedingly well 22 05 27

1922 12 13
A satisfactory state of affairs was reported at the annual meeting of the Cambridge Home of Mercy. During the year the Home had been full. 16 girls were admitted, 12 were sent out to service and outfits were provided. One was sent to a stricter home, one to a sanatorium and two to be certified as mentally defective. Four girls had been married. Letters from old girls in service showed that many are doing remarkably well 22 12 13

1923 11 21
Miss Alderson said that since the opening of the Cambridge shelter for girls house in 1922 there had been 91 admissions. The present house (13 Hertford Street) was absolutely in adequate. There was a lack of proper arrangements for cleansing, no possibility for a separate bedroom for those for whom it was urgently necessary, no place except the one sitting room where the washing could be dried and the absence of any pretence of a waiting room. She described the only lines on which such a house could be run as Early Victorian if not prehistoric and appealed for support from the municipal authorities 23 11 21

1923 12 06
The question of providing additional accommodation at Cambridge workhouse was considered. The committee had inspected the sanatorium of the Leys school in Hooper Street which was for sale. It appeared to be suitable for a nurses' home. Mr Hall said they ought to leave some of the patients at Chesterton. Some of them had been in the institution for 10 or 12 years and it would be better to leave them there to spend the evening of their life, where they knew almost everyone 23 12 06

1924 06 16
Many in Cambridge associated with Poor Law work will regret the death of Mr Luke Hosegood, who for 37 years was master of the workhouse in Mill Road. He was appointed schoolmaster in 1870 when there were 150 children at the Workhouse, and when tuition had to be provided for them there. In April 1883 a serious fire occurred in the men's infirmary. His brave conduct and self-possession was the means of preventing any loss of life. In recognition of his prompt work

and meritorious conduct in rescuing some of the inmates he was presented with a testimonial 24 06 16 [1.9]

1925 05 29
Cambridge Guardians were told that their forefathers built the present infirmary as a test house for the able-bodied, but now it was becoming half hospital and half almshouse, and so they needed better accommodation now than they did. Mr Sells said he had every sympathy with the poor but they had to recognise that their inmates were better housed, better fed and better clothed than 75 per cent of the poor of Cambridge. If expenditure was embarked upon it would have to be found by the working men of Cambridge. The new building was not urgently needed 25 05 29

1925 06 08
The Bishop of Ely formally opened Stanton House, the new Cambridge Shelter for Women and Girls at Glisson Road. The Home is open day and night, not only for what are generally known as "rescue cases" but for all those who find themselves stranded in the town without means of getting lodgings. Many cases are brought by the police. The inmates stay until they can be restored to their friends or arranged for in suitable institutions. Originally started in 1854 by a few undergraduates it has several times been temporarily closed down on account of financial difficulties and as often re-opened at the request of town authorities 25 06 08

1927 10
Overseers of the Poor make their last rate; after 300 years their duties of valuation of properties & collection of rates to be taken over by Committee [1.10]

1925 10 02
The new Harvey Goodwin Home for Boys which has been erected at St Luke's Park, Victoria Road, Cambridge under the auspices of the Church of England Society for Providing Homes for Children (Waifs and Strays) was formally opened. The house is a fine, red brick building, capable of housing 35 boys and stands on a splendid site, and within its own grounds. The Bishop of Ely spoke of the work of sending boys from these homes to the Dominions under proper supervision 25 10 02

1926 10 27
An important new block is about to be opened as an extension of the Cambridge Poor Law Institution. The Mill Road workhouse received its first inmates in September 1838; just before Christmas married couples and the aged women arrived, and the sick and infirm were brought 'in fives' from the Poor-house of St Sepulchre and St Mary-the-Less. As tea was then 3s.3d. a lb 'small beer' was allowed in its place and sometimes given in excess so the quantity was limited to one quart daily per inmate. It has served with certain alterations and additions for three generations but now is inadequate for present requirements. The new block contains sick wards, maternity wards and nurseries. It will prove very useful and be a credit to the town 26 10 27

1927 03 10
An inquest was told how an 82 years old lady, who had fallen, was moved about from one institution to another until she had, against her relative's inclination, to find a last refuge in the Cambridge Workhouse Infirmary. Addenbrooke's Hospital had said she was noisy and disturbing the rest of the ward and could not be detained. She was sent to the Infirmary from which she was removed to the Devonshire Nursing Home by her relatives. But they said that whenever she moved she cried out very loudly on account of the pain and was too noisy to keep. So she was returned to the Infirmary where they diagnosed a broken rib. 27 03 10

1927 04 02
The Overseers of Cambridge have come to an official end & the passing of this ancient institution was celebrated at the Dorothy Café. It used to be their duty to help any poor person by granting relief without asking any questions, to be called in cases of suicide and take charge of mental cases. When they rated houses it was remarkable the very small value owners placed upon their own property. They sometimes felt it would not have been a bad thing if they could have bought the house at the price just stated by the owner. (Laughter). They had been in existence about 300 years they were handing over their duties to a Borough going back 700 years. 27 04 02 [1.11]

1927 09 01
The foundation stone of two new cottages were laid at the Cambridge Victoria Friendly Society's Institution in Victoria Road, Cambridge when. One is to house the nurse-matron and the other will be for an extra inmate. They have been made possibly by the generosity of the late Miss Emily Flack. They will be one-storey buildings containing a living room, a bedroom and a scullery. The nurse's cottage will have a bathroom in addition. It was only right that old people who had worked all their life and exercised thrift by belonging to a Friendly Society should in their old age find a haven of rest, said the President, Dr E.H. Parker. 27 09 01

1927 09 10
Vagrancy has increased greatly since War, dilemma over casuals -117 housed one night in premises suitable for 60, Chesterton Overseers refuse help [1.16]

1927 11 03
A catastrophe was narrowly averted at Cambridge workhouse when the boiler "sprung a leak". Had the trouble not been promptly detected an explosion would have inevitably occurred. This was the second occasion during the week and it had only to be incapacitated for the laundry, heating and cooking to be at a standstill. The trouble was caused by an accumulation of chalk deposit from the water. It would not have occurred had the apparatus been cleaned out at regular intervals. The sooner they got rid of the boiler and chimney the better. 27 11 03

1927 12 13
The Home of Mercy in Christchurch Street, Cambridge continues to do valuable work for girls in need, both in material matters and spiritually. It is almost always full & parents of the inmates express their gratitude for the care in training the girls. Eighteen have been admitted during the past year and eight have been provided with outfits, earned by good conduct marks, and placed out in service. Four have been certified under the Mental Deficiency Act, two returned to their friends, one refused to stay and one died of meningitis. Several have been baptised, confirmed and admitted to Holy Communion; some had to be taught even the Lord's Prayer and many are admitted in a low condition of mental and bodily health. 27 12 13

1928 01 10 c
A meeting was held to consider collaboration between the Cambridge and Chesterton Unions in the alleviation of the tramp problem. For some reason very few tramps go to Chesterton but very many go to Cambridge which is very seriously overcrowded. The indoor poor of the two unions should be managed by one committee who would gather together all the sick, all the babies, all the children and all the tramps and distribute them between the two existing union houses as seemed most convenient. 28 01 20 [1.12]

1928 07 12
Sir – everyone associates Cambridge with a stream of young life spending the happiest and most fruitful years of their youth. But at the same time another stream of men is seeking in Cambridge

some ‘odd jobs’, something to provide a few coppers. And does the crowd of the ‘upper ten’ realise the conditions under which their unfortunate brothers spend their nights? In the casual ward at the workhouse inmates are unable to get to sleep owing to the room swarming with mice, which scamper up and down the floor and run over the men on the beds. Surely the authorities could cleanse the room and eject the army of mice. How can such a condition of things exist in a ‘seat of learning’ where the laws of health are studied – Mary Higgs 28 07 12

1928 09 05
Cambridgeshire gets its quote of “Weary Willies” – the wandering fraternity and ne’er-do-wells – who, homeless and penniless, are content to patronise the various casual wards or ‘spikes’ and seek shelter at the expense of the ratepayers. I recall a visit to Cambridge ‘spike’ when bread and water was all we received in the way of sustenance and a stiff task of wood sawing or stone-breaking was expected in return. The ‘spike’ at Ely was, however, always regarded as a ‘cushy’ one. Today the tramp has a comfortable mattress to rest on, a hot bath, clean towels, night-shirt and sometimes a safety razor. On leaving he is provided with bread and cheese to sustain him on his journey. 28 09 05

1928 09 05
All applicants for admission to Cambridge workhouse are searched for contraband goods – not a pleasant task for the porter, and anathema to the tramp, who endeavours by all the tricks in his calendar to outwit the searching fingers of the official. No tramp is supposed to take in any tobacco, pipe, matches or money but to place them in his kit which is returned on discharge. But “Weary Willie” dearly loves a smoke; his stumpy pipe he will conceal in a toe of one of his big boots, in the other he places his matches or a selection of ‘kerbstone mixture’ – cigarette ends picked up in the streets - and Cambridge in Term provides him with a plentiful harvest. 28 09 05

1928 10 18
Cambridge Guardians have sanctioned the provision of a cinematograph at the Poor Law Institution. A Kodascope machine will be installed and a subscription raised to cover the cost of £1 a week. The provision of music on cinematograph or wireless was just as much part of the Institution as providing medical and dental treatment. The also considered the installation of a system of telephones 28 10 18

1929
New Casual ward built at Chesterton, most up-to-date in country with spring mattresses, baths; after10 years generally accepted that not meeting with any success & casuals just using wards as hotels; men refused work that was available & Government decided to close down the wards ‘after 10 years’ [12]

1929 02 21
Cambridge Guardians debated purchasing number 137 Gwydir Street for the few children in the Workhouse. Mr Francis said they should not build on that side; there were complaints of the smoke and grime and he could not imagine a much worse place. The right place was at Chesterton where they would at least get the air and the sun. Mr Lofts said they could not afford to expend that amount of money, while they could board children an extension was unnecessary. There was no rule against boarding out children under three but they tried to keep babies with their mothers 29 02 21

1929 07 31
The Rev Frank Jennings is getting first-hand experience of our social problems and spent his holiday living the life of a tramp. Two tramps described the Casual ward of Cambridge

workhouse: "Rotten, sire. The 'spike' there is 'no cop'. Swarms of mice run about at night. No baths, dirty wash basins. It's a disgrace to the city". So he visited for himself; the usual questions were asked by the porter but there was no attempt at searching. "I was directed to a large sleeping-room and bidden fetch my ration of 8ozs of bread and marg and a mug of hot but unsweetened tea. There was no bath, contrary to Government regulations as the boilers were due to be inspected. There were 18 people in the room and wire-framed bedspreads replete with three Army rugs made a comfortable lie down. There were no mice but I noticed a few holes in the floor", 29 07 31 p6

1929 10 16
Sir – a young one-legged tramp was struggling into town on his crutches when he was asked by a Universityman where he was bound. "Cambridge workhouse", he replied whereupon the Varsityman at once called a taxi and accompanied him there. Having rung the bell for ten minutes and received no reply the student scaled the 10-foot spiked railing, took the gate key from the porter's lodge, opened the entrance gates and led the tramp into the lodge where he seated him in a comfortable chair and was driven away. One can imagine the surprise of the night porter arriving some minutes afterwards – C.F. Lewis CDN 16.10.1929

1930

1930 03
Cambridge Board of Guardians funeral feast held at Lion Hotel, [1.13]

1930 03 21
At the last meeting of the Newmarket Board of Guardians important features of their 94-year history were recalled. Originally there were nine workhouses but a central workhouse opened with the removal of the inmates of the Soham workhouse in 1837. It was enlarged and rebuilt in 1902. Whatever else was said of the present Poor Law System which was now passing away, no one could ever say that it was not humane. They had to deal with men and women with whom life had dealt hardly and in no sphere of public service had such a demand for wise judgement and sympathetic action been more forthcoming 30 03 21 a & b

1930 04
Chesterton Board ceases after 96 years [1.14]

1930 04 01
The disappearance of Boards of Guardians and the transference of the Poor Law work to the Public Assistance Committees has caused some bewilderment. The chief institution in Cambridge is that at 81a Mill Road; it was erected in 1838 as a 'Union' to replace numerous small parish workhouses. The name has been changed to Poor Law Institution in recent years. The demand for accommodation became so acute that in 1923 they had to build a new block. The Infirmary of the old Workhouse has become a hospital with 124 beds in up-to-date wards with a large nursing staff including three certified midwives. 30 04 01a-c

1930 06
First meeting of Council Public Assistance Committee attack Cambridge Guardians' "utter foolishness in being so generous in many relief cases [1.15]

1930 08 20
Cambridge is well known to 'Weary Willies' – tramps – as 'hard-up-town' owing to the quantity of cigarette ends which can be culled from its pavements, especially during Term; 'hard-up'

being the name they give to the tobacco gathered from the streets. A few years ago vagrants found meagre fare in the casual wards: bread and water for supper and breakfast with a scanty bread and cheese dinner. Today the diet includes bread and margarine with tea or cocoa for supper & a dinner of cheese, bread, margarine and vegetables 30 08 20a-b

1930 12 08
The Home of Mercy in Christchurch Street, Cambridge has been more or less full of girls, almost all aged between 16 and 20. Seventeen girls had been admitted and ten provided with outfits and placed in domestic service. Five have been baptised, six confirmed and three restored to Holy Communion while two girls formerly in the home have been well married. The chapel had been redecorated and beautified. There were fewer illegitimate births but the moral standard of the country had broken down and a very large number of outwardly respectable women were morally corrupt. 30 12 08a-c

1931 05 08
Why do tramps prefer Cambridge? Councillor Edwards had given lifts to men on the road from London. They told him that its casual wards offer a great measure of comfort to the gentlemen of the road and it is a convenient jumping-off ground for tramps en route to Newmarket races. "If we carry on as we are, we shall get casuals and plenty of them", he told councillors who were considering a scheme to build new accommodation for 150 casuals at Union Lane. They agreed to reduce the size of the building. 31 05 08c

1932 01 25
The 'White Ribbon' Coffee House and Temperance Hotel in East Road has been taken over by the Salvation Army. After redecorating it will be run as a hostel and restaurant providing good refreshment and lodgings for 40 men at a reasonable charge. 32 01 25

1932 04 15
Tramps are on the increase. Previously the 'weary willies' were habitual vagrants who did no work; bearded, unclean and ragged they 'humped' their dirty kits through rain and sunshine. But now many respectable and well-dressed men who have been shorn of the dole by the Unemployment Insurance Act are taking to 'the road' in the almost vain hope of obtaining some employment. There are some from high professions who have found themselves cast on the 'rubbish heap', while married men are leaving their families rather than be a burden to wives who are employed. 32 04 15 & a

1932 06 01
Men's Casual Ward opens, Union Lane; Mill Road wards close [1.1]

1932 09 30
Members of the National Unemployed Workers' Movement organised a meeting opposite a house in New Street, Cambridge in the interests of a resident who was threatened with eviction. The man was a rag and bone dealer with two children whose application for relief from the Public Assistance Committee had been refused on the grounds that he was not starving. A Defence Committee was formed to oppose his ejection and a demonstration will be arranged on Parker's Piece 32 09 30bb (picture 32 09 30d)

1933 11 28
Cambridge Victoria Friendly Society's Institution opened its new pavilion with a verandah from which residents could watch Cambridge Town Football Club's matches. It had started in hired cottages in James Street but in 1841 the foundation stone for the present building was laid.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Cottages were added in 1888 and 1899 thanks to the Jubilee fund with the four others known as Miller's Buildings opened in 1906. It provides accommodation for 37 residents whose average age is 70 years. 33 11 28

1934 09 24
The Cottage Home for Orphan Girls is a small house in Fitzwilliam Road, a part of Cambridge which is not generally seen by the population. Few people were aware of its existence. It seemed there were not many destitute children in Cambridge for the local cases were not numerous but it was open to orphans from anywhere. It was started by two undergraduates named Coote and Watney and the foundation stone had been laid in June 1871. 34 09 24

1935 04 17
In a little cottage in Union Lane, Chesterton, men on the way to the Institution can now, for a few hours daily, experience something of the comfort of home life. The once rather dilapidated house has been transformed into a cosy Wayfarers' rest. Brightly-distempered walls and a roaring fire make it a comfortable place. On arrival they are given tea and a cigarette. Upstairs is a tiny chapel where prayers are said with a bible reading for any who care to attend. 35 04 17

1935 05 13
The number employed by the Disabled Persons Workshop has varied from 9 to 10; two are doing piece work in their homes, not being able to attend at the shop. Unfortunately three who are employed are not eligible for the deficiency grants from the Ministry of Labour which has hit the income. It has been a disturbed year owing to the difficulty of finding suitable premises in Cambridge for a shop. The workshops in Gloucester Street are out of the way and they had to leave Peas Hill because of demolitions, meaning there was nowhere to sell their goods. The new premises in Trumpington Street are outside the shopping centre and the rents and rates are a strain – 35 05 13

1935 12 17
Thirteen girls have left the Home of Mercy in Christchurch Street during the year, nine of whom were placed out in service. Every effort has been made to train them in laundry and housework, cooking and needlework. The Fellowship of Compassion has provided the girls with woollen underwear and rubber aprons. Religious teaching, which was more necessary than ever, has continued and there are always girls in various states of preparation for baptism and confirmation. 35 12 17

1936 04 25
The Wayfarers' Rest at 3 Union Lane, Chesterton has been open for a year. It provides an opportunity for those on their way to the Casual Ward to spend an hour or two in homely surroundings during which they are given tea, scones and a cigarette or tobacco. They can write letters, read magazines and join in the small chapel for prayers and a short Bible reading. More than 4,700 men and 120 woman have used it so far 36 04 25a [1.5]

1937
Victoria Friendly Society build six new dwellings [2.3]

1937 07 22
The Home of Mercy in Christchurch Street is one of the oldest Rescue and Preventive Homes in the country. Miss Meeking, who completed 29 years as manager, had a remarkable understanding of the young girls; many sent to her as 'hopeless cases' were restored to self-respect and received a fresh start in life. In the Home she was affectionately known as 'Mam', but there was no weak

sentimentality in her treatment of the girls and she fully understood the need of firmness and discipline. She knew that when they left the shelter of the Home they would meet many difficulties and kept in touch with scores of girls. She was consulted frequently by other moral welfare workers and recognised as a wide and sympathetic counsellor 37 07 22a

1937 12 24
Fellowship House toy distribution, which has taken place about Christmas-time for the last five years, came to an end after a very strenuous week. Altogether nearly 1,300 bags were distributed to the children of all unemployment men whose addresses were obtained from the Employment Exchange. Each bag contained an old toy, a new toy, a book, orange and bag of sweets and were delivered by private cars. Then as a 'Grand Finale' some 1,400 children were given a free film entertainment at the Victoria Cinema. 37 12 24

1938 01 08
Two wayfarers of the Public Assistance Institution, Union Lane were summoned that, being persons habitually wandering from place to place, they took a five-year-old child with them, thus preventing it receiving elementary education. They admitted they had no fixed abode and the boy only attended school for a few weeks at Long Sutton. The small solemn-faced lad was led into the court and lifted on to one of the benches for the magistrates to see him. He was well-nourished and well looked-after. He had never been neglected. The boy was taken into care though the father could see him once a month. 38 01 08

1938 11 28
Something should be done about the housing of old people: the number of old people is growing out of all proportion to the number of children and people of working age, Cambridge Women's Luncheon Club was told. In the old days people with nobody to look after them had to go to an institution. Now most live with relations but are not wanted, cause overcrowding, are treated as unpaid nurses and servants and appreciated very little. Some live in attic rooms in other people's houses with no water or cooking arrangements. It would be better to convert middle-class houses for them where they could form some sort of community. 38 11 28b

1938 12 10
The Home of Mercy dates back to 1836 when residents concerned about the lack of provision for women, hired Dover House in East Road as a place of refuge. Then in 1838 the Cambridge Female Refuge opened in Christchurch Street in which girls who have fallen into evil ways can receive Christian guidance and discipline in a home-like atmosphere. Last year nine left to go into service and four were returned to their parents. One was baptised and three received Confirmation. 38 12 10b & c

1938 12 23
Cambridge Police Poor and Needy Fund ensures many needy families can enjoy a good Christmas dinner and plenty of coal. A large queue formed in Downing Place, young and old, they call carried baskets, jugs and sacks – even pillow slips. A huge pile of potatoes was in one corner and milk was handed out from churns together with butter, tea and cartons of peas. The Police Santa Claus No.1 (the Chief Constable) chatted with people as they came in. Then came a Distribution Day lunch of roast beef and Christmas pudding in the police station. 38 12 23

1939 04 21
The Victoria Friendly Institution was inaugurated at a meeting at the Wrestlers Inn, Petty Cury in 1837 and the foundation stone of the old building laid in 1841. A programme and a number of coins were also placed in a bottle. But there is no trace of them. Now six houses have been

erected to mark their centenary, providing happiness for those fortunate enough to be elected tenants. It was a great satisfaction to know there were such places in which people could spend the eventide of life 39 04 21

1940

1946 10
Edwinstowe old peoples home opened Oct [446.10.3]

1947 06 16
"There is a general feeling throughout every grade of society that we want to have a brighter old age - and this is one of the first steps taken towards it". This comment was made by Alderman W.L. Briggs when he opened the first Old People's Welfare Club in the Tracy Memorial Hall, Romsey Town, Cambridge. This club is the first of its kind in the town, and more will be opened. "This new movement throughout the county was to take an interest in people who had reached the sensible years of life". Remarking that as far as pensions were concerned things were getting better every day - and it should be. "After all, we are the people who have borne the heat and burden of the day and have made England what she is" 47 06 16

1948 04 21
The belief that the problems of evacuation, separation and marriage arising out of the Second World War would continue to exist for a whole generation was expressed at the meeting of the Cambridge Central Aid Society. "Many of the families concerned", says the annual report, "are struggling against disintegration, but the presence of old and perhaps infirm relations in the same cramped rooms as young children and young parents makes the fight a hard, uphill business. Until more and more houses and flats are ready these family troubles appear likely to continue"

1948 05 05
The experience of being stranded in a strange town, with nowhere to stay, is particularly unpleasant for young women. There must be many who, stranded in this way in Cambridge, have heard themselves being directed to the Bene't Hostel for Women which exists to provide such shelter. The hostel was started in Brooklands Avenue in 1943 to meet a wartime need and during the last year of hostilities 1,060 applications were received and the total number occupying beds was 8,265. Its continuing need being proved, a house was later bought at 1, Drosier Road where an average of 21 beds have been occupied nightly ever since 48 05 05

1948 07 02
What might be termed the swan-Song of the Cambridge County Council Public assistance Committee took place at Shire Hall. In common with many other similar committees its duties will be taken over by the Ministry of Health on 5th July. The chairman, Mrs Mellish Clark, said that at the County Hospital Mill Road they decided to develop the maternity work, to close the causal wards and move the nursery children out to Linton. At Chesterton Hospital they had built a new casual ward, but when the war came these wards were converted by the additional of hospital beds and were being so used at the present time. At Linton they had built a Nurses Home but as there was no proper sanitation t Caxton they had decided to pull it down 48 07 02

1948 08 25
The need for utilising Chesterton hospital for the elderly and infirm people of Cambridgeshire and of housing casuals in some other part of the county was discussed at a meeting of the Board of Governors of the United Cambridge Hospitals. Dr R. Ellis said "There is a tremendous need, with the closing of infirmaries, to know what to do with the people who were housed in such

places. A great hardship is being imposed on people who are old - they are literally living in houses in some villages in semi-starvation and dirt. There is no hope for them living in the way they are". Mr Dennard thought that as far as casuals are concerned they should get a hut at Bourn and house them there 48 08 25

1950

1950 01 14
Members of the employment committee visited Trumpington Industrial Hostel and commented on the satisfactory manner in which the camp had been converted into reasonable accommodation. There were dining rooms, dormitories to accommodate about six men each, a theatre, laundry and ironing facilities and good reception arrangements. Although the premises were not ideal they thought the hostel was remarkable satisfactory and very useful 50 01 14

1952
Dr Barnardo's children's home opens [5.5]

1952 07 14
When the British Red Cross Society decided to make "Edwinstowe" at Chaucer Road, Cambridge a home for old people, there were questions in the minds of the organisers. Although residents would be well looked after and have all the material comforts, would the old people want to come? It is now an established and happy home and the public flock each year to the annual fete, not only to help the funds of the home but to renew acquaintance with the residents who seem to be having an "at home" in their own beautiful gardens. Pupils of the Betty Ripley-Carter School of Dancing made a charming contribution to the enjoyment with a dancing display.

1953 01 21
The Deputy Mayor of Cambridge, (Ald. H.O. Langdon) told a public meeting to launch an appeal for funds for a residential home for old people that it was a challenge to every one of them. "Can we stand aside and see old people who have spent a useful life in the service of our country suffer the pangs of loneliness and hardship, and let them die in despair, uncared for and unwanted", he asked. It is proposed to provide bed sitting rooms, both single and double, centrally heated and with modern amenities together with a dining room, reading and writing rooms where people can spend their declining years in the company of others and be tended and cared for.

1954 05 03
The general trend at the moment is to keep old people in their homes as long as possible and to provide services to keep them happy and comfortable. Housing Societies will no longer give money to the provision of residential homes for old people. They have three different kinds of schemes. The able bodied are being provided with flats, bungalows and converted flatlets with a residential warden, the slightly less able need residential clubs or hostels where meals and staffing is provided and the really old inform people require more in the way of care and attention. The important thing is that the needs of their minds and spirits, as well as their bodies, were thought of, the Cambridge Central Aid Society was told

1955 07 05
The Mayor cut the first sod for the building of the Cambridge Residential Home for Old People to be known as 'Langdon House'. It will take 37 residents with special provision for elderly married couples. Each will have a bed-sitting room with running water and they will share dining and sitting rooms. It will cost them £4.10s a week, but inability to meet this charge will not debar worthy residents from being admitted as it will be open to all without distinction. 55 07 05a

1956 03 06
The Lord Mayor of London visited Cambridge to open a new block of flats for old people at Honey Hill, Northampton Street. It was the first such visit and brought a glimpse of the pageantry in which the true Londoner takes great pride. In 1936 the frontage had been bought by the council with a quarter of the cost paid by Cambridge Preservation Society and Magdalene College. But the war intervened and the site was a blot for many years. Now the Mayor presented the keys to the first tenants, Mr & Mrs H.C. Rogers. 56 03 06a-d

1956 08 16
The pink-overalled corps of women known as the 'Home Helps Service' are available to homes where there are expectant mothers, elderly people, those who are ill and small children in need of care. The 250 ladies cook, clean, shop, wash and iron, receiving 2s 10d an hour. One helper isn't exactly a housewifery expert but was always in some small trouble of her own. 'We like having her', the old people said, 'she brings us a bit of excitement!' 56 08 16

1956 12 28
Hilda Paine is leaving the Cambridgeshire Home Help Service. It started in 1948 when she was appointed to organise the service in the rural area and later took over the small Cambridge service which had been run by the W.V.S. and combined the two. From small beginnings the service is now a flourishing and important concern. There are now 275 home helps with a 'case load' of about 590 people a week 56 12 28

1957 08 01
Two groups of Cambridge people, one small and ageing, the other large and young will always carry vivid and happy memories of Princess Margaret's visit. One are the happy band who are passing away their 'twilight years' in the comfort and beauty of Langdon House, which she officially opened. Named after Alderman Langdon,1952 Old People Welfare Council urged him as Mayor for home old people, pledged his personal help; Cambridge Housing Society would manage it if £10,000 by public subscription, foundation stone laid1955, finished Dec1956, for 36 able-bodied elderly; new wing 1963 for old who unable to move far & need constant attention 57 08 01c & d & e & f [3.8,15.1]

1957 09 18
I had always thought of old peoples' homes being sad places where equally sad old people spend the end of their life. But Primrose Croft stands in a lovely garden filled with flowers backing onto school playing fields. Each of the 35 residents has an airy room with attractive curtains and a lock-up cupboard. The women were busy doing knitting and crocheting, the wireless in the lounge is also enjoyed and the matron hopes one day to afford a television set. 57 09 18

1958 12 11
Hill Top Club used by US forces, then over-60s, all-day club [15.3]

1958 02 18
Civic leaders have backed the News' appeal for emergency funds for Edwinstowe Old People's Home in Chaucer Road. It needs money to replace furnishings, including mattresses and the hot water system. This pioneer Home has catered for 90 elderly people since it opened in 1946 but rising costs have made it impossible for money to be found other than by an appeal to the warm-hearted generosity of local people. 58 02 18a

1959 03 16

Frederick Archibald Mace arrived as Master of Chesterton Hospital in 1946 and implemented the changes which have turned it into the bright, happy National Health Service establishment it is today. But to several old people, some of whom have been in the hospital from their childhood and until ten years ago knew it only as an institution, he was still 'the Master', but a Master who contradicted all the old Dickensian ideas of institutional life. 59 03 16

1959 06 01
The Cambridge Association for Social Welfare told how in 1854 a group of undergraduates opened a Mission in Church Street, later to be called Stanton House, where spiritual and material help was given to women and girls in serious moral trouble. Then in 1883 a group of University ladies formed the 'Cambridge Association for the Care of Girls' finding work for girls living under dangerous circumstances 58 06 01 & a

1959 09 12
Henrietta Street and St Eligius almshouses – 59 09 12c & d, 59 09 26, 59 09 28

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 11 22
Stanton House flatlets old people, luxurious accommodation opened [3.9, 15.10]

1961 02 17
The Old People's Welfare Council believes the best thing for the elderly is for them to live independently as long as possible. But many cannot and there are an increasing number of people wanting care in their old age. The main problem is finding suitable premises to make into old people's homes. In 1948 the County Council had to do with Linton Hospital and a few beds at Chesterton Hospital. Since then they have been modernised and improved. After the war buildings were very difficult to get because of competition from firms wanting office accommodation and the rising cost of land. The fist new home was The Grove, Fordham in 1951, followed by Willingham House and in 1956 Primrose Croft was adapted to take 35 elderly residents. The future plans are to erect purpose-designed buildings 61 02 17b

1961 08 12
Chesterton Hospital has 166 beds for the elderly sick and 74 custodial beds for able-bodied elderly people with no homes of their own. After decades of neglect geriatric medicine has come into its own. The number of elderly people is the highest it has ever been while a declining birth-rate has diminished the number of children available to care for their parents. Now 25 per cent of Britain's elderly are left without children to look after them in their old age. But of these 95 per cent are living independent lives and a quarter make some contribution to society until the age of 75 61 08 12

1962
Central Aid Society changes rules after 80 years due Welfare State, set out to improve conditions people living in Cambridge; till 1915 called Charity Organisation Society [Misc.4.6]

1962 02 01
The changing face of old Cambridge will soon see further demolition. Already a number of houses have been pulled down in Shelley Row and four more are to follow including one boasting an elegant example of a Mansard roof. The building on the corner of Leeke Street and

Newmarket Row, known as Mendicity House, formerly provided lodgings for beggars following the Napoleonic War. It was later purchased by the Industrial Dwellings Company, set up to improve the inadequate housing in the Barnwell area. It is now Harris' butcher shop. 62 02 01b & c

1962 10 06
Almshouses demolished, King Street [1.17]

1962 12 04
Whitelocks Yard, Trumpington is a quit oasis from traffic thundering by on the main road. Now the twelve 100-year-old houses are being put up for sale by the trustees of the charity of George Whitelock who say they need considerable improvements and a lot of money spending on them. But the elderly tenants are concerned for the future, fearing they may be thrown out on the streets. The homes, with a half-acre site, are being sold for £4,750 62 12 04a

1962 12 08
Collections at the Round Table's Christmas tree in St Andrew the Great churchyard began in 1953. Last year they raised money to provide 415 parcels for old people, each containing £1-worth of Christmas cheer. The names of old people who benefit from this magnificent effort are revised each year and every person is visited before Christmas. One year a 30-foot high tree was delivered and putting it up meant dislocating the traffic outside Christ's College for some time. 62 12 08

1963 04 08
Abbeyfields Cambridge Society, help old people remain self- supporting within community, buys first of 18 houses it hopes to acquire in Cambridge [15.11]

1963 12 21
One third of the institutions which house our old people are just former workhouses. Terrified of losing their individuality in an institution plenty of old folk prefer merely to exist in poverty-stricken solitude. The real problem is of lonely old age – and no place can be lonelier for an old person that a 60-bed workhouse dormitory full of strangers. But the Abbeyfield Society integrates people in their own neighbourhood in houses with separate bed-sitting rooms with personal belongings and an electric hot-plate for minor cooking. Now one may be set up in Cambridge. 62 12 21

1964 10 28
Cambridge Central Aid Society say problems have increased in complexity. Some young married couples get into difficulties when they take furnished rooms beyond their means. When they eventually get a council house they have to continue paying in lieu of notice as well as having the cost of moving and buying furniture. One of their happier tasks is to arrange and finance holidays for some overburdened person worn down by ill-health or anxiety – 64 10 28a

1964 11 18
Cherry Trees, a club for the elderly, has opened in new buildings in St Matthew's Street which have been donated by Miss Evelyn Boake. It will be run by the W.V.S. on similar lines to their successful Hill Top Club on Castle Hill. The main room with a lounge opens out to a sun terrace. The décor is rich and colourful with easy chairs in orange blue, green and red. Coffees and lunches will be served each weekday to men and women of pensionable age who are not in full employment. At present the main problem is obtaining sufficient volunteers to help serve. 64 11 18

1965
Simon Community to start; aim a house for misfit dossers & alcoholics where live without being institutionalised

1965 05 06
Oban Court flatlets for elderly people in Union Lane; have kitchenettes, bed-sitting room and dressing room with washbasin and lavatory. The double ones have bathroom. To be officially opened – 65 05 06

1966 02 15
Ely Diocesan Home for unmarried and pregnant girls – feature – 66 02 15a

1966 06 15
Simon Community a year old, but still no hostel – 66 06 15

1966 11 04
Bene't Hostel, Cambridge's only hostel for girls closes; has been on verge of bankruptcy for much of its 23 year history; gave shelter to women stranded in city; was used by women teachers and social workers as well as girls sent by welfare organisations; now accommodation easier to rent – 66 11 04 girls now remanded 2-3 weeks go to police cell or Holloway [16.2]

1967 02 28
Edward Storey almshouses originally built in 1729 for clergymen's widows; houses built in 1844 converted to flats – feature - 67 02 28a

1967 11 04
Seymour House day centre for elderly opened [15.8]

1968
Harvey Housing Association flatlets for unsupported mothers open [5.6]

1968
Simon community open in former pub East Rd

1968 09 31
Local authority homes for old or handicapped people – feature – 68 09 13

1969 05 18
Edward Storey Foundation Trust sell 5 lots of city centre land for £521,000 as want to rebuild Shelley Row almshouses [6.5]

1969 04 09
Simon Community home for vagrants – profile – 69 04 09, 09a

1969 04 25
Abbeyfield Cambridge Society houses for elderly – feature – 69 04 25

1970

1970 01 14

Simon community derelict pub on East Road taken over as place of refuge is to close – 70 01 14 alcoholics to be banned altogether; should not have mixed drinkers & non-drinkers, allow continue; change name to Cyrenians to avoid confusion London organisation

1970 08 13
Children's Relief International investigation – 70 08 13 & a

1970 09 15
Several charities to merge in bid to build new almshouses on Old Manor House site at Church Street, Chesterton to replace old Wray's Court Houses; Henry Wray trustees apply city council – 70 09 15

1970 12 21
Victoria Homes demolish part building make way modern flatlets for old people [10]

1971 05 10
National Federation Old Age Pensioners association founded Cambridge branch [15.4]

1971 07 07
Ely Diocesan Unmarried Mother & baby home closes after 50 years due lack of demand [5.4]

1971 09 07
Harvey Housing Association flats for unsupported mothers with day nursery – feature – 71 09 07

1971 11
East Barnwell Community Centre Neighbourhood Club [15.5]

1972 12 06
Jackenetts new almshouses, Church Street open [4.1]

1972 05 08
Dr Barnardo's children's home closed, bought for Social Services boys' hostel [5.5]

1972 09 15
Salvation Army close White Ribbon Hostel, East Road after nearly 50 years; County Council take over [5.7]

1973 11 10
Cambridge Night Shelter set up as Charity, has King St accommodation for 17, (closed 1974 as all helpers had flu) [4.2, 11]

1973 11 19
The cost of bringing the White Ribbon Hotel at East Road, Cambridge up to the standard needed to meet fire safety regulations and public health requirements now about £4,000 – nearly three times the amount originally estimated. Until last April the hotel was run by the Salvation Army as a hostel for city working men with no family roots. But, because of the high cost of maintaining the building and bringing it up to the new standards, the Salvation Army moved out and the |County council took over the building. Cambridge city council have told the county that they will not pay any more than £750 73 11 19

1974 06 06

Storeys House 49 flats elderly women Mount Pleasant opened, Edward Storey Foundation one of richest in country with income12,000 [17.4]

1974 08 02
The White Ribbon hostel in East Road, Cambridge, which provides a home for 30 working men with no family backgrounds, has been declared a great fire hazard by Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service. For many years the hostel was run by the Salvation Army but they were forced to give up when the high cost of bringing the building up to fire safety standards was discovered last year. The building was then run by Cambridgeshire Mental Welfare Association. But because of other commitments, they have handed over the administration to the county council. Eventually the authorities hope to replace the old buildings with new ones. But no swift action is likely in rebuilding because of the present serious shortage of money in local government circles 74 08 02

1974 12 13
Council plans to buy Pound Hill property for Night Shelter frustrated, it moves to temporary accommodation in run-down almshouses St Paul's road; Cyrenians play major part in running this & also medium-stay hostel in East Roadd & community house for long-stay individuals in Short St [4.3, 11]

1975
Drinking problems clinic opened at Fulbourn Hospital [4.7]

1975 02 11
Voluntary workers in Cambridge are battling to keep an old peoples' day club and meals on wheels service going while they wait for new premises. The WRVS Hill Top Club for the elderly is run in a dilapidated "pre-fab" on Castle Hill. The workers took the building over in 1958 from American servicemen who had used it as a social club. It has been feared the building would not last until new premises at Primrose Croft were built.

1975 04 15
Mill Road houses open for drunks, opposition; [4.4]

1975 10 17
Cambridge desperately needs cheap accommodation for dossers, a Cambridge police commander claimed. This was preferable to the free accommodation once provided by Cambridge Night Shelter whose facilities, he felt, only served to aggravate the city's vagrancy problem that had grown in the past five years. "I have to ask whether life has not been made too easy for alcoholic dossers in Cambridge. Aren't we in fact encouraging them to become what they are by giving money and a place to stay when they need it?" he asked 75 10 17

1975 12 18
Cyrenians allowed house Gonville Place [4.5]

1976 01 28
New Hill Top Club opens Primrose Croft, anon £20,000 donation two years ago [15.6]

1976 04 23
Mill Road houses for drunks pulled down 1976 [4.4]

1976 07 23
Geriatric hospitals are old workhouses, each one days march from the other [15.7]

1976 09 29
A new flats complex for elderly people in Sturton Street, Cambridge, was opened by Mrs Rae Linnett, widow of the former Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University after whom it is named. He was chairman of the appeal which raised money for the scheme which was promoted by the Anchor Housing Association. Linnett House, which includes communal rooms, a laundry room and a warden's flat, is the first new development for the use of Cambridge residents named after a senior member of the University 76 09 29

1977 05 22
Fire at White Ribbon Hostel, condemned as fire hazard, provides shelter for homeless men, county council take over; a doss house for 26 men with one bath between them, damp & filthy, turn away drunks or drug abusers, violent, no incentive to improve for political considerations & because scheduled for demolition in Kite redevelopment [5.9]

1977 11 01
"City burdened with poverty and misery in some areas"— Rhodes James [16.3]

1978 09 27
Six or seven streets have far more than their share of human problems, 'area where delinquent attitudes prevail" [16.4]

1978 11 14
Parsons Court meeting place for elderly opens [15.9]

1978 11 17
Twenty-six men live in the county council-run White Ribbon Hostel in East Road, Cambridge with one bath between them. It is hardly worth bathing, the place is so damp and filthy. The rooms at the back are so rotten they are used just for storage. If you have a bedroom to yourself a week in the hostel will cost you £14.78, just £10 less than a room in the relative luxury of the YMCA. The problem is a practical one: the Hostel is scheduled to be demolished should the Kite redevelopment plans go ahead. The council is thus loath to spend much money on the creaking 19th-century structure. 78 11 17

1978 12 13
One of Cambridge's well-known characters, Mr William Trevor Hughes, has died at Addenbrooke's Hospital aged 66. It is believed he had suffered a heart attack, Trevor had appeared before magistrates on some 113 occasions, mainly on drinking charges and was usually found wearing a woolly hat and old overcoat in the city centre. On one occasion a solicitor paid his £3 fine because he had overlooked giving him a Christmas present. A native of St Helens and a former cricket coach Mr Hughes had a wide circle of friends in the University and commerce. 78 12 13 [4.6, 13]

1978 12 22
A remarkable cross-section of the community gathered for the funeral service of a well-known Cambridge personality. There was a former Dean of Jesus College, a police superintendent, booksellers, shopkeepers, a solicitor, market traders and college staff. They heard an address and sang hymns. Then they exchanged reminiscences about the man whose service they were attending, paid tribute to his memory and went away. A regular occurrence in a town like Cambridge, perhaps. A distinguished academic or leading businessman had died, it might be thought. But this service was for a shabby old man with a beard of no fixed abode who had some

113 convictions mainly on drinking charges and who sat and drank in the city centre – Trevor Hughes. 78 12 22

1979 07 05
Church Army plans for hostel Victoria Rd/ Histon Rd approved [5.10]

1980

1980 06 18
First school for ex-prisoners set up 6 years ago in Cambridge to close [16.5]

1980 09 19
'Turning Point' organisation establish dry house for addicts [4.8]

1981 11 11
Jason Caesar baby killed [16.6]

1982 01 15
Community nurses along with home helps and the meals-on-wheels service form the basic support for many old people. They treat burnt legs – quite common in cold weather as the elderly tend to sit very close to fires and fall asleep. Many ladies cling stubbornly to the homes in which they have lived for half a century or more, often without central heating, indoor lavatories and in some cases electricity or hot water. Two or three elderly people in Romsey have only gaslight while others insist on using candles. 82 01 15

1982 10 05
Newly-modernised almshouses in King Street were re-opened by Baroness David. They were built in 1880 to replace the original houses dating back to 1647 which had decayed beyond repair. The new houses for single retired women have modern kitchens, bathrooms and central heating. Already they have six tenants. 82 10 05a

1982 11 19
At least 120 homeless people, Church Army (1) & Cyrenians (2) run houses but can only cater for half, both have had applications for new premises blocked; Cyrenians rules are no violence, no drugs & no drink in house; Church Army run like institution as many people have lived in institutions all their lives &would deteriorate if outside one, 36 men in three dormitories, one bath & one shower – Stop Press [9]

1982 12 31
Simons House, the Histon Road sheltered housing for the elderly, and the nearby Rackham Close bungalows have won a major Housing Design Award. The scheme was judged to provide 'most agreeable homes for elderly people' and many of the residents agree. Mrs Bertha Kent described it 'as a lovely little place', Daisy Woodcock says it's very friendly and John Manning thinks 'it's really ideal'. 81 12 31a

1983 07 19
Many old age pensioners in Cambridge are finding it difficult to struggle to the main Post Office and harder still to stand, often in a long queue, to collect their pensions. The News deserves full credit for highlighting the plight of many frail, elderly residents. The lack of hospital beds for long stay patients means than more than 80 former residents are now separated. There is also a

chronic shortage of accommodation in old peoples' homes and a shortage of warden-supervised sheltered housing – Chairman, City Housing Committee 83 07 19 p6

1985 01 21
An old playschool bus has been fitted out with bench seats and facilities to make hot drinks and sandwiches with an informal meeting area upstairs. It will stand on waste land next to the Lion Yard car park as a drop-in centre to provide a warm, sheltered meeting place for the homeless, unemployed and disadvantaged people of Cambridge. There will be two basic rules – no drink and no violence. It is run by the Cyrenians who will offer advice on problems with the DHSS, housing and drinking. But there has been a lot of public hostility 85 01 21

1985 01 31
Plans for hostel for former psychiatric patients, Mill Road [6.1]

1985 07 09
Problems poverty Darwin Drive etc but no help under Urban Aid grant [16.7]

1985 11 25
Stanton House residents celebrated its silver jubilee with a ploughman's lunch and old-time music hall. It has 28 bedsits with shared bathrooms, giving elderly people their independence while under the watchful eye of a warden who lives on the premises. It was the first sheltered housing scheme to open in Cambridge and has proved very popular. But the fact that residents are made so comfortable means they live longer, and more and more homes of this kind are needed. Now Mill Road maternity hospital and St Philip's School in Thoday Street are to be converted. 85 11 25

1985 12 23
Christmas is just another day for some residents of the Church Housing Association in Willow Walk. But despite the distinct lack of enthusiasm Captain Andrew Entecott and his helpers are busy at work. The cook will be dishing up turkey and all the trimmings for 36 men and gifts will be presented in the afternoon. The Cyrenian's home in Short Street is like a big happy family and they have planned a Christmas meal. But many homeless people will be wandering the streets with nowhere to go 85 12 23

1986 03 17
Railway House Association provides accommodation for youngsters in houses on Mill Road bridge – 86 03 17a

1986 08 22
The Church Housing Trust's new hostel in Victoria Road aims to get away from an institutional set-up with single rooms and bedsits for 75 homeless people. Alcohol will be banned and residents encouraged to improve their lifestyle to enable them to live in the community again. Nearby home owners have been reassured that problems will be few and far between because if residents have been drinking they keep away as they don't want to lose their accommodation. The Trust's existing premises in Willow Walk will be also retained. New-style accommodation for homeless planned in £.75m development Victoria Ave for Church Housing Trust who have run Dickensian- style dormitories at Willow Walk since beginning of century 86 08 22 [6.2,7]

1986 09 22
Church Army seeking permission to build new accommodation in place of its Willow Walk premises [5.9, 8]

1987 03 24
The Railway House Association stands as a chilling monument to the suffering, heartache and degradation inflicted on youngsters in the Cambridge area. Many of those who have sought sanctuary have been subjected to physical violence, neglect, mental abuse and sexual crimes. In the last year the Mill Road hostel, which consists of three houses divided into 12 flats, has taken in 26 young people who might otherwise have been sleeping rough. But another 60 have had to be turned away. 87 03 24a & b

1987 10 02
The City Council are negotiating to buy a £300,000 16-bedroom hotel in Chesterton Road with a large dining room, lounge, extensive kitchens and parking for 15 cars. All carpets, furniture, bedding and crockery are included in the price. It will be used to provide bed-and-breakfast for homeless families waiting for permanent accommodation and will work out cheaper in the long run. Property values are increasing rapidly and it could be sold at a profit if the number of homeless families falls substantially. But one outraged neighbour described it as an upmarket dosshouse not appropriate for the area. 87 10 02

1988 06 13
The first residents have moved into Ditchburn Place, the former Mill Road Maternity Hospital which is being turned into an assortment of 100 flats and houses for young single people and elderly couples. A small number of units have been built for people who have moved out of psychiatric institutions. When complete next year it will incorporate a laundry, restaurant, coffee bar and day centre for the frail and elderly. It is a very attractive scheme, offering a higher standard than the private sector could have afforded and is unlikely to be repeated in current financial circumstances. 88 06 13a

1988 11 26
Cambridge has nearly double national average of children in care ¢CEN 26.11.88

1989 02 09
Rent arrears rise - "people in state of poverty" ¢CEN 9.2.89

1989 02 25
City lottery wound up after 13 years ¢CEN 25.2.89

1989 03 04
Church Housing Association hostel Willow Walk to be renovated, closed 1986 when new premises opened Victoria Rd ¢CEN 4.3.89

1989 06 07
Cambridge's homelessness problem is getting worse, experts say. Officials from the city environmental health department were so worried they went out on the street at night to look for people sleeping rough. But they only found two middle-aged tramps and feel they may have looked in the wrong places. There are more than 5,000 people on the housing register and last year the council housed 241 homeless people. Up to 50 families are being forced to live in hostel accommodation because they cannot find anywhere to rent or afford to buy a place of their own. 89 06 07a

1989 12 20

Ditchburn Place, the former Mill Road Workhouse celebrates transformation into home for the elderly and meeting place for the community – 89 12 20a

1990 02 12
Cambridge's first soup kitchen has been set up at the homeless drop-in centre, the Bus Project. Winter Comfort will be running the service which provides soup, hot drinks and sandwiches until March. About 12 people per night have been taking advantage of the service. 90 02 12

1990 05 25
Buchan House residential home and day centre to be kept closed until county find company to run it under new privatisation policies – 90 05 25b

1990 07 05
Duke of Edinburgh opens Ditchburn Place – 90 07 05c, 06, 09b

1990 11 221
Hope Nursing Home new facilities; 54 residents - 90 11 21b

ELECTION TIME IN CAMBRIDGE
OH! D-M!
I'm Canvassing For Mr — Can We Count On Your Vote
VOTE VOTE VOTE FOR MR ..... TURNOLD ..... OUT THE TOWN ETC. ETC.
THE POPULAR DITTY
YOU MUST STAY AWAY TILL THE ELECTION IS OVER
ROT
A HEATED DISCUSSION ON MARKET HILL
VOTES FOR WOMEN.
NOW I SHALL LOSE MY VOTE
CELEBRATING THE OCCASION.
PREFERENCE & NO WORK
FREE TRADE
THE BIG LOAF
THE WOMAN
FREE TRADE
VOTE
TAKE US ROUND THE TOWN OLD SPORT.
YOUR FOOD WILL COST YOU MORE.
TARIFF REFORM & WORK FOR ALL
DON'T LET THEM TAX OUR FOOD
£1,000,000 RAISED ON FOOD TAXATION
FREE FOOD
I TELL YOU BUCKMASTERS SURE TO GET IN.
THE CONTRADICTION OF THE POSTERS
PAGETS A DEAD CERT
NOT ARF
VOTE
AN ELECTION RESULT.
GOING TO THE POLL.
H.P. MODEN '10

'Election Time in Cambridge' : cartoon by M.A. Moden, 1910

104.44

c.33 : Politics – *see also c.36.93 : Undergraduate Excesses*

Election tactics long ago – Enid Porter – 59 10 07 & a
Eighty-year-old Henry Palmer of Bradmore Street had lively recollection of some of the old election fights between the Whigs and Tories. "I have seen the shop windows broken and the blood running in the streets and the paths all slippy and sloppy with it. They used to have barrels of beer on Parker's Piece and knock the head in and dip the beer out in pails and hand it round. The political parties used to be hot in those days" He also recalled how a man who lived in the end house of a row in Petersfield used to make cricket bats. He built a brick wall right across the path and the matter ended up in court. Every year afterward they commemorated the event by dancing in the streets 10 09 09 & a

1888 11 23
Women's Suffrage Association annual meeting, membership 50; are allowed to vote for new County Council [5.4]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1891 11 13
Bill Tillett first Labour leader to address first Labour demonstration in Cambridge, November [1.21]

1891
Salisbury Working Men's Club foundation stone laid [5.18]

1900

1901 09 212
Mr Smith, a member of the Social Democratic Foundation paid a visit to Cambridge and in the evening addressed a gathering on Parker's Piece. A box was conveyed to a spot under the central electric light. From this platform the lecturer discoursed. The majority of the audience appeared to be sympathetic. A few juveniles however found pleasure in throwing lumps of turf at the speaker and disrupting his remarks. A large number of pamphlets were sold at the conclusion of the meeting 01 09 21

1902
Socialist beginnings - Fabian Society and townsmen meet in Queen Anne Terrace [1.15]

1903 09 04
Goods seized from Passive Resisters for the non-payment of the education rate were auctioned at Cambridge Corn Exchange. Due precautions were taken to prevent unseemly disturbances. The auctioneer was enclosed in what resembled a laager, composed of corn merchants' desks and a large number of constables kept a vigilant watch on the crowd who clambered upon desks to obtain a clearer view of what was going to happen. No sooner had the auctioneer started than his words were drowned in a perfect storm of hooting a and hissing 03 09 04

1904
University try to oust their MPs as had not supported Government on Education & Licencing Bills [3.6]

1904 01 29
Many are the amusing incidents related by canvassers for Parliamentary honours. One called at a modest house in Norfolk Street, Cambridge and asked for the master of the house. A sturdy working man appeared but when asked for his support burst out: "Look here, guv'nor, you must see the 'missus. I have only voted once, and since then our rates has gone up. So she says I'm no class at voting, and in future she's going to vote herself, instead of me". In vain did the canvasser endeavour to explain that the man's good wife could not vote, but he responded "Can't vote? Can't she? Perhaps you'll tell her so!" 04 01 29

1904 02 19
Cambridge Liberals have been turned out of their handsome home in St Andrew's Street. Few provincial political clubs have had such a palatial clubhouse with large lofty rooms, spacious hall and staircase with a terrace overlooking gardens. The deceased Alderman, Henry Rance, who built the extensive premises practically ruined himself in the process. Members are now removed to a property in St Tibb's Row formerly occupied by a now defunct newspaper until new premises are completed on the site of the old Bird Bolt Hotel. 04 02 19 [3.1]

1904 02 23

County Council electioneering tactics at Cherry Hinton were exposed in confidential correspondence between two potential candidates. Mr Neal, the owner of Cherry Hinton Hall, was too unknown to have the slightest chance of carrying the seat. Many scarcely knew there was a Hall and he had not had time to make it a centre of interest. The parish is Radical to the backbone and the Conservatives would be giving the seat away to the opposition were he to stand. However Mr Brooke had great strength with the cottagers and even the Dissenters would support him. In the event of his being elected he would not serve once the Education question had been settled and would stand down, making it easier for Mr Neal to win the seat. 04 02 23

1904 09 03
Green Street, Cambridge would hardly be suspected of any pretensions to the romantic. Its well-ordered lodging-houses, the policemen who parade it and the milkmen who visit it, all seem to bar the entrance to anything more fanciful. Yet it is home to a Russian Pole, Mr Ignatius Knaster who became a political offender by the publication of a political pamphlet dealing with the conditions in Poland and was given the alternative of incarceration or banishment. 04 09 03

1906 01 13
The University is deciding who shall be their representatives in parliament. But voting is not by secret ballot. Three polling stations are furnished with desks and packs of voting cards of different colours with a space for the voter's name, college and degree to be written. Two electors arrived together, one in academicals and the other cap and gownless. He had to wait until his companion had completed his business before borrowing his gown & thus be allowed to vote. 06 01 13a&b

1906 01 13
When the election meeting at Newnham concluded the candidate's carriage was drawn to the Conservative Club followed by a procession which included a couple of motor buses. Just as it reached Cambridge Market Hill a similar procession of demonstrating Liberals poured out of Petty Cury. These two bodies of citizens conceived an intense dislike for each other, shouting vigorously. A little later there was an exhibition of fisticuffs in Sidney Street 06 01 13

1906 01 16
The polling box from Norfolk Street was the last to arrive at Cambridge Guildhall and with it came the story of a tactful police inspector who had piloted the carriage containing some hundreds of votes through a Petty Cury crowded with excited partisans. Inside the ballot papers were counted and it became known that Mr Buckmaster was elected. Mr Paget, with the generosity of an English gentleman, shook his hand and congratulated him on the victory. 06 01 16b

1906 01 16
The newly-elected Cambridge Liberal MP, Mr Buckmaster, proceeded to the Bull Hotel. Hundreds upon hundreds thronged King's Parade and still hundreds more from Market Hill arrived, cheering as they came. When he appeared on the balcony the applause reached fever heat, handkerchiefs and hats were waved and he was informed that he was a jolly good fellow. At last, it seemed from very exhaustion, the people settled down to hear his speech. 06 01 16b

1906 01 20
An extraordinary incident at the Cambridge election left some Conservatives thinking their candidate had been elected. It may be that the white handkerchief waved from the window of the Guildhall seemed in the glare of the gaslight, to be a pink favour. Great was the jubilation, they cheered and they cheered and one gentleman commenced a congratulatory speech. The shock of

the news that the seat had gone to Liberalism was therefore harder to bear when it arrived. Nevertheless the Conservatives gave their champion a stirring reception when he joined them – defeated or not. 06 01 20a

1906 01 31
The new Cambridge Liberal Club premises in Downing Street includes an assembly room with a ladies gallery, reading, smoking and games rooms. But it has nothing that can compensate for the loss of the beautiful garden they enjoyed in their old home at Rance's Folly in St Andrew's Street. It will be formally opened by the Solicitor-General. 06 01 31a

1906 02 03
The length of time over which General Elections are spread is protracted beyond all reason. Before the advent of motor cars considerable time was needed to enable a candidate to make himself known to the electorate but now a week would answer all purposes. A general election could then be over in nine days instead of three weeks and the polling occupy three days instead of a fortnight. 06 02 03a

1906 07 19
Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association held a well-attended meeting in the grounds of The Lodge, Mill Road when addresses were given by Miss Isabella Ford, a prominent suffragist, Mrs Rackham and other local ladies. Women could be guardians or medical officers but could not vote for a representative in Parliament. The grounds, which present a beautiful appearance, proved an ideal venue .06 07 19

1906 10 19
A Cambridge Ratepayer Association was formed: there was deplorable apathy over local government and many councillors resumed their seats without a contest. Members of councils were nominated and their actions controlled by a party. Contracts were given out, not to the lowest tender, but because one man belonged to one party and one to the other. They might run candidates for the town council and board of guardians irrespective of party politics. 06 10 19b

1906 11 06
A large number of supporters of Women's Suffrage met at the Victoria Assembly Rooms, Cambridge, to hear an address by Mrs Henry Fawcett. Dr A. North Whitehead presided and was supported by Miss Kennedy, Mrs Heitland, Mrs James Ward, Mrs Rackham and Dr Westlake, Professor of International Law. Mrs Fawcett said ladies had lobbied the Prime Minister then jumped on the forms, made speeches and waved their flags. They were carried outside by police and as they came out a young factory worker who said 'Votes for Women' was immediately arrested and sent to prison. 06 11 06d & e & g

1907 01 15
When Parliament re-assembles there will be a stupendous effort on behalf of the enfranchisement of women. A canvass is being organised in Cambridge which already includes the heads and staffs of Newnham and Girton Colleges and the Secondary Training Colleges for Women. Small informal drawing-room meetings are being held and addresses on suffrage given to meetings of the Women's Liberal Association and the Co-operative Women's Guild. 07 01 15b

1907 02 15
Suffrage meeting, Cambridge – 07 02 15 [4.17]

1907 02 18

Keir Hardy demonstration – 07 02 18 attempt to prevent Kier Hardy speaking by screwing up door, [1.12]

1907 02 21
The University Vice Chancellor has condemned the undergraduates who wrecked Kier Hardy's meeting at the Guildhall. It is one of the University traditions that honest opinions, however unpopular, should receive a fair hearing. Cambridge is not unsympathetic towards the Labour Party and its leader should have been given a chance of expressing his views. 07 02 21

1907 03 26
During recent elections for St Matthew's Ward one of the Liberal candidates complained about the vicar pulling down Liberal election bills on the walls of York Street School, one of the polling stations. He replied that nobody had the right to fix notices to the property of the Old Schools. Patches of paper remain on the walls for months afterwards leaving a stain it was impossible to remove. Anyway most people had made up their mind before the election how to vote. 07 03 26

1907 05 14
A Women's Suffrage meeting heard that even in Cambridge there were many signs of women's desire for the vote; once they only had one meeting a year, now they were continually having them. Bertrand Russell was contesting Wimbleton in the interests of the movement. They might be proud that the first man to do this was a Cambridge man, and a man of such intellectual distinction. 07 05 14c

1907 07 09
Cambridge Association for Women's Suffrage organised a meeting at Cambridge Guildhall with a series of admirably-delivered speeches by Mrs Fawcett, the Hon Bertrand Russell and others, supported by 80 delegates from across the country. It was said that men had all the logic and women sweetness and morality. But men could not be expected to know everything that women required. Young women should throw themselves with all the ardour and power they could command on this, one of the very great questions of the world. 07 07 09

1907 12 14
Whatever the detractors say about the 'unsexed suffragette", the little band of "pesterers" who visited Cambridge last night amply vindicated their femininity. Mr Haldane, the War Minister's last memories of our town will not be the ringing cheers of his supporters but the shaken fists of the suffragettes as they shouted 'Votes for Women". As his car glided out of Downing Street there was a flutter of petticoats and a liberal display of shapely ankles and the suffragettes were at the windows, shouting their battle cries. 07 12 14d

1907 12 14
Suffragettes, unable to gain admission to the Guildhall, held a meeting outside in the rain. Two ladies from the Women's Social and Political Union picketed the entrance, distributing leaflets. Then they climbed on a market stall and addressed the crowd. To the credit of Cambridge the ladies were accorded a very fair hearing, but when Mr Keeling of Trinity mounted the platform there was such an uproar that, though his mouth was seen to be moving, not a word could be heard. Later they were surrounded by such a crowd that the police escorted them to a four-wheeler which drove off. 07 12 14 & a

1908 02 25
Cambridge suffragist meeting – 08 02 25c & d

1908 04 22
Henry Campbell-Bannerman death and local connections – 08 04 22 & a

1908 04 25
A large crowd assembled outside the offices of the CDN for news of the Manchester bye election, in which Winston Churchill was defeated. When the result was announced there was much jubilation at the Central Conservative Club. Churchill had promised anything to anybody without the slightest sincerity; let them hope he would never seek re-election again. He had been a brilliant man in the Conservative party at one time and now he was a disgrace to the Liberals. 08 04 25

1908 05 06
Cambridge was badly hoaxed last night about the result of the Wolverhampton election. Inside the CDN the editor was waiting the news when the noise of cheering penetrated the office, but that was no unusual for the crowds waiting outside frequently engage in shouts. When the official message came through Mr Taylor proceeded outside to find nobody there. Practical jokers had already caused a card to be printed with fictitious figures and left outside the News office. If they aimed at creating a sensation, they have succeeded, causing fits of depression among members of the Liberal party 08 05 06

1908 05 11
The personality of Mr Winston Churchill looms so large in the minds of Cambridge politicians that a crowd of about 3,000 waited patiently outside the offices of the CDN to await the result of the Dundee election, where he was returned as a Liberal MP. When one section of the crowd raised a cheer, the opposing section retaliated. It was a great delight to hear an undergraduate, perched on the shoulder of his friends, declaim against Churchill as a turncoat and hear him answered by one of the Liberal turn of mind. Dundee election night will not soon be forgotten 08 05 11

1908 06 19
The greatest demonstration that woman has yet made of her desire for the suffrage was the gigantic procession through the streets of London to the Albert Hall. Ten thousand strong, it comprised almost every class: lady doctors marched with factory girls, famous lady novelists and domestic servants. Cambridge played an active part: about 130 ladies joined in, including Mrs Heitland, Mrs Ward and Mrs Rackham bearing a splendid blue silk banner with in gold lettering 'Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association, founded 1883'. At the Albert Hall both Newnham and Girton colleges took a box, many ladies attired in academic dress 08 06 19 p2 08 06 19 p2

1908 08 21
Members of the Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association, including Mrs Rackham, Mrs Dutt and Mrs Ramsey, visited Whittlesford and Fulbourn canvassing women during the afternoon and arranging an open-air meeting on the green at which the wives bring their husbands. There had been a certain amount of difference of opinion but people have been most friendly and willing to listen. CWN 08 08 21 p3

1908 11 06
The women candidates for Cambridge borough councillors have quickened interest in the recent elections. All though the day rumours of the arrival of the Pankhurst brigade were flying about with speculation that 50 militant females had arrived from London, but nobody saw any suffragettes. The crowd expressed their pleasure in cheers when it was announced that both the

lady candidates, Miss Kennedy who stood in New Town and Miss Philpott who stood in Petersfield, had been defeated CWN 08 11 06 p3

1908 11 13
A band of militant ladies disrupted a meeting attended by a Cabinet Minister in Cambridge Guildhall when they informed him and an unsympathetic audience that they wanted votes. It was known that members of the warlike organisation of women had arrived, but which of the many well-dressed women present were they? It soon became clear when a slight form crowned by a 'Merry Widow' hat rose from her seat and vomited words like a Gatling gun. They caused a disturbance and a few had the pleasure of being ejected with more or less violence. CWN 08 11 13

1909 01 29
Suffragettes stall on Peas Hill [4.19]

1909 02 19
The meeting organised by the Anti Female Suffrage League in the Guildhall was crowded with many undergraduates who regarded the whole question as a humorous diversion. Speakers were constantly disrupted except from the one lady who was not subjected to a single interruption. Whilst conceding the importance of Women's work in national life it would be dangerous to allow a vote to people lacking the average political knowledge and experience open to men. 09 02 19

1909 05 07
A number of undergraduates played havoc with the meeting of the Cambridge Association for Women's Suffrage. The Corn Exchange has a seating capacity of about 1,500 but by utilising the farmers' desks and standing in every available space, an audience of 2,000 listened to – or interrupted – the arguments. Quite 80 per cent of the meeting was composed of women, of whom Newnham and Girton contributed a considerable quota. But it was the minority whose increasingly violent disruptions caused the meeting to break up in a disorderly manner, though not before the resolutions had been carried by a large majority. 09 05 07

1909 09 10
A gramophone meeting was held at Fen Ditton in support of the Government's budget. Some delay was caused by the gramophone having gone wrong but Mr S. Mallyon lent his machine. First a musical selection was rendered and then recordings of speeches by the Prime Minister (H.H. Asquith), Chancellor of the Exchequer (Lloyd George) and President of the Board of Trade (Mr Winston Churchill) were heard. There was a good attendance of men and youth but the room was not full. CWN 09 09 10

1909 12 31
As polling dates are fixed both political parties have redoubled their vigour. In Cambridge Mr S.O. Buckmaster spoke at the Gladstone Centenary Dinner at the Cherry Hinton Liberal Club while Almeric Paget has meetings arranged at St Barnabas Institute. The fight in East and West Cambs bids fair to be especially keen with meetings some distance apart. The motor car is a wonderful ally and enables the candidates to set distance and bad roads at naught but it is not conducive to the best of health to be exposed to the vagarities of the climate while travelling at high speed from one hot and crowded meeting room to the next CWN 09 12 31

1910

1910
General Election – candidate's wife hit by egg and stones [1.13]

1910
Debate on Women's Suffrage in 1910, the first time an inter-college debate opened by a woman – 36 01 15 b & c

1910 01 07
General election – Barrington, Shelford – 10 01 07a, Over, Fen Drayton – 10 01 14m & n, Soham, Fordham – 10 01 28d, Newmarket, Burwell, Ely – 10 01 28e; Votes for women – suffrage meeting – 10 01 07b & c, 10 01 14b & c, campaign in Cambridge – 10 01 14d

1910 01 07
The Cambridge Women's Suffrage Society scored a great success at a mass meeting in the Guildhall. The place was packed to the doors and there was very little serious interruption. The chair was taken by Mrs Heitland and Mrs Rackham (Poor Law Guardian) urged candidates for the Borough, University and County of Cambridge to do all in their power to secure a measure granting the franchise to women on the same terms as men. Miss Margery Corbett, a former student at Newnham College, was amongst the speakers. CWN 10 01 07b

1910 01 07
The Cambridge branch of the National Union of Women's Suffrage Societies works on constitutional lines, using only lawful and orderly methods. Its meeting in the Romsey Council School was a decided success: the speeches were listed to by a crowded audience most attentively, although there were some interruptions and cat-calling from the back of the building. Mrs C.D. Rackham urged the candidates at the forthcoming General Election to support votes for women on the same terms as men. CWN 10 01 07c

1910 01 14
Mr Paget's supporters held a torchlight procession through Regent Street, Emmanuel Road, Fitzroy Street, King Street and St Andrew's Street. Torches of many kinds, some of an evidently hastily prepared character, were held aloft and Mr Paget rode in a carriage in the centre of the procession, which included about 30 horsemen who formed an imposing guard of honour. The Conservative candidate was accompanied by crowds of men, lads and even women and girls, bearing aloft torches, pink lights and Union Jacks, and blowing tin trumpets and whistles. CWN 01 01 14a

1910 01 14
Scenes without parallel in the recent political history of Cambridge were witnessed in connection with the great Liberal demonstration in support of Mr Buckmaster's candidature. The Guildhall could contain but a fraction of the crowds and an overflow meeting had to be held in the Corn Exchange which itself was packed to capacity. At both Mr Buckmaster had a tremendous reception, the audiences rising en masse and waving hats, handkerchiefs and leaflets and cheering in deafening choruses for several minutes CWN 10 01 14b

1910 01 14
To have filled the large hall at the Guildhall to the very doors and held the attention of a crowded audience for nearly two hours would have been a great score for the Cambridge Union of Women's Suffrage Societies at any time. But to have done so when both political parties are working at high pressure and three big political meetings were being held the same night, was a

veritable triumph. Nobody who listed to the clear, forcible, eloquent speeches of the ladies could fail to have been impressed, the few interruptions from the back of the hall being of a very mild and harmless character. But few of those present backed a call for women to have the same right to vote as men. CWN 10 01 14e

1910 01 21
Crowds waited on Cambridge market hill for the results of the election. As the hands of the clock dragged with exasperating slowness, the excitement grew even keener. But by half-past ten even the cheering began to subside. "Wish I'd brought my breakfast" said one ruby-faced gentleman whose appearance suggested that he had dined exclusively on beer. "Blooming long time countin' up nine thawsan' votes" said a Barnwellian. Suddenly the Mayor appeared on the Guildhall balcony with the successful candidate. "Buckie's beaten" was the sentence spoken half unconsciously by scores of Buckmaster's supporters as if the brain refused to grasp the significance of what the eye could see. CWN 10 01 21 & a

1910 01 21
Counting the votes – Cambridge – 10 01 21h

1910 01 29
Total votes in the four County constituencies give Conservatives a majority of one over Liberals, in fact County sends two of each party, January [3.11]

1910 02 04
The polling of the four Cambridgeshire constituencies shows how remarkably evenly balanced are the two great parties: 19,232 being given to the Liberals and 19,233 to the Conservatives – a majority of one! As the county returned members of each colour Cambridgeshire can fairly claim to have secured proportional representation. This curious fact was pointed out by a young schoolgirl who discovered it quite by herself. I have never been an advocate of women's suffrage but think she is much more deserving of a vote than many men I know. Probably by the time she is of age, votes for women will be an accomplished fact. CWN 10 02 04c

1910 05 27
The inaugural meeting of the Cambridge Town Fabian Society heard that members of the University group were scarcely in touch with practical politics being young people whose minds were in a state of flux. The townsfolk had maturer views, were more business-like and in a better position to explain how instalments of Socialism could be brought about immediately. 10 05 27

1910 06 03
Mrs Pankhurst made her first acquaintance with the undergraduate at a meeting organised by the Cambridge University Men's League for Women's Suffrage at the Guildhall. She is used to lively meetings but usually there is some point to the interruptions to which she is subjected. This time the undergraduate section of the audience had come fully determined to turn the meeting into a sort of variety entertainment for their own delectation, and in this they succeeded. She stuck to her guns during her address which lasted, counting the interruptions, for about 70 minutes and then invited questions. About 9.30 a Proctor arrived and one man was led out of the hall, amidst much groaning. 10 06 03f & g

1910 11 04
Advocates of votes for women made their first platform appearance at Gamlingay, a crowded meeting being held in the Boys' Council Schoolroom. Mrs Rackham from Cambridge said she did not believe in the actions of the militant suffragettes. They were not asking for women to go

to Parliament but women were taxed like the men and ought to vote like them. However Mrs Stanley of Merton Grange thought it would be terrible thing if in future England were governed by women. (Applause). It would mean 'petticoat government' and they did not want that. (Applause). The majority of ladies did not want the franchise and 400,000 of them had petitioned against 'votes for women'. The meeting rejected the idea. 10 11 04b

1910 12 09
Mr S.O. Buckmaster, the defeated candidate, left Cambridge by train for London. In deference to his wishes there was nothing in the nature of a demonstration, but a little band of faithful supporters gathered to see him off. He appeared to be in excellent spirits and laughed gaily as he stood on the platform. Mr Buckmaster was quickly recognised by a number of people who crowded round for a parting handshake. When the whistle sounded he took his seat in a first-class compartment. The last farewell was said by a railwayman who jumped on the footboard and rode for some yards with his head thrust in at the window. 10 12 09 also Almeric Paget

1910 12 16
The crowds outside the Shire Hall assembled early for the results of the poll. They stamped their cold feet on the muddy, puddley ground and scowled at the hopeless sky that spread a light unpleasant drizzle. A little girl, doubtful of her right to stand on so important a site, cuddled up closely to a friendly shop window. An errand boy allowed his political ardour to overcome his sense of what is required of express deliveries. He was joined by a butcher's boy, with a liberal show of Conservative colours, who gave his willing assistance in doing noting to their mutual satisfaction. 10 12 16d

1911
Tom Orrey first Labour candidate in Borough elections, stands for Romsey, comes bottom of poll [5.9]

1911 03
Suffragettes plan to walk streets on census night to avoid being counted; wife of Unitarian minister arrested during suffragette raid on House of Commons [4.9,5.10]

1911 04 07
Cambridge advocates of women's suffrage decided to protest against legislation without representation. A number of people of well-known name and position in the University and town spent the night at the houses of suffragists who had decided to defy the Census and not fill in their papers. One of these was Mrs Vulliamy of Maitland House, Barton Road who is on the Executive Committee of the Women's Freedom League. She wrote across her paper 'No vote, no Census' and entertained a house full of ladies. 11 04 07a

1912
Mass meeting of undergraduates form Coal Strike Emergency Committee prepared to work in pits, but strike ends [1.18]

1912
Labour party formed [8]

1912
Big meeting of Cambridge University & Cambridge Town Fabian Societies with Cambridge Labour Party, Labour to contest every seat on Town Council where there is support [3.12]

1912 01 12
Suffrage: Cambridge University Men's League for Women's Suffrage meet University officials [4.11]

1912 03 01
Conservative Women's Franchise Association formed [4.13]

1912 03 08
Adult Suffrage big meeting – 12 03 08a

1912 07 12
Women's suffrage meeting, Market Hill – 12 07 12g

1912 08 02
Whether one is in favour of militancy or not, the courage of those ladies who use it as a means for gaining the vote for women cannot be denied. Two ladies stood on Market Hill on Friday evening and faced the jeers and derision of a gang of rowdy youths who did all they could to make the meeting a farce. Popular songs formed the favourite medium employed for drowning the voices of the speakers and the confusion was heightened by the use of cycle bells and whistles. But Miss Roff and Miss Kate Jarvis persisted and managed to make their arguments audible 12 08 02a

1912 08 02
Great excitement was caused by a noisy scene that took place on Parker's Piece when Mrs Brailsford, the militant suffragist, spoke from a lorry. A large crowd gathered, mostly composed of youths of about 18 years of age who shouted themselves hoarse, then pushed and pulled the lorry about the Piece. When the ride came to an end Mrs Brailsford got off and was followed through the streets by the crowd of boys and children, booing and shouting. 12 08 02c, d

1912 08 16
A considerable crowd on Market Hill witnessed an interesting struggle. An open-air meeting of the Women's Social and Political Union was being held but soon after Miss Kathleen Jarvis began her speech the bells of Great St Mary's struck up a deafening peal. The fair speaker's voice, pleasing but not powerful, was almost completely lost and it was only by her gesticulations that the crowd could see she was still expounding her principles. For something like an hour the unequal contest was maintained. And Miss Jarvis was the winner. A woman who had earned three periods of imprisonment was not to be daunted and was still pouring out a stream of argumentative bullets when the ringers retired - 12 08 16aa & b

1912 08 16
An open air meeting was held at Swavesey in the cause of women's suffrage. The gathering should have been in a field but in consequence of the damp grass it was held on the road. The platform was a chair placed against a gate in Middle Watch and about 70 people attended, young ladies being mainly in evidence. Mrs Rackham's speech was eloquent and moderate in tone but it evoked no enthusiasm; there were no interruptions and no questions at the end. But a few gave in their names as 'friends of women's suffrage' and leaflets were distributed 12 08 16d

1912 10 04
Cambridge Women's Suffrage meeting & petition against forcible feeding – 12 10 04f

1912 10 25

The non-militant Cambridge Association for Women's Suffrage held a well-attended meeting in the Guildhall. 12 10 25d

1912 11 22
Votes for women debate at Union Society – 12 11 22a

1912 12 06
Women's suffrage meeting addressed by Rackham – 12 12 06b

1912 12 06
Mrs Pankhurst visit to Guildhall – opposition – 12 12 06c; advert 12 12 12aa

1912 12 12
Miss M.B. Thomas, M.A. of Huntingdon Road has the distinction of being the first lady in Cambridge to resist paying her taxes on the ground that taxation and representation should go together. 12 12 12c

1912 12 12
When Mrs Pankhurst arrived for a Suffragette meeting at the Guildhall the streets were impassable, 20 policemen were on duty at the entrance and the air was filled with the horrible stench of stink-bombs. Although the audience comprised a large opposition who created a good deal of uproar, the noise gradually diminished as her speech advanced and she was perfectly audible. Georgina Brackbenbury who took the chair had more interruption by the sound of a penny trumpet; its owner was a musician who produced notes mournful or joyous according to her words and achieved a flourishing Reveille. Afterwards crowds ringed a motor car waiting outside the Wheeler Street entrance, which had one of its tyres deflated. But Mrs Pankhurst was quietly conducted out by the Guildhall Street entrance and to the Lion Hotel. 12 12 12c & d & e

1912 12 20
The Cambridge branch of the Friends of the Soviet Union held an enjoyable social at the new Left Book Club rooms in Falcon Yard at which two Russian silent films were shown. The first, 'Oil Symphony' gave an account of the tapping of some of the country's vast oil resources, while the second recounted the construction of the Baltic-White sea canal. There was also an interesting exhibition of modern Russian craft work. Copies of photographs sent to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Socialist regime were given as prizes in competitions and dances 12 12 20e

1913 01 10
Writing to the Mayor from Chateau de la Garoupe, Antibes, France, Almeric Paget MP says: As you may be aware, I have been obliged under doctor's orders to absent myself from Parliamentary duties for some weeks past. It is on my conscience that I am drawing a salary which I am unable to earn and I now ask you to accept my last quarter's Parliamentary salary of £100 to be given in aid of whatever local charities you think most deserving of assistance 13 01 10 p4 CIPof

1913 02 21
Suffrage debate interrupted by undergraduates 13 02 21 p7 CIP

1913 02 21
Women's suffrage annual meeting – 13 02 21 p3 CIP

1913 03 07

Mrs Pankhurst, leader of the militant suffragists addressed a meeting at the Blue Boar Hotel. A gramophone in the window of an undergraduate's room was playing the Dead March as she entered the hotel but there was no demonstration. A vigorous anti-suffrage campaign has also been conducted with meetings at Newnham Croft and Fen Ditton disagreeing with votes for women. If women ever sat in Parliament they would insist on a debate on the flannelette question before consideration of foreign policy. 13 03 07 p4

1913 04 25
Sir Charles Rose, the Liberal MP for East Cambs, died with tragic suddenness in his motor car as he was returning from Hendon Aerodrome where he had taken a flight in a biplane. It had circled at a moderate height for seven minutes and on landing he said he had enjoyed the trip. The Coroner ruled that the excitement and exhaustion of the new experience had brought on a heart failure. An aeroplane was not suitable for those getting on in years. Aeroplaning should be left to the young, vigorous and robust. Sir Charles might have survived many years had he lived a placid and quiet existence. 13 04 25 p10 CIP

1913 05 09
Politics – women's suffrage bill defeated; women vote speaker heckled by undergraduate 13 05 09 p04 CIP

1913 05 16
Suffragists speaking at the Rutland Hall Newmarket were interrupted by shouting, booing and the singing of 'I want to go to Dixie' and 'Have a banana'. Then a percussion cracker was thrown against the wall, sounding like a revolver shot. Afterwards the ladies were escorted out of the back door by police to where a motor was waiting. In Cambridge an attempt was made to set fire to the Varsity Rugby pavilion using an improvised bomb in a mustard tin. A card reading 'Votes for Women' was found nearby together with a ladies shoe, left when she hurried away after lighting the fuse. And a sensation was caused at a leading Cambridge hotel when a square paper parcel labelled 'Votes for Women' was discovered in the lounge. It was quickly removed to a place of safety but on examination was found to contain nothing more explosive than a block of wood 13 05 16 p4, 7, 12 CIP

1913 05 23
Ratepayers' Association formed 13 05 23 p6 CIP

1913 05 23
Two fires attributed to suffragettes occurred in the small hours of Saturday morning in the newly-completed houses in Storey's Way. One was almost completely destroyed but the other, being erected for the Balfour Professor of Genetics, was extinguished before much damage was done. In it were found clues which led to the arrest of a Norwich school teacher. One was a gold watch and the other blood stains on the broken glass of window. The suspect had a cut on her finger 13 05 23 p7 & 8 CIP

1913 05 30
Suffragettes attempted to blow up a railway crossing gate at Granhams Road, Shelford. The gatekeeper found a treacle tin with a bootlace through the lid connecting with a long red squib inside. It was surrounded by cotton wool soaked in oil and lumps of charcoal. On the outside was written 'Votes for Women'. There is little doubt it was a genuine article that could have set fire to the gate had the lighted lace not gone out. It was immersed in a bucket of water. Rumours said that two strange women had been seen near the site 13 05 30 p11 CIP

1913 06 06
Suffragette Pratt trial for Storeys Way fires 13 06 06 p8 CIP

1913 06 08
Suffragette outrage re painting gate St Johns college etc was hoax by three undergraduates of St Johns including Sutherland, lady's shoe deliberately planted; some of inscription visible on right of gateway till creeper grew over it after WWII [CWN 8.6.1989]

1913 06 20
Suffrage attack St John's college library 13 06 20 p8 CIP

1913 07 04
Women's suffrage meeting Market Hill - 13 07 04 p4 CIP

1913 07 25
Suffrage pilgrimage in Cambridge; non-militants' efforts 13 07 25 p5 CIP

1913 07 25
A film of great interest is being shown at the Picture Playhouse. Mill Road, special pictures having been taken by the theatre's own operator of the suffrage procession in Cambridge. The film is 230 feet long and depicts incidents of the arrival of the pilgrims on Saturday and the departure from Cambridge on Monday. Many other attractive pictures are included in the week's programme and the fine selection of classical and popular music played by Max Bennett and his clever orchestra adds much to the enjoyment of the audience 13 07 25 p7 CIP

1913 07 25
Suffragette meeting, Market Hill - 13 07 25 p12 CIP

1913 08 01
Suffrage pilgrims air experiences 13 08 01 p7 CIP

1913 08 07
Trades union demonstration on Parker's Piece: 1,100 take part, march Romsey to New Town, call for minimum wages of 30/- (£1.50) per week & 8 hour day. Council ban erection of platform & this seen as attack on the rally [1.19]

1913 08 15
Mrs Rackham amongst suffragettes visit PM - 13 08 15 p6 CIP

1913 08 15
Militant suffragettes Market Hill meeting - 13 08 15 p7 CIP

1913 08 29
Militant suffragists Market Hill 13 08 29 p5 CIP

1913 10 17
At the Assizes the top gallery was filled with women when a suffragette was accused of setting fire to a house in Storey's Way. She denied having started the blaze but had been at the site and dropped her watch. It was identified by her uncle, a Norwich policeman. Pink flannelette smelling strongly of paraffin had been wound round a ladder and set alight. Her coat smelled of paraffin.

She asked the jury: “Do I look like a person who would go about with flannelette and cans of petrol and set fire to houses”. She was convicted. 13 10 17 p8

1913 10 24
Suffragette Pratt released after hunger strike 13 10 24 p8 CIP

1913 11 21
Mrs Pankhurst, suffragette, invited to speak Cambridge, refused use Guildhall 13 11 21 p7 CIP

1913 11 21
Suffragette protest at Corporation service 13 11 21 p8 CIP

1913 11 21
Mrs Rackham speaks on suffragettes 13 11 21 p9 CIP

1913 12 19
Cambridge women’s suffrage deputation to prospective Cambridge Liberal candidate 13 12 19 p8 CIP

1914 02 13
"Brawling" in Church. Interruptions in Divine Service were made at Holy Trinity Church, St. Matthew's Church and the Friends' Meeting House by militant suffragettes. Militant methods of madness have already put a brake on the advancement of an. excellent movement and the disturbance of church worshippers is no argument in favour of votes for women 14 02 13 CIPof

1914 03 27
Miss Ethel Sargent, the well-known botanist of Girton College, enjoys the distinction of being the first woman to hold the office of President of any section of the British Association. But she is refusing to pay the King’s Taxes as a protest against being taxed without having a vote. Articles, including microscopic accessories and Zeiss lenses were seized and sold by auction on the Green at Girton. It is the third such sale since 1912 14 03 27b & c

1914 03 27
H.G. Whibley resigns leadership of the Liberal party in the borough – profile – 14 03 27h

1914 05 08
Although there was a crowd of 2,000 at the annual demonstration of the Cambridge Trades Union on Parker’s Piece on Sunday afternoon, everything was exceedingly quiet and orderly, the speeches were mild almost to dullness and did not provoke the smallest opposition. The resolution in favour of a 48 hours’ working week and a minimum wage of thirty shillings was carried. It remained for the irrepressible suffragettes to create the only diversion, but even that was mild.14 05 08d [1.9,2.2]

1914 05 08
Suffrage meeting on Parker’s Piece told Government employs women at lesser wages than men – 14 05 08e

1914 05 29
The work of Suffrage Societies in the Eastern Federation has grown so much that reorganisation is needed. The Hon Sec for Cambridgeshire is Mrs Heitland, who with Miss Garlick as organiser is arranging meetings in North Cambs villages represented in Parliament by an anti-suffragist, the

Hon. Neil Primrose. At Chatteris the Picture Palace was filled with other meetings in Whittlesey & Wisbech. Two ardent Cambridge suffragists, Miss Ida Freud, later lecture at Newnham College and Miss Smith of Hills Road, are much missed. Nine labourers were fined for disturbing a meeting at St Neots by shouting, dancing and singing. 14 05 29c

1914 06 12
Something of a sensation was caused when it became know that the plan of campaign of the Suffragettes included the burning down of King's College chapel together with the Bodleian Library at Oxford, Lichfield Cathedral and Stratford-upon-Avon church. This was revealed by 'The Standard' which claims to have possession of important information relating to the militants' plans, 1914 06 12 p6

1914 06 12
Union Society supports women's suffrage, 1914 06 12 p9

1914 06 26
Women's suffrage campaign 14 06 26 p10

1914 08 14
Suffragette amnesty - 14 08 14 p2

1914 10 30
Cambridge Women Suffragette Association has published a leaflet 'How to Help in Cambridge in time of war' listing organisations rendering public service. It includes the local branches of the National Relief Fund Committee and the Soldiers and Sailors' Families Association, relieving distress and supporting dependents of men serving. The Red Cross Society conveys wounded to the First Eastern Hospital and supplies blankets. Others are the Ladies' Recruiting Committee, the Sidgwick School of Needlework and the Charity Organisation Society 14 10 30

1915 02 05
Cambridge Liberal Association headquarters at Asquith House, 270 Mill Road opened 15 02 05

1915 02 12
Cambridge branch of Union of Democratic Control formed with Bertrand Russell in the chair 15 02 12

1915 08 27
Women and war: lecture by Mrs Rackham at Suffrage summer school; Bertrand Russell lectures 15 08 27 p7

1915 09 03
Suffragette summer school, Bertrand Russell lectures 15 09 03 p4

1916 05 13
Pankhurst addresses University Nonconformist Union, 'once healthy now residue of pacifists & conscientious objectors' [5.20]

1917
Labour win seat on borough council [8]

1917 06

Representation of the People Act brings drastic changes. Parliamentary Borough enlarged and remainder divided into two divisions, Isle of Ely and Cambridgeshire, reducing representation by one member [1.26]

1917 07 25
M.P. Resigns. We live in stirring times (says a leader writer), and when we went to Press last week no one in Cambridge had the least idea that in 24 hours our Member (Mr Almeric Paget) would have resigned his seat in order to make way for Sir Eric Geddes, the newly-appointed First Lord of the Admiralty. However it has come to pass and we are assured that the extreme haste with which this momentous change has come about was entirely due to political necessity, and in no way can our retiring Member be blamed for not taking his constituents into his confidence any earlier. Mr. Paget carries with him the cordial good wishes of all the Unionists, and, we venture to think, of nearly all the Radical Party, in his retirement from the Membership of this historic Borough, which he has so ably represented for nearly eight years 17 07 25 CIPof

1918 02 09
Women get voting rights: franchise for all women over 30 who local government electors or wives of such, local franchise as above plus those 21-30 who tenants in own right [5.21]

1918
Number of parliamentary voters rises to 25,000 [3.7]

1918 10 09
Women citizens association on warpath - year had seen enfranchisement of women & so form committees to work in wards to find candidates for elections; problems of women gaining membership county council — even when no opposition councillors elected somebody else Ch 1918 Oct 9 p5

1918 12 18
Election day pictures - Mrs Percy Muggleton whose husband is in Francs was the first woman to record her vote at stroke of 8 at Richmond Rd school Ch 18 12 18 p7

1919 03
Cambridge University Socialist Society meeting broken up by undergraduates and naval officers [2.4]

1919 04 23
Sir Eric Geddes MP for Cambridge – cartoon and appreciation – 19 04 23b

1919 11 05
Railwaymen's leader J.H. Thomas visits, speaks of loyalty and enthusiasm of railwaymen during strike and how Labour was determined to soon run the country – 19 11 05a photo – 19 11 05c

1919 12 17
Bolshevik propaganda in Cambridge; was meeting … tissue of lies … extract from pamphlet – 19 12 17d

1920

1920 02 03

Union of Democratic Control attempted to hold 'Bolshevik' meeting but disrupted by undergraduates; senior proctor, T.R. Glover, hit by flour bomb; speaker Norman Angell rescued by police – Ch 20 02 03d

1920 03 10
From outbreak of war have been pacifists proclaiming against action taken against Germans who would have moved heaven and earth to bring war to early conclusion. They possess not a spark of British pluck … led to Cambridge gaining reputation as hotbed of Pacifism. University tried to stop this vile work; now opposition to such pro-German propaganda and return of pacifist Bertrand Russell to Trinity. Should prohibit pacifist meetings – Ch 20 03 10d

1920 06 02
Beaconsfield Conservative Club pay off debt – Ch 20 06 02a

1920 12 01
Bolshevism in Cambridge – Comrade Stewart, a bewiskered paid Bolshevik agitator and organiser of the Communist Party at meeting on Parker's Piece – Ch 20 12 01a

1920 12 08
British Empire Union branch established in fight against Bolsheviks – Ch 20 12 08d

1921 10 12
'Cambridge Unemployed' – Labour Party demonstration Parker's Piece – photos – 21 10 12b

1922
League of Nations rally attracts children [Misc.6.7]

1922 02 22
Sir Eric Geddes, MP, retires a short time after Election, has been no contested by-election for 50 years [3.10]

1922 03 14
An election always holds out the promise of excitement and although Cambridge is noted for its excitable nature and the present three-cornered fight (a by-election) has given plenty of opportunities, it has been one of the quietest elections on records. Cambridge awoke to an eventful day and even the least political-minded had the election forced on their notice by placards and photographs of the candidates in windows, on hoardings and on walls. Conservative enthusiasts had whitewashed "Vote for Newton" in two-foot letters on the pavements and were not particular where they did it. Perhaps the most noticeable were across the front door of the Central Liberal Club in Downing-street and it was not until mid-day that the inmates managed to erase the conflicting advice. The children have at least entered into the spirit of the thing and the old election songs to the tune of "Tramp, tramp, tramp, the boys are marching" have been dragged from their respective retirement. The candidates' names being all of two syllables have proved adaptable to the rhyme. "Vote, vote, vote for Mr Morgan (or Mr Dalton) have satisfied the requirements of the song whilst the trouble of Sir Douglas' one-syllable title have been overcome by referring to him as "Duggie Newton 22 03 14

1922 07 29
"No more war" demonstration held [2.6]

1922 07 31

The "No More War" demonstration held on Parker's Piece, Cambridge, was attended by a gratifying measure of success. The procession extended more than half the length of Gonville-place, and the crowd at the meetings held on the Piece afterwards was so large that the two platforms provided were not sufficient, and a motor-car had to be requisitioned for the purposes of a third meeting. In addition to the banners of the various societies there were numerous bearing inscriptions such as "For Peace and Freedom" (Women's International League), "Patriotism is not enough", "Cambridge Sisterhood says No More War". In addition there were scores of bannerettes bearing the words "No More War". Mrs Nevinson referred to the number of deaths from influenza in 1918 which was really a war plague. They kept the memory of the dead alive but did they remember the maimed, the blind, shell-shocked and the mad? No one was worrying about those men 22 07 31

1922 11 18
Undergraduates - both male and female - took a prominent part in the parliamentary election contest. I learn that 212 undergraduates and students of Newnham and Girton registered their names as volunteers, and a large number ably assisted the Conservatives in the County, Borough and University contests. They help was particularly valuable in the County as flying motor columns were organised for visits to remote villages, where the villagers were assembled by the ringing of a bell and addresses were given by some of the undergraduates, whilst others distributed literature or canvassed voters 22 11 18

1923 12 15
We are likely to hear a great deal more about proportional representation in the near future than we have in the past, but I am afraid the country will be chary of adopting it in view of the hopeless confusion that seems to exist in those places where the system is already in force. Five years ago, after the first instance of P.R. in Cambridge University I remarked that the general feeling was one of bewilderment. Now in 1923 we have much the same mistake. A system which has caused as much confusion in one of the leading universities after five years' experience would want a mighty lot of explaining to rural divisions 23 12 15

1924 11 27
Mr Mettlebury gave a short sketch of the beginnings of Fascism in Cambridge. It had started with a group of men who went with St Douglas Newton at election time to ensure him a good hearing. Some were merely there in the hope of a ‘scrap’ but others had ideals. After this group had formed into the Cambridge Fascist Society assistance had been offered to various candidates, including Mr Firth as Constitutional Labour Candidate, to ensure them a hearing free from organised rowdyism. He felt confident that British Fascism in Cambridge would prevail 24 11 27

1924 12 04
Stormy scenes were witnessed at the meeting of the Cambridge Trades Council and Labour Party when a resolution preventing Communists, Liberals and Conservatives from being delegates was discussed. Mr Overton explained there was no Communist party in Cambridge until March 1923. A long and bitter fight had occurred at every meeting over some phase of Communist work and this had gone on for 12 months. It got so bad that the Committee received letters from several trade unionists asking them to put a stop to the trouble. There was such a great difference between the Communist Party and the Labour Party as to make it impossible for them to work in the same organisation. 24 12 04

1925 10 15
Speaking at the dance organised by the National Fascisti at Cambridge its President made an appeal for more University members of the party. It was not an organisation of hooligans but

advocated that this country should be ruled entirely by those of British birth and British descent and not by aliens. They were not prepared to allow Jews to join. They had the courage of their convictions and were prepared, if necessary, to meet force by force. The dance was an unqualified success. There were close on 300 present 25 10 15

1925 12 23
Fascisti at Rendezvous, 25 12 23 p5

1926 04 19
Mr J. Ramsey Macdonald, M.P., the leader of the Labour Party visited Cambridge and laid the foundation stone of the Labour Club and Hall in Romsey Town. A meeting in Romsey Council School was crowded with an enthusiastic audience. A brisk sale was done in red rosettes and on the table was a vase of magnificent red geraniums. Over the platform was a banner bearing the words "Labour offers you true friendship". In the evening he attended a dinner in the Lion Hotel where he spoke mainly on the achievements of the Labour Party 26 04 19 [2.5, 5.16]

1926 05 01
The Trade Union Congress has decided upon a general stoppage of the vital services at Midnight on Monday. The London Gazette declares that a state of national emergency exists; the distribution of food, water, fuel and the essentials of life are threatened. Mr Lloyd George, who came down to Cambridge to deliver an address, said they were under the shadow of a great industrial conflict of unknown magnitude. Every citizen would feel it was his duty to support the Government of the day in the organisation and facilitating of the essential services of the nation.

1926 05 03
Cambridge is the administrative centre for East Anglia for the arrangements being made to meet the National Strike emergency. Mr F. Morris Warren of St Ives is the district coal officer. There are three Food Officers who will deal with complaints relating to the supply of provisions. The big job of the moment is the securing and registering of volunteers willing to help in any way with the maintenance of essential services and supplies with a recruiting office in the Guildhall. The Mayor of Cambridge, Ald Edward O. Brown, said: "Today we stand on the edge of an important crisis in the history of our nation. A dark cloud is overshadowing the life of our people. I appeal to all our people to prepare for sacrifice, and remain steady. God grant it may be averted 26 05 03

1926 05 03
A public meeting organised by the Cambridge Trades Council, the Labour Party and the Co-operative Party was held on Parker's Piece and for an hour and a half speeches were addressed from two red wagons to a crowd numbering about 5,000. They were for the most part attired in red hats, scarves and rosettes and almost encircled by red banners. Lloyd George had said when the miners came back from the war they would find a country fit to live in but they had been asked to accept a reduction in wages and an increase in hours. Socialists were out to help the poorer classes. The meeting closed with the singing of the Red Flag 26 05 03

1925 05 04
Large crowds witnessed the Cambridge Labour and Co-operative Party's May Day demonstration on Parker's Piece. It was addressed by E.V. Watering. He said the cement workers had been on strike for eight weeks and not a single man had retracted because they had received magnificent support from the Labour movement. At a recent meeting of the Cambridge section of the Fascisti movement he had been alluded to as a "breeder of strikes". So far as the Shepreth dispute was concerned he denied that statement. The strike was brought about by the directors of the East

Anglian Cement Company and only after every possible avenue leading to arbitration had been wiped away that the men forced the issue by striking 25 05 04

1926 02 13
Mr John James Withers, C.B.E., was elected Member of Parliament for the University of Cambridge. The Vice-Chancellor attended at the Senate House between the hours of 10 and 11 to receive nominations, Mr Withers was the only person nominated and at 11 o'clock declared him duly elected. A small body of interested members of the University was present and Mr Withers turned up in time to hear his election announced 26 02 13

1926 03 29
Something of the progress of Trade Unionism in Cambridge was indicated at a meeting of the Workers Union at which 150 members participated. Twelve years ago there was hardly any trade unionism in the town, with the exception of the craft unions. Agricultural workers had met with tremendous disappointments. The Wages Board had sent the wages of agricultural labourers up from 12s (60p) a week up to £2. Then had come the scrapping of the Board, wages went down to 25s (£1.25) and the worker was faced with the wreck and ruin of his home. The men had lost faith in trade unions 26 03 29

1926 04 10
Steps are being taken to set up an "Organisation for Maintenance of Supplies" committee in Cambridge. It is a non-political organisation for enrolling and classifying lists of volunteers for the use of the Government in the regrettable event of a general stoppage of the essential public services. One may be quite sure that such volunteers would be readily forthcoming in a grave emergency, but for the sake of efficiency it is thought better to have personnel ready beforehand. It does not question the right to strike but exists to prevent the mass of the population being victimised by a far-reaching strike that affects the well-being of the community 26 04 10

1926 04 13
An "Organisation for Maintenance of Supplies" Committee for Cambridge was the outcome of a meeting held at Christ's College, its aim being to enlist and classify volunteers for the use of the Government in the event of a general stoppage of the essential public services. The questioners included Coun W. Few, President of the Cambridge Trades Council and Labour party who declined to allow his name to go forward as a member of the Executive Committee 26 04 13

1926 05 03
Cambridge is the administrative centre for East Anglia for the arrangements being made to meet the National Strike emergency. Mr F. Morris Warren of St Ives is the district coal officer. There are three Food Officers who will deal with complaints relating to the supply of provisions. The big job of the moment is the securing and registering of volunteers willing to help in any way with the maintenance of essential services and supplies with a recruiting office in the Guildhall. The Mayor of Cambridge, Ald Edward O. Brown, said: "Today we stand on the edge of an important crisis in the history of our nation. A dark cloud is overshadowing the life of our people. I appeal to all our people to prepare for sacrifice, and remain steady. God grant it may be averted 26 05 03

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the miners came back from the war they would find a country fit to live in but they had been asked to accept a reduction in wages and an increase in hours. Socialists were out to help the poorer classes. The meeting closed with the singing of the Red Flag 26 05 03

1926 05 08
Cambridge station looked exceptionally bright this morning. Undergraduates in gaily coloured blazers added colour to the scene. The train services are gradually improving and great keenness had been shown on the part of undergraduates in bringing down supplies from London for the Station refreshment room. Tilly, the popular little tea shop girl, remarked while serving hot coffee and doughnuts to hungry undergraduates that she had never seen such cheerful and plucky workers as the volunteers who visited her counter during the General Strike 26 05 08

1926 05 08
The effects of the general strike were brought more closely home than hitherto. In many a Cambridge home the housewife found she had less to "manage on" and tradesmen large and small found their takings considerably decreased in consequence. Parties of undergraduates who had been doing volunteer work were seen coming home for a Sunday rest carrying kit bags over their shoulders. The University has further postponed examinations so that a clear three weeks interval for study will be allowed after the present emergency has ended. A further contingent of 30 undergraduates left in cars to take up tramway services in Hull; the windscreens were protected with wire netting 26 05 08

1926 05 10
Five hundred of the Civil Constabulary reserve, mostly undergraduates, left Cambridge early this morning for duty in the East End of London. An advance party of 100 went off yesterday. The journey was made by road, the procession of cars stretching for a distance of nearly a mile. In addition some are cleaning carriages at Paddington and Waterloo stations and others unloading cargo at Tilbury Docks. A large number are at dock work and engineering jobs at Hull, while a small contingent is at Grimsby employed at the quayside. A number of Girton and Newnham girls are working as cyclist messengers in the district 26 05 10

1926 05 12
When the news of the end of the General Strike was broadcast on Market Hill, Cambridge enthusiastic cheers broke out. "What rotten luck!" an undergraduate was heard to remark, "I only started work to-day and was looking forward to driving a lorry up to Town". "Never mind, old boy", cynically replied his companion, "They'll be out again in a few weeks". "I'm glad it's all over", remarked a flapper, and then added demurely, "All the 'Varsity boys will be coming back". In many parts of the town children were carrying flags within two hours of receiving the news 26 05 12

1926 05 13
The situation was quiet at Romsey Town this morning, the railwaymen concerned in the new crisis patiently waiting developments which are taking place between the railway companies and the various unions in London. At the Co-operative Hall a telegram was read instructing the Cambridge men to remain out on strike until the unions got satisfactory assurance with regard to the men's reinstatement 26 05 13

1926 05 18
The Cambridge Joint Emergency Committee wish to place on record their gratitude to the many friends who have helped the men who were on strike; the ministers and clergy who lent rooms and the members of the University who gave lectures and concerts, helped in the club rooms and

took parties to see the colleges. Many lent their cars to distribute the "British Worker". By means of the Strike Fund the committee have been able to relieve many cases of distress. The last gathering took place in the Co-operative Hall which was crowded with hundreds of women who enjoyed their entertainment 26 05 18

1926 06 01
Now that the excitement of the General Strike has passed away it may be of interest to note the effect of the strike upon local employment. Messrs Pye have only had about 2½ days short time but at the Cement Works the coal difficulty has resulted in a spell of enforced idleness for some of the hands. The Saxon Company's employees are being given their usual holidays on full pay and since short time started have been given work turn and turn-about on repairs but unless the coal comes along there will be no more work for the present 26 06 01

1926 06 02
Mr Ramsay Macdonald, ex-Labour Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition will not be one of the recipients of honorary degrees at Cambridge. His name was included in the Grace to come before the Senate but certain members intended to "Non Placet" it & a flysheet was to be issued declaring this intention. News to this effect reached Macdonald who signified that he did not wish it to go forward unless it was absolutely unanimous. Opposition was more or less spontaneous because he was a party to an illegal act in bringing about the General Strike 26 06 02

1926 06 15
One of the contingents of Women Peacemakers who are converging on London from various parts of the country arrived in Cambridge. Meetings had been held in village after village by the side of the war memorials. They were met by members of the local Pilgrimage Committee and proceeded to the Market Hill where an impromptu meeting was held. They carried various banners and red and blue flags. Mrs Rackham said the gathering recalled the great Women's Suffrage Pilgrimage of 1913 when crowds gathered on the same spot. The Pilgrims leave for Saffron Walden tomorrow 26 06 15

1926 06 16
A meeting of the Women's Peacemakers' Pilgrimage was attended by a large audience at Cambridge Guildhall. In the next war they would have aeroplanes dropping poisonous bombs that would destroy civilians who had never been near the firing line. They must create such an atmosphere of repugnance that the nations dare not go to war. There were hundreds of people in Newmarket who were not yet converted to the idea of the League of Nations and it was their duty to make converts of al who had not yet joined them 26 06 16

1926 11 27
The Cambridge Central Conservative Club in Market Passage was gutted by fire in the early hours of the morning. There were a large number of trade premises nearby and the task of saving the club, with flames nearly 100 feet high, appearing a hopeless one the Fire Brigade concentrated on confining the conflagration to the one building. Had there been a strong wind a centre of shopping would have been destroyed. The Central Hall, which had been booked for many social events for months ahead, suffered severely. The billiards room, which contained four splendid tables also suffered considerably; two of the tables fell through the floor. The club was opened in February 1888

1927 03 03
An important step in the activities of the Cambridge Trades Council and Labour Party was taken when approval was given for the purchase of premises in Norfolk Terrace for party headquarters

at a cost of £975. The building was a substantial one with a very large hall & offices. There was a large piece of ground suitable for a bowling green. They could have a hall over the top of the present building and convert the bottom portion into a really up-to-date club. It would serve as a real "home" for members of the party. 27 03 03

1927 04 23
There is quite a fluttering in the political dovecotes of Cambridge over the Government's decision to give the Parliamentary vote to women at 21 on the same terms as men. This may produce as many as 15,000 new votes. The strongest criticism comes from Cambridge Conservatives who fear for the effects on their own prospects at the poll. In the county very few young girls remain in the country but take up positions in the towns and so do not come on the county registers. Seeing the new bill would bring in women nine years younger, and in addition a number of women of 30 years of age who have not now got the vote, it is estimated the number of new women electors at 5,000. 27 04 23

1927 05 14
Mr Oswald Mosley, Labour MP for Smethwick, was howled down when he attempted to address a meeting under the auspices of the Cambridge University Labour Club at Cambridge Guildhall. Some 300 undergraduates congregated as the back of the hall and shouts, cat-calls, and cheers were almost continuous, completely drowning the speakers' voices. Mr Mosley, exerting his powerful voice to the utmost, battled gallantly for a hearing for half an hour but eventually sat down and the meeting was abandoned 1927 05 14

1927 07 25
Anti-war demonstration Parkers Piece [456.2.7]

1927 09 29
Members of the Cambridge Labour Party showed a justifiable pride in their new "home" which was officially opened by their prospective Parliamentary candidate. A somewhat dilapidated one-storey building in Norfolk Terrace, latterly used as a knitting factory, has been transformed in a wonderful way into bright, comfortable and well-equipped premises, although the walls are unfinished owing to the plaster not yet having been set sufficiently. 27 09 29

1927 10 22
An extremely lively meeting was held at Matthew's Café in connection with the Cambridge University Labour Club's first meeting. Mr Jack Jones, M.P. was the speaker. The room was overflowing with undergraduates and women students of various political sections. Sugar was thrown, red flags exhibited and cries of "We want Jones" contributed to the general laughter and talking. Although interrupted countless times he managed to make his audience listen to what he had to say. 27 10 22

1927 12 17
Cambridge Conservatives who, following the disastrous fire in Market Passage in November last year, have been accommodated in temporary club premises in Petty Cury, returned to the splendid new club which Phoenix-like has risen from the ashes of the old premises. As before there is a fine lounge billiard room with four tables on the top floor, and a fine lounge and smokeroom with secretary's office and card room adjoining. Two new rooms will be used as a reading and writing room and a committee room. The colour scheme is brown and buff. The ground floor is not yet complete but will consist of a large hall with a spring dance 27 12 17 [2.10, 3.2]

1928 02

Cherry Hinton Constitutional Club new building opened, February [2.11]

1928 03 01
An interesting debate on "the flapper vote" was held at the Liberal Assembly Rooms, Cambridge. In many spheres of life women were giving valuable service yet they could not have the vote until they were 30 years of age. But the modern girl knew practically nothing about politics. Give the woman of 21 the vote and they would out-vote the men – was that fair? ("Yes"). If women got the vote then the country would only be just "flapping" about. The vote should be used properly and a group of giggling girls could not do that. 28 03 01

1928 07 21
Annual peace demonstration on Parkers Piece [1.11]

1928 10 08
"Ain't it all right and all", jubilantly exclaimed a man in working attire after looking round the new Cambridge Labour Club at Romsey Town. This remark expresses the general appreciation of the handsome and well-appointed new premises which have been built in their spare time by members of the various trade union organisations to provide the Labour Party with a home of its own. It is nearly 2½ years since the foundation stone was laid by Mr Ramsey MacDonald and since then work has been going on steadily on nights and Sunday afternoons. The men have been putting their hearts as well as their backs into the work and the result is a club-house of which the builders may well be proud. 28 10 08 [2.12, 5.16]

1928 12 12
Women having been granted the Parliamentary vote the Cambridge Committee for Equal Citizenship celebrated this great event. Invitations were sent out to all members of the Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association to meet Dame Millicent Fawcett at Newnham College. There was a very large attendance. Mrs Bethune-Baker traced the history of the movement in Cambridge. Among the first subscribers were the Mayor and Vice Chancellor but the cause fell on evil days. Members of the voteless sex had stood all day at polling booths on a wet day and undergraduates had tried to force their way into a meeting at the Guildhall. 28 12 12

1929 02 05
The latest form of political propaganda, the Conservative's touring 'Talkifilm' is visiting Cambridge. The programme includes a speech by the Prime Minister which gives an uncanny effect of realism and a silent film showing the opening up of Canada. The van will visit Pound Hill, the Premier Hall Chesterton and Occupation Road, winding up at Cherry Hinton Road corner 29 02 05

1929 02 18
The North East Coast contingent of the unemployed marchers who are making their way to London arrived in Cambridge. Carrying banners, singing old war songs and rattling collecting boxes they entered the town via Huntingdon Road. The local Labour Party and Trades Council having decided not to give them official recognition the 88 marchers proceeded direct to the Poor Law Institution, Mill Road, where the staff had made preparations for them. They were given Irish stew and entertained at their private cinema installation. 29 02 18

1929 06 19
Ramsey MacDonald prime minister surprise visit Cambridge – 29 06 19 p5

1930

1930 03 01
History was made on Parker's Piece, Cambridge, when thousands of farmers and farm workers attended a mass demonstration. The meeting was originally intended to bring together workers in East Anglia but interest had become so wide that nearly all the agricultural counties in England were represented. They passed a resolution protesting against the increase in unemployment amongst farmers, unless effective steps are at once taken then nothing but calamity faces the industry. Visitors arrived by train, car, motor coach and bicycle, the ordinary parking facilities were quite inadequate and cars were parked around Parker's Piece itself and along Victoria Avenue. More than an hour before the start crowds assembled in front of the platform of motor lorries covered with a Union Jack and fitted with a battery of amplifiers. They whiled away the time listening to the Railway Band and broke into song when they played 'Farmer's Boy'. 30 03 01a-d

1930 07 21
The annual 'No More War' meeting of the Cambridge Peace Council was held indoors instead of on Parker's Piece because of heavy rain. But accompanied by the Boys' Brigade Band they proceeded with drenched banners through the rain-swept streets. They met to ensure the catastrophe of 1914 did not occur again. One must remember the menace from the air. It was possible to turn civil aircraft into war craft and chemical factories into works for the manufacture of poison gases and lethal rays. 30 07 21g

1930 11 26
William Henry Williams, the 'grand old man' of Liberalism, came to Cambridge in 1880 as agent to the Liberal Association and won the respect of political friend and foe alike. He played a prominent part in Mr Stanley Buckmaster's victory over Almeric Paget in 1905. He was elected to the County Council in 1898 and returned in 1919. Even after his retirement he rendered valuable service and retained a keen interest in local politics until the end. 30 11 26

1931 04 03
The National Tithepayers Association protested against what is widely regarded as an unjust tax on agricultural land. Owen Webb said the tithe was a burden impossible for the land to carry. During these difficult times of depression, when farmers were struggling to keep their heads above water in the face of terrible drops in commodity and grain prices it was an inverted food tax on the industry; there was no justification from an economic or religious point of view 31 04 03c & d

1931 05 22
Dr Alex Wood of Emmanuel College is chairman of the Cambridge Peace Council. He was a Conscientious Objector exempted from active service during the Great War on condition he carried on ambulance work and became commandant of a Red Cross hospital. He joined the Labour Party and in 1926 was elected to Cambridge Borough Council. At the last general election he contested the University seat but was not successful. 31 05 22b

1931 06 05
D.R. Hardman resigns as Labour party candidate – 31 06 05d

1931 10 19
Cambridge Labour Party adopted Dr Alex Wood as their parliamentary candidate. It was going to be a fight between Socialism and anti-Socialism. On the one hand it was a country of wealth, position and tradition, on the other there were millions of hard-working people who found it a struggle to get on, he told them. 31 10 19f

1931 10 30
Captain Briscoe and one of his supporters in wheelchair – photo – 31 10 30c

1932 02 03
Cambridge Young Men's Christian Association cancelled the letting of their hall to an exhibition on education in Soviet Russia. Amongst the exhibits were anti-religious posters which upset several prominent clergymen who wrote to the News protesting. The organisers are looking for another hall so the exhibition can continue. 32 02 03

1932 07 23
John Cornford memorial meeting attended by Communists, socialist, labour, liberals and Bevan – 32 07 23b & c

1932 09 30
Members of the National Unemployed Workers' Movement organised a meeting opposite a house in New Street, Cambridge in the interests of a resident who was threatened with eviction. The man was a rag and bone dealer with two children whose application for relief from the Public Assistance Committee had been refused on the grounds that he was not starving. A Defence Committee was formed to oppose his ejection and a demonstration will be arranged on Parker's Piece 32 09 30bb (picture 32 09 30d)

1932 10 26
The Moscow March of young men arrive "dupes of the Communist Party and Moscow agitators" [1.9]

1932 10 28
Hunger marchers at Cambridge – picture – 32 10 28f

1932 11 04
Romsey Labour Club celebrated its 21st anniversary. In the early days everyone in the movement was a worker, unfortunately as the party grew in numbers the percentage of workers became less and they had to be 'up and doing' if they were to bring about the new social order of things. In 1911 they fought their first seat in Romsey when Tom Orrey polled 147 votes. In 1920 they tried again and the present Alderman Briggs was elected. 1912 saw the first – and greatest- open-air demonstration on Parker's Piece when many thousands were present. Permission had been refused but they decided to defy the council and the police. 32 11 04a

1932 11 04
Romsey Town, which saw the emergence of the Cambridge Labour Party 21 years ago, celebrated with a social in the Council School Hall. Presentations were made to honour the pioneers of the party. First there was William Horwood who was connected with the Independent Labour Party in 1911 with whose help they put forward Tom Orrey, their first candidate. 32 11 04b

1933 01 30
Communist party first meeting – 33 01 30

1933 01 30
Hitler becomes German chancellor – 33 01 30a

1933 02 01
Central Conservative club fete for repairs following fire – 33 02 01a

1933 02 08
Moseley speaks at Union [1.14]

1933 03 11
A band of sixty undergraduates marching through Cambridge carrying placards reading 'No More War', 'Scholarships, not Battleships' and 'We want peace'. They raised such re-echoing pacifist shouts that even horses seemed slightly perturbed while people turned round and stared. It was a protest organised by the Students' Anti-War Council. They marched to Parker's Piece where some fine pieces of oratory were heard, but the crowd was not particularly enthusiastic. 33 03 11a

1933 04 01
Lloyd George was in great form when addressing a student meeting in Cambridge. On previous visits he received an honorary degree in 1920, broke a railway journey to address crowds outside the station in 1923 and spoke in the Guildhall on the eve of the General Strike. Once he strolled through King's college grounds and sat down on the river bank. When a companion pointed out that the grass was damp he said "All right, I'll sit on the People". And, folding his Sunday paper he did just that! 33 04 01b

1933 04 27
A meeting of the Cambridge Branch of the Society for Cultural Relations was ejected from the café where it was to have met after the management became alarmed at the number of undergraduates who managed to push their way in. It moved to Parker's Piece where a strong posse of police surrounded the speaker while he denounced capitalism and imperialism, but they were there for his protection. Finally they escorted him off the Piece, holding back the crowds of undergraduates who would have followed him. 33 04 27

1933 06 16
Community and Labour opinions were so divided at a conference in Burleigh Street that a proposal to form a Cambridge Anti-War Council had to be adjourned after three hours. The University Anti-War Council said workers in Cambridge laboratories had been organised against war. Mrs Foster of the Women's Cop-operative Guild wondered who were being prepared as the next enemy of Britain. It used to be the French, then the defenceless Boers and last of all the Germans. She appealed to women to play their part against the wickedness of war before the catastrophe arrived. 33 06 16 & b

1933 07 12
Dr R.M. Salaman addressed Cambridge Rotary club on the persecution of the Jews in Germany. Hitler was destroying the whole people: it was more serious than the mere 'beating up' of individuals who happened to be Jewish, it was a movement which struck at the very roots of civilisation. Paid advocates of the Nazis had been sent to Palestine and the Ukraine and the doctrine was being taught in schools in the most scandalous way. 33 07 12 p8

1933 07 26
A meeting of the Cambridge Anti-War Council debated whether to affiliate to the national body. There was a danger that war might appear soon and the workers would be caught as they were in 1914 unless some centralised organisation was set up. But the British Anti-War Movement had

been started by Communists with the idea of boring from the inside and they should not join. 33 07 26

1933 08 09
A state of armed neutrality exists on the title 'battlefield' of Woodlands Farm, Ringshall near Stowmarket. Fascists are camped in the farmyard while a bailiff is in possession of two cornfields on the farm. The owner owes £47 to King's College for tithe and fields of wheat and barley have been seized for which tenders have been invited. Police are on constant duty while the fascists watch the approaching roads for signs of approaching cutting machinery. They have chalked messages on the road which read 'Farmers, Unite Now' 33 08 09

1933 10 14
Hitlerism debate at London cancelled, Michael Foot. President of the Oxford Union, was to have disapproved, .T.G.W. Blackwell, Cambridge Union, another speaker [1.12]

1933 10 18
An exhibition of Russian posters organised by the Cambridge branch of the Friends of the Soviet Union was opened at the Labour Hall. Maurice Dobb explained that very simple and forceful ideas were combined with a striking use of colour to appeal to the worker and 'activate' him or try to convince the peasants to join community farms run on a co-operative basis. The posters gave some idea of the life of the workers, contrasting the old conditions with the new. 33 10 18

1933 11 02
Photographs taken during a holiday in Russia are displayed at Ramsey and Muspratt studio in Post Office Terrace. Two studies, 'Dneiprastron: the new town' and 'Moscow: the Kremlin' show there is beauty in the new and old. The human side is captured in a fine study of the 'Intourist' bus driver and a Young Pioneers' demonstration while 'The Infants School' shows the Russian child. 'Prison Settlement', is a photo of another aspect of Russian life 33 11 02

1933 11 03
Socialist Society & Student Christian Movement organise demonstration & march from Parkers Piece to war memorial; counter demonstration of flour & white- features ... desecrating a holy day call for -abolition of bombing from air [1.6]

1933 11 06
Bonfire night demonstration & Hitler Nazi meeting – 33 11 06

1933 11 09
An inaugural meeting of the New Britain Movement was held in the Dorothy Café with Mr A Mackay in the chair. There should be a federation of European states: every day the world became more international and a policy of isolation would be disastrous. Communism and Fascism were threatening the world and England must show the rest the way out of the mess, speakers said. The power to issue money should be taken away from the financiers, only then would people receive enough to live on. 33 11 09

1933 11 10
The film 'Our Fighting Navy' has been withdrawn from the Tivoli Cinema following lively scenes. Fifty members of the Students' Anti-War went to make a protest but a rival party, numbering about a thousand undergraduates, marched to the cinema with two bands playing war-time songs and carrying Union Jacks. Several tried to push their way in until the arrival of four policemen who, with drawn truncheons, managed to keep the crowd at bay whilst a dozen more

raced to the scene in motor vehicles. Cries of 'Down with Hitler' and 'Hail Hitler' were heard above the general uproar and a stink bomb let off in the vestibule 33 11 10, 33 11 11 [1.7, 1.13]

1933 11 11
Anti-war battles in street, Tivoli cinema – 33 11 11

1933 11 14
Memories and reminders of the horror of war are provided by the Cambridge Anti-War Council's exhibition opened. It consists of diagrams, photographs and cartoons and if anybody wants war after seeing them, they can have no feeling. Some of the photos of the dead were forbidden by the Censors and it is easy to see why. Part has been prepared by members of the Bio-chemical Board, Cavendish Laboratories and shows the effects of gas 33 11 14

1933 11 18
Anti-war meetings and views – 33 11 18

1934 01 12
Election contest includes United British Party candidate – 34 01 12

1934 01 20
National Labour Party and the election – 34 01 20

1934 01 25
Alex Wood nominated election – 34 01 25

1934 02 08
Commander Tufnell, the National Conservative candidate, toured Cambridge polling stations by motor car adorned with pink and white ribbons and artificial flowers. His wife took the wheel and proved herself a capable driver. Dr Alex Wood left the Labour Hall to a rousing reception from a drum (biscuit box) and fife (tin whistle) juvenile band while the Liberal candidate had a large black cat mascot, tied with blue and buff ribbons on the spare wheel of his buff-coloured car. However he lost his deposit as Tufnel beat Dr Wood into second place. 34 02 08,

1934 02 19
Cambridge showed little interest in the 100 hunger marchers who arrived from Huntingdon. They halted at Girton College where jugs of tea and buns were given. About 200 people including members of the University Socialist Society and Anti War Movement escorted them into town. Darkness was falling as a rally was held on Parker's Piece where a small crowd gathered before they made their way to the Corn Exchange where they spent the night. But police were accused of provocation when they forcibly expelled them on Monday morning. Guy Burgess amongst group undergraduates who march with them through town, undergraduates provide food. Cultured newspapers ignore them, gutter Press calls them 'mob of Red dupes whose leaders are paid weekly in Moscow gold' Marxist library & bookstall established at Girton College 34 02 19 34 02 26

1934 02 26
Romsey Labour Club extension opened – 34 02 26

1934 03 01
Hunger Marchers – Bishop Stortford vicar's impression – 34 03 01

1934 03 03
Sir Stafford Cripps addressed a meeting on 'The Necessity for Socialism" at Cambridge Central School. The hall was packed to capacity with townspeople and undergraduates and he was greeted with mingled cheers, boos and hisses. His speech was interrupted on several occasions and twenty undergraduates opposed to his views waited for him at the school gates afterwards. But the proctor and his bulldogs arrived in time and he was driven away without any demonstration being possible 34 03 03

1934 04 12
Herr Gerhart Seger, who recently escaped from a German concentration camp told of his experiences. Under Hitler's 'Protection Arrest' men could be taken to prison with no reason. The Storm-Troopers, sadistic and brutalised men, could do what they would with inmates. Prisoners were beaten mercilessly, slept crowded together in damp ice-cold cellars and listened to men being tortured by the Nazis. Of 42 men imprisoned with him, two were beaten to death within a fortnight. After he'd come to England his wife and baby had been taken to a concentration camp as hostages, not to be released until he returned. 34 04 12

1934 04 27
Anti-war ballot [1.3]

1934 05 02
May Day demonstration – 34 05 02, Labour and Co-op demonstration, May Day – 34 05 07,

1934 11 10
Poppy Day collectors had to contend with a dismal downpour of rain. But a large crowd gathered on Senate House Hill to await the arrival of a self-styled 'Hitler' who was due to open the Caius Fun Fair. When he did come, by car, he brought a procession of about a dozen cars in his wake, all containing weird and wonderful characters. The obstinate mule, which last year lay down in the road and refused to get up until tempted by a coin, was less obstinate on the present occasion, for the wet and muddy road was hardly a pleasant bed. 34 11 10 & a

1934 11 12
Several hundred people joined in a peace meeting on Parker's Piece organised by the Cambridge Anti-War Council and the University Anti-War Movement before marching in a torchlight procession to the War Memorial. The procession, some 300 strong began their march along Mill Road, increasing in size as it went along. But they missed the turning into Tenison Road and crossed Mill Road Bridge before winding its way round the back streets to the War Memorial. They laid a wreath 'To those of all countries who fell in the last war from those who are pledged to prevent another' 34 11 12c

1934 11 17
Sensational revelations concerning Germany's war plans were made at a meeting in Cambridge Guildhall. Speaking to the University League of Nations Union, Mr Wickham Steed, a former editor of The Times, said they had imported enough arsenic ore to make poison gas sufficient to swamp Europe twice over. The next war is likely to come without warning and many be commenced by an overwhelming night attack. General Goering, at the Nazi Air Ministry has built 85 underground aerodromes this year and had at least 2,000 aeroplanes, he claimed. 34 11 17 & a

1934 11 23
Anti-war exhibition [1.4]

1934 12 04
Lord Rutherford presided at the first meeting of Cambridge University Democratic Movement. There is a great fear of the power of military aeroplanes making a sudden and devastating attack on defenceless cities involving the destruction of combatant and civilian alike. Air warfare of any kind should be abolished, he urged. Vyvian Adams praised his work at the Cavendish Laboratory. None could hope to isolate himself from the surrounding dangers. The question was did we want human development or human destruction by scientific means. 34 12 04

1934 12 15
Members of the Beaconsfield Club celebrated 50 years of work in the social and political life of Cambridge. It was opened in November 1888 and with its members unswervingly loyal to the Conservative cause the club stood as a bulwark against the inroads of socialism. While there were clubs like this the political destiny of the constituency was in safe hands. The Magpies Concert Party gave an excellent entertainment, this chorus song to personalities of the club being particularly popular. 34 12 15

1935 02 02
Lord Eltisley spoke of the record of the National Government. If the Socialists had remained in office we should have been in a state of chaos. We required a stable, strong and safe Government and in Stanley Baldwin had a leader in the best tradition of British statesmanship. Signs were not lacking that storms were blowing up and we might again be approaching a crucial period. In Germany young people were bring brought up in a creed of glorification of arms. Now they had order 12 new submarines. Our best defence was to be prepared against sudden attack 35 02 02 &

1935 02 21
Hugh Dalton on fascism – 35 02 21

1935 02 23
Mosley previous visits – 35 02 23a

1935 02 25
An open-air demonstration under the red flag against the new Unemployment Bill was held on Parker's Piece supported by the University Socialist Society and Labour Clubs. A crowd of nearly 100 assembled. There are two-and-a-half million registered unemployed but there had been an increase in production without an increase in wages. The worker had become the slave of the machine, not the machine the tool of the worker. Mr H.C. Bibby spoke on camps for the unemployed: many who took part had the best of motives but they could develop into terrible concentration camps. 35 02 25

1935 03 01
Peace ballot - "county is peace-minded" [1.1]

1935 03 07
Police guarded the closed gates of the University Arms Hotel while Sir Oswald Mosley was at a dinner organised by the University Fascist Society. Outside a meeting organised by the University Socialist Society was held on Parker's Piece with speeches by John Cornford, Maurice Cornford and Maurice Dobb. Then a torchlight procession by 200 undergraduates shouting anti-Fascist slogans such as 'We want Mosley dead or alive' and singing 'The Internationale' marched to Peas Hill where more speeches were made before a Proctor arrived and they dispersed. 35 03 07c

1935 04 04

There is no doubt the Peace Ballot has made Cambridge people face the vital questions. Results show nearly all wanted Britain to remain a member of the League of Nations and an all-round reduction of armaments by international agreement. The manufacture and sale of armaments for private profit should also be prohibited. If a nation insisted on attacking another the others should compel it to stop by economic measures or, if necessary, by force under the auspices of the League and preferably by an International Police Force. 35 04 04 [1.1]

1935 04 29
Anti-Nazi play at Festival Theatre – photo – 35 04 29a

1935 08 27
Political travelling cinema, New Square car park – photo – 35 08 27

1935 11 05
A 'Fascism and War' exhibition organised by the Cambridge Anti-War Council discloses methods by which the illegal opposition movements in Germany and Italy distribute their literature disguised as items of a non-political nature. There is also propaganda printed on paper of tissue thinness and a method of photographing illegal printed matter and transposing it on paper which instantly goes black on exposure to light if opened by the police. The recipient knows to treat the paper chemically to counteract the effect. Also on display is also one of the Anti-Nazi leaflets spilled from the roof garden of a Berlin restaurant on to the streets below and a collection of abusive correspondence, including one from Ezra Pound, sent from Italy to a Fellow of King's College after he contributed certain views in an English paper 35 11 05 & a

1935 11 14
In view of the apparent apathy it is surprising that the number of electors who voted was so high. The excitement, so far as there was any, was greatest in the outlying districts. Residents in the newly-added areas such as Trumpington and Cherry Hinton had the curious experience of living in the Borough and voting (for Parliamentary elections) in the County. So did residents on the Hurst Park Estate which used to fall within the Impington parish boundary. At Brunswick Council Schools a blind man arrived. The inner room was cleared except for the presiding officer who told him the names of the candidates and then made a cross at the voter's selection. 35 11 14

1935 11 15
After the Cambridge declarations the victors went round to the Central Conservative Hall, where, by the courtesy of the Little Theatre players, who were having a rehearsal, the customary congratulatory meeting was held. The voters had realised the necessity of the National Government carrying on its duty of reviving prosperity and the necessity of defence as well as peace. Prime Minister Stanley Baldwin telegrammed congratulations to Lt-Commander Tufnell. 35 11 15, 35 11 16

1935 11 15
Peace-Week torchlight procession [1.2]

1935 12 12
Dr William Wooster told the court he was a member of the Scientists' Anti-War Group and had been standing outside Duxford Aerodrome selling pamphlets entitled 'Air Display Special'. It carried a headnote to say it was not to be sold to members of H.M. Forces but they were seized by police under the Incitement to Disaffection Act. Surely people could be reminded of the sheer horrors of the Great War 35 12 12 & a

1935 12 20
The judge agreed that police had been wrong to seize copies of a pamphlet from a member of the Cambridge Scientist's Anti-War Group at Duxford aerodrome during the Royal Review. They'd been worried following an earlier incident at Mildenhall when a misguided female threw a paper at the King's car. 'The Anti-War Special' was crude, inartistic and in some respects childish. It had been sold by Dr Wooster supported by a bevy of satellites, mainly ladies, wearing badges of a reddish hue. Various ex-servicemen had expressed themselves in vituperative terms and its distribution might have led to a breach of the peace 35 12 20 & a

1936 03 07
Ugly scenes were witnessed at a demonstration organised by the University Socialist Club and Anti-War Council at the Guildhall which was addressed by Aneurin Bevan. There was vocal opposition from the gallery with fighting and at one juncture all the doors were opened wide because of a strong offensive smell. Earlier 500 undergraduates took part in a torchlight procession headed by the red banner of the University Anti-War Movement shouting "We want peace" and "Stanley Baldwin must be sacked" 36 03 07 & a

1936 03 12
"Is any treaty made with Germany more than a piece of paper" asked Sir Austen Chamberlain when he reviewed Germany's action over the demilitarised zone in a speech he made at the annual dinner of the Cambridge University Conservative Association. The Association was flourishing and its numbers and activities greater than ever. There were a disproportionate number of Oxford men in the House of Commons but the Cambridge men made up in quality what they lacked in numbers. However there was a slackness in the Conservative Party which had no counterpart among the Socialists. 36 03 12 & a

1936 05 04
"I am not at all sure that if I had been a German I should not have voted freely and enthusiastically for Hitler at the last election", Dr Alex Wood told a May Day demonstration on Parker's Piece. Germany as she was today was the creation of the Allied Governments and their policy of repress and unilateral disarmament, he continued before condemning the Government's re-armament police. It would lead inevitably to war. Only on the foundations of International Socialism and co-operation can secure peace be built. 36 05 04b

1936 06 08
The Tithe Bill now before Parliament would alter tithe from being a charge on the land to a charge on the person. This meant a man could be distained on his household goods and everything else to pay tithe dues. The burden of tithe should rest on the broad shoulders of the large landowners, but it had now been put on those who had not the shoulders and could not bear it, Cambridgeshire farmers were told. If they owe money fairly and squarely, they are prepared to pay. But they are not going to pay unjust taxes, a meeting resolved 36 06 08 & a

1936 07 29
The Fellowship of Reconciliation, a peace movement born in Cambridge during the dark days of 1914 was founded by people united in the conviction that the way of war could not be the way of Christ for righting wrongs and had now spread to many countries. Some 250 people from Germany, France, Italy, Bulgaria and Belgium together with the USA, Japan and the Argentine are attending a conference at Selwyn College on 'Christ: the Peace of the World". 36 07 29b

1936 08 28
Cambridge meeting on Spain & Fascists – 36 08 28

1936 11 02
Undergraduates demonstrated support for 130 hunger marchers from Durham on their way to London to protest against the Means Test and new scales of benefit. At Girton College girl students served them tea and buns before 250 undergraduates joined the procession carrying torches and banners. There were meetings in the Co-operative and Labour Halls before the protestors had an evening meal in the students' rooms. At Cheshunt College some of the marchers ate in hall. Having slept in the Corn Exchange they continued to Saffron Walden where the Labour Party entertained them with lively tunes from a loudspeaker van. The march is due to arrive in London next weekend. 36 11 02 & a 1936 10 31

1936 11 06
CU branch Fascists dinner, heavy police guard, November [1.4]

1936 11 07
Cambridge Peace Week, 14 organisations unite [1.15]

1937 01 11
At the first open meeting of the Cambridge Left Book Club tribute was paid to the memory of Mr G.C. Maclaurin, who was killed recently fighting for the Spanish Government in Madrid. He, more than anybody, was responsible for the flourishing members of the club in Cambridge where some 400 of the total membership of 35,000 are resident. The speaker discussed 'Must Capitalism Fail?' In a Socialist society, such as the USSR, all the sources of production were utilised to the full. While Russian workers were enjoying the fruits of their labour, the capitalist workers were saddled with debt. 37 01 11

1937 02 03
The death of John Cornford while fighting for the Spanish Government is a grievous loss. He had a brilliant academic career and was preparing for research work in history when the Spanish rebellion broke out. As soon as it was known that Italian war planes were being delivered to the Spanish rebels he went out as a volunteer, joining the British section of the International Brigade and fighting alongside G.C. Maclaurin of Cambridge who was killed in Madrid. He saw continual fighting for five weeks and was commander of the British section on the Cordova front when he was killed reconnoitring in advance of the lines. 37 02 03

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fighting for five weeks and was commander of the British section on the Cordova front when he was killed reconnoitring in advance of the lines. 37 02 03

1937 02 13
Cambridge Scientists' Anti-War Group, a technical and advisory body to Peace Movements, has issued a booklet entitled 'The Protection of the Public from Aerial Attack. It is a critical examination of the recommendations put forward by the Home Office Air Raids Precautions Department. They constructed 'gas proof' rooms according to Government plans and measured its resistance to the entry of air from outside. Much of the information is technical with a separate chapter devoted to the protection of children 37 02 13a [1.21]

1937 03 08
Cambridge Trades Council and Labour Party celebrated its 25th anniversary with a dinner in the Dorothy Café addressed by Mr C.E. Atlee, leader of the parliamentary party. Mrs Rackham recalled the early Labour candidates: the Rev Rhondda Williams was the first in 1918 while Alec Firth stood in 1922, 23 and 24. Hugh Dalton, hero of the spectacular by-election of 1922 and now Chairman of the National Executive, spoke of the early days of the party in the town. Dame Sybil Thorndike put in an appearance at the close of the evening, receiving an enthusiastic welcome. 37 03 08 & a

1937 04 28
Cambridge Union Society emulated the Oxford refusal to fight for king and country by carrying a motion in favour of complete national disarmament and individual refusal to bear arms. If re-armament were abandoned in the pursuit of peace our economic system would collapse and we would be faced with a military revolution of the property classes on the lines of General Franco. It might involve us in civil war – unless passive resistance was practiced as it had been by Gandhi, opponents warned. 'Refuse to fight for any other nation in any war ... shall always be prepared to die if need be for King & Country but for nobody and nothing else' but soon concerned that neighbours fowls being eaten that ours are safe 37 04 28 & a

1937 05 03
Labour Party's May Day demonstration on Parker's Piece, 500 marches – 37 05 03a & b

1937 05 29
Within the next few weeks about thirty Basque children brought to England following the terrible air raids at Bilbao and Gurnica will be arriving in Cambridge. They will be taken to Pampisford Vicarage where the children will remain for at least six months being looked after by volunteers from the University. As they are destitute provisions must be made for their welfare and beds, boots and clothes are required. 37 05 29

1937 06 30
The Nazi salute was given as German ex-prisoners of war honoured Cambridge's war dead. Members of the Reichsvereiningung Ehem from Kriegsgefangener marched to the memorial where the ranks of local British Legion standard bearers were joined by the German standard-bearer, carrying the Nazi flag. While standards were dipped, one of the visitors placed a laurel wreath on the memorial as members of the German party gave the Nazi salute. They then left for a civic reception at the Guildhall. 37 06 30 & a & b

1937 07 23
John Cornford memorial meeting attended by Communists, socialist, labour, liberals and Bevan – 32 07 23b & c

1937 10 13
Sir – since the beginning of the Spanish Civil War four Cambridge men have laid down their lives fighting against the Fascist Insurgents. They are John Cornford (Trinity), G.C. Maclaurin (St John's), G. Lorimer Birch (Caius) and Julian Bell (King's). The first three were in the International Column, the fourth as an ambulance driver. Now a branch of the Voluntary Industrial Aid Organisation has been established to recondition motor vehicles as ambulances for Spain. Side-car ambulances are needed that can go up the hills through narrow passes; at present wounded have to be transported by mules. Donations should be sent to me – Joseph Needham, Caius College 37 10 13

1937 11 15
Cambridge Peace Week ends with march from Parkers Piece to War Memorial – 37 11 15a & b

1938 01 20
Anti-Japanese demonstration – photo – 38 01 20

1938 05 02
May Day big demonstration 38 05 02 & a

1938 05 31
When politics really were exciting: bonfires and torchlight processions – 38 05 31b,

1938 07 18
The Spanish people were fighting our battle & the British Government should take strong measures, a Conference on Spain in the Cambridge Masonic Hall was told. If Franco were to win as the pawn of Mussolini and Hitler another European war would be much closer. Meanwhile a service of prayer on behalf of religious persecution in Germany was held at the Synagogue in Thompson's Lane. Cambridge Refugee Committee exists to help all German and Austrian refugees and would be pleased to receive gifts of money 38 07 18 & a. Cambridge lorry for Spain – 38 07 16c

1938 10 29
Fireworks, jeers, cheers and shouts punctuated a meeting organised by the University Socialist Club addressed by Major Atlee, the Leader of the Opposition, in the Corn Exchange. The noise died down when he began to speak but there were frequent interruptions caused by exploding fireworks. All police leave was cancelled because of the meeting and a visit by Sir Oswald Mosley to the C.U. Fascist Association dinner in the Dorothy Café. But rowdyism was principally of the vocal kind. 38 10 29a

1938 11 28
A pacifist convention held in Labour Hall, Norfolk Street under the chairmanship of Dr Alex Wood called for every citizen to renounce all participation in and preparation for war. It was a crime against humanity and a sin against God. You cannot destroy German militarism through killing German soldiers. The colossal expenditure on death should be stopped and our country should take the lead by disarming 38 11 28 & a

1938 12 10
When Jimmy Overton, retiring secretary of the Trades and Labour Council, came to Cambridge in 1909 no Labour movement existed apart from the Independent Labour Party so he set about forming one. They contested Romsey, the strongest Liberal ward in Cambridge, in 1911 to prove

Labour was not just a wing of the Liberal Party. Cambridge's first parliamentary Labour candidate was Rev Rhondda Williams but stories that members of the party pawned their furniture to finance the election are untrue. However Mr Overton had a great deal to do with providing his deposit. 38 12 10a

1939 02 07
Men and women members of the International Brigade, who have seen service in Spain fighting for the Government, spoke at the Guildhall which was almost filled to capacity. The meeting was called by the Cambridge Co-ordinating Committee for Spanish Relief. In Spain rickets was becoming rife, hunger dropsy was beginning to appear and anaemia was present. Between 300 and 400 people were dying from actual starvation in Madrid every day. For the first time in history in America surplus food was not being destroyed but was being sent to Spain. 39 02 07

1939 05 20
2,500 Undergraduates packed Churchill Meeting in Corn Exchange, voted to gladly accept the measure of conscription involved in the Military Training Bill. Churchill was occasionally interrupted by cheers, ironic laughter, and cries but generally speaking, the meeting passed off quietly. What violence there was occurred outside. Long before the meeting was due to start a queue formed up outside, and some of those unable to get in attempted to force an entrance. A rush was made on the west door and in the course of the melee, a policeman lost his helmet. Other officers repelled attempts to enter by the main door. A crowd of undergraduates several hundred strong remained in Corn Exchange Street until a proctor ordered them to disperse. 39 05 26 CIPof [7.7] 39 05 24a

1939 08 11
10,000 at Gogs Fete. Over 16 years the annual Cambridgeshire Conservative bumper fun-fair, with its penny per hour programme of entertainment. Thousands of holiday- makers joined the stream of traffic, both vehicular and pedestrian. By tea-time the 10,000 people who had defied the clouds entered the carnival spirit of the occasion. The avenues and car parks of the estate were electrically illuminated at night. Parliamentary Secretary of Board of Trade, was the principal speaker at an evening meeting attended by hundreds 39 08 11 CIPof

1940

1940 03 01
University Election. The result of the Cambridge University by-election, made necessary by the death of Sir John Withers, was announced ion Saturday as follows. —Dr. A. V Hill (Ind. Cons.) 9,840; Prof. J. A. Ryle 5,386; Majority 4.454. Polling, which was by post, began on February 19 and was completed on Friday. At the last election, Sir J. Withers (Cons.) 7,602 and Mr. K. Pickthorn (Cons.) 6,917 were elected, and Mr. H. L. Elvin the unsuccessful Labour candidate, polled 3,453 votes 40 03 01 CIPof

1942 09 02
Death of Lord Eltisley of Croxton Park, Cambridge MP for 12 years – 42 09 02

1943 11 20
Sir Oswald Moseley release from prison rally interrupted by University Labour Society – 43 11 20

1944 05 06
Romsey Labour Club celebrate being free from debt – 44 05 06

1944 08 25
Retirement. Having held office as district officer of the Transport and General Workers Union at Cambridge for 25 years, Mr. A. E. Stubbs is relinquishing the post to devote himself to politics in the county. Since 1936 he has been prospective Labour candidate for Cambridgeshire and has already fought six Parliamentary elections. Mr. Stubbs has had a colourful career, rising from a newsboy to become a local champion of the farm workers and working classes, and also directing his energy to other forms of public work. "I am going straight over to the political field to get ready for the General Election," he said. He has, far many years been a member of the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Agricultural Wages Board, a member of the Cambridge Borough Council for about 12 years and on the Cambridgeshire County Council for a similar period. He is a member of six Joint Industrial Councils under the Whitley Scheme 44 08 25 CIPof

1944 09 08
Cambridge Trades Council unanimously nominated a Cambridge man Major Arthur Leslie Symonds M.A. to the Prospective Labour candidate for the Borough of Cambridge. Major Symonds, who is 33 years of age, is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Symonds, of 60 Scotland Road Cambridge 44 09 08 CIPof

1945 07 14
Communists decide contest Cambridge municipal elections for first time, Mrs Pearl Lilley candidate for Trumpington Ward – CDN 1945 07 14 [6.1]

1945 07 26
Labour win elections for Cambridge – Major L. Symonds and County – A.E. Stubbs – A.L. Symonds elected first Labour MP & first representative since Mortlock born & bred in Cambridge CDN 1945 07 26 [3.8]

1947 08 12
A free-for-all political argument developed on Parker's Piece last night at a meeting organised by the Cambridge branch of the Communist Party to discuss "Britain's Crisis". Among the hecklers was a small band of Conservatives who interrupted the speakers by words and music through another amplifier. Mrs Pearl Lilley declared that the Socialists were not carrying out the policy they were elected on. After several interruptions from the Conservatives over the loudspeaker, Mrs Lilley remarked on the very low level to which the Tories had got to stoop to gain their audience. Several questions concerning starvation in Russia, the secret police there and the lack of freedom of speech were answered by the speakers despite interruptions from the "opposition" loudspeakers over which was played the National Anthem and "Land of Hope and Glory" 47 08 12

1949 01 28
A hoax played on Cambridge, when notices appeared announcing a mass patriotic rally to be held on Parker's Piece which would be addressed by Sir Oswald Mosley and other members of his party, had a sequel at the Magistrates court when an undergraduate of Trinity college appeared on a summons of fixing one of the pamphlets to a tree on Parker's Piece. Defendant said: "I did it to annoy the communists" c49 01 26

1949 06 10
Picketing by Jews and Communists outside the Chesterton secondary modern boys' school resulted in the abandonment of a meeting which was to have been held there by the British People's Party. Inside the hall, which had posters, "Britain awake", on the walls, there were eight

people by the time the meeting was due to start. The meeting had been well advertised however, 2,000 handbills having been circulated. The Party believe that bad as the Conservatives certainly are, they would not do so much damage to the country as an extension of Labour rule 49 06 10

1949 11 01
A great worker in the field of women's suffrage has died. Mrs Edith Bethune-Baker devoted her life to the advancement of women's suffrage. Wen she first came to live in Cambridge she joined the small suffrage society, the first meeting of which was held at Christ's college. On one occasion she spend 11 hours on a cross-country journey to address a meeting of 12 women. After the suffrage battle was won she carried on the work to secure equality for women. Although firm and courageous in her stand, she was essentially gentle and courteous c49 11 02

1950

1950 01 21
University representation in parliament has been abolished by the recent Representation of the People's Act. Amongst those deprived of their seats are the two Cambridge University members, Dr Kenneth Pickthorn (conservative) and H. Wilson Harris (independent). Mr Harris has not sought another constituency but is waiting to see whether Mr Churchill will be in a position to restore the University seats University Parliamentary representation disbanded, began in1603 50 01 21

1951 10 09
Two hours before the Prime Minister, Clement Atlee, was due to address a meeting in the Cambridge Guildhall a queue which ultimately wound round the whole of the building had begun to form. By the time the meeting opened about 1,250 people were crowded inside. Some 1,500 more packed into the Corn Exchange to hear a relay of his speech. Others stood in the streets listening to a further broadcast of it. A large crowd gave cheers mingled with a few boos as he drove away at the end with Mrs Attlee at the wheel and a Special Branch detective in the back 51 10 09

1951 11 14
A strong detachment of uniformed and plain clothed police were on duty and a proctor and two bulldogs were at the entrance at the Labour Hall, Norfolk Street, Cambridge for the visit of Mrs Monica Felton. When Dr Joseph Needham, chairman of the Britain-China Friendship Association told hecklers that the Chinese viewed the dropping of the atom bomb on Japan as encouraging racial hatred. They do not believe it would have been dropped on a European nation. Mrs Felton described her visit to Korea where a town of 126,000 people had been 'systematically destroyed' by bombing by American jets and told of atrocities "too horrible to report", including civilians being buried alive. It was their responsibility to see these horrors stop and now 51 11 14

1952 05 06
Nearly 400 agricultural workers, headed by an M.P. marched with two banners flying through Cambridge city centre. They were members of the National Union of Agricultural Workers – men and women – who had come for a May Day rally. Mr Walston said we had to get as much out of the land as we possibly could simply for our national survival. The farm worker was the important factor in food production & should be compulsorily protected against the danger of toxic chemicals used on the farms. Grants be made to farmers for improving tied cottages together with loans for building new ones. 52 05 06

1953 01 09

After a six-months stay in Cambridge 16 excited Greek children left for their own country. They came here from war-shattered Greece in the summer of last year and stayed with families under the auspices of the Cambridge Committee of International Help for Children. They met and played with English children, they attended school and as the months passed their frail forms filled out and they became normal healthy children 53 01 09

1955 01 18
Members of the Labour Party fought their way through a snowstorm to get to a ceremony at which the Labour Hall was re-named the Alex Wood Memorial Hall in memory of one of Cambridge's most prominent socialists. Speakers paid tribute to Dr Wood, who was bracketed by Mrs Leah Manning – founder member of the Cambridge Labour Party – with Dr Albert Schweitzer and Mahatma Gandhi because of his 'overwhelming love for humanity'. In the early days the Party was not in very great repute and many who belonged to it were not held in great repute either, she said. 55 01 18

1955 10 03
Harold Wilson attends Labour rally, October [2.16]

1956 03 02
Plain-clothes men filtered among the packed crowd which had gone to the Lion Hotel, Petty Cury, to hear the boss of Britain's Fascists, Sir Oswald Mosley. But the atmosphere was very different from when he came two years ago. Then it was trouble all the way. This time there were more cheers than jeers. He argued that armed war was now impossible due to the H-bomb. 56 03 02 [2.18]

1956 11 03
Six hundred undergraduates demonstrated at a 'No War on Suez' in one of the rowdiest meetings ever held in the Union Debating Chamber. Every inch of space was occupied and scores of people piled up on the window ledges to hear two MPs, Kenneth Younger and Anthony Wedgwood Benn who were the butt of deafening ridicule, shouting, catcalling, hissing and yelling from supporters of Prime Minister, Sir Anthony Eden. 56 11 03a

1956 11 05
A Suez protest rally was held on Parker's Piece. The back of a lorry provided a speakers' platform and round it was ringed an audience of some 1,500 people who attempted to listen to the arguments through the constant hubbub of a group of dissenting undergraduates. They carried slogans tacked on long-handled brushes saying 'Eden acts where U.N.O. fails' and 'Non-intervention is Suez-cide'. Scuffles broke out and a lone firework was lobbed on to the platform 56 11 05a

1956 11 05
Smoke bombs, water from upstairs windows and counter-cries from undergraduates accompanied the "Stop Eden's War" procession organised by Cambridge Labour Party. Eighty people carrying placards set off from the Alex Wood Memorial Hall but were joined by a second, less orderly procession of undergraduates shouting "Eden Must Stay" to counter the Labour cries of "Eden Must Go" 56 11 05b

1959 10 03
General election campaign – notes on Robert Davies, Hamilton Kerr, Around Geoffrey de Montmorency – 59 10 03a & b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 02 25
Arthur Leslie Symons, former MP, death – 60 02 25

1960 04 05
The Cambridge Left Club protested against buying South African goods – 60 04 05a

1960 04 25
Sir Oswald Moseley had a jelly slapped in his face by an undergraduate when he spoke at the Union Society on Britain's future in Europe and Africa 60 04 25b [3.4]

1960 07
Refugee children arrive [6.4]

1960 10 06
A student branch of the Communist Party has been formed at Cambridge University. Membership is open to those who agree with their aims and are willing to work for the Party organisation. They will hold public meetings on topics of political interest where the Marxist approach on subjects such as philosophy, economics and culture can be discussed. Meanwhile the Labour Club will hear from Bessie Braddock, James Callaghan and Barbara Castle, the Liberals have Jo Grimond but the Conservatives speakers have yet to be announced. 60 10 06

1961 02 22
Oswald Mosley banned from Christ's college, scuffles outside New Theatre – 61 02 22a (11.61)

1961 03 17
Francis Pym, who has become Cambridgeshire's Member of Parliament following a by-election, said he saw it as a vote of confidence for Mr Macmillan. But his nearest opponent, Robert Davis, felt that a fair number of people who would have voted Labour switched to the Liberals. Their candidate, Richard Moore agreed, saying they were the obvious alternative to the Labour Party. Mr Pym, managing director of a tenting manufacturing firm, owns land on the western borders of the county and hopes to live in the constituency soon. 61 03 17

1961 11
Enoch Powell at Union [6.6]

1961 12 01
Harper House in Portugal Place houses 10,000 books devoted to the British Empire. It started in 1919 with informal tea parties at which students met for cultural discussions. By 1921 these had become so popular that 'Cambridge University International Teas' and conferences were started. In 1940 Mrs Irene Harper formed the Birdwood Club open to British children whose families were 'not pacifists' and had some connection with the armed forces. The postwar years which produced a Motherland 'bewitched, bothered and bewildered about the Common Market' have thinned the ranks of the membership 61 12 01 & a

1961 12 01
Nearly 800 University students crowded in to a meeting to hear Sir Oswald Mosley, leader of the British Union Movement. Security measures were taken to prevent incidents including plain clothes policemen in the hall. The precautions were successful although the meeting at times

became lively with plenty of loud heckling. Mosley said one third of Africa should be turned over to white people and the rest looked after by the coloured races 61 12 01d

1963 02 12
Undergraduate threatened by fascists [3.5]

1964 10 09
Sir Hamilton Kerr Cambridge MP– profile – 64 10 09b, Robert Davies, Labour candidate – profile – 64 10 09c, Michael O'Loughlin, Liberal candidate – profile – 64 10 09d

1962 10 24
A crowd of 5,000 people, mainly students, swarmed through Cambridge after police and Proctors stopped a political protest rally about the American-Cuban crisis on the Market Square. Carrying placards declaring 'Hands Off Cuba' they made their way to Parker's Piece where the meeting got under way with speakers both supporting and opposing President Kennedy's moves. One warned 'We are on the verge of a nuclear war'. Later police prevented another rally outside the Guildhall where demonstrators hammered on the side of passing buses. 62 10 24

1965 01 11
Major Dermot Freyer, first socialist member of City Council joined in 1919 and represented Petersfield until 1937; elected an hour before Clara Rackham – 65 01 11a

1965 02 26
Nora David completes first year as Labour councillor – feature – 65 02 26b

1965 03 06
David Lane, a graduate of Trinity College, was chosen as Conservative candidate for Cambridge. He first came to Trinity in 1941 but joined the R.N.V.R. and was gunnery control officer on a destroyer. He returned to gain a first class degree then studied at Yale before being called to the bar. He has opposed nationalisation of the steel industry and is an executive at the International Petroleum Company. "Clearly traffic is a problem in Cambridge and I am sorry for the people who have to organise it", he said. The long-term solution would be by-pass schemes. – 65 03 06, a

1965 06 07
'Peace in Vietnam' banner strung across pinnacles at King's chapel by night climbers – 65 06 07

1966 01 09
Conservative club financial problems, saved [6.2]
1966 01 28
Colin Jordan British Nazi leader to speak CU Liberal Club [9.1]

1966 04 05
CND demonstrate over Vietnam war – photo – 66 04 05

1966 04 22
Conservative Club - women can now join [6.2]

1966 04 30
Colin Jordan, self-styled Nazi, visit called off as Liberal Club can find no room – 66 04 30a

1966 12 02
200 in demo calling Government stop supporting American policies in Vietnam [10.1]

1966 12 02
Vietnam protest march – 200 people – 66 12 02b

1967 06 16
Ald Robert Davis, former MP, appreciation – 67 06 16

1967 10 28
Prime Minister Harold Wilson greeted by one of biggest demonstrations, 1,000 protestors encircle Guildhall – 67 10 28

1967 11 15
Police shield US Ambassador from hundreds of students demonstrating against Vietnam war at Churchill College – 67 11 15

1968 02 19
Undergraduates invade US air base at Lakenheath in protest Vietnam war – 68 02 19

1968 03 09
Defence Secretary, Denis Healey, hissed by undergraduates after meeting at University Labour Club – 68 03 09

1968
'Red' Rudi Dutschke to Cambridge for treatment bullet wound in Berlin, offered place Clare but Home Office refused permission stay [9.7]

1969 10 30
Enoch Powell dodges protesting demonstrators when speaking at Union Society – 69 10 30a

1970

1970
"Strike-torn 70s" - various strikes against Government legislation [1.6]

1970 02 11
Anti-Greek junta demonstrators fail disrupt tourist exhibition at Dorothy – 70 02 11

1970 02 14
Garden House Riot against Greek holiday promotion – 70 02 14, 14a, 14b

1970 02 14
"Garden House riot": police make truncheon charge against mob of undergraduates who surged forward pinning score constables against shattered plate-glass windows causing £2,276 damage Garden House Hote1. City demand punishment for rioters 1000 march to Greek rally, 300 admit to being at anti-Junta demonstration four guilty of riot, seven acquitted; six sent prison periods 5-18 months, two sent to borstal "GHR changed course of events; afterwards student violence died off, 11,280 at dinner, climax of Greek Week promoting holidays under Right-Wing military dictatorship; Police invoked Riot Act, not used for years, Judge Melford Stevenson said it most

complete example of intelligent young people getting involved in complete bloody nonsense - 70 02 14, 14a, 14b, 70 02 18 & a. 70 06 24

1970 02 18
Student demonstrations menace – discuss Garden House violence – 70 02 18 & a

1970 05 11
1,000 march to Free Greek Rally – 70 05 11

1970 09 16
Rudi Dutschke, radical German student living at Clare Hall; will not be allowed to remain – 70 09 16

1971 01 08
Rudi Dutschke who came to Britain in 1986 to recover from gunshot wounds and has been living at Clare Hall should not be allowed to stay, Tribunal recommends – 71 01 08; call for University strike – 71 01 11; students plan protest – 71 01 14; 1,000 students march – 71 01 16

1971 02 08
Home Secretary Reginald Maudling visit to speak to University Conservatives ends without trouble – 71 02 08a, b

1972 05 02
The first proper May Day march in Cambridge for many years collected together most of the action and pressure groups in the city on what is traditionally the workers day worldwide. As they marched through the city streets in the thick of the lunchtime crowds, passers-by tried to grab posters that were being carried. Amongst the marchers were the Anti-Interment League, Women's Lib, the Anti-Common Market Action Committee, the National Federation of Old Age Pensioners Association, who had to have a breather in the middle of the march, the Cambridge Tenants' Association and the Association of Teachers in Technical Institutions 72 05 02

1972 08 25
Conservative Association moves from Gonville Place to Hartington Grove [6.3]

1973 06 14
Women's Lib demonstration, 14.6.73 [6.8]

1973 05 02
May Day strike - TUC Day of protest against Government [3.1]

1973 10 22
Mr Harold Wilson stirred the Labour Party workers of East Anglia into a fiery fighting mood at their regional rally in Cambridge. The audience of about 1,000 people gave him a standing ovation. Mr Wilson raised cheers with promises of pensions of £10 for a single person, £16 for a couple, strict controls on big business and action to secure the public ownership of land, especially for public amenities, schools and hospitals. His speech contained many personal swipes at Mr Heath. He said: "The truth is that while the three great social priorities - housing, education and hospitals - are being cut back, office building and property speculation runs on unchecked 73 10 22

1974

Three-day week [1.7]

1974 11 23
National Front, first meeting of Cambridge group, 30 members, 70 supporters; council bans further rallies in council-owned halls [9.11]

1975 02 20
Cambridge University should be nationalised, the Kite area turned over to council housing and traffic banned inside the city boundaries, the Cambridge Communist Party says in a policy statement. Amongst other measures they would like to see are turning the church of St Andrew the Great into a civic restaurant, requisition of vacant accommodation if vacant for six months, industrial expansion of Cambridge with more council houses, and the banning of office expansion in favour of housing and jobs 75 02 20

1975 04 12
The Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, came to Cambridge last night. For an hour he overcame both hecklers and the notorious acoustics of the city's Corn Exchange to win a standing ovation from almost 1,000 people. His main topic was the Common Market. He then went through a list of election promises and while harassed by the hecklers, who had paid 15p to get into the meeting, spelled out how each promise had been fulfilled 75 04 12 [6.9]

1975 05 09
Political extremists failed in their efforts to break up a mass pro-Common Market rally in Cambridge guildhall last night while Mr Edward heath was speaking. But the agitators who frequently called out their support for the National front movement and waved banners and posters succeeded in halting the meeting twice – before fighting and scuffling broke outand they were thrown out of the meeting by groups of burly stewards. Repeatedly Mr Heath parried their tirade until the noise from agitators and the counter booing and shouting of hundreds of other people in the hall forced him to stop speaking 75 05 09

1976
Moseley calls off visit due potential protest [Misc.3.3]

1976 06 09
New Labour party hall opened, faced with bricks from old building, part of site to be used for housing [8]

1976 11 18
Philip Agee former CIA agent in Cambridge, (deportation fuss 1977) [9.6]

1976 12 03
There were three winners in the Cambridge Parliamentary By-election – the weather, apathy and Kojak. Together they succeeded in setting up the lowest turn-out in Cambridge this century. The biggest disappointment was that of the Liberal candidate, Dr Michael O'Loughlin who had hoped to take second place behind the Conservative, Robert Rhodes James. Labour officials were saying throughout the campaign that there was little chance of success, the Independent candidate was disappointed with his vote and the National Front result was a humiliation for them, getting less than 2% of the total vote. The only person not surprised by his lowly result was the Science Fiction Looney Party candidate 76 12 03

1977 01 07

Michael O'Loughlin, lost five times as Liberal candidate to quit [9.2]

1977 02 17
Philip Agee former CIA agent in Cambridge, deportation fuss [9.6]

1977 02 28
First Northern Ireland peace march [9.4]

1977 10 15
Prime Minister, Jim Callaghan, arrived in Cambridge to address a Labour Party Conference in the Guildhall and talk to the Fabian Society in the Union Society building. Leaders of the city's Sidewalk Surfers skateboarding group waiting outside got no promises of support for their skateboard rink campaign. Over lunch local Labour Party leaders – including Mrs Janet Jones talked of next year's rate support grant settlement for the county. In his speech Mr Callaghan welcomed President Carter's willingness to reduce nuclear weapons and said he sought a comprehensive ban on nuclear explosions 77 10 15

1979 02 12
Two hundred Iranian students made Cambridge demonstration history when they knelt on Parker's Piece, preyed and recited from the Koran. In what is thought to be the first political demonstration starting with a mass prayer ritual on improvised prayer mats covering the wet turf, the Muslims called upon Allah to bless the efforts of the Ayatollah Khomeini to establish a republic in Iraq based on Koranic law. They then marched to the Market Square. No incidents were reported though some confusion existed among Saturday shoppers, knowing it was the first day of Rag Week. But the slogans "Death to the Shah" and "Long live Khomeini" soon dispelled their doubts. CEN c 79 02 `1 [9.5]

1979 11 16
Anthony Blunt, the former don now exposed as the fourth man in the Cambridge-based Burgess-Philby-Maclean spy scandal, is unlikely to lose his place of honour at Trinity College. He has been an Honorary Fellow since 1947 but the Master said this was a reflection of his scholarship and it is most unlikely that the college would take any action. After Mrs Thatcher made her statement in the Commons a Labour M P says there are a mass of unanswered questions

1979 11 23
In almost every celebrated spy scandal since the 1950s there has been a thread leading back to 1930's Cambridge. Then, gripped in the gloom of economic depression as the clouds gathered for another war, many thinking people were in ripe mood for questioning the values of capitalism. Fascism was gathering ground under the leadership of Oswald Moseley (who spoke in Cambridge), there were hunger marches and many young men took part in the Spanish Civil War. In such a climate the KGB homed in on Cambridge as a breeding ground for espionage.

1980

1980 09 23
The European Parliament's Committee on External Economic Relations has come to Cambridge for a meeting in the Senate House because it is homeless. Dissent between member countries has forced it to expensively tour the cities of the EEC like a travelling troupe of well-heeled actors looking for a theatre. As chairman, Sir Fred Catherwood is allowed to have one meeting a year in

his own patch. But only 20 Cambridge citizens took up the opportunity to witness the world's most powerful trading bloc in action. 80 09 23a

1981 10 17
New Labour HQ opened by Brenda Dean, SOGAT [10.2]

1982 03 17
In the heady days of 1981 Cambridge Social Democratic Party won a city council seat in Romsey, routing Labour after 60 years. But those heady days are over. Nationally opinion polls are showing a decline in support. Locally they are still haggling with the Liberals over who should field the Alliance parliamentary candidate – not a good image for a party who stand for an end to gladiatorial politics. There are about 500 paid-up SDP members in the city, against 450 Liberals, 1,000 Labour party members and 3,500 Conservatives 82 03 17

1982 04 26
TUC Day of action in support health workers pay claim [3.2]

1982 07 20
Protest over choice SDP candidate [9.2]

1984 07 17
Blidworth and Rainworth are two small Nottinghamshire mining communities locked in a bitter struggle for survival as the miners strike enters its 18th week. But in Cambridge the Trades Council has set up a Support Group and residents have raised nearly £4,000 for the families opposed to pit closure and the inevitable loss of jobs. On Saturday three local women arrived in the villages bearing gifts and hope. They are seeking homes in Cambridge which would be willing to take in a miner's family for a while to give them a holiday 84 07 17 p13

1985 09 06
The bricks which housed Cambridge Labour Party for nearly 60 years are now taking a new shape. Above the builders' board which surround the site of the old Alex Wood Hall in Norfolk Street is rising a brand new hall, faced with the bricks of the old structure. In exchange for their new premises, the party has given part of the site to builders who will use it for housing. The new hall should be ready by March 1986. 85 09 06 (history of site)

1986 10 20
Alex Wood Hall, newly-built headquarters of Cambridge Labour Party, was officially opened by Brenda Dean, the first woman general secretary of a union. 86 10 20

1986 12 01
Controversial MP Enoch Powell sparked off an angry confrontation when he arrived for a meeting of the University Conservative Association. The 'Rivers of Blood' politician, whose views on race have prompted strong opposition, spoke inside a locked room as students jeered outside the Old Combination Room at Trinity College. Demonstrators clambered up scaffolding in a bid to disrupt the meeting and shouted slogans. A window was smashed. Mr Powell had been smuggled into his old college through a back entrance and a police escort was on hand to help him leave. 86 12 01c

1986 12 02
Robert Rhodes James has been Cambridge's Conservative MP for 10 years. He remembers the date of the election well: "It was the start of one of the coldest winters on record and there I was

at two o'clock in the morning, freezing cold, in a snow storm standing on the balcony of the Guildhall waiting for the mayor to make the announcement". But his cold initiation has been more than compensated for by the warmth of the reception he has since received from electors. 86 12 02

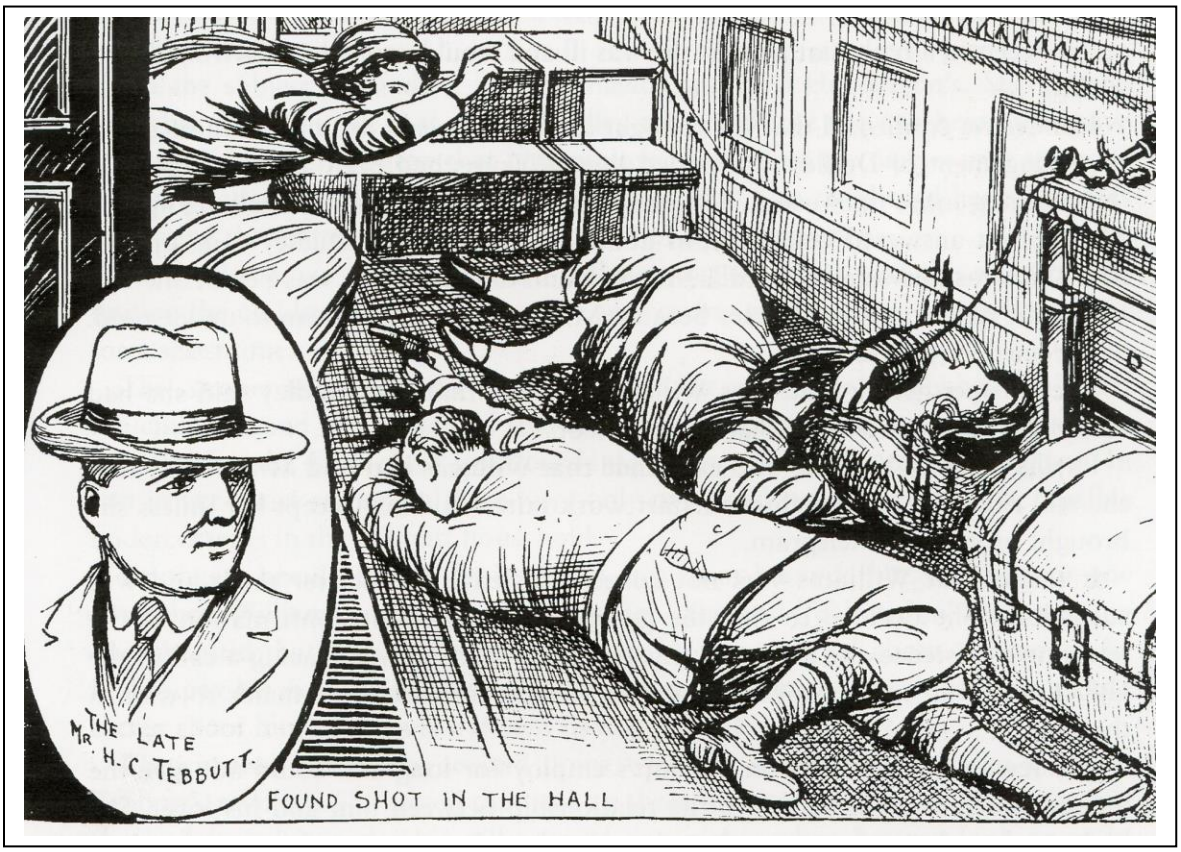
1987 05 18
The dissolution of parliament marks the end of an era for Francis Pym who retires from the House of Commons after a distinguished 26-year career that reached the pinnacles of ministerial office. He was Government Chief Whip, Northern Ireland Secretary, Defence Secretary, Leader of the House of Commons and Foreign Secretary. Even in his final years outside the Cabinet following his dramatic sacking by Mrs Thatcher he became a leading exponent of traditional Conservative values as the founder of Centre Foreward. He says it has been 'immensely enjoyable' 87 05 18

1987 06 12
Shirley Williams' dream of using Cambridge as a springboard back to Westminster crashed in ruins. In a night of disaster for key Alliance figures, she failed to make more than a minor dent in Robert Rhodes James' Conservative majority of more than 5,000 votes. But a crowd of left-wing hecklers chanting 'Thatcher Out, Thatcher Out' narrowly missed him with some well-aimed missiles as he acknowledged victory on the balcony of the Guildhall. And Liberal MP Clement Freud was ousted from his NE Cambs stronghold; after 14 years he was beaten by Wisbech businessman Malcolm Moss. 87 06 12

1988 05 28
Margaret Thatcher, Prime Minister, tours Science Park – 88 05 28

1990 03 02
Robert Rhodes James MP for Cambridge, who was elected in 1976 when David Lane resigned his seat, is to stand down. He has campaigned to prevent British Rail installing controversial half barriers at Cherry Hinton railway crossing, fought the closure of St Bede's and Park Street primary schools and helped win a giant TriStar conversion deal for Marshall's. He also persuaded the Government to match the £2 million donated by David Robinson for the building of the Rosie Maternity Hospital. But he has been a fierce critic of the student loans plan. – 90 03 02, a

1990 05 05
Protestors burn poll tax bills on Parker's Piece after march through Cambridge – 90 05 05a



Murder in Hills Avenue, 1932 *189.23*

c.34.6 : Crime

This is by no means a full account of crime. See also c.34.7 : Police, c.34.9 : Courts, c.36.92 : Undergraduate excesses

1888 11 16
Letter threatens "Jack the Ripper" treatment to lady [346.2.1]

1891 02 20
Jane Elsden had been sentenced for 14 days detention but escaped from Spinning House through window into St Andrew's Street. She had been arrested at Dullingham by men who had acted more in the character of Russian police and dragged through three courts. She was not legally represented and had no opportunity of obtaining a solicitor. But she had committed no offence under Common Law: she had not broken out and had not escaped from lawful custody of a constable – it was the Vice Chancellor. The offence for which she was detained was not one known to Common Law or University charter. The case was gone into in a manner unknown in any civilised country; she was examined and cross-examined and the charge made out against her. The Vice Chancellor's court savoured rather of the Inquisition. The 'court' was a small room at the Spinning House and it was not a court of justice. While it existed no women were safe and ladies of the highest respectability had been subjected to the indignity and annoyance of detention. The judge said the prisoner was in lawful custody. She was found guilty and sent back to undergo remainder of her term of imprisonment. Incident excited great interest all over

country, questions in House of Commons and remission of portion sentenced granted. 1891 01 17 1891 02 20 Ch *See c.34.9 for more details*

1891 12 11
Daisy Hopkins application for Habeas Corpus; Lord chief justice quashed conviction. She had been apprehended and charged with walking with a member of the university in a public street; was committed to Keeper of Spinning House or House of Correction. Claims illegal custody – no offence, merely walking; was not stated she was of bad character or suspected of evil. It said she told undergraduate he could go with her to her rooms but this was not offence alleged. She was illegally committed. There was no appeal from this court, no limit to term of imprisonment. Would like to see it the prison was a legal prison. University proctor had requested police to produce register of prostitutes. Reference to 1860 case in which woman arrested. CIP

1892 01 01
Daisy Hopkins to bring action for damages for false imprisonment. Review of incidents in Spinning House case The Spinning House business has taken up the whole of the year. It was on January 17th that Baron Pollock sent Jane Elden back to undergo the remainder of her term of imprisonment. The incident excited great interest all over the country. Questions were asked in the House of Commons. On March 2nd Town Council private meeting decided negotiate with University. No settlement satisfactory which does not abolish jurisdiction of University over inhabitants of town. First negotiations with University proved abortive, the University willing to make its Court open and allow prisoners professional representation but declining to make any alteration in its powers over townspeople. Two Town Council meetings on negotiations or whether to promote a Bill in House of Commons; decided continue negotiations. On May 14th a full report of all town grievances discussed by Council and adopted. July 11th University reply discussed – refused to depart from original position. Council decided to communicate with Oxford Town Council over Bill – they in favour but could do nothing for moment. Seemed about to collapse through lack of interest but then Daisy Hopkins imprisoned; trial and application to Supreme Court for writ of Habeas Corpus lead to release. On 18th December Council voted for Bill for abolition of University jurisdiction. CIP says University jurisdiction should be for University only and townspeople dealt with by common law of the land. University position confirmed by Act and by an Act it must be curtailed – expensive. Public meeting, turbulent proceedings – very large attendance of townspeople partial to total abolition of University powers – detailed reports. Ch, CIP

1892 03 25
Daisy Hopkins case commenced at Ipswich Assizes – details. It was important to protect young men but equally as important that women should not be deprived of freedom simply because of breath of suspicion; she had gone to Newnham to meet a young man with whom she was keeping company. He did not keep his appointment. When going home she was stopped by a man wearing a Macintosh and asked the way to Tennis Court Road. He was a complete stranger. She answered and went on but shortly afterwards the office of the Proctor came up and pinned her against the railings, holding her until Proctor came. She was arrested and taken Spinning House where detained under great hardship and suffering. In Vice Chancellor's court the University solicitor was asked how he could tell the man was a University gentlemen – what is his name. But the Vice Chancellor at first declared this was not a question which ought to be put and he would not allow it; then allowed. She was sentenced to 14 days imprisonment for talking with an undergraduate, whom she did not known to be an undergraduate and who was a perfect Stanger. An appeal made to Court of Queen's Bench and judges took view that Vice Chancellor had no power to imprison anyone for walking with an undergraduate. The plaintiff released and present action bought. Daisy said she was 17. She had asked to see parents – refused – and sentenced 14

days. Was not charged with anything. Was taken down to the cell which was not warmed. There was a small wooden bed with a mattress of straw but she could not lie on it as so cold. She asked for water as her throat was bad and had to go out in the passage to get it. Was locked up all night. Was not allowed to see her father, friends or the solicitor who appeared for her. Said not guilty, sentenced to 14 days imprisonment. Prison dress put on and she had to clean floors. At end of 10 days was released. She claimed she never had improper relations with any one, had never associated with bad characters or smoked with other women who had been found in ale house under suspicious circumstances. She had been engaged over two years. Had been warned before by a Proctor who said he would lock her up if she was shopping a six o'clock in the evening Her solicitor said the untaxed costs of getting her released was £138.10. He had not been paid a farthing with the exception of a sovereign by her brother. A collection at Cambridge had reached only £26. Promisers were not kept because people were afraid of the University. University solicitor said no respectable woman ought to have been in Tennis Court road at that time of night and she had no good reason to be there. Jury found verdict for defendant with costs – good grounds existed for suspecting her and Proctor acted in good faith. CIP, Ch

1893 05 26
Town council on University jurisdiction – special meeting over powers over persons not members. Senate co-operate with Borough to promote bill – right to arrest women suspected of evil to be repealed; women to be taken to police station; university jurisdiction will disappear and be vested in Justices. Regulation of theatres – does away with consent of Vice Chancellor before any stage plays – be responsibility county council. Music and dancing – need licence from Licensing Justice. Public exhibition or performance need permission of Mayor – including Midsummer Fair. Cambridge University Jurisdiction Act 1894 – details. Spinning house might be converted into a sort of jail for women – but under entire control of Borough Justices. Proctors could enter pubs. Ch

1894 05 11.
Corporation Bill before House of Commons – a compromise between University and Corporation, reducing friction re prostitutes … students were young and inexperienced freshly released from discipline of school life and would fall east prey to worm of bad character if precautions not taken … women would be attracted from country and London … women of bad character might be perfectly quiet in their behaviour and abstain from open solicitation yet their presence in the streets would be a great temptation … proctors would exercise exceptional powers at own peril. During last two years a marked deterioration in state of the streets. Objection to omission of words 'behaving in a riotous and disorderly manner'. Bill a compromise and impossible to take out any part without rendering it unacceptable. Bill allowed police to arrest bad characters wandering in streets unable to give satisfactory account … and similar power to proctors who on same footing as police. Vice Chancellor's court and Spinning House to be abolished and persons tried before ordinary court. University jurisdiction founded on very ancient charter and was much resented by town – but now come to unanimous accord. Select committee of House had approved the special clause. There was no need for this private bill. Would be similar to affairs in Oxford

1894 06 22
Corporation Bill. The House of Lords carried the Cambridge Spinning-house Bill by an overwhelming majority. The measure, which re-enacts in a modified form at the end of the nineteenth century the much-abused medieval powers of the Cambridge authorities. Lord Leigh (Trinity College) moved to leave out Clause: "Every common prostitute loitering or being in a street or public place for the purpose of prostitution or solicitation." He said he regarded it a most dangerous power to place in the hands of a policeman that he should be given authority to say

whether woman was out in the streets of Cambridge for the purpose of prostitution or not, unless she was seen actually to solicit, and the object of his amendment was to provide that a police-constable should not have that power unless he proved solicitation. Under the Bill, a poor woman going home after her day's work might be arrested by policeman. The Duke op Devonshire (Chancellor of the University) regretted that he was unable, on behalf of the University of Cambridge, to assent to the amendment. The University of Cambridge had from very ancient times been invested with very extensive powers of dealing with vagabonds, prostitutes, and other suspected persons, and those powers had from time to time caused good deal of conflict between the University and the Municipal authorities. The powers were not altogether suited to modern ideas and circumstances, and after discussion had taken place between the University and the Municipal authorities, a compromise was arrived at, with the unanimous approval the Town Council and of a town's meeting, which was embodied in this Bill. Under the Bill the law of Cambridge would be assimilated to that of Oxford, and though it was quite true that the Oxford law and the present Bill conferred upon the police and the University authorities powers somewhat in excess of those which were possessed by the police of ordinary boroughs, it was very generally admitted that, in towns such as Cambridge and Oxford, where large number of young men resided for a very considerable portion of the year, for the purposes of education, the University and Municipal authorities should be armed with somewhat larger powers than were necessary in the case of other towns. The effect of the amendment would be to make it impossible for either the University or Municipal authorities to arrest any prostitute unless the act of soliciting were actually proved, and the powers conferred would be insufficient if the amendment were adopted. The Bill passed. CIP

1899 04 19
The days of the Cambridge Spinning House are numbered. It is to be pulled down in order that a house of detention after the best approved modern ideas may arise on its site. There is no more stirring chapter in the history of modern Cambridge than that which this forbidding looking building in St Andrews Street recalls. It speaks of many things which the Cambridge of today is glad to forget. It is an ugly monument of an ugly feud between the authorities of the University and town. The feud is dead: would that the razing to the ground of the Spinning House were sufficient to efface all memory of it

1900

1901 12 06
The arrest was reported from Queenstown of a Cambridge man on a warrant charging him with felony. Detective-Sergt Bryne effected the arrest on the outward-bound American steamer. The accused was travelling as a saloon passenger under an assumed name. As is well-known the man held a position of trust at Messrs Foster's bank and was actively identified with politics and parochial movements in the Abbey Ward. His disappearance from Cambridge has been the subject of many rumours. Detective Marsh has been sent to Queenstown to bring the accused to Cambridge c01 12 10

1902 01 14
After being 'wanted' by the police for years a man who is supposed to be a suspicious character named Villiers, was arrested by Scotland Yard detectives at his residence on Trumpington Road, Cambridge. They searched the house for a considerable time without finding him. At last he was discovered concealed between the ceiling and the roof. To this secret hiding place he had gained access by a door secreted behind a piece of furniture. The arrest is in connection with the publication of obscene literature and prints. Since being removed to the station the man has died. CDN 1902 01 14

1902 04 24
'With detectives round the world' by Frank Longworth – capture at Cambridge of printer of objectionable books – 37 04 24b

1902 05 02
A deep feeling of horror spread like lightning through Cambridge when it was reported that a cook at a Cambridge college had committed suicide. Enquiries show he was fearful of being drawn into the hearing of the Cambridge meat case and made to become a witness against his own brother. This undoubtedly preyed upon his mind and he became exceedingly suspicious of any stranger entering the college hall. The other day a friend observed: "I see you have a new waiter". "No", he replied, "he is a detective shadowing me" 02 05 02

1902 12 04
The Provost of Kings said that whatever good had been done by the University Spinning House it was of a very rough and ready kind. It succeeded in arresting women in a course of evil, and sending them to their homes, but one could not say much for the humanising and Christianising influence that was brought to bear upon the women there. In any town there was a probability of evil and if they added 3,000 young men in they hey-day of youth, many of them without fixed principles of right and wrong, and a number of young women coming from bad homes and bearing an hereditary disposition for evil there must be some danger. 02 12 04

1904 04 08
A few days before Christmas a young man arrived in Bristol absolutely without means but soon learned from a firm of solicitors that he was the son of the late Rev E.A. Stephens of Cambridge and entitled to a huge fortune. But the gentleman must have lived here many years ago for clergymen who have seen long service do not remember him, his name does not appear in any University calendar and even members of the police force who have proverbial long memories do not recall him. The story recalls a hoax played on a drayman who lived in Cambridge. He was informed that an uncle had died and left him a fortune so he threw up his position and went to Portsmouth to conclude the formalities, only to learn that the fabulous fortune was a myth and he had been cruelly hoaxed. 14 04 08

1904 05 18
The unexpected death of a prisoner at the Cambridge Prison occasioned the holding of an inquest. The man's name appeared to be Patrick O'Shea, though as a matter of fact he had a variety of names – Nil, Laughton, Carrington, MacDonald, MacArthur, Montmorency and Hassan Effendi. He gave his age as 45 and his occupation that of a labourer and was committed for trial for stealing money in Wisbech. Warder Andrews said he heard a noise from the cell and found the man apparently in a fit. Death was due to apoplexy. 04 05 18

1904 07 15
The publication of Mr John Sweeney's book 'At Scotland Yard' recalls one of the most sensational tragedies Cambridge has known. The detective mentions the arrest and subsequent death of the swindler who styled himself 'Dr Sinclair Roland' and resided at a well-furnished, expensively-rented house called Edenfield in Trumpington Road. It had been chosen for its security from observation and general utility as a hiding place. There was an elaborate system of cupboards and secret passages by which he could hide or escape. But the police blocked every exit, a systematic search was made and a secret panel discovered where the man was found. He called for a glass of water and fell dead, having taken poison which he carried in a ring. CDN 25.7.1904

1905 06 15
The whole of the Duchess of Westminster's missing jewellery has been discovered in Cambridge including a very valuable pearl necklace and twenty diamond brooches. Police arrested a Cambridge man formerly employed as a night watchman at Grosvenor House; they then went to a house in Priory Road and to a field up Newmarket Road where the jewellery was found. 05 06 15a & others

1905 08 05
The burglary scare in Romsey Town has caused several amusing and one dangerous incident. A gentleman was keeping an all-night watch for the burglar and about 1.30 a.m. thought he observed his quarry. At any rate a revolver which he had in his possession went off. The bullet sped across the street and through the window of a house opposite. It cut two holes in the hanging curtains, smashed a large fruit dish and ended its career in a photographic frame. 05 08 05e

1905 10 14
The Trumpington Road has an unenviable notoriety for being frequented by shady and suspicious characters. Lately the large houses have suffered depredations at the hands of one of the burgling fraternity. Police supervision should be strengthened: one constable was not sufficient. The Chief Constable said that being with easy reach of London they offered a tempting bait to the criminals of the metropolis. The man involved pretended to be collecting for a cricket club. He was today being tried at Exeter 05 10 14b

1905 11 16
Cambridge police have warned of a new fraud; people receive a letter from a man who claims to have served in the Cuban war and came to England bringing with him a trunk containing £39,000 which has been deposited in a bank. If the recipient will send enough money for the writer's daughter to collect it then she will give them a quarter of that sum. The swindle has gone on for years; the bait is so plausible that many simple people fall victim to the fraud.05 11 16

1905 11 30
Two young women were charged with frequenting the streets of Cambridge for the purpose of prostitution. One explained she was a native of Dundee, living at a common lodging house; she had been a domestic servant at Newmarket but had to leave on account of illness. Being destitute she was obliged to 'go on the streets' for a living. 05 11 30a

1906 07 31
Burglar hunting as a popular amusement had 'caught on' in Cambridge. Large crowds gathered in the neighbourhood of Park Terrace expecting to see the police emerge with two or more stalwart ruffians who had the impudence to enter Mr Sturton's house and rifle his pockets. They are thought to be playing a skilful game of hide-and-seek with police in and out of the six houses which comprise part of the Terrace; eager eyes are directed to the parapet and expectations entertained of seeing a desperate chase along the roof. But no one was seen. 06 07 31a

1906 11 12
With the death of John William Cooper Cambridge loses one of its most pronounced personalities. As a barrister in the Daisy Hopkins case he ruthlessly exposed the evils of the Spinning House and few can understand the amount of good work he did behind the scenes. Latterly folk have agreed that he was breaking up, but though he may have suffered physically he never showed signs that his mental vigour had diminished. 06 11 12a & b & c

1907 12 16
Musgrave, card sharp, arrested – stole from undergraduates at Bull Hotel – 07 12 16a, 07 12 28d

1908 11 20
A young married woman lies in Cambridge gaol accused of wilful murder. In the tiny parlour of a typical country cottage is the dead body of her year-and-four-month old baby, a bonny dark-eyed plumped-cheek babe, drowned in the filth of a cesspool. Upon a little bed in another room lies another little girl slowly recovering from the effects of immersion in the same cesspool. Too young to realise the terrible experience she has been through she murmurs "Mummy did it; she said it was best" CWN 08 11 20 [346.2.4]

1910

1910 04 09
"Cambridge an irresistible attraction for professional thieves down from London"; group caught loading stolen bicycles on train [346.2.5]

1910 03 11
A stable in Water Street, Old Chesterton, was the scene of a shocking tragedy. A 50-year-old labourer had been living with a 58 year-old woman who earned her living by travelling about the county with a caravan in the summer, visiting fairs, and in the winter time she hawked coal and coke about local villages. When he appeared in court his complexion stamped him at once as a man used to working in the open air. His face and neck were alike brick red in colour and seamed with thousands of wrinkles, the black hair was cut fairly short, but the grizzled moustache was rather ragged. He was dressed in corduroys and heavy boots. He had no collar or neck wrap and his vivid red shirt showed at the top of the sleeved waistcoat he was wearing. 10 03 11a & b

1910 06 03
The courtroom was packed for the trial of a man accused of murder at a stable in Water Street, Chesterton. A nearby house was lived in by a 58-year-old woman who earned her living by travelling about the country with a caravan in summer, visiting fairs, and in winter time she hawked coal and coke about local villages. A squabble with a 50-year-old labourer with whom she was living resulted in him cutting her brother's throat with a carving knife. He was sentenced to hang. 10 06 03 b & c

1910 06 17
At the last stroke of eight o'clock in the morning James Henry Hancock paid the extreme penalty of the law for the murder of Alfred Doggett at Chesterton. The execution took place at the County Gaol, Castle Hill. Pierpoint was the executioner, assisted by his brother, and they accomplished their deadly work with marvellous celerity, death having been absolutely instantaneous. Only the Deputy Sheriff, the Governor of the Prison, the Prison Chaplain and Doctor were present but a crowd of several hundred assembled on the pavement opposite the Shire Hall. They kept their gaze fixed on the flag-staff, unaware that the practice of hoisting the black flag has been discontinued. Nor was the bell tolled. 10 06 17b

1910 06 17
It is 12 years since the extreme penalty of the law was last paid within the walls of the County Gaol. The last culprit was Walter Horsford, the notorious St Neots poisoner, who was hanged on 28th June 1898 for the murder of his cousin. Prior to that there was a long period during which the hangman was not called upon for it was as far back as December 1876 that Robert Browning was executed for the murder of a woman on Midsummer Common. The last public execution in the

county was in March 1864 when a man was hanged for the murder of a girl at Whittlesey. Shortly after this the law was passed putting a stop to executions in public and the tendency now is for complete privacy 10 06 17c

1910 12 23
A gruesome relic has been discovered during renovations at the Hoop Hotel. It is a human skeleton grimly suggestive of a crime committed in days gone bye, a victim's remains ingeniously hidden by a murderer. For hundreds of years generations of people have passed along Bridge Street recking nothing of the horrible trophy which lay some ten feet beneath the pavement. A workman discovered the bones of a woman placed just below the wall and floor of the wine cellar and above the foundations. 10 12 23

1913 04 11
A pathetic tragedy occurred in Cambridge when a German teacher committed suicide after killing his two children by shooting them with a revolver. His wife, to whom he was devoted, had died in February. He was an advanced Spiritualist and had written to the coroner stating that by the time he received the letter he and his children would have rejoined their loved one. He was firmly of the belief that the step he was taking was merely a means of reuniting the family. 13 04 11 p9 CIP [2.7]

1913 05 23
Two fires attributed to suffragettes occurred in the small hours of Saturday morning in the newly-completed houses in Storey's Way. One was almost completely destroyed but the other, being erected for the Balfour Professor of Genetics, was extinguished before much damage was done. In it were found clues which led to the arrest of a Norwich school teacher. One was a gold watch and the other blood stains on the broken glass of window. The suspect had a cut on her finger. Policeman arrests his niece 13 05 23 p7 & 8 CIP
1913 10 17
At the Assizes the top gallery was filled with women when a suffragette was accused of setting fire to a house in Storey's Way. She denied having started the blaze but had been at the site and dropped her watch. It was identified by her uncle, a Norwich policeman. Pink flannelette smelling strongly of paraffin had been wound round a ladder and set alight. Her coat smelled of paraffin. She asked the jury: "Do I look like a person who would go about with flannelette and cans of petrol and set fire to houses". She was convicted. 13 10 17 p8 [346.1.9]

1913 11 07
Frederick Seekings, a Brampton man was hanged in Cambridge Gaol for the murder of his wife. Mr T.W. Pierpoint was the executioner and the hanging was expeditiously carried out, death being instantaneous. Very little interest in the execution was shown by the public. There was but a mere handful of people outside the Shire Hall, chiefly composed of errand boys and youths. The black flag was not hoisted nor was the prison bell tolled, and there was nothing whatever to indicate that anything unusual was taking place. 13 11 07 p08 CIP [346.1.10,2.8]

1916 02 09
One of the most astonishing results of the war is the effect it has, had on crime. This matter has been commented upon at every Assize and Quarter Sessions for the last twelve months or so. The calendars have been so light as to cause astonishment. Serious crime seems almost to have come to an end, and the presentation to the Chairmen of Quarter Sessions of white gloves as evidence of there being no prisoners for trial has become quite a common occurrence. As a consequence of this change in our normal conditions, some of His Majesty's prisons have hardly any prisoners, in them, and as a wartime economy, it is proposed to close some of them for the time being.

Cambridge is to be added to the number closed during the period of the war. It is a remarkable proposition, although we should kike to that that we could get along without a prison in our midst 16 02 09 CIPof

1919 10 22
Frank Fyson on trial for attempted murder of his wife and attempted suicide Christ's Pieces; he from Warboys and had toured with the VC Cockerel – 19 10 22e

1919 10 29
Munitions Ministry robbed. Wholesale thefts of Government property were described at the Shire Hall, Cambridge, on Saturday morning, when four prisoners were charged with stealing bedding, bedsteads, and various other articles the property of the Ministry of Munitions. In the corridors outside the County Divisional Police Court were heaps of blankets, sheets, pillows, bed ticks and iron bedsteads, and inside the court was another miscellaneous collection of articles, which were exhibits in the case. The bulk of the property was stolen from the Coprolite 'Works at Trumpington, but a number of the articles had been removed from, the munitions works at Gretna Green, and conveyed by the prisoners to Trumpington. The thefts were admitted and three of the prisoners were sent to gaol. The fourth offender—a lad of 15—was bound over. 19 10 29 CIPof, Detailed trial – 19 10 29a

1920

1920 03 24
Detective Lazarus Marks reminiscences – 45 years a tec, major article – Ch 20 03 24a

1921 07
King Street murder: Alice Lawn murdered. King Street murder funeral – 21 08 03c; Reports & trial – 21 08 03d,e 21 08 10a, b, e 21 08 24b,c,d 21 09 07c 21 09 14a,b 21 09 21a,b ; 21 10 19a,b,c; 21 10 19j' not guilty – 21 10 26c. Photos – 21 08 03b, 21 08 17d , 21 10 19f, 21 10 26a. Suspect in court – 21 08 24a, 21 09 21d
(Sweetshop owner Alice Lawn who was found battered to death on the back stairs of her house in Milton's Walk. An itinerant French Polisher was arrested and sent for trial; over the four days of the trial there were long queues for copies of the Cambridge Daily News that carried reports of the proceedings.He was found not guilty and the murder never solved. But the man acquitted is reported to have taken to wearing a placard stating 'I am the Cambridge murderer' and later returned to the scene of the crime, swearing that he would kill those who had given evidence against him)

1930

1930 06 03
A terrible shooting affair occurred at King's College this afternoon. An undergraduate shot a Cambridge Detective-Sergeant twice with an automatic, then shot his tutor through the heart and himself in the head. The tutor died instantly, the undergraduate is not expected to live but the policeman is likely to make a normal recovery. The cause of the trouble is at present a mystery 30 06 03a [2.4]

1930 06 04
The third of the men in the King's College shooting sensation, Det-Sergt Willis, has died from the effects of his wounds. The undergraduate assailant died yesterday from a bullet wound in the head whilst the tutor was killed instantly from a bullet through his heart. The undergraduate was

heavily in debt and went away from Cambridge nine days ago on a motor-cycle obtained on credit. He was being interviewed by the policeman when the tragedy occurred 30 06 04
Memories of Detective Ives who was with Willis – 55 08 09

1930 06 04
A London lady has thrown fresh light on the movement of the undergraduates involved in the double shooting at King's College. They had knocked on her door at three in the morning; their clothes were torn and dishevelled and they said they were down and out, having been walking about on the Thames Embankment. They told her they were in trouble at Cambridge, but only through disposing of some property that did not belong to them. Both had pistols and said they would end things then rather than face fresh trouble, but she had dissuaded them. 30 06 04

1930 06 06
Further revelations of the escapades of the undergraduate involved in the King's College shooting have caused University authorities to make searching inquiries into the habits of undergraduates. The lad had surrounded himself with an atmosphere of false romance; he paid frequent visits to the Bell Hotel at Mildenhall. The landlord's daughter described him as 'a very nice boy, but terribly eccentric'. He always came in second-hand cars, but never in the same car twice, and spent time playing the gramophone. He always left in time to get back to college before the gates closed 30 06 06b

1930 08 19
Will of Wollaston, the murdered don – CDN 30 08 19

1931 02 27
Over 100 attended a funeral service for a young Freshman whose mysterious death has caused such a sensation throughout the country. Press and public were excluded but a crowd gathered and police had some difficulty in controlling the traffic. He had been found lying dead on the floor of his room, gagged and bound in an elaborate manner with numerous handkerchiefs, a length of puttee, and a wire flex. Members of the Pentacle Club, the University Magicians' Society have been interrogated & Sir Bernard Spilsbury, the famous Home Office pathologist has been called in. 31 02 27d-g-h

1931 03 06
Sidney Sussex student death verdict 31 03 06f –h

1932 02 02
A London sales manager was charged with demanding £500 by menaces from a Cambridge resident referred to in court as 'Mr Z'. After being told that he was going to be 'beaten up' by a gang of bookmakers Mr Z paid the man £500 in the presence of two hidden police officers. He told the court he was still going in fear of personal violence. The prosecutor remarked "It looks like an American gangster film" 32 02 20a & b

1932 05 28
Sensational disclosures are expected in connection with a fivefold shooting tragedy in Hills Road. While the shooting was taking place a girl operator in the telephone exchange was listening to it, powerless to help. The dead woman was in the act of putting through a telephone call. Before the bullet entered her head she had taken off the receiver which was found hanging on its wire when the police entered the house. 32 05 28 b & c, 30, 31, 32 05 31a, b, 32 06 01 & b

1937 05 17

A police cordon was thrown round the Regal Cinema in the early hours of Sunday morning after PC Parker saw a man's head out of a bottom floor window. Two men ran away; one was brought down with a rugby tackle by a passing cyclist, Arthur Wright, another punched Inspector Witham with a knuckleduster. One was alleged to have packets of gelignite in his possession, another was found with fuse detonators. Later Scotland Yard's Flying Squad arrested a fifth man. 37 05 17a

1938 03 21
A witness at Cambridge Police Court took the Confucianist oath by smashing a saucer in the witness-box. Then the clerk said: "You shall tell the truth, and the whole truth – the saucer is broken, and if you do not tell the whole truth your soul will be broken like the saucer". Mr Fan Hung testified that he was a research student at Fitzwilliam Hall and that money had been taken from his wallet in his lodgings. A fellow-lodger admitted the theft and was bound over. 38 03 21

1960

1960 07 18
A four day manhunt for 'Gipsy Jack' ended when he was found in a secret hideout inside his mother's hut in the gipsy encampment near Oakington where he had been since he shot and battered a woman in the corner of a cornfield. Superintendent John du Rose of Scotland Yard realised the old railway carriage was shorter inside than out and pulled away a chest of drawers from an old wooden partition But 'Gipsy Jack' shot himself in the head with a shotgun before please could break in 60 07 18a 60 07 14 60 07 18 60 07 18a

1961 03 22
The strong room at Barclay's Bank in Chesterton Road was blown open and £75,000 in notes stolen in the City's biggest bank robbery. The raiders piled stacks of office furniture and cushions to muffle the noise of the explosion which blew a hole three feet across in the strong room wall, then crawled through to help themselves to the money. Arrangements have been made to transfer the silver and copper coinage the thieves left behind. 61 03 22

1965
Drugs squad set up when drugs menace first began to emerge on streets [4.12]

1966 02 22
Risk of drug-taking by students in college hostels and lodgings – teacher fined for house used for smoking Indian hemp; "beatnik parasites', Clarendon St– 66 02 22a, b, 66 02 23b

1966 04 22
"500 youths smoke hashish" says solicitor, police set up drugs squad, marijuana sold in city centre pub for 2/6; police raid Alley Club & seize 200 pills, proprietor prosecuted [4.8,4.9,6.8]

1966 04 23
500 Cambridge youths, including undergraduates, smoke Indian hemp; police raid lodgings – 66 04 22; police doing all they can to cut out drugs – 66 04 23#

1967 02 11
Synthetic LSD made in Chemistry Labs says letter in Granta [4.10, 4.14, 6.9]
[4.7]

1970

1970
The foundation of the largest LSD ring the world has ever seen were laid in Cambridge in 1970, a court was told. Five men living in Cambridge at the time launched the operation that would end up supplying more than 90 per cent of Britain's LSD and more than 50 per cent of the world's total consumption of the drug, said the prosecutor at the start of the 'Operation Julie' trial. One man had ordered a tablet-making machine to be delivered to him at the University Chemistry Laboratory and delivered drugs to a house in Cambridge by simply dropping them through the letter box 78 02 27

1970 02 14
Garden House riot: police make truncheon charge against mob of undergraduates who surged forward pinning score constables against shattered plate-glass windows, £2,276 damage Garden House Hotel - 70 02 14, 14a, 14b trial – 70 06 24 [369.22.12]
"Garden House Riot changed course of events; afterwards student violence died off; Police invoked Riot Act, not used for years, Judge Melford Stevenson said it most complete example of intelligent young people getting involved in complete bloody nonsense ... passed deterrent sentences

1970 05 02
Skinhead boys swarming again - may be ugliest season yet for worst of the thuggy cults to have risen in last 20 years; 1st reports violence late autumn, on Dec 16 (1969) police set up mobile skinhead patrol; three coach loads of Lincoln supporters turned back en route Cambridge United [6.6]

1970 07 03
Greek demonstration – 6 students jailed, two sent borstal – 70 07 03, 03a,b; clash with townspeople – 70 07 06; verdict – appeal rejected – 70 08 19

1971 02 08
Jewel raid at Saqui & Lawrence, raiders break through wall to steal £5,000 rings – 71 02 08

1974 12 009
The rapist terrorising girls in Cambridge's bed-sit land claimed his fourth victim in two months when he struck in the Newnham area of the city yesterday. It was the fifth attack on single girls living alone. Four have been raped and one fought her attacker off on the doorstep. The man leading the 20-strong special police squad, Detective Superintendent Bernard Hotson said today: "We are looking for an extremely sick and dangerous man" 74 12 09

1975 03 20
An anonymous little dog-leg road near Mitcham's corner Cambridge is typical of many roads interlacing the grey huddle of bed-sit suburbia on the flanks of Cambridge. But on the night of October 18th last year its cover of anonymity was blown. It was on that night that an unsuspecting girl became a victim and a burglar became a rapist. Between then and December the rapist claimed five victims and sexually assaulted a sixth. During that time 130 policemen were trying to catch him. They didn't succeed. He is still at large.

1975 05 10
Vigilante patrols have been formed in some bed-sit areas of Cambridge by householders anxious to protect single girls from the Cambridge rapist –but the groups are not welcomed by the police. The Cambridge MP, David Lane, dropped in unannounced at police headquarters to offer his support and encouragement to detectives hunting the city rapist.

1975 10 03
"Cambridge Rapist" convicted following attacks between Oct 1974 & June 1975. Four people who helped police to end the Cambridge Rapist's reign of terror and the detective who made the arrest share the £1,500 reward offered by the CEN and two businessmen. They each played a significant part in the arrest which led to the conviction of the rapist who jailed for life at Norwich Crown Court for the Cambridge rapes and other attacks on girls 75 10 03

1975 11 10
Afternoon of violence, football supporters' three-hour clash with police [14.16]

1975 11 20
The first cannabis resin distillery to be found in Cambridge was discovered when drugs squad detectives raided a house on the north side of the city. After a tip-off police surrounded a private house in a residential area. Inside they found various pieces of equipment along with drugs substances. They took away tubing and bottles which forensic scientists are examining. They believe distilled resin has been used to impregnate non-drug vegetable matter and foodstuffs for consumption by drug users. Police regard their find as important in a city where soft drug abuse is fairly widespread 75 11 20

1976 08 18
"Soccer hooligans run wild" 76 08 18

1978 02 27
The foundation of the largest LSD ring the world has ever seen were laid in Cambridge in 1970, a court was told. Five men living in Cambridge at the time launched the operation that would end up supplying more than 90 per cent of Britain's LSD and more than 50 per cent of the world's total consumption of the drug, said the prosecutor at the start of the 'Operation Julie' trial. One man had ordered a tablet-making machine to be delivered to him at the University Chemistry Laboratory and delivered drugs to a house in Cambridge by simply dropping them through the letter box

1979 03 09
"Cambridge a soft touch for hard drugs" [5.1]

1979 10 01
27 football fans arrested following violence [15.9-11]

1979 10 17
Chief Supt Jock Proctor who did the most to contain the drugs problem in Cambridge retires from the police in December. In 1966 he formed a Drugs Squad to combat what was then a new and growing problem. Other agencies joined to set up a proper containment procedure which has been copied elsewhere. It was unheard of in those days for police, social workers and psychiatrists to meet together with addicts, parents and the clergy but soon a basis of trust was established and worried parents would take their youngsters to a police station for advice, rather than prosecution CEN 17.10.1979

1980

1980 01 23

The Cambridge police Patrol Group was set up in 1977. It is allocated specific targets and is free to concentrate on them until the problems are solved. Following outbreaks of crime such as handbag snatching or stolen bicycles they will 'flood' an area in an intensive detection campaign. The results are impressive with 97 arrests in recent months and a drop of 400 in the number of crimes recorded last year coupled with an increase of 500 in the number of prisoners arrested. 80 01 23

1980 06 30
Sea Cadets have discovered a hoard of sunken treasure worth thousands of pounds in the River Cam. Their boat's engine failed and it was found that a fur wrap had fouled the propeller. Whilst attempting to free it they discovered parts of a suitcase containing silver cups, candelabra and boxes of jewels. Police put a guard on the river until divers could carry out a full search. It is thought to be the proceeds of a major crime and is now locked away at Cambridge police station 80 06 30b

1981 04 21
Three valuable painting of Henry VI, Henry VII and Henry VIII have been stolen from King's College, Cambridge. All are contemporary works in oil on wood or panel. They were taken along with their frame from the college's main hall and people thought they had been removed for cleaning. 81 04 21a

1981 05 12
Glue-sniffing first came to this country about 10 years ago and there have been isolated outbreaks since then, but the revival of the craze among a group of Cambridge youngsters has caused concern. Police say there are no more than a dozen involved and it is not a major problem yet. One 14-year-old punk, a veteran glue-sniffer of three months, admitted stealing pots of glue and said "My mother doesn't want me to do it but I just like it and don't care" 81 05 12 [5.3]

1981 10 05
51 arrested as football fans run wild – Chelsea [15.15]

1981 10 16
"Pub battle, 46 arrests"- Norwich fans [15.16]

1982 01 20
People "willing to defend houses with pitchforks" from football hooligans [15.17]

1983 06 28
"Are up to 350 drug addicts" [5.4]

1984 02 13
United fans to blame in battle Chelsea, throat slashed, 92 arrested, thrree convicted Old Bailey May 85 [16.1]

1985
Neighbourhood watch scheme, no.1 at Chesterton [4.14]

1986 06 09
150 march re violence at night [Misc.4.1]

1988 11 03

Ambulance chief claims increased violence in streets ¢CEN 3.11.88

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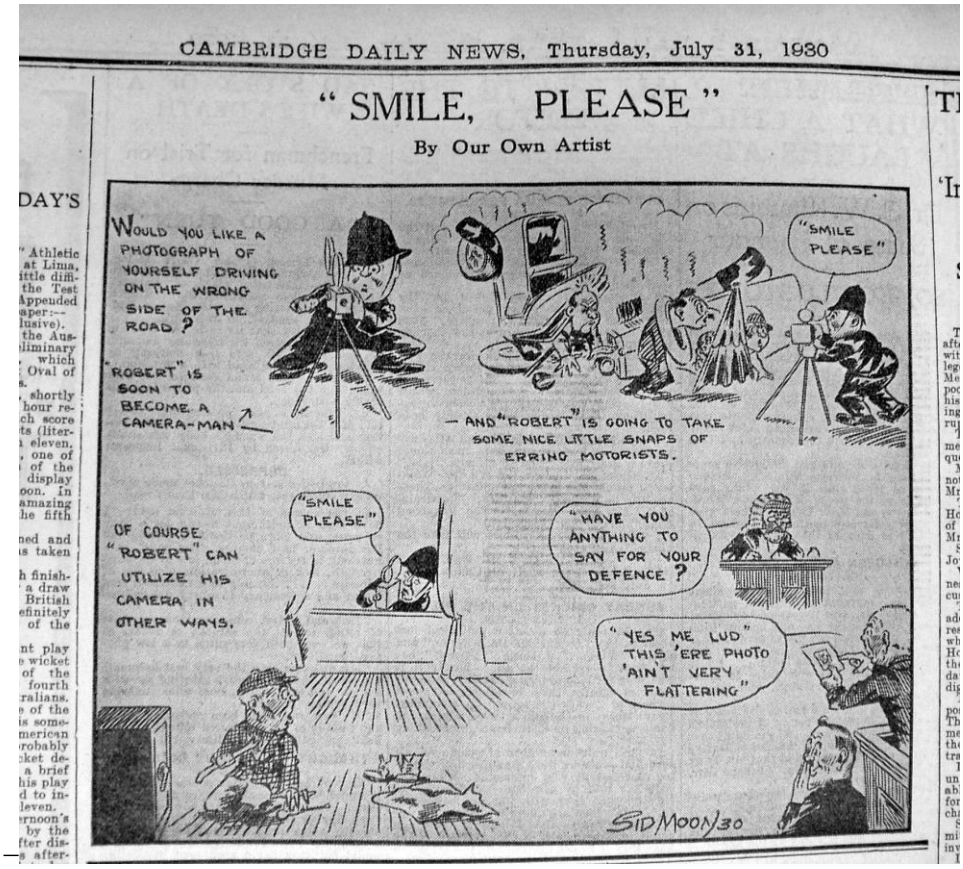

CAMBRIDGE DAILY NEWS, Thursday, July 31, 1930

"SMILE, PLEASE"

By Our Own Artist

WOULD YOU LIKE A PHOTOGRAPH OF YOURSELF DRIVING ON THE WRONG SIDE OF THE ROAD?

"ROBERT" IS SOON TO BECOME A CAMERA-MAN

"SMILE PLEASE"

— AND "ROBERT" IS GOING TO TAKE SOME NICE LITTLE SNAPS OF ERRING MOTORISTS.

"SMILE PLEASE"

OF COURSE "ROBERT" CAN UTILIZE HIS CAMERA IN OTHER WAYS.

"HAVE YOU ANYTHING TO SAY FOR YOUR DEFENCE?

"YES ME LUD" THIS 'ERE PHOTO 'AIN'T VERY FLATTERING"

SID MOON '30

Police cameras were introduced in 1930

CDN 31 July 1930

c.34.7 : Police

1891 02 26
Arrest of Daisy Hopkins who'd escaped from Spinning House produces outcry in press; University official convicted of carelessness & ignorance in exercise of his powers; feelings run high & series of meetings called to sort out the matter Because of a legal technicality Daisy had to be acquitted and she sued the University for damages. Once more it made headline news which prompted the University to surrender their powers over prostitutes to the police [2.16]

1894
University & Corporation Act provides for concurrent action by Proctors & town police in arresting loose women & abolishes Vice Chancellor's jurisdiction over them; Spinning House abolished[2.14,1.5,2.15]

1897 02 06
Charity Commission scheme; Corporation get entire use of Spinning House to expand police station, rebuild one day 1897 02 06 CDN

1898
Detachment of mounted police formed [3.1]

1898 06 09
Cambridge town council accepted a design for new police and fire brigade buildings, which it is proposed to erect upon the Spinning House site. If the new station is erected the whole of the existing buildings, which are not conspicuous for their beauty, will be removed, with the exception of the chief constable's house, and the fire station and firemen's quarters will be completely isolated from the police building. A new main entrance will be erected and it is suggested that the present stone gateway to the police station should be removed to the back

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entrance in Downing place. The only elevation of any architectural pretensions will be the main facade towards St Andrews's street. A copula forming a central feature will serve as a "look-out" in connection with the fire station. The plans include provision for a mortuary CDN 1898 06 09

1898 07 11
At the Standing joint committee Mr H.G. Fordham proposed that the appointment of Parish Constables should be discontinued. In 1873 the Cambridgeshire quarter sessions had decided to continue them. That was 28 years ago and he contended that since then they had been rendered unnecessary. There was a considerable amount of friction and expense and they were of no real use except in rare instance. Six parishes in Cambridgeshire made no appointment. In Balsham the parish constable had not done duty for 15 years, and in Weston Colville no duty had been done for 40 years. In seventeen parishes there was no remuneration at all. In others the expenses varied from £10 downwards. The Chief Constable having said a good word for the parish constables expressed a hope that their appointment would be renewed 1898 07 11

1898 11 06
Saturday was a typical "fifth" in Cambridge. Faithfully following the precedent set in former years a number of Varsity men and townspeople assembled in the market place, which for three hours or so was crowded with excitable and pugilisitically-inclined youths, representing Town and gown. The Gown driven from pillar to post by the howling mob, appeared to be greatly terrified, and despite the vigilance of the police, of whom a large number were told off for special duty, the celebration was not entirely free from violence. Neither town nor gown missed many opportunities of displaying their physical prowess and many are the reports circulated as to the results of the pugilistic encounters that ensued c1898 11 06

1898 11 24
Great crowds had been assembling outside Great St Mary's and the railings before the Senate House with the exception of a pathway of about five yards which the police were endeavouring to keep clear for those attending the honorary degree ceremony for Lord Kitchener. It was evidence that the constables were having hard work in keeping the crowds from encroaching. At length the looked-for rush took place and such was the force that the police were quite powerless to check it. A general scramble to get upon the railings ensued when without the slightest warning the railings suddenly gave way and fell outwards carrying many unfortunate persons to the ground with them. The solidity of this great piece of ironwork is well known and it is wonderful that more were not seriously injured 1898 11 24 [2.8]

1899 04 19
The days of the Cambridge Spinning House are numbered. It is to be pulled down in order that a house of detention after the best approved modern ideas may arise on its site. There is no more stirring chapter in the history of modern Cambridge than that which this forbidding looking building in St Andrews Street recalls. It speaks of many things which the Cambridge of today is glad to forget. It is an ugly monument of an ugly feud between the authorities of the University and town. The feud is dead: would that the razing to the ground of the Spinning House were sufficient to efface all memory of it 1899 04 19

1899 04 19
An inquiry held heard that half of the Spinning House was occupied as a police station. It had been built about 1840 and was far from up to date. There was no difference between the accommodation for male and female prisoners, and any women that might be kept in the police station all night had to be attended to by police constables on duty, there being no female warders

or matrons. The cells were clean and in good order but were quite inadequate for the requirements of the town 1899 04 19

1900

1900 03 03
There was great rejoicings in Cambridge on the relief of Ladysmith and despite the edict sent forth by the University authorities the conduct of the undergraduate element was again such as to necessitate the intervention of the police. The Varsitymen managed to draw police attention off the market place to scenes elsewhere and, during their temporary absence, succeeded in lighting a bonfire. There was great excitement as one by one the wooden frameworks of the stalls was committed to the flames. The band-stand on Christ's Pieces was attacked and the seats removed to the Market and quickly consumed. Similar damage was occasioned in all parts of the town 00 03 03

1900 03 07
The ire of the undergraduate once roused, not even the powerful hand of Alma Mater suffices to entirely quell the wrath that has been kindled. An attacking force of undergraduates gathered many recruits as it made its way along Hills Road and it was at once seen that the objective was the Mayor's residence in Brooklands Avenue. They were dismayed to find the thoroughfare barricaded by a posse of police constables. The mob made a bold rush. The police partially yielded but not more than half of the 'Varsity flank passed through the cordon when the police closed ranks. The trap that had been set proved effective for those who marched triumphantly down the Avenue had not negotiated more than fifty yards when they were encountered by the Proctors mustered in strong force 00 03 07

1901 10 07
New police & fire stations open on site of Spinning House, St Andrews Street.The police station is part of the machinery which Society has devised for its own protection and for inflicting punishment upon wrong doers. In the golden age there will be no use for Police Stations, and the fine building of which Cambridge has just witnessed the opening may justifiably be converted into a Free Library. There is no virtue in locking up a wrong doer in an ugly prison and the architect of the new station, Mr John Morley, has designed a building which is an ornament to the town. The cells are not luxurious but they are not stifling. It is true the building has cost a good deal but is excellent value for money 01 10 07

1901 11 11
It being the King's 60th birthday it was expected that nightfall would be the occasion for rowdyism and possible an attempt to illuminate Cambridge Market Hill. The authorities cleared away the stalls, but their action left the historic centre of all "rags" open and free for the antics of the crowd. For a long time nothing occurred except the explosion of a few crackers or the discharge of a pistol from a window overlooking the hill. Large numbers of police were hustled about considerably, and were compelled to defend themselves, but compared with other 'rags', they did not have to exert themselves very much. It was a very tame, spiritless affair that will doubtless be deemed by the "bloods" to have been a complete failure, considering that practically no damage to property was done 01 11 11

1901 12 06
The arrest was reported from Queenstown of a Cambridge man on a warrant charging him with felony. Detective-Sergt Bryne effected the arrest on the outward-bound American steamer. The accused was travelling as a saloon passenger under an assumed name. As is well-known the man held a position of trust at Messrs Foster's bank and was actively identified with politics and parochial movements in the Abbey Ward. His disappearance from Cambridge has been the

subject of many rumours. Detective Marsh has been sent to Queenstown to bring the accused to Cambridge 01 12 06

1902 01 14
After being 'wanted' by the police for years a man who is supposed to be a suspicious character named Villiers, was arrested by Scotland Yard detectives at his residence on Trumpington Road, Cambridge. They searched the house for a considerable time without finding him. At last he was discovered concealed between the ceiling and the roof. To this secret hiding place he had gained access by a door secreted behind a piece of furniture. The arrest is in connection with the publication of obscene literature and prints. Since being removed to the station the man has died. CDN 1902 01 14

1902 01 25
The Cambridge Watch Committee have disapproved of the holding of the annual Police dinner, feeling that it is not desirable that the police should be put into the position of seeking subscriptions from the public towards the meal. There are many people in the town who think kindly of the police and would gladly subscribe towards affording them a break in their laborious and somewhat monotonous lives. The CDN is ready to afford this generous feeling outlet and, providing the Committee offer no objection, a fund will be opened in our columns. There is no doubt that the proposal to give 'Robert' a treat of this kind will commend itself to the people of Cambridge CDN 1902 01 25

1902 04 24
'With detectives round the world' by Frank Longworth – capture at Cambridge of printer of objectionable books – 37 04 24b

1902 05 02
A deep feeling of horror spread like lightning through Cambridge when it was reported that a cook at a Cambridge college had committed suicide. Enquiries show he was fearful of being drawn into the hearing of the Cambridge meat case and made to become a witness against his own brother. This undoubtedly preyed upon his mind and he became exceedingly suspicious of any stranger entering the college hall. The other day a friend observed: "I see you have a new waiter". "No", he replied, "he is a detective shadowing me" 02 05 02

1902 05 10
The funeral of P.C. Thompson of the Cambridge police was conducted on military lines. His comrades, accompanied by members of the Borough Fire Brigade, marched to Sturton Street. As the coffin was brought out of the house the police band played the death march in "Saul" and Drum Major Inspector Johnson, his staff draped with crepe, led the hearse & mourning coaches in procession to Mill Road cemetery. The route was line by people and many were the manifestations of sympathy with the mourners. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr Ellis Merry. CDN 1902 05 10

1902 06 03
Peace in South Africa produced strife in Cambridge – one of those fierce contests between the police and the united forces of town and gown which, combined with the destruction of property, constitutes a "rag". In King Street a large double gate was attacked as wood for a bonfire but a vigorous-looking dame appeared from the other side. Her only weapon was a duster, but such a formidable appearance did she present that the crowd melted away before her advance. Skirmishers went towards the Circus of Varieties to obtain a hoarding but this was well guarded and soon they were retracing their steps. 02 06 03

1902 12 03
Well-deserved tributes were paid to the excellent work by Detective-Sergeant Marsh. It has been owing to his sagacity and promptness that a number of exceedingly slippery rogues have been brought to book during the past few months. His capture of the man sentenced for stealing the cash box from Messrs Stearn was made in the nick of time – a few minutes later and he would have been too late. One especially noticeable feature about his methods is his scrupulous fairness to accused persons, a matter of the highest importance in the proper administration of justice CDN 1902 12 03

1902 12 04
The Provost of Kings said that whatever good had been done by the University Spinning House it was of a very rough and ready kind. It succeeded in arresting women in a course of evil, and sending them to their homes, but one could not say much for the humanising and Christianising influence that was brought to bear upon the women there. In any town there was a probability of evil and if they added 3,000 young men in they hey-day of youth, many of them without fixed principles of right and wrong, and a number of young women coming from bad homes and bearing an hereditary disposition for evil there must be some danger. 02 12 04

1903 11 07
Time once was when the concentrated animosity between Cambridge Town and Gown found annual outlet on 'The Fifth'. There are many old inhabitants who have seen the traditional riots gradually die down with the building up of mutual ties between University and Town. Athletic Varsitymen and pugilistic townsmen no longer belabour each other; they join issue in attempts at bonfires with police baiting thrown in as a sideline. At Castle End undergraduates managed to secure a shutter with the intention of making it the nucleus of a bonfire; a constable was rolled to the ground, his helmet knocked off and his whistle and truncheon lost before more policemen arrived and three arrests were made – one member of the Varsity, a soldier and a townsman c03 11 07

1904 07 25
The publication of Mr John Sweeney's book 'At Scotland Yard' recalls one of the most sensational tragedies Cambridge has known. The detective mentions the arrest and subsequent death of the swindler who styled himself 'Dr Sinclair Roland' and resided at a well-furnished, expensively-rented house called Edenfield in Trumpington Road. It had been chosen for its security from observation and general utility as a hiding place. There was an elaborate system of cupboards and secret passages by which he could hide or escape. But the police blocked every exit, a systematic search was made and a secret panel discovered where the man was found. He called for a glass of water and fell dead, having taken poison which he carried in a ring. 04 07 25

1904 11 07
The results of the fifth of November 'rag' in Cambridge were more or less serious injuries to two policemen, considerable damage to private property and several police-court summonses. A little boy engaged in firing a squib in the midst of a 'ragging' party proceeding along Jesus Lane was knocked down by a cyclist and rendered insensible. Fortunately he was soon revived by a number of undergraduates who at once attended to him. One man fainted and another was admitted to Hospital suffering from injuries to the head caused by his being knocked down by a cab. 04 11 07

1904 11 10
The King's birthday is one of those occasions upon which a certain section of the 'Varsity and Town consider it necessary to turn themselves into public nuisances. This year they avoided the

Borough police by making a raid on Chesterton. The mob made tracks for Midsummer Common with the object of having a bonfire. Several hundred crossed Jesus Green Bridge where a council of war was held. Carlyle Road was mention as leading to fuel for the fire but a number of the belligerents made an incursion down a private road. Several fences were broken down and flames shot into the air as the surreptitiously-obtained timber was thrown on to the fire. No police appeared on the scene, though a number of members of the Force were on duty on the borough side of the river 04 11 10

1905 03 06
Undergraduates started a bonfire on Parker's Piece with the aid of a wooden fence from the front of a house in Melbourne Place. One of the proctors who arrived on the scene before the appearance of the police became the object of the amusement of a large number of roughs, some of whom, after having smashed the hats of the 'bulldogs' began to hustle him. He escaped actual injury owing chiefly to the stalwart and vigorous defence of the 'bulldogs' assisted by one or two townsmen. The fire was extinguished by a bucket of water 05 03 06b

1905 06 15
The whole of the Duchess of Westminster's missing jewellery has been discovered in Cambridge including a very valuable pearl necklace and twenty diamond brooches. Police arrested a Cambridge man formerly employed as a night watchman at Grosvenor House; they then went to a house in Priory Road and to a field up Newmarket Road where the jewellery was found. 05 06 15a & others

1905 08 05
The burglary scare in Romsey Town has caused several amusing and one dangerous incident. A gentleman was keeping an all-night watch for the burglar and about 1.30 a.m. thought he observed his quarry. At any rate a revolver which he had in his possession went off. The bullet sped across the street and through the window of a house opposite. It cut two holes in the hanging curtains, smashed a large fruit dish and ended its career in a photographic frame. 05 08 05e

1905 10 14
The Trumpington Road has an unenviable notoriety for being frequented by shady and suspicious characters. Lately the large houses have suffered depredations at the hands of one of the burgling fraternity. Police supervision should be strengthened: one constable was not sufficient. The Chief Constable said that being with easy reach of London they offered a tempting bait to the criminals of the metropolis. The man involved pretended to be collecting for a cricket club. He was today being tried at Exeter 05 10 14b

1905 11 09
Sir - On 1st March 1904 a sergeant of the Metropolitan Police, sent to Cambridge on the occasion of the King's visit, was violently assaulted and kicked by an undergraduate. After six months' illness, during which his pay amounting to £54 was paid by the Borough of Cambridge, he was pensioned off as unfit for service. On 5th November 1904 a constable, having taken one undergraduate into custody, was brutally attacked by others and was left insensible. He has been on the sick list ever since and pensioned off. All members of the University should co-operate to prevent such scenes of riot and disorder - H.M. Taylor, Trinity College. 05 11 09

1905 11 09
It is almost incredible that any undergraduate should so far demean himself as to treat a policeman with the blackguard violence of a hooligan. If we have hitherto been inclined to take a lenient view of the occasional destruction of property it was because we felt sure the grosser acts

were the work of town loafers who were encouraged by thoughtless undergraduates. But those who took part in gutting a shop should suffer the legal penalty and not be saved from imprisonment by University authorities. – Cambridge Review 05 11 09a

1905 11 16
Cambridge police have warned of a new fraud; people receive a letter from a man who claims to have served in the Cuban war and came to England bringing with him a trunk containing £39,000 which has been deposited in a bank. If the recipient will send enough money for the writer's daughter to collect it then she will give them a quarter of that sum. The swindle has gone on for years; the bait is so plausible that many simple people fall victim to the fraud.05 11 16

1905 11 23
P.C. Broughton, a young constable, was injured during the disgraceful 'rag' of November 5th last year. He was kicked whilst on the ground and injured by an undergraduate whom it had been impossible to trace. He had been sent to a Convalescent Home for two months and medical experts called in but had suffered a spinal injury and would not work again. He had been strong but was now crippled and doubled up. He was granted a pension equal to the full pay he was receiving at the time - £1 5s 7d a week. 05 11 23

1906 07 31
Burglar hunting as a popular amusement had 'caught on' in Cambridge. Large crowds gathered in the neighbourhood of Park Terrace expecting to see the police emerge with two or more stalwart ruffians who had the impudence to enter Mr Sturton's house and rifle his pockets. They are thought to be playing a skilful game of hide-and-seek with police in and out of the six houses which comprise part of the Terrace; eager eyes are directed to the parapet and expectations entertained of seeing a desperate chase along the roof. But no one was seen. 06 07 31a

1906 11 12
With the death of John William Cooper Cambridge loses one of its most pronounced personalities. As a barrister in the Daisy Hopkins case he ruthlessly exposed the evils of the Spinning House and few can understand the amount of good work he did behind the scenes. Latterly folk have agreed that he was breaking up, but though he may have suffered physically he never showed signs that his mental vigour had diminished. 06 11 12a & b & c

1907 03 15
William Maltby of Devonshire Road joined the police force in 1849, rising to the rank of inspector. In those days constables wore top hats instead of helmets with cut-away coats around which they wore a belt of piratical proportions. There were only 30 constables, two inspectors and a superintendent whose headquarters were in Emmanuel Road. 07 03 15

1907 12 10
"For an isolated policeman to be attacked and beaten to death by eight or ten students is an occurrence which happens almost once a week at Cambridge or Oxford", writes a correspondent in the 'Messagero', (Rome). He adds that it is common for a group of about 50 undergraduates to wreck a shop as if a dynamite bomb had exploded in it when "the honest tradesman had refused them credit". In the theatre undergraduates do what they like, interrupt the actresses, start discussions with the actors on the stage, beat the orchestra and upset the stalls, he alleges. 07 12 10

1908

Borough justices considers probation service & appoints 2 men & 1 woman on voluntary basis [6.5]

1908 08 14
John Deeks joined the Cambridge Police Force in 1887 when it had strength of 34 – half of what it is today. In those days policemen were paid two shillings and sixpence to attend fires so they were strongly represented at each outbreak, with officers attracted from their usual beats. Men were not often 'run in' because of drunkenness but now they are summonsed if they attempted to fight. He became a Police Court Missionary working with habitual drunks who often signed the pledge but broke it within an hour CWN 08 15 14

1908 10 09
Cambridge Prison is satisfactory and discipline well-maintained. The number of male prisoners last year was 818 and their conduct generally good. They are employed at oakum picking, sawing, chopping and bundling wood, gardening and building work while the female prisoners do needlework, knitting, laundry work and cleaning. One female prisoner, aged 66, was baptised at her own request. The schoolmaster has carried out his duties with zeal in his new schoolroom where 45 prisoners have been under instruction. There has been no escape, no attempt at escape and no case for corporal punishment CWN 08 10 09 p3

1908 11 20
A young married woman lies in Cambridge gaol accused of wilful murder. In the tiny parlour of a typical country cottage is the dead body of her year-and-four-month old baby, a bonny dark-eyed plumped-cheek babe, drowned in the filth of a cesspool. Upon a little bed in another room lies another little girl slowly recovering from the effects of immersion in the same cesspool. Too young to realise the terrible experience she has been through she murmurs "Mummy did it; she said it was best" CWN 08 11 20

1909
Separate court for juveniles & police sergeant paid 10/- for each of three cases in which he acted as probation officer; within a year County probation service began [6.5]

1909 02 12
Cambridge Police has a special staff of men employed in looking after unoccupied houses. The intending burglar who usually watches the policeman on his beat pass the empty property he intends to break into cannot now know when he may be dropped upon. Last year 802 residents used the service and except for one house in Madingley Road, where the gates were locked and police unable to obtain access, there has been no robbery from an unoccupied house of which they have been given notice. CWN 09 02 12

1909 07 23
The first visit of the Cambridge Police Force band to Coton some years ago will not soon be forgotten. A resident had arranged for a wagonettte for their conveyance but when turning a corner by Gt St Mary's they were surprised to see a wheel careering along beside them and the wagon gracefully toppled over, depositing the bandsmen in the roadway. They continued by charabanc but their former driver was accosted by a policeman and ordered to 'clear that wreckage away' or he would be run in. Considering he had brought it over for the conveyance of the police band his indignation can be imagined CWN 09 07 23

1910

1910
Police start welfare scheme & supply boots to 160 poor children [3.3]

1910 03 04
Few have any clear idea of the variety and extent of the services which the police render. They see the policeman about the streets, patrolling his beat or standing on point duty and have no hesitation in appealing to him in almost any little dilemma. But their annual report shows they keep a watchful eye upon temporarily unoccupied houses, visit common lodging houses, attend fires, take charge of lost property, inspect stage and hackney carriages and attend to dangerous dogs. There are 54 constables, average age 36 years. CWN 10 03 04h & I

1910 04 09
"Cambridge an irresistible attraction for professional thieves down from London"; group caught loading stolen bicycles on train 10 04 09

1910 06 17
It is 12 years since the extreme penalty of the law was last paid within the walls of the County Gaol. The last culprit was Walter Horsford, the notorious St Neots poisoner, who was hanged on 28th June 1898 for the murder of his cousin. Prior to that there was a long period during which the hangman was not called upon for it was as far back as December 1876 that Robert Browning was executed for the murder of a woman on Midsummer Common. The last public execution in the county was in March 1864 when a man was hanged for the murder of a girl at Whittlesey. Shortly after this the law was passed putting a stop to executions in public and the tendency now is for complete privacy 10 06 17c

1910 11 11
An undergraduate was fined for assaulting a policeman on Guy Fawkes night. A considerable amount of damage had been done, hoarding demolished, gas lamps broken, the railway station raided and milk churns overturned. The most serious incident occurred at Jesus Sluice footbridge where a battle royal took place between members of the County Constabulary and a large party of undergraduates and town roughs. They stoned the police, all of whom were hit, and PC Johnson was struck on the forehead by a piece of board and rendered unconscious. Only the arrival of police reinforcements had averted further trouble. 10 11 11 & a

1911 01 26
Police given a day of rest - would need five extra policemen at cost of 23/7 (£1.18) a week [1.8,1.9,2.22,3.6]

1911 11 10
Serious 'ragging' took place in celebration of the 5th of November. A number of undergraduates carried 'life-preservers' and a violent assault made on the premises of Messrs Rattee and Kett where an employee was seriously injured. A mounted policeman was pulled from his horse and a police sergeant received a nasty cut over his eye. A member of the University was arrest for assault. But beyond the smashing of a number of street lamps little actual damage was done to property 11 11 10a & b

1919 11 12
"Fifth" fizzles at Cambridge,--The stage was set on Wednesday evening for an old-time celebration of the 5th of November. Proctors, "bulldogs," special constables, mounted police, mere "Roberts", undergraduates, townspeople and schoolboys turned out to play their respective roles, but nothing happened. A few fire-works - cannons, crackers etc — were discharged on

Market Hill but the proceedings were almost as tame as the original affair arranged by Mr. Guy Fawkes and a few of his fanatical friends 19 11 12 CIPof

1912 01 19
Telephonic communication between the police-station and certain police-officers' houses was discussed. Some police houses were simply hired in an ordinary manner and they might have to move the telephone when a new policeman came to a village and took a different house to his predecessor. At Shelford the call office was only about 20 yards from the constable's house, but you couldn't call him. The Chief Constable said he didn't want a constable sitting in the house waiting to be called. His business is to be outside, looking after the property in the village. 12 01 19

1912 03 22
At present a police constable is entitled to a pension after serving 25 or 26 years on the beat. This is as much as most men are able to stand, including as it does a share of night work in all weathers. Policemen who are past their prime, unless by unusual intelligence they have risen from the ranks, are of little use in the Force and the value of their retention is doubtful. But to reduce their pay is astounding. The present sum was fixed more than 30 years ago when living was much cheaper, duties were less exacting and men of a much lower grade of intelligence were considered suitable. A man must be hard put to it to accept such terms. – 12 03 22c

1912 03 29
The last meeting of the old Town Council rejected proposals to reduce policemen's wages. Thirty years ago any burly ruffian that could knock a man down was supposed to be good enough for a policeman. Today police must be courteous and tactful, able to render first-aid and resourceful in emergency. The presence of thousands of undergraduates made the work more trying and it says much for the present Force that even during a 'rag' there is seldom any friction of a vicious character between the 'Varsityman and 'Robert'. They must be incorruptible: often a policeman is offered a bribe to 'say nothing about it'. Yet in Cambridge the commencing wage is lower than at Oxford or Peterborough. 12 03 29b

1912 05 03
Police force report 12 05 03i

1912 05 10
The West Wratting parish constable was dismissed: a man had used abusive language to Fred Pitts, bailiff to Mr E.P. Frost. But when Pitts complained to the constable he'd taken no action and used bad language himself. Parish constables were bound to act in the same way as ordinary constables. They were public servants and must 'come out' when called upon. To behave as this man did was scandalous. Many parish constables were very loyal; one had even 'gone against' his own son and carried out his duties without fear or favour. 12 05 10d

1912 05 30
Borough Extension brings Police Force into the new areas [2.24]

1912 07 19
The National Insurance Act has seen a great rush of insurable people to join approved societies and applications for cards have reached stupendous figures. Cambridge General Benefit Society was one of the first to be approved and have admitted 100 new members. To their disgust members of the Cambridge Police Force have been called on to contribute their fourpence a week

under the Act. This is difficult to understand as they get almost full pay during sickness and receive free medical attendance from the Police Surgeons 12 07 19f & g

1912 10 04
Cambridge Prison Governor's annual report – 12 10 04i

1912 11 09
Police accused of violence every Guy Fawkes night: always complaints of heartless & brutal conduct of police - inhuman monsters who dash hither & thither - but what are respectable people doing out [3.1, 39.3.1]

1913
Borough police Athletic Sports the most successful held [3.8]

1913 02 21
Chief constable annual report police 13 02 21 p8 CIP

1913 08 04
Ratepayers Association question time spent on police band [3.2]

1914 07 17
Women constables were needed in Cambridge to look after the girls. It would be a most valuable innovation if they had one or two women to go about at night and influence the young girls about in the streets and take them home. There was a need of them in public parks and open spaces. Their work would be entirely in connection with women, girls and young children, Miss Cochrane said. But no other Guardians agreed. 14 07 17 p8

1914 11
Large number special constables sworn in [3.11]

1915 10 15
Chas Stretten retires after 27 years Chief Constable Cambs 15 10 15 p6; Chief Constable, Stretten resignation; details of his service 15 10 22 p5, Chief Constable of Cambs' duties to be taken by Chief Constable of Hunts – criticism 15 10 29 p7 – CIP

1915 11 05
Special constables sworn in for emergencies – list of names 15 11 05 p6

1916 06 28
Police Dogs: an account for the keep of dogs totalled £7 14s. "for the keep of dogs for three months." Certain members of the police force were paid so much per week for keeping certain police dogs. He believed there were four dogs and they were kept by the policemen living in outlying parts of the town. They were Airedales, and came from Major Richardson. The dogs were used for police purposes at night. The police constables who had care of them reported that the dogs were extremely useful. They were only used in the outlying parts of the town, and gave warning to the police if anyone was skulking behind hedges, etc. They were not in any way pets, but trained dogs, which enabled a smaller force of police to do the work 16 06 28 CIPof

1916 10 12

A presentation was made to Mr. C. J. D. Stretten, M.CV.O in recognition of his long service as Chief Constable of the County, which post Mr. Stretten resigned nearly three months ago. 16 10 12 CIPof

1917 10
Police wages raised to 10/- (50p) a week [1.17]

1918 05 04
The Watch Committee had just decided to appoint two police-women to combat girls ogling soldiers. Immorality was rife in the town. It was not only the young girls who were the offenders, it was also the older married women whose husbands were very often on active service. 18 05 08 CIPof

1919 04 02
New County "Chief" Few appointments have met with more general approval than the promotion of Mr. William Varney Webb to the office of Chief Constable of the County of Cambridge. It is a promotion richly and thoroughly deserved, and is but fitting recognition of the services of an officer who has conscientiously and with great ability discharged his duties to the general advantage of the whole County. Beside which, his attainment to the highest Police rank in the County must be an incentive to the most humble member of the Force. Mr. Webb, who celebrated his 50th birthday a fortnight ago, joined the Cambridgeshire Constabulary nearly a quarter of a century ago, and he has risen to his present position solely by his own energy and ability 19 04 02 CIPof

1919 07 23
Chief Constable Resigns. Mr Charles Edward Holland, Chief Constable of the Borough of Cambridge since 1894, has placed his resignation in the hands of the Watch Committee of the Borough of Cambridge, to take effect from September 29. Mr Holland has been away for some time on account of ill-health, but was in Cambridge last week to make the necessary police arrangements for the Peace Celebrations. 19 07 23 CIPof – profile – 19 07 23k

1919 08 27
Charles Stretton, former Chief Constable – reviews development of police – obituary – 19 08 27b

1919 10 08
Presentation to C.E. Holland, Cambridge chief constable retires; the strain of war – 19 10 08f

1919 10 22
New Chief Constable. At a special meeting of the Borough Watch Committee, held on Monday the question of the appointment of a Chief Constable in succession to Mr. C. E. Holland, who retired at the end of last month, was considered. The committee further interviewed the two final candidates, Supt. A. Hargreaves, who is at present carrying out the duties of Chief-Constable at Cambridge, and Supt. John Pearson, of the Wallesey County Borough Constabulary. By a majority, the committee decided to appoint Supt. Pearson 19 10 22 CIPof – 19 10 22c

1920

1920 03 24
Detective Lazarus Marks reminiscences – 45 years a tec, major article – Ch 20 03 24a

1920 07 07
Lazarus Marsh presentation, tribute – Ch 20 07 07e

1920 07 22
Police roll of honour – 30 members joined Colours during the war – list - CDN 20 07 22

1920 09 01
First five lady JPs appointed [2.9]

1920 10 19
Cambridge fire brigade should be under control of police and worked by permanent staff consisting of one sergeant and five constables, a reduction of one on the present permanent staff. Ten other police could act as auxiliary firemen, being paid for attending fires, ambulance calls etc. - CDN 20 10 19 Fire service to be handed over to the police - CDN 20 10 22

1920 11 12
Armistice 'Rag', chariot of flame on Market Hill, siege of Newnham College, burst through gates where for half hour of bliss … few odd battalions of infuriated Dons and hysterical Newnhamites, police charge - CDN 20 11 12

1921 01 26
Volunteer Firemen's last church parade – photo – 12 01 12b; police take control – 12 01 26a [3.4]

1921 07
King Street murder: Alice Lawn murdered. King Street murder funeral – 21 08 03c; Reports & trial – 21 08 03d,e 21 08 10a, b, e 21 08 24b,c,d 21 09 07c 21 09 14a,b 21 09 21a,b ; 21 10 19a,b,c; 21 10 19j' not guilty – 21 10 26c. Photos – 21 08 03b, 21 08 17d , 21 10 19f, 21 10 26a. Suspect in court – 21 08 24a, 21 09 21d

1922 02 11
Special Constables thanked for their work during War; provide motor ambulance for use of townspeople [2.19,1.22,2.8]

1922 03 27
The Borough Chief Constable's annual report of the Cambridge police establishment for 1921 has now been issued. The strength of the force during the last year was 84. The total number of indictable offences was 151. Ten persons were committed for trial. There are 40 members of the Special Constabulary full equipped with uniform, 90 to whom caps, badges, truncheons and whistles have been issued, and 80 to whom no equipment has been issued who have expressed their willingness to serve in an emergency. 22 03 27

1922 04 29
At the Grand Council of the Red Cross Society and St John Ambulance Association Mrs Hartree raised the question of the police ambulance, and said she understood that the police ambulance was to be kept in the town, and that the Red Cross Ambulance should be used for long distances. However it was seen that the Police ambulance had gone on long distances - Ipswich and Norwich. Mrs Pryor said she knew the ambulance had been used extensively at the Evelyn Nursing Home. The Chief Constable said that the objection to the Red Cross Ambulance was that it was not heated, but they had very quietly informed him that it was heated and the ambulance had been much improved lately 22 04 29

1923
Miss Annie Carnegie-Brown has died at the age of 90. She was Cambridge's first policewoman in 1923 at a salary of £3 a week. Slightly built, she was stabbed with a carving knife while arresting a well-built Ely woman. A doctor clipped her wound and she returned to duty next day. During the war, as a fluent German speaker, she was involved in the interrogation of spies and retired as a sergeant in 1947. Until the end she was a clear-thinking determined old lady who enjoyed fishing but never talked about the past 86 09 28

1923 10 18
Chesterton Road police station bought by council for £350 at auction Ch 18 10 23 p10

1923 11 06
Cambridge would be disappointed indeed if the Fifth of November failed to produce a rag of some sort. Last night's effort was, to say the least of it, feeble and was sustained for the most part by such residents of the town as come out for excitement on such occasions, and a handful of very callow freshmen. Fireworks there were in plenty, but the old spirit was lacking. Had it not been for the mounted police and the proctors, the market square would have been its usual desolate self soon after 9.30 pm. It was noticeable that as soon as the mounted police left the crowd decreased by 50 per cent c23 11 06

1923 11 10
A merry and light-hearted party of undergraduates, despite police vigilance, succeeded in obtaining their hearts desire - they manage to light a fire on market Hill. Certain of the undergraduate community attracted the attention of some constables to a gas lamp on the one corner of the square. They demonstrated a desire to figure on the charge sheet of the police court by the charmingly simple process of putting out the light. The police "fell for it" and kept watch on that particular part of the market place. Meanwhile another body of the faithful rushed on to the Market Hill with a rowing eight filled with petrol and had it alight before people realised what was towards 23 11 10

1923 12 22
During the past 28 years a police-court missionary has been engaged in the Cambridge courts. It has for its main object the reformation of all, irrespective of creed, who pass through the police courts. No matter what the offence or how often repeated, none are too young to be helped, no criminal too hardened. Almost every case undertaken means some expenditure. It costs money to provide boots, clothing, travel expenses and entrance fees to homes and institutions. This is a period of numerous charitable appeals but we doubt if any object is more worthy of support and more productive of lasting good 23 12 22

1924 12 23
The Policeman in his time plays many parts, but it is doubtful if he ever plays such a delightful part as members of the Cambridge Force did when the distribution of gifts to the poor and needy took place. PC Hagger acted as butcher. Aproned in the approved style and armed with a steel and murderous knives, he chopped and boned joints of meat with a happy smile. Sergt Sharman wrapped up good things, struggling with newspaper and grease-proof paper and slippery meat. Policewomen Jude & Carnegie Brown dealt with the milk and looked after the children. Every recipient met with a cheery wish for a Happy Christmas and all took their gifts with a smile and profuse thanks 24 12 23

1923 12 24

To the majority of Cambridge people the policeman is a man in blue uniform who apprehends "undergraduates" who ride motor cycles with noisy "silencers". Some 300 of the town's most needy inhabitants however, saw "Robert" in the guise of a cheery soul on the occasion of the distribution of gifts from the proceeds of the Borough police poor and needy funds. Some carried sacks of potatoes on their shoulders, others struggled with sheets of paper in frenzied efforts to wrap meat into neat and really tidy looking parcels. P.C. Hagger who officiated as executioner in the meat department looked thoroughly impressive as with a sharp knife and large chopper he dealt with the meat in a way that would have done credit to the most finished meat purveyor 23 12 24

1925 03
Expenditure of £9,600 on police & fire station approved [1.26]

1925 02 14
Celebrating the Lent Races gave gownsmen the traditional excuse to break the bonds of conventional conduct and create some hectic scenes on Saturday night. From the viewpoint of roughness the 'rag' proved to be one of the worst during recent years, and the endeavours of the police to impose limitations on some of the more disorderly acts were not received with the good-natured co-operation which usually characterises such outbreaks. Besides having their helmet knocked off, several constables received nasty kicks about the legs and one was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital with injuries to the head c.25 02 14

1927 01 12
The Chief Constable, Mr R.J. Pearson said that when he came to Cambridge there used to be only one or two policemen on point duty, whereas now there were seven or eight. The force had not been increased so one had to scheme accordingly. During the past year nearly 2,000 bicycles were found in the streets; up to Thursday morning there were 300 at the Police Station but 70 had been claimed that day. One seldom saw a drunken man in the streets and returns showed they were one of the best towns from this point of view. 27 01 12

1928 03 23
Cambridge councillors debated the deplorable behaviour of certain members of the University. In the places of entertainment bad language was frequent and disorderly acts occurred in the streets. At the present time special constables were composed entirely of tradesmen and at certain times of the year the year the Chief Constable should try to enrol University fellows, tutors and dons. The proposal was rejected. c28 03 24

1928 11 20
Members of the Cambridge public who have been mystified by the appearance of wooden huts in various places will be interested to learn they are police telephone boxes. They will be small sub-police stations. Each will contain a telephone in a cupboard which the public can use to get in touch with the Central Police Station, but not for general calls. The box itself will only be accessible to the police. Thirteen are to be erected 28 11 20

1929 01 08
The Chief Constable said that one of the cars now in use was a danger to the life of the Deputy Chief Constable; it had been used every day for the past ten years, so it had done extraordinarily well, but was now positively dangerous to go about in. The cost would be about £150. The question of payment arose and Mr Taylor objected to "this wretched system which is going on all over America of paying by instalments". It was agreed a new car be purchased and paid for now and a sub-committee was appointed to make the purchase. 29 01 08

1930

1930 01 20
Demolition work has begun on the Chesterton Sub-Police station, Mitcham's Corner. At one time the office of the old Chesterton Urban District Council it became a police station on the amalgamation of Chesterton with the borough. Corner improvements have made its removal desirable. Workmen are hurrying in and out and already it is windowless and completely barren internally. It will be replaced by a police-box. The familiar fire standards are also doomed to disappear; five wall boxes have been erected which will be in operation as soon as the telephones are installed. The change has been made because the public dislikes the breaking of glass in the older standards and prefer to use a telephone case of emergency 30 01 20 [3.5, 3.10]

1930 06 03
A terrible shooting affair occurred at King's College this afternoon. An undergraduate shot a Cambridge Detective-Sergeant twice with an automatic, then shot his tutor through the heart and himself in the head. The tutor died instantly, the undergraduate is not expected to live but the policeman is likely to make a normal recovery. The cause of the trouble is at present a mystery 30 06 03a [2.4]

1930 06 04
The third of the men in the King's College shooting sensation, Det-Sergt Willis, has died from the effects of his wounds. The undergraduate assailant died yesterday from a bullet wound in the head whilst the tutor was killed instantly from a bullet through his heart. The undergraduate was heavily in debt and went away from Cambridge nine days ago on a motor-cycle obtained on credit. He was being interviewed by the policeman when the tragedy occurred 30 06 04

1930 06 04
A London lady has thrown fresh light on the movement of the undergraduates involved in the double shooting at King's College. They had knocked on her door at three in the morning; their clothes were torn and dishevelled and they said they were down and out, having been walking about on the Thames Embankment. They told her they were in trouble at Cambridge, but only through disposing of some property that did not belong to them. Both had pistols and said they would end things then rather than face fresh trouble, but she had dissuaded them. 30 06 04

1930 06 04
The Cambridge Chief Constable paid tribute to Det-Sergt Francis Willis who was shot by a Cambridge undergraduate. He was born in Haverhill and joined the Cambridge force in 1920 serving as a unformed and a cycle patrol constable until appointed a detective. He had commendations for his plucky action in stopping runaway horses and was the officer concerned in the recent 'Mr H' blackmail case. He had the making of a really great policeman and his death was a great shock. 30 06 04

1930 06 04
Memories of Detective Ives who was with Willis – 55 08 09

1930 06 06
Further revelations of the escapades of the undergraduate involved in the King's College shooting have caused University authorities to make searching inquiries into the habits of undergraduates. The lad had surrounded himself with an atmosphere of false romance; he paid frequent visits to the Bell Hotel at Mildenhall. The landlord's daughter described him as 'a very nice boy, but

terribly eccentric'. He always came in second-hand cars, but never in the same car twice, and spent time playing the gramophone. He always left in time to get back to college before the gates closed 30 06 06b

1930 07 31
'Smile Please' – police soon to become camera-men, taking snaps of errant motorists – cartoon 30 07 31

1930 12 05
Under the Road Traffic Act Cambridgeshire has been allotted one motor car and three motor cycles to deal with the enormous growth of motor traffic. Such a force should be recruited from men best suited for the job but there is a limit to the number of tasks they can perform. This is another example of the Government forcing local authorities to make the new law work somehow. 30 12 06d

1931 01 16
A memorial tablet was unveiled at Cambridge Police Station to the late Det-Serg Francis Willis, who lost his life in the King's College shooting tragedy. The tablet, carried out in oak and bearing the Borough arms has been placed on the wall by the side of the Roll of Honour, at the foot of the staircase. The public had made a generous response to an appeal for the benefit of his widow and £625 had been raised with another £208 from police federations across the country. 31 01 16e

1931 01 23
Cambridge motorists were on their best behaviour when the Borough Police mobile squad went out for their first time. P.C.s Edwards and Ward are the permanent members of the squad, which is equipped with a fast motor cycle combination. The setting up of the squad has made several changes necessary. The new warrant office is P.C. Ives of the detective department and P.C. Brooks is Coroner's Officer. 31 01 23a

1931 02 20
William Carter joined the Cambridge Borough Police Force in 1867 and retired as Inspector in 1894. He had a vivid memory of the opening of the Corn Exchange in 1870 when undergraduates caused a disturbance and six were arrested. At their trial a mob gathered and dashed to King Street, the residence of the Mayor, John Death. But, headed by Carter, the police got there first and shut the gates. Missiles of all kinds were thrown and the fighting continued for some hours. Apart from a battered and torn helmet, Mr Carter was not hurt. 31 02 20j

1932 02 02
A London sales manager was charged with demanding £500 by menaces from a Cambridge resident referred to in court as 'Mr Z'. After being told that he was going to be 'beaten up' by a gang of bookmakers Mr Z paid the man £500 in the presence of two hidden police officers. He told the court he was still going in fear of personal violence. The prosecutor remarked "It looks like an American gangster film" 32 02 20a & b

1933 03 27
Police Court Mission work – 33 03 27

1933 09 12
Cambridge gaol – stories of 'wheel', cat & black hole – 33 09 12

1934 03 05

A Cambridge police constable was injured during the 'rag' which followed the inter-college rugby cup final between Clare and St Catharine's. At Burrell's Walk undergraduates used wooden palisades to make a bonfire. The fire engine was called out but was surrounded by a crowd of students some of whom pulled the hose off the drum. Others clambered on to the engine and took the front and side lamps off. The fire was put out by college porters. In Queen's Road the police were forced to defend themselves. Truncheons were used to prevent their helmets being snatched off. There was some hard fighting. A number of street lamps were broken and a window was smashed in King's Parade. Two undergraduates were arrested, charged with assaulting the police 34 03 05

1934 04 20
Two cars supplied in place of four motorcycles which worn out [1.4]

1934 07 23
Police refused entrance to Pembroke college – 34 07 23

1935 08 09
County police oppose appointment of women police constables - would cost £150-£200 pa & represent an inadequate return for the money; they will borrow one from Borough when needed [1.14]

1936 04 04
The Policewoman's Review includes an article in praise of policewomen by Cambridge Councillor Mrs Rackham. The main obstacles to an increase in their numbers are prejudice against women police constables and ignorance of the work they perform. 36 04 04

1936 04 04
Cambridge Police Force was established about March 1836 when it comprised a superintendent, two inspectors, eight sergeants and 24 constables. Now it consists of the Chief Constable, a Chief Inspector, three Inspectors, eight sergeants, 79 constables, two policewomen and the Fire Brigade which is made up of a sergeant and six men. Crime was much the same then as now: the 1837 report shows gas lamps were extinguished unlawfully and there was even a case of furious driving, the vehicle being a gig. 36 04 04

1937 02 02
The inadequate accommodation at the Fire and Police Station has now become serious. The proposed changed involve the complete demolition of the Chief Constable's house, garages, policewomen's office and the Remand Home in Downing Lane. There will be a basement for the storage of 320 bicycles and provision for eight motor vehicles together with a workshop with pit for repairs, petrol pumps etc on the ground floor. A flat for the sergeant in charge of the fire brigade will be needed together with a mess room and larder for 12 men, photograph room and offices for the chief constable, coroner and detectives. Above would be ten bedrooms for 12 single men with two bathrooms and various stores. 37 02 02b

1937 02 04
Proposed alterations to the police and fire station were opposed by councillors as it meant compulsory purchase of property belonging to St Andrews Street Baptist Church. The fire station could be moved to Maid's Causeway allowing the police space for the next 50 years. But there did need to be accommodation for constables – recently when a large number of additional men were required for emergency service the Chief Constable had to send motor ambulances and motor patrol vans to whip them up. 37 02 04a & b

1937 04 02
A number of Cambridge police officers have received promotion. Supt. Percy Sharman is in the 23rd year of service, Inspector S.J. Double, Serg W. Ainsworth, Det-Sergt A.E. Robinson, Sergts O. Cornwell, J.Kester, W. Edwards – 37 04 20a

1937 12 16
Cambridge police station is 'more decorative than useful', Inspectors report. The very inadequate accommodation is unsuitable for present day police methods. The building is out of date. The number of records that have to be kept has changed completely and there is no means of storing them. There is no proper place for interviewing prisoners, nowhere for officers to take their food and no provision for housing firemen or single policemen. To ensure communication between police and fire headquarters, they should be on the same spot and under the same chief. Butt Green was unsuitable as it was common ground so the cheapest and best place for a new station is at Parkside. 37 12 16

1938 04 09
The Inspector of Constabulary had stressed the necessity of creating a detective department so that up-to-date methods could be used for the investigation of crime, taking of photographs and keeping of records. But there were no available constables so two more should be appointed. Sergeants should have an increased allowance for the use of their own motor vehicles and bicycles. All members of the force, except one, are qualified to render first aid and the majority can swim, Cambs Chief Constable reported. 38 04 09a & b

1938 07 28
Plans for a new police and fire station on Parkside between Warkworth Terrace and East Road came before an Inspector. It was a central site with good access for engine and ambulances and suitable for future requirements. It comprised five houses with a pork pie factory behind. But owners, Peterhouse, did not want to sell. They were concerned about noise at night and some undesirable 'guests' at the police station reducing the value of adjacent property. 38 07 28

1938 09 05
Ex-Inspector Lazarus March collapsed while on his way to morning at St Paul's church. Born in 1854 at West Wratting, he came to Cambridge on joining the Borough Police Force in 1874. In April 1892 he was appointed detective-constable and, six years later, was promoted detective-sergeant. Then in April 1920 he obtained the rank of inspector, retiring a few weeks later when he received a public presentation from many friends who appreciated his work. He had lived in Covent Garden for about 50 years. 38 09 05b

1938 09 07
New police houses, garages and recreation room at Shire Hall – 38 09 07 [3.4]

1938 10 07
H.M. Inspector of Police had urged the creation of a detective department so that up-to-date methods could be used in the investigation of crime. But this would involve an increase in the establishment and is not justified at present. The two officers who have received training in detective work will be stationed in the least-busy sub-sections and be ready to help if their skills were needed. Other officers could also be trained, the Police Committee decided. 38 10 07d

1938 12 23

Cambridge Police Poor and Needy Fund ensures many needy families can enjoy a good Christmas dinner and plenty of coal. A large queue formed in Downing Place, young and old, they call carried baskets, jugs and sacks – even pillow slips. A huge pile of potatoes was in one corner and milk was handed out from churns together with butter, tea and cartons of peas. The Police Santa Claus No.1 (the Chief Constable) chatted with people as they came in. Then came a Distribution Day lunch of roast beef and Christmas pudding in the police station. 38 12 23

1939 07 07
The office of parish constable has been abolished in Cambridgeshire. They were no longer necessary for the preservation of the peace or the discharge of public business. They cost about £250 a year and every other county had abolished them. The county had 956 special constables and an additional 168 members of the Observer Corps. 39 07 07

1939 07 20
PC Brookes joined the force in January 1913 and for the first seven years was engaged mainly in plain clothes work with special reference to the campaign against the white slave trade. He also investigated the burning down of a house in Storey's Way when Suffragette troubles were at their height. Afterwards he spent time on cycle patrol, inspector of diseased animals and hackney carriages. Then he became coroner's officer and was engaged in three major tragedies – the King's College shooting affair, the five-fold shooting tragedy in Hinton Avenue and the death of a Sidney Sussex undergraduate. 39 07 20

1940

1941 05 19
Cambridgeshire Chief Constable W. Winter resignation due health – 41 05 19

1941 06 21
W.H. Edwards appointed Chief Constable Cambridgeshire in succession W. Winter – 41 06 21a

1941 06 27
New County Chief Constable. Mr. W. H. Edwards, Supt. of the Taunton Division, was appointed Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire, in succession to Mr. W. Winter. Mr. Edwards is 40 years of age. 'The appointment was made by the committee from a short list of three candidates submitted after the joint sub-committee had interviewed eight of the 22 applicants for the post. Two of the three final nominations were of men aged 33 and 29, both graduates of the Metropolitan Police College. Among the 22 applicants were five Chief Constables from other boroughs. Mr. Edwards' record showed that he joined the Somerset Constabulary in 1920, being appointed a sergeant in 1933 and ail inspector in 1939. He has been superintendent of the Taunton Division since August last year. 41 06 27 CIPof

1941 12 19
P.c.'s Heroism. "Although warned of the danger of unexploded bombs, P.c. Haynes persisted in going to the aircraft, where he did splendid rescue work, which resulted in the saving of valuable lives." These words are contained in a commendation by the Royal Air Force of P.c. Albert Haynes, of the Cambridge Division, for gallant conduct and exemplary behaviour when a British aircraft crashed and caught fire. His heroism was reported by the County Chief Constable (Mr. W. H. Edwards) at Saturday's meeting of the Standing Joint Committee, and it was added that the commendation had been promulgated to all members of the Force and "recorded in the constable's personal record. The Chairman (Mr. W. C. Jackson) said the highest commendation

was due to P.c. Haynes for his courageous attitude in saving the lives of several airmen 41 12 19 CIPof

1943 02 02
W.E.B. Vail, special constable, 70 – 43 02 20

1943 12 17
Chief Constable says goodbye. The very great regret of Cambridge Borough Council at the retirement of the Chief Constable (Mr, R. J. Pearson) was expressed at yesterday's meeting by the Mayor (Ald W. L. Briggs). "We all regret," he said "that the time has come when we must part with Mr. Pearson. I think the resolution of the Watch Committee will be accepted by the whole of the council. I was a magistrate a year before Mr. Pearson was appointed, and I should like to bear testimony to his services." Twenty-five years ago, said the Mayor, the police force was in a very different position. It had now been humanised - Mr. Pearson in reply, said he had served under 26 mayors, "My retirement will be a very great wrench. All my life I had been a policeman, I was born in a police building, and I had gone all through the ranks. After service of 41½ years, I feel I ought to give way to a younger man 43 12 17 CIPof 43 12 03, 43 12 16

1944 01 28
New Chief Constable. Mr. B. N. Bebbington, 33-year-old sub-divisional inspector of the Metropolitan Police, is to be the new Chief Constable of Cambridge in succession to Mr. R. J. Pearson Mr. Bebbington joined the Metropolitan Police in 1932, and after serving three years as a constable, was sent to the Metropolitan Police College at Hendon. He had served in different divisions, and had been appointed a sub-divisional Inspector at Tower Bridge 44 01 28 CIPof – photo – 44 02 02

1945 02 11
Police cars now have short wave radios [1.2]

1945 07 16
Special constables stand down – photo – CDN 1945 07 16

1945 11 16
Chief Constable injured and Commandant of 'Specials' killed in collision with armoured car at Melbourn – CDN 1945 11 16; W.H. Edwards dies – CDN 1945 11 26; funeral – CDN 1945 11 30a, inquest – CDN 1945 12 17, CDN 1945 12 18

1945 12 11
Senior police officers A.E. Lilley and Inspector Jacob retire, memories of CID work. King St murder and Sinn Fein arrest – CDN 1945 12 11

1946
Retain police powers under Police Act [2.14]

1947 06 18
On Saturday, after a quarter of a century of service to the public Sergt Policewoman Carnegie Brown, one of the pioneers of women police, goes into retirement and the Cambridge Force loses its senior woman member and the Cambridge public a well-known figure. The history of women police has evolved during her lifetime. One of the earliest policewomen in the country, starting at a time when women police were not generally recognised by local authorities, Miss Brown has done much to over-ride any prejudice that might have been held at the time and now has the

satisfaction of knowing that women police are considered an essential part of the police service. In the early days women police did only welfare work, such as helping patch up matrimonial difficulties. Today they handle all matters connected with women and children who are involved in any way with the police 47 06 18

1948
Fire & ambulance services previously undertaken by Borough police taken over by County Council [3.6]

1948 05 01
The Chief Constable's report for 1947 discusses the difficulty of getting recruits. He says: "A female civilian engaged in a clerical capacity in Local Government is paid 3s 1½ per hour at the age of 32 whereas a married man joining the police will at 32 be receiving 2s 9½d per hour, and this figure includes his rent and boot allowance. In effect a married police constable may be working alongside an unmarried female typist in the Headquarters, doing a more responsible job for 4d an hour less. If the civilian clerk was a man he would receive 1s 1½ d an hour more than the police constable 48 05 01

1948 11 06
Cambridge's annual Guy Fawke's battle was waged in the market square and surrounding streets. Five undergraduates were amongst those who were arrested and placed in the Guildhall cells until being bailed. There were three charges of assaulting the police. Though a strong warning had been given by the university authorities there was considerable rowdyism. RAF men from nearby airfields and US service personnel were banned from Cambridge for the night. Ten people were taken to Addenbrooke's hospital having received slight injuries or fainted in the large crowds c48 11 06

1948 11 24
An interesting feature of the Cambridge Accident Prevention Council exhibition is the relaying to the Guildhall of a commentary of the conduct of road users given from a police patrol car touring the town. Members of the public are invited to accompany the commentator in the patrol car. Though police radio is not yet in use in Cambridge special arrangements have been made to fit apparatus which will also be used when the general system comes into operation 48 11 24

1949 03 14
Police & low pay - less than £5 a week [1.20]

1949 04 18
A police radio network covering Cambridgeshire, the Isle of Ely, Huntingdonshire and Peterborough has come into operation. Now within a few minutes of any incident being reported the nearest cruising police cars can be speeding to the spot. Radio will help greatly in car theft cases, enabling descriptions of missing vehicles to be circulated in a few seconds over a wide area. The Fire Brigade is also in the scheme. The master station through which the whole scheme is controlled is situated at County Police Headquarters, Castle Hill, Cambridge. 49 04 18

1949 11 07
The quietest Guy Fawkes night "rag" long-service Cambridge police officers can remember passed off without even a street lamp being extinguished – another "within living memory" record. A crowd gathered on the Market Square by 7pm and fireworks were thrown. A police car which arrived on the scene radioed for reinforcements. These shepherded the crowd off the square. After that police posted at the entrances to the square prevented people entering the area.

Early in the evening a few rotten eggs were thrown, and a smoke bomb exploded in the Sidney Street area. These incidents, and the intermittent throwing of fireworks, constituted about the only "excitement" of the evening, though there was an occasion when a "bulldog" pursued a man at full speed in front of the Guildhall 49 11 07

1950

1951 01 09
When the children of the Morley Memorial School returned after the Christmas holidays, they found a white-coated civilian on duty to see them safely across the road. He is Cambridge's first traffic warden appointed in the interests of child safety and to help relieve the police. The idea of civilian traffic wardens has been tried successfully in other towns. The scheme has the approval of the police who give the wardens a course of instruction in their duties.

1951 02 21
Mrs Jean P. Silver has the distinction of being the first woman to be accepted as a special constable for Cambridge. She will be issued with a uniform and receive a course of instruction in police work generally. Her work will consist of help to regular policewomen, at office work, enquiries, matters affecting women and girls, and patrol duties. The Cambridge police force requires a limited number of women special constables. They must be over the age of 30, and physically fit 51 02 21

1952 12 04
Police pillar box opens - messages passed to cars by radio [2.7]

1953 03 16
The Mayor (Ald S.T. Bull) formally opened the first two police houses to be erected in Cambridge. He said that some new recruits come from other parts of the county and they, like most human beings, marry and have families. There are three police houses in the area but they have no indoor sanitation. The new houses are easy to run, with light and pleasant room. There are 16 police houses being built and they will be sited at Walpole Road, Queen Edith's Way, Fulbourn Road and Coleridge Road. 53 03 16

1954 05 04
Cambridgeshire Police have been experimenting with a radio equipped motor cycle. The wireless equipment supplied by Pye Telecom gives the same facilities as that fitted to police cars. A patrolling motor cycle officer hears his call on the set; pulls up and then can receive his message through a loudspeaker, or alternatively through the hand microphone he uses for his own transmission. The range of the radio is sufficient to cover any part of the county. If adopted it would enable motor cycles to be used for many duties which at present require radio cars 54 05 04

1954 11 06
Police helmets will be treasured possession in the homes of undergraduates and Cambridge 'Teddy-Boys' who contributed to the Guy Fawkes Night high jinks. One police constable, helmet-less, went back to base for another. But in double-quick time this went too! Frequent clashes broke out between police and revellers. In Market Square a crowd of more than 5,000 screamed, shouted, pushed and laughed but it was 'good natured fooling'. "Teddy" girls screamed at each bang, unsuspecting undergraduates were pounced on by Proctors and 'Bulldogs' and there were boos and hisses each time an untidy-looking urchin was led away, and each time the urchin would protest his innocence of throwing any fireworks.

1955 07 26
Cambridge police may use 'Vespa' motorcycles to combat the shortage of officers and reduce overtime. They are currently under-strength but by using police on Vespas on the outskirts of the city could increase mobility at a reduced cost. It would cost £1,440 to purchase eleven machines together with £300 for clothing and equipment and £600 for petrol but would enable a saving of £4,000 a year. 55 07 26

1955 09 15
Police Vespa picture – 55 09 15bb

1955 09 24
Police issued with motor scooters – cartoon – 55 09 24a

1956 10 12
To some he is an enemy, to others a music-hall joke but to the vast majority of the public the village constable is a familiar and reassuring figure – the man who knows what to do when things go wrong. He attracts little of the glamour usually given to the C.I.D. or the high-speed radio-controlled precision machinery of his fellow-officers, yet he remains the most important man in the police service. But although he is so often seen pedalling along a country lane, the public idea of his full duties is very scanty. 56 10 12a b c

1956 12 04
If you have seen a street fight and want to report it or are a motorist lost in Cambridge and want to know your way, it is simple. You go to the nearest Police Pillar, open the door and pick up the telephone inside. At once you are in touch with the information room at police headquarters. The Mayor made the first 'emergency' call from the Police Pillar in Drummer Street and within minutes a sleek black saloon containing two stalwart policemen drew up. 56 12 04

1958 03 01
Harry Newell has served as a special policeman since the time of the General Strike in 1926. He has been on call at any time of day or night, has attended parades and been liable to mobilisation in time of national emergency. Now, at 68 years of age, he thinks it time to hand in his uniform. He still works regularly in his cycle and car hire business 58 03 01

1959 04 18
120 children appeared city courts in 1958 - less than 5 in 1,000 guilty of serious crime; 1949 probation service made 87 enquiries for court, 1958 273 [6.4]

1959 09 17
Cambridge Police hold an identification parade about four times a year. They invite members of the public who happen to be passing the station to take part or draw people from nearby places of employment where the management have agreed to co-operate. They need people as similar as possible to the suspect. If he has a wooden leg then the parade is lined up with their legs covered by a blanket and all wear eye patches if the suspect has only one eye. 59 09 17

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 07 01
For more than a year now, Cambridgeshire police patrol cars have been fitted with 35mm cameras mounted behind the windscreen. The photographs of road offenders in action have been used to obtain several convictions of careless drivers. Far more pictures are taken than actually used in prosecutions and constables are encouraged to use the cameras on every possible occasion. It also saves time waiting for a photographer to be sent out from Cambridge to record details of a road accident 60 07 01d

1961 01 20
When at full strength Cambridge City Police Force numbers 161, including six women officers. New constables spend their first three weeks on night duty as this is the best time to get to know the district without the confusion of traffic or pedestrians. They patrol on foot in the busier areas and on bicycles further from the centre. An observant policeman on his beat notices small details such as the man with the bulky overcoat, the ladder that has been moved or the obvious unfamiliarity of a driver or motor cyclist with his vehicle. The main task during the day is maintaining an even flow of traffic, sorting out jams and directing motorists into parking spaces. 61 01 20a & b & c

1961 06 30
Cambridge Special Constabulary augments the understaffed police force in basic duties such as traffic control, first aid or patrolling a beat and are often on duty at May Races, Poppy Day, Guy Fawkes Night and elections. They are not forced to give their services but do what they can when they can. Their average age is 43 years and they come from all walks of life. One spent time in the navy, another joined because a child was murdered near his home. All enjoy the companionship, meeting the public and feeling they are doing something useful 61 06 30e

1961 10 31
Undergraduates banned from centre Guy Fawkes Day, follows last year's example to enable police to control danger of home-made fireworks [369.21.10]

1962 01 20
A former Grenadier guardsman and policeman has set up a personal bodyguard service in Cambridge. He and his staff will be available for bodyguarding 24 hours a day, providing a personal service as well as working for firms. The job does not necessarily mean guarding large sums of money: they also make the service available to people who live on their own and who need protection. For security reasons he can't say how many men he has on the staff or who they are. He himself is a former Isle of Ely policeman who won the military medal for bravery in the Italian campaign. 62 01 20

1962 11 06
Bonfire Night was very quiet this year. Police appeals for people to stay away from the city centre met with a good response and the streets were almost empty. Extensive use was made of radios and police with walkie-talkie sets moved on any groups from street corners. A University ban on students entering the city centre during the five hours before midnight was equally effective. Major incidents were few and far between and the elaborate measures taken proved more than adequate on one of the quietest Guy Fawkes nights for many years 62 11 06

1963
F .Drayton Porter appointed Chief Constable of both City & County forces [3.8]

1963 02 11

Police install tv eye Drummer St [4.5]

1963 03 13
Police motor scooter fleet – photo – 63 03 13

1963 12 13
Police Bill envisages new force for city & county [4.1]

1964 02 10
With the words "V.Q.4 mobile", a large car swings from the yard of Cambridge police station. But unlike television's "Z-Cars" this V.Q. is inconspicuous. There are no flashing signs, bells or gongs and the two men inside are in civilian clothes. If you are walking the Cambridge streets in the early hors of the morning, the chances are they will pull up and ask what you are doing. Sometimes they spend so much time interviewing people they don't have time to travel very much. The job may not be glamorous but it helps prevent crime 64 02 10a

1964 02 14
Identi-kit comes to Cambridge [4.2]

1964 11 27
Special constables celebrate 50th anniversary – history – 64 11 27a

1964 12 04
Frederick Drayton Porter, Cambridgeshire's Chief Constable has 30 years' experience and vivid memories of the 18 murder cases he has investigated in Nottinghamshire where there were 14,000 indictable offences last year. By contract in Cambridge there were 2,300 crimes, of which a large proportion concerned cycles. Traffic and parking is the major problem. Since the introduction of parking meters the movement of traffic is much better, but a policeman should be able to tell a motorist where to park, he says. 64 12 04

1965
City & County forces amalgamated with others to form Mid Anglia Constabulary [3.9]

1965 07 12
Traffic wardens on point duty for first time, relieve policemen – 65 07 12a, b

1966 02 22
Risk of drug-taking by students in college hostels and lodgings – teacher fined for house used for smoking Indian hemp; "beatnik parasites', Clarendon St– 66 02 22a, b, 66 02 23b

1966 04 22
500 Cambridge youths, including undergraduates, smoke Indian hemp; police raid lodgings – 66 04 22; police doing all they can to cut out drugs – 66 04 23

1966 04 24
Police may set up Drugs squad as drugs menace first began to emerge on streets. "500 youths smoke hashish" says solicitor, police set up drugs squad, marijuana sold in city centre pub for 2/6; police raid Alley Club & seize 200 pills, proprietor prosecuted [4.8,4.9,6.8] [4.12]

1966 11 07
Police new HQ at Parkside, plans unveiled – 66 11 07

1967 01 24
Soon personal radios for all patrolling pcs making orange lights flashing on police beacons out of date [4.6]

1968 03 09
Defence Secretary, Denis Healey, hissed by undergraduates after meeting at University Labour Club. Wild scenes as Healey leaves, "runs gauntlet of mob", four arrested; police federation call for curb on student political demos; 68 03 09 [369.1.24]

1968 04 01
Panda cars introduced on set beats which also have two resident pcs working on them & collator [4.7]

1968 10 28
Enoch Powell speaks secretly at Union as police thwart city demonstrations – 68 10 28a

1969 11 21
Four-man drug squad has been established two years [4.8]

1970

1970 02 14
"Garden House riot": police make truncheon charge against mob of undergraduates who surged forward pinning score constables against shattered plate-glass windows causing £2,276 damage Garden House Hote1. City demand punishment for rioters 1000 march to Greek rally, 300 admit to being at anti-Junta demonstration four guilty of riot, seven acquitted; six sent prison periods 5-18 months, two sent to borstal "GHR changed course of events; afterwards student violence died off, 11,280 at dinner, climax of Greek Week promoting holidays under Right-Wing military dictatorship; Police invoked Riot Act, not used for years. Judge Melford Stevenson said it most complete example of intelligent young people getting involved in complete bloody nonsense - 70 02 14, 14a, 14b, 70 02 18 & a. 70 06 24

1970 06 01
New police HQ opens, closing St Andrews Street & Castle Hill stations [4.9]

1970 10 09
Parkside police station official opening – 70 10 09a

1970 10 13
Proctors not to attend student political demonstrations which take place off university premises; they will subject only to police and civil law – 70 10 13; students vote to end proctors – 70 10 13b

1971 02 08
Home Secretary Reginald Maudling visit to speak to University Conservatives; it took the biggest security operation ever in Cambridge to protect the meeting at The Leys School, ends without trouble – 71 02 08a, b

1971 02 08
Jewel raid at Saqui & Lawrence, raiders break through wall to steal £5,000 rings – 71 02 08

1971 07 10
Police ‘deliberate campaign against homosexuals’ [6.1]

1971 10 07
Last Quarter sessions, Guildhall - transferred to Wisbech [3.5]

1971 11 17
Last Assizes. Guildhall - now major cases heard at Norwich or London, last Judge’s procession from Trinity College [3.6]

1972 01 11
First sitting of Cambridge Crown Court [3.7]

1973 11 19
United soccer fans go wild, for second week, 13 arrested [14.11]

1974 04
Police change name to Cambridgeshire Constabulary [4.10]

1974 12 09
The rapist terrorising girls in Cambridge’s bed-sit land claimed his fourth victim in two months when he struck in the Newnham area of the city yesterday. It was the fifth attack on single girls living alone. Four have been raped and one fought her attacker off on the doorstep. The man leading the 20-strong special police squad, Detective Superintendent Bernard Hotson said today: “We are looking for an extremely sick and dangerous man”

1975 11 20
The first cannabis resin distillery to be found in Cambridge was discovered when drugs squad detectives raided a house on the north side of the city. After a tip-off police surrounded a private house in a residential area. Inside they found various pieces of equipment along with drugs substances. They took away tubing and bottles which forensic scientists are examining. They believe distilled resin has been used to impregnate non-drug vegetable matter and foodstuffs for consumption by drug users. Police regard their find as important in a city where soft drug abuse is fairly widespread 75 11 20

1976 03 12
Police promise better liaison with gay community [6.2]

1976 03 31
First community service order [3.12]

1979 10 17
Chief Supt Jock Proctor who did the most to contain the drugs problem in Cambridge retires from the police in December. In 1966 he formed a Drugs Squad to combat what was then a new and growing problem. Other agencies joined to set up a proper containment procedure which has been copied elsewhere. It was unheard of in those days for police, social workers and psychiatrists to meet together with addicts, parents and the clergy but soon a basis of trust was established and worried parents would take their youngsters to a police station for advice, rather than prosecution CEN 17.10.1979

1980

1980 01 23
The Cambridge police Patrol Group was set up in 1977. It is allocated specific targets and is free to concentrate on them until the problems are solved. Following outbreaks of crime such as handbag snatching or stolen bicycles they will 'flood' an area in an intensive detection campaign. The results are impressive with 97 arrests in recent months and a drop of 400 in the number of crimes recorded last year coupled with an increase of 500 in the number of prisoners arrested. 80 01 23

1980 12 09
Cambridgeshire police will lose its cadet force and 35 extra officers it planned to cope with the increased population after £250,000 was cut from its budget. But this is half what had first been proposed. A 'frightening' number of police officers are leaving within two years of joining up; although it is a well-paid job young people today find the night duties and late turns upsetting 80 12 09

1983 09 12
Assistant Chief Constable Bernard Hotson is leaving the force after 37 years. He became internationally known as the man who led the hunt for the Cambridge rapist and also played an important part in the conviction of the Buckden murderer in 1968. He joined the Metropolitan Police in 1946, transferring to Ely three years later. He became head of the southern section of the CID based in Cambridge. He has had a very distinguished career and his knowledge of the county is second to none 83 09 12 p13

1984 01 04
Behind barred windows in Cambridge city police station there is an office that contains files on people of interest to the police and other branches of the security service. They are profiles of people who may have not committed a criminal act in their lives and are listed without their knowledge or consent. They include peace campaigners, trades union activists, journalists and civil rights organisers. Every foreigner coming to Cambridge must register at what is officially called 'The Aliens Office'. Its other name is the Special Branch Office, because that's what it is: all the information is made available to MI5 84 01 04 p13

1984 03 22
Twenty per cent of the Cambridgeshire police force is now away from the county helping control pickets at the Midlands coalfields. Five extra units, 110 men, leave today for Nottinghamshire, bringing to 200 the total number of county men involved in the operation. Four more are in Derbyshire helping to deal with the hundreds of miners protesting at pit closures. But Chief Supt Hardingham has no worries about local policing in their absence and can deal with all the situations which may arise 84 03 22 p1 [4.14]

1984 06 05
Parkside extension needed [4.11]

1984 10 02
Cambridge is a city of fear because many police officers are being sent to the Midlands on miners' picket duties. At times there has been only one constable on patrol duty over the whole southern half of the city. Petty crime and vandalism is rising, councillors claim. Meanwhile Mrs

Thatcher's arch critic Francis Pym made a bitter attack on the Government's handling of the strike at a News Literary Lunch 84 10 02 p1

1984 11 29
PC Bob Reynolds dies – 84 11 29 & a

1985 11 15
Cambridge's experimental Neighbourhood Watch scheme involves some 500 houses in Chesterton and is aimed at giving the police back-up in their fight against crime. If residents spot something suspicious they get in touch with the street co-ordinator who notifies the Home Beat Officer. The area is going up market and the major problems are the annual influx of fair people and visitors to the 'Bumps' whose inconsiderate parking causes anger. 85 11 15b

1986
New prosecution system with creation of Crown Prosecution Service replacing Police [3.20]

1986 07 18
Second neighbourhood watch scheme, first was at Chesterton a year ago [4.14]

1988 01 15
Cambridge police have moved into the high-tech age; now suspects at Parkside will have their interviews recorded on tape instead of laboriously taken down in writing. Five new interview rooms have been fitted with a special recording machine and a sensitive microphone fitted to the wall. Tapes will be kept for six years and a new civilian post of a tape librarian has been created. A suspect in a simple shoplifting case can now be in and out of the interview rooms within a quarter of an hour instead of the hour it used to take. 88 01 15a

1988 02 18
Cambridge Detective Agency operates from a home in Madras Road. In high-tech Cambridge industrial espionage is a danger every research company faces and domestic violence cases can turn very nasty. The most frightening job was to serve an eviction order on a group of campers in Thetford Forest. They were Hell's Angels with a habit of firing crossbow bolts through pub windows. But much of the work is tracing people, insurance investigations and divorce enquiries. The detective's wardrobe contains not only a pin-stripe suit but a host of disguises essential for surveillance such as false beards, moustaches and sideburns. When the agency started four years ago there were four private 'tecs in the city, now it is the only one. 88 02 18 & a

1988 09 29
Major police force shake-up ¢CEN 29.9.88

1988 11 03
Ambulance chief claims increased violence in streets ¢CEN 3.11.88

1989 08 16
Cambridge lost coroner after 1972 Local Government Act, then appointed by County Council though Durrell styled 'Honorary City Coroner', on his retirement R.Sterndale Burrows continued but with his death title now lapses ¢CEN 16.8.89

1990 06 06
Cambridgeshire Constabulary silver jubilee – feature – 90 06 06a, b

Motor fire engine leaves station in St Andrew's Street, 1920 *156.08*

c.34.75 : Fires, fire-fighting

headlines
Volunteer Fire Brigade formed 1875, another at Chesterton amalgamated 1911; 1921 replaced by Police fire brigade till Fire Brigades Act 1938 when every county borough or county district to organise; 1939-45 became NFS & to local control - Cambs 1948 [446.16.1]

1890 10 30
Biggest fire in 30 years at Clare College [1.3]

1895 03 15
Two die in fire at tobacconists, Trinity Street, - Ch 15 Mar 1895, [1.4]

1896 11 20
Fire at candle factory [1.21]

1897 07 07
Station Road fire, 1897 07 07 p2 & 8th, p3 CDN

1897 10 08
There was a large attendance of the public when the annual inspection of the Cambridge Fire Brigade took place. The proceedings commenced with an inspection of the fire appliances, after which a drill for the raising of insensible men and carrying them to a supposed place of safety was gone through. The escape drill, carrying men down the escapes, bringing men off with ropes, hand-pump and bucket drill and jumping sheet drill was also gone through. The Mayor said that they would shortly be having the benefits of some more jumping sheets, which would be distributed over various parts of the town. No doubt those sheets would be a great protection to outlying districts for low houses 1897 10 08

1898 02 14
After a considerable period of immunity from serious fire outbreak, Cambridge was visited with a fire which, but for the prompt measures taken for its suppression, must have caused widespread destruction of property in the vicinity. The conflagration occurred at Mr Varty's cycle stores in Bridge Street. The cause is supposed to have been a large lamp which was hanging up in the shop falling to the floor and igniting. The building is a very old one and contains an enormous amount of timber and this, upon being seized by the flames, burnt rapidly and fiercely. A large number of bottles of lubricating and lamp oils in stock added to the conflagration. Some 60 bicycles which were stored at the back of the house, belonging chiefly to University men, were rescued, together with some horses stabled in a shed at the side of the house 1898 02 14

1898 03 14
Jesus college fire in rooms of undergraduate in third court. Room was filled with valuable furniture and large amount of unique china and pictures. The whole staircase will have to be practically rebuilt and what not damaged by fire was ruined by water CDN 1898 03 14

1898 06 11
A small fire occurred at the premises of Messrs Thomas Stearn and Son, photographers, at Bridge Street, Cambridge. The conflagration broke out in the darkroom and was probably caused by woodwork becoming overheated by gas. A considerable amount of photographic apparatus was destroyed by the flames, and some of the chemicals exploded with some violence in the heat. About 16 firemen turned out with a hose cart and three reels, causing no little excitement in the neighbourhood, but by the time they arrived on the scene the outbreak had already been extinguished by the inmates, by means of buckets CDN 1898 06 11

1898 09 05
Awful was the fate of an aged women residing in East Road Cambridge, on Saturday night. Her body was found scorched, blackened and blistered in her burning house. Every article of clothing was burned, and not a hair remained on her head. Those who saw it were sickened at the uncanny sight. As quickly as possible she was carried to a costermonger's barrow and covered up with the first things that came to hand, after which she was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital. The fire brigade was hampered as the telegraph wires are set so low in that part of the town that it is impossible to run the fire escape along without catching the wires and causing not only damage but delay. In this instance the escape was delayed by catching the wires in Burleigh Street 1898 09 05

1898 10 05
A fire in the daytime is infinitely easier to cope with than one of equal dimensions at night, when the circumstances are all in favour of the destroying element and against those who grapple with it. Messrs A.W. Redding and son, builders, Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, have been unfortunate victims of circumstance by which their workshops are practically gutted. Mr Redding

was sitting quietly at dinner when a man rushed in with the news that the workshops had taken fire. He had once hastened to the building and seeing that there was some cause for alarm, communicated with the Volunteer Fire Brigade. Within a very few minutes the hose cart was on the scene. Under the command of Captain Greef no less than 20 fireman assembled. In the meantime two police constables had taken the police station reel to the premises and afforded material assistance in getting the fire under CDN 1898 10 05

1898 10 24
The normal quiet of Cambridge was interrupted by serious conflagration in Fitzroy Street which proved the most destructive to property that has occurred for many years. Cambridge is happily furnished with ample means of notifying outbreaks of fire, and it was through one of the electric alarms erected in various parts of the borough for immediate communication with the central fire station that the resident night watchman received an intimidation that a fire was in progress. Telegraphic communications were without delay dispatched to the competent director of the Volunteer Fire Brigade and the majority of the corps. The wires running to those residing in and about Mill Road were unfortunately out of order, and seven of the willing firemen were therefore debarred from taking an early part in the work CDN 1898 10 24

1899 01 18
A fire which might have resulted in a very large amount of destruction broke out in Petty Cury, Cambridge. Mr Baynes, manager to Messrs Pollard and company, confectioners informed police constable Leonard Savidge at 1.15am that his wife could smell something burning. It was discovered there was a fire at the back of the adjoining shop occupied by Mr George Jackson, butter merchant. The constable ascended to the roof but was unable to get into the yard. Mr Baynes obtained some buckets of water from a tap on the premises and handed them up to him to pour on the flames. Acting sergeant Wright on going into Caxton Court from Sydney Street, found a ladder by which means he got over the wall and there found that a butter barrel, containing a quantity of paper was on fire. There was a considerable quantity of empty boxes and other inflammable goods about the yard and if they had become ignited there would have been disastrous results 1899 01 18

1899 09 25
Another of England's picturesque country residences has been destroyed. A prettier spot than the residence of Mr W. Hall at Six-Mile-Bottom, it would have been difficult to find. In every way typical of an English gentleman's home it was regarded by pride. The house was on Saturday the scene of one of those fires which turn a quiet rural retreat into a scene of utter desolation. The maid noticed smoke coming out of the thatch close to the kitchen chimney. From all directions came help but it was too late to be of any avail - 1899 09 25

1899 09 25
Fire Hawkins bakery, Gold Street, - 1899 09 25 p2

1899 10 09
On Saturday night the cooks left the kitchens at King's college, as they thought, safe, but P.C. Witham saw smoke coming through the roof. For fully two hours the fire brigade had their hands full. The staircase is quite burned down and access to the cook's room above is by means of ladders. On Sunday morning the cooks went to prepare the usual meals and members of the college were served as if nothing out of the ordinary had occurred 1899 10 09

1900

1900 11 23
Fire broke out at the rear of the premises of Messrs Laurie & McConnal, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge. An employee noticed smoke coming from stacks of brooms, a bag of feathers, a stock of confetti and other material in the cellar. The staff of the firm set to work to extinguish the blaze and by dint of the application of water from a line of buckets and from a hose attached to the water tap, the fire was practically extinguished before the arrival of the fire brigade. It is surmised that a match was dropped down the lift hole by a passer-by, and so caused the outbreak 00 11 23

1900 12 22
A serious fire occurred on the premises of Messrs Coulson & Co., drapers at Peas Hill, Cambridge, and the flames were not extinguished until the entire stock of goods in the shop were completely destroyed. Captain Greef of the Fire Brigade arrived as did 14 firemen and nearly a dozen constables. The fronts of the shop were much damaged. The cause of the fire is attributed to the overturning of one of the incandescent burners in the shop window. CDN 1900 12 22

1901 02 01
Great excitement was occasioned in the neighbourhood of Burleigh Street, Cambridge, by an outbreak of fire on the premises of Messrs Prime & Sons, the well-known firm of builders. The alarm quickly spread and only a few minutes elapsed before a tremendous crow of people had assembled to watch the progress of events. It was obvious that the efforts of the firemen and police were somewhat hampered by the increasing density of the large throng of onlookers. The conflagration soon illuminated the whole of the district, the flames hovering above the housetops in alarming brilliance 01 02 01 [2.11]

1901 02 18
An outbreak of fire occurred at the works of the Cambridge Brick Company, situated between Coldham's Lane and Newmarket Road on the outskirts of the densely populated district of Barnwell. The fire attracted large crowds and the flames, aided by a gentle breeze, spread rapidly, soon mounting in the air a distance of about a hundred feet. In just over two hours everything had yielded to the flames and all that remained was the damaged and broken parts of the valuable machinery. Fortunately the conflagration was confined to the corrugated iron roofed wooden building covering the machinery or the entire works could easily scarcely have escaped destruction CDN 1901 02 18

1901 02 21
The report of the Cambridge Volunteer Fire Brigade shows the number of calls received during the year was 20. Nine were received at the central station through the street fire alarms, two through the National Telephone Exchange system, eight by ordinary messengers and one by police constables. Senior fireman Fuller, having served upwards of 17 years has been made an honorary member, with permission to retrain his uniform 01 02 21

1901 05 16
Cambridge Fire Brigade Committee received a letter from the clerk to Trumpington Parish Council asking whether and on what terms the services of the brigade could be engaged in case of fire. Grantchester Parish Council accepted terms for the attendance of the brigade in that parish on condition that the charge for the number of men sent should be limited to the number required. CDN
1901 05 16

1901 07 22

A fire occurred at St John's College, Cambridge and considerable damage was done before the outbreak was extinguished. The scene was the third court, where a bedroom and a sitting room on the top floor of the wing overlooking the river were completely burnt out. St John's college fire brigade were soon combating the flames which had secured a considerable hold upon the dry and inflammable material of the building and it is undoubtedly due to their efforts that the fire was not much more disastrous. It originated in the bedroom where a lighted candle was left on the chest of drawers CDN 01 07 22

1901 09 16
Fitzroy Street fire, CDN 1901 09 16 p3 *

1901 10 07
Fire and police stations open, St Andrews Street [1.5]

1902 01 17
Cambridge Volunteer Fire Brigade's new fire station in St Andrew's Street is in telephonic communication with different parts of the town through the National telephone Co and by means of ten fire alarm posts. There are three permanent salaried firemen on duty, one during the day, and two during the night. They have a double call bell to the stables of the Lion Hotel where there were two horses in readiness to be called out for the fire tender. It was contemplated to have a steam fire engine but how soon it would come it was not possible to say. 02 01 17

1902 10 01
A fire broke out in the women's ward at the top of the left wing of Addenbrooke's Hospital. In a very short time the flames secured a firm hold and the unfortunate patients had to be removed. Flames burst through the roof and worked towards the centre of the building. Nurses and probationers heroically entered the wards and brought their patients to a place of safety. Many scenes, tragically distressing, were witnessed. To such proportions did the fire assume that it was deemed advisable to remove other patients and several afflicted old men were brought to the lawn. The news of the outbreak spread quickly throughout Cambridge and some thousands of people gathered in front of the Hospital. The scene on the open plot of greensward in front of Addenbrooke's Hospital presented a curiously medley of hastily-improvised arrangements for caring for patients evacuated from the blazing building. Bed after bed, each with its living freight, was carefully lifted with stalwart arms and borne steadily to the quarters assigned to it in neighbouring houses. In the meantime the dull clouds of smoke rolling skywards from the Hospital gradually grew less in volume. The ceaseless exertions of the firemen were telling their tale and soon water pouring in a cascade down the staircase adjoining the blazing wing made it clear that the building was flooded to the extent that rendered the further spread of the fire improbable. The police report on the Addenbrooke's Hospital fire says they found a man at the top of a ladder with his head through the trap door leading to the roof of Victoria Ward, using a small hosepipe. Shortly afterwards the firemen arrived and after much trouble, mainly through the low pressure of water, got to work, but could not extinguish the flames before the roof and contents of Victoria Ward were destroyed. Police assisted to maintain order, regulate the traffic in Trumpington Street where there was a large crowd, and remove and restore patients, many of whom were in a fainting condition. 02 10 01 04

1903 01 23
An exhaustive test of the capabilities of a steam fire engine took place on the lawn before Addenbrooke's Hospital. At first sight the 'steamer' produced an impression of admirable workmanship and construction. For an hour and a half the mayor, councillors and a large gathering of the general public were absorbed witnessing how quickly steam could be obtained of

sufficiently high pressure to start the engine. Blank cards were distributed for the insertion of the time at which smoke issued from the chimney and with these in one hand and watches in the other they stood watching. When up to pressure a great volume of water was thrown above the roof of the Hospital 03 01 23

1903 02 14
Messrs Laurie and McConnal are almost universal providers, for their extensive premises, nos.121-124 Fitzroy Street, contained many departments. Today they are no more. In their place is a great gap, a space which instead of containing the thousand and one articles wherewith to furnish the homes of Cambridge has nothing to show but heaps of charred timber, twisted iron girders and dismembered masses of masonry. The whole premises have been destroyed as completely as fire can destroy. In less than three hours they licked up goods and buildings valued at up to £100,000 03 02 14

1903 02 17
Many thousands of Cambridge people witnessed the spectacle of the fire at Laurie and McConnal's in Fitzroy Street. The crowd increased to gigantic proportions and to keep them in check it was necessary to stretch ropes across on either side. The Mayor, Aldermen and members of the Fire Brigade Committee watched the progress of the fire and the unremitting efforts of the firemen. The interested crowd did not let the firemen work without encouragement and the fireman with the nozzle working in clouds of smoke was cheered heartily when he commenced his task. As soon as the hopelessness of saving Lauries was recognised special attention was turned to defending the adjoining premises of Messrs Sturton and Mumford. 03 02 17

1903 02 20
After the great fire in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, public opinion was strongly expressed in favour of the Volunteer Fire Brigade being in possession of a steam fire engine. It would require, with driver and stoker, eight men to work the engine and, with reliefs of the same number, would necessitate 16 men being engaged. But with only one engine they would have been able to play four jets on either the front or back of the fire, and one side would be entirely unprovided for. The engines and paid brigade would be so expensive that the town authorities would not be justified in incurring the outlay for protecting the few buildings at which they might be necessary. 03 02 20

1903 11 27
A fire broke out in a storehouse at Messrs Lincoln's premises in Sidney Street, Cambridge; a quantity of petroleum became ignited and the fire assumed dangerous proportions. Three hydrants were quickly at work with hoses were taken through Trinity College and directed from college windows. But as the water streamed along the floor oil settled on the surface and becoming ignited created an effect of running streams of flame. At the time of going to press the fire was still burning but has been sufficiently subdued to enable some of the goods in the store-room to be removed. There were over 100 gallons of petroleum in store. 03 11 27

1904 01 21
Cambridge councillors considered the purchase of a steam fire engine. The two fires at Addenbrooke's Hospital and Fitzroy Street were bad, but took place under favourable conditions – in the first the wind took the flames away from the Hospital and in the other there was a brick wall, instead of lathe and plaster. Since then there had been two other fires, in Sidney Street and Rose Crescent which might have resulted disastrously. In the centre of town whole blocks of buildings might be burnt down. The only additional expenditure would be the cost of an engineer. But the Fire Brigade did not want one and they ought to know more than councillors. 04 01 21

1904 05 18
A fire destroyed Mrs Cornell's fishmonger's shop on Mill Road, Cambridge. It was caused through the ignition of some fat used for the purpose of frying fish. Although the shop was sparsely stocked there was sufficient inflammable material in it to make it impossible to arrest the fire in its early stages, and soon the interior was a mass of flames which rapidly penetrated through the ceiling and attacked the contents of the front room on the first floor. The alarm was given by means of the Thoday Street fire alarm and the firemen arrived within twelve minutes with the horsed fire escape and tender and prevented the flames attacking adjoining premises. 1904 05 18

1904 05 19
Cambridge Fire Brigade committee reported on the provision for extinguishing fires in large buildings and the cost of maintenance of a steam fire engine. They visited the University Library where regular fire brigade drills took place regularly, but there was no special provision for the escape of work people from business premises except in one instance where a canvas shoot had been obtained. A fire engine would cost less than £200 a year, which was less than that paid for the police imported on the occasion of the King's visit to keep order for a single night. But there was not space at the fire station to accommodate it and most of the large buildings were protected by means of private fire appliances. 1904 05 19

1904 06 03
Fire in Messrs Bell and Son's premises in Wheeler Street, an ancient building used as a corn and seed merchants premises for two or three centuries. Police constable Winter noticed fire and smoke at 4.30 am and gave the alarm. The hose reel from the Guildhall was affixed to a hydrant and a stream of water directed on the burning building. Firemen appeared on the scene with the horsed fire-escape and tender but the building of three floors and constructed largely of lath and plaster was burning fiercely. The flames leapt high through the roof and shot out through the windows. In a very short time the roof fell in with a crash and all hope for saving the property was destroyed. The efforts of 28 firemen and 15 police was directed towards preventing the spread of the fire to the adjoining property. The cause of the outbreak is unknown. There had been unusual activity among the rats and mice in the old premises, now taken as a sign that the fire had got a good hold on Sunday evening. The damage was extensive. The fire and second floors, used for the storage of fodder and seed were nearly burnt out, the ground floor and offices were severely damaged by smoke. The basement and the top floor and a small part of the roof of the 'Bell' public house were damaged by water as were the contents of the tobacconist's shop at the end of Wheeler Street occupied by Mr Canham. The window frames of the Cambridge Free Library were slightly damaged by the heat. 04 06 03

1904 06 16
Cambridge Library committee referred to the recent fire on Peas Hill and the destruction of the premises adjacent to the library. But for the skill of the fire brigade the reading room must have been destroyed and the contents lost. The accumulation of books, pictures and scarce literature could never be replaced. Now the old dilapidated buildings should be cleared away and a more appropriate building erected. Next year they would celebrate the jubilee of the opening of the library and the appointment of Mr Pink as Librarian. The Library Association should be invited to hold their annual meeting at Cambridge, free of charge. 1904 06 16

1904 11 17
Up to last night there was a cluster of buildings, workshops, tool-sheds and fowl houses at the apex of a triangle formed by property facing Mill Road, Hemingford Road and Belgrave Road, Cambridge. Today nothing remains but a heap of charred timber and twisted iron. Fire has made a

clean sweep of the evidences of industry of several inhabitants and caused damage of about £250. Mr G. Woolfenden, an electrician, has lost a workshop. Most people living in the three roads have a wooden erection of some kind at the end of their gardens and those burnt down stood side by side or back to back in an area covered by 20 square yards. CDN 17.11.1904

1905 05 02
An outbreak of fire occurred at the premises of Messrs Hallack and Bond, wholesale grocers, Petty Cury, Cambridge. About 11.18 pm smoke and flames were discovered issuing from a store room. The alarm was at once given and the horsed fire escape, tender and hose cart were soon on the scene. With the aid of one hydrant, the inmates of the building and the firemen succeeded in extinguishing the outbreak just in time to prevent a serious conflagration 05 05 02b

1905 07 08
Ely council debated whether to acquire a steam fire engine. Messrs Merryweather's estimate was £314 and they were willing to allow payment to be spread over three years. But they would have to build an engine house. Cambridge had many more valuable buildings and they did not think it worth having one. Many ratepayers felt it was not required; they had a system of hydrants and a very good pressure which would reach any ordinary building without an engine at all. But several shopkeepers said they should have one. 05 07 08a-cm

1905 07 15
Coe Fen was the scene of an interesting fire-extinguishing demonstration by the Valor Company. A light wooden erection had been constructed coated by three gallons of tar and a shavings and straw saturated with motor spirit was heaped around. It was ignited by a match and with such violence did the flames break out that the watching crowd was forced to fall back. The representative brought the appliance into operation and the fire was subdued in about 25 seconds. 05 07 15dd

1906 01 01
Fire gutted the Mill Road Boot Stores adjoining St Barnabas Church, Cambridge. The flames rose to a great height and melted some of the lead of the windows of the church. The building was a one-storeyed erection, largely composed of wood. A number of wooden packing cases at the rear formed a source of danger as they connected with a thatched cottage and a stonemason's yard adjoining was also seriously placed. 06 01 0

1906 01 06
A fire broke out in the roof of Addenbrooke's Hospital and extensive damage by fire and water has been wrought. A laundry maid saw wreaths of smoke above the roof of the operating theatre. The staff devoted themselves to the safety of the patients; those who could walk were hurriedly clad in warm wraps and led down the emergency staircase down which the more infirm, some on stretchers and some in their beds were carried. A similar fire broke out in October 1902. 06 01 06a-c

1906 02 02
Steam fire engine approved – 06 02 22a

1906 03 17
Steam fire engine acquired; also buy a smoke helmet linked by 95 feet of hose to bellows so firemen can stand in smoke to fight fire [2.5, 1.6]

1906 03 24

The smoke helmet purchased for the use of the Cambridge fire brigade is similar to a diving helmet. The upper part is made of still glazed leather fitted with square eyeglasses, the lower part is buckled tightly round the neck. Two tubes are fixed to the mouthpiece attached to a bellows worked by a colleague, which supplies a continuous current of fresh air. There is also a speaking tube. It will be useful for entering rooms filled with smoke as well as sewers and wells where foul gases may be encountered. 06 03 24a

1906 05 17
Cambridge councillors compared costs for a motor propelled steam fire engine against one pulled by a horse. They had approached insurance companies for a contribution towards the capital expenditure but they replied that it should be paid from the rates. It was proposed that a horse-propelled fire engine should be obtained from Messrs Shand, Mason and Co, at a cost of £410 06 05 17a

1906 08 07
Cambridge fire brigade undoubtedly saved a portion of King's Parade, St Edward's Passage and Peas Hill from destruction by fire. There are numerous old houses, warehouses, sheds and outhouses of all descriptions, many constructed chiefly of wood. It broke out at Mons Buol's bakery, 17 Kings Parade; the bakehouse was gutted and hundreds of pounds of chocolate, almonds and sugar damaged. 06 08 07

1906 08 09
A demonstration of the capabilities of the new steam fire engine attracted hundreds of townspeople. It is a double cylinder variable expansion type made by Shand, Mason & Co., generating steam by oil fuel resulting in the complete absence of thick smoke and sparks. Water drawn from the stream in front of Addenbrooke's Hospital was thrown high above the roof of the building. It was then moved to King's Parade and threw water 20ft above the flagpole of Gt St Mary's church. 06 08 09a

1906 08 27
Balsham fire – why Cambridge brigade did not attend – 06 08 27

1906 08 28
Chesterton fire brigade gets horses from Castle Hotel for fires like Balsham – 06 08 28

1906 12 13
'The Sleepless Watchman' – the Leslie-Walker Fire Detector – was demonstrated at the Victoria Assembly Room. It ensures that no fire may occur without warning being speedily given both to the occupiers and the fire brigade. The detector is a sealed glass partially filled with mercury which is fixed to the ceiling. Should the temperature rise this expands and completes an electric circuit which causes a bell to ring. It resets itself automatically and is ready to report another outbreak. 06 12 13

1907 03
Fire destroys Pitt Club dining room, stewards room & offices & staircase; is new engine's first baptism of fire, pumped for 2hours once hydrant thawed [4.5]

1907 10 12
Firemen fought a blaze in the roof of house in Rose Crescent. Underneath was the Modes and Ladies' Outfitting Establishment, carried on by Miss Hutchings and a large quantity of her stock

was spoilt by the streams of water. After the fire was out the assistants were kept busy in removing hats and other goods from the shop. 07 10 12

1907 10 15
A fire occurred at the Fitzroy Street premises of Messrs Sturton. The possibilities of a similar conflagration to that which occurred at Laurie and McConnal's establishment a few years ago seemed probable for close by were a large number of paraffin barrels and tanks containing oil. Capt Greef and 20 firemen were soon on the scene with the horsed fire escape and the steam fire engine was got out in readiness. But their services were not required as P.C. Gee, assisted by several civilians, extinguished the flames. 07 10 15a

1907 12 07
When the Cambridge station Night Inspector heard of a fire at Bishops Stortford he despatched telegrams summoning workers from their homes. A truck specially designed for the conveyance of the fire engine is always kept ready but the engine itself is kept unmounted, ready for local fires. Within an hour a special train comprising a locomotive, the fire-emergency truck and a brake van was thundering down the line as, on board, a little band of half-a-dozen men busied themselves with preparations for the grim contest that lay before them. 07 12 07

1908 07 25
Fire engine arrives at Christ's College fire pushed & pulled by firemen, horses come later - "need motor engine or own horses, otherwise money spent is all wasted for sake of efficient motive power [2.12]

1908 01 10
Fire broke out at Bateman House, Bateman Street, the residence of Dr Rouse, Headmaster of the Perse School. A fire had been lighted in one of the bedrooms and mattresses placed round it for airing purposes. A maid informed PC Nelson who fetched the reel from the 'Globe'. The police force were enjoying their annual dinner, but a number were soon on the scene. A large crowd collected on the street and watched with interest the efforts of the firemen who used a hand-pump and buckets of water. 08 01 10g

1909 04 09
Fire broke out at the Ladies Training College in Wollaston Road. Very fortunately the vacation had denuded the college of students and only Miss Ellis, the Bursar, and six domestic servants were in residence. Hastily snatching up dressing gowns they scurried out of the burning building by the servants' staircase at the back. Firemen tied handkerchiefs over their mouths and nostrils and the smoke helmet was used for the first time. Considerable damage was done but the college may find consolation in having a building remaining at all 09 04 09

1910 10 21
A serious outbreak of fire took place on the premises of John Jarvis, horticultural builder of Hills Road, Cambridge and a large carpenter's workshop which backed on to the stables of the Warwick Hotel was burnt to the ground. It had been filled with wood and a fire was always kept burning to boil down glue. The brigade was soon on the steam but the engine had such a short run it did not have a chance to get up steam. When the water did come the flames had abated. A group of those ever-invaluable little mortals, the Boy Scouts, rendered valuable assistance in keeping back the crowd and helping with the hoses 10 10 21

1910 10 28

A Clare college undergraduate, Mr R. Chadwick Leach, had an exciting experience early on Saturday morning, his sitting room burning fiercely while he was fast asleep in the bedroom adjoining. The fire was discovered by a bedmaker who called some undergraduates and they at some risk to themselves roused Mr Leach from his sleep. The rooms on 'C' staircase comprise a bedroom and sitting room which are made secure by a door on the landing. He went to bed about midnight, leaving a small fire in the grate. The contents of the sitting room were completely destroyed and the damage must be considerable 10 10 28a

1910 10 28
The new motor fire tender is the very latest and embodies a number of new features. As well as a 45-foor fire escape it can carry seven firemen and a complement of life-saving equipment including smoke helmet, jumping sheets and 1,200 feet of hose. The acetylene headlights can be lit from the driver's seat while the vehicle is travelling by simply turning on the gas and moving an electric switch. Its extreme handiness, the rapidity with which it can be started and the speed at which it can travel – up to 30 mph - will render it of the utmost value.10 10 28c

1911 03 24
Market Hill fire – 11 03 24a

1911 05 26
Great excitement was caused in Hooper Street by an outbreak of fire in the stable and warehouse behind Mr Wheeler's shop. The lean-to erection built against some cottage property contained goods of an extremely inflammable nature and there was quickly a blaze of alarming dimensions and intensity. Police sergeant Leonard Savidge ran for the Mill Road hose reel and firemen arrived with the motor tender. Happily there was no horse in the stable and the paraffin tank was not touched by the flames 11 05 26i

1912 01 19
A splendid test of the safety of the New Theatre in the event of an alarm of fire was carried out on Saturday night when it was found that 1,400 people passed from the Theatre in less than four minutes. The audience had no knowledge that a test was taking place and the staff had no orders except to throw open all auditorium doors and emergency exits. The house was crowed to its fullest extent and, as it was pantomime week, there was an exceptional number of children. The result is of particular interest as the New Theatre is to be used periodically as a cinematograph and variety theatre in which people are needlessly nervous of fire 12 01 19b

1912 02 16
The biggest fire seen in Cambridge for nine years broke out at Clement Johnson's rope, sack and tarpaulin factory facing the railway station. The building was completely gutted. The walls which must have been very strongly built when the factory was erected nearly 50 years ago, remained intact, but everything inside - sacks, ropes, twine, tarpaulins and marquees - was totally destroyed. Mr Johnson knew nothing about the catastrophe until he left a train and walked out of the station when he saw the whole factory ablaze 12 02 16f & 16a, biggest since Lauries [2.10]

1912 04 19
Sir – Cambridge Corporation have instructed all persons in the out-lying parts to telephone the Central Fire Station in case of fire. We in Chesterton are in a very awkward position. We have no telephones for public use. The nearest fire alarm post is at Quayside and one would have to walk, run or cycle there, and then fumble about in a very poor light trying to find out how to work the apparatus. We need a telephone call office instead. A doctor might be sent for, goods ordered from various tradesmen or one might even ring up his best girl – Philip Clare 12 04 19f

1912 09 27
Chesterton Road was the scene of a very remarkable fire. A motor lorry belonging to Messrs Sturton of Fitzroy Street, laden with cans of petrol was totally destroyed. The highly-inflammable spirit became ignited and a fire of extraordinary fierceness blocked the road with a sheet of flame. Can after can exploded flinging its contents in a blazing shower in all directions. The flames leapt to an astonishing height, reaching above the tops of houses and were accompanied by volumes of black, oily smoke. The paint on the door of a house on the river side began to blister and trees in the garden began to shrivel and smoke. It was impossible for the fire brigade to get near and it had to be left to burn itself out 12 09 27

1913 05 23
Two fires attributed to suffragettes occurred in the small hours of Saturday morning in the newly-completed houses in Storey's Way. One was almost completely destroyed but the other, being erected for the Balfour Professor of Genetics, was extinguished before much damage was done. In it were found clues which led to the arrest of a Norwich school teacher. One was a gold watch and the other blood stains on the broken glass of window. The suspect had a cut on her finger 13 05 23 p7 & 8 CIP [1.11]

1913 05 30
A blaze broke out at Messrs Macintosh's foundry in Thompson's Lane. After the days work is done the men draw the furnace to allow the fire to die out. When this is done huge sparks fly up, giving the impression that the place is on fire. But one of these sparks was blown on to the roof and set light to a beam. Had it been left the entire premises would have burnt down. But firemen, aided by undergraduates, put it out. 13 05 30 p11 CIP

1913 06 20
Peterhouse kitchen fire 13 06 20 p8 CIP

1913 10 17
At the Assizes the top gallery was filled with women when a suffragette was accused of setting fire to a house in Storey's Way. She denied having started the blaze but had been at the site and dropped her watch. It was identified by her uncle, a Norwich policeman. Pink flannelette smelling strongly of paraffin had been wound round a ladder and set alight. Her coat smelled of paraffin. She asked the jury: "Do I look like a person who would go about with flannelette and cans of petrol and set fire to houses". She was convicted. 13 10 17 p8

1913 11 21
The Fire escape and engine responded to the alarm of a blaze at St John's College where they found a bonfire burning in second court to celebrate the victory of a rower in the Colquhoun Sculls. Fireworks were discharged and a crowd gathered to watch the glare through the chapel windows. Later a fire broke out in a wicker chair in an undergraduate's room. It is thought a spark from the bonfire may have blown through the window, or a lighted cigarette dropped in the chair. 13 11 21 p11 CIP

1914 04 10
Under the proposed new regulation every cinematograph house should have a fireman in uniform to take precautions against fire and attend to the appliances. But when the Cambridge Picture Playhouse was built on Mill Road it met all the regulations and they had blankets and appliances with a fire drill each week. To have a fireman in uniform would be expensive and was apt to produce a panic in the event of a fire, magistrates were told 14 04 10f

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1914 04 07
Fire broke out in the warehouse and yards of Robert Brown, 32 Gwydir Street. The stock which caught fire consisted of paraffin and other oils, matches and other general stores and five loaded vans and a pony trap were completely destroyed. The warehouses were built from tarred boarding and adjoined the house. Five horses were stabled at the back of the premises and helpers pulled down a fence to get them out, placing them in Mr Cock's stables. Stock which could be reached was thrown into the street and policemen controlled crowds of spectators numbering several thousand. 14 04 07b & c

1914 07 24
The whole of the Watts' Timber Yard on Newmarket Road., including sawmills, drying sheds and kilns were destroyed by fire. The blaze started in the stoke hole from which flames spread to the engine room and brick-making shed adjoining. The saw-mill nearby, containing a lot of wood, was soon alight and the wind blowing from Newmarket Road swept the blaze to the drying sheds and kilns where workmen removed the bricks. The tall chimney was expected to fall at any moment but the gable end of the saw-mill fell outwards, just missing firemen standing beneath it. However sheds holding valuable stock of flooring boards were put out. 14 07 24 14 07 31

1914 08 21
Thompson's Lane fire, St Clements Gardens 14 08 21 p3

1914 12 11
Fire at Trinity College on the third and top floors of L block in New Court. Prompt measure were taken to cope with the fire, college porters attaching a hosepipe to the hydrant and directing a steady stream of water on the flames. The Fire Brigade were called and 20 firemen were in attendance. The upstairs rooms became fiercely ablaze, and the flames attacked the landing of the staircase. The room was completely burnt out and a hole was made in the roof. The fire penetrated to other rooms in K block of buildings and two sets were destroyed and the roof was considerably damaged. Other rooms were damaged by heat, smoke and water. 14 12 11 CIPof

1915 03 05
An outbreak of fire occurred in the narrow three-storied block of buildings forming one end of St Tibb's Row and stretching from St Andrew's Hill for some 20 yards as far as the back entrance to the Lion Hotel. Several soldiers and the New Museums Fire Brigade helped fight the flames which had spread rapidly along the false roof and ceiling of the top storey from room to room. It originated in the brush factory occupied by Mr Barham where household brushes are manufactured after the contents of a tin of paint were spilt by a boy on a lighted gas ring. The factory was burnt out and part of the roof collapsed. Premises of Mr J. Biggs, robe maker also suffered severely 15 03 05

1915 04 20
Gwydir Street big fire premises Henry Ambrose builders paint shop 15 04 20 p7

1915 09 13
Fires at Cambridge. The Fire Brigade received three calls to borough fires during the past week. In the early hours of Wednesday morning they were called to a serious outbreak in Fitzroy Street, and on the following day they were called upon to pay two visits to the London and North-Western Railway, where an engine shed had caught fire. Only the alertness of a police constable prevented something in the nature of a catastrophe in Fitzroy Street. Three business premises were involved in the outbreak. The fire, it appears, originated in a shed, situated at the rear of

Messrs Peak's stores and used as a warehouse for the storage of empty boxes. The large quantity of wood caused the flames to ascend to a great height, and set fire to the middle room of Messrs. Peaks' stores. The flames then appear to have travelled along a beam over Mr. E. Rouse's premises and joining the stores on the New Square side. Considerable damage was done to both shops, both by the fire and the water. Premises occupied by Mr. Waller were also damaged, the staircase being badly charred and the roof ruined in one place 15 09 03 CIPof

1915 09 17
Fire Kidman, builders, Abbey Walk; Fire Christ Church parish room 15 09 17 p5,7

1919 09 24
Cambridge fire fighters; Volunteer Brigade inspires confidence – detailed account – 19 09 24d

1920

1920 01 30
Fire back Peak's stores, Fitzroy Street - CDN 20 01 30, p3

1920 07 07
Volunteer Fire Brigade farewell dinner to Lieut Diver, Capt Greek makes presentation, memories of last 20 years - 20 07 07

1920 09 09
Mayor G.P. Hawkins drives new motor fire engine from Guildford factory - CDN 20 09 09 Ch 20 09 15, photo 15a

1920 10 19
Cambridge fire brigade should be under control of police and worked by permanent staff consisting of one sergeant and five constables, a reduction of one on the present permanent staff. Ten other police could act as auxiliary firemen, being paid for attending fires, ambulance calls etc. - CDN 20 10 19 to be handed over to the police - CDN 20 10 22

1921 01 12
Volunteer Firemen's last church parade – photo – 12 01 12b; police take control – 12 01 26a [1.19,2.8]

1921 08 17
Caius College fire in rafters – 21 08 17c

1925 02 27
Sidney Sussex fire, 25 02 27 p5

1925 11 06
Two fires caused damage to the extent of thousands of pounds in Cambridge and both are believed to have been caused by fireworks. It was particularly unfortunate that one occurred a few moments after the other, for the second was a much bigger conflagration than the first, and the fire engine was not then available. The first was to a corn stack in Natal Road but the other was at Messrs Kidman & Sons' wood factory yard and workshops in Abbey Walk. The outbreak occurred at the end of the building nearest the Coldham's Common allotments, but it quickly spread along the rafters and within ten minutes there was no earthly chance of saving the

building. The roof of St Columba's Mission Hall was soon alight and the outskirts of Simper's rope works also began to blaze 25 11 06

1927 02 26
Compared to other towns Cambridge is badly off for fire equipment; we have only one motor fire engine whilst other places have two or three. The Chief Constable has recommended the purchase of a new "Dennis" 250-gallon Light Type Engine at a cost of £880. It will be more useful in the narrow streets than a larger type whilst the "First Aid" attachment can be got to work so expeditiously that small fires would be put out before the main hydrant could be coupled up. Will the council be convinced or will the question of pounds, shillings and pence be uppermost in their minds? 27 02 26

1928 10 30
Grantchester Mill destroyed by fire, hundreds flock to watch, blocking road [1.7,1.26]

1929 02 14
A serious fire broke out at Caius College, Cambridge. Two rooms in Tree Court were completely gutted and others badly damaged. Policemen attracted by the blowing of a whistle in Trinity Street got a hydrant in the courtyard to work and the Fire Brigade was quickly on the scene but the inside of the building was almost a furnace. The fire was quickly got under but not before considerable damage had been done, including the falling in of a large part of the ceiling. The firemen experienced bad conditions owing to the intense cold, the water froze on their clothing and icicles were left hanging from the ledges CDN c 20.2.1929

1929 06 11
Hawkins bakery fire, Parsonage Street, 29 06 11 p8

1929 08 17
Big Cambridge fire – sheds and railway trucks destroyed at Hills Road – 29 08 17

1929 08 28
Hills Road blaze – private residence – CDN 28.8.1929

1930

1931 04 03
A fire was discovered in a gable of The Grove, Fordham; the damage was not great. The brigade cannot discover any cause of the outbreak. It is a part of old Cambridge folk lore that a fire always follows if a hare runs down the main street of a village. The week before a hare did run down the street at Fordham. It was perused by Mr Richard Nicholls, a septuagenarian, and was killed in a shed within three yards of the place where this fire broke out. 31 04 03m

1931 07 17
Fire completely destroyed the Rendezvous Cinema and Dance Hall at Magrath Avenue, Cambridge. The only part left standing is the fireproof operating box, which is really a separate structure. Staff removed 12,000 feet of film which, if reached by the flames, might have caused a serious explosion. The most spacious dance floor in the Eastern Counties was reduced to charred bits of wood. Renovations and improvements to the dance hall lounges were nearing completion and were to be opened as a special attraction. 31 07 17j & k

1931 09 18

A big fire destroyed four cottages beside the Chequers Inn off High Street, Cherry Hinton. They were of lath and plaster and thatch and blazed fiercely, though the fire brigade were summoned they were unable to do more than keep the fire from spreading. Only one of the cottages, which were owned by Mr Smith, a baker, and were the subject of closing orders, was occupied. The village turned out in large numbers and neighbours managed to get most of the furniture from the ground floor. 31 09 18c

1933 03 10
Two sets of new apparatus for the protection of firemen against fumes, smoke and all kinds of poisonous gases have been acquired by the Cambridge Brigade. It consists of a cylinder of pure oxygen inhaled through a mouthpiece connected with a bag which purifies the exhaled air by passage over caustic soda. The oxygen lasts for an hour. They will be kept on one of the fire engines for use in any emergency. 33 03 10

1933 05 11
Portugal Terrace fire – 33 05 11

1933 10 06
Near midnight one of the fiercest fires in Cambridge for years partially destroyed the Baron of Beef, a modernised public house in Bridge Street. The premises were rebuilt only last year at a cost of between £4,000 and £5,000. The scheme involved the demolition of four old cottages and three others were destroyed to make room for the new garages. [CIP 6th October 1933]

1934 08 16
Ye Olde Castle Hotel in St Andrew's Street was devastated by fire. Every fireman and policeman was called from other duties as smoke billowed from the gabled windows leaving people gasping at its pungency. Staff and volunteers busied themselves removing furniture. The Hotel ranked as one of the oldest inns in Cambridge, dating back to the 13th century. It was reconstructed about 1620 and the last extensive additions were in 1891. It is doubted whether it will be possible to restore the damaged parts of this historic building. 34 08 16 [1.2, 1.13]

1934 08 27
Cambridge's new fire engine, built by Messrs Merryweather, has a maximum speed of 48 mph. It carries an all-steel 85-ft ladder which can be extended in 30 seconds. At the top is a telephone to enable the fireman to communicate with the ground. Provision is made for four powerful fire-fighting jets of water 34 08 27

1934 09 28
Thousands packed the area around Mill Pool and gathered on Silver Street Bridge to watch a demonstration of the new fire engine. The most thrilling display was lifesaving by the Davey apparatus as 'victims' were lowered from the roof of the Mill Lane Examination Rooms. The only flaw in the organisation was that the spectators were not warned when the water tower was set in use with the result that many, especially women and children, had a soaking. 34 09 28

1935 01 22
Fire destroyed the Evelyn White drapery shop in Fitzroy Street shop and the owner and his wife escaped in their nightclothes, with only a coat thrown over them. All that remains is a tangled mass of debris, blackened and ruin by the flames. Here and there the remnants of a dress could be recognised but everything was burnt beyond repair. Flames also threatened Norman Bradley's shop next door: the thin dividing wall was scorching and might have flared up at any moment. Firemen were kept fully occupied in keeping smouldering materials from catching again and were

badly hampered through the insulation having been burnt off the electric light wires, several received electric shocks before it was decided to have the current cut off at the main. 35 01 22

1935 08 12
Houses were threatened when a line of flame swept three-quarters of a mile of land from Trumpington to Hills Road. In Long Road helpers beat desperately at the flames to prevent them spreading along the hedges to the gardens of near-by houses whose residents used garden hoses to dampen them down Dozens of rabbits raced wildly over the charred ground and a leveret was turned into a living mass of flame. The verge caught alight, clouds of white smoke making it impossible for passing traffic to pass at more than a crawl. Vehicles were diverted via Cherry Hinton and all available police were mobilised to control the traffic and help fight the fire 35 08 12

1935 09 14
Peterhouse – the oldest Cambridge foundation – was threatened by a fire which broke out in a staircase in Gisbourne Court early in the morning. The Master, Sir William Birdwood (70) was one the scene from the start and did not leave until everything was safe, two hours later. Staircase H which contains six sets of rooms, was extensively damaged and several hundred books ruined. Its cause remains a mystery for the staircase, which is not far from the old Noah's Ark staircase, has been unoccupied since August 35 09 14b

1936 07 15
James Street was the scene of one of the most serious blazes Cambridge has experienced in years. It started when a Ford van caught fire at the premises of William Scott, house decorators, builders, motor and coach painters. It spread to their motor-body room where a number of cars were in for renovation. The place was soon a veritable inferno as drums of paint and oil exploded. Flames engulfed ladders and handcarts belonging to the Cambridge Window Cleaning Company then Messrs Pate's builders workshops which were reduced to ashes or scrap. The damage must run to many thousands of pounds 36 07 15 & a

1936 08 15
Old buildings at the back of shops opposite the 'Blue Boar' in Trinity Street caught fire. This is one of the densest areas with much valuable property including several college buildings. Trinity College fire-fighting appliance tackled the blaze from the back and the brigade's water tower fire engine was soon at work. Onlookers had a laugh when a frightened mouse was seen running along the pavement among the hoses. But the storehouse at the rear of Roper's shop was burnt out. 36 08 15

1937 01 18
Fire broke out at English Bros' timber yard in Newmarket Road; soon timber stacks, some of them 25 feet high were blazing with over half-an-acre of crackling 70-foot high flames. The Gasworks were far enough away but at Nightingale's garage a number of petrol lorries were in the danger zone and were moved. All three of the Brigade's engines were called into service but it was 13 hours before they were able to return to the station. A timber-drying shed was completely destroyed, a saw-mill damaged and a lorry completely burnt-out. 37 01 18

1937 04 30
Marshall's Aerodrome's special fire engine meets Air Ministry specifications for fire, first-aid and crash equipment. It is finished in fire engine red and black, the front seats are upholstered in best selected black hide and fitted with outsized fire and alarm bells. It is designed to meet any

possible emergency with an impulse magneto which, together with the dash carburettor flooder and emergency gravity feed petrol tank ensures instant and easy starting in all weathers. 37 04 30

1937 10 20
An undergraduate of Peterhouse, Cambridge's oldest college, awoke coughing because of smoke and rushed through his burning sitting room to report the outbreak. Another occupant on the same floor attempted to put out the fire assisted by Mr S. Wilderspin, a porter. The Fire Brigade cut away floor boards to extinguish the blaze caused by a defective fire-place. The whole of the floor together with furniture and a wireless set was ruined. A club room beneath, situated in one of the oldest parts of the college dating back to the 15th century, was damaged by water. Another blaze of a much more serious nature occurred nearby about two years ago 37 10 20b photo 37 10 20

1937 12 10
An Emmanuel College undergraduate was trapped when fire broke out in his sitting room. He climbed out of the window holding the automatic life-line installed in the rooms, but as he was unacquainted with its working he was unable to use it. Porters fetched a ladder but by this time the lad, who had been standing on a three-inch ledge, had got on to a roof below his window. The fire brigade threw him a rope and, returning to his room he tied one end on to a bedpost and lowered himself on to their escape. A large hole was burnt in the floor and furniture damaged 37 12 10a

1937 12 13
A new police and fire station should be erected at Parkside, between Warkworth Terrace and East Road. The site is a very central one, had the great advantage of good access and egress from a fire-fighting point of view and the area is adequate for present and future requirements, councillors were told. Bearing in mind the possible future requirements for protection against air raids it was desirable that both police and fire stations should be in one unit on a new site 37 12 13

1938
Auxiliary Fire Service started, becomes National Fire Service 1941 [1.15, 3.7]

1938 05 30
Five people were burnt by blazing fat by an explosion at a fried fish shop in Cromwell Road. It occurred a moment or two after boiling oil in the fryer caught fire. The force was so great that it blew the window out of the shop and a woman customer standing inside the door was blown out into the street. Blazing fat dripped from the ceiling, it was like a firework display. A 15-year-old assistant and a five-year-old girl were detained in Addenbrooke's Hospital with severe burns 38 05 30c

1938 07 28
Plans for a new police and fire station on Parkside between Warkworth Terrace and East Road came before an Inspector. It was a central site with good access for engine and ambulances and suitable for future requirements. It comprised five houses with a pork pie factory behind. But owners, Peterhouse, did not want to sell. They were concerned about noise at night and some undesirable 'guests' at the police station reducing the value of adjacent property. 38 07 28

1939 02 07
The Auxiliary Fire Service wound up their training at Cherry Hinton Hall with a demonstration using specially made incendiary bombs. Two were used to set fire to a house of boxes kindly donated by local tradesmen which was tackled using an ordinary hand-pump with a spray jet.

Many important lessons were learned. The bombs give off intense heat and coloured glasses must be worn by the fireman to protect his eyes. The application of water increases the ferocity of the flames. 39 02 07a

1939 03 16
Royston Council's old manual fire engine is a venerable relic but retains its 'Directions for Use'. "Put as many men at the handles as can stand both inside and out and move the handles quickly from top to bottom", it says. "Should an obstruction of the water appear … it should be immediately stopped to allow the rubbish to be cleaned away … On return from a fire it is advisable to pump clean water through the engine and remove mud … that may have been drawn into the works", But in one of the pipes we discovered the mortal remains of a rat. The engine was given to the town by Henry Fordham and was only used for in-town fires. Now it may be sold. 39 03 16 & a

1939 04 14
Royston's ancient manual fire engine has been given to the Shepreth Museum Committee 39 04 14 CIPof

1939 04 25
The Central Cinema, Hobson Street, was burnt to a shell in the early hours of the morning. Only the fire-proof operating box, the foyer, crush hall and some of the back stalls remain intact. Firemen hauled hoses up to the roof of the Dorothy Café and from the high ladder of the Merryweather turntable in Hobson Street P.C. Kelly poured another stream of water on to the flames. But after an hour-and-a-half the roof fell in amid a shower of sparks. There was concern about Christ's College chapel where the roof had been removed because of damage done by the death watch beetle and only a tarpaulin covered the wooden ceiling. But a shower of rain helped to prevent it catching alight 39 04 25a, b

1939 04 29
Concern about number of fires in cinemas [1.16]

1939 11 08
The packing room of the Forum Cleaning Works, Hartington Grove was destroyed by fire that started in a machine in one of the cleaning rooms. This was put out with the aid of a fire extinguisher. The clothing was then put in one of the tanks and was run through a press room. When some of the staff reached the door, however, the handles of the tank burst, and the whole lot went up in flames; there was some danger of the fire spreading to a 500-gallon tank of white spirit. 39 05 26 CIPof

1939 11 08
Cambridge Fire Boat trial – photo – 39 11 08

1939 11 30
Over possessed an obsolete Merryweather manual fire engine of 1789 with three lengths of unserviceable hose and 11 buckets, it was valued at £7.10s. Willingham's had an 1827 fire engine, a trailer tank, six 60ft. lengths of 2-inch delivery hose, 20 galvanised buckets, two small ladders, two standpipes and turnkeys and two drags. Caxton equipment, valued by Messrs. Merryweather at £40 3s 3d was only worth £27, Cottenham's £37, Waterbeach's £29. Other parishes' equipment was valued as follows, Horningsea £3, Oakington £2 and Swavesey £6. 39 12 01 CIPof 39 11 30

1940

1940 03 12
Oakington & Waterbeach old fire engines to be broken up – 40 03 12

1941 03 22
College blaze. Extensive damage was done by a fire which broke out in the north wing of Pembroke College in the early hours of Saturday. The fire is believed to have started in one of the bedrooms of an upper storey, and the flames quickly spread along the whole length of the block under the roof. A fire-watcher raised the alarm, and regular and auxiliary firemen were soon on the scene with several trailer pumps, in addition to the three regular engines. Fire squads from the laboratories across the road and the college fire squad also assisted in fighting the flames. They had secured such a hold, however, that it was two hours before they could be brought under control. Most of the damage due to the flames was in the roof and upper part of the block, but the thousands of gallons of water poured on the fire soaked through to the lower rooms. Many of the occupants of the block were roused from their beds when the seriousness of the outbreak was discovered, and some of them assisted in removing furniture to the court. The treasurer of the college (Mr. J. T. Spittle) said:' "It is impossible yet to estimate the damage, as we cannot get into some of the rooms. The damage, however, is extensive." 41 03 22, 41 03 28 CIPof

1942 01 12
Cambridge fire guard organisation – duties of street parties – 42 01 12

1942 04 04
Gas Works tar storage tank catches fire, two men die – 42 04 04b

1943
fire station Coldham's Lane build c1943 to replace one Gwydir St, but during war part of National Fire Service when sub-stations all over Cambridge; not until under Local Authority control that Newmarket Rd & St Andrew's St became only two in city [446.15.3]

1943 07 24
Cosmopolitan cinema sustained considerable damage from fire, part of ground floor and seats destroyed and ceiling broken away in places – 43 07 24

1943 08 16
Fire guards – new plan, to work with N.F.S. to combat fires caused by hostile attack and summon assistance – 43 08 16a

1943 12 31
Magdalene College fire, started boiler room spread to upper part of the building which abuts the river; part of floor collapsed – 43 12 31

1944 01 01
Magdalene College fire in building now used as boiler room and store; the college pump brought into action, flames leapt through roof, extinguished by NFS – 44 01 01

1944 10 18
Fire in returned ammunition dump in East Anglia shortly before D-Day; firemen braved bursting 'ammo'; saved most of the heaviest ammunition and prevented widespread devastation. Fire

started among some stacks of small arms ammunition and rockets; put out within eight hours but NFS kept watch for some weeks – 44 10 18

1944 12 28
Christ's College fire quickly extinguished; prevents major damage – 44 12 28

1945 01 05
Minister praised efficiency with which NFS tackled fire Christ's College – flames coming through one of the oldest roofs CDN 1945 01 05

1945 02 17
Fire in New Court, Trinity College damaged two rooms and destroyed valuable documents; occupied by Ministry of Agriculture and RCHM; smoke spread to offices of Ministry of Fuel & Power – CDN 1945 02 17

1945 02 23
Two rooms in a block at New Court, Trinity College, Cambridge, were severely damaged on Saturday by a fire which also destroyed valuable files and documents. One room, on the ground floor, was occupied by the Rural Land Utilisation Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the other, on the first floor, by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England), and it was in this second room that records of work done during the last three years was destroyed. Very heavy smoke, which spread by communicating passages and staircases to the offices of the Ministry of Fuel and Power in an adjoining block, was encountered by the N.F.S., but they succeeded in keeping the flames from spreading. Six fire appliances were in action, and an oxygen breathing apparatus were also used in fighting the outbreak 45 02 23 CIPof

1945 03 06
Another fire Trinity in coal bunk, New Court, little damage – CDN 1945 03 06

1945 03 22
Disused brickworks in Coldham's Lane being used as Army motor cycle store damaged by fire but only nine of the several hundred machines inside were affected – CDN 1945 03 22c

1945 04 06
Fire damages several hundred 20s in tyre store behind Eastern Counties Omnibus Co garage, Hills Road – CDN 1945 04 06

1945 04 09
Fire Jarrold's shop, Market Street; hundreds of books destroyed – CDN 1945 04 09

1945 05 22
National Fire Service – 500 part-time men and women parade, Parker's Piece for stand-down; thanked for work – CDN 1945 05 22

1946 05 20
Fire in Old Court Corpus Christi College in building dating from 1352; NFS arrive quickly; if left longer the whole court might have been destroyed – 46 05 20

1946 06 25
Gasworks explosion and fire injures seven workers – 46 06 25

1946 09 16
Fire near engine sheds, railway station – 46 09 16

1946 12 14
Heffer's bookshop arson caused £25,000 damages – 46 12 14

1947 01 20
Trial Heffers bookshop arson & Lion Hotel, p6

1948 04 02
Yesterday saw the passing of the National Fire Service which had been administered from the Home Office since March 1941. Under the provision of the Fire Services Act of 1947 the Cambridgeshire County Council assumed the responsibility for the provision and maintenance of fire-fighting services for the county, and the occasion was marked by a transfer ceremony at No.1 Station, Newmarket Road, Cambridge 48 04 02

1948 09 21
In one of Cambridge's worst danger spots, the closely-packed buildings of Petty Cury, the most serious fire the town has seen for two years broke out, damaging half of the stock of Messrs Montagu Burton, tailors. Firemen prevented the fire from spreading to adjoining shops but the whole of Burton's premises were gutted. Next door is Hutton's tailors where suits, coats and other clothing was covered by dust sheets to prevent damage from fumes. Burton's manager said "I went down in the cellar and saw the gas meter on fire and it was just like a giant blow lamp. We salvaged about half the stock". He added "I was flooded out at Jaywick a fortnight ago, and now ..." 48 08 21

1948 09 13
Blasting operations were carried out in Cambridge in an effort to locate an underground fire which is known to have been burning for a fortnight. It is at Messrs Duce's scrap dump in Newmarket Road. A squad of Royal Engineers from Bury S Edmunds fired three 10 lb charges of nitro-glycerine type of explosive, but the fire could not be traced. Traffic was stopped while the explosions took place and a certain amount of small debris fell onto the road. The fire is amongst scrap which has been tipped into a disused pit and covered with earth. Smoke has been seen issuing form widely-separated points in the ground and firemen have been digging in an effort to find the seat of the blaze 48 09 13

1949 06 13
Occupants of the caretaker's flat had to escape in their night attire when fire badly damaged the Friends Meeting House in Jesus Lane, Cambridge. The fire caused some anxiety since it occurred in one of Cambridge's three danger zones. It appears to have started in the main hall, where a charred piano and burnt-out settee were evidence of its intensity. The usefulness of the fire brigade's recently-introduced radio equipment was effectively demonstrated for calling reinforcements

1949 11 29
Damage believed approaching £900,000 was done when fire destroyed several thousand of finished wireless sets, 300-400 television sets and numerous components stored in a hangar rented by Pye Ltd at the former stereo works in Madingley Road. A director said: "Many of the sets were for export. Included in the stock destroyed were several thousand television cabinets.

Some of our telecommunication equipment was also stored there, including a complete set of blind landing equipment due to be shipped today"

1950

1950 02 09
When fire broke out in A-block of Jesus College, Cambridge the occupant found his room and corridor full of smoke. He jumped out of a window on to the flat roof of the porter's lodge below. The undergraduate's sudden landing roused the night porter who gave the alarm. Tongues of flame were soon licking through the roof, part of which fell in before the brigade got the fire under control. A-block is one of the oldest parts of the college, which was founded in 1496 50 02 09

1951 06 13
New fire appliance, p10

1952 02 21
Sixteen patients were moved to safety when fire broke out in the nurses' quarters at the Evelyn Nursing Homes, Trumpington Road, Cambridge. One of them was 102 years old. The Fire Brigade tackled "the biggest job for a long time" and brought the fire under control. Chief Fire Officer, Mr Tom Knowles, paid a tribute to the conduct of the nurses: "They were cool, calm and collected and completely unflurried; they might just have been making a cup of tea", he said

1952 02 27
The "Homewash Laundry" in Abbey Street, Cambridge, was almost completely destroyed by a disastrous fire in the early hours of yesterday morning, but already plans are being prepared to rebuild the premises. Mrs Kathleen Morgan, proprietress, has received so many offers of help from other laundries that the normal run of business is being carried out. Salvage workers today reported that a proportion of the laundry on the premises has been saved. This includes sheets, handkerchiefs, socks and all the stiff dress shirts and collars.

1952 03 07
Kinema fire, p6

1952 04 26
A new type of smoke detector, developed and perfected in Switzerland, is being installed in the Fitzwilliam Museum. It will be the first building in the country to be equipped with the alarm which utilises the principles of radioactive disintegration. Museum authorities carried out tests with a pilot system installed at selected points in the building. Independent tests were also carried out by the Cavendish Laboratory. The system is unobtrusive and will not interfere with the aesthetic atmosphere of the building. 52 04 26

1952 06 05
While 26 assistants searched for smoke they could smell in their living quarters above the premises of Messrs Robert Sayle in St Andrew's Street, Cambridge, a thick pall poured out of one of the windows on the top floor. When the alarm was raised a score of them dashed downstairs and through the shop carrying their belongings with them. One assistant, Miss Ann Todd, said: "I thought of all of my clothes and I struggled down from my room with masses of them. I wasn't going to leave them behind". As it was Thursday afternoon there were only about 30 people in the premises at the time. Staff organised a chain of buckets until the arrival of the Fire Brigade.

1953 01 17
A new type of draught excluder fitted to a Trinity College undergraduates' sitting room was so effective that nobody was aware it was on fire. The occupant was sleeping peacefully while in the adjoining room furniture and floorboards were ablaze. Smoke pouring from the fire was prevented from penetrating to the bedroom by the draught excluders recently fitted. The sound of crackling timbers woke a student on the floor below who gave the alarm. Undergraduates from other rooms on the staircase ran to safety but it was only after a ladder was raised to the first-storey 53 01 17

1954 04 30
A new tower being built at Christ's College, Hobson Street, Cambridge was slightly damaged by fire. It is believed to have been caused by heat from a small fire used for copper soldering which ignited the scaffolding and the base of the new tower. The builders working on the tower could not get down. It was well alight and the fire was beginning to spread into the college when the brigade arrived. A major pump, pump escape and turntable ladder were used to extinguish the blaze and they had it under control in eight minutes 54 04 30

1956 02 21
Fire seriously damaged Laurie and McConnal's warehouse in Willow Place, Fitzroy Street. Children and old folk were evacuated as over 50 firemen fought Cambridge's biggest fire for years in near-arctic conditions. They were taken to the Church Army Hall where, huddling round a blazing fire, they wondered what would happen to their homes. Volunteers from the Hopbine public house assisted firemen to save their furniture. 52 02 21c & d

1956 10 12
Men who never sleep – illustrated feature article – 56 10 12d e f

1957 07 29
Plans for a new fire station at Parkside met with criticism. £15,000 seemed an 'absolutely incredible' amount to spend. There seemed to be a lot of windows – did vehicles need to see out? But there would be a howl of protest if they put up a cheap industrial building. It would be the Fire headquarters for the whole of the county and everything would be under one roof. Earlier plans to include a police station had been turned down by the Home Office. 57 07 29

1958 05 02
Cambridgeshire Fire Brigade demonstrated its new extending ladder, which is designed in three parts and can be used to reach awkward places and corners. It can reach a maximum height of 45feet and is worked into position by means of tormentor poles. The firemen showed they had learned how to get it erected in the shortest possible time and in the most cramped of conditions. With further practice no doubt even swifter erection can be possible. 58 05 02

1958 06 19
Market Street fire – 58 06 19

1959 08 31
Research and experimental work in the University's Department of Metallurgy in Pembroke Street was brought to a standstill following a serious blaze. Flames came through the roof, two rooms were gutted and a laboratory severely affected. Water used to fight the fire seeped into the basement and caused a great deal of damage to expensive machinery. 59 08 31a & b [7.7]

1959 09 01

Fire at Caius college dining hall – 59 09 01a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 09 17
Fire swept through a dining hall at Newnham College causing thousands of pounds worth of damage. Firemen wearing oxygen breathing equipment struggled through thick back smoke to reach the heart of the blaze. A section of the flooring in the Sidgwick Hall was burned away and three hotplates damaged. Smoke has blackened the walls and panels have split outwards with the heat. It is not likely to be repaired before the undergraduates return and the girls will be split up in the other three dining rooms 60 09 17

1961 08 14
Fire swept through a warehouse and store room at the Radio and Television Service's factory in Gloucester Street. It was the second fire the firm has suffered at these premises this year, and the third to cause serious damage to the company's workshops in eight months. On New Years Day the factory was badly damaged and rebuilding work is not yet complete. Then three weeks ago their paint spraying shops at Sawston were gutted. Detectives spent the weekend probing the cause which was identified as an electrical failure 61 08 14

1961 11 21
The proposed new Cambridge fire station on the corner of Parkside and East Road is without doubt the best situation that could be found. It is on the immediate perimeter of the inner congested centre of Cambridge, has access to good routes and is well-placed to take advantage of the proposed new bridge over the Cam. It will replace the present fire station built in 1944 at the corner of Newmarket Road and Coldham's Lane which consists of war-time huts and brick structures on the site of a refuse pit. 61 11 21a

1962 02 23
Prompt action by firemen saved one of Cambridge's largest timber yards from being extensively damaged. The fire broke out in the dust extractor plant at Travis and Arnold's premises in Devonshire Road – on the night of the Fireman's Ball at the Dorothy Café. The Chief Fire Officer, R.J. Stepney, supervised the fire fighting in evening dress, before going on to the ball. There were fears that the strong wind would fan sparks on to timber near the railway rolling stock but after four hours the blaze was brought under control. 62 02 23c

1963 01 221
Firemen fought for six hours against a blizzard to answer an emergency call from an isolated farm house at Little Chishill where a chimney was alight. Engines from Whittlesford and Letchworth were unable to get through and firemen tried digging their way clear in deep snow. One tender was re-routed but that road was blocked too. A Cambridge engine also found roads impassable but with the aid of a bulldozer managed to get as far as Chishill Grange. Firemen then plodded over fields covered by thick snow and drifts. On arrival at Rectory Farm they took 30 minutes to extinguish the blaze, then began a 150-minute journey back to base. 63 01 21

1963 07 13
Cambridgeshire Fire Brigade's new Emergency Salvage Tender replaces one built on a converted 1939 pump chassis. It is specialised appliance carrying equipment for use in the rescue of persons and animals trapped in road and other accidents, together with waterproof sheets and salvage gear

used to clean up after a fire. It also has electric generator and portable lighting and breathing apparatus. With four-wheel drive it can be driven over rough country when necessary 63 07 13

1964 05 16
Fire Brigade HQ, Parkside soon to open; 'temporary' buildings in Newmarket Road built during war have outlived usefulness – 64 06 16c

1964 08 21
As the fire brigade mobiliser tape-records the warning call, the operator retrieves a file on the area in question. There are cards for every village showing the quickest route and full information on individual building with instructions on the appliances needed and the position of hydrants. The system is vital to allow fire fighters to have information allowing a safer battle against the flames but with new buildings constantly sprouting the work of documentation is never complete 64 08 21a

1964 08 26
Spillers laboratory Station Road fire, explosion fear – 64 08 26b

1964 10 26
Parkside fire station built for the future with electronic devices, a 'fire house', recreation facilities and workshops to deal with 30 appliances; chief fire officer R.J. Stepney – 64 10 26b & c

1965 02 25
Parkside fire station operational, officially opened Feb 1965; site earmarked 1939 but delayed due to war, plans for fire station 1950 but delays; replaces hutted fire station on corner of Newmarket Road & Coldham's Lane built as war-time structure1944 & also St Andrews St buildings [3.1,3.2,3.3]

1966 08 30
St Barnabas church arson – bibles and hymn books set alight – 66 08 30, 30a

1967 12 18
Turks Head fire, engines block street; third in 4 years, 1964 bar badly damaged – 67 12 18 [3.4]

1969 03 19
Milletts outfitters, St Andrew's Street damaged by fire which threatened a whole block of shops and offices; may have been raided – 69 03 19, 19f

1969 10 06
Fire engines have difficulty getting into Trinity Lane due parked cars [3.5]

1969 10 10
Royal Cambridge Hotel fire – 69 10 10

1969 10 15
Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company second fire in two weeks – 69 10 15

1970

1970 05 28
Fire Serck Services radiator firm, East Road – 70 05 28

1970 12 08
Fire True Form shoe shop, Petty Cury was caused by candles used during electricity cuts – 70 12 08

1971 03 06
Fire at gas works when oil residue caught alight as workmen using acetylene torches cut metal plates from demolished gas storage tank – 71 03 06

1972 04 24
Two middle-aged women who jumped from a first-floor window into the Garden House hotel's back gardens to escape the fire were later found by a Cambridge milkman wandering along Fen Causeway in their nightclothes. A friend said "The women looked like refugees with smoke-blackened hands and faces. They had walked across Coe Fen. The milkman stopped his float and asked if he could help them". Miss Sarah Wilhelm from Ohio said she was woken by a burning smell. She saw the room starting to fill up with smoke and saw the paint on the inside of the door turning brown. She jumped from the window and the other lady followed 72 04 24 [1.17]

1973 04 13
Nurses at Chesterton Hospital have dreaded what might happen if flames gripped the most vulnerable of their wards. Sister Pat Hough, of Harston ward, said, "Our ward has 19 continuous care patients. It has a wooden floor and it is above the kitchen". But yesterday she was a lot happier after a mock fire exercise at the old people's home in which a new invention came through its first test. The invention - a harness that lies under the mattress and clicks like a car safety belt into an emergency hammock for the patient - is the brain child of the Hospital's fire officer. She said: "The first patient was down the fire escape 35 seconds after the alarm went off. That is about four times quicker than we could have expected if we had used the conventional method"

1974 06 01
Important research experiments were destroyed when fire badly damaged a wing of the University Department of Biochemistry on the Downing site. Four floors of the building, which was opened in 1963 and is the workplace of about 40 people, were damaged. Expensive equipment and research papers were badly affected on the second floor where research work into proteins is carried out. The top floor, home of the chemical microbiology research centre, was also affected 74 06 01

1975 05 09
Cambridge Union Society's historic debating chamber, scene of heated exchanges between Britain's top politicians this century, was badly damaged by fire. The blaze spread through part of the floor of the chamber and went up through two floors of the Round Church Street premises. Crowds gathered in Park Street as a 100-foot turntable ladder was swung into place and three pumping appliances arrived on the scene. The main part of the building was not affected by the fire. Teams of undergraduates mounted guard on the building throughout the night 75 05 09

1976 01 12
Two students had a dramatic escape from death when they fought their way through dense smoke after a fire broke out at historic Magdalene college, Cambridge. An electrical fault triggered off the blaze which caused widespread damage to an isolated three-storey building and at one stage threatened to endanger the famous Pepys library. It was the worst fire disaster at a Cambridge

college for many years. The last severe University fire was at the Department of Biochemistry when there was £100,000-worth of damage 76 01 12 [3.9]

1977 11 12
Firemen's strike for 9 weeks (till Jan 78); 'Green Goddess" engines used by military [3.10]

1978 12 04
Talk of the Town, Fitzroy St, gutted [3.11]

1980

1980 09 22
Police are investigating a fire which badly damaged the former paper mill on Newmarket Road, Cambridge and spread into the roof of the adjoining Globe pub where customers were finishing their drinks. One who was using an outside lavatory spotted the blaze and alerted the landlord who evacuated the pub and called the fire brigade. The former mill, built in 1872, is owned by Norwich Brewers and has been empty for years. The roof has been badly burned and the walls damaged by smoke, heat and water. 80 09 22

1982 06 19
Cambridge was today stunned by a fire which gutted most of the Grove Infants' School, Arbury, and destroyed the staff block at the Manor School. Hundreds of people were woken in the early hours by the sound of the buildings being ripped apart by flames and small explosions. They went out on the streets and watched as firemen fought to control the blaze. Many wept openly. 82 06 19 & a

1984 09 22
An American Chevrolet rescue tender is the most recent addition to Cambridge Fire Brigade's fleet. It carries no water and is just used for getting rescue equipment to accident scenes. It is fitted with the latest cutting equipment, lights, generators and decontamination gear and has been specially chosen for its speed with its big 6.2 litre engine. 84 09 22 [4.2]

1984 12 24
Ridgeon's timber store in Cavendish Road went up in flames, in Cambridge's biggest blaze for years. Appliances from all over the county were rushed to the site and more than 100 men were involved in containing the fire which destroyed more than 800 tons of stacked timber. People in nearby Cromwell Road were evacuated from their homes because of the risk of gas canisters exploding. £750,000 damage 84 12 24

1986 05 07
Carioca Club & City Limits pub arsonist convicted – 86 05 07

1987 09 21
The scene of carnage on the railway line at Swavesey was too much for one fireman who came to help release the dying and injured from the mangled carriages. He was physically sick at the sight of bodies littered around the burned out shell of the passenger train, but like a true professional he recovered quickly and carried on. Fortunately it was not for real, but part of a major exercise involving all the emergency services. But no-one had told those involved until they actually arrived. They thought they were heading for a major disaster. 87 09 21

1988 11 28

Fire fighters battled for two hours to stop a blaze which seriously damaged Cambridge University's Union Society buildings. The famous debating chamber was saved but the main reception room was gutted and the bar and library badly smoke damaged. It is not believed to have been a malicious attack but probably caused by a smouldering cigarette. A major fire in 1975 damaged part of the debating chamber and two floors above 88 11 28

1989 11 15
Proposed redevelopment of Fire Brigade site with new station elsewhere ¢CEN 15.11.89

1989 03 04
Fire ripped through the University Zoology Department causing extensive damage and destroying important scientific work. Previous records in a laboratory used by Cancer Research Campaign workers were destroyed, wiping out years of research. The department had been on alert because of fears that it would be a target for animal rights protestors. Some experiments were saved because refrigerators continued to function, despite the intense heat 89 03 04

1989 07 28
Fifteen people were taken to hospital and a dozen evacuated from their homes after a major chemical alert in Cambridge. Forty firemen battled to prevent an explosion after highly toxic chemicals overheated at the Cleanaway plant. One was rushed to hospital when a safety wall collapsed crushing him against drums on the site in Cowley Road and three police officers were hurt as they helped families to escape the toxic fumes. Emergency services stopped all trains and the nearby Cambus depot was also affected. 89 07 28

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

County Gaol, Castle Hill 1930 *68.62*

c.34.9 : Courts, prisons

1891 02 20
Jane Elsden had been sentenced for 14 days detention but escaped from Spinning House through window into St Andrew's Street. She had been arrested at Dullingham by men who had acted more in the character of Russian police and dragged through three courts. She was not legally represented and had no opportunity of obtaining a solicitor. But she had committed no offence under Common Law: she had not broken out and had not escaped from lawful custody of a constable – it was the Vice Chancellor. The offence for which she was detained was not one known to Common Law or University charter. The case was gone into in a manner unknown in any civilised country; she was examined and cross-examined and the charge made out against her. The Vice Chancellor's court savoured rather of the Inquisition. The 'court' was a small room at the Spinning House and it was not a court of justice. While it existed no women were safe and ladies of the highest respectability had been subjected to the indignity and annoyance of detention. The judge said the prisoner was in lawful custody. She was found guilty and sent back to undergo remainder of her term of imprisonment. Incident excited great interest all over country, questions in House of Commons and remission of portion sentenced granted. 1891 01 17 1891 02 20 Ch

1891 02 27
The MP for Cambridge has contacted the Vice Chancellor & suggested a conference between the University and Town with a view to a modification of the ancient powers of arrest, trial and imprisonment at the Spinning House. He will raise it in the House of Commons. The Home Secretary has released the girl – escape was entirely due to the negligence of the matron. The

University Senate will meet the Mayor and Borough on question of jurisdiction. Large number of articles and letters in London newspapers over Spinning House and questions continue to be asked in Parliament. CIP

1891 03 07
Spinning House Scandal – Government asked to consider Bill for abolishing Vice-Chancellors' courts at Oxford & Cambridge and make members triable by the ordinary law. To be meeting Vice Chancellor and Committee of Town authorities on University jurisdiction. CIP

1891 03 20
Report of committee appointed by Borough to confer with Council of Senate with referenced to jurisdiction exercised by University over persons not members of the University over Spinning House cases. The Vice-Chancellor's court is held in secret, evidence is not given on oath, accused cannot obtain professional assistance. They urge abolition of University jurisdiction or it be held in abeyance for a time. University would obtain advice of Counsel. Council seek Bill in Parliament to abolish all University jurisdiction over residents not members of the University. Councillor Nichols drew a highly coloured picture of an unfortunate woman being hunted down the streets by a Proctor and his two men and taken to the Spinning House where she was made to don a prison garb and on the following morning appear before a secret tribunal, without allowing anyone to be called on her behalf, and without hearing evidence on oath, sentenced to a term of imprisonment. The University had not seen their way to abolish these laws, saying they did not think the streets would be properly kept by policemen. University students often created great disturbances, rushing arm in arm and insulting everyone. This was what Proctors ought to see after, not hunt unfortunate women down.

1891 04 10
Special meeting of Town Council - should reconsider ancient privileges of University. The University were now represented on council. Reviews activities of 1852 when sought inquiry into state of discipline, studies and revenues of University including search for common women, power over ale-houses, theatres, trade regulations and University Courts. Proctors patrolled the streets for only a brief period and powers could be suspended. The Watch Committee of town and university, dealt with some of the matters. Jane Elsden case; she had broken no law but the University law, was sentenced to three week's imprisonment. She broke out of prison then taken before the magistrates, having committed an offence against the common law. She said 'Don't send me to the Spinning House, send me to gaol. She was convicted. Application made to Home Secretary and she was released. Two years ago a Local Government Inquiry was held, nothing said about University privileges. The Council of Senate willing to remedy grievances. Now they had a system of police controlled by a Watch Committee on which University represented, the powers were no longer needed. Ch

1891 04 18
Spinning House death of girl in 1846 – details of inquest; describes conditions then – graphic account CIP

1891 06 12
Council of Senate state Vice Chancellor has power to modify procedure of court; Spinning House court is small and inconvenient … have contacted W.M. Fawcett, architect as to best means of increasing convenience

1891 06 12

Town Council special meeting on University jurisdiction – University had agreed to abolish the Vice Chancellor's secret court. Ch

1891 06 13
Report of Senate on alterations in Spinning House. CIP

1891 07 11
Town council meeting on University jurisdiction; University feel police powers inadequate; will make structural changes Spinning House – no concession; if University gave up powers over immorality, could town take them up. University refused to give up veto over theatrical performances but agreed wine licences; discommunining – tradesmen send in accounts when exceed £5. An Act of Parliament would be contested. CIP

1891 12 04
Editorial: to keep silence about the Spinning House wrong … an undergraduate is himself suggester of evil to a girl; the proctor takes his name and college and lets him go. The proctor's men arrest a girl a distance from the scene, take her to Spinning House and next morning the undergraduate is called as the principal witness – he ought to have been in the dock and the girl in witness box. The first trial at the Spinning House had better be the last. The undergraduate, a married man, overwhelmed with shame has taken his name of the College books and left the town; a girl little more than a child has been branded with infamy and the whole sickening question will have to be gone into anew. CIP

1891 12 11
Daisy Hopkins application for Habeas Corpus; Lord chief justice quashed conviction. She had been apprehended and charged with walking with a member of the university in a public street; was committed to Keeper of Spinning House or House of Correction. Claims illegal custody – no offence, merely walking; was not stated she was of bad character or suspected of evil. It said she told undergraduate he could go with her to her rooms but this was not offence alleged. She was illegally committed. There was no appeal from this court, no limit to term of imprisonment. Would like to see it the prison was a legal prison. University proctor had requested police to produce register of prostitutes. Reference to 1860 case in which woman arrested. CIP

1891 12 18
Council supported promoting Bill for abolishing powers exercised by University over persons not members of that body. Coun Vinter considered powers under which Daisy Hopkins case took place – power of searching without a warrant by day or night in any house in the town for persons suspected of evil; persons arrested might be imprisoned by Vice Chancellor and no limit to imprisonment. Vice Chancellor the sole judge without appeal and had only to find the person suspected of evil to pass sentence. Could accept evidence on oath or not at his pleasure, could refuse to accept evidence, could pass sentence and was absolute authority within his own court. Spinning House was a place which the visiting justices could not enter by right; public were absolutely in the dark as to the mode of treatment the prisoners subjected to. Were no rules permitting visits of friends, prisoners not allowed to write letters and proceedings absolutely private. Ch

1892 01 01
University jurisdiction – public meeting, turbulent proceedings in favour of total abolition of powers of University over non-members. Ch

1892 01 01

Daisy Hopkins to bring action for damages for false imprisonment. Review of incidents in Spinning House case The Spinning House business has taken up the whole of the year. It was on January 17th that Baron Pollock sent Jane Elden back to undergo the remainder of her term of imprisonment. The incident excited great interest all over the country. Questions were asked in the House of Commons. On March 2nd Town Council private meeting decided negotiate with University. No settlement satisfactory which does not abolish jurisdiction of University over inhabitants of town. First negotiations with University proved abortive, the University willing to make its Court open and allow prisoners professional representation but declining to make any alteration in its powers over townspeople. Two Town Council meetings on negotiations or whether to promote a Bill in House of Commons; decided continue negotiations. On May 14th a full report of all town grievances discussed by Council and adopted. July 11th University reply discussed – refused to depart from original position. Council decided to communicate with Oxford Town Council over Bill – they in favour but could do nothing for moment. Seemed about to collapse through lack of interest but then Daisy Hopkins imprisoned; trial and application to Supreme Court for writ of Habeas Corpus lead to release. On 18th December Council voted for Bill for abolition of University jurisdiction. CIP says University jurisdiction should be for University only and townspeople dealt with by common law of the land. University position confirmed by Act and by an Act it must be curtailed – expensive. Public meeting, turbulent proceedings – very large attendance of townspeople partial to total abolition of University powers – detailed reports. Ch, CIP

1892 01 08
Letter disputes jurisdiction rights and Patterson arbitration of 1854-55 and rights of university by G.F. Browne, Disney Prof and ex Proctor over problems of prostitution. Ch

1892 01 08
Oscar Browning's opinion university jurisdiction over Hopkins, sites case of washer-woman who brought similar action; claimed she had washed linen for young people of immoral character; had said Spinning House a filthy dungeon to which comforts of police station were incomparable. CIP

1892 02 12
Proctorial system – circular issued to members Senate. CIP

1892 03 25
Daisy Hopkins case commenced at Ipswich Assizes – details. It was important to protect young men but equally as important that women should not be deprived of freedom simply because of breath of suspicion; she had gone to Newnham to meet a young man with whom she was keeping company. He did not keep his appointment. When going home she was stopped by a man wearing a Macintosh and asked the way to Tennis Court Road. He was a complete stranger. She answered and went on but shortly afterwards the office of the Proctor came up and pinned her against the railings, holding her until Proctor came. She was arrested and taken Spinning House where detained under great hardship and suffering. In Vice Chancellor's court the University solicitor was asked how he could tell the man was a University gentlemen – what is his name. But the Vice Chancellor at first declared this was not a question which ought to be put and he would not allow it; then allowed. She was sentenced to 14 days imprisonment for talking with an undergraduate, whom she did not known to be an undergraduate and who was a perfect Stanger. An appeal made to Court of Queen's Bench and judges took view that Vice Chancellor had no power to imprison anyone for walking with an undergraduate. The plaintiff released and present action bought. Daisy said she was 17. She had asked to see parents – refused – and sentenced 14 days. Was not charged with anything. Was taken down to the cell which was not warmed. There was a small wooden bed with a mattress of straw but she could not lie on it as so cold. She asked

for water as her throat was bad and had to go out in the passage to get it. Was locked up all night. Was not allowed to see her father, friends or the solicitor who appeared for her. Said not guilty, sentenced to 14 days imprisonment. Prison dress put on and she had to clean floors. At end of 10 days was released. She claimed she never had improper relations with any one, had never associated with bad characters or smoked with other women who had been found in ale house under suspicious circumstances. She had been engaged over two years. Had been warned before by a Proctor who said he would lock her up if she was shopping a six o'clock in the evening Her solicitor said the untaxed costs of getting her released was £138.10. He had not been paid a farthing with the exception of a sovereign by her brother. A collection at Cambridge had reached only £26. Promisers were not kept because people were afraid of the University. University solicitor said no respectable woman ought to have been in Tennis Court road at that time of night and she had no good reason to be there. Jury found verdict for defendant with costs – good grounds existed for suspecting her and Proctor acted in good faith. CIP, Ch

1892 04 15
Council special meeting over University Jurisdiction Bill to repeal section of 13 Elizabeth giving power to police to arrest prostitutes & theatre licences. Senate willing to meet objections on court being secret, evidence not given on oath and accused not having professional assistance. Happy to see Town possessed of additional powers to maintain decency in streets but a different thing to abolish entirely the present system without waiting to see how new powers work. CIP

1892 06 03
Second of Spinning Houses cases to be heard in public; 20 persons outside Senate House awaiting trial, University men excluded. People had to knock to seek admission. Girl imprisoned one week – decision greeted with hisses and signs of disapproval. CIP

1892 11 18
Female Refuge told of good which Spinning House doing. CIP

1893 05 26
Town council on University jurisdiction – special meeting over powers over persons not members.
Senate co-operate with Borough to promote bill – right to arrest women suspected of evil to be repealed; women to be taken to police station; university jurisdiction will disappear and be vested in Justices. Regulation of theatres – does away with consent of Vice Chancellor before any stage plays – be responsibility county council. Music and dancing – need licence from Licensing Justice. Public exhibition or performance need permission of Mayor – including Midsummer Fair. Cambridge University Jurisdiction Act 1894 – details. Spinning house might be converted into a sort of jail for women – but under entire control of Borough Justices. Proctors could enter pubs. Ch

1893 12 01
University jurisdiction

1894 01 26
Resolution Free Library committee to extend use of lending library to persons residing in the county

1894 02 02
Spinning House case

1894 05 11.
Corporation Bill before House of Commons – a compromise between University and Corporation, reducing friction re prostitutes … students were young and inexperienced freshly released from discipline of school life and would fall east prey to worm of bad character if precautions not taken … women would be attracted from country and London … women of bad character might be perfectly quiet in their behaviour and abstain from open solicitation yet their presence in the streets would be a great temptation … proctors would exercise exceptional powers at own peril. During last two years a marked deterioration in state of the streets. Objection to omission of words 'behaving in a riotous and disorderly manner'. Bill a compromise and impossible to take out any part without rendering it unacceptable. Bill allowed police to arrest bad characters wandering in streets unable to give satisfactory account … and similar power to proctors who on same footing as police. Vice Chancellor's court and Spinning House to be abolished and persons tried before ordinary court
University jurisdiction founded on very ancient charter and was much resented by town – but now come to unanimous accord. Select committee of House had approved the special clause. There was no need for this private bill. Would be similar to affairs in Oxford

1894 06 22
Corporation Bill. The House of Lords carried the Cambridge Spinning-house Bill by an overwhelming majority. The measure, which re-enacts in a modified form at the end of the nineteenth century the much-abused medieval powers of the Cambridge authorities, came up for third reading. The question was practically decided on party lines. Lord Leigh (Trinity College) moved to leave out Clause: "Every common prostitute loitering or being in a street or public place for the purpose of prostitution or solicitation." He said he regarded it a most dangerous power to place in the hands of a policeman that he should be given authority to say whether woman was out in the streets of Cambridge for the purpose of prostitution or not, unless she was seen actually to solicit, and the object of his amendment was to provide that a police-constable should not have that power unless he proved solicitation. Under the Bill, a poor woman going home after her day's work might be arrested by policeman. The Duke op Devonshire (Chancellor of the University) regretted that he was unable, on behalf of the University of Cambridge, to assent to the amendment. The University of Cambridge had from very ancient times been invested with very extensive powers of dealing with vagabonds, prostitutes, and other suspected persons, and those powers had from time to time caused good deal of conflict between the University and the Municipal authorities. The powers were not altogether suited to modern ideas and circumstances, and after discussion had taken place between the University and the Municipal authorities, a compromise was arrived at, with the unanimous approval the Town Council and of a town's meeting, which was embodied in this Bill. Under the Bill the law of Cambridge would be assimilated to that of Oxford, and though it was quite true that the Oxford law and the present Bill conferred upon the police and the University authorities powers somewhat in excess of those which were possessed by the police of ordinary boroughs, it was very generally admitted that, in towns such as Cambridge and Oxford, where large number of young men resided for a very considerable portion of the year, for the purposes of education, the University and Municipal authorities should be armed with somewhat larger powers than were necessary in the case of other towns. The effect of the amendment would be to make it impossible for either the University or Municipal authorities to arrest any prostitute unless the act of soliciting were actually proved, and the powers conferred would be insufficient if the amendment were adopted. Moreover, the whole of the arrangement arrived at between the University and the Municipal authorities would come to an end, and the law would remain as it at present stood. The Duke of Rutland (High Steward of the Borough), said the Corporation of Cambridge felt quite as much the University the necessity of passing the Bill its present shape. He hoped the measure, which was the result of compromise, would be passed in the state in which it then stood. Lord Walsingham

(High Steward of the University), also hoped the House would not assent to the amendment, because, unless these special powers were given to the Municipal and University authorities, there was considerable danger that the state of the streets of Cambridge would become a serious scandal, and a moral danger to the undergraduates would arise. The Lord Chancellor did not think the difference between the amendment and the clause as it stood was so great as appeared. He quite agreed that special legislation was necessary in University towns. That was admitted by the amendment much as by the clause of the Bill. It would not be denied that very considerable feeling of hostility had been aroused by the sixth clause, and by the passing of the Bill in its present form that agitation would not subside. The amendment was put forward by those who had strongly opposed the clause. He believed that the amendment would be far more likely to work for the interests of the University than a clause to which many persons were hostile. The Earl of Morley said if the Bill had been introduced as an ordinary town Bill it would have been his duty to report that it went beyond the powers of the ordinary law, but in the present case there were peculiar circumstances, and he would vote for the clause as it stood. The Bill passed. CIP

1894 11 09
Parliamentary committee report that owning to passing of Cambridge University and Corporation Act 1894 the use of university portion of the Spinning House is no longer required; need more accommodation for police station … take steps for disposition of portion of spinning house used by university by purchase or otherwise. CIP

1894 12 28
Spinning House abolished. Ch

1894 01 04
Town council contact Hobson's Charity re acquiring University portion Spinning House. CIP

1895 03 01
Spinning House site might be suitable fire station. Ch

1895 08 23
Town Council approach Charity Commissions to permit use of Spinning House as police station. CIP

1895 09 18
Town council trying to get disused part of the spinning house handed over to the town without payment in order to enlarge the police station and also for a fire station. CIP

1897 01 16
Judge falls asleep

1897 02 06
Charity Commission scheme; corporation get entire use of Spinning House to expand police station, rebuild one day

1897 09 01
Some remarks were made some time ago with regard to the condition of the Cambridge Workhouse and it was said that the prison would be more comfortable than the Workhouse. Mr Campkin said he knew the condition of the House more than 20 years ago, when the place was in a bad condition and when there was nothing but whitewash on the walls, and that very dirty and grimy. The place then generally bore the aspect of being neglected. Now he thought it really

marvellous. The walls were all painted, there was a dado of light and cheerful appearance and everything about the place was scrupulously clean. They found just now that there was a lack of able-bodied inmates. That was not bad, because they did not want able-bodied persons to come into the House and it spoke well for those outside the House that they were able to keep out

1897 11 17
Scarcely a week ago the Vice Chancellor entertained a distinguished company of judges at a banquet in the Hall of Downing College, after which an adjournment was made to the rooms of one of the Fellows. Certain ardent spirits deemed it a favourable opportunity to indulge in a little diversion, suggested by the obtrusive handle of the door behind which the distinguished guests were killing time. "Why not fix it with stout wire to some neighbouring object?" The wire was forthcoming, the connection was made, and just sufficient length was allowed to admit of the door being opened a few inches - but no more. The judges tugged and tugged and tugged and all the Queens' judges and all the Queen's men would not make the door open sufficiently wide to enable them to get out. One valiantly put his hand through the small opening and tried to sever the wire with a carving knife. When he withdrew his hand it was copiously covered with red paint - and the wire remained intact. It is stated that the distinguished guests took this practical joke in good part - extract from the "Daily Mail"

1897 11 18
Sir - My attention has been called to a curious instance of the gullibility of the correspondent of a London daily paper copied in your columns yesterday. It is true that three undergraduates of this college have been send down for the remainder of the term, but the offence for which they have been punished was purely of a domestic nature. For the satisfaction of the University, I may add that not one of her Majesty's judges who honoured the college by their presence last Thursday knows anything whatever of the occurrence - J.C. Saunders, Downing College

1898 06 09
Cambridge town council accepted a design for new police and fire brigade buildings, which it is proposed to erect upon the Spinning House site. If the new station is erected the whole of the existing buildings, which are not conspicuous for their beauty, will be removed, with the exception of the chief constable's house, and the fire station and firemen's quarters will be completely isolated from the police building. A new main entrance will be erected and it is suggested that the present stone gateway to the police station should be removed to the back entrance in Downing place. The only elevation of any architectural pretensions will be the main facade towards St Andrews's street. A copula forming a central feature will serve as a "look-out" in connection with the fire station. The plans include provision for a mortuary.

1898 11 29
Femle Refuge: Vice Chancellor spoke of Spinning House – women had been taken to a place where they were under the careful hands of women and were visited by a chaplain and others. New arrangements not equal – no proper cells for women, no female warder to look after them. Ch

1898 12 20
Hobsons Charity would not hand over Spinning House unless received an adequate rent or sufficient purchase money

1898 12 21
When Judge Hawkins came to Cambridge on one occasion he essayed to bring his dog with him into Trinity College. But the head porter refused to allow it to be brought within the precincts and

persisted even after it had been made known to him that it was the dog of one of her Majesty's judges. The judge was angry at the time, but sent for the head porter and told him that he was right, making him a present in recognition of his trustworthiness

1899 04 19
The days of the Cambridge Spinning House are numbered. It is to be pulled down in order that a house of detention after the best approved modern ideas may arise on its site. There is no more stirring chapter in the history of modern Cambridge than that which this forbidding looking building in St Andrews Street recalls. It speaks of many things which the Cambridge of today is glad to forget. It is an ugly monument of an ugly feud between the authorities of the University and town. The feud is dead: would that the razing to the ground of the Spinning House were sufficient to efface all memory of it

1899 04 19
An inquiry held heard that half of the Spinning House was occupied as a police station. It had been built about 1840 and was far from up to date. There was no difference between the accommodation for male and female prisoners, and any women that might be kept in the police station all night had to be attended to by police constables on duty, there being no female warders or matrons. The cells were clean and in good order but were quite inadequate for the requirements of the town

1900

1901 10 07
The police station is part of the machinery which Society has devised for its own protection and for inflicting punishment upon wrong doers. In the golden age there will be no use for Police Stations, and the fine building of which Cambridge has just witnessed the opening may justifiably be converted into a Free Library. There is no virtue in locking up a wrong doer in an ugly prison and the architect of the new station, Mr John Morley, has designed a building which is an ornament to the town. The cells are not luxurious but they are not stifling. It is true the building has cost a good deal but is excellent value for money.

1901 12 05
The Church Street Mission is quite distinct from the Cambridge Female Refuge but is auxiliary to it. Miss Elsden walks about the street at night and is able to persuade women who have gone astray to go with her to the Mission House and stay in safety for a few days until they can be received into the Refuge. Sometimes women come voluntarily and sometimes they are brought by the police. She also provides an escort for female prisoners on their discharge, meeting them at the prison and escorting them to the railway station, thus protecting them from evil influences in the town at the first moment of their freedom.

1902 01 30 c
Cambridge Discharged Prisoners Aid Society heard that Cambridge prison has not been fully occupied by local prisoners during the past year but the Commissioner had sent down a number of military prisoners as well as others from London and other prisons. These transfer cases had added considerably to their work. They had investigated 186 cases, including 53 female. The Church Army Home in Fair Street & the Cambridge Female Mission had been most helpful. An Association of Lady Visitors had been established to adopt measures for setting up in honest life of those unfortunate women who come under the grip of criminal law, in whose case the attendant shame is always attended with peculiar difficulty CDN 1902 01 30

1902 02 22
Smallpox at gaol, p3

1902 03 10
Another case of smallpox has occurred at Cambridge Prison, Castle Hill. The spread of the disease is a mystery. The first case was in a prisoner from Maidstone. Prompt isolation followed. Another was found suffering from an infectious disease diagnosed as scarlet fever and he was moved to the Sanatorium. Other symptoms developed and he died. A few hours after a warder was smitten with smallpox and now there is a fourth case, a prisoner confined in the gaol for several months. Elsewhere infection has been traced to letters that have come from London where the epidemic is now raging. At Cambridge gaol mailbags are repaired in large numbers. They come from all parts of the country and may have carried the microbes that cause the disease.

1902 03 14
Sir – A man from the Cambridge prison, which they knew to be infected with smallpox, was admitted to the Sanatorium and yet no precautions were taken in the way of vaccination. His nurses passed into the room day and night. I object strongly to the want of promptitude in telephoning me as soon as smallpox was suspected so that I might be aware of the possible danger and be able to take precautions. I would not allow my patients to go to the Sanatorium if they are to be exposed to such risks – E. Lloyd Jones

1902 04 03
Chesterton U.D.C. had asked the Prison Commissioners to provide accommodation for small-pox patients at Cambridge Gaol but they did not see their way to do that and urged the local authorities to provide room for the patients in their own accommodation. Chesterton would be prepared to place the small-pox hospital at the disposal of the gaol authorities but felt the prison should guarantee expenses and pointed out the difficulty of the safe custody of the prisoners.

1902 05 07
It will probably surprise many that there is no telephonic communication between Cambridge Police Court and the County Gaol. This morning when a trial was to have proceeded it was reported that the defendant was too unwell to leave prison. The question was asked as to how long he was likely to be absent and a special messenger was sent to Dr Buckingham, the Prison Surgeon. The Chairman said they were surprised to find there were some antiquated notions which had prevented the telephone from being laid on between the two places and thought councillors should see it was remedied

1902 05 13
A young Cambridge man who was imprisoned through being in arrears on a wife's maintenance payment contracted small-pox whilst lying at the county gaol, Castle Street. He was removed to the hut but succumbed to the disease on Sunday last. Deceased, we believe, had only been in gaol 18 days. He was buried last night.

1902 12 04
Small pox at prison, p3

1904 01 30
A savage attack has been perpetrated by a prisoner at the Cambridge gaol upon a warder named Andrews, which resulted in severe injuries. Amongst a gang of prisoners chipping wood was one of morose disposition who suddenly rushed upon the unsuspecting warder and dealt him a terrible blow with a hatchet. Assistance was at hand and the prisoner was secured. He has been reported

to magistrates and subjected to a severe flogging for his cowardly assault. Flogging is the most severe punishment than can be inflicted on a prisoner and is only carried out in serious cases such as this, or for mutiny. 04 01 30

1904 05 18
The unexpected death of a prisoner at the Cambridge Prison occasioned the holding of an inquest. The man's name appeared to be Patrick O'Shea, though as a matter of fact he had a variety of names – Nil, Laughton, Carrington, MacDonald, MacArthur, Montmorency and Hassan Effendi. He gave his age as 45 and his occupation that of a labourer and was committed for trial for stealing money in Wisbech. Warder Andrews said he heard a noise from the cell and found the man apparently in a fit. Death was due to apoplexy. 04 05 18

1904 11 22
Frederick Silk told the court that he was driving the prison van along St Andrew's Street in Cambridge when he ran into a handcart & knocked its 63-year old driver down, cutting his hands and face. The man had been drunk and pushed the cart into his wheel; there was no other traffic on the road at the time. Silk could not stop because he was going to the station with the 'Black Maria' to fetch some prisoners from the 4.30 train. He was fined £1

1905 01 21
A serious charge has been brought against the trumpeters who, on the occasion of the Assize at Cambridge, blow a fanfare as the judge steps from his carriage at the Shire hall. They are accused of being unable to keep in tune and wailing as diversely as any pair of cats. I would not undertake to estimate their ability as musicians, but as a sort of variety turn they certainly take a high place. But the learned judge expressed himself highly pleased with the way they performed their duties. 05 01 21

1905 04 14
Mr Palmer, the Melbourn Passive Resister who determined to suffer imprisonment rather than pay the education portion of the poor rate has emerged from Cambridge gaol after seven days. As a teetotaller and non-smoker prison discipline brought few privations but the food was painfully plain, all the bread was brown and there was a bran suet pudding. He was set to work mending mailbags. He had no complaint about his treatment by the warders but says the governor went out of his way to be offensive 05 04 14a-c

1905 04 18
Bertram Palmer, the Melbourn Passive Resister said the County Gaol seemed to be the busiest place in Cambridge. It was like a beehive. There were a number of cells and a busy bee in each one. The warder gave him a number of mail bags to patch and said he expected to see them done by the next day. He had to keep things clean in his cell. He was given a bucket, a scrubbing brush, a piece of stone and a piece of cloth. It was not at all amusing being in gaol but he had been the 150th Passive Resister to go there and he would go again if he thought it would aid the cause. 05 04 18-

1906 04 06
Rev S. Newling, a nonconformist minister of Isleham is spending a week in the Cambridge county gaol for non-payment of the educational portion of the poor rate. Magistrates issued a distress warrant but he had made over all his worldly goods to his wife, so he was committed to prison. It is expected that when he is released he will be met at the prison gates by several prominent members of the Free Church Council. 06 04 06

1906 04 07
The Isleham Baptist pastor was sentenced to seven days in Cambridge county gaol but only served four. Having entered on Monday evening he was released on Saturday, as they do not keep a prisoner over the Sunday. He brought out with him a huge lump of the brown bread that formed the chief article of his diet: it was served with tea for breakfast, with soup for dinner and cocoa for supper. 06 04 07c-d

1906 05 09
Death in gaol, p3

1906 11 12
With the death of John William Cooper Cambridge loses one of its most pronounced personalities. As a barrister in the Daisy Hopkins case he ruthlessly exposed the evils of the Spinning House and few can understand the amount of good work he did behind the scenes. Latterly folk have agreed that he was breaking up, but though he may have suffered physically he never showed signs that his mental vigour had diminished. 06 11 12a & b & c

1908
Borough justices considers probation service & appoints two men & one woman on voluntary basis [6.5]

1908 03 09
Mr A.H. Hawke has been appointed Governor of the Cambridge Prison. He has served at Wandsworth, Wakefield and Hull and takes a great interest in social reform, life saving and ambulance work. His recreations are cycling, lawn tennis and chess. 08 03 09b

1908 04 17
When the jury retired to consider their verdict at the Assize Court, Castle Hill, they were taken down a flight of cold stone steps into a narrow chamber of sordid aspect, dimly lit by three barred windows and furnished with two bare wooden forms. The Court does not want the retiring room made too comfortable, but there must have been times when they have made up their minds hastily to escape from that dungeon. Now a new room has been built, with a lavatory. But the court is still illuminated by gas and flooded with fumes. Silver-tongued barristers halt while the custodian, armed with his long pole, leans from the dock to light it. 08 04 17c

1908 05 16
A wardress at the County Gaol, Castle Hill, told the inquest that a single mother and her baby had been put in the reception cell and slept on a plank bed with a mattress. In the morning the baby was dead and she concluded the prisoner had overlaid it. There was no room for cradles in reception cells, which were very small, and when they were provided in the main cells the mothers never thought of laying babies there at night. The Coroner did not attach any blame to anyone. The narrow bed was altogether insufficient for the child and mother and now they knew that would not happen again. The jury said a cot should be provided. 08 05 16b

1908 10 09
Cambridge Prison is satisfactory and discipline well-maintained. The number of male prisoners last year was 818 and their conduct generally good. They are employed at oakum picking, sawing, chopping and bundling wood, gardening and building work while the female prisoners do needlework, knitting, laundry work and cleaning. One female prisoner, aged 66, was baptised at her own request. The schoolmaster has carried out his duties with zeal in his new schoolroom

where 45 prisoners have been under instruction. There has been no escape, no attempt at escape and no case for corporal punishment CWN 08 10 09 p3

1909
Separate court for juveniles & police sergeant paid 10/- for each of three cases in which he acted as probation officer; within year County probation service began [6.5]

1909 01 01
F.W. Fawcett was the architect of many Cambridge buildings including the Cavendish Laboratory & various departments in the New Museums site. He undertook the restoration of a large part of Queens' College, designed additions to Addenbrooke's Hospital, remodelled the County Gaol & built the Training College for Women, the County Police Station, several college boathouses and cricket pavilions as well as several large mansions including Longstowe and Six Mile Bottom. CWN 09 01 01

1910 01 07
The old-fashioned and, on hygienic grounds, objectionable practice of 'kissing the Book' in taking the oath in courts of law, was relegated to the limbo of obsolete custom on New Years' Day by the coming into force of the new Oaths Acts. Now a person being sworn has to take the Testament in his right hand and swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth. The new oath was used in Cambridge courts on Saturday, the first witness to be sworn being Miss Florence Butler of Sturton Street. CWN 10 01 07g

1910 06 17
At the last stroke of eight o'clock in the morning James Henry Hancock paid the extreme penalty of the law for the murder of Alfred Doggett at Chesterton. The execution took place at the County Gaol, Castle Hill. Pierpoint was the executioner, assisted by his brother, and they accomplished their deadly work with marvellous celerity, death having been absolutely instantaneous. Only the Deputy Sheriff, the Governor of the Prison, the Prison Chaplain and Doctor were present but a crowd of several hundred assembled on the pavement opposite the Shire Hall. They kept their gaze fixed on the flag-staff, unaware that the practice of hoisting the black flag has been discontinued. Nor was the bell tolled. It is 12 years since the extreme penalty of the law was last paid within the walls of the County Gaol. The last culprit was Walter Horsford, the notorious St Neots poisoner, who was hanged on 28th June 1898 for the murder of his cousin. Prior to that there was a long period during which the hangman was not called upon for it was as far back as December 1876 that Robert Browning was executed for the murder of a woman on Midsummer Common. The last public execution in the county was in March 1864 when a man was hanged for the murder of a girl at Whittlesey. Shortly after this the law was passed putting a stop to executions in public and the tendency now is for complete privacy 10 06 17b 10 06 17c

1912 09 06
Cambridge Prison warden, C. Corby – interesting reminiscences of 30 years – 12 09 06l & m

1912 10 04
Cambridge Prison Governor's annual report – 12 10 04i

1912 12 13
William Dobson, successor to the late Mr A.H. Hawke as Governor of the Cambridge Prison, was born in a police station in 1859 and has been connected with crime and criminals all his life. He was previously Chief Warder in the Borstal Institution at Feltham and believes that even judges do not realise what the system is doing to reduce crime. Mr Dobson married 25 years ago and has

six children. His two eldest sons are soldiers and one of his brothers is Chief Inspector of the Newcastle City Police. 12 12 13f

1912 12 20
An inquest into a man who died at Cambridge gaol while awaiting trial was told he was a wheelwright who'd complained of pains in his insides for a long time. He'd suffered a haemorrhage. His wife said she'd had every opportunity to see him and that he'd been as kindly treated 'as though he had been a gentleman'. The officers, governor and doctor had spared nothing to save his life 12 12 20j

1913 02 07
Discharged prisoners' aid society heard that sixteen-year-old girls presented the greatest difficulty. In the past Proctors had the Spinning House where the reform and improvement had been carried out effectively. But it had been abolished for fear of wrongful arrest of women. Another problem was people suffering from 'ergophobia'. They were the type who slept well and ate well, but 'came over all of a tremble' if they were shown a piece of work 13 02 07 p9 CIP

1913 07 04
Prisoner dies in County Gaol - 13 07 04 p9 CIP

1913 08 01
Death prison wardress, female side 13 08 01 p12 CIP

1913 11 07
Frederick Seekings, a Brampton man was hanged in Cambridge Gaol for the murder of his wife. Mr T.W. Pierpoint was the executioner and the hanging was expeditiously carried out, death being instantaneous. Very little interest in the execution was shown by the public. There was but a mere handful of people outside the Shire Hall, chiefly composed of errand boys and youths. The black flag was not hoisted nor was the prison bell tolled, and there was nothing whatever to indicate that anything unusual was taking place. 13 11 07 p08 CIP

1913 11 07
Hangings at Cambridge County Gaol & elsewhere
1801 03 William Grimshaw, house breaking
1802 04 William Wright & John Bullock, arson
1812 03 28 William Nightingale, alias Bird, forgery
1812 08 08 Daniel Dawson, poisoning horse at Newmarket
1816 06 28 John Dennis, Isaac Harley, Thomas Smith, William Beamiss & George Crow, Littleport riots, at Ely
1817 John Scare, burglary Whittlesford
1819 08 06 Thomas Weems, murdered wife Arrington
1824 04 03 John Lane, rape
1827 09 31 Joshua Slade, murder rector Stukely, at Huntingdon
1829 James Bishop, sheep stealing, at Huntingdon
1829 04 William Osborn, of Boxworth for highway robbery
1830 04 03 William Reader, William Turner & David Howard, arson Linton
1833 03 29 William Westnot & Charles Carter, attempted murder of gamekeeper
1833 12 John Stallan, arson, Sawston
1850 04 30 Elias Lucas & Mary Reeder, poisoning wife at Castle Camps
1861 08 10 Augustus Hilton, murder wife at Parson Drove
1864 03 11 John Green, murder of girl at Whittlesey, last public execution

1876 12 14 Robert Browning, private execution
1878 11 25 Henry Gilbert, murder of child at Hail Weston, at Huntingdon
1898 06 Walter Horsford, St Neots poisoner
1910 06 14 James Henry Hancock, murdered Alfred Doggett at Chesterton
1913 11 02 Frederick Seekings, murdered wife at Brampton 13 11 07 p8 CIP

1914 07 10
Gaol closure female side: The Chief Constable reported that as there were so few prisoners, the female side of Cambridge Prison had been closed, and in future all commitments of women will have to be made to the prisons at Ipswich and Northampton 14 07 10 p4

1915 10 20
Assizes – trumpeters in khaki – photo – 15 10 20e

1916 02 09
One of the most astonishing results of the war is the effect it has, had on crime. This matter has been commented upon at every Assize and Quarter Sessions for the last twelve months or so. The calendars have been so light as to cause astonishment. Serious crime seems almost to have come to an end, and the presentation to the Chairmen of Quarter Sessions of white gloves as evidence of there being no prisoners for trial has become quite a common occurrence. As a consequence of this change in our normal conditions, some of His Majesty's prisons have hardly any prisoners, in them, and as a wartime economy, it is proposed to close some of them for the time being. Cambridge is to be added to the number closed during the period of the war. It is a remarkable proposition, although we should kike to that that we could get along without a prison in our midst 16 02 09 CIPof, 16 02 09b

1918 11 13
End of the war rejoicings: huge crowds celebrate … news arrived about eleven and spread like wildfire … Union Jack hoisted at Town Hall and soon youngsters cheering in the streets … bunting … rush to post office to despatch telegrams … unhappily undergraduates degenerated into a vulgar rag … broke windows, wrecked old police courts and put bells of GSM out of action – 18 11 13a, b

1919 02 05
Magistrate Summoned. At the Cambridge Borough Court, a County magistrate living in Hills Road, Cambridge, was summoned that, as occupier of premises, he did not as soon as conveniently may be after the cessation of a fall of snow, remove or cause to be removed from the footway and pavement all snow on such footway and pavement. He did not appear, but sent a letter to the Bench explaining that he only had one domestic, and could not call on her to clear the snow away. An odd man, who was called, wanted art extravagant sum for removing it. The Mayor said the case was a proper one for the police to bring before the court. It was a considerable comfort to the public if every householder cleared away the snow from his own frontage. He warned the public that cases of this kind would be dealt with more severely in the future, but as this was the first of the kind to come before the Bench this year, they had decided to dismiss it on payment of costs.

1919 03 26
His Honour Judge Wheeler. We learn with regret that His Honour Judge Wheeler, K.C., of many years, until, recently, Judge of the Cambridge County Court, is lying seriously ill at his residence , in Warwick Gardens (London). A memorial from the Registrars of Courts in the circuit has

been privately presented to him, consisting of a solid silver salver bearing the Judge's crest, together with an illuminated address containing the signatures of the Registrars in the' district. The presentation gave great pleasure to His Honour 19 03 26

1920

1920 09 01
First five lady JPs appointed [2.9]

1920 10 04
Women jurors try their first case – CDN 20 10 04

1921 03 23
Assize court figures of Law, Justice, Mercy & Power to be removed – 21 03 23f, 21 03 30e

1922 01 04
Assize Court figures of Law, Justice, Mercy & Power to remain, had been removed 22 01 04c

1923 03 15
At the Ely Diocesan conference the question of full reports of divorce court proceedings in newspapers was discussed and a resolution passed "That this conference protests against the publicity in the newspapers of full reports of trials in the divorce courts as being offensive and detrimental". Mr Sells said they had the advantage over their forefathers by having their sewage taken away silently and quietly, and it seemed wrong that their moral sewage was not treated in the same way. It was now allowed to linger about and pollute the air. A friend had told him of two urchins in a car glancing over the unsavoury details put before them. It would be impossible to overestimate the harm done to the rising generation by such things

1923 12 22
During the past 28 years a police-court missionary has been engaged in the Cambridge courts. It has for its main object the reformation of all, irrespective of creed, who pass through the police courts. No matter what the offence or how often repeated, none are too young to be helped, no criminal too hardened. Almost every case undertaken means some expenditure. It costs money to provide boots, clothing, travel expenses and entrance fees to homes and institutions. This is a period of numerous charitable appeals but we doubt if any object is more worthy of support and more productive of lasting good.

1925 01 19
A fire broke out in the Grand Jury Room at the Shire Hall which destroyed all the woodwork and furniture. It is a large room is situated at the front of the building on the Police Station side and contained a table and some chairs. A stairway leads from it to the grand jury gallery in the Crown Court and it was through the fire roaring up these stairs that damage was done to the court by smoke and steam.

1927 12 31
County to buy gaol, p6

1928 01 02
The Home Secretary has decided to discontinue the Cambridge prison on Castle Hill and has offered it to the County Council for £4,812. The buildings consist of a central block comprising laundry, workshop, kitchen, labour cells, ladder store, hospital, photographers' hut, execution

shed, schoolroom and governor's house. The Office of Works wishes to lease the main buildings to store their records in. This would not prevent the council in the future from building a new county hall on the prison site. 28 01 02

1928 01 02
An interesting discussion in regard to the future of Cambridge Prison and the Castle Mound took place at a meeting of the County Council. The Home Secretary would convey it to them for £4,812. The County did not want the mound, which was more closely connected with Cambridge than the rest of the county. All persons interested, including the Borough Council and the Cambridge Antiquarian Society would be consulted when its future was settled. Something was also said about the possibility of removing the County Hall in Hobson Street to the Shire Hall site 28 01 02

1928 05
Order plans for a new Shire Hall, Castle Hill, on site of County Gaol, this had stood idle since prisoners transferred to Huntingdon gaol; in 1919 the building had been fitted up a as a branch repository of the Public Record Office. Site acquired for County Council, records sent away, & new Shire Hall started using bricks from the old gaol [2.2]

1929 01 28
Certain documents of an historical nature are stored in Cambridge prison on Castle Hill and access is permitted to University students for the purpose of study. But if a County Hall is built on the site the Prison will be pulled down and the documents removed. The University fears that they would lose a very big educational factor and urge the County Council to provide accommodation for them in their new building. Having regard to the tendency of modern legislation to give Councils more work they would probably require considerably more accommodation at the end of 20 years and such storage would then be valuable for administrative purposes. 29 01 28

1929 04 13
Shire Hall courts debate, p8

1929 11 04
The Government Office of Works have made arrangements for the records at present stored in the old Prison on Castle Hill, to be removed from Cambridge to another disused gaol. It is their policy to concentrate such records at Canterbury. The Governor's House at the old Prison will be adapted to provide temporary accommodation for county council staff and rooms in the prison gatehouse used for storage purposes. This has released accommodation at the County Hall for other departments CDN 4.11.1929

1930

1930 06 19
County gaol photo, p5

1930 06 20
The old county gaol at Castle Hill was opened to the public. Since 1916 when it was closed because of a scarcity of prisoners – it has been said there were not enough to keep the place clean – the prison has only been used for Government record purposes. Then it changed hands and became the property of the County Council; a writer to the CDN threw out the suggestion that it should be opened for public visitation, and the scheme became an actuality. Maids in their scanty

summer frocks, flannelled youths, mothers and fathers and grandfathers queued for admission to the County Gaol on Cambridge Castle Hill. The execution shed was a popular rendezvous along with the condemned cell, the burial ground and padded cell. People searched for links with the past. They found few. The gaol is not what it was. Dirt and rust have replaced whitewashed walls and polished steelwork and certain parts have become dilapidated. 30 06 20a [2.5,1.10,2.6]

1930 06 21
Well over 700 people visited the Cambridge County Gaol; it is a dingy old place and looks a good deal the worse for wear. Most were surprised at the size of the prison and had no idea that such extensive accommodation was provided. Having explored the interior the majority couldn't resist the fascination of a visit to the execution shed just outside. 30 06 21b

1930 06 23
Gaol photo, p7

1933 10 10
Assize trumpeters pic, p1

1938 03 21
A witness at Cambridge Police Court took the Confucianist oath by smashing a saucer in the witness-box. Then the clerk said: "You shall tell the truth, and the whole truth – the saucer is broken, and if you do not tell the whole truth your soul will be broken like the saucer". Mr Fan Hung testified that he was a research student at Fitzwilliam Hall and that money had been taken from his wallet in his lodgings. A fellow-lodger admitted the theft and was bound over. 38 03 21

1939 11 13
The Conscientious Objectors Tribunal under Judge W. Lawson Campbell heard its first cases. A teacher from St Faith's School thought war was incompatible with the teaching of Jesus Christ, a clerk at the Cambridge Electrical Supply Company was a member of the Peace Pledge Union & believed military training led to the decadence of the human race while an undergraduate felt war degraded humanity but would do medical work. 39 11 13 & a; also 39 11 14, 39 11 15, 39 11 16a & b

1940

1941 04 25
Judge Farrant Leaves the Bench. Few people (writes Watchman) who know the upright figure of His Honour H. G. Farrant would realise he is 77 years of age and I hear that his advancing years have led to his retirement from Bench activities in the County. Judge Farrant, as he is usually called - although he retired from the position of County Court Judge in 1937 - has been Chairman of the Cambridgeshire County Quarter Sessions since 1927, and of the Isle of Ely Quarter Sessions since 1921. It was in 1927, too, that he was elected Chairman of the Cambridgeshire Divisional Bench. Previously he had had experience in Worcestershire, having been appointed a Justice of the Peace there in 1909 about the same time as he became a revisionary barrister on the Oxford Circuit. Among the important positions which he has held was that of President of the Society of Chairmen of Quarter Sessions, to which he was elected in 1930. He has been a well-known figure in local sporting circles, particularly with the Cambridgeshire Hunt. 41 04 25

1942 09 04

Death of Solicitor. Many people in Cambridge will learn with regret of the death of Mr. H. F. Shaw, which occurred on Sunday after a long illness, at his home at 54, Lensfield Road. A well-known and much respected figure, Mr. Shaw had practised as a solicitor in the town since just after the last war. He was 50 years of age. During the last war he lost the sight of an eye while serving in the 12th Suffolk Regiment, and very shortly afterwards came up to Christ's College to study law. He took his M.A. and Ll.B. degrees and studied practical law for some time under Mr. Guy Stanley. Later he be-came a partner in the firm, and for the past 18 month, since the retirement of Mr. Stanley, had been in sole charge. In 1936 he was appointed Clerk to the Cambridge County Petty Sessions at the Shire Hail. In the Borough he was a frequent prosecutor for the police, and also instructed many counsel for the Crown at Assizes

1942 12 24
Henry Thomas Mortimer, former footman to Judge of Assize – obit – 42 12 24

1943 11 19
New Post - Mr. J. D. Matters, Registrar of Cambridge and District County Courts for the past seven years, and also Registrar of Bishop's Stortford, King's Lynn and Wisbech County Court groups, has been appointed Registrar of Leicester County Court. He takes over at Leicester on January 1. In the Cambridge County Court on Wednesday, congratulations and good wishes were extended to him by His Honour Judge Lawson Campbell, Mr. Grafton Pryor, Deputy-Judge, and others.

1944 03 17
Death of Mr. H, G. Spicer. Many in Cambridgeshire and beyond will learn with regret of the death on Saturday last of Mr. Henry George Spicer, J.P., of 20 Old Queen Street, Westminster, and of Homewood, Sawston. He was 68. A former High Sheriff, Mr. Spicer was well-known in Cambridge as a magistrate, and on the retirement of Judge Farrant, became chairman of the Cambridge Division. He was known in Sawston as chairman of Edward Towgood and Sons, Ltd., the old-established paper mills, which he bought for his company in 1918, and which he re-organised and modernised extensively. He also bought the Towgood estate and other land in Sawston and Whittlesford, in order to develop a flourishing group of factories for companies of which he was chairman. For his employees and others in neighbouring villages, Mr. Spicer was particularly thoughtful, and for these he laid out a sports ground, erected a theatre and cinema and a reading room and library. He also supported many other local improvements and charities. He was a generous benefactor to Sawston Village College, which, when it was built, was the first of its kind in the country.

1950

1952 07 21
The whole of the structure of the 112-year-old courts of assize at the old Shire Hall, Castle Hill, is unsafe and liable to collapse at any time. Dry rot has been attacking the floors and has now spread up the walls and plaster and into the roof. The damage is said to be irreparable and it is virtually certain that the County Council will have to write off the building as a total loss. The Court House, built of brick and stone in the Italian style has a portico supported on columns and comprises two courts and a magistrates' room from which three prisoners recently escaped by removing an iron grill over a window. Repairs would cost £50,000 52 07 21 [2.3,2.4,2.5]

1952 07 28
One of the first judges to sit in the Shire Hall Courts, built between 1814 and 1844, Mr Justice Parke, complained about the ventilation in the Crown court. Bad ventilation is one of the factors

that cause dry rot and it is possible that it has taken 107 years to come to the present condition. It could be smelt very plainly and if a knife was stuck into the wood it would go in up to the hilt in most places. It was unfortunate that they had decorated the building three years ago at considerable expense and no one knew about it. Coun. Dr Woodman said: "I hope the committee will consider the dry rot in the minds of the jury as well as in the walls of the court. You are packed like peas in a pod and with bad ventilation you get one thought".

1952 08 01
Justice Melford Stevenson appointed 30th Recorder of Cambridge [1.20]

1952 08 09
The news that the roof and interior of the Shire Hall Courts on Castle Hill, Cambridge are in danger of collapse has drawn attention to the statues on top of the building. The figures represent Law – holding a book, Justice – drawn sword (scales are missing), Mercy and – holding chain – Power

1952 12 05
Cambridge City Council are objecting to the County Council's proposal to demolish the Shire Hall courts at present suffering from dry rot; their consent is needed as the building is scheduled as of special architectural or historic interest. Ald Wilding thought it was hardly necessary to demolish the building just because of some defects in the woodwork & Ald Taylor put forward a plan for preserving its very fine façade, but Coun George Edwards said the best thing would be to demolish it and have a new building erected in its place. 52 12 05

1953 01 21
Cambridge city council have asked the County not to demolish the old Assize Courts which are at present closed because of dry rot. As it is a building of special architectural interest further consideration should be given to its preservation. Dry rot does not necessarily involve the demolition of the whole structure of an affected building – none of the Colleges have had to demolish their buildings, though many of them have been affected from time to time. But the County says there is no assurance that further infection could be prevented. They intend to re-erect the façade of the building elsewhere

1953 01 31
Shire Hall courts, p9

1953 04 13
The Cambridgeshire Divisional Magistrates Court sat for the last time in the old Shire Hall Courts, where justice has been meted out for over 100 years. It is just over eight months since it was found that the building was infested with dry rot and since then all courts, save the County Bench, have been accommodated in the Guildhall. Since then there have been many arguments in the County Council Chamber but the only solution they could find was that the building would have to be demolished.

1953 06 10
Sir – the Shire Hall assize courts were closed on my order in July last year because the structure had become dangerous. Dry rot had been rampant for at least 50 years and the improvised repairs had done nothing to eliminate it. During the work of demolition fragments of newspapers dated 1922 and 1925 have been found that were left by workmen repairing the dry rot in those days. The council had to decide whether to save the bare walls of the old building and rebuild the roof

and the whole of the interior, or to demolish it. The extent of the damage is now clearly revealed and confirms the necessity of demolition – Wilfrid Wingate, County Architect. 53 06 10

1954 03 16 c
A labourer who figured in a daring escape from the cells beneath Cambridge Shire Hall courts two years ago was arrested in London. He made his escape with two other men sentenced for housebreaking. In their getaway from the Shire Hall Courts – since demolished – the men forced up a grating weighing about one-and-a-half hundredweight in a nine-feet high ceiling near the detention room in which they had been placed pending their removal to Bedford Prison. Through this they climbed into the yard outside. The grating was not cemented down but its great weight and height above the floor made the lifting of it a considerable feat.

1953 06 17
Assize demolition photo, p12

1954 07 17
There were strong protests at plans for new offices at Shire Hall Cambridge. The new building would contain Assize and Quarter Sessions courts, offices and accommodation for the County Library. The courts at Linton, Caxton, Melbourn and Bottisham were 'shockers', housed in old police stations and the magistrates would be only too happy to do their work in an up-to-date building. Architects had strongly advised against cheese-pairing costs of the assembly hall: Cambridge's lovely college buildings had been the best and had stood the test of time and the costs of labour and materials were rising. But a new plan for one-tier local government might mean the doom of County Councils and the scheme should be deferred 54 07 17

1954 11 01
The old Shire Hall Assize courts no longer existed; it had been pulled down. That could not be altered; it was down and a new one had to be built, councillors were told. The Judges appreciate the temporary accommodation but occasionally inquire when the Assizes are expected to be held once more in the re-built Courts; they might get tired of waiting for them. We did not want to lose Cambridge as an Assize town. A proposal to defer their erection for two years was withdrawn but tenders will not be submitted for a year.

1954 11 27
Cambridge assize courts should be moved to the City Library site at the Guildhall, councillors suggested. There might be some overcrowding on the first day of the Assize when all the prisoners, witnesses and jurymen in all cases had to be present or if there was a case that attracted particular public interest. But there would be a substantial saving in capital expenditure. For some time they had wished to provide new premises for the library as the Central Lending Library and Reading Rooms were no longer adequate; before the war there had been proposals to move it to the old Post Office building in Petty Cury

1955 03 15
Plans for a new assize court at the Cambridge Guildhall would entail the entire rebuilding of a large proportion of the existing structure; there would be parking and traffic problems, though these would be eased with the Lion Yard multi-deck car park. The Council would be prepared to lease the premises occupied by the Library Department and the city sessions court could be used on payment of an agreed sum. 55 03 15 c

1955 05 02

The County Council agreed that an assize court on the Guildhall site was not practical. When the City had suggested the adapting the Central Library site they must have known it was inadequate. Some of the supporting columns of the Lending Library could have to go and hardly any of the reading rooms would be retained. Cambridge needed a new Central Library but this would not be sent from Heaven. It would have to be paid for and that was behind it – the City wanted someone else to pay for it. 55 05 02b

1956 02 25
Shire Hall court tenders deferred; Cambridge Daily News criticised for leading campaign against the proposed building – 56 02 25a, 56 02 26a & c

1958 05 21
Assize judges at Trinity – photos – 58 05 21

1959 01 22
Assize trumpeters – photo - 59 01 22

1959 04 18
120 children appeared city courts - less than five in 1,000 guilty of serious crime; in 1949 probation service made 87 enquiries for court, in 1958 273 [6.4]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1961 05 12
Assize Court, Castle Hill site being levelled – 61 05 12a CIP

1962 08 18
Site of old Shire Hall courts cleverly landscaped to hide the car park which lies in front of trees – 62 08 18

1964 01 25
Judges stay at Trinity College – history by F.A. Reeve – 64 01 25

1964 03 21
Fenstanton lock-up dates back to 1780 and is now a listed building. Lockups were usually inconspicuous, distinguished only by iron studded doors with small gratings. In the 17th century they were under the control of the parish constable. Prisoners were kept in them pending their transfer to the county gaol or an appearance before the magistrate. The constable was an officer of the manor and usually chief executive officer of the parish. In 1842 the appointment transferred to the parish vestry until the Police Act introduced police districts and the lock-up fell into disuse. 64 03 21

1964 06 02
Cambridgeshire County Council is anxious to buy compulsory some land at Castle Hill, including the Sir Isaac Newton public house, for their new assize courts building scheme. They also want a private house in Gloucester Street and a cycle store. Much of the other land between Gloucester Street corner and the county police headquarters has already been acquired for the court, project permission for which has been given after a delay of several years. Work should start this year. 64 06 02a

1967 05 06
Shire Hall redevelopment envisages 15-storey block of offices and law court, car parking under pedestrian precinct – 67 05 06

1967 06 27
Bene't Hostel for Girls closed last November; girls remanded now have nowhere to go but police cell, Holloway or Borstal – 67 06 27a

1969 09 29
Royal Commission on Assizes reports suggests Crown Courts to replace Assize & Quarter Sessions [3.4]

1969 11 11
Judge leaves Trinity en route Assizes – photo – 69 11 11a

1970

1971 05 28
Cambridge to lose Assize Court under new reforms – 71 05 28

1971 10 07
Last Quarter sessions, Guildhall - transferred to Wisbech [3.5]

1971 11 23
Cambridge Assize closure ends 710-year tradition of judge's stay at Trinity college; now major cases heard at Norwich or London – 71 11 23a

1972 01 11
First sitting of Cambridge Crown Court [3.7]

1976 03 31
First community service order [3.12]

1976 12 17
The Cambridge County Court moved into a new office block between Bateman Street and Norwich Street earlier this year. Both the court and the offices are uncompromisingly modern. They are efficient, comfortable but quite impersonal. The court room with simple modern furniture lacks the character of the old premises in the centre of Cambridge. But most cases dealt with are divorce and perhaps the less daunting informal atmosphere is more suitable. The witness boxes are so close to the judge's chair than an incensed witness could hit the judge and certainly see his notes 76 12 17

1980

1980 01 30
The new magistrates courts, perched above the Lion Yard car park have been built to last for the next 100 years at a cost of £1.7 million. Some wonder how Cambridge managed to acquire such an expensive addition to the skyline in these times of stringent public spending cuts, the answer seems to be that it won its case just in time. Today the verdict would be different. After years of less-than-satisfactory courtroom conditions we have something of a showpiece. Compared to the

old courts the new carpeted building is luxury itself. "From boarding house to Hilton" was how one prison officer described it. In fact the only criticism is that some people will consider the edifice 'too good' 80 01 30

1980 02 02
Caxton magistrates sat for the last time before moving to the new court building at Lion Yard, Cambridge. Some looked back through their old records going back to 1863 when courts were sometimes held in a magistrate's house or the local pub. Sentences were severe, particularly for theft. One man was jailed for 14 days with hard labour in 1864 for stealing potatoes and next year a 13-year old from Chesterton was sent to a reformatory for three years for stealing a concertina worth five shillings. Cambridge City Magistrates Court in the Guildhall also closed; it had been the starting point for many trials but working conditions were now very difficult. 80 02 02

1980 03 28
Cambridge's new £1½ million magistrates' courts above the Lion Yard multi-storey car park were officially opened by Prince Philip. Although he claimed to have stopped being surprised at anything he was obviously amused that they had been built on top of a car park, but said that it was often the most eccentric ideas which were the best. He hoped they would be required as little as possible 80 03 28a [3.17]

1982 03 12
The gallows from the old Cambridge prison behind the assize courts on Castle Hill have been restored in a quiet suburban back garden in Nottingham. The last hanging took place in November 1913. Hundreds of people queued to inspect the gaol in June 1930 before it was demolished. They included Doris Melbourne; she visited the prison three times with her father, William Wale, who took photographs of the gallows in situ. 82 03 12c

1984 03 10
Judge David Wild retires; the subject of controversy over various judgements [3.19]

1986 09 30
New prosecution system with creation of Crown Prosecution Service replacing Police 3.20]

1989 08 16
Cambridge lost coroner after 1972 Local Government Act, then appointed by County Council though Durrell styled 'Honorary City Coroner', on his retirement R. Sterndale Burrows continued but with his death title now lapses ¢CEN 16.8.89

1990 05 24
Cambridge Gallows fail to sell at auction – 90 05 24

Protest about proposed Local Government changes, 1961
261.60

c.35.1 : County Administration
Reports on the establishment and growth of the of Cambridgeshire County Council, the Assize Courts, County and Shire Halls and some of the disagreements between the City and County Councils which are explored more fully under the relevant sections

headlines

1888
County Council established under Local Government Act, much of business previously transacted by Quarter Sessions assigned to them. Offices established in various parts of the town & Council meetings held in Guildhall [3.7, 3.1, 3.2]

1899 04 18
Death Hale Wortham, clerk County Council

1900

1901 02 08
The ceremony of proclaiming King Edward VII was carried out at Ely. The High Sheriff in his official uniform read the Proclamation from the steps of the Shire Hall and a procession then marched along High Street to the Market Hill where thousands of people were congregated to hear the Proclamation again read. Every point of vantage was seized upon and it was refreshing to see the much-maligned Jubilee fountain proved to be a useful stand for sightseers.

1901 03 25
Cambridge may be justly congratulated on her County Councillors. The meeting was opened and conducted throughout in a very business-like & decorous manner. Good nature, a courtly yielding to others and a desire to be conciliatory seemed to be general. The language was decidedly moderate. Another noticeable feature is the large number of young men on the Council. Youthful spirits will go on working cheerfully instead of mournfully shaking their heads and eternally speaking of the "good old times 01 03 25

1902 07 09
Sir – the county council is much misunderstood by the majority of Cambridge people who seem to regard us with suspicious eyes and seek to alienate the town and county by setting up Cambridge as a county borough. As I look back over the last 14 years there is not a single instance where Cambridge has not had the utmost consideration and fairness of treatment from the hands of the County Council. The setting up of the backs of Cambridge people against the Council is the work of a small body of discontents – C.C.

1902 07 16
Sir – if Cambridge and Chesterton are excluded from the County Council it will become a superfluous organisation whose few remaining functions could well be carried out by the Rural Councils. The loss of revenue would impose upon the rural districts a burden which would be simply crushing. What would Cambridge gain – nothing unless it is made a County Borough. But with the population of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and Newnham Croft added Cambridge would still be short of the 50,000 requisite to form a County Borough – John Bester

1904 02 23
County Council electioneering tactics at Cherry Hinton were exposed in confidential correspondence between two potential candidates. Mr Neal, the owner of Cherry Hinton Hall, was too unknown to have the slightest chance of carrying the seat. Many scarcely knew there was a Hall and he had not had time to make it a centre of interest. The parish is Radical to the backbone and the Conservatives would be giving the seat away to the opposition were he to stand. However Mr Brooke had great strength with the cottagers and even the Dissenters would support him. In the event of his being elected he would not serve once the Education question had been settled and would stand down, making it easier for Mr Neal to win the seat. 04 02 23

1907 03 07
In the recent County Council elections for Castle Ward, Cambridge both A.B. Whibley and James Wootten received equal votes. Both candidates are elected but neither can vote until one or other petitions the High Court, which is an expensive process. In a similar incident in Huntingdonshire candidates drew lots but after the 1857 parliamentary election in Huntingdon both Mr Fellowes and Mr Heathcote sat in the House of Commons but were unable to vote until Heathcote gave way. 07 03 07

1907 11 23
Officers who preside at country polling districts are required to bring the boxes containing votes to Shire Hall ready for counting next morning. Usually they do so comfortably seated in a carriage. But one cycled a considerable distance laden with all the papers and paraphernalia. The feat required some courage as the journey through the mud, wind and rain must have been an unpleasant experience even to an active cyclist in a very fair state of training 07 03 09

1907 11 23
County official praised for auditing – 07 11 23a

1908
County negotiate with Town Council over use of their offices [1.8]

1910

1910 03 04
Since the inauguration of County Councils 21 years ago they have grown enormously in importance and in power. Their responsibilities over public health, sanitation, water supply and the administration of the Poor Law will probably be increased in the new future. This throws the administration more and more into the hands of the officials. Ratepayers should take care to select their representatives but unfortunately the absurd practice still prevails locally of voting for councillors according to their political predilections and the best man is frequently defeated. 10 03 04e

1910 11 04
The County Council needed extra offices for its staff. At present departments were housed in different buildings and councillors often went to the wrong one. They could take space in the Guildhall but would be paying rent that would assist the Borough to erect a very fine building in which they had no permanent share. It would be more economical to build on the Shire Hall site, removing the Chief Constable's house and other police buildings, but most convenient to purchase a building on a more central site. However they must bear in mind the great difference in cost 10 11 04a & b

1910 11 04
The County Council voted to spend £1,000 to oppose plans to enlarge the Cambridge boundaries and create a county borough. It was not in any sense a manufacturing town, though it was important as a railway centre and had important markets. The County Coroner's district would be reduced with his salary cut in consequence – the Borough would pay compensation for loss of remuneration – and the County police force would be reduced by one sergeant and four constables. In addition seven elementary schools and 2,700 children would be transferred to the Borough. But Cherry Hinton residents favoured amalgamation. 10 11 04h

1910 12 16
The crowds outside the Shire Hall (Assize Courts) assembled early for the results of the poll. They stamped their cold feet on the muddy, puddley ground and scowled at the hopeless sky that spread a light unpleasant drizzle. A little girl, doubtful of her right to stand on so important a site, cuddled up closely to a friendly shop window. An errand boy allowed his political ardour to overcome his sense of what is required of express deliveries. He was joined by a butcher's boy, with a liberal show of Conservative colours, who gave his willing assistance in doing nothing to their mutual satisfaction. 10 12 16d

1912 01 06
County Council offices scattered in Regent Street, Hills Road, Sidney Street & St Andrew's Street; options: to use Assize court as council chamber & build new offices, Shire Hall (which felt to be too far from station); to join with Borough in new Guildhall or to build new offices; decide to purchase old Hobson Street Methodist Chapel & houses adjacent for £3,000? £6,200 site & £9,740 building [1.9, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5]

1912 01 06

County Council clerk resigns; new appointment still in hands of Standing Joint Committee, however is Bill before Parliament under which County Council will elect own Clerk [3.3,3.4]

1912 02 02
The accumulation of duties from which the County Council is suffering as increased the amount of work to be got through at the quarterly meetings. Yesterday's lasted from ten in the morning until half-past three in the afternoon and most of the members had drifted out long before the end. There is a tendency to rush things and a general spirit of indifference due to weariness of the flesh. Chairmen of committees tend to leave the chamber when they have piloted through their own reports. Some alteration must be made. 12 02 02g

1912 02 02
A new County Hall is needed. The existing clerk, a solicitor in private practice, works from his own office. The Education and Medical departments are on opposite sides of Sidney Street, the Finance Clerk in is Regent Street, the Architect in Hobson Street and the Surveyor in Hills Road. This is inconvenient and uneconomical and leads to inefficiency. 12 02 02h

1912 03 08
The last meeting of the Chesterton Urban District Council recalled the changes during the last 40 years. Before 1880 there were no street lamps, no sewage system, no street watering and an imperfect water supply. The paths were unkerbed, there was no collection of house refuse, no medical officer, no sanitary inspector, no recreation ground and very few allotments. The poulation had risen from 5,000 to 12,000. Now councillors would help improve the Borough of Cambridge at large 12 03 08f

1912 03 15
The County Council is to purchase Hobson Street Wesleyan Chapel and the adjoining house to build a Council Chamber and offices. The site is central and quiet and although the cost might appear to be high it would eventually result in a saving. There would be much greater efficiency to have all officials under one roof instead of them running backwards and forwards from one place to another. They would also need four less telephones, saving £30 12 03 15f

1912 08 09
The County Council had considered various sites for a new County Hall. The purchase price of Hobson Street Wesleyan Chapel was £3,500 (£324,000 today) which was fair. In the chapel they had a good deal of material and the shell and outside walls would stand and be utilised. But it would not be sufficient. So they needed to purchase a house from Christ's College; they were not desirous of selling and the price of £2,500 was the least they would accept. The erection of county hall would increase the value of the other buildings in Hobson Street and help to bring a much-needed town improvement through the widening of Sussex Street. 12 08 09

1912 10 12
County Council clerk resigns; new appointment still in hands of Standing Joint Committee, however is Bill before Parliament under which County Council will elect own Clerk [3.3,3.4]

1912 10 18
Ashley Tabrum appointed Clerk to County Council – 12 10 18e

1913 10 31
A new Act of Parliament imposed further duties on County Councils. The best thing they could do was to go on strike and say they were not going to take any more burdens on or find more

money for various things the Government send down, unless they paid a good proportion of the expense. But then the Government might come down, do the work and charge the Council with the expense. 13 10 31 p11 CIP

1913 11 31
Councillors queried the cost of furnishing the new County Hall. It was not a club and should not be furnished as if it were. It was suggested the Clerk should have a Turkey carpet costing £22 10s. and a writing table costing £35. This was extravagant. Councillors' seats would be of oak and covered with pigskin. But they should be cheap and uncomfortable since they would only spend a few hours there during the year. But the whole thing was already finished, and nothing could be done, they were told. 13 11 31 p12 CIP

1914 02 06
At the opening of the new County Hall in Hobson Street the chairman thanked the Town Council for allowing them to use their council chamber and committee rooms for the past 25 years. In 1747 the old Shire Hall had been built on Market Hill above arches where butchers had their stalls on market days. In 1842 this passed to the town when a new Shire Hall at Castle Hill was ready for occupation. But the enormous development of administrative business had now brought the County Council again into the centre to this new commodious and economical building, finally bringing together departments previously distributed in all parts of the town. 14 02 06, a-c [1.17]

1914 03 27
The Cambridge County Borough Bill (with which were included Wakefield and Luton) was defeated in the House of Commons. It would inflict great hardship on the county. If it were taken away the rest of the area would be almost entirely agricultural, some MPs said. But the County Council would be more efficient if all members represented agricultural interests rather than the urban interests of the Borough, the Cambridge MP contended. 14 03 27f; A farce – editorial – 14 03 27d… great jubilation the County … Sir George Fordham but disappointment in the Borough, 14 03 27

1920

1920 06 30
Council Staff. The County Hall Committee has considered the resolution of the Cambs. County Council that the time has arrived when it is necessary to provide increased accommodation for the Council's staff. Sir Douglas Newton reported the result of an interview with the Bursar of Christ's College if they are prepared to sell Bene't House. The owners of the ground rents of the adjoining properties occupied by Mr. P. Morley and Messrs. Eaden Lilley and Co., Ltd., are to be approached with a view to the purchase of the freehold of the property, and Mr, Percy W. Gray. (Scruby and Gray) was asked to advise the Committee what offer they should make for the Riding School site, At a subsequent meeting the Clerk of the Council reported as to negotiations for adjoining property, and submitted a valuation by Messrs. Scruby and Gray for the Riding School site. It was then agreed to recommend the County Council to authorise the Committee to make an offer for the Riding School site for the amount of the valuation. The Committee also resolved that the amount to be reported to the County Finance Committee as the sum likely to be required for capital expenditure during the next five years should be: Extension of County Hall, including site and equipment, £21,000 20 06 30 CIPof

1920 10 27
County council war memorial, County Hall, unveiled – Ch 20 10 27a

1920 12 20
Large German field gun offered as war memorial at Shire Hall but this would obstruct entrance; two trench mortars could be put under the portico at either side and would not take too much trouble to keep clean – both rejected - CDN 20 12 20

1922 01 04
Assize Court figures of Law, Justice, Mercy & Power to remain, had been removed 22 01 04c

1925 01 19
A fire broke out in the Grand Jury Room at the Shire Hall which destroyed all the woodwork and furniture. It is a large room is situated at the front of the building on the Police Station side and contained a table and some chairs. A stairway leads from it to the grand jury gallery in the Crown Court and it was through the fire roaring up these stairs that damage was done to the court by smoke and steam 25 01 19 [1.20]

1928 01 02
The Home Secretary has decided to discontinue the Cambridge prison on Castle Hill and has offered it to the County Council for £4,812. The buildings consist of a central block comprising laundry, workshop, kitchen, labour cells, ladder store, hospital, photographers' hut, execution shed, schoolroom and governor's house. The Office of Works wishes to lease the main buildings to store their records in. This would not prevent the council in the future from building a new county hall on the prison site. 28 01 02

1928 01 23
An interesting discussion in regard to the future of Cambridge Prison and the Castle Mound took place at a meeting of the County Council. The Home Secretary would convey it to them for £4,812. The County did not want the mound, which was more closely connected with Cambridge than the rest of the county. All persons interested, including the Borough Council and the Cambridge Antiquarian Society would be consulted when its future was settled. Something was also said about the possibility of removing the County Hall in Hobson Street to the Shire Hall site 28 01 23

1928 04 28
Less than 20 years ago I was doing journalistic work in a Hobson Street office. In those days there was no County Hall opposite, nor talk of one. It was begun only 15 years ago and if anyone had been asked how long it would remain the County Council headquarters he might have answered 'A hundred years at least'. But so great has been the extra work thrown on the Council that already the building has been outgrown and plans are now to be prepared for a new building on the Castle Hill site. There are now 86 officials and ratepayers may ask if such an army of officers are really necessary 28 04 28

1928 05
Order plans for a new Shire Hall, Castle Hill, on site of County Gaol, this had stood idle since prisoners transferred to Huntingdon gaol; in 1919 the building had been fitted up a as a branch repository of the Public Record Office. Site acquired for County Council, records sent away, & new Shire Hall started using bricks from the old gaol [2.2]

1928 12 01
In the administrative areas of Cambridgeshire County Council there is only one town, Cambridge; the population of the town and county area are almost equally balanced. In ordinary

circumstances Cambridge would have been made a county borough with all the advantages that accrue, had it not been that this would paralyse local county government. As a result it has had to suffer and remains under the control of the County Council, a body which is almost entirely rural in character. Under the new rating assessment Cambridge will find some 70% of the money but has fewer representatives on the county council than the rural areas; this is an intolerable position the Cambridge MP told the House of Commons.

1929 01 28
The County Architect presented sketch plans for a new building on the Cambridge castle site, containing office accommodation, with council chamber, library and storerooms. It was futile to prepare plans for their existing needs when it was practically certain that under the new Local Government Bill they would have a large amount of additional work thrown upon them. Mr Dunn had erected the present County Hall in Hobson Street & was able to compete with the best architects in the country with regard to a beautiful scheme and a beautiful building. But if he was forced to collaborate with another architect there would be delays and they would never get the building erected. 29 01 28

1929 01 28
Certain documents of an historical nature are stored in Cambridge prison on Castle Hill and access is permitted to University students for the purpose of study. But if a County Hall is built on the site the Prison will be pulled down and the documents removed. The University fears that they would lose a very big educational factor and urge the County Council to provide accommodation for them in their new building. Having regard to the tendency of modern legislation to give Councils more work they would probably require considerably more accommodation at the end of 20 years and such storage would then be valuable for administrative purposes. 29 01 28

1929 03 23
Shire Hall model, p8

1929 04 13
Shire Hall courts debate, p8

1929 07 22
New County Hall plans and tenders, 29 07 22 p5*

1929 11 04
The Government Office of Works have made arrangements for the records at present stored in the old Prison on Castle Hill, to be removed from Cambridge to another disused gaol. It is their policy to concentrate such records at Canterbury. The Governor's House at the old Prison will be adapted to provide temporary accommodation for county council staff and rooms in the prison gatehouse used for storage purposes. This has released accommodation at the County Hall for other departments CDN 4.11.1929

1930

1930 01
Reject proposal that would have abandoned Shire Hall plans [2.16]

1930 04 28
Shire Hall tender, p3

1930 06 20
The old county gaol at Castle Hill was opened to the public. Since 1916 when it was closed because of a scarcity of prisoners – it has been said there were not enough to keep the place clean – the prison has only been used for Government record purposes. Then it changed hands and became the property of the County Council; a writer to the CDN threw out the suggestion that it should be opened for public visitation, and the scheme became an actuality. Maids in their scanty summer frocks, flannelled youths, mothers and fathers and grandfathers queued for admission to the County Gaol on Cambridge Castle Hill. The execution shed was a popular rendezvous along with the condemned cell, the burial ground and padded cell. People searched for links with the past. They found few. The gaol is not what it was. Dirt and rust have replaced whitewashed walls and polished steelwork and certain parts have become dilapidated. 30 06 20a [2.5,1.10,2.6]

1931 02 06
Shire Hall flooring, p6

1931 07 31
Shire Hall demolition picture – 31 07 24f

1932 07 15
The new Shire Hall was opened with little ceremony in the presence of a handful of people. The Architect (H.H. Dunn) presented the Chairman, Ald W.C. Jackson, with a gold-covered key engraved with the County Arms with which he unlocked the door. Soon a stream of guest arrived and the corridors presented a most animated appearance. The council chamber is very similar to that at the old County Hall in Hobson Street from which all the seats and tables have been removed while every care has been taken to provide the maximum air, light and spaciousness to the offices. "New Shire Hall shames town" 32 07 15e & f

1932 07 29
Cambridgeshire County Council held their first meeting at the new administrative buildings on the Castle site when the recommendation that it be called 'Shire Hall' was adopted without discussion. It was admirably suited to its purpose without any frills and decorations. But Councillor Fordham regretted the purchase of two Turkey carpets for the councillors' room at cost of £37 32 07 29a & b

1933 05 08
The County Council is to change their staff's weekly half-holiday from Thursday to Saturday, although the Clerk can to require the attendance of any member of staff on any Saturday afternoon if desirable. However senior officials should not lose their half-day. The public would have no cause for objection, though last Saturday afternoon 50 people applied for licences. The Guildhall has closed on Saturday afternoons for many years. 33 05 08

1933 07 31
The old County Hall in Hobson Street was supposed to be sold with the proceeds being used to pay for the new Shire Hall on Castle Hill. But now little tin advertising 'To Let' signs had appeared and there didn't seem to be the slightest attempt to sell it, a councillor complained. But every effort had been made to dispose of it without success and they were now hoping to let a portion to the Government's Office of Works which would suit the council equally as well as a sale. 33 07 31

1934 04 25

The first meeting of the new Chesterton Rural District Council was held in the County Hall. New councillors were told they had to consider problems such as water sewage, dust collection and lighting. They discussed a grant towards cleaning out a Harston pond. It was a 'disputable pond' – the village made use of it but it was private property. 34 04 25

1934 08 13
S.R. Ginn, County Council clerk 13 years, former Mayor – 34 08 13

1938 01 14
The old Shire Hall on Cambridge Market Hill, was erected in 1747. At that a time the 14th-century Guildhall which stood on the south of Butter Row was under repair. This was pulled down in 1782 to be replaced by the Guildhall built by James Essex. Now demolition has revealed a fragment of the medieval Guildhall. Two pieces of ancient oak carved with leaves are thought to date from 1386. They will be replaced in the new building 38 01 14b

1938 09 07
New police houses, garages and recreation room at Shire Hall – 38 09 07

1939 03 04
Tuberculosis work has been carried on in Camden Place for 25 years. Now the old dispensary is being demolished with a new clinic adjoining Shire Hall, Castle Hill opened by Prof Ryle. It is equipped with an X-ray apparatus of the highest quality with a skilled radiologist in charge of it. Now the death rate from tuberculosis in Cambridgeshire was one of the lowest. The new dental caravan was also on display 39 03 04a

1939 07 28
Cambridge Town council held its last meeting at Shire Hall while the Guildhall was reconstructed. The Library committee asked to use the Small Room as temporary reading room during the re-arrangement of the Central Library. But it had a very expensive carpet that might get spoilt. The library might use the Corn Exchange annexe if the cycles were moved. Ald Briggs said that was not a proper alternative: "The fact is that we have had made a beautiful Guildhall, but must not use it". The carpet could be taken up. But the Guildhall might not be finished by that time and it would be unfortunate if people were allowed in the Small Room before the rest were completed. The request was denied – 39 07 28b & c

1940

1943 02 26
Acute staff position. The acute position caused by the call-up of staff, was the subject of a special statement by the Chairman of the Cambridgeshire County Council (Ald. W. J. Taylor) at Saturday's meeting of the Council. Ald. Taylor said that, just before the war the staff operating from the Shire Hall - 30 men and 25 women. Of the men, 60 were serving with the forces, 15 were no longer with the council, and seven had been lent to other services. Only 48, therefore, of the original men were left, and of these 26 were over 42. Seventeen of the remainder were liable to be directed elsewhere by the Manpower Board, but only two were under 35 years of age. "We in Cambridgeshire, therefore, cannot be accused of 'protecting' a lot of young men from the services," the speaker added. Ald, Taylor next dealt with the women, and there was a general laugh after he said, "Two are married, and two are liable to be directed. Dr. Woodman asked "What. — to marriage ?" 43 02 26 CIPof

1945 05 12

Charles Phythian appointed clerk county council – CDN 1945 05 12

1947 07 30
History was made in the Shire Hall Council Chamber on Saturday, when Ald Mrs Mellish Clark, first woman chairman of the Cambridgeshire County Council, and of any County Council outside London, took the chair for the first time. She brought to it exactly the same degree of competence she brings to all meetings over which she presides, conducting the proceedings in a practical, business-like way, wasting no time on unessentials. She did not hesitate to call the meeting to order - doing this on two occasions when more than one tried to speak at the same time.

1948 04 08
The creation of a new county comprising the four administrative councils of Cambridgeshire, Isle of Ely, Huntingdon and the Soke of Peterborough, and the granting to the town of Cambridge the status of a county borough, are amongst the recommendations contained in the report of the Local Government Boundary Commission. The proposals also suggest that Newmarket Urban District Council should be transferred to the new county 48 04 08

1948 07 02
What might be termed the swan-song of the Cambridge County Council Public assistance Committee took place at Shire Hall. In common with many other similar committees its duties will be taken over by the Ministry of Health on 5th July. The chairman, Mrs Mellish Clark, said that at the County Hospital Mill Road they decided to develop the maternity work, to close the causal wards and move the nursery children out to Linton. At Chesterton Hospital they had built a new casual ward, but when the war came these wards were converted by the additional of hospital beds and were being so used at the present time. At Linton they had built a Nurses Home but as there was no proper sanitation at Caxton they had decided to pull it down

1948 07 26
The "chaotic condition" of Cambridge traffic was explained by Ald W.J. Taylor at a meeting of the County Council when he said: "They have tried to bring traffic into the town for the sake of the business of the town. They never thought to plan the town properly and the widening of some of the streets has been the biggest mistake there ever was. They talked about the ring road but took great care they never made it so that motorists should come in and spend their money". Councillor Dennard said the one-way traffic system, with streets used as car parks, had caused chaos

1948 09 27
The fear that the centre of gravity of the new Fen county to be formed from Cambridgeshire, Hunts., the Isle of Ely and the Soke of Peterborough would be at Peterborough and so cause Cambs villages to become forgotten backwater outposts, was expressed by the Chairman of the Parish Councils Association. The Boundary Commission have agreed to amalgamate the four counties and make a big new Fen county, to take Cambridge out of it and make it a new kind of county borough. “Histon and such like are quite big places at Shire Hall now, but we will have only a small voice at Peterborough", he said

1950

1951 01 29
Car parking, which shares with the rates the distinction of being Cambridge’s thorniest and most discussed problem, was the subject of lively debate at the County Council. They passed a resolution viewing “with alarm the increasing list of prosecutions … an indication that adequate

facilities for visitors to the town from the rural areas are not provided"" Dr Ellis described a police inspector's now often quoted remark: "Leave cars at home", as facetious. Cambridge was the only shopping town in the county and it was the authority's duty to provide for visiting motorists.

1951 03 05
Last-minute disclosure of what councillors described as the "astonishing", "fantastic" and "mad" extent of proposed salary increases to chief officers of Cambridgeshire County Council was made at a meeting. They involved increases of some 50%. The council rejected proposals of which would have increased the salaries of the Education Officer & County Treasurer from £1,460 to £2,200 & that of the County Surveyor from £1,260 to £2,200. The new scales had been adopted by 22 other councils 51 03 05

1951 05 23
Cambridgeshire can now boast one of the finest rural domestic economy kitchens in the country. Until recently the R.D.E. instructress (Miss M. Constantine) was housed in a basement in Hills Road, but this was damp and subject to flooding; consequently the equipment was liable to go rusty. The new kitchen is tucked away in the grounds of the Shire Hall. It has every kind of cooking stove – electricity, gas, calor gas, oil and solid fuel and boasts a demonstration oven with a glass door. A "frig" is to come later.

1952 03 01
Councillor Stewart Todd Bull has been nominated as the next mayor of Cambridge. He is the owner of the well-known firm of dairy farmers, Messrs J.M. Bull & son. When Cambridge was attacked by enemy aircraft in 1941 he was amongst those in Hills Road who were bombed out. He is a man endued with the spirit of public service and after helping to look after the affairs of the city he frequently climbs Castle Hill to keep a watchful eye on the County Council.

1952 06 12
With all the familiar colour and dignity of a royal occasion, the date of the Queen's coronation – June 2nd next year – was proclaimed today to the people of the city and county of Cambridge. It was a happy coincidence that it should mark a fitting and optimistic finale to the gay and glittering story of the May Week celebrations. A girl still in her May Ball gown and cloak was amongst a crowd of people outside the Shire Hall courts when the High Sheriff, following a fanfare, read the ancient proclamation. On the Market Square a crowd several hundred strong was silent when the Town Clerk began to read but his voice was all but lost in the howl from jet planes speeding overhead.

1952 06 21
Mr Lloyd Stokes, owner of land at Trinity Hall Farm, Milton, said there were 140 armoured vehicles on the land waiting to be shipped. He wanted an access from Green Park because he had a number of tanks coming through the back and wished to enlarge the front entrance on to Milton Road. It was dangerous and an agricultural machine such as a 12-foot combine could not get through. The County Council suggested the city should buy this piece of land and put there light industry, not likely to cause any nuisance

1952 07 21
The whole of the structure of the 112-year-old courts of assize at the old Shire Hall, Castle Hill, is unsafe and liable to collapse at any time. Dry rot has been attacking the floors and has now spread up the walls and plaster and into the roof. The damage is said to be irreparable and it is virtually certain that the County Council will have to write off the building as a total loss. The Court

House, built of brick and stone in the Italian style has a portico supported on columns and comprises two courts and a magistrates' room from which three prisoners recently escaped by removing an iron grill over a window. 52 07 21

1952 07 28
One of the first judges to sit in the Shire Hall Courts, built between 1814 and 1844, Mr Justice Parke, complained about the ventilation in the Crown court. Bad ventilation is one of the factors that cause dry rot and it is possible that it has taken 107 years to come to the present condition. It could be smelt very plainly and if a knife was stuck into the wood it would go in up to the hilt in most places. It was unfortunate that they had decorated the building three years ago at considerable expense and no one knew about it. Coun. Dr Woodman said: "I hope the committee will consider the dry rot in the minds of the jury as well as in the walls of the court. You are packed like peas in a pod and with bad ventilation you get one thought".

1952 08 09
The news that the roof and interior of the Shire Hall Courts on Castle Hill, Cambridge are in danger of collapse has drawn attention to the statues on top of the building. The figures represent Law – holding a book, Justice – drawn sword (scales are missing), Mercy and – holding chain – Power

1952 10 24
Shire Hall Assize Courts demolition, p8

1952 12 05
Cambridge City Council are objecting to the County Council's proposal to demolish the Shire Hall courts at present suffering from dry rot; their consent is needed as the building is scheduled as of special architectural or historic interest. Ald Wilding thought it was hardly necessary to demolish the building just because of some defects in the woodwork & Ald Taylor put forward a plan for preserving its very fine façade, but Coun George Edwards said the best thing would be to demolish it and have a new building erected in its place. 52 12 12

1953 01 21
Cambridge city council have asked the County not to demolish the old Assize Courts which are at present closed because of dry rot. As it is a building of special architectural interest further consideration should be given to its preservation. Dry rot does not necessarily involve the demolition of the whole structure of an affected building – none of the Colleges have had to demolish their buildings, though many of them have been affected from time to time. But the County says there is no assurance that further infection could be prevented. They intend to re-erect the façade of the building elsewhere 53 01 21

1953 03 02
"Why not let the façade of the Assize Courts on Castle Hill be used as a 'Marble Arch' for the new Spine Relief Road" asked the Mayor of Cambridge during discussions on its removal. The City Council had been very concerned about its preservation but to dismantle and remake it would cost £12,000 and architects said it could not be placed on the new building. It was a secondary monument and not old enough to be preserved, being built in 1840. But the stone figures on the roof were to be saved. c53 03 04

1953 06 10
Sir – the Shire Hall assize courts were closed on my order in July last year because the structure had become dangerous. Dry rot had been rampant for at least 50 years and the improvised repairs

had done nothing to eliminate it. During the work of demolition fragments of newspapers dated 1922 and 1925 have been found that were left by workmen repairing the dry rot in those days. The council had to decide whether to save the bare walls of the old building and rebuild the roof and the whole of the interior, or to demolish it. The extent of the damage is now clearly revealed and confirms the necessity of demolition – Wilfrid Wingate, County Architect. 53 06 10

1954 03 01
County councillors voted to proceed with their original plan for the new Shire Hall courts building. They also need to get their Town Planning people transferred from Hobson Street and must have further accommodation for the County Library, which is one of the finest – if not the finest – in England. Suggestions for putting another floor on the present Shire Hall would never be satisfactory. Services would be upset for about two years, the whole of the heating apparatus would have to be altered and it would cost nearly £70,000. There were plans for the basement to be used as offices but to put clerks down there would be like putting them in prison. 54 03 01

1953 04 13
The Cambridgeshire Divisional Magistrates Court sat for the last time in the old Shire Hall Courts, where justice has been meted out for over 100 years. It is just over eight months since it was found that the building was infested with dry rot and since then all courts, save the County Bench, have been accommodated in the Guildhall. Since then there have been many arguments in the County Council Chamber but the only solution they could find was that the building would have to be demolished.

1953 04 25
Does anybody want the façade of the Old Shire Hall, which is being demolished? The County Council has asked the City Council of they would like it, but the reply is 'No, thank you'. It will be interesting so see if the County offers it elsewhere. Erection of new street lighting on the main roads is proceeding apace and is to be extended to Queen's Road, better known as 'The Backs'. This new lighting should add to the attractiveness of this famous beauty spot.

1953 06 10
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1953 11 02
The new Shire Hall court will not be an 'extravagant' but 'a fine utility' building, councillors were assured. They did not want panelling in every room and expensive carpets on the floor. Some wanted to build the new Court with an open frontage to the street, but it could not be done, as the site was not big enough. If they pulled down the existing police station and played 'Old Harry' it might be possible but on one side is the Castle Mound and there would be trouble galore they interfered with this.

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1954 06 30
Shire Hall palace, p8

1954 07 17
There were strong protests at plans for new offices at Shire Hall Cambridge. The new building would contain Assize and Quarter Sessions courts, offices and accommodation for the County Library. The courts at Linton, Caxton, Melbourn and Bottisham were 'shockers', housed in old police stations and the magistrates would be only too happy to do their work in an up-to-date building. Architects had strongly advised against cheese-pairing costs of the assembly hall: Cambridge's lovely college buildings had been the best and had stood the test of time and the costs of labour and materials were rising. But a new plan for one-tier local government might mean the doom of County Councils and the scheme should be deferred 54 07 17

1954 07 31
Cambridge city council attacked the County Council's cavalier attitude over their grandiose scheme for the replacement of the demolished Shire Hall Courts on Castle Hill. They can no longer tolerate the attitude of a powerful section of the County Council who seem bent on pursuing their own course with all the insensibility of a bureaucratic bulldozer. The Government has indicated it is likely to introduce Local Government reform and it is foolhardy to proceed with a scheme for more office accommodation when certain functions might transfer to the City Council and thus make the extra offices unnecessary. City residents provide 75 per cent of the county rate and should have a fair say in any such scheme. 54 07 31

1954 11 01
The old Shire Hall Assize courts no longer existed; it had been pulled down. That could not be altered; it was down and a new one had to be built, councillors were told. The Judges appreciate the temporary accommodation but occasionally inquire when the Assizes are expected to be held once more in the re-built Courts; they might get tired of waiting for them. We did not want to lose Cambridge as an Assize town. A proposal to defer their erection for two years was withdrawn but tenders will not be submitted for a year.

1955 01 03
Henry Wilkin, chief clerk of Cambridgeshire County Council, has retired after 55 years' service. At the age of 13 he had entered the office of a solicitor who in 1899 became Clerk to the Council, starting his career with local government and receiving five shillings a week out of which he had to hire a barrow to take books to the council office. He had served under three clerks, Samuel Ginn, Ashley Tabrum and Charles Phythian. He was presented with a small walnut bureau and a Westminster chiming grandmother clock. 55 01 03

1955 03 19
Three cottages in Gloucester Street have been purchased by the County Council who will demolish them to facilitate access to the land at the rear of Shire Hall. The cottages would shortly come outside the control of the Rents Act and they wanted to obtain possession. Until ready to start the proposed improvements they will use one of the cottages as temporary office accommodation. The present occupants will be rehoused in a Council house. 55 03 19

1955 07 30
What's all this about people getting married at Shire Hall not being allowed to park their cars in the Council car park? Have the County Council no romance in their hearts and do they want to lose custom? People will be saying "Don't go to the Shire Hall for your wedding; if you do you'll be chivvied out of it pronto". Some say park in front of the County Police headquarters – but this will stop patrol cars getting out of the police yard. Who occupies the Council car park anyway? Members of the Council and staff. Are there too many of these and too many cars? I only asked! 55 07 30b

1956 02 25
Courts tender deferred, Cambridge Daily News criticised for leading campaign against the proposed building 56 02 25a, 56 02 26a & c

1956 03 30
If the number of cars increases motorists won't be able to get in to Cambridge very easily because of all the stationary cars cluttering up the streets and the whole problem of parking is extremely frustrating. It is time to get tough. If we must set up car parks outside the city and run the people in by special buses then we mustn't hesitate. But the land once occupied by the old Shire Hall courts on Castle Hill would make a good site for a multi-deck car park. 56 03 30b

1957 11 03
Shire Hall – new storey proposed – 57 11 03

1958 02 03
Shire Hall is to be enlarged by an additional storey, increasing office accommodation by 20 per cent. Several councillors argued this was unnecessary in times of financial stringency when secondary education had to reduce its expenditure. But builders are short of work and will do it at a competitive figure. It was a long-term policy to achieve centralisation of the council's administration. 58 02 03a & b [2.22]

1958 05 05
An extra storey was urgently needed at Shire Hall, councillors were told. In the Treasurer's Department the staff were sitting on top of one another. In the Registrar's Office, people had to wait in a passage if there was a wedding on. And the County Archivist, who really needed four rooms, had only one. But at Linton Hospital they had been asked to economise and the cost of the new Shire Hall must not interfere with works of that kind. They voted to go ahead. 58 05 05 & b

1958 07 24
Shire Hall new storey tender – 58 07 24b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 03 01
Cambridge should be granted County Borough status and so control its own destiny, the Local Government Commission recommends in its draft proposals. But Cambridgeshire would not then be an effective administrative unit and should be merged with the Soke of Peterborough, Huntingdonshire and the Isle of Ely to be able to provide a comprehensive range of services. Royston Urban District should join the new county but Newmarket should remain in West

Suffolk and St Neots be transferred to Bedfordshire. Now the recommendations will be subject to public consultation. 60 03 01 & a

1960 03 02
Proposals to amalgamate Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, the Isle of Ely and the Soke of Peterborough into a new county have been described as 'local government gone made' by the MP for Cambridgeshire. David Renton is also known to oppose any suggestion that Huntingdonshire should lose its separate identity and may resign from the Government if the proposal goes through. Major Legge-Bourke for the Isle of Ely says it is impossible for fenland areas to be efficiently government by people who do not understand their special problems. The only MP to welcome the proposal is Hamilton Kerr for Cambridge City who says he is delighted that the claim for county borough status has been recognised. 60 03 02a

1960 03 18
In a small room hidden away at the back of the Shire Hall, from which the County Civil Defence services were once run, a huge and priceless collection of books, maps and documents relating to the Bedford Level Corporation have just been delivered. Soon the newly-appointed County Records Officer, Miss Clare Cross, Honorary County Archivist Captain Percy Bales and manuscript repair expert, Mr B. Grainger, will start the vast job of indexing them. The work of the County Records Office is growing so quickly that recently it moved into larger and better accommodation which once formed part of the Shire Hall Clinic 60 03 18c

1962 06 21
County council 'At Home' on lawns of Shire Hall – 62 06 21

1962 08 18
Site of old Shire Hall courts cleverly landscaped to hide the car park which lies in front of trees – 62 08 18

1963 08 02
The Government decision to reject Cambridge City Council's claim for county borough status was described as a 'profound disappointment'. Although its case has been recognised Cambridge is to again be sacrificed on the altar of rural interests, councillors feel. The Local Government Commission says the administrative counties of Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely should be amalgamated to form one local government unit and that Huntingdonshire should join with the Soke of Peterborough 63 08 02

1964 01 14
Planners need maps to show countless aspects of community life and County Council draughtsmen are continually producing them. Within Shire Hall the maps are conceived, drawn and even printed on their own printing presses. Huge cabinets store maps of almost every inch of Cambridgeshire. Some are produced with the aid of aerial photographs. Colour often has to be used and when maps have to be printed it means special 'overlay' negatives have to be drawn for each colour and a separate printing plate produced for each. 64 01 14

1964 10 05
The new Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council was 'thrust upon us by a dying Parliament in defiance of local history and deep-seated tradition', claimed Coun. M.S. Pease. But the new chairman, Ald Jeeps, urged councillors to try to make it a success. He has worked all his life as a farmer and fruit grower, is courteous, firm, persuasive and quick to see a compromise

solution to problems. He also knows the importance of silence as chairman. This makes him an ideal person for the job, Ald Rickwood, of the Isle of Ely County Council, said. 64 10 05

1965 05 31
Speaking at the final meeting of Cambridgeshire County Council before its amalgamation with the Isle of Ely Ald P.J. Watts said there had never been and would never be a more effective unit of local government. They had been a progressive authority with a world-wide reputation in the field of education which was efficient and served by a hard-working staff of great loyalty. Now they were being abolished by people who know a great deal about local government but do not understand it, in the interests of effective convenient local government 65 03 31a

1965 10 15
Shire Hall not to open car park to public at weekend – 65 10 15b

1966 07 02
Chesterton RDC new offices at Gt Eastern House, Station Road, to open – 66 07 02

1966 07 30
Former clerk to Cambs & Isle of Ely County Council, Charles Phythian, allowed to retain double salary payments when acting as clerk to County Council and chief officer of new combined authority – 66 07 30, 30a

1967 05 06
Shire Hall redevelopment envisages 15-storey block of offices and law court, car parking under pedestrian precinct – 67 05 06

1967 07 26
County Council buy Howes Close mansion and 23 acres as extension Shire Hall site, to move Country Centre students – 67 07 26

1969 06 11
Maud report on local government says Cambridge to become geographical centre of huge new authority as part of three-tier system – 69 06 11

1970

1971 01 27
Shire Hall plan Castle Court extension with landscaped offices – 71 01 27b

1971 02 06
County Hall Hobson Street may be sold by county council to raise money for new offices behind Shire Hall – 71 02 06

1973 05 23
The £11,000 a year top management job on the new Cambridgeshire County Council has been given to 38-year-old Mr John Barratt, the deputy town clerk of Bradford. He will take control of the hundreds of staff who will ultimately be appointed to the new council or transferred from the present Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council. One of his first jobs will be to advise on the appointment of a team of chief officers who will form a boardroom style management group when the new council takes over responsibility from the old on April 1st next year 73 05 23

1974 02 27
The Queen has agreed to allow Cambridge to remain a city after local government reorganisation takes effect on April 1st. Her decision means that the ancient office of Mayor of Cambridge will continue. The new mayor will be Councillor Jack Warren who has been chairman of the Labour-controlled district council since their formation last June

1974 04 01
Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council has died at the age of only nine. And before their chairman, Ald. Maurice Payne, performed the last rites by formally signing the minutes, he expressed doubts about the wisdom of Whitehall in killing them off in their prime of life. The council are a victim of the nation-wide local government reorganisation which comes into effect on 1st April. They are being replaced by the new Cambridgeshire County Council made up of an amalgamation with Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council.

1974 04 02
Throughout the country hundreds of local councils are ready for the blast off into a new age. The council reorganisation which takes place today is the biggest upheaval ever to affect local government in this country. Hundreds of rural, urban, borough and city councils are swept away and their places taken by a new structure of county councils working with a network of district authorities. With a wan smile they have shrugged off the all-too-obvious jokes which were levelled against the start date for the new administration – April 1st

1974 04 30
One of the most significant features of the reorganisation of local government from 1st April 1974, has been the changes in function. Cambridge City Council will have no further responsibility for education, libraries, weights and measures, sewage disposal, or the domiciliary health service. The advantages claimed for the transfer of these services to larger bodies should lead to greater specialisation, the adoption of improved methods and techniques, better levels of service and economy of scale. Time will show whether these ideals can be realised.

1976 02 05
The Government has no intention of turning Cambridge into a museum city, said the Environment Secretary. He told MPs that fears that the Government-backed policy of moderate restraint would mean stagnation were unjustified. It was no secret that there had been differences of opinion between the City and County councils over the proper planning policies to be pursued in the region. Growth would continue but they could not countenance unlimited boon growth with the considerable impact that would have on the Cambridge environment.

1976 02 07
Save Shire Hall library, p7

1976 02 27
Shire Hall library, p8

1976 03 03
The branch library at the Cambridge Shire Hall is to close down and will be replaced once-a-week by a visit of one of the county council's mobile libraries. The decision to close down the library – to save an estimated £6,000 a year was taken at the county budget meeting. A petition of more than 500 signatures of readers asked for the building to continue. When a vote was taken there were 25 for and 25 against and the decision was taken on the casting vote of the Chairman.

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1976 03 16
Both visitors and staff at the Cambridge County Record Office, Shire Hall, are still having to put up with overcrowded conditions. One visitor has described conditions as "the worst of any record office in the country". The county archivist says in his annual report that there has been no improvement in office or search room space. One woman who had been offered a post on the staff had declined it because of the overcrowding which she had observed.

1976 12 20
The Government has chopped almost £10 million off its cash aid to Cambridgeshire County Council. Senior councillors have been shocked at the figure, which is almost £4 million more than originally anticipated and the most savage cut in the country. Councillors said that last year the Government took account of the county's growing population, but this year it has gone back to the old method and is working on population figures that are two years out of date. They have decided to shift money in favour of London and major urban areas 76 12 20

1977 09 23
Whitehall has rejected Cambridge City Council's representations that the County needs a larger slice of the rate support grant "cake", because of its growing population. The Department of Environment says that a larger population provides scope for economies of scale and will bring an increase of rate income because of new building. It adds that Cambridgeshire receives less aid because its needs are lower than those of most other authorities. The Chairman of the Finance Panel described the reply as "just Government waffle"

1978 02 14
A County Council report recommends that two old church schools in the centre of Cambridge, Park Street and St Matthew's, should close. It says no school will take more than 60 infants a year; all schools will have nursery classes from three-plus, and that separate infants and junior schools will be merged into one school taking children right up to 11. Catchment zones will be introduced for primary schools. At present Morley Memorial is under a great deal of pressure and children are taught in a rented church hall across a busy road while Sedley Infants and Romsey Junior have empty places.

1978 10 03
Cambridge' Drummer Street bus station may be extended on to the adjoining Christ's Pieces within the next few years as County Council traffic experts and the bus companies have agreed that expansion of the present site is the best way of bringing it up to date. The facilities such as booking office, news-stands & toilets are scattered, cramped and unsightly and there are no proper information displays. The city council has suggested the station should be moved into the Kite Area and Conservation interests prefer disused land near the railway station should be used. But the County rejects both locations

1979 02 02
The old Rex Cinema and ballroom in Magrath Avenue Cambridge which has been a source of controversy among nearby residents is now owned by Cambridgeshire County Council who paid £33,000 for it at auction. The building has been almost derelict since the Abbey Sports and Social Club closed in October 1973. The exact future of the site has yet to be decided but it will extend the present facilities at the Shire Hall

1979 07 04
Cambridgeshire County Council has decided to establish its permanent headquarters at the Shire Hall. The council set up it 'temporary' headquarters at Cambridge following local government

reorganisation more than five years ago but decided to move eventually to the Hinchingbrooke estate at Huntingdon. Now they have changed their minds: Huntingdon is not scheduled as a major centre of the future while Cambridge is a regional centre of public administration and an internationally-known city. It is a natural magnet for staff and to move would have a seriously demoralising effect. The Shire Hall site is large enough for all their administrative needs and officers pointed out the high cost of building at a time when the council was already in financial difficulties. Now the land reserved for the new office complex is to be sold.

1979 08 22
At the back of the Shire Hall and behind the Sir Isaac Newton pub in Cambridge sits a small, portable office. It houses four dedicated workers who are preparing for nuclear war and other major disasters such as flooding, hurricanes and air crashes. Total nuclear war is a frightening prospect and the Government has taken steps to plan for such a holocaust. Now parish councillors are to be trained as the latest part of the contingency plans; they would act as 'community advisors', helping to bring life back to normal in highly disrupted areas.

1979 10 18
The Government has stopped the County Council from closing Cambridge's Park Street Primary School because of its 'value to the community'. But plans to close Brunswick Primary School have been approved. This is a great disappointment for parents who campaigned vigorously to keep it open. Nearly £800,000 has been earmarked to convert the buildings into a further education centre. The County will accept the ruling but the number of children attending both schools had dropped and the problems will not go away. Now much harder decisions will have to be made that will affect schools throughout the city.

1980

1980 02 12
South Cambridgeshire District Councillors agreed an extension to their offices costing nearly £1½ m in spite of opposition which claimed the move was ill-timed in the light of Government cuts. At present their administration is divided between Great Eastern House, in Station Road and South Cambridgeshire Hall about a quarter of a mile away. The aim is to sell off this site for offices which would help offset costs of the new council chamber and car park. But some say there would be more advantages in developing a site outside Cambridge with a city office to deal with the public. 80 02 12

1980 06 20
The war plan for Cambridgeshire which will detail the role of the county council is not yet finished. A regional commissioner would be introduced in the run-up to any attack and county controllers would go to their headquarters in the basements of the Shire hall. This is a small, rather cluttered room with little more than maps, telephones and teleprinters and no special protection other than the thickness of the walls. 80 06 20c

1980 11 18
More than 1,000 demonstrators massed in the centre of Cambridge in protest over plans to slash County Council spending. They chanted and jeered councillors arriving for a meeting. A macabre scaffold with a schoolboy hanging from it stood near Shire Hall as part of an attempt to halt cuts of £2 million which would serious damage services, particularly education. But Francis Pym, MP, said the world is in a very deep recession and they must make difficult decisions. 80 11 18

1981 11 03

Councillors have been astonished at a bill of £34,000 for furnishing county education headquarters at a time when children and teachers have been asked to bear savage cutbacks. Most of the money has gone on the former Pye building on the Shire Hall site. It has wall-to-wall carpeting and an impressive range of modern office furniture with £400 spent on waste paper bins alone. Some equipment should have been transferred from the old offices. 81 11 03a

1982 05 12
South Cambs councillors may pull down the temporary prefabricated building known as South Cambridgeshire Hall and build a four-storey office block in its place. They would then dispose of Great Eastern House near the railway station and centralise all its staff on the Hills Road site. Whether they will actually be prepared to spend a lot of money on the scheme has yet to be seen. In the past councillors have brought up the idea on numerous occasions but decided against it on cost grounds. 82 05 12a

1982 09 15
A pub, a row of shops and six acres of office buildings in Castle Hill and Gloucester Street may be sold by Cambridgeshire County Council. They want reduce the sprawling Shire Hall site and abandon the ramshackle array of offices at the rear of the main complex. They are expensive to maintain and unpopular with staff who work in them. Discussions with developers will take place soon. 82 09 15

1982 10 15
In the basement of Shire Hall is an 'Emergency Planning Room' packed with maps, telephones and radio sets. It has windows, thickish walls and a large conference table but would offer virtually no protection from a direct nuclear hit. It is designed to act as a communications network liaising with the emergency services, the water authority, railways and so on during any emergency from floods in Wisbech to the sudden cutting of the county's gas supplies. 82 10 15 & a

1982 12 09
Accommodation for computer-based companies in Cambridge is at a premium. Several firms are run from private houses with others based around King's Parade and Jesus Lane, where buildings are available and rents favourable. Now a technology square is planned for land at the rear of Shire Hall similar to Trinity College's Science Park but at smaller rents. There might be dual-purpose buildings for start-up companies providing both a home and an office to work in. 82 12 09

1983 01 13
Cambridge was the first place to provide a science park. Now the County Council propose to establish a technology village on the Shire Hall redevelopment site. The novel scheme would provide both houses and workshops in an attempt to create a 21st-century high technology community. It would have offices, shops, a pub and recreational facilities. Secretaries and photocopiers could be shared. 83 01 13

1983 06 30
A scheme to develop seven acres of land behind Shire Hall for offices and a high technology centre will save the Isaac Newton pub and other buildings in Castle Street which had been under threat of demolition. It will include 520 basement car parking spaces together with twelve terrace houses on Magrath Avenue. At present the site is covered by a ramshackled array of ancient council office buildings which are difficult and expensive to maintain and unpopular with the staff working in them.

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83 06 30 p7

1983 07 01
The County Hall office block in Hobson Street which houses a major section of the county council's social services department may be sold to Christ's college for £1.25 million and converted into student accommodation. It would be one of the biggest property deals in the much sought-after city centre location for years. Scores of council officials would be moved into the new offices planned at the back of Shire Hall. 83 07 01 p1

1983 09 05
County councillors have ordered a big clean-up of the car park off Magrath Avenue – once the site of the Rex Cinema. Since the cinema was demolished two years ago it has been used as a public car park by residents. But it has also become a dumping ground for abandoned cars and garden rubbish. It forms park of the eight-acre site at the rear and sides of Shire Hall which is to be extensively redeveloped early next year. 83 09 05 p12
1983 09 29
The Cambridge Civic Society, which fights planning applications around Cambridge, is being wound up and its members urged to join the Cambridge Preservation Society – the group from which it split off in 1961. Projects in which they have been involved include the Kite area, Stansted airport, the M11 Inquiry and Robinson College. At present they are concerned about the proposed large office development on the Shire Hall site, preferring to see it as a community area. 83 09 29 p19

1983 10 27
The controversial plan to finish the widening of East Road is to go ahead despite growing opposition. The County Council leader says nothing is going to stop them from completing the work. The City council claim the road is a waste of money and would have a serious and harmful effect on St Matthew's primary school. They have placed a tree preservation order on saplings growing in the school forecourt to prevent the county from starting to widen the road. But the county claim this is illegal and challenged it in the High Court. 83 10 27 p11

1984 09 07
The County Council chairman condemned councillors for their 'pathetic attempts' to sort out the Cambridge traffic problem. "There is no doubt whatever that what we do in Cambridge is pathetic compared to what is done elsewhere. We really do not know what we are doing in this city", he said, adding that the county must keep up pressure on the city council to provide more parking facilities in Cambridge. 84 09 07

1984 09 25
Cambridge traffic and parking scheme have come and gone like the tide. Each has aroused opposition, usually vociferous. Sometimes it has been strong enough to stop the thing completely. Constant bickering between the City and County Councils has done nothing to solve the traffic problems which stems from a division of responsibility between the two authorities. Some hope of sorting out the tangles arose with the introduction of the city Traffic Management Team. Now a tough new traffic control system comes into operation. 84 09 25

1985 03 11
A major shake-up to cope with the forecast massive increase in Cambridge traffic has been unveiled by the County Council. It suggests an underground car park at the Butts Green end of Midsummer Common and a new road following the main railway line with a new bridge over the Cam. There could be reconstruction of a number of major road junctions including East Road -

Newmarket Road and at Hyde Park Corner with widening of dual carriageways and new cycleways. A park-and-ride system of new car parks linked to the centre by frequent buses is also proposed 85 03 11

1985 03 11
A furious political row has erupted over the sudden and unexpected publication by the Labour-controlled City Council of its new roads and traffic plan just before the County Council issued their proposals. It envisages a park and ride system, converting long-term city centre parking spaces to short-term shoppers' parks, an extension of Lion Yard car park, road closures, pedestrian areas and a special coach-bus interchange near the railway station. The Liberals describe it as a waste of paper. It has been produced without any councillors or officials being told about it before its release to the press 85 03 11a

1985 04 20
South Cambridgeshire ratepayers can be assured there are no frills or trimmings in the new £2 million council headquarters on Hills Road. The new base is an energy-saving building which will be workmanlike and maintenance-free. There is an air-conditioned council chamber with video facilities that may be rented out for conferences. Bullet-proof glass will increase security. The idea of moving out into a village was rejected as Cambridge was felt to be a central point. But car parking is likely to be a problem with 105 spaces for the 200 staff many of whom will have to park in the streets when councillors are meeting 85 04 20

1985 05 07
The new-look Cambridgeshire County Council may descend into political chaos unless a compromise over who works with whom can be worked out. The Liberal SDP Alliance with 26 seats is seeking a three-way administration with the Conservatives (29 seats) or the Labour with 21. But Labour has turned down the Alliance Plan and the Conservatives will agree to power sharing only if the new council accepts their financial policies. Controversial plans to widen East Road have been scrapped as has a railway-road plan which would have destroyed large housing and commercial areas of Cambridge. 85 05 07

1985 05 29
Castle Park, the £10 million high-tech development on County Council land next to Shire Hall has been inaugurated. It offers 'thinking space' to scientists and academics involved in research and development of high-technology ideas. The project will be fully self-contained with its own conference facilities, restaurant, gymnasium, squash courts and overnight accommodation as well as centrally available office equipment and secretarial support. A key attribute is its location in the heart of the city close to many of the University's colleges. 85 05 29b

1987 10 22
Staff at the County Council's emergency centre in the grounds of Shire Hall learned a few lessons last week during the hurricane. The bunker has a television but no radio to receive local or national reports. However during the gales the television stations were off the air, so a radio is now to be brought in. The Home Office refused to pay for a fridge, freezer or microwave but these will now be purchased. A generator can provide power for 30 days and water is stored for the same period. The list of those who would use it is secret but would include top council officials, civic leaders and representatives of police, fire and ambulance. 87 10 22

1985 11 13
The £5-million park-and-ride system planned for Cambridge could be scrapped. Behind-the-scene moves are under way at Shire Hall to replace it with an equally controversial parking area for

2,000 cars under Midsummer Common. The Labour-controlled city council is backing the idea of a ring of major ground-level car parks linked to the centre with a cheap bus service. But they need the support of the Conservative-led County Council which questions who is to pay the set-up charge and the estimated £1-million a year running costs. 85 11 13

1986 04 03
Gordon Lister, a Scotsman, has been appointed as chief executive of Cambridgeshire County Council at a starting salary of £45,000 a year. He will take over from John Barratt who has held the post since the authority was formed during the nation-wide local government reorganisation in the 1970s. The job is difficult as no overall political party has overall control so every decision is fiercely contested and instantly becomes highly controversial 86 04 03

1987 10 22
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1987 11 11
Cambridge's gallows are up for sale – but it is unlikely they will be coming 'home'. Their owner, a Nottingham policeman, is asking £10,000 for them. This is well out of reach of the city's museums, said John Goldsmith, County Museums Officer, whose office at Shire Hall stands on the site of the former gaol. The gallows stood in Cambridge from around 1860 to 1930 and were used five times to execute murderers. The first hanging took place in 1864, the last in 1913 87 11 11a

1988 07 11
Castle Park, Cambridge's showpiece research and development village was opened by the Duke of Edinburgh. Developed by Sheraton and financed by Royal Life, it was designed to provide 'thinking space' for scientists and academics involved in high-technology developments. The initiative came from the County Council who were faced with the need to provide more office accommodation for its staff and developed land adjoining Shire Hall. The first phase, Castle House, Babbage House and Sheraton House was completed last year 88 07 11b, c. d

1988 10 18
Cambridge may have a city-wide high-speed monorail system linking with all nearby villages allowing shoppers to leave their cars at home and travel high above the traffic jams. It could be expensive to set up but would have low running costs and be reliable. Eight years ago dons at Girton College came up with a plan for a monorail to link it with the university quarter but nothing ever came of it. The County Council has already commissioned experts to consider a light railway system linked to the proposed park-and-ride system 88 10 18a

1989 02 10
Cambridgeshire County Council could be abolished in a massive town hall shake up. Liberal Democrats want to replace it with three small authorities, one be an amalgamation between Cambridge and South Cambs councils. The Government has decided to eventually scrap county-wide structure plans and replace them with local area plans. But they are angry at suggestions that

city residents should be issued with identity cards giving concessionary fees to council-run leisure facilities. 89 02 10

1989 02 21
CITS formerly county council computer section closes ¢CEN 21.2.89

1989 11 15
A Home Office exercise will test the County Council's emergency and civil protection plans. Brian Smith, Peter Willdridge and Dick Turpin will join a team of 30 people manning the Emergency Control Centre in an underground bunker at Shire Hall. It will be a 'desk top' exercise to test communications and information-gathering skills needed during disasters such as fenland flooding or chemical explosions. 89 11 15a

1989 12 09
Cambridgeshire County Council is facing recruitment problems and is calling on pensioners to stay on after reaching 65. The current retirement policy was made when the economic situation was very different from that of today. This is now an area of very low unemployment and it seems sensible to allow people with many years of valuable experience to carry on. They will also consider recruiting retired applicants on a temporary basis for vacancies which would otherwise be hard to fill. 89 12 09a

1990 01 25
The County Councillors are worried about the quick turnover of staff and difficulties in replacing them. There are vacancies in all departments and a severe shortage of lawyers, surveyors and teachers. The council pays lower salaries than other county authorities, which also offer cars with jobs. Now they may increase wage scales, improve subsidised mortgage arrangements and removal expenses. Staff do not always leave for extra money; they also look for job satisfaction or better career opportunities. 90 01 25a

1990 02 20
Get-rich quick property speculators are hovering like vultures over Shire Hall hoping to pick up land and property which the County Council is selling off at bargain basement prices to keep down the poll tax. With the depressed state of the property market they are throwing away valuable County Council assets the Labour opposition claims. Conservatives admit their hoped-for sale would fall at least £2M short of their target but say that builders hit by the property slump are prepared to carry out cut-price work, compensating for the lower prices raised in land sales 90 02 20b

1990 04 20
Cambridgeshire county council officials given huge salary rises, 600 now earn more than £20,000 pa – 90 04 20a

1990 07 21
Cambridgeshire County Council must make budget cuts to avoid poll tax capping – 90 07 21

Civic procession to Gt St Mary's, 1964 *156.96*

c.35.7 : Cambridge Corporation, Borough / City Council

Guildhall and Market Hill site – history by Mrs Keynes – 37 02 18
Corporation Commissioners' report, 1833 – 08 05 09b & c
Redevelopment scheme for Guildhall site, 1859 – history – 59 08 14b & c

1888
1888
Local Government Act results in two Councillors being appointed annually by University Senate & four others elected by Colleges

1888 10 26
Death of Edmund Foster, Town Clerk [3.6]

1888 11 16
Chesterton UDC electors vote in favour of erection of new bridge (Victoria Bridge), apply for Act [3.7]

1889 04 26
Cambridge Improvement Commissioners powers pass to Town Council, Newnham Croft electors favour incorporation into Borough [3.8]

1889 05 24

Discussions on draft provisional Local Government Order and its significance for Cambridge [3.9]

1891 02 20
Jane Elsden had been sentenced for 14 days detention but escaped from Spinning House through window into St Andrew's Street. She had been arrested at Dullingham by men who had acted more in the character of Russian police and dragged through three courts. She was not legally represented and had no opportunity of obtaining a solicitor. But she had committed no offence under Common Law: she had not broken out and had not escaped from lawful custody of a constable – it was the Vice Chancellor. Incident excited great interest all over country, questions in House of Commons and remission of portion sentenced granted. 1891 01 17 1891 02 20 Ch

1891 02 27
The MP for Cambridge has contacted the Vice Chancellor & suggested a conference between the University and Town with a view to a modification of the ancient powers of arrest, trial and imprisonment at the Spinning House. He will raise it in the House of Commons. The Home Secretary has released the girl – escape was entirely due to the negligence of the matron. The University Senate will meet the Mayor and Borough on question of jurisdiction. Large number of articles and letters in London newspapers over Spinning House and questions continue to be asked in Parliament. CIP

1891 03 07
Spinning House Scandal – Government asked to consider Bill for abolishing Vice-Chancellors' courts at Oxford & Cambridge and make members triable by the ordinary law. To be meeting Vice Chancellor and Committee of Town authorities on University jurisdiction. CIP

1891 03 20
Report of committee appointed by Borough to confer with Council of Senate with referenced to jurisdiction exercised by University over persons not members of the University over Spinning House cases. The Vice-Chancellor's court is held in secret, evidence is not given on oath, accused cannot obtain professional assistance. They urge abolition of University jurisdiction or it be held in abeyance for a time. University would obtain advice of Counsel. Council seek Bill in Parliament to abolish all University jurisdiction over residents not members of the University. Councillor Nichols drew a highly coloured picture of an unfortunate woman being hunted down the streets by a Proctor and his two men and taken to the Spinning House where she was made to don a prison garb and on the following morning appear before a secret tribunal, without allowing anyone to be called on her behalf, and without hearing evidence on oath, sentenced to a term of imprisonment. The University had not seen their way to abolish these laws, saying they did not think the streets would be properly kept by policemen. University students often created great disturbances, rushing arm in arm and insulting everyone. This was what Proctors ought to see after, not hunt unfortunate women down.

1891 04 10
Special meeting of Town Council - should reconsider ancient privileges of University. The University were now represented on council. Reviews activities of 1852 when sought inquiry into state of discipline, studies and revenues of University including search for common women, power over ale-houses, theatres, trade regulations and University Courts. Proctors patrolled the streets for only a brief period and powers could be suspended. The Watch Committee of town and university, dealt with some of the matters. Jane Elsden case; she had broken no law but the University law, was sentenced to three week's imprisonment. She broke out of prison then taken before the magistrates, having committed an offence against the common law. She said 'Don't

send me to the Spinning House, send me to gaol. She was convicted. Application made to Home Secretary and she was released. Two years ago a Local Government Inquiry was held, nothing said about University privileges. The Council of Senate willing to remedy grievances. Now they had a system of police controlled by a Watch Committee on which University represented, the powers were no longer needed. Ch

1891 07 11
Town council meeting on University jurisdiction; University feel police powers inadequate; will make structural changes Spinning House – no concession; if University gave up powers over immorality, could town take them up. University refused to give up veto over theatrical performances but agreed wine licences; discommunining – tradesmen send in accounts when exceed £5. An Act of Parliament would be contested. CIP

1891 12 18
Council supported promoting Bill for abolishing powers exercised by University over persons not members of that body. Coun Vinter considered powers under which Daisy Hopkins case took place – power of searching without a warrant by day or night in any house in the town for persons suspected of evil; persons arrested might be imprisoned by Vice Chancellor and no limit to imprisonment. Vice Chancellor the sole judge without appeal and had only to find the person suspected of evil to pass sentence. Could accept evidence on oath or not at his pleasure, could refuse to accept evidence, could pass sentence and was absolute authority within his own court. Spinning House was a place which the visiting justices could not enter by right; public were absolutely in the dark as to the mode of treatment the prisoners subjected to. Were no rules permitting visits of friends, prisoners not allowed to write letters and proceedings absolutely private. Ch

1892 01 01
Daisy Hopkins to bring action for damages for false imprisonment. Review of incidents in Spinning House case. The Spinning House business has taken up the whole of the year. It was on January 17th that Baron Pollock sent Jane Elden back to undergo the remainder of her term of imprisonment. The incident excited great interest all over the country. Questions were asked in the House of Commons. On March 2nd Town Council private meeting decided negotiate with University. No settlement satisfactory which does not abolish jurisdiction of University over inhabitants of town. First negotiations with University proved abortive, the University willing to make its Court open and allow prisoners professional representation but declining to make any alteration in its powers over townspeople. Two Town Council meetings on negotiations or whether to promote a Bill in House of Commons; decided continue negotiations. On May 14th a full report of all town grievances discussed by Council and adopted. July 11th University reply discussed – refused to depart from original position. Council decided to communicate with Oxford Town Council over Bill – they in favour but could do nothing for moment. Seemed about to collapse through lack of interest but then Daisy Hopkins imprisoned; trial and application to Supreme Court for writ of Habeas Corpus lead to release. On 18th December Council voted for Bill for abolition of University jurisdiction. CIP says University jurisdiction should be for University only and townspeople dealt with by common law of the land. University position confirmed by Act and by an Act it must be curtailed – expensive. Public meeting, turbulent proceedings – very large attendance of townspeople partial to total abolition of University powers – detailed reports. Ch, CIP

1892 01 08
Letter disputes jurisdiction rights and Patterson arbitration of 1854-55 and rights of university by G.F. Browne, Disney Prof and ex Proctor over problems of prostitution. Ch

1892 03 25
Daisy Hopkins case commenced at Ipswich Assizes – details.

1892 04 15
Council special meeting over University Jurisdiction Bill to repeal section of 13 Elizabeth giving power to police to arrest prostitutes & theatre licences. Senate willing to meet objections on court being secret, evidence not given on oath and accused not having professional assistance. Happy to see Town possessed of additional powers to maintain decency in streets but a different thing to abolish entirely the present system without waiting to see how new powers work. CIP

1893 05 26
Town council on University jurisdiction – special meeting over powers over persons not members. Senate co-operate with Borough to promote bill – right to arrest women suspected of evil to be repealed; women to be taken to police station; university jurisdiction will disappear and be vested in Justices. Regulation of theatres – does away with consent of Vice Chancellor before any stage plays – be responsibility county council. Music and dancing – need licence from Licensing Justice. Public exhibition or performance need permission of Mayor – including Midsummer Fair. Cambridge University Jurisdiction Act 1894 – details. Spinning house might be converted into a sort of jail for women – but under entire control of Borough Justices. Proctors could enter pubs. Ch

1894 05 11.
Corporation Bill before House of Commons – a compromise between University and Corporation, reducing friction re prostitutes … students were young and inexperienced freshly released from discipline of school life and would fall east prey to worm of bad character if precautions not taken … women would be attracted from country and London … women of bad character might be perfectly quiet in their behaviour and abstain from open solicitation yet their presence in the streets would be a great temptation … proctors would exercise exceptional powers at own peril. During last two years a marked deterioration in state of the streets. Objection to omission of words 'behaving in a riotous and disorderly manner'. Bill a compromise and impossible to take out any part without rendering it unacceptable. Bill allowed police to arrest bad characters wandering in streets unable to give satisfactory account … and similar power to proctors who on same footing as police. Vice Chancellor's court and Spinning House to be abolished and persons tried before ordinary court
University jurisdiction founded on very ancient charter and was much resented by town – but now come to unanimous accord. Select committee of House had approved the special clause. There was no need for this private bill. Would be similar to affairs in Oxford

1894 06 22
Corporation Bill. The House of Lords carried the Cambridge Spinning-house Bill by an overwhelming majority. The measure, which re-enacts in a modified form at the end of the nineteenth century the much-abused medieval powers of the Cambridge authorities, came up for third reading. The question was practically decided on party lines. Lord Leigh (Trinity College) moved to leave out Clause: "Every common prostitute loitering or being in a street or public place for the purpose of prostitution or solicitation." He said he regarded it a most dangerous power to place in the hands of a policeman that he should be given authority to say whether woman was out in the streets of Cambridge for the purpose of prostitution or not, unless she was seen actually to solicit, and the object of his amendment was to provide that a police-constable should not have that power unless he proved solicitation. Under the Bill, a poor woman going home after her day's work might be arrested by policeman. The Duke op Devonshire (Chancellor of the University) regretted that he was unable, on behalf of the University of Cambridge, to assent to

the amendment. The University of Cambridge had from very ancient times been invested with very extensive powers of dealing with vagabonds, prostitutes, and other suspected persons, and those powers had from time to time caused good deal of conflict between the University and the Municipal authorities. The powers were not altogether suited to modern ideas and circumstances, and after discussion had taken place between the University and the Municipal authorities, a compromise was arrived at, with the unanimous approval the Town Council and of a town's meeting, which was embodied in this Bill. Under the Bill the law of Cambridge would be assimilated to that of Oxford, and though it was quite true that the Oxford law and the present Bill conferred upon the police and the University authorities powers somewhat in excess of those which were possessed by the police of ordinary boroughs, it was very generally admitted that, in towns such as Cambridge and Oxford, where large number of young men resided for a very considerable portion of the year, for the purposes of education, the University and Municipal authorities should be armed with somewhat larger powers than were necessary in the case of other towns. The effect of the amendment would be to make it impossible for either the University or Municipal authorities to arrest any prostitute unless the act of soliciting were actually proved, and the powers conferred would be insufficient if the amendment were adopted. Moreover, the whole of the arrangement arrived at between the University and the Municipal authorities would come to an end, and the law would remain as it at present stood. The Duke of Rutland (High Steward of the Borough), said the Corporation of Cambridge felt quite as much the University the necessity of passing the Bill its present shape. He hoped the measure, which was the result of compromise, would be passed in the state in which it then stood. Lord Walsingham (High Steward of the University), also hoped the House would not assent to the amendment, because, unless these special powers were given to the Municipal and University authorities, there was considerable danger that the state of the streets of Cambridge would become a serious scandal, and a moral danger to the undergraduates would arise. The Lord Chancellor did not think the difference between the amendment and the clause as it stood was so great as appeared. He quite agreed that special legislation was necessary in University towns. That was admitted by the amendment much as by the clause of the Bill. It would not be denied that very considerable feeling of hostility had been aroused by the sixth clause, and by the passing of the Bill in its present form that agitation would not subside. The amendment was put forward by those who had strongly opposed the clause. He believed that the amendment would be far more likely to work for the interests of the University than a clause to which many persons were hostile. The Earl of Morley said if the Bill had been introduced as an ordinary town Bill it would have been his duty to report that it went beyond the powers of the ordinary law, but in the present case there were peculiar circumstances, and he would vote for the clause as it stood. The Bill passed. CIP [2.14,1.5,2.15]

1894 11 09
Parliamentary committee report that owning to passing of Cambridge University and Corporation Act 1894 the use of university portion of the Spinning House is no longer required; need more accommodation for police station … take steps for disposition of portion of spinning house used by university by purchase or otherwise. CIP

1894 12 14
More money for the Guildhall. The Guildhall and Building Committee reported that the funds available for the erection of the front portion of the new municipal buildings, as designed by Mr Fawcett, are insufficient. The question of alteration and addition to the present Guildhall, or the erection of a new building has been occupying attention for some years. Mr Fawcett was asked to prepare an elevation and the Guildhall Street block has been erected upon these plans. Hallack and Bond having relinquished the lower part of the Guildhall Street block, the idea was to provide rooms for the Town Clerk there but there was little accommodation for the Town Clerk. He

would have one room in the new block and his present rooms without any communication between them. Councillor Nichols objected to more money being spent on patching up that old Town Hall. The whole thing had been a muddle. The report was rejected 1894 12 14

1895 01 04
Town council contact Hobson's Charity re acquiring University portion Spinning House. CIP

1895 09 18
Town council trying to get disused part of the spinning house handed over to the town without payment in order to enlarge the police station and also for a fire station. CIP

1897 01 23
Chesterton amalgamation: electors vote 985 to 349 against incorporation into Borough 1897 01 23 CDN

1897 08 19
Plans for a new Guildhall to designs by Belcher drawn up 1898 ratepayers reject them (concerned at further expenditure at a time of great expense on new sewage scheme) [1.10]
Proposed new Guildhall design – 35 02 22b, 35 02 23
Guildhall interior designs - 35 03 04 & 05

1897 08 21
For several years Cambridge has been in a state of chronic poverty. With hardly a sou in the bank – not sufficient to meet tradesmen's bill as they become due - the financial outlook has been far from cheering to the ratepayer. A farthing rate to retain East Road Reading Room is denied, yet in the next breath the modest sum of £21,000 is voted for street improvements. And again there is the front of the Guildhall. No sane person can defend the retention of a monstrosity like that and if it is not to be retained it must be replaced and care must be taken that the new building is worthy of the town 1897 08 21

1897 10 11
We understand that a design for the front portion of the Cambridge Guildhall will be laid before the Council. For years we have joined in the general chorus of condemnation of the present monstrosity which does duty as a front to the municipal building. It is an abomination and ought to be removed as speedily as possible. The question is whether or not the present is the proper time for undertaking the work. We are informed that the contemplated new front will cost £38,000! Let the ratepayers remember that we have not yet done with our gigantic, our costly, and in some respects our eminently unsatisfactory sewerage scheme – Editorial

1897 10 30
Proposed Guildhall front – illus Clarke, p2

1897 11 10
Sir - I should like to ask my fellow ratepayers, more especially those living in the vicinity of Mill Road, Cambridge, which is more important to them – the improvement of the Guildhall, which I understand to cost £40,000, or the stinking condition of the Mill road sewers, which has for its vent the manholes. From two of them, especially the Petersfield one, the stench on Sunday was enough to breed an epidemic. How long are we to stand this sort of business? - James Plant

1897 11 27

A well-attended meeting was held in Eden Street School, Cambridge to discuss the proposed expenditure on a new Guildhall front. Mr R. Sturton said they must have a new cemetery as he did not suppose sanitary science would advance sufficiently rapidly to go in for cremation en bloc. Then there was the new Police Station and something would have to be done to the Sanatorium. Mr Burwick though the more they beautified Cambridge the more good they would do to business. Why not have a police station at the town hall, offices for the payment of rates, swimming baths. He did not see why shops should not be built on Peas Hill so as to bring in a considerable amount

1897 11 30
Guildhall front – support, p3

1898 01 06
Death H.J. Whitaker, Borough Treasurer, CDN 1898 01 06 p3

1898 09 26
Cambridge is in possession of municipal buildings, which in their inartistic blending of the old and the new, are somewhat of an eyesore. The old buildings on which age has laid its hand heavenly are in front. The new tower behind. Some time ago this blemish came home so strongly that it was proposed to pull down the old part and rebuilt the front to be in harmony with the buildings in the rear. It should be of a design sufficiently imposing that the Guildhall should hold its own with the other buildings of Cambridge. Is this the time came to embark upon an expensive scheme for the adornment of the town, praiseworthy as that scheme may be? The rates are already as high as need be, and there is no prospect of their being lowered
"A terrible expense" by William Kirkup, p4

1898 10 07
Cambridge town council has issued an additional report on the proposed new Guildhall buildings. The accommodation will be considerably increased and will include in the basement, additional coal store, public lavatories for men and women and three new storerooms. On the ground floor a greatly improved entrance with grand staircase, cloak rooms, retiring rooms, two new public meeting rooms, kitchen and offices. Facing Union Street three new shops will be provided. On the first floor the Aldermen's parlour will be enlarged and improved and there will be rooms for the town clerk as well as a Mayor's reception room and a new enlarged council chamber. The cost is estimated at £38,000 CDN 1898 10 07

1898 10 13
The Town Council of Cambridge has asked the burgesses whether they are of a mind to make a beginning at once with the extension of the Guildhall, and with the building of a new front, and the ratepayers have given their answer. There is no ambiguity about that answer; the "No" is emphatic enough. The attendance at the Guildhall was so large that those who know by experience how difficult it is to get the public to take an active interest in public questions must have been surprised. CDN 1898 10 13

1898 12 20
Hobsons Charity would not hand over Spinning House unless received an adequate rent or sufficient purchase money

1899
Apply for Bill to allow municipalisation of tramways waterworks, lavatories and water but this proposal rejected by ratepayers

1900

1900 10 18
Cambridge town council considered the position of town crier. Mr Campkin said the office was a relic of Bumbledon and could well be dispensed with. They had outlived the town crier as they had the Bedell. Alderman Spalding thought it a great pity to get rid of these old offices. The crier preceded the Mayor to church five times a year, went to meet the judges three times, attending the quarter sessions and licensing sessions and made in all sixteen appearances during the year. The salary was £20 per annum 00 10 18

1900 11 28
An Inspector of the Local Government Board held an inquiry at Cambridge Guildhall with reference to the application of the Town Council to borrow £15,500 for the provision of a new cemetery at a spot near Fen Ditton. Dr Cooper said there was a good deal of talk and it was of the utmost importance to the inhabitants that the formation of the new cemetery would not in the slightest degree be of risk to the purity of the water supply of the town

1901
Council decide that office staff should be employed directly by them, formerly the Town Clerk used staff from his own outside office 52 01 05 [2.17]

1901 03 23
My commission was to go to the Guildhall and having duly observed both men and things to put down my impressions, without fear or favour. With feelings akin to awe I approached the Council precincts and entered the chamber where the elders of the town engaged in high debate. Comfortable and commodious it was evidently designed to render the labours of the councillors as pleasant as possible, with an air of quiet repose and dignity. I had hoped for some little show of stately ceremony, but shambling and shuffling were the order of the day and the meeting began as it ended in a spirit of haste and lack or orderliness c01 03 26

1902
Chesterton amalgamation "impossible" [1.8]

1903
Chesterton amalgamation: majority oppose [1.9]

1903
Education Act gives council power to manage schools, Cambridge Daily News find difficulty getting permission to attend committee meetings [3.4]

1903 04 18
All the arguments in favour of converting Cambridge into a County Borough having failed some councillors have threatened to petition for an extension to the town's boundaries so as to include not only Chesterton but Newnham Croft and St John's, Cherry Hinton as well. To silence opposition they have threatened that all children from these districts attending schools in Cambridge will have to be turned out to seek education under their own authority. This has confirmed the opponents in their opposition and alienated the sympathies of supporters. Fortunately nobody is likely to be frightened by such pusillanimous threats. 03 04 18

1903 09 17

Coun Morley said the Cambridge Borough Surveyor had met with an accident when driving in the Corporation trap. It was time they should come more up to date and go in for a motor. (Laughter). The Corporation had laughed at this before – they generally did at any matter that was up to date. It was said that motors were not reliable but he had one that had travelled 3,000 miles in six months and never had a breakdown. Motor traction cost considerably less than a pony and trap - £20 a year including petrol and everything else. He proposed that they buy a motor tandem tricycle which would cost £75. 03 09 17

1904 06 16
Cambridge Town Council honoured Alexander Peckover, Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire with the Freedom of the Borough in recognition of his services to Cambridge and his munificence to Addenbrooke's Hospital and the Eastern Counties Asylum at Colchester which has made his name a household word in the neighbourhood. The address was enclosed in an ebony casket supplied by Messrs Cole of Market Street on which was a silver plate. It was, said Peckover, something he would value very highly. The casket would go down as an heirloom to his daughter. 1904 06 16

1904 06 16
At the death of Queen Victoria, a little more than three years ago, the Mayor of Cambridge started a subscription to provide a memorial. Plans for a substantial improvement at the hospital had to be abandoned but they agreed to procure a bust of the Queen from Thomas Brock. It was a magnificent work of art by one of the leading sculptors of their generation which the Corporation would always treasure. It would be an ornament to the Guildhall and retain an honourable position in that building as long as it lasted and then take a more distinguished position in more sumptuous surroundings. 1904 06 16

1905 07 13
Cambridge has regained a missing charter granted to the Borough in 1632 by King Charles I. It is plainly written in Latin upon a huge scroll of parchment but is mutilated by having a large circular patch cut away, possibly to cover a drum used in the civil war. It was presented by the Royal Institution of South Wales who had found it amongst their ancient papers; how it got there is not known. 05 07 13a-c

1905 10 05
Cambridge Town Council wrote to Chesterton R.D.C. saying they wish to extend their boundaries to incorporate parts of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton, Trumpington and Grantchester. Chesterton are to reply saying they will give such project its most strenuous opposition. 05 10 05-b

1905 12 09
Cambridge Corporation's new Mill Road storeyard is nearing completion on land behind the Free Library. Here material for the repair and making of roads is stored, vehicles housed and mended and appliances for any contingency kept in readiness. It has a siding to the railway for granite or cement, an open shed for refuse vehicles and stables together with accommodation for two steam rollers. There are blacksmiths, carpenters and wheelwright's shops and a men's mess room 05 12 09a & b

1906 10 19
A Cambridge Ratepayer Association was formed: there was deplorable apathy over local government and many councillors resumed their seats without a contest. Members of councils were nominated and their actions controlled by a party. Contracts were given out, not to the

lowest tender, but because one man belonged to one party and one to the other. They might run candidates for the town council and board of guardians irrespective of party politics. 06 10 19b

1908
County Council negotiate over use of Town Council offices, would mean rebuilding Guildhall front & using all corporation property on South side of Market Hill - "would prove popular"

1908 03 13
E. Wareham Harry was Cambridge Borough Surveyor for the past 20 years. In the repair of 50 miles of sewer trenches and the laying of miles of concrete paving he did work which deserves well of the town. When he came the roads were in an indifferent condition, many without any foundation while others were merely coated with gravel. Now all the Macadam roads have been coated with granite. His efficiency was impaired by an attack of influenza and he died at his residence in Selwyn Gardens. 08 03 13

1908 03 24
Julian Julian appointed Borough Surveyor – 08 03 24

1908 11 06
The women candidates for Cambridge borough councillors have quickened interest in the recent elections. All though the day rumours of the arrival of the Pankhurst brigade were flying about with speculation that 50 militant females had arrived from London, but nobody saw any suffragettes. The crowd expressed their pleasure in cheers when it was announced that both the lady candidates, Miss Kennedy who stood in New Town and Miss Philpott who stood in Petersfield, had been defeated CWN 08 11 06 p3

1910

1910
Seek powers to acquire waterworks, fail [1.18]

1910
Borough extension: Cherry Hinton support, Trumpington & Fen Ditton oppose [1.19]

1910 08 12
Trumpington amalgamation scheme discussed 10 08 12i 10 08 19b

1910 10 01
"It seems fashion to represent Cambridge as a sort of wolf which is seeking to devour its innocent neighbour Chesterton" [4.4]

1910 10 07
The scheme for extending the Borough boundaries so as to include Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and the urban portions of Grantchester, Trumpington and Fen Ditton was formally launched. The boundary with Chesterton is an imaginary line running down the centre of the river which presents legal difficulties over dredging. The river is used by member of the University for rowing but most of the boathouses are on the Chesterton side. The Corporation own a cemetery the parish of Fen Ditton. They have constructed a sewer and laid water mains along Newmarket Road and the land will no doubt be used for building. 10 10 07e & i & j

1910 11 04

The County Council needed extra offices for its staff. At present departments were housed in different buildings and councillors often went to the wrong one. They could take space in the Guildhall but would be paying rent that would assist the Borough to erect a very fine building in which they had no permanent share. It would be more economical to build on the Shirehall site, removing the Chief Constable's house and other police buildings, but most convenient to purchase a building on a more central site. However they must bear in mind the great difference in cost 10 11 04a & b

1911
First Labour candidate, for Romsey Town, comes bottom of poll [4.20]

1911 02 03
The Inquiry into the extension of Cambridge borough boundaries heard that Cherry Hinton was part of Chesterton Rural District and divided into two wards. St John's was obviously an outgrowth of the town while the old village was in St Andrew's ward. The parish had the expenses of sewerage as a result of which their rates were very considerably in excess of the Borough rates. But the old village had no sewerage at all, the drainage being by means of cesspools. 11 02 03c 11 02 10b

1911 04 07
The Local Government Board is in favour of the extension of Cambridge to include parts of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton, Grantchester and Trumpington. 11 04 07f

1911 05 19
Greater Cambridge editorial: Chesterton UDC will cease to exist, parishes of Cherry Hinton, Trumpington and Grantchester will be divided and urban portions come into Cambridge 11 05 19c
Local Government Boundaries Act extends area of Borough by 2,224 acres & increases population by 15,785 people, three new Wards added, councillors increased to 42 with 15 Aldermen [4.17]

1912 03 08
The last meeting of the Chesterton Urban District Council recalled the changes during the last 40 years. Before 1880 there were no street lamps, no sewage system, no street watering and an imperfect water supply. The paths were unkerbed, there was no collection of house refuse, no medical officer, no sanitary inspector, no recreation ground and very few allotments. The population had risen from 5,000 to 12,000. Now councillors would help improve the Borough of Cambridge at large 12 03 08f

1912 03 22
Polling opened in the three contested wards of the districts to be added to the Borough – Cambridge Without, North and West Chesterton - under the most depressing conditions. Rain fell heavily which had an adverse effect on turnout. A sharp thunderstorm came on about midday, a very unfortunate time for those who wished to record their votes during the dinner hour. Some of the flashes of lightning were so vivid and the peals of thunder so heavy that doors and windows rattled while the rainfall was almost tropical in its intensity. In Chesterton East John Bester, who has done more than any other for the amalgamation with Cambridge, was returned unopposed. 12 03 22d

1912 03 29

Today the population of the Borough of Cambridge is 40.560. On Monday it will be 57,073. The extension of the boundary now brings in Chesterton and the urban portions of Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Grantchester. These suburbs were inhabited almost entirely by people whose living lay in Cambridge but were separated from it by the River Cam or purely artificial borders. It means that the residents will now be under the care of the Cambridge Town Council. 12 03 29c

1912 04 01
Borough council extension order marks new epoch in municipal history [4.10]

1912 04 13
Leaflet issued "In memoriam of Chesterton whose spirit of independence passed away March 31 1912 at midnight" [4.6]

1912 05 05
Cambridge councillors – photos & notes – H.F. Cook, R.H. Adie, W.P. Hollis, W.B. Westley, Jack French, W.E. Morrell – 12 04 05a; J. Bester, Ald Feast, Ald Johnson, H.G. Gray, Counc Conder, Counc Mills, P.J. Squires, W. Hawkins, Counc Lambert – 12 05 05b

1912 05 23
Chesterton UDC members elected to Borough council [4.11]
Additional aldermen due to borough expansion presents seating problems in council chamber [4.5]

1912 07 26
Cambridgeshire County Council does not appoint its own clerk even though he has supreme control of the whole of the county business. Some councillors felt this would cause friction with various heads of department. But it should check extravagance, waste and overlapping which has been almost inevitable in the present state of affairs with separate departments based in different buildings around Cambridge. The new clerk will be a whole-time officer and the whole of the scattered staff will be directly under his supervision in the new County Hall to be constructed in Hobson Street. 12 07 26e

1912 11 30
Cambridge applies for County Borough status, would give power over secondary as well as elementary schools, control over main roads & would save them paying County rates; but one large urban area taken out of the County would hit its economic and effective administration [4.8, 4.9, 5.6]

1912 12 06
Cambridge should be constituted a County Borough with power to manage its own affairs, an Inquiry was told. There had been a great deal of friction and dispute over roads At present if permission was required to open a drain the matter had to go first to the Borough and then the County. There was a considerable amount of overlapping of responsibilities and the whole thing was almost unworkable. As for schools: many county pupils were the sons of farmers and others engaged in agriculture and so education was designed for that class of scholar. 12 12 06 e & f 12 12 12

1913
Ratepayers Association formed, begins in Chesterton & spreads to Borough [4.22]
County reimburse Borough £3,554 on account of expenditure on main roads but claim £9,772 from Borough for compensation due to recent expansion

1913 02 07
Guildhall extension & widening Downing Street plans

1913 03 21
The Cambridge County Borough Question is occupying attention to the exclusion of everything else. The Chamber of Agriculture says it would be disastrous to the county; they should urge the Government to raise the minimum population for a county borough to 100,000. Some voluntary arrangement would have been more economical and preserved the amicable relations between the two authorise. Now there is no reason to hope that there can be anything but a fight to the finish. 13 03 21 p4 & p6 CIP

1913 05 02
County Borough Bill, deputation to Prime Minister 13 05 02 p10 CIP

1913 06 13
Corporation to enlarge Guildhall while County Borough question unsettled – opposition; Lammas Land should be made into Newnham recreation ground 13 06 13 p7

1913 06 20
Ratepayers Association inaugural meeting, Guildhall extension

1913 07 04
County Borough bill, 2nd reading carried 13 07 04 p7 CIP

1913 07 04
Guildhall extension ratepayers petition - 13 07 04 p9 CIP

1913 07 12
Guildhall extension proposed using ground floor for library,

1913 07 18
County Borough Bill before Select Committee 13 07 18 p8-9 CIP

1913 08 01
Ratepayers petition against Guildhall extension 13 08 01 p10 CIP

1913 08 23
County Borough : Sir George Fordham leads opposition on behalf of County - if Cambridge were taken away County would be unworkable; Cambridge claim that its residents have to pay half of the County rate in addition to their own [4.15,4.16,4.21,5.6]

1913 09 05
Guildhall extension ratepayer's opposition – any money spent on libraries should provide reading rooms for Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and Newnham: when a man got home from business he doesn't feel inclined to walk down to the town again – if you look into the Mill Road reading room at night you will see how much it is appreciated. 13 09 05 p5

1913 10 10
Cambridge Ratepayers Association is to adopt two candidates for the November council elections. The greatest thing was that they were non-political. It was ridiculous to see all the

Conservatives on one side voting one way and the Liberals the other. Voting should be done according to the good a councillor thought would be done to the ratepayers. It was hardly the thing that when a man got too old for business he should think it was time to start in public life. They were some who had lost some of their faculties and could not hear. 13 10 10 p5 CIP

1913 12 19
Plans for alterations at the rear of the Guildhall were shelved after the Ratepayers Association raised a petition. They had to face a loss on the trams, the Borough Bill, Chesterton footbridge and other improvements and as the Colleges were building rapidly the town landladies found it hard to pay their rates. Now the County Council had decided to build their new offices in Hobson Street. They had been debating since 1907 and all the expense and time had been worthless. But the Free Library was over-crowded and disease was spread in libraries where people were constantly sitting together 13 12 19 p7 CIP [4.12,4.13,4.22,5.3]

1913 12 19
The tolls at Reach fair have been steadily diminishing but the cost of proclaiming it and colleting the money were increasing. The time had come to discontinue it or for members of the Council to throw away their own coppers. But the deficit was trivial for such a historically important event that dated back to the time of King John. What would Americans think if they recklessly dispensed with such an interesting custom for the sake of a few pounds? 13 12 19 p7 CIP

1914 01 23
Cambridge Ratepayers' Association are proclaiming that they have been the means of "scotching" the Borough Council's scheme for the enlargement of the Guildhall. … the number of signatures obtained for their monster petition being a plain indication that the great majority of the ratepayers were against such a costly proceeding. One cannot but realise the need which exists for better Public Library accommodation, and it is to be hoped the dropping of the larger scheme will not prevent the work of extending and improving the Library being carried through. 14 01 23 CIP of

1914 02 06
At the opening of the new County Hall in Hobson Street the chairman thanked the Town Council for allowing them to use their council chamber and committee rooms for the past 25 years. In 1747 the old Shire Hall had been built on Market Hill above arches where butchers had their stalls on market days. In 1842 this passed to the town when a new Shire Hall at Castle Hill was ready for occupation. But the enormous development of administrative business had now brought the County Council again into the centre to this new commodious and economical building, finally bringing together departments previously distributed in all parts of the town. 14 02 06, a-c

1914 03 27
The Cambridge County Borough Bill (with which were included Wakefield and Luton) was defeated in the House of Commons. It would inflict great hardship on the county. If it were taken away the rest of the area would be almost entirely agricultural, some MPs said. But the County Council would be more efficient if all members represented agricultural interests rather than the urban interests of the Borough, the Cambridge MP contended. 14 03 27f; A farce – editorial – 14 03 27d
… great jubilation the County but disappointment in the Borough, 14 03 27 CIPof

1914 03 28
"Not 25 MPs who knew what the question was ... members were pushed into lobbies" [5.4]

1914 04 10
Opposition to Guildhall Enlargement. In response to a petition by 80 ratepayers of Cambridge, the Mayor called a town's meeting at the Guildhall on Tuesday evening, when the following resolution was passed by a large majority. "That this meeting condemns the resolution passed by the Council at the March meeting with reference to the; Guildhall extension, and if the Corporation find they require further accommodation for their officials, they should hire offices outside for the Education Department." With reference to a proposed carriage bridge at Chesterton the meeting carried, with less than a dozen opposing: "That this meeting, having considered the .question of the postponement of the building of the bridge directed by the Cambridge Order 1911 to be built by April 1 1917, sees at this juncture no reason for such action."14 04 10 CIPof

1914 05 08
It is with deep regret we record the death of ex-Alderman George Kett, J.P. It was only in November he resigned his council seat after long and valued service, having been Mayor three times. The firm of Rattee & Kett, ecclesiastical builders was founded in 1854 and he became head on the death of his father in 1872. The Catholic Church was erected under his direction but the work of his life was the restoration of Arundel Castle where 400-500 men were employed at one time. He retired in 1904 and his son, G.R. Kett is now head of the firm 14 05 08f

1914 05 22
Guildhall to be Enlarged.—More than half of the members of the Cambridge Town Council had left yesterday's meeting of that body when Ald. Spalding rose to move that authority be given to the Law and Property Committee to proceed with the £4,500 scheme for the enlargement of the Guildhall. There were little more than a Quorum of members left, but of those remaining, a large majority favoured the proposal which was carried. – 14 05 22

1914 07 10
Borough Council sued by Sidney Sussex College, for taking (compulsorily) of a strip of land for widening of Sidney Street and Jesus Lane. Cambridge. The total claim amounted to about £2.650. 14 07 10 CIPof

1914 08
It was not until 1914 that the Government were induced to bring in a short Bill 'to remove various anomalies; ...under which married women, although otherwise qualified, cannot be councillors ... of a Municipal Borough. This Act received the Royal Assent on August 7th 1914 and Cambridge was the first place to make use of the Act, but during the war ordinary elections having been replaced by co-option, only one woman councillor secured a seat 38 05 31

1914 10 02
Guildhall extension for library, education offices, juvenile bureau and Medical Officer of Health 14 10 02

1914 10 02
It was hoped that Cambridge municipal elections would pass off without a contest but the Labour Party, who are still without a seat, have decided to attack two seats. One of these is Romsey Town where Tom Orrey will again be the candidate for the sixth time. In Fitzwilliam Ward we have the novel experience of a lady candidate for the first time under the new Qualification Act., Mrs J.M. Keynes, chairman of the National Union of Women Workers 14 10 02

1914 10 23

The Cambridge Borough Council meeting was notable for the fact that for the first time in the history a lady took her seat. Mrs Keynes, the new representative of Fitzwilliam Ward, was cordially welcomed by the Mayor. Being the first lady councillor she had not had to contest the election, but others should not take this as a precedent. If in the future a lady ever became Mayor then she would have the first call 14 10 23

1914 12 18
An inquiry was held into the Guildhall extension. The Librarian said at present they had two rooms for lending purposes and a reading room on the ground floor. Part of the Reference Library was in the reading room and it was very overcrowded. The basement would be used for storage. But the Ratepayers Association asked for it to be postponed until after the war. The University had practically ceased to exist, there are no pupils, the tutors have no fees and the lodging house keepers no tenants. Poor people were selling furniture to buy bread

1915 02 12
Education employees, clerks and officials working for the Corporation and who fall ill receive full wages for the first eight weeks and half wages for the next eight. This is in addition to the sickness benefit and means that they are considerably better off than when at work. But in the case of workmen the Council makes no payment at all, the scavengers and roadmen simply receiving their ten shillings sick pay from the state. Both sets of employees are essential to the town's welfare and it is unjust they should be treated so differently 15 02 12

1915 04 23
Askew Wilson, sergeant-at-mace for 40 years, death 15 04 23 p5

1915 07 16
Guildhall extension accounts debate, includes payment made to E.C. Meech, tobacconist whose premises have been demolished for new building 15 07 16 p6

1915 10 22
Borough council committee investigate efficiency – detailed account 15 10 22 p7 CIP

1916 03 22
Death of Ald. W. P. Spalding. He was the eldest son of a printer, stationer and bookseller, Mr. William Spalding (Ipswich), and was apprenticed to his father. He started business in Cambridge on his own account in Sidney Street, Cambridge, in 1873. This prospered and was enlarged in many ways, and in 1881 he became a member of the Cambridge Town Council, proving an expert debater and administrator. Mr. Spalding was elected to the aldermanic bench and in 1908 was chosen Mayor in succession to his friend, Mr. H. G. Whibley. He had been appointed a J.P. in 1897. During 35 years of faithful public service, Ald. Spalding left his mark in many ways upon the affairs of the borough 16 03 22 CIPof

1916 07 26
Bushel Anningson, Medical Officer of Health - port, obituary – 16 07 26e, f

1917 12 12
Mayor a D.D. A most animated spectacle was provided in the Senate House on Friday afternoon, when the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Divinity was conferred upon the Rev. E. C. Pearce. Master of Corpus and Mayor of Cambridge, in the presence of a large gathering of members of the University and of the aldermen and councillors of the Borough Council, who attended at the invitation of the Vice-Chancellor. The occasion was unique, as there is no record of any

previous Mayor of Cambridge having been an official member, and certainly not one of the presiding chiefs of the municipality receiving a degree, honorary or otherwise from the University during his year of office. It also had further interest from the fact that the Mayor's brother, the Ven. E, H. Pearce, Archdeacon of Westminster, was to receive from the same Congregation the degree of Doctor of Letters 17 12 12 CIPof

1918 07 31
Mr. J. W. Jacob born in 1865, began work at the Guildhall at the age of 15, assisting his father, who was hall-keeper there for 30 years. In 1884 he was appointed Sergeant at Mace, and continuing in that capacity for 16 years, he succeeded his father as hall-keeper in 1900. 18 07 31 CIPof

1919
Major Dermot Freyer, first socialist member of City Council joined in 1919 and represented Petersfield until 1937; elected an hour before Clara Rackham – 65 01 11a

1920

1920 12 15
Six ex-Mayors honoured at Cambridge dinner, an historic gathering - CDN 20 12 15

1921 07 27
A serious position has arisen in connection with the scheme for the erecting of houses by Cambridge Borough Council at Chesterton Road & Milton Road. The site was purchased some time ago and prepared for erection of 60 houses by direct labour. Construction of roads and sewers put in place. But Minister refuses to sanction other work unless whole of expense is borne by local rates. Work to stop and town will have a building site which cost over £14,000. It is impossible to proceed with building scheme without Government assistance – 21 07 27c

1923 09 12
We regret to record the death of Mr J E L Whitehead, town clerk of Cambridge. He attended Emmanuel College and took the law as his profession, being articled to his uncle who was many years Borough Treasurer. He practised at an office in Alexandra street until he was appointed town clerk in succession to Mr Edmund Foster in August 1887. For many years he was a member of the Cam sailing club and was a prominent member of the Bijou Amateur dramatic Club and played juvenile lead in many of their productions 23 09 12

1923 12 13
Cambridge town council formally received the resignation of the borough surveyor, Mr Julian Julian. He said in a letter that work on roads, bridges, planning etc had been delayed and he had found that people had attributed these delays to the weakness of him and his staff. Councillor Stubbs said they had lost a brilliant surveyor. His department had been understaffed and he had been struggling alone and it appeared that he would not have resigned had he been given help 23 12 13

1924 05 15
Borough accountant resigns, p5 24 05 15

1924 08 16
There has been quite a fluttering in the political dovecotes at the nomination of a lady as Mayor of Cambridge. There are some anti-feminists who cannot bear the idea of a woman taking any

prominent part in public life. It has been suggested that if the Liberals were determined to have a woman Mayor they should have chosen Mrs Keynes, but one can imagine the outcry if an attempt had been made to bring her back to the Council by way of the Mayoral chair 24 08 16

1924 11 10
Councillor Mrs Hartree was elected first lady mayor of the Borough of Cambridge. She accepted the honour as a representative of the women of Cambridge who desired to work side by side with the men in the service of their town. She had consulted some authorities, and some of the women, and it had been decided the best mode of addressing the Mayor would be "Mr Mayor" as usual. (Hear, hear and applause) 24 11 10

1925
Council accept £2,700 in settlement of action against former auditors [2.9, 5.24]

1926 02 04
Ald Raynes told Cambridge town council that the centre of local government was gradually shifting from the Guildhall to the County Hall. Mr Neville Chamberlain would in time abolish the rural councils. Town councils would be given delegated authority to function under the supervision of the county, which would be a very serious thing.

1927 02 26
Hearty congratulations to Mr A. Townsend, the Assistant Town Clerk, who has completed 50 years' service with Cambridge Corporation. Hard work and a cheerful disposition have contrived to keep him young. The Town Clerk presented him with a silver cigarette case. Two more officials have completed 40 years' service. Mr N.C. Hedge joined the Town Clerk's department as an office boy and never left, while Mr H.E. Foster joined at the same time but later transferred to the Treasurer's office. 27 02 26

1927 09 19
Premises in Peas Hill, Cambridge, may be acquired for the purpose of extending the Guildhall. Trinity Hall, the owners of nos 15 & 16 will sell for £5,500; Mr Sennitt will sell no.17 for £3,500, the price to include compensation for disturbance of the business and the tenant to have the option of hiring the premises until required by the Corporation. Corpus Christi College has agreed £2,200 for no.19. The Council is to apply to the Minister of Health for sanction to borrow the sum of £11,700 for the purchase 27 09 19

1928 01 11
An inquiry was held into Cambridge council's application to borrow money for the purchase of property in Peas Hill for an extension of the Guildhall. There was an increase of administrative staff and the offices were not adequate to enable the duties to be carried out efficiently. With the acquisition of the property the Corporation would hold the entire island site which would facilitate the suggested scheme for the reconstruction of the Guildhall. They had been met in a conciliatory spirit by the owners of the property and a favourable provisional agreement had been arrived at 28 01 11

1928 08
Arrangement over election of Mayors changed, to be nominated by groups in alternate years, Labour disagree [2.18]

1928 10 27

There is much speculation regarding the £42,000 Cambridge Market Hill deal; a large cinema and café are spoken of, but there are no details at present. It would be for the benefit of the town if the whole island site could be taken over by the Corporation; then as the leases run out it could be cleared and would provide a magnificent site for municipal buildings. Road traffic now demands that all building operations should be planned for what will be needed in the future, with a wider Petty Cury, Market Hill and Sidney Street. Something of the sort must eventually be done unless it is the intention to remove the Guildhall and market nearer the station.

1929 07 15
Guildhall extension – co-operation with county? 29 07 15 p8*

1929 09
Discuss Guildhall enlargement, consider alternative site [2.19]

1930

1930 07 19
Queen Victoria's portrait has been moved from the Council Chamber at Cambridge Guildhall and replaced by a fine picture of Mr George Fisher who was mayor in 1840-1-2. It was originally presented by his son, but owing to its dilapidated state was not hung at the time. His grand-daughter Miss Enid Hudson has contributed to its renovation, carried out by Messrs Perry Leach and Son. It now hangs next to the portrait of the late Ald. Kett. 30 07 19

1930 10
Ask for extension of Borough boundaries to include whole of Town Planning area [2.21]

1931
1931 04
Council to seek Bill to acquire Waterworks Company [3.1]

1931 05 01
Cambridge led the way in making it an offence to sell short weight of food. It was usual to sell butter by the yard, with each yard weighing 1lb and a penalty was imposed for those underweight. Its position of Inspector of Weights and Measures was also unique. Prior to 1856 the University held the powers and when these were transferred to the town they were granted the right to appoint an additional inspector should they feel dissatisfied. So far they have not exercised that right. 31 05 01b

1931 06 12
Mrs Keynes elected first woman alderman – 31 06 12aa

1931 08 21
The parishes of Histon and Impington will vote on proposals for an extended Borough of Cambridge taking in the rural district within a three-mile radius. There was little desire on the part of rural residents to come into the Borough, there was no real community or interest between them. Cambridge would really be a little county with a population greater than Huntingdonshire. But what was left of Chesterton RDC would be unable to function and the administration of the rest of the county would be extremely difficult. 31 08 21c

1931 10 16

An Inquiry opened into plans to expand Cambridge's boundaries. It was the centre for education, shopping and amusement for adjacent villages where people were still dependent on cesspools: these would be provided with a sewerage system. Less than 500 acres were available for building because of the attitude of certain colleges, but it was undesirable that Cambridge should be filled up as if it were a manufacturing town. Most of the new houses in Shelford and Trumpington were of the working-class type. 31 10 16d

1931 10 23
Sewerage arrangement – evidence at Borough boundary expansion inquiry – 31 10 23a

1931 11 13
Ald Raynes Mayor – memories – 31 11 13a & aa

1931 11 13
Council officials offer take reduction salary – 31 11 13b & bb

1931 12 18
A crowded meeting at Cambridge Guildhall threw out proposals for the Corporation to take over the Waterworks Company. Were they going to get a cheaper or more efficient service? No. There had been no serious criticisms of the management and there would be heavy legal expenses and compensation to directors. But the creator had given mankind three essential things: sunshine, air and water and it was immoral for water to be kept from the people by private enterprise. 31 12 18 e f g

1932 02 25
Apart from the large hall and council chamber the Cambridge Guildhall is worn out and absolutely unsuitable. The accommodation in every department was deplorable – dark, dismal, horrid, unlit and unhealthy. On Castle Hill there was a fine new building being erected for the County Council who were planning to spend £8,000 on furnishing alone. Never since the war had prices in the building trade been lower; this was the right moment to consider rebuilding, councillors were told. 32 02 25 & 25a

1932 06 04
A new Cambridge Guildhall should be built on the corner of East Road and Parkside where the site is three times as large, meeting the requirements of the Corporation for many years. The existing Guildhall on Market Hill should be replaced with shops on the ground floor and offices and flats above, councillors have recommended. 32 06 04a, 06a, 06aa

1932 06 09
New Guildhall debate – 32 06 09a, 32 06 20 & a, 32 06 21

1932 07 15
Cambridge councillors say the municipal buildings should remain on the Guildhall site and not move to Parkside as had been proposed. It should be a worthy building, not surrounded by shops. With four floors they could provide 70 per cent more accommodation for officials but five would add to the dignity of the building and leave some surplus space that could be let and provide a source of income. But it must not overwhelm the market place. 32 07 15 c & d

1932 07 15
The new Shire Hall was opened with little ceremony in the presence of a handful of people. The Architect (H.H. Dunn) presented the Chairman, Ald W.C. Jackson, with a gold-covered key

engraved with the County Arms with which he unlocked the door. Soon a stream of guest arrived and the corridors presented a most animated appearance. The council chamber is very similar to that at the old County Hall in Hobson Street from which all the seats and tables have been removed while every care has been taken to provide the maximum air, light and spaciousness to the offices 32 07 15e & f
New Shire Hall site "shames town",

1932 11 11
A half-century of work in Cambridge was recognised when Alderman Florence Ada Keynes was elected as Mayor. She had been the first woman councillor and had served as Chairman of the Board of Guardians. Mrs Keynes said that they may be compelled to make cuts, but should not make a cult of economy. They should preserve the social services and promote employment. Something like 1,300 men and women were out of work, constituting a serious situation and bringing grievous loss to the workers; she hoped to mitigate the situation
32 11 11d

1933 01 30
Guildhall 'by instalments' plan – 33 01 30e

1933 02 02
Guildhall development on Peas Hills front – 33 02 02c & d

1933 02 04
Guildhall rebuilding cartoon – 33 02 04e

1933 03 25
Cambridge boundary extension proposals – 33 03 25 & a & b

1933 04 14
Guildhall plans – 33 04 14a

1933 04 20
Cambridge councillors considered schemes for the rebuilding of the Guildhall. One would alter the whole site, the other would set back the front but the building on Guildhall Street would remain untouched and would revert to being a court. But some councillors thought the Parkside scheme was still the best and would be far cheaper. 33 04 20c & d

1933 04 23
The mallet and trowel used by the Mayor, Alderman Wace, at the laying of the foundation stone of Victoria Avenue bridge has been offered to the Council. He was the first to wear the Mayoral chain presented by Colonel Harding's family and the first, certainly in recent times, to be presented with a silver cradle on the birth of a son in 1890 during his year of office. 33 04 23

1933 05 23
An inquiry into the extension of Cambridge boundaries was told that Girton should be included. Most of the residents worked in the town and it was their shopping and amusement centre. The sewage could drain by gravitation into Cambridge drains which were already almost up to the boundaries. Chesterton RDC did have a scheme but it was a complete mystery. The Mistress of Girton College said the question of drainage was one of urgency and she would also welcome public lighting and refuse collection. 33 05 23 & a 33 05 24a & b

1933 05 25
Borough expansion inquiry closes – 33 05 25b & c

1933 06 26
Guildhall scheme approved – 33 06 26 & a

1933 07 06
Two ancient silver spoons were presented to Cambridge Corporation. They were part of a collection of plate sold by the Council in 1836 – in those days even property passed into private hands in return for a good dinner - now they wanted to retrieve them. They had bought back one of six stoops and were seeking the gem of the collection, a rose bowl. 33 07 06 p8, 33 06 20a & b

1933 08 10
Boundary decision – bigger borough approved – 33 08 10 – allows expansion to take in Cherry Hinton and Trumpington as well as land off Arbury and Milton Roads

1933 08 11
The veranda or shelter over the main entrance of the Guildhall was disgustingly dirty and unsafe and should be removed, the Surveyor reported. It had been built in 1878 and the public should get used to the Guildhall without it because it would not be incorporated in the new building. Others said it was a useful shelter and should be maintained at all costs: the Preservation Society would be shocked if they allowed that ancient piece of architecture to be scrapped. 33 08 11

1933 09 19
Cambridge Guildhall dated back to about 1782 and there had been various extensions. In 1928 the Corporation bought shops in Peas Hill to allow for rebuilding. The possibility of providing shops on the ground floor had been considered but this would not allow sufficient offices for the extra staff needed to cope with their increased duties, an Inquiry was told 33 09 19

1933 11 07
Mrs Keynes 2nd woman Mayor review of year – 33 11 07

1934 04 03
The Mayor and councillors performed the ceremony of 'beating the bounds' to mark the addition of additional areas to the Borough. They began at the east end of the cemetery grounds on Newmarket Road then toured Cherry Hinton before moving on to Trumpington where the new boundary begins on the town side of Long Road. Here the Mayor cut a light-blue silk ribbon before formally stepping into the new territory. Then after visiting the boundary a quarter of a mile beyond the L.M.S. railway bridge on the Shelford Road they were entertained to tea 34 04 03 boundary extended, now covers 10,000 acres (1910 was 3,200acres)

1934 04 10
An inquiry into the sale of land in Scotland Road heard it had been offered to the corporation by Mr A.E. Few in 1929 but they'd turned it down. The land was subsequently bought by a private individual for £2,600. But when it was needed for the Hundred Houses Society the new owner had sold it to the council for £3,200. It was a good profit but the inspector cleared the council of any maladministration. 34 04 10 [1.24]

1934 06 30
Alderman W.P. Spalding started the collection of portraits of Cambridge mayors at the Guildhall and it is now traditional for outgoing Mayors to present framed pictures of themselves. But one

hung for many years as Charles Humfrey, Mayor 1837-38, has now been identified as being his brother. It has now been replaced. 34 06 30

1934 10 10
'Overture to Cambridge' had its premiere at the Festival Theatre. The play, written and produced by the Director, Joseph Gordon Macleod, exposes the pettiness of Town Gown and University. It tells of an invalided idealistic Mayor who comes to be regarded as a madman. His wife is killed in a car accident, his daughter becomes deranged and he falls to his death whilst addressing a meeting after being 'debagged' by a crowd of undergraduates. As he hovers between life and death he sees the future, with people living in the co-operative ideal which he preached. 34 10 10

1934 11 05
Alex Spalding's Mayoral year of office reviewed 34 11 05 & a

1934 11 09
Alderman Ralph Starr Mayor – profile – 34 11 09 & a & b

1934 11 29
An inquiry heard that in 1835 Cambridge was divided into five wards with 30 councillors and ten aldermen. This continued till 1889 when the University were given representation. Further changes came in 1909 and 1911 but the council was now a little unwieldy and numbers should be reduced. However the University representation would be unchanged 34 11 29b

1935 01 02
Guildhall – architect's drawing – 35 01 02

1935 02 22
Guildhall design – 35 02 22b, 35 02 23

1935 03 04
Guildhall interior designs 1896 35 03 04 & 05

1935 03 13
A packed public meeting at Cambridge Guildhall voted against plans for a new building and called on the council to remodel the front to a more dignified style of architecture. Cambridge was a treasure house of architectural gems and they had no right to hand down to posterity a freak building, a flat and uninteresting example of early 20th-century abominations. Another motion dealing with the question of shops on the Peas Hill side of the building received scant attention as most of the audience had left before the end. 35 03 13 & a

1935 04 10
Demolition work on Peas Hill for the new Guildhall has led to an architectural discovery of outstanding interest. It has revealed the residence and business premises of a well-to-do Tudor merchant which was subsequently divided up into a detached and two semi-detached houses. The magnificent front was covered up with lath and plaster in the reign of Queen Anne and finished with mock bricks. Dummy eaves were also added. Now each piece has been carefully taken down and numbered for preservation and re-erection. 35 04 10

1935 05 01
The Guildhall Protest Committee criticised plans for a useless portico of a most ornate and incongruous style which could be 'put on cold' in from of the proposed façade of the new

Guildhall in two years' time if the town really wanted it. The main entrance should be on Market Hill. It would allow a terrace which would form a platform for addressing meetings on Market Hill and give a façade of distinction that the people strongly desire. There was also intense feeling regarding the question of shops on the Peas Hill side 35 05 01

1935 05 16
Councillors argued over proposals for the Guildhall. Some wanted to spend £200,000 on the old building and still have a patchwork quilt, whereas they could have an entirely new one for £150,000. Peas Hill never had been and never would be a business centre and shops there would never be a paying proposition. The dispute had started with an unfortunate illustration of the façade in the 'Sunday Times' but the design was undoubtedly a dignified building of its kind and the average elector would vote for anything, if it were as ugly as sin, if it would only save a bit on the rates.. However Councillor Stubbs said if it had been built on Donkey Common as he'd suggested some years ago the council would not be in the muddle it was today. 35 05 16a & b

1935 10 17
The foundations of the Small Room of the Guildhall, which also supported the Borough Surveyor's room, are in such bad conditions that they must be demolished earlier than planned. It had been hoped to defer demolition until the Surveyor could move into the new wing of the Guildhall being built on Peas Hill. A ditch had been found under the site. Assurances were sought that the foundations of the rest of the Guildhall, especially the Large Room, were secure because weaknesses were not generally found in one spot but existed in veins all over the area. 35 10 17a

1935 10 26
Guildhall cartoon

1936 01 18
As the Guildhall is being reconstructed the Cambridge Education Committee met in the old Post Office on the corner of Petty Cury. The large hall on the ground floor where the public business of the Post Office used to be transacted has been cleared of the counters, screens and telephone boxes and converted into a committee room. Unfortunately the CDN reporters found the acoustic properties very bad. It is never easy to follow the remarks of some of the members of the Committee and hearing was rendered doubly difficult by the roar of traffic outside. They dragged their table nearer but even then the noise of the traffic was an easy winner. 36 01 18

1936 05 05
Guildhall rebuilding photo – 36 05 05

1936 07 29
New Guildhall takes shape – steel skeleton – photo – 36 07 29

1936 11 07
Cambridge Town Council will make history when it elects a Labour Mayor for the first time. Having retired from the railway service, Ald W.L. Briggs will be able to devote the whole of his time to the duties. But his fellow citizens will not expect him to entertain on the same lavish scale that some Mayors have been able to do. Some people think the mayoral grant is sufficient to meet all demands made upon the holder, but this is not so and it is often necessary to dig pretty deeply into one's own pocket. Ald Briggs deserves further congratulations for he has just passed his motor driving test 36 11 07a cartoon 36 11 07b 36 11 09b

1936 11 14

Woman council bailiff appointed – 36 11 14a

1937 01 09
A plaster case from one of the decorations in the ceiling of the Cambridge Guildhall Large Room fell to the floor during the night. Although from the floor 60 feet below the petals do not appear very large each is about six inches across. Had there been an audience it would almost certainly have struck someone's head with serious results. Now the Mayor is considering whether the Large Room should be closed. 37 01 09b

1937 02 18
Guildhall and Market Hill site – history by Mrs Keynes – 37 02 18

1937 09 01
Guildhall demolition, p1

1937 11 02
Mayor W.L. Briggs' year in office – review – 37 11 02 & a

1937 11 09
Ernest Saville Peck elected Mayor – 37 11 09

1938 01 07
The demolition of parts of the old Guildhall has meant that several annual functions have lost their normal home. But a Mayoral reception elsewhere than in the Guildhall must surely be unique in Cambridge history. It is symbolic of the happy relations existing between the Town and the University that the Old Schools should have been placed at the disposal of the councillors. Cars containing guests pulled up on King's Parade and a lengthy walk under illuminated awnings led to the Dome Room. The Council Room, East Room, Syndicate Room and Regent House were in use but only the dais where the orchestra played for dancing was decorated 38 01 07

1938 01 14
The old Shire Hall on Cambridge Market Hill, was erected in 1747. At that a time the 14th-century Guildhall which stood on the south of Butter Row was under repair. This was pulled down in 1782 to be replaced by the Guildhall built by James Essex. Now demolition has revealed a fragment of the medieval Guildhall. Two pieces of ancient oak carved with leaves are thought to date from 1386. They will be replaced in the new building 38 01 14b

1938 05 31
Half a century's changes in local government – 38 05 31j

1938 05 31
Women's part in Cambridge's progress: pioneers on Board of Guardians, council and bench by Ald Mrs F.A. Keynes – 38 05 31m

1938 06 24
The new Cambridge Guildhall basement could be regarded as splinter-proof and it would not be difficult to render it gas-resisting, the Air Raid Precautions Committee heard. If not done they could be criticised for allowing a public building without adequate protection and could not ask other stores or factories to comply with such regulations. But it would need to have 25 feet of concrete, with earth on top, to make it bomb-proof. It was absolutely and entirely impossible. 38 06 24a & b

1938 11 12
Mrs F.A. Keynes has rendered magnificent service to Cambridge council; her election for Fitzwilliam Ward in 1914 followed the passing of the County and Borough Councils Qualification Bill. Previously a married woman, although otherwise qualified, could not be a councillor, whereas an unmarried woman could be. Mrs Keynes was largely instrumental in persuading the Government to alter this state of affairs and it was fitting that she should be among the first women in the country to be elected. She was elected first woman alderman of Cambridge in 1931. 38 11 12

1938 12 10
Queens' College have commenced a Chancery Court action against Cambridge Corporation seeking to prevent them from diverting the Cam at the sluice near the former King's and Bishop's mill so as to undermine the college buildings in Silver Street and seeking £5.150 damages for damage already caused. The Town Clerk has been instructed to protect the Corporation's interest and take any action advised by their counsel 38 12 10

1939 03 02
Borough Librarian, W.A. Fenton, lectures on Guildhall site – 39 03 02a

1939 04 12
New Guildhall rapidly nearing completion – photo – 39 04 12

1939 07 22
The new Cambridge Guildhall will be opened on October 9th by the Earl of Derby. The grand staircase is much more imposing than the old one, the new small room, complete with carpet, will be very convenient and the large hall improved though it is not nearly large enough for conferences, political mass meetings or big musical enterprises. The new Council chamber also seems on the small side and the aldermanic bench has been considerably shortened. 39 07 22b

1939 07 28
Cambridge Town council held its last meeting at Shire Hall while the Guildhall was reconstructed. The Library committee asked to use the Small Room as temporary reading room during the re-arrangement of the Central Library. But it had a very expensive carpet that might get spoilt. The library might use the Corn Exchange annexe if the cycles were moved. Ald Briggs said that was not a proper alternative: "The fact is that we have had made a beautiful Guildhall, but must not use it". The carpet could be taken up. But the Guildhall might not be finished by that time and it would be unfortunate if people were allowed in the Small Room before the rest were completed. The request was denied – 39 07 28b & c

1939 09 23
County council employees called up to fight will have their army wages made up to what they would have received. But what other employer would think of many up salaries in this way? They were already more fortunate than others because their jobs would be kept open for them. But they would have to be replaced meaning wages and salaries would be re-duplicated. Many people in business would have to close, others were working for nothing. Properties would fall into the hands of the receivers and rateable values go down, councillors heard 39 09 23
Cambridge does same – 39 09 25

1939 10 12
Guildhall first council meeting – 39 10 12a & 12b

1939 10 14
New Guildhall – first meeting; poor view from gallery – 39 10 14c

1940

1941 11 14
The Master of Pembroke, Sir Montagu Butler, was unanimously elected Mayor of Cambridge in succession to Ald. E. O. Brown at the annual meeting of the Town Council on Monday. Proposing his election, Aid. Pollock said few of the Council members would remember the last occasion when the Head of a college—Dr. Pearce —was appointed Mayor. Ald. Pollock recalled that Sir Montagu Butler, unlike some other College Heads who has served on the Council, was educated at Cambridge, taking a brilliant classics degree at Pembroke, at which college he was made a Fellow. He had been President of the Cambridge Union, and was one of four members of three generations of Butlers to hold the office, the others including his son, Mr. R. A. Butler, the present Education Minister 41 11 14 CIPof

1942 09 09
Guildhall and Regent House histories – 42 09 09

1943 03 06
High Steward. Lord Keynes, one of Cambridge's most distinguished sons, received the highest order that the town can bestow on Saturday, when he was appointed High Steward of the Borough in succession to the late Lord Eltisley. The presentation of the Grant of Office by the Mayor (Sir Montagu Butler) took place at a special meeting of the Town Council, in the presence of numerous spectators, representing the Town and University, who included Lady Keynes. Lord Keynes' father and mother (Dr and Mrs J. N. Keynes. with other members of the family) the Regional Commissioner and Lady Spens, the Mayoress and the Borough Member (Lieutenant Commander R, L. Tufnell) 43 03 12 CIPof, 43 03 06

1945 07 19
T.V. Burrows appointed Borough Engineer & Surveyor – CDN 1945 07 19a

1945 08 03
Presentation Freedom Borough USAAF – CDN 1945 08 02, a & b Crowds celebrate CDN 1945 08 03

1947 09 03
In the words of Councillor Frank Priest "the new floor of the Cambridge Guildhall is well and truly laid". This brief ceremony was performed last night at the first Ball of the season, and what a delight it was to dance on such a new and beautifully polished floor. One couple, probably so unaccustomed to such smoothness in Cambridge, were rather too enthusiastic and found themselves, quite unintentionally, making a seat on the floor! It is thought that some of the shoes and hob-nail boots worn by dancers during the war years was the reason for the bad state of the previous floor.

1948
Cambridge loses planning powers to County under Town & Country Planning Act & Holford appointed consultant to County Council

1949 03 19

"As long as we can remember the question of Borough extension has been before the Town Council" [2.8]

1949 05 27
Kemp 25 years Town Clerk, 49 05 27 p6

1949 09 08
Sir - As a University town we possess many treasures and I would like the see the authorities take an interest in visitors by carrying out the following suggestions. Erect an information bureau at the railway station and another in the town centre (convert part of the Guildhall into a shop front). At each provide maps, and have information available on subjects the visitor may need. Have guides available to conduct tours according to the time available. There appears to be no reason why organised tours should not last up to a week and be advertised in conjunction with the various transport organisations. In adopting these suggestions it would bring many more visitors to the town and in consequence more trade – "Optimist"

1950

1950 04 28
Seek County Borough Status but minimum population required is 100,000 whereas Cambridge has only 75,000 [2.11]

1951
Modified representation means 2 Aldermen & 6 Councillors represent University

1951 03 13
Salaries increased: Town Clerk up from £1,650 to £1,850, Surveyor from £1,360 to £1,555 [2.12]

1951 03 19
In twelve minutes on Saturday Cambridge town council took the first step to acquire city status for the borough, and thus to remedy a situation which makes the town the only ancient seat of learning in England and Scotland to be without a title. The twelve minutes was the time taken to introduce and pass at a special meeting of the Council a resolution to submit to the King a petition to grant to the Borough the title of City. It would make no difference to its status, powers or otherwise in the field of local government

1951 03 24
Cambridge becomes city, p24

1951 06 09
The news that the King has been advised to take a complete rest was received in Cambridge with deep concern, because it raises the question "Will the King be able to visit the city, as arranged on July 5th?" His majesty had agreed not only to come for the Royal Show but to pay a short visit to the Guildhall in connection with the city's new status. All of us hope that the King will not have to add Cambridge to the list of cancelled engagements. In the meantime letters inviting a number of people to attend at the Guildhall have gone out from the Town Clerk

1953 04 13
The Cambridgeshire Divisional Magistrates Court sat for the last time in the old Shire Hall Courts, where justice has been meted out for over 100 years. It is just over eight months since it

was found that the building was infested with dry rot and since then all courts, save the County Bench, have been accommodated in the Guildhall. Since then there have been many arguments in the County Council Chamber but the only solution they could find was that the building would have to be demolished

1954 11 27
Cambridge assize courts should be moved to the City Library site at the Guildhall, councillors suggested. There might be some overcrowding on the first day of the Assize when all the prisoners, witnesses and jurymen in all cases had to be present or if there was a case that attracted particular public interest. But there would be a substantial saving in capital expenditure. For some time they had wished to provide new premises for the library as the Central Lending Library and Reading Rooms were no longer adequate; before the war there had been proposals to move it to the old Post Office building in Petty Cury

1955 03 15
Plans for a new assize court at the Cambridge Guildhall would entail the entire rebuilding of a large proportion of the existing structure; there would be parking and traffic problems, though these would be eased with the Lion Yard multi-deck car park. The Council would be prepared to lease the premises occupied by the Library Department and the city sessions court could be used on payment of an agreed sum. 55 03 15 c

1955 05 02
The County Council agreed that an assize court on the Guildhall site was not practical. When the City had suggested the adapting the Central Library site they must have known it was inadequate. Some of the supporting columns of the Lending Library could have to go and hardly any of the reading rooms would be retained. Cambridge needed a new Central Library but this would not be sent from Heaven. It would have to be paid for and that was behind it – the City wanted someone else to pay for it. 55 05 02b & c

1955 10 20
A crowd of several thousand massed in Cambridge Market Place as the Royal procession moved slowly towards the Guildhall. The Queen looked radiant as the Mayor (Ald E. Halnan) presented her with an Electryte Cardiograph adapted by a local firm to monitor the heart of her thoroughbred racehorses. She thanked him warmly saying “this ingenious machine will be put to good use”. Then she made an appearance on the balcony, waving to the crowd who cheered back. 55 10 20b

1955 12 02
A portrait of Thomas Hobson, the Cambridge carrier who gave the world his ‘choice’ may find a quiet resting place at the Guildhall, rather than be moved to the Corn Exchange. But the ageing portraits of other former city dignitaries are never again to adorn the decorated walls of the Large Room. They are all in need of renovation and were removed before the Queen’s recent visit. Two may be hung in the members’ retiring room 55 12 02b

1956 10 23
Under the Cambridge Award Act of 1856 responsibility for weights and measures in Cambridge passed from the University to the Town authorities. The Vice-Chancellor agreed to loan the University’s standard weight and measures provided the corporation kept them in order and returned them on demand, subject to a £400 bond. Now the University has decided to make the arrangement permanent and cancel any payment due.56 10 23b & c

1957 01 23
Ald Mrs Clara Rackham retired from local government work having served on the city council for 40 years and the county for almost 30. Her greatest interest was education, especially the Open-Air School. She was always forthright in debate but recognised the arguments of others and would be remembered with affection by fellow councillors, the Mayor said 57 01 23

1957 05 11
A Government White Paper proposes wider powers for councils such as Cambridge City who wish to be free from the control of the County Council. It says they should be entrusted with responsibility for services such as health, education, roads, town planning, libraries and licensing waste food boiling plants. But the city will still press for county borough status. 57 05 11

1957 08 03
Cambridge - Heidelberg exchange visit [3.3]

1957 11 29
The Mayor of Cambridge reminded two councillors that it had been the custom for 400 years that councillors should wear black gowns. He asked them to conform. But Coun Edwards said he was allergic to wearing a uniform of any kind and could do the job as well without a robe. The Mayor told him it was not optional and no one had refused in the past 57 11 29

1957 12 18
Arthur Emburey, City Treasurer – 57 12 18c

1958 04 08
Death of Ald George Wilding, former Mayor 1944-45 – 58 04 08a

1958 08 14
The Corporation Storeyard, Mill Road was severely damaged by fire. The alarm was raised by storekeeper, Mr Frederick Tungatt, who lives at the yard. Employees brought their own fire-fighting equipment into operation but as fast as the hoses played water on it the blaze spread rapidly and soon a large section of a store roof became an inferno of flames. More men rescued equipment including 'No Waiting' highways signs. The way they went about it – just as if the property were their own – earned the admiration of the City Surveyor, T.V. Burrows. 58 08 14 & a

1958 11 28
Ald William Luard Raynes councillor since 1908 – tribute – 58 11 28aa

1959 07 18
If Cambridge became a county borough – Isle's reactions – 59 07 18c

1959 09 28
Cambridge links with Heidelberg – 59 09 28 & 28a ("Bombs dropped on Cambridge" in reprisal for raid on Heidelberg, say Germans – 40 09 24a)

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960
1960 03 01

Cambridge should be granted County Borough status and so control its own destiny, the Local Government Commission recommends in its draft proposals. But Cambridgeshire would not then be an effective administrative unit and should be merged with the Soke of Peterborough, Huntingdonshire and the Isle of Ely to be able to provide a comprehensive range of services. Royston Urban District should join the new county but Newmarket should remain in West Suffolk and St Neots be transferred to Bedfordshire. Now the recommendations will be subject to public consultation. 60 03 01 & a

1960 03 02
Proposals to amalgamate Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, the Isle of Ely and the Soke of Peterborough into a new county have been described as 'local government gone made' by the MP for Cambridgeshire. David Renton is also known to oppose any suggestion that Huntingdonshire should lose its separate identity and may resign from the Government if the proposal goes through. Major Legge-Bourke for the Isle of Ely says it is impossible for fenland areas to be efficiently government by people who do not understand their special problems. The only MP to welcome the proposal is Hamilton Kerr for Cambridge City who says he is delighted that the claim for county borough status has been recognised. 60 03 02a [3.13]

1960 07 01
Thousands of people gathered at Castle Hill to protest at the Local Government Boundary Commission proposals to merge Cambridgeshire into one administrative unit with Huntingdonshire and the Isle of Ely. There was no evidence any benefit would result. The wish of the City of Cambridge to govern itself as a county borough was criticised as an act of betrayal of the county of which it was the centre. It was better to be capital of an historic and ancient shire that to be a modern statutory creature. 60 07 01b

1961
Rating & Valuation Bill would deprive University (though not colleges) of charitable status & 50% rate relief; city happy since their ratepayers paying too much as University doesn't allow industrial concerns in city [14.2]

1961 08 01
Hopes that Cambridge would become a County Borough able to manage its own affairs have been dashed by the Local Government Commission. The improvement of county government should take priority: it could not be effective without the city and would have to be enlarged by taking in other areas. Cambridgeshire should join with the Isle of Ely to form one unit and the town of Royston should come into the area. The position of Newmarket has not yet been determined. 61 08 01

1962 01 04
A Council debate to decide whether to create a post of City Architect ended in chaos after the Mayor stopped discussion. A qualified architect is vital if development is to be continued with taste. Council estates were dull in lay-out and their roads were not up to modern traffic. Uninspired planning must be stopped now. At a time when the Lion Yard, Museum site and City Road area are in the melting pot they should have the advice of an architect, some councillors felt. 62 01 04a City Architects department established after great debate [3.14, 7.4]

1962 03 30
Sam Giddens, the Guildhall Keeper is the last to leave at night. He was custodian of the Corn Exchange for 11 years before moving to the Guildhall where he supervises the cleaning staff, sees to the heating arrangements, sets out committee rooms and helps the public find their way round

the labyrinth of rooms and corridors. “I meet all sorts of people, it’s very interesting”, he says. But often when he thinks he’s finished there’ll be some committee or other meeting and he has to stay on. 62 03 30a

1962 04 19
City architect’s department dispute over set-up – 62 04 19a

1962 07 27
Saturday closing for Guildhall, except rent & rates & Food welfare office [10.2]

1962 10 02
Cambridge City Council has made a third attempt in 50 years to gain the status of a County Borough Council. During the early 13th century Cambridge had gained its freedom from the county by a special charter from King John but in 1888 when the County Council was set up it came again under the county authority. Cambridge is a market town, the headquarters of many organisations and has a good record of local government. It is strong financially and would save £2,000 a year an Inquiry was told. This would help fund the new redevelopment scheme and sewage works as well as the appointment of a City Architect 62 10 02 & a [3.15,6.2]

1962 11 10
David (Ken) Quick succeeds Horace Ingle as Sergeant-at-Mace – 62 11 10 [3.16]

1963 01 22
New valuation lists increases domestic rateable value by over 3 times, the rateable value colleges reduced; city treasurer asks Inland Revenue to review rating assessment of certain houses where blatant inaccuracies; Minister sees Oxford & Cambridge petition reconsider 50% rateable relief colleges under section11 of 1961 Rating & Valuation Act [13.4]

1963 02 06
In 1956 college rating assessments were treated like those of offices or shops and increased three or even five times, one playing field assessment increased 11-fold. These figures were far too high and an appeal was lodged. Colleges make little demand on local authority services – not one extra place in a school, not one extra book in the Public Library, no extra policemen or inch of road. But there may be slightly more college drainage and refuse. They attract tourists who cause great expense to colleges whereas the entire financial benefit goes entirely to the city. They are not even charged a modest entrance fee to the private courts which are the sole reason for their visit – J.C. Bradfield, Bursar of Trinity College 63 02 06 & a

1963 04 25
The honour of being given the freedom of the city is the ultimate recognition of service to the community. But there are no privileges attached. Amongst those elected have been Kitchener of Khartoum, the Cambridgeshire Regiment in 1901 and 1946, the US Eighth Army Air Force and Alderman William Raynes in 1951. Originally people could pay to become freemen meaning they could practice their trade, graze animals on the common and hold a booth at Stourbridge Fair. Since 1931 it has been technically possible to apply but nobody has done so.63 04 25c

1963 04 30
Mr R.A. Butler, the Deputy Prime Minister, has been appointed High Steward of the City of Cambridge, a distinction only conferred on outstanding men 63 04 29 63 04 30

1963 08 02

The Government decision to reject Cambridge City Council's claim for county borough status was described as a 'profound disappointment'. Although its case has been recognised Cambridge is to again be sacrificed on the altar of rural interests, councillors feel. The Local Government Commission says the administrative counties of Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely should be amalgamated to form one local government unit and that Huntingdonshire should join with the Soke of Peterborough 63 08 02

1963 10 29
Sir Keith Joseph, Minister of Housing and Local Government, has refused to change his mind about the administrative future of Cambridge and will not grant the city county borough status. The Town Clerk, P.M. Vine, who was part of a deputation including MP Sir Hamilton Kerr, which travelled to Whitehall, said "We did not get very far". The Minister thought the decision would be a good thing for the whole area – 63 10 29

1964 02 20
Kerr introduces bill on Colleges Rating Relief (Oxford & Cambridge) to remove charitable status [13.4]

1964 03 06
The House of Lords has approved two orders amalgamating Cambridge and the Isle of Ely and Huntingdon and the Soke of Peterborough into two new counties. The orders seem to permanently exclude Cambridge from becoming a County Borough: it was so important a factor in the new county that to remove it later on would destroy the county's viability. Peterborough had been in favour since it might then become the capital of the new administrative unit and eventually perhaps get its own county borough status. But then they changed their minds. 64 03 06d

1964 11 27
Gordon Logie, City Architect– feature – 64 11 27

1965 01 11
Major Dermot Freyer, first socialist member of City Council joined in 1919 and represented Petersfield until 1937; elected an hour before Clara Rackham – 65 01 11a

1965 01 15
Vote to abolish aldermen [6.4]

1965 06 05
Major welcomes Heidelberg athletes Guildhall- photo – 65 06 05

1965 07 08
Heidelberg link: agreement of friendship exchanged, friendship growing since 1957 [10.4]

1966 02 24
John Elven appointed Town Clerk – 66 02 24b

1966 03 02
Crumbling Cambridge: delays in council processes and elderly councillors – 66 03 02a

1966 03 09
Government abolishes rating relief enjoyed by colleges [13.5]

1966 04 02
New MP Robert Davies to stay Alderman but give up chair of Planning committee [6.6]

1966 04 18
Guildhall needs more space, either extension or rent space in Barrett Building, Rose Crescent – 66 04 18f

1967 01 13
Offices rented Barrett Building, Rose Crescent, otherwise Guildhall expansion [6.7]

1967 06 21
Education office moves Barrett building [10.3]

1967 11 01
Surveyors report on traffic one of most comprehensive ... also instructive in another context - a notable lack of reference to the City Architects Department & almost total absence of any obvious exchange of views [26.48.19.17]

1968 01 08
Ken Quick, Sergeant-at-mace, Guildhall – profile – 68 01 08a

1968 02 17
City architect Gordon Logie retires due to ill-health – 68 02 17; profile of career and controversial planning issues; department incorporated with Planning 68 02 26 [7.8]

1968 06 05
City council may need private Parliamentary Act to abolish eight university and college seats – 68 06 05b

1969 04 19
Labour plan to abolish University seats, fails [6.8]

1969 06 11
Maud report on local government says Cambridge to become geographical centre of huge new authority as part of three-tier system – 69 06 11 [Planmned to start in 1973 but Labour Government defeated at election [4.5]

1969 12 23
Ratepayers force council to hold a public vote on their Private Bill aimed at giving council wider financial powers and improve building lines – 69 12 23

1970

1970 10 19
University students apply for city electoral lists - affects Market Ward & Newnham [15.1]

1971 12 04
John Elven, Tow Clerk, reflects over five years in Guildhall – 71 12 04

1971 06 25

Local Government reorganisation: city support city-based county with seven administrative districts but 'regarded with suspicion & almost hatred' by county councillors [4.3]

1971 04 13
Guildhall News" issued as advert in CEN [6.9]

1971 07 29
Government told to scrap University seats but keep Aldermen [6.10]

1972 10 11
By ceasing to have University councillors on Cambridge city council when local government is reorganised, Cambridge would be losing the benefit of wise men's counsel, the Deputy Mayor, Mrs Jean Barker said last night. "I personally regret the passing of the university councillors elected by the university, although I know it is considered undemocratic, but we had some outstanding brains working for us". In her year as Mayor, Mrs Barker attended 290 social and other functions, 76 in company with her husband, Mr Alan Barker, headmaster of The Leys School 72 10 11

1973 02 06
Local Government Re-organisation proposals abolish aldermen &University representatives on City Council, transfers responsibility ..... [6.14]

1973 02 05
Geoffrey Cresswell appointed surveyor [7.9]

1973 06 08
Labour have taken control of the new Cambridge District Council with a landslide win over the Conservatives. When the final results were declared they had a clear majority of 10 on the new district council which supersedes the city council on April 1 next year. This is the first time in Cambridge local government history that Labour have won overall control. The Mayor of Cambridge, Ald. Stanley Bowles, a former Conservative leader on the city council was defeated. He will continue as mayor until the city council ceases 73 06 08

1973 07 12
Mr Geoffrey Datson, Deputy Clerk of Cambridgeshire & Isle of Ely County Council, has been appointed Chief Executive of the new Cambridge District Council. Yesterday Mr Datson said he was "very pleased" about his new job. "The interchange of staff between the county council and the city augers well for the future" he said. It may be some time before Mr Datson knows his exact salary. The committee wants to pay him at the top end of the nationally agreed scale for chief executives. This scale goes up to £8,300 a year 73 07 12

1973 10 02
New District Council elected, work in tandem with City Council for a year,
John Elven appointed County Clerk, Bedford, Datson appointed Town Clerk & Chief Executive District Council; staff ill through work [6.16]

1974 02 27
The Queen has agreed to allow Cambridge to remain a city after local government reorganisation takes effect on April 1st. Her decision means that the ancient office of Mayor of Cambridge will continue. The new mayor will be Councillor Jack Warren who has been chairman of the Labour-controlled district council since their formation last June 74 02 27 [4.5]

1974 03 07
Cambridge councillors voted to end a 400 year civic tradition when the District Council, who take over at the end of the month, voted to make the wearing of gowns optional on ceremonial occasions only. The custom dates back to 1558. Councillors wore simple black gowns and aldermen scarlet gowns on four special "scarlet days" and black gowns at other times. Councillor John Powley said he had some regrets against seeing the end of such a long established tradition. "I shall not be disposing of my gown. It may be going into mothballs, but it may well be coming out again in two or three years' time c74 03 09 [6.17] [7.11] [The Local Government Act 1972 provides no means of enforcing the ancient rule so the council had little choice in the matter (Rosensteil Aug 2013)]

1974 03 08
Three Cambridge aldermen who between them have served the city council for 87 years were conferred with the honorary freedom of the city at a ceremony at the Guildhall. They were Geoffrey Hickson, Tom Amey and Cecil Mole. The ceremony was a rare event – only seven individual honorary freedoms have been granted in the past 30 years. All will be retiring from local government at the end of the month when the city council goes out of existence and is replaced by Cambridge District Council

1974 03 29
Cambridge city council met for the last time yesterday. It took the council about ten seconds to dispose of their formal business – approving the spending of £1,248,000 on the new central library at the Lion Yard – then they went on to spend almost two hours saying goodbye to themselves, their retiring chief officers and exchanging presents. On the last day of the month, the city council, who more or less in their present form have run Cambridge since 1836 will make way for the new Cambridge District Council.

1974 04 30
One of the most significant features of the reorganisation of local government from 1st April 1974, has been the changes in function. Cambridge city council will have no further responsibility for education, libraries, weights and measures, sewage disposal, or the domiciliary health service. The advantages claimed for the transfer of these services to larger bodies should lead to greater specialisation, the adoption of improved methods and techniques, better levels of service and economy of scale. Time will show whether these ideals can be realised.

1974 11 07
Publish Cambridge Blue Print - statement of objectives & policies [6.18]

1974 12 24
Cambridge planners are looking at the possibility of turning the Central Library buildings in Wheeler Street into a Civic Restaurant when the library is moved into a new building in the Lion Yard next summer. The Library buildings are the centre of a legal wrangle between the city and county council who have now taken over responsibility for public libraries. The county claim the old library building should be given to, it but the city is arguing that as the library forms part of the Guildhall complex – the council's administrative headquarters – the county has no claim. The replacement of a Civic restaurant has been a top priority with the new Labour-controlled city council since it took office nine years ago

1975 02 28

The Mayor of Cambridge, Ald Jack Warren, and the Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University, Prof Jack Linnett, held a reception at the Guildhall for ten Nobel Prize winners' resident at the University. As the learned and the erudite stood in earnest groups they assured each other that the occasion was unique. "You won't see the like again" they muttered as the champagne went round and round.

1975 08 15
First Heidelberg trip, p13

1977 07 23
The Mayor of Heidelberg officially opened the rooftop garden above Lion Yard, Cambridge, which has been named after the German town to mark the link between Cambridge and its twin university town. Oberburgermeister Renhold Zundel said a scheme similar to Lion Yard was being built in his city and they might have a garden named after Cambridge soon.

1979 12 04
Cambridge councillors and top officials entered the Mayor's Guildhall office and retrieved documents he had impounded after a furious showdown earlier in the day. The documents relate to a bitter ten-year planning wrangle over plans for a house in Orchard Street. The seizure of the papers was described as an unprecedented step and now the Mayor has called for the Chief Executive and the City Secretary and Solicitor to be relieved of their duties until a full inquiry is held.

1980

1983 09 01
The Mayor of Cambridge slammed plans to twin with a Communist country and publicise the city's anti-nuclear policies by putting anti-nuclear emblems on dustcarts and lorries. Since Labour wrested control of the city council from the Conservatives four years ago, anti-nuclear policies have been given top priority with plans to paint doves of peace on the walls of the entrance to the Guildhall.
83 09 01 p9

1985 11 14
Cambridge City Council Act passed without difficulty: gives up-to-date control over commons, grazing rights, fairgrounds, recreation grounds & river [7.12]

1986 09 29
Cambridge sign friendship Szegred, Hungary [12.5]

1986 04 28
Heidelberg link – 86 04 28a & b

1987
City staff move from Kett to Mandela house but made need to move back due staff increase [NS.1.9]

1987 04 08
Ken Quick is retiring as Sergeant-at-Mace after 25 years during which time he has advised new Mayors of Cambridge and acted as their chauffeur. He was also Town Crier, donning top hat and red coat twice a year at the Midsummer and Reach fairs. When the Queen visited in 1984 he had

to push the then mayor, Coun Betty Suckling, in a wheelchair as she had broken a leg. Until 1974 he worked on Christmas Day when civic visits were paid to the sick in hospital. His dedication was recognised with the award of the British Empire Medal. Now he hopes to write up his diary – but promises that no skeletons will be brought out of the cupboard 87 04 08 87 04 11

1989 06 20
City council staffing crisis - poor pay & severe work pressure ¢CEN 20.6.89

1989 08 16
Cambridge lost coroner after 1972 Local Government Act, then appointed by County Council though Durrell styled 'Honorary City Coroner', on his retirement R.Sterndale Burrows continued but with his death title now lapses ¢CEN 16.8.89

1989 09 13
City decide no more twinning ¢CEN 13.9.89

1989 10 02
City to spend £1M on subsidising housing for council workers ¢CEN 2.10.89

1990
1990 07 17
Cambridge City Treasurer suspended in expenses probe – 90 07 17

1990 09 27
City planning chief John Popper resigns; third official to leave within three months – 90 09 27a,b

1990 10 04
Geoffrey Datson retires as Chief Executive, city council – memories – 90 10 04a

1990 10 09
City planner, John Popper, resignation creates row - 90 10 09a

1990 11 15
Guildhall may be converted into shops – plan – 90 11 15a

Water Street, Chesterton c1900 *105.01*

c.35.71 : Boundary extension and relations with County Council (included in chronological summary)

headlines

1888
Local Government Act results in two Councillors being appointed annually by University Senate & four others elected by Colleges

1888 11 16
Chesterton UDC electors vote in favour of erection of new bridge (Victoria Bridge), apply for Act [3.7]

1889 04 26
Cambridge Improvement Commissioners powers pass to Town Council Newnham Croft electors favour incorporation into Borough [3.8]

1889 05 24
Discussions on draft provisional Local Government Order and its significance for Cambridge [3.9]

1897 01 23
Chesterton amalgamation : electors vote 985 to 349 against incorporation into Borough [1.17]

1900

1902
Chesterton amalgamation "impossible" [1.8]

1903
Chesterton : majority oppose [1.9]

1910
1910
Borough extension : Cherry Hinton support, Trumpington & Fen Ditton oppose [1.19]

1910 08 12
Trumpington amalgamation scheme discussed 10 08 12i 10 08 19b

1910 10 01
"It seems fashion to represent Cambridge as a sort of wolf which is seeking to devour its innocent neighbour Chesterton" [4.4]

1910 10 07
The scheme for extending the Borough boundaries so as to include Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and the urban portions of Grantchester, Trumpington and Fen Ditton was formally launched. The boundary with Chesterton is an imaginary line running down the centre of the river which presents legal difficulties over dredging. The river is used by member of the University for rowing but most of the boathouses are on the Chesterton side. The Corporation own a cemetery the parish of Fen Ditton. They have constructed a sewer and laid water mains along Newmarket Road and the land will no doubt be used for building. 10 10 07e & i & j

1911 02 03
The Inquiry into the extension of Cambridge borough boundaries heard that Cherry Hinton was part of Chesterton Rural District and divided into two wards. St John's was obviously an outgrowth of the town while the old village was in St Andrew's ward. The parish had the expenses of sewerage as a result of which their rates were very considerably in excess of the Borough rates. But the old village had no sewerage at all, the drainage being by means of cesspools. 11 02 03c 11 02 10b

1911 04 07
The Local Government Board is in favour of the extension of Cambridge to include parts of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton, Grantchester and Trumpington. Local Government Boundaries Act extends area of Borough by 2,224 acres & increases population by 15,785 people, three new Wards added, councillors increased to 42 with 15 Aldermen 11 04 07f [4.17]

1911 05 19
Greater Cambridge editorial: Chesterton UDC will cease to exist, parishes of Cherry Hinton, Trumpington and Grantchester will be divided and urban portions come into Cambridge 11 05 19c

1912 03 08
The last meeting of the Chesterton Urban District Council recalled the changes during the last 40 years. Before 1880 there were no street lamps, no sewage system, no street watering and an imperfect water supply. The paths were unkerbed, there was no collection of house refuse, no

medical officer, no sanitary inspector, no recreation ground and very few allotments. The population had risen from 5,000 to 12,000. Now councillors would help improve the Borough of Cambridge at large 12 03 08f

1912 03 29
Today the population of the Borough of Cambridge is 40.560. On Monday it will be 57,073. The extension of the boundary now brings in Chesterton and the urban portions of Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Grantchester. These suburbs were inhabited almost entirely by people whose living lay in Cambridge but were separated from it by the River Cam or purely artificial borders. It means that the residents will now be under the care of the Cambridge Town Council. 12 03 29c

1912 04 01
Borough council extension order marks new epoch in municipal history [4.10]

1912 04 13
leaflet issued "In memoriam of Chesterton whose spirit of independence passed away March 31 1912 at midnight" [4.6]

1912 05 23
Chesterton UDC members elected to Borough council [4.11]
Additional aldermen due to borough expansion presents seating problems in council chamber [4.5]

1912 11 30
Cambridge applies for County Borough status, would give power over secondary as well as elementary schools, control over main roads & would save them paying County rates; but one large urban area taken out of the County would hit its economic and effective administration [4.8, 4.9, 5.6]

1913 03 21
The Cambridge County Borough Question is occupying attention to the exclusion of everything else. The Chamber of Agriculture says it would be disastrous to the county; they should urge the Government to raise the minimum population for a county borough to 100,000. Some voluntary arrangement would have been more economical and preserved the amicable relations between the two authorise. Now there is no reason to hope that there can be anything but a fight to the finish. 13 03 21 p4 & p6 CIP

1913 05 02
County Borough Bill, deputation to Prime Minister 13 05 02 p10 CIP

1913 07 04
County Borough bill, 2nd reading carried 13 07 04 p7 CIP

1913 07 18
County Borough Bill before Select Committee 13 07 18 p8-9 CIP

1913 08 23
County Borough : Sir George Fordham leads opposition on behalf of County - if Cambridge were taken away County would be unworkable; Cambridge claim that its residents have to pay half of the County rate in addition to their own [4.15,4.16,4.21,5.6]

1914 03 27
The Cambridge County Borough Bill (with which were included Wakefield and Luton) was defeated in the House of Commons. It would inflict great hardship on the county. If it were taken away the rest of the area would be almost entirely agricultural, some MPs said. But the County Council would be more efficient if all members represented agricultural interests rather than the urban interests of the Borough, the Cambridge MP contended. 14 03 27f; A farce – editorial – 14 03 27d
… great jubilation the County but disappointment in the Borough, 14 03 27 CIPof

1914 03 28
"Not 25 MPs who knew what the question was ... members were pushed into lobbies" [5.4]

1926 02 04
Ald Raynes told Cambridge town council that the centre of local government was gradually shifting from the Guildhall to the County Hall. Mr Neville Chamberlain would in time abolish the rural councils. Town councils would be given delegated authority to function under the supervision of the county, which would be a very serious thing.

1930 10
Ask for extension of Borough boundaries to include whole of Town Planning area [2.21]

1931 10 16
An Inquiry opened into plans to expand Cambridge's boundaries. It was the centre for education, shopping and amusement for adjacent villages where people were still dependent on cesspools: these would be provided with a sewerage system. Less than 500 acres were available for building because of the attitude of certain colleges, but it was undesirable that Cambridge should be filled up as if it were a manufacturing town. Most of the new houses in Shelford and Trumpington were of the working-class type. 31 10 16d

1933 03 25
Cambridge boundary extension proposals – 33 03 25 & a & b

1933 05 23
An inquiry into the extension of Cambridge boundaries was told that Girton should be included. Most of the residents worked in the town and it was their shopping and amusement centre. The sewage could drain by gravitation into Cambridge drains which were already almost up to the boundaries. Chesterton RDC did have a scheme but it was a complete mystery. The Mistress of Girton College said the question of drainage was one of urgency and she would also welcome public lighting and refuse collection. 33 05 23 & a 33 05 24a & b

1933 05 25
Borough expansion inquiry closes – 33 05 25b & c

1933 08 10
Boundary decision – bigger borough approved – 33 08 10 – allows expansion to take in Cherry Hinton and Trumpington as well as land off Arbury and Milton Roads

1950
1950 04 28
Seek County Borough Status but minimum population required is 100,000 whereas Cambridge has only 75,000 [2.11]

1951 03 19
In twelve minutes on Saturday Cambridge town council took the first step to acquire city status for the borough, and thus to remedy a situation which makes the town the only ancient seat of learning in England and Scotland to be without a title. The twelve minutes was the time taken to introduce and pass at a special meeting of the Council a resolution to submit to the King a petition to grant to the Borough the title of City. It would make no difference to its status, powers or otherwise in the field of local government

1951 03 24
Cambridge becomes city, p24

1959 07 18
If Cambridge became a county borough – Isle's reactions – 59 07 18c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 03 01
Cambridge should be granted County Borough status and so control its own destiny, the Local Government Commission recommends in its draft proposals. But Cambridgeshire would not then be an effective administrative unit and should be merged with the Soke of Peterborough, Huntingdonshire and the Isle of Ely to be able to provide a comprehensive range of services. Royston Urban District should join the new county but Newmarket should remain in West Suffolk and St Neots be transferred to Bedfordshire. Now the recommendations will be subject to public consultation. 60 03 01 & a

1960 03 01
Local Government Commission propose County Borough status [3.13]

1960 03 02
Proposals to amalgamate Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire, the Isle of Ely and the Soke of Peterborough into a new county have been described as 'local government gone made' by the MP for Cambridgeshire. David Renton is also known to oppose any suggestion that Huntingdonshire should lose its separate identity and may resign from the Government if the proposal goes through. Major Legge-Bourke for the Isle of Ely says it is impossible for fenland areas to be efficiently government by people who do not understand their special problems. The only MP to welcome the proposal is Hamilton Kerr for Cambridge City who says he is delighted that the claim for county borough status has been recognised. 60 03 02a [3.13]

1960 07 01
Thousands of people gathered at Castle Hill to protest at the Local Government Boundary Commission proposals to merge Cambridgeshire into one administrative unit with Huntingdonshire and the Isle of Ely. There was no evidence any benefit would result. The wish of the City of Cambridge to govern itself as a county borough was criticised as an act of betrayal of the county of which it was the centre. It was better to be capital of an historic and ancient shire that to be a modern statutory creature. 60 07 01b

1961 08 01

Hopes that Cambridge would become a County Borough able to manage its own affairs have been dashed by the Local Government Commission. The improvement of county government should take priority: it could not be effective without the city and would have to be enlarged by taking in other areas. Cambridgeshire should join with the Isle of Ely to form one unit and the town of Royston should come into the area. The position of Newmarket has not yet been determined. 61 08 01

1962 10 02
Cambridge City Council has made a third attempt in 50 years to gain the status of a County Borough Council. During the early 13th century Cambridge had gained its freedom from the county by a special charter from King John but in 1888 when the County Council was set up it came again under the county authority. Cambridge is a market town, the headquarters of many organisations and has a good record of local government. It is strong financially and would save £2,000 a year an Inquiry was told. This would help fund the new redevelopment scheme and sewage works as well as the appointment of a City Architect 62 10 02 & a [3.15,6.2]

1963 08 02
The Government decision to reject Cambridge City Council's claim for county borough status was described as a 'profound disappointment'. Although its case has been recognised Cambridge is to again be sacrificed on the altar of rural interests, councillors feel. The Local Government Commission says the administrative counties of Cambridgeshire and the Isle of Ely should be amalgamated to form one local government unit and that Huntingdonshire should join with the Soke of Peterborough 63 08 02

1963 10 29
Sir Keith Joseph, Minister of Housing and Local Government, has refused to change his mind about the administrative future of Cambridge and will not grant the city county borough status. The Town Clerk, P.M. Vine, who was part of a deputation including MP Sir Hamilton Kerr, which travelled to Whitehall, said "We did not get very far". The Minister thought the decision would be a good thing for the whole area – 63 10 29

1964 03 06
The House of Lords has approved two orders amalgamating Cambridge and the Isle of Ely and Huntingdon and the Soke of Peterborough into two new counties. The orders seem to permanently exclude Cambridge from becoming a County Borough: it was so important a factor in the new county that to remove it later on would destroy the county's viability. Peterborough had been in favour since it might then become the capital of the new administrative unit and eventually perhaps get its own county borough status. But then they changed their minds. 64 03 06d

1970

1970 06 20
Maud Report - Local Government Commission; proposes three levels - province (Norfolk, Suffolk to Lincs) three unitary authorities &local councils; Cambridge would lose most of its powers; would start 1973 but Labour Government defeated at election [4.5]

1972 10 11
By ceasing to have University councillors on Cambridge city council when local government is reorganised, Cambridge would be losing the benefit of wise men's counsel, the Deputy Mayor, Mrs Jean Barker said last night. "I personally regret the passing of the university councillors

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1974 03 27
Chesterton rural council (1894-1974) began its final journey into the history books of local government when chairman, Coun. Frederick Rhead, removed his chain of office to mark the end of the council. It disappears next Monday when the area will be taken over by the larger South Cambridgeshire District Council. It was created in 1894 when the poor law guardians of the Chesterton union of parishes were reorganised. The new council met in the Poor Law Institution, now Chesterton hospital in Union Lane, Cambridge.

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Cambridge city council met for the last time yesterday. It took the council about ten seconds to dispose of their formal business – approving the spending of £1,248,000 on the new central library at the Lion Yard – then they went on to spend almost two hours saying goodbye to themselves, their retiring chief officers and exchanging presents. On the last day of the month, the city council, who more or less in their present form have run Cambridge since 1836 will make way for the new Cambridge District Council.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

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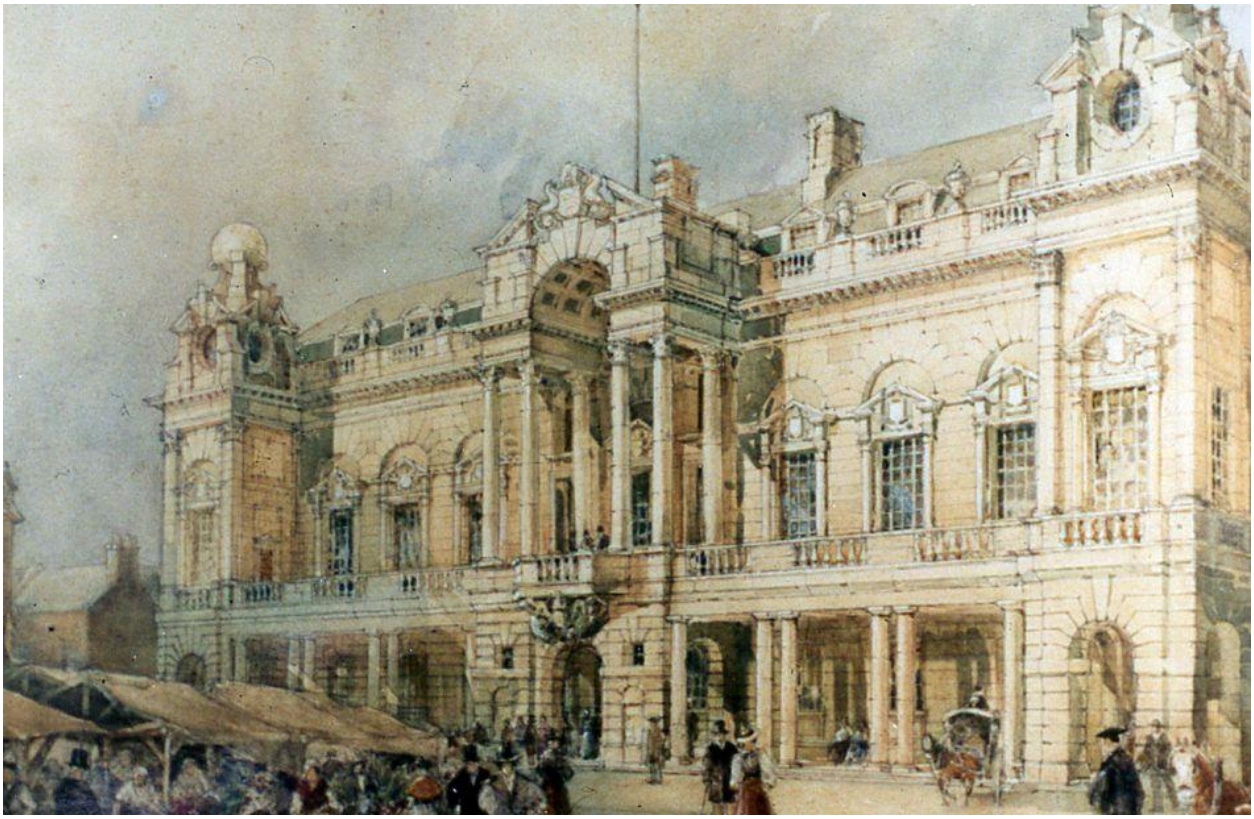
One of the most significant features of the reorganisation of local government from 1st April 1974, has been the changes in function. Cambridge city council will have no further responsibility for education, libraries, weights and measures, sewage disposal, or the domiciliary health service. The advantages claimed for the transfer of these services to larger bodies should lead to greater specialisation, the adoption of improved methods and techniques, better levels of service and economy of scale. Time will show whether these ideals can be realised.

1974 04 01
Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely County Council has died at the age of only nine. And before their chairman, Ald. Maurice Payne, performed the last rites by formally signing the minutes, he expressed doubts about the wisdom of Whitehall in killing them off in their prime of life. The council are a victim of the nation-wide local government reorganisation which comes into effect on 1st April. They are being replaced by the new Cambridgeshire County Council made up of an amalgamation with Huntingdon and Peterborough County Council.

1974 04 01
Throughout the country hundreds of local councils are ready for the blast off into a new age. The council reorganisation which takes place today is the biggest upheaval ever to affect local government in this country. Hundreds of rural, urban, borough and city councils are swept away and their places taken by a new structure of county councils working with a network of district authorities. With a wan smile they have shrugged off the all-too-obvious jokes which were levelled against the start date for the new administration – April 1st



Proposed design for new Guildhall, 1895 175.76

c.35.78 : Cambridge Guildhall rebuilding

1894 12 14
More money for the Guildhall. The Guildhall and Building Committee reported that the funds available for the erection of the front portion of the new municipal buildings, as designed by Mr Fawcett, are insufficient. The question of alteration and addition to the present Guildhall, or the erection of a new building has been occupying attention for some years. Mr Fawcett was asked to prepare an elevation and the Guildhall Street block has been erected upon these plans. Hallack and Bond having relinquished the lower part of the Guildhall Street block, the idea was to provide rooms for the Town Clerk there but there was little accommodation for the Town Clerk. He would have one room in the new block and his present rooms without any communication between them. Councillor Nichols objected to more money being spent on patching up that old Town Hall. The whole thing had been a muddle. The report was rejected 1894 12 14

1897 08 19
Plans for a new Guildhall to designs by Belcher drawn up 1898 ratepayers reject them (concerned at further expenditure at a time of great expense on new sewage scheme) [1.10]
Proposed new Guildhall design – 35 02 22b, 35 02 23
Guildhall interior designs - 35 03 04 & 05

1897 08 20

For several years Cambridge has been in a state of chronic poverty. With hardly a sou in the bank – not sufficient to meet tradesmen's bill as they become due - the financial outlook has been far from cheering to the ratepayer. A farthing rate to retain East Road Reading Room is denied, yet in the next breath the modest sum of £21,000 is voted for street improvements. And again there is the front of the Guildhall. No sane person can defend the retention of a monstrosity like that and if it is not to be retained it must be replaced and care must be taken that the new building is worthy of the town c1897 08 20

1897 10 11
We understand that a design for the front portion of the Cambridge Guildhall will be laid before the Council. For years we have joined in the general chorus of condemnation of the present monstrosity which does duty as a front to the municipal building. It is an abomination and ought to be removed as speedily as possible. The question is whether or not the present is the proper time for undertaking the work. We are informed that the contemplated new front will cost £38,000! Let the ratepayers remember that we have not yet done with our gigantic, our costly, and in some respects our eminently unsatisfactory sewerage scheme – Editorial

1897 10 30
Proposed Guildhall front – illus Clarke, p2

1897 11 10
Sir - I should like to ask my fellow ratepayers, more especially those living in the vicinity of Mill Road, Cambridge, which is more important to them – the improvement of the Guildhall, which I understand to cost £40,000, or the stinking condition of the Mill road sewers, which has for its vent the manholes. From two of them, especially the Petersfield one, the stench on Sunday was enough to breed an epidemic. How long are we to stand this sort of business? - James Plant

1897 11 27
A well-attended meeting was held in Eden Street School, Cambridge to discuss the proposed expenditure on a new Guildhall front. Mr R. Sturton said they must have a new cemetery as he did not suppose sanitary science would advance sufficiently rapidly to go in for cremation en bloc. Then there was the new Police Station and something would have to be done to the Sanatorium. Mr Burwick though the more they beautified Cambridge the more good they would do to business. Why not have a police station at the town hall, offices for the payment of rates, swimming baths. He did not see why shops should not be built on Peas Hill so as to bring in a considerable amount

1897 11 30
Guildhall front – support, p3

1898 09 26
Cambridge is in possession of municipal buildings, which in their inartistic blending of the old and the new, are somewhat of an eyesore. The old buildings on which age has laid its hand heavenly are in front. The new tower behind. Some time ago this blemish came home so strongly that it was proposed to pull down the old part and rebuilt the front to be in harmony with the buildings in the rear. It should be of a design sufficiently imposing that the Guildhall should hold its own with the other buildings of Cambridge. Is this the time came to embark upon an expensive scheme for the adornment of the town, praiseworthy as that scheme may be? The rates are already as high as need be, and there is no prospect of their being lowered
"A terrible expense" by William Kirkup, p4

1898 10 07
Cambridge town council has issued an additional report on the proposed new Guildhall buildings. The accommodation will be considerably increased and will include in the basement, additional coal store, public lavatories for men and women and three new storerooms. On the ground floor a greatly improved entrance with grand staircase, cloak rooms, retiring rooms, two new public meeting rooms, kitchen and offices. Facing Union Street three new shops will be provided. On the first floor the Aldermen's parlour will be enlarged and improved and there will be rooms for the town clerk as well as a Mayor's reception room and a new enlarged council chamber. The cost is estimated at £38,000 CDN 1898 10 07

1898 10 13
The Town Council of Cambridge has asked the burgesses whether they are of a mind to make a beginning at once with the extension of the Guildhall, and with the building of a new front, and the ratepayers have given their answer. There is no ambiguity about that answer; the "No" is emphatic enough. The attendance at the Guildhall was so large that those who know by experience how difficult it is to get the public to take an active interest in public questions must have been surprised. CDN 1898 10 13

1900

1908
County Council negotiate over use of Town Council offices, would mean rebuilding Guildhall front & using all corporation property on South side of Market Hill - "would prove popular [1.17]

1910
1910 11 04
The County Council needed extra offices for its staff. At present departments were housed in different buildings and councillors often went to the wrong one. They could take space in the Guildhall but would be paying rent that would assist the Borough to erect a very fine building in which they had no permanent share. It would be more economical to build on the Shirehall site, removing the Chief Constable's house and other police buildings, but most convenient to purchase a building on a more central site. However they must bear in mind the great difference in cost 10 11 04a & b

1913 02 07
Guildhall extension & widening Downing Street plans

1913 06 13
Corporation to enlarge Guildhall while County Borough question unsettled – opposition; Lammas Land should be made into Newnham recreation ground 13 06 13 p7

1913 06 20
Ratepayers Association inaugural meeting, Guildhall extension

1913 07 04
Guildhall extension ratepayers petition - 13 07 04 p9 CIP

1913 07 12
Guildhall extension proposed using ground floor for library

1913 08 01
Ratepayers petition against Guildhall extension 13 08 01 p10 CIP

1913 09 05
Guildhall extension ratepayer's opposition – any money spent on libraries should provide reading rooms for Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and Newnham: when a man got home from business he doesn't feel inclined to walk down to the town again – if you look into the Mill Road reading room at night you will see how much it is appreciated. 13 09 05 p5

1913 12 19
Plans for alterations at the rear of the Guildhall were shelved after the Ratepayers Association raised a petition. They had to face a loss on the trams, the Borough Bill, Chesterton footbridge and other improvements and as the Colleges were building rapidly the town landladies found it hard to pay their rates. Now the County Council had decided to build their new offices in Hobson Street. They had been debating since 1907 and all the expense and time had been worthless. But the Free Library was over-crowded and disease was spread in libraries where people were constantly sitting together 13 12 19 p7 CIP

1914 01 23
Cambridge Ratepayers' Association are proclaiming that they have been the means of "scotching" the Borough Council's scheme for the enlargement of the Guildhall. … the number of signatures obtained for their monster petition being a plain indication that the great majority of the ratepayers were against such a costly proceeding. One cannot but realise the need which exists for better Public Library accommodation, and it is to be hoped the dropping of the larger scheme will not prevent the work of extending and improving the Library being carried through.14 01 23 CIP of

1914 04 10
Opposition to Guildhall Enlargement. In response to a petition by 80 ratepayers of Cambridge, the Mayor called a town's meeting at the Guildhall on Tuesday evening, when the following resolution was passed by a large majority. "That this meeting condemns the resolution passed by the Council at the March meeting with reference to the; Guildhall extension, and if the Corporation find they require further accommodation for their officials, they should hire offices outside for the Education Department." With reference to a proposed carriage bridge at Chesterton the meeting carried, with less than a dozen opposing: "That this meeting, having considered the .question of the postponement of the building of the bridge directed by the Cambridge Order 1911 to be built by April 1 1917, sees at this juncture no reason for such action."14 04 10 CIPof

1914 05 22
Guildhall to be Enlarged.—More than half of the members of the Cambridge Town Council had left yesterday's meeting of that body when Ald. Spalding rose to move that authority be given to the Law and Property Committee to pro¬ceed with the £4,500 scheme for the enlargement of the Guildhall. There were little more than a Quorum of members left, but of those remaining, a large majority favoured the proposal which was carried. – 14 05 22

1914 10 02
Guildhall extension for library, education offices, juvenile bureau and Medical Officer of Health 14 10 02

1914 12 18

An inquiry was held into the Guildhall extension. The Librarian said at present they had two rooms for lending purposes and a reading room on the ground floor. Part of the Reference Library was in the reading room and it was very overcrowded. The basement would be used for storage. But the Ratepayers Association asked for it to be postponed until after the war. The University had practically ceased to exist, there are no pupils, the tutors have no fees and the lodging house keepers no tenants. Poor people were selling furniture to buy bread

1915 07 16
Guildhall extension accounts debate, includes payment made to E.C. Meech, tobacconist whose premises have been demolished for new building 15 07 16 p6

1920

1927 09 18
Premises in Peas Hill, Cambridge, may be acquired for the purpose of extending the Guildhall. Trinity Hall, the owners of nos 15 & 16 will sell for £5,500; Mr Sennitt will sell no.17 for £3,500, the price to include compensation for disturbance of the business and the tenant to have the option of hiring the premises until required by the Corporation. Corpus Christi College has agreed £2,200 for no.19. The Council is to apply to the Minister of Health for sanction to borrow the sum of £11,700 for the purchase c27 09 18

1928 01 23
An inquiry was held into Cambridge council's application to borrow money for the purchase of property in Peas Hill for an extension of the Guildhall. There was an increase of administrative staff and the offices were not adequate to enable the duties to be carried out efficiently. With the acquisition of the property the Corporation would hold the entire island site which would facilitate the suggested scheme for the reconstruction of the Guildhall. They had been met in a conciliatory spirit by the owners of the property and a favourable provisional agreement had been arrived at 28 01 23

1928 10 27
There is much speculation regarding the £42,000 Cambridge Market Hill deal; a large cinema and café are spoken of, but there are no details at present. It would be for the benefit of the town if the whole island site could be taken over by the Corporation; then as the leases run out it could be cleared and would provide a magnificent site for municipal buildings. Road traffic now demands that all building operations should be planned for what will be needed in the future, with a wider Petty Cury, Market Hill and Sidney Street. Something of the sort must eventually be done unless it is the intention to remove the Guildhall and market nearer the station.

1929 07 15
Guildhall extension – co-operation with county? 29 07 15 p8*

1929 07
Discuss Guildhall enlargement, consider alternative site [2.19]

1930

1932 02 25
Apart from the large hall and council chamber the Cambridge Guildhall is worn out and absolutely unsuitable. The accommodation in every department was deplorable – dark, dismal, horrid, unlit and unhealthy. On Castle Hill there was a fine new building being erected for the

County Council who were planning to spend £8,000 on furnishing alone. Never since the war had prices in the building trade been lower; this was the right moment to consider rebuilding, councillors were told. 32 02 25 & 25a

1932 06 04
A new Cambridge Guildhall should be built on the corner of East Road and Parkside where the site is three times as large, meeting the requirements of the Corporation for many years. The existing Guildhall on Market Hill should be replaced with shops on the ground floor and offices and flats above, councillors have recommended. 32 06 04a, 06a, 06aa

1932 06 09
New Guildhall debate – 32 06 09a, 32 06 20 & a, 32 06 21

1932 07 15
Cambridge councillors say the municipal buildings should remain on the Guildhall site and not move to Parkside as had been proposed. It should be a worthy building, not surrounded by shops. With four floors they could provide 70 per cent more accommodation for officials but five would add to the dignity of the building and leave some surplus space that could be let and provide a source of income. But it must not overwhelm the market place. 32 07 15 c & d

1933 01 30
Guildhall 'by instalments' plan – 33 01 30e

1933 02 02
Guildhall development on Peas Hills front – 33 02 02c & d

1933 02 04
Guildhall rebuilding cartoon – 33 02 04e

1933 04 20
Cambridge councillors considered schemes for the rebuilding of the Guildhall. One would alter the whole site, the other would set back the front but the building on Guildhall Street would remain untouched and would revert to being a court. But some councillors thought the Parkside scheme was still the best and would be far cheaper. 33 04 20c & d

1933 04 14
Guildhall plans – 33 04 14a

1933 06 26
Guildhall scheme approved – 33 06 26 & a

1933 08 11
The veranda or shelter over the main entrance of the Guildhall was disgustingly dirty and unsafe and should be removed, the Surveyor reported. It had been built in 1878 and the public should get used to the Guildhall without it because it would not be incorporated in the new building. Others said it was a useful shelter and should be maintained at all costs: the Preservation Society would be shocked if they allowed that ancient piece of architecture to be scrapped. 33 08 11

1933 09 19
Cambridge Guildhall dated back to about 1782 and there had been various extensions. In 1928 the Corporation bought shops in Peas Hill to allow for rebuilding. The possibility of providing shops

on the ground floor had been considered but this would not allow sufficient offices for the extra staff needed to cope with their increased duties, an Inquiry was told 33 09 19

1935 01 02
Guildhall – architect's drawing – 35 01 02

1935 02 22
Guildhall design – 35 02 22b, 35 02 23

1935 03 13
A packed public meeting at Cambridge Guildhall voted against plans for a new building and called on the council to remodel the front to a more dignified style of architecture. Cambridge was a treasure house of architectural gems and they had no right to hand down to posterity a freak building, a flat and uninteresting example of early 20th-century abominations. Another motion dealing with the question of shops on the Peas Hill side of the building received scant attention as most of the audience had left before the end. 35 03 13 & a

1935 04 10
Demolition work on Peas Hill for the new Guildhall has led to an architectural discovery of outstanding interest. It has revealed the residence and business premises of a well-to-do Tudor merchant which was subsequently divided up into a detached and two semi-detached houses. The magnificent front was covered up with lath and plaster in the reign of Queen Anne and finished with mock bricks. Dummy eaves were also added. Now each piece has been carefully taken down and numbered for preservation and re-erection. 35 04 10

1935 05 01
The Guildhall Protest Committee criticised plans for a useless portico of a most ornate and incongruous style which could be 'put on cold' in from of the proposed façade of the new Guildhall in two years' time if the town really wanted it. The main entrance should be on Market Hill. It would allow a terrace which would form a platform for addressing meetings on Market Hill and give a façade of distinction that the people strongly desire. There was also intense feeling regarding the question of shops on the Peas Hill side 35 05 01

1935 05 16
Councillors argued over proposals for the Guildhall. Some wanted to spend £200,000 on the old building and still have a patchwork quilt, whereas they could have an entirely new one for £150,000. Peas Hill never had been and never would be a business centre and shops there would never be a paying proposition. The dispute had started with an unfortunate illustration of the façade in the 'Sunday Times' but the design was undoubtedly a dignified building of its kind and the average elector would vote for anything, if it were as ugly as sin, if it would only save a bit on the rates.. However Councillor Stubbs said if it had been built on Donkey Common as he'd suggested some years ago the council would not be in the muddle it was today. 35 05 16a & b

1935 10 17
The foundations of the Small Room of the Guildhall, which also supported the Borough Surveyor's room, are in such bad conditions that they must be demolished earlier than planned. It had been hoped to defer demolition until the Surveyor could move into the new wing of the Guildhall being built on Peas Hill. A ditch had been found under the site. Assurances were sought that the foundations of the rest of the Guildhall, especially the Large Room, were secure because weaknesses were not generally found in one spot but existed in veins all over the area. 35 10 17a

1935 10 26
Guildhall cartoon

1936 01 18
As the Guildhall is being reconstructed the Cambridge Education Committee met in the old Post Office on the corner of Petty Cury. The large hall on the ground floor where the public business of the Post Office used to be transacted has been cleared of the counters, screens and telephone boxes and converted into a committee room. Unfortunately the CDN reporters found the acoustic properties very bad. It is never easy to follow the remarks of some of the members of the Committee and hearing was rendered doubly difficult by the roar of traffic outside. They dragged their table nearer but even then the noise of the traffic was an easy winner. 36 01 18

1936 05 05
Guildhall rebuilding photo – 36 05 05

1936 07 29
New Guildhall takes shape – steel skeleton – photo – 36 07 29

1937 01 09
A plaster case from one of the decorations in the ceiling of the Cambridge Guildhall Large Room fell to the floor during the night. Although from the floor 60 feet below the petals do not appear very large each is about six inches across. Had there been an audience it would almost certainly have struck someone's head with serious results. Now the Mayor is considering whether the Large Room should be closed. 37 01 09b

1937 02 18
Guildhall and Market Hill site – history by Mrs Keynes – 37 02 18

1938 01 07
The demolition of parts of the old Guildhall has meant that several annual functions have lost their normal home. But a Mayoral reception elsewhere than in the Guildhall must surely be unique in Cambridge history. It is symbolic of the happy relations existing between the Town and the University that the Old Schools should have been placed at the disposal of the councillors. Cars containing guests pulled up on King's Parade and a lengthy walk under illuminated awnings led to the Dome Room. The Council Room, East Room, Syndicate Room and Regent House were in use but only the dais where the orchestra played for dancing was decorated 38 01 07

1938 01 14
The old Shire Hall on Cambridge Market Hill, was erected in 1747. At that a time the 14th-century Guildhall which stood on the south of Butter Row was under repair. This was pulled down in 1782 to be replaced by the Guildhall built by James Essex. Now demolition has revealed a fragment of the medieval Guildhall. Two pieces of ancient oak carved with leaves are thought to date from 1386. They will be replaced in the new building 38 01 14b

1938 06 24
The new Cambridge Guildhall basement could be regarded as splinter-proof and it would not be difficult to render it gas-resisting, the Air Raid Precautions Committee heard. If not done they could be criticised for allowing a public building without adequate protection and could not ask other stores or factories to comply with such regulations. But it would need to have 25 feet of concrete, with earth on top, to make it bomb-proof. It was absolutely and entirely impossible. 38 06 24a & b

1939 03 02
Borough Librarian, W.A. Fenton, lectures on Guildhall site – 39 03 02a

1939 04 12
New Guildhall rapidly nearing completion – photo – 39 04 12

1939 07 22
The new Cambridge Guildhall will be opened on October 9th by the Earl of Derby. The grand staircase is much more imposing than the old one, the new small room, complete with carpet, will be very convenient and the large hall improved though it is not nearly large enough for conferences, political mass meetings or big musical enterprises. The new Council chamber also seems on the small side and the aldermanic bench has been considerably shortened. 39 07 22b

1939 07 28
Cambridge Town council held its last meeting at Shire Hall while the Guildhall was reconstructed. The Library committee asked to use the Small Room as temporary reading room during the re-arrangement of the Central Library. But it had a very expensive carpet that might get spoilt. The library might use the Corn Exchange annexe if the cycles were moved. Ald Briggs said that was not a proper alternative: “The fact is that we have had made a beautiful Guildhall, but must not use it”. The carpet could be taken up. But the Guildhall might not be finished by that time and it would be unfortunate if people were allowed in the Small Room before the rest were completed. The request was denied – 39 07 28b & c

1939 10 12
Guildhall first council meeting – 39 10 12a & 12b [and see Memories 20th Oct 2014]

1939 10 14
New Guildhall – first meeting; poor view from gallery – 39 10 14c

1940
1942 09 09
Guildhall and Regent House histories – 42 09 09

1947 09 03
In the words of Councillor Frank Priest "the new floor of the Cambridge Guildhall is well and truly laid". This brief ceremony was performed last night at the first Ball of the season, and what a delight it was to dance on such a new and beautifully polished floor. One couple, probably so unaccustomed to such smoothness in Cambridge, were rather too enthusiastic and found themselves, quite unintentionally, making a seat on the floor! It is thought that some of the shoes and hob-nail boots worn by dancers during the war years was the reason for the bad state of the previous floor.

1949 09 08
Sir - As a University town we possess many treasures and I would like the see the authorities take an interest in visitors by carrying out the following suggestions. Erect an information bureau at the railway station and another in the town centre (convert part of the Guildhall into a shop front). At each provide maps, and have information available on subjects the visitor may need. Have guides available to conduct tours according to the time available. There appears to be no reason why organised tours should not last up to a week and be advertised in conjunction with the

various transport organisations. In adopting these suggestions it would bring many more visitors to the town and in consequence more trade – "Optimist"

1950

1953 04 13
The Cambridgeshire Divisional Magistrates Court sat for the last time in the old Shire Hall Courts, where justice has been meted out for over 100 years. It is just over eight months since it was found that the building was infested with dry rot and since then all courts, save the County Bench, have been accommodated in the Guildhall. Since then there have been many arguments in the County Council Chamber but the only solution they could find was that the building would have to be demolished

1954 11 27
Cambridge assize courts should be moved to the City Library site at the Guildhall, councillors suggested. There might be some overcrowding on the first day of the Assize when all the prisoners, witnesses and jurymen in all cases had to be present or if there was a case that attracted particular public interest. But there would be a substantial saving in capital expenditure. For some time they had wished to provide new premises for the library as the Central Lending Library and Reading Rooms were no longer adequate; before the war there had been proposals to move it to the old Post Office building in Petty Cury

1955 03 15
Plans for a new assize court at the Cambridge Guildhall would entail the entire rebuilding of a large proportion of the existing structure; there would be parking and traffic problems, though these would be eased with the Lion Yard multi-deck car park. The Council would be prepared to lease the premises occupied by the Library Department and the city sessions court could be used on payment of an agreed sum. 55 03 15 c

1955 05 02
The County Council agreed that an assize court on the Guildhall site was not practical. When the City had suggested the adapting the Central Library site they must have known it was inadequate. Some of the supporting columns of the Lending Library could have to go and hardly any of the reading rooms would be retained. Cambridge needed a new Central Library but this would not be sent from Heaven. It would have to be paid for and that was behind it – the City wanted someone else to pay for it. 55 05 02b & c

1958 08 14
Redevelopment scheme for Guildhall site, 1859 – history – 59 08 14b & c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1966 04 18
Guildhall needs more space, either extension or rent space in Barrett Building, Rose Crescent – 66 04 18f

1967 01 13
Offices rented Barrett Building, Rose Crescent, otherwise Guildhall expansion [6.7]

1970

1974 12 24
Cambridge planners are looking at the possibility of turning the Central Library buildings in Wheeler Street into a Civic Restaurant when the library is moved into a new building in the Lion Yard next summer. The Library buildings are the centre of a legal wrangle between the city and county council who have now taken over responsibility for public libraries. The county claim the old library building should be given to, it but the city is arguing that as the library forms part of the Guildhall complex – the council's administrative headquarters – the county has no claim. The replacement of a Civic restaurant has been a top priority with the new Labour-controlled city council since it took office nine years ago
1980

1990 11 15
Guildhall may be converted into shops – plan – 90 11 15a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

St Andrew's School, Chesterton end of era, 1981 155.78

c.36.5 : Schools

1890
Perse Boys new school opposite Roman Catholic Church, founded 1617 [11.1]

1893
Church Industrial School Victoria Road closed [3.1]

1894
Ross Street Boys opened [2.21]

1895
Union Road Roman Catholic School enlarged [3.6]

1896
Park Street Higher Grade opened [3.4]

1897

St John's Church Infants opened [3.14]

1898
St Mary's Convent started when convent at York decided sent nuns to Cambridge to teach. [12.3,1.24]

1898
St Augustine Church School opened [3.12]

1898 05 09 c
The pretty and interesting ceremony of electing and enthroning a May Queen was observed at the Higher Grade School, Eden Street. Teachers and girls had been busy transforming their room into a perfect garden of flowers, and the Royal dais, covered with a green carpet. The retiring Queen (Ethel Norman) having robed and put on a crown of pansies she ascended the throne and abdicated at the end of a very happy reign. May Rossendale was elected the new Queen by a large majority and to the strains of a stately march she appeared, preceded by her bodyguard bearing garlands of flowers with which they made a triumphal arch for her May Majesty's procession.

1899
East Road School opened, St George's School (started as Barnwell 1835; taken by military Nov 1914 to May 1915) [1.1, 12.6]

1899 07 08
It is a piece of good fortune for suburban Cambridge that Homerton New College have provided what is bound to be a first-rate elementary school for New Cherryhinton. The Morley Memorial School, at which teachers will be taught to teach, should be a model school and the most approved methods of education will be pursued in it. The memorial stone was laid by a son of Mr Samuel Morley whose life unobtrusively devoted to the highest interests of his fellow men is one that deserves to be held in deepest honour 1899 07 08 [1.10]

1899 11 04
Morley School opened, 1899 11 04 p3
Named after Samuel Morley head of hosier & knit-ware firm who used wealth to promote philanthropic work & responsible for Cambridge YMCA; was practising school for Homerton college, transferred council 1905

1900

1900
Cambridge British School Fitzroy Street rebuilt in Brunswick Terrace for 700 children [3.5]

1900
Cambridge & County School opened 1900 specialising in agriculture – history – 90 07 05b

1900 10 25
An epidemic of disease has broken out in Cambridge which is of such serious importance as regards the public health that we should not be discharging a duty we owe to our readers if we did not draw attention to it, notwithstanding the reticence of the medical authority, which to say the least is inexplicable. The Medical Officer of Health has absolutely declined to take the press into his confidence. That diphtheria is prevalent is beyond dispute, nor is it confined to Cambridge for rumour is that deaths have occurred at Chesterton. The death of certain children attending Park

Street mixed infants school first brought the matter under the attention of the local medical authorities. Several deaths have taken place which are directly attributed to the disease

1900 10 29
The action taken by the Technical Education Committee in opening technical day schools in Cambridge has brought about a situation which is of the highest interest to the future of education in the town. To put the matter plainly the Governors of the Perse School conceive that the new schools, at which the fees are much lower, threaten their prosperity, if not their very existence. They say that boys are likely to leave the Perse – indeed it is an open secret that some have already left. There is no doubt that the Perse is no longer what it once was – a school for the children of persons of small incomes. Fees of up to £20 a year must depend entirely upon the well-to-do CDN 1900 10 29

1901 01 01
The Cambridge Medical Officer of Health reported on the recent outbreak of diphtheria. He had inspected Park Street School and could find no cause for complaint except as to the odours arising from a cesspool. Alderman Dalton said the present school might be perfectly healthy as workshops, or a Sunday School or an evening institute. There was a great difference between children assembling for a couple of hours in one day of the week and living in the place the whole of their time. The question should be decided whether the school should be carried on under the present unsatisfactory conditions or whether new buildings should be erected.

1901 01 17
The Cambridge British Schools removed to handsome and commodious premises in Auckland Road abutting on Midsummer Common – an exceeding pleasant site where there is plenty of light and fresh air. The common will in summer afford an excellent playground for the boys and a playground for the girls and infants is laid out within the confines of the school premises. Accommodation is provided for 706 scholars and the school is already all but full. Hitherto the scholars have been educated at schools in Fitzroy Street but these buildings have become antiquated 01 01 17

1901 02 08
New Street School opening, CDN 1901 02 08 p3

1901 05 03
The new British Schools in Auckland Road, Cambridge were formally opened. The three departments – boys, girls and infants – are handsomely accommodated. Mr Alexander Peckover said education was different now from what it was when he was a lad. Then it was a common thing for a mistress of the house to have to make up the washing list – (laughter) – because the housemaid could not do so. He was a banker and a good many of their clients could not even sign their own names CDN 1901 05 03

1901 12 21
An Old Perseans Society was formed at a well-attended meeting held in the School Hall. Among the objects of the new organisation are united support of the school in all matters concerning its honour and welfare whenever occasion demands, and the compilation of a register of Old Perseans. It was a particularly suitable time for the formation of such a society at the close of a long connection with the school of the late Headmaster who struggled long against adverse circumstances, and at the arrival of a new Headmaster, Mr W.H.D. Rouse 01 12 21

1902

Education Act makes Borough the Education Authority for primary schools & subject to the jurisdiction of County Council for Higher Education [5.6]

1903
Wellington Street, St Augustine's & St John's Church Schools closed [2.16]

1903
Boys High School Hills Road opened [4.13]

1903
Passive Resistance movement starts - Citizens League for Cambridge founded, conference held. Members refuse to pay portion of their rate which used for schools & several have their property auctioned off by court to raise the money [5.5, 5.8]

1903 06 05
The policy of passive resistance to the Education Act by the non-payment of the education rate is now being widely adopted in Cambridge. A marked increase in the number of those refusing to pay has taken place since the manifesto by Cambridge Nonconformist ministers. Before its issue local Nonconformists who had merely pledged themselves to passive resistance were to be numbered by dozens. Now at least 200 have withheld that part of the rate they consider would be apportioned for education purposes 03 06 05

1903 06 24
A conference on Passive Resistance heard that Nonconformists were now called upon to pay directly out of the rates for Prayer Book and Catechism teaching in schools. This would lead inevitably towards the Church of Rome & they ought not to be called upon thus to aid teaching that their dearest convictions and cherished beliefs thought false. They would be met with passive resistance upon the other side and this would give rise to a regular 'see-saw' of non-payment of the education rates

1903 09 03
Cambridge burgesses who for conscientious reasons refuse to pay the Education Rate appeared in court. Large crowds packed the entrance as cheering in the street heralded the approach of the passive resisters. The decorum of the court broke down and applause gave way to lusty cheering which the police made no effort to subdue. George Shippey said public money should not be devoted to denominational teaching. Benjamin Liles of Fitzroy Street said the Education Act violates the British Constitution; hitherto he had an opportunity of taking part in the election of the persons who made the rate, now he would have no voice and that was why he refused to pay. 03 09 03

1903 09 04
Goods seized from Passive Resisters for the non-payment of the education rate were auctioned at Cambridge Corn Exchange. Due precautions were taken to prevent unseemly disturbances. The auctioneer was enclosed in what resembled a laager, composed of corn merchants' desks and a large number of constables kept a vigilant watch on the crowd who clambered upon desks to obtain a clearer view of what was going to happen. No sooner had the auctioneer started than his words were drowned in a perfect storm of hooting and hissing. 03 09 04

1903 09 14
The Cambridge & County School for Boys, which during the past four years has been very insufficiently accommodated at St Columba's Hall, reached an important stage in its career. The

builders were displaced by the boys at the new school house that has been erected upon Hills Road and henceforth the scholars will participate in the manifold advantages that the most approved educational equipment, utilised amidst ideal surroundings, can supply. Few buildings can possess such a curious means of access. The boys are to make their entrances by means of a slope leading into the basement where they can leave their bicycles, hats and coats before climbing a broad staircase to the ground floor. 03 09 14

1903 09 15
About 400 people were present at a meeting to support Cambridge council's decision to erect a boys' school in Romsey Town to accommodate not less than 500. If ever a district needed a school it was that one. The council had voted in favour by 23 votes to nine but four gentlemen had appealed against it. What larger majority did they want? Romsey required a school in which their boys could secure a proper education without going into the town. 03 09 215

1903 10 26
The Cambridge and County School for Boys was formally opened bridging that gulf from primary to higher education which has been such a blot on our new national system; now a secondary education is placed within reach of that very wide class previously content with elementary education only. The progress of the school has been phenomenal; on the opening day three years ago 41 boys presented themselves; each term saw an increase and now there are no fewer than 210 scholars. 03 10 26

1904
Leys School new chapel & swimming baths opened [1.3]

1905
King Street Higher Grade School closed [2.6]

1905
Brunswick Terrace becomes first Council School in Borough [3.5]

1905 08 31
The new Romsey Town School is almost in a state of completion. The registration of intending scholars has been taking place while the painters are putting the last coats of varnish upon the interior woodwork. All that remains to be done consists of the arrangement of the furniture. There are separate entrances for boys and girls and the asphalted playground is divided by a wall to separate them during play hours. Trees have been retained providing a charming environment which will be made more delightful when the flowerbeds have been filled. 05 08 31 a/aa [1.21,3.18]

1905 09 22
The vicar of St Philip's Church Cambridge recalled he had opposed a scheme for abolishing the boys', girls' and infants' Church Schools in Ross Street. There would now be a new mixed school where nonconformist children would relieve religious instruction – but not from him. If parents cared for Church instruction they should fight to keep Ross Street schools open and support the new master, Mr Meakin. 05 09 22a & b

1906 03 15
A difference of opinion has arisen between parents of children and the Managers of the Morley Memorial Schools over the practice of opening afternoon school at 1.45 instead of two o'clock. One mothers say it is highly inconvenient: "My husband comes home to dinner at ten minutes

past one; we sit down to eat five minutes later and my children have to 'bolt' their dinner and rush straight off to be at school by twenty to two. I'm sure it does them no good." But the managers say parents had asked for the change. 06 03 15 & 15a

1906 05 26
Two large meetings of Cambridge church people passed resolutions strongly condemning the Government's Education Bill. The Bishop of Ely said the dying of church schools would only be a matter of time. Religion was the only part of education worth having, the great question was how it would be taught. The Bill denied parents the liberty to have their children educated in the faith which they themselves held. 06 05 26d e

1906 07 05
Girls County School should be erected to be convenient for girls coming by train – Mill Road; site problem 06 07 05a 06 07 05s

1906 07 12
Site of proposed Higher Grade School near Parkside 06 07 12d

1906 10 25
Morley Memorial Schools have been extended by a couple of wings. One contains three classrooms and the other has rooms fitted up for cooking and carpentry. Around the infants' classroom have been placed drawing slates – or rather ground glass backed with a dark preparation – at a suitable height for children and the corners of walls are rounded off to allowing no dirt to collect. The whole block is eminently convenient and suitable to the necessities of the infant life – a point too often lost sight of in the construction of schools. 06 10 25d

1906 12 01
The fact that St Matthews's Infant School in Sturton Street was offered for sale by auction may be misconstrued, especially as some say it would be suitable for a club or warehouse. But the question of discontinuing instruction there has never been mooted. It was erected as a speculation by the late Mr B. Clifton and let to the Vicar. Now the executor wishes to realise the property. It is purely a business transaction and devoid of any relation to the education question and its local consequences. 06 12 01a

1906 12 12
The condition of Eden Street Higher Grade School gave cause for concern. The small infants' room was encumbered with a huge gallery and another received practically no light. It had no playground and there could be few places in which so many children were crowded together on such a small site. Only because the staff was very efficient and the children very teachable did instruction meet with the success to which reports testified. 06 12 12 & a

1908
Girls High School Collier Road opened [4.13]

1908 04 04
St Luke's school memorial to Berridge – 08 04 04b

1908 05 14
Melbourn Place new schools plans – 08 05 14 & a & b

1908 07 18

Milton Road Council School built to stop 360 boys & girls crossing river to St Luke's & St Andrews, which full; the first public elementary school created by County Education Authority [4.3,4.14,4.15,10.5]

1908 08 21
The magnificent new schools at Milton Road, Chesterton have been equipped with every facility for instruction. Instead of sitting in cramped positions at unsuitable desks the tiny tots will be accommodated with seats to suit their various sizes and their lessons based on the Froebel principle, combining amusement with instruction. They mark a distinct advancement on elementary educational methods and the County Council is to be congratulated. CWN 08 08 21 p4

1908 09 04
See the children assemble in the great hall at the new Milton Road school. From the classrooms come files of boys and girls, not in perfect military style but in very fair order awaiting an instruction that playtime has arrived. The word given, the boys swing out of one door, the girls out at another and the paved playgrounds, separated by an iron partition, resound with merriment. Boys learn woodwork under Mr Holt and the girls commence cookery instruction under Mrs Walker of Cheveley. CWN 08 09 04 p5

1908 12 25
Allegations that a feud exists between the boys attending Milton Road and St Luke's schools is not entirely borne out by investigation. When the Milton Road School was opened a number of boys attending St Luke's migrated. Installed in the new school they 'put on side' which was too much for their late friends and some small battles ensued. This reached the ears of the authorities and they were punished. Since then rival feelings exist only in the breasts of two or three lads and possibly a snow storm will enable both sides to wipe out all accounts. CWN 08 12 25

1909
Richmond Road School opened [4.2]

1909 08 06
Commenting on plans for the Melbourn Place Schools the Board of Education thought whole building appeared to be designed on too lavish a scale. On one hand they kept an infants' department, though cutting it down to absurdly small dimensions, and built no laboratories. On the other hand they greatly exceeded the normal for the central hall. The size might be reduced and the external ornament omitted. But this was more than an ordinary elementary school and to get the facilities required money must be spent CWN 09 08 06

1909 08 27
We deeply regret to record the death of John Austin Catchpole. Few men have struggled more bravely under physical infirmity. Born in Cambridge 65 years ago he showed promise of developing into a healthy boy when the carelessness of a servant girl crippled him for life. Left in her charge, he was seated upon wet grass, illness ensued and his lower limbs became permanently paralysed. Unable to go to school he was tutored at home and decided to become a schoolteacher. He started the Auckland School private school which at one time had 60 boys upon the register CWN 09 08 27

1909 09 17
The staff and scholars of the Cambridge and County School for Girls have left the unpretentious and inconvenient building in East Road and are safely ensconced in a brand new school built on

the most scientific lines and equipped with everything the modern educational establishment requires. It is approached by a drive from Collier Road and surrounded by ample grounds CWN 09 09 17

1909 10 20
The magnificent new home of the Cambridge and County School for Girls is compact and central, calm and commodious and includes laboratories for chemistry and domestic science together with a hothouse for the study of botany. Its object is to provide a sound practical middle class education at a moderate fee. The adjacent School of Arts and Crafts has rooms for life-painting, modelling and geometrical drawing. They were opened by the American ambassador CWN 09 10 22

1910

1911 04 07
Dr W.H. Rose, headmaster of the Perse Grammar School was summoned for caning a pupil. The lad lived at Landbeach and cycled into Cambridge every day, a distance of about five miles. Ash Wednesday was a half-holiday but boys were required to attend in the afternoon. The lad had got ready but the day was very rough with a high wind. There was no train service and his mother, considering the weather, told him not to go and she would send a note next morning. But next day he had been caned and sent to detention for two hours. Dr Rouse said he did not know there was a valid excuse and expressed regret the boy was punished. 11 04 07 & a

1911 08 11
Girls at Eden Street School Cambridge should be taught domestic subjects and home making such as bed-making, plumbing and white-washing. Ald Campkin thought children ought to learn how to make beds at home and in poorer districts people had very little to cook. Ignorance of sanitation was appalling and when laundry classes were first started there had been considerable opposition, but they had been a success. However councillors objected to spending more for a trained teacher: this could be done by the present staff 11 08 11k

1911 09 15
A number of Cambridge schoolboys ‘came out’ on strike, some because they had a half-holiday and others because they hadn’t. Some say there were several hundred boys and girls carrying ‘On Strike’ banners and they had chalked the same on the doors of their schools. They held a mass meeting on Christ’s Pieces then marched down Emmanuel Street where they came into contact with the police (one constable). The demonstration then collapsed. But teachers say there was no strike. They were not schoolboys but hooligans; they made a disturbance outside the school but the flashing eye of the schoolmaster made them retreat 11 09 15c

1911 12 29
Melbourne Place school tenders – 11 12 29a

1912
Enlargement of the Borough brings three extra schools into Cambridge [4.1]

1912 03 01
The merry sound of children’s voices and laughter brought many of the residents in Melbourne Place to their doors. A host of happy schoolboys were sporting on the greensward where the old tennis courts used to be and now forms the site of the new higher grade schools, just about to be erected. A file of girls was entering from the Eden Street end while a troop of Boy Schools was

drawn up, colours fluttering in the breeze near a piece of ground marked out with surveyors measuring staves. They had come to see the Head Master and Head Mistress turn the first sods on the spot where the new schools are to be built. 12 03 01a

1912 03 29
Work on the new schools in Melbourne Place is practically at a standstill owing to the strike and 50 men are idle. The contractors cannot get delivery of the facing bricks they require. "We have several thousand blue bricks on the rail somewhere between Staffordshire and Cambridge" said Mr C. Kidman. "We are promised red bricks a month after the brickmakers receive coal but they cannot get any". An interesting little machine with massive steam-powered steel jaws was champing up bricks from the curious little row of cottages which had no back premises and no back windows. Five trees had been cut down to provide log for fuel for the engine. 12 03 29f

1912 07 26
The last speech day of the Higher Girls School in Eden Street was held; soon staff and scholars will be at work in the magnificent new buildings in Melbourn-Place. History of school reviewed. 12 07 26 i & j

1913
Eden Street & Paradise Street Higher Grade Schools closed [3.2, 3.3]

1913 02 21
The Trustees of the 'Hope' Classroom in Paradise Street have offered to present it to the Education Committee for educational purposes. The Trustees of Eden Street Higher Grade School also offered their site and building for educational purposes on payment of £200 to be invested in maintaining the St Andrew the Less Parish Institute in Fitzroy Street. The school had been closed down because the buildings were too bad and a new one built in Melbourn Place but could be used for instruction in domestic subjects 13 02 21 p7 CIP

1913 03 07
Melbourne Place Higher Grade School opened [4.4] 13 03 07 p9 CIP

1913 03 14
Newnham Croft proposed school – debate – 13 03 14

1913 05 23
Catherine Street Schools to open 13 05 23 p7 CIP

1913 05 30
St Philip's Schools dedicated 13 05 30 p7 CIP

1913 07 11
Newnham Croft school debate 13 07 11 CIP

1913 10 24
Leys School extension foundation stone 13 10 24 p10 CIP

1913 10 24
Newnham Croft school debate 13 10 24 CIP

1913 11 07

The Perse School was in crisis, they had acquired Pendene House to expand their boarders but to pay for it they had to sell Fratinghall Farm at a heavy loss on the original value of the property due to the depression in agriculture. In 1882 it was worth at least £10,000 but they had received just £4,600. To get any rent at all they'd had to build new cottages and make improvements, all of which money was lost. But next year marked the 300th anniversary of their foundation and they were launching an Endowment Fund, the Speech Day audience heard. 13 11 07 p9 CIP

1913 12 12
At the North Terrace School prize giving the Master of Downing said education had very much improved of later years. He remembered when his sisters were drilled at their French grammar like so many soldiers and there was 'thimble pie' in reserve. Education nowadays was very much less formal and more happy. Two things he was pleased to see at Miss Keen's school were Swedish drill and swimming. The girls should educate themselves, train their hands in embroidery and sewing and learn to darn their own socks. They should keep their tempers and be kind to everyone. The school was run purely by Miss Keen and run by the side of schools which were subsidised 13 12 12 p05 CIP

1913 12 12
Miss Street was appointed the first headmistress of the Perse when the school opened in January 1881 and retired in July 1909. She was signally successful: the numbers rising from 16 to 206. That was before the founding of the Girls' County School and then there was a slight decrease 13 12 12 p5 CIP

1914
Passive Resisters day Guildhall [5.11]

1914 04 24
King's Visit - Six thousand schoolchildren will next Thursday line the streets .Although visit is to the Leys School. King will proceed to the school via Newmarket Road, East Road, Lensfield Road and Trumpington Road. Upon arrival will be received by a guard of honour and met by headmaster and members of the governing body. Will view memorial South African War, inspect the gymnasium, swimming baths, science buildings, etc 14 04 24 CIPof 14 05 01 [1.11] 14 05 01e f g h

1914
Melbourn Place School taken over as billets for troops, pupils go to Emmanuel College & St Andrew's Street lecture hall [6.8]

1914 07 31
Teachers' Scale Criticised. A meeting to consider the new scale of salaries for the County. Mr. H. G. Powell, who spoke on "The Salaries Movement in Cambridgeshire", said the increase in teachers' salaries had been anticipated for a long while. Teachers in Cambridge could not congratulate themselves on the generosity of their salaries. Class teachers were not paid well enough to enable them to fulfil their proper duties. It was impossible to obtain a man's highest standard for a paltry £120 a year, and it was unfair to pay fully qualified teachers that amount (Applause). A member of the Education Committee has expressed the opinion that it was impossible for a secondary school teacher (then grammar school) to live decently on £160 to £170 a year 14 07 31 CIPof

1914 10 16
Higher Grade Pupils based elsewhere as soldiers have taken over school 14 10 16

1915 04 02
"Active Humbugs". Three passive resistors who still persist in their refusal to pay the educational portion of the Poor Rate, appeared at the Cambridge Borough Police Court on Wednesday summoned for the non-payment of the same, and received little sympathy from the Bench. The appearance of their names among the rate defaulters was the subject of strong magisterial comment, the Mayor (Mr. W. L. Raynes) on one occasion remarking: "Passive resisters are better described as 'active humbugs'" 15 04 02 CIPof

1915 04 23
Troops occupation of County Girls School and others – to pay rent, taxes, dilapidations 15 04 23 p6

1915 06 11
Chedworth Street school finished but as would probably be required for military use the range, cooker and boiler should be postponed for time being 15 06 11 p6

1915 07 02
County Girls School – military have now left, need cleaning before school returns 15 07 02 p7

1915 09 24
Chedwortrh Street School to be named Newnham Croft 15 09 24

1915 10 27
Newnham Croft School opened - photo – 15 10 27b

1915 12 17
Hope class at Paradise Street School for children who were very backward; not easy to get teachers but reject increase in Mrs Fry's salary 15 12 17 CIP

1916 06
Cambridge Open Air School opens in cottage, Vinery Rd, for children excluded on medical grounds from attending school [Cam p120, 6.9,11.2]

1916 06 21
Suggested Open Air School; how scheme is working elsewhere – feature – 16 06 21a

1916 12 06
The Rev. C. J. N. Child, Headmaster of the Cambridge and County School for Boys, has accepted the living of Moulton. The resignation will be a distinct loss to the cause of education. No man was more fitted for the headship of this important school and his departure will be regretted. He was appointed to the headmastership in 1900. He was Chaplain of Emmanuel College from 1898-1903 and curate of St. Botolph's, Cambridge, from 1897 until 1904. He was educated at Christ's College, Cambridge and was Winchester Prizeman in 1898 16 12 06 CIPof

1917 01 03
Boys at St Luke's School at work in the garden and the workshop and on drill – photos – 17 01 03a

1918 02 06

Communal Dinners - midday meals at the East Road schools started on January 14, are supplied by the Fitzroy Street communal kitchen, and each child pays a small sum per week for five dinners. When the school was first started there were only 23 children who availed themselves of the opportunity but now the number has increased to about 40. The dinner is served in a room which was formerly the baby room of the old school, but which for a number of years has been used as a .storeroom. The room has been cleaned, distempered and decorated, and presents quite a cheery appearance 18 02 06 CIPof

1918 06 26
Over 900 with the Colours. Since August, 1914, up to the present time over 900 Old Leysians had joined the Colours, of whom, 120 had given their lives. Since the last Speech Day five more D.S.O.s and 23 more M.C.s had been won, making their total up to 10 D.S.O.'s and 39 M.C.'s. In addition to those they had two C.M.G.s to their credit 18 06 26 CIPof

1919 06 04
New Head of The Leys, — The new headmaster of The Leys School, the Rev. Harry Bisseker, who is to succeed the Rev. Dr Barber when the September Term opens, has been a frequent visitor to The Leys of recent years, and has annually preached in the school chapel. He was Chaplain and Assistant Master at The Leys from 1901 to 1904 19 06 04 CIPof

1919 10 22
Perse school investigation into financial position – report of committee – 19 10 22a

1919 11 12
Princes at dinner. The Old Persian tercentenary dinner was held in the Perse School Hall on Friday evening, the Bishop of Woolwich presiding. He was supported by Prince Albert, Prince Henry and others. The toast of "The King" having been honoured, the Bishop of Woolwich submitted “The Royal Family." Prince Albert, replying, said: "My brother and I feel at present like two simple minnows among a number of Tritons in a sea of knowledge." He congratulated the school on the prominent position it had taken in the pioneer work of modern education, "due, in so large a measure, to the brilliant and energetic efforts of Dr Rouse (headmaster) and his colleagues". “Your war record," he went on is one you may well be proud of. Your losses have been I fear heavy, and with you I mourn the brave men from your school who have given their lives for country and Empire 19 11 12 CIPof

1920

1922
Sturton Street School closed [2.14]

1922 09 06
A special meeting of the Cambridge Education Committee was held at Brunswick School on the report of the Borough Surveyor. He said that the rooms at the north end of the building were not safe for occupation and would have to be pulled down. He could not be responsible for the safety of the children if that portion of the school were opened after the holiday. They looked over the building and found that the foundations were slipping, the bricks in many cases were loose and breaking away. The buildings had been a source of trouble and anxiety for some time but there was no need for the alarming reports that had been spread - one that a portion of the school had fallen down and some children had been injured. No injury had been done at all c22 09 06 Brunswick School building found to be slipping so pupils transferred to Fitzroy Street & Paradise Street schools [3.16]

1923 02 01
Richmond Road school closure, p5

1924 10
Malting House school opened as a research school for children's education - see 29 01 31

1924
St Peter's School Castle End closed [2.5]

1925
Newnham Church of England and Occupation Road schools closed [2.15, 2.17]

1925 06 05
Cambridge council was told that the Brunswick school did not exist at the present time because the Borough surveyor drew attention to the giving way of the building, and they first of all had to pull down the Boys' School because it was dragging the other part down, and eventually they pulled down the Girls' School. The girls were in temporary premises at Paradise Street school and the boys in Fitzroy Street. They had to bear in mind that a new bridge was going to be built at Walnut Tree Avenue some time – (laughter) – and when that was done they would have to accommodate some children from old Chesterton 25 06 05

1925 10 21
A pleasant little function took place at the Park Street School when the Bishop of Ely paid a visit to see the improvements carried out to the babies' room to accommodate a further 35 babies. 35 10 21

1926 03 10
Open Air School, p3

1926 11 01
The Mayor of Cambridge (Ald E.O. Brown) addressed the New Street Men's Bible Class, which was the outcome of the Ragged School. He took them back to the old school, before the new road to Sturton Street was made, and visualise the children that assembled outside. The teachers were devoted to their work. There were working parties where shirts were made for the boys and petticoats for the girls. Public houses were numerous, rows and fights were the order of the day. There were fighting men prepared to take on all comers, rat catchers, beer tasters. Those days had passed and gone, and they were benefiting from the seed that was sown by the devoted teachers many years ago 26 11 01

1927 11
Leys School new buildings opened [1.16]

1928
Park Street Higher Grade School closed [3.4]

1928
School of Arts, Crafts & Technology new wing opened [5.3]

1928 07
W.H.D. Rouse retires after 26 years as head of Perse School [1.18]

1928 07 09
Close to the windmill on the north side of Milton Road, opposite Chesterton Hall Crescent, occupying one of the highest and healthiest sites in the locality and surrounded by spacious lawns and trim walks stands the new open-air school for defective and sub-normal children. It is an ideal school, admirably adapted to its purpose and planned and equipped on a generous scale, a veritable children's paradise. The opening ceremony was an open-air function. Open air schools for delicate children have come to stay and in the future all schools will probably become open-air 28 07 09 [1.15]

1929
Began transforming Elementary Schools into Senior, Junior & Infants [1.9, 5.4]

1929
Kings Street Girls & Infants closed [2.7]

1929 01 25
The Inspector of Schools said that in recent years there have been great improvements in Cambridge; they had got rid of such places as Sturton Street Infants and Occupation Road schools which were not fit to teach children in. Not only was it impossible for the teachers to give of their best but it was absolutely cruelty to children to make them go there. Occupation Road in particular was really insanitary. They had done exceedingly well in the reduction of the number of unwieldy classes; there are now 11 classes of over 50 children and 35 with from 40 to 50 29 01 25

1929 01 31
Mr Geoffrey Pyke of the Malting House School, Cambridge appeared at London Bankruptcy Court. He'd opened the school in October 1924 as a research school for children's education and never had any idea of making money out of it. He had expended £15,000 on it as against fees amounting to some £600. It was amply staffed and records were kept of the sayings and doings of the boys. That formed part of the research work and although the records were of scientific value they would fetch only ten shillings as waste paper. In fact he would not expect to receive a 'bean' for them from anybody who bought the school. 29 01 31

1929 07 10
Brunswick school reopening, p8

1929 07 12
Brunswick school opens, p8

1929 07 12
Brunswick school reopening, 29 07 12 p8

1930

1930 09 10
After considerable discussion it was agreed to purchase apparatus for artificial sunlight treatment at the Cambridge Open-Air School. Some felt it might be dangerous unless carefully used and children could be burned and blistered. But Dr Paton Philip, the County Tuberculosis Officer, is an expert in this treatment and a nurse had worked with the great specialist, Sir Henry Lovain.

Most of the children went there not from any disability but because they had the suspicion of tuberculosis hanging over them 30 09 10a

1930 12 16
Miss M.H. Catley, headmistress of the Perse High School for Girls, took her degree at Oxford and came to Cambridge in 1926. She is with all her heart and all her desire, a trainer of girls. The keynote to her success is her understanding of youth – she is herself barely out of this category. She takes full part in sports and is an enthusiastic Girl Guide. There is still a long vista of years ahead of her and her success will be reaped when the young girls she is today training have themselves come to maturity. 30 12 16

1931
East Road becomes St George's Senior School [1.10]

1931 01 02
The sound of girls' voices, high and clear, punctuated the interview granted by Miss Dovey, headmistress of the County School for Girls. Cambridge born, she was educated at the Higher Grade School when Mrs Evans was the Principal. She took a degree at London University and was appointed headmistress in 1926. But the Girl Guides' concert meant we could not settle to our conversation and instead we watched part of a farce performed by some of the teachers who appeared in pyjamas, dressing gowns and sleeping caps, to the great delight of their pupils. 31 01 02d

1931 09 11
Many will mourn the loss of Miss Katharine Wilson, creator of the Chesterton Preparatory School. She had an amazing power of understanding children so that the most difficult little people became happy and tractable. Boys and girls of whatever nationality, whether Italian, Russian, American, Estonian or English, from toddlers to twelve years old, all found themselves equally at home and grew into resourceful little citizens. 31 09 11b

1932
Union Road School closed [2.9]

1932
Sedley & Shirley Infants Schools opened - first with up-to-date nurseries for infants three to four years; Sedley design broke tradition, single-storied classrooms round open grassed courtyard [4.7, 4.8, 1.8, 10.10]

1932 01 13
The new domestic block at the Central Girls' School was formally opened. It includes a coal-fired Eagle range, electric and gas cookers, gas griller and iron heater. Cookery and dressmaking was a very important part of their teaching. Any girl who goes into domestic service with a good mistress has a ten times better chance than the girls who go into factories, the Mayoress said. 32 01 13

1932 06 22
The Prince of Wales landed in his red Puss Moth monoplane at Marshall's aerodrome. He jumped hatless from the plane, then donned a boater and drove to the Leys School where he opened the new squash courts and sports ground. On his return he was assisted into his raincoat in preparation for a lofty flight in search of a favourable wind before he stepped into his monoplane, soared gracefully aloft and headed for London. 32 06 22a

1932 12 16
Paston House School for girls, Cambridge, goes from strength to strength. The number of pupils is greater than ever and parents were satisfied with the work conducted under the care of the Sisters of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The school improved morals and character and a girl's soul receives that training which sets her on her way to face the problems of life with a firm grounding in the things that matter 32 12 16a

1933
Barnwell Abbey National School closed [2.12]

1933 03 21
St Luke's school overcrowding – 33 03 21a

1933 11 18
Perse school extension – 33 11 18

1934
St Faiths prep school established [12.8]

1934 11 17
Perse School extensions opened by Stanley Baldwin – 34 11 17b

1935 02 06
The new additions to the County School for Boys were opened by Lord Rutherford and many heads of colleges were amongst those present. The new wing includes a large Assembly Hall which will be used as a gymnasium, an art room and a classroom. Over the existing workshops another storey has been built, giving a new chemistry laboratory. The court outside will be turfed and if anybody feels disposed to offer a fountain then the County Council would pay the extra water rate for playing it on very special occasions. 35 02 06 & a

1935 02 20
It was time something was done about St Luke's School. The headmistress had a class of 54 in a large room divided only by a curtain from another class of 50. It was very trying for the teachers and not very satisfactory for the children. Putting another teacher into the room would not be much use. Romsey Council School also had large classes but to move one upstairs would be difficult: the natural lighting and ventilation was poor and there was insufficient head room. The head would prefer to have eight classes under normal conditions than take a class in an attic, councillors were told. 35 02 20b

1935 08 02
The foundation stone of the new Roman Catholic Schools in Union Road was laid by the Bishop of Northampton. Such schools were almost as important as churches. Catholics cannot be satisfied with a sort of elementary Christian faith: their children must be taught as soon as they are able to read and understand. Cambridge Catholics would have to make very considerable sacrifices: more than £8,000 would be required when the new schools were completed. 35 08 02

1935 10 25
The new Senior School off Gilbert Road, Chesterton contains separate departments for senior boys and girls, each with its own assembly hall fitted with a stage and cinema projection room. The boys department has science laboratory and woodwork and metalwork rooms while the girls'

includes provision for cookery, laundry and dressmaking. A changing room, fitted with shower baths, has been included in connection with organised games. 35 10 25a - first of its kind with new facilities as libraries, practical work, halls etc [4.9,1.9]

1935 12 18
More than half the girls attending the Cambridge & County High School are above the average physique for their age and less than one per cent are poorly nourished. Nearly all the pupils are sensibly clothed and school uniform plays a useful part in this. Many take advantage of an excellent school dinner system and systematic training in a good gymnasium is open to all. Taking into account the intensive curriculum and the long distance many of the girls have to travel the results are very creditable, the Medical Officer reported. 35 12 18 & a

1936 07 09
County High School for Girls site agreed in Long Road 36 07 09a

1936 09 24
The opening and blessing of the new Roman Catholic Schools and Hall at Union Road, Cambridge, presented a picturesque spectacle of stately ceremonial. In the morning Archbishop Goodier preached following a Pontifical High Mass in the Church of Our Lady when the glory of mauve and splendour of gold vestments stood out vividly among the black cassocks and white surplices. The new buildings were opened and blessed in the afternoon whilst the Roswitha Players from London gave the first stage show at the new Houghton Hall in the evening. 36 09 24b 36 09 25a

1936 12 12
St George's school centenary – 36 12 12d & e

1937 11 05
Coleridge Senior School in Radegund Road was opened by the Mayor. It was not yet completely equipped – only half the gymnasium fittings were fixed and although they had a dining hall and kitchen the cooking arrangements were not complete. But the halls were fitted with cinema projection rooms, there were showers for pupils, and rooms for teaching cookery, laundry, housewifery and woodwork. The spread of population to the outlying parts of Cambridge had made it possible to provide new schools with plenty of land for playing fields. 37 11 05a [4.10,13.4]

1938
St Giles & New Street Schools closed [2.8, 3.19]

1938
Cherry Hinton National School building reconstructed [3.13]

1938
St Faith's School acquired Leys; was founded as prep school 1884 as result of Revised University Statutes 1878 which allowed Fellows to marry [12.7]

1938 10 28
The Cambridge & County Girls School started in 1900 in the Drill Hall, East Road, then known as the Technical Institute. By 1903 they overflowed into rooms belonging to the Zion Chapel Sunday School and it was not until 1909 that they moved to the present buildings, retiring headmistress, Miss Dovey said. But in August 1914, when war broke out, the school was taken

possession of by the Welsh Fusiliers and other regiments. For a year the school was housed in Emmanuel College lecture rooms and St Andrew's Street Sunday School. Soon they would move to new premises in Long Road 38 10 28 & a

1939 08 18
Mr. Stanley Barker, of Orchard Road, Sawston holds the bronze medal, with six bars, awarded by the Cambs. County Council for unbroken attendance for seven successive years, 1904-10, at the same school, Sawston Board School. For a time, also the County Council awarded a silver watch for seven years' unbroken attendance, but by the time Stanley had qualified, the Council had raised the period to eight years, and he was not allowed to stay on for another year to qualify. Mr. Stanley Churchman, also of Sawston, holds the medal and the watch for the seven years' record - altogether, he attended Sawston Board School for eight years without being absent, two years at the Infants' School and the six years following at the Senior School. 39 08 18 CIPof

1939 11 29
Some classrooms in Trumpington and St Paul's schools were 'dark pits' because of first-aid depots being placed in schools. There was a great danger of sandbags making the rooms damp and as classrooms were being used for people to sleep in all night it was difficult to get them aired, councillors were told. It was also alarming to see enormous laundry vans standing in narrow playgrounds which have to be manoeuvred when the children were about. But at Cherry Hinton there was nowhere else they could go. However three halls there were being used by children now. If they were not fit for first-aid posts, they were not fit to teach children in, Mrs Rackham said. 39 11 29c

1940

1940 07 19
Boys from the Leys School, Cambridge have formed teams for seasonal work on the land. The July number of the 'Sugar Beet Review' has two pictures of them, taken on Mr. R. B. Taylor's farm, Ashley, near Newmarket, where the boys put in several days' work. About 50 boys were engaged on each occasion, with four or five masters, and more than 100 acres were singled. 40 07 19 CIPof

1940 08 09
More Farmers' Boys. - A party of 32 lads from the Central School Melbourn Place, Cambridge, arrived in Melbourn and commenced farm and orchard work where required. The lads are accompanied by the Headmaster, Mr. J. D. Livingstone, and take the place of the 30 lads from the Coleridge School, who returned home on Saturday after a fortnight's work in the orchards. After a fortnight in the village, the Central lads will leave, and their place will be taken by another party. The boys sleep in the infants' room of the Council School, and have their meals in the Church Room. 40 08 09 CIPof

1940 09 06
Leys School morning to Scotland as buildings needed by Addenbrooke's Hospital - 40 09 06a

1941 01 16
East Anglian town's miniature fire blitz. Famous public school [Perse] damaged 41 01 16, a,b,c Perse school treasures saved after fire destroyed library and classrooms. The shields which hung around the walls, the War Memorial and the portrait of Dr Rouse survived – 41 02 15a, 41 02 20b

1941 09 29

County High School for Girls new buildings opened – photo – 41 09 29

1945 01 26
Leys School return after 5 years evacuation in Pitlochy, Scotland [1.6]

1946 11 04
Miss M.H. Catley, headmistress of Perse for 20 years, resigns; numbers had increased from 284 to 486 – 46 11 04

1948 04 28
The Mayoress of Cambridge (Mrs G.F. Hickson) paid an official visit to the Open Air School in Ascham Road, off Milton road, Cambridge. The school is composed of a number of small, single storey buildings with windows extending nearly to the floor. It comprises classrooms, surgery and shower room, kitchens, dining hall, laundry & practical rooms and the quarters of the headmistress. These are set in attractively designed and well-tended ground surrounded by a playing field and kitchen gardens which the children help to cultivate. The school is for delicate children for whom it is thought that a course of special treatment and open-air life would be beneficial. There are also maladjusted children and a few cases of some form of paralysis

1948 12 06
At Paston House school speech day the Headmistress, Mother Paul, gave a brief sketch of the development of the school during the past 50 years, for it was just half a century ago when it was founded. She referred with regret that so many applications for vacancies had to be refused as kindergarten places were filled up to 1951. The premises were still far from adequate, for an assembly hall, a permanent gymnasium, a studio and a library were all needed. The war did not dislocate the work of the school as much as might have been expected, but it roused special interest in nursing and first aid 48 12 06

1949 04 14
The new school at Trumpington is to be known as the "Fawcett" primary school. It is being named after Prof. Henry Fawcett, who died in 1884. He was well-known to a former generation as "the blind postmaster general", and was one of the first holders of the Chair of Political Economy in Cambridge University. He lived in Brookside, and was buried in Trumpington churchyard. He was a man who had set an outstanding example of courage in the face of misfortune.

1950

1950
Trumpington School closed [3.8]

1950 02 11
Dr W.H.D. Rouse, headmaster of the Perse school, Cambridge, from 1902 to 1928 and one of the greatest teachers of his time died yesterday. His most famous work for education was his method of teaching Latin and Greek. Pupils acquired them by being taught in the language from their first lesson and by speaking in the language in class. He gathered round him a brilliant staff who shared his qualities of originality of mind and enthusiasm. Teachers from all over the world come to the Perse to see how those pioneer methods now followed in many schools were carried into effect 50 02 11

1950 06 28
Should the new secondary modern school for the southern part of Cambridge be built in the vicinity of Wort's Causeway of on the Ventress Farm estate? Cambridge education committee prefer Wort's Causeway as being more central for Trumpington and Cherry Hinton children but the planning committee thought it suited their planning arrangements better for it to be where Queen Edith's Way joined Hills Road. An alternative had been suggested that to preserve an open space the playing fields should be situated on the Ventress Farm estate and only the school on Worts Causeway.

1951
Priory School opened [4.12, 10.1]

1951 07 09
Alderman Mrs C.D. Rackham opened the first instalment of the new Glebe school, Girton. When complete it will take 300 children from five to 11, as well as a group of "under-fives". "We aim to have a nursery class in all our new junior schools where mothers will be able to leave their younger children until they reach the age of five", she said; "we believe this facility an essential feature of our new schools".

1951 10 15
A memorial service for the late Mr W.H. Balgarnie, former Classics Master at the Leys School, Cambridge, was held in the school chapel. He once had for a pupil the author James Hilton, who years afterwards drew upon his memories of Mr Balgarnie for his famous character "Mr Chips". He joined the staff in 1900 as a Senior Classics Master, a position he held until he retired – for the first time – in July 1929. Almost immediately he was recalled to act as Deputy Headmaster for a year. Again he retired but when in 1940 the School moved to Pitlochry he came out of retirement and for five years was form master of the Classical Sixth. In July 1950 he left Cambridge for a summer holiday and never returned. He died on July 15th

1951 11 21
There is an air of excitement at the Perse School for Girls as their new hall is growing day-by-day in the school grounds to replace the ramshackled wooden building – two Army huts knocked into one – which has served the school since 1918. The Headmistress, Miss M.A. Scott says that many responsible for the building have family connections. It will not only be a place for morning assembly and prayers but will be used for various lessons & for recreation during the dinner hour The school is working hard to help pay for it and girls are doing all sorts of odd jobs, including running errands, baby sitting, darning socks and stockings, washing up and saving bus fares by walking to school.

1952 07 30
In the big tree-girt grass playing field of Chesterton Preparatory School the young folk entertained their elders to tea and dancing, giving a whole profusion of English Maypole Dances. I asked Miss Dorothy Hodder, the Headmistress, how they were able to train youngsters to such a pitch of excellence that they never pause or falter, and all without commands or words of instruction. She said the children (and there were no less than 64 of them) very largely teach themselves. It made a charming picture to see the tiny tots skipping so gaily round the Maypole in orderly rhythm with their brightly coloured ribands. They were obviously enjoying every second of it.

1953 07 08

Chesterton and Coleridge schools may adopt a two-shift system operating from 8.30-1.30 and 1.30-6.30 pm as means of relieving difficulties arising from the large number on the school rolls with 553 boys and 450 girls at Chesterton and 562 boys and 540 girls at Coleridge. It would not adversely affect the character of the schools, as all pupils would have normal facilities for the use of laboratories and practical rooms. But there were social consequences which would create difficulties. The schools should make full use of hall and dining rooms for teaching purposes and hire additional accommodation.

1954 12 23
Saying farewell to Mr Henry Morris who is retiring from the post of Chief Education Officer after 34 years the County Council presented him with a portable typewriter and a filing cabinet. He had seen that modern transport which would otherwise transform the countryside into a widespread suburb and the rural hinterland into a cultural void, could be harnessed to create a rural region for the provision of educational and social amenities. He created the Village College as a rural community centre providing facilities for the countryman as good as those offered in towns. He had reinvigorated the school curriculum, improved the quality of teaching and established school gardens at Bottisham and Bassingbourn. CDN 23.12.1954

1955 10 07
Romsey School celebrated its 50th birthday; past and present scholars viewed photographs of bygone days and recalled events from the past. The head, Mr S.J. Granfield was joined by Mr S. Cannon who spoke of the first headmaster, George Flavill. Then the old boys gathered round the piano to sing 'Forty Years On' and other old songs he had taught them. 55 10 07b

1955 12 12
The new extensions to the Paston House School, now called St Mary's Convent School, in Bateman Street were dedicated, marking an important milestone in its 50 years' history. It began in one little house and now had 370 pupils. Speaking of the value of independent convent schools the Bishop spoke of 'the unfriendliness of Mr Butler, who won't let us build schools as we should like to". But the religious orders managed to carry on and there was something about convent schools that make parent want to send their pupils, although there were good, efficient and free, schools elsewhere 55 12 12 & 12a

1957 04 02
Television sets are to be installed at Chesterton Secondary Modern School in an experiment to assess the value of this type of visual aid. In the years to come they may be as common as radios. However Coun Gardner-Smith claimed children spent a lot of time watching television: "Is it any wonder they are illiterate. This is simply another way of wasting time". 57 04 02a

1957 06 29
J.D. Livingstone retires as head of Central School – 57 06 29

1957 07 19
There will be a lot of sadness at Richmond Road School when Miss Chandler retires after 22 years as headmistress. Scores of children owe a great deal to her care and devotion. The other day a young boy gave her sixpence and said 'This is for making us work so hard'. Now she is going to learn to use the typewriter that was presented to her but will be going away for a few days when the children start school again as she will feel her retirement more acutely at that time. 57 07 19

1957 10 31

St Andrew's Catholic School was established 111 years ago and was the only Catholic school in the whole of Cambridgeshire. They had been in their new building for 21 years but now a new school would be built in the Birdwood Road area to accommodate more than 300 pupils and the existing premises would become a primary school. During the war it had housed 50 evacuated people: they slept on the stage and the balcony but the school carried on. They were shut only two days, for police reasons. 57 10 31

1957 11 23
Central High School new buildings Queen Edith's Way open – to be renamed Central Grammar School 57 11 23

1958 01 23
Dr W.G. Humphrey, who has been Headmaster of the Leys School since 1934, has resigned. He feels to continue on until the normal retiring age would be too long for any Headmaster to stay at one school. On three previous occasions he has told the Governors of his feelings, but on each occasion they persuaded him to reconsider. Now he will work for Fisons. 58 01 23

1958 02 12
The Central School was founded in 1873; it became the Central Technical School in 1953, a Grammar and Technical School in 1954 and a full Grammar School in 1956. Now that the Boys' School was moving to new premises the Girls' School would develop and expand with a new library, laboratories and classrooms for specialised subjects. Miss Irvine was retiring as Headmistress after 24 years. 58 02 12

1958 03 29
Perse School plans, Hills Road – 58 03 29b & c

1958 06 11
Netherhall School, the first new secondary school in Cambridge since the war, was officially opened by Lord McNair. The smaller the class, the more effective the teaching and they should do all they could to reduce sizes, he said. The 300 children under the headmaster (Mr Holden) and the same number under the headmistress, Miss Wilkinson, was correct. They should cut time spent on administration and teach as much as possible. In this way they could consolidate the staff. 58 06 20a

1958 06 11
St Matthew's Junior Mixed School to close – 58 06 11b

1958 08 01
St Faith's School has a new swimming pool built by voluntary labour. The Headmaster, Mr F.M. White, says it only cost £280. They were encouraged by the success of a small primary school in Huntingdonshire which was funded by their Parent-Teach organisation three years before. The basic requirements are an enthusiastic staff, an able school handy-man and above all the technical advice of an enthusiastic expert. He must remain nameless, otherwise he'd be inundated with similar requests. 58 08 01a

1958 09 24
Miss Mary Cattley was Headmistress of the Perse School for Girls from 1926-1947. She introduced the house system, saw the building of the new school block in 1930, the establishment of the games field and the river bathing place which was acquired in 1934. During the war the

school welcomed refugee girls from Europe, many of whom have married and settled down in Cambridge. 58 09 24

1958 10 07
County Boys school new wing – 58 10 07

1958 10 08
Coleridge Girls' School celebrated its 21st anniversary; the girls were now much more lively, efficient and adaptable than those of 21 years ago headmistress Miss D.M. Howlett said. Then there had been no playing field and the school children had worn far too many clothes. Boredom was the main cause of juvenile crime so they had instituted leisure time work for the girls evacuated from Islington during the war years. The idea had been that children in modern schools were only intelligent enough to read picture books but in both academic and practical work Coleridge was achieving good results. 58 10 08a

1958 10 11
New extensions at Cambridgeshire High School for Boys were something of a landmark in its history. The physics laboratories, medical room and gymnasium with its internal jumping pit in the floor were long overdue but the post-war years have been marked by shortages of every kind. They were part of a larger scheme but it would be rash to suggest what the next stage would be. The last major improvements had taken place in 1938 when the hall was opened together with the art room and chemistry laboratory. 58 10 11

1958 10 31
St Mary's Convent School started in Park Terrace in 1898 and during the 1914-18 war many Belgian refugees were taught there. Since then its story as been one of cultural progress made possible by the generosity of nuns, teachers and parents. Last year 21 pupils received a needlework certificate and many girls had gone in for nursing and the various therapies. 58 10 31

1959 04 09
Perse school new roof – 59 04 09

1959 04 28
Grammar School for Boys opened [1.25] 59 04 28 & a

1959 07 23
St Barnabas Church of England school closed after 71 years [13.3]

1959 09 23
The Headmaster of Fawcett Junior School, Trumpington (Mr F.N. Walker) declared the school's new swimming pool was "well and truly open" after he had been pushed fully dressed into the water. Roars of laughter came from the Mayor (Wallace Cole), Mayoress and parents who were present but the Head took his ducking in good part and swam vigorously for half a length. The pool has been built by the parents with the help of the children themselves. 59 09 23

1959 11 21
Grammar School for Girls first speech day – 59 11 21

1959 12 16
Miss W.M. Farnsworth, headmistress of Chesterton Girls' School is retiring. She has been in charge since the school opened in 1935. It was the first of its kind to be opened in Cambridge as a

result of the Hadow report of 1926 which recommended special provision for all children over 11 years. Previously it was thought that children not at grammar schools must be taught to be practical and develop handicraft skills rather than developing academic intelligence. She says schoolgirls are now taller, healthier, more graceful and beautiful than they used to be, as a result of anti-natal care and welfare services or increased facilities for physical education. 58 12 16 & a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 03 23
Perse new school film 60 03 23a

1960 04 12
The Leys School, having passed through the stages of war-time requisition and evacuation and the post-war restrictions on building, is now undertaking a large programme of building expansion. Extra science laboratories have been built and the kitchens, gymnasium and the swimming baths modernised. Now West House is to be completely re-accommodated in a new modern building on the edge of the playing fields overlooking Coe Fen. Builders lorries are passing in and out of the gates with busy regularity. Self-contained as it is – with its own chapel and theatre and even its own water supply – it arouses the curiosity of passers by. 60 04 12a

1960 06 03
Islip House Preparatory School in Huntingdon Road is one of those good things in independent education which, after many years or unobtrusive excellence, will have to fade away under the onslaught of modern financial difficulties. Miss Mildred Turner, its Principal, is taking no more new pupils. The nine she teaches at the moment will be taken to the point where they are reader to enter the Perse or another Grammar School, but will be the last pupils that Islip House will ever have. 60 06 03b

1960 06 24
The small independent Kimway School is to close when the twin sisters, the Misses M.L. and E.A. Macleod retire. They have run the school in Millington Road since 1941 on the ideas proved successful with Brownie packs and 621 pupils have passed through their hands. The children range from three to 11 years and stay to take their 11-plus or try for scholarships to the Perse. Recently the number of children from university families has dwindled and now the wooden part of the school premises has rotted and the cost of heating and repairs is becoming increasingly expensive. 60 06 24c [8.8.]

1960 12 08
Annie Dovey, Headmistress of Cambridge & County High School for Girls 1926-1938 – 60 12 08

1961 05 02
The Lady Adrian special school in Courtney Way had taken a long time because children who found it difficult to learn did not arouse as much sympathy with the public as those who were either deaf or blind. But they needed this type of school to provide educational facilities where their self-confidence could be built up, Lady Hester Adrian said as she officially opened the building 61 05 02 [7.9,10.8]

1961 06 05
The Queen Mother opened the new Erasmus Building at Queens' College designed by Sir Basil Spence and West House, a new block of classrooms and living accommodation at the Leys School. By joining it on to the existing range of squash and fives courts opened by the Prince of Wales in 1932 it has created an attractive court with a fine view of Coe Fen and the River Cam. Now all boys can move into a study after two years in the common room. There is a penthouse for two bachelor masters which could provide accommodation for nursing staff in the event of an epidemic. 61 06 05 & a, 61 06 06 & a & [8.13]

1961 06 29
The Manor Secondary Schools in Arbury Road were officially opened by the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University. The new buildings are designed to accommodate 450 boys and 450 girls in two separate departments linked by shared dining facilities and with a single boiler house. The Boy's Department opened in September 1959 and was shared by the girls until theirs became available in September 1960. It is the third secondary school project to be completed in Cambridge since the war 61 06 29a [13.6]

1961 07 03
The new Perse School building at Hills Road was opened by Princess Alexandra of Kent. The new large assembly hall was filled to capacity, guests overflowing into a large marquee. The old buildings in Gonville Place, dating from 1890, had proved inadequate for a rapidly-growing school and here, on the extensive playing fields was a noble site beyond the noise and traffic of the city. It includes the Mummery miniature theatre, a biology laboratory with its own pool for the growing of specimens and a special room for school prefects. 61 07 03 & a & b

1962 01 02
The school population in Cambridge has increased by 80 per cent since 1939. Council houses have been built in large numbers leading to a movement of population into new estates and new schools could not be provided in time. Serious overcrowding of infants classes reached a peak in 1953 and spread on to secondary schools in 1957. Over-large classes have been unavoidable and children are taught in halls, dining rooms and even store rooms. 62 01 02 & a

1962 02 21
St Bede's Roman Catholic Secondary School in Birdwood Road was formally opened by the Bishop of Northampton. It is a co-educational school for 300 pupils with eight classrooms and a library, together with craft, woodwork and housecraft rooms and laboratories. There is a combined hall and gymnasium together with a kitchen and dining hall which can be used for teaching space. The facilities are excellent in every direction. The school was opened to pupils after Easter. 62 07 20b

1962 01 03
St Andrews Roman Catholic School renamed St Albans, founded 1843 [13.3]

1962 02 21
Grove primary school named –were two oak tree groves near school 62 02 21a

1962 06 29
Advisory Centre for Education comes to Cambridge: help parents with educational problems

1962 07 20

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1962 07 31
St George's Church of England Secondary School opened in 1835 with separate departments for senior boys and girls. For 100 years it was called East Road School until the infants section closed in 1931. Pupils will attend other secondary schools until new premises are built on a site in St George's parish. The old school will be rebuilt to house the St Matthew's Infants School 63 07 31a [12.6]

1963 04 05
During the day the Brunswick School is filled with robust youngsters who are being prepared to take their place in a highly competitive world. One evening a month it opens to those who have neither the rude health nor the glorious prospects of the day scholars. Though many of them are young they are physically handicapped and will never qualify to take an active part in life. They come for companionship, to get away from the four walls, to meet others the same or worse than they are, but above all to enjoy themselves. 'The Gray Club' started in 1955 for Open Air School leavers and has now affiliated with the rapidly increasing St Raphael Club whose permanent centre will soon be open 63 04 05a

1963 06 18
Opening the new Mayfield Primary School, Mrs C.D. Rackham said many things had changed since the first council school in Cambridge was opened in 1905 in Romsey Town. It has its own library – youngsters are voracious readers, a unit for partially deaf children which allays their fear by allowing them to mix with others and join in school life, and a swimming pool. This helped children gain confidence besides being fun. It is a change from the old idea of 'chalk and talk' 63 06 18a

1963 08 13
St Luke's school buildings which are being pulled down may be replaced by gardens – 63 08 13

1964 02 29
St Luke's church schools in Victoria Road are outdated and almost sub-standard. However since 1962, when children were shivering in classes, electric heating has been installed to take the load off the open fires. The school is fifth on the list for rebuilding within the next four years, but may slip down the list. Until a new one is built parents will have to remain dissatisfied with the accommodation. The council is not rejuvenating the decaying areas of the city but concentrating on new ones. 64 02 29a

1964 04 24
City vote to end 11+ [17.2]

1964 11 28
Cambridge's Old Church Schools date back to 1700 when school for poor children were started by clergy. After the Education Act of 1870 introduced compulsory education Newnham School was opened in 1872 and followed in 1875 by Park Street for girls and infants. St Barnabas,

Sturton Street, York Street, Catharine Street & Ross Street schools followed. St Matthews is the newest – and the most modern of all schools in Cambridge - 64 11 28

1964 12 28
The second phase of new Church of England school being built in Flower Street will be finished in September. The first involved the building of two classrooms and a hall, the second another two classes, kitchen and staff accommodation. Another hall and more classrooms will follow. The school was formerly St George's Secondary School for 150 pupils aged 11-15. In July it adapted to a new age range and became St Matthew's Primary School. A two-storey building of the old school has been demolished and the school is being adapted to suit the needs of primary education. 64 12 28a

1965 03 11
County short of teachers - quotas full [17.3]

1965 04 07
City's non-selective scheme [17.4]

1966
Coleridge first to be converted co-educational & named Coleridge Secondary Mixed School [NS.1.1]

1966 04 25
New nursery school opened in Station Road by Cambridge Association for Advancement of State Education – 66 04 25

1966 04 28
Grove Primary School, Campkin Road opened; Lady Bragg reminisces – 66 04 28a

1967 06 19
Leys School extensions opened – 67 06 19

1967 06 21
County comprehensive schools may have to await city plan [17.6]

1967 07 12
King's Hedges Infants' school delay increases costs; dispute over blame – 67 07 12

1967 12 01
City move abolish 11+ in favour three-tier system defeated city council [17.7]

1968 10 09
St Laurence's Roman Catholic School opening – 69 10 09

1968 10 28
King's Hedges School, built two years ago, needs major structural alterations – 68 10 28; two schools to be re-roofed – 68 11 27

1969 04 21
Stanley Stubbs retires as head of Perse – profile – 69 04 21

1969 07 19
St Luke's Church of England Primary School official opening – 69 07 19

1970

1970 04 31
St Faith's School new hall opened – 70 04 31

1970 07 10
Hope Tebbutt started first nursery school in Cambridge 45 years ago, Stagsholt Nursery School Gresham Road for poorer areas; was 15 years before another – 70 07 10

1971 02 19
Comprehensive plans unveiled, city favour scheme, cheers as committee back scheme [17.10, 17.11]

1971 05 25
St Luke's school demolished [7.15]

1971 07 01
Grammar School for Boys centenary, established 1871 Jesus Lane Sunday School Paradise Street, 1913 moved Melbourne Place 1958 Queen Edith's Way [9.2]

1971 07 29
City Council reject plans for comprehensive education which would have ended 11-plus – 71 07 29

1971 08 06
Chesterton County Secondary Schools for Boys & Girls close, Chesterton County Secondary School opens [9.4]

1971 09 10
Comprehensive education plans impeded – feature, photo Coleridge school – 71 09 10

1972 07 06
Chesterton Preparatory School closes, opened 1910 [9.3]

1973 02 13
Grammar School for Girls celebrates centenary, opened as Higher grade Girls School 1873, became Girls Grammar School 1958 [9.1]

1973 03 13
Byron House School, independent Pre-Prep merges St Johns College School, founded London; came to Cambridge in 1939 as evacuation [9.6]

1973 11 08
Some of the Cambridge school buildings which have to be altered to turn them into comprehensives may not be ready by the time the new system starts in September 1974. Alterations costing more than £100,000 are being held up because builders, who have a lot of work on their hands and face an acute labour shortage, are unwilling to undertake any more City council contracts. Worried council officials had to approach 13 building firms before they could

find anybody willing to undertake a £4,000 classroom building job at the Coleridge secondary school

1973 11 29
Parkside becomes first Community College when comprehensive system starts September, based on Grammar School for Girls [8.2]

1974 07 27
St Luke's school centenary [12.4]

1974 12 13
Cambridgeshire High School Girls & Boys become Long Rd & Hills Rd VI form colleges [8.9]

1976 05 14
Sancton Wood private school started 5 years ago, small unit mentally handicapped children [10.11]

1976 07 14
St Edmunds prep school (founded 1934) leaves Cambridge after losing accommodation [12.8]

1976 09 16
Kings College School takes girls [8.7]

1976 10 05
Proposals for restructuring 16-plus education [15,18.1]

1977 07 01
Cranmer Nursery School, oldest in Cambridge, closes after at least 53 years, was founded by Susan Isaacs [14.1]

1978 01 07
Advisory Centre for Education moves back to Bethnel Green [7.2]

1978 02 14
A County Council report recommends that two old church schools in the centre of Cambridge, Park Street and St Matthew's, should close. It says no school will take more than 60 infants a year; all schools will have nursery classes from three-plus, and that separate infants and junior schools will be merged into one school taking children right up to 11. Catchment zones will be introduced for primary schools. At present Morley Memorial is under a great deal of pressure and children are taught in a rented church hall across a busy road while Sedley Infants and Romsey Junior have empty places. 78 02 14

1978 03 09
Report says "too many primary places by 1980, threatens Brunswick & Park St schools [8.3-4]

1978 03 09
Both St Matthew's and Park Street schools in Cambridge are housed in high-ceilinged, drab buildings. There are no green playing fields, the playgrounds are cramped and asphalted and Park Street has outside lavatories. But for all this they inspire a great deal of loyalty from parents who see them as small family schools within a community. Both are in the central area and a few years

ago found their rolls were dropping. But now there is a definite trend bringing young families back into the city centre terraced houses and they are battling to save the schools from closure. 78 03 09

1978 07 15
St Matthew's School threatened with closure (but expanded to take Brunswick 1980) [12.2]

1978 08 30
Protestors against the proposed closure of Park Street School Cambridge stepped up their campaign by marching on the Guildhall. The television commentator and personality, Clive James, who is leading the fight said: "There will be no financial gain from closing the school. The main reason for shutting it seems to be the size of the playground which they say is insufficient for the kids to fulfil themselves". Park Street Residents Association has joined the campaign as they feel much of the community spirit of the area will be lost if the plans go ahead. c78 09 29

1979
Government stop Park Street closure but Brunswick converts to Further Education College

1979 07 06
Cherry Hinton Community School opened [9.5]

1979 10 19
Two more schools threatened with closure [8.4]

1980

1980 06 28
Foundation new St Andrew's new school Nuffield Rd laid 1980, old closed 1981 [11.3]

1980 07 25
St Matthew's School which was threatened with closure expanded to take Brunswick [12.2]

1981 01 17
The Perse School for Girls celebrated its 100th birthday with a mammoth birthday cake made by the school cooks. It was left to the youngest pupil, Amanda Higgins, to blow out the candles. Head girl, Rachel Bendall presided over the cutting while the headmistress, Miss Mary Rose Bateman, help with the serving to each of the 701 pupils and staff. Later there was of a film depicting its history and a thanksgiving service. 81 01 17

1981 03 04
The old St Paul's school, designed by Ambrose Poynter, a pupil of the Regency architect John Nash, is destined for demolition. It dates from 1845 and is Cambridge's earliest elementary school. Last year pupils moved into new buildings close by and now the Education Department is seeking to demolish it and use the site for a playground. Old stones showing the former name, the National School' and the boys and girls' entrances will be put into the new building 81 03 04

1981 07 24
Arbury Junior Silver Jubilee [9.8]

1982 01 29

When the Queen Mother opened St Paul's Church of England Primary School, Cambridge, she went from class to class, looking over the shoulders of the children as they continued their work. Three infant classes showed her their Captain Cook project, their dressing-up clothes, demonstrated how a canon works and gave an impromptu music lesson. Some were too busy to talk; one hurried busily up to the teacher with a problem: "I have to do his braces for the loo", she told the Queen Mother. "Oh that's much more important", she replied. 82 01 29a old Nash building dated from 1845 & earliest elementary school; by 1985 waiting list full [11.4]

1982 02 16
Brunswick School started as a British School in Eden Walk; it moved to Auckland Road about 1900 but had to move again to Walnut Tree Avenue when the buildings began sliding gently down to the river. Now falling rolls and cash cutbacks means it will close and the site used for further education premises. Teacher Miss Marjorie Battersbee attended as a girl and has taught there her entire career. Many of the 92 children will go to St Matthew's. 82 02 16a

1982 03 12
The Headmaster of Cambridge Manor School was forced to close his school at lunchtime after pupils went on the rampage. Children set fire to rubbish at the back of a building, smashed a door and set off a fire alarm. The trouble came on the first day of a teachers' work-to-rule which cut mealtime supervision to a minimum leaving the head with only four elderly dinner ladies for help. 83 03 12

1982 06 12
When the Duchess of Gloucester officially opened St Andrew's Community Junior School at Chesterton she picked eight-year-old Wendy Braybrook to help her pull the cord to unveil a plaque. Then she was presented with a posy from Lorraine Clark and a book of pupils' work by Brian Hall before being escorted round the building by headmaster Derek Nightingale. Pye provided video equipment to record the visit that was watched by people on close circuit television 82 06 12. Old opened 1844 need rebuild by 1967; "no hope for new school" 1975

1982 06 19
Cambridge was today stunned by a fire which gutted most of the Grove Infants' School, Arbury, and destroyed the staff block at the Manor School. Hundreds of people were woken in the early hours by the sound of the buildings being ripped apart by flames and small explosions. They went out on the streets and watched as firemen fought to control the blaze. Many wept openly. 82 06 19 & a

1982 06 30
Renovation work on St Matthew's Primary School has transformed the area. The original school dates from 1835 but part was demolished in the 1960s. Now it has been refurbished with open plan classrooms with internal courtyards built on the original playground. Before rebuilding it catered for 180 children, now there are 370. 82 06 30

1982 08 26
Preservationists have won a long fight to stop the old St Paul's School buildings in Russell Street from being demolished. They are the oldest primary school buildings in Cambridge, designed by Ambrose Poynter, a pupil of the great Regency architect, John Nash. They have not been used since the new school was opened a year ago. 82 08 26

1983 07 05

Secondary Review Working Party says a major comprehensive to close "are 850 spare places but will be 1,500 by 1991" [8.5, 13.6]

1983 12 22
The Manor Comprehensive School in Cambridge – threatened with closure – has now been offered a reprieve. Conservative councillors have bowed to intense public pressure and thought of a new plan to keep the school open. It is to reduce the number of new entrants to 120 pupils and year and hand over the remaining buildings to the Cambridge College of Further Education. When plans to close the school because of falling numbers were announced by the News, a massive protest from parents and politicians swept Cambridge. But the problem of falling secondary pupil numbers will not go away and must be solved somehow 83 12 22 p1

1984 02 29
Manor comprehensive school has been saved from threatened closure, though it will in future take only 120 youngsters a year and the county council will keep a close watch on its numbers. But councillors decided by just two votes to close Lode school and transfer the children to Bottisham, even though that school did not want them. The infants' school at Fulbourn will also be shut down and the buildings put to good use – perhaps as a teachers' centre 84 02 29 p3

1984 05
St Phillips community primary school, to replace St Phillips Junior & Infants; old school demolished 85 11 15 [12.1]

1984 06 01
Falling numbers of pupils have forced the Shrubbery School to close its doors to senior pupils. However juniors up to 11 years old will still be able to attend the private school which charges £250 a term. The Shrubbery opened its doors in Hills Road before moving to Barton Road 37 years ago and has been run by Alfred Wainwright and his wife since 1962 84 06 01 p9 charges £280 term, to demolished 1986 [10.9]

1984 06 21
St Mary's Convent School is to drop the word convent but it will not become any less Catholic in character. The nuns of the order of the Blessed Virgin Mary, which founded the school, will now draw salaries but the money will go to the convent on the same site. Sister Christina, the school's present headmistress, will remain in post at the 600-pupil school, which has always welcomed girls from other Christian denominations 84 06 21 p20

1984 07 18
The Leys School is admitting girls to its sixth form for the first time this autumn. Amongst the first will be Julia Fairey from Linton and Helen Sherwood who is head girl at Soham Village College. Not all the boys are enthusiastic about their arrival and others are jealous of the shiny newness of their accommodation in a special boarding house with attractive study bedrooms. The girls will live in a semi-protected environment without the freedom of a sixth form college but in a more liberal atmosphere than the usual girls' boarding school. They will not be allowed out on weekday evenings without special permission 84 07 18

1985 10 14
Parents registering children at birth for places in certain schools [12.2]

1985 07 05

Police are investigating a massive fire which ripped through the Perse School for Girls in the early hours of the morning. Two laboratories were gutted and the rest of the building was severely smoke damaged. Today the school was closed. Many of the 540 pupils arriving for classes were unaware of the fire and were sent home. Headmistress Miss Mary Bateman said it was a serious nuisance but not a tragedy and hopefully the school would reopen on Monday 85 07 05

1985 07 15
Pupils at Grove School in Arbury have celebrated the opening of their primary school – just days before the summer holidays start. Two classrooms and other buildings lost in a blaze on the site two years ago have been replaced. The school now has a bigger hall, new changing rooms, kitchen, library and administration and staff rooms. One of the new classrooms will be used as a unit for visually impaired children. A second stage in the rebuilding work will see the erection of a unit for physically handicapped children 85 07 15

1985 10 14
The waiting lists for St Paul's School in Coronation Street and St Matthew's in Norfolk Street have become so full that there is a queue for every place. Pregnant mothers are wanting to sign in their as yet unborn babies. But there are no plans to expand the schools from their present roll and children who cannot be admitted will have to be taken to other schools across the city. The problem is due to the changing face of Cambridge: once the local streets were full of lodging houses and bedsitters. Now professional people have moved in and renovated the houses 85 10 15

1985 10 10
Chesterton Community College is celebrating its Golden Jubilee with a book of anecdotes. Old boy Chris Morton remembers headmaster R.C. Brown. "We used to call him 'The Major'. He used to have this habit of picking you up by the ear. He was a real gentleman. He would give you the cane and you used to feel he was being military about it". Rex Freeman was one of the favourite teachers and could bring the best out of anyone. He taught English and history, later music and remedial classes 85 10 10 & a

1985 12 10
Morley Memorial Primary School has been waiting for improvements since the beginning of the Second World War. It suffers from leaking roofs and a totally inadequate school hall. Now parents fear that the County Council plans to sell property at 100 Blinco Grove for building development. It is densely populated area with virtually no playing space and the school uses the grounds for infants' sports, nature trails and other functions. Parents hope to form an action committee to oppose the suggestion. 85 12 10

1986 03 03
The sound of headmaster Freddie Kingdon's steel tips on the corridor floor of Co le ridge Community
College used to strike fear in the heart of naughty lads. For he carried a cane up his shirt sleeves. "The boys decided how many whacks they would have", he recalled. Caning was like the confessional. Boys who were disobedient were caned and the whole thing was over and done with. Mr Kingdon, who was awarded the OBE for his services to education, has an infinite number of stories about Coleridge in the old time. He believed everybody has a hidden talent. Even the bully boys and thugs have a skill- but finding it was another matter. 86 03 03c

1986 03 17

St Bede's school threatened with closure due falling rolls, suggested merger with Coleridge but saved by turnaround by councillors 1986 [2.2, 7.10, 13.2]

1986 05 06
Proposed super college replacing Hills Road, Long Road & CCFE [11.5] [8.6]

1986 06 19
When St Philip's School opened in Catharine Street in 1886 it had 127 pupils on the roll. But as railway workers moved into new homes in the area only boys up to seven and girls up to 14 were allowed to attend. A senior boys' school was built in Ross Street in 1894 and a new community primary school opened in Vinery Way in 1983. Now children have been preparing to celebrate its centenary with a reunion, a concert in St Philip's Church and a Punch and Judy show by former pupil Chris Kostecki . 86 06 19b

1986 08 11
Newnham VI Form Centre, private school, opens in former Shrubbery School buildings [10.2]

1986 10 15
Newnham Croft school to be rebuilt on different site after protest; old part built 1915 became dilapidated, dining hall demolished 1982 [10.3]

1986 12 12
Milton Road Infants is one of eight Cambridgeshire schools linked through a modem to an electronic mail system, the 'Times Network System'. Using word processors the children begin a story which is then finished by children at the Beeches School in Peterborough where 70 per cent of the pupils are Pakistani. They are also hoping to link up with Newcastle and America or a kibbutz in Israel. If teachers use the links imaginatively the pioneering new project will prove its worth. 86 12 12 & a

1987 03 13
St Catharine's preparatory school starts due phasing out of St Mary's school junior classes [13.1]

1987 04 10
Secretary of State endorse decision to close Roger Ascham school, only unit for physically handicapped; Open Air school opened 1916, 1928 opened present site; for TB which virtually eliminated by modern drugs [11.2]

1987 09 07
Cherry Hinton new primary school opens ¢CEN 7.9.89

1987 09 11
For over 60 years the Roger Ascham School served the needs of children. In the early days there were 120 pupils some with physical ailments. Others, kept rigidly separate, were backward and retarded. In recent years it was a vigorous, innovative school mainly for the physically multi-handicapped. The largest group were cerebral palsied children followed by spina bifida and a small number of those with muscular dystrophy and the emotionally fragile. It built a reputation for catering for the bright and more slow-learning pupil so they could succeed beyond expectations in spite of their physical disabilities. 87 09 11

1987 12 02
Secondary school shake-up rejected ¢CEN 2.12.87 1989

1988 02 04
Education Secretary Kenneth Baker has given permission to turn St Bede's Roman Catholic School into a new inter-church school, one of only five in the country. It marks the final triumphant move in a turbulent chapter which almost ended with the secondary school being closed down after a drop in the number of pupils. It was reprieved following a determined battle by parents and teachers. Now headmistress Sister Dolores looks forward to an exciting future as a Christian secondary school for up to 600 Anglican and Roman Catholic children drawn from places as far apart as Littleport and St Neots 88 02 04

1988 02 24
Parkside Community College has been fighting officialdom since it opened 75 years ago. In 1913 the school faced the might of the British class system when many saw no reason why working class children should be educated 'above their station'. At the opening even the Mayor expressed doubts and a writer to the CDN urged that children of the working classes should be taught just the three Rs since roadsweepers, farm labourers and domestic servants would always be needed. Those who wished it could learn a trade later. Now it is celebrating its achievements. 88 02 24a

1988 10 17
The Perse School for Girls has opened a new science and crafts building at a cost of almost £1 million. The four-storey block, to be used by over 600 girls, was opened by eminent scientist Dame Rosemary Murray, the first woman vice-chancellor of Cambridge University. It has facilities for the teaching of electronics, computing, design technology and photography and includes the Maddocks physics laboratory, named after a former pupil who made a major donation to the fund. 88 10 17

1989 02 21
Kings Hedges Infants and Junior Schools in Cameron Road may need to be knocked down and completely rebuilt. The schools, which celebrate their 21st birthday this year, have fallen into a state *of* 'disgraceful neglect', Governors claim. The roofs leak, the windows are loose, there is no paint on the outside. It will be cheaper to demolish them rather than undertake repairs. 89 02 21

1990 03 12
W.P. (Freddie) Kingdon, who was headmaster at Coleridge Boys School from 1947 to 1966 still attends school regularly – only now as a pupil at art classes. He joined as a teacher of PE in 1936 before becoming head in 1947. During the war he was put in charge of the 'Ringleaders' – the naughtiest boys. This was made easier as corporal punishment was still in use and he always allowed the boy to decide how many times they were caned. Later he organised courses for pupils who had to stay an extra year when leaving age was raised from 15 to 16 in 1966. He ran courses on drugs, drink and addiction and organised the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme – 90 03 12b

1990 05 17
Spinney School Cherry Hinton official opening – 90 05 17a

1990 06 14
St Luke's school, French's Road opened in 1874, closed in 1969 when new school constructed – feature – 90 06 14a

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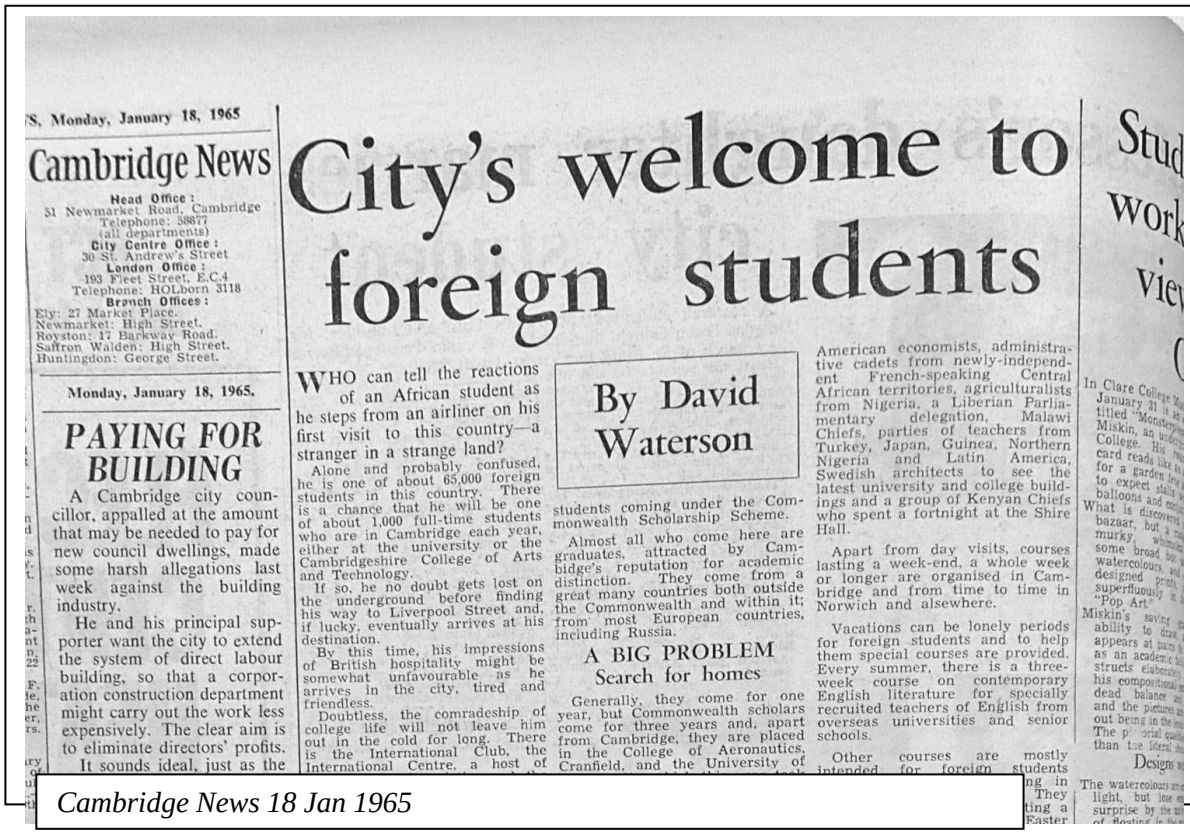

S, Monday, January 18, 1965

Cambridge News

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London Office :
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Monday, January 18, 1965.

PAYING FOR BUILDING

A Cambridge city councillor, appalled at the amount that may be needed to pay for new council dwellings, made some harsh allegations last week against the building industry.

He and his principal supporter want the city to extend the system of direct labour building, so that a corporation construction department might carry out the work less expensively. The clear aim is to eliminate directors' profits.

It sounds ideal, just as the

City's welcome to foreign students

By David Waterson

WHO can tell the reactions of an African student as he steps from an airliner on his first visit to this country—a stranger in a strange land?

Alone and probably confused, he is one of about 65,000 foreign students in this country. There is a chance that he will be one of about 1,000 full-time students who are in Cambridge each year, either at the university or the Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology.

If so, he no doubt gets lost on the underground before finding his way to Liverpool Street and, if lucky, eventually arrives at his destination.

By this time, his impressions of British hospitality might be somewhat unfavourable as he arrives in the city, tired and friendless.

Doubtless, the comradeship of college life will not leave him out in the cold for long. There is the International Club, the International Centre, a host of students coming under the Commonwealth Scholarship Scheme.

Almost all who come here are graduates, attracted by Cambridge's reputation for academic distinction. They come from a great many countries both outside the Commonwealth and within it; from most European countries, including Russia.

A BIG PROBLEM
Search for homes

Generally, they come for one year, but Commonwealth scholars come for three years and, apart from Cambridge, they are placed in the College of Aeronautics, Cranfield, and the University of

American economists, administrative cadets from newly-independent French-speaking Central African territories, agriculturalists from Nigeria, a Liberian Parliamentary delegation, Malawi Chiefs, parties of teachers from Turkey, Japan, Guinea, Northern Nigeria and Latin America, Swedish architects to see the latest university and college buildings and a group of Kenyan Chiefs who spent a fortnight at the Shire Hall.

Apart from day visits, courses lasting a week-end, a whole week or longer are organised in Cambridge and from time to time in Norwich and elsewhere.

Vacations can be lonely periods for foreign students and to help them special courses are provided. Every summer, there is a three-week course on contemporary English literature for specially recruited teachers of English from overseas universities and senior schools.

Other courses are mostly intended for foreign students

Stud
work
viev

In Clare College
January 31
titled "Monte
Miskin, an
College. His
card reads like
for a garden
to expect
balloons and
What is discover
bazaar, but
murky,
some broad
watercolours,
designed
superfluously
"Pop Art"
Miskin's
ability to
appears at
as an academic
structs elaborate
his compositions
dead balance
and the pictures
out being in the
The pictorial
than the literal

Design

The watercolours
light, but lose
surprise by the

Cambridge News 18 Jan 1965

c.36.52 : Language Schools & Foreign Students

1910

1914 08 07
Foreign students leave

1920

1922 08 05
The Summer Meeting is proving a gratifying success, and is in every way the best that has been held since that memorable meeting of 1914 when the war caught both the students and the Syndics unaware, and there was great trouble in repatriating some of the foreigners who had come to Cambridge for the meeting. This year once again there is a good sprinkling of foreign students, who seem to be thoroughly enjoying themselves. The students, too, include a number of working men from the North, who have been most regular and attentive at the lectures on Control in Industry, but a trifle dogmatic in the discussion

1930

1934 11 07
The All People's Association Cambridge clubhouse was opened by the Vice Chancellor. One of the chief functions of a university was to attract people of all kinds and nations. There were a

large number of foreign students here for short periods and colleges made the position rather difficult for a young man brought up in a different tradition. The A.P.A. was doing good work by taking a special interest in the short-term student. The world had gone mad: it was depressing to find principles of liberty of speech and the freedom of the press going by the board. The next 20 years were going to be the most vital in the history of humanity and we must make a serious attempt to understand the other fellow's point of view. 34 11 07 & a

1950

1952
Davies school opened, moved Bateman Street 1958 so oldest of kind in city [NS.1.12]

1952 08 17
Boom in teaching English to foreigners; were 30 foreign students outside University; this summer more than 1,000 in local language schools, some of which taken over colleges for Long Vacation; fees £2.10.0 week [1.1]

1955 10 01
The Bell School of Languages in Cranmer Road, Cambridge was opened by the Chancellor of Cambridge University, Marshal of the Royal Air Force, Lord Tedder. This term 50 men and women from 22 countries including Germany, Cambodia, Saudi Arabia and Finland are studying there. The Principal, Mr Bell, said the aim was not only to teach the way we say things but the way we do them and warned students not to be 'a little colony of foreigners in England' 55 10 01 & a

1957
"Our foreign students are bored to tears" [2.4]

1958 02 27
There are more foreigners in Cambridge than ever before who were often her for months without getting to know any English people. There used to be an international clubhouse part of which was divided into flats to help finance it but the present premises in Falcon Yard were inadequate. A group of foreign students had formed the Overseas Club which had a membership of 400 with a meal service, newspaper, dramatic society and travel bureau. 58 02 27

1958 08 08
The Bell School of Languages held a garden party in the spacious grounds of their newly-acquired premises in Red Cross Lane, the former St Anne's House. Three hundred guests attended the 'house-warming', giving them the opportunity to celebrate the move to the splendid building in large and lovely grounds. It was the first social occasion at the new premises hosted by the Principal, F.E. Bell and the eighty students. 58 08 08

1959 02 28
One of the developments in the field of education since the war has been the growth in Cambridge of schools of English for foreign students. Now Mr C.H. Jarrett is establishing a new one at Salisbury Villas, Station Road. It will cater for the Cambridge Lower and proficiency Certificates as well as offering courses for beginners and the teaching of Russian. My own observations of some of the foreign students in our midst leads me to hope further courses may include the rudiments of good manners! 59 02 28b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 06 28
The newly-opened Cambridge International Centre is a place where foreign visitors irrespective of race, colour or nationality may meet to further friendship and understanding. It has a lounge, library and restaurant serving inexpensive snacks. It is hoped some 300 people will use it daily for talking, drinking, coffee or reading. Activities include record recitals, illustrated talks, dances and lectures together with organised outings to places of interest 60 06 28

1960 10 22
The British Council's new International Centre in Trinity Street is a club formed to promote international friendship and understanding by providing a social and cultural centre for foreign residents in Cambridge and their English friends. 60 10 22

1961 04 28
Ruth Mellanby, hospitality secretary for language school – 61 04 28d

1963
Union International Social Club for foreign students founded at Union Society during vacation [369.27.15]

1964 03 03
Overseas students are charged ridiculously high rents for inadequate accommodation and food but are prevented from leaving lodgings as they have to pay a term's rent in advance. Landladies are cashing-in on the name of the University, a student claims. But landladies not only spend time washing and cooking but also talk to students and virtually give them English lessons. However there will always be the greedy ones and there will always be the mugs who are willing to pay 64 03 03

1965 01 18
Cambridge's welcome to foreign students – about 1,000 full time– major feature – 65 01 18

1966 03 14
Cambridge International Centre to close at end of summer; was formed seven years ago by Frank Bell and intended for promotion of international friendship and understanding – 66 03 14b

1966 10 18
Cambridge International Centre reopens YMCA Alexandra Street [Misc.2.4]

1967 07 13
Cambridge International Centre moves Regent St 1967 [Misc.2.4]

1970

1973 01 16
Dale's old brewery in Gwydir Street, Cambridge, officially became the hoe of the new International Centre when it was declared open last night - but for the time being it will remain "dry" for it does not have a licence. Instead, the cavernous rooms of the old brewery, which once echoed to the clatter of horses' hooves and the rattle of casks now hear the merry pop of Coca Cola cans and the chatter of many tongues as foreign students find themselves somewhere to gather for the first time in six years. The director of the new centre, Sudhir Agarwala, has established and financed the new International Centre from his own pocket

1974 05 18
Cambridge Integration Centre Club Gwydir St, applies licence in last desperate financial throw to make it viable [Misc.2.4]

1976 06 19
Cambridge's newest language school, the Newnham Language Centre, was officially opened at a reception. It is the brainchild of Mr Michael Short who was adult tutor at Comberton village college for ten years. Students pay £70 for a four-week vacation course or £165 for a ten-week term and stay with Cambridge families. Tours to colleges and local country houses are arranged. It aims to provide facilities for small groups to learn the language in really attractive surroundings 76 06 19

1978 06 01
Frank Bell has stood down as director of the Bell School of Languages in Cambridge and called for tighter controls over foreign language teaching. "There are some cowboys who simply open during the summer in any old hall they can", he said. When he started in 1953 most of the students were simply finishing off part of their private education. Now the majority have a professional interest in learning the language and are financed by their firms or governments. He envisages an even greater boom and the Bell School, at present attended by Princess Marie Astrid, seems certain to expand and adapt to a changing role. 78 06 01

1979 02 27
Controversy surrounds plans to pull down seven large Victorian houses in Bateman Street and build a modern language school. The properties are 'bed-sit' houses used for student accommodation and too large to be used as family homes; they are not particularly distinguished houses and do not justify sentimentality. Residents have petitioned against the scheme but it is now more a barracks than a street, only 11 of the present residents lived there three years ago. The new school would give better facilities to foreign students planning to become bank clerks or hotel receptionists who pay fees of £19 a week

1980

1980 11 12
Two Cambridge language schools are up for sale. The New School of English, founded by John Barnes in 1962, is being sold because of his imminent retirement and the Jarrett school, one of the city's oldest, is also seeking a purchaser. Neither say Iranian crisis which is severely restricting the number of students has been a contributory factor 80 11 12b

1981 12 02
Cambridge International Centre Club closed [Misc.2.4]

1982 08 09
Cambridge planners say no more permanent language schools or secretarial and tutorial colleges should be permitted unless they are specifically for city residents. In the last ten years the number has trebled from 19 to 57 and the number of students has doubled to 15,000. Although they bring in about £13 million each year, are a major industry and create jobs they frequently irritate city residents 82 08 09

1983 08 26

Many foreign language students do not respect road safety, says a Cambridge Cycle Hire operator. It is a free-for all aboard and they are not going to change here, any amount of teaching and talking is a waste of time. But Swedes were very safety-conscious and had complained about the bad state of driving in England; locals ought to put their own house in order before they criticised foreign cyclists.
83 08 26 p13

1984 05 01
The annual summer influx of foreign students into Cambridge is only just beginning. More than 15,000 came in 1981, outnumbering University students by almost 3,000. They had an estimated expenditure of £13 million and families offering lodgings benefited most from student revenue. But there were problems of overcrowding of public amenities and traffic congestion. Foreign students think England is a pit socially. The young people have nothing to do in the evenings. Many are too shy to go into pubs or strike up conversations with strangers. International clubs leave much to be desired: people sat round making boring conversations about the weather 84 05 01 p13

1984 12 19
Devi Agarwala was penniless when he first moved to England in 1950 but became one of Cambridge's best-known business men. He opened the city's first Indian restaurant, the Kismet in Northampton Street, and the Harlequin club and casino in Regent Street as well as an International Centre and language school. He was a member of the Pentacle Magic Club and organised a three-day All-India Magic Conference which had to be cancelled due to the murder of India's Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Ghandi. 84 12 19

1985 03 16
Cambridge Eurocentre a £2 million purpose built language school in Bateman Street was designed by local architect David Thurlow and can accommodate up to 225 pupils in octagonal classrooms. It is one of six English language schools run by the Swiss-based foundation for European languages in Britain and has young people from 17 nations. At its official opening Sir John Butterfield, vice-chancellor of the University, hailed it as "a foundation for peace in the future" 85 03 16

1987 12 28
Language schools charge high prices for bed & breakfast accommodation but pay landladies far less – 87 12 28b

1989 07 18
Frank Bell, who founded the prestigious Bell School of Languages started his interest in teaching languages when he was a prisoner of war during WWII. After the war he worked at the University Board of Extra Mural Studies before founding his own language school in 1955. Later he set up the Bell Educational Trust with schools in Norwich, Bath and London. He was awarded an OBE in 1975 89 07 18a

CCAT building, East Road 1983 *68.58*

c.36.7 : Further Education
Note: Further Education in Cambridge is not just schools and colleges; these notes include training for professions & adult education

Technical College
In 1850s attempt to start a School of Art had failed, in 1858 held soiree with an inaugural address by Mr Ruskin. School opened November 1858 at 9 Sidney Street, by 1862 had moved Guildhall & in 1889 the Technical Instruction Act was passed & Borough Council made grant of 3100 & built small Institute for Technical Education in East Road. 1902 Education Act changed status of school for County made responsible for Higher Education though Borough continued grant & housed school. Collier Road site opened 1909 by American Ambassador. 1921 Education Act pioneered day continuation schools pointing need for systematic technical education. By 1923 had department of Commerce & provides courses for apprentices in building, printing & scientific laboratories. 1920s saw period continual growth & appearance of full-time students - 15 in 1921, 117 by 1930.

These are evidence of development of the Trade School from which many departments present college grown - train boys & girls for employment in skilled industries - though give no guarantee of work due unemployment situation.

During WWII carried out contract work for Government & trainee department for Ministry of Labour. At end ran full-time course for Gas engineers - forerunner of 'sandwich' course. Expansion in numbers & range of courses - to degree standard - matched by changes in site. Original Edwardian red-brick shared with County Girls School. Another wing 1925 & further

extended 1931; 1939 girls moved to Long Road & tech took their rooms. Pre-fab in 1947, new & more solid buildings 1956 & 58. Third extension under construction & 4th planned.

Much expansion in last 10 years as need for trained engineers, Scientists & technicians has grown. 1948 GCE classes started; many degrees, apprentices from all over ... *from: The Cambridgeshire Technical College and & School of Art, 1858-1958.*

1893
Church Industrial School Victoria Road closed [3.1]

1898 03 15
The annual Tea of the Friends Adult School was held in Sturton Town Hall, Cambridge. The objects of the school are to promote self-help, brotherly kindness, and a practical Christian life. They had 167 members on the books, 114 at Nelson Street, 31 at River Lane, and 22 at Swavesey, with an average attendance of 117 in the three schools on Sunday mornings for the year. It was difficult to get much interest manifested in the intellectual pursuits by labouring men at the end of a day's work, although the friends of the school believed if they made efforts in this direction they would find it a real relaxation. It was much hoped that this way of employing leisure, so much more sensible and profitable than the absolute waste of time in comic singing and other senseless amusement in vogue in some of the young people's guilds, would become more common among them CDN 1898 03 15

1899 05 18
The new clergy training school in Jesus Lane Cambridge was opened by the Bishop of Durham. It has been erected adjacent to All Saints Church at a cost of nearly £8000. The most experienced teachers in Cambridge have long felt a want of a centre to which the younger members might naturally turn when they wished for conference, or counsel, or sympathy in reference to the choice of their vocation in life. Many men of ability were lost to the Ministry of the church through the want of such opportunities for brotherly conference with men nearly of their own age.

1899 10 17
The formal opening took place of Westminster College, the theological college which the Presbyterian Church of England has established at Cambridge for the training of students for the ministry. It is a great thing that the work has been done so well in so short a time, but a much greater thing that the cost of building it – albeit over £40,000 has all been met. Professor Ryle, President of Queens', extended a welcome to the new college.

1900

1900 03 23
At Addenbrooke's Hospital there is a training home for nurses, which is one of the most successful institutions of its kind. It makes a significant contribution to the funds of the Hospital. For this reason alone it is well worth the while of the Governors to give their best efforts in maintaining it in a high state of efficiency 1900

1901 10 30
A new Diocesan Lodge for the Girls' Friendly Society was opened at Hills Road, Cambridge. Several spacious apartments will be used as recreation and classrooms with lectures on nursing, home hygiene, needlework and astronomy and classes for musical drill and singing. There are rooms for girls being trained for domestic service & accommodation for lady boarders and visitors. The old Servants' Training Home, formerly situated in King Street has ceased to exist as

a separate institution. It had been established for 80 years and more than 400 girls had passed through; it had also afforded a home to many strange and friendless girls.

1904 11 23
The Cambridge Female Refuse is sorely in need of increased support for their accounts show a deficit of over £250. The amount realised by laundry work during the last six weeks was very much higher than for a considerable time past but they could not rely on a continuance of a large amount of washing and must get more subscribers. During the year nine girls had been admitted to the Home and eight sent out to service after the completion of their training. But for the first time in many years there were four cases to record of probable failure.

1905 11 22
Cambridge School of Art, p3

1907 01 15
When Parliament re-assembles there will be a stupendous effort on behalf of the enfranchisement of women. A canvass is being organised in Cambridge which already includes the heads and staffs of Newnham and Girton Colleges and the Secondary Training Colleges for Women. Small informal drawing-room meetings are being held and addresses on suffrage given to meetings of the Women's Liberal Association and the Co-operative Women's Guild. 07 01 15b

1907 09 10
Post Office telegraph messenger boys are subject to a short drill every morning; they learn discipline, obedience and punctuality and can become members of the Albert Institute with its facilities for further education and sport. They must leave the job when aged 16 and have previously become postmen. But now half the vacancies have to be reserved for ex-servicemen and the Cambridge Postmaster has a list of boys ready for jobs in the outside world. 07 09 10

1909 04 09
Fire broke out at the Ladies Training College in Wollaston Road. Very fortunately the vacation had denuded the college of students and only Miss Ellis, the Bursar, and six domestic servants were in residence. Hastily snatching up dressing gowns they scurried out of the burning building by the servants' staircase at the back. Firemen tied handkerchiefs over their mouths and nostrils and the smoke helmet was used for the first time. Considerable damage was done but the college may find consolation in having a building remaining at all 09 04 09

1909 10 22
The magnificent new home of the Cambridge and County School for Girls is compact and central, calm and commodious and includes laboratories for chemistry and domestic science together with a hothouse for the study of botany. Its object is to provide a sound practical middle class education at a moderate fee. The adjacent School of Arts and Crafts has rooms for life-painting, modelling and geometrical drawing. They were opened by the American ambassador. CWN 09 10 22

1910

Note: During the Great War many Colleges housed Officer Cadet Battalions, teaching young men how to be soldiers and how to be gentlemen – see section on Cambridge Military History 1914-1919

1914 09 18

There were at present about 1,000 soldiers based in Cambridge with another 1,000 expected All the tents were being used by other troops and winter was coming. The Corn Exchange was unsatisfactory because of the small sanitary arrangements. The Girls' and Boys' County School were already being used and now the military wanted Morley Memorial and the Melbourne Place schools for the training of recruits. Emmanuel Church was prepared to give the free use of their schoolroom for the education of the children. The alternative was billeting troops on the better class houses where better class people could supervise them. But the University had been approached and the schools might not be needed, councillors heard. 14 09 18

1914 11 01
The new Territorial Forces headquarters in East Road are nearly completed and have been occupied by troops training in Cambridge. But the formal opening has been postponed. It stands on the site of the Technical Schools which have been adapted and added to and includes a spacious drill hall and miniature rifle range abutting on to Adam and Eve Row. The Quartermaster's stores include a wooden gallery for use as a saddlery store for the Yeomanry.

1914 12 11
The term which has just ended has been described as perhaps the most wonderful on record. At the beginning some 1,800 men were up, of these about 500 joined the O.T.C. some 400 training for commissions but we may still expect between 1,200 and 1,500 men back after Christmas; then there are 183 Belgian students in residence & plenty more non-combatants may be expected

1916
The Cambridge School of Flying started in 1916 and was open to those applying for commissions in the Royal Flying Corps for training as air pilots. A field was rented from Mr Lilley, a farmer in the old world village of Harston. Soon afterwards only cadets entering the R.F.C. were admitted. After the serious side was finished for the day it was natural that young men of high spirits should have an occasional 'rag'. They removed the sign from the village pub and fixed it to the gate of the church. An investigating policeman found his bicycle missing; it was found in the branches of the highest tree. The villagers were very tolerant and forgiving, friendships were formed and some found life's partners in this romantic old village 39 10 21b & c & d

1916 08 09
Visit of King, watches cadets, visits Trinity cadets, 1st Eastern 16 08 09d – photos – 16 08 09c

1917 01 27
"All Wrong" - The proposal that young girls might be trained for milking and feeding cows, that is "turned from, domestic employment on to a farm to work among boys and men without any supervision" is declared by the Cambs. County Education Secretary to be a system "that is all wrong." The opinion is contained in an interesting report which comes before the Cambs. Education Committee today, when the Agricultural Sub-committee will report that they have considered the resolution passed by the Cambs. War Agricultural Committee to put in hand at once a scheme of training for women in milking and other agricultural work, together with a report by the Education Secretary on training girls as milkers.

1917 04 18
"The battle of the Gogs" – fine operations by Cambridge cadets; film made by A.J. Pointer of Victoria cinema. Includes filling bombs, march to battlefield, attack and counter-attack including planes, bombs and gas – 17 04 18a; photos – 18c

1917 06 06

Cambridge School of Flying and Aerodrome Company Ltd at Hardwick is equipped with hangars housing five Tractor Dual Control biplanes; until recently was only open to military pupils but now training for pupils intending to enter the Royal Flying Corps or Royal Naval Air Service. The machines are Cauldron biplanes. Frequently open for the public to witness exhibition flights – 17 06 06a; illustrated advert 17 06 06b

1917 10 03
Serbian Colony. — An interesting reception, at which 100 people were present, was hold in Westminster College, Cambridge, on Saturday evening to celebrate the closing of the temporary Serbian colony at the college. This colony has been running for the past three months under the care of the Serbian Relief Fund, to enable students to pass a matriculation examination at a standard set by the Serbians, and which the British Universities had agreed shall take the place of Responsions and Little-go. Thirty Serbian students had taken part in the exam

1918 10 30
New Zealand cadets departing from Trinity college p3

1918 12 18
5th Officer Cadet Battalion disbanded p3

1919 01 29
400 cadets from naval educational expeditionary party to be based in Colleges; were cadets in 1914 who were mobilised from Dartmouth when war declared. Will remain from 5-6 months. They will study mathematics and science at Cavendish and Engineering Laboratories and range of subjects. HQ at Trinity – 19 01 29b

1919 04 23
Training the disabled soldier, includes diamond cutting – detailed article – 19 04 23a

1920

1920 07 13
Training disable soldiers – 100 in classes for diamond cutting, clock repairing, jewellery, carpentry and joinery and bespoke tailoring; men come from around the country

1920 09 08
Training of the disabled; how Cambridge war heroes are treated - 20 09 08

1920 09 29
Perse School may transfer to larger site on Hills Road and use existing buildings near Hyde Park Corner for a Polytechnic or Municipal Institute for the borough – proposals 20 09 29

1922 04 06
Domestic training, p3

1922 10 07
Full Term commences next week and with it the activities of the new academical year. The open question now is as to the probable number of Freshmen and residents. Most of the Service students, who created the congestion which existed in the University from the Lent Term of 1912, went down last June, and left plenty of elbow room. This year we have got back to the public

school boy, the pre-war type of Freshman. Girton and Newnham and the Women's Training College have not an empty room

1922 11 06
The Central Committee on Women's Training and Employment hope to open a centre in Eden Street, Cambridge, for training girls in all branches of women's work including cookery, laundry, housewifery and health subjects. It is believed that many girls are prevented from taking up domestic work through lack of the money to buy the necessary outfit. In their needlework classes they will make their uniform and at the end of the training each girl will be completed with a complete uniform. The period of training is generally 13 weeks and the chance which this course gives to unemployed girls to make a fresh start is one which may not recur, and which should not lightly be refused

1923 02 17
Training women service, p5*

1923 07 09
The Master of Downing College told the Cambridge University Local Lectures Jubilee conference that he his short experience as an extension lecturer made one realise that one's knowledge was not as extensive as one thought. When a lecturer was appointed in the university before intra-mural work one of the last questions which any one thought of asking was "Can he lecture?" (Laughter). If every university lecturer was required to give a trial lecture before a select body of experienced extension lecturers the university would reap no little advantage. The extension lecturer was trained by his audience to be a lecturer and educated by his audience to a better understanding of his subject.

1923 07 19
Dr Albert Mansbridge, the founder of the Workers Educational Association, who recently received an honorary degree from the University, attended a successful Garden Party held in the Fellows Garden of Christ's College. He said Cambridge University had been in the forefront of all recent movements for the education of working people. Everyone could learn something, although they did not want all to become scholars. Education was not a dry thing but led to a better and happier life. The W.E.A. stood for education, which enabled people to live at their best.

1923 08 30 c
"What would a socialist government do with the universities?" was the subject of an address by Professor Lindsay at a summer school at Scarborough. His reply to the question was, "Give them a great deal more money, use them a great deal more, and leave them alone." He conceded that if universities were not so exclusively devoted to training middle class people for the professions, and if they undertook some political and social teaching and research, bringing them into contact with the life of the working classes, the objectionable aspects of its conservatism would disappear. He would propose to extend the summer school habit which had greatly grown in the past few years. Universities should not turn people out and neglect them afterwards. The student who had gone out into life for a few years usually knew what he wanted to learn, and applied himself more diligently, but, on the other hand, his mind was less receptive

1925 10 24
Wesley House, the new Wesleyan Methodist post-graduate theological college which has risen on a site in Jesus Lane, was formally opened. It was five years ago that the Wesleyan Methodist Conference decided to set up the college at Cambridge and a site was purchased from Jesus college. The architect, Sir Aston Webb, has carried out a pleasing design in red brick. The

building comprises accommodation for 29 students. The work of the college has been carried on for the past four years in hired buildings

1926 04 24
The old Theatre Royal, Barnwell, has been acquired for a repertory theatre. The auditorium is to be reseated and the stage remodelled and equipped on modern lines. It will have its own company of actors and actresses and a play will be presented each week during term. Mr Herbert Prentice of the Sheffield Repertory Company will be resident producer. The building will be known in future as the Festival Theatre and it is hoped to establish with it a training centre of dramatic art.

1927 02 07
A momentous event in the history of extra-mural teaching at Cambridge University was marked by the opening of Stuart House. Standing in Mill Lane it is a beautiful house and a worthy addition to the architectural wealth of the town. It is named after the Right Hon. James Stuart, Fellow of Trinity College, who founded extra-mural teaching work in the University and was largely responsible for its extension to other parts of the country.

1927 02 12
Some eighty or more men and women cycled, "bussed" or walked over to Histon to watch jam made on a large scale at Messrs Chivers' Orchard Factory. It was the first organised visit by the Cambridge Workers' Educational Association. They felt the last word had been said in mechanical efficiency without in any way de-humanising the workers who seemed cheerful and busy. Numerous question were plied as to the conditions of labours, the psychological effect of repetition work and the way in which a one-time seasonal trade had been brought to its present stage of regular employment all the year round. The next visit is to the Tapestry Works.

1927 12 13
The Home of Mercy in Christchurch Street, Cambridge continues to do valuable work for girls in need, both in material matters and spiritually. It is almost always full & parents of the inmates express their gratitude for the care in training the girls. Eighteen have been admitted during the past year and eight have been provided with outfits, earned by good conduct marks, and placed out in service. Four have been certified under the Mental Deficiency Act, two returned to their friends, one refused to stay and one died of meningitis. Several have been baptised, confirmed and admitted to Holy Communion; some had to be taught even the Lord's Prayer and many are admitted in a low condition of mental and bodily health.

1928 02 18 c
A women's section of the Cambridge branch of the British Legion came into existence at a meeting held in the Guildhall. Since 1921 they had been growing at a tremendous rate and now had 745 branches of the women's section. It was a national organisation which welcomed applications for grants for training widows in employment and for assisting orphans in train journeys to school. The mayoress (Mrs E.W. Amies) was elected President with Mrs Turner as Chairman, Mrs Cutlack as secretary and Mrs Salisbury Woods as treasurer.

1928 12
Cambridge School of Arts, Crafts and Technology new wing opened [5.3]

1929 08 23
Adult education world conference, p6

1930

1930 09 27
The Cambridge Disabled Soldiers Workshop in Gloucester Street has made a trading profit for the first time since it opened four years ago. Four of the nine men had returned to their villages for better pay after receiving training in repairs to cane and rush work. They made good quality baskets for laundry and bottles as well as remaking mattresses. Manufactured goods were sold at local fetes and the Exhibition at the Imperial Institute when £300 worth of sales was realised. But the net loss on the running of the institution was £141. 30 09 27b

1930 11 18
Miss M. Allan, principal of Homerton College is a pioneer of a radical method of training teachers for elementary schools. She came to Cambridge in 1903 and her aim is to combine academic and psychological learning, the bodies of her students are developed as well as their minds and music, art, the drama as well as science and philosophy are contained in the curriculum. She may, indeed must, in so large a community rule sometimes with a hand not always gloved with velvet but the softness of understanding is ever present and she has retained much of the spirit of youth. 30 11 18a

1930 11 25
Never did learning of so weighty a nature sit so lightly on so smiling a personality as Miss Wood, principal of the Cambridge Training College for Post-graduate Women. She has a formidable list of classical achievements but proves that learning does not inevitably mean dullness. The College opened in two small cottages in Newnham Croft in 1885 and has provided hundreds of teachers for secondary schools in many parts of the Empire. 30 11 25a

1931 03 06
Miss Enright came to Cambridge in 1924 to help in the reorganisation of the School of Arts, Crafts and Technology and became the first woman to be elevated to be head of a technical school in the UK. There were odd classes for unemployed boys and girls with 54 students, now the number in the Day Trade School has grown to 151. They train women in domestic science, needlework and simple home hygiene but few show much interest in so essential an art. 31 03 06a

1932 12 16
Paston House School for girls, Cambridge, goes from strength to strength. The number of pupils is greater than ever and parents were satisfied with the work conducted under the care of the Sisters of the Institute of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The school improved morals and character and a girl's soul receives that training which sets her on her way to face the problems of life with a firm grounding in the things that matter. 32 12 16a

1936 06 02
Cambridge Training College for Women celebrated its Jubilee. It had started in two cottages at Newnham when Miss Hughes, the principal, was the sole staff and lectured on every subject. Early staff, if they did receive their salaries, paid them back into the college in some way until the new buildings were started. When it moved into Queen Anne Terrace 1,000 guests gathered in a marquee for the ceremony. So great was the crush that those who were to sit on the platform could only get to it through a hole cut in the marquee. 36 06 02 & a

1937 03 05
Cambridge Secretarial training school - 37 03 05e

1938 04 02

Miss Moggach has retired as Matron at Addenbrooke's Hospital after 13 years. There have been many changes: the number of beds has increased from 190 to 320 and the number of nurses from 48 to 180. A preliminary training school for nurses has been established, a bed endowed at Delhi in memory of former matron Mary Cureton and a fund started for a chapel for nurses. She took a keen interest in nurses' recreations, starting the various sports clubs and presenting the first cups for tennis. 38 04 02a

1938 06 20
Cambridge Training College for Schoolmasters had gradually disappeared during the War but in 1919 Charles Fox was told to re-establish it. There was no building, no library or archives and no staff – only a debt. But there were ex-Service men keen to get on and shoals of applications arrived He not only had to function as director, lecturer and demonstrator, but also as tutor to 150 students, a retirement presentation heard. 38 06 20 & a

1939 10 05
Dressmaker, hairdresser, dancing expert, officer clerk, shop assistant and television worker. All these are working side by side potato picking, milking cows, muck spreading and clearing out pigsties at the Cambridge University Farm on Huntingdon Road. The girls are members of the Women's Land Army undergoing a month's training before being sent to work for farmers. The majority are in their late teens and early twenties but some are older. One has her two grown-up daughters with her; her son and his brother are doing their bit in the Tank Corps in France. 39 10 05

1940

1941 01 29
Engineers in the making – Technical college courses, demand for women workers – 41 01 29a & b

1944 10 06
The Tec.' goes up in the World. The Cambridgeshire Technical School is in future to be known as Cambridgeshire Technical College and School of Art. Agreement to the change was given at Tuesday's meeting of the Cambridgeshire County Education Committee. Ald. Mrs. Mellish Clark pointed out that other institutions in the country doing advanced work of a similar nature were called colleges, and it was felt only right that their school should have the same standing. The alteration was agreed to without comment

1947 04 16
Hundreds of men and women now starting on teaching Courses at the Emergency Training Colleges being opened all over the country will emerge fully qualified to take posts in the schools waiting so anxiously for them. One of these colleges was opened in the grounds of Wimpole Park. Used during the war as an American Red Cross Hospital the buildings have been adapted for the purpose and now house 260 students drawn from all over the country. All men, and mainly in their late twenties they will share a communal existence and all sorts of clubs and societies will be started for their leisure hours, p5

1947 10 30
The Principal of the Cambridge Training College for Teachers maintained that what was needed above all else was some kind of stability for the young people, who had not had the pre-war background of the older generation, and were trying to find themselves in a difficult world. "Bed time has been an immense problem; many mothers have allowed girls of 12 upwards to stay up

and keep them company. The result was there were now so many young people - possibly at the Universities - who had simply not had enough sleep for the length of their life". Youth clubs were affecting the older girls who went in for dancing that kept them out late. The wireless, too, was a disturbing influence during homework

1947 12 17
Arranged by the Board of Extra Mural Studies the first of a series of lectures was given by the Mayor in the Guildhall. In a new venture organised to give German prisoners of war a wide, varied and accurate picture of English community life in Cambridge. Twenty-five representative English speaking PoWs from Trumpington camp attended the meeting. The lectures will include talks on the working conditions of a factory and on the administration of the Post Office - 47 12 17

1948 03 04
The question of whether or not people from a distance can become students. The Cambridgeshire Technical College and School of Art in coming to be determined in some cases by whether or not they can find accommodation in Cambridge. There has been a great influx to the college since the war ended, partly due to the number of ex-Service men and women on Government grants taking special business courses. The past presented no real problems, and the future will be taken care of when the new building now planned goes up, probably with its own hostel accommodation. The present, however presents a difficulty which is becoming increasingly acute 48 03 04

1949 01 03
East Barnwell community centre handed to Borough Education Committee [5.1]

1949 05 17
The audience remained in their seats and the play continued when fire broke out in the men's cloakroom at the A.D.C. theatre during a performance by the Cambridge Training College for Women Drama Group. The blaze was caused by a smouldering pipe left in the pocket of one of the coats in the cloakroom. At the height of the blaze, the auditorium became hazy with smoke as it drifted in through the ventilators. The audience, composed largely of university members did not panic and cheers greeted an announcement that the fire was under control.

1949 12 15
Speaking at the annual staff dinner of the Cambridgeshire Technical College and School of Art Sir Frederick C. Bartlett, Professor of Experimental Psychology in Cambridge University, said the status of the Technical Institutes should be improved to bring them more nearly on a level with the universities. For many years his students and staff had been able to visit the college to take courses in practical subjects such as engineering, electricity and electronics and machine drawing

1950

1950 01 25
Full details of a proposal to build a new Technical College at Trumpington road, Cambridge were submitted. The scheme calls for capital expenditure of over £1 m & has the full backing of the Ministry of Education. It is proposed to build in two stages, 1951-54 and 1954-57. Hopeless overcrowding in the existing premises has accounted for the fact that the scheme is being pressed. 50 01 25

1950 10 30

Technical College deferred, 50 10 30 p6

1951 05 07
School of Art, p6

1951 07 23
Proposals for the future of the Cambridge Technical College and School of Arts were discussed. One involved provision of 34,000 square feet on a new site at Long Road for the School of Art, including printing and commerce department; the other was for extra accommodation to be provided at Collier Road together with alterations to the existing premises. This site would relieve the needs of the building, engineering and science sections. It was central and near to the railway and bus stations. The disadvantage was that it was small and would be expensive to expand. The Collier Road scheme was approved 51 07 23

1952 06 21
Mr Lloyd Stokes, owner of land at Trinity Hall Farm, Milton, said there were 140 armoured vehicles on the land waiting to be shipped. He wanted an access from Green Park because he had a number of tanks coming through the back and wished to enlarge the front entrance on to Milton Road. It was dangerous and an agricultural machine such as a 12-foot combine could not get through. The County council suggested the city should buy this piece of land and put there light industry, not likely to cause any nuisance.

1954 01 27
The extension to the nurses' training school in Owlstone Road, Cambridge has everything for the convenience of the nurses. There are two shampoo rooms where the girls can wash their hair, two ironing rooms and a drying room for doing their washing and provision may be made for a small kitchen so they can fill a hot water bottle at night. Each bedroom has its own washbasin, while the dressing tables are really dressing-tables-cum-writing desks. A games room has been provided where they can enjoy table tennis or listen to the radio. There is also a piano so they can hold dances there if they wish. With such ideal conditions it will not be surprising if would-be-nurses will want to come to Cambridge for their training.

1954 02 17
Extensions to the Owlstone Road training school for nurses in Cambridge will provide accommodation for 70 more nurses in a fine new building with all the advantages that new methods in architecture can produce. In the nursing career there is none of the 'too old at 40' business. The fully qualified nurse has a secure career in a variety of appointments until she chooses to leave at the retiring age. But she must always remain receptive to new ideas and changing methods

1954 09 20
A new Civil Defence rescue training centre was opened in Newmarket Road, Cambridge. There are two tumble-down structures – a façade and a rescue set – and volunteers set to work showing rescue attempts in an Atomic-bomb war. Major-Gen Bruce said: "In view of the present threat, where we needed one volunteer before we now want 100. It is un-British to have the attitude of mind that we are going to be frightened and blackmailed into putting up with might". Heavy explosives and incendiaries are likely to go out of business, but not in the first two years of another war, because our enemy has a tremendous amount of aircraft and bombs that he will want to use.

1956 04 10

The resignations of Mrs and Mr Ditchburn as matron and secretary of Cambridge Maternity Hospital were accepted with regret. They were jointly appointed in 1934 when it was a ten-bedded public assistance institution and during the war became a transit hospital. Now it had grown to a 100-bedded institution and maternity training hospital of high repute and much of its success was owed to them. 56 04 10b

1956 05 15
Cambridge Technical college new block handed over – 56 05 15d

1956 05 22
Homerton college students of every generation gathered to present, Miss A.H. Skillicorn, with a pair of wrought iron gates to mark her 21 years as Principal. They were designed by Miss M.R. Harrison, one of her first students. The new wing was an outward sign of its growth and development. Miss Skillicorn had been responsible for an era of great achievement and enhanced its strong traditions. 56 05 22

1958 02 19
When Charles Leeson joined the Cambridgeshire Technical College in 1925 there were six staff and a few hundred students. When he retired there were nearly 100 staff and 5,000. Until 1947 he was Responsible Master of the Day Trade School, then took charge of the Secretarial side of the Commerce Department which won a record number silver and bronze R.S.A. medals. 58 02 19a

1956 08 21
When the Suez crisis threw the country into turmoil it meant there were no Regular Army personnel to assist the Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force. Their annual camp was cancelled but instead 200 boys moved into the Coldham's Lane Territorial Training Centre. They had to beg, borrow or steal all sort of equipment but a full programme of training was carried out with shooting on the Barton Road range and trips around the colleges. 56 08 21

1957 05 29
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother opened a new wing at Homerton, a women's training college which prepares students for teaching in primary and secondary schools. She walked along the main entrance driveway passing groups of pretty girl students making a gay sight in their brightly-coloured cotton frocks

1958 10 29
Technical College centenary [17.3]

1959 04 21
Territorial Army training, Coldham's Lane – 59 04 21 & a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 07 08
Technical College third stage opened [17.1]

1961 04 05
Cambridgeshire Technical College and School of Art attracts nearly 6,000 students each year. It offers degree courses in arts, science and economics, certificates in electrical and mechanical engineering, building and chemistry as well as full-time courses in catering and nursery teaching.

Employers are aware of the value of day release and is a condition of most deeds of apprenticeship 61 04 05

1961 04 13
Technical College engineering and building departments – article – 61 04 13

1961 04 26
Post war growth of Technical college science department - feature – 61 04 26b

1961 05 24
Technical college nostalgic reminder of early days – 61 05 24

1961 09
Romsey House Theological Centre begun; (Romsey House, Mill Road with its large gardens and shrubberies was the residence of the late Mr W.E. Curry and was built for the late J.W. Prior from the designs of Mr G.H. Shackle, architect of Marlborough. It is in red brick in the Tudor style and contains several exceptionally large rooms. In 1909 it was bought with fixtures, by the Romsey Town Institute Committee for £1,435. 09 06 11)

1961 10 13
Newly-wed Wendy Talkes of Bateman Street is one of the ladies attending cookery classes at the Manor Evening Centre. "I picked up a little cooking from my mother, but have come here to make sure my flans don't sink and my pastry doesn't get burnt", she said. Her husband commented "Her cooking is much better that I expected. But perhaps there is a little room for improvement". The Centre only opened a week ago but already about 200 attend the evening classes. However there is little demand for the handyman course. 61 10 13

1962 12 12
Language Laboratory set up at CCAT – 62 12 12

1963 01 10
Recently qualified State Registered Nurses were present with their certificates at the Preliminary Training School, Owlstone Road. Miss Puddiscombe, the Matron, outlined the current situation at Addenbrooke's Hospital and its various departments 63 01 10b

1963 04 17
Often youngsters who fail the eleven-plus choose an apprenticeship in the engineering industry. They start in a company at age 15 and serve a 12 month's probationary period after which the normal apprenticeship runs until their 21st birthday. They will study at a Further Educational Centre one day a week and also attend classes one or two nights. W.G. Pye and Unicam have played an important role in maintaining and improving standards in their large and well-equipped apprenticeship schools and more recently Pye has opened an entirely new Training Centre to cater for apprentices throughout their group. 63 04 17c

1963 05 11
Block of 14 pre-fabricated buildings to replace wooden huts used since WWI; in use till completion of next instalment of permanent buildings, 1965, expect start end this year lasted till Summer 1983) [6.4]

1963 11 14
York Street crane lays concrete beams Education Centre building – 63 11 14c

1963 12 27
National Extension College offers correspondence classes begins [8.1]

1964 12 18
Cambridge Institute of Education in Shaftsbury Road runs courses for teachers and undertakes research in education – 64 12 18e

1965 06 04
National Extension College first permanent buildings opened – 65 06 04a

1966 03 26
Council gets Government permission to buy site of George Lister at Abbey Road as possible annexe to Technical College engineering department; firm to move to Coldham's Lane – 66 03 26

1966 04 01
CCAT offer courses in computers and mathematics for school-leavers – 66 04 01d

1966 10 11
Cheshunt College staff and students to join with Westminster College, premises in Bateman Street for sale; was founded in Wales in 1768, moved to Cambridge in 1905, new buildings 1913 – 66 10 11; premises for sale – 66 10 21b

1966 11 23
If Fitzroy St area developed as shopping centre CCAT students will have nowhere to park their cars – 66 11 23

1967 07 26
County Council buy Howes Close mansion and 23 acres as extension Shire Hall site, to move Country Centre students – 67 07 26

1968 06 03
Deryck Mumford, principal of CCAT for 30 years – profile – 68 06 03

1970

1970 11 06
CCAT new building, the fifth instalment, to be opened next month – 70 11 06

1970 12 30
Long Road College of Further Education to replace York Street Further Education Centre approved by Government – 70 12 30

1971
Technical College new auditorium, theatre completed last autumn [17.4]

1971 02 24
Cambridge Students Union link with CCAT, outnumbering undergraduates in an organisation they brought into being at the beginning of last term – 71 02 24 [17.5]

1971 02 24
CCAT – how long to wait for polytechnic – feature – 71 02 24a

1971 02 26
CCAT new computer will be used by hundreds of schoolchildren as part of their normal syllabus – 71 02 26a opens – 71 03 11a

1972 10 26
Ridley Hall and Westcott House Anglican Theological Colleges merge with Wesley House, Methodist [7.3]

1973
York Street Further Education Centre begins in temporary buildings, need better site [15]

1973 10 08
Students at Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology today began searching for a hall in an emergency plan to beat what they claim is the city's worst-ever shortage of rented accommodation. The situation at the Technical College, where there are more than 1,000 students who have to live in rented accommodation in the city, has been aggravated by the failure of a plan to buy up houses for use as hostels. A housing association was set up earlier this year and agreement reached with a building society over 100 mortgages. But then came the building societies' financial difficulties and the whole plan has been shelved

1973 10 11
More than 100 students from the Technical College who are squatting in Owlstone Croft spent last night moving in food and other supplies. Occupation of the building, which has been empty for almost four years, followed a meeting in protest at the lack of student accommodation in Cambridge. Owlstone Croft became the target of criticism as officials pointed out that the Department of Health are now planning to demolish the fully-equipped hostel after refusing to sell it to the college. After half and hour's discussion about 200 students left the college to occupy the building

1973 11 02
York Street & Young Street Further Education Centres renamed Cambridge College of Further Education [11.5]

1973 11 16
Cambridge University's extra-mural studies board will move out of the city and into new offices at Madingley Hall if a £60,000 plan now being considered by dons is approved. But they are hoping that the scheme would cost the University nothing – a gift of £47,000 is being offered by a trustee of the University of Southern California and the Board of Extra-Mural studies would be required to meet the remaining £13,000 from their balances. Madingley Hall at present houses 55 residents who are either visiting scholars or graduate students of the university.

1973 12 03
Technical College expansion, p7

1974 11 25
The first full degree awarding ceremony of Cambridgeshire College of Arts & Technology was held in an atmosphere of austerity. There was dignity but no frills as more than 130 degrees were

awarded – no academic gowns or hoods, no flowers. The college officials felt that such "extras" might have offended the ratepayers 74 11 25

1975 02 04
A complete Cambridge college – the second in eight years – is being offered for sale on the open market at an unspecified price, thought to be in the region of £1 million. Ridley Hall is for sale following a decision in 1971 to enter into federation with two other Anglican training colleges, In 1967 Cheshunt College in Bateman Street was sold for in excess of £225,000. (Continues as no buyer 76 03 16)

1975 05 14
Marlborough Secondary College to open, September [6.3]

1975 05 29
With the reorganisation of secondary school education 16-year olds must now look round at all the subject choices and courses at the different Sixth Form Centres. CCAT is far and away the largest A-level centre in the area. Its total of over 500 full-time A-level students considerably exceeds that of the Hills Road and Long Road Sixth Form Colleges together.

1976 09 28
Cambridge University clinical medical school was launched in a sea of champagne bubbles when students and professors got together at Addenbrooke's Hospital for an informal reception. The first intake of students consisted of 53 young men and women who have come to Cambridge for "on the job" training and will move from speciality to speciality under the watchful eye of consultants. Addenbrooke's is already the biggest and most prestigious provincial teaching hospital and by the early 1980s will be able to take 300 students.

1976 12 09
The Cambridge College of Further Education could gradually die a slow death if all it is offered are an improved staffroom and lavatories. This is the fear of teachers bitterly disappointed at the latest proposals for the future of the college. Staff were hoping for a new college on the Long Road site in place of the decrepit York Street buildings – an old church hall with prefabricated classrooms across the road. It is one of the college's two centres – the other, Young Street, a more modern building is a five-minute walk away. In the windy, rainy autumn weather staff and students get wet every hour when they have to change classrooms. The college is proud of the results it achieves with some of the less academic young people, reaching higher standards than the national average in the 11 O-levels it offers.

1979 03 20
Technical College close down classics teaching [17.6]

1979 10 18
The Government has stopped the County Council from closing Cambridge's Park Street Primary School because of its 'value to the community'. But plans to close Brunswick Primary School have been approved. This is a great disappointment for parents who campaigned vigorously to keep it open. Nearly £800,000 has been earmarked to convert the buildings into a Further Education centre. The County will accept the ruling but the number of children attending both schools had dropped and the problems will not go away. Now much harder decisions will have to be made that will affect schools throughout the city.

1980

1981 05 11
Five years ago the problem of housing single people in Cambridge was desperate. But now 20 local housing associations like Granta and King Street have added hundreds of rooms. The Argyle Street Housing Co-operative is different: half the places are earmarked for CCAT students and the rest will go to single people. Members will run the properties themselves, doing some of the maintenance. Living near a railway line is not everyone's idea of heaven but it does have its advantages: the rents will be around £15 a week. 81 05 11

1981 06 30
A new World Refugee College is to be set up by the Cambridge-based International Extension College. Initially it will concentrate on Africa where public services would be stretched to breaking point if refugee communities sought traditional forms of education. They will experiment with unorthodox educational methods, based on work they have started in Zambia, Somalia and the Sudan.
81 06 30b

1981 12 16
Many of the 500 hard core of youngsters at present on the dole in the Cambridge area will probably never have jobs, a Careers Officer says. "We are writing off a generation; at one school three out of 100 wanted to go to work, the rest were going into further education". Youth Opportunities courses in electronic and mechanical engineering have only four applicants for 22 places as youngsters don't want to do them. They prefer outdoor work, such as building labouring. 81 12 16

1982 02 10
The Centre for Management Development, Cambridge operates from a private house but is the headquarters of a money-spinning operation that draws hundreds of students from the top echelon of life in the Third World to Cambridge. The founder-chairman is an American who claims to have a doctorate from Harvard – though they have no knowledge of him. He invited influential African civil servants to courses, got the best brains to teach them and charged them for the privilege. Now it is subject of a court case. 82 02 10a & b

1982 02 16
Brunswick School started as a British School in Eden Walk; it moved to Auckland Road about 1900 but had to move again to Walnut Tree Avenue when the buildings began sliding gently down to the river. Now falling rolls and cash cutbacks means it will close and the site used for Further Education premises. Teacher Miss Marjorie Battersbee attended as a girl and has taught there her entire career. Many of the 92 children will go to St Matthew's. 82 02 16a

1982 06 03
The Great Northern Hotel on the corner of Station Road had a wide reputation as a 'jazz pub. In the 1970s it was converted into a hostel for Technical College students with rooms directly above the stage and Raffles nightclub in the basement. Despite music on two levels there were no complaints until a new landlord introduced rock bands. Now its licence has been withdrawn and Cambridge has lost one of its last live music venues. 82 06 03

1982 07 05
Cambridge College of Further Education is undergoing rapid expansion on its new Brunswick site. This year more than 1,000 school-levers have applied for places. Under the Government's

new training initiative it will offer courses in community care and basic engineering, clerical and science skills with hairdressing and catering to follow. 82 07 05a

1982 09 13
The new University of the Third Age held its first enrolment day. Orderly queues of senior citizens studied the long list of courses from gardening to desert island aesthetics, medieval history or elementary French. The chairman, Dr Peter Laslett was delighted: "It shows that retired people still want to learn and take an active part in life". 82 09 13

1982 10 07
There are several types of student seeking landladies. If you are prepared to cook an evening meal for a language student – and all meals at weekend – then the Davis School would pay £38 a week. CCAT students who just want a room pay £17 a week, without heating. The greatest shortage is in independent provision for postgraduates. The ideal is a terraced house housing three and with shared kitchen. They would pay about £18 rent each and meet their own heating and hot water bills. 82 10 07

1983 05 05
A £10million plan for building a huge 'tertiary college' at Howes Close off Huntingdon Road has been secretly dropped by the County Council. The proposals for a three-storey building to accommodate at least 2,000 students caused a wave of protest when it was first announced as it would have worsened the already bad traffic conditions. But plans for an alternative site for a new college, which would mean the end of the present sixth-form college system, will continue 87 05 05a

1983 10 06
Technical College £2M 4-storey new building opens [17.7]

1983 10 31
The Manor comprehensive school on Arbury Road – one of the city's biggest with more than 800 pupils – has been earmarked for closure within three years. The County says the children will be dispersed to other comprehensives and the building handed over to the rapidly-expanding Cambridgeshire College of Further Education. The Manor Boys and Girls schools opened in 1959 to serve the rapidly-growing estate. They merged in 1970 and became a comprehensive five years later. But numbers started to fall. It is a central focus in Arbury and its loss would do immeasurable damage to the community. 83 10 31 p1

1983 12 22
The Manor Comprehensive School in Cambridge – threatened with closure – has now been offered a reprieve. Conservative councillors have bowed to intense public pressure and thought of a new plan to keep the school open. It is to reduce the number of new entrants to 120 pupils and year and hand over the remaining buildings to the Cambridge College of Further Education. When plans to close the school because of falling numbers were announced by the News, a massive protest from parents and politicians swept Cambridge. But the problem of falling secondary pupil numbers will not go away and must be solved somehow. 83 12 22 p1

1984 01 24
The old maternity hospital at Mill Road will be bought by Cambridge City Council. Now it has won its battle against commercial rivals it will develop the site as a multi-million pound housing complex for young and old people. At an estimated price of £750,000 it is the city's most expensive residential land deal and to help recoup some of the money the council is considering

renting some of the old buildings to the Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology. 84 01 24 p5

1984 11 22
About 1,000 students protesting at Government proposals on student grants marched from the Senate House to Lady Mitchell Hall where they staged an 18-hour sit-in. Students from CCAT also staged an overnight 'work-in' in their college library. Next day they demonstrated on the steps of Shire Hall where they met Councillors and officials. They are disturbed at proposals that parents should start paying for part of their tuition fees. Nigel Lawson's plans are an attack on the principle of a free education for all who are able to benefit from it, they claim. It was the biggest show of student protest in Cambridge for 10 years. 84 11 22

1985 08 03
One hundred years ago 14 women students enrolled in a new pioneering college set up in two houses in Merton Street, Newnham. Its aim was to train women to teach in secondary schools. Over the century that college has changed character and direction several times and under its present name of Hughes Hall it has just been awarded Approved Foundation status within Cambridge University. Despite the financial problems of the present day it is planning new buildings at its site in Wollaston Road. 85 08 03a

1985 08 14
Cambridge College of Further Education cash crisis [11.5]

1985 11 12
The Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology needs polytechnic status. It would boost cash levels, encourage more students and do a lot for its prestige. College principal Roy Helmore says Cambridge is an extremely attractive city for students; if you compare it with Chelmsford, which is another college making a bid, it is culturally and socially a desirable place to stay. But staff would have to be relocated and paperwork would increase. He is retiring after nine years and says it is a right time for somebody new, younger and vigorous to take on the challenge. 85 11 12

1985 12 02
The Andrew Murden Centre for the Unemployed and Unwaged is not just for the bored and depressed. Its main aims are to give advice on welfare rights and organise activities to stop people going stale in body and mind. But too few of Cambridge's 4,000 jobless are aware of it. The Centre would like more women to make use of the crèche and to expand their work with schools and youth groups. But there is not significant youth unemployment and the few out of work often join Government training schemes. 85 12 02c

1986 01 08
Over 90-per-cent of jobless youngsters were offered work after completing a Cambridge youth training scheme. They held an exhibition of their skills including craftwork, engineering, electronics and hospital care But Government cutbacks in funding from the Manpower Services Commission mean the course could be slashed heavily. Youngsters spend 13 weeks on study and the rest with their employer. They receive £27.30 a week from the MSC – a sum dubbed as 'slave labour' - but employers can make up their pay to a higher figure. 86 01 08

1986 01 30
Hundreds of Cambridge students are being forced to live in dirty, cramped rooms without heating. Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology has had an accommodation problem since the early 70s as language students and young professionals can pay much higher rents.

Anger at housing shortages boiled over in 1973 when the health authority hostel at Owlstone Croft was occupied by squatters. Since then CCAT have had temporary use of the Mill Road hospital site but would like to build a hostel for 1,500 students. 86 01 30a

1986 02 13
Cambridge College of Further Education has increased rapidly and now has nearly 1,000 full-time together with 3,000 part-time and evening students. The expansion is due to the rise in unemployment, the need to provide course places quickly and vocational courses being moved from the CCAT. But it has to operate on six sites around the city and struggles with poor-quality accommodation, lack of student facilities and duplications of materials. Options include a takeover of the Manor Community College, a new building on the Brunswick Site or a new college on the city outskirts. But none are likely in the near future 86 02 13b

1986 05 06
£26M super college at Hoqwes Close suggested replacing Hills Road, Long Road & Cambridge College of Further Education; would close CCAT section dealing vocational training 16-19 year olds [8.6] [17.9]

1986 07 21
Dr Otto Smail, one of Cambridge University's distinguished historians, took his degree at Sidney Sussex College where he remained for the rest of his life. He was an authority on the Crusades and built up a reputation for his friendliness, knowledge and skill as a tutor, taking classes on the history of the fens for the Workers Educational Association. A collection of essays has been published in his honour – a University tradition for eminent scholars – 86 07 21

1987 05 05
Plans for £10 college at Howes Close dropped, 2,000 students 16-19 years [18/3]

1987 09 02
88% undergraduates & 59% postgraduates in college-owned accommodation, 90% CCAT housed privately ¢CEN 2.9.87

1987 09 15
A Polytechnic of East Anglia may be formed by merging the Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology with the Essex Institute of Higher Education. It would teach the equivalent of more than 4,000 full-time higher education students with one main campus in Cambridge and another in Chelmsford. Robert Rhodes James MP has made it one of his parliamentary campaigns. Cambridge is very strong on languages while Essex is good for business studies. So the idea of a merger is very attractive and should get Government approval 87 09 15

1987 10 22
CFE to change name from 9.88, new college/image to offer complete range job-related vocational courses + A & GCSE; CCAT becoming college for advanced & mature FE students, paving way Polytechnic of East Anglia ¢CEN 22.10.87

1988 02 25
Appeal for Owlstone Croft to become block flats for CCAT students ¢CEN 25.2.88

1988 04 30
The former Kinema music hall may be turned into a multi-million pound block of student accommodation. Sawston-based William Sindall has applied to build an 80-room scheme for

CCAT but will wait until the college gains Polytechnic status in April 1989 before handing over the lease, avoiding Government restrictions. It comes as food news for the college which has seen its hopes of turning the former Owlstone Croft nurses' home into 200 flats dashed by a change in rules over lease-back schemes. Now residents will be consulted. 88 04 30

1988 07 29
Plans to merge CCAT & Essex & City of London Polytechnic to form Polytechnic of East Anglia ¢CEN 29.7.88

1988 08 03
A giant new housing estate may be built on allotments on the corner of King's Hedges and Histon Roads. About 30 acres could be used for housing with the remainder turned over to recreational use. In the past proposals to build have resulted in shoals of complaints from allotment holders but much of the land is disused and the allotments could be consolidated on a much smaller plot elsewhere. However the City council have no intention of making the site available for a new Regional College for 16-19 years old as is being considered by the County council. 88 08 03

1988 08 08
Thousands of CCAT students are facing a housing crisis. Many could be sleeping on floors because there is nowhere for them to go. .Frightened landlords are hanging on to spare rooms and bedsits rather than face inquisitive tax officials as the Inland Revenue clamps down. And the property boom has caused the number of houses available to rent to plummet – landlords just do not want to let out £100,000 houses to students. 88 08 08

1988 09 30
The announcement that CCAT could become one of the largest polytechnics in the country came as a surprise to many. Last year it merged with the Essex Institute of Higher Education and now the City of London Polytechnic might be added. CCAT has paved the way to higher education status by transferring 1,500 non-advanced students to the new Cambridge Regional College, previously the Cambridge College of Further Education. 88 09 30a

1988 11 23
Cambridge regional College site agreed, Kings Hedges Road ¢CEN 23.11.88

1988 11 29
CCAT to be transferred from local authority control in April 1989, step on way to being new polytechnic ¢CEN 29.11.88

1988 12 09
City of London polytechnic withdraw from CCAT merger plans, CCAT & Essex Institute of Higher Education go on 88 12 09

1988 12 23
CCAT to rename 'Anglia Polytechnic' April 1989 ¢CEN 23.12.88

1989 01 10
Plan move Cambridgeshire College Agriculture and Horticulture to Ely ¢CEN 10.1.89

1989 03 21
Cambridgeshire College of Arts & Technology changes name to Anglia Higher Education College (AHEC), (later to be Anglia Polytechnic) ¢CEN 31.3.89

1989 04 27
CRAC celebrates 25 years ¢CEN 17.4.89 36.9 1989

1989 06 28
Two internationally-known developers plan a giant new sports complex sprawling over 40 acres between King's Hedges and the northern bypass. It would have a wide range of indoor and outdoor facilities including an indoor pool and an athletics track for public use. It is on land soon to be removed from the green belt, close to the site of the new Regional College. The scheme comes after planners snubbed a £20 million scheme by Cambridge University to build a sports complex in the west of the city. 89 06 28

1989 10 17
Anglia Students have to sit on bare floors to listen to lectures and offices have been turned into makeshift lecture theatres because of space shortages, the Students' Union claims. Anglia Higher Education College, which is seeking to become a polytechnic, needs to increase its intake from 3,000 to 4,000 but lecturers have nowhere to teach. There is a severe shortage of accommodation with some students paying high rents or sleeping on friends' floors. 89 10 17

1989 10 30
Cambridge Regional College is to be relocated on a new, purpose-built campus at King's Hedges. It will be built in four phases starting with business studies, a library and sports hall which should be completed by 1993. It will also have a shopping mall. The old mineral railway line which runs to St Ives could be extended to transport students from the city centre. But there will be ample car parking available for teachers and students. The present city-centre sites will be sold off for redevelopment 89 10 30

1989 11 28
The National Extension College in Brooklands Avenue has more students than Cambridge University and offers courses from accounting to zoo-keeping. It was set up in the back room of a condemned cottage in 1963 to open the door to higher education through correspondence courses. It was the brainwave of Michael Young, Cambridge University's first lecturer in sociology and founder of the Consumers' Association. A forerunner of the Open University, it has 15,000 students and its expertise has been used by the BBC and Channel Four in preparing their own adult education programmes. 89 11 28

1990

1990 03 17
Brewing giant Guinness is giving £1.5 million to Cambridge University to establish a Guinness Chair of Management Studies. It is part of a major new drive by the university to join the ranks of top international business schools in training young managers to become captains of the nation's industry. 90 03 17

1990 04 05
Hundreds of low-paid Cambridge nurses are hunting for second jobs to pay their poll tax, a union chief claims. Some 500 nurses in training who on salaries ranging from £5,695 to £6,630 are paying between £48 and £82 a month for bed-sitter flats at Addenbrooke's Hospital. Now they face an additional bill of £428 for poll tax 90 04 05b

1990 10 20

Homerton College may move as buildings in poor state – 90 10 20

1993 11 25
Cambridge Regional College 1st phase opened by Queen – 1993 11 25

New Museums Site construction

142.11

c.36.9 Cambridge University - *Administration, teaching, departments & research. There are separate sections for Undergraduate life (c.36.92) and Colleges (c.44.5)*

1890 06 13
The announcement that Miss P.G. Fawcett was in reality the Senior Wrangler caused much excitement for, although it was well-known that she would attain a higher position in the class list than has ever yet been attained by a woman, it was regarded as improbably that she would obtain higher marks than the Senior Wrangler. Twentieth Wrangler is the best place previously obtained by a woman since women's names have been published in the class list. In 1887 Miss Ramsey (now Mrs Butler, the wife of the present Vice Chancellor) was Senior Classic. Miss Fawcett was educated at the High School, Clapham, and obtained a scholarship at Newnham. She was present at the reading of the list and was heartily cheered by the undergraduates as she left the building in company with Miss Clough, the principal of Newnham. On Saturday night there were great rejoicings at Newnham 1890 06 13 Ch

1891 02 26
Arrest of Daisy Hopkins who'd escaped from Spinning House produces outcry in press; University official convicted of carelessness & ignorance in exercise of his powers; feelings run high & series of meetings called to sort out the matter Because of a legal technicality Daisy had to be acquitted and she sued the University for damages. Once more it made headline news which

prompted the University to surrender their powers over prostitutes to the police [2.16] *For more details see c.34.9 - Courts*

1891 03 20
Report of committee appointed by Borough to confer with Council of Senate with referenced to jurisdiction exercised by University over persons not members of the University over Spinning House cases. The Vice-Chancellor's court is held in secret, evidence is not given on oath, accused cannot obtain professional assistance. They urge abolition of University jurisdiction or it be held in abeyance for a time. University would obtain advice of Counsel. Council seek Bill in Parliament to abolish all University jurisdiction over residents not members of the University. Councillor Nichols drew a highly coloured picture of an unfortunate woman being hunted down the streets by a Proctor and his two men and taken to the Spinning House where she was made to don a prison garb and on the following morning appear before a secret tribunal, without allowing anyone to be called on her behalf, and without hearing evidence on oath, sentenced to a term of imprisonment. The University had not seen their way to abolish these laws, saying they did not think the streets would be properly kept by policemen. University students often created great disturbances, rushing arm in arm and insulting everyone. This was what Proctors ought to see after, not hunt unfortunate women down.

1891 04 10
Special meeting of Town Council - should reconsider ancient privileges of University. The University were now represented on council. Reviews activities of 1852 when sought inquiry into state of discipline, studies and revenues of University including search for common women, power over ale-houses, theatres, trade regulations and University Courts. Proctors patrolled the streets for only a brief period and powers could be suspended. The Watch Committee of town and university, dealt with some of the matters. Jane Elsden case; she had broken no law but the University law, was sentenced to three week's imprisonment. She broke out of prison then taken before the magistrates, having committed an offence against the common law. She said 'Don't send me to the Spinning House, send me to gaol. She was convicted. Application made to Home Secretary and she was released. Two years ago a Local Government Inquiry was held, nothing said about University privileges. The Council of Senate willing to remedy grievances. Now they had a system of police controlled by a Watch Committee on which University represented, the powers were no longer needed. Ch

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Report of committee appointed by Borough to confer with Council of Senate with referenced to jurisdiction exercised by University over persons not members of the University over Spinning House cases. The Vice-Chancellor's court is held in secret, evidence is not given on oath, accused cannot obtain professional assistance. They urge abolition of University jurisdiction or it be held in abeyance for a time. University would obtain advice of Counsel. Council seek Bill in Parliament to abolish all University jurisdiction over residents not members of the University. Councillor Nichols drew a highly coloured picture of an unfortunate woman being hunted down the streets by a Proctor and his two men and taken to the Spinning House where she was made to don a prison garb and on the following morning appear before a secret tribunal, without allowing anyone to be called on her behalf, and without hearing evidence on oath, sentenced to a term of imprisonment. The University had not seen their way to abolish these laws, saying they did not think the streets would be properly kept by policemen. University students often created great disturbances, rushing arm in arm and insulting everyone. This was what Proctors ought to see after, not hunt unfortunate women down.

1891 04 10

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1891 12 18
Council supported promoting Bill for abolishing powers exercised by University over persons not members of that body. Coun Vinter considered powers under which Daisy Hopkins case took place – power of searching without a warrant by day or night in any house in the town for persons suspected of evil; persons arrested might be imprisoned by Vice Chancellor and no limit to imprisonment. Vice Chancellor the sole judge without appeal and had only to find the person suspected of evil to pass sentence. Could accept evidence on oath or not at his pleasure, could refuse to accept evidence, could pass sentence and was absolute authority within his own court. Spinning House was a place which the visiting justices could not enter by right; public were absolutely in the dark as to the mode of treatment the prisoners subjected to. Were no rules permitting visits of friends, prisoners not allowed to write letters and proceedings absolutely private. Ch

1892 01 01
University jurisdiction – public meeting, turbulent proceedings in favour of total abolition of powers of University over non-members. The Spinning House business has taken up the whole of the year. It was on January 17th that Baron Pollock sent Jane Elden back to undergo the remainder of her term of imprisonment. The incident excited great interest all over the country. Questions were asked in the House of Commons. On March 2nd Town Council private meeting decided negotiate with University. No settlement satisfactory which does not abolish jurisdiction of University over inhabitants of town. First negotiations with University proved abortive, the University willing to make its Court open and allow prisoners professional representation but declining to make any alteration in its powers over townspeople. Two Town Council meetings on negotiations or whether to promote a Bill in House of Commons; decided continue negotiations. On May 14th a full report of all town grievances discussed by Council and adopted. July 11th University reply discussed – refused to depart from original position. Council decided to communicate with Oxford Town Council over Bill – they in favour but could do nothing for moment. Seemed about to collapse through lack of interest but then Daisy Hopkins imprisoned; trial and application to Supreme Court for writ of Habeas Corpus lead to release. On 18th December Council voted for Bill for abolition of University jurisdiction. CIP says University jurisdiction should be for University only and townspeople dealt with by common law of the land. University position confirmed by Act and by an Act it must be curtailed – expensive. Public meeting, turbulent proceedings – very large attendance of townspeople partial to total abolition of University powers – detailed reports. Ch, CIP

1892 01 08

Letter disputes jurisdiction rights and Patterson arbitration of 1854-55 and rights of university by G.F. Browne, Disney Prof and ex Proctor over problems of prostitution. Ch

1892 02 12
Proctorial system – circular issued to members Senate. CIP

1892 03 25
Daisy Hopkins case commenced at Ipswich Assizes – details. Jury found verdict for defendant with costs – good grounds existed for suspecting her and Proctor acted in good faith. CIP, Ch

1892 04 15
Council special meeting over University Jurisdiction Bill to repeal section of 13 Elizabeth giving power to police to arrest prostitutes & theatre licences. Senate willing to meet objections on court being secret, evidence not given on oath and accused not having professional assistance. Happy to see Town possessed of additional powers to maintain decency in streets but a different thing to abolish entirely the present system without waiting to see how new powers work. CIP

1893 05 26
Town council on University jurisdiction – special meeting over powers over persons not members. Senate co-operate with Borough to promote bill – right to arrest women suspected of evil to be repealed; women to be taken to police station; university jurisdiction will disappear and be vested in Justices. Regulation of theatres – does away with consent of Vice Chancellor before any stage plays – be responsibility county council. Music and dancing – need licence from Licensing Justice. Public exhibition or performance need permission of Mayor – including Midsummer Fair. Cambridge University Jurisdiction Bill1894 – details. Spinning House might be converted into a sort of jail for women – but under entire control of Borough Justices. Proctors could enter pubs. Ch

1894 05 11.
Corporation Bill before House of Commons – a compromise between University and Corporation, reducing friction re prostitutes … students were young and inexperienced freshly released from discipline of school life and would fall east prey to worm of bad character if precautions not taken … women would be attracted from country and London … women of bad character might be perfectly quiet in their behaviour and abstain from open solicitation yet their presence in the streets would be a great temptation … proctors would exercise exceptional powers at own peril. During last two years a marked deterioration in state of the streets. Objection to omission of words 'behaving in a riotous and disorderly manner'. Bill a compromise and impossible to take out any part without rendering it unacceptable. Bill allowed police to arrest bad characters wandering in streets unable to give satisfactory account … and similar power to proctors who on same footing as police. Vice Chancellor's court and Spinning House to be abolished and persons tried before ordinary court
University jurisdiction founded on very ancient charter and was much resented by town – but now come to unanimous accord. Select committee of House had approved the special clause. There was no need for this private bill. Would be similar to affairs in Oxford

1894 06 22
Corporation Bill. The House of Lords carried the Cambridge Spinning-house Bill by an overwhelming majority. The measure, which re-enacts in a modified form at the end of the nineteenth century the much-abused medieval powers of the Cambridge authorities, came up for third reading. The question was practically decided on party lines. Lord Leigh (Trinity College) moved to leave out Clause: "Every common prostitute loitering or being in a street or public place

for the purpose of prostitution or solicitation." He said he regarded it a most dangerous power to place in the hands of a policeman that he should be given authority to say whether woman was out in the streets of Cambridge for the purpose of prostitution or not, unless she was seen actually to solicit, and the object of his amendment was to provide that a police-constable should not have that power unless he proved solicitation. Under the Bill, a poor woman going home after her day's work might be arrested by policeman. The Duke op Devonshire (Chancellor of the University) regretted that he was unable, on behalf of the University of Cambridge, to assent to the amendment. The University of Cambridge had from very ancient times been invested with very extensive powers of dealing with vagabonds, prostitutes, and other suspected persons, and those powers had from time to time caused good deal of conflict between the University and the Municipal authorities. The powers were not altogether suited to modern ideas and circumstances, and after discussion had taken place between the University and the Municipal authorities, a compromise was arrived at, with the unanimous approval the Town Council and of a town's meeting, which was embodied in this Bill. Under the Bill the law of Cambridge would be assimilated to that of Oxford, and though it was quite true that the Oxford law and the present Bill conferred upon the police and the University authorities powers somewhat in excess of those which were possessed by the police of ordinary boroughs, it was very generally admitted that, in towns such as Cambridge and Oxford, where large number of young men resided for a very considerable portion of the year, for the purposes of education, the University and Municipal authorities should be armed with somewhat larger powers than were necessary in the case of other towns. The effect of the amendment would be to make it impossible for either the University or Municipal authorities to arrest any prostitute unless the act of soliciting were actually proved, and the powers conferred would be insufficient if the amendment were adopted. Moreover, the whole of the arrangement arrived at between the University and the Municipal authorities would come to an end, and the law would remain as it at present stood. The Duke of Rutland (High Steward of the Borough), said the Corporation of Cambridge felt quite as much the University the necessity of passing the Bill its present shape. He hoped the measure, which was the result of compromise, would be passed in the state in which it then stood. Lord Walsingham (High Steward of the University), also hoped the House would not assent to the amendment, because, unless these special powers were given to the Municipal and University authorities, there was considerable danger that the state of the streets of Cambridge would become a serious scandal, and a moral danger to the undergraduates would arise. The Lord Chancellor did not think the difference between the amendment and the clause as it stood was so great as appeared. He quite agreed that special legislation was necessary in University towns. That was admitted by the amendment much as by the clause of the Bill. It would not be denied that very considerable feeling of hostility had been aroused by the sixth clause, and by the passing of the Bill in its present form that agitation would not subside. The amendment was put forward by those who had strongly opposed the clause. He believed that the amendment would be far more likely to work for the interests of the University than a clause to which many persons were hostile. The Earl of Morley said if the Bill had been introduced as an ordinary town Bill it would have been his duty to report that it went beyond the powers of the ordinary law, but in the present case there were peculiar circumstances, and he would vote for the clause as it stood. The Bill passed. CIP University & Corporation Act provides for concurrent action by Proctors & town police in arresting loose women & abolishes Vice Chancellor's jurisdiction over them; Spinning House abolished [347.2.14,1.5,2.15]

1894 05 16
Engineering Labs opened [1.7,3.4]

1894 11 09

Parliamentary committee report that owning to passing of Cambridge University and Corporation Act 1894 the use of university portion of the Spinning House is no longer required; need more accommodation for police station … take steps for disposition of portion of Spinning House used by University by purchase or otherwise. CIP

1895
Report allows advanced students from other universities to proceed to MA, first entry to Cavendish was Ernest Rutherford [4.7, 7.24]
Engineering Department Free School Lane opened

1896
University buy two acres of Downing College ground as nucleus of "Downing site" [8.4]

1897 04 23
The circular just issued by the Chancellor of the University dispels the assumption that the resources of that wealthy seat of learning suffice to meet all demands made upon it. Cambridge people will have no difficulty in calling to their recollection instances of college incomes dwindling away to almost vanishing point through agricultural depression. Downing is a sorrowful case in point, the depleted money chest of which establishment it is sought to rehabilitate by cutting up a fine estate for building purposes 1897 04 23 [8.2]

1897 05 21
University debate women's degrees, poll 1,707 to 661 against; exciting scenes at Senate House, bonfire on Market Hill; undergraduate carnival [1.8,3.5,8.10]

1899
Cambridge University Association founded, donations exceed 50,000 [8.2]

1899 02 10
Cambridge University have favoured the establishment of an Agricultural Department and the creation of a Professorship of Agriculture. Students who are likely in the future to be owners or managers of land will have the opportunity of acquiring a knowledge of the scientific principles underlying the sound practice of agriculture and of the ways in which our ancestors met problems and difficulties which they, like us, had to face - 1899 02 10

1900

1900 02 01
University Engineering Lab wing, p3

1900 02 03
Engineering School, p2

1900 02 17
The scene at the door of the Senate House on the morning on which the lists in the Mathematical Tripos are published, and the ceremony of the wooden spoon, belong to the life of Cambridge as much as the May Races. But this is not all. Within a few minutes of the announcement on the steps of the Senate House, the name of the winner of the Cambridge Mathematical trophy is telegraphed to the ends of the earth. It is because Cambridge offers the Senior Wranglership that men have come from every part of the earth to pursue their studies in Cambridge. It would have

made a great change if the recommendations of the Mathematical Board of Studies towards its the abolition had been sanctioned by the Senate 00 02 17

1900 06 16
The Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University has published a letter received from Mr Macfarlane-Grieve of Impington Park. "I have watched the successive efforts of the University to help the teaching of agriculture on an intelligently scientific basis since 1893. It would be a distinction for Cambridge to be the first to found a University School of Agriculture. A Professor of Agriculture without a farm, conducted on both model and experimental lines wherewith to illustrate his teaching, is like a Professor of Chemistry without a laboratory. A farm on this estate will fall vacant at Michaelmas and I am prepared to offer it to the University rent free till 1909". The Senate has accepted the offer with thanks CDN 1900 06 16

1900 08 31
We deeply regret to announce the death of Dr Henry Sidgwick, until recently Professor of Moral Philosophy at the University of Cambridge. Though he was at some slight disadvantage in the matter of enunciation his lectures were unusually attractive and even eloquent. He married Eleanor Balfour, sister of the Rt Hon Arthur James Balfour, the present Leader of the House of Commons. She rendered great assistance in the organisation of Newnham College, being appointed principal in 1892. Her husband resided with her at Newnham and took much interest from the first in the foundation and development of the college. With his death the country loses one of the clearest thinkers that the later half of the 19th century had produced c00 08 31

1901 02 16
Anatomy building corner Corn Exchange St & Downing St demolished - Graphic 16.2.1901 p4

1901 06 12
Yarmouth Guardians received a report on the dissection of paupers' bodies. They had been sent to Cambridge by officials of the workhouse since 1881. Professor Macalister sent a cheque for £6 14s 6d for each body but only £5 10s 0d was really incurred for expenses. The railway charge for the carriage of a body was £4 6s.0d but the Master's clerk said it was £4 9s.0d and that he put the other 3s. in the poor box. £1 was paid for a coffin but he received 1s. from the undertaker. All the clerk had to do was to see the body was screwed down, go to the railway station and pay the charge. He said he gave the porters sixpence each but inquiry proved they only received a pint of beer c01 06 12

1901 06 20
A large number witnessed the quaint custom of the presentation of the wooden spoon to the last man in the University Mathematical Tripos. This year two candidates were bracketed at the bottom of the list and both gentlemen received large spoons emblazoned and trimmed with their college colours. The spoons were lowered down to their owners from the gallery in the Senate House amid much interest. Mess Crisp & Co of King's Parade, Cambridge, again supplied the spoons, which were artistically painted and decorated. Mr D. Buchanan, who comes from South Africa, has had an additional spoon presented to him by his South African friends, with the arms and coloured ribbons of Cape Colony c01 06 20

1901 07 18
Great Yarmouth board of Guardians revived the question of paupers' bodies being sent to Cambridge Anatomical School for dissection. Every friendless person who died in the workhouse should be asked before death if he had any objection to his body being sent away for dissection. Mr Saul thought that was a gruesome and unseemly idea. Dissection was perfectly legal and right;

if they declined to allow unclaimed bodies to be used surgeons would be compelled to make experiments on living people or resort to paying for bodies stolen from newly-made graves. The practice will continue c01 07 18

1901 10 23
Chemical Laboratory explosion CDN 1901 10 23, inquest 24th p3

1903 06 19
Sir – it is well-known that owing to inadequate incomes some of our foremost resident mathematicians, whose work reflects honour upon the University, are compelled to divert their energies to routine work of a remunerative character. It is very desirable that means should be found to obviate this difficulty which has become more pressing owing to the shrinkage of college incomes. Very substantial benefits would accrue if funds were available to raise the stipends of two lecturers in mathematics from £50 to £250 a year – G.H. Darwin. 03 06 19

1904
Debate changes in teaching [1.10]
Department of Anthropology established [1.11]
Courses in military studies & mining engineering available [1.11]
Nobel Prize awarded for work at Cavendish Laboratory (again in 1906 & 1908) [8.7]

1904 03 01
All Cambridge united in welcoming King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra to open the new University buildings known as the Sedgwick Museum, the Squire Law Library, Botanical and Medical Schools in Downing Street. Cambridge University has never stagnated but kept pace with the demands of the time. Newer universities have their place in the general scheme of things but they can never supplant our ancient university of Cambridge, nor her twin sister on the banks of the Isis. With the increasing spread of education their prosperity increases

1904 03 02
The Royal visit to Cambridge was followed by an undergraduate ‘rag’ which caused wanton destruction of public and private property even though a large body of police, included mounted men, were on duty. One policeman guarding the proctors was singled out for a little ‘baiting’. As they surged around he took out his baton which was immediately snatched from his hand. Now unprotected the affair seemed likely to develop into a serious disturbance but mounted policemen began to harry the crowd who fled before the horsemen. Many youths annoyed the riders by throwing crackers near their horses. One animal was so startled by an explosion that it threw its rider and careered across Parker’s Piece.

1905 03 03
The University threw open the Senate House to the four thousand and odd voters on the electoral roll to say ‘aye’ or ‘nay’ to the proposal that Greek shall in future be an optional subject in the curriculum of this ancient seat of learning. There is at present none of the wild excitement which characterised the rejection of the claim of women to University degrees in 1896, but there is at least equal interest for in half-an-hour about a hundred votes were registered. Masters of Arts from all parts of England have been summoned and poured into Cambridge by rail and road, the motor-car, as in political elections, bringing many electors to the poll. 05 03 03a

1905 03 04
Cambridge streets have not presented for many a long day such an animated appearance. Trams and cabs have been doing a roaring trade, foot passengers throng the narrow thoroughfares and

motor cars dodge in an out of the traffic in a manner that is somewhat bewildering. All this is caused by the closing scenes of the Greek controversy. Dignified decorum is gradually giving way to infectious excitement. When the Prime Minister, Mr Balfour, arrived at the Senate House to record his vote he was given a rousing reception. Photographers snatched up their camera and raced across the grass to the voters' entrance whilst University dons covered the ground in a manner reminiscent of the racing track. 05 03 04

1905 03 04
A large crowd was attracted to the vicinity of the University Senate House by the unusual spectacle of clusters of electric lights suspended from its exterior walls and the sounds from within of intermittent loud cheering. Members of the University and a number of ladies clambered on to the window sills to watch the proceedings within as the vote reached its conclusion. One of our reporters, whose Greek had grown rusty, sought the assistance of a policeman to decipher an inscription. "Well, it means 'Alas for Greek', doesn't it" he replied promptly. But Greek was triumphant and is to remain a compulsory subject within the University. The end was heralded to those without by a burst of cheering 05 03 04 – 06 [1.12]

1905 10 06
Cheshunt College opened its doors to theological students without any ceremonial. It was founded in 1768 by Selina, the Countess of Huntingdon, and is strictly undenominational. It moved to Cheshunt in 1792 where it was recognised by the University of London and has now transferred to Cambridge. Houses in Cintra Terrace, Hills Road, have been adapted for the 15 students; most will become members of the University and read for degrees. 05 10 06

1906 05 03
The University discussed proposals to restructure the Mathematical Tripos; the competitive nature should be abolished and instead of publishing the names in order of merit from the Senior Wrangler downwards they should be given in alphabetical order in three divisions – Wranglers, Senior Optimes and Junior Optimes. But the order of merit was the greatest stimulant to continued exertion and a great advertisement for the university. Prof J.J. Thompson said pure mathematics was of very little use. Numbers had decreased until last year there were only 56 taking the examination 06 05 03

1906 06 12
A crowd of dons and undergraduates congregated in the Senate House to learn who had gained the coveted distinction of Senior Wrangler but those who were expected to obtain good positions awaited in the seclusion of their rooms the news brought by friends. The examiners stood in the gallery holding the fateful papers in their hands and announced that Mr A.T. Rajan, an Indian student, and Mr C.J. Sewell, both of Trinity, were bracketed as Senior Wranglers. When the order of merit in printed form came fluttering down from the gallery the customary wild scramble for the sheets ensued. 06 06 12

1906 06 19
At the Senate House two Wooden Spoonists received their degrees. H.R. Bell and W. Crouch, both of Selwyn, were bracketed last in the Mathematical Tripos and each was presented with a wooden spoon. Years ago this was a shovel with the college arms hastily painted on the bowl. Now it has become a thing of beauty, a trophy handsomely decorated which would not be out of place in the most artistic study. They were lowered on strings from the gallery and each recipient was handed a pair of garden shears with which he cut the string, bravely shouldered the spoon and marched out accompanied by a perfect tornado of cheers. 06 06 19a & b

1906 06 31
The University is deciding who shall be their representatives in parliament. But voting is not by secret ballot. Three polling stations are furnished with desks and packs of voting cards of different colours with a space for the voter's name, college and degree to be written. Two electors arrived together, one in academicals and the other cap and gownless. He had to wait until his companion had completed his business before borrowing his gown & thus be allowed to vote. 06 06 13a&b

1906 06 31
The owner of the Holme Wood Estate went to court to restrain four undergraduates from trespassing on his land to catch moths. They had arrived on the reclaimed mere with elaborate paraphernalia for luring unwary insects to their doom and remained twelve days, to the annoyance of gamekeepers. They swung lanterns in the pheasant covers, placed 'sticky stuff' on trees and erected a sheet on the roadway. They were fined one shilling. 06 03 31 & a

1906 12 22
We regret to have to record the death of Mr Frederic Wm Maitland, Professor of English Law. He was at the Grand Canary whither he had gone for the winter. He was a prolific writer on the subject of law but his final writing was a memoir of Miss Mary Bateson, with whom he did literary work. One of his last acts was to attend her funeral. By his death Cambridge has lost not only a distinguished scholar but a man of charming and courteous personality who despite his great learning was one of the most unassuming of men. 06 12 22

1907 01 31
Election on Senior Wranglership – 07 01 31, 07 02 01, 07 02 01a, 07 02 04a

1907 02 01
Only members of the University in academic dress are admitted to the Senate House to vote on the abolition of the Senior Wranglership. But one voter managed to elide the vigilance of the janitors and outraged the proprieties by stalking up to the barrier in a light 'dust' coat, swinging his cloth cap in hand. The situation was explained to him and after a hasty retreat he reappeared in the decorous black garment. 07 02 01a

1907 02 04
The doom of the Senior Wrangler has been sealed, and after 1909 that world renowned and historic personage will be as extinct as the Dodo. It is impossible not to feel regret for his passing. He has been so intimately associated with Cambridge as to have become a sort of trademark by which the University is known. But the tendency of modern education is towards specialisation and a University that failed to keep abreast of the times would soon be in decline. 07 02 04

1907 03 18
A movement is on foot amongst English Roman Catholics to establish a college for women, on the lines of Girton or Newnham, at the University. The leader is Miss Eleanor Warner who recently visited the Catholic Convent in Bateman Street. She is now in Rome for a meeting with the Pope. Opinion is strongly favourable and that Cambridge may soon see an addition to her institutions. 07 03 18a

1907 04 20
St Johns and Trinity more senior wranglers – 07 04 20

1907 05 14

There is a close educational bond between Cambridge and Japan. A number of Japanese boys come to the Leys School to receive a modern Western education. More young men come to the University to fit themselves for taking high places in the nation which has cast off the swaddling clothes of Oriental lethargy and become one of the great Powers of the world. It is therefore appropriate that when his Imperial Highness Prince Sandanru Fushimi, the special envoy of the Emperor of Japan, visited Cambridge he should return with the degree of Doctor of Law, honoris causa. 07 05 14

1907 06 12
There was great glee at the award of Honorary Degrees at the Senate House when a toy paper balloon floated down from the gallery and settled on a lady's head. With characteristic imprudence the juniors wanted their balloon returned but the lady was released from her embarrassment by a diversion elsewhere. Cheering greeted the arrival of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, the first Liberal Prime Minister the University has educated since Palmerston. 07 06 12a

1907 06 18
The scene in the Senate House was very tame and it was not until the presentation of the wooden spoons to the last Wrangler that there was any fun at all. This year three men were bracketed for last place. The original wooden spoon, about 30 years ago, grew into a malt shovel with the man's college arms upon it, but this year they were more elaborately decorated than ever and are quite works of art, beautifully adorned from bowl to handle. 07 06 18 & a

1907 07 25
Dr Edward John Routh, was the most famous mathematical coach of his day. He coached 27 Senior Wranglers, 41 Smith's Prizemen, and over 500 Wranglers and was the author of numerous works on statics and dynamics. He died at Newnham Cottage, Queen's Road leaving an estate valued at more than £80,620. 07 07 25

1907 12 11
Cambridge undergraduates joined the 'Brown Dog' agitation in sympathy with members of University College London who feel they have been libelled by anti-vivisectors. They object to an inscription on the statue of a dog in Battersea Recreation Ground which reads: "In memory of the brown terrier dog done to death in the laboratories of University College. Also in memory of the 252 dogs vivisected during the year 1902." Students planned to remove the statue and throw it into the river. But the 'secret' arrangements were too well know to the police. 07 12 11

1908 05 18
Sir - The last Senior Wrangler will be chosen in 1909 and Trinity and St John's are fighting to ensure success in that examination. Trinity secured a lad from the most famous scientific family in England. St John's retaliated by obtaining a boy of extraordinary merit from an East-end slum. Then Trinity secured an Australian and St John's put another man on their mathematical staff specially to coach their candidate: they brought back Professor Bromwich from Galway. Normally lecturers go away to become professors, professors do not get brought here as lecturers to foster unfair College competitions – Pro Bono Publico 08 05 18

1909 06 18
Last senior wrangler – historic sketch – 09 06 18

1910 02 25
University and trade – chair of business wanted – 10 02 25j

1910 04 29
The University's new School of Agriculture in Downing Street was opened by the Duke of Devonshire. Designed by Arnold Mitchell it is built of dull red Dutch brick. The floors and staircase are of fireproof construction and the building is heated by hot water and lighted by electricity. It will accommodate 100 students with a lecture room, botanical laboratory, greenhouse and photographic darkroom. 10 04 29 f & g [1.14]

1910 05 20
The foundation stone of the first block of the new Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at the corner of Downing Street and Tennis Court Road was laid by the Baroness Von Hugel whose husband is the curator. The ceremony was a very quiet one and the proceedings were very brief because of the death of the King. In a cavity under the stone was placed a bottle containing a couple of newspapers and a number of current coins of the realm. 10 05 20

1910 05 27
Col Theodore Roosevelt, ex-President of the United States of America, was awarded an Honorary Degree in the Senate House. He arrived by train from London and was driven to Pembroke Lodge where he lunched with the Vice-Chancellor and 100 friends. Afterwards he was made an Honorary Member of the Union Society. Only Oliver Wendell Holmes, Lord Kitchen and Mr Waterhouse, the architect of the Union building had received this honour before him. The whole visit was very quietly carried out owing to the death of King Edward VII 10 05 27a

1910 09 23
J.W. Clark of Trinity College has resigned as University Registrary after being ill with heart trouble. He was for many years Superintendent of the Museums of Geology and Comparative Anatomy and is the author of many works including a Concise Guide to Cambridge which is the one generally used by visitors. He is a great authority on archaeology and one of the best known Dons to generations of undergraduates. He has taken a great interest in theatrical matters being chairman of the Directors of the New Theatre and the backbone of the ADC for a great many years – 10 09 23e

1911 09 01
Aviation is much too expensive to be enjoyed by the ordinary man. But Mr H.W. Holt, a graduate of King's College, has been building from his own patents a machine to carry one person. When finished the 'Dihehededral triplane biplane tandem' will be on of the lightest and smallest of flying machines. The greatest part of the metal work has been done by Mr Holt at the University Engineering Laboratory and the machine is being erected on the premises of Mr Harry Williams in Victoria Park. It should soon be complete and ready for flying 11 09 01e

1912
1895 arrangements modified, advanced students now known as research students [7.25]

1912 03 15
Balfour Professorship of Genetics endowed for the experimental study of heredity and of development by decent. 12 03 15

1912 03 22
The King has appointed Sir Joseph John Thomson, Cavendish Professor of Experimental Physics, to the Order of Merit. Throughout the world of science this recognition of one of the most eminent of living physicists will be received with satisfaction. His experiments and writings on

electricity and magnetism have profoundly influenced scientific views. He has been honoured by innumerable societies and six years ago was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics. 12 03 22

1912 04 19
One of the ancient University privileges is the power to grant licences for the sale of foreign wines. Licences have been granted to Bursars or stewards of colleges, college butlers or managers of college kitchens and to the custodian of Fitzwilliam Hall. Hotel keepers, grocers, chemists, confectioners, restaurant keepers, the manager of the refreshment room at the railway station and wine merchants also have a Vice-Chancellor's licence which is free. But a wine-dealers licence cost ten guineas annually. Now this last relic of University control over the market and sale of provisions in Cambridge may be abolished 12 04 19b & c

1912 05 24
Mrs H. Bonnett of Lensfield Road has offered to build, equip and endow a Clinical Laboratory for the benefit of Addenbrooke's Hospital as a memorial to her son, the late Mr John Bonnett, who was for many years secretary and legal adviser to the Hospital and one of its most earnest advocates and supporters. It is not often that such a generous, one might almost say princely, benefaction is offered for such an invaluable object. It is a most generous gift at a time when the Governors are about to decide on plans for a new Children's Ward and out-patients' department. 12 05 24f

1912 05 31
Mr Strangeways was the heart and soul of the Cambridge Research Hospital which was opened on Hills Road. There has been a remarkable progress of science. It is now possible to examine bones and joints as if the flesh was transparent and to take photographs of them. The position of bullets and needles can be ascertained and diseases of internal organs elucidated by the X-rays. 12 05 31a & b

1912 06 07
University reform petition to Prime Minister – 12 06 07c

1912 06 24
The wealth of Cambridge in scientific fields seems to grow almost daily. Today is to be opened the new Cambridge Research Hospital for the study of rheumatoid arthritis. The condition can be one of almost ceaseless pain but it arouses less sympathy and lacks the sentimental element that helps hospitals for children and the consumptive. Success will bring about a greater diminution in human misery than the discovery of a cure of cancer. 12 06 24g

1912 10 04
Chelmsford Board of Guardians passed a resolution in favour of the bodies of paupers who die in the Workhouse and are not claimed by relatives being sent to the University Medical School, Cambridge, for experimental purposes. One Guardian described the proposal as a scandal, but others, including two clergymen, said they would be willing to allow their own bodies to be used for a similar purpose. 12 10 04j

1912 10 18
Cambridge Medical Schools recently applied to Chelmsford Guardians for unclaimed bodies of paupers for dissecting purposes. These are indispensable for the education of a surgeon. Prof Courtney Kenny refutes the belief that a person has no legal right to bequeath his own body for anatomical examinations. If he directs that after death his body shall be examined anatomically then the person having lawful possession of the corpse shall direct such an examination to be

made. However the deceased relatives can require the body to be interred without such examination 12 10 18i

1912 11 29
The vote to abolish restrictions on Divinity Degrees was a great surprise to both sides. The scene at the Senate House had been extremely animated with 800 dons casting their votes in 20 minutes. Candidates need no longer preach before the University or declare their assent to the Thirty-nine Articles and the Book of Common Prayer. Previously many of the most distinguished theological scholars have been unable to obtain a Divinity Degree at Cambridge including well-known Free Churchmen such as Dr Barber, the present Headmaster of the Leys School. 12 11 29 & a

1913
University open Divinity degrees to other than those in Holy Orders in Church of England [10.13]
Transfer of solar physics observatory from Kensington to Cambridge, buildings of new observatory practically complete [10.15]

1913 02 21
Chair of Astrophysics endowed [10.14] 13 02 21 p8 CIP

1913 04 24
University Proctors give notice that any innkeeper, dealer, livery-stable keeper, motor warehouse keeper, boat-keeper, keeper of a place of entertainment or other person who has any dealings with members of the University who admits to his premises, or to the use of any vehicle or boat in his charge, any woman who he knows to be of loose character in circumstances which may lead her to associate with any student, shall be liable to be discommuned and forbidden to trade with the University. 13 04 24 p5 CIP

1914
First Chair of Biochemistry in part of Physiology labs [43]
University serious loss of funds, no fees & dues & rents & fines due lack students [455.12]

1914 03 20
Amongst those who took their M.A. was Mr G.A. Mackenzie who is the first to attain the degree despite being born deaf. For some years he was a well-known artist in Liverpool, then became a diocesan missioner in Oxford. In 1906 he came to Cambridge and founded the Ely Diocesan Association in aid of the Deaf and Dumb. At the same time he read for his degree, attaining his B.A. in 1910. He learned to speak with the aid of his mother and an elocutionist and can now conduct all his business by speech. 14 03 20a

1914 06 12
The new School of Physiology presented to the University by the Worshipful Company of Drapers was opened by Prince Arthur of Connaught on Downing Street site at cost of £23,500. It includes research rooms, library, x-ray room and a demonstration theatre which can be rapidly darkened. One room is given over to photographic work and includes a kinematograph which projects moving pictures on to a screen. This has a great value for teaching purposes as raid movements can be slowed and their analysis facilitated. 1914 06 12 p10, p6 [3.6,10.7]

1914 10 02
Effect on academic year of war 14 10 02 [see c. 45.5]

1915 02 26
The Universities of Oxford & Cambridge have been transformed by the war: at Oxford the examination schools have been turned into a military hospital, colleges house soldiers instead of students and the only undergraduates in academic dress are those disqualified from military service. But this means a serious loss of revenue and a Bill should be introduced to enable them to adjust their finances to meet the strain so they could provide for the men when they returned after the war, the Attorney General told Parliament. The Bill, backed by Mr Asquith, was read a first time, amid cheers. 15 02 26 [12.20]

1915 03 26
The first fruits of the University statutes opening divinity degrees to nonconformists have just been made public. The distinction of being the first Nonconformist to receive recognition has fallen to the Rev W. West Holdsworth late of Sidney Sussex and now tutor in New Testament Language at Handsworth College, Birmingham 15 03 26

1915 05 07
University welcomed Belgian university students and organised courses during year 15 05 07 p8

1915 06 25
First students under new war regulations take degrees, those in khaki did not wear gowns 15 06 21 p4 – photo – 15 06 25b Ch

1915 10 08
University and war: 10,000 Cambridge men in khaki; 470 killed, 7000 wounded; over 300 distinctions won on field 15 10 08 p6

1915 11 26
Important war work done by University laboratories – pamphlet on food economy – 15 11 26 p6

1916 08 23
Captured German Plane. There arrived in Cambridge on Thursday last a captured German aeroplane of the Albatross type, the gift of the Government to the University. When the aeroplane is erected it is to be housed in the Engineering Laboratories. Just at the moment, however, the staff is too busy to take this work in hand. It is hoped to have it in its place in the laboratories in October, when we believe it is intended to make a small charge at first to view this interesting trophy of the war, for the benefit of the Red Cross, or some other war funds, the machine, of course, is to remain in Cambridge as the property of the university. All the parts are here and the machine appears to be in good condition.

1917 10 03
Serbian Colony, — An interesting reception, at which 100 people were present, was hold in Westminster College, Cambridge, on Saturday evening to celebrate the closing of the temporary Serbian colony at the college. This colony has been running for the past three months under the care of the Serbian Relief Fund, to enable students to pass a matriculation examination at a standard set by the Serbians, and which the British Universities had agreed shall take the place of Responsions and Little-go. Thirty Serbian students had taken part in the exam. 17 10 03 CIPof

1918 02 13
New Master of Trinity College, —It was officially announced last weekend that the King had been pleased to approve the appointment of Sir Joseph John Thomson, O.M.. D.Sc., F.R.S.. to be Master of Trinity College, Cambridge. Sir Joseph Thomson is one of the best known residents in

this, university, and one of the most distinguished members of Trinity College, the college which produced Sir Isaac Newton. He has a world reputation as a physicist and holds honorary degrees received from a multitude of universities. He is devoted to science and to his work, and more at home in the laboratory than anywhere else. He has produced work which will live long after him and which has been of national service during the war. He may be regarded as the creator of the now famous Cavendish Laboratory

1919
Royal Commission says "The growth of science at Cambridge has been perhaps the greatest fact in the history of the University since its foundation" [8.6]
University Report stresses need for financial assistance [3.10, 11.9]
Oil companies give 200 guineas to endow Chemical School [3.10, 11.10]
Rutherford appointed Professor [4.7]
Vote on abolition of Greek [8.11]

1919 01 29
400 cadets from naval educational expeditionary party to be based in colleges; were cadets in 1914 who were mobilised from Dartmouth when war declared. Will remain from 5-6 months. They will study mathematics and science at Cavendish and Engineering Laboratories and range of subjects. HQ at Trinity. Enormous influx means limits for undergraduate lodgings have to be extended to within 2.5miles of Gt St Mary's 19 01 29b [3.7,3.12]

1919 03 05
Oxygen treatment for gas poisoning, specially erected chambers at 'Springfield', Sidgwick Avenue in connection EGH. Research started in Physiological Laboratories early in 1917 under Joseph Barcroft who made Superintendent in Physiology to Ministry of Munitions. Thirty cases have been treated. Requires exercise and physical training in spacious grounds. Has inner chamber of iron and glass which is airtight. Oxygen added. – 19 03 05a

1919 03 26
Cambridge after the war – County Life article by Bernard Darwin … officers have vanished, tailors windows no longer full uniform, undergraduates in Norfolk jackets and grey flannel trousers; lodging difficulties; no more idlers; more agricultural students – 19 03 26a

1919 04 02
Cambridge industries: what firms have done during the war; how to encourage factories; address by H.S. Whipple. Includes: Engineering Labs – high-explosive shells and gauges for manufacture other war equipment

1919 04 21
200 American student soldiers up for May term – Times 21 Apr 1919 [455.10]

1919 10 15
Coming up – influx of students – during past few days has shown all the pre-war activity; students whose study interrupted by war have resumed education; arrival undergraduates coincided with ending of rail strike; Prince Albert and Prince Henry motored from Buckingham Palace to 'Southacre', Latham Road – 19 10 15a photo Royals 19 10 15b

1919 12 03
University Chancellor.—-With befitting dignity, and amid enthusiastic scenes, the Right - Hon. A. J, Balfour was installed as Chancellor of Cambridge University on Thursday. On his leaving

the Senate House, the police were hard put to it to prevent enthusiastic undergraduate from mounting the roof of the Chancellor's car. 19 12 03 CIPof

1920

1920 01 28
Cambridge Magazine claims for damage caused during unruly scenes on Armistice Day; Medical Schools damaged; damage had happened out of term time and not done by University people – 20 01 28

1920 05 20
University Engineering Labs, Scroope Terrace – if not approved students would go elsewhere - CDN 20 05 20

1920 05 26
Admiral Jellicoe & Earl Haig receive Honorary Degrees; Haig 'chaired' by undergraduates– photos – Ch 20 05 26b, c

1920 10 01
University overflowing, numbers surpassing all previous records - CDN 20 10 01

1920 10 06
Metallurgical Laboratory opened - CDN 20 10 06

1920 10 13
Department of Metallurgy building given by Goldsmiths' Company unveiled – Ch 20 10 13c

1920 12 09
University reject admission of women by 192 votes - CDN 20 12 09 [see section on University Women]

1921 10 26
University votes against women's degrees; undergraduate mock funeral – photos – 21 10 26b

1922
Are 5,000 undergraduates compared to 3,000 pre -war [2.22]

1922 03 25
There was issued yesterday the report of the Royal Commission on Oxford and Cambridge Universities. "We are unanimous in thinking" (says the Commissioners) "that ample facilities should be offered for the education of women. On the other hand we strongly desire that Cambridge should remain mainly and predominantly a men's university. To give a sense of security we consider that the number of women undergraduates should be 500, which would give a proportion of about one in each ten of the total number of undergraduates" 1922 03 25 [8.12,11.6]

1922 05 31
Low Temperature Research Station established [14.3]

1924

Board of Extra Mural Studies set up, (its headquarters Stuart House formally opened 1927) [3.17, 8.22]

1924 05 10
At the opening of the Sir William Dunn Institute of the Cambridge University School of Biochemistry Sir Jeremiah Coleman said they had heard a great deal lately about the horrors of cancer and the necessity for co-operative effort throughout the world to deal with that great curse. He believed that the causes of that scourge would be discovered by a student who had not been thinking especially of cancer. Why should it not be done in the building in which they were assembled that day? 24 05 10 [43.2]

1924 09 09
Mr Ernest Gates, whose munificent gift of £33,000 to complete the endowment of a School of Pathology at Cambridge University was announced last week, is one of the magnates of the Yorkshire wool industry, who do big things in a big way and employ their ample financial resources lavishly for beneficial purposes. His only son is now at Corpus Christi College. 24 09 09

1925 03 14
Machinery was whirling, wireless valves were glowing, loud speakers were in full blast, a cinema lantern was projecting pictures, steam was hissing, and electric sparks were crackling in the Cambridge University Engineering Laboratories when 1,000 guests attended a conversatione to mark the completion of the equipment of the new laboratories at Scroop Terrace. It is only necessary for the front lecture room block to be erected ere the whole of the building will be complete. 25 03 24

1925 08 18
Members of the veterinary and medical sciences cemented feelings of professional friendship with the laying of the foundation stone of the Field Laboratories, Milton Road, in connection with the Institute of Animal Pathology which is to be erected in Tennis Court Road, Cambridge. Recent benefactions to the University of £100,000 from Mr Gates, the Rockefeller Foundation & the Corn Repeal Act Fund are to be drawn upon for the erection of the new unit. The vice-chancellor remarked jestingly that he was relieved that it was proposed to keep the greater number of animals here, "some little distance from Cambridge & from where I live" (Laughter) 25 08 18

1925 10 17
Something of a new departure is to be made in the outward appearance of the Pro-Proctor and his satellites. Commencing next week he will patrol the streets on foot but minus cap and gown, and the 'bulldogs' will wear some less conspicuous headgear than 'toppers'. It is said that some students will keep their motors outside the town and cycle out to fetch them but should any resort to such expedients they will probably receive an unpleasant surprise 25 10 17

1926 08 30
Sir – Probably the hardest-worked and the poorest paid college servant is the kitchen porter. In full term he puts in from 13 to 14 hours a day and at the end of the week if he draws 25s. (£1.12) (his food included) he may consider himself lucky – and perhaps the less said about the quality of some of the food the better. They get few tips – an average of 4s. (20p) a term, and perhaps nothing, and in all probability have to stand off during the Long Vacation. These men are honest and trusted servants who should be paid a living wage – A British Worker c26 08 30

1927
Dunn Nutritional Laboratories established [43.3]

1927 02 07
A momentous event in the history of extra-mural teaching at Cambridge University was marked by the opening of Stuart House. Standing in Mill Lane it is a beautiful house and a worthy addition to the architectural wealth of the town. It is named after the Right Hon. James Stuart, Fellow of Trinity College, who founded extra-mural teaching work in the University and was largely responsible for its extension to other parts of the country 27 02 07

1927 06 26
When the honours degree men were presented to the Vice Chancellor there was distinct evidence of a movement to break down the tradition of wearing evening dress. Many graduates were in morning dress and soon the sight of men walking about the streets of Cambridge at noon in evening dress will be a thing of the past. The old statutes prescribed that recipients of Bachelors' degrees must appear in black clothes and since the war impecunious undergraduates found their only black suits were their dress clothes. The new statute states that dark clothes must be worn which brings in the lounge suit. The evening dress tradition is not very old and rests on nothing but undergraduates' customs c27 06 26

1928
Rockefeller fund grant University 700,000 for teaching research & a new University Library as old becoming too small [3.20, 8.16, 10.5]

1930

1930 03 19
The death of Lord Balfour the former Prime Minister, great statesman, philosopher and Chancellor of Cambridge University will be particularly felt here. At Trinity College in the 1870s he was rather shy but fond of music and once owned four concertinas on which he delighted to play Handel's oratorios when anyone could be found to accompany him. He was renowned for the hours he would lie in bed and for his passion for blue china and pleasant knick-knacks. His seclusion nourished the fastidiousness of his mind and temper. 30 03 19

1930 06 05
Scenes of academic splendour marked the ceremony of the installation of Mr Stanley Baldwin as Chancellor of the University of Cambridge at the Senate House. The historic building was filled to capacity with a brilliant array of distinguished Cambridge figures. Crowds waited in the precincts and Mr Baldwin's arrival was the signal for a prolonged outburst of cheering. 30 06 05a

1930 12 03
Sir Ernest Rutherford, in a special interview, gave the CDN details of the work which has prompted the Royal Society to present the University of Cambridge with £15,000 for a new science cryogenetic laboratory. It will support the work of Dr Peter Kapitza, the young Russian scientist who has been carrying out investigations at the Cavendish Laboratory into magnetic fields which involves exceedingly low temperatures. 30 12 03

1931 06 05
A prominent figure in University and military circles is removed by the death of Col Charles Heycock, Goldsmith's Reader in Metallurgy; on his retirement the Goldsmiths' Company increased the endowment of the Laboratory in recognition of his services. He attended the Perse

School and was the first honorary member of the Cambridge Rotary Club. When Kitchener's Army was formed he commanded the Cambridgeshire Battalion from its nucleus at the Corn Exchange, to the County and Melbourne Place schools before retiring in 1916. 31 06 05d & e

1931 10 09
Signor Marconi in honorary degree procession – pic – 31 10 09e

1931 10
World's scientists gather to honour James Clerk Maxwell, Director of Cavendish Laboratory [6.14]

1932
Neutron discovered, Cavendish [12.4]

1932 05 06
Prof Albert Einstein lectured on electricity and relativity in the Cambridge Senate House, filling a blackboard with mathematical symbols and diagrams. A tall, thick-set figure, with a great mane of unruly grey hair, he was totally unacademic in appearance, speaking in quiet broken English with occasional burst of German. He lectured quite informally while his quiet humour set the dons and undergraduates laughing many times. The audience included members of the women's colleges and a puzzled-looking group of young school girls. 32 05 06 – photo – 32 05 07

1932 06 25
C.P. Snow prepares Vitamin A by artificial means [1.17]

1932 08 12
The University of Cambridge has accepted Messrs Rattee and Kett's tender for the superstructure of the new University Library. They are also building an extension to the School of Agriculture and the Royal Society Mond Laboratory while Mr Sindall is building the new block of lecture rooms in Mill Lane and Coulson and Son have the contract for the extension to the Physiological Laboratory. These valuable contracts have been made possible largely by the munificent gift of the Rockefeller Trustees 32 08 12b

1933
Mill Lane Lecture Rooms opened [8.15]

1933 02 02
Cambridge's most modern laboratory, the Royal Society Mond Laboratory, provides unique facilities for research under the most powerful magnetic fields ever developed and intense cold temperatures. It is the outcome of researches by Dr P. Kapitza in the Cavendish Laboratory which might have far-reaching effects. 33 02 02a & b [1.4] opened by Baldwin – 33 02 03b & c, photo 33 02 04c

1933 02 04
The opening of the new Mond laboratory by Mr Stanley Baldwin has thrown into prominence the work of Professor Kapitza, the young Russian from whose investigations the laboratory has spring. He combines the physicist and the engineer and the mere scale of his apparatus is almost daring. When a party of pressmen visited Kaptiza demonstrated some of the low-temperature hydrogen, and then said if anything went wrong they would probably be decapitated! 33 02 04d

1933 02 18

The Cavendish Laboratory seems unable to keep out of the limelight. Sensation follows sensation as the invisible atom is mercilessly attacked. And now comes news of the discovery of a minute particle of positive electricity which may lead to entirely revised conceptions of the ultimate nature of matter. 33 02 18

1933 05 15
Members of Clare College were awakened by the sounds of banging and hammering at every entrance gate: each had been securely padlocked and barred so staff were unable to gain admittance. Axes had to be procured to break the stout chains. Then it was discovered that all the locks had been carefully filled up with putty so a considerable time elapsed before the normal college routine could be resumed 33 05 15b

1934 01 16
Medical school demolition photo, p1

1934 05 26
Sir – we scientific workers and teachers of the University wish to affirm out fundamental opposition to the use of scientific research in war and the preparation of war. A situation may soon arise when scientists will be pressured to engage in research directed to the purpose of war Signed: Joseph Needham (Biochemist), E.O. Whetham (Agriculture), Marjory Stephenson (Biochemistry), M.L. Oliphant , C.P. Snow, B.M. Crowther and Alex Wood (Physics) and others 34 05 26

1934 10 19
Cambridge University Department of Zoology's new building looks rather like the upper decks of some huge liner when viewed from Corn Exchange Street. It has been built of concrete and steel so that should the study of zoology ever fall in favour it can be adapted for other purposes. Inside it is possible to be perspiring in tropic heat in one moment and shivering in Artic cold the next. The Elementary Laboratory, the largest of its kind in the world, is on the ground floor so that the vibration caused by students entering and leaving should not be felt throughout the building. 34 10 19

1934 10 28
University Library finished, Eaden Lilley move 1,270,000 volumes; opened by King [8.16, 10.1,10.3, 10.4]

1934 11 07
The All People's Association Cambridge clubhouse was opened by the Vice Chancellor. One of the chief functions of a university was to attract people of all kinds and nations. There were a large number of foreign students here for short periods and colleges made the position rather difficult for a young man brought up in a different tradition. The A.P.A. was doing good work by taking a special interest in the short-term student. The world had gone mad: it was depressing to find principles of liberty of speech and the freedom of the press going by the board. The next 20 years were going to be the most vital in the history of humanity and we must make a serious attempt to understand the other fellow's point of view. 34 11 07 & a

1934 11 16
The new Scott Polar Research Institute was opened by the Chancellor of the University, the Rt Hon Stanley Baldwin. It was founded as a memorial of Capt Robert Falcon Scott to assist polar exploration by collecting information and providing a centre where those contemplating future

explorations can profit by the experience of those who have gone before. Later Baldwin opened the new extensions of the Perse School buildings 34 11 16, a was established 1920 [1.3,114.1]

1934 11 24
There have never been more than 15 Japanese undergraduates at Cambridge in any year since the war – there are currently seven and the number may drop to three. But Mr M.Y. Sawatake is prepared to stay on to form a Japan Society to encourage discussion and understanding of topics of mutual interest. Viscount Hijikato, another undergraduate, said it was a pity the added expense of the exchange rate prevented more coming as undergraduates. The supply will not dry up altogether as long as Cambridge welcomed Japanese students: apart from instruction in economics and the sciences it was the atmosphere that the Japanese valued 34 11 24c

1935
University Registry moved from Pitt Press to Old Schools [11.4]

1935 01 19
Guests came to the University Zoological Department to inspect the new Balfour and Newton Libraries. Francis Maitland Balfour, who was killed in the Alps in 1882, started the science of embryology. He became one of the most distinguished biologists of his century, founding the finest zoological laboratories in the world. Prof Alfred Newton gave the University his unique collection of very early ornithological books. The honorary Librarian is Mr Ambrose Harding of Madingley, an authority on birds and leeches 35 01 19a

1935 03 02
Two Cambridge scientists on team combating air attacks by scientific investigation [1.20]

1935 04 24
Professor Peter Kapitza, a leading University physicist, who went to Russia to attend a conference last summer, has been told that he cannot return to Cambridge. Lord Rutherford, director of the Cavendish Laboratory, has described it as 'a severe shock and most unfortunate'. A special Royal Society Mond Laboratory was built with machines producing as much electrical power as those at Battersea Power Station, when Kapitza carried out experiments with them mild 'earthquake shocks' occurred in the building. 35 04 24. Kapitza, a Russian scientist working at the Cavendish Laboratory is not allowed to return to Cambridge after visit home. Rutherford expresses concern that he should come to the new lab prepared for him but eventually the equipment is sent to Moscow, (visits April 1966) [1.2,1.21,2.2,12.11]

1935 06 08
The official announcement that Stanley Baldwin is to succeed Ramsey MacDonald as head of the Government is of special interest to Cambridge because it is the first time in history that we have had a statesman occupying the position of Prime Minister and Chancellor of the University at one and the same time. Nothing has commended Baldwin more to the public than the loyal way he, as an ex-Prime Minister, has served under Mr Macdonald in the last six years. Now MacDonald is to serve under him 35 06 08a

1935 10 18
Controversy surrounded the offer of £10,000 from Sir John Davenport Siddeley for developing aeronautical research in the University. Some dons felt it would subsidise research of a military character of pecuniary value to armament manufacturers. But others say the ultimate influence of the aeroplane upon civilisation will be pacific rather than warlike. It was abhorrent that the

University should become a centre of specifically military research but this money would be used for work of a fundamental and non-military character 35 10 18b

1935 11 13
Important pieces of apparatus were installed at the Royal Society Mond Laboratory in Cambridge to enable Dr Kapitza to study very intense magnetic fields and experiment on low-temperature liquid helium. This work is of fundamental importance relating to properties of atomic nuclei. Now Lord Rutherford had agreed it should be sent to a laboratory being built by the Government of the USSR so that Kapitza can continue his research there, following his recall to Russia. 35 11 13

1935 12 07
For the past 14 years Professor P.L. Kapitza, the famous Soviet scientist, has been doing research in England. The laboratory he used at Cambridge was erected specially for him by the University authorities. Now the apparatus has been purchased by the Russians and installed in a remarkable building on the outskirts of Moscow. It has rock-like foundations of special cement to ensure complete freedom from vibration. The walls are lined with barium plaster through which the strongest X-Rays cannot penetrate and the doors covered with massive sheets of lead. His work will deal largely with research into the magnetic and electric properties of metals under extremely low temperatures 35 12 07d

1936 05 02
Cambridge University's world-famous Cavendish Laboratory, the leading centre for modern physical research, has benefited by the magnificent gift of £250,000 from Sir Herbert Austin, the motor magnate. The frontage on to Free School lane will be left as will Clark Maxwell's original lecture theatre and the rooms in which Sir J.J. Thomson discovered the electron and Lord Rutherford disintegrated the atom. The rest will be pulled down and a new five-storey block erected with a laboratory for the utilisation of very high voltages to allow experiments in the transmutation of matter by high speed particles and by radiation. 36 05 01a 36 05 02

1936 10 01
The Vice Chancellor spoke of the overcrowding of the Medical Schools and suggested that despite extensive additions to departmental buildings the University would have to consider placing a limit on the number of undergraduates for medicine or any other subject. Unless something is done the situation may become one of even greater embarrassment than already exists. But the donation by Sir Herbert Austin of £250,000 for new buildings and equipment at the Cavendish Laboratory was the largest ever made by a single person to the University 36 10 01b

1937 01 07
Dr Paul Dirac was appointed as-old Lucasian Professor of Mathematics at Cambridge University in 1932 a few days before his 30th birthday, becoming the youngest occupant of this famous chair which was once occupied by Isaac Newton, and remains the youngest professor in Cambridge. He has a reputation for being of a particularly shy and retiring disposition." A London newspaper stated: "More than publicity he fears women. He has no interest in them and even after being introduced to them cannot remember whether they are pretty or plain". He has now wed in London. The marriage was unexpected in Cambridge and even his colleagues at St John's College were unaware of the ceremony. 37 01 07

1937 10 20

Cambridge and the scientific world have suffered an irreparable loss by the death of Lord Rutherford. Cavendish Professor of Experimental Physics and Director of the Cavendish Laboratory since 1919, he thrilled the world five years ago when two young scientists working under his guidance split the atom. He won the Nobel Prize in 1908, was knighted in 1914 and awarded the Order of Merit in 1925. Rutherford made very little use of mathematical machinery and worked surrounded by a body of assistants and students who were devoted to him. He died in a nursing home following an abdominal operation 37 10 20b His room locked (cleaned 1946, reopened 1977 [12.6]

1938 05 31
Changes in University life, recollections and reflections by T.R. Glover - 38 05 31g, h

1938 09 29
Cambridge colleges have sent out notices to undergraduates ordering them not to come into residence until further instruction. However examinations will take place as usual and candidates will be allowed to come up for them. Meanwhile preparations continue for the reception of 10-11,000 London children it is planned to evacuate. Church halls and schools will be suitable for temporary accommodation. Women helpers, blankets and rugs are still needed 38 09 29a

1939 05 06
Dorothy Garrod of Newnham College elected first woman professor of Cambridge University – women are not officially members of the university and have no gowns – 39 05 06

1940

1940
Woolwich & Sandhurst closed, students come to Cambridge, Latin & Greek dispensed with; for first time are members of University who have never studied a word of Latin in their lives [4.13]

1940 01 13
Cambridge University has adopted special measures to meet the difficulty of interrupted studies. Many men cannot be expected to reside for more than two years in wartime so modification have been made in certain important courses, particularly engineering and law to enable them to make the best use of the time available. Colleges will admit scholars in December so they may begin their University studies nine months earlier than normal. – 40 01 13a

1940 02 24
Studentship at Trinity College for study of psychical phenomena [2.6]

1940 07 26
Cambs. War Agricultural Committee, visited the University Farm. Cambridge and shown the work being done there in ploughing up grass land for the cultivation of animal crops 40 07 26 CIPof

1940 08 30
J.J. Thomson obituary, discovered electron, world-famous physicist – 40 08 30

1940 10 11
Fewer Students. Full term at Cambridge at the start of the second year under war conditions saw the number of students up still further reduced from last year's figures. Instead of the normal peace time total of 5,000, it is estimated that the number of men coming up will be only 2,500.

Graduates, as well as undergraduates, have left on national service of one form or another. Third year men of course, represent only a small fraction of the total coming up, while the number of freshmen is only a little over half that usually to be found second year men are in the majority by far, and the number is estimated to be only 20 below normal. 40 10 11 CIPof

1941 02 19
King Peter of Yugoslavia to become undergraduate at Clare College, the first time a reigning monarch has been entered - 41 02 19a

1941 11 10
King of Greece granted Honorary Degree – 41 11 10a

1942 12 14
Lord Woolton pays tribute scientists at the Low-Temperature Research Station for part in discovering best war-time foods – dried eggs, powdered milk and powdered meat – 42 12 14, 42 12 19

1944 02 19
New Museums Club renamed Association of Cambridge University Assistants – 44 02 19

1944 05 19
Australian and New Zealand prime ministers receive Honorary Degrees 44 05 19, 20a

1945 08 07
Cambridge real 'home' of Atom bomb: early work at Cavendish Laboratory; four members of Technical Committee from Cambridge – CDN 1945 08 07; details – CDN 1945 08 11

1945 10 05
Malayan Examinations. One of the-last things that many children in Malaya did before the Japanese invasion in 1941 was to take the examination for the Cambridge School Certificate. Now, after a lapse of nearly four years, the office of the Examination Syndicate in Cambridge has received a cable from Singapore inquiring about the results of that examination. An official of the Syndicate told the "Press and Chronicle" that most of the scripts from Malaya arrived safely but from Penang and two other places only portions were received. A statement of the results of the examinations has been prepared and will be delivered to the waiting candidates. Those who were only able to complete part of the examination will be allowed to take their other paper now without additional fee. Before the war an average of about 4,000 candidates took the Cambridge School Certificate examination on the Far East - most of them being Malayans and Chinese.

1946 03 13
Bull College closing. 140 students have left mark all over the University, members of various colleges during Michaelmas term but because of overcrowding this term moved to billets formerly occupied by War Office. Studied under barrack-room conditions. Played sports and one elected president Union Society – 46 03 13a

1946 03 19
Atom case trial; Sir Wallace Akers was appointed director to supervise nuclear research in Nov 1941. Work carried out by teams in various universities, one the Cavendish Laboratory. Dr Nunn May worked there and required to sign secrecy undertaking. Moved to Canada in 1942 – 46 03 19, 19a

1946 07 25
Cavendish Laboratory Austin wing opened – associated with Atom bomb – 46 07 25

1947 04 01
Soviets visit Cavendish Laboratory, p5

1947 12 08
University formally agree that women should have full status; to wear academic dress, Newnham & Girton accepted as colleges – 47 12 08 [2.14, 2.21, 5.3, 8.24]

1948 06 10
Fifty seven year after he entered the University as an undergraduate Field Marshal Smuts was today the recipient of the highest academic honour the university can bestow when he was installed as Chancellor at a picturesque and dignified ceremony in the Senate House. Afterwards, in a striking speech, he warned the world that Soviet Communism, intoxicated with success, was directing a sustained, ruthless, aggressive advance against an exhausted, war-weary, disillusioned West, and urged that a halt be called to it 48 06 10

1948 10 21
When the Queen stood before the Vice Chancellor in Cambridge Senate House today to receive the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Law she was not only a Queen receiving an Honour but also a symbol of the passing of a 700-years-old "tradition" in the university. For, during the whole of the University's history no Queen - and no other woman - has ever before had a degree conferred upon her, because until the recent changes in the statutes giving women full membership the conferring of such an honour was not possible. As the Queen entered the Senate House there was a burst of cheering and clapping. Her scarlet Doctor's robes and her black velvet doctor's cap, made a charming ensemble with the Cambridge blue shade of her dress

1948 11 10
Members of the Senate are to discuss a report on the future use of Madingley Hall, recently purchased by the university. These proposals include its use as the headquarters of a school of veterinary studies, as the nucleus of a new college within the university, or as a house of residence for graduate and undergraduate members of the university. The Hall with certain adaptations could possibly provide accommodation for some 52 students

1949
World's first electronic stored-programme automatic digital computer fully operational - EDSAC I, Crick & Watson used it for DNA research; by 1958 had perfected EDSAC II which could do in one minute problems that took EDSAC I an hour; [17.6]

1949 02 05
Vice Chancellor found to have no powers over licences to sell British wine [11.7]

1949 04 25
Fire at Cavendish Laboratory [7.10]

1949 10 29
The hope that it would be "a very long time" before Cambridge University elected a permanent Vice Chancellor was expressed by the Master of Christ's, Dr C.E. Raven. He said that occasionally one did get the almost perfect holder of that office, but in the main such men either had not sufficient character to run such a great administrative machine, or they had so much that

no one else got a word in hedgeways! “You cannot get rid of a permanent Vice Chancellor unless he is definitely immoral or definite insane!”, the speaker added c49 10 29

1950

1950 01 24
University representation in parliament has been abolished by the recent Representation of the People’s Act. Amongst those deprived of their seats are the two Cambridge University members, Dr Kenneth Pickthorn (conservative) and H. Wilson Harris (independent). Mr Harris has not sought another constituency but is waiting to see whether Mr Churchill will be in a position to restore the University seats c50 01 24

1950 04 25
Another fire at Cavendish Laboratory [7.10]

1950 09 12
Flags flew at half-mast in Cambridge as the University and Town mourned the death of Jan Christiaan Smuts, scholar, soldier, statesman & Chancellor of Cambridge University. His was a short-lived chancellorship lasting just over two years but is rich in memories. In June 1948 thousands lined the streets to see him walk in procession from the Senate House to Christ’s College and their hearts warmed to the slight, sunburned figure who acknowledged their cheers. Distinguished men are commonplace visitors to Cambridge, and often pass unnoticed; but all restraint went overboard on this occasion and the chancellor was obviously moved by the warmth of his reception 50 09 12

1951
Holford Report allocates land West of Backs for college & University development [8.25]

1951 06 07
Installed as Chancellor of Cambridge University before the brilliantly robed dignitaries of the University and a crowded Senate House, Marshall of the Royal Air Forces, Lord Tedder, described it as “The greatest honour that can ever come to a Cambridge man”. King’s Parade was crowded with people seeking a glimpse of this unique event whilst inside the Senate House itself every available inch of room was taken up with people standing inside the windowsills. The gallery too was crowded, mostly with undergraduates and girl students 51 06 07

1951 11 01
Air Ministry proposals to use the Stella Maris nursing home to accommodate members of an Inter-Services course learning Russian at the University was described as a “scandal”. It was admirably equipped for use as a hospital, has accommodation for 40 patients, two completely equipped operating theatres and could relieve the 2,000-strong waiting list at Addenbrooke's Hospital. A proposal by the Ministry to acquire the Heritage guest house in Silver Street and 9, Newnham Terrace, Cambridge, had not gone through after college freeholders had ‘dug their heels in’ c51 11 01

1952 06 12
Cambridge University is considering the possibility of increasing the number of women permitted to the University in any one year. The Council of Senate recommends there should be a new autonomous foundation for women students, the number not exceeding 100. They consider there is a great need for women graduates but any increase should not lead to a lowering of standards.

Present regulations permit of 1,400 women, one-fifth of the total of men students. Cambridge is doing considerably less than other Universities in providing women with a University education

1952 07 05
Cambridge University announced proposals to erect a number of new buildings for the arts faculties between Sidgwick Avenue and West Road. It will provide accommodation in the first instance for the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages, Economics and Politics, English and Moral Sciences. At a later stage the scheme will provide for museums and a lecture theatre to seat 1,000 students constructed to permit its use for musical or dramatic productions. It is not possible to say when work will begin.

1952 09 27
Nuffield Foundation gives 25,000 to Maths Lab for calculating machine [6.5]

1952 11 14
The visit to the University of Cambridge by the Duke of Edinburgh was enriched and enlivened by the reception which the young consort received at every stage of his tour. It was a "dusk and darkness" tour but the car's interior lighting was on and the crowds had a clear view of the slim, fair-haired Duke. The outstanding items in the programme were the conferment of the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Law upon the Duke at the Senate House, his opening of the new laboratory at the University Engineering Department and his visit to the University Union where he was made an honorary member. The Duke left a happy memory of an unassuming young man with a ready smile and a keen and intelligent interest in all that he saw. c52 11 14

1952 12 31
In a field at the rear of the University Rugby ground a team of Cavendish Laboratory workers, led by Mr. M. Ryle, have set up a station for the study of the very weak cosmic radio waves which are reaching the earth from outer space. This new study has become known as radio astronomy and the large aerial systems used are now known as radio telescopes. Since 1946 the Cavendish have pioneered observations in this new branch of astronomy. The construction of a large version of the telescope would have involved great expense, but in conjunction with Mr D. McKay an entirely new method of constructing the aerial was devised which enabled it to be built at a fraction of the cost.

1953
DNA discovery, James Watson & Francis Crick [NS2.10]

1953 01 03
In a field at the rear of the University Rugby ground a team of Cavendish Laboratory workers, led by Mr. M. Ryle, have set up a station for the study of the very weak cosmic radio waves which are reaching the earth from outer space. This new study has become known as radio astronomy and the large aerial systems used are now known as radio telescopes. Since 1946 the Cavendish have pioneered observations in this new branch of astronomy. The construction of a large version of the telescope would have involved great expense, but in conjunction with Mr D. McKay an entirely new method of constructing the aerial was devised which enabled it to be built at a fraction of the cost. c53 01 03

1953 07 13
Seven months ago the Duke of Edinburgh opened the new wing of Cambridge University Engineering Laboratory and stopped to examine equipment in the Heat Engines Laboratory. It was an historic moment and yet not a single cameraman was there to record it. Instead,

unobtrusively sketching the scheme was a well-known artist, Mr Terence Cuneo and now the painting has been unveiled in the entrance hall of the new Baker Building. The engineers felt it was completely worthy of the great occasion it recorded and when told that Mr Cuneo had been commissioned to paint the official picture of the Coronation scene in Westminster Abbey this did not surprise them.

1953 10 10
Square cap no longer official – cartoon, p8

1953 12 02
Representatives of the British Electrical and Allied Manufacturers Association whose members have subscribed £72,000 to ensure the perpetual endowment of the chair of Electrical Engineering presented the University Vice-Chancellor with a rosewater dish. He told them that the electrical industry has grown to one of great eminence and importance; there is an urgent need in the industry for advanced men and specialists and the University is working to provide the men we need. 53 12 02

1954 03 24
Mr A. Rutherford Almond, head of the old-established tailoring and robe-making firm was awarded an honorary M.A. degree by Cambridge University. The Orator said: "We attach great importance to the correct and traditional academic dress and the Proctors are watching with eagle eye for any breach in sartorial regulations. There remains a great many uncertainties about the different varieties of academic vestments but Mr Almond had a deeper knowledge than anyone else and was always ready to put it at the disposal of the University" CDN 24.3.1954

1954 06 05
Cambridge University scientists are helping in the construction of Britain's first cobalt beam machine – the latest and most powerful weapon in the fight against cancer. Centrepiece of the machine is a tiny piece of cobalt the size of a pile of six halfpennies which has been activated by two years' exposure to atomic radiation inside the Atomic Pile at Harwell. It is only half the size of other machines because of the use of uranium shields instead of lead & will emit a beam equivalent to 3,000,000 volts.

1955 06 25
Members of the Amateur Radio Club visited the University Mathematical Laboratories to see the electronic calculating machine, EDSAC 1, popularly known as the 'electronic brain' which was built in 1949 from Government surplus equipment. It is capable of doing 40,000 calculations a minute and uses 3,800 valves. When they arrived Fred Hoyle, the famous cosmologist and broadcaster was using it for calculations on the evolutions of the stars. It also plays noughts and crosses. 55 06 25a

1955 10 21
There was heavy rain as the Queen and Duke of Edinburgh arrived for the ceremonial opening of the new Veterinary School where a batch of undergraduates lay down their gowns in a Sir Walter Raleigh act. The Queen was much taken and amused but her private detective, fearing that Her Majesty might trip on the loose gowns, asked for them to be taken up. But a loud cheer greeted the her smile at the gesture. 55 10 21a & b [6.12]

1955 10 24
Dr Albert Schweitzer, the famous 80-year-old philosopher, received an Honorary Degree in the University Senate House. He was warmly applauded by a large gathering with people even

climbing on the window ledges in the hope of witnessing the ceremony. Hundreds waited in the rain to cheer him as he entered and left 55 10 24b & c

1956
University General Board recommends halt to expansion in scientific research - is in direct conflict with corporate college life [6.18]

1956 05 10
Cambridge University is to lease the R.A.F. station at Lord's Bridge as the site for a new Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory. Planning permission has been obtained for the aerials and a building will be erected to provide a laboratory. Costs will not exceed £180,000 much of which will be met by a generous benefaction from Mullard Ltd. 56 05 10 [6.16]

1956 08 29
The Observatory domes on Madingley Road house the most up-to-date astronomical instruments. Dr D. W. Dewhirst said the 36-inch reflecting telescope cost around £40,000; it has a mirror accurate to two-millionths of an inch that has to be kept at constant temperature with fans drawing cool night air over it. Various pieces of apparatus are designed and constructed in the workshops to measure the brightness of stars. 56 08 29

1956 10 23
Release city from 1856 bond re weights & measures [11.5]

1956 12 14
The Low Temperature Research Station was set up during the Great War to investigate problems of preserving the freshness of food supplied to forces overseas and imported from abroad. They started with retaining the freshness of apples throughout the winter and have moved on to the storage of potatoes for the outdoor clamp, though the blackening of the fenland potatoes remains a baffling mystery. The most recent developments have been the radiation of foodstuffs to destroy bacteria. 56 12 14

1956 12 15
A thousand schoolchildren were invited to look round the Cavendish Laboratory and some of the things they saw hidden away behind the unimposing walls made laboratories in the 'Frankenstein' films look like primary school games rooms. Scientists can send a million-volt electrical flash cracking like a rifle shot across a hall at the press of a button or reproduce brilliant electrical 'thunderstorms'. But there were no flying saucers. 56 12 15

1957 07 13
Telescope from Cambridge Observatory presented to Athens; Newall refractor made 1870 when largest in world, to Cambridge 1891 but white dome very old & cost lot & different type of work now [13.7]

1957 07 26
The new Radio Astronomy Observatory just opened at Lord's Bridge was made possible by a grant of £100,000 from the Mullard Company. Prof N.F. Mott praised the work of the engineering and electronics companies of D. Mackay & Morley and Duke. It was fortunate for radio astronomy that there were in Cambridge firms led by men who were able to understand quickly what the scientists wanted and had the skill and enthusiasm to provide it rapidly and cheaply. 57 07 26 [7.2,7.3,13.8]

1957 09 19
Cambridge scientists are perfecting a new instrument at the University Observatory which will help in the study of sun 'spots' and 'flares'. Housed in a special 100-foot long building, the Magneotgraph is the most advanced in Europe, capable of detecting solar electrical and magnetic impulses which play havoc with radio and television communications. 57 09 19

1957 10 07
Cambridge Observatory obtained the first reading from the Russian satellite on Saturday night. Bruce Elsmore and George Whitfield worked feverishly to construct a suitable type of aerial to pick up the signals. When the first faint 'peeps' began they knew they had been successful. On Sunday they improved the aerial system and that night the Observatory was crowded by pressmen as further readings were taken. The satellite may be visible tomorrow morning, shining like a tiny star in the dark sky. 57 10 07 & a

1957 12 02
The Senate House has been restored and redecorated. The roof was strengthened, large chandeliers removed and soft diffused pink coloured electric lighting installed in alcoves around the balcony to shed a clean warm light over the whole building. It now looks very similar to how it was nearly 130 years ago. 57 12 02a

1958 01 01
American's first satellite is circling the earth after being launched in the nose cone of a Jupiter rocket. It comes 17 weeks after Russia raised her first Sputnik. The director of the Cambridge radio observatory, Dr Martin Ryle, said "It's a fine show they have got it up at last" but they would not be listening to its radio signals, as they did in the case of the Russian satellites. 58 01 01 & a

1958 02 26
Cambridge University's Department of Engineering came to its present site behind Scroope Terrace in 1920 and building has been going on ever since. Now a new wing has opened with a steel frame designed by the plastic method developed in their own laboratories. The original residence, which used to occupy the site exclusively, now looks dwarfed among the great laboratory blocks which surround it. One day it will have to come down but for the moment it is used for offices and lecture rooms. 58 02 26 [19.3]

1958 05 15
A proposal for a new college for men, to be called Churchill College, is announced today. Sir Winston himself will donate £25,000 and an appeal has been issued. It is needed as the University has embarked on a scheme for an extension of research in scientific and technical fields but existing colleges are already beyond their maximum size 58 05 15a & b

1958 07 15
The work of the Mullard Radio Astronomy Observatory – where the Sputnik signals were tracked – is to appear on television films in three countries. Television experts saw the radio telescopes which move on rails and visited the small bungalow that houses the receiving instruments on which it is possible to hear sounds generated 3,000,000,000 years ago by radio transmissions on distant stars.
58 07 15a

1958 11 06

Princess Margaret was described as a person who could 'blend approachability with majesty in a wonderful way' when she received an Honorary Degree in the Senate House. Looking radiant and beautiful, dressed in a brilliant mauve velvet coat, she was given a rousing welcome by thousands of cheering schoolchildren as she drove from the station. Later she opened the new Chemical Laboratories in Lensfield Road. 58 11 06 & abc, 58 11 07 & bc

1959 05 14
University to vote on Latin – 59 05 14

1959 03 05
No secret work of any kind is being carried out at the Cavendish Laboratory. The bother of 'screening' those doing the work was not wanted and research graduates would not be able to get their theses published. All the research was pure and fundamental and therefore very valuable. Its potential is enormous for future needs, Cambridge businessmen were told. 59 03 05

1959 08 31
Research and experimental work in the University's Department of Metallurgy in Pembroke Street was brought to a standstill following a serious blaze. Flames came through the roof, two rooms were gutted and a laboratory severely affected. Water used to fight the fire seeped into the basement and caused a great deal of damage to expensive machinery. 59 08 31a & b [7.7]

1959 09 25
Sidgwick Avenue site: first building in use this term [17.8]

1959 10 01
Cambridge University's science departments were first to occupy the central area and there is now a great concentration of laboratories on either side of Downing Street. The few open spaces between them are already overflowing with cars. There is no room to allow for the growth of research and teaching in subjects outside the established hierarchy, Lord Adrian, the retiring Vice-Chancellor told academics. Science has enlarged its premises so much that the arts faculties could not begrudge their expansion across the river 59 10 01c

1959 10 13
The University's Mullard Radio Astronomy Laboratory employed a helicopter to transport one of their big parabolic aerials from a site in Grange Road to Offal End, near Haslingfield. An airlift was the only practical way of moving such an unwieldy load, 27 feet in diameter and so intricately built that it would have been difficult to dismantle it. Cambridge engineer, Mr Donald MacKay was responsible for preparing the complicated piece of freight for its journey 59 10 13

1959 10 22
Government Veterinary Investigation Centre opened near Vet School – 59 10 22a

1959 12 10
The University's new Department of Chemical Engineering building in Pembroke Street was opened by the Chairman of Shell. The firm had made a grant of half-a-million pounds and since the first Shell Professor took up his appointment in 1946, 187 students have graduated. They carry out a research programme during their final year instead of a formal laboratory course and already some information of genuine value had been obtained. In its early days the Department was housed in a temporary building in Tennis Court Road before finding a permanent site next to the Cavendish and Zoology Laboratories. 59 12 10a [7.8, 12.7]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 02 09
Plans are being prepared to replace the present old and decrepit group of science buildings in the Cavendish physics laboratory area. Every one of the buildings on the New Museums site is out of date and the number of undergraduates that can be accepted is restricted. Because of cramped conditions much research work is being hampered. The rebuilding scheme may take six or seven years and cost over £2 million. 60 02 09

1960 02 16
Preparations are being made for the rebuilding of the Department of Metallurgy laboratories in Downing Street, which were destroyed by fire in August. The old building was quite useless for research and the new part will be box shaped and built of steel and concrete fire-proofed to guard against further outbreaks. At the time of the blaze research in metal corrosion 'of national importance' was being carried out. 60 02 16a

1960 04 09
New microscope designed by University team – 60 04 09

1960 04 22
A suggestion that radioactive waste from the University laboratories was being buried in Madingley Woods has been denied. The University had a store which was locked and shielded with thick walls where radioactive waste was kept until packed and shipped off to Harwell who finally got rid of it. The Department of Radiotherapeutics acted as a clearing house for other departments which used smaller quantities. The greatest care was taken that liquid waste did not get into the public drains and laboratory technicians are instructed on the handling and disposal of such substances. 60 04 22

1960 04 25
The Department of Metallurgy in the Cavendish Laboratory was badly damaged by fire for the second time in eight months. Last September a number of teaching laboratories were affected and rescued equipment moved to the area now ablaze. Prompt salvage work by firemen and students prevented damage to a £30,000 electron microscope. Part of the roof of the Physical Chemistry block had to be hacked away by firemen watched by about 300 spectators. 60 04 25a [20.15]

1960 04 26
William Topper who left school when he was nine years old and who has worked with his hands for the last 70 years is to be made an honorary Master of Arts of the University, becoming the first master stonemason to receive one. He has restored the Gate of Honour at Caius College, replacing pieces which had been missing for 300 years and has been in the Senate House once before, when he laid some tiles. Now he will take the day off from work and in mortar board and gown receive the degree from the Vice-Chancellor. 60 04 26b

1960 05 16
On Saturday Stonemason William Topper, watched by his wife and family, was made an Honorary Master of Arts of Cambridge University. He sat among dons in the Senate House where he had been only once before – to lay some marble floor tiles. Then he stood bareheaded while the Orator read a speech in Latin which praised his excellent craftsmanship. It had been a great help to the University and its colleges that Mr Topper was available whenever their venerable

walls or arches or towers were crumbling. Today he was back at work, chipping away at the steps of the new Perse School. 60 05 16

1960 07 15
Dons are considering Cambridge's latest controversy – the designs of Lady Mitchell Hall, part of the Sidgwick Avenue development. One called it 'a monstrosity' and a 'primitive log stockade'. Dr W.H. Plommer detests 'the sheer brutality of the scale, the unaccommodating harshness of the shape … it could be anything from a prison to a power station'. But architects say they find the comments that it is 'ugly and brutal' and 'mad and revolting' hard to understand 60 07 15c

1960 10 01
New Museums site redevelopment plans – 60 10 01b

1960 10 17
A firm of poultry food manufacturers have given a Cambridge University scientist a new laboratory and office building so that he can further his research into the rearing of broiler hens. Dr D. Sainsbury is an authority on poultry and livestock breeding. His advice had often been sought by Silcocks of Liverpool who made the presentation. A small wooden structure, it stands in the grounds of Merton Hall Farm which is run in conjunction with the Veterinary Department. 60 10 07b

1960 12 07
The Low Temperature Research Station, Downing Street, is a strange place. Occasionally in some forgotten corner of one of its temperature-controlled rooms, one comes across perfectly preserved war-time stew that was meant for the civilian population but never produced in great quantities. At that time the Station was responsible for producing the 24-hour battle pack of dried food for the Commandoes who went across to France for D-Day. Now they are investigating why potatoes go brown after they have been peeled and chemically examining peas to discover why they lose sweetness and juiciness in the three days between being picked and canned. 60 12 07d

1961 01 11
University plan - keep & enhance character University Town & create regional shopping centre East Rd [494.4.6]

1961 03 23
Cavendish Laboratory room Rutherford used is soon to disappear – 61 03 23 & a

1961 03 29
University plans for the New Museums site off Downing Street include an underground ring road with parking for 300 cars and 1,400 cycles. A maze of narrow passages would be replaced with pedestrian walkways six feet above ground. Many old dilapidated buildings will be demolished and two 15-storey high blocks for the Department of Mathematics erected. These 'skyscrapers' might not be built to their full height immediately but would gradually grow as the department needed more space. The 1934 Zoology building, the Shell chemical engineering laboratory and the Physics Department's high tension laboratory would be retained 61 03 29 & 30 61 04 01b

1961 05 26
Exam Syndicate move to rebuilt Perse school building, Hills Rd, phase 1 (complete 1965) [20.17]

1961 06 13

Sir – some of the tower blocks proposed by the University for the New Museum site would be twice the height of King's College chapel. They are opposed to the very character of the historic centre. If approved it would be impossible to object to other towers such as those of the Lion Yard that have been criticised by the Preservation Society. Would it not be better for the gradual transfer of science buildings to the west of Cambridge where a development architecturally worthy of the University could take place? – V.I. Glaster 61 06 13

1961 11 01
University Medical School saved by salary increase 61 11 01a

1961 11 04
City planners have turned down Cambridge University's plans for a £2million 'science island' scheme on the 'New Museums' site bordered by Corn Exchange Street and Free School Lane. It would have meant the disappearance of many old laboratory building. Councillors were concerned that the three multi-storey structures, two of which were 200 feet high, would spoil the skyline. No new buildings should be higher than the present Guildhall. 61 11 04 & 06

1961 11 16
A cluster of balloons was flown over Cambridge to give an idea of how the proposed 200ft towers of the 'Science Island' off Corn Exchange Street would look from the Backs behind the famous King's College Chapel. Theodolite readings were also taken from Rose Crescent. The proposal has been rejected by planners 61 11 16a & b

1961 11 16
Corpus Christi College has embarked on a plan to fulfil two great needs in the university. It has created a graduate extension at Leckhampton House in Grange Road to enable research students to enter fully into university life and to extend to teaching staff the social advantages and responsibilities which attach to being a Fellow of a college. Only about half the research students and unmarried Fellows normally wish to live in college rooms. 61 11 16d

1961 11 22
Future of University Medical School – 61 11 22

1961 12 01
Harper House in Portugal Place houses 10,000 books devoted to the British Empire. It started in 1919 with informal tea parties at which students met for cultural discussions. By 1921 these had become so popular that 'Cambridge University International Teas' and conferences were started. In 1940 Mrs Irene Harper formed the Birdwood Club open to British children whose families were 'not pacifists' and had some connection with the armed forces. The postwar years which produced a Motherland 'bewitched, bothered and bewildered about the Common Market' have thinned the ranks of the membership 61 12 01 & a

1962
Bridges Report on relation between University & Colleges felt creation of graduate centre should come before foundation of purely graduate college but these would be new & valuable element in University, Bridges Report - brought about by breakaway from colleges [5.5]

1962 02 08
Cambridge scientists' important role in history of Medical Research Council – feature 62 02 08

1962 02 23

Westfield House has been formally opened as a Lutheran House of Studies with an inaugural lecture by the Bishop of Gothenburg in the presence of an invited audience of senior members of the University. The spacious building on Huntingdon Road will take students from home and abroad who are preparing for the Lutheran ministry and will have a library specialising in Reformation studies. 62 02 23

1962 05 09
MRC Laboratory of Molecular Biology discovers structure of protein molecule, Queen opens lab [14.4]

1962 07 06
University architects have built a revolutionary new structure, the first of its kind in the world. The hemispherical artificial sky has been built in the grounds of Scroope Terrace 62 07 06

1962 08 15
The Low Temperature Research Station at Cambridge was founded during the First Wold War when Government was concerned about the storage of food supplies. The first patent for 'drying freezing' foods was taken out from Cambridge and subsequently taken up by commercial enterprises. Another concerned the gas cold storage of foods now widely used for storing apples. 62 08 15

1962 10 01
The Government has told universities that an extra 40,000 undergraduate places ought to be provided by 1966. In Cambridge numbers had risen to 7,579 in 1959 but then declined as colleges reduced the overcrowding caused by the 'ex-servicemen's bulge. But the new target will restrict funds for graduate students who had increased by 40 per cent in the past five years. An addition the new universities will need additional teaching staff, a considerable number of whom would come from Cambridge, the Vice Chancellor, Sir Ivor Jennings, warned 62 10 01

1962 11 02
The announcement that Dr Max Perutz and Dr John Kendrew have been awarded the Nobel Chemistry Prize means that there are now four Nobel prizewinners working at the small Medical Research Council molecular biology unit at Cambridge. Dr Frederick Sanger gained the Chemistry award in 1958 and less than a month ago Dr Francis Crick was awarded the prize for Medicine. 62 11 02

1962 11 22
'Science Island' on New Museums site tower blocks cause controversy due change of view from Backs; (height reduced by half 1964) [17.9]

1962 12 05
Cavendish Laboratory is housed in grotesquely cramped old buildings and ill-suited to meet competition, said Prof Pippard. Details article re plans 62 12 05a & b & c

1963 05 22
Cambridge's new radio-telescope at Lord's Bridge will be the most advanced in its field. Three giant reflector dishes, two fixed and one moveable, will receive radio signals from the universe. The mobile aerial will travel on a half-mile length of rail at a speed of one mile an hour. Prof Martin Ryle said that ten years ago nobody could have dreamed about this type of radio telescope. It was unique in the world today. The millions of copper needles launched into space

by the Americans would not affect its working at present, but might well do so in the future.63 05 22a [13.8]

1963 05 24
Revised plans for the Sidgwick Avenue site include parking for 300 cars underground. But it will not include the West Hall which was to have contained 1,000 seats and provided for symphony concerts and full-scale theatrical productions. A site closer to the city centre would be needed if this was to be a success. The Faculty of History will include studies for academic staff and a library with space for 300 readers. But the need of faculties 20 years hence cannot be accurately forecast and some of those now planned may be accommodated elsewhere. 63 05 24 [17.8]

1963 06 15
Zoology Department feature article – 63 06 15

1963 08 08
Cambridge firms may be able to hire the use of 'Titan', the University's new computer which is being installed at the Mathematical Laboratory in Corn Exchange Street. Their present computer has done work for 36 departments, even Archaeology have put it to use. The University was one of the pioneers and was using a computer as far back as 1949. There is one in the Engineering Department and two small ones were used by the Examinations Syndicate for processing marks. At present there are 500 computers being used in the country by the coal, car and gas industries, businessmen were told 63 08 08

1963 10 01
Under the 1961 Rating and Valuation Act the University now has to pay rates on the full annual value of all its properties and as new buildings are erected, their liability will increase. Even though Colleges receive 50% rate relief on old buildings they will still pay more on new. Without that relief rates would be prohibitive. The long legal wrangle had been a great inconvenience to the local authority but the changes are very complex. Now however they will pay full rates which will be a heavy burden on their income 63 10 01

1963 10 05
A series of television lectures will be given by members of Cambridge University in a programme called 'Dawn University'. They will be transmitted at 7 a.m. over the whole of the ITV network to demonstrate the usefulness of television as a teaching medium. It is the first time such programmes have appeared so early and it is impossible to say how many people will get up early to watch them. There will also be two-way lectures between Cambridge and the new University of East Anglia at Norwich and a closed-circuit link with scientists at Imperial College, London. 63 10 05

1963 12 02
A new wind tunnel enabling scientists to study the low speed characteristics of aircraft has been installed in the aeronautical section of the University Engineering Laboratory – 63 12 02

1964 02 18
Has been 4-fold increase in research population at Cambridge University since 1938 [14.6]

1964 02 19
University warn that increased number of students as envisaged by Robbins report would be a disaster – 64 02 19

1964 03 19
William Bate Harvey, Cambridge biologist who pioneered food science & set up Food Investigation Board – feature – 64 03 19b

1964 04 29
History Faculty library planned for Sidgwick Avenue site – 64 04 29

1964 04 29
University proposals for 110-foot tower block on New Museums site approved – 64 04 29

1964 11 14
The site for the new Cambridge University graduate centre has been cleared and work will soon begin - photo - 64 11 14a

1965
Strict male-female segregation rule scrapped

1965 04 20
University Local Examination Syndicate building, Hills Road, opened; 370 candidates took first examinations set in 1858; now 252,000 – 65 04 20a, b

1965 05 16
Faculty of Oriental Studies under one roof, Sidgwick Ave [20.13]

1965 12 13
Deer Report recommends new Cavendish & redevelopment Old Addenbrooke's; says site in centre inadequate to meet future needs of science; (300 a earmarked Madingley Rd 1966) [20.7]

1966 06 11
Nuffield Biophysics Lab new wing (research arthritis, heart disease) [15.2]

1966 10 21
Cheshunt College staff and students to join with Westminster College, premises in Bateman Street for sale; was founded in Wales in 1768, moved to Cambridge in 1905, new buildings 1913 – 66 10 11; premises for sale – 66 10 21b

1966 11 09
University 'science city' plans for west-Cambridge site unveiled, follows Deer report – 66 11 09, 09a

1967
Centre for Computer-Aided Design exploiting Cambridge University knowledge to be established by Ministry of Technology, £2.5M grant; to guide industry & Government organisations in use of computing to speed & improve design [445.10.11]

1967 10 02
University cash crisis, new teaching and research projects could stop as Government financial restructuring – 67 10 02a

1967 11 09

University Centre decided in 1962 as no single focus for life of university as distinct from colleges – 67 11 09, 09a

1968 02 23
Mullard Radio Astronomy observatory discover unknown object in universe which sends out radio messages – 68 02 23

1968 06 06
Lord Adrian installed as chancellor – 69 06 06

1968 07
Seek use old Lords Bridge railway line [13.10]

1968 10 12
History Faculty building opens a year late – with leaks – 68 10 12 (wins award 1970 but needs 60,000 repairs may sue architect 1981; may be demolished 1984; rebuild at cost 2M - same as demolish & start again 1985) [19.1-2] opened October ¢CEN 1.7.1970

1968 11 07
Graduate centre opened, established with 330,000 Wolfson grant following Bridges report [17.6]

1968 12 10
Lords Bridge railway station to be observatory – photo – 68 12 10

1969 01 15
Maths Lab Corn Exchange St to be demolished; here computers developed from 1930s with Titan computer coming in 1964; 1949 worlds first electronic stored-programme automatic digital computer fully operational - EDSAC I, Crick & Watson used it for DNA research; by 1958 had perfected EDSAC II which could do in one minute problems that took EDSAC I an hour; [17.6] Mathematical Laboratories in Corn Exchange Street to be demolished; how to move Titan computer; EDSAC 1 started in 1949, EDSAC 2 in 1958 – 69 01 15 1M computer moving by crane from Maths Lab to next door 69 03 27 [445.10.12]

1969 05 30
300a science city planned between Cambridge & Coton, biggest University expansion in Cambridge for hundreds of years; have no land; have no land available in centre for extra scientific building [17.7]

1969 10 09
Dons divided on plans for science city proposals for West Cambridge site – 69 10 09

1969 11 19
Moon samples exhibited, Senate House [12.16, 14.7]

1970
Clare College consider admitting women [5.8]

1970 05 20
1st Trade union branch ASTMS formed [19.8]

1970 06 19

University Graduate Centre – feature – 70 06 19, 19a

1970 07 01
History Faculty library wins major RIBA architectural award, despite leaks 70 07 01

1970 07 11
Proctors' future for discipline to be considered – 70 07 11

1970 08 17
Explosion Zoology Lab New Museums site, 4 hurt, gas [20.8]

1970 08 22
`Science laboratories devastated in big explosion laboratory on New Museums site – 70 08 17, 18; caused by natural gas – 70 08 22

1970 10 13
Proctors not to attend student political demonstrations which take place off university premises; they will subject only to police and civil law – 70 10 13; students vote to end proctors – 70 10 13b

1971
Cavendish Laboratory celebrates centenary [12.1]

1971 07 30
CU set up Institute of Astronomy merging Cambridge Observatory & Institute of Theoretical Astronomy [13.10] to buy 1.7M computer, (linked to another half mile apart by infra-red beam 1972) [20.1]

1972
Clare, Kings & Churchill become mixed [5.9]

1972 01 07
Referendum of change of wage negotiations, Cambridge University Assistants oppose ASTMS claim to share bargaining,

1972 01 28
Wage vote is a tie

1972 02 03
Sit-in at Old Schools [5.7, 24]

1972 02 06
University Library extension opened, 35 miles shelving ¢CEN 6.2.1973

1972 02 07
Undergraduate sit-in at Old Schools caused damage, forced way through doors into the Squire Law Library; carpet in Combination Room burned by cigarettes – 72 02 07

1972 02 21
NALGO branch formed

1972 03 04
Undergraduates at Downing College today continued a 24-hour occupation of the dining hall despite a warning that violent protest could close the college for the rest of this term. They are protesting against the expulsion of two undergraduates and the rustication of a third for their part in sending an obscene leaflet to Downing college dons and undergraduates. A supported by a march last night by more than 500 students blocked Regent Street for more than an hour, with demonstrators seated in the road outside the college 72 03 04

1972 03 07
22.5% increase agree non-technical grades University staff - cleaners etc

1972 03 11
The former Ministry of Housing and Local Government simultaneously agreed to the building of one of the world's biggest radio telescopes near Cambridge and the routing of a major road straight through it, the inquiry (into the Western bypass) heard yesterday. Professor Sir Martin Ryle said in 1966 an application for a grant to build a 5 km radio telescope along the line of the old Bletchley to Cambridge railway at Lord's Bridge and extend it as far as the bridge over the River Cam was being discussed. A grant of more than £2 million was made for the telescope. Later it was learned that discussions had led to a route for the Cambridge Western bypass which passed through the line of telescopes. As a result the size of the telescope had to be reduced to 4.6 km with a considerable loss of power and the instrument was site half-a-mile further west. In 1970 it was announced that the by-pass was to be built as a motorway. Then it became known that radar devices were being developed for long-distance vehicles to prevent multiple motorway crashes. It seems likely that some of these devices will be introduced during the next five years. 72 03 11

1972 03 28
Cambridge University members of the National Union of Public Employees are planning a large-scale
membership drive in the university. Their Secretary said today that a claim by the union for a £20 basic weekly wage for manual & ancillary staff in universities would not apply to Cambridge workers. (Meanwhile Melbourn Discount Warehouse offered a Hotpoint twin-tub washing machine for £108 - £12 less than recommended price - but more than five times their weekly wage

1972 06 23
CU formally recognise Trade Union for wage bargaining [19.8]

1972 10 01
£2.1M radio telescope opens but Prof Hoyle resigns [13.11]

1972 10 18
Radio telescope inaugurated, p11

1973 03 20
Laser-Scan Ltd, who will become the first Cambridge company to move on to the Trinity Collage science park at Milton Road, are a typical science-based concern. Founded in 1969 the Company was the brainchild of three Cavendish Laboratory scientists. They could not afford the type of equipment which could do the work they wanted, so decided to design their own apparatus and get it made. Within two years they had established firmly the principles they wished to follow, within two further years they had built the necessary working equipment, known as a "sweepnik".

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

However a firm cannot stand still and the firm hopes to be in their 5,000 square feet factory on the Science Park by the end of the summer. As a high-technology business Laser-Scan are precisely what the planners have in mind for the science Park. Work on laying the spine road and sewers began this month and developers hope to have the first phase completed by August. When fully developed the 13-acre site is planned to provide up to sixteen factory units. Trinity College expect the final development to provide jobs for up to 1,000 people

1973 04 12
The £2.25 m complex for the Cavendish Laboratory on Madingley Road, Cambridge, was declared open by the Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. A.W.Deer. Large earth banks will hide the new Cavendish site from the Cambridge Inner Relief Road, if it is ever built, and it is hoped the University will not continue to crowd buildings in upon the new site until it achieves another science slum like that left behind in Downing Street 73 04 12 [12.2]

1973 07 26
Duke of Edinburgh opens Churchill archives centre [73 07 26]

1973 10 01
Titan computer phased out, 10 years old [20.3]

1973 11 16
Cambridge University's extra-mural studies board will move out of the city and into new offices at Madingley Hall if a £60,000 plan now being considered by dons is approved. But they are hoping that the scheme would cost the University nothing – a gift of £47,000 is being offered by a trustee of the University of Southern California and the Board of Extra-Mural studies would be required to meet the remaining £13,000 from their balances. Madingley Hall at present houses 55 residents who are either visiting scholars or graduate students of the university.

1973 12 21
Cambridge University has been given £10 million to build and endow a new college for graduate and undergraduate students, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Jack Linnett, announced today. The lump sum gift has been handed over by the Newmarket racehorse owner, Mr David Robinson, who started his career at the age of 15 as an apprentice in his father's cycle shop in Cambridge. The new college will be built on a 12½ acre site on land bounded by Herschel Road and Grange Road 73 12 21

1974 06 01
Important research experiments were destroyed when fire badly damaged a wing of the University Department of Biochemistry on the Downing site. Four floors of the building, which was opened in 1963 and is the workplace of about 40 people, were damaged. Expensive equipment and research papers were badly affected on the second floor where research work into proteins is carried out. The top floor, home of the chemical microbiology research centre, was also affected 74 06 01 [19.5]

1974 07 30
A Cambridge undergraduate accused of cheating in an examination has been found guilty by the University Court of Discipline. He has been rusticated for the whole of next year and deprived of the chance of obtaining an Honours Degree. This was announced in a statement from the court, who had only their second sitting in history to hear the case. The undergraduate has the right of appeal to the Septemviri. They are the higher court of senior University members who would be convened specially for the occasion and who have not sat since before the last war 74 07 30

1974 10 15
For the second year in succession the world's top physics accolade has come to Cambridge. Two of the University's foremost radio-astronomers, Prof. Sir Martin Ryle, and Prof. Antony Hewish have jointly one the 1974 Nobel Prize for physics. Sir Martin's major work in Cambridge has been the development of the Lord's bridge radio-observatory and the construction of the five kilometre telescope there. In 1967 Prof. Hewish started a series of observations which led to the discovery that some radio sources in space – later given the name pulsars – emitted extremely regular radio signals. As a result of this discovery it has been possible to establish the presence of neutron stars in the universe 74 10 15

1975 01 15
Report of General Board aim equal art-science ration amongst students with undergrad-postgrad ratio 25-75, size limited 1400; further developments in arts & social sciences in vicinity University Library, physical sciences & engineering in West Cambridge while biological etc in New Museums & Old Addenbrooke's area [16.1]

1975 02 28
The Mayor of Cambridge, Ald Jack Warren, and the Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University, Prof Jack Linnett, held a reception at the Guildhall for ten Nobel Prize winners resident at the University. As the learned and the erudite stood in earnest groups they assured each other that the occasion was unique. "You won't see the like again" they muttered as the champagne went round and round 75 02 28 [5.15]

1975 05 22
University plunges 68,000 into red, future very uncertain [16.2]

1973 05 23
After 700 years of male domination the first woman to be chosen as Vice Chancellor - the effective head of Cambridge University - does not anticipate any particular problems in dealing with her male colleagues. Miss Rosemary Murray, who is president of New Hall, was nominated by the Council of Senate. She will take up her post in two years if the nomination is accepted by the university, usually a formality. She is due to take charge at a difficult time in the university's history, when students are demanding more and more say in the running of its affairs

1975 06 08
Student yells of "Biafran butcher" at General Yakubu Gowon failed to disrupt the Honorary Degree ceremony at the Cambridge Senate House. The General gave the thumbs up sign to a bunch of two dozen students who chanted insults at the Nigerian head of state as he walked in procession. He was flanked on one side by a hefty special branch armed bodyguard plus the Cambridgeshire chief constable, Mr F. Drayton Porter, and by contrast on the other by the tall, elegant figure of Queen Margrethe of Denmark. The 60 policemen on duty had nothing more to do than keep the protestors at arms length and stop the traffic for the snail-paced procession 75 06 06

1975 12 16
British Antarctic Survey to move to Madingley Road [14.2]

1976 02 12
Prince Philip is now the strongest contender for the Chancellorship of the University. Informed sources have disclosed that Prince Charles was offered the post but turned it down because of his

naval commitments with HMS Bronington. Lord Ramsey, former Archbishop of Canterbury, is thought to have declined the invitation while Mr Selwyn Lloyd, recently retired speaker of the House of Commons, is still regarded by many dons as too close contemporary politics to command unanimous support. Prince Philip has for many years maintained a close formal and informal interest in Cambridge and has seen Cambridge life from the student viewpoint through unannounced visits while Prince Charles was up at Trinity 76 02 12

1976 02 24
University Library 250 students work in protest 7pm closing ¢CEN 24.2.1976

1976 06 27
First Prof Psychiatry appointed [20.12]

1976 07
British Antarctic Survey opens

1976 09 08
ACUA wins recognition of TU, not affiliated TUC [19.10]

1976 09 28
Cambridge University clinical medical school was launched in a sea of champagne bubbles when students and professors got together at Addenbrooke's Hospital for an informal reception. The first intake of students consisted of 53 young men and women who have come to Cambridge for "on the job" training and will move from speciality to speciality under the watchful eye of consultants. Addenbrooke's is already the biggest and most prestigious provincial teaching hospital and by the early 1980s will be able to take 300 students 76 09 28

1977 04 14
Cambridge scientists may be within six months of a major break-through. They hope that a new ultra-high-power electron microscope now being constructed will show atoms in the molecular structure of vital proteins and enzymes, including the life-giving substance DNA. Work on the new microscope has been going on at the Cavendish Laboratory for the past five years. Scientists in Japan are working along the same lines but the Cambridge scientists may achieve success first.

1977 06 10
Only a man of towering pride and total lack of sensitivity could fail to be awed by assuming the ancient and distinguished Chancellorship of Cambridge University, Prince Philip told a packed Senate House. "I give a solemn assurance that I shall yield to no man in my devotion to the interests of the university and its students". About 70 demonstrators from the University Nursery Action Group stole the limelight as he led the procession to the ceremony. They were protesting about the lack of nursery facilities for the under-fives. The Prince gave the shouting mothers a quizzical look and a smile. 77 06 10 [02.4.17]

1977 06 10
More than 1,500 people packed into Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge to hear the Calcutta missionary, Mother Teresa, talk about her work among the dying and destitute of India. She asked the congregation "not to give from their abundance but to give from their love, till it hurts". Earlier she had been the first to receive an honorary degree from Prince Philip. The University Orator, Dr Frank Stubbings spoke of her work: "She saw the multitudes and had compassion on them; she went alone, in poverty, to the homes of the poorest, tended their illnesses and set up a school in the midst of the slums" 77 06 10

1977 08 05
Lord Adrian, Chancellor of Cambridge University for seven years and one of the world's leading scientists, has died. He was one of the most eminent of the Cambridge scientists and won the Nobel Prize for medicine in 1932. He was a Professor of Physiology and preceded Lord Butler as Master of Trinity College. He had more than a score of honorary degrees from universities all over the world 77 08 05

1977 12 06
Fears that there may be danger of radiation created by the Cambridge atom-splitting team of the 1930s has resulted in a decision to open up a laboratory locked up and sealed for the past 30 years. The room, at the top of the tower in the old Cavendish Laboratory, was locked when Lord Rutherford died in 1937. Since then it has been opened only once – in 1946 when it was cleaned and all materials taken out of it. The room was immediately sealed again because of possible danger of radioactivity from the walls, ceiling and floor. His successors were prepared to live with the locked room but the new tenants of the building – the university's social scientists – need reassurance. 77 12 06

1977 12 15
It was the dawn of the atom age and in small, cluttered and uncomfortable rooms in Cambridge great scientists set about a momentous experiment – splitting the atom. The rooms then moved into the space age, but in one room time stood still as the doors were locked at the top of the stairs of Lord Rutherford's old Cavendish Laboratory. Only the ghosts of the pioneers remained behind the doors and, according to some, so did the deadly product of their work – radiation. Safety experts have now gone into the room to remove every trace of radioactive material but some are still unsure that the old building will be completely safe. 77 12 15

1978
Girton College admits men

1978 03 16
Quaternary Research sub-dept opens new Godwin Lab, New Museums site [20.11]

1978 05 05
Cambridge's place in the forefront of test-tube life took another step forward when mice that were put into frozen suspended animation more than five years ago at the Physiological Laboratory were running around in a cage. They were frozen in liquid nitrogen as three-day embryos, then thawed and implanted into a female mouse. Frozen embryo banks are likely to become an increasingly important feature of future animal husbandry and one day embryos of whole herds of cattle may be shipped across the world in frozen containers, by-passing disease controls and ensuring preservation of rare breeds. 78 05 05

1978 10 28
A leading Cambridge scientist and Nobel Prizewinner, Dr Frederick Sanger of the Laboratory of Molecular Biology has been presented with an American award for new advances in the chemistry of genetics. His work on the sequencing of DNA in a type of virus used by scientists to study genetics might well warrant the awarding of another Nobel Prize to add to the one he won in 1958 for his study of the structure of the hormone insulin. He has also received other leading scientific awards. 78 10 28

1979 02 17

Hold degree ceremony at Gt St Mary's for first time in 200 years due to problems with Senate House ceiling [16.16]

1979 03 16
Sir Harry Godwin, the University's Emeritus Professor of Botany who has spent his entire academic career in Cambridge, attended a special dedication of the new Godwin Laboratory on the New Museums Site. It is the base of the Department of Quartenary Research which he established in the 1940s, where experts in many fields are helping to build up a picture of the world's history. The information allows them to model climatic changes which help predict long-term modern weather trends.

1979 05 19
One of the world's most powerful electron microscopes was officially unveiled – floating on a cushion of air in the city centre. It marked the competition of the Cambridge University 600kV High Resolution Electron Microscope, a £1 million project which has taken eight years. The microscope is 25 feet high and weighs more than seven tons. It occupies two floors at the old Cavendish Laboratory. There have been problems caused by vibration from nearby traffic so the instrument is surrounded by three massive arms on cushions of compressed air to avoid any distortion

1979 08 17
A Cambridge University scientist, Dr Ellis Cosslett has been awarded a medal by the Royal Society in recognition of his work on the design and development of the X-ray and scanning electron microscopes. He worked on the 25ft-high seven-ton high-resolution electron microscope that occupies two floors at the Old Cavendish Laboratory and is capable of magnifying an atom a million times so that it is as big as a full-stop. It was officially unveiled in May and is now part of a unit carrying out studies for university scientists and industry.

1979 08 21
Six more colleges take women [16.7]

1979 05 10
Engineering Department unveil one of the world's most powerful electron microscopes [19.3]

1980

1980 08 14
Working windmills may return to the East Anglian countryside – not the drain the fens or mill corn, but to generate electricity. Scientists at Cambridge University's Cavendish Laboratory have been working on wind turbine design with the Central Electricity Generating Board who will shortly begin looking for an inland site for the first large wind-powered generating machine. These could be sited in flat lands where their impact on the environment would be less that on exposed hilltops. They would be mounted on towers 150 feet high and when their 200-foot blades turned each machine should generate enough electricity to heat 100 single-bar electric fires. 80 08 14b

1981 03 09
Cambridge University's award-winning History Faculty building needs £60,000 repairs. Thousands of tiles have to be removed before they fall down themselves. Several have already fallen. Despite opening a year late and being plagued with leaking windows ever since, it has

attracted attention from architects and won a national award for its designer, James Stirling. 81 03 09

1981 06 03
New Medical Research Council centre opens on Addenbrooke's site, marks over 50 years medical research in Cambridge [36.9.13.1]

1981 07 17
University stands to lose 600 students due Government cuts, lots of financial problems [16.8]

1981 07 17
The first privately-owned British company specialising in biotechnology has been formed by a consortium of leading scientists and businessmen. CLEAR – Cambridge Laboratories for Energy and Resources Ltd – will use genetically engineered organisms for processes ranging from obtaining energy from waste to combating Legionnaires Disease in hotels. It has leased laboratories from Cambridge University and will offer a full technical service to industry for the commercial applications of biotechnology. 81 07 17

1981 09 24
Cuts in funding for higher education will be worse than expected. Bursars estimate colleges will suffer a drop in income of 15 per cent over the next three years. Fees paid by local education authorities have been cut, the government has imposed restrictions on the number of students and there are pressures from students to reduce the cost of rooms, meals and cleaning services. What is at stake is a unique way of life in a collegiate system whose virtues of personal contact in small, flexible institutions, have been prized for generations. 81 09 24

1981 10 23
The video boom is taking over lecture halls and laboratories in Cambridge University as more and more students are being taught with the help of home-made films. Medical students watch in close-up how to cut up a body, vets are shown outside broadcasts of animal behaviour and trainee priests film sermons to learn about preaching techniques. Thousands of other students have learned how to use a computer as a result of a training film made by the University Audio-Visual Aids unit. 81 10 23

1982 03 26
To buy £2.5M computer [20.4]

1982 10 01
Cambridge University economies have save whole courses, departments and faculties from closure. Early retirement University officers – 131 accepted, other economies – blamed on progressive cuts in Government grants [19.11]

1982 10 12
Golden handshake up to £45,000 for retiring early professors - over 120 leave [21.1]

1982 10 20
Cambridge has the distinction of being the home of more Nobel prizewinners than any other city in the world. They include Prof Sir James Meade, who won his prize in 1977 for economics, Dr Frederick Sanger, Anthony Hewish, Professor of Radio Astronomy and the Astronomer Royal, Sir Martin Ryle who won in 1984. Prof Britan Josephson was one of the youngest-ever winners; he was just 33 when he won the 1973 Prize for physics. 82 10 20

1983 03 18
All bar one College set to scrap entrance award system to try attract pupils from wide range of schools [16.10]

1983 05 27
About 40 academic posts – including one professorship – are to be scrapped by Cambridge University in response to Government cash cuts. But these are outnumbered by the number of vacancies which have resulted from the success of their early retirement scheme. More than 120 dons – including 25 eminent professors – accepted, at a cost of hundreds of thousands of pounds after the University was ordered to cut its costs by 5%. 83 05 27 p12 [21.2]

1984 04 04
Music School opens with concert hall [20.14]

1984 05 31
MRC units face cutback: Neurochemical Pharmacology - mental illness like senile dementia, vacant directorship not to be filled; Biostatics Unit moved Cambridge from London 1980, involved front-line studies from breast cancer to organ transplantation; all units except Molecular Biology have budgets axed by 21% [36.9.13.3-4]

1984 06 19
Cambridge University's award-winning History Faculty building – which is plagued with defects – may be demolished only 16 years after it opened. Another option is to correct all the structural and heating problems as well as the leaks – but this could cost over £1 million. The building was heralded in a blaze of glory when it won a Royal Institute of British Architects national award for its designer so they do not want to demolish it 84 06 19 p6

1984 07 03
Addenbrooke's cot-death unit saved by CEN readers after cash axed by MRC, Sultan of Brunei gives £130,000 which saves for 3 years [36.9.13.5]

1984 12 13
The University History Faculty Building opened in 1968 and won an award from the Royal Institute of British Architects. Its designer, James Stirling, received the Royal Gold Medal for Architecture in 1980. But it has suffered problems of water penetration, heat gain in summer and heat loss in winter through the huge fan-shaped glazed roof to the library. It will cost nearly as much to repair as it would to demolish and rebuild completely and now academics must decide its fate. 84 12 13

1985 02 07
The Old Addenbrooke's Hospital site in Trumpington Street has been bought by Cambridge University for a record £5.75 million – double the expected price. This reflects nationwide interest in what is the last major site likely to become available in the central area. There had been a gentleman's agreement to give the university first refusal when the old hospital closed, but East Anglian Regional Health Authority decided to go out to tender. It will now be used for expanding university teaching, research and laboratory departments. 85 02 07

1985 03 06
The Government research axe, which has already cut a swathe through Cambridge science laboratories, may fall on the Culture Centre for Algae and Protozoa in Storey's Way which could

be closed down and its internationally-renowned research work distributed among other centres around the country. Cuts first hit a year ago when the Neurochemical Pharmacology Unit, the Biostatics Unit, the Cot Death unit and even the 'jewel-in-the-crown' Molecular Biology unit, which carries more Nobel prize-winners than any other, were affected. Only the cot death unit was completely saved – by massive injections of public money. 85 03 06 [14.9]

1985 03 18
University scraps old Cambridge Colleges Examination, allow only 6th formers in A-level term to stake STEP (Sixth term entrance procedure), encourage state schools [16.11]

1985 05 11
The war-time mustard gas dump at Lord's Bridge is to be investigated by MoD officials for contamination as part of a national investigation of possible hazards on chemical weapons sites. It was one of six sites used as mustard gas dumps and was a forward filling depot for Risely Airfield in Bedfordshire. Two 250 tonne underground tanks containing lethal mustard gas were sunk on the site in 1944. They were emptied in the 1950s, their contents either burned or dumped at sea, and filled with decontaminant. It is now part of the University's Mullard radioscope observatory and fenced off. 85 05 11

1985 06 08
The Prime Minister of China, Mr Zhao Ziyang, came on a whistle stop tour of Cambridge – but found it so tiring he had to leave after lunch. It began with a formal welcome at the University Senate House where Chinese students gathered to meet him and he was presented with a book by the Vice-Chancellor. He then went to the School of Oriental Studies where he met Prof Joseph Needham, a world authority on China, and presented the department with 3,000 valuable volumes. But he decided to miss a visit to the Science Park. 85 06 08a

1985 06 21
Cambridge University is considering employing a Press and Public Relations officer following Government announcements that future funding will be based on excellence and on good reports of research. A Press officer would ensure news of the university's achievements reaches a wide audience. But they have to weigh up the benefits of employing someone to publicise the university's research as against the benefits of employing people to actually do that research. 85 06 21a

1985 07 31
The History Faculty building on the Sidgwick Avenue site has been saved. After nine months of reports and meetings the university has decided to carry out extensive repairs rather than knock it down and rebuild. Each option would cost about £2million but the repairs could be spread over a number of years. Now work will start on weather-proofing it to stop rain penetrating through the façade and terraces. The building received an architectural award in 1970 and its designer, Mr James Stirling, was awarded a Gold Medal for Architecture in 1980. 85 07 31c

1985 08 30
Exam syndicate 1.5M extension [20.18]

1985 12 11
Cambridge University is threatened with a £4 million grant cut which would force it to leave vacancies unfilled. Government plans to trim cash for higher education would curtail courses designed to keep pace with high technology and threaten research projects with industry, the Council of the Senate warn. Senior academic staff are involved in a campaign to stop the cuts and

will be lobbying for the support of local MPs as well as those who have been at the university 85 12 11

1986 02 12
Computer-aided design centre, biggest of kind in Europe [20.5]

1986 02 21
Appoint world's first Prof Animal Welfare [20.10]

1986 03 04
"Researchers being driven out of city" - poor salaries & career blackmail; "City brain drain terrifying" [21.3-4]

1986 04 19
Royal Greenwich Observatory to move Cambridge to be new building alongside Institute of Astronomy Madingley Rd [13.13]

1986 06 18
The University's plans for the old Addenbrooke's Hospital site will see the former outpatients' department being converted to a restaurant. The main hospital block and some single-storey buildings will be demolished and replaced with a commercial car park, the private patients' wing let for commercial use and the nurses' buildings on Tennis Court Road used for student hostels. The southern half of the site will be redeveloped to house the departments of biotechnology, pharmacology and biochemistry 86 06 18b

1987
MRC Lab of molecular biology 40 years old, 1947 was unit Cavendish, 1962 lab in own right; Dr Max Perutz director won Nobel prize for haemoglobin structure, 1953 DNA, Nobel prizes 1962 (3), 1980,82,84; reception 7 Nobel prizewinners [NS2.14]

1987
Cambridge scientists have to rely on charity to use techniques they pioneered [NS.1.7]

1987 02 09
'Entire Applied Biology Unit could be axed in Sept 1989' [19.7]

1987 04 30
Celebrate 50th anniversary at forefront computer technology [20.6]

1987 08 04
The wartime mustard gas dump at Lord's Bridge is to be investigated for contamination after dangerous levels were found at one of the other six old sites. Two underground tanks containing lethal mustard gas were sunk in 1944. They were emptied in the 1950s and the contents either burned or dumped at sea. The tanks are still slightly contaminated with gas but this will eventually disappear. It is now part of the University's Mullard Radioscope Observatory and is often visited by nature lovers interested in wild orchids. 87 08 04

1987 09 05
Skilled staff seek 'Cambridge Weighting' to halt hi-tech exodus [21.5]

1987 09 18
Cambridge's Strangeways Laboratory celebrated its 75th birthday with a £500,000 donation from Ciba Geigy Pharmaceuticals. This will enable the internationally known biomedical research laboratory to undertake a new phase of work into arthritis. Originally known as the Cambridge Research Hospital it was set up in 1905 by Dr T.S.P. Strangeways and pioneered the use of tissue-culture methods in biological research which are now an alternative to animal experiments. Today there are 100 staff representing a wide range of expertise 87 09 18c

1987 09 29
A Government bid to clamp down on universities handing out jobs to dons for the rest of their careers has been rejected by the Vice Chancellor, Lord Adrian. He says Cambridge's hi-tech boom is a direct result of such a system and supports the policy of offering posts to academics until the retiring age of 67. "It is terribly difficult to know who is or is not a 'sleeping don'", he says. But dons who do not teach a lot could help run the university or put back vital knowledge into the community and business. 87 09 29

1987 11 13
Cavendish Laboratory awarded grants for research projects which could make the silicon chip obsolete and modify the radio telescope – 87 11 13

1987 11 23
Researchers at the University Engineering Department believe that developments in superconductors could result in roads on which vehicles would levitate without wheels and tiny pieces of household equipment. – 87 11 23

1987 12 09
University to launch appeal for cash ¢CEN 9.12.87

1987 12 10
Cambridge University is to establish an important new Chair in neurology from a £1.2 million fund set up to forge closer links with the East Anglian Regional Health Authority. Neurology embraces all aspects of the nervous system and the new professor's task will have links with research into a whole range of diseases from multiple sclerosis to Aids 87 12 10

1988 02 11
Hamilton Kerr institute – feature 88 02 11 & a

1988 02 26
Cambridge University Department of Geography was founded 100 years ago and trained surveyors for the colonial service. The first Professor, Frank Debenham was a member of Shackleton's artic expeditions, Prof Alfred Steers studied the British coastline while Prof Sir Clifford Darby analysed data in the Domesday survey. Today it concerns itself with satellite information, computerised data for mapping, the study of the environment and a host of other modern problems. 88 02 26

1988 07 11
Wealthy Trinity College is planning a multi-million pound trust fund to rescue the cash-starved university from crisis. While the 31 colleges have financial independence the poorly-financed university, which has to provide administration and the bulk of teaching, relies on Government grants. A special arrangement means funds are redistributed from rich to poor colleges. But none

of the cash goes to the university. The Isaac Newton Trust would fund education and research and be an example to other colleges 88 07 11

1988 10 11
Magdalene College admit first women students ¢CEN 11.10.88

1988 10 28
Greenwich Observatory foundation stone laid – 88 10 28, 88 11 10

1988 10 31
University vote to include "and she" in Ordinances ¢CEN 31.10.88

1988 10 31
University appoint 1st Chair of clinical gerontology ¢CEN 31.10.88

1988 11 11
University appoint 1st female to hold medical professorship ¢CEN 11.11.88

1988 11 16
Imperial Cancer Research Fund tumour virus group lab opens ¢CEN 16.11.88

1988 11 16
National research Centre into superconductivity opens at Cavendish Laboratory ¢CEN 16.11.88

1988 12 01
Cambridge scientist pioneers Aids treatment, kills the virus ¢CEN 1.12.88

1988 12 05
Chemistry lab damaged by explosion ¢CEN 5.12.88

1988 12 16
Scientists develop drug to attack cancer cells ¢CEN 16.12.88

1988 12 19
Scientist of Nobel-prize-winning standard are to offer their services to industry as part of a new initiative to foster better links between the university and businesses in Cambridge. They will operate through consultancy companies which will provide a new source of university funds. Disciplines will include veterinary science, mathematics and surface analysis under an initiative from the Wolfson Industrial Unit 88 12 19

1989 01 21
The University's world-renowned Veterinary School may be axed following a report by a Government Working Party. Although the University has until March to respond, there is little prospect of changing their mind. The last intake of students will be in October and the school, which has 300 students, would close when they finish their six-year degree course. No decision has been made on the future use of the Madingley Road site or the Vet's Hospital, which is a leading centre for cancer treatment in animals 89 01 21 University Veterinary School wins reprieve – 89 04 07

1989 02 16
Plans unveiled for lab. for microelectronics research funded by Japanese ¢CEN 16.2.89

1989 02 27
University Department Archaeology get £10M establish research institute from Dr Daniel McLean McDonald ¢CEN 27.2.89 ¢CEN 22.11.89

1989 03 07
To be base new international unit coordinate ozone layer research ¢CEN 7.3.89

1989 06 16
Duke of Edinburgh opens British Antarctic Survey new building; Thomas Graham House new Cambridge office of Royal Society of Chemistry ¢CEN 16.6.89

1989 07 05
University needs £250M improve academic facilities ¢CEN 5.7.89

1989 07 10
£1M centre study maths to be set up Isaac Newton funded from trinity & St Johns ¢CEN 10.7.89

1989 08 17
University plan £10M Institute of Management Studies a major international business centre ¢CEN 17.8.89

1989 09 05
Four new Chairs announced, including Prof Molecular Parasitology funded by Glaxo ¢CEN 5.9.89

1989 09 08
Cambridge Biosynthetic Blood Products Unit to produce cancer killing drugs, opens next year ¢CEN 8.9.89

1989 09 08
Cambridge scientists are part of an international team involved in a 10-year project to map the human genome. The double helical structure of the DNA was discovered by Crick & Watson. Its genetic language was identified by Dr Sydney Brenner, now heading the University Molecular Genetics Unit and Dr Fred Sanger invented ways to read the message. Dr Aaron Klug is working out how the DNA is packaged. They will have to invent technology as yet unknown, create a new scientific language and build super computers. The end produce will be used by medical geneticists in Cambridge and elsewhere 89 09 08a

1989 09 13
The Scott Polar Institute plans a new museum with ice caves, live penguins and sea lions. It will become one of the major tourist attractions with an estimated million visitors a year. The University has agreed to set aside land on the High Cross development and British Petroleum has offered to pay for the futuristic architectural design work. It is hoped to open the giant museum in 1993 89 09 13

1989 09 13
Dunn Nutritional Unit safe & to move Addenbrooke's site in next few years ¢CEN 13.9.89

1989 10 04

Cambridge University' controversial History Faculty building has major heating and water leakage problems and now money is needed for the fourth phase. In 1984 consultants reported that the difference in the costs of repairing and replacing the award-winning structure would be negligible and the University spent nearly £700,000 on renovation. But now another £500,000 is needed to put it right 89 10 04a

1989 11 09
Pytor Kapitza's house was given to Academy of Sciences in Russia; Churchill college used it as hostel for postgraduates for almost 25 years; might be used as centre for Soviet Science ¢CEN 9.11.89

1989 11 20
Astronomer Martin Rees wins Balzan Foundation award (alternative Nobel Prize) ¢CEN 20.11.89

1990 03 17
Brewing giant Guinness is giving £1.5 million to Cambridge University to establish a Guinness Chair of Management Studies. It is part of a major new drive by the university to join the ranks of top international business schools in training young managers to become captains of the nation's industry. 90 03 17

1990 08 01
University Institute of Management Studies receives £8 gift from Paul Judge, former boss of Premier Brands (Chivers) of Histon 90 08 01a

1990 09 14
Therapeutic Antibody Centre, Addenbrooke's Hospital opens – 90 09 14b

1990 11 26
Fitzwilliam Museum given £15 million art collection by Daniel McDonald; follows £11m gift to Archaeology Dept – 90 11 26a

1993 03 17
Cambridge University new lectureship in theology and natural science due £1m gift from author Susan Howatch 1993 03 17 [Rev[

1996 09
Cambridge University scientists secure multi-million deal with Philips Components to develop flexible, flat-screen televisions, Sep

1997 06
Microsoft announce multi-million link-up with Cambridge University, June [Rev]

1998 01
Cambridge University new professorship funded by Margaret Thatcher foundation, Jan [Rev]

2009
University celebrates 800 years [Rev

Undergraduates protest over grants 1973 155.96

c.36.92: University Students, Undergraduates
includes rags, protest, women, bonfire night etc which also listed separately

headlines

Towards close of Edwardian era at 20 Trinity St "young gentlemen reclined in their rooms consuming larks on toast using silver cutlery brought with them at the beginning of term - suite consisted of sitting room and bedroom, nine sets in building converted from two houses into one boarding establishment; each had laden coal scuttle each day, baths run & gentlemen called at predetermined times; nine suits of clothes carefully cleaned & pressed the day before were placed at ready, anything-g other than suits was seldom worn; nine fires lit & nine breakfasts served in own room; as day went on all chairs etc covered by sheets and dusting would begin. Typical breakfast include fish, fruit or popular mixed grill featuring devilled kidneys. In kitchen a large wickerwork basket housed each man's silver cutlery, a large wardrobe contained individual sets of linen brought up at beginning of term while large cellar contained nine racks for each man's stock of wine or the occasional maturing pheasant. Lunch often served in house but -cooked in the college kitchen. Turtle soup, fish, snipe, saddle of lamb ... would involve four separate journeys and an average of 18 to 20 such meals left the college kitchens each day - enormous menu - no portions, if man ordered chicken he got the whole bird to do with as he liked. When meal finished enormous basket on wheels collected dirty crockery & returned it to college. Tea was usually served just after four and at right time of year crumpet and muffins, still hot from Matthews bakery were consumed in front of blazing fire. At end of term would get present in silver and £5.00 for staff who earned wages 7/6 week paid once a term 69 04 01 [44]

History of the Apostles – 85 09 26a

1888 11 06
Prince of Wales birthday - farm wagon drawn by 2 horses & packed with undergraduates in various attire followed by crowds parades street (6.11.88)

1890 06 13
The announcement that Miss P.G. Fawcett was in reality the Senior Wrangler caused much excitement for, although it was well-known that she would attain a higher position in the class list than has ever yet been attained by a woman, it was regarded as improbably that she would obtain higher marks than the Senior Wrangler. Twentieth Wrangler is the best place previously obtained by a woman since women's names have been published in the class list. In 1887 Miss Ramsey (now Mrs Butler, the wife of the present Vice Chancellor) was Senior Classic. Miss Fawcett was educated at the High School, Clapham, and obtained a scholarship at Newnham. She was present at the reading of the list and was heartily cheered by the undergraduates as she left the building in company with Miss Clough, the principal of Newnham. On Saturday night there were great rejoicings at Newnham 1890 06 13 Ch

1897 05 05
While the members of the University Senate are engaged in a fierce contest to decide whether women shall be admitted to the titles of degrees, the undergraduates have given most emphatic expressions to their opinion. A committee was formed and within six days over 2,100 signatures (the total number of undergraduates and Bachelors is only 2.840) have been sent to a memorial expressing the conviction that the giving of degrees to women would prove injurious to the position and efficiency of the University as a University for men 1897 05 05

1897 05 12
Last night a brilliant debate took place in the Debating Hall of the Cambridge University Union on the question of Women's Degrees. Mr T.F.R. McDonnell of St John's College said that one would suppose that as soon as the report had been passed a plague of women would descend upon Cambridge and infest everything. It was asked why women did not found a University of their own. A University was not built in a day and this would not prevent them from building one 1897 05 12

1897 05 21
After the Senate House scenes yesterday (when the University voted against degrees for women) there was a brief respite. It was the calm before the storm. About 7 o'clock there was a grand gathering of the clans. Undergraduates began trooping through the streets to what was obviously a pre-arranged rendezvous - the Market Hill. From the four corners of the square fire was opened upon everybody and everything within range. Bombs, hand-rockets, and every description of firework manufactured were flung haphazard into the crowd until the scene resembled nothing so much as the bombardment of a hostile camp, It is no exaggeration to say that hundreds of pounds worth of stuff were got rid of during the five hours the proceedings lasted 1897 05 21

1897 05 21
'The University of Cambridge' (the "Daily News" thinks) 'has not improved its reputation for sense and judgement by its votes (not to award women degrees). Not a single argument worthy of the name has been produced in favour of the decision'. 'Of the wisdom shown by the Cambridge Senate there can be but one opinion' (says the "Morning Post"). 'In rejecting by an overwhelming majority the Graces for giving Titles of Degrees to ladies they have done much to revive the reputation of their University for forethought and discretion' 1897 05 21

1897 05 22

Undergraduate carnival following decision not to allow women to take degrees [3.5]

1898
Cambridge Dining Clubs recalled in old issue of 'The Idler', 1898 – Beefsteak & True Blue – 37 01 30e

1898 10 03
Cambridge is itself again. The university town has put on its university aspect; Gown has come back to town, and town has made it welcome. The devotion of Cambridge graduates to their Alma Mater has not been wanting during the past year. The Vice Chancellor mentioned the formation of the Cambridge University Association which has been opened to provide new buildings for the Law and Medical schools. £6,000 have already been subscribed. Cambridge is rich in scholarship; the real need of the hour is money that will enable the university to keep in the van of scientific research; to meet the demands that rapid progress in all departments of knowledge has made upon it CDN 1898 10 03

1898 11 07
Saturday was a typical "fifth" in Cambridge. Faithfully following the precedent set in former years a number of Varsity men and townspeople assembled in the market place, which for three hours or so was crowded with excitable and pugilisitically-inclined youths, representing Town and gown. The Gown driven from pillar to post by the howling mob, appeared to be greatly terrified, and despite the vigilance of the police, of whom a large number were told off for special duty, the celebration was not entirely free from violence. Neither town nor gown missed many opportunities of displaying their physical prowess and many are the reports circulated as to the results of the pugilistic encounters that ensued 1898 11 07

1898 11 24
Great crowds had been assembling outside Great St Mary's and the railings before the Senate House with the exception of a pathway of about five yards which the police were endeavouring to keep clear for those attending the honorary degree ceremony for Lord Kitchener. It was evidence that the constables were having hard work in keeping the crowds from encroaching. At length the looked-for rush took place and such was the force that the police were quite powerless to check it. A general scramble to get upon the railings ensued when without the slightest warning the railings suddenly gave way and fell outwards carrying many unfortunate persons to the ground with them. The solidity of this great piece of ironwork is well known and it is wonderful that more were not seriously injured.

1898 11 25
The enthusiasm aroused by Lord Kitchener's visit to Cambridge increased as the day wore on. Varsity men, brim-full of high spirits, gathered in the streets in large numbers. For upwards of an hour thousands of people paraded the streets. It was not until eight o'clock that the cries of "bonfire" were heard. The call was eagerly taken up by hundreds of undergraduates and some boxes from a shop hard by were seized on as the fuel with which to start the blaze. Bands of men bearing massive wooden structures came up from all quarters and the flames mounted to an enormous height, so that the fire could be seen for miles around

1899 02 09
The attention of the University Council of Senate has been called to the disorder which attended the bonfire on November 24th, 1898 when the actual destruction of property was considerable. They recommend that members of the University are forbidden to take part in making or lighting

of bonfires in public places within the precincts of the university. Members offending will render themselves liable to be punished by suspension, rustication, expulsion or otherwise 1899 02 09

1899 02 17
Yesterday afternoon the attention was attracted by what seemed to be an imposing funeral procession. But this was no ordinary funeral for instead of the usual hearse an open landau led the way and this was occupied by three young men who wore "the trappings of woe" very lightly. Following were nearly a score of hansoms. It is alleged that at the end of last term at student of Queens' college "ragged" a couple of Freshmen's rooms. The matter was reported to the University authorities who came to the conclusion he should be sent down for a year. His friends resolved to show their disapproval. Before the train left the company whistled the "Dead March" and it left amid ringing cheers 1899 02 17

1899 06 08
The gaieties of the May Term have today been enhanced by the appearance of the Australian cricketers. Last night famous Grassy and Ditton Paddock were the scene of brilliant assemblages of beauty and fashion. Cambridge is full for the Eights week and looking at her best. The fair sex - a mighty host - seem to be arrayed in their most killing attire. Almost everybody - who is anybody - seems to have got his people "up", and everybody's people appear resolutely determined to enjoy themselves - 1899 06 08

1899 10 04
The etiquette of University life is a thing by itself, but "The Freshman at Cambridge" is veritably a royal road to knowledge. One might be some time without learning that it is 'bad form' to wear one's gown and carry an umbrella at the same time. Yet here is the useful rule and many others of the same character set forth clearly. Every Freshman, cast adrift upon the unknown sea of University life, should get this book and make it the subject of careful study 1899 10 04

1899 11 02
When residents in St Andrew's street, Cambridge, saw a procession of cabs passing onward "all mournful and slow" to the railway station the people knew that someone had been sent down from the University. From Emmanuel College a youth emerged and under a shower of rice made hurriedly for the cab waiting at the door. The driver, "Gentleman Joe" wore a tall hat draped with crape, and so did the drivers of some four cabs what followed. The hero of the hour entered the Great Northern Station, the train moving out to the strains of "Auld Lang Syne". Meanwhile the cabbies grove back to their respective stands. They were of more cheerful aspect on the return journey and each puffed a festive cigar 1899 11 02

1899 11 07
Almost as soon as it was dark a large number of youths made their way to Cambridge Market Hill which was in a short time alive to the crackling and bangings of the smaller fireworks. The 'Varsity', after hall time, joined the townspeople and from eight to eleven there was a roaring, rushing crowd of several hundreds about the hill and neighbouring streets. Certain of the townsmen who had begun the day not to wisely by profusely drinking were responsible for the greater part of the disorder and were seized and marched off by the ever-vigilant gentlemen in blue - 1899 11 07

1900

1900 03 03

There was great rejoicings in Cambridge on the relief of Ladysmith and despite the edict sent forth by the University authorities the conduct of the undergraduate element was again such as to necessitate the intervention of the police. The Varsitymen managed to draw police attention off the market place to scenes elsewhere and, during their temporary absence, succeeded in lighting a bonfire. There was great excitement as one by one the wooden frameworks of the stalls was committed to the flames. The band-stand on Christ's Pieces was attacked and the seats removed to the Market and quickly consumed. Similar damage was occasioned in all parts of the town.

1900 03 05
The University has the power to stop these things. But what did the University do to prevent the destruction of property – practically nothing. A year ago an edict forbidding bonfires was issued, that edict was torn to shreds. The University cannot afford to have it said that the people of Cambridge had property stolen or destroyed in order to furnish forth an undergraduate carnival. The firmness of the Mayor and his brother magistrates in dealing with the men who came up at the police-court has been much commended. The Barnwell rough belongs to the past. The unfortunate thing is that his mantle had fallen upon the rowdy undergraduate of the present.

1900 03 07
The ire of the undergraduate once roused, not even the powerful hand of Alma Mater suffices to entirely quell the wrath that has been kindled. An attacking force of undergraduates gathered many recruits as it made its way along Hills Road and it was at once seen that the objective was the Mayor's residence in Brooklands Avenue. They were dismayed to find the thoroughfare barricaded by a posse of police constables. The mob made a bold rush. The police partially yielded but not more than half of the 'Varsity flank passed through the cordon when the police closed ranks. The trap that had been set proved effective for those who marched triumphantly down the Avenue had not negotiated more than fifty yards when they were encountered by the Proctors mustered in strong force CDN 1900 03 07

1900 03 12
The list of those who have signed the petition in favour of a free pardon for those undergraduates who were recently convicted by the Cambridge magistrates of felony during the Ladysmith celebrations, fully justifies is description as the petition of Cambridge. Over 1,200 residents in the town and members of the University have put their names to it. Cambridge Town and University are unanimous in the hope that the hot-headed enthusiasts of Ladysmith Day may be forgiven for what was done in the excitement of the hour. It remains with the Home Secretary to decide whether the prayer of the petition is to be granted 00 03 12

1900 03 16
The Home Secretary has granted the petition of Cambridge and has recommended the Queen to grant a free pardon to all the defendants. He does not say the undergraduates did not commit felony, but there were extenuating circumstances. This is undoubtedly a slap in the face for the magistrates who share the responsibility for these convictions. Clearly the Home Secretary does not think much of their law, and he thinks less of their capacity for judging of evidence. Some timid people may be apprehensive lest it encourages the demonstratively-inclined magistrate to be more demonstrative in the future 00 03 16

1900 05 21
Cambridge has celebrated the relief of Mafeking and it has done it right nobly. There was no recurrence of the riotous scene witnessed on the occasion of the relief of Ladysmith, no destruction of property. This was due to one thing, the discretion shown by the powers that be in organising a bonfire on Midsummer Common. People poured in in thousands from the country in

anticipation of the festivities and so great was the influx that some streets were rendered well night impassable. Still, the crowds were orderly and the police had no difficulty regulating the traffic 00 05 21

1900 11 06
The 'Fifth' was celebrated on Cambridge in a very orderly fashion. The effigies that once characterised Guy Fawkes Day were conspicuous by their almost entire absence. The best attempt at an effigy was made by three or four men who were rigged out in minstrel fashion and paraded the streets with a vehicle in which were seated representations of Mr Kruger and his wife. This attracted a good deal of attention until the rain came and washed the colour from the faces of the dejected looking figures, and sent the minstrels home 00 11 06

1901 05 07
Sanguine people imagined that the rejoicing for the return of the South African Volunteers would pass off quietly. A parental Corporation had taken the wise precaution to secure materials for a fine bonfire on Midsummer Common to prevent the destruction of property. This time it was a plan doomed to partial failure. The fire was comparatively short-lived and undergraduates found a wealth of additional fuel in King Street where a wooden hoarding was dragged off to the Common and triumphantly flung upon the bonfire. Policemen stood guard over the bandstand on Christ's Pieces 01 05 07

1901 06 12
On the occasion of the annual ball the precincts of picturesque Clare College were lavishly illuminated and decorated. The centre path of the court was covered in and carpeted; palms were placed in groups on the lawn and the whole court made brilliant with hundreds of fairy lamps and Chinese lanterns. Rows of fairy lamps along the river side gave the garden a particularly beautiful appearance. Dancing took place in the hall and the combination room. There were 21 dances on the programme and three supper dances. Supper was set in the reading room 01 06 12

1901 11 06
There is little survival of the old celebrations of "The Fifth" in Cambridge, save one or two groups of youngsters with an eye to stray coppers carried around "guys" which may have been effigies of anything. Builders, having a recollection of losses of material on bonfire nights, had men guarding scaffolding poles, but they were not called upon. The most noticeable thing was the fog – thick, damp and irritating. It was not the kind of weather suitable to a rag or even a bonfire in the back-yard. It was better fun sitting by a snug fireside than standing with cold hands and feet in a choking fog letting off small pyrotechnic fry CDN 1900 11 06

1901 11 11
It being the King's 60th birthday it was expected that nightfall would be the occasion for rowdyism and possibly an attempt to illuminate Cambridge Market Hill. The authorities cleared away the stalls, but their action left the historic centre of all "rags" open and free for the antics of the crowd. For a long time nothing occurred except the explosion of a few crackers or the discharge of a pistol from a window overlooking the hill. Large numbers of police were hustled about considerably, and were compelled to defend themselves, but compared with other 'rags', they did not have to exert themselves very much. It was a very tame, spiritless affair that will doubtless be deemed by the "bloods" to have been a complete failure, considering that practically no damage to property was done CDN 1901 11 11

1902 06 03

Peace in South Africa produced strife in Cambridge – one of those fierce contests between the police and the united forces of town and gown which, combined with the destruction of property, constitutes a "rag". In King Street a large double gate was attacked as wood for a bonfire but a vigorous-looking dame appeared from the other side. Her only weapon was a duster, but such a formidable appearance did she present that the crowd melted away before her advance. Skirmishers went towards the Circus of Varieties to obtain a hoarding but this was well guarded and soon they were retracing their steps. The hoarding which surrounded the underground toilets on Market Hill was torn down and lighted. More wood was wanted and the mob pulled down glazed bricks and girders, door-posts and window frames. Next morning the appearance of the projected underground lavatory was more like an archaeological excavation. Thousands of bricks were lying in the bottom mixed up with the dirt and pieces of wood and the general appearance of the place showed how wanton and reckless had been the young hot heads who had wrought the damage (Undergraduate convicted but Home Secretary reversed decision)[1.5]

1902 06 04
The following notice has been issued by the Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University. "Whereas the attendance of members of the University at certain public exhibitions, performances and places of dramatic entertainment has been productive of grave disorder, notice is given that the attendance of any member in statu pupillari at the Circus of Varieties, Auckland Road, is prohibited and will render him liable to be punished by suspension, rustication, expulsion or otherwise." 02 06 04

1903 01 02
Rag when French awarded Honorary Degree thought 'likely to become historic as improbable scenes will ever occur again' (2.1.04)

1903 04 14
The accounts of 'ragging' at a Cambridge Theological College led to an interview with a Cambridge minister acquainted with one of the victims – the man who had the adornment of his upper lip removed by amateur barbers. The undergraduate did not have the whole of his moustache removed, but only half of it, the operation performed while he was held down in his bed. He had a splendid moustache. It was quite the pride of his mother who was terribly upset over it. His life has been made thoroughly unbearable by his tormentors, who wanted him to give up preaching. They have broken all his windows several times and the young fellow has been thoroughly broken down and ill. 03 04 14

1903 11 06
Time once was when the concentrated animosity between Cambridge Town and Gown found annual outlet on 'The Fifth'. There are many old inhabitants who have seen the traditional riots gradually die down with the building up of mutual ties between University and Town. Athletic Varsitymen and pugilistic townsmen no longer belabour each other; they join issue in attempts at bonfires with police baiting thrown in as a sideline. At Castle End undergraduates managed to secure a shutter with the intention of making it the nucleus of a bonfire; a constable was rolled to the ground, his helmet knocked off and his whistle and truncheon lost before more policemen arrived and three arrests were made – one member of the Varsity, a soldier and a townsman 03 11 06

1904 03 01
All Cambridge united in welcoming King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra to open the new University buildings known as the Sedgwick Museum, the Squire Law Library, Botanical and Medical Schools in Downing Street. Cambridge University has never stagnated but kept pace

with the demands of the time. Newer universities have their place in the general scheme of things but they can never supplant our ancient university of Cambridge, nor her twin sister on the banks of the Isis. With the increasing spread of education their prosperity increases.

1904 03 02
The Royal visit to Cambridge was followed by an undergraduate 'rag' which caused wanton destruction of public and private property even though a large body of police, included mounted men, were on duty. One policeman guarding the proctors was singled out for a little 'baiting'. As they surged around he took out his baton which was immediately snatched from his hand. Now unprotected the affair seemed likely to develop into a serious disturbance but mounted policemen began to harry the crowd who fled before the horsemen. Many youths annoyed the riders by throwing crackers near their horses. One animal was so startled by an explosion that it threw its rider and careered across Parker's Piece.

1904 03 15
St John's College students carried out a mock funeral for an undergraduate who was ejected from the New Theatre on three occasions in one week for having infringed the rules adopted to preserve order. The college authorities decided he should be 'sent down' and his friends showed organised a process of 13 cabs which filed along the streets at funeral pace to the railway station. A halt was made outside the New Theatre to allow the travellers to indicate their disapproval of the management. During the whole journey shouts, singing and the blowing of horns was continuous. 04 03 15

1904 06 10
The last procession of boats held following Bumps (10.6.04)

1904 06 11
During 'May' Week the permanent part of the population takes much coin of the realm from the floating part but this year visitors seemed likely to be well down because of the weather. Then on Thursday sunbeams brought a large number of visitors bringing with them awe-inspiring loads of luggage. Airy dresses of muslin and chiffon and a boating excursion are inseparable to the feminine. They were very comfortable during the all-too-brief spell of sunshine but then the ladies grew colder and colder until in desperation they gratefully accepted loans of jackets and even overcoats from their male escorts. Thus the racing was not as picturesque as it might have been

1904 07 02
Few realise the lavish expenditure on the May Balls held in Cambridge Corn Exchange. After the corn merchants have vacated the building on the Saturday evening a small army of workmen take possession. They labour until midnight when the advent of the Sabbath and the strict rules governing municipal buildings shut them out for 24 hours. With the first hour of Monday morning they re-enter and by eight that evening the place is transformed into an artistic ballroom through which not a vestige of the prosaic Corn Exchange is seen. What of the cost? There is not less than £2,000 worth of goods in the ball room; add to that the cost of utilising the Guildhall as a supper room and include the china and plates for the supper and you have a total of some thousands of pounds to provide our moneyed visitors with an evening's entertainment. CDN 2.7.1904

1904 10 08
During the next few days some 800 to 1,000 young men will be coming into residence at Cambridge University. One of the first things they will notice is the number of people who are

anxious to recommend them to tailors or robemakers. These people draw five shillings commission for each customer recommended. The fresher will also find in his room a number of 'necessities' from other tradesmen. If he keeps these his 'bedder' draws the commission he had to pay. There are many tradesmen who do not indulge in this kind of touting and young men are advised to go straight to their tutor to find the best traders to deal with. CDN 8.10.1904

1904 11 07
The results of the fifth of November 'rag' in Cambridge were more or less serious injuries to two policemen, considerable damage to private property and several police-court summonses. A little boy engaged in firing a squib in the midst of a 'ragging' party proceeding along Jesus Lane was knocked down by a cyclist and rendered insensible. Fortunately he was soon revived by a number of undergraduates who at once attended to him. One man fainted and another was admitted to Hospital suffering from injuries to the head caused by his being knocked down by a cab. 1904 11 07

1904 11 10
The King's birthday is one of those occasions upon which a certain section of the 'Varsity and Town consider it necessary to turn themselves into public nuisances. This year they avoided the Borough police by making a raid on Chesterton. The mob made tracks for Midsummer Common with the object of having a bonfire. Several hundred crossed Jesus Green Bridge where a council of war was held. Carlyle Road was mention as leading to fuel for the fire but a number of the belligerents made an incursion down a private road. Several fences were broken down and flames shot into the air as the surreptitiously-obtained timber was thrown on to the fire. No police appeared on the scene, though a number of members of the Force were on duty on the borough side of the river CDN 10.11.1904

1904 11 26
The bedmaker is an institution. Without her the University would be sadly disorganised. Now The Granta has been conducting a bedmakers competition which Mrs Jacob of Magdalene has won. She was born in 1829 and has served the college for 62 years. Mrs Hills of St Johns has a record of continuous service since 1839 while Mrs Nichols has served 28 years at Corpus with 11 at Peterhouse before that. But several ladies entirely declined to take the contest seriously, one saying she had read in The Granta 'articles which no gentleman could possibly have written' CDN 26.11.1904

1905 03 04
'Sultan of Zanzibar' hoax. A practical joke of a particularly senseless character has just come to light. The incident recalls a similar hoax that was effected during the visit to England of the Shah of Persia years ago. The CDN became apprised of the visit but in view of the former hoax refrained from publishing any account and our suspicion was confirmed by a telegram from the Carlton Hotel saying 'No member of the Sultan of Zanzibar's suite was away from London'. The Mayor was very cautious and took care not to make any elaborate preparations for the reception of the visitors. 05 03 04
The death of Willie Clarkson, the London theatrical costumier and make-up expert recalls two of the greatest hoaxes of the century. The hero of the famous visit of the Sultan of Zanzibar to Cambridge and of the Abyssinian dignitaries to the Dreadnought was H. De Vere Cole. But he would not have escaped exposure but for Mr Clarkson's masterly make-up. He became more famous than many of the actors and actresses who he costumed and gowned during his association with the stage. 34 10 13

1905 03 06

Undergraduates started a bonfire on Parker's Piece with the aid of a wooden fence from the front of a house in Melbourne Place. One of the proctors who arrived on the scene before the appearance of the police became the object of the amusement of a large number of roughs, some of whom, after having smashed the hats of the 'bulldogs' began to hustle him. He escaped actual injury owing chiefly to the stalwart and vigorous defence of the 'bulldogs' assisted by one or two townsmen. The fire was extinguished by a bucket of water 05 03 06b

1905 11 06
It is a recognised custom in Cambridge, which no amount of protest seems able to abolish, to make the celebration of the Fifth the occasion for a rag. This year it fell on a Sunday but this did not deter them and a huge bonfire was started on Midsummer Common. The chief sufferer was G.P. Hawkins whose premises in Parsonage Street was attacked during the Nelson rag and on Saturday another unsuccessful assault was made. But on Sunday several hundred undergraduates returned, smashed the fence and seized egg cases, barrels and a tarpaulin to add to the flames. 05 11 06b

1905 11 06
The information that a number of Varsity and Town roughs broke into Mr Hawkins' premises on Sunday night and stole and destroyed property to the value of £20 will surprise even Cambridge people. To disturb the peace of a Sabbath by forcibly entering a tradesman's premises and to burn the stolen material in a public place is just as truly a robbery as if the marauders had broken into the Guildhall and taken £20 from the safe. We trust the University authorities will look facts in the face and that such activities will be promptly scotched. 05 11 06a-d

1905 11 09
Sir - On 1st March 1904 a sergeant of the Metropolitan Police, sent to Cambridge on the occasion of the King's visit, was violently assaulted and kicked by an undergraduate. After six months' illness, during which his pay amounting to £54 was paid by the Borough of Cambridge, he was pensioned off as unfit for service. On 5th November 1904 a constable, having taken one undergraduate into custody, was brutally attacked by others and was left insensible. He has been on the sick list ever since and pensioned off. All members of the University should co-operate to prevent such scenes of riot and disorder - H.M. Taylor, Trinity College. 05 11 09

1905 11 09
It is almost incredible that any undergraduate should so far demean himself as to treat a policeman with the blackguard violence of a hooligan. If we have hitherto been inclined to take a lenient view of the occasional destruction of property it was because we felt sure the grosser acts were the work of town loafers who were encouraged by thoughtless undergraduates. But those who took part in gutting a shop should suffer the legal penalty and not be saved from imprisonment by University authorities. – Cambridge Review 05 11 09a

1905 11 10
Rag – great damage to property – 05 11 10 a & b

1905 11 11
One does not associate Sidney Sussex College with the rowdyism that is rampant in Cambridge. Yet on Saturday night the porter found the door of his lodge refused to open: it had been securely screwed up and he was a prisoner. After a troubled night he was aroused by the bedmakers' loud ringing at the gate and saw there was no option but to smash the window and escape through the jagged aperture to admit the waiting and wrathful 'bedders'. 05 11 11a [2.15]

1905 11 15
Sir – twenty years ago undergraduates at Oxford had two types of 'rag'. On the 5th of November we went out and provoked people who didn't wear caps and gowns to hit us, and we hit them back. Then whenever our college had done something great in sport we burnt up a good deal of the college property in the 'quad' and paid for it in out 'wattels' at the end of term. But when the authorities thought there had been too much friendly hitting they used to 'gate' their colleges en bloc at nine o'clock. Now Cambridge undergraduates have discovered a third sort – plundering, robbing and annoying citizens to get wood for bonfires. This is hooliganism and the Riot Act might not be out of place – V.S.N. 05 11 15

1906 02 03
Modern undergraduates' dress is a neat disorder. Flannel trousers, brogues, a fancy waistcoat, a shooting jacket and low golfing collar is the costume in which he lounges into his lectures or goes to the theatre in the evening. Dons are hardly known for their strict attention to the latest fashions but they have never known men so careless in their dress before. 06 02 03b

1906 02 28
A sad fatality occurred at Jesus College. A Freshman was engaged in cleaning with benzoline a pair of gloves, which he was wearing on his hands and arms when the gloves took fire from a lighted candle. Help was near at hand and a doctor was promptly in attendance, but the shock was so great that despite every attention he sank rapidly and died in little more than an hour. The deceased should have rowed in the Lent Races but in consequence of the accident the Jesus boats did not take part. 06 02 28a

1906 05 12
One of the most disgraceful 'rags' occurred a few days ago. An undergraduate had been celebrating his birthday by giving a party to his intimates where they dined too well. Shortly before midnight the raiders returned to the room but their victim had not retired and succeeded in repelling the onslaught. Later they came back, breaking and destroying indiscriminately. The graduate was a great traveller and his room contained many valuable Eastern trophies which he had collected in out-of-the-way parts of the world. 06 05 12a

1906 06 09
Cambridge has surrendered to May Week visitors very completely. These pretty butterflies, who transform our mundane streets into kaleidoscope scenes of colour and animation, mean increased profit for the tradesman and are a source of joy to the lodging-house keeper. They must have somewhere to lay their heads, dainty dinners and mayonnaise for supper. They cause money to circulate and many is the summer holiday they provide for the householders who provide rooms for their comfort. 06 06 09b. Record number of May Week visitors – 09 06 11

1906 06 10
Undergraduate dress – 06 02 10a

1906 06 28
Mrs Moyes of the Lion Hotel claimed payment from an undergraduate for the hire of horses. He had entered Trinity College and associated with men of means and even of wealth. He stated his allowance was £300 a year (this was denied by his father who said it was £15 per term plus tailor's bills – about £150). The bill was for the hire of three horses on the same day – he had tossed up with two friends and lost. But this was not a 'necessary' and, being under 21 years of age, he was not liable to pay it. 06 06 28

1906 11 17
Money lending allegations – Cambridge tradesmen and students – 06 11 17d

1907 01 24
The famous Pitt Club was damaged in a disastrous fire which commenced in the dining room at the top of the building destroying the roof above. Fortunately the club records together with some of the valuable engravings of William Pitt were saved but many interesting portraits of former members were destroyed. The Fire Brigade used their new steamer for the first time and but for their efforts the club would have been a thing of the past 07 01 24

1907 01 26
In such a cold spell undergraduate etiquette is apt to go by the board. It is an unwritten law that no junior member of the University should, on pain of merciless chaffing, appear in academical dress plus an overcoat. The idea of cap and gown and gloves was simply horrifying. Yet both these laws have been broken with impunity. One young man appeared in public with cap, gown, overcoat and a pair of very aggressive yellow-brown gloves. 07 01 26a

1907 01 26
It would show a little more consideration for the feelings of other people if the dog-fancying undergraduate would go a little farther afield than Midsummer Common for their rat-worrying exhibitions. I have no objection to the extermination of the rodents nor to the training of dogs for the purpose, but to many people the sight of the 'sport' in full view of Victoria Avenue is repulsive and disgusting. Such displays should not be permitted in places which force the sight of them willy-nilly upon every passer-by 07 01 26a

1907 02 02
All over the country old Pittites offer sighs of relief at the comparatively small amount of damage caused to the Pitt Club, whose dining room was burnt out. The committee is to be congratulated on the speed with which it made new arrangements for dining, and the fortitude of the cook, who sent out breakfast on Saturday morning from a kitchen several inches deep in freezing water, deserves to be recorded in letters of gold and hung up in every kitchen. 07 02 02

1907 02 12
A Chinese undergraduate of St Catharine's college was summoned for driving a motor car in Jesus Lane at a furious rate. Frederick Siggers, a college porter, said he was wheeling a plate basket when the car passed within two feet of the wall on the wrong side of the road at 18 miles an hour. The student said it would be a wonderful car that could get up to that speed after a sharp corner. But he was convicted and his licence endorsed. 07 02 12

1907 02 21
The University Vice Chancellor has condemned the undergraduates who wrecked Kier Hardy's meeting at the Guildhall. It is one of the University traditions that honest opinions, however unpopular, should receive a fair hearing. Cambridge is not unsympathetic towards the Labour Party and its leader should have been given a chance of expressing his views. 07 02 21

1907 03 03
About ten years ago some undergraduates of St John's College removed one of the stone balls from Clare College Bridge. They transferred it to a Rob Roy canoe but this capsized and the purloined ball sank to the bottom of the Cam. There it has remained ever since. One of the other balls was put in its place and a new one made, now partly obscured by ivy. (Item from the 'Table Talk' column on 1st April) 07 03 30b

1907 05 03
Trinity Hall undergraduates have subscribed £6 3s. towards the fund for repairing the damage done to Mr Glasscock's cab on the night of the visit of Kier Hardy to Cambridge. It was smashed beyond repair but as vehicle was not covered by the Riot Damages Act he had no compensation for the loss sustained. At the commencement of term the News published the facts, calling the attention of undergraduates to the heavy loss they had caused and inviting them to put the matter right. 07 05 03

1907 05 18
Dinner for the ordinary, healthy undergraduate is an event of importance. But students at one of the largest colleges trooped into the dining hall, bowed their heads while grace was said, and then to the utter astonishment of the senior members, rose and without a word solemnly walked out. The action was a protest against the kitchen management: there has been dissatisfaction not so much with the quality of the food, but with the quantity and the manner in which it has been served. The protest has caused an improvement in the cuisine. 07 05 18

1907 06 08
The boat procession used to be the most popular of the May Week gaieties. The brilliant blazers of the collegians, the varied colours of the ladies' charming costumes, the prettily adorned boats together with the enlivening strains of an excellent band all combined to make a scene of colour and animation. The gathering fell through owing to the apathy of the boating men who objected to dressing up to be looked at. But it is a great pity 07 06 08a

1907 09 26
A College Fellow sued an undergraduate for nearly £100. He had paid the lad's loans, lodgings and tobacconist's bill and given him a horse as a present, together with a quantity of saddlery, which he'd kept in his stables for nothing. But then they'd quarrelled. The judge said it was the most disgraceful case he'd ever tried 07 09 26

1907 09 30
Magdalene welcomes member English Royal Family as undergraduate for first time – Prince Leopold of Battenberg – 07 09 30b

1907 10 12
It is always interesting to see the young freshmen come up in October with their fathers, mothers, sisters, cousins or aunts. As you gaze upon their fresh faces, full of hope and expectation, you think of how their devoted parents will deny themselves many luxuries in order that their sons may receive the best possible education. But the freedom from restraint often proves too much for those not possessed of strong wills. The University is not the place for them – as they learn to their sorrow. 07 10 12a

1907 11 09
Few 'Guys' on Nov 5th - mainly a firework festival [2.20]

1907 11 12
The visit of Royalty to Cambridge was made an excuse for an outburst of destructive exuberance on the part of undergraduates, errand boys, and others. A rush was made for the bandstand on Christ's Pieces, but it was guarded by police so they proceeded to Victoria Bridge, which was held by sturdy country policemen. Some then kindled a fire near the Cutter Ferry, dragging some palings from the Ferry House, which filled the souls of the 'raggers' with glee. 07 11 12

1907 11 16
Tolerant attitude to Rag but police prevent Market Hill bonfire [2.21]

1907 11 26
A 'mock funeral' saw a procession of 100 cabs boarded by undergraduates who scrambled to the roof of the vehicles for the journey to the railway station. The cabbies had decorated their whips with pieces of crepe and 'mourners' with mouth organs and a miniature bagpipes played hideous music. The 'deceased' was 'sent down' for being out of Caius College after midnight – he had gone to London but his car had broken down. 07 11 26

1907 12 10
Thirty years ago there was far more drinking and drunkenness amongst undergraduates than now. There are still occasions when too much wine is drunk, such as when the college boat goes out of training and the end of the Lent and May Races. But what else could be expected with 3,000 young fellows drawn from every kind of home and rank of society? 07 12 10

1907 12 10
"For an isolated policeman to be attacked and beaten to death by eight or ten students is an occurrence which happens almost once a week at Cambridge or Oxford", writes a correspondent in the 'Messagero', (Rome). He adds that it is common for a group of about 50 undergraduates to wreck a shop as if a dynamite bomb had exploded in it when "the honest tradesman had refused them credit". In the theatre undergraduates do what they like, interrupt the actresses, start discussions with the actors on the stage, beat the orchestra and upset the stalls, he alleges. 07 12 10

1908 03 14
Undergraduates climb Backs trees, roped together in Alpine fashion - 08 03 14

1908 05 02
Three terms ago the undergraduates of Caius College indulged in a strike against the kitchen arrangements. They refused to eat what was provided – but still had to pay for what they would not eat. Their example was infectious and spread to Trinity. But there they meals have now returned to their old price and standard – they are as exorbitant as they are disgusting. The present arrangements present all the worse features of the less cultured American municipalities. But whoever met an undergraduate who didn't grumble about 'Hall' 08 05 02d

1908 05 22
Tragedy surrounds the death of a Trinity College undergraduate who took rooms in Park Parade and acquired a reputation for studiousness. A revolver shot was heard and a fellow undergraduate bursting the door open, found the young man reclining in an easy chair. His right hand still clutched a revolver and in the centre of his forehead was a bullet wound. A doctor was called, but the lad was beyond human aid. Only one chamber of the revolver, which was practically new, had been charged. CWN 08 05 22 p5

1908 06 05
There has been an Alpine fever amongst undergraduates, finding a vent in climbing trees along the Backs. The wireless telegraphy station on the Huntingdon Road has been the site of the latest exploit. This is a pole over 200 feet in height which receives messages from Cumnor Hill near Oxford. Two undergraduates merrily commenced the ascent by means of the metal spikes driven in at convenient intervals and managed to reach the top. But the return voyage was not so easily

accomplished and they reached terra firma with a distinct sigh of relief. It is a matter for common wonder what object will next receive the attention of this strange species. CWN 08 06 05 p5

1908 06 05
A number of prominent rowing men, objecting to the known Socialistic proclivities of Messrs Gomme and Bull, and believing they had dared to hold a Fabian meeting within the precincts of Trinity Hall, fetched them forcibly from the rooms of a friend and ducked them in a bath which had been prepared in the middle of the Court. A circular was issued that was sent to every Member of Parliament, setting out the facts. The 'raggers' have been punished. 08 06 05 p5

1908 06 05
Considerable annoyance has been caused to the dons of Trinity and St John's by gramophone concerts given by undergraduate punting parties. As the Cam is technically a highway the police were asked to put a stop to the nuisance and a constable patrolled the river in a 'tub'. As he was rowing quietly along an undergraduate propelled his craft with such force that its gunwale was smashed in and the policeman narrowly escaped a ducking. The lad has now received a summons for 'obstructing the highway' CWN 08 06 05 p3

1908 06 26
Proud papas and mammas in great number congregated in the gallery and upon the floor of the Senate House to watch their sons in clothes of sombre hue wearing upon their shoulders the hood of a Bachelor of Arts kneel before the Vice-Chancellor to receive their degrees. According to ancient custom the Senior Wrangler was first presented and at the tail of the list came the wooden spoonist, Mr R. Pask, a master at the Cambridge and County Boys' School. Strung upon strong twine stretching from either gallery was the trophy, a handsome wooden spoon, which danced over the heads of those seated on the floor in obedience to the string-pulling of undergraduates 08 06 26 p3

1908 12 03
There is a rule at the New Theatre which degrees that undergraduates may not charter a box unless they are accompanied by a lady. So four fertile brains sought to overcome it. No relative of the softer sex being available it was determined that one of the four should undergo sufficient outward transformation to satisfy the authorities. The charming gown was of white satin bespangled with sequins designed by Kate Reilly of Dover Street, the beautiful head of hair was done by Clarkson who came down himself to direct the final 'touching up'. The group dined at Buol's and taxied to the theatre. But what happened afterwards and how the 'lady' was smuggled into college we are not at liberty to divulge CDN 08 12 03 [8.29]

1909 02 26
Carrie Nation hoax – 09 02 26

1909 11 12
Bonfire night scenes – CWN 09 11 12

1909 11 19
One of the most successful undergraduate hoaxes ever perpetrated was carried out in the Hall of Emmanuel College. Mr W.M. Malleson, a prominent member of the University Amateur Dramatic Club, disguised by a florid countenance with a grizzled grey moustache and beard impersonated Mr G. B. Haddock, the Liberal MP for North Lonsdale. He delivered a pithy address on Women's Suffrage. From first to last, despite the name of 'Haddock' there was no suspicion of 'cod' on the part of the audience who took the debate in real earnest CWN 09 11 19

1910

1910 03 11
A party of five undergraduates attempted to repeat the 'Merry Widow' hoax at the New Theatre but were sadly unsuccessful. It is a well-known rule that undergraduates may not purchase boxes unless accompanied by ladies or some elderly chaperone. A box was ordered in the name of the Hon Miss Neville of Magdalene College, which aroused suspicion. The party comprised three undergraduates and two 'ladies' who were very tall, walked with mannish strides and spoke in a quaint high-pitched falsetto. Mr Redfarn did not take many seconds to spot the disguise. 10 03 11f

1910 06 17
Saturday's bump suppers proved exceptionally popular. It is customary for bonfires to be held in college courts and the frequent discharge of fireworks kept the fun flowing until the early hours. Jesus, who retained their position as head of the river, held a magnificent bonfire on the Close. A large crowd attracted by an enormous pile of old boxes dumped near the tennis courts, assembled in anticipation of fun before the pile was set ablaze by firing Roman candles into the heart of the inflammable mass.10 06 17

1910 06 17
One of the biggest mock funerals for many years resulted as a difference of opinion between the authorities of Emmanuel and several junior members of the college as to the proper conduct of a 'bump supper' after which they had lit a bonfire on the lawn in the front court. Some ten undergraduates in their third year were rusticated for a week. A string of hansom cabs appeared at the gates, the 'corpses' clambered on to the roofs and mourners in evening dress and wearing old silk hats swathed with crape accompanied them to the station. Includes members of CUOTC in uniform with rifles reversed - thought to be bad form so soon after King's funeral 10 06 17a

1910 11 11
An undergraduate was fined for assaulting a policeman on Guy Fawkes Night. A considerable amount of damage had been done, hoarding demolished, gas lamps broken, the railway station raided and milk churns overturned. The most serious incident occurred at Jesus Sluice footbridge where a battle royal took place between members of the County Constabulary and a large party of undergraduates and town roughs. They stoned the police, all of whom were hit, and PC Johnson was struck on the forehead by a piece of board and rendered unconscious. Only the arrival of police reinforcements had averted further trouble. 10 11 11 & a

1911 03 03
Locker-Lampson MP hoaxed by Horace de Vere Cole – 11 03 03d

1911 03 10
"Mock funeral" held when Trinity Hall undergraduate sent down for disciplinary offence, 100 horse & motor vehicles in procession with brass band on coal wagon leading. At the head of the funeral procession was a hansom. Seats on the top with legs dangling over the side, was the undertaker. His mournful calling seemed to have cast a settled gloom over his countenance. His eyes were mournful and sad, and his clothing was of the deepest black, save for his socks (he wore no shoes), which were of the brightest scarlet. In his hand he waved a long whip (an emblem of his mournful trade), with a bright handkerchief to match his wonderful socks tied to it. Behind the hearse were nine carriages filled with loudly lamenting mourners – extract from a

report of a 'Mock Funeral' for an undergraduate sent down from university 11 03 10b [1.2,1.3,10.11]

1911 05
Undergraduates forbidden to take part in any musical or dramatic production outside University buildings; proctors booed by 300 undergraduates on way to University service [10.10]

1911 05 19
In a little side passage in King Street a barrel organ was draped with black and mauve as hansoms, taxis and growlers arrived in their dozens. The coffin was covered with crepe surmounted by cap and gown while plumes barely concealed the lines of an express delivery van in which sat the 'corpse' smartly dressed in grey suit and felt bowler. There were about 100 horses and motor vehicles in the procession to the station where the tops of the railway carriages were filled with figures clad in varying garb from pyjamas and rowing shorts to mourning suits and dress suits. It was the most imposing mock funeral ever seen in Cambridge 11 05 19d & e

1911 11 10
A motor car drove into Sawston with several undergraduates. They visited the Stores and bought women's hats then commenced their fun by knocking people's hats off in the street and replacing them with those they had bought. The lads next went to the Queen's Head where they compelled the landlord to sit down while they drew the beer. They took pictures from the wall and placed them in the car – but the chauffeur took them back - then quite upset a cinematograph show, one hanging by his toes from a crossbar in the tent. It was a relief to the villagers when the motor left for Cambridge. 11 11 10e

1911 11 10
Undergraduate disrupt Saffron Walden fair, one received broken jaw from showman – 11 11 10e

1911 11 10
Two daring swindlers victimised a number of University tradesmen by representing themselves as 'Varsitymen and ordering goods to a small amount to be sent to their rooms. They paid with cheques for £5 'from their father' which they got the shopkeeper to cash. The swindlers looked typical undergraduates in grey flannel trousers and tweed jackets, one of them had a gown over his arm. They gave Magdalene as their college and their names were found on the University register. 11 11 10g

1911 11 10
Serious 'ragging' took place in celebration of the 5th of November. A number of undergraduates carried 'life-preservers' and a violent assault made on the premises of Messrs Rattee and Kett where an employee was seriously injured. A mounted policeman was pulled from his horse and a police sergeant received a nasty cut over his eye. A member of the University was arrest for assault. But beyond the smashing of a number of street lamps little actual damage was done to property 11 11 10a & b

1912 03 08
A mock funeral started from the "corpse's" lodging in Lensfield Road. There was a long line of taxis, hansoms and even four-wheelers stretching some distance down Trumpington Street. There was no elaborate "hearse" as in previous funerals: the body was placed quite simply in a hansom bearing the words "Alas! My poor brother" and smoked cigars throughout. His "cabby's" hat was draped with crepe while the majority of the fancifully-dressed mourned wore complimentary black-eyes out of respect for the 'deceased'. There were an extraordinary number of "flappers" –

quite stunning flappers some of them were too. One of the best was a suffragette and Mrs Pankhurst also figured in the procession. 12 03 08

1912 03 15
Cambridge undergraduates formed a Strike Emergency Committee to avert the disaster with which the nation is threatened by the coal strike. The men were extremely enthusiastic and any reference to 'getting the coal' brought vociferous cheers. If they carried out their desire to work in the mines they would require protection: while half were underground the others should be on guard to see the cages and ventilation apparatus were not interfered with. Police would not be able to send help. Postcards were distributed on which students placed their names and addresses which would find them in the vacation if an emergency arose 12 03 15b & c

1912 03 15
Undergraduate plans to organise a strike emergency committee have been attacked by the 'Cambridge Magazine'. It reports: "The strike-smashing Saturnalia of Mr Calderon and his Comic Coal Heavers, which began in Cambridge to the mingled disgust and amusement of King's was continued on Friday night. We hope they will not take themselves seriously, and that their endeavours to make this ancient seat of learning ridiculous will soon cease

1912 11 08
It was one of the noisiest 'rags' seen for some years, for the introduction of a variety of bomb-firework, which gives a report louder than a rifle shot, more than compensated for the fewer Varsity men than usual. The liveliest scene occurred in King Street where the crowd were attracted by the sight of the hoarding outside the partly-demolished Hobson Street Chapel. Instead they turned their attention array of woodwork in connection with the building of the new Wesleyan Chapel near Christ's Pieces, but this was strongly guarded by police. Another battle broke out in Grange Road where some 400 undergraduates damaged the fence around Mr Ebenezer Smith's garden. 12 11 08a & b

1912 11 09
Varsity cads disrupt cinema [8.27]

1912 12 12
R.C. Lehmann told the Authors' Club that when he was at University a Trinity Hall undergraduate with plenty of money had published a paper called the 'Gadfly' containing an irreverent account of a Cambridge institution, Mr Oscar Browning, who was then responsible for its closure. Later they'd heard that Browning was planning a serious and thoughtful magazine to be called the 'Granta'. So they immediately launched their own journal of that name before his could come out. Their most brilliant scoop was to publish the answers to the problem paper in the Mathematical Tripos 12 12 12 & a

1913 02 14
An unusual feature of the Mock Funeral (of an undergraduate 'sent down' from college) was a miniature coffin borne by a Chinaman. It was, like the 'corpse' completely hidden in the 'hearse', for the hansom was covered by men who seemed to cling to it as bees swarm on a tree. The procession was preceded by a two-seater car driven by an old fellow with a red beard and enormous straw hat sitting beside his 'spouse', a lady with a high complexion, a shawl alone betraying her age. The 'cortege' numbered nearly 50 vehicles including a 'flapper' riding a bicycle meant for three men. Her green hobble skirt was not as demurely worn as are the dresses of typical Cambridge girls. 13 02 14 p10 CIP

1913 06 06
'If you want to spend a gay week, come to Cambridge for the May Week and we'll promise lots of merriment and fun'. Cambridge May Week is now in full swing. We have long ceased to wonder at the anomaly of a May Week which comes in June and lasts a fortnight. According to the 'Onlooker' it was in the year 1882 that the May Races, around which all the festivities have grown up, changed their date from May to June. But custom dies had and people would be horrified if anyone were so bold as to suggest an alteration now 13 06 06 p7 CIP

1913 11 07
'Fifth' celebrations, undergraduate rag and its police court sequel. 100 yards wooden fencing torn down Tenison Rd & bonfire made in GER yard Station Yard scene, mounted police charge, Homerton college attacked 13 11 07 p7 CIP

1913 11 14
An undergraduate told the court that he was a relative of the Khedive of Egypt and living at Shelford with a private tutor. He told his valet to get tickets for the New Theatre. But when refused admission he'd got involved in a struggle with an attendant and fell to the ground. The manager said he'd been drunk and had used bad language. But this was a serious matter from a moral point of view and would affect his career here and in his own country if upheld. He was convicted. 13 11 14 p10 CIP

1914 06 19
May Week will be remembered as the low-water mark in the long series of "Mays". Tradesmen unanimous that business has never been so dull. The gaiety and brightness has diminished and the number of visitors shows considerable decrease as compared with last year 14 06 19 CIPof

1919 02
400 Navy & 120 Army students join 500 Freshmen. Enormous influx means limits for undergraduate lodgings have to be extended to within 2.5 miles of Gt St Mary's [3.7, 3.12]

1919 06 11
May Week Revival Favoured with brilliant weather, without even the proverbial thunderstorm, May Week, revived in Cambridge this year with all its glory, has been one great success. The festivities have been very much as in pre-war days. There have been the usual brilliant and select functions, including balls, college Concerts, garden parties, etc. The revival has been welcomed by University and Town people alike but the number of visitors has not been as great as had been anticipated generally 19 06 11 [3.11]

1919 08 06
Prince Albert and Prince Henry visit Cambridge before coming up to University – 19 08 06b

1919 10 15
Coming up – influx of students – during past few days has shown all the pre-war activity; students whose study interrupted by war have resumed education; arrival undergraduates coincided with ending of rail strike; Prince Albert and Prince Henry motored from Buckingham Palace to 'Southacre', Latham Road – 19 10 15a photo Royals 19 10 15b

1919 11 12
"Fifth" fizzles at Cambridge. The stage was set on Wednesday evening for an old-time celebration of the 5th of November. Proctors, "bulldogs," special constables, mounted police, mere "Roberts", undergraduates, townspeople and schoolboys turned out to play their respective

roles, but nothing happened. A few fire-works - cannons, crackers etc — were discharged on Market Hill but the proceedings were almost as tame as the original affair arranged by Mr. Guy Fawkes and a few of his fanatical friends 19 11 12 CIPof

1920

1920 02 03
Union of Democratic Control attempted to hold 'Bolshevik' meeting but disrupted by undergraduates; senior proctor, T.R. Glover, hit by flour bomb; speaker Norman Angell rescued by police – Ch 20 02 03d

1920 03 02
Norman Angell, author of 'The Great Illusion' ragged – bitterly hostile reception; police could not stop undergraduates entering the windows - CDN 20 03 02

1920 03 03
Mock Funeral of Caius man, first for six years – a solitary conveyance does not give impression that there is much enthusiasm for this form of demonstration nowadays. – Ch 20 03 03d; photo – Ch 20 03 10a CDN 20 03 01

1920 03 10
From outbreak of war have been pacifists proclaiming against action taken against Germans who would have moved heaven and earth to bring war to early conclusion. They possess not a spark of British pluck … led Cambridge gaining reputation as hotbed of Pacifism. University tried to stop this vile work; now opposition to such pro-German propaganda and return of pacifist Bertrand Russell to Trinity. Should prohibit pacifist meetings – Ch 20 03 10d

1920 03 31
Recent 'Rag'. A report will be presented to Cambridge Town Council tomorrow (Thursday) by the Watch Committee in respect to claims under the Riot (Damages) Act arising out of the recent "rag" in Cambridge. The Town Clerk reported to the Watch Committee that three claims had been received under the Riot (Damages) Act in respect of damage to the Castle Hotel amounting to £6.19s; Merton Hall amounting to £87 and St. Andrew's Hall, amounting to £14 11s. The Committee agreed that the claims in respect the Castle Hotel and At Andrew's Hall be admitted and included in the next list of bills, and that the consideration for the claim in respect of Merton House be deferred pending the receipt of a further report thereon from the Borough Surveyor. 20 03 31 CIPof

1920 05 12
Women and degrees – syndicate appointed to consider whether they should be admitted to membership or how university could co-operate with the women's colleges, are unable to agree - CDN 20 05 12

1920 06 19
Undergraduate Princes go down - speeches [12.21]

1920 06 23
Undergraduates in evening dress & degree robes exercise their right to play marbles on steps of Senate House (follows TT article) Ch 20 06 23a, photo 23d [3.15,12.22]

1920 11 06

Guy Fawkes rag, no serious damage but several arrests; raid on New Theatre and siege of police station

1920 11 12
Armistice 'Rag', chariot of flame driven round Market Hill; siege of Newnham College, burst through gates where for half hour of bliss … few odd battalions of infuriated Dons and hysterical Newnhamites, police charge 20 11 12

1920 11 17
'Chariot of fire' rag –cab soaked in petrol – Ch 20 11 17e, f, (repeated in 1921 when it collides with telephone kiosk)

1920 12 09
University reject admission of women by 192 votes - CDN 20 12 09

1921
Rags seemed to have reached climax after WWI, by 1920 "a new kind of misdirected energy, originality & daring is being poured into organising elaborate stunts, hoaxes & escapades; Michaelmas 1921was great term for rags : Senate opened academic year by debating granting degrees for women; became political issue; first rag of burning gates of Newnham, then on voting day a colossal mock funeral for 'The death of the Varsity' with corpse of last male under-graduate being borne on a bier surrounded by aged mourners whose long grey beards dragged in dust; Armistice Day heralded by great Gun Day when German gun removed from Jesus college

1921 05 04
Cambridge University Pavement Club first meeting – undergraduate rag – 300 in KP; friend sausage and steak on Parker's Piece - photos – 21 05 04b, 21 05 11b

1921 10 26
University votes against women's degrees; undergraduate mock funeral – photos – 21 10 26b

1921 11 16
Jesus College large German gun trophy captured and transported to Caius College – 21 11 16d, 16e Armistice commemoration – photos – 21 11 16h
Armistice night rag, students assault police; heavy fines – 21 11 16l

1921 11 26
First Poppy Day collection made on 26 November passed smoothly (not done by undergrads); undergrads asked that this collection be organised entirely by their committee & take full responsibility that no incidents. Procession of 'animals' toured town with police escort, one of happiest rags ever seen' [38]

1922 03 04
On strolling along Kings-parade this morning we saw a crowd of undergraduates. Mingling therewith we became aware of the presence of a number of cyclists accoutred with hockey sticks. We divined then that a bicycle polo stunt was about to be "stunted". In short, it was a stupendous scheme schemed for the laudable purpose of brightening Cambridge. We waited a short time. Then cheers burst forth and the game (?) commenced. After wielding their weapons vigorously for about five minutes and hitting the "pill" (i.e. a spotless tennis ball), the players raised their battered and war-worn cycles aloft and to the accompaniment of cheers bore them tenderly to a place of safety. Motor 'buses, cycles and handcarts were enabled to get through the press by the

help of the police. Ardour became somewhat damped until the ball was arrested by the police, when cheers once more broke forth, but the ball was remanded, and whence it flew we knew not. Thus ended the now customary end-of-term rag. Although not what it might have been it was amusing, which is one point in its favour 22 03 04

1922 03 25
There was issued yesterday the report of the Royal Commission on Oxford and Cambridge Universities. "We are unanimous in thinking" (says the Commissioners) "that ample facilities should be offered for the education of women. On the other hand we strongly desire that Cambridge should remain mainly and predominantly a men's university. To give a sense of security we consider that the number of women undergraduates should be 500, which would give a proportion of about one in each ten of the total number of undergraduates" 22 03 25

1922 04 21
Impressive scenes were witnessed at the funeral of an Indian undergraduate. The funeral was carried out according to the Mohammedan ritual, and the interment was at St Giles' cemetery, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge. The coffin was conveyed in a hearse and was followed on foot by over 50 Indian undergraduates. Arrived at the cemetery the coffin was placed on the lawn at the entrance. Then several of the mourners, removing their shoes, conducted a short form of service, after which the coffin and mourners were photographed by an Indian student. The body was carried to the graveside and lowered by a party of the mourners. Nobody who was not directly concerned with the ceremony was allowed within 25 yards of the grave 22 04 21

1922 06 13
"May week" has reached its second phase and the gaiety of the "Boats" has given places to a wonderful round of college balls and concerts. The May Week Ball of the First and Third Trinity Boat Clubs was probably one of the largest affairs of the kind that has ever been held in Cambridge. Hitherto, owing to a lack of accommodation the numbers attending has had to be restricted to about 650. Mr D.G. Marshall of Jesus Lane, however, found a way out of the difficulty with a somewhat novel scheme. A marquee 100 feet by 40 feet was erected on Market Hill facing the Guildhall and therein supper was laid. A delightfully cool effect was obtained by leaving open a part of the side of the tent nearest the fountain and having the fountain lit up with coloured electric lights in the background. Provision was made for some 1,100 guests and supper was served in three relays of 375 each, a special staff of chefs from the House of Commons was specially engaged for the occasion 22 06 13

1922 11 06
A lamp-boy, G.E.R. of Thoday street, Cambridge was summoned for throwing a firework on Senate House-hill on 4th inst. Fined 1s. Ten shillings was the fine imposed upon an undergraduate of Trinity College for a similar offence on Market-hill. Defendant said he did not know they were arresting people for letting fireworks off, or else he would not have been foot enough to do so in front of half the police force. An undergraduate of Corpus Christi who was fined 10s. stated that the came on to the square and saw a lot of police loafing about so he thought he would like to throw some fireworks 22 11 06

1922 11 13
If the Cambridge undergraduate can find any excuse for a "rag" he invariably organises a more or less elaborate affair. Yesterday's "circus" was a rag that everybody could enjoy; it did no harm to anybody and above all as a result of its labours aided Lord Haig's fund - "Poppy Day" - to the extent of £115 or thereabouts. The circus was a screamingly funny affair and brought everyone to doorways, windows and, in some cases, roof tops. The signal for the two minutes Armistice

silence was heard in Downing-street and immediately the procession pulled up. The two minutes over pandemonium started as suddenly as it had ceased 22 11 13

1923 03
'Phineas' rag - Phineas, mascot seized – recalls Cambridge rag of March 1923 – 30 09 06a & b & photo – 30 09 06c

1923 06 12
The opening days of the second week of the "Mays" celebrations are usually noted for the array of college balls and concerts, and this year is well in keeping with tradition. On Monday there were three of these functions, - Caius, Clare, and First and Third Trinity in addition to four concerts and a special dinner-dance at the Rendezvous, and in each case a success can be recorded. The weather had improved to such an extent that it allowed the usual outdoor part of the events to be carried out to the full, and ample sitting out accommodation provided in various courts and grounds. The largest function was at Trinity, where the attendance numbered something like 1,400 or 1,500. 23 06 12

1923 11 06
Cambridge would be disappointed indeed if the Fifth of November failed to produce a rag of some sort. Last night's effort was, to say the least of it, feeble and was sustained for the most part by such residents of the town as come out for excitement on such occasions, and a handful of very callow freshmen. Fireworks there were in plenty, but the old spirit was lacking. Had it not been for the mounted police and the proctors, the market square would have been its usual desolate self soon after 9.30 pm. It was noticeable that as soon as the mounted police left the crowd decreased by 50 per cent.

1923 11 06
One hundred years ago the Royal and ancient game of rugby football was initiated, and today an alleged representation of the first game was given in Cambridge market square. Some time before noon the square was roped off and surrounded by police. The fountain was converted into a Royal box and the telephone kiosk into a press box. At noon the teams marched on to the ground. At their head was carried a large and considerably elongated football on a butchers tray. With the teams marched a portly and bearded Proctor, complete with "bullers" and a nasty looking birch, which he did not hesitate to use when occasion demanded

1923 11 10
The red poppy of Remembrance was everywhere in Cambridge today. Every buttonhole, every bicycle, and every motor car bore visible tribute to those who died that England might live. Everywhere were busy undergraduates smiling and pushing their business and selling red silk poppies in aid of the Earl Haig's Fund for ex-servicemen and their dependants. The average undergraduate loves to be "up and doing" and any way he can use his superfluous energy for a good cause appeals to him. In accordance with their usual custom the memorial at the General Post Office was decorated with a huge wreath of laurels and poppies

1923 11 12
A merry and light-hearted party of undergraduates, despite police vigilance, succeeded in obtaining their hearts desire - they manage to light a fire on market Hill. Certain of the undergraduate community attracted the attention of some constables to a gas lamp on the one corner of the square. They demonstrated a desire to figure on the charge sheet of the police court by the charmingly simple process of putting out the light. The police "fell for it" and kept watch on that particular part of the market place. Meanwhile another body of the faithful rushed on to

the Market Hill with a rowing eight filled with petrol and had it alight before people realised what was towards.

1923 11 19
The Cambridge undergraduates have once more been the source of innocent amusement. The "rag" consisted in the purchase of one of the old four-wheeled tram cars that used in bygone days to be both a convenience and an adornment to the streets of Cambridge. On Saturday when it was expected that the tram would be towed in state through Cambridge streets the authorities were alarmed by the appearance of numbers undergraduates outside the yard where the tram was stored. At this moment another tram made its appearance, a tram of Lilliputian dimensions, towed with steady ropes by a happy band of undergraduates. The miniature car was solemnly dragged into the centre of town and along old tram lines, which have for many years or so useless a feature in King's Parade.

1924 11 06
The night of the 5th of November was clear and calm, and there was a bright moon to light the way of revellers – ideal conditions for a “rag”. So evidently thought a large crowd of undergraduates and townsmen that gathered on Cambridge Market Hill in hopes. Police stood around in little groups taking a giving chaff good humouredly with the crowd. Squibs and occasional small rockets broke the peace and were heralded by faint cheers and feminine shrieks if they happened to go off in the press. The first intimation of anything interesting was the sight of a small youth, pale and very troubled looking, marching up St Andrew’s street, firmly held by a constabulary hand 24 11 06

1924 11 09
Cambridge undergraduates were busy today selling poppies. They were stationed in the centre of the town and in all the main thoroughfares leading thereto. Among their number were several very persistent in their efforts and “held-up” anybody – pedestrian, cyclist or motorist – who was not wearing a poppy. By way of pushing business a group of undergraduates hired a donkey and barrow, attired themselves as costers – complete with “pearlies” and other effects and went around the town rattling money boxes 24 11 09

1925 02 10
Cambridge University Senate agreed that no member of the University shall be allowed to keep or use a motor car unless he obtained a licence through his college. If any tradesman or keeper of motor garage shall let out any motor car or motor cycle for hire to any person in statu pupillari he shall be liable to be discommuned. Anyone who houses upon his premises a motor vehicle on behalf of a member of the University must furnish a written description to the Junior Proctor 25 02 10 [11.11]

1925 02 14
Celebrating the Lent Races gave gownsmen the traditional excuse to break the bonds of conventional conduct and create some hectic scenes on Saturday night. From the viewpoint of roughness the ‘rag’ proved to be one of the worst during recent years, and the endeavours of the police to impose limitations on some of the more disorderly acts were not received with the good-natured co-operation which usually characterises such outbreaks. Besides having their helmet knocked off, several constables received nasty kicks about the legs and one was taken to Addenbrooke’s Hospital with injuries to the head 25 02 14

1925 03 09

The bright idea was to unveil a 'statue' of Eros on Cambridge Market Hill, but they did not appear till quite three-quarters of an hour late. The crowd got tired of waiting and certain of their number pelted some adventurous spirits perched on the Market cross with oranges, and this little incident led to a general exchange of soft and 'squashy' fruit. Oranges gave place to tomatoes, which were followed by eggs and bags of flour. Besides being unpleasant, practice of this sort is dangerous 25 03 09

1925 05 14
The minds of motoring undergraduates in the University are greatly perturbed over certain proposals which have been made for the total prohibition of motor vehicles by junior members. The proctors state that "a few undergraduates use their cars and motor cycles after dark to drive undesirable young women into the country and they consider it their duty to prevent them". It is ridiculous for them to walk the streets after dark chasing pedestrian undergraduates for having no caps whilst boisterous merry-markers rush by in cars 25 05 14

1925 10 17
During the last few days undergraduates have been busy taking out licences for motor cars and motor cycles under the new regulations made with a view to decreasing the traffic in our narrow streets. Undergraduates are not allowed to use any motor vehicle before 12.30 in the morning or after 8.30 at night. An amusing rumour is that proctors are to patrol the streets in a motor car, followed by 'bulldogs' on motor cycles, but there is no necessity for such 'flying squad' methods as garages are to report any undergraduate who has his car out during the prohibited period 25 10 17

1925 11
Undergraduates take over sale of poppies [38]

1925 11 06
Cambridge usually expects a 'rag' on Guy Fawkes' night but this year's affair was of a harmless character, plenty of noise being the chief characteristic. Fireworks galore were discharged and the Market Hill was occasionally lit up with flame-coloured flares. But this was rather a tame sort of amusement for undergraduates and they proceeded to accomplish the now stale feat of extinguishing the gas lamps in the neighbourhood of the Hill. Some undergrads took it into their heads to relight the lamps in the centre, which enabled one of their number to climb the fountain on the top of which something indistinguishable was placed. This being done out went the lamps again, coins being the smashing factor once more.

1925 11 09 c
Three undergraduates were fined £2 each for extinguishing street lamps. James Haynes, a watchman said he saw the gentlemen approach Drummer Street. They overturned the brazier containing his fire and he had to put the fire out because the tar on the pavement commenced to flare. He saw them turn out the light of a lamp in Emmanuel Street. Two of them hoisted another up to do this. In Short Street they turned out three more lights and another five were turned out along Victoria Avenue.

1925 11 14
"We the undersigned, convinced that all disputes between nations are capable of settlement by diplomatic negotiation, hereby solemnly declare that we shall refuse to support or render war service to any Government which resorts to arms". The declaration having been signed by members of the University they called a public meeting. The hall was nearly filled with undergraduates but a section of the audience showed their displeasure by continual interruption.

Mr G.L. Trevelyan spoke of the horrors to be met in the next war, and was greeted with the remark: "No they will kill us nice and cleanly in the next war".

1926 05 03
Cambridge had a Mock Funeral today, after a lapse of many years. Undergraduates, dressed in outrageous attire, paraded the streets of the town and marched to the station to observe "funeral obsequies" to two Trinity men who have been sent down for a breach of college discipline. The procession made its way to the college to collect the "corpses". On arrival however they found their unfortunate colleagues had made use of their newly-acquired wings and flown, but nothing daunted the party proceeded to the station headed by a drum-major and a figure in clerical attire. Amongst the occupants of the horse-drawn 'hearse' were two musical geniuses with a banjo and saxophone 26 05 03

1926 05 20
Cambridge court heard that when an undergraduate came to Magdalene College he brought with him a bay gelding, worth £200, which was placed in stables in Cambridge and hunted with the Cambs Hunt and the University Draghounds. In December an agreement was reached with the L.N.E.R. for the carriage of the horse to Berwickshire. During loading into the horsebox at the station it lurched forward, fell out and broke its spine 26 05 20

1926 05 24
An appeal for the modification of the ban on gramophone music has been addressed to the Vice Chancellor on behalf of a party of musical undergraduates. University orders forbid the playing of gramophones in punts on the river during the May terms and gramophone music has been banned from certain colleges altogether. "We have no wish to express any opinion upon the playing of jazz records but suggest the playing of good music, such as the London String Quartet, by students in their hours of relaxation on the river could do nothing but enhance the beauty of the surroundings and the taste of the modern young man", they say 26 05 24

1926 06 19
So far May Week has been a pale and melancholy ghost of its former self. What with the powerful counter-attraction of Ascot, the fact that a good many of the men have already "gone down", the restricted train service and the gloomy uncertainty of the weather, Cambridge is having a bad time just now and tradesmen, hotel and lodging-house keepers, boat-proprietors and others who look to May Week to bring a little much-needed grist to their mill have received a severe blow. Usually May Week comes before Ascot, and visitors to the Mays have been accustomed to go from Cambridge to Ascot. Now that Ascot is over there seems to be no reason which the process should not be reversed 26 06 19

1926 10 30
How does the cost of living at Cambridge today compare with the pre-war days so far as an undergraduate is concerned? A writer in the Morning Post says "With an income of £210 a year, I went down at the end of my fourth year owing a year's income; and my debts were accounted for by entertaining on a rather lavish scale during my last year. I know post-war undergraduates with an income of £250 who went down owing nothing." He says that nowhere in the world has the cost of living risen less & adds that University expenses are surprisingly reasonable 26 10 30

1926 11 04
No little excitement was caused when an undergraduate, fully-clothed and wearing cap and gown, jumped off the Magdalene Bridge into the river, using an umbrella as a parachute. A film record of the exploit was taken by Lord Burghley, the famous athlete, who had his baby film camera

mounted on the top of his motor car. The undergraduate, being hard up, had hit on this idea as a way of getting money and has netted enough to keep him for a week or two in pocket-money

1926 11 19
A Cambridge dispenser claimed he used drugs to make up "pick-me-ups" for undergraduates in the morning. The judge: "Do they require 'pick-me-ups' in the morning?" (Laughter.) "They do things now that we never thought of". He made them up out of his head, usually mixing three tinctures. They were drunk in a wineglass of water. They were used every day during term time. The undergraduates looked something of a wreck in the morning and owned to having had a little refreshment at night. (Laughter.) 26 11 19

1927 02
Anti-feminist rag [3.18]

1927 02 25
"The first marriage according to the new Prayer Book" was solemnised in Cambridge when an undergraduate "bride" and "bridegroom" were joined together in unholy matrimony on King's Parade. The blushing bride with the bowing bridegroom was preceded by a piper and a clergyman who was wearing "flannel bags" under his surplice and carried a doll's sunshade. The bride's dress was a pair of white lace curtains and she carried a large bouquet of Brussels sprouts. The bridegroom wore a dilapidated silk hat and a red nose – and carried a banana. They stepped into a waiting carriage followed by a motley through of ludicrously attired "relations and friends 27 02 25

1927 06 09
Cambridge Undergraduates took upon themselves the duty of opening "Joanna Southcott's" famous box on the Market Hill. A crowd of mammoth proportions assembled. A melancholy dirge was heard from Petty Cury and there appeared a party of pipers and following them in one of Dale's lorries came a weird array of 24 "bishops" and a delegation of "Mormons" wearing huge straw sombreros. One "archbishop" proceeded to open the box, producing several layers of red tape, a teddy bear, a pair of old football boots and a number of bananas with which he pelted the crowd. The "rag" was organised to provide funds for the Cambridge Fruiting Campaign to help strawberry pickers in the Wisbech area. 27 06 09 [3.19]

1927 06 13
One of the largest crowds in memory witnessed the last of what may go down in history as the "Microphone Mays". Both banks of the Cam at Ditton presented the spectacle of an unbroken line of sightseers. There were three men up a tree at Ditton Paddock; they and their friend the microphone were telling all England what was happening and theirs was truly a romance of the tree tops. One wonders how many old Cambridge men were listening-in to a drama in which they once played a part. 27 06 13

1927 06 15
Three well-known Cambridge sportsmen who have completed their academic careers distinguished themselves by spending part of the night in the grounds of one of the women's colleges and part in another. At midnight on Saturday they climbed into Newnham, taking with them a tent which they pitched in full view and were not discovered until they were all snug in "bed", when they commenced community singing. Newnham Dons became alarmed and phoned for the police, who turned them out. They then motored to Girton, scaled a twelve-foot wall and pitched the tent. They were not discovered until the early hours of the morning when the earliest risers amongst the lady students saw the strange sight in the middle of the court. 27 06 15

1927 11 11
Poppies! They were everywhere. The streets of Cambridge were ablaze with them. They were on every coat, in every conscience. Their spirit turned the town into a red riot of remembrance. As the day wore on the poppies grew thicker. A great army of 2,000 undergraduates sold the emblems with an enthusiasm which was unbounded. Early in the morning they were at their posts with their trays of flowers and collecting boxes and all through the day carried on their merry money hunt. Many played the role of highwaymen, boarding buses and holding up the traffic.

1927 12 03
According to the Master of Balliol, not even a Scot can now manage in Oxford on less than £200 a year unless he had not enough to eat. But £250 should suffice for anybody. One undergraduate thinks a man can do "fairly comfortably" on £300 a year, providing he had not expensive tastes. A Cambridge Fresher says he has spent £150 on college bills, £30 on furniture, clubs £16, clothes £30, books £13, tips £15, gate fines £2 this term. If he goes on at the same rate for the next two terms he is in for an expensive first year! 27 12 03

1928 03 10
An inquest into the death of a student at Emmanuel College, Cambridge, was told he had been attending a meeting of the Twelfth Club, a literary society which held a dinner once a year. Afterwards he went to a student's room and whiskeys and soda went round in the ordinary way. He was a scholar of great promise and it was to be regretted that someone out of youthful folly had filled his glass with neat whisky. He had slipped down in one of the courts sustaining severe injuries. It was quite possible that the fresh air affected him. 28 03 10

1928 11 10
Soon after daybreak the advance guard of the thousand undergraduate poppy sellers sallied forth to all quarters of Cambridge, determined to beat the record figures reached last year. The warmth of their enthusiasm was sufficient protection against the keen frosty air, and scorning overcoats they patrolled the lonely streets and waylaid those hurrying to business. They were so cheerfully importunate that only a modern Scrooge could have refused them and most people seemed only too willing to pay off another small instalment of their war debt.

1928 11 10 c
Carnival conditions prevailed in Cambridge where the poppy-decked shoppers met amusing spectacles on all hands. On no previous poppy day has undergraduate ingenuity been so fertile. Chief among the many attractive schemes for money squeezing was "Banger's Circus" in which an unidentifiable animal with 'flannel bag' legs, and a monkey led on a chain by a top-hatted ringmaster were noticeable. The procession was disorganised when the monkey developed a thirst and dashed into the Angel, dragging the not-unwilling circus master with him

1928 12 08
Sir – Undergraduate fashions have changed since I came up to Cambridge in 1877. I never saw an undergraduate wearing knickerbockers nor carrying an umbrella and on our heads we had to wear hard felt hats when not wearing cap and gown, winter and summer. Perhaps half a dozen men would venture out wearing straw hats but they were spoken of as 'snugs' – strange and weird people. Of course straws were worn by men who had gained a place in their college boats and was part of the rowing costume, but not worn in the streets. We all had to look smart and well-dressed, with no slouching about with hands in trouser pockets. What a change! – Senex 28 12 08

1929 03 13

The University Proctors have considered regulations for students who desire to use aircraft during term time. Undergraduates flying their own or civilian aircraft may lead to annoyance from low flying and accidents. A Light Aeroplane Club has already been formed which gives facilities for flying within a few miles of the University. Now no student may fly as pilot or passenger during term time without written permission from his parents and tutor. Those offending will be liable to be punished by suspension, rustication, expulsion or otherwise. 29 03 13

1929 03 15
A Cambridge undergraduate was fined for an assault on a taxicab driver who attempted to push him off the running-board of a stationary cab. It took place after a bump supper when he was in a very excited condition. Robert Osborne said he went to the ADC Theatre and left his cab on the rank on Jesus Lane. The undergrad and others came along the road and turned the starting handle of the taxis. He jumped on his running-board and would not get off, so he pushed him off. The lad then hit him several times. 29 03 15

1929 04 22
Cambridge undergraduate eloped with heiress 29 04 22

1929 11 06
Nearly thirty arrests were made during a Guy Fawkes 'Rag' on Cambridge Market Hill. Early in the evening an attempt was made to light at bonfire in Petty Cury and there was a considerable blaze in front of Falcon Yard before the police noticed it and it was extinguished. In Rose Crescent an effigy was soaked with petrol, stuffed with fireworks and deposited near the Market Hill end. This was quickly extinguished and the effigy confiscated, but the petrol continued to burn for a long time afterwards. A new feature of the scrimmages was the use of police whistles by undergraduates which added to the confusion.

1929 11 07
A sheep farmer, who became annoyed on Guy Fawkes Night at being mistaken for an undergraduate, was summonsed for assaulting the Senior Proctor, Mr Frederick Dykes. He testified that he had been with his constables when he sent one after an undergraduate who attempted to evade him. He then heard a shout of 'Get the Proctor' and felt two blows on his head. One of his constables seized the man now in the dock. Defendant said he was a stranger to Cambridge and had been told that if he followed the proctors round he would see some fun. He was not dressed like an undergraduate. He was fined £3. 29 11 07

1929 11 16
The best-dressed sections of the University undergraduates are wearing more whole suits – as compared with the single jacket and flannel trousers. The plus four suits are made up in quiet materials and the knickerbockers are cut medium both in width and length. A pinkish brown colour is likely to prove a fashionable sports suiting. Restraint is the principle determining everything from lounge suits to socks. All the best tailoring shops are making overcoats and golf jackets in camel and llama pile and undergraduates are accepting the vogue with enthusiasm. Cambridge is better dressed than ever. Gone is the sloppiness that at one time was regarded as smart. CDN 16.11.1929

1929 11 27
Women students packed the gallery at the Cambridge Union Society when a motion supporting full University rights for women was carried. A sensation was caused before the debate when it was proposed that in view of the importance of the issue involved the gallery should be cleared but the President ruled that this would cause too much disturbance. Women students lived under a

code of rules that could only be described as fatuous; one of the women's colleges allowed its students to go unchaperoned to King's Chapel, but to no other. Girton allowed them to go to the theatre 'provided the party was of reasonable size', whilst Newnham were permitted provided the party 'was not of unreasonable size' (laughter) CDN 27.11.1929

1930

1930 05 26
A mock funeral procession paraded through Cambridge as undergraduates bade farewell to one of their number who had been sent down. It was headed by an old horse-drawn landau in which the 'corpse' sat, his face disguised beneath a war-paint of lipstick. He was joined by various persons who were to officiate at the ceremony; beneath top hats, black cloches and wideawakes were suits of grey flannel, blazers and plus-fours. All were garnished in crepe streamers on which hung rhubarb, beer and wine bottles, remains of the 'wake'. At the station the funereal party moved along the platform hilariously singing a dirge and the 'corpse' was installed in a third-class compartment where gifts of fruit and rhubarb were handed solemnly in. 30 05 26

1930 06 10
Cambridge is a lurid place – according to the 'Daily Herald'. Days are spent in drunken dissipation, commencing with a champagne breakfast at 11.30 a.m. or later. At night bands of students invade the peaceful rusticity of the county in motor cars and on cycles causing general annoyance. Villagers have set up their own 'defence committee' – a determined band of sturdy young men who will be quick to stop misbehaviour. But a resident tells me "I have heard of the Flower Show Committee but a Defence Committee is news to me" 30 06 10a

1930 06 17
All records were broken at Trinity ball when 1,700 guests attended the most brilliant of the May Week functions. Many townspeople waited to see the guests arrive and crowds flocked to Garret Hostel Bridge to view the grounds in all their evening glory. Up to mid-day next morning occasional stragglers, heavy-eyed but cheerful could be seen walking driving about the town. One such pair were mutually photographed beside their car in Silver Street. Sports coats over white waistcoats were common and in one a dishevelled figure in a flannel dressing gown lolled at the wheel, like a character in a Edgar Wallace film. 30 06 17a

1930 07 05
The policy of building more rooms in college and drawing in as many men from the lodging houses is creating a serious outlook for the lodging-house keepers. Many have been told their rooms will not be required next term. If the University cannot continue to utilise services which came into existence to serve their needs some then other employment will be needed. If the University ceases to provide adequate support Cambridge will have no alternative but to seek other means of livelihood. We will be loath to see the town industrialised but people must live. 30 07 05b

1930 07 12
General regulations affecting the use of motor vehicles first-year men are already in force but in view of the numerous road fatalities last term much more stringent bans will be in operation next year. Clare College says that the possession of motor cars and motor bicycles prevent undergraduates from making the best use of their residence in Cambridge and none of its students will be allowed to bring or drive a motor vehicle. Cars must be kept in a public garage or in one of the college garages on Castle Hill. 30 07 12a

1930 11 06
Cambridge police had cold feet with waiting for something to turn up in a temperature several degrees under freezing point. But the dreaded 'Fifth', that traditional battle between University and police failed to explode in the time-honoured fashion. There was a constant bombardment on the outskirts of town and some spasmodic firework throwing on the market where smoke screens were used to some effect. Using the cloud as cover two lamps were extinguished under the very nose of a sergeant. There were a few arrests but no helmets were knocked off. 30 11 06b

1930 11 11
Poppy Day rag – 30 11 11e-g

1933 11 06
Bonfire night demonstration & Hitler Nazi meeting – 33 11 06

1930 11 11
Poppy Day rag – 30 11 11e-g

1931 11 13
The Poppy Day collection in Cambridge has again smashed all records with undergraduate collectors struggling with money still coming in. Nearly two tons of coppers have passed through their hands. Early in the day the stock of poppies was exhausted and a fresh supply had to be brought in by train. Market Hill was the scene of half-a-dozen well organised 'rags' and at Silver Street the Demon Diver jumped in flames into the river and the collectors drew in good sums for his 'widow' and 'children' 31 11 13 I & j

1931
Varsity launched 1931 intention to revel in vulgar affluence, until start WWII becoming Varsity Weekly & then Cambridge Varsity Post it fostered image of Cambridge good-life [45]

1931
First meeting Cambridge Socialist Society 'solid band of presumably Tory undergraduates at back of hall began to shout, heckle & sing patriotic songs', police called, threw stink bombs [45]

1931 02 27
Over 100 attended a funeral service for a young Freshman whose mysterious death has caused such a sensation throughout the country. Press and public were excluded but a crowd gathered and police had some difficulty in controlling the traffic. He had been found lying dead on the floor of his room, gagged and bound in an elaborate manner with numerous handkerchiefs, a length of puttee, and a wire flex. Members of the Pentacle Club, the University Magicians' Society have been interrogated & Sir Bernard Spilsbury, the famous Home Office pathologist has been called in. 31 02 27d-g-h

1931 03 06
Sidney Sussex student death verdict 31 03 06f –h

1931 06 12
A Cambridge motor firm – W.E. Harding of Seven Sisters garage, Newmarket Road – has been barred from trading with undergraduates by the Vice Chancellor. Under university rules tradesmen must notify tutors by the end of term of any debt exceeding £5 incurred by an undergraduate. But Mr Harding had not been told this. Only two other such notices have appeared

within living memory. Now any student having any dealings with the firm may be suspended or rusticated. 31 06 12b

1931 07 17
An undergraduate rag in celebration of examination success let to two young army officers appearing in court charged with the theft of coloured lenses and other fittings belonging to traffic lights on the corner of Lensfield Road. They were of no conceivable value except as a trophy. One was the son of a distinguished soldier in the Coldstream Guards killed at Arras during the war. If convicted it would have a grave effect on his army career. The case was dismissed. 31 07 17b & c

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1931 12 04
A Trinity Hall undergraduate appeared in court following a collision. Students were not allowed to have motorcars and he was endeavouring to leave Cambridge without being seen, but had an accident in Coleridge Road and failed to stop. A number plate was knocked from his car and by that means the driver was traced. As a result he had been sent down for good. He did not think the penalty would have been so severe. 31 12 04d

1932 05 18
Overnight two unfurled umbrellas were securely tied to the pinnacles of King's College chapel so they stood straight up. The college called a window cleaner to remove them, but despite his long ladder he was unable to get within ten feet. Two undergraduates went on the roof with shotguns and endeavoured to shoot them down. One fell but the other proved more difficult. The shots knocked the handle sideways. For some hours it floated gracefully from side to side in the wind like some gigantic weathercock. 32 05 18

1932 05 21
What would papers do without Cambridge undergraduates' pranks? During a hard frost years ago some 150 callow youths had a 'curling' bonspiel on the pond at Emmanuel College. Each had a china bowl in lieu of the orthodox curling stone – and each bowl contained a lighted candle. Overnight a thaw set in and visitors watched gardeners salvaging the 'curling stones' from the bottom of the pond. Shortly afterwards undergraduates took a donkey dressed in cap and gown into dinner in hall. Most of the aged dons mistook him for one of themselves! But in those days no newspaper commented. 32 05 21a

1932 05 21
The inner history of the King's College roof-climbing escapade has been revealed. The hazardous feat was carried out by two parties of undergraduates, including several-well known athletes, who are members of a secret organisation composed of skilled mountain climbers. They used the lightning conductor which has been loosened by previous generations of climbers. It is the climax of a series of climbs during the past few months; now they proposed to publish detailed accounts of their exploits 32 05 21

1932 05 24
Night-climbers Kings chapel & Eton – 32 05 24

1932 05 25
'Varsity Weekly', an undergraduate newspaper conducted on sensational lines, claimed that errand boys had been sumptuously entertained by members of the University in rooms in Trinity Street. As a result the writer was challenged to a duel. But police were waiting outside Girton College when a car drew up early in the morning. Inside they found three fencing epees with their protective buttons cut off and the points filed down to needle sharpness. 32 05 25b

1932 06 01
The 'Brighter Roofs for Colleges' movement is growing. Overnight at Ridley Hall two cords were stretched from one of the college towers. On them pyjamas, pyjamas and still more pyjamas were floating in the wind. Large ones, small ones, brightly-coloured and silk examples were proudly swaying in the breeze and in the middle was suspended a parson's hat. After they had been lowered to the ground their various owners joined in a frantic scramble for their particular pairs which had been removed from their rooms. 32 06 01a

1932 06 02
King's nightclimbing – brolly removed – 32 06 02

1932 06 06
Nightclimbing craze spreads to Emmanuel – 32 06 06d

1932 06 17
A Cambridge doctor claimed payment from an undergraduate for a course of sun ray treatment. He sent his account to the college but the tutor had not been told the student had been ill and queried the charge. When undergraduates are going down it is extremely difficult, if not impossible to get them to pay their bills, he lost more from undergraduates than any other kind of patients, the doctor complained. 32 06 17 c& d

1932 11 04
The vast majority of undergraduates come up to Cambridge to work; hardly anybody fails to take a degree of some sort, and about 60 per cent take an Honours degree, T.W. Blackwell, a third-year student of Magdalene, told Cambridge Rotary Club. The average undergraduate driver compares favourably with the drivers of those buses which charge down the street, scattering everyone before them, while the complaint that students never pay their tradesmen's bills is as biased as saying that shopkeepers doubled their prices at the beginning of term. 32 11 04c & d

1933 06 08
A Newnham College student was summoned for dangerous flying. Mary Barnard said she had taken off from Marshall's flying school on a solo flight and descended to 1,000 feet over her College. But Dr John Bury, who had flown for five years, said she had descended rather rapidly, then flattened out and crossed Corpus Christi gardens at about 600 feet, he could read the letters on the plane quite clearly. As it was the first prosecution of its kind the magistrates decided to dismiss the case with a caution. 33 06 08a

1933 06 12
Saturday was one of the quietest bump supper nights on record. A few blazered undergraduates wearing dress shirts roamed the streets and occasionally a cheer could be heard. Then there was a squad of those who went through various drill movements, using the pavement as a parade

ground. But they were remarkably steady, and mild, possibly because the bump-supper beer was likewise! A constable remarked, "Sid Moon (the News cartoonist) should draw a cartoon of an empty Market Hill with a yawning policeman, because that all there's doing tonight" 33 06 12a

1933 06 13
The roof-climber who 'pinched' the two weathervanes off the Squire Law Library building seems to have had an attack of conscience, for the missing cock and fish were replaced last night. But they also left tasteful decorations and souvenirs in the shape of two sherry bottles at each end of an arch high over the entrance to the Geological Museum. They are said to be full and so act as 'bait' to other scalers of walls and roofs. 33 06 13

1933 06 13
Over 1,300 dancers disported themselves at the First and Third Trinity Boat Club's ball. As usual there were large crowds of spectators lining all the entrances and not a few on the river but great precautions had been taken to avoid gate crashing with two lots of 'sentries'. Inside the place was aglow with thousands of coloured lights while the dance tent itself, with its famous parquet floor, was electrically lit. From a dais in the centre the Embassy band played a sweet programme of dance music until the early hours of the morning. 33 06 13b

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1933 10 09
The greater part of the undergraduate population is now in residence and the Dorothy café is once again thronged with young men over the tea hour. The prevailing fashion is to wear striking sports jackets with the proverbial flannel trousers and hats but the new arrivals, despite every effort to appear 'old hands' generally reveal their 'freshness' by walking about in their gowns. 33 10 09

1933 11 10
The film 'Our Fighting Navy' has been withdrawn from the Tivoli Cinema following lively scenes. Fifty members of the Students' Anti-War went to make a protest but a rival party, numbering about a thousand undergraduates, marched to the cinema with two bands playing war-time songs and carrying Union Jacks. Several tried to push their way in until the arrival of four policemen who, with drawn truncheons, managed to keep the crowd at bay whilst a dozen more raced to the scene in motor vehicles. Cries of 'Down with Hitler' and 'Hail Hitler' were heard above the general uproar and a stink bomb let off in the vestibule 33 11 10

1934 02 22
Trinity College was the venue of a carefully-planned 'rag' involving a large number of fireworks. The roof was chosen as the main display ground. The first rocket went up and landed in Neville's court before all sorts of fireworks went off in rapid succession, including a couple on the two turrets of the Great Gate. Next day porters were trying to identify the owner of a walking stick on which a Catharine wheel had been fixed. 34 02 22

1934 03 05

A Cambridge police constable was injured during the 'rag' which followed the inter-college rugby cup final between Clare and St Catharine's. At Burrell's Walk undergraduates used wooden palisades to make a bonfire. The fire engine was called out but was surrounded by a crowd of students some of whom pulled the hose off the drum. Others clambered on to the engine and took the front and side lamps off. The fire was put out by college porters. In Queen's Road the police were forced to defend themselves. Truncheons were used to prevent their helmets being snatched off. There was some hard fighting. A number of street lamps were broken and a window was smashed in King's Parade. Two undergraduates were arrested, charged with assaulting the police 34 03 05

1934 06 09
"True Blue" club requires candidate to drink 1© glasses of claret in 20 seconds [1.18]

1934 06 15
A student, Cecil Hutchinson, made a dramatic race against time to attend the Cambridge Entrance Examination. He docked at Cherbourg early today on the Olympic on which he had travelled from New York, then chartered an Imperial Airways taxi which arrived at Croydon at 8.45. After snatching a hasty breakfast he flew on the Cambridge where he arrived a few minutes before the examination was due to start. The ship had decided in mid Atlantic not to dock at Plymouth, from which he had arranged to travel by train, so he cabled his father who arranged the air taxi. 34 06 15

1934 11 06
Cambridge saw one of the most riotous celebrations of the 'Fifth' for many years. In the course of demonstrations around Market Hill nearly 40 arrests were made, many of the police lost their helmets, several more had their tunics ripped right down the back and not a few sustained split knuckles and bruises. When supplies of fireworks began to run low parties of undergraduates attempted to put out every light but carried their efforts too far and smashed the glass of two shop windows and the traffic signal at the top of Petty Cury. There were 35 defendants including seven for assaults on the police, three for resisting the police a number for obstructing the police. Other summonses were for extinguishing street lamps and throwing fireworks. A Trinity undergraduate was fined for 'tipping' a policeman's helmet. Several times during the hearing there were outbursts of laughter. 34 11 06a & b

1934 11 10
Poppy Day collectors had to contend with a dismal downpour of rain. But a large crowd gathered on Senate House Hill to await the arrival of a self-styled 'Hitler' who was due to open the Caius Fun Fair. When he did come, by car, he brought a procession of about a dozen cars in his wake, all containing weird and wonderful characters. The obstinate mule, which last year lay down in the road and refused to get up until tempted by a coin, was less obstinate on the present occasion, for the wet and muddy road was hardly a pleasant bed. 34 11 10 & a

1935 06 18
May Week entered its ballroom phase with the twinkle of fairy lights and the dazzle of evening frocks. The biggest ball was that arranged by the First and Third Trinity Boat Club which was attended by 1,200 people. The flood-lit bridge stood out pearly white against the shadowy outlines of college buildings and hundreds of fairy lanterns made a necklace of living fire round the lawns of the Backs while Chinese lanterns hung in the trees along with coloured light indicators which showed the number of the dance in progress. Here and there a brazier gleamed dully, spitting steam in protest against the rain which sought to dampen their fire. 35 06 18

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1936 02 06
The Cambridge University Mummers, who are still the only University Dramatic Society to admit women members equally with men in all their activities, are presenting 'Heartbreak House' by Bernard Shaw. In the cast there are four members of Newnham, the most prominent of whom is Miss Teresa Mayor. She will be supported by Beryl Eeman, Cecilia Hopkinson and Deirdre Moore. The play will be produced by George Rylands who is well known for productions at the A.D.C. 36 02 06a

1936 06 24
Burning the boat at Jesus College following success at Lent Race – photo – 36 02 24

1935 02 25
Cambridge met Oxford in the spirit of peace, not of semi-lethal combat. The ceremony took place near the pump on the green at Sherington, Buckinghamshire, exactly half-way between the two universities. Two morning-coated representatives vied in the vehemence of their protestations of fraternal feeling and in the sartorial elegance of their attire. Then to the whirr of newsreel cameras they buried a hatchet beneath the pump. Afterwards a village worthy who had forgotten his tie, collar, shaving water and washing water in the excitement of the morning, came up to the immaculately attired Master of Ceremonies, thanking him putting Sherington on the map.35 02 25a & b

1935 08 03
Tops removed from new Belisha Beacons after Bumps supper [1.22]

1935 11 06
Guy Fawkes – traditional rag, few arrests – 35 11 06b

1936 02 25
An undergraduate was discovered with his head terribly injured on King's Parade at midnight. He was removed to a nursing home in the police ambulance but died on the way. He had apparently fallen from the fourth-floor window of the house where he lodged and was dressed only in pyjamas, coat and socks. His landlady found the door of his room sealed up with adhesive tape and there was a smell of gas. A sealed letter was found. 36 02 25

1936 03 14
Undergraduates last night hazardously climbed to the roof of Emmanuel College North Court and decorated six chimneys with chamber pots. They were removed by Mr S. Burgess of Messrs Prime's the builders who is often called in to remove various objects placed in inaccessible positions by exuberant undergraduates. "Some of them can run up brick walls", he said: one took off his shoes and went down a wall by means of his feet and hands alone to remove a gown that had been placed in a particularly difficult spot. 36 03 14

1936 05 05
Undergraduates, tired of their boring existence at the University, found a new way of letting off their spirits. A party 'invaded' the fair on Midsummer Common and obtained permission from the proprietor of the Wall of Death to give a display. Two mounted on motor cycles and the others on bicycles then gave a short show with plenty of impromptu thrills and spills. Fortunately no proctors appeared on the scene. 36 05 05a

1936 11 02

Undergraduates demonstrated support for 130 hunger marchers from Durham on their way to London to protest against the Means Test and new scales of benefit. At Girton College girl students served them tea and buns before 250 undergraduates joined the procession carrying torches and banners. There were meetings in the Co-operative and Labour Halls before the protestors had an evening meal in the students' rooms. At Cheshunt College some of the marchers ate in hall. Having slept in the Corn Exchange they continued to Saffron Walden where the Labour Party entertained them with lively tunes from a loudspeaker van. The march is due to arrive in London next weekend. 36 11 02 & a

1936 11 06
Guy Fawkes Night disorder, truncheon charges, riotous scenes – court case – 36 11 06

1937 04 28
Cambridge Union Society emulated the Oxford refusal to fight for king and country by carrying a motion in favour of complete national disarmament and individual refusal to bear arms. If re-armament were abandoned in the pursuit of peace our economic system would collapse and we would be faced with a military revolution of the property classes on the lines of General Franco. It might involve us in civil war – unless passive resistance was practiced as it had been by Gandhi, opponents warned. 'Refuse to fight for any other nation in any war ... shall always be prepared to die if need be for King & Country but for nobody and nothing else' but soon concerned that neighbours fowls being eaten that ours are safe 37 04 28 & a

1937 10 02
'The Harassed Harrises', a play by local author Gerald Light, features a father who keeps a fried fish shop in a town that is obviously Cambridge. His son, a young man of brains, has won a scholarship to the university but feels he is looked down on because of his father's job. What makes things even more awkward is that his aunt is a bedder at his college who is very fond of whisky. Without a doubt the play was greatly appreciated by the audience at the performance given by the CUP Amateur Dramatic Society 37 10 02

1937 11 06
The treat of severe action had a salutary effect on Cambridge undergraduates during the 'Fifth' celebrations. Last year a number of students were rusticated and others heavily fined by Borough justices. The Gas Company surrounded their lamp posts with barbed wire and fitted specially toughened glass over the actual light. Although a number of the taller standards were clambered up in every case the mountaineers had to return baffled. Not a light was extinguished. However two bus windows were broken with bricks and a pane of glass in a telephone kiosk was smashed. Photographers who used flashlights to take pictures had to retire in face of a barrage of missiles. Police arrested a woman but no serious attempt was made to rescue her. 37 11 06

1938
Union meeting strongly against conscription but within year Churchill meeting had overwhelming supported it [45]

1939 12 01
Poppy Day total is now £2,328 14s. The exceptional circumstances last year produced a sum of about £2,819, but the 1939 total is already near the £2,382 collected in 1937 and the £2,452 collected in 1936.Pembroke heads the list of individual college collections with a sum of £223 - £80 more than the runner-up, Christ's. 39 12 01 CIP0f

1940

1940 01
Woolwich & Sandhurst closed, students come to Cambridge, Latin & Greek dispensed with, for first time are members of University who have never studied a word of Latin in their lives [4.13]

1940 05 31
Easter Term comes to abrupt end with Dunkirk evacuation [4.14]

1941 09 06
King Peter of Yugoslavia at Clare - first time a reigning monarch at university [2.9]

1942 08 01
Recent raid damage at Cambridge: bombs on Union Society; debating hall escapes; flying at less than a hundred feet and in full view of many people a German raider dropped HE and incendiary bombs. Main damage was done to the library, writing room, committee room and the lounge. Masonry which was flung about by the explosion burst through the roofs and all the windows at the front of the premises and overlooking Round Church Street were blown out. The debating hall was only very slightly damaged and that mostly by water. The end of the library received a direct hit from a small high explosive bomb and several fire bombs but the steel stacks in which the books were housed saved them from the effect of the blast. The collection of music books were lost. One stained glass window of the Round Church was blown in, otherwise the church escaped – 42 08 01, 42 08 01a [raid was July 23rd]

1942 09 17
Punts and canoes placed on NFS reservoir on lawn in front of King's – photo – 42 09 17a

1943 05 01
Announcement that undergraduates need not in future wear caps with their gowns on academical occasions is no surprise. For some time there has been trouble in getting material – 43 05 01 [2.10]

1944 11
November 5th falls on Sunday, plans for Rag opposed [1.9]

1944 11 08
Bonfire Night rag protests – 44 11 08 & a, b

1945 11 06
First peacetime 'Fifth' rag, street lights extinguished, attack on 'Bull', Regal stormed – CDN 1945 11 06

1947 11 08
Poppy Day rag, p5

1946 07 19
Undergraduates under 22 banned for keeping a motor vehicle within 25 miles Gt St Mary's if proposals accepted; those eligible to drive will need licence from Proctor – 46 07 19

1947 06 11
The revival of May Week Balls in something of their full glory brings back to Cambridge something of the spirit of gaiety and colour which we knew before the war and which is now more than ever welcomed as much by townsfolk as by members of the University. The courts of Trinity presented a fairyland-like appearance with its lantern lit cloisters which were also decorated with palms. At Clare College the dining hall was used for dancing to the melodies of Tommy Kinsman's Band from London. Cyril Stapleton and his band provided the music for dancing at Downing College 47 06 11

1947 10 11
There will be a warm welcome for "Varsity Handbook", the Undergraduate's Guide to Cambridge, produced and published by "Varsity". This is a brand new publication, printed on good paper and contains a mass of information of interest and value to University men. Much of the material has never been collected before. For the first time, for instance, a full detailed list of the 180 odd University societies is published. And then "One Man's Opinion" contains some frank advice - possibly a little too frank - for the Freshman on a variety of matters 47 10 11

1947 11 06
Six undergraduates and two RAF men were arrested during the usual Guy Fawkes Night scenes in the centre of Cambridge last night. From 7.30 crowds grew steadily on Market Hill. Fireworks were discharged freely and the din reached its peak between eight and half-past. Members of the University who earlier had been outnumbered by more than ten to one were in force by nine o'clock, several minor scuffles occurred about this time, and the first of several policemen's helmets disappeared. Proctors and their "bulldogs" early kept undergraduates on the move. After that the crowd gradually thinned away, and by 1.15 there were only groups here and there c47 11 06

1947 12 08
The word "Placet" (Latin for "It pleases") said by the Senior and Junior Proctors in unison as they raised their caps concluded the less-than-a-minute-long part of the Congregation in Cambridge Senate House by which it was formally agreed that women should have full status within the University. A handful of women students, undergraduates and other visitors in the gallery heard the decision made. It is planned that the new regulations shall come into force at the beginning of the next academic year in October; they will come under Proctorial supervision and will wear academic dress - 47 12 08 [2.14,2.21,5.3, 8.24]

1948 05 05
The women students of Newnham and Girton will emerge in their New Look in the October term. The gowns which their full University status now entitles them to wear have now been designed, and are on sale at £3 3s. each, no coupons. They are identical with those of the men, except that they have closed sleeves instead of a slit at the opening. This is because it was felt it would be unsuitable to have bare arms showing in summer time, when the girls wear short sleeved dresses. As far as headwear is concerned stiff board was preferred to a soft cap, and squares have been decided upon. These are still in such short supply that most girls will, like the men, go bareheaded for the moment 48 05 05

1948 10 21
When the Queen stood before the Vice Chancellor in Cambridge Senate House today to receive the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Law she was not only a Queen receiving an Honour but also a symbol of the passing of a 700-years-old "tradition" in the university. For, during the whole of the University's history no Queen - and no other woman - has ever before had a degree conferred

upon her, because until the recent changes in the statutes giving women full membership the conferring of such an honour was not possible. As the Queen entered the Senate House there was a burst of cheering and clapping. Her scarlet Doctor's robes and her black velvet doctor's cap, made a charming ensemble with the Cambridge blue shade of her dress. As the Queen left Girton College yesterday evening, following her visit there, many students gathered in the drive made appropriate if unorthodox use of the gowns they now wear as symbols of their recently won rights to be full members of the University. They took off their gowns and waved them in farewell to the Royal lady, who in the morning had symbolised those new rights as she received in the Senate House the first degree to be conferred upon a woman in University history 48 10 21

1948 11 06
Cambridge's annual Guy Fawke's battle was waged in the market square and surrounding streets . Five undergraduates were amongst those who were arrested and placed in the Guildhall cells until being bailed. There were three charges of assaulting the police. Though a strong warning had been given by the university authorities there was considerable rowdyism. RAF men from nearby airfields and US service personnel were banned from Cambridge for the night. Ten people were taken to Addenbrooke's hospital having received slight injuries or fainted in the large crowds 48 11 06
Hand grenade thrown at Senate House on November 5th, damages glass [2.16,1.11]

1948 11 15
It really was women's day at the university Senate House on Saturday. Following the Queen's visit last month came the first historic degree ceremony to include women graduates. Previously they had held only the title of their degrees but now a decree has been passed admitting them to full membership they can proceed in person to take them. 114 were conferred in all. The recipients included a number who had left the colleges many years go - two from Girton had graduated in the 1890s. Side by side with them were young women who had graduated last year. All were enjoying the first fruits of a successful outcome of a struggle that had lasted 70 years

1948 11 17
Soon the sight of women students in their gowns and proceeding to degrees alongside the men, will become common place, and no one will give them a second thought. It is the "first time" however, which makes news and even the occasion of the first woman to be "progged" becomes a minor act of University history. Members of the colleges had awaited with interest to see on whom this "honour" would befall. Their curiosity was satisfied within three weeks of the beginning of term. The "honour" – said to have be coveted by a number of women students, who tried to attract the attention of the proctor – fell to a third-year anthropology student of Girton, Miss Valida Turner, who was fined for not wearing her gown after dark 48 11 17

1949 06 14
The May Balls have brought out a crop of new evening dresses. White, ideal for a summer dance was a favourite colour and diaphanous floating tulle tell to the fore as a material. I noticed several gaily striped or checked stiff taffetas, and a few with big flower patters, but plain colours predominated. Tiered skirts – three or even four of five tiers – are back. One or two of the ladies had fringed, silk shawls, draped over their shoulders and I noticed one carrying a pink feather fan 49 06 14

1949 11 07
The quietest Guy Fawkes night "rag" long-service Cambridge police officers can remember passed off without even a street lamp being extinguished – another "within living memory" record. A crowd gathered on the Market Square by 7pm and fireworks were thrown. A police car

which arrived on the scene radioed for reinforcements. These shepherded the crowd off the square. After that police posted at the entrances to the square prevented people entering the area. Early in the evening a few rotten eggs were thrown, and a smoke bomb exploded in the Sidney Street area. These incidents, and the intermittent throwing of fireworks, constituted about the only "excitement" of the evening, though there was an occasion when a "bulldog" pursued a man at full speed in front of the Guildhall 49 11 07

1950

1950 06 08
In the sweet perfection of a fine tuned evening on the Backs, a record crowd listened to what is surely the loveliest of all events of May Week, the programme of madrigals sung by the Cambridge University Madrigal Society from punts moored beneath King's Bridge. An audience estimated at between 7,000 and 8,000, lined both sides of the bank as the oppressive heat of the day became tempered by the cool of evening. Even the loud moo of a cow in the paddock failed to break the spell, nor did the faintly-threatening note of a high-flying bomber, reminder of the sterner world out of which the magic of the setting and the sweetness of the singing lifted the listening thousands 50 06 08

1950 06 13
The dusk-to-daylight part of Cambridge May Week festival began last night. For seven or eight hours several of the colleges put on over their grey stone a party dress of coloured lights and other decorations to welcome dancers at their May Week balls. At Downing scintillating fountains spraying sparks, gorgeous aerial cascades of magnificent colour, night turned to day by brilliant rich light, the whole punctuated by an obligato of crackles and bangs of varying volume made up the main framework of a memorable display. There were even "flying saucers" just to show that firework-makers move with the times 50 06 13

1950 11 06
Although four arrests – three townsmen and one undergraduate – were made, Guy Fawkes night this year was about the quietest since the war. Undergraduates were not as lively as in years past. The reason for the lack of activity on their part was probably the fact that they had been warned verbally by their tutors. Just to make sure seven watchful Proctors with their top-hatted 'bulldogs' maintained a constant patrol of the main streets 50 11 06

1950 11 11
In the main streets of Cambridge today it looked as though a zoo, a circus, a host of foreign invaders and history's immortals had been let loose – not to mention members of species hitherto unknown. It was the Poppy Day pantomime again and students were 'on the make'. Poppy sellers were on the street and some 70,000 poppies were on sale. The Mayor, Ald Taylor, was kidnapped, his hands bound with a scarf and marched out of the Guildhall into a Rolls Royce while police thoughtfully held back the crowds 50 11 11

1951 11 10
Undergraduate collectors set out to break all previous Poppy Day collection records. The "ban" on well-known Middle East personalities made no difference to the high degree of ingenuity shown in extracting money from an ever-willing public. A seductive harem scene on a lorry featured "the Proctor" smoking surely nothing less potent than hashish while on the Magdalene college lorry a European "twist" was given by a "Don" reclining on cushions smoking a "hookah". A collection of the weirdest Oriental gentlemen ever preceded the lorry with collecting boxes 51 11 10

1951 11 29
It was an affair of honour, to be settled with pistols, that drew a crowd of spectators to Trinity Backs. It arose when a letter written by a third-year Trinity undergraduate to a Girton College law student was intercepted by another Trinity man and the challenge was issued. Half of London's national newspapers got wind of the duel and two reporters laid an all-night siege to the contestants' rooms. Early this morning the protagonists slipped through the cordon of pressmen who waited for the duellists to appear. On Trinity bridge the crowd drifted away until all that were left were the newsreel cameraman taking shots of their journalistic colleagues waiting for the duel that did not take place 51 11 29

1952 06 12
Cambridge University is considering the possibility of increasing the number of women permitted to the University in any one year. The Council of Senate recommends there should be a new autonomous foundation for women students, the number not exceeding 100. They consider there is a great need for women graduates but any increase should not lead to a lowering of standards. Present regulations permit of 1,400 women, one-fifth of the total of men students. Cambridge is doing considerably less than other Universities in providing women with a University education.

1953 04 11
Mortar boards abolished [6.9, 6.10]

1953 06 11
A House of Commons committee considered the question of allowances for naval students at Cambridge University. Officers go to Dartmouth for two terms and then go to sea before being sent to Cambridge where they read the Mechanical Sciences Tripos for three years. During the long vacation they are put to work in industries around the countryside. On the completion of their Cambridge course with a degree they enter the electrical school at Farnham. The Chairman asked how their pay was affected when at Cambridge and did they receive an allowance in addition, so they did not become 'broke'. They must have something in the way of an allowance. 53 06 11

1953 08 28
The incidence of suicide at Oxford and Cambridge is higher that at other universities in the U.K. Some years ago the proportion of the population which constituted sound University material was thought to be over 40 per cent. Now that percentage was no higher than 15. "I believe a great deal of frustration, unhappiness and waste is caused by forcing students into University courses when they have neither the intelligence, training, personality or mental fibre to meet the standard of such education. Many breakdowns arise because men are forced into work against their true inclinations, often for family reasons. Sexual disturbances are not important causes of failure, though from time to time students seek refuge in drink or drugs", said the senior tutor of St Catharine's College. 53 08 28

1954 10 06
A new chapter in Cambridge University history has opened on an informal note at New Hall, the third foundation for women, where the first 16 students are now in residence. They drew lots for the rather Spartan bedrooms while a 'combination' room is being used for (voluntary) morning services – there is no chapel - and other activities. A rather gloomy downstairs study room is well-equipped with desks and chairs and nearby is an out-of-doors wringer of hefty make. "We can do our own washing and save on laundry bills", said Miss Angela Holder, a petite, attractive Freshman, giving the handle an experimental turn. Miss A.R. Murray, the tutor, says she

welcomes the building – a converted guest house - as a temporary home but looks forward to moving to Byron House in 1960

1954 11 06
Police helmets will be treasured possession in the homes of undergraduates and Cambridge 'Teddy-Boys' who contributed to the Guy Fawkes Night high jinks. One police constable, helmet-less, went back to base for another. But in double-quick time this went too! Frequent clashes broke out between police and revellers. In Market Square a crowd of more than 5,000 screamed, shouted, pushed and laughed but it was 'good natured fooling'. "Teddy" girls screamed at each bang, unsuspecting undergraduates were pounced on by Proctors and 'Bulldogs' and there were boos and hisses each time an untidy-looking urchin was led away, and each time the urchin would protest his innocence of throwing any fireworks.

1955 05 12
A gaping hole, nine feet in circumference and about a foot deep, was blown in the path beside Trinity College Bridge last night. It is believed that a stick of dynamite was used as a student said he heard a terrific explosion and the building shook. The explosion caused leaves to be blown off trees nearby. This is the third time within a year that a deep pit has appeared near the bridge and last week it was decorated with planks and trowels. But two porters and a gardener denied all knowledge and the college spokesman had nothing to say.55 05 12a [1.22]

1955 06 15
May Balls are with us again. At Trinity Nat Temple and his band played for a large number of dancers, at St John's guests danced to the music of Hedley Ward and his orchestra while at Clare Tommy Kinsman provided music for everyone – one room being set aside for jiving! Downing had a marquee setting where two hundred couples danced to the music of Chappie D'Amato, who also played at Christ's. 55 06 15

1956 10 06
The Cambridge lodging-house landlady is part of the education of every young man who comes to study at the University. She is part-mother, part-landlady & part-disciplinarian who must maintain a difficult blend of deference and firmness in dealing with her young gentlemen. He is told how much rent he must pay, that he pays extra for a piano, hot water for his bath or a scuttleful of coal. But unless lodgings are peaceful and conformable men will not study well. 56 10 06a & b

1956 10 11
First Societies Fair, Corn Exchange [7.1]

1956 11 05
A Suez protest rally was held on Parker's Piece. The back of a lorry provided a speakers' platform and round it was ringed an audience of some 1,500 people who attempted to listen to the arguments through the constant hubbub of a group of dissenting undergraduates. They carried slogans tacked on long-handled brushes saying 'Eden acts where U.N.O. fails' and 'Non-intervention is Suez-cide'. Scuffles broke out and a lone firework was lobbed on to the platform. 56 11 05a

Smoke bombs, water from upstairs windows and counter-cries from undergraduates accompanied the "Stop Eden's War" procession organised by Cambridge Labour Party. Eighty people carrying placards set off from the Alex Wood Memorial Hall but were joined by a second, less orderly

procession of undergraduates shouting "Eden Must Stay" to counter the Labour cries of "Eden Must Go". 56 11 05b

1957 05 24
The Night Climbers of Cambridge are at it again. At daybreak two objects had been placed on the spires of King's college chapel. One is the globe of a Belisha beacon, the other a nylon stocking. There was a turret-climbing episode in May 1932 on the eve of Empire Day when a Union Jack was flying from the north-east turret. Two nights previously the pinnacles were decorated with open umbrellas 57 05 24

1957 06 15
Cambridge Night Climbers spend the small hours of the night among the college piers and pinnacles. They work in groups of two or three and their equipment is a pair of soft shoes and gloves with sometimes a punt cushion for crossing the spikes and broken glass set in concrete. They climb for the love of climbing and regard the leaving of flags or underclothes as an error of taste bordering on exhibitionism. 57 06 15c

1957 11 09
Poppy Day photos, p5 & p8

1958 06 09
A unique answer to the Cambridge traffic problems was found during the weekend. Somebody, obvious with an acute parking problem, decided that all the flat apace on top of the Senate House was going to waste – so they decided to park an Austin 7 van there! Early-morning passers-by goggled and stared in amazement at the strange sight of hefty firemen and policemen struggling to make the van safe from the wind. Nobody seems to know who put it there. The big problem is: how to get it down.

1958 06 11
Hundreds of students watched – and offered advice – as Civil Defence volunteers tried to remove the Austin 7 van from the roof of the Senate House. It was moved on to the parapet, but it would not pass between the legs of a derrick. Men hammered at its jutting corners and thudded upon its protrusions before deciding that it must come down in pieces. A good deal of parts were lowered on a pulley and stored in a rescue vehicle. Then they drove away. Despite the real courage of the Civil Defence men, the day went well for undergraduate Cambridge. 58 06 11 & a

1958 06 12
Civil Defence men have succeeded in bringing down the van from the Senate House roof. It was cut in half with the aid of an oxy-acetylene torch, then cut up again, and again, until all the parts were of a suitable size to be lowered, starting with the bonnet and wings, then the radiator and steering column. Part of the roof and a side were the last down. The proceedings were watched by the Vice-Chancellor of the University and two or three students who climbed on the roof of the Old Schools building and offered suggestions as to how it should be dismantled. 58 06 12a

1958 06 12
'The Freshman' film has already established itself on the Cambridge scene. The appearance of cameras, technicians, stars and generators at various locations still causes a stir and there is never any lack of people watching the action. German film star Hardy Kruger, who plays an undergraduate, has had a bewildering initiation into real student life. He has seen the May Balls swinging on till dawn. And he has seen that car park on the Senate House roof. No wonder he looks worried! 58 06 13c, 58 06 12

1958 11 03
Gown & Teddy Boys, about 60 taunt proctors [21.7]

1958 11 08
Many householders opened their doors early to a young man in pyjamas or an undergraduate turbaned like a caliph and bought a poppy, then poured into Cambridge to see the fun. Every entrance was barricaded, every vehicle stopped, and toll demanded. Progress was difficult in one street because Mr John Day of Trinity was having breakfast with Miss Alexandra Hearnshaw, a Newnham mathematician, on a Belisha crossing. In Petty Cury two rival dragons occupied most of the road – a dinosaur quite 70 feet long and containing numberless undergraduates of whom only the feet were visible and a toothy monster centipede writhing from the direction of the Senate House. 58 11 08

1959 04 03
University Proctors generally visit dance halls in Cambridge, they could (but rarely did) visit the licensed houses and never visited private houses unless invited. One of the routine duties was the "walking at night". It was their job to see that undergraduates were prevented from annoying citizens, which was more important than fining them for not wearing gowns. There was very close cooperation with the police as proctors had a greater variety of more suitable punishments; students could be rusticated, gated or fined or even have their university driving licenses withdrawn, Dr E.R. Lapwood told businessmen. 59 04 03

1959 10 19
A 21-year-old blonde sat down with 200 students in the dining room of Christ's College – and went completely unnoticed. That was not surprising because she was dressed in a grey suit, bright yellow waistcoat and wore thick glasses and a black beard! Elizabeth Grant, a third year medical student had decided to avenge the fair sex for a hoax played on Girton students last week. College regulations allow students to bring in their (male) friends but women are banned. Everything went off beautifully. She kept her voice down during the meal and although second glances were cast by some, nobody said anything. 59 10 19d

1959 11 06
Roughest November 5th for 20 years, banger battles on Market Hill, £200 damage caused 59 11 08g

1959 11 07
Harlequins and Columbines, spacemen and fishermen, artists, engine drivers, unmarried 'Mummies' (Egyptian variety), balloon vendors, winged wonders, hot dog sellers, ghouls and luscious lovelies, all filled the streets of Cambridge to collect money for the Earl Haig Fund. The City was crammed with floats, blasted with instruments and its pedestrians and traffic forced to pay tolls before being allowed to pass. One of the most sombre 'floats' was that lamenting the Labour Party's third consecutive defeat at the polls. Another proclaimed "Life's better under the Conservatives" 59 11 07 & aa

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 02 16

David Smith**,** known as 'Dave' to thousands of members of the University Union, could remember the more leisurely days when as a turkey-carpeted gentleman's club it was the Sunday mecca of hundreds of letter writers, quill pens provided. Before TV, billiards and the gramophone fine gentlemen moved in quiet splendour about the premises. When one of the Society's servants retired they would make a short speech before the Tuesday debate in front of a crowded house. They would then quietly return next day on a part-time basis without any anti-climax and much to everyone's relief. 'Dave' will always be remembered as one of those 'characters' without which the University and life would be the poorer 60 02 16

1960 03 25
University 'Image' magazine launched 60 03 25a

1960 05 06
Tailor on trends in student dress - trend to jeans & duffle-coats, sloppy-joes, 17" trouser bottoms; 80% on grants so fashion informal clothes [21.9]

1960 10 18
The Vice Chancellor has banned all undergraduates from taking part in Guy Fawkes Night celebrations in the city centre. In recent years November 5th had been marked by particularly destructive and violent acts, including the use of home-make fireworks, which have caused painful injuries to innocent bystanders. Although students have played only a minor part at the occasions the University are under an obligation to help the city authorities check such disorderly conduct. Now Market Hill and the surrounding area will be out of bounds to members of the University 'in statu pupillari' between 7 pm and midnight 60 10 18 (200 police patrol, no trouble)

1960 11
Granta censored - Highwayman 474 used four-letter words, Frost editor [18.1]

1961
Students' committee formed [18.5]

1961 05 04
Women undergraduates should stop trying to be competitive with the men and become complementary to them instead. There should be optional University classes in cookery, needlework and floral arrangements for the benefit of women, a Girton undergraduate writes in the 'Cambridge Review'. But two Newnham students are indignant that anyone should suppose they are not already proficient in domestic matters when they came up to Cambridge and deny women have no recreation other than working or taking tea 61 05 04

1961 06 08
The 'popsey expresses' are pulling into the station and the city is fast filling up with young girls, here to watch the eights chase each other along the Cam and to dance through a succession of May Balls. There are also 20 concerts, 10 theatrical productions apart from the Footlight's annual frolic and countless exhibitions. Once again Cambridge will take May Week in its stride. It has become used to seeing the revellers in full evening dress walking through the streets for a good day's sleep just as we are beginning another good day's work. 61 06 08a

1961 06 23
BAs & research students freed of wearing gowns in streets after dark [15.7]

1961 10 18
A 20-year old law student at New Hall was carried unconscious from the Cambridge Union Society debating chamber. She was one of three girls who fought their way in as a protest against 'a niggling absurd and out-of-date rule' which forbids women as debating members. As the guest speakers, Peter Thorneycroft, the Minister of Aviation and Labour MP Richard Crossman looked on, the debate was adjourned. In the scuffles that followed the girl fainted. She was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital. The debate then continued. 61 10 18a

1961 10 31
Undergraduates banned from centre Guy Fawkes Day, follows last year's example to enable police to control danger of home-made fireworks [21.10]

1961 11 17
Buckets of water cascaded over undergraduates who marched along King's Parade as a protest against having to wear gowns. About 250, many without gowns, walked four abreast to the Senate House escorted by a solitary policeman. Other students chanted 'Keep the Gown'. When they reached Senate House Hill three Proctors accompanied by two Bulldogs took down some of the names – they are liable to a fine of six shillings and eightpence. The only 'casualty' was a Bulldog who had his top hat snatched by an undergraduate who ran off in Trinity Street 61 11 17b [21.11]

1961 06 08
The 'Popsey Expresses' are pulling into the station and the city is fast filling up with young girls, here to watch the eights chase each other along the Cam and to dance through a succession of May Balls. There are also 20 concerts, 10 theatrical productions apart from the Footlight's annual frolic and countless exhibitions. Once again Cambridge will take May Week in its stride. It has become used to seeing the revellers in full evening dress walking through the streets for a good day's sleep just as we are beginning another good day's work. 61 06 08a

1961 06 08
Thirteen members of the Christ's College Milton Society took part in the traditional annual 'pilgrimage' to the main door of Great St Mary's Church to burn the works of T.S. Eliot. With caps and gowns, and carrying a bust of the poet Milton, the undergraduates walked in procession through the crowded Market Square. Then in front of the church the 'damnable and dangerous works' of T.S. Eliot (Penguin edition) were set in flames on the paving stones. Crowds appeared from nowhere, cameras were clicked, and passages of Milton read before the procession returned towards Christ's and noggins of nut brown ale 61 06 08a

1962 06 20
May Ball rockets bring storm protest calls, Civil Defence man was pulling on uniform before realised it was fireworks [21.12]

1962 10 16
A 'mock funeral' was held for two undergraduates, Philip Gurden of Magdalene and Simon Keswick of Trinity, who were sent down for failing their exams. Their 'coffin' was carried on a sports car while in the 'cortege' at the rear was Prince William of Gloucester who is at Magdalene College 62 10 16 [446.9.6]

1962 10 20
University freshmen to be no longer presented to Vice Chancellor during Matriculation ceremony [15.8]

1962 11 06
Bonfire Night was very quiet this year. Police appeals for people to stay away from the city centre met with a good response and the streets were almost empty. Extensive use was made of radios and police with walkie-talkie sets moved on any groups from street corners. A University ban on students entering the city centre during the five hours before midnight was equally effective. Major incidents were few and far between and the elaborate measures taken proved more than adequate on one of the quietest Guy Fawkes nights for many years 62 11 06

1962 11 21
Union Society women may now speak [26.8]

1962 12 03
Undergraduates seek distribute Poppy Day money more widely [25.8]

1962 12 30
Samaritans started after 6th student suicide in year [7.14]

1963 11 08
Union ballot allows women, first Janet Hogg [7.16]

1962 11 10
Traffic was brought to an almost complete standstill in Cambridge as the Poppy Day Rag got under way and the streets became blocked with floats. Altogether 4,000 students with dustbin lids, tin cans and saucepans collected for the Earl Haig Fund. Dr Kildare performed 'bloody operations' on the streets, Trinity Hall undergraduates shaved Belisha beacons, girls from Girton dressed as blackbirds 'plucked ready for cooking' did hectic business while the 'new Hally Orchestra' gave a command performance with bicycle chains on dustbin lids and old mangles. Pedestrians found it hard to resist a forlorn and bedraggled donkey with an equally forlorn undergraduate clutching a box of soggy poppies. 61 11 10b

1962 12 03
Undergraduates seek distribute Poppy Day money more widely [25.8]

1963 06 08
Austin car slung under Bridge of Sighs – 63 06 08

1963 11 05
History was made when Janet Hogg, a 321-year-old New Hall undergraduate, became the first woman member of the University Union Society since its formation in 1815. Two Girton women became the first to take part in a debate on the motion "Till death do us part is ridiculous". The motion was rejected. To return home to a wife and family after a day of fighting for his existence was one of the most pleasant and happy things that could happen to a man. 63 11 05, 13a first Janet Hogg [7.16]

1963 11 09
Cambridge had a carnival atmosphere for the annual Poppy Day Rag. A procession of 35 gay noisy floats was the first 'organised' procession in rag history. They depicted the Great Train Robbery and the Channel Tunnel. Degrees were sold outside the Senate House, passers-by were menaced with toy guns and undergraduates scrubbed zebra crossing, delaying motorists who sere surrounded by students waving collecting tins. It was claimed that The Beatles pop group had

been kidnapped and would be sold in Market Square. But News Agency reports say they were returning to Liverpool by car after a tour of Ireland. 63 11 09, a,b Austin car suspended under Bridge of Sighs [12.9,21.14]

1964 11
Last Rag to support only Earl Haig fund [36]

1965
Report on student suicides

1965 01 14
Rag Day proceeds may be used to fund a youth centre for young people who live and work here. The bankside opposite Magdalene College would be an ideal site. There are good reasons: the college buildings are now awkwardly sited in relation to town development and will always be an encumbrance in terms of planning. Townspeople have to pay higher rates because of the specially low rating allowed the colleges and industrial development has been restricted which would have provided new industries. As it is many children have to go to other towns to earn their livings. And when they reach marriageable age they have difficulty finding housing since so much land is taken up by the university.– 65 01 14a

1965 02 10
Cambridge undergraduates may soon be able to go out at night without their gowns. A Council of Senate report supports proposals for the abolition of compulsory wearing of gowns after dark by the Proctorial Syndicate. In June 1961 rules governing academic dress and discipline were amended to allow graduates to go out at night without gowns. But the practice of 'walking' would be continued for other disciplinary reasons including visiting licensed premises and places of entertainment – 65 02 10b

1965 02 12
Union Society 150th anniversary [26.9]

1965 02 13
Strict male-female segregation rule scrapped by Queens' College which makes way for new foundation taking both sexes [15.9]

1965 05 01
Proctorial powers and prospects – are archaic and out of touch with modern thought SRC report on discipline – 65 05 01a

1965 05 15
Lab test on 'dope' sold in pub [22.1]

1965 06 07
"Peace in Vietnam" banner at Kings [22.2]

1965 07 30
City vote not to change date Rag Day, student protest, seven colleges opt out boycott chosen charities [25.9]

1965 11 13
Rag Day quietest for years following controversy – 65 11 13, 65 11 15

1966
Union Society favour mixed colleges

1966 03 11
Rag Day: try again, split proceeds; British Legion to collect on Poppy Day & undergraduates have rag week later with third of money to Legion; failure [25.10]

1966 04 11
University ban King Street run; started 40 years ago – 66 04 11a; does not take place 66 04 21c; takes place in authorities defiance of proctors – 66 04 28c

1966 11 12
Senate House demonstration [12.13]

1967 04 15
US ambassador in Vietnam protest [22.5]

1967 06 01
Union Society first woman president Anne Mallelieu [26.10]

1967 10 09
Prince Charles arrives to study at Trinity College – 67 10 09, 09a

1967 10 30
Protest at Harold Wilson visit [22.4]

1967 11 18
Fighting local youths & students, Poppy Day collecting tins snatched, flop [25.11]

1968
'Red' Rudi Dutschke to Cambridge for treatment bullet wound in Berlin, offered place Clare but Home Office refused permission stay; CSU backed case, mounted its first ever national march in London; left

1968 02 08
Cambridge Rag for 1968 is axed due to rowdyism and failing enthusiasm of undergraduates – 68 02 08

1968 03 09
Defence Secretary, Denis Healey, hissed by undergraduates after meeting at University Labour Club –wild scenes as Healey leaves, "runs gauntlet of mob", 4 arrested; police federation call for curb on student political demos; University criticised for taking no disciplinary action; new rules - all students who organise procession or demonstration must give written statement of intention to Proctors [22.6-7]

1968 03 13
Hawks club opening [12.14]

1968 10 28
Enoch Powell speaks secretly at Union as police thwart city demonstrations – 68 10 28a

1968 11 25
Three-wheel car hung under Bridge of Sighs – details – 68 11 25a

1969 01 30
Undergraduate sit-in at Old Schools in solidarity with students at LSE – 69 01 30, 30a, 69 01 31

1969 02 08
Prince Charles crowns Rag Queen- 69 02 08b, 69 02 15a

1969 02 15
Rag Day takes new look; parades off in break with Poppy tradition; squeeze into mini car – 69 02 15

1969 02 24
Rag switched to February, raise less than half, St Johns college loses £330, "such a flop people did not realise it was on" [25.13]

1969 02 25
Prince Charles as singing dustman in Rag revue – 69 02 25

1969 03 01
Prince Philip and Princess Anne watch Prince Charles perform in Trinity College revue, handed protest leaflet about tour of South Africa by undergraduates who broke into auditorium – 69 03 01a

1969 05 02
Undergraduates try burn academic gowns on laws of Senate House in protest against examinations – 69 05 02, a

1969 05 09
Changes to Student Representative Assembly in line proposals for reconstituted student representative body with full-time student leader, uproar stops first chaotic meeting, opponents want no formal representation students [26.6]

1969 07 01
Prince Charles' career since he came to Cambridge – feature – 69 07 01b,c,d,e

1969 10 30
Enoch Powell gives slip to chanting city students [22.11]

1970

1970 02 14
"Garden House riot": police make truncheon charge against mob of undergraduates who surged forward pinning score constables against shattered plate-glass windows causing £2,276 damage Garden House Hote1. City demand punishment for rioters 1000 march to Greek rally, 300 admit to being at anti-Junta demonstration four guilty of riot, seven acquitted; six sent prison periods 5-18 months, two sent to borstal. "GHR changed course of events; afterwards student violence died off, 11,280 at dinner, climax of Greek Week promoting holidays under Right-Wing military dictatorship; Police invoked Riot Act, not used for years. Judge Melford Stevenson said it most

complete example of intelligent young people getting involved in complete bloody nonsense - 70 02 14, 14a, 14b, 70 02 18 & a. 70 06 24

1970 02 21
Prince Charles in Trinity Review with bagpipes – 70 02 21

1970 05 13
Prince Charles awarded BA, maiden speech at Union Society on technological advance, Lord Mountbatten present – 70 05 13

1970 07 11
Proctors' future for discipline to be considered – 70 07 11

1970 09 15
Red Rudi Dutschke must leave Sep [23.2]

1970 10 13
Proctors not to attend student political demonstrations which take place off university premises; they will subject only to police and civil law – 70 10 13; students vote to end proctors – 70 10 13b

1970 10 26
Vice Chancellor to meet students who present ultimatum demanding abolition Proctorial system & equal representation with dons on 'inner cabinet' - council of Senate (reject) [23.3]

1970 10 31
Home Secretary Maudling calls off visit [23.4]

1971 01 08
Rudi Dutschke who came to Britain in 1986 to recover from gunshot wounds and has been living at Clare Hall should not be allowed to stay, Tribunal recommends – 71 01 08; call for University strike – 71 01 11; students plan protest – 71 01 14; 1,000 students march – 71 01 16

1971 02 08
Home Secretary Reginald Maudling visit to speak to University Conservatives but nobody give space except Leys where biggest security exercise ever to protect him; ends without trouble – 71 02 08a, b

1971 02 22
Rag Day violence forces decorated float procession to be abandoned – 71 02 22

1971 02 24
Cambridge Students Union link with CCAT, outnumbering undergraduates in an organisation they brought into being at the beginning of last term – 71 02 24

1971 05 25
Kings College accept students on College Council [18.11]

1971 05 29
Regent House approve consultative committee to consider University matters - seven undergraduates, two graduates, seven senior members [18.12]

1971 06 12
A bulldog's life – Edmunds Hill, University Constable 40 years – feature – 71 06 12

1971 11 01
"No undergraduate present for Senate discussion on abolition of proctors ... Cambridge militancy in decline this term - little interest in demonstrations; militancy unfashionable, apathetic majority hold sway ... two of most prominent undergraduate politicians have not returned after sitting their Summer examinations ..." [34]

1971 11 26
Chamber of Commerce strongly disapprove of shops giving discounts to students, but 'students could retaliate by taking their business to London & leave some city shops with hardly any customers' [23.6]

1972
Clare, Kings & Churchill become mixed [5.9]

1972 01 15
Union Society reject merger CSU [27.12]

1972 01 28
New Court of Discipline where undergraduates sit in judgement on colleagues established; two of five men panel are students [23.5]

1972 02 03
600 occupy Old Schools in exam protest - against unwillingness of General Board to support faculty proposals for reforming exams [23.7,5.7, 4,12.18]

1972 02 07
Undergraduate sit-in at Old Schools caused damage, forced way through doors into the Squire Law Library; carpet in Combnation Room burned by cigarettes – 72 02 07 [5.7]

1972 04 25
Union Society lease part of building CSU to provide facilities all students, [27.12]

1972 02 23
Six new proctors appointed [23.8]

1972 03 09
100 demonstrate at Cambridge University Court of Discipline first & only sitting at Guildhall following Old Schools sit-in; 11 arrested [15.12, 23.8]

1972 04 25
Lord Devlin inquiry - High Steward instituted

1973 02 14
Devlin report calls for tougher line on student sit-ins ... should be persuasion by proctors & university constables followed by police & criminal proceedings, he satisfied that deliberate policy of CSU to resort to direct action; sit-in Lady Mitchell Hall in protest, 1000 march Old Schools as ends [23.9, 35]]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1973 02 14
Students join NUS march Shire Hall for grants rise; ambushed by counter-demonstrators [23.11]

1973 02 17
Cambridge Undergraduates are to continue their occupation of two university buildings until Monday morning. The Sidgwick site sit-in is now Cambridge's longest student occupation on record. Last year's protest at the Old Schools lasted just 48 hours, while the one two years previously was a short-lived 36 hours. The Sidgwick occupation was sparked off by university rejection of some Economics Tripos reforms and now incorporates a protest against Lord Devlin's recommendations to the university 73 02 17

1973 04 25
Report wants greater participation students in running University; four non-voting representatives on Council of Senate & voting students on University faculty boards [24.1]

1973 05 09
Cambridge Students' Union secretary, Mr Rodney Smyth, made university history yesterday as the first undergraduate to speak during a Senate discussion. Normally only Dons are allowed to take part in discussions but for consideration of the joint Don-Student Committee report on student representation in university government both undergraduates and postgraduates were given a special dispensation. Mr Smyth, who had earlier listened to criticisms of the C.S.U. told Dons that he did not think the organisation at present was representative enough of Cambridge students. Proposals to put four students on Cambridge University's "inner cabinet", the Council of the Senate, got a frosty reception 73 05 09

1973 05 16
Students produce 'Alternative Prospectus' [24.3]

1973 05 28
Students reject representation on University government [24.4]

1973 06 02
Report cuts proctors power to fine students & judicial function transferred summary court; Walking should cease, office of special proctor motor vehicles abolished [24.6]

1973 08 21
Undergrads want building similar Graduate Centre, difficulties over using Union [26.14]

1973 11 22
1200 march try admit more women & abandon single-sex colleges - oppose attempts to get special Oxbridge legislation in Equal opportunities Bill [24.6]

1974 01 23
Senate say undergraduates thrown away chance of say [24.7]

1974 06 28
Things have changed since Mr Edgar Blincoe went into service at Cambridge University. "When I first went to the University all the undergraduates came up in lounge suits and bowler hats. Now you see them going down the street eating fish and chips". The discipline has gone. It was for this reason that by the time he carried out his last duties as a Bulldog (or University policeman) he

had seen his role reduced. 27 years ago, when he began work, undergraduates had to be in by 10, wear gowns one hour after sunset, and refrain from smoking in academic dress. And when they were caught they faced a 6s.8d fine for not wearing a gown. For returning to college an hour late the price was 1d. 74 06 28

1974 07 30
A Cambridge undergraduate accused of cheating in an examination has been found guilty by the University Court of Discipline. He has been rusticated for the whole of next year and deprived of the chance of obtaining an Honours Degree. This was announced in a statement from the court, who had only their second sitting in history to hear the case. The undergraduate has the right of appeal to the Septemviri. They are the higher court of senior University members who would be convened specially for the occasion and who have not sat since before the last war 74 07 30

1974 08 12
Rag Day move to August flops, 'enthusiasm an all-time low', energy crisis postpones rag to November [25.14, 36]

1975 04 28
The King Street run or the King Street pint to pint is a Cambridge drinking tradition. It means drinking eight pints of beer in two hours. In the old days King Street had enough ale houses for the Run to be held along it, but now the organisers have to plan the route incorporating public houses elsewhere. The run last year ended at The Zebra in Newmarket Road but licensee Mrs M. Warren won't be allowing it again. Last year youths who vomited in Fair Street outside the Hopbine bought a ban there on all future runs.

1975 05 09
Cambridge Union Society's historic debating chamber, scene of heated exchanges between Britain's top politicians this century, was badly damaged by fire. The blaze spread through part of the floor of the chamber and went up through two floors of the Round Church Street premises. Crowds gathered in Park Street as a 100-foot turntable ladder was swung into place and three pumping appliances arrived on the scene. The main part of the building was not affected by the fire. Teams of undergraduates mounted guard on the building throughout the night 75 05 09

1975 06 04
Students occupy Senate House over provision nursery & crèche facilities [24.8]

1975 06 06
Student yells of "Biafran butcher" at General Yakubu Gowon failed to disrupt the Honorary Degree ceremony at the Cambridge Senate House. The General gave the thumbs up sign to a bunch of two dozen students who chanted insults at the Nigerian head of state as he walked in procession. He was flanked on one side by a hefty special branch armed bodyguard plus the Cambridgeshire chief constable, Mr F. Drayton Porter, and by contrast on the other by the tall, elegant figure of Queen Margrethe of Denmark. The 60 policemen on duty had nothing more to do than keep the protestors at arms' length and stop the traffic for the snail-paced procession.

1975 12 03
Students win fight for seats on Senate Council by six votes, allow way for change rules allow two undergraduate & one postgraduate to join [24.10]

1975 06 09

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1976 01 29
Elections to put students' representative for first time in University Council of Senate, little interest [16.5]

1976 02 13
Biggest crowd decade watch Rag Day parade decorated vehicles [26.1]

1976 11 18
Union Society financial difficulty [28.1]

1978 03 07
Princess Anne was mobbed by student demonstrators when she arrived at the Cambridge Union Society Rag charity debate. She was held up outside the door by demonstrators sitting in her path and screaming abuse. They were protesting that the motion "The woman's place is in the harem" was sexist" and none of the abuse was directed personally against the princess. Nearly 150 demonstrators representing a variety of student groups including Gay Cambridge, Anarchists and Men Against Sexism picketed all entrances to the building. Other guests ran the gauntlet, Derek Nimmo was spat on and Robert Morley was catcalled and buffeted.

1978 04 22
The "Cambridge Students' Prospectus" aims to give the student view in parallel with information sent out officially to people applying for places. It says "King's College social life centres around a large, rather squalid bar where undergraduates and the friendlier fellows gather at lunchtime. The college is as cliquey as any other institution but tolerant. It is probably the happiest college with quite a lot of sex, drugs and rock-and-roll". But the Senior Tutor said he thought the remark was 'an unfortunate one which might better have been left out' and had spoken to the publishers. 78 04 22

1978 06 21
Cambridge University Library tower, the last great challenge to the student night climbing fraternity, has been scaled. Two men took just four hours and 15 minutes to climb to the base of the flagpole and attributed their success to the unsuccessful attempts of others during the past twelve months who left bolts attached to the brickwork for safety purposes. It is without doubt the most difficult and dangerous building to climb. On the ascent they caused damage to a small window on the top of the tower. "This was completely unintentional and very much regretted. We have already sent off money to pay for the damage", one student said. c78 06 25

1979
Dr Marie Axtom first woman Proctor [5.11]

1979 05 19
Forty per cent of Cambridge students are potential psychiatric cases, according to a report published by the Students' Union. There are a large number of reasons but whether Cambridge attracts people with a predisposition to mental illness or creates that illness once they arrive, the

university has a responsibility to its students. The women in men's colleges are far more stressed than their counterparts in single-sex colleges and the male students about to be introduced into Girton, the oldest women's college, could end up suffering a corresponding weight of stress. The report is bound to spark off controversy among dons 79 05 19

1979 08 21
Six more colleges take women [16.7]

1979 10 24
Dons refuse to recognise CSU as representative body undergraduates until referendum supports [25.4]

1980

1980
CSU take over organisation Rag

1980 06 09
Cambridge May Balls are four nights of student-organised revelry which will delight some and disturb the sleep of others. This year the cost of a double ticket has peaked at £52.50 and some feel they will be pricing themselves out of existence. But the same was being said ten years ago when Jesus and Trinity were charging eleven guineas. Some tickets do go to outsiders, with adverts often placed in London papers, but the majority of ball-goers are still students. 80 06 09a

1980 06 10
Chanting demonstrators broke through a security cordon at Queens' College Cambridge to protest at a stag night being held by male undergraduates. They 'invaded' from punts and burst through padlocked college gates before marching around outside the dining hall where 150 people were watching two strippers. The entertainment which included a blue comedian and a dirty limerick competition was organised to mark the college's last days as an all-male preserve. 80 06 10b

1980 07 25
Arthur Prior joined the staff of Trinity in 1935 as the youngest porter ever employed by a Cambridge college for the princely wage of £2.15s. a week in the days when porters expected tips for their services; today he retires after being Head Porter for 14 years having served five different Masters.. He is philosophical about major changes such as the admission of women. "These youngsters think they invented sex, but we had women here when I first came. They used to stay all night even then, and we knew all about it", he said. 80 07 25

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1980 11 08
An exclusive university dining club may open its doors to the public. The Pitt Club is a miniature men-only London club where prospective members are vetted carefully and anyone without a public school education is likely to be black-balled. It also houses the Hawks Club for university sporting Blues. But it is no longer making money and is looking for tenants to share the former

Turkish bath house in Jesus Lane. Strudels, one of the restaurants in the Kite facing eviction, is amongst a number to express an interest. 80 11 08

1980 11 13
The Chilean Ambassador was forced to clamber to safety across the rooftops of St John's College after demonstrators burst into the locked room in which he was addressing a private meeting of the Monday Club, a right-wing undergraduate society. He was ushered along a narrow ledge and through another window into a don's room while other opponents of the Chilean regime chanted and jeered from the courtyard below. He was unable to leave the college until police arrived to escort him away. 80 11 13a

1981 01 28
A Cambridge student has set up a computer dating service for lonely hearts in the university. For just 50p the unattached undergraduate is promised an introduction to the partner of his dreams. Confidential questionnaires drawn up by a student of experimental psychology were sent out and the results loaded on a computer. It matches them up to produce ideal partners and bliss ensures. It is hoped the first couples will be paired off by St Valentine's Day 81 01 28

1981 02 14
13 arrested RTZ demonstration Garden House Hotel (South African interested mining company) [25.1]

1981 03 11
People do not realise just how hard is concentrated mental study, hour after hour. A conscientious University student who is set on an academic career often works alone but can get bored with subjects they have studied for many years. Arts students tend to come to terms with loneliness sooner than the science students working in the laboratory and are more likely to suffer breakdowns. The University Counselling Service provides 90 hour-long psychotherapy sessions each week to help them cope. 81 03 11a

1981 06 12
Rag raises record £14,000 [26.3]

1981 10 05
The veil of secrecy hanging over the Apostles, one of the world's most exclusive societies was lifted when they held their annual meeting at Christ's College. Members have included the spies Anthony Blunt and Guy Burgess and it was thought the society might have collapsed following their unmasking. But weekly meetings have continued and last 'as long as they are interesting'. 81 10 05b

1982 01 16
Ten thousand copies of the Cambridge student newspaper "Stop Press" have rolled off the presses of the News, the first time it has been printed in the city. With the introduction of direct-image camera and laser printmakers student journalists hope it will save them £150 an issue and enable it to be distributed earlier than before. "Stop Press", a 12-page tabloid-style paper was set up by Cambridge Students Union in the mid 1960s as a radical campaigning alternative to the established student paper, "Varsity", which subsequently folded. 82 01 16

1984 03 12
Despite rain and a wicked wind Cambridge University undergraduates astonished bystanders with their Rag Day activities. Prince Edward started a sponsored crawl to Grantchester, there were

parachute jumps, exhibitions of motorbike skills and a tug of war. Some students with distinguished careers ahead of them leapt from Silver Street bridge into the Cam wearing whiskers, tails and picnic plates for ears in an attempt to fly across the river. Two perplexed French visitors summed it up: "If they are so clever, how can they be so stupid?" 84 03 12 p7

1984 06 12
Cambridge Students' Union has finally won official recognition from the University's dons. The move brings to an end a long and sometimes bitter struggle over the union's status which started more than 14 years ago when CSU was formed. But the dons have voted against formal recognition on four separate occasions since then. Now students are hoping the recognition will lead to financial support from the University 84 06 12 p7

1984 11 21
Proctors' report: "disappointed at the very small amount of peaceful dissension ... & are concerned about current political apathy on the part of students in the presence of numerous national & international problems ... deplores reluctance to use their free speech" [40]

1984 11 22
About 1,000 students protesting at Government proposals on student grants marched from the Senate House to Lady Mitchell Hall where they staged an 18-hour sit-in. Students from CCAT also staged an overnight 'work-in' in their college library. Next day they demonstrated on the steps of Shire Hall where they met Councillors and officials. They are disturbed at proposals that parents should start paying for part of their tuition fees. Nigel Lawson's plans are an attack on the principle of a free education for all who are able to benefit from it, they claim. It was the biggest show of student protest in Cambridge for 10 years. 84 11 22

1985 03 11
Cambridge's student prince, Prince Edward, has helped to make this year's Rag Week a record-breaker. His appearance in the Rag Revue made the show a sell-out and he is guest-of-honour at the first Charity Ball where the raffle winner will lead off the first waltz with the fair-haired prince. Other rag events included mud wrestling, birdmen leaping from Silver Street Bridge and silly sports such as a tug-of-war across the river and an egg-throwing competition. It ended with punt-jousting and a mixed three-legged rugby match. 85 03 11b

1985 06 05
The young men of Cambridge University who admit to being 'Young Fogeys' are rather proud of the title. They saunter out of the Pitt Club on Jesus Lane planning another cocktail party and pretending the 'Orrible Eighties' have simply not arrived. Forget computers, aluminium briefcases, digital watches and body-building. These young men would swap the whole lot for a good wine, a Betjeman poem and a bank manager who called them 'Sir' and did not try to distribute cash-dispenser cards. 85 06 05 & a

1986 03 03
Rag week parade – 86 03 03a

1986 05 28
A May Ball is the most glamorous, ritzy event of the year and undergraduates don't mind paying for it. The most expensive double ticket for Peterhouse costs 125 guineas but includes dinner and free champagne all night. Trinity charges diners a more affordable £90. But the Ball everyone wants to go to is at Clare College where £220 has been paid on the black market by a couple

desperate to attend. Its serene setting with the riverside gardens makes it the most romantic and Germany's 'Stern' magazine is covering it. 86 05 28a

1986 05 28
St John's College May Ball once featured the Rolling Stones and the Beatles on the same night. This year they have booked Imagination and Ruby Turner together with the Coldstream Guards and rock group The Inspirational Choir. There will be free drinks and a buffet all night long although roast swan is no longer served. The 1,700 guests include 20 from the New York banking firm Goldmann Sachs and officers from the Sultanate of Oman will also be flying in. 86 05 28b

1986 05 28
Cambridge-based chart-toppers Katrina and the Waves will be the star attraction at Trinity College May Ball while Sandie Shaw will also be returning to the college where she sang before in the swinging Sixties. Jazz and steel bands – even Scottish pipers – will play till dawn. An all-night casino, laser displays and cabaret acts will also ensure there is no time to be bored. But King's College stopped holding May Balls in the sixties: students decided they were too expensive and not the sort of entertainment they wished to be associated with. They now hold June Events instead 86 05 28b

1986 06 18
A K-registered Ford Escort was found dangling from Clare College bridge. The vehicle came from a scrapyard but it remains a mystery how it got there. One theory is that it was brought down the Cam on punts then hoisted up and lashed into place with ropes and chains. The jolly jape brought laughter from river users but now the college is faced with removing it. They are seeking advice from King's who last year removed a Fiat that was 'parked' in the middle of the river on stilts 86 06 18c

1986 10 10
Magdalene, the one college in the Oxbridge system where a chap could count on being in the exclusive company of other chaps, is set to go co-educational. The governing body has voted to overturn 444 years of historical precedent and amend the statutes. The news was greeted with glum resignation by some of the present undergraduates. That other bastion of entrenched traditionalism, Peterhouse, finally said yes to women students last year, a trend that started in 1972 when Churchill, Clare and King's went mixed. 86 10 10 [8.5]

1988 05 20
Magdalene is the only college in Cambridge to host candle-lit dinners in the grand hall every night of the week. But other traditional values are changing. The decision to admit women dons and undergraduates has prompted refurbishment of the college's Spartan amenities, bringing in floral curtains and pastel pink wallpaper to the rooms of even the hardiest rugby players. Today much of the opposition to the decision has subsided, although the 'Black October' dining society still celebrates the masculine virtues of single-sex colleges. Whether the college's character can survive this quantum leap into the present remains to be seen 88 05 20b

1987 03 27
The world-famous Cambridge University Hawks Club, founded in the early 19th century, is to open in the city's up-market Portugal Place. It will turn the former Blue Boar Hotel's staff hostel into a club for the university's top sportsmen similar to the better gentleman's clubs in St James, London. Residents have expressed worries about noise and one councillor thought it wrong to spend such money when Cambridge urgently needs student accommodation. But supporters say it is a 'very valuable little house' that would be exceedingly well looked after. 87 03 27b [25.2]

1988 05 20
The trend towards admitting female undergraduates began in 1972 when Churchill, Clare and King's Colleges went mixed. Two of the first girls were from Cambridge schools. By June 1982 when Pembroke 'fell' there were only two colleges left as all-male preserves, then Peterhouse reluctantly bowed to pressure. But when Magdalene's governing body overturned 444 years of historical precedent by voting to let in women an indignant porter flew a black flag at half mast and undergraduates sported black armbands. Three of the original four women's colleges are still single sex, though Girton admitted men in 1977. 88 05 20c

1988 10 12
Thirty-six women undergraduates arrived at Magdalene College amid a blaze of publicity breaking 444 years of history as a male-only college, the last in Cambridge. They had been warned about the dreaded Black October dining society whose members donned funereal armbands when it was announced that the college was to 'fall', and expected a lukewarm welcome. Surprisingly the reverse is true. One said "I think some of the men were frightened that the girls were going to be extremely militant or feminist. But they seem quite pleased and say it is a lot more social" 88 10 12

1990 05 24
University Counselling Service set up in 1968 following student suicides – feature – 90 05 24c

1990 10 11
Bedmakers – recollections of Edith Free, started Trinity 1945 – 90 10 11b

Rag-time, c 1905 *175.11*

c.36.93 : University undergraduate excesses
includes Rags, Poppy Day, Mock Funerals; see also, May week,

Cambridge rags – history feature – 59 11 20 &
headlines

1888 11 06
Prince of Wales birthday - farm wagon drawn by two horses & packed with undergraduates in various attire followed by crowds parades street (6.11.88)

1897
University debate women's degrees; poll 1,707 to 661 against; exciting scenes at Senate House, bonfire Market Hill [1.8, 3.5, 8.10]

1897 05 21
After the Senate House scenes yesterday (when the University voted against degrees for women) there was a brief respite. It was the calm before the storm. About 7 o'clock there was a grand gathering of the clans. Undergraduates began trooping through the streets to what was obviously a pre-arranged rendezvous - the Market Hill. From the four corners of the square fire was opened upon everybody and everything within range. Bombs, hand-rockets, and every description of firework manufactured were flung haphazard into the crowd until the scene resembled nothing so much as the bombardment of a hostile camp, It is no exaggeration to say that hundreds of pounds worth of stuff were got rid of during the five hours the proceedings lasted 1897 05 21

1897 05 22

Undergraduate carnival following decision not to allow women to take degrees [3.5]

1897 11 17
Scarcely a week ago the Vice Chancellor entertained a distinguished company of judges at a banquet in the hall of Downing College, after which an adjournment was made to the rooms of one of the Fellows. Certain ardent spirits deemed it a favourable opportunity to indulge in a little diversion, suggested by the obtrusive handle of the door behind which the distinguished guests were killing time. "Why not fix it with stout wire to some neighbouring object?" The wire was forthcoming, the connection was made, and just sufficient length was allowed to admit of the door being opened a few inches - but no more. The judges tugged and tugged and tugged and all the Queens' judges and all the Queen's men would not make the door open sufficiently wide to enable them to get out. One valiantly put his hand through the small opening and tried to sever the wire with a carving knife. When he withdrew his hand it was copiously covered with red paint - and the wire remained intact. It is stated that the distinguished guests took this practical joke in good part - extract from the "Daily Mail 1897 11 17

1898 11 07
Saturday was a typical "fifth" in Cambridge. Faithfully following the precedent set in former years a number of Varsity men and townspeople assembled in the market place, which for three hours or so was crowded with excitable and pugilisitically-inclined youths, representing Town and gown. The Gown driven from pillar to post by the howling mob, appeared to be greatly terrified, and despite the vigilance of the police, of whom a large number were told off for special duty, the celebration was not entirely free from violence. Neither town nor gown missed many opportunities of displaying their physical prowess and many are the reports circulated as to the results of the pugilistic encounters that ensued 1898 11 07

1898 11 24
Great crowds had been assembling outside Great St Mary's and the railings before the Senate House with the exception of a pathway of about five yards which the police were endeavouring to keep clear for those attending the honorary degree ceremony for Lord Kitchener. It was evidence that the constables were having hard work in keeping the crowds from encroaching. At length the looked-for rush took place and such was the force that the police were quite powerless to check it. A general scramble to get upon the railings ensued when without the slightest warning the railings suddenly gave way and fell outwards carrying many unfortunate persons to the ground with them. The solidity of this great piece of ironwork is well known and it is wonderful that more were not seriously injured 1898 11 24 [2.8]

1898 11 25
The enthusiasm aroused by Lord Kitchener’s visit to Cambridge increased as the day wore on. Varsity men, brimful of high spirits, gathered in the streets in large numbers. For upwards of an hour thousands of people paraded the streets. It was not until eight o'clock that the cries of “bonfire” were heard. The call was eagerly taken up by hundreds of undergraduates and some boxes from a shop hard by were seized on as the fuel with which to start the blaze. Bands of men bearing massive wooden structures came up from all quarters and the flames mounted to an enormous height, so that the fire could be seen for miles around 1898 11 25

1899 02 09
The attention of the University Council of Senate has been called to the disorder which attended the bonfire on November 24th, 1898 when the actual destruction of property was considerable. They recommend that members of the University are forbidden to take part in making or lighting

of bonfires in public places within the precincts of the university. Members offending will render themselves liable to be punished by suspension, rustication, expulsion or otherwise 1899 02 09

1899 02 17
Yesterday afternoon the attention was attracted by what seemed to be an imposing funeral procession. But this was no ordinary funeral for instead of the usual hearse an open landau led the way and this was occupied by three young men who wore "the trappings of woe" very lightly. Following were nearly a score of hansoms. It is alleged that at the end of last term at student of Queens' college "ragged" a couple of Freshmen's rooms. The matter was reported to the University authorities who came to the conclusion he should be sent down for a year. His friends resolved to show their disapproval. Before the train left the company whistled the "Dead March" and it left amid ringing cheers 1899 02 17

1899 11 02
When residents in St Andrew's street, Cambridge, saw a procession of cabs passing onward "all mournful and slow" to the railway station the people knew that someone had been sent down from the University. From Emmanuel College a youth emerged and under a shower of rice made hurriedly for the cab waiting at the door. The driver, "Gentleman Joe" wore a tall hat draped with crape, and so did the drivers of some four cabs what followed. The hero of the hour entered the Great Northern Station, the train moving out to the strains of "Auld Lang Syne". Meanwhile the cabbies grove back to their respective stands. They were of more cheerful aspect on the return journey and each puffed a festive cigar 1899 11 02

1899 11 07
Almost as soon as it was dark a large number of youths made their way to Cambridge Market Hill which was in a short time alive to the crackling and bangings of the smaller fireworks. The 'Varsity', after hall time, joined the townspeople and from eight to eleven there was a roaring, rushing crowd of several hundreds about the hill and neighbouring streets. Certain of the townsmen who had begun the day not to wisely by profusely drinking were responsible for the greater part of the disorder and were seized and marched off by the ever-vigilant gentlemen in blue - 1899 11 07

1900

1900 03 03
There was great rejoicings in Cambridge on the relief of Ladysmith and despite the edict sent forth by the University authorities the conduct of the undergraduate element was again such as to necessitate the intervention of the police. The Varsitymen managed to draw police attention off the market place to scenes elsewhere and, during their temporary absence, succeeded in lighting a bonfire. There was great excitement as one by one the wooden frameworks of the stalls was committed to the flames. The band-stand on Christ's Pieces was attacked and the seats removed to the Market and quickly consumed. Similar damage was occasioned in all parts of the town 00 03 03
It was on that night that the last really big bonfire was started on Cambridge Market Square. Old horse buses, "growlers" filled with tar and straw, market stalls – all went to feed those triumphant flames whose heat cracked every window in the Market Square. 52 02 26

1900 03 05
The University has the power to stop these things. But what did the University do to prevent the destruction of property – practically nothing. A year ago an edict forbidding bonfires was issued, that edict was torn to shreds. The University cannot afford to have it said that the people of Cambridge had property stolen or destroyed in order to furnish forth an undergraduate carnival. The firmness of the Mayor and his

brother magistrates in dealing with the men who came up at the police-court has been much commended. The Barnwell rough belongs to the past. The unfortunate thing is that his mantle had fallen upon the rowdy undergraduate of the present 00 03 05

1900 03 06 c
Sir – In your editorial you seem to imply that all the damage done during the Ladysmith rag was caused by undergraduates. As a matter of fact all the windows that were broken were broken by townsmen. You seem to have quite forgotten that the prosperity, nay the very existence of the town depends upon University men, and a very good picking the town gets out of the Varsity men. The fines imposed by the magistrates were simply outrageous, passing all bounds of common sense and justice. – Spectator

1900 03 07
The ire of the undergraduate once roused, not even the powerful hand of Alma Mater suffices to entirely quell the wrath that has been kindled. An attacking force of undergraduates gathered many recruits as it made its way along Hills Road and it was at once seen that the objective was the Mayor's residence in Brooklands Avenue. They were dismayed to find the thoroughfare barricaded by a posse of police constables. The mob made a bold rush. The police partially yielded but not more than half of the 'Varsity flank passed through the cordon when the police closed ranks. The trap that had been set proved effective for those who marched triumphantly down the Avenue had not negotiated more than fifty yards when they were encountered by the Proctors mustered in strong force CDN 1900 03 07

1900 03 10
Cambridge is beginning to tire of the "rag". We cannot go on celebrating the relief of Ladysmith forever. Nor can the more right-minded citizens countenance meaningless ebullitions against magistrates, however they may disagree with their decisions in the police court. It was confidently expected that if the undergraduates charged with assaulting the police were convicted there would be nothing short of a riot in which a gigantic fire, a fabulous number of barrels of tar and a torchlight procession were to be a conspicuous feature. It is true there was plenty of noise and plenty of aimless rushing about the streets but it all ended in nothing 00 03 10

1900 03 12
The list of those who have signed the petition in favour of a free pardon for those undergraduates who were recently convicted by the Cambridge magistrates of felony during the Ladysmith celebrations, fully justifies is description as the petition of Cambridge. Over 1,200 residents in the town and members of the University have put their names to it. Cambridge Town and University are unanimous in the hope that the hot-headed enthusiasts of Ladysmith Day may be forgiven for what was done in the excitement of the hour. It remains with the Home Secretary to decide whether the prayer of the petition is to be granted 00 03 12

1900 03 16
The Home Secretary has granted the petition of Cambridge and has recommended the Queen to grant a free pardon to all the defendants. He does not say the undergraduates did not commit felony, but there were extenuating circumstances. This is undoubtedly a slap in the face for the magistrates who share the responsibility for these convictions. Clearly the Home Secretary does not think much of their law, and he thinks less of their capacity for judging of evidence. Some timid people may be apprehensive lest it encourages the demonstratively-inclined magistrate to be more demonstrative in the future 00 03 16

1900 05 21
Cambridge has celebrated the relief of Mafeking and it has done it right nobly. There was no recurrence of the riotous scene witnessed on the occasion of the relief of Ladysmith, no

destruction of property. This was due to one thing, the discretion shown by the powers that be in organising a bonfire on Midsummer Common. People poured in in thousands from the country in anticipation of the festivities and so great was the influx that some streets were rendered well night impassable. Still, the crowds were orderly and the police had no difficulty regulating the traffic 00 05 21

1900 11 06
The 'Fifth' was celebrated on Cambridge in a very orderly fashion. The effigies that once characterised Guy Fawkes Day were conspicuous by their almost entire absence. The best attempt at an effigy was made by three or four men who were rigged out in minstrel fashion and paraded the streets with a vehicle in which were seated representations of Mr Kruger and his wife. This attracted a good deal of attention until the rain came and washed the colour from the faces of the dejected looking figures, and sent the minstrels home 00 11 06

1901 05 07
Sanguine people imagined that the rejoicing for the return of the South African Volunteers would pass off quietly. A parental Corporation had taken the wise precaution to secure materials for a fine bonfire on Midsummer Common to prevent the destruction of property. This time it was a plan doomed to partial failure. The fire was comparatively short-lived and undergraduates found a wealth of additional fuel in King Street where a wooden hoarding was dragged off to the Common and triumphantly flung upon the bonfire. Policemen stood guard over the bandstand on Christ's Pieces 01 05 07

1901 11 06
There is little survival of the old celebrations of "The Fifth" in Cambridge, save one or two groups of youngsters with an eye to stray coppers carried around "guys" which may have been effigies of anything. Builders, having a recollection of losses of material on bonfire nights, had men guarding scaffolding poles, but they were not called upon. The most noticeable thing was the fog – thick, damp and irritating. It was not the kind of weather suitable to a rag or even a bonfire in the back-yard. It was better fun sitting by a snug fireside than standing with cold hands and feet in a choking fog letting off small pyrotechnic fry CDN 1900 11 06

1901 11 11
It being the King's 60th birthday it was expected that nightfall would be the occasion for rowdyism and possibly an attempt to illuminate Cambridge Market Hill. The authorities cleared away the stalls, but their action left the historic centre of all "rags" open and free for the antics of the crowd. For a long time nothing occurred except the explosion of a few crackers or the discharge of a pistol from a window overlooking the hill. Large numbers of police were hustled about considerably, and were compelled to defend themselves, but compared with other 'rags', they did not have to exert themselves very much. It was a very tame, spiritless affair that will doubtless be deemed by the "bloods" to have been a complete failure, considering that practically no damage to property was done CDN 1901 11 11

1902 02 28
The Cambridge Review refers to the conduct of three undergraduates whose behaviour disgusted all respectable people at the New Theatre. But the acts to which reference is made – loud talking during the performance, inopportune laughter and the evident watchfulness for double entendre – are condemned by the great body of undergraduate theatre-goers. To drag an offender out during the middle of the play would cause disturbance and annoyance to the audience. Mr Redfern has instead reported their names to their tutors who have seen that punishment has been administered.

The few silly young men who still act in this way will find it prudent to amend their manners. 02 02 28

1902 06 03
Peace in South Africa produced strife in Cambridge – one of those fierce contests between the police and the united forces of town and gown which, combined with the destruction of property, constitutes a "rag". In King Street a large double gate was attacked as wood for a bonfire but a vigorous-looking dame appeared from the other side. Her only weapon was a duster, but such a formidable appearance did she present that the crowd melted away before her advance. Skirmishers went towards the Circus of Varieties to obtain a hoarding but this was well guarded and soon they were retracing their steps. 02 06 03

1902 06 04
The following notice has been issued by the Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University. "Whereas the attendance of members of the University at certain public exhibitions, performances and places of dramatic entertainment has been productive of grave disorder, notice is given that the attendance of any member in statu pupillari at the Circus of Varieties, Auckland Road, is prohibited and will render him liable to be punished by suspension, rustication, expulsion or otherwise." 02 06 04

1903 01 02
Rag when French awarded Honorary Degree thought 'likely to become historic as improbable scenes will ever occur again' 03 01 02

1903 04 14
The accounts of 'ragging' at a Cambridge Theological College led to an interview with a Cambridge minister acquainted with one of the victims – the man who had the adornment of his upper lip removed by amateur barbers. The undergraduate did not have the whole of his moustache removed, but only half of it, the operation performed while he was held down in his bed. He had a splendid moustache. It was quite the pride of his mother who was terribly upset over it. His life has been made thoroughly unbearable by his tormentors, who wanted him to give up preaching. They have broken all his windows several times and the young fellow has been thoroughly broken down and ill. 03 04 14

1903 05 14
A section of noisy undergraduates at a performance of 'Naughty Nancy' at the New Theatre behaved in an unruly manner. Remarks, many of them in bad taste, and incessant shouting delayed the progress of the comedy and Mr Redfern, the Managing Director appeared on the stage. For 20 years he had had the management and until the last three or four such conduct was perfectly unheard of. He said he was sure they would cease this ungentlemanly conduct but if they continued he would simply drop the curtain and the performance would cease. Cries of 'Good old Redfern' were heard at the conclusion of the protest. They speedily subsided and the performance was concluded quietly. 03 05 14

1903 11 06
Time once was when the concentrated animosity between Cambridge Town and Gown found annual outlet on 'The Fifth'. There are many old inhabitants who have seen the traditional riots gradually die down with the building up of mutual ties between University and Town. Athletic Varsitymen and pugilistic townsmen no longer belabour each other; they join issue in attempts at bonfires with police baiting thrown in as a sideline. At Castle End undergraduates managed to secure a shutter with the intention of making it the nucleus of a bonfire; a constable was rolled to

the ground, his helmet knocked off and his whistle and truncheon lost before more policemen arrived and three arrests were made – one member of the Varsity, a soldier and a townsman 03 11 06

1904 02 02
There was another infringement of the rules for preserving order at the Cambridge Theatre and three undergraduates were ejected. They occupied seats in the front row of the stalls and commented somewhat too audibly on the subject of the piece. When requested to leave two quietly complied but their companion remained seated and accordingly two attendants were instructed to remove him by force. The undergraduate, seeing that his ejection had been determined upon, capitulated in time to avoid the indignity of being roughly handled. "Don't take me out, my dear sir", he pleaded. "I will go out quietly". He did so. It was not necessary on this occasion to stop the performance. 04 02 02

1904 03 01
All Cambridge united in welcoming King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra to open the new University buildings known as the Sedgwick Museum, the Squire Law Library, Botanical and Medical Schools in Downing Street. Cambridge University has never stagnated but kept pace with the demands of the time. Newer universities have their place in the general scheme of things but they can never supplant our ancient university of Cambridge, nor her twin sister on the banks of the Isis. With the increasing spread of education their prosperity increases.

1904 03 02
The Royal visit to Cambridge was followed by an undergraduate 'rag' which caused wanton destruction of public and private property even though a large body of police, included mounted men, were on duty. One policeman guarding the proctors was singled out for a little 'baiting'. As they surged around he took out his baton which was immediately snatched from his hand. Now unprotected the affair seemed likely to develop into a serious disturbance but mounted policemen began to harry the crowd who fled before the horsemen. Many youths annoyed the riders by throwing crackers near their horses. One animal was so startled by an explosion that it threw its rider and careered across Parker's Piece.

1904 03 15
St John's College students carried out a mock funeral for an undergraduate who was ejected from the New Theatre on three occasions in one week for having infringed the rules adopted to preserve order. The college authorities decided he should be 'sent down' and his friends showed organised a process of 13 cabs which filed along the streets at funeral pace to the railway station. A halt was made outside the New Theatre to allow the travellers to indicate their disapproval of the management. During the whole journey shouts, singing and the blowing of horns was continuous. 04 03 15

1904 04 02
New Theatre production again disrupted, scenes howled down; undergraduates fined for obscene language [4.5]

1904 11 07
The results of the fifth of November 'rag' in Cambridge were more or less serious injuries to two policemen, considerable damage to private property and several police-court summonses. A little boy engaged in firing a squib in the midst of a 'ragging' party proceeding along Jesus Lane was knocked down by a cyclist and rendered insensible. Fortunately he was soon revived by a number of undergraduates who at once attended to him. One man fainted and another was admitted to

Hospital suffering from injuries to the head caused by his being knocked down by a cab. 1904 11 07

1904 11 10
The King's birthday is one of those occasions upon which a certain section of the 'Varsity and Town consider it necessary to turn themselves into public nuisances. This year they avoided the Borough police by making a raid on Chesterton. The mob made tracks for Midsummer Common with the object of having a bonfire. Several hundred crossed Jesus Green bridge where a council of war was held. Carlyle Road was mention as leading to fuel for the fire but a number of the belligerents made an incursion down a private road. Several fences were broken down and flames shot into the air as the surreptitiously-obtained timber was thrown on to the fire. No police appeared on the scene, though a number of members of the Force were on duty on the borough side of the river 04 11 10

1905 03 04
'Sultan of Zanzibar' hoax. A practical joke of a particularly senseless character has just come to light. The incident recalls a similar hoax that was effected during the visit to England of the Shah of Persia years ago. The CDN became apprised of the visit but in view of the former hoax refrained from publishing any account and our suspicion was confirmed by a telegram from the Carlton Hotel saying 'No member of the Sultan of Zanzibar's suite was away from London'. The Mayor was very cautious and took care not to make any elaborate preparations for the reception of the visitors. 05 03 04
The death of Willie Clarkson, the London theatrical costumier and make-up expert recalls two of the greatest hoaxes of the century. The hero of the famous visit of the Sultan of Zanzibar to Cambridge and of the Abyssinian dignitaries to the Dreadnought was H. De Vere Cole. But he would not have escaped exposure but for Mr Clarkson's masterly make-up. He became more famous than many of the actors and actresses who he costumed and gowned during his association with the stage. 34 10 13

1905 03 06
Undergraduates started a bonfire on Parker's Piece with the aid of a wooden fence from the front of a house in Melbourne Place. One of the proctors who arrived on the scene before the appearance of the police became the object of the amusement of a large number of roughs, some of whom, after having smashed the hats of the 'bulldogs' began to hustle him. He escaped actual injury owing chiefly to the stalwart and vigorous defence of the 'bulldogs' assisted by one or two townsmen. The fire was extinguished by a bucket of water 05 03 06b

1905 05 02
The University and the New Theatre have joined hands to warn undergraduates that ungentlemanly behaviour will not be tolerated. A warning was placed in every programme and supplemented by a speech between the acts by J.W. Clark, registrary of the University and Chairman of the Theatre Company. His words were received with respect by the audience, already in high spirits by a splendid production of the 'Mikado'. He was loudly cheered as he walked on to the stage and at the conclusion he was accorded quite an ovation. 05 05 02a

1905 11 05
Sir – twenty years ago undergraduates at Oxford had two types of 'rag'. On the 5th of November we went out and provoked people who didn't wear caps and gowns to hit us, and we hit them back. Then whenever our college had done something great in sport we burnt up a good deal of the college property in the 'quad' and paid for it in out 'wattels' at the end of term. But when the authorities thought there had been too much friendly hitting they used to 'gate' their colleges en

bloc at nine o'clock. Now Cambridge undergraduates have discovered a third sort – plundering, robbing and annoying citizens to get wood for bonfires. This is hooliganism and the Riot Act might not be out of place – V.S.N. 05 11 15

1905 11 06
It is a recognised custom in Cambridge, which no amount of protest seems able to abolish, to make the celebration of the Fifth the occasion for a rag. This year it fell on a Sunday but this did not deter them and a huge bonfire was started on Midsummer Common. The chief sufferer was G.P. Hawkins whose premises in Parsonage Street was attacked during the Nelson rag and on Saturday another unsuccessful assault was made. But on Sunday several hundred undergraduates returned, smashed the fence and seized egg cases, barrels and a tarpaulin to add to the flames. 05 11 06b [2.16, 1.7]

1905 11 06
The information that a number of Varsity and Town roughs broke into Mr Hawkins' premises on Sunday night and stole and destroyed property to the value of £20 will surprise even Cambridge people. To disturb the peace of a Sabbath by forcibly entering a tradesman's premises and to burn the stolen material in a public place is just as truly a robbery as if the marauders had broken into the Guildhall and taken £20 from the safe. We trust the University authorities will look facts in the face and that such activities will be promptly scotched. 05 11 06a-d

1905 11 09
Sir - On 1st March 1904 a sergeant of the Metropolitan Police, sent to Cambridge on the occasion of the King's visit, was violently assaulted and kicked by an undergraduate. After six months' illness, during which his pay amounting to £54 was paid by the Borough of Cambridge, he was pensioned off as unfit for service. On 5th November 1904 a constable, having taken one undergraduate into custody, was brutally attacked by others and was left insensible. He has been on the sick list ever since and pensioned off. All members of the University should co-operate to prevent such scenes of riot and disorder - H.M. Taylor, Trinity College. 05 11 09

1905 11 09
It is almost incredible that any undergraduate should so far demean himself as to treat a policeman with the blackguard violence of a hooligan. If we have hitherto been inclined to take a lenient view of the occasional destruction of property it was because we felt sure the grosser acts were the work of town loafers who were encouraged by thoughtless undergraduates. But those who took part in gutting a shop should suffer the legal penalty and not be saved from imprisonment by University authorities. – Cambridge Review 05 11 09a

1905 11 10
Rag – great damage to property – 05 11 10 a & b

1905 11 11
One does not associate Sidney Sussex College with the rowdyism that is rampant in Cambridge. Yet on Saturday night the porter found the door of his lodge refused to open: it had been securely screwed up and he was a prisoner. After a troubled night he was aroused by the bedmakers' loud ringing at the gate and saw there was no option but to smash the window and escape through the jagged aperture to admit the waiting and wrathful 'bedders'. 05 11 11a [2.15]

1905 11 15
Sir – twenty years ago undergraduates at Oxford had two types of 'rag'. On the 5th of November we went out and provoked people who didn't wear caps and gowns to hit us, and we hit them

back. Then whenever our college had done something great in sport we burnt up a good deal of the college property in the 'quad' and paid for it in out 'wattels' at the end of term. But when the authorities thought there had been too much friendly hitting they used to 'gate' their colleges en bloc at nine o'clock. Now Cambridge undergraduates have discovered a third sort – plundering, robbing and annoying citizens to get wood for bonfires. This is hooliganism and the Riot Act might not be out of place – V.S.N. 05 11 15

1906 05 12
One of the most disgraceful 'rags' occurred a few days ago. An undergraduate had been celebrating his birthday by giving a party to his intimates where they dined too well. Shortly before midnight the raiders returned to the room but their victim had not retired and succeeded in repelling the onslaught. Later they came back, breaking and destroying indiscriminately. The graduate was a great traveller and his room contained many valuable Eastern trophies which he had collected in out-of-the-way parts of the world. 06 05 12a

1907 02 21
The University Vice Chancellor has condemned the undergraduates who wrecked Kier Hardy's meeting at the Guildhall. It is one of the University traditions that honest opinions, however unpopular, should receive a fair hearing. Cambridge is not unsympathetic towards the Labour Party and its leader should have been given a chance of expressing his views. 07 02 21

1907 03 30
About ten years ago some undergraduates of St John's College removed one of the stone balls from Clare College Bridge. They transferred it to a Rob Roy canoe but this capsized and the purloined ball sank to the bottom of the Cam. There it has remained ever since. One of the other balls was put in its place and a new one made, now partly obscured by ivy. (Item from the 'Table Talk' column on 1st April) 07 03 30b

1907 05 03
Trinity Hall undergraduates have subscribed £6 3s. towards the fund for repairing the damage done to Mr Glasscock's cab on the night of the visit of Kier Hardy to Cambridge. It was smashed beyond repair but as vehicle was not covered by the Riot Damages Act he had no compensation for the loss sustained. At the commencement of term the News published the facts, calling the attention of undergraduates to the heavy loss they had caused and inviting them to put the matter right. 07 05 03

1907 11 09
Few 'Guys' on Nov 5th - mainly a firework festival [2.20]

1907 11 12
The visit of Royalty to Cambridge was made an excuse for an outburst of destructive exuberance on the part of undergraduates, errand boys, and others. A rush was made for the bandstand on Christ's Pieces, but it was guarded by police so they proceeded to Victoria Bridge, which was held by sturdy country policemen. Some then kindled a fire near the Cutter Ferry, dragging some palings from the Ferry House, which filled the souls of the 'raggers' with glee. 07 11 12

1907 11 16
Tolerant attitude to Rag but police prevent Market Hill bonfire [2.21]

1907 11 26

A ‘mock funeral’ saw a procession of 100 cabs boarded by undergraduates who scrambled to the roof of the vehicles for the journey to the railway station. The cabbies had decorated their whips with pieces of crepe and ‘mourners’ with mouth organs and a miniature bagpipes played hideous music. The ‘deceased’ was ‘sent down’ for being out of Caius College after midnight – he had gone to London but his car had broken down. 07 11 26

1907 12 10
“For an isolated policeman to be attacked and beaten to death by eight or ten students is an occurrence which happens almost once a week at Cambridge or Oxford”, writes a correspondent in the ‘Messagero’, (Rome). He adds that it is common for a group of about 50 undergraduates to wreck a shop as if a dynamite bomb had exploded in it when “the honest tradesman had refused them credit”. In the theatre undergraduates do what they like, interrupt the actresses, start discussions with the actors on the stage, beat the orchestra and upset the stalls, he alleges. 07 12 10

1908 05 16
Mayor receives £1 ‘conscience money’ for damage caused 5 Nov 1905 [2.22]

1908 06 05
There has been an Alpine fever amongst undergraduates, finding a vent in climbing trees along the Backs. The wireless telegraphy station on the Huntingdon Road has been the site of the latest exploit. This is a pole over 200 feet in height which receives messages from Cumnor Hill near Oxford. Two undergraduates merrily commenced the ascent by means of the metal spikes driven in at convenient intervals and managed to reach the top. But the return voyage was not so easily accomplished and they reached terra firma with a distinct sigh of relief. It is a matter for common wonder what object will next receive the attention of this strange species. CWN 08 06 05 p5

1908 06 05
A number of prominent rowing men, objecting to the known Socialistic proclivities of Messrs Gomme and Bull, and believing they had dared to hold a Fabian meeting within the precincts of Trinity Hall, fetched them forcibly from the rooms of a friend and ducked them in a bath which had been prepared in the middle of the Court. A circular was issued that was sent to every Member of Parliament, setting out the facts. The ‘raggers’ have been punished. 08 06 05 p5

1908 03 20
Undergraduate misbehaviour, New Theatre – 08 03 20a

1908 12 03
There is a rule at the New Theatre which degrees that undergraduates may not charter a box unless they are accompanied by a lady. So four fertile brains sought to overcome it. No relative of the softer sex being available it was determined that one of the four should undergo sufficient outward transformation to satisfy the authorities. The charming gown was of white satin bespangled with sequins designed by Kate Reilly of Dover Street, the beautiful head of hair was done by Clarkson who came down himself to direct the final ‘touching up’. The group dined at Buol’s and taxied to the theatre. But what happened afterwards and how the ‘lady’ was smuggled into college we are not at liberty to divulge CDN 08 12 03 [8.29]

1909 02 26
Carrie Nation hoax – 09 02 26

1909 11 12

Bonfire night scenes – CWN 09 11 12

1909 11 19
One of the most successful undergraduate hoaxes ever perpetrated was carried out in the hall of Emmanuel College. Mr W.M. Malleson, a prominent member of the University Amateur Dramatic Club, disguised by a florid countenance with a grizzled grey moustache and beard impersonated Mr G. B. Haddock, the Liberal MP for North Lonsdale. He delivered a pithy address on Women's Suffrage. From first to last, despite the name of 'Haddock' there was no suspicion of 'cod' on the part of the audience who took the debate in real earnest CWN 09 11 19

1910

1910 03 11
A party of five undergraduates attempted to repeat the 'Merry Widow' hoax at the New Theatre but were sadly unsuccessful. It is a well-known rule that undergraduates may not purchase boxes unless accompanied by ladies or some elderly chaperone. A box was ordered in the name of the Hon Miss Neville of Magdalene College, which aroused suspicion. The party comprised three undergraduates and two 'ladies' who were very tall, walked with mannish strides and spoke in a quaint high-pitched falsetto. Mr Redfarn did not take many seconds to spot the disguise. 10 03 11f

1910 06 03
Mrs Pankhurst made her first acquaintance with the undergraduate at a meeting organised by the Cambridge University Men's League for Women's Suffrage at the Guildhall. She is used to lively meetings but usually there is some point to the interruptions to which she is subjected. This time the undergraduate section of the audience had come fully determined to turn the meeting into a sort of variety entertainment for their own delectation, and in this they succeeded. She stuck to her guns during her address which lasted, counting the interruptions, for about 70 minutes and then invited questions. About 9.30 a Proctor arrived and one man was led out of the hall, amidst much groaning. 10 06 03f & g

1910 06 24
The New Theatre being closed, the rowdy section of undergraduates have turned their attention to the Hippodrome, despite the fact that the house is 'out of bounds'. Last week some 40 or 50 attended nightly – of course without cap and gown – which made things generally uncomfortable. On Friday some beat time to the music on the backs of the musicians while others, spying some young ladies began, in full view of the audience, to make protestations of undying affection to them. Later they pelted artistes with bars of chocolate and lighted cigarette ends before the orchestra played 'God save the King' and the curtain was lowered to shrieks, whistling and shouting from the disappointed audience. 10 06 24e

1910 06 17
Saturday's bump suppers proved exceptionally popular. It is customary for bonfires to be held in college courts and the frequent discharge of fireworks kept the fun flowing until the early hours. Jesus, who retained their position as head of the river, held a magnificent bonfire on the Close. A large crowd attracted by an enormous pile of old boxes dumped near the tennis courts, assembled in anticipation of fun before the pile was set ablaze by firing Roman candles into the heart of the inflammable mass.10 06 17

1910 06 17

One of the biggest mock funerals for many years resulted as a difference of opinion between the authorities of Emmanuel and several junior members of the college as to the proper conduct of a 'bump supper' after which they had lit a bonfire on the lawn in the front court. Some ten undergraduates in their third year were rusticated for a week. A string of hansom cabs appeared at the gates, the 'corpses' clambered on to the roofs and mourners in evening dress and wearing old silk hats swathed with crape accompanied them to the station. Includes members of CUOTC in uniform with rifles reversed - thought to be bad form so soon after King's funeral 10 06 17a

1910 11 11
An undergraduate was fined for assaulting a policeman on Guy Fawkes Night. A considerable amount of damage had been done, hoarding demolished, gas lamps broken, the railway station raided and milk churns overturned. The most serious incident occurred at Jesus Sluice footbridge where a battle royal took place between members of the County Constabulary and a large party of undergraduates and town roughs. They stoned the police, all of whom were hit, and PC Johnson was struck on the forehead by a piece of board and rendered unconscious. Only the arrival of police reinforcements had averted further trouble. 10 11 11 & a

1911 03 03
Locker-Lampson MP hoaxed by Horace de Vere Cole – 11 03 03d

1911 03 10
"Mock funeral" held when Trinity Hall undergraduate sent down for disciplinary offence, 100 horse & motor vehicles in procession with brass band on coal wagon leading. At the head of the funeral procession was a hansom. Seats on the top with legs dangling over the side, was the undertaker. His mournful calling seemed to have cast a settled gloom over his countenance. His eyes were mournful and sad, and his clothing was of the deepest black, save for his socks (he wore no shoes), which were of the brightest scarlet. In his hand he waved a long whip (an emblem of his mournful trade), with a bright handkerchief to match his wonderful socks tied to it. Behind the hearse were nine carriages filled with loudly lamenting mourners – extract from a report of a 'Mock Funeral' for an undergraduate sent down from university 11 03 10b [1.2,1.3,10.11]

1911 05
Undergraduates forbidden to take part in any musical or dramatic production outside University buildings; proctors booed by 300 undergraduates on way to University service [10.10]

1911 05 19
In a little side passage in King Street a barrel organ was draped with black and mauve as hansoms, taxis and growlers arrived in their dozens. The coffin was covered with crepe surmounted by cap and gown while plumes barely concealed the lines of an express delivery van in which sat the 'corpse' smartly dressed in grey suit and felt bowler. There were about 100 horses and motor vehicles in the procession to the station where the tops of the railway carriages were filled with figures clad in varying garb from pyjamas and rowing shorts to mourning suits and dress suits. It was the most imposing mock funeral ever seen in Cambridge 11 05 19d & e

1911 06 02
When the Senior Proctor (Mr H.F. Stewart) accompanied by the Junior Proctor, Mr Joseph Barecroft) left St John's College to attend the University service on Sunday afternoon, some 250 undergraduates fell in behind them. As the procession neared the church there was a considerable amount of 'booing' and other noises apparently indicative of displeasure 11 06 02

1911 11 10
A motor car drove into Sawston with several undergraduates. They visited the Stores and bought women's hats then commenced their fun by knocking people's hats off in the street and replacing them with those they had bought. The lads next went to the Queen's Head where they compelled the landlord to sit down while they drew the beer. They took pictures from the wall and placed them in the car – but the chauffeur took them back - then quite upset a cinematograph show, one hanging by his toes from a crossbar in the tent. It was a relief to the villagers when the motor left for Cambridge. 11 11 10e

1911 11 10
Undergraduate disrupt Saffron Walden fair, one received broken jaw from showman – 11 11 10e

1911 11 10
Serious 'ragging' took place in celebration of the 5th of November. A number of undergraduates carried 'life-preservers' and a violent assault made on the premises of Messrs Rattee and Kett where an employee was seriously injured. A mounted policeman was pulled from his horse and a police sergeant received a nasty cut over his eye. A member of the University was arrest for assault. But beyond the smashing of a number of street lamps little actual damage was done to property 11 11 10a & b

1912 03 08
A mock funeral started from the "corpse's" lodging in Lensfield Road. There was a long line of taxis, hansoms and even four-wheelers stretching some distance down Trumpington Street. There was no elaborate "hearse" as in previous funerals: the body was placed quite simply in a hansom bearing the words "Alas! My poor brother" and smoked cigars throughout. His "cabby's" hat was draped with crepe while the majority of the fancifully-dressed mourned wore complimentary black-eyes out of respect for the 'deceased'. There were an extraordinary number of "flappers" – quite stunning flappers some of them were too. One of the best was a suffragette and Mrs Pankhurst also figured in the procession. 12 03 08

1912 03 15
Cambridge undergraduates formed a Strike Emergency Committee to avert the disaster with which the nation is threatened by the coal strike. The men were extremely enthusiastic and any reference to 'getting the coal' brought vociferous cheers. If they carried out their desire to work in the mines they would require protection: while half were underground the others should be on guard to see the cages and ventilation apparatus were not interfered with. Police would not be able to send help. Postcards were distributed on which students placed their names and addresses which would find them in the vacation if an emergency arose 12 03 15b & c

1912 03 15
Undergraduate plans to organise a strike emergency committee have been attacked by the 'Cambridge Magazine'. It reports: "The strike-smashing Saturnalia of Mr Calderon and his Comic Coal Heavers, which began in Cambridge to the mingled disgust and amusement of King's was continued on Friday night. We hope they will not take themselves seriously, and that their endeavours to make this ancient seat of learning ridiculous will soon cease

1912 11 08
It was one of the noisiest 'rags' seen for some years, for the introduction of a variety of bomb-firework, which gives a report louder than a rifle shot, more than compensated for the fewer Varsity men than usual. The liveliest scene occurred in King Street where the crowd were attracted by the sight of the hoarding outside the partly-demolished Hobson Street Chapel. Instead

they turned their attention array of woodwork in connection with the building of the new Wesleyan Chapel near Christ's Pieces, but this was strongly guarded by police. Another battle broke out in Grange Road where some 400 undergraduates damaged the fence around Mr Ebenezer Smith's garden. 12 11 08a & b

1912 11 09
Varsity cads disrupt cinema [8.27]

1913 02 14
An unusual feature of the Mock Funeral (of an undergraduate 'sent down' from college) was a miniature coffin borne by a Chinaman. It was, like the 'corpse' completely hidden in the 'hearse', for the hansom was covered by men who seemed to cling to it as bees swarm on a tree. The procession was preceded by a two-seater car driven by an old fellow with a red beard and enormous straw hat sitting beside his 'spouse', a lady with a high complexion, a shawl alone betraying her age. The 'cortege' numbered nearly 50 vehicles including a 'flapper' riding a bicycle meant for three men. Her green hobble skirt was not as demurely worn as are the dresses of typical Cambridge girls. 13 02 14 p10 CIP

1913 11 07
'Fifth' celebrations, undergraduate rag and its police court sequel. 100 yards wooden fencing torn down Tenison Rd & bonfire made in GER yard Station Yard scene, mounted police charge, Homerton college attacked 13 11 07 p7 CIP

1913 11 14
An undergraduate told the court that he was a relative of the Khedive of Egypt and living at Shelford with a private tutor. He told his valet to get tickets for the New Theatre. But when refused admission he'd got involved in a struggle with an attendant and fell to the ground. The manager said he'd been drunk and had used bad language. But this was a serious matter from a moral point of view and would affect his career here and in his own country if upheld. He was convicted. 13 11 14 p10 CIP

1918 11 20
Armistice Celebrated. Cambridge "let itself go" with full vigour on November 11 on receipt of the news that the Germans had accepted and signed the drastic armistice terms of the Allies, and the rejoicings were kept up on every evening throughout the week. The effigy of the Kaiser was hoisted on the point of a bayonet and carried through the streets, to be consigned to the flames of a Market Hill bonfire one evening. A cadet, attired as a padre, attended to the obsequies". Later processions of cadets met on the Market Hill engaged in a Big Push. Premises occupied by the "Cambridge Magazine" at the corner of St. John's Street were wrecked by a crowd. Two other shops in the same occupation were treated in similar fashion Alleged German guns on view Market Hill; these samples of scrap iron should be consigned rubbish heap, 18 11 20v – photo – 19 04 30d

1919 11 01
Proctors visit New Theatre for first time to correct undergraduate misbehaviour - stink bombs etc [5.11]

1919 11 12
"Fifth" fizzles at Cambridge. The stage was set on Wednesday evening for an old-time celebration of the 5th of November. Proctors, "bulldogs," special constables, mounted police,

mere “Roberts”, undergraduates, townspeople and schoolboys turned out to play their respective roles, but nothing happened. A few fire-works - cannons, crackers etc — were discharged on Market Hill but the proceedings were almost as tame as the original affair arranged by Mr. Guy Fawkes and a few of his fanatical friends 19 11 12 CIPof

1920

1920 02
In February 1920 Dr Glover was on duty as Proctor outside the Union, waiting for undergraduates offending against University regulations when one of the bulldogs, Lavis, stopped the Duke of York, later King George VI, who was seen smoking in academic dress. The price’s equerry dashed over and said he could not have it, but Glover insisted. Next day he sent Lavis round with the usual fine notice when he met the Prince who gave him a drink. Some years later the King recalled the incident and referred to the cigarette as the most expensive one he ever smoked 53 04 25

1920 02 03
Union of Democratic Control attempted to hold ‘Bolshevik’ meeting but disrupted by undergraduates; senior proctor, T.R. Glover, hit by flour bomb; speaker Norman Angell rescued by police – Ch 20 02 03d

1920 03 02
Norman Angell, author of ‘The Great Illusion’ ragged – bitterly hostile reception; police could not stop undergraduates entering the windows - CDN 20 03 02

1920 03 03
Mock Funeral of Caius man, first for six years – a solitary conveyance does not give impression that there is much enthusiasm for this form of demonstration nowadays. – Ch 20 03 03d; photo – Ch 20 03 10a CDN 20 03 01

1920 03 10
From outbreak of war have been pacifists proclaiming against action taken against Germans who would have moved heaven and earth to bring war to early conclusion. They possess not a spark of British pluck … led Cambridge gaining reputation as hotbed of Pacifism. University tried to stop this vile work; now opposition to such pro-German propaganda and return of pacifist Bertrand Russell to Trinity. Should prohibit pacifist meetings – Ch 20 03 10d

1920 03 31
Recent 'Rag,'—A report will be presented to Cambridge Town Council tomorrow (Thursday) by the Watch Committee in respect to claims under the Riot (Damages) Act arising out of the recent "rag" in Cambridge. The Town Clerk reported to the Watch Committee that three claims had been received under the Riot (Damages) Act in respect of damage to the Castle Hotel amounting to £6.19s; Merton Hall amounting to £87 and St. Andrew's Hall, amounting to £14 11s. The Committee agreed that the claims in respect the Castle Hotel and At Andrew’s Hall be admitted and included in the next list of bills, and that the consideration for the claim in respect of Merton House be deferred pending the receipt of a further report thereon from the Borough Surveyor. 20 03 31 CIPof

1920 06 23

Undergraduates in evening dress & degree robes exercise their right to play marbles on steps of Senate House (follows TT article) Ch 20 06 23a, photo 23d [3.15,12.22]

1920 11 06
Guy Fawkes rag, no serious damage but several arrests; raid on New Theatre and siege of police station

1920 11 12
Armistice 'Rag', chariot of flame on Market Hill, siege of Newnham College, burst through gates where for half hour of bliss … few odd battalions of infuriated Dons and hysterical Newnhamites, police charge - CDN 20 11 12

1920 11 17
'Chariot of fire' rag –cab soaked in petrol – Ch 20 11 17e, f, repeated in 1921 when it collides with telephone kiosk

1921
Rags seemed to have reached climax after WWI, by 1920 "a new kind of misdirected energy, originality & daring is being poured into organising elaborate stunts, hoaxes & escapades; Michaelmas 1921 was great term for rags : Senate opened academic year by debating granting degrees for women; became political issue; first rag of burning gates of Newnham, then on voting day a colossal mock funeral for 'The death of the Varsity' with corpse of last male undergraduate being borne on a bier surrounded by aged mourners whose long grey beards dragged in dust; Armistice Day heralded by great Gun Day when German gun removed from Jesus college

1921 05 04
Cambridge University Pavement Club first meeting – undergraduate rag – 300 in Kings Parade; fried sausage and steak on Parker's Piece - photos – 21 05 04b, 21 05 11b

1921 06 15
Pavement Club – 500 on King's Parade with every form of locomotion known, journey to Girton – 21 06 15b

1921 10 26
University votes against women's degrees; undergraduate mock funeral – photos – 21 10 26b

1921 11 16
Jesus College large German gun trophy captured and transported to Caius College – 21 11 16d, 16e

1921 11 16
Armistice night rag, students assault police; heavy fines – 21 11 16l

1921 11 26
First Poppy Day collection made on 26 November passed smoothly (not done by undergrads); undergrads asked that this collection be organised entirely by their committee & take full responsibility that no incidents. Procession of 'animals' toured town with police escort, one of happiest rags ever seen' [38]

1922 03 04

On strolling along Kings-parade this morning we saw a crowd of undergraduates. Mingling therewith we became aware of the presence of a number of cyclists accoutred with hockey sticks. We divined then that a bicycle polo stunt was about to be "stunted". In short, it was a stupendous scheme schemed for the laudable purpose of brightening Cambridge. We waited a short time. Then cheers burst forth and the game (?) commenced. After wielding their weapons vigorously for about five minutes and hitting the "pill" (i.e. a spotless tennis ball), the players raised their battered and war-worn cycles aloft and to the accompaniment of cheers bore them tenderly to a place of safety. Motor 'buses, cycles and handcarts were enabled to get through the press by the help of the police. Ardour became somewhat damped until the ball was arrested by the police, when cheers once more broke forth, but the ball was remanded, and whence it flew we knew not. Thus ended the now customary end-of-term rag. Although not what it might have been it was amusing, which is one point in its favour 22 03 04

1922 11 02
The performance of the musical comedy "My Nieces" at the New Theatre was delayed for ten minutes as the result of the unsportsmanlike behaviour of a number of undergraduates in the stalls. During one scene one of the young men threw a jumping cracker on the stage. The members of the company were startled and cries of indignation arose from all parts of the house. The manager had the curtain lowered and the stage cleared. The Proctor and "bulldogs" appeared on the scene, being received with the customary cheers. After a number of names had been taken a large party of undergraduates left the Theatre, their exit greeted with applause. Afterwards attendants found a number of crackers in the Theatre

1922 11 06
A lamp-boy, G.E.R. of Thoday street, Cambridge was summoned for throwing a firework on Senate House-hill on 4th inst. Fined 1s. Ten shillings was the fine imposed upon an undergraduate of Trinity College for a similar offence on Market-hill. Defendant said he did not know they were arresting people for letting fireworks off, or else he would not have been foot enough to do so in front of half the police force. An undergraduate of Corpus Christi who was fined 10s. stated that the came on to the square and saw a lot of police loafing about so he thought he would like to throw some fireworks 22 11 06

1922 11 13
If the Cambridge undergraduate can find any excuse for a "rag" he invariably organises a more or less elaborate affair. Yesterday's "circus" was a rag that everybody could enjoy; it did no harm to anybody and above all as a result of its labours aided Lord Haig's fund - "Poppy Day" - to the extent of £115 or thereabouts. The circus was a screamingly funny affair and brought everyone to doorways, windows and, in some cases, roof tops. The signal for the two minutes Armistice silence was heard in Downing-street and immediately the procession pulled up. The two minutes over pandemonium started as suddenly as it had ceased 22 11 13

1923 03
'Phineas' rag - Phineas, mascot seized – recalls Cambridge rag of March 1923 – 30 09 06a & b & photo – 30 09 06c

1923 11 06
Cambridge would be disappointed indeed if the Fifth of November failed to produce a rag of some sort. Last night's effort was, to say the least of it, feeble and was sustained for the most part by such residents of the town as come out for excitement on such occasions, and a handful of very callow freshmen. Fireworks there were in plenty, but the old spirit was lacking. Had it not been for the mounted police and the proctors, the market square would have been its usual

desolate self soon after 9.30 pm. It was noticeable that as soon as the mounted police left the crowd decreased by 50 per cent 23 11 06

1923 11 06
One hundred years ago the Royal and ancient game of rugby football was initiated, and today an alleged representation of the first game was given in Cambridge market square. Some time before noon the square was roped off and surrounded by police. The fountain was converted into a Royal box and the telephone kiosk into a press box. At noon the teams marched on to the ground. At their head was carried a large and considerably elongated football on a butchers tray. With the teams marched a portly and bearded Proctor, complete with "bullers" and a nasty looking birch, which he did not hesitate to use when occasion demanded

1923 11 10
The red poppy of Remembrance was everywhere in Cambridge today. Every buttonhole, every bicycle, and every motor car bore visible tribute to those who died that England might live. Everywhere were busy undergraduates smiling and pushing their business and selling red silk poppies in aid of the Earl Haig's Fund for ex-servicemen and their dependants. The average undergraduate loves to be "up and doing" and any way he can use his superfluous energy for a good cause appeals to him. In accordance with their usual custom the memorial at the General Post Office was decorated with a huge wreath of laurels and poppies 23 11 10

1923 11 10
A merry and light-hearted party of undergraduates, despite police vigilance, succeeded in obtaining their hearts desire - they manage to light a fire on market Hill. Certain of the undergraduate community attracted the attention of some constables to a gas lamp on the one corner of the square. They demonstrated a desire to figure on the charge sheet of the police court by the charmingly simple process of putting out the light. The police "fell for it" and kept watch on that particular part of the market place. Meanwhile another body of the faithful rushed on to the Market Hill with a rowing eight filled with petrol and had it alight before people realised what was towards 23 11 10

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1923 11 19
The Cambridge undergraduates have once more been the source of innocent amusement. The "rag" consisted in the purchase of one of the old 4-wheeled tram cars that used in bygone days to be both a convenience and an adornment to the streets of Cambridge. On Saturday when it was expected that the tram would be towed in state through Cambridge streets the authorities were alarmed by the appearance of numbers undergraduates outside the yard where the tram was stored. At this moment another tram made its appearance, a tram of Lilliputian dimensions, towed with steady ropes by a happy band of undergraduates. The miniature car was solemnly dragged into the centre of town and along old tram lines, which have for many years or so useless a feature in King's Parade. 23 11 19

1924 11 06
The night of the 5th of November was clear and calm, and there was a bright moon to light the way of revellers – ideal conditions for a "rag". So evidently thought a large crowd of undergraduates and townsmen that gathered on Cambridge Market Hill in hopes. Police stood around in little groups taking a giving chaff good humouredly with the crowd. Squibs and occasional small rockets broke the peace and were heralded by faint cheers and feminine shrieks if they happened to go off in the press. The first intimation of anything interesting was the sight of a small youth, pale and very troubled looking, marching up St Andrew's street, firmly held by a constabulary hand 24 11 06

1924 11 09
Cambridge undergraduates were busy today selling poppies. They were stationed in the centre of the town and in all the main thoroughfares leading thereto. Among their number were several very persistent in their efforts and "held-up" anybody – pedestrian, cyclist or motorist – who was not wearing a poppy. By way of pushing business a group of undergraduates hired a donkey and barrow, attired themselves as costers – complete with "pearlies" and other effects and went around the town rattling money boxes 24 11 09

1925 02 14
Celebrating the Lent Races gave gownsmen the traditional excuse to break the bonds of conventional conduct and create some hectic scenes on Saturday night. From the viewpoint of roughness the 'rag' proved to be one of the worst during recent years, and the endeavours of the police to impose limitations on some of the more disorderly acts were not received with the good-natured co-operation which usually characterises such outbreaks. Besides having their helmet knocked off, several constables received nasty kicks about the legs and one was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital with injuries to the head 25 02 14

1925 03 09
The bright idea was to unveil a 'statue' of Eros on Cambridge Market Hill, but they did not appear till quite three-quarters of an hour late. The crowd got tired of waiting and certain of their number pelted some adventurous spirits perched on the Market cross with oranges, and this little incident led to a general exchange of soft and 'squashy' fruit. Oranges gave place to tomatoes, which were followed by eggs and bags of flour. Besides being unpleasant, practice of this sort is dangerous 25 03 09

1925 11 06
Cambridge usually expects a 'rag' on Guy Fawkes' night but this year's affair was of a harmless character, plenty of noise being the chief characteristic. Fireworks galore were discharged and the Market Hill was occasionally lit up with flame-coloured flares. But this was rather a tame sort of amusement for undergraduates and they proceeded to accomplish the now stale feat of extinguishing the gas lamps in the neighbourhood of the Hill. Some undergrads took it into their heads to relight the lamps in the centre, which enabled one of their number to climb the fountain on the top of which something indistinguishable was placed. This being done out went the lamps again, coins being the smashing factor once more 25 11 06

1925 11 06
Two fires caused damage to the extent of thousands of pounds in Cambridge and both are believed to have been caused by fireworks. It was particularly unfortunate that one occurred a few moments after the other, for the second was a much bigger conflagration than the first, and the fire engine was not then available. The first was to a corn stack in Natal Road but the other was at

Messrs Kidman & Sons' wood factory yard and workshops in Abbey Walk. The outbreak occurred at the end of the building nearest the Coldham's Common allotments, but it quickly spread along the rafters and within ten minutes there was no earthly chance of saving the building. The roof of St Columba's Mission Hall was soon alight and the outskirts of Simper's rope works also began to blaze 25 11 06

1925 11 09 c
Three undergraduates were fined £2 each for extinguishing street lamps. James Haynes, a watchman said he saw the gentlemen approach Drummer Street. They overturned the brazier containing his fire and he had to put the fire out because the tar on the pavement commenced to flare. He saw them turn out the light of a lamp in Emmanuel Street. Two of them hoisted another up to do this. In Short Street they turned out three more lights and another five were turned out along Victoria Avenue.

1925 11 11
With commendable solemnity Cambridge honoured England's dead. Never before was the Two Minutes Silence so well observed in the busy parts of the town, a striking testimony to the increasing reverence which is attached to this impressive ceremony. Many wore their poppies as an outward sign of their remembrance and heads were reverently bared as the first maroon boomed forth from Parker's Piece. Except for a few instances of chronic forgetfulness or callous disregard the silence was complete

1925 11 14
"We the undersigned, convinced that all disputes between nations are capable of settlement by diplomatic negotiation, hereby solemnly declare that we shall refuse to support or render war service to any Government which resorts to arms". The declaration having been signed by members of the University they called a public meeting. The hall was nearly filled with undergraduates but a section of the audience showed their displeasure by continual interruption. Mr G.L. Trevelyan spoke of the horrors to be met in the next war, and was greeted with the remark: "No they will kill us nice and cleanly in the next war".

1926 05 03
Cambridge had a Mock Funeral today, after a lapse of many years. Undergraduates, dressed in outrageous attire, paraded the streets of the town and marched to the station to observe "funeral obsequies" to two Trinity men who have been sent down for a breach of college discipline. The procession made its way to the college to collect the "corpses". On arrival however they found their unfortunate colleagues had made use of their newly-acquired wings and flown, but nothing daunted the party proceeded to the station headed by a drum-major and a figure in clerical attire. Amongst the occupants of the horse-drawn 'hearse' were two musical geniuses with a banjo and saxophone 26 05 03

1926 11
"Scrum" rag one of wildest since war, 52 arrests, 100 in fines (11.26)

1926 11 11
For two minutes Cambridge stood still in silent homage to the glorious dead. Everywhere the Great Silence was religiously observed. As the hour approached a general atmosphere of expectancy enveloped the whole town until just before the great moment arrived a significant hush seemed to fall, and those in the street trod softly in fear unless they should disturb the slumbers of the sacred dead. As the bells of the Catholic church struck the hour a faint boom

followed by a reverberating explosion from the direction of Parker's Piece announced that the fateful two minutes had arrived, and traffic and pedestrians came to a simultaneous standstill.

1927 02
Anti-feminist rag [3.18]

1927 02 25
"The first marriage according to the new Prayer Book" was solemnised in Cambridge when an undergraduate "bride" and "bridegroom" were joined together in unholy matrimony on King's Parade. The blushing bride with the bowing bridegroom was preceded by a piper and a clergyman who was wearing "flannel bags" under his surplice and carried a doll's sunshade. The bride's dress was a pair of white lace curtains and she carried a large bouquet of Brussels sprouts. The bridegroom wore a dilapidated silk hat and a red nose – and carried a banana. They stepped into a waiting carriage followed by a motley through of ludicrously attired "relations and friends" CDN 27 02 25

1927 06 09
Cambridge Undergraduates took upon themselves the duty of opening "Joanna Southcott's" famous box on the Market Hill. A crowd of mammoth proportions assembled. A melancholy dirge was heard from Petty Cury and there appeared a party of pipers and following them in one of Dale's lorries came a weird array of 24 "bishops" and a delegation of "Mormons" wearing huge straw sombreros. One "archbishop" proceeded to open the box, producing several layers of red tape, a teddy bear, a pair of old football boots and a number of bananas with which he pelted the crowd. The "rag" was organised to provide funds for the Cambridge Fruiting Campaign to help strawberry pickers in the Wisbech area. 27 06 09 [3.19]

1927 06 13
One of the largest crowds in memory witnessed the last of what may go down in history as the "Microphone Mays". Both banks of the Cam at Ditton presented the spectacle of an unbroken line of sightseers. There were three men up a tree at Ditton Paddock; they and their friend the microphone were telling all England what was happening and theirs was truly a romance of the tree tops. One wonders how many old Cambridge men were listening-in to a drama in which they once played a part. 27 06 13

1927 06 15
Three well-known Cambridge sportsmen who have completed their academic careers distinguished themselves by spending part of the night in the grounds of one of the women's colleges and part in another. At midnight on Saturday they climbed into Newnham, taking with them a tent which they pitched in full view and were not discovered until they were all snug in "bed", when they commenced community singing. Newnham Dons became alarmed and phoned for the police, who turned them out. They then motored to Girton, scaled a twelve-foot wall and pitched the tent. They were not discovered until the early hours of the morning when the earliest risers amongst the lady students saw the strange sight in the middle of the court. 27 06 15

1927 11 11
Poppies! They were everywhere. The streets of Cambridge were ablaze with them. They were on every coat, in every conscience. Their spirit turned the town into a red riot of remembrance. As the day wore on the poppies grew thicker. A great army of 2,000 undergraduates sold the emblems with an enthusiasm which was unbounded. Early in the morning they were at their posts with their trays of flowers and collecting boxes and all through the day carried on their merry money hunt. Many played the role of highwaymen, boarding buses and holding up the traffic.

1928 11 10
Soon after daybreak the advance guard of the thousand undergraduate poppy sellers sallied forth to all quarters of Cambridge, determined to beat the record figures reached last year. The warmth of their enthusiasm was sufficient protection against the keen frosty air, and scorning overcoats they patrolled the lonely streets and waylaid those hurrying to business. They were so cheerfully importunate that only a modern Scrooge could have refused them and most people seemed only too willing to pay off another small instalment of their war debt.

1928 11 10 c
Carnival conditions prevailed in Cambridge where the poppy-decked shoppers met amusing spectacles on all hands. On no previous poppy day has undergraduate ingenuity been so fertile. Chief among the many attractive schemes for money squeezing was "Banger's Circus" in which an unidentifiable animal with 'flannel bag' legs, and a monkey led on a chain by a top-hatted ringmaster were noticeable. The procession was disorganised when the monkey developed a thirst and dashed into the Angel, dragging the not-unwilling circus master with him

1929 03 13
The University Proctors have considered regulations for students who desire to use aircraft during term time. Undergraduates flying their own or civilian aircraft may lead to annoyance from low flying and accidents. A Light Aeroplane Club has already been formed which gives facilities for flying within a few miles of the University. Now no student may fly as pilot or passenger during term time without written permission from his parents and tutor. Those offending will be liable to be punished by suspension, rustication, expulsion or otherwise. 29 03 13

1929 03 15
A Cambridge undergraduate was fined for an assault on a taxicab driver who attempted to push him off the running-board of a stationary cab. It took place after a bump supper when he was in a very excited condition. Robert Osborne said he went to the ADC Theatre and left his cab on the rank on Jesus Lane. The undergrad and others came along the road and turned the starting handle of the taxis. He jumped on his running-board and would not get off, so he pushed him off. The lad then hit him several times. 29 03 15

1929 11 06
Nearly thirty arrests were made during a Guy Fawkes 'Rag' on Cambridge Market Hill. Early in the evening an attempt was made to light at bonfire in Petty Cury and there was a considerable blaze in front of Falcon Yard before the police noticed it and it was extinguished. In Rose Crescent an effigy was soaked with petrol, stuffed with fireworks and deposited near the Market Hill end. This was quickly extinguished and the effigy confiscated, but the petrol continued to burn for a long time afterwards. A new feature of the scrimmages was the use of police whistles by undergraduates which added to the confusion. 29 11 06

1929 11 07
A sheep farmer, who became annoyed on Guy Fawkes Night at being mistaken for an undergraduate, was summonsed for assaulting the Senior Proctor, Mr Frederick Dykes. He testified that he had been with his constables when he sent one after an undergraduate who attempted to evade him. He then heard a shout of 'Get the Proctor' and felt two blows on his head. One of his constables seized the man now in the dock. Defendant said he was a stranger to Cambridge and had been told that if he followed the proctors round he would see some fun. He was not dressed like an undergraduate. He was fined £3. 29 11 07

1930

1930 02 26

A woman was summoned for allowing a barn at Fen Ditton to be used for immoral purposes. She had converted it into a dance hall, teas were advertised and dances held. Det-Sergt Willis said he looked through the window and observed people inside. Some of the women attending were known to be of an undesirable character and the men mostly members of the University. The girls were dancing by themselves down the centre of the room holding up their dresses; another girl got on top of the piano and danced. Couples frequently left and went to a nearby cottage. Later the University Proctor arrived; he went to the dance room which was in darkness and by the light of his lamp could see four undergraduates and seven girls. They said they were telling ghost stories. 30 02 26a-d

1930 05 26

A mock funeral procession paraded through Cambridge as undergraduates bade farewell to one of their number who had been sent down. It was headed by an old horse-drawn landau in which the 'corpse' sat, his face disguised beneath a war-paint of lipstick. He was joined by various persons who were to officiate at the ceremony; beneath top hats, black cloches and wideawakes were suits of grey flannel, blazers and plus-fours. All were garnished in crepe streamers on which hung rhubarb, beer and wine bottles, remains of the 'wake'. At the station the funereal party moved along the platform hilariously singing a dirge and the 'corpse' was installed in a third-class compartment where gifts of fruit and rhubarb were handed solemnly in. 30 05 26

1930 11 06

Cambridge police had cold feet with waiting for something to turn up in a temperature several degrees under freezing point. But the dreaded 'Fifth', that traditional battle between University and police failed to explode in the time-honoured fashion. There was a constant bombardment on the outskirts of town and some spasmodic firework throwing on the market where smoke screens were used to some effect. Using the cloud as cover two lamps were extinguished under the very nose of a sergeant. There were a few arrests but no helmets were knocked off. 30 11 06b

1930 11 11

Poppy Day rag – 30 11 11e-g

1931

First meeting Cambridge Socialist Society 'solid band of presumably Tory undergraduates at back of hall began to shout, heckle & sing patriotic songs', police called, threw stink bombs [45]

1931 02 27

Over 100 attended a funeral service for a young Freshman whose mysterious death has caused such a sensation throughout the country. Press and public were excluded but a crowd gathered and police had some difficulty in controlling the traffic. He had been found lying dead on the floor of his room, gagged and bound in an elaborate manner with numerous handkerchiefs, a length of puttee, and a wire flex. Members of the Pentacle Club, the University Magicians' Society have been interrogated & Sir Bernard Spilsbury, the famous Home Office pathologist has been called in. 31 02 27d-g-h

1931 06 12

A Cambridge motor firm – W.E. Harding of Seven Sisters garage, Newmarket Road – has been barred from trading with undergraduates by the Vice Chancellor. Under university rules tradesmen must notify tutors by the end of term of any debt exceeding £5 incurred by an undergraduate. But Mr Harding had not been told this. Only two other such notices have appeared

within living memory. Now any student having any dealings with the firm may be suspended or rusticated. 31 06 12b

1931 07 17
An undergraduate rag in celebration of examination success let to two young army officers appearing in court charged with the theft of coloured lenses and other fittings belonging to traffic lights on the corner of Lensfield Road. They were of no conceivable value except as a trophy. One was the son of a distinguished soldier in the Coldstream Guards killed at Arras during the war. If convicted it would have a grave effect on his army career. The case was dismissed. 31 07 17b & c

1931 11 13
The Poppy Day collection in Cambridge has again smashed all records with undergraduate collectors struggling with money still coming in. Nearly two tons of coppers have passed through their hands. Early in the day the stock of poppies was exhausted and a fresh supply had to be brought in by train. Market Hill was the scene of half-a-dozen well organised 'rags' and at Silver Street the Demon Diver jumped in flames into the river and the collectors drew in good sums for his 'widow' and 'children' 31 11 13 I & j

1932 05 18
Overnight two unfurled umbrellas were securely tied to the pinnacles of King's College chapel so they stood straight up. The college called a window cleaner to remove them, but despite his long ladder he was unable to get within ten feet. Two undergraduates went on the roof with shotguns and endeavoured to shoot them down. One fell but the other proved more difficult. The shots knocked the handle sideways. For some hours it floated gracefully from side to side in the wind like some gigantic weathercock. 32 05 18

1932 05 21
What would papers do without Cambridge undergraduates' pranks? During a hard frost years ago some 150 callow youths had a 'curling' bonspiel on the pond at Emmanuel College. Each had a china bowl in lieu of the orthodox curling stone – and each bowl contained a lighted candle. Overnight a thaw set in and visitors watched gardeners salvaging the 'curling stones' from the bottom of the pond. Shortly afterwards undergraduates took a donkey dressed in cap and gown into dinner in hall. Most of the aged dons mistook him for one of themselves! But in those days no newspaper commented. 32 05 21a

1932 05 21
The inner history of the King's College roof-climbing escapade has been revealed. The hazardous feat was carried out by two parties of undergraduates, including several-well known athletes, who are members of a secret organisation composed of skilled mountain climbers. They used the lightning conductor which has been loosened by previous generations of climbers. It is the climax of a series of climbs during the past few months; now they proposed to publish detailed accounts of their exploits 32 05 21

1932 05 24
Night-climbers Kings chapel & Eton – 32 05 24

1932 06 01
The 'Brighter Roofs for Colleges' movement is growing. Overnight at Ridley Hall two cords were stretched from one of the college towers. On them pyjamas, pyjamas and still more pyjamas were floating in the wind. Large ones, small ones, brightly-coloured and silk examples were

proudly swaying in the breeze and in the middle was suspended a parson's hat. After they had been lowered to the ground their various owners joined in a frantic scramble for their particular pairs which had been removed from their rooms. 32 06 01a

1932 06 02
King's nightclimbing – brolly removed – 32 06 02

1932 06 06
Nightclimbing craze spreads to Emmanuel – 32 06 06d

1933 06 13
The roof-climber who 'pinched' the two weathervanes off the Squire Law Library building seems to have had an attack of conscience, for the missing cock and fish were replaced last night. But they also left tasteful decorations and souvenirs in the shape of two sherry bottles at each end of an arch high over the entrance to the Geological Museum. They are said to be full and so act as 'bait' to other scalers of walls and roofs. 33 06 13

1933 11 06
Bonfire night demonstration & Hitler Nazi meeting – 33 11 06

1933 11 10
The film 'Our Fighting Navy' has been withdrawn from the Tivoli Cinema following lively scenes. Fifty members of the Students' Anti-War went to make a protest but a rival party, numbering about a thousand undergraduates, marched to the cinema with two bands playing war-time songs and carrying Union Jacks. Several tried to push their way in until the arrival of four policemen who, with drawn truncheons, managed to keep the crowd at bay whilst a dozen more raced to the scene in motor vehicles. Cries of 'Down with Hitler' and 'Hail Hitler' were heard above the general uproar and a stink bomb let off in the vestibule. 33 11 10

1931 11 13
The Poppy Day collection in Cambridge has again smashed all records with undergraduate collectors struggling with money still coming in. Nearly two tons of coppers have passed through their hands. Early in the day the stock of poppies was exhausted and a fresh supply had to be brought in by train. Market Hill was the scene of half-a-dozen well organised 'rags' and at Silver Street the Demon Diver jumped in flames into the river and the collectors drew in good sums for his 'widow' and 'children' 31 11 13 I & j

1934 02 22
Trinity College was the venue of a carefully-planned 'rag' involving a large number of fireworks. The roof was chosen as the main display ground. The first rocket went up and landed in Neville's court before all sorts of fireworks went off in rapid succession, including a couple on the two turrets of the Great Gate. Next day porters were trying to identify the owner of a walking stick on which a Catharine wheel had been fixed. 34 02 22

1934 03 03
Sir Stafford Cripps addressed a meeting on 'The Necessity for Socialism" at Cambridge Central School. The hall was packed to capacity with townspeople and undergraduates and he was greeted with mingled cheers, boos and hisses. His speech was interrupted on several occasions and twenty undergraduates opposed to his views waited for him at the school gates afterwards. But the proctor and his bulldogs arrived in time and he was driven away without any demonstration being possible.

34 03 03

1934 03 05
A Cambridge police constable was injured during the 'rag' which followed the inter-college rugby cup final between Clare and St Catharine's. At Burrell's Walk undergraduates used wooden palisades to make a bonfire. The fire engine was called out but was surrounded by a crowd of students some of whom pulled the hose off the drum. Others clambered on to the engine and took the front and side lamps off. The fire was put out by college porters. In Queen's Road the police were forced to defend themselves. Truncheons were used to prevent their helmets being snatched off. There was some hard fighting. A number of street lamps were broken and a window was smashed in King's Parade. Two undergraduates were arrested, charged with assaulting the police 34 03 05

1934 04 30
A former undergraduate appeared in court following a scuffle. Vincent Brock, a university bulldog, said he'd accompanied the Proctor, Rev Heywood, into the bar of the Theatre Cinema where there were many undergraduates during the interval. There was much shouting and excitement. The accused had then assaulted him by tipping his top hat over his face. 34 04 30

1934 11 06
Cambridge saw one of the most riotous celebrations of the 'Fifth' for many years. In the course of demonstrations around Market Hill nearly 40 arrests were made, many of the police lost their helmets, several more had their tunics ripped right down the back and not a few sustained split knuckles and bruises. When supplies of fireworks began to run low parties of undergraduates attempted to put out every light but carried their efforts too far and smashed the glass of two shop windows and the traffic signal at the top of Petty Cury. There were 35 defendants including seven for assaults on the police, three for resisting the police a number for obstructing the police. Other summonses were for extinguishing street lamps and throwing fireworks. A Trinity undergraduate was fined for 'tipping' a policeman's helmet. Several times during the hearing there were outbursts of laughter. 36 11 06, 34 11 06a & b [1.1]

1934 11 10
Poppy Day collectors had to contend with a dismal downpour of rain. But a large crowd gathered on Senate House Hill to await the arrival of a self-styled 'Hitler' who was due to open the Caius Fun Fair. When he did come, by car, he brought a procession of about a dozen cars in his wake, all containing weird and wonderful characters. The obstinate mule, which last year lay down in the road and refused to get up until tempted by a coin, was less obstinate on the present occasion, for the wet and muddy road was hardly a pleasant bed. 34 11 10 & a

1935 03 07
Police guarded the closed gates of the University Arms Hotel while Sir Oswald Mosley was at a dinner organised by the University Fascist Society. Outside a meeting organised by the University Socialist Society was held on Parker's Piece with speeches by John Cornford, Maurice Cornford and Maurice Dobb. Then a torchlight procession by 200 undergraduates shouting anti-Fascist slogans such as 'We want Mosley dead or alive' and singing 'The Internationale' marched to Peas Hill where more speeches were made before a Proctor arrived and they dispersed. 35 03 07c

1935 03 27
University authorities are seeking to control the giving of large sherry and cocktail parties in undergraduates' rooms. Now a host wishing to give a party for more than 15 people will have to obtain permission from his tutor and the Junior Proctor. Parties of more than five members of the

university held in any tavern or public room also need written permission or the owner will be liable to be discommuned. Another change bans garages from supplying motor cars to undergraduates on hire purchase without the tutor's approval. 35 03 27

1935 08 03
Tops removed from new Belisha Beacons after Bumps supper [1.20]

1935 11 06
Guy Fawkes – traditional rag, few arrests – 35 11 06b

1936 03 04
Sultan of Zanzibar hoax – photo – at reported death Horace Cole - 36 03 04

1936 03 14
Undergraduates last night hazardously climbed to the roof of Emmanuel College North Court and decorated six chimneys with chamber pots. They were removed by Mr S. Burgess of Messrs Prime's the builders who is often called in to remove various objects placed in inaccessible positions by exuberant undergraduates. "Some of them can run up brick walls", he said: one took off his shoes and went down a wall by means of his feet and hands alone to remove a gown that had been placed in a particularly difficult spot. 36 03 14

1936 05 05
Undergraduates, tired of their boring existence at the University, found a new way of letting off their spirits. A party 'invaded' the fair on Midsummer Common and obtained permission from the proprietor of the Wall of Death to give a display. Two mounted on motor cycles and the others on bicycles then gave a short show with plenty of impromptu thrills and spills. Fortunately no proctors appeared on the scene. 36 05 05a

1936 11 06
Guy Fawkes Night disorder, truncheon charges, riotous scenes – court case – 36 11 06

1936 11 07
Horace Cole and origins of Dreadnought hoax – 36 11 07c

1937 11 06
The treat of severe action had a salutary effect on Cambridge undergraduates during the 'Fifth' celebrations. Last year a number of students were rusticated and others heavily fined by Borough justices. The Gas Company surrounded their lamp posts with barbed wire and fitted specially toughened glass over the actual light. Although a number of the taller standards were clambered up in every case the mountaineers had to return baffled. Not a light was extinguished. However two bus windows were broken with bricks and a pane of glass in a telephone kiosk was smashed. Photographers who used flashlights to take pictures had to retire in face of a barrage of missiles. Police arrested a woman but no serious attempt was made to rescue her. 37 11 06

1938 11 11
Undergraduates invaded the streets, skilfully extracting all the spare coppers with various ingenious stunts. In white sweaters and kilts of many clans the University Pipe Band paraded to Market Square for a display of Highland dancing, then toured public houses. The 'Peace Group' were perched on a cart disguised as a camouflaged tank decorated with "Atlee's pants" – which appeared to be pale pink in colour. Standing on the tank were two dictatorial-looking figures in

uniform. Amongst the individual performers was a man on a pair of stilts made from sculls while barrel-organ players were dressed as ghosts 38 11 11

1939 05 20
Cambridge Corn Exchange was packed with 2,500 undergraduates when Winston Churchill made a striking speech on conscription which was relayed to the Lion Hotel. There was some violence when those unable to get in attempted to force an entrance; during the melee a policeman lost his helmet. Several hundred undergraduates remained outside until a proctor ordered them to disburse. Inside a motion accepting conscription was carried by ten to one 39 05 20 & a

1939 11 01
Rev E.M. Tweed was at The Perse 1884-87 under Rev John Wisken; played in football team; then to St Catharine's and 'coached' while undergraduate. Guy Fawkes day memories & proctors 39 11 01

1939 11 11
Set against the tragic background of a new war, Poppy Day in Cambridge presented a much more subdued scene. The war-wrought necessity of avoiding large gatherings of crowds and the blocking of streets considerably curtailed the undergraduates' carnival-light activity. Decorated vehicles had been banned. The German Chancellor was the favourite target for shafts of wit and the Cosmopolitan Cinema advertising vehicles offered an invitation to 'Beat up Hitler' by piercing a pip with a dart. 39 11 11a

1939 12 01
Poppy Day total is now £2,328 14s. The exceptional circumstances last year produced a sum of about £2,819, but the 1939 total is already near the £2,382 collected in 1937 and the £2,452 collected in 1936.Pembroke heads the list of individual college collections with a sum of £223 - £80 more than the runner-up, Christ's. 39 12 01 CIP0f

1939 12 01
Scores of undergraduates interrupted a rally organised by the University branch of the Communist Party. Despite the provision of loudspeakers the uproar made it impossible for the Press to hear the speeches. Two fights started in the gallery and there was an attempted raid on the red flag on the platform. The Chief Constable went to the scene. The appearance of two proctors and their 'bulldogs' was a quietening influence. Their coming was the signal for a general donning of gowns by stewards who had removed them in order to carry out more easily their work as 'chuckers out' 39 12 01c

1940

1942 09 17
Punts and canoes placed on NFS reservoir on lawn in front of King's – photo – 42 09 17a

1944 11 08
Bonfire Night rag protests – 44 11 08 & a, b

1944 11 11
November 5th falls on Sunday, plans for Rag opposed [1.9]

1945 11 06

First peacetime ‘Fifth’ rag, street lights extinguished, attack on ‘Bull’, Regal stormed – CDN 1945 11 06

1947 11 06
Six undergraduates and two RAF men were arrested during the usual Guy Fawkes Night scenes in the centre of Cambridge last night. From 7.30 crowds grew steadily on Market Hill. Fireworks were discharged freely and the din reached its peak between eight and half-past. Members of the University who earlier had been outnumbered by more than ten to one were in force by nine o'clock, several minor scuffles occurred about this time, and the first of several policemen's helmets disappeared. Proctors and their "bulldogs" early kept undergraduates on the move. After that the crowd gradually thinned away, and by 1.15 there were only groups here and therec47 11 06

1947 11 08
Poppy Day rag, p5

1948 11 06
Cambridge’s annual Guy Fawke’s battle was waged in the market square and surrounding streets . Five undergraduates were amongst those who were arrested and placed in the Guildhall cells until being bailed. There were three charges of assaulting the police. Though a strong warning had been given by the university authorities there was considerable rowdyism. RAF men from nearby airfields and US service personnel were banned from Cambridge for the night. Ten people were taken to Addenbrooke's hospital having received slight injuries or fainted in the large crowds 48 11 06
Hand grenade thrown at Senate House on November 5th, damages glass [2.16,1.11]

1948 11 17
Soon the sight of women students in their gowns and proceeding to degrees alongside the men, will become common place, and no one will give them a second thought. It is the “first time” however, which makes news and even the occasion of the first woman to be “progged” becomes a minor act of University history. Members of the colleges had awaited with interest to see on whom this “honour” would befall. Their curiosity was satisfied within three weeks of the beginning of term. The “honour” – said to have be coveted by a number of women students, who tried to attract the attention of the proctor – fell to a third-year anthropology student of Girton, Miss Valida Turner, who was fined for not wearing her gown after dark

1948 12 16
Captain C.R. Benstead, senior proctor of the University, spoke of the lighter side of proctoring. He said; “How do we know a Girton or Newnham girl when we see one in the dark without a gown? One night we espied a girl of transcending beauty wheeling a very academic-looking bicycle. We picked her up – in the proctorial sense! – only to discover later that she was a bus conductress!”

1949 11 07
The quietest Guy Fawkes night “rag” long-service Cambridge police officers can remember passed off without even a street lamp being extinguished – another “within living memory” record. A crowd gathered on the Market Square by 7pm and fireworks were thrown. A police car which arrived on the scene radioed for reinforcements. These shepherded the crowd off the square. After that police posted at the entrances to the square prevented people entering the area. Early in the evening a few rotten eggs were thrown, and a smoke bomb exploded in the Sidney

Street area. These incidents, and the intermittent throwing of fireworks, constituted about the only "excitement" of the evening, though there was an occasion when a "bulldog" pursued a man at full speed in front of the Guildhall 49 11 07

1950

1950 11 06
Although four arrests – three townsmen and one undergraduate – were made, Guy Fawkes night this year was about the quietest since the war. Undergraduates were not as lively as in years past. The reason for the lack of activity on their part was probably the fact that they had been warned verbally by their tutors. Just to make sure seven watchful Proctors with their top-hatted 'bulldogs' maintained a constant patrol of the main streets 50 11 06

1950 11 11
In the main streets of Cambridge today it looked as though a zoo, a circus, a host of foreign invaders and history's immortals had been let loose – not to mention members of species hitherto unknown. It was the Poppy Day pantomime again and students were 'on the make'. Poppy sellers were on the street and some 70,000 poppies were on sale. The Mayor, Ald Taylor, was kidnapped, his hands bound with a scarf and marched out of the Guildhall into a Rolls Royce while police thoughtfully held back the crowds 50 11 11

1951 11 10
Undergraduate collectors set out to break all previous Poppy Day collection records. The "ban" on well-known Middle East personalities made no difference to the high degree of ingenuity shown in extracting money from an ever-willing public. A seductive harem scene on a lorry featured "the Proctor" smoking surely nothing less potent than hashish while on the Magdalene college lorry a European "twist" was given by a "Don" reclining on cushions smoking a "hookah". A collection of the weirdest Oriental gentlemen ever preceded the lorry with collecting boxes 51 11 10

1954 11 06
Police helmets will be treasured possession in the homes of undergraduates and Cambridge 'Teddy-Boys' who contributed to the Guy Fawkes Night high jinks. One police constable, helmet-less, went back to base for another. But in double-quick time this went too! Frequent clashes broke out between police and revellers. In Market Square a crowd of more than 5,000 screamed, shouted, pushed and laughed but it was 'good natured fooling'. "Teddy" girls screamed at each bang, unsuspecting undergraduates were pounced on by Proctors and 'Bulldogs' and there were boos and hisses each time an untidy-looking urchin was led away, and each time the urchin would protest his innocence of throwing any fireworks.

1955 05 12
A gaping hole, nine feet in circumference and about a foot deep, was blown in the path beside Trinity College bridge last night. It is believed that a stick of dynamite was used as a student said he heard a terrific explosion and the building shook. The explosion caused leaves to be blown off trees nearby. This is the third time within a year that a deep pit has appeared near the bridge and last week it was decorated with planks and trowels. But two porters and a gardener denied all knowledge and the college spokesman had nothing to say. 55 05 12a [1.22]

1956 11 05
A Suez protest rally was held on Parker's Piece. The back of a lorry provided a speakers' platform and round it was ringed an audience of some 1,500 people who attempted to listen to the

arguments through the constant hubbub of a group of dissenting undergraduates. They carried slogans tacked on long-handled brushes saying 'Eden acts where U.N.O. fails' and 'Non-intervention is Suez-cide'. Scuffles broke out and a lone firework was lobbed on to the platform. 56 11 05a

Smoke bombs, water from upstairs windows and counter-cries from undergraduates accompanied the "Stop Eden's War" procession organised by Cambridge Labour Party. Eighty people carrying placards set off from the Alex Wood Memorial Hall but were joined by a second, less orderly procession of undergraduates shouting "Eden Must Stay" to counter the Labour cries of "Eden Must Go". 56 11 05b

1957 05 24

The Night Climbers of Cambridge are at it again. At daybreak two objects had been placed on the spires of King's college chapel. One is the globe of a Belisha beacon, the other a nylon stocking. There was a turret-climbing episode in May 1932 on the eve of Empire Day when a Union Jack was flying from the north-east turret. Two nights previously the pinnacles were decorated with open umbrellas 57 05 24

1957 06 15

Cambridge Night Climbers spend the small hours of the night among the college piers and pinnacles. They work in groups of two or three and their equipment is a pair of soft shoes and gloves with sometimes a punt cushion for crossing the spikes and broken glass set in concrete. They climb for the love of climbing and regard the leaving of flags or underclothes as an error of taste bordering on exhibitionism. 57 06 15c

1957 11 09

Poppy Day photos, p5 & p8

1958 05 29

"The Freshman", a light-hearted film about life at Cambridge University, will bring in all the well-known local angles – the May Races and balls, chases by Proctors and their 'Bulldogs', visits to coffee bars – and of course, a local romance. It will star Hardy Kruger and Sylvia Syms. But they have had a mishap. While a motoring scene was being shot along Trumpington Road the crankshaft of a vintage 1927 Bentley car suddenly snapped. Now mechanics are searching for a spare, or a new car!
58 05 29a, 58 05 28

1958 06 09

A unique answer to the Cambridge traffic problems was found during the weekend. Somebody, obvious with an acute parking problem, decided that all the flat apace on top of the Senate House was going to waste – so they decided to park an Austin 7 van there! Early-morning passers-by goggled and stared in amazement at the strange sight of hefty firemen and policemen struggling to make the van safe from the wind. Nobody seems to know who put it there. The big problem is: how to get it down. 58 06 09a

1958 06 11

Hundreds of students watched – and offered advice – as Civil Defence volunteers tried to remove the Austin 7 van from the roof of the Senate House. It was moved on to the parapet, but it would not pass between the legs of a derrick. Men hammered at its jutting corners and thudded upon its protrusions before deciding that it must come down in pieces. A good deal of parts were lowered on a pulley and stored in a rescue vehicle. Then they drove away. Despite the real courage of the Civil Defence men, the day went well for undergraduate Cambridge. 58 06 11 & a

1958 06 12
Civil Defence men have succeeded in bringing down the van from the Senate House roof. It was cut in half with the aid of an oxy-acetylene torch, then cut up again, and again, until all the parts were of a suitable size to be lowered, starting with the bonnet and wings, then the radiator and steering column. Part of the roof and a side were the last down. The proceedings were watched by the Vice-Chancellor of the University and two or three students who climbed on the roof of the Old Schools building and offered suggestions as to how it should be dismantled. 58 06 12a

1958 11 03
Gown & Teddy Boys, about 60 taunt proctors [21.7]

1958 11 08
Many householders opened their doors early to a young man in pyjamas or an undergraduate turbaned like a caliph and bought a poppy, then poured into Cambridge to see the fun. Every entrance was barricaded, every vehicle stopped, and toll demanded. Progress was difficult in one street because Mr John Day of Trinity was having breakfast with Miss Alexandra Hearnshaw, a Newnham mathematician, on a Belisha crossing. In Petty Cury two rival dragons occupied most of the road – a dinosaur quite 70 feet long and containing numberless undergraduates of whom only the feet were visible and a toothy monster centipede writhing from the direction of the Senate House. 58 11 08

1959 04 03
University Proctors generally visit dance halls in Cambridge, they could (but rarely did) visit the licensed houses and never visited private houses unless invited. One of the routine duties was the "walking at night". It was their job to see that undergraduates were prevented from annoying citizens, which was more important than fining them for not wearing gowns. There was very close cooperation with the police as proctors had a greater variety of more suitable punishments; students could be rusticated, gated or fined or even have their university driving licenses withdrawn, Dr E.R. Lapwood told businessmen. 59 04 03

1959 11 06
Roughest November 5th for 20 years, banger battles on Market Hill, £200 damage caused (6.11.59) 59 11 06g

1959 11 07
Harlequins and Columbines, spacemen and fishermen, artists, engine drivers, unmarried 'Mummies' (Egyptian variety), balloon vendors, winged wonders, hot dog sellers, ghouls and luscious lovelies, all filled the streets of Cambridge to collect money for the Earl Haig Fund. The City was crammed with floats, blasted with instruments and its pedestrians and traffic forced to pay tolls before being allowed to pass. One of the most sombre 'floats' was that lamenting the Labour Party's third consecutive defeat at the polls. Another proclaimed "Life's better under the Conservatives" 59 11 07 & aa

1960

1960 10 18
The Vice Chancellor has banned all undergraduates from taking part in Guy Fawkes Night celebrations in the city centre. In recent years November 5th had been marked by particularly destructive and violent acts, including the use of home-make fireworks, which have caused painful injuries to innocent bystanders. Although students have played only a minor part at the

occasions the University are under an obligation to help the city authorities check such disorderly conduct. Now Market Hill and the surrounding area will be out of bounds to members of the University 'in statu pupillari' between 7 pm and midnight 60 10 18 (200 police patrol, no trouble)

1961 10 31
Undergraduates have been banned from the centre of Cambridge on Guy Fawkes Day. This will enable police to control the danger from homemade fireworks which have caused injuries to innocent bystanders A similar ban last year made it the quietest for many years 61 10 31

1961 11 10
Traffic was brought to an almost complete standstill in Cambridge as the Poppy Day Rag got under way and the streets became blocked with floats. Altogether 4,000 students with dustbin lids, tin cans and saucepans collected for the Earl Haig Fund. Dr Kildare performed 'bloody operations' on the streets, Trinity Hall undergraduates shaved Belisha beacons, girls from Girton dressed as blackbirds 'plucked ready for cooking' did hectic business while the 'new Hally Orchestra' gave a command performance with bicycle chains on dustbin lids and old mangles. Pedestrians found it hard to resist a forlorn and bedraggled donkey with an equally forlorn undergraduate clutching a box of soggy poppies. 61 11 10b

1961 11 17
Buckets of water cascaded over undergraduates who marched along King's Parade as a protest against having to wear gowns. About 250, many without gowns, walked four abreast to the Senate House escorted by a solitary policeman. Other students chanted 'Keep the Gown'. When they reached Senate House Hill three Proctors accompanied by two Bulldogs took down some of the names – they are liable to a fine of six shillings and eightpence. The only 'casualty' was a Bulldog who had his top hat snatched by an undergraduate who ran off in Trinity Street 61 11 17b

1962 10 16
A 'mock funeral' was held for two undergraduates, Philip Gurden of Magdalene and Simon Keswick of Trinity, who were sent down for failing their exams. Their 'coffin' was carried on a sports car while in the 'cortege' at the rear was Prince William of Gloucester who is at Magdalene College 62 10 16 [446.9.6]

1962 10 24
A crowd of 5,000 people, mainly students, swarmed through Cambridge after police and Proctors stopped a political protest rally about the American-Cuban crisis on the Market Square. Carrying placards declaring 'Hands Off Cuba' they made their way to Parker's Piece where the meeting got under way with speakers both supporting and opposing President Kennedy's moves. One warned 'We are on the verge of a nuclear war'. Later police prevented another rally outside the Guildhall where demonstrators hammered on the side of passing buses. 62 10 24

1962 11 06
Bonfire Night was very quiet this year. Police appeals for people to stay away from the city centre met with a good response and the streets were almost empty. Extensive use was made of radios and police with walkie-talkie sets moved on any groups from street corners. A University ban on students entering the city centre during the five hours before midnight was equally effective. Major incidents were few and far between and the elaborate measures taken proved more than adequate on one of the quietest Guy Fawkes nights for many years 62 11 06

1962 11 08
Poppy Day rag history – 61 11 08

1962 11 10
Traffic was brought to an almost complete standstill in Cambridge as the Poppy Day Rag got under way and the streets became blocked with floats. Altogether 4,000 students with dustbin lids, tin cans and saucepans collected for the Earl Haig Fund. Dr Kildare performed 'bloody operations' on the streets, Trinity Hall undergraduates shaved Belisha beacons, girls from Girton dressed as blackbirds 'plucked ready for cooking' did hectic business while the 'new Hally Orchestra' gave a command performance with bicycle chains on dustbin lids and old mangles. Pedestrians found it hard to resist a forlorn and bedraggled donkey with an equally forlorn undergraduate clutching a box of soggy poppies. 62 11 10b

1962 12 03
Undergraduates seek distribute Poppy Day money more widely [25.8]

1963 11 09
Cambridge had a carnival atmosphere for the annual Poppy Day Rag. A procession of 35 gay noisy floats was the first 'organised' procession in rag history. They depicted the Great Train Robbery and the Channel Tunnel. Degrees were sold outside the Senate House, passers-by were menaced with toy guns and undergraduates scrubbed zebra crossing, delaying motorists who sere surrounded by students waving collecting tins. It was claimed that The Beatles pop group had been kidnapped and would be sold in Market Square. But News Agency reports say they were returning to Liverpool by car after a tour of Ireland. 63 11 09, a,b Austin car suspended under Bridge of Sighs [12.9,21.14]

1964 11
Last Rag to support only Earl Haig fund [36]

1965 01 14
Rag Day proceeds may be used to fund a youth centre for young people who live and work here. The bankside opposite Magdalene College would be an ideal site. There are good reasons: the college buildings are now awkwardly sited in relation to town development and will always be an encumbrance in terms of planning. Townspeople have to pay higher rates because of the specially low rating allowed the colleges and industrial development has been restricted which would have provided new industries. As it is many children have to go to other towns to earn their livings. And when they reach marriageable age they have difficulty finding housing since so much land is taken up by the university.– 65 01 14a

1965 06 07
"Peace in Vietnam" banner at Kings [22.2]

1965 07 30
City vote not to change date Rag Day, student protest, seven colleges opt out boycott chosen charities [25.9]

1965 11 13
Rag Day quietest for years following controversy – 65 11 13, 65 11 15

1966 03 11

Rag Day: try again, split proceeds; Legion to collect on Poppy Day & undergraduates have rag week later with third to Legion; failure [25.10]

1966 04 11
University ban King Street run; started 40 years ago – 66 04 11a; does not take place 66 04 21c; takes place in authorities defiance of proctors – 66 04 28c

1967 10 28
Prime Minister Harold Wilson greeted by one of biggest demonstrations, 1,000 protestors encircle Guildhall – 67 10 28

1967 11 18
Fighting local youths & students, collecting tins snatched, flop [25.11]

1968 02 08
Cambridge Rag for 1968 is axed due to rowdyism and failing enthusiasm of undergraduates – 68 02 08

1968 11 25
Three-wheel car hung under Bridge of Sighs – details – 68 11 25a

1969 02 08
Prince Charles crowns Rag Queen- 69 02 08b, 69 02 15a

1969 02 15
Rag Day takes new look; parades off in break with Poppy tradition; squeeze into mini car – 69 02 15

1969 02 24
Rag switched to February, raise less than half, St Johns college loses £330, "such a flop people did not realise it was on" [25.13

1969 02 25
Prince Charles as singing dustman in Rag revue – 69 02 25

1970

1970 02 14
"Garden House riot": police make truncheon charge against mob of undergraduates who surged forward pinning score constables against shattered plate-glass windows causing £2,276 damage Garden House Hote1. City demand punishment for rioters 1000 march to Greek rally, 300 admit to being at anti-Junta demonstration four guilty of riot, seven acquitted; six sent prison periods 5-18 months, two sent to borstal. "GHR changed course of events; afterwards student violence died off, 11,280 at dinner, climax of Greek Week promoting holidays under Right-Wing military dictatorship; Police invoked Riot Act, not used for years. Judge Melford Stevenson said it most complete example of intelligent young people getting involved in complete bloody nonsense - 70 02 14, 14a, 14b, 70 02 18 & a. 70 06 24

1970 07 11
Proctors' future for discipline to be considered – 70 07 11

1970 10 13
Proctors not to attend student political demonstrations which take place off university premises; they will subject only to police and civil law – 70 10 13; students vote to end proctors – 70 10 13b

1971 01 08
Rudi Dutschke who came to Britain in 1986 to recover from gunshot wounds and has been living at Clare Hall should not be allowed to stay, Tribunal recommends – 71 01 08; call for University strike – 71 01 11; students plan protest – 71 01 14; 1,000 students march – 71 01 16

1971 02 22
Rag Day violence forces decorated float procession to be abandoned – 71 02 22

1972
No more Rag queens crowned 82 02 26 [36]

1972 02 07
Undergraduate sit-in at Old Schools caused damage, forced way through doors into the Squire Law Library; carpet in Combination Room burned by cigarettes – 72 02 07 [5.7]

1972 03 10
Proctor injured in uproar, p1

1972 03 15
Students want proctor disciplined, p14

1972 06 02
Proctors feared pitched battle, p19

1973
Undergraduates drop Earl Haig fund, profits slump

1973 02 15
Student sit-ins in Cambridge should be met with firm action, and, if necessary, criminal proceedings says the University's High Steward, Lord Devlin, in a report on student disturbances. In the report - arising out of last February's occupation of university offices by students - his advice to the university for dealing with demonstrations is clear. First there should be "persuasion by the proctors and university constables, reinforced by enough physical presence to test the atmosphere". If that fails the police should be called in and criminal proceedings instituted. Lord Devlin calls for more student participation in the university government, a forum for discussion of student vies and a better information service

1974 08 12
Rag Day move to August flops, 'enthusiasm an all-time low', energy crisis postpones rag to November [25.14, 36]

1975 04 28
The King Street run or the King Street pint to pint is a Cambridge drinking tradition. It means drinking eight pints of beer in two hours. In the old days King Street had enough ale houses for the Run to be held along it, but now the organisers have to plan the route incorporating public houses elsewhere. The run last year ended at The Zebra in Newmarket Road but licensee Mrs M.

Warren won't be allowing it again. Last year youths who vomited in Fair Street outside the Hopbine bought a ban there on all future runs.

1976 02 13
Biggest crowd decade watch parade decorated vehicles [26.1]

1977
Jubilee year boosts fund raising 82 02 36 [36]

1978 03 07
Princess Anne mobbed at Rag Charity debate on 'Women's place is in the harem' [26.2]

1980

1980
CSU take over organisation Rag

1980 06 10
Chanting demonstrators broke through a security cordon at Queens' College Cambridge to protest at a stag night being held by male undergraduates. They 'invaded' from punts and burst through padlocked college gates before marching around outside the dining hall where 150 people were watching two strippers. The entertainment which included a blue comedian and a dirty limerick competition was organised to mark the college's last days as an all-male preserve. 80 06 10b

1980 11 13
The Chilean Ambassador was forced to clamber to safety across the rooftops of St John's College after demonstrators burst into the locked room in which he was addressing a private meeting of the Monday Club, a right-wing undergraduate society. He was ushered along a narrow ledge and through another window into a don's room while other opponents of the Chilean regime chanted and jeered from the courtyard below. He was unable to leave the college until police arrived to escort him away. 80 11 13a

1981 02 14
13 arrested RTZ demonstration Garden House Hotel (S. African mining co) [25.1]

1981 06 12
Rag raises record £14,000 [26.3]

1984 03 12
Despite rain and a wicked wind Cambridge University undergraduates astonished bystanders with their Rag Day activities. Prince Edward started a sponsored crawl to Grantchester, there were parachute jumps, exhibitions of motorbike skills and a tug of war. Some students with distinguished careers ahead of them leapt from Silver Street bridge into the Cam wearing whiskers, tails and picnic plates for ears in an attempt to fly across the river. Two perplexed French visitors summed it up: "If they are so clever, how can they be so stupid?" 84 03 12 p7

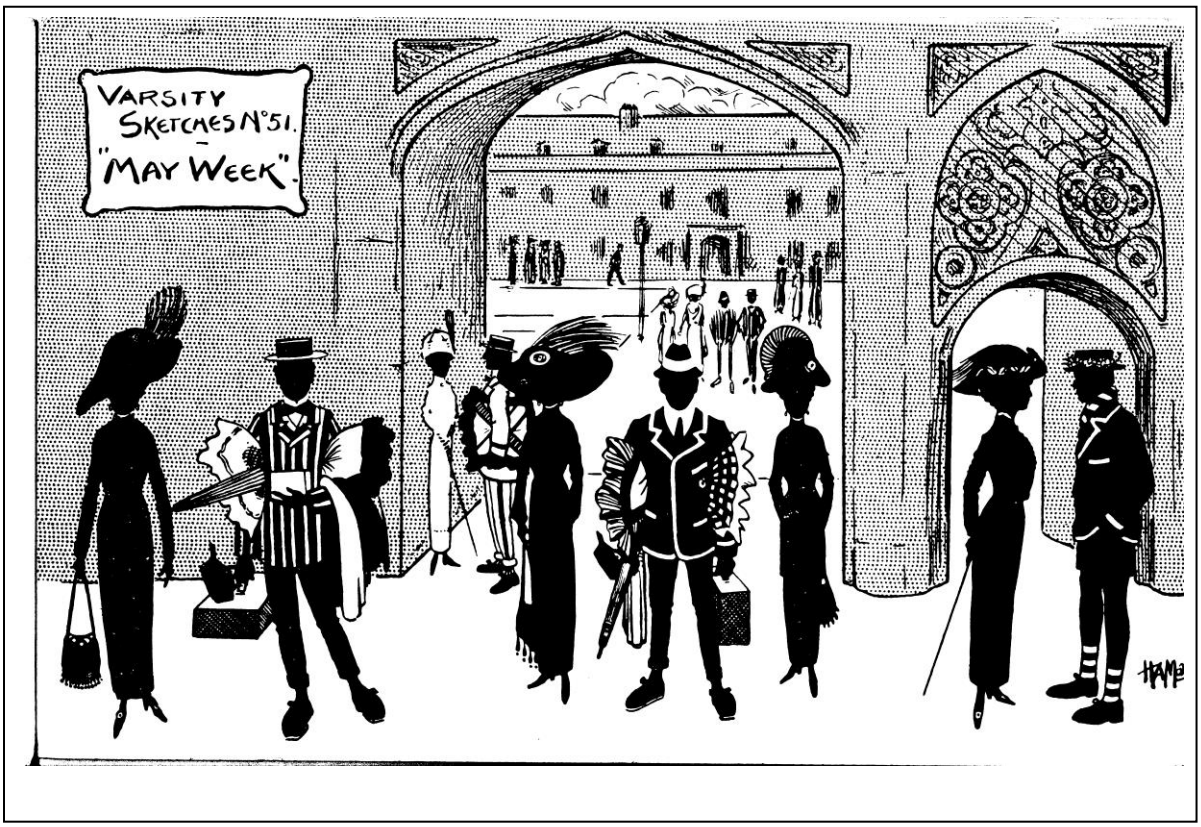
1985 01 24
Rag team bid to heal 12-year rift, 'spirit of 60s when town & gown united' [26.4] "things started to go sour in the mid-60s when politically-aware students started griping at allocation money,

break from Poppy Day marked point at which town lost sympathy, less tolerant of flour bombs, rotten tomatoes, water pistols & eggs; even in jubilee year was systematic hooliganism ... [37]

1985 03 11
Cambridge's student prince, Prince Edward, has helped to make this year's Rag Week a record-breaker. His appearance in the Rag Revue made the show a sell-out and he is guest-of-honour at the first Charity Ball where the raffle winner will lead off the first waltz with the fair-haired prince. Other rag events included mud wrestling, birdmen leaping from Silver Street Bridge and silly sports such as a tug-of-war across the river and an egg-throwing competition. It ended with punt-jousting and a mixed three-legged rugby match. 85 03 11b

1986 03 03
Rag week parade – 86 03 03a

1986 06 18
A K-registered Ford Escort was found dangling from Clare College Bridge. The vehicle came from a scrapyard but it remains a mystery how it got there. One theory is that it was brought down the Cam on punts then hoisted up and lashed into place with ropes and chains. The jolly jape brought laughter from river users but now the college is faced with removing it. They are seeking advice from King's who last year removed a Fiat that was 'parked' in the middle of the river on stilts 86 06 18c



May Week celebrations, c1905 *98.10*

c.36.97 : May Week

1899 06 08
The gaieties of the May Term have today been enhanced by the appearance of the Australian cricketers. Last night famous Grassy and Ditton Paddock were the scene of brilliant assemblages of beauty and fashion. Cambridge is full for the Eights week and looking at her best. The fair sex - a mighty host - seem to be arrayed in their most killing attire. Almost everybody - who is anybody - seems to have got his people "up", and everybody's people appear resolutely determined to enjoy themselves - 1899 06 08

1900

1901 06 12
On the occasion of the annual ball the precincts of picturesque Clare College were lavishly illuminated and decorated. The centre path of the court was covered in and carpeted; palms were placed in groups on the lawn and the whole court made brilliant with hundreds of fairy lamps and Chinese lanterns. Rows of fairy lamps along the river side gave the garden a particularly beautiful appearance. Dancing took place in the hall and the combination room. There were 21 dances on the programme and three supper dances. Supper was set in the reading room 01 06 12

1904 06 11
During 'May' Week the permanent part of the population takes much coin of the realm from the floating part but this year visitors seemed likely to be well down because of the weather. Then on Thursday sunbeams brought a large number of visitors bringing with them awe-inspiring loads of

luggage. Airy dresses of muslin and chiffon and a boating excursion are inseparable to the feminine. They were very comfortable during the all-too-brief spell of sunshine but then the ladies grew colder and colder until in desperation they gratefully accepted loans of jackets and even overcoats from their male escorts. Thus the racing was not as picturesque as it might have been. 1904 06 11

1904 07 02
Few realise the lavish expenditure on the May Balls held in Cambridge Corn Exchange. After the corn merchants have vacated the building on the Saturday evening a small army of workmen take possession. They labour until midnight when the advent of the Sabbath and the strict rules governing municipal buildings shut them out for 24 hours. With the first hour of Monday morning they re-enter and by eight that evening the place is transformed into an artistic ballroom through which not a vestige of the prosaic Corn Exchange is seen. What of the cost? There is not less than £2,000 worth of goods in the ball room; add to that the cost of utilising the Guildhall as a supper room and include the china and plates for the supper and you have a total of some thousands of pounds to provide our moneyed visitors with an evening's entertainment. CDN 2.7.1904

1906 06 09
Cambridge has surrendered to May Week visitors very completely. These pretty butterflies, who transform our mundane streets into kaleidoscope scenes of colour and animation, mean increased profit for the tradesman and are a source of joy to the lodging-house keeper. They must have somewhere to lay their heads, dainty dinners and mayonnaise for supper. They cause money to circulate and many is the summer holiday they provide for the householders who provide rooms for their comfort. 06 06 09b

1907 06 08
The boat procession used to be the most popular of the May Week gaieties. The brilliant blazers of the collegians, the varied colours of the ladies' charming costumes, the prettily adorned boats together with the enlivening strains of an excellent band all combined to make a scene of colour and animation. The gathering fell through owing to the apathy of the boating men who objected to dressing up to be looked at. But it is a great pity 07 06 08a

1909 06 11
Record number of May Week visitors – 09 06 11

1910

1910 08 19
George Fawcett Winter, the well-known boatbuilder, became the proprietor of the boatyard near Victoria Bridge in 1876, succeeding the late Edward Searle. Ten years later he was connected with the boat-building industry at Eton: he used to spend the summer there and the winter at Cambridge. In 1900 he decided to relinquish his Cambridge business which came into the hands of Mr F. Pocock who is now carrying it on. He was well-known amongst University and Town rowing men and took an interest in the affairs of Old Chesterton. 10 08 19h

1911 06 16
May week celebrations – 11 06 16e

1913 06 06

'If you want to spend a gay week, come to Cambridge for the May Week and we'll promise lots of merriment and fun'. Cambridge May Week is now in full swing. We have long ceased to wonder at the anomaly of a May Week which comes in June and lasts a fortnight. According to the 'Onlooker' it was in the year 1882 that the May Races, around which all the festivities have grown up, changed their date from May to June. But custom dies had and people would be horrified if anyone were so bold as to suggest an alteration now 13 06 06 p7 CIP

1914 06 19
May Week will be remembered as the low-water mark in the long series of "Mays". Tradesmen unanimous that business has never been so dull. The gaiety and brightness has diminished and the number of visitors shows considerable decrease as compared with last year 14 06 19 CIPof

1919 06 11
May Week Revival Favoured with brilliant weather, without even the proverbial thunderstorm, May Week, revived in Cambridge this year with all its glory, has been one great success. The festivities have been very much as in pre-war days. There have been the usual brilliant and select functions, including balls, college Concerts, garden parties, etc. The revival has been welcomed by University and Town people alike but the number of visitors has not been as great as had been anticipated generally 19 06 11 [3.11]

1920

1922 06 13
"May week" has reached its second phase and the gaiety of the "Boats" has given places to a wonderful round of college balls and concerts. The May Week Ball of the First and Third Trinity Boat Clubs was probably one of the largest affairs of the kind that has ever been held in Cambridge. Hitherto, owing to a lack of accommodation the numbers attending has had to be restricted to about 650. Mr D.G. Marshall of Jesus Lane, however, found a way out of the difficulty with a somewhat novel scheme. A marquee 100 feet by 40 feet was erected on Market Hill facing the Guildhall and therein supper was laid. A delightfully cool effect was obtained by leaving open a part of the side of the tent nearest the fountain and having the fountain lit up with coloured electric lights in the background. Provision was made for some 1,100 guests and supper was served in three relays of 375 each, a special staff of chefs from the House of Commons was specially engaged for the occasion 22 06 13

1923 06 12
The opening days of the second week of the "Mays" celebrations are usually noted for the array of college balls and concerts, and this year is well in keeping with tradition. On Monday there were three of these functions, - Caius, Clare, and First and Third Trinity in addition to four concerts and a special dinner-dance at the Rendezvous, and in each case a success can be recorded. The weather had improved to such an extent that it allowed the usual outdoor part of the events to be carried out to the full, and ample sitting out accommodation provided in various courts and grounds. The largest function was at Trinity, where the attendance numbered something like 1,400 or 1,500. 23 06 12

1926 06 19
So far May Week has been a pale and melancholy ghost of its former self. What with the powerful counter-attraction of Ascot, the fact that a good many of the men have already "gone down", the restricted train service and the gloomy uncertainty of the weather, Cambridge is having a bad time just now and tradesmen, hotel and lodging-house keepers, boat-proprietors and others who look to May Week to bring a little much-needed grist to their mill have received a

severe blow. Usually May Week comes before Ascot, and visitors to the Mays have been accustomed to go from Cambridge to Ascot. Now that Ascot is over there seems to be no reason which the process should not be reversed 26 06 19

1927 06 13
One of the largest crowds in memory witnessed the last of what may go down in history as the "Microphone Mays". Both banks of the Cam at Ditton presented the spectacle of an unbroken line of sightseers. There were three men up a tree at Ditton Paddock; they and their friend the microphone were telling all England what was happening and theirs was truly a romance of the tree tops. One wonders how many old Cambridge men were listening-in to a drama in which they once played a part. 27 06 13

1930

1930 02 24
The successful crews in the Lent bumping races celebrated in traditional manner. Hundreds of excited undergraduates in 'bump supper' costume filled the streets till midnight and over it all flickered the light and smoke of bonfires. Boats were burned amid shouting and bacchanalian merriment at St Catharine's, Selwyn and Emmanuel who for the first time in history had finished head of the river. An 'eight' was sacrificed in the paddock of the college upon a huge pyre. The manoeuvre of getting the boat into the college proved by no means an easy one and traffic was held up as the unwieldy craft, borne on the shoulders of the crews, was shunted into Downing Street before being passed through the narrow gate. At St Catharine's the boat was escorted to the burning by a procession headed by a band of unemployed ex-Servicemen who had been playing on the towing path. 30 02 24a

1930 06 17
All records were broken at Trinity ball when 1,700 guests attended the most brilliant of the May Week functions. Many townspeople waited to see the guests arrive and crowds flocked to Garret Hostel Bridge to view the grounds in all their evening glory. Up to mid-day next morning occasional stragglers, heavy-eyed but cheerful could be seen walking driving about the town. One such pair were mutually photographed beside their car in Silver Street. Sports coats over white waistcoats were common and in one a dishevelled figure in a flannel dressing gown lolled at the wheel, like a character in a Edgar Wallace film. 30 06 17a

1933 06 12
Saturday was one of the quietest bump supper nights on record. A few blazered undergraduates wearing dress shirts roamed the streets and occasionally a cheer could be heard. Then there was a squad of those who went through various drill movements, using the pavement as a parade ground. But they were remarkably steady, and mild, possibly because the bump-supper beer was likewise! A constable remarked, "Sid Moon (the News cartoonist) should draw a cartoon of an empty Market Hill with a yawning policeman, because that all there's doing tonight" 33 06 12a

1933 06 13
Over 1,300 dancers disported themselves at the First and Third Trinity Boat Club's ball. As usual there were large crowds of spectators lining all the entrances and not a few on the river but great precautions had been taken to avoid gate crashing with two lots of 'sentries'. Inside the place was aglow with thousands of coloured lights while the dance tent itself, with its famous parquet floor, was electrically lit. From a dais in the centre the Embassy band played a sweet programme of dance music until the early hours of the morning. 33 06 13b

1935 06 18
May Week entered its ballroom phase with the twinkle of fairy lights and the dazzle of evening frocks. The biggest ball was that arranged by the First and Third Trinity Boat Club which was attended by 1,200 people. The flood-lit bridge stood out pearly white against the shadowy outlines of college buildings and hundreds of fairy lanterns made a necklace of living fire round the lawns of the Backs while Chinese lanterns hung in the trees along with coloured light indicators which showed the number of the dance in progress. Here and there a brazier gleamed dully, spitting steam in protest against the rain which sought to dampen their fire. 35 06 18

1936 06 24
Burning the boat at Jesus College following success at Lent Race – photo – 36 02 24

1937 06 16
At King's college May ball over 400 guests assembled to dance and make merry. It was a pity the night was not warmer but even so quite a few ventured on the river or wandered into the darkness to admire the scene from afar. The chapel was floodlit – though not with that subtlety one might have desired – and the college hall presented a gala atmosphere, contrasting with its customary sombre appearance. There was dancing to novelties such as the 'Lambeth Walk', fox-trots like 'The Loveliness of You' and a Noel Coward waltz. 38 06 16

1939 06 13
The weather was unreasonably dull for the annual First and Third Trinity Boat Club's Ball and rain meant that the delightful after-dance wandering over the grass was only indulged by the less cautious. Most welcome were the braziers delivering heat to shivering bodies. In the blue-and-white marquee Joe Loss and his dance orchestra reigned supreme playing the 'Eton Boating Song', 'Jeepers Creepers' and other dances. There were three suppers and the dance ended at 6 o'clock with a photograph. Amongst those present were M. Swithinbank, J.C. Balfour and the Earl of Euston. 39 06 13a

1947 06 11
The revival of May Week Balls in something of their full glory brings back to Cambridge something of the spirit of gaiety and colour which we knew before the war and which is now more than ever welcomed as much by townsfolk as by members of the University. The courts of Trinity presented a fairyland-like appearance with its lantern lit cloisters which were also decorated with palms. At Clare College the dining hall was used for dancing to the melodies of Tommy Kinsman's Band from London. Cyril Stapleton and his band provided the music for dancing at Downing College 47 06 11

1949 06 14
The May Balls have brought out a crop of new evening dresses. White, ideal for a summer dance was a favourite colour and diaphanous floating tulle tell to the fore as a material. I noticed several gaily striped or checked stiff taffetas, and a few with big flower patters, but plain colours predominated. Tiered skirts – three or even four of five tiers – are back. One or two of the ladies had fringed, silk shawls, draped over their shoulders and I noticed one carrying a pink feather fan 49 06 14

1950 06 08
In the sweet perfection of a fine tuned evening on the Backs, a record crowd listened to what is surely the loveliest of all events of May Week, the programme of madrigals sung by the Cambridge University Madrigal Society from punts moored beneath King's Bridge. An audience estimated at between 7,000 and 8,000, lined both sides of the bank as the oppressive heat of the

day became tempered by the cool of evening. Even the loud moo of a cow in the paddock failed to break the spell, nor did the faintly-threatening note of a high-flying bomber, reminder of the sterner world out of which the magic of the setting and the sweetness of the singing lifted the listening thousands 50 06 08

1950 06 13
The dusk-to-daylight part of Cambridge May Week festival began last night. For seven or eight hours several of the colleges put on over their grey stone a party dress of coloured lights and other decorations to welcome dancers at their May Week balls. At Downing scintillating fountains spraying sparks, gorgeous aerial cascades of magnificent colour, night turned to day by brilliant rich light, the whole punctuated by an obbligato of crackles and bangs of varying volume made up the main framework of a memorable display. There were even "flying saucers" just to show that firework-makers move with the times 50 06 13

1955 06 15
May Balls are with us again. At Trinity Nat Temple and his band played for a large number of dancers, at St John's guests danced to the music of Hedley Ward and his orchestra while at Clare Tommy Kinsman provided music for everyone – one room being set aside for jiving! Downing had a marquee setting where two hundred couples danced to the music of Chappie D'Amato, who also played at Christ's. 55 06 15

1961 06 08
The 'popsey expresses' are pulling into the station and the city is fast filling up with young girls, here to watch the eights chase each other along the Cam and to dance through a succession of May Balls. There are also 20 concerts, 10 theatrical productions apart from the Footlight's annual frolic and countless exhibitions. Once again Cambridge will take May Week in its stride. It has become used to seeing the revellers in full evening dress walking through the streets for a good day's sleep just as we are beginning another good day's work. 61 06 08a

1962 06 20
May Ball rockets bring storm protest calls, Civil Defence man was pulling on uniform before realised it was fireworks [21.12]

1980 08 09
Cambridge May Balls are four nights of student-organised revelry which will delight some and disturb the sleep of others. This year the cost of a double ticket has peaked at £52.50 and some feel they will be pricing themselves out of existence. But the same was being said ten years ago when Jesus and Trinity were charging eleven guineas. Some tickets do go to outsiders, with adverts often placed in London papers, but the majority of ball-goers are still students. 80 06 09a

1986 05 28
A May Ball is the most glamorous, ritzy event of the year and undergraduates don't mind paying for it. The most expensive double ticket for Peterhouse costs 125 guineas but includes dinner and free champagne all night. Trinity charges diners a more affordable £90. But the Ball everyone wants to go to is at Clare College where £220 has been paid on the black market by a couple desperate to attend. Its serene setting with the riverside gardens makes it the most romantic and Germany's 'Stern' magazine is covering it. 86 05 28a

1986 05 28
St John's College May Ball once featured the Rolling Stones and the Beatles on the same night. This year they have booked Imagination and Ruby Turner together with the Coldstream Guards

and rock group The Inspirational Choir. There will be free drinks and a buffet all night long although roast swan is no longer served. The 1,700 guests include 20 from the New York banking firm Goldmann Sachs and officers from the Sultanate of Oman will also be flying in. 86 05 28b

1986 05 28
Cambridge-based chart-toppers Katrina and the Waves will be the star attraction at Trinity College May Ball while Sandie Shaw will also be returning to the college where she sang before in the swinging Sixties. Jazz and steel bands – even Scottish pipers – will play till dawn. An all-night casino, laser displays and cabaret acts will also ensure there is no time to be bored. But King's College stopped holding May Balls in the sixties: students decided they were too expensive and not the sort of entertainment they wished to be associated with. They now hold June Events instead 86 05 28b

Newnham College Rag Float, 1960 - 232.50

c.36.98 : Cambridge University Women

1873
The very first girl student to attend University lectures in Cambridge, Miss Dove, is going to be the first lady mayor in English history. She must not be confused with the common or garden suffragette. All her life she has been something of a pioneer. She was one of the little group of twelve ladies who enrolled at Miss Emily Davies' college, then carried on at Hitchin, and the very first to enter the new building at Girton where the students re-assembled in October 1873 CWN 08 10 30 p5

1890
1890 06 13
The announcement that Miss P.G. Fawcett was in reality the Senior Wrangler caused much excitement for, although it was well-known that she would attain a higher position in the class list than has ever yet been attained by a woman, it was regarded as improbably that she would obtain higher marks than the Senior Wrangler. Twentieth Wrangler is the best place previously obtained by a woman since women's names have been published in the class list. In 1887 Miss Ramsey (now Mrs Butler, the wife of the present Vice Chancellor) was Senior Classic. Miss Fawcett was educated at the High School, Clapham, and obtained a scholarship at Newnham. She was present at the reading of the list and was heartily cheered by the undergraduates as she left the building in

company with Miss Clough, the principal of Newnham. On Saturday night there were great rejoicings at Newnham 1890 06 13 Ch

1895
Training college for women teachers new building [13]

1897 05 05
While the members of the University Senate are engaged in a fierce contest to decide whether women shall be admitted to the titles of degrees, the undergraduates have given most emphatic expressions to their opinion. A committee was formed and within six days over 2,100 signatures (the total number of undergraduates and Bachelors is only 2.840) have been sent to a memorial expressing the conviction that the giving of degrees to women would prove injurious to the position and efficiency of the University as a University for men 1897 05 05

1897 05 12
Last night a brilliant debate took place in the Debating Hall of the Cambridge University Union on the question of Women's Degrees. Mr T.F.R. McDonnell of St John's College said that one would suppose that as soon as the report had been passed a plague of women would descend upon Cambridge and infest everything. It was asked why women did not found a University of their own. A University was not built in a day and this would not prevent them from building one 1897 05 12

1897 05 21
After the Senate House scenes yesterday (when the University voted against degrees for women) there was a brief respite. It was the calm before the storm. About 7 o'clock there was a grand gathering of the clans. Undergraduates began trooping through the streets to what was obviously a pre-arranged rendezvous - the Market Hill. From the four corners of the square fire was opened upon everybody and everything within range. Bombs, hand-rockets, and every description of firework manufactured were flung haphazard into the crowd until the scene resembled nothing so much as the bombardment of a hostile camp, It is no exaggeration to say that hundreds of pounds worth of stuff were got rid of during the five hours the proceedings lasted 1897 05 21

1897 05 21
'The University of Cambridge' (the "Daily News" thinks) 'has not improved its reputation for sense and judgement by its votes (not to award women degrees). Not a single argument worthy of the name has been produced in favour of the decision'. 'Of the wisdom shown by the Cambridge Senate there can be but one opinion' (says the "Morning Post"). 'In rejecting by an overwhelming majority the Graces for giving Titles of Degrees to ladies they have done much to revive the reputation of their University for forethought and discretion' 1897 05 21

1900

1907 06 11
Some disappointment has been occasioned by the moderate success of women mathematicians this year. Only ten sat for the Tripos and Miss Eva Smith of Newnham is the only wrangler. The highest position ever attained by a woman was in 1890 when Miss Fawcett, daughter of the former blind Postmaster-General, was placed above the Senior Wrangler – G.T. Bennett, Fellow of Emmanuel College. 07 06 11

1910

1910 03 11
A party of five undergraduates attempted to repeat the 'Merry Widow' hoax at the New Theatre but were sadly unsuccessful. It is a well-known rule that undergraduates may not purchase boxes unless accompanied by ladies or some elderly chaperone. A box was ordered in the name of the Hon Miss Neville of Magdalene College, which aroused suspicion. The party comprised three undergraduates and two 'ladies' who were very tall, walked with mannish strides and spoke in a quaint high-pitched falsetto. Mr Redfarn did not take many seconds to spot the disguise. 10 03 11f

1913 09 28
Harrods are offering 12 positions to girls educated at Girton College, though they are not sure such a class of women are appropriate: "I cannot imagine the Girton girl selling woollens over the counter", a manager says. Their temperament is altogether unsuitable and they would find it difficult to adapt to the surroundings. The girls agree: their training fits them for professions. They could do no good in a shop and their knowledge would be wasted. They lead a healthy outdoor life and do not want to be boxed up with just a fortnight's holiday. 13 09 28 p6 CIP

1914 03 27
Miss Ethel Sargent, the well-known botanist of Girton College, enjoys the distinction of being the first woman to hold the office of President of any section of the British Association. But she is refusing to pay the King's Taxes as a protest against being taxed without having a vote. Articles, including microscopic accessories and Zeiss lenses were seized and sold by auction on the Green at Girton. It is the third such sale since 1912 14 03 27b & c

1916 05 17
Miss E.C. Jones, Mistress of Girton – profile – 16 05 17b

1920

1920 05 12
Women and degrees – syndicate appointed to consider whether they should be admitted to membership or how university could co-operate with the women's colleges, are unable to agree - CDN 20 05 12

1920 12 09
University reject admission of women by 192 votes - CDN 20 12 09

1921
Rags seemed to have reached climax after WWI, by 1920 a new kind of misdirected energy, originality & daring is being poured into organising elaborate stunts, hoaxes & escapades; Michaelmas 1921 was great term for rags. Senate opened academic year by debating granting degrees for women; became political issue; first rag of burning gates of Newnham, then on voting day a colossal mock funeral for 'The death of the Varsity' with corpse of last male undergraduate being borne on a bier surrounded by aged mourners whose long grey beards dragged in dust

1921 10 26
University votes against women's degrees; undergraduate mock funeral – photos – 21 10 26b

1922 03 25
There was issued yesterday the report of the Royal Commission on Oxford and Cambridge Universities. "We are unanimous in thinking" (says the Commissioners) "that ample facilities

should be offered for the education of women. On the other hand we strongly desire that Cambridge should remain mainly and predominantly a men's university. To give a sense of security we consider that the number of women undergraduates should be 500, which would give a proportion of about one in each ten of the total number of undergraduates" 22 03 25

1927 06 15
Three well-known Cambridge sportsmen who have completed their academic careers distinguished themselves by spending part of the night in the grounds of one of the women's colleges and part in another. At midnight on Saturday they climbed into Newnham, taking with them a tent which they pitched in full view and were not discovered until they were all snug in "bed", when they commenced community singing. Newnham Dons became alarmed and phoned for the police, who turned them out. They then motored to Girton, scaled a twelve-foot wall and pitched the tent. They were not discovered until the early hours of the morning when the earliest risers amongst the lady students saw the strange sight in the middle of the court. 27 06 15

1929 11 27
Women students packed the gallery at the Cambridge Union Society when a motion supporting full University rights for women was carried. A sensation was caused before the debate when it was proposed that in view of the importance of the issue involved the gallery should be cleared but the President ruled that this would cause too much disturbance. Women students lived under a code of rules that could only be described as fatuous; one of the women's colleges allowed its students to go unchaperoned to King's Chapel, but to no other. Girton allowed them to go to the theatre 'provided the party was of reasonable size', whilst Newnham were permitted provided the party 'was not of unreasonable size' (laughter) 29 11 27

1930

1936 02 06
The Cambridge University Mummers, who are still the only University Dramatic Society to admit women members equally with men in all their activities, are presenting 'Heartbreak House' by Bernard Shaw. In the cast there are four members of Newnham, the most prominent of whom is Miss Teresa Mayor. She will be supported by Beryl Eeman, Cecilia Hopkinson and Deirdre Moore. The play will be produced by George Rylands who is well known for productions at the A.D.C. 36 02 06a

1939 05 06
Miss Dorothy Annie Elizabeth Garrod, of Newnham College, was elected the first woman professor at Cambridge University. Miss Garrod, who is an archaeologist of distinction, was educated at both Oxford and Cambridge, and succeeds Dr. E. H. Minns, of Pembroke College in the Disney Professorship of Archaeology 39 05 12 CIPof [1.1] 39 05 06

1940

1947 12 08
The word "Placet" (Latin for "It pleases") said by the Senior and Junior Proctors in unison as they raised their caps concluded the less-than-a-minute-long part of the Congregation in Cambridge Senate House by which it was formally agreed that women should have full status within the University. A handful of women students, undergraduates and other visitors in the gallery heard the decision made. It is planned that the new regulations shall come into force at the beginning of the next academic year in October; they will come under Proctorial supervision and will wear academic dress - 47 12 08 [2.14,2.21,5.3, 8.24]

1948 05 05
The women students of Newnham and Girton will emerge in their New Look in the October term. The gowns which their full University status now entitles them to wear have now been designed, and are on sale at £3 3s. each, no coupons. They are identical with those of the men, except that they have closed sleeves instead of a slit at the opening. This is because it was felt it would be unsuitable to have bare arms showing in summer time, when the girls wear short sleeved dresses. As far as headwear is concerned stiff board was preferred to a soft cap, and squares have been decided upon. These are still in such short supply that most girls will, like the men, go bareheaded for the moment 48 05 05

1948 10 21
When the Queen stood before the Vice Chancellor in Cambridge Senate House today to receive the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Law she was not only a Queen receiving an Honour but also a symbol of the passing of a 700-years-old "tradition" in the university. For, during the whole of the University's history no Queen - and no other woman - has ever before had a degree conferred upon her, because until the recent changes in the statutes giving women full membership the conferring of such an honour was not possible. As the Queen entered the Senate House there was a burst of cheering and clapping. Her scarlet Doctor's robes and her black velvet doctor's cap, made a charming ensemble with the Cambridge blue shade of her dress 48 10 21

1948 10 21
As the Queen left Girton College yesterday evening, following her visit there, many students gathered in the drive made appropriate if unorthodox use of the gowns they now wear as symbols of their recently won rights to be full members of the University. They took off their gowns and waved them in farewell to the Royal lady, who in the morning had symbolised those new rights as she received in the Senate House the first degree to be conferred upon a woman in University history

1948 11 15
It really was women's day at the university Senate House on Saturday. Following the Queen's visit last month came the first historic degree ceremony to include women graduates. Previously they had held only the title of their degrees but now a decree has been passed admitting them to full membership they can proceed in person to take them. 114 were conferred in all. The recipients included a number who had left the colleges many years go - two from Girton had graduated in the 1890s. Side by side with them were young women who had graduated last year. All were enjoying the first fruits of a successful outcome of a struggle that had lasted 70 years 48 11 15

1948 11 17
Soon the sight of women students in their gowns and proceeding to degrees alongside the men, will become common place, and no one will give them a second thought. It is the “first time” however, which makes news and even the occasion of the first woman to be “progged” becomes a minor act of University history. Members of the colleges had awaited with interest to see on whom this “honour” would befall. Their curiosity was satisfied within three weeks of the beginning of term. The “honour” – said to have be coveted by a number of women students, who tried to attract the attention of the proctor – fell to a third-year anthropology student of Girton, Miss Valida Turner, who was fined for not wearing her gown after dark 48 11 17

1949

Training college for women teachers changes name to Hughes Hall after first principal as becomes recognised institution; had been founded 1885 in Newnham, expanded; new buildings 1895 [3.15,13]

1950

1952 06 12
Cambridge University is considering the possibility of increasing the number of women permitted to the University in any one year. The Council of Senate recommends there should be a new autonomous foundation for women students, the number not exceeding 100. They consider there is a great need for women graduates but any increase should not lead to a lowering of standards. Present regulations permit of 1,400 women, one-fifth of the total of men students. Cambridge is doing considerably less than other Universities in providing women with a University education.

1954 10 06
A new chapter in Cambridge University history has opened on an informal note at New Hall, the third foundation for women, where the first 16 students are now in residence. They drew lots for the rather Spartan bedrooms while a 'combination' room is being used for (voluntary) morning services – there is no chapel - and other activities. A rather gloomy downstairs study room is well-equipped with desks and chairs and nearby is an out-of-doors wringer of hefty make. "We can do our own washing and save on laundry bills", said Miss Angela Holder, a petite, attractive Freshman, giving the handle an experimental turn. Miss A.R. Murray, the tutor, says she welcomes the building – a converted guest house - as a temporary home but looks forward to moving to Byron House in 1960

1957 10 16
Is a university education wasted on a woman? Many people are convinced that for a girl to have a long and expensive education, only to get married at the end, is a waste of time and money. Now Cambridge graduate, Judith Hubback, has interviewed married university women for a book 'Wives who went to college'. It is impossible to forecast who will marry and who will not: if a woman never marries she will have to compete with men in her profession, but if she has a family she will need education of other skills. 57 10 16

1959 10 19
A 21-year-old blonde sat down with 200 students in the dining room of Christ's College – and went completely unnoticed. That was not surprising because she was dressed in a grey suit, bright yellow waistcoat and wore thick glasses and a black beard! Elizabeth Grant, a third year medical student had decided to avenge the fair sex for a hoax played on Girton students last week. College regulations allow students to bring in their (male) friends but women are banned. Everything went off beautifully. She kept her voice down during the meal and although second glances were cast by some, nobody said anything. 59 10 19d

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1961 02 20
A team from Pan American Airways visited Cambridge speaking to applicants from the girls' colleges to fill their quota for air stewardesses, one of the most glamorous carers in the 20th-century.. One said "We thought we might get a nice type of girl from the University – the sort

who, once she has got her degree, would like to spend a year or 18 months flying with us. By the time they're 23 they want to marry; you can't blame them really". The firm were quite reconciled to it and it kept their service fresh and active. In spite of the attractive prospects there were very few applicants for interview from
Girton or Newnham students 61 02 20

1961 03 21
Women undergraduates are rather spoiled, with ten men to each girl, and marry at a younger age so Newnham has problems finding College Fellows, the Principal complained. Sometimes girls staying in Cambridge after their marriage could continue their work but often it meant recruiting Dons from outside. This brought other problems as Newnham could not afford to pay a good income meaning many candidates were unable to take up the appointment 61 03 21

1961 05 04
Women undergraduates should stop trying to be competitive with the men and become complementary to them instead. There should be optional University classes in cookery, needlework and floral arrangements for the benefit of women, a Girton undergraduate writes in the 'Cambridge Review'. But two Newnham students are indignant that anyone should suppose they are not already proficient in domestic matters when they came up to Cambridge and deny women have no recreation other than working or taking tea 61 05 04

1961 10 18
A 20-year old law student at New Hall was carried unconscious from the Cambridge Union Society debating chamber. She was one of three girls who fought their way in as a protest against 'a niggling absurd and out-of-date rule' which forbids women as debating members. As the guest speakers, Peter Thorneycroft, the Minister of Aviation and Labour MP Richard Crossman looked on, the debate was adjourned. In the scuffles that followed the girl fainted. She was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital. The debate then continued. 61 10 18a

1962 11 21
Union Society women may now speak [26.8]

1963 11 05
History was made when Janet Hogg, a 321-year-old New Hall undergraduate, became the first woman member of the University Union Society since its formation in 1815. Two Girton women became the first to take part in a debate on the motion "Till death do us part is ridiculous". The motion was rejected. To return home to a wife and family after a day of fighting for his existence was one of the most pleasant and happy things that could happen to a man. 63 11 05, 13a first Janet Hogg [7.16]

1965 10 11
Lucy Cavendish college, Britain's 1st graduate college for women to be all-woman college helping those whose careers interrupted : one of a number of 'recognised collegiate societies' rising in Cambridge to meet need of the growing numbers of University officers and active senior members without fellowship and the increasing number of research students, are experimental & University reserves right to withdraw recognition of any that fails; others are Darwin college for men founded by Trinity, St John-s & Caius & University College founded by the University for men & women [1.16,7.19.14]

1965 06 08
New Hall new college buildings opened Queen Mother [8.8]

1965 02 13
Strict male-female segregation rule scrapped by Queens College which makes way for new foundation taking both sexes [15.9]

1966
Union Society favour mixed colleges

1967 06 01
Union Society first woman president Anne Mallelieu [26.10]

1969 03 18
Churchill announce plans to admit women in 1972 - first co-ed move in Cambridge undergraduate college in 700 years [5.9]

1969 01 03
Girton celebrate centenary [6.7]

1969 02 08
Prince Charles crowns Rag Queen- 69 02 08b, 69 02 15a

1969 05 28
King's College to become second to admit women – 69 05 28

1970

1971 12 17
Clare College to offer places to 36 girl undergraduates – 71 12 17

1972
Clare, Kings & Churchill become mixed [5.9]

1973 11 22
1200 march try admit more women & abandon single-sex colleges - oppose attempts to get special Oxbridge legislation in Equal opportunities Bill [24.6]

1973 03 03
The Master of St Catharine's College, Professor Edwin Rich, was involved in a scuffle with women's lib demonstrators last night when 30 of them interrupted the Cambridge college's dinner. College Fellows left the high table and with waiters rushed to the 69-year-old Master's assistance when women demonstrators began struggling with him after he had grabbed a bugle which one woman attempted to blow in his face. The demonstration was aimed at drawing attention to the lack of places for women in Cambridge University. The trouble started immediately after grace had been said and halted waiters in their tracks leaving them poised with trays of grapefruit. The demonstrators - all women - swept into the hall led by a bugler and carrying an assortment of placards on the theme "Sexism – out 73 03 03

1973 05 23
After 700 years of male domination the first woman to be chosen as Vice Chancellor - the effective head of Cambridge University - does not anticipate any particular problems in dealing with her male colleagues. Miss Rosemary Murray, who is president of New Hall, was nominated

by the Council of Senate. She will take up her post in two years if the nomination is accepted by the university, usually a formality. She is due to take charge at a difficult time in the university's history, when students are demanding more and more say in the running of its affairs 73 05 23

1974 12 16
Trinity Hall to admit women [10.6]

1975
Dame Rosemary Murray becomes first women Vice Chancellor [5.10]

1975 05 28
Cambridge's largest all-male college, Trinity is to admit women. Graduate women students will be admitted from October 1976 and undergraduate women from October 1978. The college decision puts Trinity fourth in line amongst previous all-male colleges who are now planning to open their door both to women dons and students. In 1976 Sidney Sussex and Selwyn colleges will become co-educational, followed in 1977 by Trinity Hall c75 05 30

1975 11 20
The number of women seeking Cambridge University places has remained virtually unchanged despite the opening of three previously all-male colleges to girl applicants. At present, with three women's and three mixed colleges about 500 women a year are being admitted. By 1978 four more colleges will have become mixed, bringing the expected number to 650 women. Miss Sheila Edmonds, Vice-Principal of Newnham College said while some well-qualified candidates still do not secure a Cambridge place, this would not be true if the total admission were 650, instead of 500 75 11 20

1976 10
Selwyn start to take women [9.9]

1978
Girton College admits men

1979
Dr Marie Axton first woman Proctor [5.11];

1979 08 21
Six more colleges take women [16.7]

1980

1980 11 08
An exclusive university dining club may open its doors to the public. The Pitt Club is a miniature men-only London club where prospective members are vetted carefully and anyone without a public school education is likely to be black-balled. It also houses the Hawks Club for university sporting Blues. But it is no longer making money and is looking for tenants to share the former Turkish bath house in Jesus Lane. Strudels, one of the restaurants in the Kite facing eviction, is amongst a number to express an interest. 80 11 08

1981 10 26
Corpus admit women [6.2]

1981 01 28
A Cambridge student has set up a computer dating service for lonely hearts in the university. For just 50p the unattached undergraduate is promised an introduction to the partner of his dreams. Confidential questionnaires drawn up by a student of experimental psychology were sent out and the results loaded on a computer. It matches them up to produce ideal partners and bliss ensures. It is hoped the first couples will be paired off by St Valentine's Day 81 01 28

1982 09 24
St Johns to take women from October [9.7]

1983 03 15
Peterhouse to admit women in 1985 [8.12]

1985
Peterhouse admits women

1985 08 03
Hughes Hall centenary - set up 1885 to train women to teach in secondary schools [7.2]

1986 10 10
Magdalene, the one college in the Oxbridge system where a chap could count on being in the exclusive company of other chaps, is set to go co-educational. The governing body has voted to overturn 444 years of historical precedent and amend the statutes. The news was greeted with glum resignation by some of the present undergraduates. That other bastion of entrenched traditionalism, Peterhouse, finally said yes to women students last year, a trend that started in 1972 when Churchill, Clare and King's went mixed. 86 10 10 [8.5]

1988 05 20
Magdalene is the only college in Cambridge to host candle-lit dinners in the grand hall every night of the week. But other traditional values are changing. The decision to admit women dons and undergraduates has prompted refurbishment of the college's Spartan amenities, bringing in floral curtains and pastel pink wallpaper to the rooms of even the hardiest rugby players. Today much of the opposition to the decision has subsided, although the 'Black October' dining society still celebrates the masculine virtues of single-sex colleges. Whether the college's character can survive this quantum leap into the present remains to be seen 88 05 20b

1988 05 20
The trend towards admitting female undergraduates began in 1972 when Churchill, Clare and King's Colleges went mixed. Two of the first girls were from Cambridge schools. By June 1982 when Pembroke 'fell' there were only two colleges left as all-male preserves, then Peterhouse reluctantly bowed to pressure. But when Magdalene's governing body overturned 444 years of historical precedent by voting to let in women an indignant porter flew a black flag at half mast and undergraduates sported black armbands. Three of the original four women's colleges are still single sex, though Girton admitted men in 1977. 88 05 20c

1988 10 12
Thirty-six women undergraduates arrived at Magdalene College amid a blaze of publicity breaking 444 years of history as a male-only college, the last in Cambridge. They had been warned about the dreaded Black October dining society whose members donned funereal armbands when it was announced that the college was to 'fall', and expected a lukewarm welcome. Surprisingly the reverse is true. One said "I think some of the men were frightened that

the girls were going to be extremely militant or feminist. But they seem quite pleased and say it is a lot more social" 88 10 12

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Boy Scout parade, Bridge Street, c1910 *52.02*

c.37.9 : Youth groups and societies
Includes Scouts, Guides, Boys' Brigade, playgrounds and youth clubs; see also c.31.5 : Children

1902 10 24
The members of the Cambridge Y.M.C.A. celebrated their jubilee with a soiree in their rooms in Alexandra Street. 50 years ago the Church of England Young Men's Society and the Sunday School Teachers' Institute amalgamated, forming the Association. It settled in Rose Crescent. In 1853 it moved to larger premises at 5, Sidney Street, moving to Hobson Place in 1858 and then St Edward's Passage. In 1870 the first stone was laid of their present building; it was completed a year later. To call the soiree a success is scarcely adequate; the visitors never had a dull moment from the time they entered the door until the National Anthem brought the evening to a close CDN 1902 10 24

1905 12 02
The Cambridge "Girl's Realm" Guild was founded in connection with the "Girl's Realm Magazine" and members do all they can for the sick by sending toys, picture-books and garments for distribution among the poor. Any boy can become a 'squire' at a subscription of one shilling. A Factory Girls Home has been built in Kennington Road, London to assist tired work-girls who would not otherwise gain relief from the year's toil 05 12 02a

1906 06 21
One of the most worthy objects of the Rev T.W. Woods of St Barnabas Parish is for a drill hall, gymnasium and rooms for young men and boys to be erected on a piece of ground at the bottom

of Covent Garden. Tenders have been opened from local builders and that of Messrs Willmott and Sons, for £1,045 was agreed. Mr Reginald Tollitt is the architect. 06 06 21

1908 02 22
Lieut.-General R.S. Baden-Powell, the famous defender of Mafeking, propounded his 'fad' – peace scouting for boys as a means of instruction in good citizenship – before a large audience at the Perse School Hall. The Vice Chancellor gave apologies from the Bishop of Ely and various college Masters, all of whom were most heartily in sympathy with the objects of the meeting. 08 02 22

1908 03 06
Following Lieut.-General Baden-Powell's recent visit, a meeting was held to consider forming a branch of the scheme of boy-scouts, perhaps as a development of the present Boys' Brigade. But Capt Norton-Fagge thought there were a large number of boys not eligible for the Boys' or Church Lads' Brigades who would be just the lads for this scheme. A number of men might take three boys each and teach them a few of the elementary principles. 08 03 06c

1908 03 12
In the St Matthew's area of Cambridge are many public houses and the poverty of small homes threw the young people into the streets in search of amusement. There were thirteen different buildings in which social evenings and gymnastic clubs were continually held throughout the week. But some young men find infinitely more pleasure in racing through the streets and hooliganism. A boys' club at the Barnwell Theatre Mission or the Coffee Tavern on Newmarket Road would be worth trying. 08 03 12b & c

1910

1910 06 10
Owing to the rapid increase of the Boy Scout movement in Cambridge a meeting was held at the Perse School to inaugurate a Boy Scouts Association. It will nominate suitable persons to act as scoutmasters, register troops and patrols, encourage the movement and work in co-operation with other boys' organisations. The Chief Scout, Sir Robert Baden-Powell will be invited to inspect the Cambridge scouts in the autumn. 10 06 10

1911
1st Girl Guide company formed [Misc.2.2]

1911 02 17
Sir Robert Baden-Powell is to inspect Cambridge boy scouts in May when troops will give demonstrations of their work. Cambridgeshire is a county in which the movement has made little progress and it is hoped his visit will arouse greater enthusiasm. A prize of a regulation B flat bugle will be awarded to the best patrol raised in a new centre. There are already twelve troops in Cambridge, which is now one of the best organised scout centres in the kingdom but more men are needed to volunteer as scoutmasters 11 02 17a

1911 02 24
Histon Troop of Peace Scouts was inspected by Sir Francis Vane, President of the British Boy Scouts who said the Histon Troop was not only the First of All in England, but the First of All in the world (great applause). War is an awful thing and the Peace Scouts were an order whose role was to rescue and save, not destroy. Their ambulance work was performed with enthusiasm, the

Morse signalling was good and the Swedish drill excellent. But they should be given training in Fire Brigade work so they could assist in passing buckets of water in an emergency. 11 03 24e

1911 05 26
Sir Robert Baden-Powell inspected 500 Boy Scouts at a grand rally in Grange Road. The assembly was one of the most remarkable that has ever taken place in Cambridge, certainly nothing like it has ever been seen in the locality before. 'B.P.' has set in motion a mighty engine. Like an electric train it has gathered way with amazing swiftness and desolate is the place that has not heard the call of the Boy Scout engaged in an errand such seeking some lost child or succouring someone in danger or distress. 11 05 26b-e

1911 09 29
A terrible shock has been dealt to scouts in Cambridge by the death of Scoutmaster William Wright, a second year undergraduate of Queens' College. Joining when he first came to Cambridge he worked with Scoutmaster Spiller of the 7th and Scoutmaster Curzon of the 1st and had already attained the 24 highest honours badges which secured him the title of 'Silver Wolf'. To him is due the success of the Cambridge Rally when Baden-Powell reviewed 500 scouts. At his home at Duffield he had a troop of his own including a patrol of fellows over 18 years of age. 11 09 29

1911 12 08
The Cambridge Chapter of the Order of World Scouts was inaugurated in St Giles church. It is intended to bind Scoutmasters and officers more closely together in their great work and ensure good men for the positions. Every member swears solemnly to obey the Scout Law. The Histon Troop of the British Boy Scouts was present as were a patrol of the Cambridge B-P Scouts. The order was inaugurated in the Chapel Royal Savoy by the Grand Scoutmaster, Sir Francis Vane when the Cambridge British Boy Scouts were represented. 11 12 08

1912 02 23
About 150 Boy Scouts took part in a convoy scheme at Histon. The idea was that a Blue Force, about 40 in number, was besieged in Histon village by a Red Force of over 60 Scouts, while a Blue relief column from Cambridge, some 40 strong, divided into two parts, each with a trek-cart, endeavoured to relive them. The relief party, under Scoutmaster Curzon, advanced via Milton but met with serious opposition at Impington. A detachment of the Red Force was sent to hold the level crossing on the Histon-Girton Road but was ambushed. After the 'Cease Fire' the scouts had tea at Histon Institute 12 02 23h

1912 04 26
Romsey Town children had been in court charged with playing in Ross Street or St Philip's Road to the annoyance of the householders. Efforts had been made for 14 years to secure a public recreation ground; now land between the Council School and Mill Road is advertised for sale. It represents one of the last chances to secure an open space. The children of Romsey Town are on the whole healthy and strong and should have an opportunity of breathing fresh air on this open space, a meeting was told. 12 04 26c

1912 05 03
Two Cambridge 13-year-old boys were summonsed after P.C. Moss saw them with pistols in Fen Ditton Lane. The boys, who were in Scouts' uniform, said they'd gone there to try them and did not know they were doing wrong. The guns contained loaded cartridges which they'd bought at a shop in Sussex Street. The magistrates said he would write to the Scoutmaster. The Scouts'

movement was a good one and it was bad for the corps that they should do this in uniform. The pistols were forfeited. 12 05 03b

1912 05 17
Boy Scout annual church parade – 12 05 17e

1912 05 31
The need of a better playground for the children of St Giles' Infants School has long been felt and no real surprise was occasioned when the Board of Education insisted the youngsters cease to play in the ill-adapted yard adjoining the school and that a new ground should be provided. A piece of ground was purchased and made into an excellent playground, part of it being converted into a grass plot. It was officially opened by Lady Albinia Donaldson when the opportunity was also taken to celebrate Empire Day. 12 05 31e

1912 06 07
Mr I.G. Elworthy told a meeting at Morley School that he had been one of the first members of Cherry Hinton parish council in 1894. When he first came there were only 50 houses but the district had developed enormously and the need for a recreation ground was very urgent. With the enormous increase of motor traffic it became more and more dangerous for children to play in the streets. The Council should purchase a site between Cherry Hinton Road and Mill Road and in the meantime the Cattle Market field should be laid out as a temporary playground. It could be planted with trees like Christ's Pieces and would preserve the beauty of the district 12 06 07d & e

1913 05
Scouts: 400 at rally, Downing College [1.3]

1913 06 06
Cambridge Sea scouts opened their new riverside headquarters at Pocock's Boatyard. It consists of two capital rooms like cabins on board ship, one fitted up as a workshop, the other containing various games. They also launched their new boat, named The Albert, built of pine and elm with six oars and a mast, capable of carrying 10 boys. 13 06 06 p10 CIP

1913 08 15
The Romsey Town holiday play centres organised by the National Union of Women Workers have met with great approval. The centre for girls and infants is the Cambridge United Football Ground. It is a pretty sight to enter the spacious well-shaded field and see the children all at their happy occupations, crayoning, building castles out of bricks or tugging toy engines about. On the grandstand children dress dolls or knit while in a shady spot there are swings. Games such as cricket, shuttlecock and the maypole have been arranged. 13 08 15 p12 CIP

1913 08 29
Romsey town play centre was the first time an effort has been made to provide organised games for elementary school children during the summer vacation and had more than justified itself with over 9,000 youngsters at various times. Romsey was essentially a working class district where children are unable to spend a week by the sea. Two centres had been opened, the girls using Cambridge United Football Club's ground, the boys on a field near the allotment. It was much better than street games which are dangerous because of motor cars and the youngsters were not running wild about the streets.13 08 29 p6 CIP

1914 08 14

Cambridge scouts guard telephone exchange - 14 08 14 p2

1914 09 11
When the war began Cambridge Scouts were anxious to help and a committee was formed. Requests came from every quarter. For the first fortnight Scout patrols, aided by members of the C.U.O.T.C,. guarded by day and night the important telegraph wires on the Newmarket to London road. Some were sent to Ramsgate and Sandwich to do coastguard work until replaced by military authorities. Others assisted in the recreation and refreshment tents for the military camps on Midsummer Common, Coldham's Common, Coe Fen, Parker's Piece, Huntingdon Road and Stourbridge Common. They have provided a secretary and bugler for Major Comber at Pembroke College and at Corpus the Board of Military Studies has used them as messengers. They have collected large quantities of magazines and papers for the military hospitals at the Leys School and Trinity College. Now they are returning to school 14 09 11

1915 02 19
The YMCA is doing invaluable service to troops. Their headquarters in Alexandra Street is crowded with soldiers and 'ping-pong' or billiards is popular. In the basement a lady was giving a French lesson. Troops who prefer a book and cosy chair appreciate the reading room or write letters. Two centres are managed entirely by students while at the Cherryhinton Hut Barracks a large hut has been erected. This is currently open to soldiers only because of the illness prevalent at the camp. At Hartington Grove a house has been furnished with tables and chairs, Tracy Hall in Romsey Town is also popular and 80 men visit Emmanuel Church Hall nightly where concerts are promoted with soldiers as artistes. 15 02 19

1917 01 03
1st Cambridge Brownies believed be oldest Brownie pack in world, 1st meeting 3.1.1917 [Misc.2.2]

1917 06 20
Chief Scout at Rally. Although some disappointment was felt at the non-appearance at the appointed time of General Baden-Powell, the Chief Scout, the rally of Cambridge, Newmarket and Ely Boy Scouts on Sheep Green, Cambridge last Wednesday was carried through with great success. "The Chief," after being delayed several hours through an air raid over London, turned up later in the afternoon, accompanied by the Member for the Borough (Mr. Almeric Paget 17 06 20 CIPof 17 06 20a; pictures 20c

1919 05 09
Girl Guides inspected - the rally of the Cambridge and District Girl Guides in the grounds of Homerton College (Cambridge) and the inspection by Lady Baden-Powell, proved a highly attractive and successful venture. After the inspection the Guides sang, "For 'she's a jolly good Fellow," 19 04 16 CIPof [1.7] – 19 05 09a, 19 04 16a

1920

1920 02 20
Shelter for Girls (Church Street Mission) founded 1854; its work explained - CDN 20 02 20

1920 05 05
New Street Men's Bible Class memories in lantern lecture; boys revolted when teacher struck lad – Ch 20 05 05a

1920 12 29
Children's Christmas Toy and Present Fund, Eden Street distributes gifts poor children – photo – Ch 20 12 29b

1922 06 27
The Chief Scout, Lieut.-General Sir R.S.S. Baden-Powell is on a visit to Cambridge and yesterday witnessed a Scout rally by the Cambridge & District Boys Scouts in Queens' College Grove. On entering the Grove the Chief was surrounded by Scouts, who had been in ambush. They cried his Zulu name as they gathered around him and then sang him a chorus of welcome called "Ingonyama". Translated the worlds sung mean "He is a lion. He is a lion. He is greater than a lion. He is an hippopotamus 22 06 27

1922 12 07
Councillors and representatives of Boys' Clubs met to discuss the possibility of providing recreation, together with some useful occupation for the ninety odd lads between the ages of 14 and 19 who are now unemployed in Cambridge. A large number of these boys were running the streets and probably deteriorating through idleness and lack of discipline. The Council had tried an experiment in the form of a gymnasium, but it fell through. The boys were at a very critical stage of growth, and it was dangerous for them to be going about the streets with nowhere to go. At home they were not wanted. They were getting in a very dangerous frame of mind, for they felt they were inferior to others 22 12 07

1924 10 08
Two hundred children are in attendance four nights per week at the play centres at Barnwell Abbey and New Street schools. There the number attending exceed the accommodation and the staff, one woman had 98 children to look after & voluntary help was continually breaking down. Alderman Starr asked if they were taking children from parents who wanted to go to the pictures. The centres were established some years ago under voluntary control, the Education committee providing accommodation, light and heat 24 10 08

1926 05 28
Cambridge councillors heard that in 1912 a piece of land in Shelley Row, together with the house adjoining was given anonymously to the Corporation as a perpetual playground to the children of Castle End. It was assumed that the rent of the house would be available for the upkeep and improvement of the playground. £80 would be required to make a really satisfactory playground; it was resolved to spend £20 on putting the ground in order 26 05 28

1926 10 15
The old Albert Institute, Grafton Street, Cambridge was the scene of great enthusiasm on the opening of new headquarters for the Cambridge Boy Scouts' Association which will supply a much-felt want. Afterwards the presentation of medals for athletics and swimming took place. An enjoyable sing-song followed and then a meeting of leaders who discussed the uses to which the headquarters could be put. Meanwhile refreshments were served to allay the pangs of hunger caused by such enthusiasm. Lantern slides on India and China were shown by Assistant Commissioner W.B. Gourlay and the evening closed with everybody in the best of spirits 26 10 15

1928 03 05
Over 1,000 Scouts raised their voices in a Zulu chorus when their Chief, Sir Robert Baden-Powell attended their mammoth rally at Cambridge Guildhall. They packed the hall nearly to the point of solidity including Sea Scouts and University Rovers and some 600 Wolf Cubs. The Chief Scout

was accompanied by Dr Eastman, the Great Chief of the Sioux Indians, who is commissioner of the Scouts of America. He wore complete Redskin garb with the traditional head-dress of eagles' feathers. The scouts were very interested in his tomahawk. 28 03 05 [1.10]

1930

1931 01 02
Christmas Day festivities at the Home of Mercy in Christchurch Street, Cambridge were spent in the usual manner. The chapel was decorated with lilies and carnations presented by two of the married girls as a mark of appreciation. Everyone attended Christ Church at 7 and 11 am and then enjoyed a bountiful dinner. Each girl found in her pudding a piece of money which is to be presented to Addenbrooke's Hospital building fund. Evensong was sung in chapel after which a pantomime (on the wireless) was enjoyed until the day came to a close at 9.30. 31 01 02e

1931 11 13
Scouters and Rovers mingled with grave dons in academic dress at the Senate House when a degree of Doctor of Laws honoris causa was conferred upon Lord Baden-Powell. The Chief Scout wore his accustomed uniform with his scarlet doctor's robe above it. The Public Orator said his soldiership in Mafeking made him so famous and popular that the boys of Britain chose him as their exemplar in many virtues and patriotism.31 11 13f g h [1.5, 1.11]
Baden Powell message scouts – 31 11 13g & photos of his degree – 31 11 13h

1932 02 03
Cambridge Young Men's Christian Association cancelled the letting of their hall to an exhibition on education in Soviet Russia. Amongst the exhibits were anti-religious posters which upset several prominent clergymen who wrote to the News protesting. The organisers are looking for another hall so the exhibition can continue. 32 02 03

1932 08 12
The greatest Guide camp Cambridgeshire has ever known is taking place in Chippenham Park to commemorate the 21st anniversary of the movement. As I motored round the camp we saw on all sides healthy, merry, laughing girls, filled with the zest that only life in the glorious open can give. A clump of huge beeches is the site of a huge camp fire where every one of the 600 Guiders gather round the blazing logs to sing and yarn, the night sky overhead and the smell of wood smoke in their nostrils. Then are friendships made. 32 08 12f & g

1935 05 11
The new West Chesterton children's playground off Histon Road was opened by the Mayor and hundreds of youngsters thronged the ground for the occasion. Since it was bought as an orchard three years ago an immense amount of work had been necessary. It was not complete and they were hoping for swings and perhaps a roundabout later. It is primarily intended for younger children and not for the playing of hard-ball games such as cricket but old and middle-aged people could also enjoy the ground for sitting about. 35 05 11b

1940

1940 03 02
Girl Guiders rally Cambridge – photo – 40 03 02

1940 12 03
Girl guides in war-time: what they are doing – 40 12 03b

1941 01 11
Baden Powell in Cambridge – memories of scouting – 41 01 11a

1942 06 10
Sea Cadets force launched for lads 14-17 – 42 06 10

1942 07 02
Girls' Training Corps established, many in uniform – 42 07 02a

1942 08 17
Four main schools close for summer holidays – poor response to scheme for voluntary attendance at school during holidays to counter-balance the dearth of holiday facilities in wartime – 42 08 17b

1943 07 02
New nursery for 50 children opened at Ditton Fields – third day nursery – 43 07 02; an example to whole country – 43 07 02b; photo – 43 07 19

1943 07 08
YMCA opens 18th centre in area – 43 07 08

1944 05 05
Scout Inspection. There was a fine muster of 500 for the annual St. George's Day service of the Cambridge Boy Scouts Association, held, at Cambridge on Sunday. The parade was made up of Scouters, Scouts, Rovers and Wolf Cubs and included troops from the district and also Cambridge University Rovers. District Scoutmaster R. P Ellwood was in charge of the parade, which formed up on Parker's Piece, and to music provided by the 5th Cambs Home Guard Band, marched to Holy Trinity Church 44 05 05 CIPof

1944 10 05
Cambridge Sea Cadet Corps take Oyster Bar, Garlic Row for HQ; dates back to 1707 – 44 10 05

1945 10 03
New YMCA for East Barnwell opened – CDN 1945 10 03

1947 04 09
Twelve months ago, when landing craft were offered for sale to the public, the 12th Cambridge Scout Group bought one, and under the direction of their Scoutmaster, Mr W.A. Mackrow, they set to work with a will to convert it for troop use. On Saturday the result of their hard work and skill - a trim looking and extremely comfortable seaworthy craft was named the "Adventurer". Founder of the troop in 1911, its first Scoutmaster - and a staunch supporter ever since - Mr J. Murrish performed the ceremony, which took place at Peterhouse boat yard. In just under twelve months the group have transformed the hull and converted it into its present form, complete with bridge, containing full navigation equipment and remote engine controls etc. It has a ward room which sleeps 12, and a galley which would delight the heart of many a housewife 47 04 09

1947 10 06
In the converted green and cream day nursery, and to the happy shouts of the little ones playing in the spacious garden outside, the Harvey Goodwin House, Harvey Goodwin Avenue, which has been adapted from a Home for boys to a nursery for babies and toddlers in the care of the Church

of England Children's Society (formerly the "Waifs and Strays") was opened by Lady Whitby. It will accommodate 20 children who remain there until adopted or boarded out. Many friends gathered in the day nursery which has been ideally adapted for the purpose with its cheerful colour scheme, gay chintz curtains at the big windows, nursery pictures on the walls and evidence of its young occupants in the soft toys scattered around 47 10 06

1947 11 17
The S.O.S. Society's Boys' Hostel at Winston House, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge was officially opened in the presence of a large audience, including magistrates from the surrounding district. Lord Huntingfield spoke its work in relation to its care for boys who had either come into contact with Probation Officers or had homes that were not particularly desirable. He commented "Youth, being what it is, does not always recognise the laws of the grown-ups and they are inclned to do things which bring them into conflict with the long arm of the law. These are the kind of boys taken in here and looked after". 47 11 17

1948 09 11
When the East Road Boys' Club reopens in its new premises behind the St John's Mission Church in Wellington Street, Cambridge, another year of really constructive work by its members will have begun. This club has proved what great feats can be accomplished when a team of boys learn to work together and understand their responsibilities to the community and club. The boys' ages range from 14 to 18 and their programme is designed to create a balance in their physical, spiritual and mental development. During the past year, for example, they won the Pointer Cup for boxing. It is run entirely by voluntary effort and has a membership of 100 boys c48 09 11

1949 10 06
The proposal to buy St John's hall, Wellington St, Cambridge, for use as the East Road Boys' Club was criticised. The building was described as "a filthy hovel, scheduled for demolition and without sun and air", part had been condemned as unsafe some years ago. "It is a place I would not want to put pigs in", said Coun. Dennard. Mrs Rackham agreed it was a poor neighbourhood, but thought it would take years and years for the whole of the district to be demolished 49 10 06

1949 10 12
Another step in the plan to provide nursery schools throughout Cambridge has been taken in the opening of the new nursery school at Cherry Hinton. Priority is given to the children of mothers who are working or are ill and although it is a town school it has a strong local bias. It is ideally situated on the ground floor of Cherry Hinton Hall. The house was acquired by Cambridge council in the 1930s and has subsequently been used as a youth hostel and a maternity and child welfare clinic c49 10 11

1950

1950 12 18
Dennis Collins and his wife, Jean, are two local people making good in the entertainment world and much in demand at parties. Dennis got a job with the Hunstanton council to act, with Jean, as universal uncle and aunt to children on holiday there. Throughout the summer they were to be found on the sands, running children's' games, skipping contests and sand-design competitions. Dennis taught himself conjuring with the aid of a couple of books borrowed from the Cambridge public library and is now a member of the Magic Circle. Jean, who was a pupil of the Mackenzie School of Music and Drama, played the piano and sang 50 12 18

1951 03 01

Congratulations from the town, University and church were showered upon the Cambridge branch of the Y.M.C.A. at a special luncheon to commemorate the foundation of the birth exactly 100 years ago. The Mayor said he had personally known the Y.M.C.A. for at least half of its existence in Cambridge and had seen with great pride its growth. He referred to their object of helping in the spiritual side of a young man's life and their wish to make them grow up into healthy, strong and virile young men. In the 1914-18 war they went to great lengths to provide entertainment for the troops.

1951 10 02
Members of a new company of the Boys' Brigade were seen in their first church parade and march past in the Newmarket Road area of Cambridge on Sunday. The company, that of Ditton Fields Free Church, is at the beginning of its career; it is hoped that by October there will be a sufficient number of recruits to justify the company being fully enrolled in the Brigade. It was augmented by the 5th Cambridge Company which has been established more than 50 years. Mr H.A. Twinn told them: "You must have discipline if you are to do anything at all". Some boys organisations had been compared with Hitler's youth movement but their members were trained in a helpful and Christian way of life, he said 51 10 02

1952 04 05
Members of the Boy Scouts' Association will unite in congratulating Mr W.A. Mackrow, Assistant County Commissioner and scoutmaster of the 12th Cambridge (Viscount Clifden's Own) Scout group on the award of the Silver Acorn in the St George's Day Honours List. He has played a prominent part in Cambridge scouting for many years and has special interest in the Sea Scouts whose well-equipped motor boat 'The Adventurer' is a well-known feature of the Cam. 52 04 05

1955 11 17
Cambridge Boys Club in Wellington Street is meeting a real need since it opened six years ago. Councillor Burkitt said the first time he went there the noise was terrific, there was not a single pane left unbroken and the club was very disorderly. Now it was well-run and had established a tradition of decent behaviour and loyalty; the boys took pride in making it a credit to the community 55 11 17a

1957 05 13
In the early days in Cambridge a scout would buy a broomstick, which cost 2d, and a billy-can and spend weekends in the woods and country places round the city. Later such boys became scoutmasters but during the Great War troops had to run themselves. Then in 1925 they secured headquarters in Grafton Street which they'd sold to the Co-operative Society. Now the new Scout Headquarters in Perne Road was opened. 57 05 13d [Misc.4.5, 1.12]

1957 06 12
Daphne Harrington suffers from 'fragile bones' which means she must spend her days in a plaster cast and be moved about in a wheeled bed. But she runs an active Brownie company, earns money by typing, designing knitting patters and making small household articles. So she was not going to let her disability prevent her going on holiday. She left her Selwyn Road home in an ambulance to journey to Norway where she will join other handicapped girl guides in a camp halfway up a mountain. 57 06 12a

1957 07 01
Last year an Adventure Playground started on a patch of rough ground bordering Newmarket Road. Cambridge council gave a generous quantity of odd timber, other people provided tree

trunks and old motor tyres. But it all vanished during the winter. Now they are seeking more together with an old motor car chassis, corrugated iron, bricks, pick-axes, hammers, nails and other lumber. They also need a strong lockable shed to keep it in. 57 07 01

1957 07 22
The Adventure Playground off Newmarket Road does not seem to be wanted, judging from a lively meeting. Residents said was being used by hooligans who broke up the equipment and should be moved far from homes where a nuisance is likely to be caused. They called for the area to be used as tennis courts instead. 57 07 22 & 22a

1957 08 14
Scouts from 84 parts of the world attended an International Conference in Cambridge, following the World Jubilee Jamboree. The bright blue caps from Finland, flowing white kaffyeh and agae from Lebanon, broad hats from Mexico and the red tarbouch from Morocco were a colourful sight in the Guildhall where they were welcomed by the Mayor, Councillor B. White 57 08 14a & 17 [Misc.4.5, 1.13]

1957 10 19
Residents living near the 'adventure playground' on the Whitehill Estate, Newmarket Road have protested against the things that happen there. Bad language – really filthy barrack room stuff – is a constant annoyance, noise is at a high level with children beating on drums and fuel tanks and the staccato bark of the old motor cycle housed on the ground, especially when it is running without a silencer. It is a place where parents of decent families prevent their children from going, attracts the wrong type of youth and encourages the formation of gangs 57 09 13a & b

1957 10 19
Adventure playground abandoned – 57 10 19

1958 02 02
Cambridge Boys Club in St John's Hall, Wellington Street is flourishing under the leadership of Chris Silcock. Despite the volume of noise the youngsters are not idle. In well-equipped workshops they are taught woodwork and metalwork while the more artistic are instructed in modelling and painting. There is table tennis, P.T. and boxing along with photography, chess, talks and trips abroad. Parents attend on open nights when the fun is shared by all 58 02 22

1958 04 23
Boys Brigade hut, Chesterton Methodist church – 58 04 23b

1958 06 27
Leys School scouts jubilee – 58 06 27b

1958 09 13
An Adventure Playground run at Newmarket Road attracted 60 youngsters. There was bad language at first, destructive activities by local roughs created great difficulties and neighbours objected. The children tunnelled, built huts and dens, made swings of ropes and tyres, lit fires and roasted potatoes. They also made boats, guns, swords and a puppet theatre. Some put an old motor cycle into running order. 58 09 13 & a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 01 06
Cambridge Boys club Wellington St, formerly East Road Boys Club; borough took over 1949, bought Wellington St St Johns Hall 1951, workshops etc 1958; to close 1960 due decreasing membership [1.2]

1960 02 17
Cambridge Children's Playground Association was started after builders complained about children playing destructively with their building materials and when it was noticed that the ordinary playgrounds did not attract many youngsters. The first experimental playground was in Newmarket Road and now one may be formed on the Arbury Estate. There are hundreds of children who have already formed the habit of playing in the streets and in the shopping precinct while the estate has waited six years for a playground. The spinney at Cherry Hinton would also be an ideal site for an 'adventure playground' 60 02 17

1960 05 17
East Barnwell's new scout hall opened – 60 05 17

1960 07 07
In order to rescue the Arbury Estate from the 'grave danger of creating deserts of asphalt' a playground should be constructed on a site between Alex Wood Road and Mere Way. It would have a mound of earth 15 feet high and an open flat area providing scope for ball games, tricycles, marbles etc with a play park equipped with vertical and horizontal tree trunks. The ground is to be made deliberately uneven with mounds and hollows for imaginative play. But swings have been condemned as dangerous and expensive 60 07 07

1960 08 04
Tents of all colours and groups of girls kneeling before wood fires in the grounds of Pampisford Hall mark the celebration of the Silver Jubilee of Guiding. Many of the nearly 680 Guides and Rangers aged between 11 and 21 year are experiencing this type of outdoor living for the first time. They include girls from Lithuania, Germany, Greece and Nigeria together with one suffering from poliomyelitis and another encased in a spinal jacket who cannot even lift her head The amenities are perfectly adequate. Water lad been laid on, each group collects its daily rations from a central source and milk is delivered from a nearby farm. 60 08 04

1960 09 16
This week some 61 youth clubs will open their doors to admit close on 3,000 teenagers. After a short summer break they will become the centre of activities from jazz to judo, coffee drinking to canoe building. Whether in a small village hall or a new village college the records go on for dancing, out come the table-tennis bats and badminton rackets. In fact anything to keep youth happy, anything useful, anything which stimulates thought or encourages interest 60 09 16a

1960 09 20
Freebooters Coffee Bar & club opens Wellington Street by student Ridley Hall, no rules, appeal £20,000, 400 members 1961, closed down, student resigned, decline membership, financial difficulties 1963

1960 09 28
Jive sessions at the British Legion Hall in Fisher Lane, Cherry Hinton, attract teenagers from the surrounding villages. There is no problem with the dancing which was marvellously well organised and no alcoholic drinks are sold. It filled a need for young people and had been

successful since it started a year ago. But residents complain that the noise of motor cycles revving up and roaring down the lane keeps children awake and also ruins their television pictures. 60 09 28

1960 10 14
The Freebooters Coffee Bar and Club in Wellington Street was set up through the determination of John Ewen, a theological student at Ridley Hall. It has full-sized billiard & table-tennis tables & a dart board. But there are no rules. Soon youngsters banned from other coffee bars because of damage started to drop in. A key concern was motor cycles but plans are under way for a maintenance shop and a 'scramble'. They had teething troubles: the record player was stolen and all the records taken, but they were brought back and now various sports clubs have been formed. 60 10 14

1960 12 16
Freebooters Coffee Bar and Club appeal – 60 12 16b

1961 01 11
Freebooters coffee bar appeal for funds – 61 01 11a

1961 02 16
Freebooters Coffee bar redecorated – photos – 61 02 16

1962 02 16
When Miss I.G. Long was asked to start a Wolf Cub pack she did not know anything about the movement. But armed with the Jungle Book, on which the clubs are based, she formed a pack in the parish of St Barnabas and boys came from as far away as Comberton and Abington. That was in 1930, the same year as the St John's pack began under the leadership of Miss F.E. Isaacson. Both ladies are still working for the cubs 62 02 16

1962 03 26
The Central Youth Centre in York Street has closed after twelve years. The farewell dance, with music provided by Johnny Cullen and his Dawnbreakers, was a great success. The hard core members were quite subdued and seemed really sorry that the club was having to close. But youth leader L. Casey is leaving and the lease is expiring. However there are ample facilities for those who wish to join other clubs. 62 03 26

1962 11 15
The Freebooters Club opened two years ago in an old converted church hall in Wellington Street, Cambridge, which is damp, dingy and has dry-rot. At that time school-leavers wishing to join youth clubs had to join in formal activity. Not wishing to do this they drifted to the coffee bars on the outskirts of the city. When these closed they were left with nowhere to go. The Freebooters filled the gap with a coffee bar and juke box. Originally it was a 'toughs' club but times have changed. Now it will be modernised with a dance hall, tv lounge, snooker room and motor cycle repairs workshop 62 11 15f

1963 01 02
The Freebooters Club has closed down. It was started in Wellington Street for youngsters who could not fit into the regular pattern of youth activities. It had done good work and some of the young people who had been 'unclubable' had settled down in other established youth clubs. But there has been a recent heavy decline in club membership and an adverse financial position had been reached. John Ewan, the University theological student who started it two years ago, was

thanked for his inspiration in forming the club and wholehearted devotion to the task of running it. 63 01 02

1964 06 24
East Barnwell youth centre opened – 64 06 24a

1964 11 19
At Coleridge Youth Centre the hall vibrated with the sound of the latest pop tune. Outside the air was filled with the sound of motor cycles and scooters as more youths arrived. Youngsters were playing cards, table tennis and billiards, in one corner a group of girls sat talking. In between dances they sauntered to the canteen for a cup of coffee, a Coco Cola and a glance at the pile of magazines specially chosen for young people. It has a current membership of 300 of which two-thirds are boys. The future will depend on a comprehensive new youth centre to be started shortly at St Matthew's Piece 64 11 19c

1964 12 02
The twin estates of South Arbury and King's Hedges has hardly any social amenities with just one youth club which runs one evening a week in the Manor School canteen. Now Arbury Amenities Association has called for the development of a community centre and recreation ground on the corner of Campkin and Arbury Roads. There is always the danger of young children getting involved in accidents if they have to play in the roadway, especially as heavy lorries use it on their way to building sites. The licensee of the Snowcat public house says there are several hundred teenagers who have nowhere to go in the evenings except city centre dance halls. 64 12 02b

1964 12 03
East Barnwell Youth Club meets in specially-built premises. The décor of the hall is purposeful and modern, the coffee bar is well patronised and the quiet room provides seclusion for a chat away from the noise of table tennis balls and record player. Activities include chess, draughts and billiards. But girls complain the boys won't dance unless organised dance nights are arranged. Members are working on a pantomime which they plan to give in children's homes. They are also collecting silver paper to purchase guide dogs for the blind. 64 12 03

1964 12 09
The Sunday night 'Drop-in' Youth Club in Wellington Street provides somewhere for youngsters to get to know each other. There is table tennis, snooker and badminton together with a coffee bar and a juke box providing music for dancing. Some girls complain that boys will not ask them to dance but the boys say if they do they get stared at. They come because they are bored, there is nothing to do, nowhere else to go. Many houses are so small they can get little privacy and parents may lose their peace because a radio or record player is blaring, they say. But it's sad they cannot find companionship and interests at home, just one night a week. 64 12 09

1965 01 14
Rag Day proceeds may be used to fund a youth centre for young people who live and work here. The bankside opposite Magdalene College would be an ideal site. There are good reasons: the college buildings are now awkwardly sited in relation to town development and will always be an encumbrance in terms of planning. Townspeople have to pay higher rates because of the specially low rating allowed the colleges and industrial development has been restricted which would have provided new industries. As it is many children have to go to other towns to earn their livings. And when they reach marriageable age they have difficulty finding housing since so much land is taken up by the university.– 65 01 14a

1965 01 21
Victoria Road Congregational Youth Club attracts 50 15-21 year-olds each week. There is a large hall and they can dance or play games, talk and drink coffee. The highlights include punt parties, sausage sizzles and barbecues. In spite of the austerity of the hall there is a genuine air of friendliness. Organisers have tried to introduce more serious activities but they have not proved too popular. The evenings end with a short epilogue, though the influence of religion is not particularly stressed. 65 01 21a

1965 02 04
Sturton Street Methodist Church youth club has a membership of 50. Meeting on Friday evenings their activities are a little restricted but they offer a fairly varied programme. Most activities take place in the church hall and the adjoining kitchen is used for light refreshments. But in addition to the social and recreational aims, they also have an educational and spiritual element with talks, film shows and a discussion on topics of interest. A short lesson, hymn and prayer is given at the end. A youth fellowship meets on Sunday afternoons for bible study 65 02 04b

1965 03 24
Cambridge Sea Cadet unit was formed in 1941 to provide healthy recreation for young citizens. They used school premises until 1950 when Nissen huts were made available on the riverside at Halingway. But these are now altogether untenable and a new headquarters, "T.S. Ganges" built complete with quarter deck, lecture rooms, canteen and a wireless office. 65 03 24b Sea Cadet new HQ to open – history - 65 08 28a

1965 04 26
Guide headquarters in Perne Road opened by Chief Guide, Lady Baden-Powell – 65 04 26a

1965 05 21
Work to start on new youth club, St Matthew's Piece; reviews youth club provision – 65 05 21b

1965 07 14
Mill Road youth club - police move on [1.7]

1966 03 14
Cambridge International Centre established 7 years ago to close, intended international friendship & understanding & social intercourse foreigners [1.8]

1966 04 27
Adventure playgrounds needed; survey of existing facilities at Coleridge, Lammas Land – 66 04 27a

1967 10 04
Teenagers want coffee bars & discos [1.9]

1967 12 08
At present one liveliest meeting points YMCA Catacombs coffee bar, new Youth Centre soon [1.10]

1967 12 08
Howard Mallet Youth Club to meet needs of new generation of young folk - 67 12 08, 08a

1968 05 10
Youth Hostel opens [2.1]

1969 02 19
Howard Mallet youth club in working class sector of city, games area, juke-box, dances, wall tv, new age of luxury for youth [1.1,1.11]

1970

1970 04 03
Y.M.C.A. celebrate centenary – feature – 70 04 03e

1970 07 10
Hope Tebbutt started first nursery school in Cambridge 45 years ago, Stagsholt Nursery School Gresham Road for poorer areas; was 15 years before another – 70 07 10

1971 01 02
Alderman Howard Mallet, champion of youth, dies; worked for scouts for 50 years, youth club named after him – 70 01 02

1971 03 20
YMCA to celebrate centenary by move from Alexandra Street to Gonville Place – 71 03 30a

1971 04 05
Dr Barnardo's home in Fitzwilliam Road to close after 20 years; only five children remain – 71 04 05

1971 04 26
Boy Scouts 1,200 scouts & cubs at St Georges Day service Guildhall [Misc.4.5]

1971 09 27
World Chief Guide, Lady Baden-Powell visits Perne Road HQ – 71 09 27

1972 05 09
Leading groups from the world of Soul, Beat and Pop are to be booked for a new season of entertainment at the Howard Mallett Youth Club, built at a cost of £60,000, four years ago as a "drop-in" club for youngsters in the city. Discotecheque equipment costing £200 is also being installed for a new programme of Sunday discos. "We intend to get back our crowds of 200 for the discos and 500 for the dances" said the warden. Nearly half the area of the club is devoted to the coffee and snack bar and lounges. "There is no sort of membership. Anyone over 17 can drop in to meet friends and talk. The admission is 5p 72 05 09

1973 01 17
New Manor youth centre opens [1.12]

1973 08 31
YMCA building [2.2]

1974 08 02
The 1¼ acre Arbury adventure playground looks like a wild-west stockade, with tall telegraph poles visible above the high fencing and a tattered union jack blowing in the breeze. It lies on the

northern edge of the housing estate. As many as 250 children are likely to be there during the school holidays. It was parents on the estate who got the venture going and raised the initial money. Fencing alone cost more than £1,000. Since then the city council have helped with grants 74 08 02

1974 12 05
YMCA new building opened; established 1851, foundation stone 1870, was designed Alfred Waterhouse & opened 1870, move Gonville Place temporary building 1971 when closed [Misc.5.2]

1975 09 15
Cambridge's 13th scout group officially opened its new headquarters in Romsey Town. In little more than a year they managed to raise the £6,000 needed and get the building constructed on the site of two old scout huts. Some 200 people watched Dr Winifred Nott, the sister of the original Nott brothers who helped establish the group before the first world war, cut the tape and unveil a plaque to mark the official opening c75 09 19

1976 12 13
The Cambridge Scouts' shop in Perne Road celebrated 50 years of existence. Known first as the Equipment Store it opened in a rifle range half way up the stairs at the old Grafton Street headquarters on 13th December 1926. The shop's manager, Mr Kenneth North, took over in 1934. He remained when the shop moved temporarily to Russell Street and then to the new Scout headquarters in 1956. Mr John Chambers has been associated with it since he joined as a boy in 1940 & Roger Woollard, Scout leader running the 13th Cambridge Scouts Group, also helps out 76 12 13

1980

1980
Romsey Mill centre opens - former Methodist church [1.13]

1981 09 21
Thirty Three' is a new walk-in centre for young people funded by Save The Children. Based in Clarendon Street the confidential service has voluntary counsellors who will listen to youngsters' fears on any aspect of life including difficulties with parents or boyfriends, anorexia or abortion. They will offer no criticism and never pass judgement but instead offer positive help. College students have their own counselling services, but there is nothing comparable for other 81 09 21a

1983 01 04
Boys Brigade centenary year celebrations – 83 01 04a

1986 03 08
Young people in Cambridge have come up with a revolutionary idea for a new late night rock music venue in the middle of the busy roundabout in Elizabeth Way. It is centrally situated and its underground location would cut down disturbance. But it would be expensive and there would be problems of access for emergency vehicles. Councillors think the former Cattle Market on Clifton industrial estate is a better option. If the venture failed the site could be converted back to industrial use with a smaller financial loss. But they have asked officials to make a feasibility study of both sites 86 03 08

1987 03 19
European Scouts, distinguished on parade by a traditional uniform of wide-brimmed hats and shorts, are making their mark in the Cambridge area. Locally they were born amid controversy three years ago when a Girton group, then belonging to the mainstream Scout Association, switched to the Federation of European Scouting. Together with groups in Waterbeach and Chesterton, bringing numbers to 140, the now account for 10% of European Scouts in England. They stick closer to the original Baden Powell principles – concentration on skills that can't be classroom learned. 87 03 19

1988 01 27
Joice Taylor of Girton comes from an academic family. She has organised the Cambridge Lectures for young people which have run each Christmas at the University Engineering Department from 1963. Under the chairman, Dr Ronald Gray, the lectures by experts in their field cover topics such as spiders, snakes and scorpions, how the weather is forecast, a talk by Mary Archer about solar energy [and even some by a young Mike Petty]. 88 01 27

1988 02 16
Boy Scout groups tracing history – feature - 88 02 16

1990 06 27
Romsey Mill community centre Romsey Town opened 1980 to promote relations between youth and the community; opens alcohol-free bar for young people – 90 06 27b

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Athletic mums, 1950s *123.74*

c.38 : Sport chronological

1888 01 06
Skating: proposal to flood Stourbridge Common for skating [5.25]

1888 03 02
Rowing: undergraduate killed in Bumps accident when pointed bow hit ribs when rowing & ribs pierced his heart, Stearn the photographer took photo which proves rudder defective [5.26,5.27]

1888 04 20
Swimming: Cambridge University & Town Swimming Baths Company established [5.28, 6.1]

1889 04 08
Cricket: County Cricket Association formed [4.10,5.1]

1890

1892 11 01
Cricket: Fenner's purchased [2.15]

1892 05
Rowing: undergraduate hit by lightning during May Races [3.15]

1892 05
Rowing: last procession of boats after Bumps races [2.11, 3.13]

1895
Skating: man skates from Cambridge to Denver Sluice & back in a day [1.12]

1895
Skating: floodlighting generator installed Lingay Fen [6.14]

1896 08 22
Swimming: women's bathing place completed [2.16]

1899
Rowing: 99 Boat club formed by YMCA members barred for smoking [1.17]

1899
Sailing: Cam Sailing club formed [4.11]

1899 11 08
Cycling: At the Granta Cycling Club smoking concert the chairman said all cyclists in Cambridge were determined to have a cycle track. Every kind of athletics was catered for except cyclists. It was not fair to those who placed stock on Midsummer Common to have it there, and unless it was enclosed they would not get a 'gate' as people who paid to see races generally liked to go on a stand. If cyclists were determined to have a track they should collect a sum equivalent to that paid by those who put stock in the Common and then they could have their ground enclosed 1899 11 08

1900

1900 07 25
Cricket: Sir – I was pleased to notice that someone has at last had the courage to write about the wretched condition of Parker's Piece. Our last wicket was not only full of holes but we had a little hill rising a yard and a half in front of the block. Twelve shillings were paid for this wicket and a tent, whereas a college ground and pavilion (with a splendid wicket) can be hired for 7s.6d. Our cricket club have been so disgusted with the wickets that we have decided not to play again this season on Parker's Piece unless it is impossible to get a wicket elsewhere – Disgusted Cricketer 00 07 25

1901 07 15
Cricketers will learn with much regret at the death at his residence, Mill Road, Cambridge, of the veteran cricketer and umpire, Bob Carpenter. He was 27 when he played in his first match at Lord's for the United England XI. A powerful hitter, his favourite stroke was to square leg. Playing for Cambridgeshire against Surrey in 1861 he made an innings of 100 described as "probably the greatest display of batting the world has ever seen". He played regularly for England in company with two other Cambridgeshire cricketers 'Pepper' Tarrant and Tom Hayward' CDN 1901 07 15

1902 04 24
Cricket: Tom Hayward, the cricketer, was the recipient of an expression of that pride and admiration which his fellow-townsmen so unstintingly entertain for the man and the sportsman. It took the form of the time-honoured complimentary dinner at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge on the occasion of his return home after a most successful cricketing tour in Australia. Mr Hayward thanked the company for the kind reception which made him more nervous than playing before 40,000 people. As to the tour they had a very pleasant time. There was only one thing to mar it and that was losing four out of five of the test matches. But they had bad luck, all their best bowlers being ill or injured. 02 04 24

1903 06 10
Cycling: The Granta Cycling Club ceased to exist when the annual meeting was held at the Blue Boar Hotel, Cambridge. When the track at the Backs of the Colleges was in use the membership rose to 50 but it has been gradually dwindling for the last three years since no cycling track has been available in Cambridge. In the event of a cycle track being obtained they will make an effort to revive the club. The balance sheet showed that the club died solvent. 03 06 10

1904 06 10
Cricket: Cambridge Victoria Cricket Club celebrated its jubilee. From as far back as 1855 there are complete histories of matches played. The first took place between teams captained by Mr Goody and Mr Merry. In 1859 an All England XI played 22 of Cambridge Town on Parker's Piece, five of whom were from the Victoria Club. In the early 1860's there was keen rivalry with village of Abington who possessed a very decent eleven composed of people gathered from surrounding places such as Linton, Hinxton and even Cambridge. The Victorians were so keen they played cricket whenever the opportunity offered, even on ice when 'the ball was returned very quickly and a number of men run out' – CDN 10.6.1904

1904 06 11
Polo: Cambridge University Polo Club commenced their May Week activities with a polo pony show, the first held by the club. A driving competition through posts separated from the wheels of the vehicles by only two inches was productive of some amusement as some competitors used hansoms and one a large brake. Ladies took part and the first prize was obtained by Miss de Freville. Later a fair number of spectators watched the polo tournament and had the satisfaction, or otherwise, of listening to amorous melodies rendered by Pierrots whose accompaniment proceeded from a harmonium. 1904 06 11

1904 11 03
Chesterton Council has purchased land in Carlyle Road, Cambridge, for a recreation ground. They bought rights in the Brickfield Estate from Mrs Wragg-Gurnie and frontages to Alpha Road from Mr Thoday for £1,350. They then sold off the frontages and after paying for the land were left with a bill for £425 together with a further amount for fencing, laying out and planting the ground. This was a very small sum for so large a piece of land and they had carried out a great improvement in Carlyle Road by widening it from Dalrymple Terrace to the end of the road CDN 3.11.1904.

1905
Running: marathon race Milton Road school to Stretham bridge & return held (last one) [5.12]

1905 08 05
Fishing: Two undergraduates said they were fishing at Holywell when Baron de Ketschemdorf arrived in another punt and asked them to move. They declined, saying the river was public, at

which the Baron said he would throw them in the river. There was a wrestle during which he tried to throttle them. The German said he had driven a pole in the bed of the river showing that he had already occupied that water and it was a point of etiquette not to fish there. The men had threatened to hit him with a bucket. He was fined £1. 05 08 05b – d

1905 08 15
Cycling: Proposed cycle track, Midsummer Common – 05 08 15a & b

1905 09 09
Rowing: "yet another boathouse - Trinity Hall ... are three handsome boathouses next door to each other - all that is wanted now is the river" [6.22]

1905 09 09
Climbing: It is seldom that a Cambridge tradesman, in the short time he can allow himself for a holiday, undertakes such a hazardous venture as that successful accomplished by Mr Alphonso Smith. He has succeeded in ascending Mont Blanc only to find the little observatory on the summit so covered with snow that he could not find the door. It was so bitterly cold that he made only a very short stay. He has no wish to make a second ascent. 05 09 09 & a

1905 11 07
Cycling: Dartigan, the only exponent of the daring and sensational acts of cycling around a loop heads the bill at the Auckland Road Hippodrome. The wonderful sight of a cyclist careering head downwards along the inverted part of the track aroused a storm of applause. Since he began his dangerous occupation he has experienced many accidents. Once at Yarmouth he fell from the top of the loop and his head crashed through the track with the result that his jaw and nose were broken and his head so severely injured that he sustained concussion of the brain. 05 11 07a

1906 02 15
Cycling: Sidney Lack, the champion cyclist, has been suspended by the National Cycling Union and his licence cancelled, after taking part in a race at Wellingborough. Local crowds will be sorry if he is unable to compete as an amateur again. He was a great favourite, largely because of his reputation for riding 'straight'. But he has been approached by the British agent of the Paris Velodrome with a view to a career as a professional cyclist in Paris 06 02 15

1906 04 27
Cycling: Sid Lack of Histon, whose exploits on the cycle track are famous, has left Cambridge for America. Mr Lack, who filled the position of second engineer at Chivers' factory, aims at finding more scope in his vocation and for a time will be engaged in a motor car business at Boston. He has at present no intention of taking up racing over there. 06 04 27

1906 06 16
Cricket: Mr W. Saunders of Histon has had a remarkable cricketing career over the last 52 years. He learned to play on Parker's Piece and formed a club at Impington until its field was sold. In the 1860s Cambridgeshire occupied the premier position in county cricket and he was numbered amongst some of the finest players in the country being chosen to play against the first All England eleven to visit Australia. 06 06 16b

1906 07 07
Cricket: Tom Hayward, cricketer, may retire. 06 07 07c

1906 09 22

The family of Rowell has long been identified with sport in Cambridge. Now Edward Rowell, a cousin of one time Go-as-you-please Champion, 'Charlie', is making a name for himself as an all-round athlete in Australia where he has won enough money to secure a fine business: one match over hurdles brought him £300. He added to his reputation as a footballer and when that season ended he took up cricket, being voted the best batsman in West Australia. 06 09 22

1906 10 04
Fishing: An extraordinary sight, which ought never to occur again, is to be witnessed at Baitsbite Lock. For a hundred yards the surface of the water is literally covered with dead and dying fish – pike, roach, bream, dace and a host of smaller fry. Fishermen would never have dreamed there were as many fish in the waters. They have been slaughtered by the introduction of some noxious substance into the river. 06 10 04 & a

1906 12 29
Swimming: on Christmas Day [6.23]

1906 12 29
Billiards: Hudson's brewery applied for the transfer of the licence of the Golden Fleece, Ram Yard, an old beer-house attached to Brown's billiard rooms, which years ago was a celebrated resort of University billiard players. The house had been closed for eight months but now there was a new tenant. Some days ago it was refused, but now it was granted. 06 12 29a

1907 04 30
Racquets: In the records of sport there is no instance of one family attaining greater re-eminence in any particular branch of sport that of the Gray family of Cambridge, in racquets. From 1863 onwards there have been five professional champions. Henry James Gray who was the first, is a town councillor and head of the well-known firm of athletic outfitters of Sidney Street. 07 04 30a & b

1907 05 06
Cycling: A.G. Markham is amongst the front rank of road cyclists. At the North London Fifty Miles Invitation Road Race he was the only competitor riding a tricycle, covering the course in three hours, the fastest time every accomplished on one. This is remarkable as 25 of the 50 miles were covered against a strong wind. Even after such a punishing race, his stamina was such that he rode another 30 miles to his Cambridge home. 07 05 06. Name given to Markham Close on Kings Hedges estate [21.7] [3.3]

1907 06 22
Boxing: Wrestlers' Arms reminiscence – boxing – 07 06 22d

1907 08 20
Fishing: There was unusual excitement among the juvenile fraternity and considerable bustle in arranging fishing rods and other paraphernalia. The occasion was unique, for there was to be a juvenile fishing competition. Nowadays children are admitted to pleasures and privileges hitherto enjoyed only by the adult portion of the community and this is the very latest form of amusement arranged for them by the Albion Angling Society 07 08 20

1908 03 14
Climbing: Undergraduates climb Backs trees, roped together in Alpine fashion - 08 03 14

1908 03 25

Cricket: Fenner's – memories of Walter Watts – 08 03 25 & a

1908 04 25
Athletics: In all probability we have seen the last athletic flat race meeting in Cambridge. After struggling for several years the Liberal Athletic Union received one last blow in with the poorest attendance on record. For a large gate at least cycle races, and perhaps motor races, are required but the University will not permit these at Fenner's although similar cinder tracks are used for both. The weather did not help with three inches of snow on the ground in the morning. But the sun shone with great power and the track dried. 08 04 25a & b [6.28]

1908 06 05
Climbing: There has been an Alpine fever amongst undergraduates, finding a vent in climbing trees along the Backs. The wireless telegraphy station on the Huntingdon Road has been the site of the latest exploit. This is a pole over 200 feet in height which receives messages from Cumnor Hill near Oxford. Two undergraduates merrily commenced the ascent by means of the metal spikes driven in at convenient intervals and managed to reach the top. But the return voyage was not so easily accomplished and they reached terra firma with a distinct sigh of relief. It is a matter for common wonder what object will next receive the attention of this strange species. CWN 08 06 05 p5

1918 07 07
Fishing: Suggested Netting Of The Granta. —-it seemed hard to net a fresh water fishery where there were so many wounded soldiers. It was excellent sport for wounded soldiers to sit on the bank if the owners would only throw the river open to them 18 07 07 CIPof

1908 08 07
Mammoth Show weather will soon be a synonym for a cloudless sky and a balmy atmosphere. There have been five of these huge exhibitions on successive August Bank Holidays attracting thousands of visitors to Midsummer Common and discouraging Cambridge residents from scampering off to other places. There were competitions for dogs, poultry, cage birds and fancy rats together with athletics and motor cycle races. CEN 08 08 07

1908 10 23
Cricket: Ranjitsinhji, now Jam of Nawanagar honoured – CWN 08 10 23

1908 12 25
The Boxing Day Costermonger's Marathon Race started from Abbey Street with each competitor pushing a barrow to the Bottisham Swan (a distance of six miles) and back. Performances of the romantic drama 'From Shop Girl to Duchess' at the New Theatre appealed to many, while there were cinematograph exhibitions at the Guildhall and at Sturton Town Hall CWN 08 12 25

1909
Football: Cambridge schoolboy football starts with formation of Cambridge Schoolboys Athletic Association [4.14]

1909 07 23
Cycling: A.G. Markham cycling record – CWN 09 07 23

1909 08 13
Cycling: Edwin Banks, captain of the Belmont Cycling Club created a record at the Mammoth sports by winning four championships in one afternoon. He became infatuated with the sport at

the tender age of 13 and later became a member of the famous Manchester Wheelers, the wealthiest club in the world. He came to Cambridge in 1908 and last year won 17 prizes. He has had spills innumerable, suffering dislocated shoulders, a broken collar bone and a broken wrist. CWN 09 08 13

1910

1910
Water-polo: team successful but would improve if could practice during winter months in good indoor swimming pool [6.21]

1910 02 11
Boxing: Harry Cox of King Street was an old pugilist who learnt in a hard school where gloves were regarded as unnecessary. He started in a travelling fairground booth but when he visited Midsummer Fair decided to settle in Cambridge. He took part in many open-air fights without the sanction of the law which were witnessed by large numbers. Pupils from the University attended his rooms at the Green Lion in Short Street and later at the Royston Arms, Jesus Lane. "Professor Cox" also gave lessons at St John's and other colleges and several University champions passed through his hands including T. Milvain of Trinity Hall who was heavyweight champion of All England in 1868-69 and is now Judge Advocate General. 10 02 11c

1910 03 04
Mammoth Show out of debt 10 03 04 & a.

1910 06 03
Cricket: Daniel Hayward senior was brother of Tom Hayward, the famous All England cricketer of the 1850s and 60s and father of the present Tom Hayward, the well-known Surrey batsman. His other sons include Dan, the present University custodian of Fenner's and Frank who frequently appears in local cricket. In his early youth he was a cricketer of more than ordinary ability as a wicket-keeper whose form gained him a place in some of the great matches. He was landlord of the Prince Regent for 42 years having entered into occupation on 24th June 1868. 10 06 03i

1910 12 23
Mammoth Show financial details – 10 12 23d

1910 12 30
Costers' Marathon on Boxing Day – 10 12 30c
Coster's annual barrow race to Bottisham swan 25 years ago – photo – 35 12 31a

1911
Billiards: challenge match played [4.17]

1911
Bowls: part of Christ's Pieces opened [7.14]

1911
Rinking very popular, carnivals at Chesterton rink & hockey club associated with it [7.12]

1911 06 15
Shooting: open-air miniature rifle range, Coldham's Common opened [1.10]

1911 11 04
Swimming: exercise shows how Kings Mill might be converted to open air swimming bath [7.10]

1912
Billiards: league set up [4.17]

1912
Football: Cambridge United join Spartan league [7.7]

1912
Rowing: boat race - bad weather, Cambridge give up & boats sink, race void, re-ran & Cambridge lost [7.6]

1912
Rugby: Springboks visit, 8-9,000 crowd [7.8]

1912 04 26
Cricket: Jack Hobbs dinner at Lion Hotel – 12 04 26 & a

1912 08 02
Cycling: Mr A.G. Markam, the ex-holder of the 100 miles' world's tricycle record and present holder of the 24 hours' Eastern Counties tricycle record, covered the splendid distance of 192 miles in twelve hours. For over 60 miles he had to struggle with a dead head wind which blew with tremendous strength across the open fenland. To make things worse, at 140 miles his stomach went wrong and he went all to pieces. Four times he gave up the ride as hopeless but his followers would not let him rest and after dosing him with brandy and bathing his head they managed to keep him at it. It is doubtful if any other man of his age – he is 44 and has been taking part in violent athletics for 26 years – would have done such a ride. 12 08 02aa

1912 09 14
Golf: 'why no municipal golf course, only links club is so exclusive as to be inaccessible to town & county residents' [7.5]

1913
Athletics: Borough police athletic society sports the most successful held [7.17]

1913
Rugby: suffragettes try to set fire to Varsity pavilion [7.15]

1913 10 17
Billiard league first annual meeting 13 10 17 p10 CIP

1914 01 02
There were animated scenes along the road between Cambridge and Bottisham on Boxing Day when the annual Costers' Marathon took place. A big crowd saw the 14 competitors start from Abbey Street. They had to travel to Bottisham and back, a distance of 11 miles, pushing a coster's barrow before them. Ben Warren led practically all the way covering the distance to Bottisham rapidly, but facing the wind on the return leg left all competitors severely tired. Most finished and received half-a-crown. 14 01 02c pic 14 01 02d costermongers race : last one held [2.10]

1914 01 23
Cricket: Tom Hayward, the great Cambridge and Surrey cricketer was quietly married at Wandsworth Registry Office. The arrangements were kept very secret but a 'Daily Sketch' photographer saw the happy couple leave. His wife, Matilda Mitchell, is one of the most famous of women detectives; a tall vivacious blonde, she was head of the secret service staff at Selfridge's. Tom will retire from cricket next year, she says – 14 01 23b

1914 02 14
Tennis: brickfields on Milton road reclaimed & converted into tennis courts, six hard & nine grass with six more in preparation [7.18]

1914 05
Football: Town & united clubs amalgamate [8.1]

1914 07 11
Motor cycling: banned from Cambridge Town & County Charity sports due to danger, even though capacity reduced from 300 to 250 cc [7.20]

1915 03 05
Racquets: Councillor H.J. Gray held the Professional Racquets Championship for some years. At the racquets court at the back of St John's College he trained most of the players of note and established a famous racquets school where he trained most of the professionals of the great public schools. In 1866 he established the athletic outfitting firm in Sidney Street, retiring in 1896. He was also one of the best local cricketers and was a member of the Cambridge team that played against All England in the memorable match on Parker's Piece 15 03 05

1915 07 09
Cycling: Local casualties – includes Reginald Player world-famous cyclist 15 07 09 p5

1917 01 31
Cricket: Mr. W. Saunders is well-known in cricket circles throughout the county. His unbroken cricketing career extended over 50 years - probably a record never beaten in England - and was captain of the famous cup-fighting, village cricket club (Histon and Impington) for 25 years. He was presented with a silver rose bowl to commemorate the event. The first time an England XI returned from Australia (in the sixties) they were opposed by another team, picked from all England, on Parker's Piece. The latter side, for whom Mr. Saunders made 22 and took a number of wickets with his slow bowling, won. In those days, playing for Cambridgeshire against such sides as Yorkshire and other counties, Mr. Saunders - an amateur, was a successful bowler. Cambridgeshire at that time had some of the finest cricketers in England, including Bob, Carter, George Tarrant, Tom and Dan Hayward (uncle and father re¬spectively of Tom, of Surrey fame 17 01 31 CIPof

1919
Bowls: Romsey green laid; Romsey Bowls Club formed 1922 [13.3]

1919 02
Skating: held due to severe frost [2.17]

1919 04 23
Cricket: The future of cricket – cricket association – detailed article – 19 04 23b

1919 11
Athletics: H.M. Abrahams wins Freshman's sports 100 yards, mile & long jump [2.18]

1920

1921 05
Cycling: Cambridge District Association Cyclists Touring Club inaugural meeting, May 1921 [21.8]

1922
Rowing: 99 first boat starts fifth in division & makes bump every night to finish Head of River, Wick Alsop in crew [3.4]

1922 01 28
Tennis: Lawn Tennis league inaugurated [6.26]

1922 05
Bowls: Romsey recreation ground bowling green opened [2.20]

1922 05 03
Football: Cambridge Town Football Club ground, Milton Rd, opens [2.19,7.23]

1922 06 03
Climbing: Roof escapades by undergraduates have been numerous of late and the missing prehistoric fish weather vane on the Geological Museum dome is the outcome of one of those. Another high altitude "rag" took place recently when handkerchiefs and clothing were tied to one of the towers of King's Chapel. A story has been told that a proposal of marriage was made and accepted on a college roof during a nocturnal excursion in which undergraduate students of the fair sex took part. Can it be that this story was circulated to try and throw the blame on the ladies for removing the prehistoric fish? 22 06 03

1922 07
Swimming: Coldham's Common bathing pool opened [2.21,8.2]

1923 07
Boating: Motor Boat club new pavilion opened [2.23]

1923 05 24
Althetics: An attendance of upwards of 5000 at the first athletics meeting held on the Town Football Club's ground, Milton road, may be regarded as entirely satisfactory. The first part of the day was taken up with six-a-side football. The various races were keenly contested on a track which made the cyclists very cautious. In two of the races there were two nasty spills. Sir Douglas Newton presented the Invicta cycle to Mr Fuller of Shelly row, who was the fortunate winner of a handsome machine given to the purchaser of a ticket before the day of the event. The proud processor was apparently not a cyclist, for he wheeled it around the track, notwithstanding that the spectators invited him to "jump on and ride" 23 05 24

1923 08 25
Swimming: Jesus Green swimming pool opened [2.24,6.25]

1923 11 06
One hundred years ago the Royal and ancient game of rugby football was initiated, and today an alleged representation of the first game was given in Cambridge market square. Some time before noon the square was roped off and surrounded by police. The fountain was converted into a Royal box and the telephone kiosk into a press box. At noon the teams marched on to the ground. At their head was carried a large and considerably elongated football on a butchers tray. With the teams marched a portly and bearded Proctor, complete with "bullers" and a nasty looking birch, which he did not hesitate to use when occasion demanded

1924
Athletics: H.M. Abrahams won 100 metres at Olympics [12.4]

1924 01 26
Climbing: A particularly sad story was related to the Cambridge coroner when an inquiry was held into the death of a 18 year old student at Girton College. The girl, who was stated to be fond of rock climbing, attempted to ascend the Tower of the college with the intention of seeing an owls nest. Apparently she slipped and fell to the ground. From the injuries sustained to her legs she evidently alighted on her feet, which goes to prove that she hung on somewhere for a moment before she fell. Before she died she had said, "I so wanted to see the little owls" 24 01 26

1924 04 02
Boxing: Many local boxing enthusiasts will learn with regret that the death has occurred of Cox Griffiths, the wrestling and boxing champion. His record at wrestling was a lengthy and creditable one. He had met several champions on the music hall stage. By trade he was a blacksmith and a toolmaker but he was perhaps best known as University instructor. For 20 years he was a publican in Cambridge and recently carried on business as a bottle merchant and general dealer 24 04 02

1924 08 05
A huge crowd witness Cambridge Mammoth Show events. The Rodeo displays, which were expected to be a great attraction, were disappointing. The only part of the programme that created any real enthusiasm were the steer riding, steer wrestling from an automobile and broncho riding. Montana Bob, the world's champion steer rider was the chief performer. He had no easy task in overtaking the steer and even when he had done so he had considerable difficulty in bringing it to the ground. In doing so the steer trod on his arm but he was in sufficiently good form to ride the bucking broncho a few minutes afterwards 24 08 05

1925 05
Bowls: Christ's Pieces bowling green opened [3.6]

1925 08
Cricket: Jack Hobbs scores his 127th century, breaking Grace's record [3.7]

1925 12
Bowls: County bowling association formed [3.8]

1926 10 22
Shooting: Grange road rifle range closed due to danger to Coton, OTC transfer to Coldham's Common [1.11]

1927 05

Cricket: K.S. Duleepsinhji scores 254 not out - record for Fenner's - in Varsity match v Middlesex [4.1]

1927 06
Bowls: 1st County bowls match in Cambridge [4.3]

1927 06
Rowing: May Bumps broadcast by BBC for first time, the Boat Club Ball a brilliant function [4.2]

1927 07 23
Golf: putting green starts, Jesus Green [5.24]

1928
Athletics: Lord Burghley won 400 metres, D.G.A. Lower 800 metres at Olympics [12.4]

1928 06
Bookmakers raided by police [4.5]

1928 06
Greyhound racing: track prepared off Cherry Hinton Road & Cambridgeshire Greyhound Racing club formed, churches protest, [4.5]

1928 09
Bowls: £3,000 scheme for improvement announced [4.6]

1929 06
Bowls: two Cumberland turf greens, first in district, opened Brooklands Avenue [4.7]

1929 07
Football: Cambridge Town football club announce assets of £5,000 compared to poverty of a few years ago [4.8]

1930

1930 01 10
Fishing: Extensive netting was carried out in the ponds at Madingley Hall; over 8,000 fish, mostly roach and rudd, were transferred in tanks to Newnham Mill Pool. The party, which included Mr Ambrose Harding and Horace Coulson arrived equipped with nets and tanks which strongly resembled dust-bins. The first haul was made across the bridge end of the pond and resulted in the capture of about 400 small roach which were taken to Cambridge by lorry. The next produced upwards of 2,000 fish, too many for the lorry so Mr Coulson took some in pails in his car. The third pond yielded a still finer catch CDN 10.1.1930

1930 03 24
Rowing: The successful crews in the Lent bumping races celebrated in traditional manner. Hundreds of excited undergraduates in 'bump supper' costume filled the streets till midnight and over it all flickered the light and smoke of bonfires. Boats were burned amid shouting and bacchanalian merriment at St Catharine's, Selwyn and Emmanuel who for the first time in history had finished head of the river. An 'eight' was sacrificed in the paddock of the college upon a huge pyre. The manoeuvre of getting the boat into the college proved by no means an easy one

and traffic was held up as the unwieldy craft, borne on the shoulders of the crews, was shunted into Downing Street before being passed through the narrow gate. At St Catharine's the boat was escorted to the burning by a procession headed by a band of unemployed ex-Servicemen who had been playing on the towing path 30 20 24a

1930 03 27
Cricket: Ideal cricket weather favoured the long-awaited opening of the Hobbs Pavilion on Parker's Piece by the Mayor of Cambridge in the presence of Mr & Mrs Jack Hobbs. He was the greatest cricketer the world had ever known and had learned to play within sight of this new pavilion. All that was needed was a record of his achievements to hang in the building, but those were not yet over. It would induce the younger sportsmen to become keen again and to carry on the traditions so that in future Cambridge would never be without its representatives in first-class cricket. 30 03 27a [5.14]

1930 04 11
Skittles: The Cambridge Skittle League was formed in August and proved that the average man was a sportsmen; a lot of people were inclined to 'run down' the public house games such as darts, dominoes and shove ha'penny. The Skittles League met the requirements of these people and what should be more natural than they should go to the poor man's club – the local inn. Publicans went out of their way to provide every amusement and recreation 30 04 11

1930 09 02
'Pickwick' amusement machine used in pub - - bagatelle – 30 09 02aaa, bbb & ccc

1930 09 18
Cricket: Jack Hobbs came for the first time since the opening of the pavilion that bears his name. He brought one of the most brilliant cricket teams that Parker's Piece has ever seen with seven who have captained England including Hobbs himself and O'Connor, both of whom learned the game in Cambridge. By two o'clock there were at least 5,000 spectators massed three and four deep round the entire field. Others stood on the running boards of cars drawn up in Park Terrace to see the game. 30 09 18b-c

1931 03 06
Fishing: The Ouse and Cam Fishery Board want permits issued to people who catch eels as a livelihood, or to destroy them. John Barnes of Manea said men had fished for eels for centuries, it was part of their rights. He used the same implements as his great-grandfather before him; they were worth £50 and of no use for other purposes. Some years he caught £10 worth of eels, other years £80. The best time was when the flood water had almost receded that that was during the close season. He had a strong objection to getting a permit for something he'd done for years. It was the thin end of the wedge. 31 03 06b

1931 07 17
Cricket: The question of cricket on Lammas Land, Newnham produced a spirited debate: old ladies crossing the grass might be hit with the hard cricket ball. The Commons Committee is going through a spasm of kill-joy spirit: boys played on the streets but as soon as they went to open space they were told they must not do so. Perhaps a soft ball could be used – or a golf ball. Newnham Institute sought permission for a cricket pitch, but this would turn it into a second Parker's Piece 31 07 17f & g

1931 12 25

Cricket: Cambridge Rabbits' Cricket Club, formerly Heals, held their annual dinner at the Corner House Café, Petty Cury. They had enjoyed a most successful season and were thoroughly established and well-known. Mr D. Burton further showed his generosity by offering to present yet another cup for the most outstanding bowling performance of the season. His cup for the most outstanding performance went to Mr R.P. Fuller. 31 12 25d

1932 04 22
Skittles: Mr E.C. Green recalled that when he was a boy skittles were played by country people in a large shed; then it was brought into Cambridge with a club room converted into an indoor skittle alley. Both the pins and balls were made of India rubber with the sides of the room padded so there should be no noise. After a time the game died out but had now once again become a growing pastime with a Cambridge League started three years ago. 32 04 22a

1932 05 18
Climbing: Overnight two unfurled umbrellas were securely tied to the pinnacles of King's College chapel so they stood straight up. The college called a window cleaner to remove them, but despite his long ladder he was unable to get within ten feet. Two undergraduates went on the roof with shotguns and endeavoured to shoot them down. One fell but the other proved more difficult. The shots knocked the handle sideways. For some hours it floated gracefully from side to side in the wind like some gigantic weathercock. 32 05 18

1932 05 21
Climbing: The inner history of the King's College roof-climbing escapade has been revealed. The hazardous feat was carried out by two parties of undergraduates, including several-well known athletes, who are members of a secret organisation composed of skilled mountain climbers. They used the lightning conductor which has been loosened by previous generations of climbers. It is the climax of a series of climbs during the past few months; now they proposed to publish detailed accounts of their exploits 32 05 21

1932 05 24
Night-climbers Kings chapel & Eton – 32 05 24

1932 06 01
Climbing: The 'Brighter Roofs for Colleges' movement is growing. Overnight at Ridley Hall two cords were stretched from one of the college towers. On them pyjamas, pyjamas and still more pyjamas were floating in the wind. Large ones, small ones, brightly-coloured and silk examples were proudly swaying in the breeze and in the middle was suspended a parson's hat. After they had been lowered to the ground their various owners joined in a frantic scramble for their particular pairs which had been removed from their rooms. 32 06 01a

1932 06 02
Climbing: King's nightclimbing – brolly removed – 32 06 02

1932 06 07
Boxing: Stan Waller, the Cambridge middle-weight boxer and one of the best in the country, has returned from a tour to South Africa designed to re-establish boxing in the public taste, for they have gone all-in-wrestling mad. He beat Eddie McGuire, the South African champion in a bout in Johannesburg. Meanwhile Cambridge had its first taste of open-air boxing with a tournament on the Town Football Ground promoted by Arthur Waller 32 06 07a aa b

1932 09

Rowing: Jesus college boathouse destroyed by fire [5.18]

1932 09 07
Football: Abbey Football Club new ground, Newmarket Rd opens [1.8]

1932 12 23
Mr F. Plumby of Abbey Walk, who looks after the Cambridge Greyhound racing track on Newmarket Road, said he was at work in the middle of the track when a hare dashed on to it, closely pursued by a pack of harriers. It ran right round the whole 565 yards length of the course, and just as it reached the winning-post the dogs came up with it. It ran into the space reserved for the judge, and there the pack killed it. 32 12 23b & c.

1933 03 29
Cricket memories book – 33 03 29 & a

1933 04 07
Boxing: The early days of the Cambridge Amateur Boxing Club were recalled by W. Child, the well-known referee. They began by buying a second-hand pair of gloves and fighting under a street lamp until chased by a policeman. Then they hired a washhouse and met in various public houses. The club had passed through hard times and been near to pawning everything they had. But the fighting had always been clean in the best sporting spirit. On one occasion two Princes had attended a contest at the Corn Exchange to see their chauffeur box. 33 04 07 & a

1933 04 08
Cricket: Ranjitsinhji appreciation – 33 04 08 & a

1933 06 13
Climbing: The roof-climber who 'pinched' the two weathervanes off the Squire Law Library building seems to have had an attack of conscience, for the missing cock and fish were replaced last night. But they also left tasteful decorations and souvenirs in the shape of two sherry bottles at each end of an arch high over the entrance to the Geological Museum. They are said to be full and so act as 'bait' to other scalers of walls and roofs. 33 06 13

1933 06 30
Cricket: on Parkers Piece 25 runs scored in three balls (10,7,8) [1.6]

1933 10 13
Bowls: indoor bowling green Brooklands Ave opened one of first in country [1.7,13.1]

1934 01 12
Racquets: H.J. Gray, the Cambridge sports manufacturers are flourishing and announced plans to extend their Playfair Works into which they moved from Searle Street 25 years ago. Now a new mill and motor engine would be introduced to keep up with demand. Henry John Gray started his career in a racquets court on the site of the present University Arms Hotel nearly 90 years ago. He became champion racquets player of England – a title that had stayed in the family for 22 years - and two his brothers became champions of the world. 34 01 12

1934 05 09
Donald Bradman, Australia's wonder batsman, keeps very much in the news. In most cases it is his century habit that brings him the limelight – but not so against Cambridge University at Fenner's. For 'Don' was out for a duck, clean bowled by a slow leg-break from J.G.W. Davies of

St John's. Two thousand people cheered Bradman when he went in to bat but the fourth ball send down found his stump 34 05 09 [2.25]

1934 05 26
Chess: A Cambridge chess club was first mentioned in 1835 and in 1837-8 it was sufficiently organised to play a match of two games by correspondence with Nottingham's "Town and Gown" club. But an experiment in holding a Chess Congress in Cambridge in 1880 was a complete fiasco. The British Chess Association had selected Cambridge as the meeting place but little support was forthcoming from the University Chess Club, founded four years earlier, and visitors were very few, a new book reveals 34 05 26

1934 06 02
Cycling: Arthur Markham was always of a cheery disposition and made friends in every walk of life. He was best-known as a cyclist and his 24 hours' tricycle record of 301 miles has never been eclipsed. He did many rides at 100 miles and his record made with the old steel wheels is still recognised as one of the best ever done. Even after his race days were done he would cycle long distances to assist with events. 34 06 02

1934 08 24
Fishing: Some 750 young anglers assembled on Parker's Piece and were played to the station by the band of the Boys' Brigade to catch a special train to St Ives to take part in the Albion Angling Society's annual fishing match for youngsters. The miniature army of anglers disported themselves along the river bank at Hemingford meadows. It was not unusual to see gathered in one small space at least half a dozen children with lines and rods crossed and floats completely submerged. The winners of the President's cup for the best catch were F.Parr (boys) and Marjorie Benton (girls) 34 08 24

1935 02 11
Climbing: At Trinity Hall porters were busy pulling down a motley assortment of bedroom and bathroom utensils which had mysterious appeared on the roof and pinnacles of the college. Water jugs, tied to the roof with gay scarves, formed a large part of the amateur decorators' efforts, but even an armchair somehow got on to the roof and caused no small trouble in getting in down. The college say it was 'just a bit of sport' and have not discovered the identity of the persons responsible 35 02 11a

1935 02 26
Cricket: John Berry ('Jack') Hobbs has bidden farewell to first-class cricket. His retirement will cause general regret. "Mrs Hobbs thinks I ought to go on to get my 200 centuries", he said, but he needs two new legs: "after many years in the field mine get very tired nowadays about four o'clock". He will continue to play in club cricket and all in Cambridge hope to see that flashing bat in action again on Parker's Piece, the scene of his early triumphs 35 02 26

1935 04
Swimming: proposed new swimming stadium, Parkside [8.5]

1935 07 27
Swimming: Coldham's Common swimming pool opens [1.14,8.6]

1935 08 22
Fishing: With rods and a look that combined gladness and determination, a children's army a thousand strong gathered on Parker's Piece, intent on getting their fish. A free outing to St Ives,

an afternoon's fishing, a tea, sports and prizes was arranged by the Albion Angling Society. Ice-cream men did a roaring trade and one enterprising draper sold a number of Panama hats before the quarter-mile long procession set off for the station headed by the band of the Boys' Brigade. The children's match was started about 30 years ago but stopped during the war and was not revived until 1928 or 1929. 35 08 22a

1936 03 14
Climbing: Undergraduates last night hazardously climbed to the roof of Emmanuel College North Court and decorated six chimneys with chamber pots. They were removed by Mr S. Burgess of Messrs Prime's the builders who is often called in to remove various objects placed in inaccessible positions by exuberant undergraduates. "Some of them can run up brick walls", he said: one took off his shoes and went down a wall by means of his feet and hands alone to remove a gown that had been placed in a particularly difficult spot. 36 03 14

1936 03 21
Harry Pitt of Manor Cottage, Church Road has written recalling 'The Walking Lady of Chesterton'. "She walked for a wager 'a thousand miles in a thousand hours' in a private garden in Church Street, Chesterton 60 years ago. I have been told that she walked in tights with high-topped boots, a jockey's cap and whip in hand. The story goes that she kept up her one mile per hour, walking day and night until she completed her task and won the wager." Other readers may enlighten us still further 36 03 21c

1936 03 28
Athletics: Charles Rowell running recollections – 36 03 28b

1936 04 27
Climbing: Some members of King's College went mountaineering last night. A Union Jack and the Abyssinian emblem were fixed to the pinnacles at the east end of the chapel with a large banner slung between them bearing the words 'Save Ethiopia". The flags were still flying during the morning but the banner was blown down by the wind. A man who was astir early claimed to have seen four undergraduates climbing up at four o'clock. Unfortunately he was unable to see what means of assistance they were using in their climb, otherwise one of Cambridge's age-old mysteries would have been solved 36 04 27c

1936 06 04
Cricket: Jack Hobbs unveiled a tablet in the Hobbs Pavilion setting forth his wonderful achievements in first-class cricket. The proceedings had been delayed as Hobbs would not stop making records. Jack said that although wobbly at the knees, he still played. "I can visualise the youngsters coming and looking at the board and saying 'He must have been a real good player'. When I look at that board I begin to think I must have been". (Laughter and applause) 36 06 04c

1936 09 04
Cricket: Fenners cricket ground was opened in 1846 but there have been only three groundsmen, Tom Parmenter who remained to 1862, Walter Watts and Dan Hayward who took over in 1908. He has also been custodian of the University Football and Hockey Grounds. His father used to look over the Rugger and Soccer pitches on Parker's Piece where they played until the Grange Road ground opened in 1896 and the two clubs amalgamated. Dan's own sport is cricket and he once took all ten wickets for 32 runs, though he considers his nine wickets for eight runs against Bury to be his best performance. Now he is retiring 36 09 04a

1937 08 14

Boxing almost defunct in Cambridge – cartoon 37 08 14b

1937 10 16
Climbing: Roof-climbing – Ronald Searle cartoon – 37 10 16a

1938 02 04
Billiards: Joe Davis' billiards club – women's world champ [1.2]

1938 02 11
Fishing: When the lake at Madingley Hall was netted the result was not just a matter of kettles of fish but bins full. The ever-growing number of anglers makes such demands on the available fish that annual re-stocking is essential so the Ouse and Cam Fishery Board relies on a number of owners of private lakes who have given permission for some of their fish to be transferred to other waters. The lake at Longstowe Hall has also yielded a large number – once the haul was so heavy that the net broke. Anglers no longer regard fish as something to kill; at one time it was common to see fish left to die on the river bank. Now they are returned at the end of the day 38 02 11b

1938 06 03
Boxing: Boon wins boxing championship [1.3]

1939 02 24
Boxing: Boon retains title [1.1]

1939 07 21
Cricket: Death of Thomas Walter Hayward at his home in Glisson Road. Was one of the most famous professional batsmen that cricket has even known. He was 68 years of age, and although many years had elapsed since he last played, he still held many records at the time of his death. His father was Daniel and his uncle, Thomas another fine batsman in the sixties. Tom Hayward was born in Cambridge on March 19, 1871, and first came into the public eye by some fine performances when playing with the Cambridge Y.M.C.A. He went to the Oval in 1891and qualified for Surrey. At first he was a good medium pace bowler and outfielder, but later concentrated on run-getting. When he finished his first class career at the end of 1914, he had made 43,518 runs, with an average of nearly 42, and had scored 104 centuries. He was the first batsman after W.G. Grace to complete 100 centuries, and in 1906 scored 3,518 runs. It was at Hay ward's persuasion that Jack Hobbs decided to abandon second class cricket. The two made prolific opening stands for Surrey. Their association began in 1905 and two of their partnerships produced over 300 runs and 40 over three figures. In one week in 1907 they topped the 100 four times. On the only occasion on which they played together for England they were not particularly successful. Hayward visited Australia three times, and altogether played in 29 Test matches and batted 51 times. During 1906, he scored four centuries in succession, and 13 centuries. His highest score, 315, was made against Lancashire at the Oval in 1898. 39 07 21 CIPof. Obituary – 39 07 20a

1939 07 25
Bowlns: Waterworks Company new bowling green opened, the only one with an air raid shelter – 39 07 25

1940

1940 09 27

Cricket: Bombs on famous cricket ground – photo – 40 09 27

1943 05 14
Baseball: American baseball match on Fenners – first seen – 43 05 14

1943 05 13
Horse racing: Plane crashes Newmarket racecourse, racing postponed – 43 05 13a

1943 07 23
Athletics ground needed – long overdue – 43 07 23

1944
Darts: Newmarket Road & district darts league starts at Corner House due to blackout [4.16]

1944 04 08
Boxing: Eric Boon stars in film "Champagne Charlie" [1.21]

1946
Athletics: Cambridge city athletics club reformed [4.9]

1947
Athletics: Harold Abraham, Olympic champion in 1920,24 & 28 appointed Regional Controller of Ministry of Town & Country planning at Cambridge [3.11]

1949
Boxing: Amateur Boxing Association reformed 1949 in former PoW camp chapel, Coldham's Lane [11.5]

1949 01 31
Climbing: A bicycle appeared on the weather vane of the Cambridge school of geography, Downing Place, over the weekend. Various articles are put on university buildings from time to time, but usually without much point. This escapade has a real point to it. The weather vane is on the roof where weather observation is carried on, with the aid of rain graphs, thermometers, barographs and other meteorological equipment. The practical joker apparently thought it would be a good idea to give the meteorologists a new weather cycle 49 01 31

1950

1950 02 28
Athletics: Chris Brasher, St Johns wins University mile in four minutes 27.7 seconds [3.10]

1950 06 19
Cricket: Not many people seem to realise that women have been playing cricket now for over 50 years and that in these sex-equality days there are still some who think it is still not quite the right sort of sport for young ladies to indulge in. Cambridge Women's Cricket Club has been in existence for just over two years – and as yet no one quite experienced enough has played for her county. Cambridge has an overarm bowling rule and has little or no experience against the underarm method. They were rather flummoxed when they first played a village women's team who used this style of delivery, but they are getting accustomed to it now 50 06 19

1951 03 24

Rowing: Oxford sink in boat race [3.18]

1951 04 06
Roller skating: starts at Rex Ballroom [3.19]

1951 05 04
Wrestling : banned from Corn Exchange [3.21]

1951 09 20
Wrestling: allowed, first bout Jack Dempsey v Mick McManus [3.22]

1953 02 09
Cricket: funeral of Dan Hayward [4.20]

1953 05 13
Cricket: An eager group of schoolboys armed with autograph albums were among the first to welcome the Australian cricketers when they arrived in Cambridge for their match with the University. The youngsters crowded round Arthur Morris, who is captaining the side because Lindsay Hassett is unfit, and then hurried on to Ray Lindwall, young Ian Craig, Neil Harvey, Don Tallon and the others. The Australians signed their names cheerfully; they are soft-spoken, unexcitable men, whose appearance and manner off the field give no hint of the devastating ability which has already humbled Yorkshire and Surrey

1953 06 30
Cricket: Jack Hobbs knighted [5.3]

1953 12 09
Football: new stand built, Cambridge City football club [5.6]

1954 02 03
Cycling: Mr Charles F. Morley, who died recently, was a cyclist who won the Eastern Counties championship for every distance from sprint to fifty miles. He was truly a great little sportsman. He was a founder member of the Granta Cycling Club & many of his successes were gained on the quarter mile circular dirt track of the University Bicycling Club off Grange Road. As a speed skater he was up with the amateurs of his day; he was elected chairman of the National Skating Association Fen Department and presented a handsome challenge cup. He was the sole survivor of a quartet of friends who made local and national history at the turn of the century including J.H. Priest, one-mile cycling champion, F.J. Christmas, cross-country champion and A.E. Tebbutt, amateur skating champion of Great Britain.

1954 04 14
Snooker: Since the inauguration of the C.D.N. Snooker Cup for the amateur championship of Cambridgeshire in 1946, only three names have previously been inscribed on this coveted trophy. Now that of L.T. Ambrose has joined the names of P.G.T. Hughes, A.L. Batterbee and R.E. Williams. In the final he beat W. Philpott through superior tactical play. Philpott played the bolder type of snooker and at times got in some delightful pots. He was always prepared to go for 'near impossible' shots and twice got two glorious pinks only to see the white disappearing also. But Ambrose relied on the 'safety first' motto, which in the end paid dividends. 54 04 14

1954 05 06
Cricket: new Fenner's score box replaces one badly damaged during War [5.10]

1954 06 08
Athletics: new Whit-Monday gala - sports, 3,000 attend [5.11, 5.20]

1954 07 09
American Football: Real American softball came to Cambridge Football Club ground when the US Air Force Hospital Wimpole Park beat a team from USAF Molesworth entirely against the formbook. But for British spectators the game was a succession of shocks. They saw an umpire hustled and pushed by players disputing a decision, two players somersaulting as they tried to catch a ball and some magnificent hits and catches that made it look like cricket. The game seems to be a glorified rounders akin to baseball. There was 'strike one', 'ball one', 'blunt' and a host of other expressions which are difficult to explain but easy to follow on the diamond-shaped field until the victorious team had notched up their win and were cheered again and again CDN 9.7.54

1956 03 24
Cricket: Camden cricket club history 75 years 56 03 24a & b

1956 05 16
Riding: The White Horse Riding Establishment in Barton Road, Cambridge, has been used as a riding school for 35 years and has stabling for 24 horses. Much of the teaching takes place on land down Grange Road and it would reduce the dangers for inexperienced riders taking horses down Barton Road if they had an Indoor Riding School. But neighbours complained that it was noisy and smelly and a relic of the past. Horse boxes unloaded on the pavement and children stacked their bikes against the wall when they popped in to give the horses tit-bits.56 05 16a

1956 07 20
Fishing: Cambridge Albion Angling Society celebrated its 50th birthday with a dinner at the Dorothy Café. They owed much of their success to the work of the late Jack Cartwright, the 'Grand Old Man' of the Albion during the difficult years of two world wars. Since the war no sport had recruited the vast numbers that angling had done. They now had more than 1,500 members. 56 05 19

1956 07 20b
Samples of water taken from the River Ouse at Huntingdon after many fish were killed on the Newton stretch of the river contained traces of cyanide. It came from the normal effluent discharge from Huntingdon Council's septic tank at Hartford. No other sources of pollution were found and the only chemical spraying was using a non-toxic weed killer. It was important that the district pollution prevention officer should be on the telephone, but the Post Office did not have the necessary equipment. 56 07 20b

1956 07 27
Roller skating: approved at Corn exchange [5.21]

1957 01 14
Athletics: Local sportsmen gathered to pay tribute to Stanley Martin who is retiring as secretary of the Cambridgeshire Amateur Athletics Association after 25 years. In that time nine members have represented their country, five of them in the Olympic Games, and 13 Cambridge University Blues have also come from the Association's ranks. In 1925 they went to Joshua Taylor's to buy coloured vests but found they had only white ones in stock. So they had to buy some blue and green straw-hat ribbons to use as distinguishing sashes - colours they have used ever since. 57 01 14 & 14a

1957 05 24
Climbing: The Night Climbers of Cambridge are at it again. At daybreak two objects had been placed on the spires of King's college chapel. One is the globe of a Belisha beacon, the other a nylon stocking. There was a turret-climbing episode in May 1932 on the eve of Empire Day when a Union Jack was flying from the north-east turret. Two nights previously the pinnacles were decorated with open umbrellas 57 05 24

1957 07 17
Bowls: Cambridgeshire Women's Bowling Association was founded in 1937. Now their new flag in the County colours of light and dark blue and old gold was hoisted for the first time at a bowls drive at Brooklands Avenue to celebrate its 21st anniversary. 57 07 17

1958 01 31
Bowls: new bowls club for ladies – 58 01 31

1958 04 29
Cycling: The 60 miles, six-lap Gog Magog cycle road race started from the Red Lion, Cherry Hinton. It was neutralised over Limekiln Road but then three of the Cambridgeshire Road Club team, J. Morley, D. Cook and M. Pilsworth, made a break. Before Sawston, on the second lap, Mick Ward from Haverhill had to make mechanical adjustments but he was in fourth place by the time they came over the Gogs for the last time 58 04 29a

1958 05 24
Darts: Castle and District Darts League involves about 30 teams and incorporates the majority of the darts experts so a high standard of play was witness at the Rex Ballroom when both the men's and women's finals were held. Arthur Fordham (Jubilee) beat B. Smith of the British Queen in the final while the ladies' singles champion was Mrs Asby (Brewers Arms) who overcame Mrs Dickson (Robin Hood). Twenty games were played after which the company of 500 enjoyed dancing for three hours to the music of the popular Ken Stevens band. 58 05 24

1958 08 25
Football: City & United Football clubs elected to new Southern League [6.7,6.9]

1959 11 27
Athletics: New Cambridge University track; first time CU athletics match not held at Fenner's which has oldest cinder track in world; opened 1846, c 1867 cinder track laid [12.4] Milton Road new athletics track opened – 59 11 27d

1960

1961
Fishing: Cambridge & District Sea Angling Society set up [21.12]

1961 03 16
Cricket: Camden cricket club seek own ground – 61 03 16a

1961 04 08
Cricket: William Buttress, born 1827, one of the greatest break bowlers of all times – history – 61 04 08

1961 04 14
Cricket: Robert Carpenter, bowler 1830-1901, Tom Hayward & other cricketers - feature – 61 04 14d

1961 10 27
Boxing: In a former prisoner-of-war camp chapel in Coldham's Lane members of the Cambridge Amateur Boxing Association celebrated the start of a new season by flailing themselves, and each other, almost to husks. Membership is restricted only by the inability to pay the annual subscription – boxing ability is immaterial. Boys from the age of seven are provided with equipment and training and competitive bouts begin at the age of 11. One lad accumulated a host of silver-ware but became too successful as officials were unable to find anyone who would fight him 61 10 27

1961 11 10
Bowling: A London company who hope to build a 24-lane ten-pin bowling centre on land at the 'Willows' in Chesterton has offered to pay the expenses of any residents wishing to see their Stamford Hill, London, facilities. There would be a social centre and bowling alley with restaurant and snack bar as well as a nursery for the babies while their parents play. The centres are well-run, clean and open, giving very little trouble, they claim 61 11 10

1962 01 15
Bowling: Plans for a 24-lane ten-pin bowling centre to be built on The Willows site at Cam Road have been rejected. Planners say it would be out of character in a residential area and should be located near a community centre or shops. The application by Contemporary Homes Ltd for a bowling centre with restaurant and a place where parents could leave their children had brought objections from local householders. 62 01 15c 17.13

1962 02 06
Football: proposal to amalgamate City & United Football clubs [6.15]

1962 04 25
Cricket: St Giles Cricket Club history – 62 04 25

1962 06 15
Cricket: new Churchill college ground opened [13.6]

1962 09 26
Boxing: Cambridge Amateur Boxing Club is seeking for a piece of land on which it can build a gymnasium in place of their headquarters in Henley Road. They have more new members than at any time in their history and have collected over £2,000 towards a new building which will include kitchen and seating accommodation. In addition the club's President, Arthur Cooper, has promised a brand new £100 ring. The season opens with a fixture against the University at the Corn Exchange with another in the Drill Hall, East Road 62 09 26b

1962 10 02
Fencing: Cambridge Ladies Fencing Club started just before the war and was coached by Madame Perigal whose daughter, Caroline Drew, reached international status. By the late 40's the growing interest in the sport meant it became mixed. But it has always maintained a strong link with the County Girls' School Fencing Club which has a proud record in the National Schools championships. Now it has a professional instructor, Reg Cullum, while some fencers visit Prof

Harmer-Brown, the University coach. Its members range from firemen to a wine merchant, a vet to a mental welfare officer. But they always welcome new blood. 62 10 02d

1963 01 19
Swimming: new indoor swimming pool, Parkside [6.16]

1963 02 05
Rowing: Lent Bumps cancelled due to weather, first time in 136 years [6.17]

1963 02 16
Darts is still a popular sport which appeals to all classes. The Star Brewery League began 30 years ago and is a very lively concern with 300 registered competitors in its 20 clubs. George Woolley of 'The Hoops', Long Stanton is one of their leading performers but 'The Jubilee', 'Haymakers' and 'Five Bells' have all won the championship in recent years . Ely City Darts Organisation, which started around 1932, has nearly 800 on its register, including 90 women. 63 02 16a

1963 02 23
Cross country: Despite appalling conditions the national cross-country championships attracted more than 250 runners to the Coldham's Common course. The race started near the old rifle butts with a dash through ice-fields and bumpy ground towards the gas works, over a bridge built by the Territorial Army then past the Whitehill Estate, keeping to the rough of the Priory School playing fields to the railway bridge. Then runners were on the course proper. A special trains was laid on from Liverpool Street with buses to Coleridge School 63 02 23a 63 03 04 & a

1963 12 21
Cricket: Sir John Berry (Jack) Hobbs, one of Cambridge's legendary names in cricket, dies.- 63 12 21; tributes – 63 12 23

1964 01 03
Cricket: John Berry Hobbs – feature – 64 01 03b

1964 01 07
Plans for a 24-lane ten-pin bowling alley on Mill Road have been approved subject to conditions that the premise should be closed between midnight and 8am. It would include a snack bar, changing rooms, kitchen and offices. But now developers want to extend the project to include either a dance floor or ice-rink, a public house with flat over, service station with office and parking for 150 cars. 64 01 07]

1964 04 24
Climbing: In the very early hours young men venture out intent on scaling some of the university buildings. Night climbers are not an organised society, just individuals who know the other students who participate. The porter's lodge at King's is an irresistible challenge, not because of any climbing difficulty but because of the imminent danger of being discovered by college porters below. Climbers usually tie a piece of rope at the top of a building, though sometimes an item of female underwear is seen flapping gaily in the breeze the next morning. 64 04 24e

1964 05 11
Croquet: Cambridge has one of the few public croquet lawns in England. It is on Christ's Pieces, next to the bowling green. It is almost exclusively used by undergraduate members of the University Croquet Club to whom most of the equipment belongs. Although only three years old

they have gained a reputation for their enthusiasm and high standard of play. Anyone can take part but it is not a game suitable for the infantile or the senile 64 05 11

1964 08 01
Cricket: Madingley Cricket Club, who have bought the old Queens' College pavilion on the Barton Road ground, may cut it in sections and move it that way. Queens' new pavilion, which is a memorial to a former president, Dr J.A. Venn, will be ready for the start of term and the groundsman has already moved into an adjoining bungalow. It has the most modern facilities in Cambridge with showers, toilets and its own bar. But the planned car park has been left for a later date. 64 08 01a

1965 04 08
Bowling: Tenpin bowling alley, Mill Road to open; one of principal recreation places in city – 65 04 08c

1965 06 07
Climbing: 'Peace in Vietnam' banner strung across pinnacles at King's chapel by night climbers – 65 06 07

1965 10 15
Cycling: Arthur Skeel, champion cyclist – profile – 65 10 15c

1966 04 26
Athletics: Plans for indoor sports stadium next to Parkside pool discussed – 66 04 26b

1967 06 14
Athletics: Cambridge "do away with Fenner's cinder track" [13.7]

1967 11 07
Bowls: Chesterton Bowls Club was founded in 1931 with HQ in Milton Road. The lease expires next year; now found new site on St Andrew's Road – 67 11 07a; 67 12 30

1968
Howard Mallett club opened [9.1]

1969 01 30
Challis & Sons fishing tackle shop in Newmarket Rd to close after 31 years, was formerly Hardings; made Pembroke and Trinity reels – feature – 69 01 30b

1970

1970 01 12
Cycling: Barnwell cycle racing school beat world 24-hour roller cycling record - now 1,008 miles [21.5]

1970 02 17
Bowling: Tenpin bowling rink, Mill Road, shuts down suddenly by Magnet Bowling who opened it in 1965, had been running at loss for 3 years – 70 02 17

1972 03 13
Cross-country: international championship held Cambridge [12.6]

1972 03 24
Bingo: it was "eyes down" for the first time last night in Cambridge's new £10,000 bingo hall which will offer enthusiasts an almost non-stop programme throughout afternoons and evenings six days a week. The bingo hall which can accommodate nearly 1,000 players at a single sitting, is in the converted former Central Cinema in Hobson Street 72 03 24

1972 08 12
Skateboarding: The Mayor of Cambridge had a go at skateboarding, the latest craze among youngsters. But try as he would to keep still the board had a will of its own and he had to hold on to one of a group of teenagers who went to see him about finding a proper skateboard rink in the city. He told them he had already made a firm request for the Amenities Committee to consider their 1,637-name petition and asked if some of the city's lottery money can be spent on one. The slopes of the Lion Yard present an ideal combination of smooth surface and different angles to turn in but shoppers say it is dangerous and large areas of plate glass windows are likely to be broken 72 08 12

1972 09 05
Cricket: Demolition of University pavilion built Fenner's 1875 [11.3,13.9]

1972 09 29
Athletics: Magdalene college closes sports ground - too expensive to maintain [11.4]

1974
Football: Bill Lievers, manager Cambridge United sacked [2.5]

1974
Arbury community centre opened [9.2]

1974 09 21
Bowls: The opening of Cambridge's new indoor bowls centre at Chesterton brings to a climax many months of work by a group of bowlers who can now boast the only six-rink indoor green in the country. Sited next to their outdoor green in Logan's Way, the impressive new building is the next best thing to bowling on a warm summer's day. Already there are 400 bowlers on the membership lists and secretary N. Harper-Scott says there is still room for more 74 09 21

1975 08 11
Climbing: Tourists and passers-by took little interest as two men groped their way up the south pinnacle of King's college chapel. They were steeplejacks from a London firm engaged by the college to remove a lavatory seat which has crowned the chapel since it mysteriously appeared on the pinnacle three weeks ago. It all looked easy as one man finally stood at the top waving the offending object high over his head 75 08 11

1975 08 22
The Cambridge Sports Hall, opened on July 1st, is already beginning to attract enthusiastic support. Trampolining and weight training have proved particularly popular with families who have also taken advantage of the squash courts. Volley ball and handball have done particularly well through the participation of Language School students 75 08 22

1977
Skateboarding: proposed skateboard park in middle of roundabout [2.6]

1977 02 05
Skittles: Members of the Cambridge & District Skittles League see themselves as men of great skill and dexterity, pitting their wits against other eight-man teams in a three-dimensional game that has its own terminology. They hurl, toss or spin a flat, flying saucer-shaped cheese at a table resembling a large, sparsely padded armchair upon which are spaced nine wooden pins. Each player has a maximum of four throws to demolish as many as he can. The dedicated band of serious skittles players are a dying breed. Gone are the days when coachloads of players used to arrive long before the game to limber up. 77 02 05

1977 08 29
Bowls: Chesterton open £80,000 indoor rink [13.2]

1978 03
Rowing: Cambridge sink in outrace [2.7]

1980

1981 02 02
Boxing: Cambridgeshire is the centre for illegal bare-knuckle fist-fights; they are straight knockabouts until one of the fighters drops and as much as £3,000 can change hands with single bets of around £50. A fight at Fen Road Chesterton involving two teenage boys from the gypsy fraternity and watched by a noisy crowd of more than 500 was abandoned when police moved in to break up the crowd, some of whom had travelled from all over the country. 81 02 02 [13.4]
Bare-knuckle fights – history – 81 02 03

1981 03 11
Cricket: Camden club celebrate centenary, formed 1881 [21.1]

1981 06 19
Shooting: The crack of blazing shotguns was head for the last time at Madingley as Gallyons closed their shooting ground after 70 years. Ernie Johnson has spent his entire working life there and so after 44 years of teaching, advising and correcting the technique of sporting gunmen from all walks of life he is facing his first change of job. The site is surrounded by roads and cannot expand to stage big shoots.81 06 19

1981 07 15
Fishing: It is likely to take more than 10 years to restock a polluted stretch of the River Cam in which hundreds of thousands of fish died. Anglers say that fishing in the city has now been entirely wiped out. Around four tons have been removed from the river near Bait's Bite lock but many are still floating. It is feared that as well as causing a smell, the rotting fish could cause further pollution. It is suspected that raw sewage was washed into the river during heavy rain. 81 07 15a

1981 07 20
Cricket: first women's three-day game, Fenner's [21.2]

1982 04 23
Snooker: Snooker has gained a new respectability, operating from high-class, exclusive clubs. Now the Dodgers Snooker and Billiard Club has opened in the old historic Newnham Watermill. It has five new tables of the finest Brazilian mahogany and an antique match table which has been

restored to its original condition. With each table weighing over a ton, the floors have been reinforced. Members are issued with a computer-controlled access card with video cameras acting as a double check against gatecrashers. 82 04 23a [17.7]

1984 03
Rowing: Cambridge boat rams barge at start boat race [2.8]

1984 07 02
Cycling: City centre cycling starts [21.9]

1985
Cricket: St Giles cricket club centenary [21.3]

1985 05 24
Athletics: May get new track, city, university & private interest] hope running track, sports hall, indoor artificial playing surface, swimming pool; £6M scheme gets go-ahead Wilberforce Rd, plan open 1989 [12.7]

1985 06 03
American Football: American football came to Cambridge with all the razzmatazz and fun which makes it a real family affair across the Atlantic. The air was filled with the smell of quarter-pounders, the sun blazed down Californian-style and even the lady selling fan club paraphernalia was saying 'Have a nice day' as Cambridge Cats made their home debut against Basingstoke Cavaliers at the Cambridge City Stadium in Milton Road. No-one had thought to provide any popcorn and there were no Budweisers but the 600 spectators enjoyed the game. 85 06 03

1985 06 14
Fishing: Cambridge Fish Preservation & Angling Society centenary, founded as Jolly Anglers [21.11]

1985 08 19
Cricket: "Fenner's traditionally the venue for the first fixture of English first-class season" [21.4]

1986 07 28
Athletics: David Morgan wins Commonwealth Gold medal, light heavy-weight lifting [11.11]

1988 10 20
Athletics: Coe & Cram run round Trinity Gt Court ¢CEN 20.10.88

1988 11 02
Athletics: A new university sports complex off Madingley Road will cater for every level from general recreation to high-performance athletes. The first phase will include a 10-lane Olympic-standard synthetic athletics track with field events facilities and a pavilion. Later there will be a 34-metre swimming pool with a deep-water full-size international water polo court. A sports hall, rowing, training tank, combat salle, dance studio, squash and fives court and table tennis facilities will follow 88 11 02; planners reject ¢CEN 15.6.89

1989 06 26
Snooker: Cambridge Snooker Club is to close after five years because of redevelopment. Memberships will be transferred to Frames in Coldham's Lane, a popular social & sports mecca. Each has 800 members and 20 tables 89 06 26

1989 06 28
Athletics: Two internationally-known developers plan a giant new sports complex sprawling over 40 acres between King's Hedges and the northern bypass. It would have a wide range of indoor and outdoor facilities including an indoor pool and an athletics track for public use. It is on land soon to be removed from the green belt, close to the site of the new Regional College. The scheme comes after planners snubbed a £20 million scheme by Cambridge University to build a sports complex in the west of the city. 89 06 28

1990 05 24
International standard University sports complex planned for west Cambridge – 90 05 24a

1990 09 18
Leisure facilities plan including ice-skating, roller skating and ten-pin bowling at Histon Road may be shelved – 90 09 18

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Athletic mums, 1950s *123.74*

Cambridge SPORT Chronicle. Part one: chronological

1888 01 06
Skating: proposal to flood Stourbridge Common for skating [5.25]

1888 03 02
Rowing: undergraduate killed in Bumps accident when pointed bow hit ribs when rowing & ribs pierced his heart, Stearn the photographer took photo which proves rudder defective [5.26,5.27]

1888 04 20
Swimming: Cambridge University & Town Swimming Baths Company established [5.28, 6.1]

1889 04 08
Cricket: County Cricket Association formed [4.10,5.1]

1890

1890

Skating: During 1890-91 was 55 days frost, field behind Bartholomew's house artificially flooded, illuminated at night [17.6]

1892 11 01
Cricket: Fenner's purchased [2.15]

1892 05
Rowing: undergraduate hit by lightning during May Races [3.15]

1892 05
Rowing: last procession of boats after Bumps races [2.11, 3.13]

1894
Skating rink established Adams Road, developed by University skating club [446.8.3]

1895
Golf: Grays golf links open Grantchester Meadows [16.10]

1895
Football: University Football & Rugger ground laid out, Grange Rd [446.12.5]

1895
Skating: man skates from Cambridge to Denver Sluice & back in a day [1.12]

1895
Skating: floodlighting generator installed Lingay Fen [6.14]
Skating on Lingay Fen in 1895 by aid of floodlighting – picture – 62 01 20a

1896
Parkers Piece protest re closure to footballers [NI.2.1]

1896 08 22
Swimming: women's bathing place completed [2.16]

1899
Sailing: Cam Sailing club formed [4.11]

1899 01 27
Golf: The subjugation of England to golf proceeds at a rapid race. Cambridge has already done homage to the Scottish game, and announcements made this week on behalf of Caius College shows that the popularity is still on the increase. Caius propose to devote about 250 acres of land on the Gog Magog hills to the formation of a golf links. A suggested course of 18 holes has already been staked out by Duncan, the professional - 1899 01 27

1899 05 31
Rowing: Out of the recent split in the ranks of the Cambridge Y.M.C.A. a new 99 rowing club has sprung and already it has a promised membership of 30. The authorities had adopted a policy over smoking and it was plain to them that the Boat Club would fail unless something was done to keep the members together. Mr Digby referred to the recent controversy on smoking. He was a father of five boys and if they did nothing worse than smoke when they had arrived at the age of men, he should be perfectly satisfied - 1899 05 31

1899 11 08
Cycling: At the Granta Cycling Club smoking concert the chairman said all cyclists in Cambridge were determined to have a cycle track. Every kind of athletics was catered for except cyclists. It was not fair to those who placed stock on Midsummer Common to have it there, and unless it was enclosed they would not get a 'gate' as people who paid to see races generally liked to go on a stand. If cyclists were determined to have a track they should collect a sum equivalent to that paid by those who put stock in the Common and then they could have their ground enclosed 1899 11 08

1900

1900 02 08
Skating: For the first time the British Amateur Skating Championship has been decided at Littleport. At no venue in Great Britain are the arrangements so to up-to-date. All Cambridge sportsmen will welcome Albert Tebbit's success. He has had to wait five years to have his third race for the championship which has always been held by a man from Welney – the little hamlet known as the metropolis of speed skating 00 02 08

1900 06 08
Rowing: An accident such as that which befell Mr G. Flowers of Emmanuel College on the Cam is always to be regretted. He was rowing in the Emmanuel College boat when it was bumped by the St John's boat the nose of which came violently against his chest and he received a severe injury. Had it occurred in the days before it was compulsory to put indiarubber balls on the noses of the boats there is much reason to fear he must have been killed 00 06 08

1900 07 25
Cricket: Sir – I was pleased to notice that someone has at last had the courage to write about the wretched condition of Parker's Piece. Our last wicket was not only full of holes but we had a little hill rising a yard and a half in front of the block. Twelve shillings were paid for this wicket and a tent, whereas a college ground and pavilion (with a splendid wicket) can be hired for 7s.6d. Our cricket club have been so disgusted with the wickets that we have decided not to play again this season on Parker's Piece unless it is impossible to get a wicket elsewhere – Disgusted Cricketer 00 07 25

1901
Golf: Gog Magog Golf club formed (75th anniversary 1976) [16.11]

1901 05 01
Table-tennis: "Ping-Pong was invented by Mr James Gibb, an old Cambridge athlete now living at Croydon. It was started one evening with champagne corks cut as nearly circular as possible, and the lids of cigar-boxes for battledores. Then he tried indiarubber balls covered with cigarette paper to make them look very white but he was not satisfied and sent to America to have some celluloid balls made. Mr Gibb was one of the best all-round athletes of his day. The game he invented continues to rage virulently in society 01 05 01

1901 05 25
Golf: Dr George Cunningham invents Lon Golf (lawn golf) ¢Cambridge Graphic 25.5.1901

1901 06 10

Rowing: After the rowing races at Ditton Corner & when the crush of small boats was at its height, a steam launch crowded with people endeavoured to force its way through the block of boats. Frantic endeavours were made to get out of its way but the launch crashed into a boat which contained two men, who were thrown into the river. Shouts from bystanders eventually brought the launch to a standstill but no effort was made to render any assistance. What would have been the results had the boat contained ladies. All launches should have a look-out man on the bow as it is impossible to see from the stern what is happening in front CDN 1901 06 10

1901 07 15
Cricketers will learn with much regret at the death at his residence, Mill Road, Cambridge, of the veteran cricketer and umpire, Bob Carpenter. He was 27 when he played in his first match at Lord's for the United England XI. A powerful hitter, his favourite stroke was to square leg. Playing for Cambridgeshire against Surrey in 1861 he made an innings of 100 described as "probably the greatest display of batting the world has ever seen". He played regularly for England in company with two other Cambridgeshire cricketers 'Pepper' Tarrant and Tom Hayward' CDN 1901 07 15

1902
Football: Cambridge & District Thursday League formed [14.2]

1902 01 28
Dogs: A rabbit coursing and whippet race meeting was held in a field near the Milton Road, Cambridge and some good sport was witnessed. There was a smaller programme than on some former occasions. A good entry was received and some fine dogs were in the field. A proposal has been made to organise a coursing society for Cambridge and the idea is receiving considerable support. CDN 1902 01 28

1902 02 04
Table-tennis: In at least one thing Cambridge is abreast of the times. She has the craze for ping-pong, or to call it by its more dignified name, table tennis. For a long time past the ping of the racket could be heard coming from the houses of the up-to-date. By Christmastime ping-pong parties had become quite general, ping-pong clubs were formed and now Cambridge has been brought into line with the metropolis by holding a tournament. It was to be held at the Conservative Club, but owing to the large entry it was decided to transfer operations to the Corn Exchange. The one table reserved for ladies was always an attraction. The lady competitors, generally in smart costumes, played a milder game, though there were some who would have made the male sex jump about. CDN 1902 02 04

1902 02 06
Table-tennis: We have all heard of the rise of ping-pong as well as predictions of its decline and fall. It would appear that Cambridge people, who were not behindhand in the appreciation of the attractive game, have already lost some of their liking for it. The opportunity that the Imperial Ping Pong Tournament offered to local players to compete for handsome prizes valued at 45 guineas has not been extensively accepted. At no time during the evening was there a very large attendance. 02 02 06

1902 02 25
Table-tennis: We understand a Ping Pong Club, open to residents in the New Town district of Cambridge has been started. The large room of the New Town Conservative Club, Russell Street, has been secured, and two Whitmore patent tables are provided. The hon secretary is Mr E. W. Illsley of 23, Bateman Street CDN 1902 02 25

1902 04 24
Cricket: Tom Hayward, the cricketer, was the recipient of an expression of that pride and admiration which his fellow-townsmen so unstintingly entertain for the man and the sportsman. It took the form of the time-honoured complimentary dinner at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge on the occasion of his return home after a most successful cricketing tour in Australia. Mr Hayward thanked the company for the kind reception which made him more nervous than playing before 40,000 people. As to the tour they had a very pleasant time. There was only one thing to mar it and that was losing four out of five of the test matches. But they had bad luck, all their best bowlers being ill or injured. 02 04 24

1903 05 16
Football: Mr Percy Humphreys, formerly a regular player for Cambridge St Mary's Football Club is now the possessor of an international cap. Cambridge has a way of showing appreciation of distinction attained in sport by complimentary dinners and it was only fitting that following those to cricketers Ranji and Tom Hayward a similar compliment should be paid to a townsman who has attained the highest honour in the other great national game. He was known as 'The Little Terror' and was the subject of hero worship by lads in Cambridge.c03 05 16

1903 06 10
Cycling: The Granta Cycling Club ceased to exist when the annual meeting was held at the Blue Boar Hotel, Cambridge. When the track at the Backs of the Colleges was in use the membership rose to 50 but it has been gradually dwindling for the last three years since no cycling track has been available in Cambridge. In the event of a cycle track being obtained they will make an effort to revive the club. The balance sheet showed that the club died solvent. 03 06 10

1903 06 26
Football: Local sportsmen will be sorry to hear that the provisional committee of the proposed Cambridge Town Football Club have been unsuccessful in securing a ground for the coming season. The ground near the Cattle Market belonging to the Corporation was not available and negotiations were entered into for a ground at the corner of Milton Road. Mrs Gurney, the owner, has not been able to see her way to allow its use as it is too close to her private garden. She offered a ground near Dant's Ferry but the preparation would cost about £100 for draining and was out of the question. 03 06 26

1904 06 10
Cricket: Cambridge Victoria Cricket Club celebrated its jubilee. From as far back as 1855 there are complete histories of matches played. The first took place between teams captained by Mr Goody and Mr Merry. In 1859 an All England XI played 22 of Cambridge Town on Parker's Piece, five of whom were from the Victoria Club. In the early 1860's there was keen rivalry with village of Abington who possessed a very decent eleven composed of people gathered from surrounding places such as Linton, Hinxton and even Cambridge. The Victorians were so keen they played cricket whenever the opportunity offered, even on ice when 'the ball was returned very quickly and a number of men run out' – CDN 10.6.1904

1904 06 10
Rowing: A serious accident occurred following the 'Mays'. After the half-past six race there is usually a scramble from the course to the boat-yards and collisions are frequent. But when a steamer and pleasure craft collide the consequences are unpleasant for the occupants of the smaller boats. Two of these were overturned and their eight occupants, including ladies, were precipitated into the water but happily all were rescued. One lady excited admiration for her cool

behaviour in a perilous position and managed to climb into one of the small craft. CDN 1904 06 10

1904 06 11
Polo: Cambridge University Polo Club commenced their May Week activities with a polo pony show, the first held by the club. A driving competition through posts separated from the wheels of the vehicles by only two inches was productive of some amusement as some competitors used hansoms and one a large brake. Ladies took part and the first prize was obtained by Miss de Freville. Later a fair number of spectators watched the polo tournament and had the satisfaction, or otherwise, of listening to amorous melodies rendered by Pierrots whose accompaniment proceeded from a harmonium. 04 06 11

1904 06 13
Rowing: The Rev N.W. Shelton, vicar of Old Chesterton and his party, half-a-dozen in all, met with an unpleasant experience at the 'Mays'. The party, in an ordinary rowing boat, had left the scene of the action and arrive, after the usual difficulty, at the Pike and Eel ferry where their progress was barred for a time. During the period of waiting a big houseboat, towed by a horse, 'crashed' into the boat which it sunk and precipitated the occupants into the water. After a short period of excitement the party, which included several ladies, were landed safely on the houseboat, which proceeded on its course. It is an abominable shame that these large houseboats are allowed to travel on the river when it is crowed with smaller craft. It was going at from six to seven miles an hour and was in charge of a small boy on a horse. 04 06 13

1904 11 03
Chesterton Council has purchased land in Carlyle Road, Cambridge, for a recreation ground. They bought rights in the Brickfield Estate from Mrs Wragg-Gurnie and frontages to Alpha Road from Mr Thoday for £1,350. They then sold off the frontages and after paying for the land were left with a bill for £425 together with a further amount for fencing, laying out and planting the ground. This was a very small sum for so large a piece of land and they had carried out a great improvement in Carlyle Road by widening it from Dalrymple Terrace to the end of the road CDN 3.11.1904.

1904 11 12
Rugby: Last week some Frenchmen visited Cambridge. There was no doubt about their being Frenchmen. They displayed many of the features of their race, but they were also possessed of phenomenal dash and staying-power. They came to play Rugby football against a team which nominally represented Trinity College but which was far stronger than any single college could put in the field. And they beat this team completely. Many seemed surprised: "I wouldn't have thought a Frenchman could last out a game of 'Rugger'" one said. The shoulder-shrugging, frog-eating Frenchman of the story-books is a rare creature. So let's banish this nursery-bred illusion and hope one day for the friendship of this great people. CDN 12.11.1904

1905
Running: marathon race Milton Road school to Stretham bridge & return held (last one) [5.12]

1905 01 27
Skating would have been quite possible on the Electric Light Ground, Newnham, today had not some evilly disposed person drawn the water from the ground the other evening. The work was done with a care and thoroughness worthy of a better cause. The bank of the ditch which runs from the river to the pump was cut through and so great a fall allowed that the whole of the water on the ground was drained away. Two ladies heard somebody at work on the bank but imagined it

was the proprietor and paid little heed. In addition to the annoyance caused the proprietor has suffered a considerable financial hardship. 05 01 27a

1905 06 10
Rowing: An extraordinary incident occurred at the May Races. The stroke of the Downing boat was experimenting at the Laboratory in the morning when he was the victim of an unfortunate accident which greatly affected his eyes. To requisition another stroke would be impossible so with indomitable pluck he decided to row. This he actually did, but was blindfolded. Sadly his energies were of no avail and his boat was bumped by Trinity Hall. 05 06 10

1905 06 12
Rowing: The sinister hand of Death has cast its shadow over Cambridge in its most joyous mood. In the very midst of the May Week holiday three people were drowned through the capsizing of the ferryboat known as the Red Grind at Fen Ditton. Two journeys had been made after the racing, the ferry crowded each time and when the boat was ready for the third about 20 people commenced the fateful voyage. Two University men jumped on at the last moment, the ferry gave a lurch and turned turtle pitching the screaming occupants into six feet of water. Words cannot describe the scene at Fen Ditton when the ferry sank. People in the grounds of the Plough rushed to the bank, one or two men plunged into the water, others seized chairs and hurled them towards the struggling mass in the river. Pleasure boats hurried and scurried in answer to frantic appeals for help and the Ditton men shoved off in their black fishing boats. Off the twenty or so who went down with the ferry all but three were saved. Miss Violet Handscombe was engaged to Mr Thomas Day and together they enjoyed a visit to the May races. From the Plough pleasure gardens they stepped aboard the ill-fated Red Grind ferry. When it sank Mr Day became separated from his intended bride and managed to reach the bank unassisted. Eagerly he looked for his betrothed but she had become entangled with the rail when the ferry capsized; he plunged into the river again and brought her to dry land but she had been so long under water that life was extinct. Miss Minnie Murkin is the central figure of the Fen Ditton ferry sinking. Today she was to have been a happy bride but now her body will be borne to the tomb. At her home in Selwyn Terrace the last few days have witnessed all the preliminary events that precede the wedding; presents have been arriving and her finance came from Swansea. He was on the bank, witnessed the upsetting of the boat and endured the agony of seeing his prospective bride dragged beneath the surface by the sinking craft. 05 06 12, a-c,

1905 06 13
Rowing: The inquests on the three victims of the ferry sinking was opened in Fen Ditton schoolroom. The jury proceeded to the melancholy task of viewing the bodies. Those of Mrs Annie Thompson and Miss Minnie Murkin were laid side by side in a darkened room at the Plough, attired in white as for burial, and awaiting outside were the coffins. They then proceeded to a house in which Miss Handscombe was already laid in her coffin. Next they viewed the boat which had been raised from the river. 05 06 13a

1905 08 05
Fishing: Two undergraduates said they were fishing at Holywell when Baron de Ketschemdorf arrived in another punt and asked them to move. They declined, saying the river was public, at which the Baron said he would throw them in the river. There was a wrestle during which he tried to throttle them. The German said he had driven a pole in the bed of the river showing that he had already occupied that water and it was a point of etiquette not to fish there. The men had threatened to hit him with a bucket. He was fined £1. 05 08 05b – d

1905 08 15

Cycling: Proposed cycle track, Midsummer Common – 05 08 15a & b

1905 09 09
Rowing: "yet another boathouse - Trinity Hall ... are three handsome boathouses next door to each other - all that is wanted now is the river" [6.22]

1905 09 09
Climbing: It is seldom that a Cambridge tradesman, in the short time he can allow himself for a holiday, undertakes such a hazardous venture as that successful accomplished by Mr Alphonso Smith. He has succeeded in ascending Mont Blanc only to find the little observatory on the summit so covered with snow that he could not find the door. It was so bitterly cold that he made only a very short stay. He has no wish to make a second ascent. 05 09 09 & a

1905 09 09
Rowing: "Yet another boathouse - Trinity Hall ... are three handsome boathouses next door to each other - all that is wanted now is the river" [6.22]

1905 11 07
Cycling: Dartigan, the only exponent of the daring and sensational acts of cycling around a loop heads the bill at the Auckland Road Hippodrome. The wonderful sight of a cyclist careering head downwards along the inverted part of the track aroused a storm of applause. Since he began his dangerous occupation he has experienced many accidents. Once at Yarmouth he fell from the top of the loop and his head crashed through the track with the result that his jaw and nose were broken and his head so severely injured that he sustained concussion of the brain. 05 11 07a

1905 11 14
Wrestling: The Cambridge Hippodrome has secured the services of Alec Bain, one of the best-known wrestlers in the country. He offers £20 to any man he fails to defeat in 15 minutes or £50 to anyone who defeats him. His opponent in a 'catch-as-catch-can' contest was Mr Davis, a well-known local exponent of physical culture. For eight minutes he extricated himself from dangerous holds but then was fixed in a 'hammer-lock', a hold he claimed was not allowed as it was very dangerous. But the referee's judgement was in favour of Bain. 05 11 14a

1905 12 02
Rugby: The Cambridge University v Dublin rugby match stopped suddenly and the players hastily gathered together in a group and remained perfectly still. It seemed a new way of playing rugby, even less comprehensible that the ways of the New Zealanders. Then one of the crowd ran out with a lengthy overcoat and out of the circle emerged the form of a famous three-quarter back, shrouded in the voluminous garment. Sedately he commenced a journey across to the pavilion, but then he ran and the secret was revealed – he had rent his football knickers 05 12 02b

1906
Cambridge Amateur Swimming club formed [17.9]

1906 02 15
Cycling: Sidney Lack, the champion cyclist, has been suspended by the National Cycling Union and his licence cancelled, after taking part in a race at Wellingborough. Local crowds will be sorry if he is unable to compete as an amateur again. He was a great favourite, largely because of his reputation for riding 'straight'. But he has been approached by the British agent of the Paris Velodrome with a view to a career as a professional cyclist in Paris 06 02 15

1906 03 24
Skating: When Albert Tebbitt was handed the King's Cup by the President of the National Skating Association he was without progeny. But within 24 hours he became the father of a sturdy boy. His own father, when 50 years of age, was still a formidable opponent and it was predicted that any son of his would become a future champion. A few jokes were cracked about a future young Tebbitt skating gaily away to the North Pole. It is possible that the glacier age may arrive during the lifetime of the latest addition to this athletic family and the predictions be quite within the bounds of probability. 06 03 24a

1906 04 27
Cycling: Sid Lack of Histon, whose exploits on the cycle track are famous, has left Cambridge for America. Mr Lack, who filled the position of second engineer at Chivers' factory, aims at finding more scope in his vocation and for a time will be engaged in a motor car business at Boston. He has at present no intention of taking up racing over there. 06 04 27

1906 06 16
Cricket: Mr W. Saunders of Histon has had a remarkable cricketing career over the last 52 years. He learned to play on Parker's Piece and formed a club at Impington until its field was sold. In the 1860s Cambridgeshire occupied the premier position in county cricket and he was numbered amongst some of the finest players in the country being chosen to play against the first All England eleven to visit Australia. 06 06 16b

1906 07 07
Cricket: Tom Hayward, cricketer, may retire. 06 07 07c

1906 09 22
The family of Rowell has long been identified with sport in Cambridge. Now Edward Rowell, a cousin of one time Go-as-you-please Champion, 'Charlie', is making a name for himself as an all-round athlete in Australia where he has won enough money to secure a fine business: one match over hurdles brought him £300. He added to his reputation as a footballer and when that season ended he took up cricket, being voted the best batsman in West Australia. 06 09 22

1906 10 04
Fishing: An extraordinary sight, which ought never to occur again, is to be witnessed at Baitsbite Lock. For a hundred yards the surface of the water is literally covered with dead and dying fish – pike, roach, bream, dace and a host of smaller fry. Fishermen would never have dreamed there were as many fish in the waters. They have been slaughtered by the introduction of some noxious substance into the river. 06 10 04 & a

1906 12 29
Swimming: Christmas bathing in the river needs a Spartan spirit and a robust constitution. But in Cambridge sufficient men enjoy a jovial gathering at the Town Bathing Sheds every Christmas morning. With the mercury hovering above freezing point, water in dykes coated with ice and a keen wind blowing across the Fen, about 30 bold spirits plunged in and one swam to the Leys School. When he emerged from the water his skin had a bright red hue, but he was perfectly happy. 06 12 29b [6.23]

1906 12 29
Billiards: Hudson's brewery applied for the transfer of the licence of the Golden Fleece, Ram Yard, an old beer-house attached to Brown's billiard rooms, which years ago was a celebrated

resort of University billiard players. The house had been closed for eight months but now there was a new tenant. Some days ago it was refused, but now it was granted. 06 12 29a

1907 03 01
Hunting: A stag chased by the Cambridge Drag Hounds jumped into the garden of a house in Gower Road, Royston, then plunged through the window into the parlour. Two young ladies were terribly frightened as the animal dashed round, breaking chairs, pictures and mirrors until huntsmen secured it. Meanwhile the hounds entered the kitchen and devoured the whole of the family's dinner. The huntsmen continue their sport after leaving an address to which the owner should write for compensation. 07 03 01

1907 04 30
Racquets: In the records of sport there is no instance of one family attaining greater re-eminence in any particular branch of sport that of the Gray family of Cambridge, in racquets. From 1863 onwards there have been five professional champions. Henry James Gray who was the first, is a town councillor and head of the well-known firm of athletic outfitters of Sidney Street. 07 04 30a & b

1907 05 06
Cycling: A.G. Markham is amongst the front rank of road cyclists. At the North London Fifty Miles Invitation Road Race he was the only competitor riding a tricycle, covering the course in three hours, the fastest time every accomplished on one. This is remarkable as 25 of the 50 miles were covered against a strong wind. Even after such a punishing race, his stamina was such that he rode another 30 miles to his Cambridge home. 07 05 06. Name given to Markham Close on Kings Hedges estate [21.7] [3.3]

1907 06 08
Rowing: The boat procession used to be the most popular of the May Week gaieties. The brilliant blazers of the collegeians, the varied colours of the ladies' charming costumes, the prettily adorned boats together with the enlivening strains of an excellent band all combined to make a scene of colour and animation. The gathering fell through owing to the apathy of the boating men who objected to dressing up to be looked at. But it is a great pity 07 06 08a

1907 06 22
Boxing: Wrestlers' Arms reminiscence – boxing – 07 06 22d

1907 07 27
Golf: Sir – Sunday is being desecrated with often a score of persons playing golf on the Gog Magog course during church hours. Even females are now to be seen there amongst the Sabbath-breakers. Not content with golf, on Sunday evening a target was stuck up and rifle practice was being carried on. Under the terms on which the links are held no golfing is to be allowed on Sunday and the gates must be kept locked. – 'Observer' 07 07 27

1907 07 27
Rowing: The origin of the Cambridge Town Bumping Races is surrounded by some obscurity. It is said there were eight-oared races as far back as 1820. In 1868 the Amateur Eight-Oar Town Races were commenced but lapsed owing to the rival attractions of lawn tennis and cycling. In 1888 a silver plate was presented to the Rowing Association and since then the names of the head of the river crew have been inscribed on it, with one exception – 1894. 07 07 27

1907 08 20

Fishing: There was unusual excitement among the juvenile fraternity and considerable bustle in arranging fishing rods and other paraphernalia. The occasion was unique, for there was to be a juvenile fishing competition. Nowadays children are admitted to pleasures and privileges hitherto enjoyed only by the adult portion of the community and this is the very latest form of amusement arranged for them by the Albion Angling Society 07 08 20

1907 10 10
Rugby: Ever since the Cambridge University Rugby Football ground was acquired in Grange Road ten years ago, the absence of dressing rooms has been a problem. When famous clubs like the 'Springboks' and 'All Blacks' visited they had to change in the cottage at the corner of the ground. Now the new pavilion contains showers, lavatories and kitchens with a stand for 200 people. The old roofless wooden stand, long regarded as an eyesore, has been moved to the opposite side of the ground 07 10 10

1908 01 10
Skating: Hundreds of London skating enthusiasts availed themselves of train excursions to the fens which presented a practically unlimited area of ice in good conditions. Miles and miles were available. Not since 1895 have Cambridge people had such a large extent of frozen river with a splendid run from the Railway Bridge to Baitsbite Locks. Even man's modern eyesores were transformed: telegraph and telephone poles were linked with strands of silken beauty and wire-netting was outlined in crystals with the fragile delicacy of old lace. 08 01 10g

1908 01 17
Skating: Ancient inhabitants rack their brains in vain for a parallel to the extraordinary weather of the past fortnight, bringing in its train a record crop of influenza. The changes from 20 degrees of frost to a damp muggy air and then back again have caused the National Skating Association to rearrange the Championships which took place at Lingay Fen in almost perfect conditions. The ice was hard and entries above average. 08 01 17b

1908 03 14
Climbing: Undergraduates climb Backs trees, roped together in Alpine fashion - 08 03 14

1908 03 25
Cricket: Fenner's – memories of Walter Watts – 08 03 25 & a

1908 04 25
Athletics: In all probability we have seen the last athletic flat race meeting in Cambridge. After struggling for several years the Liberal Athletic Union received one last blow in with the poorest attendance on record. For a large gate at least cycle races, and perhaps motor races, are required but the University will not permit these at Fenner's although similar cinder tracks are used for both. The weather did not help with three inches of snow on the ground in the morning. But the sun shone with great power and the track dried. 08 04 25a & b [6.28]

1908 06 05
Climbing: There has been an Alpine fever amongst undergraduates, finding a vent in climbing trees along the Backs. The wireless telegraphy station on the Huntingdon Road has been the site of the latest exploit. This is a pole over 200 feet in height which receives messages from Cumnor Hill near Oxford. Two undergraduates merrily commenced the ascent by means of the metal spikes driven in at convenient intervals and managed to reach the top. But the return voyage was not so easily accomplished and they reached terra firma with a distinct sigh of relief. It is a matter

for common wonder what object will next receive the attention of this strange species. CWN 08 06 05 p5

1908 08 07
Mammoth Show weather will soon be a synonym for a cloudless sky and a balmy atmosphere. There have been five of these huge exhibitions on successive August Bank Holidays attracting thousands of visitors to Midsummer Common and discouraging Cambridge residents from scampering off to other places. There were competitions for dogs, poultry, cage birds and fancy rats together with athletics and motor cycle races. CEN 08 08 07

1908 08 11
Swimming: Charles Henry Driver was appointed custodian of the Town Bathing Place on Sheep's Green five years ago. Since then he has saved 31 lives, mainly residents but a few visitors. Small wonder that recognition should be shown of his promptitude in saving life as well as of his skill in restoring animation in half-drowned persons. He was presented with a substantial silver cigarette case and a handsome illuminated address. CWN 08 08 11 p5

1908 10 23
Cricket: Ranjitsinhji, now Jam of Nawanagar honoured – CWN 08 10 23

1908 12 25
The Boxing Day Costermonger's Marathon Race started from Abbey Street with each competitor pushing a barrow to the Bottisham Swan (a distance of six miles) and back. Performances of the romantic drama 'From Shop Girl to Duchess' at the New Theatre appealed to many, while there were cinematograph exhibitions at the Guildhall and at Sturton Town Hall CWN 08 12 25

1909
Football: Cambridge schoolboy football starts with formation of Cambridge Schoolboys Athletic Association [4.14]

1909 01 22
Shooting: The Saxon Cement Works' Miniature Rifle Range was opened by Major Bourke, of Rorke's Drift fame. It has a range of up to fifty yards where rifle shooting may be practiced in fair weather and foul, in daytime or at night, electricity affording the requisite illumination. In rain the bull's eyes are accessible to the bullet fired from the verandah of a comfortable club house. Every member possesses his own rifle.09 01 22

1909 07 09
Motor racing: Trinity student killed at Brooklands motor racing track – CWN 09 07 09

1909 07 23
Cycling: A.G. Markham cycling record – CWN 09 07 23

1909 08 13
Cycling: Edwin Banks, captain of the Belmont Cycling Club created a record at the Mammoth sports by winning four championships in one afternoon. He became infatuated with the sport at the tender age of 13 and later became a member of the famous Manchester Wheelers, the wealthiest club in the world. He came to Cambridge in 1908 and last year won 17 prizes. He has had spills innumerable, suffering dislocated shoulders, a broken collar bone and a broken wrist. CWN 09 08 13

1909 12 03
Hunting: Following a prosecution of an undergraduate for alleged cruelty to a deer when hunted by the University Draghounds the Vice Chancellor has ordered that the stags kept by the hunt are to be sent away from Cambridge. In future the hunting of deer or other animals kept in confinement renders members of the University amenable to the Court of Discipline. The practice, therefore, so far as the University is concerned, is at an end CWN 09 12 03

1909 12 10
Roller skating: The new skating rink at the back of Hertford Street was constructed to avoid any noise nuisance. Rinking was a fashionable amusement and there would be a charge so it would not be overrun with the rough element. They wanted to have a string band, with no drums, to play at intervals. There was not the slightest intention of making it a dancing saloon but they would like a licence so it could be used for subscription dances during May Week. CWN 09 12 10

1910

1910
Water-polo: team successful but would improve if could practice during winter months in good indoor swimming pool [6.21]

1910
Roller skating craze at height in 1910 with University and Town Rink in Magrath Avenue, Victoria Assembly Rooms, skating rink on Market Hill and in Pythagoras Gardens where was open-air skating and shooting range – 41 05 03b

1910 02 11
Boxing: Harry Cox of King Street was an old pugilist who learnt in a hard school where gloves were regarded as unnecessary. He started in a travelling fairground booth but when he visited Midsummer Fair decided to settle in Cambridge. He took part in many open-air fights without the sanction of the law which were witnessed by large numbers. Pupils from the University attended his rooms at the Green Lion in Short Street and later at the Royston Arms, Jesus Lane. “Professor Cox” also gave lessons at St John’s and other colleges and several University champions passed through his hands including T. Milvain of Trinity Hall who was heavyweight champion of All England in 1868-69 and is now Judge Advocate General. 10 02 11c

1910 03 04
Mammoth Show out of debt 10 03 04 & a.

1910 03 18
Roller skating: A grand fancy dress carnival at the University and Town Skating Rink attracted a large crowd and many ingenious costumes were seen. When a number of undergraduates were on the rink some wonderfully complete and extensive costumes were displayed. The rink presented a very pretty appearance when the ever-changing stream of skaters was illuminated with kaleidoscopic tints from the lime lights. Roller skating is not a sudden whim and the ‘craze’ has not died out. Young and old are trying to skate in thousands of rinks all over the country and the splendid floor of the Cambridge rink has been crowded almost every day since it was opened. 10 03 18g, photo 18d

1910 06 03
Cricket: Daniel Hayward senior was brother of Tom Hayward, the famous All England cricketer of the 1850s and 60s and father of the present Tom Hayward, the well-known Surrey batsman.

His other sons include Dan, the present University custodian of Fenner's and Frank who frequently appears in local cricket. In his early youth he was a cricketer of more than ordinary ability as a wicket-keeper whose form gained him a place in some of the great matches. He was landlord of the Prince Regent for 42 years having entered into occupation on 24th June 1868. 10 06 03i

1910 06 17
Rowing: Saturday's bump suppers proved exceptionally popular. It is customary for bonfires to be held in college courts and the frequent discharge of fireworks kept the fun flowing until the early hours. Jesus, who retained their position as head of the river, held a magnificent bonfire on the Close. A large crowd attracted by an enormous pile of old boxes dumped near the tennis courts, assembled in anticipation of fun before the pile was set ablaze by firing Roman candles into the heart of the inflammable mass.10 06 17

1910 07 15
Hunting: The Master of the University Draghounds was accused by the RSPCA of abusing a hind. The keeper's house at Shelford Crossing is surrounded by a wooden palisade and the animal made its way into the yard. The men used poles and brooms to drive it out and flicked it with whips. Eventually it was dislodged, only to go back again. It finally left in so exhausted a condition that it fell down and died. 10 07 15

1910 10 28
Golf: Three labourers were charged with stealing nine golf balls and an overcoat from Charles Willmott, a groundsman at the University Golf Links at Coton. The men went to the fields adjoining the course and picked up golf balls knocked some distance by players which they sold to an athletic outfitter of Downing Street. Willmott said he had left his overcoat in a shed on the links and it had gone missing. Later he found it in a ditch. Nine golf balls that had been in the pocket had gone. He went to the shop and identified them because of peculiar marks, one of them was quite unique. If men could not sell the balls they would not trouble to pick them up. 10 10 28

1910 07 15
Shooting: Henry James, a watercress seller from River Lane, was accused of searching for spent bullets in the soil at the Rifle Butts without having permission of the Commanding Officer of the Cambridgeshire Regiment. He'd got some girls to help to pick up about 6lbs of bullets that he'd sold to Mr Charles Carless, a marine store dealer of Broad Street. Two boys were also cautioned for picking up bullets. The Territorial Army said a good deal of damage had been done to the Rifle Butts by people picking up the bullets and they wanted to stop people buying them 10 07 15b

1910 12 16
Roller skating racing holds a prominent position in the world of sport. In Cambridge a large crowd were attracted to the University and Town Rink in Magrath Avenue to witness a half-mile amateur championship. It is undoubtedly one of the largest rinks in the Eastern Counties and well suited for racing. The floor was in excellent condition and the times recorded very good indeed. H.P. Pilbeam, a youngster of much promise, was leading up to the last lap but lacked training and could not stay the course. It was won by A. Gray who skated very finely 10 12 16

1910 12 23
Mammoth Show financial details – 10 12 23d

1910 12 23

Curling: Dr George Cunningham, dentist of King's Parade, conceived the idea of inventing a curling stone that could be used on roller skating rinks. He sought assistance from Henry Birch, a scientific instrument maker. At first the wheel carried the dust into the ball races and clogged them, so he invented a device to prevent the dust from getting in. Then he tried rubber wheels but these were a complete failure. Dr Cunningham never complained of the prices charged but disputed the number of hours it had taken. 10 12 23f

1910 12 30
Costers' Marathon on Boxing Day – 10 12 30c
Coster's annual barrow race to Bottisham swan 25 years ago – photo – 35 12 31a

1911
Billiards: challenge match played [4.17]

1911
Bowls: part of Christ's Pieces opened [7.14]

1911
Roller skating: Rinking very popular, carnivals at Chesterton rink & hockey club associated with it [7.12]

1911
Skating: Field opposite South Green Road illuminated for skating, barrel organ [17.6]

1911 02 10
Skating: There was skating on Mere Fen Swavesey. In the centre the ice was fairly good and safe but at the sides it was weak and many got their feet and legs wet. Three visitors from Cambridge afforded some amusement. Declining the services of the men with chairs they sat down on the bank after spreading out handkerchiefs to protect their clothing. They put on their skates and went boldly forward. But the thin ice near the bank gave way and one man dropped about two feet into the water. The chairmen laughed heartily and the visitors beat a hasty retreat – 11 02 10d

1911 04 07
Roller Skating Extraordinary. Last evening at the Victoria Rink on Market Hill, Monohan, the most remarkable skater in the world, gave an exhibition which evoked the greatest admiration. He performed many original turns, such as the candle maze, waltzing with a life-sized doll and concluded his wonderful display by jumping over five chairs. 11 04 07e

1911 05 05
Golf: An undergraduate from Trinity College was fined for playing golf on Jesus Green to the danger of passers-by. The lad said there was no notice and he had seen people playing there for the last two years. There could be a danger if anyone had been on the Green, but there was nobody there when he was playing. The constable had seen him with his club and could have stopped him but allowed him to play before asking for his name, college and year saying third year men generally got more heavily fined than Freshmen. But the Chief Constable said that Freshmen were often let off with a caution 11 05 05

1911 06 15
Shooting: open-air miniature rifle range, Coldham's Common opened [1.10]

1911 07 07

Football: Cambridgeshire Amateur Football Association formed – 11 07 07a

1911 11 04
Swimming: exercise shows how Kings Mill might be converted to open air swimming bath [7.10]

1911 11 24
Roller skating: The University and Town Roller Skating Rink will open its doors as the County Rink Cinema, Magrath Avenue. A small portion of the large building is being converted into an up-to-date picture theatre where the very best films will be shown. The ticket will also give free entry to the rink and use of skates. The ring will certainly be smaller but still allow for racing and hockey. Gymkhanas and carnivals will continue to be held. 11 11 24b

1912
Billiards: league set up [4.17]

1912
Football: Cambridge United join Spartan league [7.7]

1912
Rowing: boat race - bad weather, Cambridge give up & boats sink, race void, re-ran & Cambridge lost [7.6]

1912
Rugby: Springboks visit, 8-9,000 crowd [7.8]

1912 04 26
Cricket: Jack Hobbs dinner at Lion Hotel – 12 04 26 & a

1912 08 02
Cycling: Mr A.G. Markam, the ex-holder of the 100 miles' world's tricycle record and present holder of the 24 hours' Eastern Counties tricycle record, covered the splendid distance of 192 miles in twelve hours. For over 60 miles he had to struggle with a dead head wind which blew with tremendous strength across the open fenland. To make things worse, at 140 miles his stomach went wrong and he went all to pieces. Four times he gave up the ride as hopeless but his followers would not let him rest and after dosing him with brandy and bathing his head they managed to keep him at it. It is doubtful if any other man of his age – he is 44 and has been taking part in violent athletics for 26 years – would have done such a ride. 12 08 02aa

1912 09 14
Golf: 'why no municipal golf course, only links club is so exclusive as to be inaccessible to town & county residents' [7.5]

1913
Athletics: Borough police athletic society sports the most successful held [7.17]

1913
Rugby: suffragettes try to set fire to Varsity pavilion [7.15]

1913
Football: Abbey United match in 1913 – predates United history – 87 11 10a

1913 01 10
Ruby Football club inaugural meeting 13 01 10 p10 CIP

1913 01 24
Football: It seems practically certain that Cambridge United will lose their popular captain, Jack Rowell, for he has gone into business on his own account which will necessitate him giving up playing on Saturdays. Visiting clubs should note that Jack has taken over at the Hopbine in Fair Street where he will be able to accommodate them when playing in Cambridge. It is a great thing for teams to have somewhere to go where they will be well looked after and he understands their requirements. Jack is about to assume other responsibilities, for in a very short time he will have taken unto himself a wife.13 01 24 p3 CIP

1913 03 21
Rowing: Cambridge rowing coach Capt J.H. Gibbon featured in 'The World' magazine 13 03 21 p4 CIP

1913 05 30
Rowing: Two undergraduates told the court they were coming up the Cam in light sculling boats when they met a tug towing a string of six barges belonging to Colchester and Ball of Burwell. The barges smashed their boat and threw them in the river. The bargee said the wind had blown the rear barges across the river and the scull had got nipped between them and the bank, despite attempts by two men with poles to avoid the accident. But a Met Office witness testified there had been little wind that day. The judge said were too many barges in the chain and the back ones would always swing. He spoke from personal experience as an old oarsman on the Cam 13 05 30 p10 CIP

1913 07 04
Football: An important development in local football took place when the Cambridge Town F.C. was elected a member of the Southern Amateur League together with Weybridge. This was the fourth time they had applied and their success is largely due to their excellent performances in the last two seasons. This means they will compete against some of the leading amateur teams in the country on the Hills Road bridge ground with a home match practically every Saturday 13 07 04 p3 CIP

1913 10 17
Billiard league first annual meeting 13 10 17 p10 CIP

1913 08 29
Swim through Cambridge – 13 08 29 05 CIP

1913 11 21
Rowing: the Fire escape and engine responded to the alarm of a blaze at St John's College where they found a bonfire burning in second court to celebrate the victory of a rower in the Colquhoun Sculls. Fireworks were discharged and a crowd gathered to watch the glare through the chapel windows. Later a fire broke out in a wicker chair in an undergraduate's room. It is thought a spark from the bonfire may have blown through the window, or a lighted cigarette dropped in the chair. 13 11 21 p11 CIP

1914 01 02

There were animated scenes along the road between Cambridge and Bottisham on Boxing Day when the annual Costers' Marathon took place. A big crowd saw the 14 competitors start from Abbey Street. They had to travel to Bottisham and back, a distance of 11 miles, pushing a coster's barrow before them. Ben Warren led practically all the way covering the distance to Bottisham rapidly, but facing the wind on the return leg left all competitors severely tired. Most finished and received half-a-crown. 14 01 02c pic 14 01 02d costermongers race : last one held [2.10]

1914 01 23
Cricket: Tom Hayward, the great Cambridge and Surrey cricketer was quietly married at Wandsworth Registry Office. The arrangements were kept very secret but a 'Daily Sketch' photographer saw the happy couple leave. His wife, Matilda Mitchell, is one of the most famous of women detectives; a tall vivacious blonde, she was head of the secret service staff at Selfridge's. Tom will retire from cricket next year, she says – 14 01 23b

1914 02 14
Tennis: brickfields on Milton road reclaimed & converted into tennis courts, six hard & nine grass with six more in preparation [7.18]

1914 04 26
Swimming: There were two rescues from drowning at the Ladies Bathing Sheds. There were about 200 ladies and children when one lady tried to stand and found she was out of her depth, this unnerved her and she sank. The assistant, Miss King jumped in fully dressed and swam to her aid but could do little until the custodian, Mrs Alden, came to her assistance. So far gone was she that artificial respiration had to be resorted to. Later Mrs Alden, who had changed into her swimming costume, jumped in and pulled out another lady. 14 06 26 p8

1914 05 22
Football: Amalgamation - Cambridge Town and Cambridge United Football Clubs agreed the clubs should amalgamate. If they were to succeed in the bigger competitions they were going in for next season they must play better football, and to that end they must get the best men possible. This was what they could do through amalgamation.14 05 22 CIPof [8.1]

1914 07 11
Motor cycling: banned from Cambridge Town & County Charity sports due to danger, even though capacity reduced from 300 to 250 cc [7.20]

1915 03 05
Racquets: Councillor H.J. Gray held the Professional Racquets Championship for some years. At the racquets court at the back of St John's College he trained most of the players of note and established a famous racquets school where he trained most of the professionals of the great public schools. In 1866 he established the athletic outfitting firm in Sidney Street, retiring in 1896. He was also one of the best local cricketers and was a member of the Cambridge team that played against All England in the memorable match on Parker's Piece 15 03 05

1915 07 09
Cycling: Local casualties – includes Reginald Player world-famous cyclist 15 07 09 p5

1915 07 16
Shooting: Cambridge Railway Servant's Miniature Rifle Range completed 15 07 16 p4

1916 10 11

Shooting: Death Alfred Paget Humphry, deputy Lieutenant … fame as a rifle shot; fired from tower of Pitt Press aiming at the targets on Uz range at Backs of colleges; won Queen's Prize at Wimbledon; represented England etc 16 10 11a

1917 01 31
Cricket: Mr. W. Saunders is well-known in cricket circles throughout the county. His unbroken cricketing career extended over 50 years - probably a record never beaten in England - and was captain of the famous cup-fighting, village cricket club (Histon and Impington) for 25 years. He was presented with a silver rose bowl to commemorate the event. The first time an England XI returned from Australia (in the sixties) they were opposed by another team, picked from all England, on Parker's Piece. The latter side, for whom Mr. Saunders made 22 and took a number of wickets with his slow bowling, won. In those days, playing for Cambridgeshire against such sides as Yorkshire and other counties, Mr. Saunders - an amateur, was a successful bowler. Cambridgeshire at that time had some of the finest cricketers in England, including Bob, Carter, George Tarrant, Tom and Dan Hayward (uncle and father respectively of Tom, of Surrey fame 17 01 31 CIPof

1918 07 07
Fishing: Suggested Netting Of The Granta. —-it seemed hard to net a fresh water fishery where there were so many wounded soldiers. It was excellent sport for wounded soldiers to sit on the bank if the owners would only throw the river open to them 18 07 07 CIPof

1919
Bowls: Romsey green laid; Romsey Bowls Club formed 1922 [13.3]

1919 01 22
Hunting: Cambridgeshire Hunt saved from extinction; Master offers to hunt county for £800, against £1,100 before the war. Could not keep a pack of hounds at that price before the war and needed more – 19 01 22a

1919 02
Skating: held due to severe frost [2.17]

1919 03 12
Rowing: First ladies ‘eight’ on Cam – Newnham college; photos – 19 03

1919 04 23
Cricket: The future of cricket – cricket association – detailed article – 19 04 23b

1919 05 07
Rowing: Fifty years Varsity waterman; reminiscences of ‘Ted’ Phillips – 19 05 07e

1919 11
Athletics: H.M. Abrahams wins Freshman’s sports 100 yards, mile & long jump [2.18]

1919 12 10
Hunting: Hounds meet again. - After a lapse of six years, the Cambridge¬shire Hounds met at Anstey Hall, Trumpington, the residence of Mr. G. R. C. Foster, last week. There was a good muster. 19 12 10 CIPof

1920

1920
Football: Camden Football club formed [14.5]

1920 06 21
Swimming – only one man responsible for supervision of men's and boy's bathing places, frequently by up to 3,000 in a few hours – inquest on 10-year-old boy hears; not right that small boys should bathe so close to the girls – everyone ran about half-clad – not good for morals - CDN 20 06 21

1920 09 08
Rowing: College Servants rowing eights today and long ago – enjoyable reminiscences – Ch 20 09 08b

1920 09 22
Rowing: Sixty years on the Cam – memories of rowing, detailed article – Ch 20 09 22, a-b

1920 11 20
Football: Cambridge Town Football Club appeal for 1,800 sportsmen to lend the club £1 each to enable them to purchase a ground of their own - CDN 20 11 20

1921 05
Cycling: Cambridge District Association Cyclists Touring Club inaugural meeting, May 1921 [21.8]

1921 08 31
Dogs: Whippet racing revived; first meeting after war – 21 08 31a

1921 10 12
Football: Cambridge Town Football club new ground Milton Road – photo across site – 21 10 12a

1922
Rowing: 99 first boat starts fifth in division & makes bump every night to finish Head of River, Wick Alsop in crew [3.4]

1922
Skating: Bartholomew's Electric Light Skating Rink, Grantchester Meadows

1922 01 28
Tennis: Lawn Tennis league inaugurated [6.26]

1922 04 20
Dogs: The Whippet meeting arranged by the Cambridge Whippet Racing Club was held in the club's straight running ground, Arbury Road, Cambridge, when a good crowd of spectators witnessed some very decent running. The weather conditions were far from ideal for dog racing, and undoubtedly were responsible for some indifferent running 22 04 20

1922 04 29
Football: The new ground of the Cambridge Town Football Club, situate to the north of the junction of Milton-road and Victoria-road was formally opened by the Mayor of Cambridge on

Saturday, after which the Town played their Southern Amateur League return fixture with Merton, and started their record n the new ground with a satisfactory victory by three goals to none. The Mayor said that just after the war he was approached to act as trustee of a fund for purchasing a ground for the Town F.C. Without a suitable ground it was impossible to carry on for any length of time. He hoped the club would be successful, because it owed the bank something like £1,100 - but he was told a man thinking of big things was not a successful man of business unless he owed a considerable sum to the bank 22 04 29 [2.19,7.23]

1922 05
Bowls: Romsey recreation ground bowling green opened [2.20]

1922 05 03
Football: Cambridge Town Football Club ground, Milton Rd, opens [2.19,7.23]

1922 06 03
Climbing: Roof escapades by undergraduates have been numerous of late and the missing prehistoric fish weather vane on the Geological Museum dome is the outcome of one of those. Another high altitude "rag" took place recently when handkerchiefs and clothing were tied to one of the towers of King's Chapel. A story has been told that a proposal of marriage was made and accepted on a college roof during a nocturnal excursion in which undergraduate students of the fair sex took part. Can it be that this story was circulated to try and throw the blame on the ladies for removing the prehistoric fish? 22 06 03

1922 07
Swimming: Coldham's Common bathing pool opened [2.21,8.2]

1922 10 13
Ju Jitsu: Cambridge Corn Exchange was crowded last evening on the occasion of a boxing tournament. In all the events there was some capital fighting. The audience also had the privilege of witnessing an excellent exhibition of Ju Jitsu and Katsu, in which the participants were Harry Hunter of Broadstairs, England's greatest exponent of Ju Jitsu, and Mr W. Saddington, the local expert in the art. Various throws and locks were shown but the one which interested the audience was that of throwing and rendering an opponent unconscious in a few seconds, and instantly reviving him by Katsu, the Japanese method of restoration

1922 10 19
Swimming: The proposed new bathing places provided a lively debate at Cambridge Town Centre. Plan A was for a bath on the far side of Sturbridge Common, not far from the railway. Plan B was for a bath on Jesus Green parallel to the river and a little above Victoria Bridge. It would be supplied by water taken from the Cam through pipes from above Jesus weir. The Bullen's Grove site on Sturbridge Common was less overlooked but the great point in favour of Jesus Green was that it was far more accessible and it was finally agreed to approve it 22 10 19

1923 05 24
Althetics: An attendance of upwards of 5000 at the first athletics meeting held on the Town Football Club's ground, Milton road, may be regarded as entirely satisfactory. The first part of the day was taken up with six-a-side football. The various races were keenly contested on a track which made the cyclists very cautious. In two of the races there were two nasty spills. Sir Douglas Newton presented the Invicta cycle to Mr Fuller of Shelly row, who was the fortunate winner of a handsome machine given to the purchaser of a ticket before the day of the event. The

proud processor was apparently not a cyclist, for he wheeled it around the track, notwithstanding that the spectators invited him to "jump on and ride" 23 05 24

1923 07
Boating: Motor Boat club new pavilion opened [2.23]

1923 08 25
Swimming: Jesus Green swimming pool opened [2.24, 6.25]

1923 11 06
Rugby: One hundred years ago the Royal and ancient game of rugby football was initiated, and today an alleged representation of the first game was given in Cambridge market square. Some time before noon the square was roped off and surrounded by police. The fountain was converted into a Royal box and the telephone kiosk into a press box. At noon the teams marched on to the ground. At their head was carried a large and considerably elongated football on a butchers tray. With the teams marched a portly and bearded Proctor, complete with "bullers" and a nasty looking birch, which he did not hesitate to use when occasion demanded 23 11 06

1924
Athletics: H.M. Abrahams won 100 metres at Olympics [12.4]

1924 01 26
Climbing: A particularly sad story was related to the Cambridge coroner when an inquiry was held into the death of a 18 year old student at Girton College. The girl, who was stated to be fond of rock climbing, attempted to ascend the Tower of the college with the intention of seeing an owls nest. Apparently she slipped and fell to the ground. From the injuries sustained to her legs she evidently alighted on her feet, which goes to prove that she hung on somewhere for a moment before she fell. Before she died she had said, “I so wanted to see the little owls” 24 01 26

1924 04 02
Boxing: Many local boxing enthusiasts will learn with regret that the death has occurred of Cox Griffiths, the wrestling and boxing champion. His record at wrestling was a lengthy and creditable one. He had met several champions on the music hall stage. By trade he was a blacksmith and a toolmaker but he was perhaps best known as University instructor. For 20 years he was a publican in Cambridge and recently carried on business as a bottle merchant and general dealer 24 04 02

1924 04 30
Sir - Cambridge council practically excludes modest women - and men - from the new bathing place, unless they are prepared to do violence to their own decent instincts. What the council practically declares is in effect, ‘Go and bathe as domestic animals do, male and female all together - they never object so why should you?’ What this atrocious decision means is that decent men and modest women are to be excluded from all reasonable participation in a very pleasant summer exercise - A Decent Englishwoman 24 04 30

1924 08 05
A huge crowd witness Cambridge Mammoth Show events. The Rodeo displays, which were expected to be a great attraction, were disappointing. The only part of the programme that created any real enthusiasm were the steer riding, steer wrestling from an automobile and broncho riding. Montana Bob, the world’s champion steer rider was the chief performer. He had no easy task in overtaking the steer and even when he had done so he had considerable difficulty in bringing it to

the ground. In doing so the steer trod on his arm but he was in sufficiently good form to ride the bucking broncho a few minutes afterwards 24 08 05

1925 02 02
Skating: The overnight frost in Cambridge was sufficiently severe to ensure another day's sport for skaters. At the Cambridge sewage Farm, Milton Road, where the ice had a thickness of about two inches, skating was continued with safety and there were quite a number of people, chiefly Varsitymen, "making gay while the ice holds". The popular plus four suit and warm pull-over, is just the thing for this kind of sport, but one noticed a number skating in ordinary suits. CDN 2 Feb 1925

1925 02 27
Tennis: Despite a shower of rain a number of tennis enthusiasts were present on Jesus Green when the Mayor opened Cambridge's first public hard tennis courts. They are situate opposite Strange's Boatyard and a part of the council's plans to develop Jesus green into a recreation ground, with facilities for a variety of games. Directly adjoining are the grass courts, nearby is the bowling green whilst further afield cricket pitches are being laid. All these will be in use by May 25 02 27

1925 05
Bowls: Christ's Pieces bowling green opened [3.6]

1925 07 03
Swimming: The annual swim through Cambridge may be said to rank as one of the finest races witnessed since it inception. There were 37 competitors, including 14 ladies. The course followed by the swimmers from the Old Mill, Mill Lane to Strange's Boathouse, Jesus Lock, via the Backs of the colleges is approximately 1,360 yards. The town turned out in force at every point of vantage to watch the progress of the swimmers. H.P. Lavender passed the winning post barely five yards in front of Miss Lavender amidst the applause of the onlookers 24 07 03

1925 08
Cricket: Jack Hobbs scores his 127th century, breaking Grace's record [3.7]

1925 09 01
Swimming: Whatever the merits of the controversy which the site of the Jesus Green Baths aroused a few months back, there can be only one opinion as to the usefulness of the baths themselves. Thousands of happy, healthy hours have been spent there this season; in the last four months 20,000 tickets have been issued for male bathers alone. With such vast number of swims it is inevitable that mishaps should occur. Mr W. Clee states that 25 rescues from drowning have been made. In most instances bathers of indifferent ability have ventured into deep water and then lost their nerve at the thought of not being able to swim to the ladders. In addition nine children have had to be pulled out of the river opposite the bathing sheds. Despite a warning board children persist in paddling and frequently venture into water that is too deep 25 09 01

1925 12
Bowls: County bowling association formed [3.8]

1925 12 04
Skating: Sir – I must utter a strong protest against the action of some person in authority in the town in trying to put a stop to skating on the Corporation Sewage Farm at Milton. It does seem a pity that when the opportunity for such a splendid form of recreation occurs only once in a

generation, that some kill-joy should throw hot water, in this case, on such inexpensive pleasure for the public, with notices of 'keep off the ice', barbed wire entanglements, and a policeman taking the names of trespassers on skates. There were hundreds taking the risk of being prosecuted rather than miss the opportunity of such splendid sport - Bertram Pearson 12 12 04

1926
Quoits: in '20s Cambridge was centre of quoits playing in East Anglia, own league & rules; 1926 was one of last year's league existed [12.3]

1926 01 18
Skating has been in full swing over the weekend. The Cambridge Sewage Farm has been the rendezvous of the majority of skaters and on Sunday over 500 skaters were 'on' in the afternoon. Mr Nicholls' field in Grantchester Meadows was flooded and many skaters availed themselves of the opportunity it offered, whilst others went over to Swavesey. Hundreds indulged in winter sports on the slopes of Royston Heath, tobogganing and ski-ing were general 26 01 18

1926 06 01
Ju Jitsu: A demonstration of ju jitsu was given in Cambridge by Mr A.J. Morgan and C.W. Boxsell who deputised for Professor Saddington and the son of Professor Sitton, the old University boxing instructor. A carpet about five feet square was requisitioned for a mat and Professor Saddington supplied ju jitsu costumes. The proceedings opened with a demonstration of "Kime-no-Kata, or ju jitsu self-defence methods. This was followed by methods of defence against an armed assailant which was loudly applauded. A display of ju jitsu wrestling literally brought the house down c26 06 06

1926 08 18
Golf: A Duxford aeroplane crashed on the Gog Magog golf course, killing the pilot. The fatality occurred on the first tee, the machine first hitting the road and crashing through the hedge; as it struck the ground it burst into flames and was soon reduced to ruins. Bullets were flying around all over the place. Sometime after the accident the pilot's tunic was found with a fountain pen and letter, both only slightly damaged. His hat was found intact and inside this was his name. We understand he had recently inherited a large sum of money 26 08 18

1926 10 22
Shooting: Grange road rifle range closed due to danger to Coton, OTC transfer to Coldham's Common [1.11]

1927 01 06
Golf: Sir – I am surprised to find the facilities for the Cambridge business man to play golf are so small. They can never get a round as the courses are so far from the town that they cannot get there. It is not everybody who can afford a car or motor cycle. They would welcome a municipal or public golf course near Cambridge and I am sure if the Town Council could entertain the idea of establishing a course it would be a paying concern – Robin 27 01 06

1927 05
Cricket: K.S. Duleepsinhji scores 254 not out - record for Fenner's - in Varsity match v Middlesex [4.1]

1927 05 16
Rowing: Trinity Hall Boat Club centenary, 27 05 16 p8

1927 06
Bowls: 1st County bowls match in Cambridge [4.3]

1927 06
Rowing: May Bumps broadcast by BBC for first time, the Boat Club Ball a brilliant function [4.2]

1927 06 13
Rowing: Jesus College were the fastest rowers on the river and deserved to succeed in the May Races. As in other years a huge bonfire was lighted in the grounds of the college and the undergraduates celebrated the return of the Headship by dancing round the flames, shouting and singing. The "orgy" was kept up to midnight. The revels were watched by a large crowd of townspeople and some of the merrymakers engaged in good-humoured banter, amusing them with impromptu speeches. 27 06 13

1927 07 23
Golf: putting green starts, Jesus Green [5.24]

1928
Athletics: Lord Burghley won 400 metres, D.G.A. Lower 800 metres at Olympics [12.4]

1928 03 22
Roller skating: Sir – May I draw attention to a new form of pastime which should be nipped in the bud before some fatality is recorded. I refer to the increasing practice of boys using roller skates in the streets and on the pavements. This afternoon two lads were careering along Regent Street amongst the traffic. Other towns have already taken action to put a stop to this new boyish craze and it is to be hoped that Cambridge will do likewise – "Safety First" 28 03 22

1928 04 14
Golf: I enjoyed a couple of rounds on the Cambridge putting green on Jesus Green and found quite a lot of patrons there. There are some folk who think that putting is only a temporary craze and will not enjoy continuing prosperity in the same way that tennis and bowls do, but a single tennis court takes ten years to pay for itself while the first putting green paid for itself within the first year. The committee has received a petition for a similar putting green on the Lammas Land, but they are a little timid about having a second one prepared until they see whether the success achieved last year is repeated. The rockery being constructed at the entrance to Lammas Land is being made from pieces of old and disused cattle troughs from Midsummer Common 28 04 14c

1928 06
Dogs: Greyhound racing track prepared off Cherry Hinton Road & Cambridgeshire Greyhound Racing club formed, churches protest, [4.5]

1928 06
Bookmakers raided by police [4.5]

1928 09
Bowls: £3,000 scheme for improvement announced [4.6]

1929
Rowing: Cambridgeshire Rowing Association oarsman's service starts (50th 1979) [22.11]

1929 02 14
Skating: For the first time since 1895 there was skating on the River Cam. A thick sheet of ice powered with white snow, stretched unbroken from Silver Street to the electric light works. It was too inviting to be resisted and several skating parties took advantage of it. Many undergraduates took to the ice in front of King's College and at Quayside a man was seen cycling on the slippery surface. However the ice bore and he neither came off nor went in. At Silver Street it was possible to cross to the mill on the ice but below Jesus Lock, where the dredges is at work, the ice was broken up by the flow and black pools and crevices had appeared in the thin surface. 29 02 14

1929 02 16
Skating: All Cambridge seemed to be skating or carrying skates this morning and there is something like five inches of ice on many parts of the Granta. Eight hardy spirits took the plunge at the Town Bathing Sheds though it took nearly half an hour to break the ice. There have been bathers ever since the front began and many of them have hardly missed a day. The cold was so severe that the comb stuck in the head of one of them who was doing his hair. But the Open Flying Mile Straight Race, fixed to take place at Cowbit Wash, near Spalding, was abandoned after the Skating Association reported that it was not possible to provide a straight mile course to conform with the conditions. 29 02 16

1929 03 02
Skating: Sir: Quite a number of people took advantage of the frozen river last weekend to skate to Ely and among them were three Newnham girls. It is 34 years since last such a journey was possible. It was February 1895 that I and two friends undertook the journey. On arrival it was suggested we continue to Denver Sluice but after two miles the ice was very bad, so we returned. I wonder how many have ever succeeded in it, a distance of 72 miles there and back. I am fond of skating and have been to Ely five times – 'Septuagenarian' 29 03 02

1929 04 29
Skating: National Skating Association jubilee 29 04 29 p8*

1929 06
Bowls: two Cumberland turf greens, first in district, opened Brooklands Avenue [4.7]

1929 06 05
Shooting: Rifle club formed 29 06 05 p5*

1929 07
Football: Cambridge Town football club announce assets of £5,000 compared to poverty of a few years ago [4.8]

1929 12 14
Football: F.A. Ridgeon, the Cambridge Town Football Club's inside left, travelled by aeroplane to Sussex for the F.A. Amateur Cup tie with Southwick. There was some doubt whether he could make the match owning to duties in Stamford preventing him from travelling by train. Hearing of his difficulty Mr D.G. Marshall of Aviation Hall generously placed his Moth aeroplane at his disposal. His son, Arthur Marshall, would have piloted the machine but he had gone on an air trip to Austria so a de Haviland pilot was engaged for the journey. This is, we believe, the first time an amateur footballer has travelled to a match by air. Cambridge won 2-0. CDN 14.12.1929

1930

1930 01 10
Fishing: Extensive netting was carried out in the ponds at Madingley Hall; over 8,000 fish, mostly roach and rudd, were transferred in tanks to Newnham Mill Pool. The party, which included Mr Ambrose Harding and Horace Coulson arrived equipped with nets and tanks which strongly resembled dust-bins. The first haul was made across the bridge end of the pond and resulted in the capture of about 400 small roach which were taken to Cambridge by lorry. The next produced upwards of 2,000 fish, too many for the lorry so Mr Coulson took some in pails in his car. The third pond yielded a still finer catch CDN 10.1.1930

1930 02 24
Rowing: The successful crews in the Lent bumping races celebrated in traditional manner. Hundreds of excited undergraduates in 'bump supper' costume filled the streets till midnight and over it all flickered the light and smoke of bonfires. Boats were burned amid shouting and bacchanalian merriment at St Catharine's, Selwyn and Emmanuel who for the first time in history had finished head of the river. An 'eight' was sacrificed in the paddock of the college upon a huge pyre. The manoeuvre of getting the boat into the college proved by no means an easy one and traffic was held up as the unwieldy craft, borne on the shoulders of the crews, was shunted into Downing Street before being passed through the narrow gate. At St Catharine's the boat was escorted to the burning by a procession headed by a band of unemployed ex-Servicemen who had been playing on the towing path 30 02 24a

1930 03 12
Rowing: A crowd of nearly 3,000 massed in front of the loud speaker which Pye Radio had installed in the main window of the Cambridge Guildhall. Business in the market was suspended and the lanes between the stalls were solid with people. In the shops and offices there was a general cessation of work; counters and desks were forsaken and faces appeared at every window. There was a cheer when the Cambridge boat crew drew level and overtook Oxford. Workers hurrying home eagerly bought copies of the special edition of the CDN and pictures are being shown at the Central and Tivoli cinema this evening. 30 03 12a

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1930 03 27
Cricket: Ideal cricket weather favoured the long-awaited opening of the Hobbs Pavilion on Parker's Piece by the Mayor of Cambridge in the presence of Mr & Mrs Jack Hobbs. He was the greatest cricketer the world had ever known and had learned to play within sight of this new pavilion. All that was needed was a record of his achievements to hang in the building, but those were not yet over. It would induce the younger sportsmen to become keen again and to carry on

the traditions so that in future Cambridge would never be without its representatives in first-class cricket. 30 03 27a [5.14]

1930 04 11
Skittles: The Cambridge Skittle League was formed in August and proved that the average man was a sportsmen; a lot of people were inclined to 'run down' the public house games such as darts, dominoes and shove ha'penny. The Skittles League met the requirements of these people and what should be more natural than they should go to the poor man's club – the local inn. Publicans went out of their way to provide every amusement and recreation 30 04 11

1930 04 19
Table-tennis: Cambridge has yet another claim to distinction. Mr James Gibb, who died recently, was the inventor of the game of ping-pong which enjoyed a tremendous vogue about 30 years ago. He was an old Cambridge athlete and started the game one evening with champagne corks cut as nearly circular as possible and the lids of cigar-boxes for battledores. Then he tried India-rubber balls covered with cigarette paper before finally sending to America to have celluloid balls made. 30 04 19b

1930 04 25
Football: Sensational scenes were witnessed when Cambridge Town met Ipswich in a vital football match at Milton Road. The crowd, numbering over 7,300, were annoyed by some disputable rulings by the referee. At the final whistle they surged on to the field and surrounded him. The situation looked very ugly when Cambridge players and police with drawn truncheons went to his assistance. They got him to the pavilion but the crowd tried to storm the building. When the Chairman, W.R. Paige, tried to gain order with the aid of a megaphone he was shouted down. But for the quick work of many police, both uniformed and plain clothes, players and officials, the referee might have been very roughly handled. 30 04 25

1930 09 02
'Pickwick' amusement machine used in pub - - bagatelle – 30 09 02aaa, bbb & ccc

1930 09 18
Cricket: Jack Hobbs came for the first time since the opening of the pavilion that bears his name. He brought one of the most brilliant cricket teams that Parker's Piece has ever seen with seven who have captained England including Hobbs himself and O'Connor, both of whom learned the game in Cambridge. By two o'clock there were at least 5,000 spectators massed three and four deep round the entire field. Others stood on the running boards of cars drawn up in Park Terrace to see the game. 30 09 18b-c

1930 10 11
Golf: Cambridge is a wonderful place in these days, what with new cinemas, new restaurants and new shops, not to mention the midget golf centres. Another is being laid out at Belle Vue Gardens. It is an 18-hole course with fairways averaging 30 feet in length made of tarmac with a green fibre surface. In some holes it will be necessary to send the ball over a five-barred gate, through the muzzle of a gun and down a nine-feet 'snake' curled round a tree trunk. 30 10 11a

1930 10 16
Golf: Five miniature golf courses are now in operation in Cambridge. There are Messrs Grays in Sidney Street and the octagon course in King Street. The Premier Hall, Old Chesterton, has added midget golf to its other attractions and the Newmarket Road has the course in the club-room at 'The Bell'. Its holes represent hazards encountered during a trip from 'Trafalgar Square' to 'The

Oval'. The latest 18-hole course at the Belle Vue Gardens is all-weather and open-air. It features a howitzer gun and a water jump and has been laid down by Capt Mullett who has constructed others in Vancouver and San Francisco. 30 10 16c

1930 12 01
Football: Milton Road heroes – football cartoon – 30 12 01a

1930 12 27
Hunting: The heavy rain did not deter a large number of members of the Cambridgeshire Hunt from assembling on Cambridge Market Hill for this traditionally English spectacle. The scene was one worth a soaking to witness. Figures in the traditional red and black mingled with macintoshed horsemen, their steaming mounts were restless, the hounds silent and around was a rain-drenched crowd of about 1,000 people. They took a great deal of interest in a small terrier who looked out from the mouth of a haversack slung across a red-coated huntsman's back 30 12 27a-b

1931 01 16
Skating: Mr Charles Morley has presented a handsome trophy to the National Skating Association for a one-mile race for amateurs who are not holders of the first-class speed badge. At present 90 per cent of skating contests have been practically foregone conclusions as one or two skaters carry off all the prizes, by debarring these men the race will be much more open. It is to be skated on an oval course rather than one requiring a length of 600 yards. This will enable fen skaters to compete more successfully on indoor rinks and Continental courses. 31 01 16f & g

1931 03 06
Fishing: The Ouse and Cam Fishery Board want permits issued to people who catch eels as a livelihood, or to destroy them. John Barnes of Manea said men had fished for eels for centuries, it was part of their rights. He used the same implements as his great-grandfather before him; they were worth £50 and of no use for other purposes. Some years he caught £10 worth of eels, other years £80. The best time was when the flood water had almost receded that that was during the close season. He had a strong objection to getting a permit for something he'd done for years. It was the thin end of the wedge. 31 03 06b

1931 03 13
Golf: Every woman who plays hockey is proud of Miss Gaskell. In 1914she took the first women's hockey team to Australia and has taken teams to the United States and South Africa. During the war she became Commandant of the Red Cross Convalescent Hospital for soldiers at St Chads that was open until 1919. She then started Barton W.I. and joined the Folk Dancing Society. 31 03 13a

1931 06 21
Football: The complete reconstruction of the Cambridge Town Football Club is underway and when supporters pay their money at the gate next season they will be confronted with an entirely new sight. The old stand has been demolished and the network of frames for the new one seating 800 people erected together with a new pavilion. There will also be a full-sized Cumberland turf green for the Chesterton Bowling Club. 31 06 12l

1931 07 17
Cricket: The question of cricket on Lammas Land, Newnham produced a spirited debate: old ladies crossing the grass might be hit with the hard cricket ball. The Commons Committee is going through a spasm of kill-joy spirit: boys played on the streets but as soon as they went to

open space they were told they must not do so. Perhaps a soft ball could be used – or a golf ball. Newnham Institute sought permission for a cricket pitch, but this would turn it into a second Parker's Piece 31 07 17f & g

1931 07 24
Swimming: A unique performance has been accomplished by Jack Overhill of Trumpington who, although only three years of age, has mastered the art of swimming. The tiny record breaker is also the youngest member of the Cambridge Amateur Swimming Club. He has been a real 'water baby' since his first introduction to the river at the age of one year and nine months. Since May he has been in the river twice daily, even during cold spells 31 07 24a

1931 09 04
Football: Cambridge Town Football Club's £4,000 stand was officially opened by the Mayor as Milton Road took on again its usual Saturday afternoon activity. In the centre of the pitch the Railway Band played crowds into the new stand and the lily badges of the Town Supporters' Club were well to the fore. The new dressing rooms were not in use and players used the old pavilion. Cambridge won 4-3 31 09 04f

1931 10 23
Hunting: Cambridge University Drag Hunt first meet on Market Hill – photo – 31 10 23e

1931 12 25
Cricket: Cambridge Rabbits' Cricket Club, formerly Heals, held their annual dinner at the Corner House Café, Petty Cury. They had enjoyed a most successful season and were thoroughly established and well-known. Mr D. Burton further showed his generosity by offering to present yet another cup for the most outstanding bowling performance of the season. His cup for the most outstanding performance went to Mr R.P. Fuller. 31 12 25d

1932 04 22
Skittles: Mr E.C. Green recalled that when he was a boy skittles were played by country people in a large shed; then it was brought into Cambridge with a club room converted into an indoor skittle alley. Both the pins and balls were made of India rubber with the sides of the room padded so there should be no noise. After a time the game died out but had now once again become a growing pastime with a Cambridge League started three years ago. 32 04 22a

1932 05 18
Climbing: Overnight two unfurled umbrellas were securely tied to the pinnacles of King's College chapel so they stood straight up. The college called a window cleaner to remove them, but despite his long ladder he was unable to get within ten feet. Two undergraduates went on the roof with shotguns and endeavoured to shoot them down. One fell but the other proved more difficult. The shots knocked the handle sideways. For some hours it floated gracefully from side to side in the wind like some gigantic weathercock. 32 05 18

1932 05 21
Climbing: The inner history of the King's College roof-climbing escapade has been revealed. The hazardous feat was carried out by two parties of undergraduates, including several-well known athletes, who are members of a secret organisation composed of skilled mountain climbers. They used the lightning conductor which has been loosened by previous generations of climbers. It is the climax of a series of climbs during the past few months; now they proposed to publish detailed accounts of their exploits 32 05 21

1932 05 24
Night-climbers Kings chapel & Eton – 32 05 24

1932 06 01
Climbing: The 'Brighter Roofs for Colleges' movement is growing. Overnight at Ridley Hall two cords were stretched from one of the college towers. On them pyjamas, pyjamas and still more pyjamas were floating in the wind. Large ones, small ones, brightly-coloured and silk examples were proudly swaying in the breeze and in the middle was suspended a parson's hat. After they had been lowered to the ground their various owners joined in a frantic scramble for their particular pairs which had been removed from their rooms. 32 06 01a

1932 06 02
Climbing: King's nightclimbing – brolly removed – 32 06 02

1932 06 07
Boxing: Stan Waller, the Cambridge middle-weight boxer and one of the best in the country, has returned from a tour to South Africa designed to re-establish boxing in the public taste, for they have gone all-in-wrestling mad. He beat Eddie McGuire, the South African champion in a bout in Johannesburg. Meanwhile Cambridge had its first taste of open-air boxing with a tournament on the Town Football Ground promoted by Arthur Waller 32 06 07a aa b

1932 06 09
Rowing: May races opening – crowds – 32 06 09

1932 09
Rowing: Jesus college boathouse destroyed by fire [5.18]

1932 09 02
Football: Abbey United started their football campaign in fine style. Not only did they play their first match on their new ground but they won it. The ground is situated close to the former pitch at Newmarket Road and has been levelled and fenced-in. All this was possible through the generosity of the club president, Mr H.C. Francis and it was officially declared open by Mr R.J. Wadsworth 32 09 02b [1.8]

1932 09 23
Rowing: Jesus College boathouse was damaged by fire; the upper floor was gutted and the stone ground floor reduced to the dismal prospect of two dozen boats of all kinds, either charred beyond repair or only slightly blistered by the heat. They included ten eights, two fours, two light pairs, two whiffs, two funnies, three tubs and three bank tubs. But the clock tower still stands and the clock still works. The blaze was spotted by a man on the opposite bank but the mist was so thick at the time that he was in doubt whether the building was actually on fire 32 09 23g

1932 10 14
Hunting: Cambridge market hill presented an animated appearance when the University Drag Hounds held a meeting. Thirty horsemen gathered to be welcomed by the Mayor and a silver stirrup cup was handed round to all who could persuade their mounts to remain still for 30 seconds. They then moved off followed by all but one of the hounds which soon received 'instructions; from the crowd of 200 spectators and joined his comrades. 32 10 14a

1932 12 23

Dogs: Mr F. Plumby of Abbey Walk, who looks after the Cambridge Greyhound racing track on Newmarket Road, said he was at work in the middle of the track when a hare dashed on to it, closely pursued by a pack of harriers. It ran right round the whole 565 yards length of the course, and just as it reached the winning-post the dogs came up with it. It ran into the space reserved for the judge, and there the pack killed it. 32 12 23b & c.

1933 01 07
Golf: Sir – Coldham's Common could be turned into a municipal nine-hole golf course now it is no longer required for shooting. The Corporation have £700 from the War Office in compensation for not putting the Common in the state it was before the rifle range was constructed. The various firing points and the lower portion of the butts could be used in the construction of a very sporting course, providing work for the unemployed. It would be no new thing to have golf played on the Common as the first University course was there – RG 33 01 07d

1933 01 18
Rowing: Steve Fairbairn on rowing – 33 01 18

1933 01 27
Skating at Lingay fen – 33 01 27a

1933 03 02
Rowing: Jesus college boathouse demolition following fire – photo – 33 03 02

1933 03 29
Cricket memories book – 33 03 29 & a

1933 04 07
Boxing: The early days of the Cambridge Amateur Boxing Club were recalled by W. Child, the well-known referee. They began by buying a second-hand pair of gloves and fighting under a street lamp until chased by a policeman. Then they hired a washhouse and met in various public houses. The club had passed through hard times and been near to pawning everything they had. But the fighting had always been clean in the best sporting spirit. On one occasion two Princes had attended a contest at the Corn Exchange to see their chauffeur box. 33 04 07 & a

1933 04 08
Cricket: Ranjitsinhji appreciation – 33 04 08 & a

1933 06 13
Climbing: The roof-climber who 'pinched' the two weathervanes off the Squire Law Library building seems to have had an attack of conscience, for the missing cock and fish were replaced last night. But they also left tasteful decorations and souvenirs in the shape of two sherry bottles at each end of an arch high over the entrance to the Geological Museum. They are said to be full and so act as 'bait' to other scalers of walls and roofs. 33 06 13

1933 06 13
Rowing: Jesus College's new boathouse was opened, nine months after the disastrous fire which had destroyed one of the landmarks of the river. It was a mitigated disaster as the original was gradually becoming too small. The clock, which was the only survival of the burnt boathouse, was still keeping good time in the new clock tower. It had been presented by Dr Morgan shortly after the old boathouse had been built. 33 06 13a

1933 06 30
Cricket: on Parkers Piece 25 runs scored in three balls (10,7,8) [1.6]

1933 10 13
Bowls: indoor bowling green Brooklands Ave opened one of first in country [1.7,13.1]

1933 12
Motor cycling: One cold December night just before Christmas 1933 a dozen motor cycling enthusiasts gathered in a room over a public house in Chesterton and decided to form the Centaur Motor Cycle Club. Pre-war it was mainly a social club catering for the weekend rider. With war came petrol rationing and shortage of oil but the club somehow kept going. In 1945 it began to get back on its feet, organising the first scramble at Caxton. They then pioneered events such as trials, grass track racing and sidecar events. Now, 21 years later, over 160 members crowded into the Dorothy Restaurant to celebrate the club's coming-of-age 54 12 23

1933 12 18
Skating: A crowd of 200 people saw skating races for the Duddleston Cup at Lingay Fen. The ice was not of the best and records remained intact. The winner was C.W. Horn, the National Skating Association champion, whose time was very much faster than ever previously recorded, though the race has never before been over an oval course. Runners up were R. Wyman of Stretham, G.W. Martin of Nordelph and L.B. Carter of Over 33 12 18

1934
Swimming: Granta Swimming Club formed, starts swim from Grantchester Mill to Sheep Green (later changed to swim through Cambridge) [17.10,18]

1934 01 12
Racquets: H.J. Gray, the Cambridge sports manufacturers are flourishing and announced plans to extend their Playfair Works into which they moved from Searle Street 25 years ago. Now a new mill and motor engine would be introduced to keep up with demand. Henry John Gray started his career in a racquets court on the site of the present University Arms Hotel nearly 90 years ago. He became champion racquets player of England – a title that had stayed in the family for 22 years - and two his brothers became champions of the world. 34 01 12

1934 02 26
Rowing: Jesus College boat crew celebrated their Lents victory with a bonfire on the grass in front of the college and flames forty feet high dried the pavement in Victoria Avenue. An old boat helped to keep the fire going and when the supply of fuel ran short branches from trees were used. Police kept a wary eye on hoardings which might have been looked upon as sources but no raids were made. 250 paper glasses were provided to hold the beer but some preferred it straight from the bottle 34 02 26

1934 05 09
Cricket: Donald Bradman, Australia's wonder batsman, keeps very much in the news. In most cases it is his century habit that brings him the limelight – but not so against Cambridge University at Fenner's. For 'Don' was out for a duck, clean bowled by a slow leg-break from J.G.W. Davies of St John's. Two thousand people cheered Bradman when he went in to bat but the fourth ball send down found his stump 34 05 09 [2.25]

1934 05 26

Chess: A Cambridge chess club was first mentioned in 1835 and in 1837-8 it was sufficiently organised to play a match of two games by correspondence with Nottingham's "Town and Gown" club. But an experiment in holding a Chess Congress in Cambridge in 1880 was a complete fiasco. The British Chess Association had selected Cambridge as the meeting place but little support was forthcoming from the University Chess Club, founded four years earlier, and visitors were very few, a new book reveals 34 05 26

1934 06 02
Cycling: Arthur Markham was always of a cheery disposition and made friends in every walk of life. He was best-known as a cyclist and his 24 hours' tricycle record of 301 miles has never been eclipsed. He did many rides at 100 miles and his record made with the old steel wheels is still recognised as one of the best ever done. Even after his race days were done he would cycle long distances to assist with events. 34 06 02

1934 08 24
Fishing: Some 750 young anglers assembled on Parker's Piece and were played to the station by the band of the Boys' Brigade to catch a special train to St Ives to take part in the Albion Angling Society's annual fishing match for youngsters. The miniature army of anglers disported themselves along the river bank at Hemingford meadows. It was not unusual to see gathered in one small space at least half a dozen children with lines and rods crossed and floats completely submerged. The winners of the President's cup for the best catch were F.Parr (boys) and Marjorie Benton (girls) 34 08 24

1935 02 11
Climbing: At Trinity Hall porters were busy pulling down a motley assortment of bedroom and bathroom utensils which had mysterious appeared on the roof and pinnacles of the college. Water jugs, tied to the roof with gay scarves, formed a large part of the amateur decorators' efforts, but even an armchair somehow got on to the roof and caused no small trouble in getting in down. The college say it was 'just a bit of sport' and have not discovered the identity of the persons responsible 35 02 11a

1935 02 26
Cricket: John Berry ('Jack') Hobbs has bidden farewell to first-class cricket. His retirement will cause general regret. "Mrs Hobbs thinks I ought to go on to get my 200 centuries", he said, but he needs two new legs: "after many years in the field mine get very tired nowadays about four o'clock". He will continue to play in club cricket and all in Cambridge hope to see that flashing bat in action again on Parker's Piece, the scene of his early triumphs 35 02 26

1935 04
Swimming: plans for palatial swimming stadium announced, behind Parkside, 100 ft x 42 ft with glass screen in tea room allowing patrons to watch bathers; did not materialise; 2 years later two privately owned syndicates decided erect indoor bath, came to nothing [25] [8.5]

1935 07 27
Swimming: Coldham's Common swimming pool opens [1.14, 8.6]

1935 08 02
Swimming: The new swimming bath on Coldham's Common was opened by the Mayor, Alderman R. Starr. There was some regret that his Worship did not take the first plunge into the 150 feet long pool, which takes its water from the high level stream, and youthful spectators had to be restrained from going in as soon as the doors were unlocked. There is a diving tower and

spring board at the deep end with dressing sheds and a space fenced off for sun bathing. 35 08 02a [1.14]

1935 08 16
Rowing: Edward ('Ted') Phillips was Cambridge's best-known and most popular watermen. He was Light Blue waterman, or badgeman, up to the time of his death. He started work in a boatyard at the age of 12 and was appointed Varsity waterman in 1868, erecting starting and finishing posts, repairing boats and sometimes breaking ice on the river. As a coach he had some remarkable successes. One of his most prized possessions was a photograph of his father, his seven brothers and himself in an eight together 35 08 16

1935 08 22
Fishing: With rods and a look that combined gladness and determination, a children's army a thousand strong gathered on Parker's Piece, intent on getting their fish. A free outing to St Ives, an afternoon's fishing, a tea, sports and prizes was arranged by the Albion Angling Society. Ice-cream men did a roaring trade and one enterprising draper sold a number of Panama hats before the quarter-mile long procession set off for the station headed by the band of the Boys' Brigade. The children's match was started about 30 years ago but stopped during the war and was not revived until 1928 or 1929. 35 08 22a

1936 02 10
Skating at Newnham – photo – 36 02 10

1936 03 14
Climbing: Undergraduates last night hazardously climbed to the roof of Emmanuel College North Court and decorated six chimneys with chamber pots. They were removed by Mr S. Burgess of Messrs Prime's the builders who is often called in to remove various objects placed in inaccessible positions by exuberant undergraduates. "Some of them can run up brick walls", he said: one took off his shoes and went down a wall by means of his feet and hands alone to remove a gown that had been placed in a particularly difficult spot. 36 03 14

1936 03 21
Harry Pitt of Manor Cottage, Church Road has written recalling 'The Walking Lady of Chesterton'. "She walked for a wager 'a thousand miles in a thousand hours' in a private garden in Church Street, Chesterton 60 years ago. I have been told that she walked in tights with high-topped boots, a jockey's cap and whip in hand. The story goes that she kept up her one mile per hour, walking day and night until she completed her task and won the wager." Other readers may enlighten us still further 36 03 21c

1936 03 28
Athletics: Charles Rowell running recollections – 36 03 28b

1936 04 27
Climbing: Some members of King's College went mountaineering last night. A Union Jack and the Abyssinian emblem were fixed to the pinnacles at the east end of the chapel with a large banner slung between them bearing the words 'Save Ethiopia". The flags were still flying during the morning but the banner was blown down by the wind. A man who was astir early claimed to have seen four undergraduates climbing up at four o'clock. Unfortunately he was unable to see what means of assistance they were using in their climb, otherwise one of Cambridge's age-old mysteries would have been solved 36 04 27c

1936 05 26
Rowing: Town Bumping Races changes to course: to be three finishing posts - 36 05 26a

1936 06 04
Cricket: Jack Hobbs unveiled a tablet in the Hobbs Pavilion setting forth his wonderful achievements in first-class cricket. The proceedings had been delayed as Hobbs would not stop making records. Jack said that although wobbly at the knees, he still played. "I can visualise the youngsters coming and looking at the board and saying 'He must have been a real good player'. When I look at that board I begin to think I must have been". (Laughter and applause) 36 06 04c

1936 09
Table-tennis: Cambridgeshire Table Tennis association formed [17.12]

1936 09 04
Cricket: Fenners cricket ground was opened in 1846 but there have been only three groundsmen, Tom Parmenter who remained to 1862, Walter Watts and Dan Hayward who took over in 1908. He has also been custodian of the University Football and Hockey Grounds. His father used to look over the Rugger and Soccer pitches on Parker's Piece where they played until the Grange Road ground opened in 1896 and the two clubs amalgamated. Dan's own sport is cricket and he once took all ten wickets for 32 runs, though he considers his nine wickets for eight runs against Bury to be his best performance. Now he is retiring 36 09 04a

1936 10 01
Rowing: A pilot summonsed for flying at a low altitude over the Cam at Fen Ditton told the court he was carrying a photographer for the Sport and General Press Agency. Herbert Cook was taking pictures of the Bumping Races from a side window using an ordinary camera with a long focus lens. They had to fly across the river and would not have got good photographs if they'd come down to the tree tops. There were a number of other planes from Marshall's flying about. Spectators complained he was too low and had caused one of the waitresses at The Plough to spill the things on a tray in the tea garden. The case was dismissed. 36 10 01 & a

1937 07 29
Swimming: Charles Henry Driver, custodian of the Town Bathing Sheds at Sheep's Green since 1903 is to retire. He has saved over 90 lives, receiving several life-saving certificates. It will be children who will miss him most, even though most of them only know him for the firm way he suppresses outbreaks of youthful over-enthusiasm. He has taught hundreds of them to swim. His fancy dives are a speciality and his appearance on the diving board is the signal for a crowd to collect to watch him 37 07 29

1937 08 14
Boxing almost defunct in Cambridge – cartoon 37 08 14b

1937 10 16
Climbing: Roof-climbing – Ronald Searle cartoon – 37 10 16a

1938 01 11
Wrestling: at Corn Exchange – 38 01 11

1938 01 15
Swimming: 'Charlie' Driver, the popular custodian of the men's bathing place, Sheep's Green, was presented with a chiming clock at his retirement after 34 years. It was a credit that there had

been no drowning cases during his term of office. Parents knew that their children were in safe hands and he took care about its appearance. The Superintendent of Commons, A.O. Richardson, recalled that he had been reprimanded by a small boy for walking on the grass with his boots on – "You won't half cop it when Mr Driver sees you". 38 01 15

1938 02 04
Billiards: Joe Davis' billiards club – women's world champ [1.2]

1938 02 11
Fishing: When the lake at Madingley Hall was netted the result was not just a matter of kettles of fish but bins full. The ever-growing number of anglers makes such demands on the available fish that annual re-stocking is essential so the Ouse and Cam Fishery Board relies on a number of owners of private lakes who have given permission for some of their fish to be transferred to other waters. The lake at Longstowe Hall has also yielded a large number – once the haul was so heavy that the net broke. Anglers no longer regard fish as something to kill; at one time it was common to see fish left to die on the river bank. Now they are returned at the end of the day 38 02 11b

1938 03 24
Swimming: Plans for an indoor swimming pool for Cambridge were rejected by councillors. Swimming was healthy exercise for children and there was no evidence that epidemic diseases were spread by indoor baths. It would help solve unemployment in the building trade and Cambridge was one of the few towns without one. But Saffron Walden baths were built in 1910 when costs were much lower than today and they did not pay. People would still prefer the river in summer time. It would be better to have baths just for children that adults could use in the evening. 38 03 24b
Petition in favour indoor swimming pool raised but spoilt when ink upset over it; by time recirculated war broke out & plan shelved ¢CEN 17.12.87

1938 06 03
Boxing: Boon wins boxing championship [1.3]

1938 09 02
Motor cycling: Speedway enthusiasts visiting Wembley Stadium were unaware that amongst the finalists was a local man. Tommy Price was born in Cambridge and attended the old County School. An enthusiastic mechanic he acquired an A.J.S and took part in his first grass-track race at St Ives. Having moved to London he graduated to a pukka speedway machine and began his racing career with the Wembley team competing against the finest riders in the world. He also studied aeronautics and has built several model planes which he flies at Northolt Aerodrome. 38 09 02

1938 10 17
Rowing: Downing College rebuilt boat house opened – 38 10 17b

1938 12 02
Riding: The King Street Riding School is the largest and most up-to-date indoor riding school in the country. The Principal (Capt E. Cooper), as an instructor and horseman ranks second to none, having the reputation of being one of the finest riding masters to serve in the British Army. The long list of successes gained by his pupils in all branches of equitation during his thirty years at King Street testify to his outstanding ability as a Riding Master. 38 12 02a

1938 12 05
Hockey: A pavilion erected in memory of H.G. Comber and W.F. Smith was opened on the University Hockey Ground, Barton Road. Comber had been captain of the University side in 1893, chairman of the council of the Hockey Association and first President of the Eastern Counties Association formed in 1908 while Mr Smith had been its Secretary for many years and had played for England from 1911-21. Inside is a case containing a collection of old hockey and bandy sticks 38 12 05

1939 01 07
Tennis: Cambridge Town & County Lawn Tennis club to have last season on existing ground in Madingley Road and Wilberforce Road; will move to fine ground nearer centre town with 16 to 20 first-class grass and one hard court 39 01 07

1939 02 24
Boxing: Boon retains title [1.1]

1939 07 06
Shooting: Haymaking on Grange Road rifle range – photo – 39 07 06

1939 07 21
Cricket: Death of Thomas Walter Hayward at his home in Glisson Road. Was one of the most famous professional batsmen that cricket has even known. He was 68 years of age, and although many years had elapsed since he last played, he still held many records at the time of his death. His father was Daniel and his uncle, Thomas another fine batsman in the sixties. Tom Hayward was born in Cambridge on March 19, 1871, and first came into the public eye by some fine performances when playing with the Cambridge Y.M.C.A. He went to the Oval in 1891and qualified for Surrey. At first he was a good medium pace bowler and outfielder, but later concentrated on run-getting. When he finished his first class career at the end of 1914, he had made 43,518 runs, with an average of nearly 42, and had scored 104 centuries. He was the first batsman after W.G. Grace to complete 100 centuries, and in 1906 scored 3,518 runs. It was at Hay ward's persuasion that Jack Hobbs decided to abandon second class cricket. The two made prolific opening stands for Surrey. Their association began in 1905 and two of their partnerships produced over 300 runs and 40 over three figures. In one week in 1907 they topped the 100 four times. On the only occasion on which they played together for England they were not particularly successful. Hayward visited Australia three times, and altogether played in 29 Test matches and batted 51 times. During 1906, he scored four centuries in succession, and 13 centuries. His highest score, 315, was made against Lancashire at the Oval in 1898. 39 07 21 CIPof. Obituary – 39 07 20a

1939 07 25
Bowls: Waterworks Company new bowling green opened, the only one with an air raid shelter – 39 07 25

1940

1940 06 14
Football: Mr. Henry Clement Francis, of Burleigh House, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, who died on February 13th last, left Freehold land in the parish of Fen Ditton, now used by the Abbey United Football Club, to the Vicar of Fen Ditton and the Mayor of Cambridge, in trust to be used for football and for grazing and dancing, and if no longer required for those purposes, to sell the

ground, and one half of the proceeds to be given to the Cambridge and District Nurses and one half to the Abbey Church. 40 06 14 CIPof

1940 08 09
Football: Suspended for Duration. The Cambs. F.A. decided to suspend all competitions promoted by the Association for the duration of the war, with the exception of the Minor League. It was considered that as Minor League clubs only included players under 18 years of age, the competition would be well supported. The officers and council were re-elected to carry on for the duration of the war. 40 08 09 CIPof

1940 09 27
Cricket: Bombs on famous cricket ground – photo – 40 09 27

1943 05 14
Baseball: American baseball match on Fenners – first seen – 43 05 14

1943 05 13
Horse racing: Plane crashes Newmarket racecourse, racing postponed – 43 05 13a

1943 07 23
Athletics ground needed – long overdue – 43 07 23

1944
Darts: Newmarket Road & district darts league starts at Corner House due to blackout [4.16]

1944 04 08
Boxing: Eric Boon stars in film “Champagne Charlie” [1.21]

1944 06 16
Football: The scheme to open a sports ground at the Cambridge Town Football Club's ground evoked considerable debate and criticism. After the debate the council agreed to a resolution that the Entertainments Committee be asked to continue their efforts relating to a sports ground, with wide facilities, for Cambridge. By a large majority the committee were given power to continue negotiations with the Football Club "on a peaceful basis” 44 06 16 CIPof

1946
Athletics: Cambridge city athletics club reformed [4.9]

1946 12 04
‘Foot-the-ball’ match as part of best rag for years – 46 12 04, 04a

1947
Athletics: Harold Abraham, Olympic champion in 1920,24 & 28 appointed Regional Controller of Ministry of Town & Country planning at Cambridge [3.11]

1947 04 22
Swimming: The Cambridge sporting fraternity has lost one of its most colourful characters by the death of Mr Charlie Driver. His aquatic achievements are legion and more than 90 people owe their lives to his life-saving prowess in the water. Among many tangible reminders of his contributions to the art of life-saving is a silver cigarette case presented to him as long ago as 1908 on behalf of readers of the Cambridge Daily News in recognition of his skill and

promptitude in saving 31 lives from drowning at the Town Bathing Place. He retired after 34 years of service as custodian of the ton bathing sheds on Sheep's Green, only to come back again and carry on during the war years. Putting the clock back some 60 years one recalls how, at the old swimming sports at the Old Ladder on Sheep's Green, he made us envy his skill in bringing to the surface the largest number of plates cast in the river, to win the prize for that event 1947 04 22

1947 04 30
Dogs: For over five hours the pros and cons of a proposal to erect a greyhound and sports stadium at Cherry Hinton were argued at a local inquiry into an appeal against the Borough Council's refusal of an application by Messrs Bartlett, Dash and Evans. The intention was to establish a handsome stadium, which would become a sports centre for the Eastern Counties. A promoter said Cambridge was the centre of by far the largest area in England without a greyhound track. The borough surveyor said the whole idea of the town planning scheme was to make Cherry Hinton a self-contained village community. He considered it highly important that the five mile green belt should remain inviolate. The Minister's decision might be expected in five or six weeks 47 04 30

1948 03 24
Football: The newly-formed Abbey United F.C. Supporters' Club launched out into the social sphere and their first dance arranged at the Guildhall was gratifyingly successful and the happy relationship between Abbey and the Cambridge Town F.C. was in evidence by the presence of representatives of the latter. Approximately 300 dancers enjoyed themselves to the music of Len Tibb's band. The Ladies Section of the Supporters' Club was responsible for the catering and the committee intend that this effort shall be the first of a series of social functions designed to put Abbey United F.C. "on the map 48 03 24

1948 10 27
Rowing: By the death of William Hines Odams the river Cam rowing fraternity has lost possibly its most colourful personality whose record is unprecedented in the history of local rowing. Stroking his first winning crew in 1887 he was recognised as the greatest oarsman that the town has produced. He never trained for any event and smoked his pipe up to the very commencement of the races, in which he continued to be engaged for upwards of 30 years 48 10 27

1949
Boxing: Amateur Boxing Association reformed 1949 in former PoW camp chapel, Coldham's Lane [11.5]

1949 01 31
Climbing: A bicycle appeared on the weather vane of the Cambridge school of geography, Downing Place, over the weekend. Various articles are put on university buildings from time to time, but usually without much point. This escapade has a real point to it. The weather vane is on the roof where weather observation is carried on, with the aid of rain graphs, thermometers, barographs and other meteorological equipment. The practical joker apparently thought it would be a good idea to give the meteorologists a new weather cycle 49 01 31

1949 09 06
Rowing: The Cambridgeshire rowing association held their annual regatta on Saturday over the new course from the middle of the Long Reach to the Pike and Eel. A good crowd of rowing enthusiasts with their friends took advantage of chairs on the lawns of the Pike and Eel and enjoyed in comfort a good afternoon's racing. There can be little doubt that the finish at the Pike

has come to stay, for few of the spectators will lightly forgive the CRA if they ever again return to the discomfort of a finish at the Railway Bridge 49 09 06

1950

1950 02 28
Athletics: Chris Brasher, St Johns wins University mile in four minutes 27.7 seconds [3.10]

1950 06 08
Rowing: The May Races for another year began with all their magic. The biggest disaster came during Division VI and was watched by the hundreds who lined the Gut. The bumping of Magdalene IV by First and Third Trinity VII resulted in a glorious "pile up". Peterhouse IV rammed the Trinity boat which was driven sharply into a willow tree and the water's edge. The force of the collision ripped off the bows and sent the unfortunate crew into the "swim". For the remainder of the day the crippled boat lay on the bank as a grim warning to other crews 50 06 08

1950 06 19
Cricket: Not many people seem to realise that women have been playing cricket now for over 50 years and that in these sex-equality days there are still some who think it is still not quite the right sort of sport for young ladies to indulge in. Cambridge Women's Cricket Club has been in existence for just over two years – and as yet no one quite experienced enough has played for her county. Cambridge has an overarm bowling rule and has little or no experience against the underarm method. They were rather flummoxed when they first played a village women's team who used this style of delivery, but they are getting accustomed to it now 50 06 19

1951
Football: Abbey United change name to Cambridge United [14.8]

1951 03 24
Rowing: Oxford sink in boat race [3.18]

1951 04 06
Roller skating: Local roller skating enthusiasts are now able to get awheel in fine style at the Rex Ballroom, Cambridge, on Monday and Thursday evenings when grown ups take to the floor to music by Austen Paine and his orchestra. There appears to be no lack of demand and skaters from the surrounding villages can often be seen gyrating on the floor. The introduction of roller skating to the Ballroom has entailed no alterations to the floor, because the skates, which are supplied by the Management, have composite wheels that do not damage the polished surface

1951 05 04
Wrestling : banned from Corn Exchange [3.21]

1958 09 20
Wrestling: The re-introduction of professional wrestling to Cambridge by Dale Martin Promotions proved very popular. Large crowds filled the Corn Exchange to watch an international heavyweight contest between Tibor Czakacs (Budapest) and Joseph Zaranoff of Russia. Spencer Churchill (London) lost to Charlie Fisher of Eltham and Tommy Mann of Manchester beat Al Nicol of Nottingham by two straight falls. Then Mick McManus knocked-out Packie Pallo with a flying shoulder charge. 58 09 20

1951 11 01

Golf: The golden jubilee of the Gog Magog Golf Club was celebrated with a dinner at the Dorothy Café. Guest of honour was Mr Bernard Darwin, the famous authority on the game who was an early member of the club when an undergraduate at Trinity College. Recalling his early golfing days he mentioned some of the local courses, including one on Coldham's Common, one at Coton and another "somewhere near the Grange Road". The Gogs club was founded for the recreation of the senior members of the University and the first rules provided that the number of undergraduates permitted to play should not interfere with the convenience and enjoyment of the senior members of the University 51 11 01

1952 05 02
Football: Three seasons ago Cambridge United (then Abbey United) Supporters' Club embarked on an ambitious scheme – the building of a £3,000 pavilion and clubroom with office accommodation. At first the loyal band of supporters was beset by building material difficulties and then hampered by the weather. There were scenes of great enthusiasm when the building was handed over to the football club management. It is just 40 years since the club was formed as Abbey United as the outcome of the desire to play football by a Sunday School class. "Our set-up is now really wonderful and there is no reason why the club should not go on from success to success", said Harry Habbin, chairman of the Supporters Club. CDN 52 05 02

1952 11 07
Football: Cambridge council objected to the proposed development of land at Stourbridge Common as a professional football ground. The land was acquired for tipping purposes and they wished it to be zoned for storing Civil Defence materials or for use as a lorry park. The Chief Constable said that, assuming the aim was to bring Third Division football to Cambridge with possible crowds of 15,000 people, it would not present much difficulty in dispersing them from Newmarket Road after a match. The City council proposed a municipal sports ground at Trumpington Road. The class of football envisaged would attract gates of not more than 1,000 and would not be in the same class as Cambridge City or United football clubs. 52 11 07

1953 02 09
Cricket: funeral of Dan Hayward [4.20]

1953 05 13
Cricket: An eager group of schoolboys armed with autograph albums were among the first to welcome the Australian cricketers when they arrived in Cambridge for their match with the University. The youngsters crowded round Arthur Morris, who is captaining the side because Lindsay Hassett is unfit, and then hurried on to Ray Lindwall, young Ian Craig, Neil Harvey, Don Tallon and the others. The Australians signed their names cheerfully; they are soft-spoken, unexcitable men, whose appearance and manner off the field give no hint of the devastating ability which has already humbled Yorkshire and Surrey

1953 06 22
Rowing: A chapter in rowing history was written when members of the Rob Roy Boat Club initiated their first boat, the 'John Collin' clinker eight to the river with a champagne send-off. It commemorates a man who for nearly 60 years had a brilliant record with the Club. He coached the Robs when they held the Head of the River plate on 22 occasions, and from 1914 to the present day they have always been in the first three boats on the river.

1953 06 30
Cricket: Jack Hobbs knighted [5.3]

1953 07 24
Football: Cambridge City Football Supporters Club members gathered to witness the opening of their new headquarters. The Supporters Club was founded 25 years ago and several of the original members were present, including R.J. Wadsworth, the first President. The new building is constructed of brick and wood and decorated in blue and white, with check curtains to match. It has a bar, committee room and other amenities together with a canteen. In the main room hang photographs recalling the early days of the club. Players' wives and young ladies are welcome. 53 07 24

1953 08 17
Rowing: When the City of Cambridge Rowing Club holds its first open regatta for generations, the least expected of the Clerk of the Weather was that he should keep it dry. He cannot be a rowing man. But with 30 events completed at the rate of one every ten minutes for five hours the sport was there both in plenty and variety

1953 12 04
Swimming: Cambridge councillors approved a £22,000 scheme for the improvement of Jesus Green Swimming Pool despite fears that this might prejudice chances of an indoor pool. It was an outdoor pool, used for about 110 days a year; last year 55,000 people used it but it ran at a loss and each one cost the City sixpence. It would be filled from the mains & filtered to remove impurities. More would use it if they could go into water that looked like water and not soup. Others thought they ought to enclose half the present bath so it could be used all year – but this would make it look like a shed and bring criticism

1953 12 09
Football: new stand built, Cambridge City football club [5.6]

1954 02 02
Skating: The skating championship of the fens was held at Cambridge Sewage Farm when the Ralph Moore Cup was won by D. Beba of Moulton Chapel. 2 Feb 1954

1954 02 03
Cycling: Mr Charles F. Morley, who died recently, was a cyclist who won the Eastern Counties championship for every distance from sprint to fifty miles. He was truly a great little sportsman. He was a founder member of the Granta Cycling Club & many of his successes were gained on the quarter mile circular dirt track of the University Bicycling Club off Grange Road. As a speed skater he was up with the amateurs of his day; he was elected chairman of the National Skating Association Fen Department and presented a handsome challenge cup. He was the sole survivor of a quartet of friends who made local and national history at the turn of the century including J.H. Priest, one-mile cycling champion, F.J. Christmas, cross-country champion and A.E. Tebbutt, amateur skating champion of Great Britain.

1954 04 14
Snooker: Since the inauguration of the C.D.N. Snooker Cup for the amateur championship of Cambridgeshire in 1946, only three names have previously been inscribed on this coveted trophy. Now that of L.T. Ambrose has joined the names of P.G.T. Hughes, A.L. Batterbee and R.E. Williams. In the final he beat W. Philpott through superior tactical play. Philpott played the bolder type of snooker and at times got in some delightful pots. He was always prepared to go for 'near impossible' shots and twice got two glorious pinks only to see the white disappearing also. But Ambrose relied on the 'safety first' motto, which in the end paid dividends. 54 04 14

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1954 05 06
Cricket: new Fenner's score box replaces one badly damaged during War [5.10]

1954 06 08
Athletics: new Whit-Monday gala - sports, 3,000 attend [5.11, 5.20]

1954 07 09
American Football: Real American softball came to Cambridge Football Club ground when the US Air Force Hospital Wimpole Park beat a team from USAF Molesworth entirely against the formbook. But for British spectators the game was a succession of shocks. They saw an umpire hustled and pushed by players disputing a decision, two players somersaulting as they tried to catch a ball and some magnificent hits and catches that made it look like cricket. The game seems to be a glorified rounders akin to baseball. There was 'strike one', 'ball one', 'blunt' and a host of other expressions which are difficult to explain but easy to follow on the diamond-shaped field until the victorious team had notched up their win and were cheered again and again CDN 9.7.54

1954 12 23
Motor cycling: One cold December night just before Christmas 1933 a dozen motor cycling enthusiasts gathered in a room over a public house in Chesterton and decided to form the Centaur Motor Cycle Club. Pre-war it was mainly a social club catering for the weekend rider. With war came petrol rationing and shortage of oil but the club somehow kept going. In 1945 it began to get back on its feet, organising the first scramble at Caxton. They then pioneered events such as trials, grass track racing and sidecar events. Now, 21 years later, over 160 members crowded into the Dorothy Restaurant to celebrate the club's coming-of-age 54 12 23

1955
Tiddlywinks: Launched in modern form by undergraduates from Cambridge [11.12]

1955 02 26
Rowing: More than 100 local oarsmen gathered at the Lion Hotel to pay tribute to two Cambridgeshire Rowing Association officials, Mr Briscoe Snelson and Mr Red Alsop. They both came on the rowing scene about 1910 when there were nine clubs and 18 crews in the bumping races. At that time the Rob Roy Club had been head of the river for 14 out of the previous 15 years. From 1914 the Association was dormant for five years. It was in 1930 that the Oarsmen's Service was originated; Snelson said: "I went along to see Canon Church, Rector of Fen Ditton and fixed it up. I told him we wanted to come in blazers and he replied: 'That's all right, my dear boy, come in pyjamas if you like!' 55 02 26

1955 07 08
Rowing: A sculling boat to the memory of Mr Roy Burrell, a member of the '99 Rowing Club for over 30 years was named at Banham's Boatyard. He was a great sportsman who had done much for the rowing in Cambridge and a schoolmaster who had given every encouragement to youth. He would never be forgotten in the annals of the club and the records of the Cambs Rowing Association. 55 07 08d

1955 07 19
Motor cycling: Motor cycle side-car scrambling came to the area for the first time on Sunday – and what an exciting debut it made! The Matchless Club event at Elsworth proved so exciting and such a spectacular attraction that a special handicap race was held. Brian Stonebridge, the 25-year-old scramble star from Rampton won both. Nothing could touch his B.S.A. 500 combination; he roared into every turn and jumped the bumps at full throttle. 55 07 19

1955 08 13
Roller skating: The National Skating Association tests for figure, dance and pair skating were held at Cambridge Corn Exchange. All the candidates were pupils of resident instructors, Brian and Mary Jackson. Those successful included Alan Southgate (inter-silver figures), Mrs Bundy, Pat Reynolds and Myra Ellis (preliminary dance) and Ivan Ayres (bronze dance). During the evening a roller dance contest was staged between teams from U.S. Forces, St Neots and Cambridge. 55 08 13

1955 12 17
Football: Stanley Matthews, the greatest soccer player of the century made his first visit to Cambridge. Local football officials and celebrities laid aside the rivalries of the field for the opportunity to shake his hand. At the end a schoolboy collared him for his autograph; Stanley said: "When I was your age I was always in bed by eight o'clock". He then left for his hotel and bed – dead on 9.30 pm 55 12 17c

1956 03 24
Cricket: Camden cricket club history 75 years 56 03 24a & b

1956 05 16
Riding: The White Horse Riding Establishment in Barton Road, Cambridge, has been used as a riding school for 35 years and has stabling for 24 horses. Much of the teaching takes place on land down Grange Road and it would reduce the dangers for inexperienced riders taking horses down Barton Road if they had an Indoor Riding School. But neighbours complained that it was noisy and smelly and a relic of the past. Horse boxes unloaded on the pavement and children stacked their bikes against the wall when they popped in to give the horses tit-bits.56 05 16a

1956 07 20
Fishing: Cambridge Albion Angling Society celebrated its 50th birthday with a dinner at the Dorothy Café. They owed much of their success to the work of the late Jack Cartwright, the 'Grand Old Man' of the Albion during the difficult years of two world wars. Since the war no sport had recruited the vast numbers that angling had done. They now had more than 1,500 members. 56 05 19

1956 07 20
Fishing: Samples of water taken from the River Ouse at Huntingdon after many fish were killed on the Newton stretch of the river contained traces of cyanide. It came from the normal effluent discharge from Huntingdon Council's septic tank at Hartford. No other sources of pollution were found and the only chemical spraying was using a non-toxic weed killer. It was important that the district pollution prevention officer should be on the telephone, but the Post Office did not have the necessary equipment. 56 07 20b

1956 07 27
Roller skating: approved at Corn exchange [5.21]

1956 10 03
Maureen Jackson, the 21-year-old Cambridge girl who has been British Roller-Skating Champion for the last three years is to compete in the World Championship in Barcelona. She only started reluctantly after the war but when her ballet dancing ambitions faded she became more engrossed in both roller and ice-skating. Her father is the instructor at the Cambridge rink. 56 10 03a

1957 01 14
Athletics: Local sportsmen gathered to pay tribute to Stanley Martin who is retiring as secretary of the Cambridgeshire Amateur Athletics Association after 25 years. In that time nine members have represented their country, five of them in the Olympic Games, and 13 Cambridge University Blues have also come from the Association's ranks. In 1925 they went to Joshua Taylor's to buy coloured vests but found they had only white ones in stock. So they had to buy some blue and green straw-hat ribbons to use as distinguishing sashes - colours they have used ever since. 57 01 14 & 14a

1957 02 21
Rowing: A new shelter has appeared on the towpath near the Pike and Eel. From the beautifully executed Latin inscription it is clear it has been built in memory of the late Roy Meldrum who devoted his considerable rowing knowledge and coaching skill to Lady Margaret and the Cambridge University Boat Club. This simple, dignified tribute will do a service to all who love the river, especially those who coach on the exposed banks of the Cam 57 02 21

1957 05 24
Climbing: The Night Climbers of Cambridge are at it again. At daybreak two objects had been placed on the spires of King's college chapel. One is the globe of a Belisha beacon, the other a nylon stocking. There was a turret-climbing episode in May 1932 on the eve of Empire Day when a Union Jack was flying from the north-east turret. Two nights previously the pinnacles were decorated with open umbrellas 57 05 24

1957 07 17
Bowls: Cambridgeshire Women's Bowling Association was founded in 1937. Now their new flag in the County colours of light and dark blue and old gold was hoisted for the first time at a bowls drive at Brooklands Avenue to celebrate its 21st anniversary. 57 07 17

1957 07 20
Swimming: A giant super-modern heated indoor swimming pool with a roof-top restaurant may be constructed on Donkey common. It would have space for 230 bathers with 600 spectators, parking for 35 cars and 200 cycles and a view across Parker's Piece from the restaurant. Changing rooms for footballers and crickets could be installed later. It could be in use within three years. 57 07 20a & c

1957 08 19
Football: 'Footballer of the Year', Tom Finney, has been signed to write for the popular 'Cambridge Daily News Football and Sports Review' each Saturday evening. He has been capped 67 times since 1946 and is one of the most versatile forwards of the post-war period. Tom was offered a huge sum to sign for an Italian team but declined, saying he was happy to remain with Preston North End for whom he scored 22 goals last season. He knows the game inside out and will present a lively commentary on the soccer scene each week. Do not miss them. 57 08 19

1957 10 17
Hunting: In the 1920s when Col. W. Whitbread was at Cambridge University he was Master of the Trinity Foot Beagles which hunted in the Swavesey district. A public house called the New Inn on the Huntingdon Road was well known to him so when his brewery bought it from Greene King they decided to rename it the 'Trinity Foot'. Now it has been completely renovated with a new sign. It was delayed when the van carrying it broke down but was quickly erected just before the unveiling 57 10 17

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1957 12 03
Rowing leviathan – 16 seater boat built by Banham – 57 12 03

1958 01 18
Tiddlywinks: University v Goons tiddlywinks match – 58 01 18

1958 01 31
Bowls: new bowls club for ladies – 58 01 31

1958 02 06
Football: Elfleda Road residents complained that when they bought their houses Cambridge United was a little football team with about 200 spectators playing on an open ground with no banking. Now the ground had been built up with floodlight pylons and there were 3,000 at matches. There was the noise from the loudspeaker equipment, the shouting and even beastly cigarette smoke. The Supporters Club was a nuisance – 'having finished their evening, these boisterous individuals, fortified by their beer, make their way down the unmade road to the Council estate', one resident said. 58 02 06

1958 02 26
Swimming: Manor school heated pool plans – 58 02 26d & e

1958 03 01
Tiddlywinks: The Duke of Edinburgh sent a message regretting that he was unable to take part in a tiddlywinks watch at Cambridge Guildhall: "While practising secretly I pulled an important muscle in the second or tiddly joint of my winking finger. But wink up, fiddle the game and may the Goons' side win"". In his absence the Goons team, including Spike Milligan, Harry Secombe and Peter Sellers were defeated by Cambridge University. They were not helped by an eccentric uniform and intervals for refreshments such as leeks, sticks of rhubarb and glasses of Champagne perry 58 03 01a

1958 04 19
Football: Cambridge United turning pro – cartoon – 58 04 19a

1958 04 29
Cycling: The 60 miles, six-lap Gog Magog cycle road race started from the Red Lion, Cherry Hinton. It was neutralised over Limekiln Road but then three of the Cambridgeshire Road Club team, J. Morley, D. Cook and M. Pilsworth, made a break. Before Sawston, on the second lap, Mick Ward from Haverhill had to make mechanical adjustments but he was in fourth place by the time they came over the Gogs for the last time 58 04 29a

1958 05 10
Football: Cambridge United's development – enters Southern League – 58 05 10

1958 05 24
Darts: Castle and District Darts League involves about 30 teams and incorporates the majority of the darts experts so a high standard of play was witness at the Rex Ballroom when both the men's and women's finals were held. Arthur Fordham (Jubilee) beat B. Smith of the British Queen in the final while the ladies' singles champion was Mrs Asby (Brewers Arms) who overcame Mrs Dickson (Robin Hood). Twenty games were played after which the company of 500 enjoyed dancing for three hours to the music of the popular Ken Stevens band. 58 05 24

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1958 05 27
Motor racing: Early reports of Archie Scott Brown's tragic accident gave the erroneous impression that a mechanical fault in his Cambridge-built Lister-Jaguar had resulted in the crash. This was not true: the car was performing as well as ever. Archie was fighting for the lead in the Grand Prix of Spa when he hit the wall just before the La Source hairpin. Snetterton Motor Racing Club has announced that a Memorial Trophy Race will be held in his honour. 58 05 27

1958 08 01
Swimming: St Faith's School has a new swimming pool built by voluntary labour. The Headmaster, Mr F.M. White, says it only cost £280. They were encouraged by the success of a small primary school in Huntingdonshire which was funded by their Parent-Teach organisation three years before. The basic requirements are an enthusiastic staff, an able school handy-man and above all the technical advice of an enthusiastic expert. He must remain nameless, otherwise he'd be inundated with similar requests. 58 08 01a

1958 08 25
Football: City & United Football clubs elected to new Southern League [6.7,6.9]

1958 11 03
Rowing: The first college boathouse to be built in Cambridge for more than 25 years was formally opened by the Masters of Corpus Christi and Sidney Sussex colleges whose Boat Clubs will share the facilities. The land had been earmarked by Sidney as a boathouse over 50 years ago. Until work started it had been used by college gardeners as a delphinium bed.58 11 03a [22.1]

1959 01 02
Football: Cambridgeshire Football Association was launched on 24th January 1884 at a meeting in the Guildhall. A trial game was organised between two teams selected from Old Perseans, Modern Perseans and Cassandra on one side and the Granta, Rovers, Printers and Albert on the other. Newmarket, Linton, Sawston Swifts and Cam affiliated at the outset. In those days the game was controlled by two umpires, one in each half of the field. Should they disagree the matter was referred to a referee who sat outside the field of play. 59 01 02 &a 59 01 06a

1959 02 04
Rowing: The '99 Rowing Club now has a boathouse of its own in this, their diamond jubilee year. They have bought the boathouse owned by Messrs Banham's at the bottom of Kimberley Road, used by Sidney Sussex College. It is in need of repair and alteration and various members have volunteered help as electricians and plumbers. It should be ready by the summer 59 02 04c

1959 02 23
Motor racing: A short ceremony will be held just before the flag drops at the next race at Snetterton. The memory of the late Archie Scott Brown will be commemorated by the unveiling of a permanent memorial in the form of a bronze head and shoulders sculptured in relief. The new Lister Jaguars are expected to make their first appearance alongside the new Lotus Seventeens and the first of the new Cooper Monacos. There is more prize money this year: the winner of the British Empire Trophy will get £400, which works out at £10 a lap, or about 70 shillings a mile! 59 02 23a

1959 02 26

Football: The memory of the night the lights that were turned on at Milton Road football ground will live for a long time judging by the way the inaugural match between Cambridge City and West Ham United was received by the 11,000 crowd. Even though the First Division club beat their hosts to the tune of five goals to two, they endeared themselves to all the spectators by the manner in which they did it. They even had the courtesy to allow the City to be the first to score under the new floodlights – although perhaps it wasn't intended! Barry Kin drove the ball hard from the wing and it matter not that the West Ham goalkeeper helped the ball into the net. 59 02 26b

1959 07 03
Motor racing: Brian Lister has two great passions, jazz and jalopies. He lives on excitement, yet to see him you wouldn't think so. He's a stocky man with an India rubber face. And a grin that's as wide and welcoming as Woodcote corner. He looks a quiet man, a placid man, a jolly man. The last he is. The others he certainly is not. Otherwise he would not have had his sensational success in the business of motor racing with the Lister Jaguar 59 07 03

1959 08 01
Sailing: The Cam Sailing Club celebrated their diamond jubilee with a lavish ball in a marquee on the club site. Mr S. Evans, the Ground Steward, now owns 500 coloured fairy lights which originally belonged to his grandfather, and he used them to illuminate the carefully-tended flower beds. 'The Duchess', a well-known motor launch took the guests from the car park to the lawn and there was a bar on board. With a membership of 300 the club holds a high reputation in the sailing world 59 08 01 & a

1959 08 24
Motor racing: Lister Jaguar leave motor racing – detailed article – 59 08 24 & a

1959 09 23
Swimming: The Headmaster of Fawcett Junior School, Trumpington (Mr F.N. Walker) declared the school's new swimming pool was "well and truly open" after he had been pushed fully dressed into the water. Roars of laughter came from the Mayor (Wallace Cole), Mayoress and parents who were present but the Head took his ducking in good part and swam vigorously for half a length. The pool has been built by the parents with the help of the children themselves. 59 09 23

1959 10 06
Rugby: Dickie Jeeps to retire from Rugby – profile – 59 10 06a & b

1959 10 22
Motor cycling: Brian Stonebridge, the ace scrambler, was sponsored by King and Harper and had several seasons riding BSA and Francis Barnett machines. Later he rode Matchless, then moved to B.S.A. to become one of their 'works' riders. Recently he went to work for Invacar, producing the Greeves motor cycles which were used for scrambles. He was killed when his Austin Atlantic coupe collided with an Austin 16 and was then hit by a lorry. 59 10 22

1959 11 27
Athletics: New Cambridge University track; first time CU athletics match not held at Fenner's which has oldest cinder track in world; opened 1846, c 1867 cinder track laid [12.4] Milton Road new athletics track opened – 59 11 27d

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 02 12
Golf: Mrs J. Blackburn has been chosen to play at right inner for the East Anglian Women's Hockey Association team in their match against the Midlands, becoming the first Cambridgeshire-born player to represent the East since the 1920's. She is the daughter of Sir John Cockcroft the atom bomb scientist who is to be the first Master of Churchill College. 60 02 12

1960 03 15
Rowing: Cambridge boat builder H.C. Banham has been asked to build a new stern section for a racing clinker which was damaged when a hippopotamus took a bite at it. They are to ship it out by air to the Zambezi Boat Club. Mr Banham says that local oarsmen should appreciate their good fortune. 60 03 15

1960 05 26
Rowing: open regatta, first time crews all parts of county can compete, (by 1976 now largest one-day regatta in country) [22.2, 22.10]

1960 06 22
Shooting: Mrs Louie Wallace of Maid's Causeway has been the ladies champion of Cambridgeshire Small-bore Rifle Association for ten out of the past eleven years. She is a member of the Gogs Rifle Club which was originally the 5th Battalion Home Guard Club. It is a good sport for women as it needs enormous concentration and self-discipline. Club and county badges are worn on the back of the shooting jackets so they can be seen while the competitor is actually firing. 60 06 22

1960 07 04
Rowing: The '99 Rowing Club had been accused of being more of a social club than a rowing club, said the Mayor when he opened their new boathouse, the first to have a licensed bar. It has been converted from a ramshackled building with much of the work done by members. Councillor Mole recalled that when he came back to Cambridge in 1930, one of the first things he did was to join the '99 and he had soon made many friends. R. Alsop, Club President had showed him the Bailey Cup for Senior Championship Fours which included the inscription 'C. Mole, 1932' 60 07 04

1960 07 08
Rowing costs 1876 and 1960 – 60 07 08a

1960 08 17
Roller skating: Councillors expressed disappointment over the lack of success of the new roller skating rink on Christ's Pieces. Opened at the beginning of the present school holidays it was expected to attract youngsters. Instead it has remained unused. But children did not know the new amenity existed: there was only a small notice on a gate that was kept closed 60 08 17

1960 08 26
Roller skating: Cambridge roller-skating enthusiasts will be able to enjoy an extra day's pleasure this season because the man who rents the Corn Exchange rink is superstitious. John Harris, who runs a chain of rinks round the country, never likes reopening on Fridays. Local skaters took full advantage and several dozen were speeding round the wooden floor within minutes of opening

time. His Cambridge manager W. Lloyd-Worth, who has spent over 50 years in the roller and ice-skating business, hopes to organise National Skating Association championships and has sought proctorial permission from the University. 60 08 26

1960 09 09
Roller skating: The roller skating rink at Cambridge Corn Exchange attracts enthusiasts from a large area. Saturday morning is the children's morning and with its yards of bunting, the otherwise sombre building has a carnival air. From the very young to the really quite grown up they were tumbling about, wobbling precariously round the perimeter or pirouetting stylishly in the centre. Some of the girls swooped round in short costumes while the run-of-the-mill dressed for the rough and tumble in trousers. Skaters pay one shilling and sixpence (8p) which includes the hire of skates. The rink is leased to J.W. Harris, who also has one at Hunstanton, and is managed by Mr Lloyd Worth who has been a professional in the skating business for 53 years. 60 09 09c

1960 09 13
Football supporters fight in hospital – cartoon – 60 09 13

1960 12 30
Motor racing: Mrs J.A. Rayment of Cambridge was not impressed when her husband bought a go-kart and could not be persuaded to try it for some time. But when she did she was soon keen on the craze which is sweeping the country. Their son shares his parents' keenness and their 18-year-old daughter also occasionally has a drive. The Cambridge Go-Kart club has 75 members of whom four are women. The vehicles travel up to 45 mph but give a tremendous impression of speed as they are near to the ground. 60 12 30

1961
Fishing: Cambridge & District Sea Angling Society set up [21.12]

1961 01 08
Cambridge Rugby Union Club dates from 1923, although there may have been a rugby club of some sort in existence before the first world war. The Old Cantabrigians were founded sometime in the 1920s as part of the County High School old Boys' Society but lapsed and was not reformed until 1945. Shelford followed in 1935, being established by young players unable to get a game, and finally came the Old Perseans who as the Perse Wanderers appeared in July 1949, a new book on the history of the Eastern Counties Rugby Union records. 61 01 08a

1961 02 17
Golf on Coldham's Common historical article – 61 02 17

1961 03 16
Cricket: Camden cricket club seek own ground – 61 03 16a

1961 04 08
Cricket: William Buttress, born 1827, one of the greatest break bowlers of all times – history – 61 04 08

1961 04 14
Cricket: Robert Carpenter, bowler 1830-1901, Tom Hayward & other cricketers - feature – 61 04 14d

1961 10 27
Boxing: In a former prisoner-of-war camp chapel in Coldham's Lane members of the Cambridge Amateur Boxing Association celebrated the start of a new season by flailing themselves, and each other, almost to husks. Membership is restricted only by the inability to pay the annual subscription – boxing ability is immaterial. Boys from the age of seven are provided with equipment and training and competitive bouts begin at the age of 11. One lad accumulated a host of silver-ware but became too successful as officials were unable to find anyone who would fight him 61 10 27

1961 11 10
Bowling: A London company who hope to build a 24-lane ten-pin bowling centre on land at the 'Willows' in Chesterton has offered to pay the expenses of any residents wishing to see their Stamford Hill, London, facilities. There would be a social centre and bowling alley with restaurant and snack bar as well as a nursery for the babies while their parents play. The centres are well-run, clean and open, giving very little trouble, they claim 61 11 10

1962 01 04
Rowing: Banham's building racing shell for Boat Race – 62 01 04

1962 01 06
Rugby: The University rugby ground in Grange Road is one of the finest in the country. Two years ago millions of gallons of water were pumped during the heat of the summer and hundredweights of seed used to repair the ravages of the winter season. After months of loving and expert care the groundsman defied me to traverse the pitch and produce a dozen weeds. I didn't bother to accept the challenge. The playing surface looked, if shaved, fit for bowls. It was a credit to the efforts of the Hayward family who care for it. 62 01 06

1962 01 10
Rowing: This year marks University boatman Alf Twinn's silver jubilee as the man in sole charge of the Cambridge University Boat Club, although he has been with them much longer. He took over from 'Cooie' Phillips in 1937 and is only the fourth boatman in the 133 years' history of the Light Blue Club. Excluding the war years Alf has had charge of 12 winning crews, but has never seen a Boat Race. He is the only man outside the realms of inter-Varsity sport who has been awarded his 'Blue'. He got his cap in 1939 when Tom Langton was President. 62 01 10

1962 01 15
Bowling: Plans for a 24-lane ten-pin bowling centre to be built on The Willows site at Cam Road have been rejected. Planners say it would be out of character in a residential area and should be located near a community centre or shops. The application by Contemporary Homes Ltd for a bowling centre with restaurant and a place where parents could leave their children had brought objections from local householders. 62 01 15c 17.13

1962 02 06
Football: proposal to amalgamate City & United Football clubs (rejected 1965) [6.15.14.3]

1962 04 25
Cricket: St Giles Cricket Club history – 62 04 25

1962 05 19
Table-tennis: Cambridgeshire Table Tennis Association was formed in September 1936 and won their first match against Bury St Edmunds with a team comprising Messrs Humphries, Betterman,

Stearn, Constable and Nunn. The finger spin service which was then very fashionable tended to bemuse the Cambridge players to a certain degree. Youngsters John Thurston and George Lawrence made a name for themselves while John Cornwell had several fine victories over international players. The Y.M.C.A. team were county champions in the inauguration year and repeated the feat in 1962 – the Silver Jubilee year. 62 05 19

1962 06 15
Cricket: new Churchill college ground opened [13.6]

1962 06 18
Rowing: Queens college burn First boat May Races, first time won in college history [22.4]

1962 09 26
Boxing: Cambridge Amateur Boxing Club is seeking for a piece of land on which it can build a gymnasium in place of their headquarters in Henley Road. They have more new members than at any time in their history and have collected over £2,000 towards a new building which will include kitchen and seating accommodation. In addition the club's President, Arthur Cooper, has promised a brand new £100 ring. The season opens with a fixture against the University at the Corn Exchange with another in the Drill Hall, East Road 62 09 26b

1962 10 02
Fencing: Cambridge Ladies Fencing Club started just before the war and was coached by Madame Perigal whose daughter, Caroline Drew, reached international status. By the late 40's the growing interest in the sport meant it became mixed. But it has always maintained a strong link with the County Girls' School Fencing Club which has a proud record in the National Schools championships. Now it has a professional instructor, Reg Cullum, while some fencers visit Prof Harmer-Brown, the University coach. Its members range from firemen to a wine merchant, a vet to a mental welfare officer. But they always welcome new blood. 62 10 02d

1963 01 19
Swimming: Parkside pool filled with water for first time – 63 01 19b

1963 02 02
Skating: Parts of the Backs should be flooded and turned into skating rinks, says a Cambridge botanist. There are a few natural ideal spots, used for lawn tennis, which could be easily flooded to provide skating. The initial cost would be insignificant but the benefit for the young and 'young at heart' (meaning dons) would be enormous. The maintenance of the skating rink would be easily covered by a small entrance fee. And it wouldn't spoil the tennis courts as ice and snow give the best protection for the species of grasses which might otherwise be damaged by the continuous cold. 63 02 02a

1963 02 05
Rowing: Lent Bumps cancelled due to weather, first time in 136 years [6.17]

1963 02 16
Darts is still a popular sport which appeals to all classes. The Star Brewery League began 30 years ago and is a very lively concern with 300 registered competitors in its 20 clubs. George Woolley of 'The Hoops', Long Stanton is one of their leading performers but 'The Jubilee', 'Haymakers' and 'Five Bells' have all won the championship in recent years . Ely City Darts Organisation, which started around 1932, has nearly 800 on its register, including 90 women. 63 02 16a

1963 02 23
Cross country: Despite appalling conditions the national cross-country championships attracted more than 250 runners to the Coldham's Common course. The race started near the old rifle butts with a dash through ice-fields and bumpy ground towards the gas works, over a bridge built by the Territorial Army then past the Whitehill Estate, keeping to the rough of the Priory School playing fields to the railway bridge. Then runners were on the course proper. A special trains was laid on from Liverpool Street with buses to Coleridge School 63 02 23a 63 03 04 & a

1963 04 01
Swimming: Parkside indoor pool was opened by Ald Ridgeon and dozens of young members of Cambridge swimming clubs who had been sitting round the edges of the pool jumped into the water, splashing and cheering. A colourful and exciting gala followed featuring Linda Ludgrove, the double gold medallist at the Empire Games, and several Olympic swimming stars. The new building, which took three years to erect at a cost of £250,000, contains two heated pools; the main one has diving boards while the beginners' pool has a constant depth of two feet six inches. 63 04 01 talked of for 100 years [6.16, 17.8]

1963 04 22
Rowing: The City of Cambridge Rowing Club commemorated its centenary by unveiling a new weather vane at its boathouse. It is the oldest 'town' club and was 'Head of the River' for eleven successful years from 1951-1961. The weathervane, made by Messrs George Lister, was presented by the well-known Cambridge artist, Raymond Lister, who has a long association with the club. 63 04 22 had played considerable part in re-establishing bumping races in 1868 [20,22.6]

1963 12 21
Cricket: Sir John Berry (Jack) Hobbs, one of Cambridge's legendary names in cricket, dies.- 63 12 21; tributes – 63 12 23

1964 01 03
Cricket: John Berry Hobbs – feature – 64 01 03b

1964 01 07
Plans for a 24-lane ten-pin bowling alley on Mill Road have been approved subject to conditions that the premise should be closed between midnight and 8am. It would include a snack bar, changing rooms, kitchen and offices. But now developers want to extend the project to include either a dance floor or ice-rink, a public house with flat over, service station with office and parking for 150 cars. 64 01 07]

1964 03 02
Rowing: A student prank ended in tragedy on Saturday evening when the cox of a Clare College crew drowned in the river. He had been celebrating at a dinner with the rest of the crew afterwards gong to Clare Bridge where he was thrown in. He called for help and three of his companions dived in to save him. They failed and one had himself to be rescued. Earlier the cox had been given the traditional ducking by the boat crew when he swam to the bank safely 64 03 02b

1964 04 09
Tennis: Cambridge University Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club, known as the 'Cock and Hen' club is moving to a new home on Madingley Road. It is the oldest tennis club in Cambridge

founded before 1885 by and for senior members of the Universities of Oxford & Cambridge who were expected to join in pairs – hence the name. Now half are townspeople. Croquet has not been played since the Great War but some say a lawn could be laid at Gilling Paddock. 64 04 09b [17.14]

1964 04 24
Climbing: In the very early hours young men venture out intent on scaling some of the university buildings. Night climbers are not an organised society, just individuals who know the other students who participate. The porter's lodge at King's is an irresistible challenge, not because of any climbing difficulty but because of the imminent danger of being discovered by college porters below. Climbers usually tie a piece of rope at the top of a building, though sometimes an item of female underwear is seen flapping gaily in the breeze the next morning. 64 04 24e

1964 05 11
Croquet: Cambridge has one of the few public croquet lawns in England. It is on Christ's Pieces, next to the bowling green. It is almost exclusively used by undergraduate members of the University Croquet Club to whom most of the equipment belongs. Although only three years old they have gained a reputation for their enthusiasm and high standard of play. Anyone can take part but it is not a game suitable for the infantile or the senile 64 05 11

1964 06 15
Rowing: 1st & 3rd Trinity burn boat - & fencing [22.7]

1964 06 17
Footballers' summer jobs – 64 06 17b (see Memories 20 Jun 2014)

1964 06 26
Shooting: A group of women meet twice a week in a corner of Cambridge police station. Some are typists, some work in laboratories and banks, but the majority are ordinary housewives. They are all rifle shooting enthusiasts who practice on the police range. They change into slacks and firing jackets, then erect target cards and collect ammunition. Their ambition is to be selected for the county women's smallbore team. Husbands and boy friends used to be rather patronising when they took up shooting as a hobby. That is until they were invited to the range one evening and given the opportunity to shoot. 64 06 26c

1964 07 22
Dogs: Nearly 500 people attended a greyhound race meeting at Chesterton Fen Road, one of eight to be held during the next few weeks. Now organisers are planning a campaign for a permanent track equipped with floodlights and facilities 64 07 22b [11.8]

1964 08 01
Cricket: Madingley Cricket Club, who have bought the old Queens' College pavilion on the Barton Road ground, may cut it in sections and move it that way. Queens' new pavilion, which is a memorial to a former president, Dr J.A. Venn, will be ready for the start of term and the groundsman has already moved into an adjoining bungalow. It has the most modern facilities in Cambridge with showers, toilets and its own bar. But the planned car park has been left for a later date. 64 08 01a

1964 11 14
Dogs: During the summer a series of greyhound racing meetings were held on an improvised track near a car breaker's yard at Fen Road Chesterton. But plans for a permanent stadium may

prove impractical because of drainage difficulties. If buildings containing lavatories are to be erected the problems of foul sewage disposal might prove insurmountable. There are also problems about access to the site over the Fen Road level crossing. The road is inadequate for the kind of traffic that would be attracted to race meetings. Before the war a proposal to build one at Teversham was turned down 64 11 14

1965 02 25
Football: Cambridge United and Cambridge City merger proposed – 65 02 25a; United not interested – 65 03 03

1965 04 08
Bowling: Tenpin bowling alley, Mill Road to open; one of principal recreation places in city – 65 04 08c

1965 06 07
Climbing: 'Peace in Vietnam' banner strung across pinnacles at King's chapel by night climbers – 65 06 07

1965 05 29
Football: Cambridge United application join Football League rejected – 65 05 29

1965 10 15
Cycling: Arthur Skeel, champion cyclist – profile – 65 10 15c

1966 04 26
Athletics: Plans for indoor sports stadium next to Parkside pool discussed – 66 04 26b

1966 10 28
Football: Cambridge United manager, Roy Kirk, resigns; also dismiss trainer-coach Brian Doyle – 66 10 28

1966 12 31
Football: Coldham's Common dark and dingy hut is changing room for footballers – 66 12 31
1967 04 27
Football: Cambridge City and Cambridge United directors consider merger of clubs; one condition the selling of the Milton Road ground- 67 04 27

1967 06 14
Athletics: Cambridge "do away with Fenner's cinder track" [13.7]

1967 10 13
Dogs: Greyhound racing track approved at City Football Club twice a week – 67 10 13a

1967 11 07
Bowls: Chesterton Bowls Club was founded in 1931 with HQ in Milton Road. The lease expires next year; now found new site on St Andrew's Road – 67 11 07a; 67 12 30

1967 12 07
Football: George Dean resigns as Secretary Cambs Football Association; played for Cambridge City – profile – 67 12 07b

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1968 05 22
Rowing: Cambridgeshire Rowing Association centenary [22.8]

1968 12 27
Rowing: History of non-university rowing researched by James Moy – details – 69 12 27

1969 01 30
Challis & Sons fishing tackle shop in Newmarket Rd to close after 31 years, was formerly Hardings; made Pembroke and Trinity reels – feature – 69 01 30b

1969 05 05
Football: Cambridge United win Southern League championship – 69 05 05a,b

1969 07 11
Swim through Cambridge – exiting finish to women's race & photo – 69 07 11

1969 12 02
Real Tennis: in 1900s were 9 courts, Grange Rd sole 118 year-old survivor [12.2]

1970

1970 01 12
Cycling: Barnwell cycle racing school beat world 24-hour roller cycling record - now 1,008 miles [21.5]

1970 02 17
Bowling: Tenpin bowling rink, Mill Road, shuts down suddenly by Magnet Bowling who opened it in 1965, had been running at loss for 3 years – 70 02 17

1970 05 30
Football: Cambridge United win Southern League Cup, elected to 4th Division Football League – 70 05 30, b 70 06 14b

1971 02 11
Football: Cambridge United battle to take over Whitehill allotment land for use as car park – 71 02 11

1971 06 16
Football: Cambridge United Supports' Club open new bar and lounge – 71 06 16, 71 06 18

1972 03 13
Cross-country: international championship held Cambridge [12.6]

1971 06 25
Golf: Gog Magog Golf club new nine-hole relief course ready [16.11]

1972 02 04
Swimming: Jack Overhill confessions of barmy winter bather at Sheep Green – 72 02 04

1972 03 24

Bingo: it was “eyes down” for the first time last night in Cambridge’s new £10,000 bingo hall which will offer enthusiasts an almost non-stop programme throughout afternoons and evenings six days a week. The bingo hall which can accommodate nearly 1,000 players at a single sitting, is in the converted former Central Cinema in Hobson Street 72 03 24

1972 08 12
Skateboarding: The Mayor of Cambridge had a go at skateboarding, the latest craze among youngsters. But try as he would to keep still the board had a will of its own and he had to hold on to one of a group of teenagers who went to see him about finding a proper skateboard rink in the city. He told them he had already made a firm request for the Amenities Committee to consider their 1,637-name petition and asked if some of the city’s lottery money can be spent on one. The slopes of the Lion Yard present an ideal combination of smooth surface and different angles to turn in but shoppers say it is dangerous and large areas of plate glass windows are likely to be broken 72 08 12

1972 09 05
Cricket: Demolition of University pavilion built Fenner’s 1875 [11.3,13.9]

1972 09 29
Athletics: Magdalene college closes sports ground - too expensive to maintain [11.4]

1973 03 10
Skating: Ice skating rink proposed but no council backing [17.1]

1973 05 02
Football: Exultant Cambridge United players shared the glory with the fans after Saturday's epic 3-2 win against Mansfield - the win which takes them into the Third Division. The Untied players, directors, officials and their wives will be guests at a civic reception at the Guildhall. It has never been done before and will probably never be done again. That was Cambridge United's chairman Geoffrey Proctor's view of the clubs starling 22-year rise to the Third Division since turning professional. "It all started in 1950-51 when we turned professional in the United Counties League and now we are in the Third Division. Naturally we want to go up to the Second Division and even First Division football. Meanwhile manager Bill Lievers, the author of so much emotion the day before, spent yesterday morning helping groundsman Alec James take down the Abbey Stadium goalposts in readiness for full-scale work on levelling the pitch at the Newmarket Road end 73 05 03 [14.10]

1973 11 27
Dogs: Cambridge greyhound stadium moves from the dog racing backwoods in February next year when their twice-weekly meetings will come under the auspices of the National Greyhound Racing Club. At present their meetings at Cambridge City Football Club’s Milton Road ground are continuing on Wednesday and Saturday during the floodlighting ban with the aid of a generator installed at Milton Road 73 11 27

1974 04
Football: Cambridge City taken over by new company who clear their debts [14.13]

1974 09 11
Football: Cambridge city football club have submitted plans for a £500,000 night club at their Milton road ground. It is planned that the 1,000-seater cabaret theatre will be built at the Milton Road end of the ground on a site that present houses the supporters’ club. “Modern football is in

the doldrums and will never pay for itself again", said the chairman. If the club get the go-ahead they intend to engage international stars and provide first-class food and drink 74 09 11

1974 09 21
Bowls: The opening of Cambridge's new indoor bowls centre at Chesterton brings to a climax many months of work by a group of bowlers who can now boast the only six-rink indoor green in the country. Sited next to their outdoor green in Logan's Way, the impressive new building is the next best thing to bowling on a warm summer's day. Already there are 400 bowlers on the membership lists and secretary N. Harper-Scott says there is still room for more 74 09 21

1974 11 22
Football: United sack Lievers, Ron Atkinson appointed [14.14] [2.5]

1974 12 14
Rowing: Cambridgeshire Rowing Association want 2,000 yard rowing course at Milton using soil for Northern bypass embankment [22.9]

1975 08 11
Climbing: Tourists and passers-by took little interest as two men groped their way up the south pinnacle of King's college chapel. They were steeplejacks from a London firm engaged by the college to remove a lavatory seat which has crowned the chapel since it mysteriously appeared on the pinnacle three weeks ago. It all looked easy as one man finally stood at the top waving the offending object high over his head 75 08 11

1975 06 17
Football: Cambridge United have taken the first major step towards a merger with their Southern League neighbours, Cambridge City. United's chairman David Ruston said "It was decided that the best way to approach amalgamation was for us to make a proposition that if city agreed, we would in due course make an offer for their shares. Both sides are agreed that something like this is in the best interests of football in the city". Jack Ginn, City's former chairman said, "Nothing can save football in Cambridge other than amalgamation. I understand City have lost £15,000 in the past year and United more than £30,000. This cannot go on" 75 06 17

1975 08 22
The Cambridge Sports Hall, opened on July 1st, is already beginning to attract enthusiastic support. Trampolining and weight training have proved particularly popular with families who have also taken advantage of the squash courts. Volley ball and handball have done particularly well through the participation of Language School students 75 08 22

1976 03 31
Football: City trading at loss again [14.18]

1976 04 01
Football: Season of drift away from football - 500 people fewer per United match [14.19]

1976 06 21
Swimming: The annual swim through Cambridge, organised by the Granta swimming club, has had to be cancelled for the first time in about 40 years because of the low level of water in the river Cam. Because of possible pollution problems they dare not risk the health hazards involved but hope to put the event on again next year. Typically 70-75 women and about 80 men would enter the event 76 06 21

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1976 08 23
Football: The landlord of a public house in Newmarket Road, Cambridge, issued a blunt warning to customers: "Watch out, there's football fans about". This is an area which has taken the brunt of local soccer hooliganism and violence. Walk along the Road on a Saturday afternoon when United are at home and you will sense an underlying tension as supporters trek to and from the Abbey Stadium. When the final whistle blows the United supporters and the respectable part of the crowd are allowed to leave. Nearly half an hour later the visitors are permitted to make their exit under escort 76 08 23

1976 11 15
Football: United champions Division Four [14.22,15,1]

1977
Skateboarding: proposed skateboard park in middle of roundabout [2.6]

1977 02 05
Skittles: Members of the Cambridge & District Skittles League see themselves as men of great skill and dexterity, pitting their wits against other eight-man teams in a three-dimensional game that has its own terminology. They hurl, toss or spin a flat, flying saucer-shaped cheese at a table resembling a large, sparsely padded armchair upon which are spaced nine wooden pins. Each player has a maximum of four throws to demolish as many as he can. The dedicated band of serious skittles players are a dying breed. Gone are the days when coachloads of players used to arrive long before the game to limber up. 77 02 05

1977 03 09
Football: Cambridge City Football Club's move to quit the Southern League for the Isthmian League third division brought a blazing Milton Road mutiny last night. City chairman Laurie Boost was presented with a petition of 221 names calling for the directors to reverse their decision – or resign. Manager Roy Johnson announced he would quit at the end of the season, club secretary John Aves, groundsman and trainer Bill Brignell and even ball-boys Paul Craft and Philip Butler said they would follow suit if the directors stick to their decision. The players also repeated their view that none of them would drop into the Isthmian League with City. 77 03 09

1977 03 19
Tiddlywinks: Cambridge University Tiddlywinks Club now has 21 members. In action in a dingy cold room upstairs at the Castle pub, Castle Hill they slouch on all fours over the felt mat playing area and talk intensely of tactics using weird words like bristolling, crudding and squopping surface. To a certain extent the dedicated members of the winking world feel under threat, their skills unrecognised by the mocking, unwinking masses, but say that tiddlywinks can give back health and mental stability to those who are ravaged by the complexity and over-mechanisation of modern life 77 03 19

1977 04 12
Skateboarding: Four Cambridge schoolboys, keen supporters of the latest skateboarding craze to hit Britain following its spread from America, have been banned from practising during the holidays on the playground of the Priory School, Galfrid Road, Cambridge. It is the second school to ban skateboards and is creating come controversy in education and road safety circles. A senior county education administrator said if there was an accident the education authority would be responsible but a senior county road safety officer said it was better to have them off the

road and on to places like school playgrounds. The boys hope to establish a skateboarding club with proper facilities. 77 04 12

1977 05 02
Football: Corks bounced off the ceiling – and Steve Spriggs' head – and the champagne flowed long after Cambridge United's dramatic 3-2 victory over brave Brentford. They were celebrating promotion to Division Three. It will be one of the major shocks of football history if Ron Atkinson's team do not coast home to the Fourth Division title, sitting four points clear at the top of the table. They would have to lose their four remaining matches by at least three goals while the four teams below them would have to win all of theirs. It is all safely tucked away in the realms of fantasy, says Randall Butt 77 05 02

1977 08 29
Bowls: Chesterton open £80,000 indoor rink [13.2]

1978 01 18
Football: Cambridge United have appointed club coach John Docherty team manager and made assistant manager Paddy Sowden general manager in a move to fill the gap left by the former manager Ron Atkinson's move to West Bromwich Albion. Docherty was appointed by Atkinson after quitting as Brentford manager in a clash with the London club's chairman early last season. He joined in a part-time capacity but was given a full-time one-year contract in recognition of his contribution to United's successful playing style. A former Brentford, Notts County, Reading and Queen's Park Rangers forward, Docherty turned down the chance to join First Division Leicester as youth coach earlier this season. 78 01 18 [15.3-4]

1978 03
Rowing: Cambridge sink in outrace [2.7]

1978 03 03
Wrestling: 'Giant Haystacks', otherwise known as Luke McMasters, towers above every other wrestler in the British ring at 6ft 11in and 32 stone and you could only pity tiny 15½ stone Mike Marino as he stepped into the Corn Exchange ring to pit his strength against him. The bout looked over when Haystacks body-slammed Marino to the canvas and, with a contemptuous glance, headed for the dressing room. But incredibly Marino managed to stagger to his feet before the count ended and Haystacks could not lumber back into the ring in time. Earlier a crowd of 700 watched Bert Royal and Vic Falkner beat Hungarian exile Zoltan Boscik and Britain's Chris Bailey. 78 03 03

1978 03 18
Skating: Agree in principle to ice skating rink on council land; [17.3]

1978 04 01
Football: Cambridge United, planning for Second Division football next season, want part of Coldham's Common for new £100,000 expansion plans. These include a skateboard park running nearly the length of the Habbin stand, extra car parking and a 2,500-seater stand over terracing on that side of the ground. Facilities at the Abbey Stadium have already been stretched to breaking point in the Third Division, most notably when Peterborough played a local derby in front of 10,998 people in January. 78 04 01 [15.6]

1978 04 18

Football: It would cost nearly £300,000 for Cambridge United to move to the Cambridge City club's ground in Milton Road – and the facilities would be no better than those at the Abbey Stadium. The suggestion had been made repeatedly over the years by supporters of both clubs and has come to a head again with United's plans for expansion and a skateboard park. Directors know their plans to take over common land would be an emotive issue, but it is a waste area and they would pipe a stream which is usually nothing more than a foul ditch. 78 04 18

1978 10 27
Skateboarding: Skateboard firms have been quietly going out of business over the summer. Few of the country's 84 skateparks have proved a success and a recent survey claimed that there were only 15,000 skaters left. This has spelled disaster to hundreds of would-be skateboard tycoons. In Cambridge there is still a hard core of skaters who show no sign of losing interest. You can find them most weekends up at the Cheddar's Lane skateboard park. "I wouldn't dream of giving up" said one 14-year-old. "I am at the height of it and I want to get more stuff". But stuff is not cheap; a reasonably sophisticated board and set of protective clothing can set you back as much as £65 78 10 27 (closes Nov 1979) [22.14,22,15]

1978 11 23
Dogs: Milton road course revived & restarts [16.15]

1979 07 27
Squash: New men's Squash club opens – first of kind area [12.1]

1979 11 20
Football: United make £100,000 profit [15.10]

1980

1980 02 04
Tiddlywinks: Cambridge University tiddlywinks club sponsor first world championships singles competition [11.13]

1980 02 23
Golf: Girton Golf club eight-year development ends - extended 18 hole course, clubhouse [16.12]

1980 02 29
Skateboarding: Proposal skateboard rink Barnwell Road

1980 03 28
Football: Cambridge United's dramatic transformation from Fourth Division minnows to a respected Second Division club has brought them to heights undreamed of just a couple of years ago. But the shock resignation of two directors raises nagging doubts. They fear the club might be in danger of over-reaching itself financially. There have been examples of clubs sinking back to the lower reaches of the Football League with players' contracts acting like millstones around their necks. However if they had not taken risks they would not probably have been in the Football League today. 80 03 28b

1980 05 21
Football: United at bottom attendance league [15.12]

1980 07 11
Roller skating: An 11-year-old Fen Ditton girl, Lisa Colclough, has won a British women's title in roller-skating – the sport's youngest-ever national champion. She was also runner-up in figure skating. Roller-skating is run along parallel lines to ice skating – much to seriously for Lisa to take her skates out on the Fen Ditton primary school playground with her friends. They cost £200 a pair and the wheels would soon crack. 80 07 11e

1980 07 30
Skateboarding: Proposed skateboard rink goes to Peterborough instead [17.4]

1980 08 15
Hunting: Trinity Foot Beagles review – 80 08 15

1980 09 02
Football: The first football excursion train to leave Cambridge station in almost three years set off for Wolverhampton packed with United fans hoping to cheer John Docherty's men to a place in the third round of the League Cup. The train was one of the first to use the no-alcohol regulation which British Rail hopes will reduce the incidence of vandalism. There was no problem. No matter who they were – schoolboys, skinheads, middle-aged mothers and fathers – no-one tried any surreptitious supping. 80 09 03a

1980 09 16
Football: Cambridge United is poised to become the first club in Football League history to play a competitive match behind closed doors. The move to curb soccer hooliganism at the Abbey Stadium would involve next season's visit by Chelsea and its notorious fans – should the two teams still be in the Second Division. The move follows troubles at Saturday's match when Chelsea fans urinated in public causing some local supporters to leave in disgust. 80 09 16

1980 12 30
Motor racing: Thomas Orbell, the owner of a garage in Milton Road Cambridge for almost 50 years has died. He was widely-known in motor-racing circles because of his son, David, who won the second round of the Clubmans Register Championship at Brands Hatch in April. He was still involved in engine development for his son's present venture in Formula Three racing. 80 12 30

1980 12 31
Football: This has been a good year for Cambridge United who played Aston Villa, probably the most famous cup side in England, in the FA Cup. There was a mad scramble to tickets; 12,000 lucky fans were treated to a cup thriller and most were happy with a 1-1 draw though United were trimmed 4-1 in the replay. Then they met Wolves in the Football League Cup, beating them over two legs in a performance that brought praise from England manager Ron Greenwood. They went on to beat Aston Villa but then lost to Coventry. 80 12 31a

1981 02 02
Boxing: Cambridgeshire is the centre for illegal bare-knuckle fist-fights; they are straight knockabouts until one of the fighters drops and as much as £3,000 can change hands with single bets of around £50. A fight at Fen Road Chesterton involving two teenage boys from the gypsy fraternity and watched by a noisy crowd of more than 500 was abandoned when police moved in to break up the crowd, some of whom had travelled from all over the country. 81 02 02 [13.4]
Bare-knuckle fights – history – 81 02 03

1981 02 05

Football: Cambridge City Football Club has crippling debts of about £65,000; this financial millstone is a legacy from earlier days when the club had been run without any administrative ability at all. A club, once the pride of Cambridge until United was elected to the Football League in 1969, has now sunk into a virtual backwater. They have gone 40 games without a win and attract about 200 spectators. But they have a ground with a capacity of 17,000 that is the envy of most non-league clubs. 81 02 05b & c

1981 03 11
Cricket: Camden club celebrate centenary, formed 1881 [21.1]

1981 04 08
Cambridge City Football Club hopes to set up an ice rink at their Milton Road ground using synthetic ice. It would be housed in a semi-permanent aluminium and heavy-duty PVC structure which could also be used for five-a-side football, tennis and exhibitions. They hope it will be in place by June and prove a licence to print money 81 04 08

1981 05 09
Dogs: Milton Rd new £100,000 stand packed [16.16]

1981 05 13
Football: 1980-81 was best season in United's history [15.13]

1981 05 26
Football: United make £40,000 loss (last year profit £171,000) due transfer dealings [15.14]

1981 06 19
Shooting: The crack of blazing shotguns was head for the last time at Madingley as Gallyons closed their shooting ground after 70 years. Ernie Johnson has spent his entire working life there and so after 44 years of teaching, advising and correcting the technique of sporting gunmen from all walks of life he is facing his first change of job. The site is surrounded by roads and cannot expand to stage big shoots.81 06 19

1981 06 26
Motor racing: A car sales manager for Salisbury's in Cambridge, Terry Nightingale is swapping his 135 mph Dolomite Sprint for a Mini-Metro. But this will zip along at around 120 mph and should boost his chance of winning the British Saloon Car Championship. He is one of the most successful racing drivers in his class but only races as a hobby. It can cost about £2,000 to take part in one race meeting and he has to rebuild the engine and gearbox after two. 81 06 26

1981 07 03
Skateboarding: another skateboard plan approved [17.5]

1981 07 15
Fishing: It is likely to take more than 10 years to restock a polluted stretch of the River Cam in which hundreds of thousands of fish died. Anglers say that fishing in the city has now been entirely wiped out. Around four tons have been removed from the river near Bait's Bite lock but many are still floating. It is feared that as well as causing a smell, the rotting fish could cause further pollution. It is suspected that raw sewage was washed into the river during heavy rain. 81 07 15a

1981 07 20

Cricket: first women's three-day game, Fenner's [21.2]

1981 10 05
Football: Football hooligans left a trail of destruction after Cambridge United's match against Chelsea. Mobs of youths rampaged through streets hurling bricks, stones and other missiles at police. Windows were smashed in about 30 homes which line the route to the railway station. Now the city council will be urged to provide buses to take supporters to and from the match. 81 10 05a

1982 04 23
Snooker: Snooker has gained a new respectability, operating from high-class, exclusive clubs. Now the Dodgers Snooker and Billiard Club has opened in the old historic Newnham Watermill. It has five new tables of the finest Brazilian mahogany and an antique match table which has been restored to its original condition. With each table weighing over a ton, the floors have been reinforced. Members are issued with a computer-controlled access card with video cameras acting as a double check against gatecrashers. 82 04 23a [17.7]

1982 12 10
Dogs: Cambridge greyhound track has obtained a contract with the Bookmakers' Afternoon Greyhound Service to relay its meetings to bookmaking shops on Tuesdays for 13 weeks. They have installed more security with an anti-doping chromatography unit and veterinary surgeons at each meeting. They also plan to become the only dog track offering a bookmaker service for horse race meetings the same afternoon 81 12 10a

1983 02 18
Football: United in fifth round FA Cup [15.19]

1983 05 10
Football: United plan £6M sports complex [11.9]

1983 08 11
Football: Cambridge United has signed the biggest sponsorship deal in their history with brewery company Ind Coope Benskins. They will be backing the second-division club with a three-year package worth more than £30,000. The Club has also retained a £5,000 per year backing of Norwich Breweries, which holds the franchise for the supports club, and fixed up a new kit sponsorship worth several thousand pounds with Yorkshire sportswear company, Mileta 83 08 11 p1

1983 08 17
Football: George Reilly, Cambridge United's £140,000 record signing, has been sold to First Division Watford for 100,000. The fee is £40,000 less than United paid Northampton for him four years ago, but that reflects the state of the transfer market. The giant Scottish centre forward, who was the club's top scorer last year, has not been at the Abbey since he had pay talks with Manager John Docherty. He had a year of his contract to run and a review of his pay was due in summer 83 08 17 p1 & 83 08 24

1983 09 01
Rowing: Two of Cambridgeshire's oldest boathouses were destroyed in a spectacular blaze; one was owned by the '99 Rowing Club, the other by the CRA. Crowds lined the banks and boat club members who had been drinking in a nearby pub risked their lives trying to save their valuable

boats, flinging them into the river. By midnight only charred shells remained of the two historic landmarks 83 09 01 p1. Foundations of new laid 1984, opened December [22.12]

1983 09 28
Rugby: Grange Road is being lit up as Cambridge University take delivery of a £20,000 present – a complete set of floodlights. The lights, which are the final stage of a campaign to turn Grange Road into one of the best-equipped rugby grounds in the country, have been given to the Light Blues by a firm of London merchant bankers. 83 09 28 p30

1983 10
Football: Cambridge United record £129,000 loss [15.18]

1984 01 20
Football: Cambs FA centenary [15.20]

1984 01 20
Football: Cambridge United have appointed former Norwich City and Luton player, John Ryan, as their new manager. He takes over immediately at the struggling Second Division club. John Cozens, caretaker manager since the sacking of John Docherty will remain for the time being. Ryan takes over a United team who are 10 points adrift at the bottom of the Second Division and looking doomed to relegation after going 20 games without a win 84 01 20 p1

1984 02 01
Football: Planning permission has been given for a £10 million redevelopment scheme for Cambridge City Football Club's ground at Milton Road. The present pitch, greyhound track and stands will be demolished and be replaced by a three-storey block of research and development buildings with an underground car park. The development will guarantee the future of the club 84 02 01 p1

1984 02 13
Football: A police operation on a military scale was necessary to deal with the threat to Cambridge posed by Saturday's match against Chelsea who have some of Britain's most notorious football fans. But most of the trouble came from Cambridge supporters. In a rampage of violence a man's throat was slashed, another was stabbed, two policemen were attacked and 92 people were arrested. Police held at bay a mob of fans who tried to stop them arresting a streaker on the United pitch. Parts of the city were left vulnerable to crime because of police commitments to the match 84 02 13 p11

1984 03
Rowing: Cambridge boat rams barge at start boat race [2.8]

1984 03 12
Football: United relegated from Division Two [16.3]

1984 04 16
Dogs: "No room in new development", greyhound racing finishes 1984 after 16 years, was launched to save debt-ridden Milton Road in 1968 [16.17]

1984 04 24
Swimming: Plan to sell Parkside Pool for private development for water leisure centre [24.2]

1984 05 22
Football: One of the landmarks of Cambridge's skyline has gone. Cambridge City football club's floodlights were pulled down as demolition men clear the ground in preparation for the construction of a science park. West Ham played at Milton Road to mark the erection of the lights when City entered the Southern League in 1958. Work has also started on pulling down the two stands as the club moves its ground to an area at the far end. 84 05 22 p34

1984 06 02
Tennis: Young Cambridge tennis starlet, Ginny Humphreys-Davies has become a British champion for a second time. The 12-year-old St Mary's Convent pupil overcame an attack of nerves to win the Prudential hard-court championships in Edinburgh. Cambridge now has two British junior tennis champions following Teresa Catlin's victory in the under-14 age group last year 84 06 02 p1

1984 07 02
Cycling: City centre cycling starts [21.9]

1984 10 26
Football: The symbol of Cambridge City Football Club's rebuilding programme has risen from the ground at Milton Road. The new pitch is down, the lights are up but there won't be soccer action there until the turn of the year. Then there will be the prospect of real comfort for the 400 or so who will be able to watch from the new stand. In addition to changing and other rooms there will be a social club and café and even a glass-fronted viewing room for directors and guests 84 10 26 p44

1984 12 10
Rowing: After losing its boathouse in a spectacular fire 15 months ago, the Cambridge '99 Rowing Club is now celebrating the completion of its attractive replacement. Fortunately none of the club's eights were in the boathouse at the time of the fire. The club takes its name from the year it was founded and Banhams, the then well-known boat builders supplied the first clinker eight in 1949 to mark their golden jubilee. At the same time they were the first local club to buy a new eight. This has just been refurbished and is returning to the river looking nearly as handsome as it did in its heyday. 84 12 10

1984 12 13
Football: Cambridge United have sacked manager John Docherty, ending his reign at the John Ryan appointed Abbey Stadium as the longest-serving soccer boss in the Second Division. His dismissal comes after 10 weeks in which United have not won a match and have slumped deep into the relegation zone. He came to Cambridge as part-time coach in September 1976 and steered them though the Third Division campaign of 1977-78 after Ron Atkinson left. But unlike his extrovert predecessor his low key style failed to capture the imagination of fans who have been clamouring for his dismissal for at least 18 months 83 12 13 p1 [15.21-22]

1985
Cricket: St Giles cricket club centenary [21.3]

1985 01 05
Football: Controversy surrounded the result of the first game of foot-the-ball played since 1946: it was either a 13-all draw or 13-14 to the Ditton Players. More than 400 people turned up on Parker's Piece to watch the contest between the Players, in Edwardian dress and the Ditton Irregulars. Amongst them was the son of the game's inventor, the late Prof Bill Howell who

organised the first match between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The match is played like football except that it has three balls and 15 players to a side 85 01 05

1985 01 05
American football: Cambridge County Cats formed [11.10]

1985 02 25
Roller skating: Artistic roller skating was demonstrated at the Kelsey Kerridge Sports Hall. Most of the skaters started when the Bury St Edmunds Rollerbury opened three years ago and since then several groups have been formed in village halls. Gail Jolley of Soham took up artistic skating with her daughter Laura and has already passed three exams. Eventually it is hoped it will become recognised as an Olympic Sport 85 02 25

1985 02 26
Football: Cambridge United Manager John Ryan was sacked last night by David Ruston, the club chairman who himself reportedly resigned earlier in the day. His 403-day reign has seen United win only seven out of 50 matches. Hopes had been high when he was appointed as the natural successor to the former boss Ron Atkinson. He balanced the books and cut the wage bill. But a patchwork team of youngsters aided by a few old heads continued to slide to the bottom of the Third Division, disillusionment set in on the terraces and the drift away sabotaged the gate figures leaving the Directors little choice 85 02 26 & a

1985 05 24
Athletics: May get new track, city, university & private interest] hope running track, sports hall, indoor artificial playing surface, swimming pool; £6M scheme gets go-ahead Wilberforce Rd, plan open 1989 [12.7]

1985 06 03
American Football: American football came to Cambridge with all the razzmatazz and fun which makes it a real family affair across the Atlantic. The air was filled with the smell of quarter-pounders, the sun blazed down Californian-style and even the lady selling fan club paraphernalia was saying 'Have a nice day' as Cambridge Cats made their home debut against Basingstoke Cavaliers at the Cambridge City Stadium in Milton Road. No-one had thought to provide any popcorn and there were no Budweisers but the 600 spectators enjoyed the game. 85 06 03

1985 06 14
Fishing: Cambridge Fish Preservation & Angling Society centenary, founded as Jolly Anglers [21.11]

1985 08 19
Cricket: "Fenner's traditionally the venue for the first fixture of English first-class season" [21.4]

1985 10 02
Football: United bottom Division Four [16.6]

1985 11 26
Tiddlywinks: world championship held at Churchill college – 85 11 26a & b

1985 12 21
Football: Chris Turner appointed United manager [16.9]

1986 02 28
Football: Cambridge City Council loan United £40,000: relegation Div.2-3 cost £78,000 in gate receipts [16.7-8]

1986 03 11
Tiddlywinks: players competed for the Prince Philip Silver Wink, the universities annual championship established by the prince in 1961. Cambridge University developed the now internationally-accepted rules in 1955. Each game lasts 25 minutes and there are five complete rounds to shoot. The most important skill is 'squoping' – the art of covering up winks. A Varsity match was established against Oxford University in 1958 but in this year's competition Cambridge was beaten by Southampton despite having a world record number of players to choose from 86 03 11a

1986 07 28
Athletics: David Morgan wins Commonwealth Gold medal, light heavy-weight lifting [11.11]

1986 10 30
Football: Cambridge United got their reward for beating Ipswich with a draw against First Division giants, Tottenham Hotspur in the Littlewoods Cup. The Spurs team includes England internationals Glenn Hoddle and Chris Waddle, Belgian superstar Nico Claesen and Argentinean World Cup star Osvaldo Ardiles. The dream fixture will pack the Abbey Stadium with more than 10,000 fans. Ticket prices will be raised to £8 for seats and £5 for the terraces. 86 10 30 & 30a

1986 11 26
Golf: Girton Golf Club celebrated its 50th anniversary. It has come a long way since the days when a special rule had to be introduced to cope with the sheep grazing on the greens. It was founded in 1936 by Scottish professional Allan Gow as a privately run organisation. Membership was three guineas for gentlemen and a round of the nine-hole course cost one shilling and sixpence. The course flooded several times a year and members squelched across water-logged fairways for most of the winter. In summer they had to negotiate huge cracks when the ground dried out. 86 11 26c

1987
Swimming: Multi-million plan for leisure sports & tourist hotel linking Sports Hall & Swimming Pool; Parkside pool losing £1,000 per day [NS.1.8]

1987 02 06
Football: Cambridge United has turned the corner financially under the leadership of manager Chris Turner. Last season's Fourth Division failure left the club with a massive debt of £122,000. But the six months to last November showed a profit of around £40,000, putting them on their way to the best financial figures since their Second Division heyday seven years ago. After having to apply for re-election to the League they reached the Fourth Round of the Littlewoods Cup, earning a money-spinning match against Tottenham Hotspur and their gates are up by an average of 1,000 per game. As well as the club lottery the Lotto and Lifeline has also made a big contribution 87 02 06

1987 02 27
Football: Cambridge United are aiming to build a major office complex at the Abbey Stadium in a bid to win their battle for soccer survival. The idea is to provide office space over the car park adjoining Newmarket Road which would produce £30,000 a year. Other options are to seek help

from the city council or consider part-time football. Chairman David Ruston told shareholders that he might quit unless the club's cash position improves. 87 02 27

1987 08 05
Skateboarding: A group of enterprising skateboard fans have set up their own club and raised £800 (£1,840 today) to buy ramps to skate on. They have been loaned £400 by Townsends toy and cycle shop and have saved the rest. Now they are looking for new members to join the club which will be based on Heath Farm, Shelford Bottom. Charles Bradford, whose parents run the farm, said "There is nowhere in Cambridge for us to skate. We have even had to go to London to find somewhere". Membership will be £10 per year. 87 08 05a

1987 08 13
Swimming: A News reporter visited Cambridge's three main swimming pools. First stop was the Abbey outdoor pool where each morning attendants try to remove the frogs which hop into the water from a nearby ditch overnight. The changing room is a bench behind a hut and the water felt like freshly-melted ice. Jesus Green may only have 20-30 swimmers a day but they are real regulars, including Arthur Mansfield, 77, who swims a quarter of a mile most days as he has since 1922. Then I followed the smell of the chlorine to Parkside Pool which was the hottest but far from enjoyable 87 08 13a & b

1987 09 04
Skateboarding: Skateboarding is back! The old Skate Park at Cheddars Lane was awful, the transitions were bad and you could feel every bump. But Billy's Ramp Skate Club at Shelford Bottom is completely different allowing newer, better tricks practised by dedicated skateboarders determined to be 'rad' and not 'lame'. The right gear is a must. Outrageously decorated T-shirts, below-the-knee Bermuda shorts, baseball-style boots and the essential protective helmet, wrist-guards, knee and elbow pads are all hallmarks of a hip skateboarder.87 09 04a

1988 02 03
Rowing: College boatmen restore and repair rowing eights and fours which are easily damaged during practice or racing. They fix shoes, slides and stretchers needing attention. The number of boats has doubled since women's rowing came into its own. Alf Twin is 72 and for 53 years worked at the Cambridge University Boat Club. He served his seven year apprenticeship under the senior boatman, 'Cooey' Phillips, watching his master by day and attending classes at night. It was much more of a gentleman's sport in those days. Now the crews train harder and the boats are changing from wooden to plastic. 88 02 03a & b

1988 03 17
Swimming: Parkside swimming pool plans for water sports complex – 88 03 17a

1988 06 24
Football: Sainsbury's hopes to buy Cambridge United's famous Abbey Stadium for a DIY superstore and give the club a new ground, perhaps at the former Blue Circle cement works site off Coldham's Lane. The Abbey site covers four acres and United have already put forward plans to develop the car park for offices. Trafford Park Estates have won permission to build four office blocks on the front of the Cambridge City ground, three of which are already half-let. 88 06 24

1988 08 25
Football: Joint city/United stadium planned ¢CEN 25.8.88

1988 10 20

Athletics: Coe & Cram run round Trinity Gt Court ¢CEN 20.10.88

1988 11 02
Athletics: A new university sports complex off Madingley Road will cater for every level from general recreation to high-performance athletes. The first phase will include a 10-lane Olympic-standard synthetic athletics track with field events facilities and a pavilion. Later there will be a 34-metre swimming pool with a deep-water full-size international water polo court. A sports hall, rowing, training tank, combat salle, dance studio, squash and fives court and table tennis facilities will follow 88 11 02; planners reject ¢CEN 15.6.89

1989 02 15
Football: Cambridge United income drops 40% ¢CEN 15.2.89
1989 04 22
Swimming: £1m plan convert Parkside swimming pool into water leisure centre scrapped ¢CEN 22.4.89. Labour to press ahead with Parkside pool scheme ¢CEN 24.4.89

1989 06 26
Snooker: Cambridge Snooker Club is to close after five years because of redevelopment. Memberships will be transferred to Frames in Coldham's Lane, a popular social & sports mecca. Each has 800 members and 20 tables 89 06 26

1989 06 28
Athletics: Two internationally-known developers plan a giant new sports complex sprawling over 40 acres between King's Hedges and the northern bypass. It would have a wide range of indoor and outdoor facilities including an indoor pool and an athletics track for public use. It is on land soon to be removed from the green belt, close to the site of the new Regional College. The scheme comes after planners snubbed a £20 million scheme by Cambridge University to build a sports complex in the west of the city. 89 06 28

1990

1990 02 10
Football: Secret talks are under way for Cambridge United to move to a site on farmland at Teversham. The news comes only a day after it was revealed the club lost £98,000 last year and Chris Turner was sacked as general manager. If the club moves from the ground it has occupied since the 1920s it would allow the sale of the Abbey Stadium site for housing or commercial development. This would realise enough cash for the new venture 90 02 10a Fans views – 90 02 15c

1990 05 24
International standard University sports complex planned for west Cambridge – 90 05 24a

1990 05 28
Football: Cambridge United promoted to Third Division following Wembley win – 90 05 28a, c

1990 06 05
Football: Cambridge United celebrate winning place in Third Division, open-top bus in Market Hill – 90 06 05, b

1990 09 11
Football: Cambridge football clubs could have new home at Chesterton sidings – plan – 90 09 11

1990 09 18
Leisure facilities plan including ice-skating, roller skating and ten-pin bowling at Histon Road may be shelved – 90 09 18

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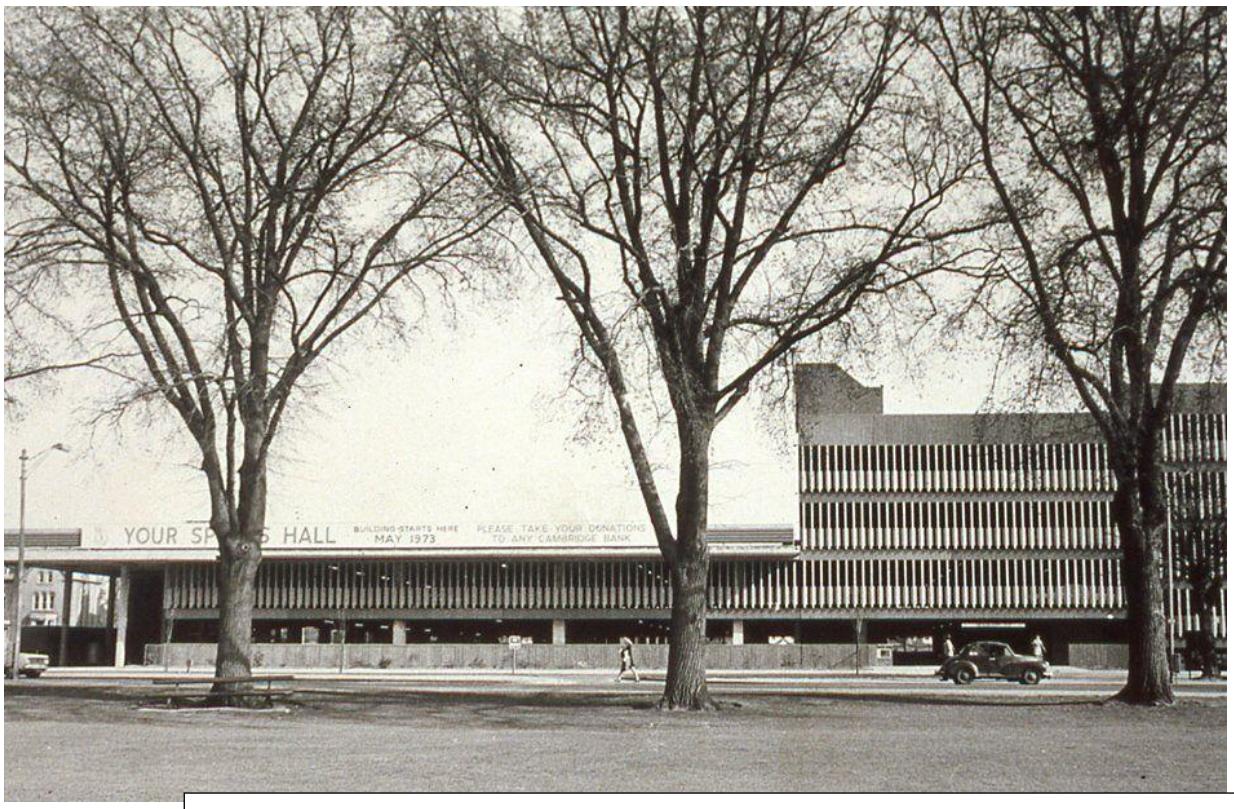

Queen Anne Terrace Sports Hall 165.39

c.38 : Sports A-Z

Sports Hall

1975 12 05
Opened officially by Princess Anne, was deferred by Government in 1969 who refused permission borrow money, appointed fund raiser; [23.6]

1975 10 17
Attempt to use for discos etc blocked as competition for Corn Exchange [23.7]

1976 01 17
Burden on rates soars - losses [23.8]

1976 02 09
First attempt at own concert flops,

1976 02 09
Poor acoustics, amplification & atmosphere, "I feel like I am singing in a morgue" - Julie Felix; but Spinners & Stephan Grapelli sell out [23.9]

1977 04 27
"I've never worked in an aircraft hanger before" - Eric Morcambe;

1981 08 28
£100,000 loss [23.10]

1986 09 14
Leaking roof needs £46,000 repairs [23.11]

Marathon Competitors, King's Parade c1900 *99.01*

c.38 : Athletics
Includes running, marathons

188-
Charlie Rowell long-distance champion – feature – 60 01 07b

1880 02 13
Champion runner Mike Newton came to Folk Museum Cambridge in search of a legend. There he was able to wear a belt won 100 years ago by Charlie Rowell, the 'Long Distance Champion of the World. He first won it at Madison Square Garden, New York in 1879 and went on to gain it outright with three six-day wins in succession the following year. Charlie's record of running 258 miles in 48 hours has remained unbeaten for over 100 years. 82 02 13a

1902 03 21
The fifth annual race promoted by the Cambridge Cross County Union was decided over the county course. The competitors having been photographed were send on their journey. The Champion of the County, F. Hewish was the first man home. C.A. Mitchell ran well for the second place and H.H. Stacey was third. The Albert Institute Harriers who won the first race in 1898 got all their men home in the first seven CDN 1902 03 21

1905
Marathon race Milton Road school to Stretham bridge & return held (last one) [5.12]

1906 09 22
The family of Rowell has long been identified with sport in Cambridge. Now Edward Rowell, a cousin of one time Go-as-you-please Champion, 'Charlie', is making a name for himself as an

all-round athlete in Australia where he has won enough money to secure a fine business: one match over hurdles brought him £300. He added to his reputation as a footballer and when that season ended he took up cricket, being voted the best batsman in West Australia. 06 09 22

1908 12 25
The Boxing Day Costermonger's Marathon Race started from Abbey Street with each competitor pushing a barrow to the Bottisham Swan (a distance of six miles) and back. Performances of the romantic drama 'From Shop Girl to Duchess' at the New Theatre appealed to many, while there were cinematograph exhibitions at the Guildhall and at Sturton Town Hall CWN 08 12 25

1908 08 07
Mammoth Show weather will soon be a synonym for a cloudless sky and a balmy atmosphere. There have been five of these huge exhibitions on successive August Bank Holidays attracting thousands of visitors to Midsummer Common and discouraging Cambridge residents from scampering off to other places. There were competitions for dogs, poultry, cage birds and fancy rats together with athletics and motor cycle races. CEN 08 08 07

1908 04 25
In all probability we have seen the last athletic flat race meeting in Cambridge. After struggling for several years the Liberal Athletic Union received one last blow in with the poorest attendance on record. For a large gate at least cycle races, and perhaps motor races, are required but the University will not permit these at Fenner's although similar cinder tracks are used for both. The weather did not help with three inches of snow on the ground in the morning. But the sun shone with great power and the track dried. 08 04 25a & b [6.28]

1909
football : Cambridge schoolboy football starts with formation of Cambridge Schoolboys Athletic Association [4.14]

1909 09 03
'Charlie' Rowell, one of the greatest long-distance runners the world has ever seen, died at his residence in King Street. In the days when six-day races were popular Rowell was a name to conjure in two continents. He won races innumerable, won a cart-load of trophies and cash prizes to an enormous value. He paid several visits to America where on one occasions his opponents drugged his food but he still finished second! CWN 09 09 03 Runner : 100 miles in 13 hrs.26m.30s.; 200 miles 35.9.28; 300 58.17.6; won 'Long distance champion of world' belt USA 1879; set 48 hour 257ª miles - oldest running record, lasted over 100 years; year before died took part in professional marathon, was out of training & fell out but strain contributed to death, for 6 months an invalid [12.5]

1909 12 31
The Costermongers Boxing Day Marathon race was run between East Road and Bottisham and back. It is open to men who earn their living by hawking and the fact that 17 came forward with their barrows in such unfavourable conditions says a good deal for their hardiness.. Soon mud began to bespatter the runners. Tom Nunn took the lead in the outward journey but was finally beaten by Sam George CWN 09 12 31

1913
Borough police athletic society sports the most successful held [7.17]

1914 01 02

There were animated scenes along the road between Cambridge and Bottisham on Boxing Day when the annual Costers' Marathon took place. A big crowd saw the 14 competitors start from Abbey Street. They had to travel to Bottisham and back, a distance of 11 miles, pushing a coster's barrow before them. Ben Warren led practically all the way covering the distance to Bottisham rapidly, but facing the wind on the return leg left all competitors severely tired. Most finished and received half-a-crown. 14 01 02c pic 14 01 02d costermongers race : last one held [2.10]

1919 11
H.M. Abrahams wins Freshman's sports 100 yards, mile & long jump [2.18]

1923 05 24
An attendance of upwards of 5000 at the first athletics meeting held on the Town Football Club's ground, Milton road, may be regarded as entirely satisfactory. The first part of the day was taken up with six-a-side football. The various races were keenly contested on a track which made the cyclists very cautious. In two of the races there were two nasty spills. Sir Douglas Newton presented the Invicta cycle to Mr Fuller of Shelly row, who was the fortunate winner of a handsome machine given to the purchaser of a ticket before the day of the event. The proud processor was apparently not a cyclist, for he wheeled it around the track, notwithstanding that the spectators invited him to "jump on and ride" 23 05 24

1924
H.M. Abrahams won 100 metres at Olympics [12.4]

1928
Lord Burghley won 400 metres, D.G.A. Lower 800 metres at Olympics [12.4]

1936 03 21
Harry Pitt of Manor Cottage, Church Road has written recalling 'The Walking Lady of Chesterton'. "She walked for a wager 'a thousand miles in a thousand hours' in a private garden in Church Street, Chesterton 60 years ago. I have been told that she walked in tights with high-topped boots, a jockey's cap and whip in hand. The story goes that she kept up her one mile per hour, walking day and night until she completed her task and won the wager." Other readers may enlighten us still further 36 03 21c

1936 03 28
Charles Rowell running recollections – 36 03 28b

1943 07 23
Athletics ground needed – long overdue – 43 07 23

1946
Athletics : Cambridge city athletics club reformed [4.9]

1947
Harold Abraham, Olympic champion in 1920, 24 & 28 appointed Regional Controller of Ministry of Town & Country planning at Cambridge [3.11]

1950 02 28
Athletics : Chris Brasher, St Johns wins University mile in 4 minutes 27.7 seconds [3.10]

1954 06 08

New Whit-Monday gala - sports, 3,000 attend [5.11, 5.20]

1957 01 14
Local sportsmen gathered to pay tribute to Stanley Martin who is retiring as secretary of the Cambridgeshire Amateur Athletics Association after 25 years. In that time nine members have represented their country, five of them in the Olympic Games, and 13 Cambridge University Blues have also come from the Association's ranks. In 1925 they went to Joshua Taylor's to buy coloured vests but found they had only white ones in stock. So they had to buy some blue and green straw-hat ribbons to use as distinguishing sashes - colours they have used ever since. 57 01 14 & 14a

1959 11 27
New Cambridge University track; first time CU athletics match not held at Fenner's which has oldest cinder track in world; opened 1846, c 1867 cinder track laid [12.4] Milton Road new athletics track opened – 59 11 27d

1963 02 23
Despite appalling conditions the national cross-country championships attracted more than 250 runners to the Coldham's Common course. The race started near the old rifle butts with a dash through ice-fields and bumpy ground towards the gas works, over a bridge built by the Territorial Army then past the Whitehill Estate, keeping to the rough of the Priory School playing fields to the railway bridge. Then runners were on the course proper. A special trains was laid on from Liverpool Street with buses to Coleridge School 63 02 23a 63 03 04 & a

1967 06 14
Cambridge "do away with Fenner's cinder track" [13.7]

1972 03 13
Cross-country: international championship held Cambridge [12.6]

1972 09 29
Magdalene college closes sports ground - too expensive to maintain [11.4]

1985 05 24
May get new track, city, university & private interest] hope running track, sports hall, indoor artificial playing surface, swimming pool; £6M scheme gets go-ahead Wilberforce Rd, plan open 1989 [12.7]

1986 07 28
David Morgan wins Commonwealth Gold medal, light heavy-weight lifting [11.11]

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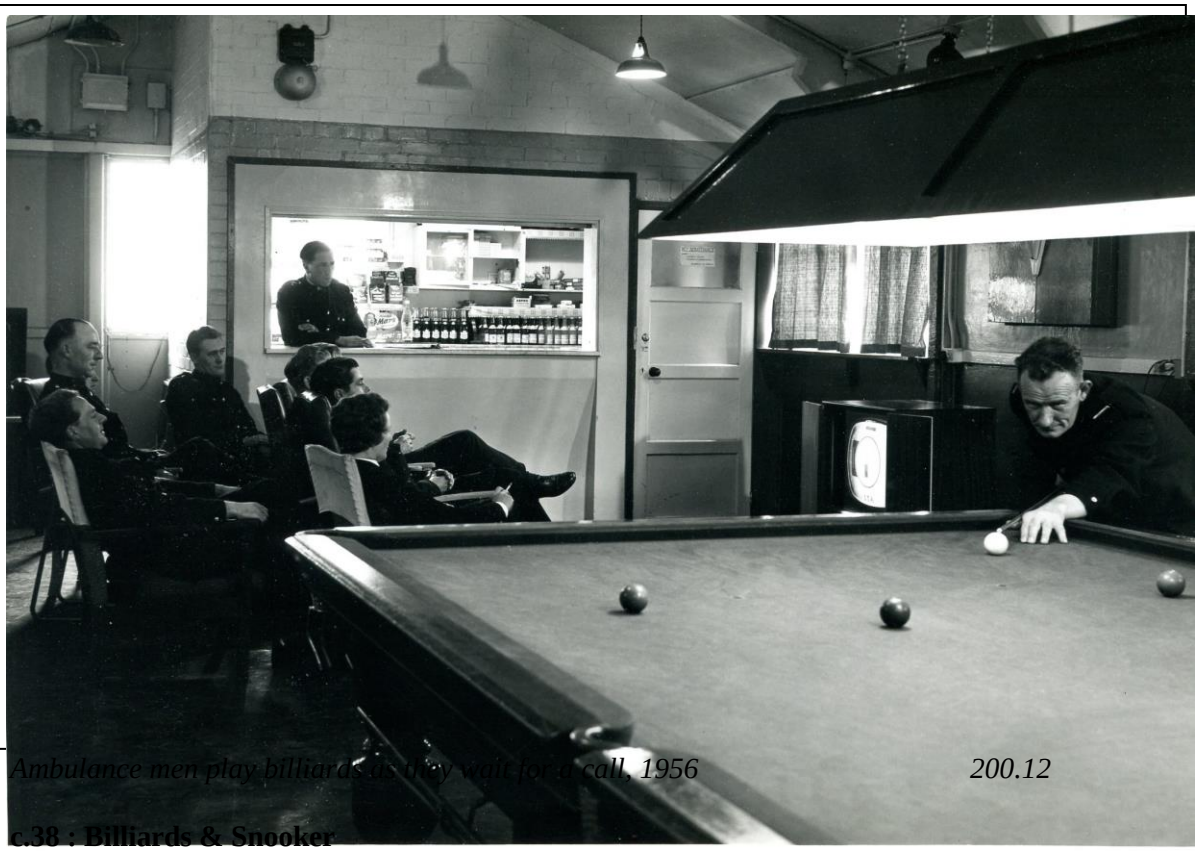

Ambulance men play billiards as they wait for a call, 1956 *200.12*

c.38 : Billiards & Snooker

1906 12 29
Hudson's brewery applied for the transfer of the licence of the Golden Fleece, Ram Yard, an old beer-house attached to Brown's billiard rooms, which years ago was a celebrated resort of University billiard players. The house had been closed for eight months but now there was a new tenant. Some days ago it was refused, but now it was granted. 06 12 29a

1911
Billiards : challenge match played [4.17]

1912
Billiards league set up [4.17]

1913 10 17
Billiard league first annual meeting 13 10 17 p10 CIP

1938 02 04
Joe Davis' billiards club - women's world champ [1.2]

1954 04 14
Since the inauguration of the C.D.N. Snooker Cup for the amateur championship of Cambridgeshire in 1946, only three names have previously been inscribed on this coveted trophy. Now that of L.T. Ambrose has joined the names of P.G.T. Hughes, A.L. Batterbee and R.E.

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Williams. In the final he beat W. Philpott through superior tactical play. Philpott played the bolder type of snooker and at times got in some delightful pots. He was always prepared to go for 'near impossible' shots and twice got two glorious pinks only to see the white disappearing also. But Ambrose relied on the 'safety first' motto, which in the end paid dividends. 54 04 14

1982 04 23
Snooker has gained a new respectability, operating from high-class, exclusive clubs. Now the Dodgers Snooker and Billiard Club has opened in the old historic Newnham Watermill. It has five new tables of the finest Brazilian mahogany and an antique match table which has been restored to its original condition. With each table weighing over a ton, the floors have been reinforced. Members are issued with a computer-controlled access card with video cameras acting as a double check against gatecrashers. 82 04 23a [17.7]

1989 06 26
Cambridge Snooker Club is to close after five years because of redevelopment. Memberships will be transferred to Frames in Coldham's Lane, a popular social & sports mecca. Each has 800 members and 20 tables 89 06 26

Bowls on Christs Pieces, 1940s *86.179*

c.38 : Bowls

1911
Part of Christ's Pieces opened [7.14]

1919
Romsey green laid; Romsey bowls club formed 1922 [13.3]

1922 05
Romsey recreation ground bowling green opened [2.20]

1925 05
Christ's Pieces bowling green opened [3.6]

1925 12
County bowling association formed [3.8]

1927 06
First County bowls match in Cambridge [4.3]

1928 09

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Bowls : £3,000 scheme for improvement announced [4.6]

1929 06
Bowls : 2 Cumberland turf greens, 1st in district, opened Brooklands Avenue [4.7]

1933 10 13
Indoor bowling green Brooklands Ave opened, one of first in country [1.7,13.1]

1939 07 25
Waterworks Company new bowling green opened, the only one with an air raid shelter – 39 07 25

1957 07 17
Cambridgeshire Women's Bowling Association was founded in 1937. Now their new flag in the County colours of light and dark blue and old gold was hoisted for the first time at a bowls drive at Brooklands Avenue to celebrate its 21st anniversary. 57 07 17

1958 01 31
New bowls club for ladies – 58 01 31

1967 11 07
Chesterton Bowls Club was founded in 1931 with HQ in Milton Road. The lease expires next year; now found new site on St Andrew's Road – 67 11 07a; 67 12 30

1974 09 21
The opening of Cambridge's new indoor bowls centre at Chesterton brings to a climax many months of work by a group of bowlers who can now boast the only six-rink indoor green in the country. Sited next to their outdoor green in Logan's Way, the impressive new building is the next best thing to bowling on a warm summer's day. Already there are 400 bowlers on the membership lists and secretary N. Harper-Scott says there is still room for more 74 09 21

1977 08 29
Chesterton open £80,000 indoor rink [13.2]

c.38 : bowls, 10 pin

1961 11 10
A London company who hope to build a 24-lane ten-pin bowling centre on land at the 'Willows' in Chesterton has offered to pay the expenses of any residents wishing to see their Stamford Hill, London, facilities. There would be a social centre and bowling alley with restaurant and snack bar as well as a nursery for the babies while their parents play. The centres are well-run, clean and open, giving very little trouble, they claim 61 11 10

1962 01 15
Plans for a 24-lane ten-pin bowling centre to be built on The Willows site at Cam Road have been rejected. Planners say it would be out of character in a residential area and should be located near a community centre or shops. The application by Contemporary Homes Ltd for a bowling centre with restaurant and a place where parents could leave their children had brought objections from local householders. 62 01 15c 17.13

1964 01 07

Plans for a 24-lane ten-pin bowling alley on Mill Road have been approved subject to conditions that the premise should be closed between midnight and 8am. It would include a snack bar, changing rooms, kitchen and offices. But now developers want to extend the project to include either a dance floor or ice-rink, a public house with flat over, service station with office and parking for 150 cars. 64 01 07

1965 04 08
Tenpin bowling alley, Mill Road to open; one of principal recreation places in city – 65 04 08c

1970 02 17
Tenpin bowling rink, Mill Road, shuts down suddenly by Magnet Bowling who opened it in 1965, had been running at loss for 3 years – 70 02 17

Boxing match, 1950s

200.13

c.38 : Boxing

1907 06 22
Wrestlers' Arms reminiscence – boxing – 07 06 22d

1909 04 16
In a shoeing forge at Northampton Street, Cambridge, is to be seen a massive silver cup, the trophy of the Middle Weight Amateur Boxing Championships for 1909. In the same forge is a young smith, a splendid specimen of manhood with arms and legs of remarkable development. He is Mr William Child who for two years has carried off the Middle Weight Championship of England 09 04 16

1910 02 11
Harry Cox of King Street was an old pugilist who learnt in a hard school where gloves were regarded as unnecessary. He started in a travelling fairground booth but when he visited Midsummer Fair decided to settle in Cambridge. He took part in many open-air fights without the sanction of the law which were witnessed by large numbers. Pupils from the University attended his rooms at the Green Lion in Short Street and later at the Royston Arms, Jesus Lane. "Professor Cox" also gave lessons at St John's and other colleges and several University champions passed through his hands including T. Milvain of Trinity Hall who was heavyweight champion of All England in 1868-69 and is now Judge Advocate General. 10 02 11c

1924 04 02

Many local boxing enthusiasts will learn with regret that the death has occurred of Cox Griffiths, the wrestling and boxing champion. His record at wrestling was a lengthy and creditable one. He had met several champions on the music hall stage. By trade he was a blacksmith and a toolmaker but he was perhaps best known as University instructor. For 20 years he was a publican in Cambridge and recently carried on business as a bottle merchant and general dealer 24 04 02

1932 06 07
Stan Waller, the Cambridge middle-weight boxer and one of the best in the country, has returned from a tour to South Africa designed to re-establish boxing in the public taste, for they have gone all-in-wrestling mad. He beat Eddie McGuire, the South African champion in a bout in Johannesburg. Meanwhile Cambridge had its first taste of open-air boxing with a tournament on the Town Football Ground promoted by Arthur Waller 32 06 07a aa b

1933 04 07
The early days of the Cambridge Amateur Boxing Club were recalled by W. Child, the well-known referee. They began by buying a second-hand pair of gloves and fighting under a street lamp until chased by a policeman. Then they hired a washhouse and met in various public houses. The club had passed through hard times and been near to pawning everything they had. But the fighting had always been clean in the best sporting spirit. On one occasion two Princes had attended a contest at the Corn Exchange to see their chauffeur box. 33 04 07 & a

1937 08 14
Boxing almost defunct in Cambridge – cartoon 37 08 14b

1938 06 03
Boxing : Boon wins boxing championship [1.3]

1939 02 24
Boxing : Boon retains title [1.1]

1944 04 08
Boxing : Eric Boon stars in film "Champagne Charlie" [1.21]

1949
Amateur Boxing Association reformed 1949 in former PoW camp chapel, Coldham's Lane [11.5]

1961 10 27
In a former prisoner-of-war camp chapel in Coldham's Lane members of the Cambridge Amateur Boxing Association celebrated the start of a new season by flailing themselves, and each other, almost to husks. Membership is restricted only by the inability to pay the annual subscription – boxing ability is immaterial. Boys from the age of seven are provided with equipment and training and competitive bouts begin at the age of 11. One lad accumulated a host of silver-ware but became too successful as officials were unable to find anyone who would fight him 61 10 27

1962 09 26
Cambridge Amateur Boxing Club is seeking for a piece of land on which it can build a gymnasium in place of their headquarters in Henley Road. They have more new members than at any time in their history and have collected over £2,000 towards a new building which will include kitchen and seating accommodation. In addition the club's President, Arthur Cooper, has

promised a brand new £100 ring. The season opens with a fixture against the University at the Corn Exchange with another in the Drill Hall, East Road 62 09 26b

1981 02 02
Cambridgeshire is the centre for illegal bare-knuckle fist-fights; they are straight knockabouts until one of the fighters drops and as much as £3,000 can change hands with single bets of around £50. A fight at Fen Road Chesterton involving two teenage boys from the gypsy fraternity and watched by a noisy crowd of more than 500 was abandoned when police moved in to break up the crowd, some of whom had travelled from all over the country. 81 02 02 [13.4]

1981 02 03
Bare-knuckle fights – history – 81 02 03

Night climbers with equipment,1930s *136.67*

c.38 : Climbing / Night Climbing

1905 09 09
It is seldom that a Cambridge tradesman, in the short time he can allow himself for a holiday, undertakes such a hazardous venture as that successful accomplished by Mr Alphonso Smith. He has succeeded in ascending Mont Blanc only to find the little observatory on the summit so covered with snow that he could not find the door. It was so bitterly cold that he made only a very short stay. He has no wish to make a second ascent. 05 09 09 & a

1908 03 14
Undergraduates climb Backs trees, roped together in Alpine fashion - 08 03 14

1908 06 05
There has been an Alpine fever amongst undergraduates, finding a vent in climbing trees along the Backs. The wireless telegraphy station on the Huntingdon Road has been the site of the latest exploit. This is a pole over 200 feet in height which receives messages from Cumnor Hill near Oxford. Two undergraduates merrily commenced the ascent by means of the metal spikes driven in at convenient intervals and managed to reach the top. But the return voyage was not so easily accomplished and they reached terra firma with a distinct sigh of relief. It is a matter for common wonder what object will next receive the attention of this strange species. CWN 08 06 05 p5

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1922 06 03
Roof escapades by undergraduates have been numerous of late and the missing prehistoric fish weather vane on the Geological Museum dome is the outcome of one of those. Another high altitude "rag" took place recently when handkerchiefs and clothing were tied to one of the towers of King's Chapel. A story has been told that a proposal of marriage was made and accepted on a college roof during a nocturnal excursion in which undergraduate students of the fair sex took part. Can it be that this story was circulated to try and throw the blame on the ladies for removing the prehistoric fish? 22 06 03

1924 01 26
A particularly sad story was related to the Cambridge coroner when an inquiry was held into the death of a 18 year old student at Girton College. The girl, who was stated to be fond of rock climbing, attempted to ascend the Tower of the college with the intention of seeing an owls nest. Apparently she slipped and fell to the ground. From the injuries sustained to her legs she evidently alighted on her feet, which goes to prove that she hung on somewhere for a moment before she fell. Before she died she had said, "I so wanted to see the little owls" 24 01 26

1932 05 18
Overnight two unfurled umbrellas were securely tied to the pinnacles of King's College chapel so they stood straight up. The college called a window cleaner to remove them, but despite his long ladder he was unable to get within ten feet. Two undergraduates went on the roof with shotguns and endeavoured to shoot them down. One fell but the other proved more difficult. The shots knocked the handle sideways. For some hours it floated gracefully from side to side in the wind like some gigantic weathercock. 32 05 18

1932 05 21
The inner history of the King's College roof-climbing escapade has been revealed. The hazardous feat was carried out by two parties of undergraduates, including several-well known athletes, who are members of a secret organisation composed of skilled mountain climbers. They used the lightning conductor which has been loosened by previous generations of climbers. It is the climax of a series of climbs during the past few months; now they proposed to publish detailed accounts of their exploits 32 05 21

1932 05 24
Night-climbers Kings chapel & Eton – 32 05 24

1932 06 01
The 'Brighter Roofs for Colleges' movement is growing. Overnight at Ridley Hall two cords were stretched from one of the college towers. On them pyjamas, pyjamas and still more pyjamas were floating in the wind. Large ones, small ones, brightly-coloured and silk examples were proudly swaying in the breeze and in the middle was suspended a parson's hat. After they had been lowered to the ground their various owners joined in a frantic scramble for their particular pairs which had been removed from their rooms. 32 06 01a

1932 06 02
King's nightclimbing – brolly removed – 32 06 02

1932 06 06
Nightclimbing craze spreads to Emmanuel – 32 06 06d

1933 06 13
The roof-climber who 'pinched' the two weathervanes off the Squire Law Library building seems to have had an attack of conscience, for the missing cock and fish were replaced last night. But they also left tasteful decorations and souvenirs in the shape of two sherry bottles at each end of an arch high over the entrance to the Geological Museum. They are said to be full and so act as 'bait' to other scalers of walls and roofs. 33 06 13

1935 02 11
At Trinity Hall porters were busy pulling down a motley assortment of bedroom and bathroom utensils which had mysterious appeared on the roof and pinnacles of the college. Water jugs, tied to the roof with gay scarves, formed a large part of the amateur decorators' efforts, but even an armchair somehow got on to the roof and caused no small trouble in getting in down. The college say it was 'just a bit of sport' and have not discovered the identity of the persons responsible 35 02 11a

1936 03 14
Undergraduates last night hazardously climbed to the roof of Emmanuel College North Court and decorated six chimneys with chamber pots. They were removed by Mr S. Burgess of Messrs Prime's the builders who is often called in to remove various objects placed in inaccessible positions by exuberant undergraduates. "Some of them can run up brick walls", he said: one took off his shoes and went down a wall by means of his feet and hands alone to remove a gown that had been placed in a particularly difficult spot. 36 03 14

1936 04 27
Some members of King's College went mountaineering last night. A Union Jack and the Abyssinian emblem were fixed to the pinnacles at the east end of the chapel with a large banner slung between them bearing the words 'Save Ethiopia". The flags were still flying during the morning but the banner was blown down by the wind. A man who was astir early claimed to have seen four undergraduates climbing up at four o'clock. Unfortunately he was unable to see what means of assistance they were using in their climb, otherwise one of Cambridge's age-old mysteries would have been solved 36 04 27c

1937 10 16
Roof-climbing – Ronald Searle cartoon – 37 10 16a

1949 01 31
A bicycle appeared on the weather vane of the Cambridge school of geography, Downing Place, over the weekend. Various articles are put on university buildings from time to time, but usually without much point. This escapade has a real point to it. The weather vane is on the roof where weather observation is carried on, with the aid of rain graphs, thermometers, barographs and other meteorological equipment. The practical joker apparently thought it would be a good idea to give the meteorologists a new weather cycle 49 01 31

1957 05 24
The Night Climbers of Cambridge are at it again. At daybreak two objects had been placed on the spires of King's college chapel. One is the globe of a Belisha beacon, the other a nylon stocking. There was a turret-climbing episode in May 1932 on the eve of Empire Day when a Union Jack was flying from the north-east turret. Two nights previously the pinnacles were decorated with open umbrellas 57 05 24

1964 04 24

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In the very early hours young men venture out intent on scaling some of the university buildings. Night climbers are not an organised society, just individuals who know the other students who participate. The porter's lodge at King's is an irresistible challenge, not because of any climbing difficulty but because of the imminent danger of being discovered by college porters below. Climbers usually tie a piece of rope at the top of a building, though sometimes an item of female underwear is seen flapping gaily in the breeze the next morning. 64 04 24e

1965 06 07
'Peace in Vietnam' banner strung across pinnacles at King's chapel by night climbers – 65 06 07

1975 08 11
Tourists and passers-by took little interest as two men groped their way up the south pinnacle of King's college chapel. They were steeplejacks from a London firm engaged by the college to remove a lavatory seat which has crowned the chapel since it mysteriously appeared on the pinnacle three weeks ago. It all looked easy as one man finally stood at the top waving the offending object high over his head 75 08 11

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Australians at Fenners, the Varsity taking the field, 1956 *110.66*

c.38 : Cricket

1889
County Cricket Association formed [4.10,5.1,13.8]

1892 11 01
Fenner's purchased [2.15]

1900 07 25
Sir – I was pleased to notice that someone has at last had the courage to write about the wretched condition of Parker's Piece. Our last wicket was not only full of holes but we had a little hill rising a yard and a half in front of the block. Twelve shillings were paid for this wicket and a tent, whereas a college ground and pavilion (with a splendid wicket) can be hired for 7s.6d. Our cricket club have been so disgusted with the wickets that we have decided not to play again this season on Parker's Piece unless it is impossible to get a wicket elsewhere – Disgusted Cricketer 00 07 25

1901 07 15
Cricketers will learn with much regret at the death at his residence, Mill Road, Cambridge, of the veteran cricketer and umpire, Bob Carpenter. He was 27 when he played in his first match at Lord's for the United England XI. A powerful hitter, his favourite stroke was to square leg.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Playing for Cambridgeshire against Surrey in 1861 he made an innings of 100 described as "probably the greatest display of batting the world has ever seen". He played regularly for England in company with two other Cambridgeshire cricketers 'Pepper' Tarrant and Tom Hayward' CDN 1901 07 15

1902 04 24
Tom Hayward, the cricketer, was the recipient of an expression of that pride and admiration which his fellow-townsmen so unstintingly entertain for the man and the sportsman. It took the form of the time-honoured complimentary dinner at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge on the occasion of his return home after a most successful cricketing tour in Australia. Mr Hayward thanked the company for the kind reception which made him more nervous than playing before 40,000 people. As to the tour they had a very pleasant time. There was only one thing to mar it and that was losing four out of five of the test matches. But they had bad luck, all their best bowlers being ill or injured. 02 04 24

1904 06 10
Cambridge Victoria Cricket Club celebrated its jubilee. From as far back as 1855 there are complete histories of matches played. The first took place between teams captained by Mr Goody and Mr Merry. In 1859 an All England XI played 22 of Cambridge Town on Parker's Piece, five of whom were from the Victoria Club. In the early 1860's there was keen rivalry with village of Abington who possessed a very decent eleven composed of people gathered from surrounding places such as Linton, Hinxton and even Cambridge. The Victorians were so keen they played cricket whenever the opportunity offered, even on ice when 'the ball was returned very quickly and a number of men run out' – CDN 10.6.1904

1906 06 16
Mr W. Saunders of Histon has had a remarkable cricketing career over the last 52 years. He learned to play on Parker's Piece and formed a club at Impington until its field was sold. In the 1860s Cambridgeshire occupied the premier position in county cricket and he was numbered amongst some of the finest players in the country being chosen to play against the first All England eleven to visit Australia. 06 06 16b

1906 07 07
Tom Hayward, cricketer, may retire. 06 07 07c

1908 03 25
Fenner's – memories of Walter Watts – 08 03 25 & a

1908 10 23
Ranjitsinhji, now Jam of Nawanagar honoured – CWN 08 10 23

1910 06 03
Daniel Hayward senior was brother of Tom Hayward, the famous All England cricketer of the 1850s and 60s and father of the present Tom Hayward, the well-known Surrey batsman. His other sons include Dan, the present University custodian of Fenner's and Frank who frequently appears in local cricket. In his early youth he was a cricketer of more than ordinary ability as a wicket-keeper whose form gained him a place in some of the great matches. He was landlord of the Prince Regent for 42 years having entered into occupation on 24th June 1868. 10 06 03i

1912 04 26
Jack Hobbs dinner at Lion Hotel – 12 04 26 & a

1914 01 23
Tom Hayward, the great Cambridge and Surrey cricketer was quietly married at Wandsworth Registry Office. The arrangements were kept very secret but a 'Daily Sketch' photographer saw the happy couple leave. His wife, Matilda Mitchell, is one of the most famous of women detectives; a tall vivacious blonde, she was head of the secret service staff at Selfridge's. Tom will retire from cricket next year, she says – 14 01 23b

1917 01 31
Mr. W. Saunders is well-known in cricket circles throughout the county. His unbroken cricketing career extended over 50 years - probably a record never beaten in England - and was captain of the famous cup-fighting, village cricket club (Histon and Impington) for 25 years. He was presented with a silver rose bowl to commemorate the event. The first time an England XI returned from Australia (in the sixties) they were opposed by another team, picked from all England, on Parker's Piece. The latter side, for whom Mr. Saunders made 22 and took a number of wickets with his slow bowling, won. In those days, playing for Cambridgeshire against such sides as Yorkshire and other counties, Mr. Saunders - an amateur, was a successful bowler. Cambridgeshire at that time had some of the finest cricketers in England, including Bob, Carter, George Tarrant, Tom and Dan Hayward (uncle and father respectively of Tom, of Surrey fame 17 01 31 CIPof

1919 04 23
The future of cricket – cricket association – detailed article – 19 04 23b

1925 08
Cricket : Jack Hobbs scores his 127th century, breaking Grace's record [3.7]

1927 05
K.S. Duleepsinhji scores 254 not out - record for Fenner's - in Varsity match v Middlesex [4.1]

1930 03 27
Ideal cricket weather favoured the long-awaited opening of the Hobbs Pavilion on Parker's Piece by the Mayor of Cambridge in the presence of Mr & Mrs Jack Hobbs. He was the greatest cricketer the world had ever known and had learned to play within sight of this new pavilion. All that was needed was a record of his achievements to hang in the building, but those were not yet over. It would induce the younger sportsmen to become keen again and to carry on the traditions so that in future Cambridge would never be without its representatives in first-class cricket. 30 03 27a [5.14]

1930 09 18
Jack Hobbs came for the first time since the opening of the pavilion that bears his name. He brought one of the most brilliant cricket teams that Parker's Piece has ever seen with seven who have captained England including Hobbs himself and O'Connor, both of whom learned the game in Cambridge. By two o'clock there were at least 5,000 spectators massed three and four deep round the entire field. Others stood on the running boards of cars drawn up in Park Terrace to see the game. 30 09 18b-c

1931 07 17
The question of cricket on Lammas Land, Newnham produced a spirited debate: old ladies crossing the grass might be hit with the hard cricket ball. The Commons Committee is going through a spasm of kill-joy spirit: boys played on the streets but as soon as they went to open

space they were told they must not do so. Perhaps a soft ball could be used – or a golf ball. Newnham Institute sought permission for a cricket pitch, but this would turn it into a second Parker's Piece 31 07 17f & g

1931 12 25
Cambridge Rabbits' Cricket Club, formerly Heals, held their annual dinner at the Corner House Café, Petty Cury. They had enjoyed a most successful season and were thoroughly established and well-known. Mr D. Burton further showed his generosity by offering to present yet another cup for the most outstanding bowling performance of the season. His cup for the most outstanding performance went to Mr R.P. Fuller. 31 12 25d

1933 03 29
Cricket memories book – 33 03 29 & a

1933 04 08
Ranjitsinhji appreciation – 33 04 08 & a

1933 06 30
Cricket : on Parkers Piece : 25 runs scored in 3 balls (10,7,8) [1.6]

1934 05 09
Donald Bradman, Australia's wonder batsman, keeps very much in the news. In most cases it is his century habit that brings him the limelight – but not so against Cambridge University at Fenner's. For 'Don' was out for a duck, clean bowled by a slow leg-break from J.G.W. Davies of St John's. Two thousand people cheered Bradman when he went in to bat but the fourth ball send down found his stump 34 05 09 [2.25]

1935 02 26
John Berry ('Jack') Hobbs has bidden farewell to first-class cricket. His retirement will cause general regret. "Mrs Hobbs thinks I ought to go on to get my 200 centuries", he said, but he needs two new legs: "after many years in the field mine get very tired nowadays about four o'clock". He will continue to play in club cricket and all in Cambridge hope to see that flashing bat in action again on Parker's Piece, the scene of his early triumphs 35 02 26

1936 06 04
Jack Hobbs unveiled a tablet in the Hobbs Pavilion setting forth his wonderful achievements in first-class cricket. The proceedings had been delayed as Hobbs would not stop making records. Jack said that although wobbly at the knees, he still played. "I can visualise the youngsters coming and looking at the board and saying 'He must have been a real good player'. When I look at that board I begin to think I must have been". (Laughter and applause) 36 06 04c

1936 09 04
Fenners cricket ground was opened in 1846 but there have been only three groundsmen, Tom Parmenter who remained to 1862, Walter Watts and Dan Hayward who took over in 1908. He has also been custodian of the University Football and Hockey Grounds. His father used to look over the Rugger and Soccer pitches on Parker's Piece where they played until the Grange Road ground opened in 1896 and the two clubs amalgamated. Dan's own sport is cricket and he once took all ten wickets for 32 runs, though he considers his nine wickets for eight runs against Bury to be his best performance. Now he is retiring 36 09 04a

1939 07 21

Cricket: Death of Thomas Walter Hayward at his home in Glisson Road. Was one of the most famous professional batsmen that cricket has even known. He was 68 years of age, and although many years had elapsed since he last played, he still held many records at the time of his death. His father was Daniel and his uncle, Thomas another fine batsman in the sixties. Tom Hayward was born in Cambridge on March 19, 1871, and first came into the public eye by some fine performances when playing with the Cambridge Y.M.C.A. He went to the Oval in 1891and qualified for Surrey. At first he was a good medium pace bowler and outfielder, but later concentrated on run-getting. When he finished his first class career at the end of 1914, he had made 43,518 runs, with an average of nearly 42, and had scored 104 centuries. He was the first batsman after W.G. Grace to complete 100 centuries, and in 1906 scored 3,518 runs. It was at Hay ward's persuasion that Jack Hobbs decided to abandon second class cricket. The two made prolific opening stands for Surrey. Their association began in 1905 and two of their partnerships produced over 300 runs and 40 over three figures. In one week in 1907 they topped the 100 four times. On the only occasion on which they played together for England they were not particularly successful. Hayward visited Australia three times, and altogether played in 29 Test matches and batted 51 times. During 1906, he scored four centuries in succession, and 13 centuries. His highest score, 315, was made against Lancashire at the Oval in 1898. 39 07 21 CIPof. Obituary – 39 07 20a

1940 09 27
Bombs on famous cricket ground – photo – 40 09 27

1950 06 19
Not many people seem to realise that women have been playing cricket now for over 50 years and that in these sex-equality days there are still some who think it is still not quite the right sort of sport for young ladies to indulge in. Cambridge Women's Cricket Club has been in existence for just over two years – and as yet no one quite experienced enough has played for her county. Cambridge has an overarm bowling rule and has little or no experience against the underarm method. They were rather flummoxed when they first played a village women's team who used this style of delivery, but they are getting accustomed to it now 50 06 19

1953 02 09
Cricket : funeral of Dan Hayward [4.20]

1953 05 13
An eager group of schoolboys armed with autograph albums were among the first to welcome the Australian cricketers when they arrived in Cambridge for their match with the University. The youngsters crowded round Arthur Morris, who is captaining the side because Lindsay Hassett is unfit, and then hurried on to Ray Lindwall, young Ian Craig, Neil Harvey, Don Tallon and the others. The Australians signed their names cheerfully; they are soft-spoken, unexcitable men, whose appearance and manner off the field give no hint of the devastating ability which has already humbled Yorkshire and Surrey

1953 06 30
Jack Hobbs knighted [5.3]

1954 05 06
New Fenner's score box replaces one badly damaged during War [5.10]

1956 03 24
Camden cricket club history 75 years 56 03 24a & b

1961 03 16
Camden cricket club seek own ground – 61 03 16a

1961 04 08
William Buttress, born 1827, one of the greatest break bowlers of all times – history – 61 04 08

1961 04 14
Robert Carpenter, bowler 1830-1901, Tom Hayward & other cricketers - feature – 61 04 14d

1962 04 25
St Giles Cricket Club history – 62 04 25

1962 06 15
New Churchill college ground opened [13.6]

1963 12 21
Sir John Berry (Jack) Hobbs, one of Cambridge's legendary names in cricket, dies.- 63 12 21; tributes – 63 12 23

1964 01 03
John Berry Hobbs – feature – 64 01 03b

1964 08 01
Madingley Cricket Club, who have bought the old Queens' College pavilion on the Barton Road ground, may cut it in sections and move it that way. Queens' new pavilion, which is a memorial to a former president, Dr J.A. Venn, will be ready for the start of term and the groundsman has already moved into an adjoining bungalow. It has the most modern facilities in Cambridge with showers, toilets and its own bar. But the planned car park has been left for a later date. 64 08 01a

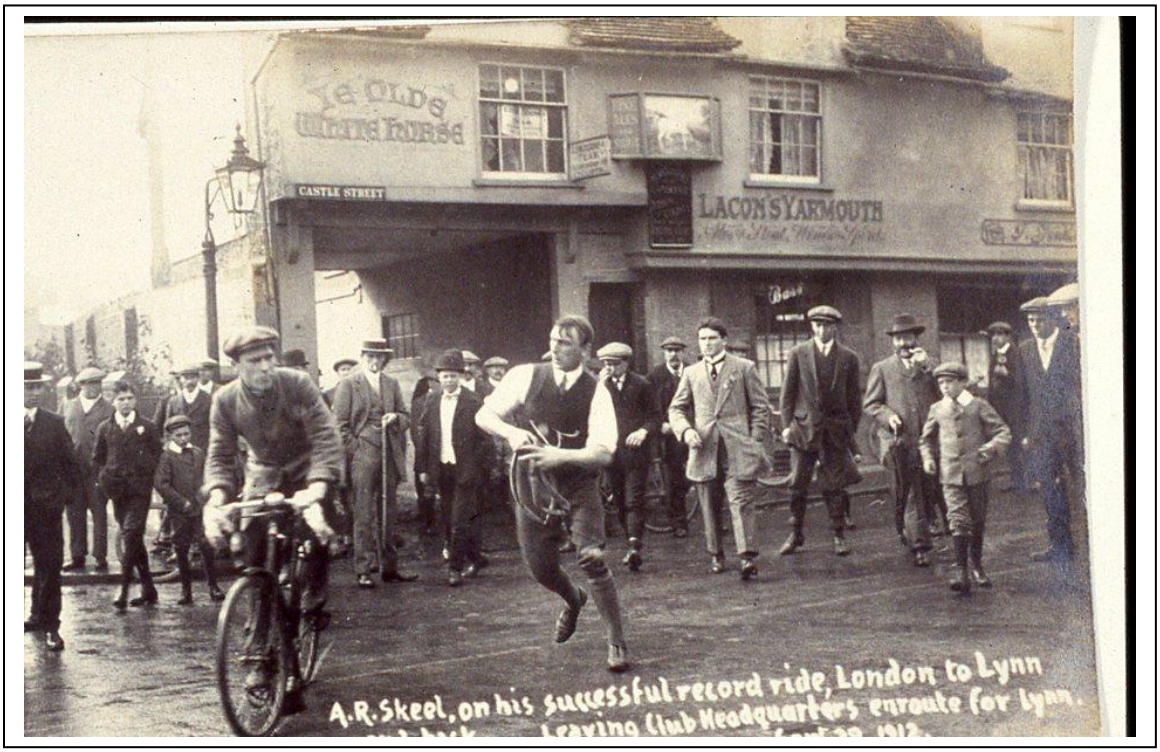
1972 09 05
Demolition of University pavilion built Fenner's 1875 [11.3,13.9]

1981 03 11
Camden club celebrate centenary, formed 1881 [21.1]

1981 07 20
First women's three-day game, Fenner's [21.2]

1985
St Giles cricket club centenary [21.3]

1985 08 19
"Fenner's traditionally the venue for the first fixture of English first-class season" [21.4]



A.R. Skeel on ride from London to King's Lynn, 1912 *172.50*

c.38 : Cycling
see also c. 26.485 bicycles

1899 11 08
At the Granta Cycling Club smoking concert the chairman said all cyclists in Cambridge were determined to have a cycle track. Every kind of athletics was catered for except cyclists. It was not fair to those who placed stock on Midsummer Common to have it there, and unless it was enclosed they would not get a 'gate' as people who paid to see races generally liked to go on a stand. If cyclists were determined to have a track they should collect a sum equivalent to that paid by those who put stock in the Common and then they could have their ground enclosed 1899 11 08

1903 06 10
The Granta Cycling Club ceased to exist when the annual meeting was held at the Blue Boar Hotel, Cambridge. When the track at the Backs of the Colleges was in use the membership rose to 50 but it has been gradually dwindling for the last three years since no cycling track has been available in Cambridge. In the event of a cycle track being obtained they will make an effort to revive the club. The balance sheet showed that the club died solvent. 03 06 10

1905 08 15
Proposed cycle track, Midsummer Common – 05 08 15a & b

1905 11 07
Dartigan, the only exponent of the daring and sensational acts of cycling around a loop heads the bill at the Auckland Road Hippodrome. The wonderful sight of a cyclist careering head

downwards along the inverted part of the track aroused a storm of applause. Since he began his dangerous occupation he has experienced many accidents. Once at Yarmouth he fell from the top of the loop and his head crashed through the track with the result that his jaw and nose were broken and his head so severely injured that he sustained concussion of the brain. 05 11 07a

1906 02 15
Sidney Lack, the champion cyclist, has been suspended by the National Cycling Union and his licence cancelled, after taking part in a race at Wellingborough. Local crowds will be sorry if he is unable to compete as an amateur again. He was a great favourite, largely because of his reputation for riding 'straight'. But he has been approached by the British agent of the Paris Velodrome with a view to a career as a professional cyclist in Paris 06 02 15

1906 04 27
Sid Lack of Histon, whose exploits on the cycle track are famous, has left Cambridge for America. Mr Lack, who filled the position of second engineer at Chivers' factory, aims at finding more scope in his vocation and for a time will be engaged in a motor car business at Boston. He has at present no intention of taking up racing over there. 06 04 27

1906 09 29
Sid Lack, the famous Histon cyclist, has found that the American climate did not suit him and returned to Histon. But since losing his status as an amateur he has an inclination to go abroad. Now the whole of his household effects have been put under the hammer including his two racing machines, and he has set sail for Australia. If he takes up racing 'down under' his career will be watched with interest. 06 09 29

1907 05 06
A.G. Markham is amongst the front rank of road cyclists. At the North London Fifty Miles Invitation Road Race he was the only competitor riding a tricycle, covering the course in three hours, the fastest time every accomplished on one. This is remarkable as 25 of the 50 miles were covered against a strong wind. Even after such a punishing race, his stamina was such that he rode another 30 miles to his Cambridge home. 07 05 06 Name given to Markham Close on Kings Hedges estate [21.7] [3.3]

1908 04 25
In all probability we have seen the last athletic flat race meeting in Cambridge. After struggling for several years the Liberal Athletic Union received one last blow in with the poorest attendance on record. For a large gate at least cycle races, and perhaps motor races, are required but the University will not permit these at Fenner's although similar cinder tracks are used for both. The weather did not help with three inches of snow on the ground in the morning. But the sun shone with great power and the track dried. 08 04 25a & b [6.28]

1909 07 23
A.G. Markham cycling record – CWN 09 07 23

1909 08 13
Edwin Banks, captain of the Belmont Cycling Club created a record at the Mammoth sports by winning four championships in one afternoon. He became infatuated with the sport at the tender age of 13 and later became a member of the famous Manchester Wheelers, the wealthiest club in the world. He came to Cambridge in 1908 and last year won 17 prizes. He has had spills innumerable, suffering dislocated shoulders, a broken collar bone and a broken wrist. CWN 09 08 13

1912 08 02
Mr A.G. Markam, the ex-holder of the 100 miles' world's tricycle record and present holder of the 24 hours' Eastern Counties tricycle record, covered the splendid distance of 192 miles in twelve hours. For over 60 miles he had to struggle with a dead head wind which blew with tremendous strength across the open fenland. To make things worse, at 140 miles his stomach went wrong and he went all to pieces. Four times he gave up the ride as hopeless but his followers would not let him rest and after dosing him with brandy and bathing his head they managed to keep him at it. It is doubtful if any other man of his age – he is 44 and has been taking part in violent athletics for 26 years – would have done such a ride. 12 08 02aa

1915 07 09
Local casualties – includes Reginald Player world-famous cyclist 15 07 09 p5

1921 05
Cambridge District Association Cyclists Touring Club inaugural meeting, May 1921 [21.8]

1934 06 02
Arthur Markham was always of a cheery disposition and made friends in every walk of life. He was best-known as a cyclist and his 24 hours' tricycle record of 301 miles has never been eclipsed. He did many rides at 100 miles and his record made with the old steel wheels is still recognised as one of the best ever done. Even after his race days were done he would cycle long distances to assist with events. 34 06 02

1954 02 03
Mr Charles F. Morley, who died recently, was a cyclist who won the Eastern Counties championship for every distance from sprint to fifty miles. He was truly a great little sportsman. He was a founder member of the Granta Cycling Club & many of his successes were gained on the quarter mile circular dirt track of the University Bicycling Club off Grange Road. As a speed skater he was up with the amateurs of his day; he was elected chairman of the National Skating Association Fen Department and presented a handsome challenge cup. He was the sole survivor of a quartet of friends who made local and national history at the turn of the century including J.H. Priest, one-mile cycling champion, F.J. Christmas, cross-country champion and A.E. Tebbutt, amateur skating champion of Great Britain.
1958 04 29
The 60 miles, six-lap Gog Magog cycle road race started from the Red Lion, Cherry Hinton. It was neutralised over Limekiln Road but then three of the Cambridgeshire Road Club team, J. Morley, D. Cook and M. Pilsworth, made a break. Before Sawston, on the second lap, Mick Ward from Haverhill had to make mechanical adjustments but he was in fourth place by the time they came over the Gogs for the last time 58 04 29a

1965 10 15
Arthur Skeel, champion cyclist – profile – 65 10 15c

1970 01 12
Barnwell cycle racing school beat world 24-hour roller cycling record - now 1,008 miles [21.5]

1984 07 02
City centre cycling starts [21.9]

Darts match, 1950s *123.47*

c.38 : Darts

Star Brewery league one of first to be formed [21.10]

1930 04 11
The Cambridge Skittle League was formed in August and proved that the average man was a sportsmen; a lot of people were inclined to 'run down' the public house games such as darts, dominoes and shove ha'penny. The Skittles League met the requirements of these people and what should be more natural than they should go to the poor man's club – the local inn. Publicans went out of their way to provide every amusement and recreation 30 04 11

1944
Newmarket Road & district darts league starts at Corner House due to blackout [4.16]

1958 05 24
Castle and District Darts League involves about 30 teams and incorporates the majority of the darts experts so a high standard of play was witness at the Rex Ballroom when both the men's and women's finals were held. Arthur Fordham (Jubilee) beat B. Smith of the British Queen in the final while the ladies' singles champion was Mrs Asby (Brewers Arms) who overcame Mrs Dickson (Robin Hood). Twenty games were played after which the company of 500 enjoyed dancing for three hours to the music of the popular Ken Stevens band. 58 05 24

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1963 02 16
Darts is still a popular sport which appeals to all classes. The Star Brewery League began 30 years ago and is a very lively concern with 300 registered competitors in its 20 clubs. George Woolley of 'The Hoops', Long Stanton is one of their leading performers but 'The Jubilee', 'Haymakers' and 'Five Bells' have all won the championship in recent years . Ely City Darts Organisation, which started around 1932, has nearly 800 on its register, including 90 women. 63 02 16a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

fisherwoman, 1930's *139.85*

c.38 : Fishing

1905 08 05
Two undergraduates said they were fishing at Holywell when Baron de Ketschemdorf arrived in another punt and asked them to move. They declined, saying the river was public, at which the Baron said he would throw them in the river. There was a wrestle during which he tried to throttle them. The German said he had driven a pole in the bed of the river showing that he had already occupied that water and it was a point of etiquette not to fish there. The men had threatened to hit him with a bucket. He was fined £1. 05 08 05b – d

1906 10 04
An extraordinary sight, which ought never to occur again, is to be witnessed at Baitsbite Lock. For a hundred yards the surface of the water is literally covered with dead and dying fish – pike, roach, bream, dace and a host of smaller fry. Fishermen would never have dreamed there were as many fish in the waters. They have been slaughtered by the introduction of some noxious substance into the river. 06 10 04 & a

1907 08 20
There was unusual excitement among the juvenile fraternity and considerable bustle in arranging fishing rods and other paraphernalia. The occasion was unique, for there was to be a juvenile fishing competition. Nowadays children are admitted to pleasures and privileges hitherto enjoyed only by the adult portion of the community and this is the very latest form of amusement arranged for them by the Albion Angling Society 07 08 20

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1918 07 07
Suggested Netting Of The Granta. —-it seemed hard to net a fresh water fishery where there were so many wounded soldiers. It was excellent sport for wounded soldiers to sit on the bank if the owners would only throw the river open to them 18 07 07 CIPof

1930 01 10
Extensive netting was carried out in the ponds at Madingley Hall; over 8,000 fish, mostly roach and rudd, were transferred in tanks to Newnham Mill Pool. The party, which included Mr Ambrose Harding and Horace Coulson arrived equipped with nets and tanks which strongly resembled dust-bins. The first haul was made across the bridge end of the pond and resulted in the capture of about 400 small roach which were taken to Cambridge by lorry. The next produced upwards of 2,000 fish, too many for the lorry so Mr Coulson took some in pails in his car. The third pond yielded a still finer catch CDN 10.1.1930

1931 03 06
The Ouse and Cam Fishery Board want permits issued to people who catch eels as a livelihood, or to destroy them. John Barnes of Manea said men had fished for eels for centuries, it was part of their rights. He used the same implements as his great-grandfather before him; they were worth £50 and of no use for other purposes. Some years he caught £10 worth of eels, other years £80. The best time was when the flood water had almost receded that that was during the close season. He had a strong objection to getting a permit for something he'd done for years. It was the thin end of the wedge. 31 03 06b

1934 08 24
Some 750 young anglers assembled on Parker's Piece and were played to the station by the band of the Boys' Brigade to catch a special train to St Ives to take part in the Albion Angling Society's annual fishing match for youngsters. The miniature army of anglers disported themselves along the river bank at Hemingford meadows. It was not unusual to see gathered in one small space at least half a dozen children with lines and rods crossed and floats completely submerged. The winners of the President's cup for the best catch were F.Parr (boys) and Marjorie Benton (girls) 34 08 24

1935 08 22
With rods and a look that combined gladness and determination, a children's army a thousand strong gathered on Parker's Piece, intent on getting their fish. A free outing to St Ives, an afternoon's fishing, a tea, sports and prizes was arranged by the Albion Angling Society. Ice-cream men did a roaring trade and one enterprising draper sold a number of Panama hats before the quarter-mile long procession set off for the station headed by the band of the Boys' Brigade. The children's match was started about 30 years ago but stopped during the war and was not revived until 1928 or 1929. 35 08 22a

1938 02 11
When the lake at Madingley Hall was netted the result was not just a matter of kettles of fish but bins full. The ever-growing number of anglers makes such demands on the available fish that annual re-stocking is essential so the Ouse and Cam Fishery Board relies on a number of owners of private lakes who have given permission for some of their fish to be transferred to other waters. The lake at Longstowe Hall has also yielded a large number – once the haul was so heavy that the net broke. Anglers no longer regard fish as something to kill; at one time it was common to see fish left to die on the river bank. Now they are returned at the end of the day 38 02 11b

1956 07 20

Cambridge Albion Angling Society celebrated its 50th birthday with a dinner at the Dorothy Café. They owed much of their success to the work of the late Jack Cartwright, the 'Grand Old Man' of the Albion during the difficult years of two world wars. Since the war no sport had recruited the vast numbers that angling had done. They now had more than 1,500 members. 56 05 19

1956 07 20b
Samples of water taken from the River Ouse at Huntingdon after many fish were killed on the Newton stretch of the river contained traces of cyanide. It came from the normal effluent discharge from Huntingdon Council's septic tank at Hartford. No other sources of pollution were found and the only chemical spraying was using a non-toxic weed killer. It was important that the district pollution prevention officer should be on the telephone, but the Post Office did not have the necessary equipment. 56 07 20b

1961
Cambridge & District Sea Angling Society set up [21.12]

1969 01 30
Challis & Sons fishing tackle shop in Newmarket Rd to close after 31 years, was formerly Hardings; made Pembroke and Trinity reels – feature – 69 01 30b

1981 07 15
It is likely to take more than 10 years to restock a polluted stretch of the River Cam in which hundreds of thousands of fish died. Anglers say that fishing in the city has now been entirely wiped out. Around four tons have been removed from the river near Bait's Bite lock but many are still floating. It is feared that as well as causing a smell, the rotting fish could cause further pollution. It is suspected that raw sewage was washed into the river during heavy rain. 81 07 15a

1985 06 14
Cambridge Fish Preservation & Angling Society centenary, founded as Jolly Anglers [21.11]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Cambridge United fans 1973 *201.15*

c.38 : Football

1884
Cambs F.A. founded [14.1]

1895
University Football & Rugger ground laid out, Grange Rd [446.12.5]

1896
Parkers Piece protest re closure to footballers [NI.2.1]

1900

1902
Cambridge & District Thursday League formed [14.2]

1903 05 16
Mr Percy Humphreys, formerly a regular player for Cambridge St Mary's Football Club is now the possessor of an international cap. Cambridge has a way of showing appreciation of distinction attained in sport by complimentary dinners and it was only fitting that following those to cricketers Ranji and Tom Hayward a similar compliment should be paid to a townsman who has attained the highest honour in the other great national game. He was known as 'The Little Terror' and was the subject of hero worship by lads in Cambridge.c03 05 16

1903 06 26

Local sportsmen will be sorry to hear that the provisional committee of the proposed Cambridge Town Football Club have been unsuccessful in securing a ground for the coming season. The ground near the Cattle Market belonging to the Corporation was not available and negotiations were entered into for a ground at the corner of Milton Road. Mrs Gurney, the owner, has not been able to see her way to allow its use as it is too close to her private garden. She offered a ground near Dant's Ferry but the preparation would cost about £100 for draining and was out of the question. 03 06 26

1909
Football: Cambridge schoolboy football starts with formation of Cambridge Schoolboys Athletic Association [4.14]

1910

191
Cambridge Town played rear Cattle Market before WWI [14.4]

1911 07 07
Cambridgeshire Amateur Football Association formed – 11 07 07a

1912
Cambridge United join Spartan league [7.7]

1913
Abbey United match in 1913 – predates United history – 87 11 10a

1913 01 24
It seems practically certain that Cambridge United will lose their popular captain, Jack Rowell, for he has gone into business on his own account which will necessitate him giving up playing on Saturdays. Visiting clubs should note that Jack has taken over at the Hopbine in Fair Street where he will be able to accommodate them when playing in Cambridge. It is a great thing for teams to have somewhere to go where they will be well looked after and he understands their requirements. Jack is about to assume other responsibilities, for in a very short time he will have taken unto himself a wife.13 01 24 p3 CIP

1913 07 04
An important development in local football took place when the Cambridge Town F.C. was elected a member of the Southern Amateur League together with Weybridge. This was the fourth time they had applied and their success is largely due to their excellent performances in the last two seasons. This means they will compete against some of the leading amateur teams in the country on the Hills Road bridge ground with a home match practically every Saturday 13 07 04 p3 CIP

1914 05 22
Football Amalgamation - Cambridge Town and Cambridge United Football Clubs, agreed the clubs should amalgamate. If they were to succeed in the bigger competitions they were going in for next season they must play better football, and to that end they must get the best men possible. This was what they could do through amalgamation.14 05 22 CIPof [8.1]

1920

1920
Camden Football club formed [14.5]

1920 11 20
Cambridge Town Football Club appeal for 1,800 sportsmen to lend the club £1 each to enable them to purchase a ground of their own - CDN 20 11 20

1921 10 12
Cambridge Town Football club new ground Milton Road – photo across site – 21 10 12a

1922 04 29
The new ground of the Cambridge Town Football Club, situate to the north of the junction of Milton-road and Victoria-road was formally opened by the Mayor of Cambridge on Saturday, after which the Town played their Southern Amateur League return fixture with Merton, and started their record n the new ground with a satisfactory victory by three goals to none. The Mayor said that just after the war he was approached to act as trustee of a fund for purchasing a ground for the Town F.C. Without a suitable ground it was impossible to carry on for any length of time. He hoped the club would be successful, because it owed the bank something like £1,100 - but he was told a man thinking of big things was not a successful man of business unless he owed a considerable sum to the bank 22 04 29 [2.19,7.23]

1929 07
Cambridge Town football club announce assets of £5,000 compared to poverty of a few years ago [4.8]

1929 12 14
F.A. Ridgeon, the Cambridge Town Football Club's inside left, travelled by aeroplane to Sussex for the F.A. Amateur Cup tie with Southwick. There was some doubt whether he could make the match owning to duties in Stamford preventing him from travelling by train. Hearing of his difficulty Mr D.G. Marshall of Aviation Hall generously placed his Moth aeroplane at his disposal. His son, Arthur Marshall, would have piloted the machine but he had gone on an air trip to Austria so a de Haviland pilot was engaged for the journey. This is, we believe, the first time an amateur footballer has travelled to a match by air. Cambridge won 2-0. CDN 14.12.1929

1930

1930 04 25
Sensational scenes were witnessed when Cambridge Town met Ipswich in a vital football match at Milton Road. The crowd, numbering over 7,300, were annoyed by some disputable rulings by the referee. At the final whistle they surged on to the field and surrounded him. The situation looked very ugly when Cambridge players and police with drawn truncheons went to his assistance. They got him to the pavilion but the crowd tried to storm the building. When the Chairman, W.R. Paige, tried to gain order with the aid of a megaphone he was shouted down. But for the quick work of many police, both uniformed and plain clothes, players and officials, the referee might have been very roughly handled. 30 04 25

1930 12 01
Milton Road heroes – football cartoon – 30 12 01a

1931 06 21

The complete reconstruction of the Cambridge Town Football Club is underway and when supporters pay their money at the gate next season they will be confronted with an entirely new sight. The old stand has been demolished and the network of frames for the new one seating 800 people erected together with a new pavilion. There will also be a full-sized Cumberland turf green for the Chesterton Bowling Club. 31 06 12l

1931 09 04
Cambridge Town Football Club's £4,000 stand was officially opened by the Mayor as Milton Road took on again its usual Saturday afternoon activity. In the centre of the pitch the Railway Band played crowds into the new stand and the lily badges of the Town Supporters' Club were well to the fore. The new dressing rooms were not in use and players used the old pavilion. Cambridge won 4-3 31 09 04f

1932 09 02
Abbey United started their football campaign in fine style. Not only did they play their first match on their new ground but they won it. The ground is situated close to the former pitch at Newmarket Road and has been levelled and fenced-in. All this was possible through the generosity of the club president, Mr H.C. Francis and it was officially declared open by Mr R.J. Wadsworth 32 09 02b [1.8]

1940

1940 06 14
Mr. Henry Clement Francis, of Burleigh House, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, who died on February 13th last, left Freehold land in the parish of Fen Ditton, now used by the Abbey United Football Club, to the Vicar of Fen Ditton and the Mayor of Cambridge, in trust to be used for football and for grazing and dancing, and if no longer required for those purposes, to sell the ground, and one half of the proceeds to be given to the Cambridge and District Nurses and one half to the Abbey Church. 40 06 14 CIPof

1940 08 09
Suspended for Duration. — The Cambs. F.A. decided to suspend all competitions promoted by the Association for the duration of the war, with the exception of the Minor League. It was considered that as Minor League clubs only included players under 18 years of age, the competition would be well supported. The officers and council were re-elected to carry on for the duration of the war. 40 08 09 CIPof

1944 06 16
The scheme to open a sports ground at the Cambridge Town Football Club's ground evoked considerable debate and criticism. After the debate the council agreed to a resolution that the Entertainments Committee be asked to continue their efforts relating to a sports ground, with wide facilities, for Cambridge. By a large majority the committee were given power to continue negotiations with the Football Club "on a peaceful basis" 44 06 16 CIPof

1946 12 04
'Foot-the-ball' match as part of best rag for years – 46 12 04, 04a

1948 03 24
The newly-formed Abbey United F.C. Supporters' Club launched out into the social sphere and their first dance arranged at the Guildhall was gratifyingly successful and the happy relationship between Abbey and the Cambridge Town F.C. was in evidence by the presence of representatives

of the latter. Approximately 300 dancers enjoyed themselves to the music of Len Tibb's band. The Ladies Section of the Supporters' Club was responsible for the catering and the committee intend that this effort shall be the first of a series of social functions designed to put Abbey United F.C. "on the map 48 03 24

1950

1951
Abbey United change name to Cambridge United [14.8]

1952 05 02
Three seasons ago Cambridge United (then Abbey United) Supporters' Club embarked on an ambitious scheme – the building of a £3,000 pavilion and clubroom with office accommodation. At first the loyal band of supporters was beset by building material difficulties and then hampered by the weather. There were scenes of great enthusiasm when the building was handed over to the football club management. It is just 40 years since the club was formed as Abbey United as the outcome of the desire to play football by a Sunday School class. "Our set-up is now really wonderful and there is no reason why the club should not go on from success to success", said Harry Habbin, chairman of the Supporters Club. CDN 52 05 02

1952 11 07
Cambridge council objected to the proposed development of land at Stourbridge Common as a professional football ground. The land was acquired for tipping purposes and they wished it to be zoned for storing Civil Defence materials or for use as a lorry park. The Chief Constable said that, assuming the aim was to bring Third Division football to Cambridge with possible crowds of 15,000 people, it would not present much difficulty in dispersing them from Newmarket Road after a match. The City council proposed a municipal sports ground at Trumpington Road. The class of football envisaged would attract gates of not more than 1,000 and would not be in the same class as Cambridge City or United football clubs. 52 11 07

1953 07 24
Cambridge City Football Supporters Club members gathered to witness the opening of their new headquarters. The Supporters Club was founded 25 years ago and several of the original members were present, including R.J. Wadsworth, the first President. The new building is constructed of brick and wood and decorated in blue and white, with check curtains to match. It has a bar, committee room and other amenities together with a canteen. In the main room hang photographs recalling the early days of the club. Players' wives and young ladies are welcome. 53 07 24

1953 12 09
Football: new stand built, Cambridge City football club [5.6]

1954 07 09
Real American softball came to Cambridge Football Club ground when the US Air Force Hospital Wimpole Park beat a team from USAF Molesworth entirely against the formbook. But for British spectators the game was a succession of shocks. They saw an umpire hustled and pushed by players disputing a decision, two players somersaulting as they tried to catch a ball and some magnificent hits and catches that made it look like cricket. The game seems to be a glorified rounders akin to baseball. There was 'strike one', 'ball one', 'blunt' and a host of other expressions which are difficult to explain but easy to follow on the diamond-shaped field until the victorious team had notched up their win and were cheered again and again CDN 9.7.54

1955 12 17
Stanley Matthews, the greatest soccer player of the century made his first visit to Cambridge. Local football officials and celebrities laid aside the rivalries of the field for the opportunity to shake his hand. At the end a schoolboy collared him for his autograph; Stanley said: "When I was your age I was always in bed by eight o'clock". He then left for his hotel and bed – dead on 9.30 pm 55 12 17c

1957 08 19
'Footballer of the Year', Tom Finney, has been signed to write for the popular 'Cambridge Daily News Football and Sports Review' each Saturday evening. He has been capped 67 times since 1946 and is one of the most versatile forwards of the post-war period. Tom was offered a huge sum to sign for an Italian team but declined, saying he was happy to remain with Preston North End for whom he scored 22 goals last season. He knows the game inside out and will present a lively commentary on the soccer scene each week. Do not miss them. 57 08 19

1958 02 06
Elfleda Road residents complained that when they bought their houses Cambridge United was a little football team with about 200 spectators playing on an open ground with no banking. Now the ground had been built up with floodlight pylons and there were 3,000 at matches. There was the noise from the loudspeaker equipment, the shouting and even beastly cigarette smoke. The Supporters Club was a nuisance – 'having finished their evening, these boisterous individuals, fortified by their beer, make their way down the unmade road to the Council estate', one resident said. 58 02 06

1958 04 19
Cambridge United turning pro – cartoon – 58 04 19a

1958 05 10
Cambridge United's development – enters Southern League – 58 05 10

1958 08 25
City & United Football clubs elected to new Southern League [6.7,6.9]

1959 01 02
Cambridgeshire Football Association was launched on 24th January 1884 at a meeting in the Guildhall. A trial game was organised between two teams selected from Old Perseans, Modern Perseans and Cassandra on one side and the Granta, Rovers, Printers and Albert on the other. Newmarket, Linton, Sawston Swifts and Cam affiliated at the outset. In those days the game was controlled by two umpires, one in each half of the field. Should they disagree the matter was referred to a referee who sat outside the field of play. 59 01 02 &a 59 01 06a

1959 02 26
The memory of the night the lights that were turned on at Milton Road football ground will live for a long time judging by the way the inaugural match between Cambridge City and West Ham United was received by the 11,000 crowd. Even though the First Division club beat their hosts to the tune of five goals to two, they endeared themselves to all the spectators by the manner in which they did it. They even had the courtesy to allow the City to be the first to score under the new floodlights – although perhaps it wasn't intended! Barry Kin drove the ball hard from the wing and it matter not that the West Ham goalkeeper helped the ball into the net. 59 02 26b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 04 09
Alan Ford trainee goalkeeper Cambridge City Football club 60 04 09b

1960 09 13
Football supporters fight in hospital – cartoon – 60 09 13

1962 02 06
Proposal to amalgamate City & United Football clubs (rejected 1965) [6.15.14.3]

1964 06 17
Footballers' summer jobs – 64 06 17b (see Memories 20 Jun 2014)

1965 02 25
Cambridge United and Cambridge City merger proposed – 65 02 25a; United not interested – 65 03 03

1965 05 29
Cambridge United application join Football League rejected – 65 05 29

1966 10 28
Cambridge United manager, Roy Kirk, resigns; also dismiss trainer-coach Brian Doyle – 66 10 28

1966 12 31
Coldham's Common dark and dingy hut is changing room for footballers – 66 12 31

1967 04 27
Cambridge City and Cambridge United directors consider merger of clubs; one condition the selling of the Milton Road ground- 67 04 27

1967 12 07
George Dean resigns as Secretary Cambs Football Association; played for Cambridge City – profile – 67 12 07b

1969 05 05
Cambridge United win Southern League championship – 69 05 05a,b

1970

1970 05 30
Cambridge United win Southern League Cup, elected to 4th Division Football League – 70 05 30, b 70 06 14b

1971 02 11
Cambridge United battle to take over Whitehill allotment land for use as car park – 71 02 11

1971 06 16
Cambridge United Supports' Club open new bar and lounge – 71 06 16, 71 06 18

1972 09 29
United "to stamp on hooliganism" [14.9]

1973 05 02
Exultant Cambridge United players shared the glory with the fans after Saturday's epic 3-2 win against Mansfield - the win which takes them into the Third Division. The Untied players, directors, officials and their wives will be guests at a civic reception at the Guildhall. It has never been done before and will probably never be done again. That was Cambridge United's chairman Geoffrey Proctor's view of the clubs starling 22-year rise to the Third Division since turning professional. "It all started in 1950-51 when we turned professional in the United Counties League and now we are in the Third Division. Naturally we want to go up to the Second Division and even First Division football. Meanwhile manager Bill Lievers, the author of so much emotion the day before, spent yesterday morning helping groundsman Alec James take down the Abbey Stadium goalposts in readiness for full-scale work on levelling the pitch at the Newmarket Road end 73 05 03 [14.10]

1973 11 19
United soccer fans go wild, 2nd week, 13 arrested [14.11]

1974 04
Cambridge City taken over by new company who clear their debts [14.13]

1974 09 11
Cambridge city football club have submitted plans for a £500,000 night club at their Milton road ground. It is planned that the 1,000-seater cabaret theatre will be built at the Milton Road end of the ground on a site that present houses the supporters' club. "Modern football is in the doldrums and will never pay for itself again", said the chairman. If the club get the go-ahead they intend to engage international stars and provide first-class food and drink 74 09 11

1974 11 22
United sack Lievers, Ron Atkinson appointed [14.14] [2.5]

1975 03 17
Newcastle fans on rampage, March [14.16]

1975 11 10
Afternoon of violence, three-hour clash with police [14.17]

1975 06 17
Cambridge United have taken the first major step towards a merger with their Southern League neighbours, Cambridge City. United's chairman David Ruston said "It was decided that the best way to approach amalgamation was for us to make a proposition that if city agreed, we would in due course make an offer for their shares. Both sides are agreed that something like this is in the best interests of football in the city". Jack Ginn, City's former chairman said, "Nothing can save football in Cambridge other than amalgamation. I understand City have lost £15,000 in the past year and United more than £30,000. This cannot go on" 75 06 17

1976 03 31
City trading at loss again [14.18]

1976 04 01
Season of drift away from football - 500 people fewer per United match [14.19]

1976 08 18
"Soccer hooligans run wild" [14.20]

1976 08 23
The landlord of a public house in Newmarket Road, Cambridge, issued a blunt warning to customers: "Watch out, there's football fans about". This is an area which has taken the brunt of local soccer hooliganism and violence. Walk along the Road on a Saturday afternoon when United are at home and you will sense an underlying tension as supporters trek to and from the Abbey Stadium. When the final whistle blows the United supporters and the respectable part of the crowd are allowed to leave. Nearly half an hour later the visitors are permitted to make their exit under escort 76 08 23

1976 09 18
"Hooligans run riot in night of terror" [14.21]

1976 11 15
United champions Division Four [14.22,15,1]

1977 03 09
Cambridge City Football Club's move to quit the Southern League for the Isthmian League third division brought a blazing Milton Road mutiny last night. City chairman Laurie Boost was presented with a petition of 221 names calling for the directors to reverse their decision – or resign. Manager Roy Johnson announced he would quit at the end of the season, club secretary John Aves, groundsman and trainer Bill Brignell and even ball-boys Paul Craft and Philip Butler said they would follow suit if the directors stick to their decision. The players also repeated their view that none of them would drop into the Isthmian League with City. 77 03 09

1977 05 02
Corks bounced off the ceiling – and Steve Spriggs' head – and the champagne flowed long after Cambridge United's dramatic 3-2 victory over brave Brentford. They were celebrating promotion to Division Three. It will be one of the major shocks of football history if Ron Atkinson's team do not coast home to the Fourth Division title, sitting four points clear at the top of the table. They would have to lose their four remaining matches by at least three goals while the four teams below them would have to win all of theirs. It is all safely tucked away in the realms of fantasy, says Randall Butt 77 05 02

1977 11 02
United to cage in their fans [15.2]

1978 01 18
Cambridge United have appointed club coach John Docherty team manager and made assistant manager Paddy Sowden general manager in a move to fill the gap left by the former manager Ron Atkinson's move to West Bromwich Albion. Docherty was appointed by Atkinson after quitting as Brentford manager in a clash with the London club's chairman early last season. He joined in a part-time capacity but was given a full-time one-year contract in recognition of his contribution to United's successful playing style. A former Brentford, Notts County, Reading and Queen's Park Rangers forward, Docherty turned down the chance to join First Division Leicester as youth coach earlier this season. 78 01 18 [15.3-4]

1978 04 01

Cambridge United, planning for Second Division football next season, want part of Coldham's Common for new £100,000 expansion plans. These include a skateboard park running nearly the length of the Habbin stand, extra car parking and a 2,500-seater stand over terracing on that side of the ground. Facilities at the Abbey Stadium have already been stretched to breaking point in the Third Division, most notably when Peterborough played a local derby in front of 10,998 people in January. 78 04 01 [15.6]

1978 04 18
It would cost nearly £300,000 for Cambridge United to move to the Cambridge City club's ground in Milton Road – and the facilities would be no better than those at the Abbey Stadium. The suggestion had been made repeatedly over the years by supporters of both clubs and has come to a head again with United's plans for expansion and a skateboard park. Directors know their plans to take over common land would be an emotive issue, but it is a waste area and they would pipe a stream which is usually nothing more than a foul ditch. 78 04 18

1978 07 01
"Thin blue line halted rampaging city mob" [15.7]

1978 10 27
"In terms of quantity & quality Cambridge United have worst fans in the land" [15.8]

1979 03 12
"Support is disgraceful", 27 arrests in violence [15.9-11]

1979 11 20
United make £100,000 profit [15.10]

1980

1980 03 28
Cambridge United's dramatic transformation from Fourth Division minnows to a respected Second Division club has brought them to heights undreamed of just a couple of years ago. But the shock resignation of two directors raises nagging doubts. They fear the club might be in danger of over-reaching itself financially. There have been examples of clubs sinking back to the lower reaches of the Football League with players' contracts acting like millstones around their necks. However if they had not taken risks they would not probably have been in the Football League today. 80 03 28b

1980 05 21
United at bottom attendance league [15.12]

1980 09 02
The first football excursion train to leave Cambridge station in almost three years set off for Wolverhampton packed with United fans hoping to cheer John Docherty's men to a place in the third round of the League Cup. The train was one of the first to use the no-alcohol regulation which British Rail hopes will reduce the incidence of vandalism. There was no problem. No matter who they were – schoolboys, skinheads, middle-aged mothers and fathers – no-one tried any surreptitious supping. 80 09 03a

1980 09 16

Cambridge United is poised to become the first club in Football League history to play a competitive match behind closed doors. The move to curb soccer hooliganism at the Abbey Stadium would involve next season's visit by Chelsea and its notorious fans – should the two teams still be in the Second Division. The move follows troubles at Saturday's match when Chelsea fans urinated in public causing some local supporters to leave in disgust. 80 09 16

1980 12 31
This has been a good year for Cambridge United who played Aston Villa, probably the most famous cup side in England, in the FA Cup. There was a mad scramble to tickets; 12,000 lucky fans were treated to a cup thriller and most were happy with a 1-1 draw though United were trimmed 4-1 in the replay. Then they met Wolves in the Football League Cup, beating them over two legs in a performance that brought praise from England manager Ron Greenwood. They went on to beat Aston Villa but then lost to Coventry. 80 12 31a

1981 02 05
Cambridge City Football Club has crippling debts of about £65,000; this financial millstone is a legacy from earlier days when the club had been run without any administrative ability at all. A club, once the pride of Cambridge until United was elected to the Football League in 1969, has now sunk into a virtual backwater. They have gone 40 games without a win and attract about 200 spectators. But they have a ground with a capacity of 17,000 that is the envy of most non-league clubs. 81 02 05b & c

1981 05 13
1980-81 was best season in United's history [15.13]

1981 05 26
United make £40,000 loss (last year profit £171,000) due transfer dealings [15.14]

1981 10 05
Football hooligans left a trail of destruction after Cambridge United's match against Chelsea. Mobs of youths rampaged through streets hurling bricks, stones and other missiles at police. Windows were smashed in about 30 homes which line the route to the railway station. Now the city council will be urged to provide buses to take supporters to and from the match. 81 10 05a

1982 01 20
People "willing to defend houses with pitchforks" [15.17]

1983 05 10
United plan £6M sports complex [11.9]

1983 10
Cambridge United record £129,000 loss [15.18]

1983 02 18
United in fifth round FA Cup [15.19]

1983 08 11
Cambridge United has signed the biggest sponsorship deal in their history with brewery company Ind Coope Benskins. They will be backing the second-division club with a three-year package worth more than £30,000. The Club has also retained a £5,000 per year backing of Norwich

Breweries, which holds the franchise for the supports club, and fixed up a new kit sponsorship worth several thousand pounds with Yorkshire sportswear company, Mileta 83 08 11 p1

1983 08 17
George Reilly, Cambridge United's £140,000 record signing, has been sold to First Division Watford for 100,000. The fee is £40,000 less than United paid Northampton for him four years ago, but that reflects the state of the transfer market. The giant Scottish centre forward, who was the club's top scorer last year, has not been at the Abbey since he had pay talks with Manager John Docherty. He had a year of his contract to run and a review of his pay was due in summer 83 08 17 p1 & 83 08 24

1984 01 20
Cambs FA centenary [15.20]

1984 01 20
Cambridge United have appointed former Norwich City and Luton player, John Ryan, as their new manager. He takes over immediately at the struggling Second Division club. John Cozens, caretaker manager since the sacking of John Docherty will remain for the time being. Ryan takes over a United team who are 10 points adrift at the bottom of the Second Division and looking doomed to relegation after going 20 games without a win 84 01 20 p1

1984 02 01
Planning permission has been given for a £10 million redevelopment scheme for Cambridge City Football Club's ground at Milton Road. The present pitch, greyhound track and stands will be demolished and be replaced by a three-storey block of research and development buildings with an underground car park. The development will guarantee the future of the club 84 02 01 p1

1984 02 13
A police operation on a military scale was necessary to deal with the threat to Cambridge posed by Saturday's match against Chelsea who have some of Britain's most notorious football fans. But most of the trouble came from Cambridge supporters. In a rampage of violence a man's throat was slashed, another was stabbed, two policemen were attacked and 92 people were arrested. Police held at bay a mob of fans who tried to stop them arresting a streaker on the United pitch. Parts of the city were left vulnerable to crime because of police commitments to the match 84 02 13 p11

1984 03 12
United relegated from Division Two [16.3]

1984 05 22
One of the landmarks of Cambridge's skyline has gone. Cambridge City football club's floodlights were pulled down as demolition men clear the ground in preparation for the construction of a science park. West Ham played at Milton Road to mark the erection of the lights when City entered the Southern League in 1958. Work has also started on pulling down the two stands as the club moves its ground to an area at the far end. 84 05 22 p34

1984 10 26
The symbol of Cambridge City Football Club's rebuilding programme has risen from the ground at Milton Road. The new pitch is down, the lights are up but there won't be soccer action there until the turn of the year. Then there will be the prospect of real comfort for the 400 or so who

will be able to watch from the new stand. In addition to changing and other rooms there will be a social club and café and even a glass-fronted viewing room for directors and guests 84 10 26 p44

1984 12 13
Cambridge United have sacked manager John Docherty, ending his reign at the John Ryan appointed Abbey Stadium as the longest-serving soccer boss in the Second Division. His dismissal comes after 10 weeks in which United have not won a match and have slumped deep into the relegation zone. He came to Cambridge as part-time coach in September 1976 and steered them though the Third Division campaign of 1977-78 after Ron Atkinson left. But unlike his extrovert predecessor his low key style failed to capture the imagination of fans who have been clamouring for his dismissal for at least 18 months 83 12 13 p1 [15.21-22]

1985 01 05
Controversy surrounded the result of the first game of foot-the-ball played since 1946: it was either a 13-all draw or 13-14 to the Ditton Players. More than 400 people turned up on Parker's Piece to watch the contest between the Players, in Edwardian dress and the Ditton Irregulars. Amongst them was the son of the game's inventor, the late Prof Bill Howell who organised the first match between the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge. The match is played like football except that it has three balls and 15 players to a side 85 01 05

1985 01 05
American football: Cambridge County Cats formed [11.10]

1985 02 26
Cambridge United Manager John Ryan was sacked last night by David Ruston, the club chairman who himself reportedly resigned earlier in the day. His 403-day reign has seen United win only seven out of 50 matches. Hopes had been high when he was appointed as the natural successor to the former boss Ron Atkinson. He balanced the books and cut the wage bill. But a patchwork team of youngsters aided by a few old heads continued to slide to the bottom of the Third Division, disillusionment set in on the terraces and the drift away sabotaged the gate figures leaving the Directors little choice 85 02 26 & a

1985 10 02
United bottom Division Four [16.6]

1985 12 21
Chris Turner appointed United manager [16.9]

1986 02 28
Cambridge city council loan United £40,000 : relegation Div.2-3 cost £78,000 in gate receipts [16.7-8]

1986 10 30
Cambridge United got their reward for beating Ipswich with a draw against First Division giants, Tottenham Hotspur in the Littlewoods Cup. The Spurs team includes England internationals Glenn Hoddle and Chris Waddle, Belgian superstar Nico Claesen and Argentinean World Cup star Osvaldo Ardiles. The dream fixture will pack the Abbey Stadium with more than 10,000 fans. Ticket prices will be raised to £8 for seats and £5 for the terraces. 86 10 30 & 30a

1987 02 06

Cambridge United has turned the corner financially under the leadership of manager Chris Turner. Last season's Fourth Division failure left the club with a massive debt of £122,000. But the six months to last November showed a profit of around £40,000, putting them on their way to the best financial figures since their Second Division heyday seven years ago. After having to apply for re-election to the League they reached the Fourth Round of the Littlewoods Cup, earning a money-spinning match against Tottenham Hotspur and their gates are up by an average of 1,000 per game. As well as the club lottery the Lotto and Lifeline has also made a big contribution 87 02 06

1987 02 27
Cambridge United are aiming to build a major office complex at the Abbey Stadium in a bid to win their battle for soccer survival. The idea is to provide office space over the car park adjoining Newmarket Road which would produce £30,000 a year. Other options are to seek help from the city council or consider part-time football. Chairman David Ruston told shareholders that he might quit unless the club's cash position improves. 87 02 27

1988 06 24
Sainsbury's hopes to buy Cambridge United's famous Abbey Stadium for a DIY superstore and give the club a new ground, perhaps at the former Blue Circle cement works site off Coldham's Lane. The Abbey site covers four acres and United have already put forward plans to develop the car park for offices. Trafford Park Estates have won permission to build four office blocks on the front of the Cambridge City ground, three of which are already half-let. 88 06 24

1988 08 25
Joint city/United stadium planned ¢CEN 25.8.88

1989 02 15
Cambridge United income drops 40% ¢CEN 15.2.89

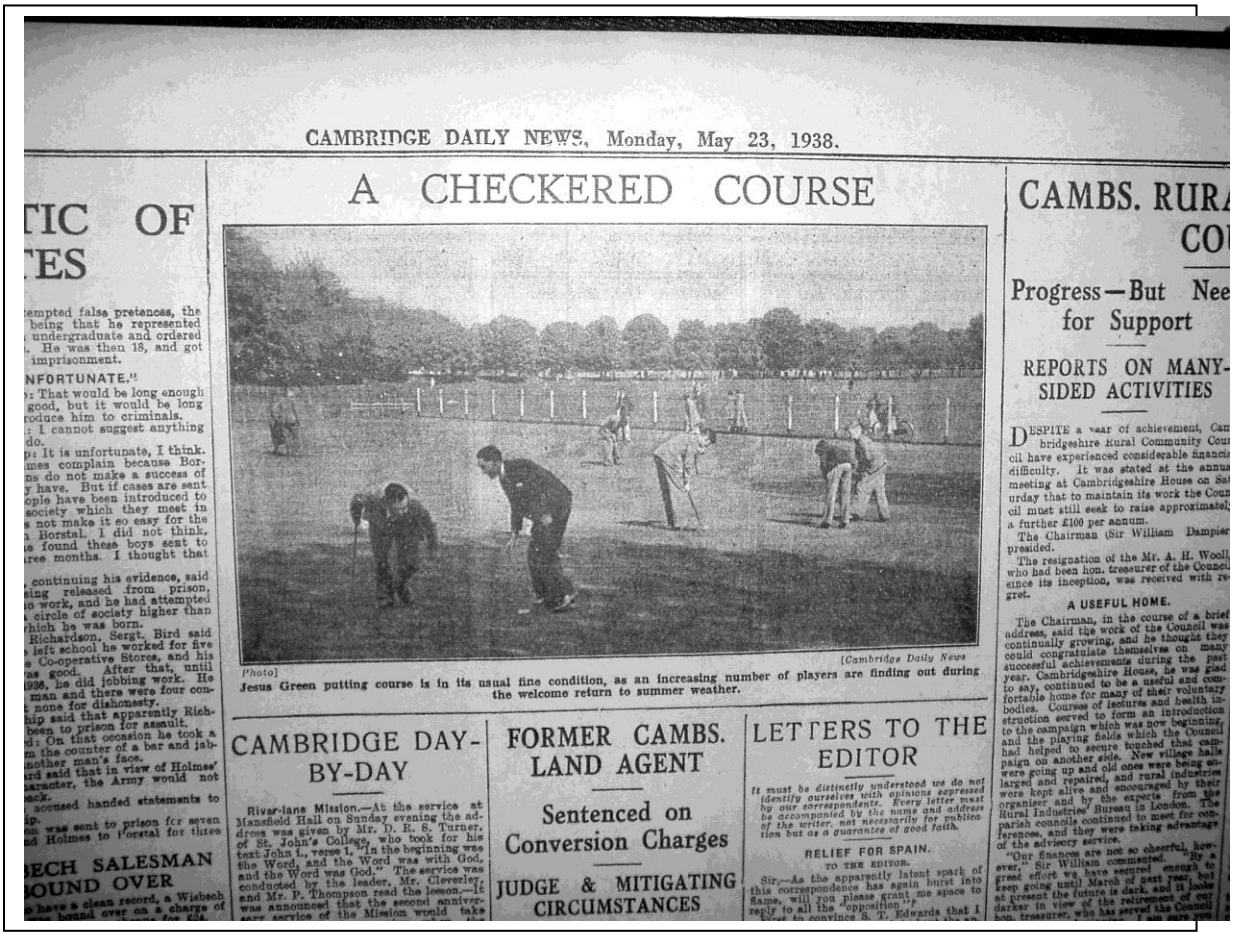
1990 02 10
Secret talks are under way for Cambridge United to move to a site on farmland at Teversham. The news comes only a day after it was revealed the club lost £98,000 last year and Chris Turner was sacked as general manager. If the club moves from the ground it has occupied since the 1920s it would allow the sale of the Abbey Stadium site for housing or commercial development. This would realise enough cash for the new venture 90 02 10a Fans views – 90 02 15c

1990 05 28
Cambridge United promoted to Third Division following Wembley win – 90 05 28a, c

1990 06 05
Cambridge United celebrate winning place in Third Division, open-top bus in Market Hill – 90 06 05, b

1990 09 11+

Cambridge football clubs could have new home at Chesterton sidings – plan – 90 09 11



CAMBRIDGE DAILY NEWS, Monday, May 23, 1938.

A CHECKERED COURSE

Photo] [Cambridge Daily News

Jesus Green putting course is in its usual fine condition, as an increasing number of players are finding out during the welcome return to summer weather.

CAMBRIDGE DAY-BY-DAY

River-lane Mission.—At the service at Mansfield Hall on Sunday evening the address was given by Mr. D. E. S. Turner, of St. John's College, who took for his text John i., verse 1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." The service was conducted by the leader, Mr. Cleverley, and Mr. P. Thompson read the lesson.—It was announced that the second anniver-

FORMER CAMBS. LAND AGENT

Sentenced on Conversion Charges

JUDGE & MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

It must be distinctly understood we do not identify ourselves with opinions expressed by our correspondents. Every letter must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication but as a guarantee of good faith.

RELIEF FOR SPAIN.

TO THE EDITOR.

Sir,—As the apparently latent spark of this correspondence has again burst into flame, will you please grant me space to reply to all the "opposition"?

CAMBS. RURA CO

Progress—But Nee for Support

REPORTS ON MANY-SIDED ACTIVITIES

DESPITE a year of achievement, Cam bridgeshire Rural Community Cou cil have experienced considerable financia difficulty. It was stated at the annua meeting at Cambridgeshire House on Sa urday that to maintain its work the Cou cil must still seek to raise approximatel a further £100 per annum.

The Chairman (Sir William Dampier presided.

The resignation of the Mr. A. H. Wooll who had been hon. treasurer of the Council since its inception, was received with re gret.

A USEFUL HOME.

The Chairman, in the course of a brief address, said the work of the Council was continually growing, and he thought they could congratulate themselves on many successful achievements during the past year. Cambridgeshire House, he was glad to say, continued to be a useful and comfortable home for many of their voluntary bodies. Courses of lectures and health instruction served to form an introduction to the campaign which was now beginning, and the playing fields which the Council had helped to secure touched that campaign on another side. New village halls were going up and old ones were being enlarged and repaired, and rural industries were kept alive and encouraged by their organiser and by the experts from the Rural Industries' Bureau in London. The parish councils continued to meet for conference, and they were taking advantage of the advisory service.

"Our finances are not so cheerful, however," Sir William commented. "By a great effort we have secured enough to keep going until March of next year, but at present the future is dark, and it looks darker in view of the retirement of our hon. treasurer, who has served the Council

Putting on Jesus Green, May 1938 *180.88*

c.38 : Golf

Golf on Coldham's Common historical article – 61 02 17

1875
Cambridge Golf club began to play 9-hole course, Coldham's Common, about 2 years later name changed Cambridge University Golf Club; 1887 altered to 18 holes [16.10]

1895
Grays golf links open Grantchester Meadows [16.10]

1899 01 27
The subjugation of England to golf proceeds at a rapid race. Cambridge has already done homage to the Scottish game, and announcements made this week on behalf of Caius College shows that the popularity is still on the increase. Caius propose to devote about 250 acres of land on the Gog Magog hills to the formation of a golf links. A suggested course of 18 holes has already been staked out by Duncan, the professional - 1899 01 27

1901
Gog Magog Golf club formed (75th anniversary 1976) [16.11]

1901 05 25
Dr George Cunningham invents Lon-Golf (lawn golf) ¢Cambridge Graphic 25.5.1901

1907 07 27
Sir – Sunday is being desecrated with often a score of persons playing golf on the Gog Magog course during church hours. Even females are now to be seen there amongst the Sabbath-breakers. Not content with golf, on Sunday evening a target was stuck up and rifle practice was being carried on. Under the terms on which the links are held no golfing is to be allowed on Sunday and the gates must be kept locked. – 'Observer' 07 07 27

1910 10 28
Three labourers were charged with stealing nine golf balls and an overcoat from Charles Willmott, a groundsman at the University Golf Links at Coton. The men went to the fields adjoining the course and picked up golf balls knocked some distance by players which they sold to an athletic outfitter of Downing Street. Willmott said he had left his overcoat in a shed on the links and it had gone missing. Later he found it in a ditch. Nine golf balls that had been in the pocket had gone. He went to the shop and identified them because of peculiar marks, one of them was quite unique. If men could not sell the balls they would not trouble to pick them up. 10 10 28

1911 05 05
An undergraduate from Trinity College was fined for playing golf on Jesus Green to the danger of passers-by. The lad said there was no notice and he had seen people playing there for the last two years. There could be a danger if anyone had been on the Green, but there was nobody there when he was playing. The constable had seen him with his club and could have stopped him but allowed him to play before asking for his name, college and year saying third year men generally got more heavily fined than Freshmen. But the Chief Constable said that Freshmen were often let off with a caution 11 05 05

1912 09 14
'Why no municipal golf course, only links club is so exclusive as to be inaccessible to town & county residents' [7.5]

1926 08 18
A Duxford aeroplane crashed on the Gog Magog golf course, killing the pilot. The fatality occurred on the first tee, the machine first hitting the road and crashing through the hedge; as it struck the ground it burst into flames and was soon reduced to ruins. Bullets were flying around all over the place. Sometime after the accident the pilot's tunic was found with a fountain pen and letter, both only slightly damaged. His hat was found intact and inside this was his name. We understand he had recently inherited a large sum of money 26 08 18

1927 01 06
Sir – I am surprised to find the facilities for the Cambridge business man to play golf are so small. They can never get a round as the courses are so far from the town that they cannot get there. It is not everybody who can afford a car or motor cycle. They would welcome a municipal or public golf course near Cambridge and I am sure if the Town Council could entertain the idea of establishing a course it would be a paying concern – Robin 27 01 06

1927 07 23
Putting green starts, Jesus Green [5.24]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1928 04 14
I enjoyed a couple of rounds on the Cambridge putting green on Jesus Green and found quite a lot of patrons there. There are some folk who think that putting is only a temporary craze and will not enjoy continuing prosperity in the same way that tennis and bowls do, but a single tennis court takes ten years to pay for itself while the first putting green paid for itself within the first year. The committee has received a petition for a similar putting green on the Lammas Land, but they are a little timid about having a second one prepared until they see whether the success achieved last year is repeated. The rockery being constructed at the entrance to Lammas Land is being made from pieces of old and disused cattle troughs from Midsummer Common 28 04 14c

1930 10 11
Cambridge is a wonderful place in these days, what with new cinemas, new restaurants and new shops, not to mention the midget golf centres. Another is being laid out at Belle Vue Gardens. It is an 18-hole course with fairways averaging 30 feet in length made of tarmac with a green fibre surface. In some holes it will be necessary to send the ball over a five-barred gate, through the muzzle of a gun and down a nine-feet 'snake' curled round a tree trunk. 30 10 11a

1930 10 16
Five miniature golf courses are now in operation in Cambridge. There are Messrs Grays in Sidney Street and the octagon course in King Street. The Premier Hall, Old Chesterton, has added midget golf to its other attractions and the Newmarket Road has the course in the club-room at 'The Bell'. Its holes represent hazards encountered during a trip from 'Trafalgar Square' to 'The Oval'. The latest 18-hole course at the Belle Vue Gardens is all-weather and open-air. It features a howitzer gun and a water jump and has been laid down by Capt Mullett who has constructed others in Vancouver and San Francisco. 30 10 16c

1933 01 07
Sir – Coldham's Common could be turned into a municipal nine-hole golf course now it is no longer required for shooting. The Corporation have £700 from the War Office in compensation for not putting the Common in the state it was before the rifle range was constructed. The various firing points and the lower portion of the butts could be used in the construction of a very sporting course, providing work for the unemployed. It would be no new thing to have golf played on the Common as the first University course was there – RG 33 01 07d

1951 11 01
The golden jubilee of the Gog Magog Golf Club was celebrated with a dinner at the Dorothy Café. Guest of honour was Mr Bernard Darwin, the famous authority on the game who was an early member of the club when an undergraduate at Trinity College. Recalling his early golfing days he mentioned some of the local courses, including one on Coldham's Common, one at Coton and another "somewhere near the Grange Road". The Gogs club was founded for the recreation of the senior members of the University and the first rules provided that the number of undergraduates permitted to play should not interfere with the convenience and enjoyment of the senior members of the University 51 11 01

1961 02 17
Golf on Coldham's Common historical article – 61 02 17

1971 06 25
Gog Magog Golf club new nine-hole relief course ready [16.11]

1980 02 23

Girton Golf club eight-year development ends - extended 18 hole course, clubhouse [16.12]

1986 11 26
Girton Golf Club celebrated its 50th anniversary. It has come a long way since the days when a special rule had to be introduced to cope with the sheep grazing on the greens. It was founded in 1936 by Scottish professional Allan Gow as a privately run organisation. Membership was three guineas for gentlemen and a round of the nine-hole course cost one shilling and sixpence. The course flooded several times a year and members squelched across water-logged fairways for most of the winter. In summer they had to negotiate huge cracks when the ground dried out. 86 11 26c

Coursing meeting, c1900 *185.83*

c.38 : Greyhound Racing

1902 01 28
A rabbit coursing and whippet race meeting was held in a field near the Milton Road, Cambridge and some good sport was witnessed. There was a smaller programme than on some former occasions. A good entry was received and some fine dogs were in the field. A proposal has been made to organise a coursing society for Cambridge and the idea is receiving considerable support. CDN 1902 01 28

1921 08 31
Whippet racing revived; first meeting after war – 21 08 31a

1922 04 20
The Whippet meeting arranged by the Cambridge Whippet Racing Club was held in the club's straight running ground, Arbury Road, Cambridge, when a good crowd of spectators witnessed some very decent running. The weather conditions were far from ideal for dog racing, and undoubtedly were responsible for some indifferent running 22 04 20

1928 06
Greyhound racing track prepared off Cherry Hinton Road & Cambridgeshire Greyhound Racing club formed, churches protest [4.5]

1932 12 23
Mr F. Plumby of Abbey Walk, who looks after the Cambridge Greyhound racing track on Newmarket Road, said he was at work in the middle of the track when a hare dashed on to it, closely pursued by a pack of harriers. It ran right round the whole 565 yards length of the course,

and just as it reached the winning-post the dogs came up with it. It ran into the space reserved for the judge, and there the pack killed it. 32 12 23b

1947 04 30
For over five hours the pros and cons of a proposal to erect a greyhound and sports stadium at Cherry Hinton were argued at a local inquiry into an appeal against the Borough Council's refusal of an application by Messrs Bartlett, Dash and Evans. The intention was to establish a handsome stadium, which would become a sports centre for the Eastern Counties. A promoter said Cambridge was the centre of by far the largest area in England without a greyhound track. The borough surveyor said the whole idea of the town planning scheme was to make Cherry Hinton a self-contained village community. He considered it highly important that the five mile green belt should remain inviolate. The Minister's decision might be expected in five or six weeks 47 04 30

1964 07 22
Nearly 500 people attended a greyhound race meeting at Chesterton Fen Road, one of eight to be held during the next few weeks. Now organisers are planning a campaign for a permanent track equipped with floodlights and facilities 64 07 22b [11.8]

1964 11 14
During the summer a series of greyhound racing meetings were held on an improvised track near a car breaker's yard at Fen Road Chesterton. But plans for a permanent stadium may prove impractical because of drainage difficulties. If buildings containing lavatories are to be erected the problems of foul sewage disposal might prove insurmountable. There are also problems about access to the site over the Fen Road level crossing. The road is inadequate for the kind of traffic that would be attracted to race meetings. Before the war a proposal to build one at Teversham was turned down 64 11 14

1967 10 13
Greyhound racing track approved at City Football Club twice a week – 67 10 13a

1973 11 27
Cambridge greyhound stadium moves from the dog racing backwoods in February next year when their twice-weekly meetings will come under the auspices of the National Greyhound Racing Club. At present their meetings at Cambridge City Football Club's Milton Road ground are continuing on Wednesday and Saturday during the floodlighting ban with the aid of a generator installed at Milton Road 73 11 27

1978 11 23
Milton road course revived & restarts [16.15]

1981 05 09
Milton Rd new £100,000 stand packed [16.16]

1982 12 10
Cambridge greyhound track has obtained a contract with the Bookmakers' Afternoon Greyhound Service to relay its meetings to bookmaking shops on Tuesdays for 13 weeks. They have installed more security with an anti-doping chromatography unit and veterinary surgeons at each meeting. They also plan to become the only dog track offering a bookmaker service for horse race meetings the same afternoon 81 12 10a

1984 04 16

"No room in new development", finishes 1984 after 16 years, was launched to save debt-ridden Milton Road in 1968 [16.17]

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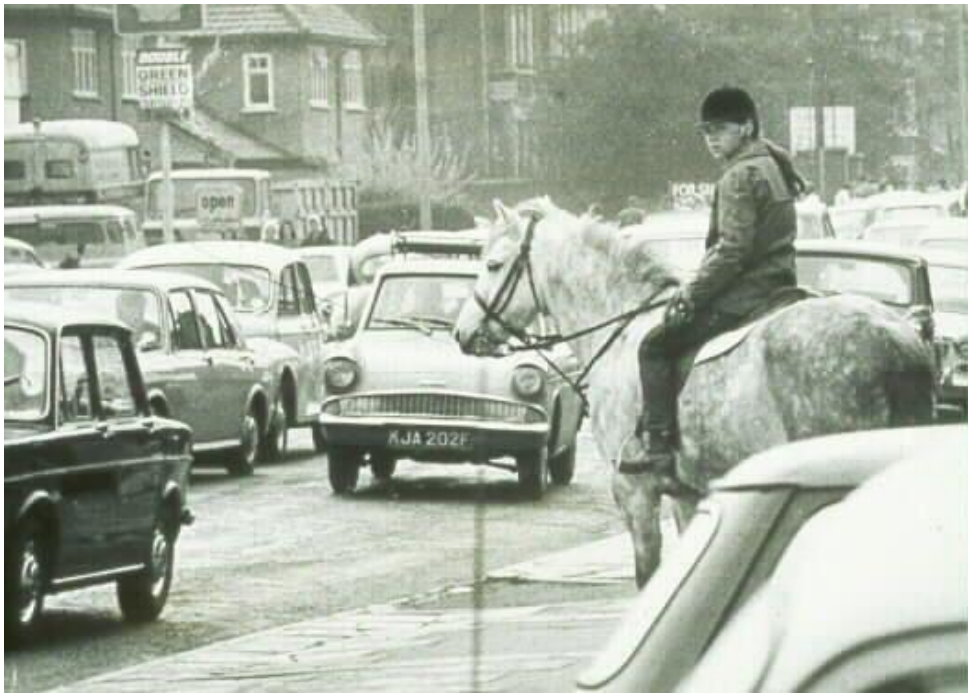

Pony waiting to cross Hills Road traffic, 1968

70.48

c.38 : Horse Riding

1938 12 02
The King Street Riding School is the largest and most up-to-date indoor riding school in the country. The Principal (Capt E. Cooper), as an instructor and horseman ranks second to none, having the reputation of being one of the finest riding masters to serve in the British Army. The long list of successes gained by his pupils in all branches of equitation during his thirty years at King Street testify to his outstanding ability as a Riding Master. 38 12 02a

1956 05 16
The White Horse Riding Establishment in Barton Road, Cambridge, has been used as a riding school for 35 years and has stabling for 24 horses. Much of the teaching takes place on land down Grange Road and it would reduce the dangers for inexperienced riders taking horses down Barton Road if they had an Indoor Riding School. But neighbours complained that it was noisy and smelly and a relic of the past. Horse boxes unloaded on the pavement and children stacked their bikes against the wall when they popped in to give the horses tit-bits. 56 05 16a

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Ladies hockey teams at Homerton College, 1953 *123.79*

c.38 : Hockey

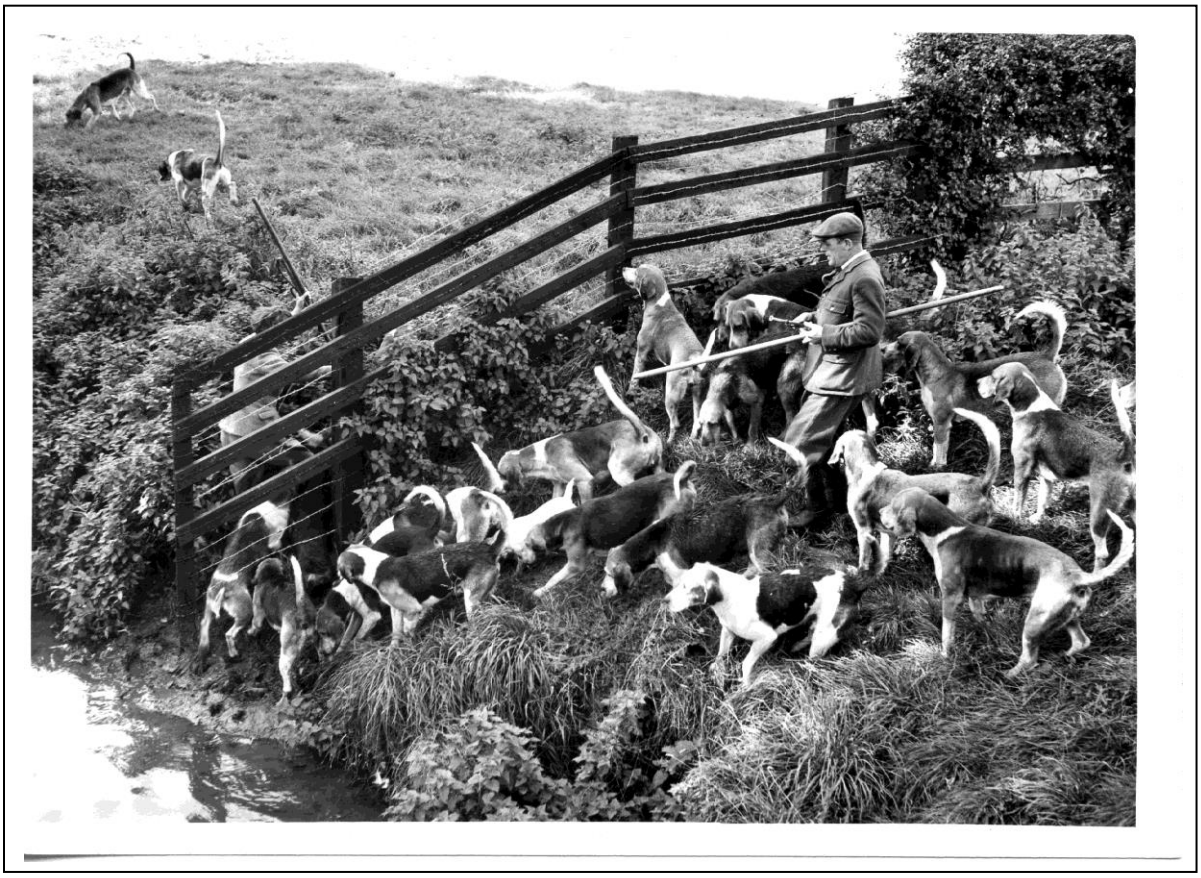
1911
Rinking very popular, carnivals at Chesterton rink & hockey club associated with it [7.12]

1931 03 13
Every woman who plays hockey is proud of Miss Gaskell. In 1914she took the first women's hockey team to Australia and has taken teams to the United States and South Africa. During the war she became Commandant of the Red Cross Convalescent Hospital for soldiers at St Chads that was open until 1919. She then started Barton W.I. and joined the Folk Dancing Society. 31 03 13a

1938 12 05
A pavilion erected in memory of H.G. Comber and W.F. Smith was opened on the University Hockey Ground, Barton Road. Comber had been captain of the University side in 1893, chairman of the council of the Hockey Association and first President of the Eastern Counties Association formed in 1908 while Mr Smith had been its Secretary for many years and had played for England from 1911-21. Inside is a case containing a collection of old hockey and bandy sticks 38 12 05

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 02 12
Mrs J. Blackburn has been chosen to play at right inner for the East Anglian Women's Hockey Association team in their match against the Midlands, becoming the first Cambridgeshire-born player to represent the East since the 1920's. She is the daughter of Sir John Cockcroft the atom bomb scientist who is to be the first Master of Churchill College. 60 02 12



Hunting hounds beside river, 1950s *172.90*

c.38 : Hunting

1907 03 01
A stag chased by the Cambridge Drag Hounds jumped into the garden of a house in Gower Road, Royston, then plunged through the window into the parlour. Two young ladies were terribly frightened as the animal dashed round, breaking chairs, pictures and mirrors until huntsmen secured it. Meanwhile the hounds entered the kitchen and devoured the whole of the family's dinner. The huntsmen continue their sport after leaving an address to which the owner should write for compensation. 07 03 01

1909 12 03
Following a prosecution of an undergraduate for alleged cruelty to a deer when hunted by the University Draghounds the Vice Chancellor has ordered that the stags kept by the hunt are to be sent away from Cambridge. In future the hunting of deer or other animals kept in confinement renders members of the University amenable to the Court of Discipline. The practice, therefore, so far as the University is concerned, is at an end CWN 09 12 03

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1910 07 15
The Master of the University Draghounds was accused by the RSPCA of abusing a hind. The keeper's house at Shelford Crossing is surrounded by a wooden palisade and the animal made its way into the yard. The men used poles and brooms to drive it out and flicked it with whips. Eventually it was dislodged, only to go back again. It finally left in so exhausted a condition that it fell down and died. 10 07 15

1919 01 22
Cambridgeshire Hunt saved from extinction; Master offers to hunt county for £800, against £1,100 before the war. Could not keep a pack of hounds at that price before the war and needed more – 19 01 22a

1919 12 10
Hounds meet again. - After a lapse of six years, the Cambridgeshire Hounds met at Anstey Hall, Trumpington, the residence of Mr. G. R. C. Foster, last week. There was a good muster. 19 12 10 CIPof

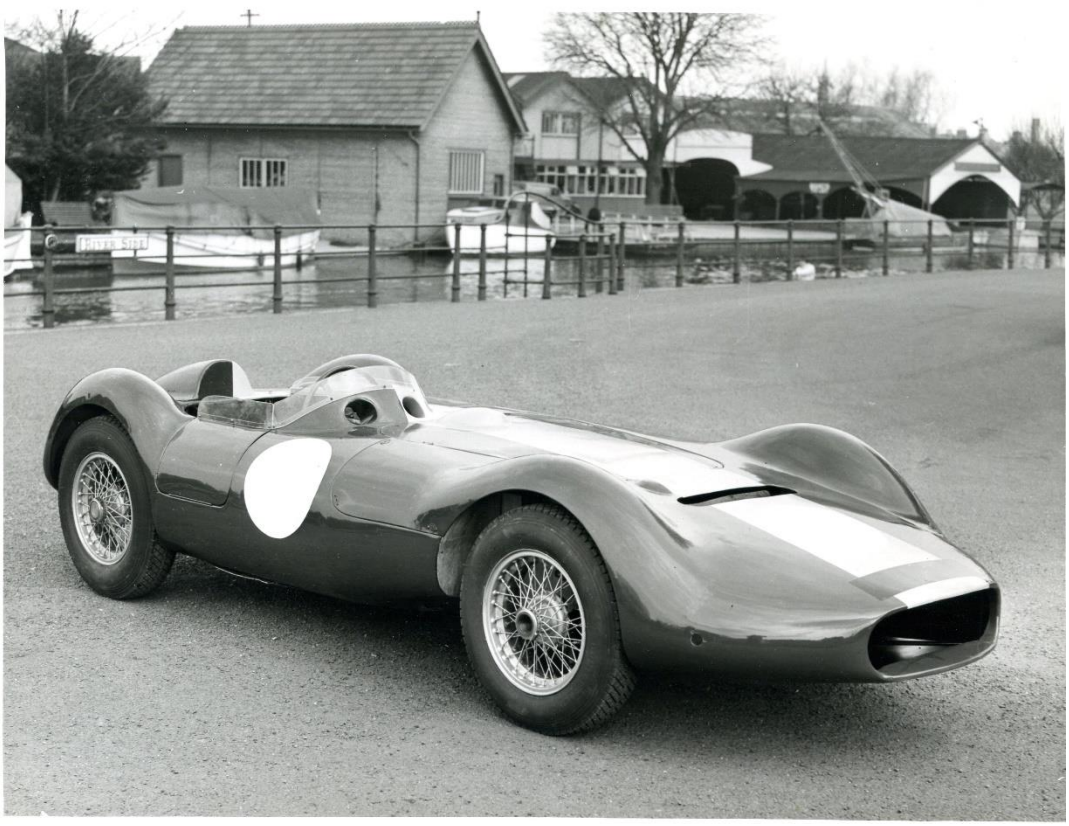
1930 12 27
The heavy rain did not deter a large number of members of the Cambridgeshire Hunt from assembling on Cambridge Market Hill for this traditionally English spectacle. The scene was one worth a soaking to witness. Figures in the traditional red and black mingled with macintoshed horsemen, their steaming mounts were restless, the hounds silent and around was a rain-drenched crowd of about 1,000 people. They took a great deal of interest in a small terrier who looked out from the mouth of a haversack slung across a red-coated huntsman's back 30 12 27a-b

1931 10 23
Cambridge University Drag Hunt first meet on Market Hill – photo – 31 10 23e

1932 10 14
Cambridge market hill presented an animated appearance when the University Drag Hounds held a meeting. Thirty horsemen gathered to be welcomed by the Mayor and a silver stirrup cup was handed round to all who could persuade their mounts to remain still for 30 seconds. They then moved off followed by all but one of the hounds which soon received 'instructions; from the crowd of 200 spectators and joined his comrades. 32 10 14a

1957 10 17
In the 1920s when Col. W. Whitbread was at Cambridge University he was Master of the Trinity Foot Beagles which hunted in the Swavesey district. A public house called the New Inn on the Huntingdon Road was well known to him so when his brewery bought it from Greene King they decided to rename it the 'Trinity Foot'. Now it has been completely renovated with a new sign. It was delayed when the van carrying it broke down but was quickly erected just before the unveiling 57 10 17

1980 08 15
Trinity Foot Beagles review – 80 08 15



Lister Jaguar *201.16*

c.38 : Motor Racing

1909 07 09
Trinity student killed at Brooklands motor racing track – CWN 09 07 09

1958 05 27
Early reports of Archie Scott Brown's tragic accident gave the erroneous impression that a mechanical fault in his Cambridge-built Lister-Jaguar had resulted in the crash. This was not true: the car was performing as well as ever. Archie was fighting for the lead in the Grand Prix of Spa when he hit the wall just before the La Source hairpin. Snetterton Motor Racing Club has announced that a Memorial Trophy Race will be held in his honour. 58 05 27

1959 02 23
A short ceremony will be held just before the flag drops at the next race at Snetterton. The memory of the late Archie Scott Brown will be commemorated by the unveiling of a permanent memorial in the form of a bronze head and shoulders sculptured in relief. The new Lister Jaguars are expected to make their first appearance alongside the new Lotus Seventeens and the first of the new Cooper Monacos. There is more prize money this year: the winner of the British Empire Trophy will get £400, which works out at £10 a lap, or about 70 shillings a mile! 59 02 23a

1959 07 03
Brian Lister has two great passions, jazz and jalopies. He lives on excitement, yet to see him you wouldn't think so. He's a stocky man with an India rubber face. And a grin that's as wide and welcoming as Woodcote corner. He looks a quiet man, a placid man, a jolly man. The last he is.

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The others he certainly is not. Otherwise he would not have had his sensational success in the business of motor racing with the Lister Jaguar 59 07 03

1959 08 24
Lister Jaguar leave motor racing – detailed article – 59 08 24 & a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 12 30
Mrs J.A. Rayment of Cambridge was not impressed when her husband bought a go-kart and could not be persuaded to try it for some time. But when she did she was soon keen on the craze which is sweeping the country. Their son shares his parents' keenness and their 18-year-old daughter also occasionally has a drive. The Cambridge Go-Kart club has 75 members of whom four are women. The vehicles travel up to 45 mph but give a tremendous impression of speed as they are near to the ground. 60 12 30

1980 12 30
Thomas Orbell, the owner of a garage in Milton Road Cambridge for almost 50 years has died. He was widely-known in motor-racing circles because of his son, David, who won the second round of the Clubmans Register Championship at Brands Hatch in April. He was still involved in engine development for his son's present venture in Formula Three racing. 80 12 30

1981 06 26
A car sales manager for Salisbury's in Cambridge, Terry Nightingale is swapping his 135 mph Dolomite Sprint for a Mini-Metro. But this will zip along at around 120 mph and should boost his chance of winning the British Saloon Car Championship. He is one of the most successful racing drivers in his class but only races as a hobby. It can cost about £2,000 to take part in one race meeting and he has to rebuild the engine and gearbox after two. 81 06 26

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Scrambling, 1950s *64.15*

c.38 : Motorcycle Racing *(see also c.26.4855 Motorcycling)*

1914 07 11
Motor cycling : banned from Cambridge Town & County Charity sports due to danger, even though capacity Reduced from 300 to 250 cc [7.20]

1931 04 01
Cambridgeshire had its first taste of dirt-track thrills when a crowd of 5,000 witnessed some excellent racing on the new speedway at Caxton. The management had not anticipated such a crush with the result that the solitary entrance was sorely taxed and the pay-box nearly pushed over by the pressure of the queues. Despite showers the track rode well and although there were several falls only one rider – Buster Cray – was injured. The Eastern Counties' scratch event was one by Puff Morley, who rode in fearless style. 31 04 10h

1931 06 12
Cambridgeshire speedway advertisement – 31 06 12s

1938 09 02

Speedway enthusiasts visiting Wembley Stadium were unaware that amongst the finalists was a local man. Tommy Price was born in Cambridge and attended the old County School. An enthusiastic mechanic he acquired an A.J.S and took part in his first grass-track race at St Ives. Having moved to London he graduated to a pukka speedway machine and began his racing career with the Wembley team competing against the finest riders in the world. He also studied aeronautics and has built several model planes which he flies at Northolt Aerodrome. 38 09 02

1954
Motor cycle scrambles have gradually caught on and last year the number of spectators has reached 10,000, the Centaur Motor Cycle Club were told at their annual dinner dance at the Dorothy. Mr L.W. Hallen, who was celebrating 21 years of business, welcomed a local prodigy, Mr Tommy Price the former World Champion speedway rider. Mr George Savage, 'Dickie' Davies and Aubrey Thompson – men whose names are bye-words in the motorcycling world – were also present. Highlights of the year included trick riding events arranged as part of the Coronation celebrations and the revival of the old game of grass track racing c54 01 05

1954 12 23
One cold December night just before Christmas 1933 a dozen motor cycling enthusiasts gathered in a room over a public house in Chesterton and decided to form the Centaur Motor Cycle Club. Pre-war it was mainly a social club catering for the weekend rider. With war came petrol rationing and shortage of oil but the club somehow kept going. In 1945 it began to get back on its feet, organising the first scramble at Caxton. They then pioneered events such as trials, grass track racing and sidecar events. Now, 21 years later, over 160 members crowded into the Dorothy Restaurant to celebrate the club's coming-of-age 54 12 23

1955 07 19
Motor cycle side-car scrambling came to the area for the first time on Sunday – and what an exciting debut it made! The Matchless Club event at Elsworth proved so exciting and such a spectacular attraction that a special handicap race was held. Brian Stonebridge, the 25-year-old scramble star from Rampton won both. Nothing could touch his B.S.A. 500 combination; he roared into every turn and jumped the bumps at full throttle. 55 07 19

1959 10 22
Brian Stonebridge, the ace scrambler, was sponsored by King and Harper and had several seasons riding BSA and Francis Barnett machines. Later he rode Matchless, then moved to B.S.A. to become one of their 'works' riders. Recently he went to work for Invacar, producing the Greeves motor cycles which were used for scrambles. He was killed when his Austin Atlantic coupe collided with an Austin 16 and was then hit by a lorry. 59 10 22

c.38 : Quoits

1926
Quoits : in '20s was centre of quoits playing in East Anglia, own league & rules;
1926 was one of last year's league existed [12.3]

c.38 : Racquets

1898 08 24
Licencing racquet court, p2 *

1907 04 30
In the records of sport there is no instance of one family attaining greater re-eminence in any particular branch of sport that of the Gray family of Cambridge, in racquets. From 1863 onwards there have been five professional champions. Henry James Gray who was the first, is a town councillor and head of the well-known firm of athletic outfitters of Sidney Street. 07 04 30a & b

1915 03 05
Death of Councillor H. J. Gray. We regret to record the death of Councillor Henry John Gray, which occurred at his residence, 'Roslyn' St. Barnabas Road, Cambridge, on Thursday. For some time Mr. Gray had suffered from an internal complaint and this recently became acute, and an operation was performed on Sunday. He made progress for a time but suffered a relapse from which he never rallied. The death of Mr. Gray will be deeply regretted by a wide circle of friends, and particularly by the older generation of sportsmen in the town. He was in his 79th year. In his younger days the deceased gentleman was an all-round athlete, and he won considerable renown in many classes of sport. He was born in Cambridge and in 1855 he started business on his own account, subsequently establishing the firm of H. J. Gray and Son, athletic outfitters. He was head of the firm until about 19 years ago. Mr. Gray was the oldest of five brothers. He held the Professional Racquets Championship from 1868 for several years, and he trained two of his brothers, who were also champions. Between the three brothers the Gray family retained the championship for 22 years. He was an exceptionally fine coach and established a famous racquet school. He was also a prominent local cricketer, and was a member of the Cambridgeshire team which played against All England in a match on Parker's Piece some years ago. In November 1894 Mr. H. J. Gray was elected Town Councillor for the Petersfield Ward, and since then he has done useful work on the Corporation and on some of its committees. 15 03 05

1934 01 12
H.J. Gray, the Cambridge sports manufacturers are flourishing and announced plans to extend their Playfair Works into which they moved from Searle Street 25 years ago. Now a new mill and motor engine would be introduced to keep up with demand. Henry John Gray started his career in a racquets court on the site of the present University Arms Hotel nearly 90 years ago. He became champion racquets player of England – a title that had stayed in the family for 22 years - and two his brothers became champions of the world. 34 01 12

1955 12 16
The world-renowned firm of Grays of Cambridge was founded 100 years ago by H.J. Gray who, with four other brothers, held the racquets championship of the world for several years. They started as boys in the racquets courts of St John's College where they strang the racquet hoops, which led to the founding of the firm years before the game of lawn tennis started. Afterwards they produced cricket bats. 55 12 16a & b

1984 12 14
Foreign competition is forcing Grays to stop volume production of wooden squash racquets early next year due to the difference between the cost of labour and overheads in Cambridge and Taiwan. But production of a limited range of top-quality specialist racquets will continue as will its cricket bat and ball factories in Sussex and Kent. The129-year-old company, which has its headquarters at the Playfair Works in Benson Street and a sports shop in Sidney Street, employs around 110 people locally. 84 12 14

1986 06 17
Grays of Cambridge, the 130-years-old sports firm, has reached the end of an era with the closure of its Benson Street headquarters. The only remaining presence locally is a small racquet-making factory at Coton on the site of their former sawmill. The last 18 months have seen the workforce dwindle from 150 to just six. The main reasons for decline have been increased competition from Taiwan and a change away from wooden frames towards graphite and metal racquets and. Now they produce them for the small market of real tennis and rackets players 86 06 17a

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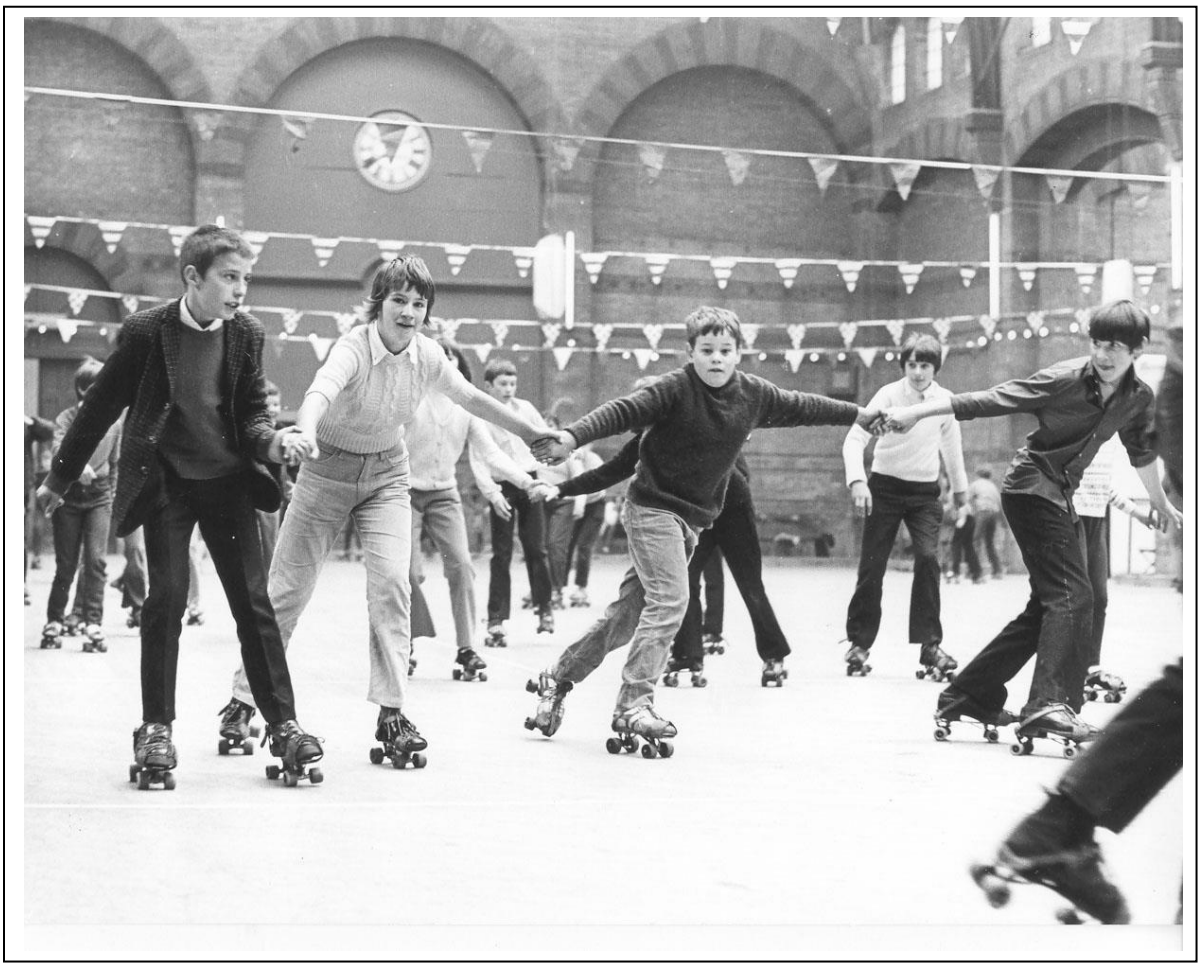

Roller skating in Corn Exchange, 1974 *101.74*

c.38 : Roller skating & Skateboarding

1909 12 10
The new skating rink at the back of Hertford Street was constructed to avoid any noise nuisance. Rinking was a fashionable amusement and there would be a charge so it would not be overrun with the rough element. They wanted to have a string band, with no drums, to play at intervals. There was not the slightest intention of making it a dancing saloon but they would like a licence so it could be used for subscription dances during May Week. CWN 09 12 10

1910
Roller skating craze at height in 1910 with University and Town Rink in Magrath Avenue, Victoria Assembly Rooms, skating rink on Market Hill and in Pythagoras Gardens where was open-air skating and shooting range – 41 05 03b

1910 03 18
A grand fancy dress carnival at the University and Town Skating Rink attracted a large crowd and many ingenious costumes were seen. When a number of undergraduates were on the rink some wonderfully complete and extensive costumes were displayed. The rink presented a very pretty appearance when the ever-changing stream of skaters was illuminated with kaleidoscopic tints

from the lime lights. Roller skating is not a sudden whim and the 'craze' has not died out. Young and old are trying to skate in thousands of rinks all over the country and the splendid floor of the Cambridge rink has been crowded almost every day since it was opened. 10 03 18g, photo 18d

1910 12 16
Roller skating racing holds a prominent position in the world of sport. In Cambridge a large crowd were attracted to the University and Town Rink in Magrath Avenue to witness a half-mile amateur championship. It is undoubtedly one of the largest rinks in the Eastern Counties and well suited for racing. The floor was in excellent condition and the times recorded very good indeed. H.P. Pilbeam, a youngster of much promise, was leading up to the last lap but lacked training and could not stay the course. It was won by A. Gray who skated very finely 10 12 16

1910 12 23
Dr George Cunningham, dentist of King's Parade, conceived the idea of inventing a curling stone that could be used on roller skating rinks. He sought assistance from Henry Birch, a scientific instrument maker. At first the wheel carried the dust into the ball races and clogged them, so he invented a device to prevent the dust from getting in. Then he tried rubber wheels but these were a complete failure. Dr Cunningham never complained of the prices charged but disputed the number of hours it had taken. 10 12 23f

1911 04 07
Roller Skating Extraordinary. Last evening at the Victoria Rink on Market Hill, Monohan, the most remarkable skater in the world, gave an exhibition which evoked the greatest admiration. He performed many original turns, such as the candle maze, waltzing with a life-sized doll and concluded his wonderful display by jumping over five chairs. 11 04 07e

1911 11 24
The University and Town Roller Skating Rink will open its doors as the County Rink Cinema, Magrath Avenue. A small portion of the large building is being converted into an up-to-date picture theatre where the very best films will be shown. The ticket will also give free entry to the rink and use of skates. The ring will certainly be smaller but still allow for racing and hockey. Gymkhanas and carnivals will continue to be held. 11 11 24b

1928 03 22
Sir – May I draw attention to a new form of pastime which should be nipped in the bud before some fatality is recorded. I refer to the increasing practice of boys using roller skates in the streets and on the pavements. This afternoon two lads were careering along Regent Street amongst the traffic. Other towns have already taken action to put a stop to this new boyish craze and it is to be hoped that Cambridge will do likewise – "Safety First" 28 03 22

1951 04 06
Local roller skating enthusiasts are now able to get awheel in fine style at the Rex Ballroom, Cambridge, on Monday and Thursday evenings when grown ups take to the floor to music by Austen Paine and his orchestra. There appears to be no lack of demand and skaters from the surrounding villages can often be seen gyrating on the floor. The introduction of roller skating to the Ballroom has entailed no alterations to the floor, because the skates, which are supplied by the Management, have composite wheels that do not damage the polished surface

1955 08 13
The National Skating Association tests for figure, dance and pair skating were held at Cambridge Corn Exchange. All the candidates were pupils of resident instructors, Brian and Mary Jackson.

Those successful included Alan Southgate (inter-silver figures), Mrs Bundy, Pat Reynolds and Myra Ellis (preliminary dance) and Ivan Ayres (bronze dance). During the evening a roller dance contest was staged between teams from U.S. Forces, St Neots and Cambridge. 55 08 13

1956 07 27
Roller skating approved at Corn exchange [5.21]

1956 10 03
Maureen Jackson, the 21-year-old Cambridge girl who has been British Roller-Skating Champion for the last three years is to compete in the World Championship in Barcelona. She only started reluctantly after the war but when her ballet dancing ambitions faded she became more engrossed in both roller and ice-skating. Her father is the instructor at the Cambridge rink. 56 10 03a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 08 17
Councillors expressed disappointment over the lack of success of the new roller skating rink on Christ's Pieces. Opened at the beginning of the present school holidays it was expected to attract youngsters. Instead it has remained unused. But children did not know the new amenity existed: there was only a small notice on a gate that was kept closed 60 08 17

1960 08 26
Cambridge roller-skating enthusiasts will be able to enjoy an extra day's pleasure this season because the man who rents the Corn Exchange rink is superstitious. John Harris, who runs a chain of rinks round the country, never likes reopening on Fridays. Local skaters took full advantage and several dozen were speeding round the wooden floor within minutes of opening time. His Cambridge manager W. Lloyd-Worth, who has spent over 50 years in the roller and ice-skating business, hopes to organise National Skating Association championships and has sought proctorial permission from the University. 60 08 26

1960 09 09
The roller skating rink at Cambridge Corn Exchange attracts enthusiasts from a large area. Saturday morning is the children's morning and with its yards of bunting, the otherwise sombre building has a carnival air. From the very young to the really quite grown up they were tumbling about, wobbling precariously round the perimeter or pirouetting stylishly in the centre. Some of the girls swooped round in short costumes while the run-of-the-mill dressed for the rough and tumble in trousers. Skaters pay one shilling and sixpence (8p) which includes the hire of skates. The rink is leased to J.W. Harris, who also has one at Hunstanton, and is managed by Mr Lloyd Worth who has been a professional in the skating business for 53 years. 60 09 09c

1972 08 12
The Mayor of Cambridge had a go at skateboarding, the latest craze among youngsters. But try as he would to keep still the board had a will of its own and he had to hold on to one of a group of teenagers who went to see him about finding a proper skateboard rink in the city. He told them he had already made a firm request for the Amenities Committee to consider their 1,637-name petition and asked if some of the city's lottery money can be spent on one. The slopes of the Lion Yard present an ideal combination of smooth surface and different angles to turn in but shoppers say it is dangerous and large areas of plate glass windows are likely to be broken 72 08 12

1977

Skateboarding : proposed skateboard park in middle of roundabout [2.6]

1977 04 12
Four Cambridge schoolboys, keen supporters of the latest skateboarding craze to hit Britain following its spread from America, have been banned from practising during the holidays on the playground of the Priory School, Galfrid Road, Cambridge. It is the second school to ban skateboards and is creating come controversy in education and road safety circles. A senior county education administrator said if there was an accident the education authority would be responsible but a senior county road safety officer said it was better to have them off the road and on to places like school playgrounds. The boys hope to establish a skateboarding club with proper facilities. 77 04 12

1978 10 27
Skateboard firms have been quietly going out of business over the summer. Few of the country's 84 skateparks have proved a success and a recent survey claimed that there were only 15,000 skaters left. This has spelled disaster to hundreds of would-be skateboard tycoons. In Cambridge there is still a hard core of skaters who show no sign of losing interest. You can find them most weekends up at the Cheddar's Lane skateboard park. "I wouldn't dream of giving up" said one 14-year-old. "I am at the height of it and I want to get more stuff". But stuff is not cheap; a reasonably sophisticated board and set of protective clothing can set you back as much as £65 78 10 27 (closes Nov 1979) [22.14,22,15]

1980 02 29
Proposal skateboard rink Barnwell Road

1980 07 11
An 11-year-old Fen Ditton girl, Lisa Colclough, has won a British women's title in roller-skating – the sport's youngest-ever national champion. She was also runner-up in figure skating. Roller-skating is run along parallel lines to ice skating – much to seriously for Lisa to take her skates out on the Fen Ditton primary school playground with her friends. They cost £200 a pair and the wheels would soon crack. 80 07 11e

1980 07 30
Proposed skateboard rink goes to Peterborough instead [17.4]

1981 07 03
Another skateboard plan approved [17.5]

1985 02 25
Artistic roller skating was demonstrated at the Kelsey Kerridge Sports Hall. Most of the skaters started when the Bury St Edmunds Rollerbury opened three years ago and since then several groups have been formed in village halls. Gail Jolley of Soham took up artistic skating with her daughter Laura and has already passed three exams. Eventually it is hoped it will become recognised as an Olympic Sport 85 02 25

1987 08 05
A group of enterprising skateboard fans have set up their own club and raised £800 (£1,840 today) to buy ramps to skate on. They have been loaned £400 by Townsends toy and cycle shop and have saved the rest. Now they are looking for new members to join the club which will be based on Heath Farm, Shelford Bottom. Charles Bradford, whose parents run the farm, said

"There is nowhere in Cambridge for us to skate. We have even had to go to London to find somewhere". Membership will be £10 per year. 87 08 05a

1987 09 04
Skateboarding is back! The old Skate Park at Cheddars Lane was awful, the transitions were bad and you could feel every bump. But Billy's Ramp Skate Club at Shelford Bottom is completely different allowing newer, better tricks practised by dedicated skateboarders determined to be 'rad' and not 'lame'. The right gear is a must. Outrageously decorated T-shirts, below-the-knee Bermuda shorts, baseball-style boots and the essential protective helmet, wrist-guards, knee and elbow pads are all hallmarks of a hip skateboarder.87 09 04a

A bump, c1910 *172.85*

c.38 : Rowing

Cambridgeshire Rowing Association history – Briscoe Snelson – 63 03 09a

The City of Cambridge Rowing Club was founded on April 20 1863. 'Town' rowing had flourished in the 1840s with half-a-dozen clubs capable of manning an eight apiece . But by the mid 50's it was mainly confined to gig-pairs and four-oared activity. At times no local crew owned even a rudder string and depended on College Boat Clubs for the loan of equipment. In 1953 the club organised the first open regatta to be held on the Cam for over 50 years and in 1961 the Leys School decided to add rowing to their athletic activities, a centenary dinner heard. 63 03 29c 63 03 29c

1868
Cambridgeshire Rowing Association formed; Cambridge Town club established 1863, followed by United College Servants & Albert Institute; CEYMS & YMCA & Pitt Press followed & felt need for governing body; because of bad state of Cam - sewage etc- University had lost every race with Oxford since 1860, subscription list opened for improvement of river, Queen Victoria gave £100; old railway bridge too narrow for rowing eights & agreement with ECR for new bridge with clearway of 60 ft; banks straightened, river scoured to depth 7-8 feet & new bridge to give uninterrupted course of 3 miles 3 furlongs from Jesus Locks to Baits Bite which improved quality of rowing [19]

1868
Bumping races re-established for local clubs [20]

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1876
Rowing costs 1876 and 1960 – 60 07 08a

1883
Amateur Rowing Regatta 1883 – feature – 61 07 27
1888 03 02
Undergraduate killed in Bumps accident when pointed bow hit ribs when rowing & ribs pierced his heart, Stearn the photographer took photo which proves rudder defective [5.26, 5.27]

1892 05
Undergraduate hit by lightning during May Races [3.15]

1892 05
Last procession of boats after Bumps races, 'sent down' relating to men sent down for taking part in bonfire at St Johns [2.11, 3.13,22.3]

1899 05 31
Out of the recent split in the ranks of the Cambridge Y.M.C.A. a new 99 rowing club has sprung and already it has a promised membership of 30. The authorities had adopted a policy over smoking and it was plain to them that the Boat Club would fail unless something was done to keep the members together. Mr Digby referred to the recent controversy on smoking. He was a father of five boys and if they did nothing worse than smoke when they had arrived at the age of men, he should be perfectly satisfied - 1899 05 31

1900 06 08
An accident such as that which befell Mr G. Flowers of Emmanuel College on the Cam is always to be regretted. He was rowing in the Emmanuel College boat when it was bumped by the St John's boat the nose of which came violently against his chest and he received a severe injury. Had it occurred in the days before it was compulsory to put indiarubber balls on the noses of the boats there is much reason to fear he must have been killed 00 06 08

1901 06 10
After the rowing races at Ditton Corner & when the crush of small boats was at its height, a steam launch crowded with people endeavoured to force its way through the block of boats. Frantic endeavours were made to get out of its way but the launch crashed into a boat which contained two men, who were thrown into the river. Shouts from bystanders eventually brought the launch to a standstill but no effort was made to render any assistance. What would have been the results had the boat contained ladies. All launches should have a look-out man on the bow as it is impossible to see from the stern what is happening in front CDN 1901 06 10

1904 06 10
A serious accident occurred following the 'Mays'. After the half-past six race there is usually a scramble from the course to the boat-yards and collisions are frequent. But when a steamer and pleasure craft collide the consequences are unpleasant for the occupants of the smaller boats. Two of these were overturned and their eight occupants, including ladies, were precipitated into the water but happily all were rescued. One lady excited admiration for her cool behaviour in a perilous position and managed to climb into one of the small craft. CDN 1904 06 10

1904 06 13

The Rev N.W. Shelton, vicar of Old Chesterton and his party, half-a-dozen in all, met with an unpleasant experience at the 'Mays'. The party, in an ordinary rowing boat, had left the scene of the action and arrive, after the usual difficulty, at the Pike and Eel ferry where their progress was barred for a time. During the period of waiting a big houseboat, towed by a horse, 'crashed' into the boat which it sunk and precipitated the occupants into the water. After a short period of excitement the party, which included several ladies, were landed safely on the houseboat, which proceeded on its course. It is an abominable shame that these large houseboats are allowed to travel on the river when it is crowed with smaller craft. It was going at from six to seven miles an hour and was in charge of a small boy on a horse. 1904 06 13

1905 06 10
An extraordinary incident occurred at the May Races. The stroke of the Downing boat was experimenting at the Laboratory in the morning when he was the victim of an unfortunate accident which greatly affected his eyes. To requisition another stroke would be impossible so with indomitable pluck he decided to row. This he actually did, but was blindfolded. Sadly his energies were of no avail and his boat was bumped by Trinity Hall. 05 06 10

1905 06 12
The sinister hand of Death has cast its shadow over Cambridge in its most joyous mood. In the very midst of the May Week holiday three people were drowned through the capsizing of the ferryboat known as the Red Grind at Fen Ditton. Two journeys had been made after the racing, the ferry crowded each time and when the boat was ready for the third about 20 people commenced the fateful voyage. Two University men jumped on at the last moment, the ferry gave a lurch and turned turtle pitching the screaming occupants into six feet of water. Words cannot describe the scene at Fen Ditton when the ferry sank. People in the grounds of the Plough rushed to the bank, one or two men plunged into the water, others seized chairs and hurled them towards the struggling mass in the river. Pleasure boats hurried and scurried in answer to frantic appeals for help and the Ditton men shoved off in their black fishing boats. Off the twenty or so who went down with the ferry all but three were saved. Miss Violet Handscombe was engaged to Mr Thomas Day and together they enjoyed a visit to the May races. From the Plough pleasure gardens they stepped aboard the ill-fated Red Grind ferry. When it sank Mr Day became separated from his intended bride and managed to reach the bank unassisted. Eagerly he looked for his betrothed but she had become entangled with the rail when the ferry capsized; he plunged into the river again and brought her to dry land but she had been so long under water that life was extinct. Miss Minnie Murkin is the central figure of the Fen Ditton ferry sinking. Today she was to have been a happy bride but now her body will be borne to the tomb. At her home in Selwyn Terrace the last few days have witnessed all the preliminary events that precede the wedding; presents have been arriving and her finance came from Swansea. He was on the bank, witnessed the upsetting of the boat and endured the agony of seeing his prospective bride dragged beneath the surface by the sinking craft. 05 06 12, a-c,

1905 06 13
The inquests on the three victims of the ferry sinking was opened in Fen Ditton schoolroom. The jury proceeded to the melancholy task of viewing the bodies. Those of Mrs Annie Thompson and Miss Minnie Murkin were laid side by side in a darkened room at the Plough, attired in white as for burial, and awaiting outside were the coffins. They then proceeded to a house in which Miss Handscombe was already laid in her coffin. Next they viewed the boat which had been raised from the river. 05 06 13a

1905 09 09

"Yet another boathouse - Trinity Hall ... are three handsome boathouses next door to each other - all that is wanted now is the river" [6.22]

1907 06 08
The boat procession used to be the most popular of the May Week gaieties. The brilliant blazers of the collegeians, the varied colours of the ladies' charming costumes, the prettily adorned boats together with the enlivening strains of an excellent band all combined to make a scene of colour and animation. The gathering fell through owing to the apathy of the boating men who objected to dressing up to be looked at. But it is a great pity 07 06 08a

1907 07 27
The origin of the Cambridge Town Bumping Races is surrounded by some obscurity. It is said there were eight-oared races as far back as 1820. In 1868 the Amateur Eight-Oar Town Races were commenced but lapsed owing to the rival attractions of lawn tennis and cycling. In 1888 a silver plate was presented to the Rowing Association and since then the names of the head of the river crew have been inscribed on it, with one exception – 1894. 07 07 27

1910 06 17
Saturday's bump suppers proved exceptionally popular. It is customary for bonfires to be held in college courts and the frequent discharge of fireworks kept the fun flowing until the early hours. Jesus, who retained their position as head of the river, held a magnificent bonfire on the Close. A large crowd attracted by an enormous pile of old boxes dumped near the tennis courts, assembled in anticipation of fun before the pile was set ablaze by firing Roman candles into the heart of the inflammable mass.10 06 17

1913 03 21
Cambridge rowing coach Capt J.H. Gibbon featured in 'The World' magazine 13 03 21 p4 CIP

1913 05 30
Two undergraduates told the court they were coming up the Cam in light sculling boats when they met a tug towing a string of six barges belonging to Colchester and Ball of Burwell. The barges smashed their boat and threw them in the river. The bargee said the wind had blown the rear barges across the river and the scull had got nipped between them and the bank, despite attempts by two men with poles to avoid the accident. But a Met Office witness testified there had been little wind that day. The judge said were too many barges in the chain and the back ones would always swing. He spoke from personal experience as an old oarsman on the Cam 13 05 30 p10 CIP

1913 11 21
The Fire escape and engine responded to the alarm of a blaze at St John's College where they found a bonfire burning in second court to celebrate the victory of a rower in the Colquhoun Sculls. Fireworks were discharged and a crowd gathered to watch the glare through the chapel windows. Later a fire broke out in a wicker chair in an undergraduate's room. It is thought a spark from the bonfire may have blown through the window, or a lighted cigarette dropped in the chair. 13 11 21 p11 CIP

1919 03 12
First ladies 'eight' on Cam – Newnham college; photos – 19 03 12c

1919 05 07
Fifty years Varsity waterman; reminiscences of 'Ted' Phillips – 19 05 07e

1920 09 08
College Servants rowing eights today and long ag0 – enjoyable reminiscences – Ch 20 09 08b

1920 09 22
Sixty years on the Cam – memories of rowing, detailed article – Ch 20 09 22, a-b

1922
'99 first boat starts 5th in division & makes bump every night to finish Head of River, Wick Alsop in crew [3.4]

1927 05 16
Trinity Hall Boat Club centenary, 27 05 16 p8

1927 06
Rowing : May Bumps broadcast by BBC for first time, the Boat Club Ball a brilliant function [4.2]

1927 06 13
Jesus College were the fastest rowers on the river and deserved to succeed in the May Races. As in other years a huge bonfire was lighted in the grounds of the college and the undergraduates celebrated the return of the Headship by dancing round the flames, shouting and singing. The "orgy" was kept up to midnight. The revels were watched by a large crowd of townspeople and some of the merrymakers engaged in good-humoured banter, amusing them with impromptu speeches. 27 06 13

1929
Cambridgeshire Rowing Association oarsman's service starts (50th 1979) [22.11]

1930 02 24
The successful crews in the Lent bumping races celebrated in traditional manner. Hundreds of excited undergraduates in 'bump supper' costume filled the streets till midnight and over it all flickered the light and smoke of bonfires. Boats were burned amid shouting and bacchanalian merriment at St Catharine's, Selwyn and Emmanuel who for the first time in history had finished head of the river. An 'eight' was sacrificed in the paddock of the college upon a huge pyre. The manoeuvre of getting the boat into the college proved by no means an easy one and traffic was held up as the unwieldy craft, borne on the shoulders of the crews, was shunted into Downing Street before being passed through the narrow gate. At St Catharine's the boat was escorted to the burning by a procession headed by a band of unemployed ex-Servicemen who had been playing on the towing path 30 02 24a

1930 03 12
A crowd of nearly 3,000 massed in front of the loud speaker which Pye Radio had installed in the main window of the Cambridge Guildhall. Business in the market was suspended and the lanes between the stalls were solid with people. In the shops and offices there was a general cessation of work; counters and desks were forsaken and faces appeared at every window. There was a cheer when the Cambridge boat crew drew level and overtook Oxford. Workers hurrying home eagerly bought copies of the special edition of the CDN and pictures are being shown at the Central and Tivoli cinema this evening. 30 03 12a

1930 06 12

Diaphanous frocks gave way to less flamboyant costume and what colour there was came from the blazers of the undergraduates. On the river the most conspicuous figures was a balloon vendor selling his wares by boat. An inflated rubber swan and frog trailed behind his craft, while from the 'mast' hung all kinds of air-filled cusiosities 30 06 12a

1932 06 09
May races opening – crowds – 32 06 09

1932 09 23
Jesus College boathouse was damaged by fire; the upper floor was gutted and the stone ground floor reduced to the dismal prospect of two dozen boats of all kinds, either charred beyond repair or only slightly blistered by the heat. They included ten eights, two fours, two light pairs, two whiffs, two funnies, three tubs and three bank tubs. But the clock tower still stands and the clock still works. The blaze was spotted by a man on the opposite bank but the mist was so thick at the time that he was in doubt whether the building was actually on fire 32 09 23g

1933 01 18
Steve Fairbairn on rowing – 33 01 18

1933 03 02
Jesus college boathouse demolition following fire – photo – 33 03 02

1933 06 13
Jesus College's new boathouse was opened, nine months after the disastrous fire which had destroyed one of the landmarks of the river. It was a mitigated disaster as the original was gradually becoming too small. The clock, which was the only survival of the burnt boathouse, was still keeping good time in the new clock tower. It had been presented by Dr Morgan shortly after the old boathouse had been built. 33 06 13a

1934 02 26
Jesus College boat crew celebrated their Lents victory with a bonfire on the grass in front of the college and flames forty feet high dried the pavement in Victoria Avenue. An old boat helped to keep the fire going and when the supply of fuel ran short branches from trees were used. Police kept a wary eye on hoardings which might have been looked upon as sources but no raids were made. 250 paper glasses were provided to hold the beer but some preferred it straight from the bottle 34 02 26

1935 08 16
Edward ('Ted') Phillips was Cambridge's best-known and most popular watermen. He was Light Blue waterman, or badgeman, up to the time of his death. He started work in a boatyard at the age of 12 and was appointed Varsity waterman in 1868, erecting starting and finishing posts, repairing boats and sometimes breaking ice on the river. As a coach he had some remarkable successes. One of his most prized possessions was a photograph of his father, his seven brothers and himself in an eight together 35 08 16

1936 05 26
Town Bumping Races changes to course: to be three finishing posts - 36 05 26a

1936 10 01
A pilot summonsed for flying at a low altitude over the Cam at Fen Ditton told the court he was carrying a photographer for the Sport and General Press Agency. Herbert Cook was taking

pictures of the Bumping Races from a side window using an ordinary camera with a long focus lens. They had to fly across the river and would not have got good photographs if they'd come down to the tree tops. There were a number of other planes from Marshall's flying about. Spectators complained he was too low and had caused one of the waitresses at The Plough to spill the things on a tray in the tea garden. The case was dismissed. 36 10 01 & a

1938 10 17
Downing College rebuilt boat house opened – 38 10 17b

1948 10 27
By the death of William Hines Odams the river Cam rowing fraternity has lost possibly its most colourful personality whose record is unprecedented in the history of local rowing. Stroking his first winning crew in 1887 he was recognised as the greatest oarsman that the town has produced. He never trained for any event and smoked his pipe up to the very commencement of the races, in which he continued to be engaged for upwards of 30 years 48 10 27

1949 09 06
The Cambridgeshire rowing association held their annual regatta on Saturday over the new course from the middle of the Long Reach to the Pike and Eel. A good crowd of rowing enthusiasts with their friends took advantage of chairs on the lawns of the Pike and Eel and enjoyed in comfort a good afternoon's racing. There can be little doubt that the finish at the Pike has come to stay, for few of the spectators will lightly forgive the CRA if they ever again return to the discomfort of a finish at the Railway Bridge 49 09 06

1950 06 08
The May Races for another year began with all their magic. The biggest disaster came during Division VI and was watched by the hundreds who lined the Gut. The bumping of Magdalene IV by First and Third Trinity VII resulted in a glorious "pile up". Peterhouse IV rammed the Trinity boat which was driven sharply into a willow tree and the water's edge. The force of the collision ripped off the bows and sent the unfortunate crew into the "swim". For the remainder of the day the crippled boat lay on the bank as a grim warning to other crews 50 06 08

1953 06 22
A chapter in rowing history was written when members of the Rob Roy Boat Club initiated their first boat, the 'John Collin' clinker eight to the river with a champagne send-off. It commemorates a man who for nearly 60 years had a brilliant record with the Club. He coached the Robs when they held the Head of the River plate on 22 occasions, and from 1914 to the present day they have always been in the first three boats on the river.

1953 08 17
When the City of Cambridge Rowing Club holds its first open regatta for generations, the least expected of the Clerk of the Weather was that he should keep it dry. He cannot be a rowing man. But with 30 events completed at the rate of one every ten minutes for five hours the sport was there both in plenty and variety

1955 02 26
More than 100 local oarsmen gathered at the Lion Hotel to pay tribute to two Cambridgeshire Rowing Association officials, Mr Briscoe Snelson and Mr Red Alsop. They both came on the rowing scene about 1910 when there were nine clubs and 18 crews in the bumping races. At that time the Rob Roy Club had been head of the river for 14 out of the previous 15 years. From 1914 the Association was dormant for five years. It was in 1930 that the Oarsmen's Service was

originated; Snelson said: "I went along to see Canon Church, Rector of Fen Ditton and fixed it up. I told him we wanted to come in blazers and he replied: 'That's all right, my dear boy, come in pyjamas if you like!' 55 02 26

1955 07 08
A sculling boat to the memory of Mr Roy Burrell, a member of the '99 Rowing Club for over 30 years was named at Banham's Boatyard. He was a great sportsman who had done much for the rowing in Cambridge and a schoolmaster who had given every encouragement to youth. He would never be forgotten in the annals of the club and the records of the Cambs Rowing Association. 55 07 08d

1957 02 21
A new shelter has appeared on the towpath near the Pike and Eel. From the beautifully executed Latin inscription it is clear it has been built in memory of the late Roy Meldrum who devoted his considerable rowing knowledge and coaching skill to Lady Margaret and the Cambridge University Boat Club. This simple, dignified tribute will do a service to all who love the river, especially those who coach on the exposed banks of the Cam 57 02 21

1957 12 03
Rowing leviathan – 16 seater boat built by Banham – 57 12 03

1958 11 03
The first college boathouse to be built in Cambridge for more than 25 years was formally opened by the Masters of Corpus Christi and Sidney Sussex colleges whose Boat Clubs will share the facilities. The land had been earmarked by Sidney as a boathouse over 50 years ago. Until work started it had been used by college gardeners as a delphinium bed.58 11 03a [22.1]

1959 02 04
The '99 Rowing Club now has a boathouse of its own in this, their diamond jubilee year. They have bought the boathouse owned by Messrs Banham's at the bottom of Kimberley Road, used by Sidney Sussex College. It is in need of repair and alteration and various members have volunteered help as electricians and plumbers. It should be ready by the summer 59 02 04c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 03 15
Cambridge boat builder H.C. Banham has been asked to build a new stern section for a racing clinker which was damaged when a hippopotamus took a bite at it. They are to ship it out by air to the Zambezi Boat Club. Mr Banham says that local oarsmen should appreciate their good fortune. 60 03 15

1960 05 26
Hold open regatta, first time crews all parts of county can compete, (by 1976 now largest one-day regatta in country) [22.2, 22.10]

1960 07 04
The '99 Rowing Club had been accused of being more of a social club than a rowing club, said the Mayor when he opened their new boathouse, the first to have a licensed bar. It has been converted from a ramshackled building with much of the work done by members. Councillor Mole recalled that when he came back to Cambridge in 1930, one of the first things he did was to

join the '99 and he had soon made many friends. R. Alsop, Club President had showed him the Bailey Cup for Senior Championship Fours which included the inscription ' C. Mole, 1932' 60 07 04

1960 07 08
Rowing costs 1876 and 1960 – 60 07 08a

1962 01 04
Banham's building racing shell for Boat Race – 62 01 04

1962 01 10
This year marks University boatman Alf Twinn's silver jubilee as the man in sole charge of the Cambridge University Boat Club, although he has been with them much longer. He took over from 'Cooie' Phillips in 1937 and is only the fourth boatman in the 133 years' history of the Light Blue Club. Excluding the war years Alf has had charge of 12 winning crews, but has never seen a Boat Race. He is the only man outside the realms of inter-Varsity sport who has been awarded his 'Blue'. He got his cap in 1939 when Tom Langton was President. 62 01 10

1962 06 18
Queens college burn First boat May Races, first time won in college history [22.4]

1963 02 05
Lent Bumps cancelled due to frozen Cam, second time in 136 years [6.17]

1963 04 22
The City of Cambridge Rowing Club commemorated its centenary by unveiling a new weather vane at its boathouse. It is the oldest 'town' club and was 'Head of the River' for eleven successful years from 1951-1961. The weathervane, made by Messrs George Lister, was presented by the well-known Cambridge artist, Raymond Lister, who has a long association with the club. 63 04 22 had played considerable part in re-establishing bumping races in 1868 [20,22.6]

1964 03 02
A student prank ended in tragedy on Saturday evening when the cox of a Clare College crew drowned in the river. He had been celebrating at a dinner with the rest of the crew afterwards gong to Clare Bridge where he was thrown in. He called for help and three of his companions dived in to save him. They failed and one had himself to be rescued. Earlier the cox had been given the traditional ducking by the boat crew when he swam to the bank safely 64 03 02b

1964 06 15
1st & 3rd Trinity burn boat - & fencing [22.7]

1968 05 22
Cambridgeshire Rowing Association centenary [22.8]

1968 12 27
History of non-university rowing researched by James Moy – details – 69 12 27

1974 12 14
Cambridgeshire Rowing Association want 2,000 yard rowing course at Milton using soil for Northern bypass embankment [22.9]

1983 09 01
Two of Cambridgeshire's oldest boathouses were destroyed in a spectacular blaze; one was owned by the '99 Rowing Club, the other by the CRA. Crowds lined the banks and boat club members who had been drinking in a nearby pub risked their lives trying to save their valuable boats, flinging them into the river. By midnight only charred shells remained of the two historic landmarks 83 09 01 p1. Foundations of new laid 1984, opened December [22.12]

1984 12 10
After losing its boathouse in a spectacular fire 15 months ago, the Cambridge '99 Rowing Club is now celebrating the completion of its attractive replacement. Fortunately none of the club's eights were in the boathouse at the time of the fire. The club takes its name from the year it was founded and Banhams, the then well-known boat builders supplied the first clinker eight in 1949 to mark their golden jubilee. At the same time they were the first local club to buy a new eight. This has just been refurbished and is returning to the river looking nearly as handsome as it did in its heyday. 84 12 10

1988 02 03
College boatmen restore and repair rowing eights and fours which are easily damaged during practice or racing. They fix shoes, slides and stretchers needing attention. The number of boats has doubled since women's rowing came into its own. Alf Twin is 72 and for 53 years worked at the Cambridge University Boat Club. He served his seven year apprenticeship under the senior boatman, 'Cooey' Phillips, watching his master by day and attending classes at night. It was much more of a gentleman's sport in those days. Now the crews train harder and the boats are changing from wooden to plastic. 88 02 03a & b

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A tackle at rugby match, 1950s *175.88*

c.38 : Rugby

1904 11 12
Last week some Frenchmen visited Cambridge. There was no doubt about their being Frenchmen. They displayed many of the features of their race, but they were also possessed of phenomenal dash and staying-power. They came to play Rugby football against a team which nominally represented Trinity College but which was far stronger than any single college could put in the field. And they beat this team completely. Many seemed surprised: "I wouldn't have thought a Frenchman could last out a game of 'Rugger'" one said. The shoulder-shrugging, frog-eating Frenchman of the story-books is a rare creature. So let's banish this nursery-bred illusion and hope one day for the friendship of this great people. CDN 12.11.1904

1905 12 02
The Cambridge University v Dublin rugby match stopped suddenly and the players hastily gathered together in a group and remained perfectly still. It seemed a new way of playing rugby, even less comprehensible that the ways of the New Zealanders. Then one of the crowd ran out with a lengthy overcoat and out of the circle emerged the form of a famous three-quarter back, shrouded in the voluminous garment. Sedately he commenced a journey across to the pavilion, but then he ran and the secret was revealed – he had rent his football knickers 05 12 02b

1907 10 10
Ever since the Cambridge University Rugby Football ground was acquired in Grange Road ten years ago, the absence of dressing rooms has been a problem. When famous clubs like the

'Springboks' and 'All Blacks' visited they had to change in the cottage at the corner of the ground. Now the new pavilion contains showers, lavatories and kitchens with a stand for 200 people. The old roofless wooden stand, long regarded as an eyesore, has been moved to the opposite side of the ground 07 10 10

1912
Springboks visit, 8-9,000 crowd [7.8]

1913
suffragettes try to set fire to Varsity pavilion [7.15]

1913 01 10
Ruby Football club inaugural meeting 13 01 10 p10 CIP

1923 11 06
One hundred years ago the Royal and ancient game of rugby football was initiated, and today an alleged representation of the first game was given in Cambridge market square. Some time before noon the square was roped off and surrounded by police. The fountain was converted into a Royal box and the telephone kiosk into a press box. At noon the teams marched on to the ground. At their head was carried a large and considerably elongated football on a butchers tray. With the teams marched a portly and bearded Proctor, complete with "bullers" and a nasty looking birch, which he did not hesitate to use when occasion demanded 23 11 06

1959 10 06
Dickie Jeeps to retire from Rugby – profile – 59 10 06a & b

1961 01 08
Cambridge Rugby Union Club dates from 1923, although there may have been a rugby club of some sort in existence before the first world war. The Old Cantabrigians were founded sometime in the 1920s as part of the County High School old Boys' Society but lapsed and was not reformed until 1945. Shelford followed in 1935, being established by young players unable to get a game, and finally came the Old Perseans who as the Perse Wanderers appeared in July 1949, a new book on the history of the Eastern Counties Rugby Union records. 61 01 08a

1962 01 06
The University rugby ground in Grange Road is one of the finest in the country. Two years ago millions of gallons of water were pumped during the heat of the summer and hundredweights of seed used to repair the ravages of the winter season. After months of loving and expert care the groundsman defied me to traverse the pitch and produce a dozen weeds. I didn't bother to accept the challenge. The playing surface looked, if shaved, fit for bowls. It was a credit to the efforts of the Hayward family who care for it. 62 01 06

1983 09 28
Grange Road is being lit up as Cambridge University take delivery of a £20,000 present – a complete set of floodlights. The lights, which are the final stage of a campaign to turn Grange Road into one of the best-equipped rugby grounds in the country, have been given to the Light Blues by a firm of London merchant bankers. 83 09 28 p30

c.38 : Sailing

1899
Cam Sailing Club formed [4.11]

1901 08 23
Cam Sailing Club, p3

1911 06 02
A serious rival to sailing on the river Cam has now to be reckoned with. This is 'botoring' which to the uninitiated stands for motor boating. There are today about 80 of this type of craft of various sizes and power. Now owners have formed the Cambridge Motor Boat Club to work with other river users to make the waterways even more safe and pleasant. Already membership has reached 35 which is proof of the popularity of the sport 11 06 02a

1959 08 01
The Cam Sailing Club celebrated their diamond jubilee with a lavish ball in a marquee on the club site. Mr S. Evans, the Ground Steward, now owns 500 coloured fairy lights which originally belonged to his grandfather, and he used them to illuminate the carefully-tended flower beds. 'The Duchess', a well-known motor launch took the guests from the car park to the lawn and there was a bar on board. With a membership of 300 the club holds a high reputation in the sailing world 59 08 01 & a

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BROADCASTING and MAIN AMUSEMENTS : PAGE TWO

FINAL

Cambridge Daily News

TUESDAY, MAY 17, 1938 [REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISSION]

Dead In Underground C

OLLIDE IN NNEL

Passengers ured

PPED FOR 2½ OURS

THEIR LIVES AS A RESULT OF A TWO CITY-BOUND TRAINS OUTSIDE STATION SHORTLY BEFORE 10 a.m.

the history of London's underground.

some being treated on the spot by doctors, others being taken to nearby Charing Cross are in a serious condition.

Photo] [Cambridge Daily News

THEIR EYES ON THE BULLS-EYE

Marksmen getting down to it in the Cambs. Miniature Rifle Association's annual competition at Grange Road on Saturday.

MURDER ON SEA

Drama on U.S. Liner

COOK STABBED

Revelations at Inquest

A GRIM and tragic story relating to a murder on the high seas was told to-day at the East Ham (London) inquest on the assistant cook of the American liner City of Norfolk who was stabbed during a voyage from Virginia to England.

ASSURANCE TO GREAT BRITAIN

New Zealand Aid If War Breaks Out

WELLINGTON, Tuesday.

c.38 : Shooting
note: see c. 45.4 for other reports of rife ranges

1909 01 22
The Saxon Cement Works' Miniature Rifle Range was opened by Major Bourke, of Rorke's Drift fame. It has a range of up to fifty yards where rifle shooting may be practiced in fair weather and foul, in daytime or at night, electricity affording the requisite illumination. In rain the bull's eyes are accessible to the bullet fired from the verandah of a comfortable club house. Every member possesses his own rifle.09 01 22

1910 07 15
Henry James, a watercress seller from River Lane, was accused of searching for spent bullets in the soil at the Rifle Butts without having permission of the Commanding Officer of the Cambridgeshire Regiment. He'd got some girls to help to pick up about 6lbs of bullets that he'd sold to Mr Charles Carless, a marine store dealer of Broad Street. Two boys were also cautioned for picking up bullets. The Territorial Army said a good deal of damage had been done to the Rifle Butts by people picking up the bullets and they wanted to stop people buying them 10 07 15b

1911 06 15
Open-air miniature rifle range, Coldham's Common opened [1.10]

1913 11 28
Miniature Rifle Club formed 13 11 28 p7 CIP

1915 07 16
Cambridge Railway Servant's Miniature Rifle Range completed 15 07 16 p4

1916 10 11
Death Alfred Paget Humphry, deputy Lieutenant … fame as a rifle shot; fired from tower of Pitt Press aiming at the targets on Uz range at Backs of colleges; won Queen's Prize at Wimbledon; represented England etc 16 10 11a

1929 06 05
Rifle club formed, 29 06 05 p5*

1926 10 22
Grange road rifle range closed due to danger to Coton, OTC transfer to Coldham's Common [1.11]

1933 01 07
Sir – Coldham's Common could be turned into a municipal nine-hole golf course now it is no longer required for shooting. The Corporation have £700 from the War Office in compensation for not putting the Common in the state it was before the rifle range was constructed. The various firing points and the lower portion of the butts could be used in the construction of a very sporting course, providing work for the unemployed. It would be no new thing to have golf played on the Common as the first University course was there – RG 33 01 07d

1939 07 06
Haymaking on Grange Road rifle range – photo – 39 07 06

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 06 22
Mrs Louie Wallace of Maid's Causeway has been the ladies champion of Cambridgeshire Small-bore Rifle Association for ten out of the past eleven years. She is a member of the Gogs Rifle Club which was originally the 5th Battalion Home Guard Club. It is a good sport for women as it needs enormous concentration and self-discipline. Club and county badges are worn on the back of the shooting jackets so they can be seen while the competitor is actually firing. 60 06 22

1964 06 26
A group of women meet twice a week in a corner of Cambridge police station. Some are typists, some work in laboratories and banks, but the majority are ordinary housewives. They are all rifle shooting enthusiasts who practice on the police range. They change into slacks and firing jackets, then erect target cards and collect ammunition. Their ambition is to be selected for the county women's smallbore team. Husbands and boy friends used to be rather patronising when they took up shooting as a hobby. That is until they were invited to the range one evening and given the opportunity to shoot. 64 06 26c

1981 06 19
The crack of blazing shotguns was head for the last time at Madingley as Gallyons closed their shooting ground after 70 years. Ernie Johnson has spent his entire working life there and so after 44 years of teaching, advising and correcting the technique of sporting gunmen from all walks of life he is facing his first change of job. The site is surrounded by roads and cannot expand to stage big shoots. 81 06 19

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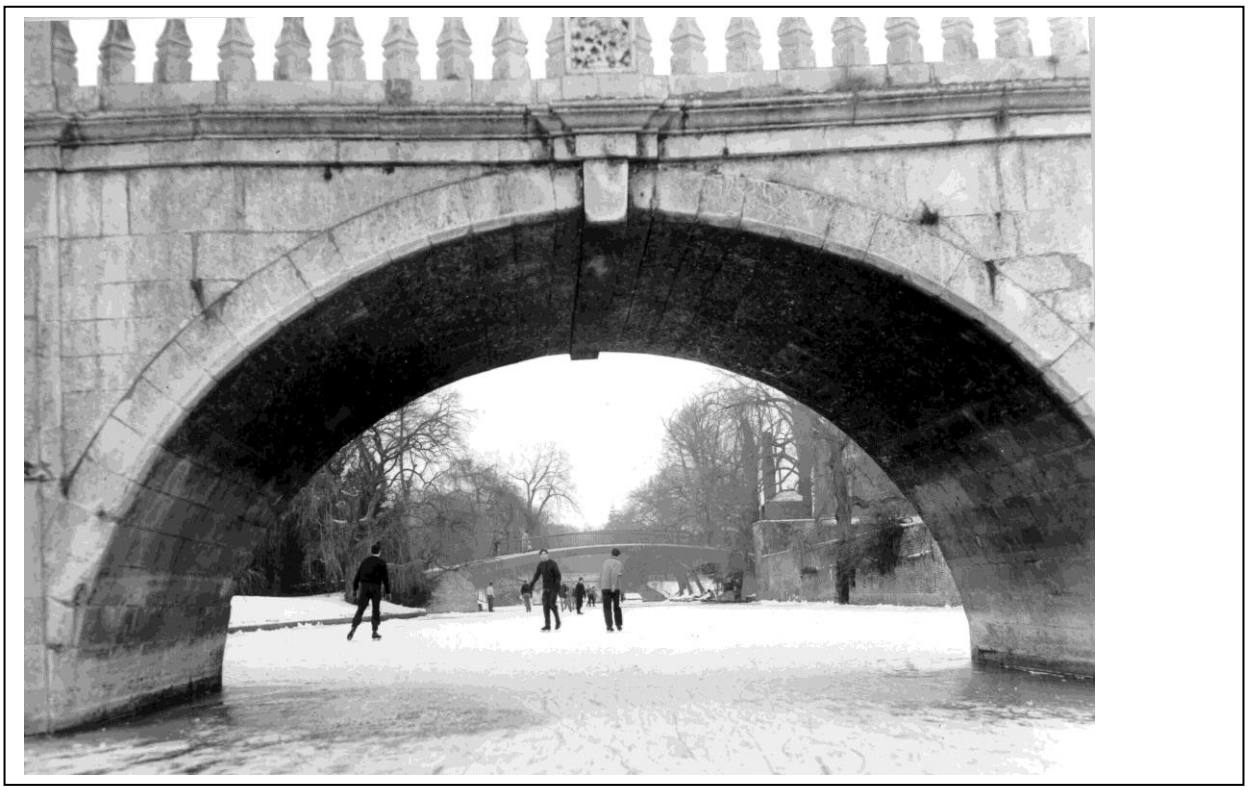

Skating under King's College bridge, 1963 *91.09*

c.38 : Skating

for fuller record of non-Cambridge skating see the Skating Scrapbook

1860
Sir – I remember the winter of 1860 when Midsummer Common was covered with water. A severe frost set in and for two months there were torchlight processions and skaters appearing and disappearing like phantoms along the course. There was horseracing in the summer and two large wooden stands erected. Some things have not changed: the miserable, horrid, slow old 'grinds' or ferries. When will Cantabs wake up and have free bridges for foot passengers? – An Ely Old Boy
06 06 23c & d

1876 01
First skating rink opened Jan 1876 Downing St [17.2]

1888 01 06
Skating: proposal to flood Stourbridge Common for skating [5.25]

1890
During 1890-91 was 55 days frost, field behind Bartholomew's house artificially flooded, illuminated at night [17.6]

1894
Skating rink established Adams Road, developed by University skating club [446.8.3]

1895
Skating: man skates from Cambridge to Denver Sluice & back in a day [1.12]

1895
Skating on Lingay Fen in 1895 by aid of floodlighting – picture – 62 01 20a skating : floodlighting generator installed Lingay Fen [6.14,17.6]

1900 02 08
For the first time the British Amateur Skating Championship has been decided at Littleport. At no venue in Great Britain are the arrangements so to up-to-date. All Cambridge sportsmen will welcome Albert Tebbit's success. He has had to wait five years to have his third race for the championship which has always been held by a man from Welney – the little hamlet known as the metropolis of speed skating 00 02 08

1905 01 27
Skating would have been quite possible on the Electric Light Ground, Newnham, today had not some evilly disposed person drawn the water from the ground the other evening. The work was done with a care and thoroughness worthy of a better cause. The bank of the ditch which runs from the river to the pump was cut through and so great a fall allowed that the whole of the water on the ground was drained away. Two ladies heard somebody at work on the bank but imagined it was the proprietor and paid little heed. In addition to the annoyance caused the proprietor has suffered a considerable financial hardship. 05 01 27a

1906 03 24
When Albert Tebbitt was handed the King's Cup by the President of the National Skating Association he was without progeny. But within 24 hours he became the father of a sturdy boy. His own father, when 50 years of age, was still a formidable opponent and it was predicted that any son of his would become a future champion. A few jokes were cracked about a future young Tebbitt skating gaily away to the North Pole. It is possible that the glacier age may arrive during the lifetime of the latest addition to this athletic family and the predictions be quite within the bounds of probability. 06 03 24a

1908 01 10
Hundreds of London skating enthusiasts availed themselves of train excursions to the fens which presented a practically unlimited area of ice in good conditions. Miles and miles were available. Not since 1895 have Cambridge people had such a large extent of frozen river with a splendid run from the Railway Bridge to Baitsbite Locks. Even man's modern eyesores were transformed: telegraph and telephone poles were linked with strands of silken beauty and wire-netting was outlined in crystals with the fragile delicacy of old lace. 08 01 10g

1908 01 17
Ancient inhabitants rack their brains in vain for a parallel to the extraordinary weather of the past fortnight, bringing in its train a record crop of influenza. The changes from 20 degrees of frost to a damp muggy air and then back again have caused the National Skating Association to rearrange the Championships which took place at Lingay Fen in almost perfect conditions. The ice was hard and entries above average. 08 01 17b

1911

Rinking very popular, carnivals at Chesterton rink & hockey club associated with it [7.12]

1911
Field opposite South Green Road illuminated for skating, barrel organ [17.6]

1911 02 10
There was skating on Mere Fen Swavesey. In the centre the ice was fairly good and safe but at the sides it was weak and many got their feet and legs wet. Three visitors from Cambridge afforded some amusement. Declining the services of the men with chairs they sat down on the bank after spreading out handkerchiefs to protect their clothing. They put on their skates and went boldly forward. But the thin ice near the bank gave way and one man dropped about two feet into the water. The chairmen laughed heartily and the visitors beat a hasty retreat – 11 02 10d

1922
Bartholomew's Electric Light Skating Rink, Grantchester Meadows

1925 02 02
The overnight frost in Cambridge was sufficiently severe to ensure another day's sport for skaters. At the Cambridge sewage Farm, Milton Road, where the ice had a thickness of about two inches, skating was continued with safety and there were quite a number of people, chiefly Varsitymen, "making gay while the ice holds". The popular plus four suit and warm pull-over, is just the thing for this kind of sport, but one noticed a number skating in ordinary suits. CDN 2 Feb 1925

1925 12 04
Sir – I must utter a strong protest against the action of some person in authority in the town in trying to put a stop to skating on the Corporation Sewage Farm at Milton. It does seem a pity that when the opportunity for such a splendid form of recreation occurs only once in a generation, that some kill-joy should throw hot water, in this case, on such inexpensive pleasure for the public, with notices of 'keep off the ice', barbed wire entanglements, and a policeman taking the names of trespassers on skates. There were hundreds taking the risk of being prosecuted rather than miss the opportunity of such splendid sport - Bertram Pearson 12 12 04

1926 01 18
Skating has been in full swing over the weekend. The Cambridge Sewage Farm has been the rendezvous of the majority of skaters and on Sunday over 500 skaters were 'on' in the afternoon. Mr Nicholls' field in Grantchester Meadows was flooded and many skaters availed themselves of the opportunity it offered, whilst others went over to Swavesey. Hundreds indulged in winter sports on the slopes of Royston Heath, tobogganing and ski-ing were general 26 01 18

1929 02 14
For the first time since 1895 there was skating on the River Cam. A thick sheet of ice powered with white snow, stretched unbroken from Silver Street to the electric light works. It was too inviting to be resisted and several skating parties took advantage of it. Many undergraduates took to the ice in front of King's College and at Quayside a man was seen cycling on the slippery surface. However the ice bore and he neither came off nor went in. At Silver Street it was possible to cross to the mill on the ice but below Jesus Lock, where the dredges is at work, the ice was broken up by the flow and black pools and crevices had appeared in the thin surface. 29 02 14

1929 02 16

All Cambridge seemed to be skating or carrying skates this morning and there is something like five inches of ice on many parts of the Granta. Eight hardy spirits took the plunge at the Town Bathing Sheds though it took nearly half an hour to break the ice. There have been bathers ever since the front began and many of them have hardly missed a day. The cold was so severe that the comb stuck in the head of one of them who was doing his hair. But the Open Flying Mile Straight Race, fixed to take place at Cowbit Wash, near Spalding, was abandoned after the Skating Association reported that it was not possible to provide a straight mile course to conform with the conditions. 29 02 16

1929 03 02
Sir: Quite a number of people took advantage of the frozen river last weekend to skate to Ely and among them were three Newnham girls. It is 34 years since last such a journey was possible. It was February 1895 that I and two friends undertook the journey. On arrival it was suggested we continue to Denver Sluice but after two miles the ice was very bad, so we returned. I wonder how many have ever succeeded in it, a distance of 72 miles there and back. I am fond of skating and have been to Ely five times – 'Septuagenarian' 29 03 02

1929 04 29
National Skating Association jubilee 29 04 29 p8*

1931 01 16
Mr Charles Morley has presented a handsome trophy to the National Skating Association for a one-mile race for amateurs who are not holders of the first-class speed badge. At present 90 per cent of skating contests have been practically foregone conclusions as one or two skaters carry off all the prizes, by debarring these men the race will be much more open. It is to be skated on an oval course rather than one requiring a length of 600 yards. This will enable fen skaters to compete more successfully on indoor rinks and Continental courses. 31 01 16f & g

1933 01 27
Skating at Lingay fen – 33 01 27a

1933 12 18
A crowd of 200 people saw skating races for the Duddleston Cup at Lingay Fen. The ice was not of the best and records remained intact. The winner was C.W. Horn, the National Skating Association champion, whose time was very much faster than ever previously recorded, though the race has never before been over an oval course. Runners up were R. Wyman of Stretham, G.W. Martin of Nordelph and L.B. Carter of Over 33 12 18

1935 01 15
L.B. Carter the young amateur skater and cyclist of Over is proceeding to Switzerland for a fortnight's training, followed by competition as a representative of Great Britain in some international matches at Davos where all the finest speed skaters do their training. The International Ice Hockey Association is sending a team and wanted some speed skaters to join the party. The Fen Committee first approached C.W. Horn, who is in a class by himself. He was unable to accept at such short notice but Messrs Chivers allowed Carter time off work to attend. 35 01 15a

1936 02 10
Skating at Newnham – photo – 36 02 10

1938 03 04

Albert E. Tebbitt formerly of Milton and farmer of 400 acres at Wentworth was British amateur skating champion 1895-1905; won the cup outright, also winning Duddleston Cup and Cameron Cup twice. In 1895 skated dead heat with H.A. Palmer over 37.5 miles on the Cam. 38 03 04d

1954 02 02
The skating championship of the fens was held at Cambridge Sewage Farm when the Ralph Moore Cup was won by D. Beba of Moulton Chapel. 2 Feb 1954

1963 02 02
Parts of the Backs should be flooded and turned into skating rinks, says a Cambridge botanist. There are a few natural ideal spots, used for lawn tennis, which could be easily flooded to provide skating. The initial cost would be insignificant but the benefit for the young and 'young at heart' (meaning dons) would be enormous. The maintenance of the skating rink would be easily covered by a small entrance fee. And it wouldn't spoil the tennis courts as ice and snow give the best protection for the species of grasses which might otherwise be damaged by the continuous cold. 63 02 02a

1973 03 10
Ice skating rink proposed but no council backing [17.1]

1978 03 18
Agree in principle to ice skating rink on council land; [17.3]

1981 04 08
Cambridge City Football Club hopes to set up an ice rink at their Milton Road ground using synthetic ice. It would be housed in a semi-permanent aluminium and heavy-duty PVC structure which could also be used for five-a-side football, tennis and exhibitions. They hope it will be in place by June and prove a licence to print money 81 04 08

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c.38 : Skittles

1930 04 11
The Cambridge Skittle League was formed in August and proved that the average man was a sportsmen; a lot of people were inclined to 'run down' the public house games such as darts, dominoes and shove ha'penny. The Skittles League met the requirements of these people and what should be more natural than they should go to the poor man's club – the local inn. Publicans went out of their way to provide every amusement and recreation
30 04 11

1932 04 22
Mr E.C. Green recalled that when he was a boy skittles were played by country people in a large shed; then it was brought into Cambridge with a club room converted into an indoor skittle alley. Both the pins and balls were made of India rubber with the sides of the room padded so there should be no noise. After a time the game died out but had now once again become a growing pastime with a Cambridge League started three years ago. 32 04 22a

1977 02 05
Members of the Cambridge & District Skittles League see themselves as men of great skill and dexterity, pitting their wits against other eight-man teams in a three-dimensional game that has its own terminology. They hurl, toss or spin a flat, flying saucer-shaped cheese at a table resembling a large, sparsely padded armchair upon which are spaced nine wooden pins. Each player has a maximum of four throws to demolish as many as he can. The dedicated band of serious skittles players are a dying breed. Gone are the days when coachloads of players used to arrive long before the game to limber up. 77 02 05

c.38 : Squash

1929 11 25
University squash courts, p5

1932 06 22
The Prince of Wales landed in his red Puss Moth monoplane at Marshall's aerodrome. He jumped hatless from the plane, then donned a boater and drove to the Leys School where he opened the new squash courts and sports ground. On his return he was assisted into his raincoat in preparation for a lofty flight in search of a favourable wind before he stepped into his monoplane, soared gracefully aloft and headed for London. 32 06 22a

1975 08 22
The Cambridge Sports Hall, opened on July 1st, is already beginning to attract enthusiastic support. Trampolining and weight training have proved particularly popular with families who have also taken advantage of the squash courts. Volley ball and handball have done particularly well through the participation of Language School students

1979 07 27
Cambridge's most modern squash club on Histon Road already has 300 members but is looking for another 150 to bring it up to the target envisaged by the local businessmen who have made the £150,000 project a reality. There are four courts, one with a glass back wall for safe viewing, a bar and large clubroom where they intend to provide light refreshments and real ale. They also hope to provide a variety of social functions catering for all the family and to meet the needs of both 'town and gown' by providing excellent playing and social facilities.

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Swim through Cambridge, start of men's race, 1950s *110.46*

c.38 : Swimming
1888 04 20
Swimming : Cambridge University & Town Swimming Baths Company established [5.28, 6.1]

1896 08 22
Women's bathing place completed [2.16]

1906
Cambridge Amateur Swimming club formed [17.9]

1906 12 29
Christmas bathing in the river needs a Spartan spirit and a robust constitution. But in Cambridge sufficient men enjoy a jovial gathering at the Town Bathing Sheds every Christmas morning. With the mercury hovering above freezing point, water in dykes coated with ice and a keen wind blowing across the Fen, about 30 bold spirits plunged in and one swam to the Leys School. When he emerged from the water his skin had a bright red hue, but he was perfectly happy. 06 12 29b [6.23]

1908 08 11

Charles Henry Driver was appointed custodian of the Town Bathing Place on Sheep's Green five years ago. Since then he has saved 31 lives, mainly residents but a few visitors. Small wonder that recognition should be shown of his promptitude in saving life as well as of his skill in restoring animation in half-drowned persons. He was presented with a substantial silver cigarette case and a handsome illuminated address. CWN 08 08 11 p5

1910
Water-polo team successful but would improve if could practice during winter months in good indoor swimming pool [6.21]

1911 11 04
Swimming: exercise shows how Kings Mill might be converted to open air swimming bath [7.10]

1913 08 29
Swim through Cambridge – 13 08 29 05 CIP

1914 04 26
There were two rescues from drowning at the Ladies Bathing Sheds. There were about 200 ladies and children when one lady tried to stand and found she was out of her depth, this unnerved her and she sank. The assistant, Miss King jumped in fully dressed and swam to her aid but could do little until the custodian, Mrs Alden, came to her assistance. So far gone was she that artificial respiration had to be resorted to. Later Mrs Alden, who had changed into her swimming costume, jumped in and pulled out another lady. 14 06 26 p8

1920 06 21
Swimming – only one man responsible for supervision of men's and boy's bathing places, frequently by up to 3,000 in a few hours – inquest on 10-year-old boy hears; not right that small boys should bathe so close to the girls – everyone ran about half-clad – not good for morals - CDN 20 06 21

1922 07
Coldham's Common bathing pool opened [2.21]

1922 10 19
The proposed new bathing places provided a lively debate at Cambridge Town Centre. Plan A was for a bath on the far side of Sturbridge Common, not far from the railway. Plan B was for a bath on Jesus Green parallel to the river and a little above Victoria Bridge. It would be supplied by water taken from the Cam through pipes from above Jesus weir. The Bullen's Grove site on Sturbridge Common was less overlooked but the great point in favour of Jesus Green was that it was far more accessible and it was finally agreed to approve it 22 10 19

1923 08 25
Jesus Green swimming pool opened [2.24,6.25]

1924 04 30
Sir - Cambridge council practically excludes modest women - and men - from the new bathing place, unless they are prepared to do violence to their own decent instincts. What the council practically declares is in effect, 'Go and bathe as domestic animals do, male and female all together - they never object so why should you?' What this atrocious decision means is that

decent men and modest women are to be excluded from all reasonable participation in a very pleasant summer exercise - A Decent Englishwoman 24 04 30

1925 07 03
The annual swim through Cambridge may be said to rank as one of the finest races witnessed since it inception. There were 37 competitors, including 14 ladies. The course followed by the swimmers from the Old Mill, Mill Lane to Strange's Boathouse, Jesus Lock, via the Backs of the colleges is approximately 1,360 yards. The town turned out in force at every point of vantage to watch the progress of the swimmers. H.P. Lavender passed the winning post barely five yards in front of Miss Lavender amidst the applause of the onlookers 24 07 03

1925 09 01
Whatever the merits of the controversy which the site of the Jesus Green Baths aroused a few months back, there can be only one opinion as to the usefulness of the baths themselves. Thousands of happy, healthy hours have been spent there this season; in the last four months 20,000 tickets have been issued for male bathers alone. With such vast number of swims it is inevitable that mishaps should occur. Mr W. Clee states that 25 rescues from drowning have been made. In most instances bathers of indifferent ability have ventured into deep water and then lost their nerve at the thought of not being able to swim to the ladders. In addition nine children have had to be pulled out of the river opposite the bathing sheds. Despite a warning board children persist in paddling and frequently venture into water that is too deep 25 09 01

1931 07 24
A unique performance has been accomplished by Jack Overhill of Trumpington who, although only three years of age, has mastered the art of swimming. The tiny record breaker is also the youngest member of the Cambridge Amateur Swimming Club. He has been a real 'water baby' since his first introduction to the river at the age of one year and nine months. Since May he has been in the river twice daily, even during cold spells 31 07 24a

1934
Granta Swimming Club formed, starts swim from Grantchester Mill to Sheep Green (later changed to swim through Cambridge) [17.10,18]

1935 04
Plans for palatial swimming stadium announced, behind Parkside, 100 ft x 42 ft with glass screen in tea room allowing patrons to watch bathers; did not materialise; two years later two privately owned syndicates decided erect indoor bath, came to nothing [25]

1935 08 02
The new swimming bath on Coldham's Common was opened by the Mayor, Alderman R. Starr. There was some regret that his Worship did not take the first plunge into the 150 feet long pool, which takes its water from the high level stream, and youthful spectators had to be restrained from going in as soon as the doors were unlocked. There is a diving tower and spring board at the deep end with dressing sheds and a space fenced off for sun bathing. 35 08 02a [1.14]

1937 07 29
Charles Henry Driver, custodian of the Town Bathing Sheds at Sheep's Green since 1903 is to retire. He has saved over 90 lives, receiving several life-saving certificates. It will be children who will miss him most, even though most of them only know him for the firm way he suppresses outbreaks of youthful over-enthusiasm. He has taught hundreds of them to swim. His

fancy dives are a speciality and his appearance on the diving board is the signal for a crowd to collect to watch him 37 07 29

1938 01 15
'Charlie' Driver, the popular custodian of the men's bathing place, Sheep's Green, was presented with a chiming clock at his retirement after 34 years. It was a credit that there had been no drowning cases during his term of office. Parents knew that their children were in safe hands and he took care about its appearance. The Superintendent of Commons, A.O. Richardson, recalled that he had been reprimanded by a small boy for walking on the grass with his boots on – "You won't half cop it when Mr Driver sees you". 38 01 15

1938 03 24
Plans for an indoor swimming pool for Cambridge were rejected by councillors. Swimming was healthy exercise for children and there was no evidence that epidemic diseases were spread by indoor baths. It would help solve unemployment in the building trade and Cambridge was one of the few towns without one. But Saffron Walden baths were built in 1910 when costs were much lower than today and they did not pay. People would still prefer the river in summer time. It would be better to have baths just for children that adults could use in the evening. 38 03 24b Petition in favour indoor swimming pool raised but spoilt when ink upset over it; by time recirculated war broke out & plan shelved ¢CEN 17.12.87

1938 10 15
Indoor swimming pool possible – cartoon by Searle – 38 10 15bb

1947 04 22
The Cambridge sporting fraternity has lost one of its most colourful characters by the death of Mr Charlie Driver. His aquatic achievements are legion and more than 90 people owe their lives to his life-saving prowess in the water. Among many tangible reminders of his contributions to the art of life-saving is a silver cigarette case presented to him as long ago as 1908 on behalf of readers of the Cambridge Daily News in recognition of his skill and promptitude in saving 31 lives from drowning at the Town Bathing Place. He retired after 34 years of service as custodian of the ton bathing sheds on Sheep's Green, only to come back again and carry on during the war years. Putting the clock back some 60 years one recalls how, at the old swimming sports at the Old Ladder on Sheep's Green, he made us envy his skill in bringing to the surface the largest number of plates cast in the river, to win the prize for that event 1947 04 22

1953 12 04
Cambridge councillors approved a £22,000 scheme for the improvement of Jesus Green Swimming Pool despite fears that this might prejudice chances of an indoor pool. It was an outdoor pool, used for about 110 days a year; last year 55,000 people used it but it ran at a loss and each one cost the City sixpence. It would be filled from the mains & filtered to remove impurities. More would use it if they could go into water that looked like water and not soup. Others thought they ought to enclose half the present bath so it could be used all year – but this would make it look like a shed and bring criticism

1957 07 20
A giant super-modern heated indoor swimming pool with a roof-top restaurant may be constructed on Donkey common. It would have space for 230 bathers with 600 spectators, parking for 35 cars and 200 cycles and a view across Parker's Piece from the restaurant. Changing rooms for footballers and crickets could be installed later. It could be in use within three years. 57 07 20a & c

1958 02 26
Manor school heated pool plans – 58 02 26d & e

1958 08 01
St Faith's School has a new swimming pool built by voluntary labour. The Headmaster, Mr F.M. White, says it only cost £280. They were encouraged by the success of a small primary school in Huntingdonshire which was funded by their Parent-Teach organisation three years before. The basic requirements are an enthusiastic staff, an able school handy-man and above all the technical advice of an enthusiastic expert. He must remain nameless, otherwise he'd be inundated with similar requests. 58 08 01a

1959 09 23
The Headmaster of Fawcett Junior School, Trumpington (Mr F.N. Walker) declared the school's new swimming pool was "well and truly open" after he had been pushed fully dressed into the water. Roars of laughter came from the Mayor (Wallace Cole), Mayoress and parents who were present but the Head took his ducking in good part and swam vigorously for half a length. The pool has been built by the parents with the help of the children themselves. 59 09 23

1963 01 19
Parkside pool filled with water for first time – 63 01 19b

1963 04 01
Parkside indoor pool was opened by Ald Ridgeon and dozens of young members of Cambridge swimming clubs who had been sitting round the edges of the pool jumped into the water, splashing and cheering. A colourful and exciting gala followed featuring Linda Ludgrove, the double gold medallist at the Empire Games, and several Olympic swimming stars. The new building, which took three years to erect at a cost of £250,000, contains two heated pools; the main one has diving boards while the beginners' pool has a constant depth of two feet six inches. 63 04 01 talked of for 100 years [6.16,17.8]]

1969 07 11
Swim through Cambridge – exiting finish to women's race & photo – 69 07 11

1972 02 04
Jack Overhill confessions of barmy winter bather at Sheep Green – 72 02 04

1976 06 21
The annual swim through Cambridge, organised by the Granta swimming club, has had to be cancelled for the first time in about 40 years because of the low level of water in the river Cam. Because of possible pollution problems they dare not risk the health hazards involved but hope to put the event on again next year. Typically 70-75 women and about 80 men would enter the event 76 06 21

1984 04 24
Plan to sell Parkside Pool for private development for water leisure centre [24.2]

1987
Multi-million plan for leisure sports & tourist hotel linking Sports Hall & Swimming Pool; Parkside pool losing £1,000 per day [NS.1.8]

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1987 08 13
A News reporter visited Cambridge's three main swimming pools. First stop was the Abbey outdoor pool where each morning attendants try to remove the frogs which hop into the water from a nearby ditch overnight. The changing room is a bench behind a hut and the water felt like freshly-melted ice. Jesus Green may only have 20-30 swimmers a day but they are real regulars, including Arthur Mansfield, 77, who swims a quarter of a mile most days as he has since 1922. Then I followed the smell of the chlorine to Parkside Pool which was the hottest but far from enjoyable 87 08 13a & b

1988 03 17
Parkside swimming pool plans for water sports complex – 88 03 17a

1989 04 22
£1M plan convert Parkside swimming pool into water leisure centre scrapped ¢CEN 22.4.89

1989 04 29
Labour to press ahead with Parkside pool scheme ¢CEN 24.4.89

1991 02 16
Parkside Pool could be sold for housing with multi-million pound indoor water leisure centre built at King's Hedges – plan – 91 02 16

1999
Parkside Pool reopened after rebuild, Apr [Rev]

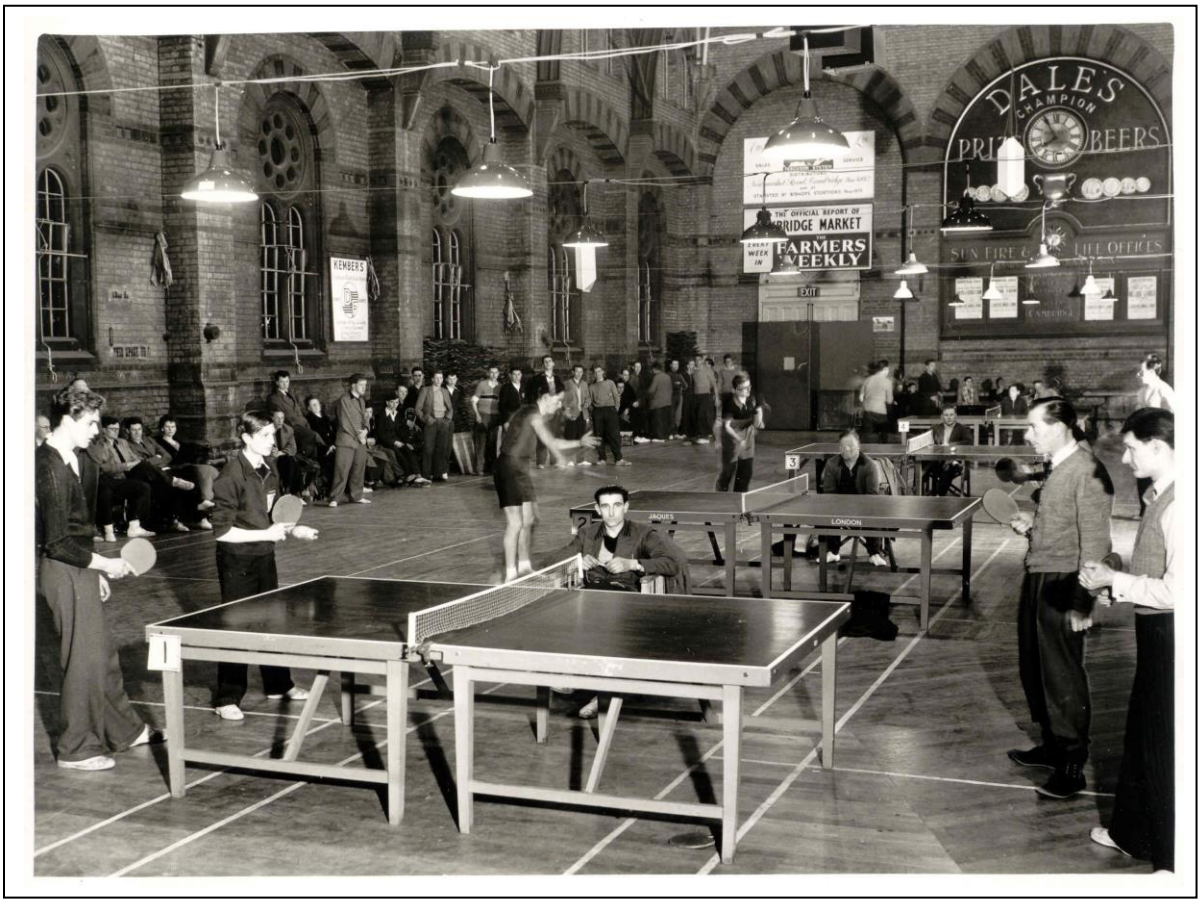


Table Tennis championships, Corn Excchange 1956 *110.85*

c.38 : Table Tennis

1901 05 01
"Ping-Pong was invented by Mr James Gibb, an old Cambridge athlete now living at Croydon. It was started one evening with champagne corks cut as nearly circular as possible, and the lids of cigar-boxes for battledores. Then he tried indiarubber balls covered with cigarette paper to make them look very white but he was not satisfied and sent to America to have some celluloid balls made. Mr Gibb was one of the best all-round athletes of his day. The game he invented continues to rage virulently in society 01 05 01

1902 02 04
In at least one thing Cambridge is abreast of the times. She has the craze for ping-pong, or to call it by its more dignified name, table tennis. For a long time past the ping of the racket could be heard coming from the houses of the up-to-date. By Christmastime ping-pong parties had become quite general, ping-pong clubs were formed and now Cambridge has been brought into line with the metropolis by holding a tournament. It was to be held at the Conservative Club, but owing to the large entry it was decided to transfer operations to the Corn Exchange. The one table reserved for ladies was always an attraction. The lady competitors, generally in smart costumes, played a milder game, though there were some who would have made the male sex jump about. CDN 1902 02 04

1902 02 06

We have all heard of the rise of ping-pong as well as predictions of its decline and fall. It would appear that Cambridge people, who were not behindhand in the appreciation of the attractive game, have already lost some of their liking for it. The opportunity that the Imperial Ping Pong Tournament offered to local players to compete for handsome prizes valued at 45 guineas has not been extensively accepted. At no time during the evening was there a very large attendance. 02 02 06

1902 02 25

We understand a Ping Pong Club, open to residents in the New Town district of Cambridge has been started. The large room of the New Town Conservative Club, Russell Street, has been secured, and two Whitmore patent tables are provided. The hon secretary is Mr E. W. Illsley of 23, Bateman Street CDN 1902 02 25

1930 04 19

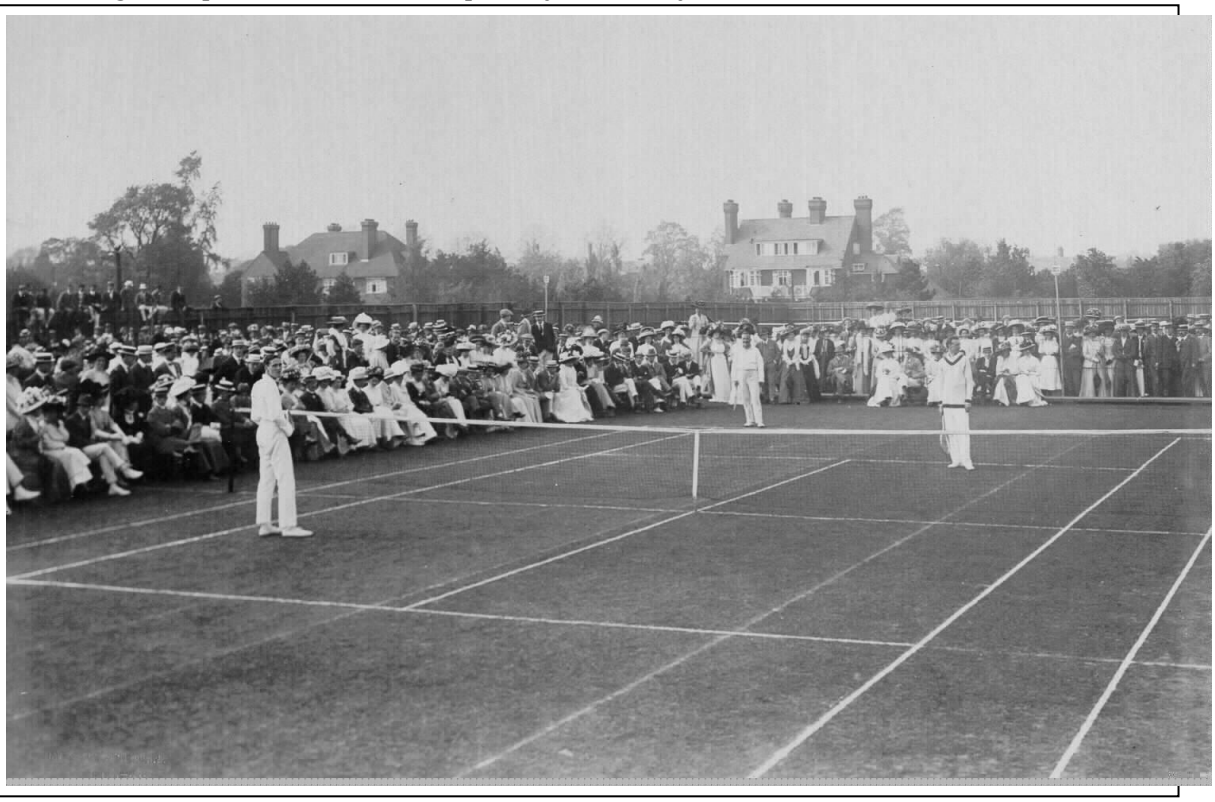
Cambridge has yet another claim to distinction. Mr James Gibb, who died recently, was the inventor of the game of ping-pong which enjoyed a tremendous vogue about 30 years ago. He was an old Cambridge athlete and started the game one evening with champagne corks cut as nearly circular as possible and the lids of cigar-boxes for battledores. Then he tried India-rubber balls covered with cigarette paper before finally sending to America to have celluloid balls made. 30 04 19b

1936 09

Cambridgeshire Table Tennis association formed [17.12]

1962 05 19

Cambridgeshire Table Tennis Association was formed in September 1936 and won their first match against Bury St Edmunds with a team comprising Messrs Humphries, Betterman, Stearn, Constable and Nunn. The finger spin service which was then very fashionable tended to bemuse the Cambridge players to a certain degree. Youngsters John Thurston and George Lawrence made a name for themselves while John Cornwell had several fine victories over international players. The Y.M.C.A. team were county champions in the inauguration year and repeated the feat in 1962 – the Silver Jubilee year. 62 05 19



Tennis match c1910 *58.41*

c.38 : Tennis & Real Tennis

Cambridge University Croquet & Lawn Tennis founded before 1885 by & for senior members of Universities of Oxford & Cambridge [17.14]

1914 02 13
Brickfields on Milton road reclaimed & converted into tennis courts, 6 hard & 9 grass with 6 more in preparation [7.18]

192-
Arbury Rd rapidly growing... post WWI fields converted University Tennis Courts, George VI & Duke of Gloucester played; [446.8.5]

1922 01 28
Lawn Tennis league inaugurated [6.26]

1925 02 27
Despite a shower of rain a number of tennis enthusiasts were present on Jesus Green when the Mayor opened Cambridge's first public hard tennis courts. They are situate opposite Strange's Boatyard and a part of the council's plans to develop Jesus green into a recreation ground, with facilities for a variety of games. Directly adjoining are the grass courts, nearby is the bowling green whilst further afield cricket pitches are being laid. All these will be in use by May 25 02 27

1939 01 07
Cambridge Town & County Lawn Tennis club to have last season on existing ground in Madingley Road and Wilberforce Road; will move to fine ground nearer centre town with 16 to 20 first-class grass and one hard court 39 01 07

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1964 04 09
Cambridge University Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club, known as the 'Cock and Hen' club is moving to a new home on Madingley Road. It is the oldest tennis club in Cambridge founded before 1885 by and for senior members of the Universities of Oxford & Cambridge who were expected to join in pairs – hence the name. Now half are townspeople. Croquet has not been played since the Great War but some say a lawn could be laid at Gilling Paddock. 64 04 09b [17.14]

1964 05 11
Cambridge has one of the few public croquet lawns in England. It is on Christ's Pieces, next to the bowling green. It is almost exclusively used by undergraduate members of the University Croquet Club to whom most of the equipment belongs. Although only three years old they have gained a reputation for their enthusiasm and high standard of play. Anyone can take part but it is not a game suitable for the infantile or the senile 64 05 11

1969 12 02
Real Tennis : in 1900s were nine courts, Grange Rd sole 118 year-old survivor [12.2]

1984 06 02
Young Cambridge tennis starlet, Ginny Humphreys-Davies has become a British champion for a second time. The 12-year-old St Mary's Convent pupil overcame an attack of nerves to win the Prudential hard-court championships in Edinburgh. Cambridge now has two British junior tennis champions following Teresa Catlin's victory in the under-14 age group last year 84 06 02 p1

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Tiddlywinks contest in Guildhall, 1958 *201.19*

c.38 : Tiddlywinks

1955
Launched in modern form by undergraduates from Cambridge [11.12]

1958 01 18
University v Goons tiddlywinks match – 58 01 18

1958 03 01
The Duke of Edinburgh sent a message regretting that he was unable to take part in a tiddlywinks watch at Cambridge Guildhall: "While practising secretly I pulled an important muscle in the second or tiddly joint of my winking finger. But wink up, fiddle the game and may the Goons' side win"". In his absence the Goons team, including Spike Milligan, Harry Secombe and Peter Sellers were defeated by Cambridge University. They were not helped by an eccentric uniform and intervals for refreshments such as leeks, sticks of rhubarb and glasses of Champagne perry
58 03 01a

1977 03 19

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Cambridge University Tiddlywinks Club now has 21 members. In action in a dingy cold room upstairs at the Castle pub, Castle Hill they slouch on all fours over the felt mat playing area and talk intensely of tactics using weird words like bristolling, crudding and squopping surface. To a certain extent the dedicated members of the winking world feel under threat, their skills unrecognised by the mocking, unwinking masses, but say that tiddlywinks can give back health and mental stability to those who are ravaged by the complexity and over-mechanisation of modern life 77 03 19

1980 02 04
Cambridge University tiddlywinks club sponsor first world championships singles competition [11.13]

1985 11 26
Tiddlywinks world championship held at Churchill college – 85 11 26a & b

1986 03 11
Tiddlywinks players competed for the Prince Philip Silver Wink, the universities annual championship established by the prince in 1961. Cambridge University developed the now internationally-accepted rules in 1955. Each game lasts 25 minutes and there are five complete rounds to shoot. The most important skill is 'squoping' – the art of covering up winks. A Varsity match was established against Oxford University in 1958 but in this year's competition Cambridge was beaten by Southampton despite having a world record number of players to choose from 86 03 11a

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Water polo, 1950s *201.20*

c.38 : Water-polo

1910
Water-polo: team successful but would improve if could practice during winter months in good indoor swimming pool [6.21]

1929 09 19
Water polo, p7

1950 08 11
A non-stop 2½ hours programme of water sports at Jesus Green bath was witnessed by a record crowd of 1,400 people. It comprised swimming races, diving, novelty events and a water polo match. The sports represented a personal triumph for Ray Barker of the Granta club who beat all-comers. Sheila Tudor was the most successful woman competitor.

1988 11 02
A new university sports complex off Madingley Road will cater for every level from general recreation to high-performance athletes. The first phase will include a 10-lane Olympic-standard synthetic athletics track with field events facilities and a pavilion. Later there will be a 34-metre swimming pool with a deep-water full-size international water polo court. A sports hall, rowing,

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training tank, combat salle, dance studio, squash and fives court and table tennis facilities will follow 88 11 02

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

CAMBRIDGE DAILY NEWS, Saturday, September 20, 1958

WRESTLING RETURNS TO CAMBRIDGE

Large Crowd Gets First-Class Entertainment

THE re-introduction of professional wrestling to Cambridge by Dale Martin Promotions Ltd. proved to be a very popular one judging by the size of the crowd which filled the Corn Exchange last night.

The entertainment value was first-class but the promoters must heed the criticisms made to us by several customers as to the chaotic seating organisation. If they are to cater for such a crowd as last night—and it must have gladdened their hearts—then this must be priority No. 1 with them.

The main event was an international heavyweight contest between Tibor Czakacs (Budapest) and Joseph Zaranoff, of Russia, which the former won by two falls to one in the last of four rounds.

In the first round the Russian obtained the first fall with a reverse power body press after some fine wrestling. Szakacs had his opponent in a bad way at end of second round with a leg and arm lock.

The Hungarian evened things by gaining a fall by using the reverse underleg half nelson after taking four counts from heavy standing arm rolls.

In the last round Zaranoff had his man at his mercy and Szakacs took seven counts before he suddenly caught the Russian with a tight fall with a reverse arm and leg lock.

In another heavyweight contest Spencer Churchill (London) met Charlie Fisher (Eltham) and despite the former's salubrious name he had to admit defeat by two falls to one.

SUBMITTED.

Fisher obtained the first fall in the second round when Churchill submitted when caught with a reverse headlock. The latter in the next round had Fisher in a similar hold to equalise. Fisher mastered Churchill with a reverse leg and body press in the last round.

Tommy Mann (Manchester) beat Al Nicol (Nottingham) at catch-weight by two straight falls obtained in the third and fourth rounds. Nicol was forced to submit twice with a standing back-breaker and finally a knee back-breaker.

The programme was completed with a welterweight contest which terminated in the third round by a knock-out obtained by Mick McManus (London) over his opponent, Packie Pallo (Highbury). There were thrills a-plenty until McManus caught Pallo with a flying shoulder

Photos "Cambridge Daily News"

Top—Spencer Churchill jumping on Charlie Fisher on whom he has a wrist and arm lever hold. Below—Tibor Szakacs being thrown by Joseph Zaranoff.

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Wrestling returns to Cambridge

CDN 20 September 1958

c.38 : Wrestling

1905 11 14
The Cambridge Hippodrome has secured the services of Alec Bain, one of the best-known wrestlers in the country. He offers £20 to any man he fails to defeat in 15 minutes or £50 to anyone who defeats him. His opponent in a 'catch-as-catch-can' contest was Mr Davis, a well-known local exponent of physical culture. For eight minutes he extricated himself from dangerous holds but then was fixed in a 'hammer-lock', a hold he claimed was not allowed as it was very dangerous. But the referee's judgement was in favour of Bain. 05 11 14a

1922 10 13
Ju Jitsu: Cambridge Corn Exchange was crowded last evening on the occasion of a boxing tournament. In all the events there was some capital fighting. The audience also had the privilege of witnessing an excellent exhibition of Ju Jitsu and Katsu, in which the participants were Harry Hunter of Broadstairs, England's greatest exponent of Ju Jitsu, and Mr W. Saddington, the local expert in the art. Various throws and locks were shown but the one which interested the audience was that of throwing and rendering an opponent unconscious in a few seconds, and instantly reviving him by Katsu, the Japanese method of restoration

1926 06 01
A demonstration of ju jitsu was given in Cambridge by Mr A.J. Morgan and C.W. Boxsell who deputised for Professor Saddington and the son of Professor Sitton, the old University boxing instructor. A carpet about five feet square was requisitioned for a mat and Professor Saddington supplied ju jitsu costumes. The proceedings opened with a demonstration of "Kime-no-Kata, or ju jitsu self-defence methods. This was followed by methods of defence against an armed assailant

which was loudly applauded. A display of ju jitsu wrestling literally brought the house down c26 06 06

1938 01 11
Wrestling at Corn Exchange – 38 01 11

1951 05 04
Wrestling : banned from Corn Exchange [3.21]

1958 09 20
The re-introduction of professional wrestling to Cambridge by Dale Martin Promotions proved very popular. Large crowds filled the Corn Exchange to watch an international heavyweight contest between Tibor Czakacs (Budapest) and Joseph Zaranoff of Russia. Spencer Churchill (London) lost to Charlie Fisher of Eltham and Tommy Mann of Manchester beat Al Nicol of Nottingham by two straight falls. Then Mick McManus knocked-out Packie Pallo with a flying shoulder charge. 58 09 20

1978 03 03
'Giant Haystacks', otherwise known as Luke McMasters, towers above every other wrestler in the British ring at 6ft 11in and 32 stone and you could only pity tiny 15½ stone Mike Marino as he stepped into the Corn Exchange ring to pit his strength against him. The bout looked over when Haystacks body-slammed Marino to the canvas and, with a contemptuous glance, headed for the dressing room. But incredibly Marino managed to stagger to his feet before the count ended and Haystacks could not lumber back into the ring in time. Earlier a crowd of 700 watched Bert Royal and Vic Falkner beat Hungarian exile Zoltan Boscik and Britain's Chris Bailey. 78 03 03

Good Friday skipping, Parker's Piece, 1933 *68.35*

c.39 : Customs & Folklore

Includes New Year rockets, Plough Monday, May Day, Good Friday skipping, Bonfire Night & Christmas; Ghosts, Witchcraft
Also separate sections on Bonfire night, Poppy Day & Rag, Mock Funerals & Wooden Spoons

1889 10 25
Death J.W. Skeels, town crier 28 years [Misc.6.4] Ch 25.10.1889 p3

1897 05 01
May Day is the name of a holiday that calls up all sorts of pretty rustic associations. In Cambridge the first day of the merry month is a most unromantic reality. A few small children straggle about the streets with more or less pretentious garlands and a Jack-in-the-Green may occasionally be caught sight of, but beyond this May Day in Cambridge is a memory of the past. In connection with Hobson-street chapel there was a "May morning breakfast" at which there was a large attendance. The room was decorated with flowers and the gathering was a most enjoyable one 97 05 01

1898 01 02
Shortly before the clock of Great St Mary's with deep-toned impressiveness proclaimed the exit of 1897 and the advent of 1898 King's Parade was thronged with people awaiting the fiery

messengers sent up year after year by Ald Beck. We have a shrewd suspicion that the unusual sight of letting off rockets at midnight attracted the bulk of the people who visited King's Parade last night. "Beer, beer, glorious beer" chorused a lively portion of the crowd. Precisely upon the stroke of 12 there was a swish and roar in front of the portals of King's and the first rocket soared aloft proclaiming abroad the significant fact that the old year was out. A second rocket heralded in the new year, and after some slight ebullition of feeling and a feeble attempt at "Aud lang syne" the crowds dispersed, and the streets resumed their normal state 1898 01 02

1898 05 01 c
The pretty and interesting ceremony of electing and enthroning a May Queen was observed at the Higher Grade School, Eden Street. Teachers and girls had been busy transforming their room into a perfect garden of flowers, and the Royal dais, covered with a green carpet. The retiring Queen (Ethel Norman) having robed and put on a crown of pansies she ascended the throne and abdicated at the end of a very happy reign. May Rossendale was elected the new Queen by a large majority and to the strains of a stately march she appeared, preceded by her bodyguard bearing garlands of flowers with which they made a triumphal arch for her May Majesty's procession. c1898 05 01

1898 05 28
Seven labourers were summoned for “tin kittling” in Great Shelford. PC Chater said they were banging tins and trays, and such things, as well as shouting and yelling at a lady. Two of them had pails half full of tar which they used for burning the woman in effigy. This entertainment continued for about two hours. The woman said: "My husband won't part with his money, and that's why I left him.” The magistrate: "What is your husband's name?" - "I don't know what his name is. I never took the trouble to remember his nasty name”. Defendants were fined 2s.6d each CDN 1898 05 28

1899 01 02
As 12 o'clock draws near on New Year's Eve in Cambridge the interest of the crowd is directed towards the House of Alderman Deck. For many years he has made himself responsible for a display of rockets on King's Parade as the Old Year gives place to the New; and he is not going disappoint his fellow townspeople tonight. Just a few minutes before twelve he leaves his house and set up the stand from which two rockets are to be fired on the causeway in front of the gates of King's College. While the expectant crowd eagerly looks on, he lights a fuse and just on the first stroke of twelve the first rocket, that in honour of the Old Year, is set off. It has hardly completed its flight when another rocket, that in honour of the New Year, shoots up into the sky 1899 01 02

1899 02 17
Yesterday afternoon the attention was attracted by what seemed to be an imposing funeral procession. But this was no ordinary funeral for instead of the usual hease an open landau led the way and this was occupied by three young men who wore “the trappings of woe” very lightly. Following were nearly a score of hansoms. It is alleged that at the end of last term at student of Queens’ college “ragged” a couple of Freshmen’s rooms. The matter was reported to the University authorities who came to the conclusion he should be sent down for a year. His friends resolved to show their disapproval. Before the train left the company whistled the “Dead March” and it left amid ringing cheers - 1899 02 17

1899 08 09
Once a year the good feeling existing at Pembroke College between members of the colleges and the servants is given expression to. In recent years, largely owing to the efforts of Mr A.

Chapman, the butler, undergraduates and servants have united in a festive gathering in the Long Vacation, and it has now assumed the aspect of an annual affair. During the day a cricket match took place, the servants played in the ordinary way, while the collegians used broomsticks as bats. Dinner in hall followed and after this came a concert al fresco - 1899 08 09

1900

1900 01 01
Farewell to 1899 and welcome to 1900 were symbolised by the two rockets that were sent up from King's Parade just before the stroke of 12 on New Year's Eve. The custom of discharging rockets has been religiously observed since 1825 by the Deck family and it is now one of the established institutions of Cambridge life and a much-looked-for feature of the season's festivities CDN 1900 01 01

1900 05 01
For several years past the 1st of May has been observed at the Eden Street Higher Grade School, Cambridge, by a ceremony which is at once attractive and imposing. The scholars assemble in costumes suitable to the best traditions of the sunny month and elect one of their number as Queen for the year. It is a happy survival of May Day festivities, which it is hoped will be perpetuated. Queen Kate and her retinue walked to the throne which was bright with a profusion of spring flowers. The children voted for the new Queen and Ellie Fisher was elected. She was crowned with a wreath of white flowers and saluted with a sisterly kiss by the dowager Queen CDN 1900 05 01

1900 05 01
It is a matter of regret that the celebration of May Day has been so largely discontinued. The Maypole has to a large extent disappeared. It was a praiseworthy custom, and its associations were fragrant of rustic purity, but the Maypole has gone the way of the spinning jenny. Children still gather wild flowers on May Day, but the garlands that one sees have too much of the coloured paper and ribbon brought from the draper in their composition CDN 1900 05 01

1900 10 18
Cambridge town council considered the position of town crier. Mr Campkin said the office was a relic of Bumbledon and could well be dispensed with. They had outlived the town crier as they had the Bedell. Alderman Spalding thought it a great pity to get rid of these old offices. The crier preceded the Mayor to church five times a year, went to meet the judges three times, attending the quarter sessions and licensing sessions and made in all sixteen appearances during the year. The salary was £20 per annum CDN 1900 10 18

1900 12 20
Cambridge Town Council invited applications for the post of Town Crier, at a salary of £20 per annum, with allowance for delivering and posting handbills, and uniforms to be provided. The crier might be a little out of date, but he was a picturesque figure. Three candidates were interviewed and asked to read one of the Proclamations used at Midsummer Fair. The committee strongly recommended that Henry James Thompson, of Perowne Street, be elected CDN 1900 12 20

1901 01 01
All over the country people keep up the practice of watching the Old Year out and the New Year in, but Cambridge is probably unique in the sending up of rockets. Mr Alderman Deck has religiously observed the practice inaugurated by his father and the townspeople are grateful to him for it. Hundreds of people gathered on King's Parade. The two rockets were placed in a crate and just as King's clock was striking the midnight hour the venerable Alderman applied a light to

one of the rockets and with its flight was symbolised the flight of 1900. A few moments later the second rocket was sent up, heralding the birth of the New Year and the New Century 01 01 01

1901 06 18
A large number witnessed the quaint custom of the presentation of the wooden spoon to the last man in the University Mathematical Tripos. This year two candidates were bracketed at the bottom of the list and both gentlemen received large spoons emblazoned and trimmed with their college colours. The spoons were lowered down to their owners from the gallery in the Senate House amid much interest. Mess Crisp & Co of King's Parade, Cambridge, again supplied the spoons, which were artistically painted and decorated. Mr D. Buchanan, who comes from South Africa, has had an additional spoon presented to him by his South African friends, with the arms and coloured ribbons of Cape Colony CDN 1901 06 18

1902 01 01
The one event in Cambridge on New Year's Eve that rises superior to all others is the midnight ceremony on King's Parade, where for many years past the public have assembled to bid farewell to the old year and welcome the new, in a manner that obtains in a few other towns in the Kingdom. There was little except the associations of the ceremony to tempt hundreds of people to make a midnight journey. The space in front of Alderman Deck's house, facing King's College was densely packed and shortly before 12 o'clock the first rocket ascended and about a minute later the second followed. A few illuminative fireworks were discharged near the church and King's Parade resumed its normal appearance by 12.15 CDN 1902 01 01

1902 05 01
Old English customs are, unhappily, dying out slowly but surely. Even the romantic revels which formerly attached to May Day have to a large extent disappeared and but little remains to mark what was an important day in the calendar. May Day is essentially a day for youthful jubilation and in one place in Cambridge is at least observed as such. Scholars at Eden Street Higher Grade Schools annually take part in a quaintly pretty ceremony of choosing a May Queen. Queen Nellie – last year's queen was escorted to her throne and formally abdicated. Votes were taken and it was announced that Miss Daisy Coulson had been elected and she was crowned with a crown of roses CDN 1902 05 01

1903 01 01
Young men and matrons, old men and children, gathered on King's Parade, Cambridge, at midnight to speed the dying year and welcome the new. Everyone was waiting for Alderman Deck who left his house a few minutes before the hour, carrying the rockets, to see the flight of which so many people flock to the Parade. Standing in front of King's gate the venerable alderman lighted the rockets and the crowds broke into hearty cheers. 03 01 01

1903 04 11
Itinerant vendors of the delicacy inseparable from Good Friday awakened citizens to the fact that a public holiday was at hand. While the majority of householders were still sleeping peacefully, unmusical voices in the streets below broke the stillness of the morning with offers to sell 'two a penny' and a proportionate number for 'tup-pence' in a sing-song for which three notes of the scale provided the tune. All modes of traction were utilised by holiday-makers, affording evidence of the growing popularity of the motor. Dusty and noisy they may be, but that they continue to grow more popular there can be no doubt and motorists comprised no mean section of the Good Friday road traffic. 03 04 11

1903 02 03

A Fulbourn wood dealer claimed his horse had been bewitched and conducted an experiment to see who had bewitched it. He took two bottles to the blacksmith's shop and filled them with nails and pieces of hoof from the floor, then bought some pins and needles. At midnight he put water in a saucepan and boiled it with the parings of hoofs nails, pins and needles in. He sat quite in the dark. At last somebody came to the door but he was so frightened he blundered off upstairs. The magistrates attributed the condition of the horse to starvation rather than the evil eye and imposed a heavy fine. It is almost incredible that such fooleries should be believed 03 02 03

1903 02 04
The most famous wise woman in the fens lives in the town of Cambridge itself. On market days farmers and labourers and servants come to seek her advice, cross her hand with silver and go away with spells for love and marriage, for the cure of all kinds of ills and good luck in cattle-dealing. Another famous Wise Woman lives in a cottage in a village near Newmarket. She does a good business in spells and charms, from wart-curing to love philtres. She has cured thousands of warts by a process of rubbing the root of the dandelion plant on the hard skin to the accompaniment of some incantation gibberish. On stormy nights she is still fondly believed to go for midnight rides on a broomstick. 03 02 04

1904 01 01
For a span of seventy-odd years Cambridge has had a rallying point from which to speed the Old and welcome the New Year. The venerable Alderman Deck has sent two coloured rockets skyward and attracted a portion of the population to King's Parade. For the first time a similar event took place at Old Chesterton when his son ignited the fireworks close to the Horse Grind ferry. But it was not known that a new ceremony would take place and not a single resident left his abode to witness the rockets' flight 04 01 01

1904 01 15
Plough Monday dancers absent [1.25]

1904 01 26
Cambridge magistrates said the custom of sending round for 'Christmas Boxes' was a bad one and liable to be greatly abused. They heard how a groom from Castle Street had obtained a shilling from the cashier at Hallack and Bond's shop after claiming that he was an ostler at the Carrier's Arms. He also tricked Eaden Lilley's into giving him a similar sum. No less than 11 similar charges could have been made against the prisoner who was sentenced to seven days hard labour. 04 01 26

1904 04 02
On Good Friday Cambridge residents now expect their repose during the early hours of the morning to be broken by the appropriately mournful cries of the purveyors of the stodgy hot cross bun. As early as half-past four in the centre of the town the 'Two-a-penny, four-for-tuppence', pitched for the most part in a minor key, commences and continues without intermission until the disturbed sleeper in sheer desperation gives up attempted repose and descends to breakfast, at which meal the Good Friday bun is usually of more ornament than use. The custom of taking a supply of the buns shows little decline & manufacturers say there is still a good demand. As far as the weather was concerned, after the snowstorm, hail-storms and rain of Thursday, it was a pleasant surprise, but amusements were restricted by the high wind. Easter is the commencement of the season for pleasure patrons of the wheel, but few cared to face the grind of many miles in the teeth of such strong currents and the roads were but little 04 04 02

1904 06 10

Procession of boats to be buried [2.8]

1904 11 26
The bedmaker is an institution. Without her the University would be sadly disorganised. Now The Granta has been conducting a bedmakers competition which Mrs Jacob of Magdalene has won. She was born in 1829 and has served the college for 62 years. Mrs Hills of St Johns has a record of continuous service since 1839 while Mrs Nichols has served 28 years at Corpus with 11 at Peterhouse before that. But several ladies entirely declined to take the contest seriously, one saying she had read in The Granta 'articles which no gentleman could possibly have written' 1904 11 26

1904 12 24
Show Night one Christmas custom still lamented; all Cambridge and his wife used to turn into the streets on Show Night when every shopkeeper did his best to make a display of his wares and catch the public eye by some novel form of window dressing. The chief objects of attention were the butchers and poulterers shops where the carcasses of prize beasts and prize poultry were exhibited in prestigious quantities, meanwhile the proprietors dispensed hospitality to their customers in their private offices or parlours ... In their endeavours to beat one another the butchers killed more meat than they could get rid of ... then sentimentality came on the scene - felt it barbarous 'unworthy of nineteenth-century civilisation' so died out ... talk of advisability of reviving it next year 04 12 24 [4]

1904 12 24
Last term in the small hours of the morning an undergraduate in the old part of Corpus Christi College saw something of a supernatural appearance. It so unnerved him he became quite ill; he refused to continue to occupy the room and moved to another staircase. Naturally the college authorities deemed it desirable to prevent the story from gaining publicity and until now have succeeded in suppressing the circumstances. But now the harrowing and gruesome facts have leaked out and the recent visitation of 'something' to the undergraduate is beyond dispute. 04 12 24 [1.15,2.10]

1905 03 04
'Sultan of Zanzibar' hoax. A practical joke of a particularly senseless character has just come to light. The incident recalls a similar hoax that was effected during the visit to England of the Shah of Persia years ago. The CDN became apprised of the visit but in view of the former hoax refrained from publishing any account and our suspicion was confirmed by a telegram from the Carlton Hotel saying 'No member of the Sultan of Zanzibar's suite was away from London'. The Mayor was very cautious and took care not to make any elaborate preparations for the reception of the visitors. 05 03 04
The death of Willie Clarkson, the London theatrical costumier and make-up expert recalls two of the greatest hoaxes of the century. The hero of the famous visit of the Sultan of Zanzibar to Cambridge and of the Abyssinian dignitaries to the Dreadnought was H. De Vere Cole. But he would not have escaped exposure but for Mr Clarkson's masterly make-up. He became more famous than many of the actors and actresses who he costumed and gowned during his association with the stage. 34 10 13

1905 04 08
The alleged appearance of an apparition at Corpus College is recorded in 'The Occult Review'. It describes attempts to exorcise the spirit who says he is Thomas Harding and killed himself in the rooms in 1707. It is a known fact that a former Master, Dr Butts, hanged himself in these rooms but of Harding nothing has yet been found. There are mice in the rooms but it would be difficult

for any noise they make to be mistaken for footsteps, nor could they shake a wash-stand to and fro. 05 04 08f-j

1905 06 19
A sensational report in the London papers that 'the body a woman upon whose body a variety of curious tattoo designs was found was discovered in the river at Cambridge' actually refers to a tragedy at Chatteris a fortnight ago. Two women of the tramp class were pulled from the river. One had tattoos of the crucifixion on her chest, a soldier, sailor and flags on her right arm and a fully-rigged ship, English and American flags, the letter M and a woman in tights on her left. Her left leg had a representation of a Highlander playing bagpipes 05 06 19a

1905 07 08
Mr Prevett, the clever local Punch and Judy man was performing at a garden party near Cottenham and demonstrating the unhappy relations between Punch and his spouse with much vigour. At the conclusion of the show he was accosted by a lady who protested his manipulation of the dolls was too brutal and would have a demoralising effect on the poor innocent rustics. A short time after the lady married, and quite recently was fined for assaulting her husband with a garden rake! 05 07 08a

1906
St John Ascension Day custom "introduced 10 years ago" (1916) [1.4]

1906 01 01
The old custom of assembling on King's Parade to witness the death of the old year and the birth of the new, as signalized by the discharge of a couple of rockets, was again observed by a large number of the inhabitants of Cambridge. The crowd was in a happy frame of mind but there was nothing to complain of in their behaviour. A few seconds before midnight one rocket soared skywards to the accompaniment of cheers. Shortly afterwards 1906 was heralded by a second. The custom, which was initiated by the late Mr Deck, has now reached its 80th anniversary. 06 01 01a

1906 04 14
'Hare scramble and bottle-kicking' custom, Hallaton – 06 04 14

1906 06 12
A crowd of dons and undergraduates congregated in the Senate House to learn who had gained the coveted distinction of Senior Wrangler but those who were expected to obtain good positions awaited in the seclusion of their rooms the news brought by friends. The examiners stood in the gallery holding the fateful papers in their hands and announced that Mr A.T. Rajan, an Indian student, and Mr C.J. Sewell, both of Trinity, were bracketed as Senior Wranglers. When the order of merit in printed form came fluttering down from the gallery the customary wild scramble for the sheets ensued. 06 06 12

1906 06 19
At the Senate House two Wooden Spoonists received their degrees. H.R. Bell and W.Crouch, both of Selwyn, were bracketed last in the Mathematical Tripos and each was presented with a wooden spoon. Years ago this was a shovel with the college arms hastily painted on the bowl. Now it has become a thing of beauty, a trophy handsomely decorated which would not be out of place in the most artistic study. They were lowered on strings from the gallery and each recipient was handed a pair of garden shears with which he cut the string, bravely shouldered the spoon and marched out accompanied by a perfect tornado of cheers. 06 06 19a & b

1906 08 25
Newmarket Road was the scene of a demonstration which proves that whatever the morality of a district individually, collectively it is on the side of strict morality. The people who incurred the displeasure of the neighbourhood were the objects of a considerable amount of hustling in the streets and a crowd gathered in front of their house beating tin kettles and similar utensils. 06 08 25a

1906 11 19
For many years it has been the custom for men employed in the various bakery businesses in Cambridge to hold an annual supper known as the Bakers' Clem, provided through the generosity of the master bakers and millers. This year 70 men and boys sat down to a substantial meal at the Star Tap, Newmarket Road after which songs were sung. 06 11 19

1906 12 29
Christmas bathing in the river needs a Spartan spirit and a robust constitution. But in Cambridge sufficient men enjoy a jovial gathering at the Town Bathing Sheds every Christmas morning. With the mercury hovering above freezing point, water in dykes coated with ice and a keen wind blowing across the Fen, about 30 bold spirits plunged in and one swam to the Leys School. When he emerged from the water his skin had a bright red hue, but he was perfectly happy. 06 12 29b

1907 01 01
The Cambridge custom of ushering in the New Year by the discharge of rockets from King's Parade has rarely been observed under more favourable conditions and a good crowd congregated near King's gate where a wooden stand had been erected. The Chief of the Fire Brigade and the Chief Constable stood by with a number of 'blue lights' spluttering in their hands ready to fire the symbols of farewell and welcome. 07 01 01

1907 01 08
For many years a weird figure, clad in a red chintz dress, has haunted a farmhouse on the Thorney estate in the fens. During the creepy hours of the night it appeared in one particular bedroom and pointed a long, lean finger to a roof. Sometimes it made a rattling noise. Then it vanished. The house was long occupied by the Caves, a noted fen family. Now a new tenant investigating the beams above the room has found secreted there the will of John Caves, made in 1797, relating to an estate worth about £10,000. Probably the mystic lady's perambulations will now cease 07 01 08

1907 01 12
Mrs Verrall, wife of a Fellow of Trinity, first attempted to obtain automatic phenomena by means of the planchette but without success. She then tried automatic writing. Seating herself before a sheet of paper she began writing rapidly although it was dark and could not see what she wrote. The writings have been in Latin and sometimes Greek but the phraseology is medieval. A good many other Cambridge people are interesting themselves in such phenomena and there was previously a branch of the Psychical Research Society in the town. 07 01 12 & 12a

1907 02 01
Only members of the University in academic dress are admitted to the Senate House to vote on the abolition of the Senior Wranglership. But one voter managed to elide the vigilance of the janitors and outraged the proprieties by stalking up to the barrier in a light 'dust' coat, swinging his cloth cap in hand. The situation was explained to him and after a hasty retreat he reappeared in the decorous black garment. 07 02 01a

1907 02 04
The doom of the Senior Wrangler has been sealed, and after 1909 that world renowned and historic personage will be as extinct as the Dodo. It is impossible not to feel regret for his passing. He has been so intimately associated with Cambridge as to have become a sort of trademark by which the University is known. But the tendency of modern education is towards specialisation and a University that failed to keep abreast of the times would soon be in decline. 07 02 04

1907 06 08
The boat procession used to be the most popular of the May Week gaieties. The brilliant blazers of the collegeians, the varied colours of the ladies' charming costumes, the prettily adorned boats together with the enlivening strains of an excellent band all combined to make a scene of colour and animation. The gathering fell through owing to the apathy of the boating men who objected to dressing up to be looked at. But it is a great pity 07 06 08a

1907 06 18
The scene in the Senate House was very tame and it was not until the presentation of the wooden spoons to the last Wrangler that there was any fun at all. This year three men were bracketed for last place. The original wooden spoon, about 30 years ago, grew into a malt shovel with the man's college arms upon it, but this year they were more elaborately decorated than ever and are quite works of art, beautifully adorned from bowl to handle. 07 06 18 & a

1907 09 05
A family has fled a two room, one up and one down, cottage in the parish of St Andrew-the-Less because of a supernatural visitation. Mysterious knockings come from beneath a truckle bed in which an eight-year old, named Rose, sleeps with another girl. People have tried to reproduce the noise by shaking the bed, stamping on the floor and striking the wall. The floorboards have also been taken up without result. Hard-headed men who pooh-poohed the story waited outside and distinctly heard the noises which only happen when Rose is in the bed, asleep. 07 09 05 & a.

1907 09 07
The Cambridge 'ghost' has declined further manifestations for the delectation of hundreds of curious persons who, having discovered its situation, throng the narrow thoroughfare at all hours up to midnight. Neighbours discuss little else: Rose the girl at the centre of the disturbance, is the offspring of a former marriage, her mother having been married a second time. The theory is that the spirit of her deceased father is endeavouring to communicate with her, for monetary advantage. Two CDN reporters waited for hours at the 'haunted cottage' with all the paraphernalia for bogus-spook-laying. News of the investigation had leaked out and the street was filled with men, women and children whose remarks were overheard by those behind the drawn blinds. Some agreed they were foolhardy and a bottle of brandy was a necessary item – but a spook-hunter is a teetotaller if he is wise. As the hours progressed the crowds melted away before the persuasions of the police. News reporters in the Cambridge 'haunted house' heard a 'thump-thump-thump' repeated twice. Had the spook obliged? Not a bit of it – the sound came from next door. Either the neighbour found a spot which required hammering or he thought he would reward the investigators with something to investigate. No noises have ever occurred after eleven o'clock so the pair packed up their paraphernalia and left without having heard anything more ghostly than the scratching of rats and mice. But outside the excitement remains as real as ever 07 09 07 & a

1907 09 30

Many recall the 'Knocking Ghost of Barton' when a succession of thumps were heard in a farmhouse and many a skilled ghost-layer were at their wits' end for an explanation. The real reason was hit upon by accident. Near at hand was a stable and beneath the floor was a disused iron pipe. When the horse kicked the sound was communicated to the house but so muffled and mysterious that no other cause than the supernatural was supposed. The Barton ghost had a good run before being run to earth. 07 09 30a

1907 11 26
A 'mock funeral' saw a procession of 100 cabs boarded by undergraduates who scrambled to the roof of the vehicles for the journey to the railway station. The cabbies had decorated their whips with pieces of crepe and 'mourners' with mouth organs and a miniature bagpipes played hideous music. The 'deceased' was 'sent down' for being out of Caius College after midnight – he had gone to London but his car had broken down. 07 11 26

1907 12 14
There is considerable perturbation in regard to the application of the Prevention of Corruption Act to the time-honoured custom of giving and receiving Christmas boxes. The house-wife may still give her maid a half-crown upon Christmas morning, the master may have the satisfaction of a grin from his man upon receipt of a similar sum, the postman may still be rewarded with his Yuletide trifle. But beyond Christmas boxes of this character is it not safe to go. 07 12 14b

1908 04 17
Good Friday celebrations – 08 04 17

1908 06 05
There has been an Alpine fever amongst undergraduates, finding a vent in climbing trees along the Backs. The wireless telegraphy station on the Huntingdon Road has been the site of the latest exploit. This is a pole over 200 feet in height which receives messages from Cumnor Hill near Oxford. Two undergraduates merrily commenced the ascent by means of the metal spikes driven in at convenient intervals and managed to reach the top. But the return voyage was not so easily accomplished and they reached terra firma with a distinct sigh of relief. It is a matter for common wonder what object will next receive the attention of this strange species. CWN 08 06 05 p5

1908 08 22
A wise woman living in a village near Newmarket does a good business in spells and charms, from wart curing to love philtres. She has cured thousands of warts by rubbing the root of a dandelion on the hard skin to the accompaniment of some incantation gibberish. On stormy nights she is still fondly believed by many people to go for midnight rides on a broomstick – or so claims a London paper hard up for copy during the silly season. CWN 08 08 22 p5

1908 09 02
Death of Arthur Deck, New Year ceremony: two rockets set off as King's clock struck the hour; took punch in Deck's back parlour [1.1]

1908 11 20
Frederick Myers was well known in Cambridge during his lifetime and, being interested in spiritualism, promised that if communication between the dead and the mind of the earthly were at all possible he would get in touch with his friends on earth. Now Mrs Henry Sidgwick, president of the Psychical Research Society, claims to have established communication through a system of automatic cross-correspondence. CWN 08 11 20

1909
Notes Harriet Evans 65, eccentric man hater, walked streets with bat on each arm & thick white veil [Misc.6.5]

1909 05 21
The last Senior Wrangler – list of competitors – 09 05 21

1909 05 28
Empire Day celebrations – 09 05 28

1909 06 18
Last senior wrangler – historic sketch – 09 06 18

1909 12 31
The Costermongers Boxing Day Marathon race was run between East Road and Bottisham and back. It is open to men who earn their living by hawking and the fact that 17 came forward with their barrows in such unfavourable conditions says a good deal for their hardiness.. Soon mud began to bespatter the runners. Tom Nunn took the lead in the outward journey but was finally beaten by Sam George CWN 09 12 31

1910

1910
Death George Randell lived Honey Hill, blind man sold matches on street corners, so tall coffin made seven feet long [Misc.6.6]

1910 01 07
Crowds of several hundred people thronged King's Parade awaiting the hour of midnight when they would bid farewell to the old year and welcome in the new by the discharge of rockets. This tradition has been carried on by the well-known family of Deck for 84 years. To while away the time sundry vocalists started choruses of popular tunes until the solemn hour drew near and a cheer was raised when the rockets were brought out and fixed in readiness in the gateway of King's College. As the clock struck 12 the first rocket went up straight and true and as the glare of the firework died away the bells of Great St Mary's struck up a merry peal and toasts were drunk. 10 01 07

1910 02 04
An old Cambridgeshire custom says that an inhabitant who transgresses the conventions shall be accorded a 'tin-kettling'. One took place at Fen Ditton where 200 people assembled outside the house of a couple, many provided with tin-kettles, tin-pans and whistles. What noise could not be made by thumping these with pieces of wood was contributed by the yelling of many voices. Popular songs were also bawled out and a special chorus composed for the occasion was sung to the accompaniment of much booing. This continued for an hour. Then effigies of the offending parties were carried high above the heads of the jeering crowd and set on fire in the middle of the roadway while the crowd danced round, jeering and shouting the names of the couple. 10 02 04h

1910 02 18
Dr R. Vaughan Williams lectured on 'The Folk Songs of East Anglia" and the enjoyment was enhanced by Mr J. Steuart Wilson of King's College who gave expressive renderings of a number of Old English ballads. Vaughan Williams had discovered the early folk ballad 'Geordie' at Fen Ditton but whether there was a great deal more to be found he did not know. At Fowlmere the

Rev Campbell Yorke had got the 'May Day Song' from an old gentleman who rejoiced in the name of 'Hoppy' who preferred to do odd jobs and sleep in sheds and outhouses. He often started the first verse of a song with an entirely different tune and only got into the right swing at the end. 10 02 18 & a

1910 06 17
Saturday's bump suppers proved exceptionally popular. It is customary for bonfires to be held in college courts and the frequent discharge of fireworks kept the fun flowing until the early hours. Jesus, who retained their position as head of the river, held a magnificent bonfire on the Close. A large crowd attracted by an enormous pile of old boxes dumped near the tennis courts, assembled in anticipation of fun before the pile was set ablaze by firing Roman candles into the heart of the inflammable mass.10 06 17

1910 06 17
One of the biggest mock funerals for many years resulted as a difference of opinion between the authorities of Emmanuel and several junior members of the college as to the proper conduct of a 'bump supper' after which they had lit a bonfire on the lawn in the front court. Some ten undergraduates in their third year were rusticated for a week. A string of hansom cabs appeared at the gates, the 'corpses' clambered on to the roofs and mourners in evening dress and wearing old silk hats swathed with crape accompanied them to the station. 10 06 17a

1910 09 23
A man told the court that he earned £1 a week playing a street organ. It had cost him £18 10s.6d, he'd spent £5 for new tunes, twelve shillings on a new wheel and three-and-six on tuning. A motor car had run into the back of it, knocking it over and causing considerable damage. A four-year old boy who had been in the shafts was knocked over and his hands were cut. There was nobody in Cambridge who understood the instrument and it would have to go to London to be repaired. Repairs would cost at least £3. He had another organ which his son took out. He was awarded £5 for damage to the machine and £3 for loss of earnings. 10 09 23 c & d

1910 11 11
An undergraduate was fined for assaulting a policeman on Guy Fawkes night. A considerable amount of damage had been done, hoarding demolished, gas lamps broken, the railway station raided and milk churns overturned. The most serious incident occurred at Jesus Sluice footbridge where a battle royal took place between members of the County Constabulary and a large party of undergraduates and town roughs. They stoned the police, all of whom were hit, and PC Johnson was struck on the forehead by a piece of board and rendered unconscious. Only the arrival of police reinforcements had averted further trouble. 10 11 11 & a

1911 01 13
The observance of Plough Monday in Willingham has degenerated into parties of boys calling at houses and asking for coppers. This year an old custom has been revived. A party of young men, wearing top hats decorated with ribbons and carrying whips dragged a plough round the village. On their way they met an old ploughman and on his declining to assist them financially, they harnessed him to the plough and he drew it for some distance. He was soon released but not before he had afforded much amusement to the onlookers and the young men - 11 01 13j

1911 03 10
Mock funeral. At the head of the funeral procession was a hansom. Seats on the top with legs dangling over the side, was the undertaker. His mournful calling seemed to have cast a settled gloom over his countenance. His eyes were mournful and sad, and his clothing was of the deepest

black, save for his socks (he wore no shoes), which were of the brightest scarlet. In his hand he waved a long whip (an emblem of his mournful trade), with a bright handkerchief to match his wonderful socks tied to it. Behind the hearse were nine carriages filled with loudly lamenting mourners – extract from a report of a 'Mock Funeral' for an undergraduate sent down from university 11 03 10b

1911 04 15
Hot cross bun seller shouting wares 5.30 am, then 2 more [3.4]

1911 05 19
In a little side passage in King Street a barrel organ was draped with black and mauve as hansoms, taxis and growlers arrived in their dozens. The coffin was covered with crepe surmounted by cap and gown while plumes barely concealed the lines of an express delivery van in which sat the 'corpse' smartly dressed in grey suit and felt bowler. There were about 100 horses and motor vehicles in the procession to the station where the tops of the railway carriages were filled with figures clad in varying garb from pyjamas and rowing shorts to mourning suits and dress suits. It was the most imposing mock funeral ever seen in Cambridge 11 05 19d & e

1911 09 15
'Antiquary' article on Cambridge bygones – 11 09 15 & a

1912 01 05
New Year welcomed by rockets – 12 01 05c

1912 01 26
On Plough Monday it was the custom at Bottisham for ploughboys to have half a gallon of beer at each of the five public houses. Police found two of them drunk in the road. One had collided with a wall and could not get up; he was taken home in a wheelbarrow. The landlord of the Swan Inn said he'd only supplied them with beer. But his wife said she'd served the men with whisky that farmer Woollard had paid for. He confirmed that he'd put sixpence in the ploughboys' box and treated them to whisky. He would be surprised to find men sober who had visited at the public houses in the village. But they were sober when they left. 12 01 26 & a

1912 02 02
Ghostly rappings on the back door of a cottage at Tydd-street, St Mary, a village near Wisbech are causing great excitement. At first the noise was supposed to be the work of a practical joker, but constant watching disproved that theory. The noises occurred between nine in the morning and seven in the evening. On Wednesday fully 100 people assembled round the cottage and the noises were distinctly heard by all. The owner of the cottage has consulted two Wisbech spiritualists and nothing has been heard of the knocking since then. 12 02 02e

1912 03 08
A mock funeral started from the "corpse's" lodging in Lensfield Road. There was a long line of taxis, hansoms and even four-wheelers stretching some distance down Trumpington Street. There was no elaborate "hearse" as in previous funerals: the body was placed quite simply in a hansom bearing the words "Alas! My poor brother" and smoked cigars throughout. His "cabby's" hat was draped with crepe while the majority of the fancifully-dressed mourned wore complimentary black-eyes out of respect for the 'deceased'. There were an extraordinary number of "flappers" – quite stunning flappers some of them were too. One of the best was a suffragette and Mrs Pankhurst also figured in the procession. 12 03 08

1912 10 18
Workmen digging at the rear of a shop in Peas Hill discovered the skeleton of a man and women, lying side by side. Nearby is the site of an old monastery and the assumption is that the remains were found in a former burying-ground. If so it knocks the bottom out of one of the best ghost stories in Cambridge, involving a wealthy banker whose young, beautiful wife took a lover who then disappeared. Half a body was later discovered in excavations at the Bijou Theatre Club's cellars. Now it appears they may all be linked. 12 10 18

1912 11 09
Always complaints on November 5th - heartless & brutal conduct of police, inhuman monsters who dash hither & thither - but what are respectable people doing out [3.1]

1912 12 20
Mr Herbert Reynolds was presented with a street piano purchased following a benefit concert in the Beaconsfield Hall. Many local gentlemen had subscribed to alleviate the misfortune of Reynolds' blindness by giving him a means of an honest livelihood. The piano would prove a boom to him in his affliction and – they hoped – he would always conduct himself as befits an Englishman. The first tune was then played on the instrument which was made by Pasquale and Co and has a round of ten of the latest melodies. An explanatory board is being gratuitously painted and with the collecting-box and the piano cover the outfit is complete. 12 12 20b

1912 12 21
Christmas of 1912 promises to be as happy as any of its predecessors. The complaint of 'low wages and high prices' is heard in many quarters but evidence of material prosperity is afforded by the increased bulk of trade. Cambridge tradesmen have seldom shown such enterprise in regard to the stock exhibited and their reward promises to be forthcoming in the hearty response of shoppers. The football match on the Town grounds on Christmas Day is sure to prove a great attraction and the 'Barnwell Derby' race for costermongers pushing their barrows from Cambridge to Bottisham Swan will take place on Boxing Day 12 12 21c

1912 12 28
Deck stops people smashing bottles after New Year custom [3.2]

1913 02 15
Valentines cards practically died out, some comic ones [3.3]

1913 03 28
The weather was far from ideal for the Easter Holidays. There was the usual crowd of young people engaged in the traditional Good Friday skipping on Parker's Piece until rain drove them away but the football matches attracted large crowds. On Saturday the wind was strong and a very sharp thunderstorm passed over. Sunday saw brilliant sunshine but it was rather too early in the season for much boating and the rough winds of the last few days had rather discouraged cycling. On Easter Monday a good number of people went off by the excursion trains or by motor launch to Clayhithe and bowling was in full swing on Christ's Pieces 13 03 28 p5 CIP

1913 05 02
Perse Morris Men festival Parker's Piece 13 05 02 p12 CIP

1913 11 21
The Fire escape and engine responded to the alarm of a blaze at St John's College where they found a bonfire burning in second court to celebrate the victory of a rower in the Colquhoun

Sculls. Fireworks were discharged and a crowd gathered to watch the glare through the chapel windows. Later a fire broke out in a wicker chair in an undergraduate's room. It is thought a spark from the bonfire may have blown through the window, or a lighted cigarette dropped in the chair. 13 11 21 p11 CIP

1914
Cambridge possess one of 4 tattoo artists in England, very decorated, tattooed one of Shackleton's South Pole party [Misc.6.9]

1914 01 02
There were animated scenes along the road between Cambridge and Bottisham on Boxing Day when the annual Costers' Marathon took place. A big crowd saw the 14 competitors start from Abbey Street. They had to travel to Bottisham and back, a distance of 11 miles, pushing a coster's barrow before them. Ben Warren led practically all the way covering the distance to Bottisham rapidly, but facing the wind on the return leg left all competitors severely tired. Most finished and received half-a-crown. 14 01 02c pic 14 01 02d last costermongers race [1.13]

1914 12 25
In accordance with custom the widows of Haddenham made their house-to-house call on St Thomas' Day to receive their contributions. Several years ago there were upwards of 70, this year only 22 made their appearance. The youngest was 30 and the oldest 50. Notwithstanding age the senior old lady managed the tramp through the village with as much vigour as the younger ones. It is gratifying to know that this mark of respect paid to the needy poor has not fallen off 14 12 25

1915 01 01
Costers' Marathon took place on Boxing Day but rain deterred spectators, robbing it of the animated scenes anticipated. Eight competitors with their barrows took part15 01 01

1915 01 01
The New Year rocket custom did not take place. Mr Arthur Deck did not consider the present was a time for such a function, especially as fireworks were forbidden on November 5th as likely to cause alarm. Again the event might disturb soldiers in the hospital or encourage soldiers to keep late hours. But people sat up to welcome in the New Year and many of the soldiers from the north were seen on the doorsteps of their houses singing "The Miner's Dream of Home". Bugles were to be heard sounding the Last Post and the bells of Great St Mary's Church rang in the year 1915 15 01 01

1915 01 16
Troops billeted Newmarket Rd house find it haunted [3.5]

1915 02 26
Mysterious happenings have been experienced at Argent's Farm near Hempstead. One night a chair, on which stood a sack containing six stone of flour, suddenly leaned forward and deposited its burden on the floor. This happened three times. Next morning all the chairs played similar pranks and their toppling was witnessed by several residents. Two candles on candle sticks also toppled forward and when the candlestick was placed on a window-sill it gave a great jump on to the bed, a yard and a half away. The owner has lived in the house for 50 years and nothing of that kind had previously taken place 15 02 26

1915 04 03

slump in hot cross buns - usually waken 5am by seller 'one a penny, 2 a penny' - but now no 0.5d buns; will go same way as muffin man, few will miss its passing [3.6]

1915 06 11
Mary Macaulay teacher of folk dancing at Folk Dancing Society, enthusiasm died out with coming of the war 15 06 11 p7

1915 12 24
Haddenham St Thomas' Day widows aged from 35 to 90 tramp the village 15 12 24 p3 CIP

1917 05 23
Rogation Sunday.—An old custom in the shape of the blessing of the crops was revived in St. Luke's parish, Cambridge, on Rogation Sunday, when the Vicar (Rev. W, W. Partridge), choir and congregation perambulated local allotments 17 05 23 CIPof

1917 05 30
Empire Day. Empire Day was officially celebrated at Cambridge by the assembling of a large number of schoolchildren on the Market Place, where the Mayor (Lieut.-Col. B. W. Beales) read the King's Proclamation on food rationing, and the children sang a hymn and the National Anthem and raised three hearty cheers for His Majesty 17 05 30 CIPof

1919 04 30
Hot cross buns and new-laid eggs distributed in Fitzroy Street – 19 04 30c

1920

1920 06 02
Christ's College 'ghost' walks; 'Christopher Round' captured and ducked in swimming pool – Ch 20 06 02d

1920 06 23
Graduates play marbles on steps of Senate House – Ch 20 06 23a, photo 23d; TT article) [3.8]

1921
Death Crutchey Newman, boot cleaner Cambridge station [Misc.6.8]

1921
Custom of keeping Saturday nearest Armistice day starts [369]

1922 12 23
New Year rockets for Parkers Piece because hemmed in by building on what formerly open ground Pembroke St; will be 87th time, custom dates back to 1820 but stopped 1914-18 war & after that DORA forbade it [2.25]

1923 01 01
For most people the practice of watching the Old Year out and the New Year in has considerable attraction. It had that attraction for some 700 people when Mr Arthur Deck revived the ancient custom of letting off one rocket for the departing year and one for the New Year. For the first time since 1913-14 when the War put a stop to the practice has the New Year been welcomed in Cambridge in this way. The proceedings were not marked with that liveliness that some of us remembered was evinced on previous occasions, but still the interest taken speaks well for the

continuation of the custom. The firing of rockets was started in 1820 by Mr Deck's grandfather 23 01 01

1923 03 29
An eerie story of a puritan maiden who appeared to a visitor in a house near Cambridge is recorded in the "Westminster Gazette". The incidents were recounted by Mr Ames, who besides being psychic herself, is a writer and lecturer on psychic matters. "My daughter's house near Cambridge was an ancient one and on entering it a feeling of strange discomfort overcame me. That night I dreamed that a puritan girl, beautiful and sad, sat at the foot of my bed. The story was laughed at by my family, but strangely the vicar of the place took it quite seriously and by a study of local records was able to establish that the house had been in the possession of a Puritan family 1923 03 29

1925 01 01
As midnight approached a small group of about 200 brave souls gathered on Parkers Piece, huddled together waiting for 1925. Fierce wet gusts swept by, the old year was going down fighting stubbornly. As the hour approached a silence fell upon the crowd. A minute before there was a flash and a whizz and 1924 split into a thousand coloured lights in the sky. As the first chimes of the Catholic church battled with the wind there came another flash, a soaring, roaring trail of light into the sky – 1925 had come 25 01 01

1925 04 11
Good Friday dawned damp and dismal. Parker's Piece was the great gathering place of the merry makers. In accordance with custom many people produced skipping ropes and skipped away to their hearts' content. Old men & maidens, young men & children – likewise grand dames – jumped up and down to "Salt, mustard, vinegar, pepper" and similar meaningless jungles. Hawkers of balloons, ices, fruit and sweets had secured "pitches" at the East Road corner and did good business. Ices, yesterday morning – b-r-r-r! 25 04 11

1925 10 17
Something of a new departure is to be made in the outward appearance of the Pro-Prctor and his satellites. Commencing next week he will patrol the streets on foot but minus cap and gown, and the 'bulldogs' will wear some less conspicuous headgear than 'toppers'. It is said that some students will keep their motors outside the town and cycle out to fetch them but should any resort to such expedients they will probably receive an unpleasant surprise 25 10 17

1926 01 01
1925 was sent from among us, and 1926, was ushered in by the century-old custom of firing two rockets on Parker's Piece at midnight. A small band of townsfolk gathered to attend the funeral obsequies of the dying year. At ten minutes before midnight Mr A. Deck arrived with the rockets and the crowd stood in silence. Then the bells of Great St Mary's were drowned out by a mighty rushing noise, a whiz and a bang and 1925 had gone. Then as the first chimes of the Catholic church reached the ear there was a second whiz followed by another loud bang and 1926 was here 26 01 01

1926 11 02
Sir Arthur Conan Doyle presented a "creepy" evening among ectoplasms, spirits, and the like at St Catharine's college, Cambridge. The hall was crowded with an audience of dons and undergraduates to hear the famous novelist talk on "Psychic Experiences". He had postponed an earlier visit as the college was in mourning for its Master & his doctor had ordered him not to come now because of a bad cold. But he had disobeyed, thinking that if for the second time he did

not materialise – laughter – they would imagine he had no objective existence at all. He showed a photograph of the crowd round the Cenotaph on Armistice Day; above a small band of spiritualists hung a vapour comprising faces of young men killed in the war 26 11 02

1927 02 25
"The first marriage according to the new Prayer Book" was solemnised in Cambridge when an undergraduate "bride" and "bridegroom" were joined together in unholy matrimony on King's Parade. The blushing bride with the bowing bridegroom was preceded by a piper and a clergyman who was wearing "flannel bags" under his surplice and carried a doll's sunshade. The bride's dress was a pair of white lace curtains and she carried a large bouquet of Brussels sprouts. The bridegroom wore a dilapidated silk hat and a red nose – and carried a banana. They stepped into a waiting carriage followed by a motley through of ludicrously attired "relations and friends" 27 02 25

1927 04 23
Why does skipping always take place on Parker's Piece, Cambridge on Good Friday and Easter Monday? An old man of 83 remembers skipping there as a boy of five or six and his father apparently did so before him. It seems that Good Friday used to be the publican's "day out" and they used to repair to the Piece for a game of bat and trap, while their youngsters amused themselves with a skipping rope. We don't hear much about Bat and Trap nowadays but the skipping goes on as of yore. 27 04 23

1927 06 09
Cambridge Undergraduates took upon themselves the duty of opening "Joanna Southcott's" famous box on the Market Hill. A crowd of mammoth proportions assembled. A melancholy dirge was heard from Petty Cury and there appeared a party of pipers and following them in one of Dale's lorries came a weird array of 24 "bishops" and a delegation of "Mormons" wearing huge straw sombreros. One "archbishop" proceeded to open the box, producing several layers of red tape, a teddy bear, a pair of old football boots and a number of bananas with which he pelted the crowd. The "rag" was organised to provide funds for the Cambridge Fruiting Campaign to help strawberry pickers in the Wisbech area. 27 06 09

1927 06 26
When the honours degree men were presented to the Vice Chancellor there was distinct evidence of a movement to break down the tradition of wearing evening dress. Many graduates were in morning dress and soon the sight of men walking about the streets of Cambridge at noon in evening dress will be a thing of the past. The old statutes prescribed that recipients of Bachelors' degrees must appear in black clothes and since the war impecunious undergraduates found their only black suits were their dress clothes. The new statute states that dark clothes must be worn which brings in the lounge suit. The evening dress tradition is not very old and rests on nothing but undergraduates' customs 27 06 26

1927 12 07
Sir – the death of Mr Alfred Lander has cast quite a gloom over the Sidgwick Avenue – Silver Street bit of Cambridge. For many a year his familiar figure stood in all weathers under his big old tree, sheltered by the wall, generally accompanied by a robin or dog, his special friends. A casual passer-by might suppose he did nothing but stand there holding his broom, but he was a very useful man. To the best of his limited ability he was famous for going messages and taking care of this and that – and all this above and beyond his 'professional' work as a crossing-sweeper (the only unofficial one in the town). So afflicted, but such a simple, kindly and cheery

soul; accident made him a cripple in his childhood, and life must have been a long struggle but of late things have been brighter again for him – A mourner 27 12 07

1928 01 02
When Mr Arthur Deck fired the second rocket on Parker's Piece on New Year's Eve it was his parting shot, for he was performing the ceremony for the last time. A century-old custom, with which three generations of the Deck family have been associated, will fall into abeyance. Before the war the rockets used to be sent up at the entrance to King's College but in 1913 the stick attached to one of the rockets fell through a glass roof of a college and did appreciable damage so he changed the scene of operations to Parker's Piece. 28 01 02

1928 01 30
The story of the Chesterton ghost has attracted crowds of people to the pathway skirting the Willows and there were quite 200 spook-hunters waiting for something to turn up. Of course nobody takes the story seriously and even children have braved the darkness and the barbed wire fences to join in the hunt. All sorts of practical jokes have been played and one enthusiast sallied forth with a sheet until people started throwing things! Someone said that the ghost was defunct, having been shot by a policeman. But if the spirit doesn't materialise on the Willows it most certainly will in a licensed establishment in the adjoining Cam Road 28 01 30

1928 06 02
Whitsun customs, 28 06 02 p7

1928 12 29
Deck stops New Year custom, no rockets 1929, attendance at Parkers Piece declined [1.5]

1929 02 15
Cambridge is becoming increasingly interested in folk songs and folk dances thanks to the local branch of the English Folk Dance Society. Keith Falconer, a Cambridgeshire man who is making a big name for himself in the singing world, is to perform at St Columba's Hall. A sword dance and Morris jigs are included in the programme CDN c 12.2.1929

1929 12 31
The firing of the rockets on Parker's Piece, which has been a New Year's Eve custom since 1815 is now a thing of the past. The increasing pull of counter-attractions such as dances has seen dwindling attendance at the midnight ceremony and last year Mr Deck came to the conclusion that no useful purpose would be served by carrying on. So another old custom which served its day and generation well has passed away. There has also been a falling off of the Watch Night services, which once drew crowded congregations, but the Ortona Social Club function at the Masonic Hall was a lively function. CDN 31.12.1929

1930

1930 02 24
The successful crews in the Lent bumping races celebrated in traditional manner. Hundreds of excited undergraduates in 'bump supper' costume filled the streets till midnight and over it all flickered the light and smoke of bonfires. Boats were burned amid shouting and bacchanalian merriment at St Catharine's, Selwyn and Emmanuel who for the first time in history had finished head of the river. An 'eight' was sacrificed in the paddock of the college upon a huge pyre. The manoeuvre of getting the boat into the college proved by no means an easy one and traffic was held up as the unwieldy craft, borne on the shoulders of the crews, was shunted into Downing

Street before being passed through the narrow gate. At St Catharine's the boat was escorted to the burning by a procession headed by a band of unemployed ex-Servicemen who had been playing on the towing path 30 02 24a

1930 04 17
For years men have beaten carpets on Butt Green and children have used New Square as a camping-out ground. But these ancient customs are soon to pass away with the transfer of the Green to Jesus College, and the construction of a parking place in the Square. 30 04 17

1930 05 26
A mock funeral procession paraded through Cambridge as undergraduates bade farewell to one of their number who had been sent down. It was headed by an old horse-drawn landau in which the 'corpse' sat, his face disguised beneath a war-paint of lipstick. He was joined by various persons who were to officiate at the ceremony; beneath top hats, black cloches and wideawakes were suits of grey flannel, blazers and plus-fours. All were garnished in crepe streamers on which hung rhubarb, beer and wine bottles, remains of the 'wake'. At the station the funereal party moved along the platform hilariously singing a dirge and the 'corpse' was installed in a third-class compartment where gifts of fruit and rhubarb were handed solemnly in. 30 05 26

1930 09 26
The Master of Clare College told librarians that a wealthy member of the college had made a benefaction on condition that his bones were preserved above ground. His body was put in a cupboard above the Hall. But undergraduates came to know of this and took away various bones as mementoes. The college replaced them with other bones so that skeleton remained more or less complete. But on Christmas Eve the ghost of the benefactor visits various undergraduate rooms gathering in his scatter parts. 30 09 26f

1931 04 03
A fire was discovered in a gable of The Grove, Fordham; the damage was not great. The brigade cannot discover any cause of the outbreak. It is a part of old Cambridge folk lore that a fire always follows if a hare runs down the main street of a village. The week before a hare did run down the street at Fordham. It was perused by Mr Richard Nicholls, a septuagenarian, and was killed in a shed within three yards of the place where this fire broke out. 31 04 03m
1931 04 17
Facts about folk lore – interesting article – 31 04 17e

1931 05 29
Mr Harry Semark, of Willingham still constructs the old-fashioned straw hives which are universally condemned by modern beekeepers and now seldom seen even in the 'backward' villages. Yet he exports them to America and the remote Antipodes. In a recent book there is a photograph of a lorry stacked sky-high with Willingham skeps. It is a coiled straw basket, woven by hand with strips of osier. The basket can be moulded to any shape, straw in his hands is like clay to the potter 31 05 29g

1931 06 12
A Cambridge motor firm – W.E. Harding of Seven Sisters garage, Newmarket Road – has been barred from trading with undergraduates by the Vice Chancellor. Under university rules tradesmen must notify tutors by the end of term of any debt exceeding £5 incurred by an undergraduate. But Mr Harding had not been told this. Only two other such notices have appeared within living memory. Now any student having any dealings with the firm may be suspended or rusticated. 31 06 12b

1931 07 17
After a lapse of 35 years an old custom was revived at Burwell. The University holds the position of Lay Rector of the parish and the Vice-Chancellor used to visit the church annually. This year he was attended by the Esquire Bedells, and the Marshall with their silver maces. On arrival at church he put on his scarlet cope of office before following the choir into the chancel. After the service they took lunch at the vicarage. 31 07 17h

1931 10 02
It is easier to kill a man than to kill a custom so every year on Sept 25th the Mayor, Town Clerk, Bailiffs and Town Crier form a solemn procession which proceeds to Stourbridge Common to open the Fair. But this year not even schoolchildren were there to greet them and a News reporter was the sole representative of the public until a solitary figure strolled up. There were no roundabouts, swings or stalls, not even the traction engine that last year was the final relic of a dying fair, puffed and snorted in welcome. 31 10 02d

1932 01 01
The custom of dancing out the Old Year grows apace, most of the Cambridge dance halls had special celebrations and crowds flocked to all of them. Then in the early hours the streets were thronged with men and women, old and young alike, who gaily wandered home, having little time for thought of Income Tax or other worries. 32 01 01a

1932 03 24
Cambridgeshire folk used to bake a large cake on Good Friday and, when dry, grate it into powder. This, mixed with water, was considered a panacea for many ills, especially diarrhoea. A popular Easter Sunday dish was known as 'herb' or 'season pudding, a kind of batter with onions, sage, thyme etc. Stool ball, a forerunner of cricket, commenced its season at Easter and games were played on village greens for prizes of candy cakes, a confection composed of eggs, sugar, flour, cream, spinach leaves and butter. 32 03 24 & a

1932 05 21
What would papers do without Cambridge undergraduates' pranks? During a hard frost years ago some 150 callow youths had a 'curling' bonspiel on the pond at Emmanuel College. Each had a china bowl in lieu of the orthodox curling stone – and each bowl contained a lighted candle. Overnight a thaw set in and visitors watched gardeners salvaging the 'curling stones' from the bottom of the pond. Shortly afterwards undergraduates took a donkey dressed in cap and gown into dinner in hall. Most of the aged dons mistook him for one of themselves! But in those days no newspaper commented. 32 05 21a

1932 05 21
The inner history of the King's College roof-climbing escapade has been revealed. The hazardous feat was carried out by two parties of undergraduates, including several-well known athletes, who are members of a secret organisation composed of skilled mountain climbers. They used the lightning conductor which has been loosened by previous generations of climbers. It is the climax of a series of climbs during the past few months; now they proposed to publish detailed accounts of their exploits 32 05 21

1932 05 24
Night-climbers Kings chapel & Eton – 32 05 24

1932 06 01

The 'Brighter Roofs for Colleges' movement is growing. Overnight at Ridley Hall two cords were stretched from one of the college towers. On them pyjamas, pyjamas and still more pyjamas were floating in the wind. Large ones, small ones, brightly-coloured and silk examples were proudly swaying in the breeze and in the middle was suspended a parson's hat. After they had been lowered to the ground their various owners joined in a frantic scramble for their particular pairs which had been removed from their rooms. 32 06 01a

1932 06 02
King's nightclimbing – brolly removed – 32 06 02

1932 06 06
Nightclimbing craze spreads to Emmanuel – 32 06 06d

1932 08 26
Sir – recently at the Dorothy Café I sat at the table with an elderly farmer and the conversation drifted to the difficulty of obtaining reliable farm labour. Then he sang me a song of goodwill, grit and endeavour. It starts 'Now if you will listen a moment or two, I'll sing you a bit of a rhyme, I'll tell you what I think a man must do, To make the best use of his time." Is it an old Cambridgeshire folk song? – J.T. Lambeth 32 08 26d

1932 11 30
Miser's ghost seen Magdalene St ¢CIP of 30.11.1932

1932 12 20
An old Cambridgeshire custom on New Year's Eve was for a farm girl to approach a pig and slap it sharply with her hand. If the animal uttered a squeal, she would be married within the year; but if it took no heed of the blow she would continue a spinster. Another custom was to stick tiffs of grass on the horns of a cow. If it tossed them off their lover would remain true, if they remained firm on the horns, the sweetheart was false. 32 12 30e & f

1932 12 30
Christmas customs and beliefs – 32 12 23a New year superstitions – 32 12 30e & f

1933 01 25
East Anglian folk lore society – 33 01 25a

1933 05 02
The large room of the Central Girls' School was charmingly decorated with garlands of cowslips when abdicating May Queen, Lorna James, delightfully dressed in a daffodil frock, crowned her successor, Miss Rita Baynes. Dressed like a rose in a pink gown with a train of petals she approached the throne through a triumphal arch of greenery and received the homage of her subjects who each brought a bunch of flowers. 33 05 02

1933 05 13
The Eastern Counties Folklore Society held its first meeting at the University Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology. Dr Haddon explained its object was to collect and record folk customs, rites and beliefs. One charm he mentioned had been discovered at Babraham: a stone which was put into the manger to cure a horse of night sweats – supposed to be caused by the animal being ridden by a witch. 33 05 13

1933 06 06

The Whit Monday horse and pony parade was revived on Midsummer Common. The beasts had been brushed until their silky coats gleamed in the sunshine and their carts and vans 'groomed' for the occasion. Even a coal cart becomes a thing of beauty when it is resplendent in a new coat of brightly-coloured paint matched only by gaily-coloured ribbons. Many of the spectators came in horse-drawn carriages and even the police were mounted. But the Mayor arrived in a car 33 06 06a & b

1933 06 07
The Backs near King's bridge were crowed with punts when the Cambridge University Madrigal Society performed the annual rite of singing on the river. As the sun went down and the moon rose from behind the Gibbs' Building, the cawing of the rooks and the noises of the town ceased, and over the water came the sounds of a Brahms' motet. An aeroplane buzzed like an angry wasp across the sky but failed to break the spell of magical voices which softly floated in the air. 33 06 07

1933 06 13
The roof-climber who 'pinched' the two weathervanes off the Squire Law Library building seems to have had an attack of conscience, for the missing cock and fish were replaced last night. But they also left tasteful decorations and souvenirs in the shape of two sherry bottles at each end of an arch high over the entrance to the Geological Museum. They are said to be full and so act as 'bait' to other scalers of walls and roofs. 33 06 13

1933 06 13
Over 1,300 dancers disported themselves at the First and Third Trinity Boat Club's ball. As usual there were large crowds of spectators lining all the entrances and not a few on the river but great precautions had been taken to avoid gate crashing with two lots of 'sentries'. Inside the place was aglow with thousands of coloured lights while the dance tent itself, with its famous parquet floor, was electrically lit. From a dais in the centre the Embassy band played a sweet programme of dance music until the early hours of the morning. 33 06 13b

1934
Morris Men instituted [Misc.2.5]

1934 02 26
Jesus College boat crew celebrated their Lents victory with a bonfire on the grass in front of the college and flames forty feet high dried the pavement in Victoria Avenue. An old boat helped to keep the fire going and when the supply of fuel ran short branches from trees were used. Police kept a wary eye on hoardings which might have been looked upon as sources but no raids were made. 250 paper glasses were provided to hold the beer but some preferred it straight from the bottle 34 02 26

1934 05 02
May Day queen – 34 05 02

1935 01 23
Witch's hand sold – cures diseases – 35 01 23f

1935 02 25
Cambridge met Oxford in the spirit of peace, not of semi-lethal combat. The ceremony took place near the pump on the green at Sherington, Buckinghamshire, exactly half-way between the two universities. Two morning-coated representatives vied in the vehemence of their protestations of

fraternal feeling and in the sartorial elegance of their attire. Then to the whirr of newsreel cameras they buried a hatchet beneath the pump. Afterwards a village worthy who had forgotten his tie, collar, shaving water and washing water in the excitement of the morning, came up to the immaculately attired Master of Ceremonies, thanking him putting Sherington on the map. 35 02 25a & b

1935 06 11
Catherine Parsons said people believed that midnight was the hour when ghosts would be seen. No one would pass the Roman road crossing to Streetley End for fear of being pelted with large things like apple dumplings. But Horseheath ghosts were quite harmless and included a poor girl whose coming was heralded by a sound like buzzing bees, three headless women dressed in black who wandered in from Camps and a headless man with a red handkerchief around his neck. The finest spectacle was a coffin borne up Limbery's Hill followed by a long procession of mourners. 35 06 11 & a

1936 02 24
Burning the boat at Jesus College following success at Lent Race – photo – 36 02 24

1936 03 04
Sultan of Zanzibar hoax – photo – at reported death Horace Cole - 36 03 04

1936 03 14
Undergraduates last night hazardously climbed to the roof of Emmanuel College North Court and decorated six chimneys with chamber pots. They were removed by Mr S. Burgess of Messrs Prime's the builders who is often called in to remove various objects placed in inaccessible positions by exuberant undergraduates. "Some of them can run up brick walls", he said: one took off his shoes and went down a wall by means of his feet and hands alone to remove a gown that had been placed in a particularly difficult spot. 36 03 14

1936 04 06
Old Cambridgeshire Easter customs - 36 04 06

1936 04 11
For those on enjoyment bent Cambridge offered plenty of attractions on Good Friday. That 'hardy annual', skipping on Parker's Piece, showed no sign of waning in popularity; a large-sized crowd gathered to watch and take part. Various stall-holders seized the opportunity to set up their portable businesses beside the Piece. The streets wore their usual holiday deserted look, but neither that nor the temperatures deterred the cycling ice-cream salesmen. The Town football match drew some 5,000 spectators while the brass band concert in the Guildhall was a popular affair and the cinemas were open in the afternoon and evening. 36 04 11a – photos 36 04 11

1936 04 27
Some members of King's College went mountaineering last night. A Union Jack and the Abyssinian emblem were fixed to the pinnacles at the east end of the chapel with a large banner slung between them bearing the words 'Save Ethiopia". The flags were still flying during the morning but the banner was blown down by the wind. A man who was astir early claimed to have seen four undergraduates climbing up at four o'clock. Unfortunately he was unable to see what means of assistance they were using in their climb, otherwise one of Cambridge's age-old mysteries would have been solved 36 04 27c

1937 03 27

Why does skipping always take place on Parker's Piece, Cambridge on Good Friday and Easter Monday? An old man of 83 remembers skipping there as a boy of five or six and his father apparently did so before him. It seems that Good Friday used to be the publican's 'day out' and they used to repair to the Piece for a game of bat and trap, while their youngsters amused themselves with a skipping rope. We don't hear much about Bat and Trap nowadays but the skipping goes on as of yore. – 37 03 27

1937 05 03
Labour Party's May Day demonstration on Parker's Piece, 500 marches – 37 05 03a & b

1937 12 24
Fellowship House toy distribution, which has taken place about Christmas-time for the last five years, came to an end after a very strenuous week. Altogether nearly 1,300 bags were distributed to the children of all unemployment men whose addresses were obtained from the Employment Exchange. Each bag contained an old toy, a new toy, a book, orange and bag of sweets and were delivered by private cars. Then as a 'Grand Finale' some 1,400 children were given a free film entertainment at the Victoria Cinema. 37 12 24

1937 12 28
Christmas festivities at Cambridge, Ross Street Children's Home, Home of Mercy – 37 12 28
Mill Road Infirmary, Harvey Goodwin Home, Mill Road Sanatorium, Church Army Home, Union Lane Institution 37 12 28a

1938 12 10
Spiritualist meeting – 38 12 10d, e

1938 12 13
Testing a medium's power – letter – 38 12 13

1938 12 22
It was a custom in Cambridgeshire for labourers to drag a Yule log into the manor to the accompaniment of singing and to place with the new log a charred piece of the log of the previous year to ensure prosperity to the household. There is also a belief that if a piece of the burnt Yule log is kept in the cellar throughout the year it will preserve the house from fire. Boughs of mistletoe hung outside a door to ward off evil. Cottages burn light in window to guide baby Jesus to the dwelling and disk of milk and 'creed' wheat, sweetened with honey or sugar, sometimes laced with run, was served to all comers. Carol singers with the old violin, concertina or double-bass, farmer throws feather into air to forecast growing conditions, Christmas day dinner, University scholars erected Prince of Misrule, Mumming plays - Stuart-Baker 38 12 22c (see Memories 30 December 2013)

1939 03 23
Army take part in Good Friday skipping on Parker's Piece – 40 03 23

1939 04 08
Good Friday skipping photo – 39 04 08

1939 05 08
Colne May Day festivities – detailed report – 14 05 08j

1939 06 30

In former times it was the custom in the Fens, and in most agricultural districts, to have organised or traditional bonfires in the fields in the evening before Midsummer Day (St. John the Baptist's Day), also upon St. Peter's Day, which is June 29. Why the two bonfire nights are so close together cannot be explained but such fires were believed to exercise a quickening and fertilising effect on animals, crops and even mankind 39 06 30 CIPof

1939 12 27
War could not 'black-out' the Christmas Eve Festival of nine lessons and carols at King's. From the crowded chapel the message of peace and goodwill travelled by wireless across Europe to France, Italy and Switzerland. The candles flickered even after black-out for a test showed no dangerous amount of light could be seen from outside. But there were dark, blank spaces among the rich glory of the stained windows which told of the removal of some of the glass for safety's sake. 39 12 27a

1939 12 29
Christmas, 1939, has meant more solemn thoughts than usual for many. In countless homes, the traditional joy and gaiety has been tempered by absence of one or more members of the family. And yet, in spite of gaps at the dinner table, and because the advice to carry on as usual is so obviously sound, there has been little outward change in the character of the Christmas festival. In Cambridge, as elsewhere, people remembered their absent ones, but through the inspiring co-operation of the radio, were able to satisfy themselves that the men in the Services were not forgotten. At home, it was the usual day of gifts—the children's day—and for many the delight lay in entertaining little evacuees whose parents were unable to do the job themselves. The change in the times was reflected, perhaps, in the opening of some cinemas on Christmas day, but found themselves comparatively few patrons; it was still a home festival for most. The Town club had their usual football fixture in the morning, but this had to be scratched. On Boxing Day their fixture with Rushden resulted in a decisive win for Cambridge. Another regular feature was the appearance of the Christmas Day bathers, who found not thick ice, but a deep fog to greet them. 39 12 29 CIPof

1940

1940 02 23
"May-Ladying". A Histon school log book records: "1871, May 1st—It is the custom for the girls to go May-ladying - go to the principal houses carrying dolls and begging 'Please to 'stow a ha'penny on the poor old Maylady'. Hildersham was the headquarters of the movement. The girls, encouraged and helped by the aristocracy in the village, produced one of the finest Mayladies to be seen in the county, parading with it through their own and neighbouring villages. The parade was at its best in early Victorian days, but began to fade out about 70 years ago. Many old inhabitants can recall the dolls dressed and paraded by the Hildersham girls. The annual Cambridgeshire event became notable, and may be found briefly described in Brand's "Popular Antiquities", published in 1911 40 02 23 CIPof

1940 03 08
Romance Began at Séance.—Mr. C. S. Collen-Smith, of Cambridge, is to be married to Mrs. Betty Walker, of County Mayo., Ireland. They first met at a séance in Knightsbridge. Mr. Collen-Smith is founder of the World Service Group and of the Healers' Association and is Editor of "World Service and Psychic Review." 40 03 08 CIPof

1940 03 30

Edwin Turner Cottingham, the well-known maker of scientific time recorders, renovated the clock at Trinity College. This had a curious effect on the popular pastime of the undergraduates, who used to run round the quadrangle while the clock was striking twelve. In cleaning the clock he speeded up the striking and it was not until Lord Burghley, the champion hurdler, was up at University that the feat could be accomplished in the time. He also accompanied Prof A.S. Eddington on the British Eclipse Expedition of 1919. 40 03 30a t [1.9]

1940 05 02
St John's choirboys ascend chapel for Ascension Day service while airmen wearing gas masks marched below – 40 05 02a

1940 05 03
The ancient ceremony of "walking the causey" at Barrington s closely allied to that known as "Beating the bounds." The Barrington beater, however, operates only upon the village green. Barrington's official "walker" is now Mr. Fred Patman, and appeared clad in a frock coat, gorgeous waistcoat and a silk "topper," carrying a sword, said to be Roman, and a monster bell, gagged this year because of wartime conditions about bell-ringing. Starting from the south-western end of the green, he walked with stately stride along the old cobbled pathway across the green to the church, making "official" proclamations en route, and knocking at the door of an old thatched house, once the town hall, but now a private residence, his progress towards the church being witnessed by many villagers.40 05 03 CIPof

1940 11 15
An octogenarian farm worker in a South Cambs village lamented the loss of his "muckinger" in the fields and he hoped any one finding it would return it to him, as it was a present from his daughter in London. A "muckinger" is an old colloquial name for the large red cotton pocket handkerchief in common use by farm workers. The name is heard more often in Essex than Cambridgeshire and it is interesting to note that the word heard last week was voiced by an old inhabitant of Heydon 40 11 15 CIPof

1941 02 21
Last local wearer. Some time ago a few interested Cambridgeshire antiquaries tried to discover who was the last farm hand in the country to wear the smock front seriously. He says "seriously" because one often sees it worn nowadays in fancy dress parades. The investigators came to the conclusion that the smock was last worn by an old shepherd at Little Abington, near Linton, somewhere about the year 1892. My correspondent goes on to say the smocks were worn on Sundays as a sort of best dress, long after it was customary to wear them as a working dress, and that a clean smock, corded breeches, worsted stockings, a beaver or other make of top hat and greased lace-up boots formed the approved rural costume for Sabbath and holiday wear. A little more than half a century — in some parts of Cambridgeshire a full century — however, has passed since the gaberdine or smock was as honourable & distinction of carters and shepherds as the uniforms of the men in our fighting forces today 41 02 21 CIPof

1941 03 07
Smock Wearing Shepherd, Writing from 57 New Road, Sawston, Mr. Alf A. Hills states: "I was greatly interested in the letters from your readers of 'The Passing Hour" last week in regard to the shepherd mentioned there Mr. E. Gilbey, who is living with me, informs me that the name is spelt quite correctly and that his name was William Gooden, an uncle of his wife's, whose maiden name was Jessie Gooden. This old gentleman used to wear his smock on Sunday as well as weekdays, and as far as Mr, Gilbey remembers, used to visit him at Worsted Lodge (in smock) in 1905 41 03 07 CIPof

1941 08 29
Harvest Horn. Among the "Wanted" advertisements in last week's paper was one asking for "domestic bygones," and making special mention of old fire hooks, a farm smock, a harvest horn, articles required for the Old English Museum in Shepreth. Smocks and fire hooks are bulky articles not likely to be destroyed, but the harvest horn, a comparatively small instrument, may easily be overlooked, mislaid or cast aside as something of no importance, and perhaps not understood by the average villager today. Years ago in every agricultural village at harvest time, it was customary for a boy to walk slowly through a village, at or shortly before sunrise, and blow a horn as a signal for the labourer to go into the harvest fields. These horns were of simple design and of various sizes, and were sold mainly at Stourbridge Fair. Those in common use in Cambridgeshire were of stout block-tin, 16 "inches in length, straight in shape, and tapering from a quarter of an inch (excluding trumpet-like mouthpiece) to an opening of about 2½ inches in diameter. The last of the horn-blowers in South Cambridgeshire was William King, of Melbourn, who died in December, 1935, aged 84 years. When a lad of about seven years of age (say about 1858) he was chosen to perambulate at sunrise and blow the horn, a harvest-time job he did for several years, his horn notes being heard at times both at Shepreth and Meldreth.

1942 06 04
Madrigals on river, one of few surviving May Week events – 42 06 04a

1943 11 01
Cambridge Corn Exchange venue for Barn Dance staged by American Red Cross for US forces' celebration of traditional American custom of Hallowe'en … at one end a Guy Fawkes surrounded by straw … dances consisted slow foxtrots and quicksteps to the famous American Flying Eagles band. Were crates of apples and pears from which the many dancers, numbering about 1,800 were at liberty to help themselves. Refreshments served free of charge by an American clubmobile – a canteen on wheelers – about 3,000 American doughnuts, 25 gallons of coffee and 30 gallons of cider, beside orange and lemonade. Pumpkins cut into faces grotesquely illuminated by candles … 43 11 01

1944 03 18
Montgomery claims his father leaped up steps at Trinity College in one bound [1.10]

1944 04 08
Good Friday skipping survives, though not to same extent as pre-war; a small van arrived with some gaily-coloured windmills, paper hats and balls – 44 04 08

1944 04 28
A Medicine Woman's Garden. A correspondent sends me the following note, written by an old lady now over 80 years of age. "I have read about 'medicine' or 'wise women' in villages. When a little girl I lived in a Cambridgeshire village and next door to an old woman said to be a witch and a fortune teller, also a maker of ointment and pills. She was very ugly and much wrinkled, but I will not name her or the village, because some of her family are still living. I used to run errands for her, and go with her for walks, as she was very old. She had a garden full of wild flowers, most of which she is said to have used in her ointments, etc. Some of the things she had, if I remember rightly were foxgloves, fennel, featherfew, coltsfoot, dandelion, sowthistle, periwinkle, woodsage, rosemary, mouse-ear, marigolds, and, of course, rhubarb and common nettles. In our walks in the fields she would take a bag and collect, when in season, cowslips, male fern, red clover, bark from oak and alder trees, also the leaves of the white violet and horse chestnut. A doctor came in a gig only when sent for and when children had a rash, pimples, bumps and minor

aches and pains, they were taken to. the old medicine woman for treatment and parents appeared to" be perfectly satisfied. 44 04 28 CIPof

1946 10 09
Gt St Mary's curfew bell to be rung again for first time since war; will sound at 9m followed by number of strokes indicating date of month; until 1929 a bell was rung at 5am, this 'The Apprentice's Bell', later 'The Bedmakers' Bell'; was discontinued as not needed now there were alarm clocks – 46 10 09

1948 11 08
Cambridge has lost a well-known townsman by the death of Mr Arthur Deck, one of the founders of the Cambridge Pharmaceutical Association. He will be remembered for continuing the custom started by his grandfather, Isaiah Deck, in 1815, the year of Waterloo. He used to send up one rocket to mark the passing of the old year and another to herald the arrival of the New Year. This custom ceased with the coming of the First World War, but for many years Mr Deck was responsible for letting off the maroons to mark the beginning and the end of the two minutes silence on Armistice Day 48 11 08

1949 01 15
The college of Corpus Christi will be the scene of an unusually interesting dinner – the Queenborough Feast. It will be the first of its kind and will link university and town in a very happy way. When in 1948 Lord Queenborough gave to the college an endowment for a feast he expressed the hope that representatives of the corporation and of the citizens of Cambridge would be the principal guests in order that the ties between borough and college might thereby be recognised and strengthened, The college owes its origin to two Cambridge guilds which consisted very largely of citizens of Cambridge 49 01 15 [1.16]

1949 04
Only one stall on Parkers Piece but no skipping, in 1948 only three groups of people who continued it & that year stalls dwindled to one which set up at junction of East Road & Gonville Place & sold tinsel-covered balls on elastic [4.2]

1950

1951 03 24
The annual ceremony on top of Cambridge castle mound at 7.30 am on Eastern Sunday morning is becoming traditional. The company sings 'Christ the Lord is Risen Today' and then asks for God's blessing on Cambridge and its people. The event originated with Victoria Road Congregational Church and was intended to be a simple act of cheerful witness to the Easter message. Now it is attended by people from many churches. It has been held annually for the past five years and attracts around 50 people. It is strangely impressive to look over the quiet town in the light of early morning and to hear the words of Christian faith lifting from the hilltop to be carried far and wide 51 03 24

1951 11 01
Over a hundred people assembled at Myers Memorial Hall, Cambridge to hear Mr Ernest Thompson lecture on "Electronic Communication with the Spirit World" and to witness a demonstration of the new super-ray apparatus which produced some astonishing results. Four people were seated round a suspended tube which was connected to the apparatus. Three of them definitely went into a state of trance. Mr Thompson altered the action of the rays by pressing

some levers with the result that those in the trance state showed remarkable changes in their behaviour 51 11 01

1956 08 23
Histon 'ghost' story – 56 08 23a, 56 08 28 56 08 31b

1956 09 05
Histon ghost stories – letters – 56 09 05a & b

1956 09 26
The annual Hawkey supper organised by Trumpington Young Farmers' Club was a real harvest supper in the old-fashioned spirit. Mrs V.C. Pemberton described how 70 years ago when hired themselves to farmers who took them on for a year, paying wages at the end of the engagement. In 1922 shepherds wore a piece of wool in their buttonhole, horsekeepers a piece of whipcord and men who were not much good for anything a piece of cow's tail. The bargain was sealed by both parties shaking hands on the 'luck penny' which was as good as an oath. 56 09 26 & a

1957 01 10
The Oyster House in Garlic Row was named after hundreds of oyster shells found in the garden. It dates from 1707 and was originally known as the Tiled Booth in which the Mayor and Vice Chancellor would feast at the traditional opening of Stourbridge Fair. The house was bought for a small amount by John Lee, a coprolite digger, whose initials can be seen on a plaque on the building. Now it is scheduled for demolition. 57 01 10

1957 03 06
A hundred undergraduates who gathered on Magdalene Bridge to see the inaugural Shrove Tuesday Pancake Race run between the porters and bulldogs of three colleges were the victims of a joke. But not entirely. Diminutive, cheerful Horace Reed, who is 56 and works in Magdalene kitchens, appeared alone, aproned and carrying a frying pan. He ran the course, tossing a pancake from time to time. The event was arranged by the Pitt Club, who have inaugurated several successful hoaxes recently. 57 03 06

1957 05 24
The Night Climbers of Cambridge are at it again. At daybreak two objects had been placed on the spires of King's college chapel. One is the globe of a Belisha beacon, the other a nylon stocking. There was a turret-climbing episode in May 1932 on the eve of Empire Day when a Union Jack was flying from the north-east turret. Two nights previously the pinnacles were decorated with open umbrellas 57 05 24

1957 06 15
Cambridge Night Climbers spend the small hours of the night among the college piers and pinnacles. They work in groups of two or three and their equipment is a pair of soft shoes and gloves with sometimes a punt cushion for crossing the spikes and broken glass set in concrete. They climb for the love of climbing and regard the leaving of flags or underclothes as an error of taste bordering on exhibitionism. 57 06 15c

1957 11 29
The Mayor of Cambridge reminded two councillors that it had been the custom for 400 years that councillors should wear black gowns. He asked them to conform. But Coun Edwards said he was allergic to wearing a uniform of any kind and could do the job as well without a robe. The Mayor told him it was not optional and no one had refused in the past 57 11 29

1958 06 05
Christ's College's Milton Society processed at a suitably dignified pace to the west door of Great St Mary's where the President, holding a bust of John Milton, denounced 'the dangerous and damnable works' of T.S. Elliot. He placed a selection of Elliot's books on the pavement and, after a libation of petrol had been poured on to them, applied a match. The Secretary read aloud some passages from the work of John Milton and with a cry of 'Paradise Regained' the procession returned to Christ's 58 06 05

1958 12 30
The annual Grantchester Boxing Day barrel rolling contest was inaugurated three years ago by Mr R. Healey, landlord of the Rose and Crown public house. It is becoming increasingly popular and attracts people from the surrounding district. It consists of three races. The men's was won by Mr Maurice, the women's by Miss Barbara Peters and the children's by Miss Patricia Rose with Miss Sharyn Griggs second. The youngest competitor was five-year-old Helen Tanner 59 12 30

1959 06 10
The banks of the Cam were lined when the Cambridge University Madrigal Society gave its annual concert on the Backs. It was a very English scene: crowds of impassive spectators defied the fickle weather and a forest of coloured umbrellas rose from the punts on the river. Even the roar of a passing aeroplane and the threat of rain never put the singers off their stride. As the strains of the last madrigal – 'Draw on Sweet Night'- wafted slowly across the river, lanterns were lit and the punts carrying the singers began to move slowly downstream 59 06 10c & d

1959 11 26
Many shops in the city sell 'Cambridge Cheese'. This is a soft white cheese, delicious and wholesome. But when analysed some examples were found to be deficient in fat, based on a Ministry recipe that 'so many pints of full-cream milk produce so much cheese'. However expert housewives say that Cambridge Cheese could be made with skimmed milk and as the labelling did not say 'cream cheese' no action would be taken. 59 11 26d

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 06 08
Students lounged on the river banks using their gowns as table cloths for alfresco meals and thousands of people crowded the Backs for the University Madrigal Society's punt-borne concert. Madrigals for five voices did not carry far against the chilly breeze and aeroplanes ('most tiresome' said the conductor, Raymond Leppard) and ducks competed for attention. But the audience listened in rapt silence until the singers' raft moved slowly away to the strains of 'Draw on, Sweet Night'. 60 06 08b

1960 10 18
The Vice Chancellor has banned all undergraduates from taking part in Guy Fawkes Night celebrations in the city centre. In recent years November 5th had been marked by particularly destructive and violent acts, including the use of home-make fireworks, which have caused painful injuries to innocent bystanders. Although students have played only a minor part at the occasions the University are under an obligation to help the city authorities check such disorderly conduct. Now Market Hill and the surrounding area will be out of bounds to members of the University 'in statu pupillari' between 7 pm and midnight 60 10 18

1961 04 14
Ghost hunters will investigate a small house in Staffordshire Gardens although the building is not haunted and is scheduled to be demolished. Tony Cornell of Girton, who travels all over the country investigating haunted houses, believes it is not spirits who throw things or cause the mysterious knockings which have driven people from their homes in fright. The effects may be caused by vibrations coming through the floor and up the walls. He will attach a 'vibration machine' to the wall and place ornaments on the floor and mantelpieces then conduct a scientific experiment to simulate the erratic wanderings of a poltergeist. 61 04 14a

1961 06 02
Wooden spoon recalled – 61 06 02a

1961 06 08
Thirteen members of the Christ's College Milton Society took part in the traditional annual 'pilgrimage' to the main door of Great St Mary's Church to burn the works of T.S. Eliot. With caps and gowns, and carrying a bust of the poet Milton, the undergraduates walked in procession through the crowded Market Square. Then in front of the church the 'damnable and dangerous works' of T.S. Eliot (Penguin edition) were set in flames on the paving stones. Crowds appeared from nowhere, cameras were clicked, and passages of Milton read before the procession returned towards Christ's and noggins of nut brown ale 61 06 08a

1962 06 13
Dr Frank Leavis of Downing College, was spared seeing his books burnt on the steps of Great St Mary's Church. The Milton Society annually burns the poems of T.S. Eliot who has attacked Milton the poet in a tradition that dates back to 'the mists of time'. But newspapers had suggested they'd be attacking Dr Leavis personally which was not a proper thing to do as he'd just retired. 62 06 13

1962 10 16
A 'mock funeral' was held for two undergraduates, Philip Gurden of Magdalene and Simon Keswick of Trinity, who were sent down for failing their exams. Their 'coffin' was carried on a sports car while in the 'cortege' at the rear was Prince William of Gloucester who is at Magdalene College 62 10 16

1962 12 08
Collections at the Round Table's Christmas tree in St Andrew the Great churchyard began in 1953. Last year they raised money to provide 415 parcels for old people, each containing £1-worth of Christmas cheer. The names of old people who benefit from this magnificent effort are revised each year and every person is visited before Christmas. One year a 30-foot high tree was delivered and putting it up meant dislocating the traffic outside Christ's College for some time. 62 12 08

1963 01 26
Plough Monday memories from Pampisford 1887, Swaffham, Cambridge - 63 01 26b

1963 06 19
The ancient tradition of making corn dollies has been saved from extinction by a book written by Mrs Minnie Lambeth, the wife of the rural industries organiser. She is an expert, continually plaiting and producing them for people all over the world. The Cambridgeshire dolly is either a bell or umbrella. Only a handful of people are making straw dollies in the corn growing area of

the country and are facing difficulties in getting hollow straw as combine harvesters work better with the short, solid-stemmed straw. 63 06 19

1963 12 10
A.D. Cornell, an expert on extra-sensory perception, has spent 15 years seeking ghosts but has never actually seen one, though he has heard and felt them. He described many different local hauntings. Phantoms at first seemed so solid and real that you do not realise it is a ghost until the apparition gradually faded away. In the Victorian era with flickering candlelight and gas lamps people were more in tune with the unseen. But modern conditions with brilliant electric lights were not suitable for ghosts, he says 63 12 10a

1964 08 04
The annual Caucus Race at Trinity College saw undergraduates in gowns set off on a mad career around the Great Court. Each man must run round every rectangle in the pattern formed by the grass. Some crafty students carried mathematically-calculated routes and beneath their gowns wore running shorts and plimsolls. After the race many competitors cooled off with a face-splash from the fountain in the middle of the court and enjoyed a firkin of college ale. The idea of the race began a few years ago on the inspiration of a passage in 'Alice in Wonderland' 64 08 04

1964 08 11
Charlie is tall with bushy sideboards, a stovepipe hat and a face resembling Abraham Lincoln. It is thought he was a schoolmaster at Paxton Hall who died many years ago. But is has become increasingly apparent that his ghost still haunts the old gate house. There is one bedroom which smells of stale cigars and no matter how hard the door is closed, it always opens again. The pet cat, on reaching the room, scampers down the stairs as fast as possible. Another cat jumps on the bed, purring loudly. But there is nothing there. 64 08 11

1966 04 28
University ban King Street run; started 40 years ago – 66 04 11a; does not take place 66 04 21c; takes place in authorities defiance of proctors – 66 04 28c

1966 09 06
Harry Day played penny whistle; at Stourbridge Fair joined 'Herb' Reynolds and Charlie Hunter with their concertinas and harp on the upper floor of the Oyster House playing reels, waltzes etc – 66 09 06

1967 04 27
National Folk Week, Morris Men & Russell Wortley, customs recalled – 67 04 27a

1967 08 07
Trinity College annual Caucus run around Gt Court – 67 08 07a

1967 08 31
Trumpington church Black Magic celebration & desecration – 67 08 31 & a

1968 08 26
Enid Porter, Folk Museum – profile – 68 08 26

1969 03 19
Enid Porter 'Cambridgeshire customs and folklore' book published; review – 69 03 19b

1970

1971 07 05
Morris Men - 300 converge for 150th meeting Morris Ring [Misc.2.5]

1971 11 23
Cambridge Assize closure ends 710-year tradition of judge's stay at Trinity college – 71 11 23a

1977 10 18
Undergraduates at Jesus College, Cambridge, are to keep watch in an ancient room for ghostly happenings on the night of All Souls. They will be on the look-out for the seven members of the college's reputed Everlasting Club, formed in 1738 which conferred eternal membership. Once a year the members promised to return to their original meeting room. But one by one they died. In 1766 the last surviving member sat down for annual cerebration with six empty chairs for his deceased colleagues. From 10 until midnight there was a 'hideous uproar' in the room after which he was found dead. 77 10 18

1977 11 03
Ghostly members of the 300-year-old Cambridge Everlasting Club failed to make their appearance at midnight despite a vigil by Jesus College students. More than a dozen undergraduates gathered in a room at the top of an ancient staircase to wait for the annual reunion of the club which claimed to confer eternal membership on those invited to join it. All members of the club are reputed to have met grisly deaths and the room was sealed for many years as a result. Last night the student occupant invited fellow members of the Jesus Old Contemptibles dining club to join him for drinks but nothing happened despite the consumption of bottles of port. 77 11 03

1980

1980 01 12
Dr Russell Wortley, one of the country's best-known folklorists, has died. He was out with the Cambridge Morris Men for their Plough Monday celebrations when he collapsed. He was behind the revival of the custom of Molly dancing on Plough Monday; it had disappeared long ago but he revived it in its Jubilee year. On the national scene he was bagman (secretary) of the Morris Ring for many years in the 1950s. A former editor of the English Folk Song and Dance Society Journal he was an expert on folk music, seeking out and recording many local songs and dances. He also played a variety of old instruments. 80 01 12

1980 11 07
Cambridge's muffin man a man of many parts – 80 11 07b

1980 12 24
Weird ghosts of Madingley Hall – 80 12 24 & a &c

1981 01 09
There is a tinge of sadness about the Plough Monday celebrations this year. Russell Wortley, who did so much to restore the custom and was instrumental in bringing back the Molly Dancers, died last January while Molly Dancing at Comberton. But he left a permanent record in notes and articles which have now been published by the Cambridge Morris Men. 81 01 09b

1981 09 18

Poltergeist manifestations, Arbury – Tony Cornell interviewed – 81 09 18c

1982 07 16
An Aladdin's cave of curious dusty lots comes under the hammer as former stage props are auctioned off at the old Festival Theatre in Newmarket Road, Cambridge. There's a glorious throne, the prow of a sailing ship and a pair of giant Corinthian columns, most of which have appeared at the Arts Theatre, which owns the building. It is said the Festival has a ghost – an old woman who was brought in to die after being run down by a horse and cart which bolted when delivering scenery. Dame Flora Robson wrote of meeting her. 82 07 16

1987 04 19
A centuries-old tradition was revived on Good Friday when crowds swarmed to skip on Parker's Piece. Tourists looked on in bewilderment as children, mums, dads and grannies took their turn. Even the Mayor, Coun John Woodhouse, had a go with the skipping rope, although he had not skipped since playground days. His wife revealed that as children they both used skipping ropes to tie up people's doors. The event was arranged by Radio Cambridgeshire with News columnist Christopher South roping in onlookers to have a go. – 87 04 18

1987 09 16
Granta Morris, which meets at St Luke's Barn in French's Road, sprang into life five years ago. The Squire, Leigh Watson who knows 190 dances, calls out instructions as the accordion strikes up tunes such as 'Headington' which is based on bean-setting. Granta perform at fetes, pubs and college May balls. Sometimes they encounter hecklers. Three skinheads started taunting them once so Leigh invited them to have a go. The trio soon admitted Morris deserves respect. But yobs threw stink-bombs under the feet in North Wales - 87 09 16

1987 10 02
There is a distinct shortage of spooky hauntings in Cambridge at the moment and the Cambridge University Society for Psychical Research is keen to carry out detailed experiments into the eerie and unexplained. A few years ago a young girl got lost while out with her parents on the Gogs where archaeologists were excavating Roman artefacts. When found, she told them she had been speaking to a Roman soldier. An expert interviewed her and admitted she gave an exact description of a soldier from those times, yet the girl knew nothing about that period in history. What was the girl seeing and in which language was she communicating? The Society hope the family will contact them 87 10 02a

1988 06 27
Fortune tellers at Midsummer Fair – feature – 88 06 27a

1988 10 29
Plough Monday celebrations were held at Balsham, Fenstanton and Elsworth where the Cromwell Molly dancers from Great Gransden led a procession of villagers to both pubs, The Poacher and the George and Dragon. They also stopped at a beamed cottage, formerly the Plough pub where, after rolling back the carpet, the dancers sang and jigged to traditional tunes wearing hobnailed boots and decorated clothes. One of the men dressed as a milkmaid – but kept his boots on. At Fenstanton the dancers followed the historical ritual of blacking their faces and donning country costumes before a torch-lit procession from the church to the Chequers, George Inn and the Tudor Hotel. 88 01 13a
1988 Sebastian Coe made history by smashing Lord Burghley's record for the Great Court Run at Trinity College. He pitted himself against Steve Cram in a 'Chariots of Fire'-style race to dash around the court within the time the 400-year-old clock struck noon. Coe, dressed in the outfit

worn by Ben Cross who portrayed runner Harold Abrahams in the film, said he could not hear the chimes for the cheering of the 1,500 spectators. The event was seen by millions of TV views around the world and raised money for Great Ormond Street Hospital 88 10 29

1988 11 25
"Witchcraft and Black Magic rife" ¢CEN 25.11.88

1989 10 13
As a schoolboy, Cambridge ghost hunter Tony Cornell set out to prove that science could explain ghosts and other psychic phenomena. But over half a century later he has changed into a believer. "I have come across a lot of fraud, and a lot of wishful thinking, but when you strip that away, there is still a hard core of things which cannot be explained", he says. Tony has yet to see a ghost but has experienced other things which would make most people's hair stand on end which he will document in a forthcoming book 89 10 13a

1990 01 09
Plough Monday celebrations, Balsham, Fenstanton & Elsworth – 90 01 09a

Βοψσ ωιτη Γ υψ ιν Χαμ Ρο αδ, 1932

79.01

c.39 : Bonfire Night

1898 11 07
Saturday was a typical "fifth" in Cambridge. Faithfully following the precedent set in former years a number of Varsity men and townspeople assembled in the market place, which for three hours or so was crowded with excitable and pugilisitically-inclined youths, representing Town and gown. The Gown driven from pillar to post by the howling mob, appeared to be greatly terrified, and despite the vigilance of the police, of whom a large number were told off for special duty, the celebration was not entirely free from violence. Neither town nor gown missed many opportunities of displaying their physical prowess and many are the reports circulated as to the results of the pugilistic encounters that ensued 1898 11 07

1899 02 09
The attention of the University Council of Senate has been called to the disorder which attended the bonfire on November 24th, 1898 when the actual destruction of property was considerable. They recommend that members of the University are forbidden to take part in making or lighting of bonfires in public places within the precincts of the university. Members offending will render themselves liable to be punished by suspension, rustication, expulsion or otherwise 1899 02 09

1899 11 07
Almost as soon as it was dark a large number of youths made their way to Cambridge Market Hill which was in a short time alive to the crackling and bangings of the smaller fireworks. The 'Varsity', after hall time, joined the townspeople and from eight to eleven there was a roaring, rushing crowd of several hundreds about the hill and neighbouring streets. Certain of the

townsmen who had begun the day not to wisely by profusely drinking were responsible for the greater part of the disorder and were seized and marched off by the ever-vigilant gentlemen in blue - 1899 11 07

1900

1900 05 21
Cambridge has celebrated the relief of Mafeking and it has done it right nobly. There was no recurrence of the riotous scene witnessed on the occasion of the relief of Ladysmith, no destruction of property. This was due to one thing, the discretion shown by the powers that be in organising a bonfire on Midsummer Common. People poured in in thousands from the country in anticipation of the festivities and so great was the influx that some streets were rendered well night impassable. Still, the crowds were orderly and the police had no difficulty regulating the traffic 00 05 21

1900 11 06
The 'Fifth' was celebrated on Cambridge in a very orderly fashion. The effigies that once characterised Guy Fawkes Day were conspicuous by their almost entire absence. The best attempt at an effigy was made by three or four men who were rigged out in minstrel fashion and paraded the streets with a vehicle in which were seated representations of Mr Kruger and his wife. This attracted a good deal of attention until the rain came and washed the colour from the faces of the dejected looking figures, and sent the minstrels home 00 11 06

1901 11 06
There is little survival of the old celebrations of "The Fifth" in Cambridge, save one or two groups of youngsters with an eye to stray coppers carried around "guys" which may have been effigies of anything. Builders, having a recollection of losses of material on bonfire nights, had men guarding scaffolding poles, but they were not called upon. The most noticeable thing was the fog – thick, damp and irritating. It was not the kind of weather suitable to a rag or even a bonfire in the back-yard. It was better fun sitting by a snug fireside than standing with cold hands and feet in a choking fog letting off small pyrotechnic fry CDN 1900 11 06

1903 11 06
Time once was when the concentrated animosity between Cambridge Town and Gown found annual outlet on 'The Fifth'. There are many old inhabitants who have seen the traditional riots gradually die down with the building up of mutual ties between University and Town. Athletic Varsitymen and pugilistic townsmen no longer belabour each other; they join issue in attempts at bonfires with police baiting thrown in as a sideline. At Castle End undergraduates managed to secure a shutter with the intention of making it the nucleus of a bonfire; a constable was rolled to the ground, his helmet knocked off and his whistle and truncheon lost before more policemen arrived and three arrests were made – one member of the Varsity, a soldier and a townsman 03 11 06

1904 11 07
The results of the fifth of November 'rag' in Cambridge were more or less serious injuries to two policemen, considerable damage to private property and several police-court summonses. A little boy engaged in firing a squib in the midst of a 'ragging' party proceeding along Jesus Lane was knocked down by a cyclist and rendered insensible. Fortunately he was soon revived by a number of undergraduates who at once attended to him. One man fainted and another was admitted to Hospital suffering from injuries to the head caused by his being knocked down by a cab. 1904 11 07

1905 11 06
It is a recognised custom in Cambridge, which no amount of protest seems able to abolish, to make the celebration of the Fifth the occasion for a rag. This year it fell on a Sunday but this did not deter them and a huge bonfire was started on Midsummer Common. The chief sufferer was G.P. Hawkins whose premises in Parsonage Street was attacked during the Nelson rag and on Saturday another unsuccessful assault was made. But on Sunday several hundred undergraduates returned, smashed the fence and seized egg cases, barrels and a tarpaulin to add to the flames. 05 11 06b [2.16, 1.7]

1905 11 06
The information that a number of Varsity and Town roughs broke into Mr Hawkins' premises on Sunday night and stole and destroyed property to the value of £20 will surprise even Cambridge people. To disturb the peace of a Sabbath by forcibly entering a tradesman's premises and to burn the stolen material in a public place is just as truly a robbery as if the marauders had broken into the Guildhall and taken £20 from the safe. We trust the University authorities will look facts in the face and that such activities will be promptly scotched. 05 11 06a-d

1905 11 10
Rag – great damage to property – 05 11 10 a & b

1905 11 15
Sir – twenty years ago undergraduates at Oxford had two types of 'rag'. On the 5th of November we went out and provoked people who didn't wear caps and gowns to hit us, and we hit them back. Then whenever our college had done something great in sport we burnt up a good deal of the college property in the 'quad' and paid for it in out 'wattels' at the end of term. But when the authorities thought there had been too much friendly hitting they used to 'gate' their colleges en bloc at nine o'clock. Now Cambridge undergraduates have discovered a third sort – plundering, robbing and annoying citizens to get wood for bonfires. This is hooliganism and the Riot Act might not be out of place – V.S.N. 05 11 15

1907 11 09
Few 'Guys' on Nov 5th - mainly a firework festival [2.20]

1907 11 16
Tolerant attitude to Rag but police prevent Market Hill bonfire [2.21]

1908 11 13
Serious gunpowder accident, bonfire night at Quy – 08 11 13

1908 11 13
Bonfire night begging – 08 11 13

1908 05 16
Mayor receives £1 'conscience money' for damage caused 5 Nov 1905 [2.22]

1909 11 12
Bonfire night scenes – CWN 09 11 12

1910

1910 11 11
An undergraduate was fined for assaulting a policeman on Guy Fawkes Night. A considerable amount of damage had been done, hoarding demolished, gas lamps broken, the railway station raided and milk churns overturned. The most serious incident occurred at Jesus Sluice footbridge where a battle royal took place between members of the County Constabulary and a large party of undergraduates and town roughs. They stoned the police, all of whom were hit, and PC Johnson was struck on the forehead by a piece of board and rendered unconscious. Only the arrival of police reinforcements had averted further trouble. 10 11 11 & a

1911 11 10
Serious 'ragging' took place in celebration of the 5th of November. A number of undergraduates carried 'life-preservers' and a violent assault made on the premises of Messrs Rattee and Kett where an employee was seriously injured. A mounted policeman was pulled from his horse and a police sergeant received a nasty cut over his eye. A member of the University was arrest for assault. But beyond the smashing of a number of street lamps little actual damage was done to property 11 11 10a & b

1912 11 08
It was one of the noisiest 'rags' seen for some years, for the introduction of a variety of bomb-firework, which gives a report louder than a rifle shot, more than compensated for the fewer Varsity men than usual. The liveliest scene occurred in King Street where the crowd were attracted by the sight of the hoarding outside the partly-demolished Hobson Street Chapel. Instead they turned their attention array of woodwork in connection with the building of the new Wesleyan Chapel near Christ's Pieces, but this was strongly guarded by police. Another battle broke out in Grange Road where some 400 undergraduates damaged the fence around Mr Ebenezer Smith's garden. 12 11 08a & b

1912 11 08
Histon bonfire night – 12 11 08g

1913 11 07
'Fifth' celebrations, undergraduate rag and its police court sequel. Station Yard scene, mounted police charge, Homerton college attacked 13 11 07 p7 CIP

1919 11 12
"Fifth" fizzles at Cambridge. The stage was set on Wednesday evening for an old-time celebration of the 5th of November. Proctors, "bulldogs," special constables, mounted police, mere "Roberts", undergraduates, townspeople and schoolboys turned out to play their respective roles, but nothing happened. A few fire-works - cannons, crackers etc — were discharged on Market Hill but the proceedings were almost as tame as the original affair arranged by Mr. Guy Fawkes and a few of his fanatical friends 19 11 12 CIPof

1920

1920 11 06
Guy Fawkes rag, no serious damage but several arrests; raid on New Theatre and siege of police station

1922 11 06
A lamp-boy, G.E.R. of Thoday street, Cambridge was summoned for throwing a firework on Senate House-hill on 4th inst. Fined 1s. Ten shillings was the fine imposed upon an

undergraduate of Trinity College for a similar offence on Market-hill. Defendant said he did not know they were arresting people for letting fireworks off, or else he would not have been foot enough to do so in front of half the police force. An undergraduate of Corpus Christi who was fined 10s. stated that the came on to the square and saw a lot of police loafing about so he thought he would like to throw some fireworks 22 11 06

1923 11 06
Cambridge would be disappointed indeed if the Fifth of November failed to produce a rag of some sort. Last night's effort was, to say the least of it, feeble and was sustained for the most part by such residents of the town as come out for excitement on such occasions, and a handful of very callow freshmen. Fireworks there were in plenty, but the old spirit was lacking. Had it not been for the mounted police and the proctors, the market square would have been its usual desolate self soon after 9.30 pm. It was noticeable that as soon as the mounted police left the crowd decreased by 50 per cent 23 11 06

1924 11 06
The night of the 5th of November was clear and calm, and there was a bright moon to light the way of revellers – ideal conditions for a "rag". So evidently thought a large crowd of undergraduates and townsmen that gathered on Cambridge Market Hill in hopes. Police stood around in little groups taking a giving chaff good humouredly with the crowd. Squibs and occasional small rockets broke the peace and were heralded by faint cheers and feminine shrieks if they happened to go off in the press. The first intimation of anything interesting was the sight of a small youth, pale and very troubled looking, marching up St Andrew's street, firmly held by a constabulary hand 24 11 06

1925 11 06
Cambridge usually expects a 'rag' on Guy Fawkes' night but this year's affair was of a harmless character, plenty of noise being the chief characteristic. Fireworks galore were discharged and the Market Hill was occasionally lit up with flame-coloured flares. But this was rather a tame sort of amusement for undergraduates and they proceeded to accomplish the now stale feat of extinguishing the gas lamps in the neighbourhood of the Hill. Some undergrads took it into their heads to relight the lamps in the centre, which enabled one of their number to climb the fountain on the top of which something indistinguishable was placed. This being done out went the lamps again, coins being the smashing factor once more 25 11 06

1925 11 06
Two fires caused damage to the extent of thousands of pounds in Cambridge and both are believed to have been caused by fireworks. It was particularly unfortunate that one occurred a few moments after the other, for the second was a much bigger conflagration than the first, and the fire engine was not then available. The first was to a corn stack in Natal Road but the other was at Messrs Kidman & Sons' wood factory yard and workshops in Abbey Walk. The outbreak occurred at the end of the building nearest the Coldham's Common allotments, but it quickly spread along the rafters and within ten minutes there was no earthly chance of saving the building. The roof of St Columba's Mission Hall was soon alight and the outskirts of Simper's rope works also began to blaze 25 11 06

1929 11 06
Nearly thirty arrests were made during a Guy Fawkes 'Rag' on Cambridge Market Hill. Early in the evening an attempt was made to light at bonfire in Petty Cury and there was a considerable blaze in front of Falcon Yard before the police noticed it and it was extinguished. In Rose Crescent an effigy was soaked with petrol, stuffed with fireworks and deposited near the Market

Hill end. This was quickly extinguished and the effigy confiscated, but the petrol continued to burn for a long time afterwards. A new feature of the scrimmages was the use of police whistles by undergraduates which added to the confusion. 29 11 06

1929 11 07
A sheep farmer, who became annoyed on Guy Fawkes Night at being mistaken for an undergraduate, was summonsed for assaulting the Senior Proctor, Mr Frederick Dykes. He testified that he had been with his constables when he sent one after an undergraduate who attempted to evade him. He then heard a shout of 'Get the Proctor' and felt two blows on his head. One of his constables seized the man now in the dock. Defendant said he was a stranger to Cambridge and had been told that if he followed the proctors round he would see some fun. He was not dressed like an undergraduate. He was fined £3. 29 11 07

1930

1930 11 06
Cambridge police had cold feet with waiting for something to turn up in a temperature several degrees under freezing point. But the dreaded 'Fifth', that traditional battle between University and police failed to explode in the time-honoured fashion. There was a constant bombardment on the outskirts of town and some spasmodic firework throwing on the market where smoke screens were used to some effect. Using the cloud as cover two lamps were extinguished under the very nose of a sergeant. There were a few arrests but no helmets were knocked off. 30 11 06b

1933 11 06
Bonfire night demonstration & Hitler Nazi meeting – 33 11 06

1934 11 06
Cambridge saw one of the most riotous celebrations of the 'Fifth' for many years. In the course of demonstrations around Market Hill nearly 40 arrests were made, many of the police lost their helmets, several more had their tunics ripped right down the back and not a few sustained split knuckles and bruises. When supplies of fireworks began to run low parties of undergraduates attempted to put out every light but carried their efforts too far and smashed the glass of two shop windows and the traffic signal at the top of Petty Cury. There were 35 defendants including seven for assaults on the police, three for resisting the police a number for obstructing the police. Other summonses were for extinguishing street lamps and throwing fireworks. A Trinity undergraduate was fined for 'tipping' a policeman's helmet. Several times during the hearing there were outbursts of laughter. 36 11 06, 34 11 06a & b [1.1]

1935 11 06
Guy Fawkes – traditional rag, few arrests – 35 11 06b

1936 11 06
Guy Fawkes Night disorder, truncheon charges, riotous scenes – court case – 36 11 06

1937 11 06
The treat of severe action had a salutary effect on Cambridge undergraduates during the 'Fifth' celebrations. Last year a number of students were rusticated and others heavily fined by Borough justices. The Gas Company surrounded their lamp posts with barbed wire and fitted specially toughened glass over the actual light. Although a number of the taller standards were clambered up in every case the mountaineers had to return baffled. Not a light was extinguished. However two bus windows were broken with bricks and a pane of glass in a telephone kiosk was smashed.

Photographers who used flashlights to take pictures had to retire in face of a barrage of missiles. Police arrested a woman but no serious attempt was made to rescue her. 37 11 06

1939 11 01
Rev E.M. Tweed was at The Perse 1884-87 under Rev John Wisken; played in football team; then to St Catharine's and 'coached' while undergraduate. Guy Fawkes day memories & proctors 39 11 01

1940

1943 11 01
Cambridge Corn Exchange venue for Barn Dance staged by American Red Cross for US forces' celebration of traditional American custom of Hallowe'en … at one end a Guy Fawkes surrounded by straw … dances consisted slow foxtrots and quicksteps to the famous American Flying Eagles band. Were crates of apples and pears from which the many dancers, numbering about 1,800 were at liberty to help themselves. Refreshments served free of charge by an American clubmobile – a canteen on wheelers – about 3,000 American doughnuts, 25 gallons of coffee and 30 gallons of cider, beside orange and lemonade. Pumpkins cut into faces grotesquely illuminated by candles … 43 11 01

1944
November 5th falls on Sunday, plans for Rag opposed [1.9]

1944 11 08
Bonfire Night rag protests – 44 11 08 & a, b

1947 11 06
Six undergraduates and two RAF men were arrested during the usual Guy Fawkes Night scenes in the centre of Cambridge last night. From 7.30 crowds grew steadily on Market Hill. Fireworks were discharged freely and the din reached its peak between eight and half-past. Members of the University who earlier had been outnumbered by more than ten to one were in force by nine o'clock, several minor scuffles occurred about this time, and the first of several policemen's helmets disappeared. Proctors and their "bulldogs" early kept undergraduates on the move. After that the crowd gradually thinned away, and by 1.15 there were only groups here and there c47 11 06

1948 11 06
Hand grenade thrown at Senate House on November 5th, damages glass [2.16,1.11]

1948 11 06
Cambridge's annual Guy Fawke's battle was waged in the market square and surrounding streets . Five undergraduates were amongst those who were arrested and placed in the Guildhall cells until being bailed. There were three charges of assaulting the police. Though a strong warning had been given by the university authorities there was considerable rowdyism. RAF men from nearby airfields and US service personnel were banned from Cambridge for the night. Ten people were taken to Addenbrooke's hospital having received slight injuries or fainted in the large crowds 48 11 06

1949 11 07
The quietest Guy Fawkes night "rag" long-service Cambridge police officers can remember passed off without even a street lamp being extinguished – another "within living memory"

record. A crowd gathered on the Market Square by 7pm and fireworks were thrown. A police car which arrived on the scene radioed for reinforcements. These shepherded the crowd off the square. After that police posted at the entrances to the square prevented people entering the area. Early in the evening a few rotten eggs were thrown, and a smoke bomb exploded in the Sidney Street area. These incidents, and the intermittent throwing of fireworks, constituted about the only "excitement" of the evening, though there was an occasion when a "bulldog" pursued a man at full speed in front of the Guildhall 49 11 07

1950

1950 11 06
Although four arrests – three townsmen and one undergraduate – were made, Guy Fawkes night this year was about the quietest since the war. Undergraduates were not as lively as in years past. The reason for the lack of activity on their part was probably the fact that they had been warned verbally by their tutors. Just to make sure seven watchful Proctors with their top-hatted 'bulldogs' maintained a constant patrol of the main streets 50 11 06

1954 11 06
Police helmets will be treasured possession in the homes of undergraduates and Cambridge 'Teddy-Boys' who contributed to the Guy Fawkes Night high jinks. One police constable, helmet-less, went back to base for another. But in double-quick time this went too! Frequent clashes broke out between police and revellers. In Market Square a crowd of more than 5,000 screamed, shouted, pushed and laughed but it was 'good natured fooling'. "Teddy" girls screamed at each bang, unsuspecting undergraduates were pounced on by Proctors and 'Bulldogs' and there were boos and hisses each time an untidy-looking urchin was led away, and each time the urchin would protest his innocence of throwing any fireworks.

1959 11 06
Roughest November 5th for 20 years, banger battles on Market Hill, £200 damage caused (6.11.59) 59 11 06g

1960

1961 07 12
A new car park attendant's hut has been installed on Cambridge Market Square. The original hut was badly damaged by fire during the Guy Fawkes celebrations two years ago and replaced by a temporary one. It is expected to be in use later this week 61 07 12

1961 10 31
Undergraduates have been banned from the centre of Cambridge on Guy Fawkes Day. This will enable police to control the danger from homemade fireworks which have caused injuries to innocent bystanders A similar ban last year made it the quietest for many years 61 10 31

1962 11 06
Bonfire Night was very quiet this year. Police appeals for people to stay away from the city centre met with a good response and the streets were almost empty. Extensive use was made of radios and police with walkie-talkie sets moved on any groups from street corners. A University ban on students entering the city centre during the five hours before midnight was equally effective. Major incidents were few and far between and the elaborate measures taken proved more than adequate on one of the quietest Guy Fawkes nights for many years 62 11 06

1972 11 06
A firework, probably a rocket from a Guy Fawkes party, is thought to have caused a fire which almost burned out a historic 18th century thatched cottage at Landbeach. The cottage, built in the 1760s by the then Rector, had been unoccupied for the last three years. Fireworks were also believed to have started a fire which badly damaged an old wooden barn used by Bar Hill junior school as a storeroom. Almost the whole of the 2,000 sq. ft. building, part of the original Bar Hill Farm and one of the new village's oldest buildings, was destroyed

1973 11 06
6,000 people turned out to support the second firework spectacular presented by Cambridge Round Table at Cambridge United's Football ground. Hundreds of children were amongst the spectators to watch the £400 firework display. A variety of set pieces, most of which largely featured Catherine wheels won plenty of admiration. But for many sitting high in the terraces the displays of rocket fireworks were unseen and wasted, obscured by the covered stands. Bonfire night in Cambridge was one of the quietest for many years. The Fire Brigade had only one call - and that was a false alarm

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c.39: Poppy Day & Rag

1920

1921
Rags seemed to have reached climax after WWI, by 1920 "a new kind of misdirected energy, originality & daring is being poured into organising elaborate stunts, hoaxes & escapades; Michaelmas 1921 was great term for rags : Senate opened academic year by debating granting degrees for women; became political issue; first rag of burning gates of Newnham, then on voting day a colossal mock funeral for 'The death of the Varsity' with corpse of last male under-graduate being borne on a bier surrounded by aged mourners whose long grey beards dragged in dust; Armistice Day heralded by great Gun Day when German gun removed from Jesus college

1921 11
First Poppy Day collection made on 26 November passed smoothly (not done by undergrads); undergrads asked that this collection be organised entirely by their committee & take full responsibility that no incidents 62 11 08 [38]

1922 11 13
If the Cambridge undergraduate can find any excuse for a "rag" he invariably organises a more or less elaborate affair. Yesterday's "circus" was a rag that everybody could enjoy; it did no harm to anybody and above all as a result of its labours aided Lord Haig's fund - "Poppy Day" - to the extent of £115 or thereabouts. The circus was a screamingly funny affair and brought everyone to doorways, windows and, in some cases, roof tops. The signal for the two minutes Armistice silence was heard in Downing-street and immediately the procession pulled up. The two minutes over pandemonium started as suddenly as it had ceased 22 11 13

1923

Main feature of Rag was match between two ludicrously dressed football teams; Guy Fawkes incidents became less violent & Senate decreed it no longer necessary for University lodging houses to have ground floor shutters as protection against bonfires 62 11 08 [38]

1923 11 10
The red poppy of Remembrance was everywhere in Cambridge today. Every buttonhole, every bicycle, and every motor car bore visible tribute to those who died that England might live. Everywhere were busy undergraduates smiling and pushing their business and selling red silk poppies in aid of the Earl Haig's Fund for ex-servicemen and their dependants. The average undergraduate loves to be "up and doing" and any way he can use his superfluous energy for a good cause appeals to him. In accordance with their usual custom the memorial at the General Post Office was decorated with a huge wreath of laurels and poppies 23 11 10
A merry and light-hearted party of undergraduates, despite police vigilance, succeeded in obtaining their hearts desire - they manage to light a fire on market Hill. Certain of the undergraduate community attracted the attention of some constables to a gas lamp on the one corner of the square. They demonstrated a desire to figure on the charge sheet of the police court by the charmingly simple process of putting out the light. The police "fell for it" and kept watch on that particular part of the market place. Meanwhile another body of the faithful rushed on to the Market Hill with a rowing eight filled with petrol and had it alight before people realised what was towards. 23 11 10

1923 11 19
The Cambridge undergraduates have once more been the source of innocent amusement. The "rag" consisted in the purchase of one of the old 4- wheeled tram cars that used in bygone days to be both a convenience and an adornment to the streets of Cambridge. On Saturday when it was expected that the tram would be towed in state through Cambridge streets the authorities were alarmed by the appearance of numbers undergraduates outside the yard where the tram was stored. At this moment another tram made its appearance, a tram of Lilliputian dimensions, towed with steady ropes by a happy band of undergraduates. The miniature car was solemnly dragged into the centre of town and along old tram lines, which have for many years or so useless a feature in King's Parade. 23 11 19

1924
Trails of pennies at Rag 62 11 08 [38]

1924 11 09
Cambridge undergraduates were busy today selling poppies. They were stationed in the centre of the town and in all the main thoroughfares leading thereto. Among their number were several very persistent in their efforts and "held-up" anybody – pedestrian, cyclist or motorist – who was not wearing a poppy. By way of pushing business a group of undergraduates hired a donkey and barrow, attired themselves as costers – complete with "pearlies" and other effects and went around the town rattling money boxes 24 11 09

1925 11 11
With commendable solemnity Cambridge honoured England's dead. Never before was the Two Minutes Silence so well observed in the busy parts of the town, a striking testimony to the increasing reverence which is attached to this impressive ceremony. Many wore their poppies as an outward sign of their remembrance and heads were reverently bared as the first maroon boomed forth from Parker's Piece. Except for a few instances of chronic forgetfulness or callous disregard the silence was complete

1925 11
Undergraduates take over sale of poppies 62 11 08 [38]

1925 11 14
"We the undersigned, convinced that all disputes between nations are capable of settlement by diplomatic negotiation, hereby solemnly declare that we shall refuse to support or render war service to any Government which resorts to arms". The declaration having been signed by members of the University they called a public meeting. The hall was nearly filled with undergraduates but a section of the audience showed their displeasure by continual interruption. Mr G.L. Trevelyan spoke of the horrors to be met in the next war, and was greeted with the remark: "No they will kill us nice and cleanly in the next war".

1926 11
"Scrum" rag one of wildest since war, 52 arrests, 100 in fines (11.26)

1926 11 11
For two minutes Cambridge stood still in silent homage to the glorious dead. Everywhere the Great Silence was religiously observed. As the hour approached a general atmosphere of expectancy enveloped the whole town until just before the great moment arrived a significant hush seemed to fall, and those in the street trod softly in fear unless they should disturb the slumbers of the sacred dead. As the bells of the Catholic church struck the hour a faint boom followed by a reverberating explosion from the direction of Parker's Piece announced that the fateful two minutes had arrived, and traffic and pedestrians came to a simultaneous standstill.

1927 11 11
Poppies! They were everywhere. The streets of Cambridge were ablaze with them. They were on every coat, in every conscience. Their spirit turned the town into a red riot of remembrance. As the day wore on the poppies grew thicker. A great army of 2,000 undergraduates sold the emblems with an enthusiasm which was unbounded. Early in the morning they were at their posts with their trays of flowers and collecting boxes and all through the day carried on their merry money hunt. Many played the role of highwaymen, boarding buses and holding up the traffic.

1928 11 10
Soon after daybreak the advance guard of the thousand undergraduate poppy sellers sallied forth to all quarters of Cambridge, determined to beat the record figures reached last year. The warmth of their enthusiasm was sufficient protection against the keen frosty air, and scorning overcoats they patrolled the lonely streets and waylaid those hurrying to business. They were so cheerfully importunate that only a modern Scrooge could have refused them and most people seemed only too willing to pay off another small instalment of their war debt.

1928 11 10 c
Carnival conditions prevailed in Cambridge where the poppy-decked shoppers met amusing spectacles on all hands. On no previous poppy day has undergraduate ingenuity been so fertile. Chief among the many attractive schemes for money squeezing was "Banger's Circus" in which an unidentifiable animal with 'flannel bag' legs, and a monkey led on a chain by a top-hatted ringmaster were noticeable. The procession was disorganised when the monkey developed a thirst and dashed into the Angel, dragging the not-unwilling circus master with him

1929 11 14
Rag case, p5

1930

1930 11 11
Reverently Cambridge stood and remembered its dead. The firing of the maroon was the signal for silence. Immediately life stood still, pedestrians stopped dead in their tracks and in homes, offices and workshops men and women stood to attention. But in one part of town their silence was jarred by the thoughtlessness of a motor driver who did not stop. 30 11 11b-d

1930 11 11
Poppy Day rag – 30 11 11e-g

1933 11 10
The film 'Our Fighting Navy' has been withdrawn from the Tivoli Cinema following lively scenes. Fifty members of the Students' Anti-War went to make a protest but a rival party, numbering about a thousand undergraduates, marched to the cinema with two bands playing war-time songs and carrying Union Jacks. Several tried to push their way in until the arrival of four policemen who, with drawn truncheons, managed to keep the crowd at bay whilst a dozen more raced to the scene in motor vehicles. Cries of 'Down with Hitler' and 'Hail Hitler' were heard above the general uproar and a stink bomb let off in the vestibule. 33 11 10

1931 11 13
The Poppy Day collection in Cambridge has again smashed all records with undergraduate collectors struggling with money still coming in. Nearly two tons of coppers have passed through their hands. Early in the day the stock of poppies was exhausted and a fresh supply had to be brought in by train. Market Hill was the scene of half-a-dozen well organised 'rags' and at Silver Street the Demon Diver jumped in flames into the river and the collectors drew in good sums for his 'widow' and 'children' 31 11 13 I & j

1934 11 10
Poppy Day collectors had to contend with a dismal downpour of rain. But a large crowd gathered on Senate House Hill to await the arrival of a self-styled 'Hitler' who was due to open the Caius Fun Fair. When he did come, by car, he brought a procession of about a dozen cars in his wake, all containing weird and wonderful characters. The obstinate mule, which last year lay down in the road and refused to get up until tempted by a coin, was less obstinate on the present occasion, for the wet and muddy road was hardly a pleasant bed. 34 11 10 & a

1935 11 11
The Two Minutes' Silence was observed. Life was paralysed and sound was stilled. A crowd of several hundreds gathered on Cambridge Market Hill, waiting. At two minutes to the hour a clock in the vicinity struck and a whistle blew on the Guildhall demolition site and the Silence began. Buses, cars, carts, cycles and pedestrians were perfectly still. When what was actually the first maroon went off at eleven the crowd mistook it for the second and during what should have been the Silence the ordinary bustle recommenced. The second maroon took everyone by surprise with the exception of the few who had realised the mistake and remained still. 35 11 11

1938 11 11
Undergraduates invaded the streets, skilfully extracting all the spare coppers with various ingenious stunts. In white sweaters and kilts of many clans the University Pipe Band paraded to Market Square for a display of Highland dancing, then toured public houses. The 'Peace Group' were perched on a cart disguised as a camouflaged tank decorated with "Atlee's pants" – which appeared to be pale pink in colour. Standing on the tank were two dictatorial-looking figures in

uniform. Amongst the individual performers was a man on a pair of stilts made from sculls while barrel-organ players were dressed as ghosts 38 11 11

1939 11 11
Set against the tragic background of a new war, Poppy Day in Cambridge presented a much more subdued scene. The war-wrought necessity of avoiding large gatherings of crowds and the blocking of streets considerably curtailed the undergraduates' carnival-light activity. Decorated vehicles had been banned. The German Chancellor was the favourite target for shafts of wit and the Cosmopolitan Cinema advertising vehicles offered an invitation to 'Beat up Hitler' by piercing a pip with a dart. 39 11 11a

1939 12 01
Poppy Day total is now £2,328 14s. The exceptional circumstances last year produced a sum of about £2,819, but the 1939 total is already near the £2,382 collected in 1937 and the £2,452 collected in 1936.Pembroke heads the list of individual college collections with a sum of £223 - £80 more than the runner-up, Christ's. 39 12 01 CIP0f

1940

1940 11 15
Remembrance Day. At the express invitation of the Mayor (Ald. E. O. Brown) members of the County Council accompanied the Council and Corporation to the annual service of Remembrance and Dedication at Gt. St. Mary's Church on Sunday. The Lord Lieutenant and Mrs. Adeane, members of the British Legion, headed by their band, under Mr. W. Cant, representatives of other ex-Servicemen's organisations, the police and members of the A.F.S., the Boys' Brigade and a contingent from the St. John's Ambulance were also present. After the service, wreaths were laid on the War Memorial by the British Legion and the Borough Division of the St. John Ambulance Brigade, as well as by the Mayor. 40 11 15

1945 11 06
First peacetime 'Fifth' rag, street lights extinguished, attack on 'Bull', Regal stormed – CDN 1945 11 06

1945 11 12
Armistice day march – 45 11 12

1947 11 08
Poppy Day rag, p5

1947 11 10
Cambridge's Remembrance Parade, 300 strong, which yesterday honoured the fallen in church and at the War Memorial, was the biggest muster for several years. Big crowds lined the streets as the parade marched to Holy Trinity for the British Legion's annual Service of Remembrance, and as later it made its way to the War Memorial, where wreaths were laid.

1948 11 15
It really was women's day at the university Senate House on Saturday. Following the Queen's visit last month came the first historic degree ceremony to include women graduates. Previously they had held only the title of their degrees but now a decree has been passed admitting them to full membership they can proceed in person to take them. 114 were conferred in all. The recipients included a number who had left the colleges many years go - two from Girton had

graduated in the 1890s. Side by side with them were young women who had graduated last year. All were enjoying the first fruits of a successful outcome of a struggle that had lasted 70 years

1949 11 07
The quietest Guy Fawkes night "rag" long-service Cambridge police officers can remember passed off without even a street lamp being extinguished – another "within living memory" record. A crowd gathered on the Market Square by 7pm and fireworks were thrown. A police car which arrived on the scene radioed for reinforcements. These shepherded the crowd off the square. After that police posted at the entrances to the square prevented people entering the area. Early in the evening a few rotten eggs were thrown, and a smoke bomb exploded in the Sidney Street area. These incidents, and the intermittent throwing of fireworks, constituted about the only "excitement" of the evening, though there was an occasion when a "bulldog" pursued a man at full speed in front of the Guildhall.

1950

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Although four arrests – three townsmen and one undergraduate – were made, Guy Fawkes Night this year was about the quietest since the war. Undergraduates were not as lively as in years past. The reason for the lack of activity on their part was probably the fact that they had been warned verbally by their tutors. Just to make sure seven watchful Proctors with their top-hatted 'bulldogs' maintained a constant patrol of the main streets

1950 11 11
In the main streets of Cambridge today it looked as though a zoo, a circus, a host of foreign invaders and history's immortals had been let loose – not to mention members of species hitherto unknown. It was the Poppy Day pantomime again and students were 'on the make'. Poppy sellers were on the street and some 70,000 poppies were on sale. The Mayor, Ald Taylor, was kidnapped, his hands bound with a scarf and marched out of the Guildhall into a Rolls Royce while police thoughtfully held back the crowds 50 11 11

1950 11 13
Nearly 1000 people gathered in the Guildhall for the annual Cambridge British Legion festival of remembrance. It was a most impressive sight when the 24 standard bearers entered the hall to a fanfare played by the Cambridge Band of the British Legion under its conductor, Robert Austin, dressed in their full uniform of scarlet and blue
Poppy day, p10

1951 11 10
Undergraduate collectors set out to break all previous Poppy Day collection records. The "ban" on well-known Middle East personalities made no difference to the high degree of ingenuity shown in extracting money from an ever-willing public. A seductive harem scene on a lorry featured "the Proctor" smoking surely nothing less potent than hashish while on the Magdalene college lorry a European "twist" was given by a "Don" reclining on cushions smoking a "hookah". A collection of the weirdest Oriental gentlemen ever preceded the lorry with collecting boxes 51 11 10

1954 11 06
Police helmets will be treasured possession in the homes of undergraduates and Cambridge 'Teddy-Boys' who contributed to the Guy Fawkes Night high jinks. One police constable, helmet-less, went back to base for another. But in double-quick time this went too! Frequent

clashes broke out between police and revellers. In Market Square a crowd of more than 5,000 screamed, shouted, pushed and laughed but it was 'good natured fooling'. "Teddy" girls screamed at each bang, unsuspecting undergraduates were pounced on by Proctors and 'Bulldogs' and there were boos and hisses each time an untidy-looking urchin was led away, and each time the urchin would protest his innocence of throwing any fireworks.

1956 11 05
A Suez protest rally was held on Parker's Piece. The back of a lorry provided a speakers' platform and round it was ringed an audience of some 1,500 people who attempted to listen to the arguments through the constant hubbub of a group of dissenting undergraduates. They carried slogans tacked on long-handled brushes saying 'Eden acts where U.N.O. fails' and 'Non-intervention is Suez-cide'. Scuffles broke out and a lone firework was lobbed on to the platform. 56 11 05a

Smoke bombs, water from upstairs windows and counter-cries from undergraduates accompanied the "Stop Eden's War" procession organised by Cambridge Labour Party. Eighty people carrying placards set off from the Alex Wood Memorial Hall but were joined by a second, less orderly procession of undergraduates shouting "Eden Must Stay" to counter the Labour cries of "Eden Must Go". 56 11 05b
1957 11 09
Poppy Day photos, p5 & p8

1958 11 08
Many householders opened their doors early to a young man in pyjamas or an undergraduate turbaned like a caliph and bought a poppy, then poured into Cambridge to see the fun. Every entrance was barricaded, every vehicle stopped, and toll demanded. Progress was difficult in one street because Mr John Day of Trinity was having breakfast with Miss Alexandra Hearnshaw, a Newnham mathematician, on a Belisha crossing. In Petty Cury two rival dragons occupied most of the road – a dinosaur quite 70 feet long and containing numberless undergraduates of whom only the feet were visible and a toothy monster centipede writhing from the direction of the Senate House. 58 11 08

1959 11 07
Harlequins and Columbines, spacemen and fishermen, artists, engine drivers, unmarried 'Mummies' (Egyptian variety), balloon vendors, winged wonders, hot dog sellers, ghouls and luscious lovelies, all filled the streets of Cambridge to collect money for the Earl Haig Fund. The City was crammed with floats, blasted with instruments and its pedestrians and traffic forced to pay tolls before being allowed to pass. One of the most sombre 'floats' was that lamenting the Labour Party's third consecutive defeat at the polls. Another proclaimed "Life's better under the Conservatives" 59 11 07 & aa

1960

1961 11 10
Traffic was brought to an almost complete standstill in Cambridge as the Poppy Day Rag got under way and the streets became blocked with floats. Altogether 4,000 students with dustbin lids, tin cans and saucepans collected for the Earl Haig Fund. Dr Kildare performed 'bloody operations' on the streets, Trinity Hall undergraduates shaved Belisha beacons, girls from Girton dressed as blackbirds 'plucked ready for cooking' did hectic business while the 'new Hally Orchestra' gave a command performance with bicycle chains on dustbin lids and old mangles.

Pedestrians found it hard to resist a forlorn and bedraggled donkey with an equally forlorn undergraduate clutching a box of soggy poppies. 61 11 10b

1962 12 03
Undergraduates seek distribute Poppy Day money more widely [25.8]

1962 11 08
Poppy Day rag history – 61 11 08

1963 11 09
Cambridge had a carnival atmosphere for the annual Poppy Day Rag. A procession of 35 gay noisy floats was the first 'organised' procession in rag history. They depicted the Great Train Robbery and the Channel Tunnel. Degrees were sold outside the Senate House, passers-by were menaced with toy guns and undergraduates scrubbed zebra crossing, delaying motorists who sere surrounded by students waving collecting tins. It was claimed that The Beatles pop group had been kidnapped and would be sold in Market Square. But News Agency reports say they were returning to Liverpool by car after a tour of Ireland. 63 11 09, a,b Austin car suspended under Bridge of Sighs [12.9,21.14]

1964 11
Last Rag to support only Earl Haig fund [36]

1965 01 14
Rag Day proceeds may be used to fund a youth centre for young people who live and work here. The bankside opposite Magdalene College would be an ideal site. There are good reasons: the college buildings are now awkwardly sited in relation to town development and will always be an encumbrance in terms of planning. Townspeople have to pay higher rates because of the specially low rating allowed the colleges and industrial development has been restricted which would have provided new industries. As it is many children have to go to other towns to earn their livings. And when they reach marriageable age they have difficulty finding housing since so much land is taken up by the university.– 65 01 14a

1965 07 30
City vote not to change date Rag Day, student protest, seven colleges opt out boycott chosen charities [25.9]

1965 11 13
Rag Day quietest for years following controversy – 65 11 13, 65 11 15

1966 03 11
Rag Day: try again, split proceeds; Legion to collect on Poppy Day & undergraduates have rag week later with third to Legion; failure [25.10]

1967 11 18
Fighting local youths & students, collecting tins snatched, flop [25.11]

1968 02 08
Cambridge Rag for 1968 is axed due to rowdyism and failing enthusiasm of undergraduates – 68 02 08

1969 02 24

Rag switched to February, raise less than half, St Johns college loses £330, "such a flop people did not realise it was on" [25.13

1969 02 08
Prince Charles crowns Rag Queen- 69 02 08b, 69 02 15a

1969 02 15
Rag Day takes new look; parades off in break with Poppy tradition; squeeze into mini car – 69 02 15

1969 02 25
Prince Charles as singing dustman in Rag revue – 69 02 25

1970

1970
Rag profit £6,000

1971 02 22
Rag Day violence forces decorated float procession to be abandoned – 71 02 22

1972
No more Rag queens crowned 82 02 26 [36]

1973
Drop Earl Haig fund, profits slump

1974 08 12
Rag Day move to August flops, 'enthusiasm an all-time low', energy crisis postpones rag to November [25.14, 36]

1976 02 13
Biggest crowd decade watch parade decorated vehicles [26.1]

1977
Jubilee year boosts fund raising 82 02 36 [36]

1978 03 07
Princess Anne mobbed at Rag Charity debate on 'Women's place is in the harem' [26.2]

1980

1980
CSU take over organisation Rag

1981 06 12
Rag raises record £14,000 [26.3]

1984 03 12
Despite rain and a wicked wind Cambridge University undergraduates astonished bystanders with their Rag Day activities. Prince Edward started a sponsored crawl to Grantchester, there were

parachute jumps, exhibitions of motorbike skills and a tug of war. Some students with distinguished careers ahead of them leapt from Silver Street bridge into the Cam wearing whiskers, tails and picnic plates for ears in an attempt to fly across the river. Two perplexed French visitors summed it up: "If they are so clever, how can they be so stupid?" 84 03 12 p7

1985 01 24
Rag team bid to heal 12-year rift, 'spirit of 60s when town & gown united' [26.4] "things started to go sour in the mid-60s when politically-aware students started griping at allocation money, break from Poppy Day marked point at which town lost sympathy, less tolerant of flour bombs, rotten tomatoes, water pistols & eggs; even in jubilee year was systematic hooliganism ... [37]

1985 03 11
Cambridge's student prince, Prince Edward, has helped to make this year's Rag Week a record-breaker. His appearance in the Rag Revue made the show a sell-out and he is guest-of-honour at the first Charity Ball where the raffle winner will lead off the first waltz with the fair-haired prince. Other rag events included mud wrestling, birdmen leaping from Silver Street Bridge and silly sports such as a tug-of-war across the river and an egg-throwing competition. It ended with punt-jousting and a mixed three-legged rugby match. 85 03 11b

Μοχκ Φυνεραλ, Μαρκετ Στρεετ 1962

104.64

c.39: Mock Funerals

1899 02 17
Yesterday afternoon the attention was attracted by what seemed to be an imposing funeral procession. But this was no ordinary funeral for instead of the usual hearse an open landau led the way and this was occupied by three young men who wore "the trappings of woe" very lightly. Following were nearly a score of hansoms. It is alleged that at the end of last term at student of Queens' college "ragged" a couple of Freshmen's rooms. The matter was reported to the University authorities who came to the conclusion he should be sent down for a year. His friends resolved to show their disapproval. Before the train left the company whistled the "Dead March" and it left amid ringing cheers 1899 02 17

1899 11 02
When residents in St Andrew's street, Cambridge, saw a procession of cabs passing onward "all mournful and slow" to the railway station the people knew that someone had been sent down from the University. From Emmanuel College a youth emerged and under a shower of rice made hurriedly for the cab waiting at the door. The driver, "Gentleman Joe" wore a tall hat draped with crape, and so did the drivers of some four cabs what followed. The hero of the hour entered the Great Northern Station, the train moving out to the strains of "Auld Lang Syne". Meanwhile the cabbies grove back to their respective stands. They were of more cheerful aspect on the return journey and each puffed a festive cigar 1899 11 02

1900

1904 03 15
St John's College students carried out a mock funeral for an undergraduate who was ejected from the New Theatre on three occasions in one week for having infringed the rules adopted to

preserve order. The college authorities decided he should be 'sent down' and his friends showed organised a process of 13 cabs which filed along the streets at funeral pace to the railway station. A halt was made outside the New Theatre to allow the travellers to indicate their disapproval of the management. During the whole journey shouts, singing and the blowing of horns was continuous. 04 03 15

1907 11 26
A 'mock funeral' saw a procession of 100 cabs boarded by undergraduates who scrambled to the roof of the vehicles for the journey to the railway station. The cabbies had decorated their whips with pieces of crepe and 'mourners' with mouth organs and a miniature bagpipes played hideous music. The 'deceased' was 'sent down' for being out of Caius College after midnight – he had gone to London but his car had broken down. 07 11 26

1910 06 17
One of the biggest mock funerals for many years resulted as a difference of opinion between the authorities of Emmanuel and several junior members of the college as to the proper conduct of a 'bump supper' after which they had lit a bonfire on the lawn in the front court. Some ten undergraduates in their third year were rusticated for a week. A string of hansom cabs appeared at the gates, the 'corpses' clambered on to the roofs and mourners in evening dress and wearing old silk hats swathed with crape accompanied them to the station. Includes members of CUOTC in uniform with rifles reversed - thought to be bad form so soon after King's funeral 10 06 17a

1911 03 10
"Mock funeral" held when Trinity Hall undergraduate sent down for disciplinary offence, 100 horse & motor vehicles in procession with brass band on coal wagon leading. At the head of the funeral procession was a hansom. Seats on the top with legs dangling over the side, was the undertaker. His mournful calling seemed to have cast a settled gloom over his countenance. His eyes were mournful and sad, and his clothing was of the deepest black, save for his socks (he wore no shoes), which were of the brightest scarlet. In his hand he waved a long whip (an emblem of his mournful trade), with a bright handkerchief to match his wonderful socks tied to it. Behind the hearse were nine carriages filled with loudly lamenting mourners – extract from a report of a 'Mock Funeral' for an undergraduate sent down from university 11 03 10b

1911 05 19
In a little side passage in King Street a barrel organ was draped with black and mauve as hansoms, taxis and growlers arrived in their dozens. The coffin was covered with crepe surmounted by cap and gown while plumes barely concealed the lines of an express delivery van in which sat the 'corpse' smartly dressed in grey suit and felt bowler. There were about 100 horses and motor vehicles in the procession to the station where the tops of the railway carriages were filled with figures clad in varying garb from pyjamas and rowing shorts to mourning suits and dress suits. It was the most imposing mock funeral ever seen in Cambridge 11 05 19d & e

1912 03 08
A mock funeral started from the "corpse's" lodging in Lensfield Road. There was a long line of taxis, hansoms and even four-wheelers stretching some distance down Trumpington Street. There was no elaborate "hearse" as in previous funerals: the body was placed quite simply in a hansom bearing the words "Alas! My poor brother" and smoked cigars throughout. His "cabby's" hat was draped with crepe while the majority of the fancifully-dressed mourned wore complimentary black-eyes out of respect for the 'deceased'. There were an extraordinary number of "flappers" – quite stunning flappers some of them were too. One of the best was a suffragette and Mrs Pankhurst also figured in the procession. 12 03 08

1913 02 14
An unusual feature of the Mock Funeral (of an undergraduate 'sent down' from college) was a miniature coffin borne by a Chinaman. It was, like the 'corpse' completely hidden in the 'hearse', for the hansom was covered by men who seemed to cling to it as bees swarm on a tree. The procession was preceded by a two-seater car driven by an old fellow with a red beard and enormous straw hat sitting beside his 'spouse', a lady with a high complexion, a shawl alone betraying her age. The 'cortege' numbered nearly 50 vehicles including a 'flapper' riding a bicycle meant for three men. Her green hobble skirt was not as demurely worn as are the dresses of typical Cambridge girls. 13 02 14 p10 CIP

1920

1920 03 03
Mock Funeral of Caius man, first for six years – a solitary conveyance does not give impression that there is much enthusiasm for this form of demonstration nowadays. – Ch 20 03 03d; photo – Ch 20 03 10a CDN 20 03 01

1921 10 26
University votes against women's degrees; undergraduate mock funeral – photos – 21 10 26b

1926 05 03
Cambridge had a Mock Funeral today, after a lapse of many years. Undergraduates, dressed in outrageous attire, paraded the streets of the town and marched to the station to observe "funeral obsequies" to two Trinity men who have been sent down for a breach of college discipline. The procession made its way to the college to collect the "corpses". On arrival however they found their unfortunate colleagues had made use of their newly-acquired wings and flown, but nothing daunted the party proceeded to the station headed by a drum-major and a figure in clerical attire. Amongst the occupants of the horse-drawn 'hearse' were two musical geniuses with a banjo and saxophone 26 05 03

1930

1930 05 26
A mock funeral procession paraded through Cambridge as undergraduates bade farewell to one of their number who had been sent down. It was headed by an old horse-drawn landau in which the 'corpse' sat, his face disguised beneath a war-paint of lipstick. He was joined by various persons who were to officiate at the ceremony; beneath top hats, black cloches and wideawakes were suits of grey flannel, blazers and plus-fours. All were garnished in crepe streamers on which hung rhubarb, beer and wine bottles, remains of the 'wake'. At the station the funereal party moved along the platform hilariously singing a dirge and the 'corpse' was installed in a third-class compartment where gifts of fruit and rhubarb were handed solemnly in. 30 05 26

1931 02 27
Over 100 attended a funeral service for a young Freshman whose mysterious death has caused such a sensation throughout the country. Press and public were excluded but a crowd gathered and police had some difficulty in controlling the traffic. He had been found lying dead on the floor of his room, gagged and bound in an elaborate manner with numerous handkerchiefs, a length of puttee, and a wire flex. Members of the Pentacle Club, the University Magicians' Society have been interrogated & Sir Bernard Spilsbury, the famous Home Office pathologist has been called in. 31 02 27d-g-h

1960

1962 10 16
A ‘mock funeral’ was held for two undergraduates, Philip Gurden of Magdalene and Simon Keswick of Trinity, who were sent down for failing their exams. Their ‘coffin’ was carried on a sports car while in the ‘cortege’ at the rear was Prince William of Gloucester who is at Magdalene College 62 10 16 [446.9.6]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

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c.39: Wooden Spoon

1900 02 17
The scene at the door of the Senate House on the morning on which the lists in the Mathematical Tripos are published, and the ceremony of the wooden spoon, belong to the life of Cambridge as much as the May Races. But this is not all. Within a few minutes of the announcement on the steps of the Senate House, the name of the winner of the Cambridge Mathematical trophy is telegraphed to the ends of the earth. It is because Cambridge offers the Senior Wranglership that men have come from every part of the earth to pursue their studies in Cambridge. It would have made a great change if the recommendations of the Mathematical Board of Studies towards its abolition had been sanctioned by the Senate.

1901 06 18
A large number witnessed the quaint custom of the presentation of the wooden spoon to the last man in the University Mathematical Tripos. This year two candidates were bracketed at the bottom of the list and both gentlemen received large spoons emblazoned and trimmed with their college colours. The spoons were lowered down to their owners from the gallery in the Senate House amid much interest. Mess Crisp & Co of King's Parade, Cambridge, again supplied the spoons, which were artistically painted and decorated. Mr D. Buchanan, who comes from South Africa, has had an additional spoon presented to him by his South African friends, with the arms and coloured ribbons of Cape Colony CDN 1901 06 18

1906 06 19

At the Senate House two Wooden Spoonists received their degrees. H.R. Bell and W.Crouch, both of Selwyn, were bracketed last in the Mathematical Tripos and each was presented with a wooden spoon. Years ago this was a shovel with the college arms hastily painted on the bowl. Now it has become a thing of beauty, a trophy handsomely decorated which would not be out of place in the most artistic study. They were lowered on strings from the gallery and each recipient was handed a pair of garden shears with which he cut the string, bravely shouldered the spoon and marched out accompanied by a perfect tornado of cheers. 06 06 19a & b

1907 06 18
The scene in the Senate House was very tame and it was not until the presentation of the wooden spoons to the last Wrangler that there was any fun at all. This year three men were bracketed for last place. The original wooden spoon, about 30 years ago, grew into a malt shovel with the man's college arms upon it, but this year they were more elaborately decorated than ever and are quite works of art, beautifully adorned from bowl to handle. 07 06 18 & a

1908 06 26
Proud papas and mammas in great number congregated in the gallery and upon the floor of the Senate House to watch their sons in clothes of sombre hue wearing upon their shoulders the hood of a Bachelor of Arts kneel before the Vice-Chancellor to receive their degrees. According to ancient custom the Senior Wrangler was first presented and at the tail of the list came the wooden spoonist, Mr R. Pask, a master at the Cambridge and County Boys' School. Strung upon strong twine stretching from either gallery was the trophy, a handsome wooden spoon, which danced over the heads of those seated on the floor in obedience to the string-pulling of undergraduates. 08 06 26 p3

1961 06 02
Wooden spoon recalled – 61 06 02a

1973 05 25
After 86 years in business the Cambridge firm of A.W. Crisp and co., the first people to commercially introduce heraldic design work in the city, have closed down. Their premises at King's Parade will come up for auction next month. As one of the few freehold properties which become available in the city centre a price of £150,000 is on the cards. The firm were responsible for the wooden spoons given to the mathematics tripos candidate with the lowest examination mark.

Castle Hill, 1937

c.41: Archaeology

1903 05 07
While excavating in Grange Road, Cambridge, some workmen who were digging a trench for drainage purposes came across a skeleton of great age, but in a perfect state of preservation. Behind the skull was a small vessel of yellow ware, with a handle. Messrs Coulson and Lofts had the remains carefully uncovered. Other remains, including a stone coffin and brooches have been found in the adjoining area and confirm the date as late Roman. It is hoped the remains will be removed exactly as found and placed in a glass case at the Archaeological Museum

1907 10 23
Discoveries in King's Lane – archaeology – 07 10 23

1910 05 20
The foundation stone of the first block of the new Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at the corner of Downing Street and Tennis Court Road was laid by the Baroness Von Hugel whose husband is the curator. The ceremony was a very quiet one and the proceedings were very brief because of the death of the King. In a cavity under the stone was placed a bottle containing a couple of newspapers and a number of current coins of the realm. 10 05 20

1910 06 24
Archaeology: animal and human bones near Trinity Street – 10 06 24b

1910 09 23
J.W. Clark of Trinity College has resigned as University Registrary after being ill with heart trouble. He was for many years Superintendent of the Museums of Geology and Comparative Anatomy and is the author of many works including a Concise Guide to Cambridge which is the

one generally used by visitors. He is a great authority on archaeology and one of the best known Dons to generations of undergraduates. He has taken a great interest in theatrical matters being chairman of the Directors of the New Theatre and the backbone of the ADC for a great many years – 10 09 23e

1911 07 14
The remains of five human bodies have been discovered by workmen driving a tunnel from the cellar to the garden of a house in Trumpington Street. The wall of the cellar was brickwork, about 14 inches thick, which had not been disturbed and the bones had been laid in a trench just outside the party wall. The remains, estimated at 100-200 years old have been removed to the Museum of Human Anatomy 11 07 14b

1912 08 30
Three skulls and a number of bones dug up on the site of the new Wesleyan Church at the Four Lamps have given rise to some interesting speculations. The site was open space until Mr Clayton built a house in comparatively recent times. It is probable that a gallows stood very near as there were four cross roads and an ancient charter mentions 'ubi homo suspendus fuit'. It seems the skeletons may be the remains of three people who met an untimely death in medieval times. 12 08 30b

1912 10 18
Workmen digging at the rear of a shop in Peas Hill discovered the skeleton of a man and women, lying side by side. Nearby is the site of an old monastery and the assumption is that the remains were found in a former burying-ground. If so it knocks the bottom out of one of the best ghost stories in Cambridge, involving a wealthy banker whose young, beautiful wife took a lover who then disappeared. Half a body was later discovered in excavations at the Bijou Theatre Club's cellars. Now it appears they may all be linked. 12 10 18j

1913 05 11
British Archaeological Congress meets, visit Sawston Hall

1914 12 04
Archaeological finds Kings ditch

1920 04 20
Remarkable discovery. A remarkable discovery has been made at Cambridge during the past week. On Friday last, while a number .of workmen employed by the Cambridge Electric Supply Company were engaged in digging operations in Midsummer Common, near Forth Terrace, one of the men came across a human skull. The police were immediately communicated with, and at about 2 o'clock on Monday, a small number of plain-clothes officers proceeded to the spot, and after about an hour the remainder of a skeleton, practically intact, was unearthed. The bones were carefully removed, placed in a box and then conveyed to the police station. The skeleton, which is that of a woman, was barely a couple of feet below, the turf, and the medical opinion is that it had been laid there for probably over 50 years 20 04 28 CIPof

1927 04 27
"It does strike me as a little odd that neither the University nor town had done anything to preserve relics of old Cambridge. So much has left the town and is now scattered all over the earth. I should like to see the Borough start a scheme to preserve what is found and keep together for the study of old Cambridge anything that turns up". This wish was expressed by Dr Louis

Clark, curator of the University Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology. When one visited other places one did feel that there was a serious lacuna in the civic life of Cambridge.

1927 02 18
A suggestion to the Chief Constable that a small parking place should be made in Tennis Court Road, Cambridge, may lead to archaeologists being less inconvenienced than hitherto. One of them was summonsed for obstruction. PC Hagger stated the defendant put his head out of the Museum of Archaeology & explained he used his car to take specimens to the museum for demonstration purposes and it was difficult to know what to do with it during the lecture. He was fined 10s

1928 04 05
During dredging operations a short sword, believed to be of 14th century origin, has been recovered from the Cam. The weapon, which was sharper than one would have expected, was found near the corner of Saxon Road and will be handed to the Museum of Archaeology. Two traders' tokens of ancient date were also found in the river bed.

1928 08 15
Cambridge University has lost yet another distinguished son, by the death of Baron von Hugel, founder of the University Catholic Association. In 1883 he was appointed curator of the Museum of Archaeology, to which he had presented a unique collection of Fiji war instruments. Then commenced a period of service which will never be forgotten. He raised the money required for a new building and played a prominent part in the collection of local antiques, carrying out extensive excavations at Girton. During the War the Baron took charge of the Belgian refugees in Cambridge and received a medal.

1933 08 01
The Fenland Research Committee, recently established at Cambridge, has already justified its existence. At Plantation Farm, Shippea Hill, they have discovered an interesting settlement of the early Bronze Age which has yielded a large number of flint implements, arrow heads and knives. Grahame Clarke also found traces of an earlier culture. When it is remembered that the archaeology of the fens has been practically unknown it will be seen that their discoveries are of much importance. 33 08 01

1937 07 16
Workmen excavating for a sewer at Bishop's Road, Trumpington, found a skeleton about two feet six inches below the surface. A number of Roman coins were found in the vicinity some years ago and the skeleton may be of similar date. The bones were in a crumbling condition but the teeth in the jaw were practically perfect. The remains have been handed to the Cambridge Coroner's officer 37 07 16d

1938 08 19
T.C. Lethbridge said a great number of ancient weapons had been found during dredging operations in fenland waterways. An enormous number of daggers dating to the Peasants' Revolt had been found between Cambridge and Clayhithe together with a cup that was probably a chalice stolen from a church. Near Aldreth battle-axes of the type used at the Battle of Hastings had been found; they had hoped to find evidence of Norman knights falling from the causeway into the bog, but succeeded only in finding relics of the Bronze Age. – 38 08 19b

1953 08 19

There have been several important archaeological finds of the Roman era on the Arbury Road building site. Traces of the Roman Road, Akeman Street, a cemetery, a building and extensive rubbish pits have all been unearthed. Two waterworks engineers found some pottery and a quantity of glass which had been imported from the Rhine. But some of this has been lost; it was left on the edge of a trench and has been taken by someone not knowing its historical value

1952 08 20
What may prove to be an important Roman discovery has been unearthed at a building site in Arbury Road, Cambridge. While excavating a trench for a new sewerage system Mr C. Taylor came across a coffin hewn out of solid stone. He lifted the lid, weighing many hundredweight, and there, completely enclosed in a lead lining was a complete skeleton. Nearby was another, also in good condition. It seems possible this was the burial place of an important Roman family as the stone must have been imported and the coffin enclosed in a layer of chalk – there is no chalk in the immediate area

1953 09 07
Work on the excavation of the small Roman house on Arbury Road, Cambridge, has continued and a Roman well with its oak linings in perfect condition discovered. It reached down to the water level 11ft below the surface and was in a good state of preservation due to debris from the older Roman house being thrown down into it and the whole thing sealed when a later building was erected over it. The well was cleared by a Clare College student and Mr Alan Watt, a schoolboy, and the lining removed to the Museum of Archaeology.

1958 11 15
Cambridge Preservation discussed the chalk figures excavated by Mr T.C. Lethbridge on the Gog Magog Hills, about which there has been considerable controversy. They sought the advice of the Council for British Archaeology who have been unable to agree: some consider nothing had been found that was evidence of human activity, others are not sure. Expert geologists had also examined the chalk figures. It has now been decided to allow grass to grow over them. 58 11 15

1959 07 21
Archaeologists digging in Corn Exchange Street have uncovered a 12th-century ditch and the remains of a wooden footbridge or stepping stones and handrail across it. It may have been an early town defence but at only five feet deep and 20 feet across, it was rather small for that. The ditch had only been in use for a few years and was filled with clean blue clay. Later it seems to have been a garden behind a house and rubbish pits had been dug there containing animal bones and broken pottery. A knife dating from the 16th century was also found. 59 07 21a & b

1959 09 12
The present shambles known as the Lion Yard has for too long been a bone of contention. The council meetings have been stormy and wrangling has not been confined to the city. Eventually some form of compromise will be reached and some kind of order imposed on this part of the Cambridge. But before its future is finally decided archaeologists hope they will have the opportunity to investigate its past. 59 09 12

1962 07 03
King's College excavations reveal foundations of old buildings along King's Parade – 62 07 03

1969 04 05
Excavation of Roman town in Mount Pleasant, Albion Row area- 69 04 05

1969 08 27
Arbury Roman settlement – archaeology – 69 08 27a

1971 01 23
Archaeologists have ten days to investigate King's Ditch under Lion Yard – 71 01 23

1972 05 11
Archaeology report, p8

1972 06 20
As President of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society, I am aware of the many calls for help received by the handfull of professional archaeologists in the city and county. A full-time professional archaeologist, appointed by the area authority, would be able to supervise and plan much of the work. Some authorities have already created such posts. There is an immense fund of goodwill in the present younger generation which needs to be channelled and encouraged. I write to plead with your readers to press their local representatives into an active realisation of their responsibilities. The problem is urgent - letter from Christopher Parish, Cambridge 72 06 20

1972 01 28
Roman Cambridge may be lost – dereliction of Shelley Row, Mount Pleasant area – feature – 72 01 28

1979 10 25
A Cambridge archaeologist has suggested spreading tin tacks on important sites to deter treasure hunters from using metal detectors. The argument has flared up because of a new book which lists hundreds of treasure hunting sites. One entry reads: "Traces of an ancient maze can be detected on what used to be the village green in the playground of a Cambridgeshire school". The book advises people to seek permission from the landowner before setting foot on a site, but the County Council has already banned metal detectors from their land.

1980 09 12
A 'flying squad of archaeologists could help avert a crisis, say the Cambridge Antiquarian Society. Money for conservation and excavation has been drastically cut because of recession and much of our ancient heritage is being destroyed. Many historical buildings are also at risk and such a group could combine volunteers and professional archaeologists to protect what can be saved and record what cannot. 80 09 12

1985 06 29
Cambridge castle mound is being seriously damaged by the feet of thousands of visitors every year and the playful attentions of hundreds of children who have created two impromptu 'slides' down the steep slopes. Now archaeologists are to close the footpath and carry out much-needed repairs. Many other monuments are also in need of repair, including Burwell castle, Booth's Hill at Ramsey and the Devil's Dyke 85 06 29

1990 11 25
Fitzwilliam Museum given £15 million art collection by Daniel McDonald; follows £11m gift to Archaeology Dept – 90 11 26a

Reference Librarian, Clifford Thurley, FLA, in Cambridgeshire Collection room, 1964
56.76

c.43 : Archives *including Cambridgeshire Collection and Folk Museum*

1888

1899 01 04
However poor the local newspaper its files are the best source of information as to what has taken place in the district. It is only in the British Museum that files of the newspapers are preserved as a matter of course. In places where there are free libraries a good deal is done but very often the files are incomplete and in some cases the importance of preserving these records is not realised as it ought to be. County councils should undertake the work of filing these newspapers, of binding the volumes and keeping them in a place ready of access by the public - 1899 01 04

1899 09 09
Looking over the catalogue of the Cambridge public library we were struck with the care exercised in obtaining and preserving copies of every publication of local bearing, even down to

the most occasional leaflets. This is as it should be. It may well be that there are documents lying in inaccessible places what contain information for which even now students of local history are searching in vain. Why should these not be deposited in the public library, accessible to those who desire to make use of them?

1900

1904 06 16
Cambridge Library committee referred to the recent fire on Peas Hill and the destruction of the premises adjacent to the library. But for the skill of the fire brigade the reading room must have been destroyed and the contents lost. The accumulation of books, pictures and scarce literature could never be replaced. Now the old dilapidated buildings should be cleared away and a more appropriate building erected. Next year they would celebrate the jubilee of the opening of the library and the appointment of Mr Pink as Librarian. The Library Association should be invited to hold their annual meeting at Cambridge, free of charge. 1904 06 16

1905 08 21
Cambridge Free Library is singularly rich in local literature due mainly to the Librarian, John Pink. He was born some 67 years ago and is steeped in Cambridge lore. There is little that he does not know and is always able to tell where the answer is to be found. His catalogues testify to a conscience for detail and a zeal to make the library as comprehensive as possible. His conscientious manner and obliging disposition are reflected in all the members of his staff. 05 08 21b

1906 11 26
It is with regret we announce the death of Mr John Pink, the Cambridge Borough Librarian. He started life as a bookseller's assistant but the adoption of the Public Libraries Act in 1853 opened up the walk in life which he has conscientiously and with dignity trodden for over half a century. Around him and his personality the Cambridge library has grown from small beginnings to its present state as one of the finest in the provinces, a permanent memorial to its first librarian. 06 11 26c & d funeral 06 11 28, 06 12 01[1.6]

1907 06 11
Cambridge Central Library Reading Room opened in 1884 but has now fallen behind many towns of similar size. The Reference library contains a Shakespeare library and an important Cambridge collection accommodated in galleries in the lending department. They have many old books, prints and artistic works they are unable to exhibit and cannot give the community the full enjoyment of their own possessions. There is a pressing need for an extension of its premises. 07 06 11a & 14, 07 03 16

1909 03 19
Mr W.B. Redfern's unique collection of watercolour drawings of old Cambridge excited great interest. In 1875 he started to record places of bygone and antiquarian interest which but for his timely intervention would have been lost for ever. A good many had now entirely disappeared including two houses in Shelley Row which were the residence of Oliver Cromwell during the Civil War. They were panelled with two handsome fireplaces which he had moved to his own house. Old houses in Petty Cury were the most striking and perfect places which should never have been pulled down while parts of the Falcon Yard had remained until the last few years. 09 03 19

1909 06 04

Cambridge Free Library has acquired at auction a somewhat badly bound volume of Cambridge newspapers which are unique. They start as 'The Huntingdon, Bedford, Cambridge and Peterborough Gazette' of 15 April 1818 but change title to 'The Cambridge Independent Press'. The purchase shows the happy understanding between the University and Town Libraries both of which were anxious it should not pass into private hands. They agreed the Borough Library should have the first chance but that if the price were too high then the University would bid. 09 06 04

1910

1913 08 15
Cambridge Free Library reports an increase in use with as many as 3-400 visitors in one hour. The cultivation of interest in local history shows every probability of the future Reference Room being well used. It possesses a very fine collection of books, maps and plans on local subjects for which there is considerable demand. John E. Foster had been a generous donor and presented many volumes of local and antiquarian interest. 13 08 15 p9 CIP

1914 06 04
W.B. Redfarn's Milton Hall museum includes gloves worn by Cromwell and King Charles II, Cromwell's snuff box & spectacles and pieces of armour from every century 14 06 04 p7

1915 05 21
Interesting Engraving. The Cambridge Borough Librarian has been authorised to purchase, at cost of 35s. a local engraving, entitled the Dinner given to 15,000 persons on Parker's Piece, Cambridge Thursday 28th June,1838 in honour of the Coronation of her must gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. The engraving is by Harraden 15 05 21 CIPof

1915 10 15
A file of Cambridge Gazette newspapers purchased at auction sale 15 10 15

1920

1924 10 21
The Cambridge Library committee proposes to transfer the local collection to a more easily accessible position. At the present time it is shelved on the gallery in the committee room and few people realise the wealth of material to be found. It is proposed to transfer all bound volumes to the shelves in general, but it would be fatal to allow unlimited access and it is suggested that frames be fitted with brass wire lattice. The whole collection requires to be classified so that readers may see at a glance the extent of material on any subject 24 10 21

1925 05 16
Display of material from Cambridgeshire Collection TT [25 05 16] [1.9]

1926 05 01
Display of playbills from Cambridgeshire Collection [1.10]

1926 10 13
Dr W.M. Palmer is chairman of the joint committee of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society and the Cambridge Photographic Club which is engaged in the formation of a collection of photographic records of old buildings and other objects of interest in the county, particularly those which are likely to disappear. He displayed 160 lantern slides made by him during the last

two years of old houses, taken from the outside and from the inside, and a number of old photographs showing buildings now vanished and costumes that are no longer worn. The record will be of great value to the historian a hundred years hence.

1927 02 16
The work of maintaining a pictorial record of the streets and buildings of Cambridge is greatly facilitated by modern photography and much credit is due to those enthusiastic amateurs who perpetuate these important historical records. There are some excellent examples of the work of the Cambridge Photographic Club on exhibition at the Borough Library and the short time required to view the photographs will not be wasted.

1927 04 08
Under an Act of 1877 the Prison Commissioners took over Castle Hill, Cambridge, together with the prison from the County Justices. The prison itself has been loaned to the Record Office for the reposition of certain deeds etc. The hill could be visited by application at the old prison gates, but few availed themselves of this. Now the Cambridge Antiquarian Society suggested it be handed over to the Corporation as public open space

1927 09 28
Cambridge Photographic Club celebrated its 25th anniversary. They were doing admirable work in conjunction with the Cambridge Antiquarian Society in securing a preserving a photographic record of various places which might disappear in course of time. Ald Starr said he had joined Hills & Saunders as a lad in 1880. They used wet plates at that time and had to coat them and sensitive them, and they would not keep for more than a few hours.

1927 10 05
Cambridge Photographic Club had made progress with the photographic survey of the county and over 100 prints were produced. There was still a great deal to be done and this should be regarded as one of the most important parts of the club's work. A collection of photographs of Cambridge was exhibited in the Public Library. The East Anglian Federation had held its summer meeting in Cambridge, but the weather was not in favour of photography.

1929 01 28
Certain documents of an historical nature are stored in Cambridge prison on Castle Hill and access is permitted to University students for the purpose of study. But if a County Hall is built on the site the Prison will be pulled down and the documents removed. The University fears that they would lose a very big educational factor and urge the County Council to provide accommodation for them in their new building. Having regard to the tendency of modern legislation to give Councils more work they would probably require considerably more accommodation at the end of 20 years and such storage would then be valuable for administrative purposes - 29 01 28

1929 05 15
Corporation Archives – CDN 15.5.1929

1929 10 29
The Government Office of Works have made arrangements for the records at present stored in the old Prison on Castle Hill, to be removed from Cambridge to another disused gaol. It is their policy to concentrate such records at Canterbury. The Governor's House at the old Prison will be adapted to provide temporary accommodation for county council staff and rooms in the prison

gatehouse used for storage purposes. This has released accommodation at the County Hall for other departments - 29 10 29

1930

1930
Cambridgeshire Record Office dates from 1930 when records were first sent to the County Council for safe keeping; it was then responsible for the Isle of Ely, Huntingdonshire and Rutland.

1930 09 24
Tens of thousands of old documents are being destroyed every year so that fancy goods like drums and tambourines might be made from the parchment. County Record Offices should be established where they could be housed and skilled archivists give them the proper attention. County Councils were too fully occupied with questions of local government to give archives proper consideration but their preservation was too big a matter to be treated as a sideshow, says Cambridge Antiquarian Society. 30 09 24

1931 04 17
St Ives town council has been awarded a site for the building to be called 'The Norris Library' which is to house a collection of Huntingdonshire topography, pictures and antiques collected by the late H.E. Norris. At his home in Chichester he had a room crowed with pictures, relics and literature. He was a man of great literary attainments and one of the finest chess players in England. The council recorded their gratitude and appreciation and stood for a moment of silence in tribute to his memory. 31 04 17b

1931 12 25
Sir – when Mr W. Rouse Ball and myself were invited to consider a local guide for publicity purposes we also recommended a volume of old views of Cambridge. In our local library and with the Photographic Club and many citizens, there are many old pictures which would prove of lasting interest as a record of the past, a volume which would appeal to all those who are interested in the township – Charles Porter, Sidney Street. 31 12 25c

1933 09 14
Sir – in my old curiosity shop in Trumpington Street I have formed a museum of prison, punishment and other interesting relics, many of which have come from our old Cambridge prisons. They include the clothes, mask, pistol and spurs of Dick Turpin which were left at the Three Tuns Inn, Castle Hill, on the eve of January 12th 1739. I would welcome any items connected with village punishment or an old police uniform with the beaver top hat – E. Rutter 33 09 14

1933 09 22
The Norris Library and Museum at St Ives was opened with full civic pride. Herbert Norris's collection of manuscripts and books was unique; there was nothing printed in the world concerning Huntingdonshire that was not there and it should become a county museum. The architect, Mr Inskip Ladds was congratulated. The council had also carried out improvements to the Waits and made new flower beds. 33 09 22

1934 01 06
Mr E. Rutter of the 'Olde Curiosity Shoppe', Trumpington Street, has purchased a razor which belonged to King George III. It will be added to his other 200 interesting relics that include a

Bible dated 1633 which has covers worked in needlework by King Charles I's wife and a pair of very fine silk stockings bearing the royal crown, which were worn by Queen Victoria. He also has a warrant issued by Oliver Cromwell and a cockade worn by Lord Nelson. He attempted to buy the Eton flogging book but that sold for the remarkable sum of £450. 34 01 06

1934 06 30
Two of W.B. Redfern's collection of Cromwellian relics have returned to Cambridge. A pair of grey gauntlets and a pair of spectacles in their original fish skin case which belonged to Oliver Cromwell were purchased by Edwin Rutter and added to his museum at the Old Curiosity Shop on Trumpington Street. 34 06 30 [34 06 30 TT, 34 11 17]

1934 07 06
Preservation of old deeds and documents – CAS appeal – 34 07 06

1934 11 03
Councillor Peck suggests Folk Museum [34 11 03 TT]

1934 11 12
Until recently it was customary for some of the Cambridge Corporation documents to be in the private possession of the town clerk. When Thomas Yorke died in 1756 he had a large quantity of treasurer's accounts in his possession. His executor put them into a chest in St Michael's Church for safe keeping, but then he died and nobody claimed them. They did not belong to the parish and when space was wanted the clerk was authorised to sell them as waste paper. John Bowtell, the University bookbinder, bought the whole lot, Dr Palmer told the Women's Luncheon Club. They were now preserved in Downing College. 34 11 12a & b

1934 11 17
Oliver Cromwell's hat is to stay in Cambridge. When put up for auction last April it was withdrawn at £25. But now it has been purchased by Mr E. Rutter of Ye Olde Curiosity Shop and Museum, Trumpington Street. The hat has a very large flat brim and tapering crown. It has been handed down through several generations of the Constable family who ran a very old established hat maker's business where Cromwell left the hat when he was up at Sidney Sussex College. It will be placed alongside other Cromwell relics including his gauntlet gloves and spectacles. 34 11 17c

1935 10 28
A folk museum may be established in the old White Horse Inn following a meeting called by Cambridge Rotary Club. It should be a town and county museum for objects of local interest. Dr Palmer offered some of the items which had accumulated in the attic of a house where his ancestors had lived for 300 years. This was only the beginning: the ideal folk museum should be in the open, a space in which old cottages, smithies, a windmill and other things could be shown. 35 10 28 & a

1935 12 10
A local history exhibition in the Central Library Reference Room in connection with the Local Government Centenary Celebrations shows how Cambridge looked in days gone by. Schoolchildren are showing the greatest interest as they make tours of the exhibits. Photographs show the changes more vividly than anything: it is hard to believe that the Hobson Street pictured is the same one today. Political broadsheets from the 1840s comment on the 'horrible extravagance' of police expenditure and hint that all was not well with the painting of the inside of the Council Chamber - it advises local painters to have nothing to do with the job. 35 12 10

1936 05 11
Dr William Mortlock Palmer has examined a vast number of old corporation papers and documents. They have been cleaned, labelled and made up into parcels, listed with cross-references and arranged in cupboards. The result is that order has been effected out of chaos. They contain valuable material for social history with original petitions, complaints of nuisances and opposition to proposed improvements. The most bulky is the petition against making the concrete paths across Parker's Piece. Some have been handed over to the County Council and University Library. Now the Corporation may publish a list of them. 36 05 11a

1936 09 23
The new Folk Museum which is to be opened in Cambridge shortly will not be filled with glass cases containing stuffed birds. The rooms will be authentically furnished – one visitor to the bar-parlour even asked for a pint of bitter. It was unfortunate that the front of the old White Horse Inn had been modernised 25 years ago, but interesting old beams were revealed after the interior walls had been stripped of many layers of paper. A modern fireplace had been removed and electricity installed. They now need everyday objects, craftsmen's tools, toys and an old smock, Mr Saville Peck told Rotarians. 36 09 23

1936 10 07
Folk Museum receive toll board from cottage at Clayhithe – 36 10 07

1936 11 04
The Cambridge and County Folk Museum at the old 'White Horse Inn' was opened in the presence of a large company. It would become a clearing house of information on local matters in a town where there is more information about Papua than Pampisford. The Corporation had handed over its old measures, the steelyard used at Stourbridge Fair and the High Constable's stave while the Public Library had loaned portraits and caricatures to give a human touch to the museum. Miss Catherine Parsons has accepted the position of honorary curator with Reginald Lambeth as custodian. 36 11 04b & c

1937 01 30
Folk Museum disappointed about lack of interest – description – 37 01 30

1937 03 04
Miss Lilian Clarke gave a lantern lecture on 'Lady Margaret and her two colleges' in the Reference Room of the Central Library. She drew on her wonderful store of knowledge of bygone Cambridge with many interesting anecdotes that kept her large audience entertained. Recently it has been found that the main gate of St John's College was being rattled down by the heavy lorries which passed through the narrow streets every night. It will be necessary to rebuild, but there are problems in getting bricks to match 37 03 04

1938 11 01
Parish councils to be asked for a list of parochial documents under their control; they should be stored in a museum. But they were very loathe to part with them. 38 11 01

1938 12 17
Libraries want old pictures of Guildhall site to copy 38 12 17 [2.15]

1939 02 11

Cambridge Central Library lending department will transfer to what is now the main reading-room making it more commodious and in every way more convenient both for borrowers and the library assistants. With better natural lighting and the new bookcases the books will be shown to greater advantage and readers should be able to move round more freely. The present lending department will be used mainly for the newspapers. Magazines and periodicals will be found on the other side in the present reference room and librarian's room which will open into each other. The librarian's new room will be upstairs in the present education offices, and there too the reference room will be found. (As part of these changes the Cambridgeshire Collection moves from public view). 39 02 11a

1939 02 13
Mary Green exhibition of water colours at Cambridge library, recently donated – 39 02 13a

1937 09 27
Microfilm will bring the library resources of the world to the desk of an individual scholar, a Cambridge conference was told. The prodigious daily flood of newspapers can be compressed photographically into little rolls of microfilm making them perpetually 'in print' while censuses, birth and death records and correspondence can be duplicated. The technology is still being developed and will take much longer than expected, but a satisfactory reading machine should cost about as much as a portable typewriter 37 09 27

1939 02 28
Folk Museum's progress, Catherine Parsons honorary curator – 39 02 28

1939 10 21
Dr William Mortlock Palmer of Linton, the well-known antiquary, started his career with Messrs Campkins, chemists and in 1901 took up practice in Linton, retiring seven years ago. In 1935 he proceeded to an honorary degree of Master of Arts and became a member of Pembroke College. He was best-known as a member of Cambridge Antiquarian Society and wrote several volumes, the last on of the History of Borough Green. In 1931 he received an address of thanks from Cambridge Town Council for his work on the Borough documents 39 10 21b

1939 11 21
The last Georgian bow-fronted shop window in Cambridge was at 45 Bridge Street It was saved from demolition and re-erected in the yard of the Cambridge Folk Museum by Mr E.C. Lambeth, assistant curator. It is thought that the shop was Ald Nutting's coffee house attached to the old Red Lion Inn in Bridge Street 39 11 21c

1940

1940 08 17
Folk Museum only museum open to public at present; issues pamphlet – 40 08 17a

1941 04 24
Folk Museum treasures – Ald Peck talks to Women's Luncheon Club – 41 04 24

1941 08 09
Need preservation of old parochial documents and papers – Bishop's Advisory Committee will advise – 41 08 09a

1943 02 20

Folk Museum annual meeting, E. Saville Peck acting chairman, Frost's flying machine had been offered but was nowhere to store it – 43 02 20a

1945 06 06
Folk Museum offered Abbey House in recognition of VE Day; was sold by Askham to Fairhaven on understanding that passed to National Trust. Abbey House bought by Lord Fairhaven from Askham family; house dilapidated & in form of three dwellings; [45 06 06 TT, 66 12 28]

1946 03 07
Folk Museum raises funds to accept Lord Fairhaven offer of Abbey House – 46 03 07

1946 03 23
Boxes labelled 'Vintage Champagne' but containing Parker Collection of manuscripts returned under guard to Corpus Christi College from wartime home in Welsh National Library – 46 03 23a

1946 06 13
Declaration of Trust in favour of Folk Museum in recognition of VE Day and thank-offering for deliverance from the perils of war; Folk Museum let off as three dwellings by Fairhaven to Folk Museum - CDN 1945 06 13 Abbey House – historical facts by F.A. Keynes – CDN 1945 06 15. 1973 conveyance to City council [5]

1948
Cambridgeshire Record Office - a part-time honorary archivist appointed 63 09 11d

1950

1950 03 04
Mary Greene paintings lent for display at Folk Museum 50 03 04

1950 05 16
A proposal to form a Local History committee for Cambridgeshire was approved at a meeting at the Community Council. Many people throughout the country had information which would be more valuable if it were combined. Such things as keeping people in touch formed a great part of the committee's duties. The Rev Prof C.E. Raven, Master of Christ's college was in the chair

1950 05 24
Mr Sidney Inskip Ladds has left his written, drawing and printed material in folders marked "S" together with photographs, prints and negatives to the Norris Library, St Ives. All similar material marked "H" and a series of Huntingdonshire maps and watercolour pictures of local churches have been presented to Huntingdon county council to be preserved by them in the Reference Library there.

1950 10 21
Cambridge councillors decided not to take over Abbey House and assume responsibility for its future after the Folk Museum had raised £2,000 to effect the transfer of the Museum there from the old White Horse Inn. The house contains some very fine rooms suitable for display of exhibits but would mean they had to rehouse the families now living there. There was no doubt that in ordinary time the council would have been able to take the Museum over but it could not take on anything at the present time because they are so hard up 50 10 21

1950 10 28

Historical documents dating from the 13th century to 1944 have been deposited with the County Archivist during the past year. He is particularly pleased to report the minute book of the Cottenham parish invasion committee 1941-44. "For the benefit of future historians, it is most important that such archives should be preserved", he observed 50 10 28

1951 07 18
A public meeting to inaugurate a Local History Council for Cambridgeshire was held in the Cambridge Guildhall. "Very considerable" interest already existed in local history. One of the main aims could be to share knowledge and there was the possibility of having a printed journal for the exchange of news and views. The question of guide books would need attention together with a list of persons qualified to lecture on local history topics.

1951 11 01
Minutes and correspondence of the Histon and Impington Invasion Committee 1940-1945 are now among documents in the Cambridgeshire county archives. Also deposited are the minutes of the Lord Lieutenant's Central Emergency Committee 1914-1918. The archivist, Capt Bales says: "I feel sure there are many such documents in different villages and I fear the results of a fresh salvage drive". He asks for increased storage accommodation as the Muniment Room is very crowded and the documents are scattered in various rooms of the Shire Hall and Law Courts.

1952 02 02
The possibility of Cambridge librarians co-operating in the attempt to compile a union catalogue of all books in the University, City and County libraries relating to the University, City and County of Cambridge was enthusiastically received by members of the Cambridge Library Group. It would enable anyone to look for a book which was to be found in any of 25 libraries. On the whole the college libraries' catalogues of old books were not good & in two colleges the librarian had said it was useless to rely on them. 52 02 02

1952 07 23
Local History Society agm, p4

1954 07 27
Membership of the Cambridgeshire Local History Council has increased, attendance at meetings and excursions is higher than ever & the Bulletin had been published more or less on time, but there is still much to do. Local History groups in Sawston and Fulbourn are flourishing but there are large areas of the county that are sadly undeveloped as far as local history is concerned. They needed more village correspondents and anybody with old pictures of their village should notify them. There would be a room built at the Shire Hall in the future for the archives and it would be a good thing to get the interest of school children.

1955 06 27
Opening an exhibition celebrating 100 years of public libraries in Cambridge, the Master of Pembroke College, F.C. Roberts, said he was proud to have been chairman of the Library committee for some years adding: "I should have been even prouder if my first name had been correctly spelt! But these occasional mistakes show librarians have humanity as well as scholarship". There are books of every description, a machine through which microfilm copies of newspapers are shown and a cartoon by Ronald Searle. 55 06 27 a-b [2.10, 4.2]

1957 07 25
Miss Lilian Clarke has left all her books on Cambridge and her pamphlets, pictures, maps, newspaper cuttings, lantern slides and negatives to the City Library with the request that all

duplicate items be sold and applied towards the publication of her book 'Cambridge Calling'. She also left all her papers relating to the Clarke family to the County Library at March and her blankets and pillow cases to the Evelyn Nursing Home. 57 07 25

1958 07 25
A little two-bedroomed cottage should be built for Enid Porter, the Curator of the Folk Museum, councillors agreed. The five-bedroomed flat they'd allocated as emergency accommodation was condemned property; it was just a mass of corrugated iron which spoils the beauty of Northampton Street. It would be an insult to offer it to her and should be used to relieve the housing problem for a larger family 58 07 25a

1959 04 25
Folk Museum objects 'thrown away' – Lambeth; Folk Museum objects discarded – 59 04 25b

1960

1960 05 28
East Anglian Bibliography launched – 60 05 28a & b

1961 02 10
Bernard Grainger does nothing all day but repair documents that have lain unattended for many years. He is archive repairer for the County Record Office and estimates that the amount of maps alone awaiting repair would take him all his working life to complete. No attempt is made to touch up or repaint the documents in any way and they leave his small office in exactly the same state as when they first came in. This is very specialised work and only 19 record offices in the country boast such experts 61 02 10

1961 12 21
Cambridge Folk Museum has been closed for the last nine months while various alterations and extensions have taken place. Several major improvements have been made as part of a programme that started four years ago. First the building was re-roofed, then a house was erected for the resident curator, Miss Enid Porter. This meant the old house at no.3 Castle Street became available for museum use. It has been redecorated, the staircases widened and a new system of oil heating installed 61 12 21a

1963 09 11
Cambridgeshire Record Office dates from 1930 when records were first sent to the County Council for safe keeping; it was then responsible for the Isle of Ely, Huntingdonshire and Rutland. In 1948 a part-time honorary archivist was appointed and the staff has gradually increased to an archivist, assistant and repairer. Although they have a few postal inquiries, most students come in person and do much of the searching themselves. The most frequent enquires are legal, usually concerning rights of way or ditches, then come genealogists, especially Mormons, and people interested in the history of their house. They have considerable arrears in cataloguing documents and have not yet been able to prepare guides or arrange exhibitions, Mr Farrar, the County Archivist, told Rotarians 63 09 11d

1964 03 28
Contents of Ely museum, collected by Vernon Cross in Ye Olde Tea Rooms and Museum to be auctioned. Building ransacked by Littleport Rioters in 1816. It was restored by his father in 1905 when the collection was started – photos – 64 03 28

1964 04 16
A turf-digging tool and a fork used for harvesting were among the fenland tools bought for the Folk Museum at the sale of antiquities from Vernon Cross's 'Ye Olde Tea Rooms' at Ely. The curator, Miss Enid Porter, was among the crowd of buyers. She also obtained two Doulton spirit barrels and an 18th-century digester. Plaster moulds from old Ely houses, an unusual type of frying pan and a 19th-century knife cleaner were also purchased 64 04 16

1964 06 10
Enid Porter, Folk Museum curator – profile 64 06 10

1964 07 22
The Isle of Ely will lose one of its most ancient offices – that of Custos Rotulorum – when the county is amalgamated with Cambridgeshire next April. The office dates back to about 1460 and is responsible for the records of the county and quarter sessions. The present holder is Ald Leonard Childs of Chatteris who was appointed by the King in 1952. In Cambridgeshire the office is held by the Lord Lieutenant, Ald R.H. Parker 64 07 22a

1964 08 17
'Focus on Cambridge' is a new documentary film seen through the eyes of two tourists as they drift along the Cam in a punt. Made by Norman Mason-Smith of Forgeron Films it is intended for people lecturing on Cambridge or tourists wishing to take home a memento of their visit. It was filmed in Technicolor, lasts 16 minutes and is available in 16mm format for £22 10s [about £370 at today's prices]. Cambridge City Libraries have agreed to take a copy 64 08 17

1964 10 22
Central Library a 'public disgrace'; is cramped but wrong to spend money now; trying to give 1964 service from 1882 building. The old rooms have pipes running through them and are full of dust. The number of readers has doubled since 1954 but wish had building to display stocks and comfortable reading conditions for borrowers – pictures of Cambridgeshire Collection and school lending department – 64 10 22a & 64 10 21

1965 01 28
Cambridge Librarian, Eric Cave, is anxious to provide a permanent home in the central library for odd items of Cambridge interest like old books, scrapbooks, prints and photographs. He had recently received a scrapbook of the public activities of the late Ald W.L. Raynes when he was Mayor from 1931 to 1932. His executors sent them having seen a report about a similar gift from another former Mayor 65 01 28

1965 07 14
Folk Museum curators pay 'real scandal' - £8 per week [65 07 14]

1965 10 22
Eric Milner wants to start special records library of everything broadcast on television or radio about Cambridge – 65 10 22b

1966 07 01
County Record Office feature – Domesday Book, maps – 66 07 01

1967 03 01
Concern that city archives are kept under proper control. Some are University Library, some in University Registry and some in the City Library. Appointment of city archivist to be considered.

Would like someone lent by Fitzwilliam Museum or University Library to put matters in order. – 67 03 01a

1967 08 31
New Central Library 'by end of 1971',probably on three floors with lending, information bureau, schools library, music, newspaper room, reference; a further 10,000 sq feet proposed tentatively for a central archives area – 67 08 31b

1968 08 26
Enid Porter, Folk Museum – profile – 68 08 26

1968 10 18
City Library service is not just books – valuable collections of local history, of maps, directories, playbills and a thousand other items are hidden from the pubic gaze; record library finally established – feature – 68 10 18, 18a

1969 03 19
Enid Porter 'Cambridgeshire customs and folklore' book published; review – 69 03 19b

1969 11 12
Cambridge Collection grows – 'Arbury News' magazines being added by J. Barham, is developing an S.D.I. system to inform readers; copy photos, use of books increases 50% in three years – 69 11 12

1970

1970 02 05
Walter Lane takes photos 1947 fen floods – to be centrepiece Cambridgeshire Collection exhibition organised by Mike Petty in Guildhall – feature – 70 02 05; exhibition sets up – Mike Petty, Alison Barker, Clare Beatty - photo – 70 02 11a

1970 06 12
Dr Dale has private 'black museum' – feature – 70 06 12 & a

1970 07 29
Dr Dale's black museum sold, no buyers for county gallows – 70 07 29c

1971 10 12
Cambridgeshire Collection exhibition on River Cam in Guildhall, Mike Petty and G.R. Wilson – 71 10 12

1971 09 22
Cambridgeshire Collection Mike Petty starts SDI scheme [71 09 22]

1972 09 01
The Cambridge & County Folk Museum is run on a shoestring, but thanks to its indefatigable curator, Miss Enid Porter, it has become a model of what a people's museum should be - intimate, quaint and compact. That the museum so ably embraces the local community's way of life is due, undoubtedly, to the skill and reputation of its curator, who is acknowledged as an expert on East Anglian folk lore and witchcraft and is particularly renowned for her understanding of fenland. Miss Porter is a powerhouse of activity since coming to Cambridge in 1947 she has created an

invaluable display of bygones and bric-a-brac. When it is remembered that she does it on £3,000 a year the scale and depth of the exhibition is nothing short of miraculous 72 09 01

1972 10 10
An 1875 bicycle made a rare appearance on the streets of Cambridge to promote Cambridge City Library's Cambridgeshire Collection exhibition "Tourism in Cambridge" at the Small Hall of the Guildhall. Its owner, Mr J.D. Howes took it from his Regent Street shop and gave it a spin along the road before it went to the Guildhall. The third exhibition of its type to be staged by the library it puts Cambridge into its proper setting for both Fenland, county and city are covered by the various displays 72 10 10

1973 03 17
Cambridgeshire Collection may be given to District Council at Local Government Reorganisation [73 03 17]

1973 04 27
Cambridgeshire Collection to be kept in Cambridge following Local Government Reorganisation which passes responsibly for library services from City to County Council [73 04 27]

1973 09 27
New Central Library, no provision should be made for the Tourist Bureau , District Council recommended to deposit the bulk of the City Archives in the County Record Office and no provision for storage be made in new library. Cambridgeshire Collection to be housed, displayed and used for research purposes in the new Library at the expense of the County Counicl. City Library committee minute R

1973 10 23
City Council Civic Affairs Committee agree retention of the Cambridgeshire Collection in the Central Library and its subsequent transfer to the new library in Lion Yard, subject to the cost of maintenance being borne by the County Council. A complete catalogue should be made as soon as possible

1973 11 05
Cambridge District Board unanimously support recommendation that the Cambridgeshire Collection be retained in the Central Library and subsequently transferred to the new Library in Lion Yard.

1974 01 05
One of Cambridge's finest medieval buildings, the Abbey House in Abbey Road, was formally presented to the city council as a gift from the Cambridge Folk Museum. The house was originally given to the museum in 1946 by the first Lord Fairhaven who had hoped it would be an enlarged Folk Museum. But the curator, Miss Enid Porter, said he had come to realise the building was just not suitable and the museum did not have the resources to keep the house in good repair 74 01 05

1974 02 07
City Archives: ownership of the City Council's records would transfer to the District Council who could decide whether to retain at Guildhall or deposit in the charge of the County Record Office 74/m/17

1974 04 30

One of the most significant features of the reorganisation of local government from 1st April 1974, has been the changes in function. Cambridge city council will have no further responsibility for education, libraries, weights and measures, sewage disposal, or the domiciliary health service. The advantages claimed for the transfer of these services to larger bodies should lead to greater specialisation, the adoption of improved methods and techniques, better levels of service and economy of scale. Time will show whether these ideals can be realised.

1975 05 24
For the first time since it was produced almost 20 years ago a prize-winning history of Cherry Hinton is to be available for reference at libraries. The contents were compiled by the Women's Institute in 1958. But the book, hand-written and with water-colour sketches, was too fragile to be easily available. But now staff from the Cambridgeshire Collection have made three complete copies of the book. One will be at Cherry Hinton library 75 05 24

1975 06 11
Archive office crowded, p7

1975 06 04
Folk Museum closed due illness curator & no deputy, (Enid retires 1976) [75 08 04]

1975 09 17
Over 25 years of argument, several million pounds of ratepayers' money and three years of toil what will we get? The Lion Yard development. On the first floor is a modest entrance to a building that Cambridge has desperately needed for many years … the new library. It has three floors. The top will be used for housing the Cambridgeshire Collection. On the first floor is a children's' room where young readers can comfortably browse through their selection. The building bears about as much comparison with the old Wheeler Street library as Buckingham Palace does with the Black Hole of Calcutta 75 09 17

1975 09 26
Standards of service in Cambridge Libraries have fallen since their administration was taken over by the County Council last year, City Councillors claimed. They were reminded of the decision to allow the city's ancient records to be housed in the County Archivist's' Department at Shire Hall. Counc Warren said: "It would have been even more convenient for the records to have been placed in the new library in the Lion Yard as we had intended in the first place" 75 09 26

1975 12 05
Princess Anne, making her first official visit to Cambridge, insisted on an impromptu chat with some of the thousands of sight-seers who thronged the city centre Lion Yard shopping centre. An estimated 10,000 people packed the Market Square and stood eight deep each side of Petty Cury as she walked into the new shopping centre. She stopped to talk to the delighted shop girls who were crowding their doorways and also to the eager shoppers who pressed forward to get a closer look at her. She explained: "I am not a complete stranger here because I have been shown around the university and city unofficially by two previous students who are both fans of the old city" c75 12 05 (photo 158.74)

1976 03 16
Both visitors and staff at the Cambridge County Record Office, Shire Hall, are still having to put up with overcrowded conditions. One visitor has described conditions as "the worst of any record office in the country". The county archivist says in his annual report that there has been no

improvement in office or search room space. One woman who had been offered a post on the staff had declined it because of the overcrowding which she had observed 76 03 16

1976 12 07
The curator of the Cambridge Folk Museum, Miss Enid Porter, is retiring this week because of ill-health, after running it single-handed for about 29 years. At the moment she is in hospital and the museum is closed. Since she took charge of the museum in 1947 its popularity and size have grown considerably. It was started following an exhibition of folk items by the Women's Institute in 1936. Cambridge Rotarians launched an appeal for a folk museum and eventually the present premises in Castle Street were acquired. Miss Porter has been a prolific author, writing books on Cambridgeshire folklore and customs and contributing articles to regional magazines 76 12 07

1977 09 03
City Council suggests return of historical records, Cambridgeshire Collection, to them [77 09 03]

1977 11 17
Cambridge City Council is to think again about plans to sell the mid 17th-century Abbey House in Abbey Road. The Folk Museum Trustees had given the ancient house to the city council only four years ago in the hope they would look after it. Coun Warren said: "It is shameful if the council is now considering selling the house and keeping the money itself." Coun John Powley said that money to repair the property was limited and the best course would be to sell it to the person living there and let him carry out repair working costing thousands of pounds. 77 11 17

1977 12 07
Plans to save branch libraries from closure by moving careers advice offices into Cambridge central library have angered librarians. Andrew Armour said the move could lead to conditions as cramped as those in the old library in Wheeler Street. "It seems that just as we were settling down to being librarians we are back in the melting pot again". It would mean moving the children's & music libraries into the lending library with possible closure of the picture loan service, closure of the 'quick reference' section and moving the Cambridgeshire Collection into the reference library causing enormous disruption in services to readers. 77 12 07

1978 01 31
A recent move to sell the Abbey House, Cambridge to its long-standing tenant, retired Professor Peter Danckwerts, raised eyebrows among people who know the history of the place. It was bought for the Folk Museum by Lord Fairhaven in 1945. No endowment was made and the museum found it impossible to keep up the house. It was given to the city in 1973 and the city has found it an embarrassment ever since, spending little on repairs. But a former Mayor and chairman of the Cambridge Preservation Society threatened to take the city council to court if it was sold 78 02 31

1978 12 11
Cambridgeshire Collection receives two major donations [78 12 11]

1980

1983 03 10
Mike Petty, Cambridgeshire Collection Librarian, 10 Mar 1983 CEN neg 938.83.33 (photo 218.56)
Mike Petty with Sara Payne in Cambs Collection - photo used in 'Down Your Street' (photo 218.57)

1983 04 06
Colonel Guennadi Primakov, one of three Russians ordered out of Britain for spying, openly used the Cambridge Lion Yard Library for part of his intelligence-gathering work. He consulted newspaper cuttings files on civil defence in the Cambridgeshire Collection. At that time, in 1980, Defence Secretary Francis Pym had announced the decision to site Cruise missiles at Molesworth prompting 2,000 opponents of the scheme to march in protest. Librarians noticed him photocopying the files and consulted local police, but they said it was a matter for Scotland Yard. 83 04 06

1984 01 19
Enid Porter ran the Cambridge Folk Museum single-handed from 1947 for 30 years and the impressive collection now it now houses museum was largely as a result of her endeavour. She took the entrance money, arranged exhibitions and cleaned the museum. In 1968 she had not had a pay rise for 15 years; her wages were £8 a week at a time when comparable jobs were paying £1,500 a year. Richard Wilson, the current curator said "She was a marvellous lively woman who gave her life to the museum" 84 01 19 p6

1985 03 01
Cambridgeshire Collection Librarian Mike Petty addresses conference in Sardinia [85 03 01]

1986 05 27
Cambridgeshire Collection given Jack Overhill books [86 05 27]

1986 12 18
Folk Museum celebrate 50th anniversary – Tom Doig – 86 12 18

1987 04 25
City councillors have stepped in to stave off the shock closure of the Cambridge Folk Museum which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. They decided to give an immediate grant to help it over its financial crisis for the next six months after its curator, Tom Doig, told how it received little income and there were no private financial resources. Councillors are also rethinking proposals to treble the Museum's rent to £12,000 a year. 87 04 25

1988 12 01
Cambridgeshire Collection produces sepia pictures for sale [88 12 01]

1988 08 12
Cambridge Family History Centre, newly opened at the Church of Latter Day Saints, Cherry Hinton Road, has access to millions of names and a registry of researchers worldwide who are willing to share information. There are also millions of microfilm and microfiche. 88 08 12b & c

1988 08 13
Cambridge & County Folk Museum is facing a cash crisis. Curator Tom Doig says the situation is so desperate he may have to close the 500-year-old museum in Castle Street before Christmas. The County Council has refused any funding and the City has cut its grant, meaning he can no longer afford to pay staff.. The Mayor said is it outrageous that they can't find the money to keep it going The museum is of great importance as an educational resource and it would be a tragedy if it were to close 88 08 13, 88 08 17, 88 08 17a

1989 01 27

Tom Doig has done a very good job as curator of the Cambridge and County Folk Museum for the past five years despite little encouragement and many difficulties. The little museum is a most marvellous means of encouraging a sense of community and plays a central role in teaching young people about their area. Yet it is desperately poorly financed, scandalously cramped and largely failing to exploit its potential. I hope whoever inherits Tom's unenviable task at the museum will also show his enthusiasm and refusal to be cast down by difficulties. Never before has the public been more interested and enthralled by local history. And never has the need for a dramatic re-appraisal of this very valuable museum been more needed – Christopher South 89 01 27a

1989 03 03
Jack Overhill was known by many people as an author and broadcaster – giving 55 talks for the BBC and publishing three books. But most people will remember him as a keen swimmer. The founder of the Granta Swimming Club, he took a daily dip in the Cam for more than 60 years. After leaving school at 14 he followed his father's trade of shoemaker and in the 1920s set up one of the country's first football pools coupons. "His diaries and the dramatized novels he wrote represent a most important history of backstreet Cambridge in the 1920s and 30s", said Cambridgeshire Collection Librarian, Mike Petty 89 03 03b

1989 07 10
Cambridge Library is to close for two weeks as part of a computerisation programme to streamline efficiency. It will replace the system installed in 1976. But the Cambridgeshire Collection will be open as normal 89 07 10a

1989 08 03
VCH vol.9 published, exhibition in Cambridgeshire Collection – 89 08 03

Addenda

1990

1990 02 21
Sir – I was horrified so see the County Council is proposing to make a devastating cut in the funds allocated to the county record office. As this is the Cinderella of the council departments it would seem grossly unfair to deal it such a blow. Other counties have a more enlightened appreciation of the importance of the precious inheritance to be found in local documents. It should be remembered that it is in the records office that the papers recording the decisions of the council will be housed for future generations to give their verdict on – P. White 90 02 21b n

1990 05 10
Cambridge Antiquarian Society celebrate 150th anniversary – 90 05 10a

1990 07 26
Cambridgeshire Collection Librarian Mike Petty presented with T.C. Farries 'Librarian of the Year' award 90 07 26

1991 02 28
Prof Geoffrey Martin, ex-keeper of Public Records and Mike Petty look through facimile of the Domesday Book on exhibition of reprint at Cambs Collection, 18 Feb 1991, 91 0 28b (photo 218.43)

1993
Cambridgeshire Collection receives Dorothy McCulla award

1995 10 14
Central library needs £500,000 anti-fire initiative to safeguard Cambridgeshire Collection [95 10 14]

1996 08 10
Open University student research published on CD-Rom, launched in Cambridgeshire with Sue Oosthuizen 96 08 10

1996 12 16
'Libraries lose a leading light': Mike Petty takes early retirement from Cambridgeshire Collection, succeeded by Chris Jakes; management chiefs pledge to maintain staffing levels and try to develop the archive; as result cutbacks four libraries have closed and opening times of branches reduced 96 12 16

1996 12 21
Head of Cambs Collection to retire … to be consultant 96 12 21

1996 12 30
Chris Jakes, new principal librarian of Cambridgeshire Collection publishes 'Cambridge in Old Photographs' 96 12 30

1997 01 01
'Farewell to courteous, helpful Mike' – Margaret French letter – 97 01 01

1997 01 06
'The man behind a great collection' – appreciation by John Durrant, Mayor of Cambridge 97 01 06

1997 01 20
'Making sure the past is safe for the future'; Mike Petty interview at home, Librarian of the Year 1989, begins News column, lectures; reorganisation in the air and wanted to leave Cambridgeshire Collection at its peak; management says are considering risk management following Norwich fire and Collection will stay where it is and will not be split up 97 01 20

1997 01 27
'Collection is stuff of real history' – Collection has a place amongst the best – Mike Bowyer 97 01 27

1997 04 26
'Award winner's final chapter': Mike Petty retirement send-off … 1990 T.C. Farries award,1993 Dorothy McCulla award, Hon Fellow APU 97 04 26

1998 05 11
'Archive will be moved for safety': world-renowned Cambridgeshire Collection to be rehoused on second floor; is used by students, families and academics … one of the best of its kind, says Mike Hosking, Head of Libraries. Will make it safer and more accessible to the many thousands who use it every year 98 05 11

1998 06 22
'Local studies service to stay': is important part of library service, will develop and fire protection work with coincide with reorganisation of Central Library 98 06 22

1998 11 30
'Refurbishment work on library gets under way'; principally to rehouse Cambridgeshire Collection and improve layout of the library 98 11 30

1998 01 13
'Ideal site for archive' – already a need for more space so why not a new purpose-built local history centre housing Cambridgeshire Collection and provide space for other organisations with collections of historical documents; ideal space the area undeveloped land nearby – letter 98 12 23

1999 01 13
'Building work brings new chapter to library' – will take four months with final move in August, secures future Cambridgeshire Collection 99 01 13

1999 07 21
'Move to protect valuable archive': Cambridgeshire Collection being relocated, improve layout of technology services on second floor 99 07 21

1999 08 13
'Anti-fire device makes library archives safer': catalogues on database, paid for by £500,000 from Government to upgrade information technology 99 08 13

1999 09 04
'Collection's new home': housed in a specially designed environment on second floor with 2,500 linear metres of shelving giving enough storage space for 20 years growth; study area also moved, providing more seating, more displays and books for loan. The book and illustrations catalogues have been transferred to a database available on internet 99 09 04

2001 01 12
'25-year site is just the ticket': Cambridgeshire Collection celebrates 25 year in Lion Yard; Collection has 50,000 books, 4,000 maps & 400,000 prints and negatives; during 2000 nearly 800 items added; 2001 01 12 & a

2007 01 18
'End of an era for city library': 15 months of disruption in £7.5 redevelopment; Collection moves to Milton Road library – 2007 01 18

2008 03 25
'Plans for new home to house county history ditched': new heritage centre within CB1 development dropped; at present Cambridgeshire Collection in storage at various locations and can only be accessed from Milton Road library. 2008 03 25

2008 10 18
'Mould threat to county's heritage': archive facilities at Shire Hall condemned; records are in risk of damage. 2008 10 18

2009 10 09

'17,389 visit new library in seven days': opened on 29th September after £7.5 million rebuild and refurbishment; transformed with old storage and office space cut away and new floor space created by filling in a void between the first and second floors. Old entrance removed to first floor. New Mediateque giving access to British Film Archive & facilities for Cambridgeshire Collection. Was due to open May last year but delayed due to serious structural problems with original 1970s building. 'A truly fantastic new library with range of extended facilities and services … in premier league of public libraries' 2009 10 09a

2011 09 15
Archives centre plan for Shire Hall military bunker – shelter under Castle Court built in 1980s would make excellent centre; Shire Hall basement deteriorating – 2011 09 15

2014 11 13
Time flies … and county archive has pictures to prove it: selection of more than 14,000 images in Shire Hall archive 20 15 people maintain collections – 2014 11 13

2015 01 15
Anger at plan to relocate archives – Cambridgeshire Collection planned move to Ely – 2015 01 15

2015 03 14
'Key archives deserve better', no need to move Cambs Collection – John Green – 2015 03 14

2015 03 24
Chris Jakes wins McCulla Memorial Prize, worked for 40 years to provide one of best local studies collections in country – 2015 03 24

2015 03 25
'Archives must not be moved' – Collection is in fire-proof store – Reg Tarrant letter – 2015 03 25

2015 04 03
'Keep our city collection here' – is unique, plans co-incide with proposals for commercial enterprise zone – Sara Payne letter – 2015 04 03

2015 04 21
'Archives must not be moved' – Cambs Collection should stay in library; letter Les Price – 2015 04 21

2015 04 23
'Benefits' to archive move: relocating the Cambridgeshire Archives will 'provide benefits' to Ely and area says planner. County plans to move archives from Shire Hall basement to Strikes Bowling Alley – 2015 04 23

2015 04 23
'Good location': Strikes site could be available on 250 year lease … keen to move its priceless archive collection to somewhere safe, secure & accessible … to spend £3/4 million – letter Bill Hunt – 2015 04 23 EWN

2015 04 30
"Ely is actually rather remote" – archive move will not bring benefits users – 2015 04 30

2015 05 01
'Don't move the archives': concern that Cambs Collection move to Ely; letter George Ginn 2015 05 01

2015 05 08
'Library plans get furious response' - hostile opposition to plans to change third floor into enterprise centre; also questions on move of Cambs Collection to Ely – 2015 05 08

2015 06 01
'MP takes a stand over library plan' – Daniel Zeichner condemns plans for third floor library – 2015 06 01

2015 06 15
Strikes still open – bought by county council for archives centre; Collection will also move – 2015 06 15

2015 09 03
Cost of Ely archive centre has rocketed by 55 per cent in less than a year: now £6.198M – 2015 09 03 ES

2015 09 19
Archives move will cost £6m … is not place for Cambridgeshire Collection – 2015 09 19

2015 10 08
Archives move is going ahead despite spiralling costs but Cambridgeshire Collection to stay in library – 2015 10 08

2015 10 29
'Find safer place for archives' – site on flood zone adjacent to petrol filling-station, builder's yard and industrial complex – Janet Fairweather letter – 2015 10 29

Opening of Cripps Building, St John's College 1967 *157.59*

c.44.5 : Cambridge University Colleges (includes Theological Colleges and other institutions not formally part of University)

1881
University formally recognise Newnham & Girton Colleges [VCH]

1882
Selwyn College founded [445.12.5]
New statutes establish Public Hostels & could be withdrawn if conditions of recognition violated [VCH]

1888
St John's Chapel Court added (N of Second Court) [16]

1889
Queens' new chapel (-91) [VCH]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Christ's Third Court began [VCH]

1889 11 22
Cavendish & New Hall inaugurated [2.23]

1890

1890
Trinity Hall Latham Building added [VCH]

1890 10 30
Clare College - largest fire in 30 years [1.2]

1891
Ridley Hall enlarged (had been opened 1881) [VCH]
Sidney Sussex new range parallel Sidney St [VCH]
New Hall right of way through ground closed by agreement town [VCH]

1892
Emmanuel House 1892-94 [VCH]
Fitzwilliam Hall opened: for members University who not members college; accepted 1869, known as non-collegiate [VCH]
Cavendish College closed (it had opened as the County College in 1873 to make university education available to students of limited means but ran into financial difficulties). Why Cavendish college was such a failure; a memoir of the early days – by Irene Lister – 63 12 13b

1893
King's Bodley's Court between Old Lodge & river, S & E ranges completed; others 1909, additions 1927; more than doubling number of sets [VCH]
New Hall Pfeiffer Building erected [VCH]

1894
Homerton College opens in Cavendish's old buildings [3.12]

1895
Training College for Women Teachers new building [13]

1896
St Edmund's House founded amid anti-Catholic controversy over residence of Catholic laymen at University [9.5, 15]

1897
Christ's front extended to Christ's Lane [VCH]

1897 05 25
Yesterday afternoon a ceremony of the deepest import to the Presbyterian Church of England took place at Cambridge when Mrs Lewis and Mrs Gibson jointly laid the foundation stone of the Westminster Theological College. A large number of people assembled on the site many of the visitors coming from a distance. The building will stand on the piece of ground between Madingley Road, Northampton Street and Pound Hill. The building is in the English Renaissance style 1897 05 25; opened 1899 [1.19, 3.8]

1898 03 14
Jesus College fire in rooms of undergraduate in third court. Room was filled with valuable furniture and large amount of unique china and pictures. The whole staircase will have to be practically rebuilt and what not damaged by fire was ruined by water 1898 03 14

1899
Girton College development between 1899-02 [VCH]

1899 05 18
The new Clergy Training School in Jesus Lane Cambridge was opened by the Bishop of Durham. It has been erected adjacent to All Saints Church at a cost of nearly £8000. The most experienced teachers in Cambridge have long felt a want of a centre to which the younger members might naturally turn when they wished for conference, or counsel, or sympathy in reference to the choice of their vocation in life. Many men of ability were lost to the Ministry of the church through the want of such opportunities for brotherly conference with men nearly of their own age. (Renamed Westcott House in 1904) 1899 05 18

1899 08 09
Once a year the good feeling existing at Pembroke College between members of the colleges and the servants is given expression to. In recent years, largely owing to the efforts of Mr A. Chapman, the butler, undergraduates and servants have united in a festive gathering in the Long Vacation, and it has now assumed the aspect of an annual affair. During the day a cricket match took place, the servants played in the ordinary way, while the collegians used broomsticks as bats. Dinner in hall followed and after this came a concert al fresco 1899 08 09

1899 10 09
On Saturday night the cooks left the kitchens at King's College, as they thought, safe, but P.C. Witham saw smoke coming through the roof. For fully two hours the fire brigade had their hands full. The staircase is quite burned down and access to the cook's room above is by means of ladders. On Sunday morning the cooks went to prepare the usual meals and members of the college were served as if nothing out of the ordinary had occurred 1899 10 09

1899 10 17
The formal opening took place of Westminster College, the theological college which the Presbyterian Church of England has established at Cambridge for the training of students for the ministry. It is a great thing that the work has been done so well in so short a time, but a much greater thing that the cost of building it – albeit over £40,000 has all been met. Professor Ryle, President of Queens', extended a welcome to the new college 1899 10 17

1900
1900 04 19
Cambridge Town Council were told a conference had been held between two members of the committee and the Master and Bursar of Emmanuel College with reference to the construction of a new street from Drummer Street to St Andrew's Street, and the closing and giving up of Emmanuel Street to the college.

1901
Caius houses on south side Rose Crescent purchased 1887 were rebuilt as St Michael's Court 1901-03 [VCH]

1901 04 18
Cambridge Council reported that in 1900 a meeting had been held with Emmanuel College as to the terms of exchange of the site of Emmanuel Street for a piece of ground to form a new street from St Andrews Street to Drummer Street. The existing street was the chief means of access to the centre of the town and carried a very considerable proportion of traffic with 1,030 cyclists on Saturday. The new road would be nearly 100 feet shorter and wider. Mr Campkin suggested the advantage would rest largely with the College.

1901 07 22
A fire occurred at St John's College, Cambridge and considerable damage was done before the outbreak was extinguished. The scene was the third court, where a bedroom and a sitting room on the top floor of the wing overlooking the river were completely burnt out. St John's college fire brigade were soon combating the flames which had secured a considerable hold upon the dry and inflammable material of the building and it is undoubtedly due to their efforts that the fire was not much more disastrous. It originated in the bedroom where a lighted candle was left on the chest of drawers CDN 1901 07 22

1905 06 22
In the more ancient parts of Cambridge colleges several students used to occupy one large room wherein they lived and slept; they had as private studies small partitioned-off spaces in the corner of the room, each having a window. These still exist but as students no longer live in groups they are now used for sleeping and dining. It is unfair to criticise them as if they had been originally designed as sleeping apartments. 05 06 22

1905 07 04
Christ's College is celebrating the 400th anniversary of its foundation and a host of past members have returned. Dignitaries of the church, members of parliament, men of eminence in the legal world and members of the learned professions are among the distinguished company of guests 05 07 04 a & b [VCH] [1.3]

1905 10 06
Cheshunt College opened its doors to theological students without any ceremonial. It was founded in 1768 by Selina, the Countess of Huntingdon, and is strictly undenominational. It moved to Cheshunt in 1792 where it was recognised by the University of London and has now transferred to Cambridge. Houses in Cintra Terrace, Hills Road, have been adapted for the 15 students; most will become members of the University and read for degrees. 05 10 06

1906
New Hall Kennedy building [VCH]

1906 01 30
Dr E. Atkinson of Clare College is the third Master of a Cambridge foundation who has held office for 50 year. Members of the college celebrated by the presentation of a portrait by Mr W.W. Onless. It shows him clad in University robes, reading a book. It has been an era of prosperity and growth, due in large measure to the harmonious relations between the Master and his Fellows. 06 01 30a-c

1906 02 22
In 1901 an agreement was made with Emmanuel College for the closing of Emmanuel Street and the opening of a new one nearer Christ's Lane. It had been needed when electric trams were being planned to remedy a dangerous corner with St Andrew's Street – but there would be a more

dangerous corner to the proposed new street. Now some councillors called for the agreement to be cancelled. However the council had entered a binding contract and they were honour-bound to carry it out.06 02 22a,b,c

1906 05 17
An agreement had been made between the Borough Council and Emmanuel College for the closure of Emmanuel Street and the creation of a new road further north. As a result the college had taken no steps to erect new buildings on the site of two dilapidated houses that had been pulled down and had lost ground rent for several years. Now the council had changed its mind. They should make compensation by providing, free of cost, a subway to link college property on either side of Emmanuel Street 06 05 17b & c

1907 09 07
The University has extended the area within which lodging-house licences will be granted as the number of Freshmen expected to take up residence is so large. That might seem good news for lodging-house keepers and traders generally but the real reason is the steady growth of the suburban areas. A comparison between lodging houses in some of our closely-packed central streets and those in the roomy, healthy suburbs is in favour of the latter. 07 09 07c

1907 11 04
An alarming fire occurred in a bedroom at Homerton College after one of the students placed a candle near an open window and left the room. On her return she found the curtains enveloped in a mass of flame. A tutor, hearing her scream, rushed into the room and managed to extinguish the flames with a patent fire extinguisher, The college fire alarm did not act efficiently, being heard in some parts and not in others. Thus while girls rushed out of the building in their night attire a dance in another part of the college continued. 07 11 04b

1908 07 24
A great deal of excitement was caused by a fire at Christ's College. Bert Holder, a butcher, noticed smoke issuing from the scullery and engine room window in Christ's Lane where the ceiling, which is of matchboarding, was well alight. Pc Fred Savidge and the head porter, Mr Chapman, fitted the college fire appliance to a hydrant and commenced to play on the flames, which were soon extinguished owing to the prompt action of the fire brigade and police force. CWN 08 07 24

1908 08 21
The funeral of Mr Fordham, head porter of Queens' College was marked by many signs of the respect in which he was held. A Cambridge man, he had been connected with the college for 35 years, having also served as the master's butler. As a last compliment to a trusted and respected servant the first part of the funeral service was conducted in Queens' College chapel. There were a large number of beautiful floral tributes, including one from the President and Fellows. CWN 08 08 21 p2

1908 12 18
At this period of the winter Cambridge generally experiences a slump in the building trade but there is one extensive building in progress, the extension of Magdalene College on the river side of the main block. Owing to the endowment of Mr Mynors Bright twelve new sets of rooms and a large lecture theatre will be added. The architects have been careful to keep the style of the new buildings in conformity with the old with a large bay window running from the ground to the roof. Undergraduates who keep there will have a pleasant outlook as their sitting rooms overlook the river CWN 08 12 18

1909 07 24
Trinity Hall new rooms in court bounded by Garret Hostel Lane & river [3.17]

1909 09 17
A new religious house has been founded at Cambridge. It will have no official connection with the University and be used for serious study. Its head is Father Waggett who gave a series of lectures which attracted considerable attention. The house in Malting Lane is a beautiful structure whose deeds date back to the time of Charles I. Its delightful old-world garden of nearly two acres would permit of ample additions in future years CWN 09 09 17

1910

1910
New Hall Peile Hall to complete main block college [VCH]

1910 10 28
A Clare College undergraduate, Mr R. Chadwick Leach, had an exciting experience early on Saturday morning, his sitting room burning fiercely while he was fast asleep in the bedroom adjoining. The fire was discovered by a bedmaker who called some undergraduates and they at some risk to themselves roused Mr Leach from his sleep. The rooms on 'C' staircase comprise a bedroom and sitting room which are made secure by a door on the landing. He went to bed about midnight, leaving a small fire in the grate. The contents of the sitting room were completely destroyed and the damage must be considerable 10 10 28a

1910 11 15
A cook at Clare College claimed compensation for an injury sustained through a fall in the college kitchen. The man, who was a 'roast cook', had been carrying a double-handed boiler when he trod on a piece of stick and fell. The boiler struck him in the pit of the stomach exacerbating a rupture he'd sustained three years earlier. Since the accident he'd been paid sixteen shillings weekly, half his usual earnings. His claim was dismissed. 10 11 15d & e

1911 07 22
Great deal of rebuilding in connection with University, most notable Emmanuel expansion which envisaged closure of Emmanuel St with Council making new road elsewhere; council change mind but install underpass to link new buildings with old [3.19, 3.20]

1911 09 02
Trinity rooms on Queen's Gate side of Great Court dismantled & modern fittings substituted for medieval interiors [3.21]

1912 03 08
University lodging-house keepers have been venting their grievances. One woman has three sets of rooms; if she lets them all the year she gets £84. For rent, rates, taxes and wages of servant she pays £53; that leaves her £31 for whitewashing, papering, staircloth, carpet etc and for food and clothes for herself. But this term all the rooms are empty. However in Chesterton there are many householders who let rooms to undergraduates; when they come part of Cambridge will the rateable values of their houses be increased? Lodging housekeepers should form themselves into a trades union. 12 03 08f

1912 10 12

Queens' College new building stands on the site of a row of almshouses founded by the first President of the college, Andrew Dokett. Architecturally they were of no value and their removal can scarcely be regretted. His charitable bequest will be continued as weekly pensions. Planned on traditional lines forming three sides of a court with the main façade to Queens' Lane, they provide accommodation for 26 undergraduates as well as the Bursar's rooms, guest room and clerks' offices. They were built by Rattee and Kett in a remarkably short time for such first-class work. 12 10 04h [VCH]

1913 01 17
St Catharine's College proposal erect fourth side 13 01 17 p9 CIP

1913 01 31
Christ's College undergrad room fire,

1913 05 16
Clare College fire, library in danger

1913 06 13
The foundation stone of the new Cheshunt College buildings in Bateman Street was laid by the Lord Chancellor. The college was formed in 1768 by Selina Countess of Huntingdon to prepare men for evangelistic work and its students can enter any church. It moved to Hills Road Cambridge in 1905 and is now attached to the University. Most of its students take the Theological Tripos. A number have risen to eminence as missionaries in the foreign field 13 06 13 p7 CIP [4.1]

1913 06 13
Suffrage attack St John's College library 13 06 20 p8 CIP

1913 06 20
A servant of Trinity College, employed as a Gyp, died suddenly on the staircase at Whewell's Court. A Porter saw him standing on the carpet fetching up blood, then start to go to the gyp room to get a cup of water, but he could not manage it. The job was an active one, involving a lot of running up and down staircases and he had been advised not to over-exert himself. A few weeks ago he'd attempted to stop a runaway horse drawing a trap containing several children in Trumpington Street and the exertion probably hastened his death. 13 06 20 p8 CIP

1913 06 20
Peterhouse kitchen fire 13 06 20 p8 CIP

1913 11 21
The Fire escape and engine responded to the alarm of a blaze at St John's College where they found a bonfire burning in second court to celebrate the victory of a rower in the Colquhoun Sculls. Fireworks were discharged and a crowd gathered to watch the glare through the chapel windows. Later a fire broke out in a wicker chair in an undergraduate's room. It is thought a spark from the bonfire may have blown through the window, or a lighted cigarette dropped in the chair. 13 11 21 p11 CIP

1914
When war broke out Pembroke began giving elementary war training in college; War Office objected but worked well & officially adopted; this origin of 1st Officers training school & other

colleges used later; Pembroke at once offer buildings without reservation & one of last to be freed by War Office [VCH]
King's & Clare cricket ground occupied military, sold University 1925 [VCH]
Emmanuel North Court opened [VCH]

1914 09 19
Cheshunt College opening postponed due to War [4.2]

1914 10 16
Ridley Hall chapel extension & memorial windows opened 14 10 16

1914 12 11
Fire at Trinity College on the third and top floors of L block in New Court. Prompt measure were taken to cope with the fire, college porters attaching a hosepipe to the hydrant and directing a steady stream of water on the flames. The Fire Brigade were called and 20 firemen were in attendance. The upstairs rooms became fiercely ablaze, and the flames attacked the landing of the staircase. The room was completely burnt out and a hole was made in the roof. The fire penetrated to other rooms in K block of buildings and two sets were destroyed and the roof was considerably damaged. Other rooms were damaged by heat, smoke and water. 14 12 11 CIPof

1915 02 05
Cheshunt College. The dedication of new buildings at Cheshunt College, Cambridge, took place on Tuesday afternoon. A service was held in the Lecture Room, and an address was given by the Rev. Principal Selbie. The total cost of the buildings, apart from the cost of the land, including all expenses, is just over £18,000 and the total donations paid and those promised amount to £14,500 15 02 05 CIPof

1915 10 29
Cheshunt College opening commemoration 15 10 29 p5 CIP

1915 11 10
Cardinal Bourne at Cambridge. His Eminence Cardinal Bourne. Archbishop of Westminster, visited Cambridge on Friday and blessed the foundation stone of the chapel being erected at St. Edmund's House. St. Edmund's House, Cambridge was established in 1896. The purpose is to provide an extended university course for Roman Catholic priests and ecclesiastical students. The Duke of Norfolk is the founder and St. Edmund's is under the control of the Hierarchy being managed by a body composed of Clergy and laity of which the Duke of Norfolk is the president. The present master is the Rev. Father T. L. Williams 15 11 10 CIPof [3.7]

1916 02 23
Henry Charles Phupps, butler of Clare College completes 50 years; butler has rooms in college; seen many changes ; in 1878 Prince of Wales drove carriage and pair through college courts and was first person to smoke in the hall – 16 02 23a

1916 05 17
Miss E.C. Jones, Mistress of Girton – profile – 16 05 17b

1916 10 25
Matriculation showed that the number of Freshmen who have entered this Term is 156. Three years ago we had become accustomed to count the new members of the University in four figures, but we must be grateful for small mercies. We badly miss the stream of vigorous youth,

whose annual incursions rejuvenated Cambridge and kept us from remarking the advance of age or becoming fossilised in ways or opinions. The stream is running so small now that we hardly notice its presence, but it has not altogether stopped, and is helping the University to carry on the work of the intellectual mill. The "Cambridge Review" estimates that the number of undergraduates who will be in residence this Term - men of all years - will be 444. In the Michaelmas Term of 1913 there were 3,263 under-graduates in residence, and the total had remained around these figures for several years, so it would seem that the war has reduced the roll of students of this University to nearly seven-eighths below the normal, and we are afraid we have not yet touched bottom. In spite of the numerical and financial difficulties, the teaching staff are making heroic endeavours to maintain the standards, and the course of lectures which have been arranged are really wonderful under the circumstances. 16 10 25 CIPof

1919
King's; Lord Keynes bursar 1919-46 & his financial genius & own bequests ranks him after King Henry as greatest benefactor in history of college [VCH]

1919 08 06
Girton College jubilee celebration – detailed article – 19 08 06d

1920

1920 10 13
St Catharine's College grove of elms cut down – photos – notes on site - Ch 20 10 13d
Well discovered, don lowered down – Ch 20 12 08

1921 08 17
Caius College fire in rafters – 21 08 17c

1921 09 26
Westminster College chapel dedicated – gift of Sir William Noble – 21 09 26f

1922
New buildings erected at Pembroke, Jesus, Downing, Sidney, Magdalene, Clare & King's spread to other side of Queen's Road.
Caius redevelops north side Market Hill

1923
Sidney Sussex another range Masters Garden [VCH]
Following Grace 1921 ordinances approved admitting women to title degrees & limiting numbers Girton & Newnham to 500 [VCH]

1924 05 01
Through the munificence of Sir Charles and Lady Walston, handsome iron gates in the early English style have been erected at the entrance to the King's College grounds on the Backs. Sir Charles presented them to the college. Mr A W Elwood the maker of the gates, presented the key to Lady Walston who opened them c24 05 05

1924 10 18
The beginning of term finds King's College chapel out of action. A more dreary scene of ruin than the appearance of the choir could not be imagined. But it is only due to the insertion of hot water pipes and radiators underneath. Meanwhile the striking line of side chapels provides at once

an altar and a church and thus has the unique experience of possessing the choir all to itself 24 10 18

1924 11 10
An interesting and impressive Armistice Day service was held at Clare College. The service preceded the opening of a memorial building – and extension of the college – and the unveiling by the Chancellor of the University of the roll of honour of 198 men of Clare College who fell in the war. The building was designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott. The ceremony included a simple commemoration, which the college has undertaken to perpetuate. The deed requires that every year on 11th November the Fellows and undergraduates, properly gowned, should assemble and the Master deposit a wreath. 24 11 10

1925
Peterhouse new Hostel across road [VCH]
Magdalene Mallory court [VCH]

1925 10 24
Wesley House, the new Wesleyan Methodist post-graduate theological college which has risen on a site in Jesus Lane, was formally opened. It was five years ago that the Wesleyan Methodist Conference decided to set up the college at Cambridge and a site was purchased from Jesus college. The architect, Sir Aston Webb, has carried out a pleasing design in red brick. The building comprises accommodation for 29 students. The work of the college has been carried on for the past four years in hired buildings

1926
Peterhouse revised statues, like other colleges [VCH]
Pembroke extend Hall [VCH]
Trinity Hall Bond Building joining Thornton & Latham over old entrance gates [VCH]

1926 07 12
Princess May visits Clare new buildings as they celebrate 600th anniversary [2.5]

1927
Jesus chapel court 1927-30 [VCH]

1927 07 16
It will interest many people to know that the authorities of King's College propose pulling down the railings in front of the college on King's Parade but are a little timid about what might follow this step and have consulted the Town Council. The Watch Committee was asked to enter into an agreement not to take any portion of the land between the railings and the college buildings for a parking place. They have reassured the college that they have no power to establish parking places on private property.

1927 08 06
The death took place of Mr Edwin Samuel Fisher, who was head of Downing College kitchen for nearly 50 years, having commenced his career at the early age of 13 when he became an apprentice in St John's College kitchen. While still at school he had worked under the famous chef M. Bruvet when he presided over the Downing kitchen. Mr Fisher had a very trying time during the war, at the outset of which the college suddenly was called upon to house some 90 Territorial nurses, for whom meals had to be provided in the college hall, and later he had, under

great difficulty owing to rationing, to provide in a similar fashion for officer cadet battalions. 27 08 06

1928 03 03
Magdalene College hopes that a start will soon be made on the building of a new court on the opposite side of the Street. Plans have been drawn up for a three-sided brick court open to the river, traditional in style. The flank parallel with Magdalene Street will not interfere with the existing shops, but the thoroughfare is long overdue for widening and from the remodelled bridge there would then be a noble prospect of the new court with a lawn or gravel forecourt separated from the pavement by a low parapet. 28 03 03

1928 05 04
The Headmaster's house at the Leys School had a narrow escape during a storm when an elm tree standing about 40 feet from the house was struck by lightning. Although there is a large cedar tree between the house and the elm, the explosion was so severe that 13 windows were broken. The tree appears to have escaped much damage as it is still standing, through good-sized pieces of bark have been stripped off two sides. Queens' College chapel was also struck and the top of the small cross of the west end was knocked off.

1928 05 17
Undergraduates were packed like sardines in a tin at the Cambridge Police court when King's College and Trinity College were fined for employing male servants without having in force licences as required. It was unthinkable that such bodies should attempt to evade payment but they had received no reminder from the County Hall. This was not an acceptable excuse: they were large and responsible bodies accustomed to regularly employing a number of servants and should be more scrupulous than ordinary citizens to see the duties were paid in proper 28 05 17

1928 08 14
Cambridge has lost a popular and familiar figure by the death of Mr James 'Jessie' Collins. He had an intimate knowledge of the antecedents and lives of almost every one of the inhabitants of 'The Boro' – the Castle End district - and was a character quite of his own. For 40 years he was employed at St John's College, rising from the position of shoe black to deputy head porter. He will be buried from St John's College, which he has served so faithfully and so long and today he lies in state in the college chapel – a fitting end to a remarkable life 28 08 14

1929 02 14
A serious fire broke out at Caius College, Cambridge. Two rooms in Tree Court were completely gutted and others badly damaged. Policemen attracted by the blowing of a whistle in Trinity Street got a hydrant in the courtyard to work and the Fire Brigade was quickly on the scene but the inside of the building was almost a furnace. The fire was quickly got under but not before considerable damage had been done, including the falling in of a large part of the ceiling. The firemen experienced bad conditions owing to the intense cold, the water froze on their clothing and icicles were left hanging from the ledges 29 02 14

1930

1930
Magdalene Benson Court started [VCH]

1930 07 05

The policy of building more rooms in college and drawing in as many men from the lodging houses is creating a serious outlook for the lodging-house keepers. Many have been told their rooms will not be required next term. If the University cannot continue to utilise services which came into existence to serve their needs some then other employment will be needed. If the University ceases to provide adequate support Cambridge will have no alternative but to seek other means of livelihood. We will be loath to see the town industrialised but people must live. 30 07 05b

1930 09 03
Another example of the 'new Cambridge' in the making is the extensive site on which Magdalene College intends erecting an imposing new wing. It is at the rear of the Pickerel and Cross Keys yards originally occupied by Bird's vinegar and mustard factory. Mallory Court will provide the principal access but eventually a complete transformation will be effected by the demolition of all the property between the bridge and Northampton Street making Magdalene Street a broad and handsome thoroughfare. 30 09 03c

1930 11 04
It was with a certain amount of trepidation that I called on the Mistress of Girton College, Miss E.H. Major, for this little article. "Ten minutes" I said to the driver of the car that had taken me out. It was two hours before I started on the return journey. For I had been received by a most sympathetic woman in a room harmonious, of gracious proportions, with dishes of woodland flowers on the table; cakes and coffee and cigarettes had been offered to me in friendliness. We touched upon everything under the sun, from starvation in Ruthenia to the making of the college gardens 30 11 04a

1930 11 11
It was in the state of mind anticipating moral extinction that I tapped on the door of the portress at Newnham College and asked if I could see the Principal's secretary. Within five minutes Miss Strachey had herself received me. Here was no austere 'school marm' but a charming, well-dressed, quite feminine woman of the world, with a sense of humour and the blessed gift of putting nervous people at their ease. She is a great educationalist but also a most charming and modest lady 30 11 11a

1930 11 18
Miss M. Allan, principal of Homerton College is a pioneer of a radical method of training teachers for elementary schools. She came to Cambridge in 1903 and her aim is to combine academic and psychological learning, the bodies of her students are developed as well as their minds and music, art, the drama as well as science and philosophy are contained in the curriculum. She may, indeed must, in so large a community rule sometimes with a hand not always gloved with velvet but the softness of understanding is ever present and she has retained much of the spirit of youth 30 11 18a

1931
Jesus College Victoria Ave entrance gates [VCH]

1931 03
Sheep brought to graze on back lawn of King's for first time in 50 years [2.17]

1932
Pembroke 3rd Masters Lodge [VCH]

1932 02
Memorial gates at Jesus completed [2.18]

1932 04 13
Large new buildings designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens are part of a comprehensive extension scheme by Magdalene College on land originally occupied by Bird's vinegar and mustard factory. For two years it has been one of Cambridge's biggest building contracts but the comparative obscurity of the site has kept it out of the public eye. Eventually the whole of the west side of Magdalene Street from the bridge to Northampton Street will be cleared for reconstruction with a more imposing bridge and a further college wing at right angles to the present one. 32 04 13

1932 04 16
St Catharine's was one of the colleges whose elaborate extension schemes met with a setback through the war. There was to have been a full elevation to Trumpington Street with a completely enclosed court beyond. Now the porter's lodge will be replaced, the cobbles removed and the whole area sown with grass to give a more balanced frontage. It is eight years since that the elm trees, which formed a grove, were cut down. 32 04 16

1932 05 18
Overnight two unfurled umbrellas were securely tied to the pinnacles of King's College chapel so they stood straight up. The college called a window cleaner to remove them, but despite his long ladder he was unable to get within ten feet. Two undergraduates went on the roof with shotguns and endeavoured to shoot them down. One fell but the other proved more difficult. The shots knocked the handle sideways. For some hours it floated gracefully from side to side in the wind like some gigantic weathercock. 32 05 18

1932 10 07
It was an important day in the history of Downing College when the Lord Chancellor opened a block of new buildings. In 1910 undergraduates had petitioned for a chapel to replace the small upper room in which religious services were held, then a former member directed in his will that a chapel, library and livings rooms be provided. New gates in Tennis Court Lane commemorating the tragic death of Prof. Kenny were also opened. 32 10 07bb

1933 03 15
Serious damage was prevented at Peterhouse when an undergraduate awoke in the early hours of the morning and notices flames in the window of the Junior Combination Room. The head porter, Mr Barnes, was called and the water hose was brought into action. The fire was got in hand so quickly that many of the undergraduates did not know there had been a blaze until breakfast time. Slight damage was done to some 14th-century beams and an oar. A cigarette end is believed to have been the cause of the outbreak. 33 03 15b

1933 06 21
Stanley Baldwin at Selwyn College jubilee (had been founded in 1882 on Church of England principles for men of moderate means & recognised by University following year) – 33 06 21

1933 08 26
Christ's College room renovations for C.P. Snow – 33 08 26

1934
Trinity Hall area between range & Garret Hostel land, small N court 1934-36 [VCH]

1934 07 23
Police refused entrance Pembroke College – 34 07 23

1934 08 01
Gonville and Caius College's scheme for the complete rebuilding of the block of shops and houses on the north side of Cambridge Market Hill has been finally approved. At present the site from Rose Crescent to St Mary's Court is occupied by a group of houses, mostly of the 18th century. Their disappearance will be regretted, even by those who knew how dilapidated they had become behind their neat Georgian facades. But the whole effect of the completed block should stifle these regrets. The shops will be set back seven feet with upper rooms carried on slender pillars. 34 08 01 [VCH]

1934 08 28
The renovations to St John's College have been the subject of much comment in 'The Times'. It was suggested that the two turrets at the front were in imminent danger of falling away from the main tower because of a system of main drainage 30 years ago when a trench 30 feet deep was dug along the street. But there is no evidence of settlement due to foundation trouble. The walls had shattered because of vibrations caused by street traffic. 34 08 28

1935
Clare Memorial Court finished (began 1922) [VCH]

1935 03 05
Queens' College propose building Silver Street replacing picturesque cottages inhabited by college servants 35 03 05a

1935 05 22
Queens' College – demolition in Silver Street for new extensions – 35 03 05a, 35 05 22

1935 95 25
Christ's College library new stained glass window to William Skeat - 35 05 25

1935 09 13
Last year, when the front of St John's College was restored the two gateway turrets facing St John's Street were demolished and rebuilt; now the turrets within the court are being renovated. Restoration work has disclosed old oak panelling. The discovery was made after repairs to the roof on the east side of the first court had revealed damage by the death-watch beetle, necessitating the removal of a number of the original oak beams. On the other side of the court the parapet over the offices and the dining hall has been rebuilt and the brickwork re-pointed and replaced where necessary. Handmade bricks of the 16th century were obtained to match the original work. The entire face of the building has been washed down by hand, only hard brushes and softened water being used. [Cambridge Standard 13th September 1935]

1935 09 14
Peterhouse – the oldest Cambridge foundation – was threatened by a fire which broke out in a staircase in Gisbourne Court early in the morning. The Master, Sir William Birdwood (70) was one the scene from the start and did not leave until everything was safe, two hours later. Staircase H which contains six sets of rooms, was extensively damaged and several hundred books ruined. Its cause remains a mystery for the staircase, which is not far from the old Noah's Ark staircase, has been unoccupied since August 35 09 14b

1935 10 05
The Trinity Lane corner of Caius College was left black in the cleaning operations that have been taken place during the Vacation. This was to show the contrast. Now it is receiving attention like the rest of the building. Messrs Johnson and Bailey say it was impossible to erect scaffolding owing to the traffic down Trinity Lane so it had to be done piecemeal from ladders. The excellent result has been achieved simply by the use of water and stiff scrubbing brushes. 35 10 05a

1936
King's Peas Hill Hostel completed [VCH]

1936 01 11
With its purchase of the Strensham Court Estate of 2,800 acres near Tewkesbury, Corpus Christi is following the examples of the richest Cambridge College. Trinity, which has an income of £80,000 a year, bought 4,000 acres of agricultural land in Suffolk two years ago. However King's, whose finances have flourished exceedingly under the bursarship of Maynard Keynes, prefer to invest in urban rather than agricultural properties. After the war they held estates in fifteen counties but these have been greatly reduced and they recently bought a valuable site close to the Middlesex Hospital. 36 01 11a

1936 04 01
Queens' College new building – photo – 36 04 01b

1936 06 27
Repairs at King's College chapel due to chemical atmosphere [1.7]

1937
Magdalene College demolish Fishers Lane as first stage of its new plans

1937 03 04
Miss Lilian Clarke gave a lantern lecture on 'Lady Margaret and her two colleges' in the Reference Room of the Central Library. She drew on her wonderful store of knowledge of bygone Cambridge with many interesting anecdotes that kept her large audience entertained. Recently it has been found that the main gate of St John's College was being rattled down by the heavy lorries which passed through the narrow streets every night. It will be necessary to rebuild, but there are problems in getting bricks to match 37 03 04

1937 04 29
Parts of Newnham College known as 'The Slums' include a number of small dark bedrooms which get no light at all and from which the view consists of a blank wall. Owing to congestion and overcrowding these are now used as students' bed-sitting-rooms. Some bathrooms are used for washing crockery and there is insufficient accommodation for food and coal storage. But some new rooms are large and light with basins fitted with hot and cold water. 37 04 29b

1937 10 20
An undergraduate of Peterhouse, Cambridge's oldest college, awoke coughing because of smoke and rushed through his burning sitting room to report the outbreak. Another occupant on the same floor attempted to put out the fire assisted by Mr S. Wilderspin, a porter. The Fire Brigade cut away floor boards to extinguish the blaze caused by a defective fire-place. The whole of the floor together with furniture and a wireless set was ruined. A club room beneath, situated in one of the oldest parts of the college dating back to the 15th century, was damaged by water. Another blaze of a much more serious nature occurred nearby about two years ago 37 10 20b photo 37 10 20

1938 04 20
'Desperate measures' are needed to save part of Queens' College where the river wall of the Essex block is in a severe state. It is absolutely necessary to deposit a bank against the wall to avert a disaster and when made temporarily safe the foundations will have to be underpinned, the Cam Conservators heard. There was concern that Silver Street Bridge might also be slightly under-mined and it should be rebuilt when money was available. 38 04 20a

1938 04 30
The proposed new buildings for St John's College involve the immediate erection of buildings to complete the present Chapel Court with wings projecting beyond to the north and east. These should be ready for occupation by Michaelmas 1939, including 50 undergraduates and ten fellows' sets of rooms. There will be an open court facing Bridge Street should the houses eventually be taken down and the road widened and ultimately a riverside court overlooking Magdalene 38 04 30 & a

1938 06 22
Queens' College have to underpin the foundations of the Essex Buildings and may rebuild it further from the road instead of on its present alignment. They asked whether the Corporation wished to acquire the land released and expedite the rebuilding of Silver Street Bridge. This could be widened to 40 feet instead of 28 feet as present. The erection of new college buildings and the construction of the bridge would proceed at the same time with the bridge completed by October 1939 38 06 22

1938 07 27
Silver Street Bridge was at present 21ft 6ins wide. Some years ago the Council bought land on the south side to enable it to be increased to 28ft when re-building was done. But it was unnecessary to increase it to 40ft as the road beside the old buildings of Queens' College could not be widened. Now the college wanted to redevelop and had offered land provided the bridge was widened – 38 07 23a & b Borough council decide to apply for funding – 38 07 27

1938 08 12
Queen Mary named the first block of the new buildings at Newnham College after Professor and Mrs Fawcett and their daughter Philippa. It was at the Fawcett's house in December 1869 that the first meeting was held to discuss plans which resulted in the foundation of the college. Twenty-one years later Miss Philippa Fawcett justified her parents' faith by being placed above the Senior Wrangler in the Mathematical Tripos. She was amongst the guests and was presented to the Queen who has taken the keenest interest in the College 38 08 12 [2.20]

1938 12 10
Queens' College have commenced a Chancery Court action against Cambridge Corporation seeking to prevent them from diverting the Cam at the sluice near the former King's and Bishop's mill so as to undermine the college buildings in Silver Street and seeking £5,150 damages for damage already caused. The Town Clerk has been instructed to protect the Corporation's interest and take any action advised by their counsel 38 12 10

1939 02 11
King's College old pump and fountain – notes – 39 02 11b

1939 04 25

The Central Cinema, Hobson Street, was burnt to a shell in the early hours of the morning. Only the fire-proof operating box, the foyer, crush hall and some of the back stalls remain intact. Firemen hauled hoses up to the roof of the Dorothy Café and from the high ladder of the Merryweather turntable in Hobson Street P.C. Kelly poured another stream of water on to the flames. But after an hour-and-a-half the roof fell in amid a shower of sparks. There was concern about Christ's College chapel where the roof had been removed because of damage done by the death watch beetle and only a tarpaulin covered the wooden ceiling. But a shower of rain helped to prevent it catching alight 39 04 25a, b

1939 06 23
A Royal Institute of British Architect's plaque was unveiled on the new Caius College building in St Michael's Court and a medal presented to the architect, J. Murray Easton. At no time have more buildings of distinguished character been erected and yet many buildings are not very pleasant t live in and certainly unpleasant to look at. This was due to lack of public appreciation of beautiful architecture. Accepting the plaque, the Master said that the building was very popular among the undergraduates. 39 06 23

1939 09 05
Cambridge is getting into its war stride. After-dark bus services are curtailed owning to lighting restrictions, no cinemas are open and public libraries close at sunset. Banking hours are now 10 to two on weekdays and delays may occur in the collection of cheques. Various museums are taking steps to protect exhibits from damage and already half of the stained glass in the east window of King's College Chapel has been removed. It is being packed and taken to a place of safety. The remaining 23 windows are being left as they are, owing to the enormous nature of the task of removing the glass. 39 09 05a

1939 09 21
King's College Chapel glass removed – photo – 39 09 21

1939 10 07
Demolition of part of St John's College, Bridge Street – 39 10 07a

1939-45
RAF took Pembroke New Court & fire occurred but rebuilding gave better accommodation [VCH]

1940

1940
Peterhouse small building Fen Court [VCH]
St John's Bridge Street rebuilding [VCH]

1940 03 30
Trinity College clock speeded up during renovation making the feat of running around Great Court whilst it chiming twelve more difficult [1.9]

1940 07 02
Clare College railing removed for munitions – photo – 40 07 02b

1941 03 22
Pembroke College fire cases extensive damage to north wing – 41 03 22

1941 06 24
Potatoes grown on lawns of St John's College, Bridge Street – 41 06 24, photo 24a

1942 09 17
St John's College gateway Bridge Street decorative additions – eagles placed on gateway – 42 09 17

1943 12 31
Magdalene College fire, started boiler room spread to upper part of the building which abuts the river; part of floor collapsed – 43 12 31

1944 01 01
Magdalene College fire in building now used as boiler room and store; the college pump brought into action, flames leapt through roof, extinguished by NFS – 44 01 01

1944 03 18
Montgomery claims his father leaped up steps at Trinity College in one bound [1.10]

1944 08 18
'Journey Together' film made by RAF for RAF features scenes in St John's College – 44 08 18b a

1944 12 28
Christ's College fire quickly extinguished; prevents major damage – 44 12 28

1945 01 05
Minister praised efficiency with which NFS tackled fire Christ's College – flames coming through one of the oldest roofs 45 01 05

1945 02 23
Two rooms in a block at New Court, Trinity College, Cambridge, were severely damaged on Saturday by a fire which also destroyed valuable files and documents. One room, on the ground floor, was occupied by the Rural Land Utilisation Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the other, on the first floor, by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England), and it was in this second room that records of work done during the last three years was destroyed. Very heavy smoke, which spread by communicating passages and staircases to the offices of the Ministry of Fuel and Power in an adjoining block, was encountered by the N.F.S., but they succeeded in keeping the flames from spreading. Six fire appliances were in action, and an oxygen breathing apparatus were also used in fighting the outbreak 45 02 23 CIPof

1945 12 29
Scaffolding erected as King's College replaces East window [1.11]

1946 01 19
Council to settle claim of Queens' College for damage to buildings as result of works carried out by Corporation many years ago – 46 01 19

1946 05 20
Fire in Old Court Corpus Christi College in building dating from 1352; NFS arrive quickly; if left longer the whole court might have been destroyed – 46 05 20

1947
Grace admitting women full membership University & constituting Newnham a College [VCH] Girton & Newnham admitted as colleges within University as women admitted to fully equal status with men [3.14]

1947 06 07
Trinity College celebrates 400th anniversary [1.12]

1947 06 30
Pembroke College, Cambridge has celebrated its Sexcentenary. The celebrations took the form of a luncheon and garden party during which valuable manuscripts and college plate were on show. The display of college plate included two irreplaceable cups. One has a curse associated with it. This is the Anathema cup. It bears the inscription "Who shall alienate it, let him be anathema". For this reason when, during the Civil War, all the College silver was sent to the King, the lid only was sent, and the Cup kept back to defeat the curse 47 06 30 [VCH]

1948 06 07
The Queen came to join in the celebration of the 500th anniversary of the foundation of Queens' College, Cambridge. Exactly on time the Royal car was seen coming round the last curve in the road from Hauxton and only the strong arms of the members of the Cambridge Police Force prevented the crowd from surging into the road. But even they were not strong enough to hold the crowd back once the car had stopped and within a few seconds it was completely surrounded so that Her Majesty, even if she decided otherwise, was forced to remain in the car 48 06 07

1949
Training College for Women Teachers changes name to Hughes Hall after first principal as becomes recognised institution; had been founded 1885 in Newnham, expanded; new buildings 1895 [VCH,13]

1949 01 15
Corpus Christi celebrate first Queensborough Feast [1.21]

1949 07 20
People living in the vicinity of Newnham College have watched with interest the building operations being carried out there. The new porters' lodge will take the place of the original entrance – with its beautiful bronze gates – in Newnham Walk. Over it is the college's first real lecture room, lectures having previously been given in the main hall. The building is extremely modern in style and provides an interesting break in Sidgwick Avenue 49 07 20

1949 08 15
Christ's College building for 40 undergraduates [2.2]

1949 12 17
Trinity Hall celebrate 600th anniversary [2.3]

1950

1950 02 09
When fire broke out in A-block of Jesus College, Cambridge the occupant found his room and corridor full of smoke. He jumped out of a window on to the flat roof of the porter's lodge below.

The undergraduate's sudden landing roused the night porter who gave the alarm. Tongues of flame were soon licking through the roof, part of which fell in before the brigade got the fire under control. A-block is one of the oldest parts of the college, which was founded in 1496 50 02 09

1950 03 04
Downing celebrate 150th anniversary [2.4]

1950 09 28
King's open buildings, West Rd [2.6, 7.18]

1951
St Catharine's College Woodlark building on site old Porters Lodge (numbers quadruple since 1918) [VCH]
Christ's Chancellors Building & Memorial building added 3rd court (& 53) [VCH]

1951 04 21
A Royal welcome greeted the King and Queen when they arrived for their visit to King's College chapel thanksgiving service for its restoration and the replacement of windows removed for safety during the war. The car flying the Royal standard drew up to the city boundary at Newmarket Road. Many mothers from nearby houses brought their children along with little flags and some enterprising onlookers climbed on to one of Marshall's buildings to get a bird's eye view. Carried away by their enthusiasm many toddlers continued to cheer and wave small Union Jacks long after the Royal party had passed 51 04 21 [2.7]

1951 05 01
Over the last few decades St John's College grounds in the Backs have suffered severely from the loss of trees by decay, storm damage and elm disease. A survey showed there were many trees so diseased that they might fall down at any time, including most of those in the remains of the Avenue leading to Queen's Road. A comprehensive scheme for replanting has been adopted. In place of the former elms a new avenue of limes will be planted.

1951 05 19
Christ's College arms painted, p7

1951 05 31
Senate House cleaned [2.8]

1951 10 06
Trinity College has had the heraldic shields over the Great Gate repainted and the statue of King Henry VIII has at last been furnished with a proper sceptre. This has taken the place of the common or garden chair leg that has for years been fixed in the right hand of the effigy. When a similar redecoration was carried out between the two world wars the chair leg was regilded and solemnly replaced. Now a wrong has been righted and King Henry is no longer the custodian of the remains of a piece of kitchen furniture! 51 10 06

1952 01 30
Does the best food go to the colleges? Miss R.N. Small, the first woman Steward of Caius College, was asked. Most colleges like to trade with local shops and the quality had its ups and downs. The college could not afford to give poultry to undergraduates more than once a term. While Fellows could give dinner parties in their own rooms, undergraduates were only allowed

the facility during May Week when she made an all-out effort to help the men who wish to impress other people. It was the custom these days for undergraduates to work off their hospitality by means of stand-up sherry parties. 52 01 30

1952 02 04
Nearly 1,000 college servants in Cambridge are being urged to join a trade union – and enjoy the benefits of a first-ever "College Servants' Charter" as a result of the Industrial Disputes Tribunal decision affecting more than 80 workers at Gonville and Caius college. Circulars are going out from the Transport and General Workers' Union to college employees, including bedmakers, cleaners, porters and gardeners impressing on them the importance of "getting together". Since the wage claim at Caius was first submitted individual pay has gone up in some cases by as much as £1 12.6. a week. A kitchen porter now gets £4.15s.0d. minimum, a maximum of £5. A buttery man who received £5 now gets £6.7s.6d. There has been a £1 a week increase for cooks. 52 02 04

1952 10
Downing College open new buildings [2.19]

1953 01 17
A new type of draught excluder fitted to a Trinity College undergraduates' sitting room was so effective that nobody was aware it was on fire. The occupant was sleeping peacefully while in the adjoining room furniture and floorboards were ablaze. Smoke pouring from the fire was prevented from penetrating to the bedroom by the draught excluders recently fitted. The sound of crackling timbers woke a student on the floor below who gave the alarm. Undergraduates from other rooms on the staircase ran to safety but it was only after a ladder was raised to the first-storey 53 01 17

1953 02 04
Varsity, the university student magazine, reports that the rooms in women's colleges may be poky, unsuitably furnished and dimly lighted but they are not dowdy. At Newnham all the rooms are attractive but dim lighting and inadequate heating are the main faults and there is a dearth of food cupboards. Male visitors may be shocked to see that their hostess keeps food and crockery in her wardrobe together with damp towels and that the desk drawers contain undies. At Girton some rooms contain antique furnishings which give an air of luxury but others are completely modern with unique mobiles and original paintings by Avante Garde artists. 53 02 04

1953 06 30
"Downing College now stands essentially complete" remarked the Lord Chancellor, when he opened the new Greystone buildings. Remarking on the generosity of the many benefactors, he said it was only recently due to the bounty of Sidney Greystone that it was possible to complete the wing and chapel now opened. They were still left with a gap but all that was needed to raise £24,000 was for 1,200 Downing men to contribute one shilling a week under covenant for seven years. Otherwise the college would have to dip into its capital, which was already perilously small.

1954
Magdalene First Court cement facing etc replaced [VCH] 1954

1954 04 30
A new tower being built at Christ's College, Hobson Street, Cambridge was slightly damaged by fire. It is believed to have been caused by heat from a small fire used for copper soldering which

ignited the scaffolding and the base of the new tower. The builders working on the tower could not get down. It was well alight and the fire was beginning to spread into the college when the brigade arrived. A major pump, pump escape and turntable ladder were used to extinguish the blaze and they had it under control in eight minutes 54 04 30

1954 10 06
A new chapter in Cambridge University history has opened on an informal note at New Hall, the third foundation for women, where the first 16 students are now in residence. They drew lots for the rather Spartan bedrooms while a 'combination' room is being used for (voluntary) morning services – there is no chapel - and other activities. A rather gloomy downstairs study room is well-equipped with desks and chairs and nearby is an out-of-doors wringer of hefty make. "We can do our own washing and save on laundry bills", said Miss Angela Holder, a petite, attractive Freshman, giving the handle an experimental turn. Miss A.R. Murray, the tutor, says she welcomes the building – a converted guest house - as a temporary home but looks forward to moving to Byron House in 1960 54 10 06 [2.14, 8.6]

1955 05 12
A gaping hole, nine feet in circumference and about a foot deep, was blown in the path beside Trinity College Bridge last night. It is believed that a stick of dynamite was used as a student said he heard a terrific explosion and the building shook. The explosion caused leaves to be blown off trees nearby. This is the third time within a year that a deep pit has appeared near the bridge and last week it was decorated with planks and trowels. But two porters and a gardener denied all knowledge and the College spokesman had nothing to say. 55 05 12a

1955 09 27
The dedication and opening of an extension of Clare College Memorial Court was performed by the Master, Sir Henry Thirkill, in the presence of nearly 1,300 scholars and relatives of the Clare men who died in World War II. The new Court which has room for 44 undergraduates was designed by the architect Sir Giles Scott who was amongst the congregation as he had been when the first portion was dedicated 31 years earlier. 55 09 27 [2.16]

1956 01 26
The Dean of King's College wriggled through an ornamental hole and plunged down to his death from the roof of the chapel in the darkness of early Sunday morning, an inquest heard. The gate porter said the dean had come to him about 2.20 a.m. and asked for the keys to the chapel. He had left the gate just before 6 a.m. and a little later flashed his torch and saw a body lying at the foot of the west tower. He ran to fetch the head porter and ring the ambulance and police. Only afterwards did he realise it was the Dean's body lying there. The coroner said the college had lost a very eminent gentleman. 56 01 26a & b

1956 05 22
Homerton College students of every generation gathered to present, Miss A.H. Skillicorn, with a pair of wrought iron gates to mark her 21 years as Principal. They were designed by Miss M.R. Harrison, one of her first students. The new wing was an outward sign of its growth and development. Miss Skillicorn had been responsible for an era of great achievement and enhanced its strong traditions. 56 05 22

1956 10 06
The Cambridge lodging-house landlady is part of the education of every young man who comes to study at the University. She is part-mother, part-landlady & part-disciplinarian who must maintain a difficult blend of deference and firmness in dealing with her young gentlemen. He is

told how much rent he must pay, that he pays extra for a piano, hot water for his bath or a scuttleful of coal. But unless lodgings are peaceful and conformable men will not study well. 56 10 06a & b

1957 03 26
New Hall's Appeal Fund has reached a quarter of the £500,000 target set in November 1955. Donors visited the pleasant old house on the river bank where the college's silver was on display including a replica of a 15th-century coconut cup and a handsome new Jubilee Cup presented by Cambridge Rotary Club. The library has 7,000 items from a 1515 edition of Dante to a book on human anatomy. 57 03 26

1957 05 29
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother opened a new wing at Homerton, a women's training college which prepares students for teaching in primary and secondary schools. She walked along the main entrance driveway passing groups of pretty girl students making a gay sight in their brightly-coloured cotton frocks. 57 05 29 & a [2.21, 6.12]

1957 08 31
A four-storey hostel for Clare College between the Shire Hall mound and Chesterton Road will provide the most modern accommodation in the University. Each of the 40 students will have his own bed-sitting room with adjoining washroom and clothes cupboards and central blocks of bathrooms and w.c.s. During vacations it will be used by delegates attending conferences. When the proposed Spine Relief Road is constructed the North side will face an up-to-date motorway 57 08 31c & d [5.10]

1957 09 14
Trinity College has started its first large-scale works this century. They will reconstruct nos.29-34 Trinity Street with hardly any alterations to the facade. The shops will remain on the ground floor but everything above is to be reconstructed to house 43 undergraduates in a small new court. This will reduce the overcrowding resulting from the termination of military service. 57 09 14 & a

1957 10 01
Work has started on the reconstruction of the kitchens and an additional dining room at Emmanuel College. The work has become imperative because not only have the number of students increased greatly but where a man used only to take dinner in Hall he now commonly takes three meals a day. Staff have to prepare two sittings each evening in term, in two separate dining halls. 57 10 01

1958 05 15
A proposal for a new college for men, to be called Churchill College, is announced today. Sir Winston himself will donate £25,000 and an appeal has been issued. It is needed as the University has embarked on a scheme for an extension of research in scientific and technical fields but existing colleges are already beyond their maximum size 58 05 15a & b Sir John Cockcroft, director Atomic Research Establishment Harwell 1st Master 1959 [2.24,5.3]

1958 05 29
Fitzwilliam House new building starts 1961 – 58 05 29 [2.25]

1958 06 13
St John's College new gates – 58 06 13d

1958 07 17
The new Principal's Lodge at Newnham College is a showpiece of design. It features sheets of glass, said to be the tallest in the world, and includes three bedrooms so arranged that if there should be a married Principal a husband's sitting room and dressing room could be provided. It is little wonder that Miss Cohen is delighted. The garden, while immature at the moment, is spacious and has the promise of great beauty. 58 07 17b

1958 08 16
King's restore chapel pinnacles as it had just 50 years before [2.26]

1958 08 30
Restoration work has started on the Gate of Honour at Caius College where the ornamental stone on either side of the arch is to be entirely replaced with clipsom stone. The work has been entrusted to two highly skilled craftsmen, both well advanced in years. William Topper aged 78 (mason) and carver Charles Whitaker (85) have worked together before and are much respected and revered by other members of their trade. 58 08 30 & a & b

1958 12 04
New Hall to have 300 students in later years – 58 12 04

1958 12 12
King's College announced a new rebuilding scheme in the city centre which will mean the demolition of the Central Hotel and café to provide more accommodation for students and a better headquarters for the Cambridge branch of the Midland Bank. The Bursar said the structure of the existing building is in a very parlous state and they could not for structural safety do less than rebuilding completely the whole interior. However this would only be forcing new wine into an old bottle so they had commissioned the design of a new building by Mr K.W, Capon of Architects' Co. Partnership 58 12 12c

1958 12 18
Plans for the new buildings at Queens' College designed by Mr Basil Spence to provide much-needed extra accommodation for fellows and students have been approved by the Royal Fine Arts Commission. The new building will face the 300-year-old bowling green and border the grounds of the President's Lodge. It will be three storeys high providing 41 bed-sitting rooms with an attractive and unusual overhead roof garden 58 12 18 & a

1959 03 01
Emmanuel College's new building in St Andrew's Street has attracted many protests and the Anti-Ugly Society joined a mock funeral procession lead by four pall-bearers looking somewhat like Teddy Boys in their 'mourning weeds'. They bore a coffin inscribed 'Here Lieth British Architecture' which was placed outside the Porter's Lodge as mourners chanted 'Pull it down and burn it.' Although most onlookers treated the protest as a great joke for the Anti-Ugly Society it was a matter of serious importance in their genuine concern for architecture. 59 03 01b

1959 03 31
Arthur Allen was one of the Old Brigade of College servants who served King's faithfully and well. He was apprenticed as a cook at Trinity College where the chef wore a top hat and tails, before being appointed Kitchen Manager and Chef at King's. There was a slight contretemps when he discovered that he was expected to work with women but his will prevailed and he had an 'all-male' staff. He said the late Lord Keynes knew just how much money he wanted to spend on entertaining his guests – a point which was appreciated by the chef. 59 03 31a

1959 04 02
Clare College gates to be restored – 59 04 02

1959 06 11
Sir – I was horrified to see what is happening to the Gate of Honour, Caius, in Senate House Passage. The stonework of practically the whole of the lower two-thirds is being renewed and only the cupola and stone just beneath is apparently now left of the original. Surely it is better to see the old medieval stonework than a 20th century imitation – Harry Paten, Castor Hill 59 06 11

1959 07 24
Design for Churchill College agreed – 59 07 24

1959 09 01
Fire at Caius college dining hall – 59 09 01a

1959 10 17
Winston Churchill plants tree, Churchill College – 59 10 17, 59 10 19 & a b c [3.1, 5.5]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 06 08
Queen Mother opens Trinity Angel Court, started 1957 to house 45 undergraduates to help reduce overcrowding resulting from termination of military service & anticipated baby-bulge, but will still need licensed lodgings [3.3, 9.11] . She travelled by normal passenger train and was fifteen minutes early arriving at the college where she showed interest in some of the ancient pottery discovered during excavation work. Later a crowd of several thousand people gave her a rousing send-off as her special launch left the forecourt of the Pike and Eel at Chesterton to take her to watch the May Races on the River Cam 60 06 08 & a [6.14]

1960 06 21
The Isaac Wolfson Foundation has made a grant of £100,000 to New Hall, the first College at Cambridge to be founded this century. It is the largest single donation since an appeal was started four years ago. Others have come from Dame Catherine Fulford, Nancy Viscountess Astor and the John Lewis Partnership. At present there are 53 students on the Silver Street site but the new building on Huntingdon Road will accommodate 300. 60 06 21a

1960 07 22
Every day an army of Cambridge women leave their homes early in the morning and begin their work as bed-makers at the colleges. One is Miss L. Hagger of Sturton Street who started work at Trinity in 1924 when the women had to be at the college gate at six o'clock. She clears the living room, washes-up the dirty crockery and glasses, cleans the rugs, carpets and surrounds and dusts. Breakfast is then cooked for the Fellows and while the undergraduates have gone down to hall for their meal, their bedrooms are tidied and the beds made. At one time bed-makers used to wear cuffs when she made the bed and changed her clothes after cleaning. A hat was always worn. 60 07 22

1960 09 17

Fire swept through a dining hall at Newnham College causing thousands of pounds worth of damage. Firemen wearing oxygen breathing equipment struggled through thick back smoke to reach the heart of the blaze. A section of the flooring in the Sidgwick Hall was burned away and three hotplates damaged. Smoke has blackened the walls and panels have split outwards with the heat. It is not likely to be repaired before the undergraduates return and the girls will be split up in the other three dining rooms 60 09 17

1961 01 23
Fitzwilliam: work starts new site [6.6]

1961 02 07
Selwyn College design for new court – 61 02 07a

1961 03 21
Women undergraduates are rather spoiled, with ten men to each girl, and marry at a younger age so Newnham has problems finding College Fellows, the Principal complained. Sometimes girls staying in Cambridge after their marriage could continue their work but often it meant recruiting Dons from outside. This brought other problems as Newnham could not afford to pay a good income meaning many candidates were unable to take up the appointment 61 03 21

1961 06 05
The Queen Mother opened the new Erasmus Building at Queens' College designed by Sir Basil Spence and West House, a new block of classrooms and living accommodation at the Leys School. By joining it on to the existing range of squash and fives courts opened by the Prince of Wales in 1932 it has created an attractive court with a fine view of Coe Fen and the River Cam. Now all boys can move into a study after two years in the common room. There is a penthouse for two bachelor masters which could provide accommodation for nursing staff in the event of an epidemic. 61 06 05 & a, 61 06 06 & a & [8.13]

1961 08 29
Emmanuel open hostel Newmarket Road [6.5]

1961 10 14
Churchill College foundation stone laid – 61 10 14 [5.6]

1961 11 15
The world's most valuable painting, Rubens' "Adoration of the Magi", which fetched a record £275,000 at auction, has been installed in King's College Chapel. Movement of the painting from London began before dawn in strict secrecy. Two security guards with an Alsatian dog, followed in a car and mingled with onlookers as the painting was off-loaded at the main gate. It took two hours to get the picture in its steel frame to the chapel where it was hoisted on to a giant easel. 61 11 15a – picture – 61 11 15, 61 11 16c

1961 11 16
Corpus Christi College has embarked on a plan to fulfil two great needs in the university. It has created a graduate extension at Leckhampton House in Grange Road to enable research students to enter fully into university life and to extend to teaching staff the social advantages and responsibilities which attach to being a Fellow of a college. Only about half the research students and unmarried Fellows normally wish to live in college rooms. 61 11 16d

1961 12 06

Pythagoras Hall in Northampton Street has been bought by St John's College. It is the earliest secular building in the city and was home to the first Mayor of Cambridge. But his family lost its wealth and it was sold to Merton College, Oxford, in 1270. For several centuries it was leased to farmers and became a granary. St John's hope to use it for collegiate purposes, though it means that Lord Rothschild, a University lecturer in Zoology, will have to move 61 12 06

1962 08 01
Fellows of Gonville and Caius College saw the shape of things to come when they toured the College's newly constructed Harvey Court designed by Sir Leslie Martin, the University Professor of Architecture. It is the first of a new range of University and College buildings in West Road providing bed-sitting rooms for 100 undergraduates and Fellows, allowing them to spend two years in college instead of one. The building will be inspected by architects from U.N.E.S.C.O. 62 08 01a [6.11]

1962 08 22
King's open hostel on Central Hotel site [3.5, 7.7]

1962 10 08
King's cobble area in front gateway [7.8]

1962 11 21
New Hall: Nuffield Foundation grants £120,000 for first residential wing [8.7]

1963
St John's Cripps Building starts [2.1]

1963 01 22
Work at Trinity College kitchens reveals 14th century foundations thought to be from Michaelhouse – 63 01 22a

1963 02 06
In 1956 college rating assessments were treated like those of offices or shops and increased three or even five times, one playing field assessment increased 11-fold. These figures were far too high and an appeal was lodged. Colleges make little demand on local authority services – not one extra place in a school, not one extra book in the Public Library, no extra policemen or inch of road. But there may be slightly more college drainage and refuse. They attract tourists who cause great expense to colleges whereas the entire financial benefit goes entirely to the city. They are not even charged a modest entrance fee to the private courts which are the sole reason for their visit – J.C. Bradfield, Bursar of Trinity College 63 02 06 & a

1963 06 10
Darwin College founded - Caius, St John's & Trinity want establish collegiate society for graduates, first graduate college at Cambridge in modern times (opened 1969) [6.3]

1963 07 05
Electronic computers are being used by W. & C. French to speed the building of New Hall at Huntingdon Road. The severe weather delayed progress for three months but with their aid it is hoped they will still finish within the deadline. It is the first time computers have been used in this region to devise a logical schedule of jobs to be carried out & grading them according to importance. The college dining hall is taking shape with its elegant dome using ferro-concrete previously used in boat building. A huge crane is playing a major part to gain lost time 63 07 05f

1963 10 04
Fitzwilliam House's first stage on Huntingdon Road is completed. 63 10 04a [6.6]

1963 11 12
Magdalene launches appeal £465,000; scaffolding at front throughout 1964 (removed after year 10.65) [8.1]

1964 02 07
Peterhouse open 8-storey residential block in college grounds [8.11]

1964 02 29
Planned buildings for St Catharine's and King's Colleges – 64 02 29 [7.10]

1964 04 23
Reuben's painting 'The Adoration of the Magi' has been moved from the nave is now in an experimental position as an altarpiece at the east end of King's College chapel. Some 150 feet of wooden panelling has been removed from the walls and the familiar altar has gone. The effect has been to lighten the east end and introduce an entirely different feeling and character to the magnificent east window. It is part of a more complete scheme which would see the removal of a series of steps and the provision of an extra 80 seats during important services 64 04 23a

1964 05 09
Darwin college established for advancement of education, learning & research, a graduate college (approved 1965), aided by benefaction from Max Rayne Foundation [12]

1964 06 04
The opening of Churchill College by the Duke of Edinburgh could hardly be called a ceremony. It was more like an indoor garden party. The College was pretty open already but now it is more open that it was before, he told guests. He was serious about the role it should play in today's scientific and technological age. Earlier he strolled round an undergraduate's room, chatted with workmen and joked with bedders. The sherry and cocktail party which preceded the lunch was a bright affair which brought out the Ascot feeling in many of the fashionable ladies present. 64 06 06– 64 06 04, 64 06 05, 05a (wins RIBA award 1968 [5.7]

1964 10 12
Corpus open Leckhampton House for research students - Graduate colony (established 1961) – 64 10 12 [6.1]

1965
University College founded as graduate college bringing together teaching & administrative officers not attached existing colleges (changes name to Wolfson 1972) [10.8]

1965 03 04
Emmanuel College to find £150,000 for more accommodation on site former New Theatre; appeal launched – 65 03 04b

1965 05 03
Fire when transparent polythene on newly-completed dome at New Hall caught fire – 65 05 03

1965 06 08

New Hall new college buildings opened Queen Mother – 65 06 08a, 09a, b
New Hall supplement at new building opening by Queen Mother – 65 06 08a, 65 06 09a, b

1965 07 03
Keynes Hall building between St Catharine's and King's Colleges to start, realignment of King's Lane 65 07 03

1965 07 16
Jesus opens modern residential accommodation, North Court 65 07 16 [7.3]

1965 10 16
Lucy Cavendish college, Britain's 1st graduate college for women to be all-woman college helping those whose careers interrupted : one of a number of 'recognised collegiate societies' rising in Cambridge to meet need of the growing numbers of University officers and active senior members without fellowship and the increasing number of research students, are experimental & University reserves right to withdraw recognition of any that fails; others are Darwin college for men founded by Trinity, St John's & Caius & University College founded by the University for men & women– 65 10 16a [1.16,7.19.14]

1966 06 14
Darwin College Hermitage extension demolished as double intake and launches extension scheme– photo – 66 06 14a

1966 06 15
Bredon House, Selwyn Gardens converted from private house to University College - 66 06 15b

1966 10 11
Cheshunt College staff and students to join with Westminster College, premises in Bateman Street for sale; was founded in Wales in 1768, moved to Cambridge in 1905, new buildings 1913 – 66 10 11; premises for sale – 66 10 21b

1966 12 08
Clare Hall Graduate foundation Herschel Rd starts: residential centre for visiting scholars & families [5.13]

1967 02 16
Magdalene new Master's Lodge nears completion [8.3]

1967 03 29
Selwyn plan £600,000 residential block Grange Rd [9.8]

1967 05 15
St John's Cripps Building opened [9.6]

1967 07 27
Cheshunt College sold to Freemasons – 67 07 27

1968 10 07
Newnham open Strachey buildings - largest College had undertaken since 1910 [8.9]

1968 11 06

Clare Hall topping out – Brian Pippard photo – 68 11 06

1968 12 01
King's College chapel reopens after restoration, underflow heating etc, Adoration displayed new setting [1.14]

1968 12 05
King's College chapel new setting for Adoration painting – 68 12 05

1969 03 03
Darwin College new buildings opened, include first octagonal dining room – 69 03 03

1969 03 06
Hughes Hall becomes approved Society [7.1]

1969 03 18
Churchill announce plans to admit women in 1972 - first co-ed move in Cambridge undergraduate college in 700 years [5.9]

1969 03 20
Northampton Street cottages, four empty converted by St John's College for use of married graduates – 69 03 20a

1969 05 09
Christ's College start King Street residence block [5.1]

1969 05 19
Selwyn College Cripps Court opens – 69 05 19

1969 06 10
Queen Mother attends centenary lunch at Girton College – 69 06 10, 11a

1969 09 29
Sidney residential accommodation opened [9.10]

1969 12 10
Clare Hall new college – feature – 69 12 10, 10a

1970

1970 01 30
Lucy Cavendish move to leased house Lady Margaret Road [7.20]

1970 08 08
Trinity Wren Library closed for renovation, reopens ¢CEN 8.8.1970, 26.4.1971

1970 10 27
Girton changes rules to admit men (first fellow 1977, first male undergraduates 1979) [6.8]

1970 11 13

Trinity Hall keep up tradition to house as many as possible of their students seek permission rooms for 100 on site Huntingdon Rd hostel, Wychfield Rd [10.4]

1971 04 09
Architects slammed for inhumanity, Christ's have ruined environment King St [446.13.8]

1971 06 05
Jesus Lane demolition of houses to make room for new buildings at Wesley House theological college – photo – 71 06 05

1971 10 01
Newnham celebrate centenary [8.10]

1971 10 14
Queens' College plans for new Cripps building – 71 10 14

1972 09 26
The Wolfson Building of Trinity College, Cambridge, once described as a liner stranded in a dry dock, opened its doors yesterday for an official tour of inspection. The building rises lozenge-shaped behind the historic and preserved facades of Trinity Street in the city centre. It is topped by two large winged roof-lights, which, the architects said, were added deliberately to be a modern feature of the city skyline. The scheme provides rooms for 125 Trinity students. Beneath the college buildings are the commercial premises which include the Sainsbury supermarket, Heffer's booksellers, Horne's the men's outfitters and Barclays Bank. 72 09 26 [9.12]

1972 11 09
University College renamed Wolfson College following grant from Wolfson Foundation, doubles total given University since 1955; admits scholars from all over world, promotes contacts with developing countries, contact between University & business & industry [10.8, 17]

1972 11 11
Gonville & Caius announce that David Robinson may be mystery benefactor to new mixed undergraduate college [6.11]

1972 12 22
Trinity Hall announce £300,000 extension [10.5]

1973 12 21
Cambridge University has been given £10 million to build and endow a new College for graduate and undergraduate students, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Jack Linnett, announced today. The lump sum gift has been handed over by the Newmarket racehorse owner, Mr David Robinson, who started his career at the age of 15 as an apprentice in his father's cycle shop in Cambridge. The new college will be built on a 12½ acre site on land bounded by Herschel Road and Grange Road [Robinson College] 73 12 21 [9.1]

1974 06 17
King's Adoration damaged - IRA scratched [7.13]

1974 12 16
Trinity Hall to admit women [10.6]

1975 01 22
Robinson College to be so named [9.2]

1975 02 04
A complete Cambridge college – the second in eight years – is being offered for sale on the open market at an unspecified price, thought to be in the region of £1 million. Ridley Hall is for sale following a decision in 1971 to enter into federation with two other Anglican training colleges. In 1967 Cheshunt college in Bateman Street was sold for in excess of £225,000 75 02 04

1975 02 19
St Edmund's House becomes 'approved foundation' following change in constitution vesting property & funds in a trust; in mid-60s had changed away from being exclusively Roman Catholic residence for priests to graduate foundation open to students of all disciplines [15]

1975 05 06
Queens' plan £2M complex Backs [8.14]

1975 05 28
Cambridge's largest all-male college, Trinity is to admit women. Graduate women students will be admitted from October 1976 and undergraduate women from October 1978. The college decision puts Trinity fourth in line amongst previous all-male colleges who are now planning to open their door both to women dons and students. In 1976 Sidney Sussex and Selwyn colleges will become co-educational, followed in 1977 by Trinity Hall

1976 01 12
Two students had a dramatic escape from death when they fought their way through dense smoke after a fire broke out at historic Magdalene College, Cambridge. An electrical fault triggered off the blaze which caused widespread damage to an isolated three-storey building and at one stage threatened to endanger the famous Pepys library. It was the worst fire disaster at a Cambridge college for many years. The last severe University fire was at the Department of Biochemistry when there was £100,000-worth of damage 76 01 12

1976 12 10
Homerton College accepted as approved foundation [6.13]

1976 12 30
Wolfson College gets full status as college [10.9]

1977 11 09
Crowds waving flags and demonstrators waving banners greeted the Queen and Prince Philip as they arrived to open the new Wolfson College. For the Duke there must have been something familiar about the scene. For the second time in less than five months he was met in the city by pouring rain and by a group campaigning for nursery facilities in the university. He gave them a friendly wave as the car drove past. The Queen said she had laid the foundation stone of a college at Oxford and subsequently opened another of the same name at Cambridge. That this was possible was proof of the generosity of the Wolfson Foundation. 77 11 09 [10.10]

1978 02 04
Christ's becomes first College to obtain full justices off-licence [5.2]

1978 08 19

Fire rules pose big threat to concerts at King's [7.15]

1978 12 06
The increasing use of Cambridge colleges as conference centres may result in irreparable damage to life in the University, dons have warned. Studious undergraduates are unable to remain in residence over the vacation, opulent undergraduates are forced to remove objects from their shelves and dons and graduates find their work disturbed by riotous assemblies of exuberant conferees. But the real danger is that colleges may think of themselves as conference centres first and colleges second. This follows the installation at Trinity College of bed sitting rooms with integral bathrooms rather than communal facilities and the construction of a conference centre at New Hall.

1979 02 02
Queens' restrict access - tourists to pay 20p, individuals only in afternoon, guided parties morning, due to disturbance to college life [8.15]

1980

1980 07 25
Arthur Prior joined the staff of Trinity in 1935 as the youngest porter ever employed by a Cambridge college for the princely wage of £2.15s. a week in the days when porters expected tips for their services; today he retires after being Head Porter for 14 years having served five different Masters.. He is philosophical about major changes such as the admission of women. "These youngsters think they invented sex, but we had women here when I first came. They used to stay all night even then, and we knew all about it", he said. 80 07 25

1981 04 21
Three valuable painting of Henry VI, Henry VII and Henry VIII have been stolen from King's College, Cambridge. All are contemporary works in oil on wood or panel. They were taken along with their frame from the college's main hall and people thought they had been removed for cleaning. 81 04 21a

1981 05 01
King's restrict access visitors [7.16

1981 05 01
St Catharine's site Grange Rd final stage five-year development completed, only 30 students need live in lodgings [9.4]

1981 05 29
Newmarket millionaire David Robinson today announced he had given an extra £1 million to the college he founded. The news came shortly before the Queen and Prince Philip arrived in Cambridge to formally open it. But Mr Robinson did not attend the ceremony as he did not feel up to it. He is very frail. But 2,500 employees of the Cambridge University Press took tea with the Queen after she opened their new Edinburgh Building. 81 05 29, 30

1982 02 10
One of Cambridge's greatest characters, Albert Jaggard, the former head porter of Corpus Christi College, has died. Undergraduates believed he was the model for the irascible 'Scullion' in 'Porterhouse Blue'. He was extremely knowledgeable about the college and had a phenomenal knowledge about its old members. He was ground manager at the University Rugby Club

responsible for the announcements, but his voice was such that they never really needed a microphone. 82 02 10

1982 03 11
Magdalene - three quarters students are privately educated, regarded as finishing school for old Etonians [8.4]

1982 06 01
King's launch £1M appeal restore chapel [7.17]

1982 08 09
The Cripps Court at Queens' College has received a commendation from the Royal Institute of British Architects. The first part, including 150 study-bedrooms was completed in 1974, new kitchens were added in 1979 and a third phase will include lecture theatre and squash courts. A lot of thought had gone in to the design to ensure it blended in with other buildings dating back to the college's foundation in 1448 82 08 09a

1982 09 30
The chapel bell at St John's College has been tolled by hand since the 17th century. But now the college porters will no longer have to climb the 30 steps in the gatehouse at six o'clock every day, and twice on Sundays, to summon the congregation to prayer. Engineers have installed an electronic control unit so the bells can ring out at the touch of a switch. Bob Fuller, the head porter, said "I have just celebrated 30 years of working at the college and this is the best present." 82 09 30b

1983 07 01
The County Hall office block in Hobson Street which houses a major section of the county council's social services department may be sold to Christ's College for £1.25 million and converted into student accommodation. It would be one of the biggest property deals in the much sought-after city centre location for years. Scores of council officials would be moved into the new offices planned at the back of Shire Hall. 83 07 01 p1

1983 08 12
Robinson College, which was opened by the Queen in 1981, has won one of the country's top architectural awards from the Royal Institute of British Architects. It says a complex and demanding brief had been met with vigour and imagination and a building produced which may well grow in stature with the passage of time. Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, also praised it as "just perfect – an absolutely lovely college which manages to be original, elegant, beautiful and functional". 83 08 12 p22

1984 10 20
Clare Hall becomes approved foundation [5.13]

1984 11 07
Downing to erect Howard building with profits from Cambridge Diet [6.4]

1984 11 14
Lucy Cavendish becomes approved foundation [7.21]

1984 12 28

St John's College is to go ahead with plans to develop its 22-acre science park site in North Cambridge, even though part of it has been rejected by planners. The college has owned the land since 1530 but it has been semi-derelict since 1945. The site, sometimes known as 'the teardrop' lies between the new and old A10 roads at Milton and has been split by the building of the Northern by-pass with its raised interception. The Government says part lies in the Green Belt and should remain undeveloped. 84 12 28

1985 08 03
One hundred years ago 14 women students enrolled in a new pioneering college set up in two houses in Merton Street, Newnham. Its aim was to train women to teach in secondary schools. Over the century that college has changed character and direction several times and under its present name of Hughes Hall it has just been awarded Approved Foundation status within Cambridge University. Despite the financial problems of the present day it is planning new buildings at its site in Wollaston Road. 85 08 03a [7.2]

1985 09 30
It was standing room only in Queens' College as undergraduates and dons crowded in to watch the first part of a BBC documentary about their college. Even the bar was quiet as hundreds of college members jostled for the best positions around television sets. There were cheers of recognition for college personalities and hoots of derisions as candidates attending interviews for admission flunked the questions. The Senior Tutor has always supported the project because he believes Queens' has nothing to hide but does not want students to get too excited about the media attention. 85 10 17 Queens' college featured on tv [8.16] Queens' College tv documentary – 85 09 30

1985 11 07
Trinity plan demolish Blue Boar approved [10.3]

1986 04 11
"The Beast of St John's", Mr Bob Fuller, was the college's head porter for 39 years and one of its greatest characters. A former army sergeant-major, he was the last of the old-style head porters in Cambridge. He believed strongly in maintaining discipline and fined students £5 for playing loud music or having parties without permission. But the fierce-looking figure did not daunt female students after they were admitted to the college in 1982, despite Mr Fuller's dislike of the idea. His funeral service will be held at the college chapel 86 04 11

1986 06 12
Clare new building in Memorial Court inaugurated (proposed 1982, approved 83) [5.12]

1986 10 10
Magdalene to admit women - last male bastion [8.5]

1987 07 23
The Queen Mother became just another Cambridge tourist for a few moments – and won cheers from a waiting crowd. She paused on the famous Mathematical Bridge to wave to a convoy of four punts chained together as they passed gracefully along the Cam. She was visiting Queens' College to mark the restoration of the President's Lodge, the only half-timbered college building in Cambridge. Lunch – at a college which is now health-conscious in its cuisine – was melon and king prawns, then chicken and truffles. 87 07 23

1987 09 02

88% undergraduates & 59% postgraduates in college owned accommodation, 90% CCAT housed privately ¢CEN 2.9.87

1988 06 22
Owlstone Croft nurses' home has been sold to Queens' College for student accommodation. The Health service has been trying to sell it off since 1970. It was once thought to be an ideal location for private residential development, an old people's home, a rehabilitation unit or a convalescent home. Then CCAT wanted it for a student hostel. It hit the headlines in 1975 when the Cambridge Rapist was caught after attacking a student there. 88 06 22a

1988 07 18
St John's College chapel tower gargoyles restored – 88 07 18

1989 09 22
King's College clock chiming again after 70 years "chimes stopped 1870" ¢CEN 22.9.89

1988 10 11
Magdalene first women students ¢CEN 11.10.88

1988 10 20
Coe & Cram run round Trinity Gt Court ¢CEN 20.10.88

1988 11 04
Owlstone Croft to be used by Queens' as hostel ¢CEN 4.11.88

1989 07 26
Darwin College celebrates 25th anniversary – 89 07 26a

1989 09 22
The Cambridge bedmaker might be an endangered species. Many potential bedders are being wooed by supermarket and 'Yuppie' couples prepared to pay above-average rates for a suitable cleaner. There are almost permanent advertisements but they attract fewer applicants. The standard rate is £2.75 an hour, around 50p less than that offered privately. Bedmakers usually work a 20-hour week though with the current shortages many take on more hours. But there are bonuses during the conference season and regular chats with the fellows make the job different each day 89 02 22a & b

1989 10 10
Lucy Cavendish's Oldham Hall opened – 89 10 10

1996
Jesus College celebrates 500 years; Prince Edward returns, M

Sussex Street 1935: part of the massive rebuilding of Central Cambridge in the 1930s

89.22

c.44.6 : Central Streets

A chronology of redevelopment and change in the central area bounded N-S Northampton Street to Downing Street, E-W Queens' Road to Parkside.

Includes
Alexandra Street
All Saints Passage
Bene't Street
Bradwell's Court
Bridge Street
Christ's Lane
Corn Exchange – see separate Scrapbook
Corn Exchange Street
Downing Street
Drummer Street
Emmanuel Street
Falcon Yard
Free School Lane
Garret Hostel Lane
Granta Place
Gt St Mary's Passage
Green Street
Guildhall – see separate Chronicle
Guildhall Street
Hobson Street
Jesus Lane
King Street
King's Parade

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Lion Yard
Lion Yard Redevelopment – see separate Chronicle
Magdalene Street
Malcolm Street
Market Hill
Market Passage
Market Street
Mill Lane
Park Parade
Park Street
Peas Hill
Pembroke Street
Petty Cury
Portugal Place
Portugal Street
Quayside
Ram Yard
Rose Crescent
Round Church Street
Queens' Lane
St Andrew's Hill
St Andrew's Street to Downing Street
St Edward's Passage
St John's Street
St Tibb's Row
Sidney Street
Silver Street
Sussex Street
Thompson's Lane
Trinity Lane
Trinity Street
Trumpington Street to Pembroke Street
Wheeler Street

1888
1888
Trinity Street: St Michaels Court built [IC.10.16]

1889
Petty Cury: Veysey House demolition [2.15]

1891
Hallack & Bond sketch of new building [NI.1.14]

1891
The building where the first electricity for lighting in Cambridge was generated is now on the market. The property, No.2 Market Passage, was the premises of Bailey, Grundy and Barrett, electrical contractors. In 1891 the firm produced the first electricity for lighting in the city with a gas engine and a dynamo installed in the basement. In those early days private electrical generating plants were supplied by the company to several of the Cambridge colleges. Until after

the 1914-18 war such plants continued to be installed in country houses in outlying districts. As this business declined, the company moved into wireless, the design and making of temperature control equipment for laboratories and other specialised apparatus c73 03 04

1894 12 14
More money for the Guildhall. The Guildhall and Building Committee reported that the funds available for the erection of the front portion of the new municipal buildings, as designed by Mr Fawcett, are insufficient. The question of alteration and addition to the present Guildhall, or the erection of a new building has been occupying attention for some years. Mr Fawcett was asked to prepare an elevation and the Guildhall Street block has been erected upon these plans. Hallack and Bond having relinquished the lower part of the Guildhall Street block, the idea was to provide rooms for the Town Clerk there but there was little accommodation for the Town Clerk. He would have one room in the new block and his present rooms without any communication between them. Councillor Nichols objected to more money being spent on patching up that old Town Hall. The whole thing had been a muddle. The report was rejected 1894 12 14

1897
Hallack & Bond new grocer's premises on corner Petty Cury and Market Hill regarded as finest block in Cambridge [NI.1.14]

1897 03 05
Wm Henry Chapel Smith, draper of 13 Market Street was summoned for hanging a pair of corsets and a roll of calico outside his shop front so as to incommode passengers. P.C. Savidge said the things projected four inches. Defendant said "I have lived in the street 25 years and you have been in the force 25 minutes. I think you were drawing the line too close. I don't know what we are coming to". He said the bye-law was an injustice to traders. The Chairman said it seemed to him admitted that something projected beyond the line of the shop. Fined 1/-

1897 04 24
A memorial from certain inhabitants of the Cambridge in Favour of covering the Market Hill with a permanent covering of iron and glass was read by the Town Clerk. Coun Nichols thought the state of their present market was a disgrace to civilisation. They were paying at least £400 a year for putting up and taking down those wretched wooden structures and the cloths that covered them were of no use whatever. Mr F. Morley did not believe in the Corporation entering into competition with the shopkeepers of the town and driving the trade into the hand of people who paid no rates. Mr Campkin felt the question of a covered market elsewhere was too serious a matter for them to consider for many years to come. (The council voted against the proposal)

1897 05 13
The 3rd (Cambs) Volunteer Battalion, Suffolk Regiment are suffering seriously through lack of accommodation at their headquarters in Corn Exchange Street, Cambridge. "Most inconveniently", said the Colonel emphatically "we are unable to get the gun in"

1897 08 04
An extraordinary general meeting of the Cambridge Electric Supply co. ltd was held at the Company's offices, Thompson's Lane, Cambridge. The chairman reported that their first capital had been £40,000 which had been spent on plant and the necessary things to equip the station. They had gone over that and had borrowed £2,250 from the bank. The business of the company was increasing and the capital must be increased too. Now was the time for shareholders to reap the reward of their enterprise if the use of electric light became universal in Cambridge

1897 09 30
Holy Trinity Church, Cambridge, was filled with a large congregation, the occasion being the re-opening service after the church had been closed for purposes of restoration. When the cement was removed from the buttresses, real solid stonework was found to be concealed underneath, and on theses buttresses the date 1516 was discovered. An old consecration cross was also found by the architect. This cross, he says, is very unique and it is intended that it should be covered with glass in order to preserve it c1897 09 30

1897 11 20
Sussex Street improvements, p2

1897 11 25
A well-attended meeting was held in Eden Street School, Cambridge to discuss the proposed expenditure on a new Guildhall front. Mr R. Sturton said they must have a new cemetery as he did not suppose sanitary science would advance sufficiently rapidly to go in for cremation en bloc. Then there was the new Police Station and something would have to be done to the Sanatorium. Mr Burwick though the more they beautified Cambridge the more good they would do to business. Why not have a police station at the town hall, offices for the payment of rates, swimming baths. He did not see why shops should not be built on Peas Hill so as to bring in a considerable amount

1897 12 11
Cambridge Market Committee recommended that a new form of market stall known as the "Diamond Stall" be erected on Market Hill. Mr Nichols remarked that the long vexed question of covering in the market was the objection to a permanent structure being erected on Market Hill. They were paying now £850 per year for putting up and taking down all those wretched stalls and their repairs. At some length he described the advantages to the town that the scheme would bring about, amid some manifestations of impatience on the part of the Council c1897 12 11

1898 01 02
Shortly before the clock of Great St Mary's with deep-toned impressiveness proclaimed the exit of 1897 and the advent of 1898 King's Parade was thronged with people awaiting the fiery messengers sent up year after year by Ald Beck. We have a shrewd suspicion that the unusual sight of letting off rockets at midnight attracted the bulk of the people who visited King's Parade last night. "Beer, beer, glorious beer" chorused a lively portion of the crowd. Precisely upon the stroke of 12 there was a swish and roar in front of the portals of King's and the first rocket soared aloft proclaiming abroad the significant fact that the old year was out. A second rocket heralded in the new year, and after some slight ebullition of feeling and a feeble attempt at "Aud lang syne" the crowds dispersed, and the streets resumed their normal state 1898 01 02

1898 05 09
St Bene't's Church, Cambridge, reopened for public service with an improved organ and newly elected organ chamber, beside several minor renovations in the decoration of the interior of the building. Archdeacon Emery said that the condition of the Church in 1849, when he was ordained Deacon, with its organ Gallery at the West End, and those high pews in the nave, and green baized pews in the Chancel was then far different to what it was now. Since that time the South aisle had been erected, the West End and Tower opened and restored, the Chancel and church generally restored and seated in such a manner that all the worshippers could feel they formed one family of God.

1898 05 19

Cambridge town council was requested to consider permitting a cabmen's shelter to be placed on the Market Hill. Mr Darwin said that he received a petition asking for the provision of some place for them to warm themselves during the cold months in some central position in the town. At present there was only one cabmen's shelter in the town and that was very widely used. If they provided another the public would gain some advantage because the cabmen, instead of going to the public houses, as they now did, would go to the shelter. The only possible harm it would do was that perhaps it would make the neighbouring public houses sell less beer

1898 06 14
The Cambridge surveyor gave particulars of what the council propose to do to the roads. From Station Road to St Andrew's street it was proposed to lay Australian "Jarrah" hardwood blocks in the whole of the carriageway. These blocks would also be laid between the tramlines. In Corn Exchange Street the paving was now granite, very rough, large setts being used. They had been put down probably 30 or 40 years. It was now proposed to substitute the wood blocks.

1898 07 05
George Stace, draper, of Petty Cury, Cambridge, was summoned for employing Kate Ladds after eight o'clock contrary to the Workshops and Factories Act. She said she was 17 years of age. On June 4th she began work at nine o'clock in the morning and finished at 9.20 at night. She was not paid anything extra for the overtime. Out of the time mentioned she had an hour and a half for meals. She said some of the employees in the showroom began at 8.30. On this particular night she was making a hat that a lady wanted home that night. Mr Stace was not a hard taskmaster and was not sweating the girls he employed. He was fined one shilling.

1898 07 25
George Baynes, proprietor of the newly opened wax works exhibition in Petty Cury, Cambridge, was summoned for carrying on his show without the permission of the mayor. Dr Cooper (looking at the wax works programme): I see this is a regular chamber of horrors Sergeant Baker said he had told the defendant he was liable to a penalty of £20 and advised him to close the show. The defendant however said he did not think it was necessary as he had a similar show eleven years ago without permission. He kept the exhibition open till 10 o'clock and a large number of persons visited it, the crowd causing great inconvenience in the street. The bench inflicted a fine of 20s.

1898 07 26
A meeting in connection with the proposed Cambridge Ice and Cold Storage Company was held at the University Arms Hotel. A central site had been secured at Petty Cury and they had customers both for ice and cold storage. The two biggest firms in Cambridge had agreed to have cold storage, beside many other gentlemen, and they would have orders for eleven hundred tons of ice for the first weeks working. Some hundreds of shares were taken up before the meeting ended.

1898 09
St Mary's electricity substation equipped & Guildhall sub-station demolished [2.10.11]

1898 09 23
Rose, Rose Crescent licence not renewed

1898 10 07
Cambridge town council has issued an additional report on the proposed new Guildhall buildings. The accommodation will be considerably increased and will include in the basement,

additional coal store, public lavatories for men and women and three new storerooms. On the ground floor a greatly improved entrance with grand staircase, cloak rooms, retiring rooms, two new public meeting rooms, kitchen and offices. Facing Union Street three new shops will be provided. On the first floor the Aldermen's parlour will be enlarged and improved and there will be rooms for the town clerk as well as a Mayor's reception room and a new enlarged council chamber. The cost is estimated at £38,000 CDN 1898 10 07

1898 10 13

The Town Council of Cambridge has asked the burgesses whether they are of a mind to make a beginning at once with the extension of the Guildhall, and with the building of a new front, and the ratepayers have given their answer. There is no ambiguity about that answer; the "No" is emphatic enough. The attendance at the Guildhall was so large that those who know by experience how difficult it is to get the public to take an active interest in public questions must have been surprised. CDN 1898 10 13

1898 10 18

The photographer who is also an artist has a great advantage over the photographer who is merely a mechanic. One may realise this very clearly by paying a visit to the studio at St Mary's Passage, Cambridge, of Mr Clement A. Shaw. His first love was painting but in his portrait work he found the advantage of being able to take a photograph of the subject, in that tedious sittings could often be curtailed. His studios are covered with specimens of his work. There are photographs in all processes - opals, miniatures, pastels and oil paintings. There are several pictures painted on an enlarged scale from photographs which are very meritorious indeed

1898 10 19

Mr Langford, of Newmarket Road, Cambridge sustained serious injuries as the result of an attempt to stop a runaway horse. The infuriated animal, which was attached to a cart, took fright on King's Parade and continued its mad career in the direction of King's College. On reaching the college entrance, the runaway attracted the attention of Mr Langford who rushed up, and seizing the reigns, succeeded in bringing the horse to a standstill. The suddenness with which the animal was brought up caused it to swerve and one of the wheels of the vehicle passed over his face, which was very badly cut.

1898 11 24

Great crowds had been assembling outside Great St Mary's and the railings before the Senate House with the exception of a pathway of about five yards which the police were endeavouring to keep clear for those attending the honorary degree ceremony for Lord Kitchener. It was evidence that the constables were having hard work in keeping the crowds from encroaching. At length the looked-for rush took place and such was the force that the police were quite powerless to check it. A general scramble to get upon the railings ensued when without the slightest warning the railings suddenly gave way and fell outwards carrying many unfortunate persons to the ground with them. The solidity of this great piece of ironwork is well known and it is wonderful that more were not seriously injured. CDN 1898 11 24

1898 12 17

A stroll through Petty Cury, Cambridge and a glance at the shop windows of Boots Limited gives a good idea of the effort which this firm has made to cater for all tastes and all classes in the selection of Christmas presents. The windows have been dressed in a most skilful and artistic fashion and they look very effective. Articles of every conceivable description are on view and an inspection of the interior of the shop soon convinces one that for price and quality, the old adage,

"go further and fare worse", very aptly applies. Those desirous of purchasing suitable presents for their cousins, their aunts, and sweethearts should pay a visit to Boots, in the Cury

1899 01 02
As 12 o'clock draws near on New Year's Eve in Cambridge the interest of the crowd is directed towards the House of Alderman Deck. For many years he has made himself responsible for a display of rockets on King's Parade as the Old Year gives place to the New; and he is not going disappoint his fellow townspeople tonight. Just a few minutes before twelve he leaves his house and set up the stand from which two rockets are to be fired on the causeway in front of the gates of King's College. While the expectant crowd eagerly looks on, he lights a fuse and just on the first stroke of twelve the first rocket, that in honour of the Old Year, is set off. It has hardly completed its flight when another rocket, that in honour of the New Year, shoots up into the sky

1899 01 17
A very pleasant evening may be spent at the Red Cow Inn Concert Hall, Cambridge. The best of local talent is requisitioned and the concert hall promises to have a run of uninterrupted success, judging by the support which has already been given to the new venture. Its American bowling saloon is now also open

1899 01 18
A fire which might have resulted in a very large amount of destruction broke out in Petty Cury, Cambridge. Mr Baynes, manager to Messrs Pollard and company, confectioners informed police constable Leonard Savidge at 1.15am that his wife could smell something burning. It was discovered there was a fire at the back of the adjoining shop occupied by Mr George Jackson, butter merchant. The constable ascended to the roof but was unable to get into the yard. Mr Baynes obtained some buckets of water from a tap on the premises and handed them up to him to pour on the flames. Acting sergeant Wright on going into Caxton Court from Sydney Street, found a ladder by which means he got over the wall and there found that a butter barrel, containing a quantity of paper was on fire. There was a considerable quantity of empty boxes and other inflammable goods about the yard and if they had become ignited there would have been disastrous results

1899 04 02c
The Red Cow Inn concert hall, Guildhall Street, Cambridge. Special engagement for six nights of Miss Sadie St John, comedienne and dancer; Miss Gracie White, serio and dancer and Mr G. Kent, comedian and mimic. American bowling saloon now open. – Advert

1899 05 18
The new Clergy Training School in Jesus Lane Cambridge was opened by the Bishop of Durham. It has been erected adjacent to All Saints Church at a cost of nearly £8000. The most experienced teachers in Cambridge have long felt a want of a centre to which the younger members might naturally turn when they wished for conference, or counsel, or sympathy in reference to the choice of their vocation in life. Many men of ability were lost to the Ministry of the church through the want of such opportunities for brotherly conference with men nearly of their own age.

1899 08 23
Albert Hart applied for a licence for ‘The Sirdar’, Market St, Cambridge. The place had been largely patronised but he laboured under a disadvantage of not being able to provide his customers with spirits or beers. The fashion of drinking wine in the middle of the day had been discountenanced for many years past by doctors and everybody that went to a place for lunch

required spirits or soda water. He had to send out for such drinks to some public house in the vicinity. The money had to be extracted from the customer who had to wait until his refreshments were brought to him through the street. That was not an advantage to the liquor itself, especially with the dust flying about and the intense heat of the sun.

1899 10 03
Cambridge cabmen's union was told that certain ladies had volunteered to provide a cabmen's shelter on Peas Hill, close to St Edward's church. The chairman hoped the cabmen would always maintain their proper rank of respectability, and keep themselves above suspicion of rowdyism or anything approaching to it

1900

1900 03 03
There was great rejoicings in Cambridge on the relief of Ladysmith and despite the edict sent forth by the University authorities the conduct of the undergraduate element was again such as to necessitate the intervention of the police. The Varsitymen managed to draw police attention off the market place to scenes elsewhere and, during their temporary absence, succeeded in lighting a bonfire. There was great excitement as one by one the wooden frameworks of the stalls was committed to the flames. The band-stand on Christ's Pieces was attacked and the seats removed to the Market and quickly consumed. Similar damage was occasioned in all parts of the town.
It was on that night that the last really big bonfire was started on Cambridge Market Square. Old horse buses, "growlers" filled with tar and straw, market stalls – all went to feed those triumphant flames whose heat cracked every window in the Market Square. 52 02 26

1900 03 09
The large ornamental advertising lamp which hung outside the Star and Garter, Petty Cury, Cambridge, all but cost Mr Ernest Simpkin, a tailor of Russell Street, his life this afternoon. He was walking along the Cury when a bus ran very close to the kerb. The top caught the lamp with such force as to bring it with a crash to the ground and one of the brass ornaments struck him on the side of the head. He was conveyed in a hansom to Mr Lucas, surgeon of St Andrew's street for medical treatment.

1900 04 19
Cambridge Town Council were told a conference had been held between two members of the committee and the Master and Bursar of Emmanuel College with reference to the construction of a new street from Drummer Street to St Andrew's Street, and the closing and giving up of Emmanuel Street to the college.

1900 05 01
A branch of the Capital and Counties Bank Ltd has been opened in Cambridge at 63 Sidney Street. The fact that it has been thought desirable to set down another banking establishment is proof of the outside belief in the prosperity of the town. The bank was established in 1834 and have numerous branches in various parts of the country.

1900 06 14
An inquest on a boy of eight, killed by a bus on Castle Hill, affirmed the death was accidental. It is hardly an exaggeration to describe Chesterton Corner as the death trap of Cambridge. Four road meet; they are all narrow, and the configuration of the corner is such that it is quite impossible for the driver of a vehicle up Magdalene Street to have the faintest notion that there is another coming along Chesterton Lane and if the two do not crash into each other it will be more of an

accident than if they do. More room is needed at the corner. This would involve pulling down some old houses. The matter is one which the authorities ought to give attention at once.

1900 07 31
E.S. Payne has opened premises at Alexandra Street, Cambridge for the manufacture of artificial teeth. Complete sets, upper or lower from £1. Single tooth added, 2s.6d. Easy payment taken. Teeth scaled, stopped or extracted. Trusses and elastic stockings made to order – advert

1900 10 25
An epidemic of disease has broken out in Cambridge which is of such serious importance as regards the public health that we should not be discharging a duty we owe to our readers if we did not draw attention to it, notwithstanding the reticence of the medical authority, which to say the least is inexplicable. The Medical Officer of Health has absolutely declined to take the press into his confidence. That diphtheria is prevalent is beyond dispute, nor is it confined to Cambridge for rumour is that deaths have occurred at Chesterton. The death of certain children attending Park Street mixed infants school first brought the matter under the attention of the local medical authorities. Several deaths have taken place which are directly attributed to the disease.

1900 11 01
We have received an official statement from Mr Alderman T. Hyde, respecting the outbreak of diphtheria at Cambridge. 'Last Friday I stated that we knew of 12 cases of the disease. Since then we have had a rather unexpected increase which made a total of 35 today. There have been four deaths from the disease. With a few doubtful exceptions all cases have been proved to have originated in connection with the Park Street Infants School, although so far investigations have shown no reason for supposing that the actual building on the site has had anything to do with the causation of the disease. No expense or labour will be grudged in the endeavour to stamp out the disease. It is thought advisable not to allow children to attend meetings in public halls during the present conditions".

1900 11 19
Sir – Among the many urgent improvements needed in Cambridge stands that of abolishing the old, worn-out buildings and improving the thoroughfares of the town. Disease is prevalent to a large extent and is to be found in districts with narrow thoroughfares and tumble-down houses. The buildings between Round Church Street and Ram Yard are a disgrace and in any other town would have been demolished long since; they should not be tolerated even in conservative Cambridge. - "W"

1900 12 03
Sir – no one who takes the trouble to make even a cursory inspection of the unlovely mass of bricks and timber in Ram Yard, Cambridge, can fail to see that its removal would be a matter of little inconvenience to a very few residents. Several of the buildings show no sign of occupation by night – there is one of two storeys which is occupied as a shoemaker's workroom. Another gloomy pile, now unoccupied, was, I believe, a blacksmith's shop. The whole block is uniformly hideous and obstructive. No one has a good word to say for it – V.S.N.

1900 12 11
The Exchange Toilet Saloon, Corn Exchange Street, Cambridge. The above establishment, which is extensively patronised by members of the University, Town and County, has recently been considerably enlarged and will be found replete with all the latest and most approved appliances for carrying on a business of this kind, including a continuous supply of both hold and cold water.

Ladies' combings bought, and a good assortment of tails always on sale. Combings made up. Umbrellas re-covered and repaired. Advert.

1900 12 22
A serious fire occurred on the premises of Messrs Coulson & Co., drapers at Peas Hill, Cambridge, and the flames were not extinguished until the entire stock of goods in the shop were completely destroyed. Captain Greef of the Fire Brigade arrived as did 14 firemen and nearly a dozen constables. The fronts of the shop were much damaged. The cause of the fire is attributed to the overturning of one of the incandescent burners in the shop window.

1901 01 01
The Cambridge Medical Officer of Health reported on the recent outbreak of diphtheria. He had inspected Park Street School and could find no cause for complaint except as to the odours arising from a cesspool. Alderman Dalton said the present school might be perfectly healthy as workshops, or a Sunday School or an evening institute. There was a great difference between children assembling for a couple of hours in one day of the week and living in the place the whole of their time. The question should be decided whether the school should be carried on under the present unsatisfactory conditions or whether new buildings should be erected.

1901 01 01
All over the country people keep up the practice of watching the Old Year out and the New Year in, but Cambridge is probably unique in the sending up of rockets. Mr Alderman Deck has religiously observed the practice inaugurated by his father and the townspeople are grateful to him for it. Hundreds of people gathered on King's Parade. The two rockets were placed in a crate and just as King's clock was striking the midnight hour the venerable Alderman applied a light to one of the rockets and with its flight was symbolised the flight of 1900. A few moments later the second rocket was sent up, heralding the birth of the New Year and the New Century.

1901 04 18
Cambridge Council reported that in 1900 a meeting had been held with Emmanuel College as to the terms of exchange of the site of Emmanuel Street for a piece of ground to form a new street from St Andrew's street to Drummer Street. The existing street was the chief means of access to the centre of the town and carried a very considerable proportion of traffic with 1,030 cyclists on Saturday. The new road would be nearly 100 feet shorter and wider. Mr Campkin suggested the advantage would rest largely with the College.

1901 05 20 c
Messrs Bidwell, auctioneers, conducted a very successful sale of property in Wheeler Street and Parsons Court, Cambridge. Two shops with a dwelling house, being No.11 Peas Hill, sold for £2,050. Nos.1 & 2 Wheeler Street comprising a cabinet-makers shop, with dwelling house, and a harness maker's shop brought in £1,800 while a private house in Parsons Court was knocked down for £750

1901 06 18
A large number witnessed the quaint custom of the presentation of the wooden spoon to the last man in the University Mathematical Tripos. This year two candidates were bracketed at the bottom of the list and both gentlemen received large spoons emblazoned and trimmed with their college colours. The spoons were lowered down to their owners from the gallery in the Senate House amid much interest. Mess Crisp & Co of King's Parade, Cambridge, again supplied the spoons, which were artistically painted and decorated. Mr D. Buchanan, who comes from South

Africa, has had an additional spoon presented to him by his South African friends, with the arms and coloured ribbons of Cape Colony.

1901 12 07
The wood paving of the main street of Cambridge from the station to the post office has now been completed and last evening the men engaged in the work had a dinner at the Red Lion. When the mind is carried back to the days of the Long Vacation when St Andrew's Street was so decidedly 'up', some impatience may be forgiven to shopkeepers and householders who were anxious that normal conditions should be restored. Credit should be given to the police for the excellent way the traffic was regulated during the 'upheaval'. There was not a single accident.

1902 01 01
The one event in Cambridge on New Year's Eve that rises superior to all others is the midnight ceremony on King's Parade, where for many years past the public have assembled to bid farewell to the old year and welcome the new, in a manner that obtains in a few other towns in the Kingdom. There was little except the associations of the ceremony to tempt hundreds of people to make a midnight journey. The space in front of Alderman Deck's house, facing King's College was densely packed and shortly before 12 o'clock the first rocket ascended and about a minute later the second followed. A few illuminative fireworks were discharged near the church and King's Parade resumed its normal appearance by 12.15

1902 02 12
Cambridge Electric Supply Company reported that they would probably outgrow the present site, in Thompson's Lane. They had secured a site at Chesterton, situated at the side of the railway line so they would be able to bring coals into the yard and they had also arranged for the use of the river and the road. The site would not be required yet but as no other spot on the river was so placed they were justified in buying the land.

1902 02 27
Everyone in Cambridge knows the Maypole in Portugal Place, kept by Mr Rowell, the renowned pedestrian who holds the championship of the world. They will be sorry to hear that Mrs Hetty Rowell has not been enjoying the best of health lately; in fact she has been suffering from disorder of the kidneys, for which she has been taking Doan's Backache Kidney Pills. "I have so much improved that I cannot speak too highly of the pills", she says. A free sample. Send 1d stamp for postage and a sample will be sent at once. Mention Cambridge Daily News – advert.

1902 06 03
Peace in South Africa produced strife in Cambridge – one of those fierce contests between the police and the united forces of town and gown which, combined with the destruction of property, constitutes a "rag". In King Street a large double gate was attacked as wood for a bonfire but a vigorous-looking dame appeared from the other side. Her only weapon was a duster, but such a formidable appearance did she present that the crowd melted away before her advance. Skirmishers went towards the Circus of Varieties to obtain a hoarding but this was well guarded and soon they were retracing their steps. The hoarding which surrounded the underground toilets on Market Hill was torn down and lighted. More wood was wanted and the mob pulled down glazed bricks and girders, door-posts and window frames. Next morning the appearance of the projected underground lavatory was more like an archaeological excavation. Thousands of bricks were lying in the bottom mixed up with the dirt and pieces of wood and the general appearance of the place showed how wanton and reckless had been the young hot heads who had wrought the damage

1902 09 29
A fire did considerable damage at 30 Bridge Street, Cambridge, a University lodging house situated close to the Quayside. The only fire in the house was a small one in the grate of the back sitting room on the ground floor, but this room was not damaged. In the front room most of the furniture was consumed and the walls and ceiling badly burned. The fire broke out close to a gas pipe and although the grate contained paper, sticks and coal laid in the usual way, the fire only scorched the paper.
Sir – Cambridge Corporation have instructed all persons in the out-lying parts to telephone the Central Fire Station in case of fire. We in Chesterton are in a very awkward position. We have no telephones for public use. The nearest fire alarm post is at Quayside and one would have to walk, run or cycle there, and then fumble about in a very poor light trying to find out how to work the apparatus. We need a telephone call office instead. A doctor might be sent for, goods ordered from various tradesmen or one might even ring up his best girl – Philip Clare 12 04 19f

1902 10 24
The members of the Cambridge Y.M.C.A. celebrated their jubilee with a soiree in their rooms in Alexandra Street. 50 years ago the Church of England Young Men's Society and the Sunday School Teachers' Institute amalgamated, forming the Association. It settled in Rose Crescent. In 1853 it moved to larger premises at 5, Sidney Street, moving to Hobson Place in 1858 and then St Edward's Passage. In 1870 the first stone was laid of their present building; it was completed a year later. To call the soiree a success is scarcely adequate; the visitors never had a dull moment from the time they entered the door until the National Anthem brought the evening to a close.

1902 11 20
Bridge over Corn Exchange Street, p3 *

1902 12 18
Cambridge Water Company sued Messrs Kerridge and Shaw for water supplied for a building in course of construction in Rose Crescent, Cambridge. The supply recorded by a water meter had increased from 78,000 gallons one quarter up to 220,000 gallons the next. A new meter was installed and consumption fell. They claimed the old meter must have got out of order. But it was quite possible considering the number of taps they were using that one was left running and the water wasted.

1902 12 27
The demand for electric light is continually on the increase and Messrs Millington and Everett, King's Parade, Cambridge, have a good show of high-class electric lamps which they are selling at 1s. These lamps are guaranteed to be much more economical than the ordinary electric lamp. Telephone and electric bells are also well displayed here.

1903 01 02
St Edwards Passage premises bought by Barrett for £8,000 [3.23]

1903 01 16
Samuel Sleigh, formerly occupier of the Blue Boar Hotel, Trinity Street, Cambridge, sued an architect for damages. In 1899 he took the lease of the Blue Boar which was very much out of repair, both structurally and otherwise. Trinity College, the owners, recommended Coulson and Lofts to carry out alterations and consented to expend £3,000, but no more. When the costs went over budget he had been sued for the extra but claimed the architect had been negligent. His case was dismissed

1903 07 07
Cambridge is becoming an uncongenial place for the purveyor of pirated music. The latest of several seizures took place at the instigation of Messrs Bedwell, music dealers of St Mary's Passage. A member of the firm, with the assistance of police, examined a stock of music being sold by several hawkers on Market Hill. About 80 copies of well-known songs and some of Sousa's marches were found among the stock being sold cheaper than authorised charges for music produced by the holders of the copyright. They were promptly confiscated and taken to the police station. The hawkers were agents of a huge and craftily constituted organisation that exists for the distribution over the country of music of this description.
1903 08 11
Sir – I believe a great number of antiquarians in Cambridge will learn with regret that the Falcon Inn Yard in Petty Cury has been removed to make way for modern improvements. So quietly has the old Falcon taken flight that I fear our local photographers have not secured pictures of the old buildings and its destruction has escaped even the lynx-eyed representatives of the Press. I am consoled that I have retained my water-colour drawing of this famous inn, which I made 25 years ago for 'Old Cambridge' – W.B. Redfern 03 08 11

1903 08 11
Our attention has been drawn to the fact that another link with the fascinating past of Cambridge is being severed by the almost entire demolition of the one-time famous 'Falcon Inn'. Many years ago the front of the building, with its fine old gables facing Petty Cury, disappeared and about eight years ago the buildings on the left side of the Falcon Yard were demolished to make way for business extensions. Now the rooms on the right side are in process of demolition for extra accommodation for the Lion Hotel. The back part possessing a small specimen of the open gallery remains 03 08 11

1903 08 12
Petty Cury. Sir – the alarm about the old Falcon Inn, Petty Cury, being demolished unrecorded seems to me unnecessary. Certainly within the last 40 years I have sent out almost as many drawings of it, to say nothing of the etchings. It, with the old Wrestlers Inn, has been a small gold mine to me. One noticeable thing I might mention: it was the last inn to hang out a flag as a sign that the recruiting sergeant was at home – Robert Farren 03 08 12

1903 11 25
An agreement has been reached for the incorporation of the Capital and Counties Bank, London and Messrs Foster's bank in Sidney Street, Cambridge. The Capital was established more than 69 years ago and holds eminent rank among the leading London clearing banks. It is already well known here, having a branch in Cambridge under the management of Mr Guilmant, and others at Newmarket, Haverhill and Wisbech. We feel confident that the enlargement by this amalgamation with Messrs Foster of the Bank's sphere of operations cannot but prove of general advantage.

1903 10 14
St Tibbs Row Livery stables, p3

1903 11 27
A fire broke out in a storehouse at Messrs Lincoln's premises in Sidney Street, Cambridge; a quantity of petroleum became ignited and the fire assumed dangerous proportions. Three hydrants were quickly at work with hoses were taken through Trinity College and directed from college windows. But as the water streamed along the floor oil settled on the surface and becoming ignited created an effect of running streams of flame. At the time of going to press the fire was

still burning but has been sufficiently subdued to enable some of the goods in the store-room to be removed. There were over 100 gallons of petroleum in store.

1903 11 28
As reported yesterday nearly 150 gallons of petroleum became ignited in a warehouse in Sidney Street, Cambridge. It appears that one of Messrs Lincoln's carmen sent a lad to the warehouse to trim a van lamp. The boy was apparently not aware that the warehouse is lighted by electricity and while trimming the lamp he allowed it to remain alight. The oil in the lamp by some means became ignited and he dropped it on the floor. Two tanks of petroleum and a cask of methylated spirits were soon blazing furiously and the interior was a mass of flame.

1903 12 05
The Central Temperance Hotel and Coffee Tavern, Market Hill, Cambridge was for sale by auction. It has been an important and famous inn for centuries; originally known as the 'Three Tuns' it was visited by Pepys in 1660. The large ballroom with the minstrels' gallery still exists with valuable panelling and carved chimney pieces. It occupies an excellent position in a busy thoroughfare and is freehold.

1903 12 23
Cambridge architect Edwin Bays has produced a plan for a new 60 feet-wide road from Downing Street to Guildhall Street, parallel to Corn Exchange Street. This would create valuable frontages for business premises on either side and lead to a site for a new Cambridgeshire County Hall. There would be a fountain to take off the nakedness of the wide entrance at St Andrew's Hill, replacing the old Corn Exchange. It would relieve the congested traffic in the narrow Petty Cury and provide a direct access to the chief colleges.

1903 12 23
An important property sale was conducted, consisting of various properties in Sidney Street, one of the most central and important positions in the business part of Cambridge. Naturally there was a large attendance and the bidding was spirited. It included the coachbuilder's factory of T. Hunnybun, including carriage showroom and harness-maker's shop. These were withdrawn but sold after the sale at a considerably enhanced price; we understand they will continue their business in Hobson Street. A draper's shop occupied by F. Blott found a purchaser at £3,600.

1904 01 04
Considerable damage was done by a fire that started in the attic at the Rose Hotel, Rose Crescent, Cambridge. News was received at the Fire Station by means of the fire alarm post on Market Hill and they were soon on the scene with the horsed fire escape and tender. Much damage was done in a comparatively small area but every room in the hotel suffered from the effects of water, which saturated the ceilings. Fortunately none of the bedrooms were occupied at the time

1904 01 22
Discussion about site for War Memorial, one suggestion is at junction of Hills Road & Station Road, finally decide to erect it at East end exterior of Gt St Mary's church [1.10]

1904 02 19
Cambridge Liberals have been turned out of their handsome home in St Andrew's Street. Few provincial political clubs have had such a palatial clubhouse with large lofty rooms, spacious hall and staircase with a terrace overlooking gardens. The deceased Alderman, Henry Rance, who built the extensive premises practically ruined himself in the process. Members are now removed

to a property in St Tibb's Row formerly occupied by a now defunct newspaper until new premises are completed on the site of the old Bird Bolt Hotel.

1904 03 01
All Cambridge united in welcoming King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra to open the new University buildings known as the Sedgwick Museum, the Squire Law Library, Botanical and Medical Schools in Downing Street. Cambridge University has never stagnated but kept pace with the demands of the time. Newer universities have their place in the general scheme of things but they can never supplant our ancient university of Cambridge, nor her twin sister on the banks of the Isis. With the increasing spread of education their prosperity increases.

1904 03 26
Messrs J. Carter Jonas sold by auction an important estate in King Street, Cambridge comprising the fully-licensed public house, the Millers Arms and adjoining dwelling house and outbuildings. The pub contains beer cellars and washhouse in the basement, a large room fitted with a kitchen range, bar parlour etc now in the occupation of Messrs Bailey & Tebbutt. The business premises at the rear include a paint shop, workshop and stables whilst the house has four bedrooms. When Sussex Street is widened King Street must become an important business thoroughfare. It was acquired by Mr Nockolds at £3,700

1904 04 21
Cambridge Paving Committee received a memorial from a number of residents in the Hobson Street area calling attention to the present state of the carriage-way. They directed the Surveyor to report the cost of paving the street with wood blocks, together with the portion of St Andrew's Street from the tramway terminus. But Hobson Street was used by very few people; traffic was not half what it used to be and as the trams were likely to be electrified it would be better to wait. However a great amount of traffic came from Newmarket Road to the centre of town down King Street; very often there was a great block of traffic in Sussex Street because it was dangerous to go down Hobson Street where the pebbles were very uneven. Traffic went on dropping, and business went on dropping, simply because the street was so badly paved.

1904 06 03
Fire in Messrs Bell and Son's premises in Wheeler Street, an ancient building used as a corn and seed merchants premises for two or three centuries. Police constable Winter noticed fire and smoke at 4.30 am and gave the alarm. The hose reel from the Guildhall was affixed to a hydrant and a stream of water directed on the burning building. Firemen appeared on the scene with the horsed fire-escape and tender but the building of three floors and constructed largely of lath and plaster was burning fiercely. The flames leapt high through the roof and shot out through the windows. In a very short time the roof fell in with a crash and all hope for saving the property was destroyed. The efforts of 28 firemen and 15 police was directed towards preventing the spread of the fire to the adjoining property. The cause of the outbreak is unknown. There had been unusual activity among the rats and mice in the old premises, now taken as a sign that the fire had got a good hold on Sunday evening. The damage was extensive. The fire and second floors, used for the storage of fodder and seed were nearly burnt out, the ground floor and offices were severely damaged by smoke. The basement and the top floor and a small part of the roof of the 'Bell' public house were damaged by water as were the contents of the tobacconist's shop at the end of Wheeler Street occupied by Mr Canham. The window frames of the Cambridge Free Library were slightly damaged by the heat. 04 06 03

1904 06 10

An important property sale was conducted at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge. Several lots were offered including the Wesleyan Chapel at Old Chesterton which, however, was not sold. The brick-built building with a class room at the rear was withdrawn at £165. A plot of building land opposite De Freville Avenue fetched £285; the residence 'Sepha Villa', Lyndewode Road was withdrawn at £640 and a modern family residence known as 'Lucerne' on Hills Road with gardens of a quarter of an acre was withdrawn at £725. Winthingham House, 199 Chesterton Road with gardens and a coach house was withdrawn at £1,850 but a University lodging house at no.9 Malcolm Street, licensed to let three sets (two at £11 and one at £7) sold for £355

1904 06 16
Cambridge Library committee referred to the recent fire on Peas Hill and the destruction of the premises adjacent to the library. But for the skill of the fire brigade the reading room must have been destroyed and the contents lost. The accumulation of books, pictures and scarce literature could never be replaced. Now the old dilapidated buildings should be cleared away and a more appropriate building erected. Next year they would celebrate the jubilee of the opening of the library and the appointment of Mr Pink as Librarian. The Library Association should be invited to hold their annual meeting at Cambridge, free of charge. 1904 06 16
1904 07 13
Few realise the lavish expenditure on the May Balls held in Cambridge Corn Exchange. After the corn merchants have vacated the building on the Saturday evening a small army of workmen take possession. They labour until midnight when the advent of the Sabbath and the strict rules governing municipal buildings shut them out for 24 hours. With the first hour of Monday morning they re-enter and by eight that evening the place is transformed into an artistic ballroom through which not a vestige of the prosaic Corn Exchange is seen. What of the cost? There is not less than £2,000 worth of goods in the ball room; add to that the cost of utilising the Guildhall as a supper room and include the china and plates for the supper and you have a total of some thousands of pounds to provide our moneyed visitors with an evening's entertainment.

1904 09 03
Green Street, Cambridge would hardly be suspected of any pretensions to the romantic. Its well-ordered lodging-houses, the policemen who parade it and the milkmen who visit it, all seem to bar the entrance to anything more fanciful. Yet it is home to a Russian Pole, Mr Ignatius Knaster who became a political offender by the publication of a political pamphlet dealing with the conditions in Poland and was given the alternative of incarceration or banishment. 1904 09 03

1904 09 14
The Official Receiver examining the affairs of a cycle dealer in King Street, Cambridge heard that he had begun business in 1895 and made a fair income until two years ago. The causes of his failure were bad trade, loss on a motor car and the illness of his wife and family. Since the receiving order had been made he had kept two men on the premises at work doing repairs to keep the business going. The New Hudson people had written asking what he would take for the whole thing and Mr Ison had also been after it. Among his creditors were Macintosh and Sons, J.F. Amps, Enfield Cycle Co, The Cycle Exchange and H. Swainland

1904 09 15
A poorly-attended council meeting considered an offer from the Cambridge Electric Tramways Syndicate to electrify and extend the present tramway system. The overhead trolley system for running the cars would not to be employed in King's Parade without the consent of the council. But consultants say that the existing lines in King's Parade should be abandoned & they cannot recommend new lines in the town centre because the narrowness of the streets would generate great opposition from residents. A new line should be laid in Silver Street but this is so narrow

that the trams would take their turn with ordinary road traffic and keep to the left. There may be some objection to a track down Queen's Road which has the character of a boulevard but this would not be disturbed by the working of the tramways. The busiest section would be Hills Road where trams would run at about 2¾ minute intervals

1904 09 17
Comment was aroused by the sight of a Cambridge magistrate assisting a workman to carry a heavy pail along Corn Exchange Street and into the Town Clerk's office. It was not a common or garden pail but a vessel of great antiquarian interest that had been discovered amongst some rubbish in the old office of the Inspector of Weights and Measures. It is a bushel measure of solid bronze with ornamental handles inscribed 'Elizabeth' and dated 1601. Men of the First Eastern General Hospital were quartered in Corn Exchange Street. An elaborate scheme was drawn up for constituting Cambridge a great hospital centre and the various college buildings were mapped out for conversion into wards. But this scheme is intended in case of invasion and it is to be hoped will never be needed. At present the need is for accommodation at places were wounded men are likely to be landed 14 08 07

1904 09 20
Sunday saw the realization of a scheme in connection with Great St Mary's church, Cambridge, which has been in progress 15 years: the filling of the clerestory with windows. The church was re-opened having been closed so that the remaining three windows might be put in. Two were given in memory of W.H. Hattersley & Alderman Scales. They are a great improvement to the church and represent the three verses of the Te Deum CDN 20.9.1904

1905 01 14
Sussex Street fire, p3

1905 02 04
There have been whispers of difficulties in connection with the erection of the new premises at the corner of Downing Street, Cambridge, but they appear to have been overcome since this week recommencement of operations has been made. The site was cleared, and for several months nothing further was done. At length the foundations are being put in. Let us hope it won't be long before we are spared the expense of having a special policeman on point duty to regulate the traffic at that corner in consequence of the hoarding that has obstructed the view there for so long. 05 02 04a

1905 04 15
Both Cambridge buses started to ply for hire and the novelty induced people to make trips. Had several more 'buses been running they would have been crowded. The scene on Market Hill was unprecedented. Apart from those who lined one pavement in the hope of obtaining a seat it was alive with folk who were content with watching. As soon as a vehicle drew up a crowd swarmed around the steps, clutching the handrail and endeavouring to get a foothold on the step. Each time there were many left waiting on the pavement disappointed and most waited until it returned. 05 04 15 & a

1905 05 02
Petty Cury - An outbreak of fire occurred at the premises of Messrs Hallack and Bond, wholesale grocers, Petty Cury, Cambridge. About 11.18 pm smoke and flames were discovered issuing from a store room. The alarm was at once given and the horsed fire escape, tender and hose cart were soon on the scene. With the aid of one hydrant, the inmates of the building and the firemen succeeded in extinguishing the outbreak just in time to prevent a serious conflagration 05 05 02b

1905 06 13
The memorial to the Cambridge men who died during the South African War was unveiled at Great St Mary's Church. It is not inside the church but looks out upon the Market Place, seeming to say that in the midst of life we were in death. A guard of honour consisting of a hundred men of the Cambridge Town Volunteers together with a detachment of the Suffolk Militia, a dismounted body of Hussars, Cambridge University Rifle Volunteers and the band of the Scots Grays joined old soldiers who had seen service in South Africa to witness the proceedings 05 06 13c

1905 06 17
The unveiling of the South African war memorial was marred by two small incidents. The Mayor of Cambridge was without his trusty mace-bearers - apparently the maces were securely locked up and the individual who holds the keys was not to be found. Then police failed to recognise the military veterans and refused them admittance to the ceremony to which they had been invited. There was a considerable amount of confusion until the constables were enlightened as to the nature of the guests and allowed them to pass. 05 06 17

1905 08 26
Market Hill - Sir – I wish to protest against an act of vandalism. The fine view of Cambridge from the corner of Petty Cury with the stalls, old fountain and University Church has been ruined by the erection of a lofty 'stink pipe' in the middle of the Market Place, cutting the east window of the church in half. Why could this not have been run up the side of the Guildhall where it would not have been such an eyesore? – Cantab. 05 08 26c

1905 09 13
Sir – I believe the earliest Cambridge photographer was George Proctor, who lived in New Square until he died about 1850. About the same time Sarony, a celebrated photographer, was allowed to carry on his business in a caravan on Parker's Piece. There were others including Nichols who had a flourishing business; he moved from Slaughter House Lane to St Mary's Passage and later his son to Post Office Terrace. He took my own portrait in 1854 and it is as good today as it was then – 'Three-score and twelve' 05 09 13a

1905 11 03
A new branch of the Union of London and Smith's Bank has opened in St John's Street. They have 150 other branches and a subscribed capital of £23 million. This makes the fifth banking institution in Cambridge, the other being Barclay's, Capital and Counties', Lloyds and the London and County. It includes almost the cream of the important joint stock banking concerns 05 11 03b

1906 01 16
The newly-elected Cambridge Liberal MP, Mr Buckmaster, proceeded to the Bull Hotel. Hundreds upon hundreds thronged King's Parade and still hundreds more from Market Hill arrived, cheering as they came. When he appeared on the balcony the applause reached fever heat, handkerchiefs and hats were waved and he was informed that he was a jolly good fellow. At last, it seemed from very exhaustion, the people settled down to hear his speech. 06 01 16b

1906 01 31
The new Cambridge Liberal Club premises in Downing Street includes an assembly room with a ladies gallery, reading, smoking and games rooms. But it has nothing that can compensate for the

loss of the beautiful garden they enjoyed in their old home at Rance's Folly in St Andrew's Street. It will be formally opened by the Solicitor-General. 06 01 31a

1906 02 22
In 1901 an agreement was made with Emmanuel College for the closing of Emmanuel Street and the opening of a new one nearer Christ's Lane. It had been needed when electric trams were being planned to remedy a dangerous corner with St Andrew's Street – but there would be a more dangerous corner to the proposed new street. Now some councillors called for the agreement to be cancelled. However the council had entered a binding contract and they were honour-bound to carry it out.06 02 22a,b,c

1906 02 22
Sir: Christ's Lane is a thoroughfare that is as much used as any in Cambridge, and is owned by a college. During the last two years it has been a veritable quagmire, I came through last evening and the mud was several inches thick through the lane. When is Cambridge to be governed so that there is the same law measured out for the University as there is for the worker and when is Christ's Lane to be paved in such a manner that that it shall be as pleasant to walk through as it is walking across Christ's Pieces? – B.L. 06 02 22

1906 02 23
King's Lane scheme – 06 02 23b

1906 08 07
Cambridge fire brigade undoubtedly saved a portion of King's Parade, St Edward's Passage and Peas Hill from destruction by fire. There are numerous old houses, warehouses, sheds and outhouses of all descriptions, many constructed chiefly of wood. It broke out at Mons Buol's bakery, 17 Kings Parade; the bakehouse was gutted and hundreds of pounds of chocolate, almonds and sugar damaged. 06 08 07

1906 09 08
Bene't Street: cobbles to be replaced with wooden paving [4.17]

1906 12 19
The handsome new Norwich Union building with its ornamental white stone façade finally stands out in bold relief. Downing Street and St Andrew's Street corner is freed from inconvenient hoardings at last. The builder was summonsed for delay in removing them: there were periods when no work was being carried on at all. Throughout construction a policeman had needed to be on point duty at a cost of £250. But he had made genuine attempts to get the work through in a reasonable time. He was fined a nominal one pound. 06 12 19a & b

1906 12 29
Hudson's brewery applied for the transfer of the licence of the Golden Fleece, Ram Yard, an old beer-house attached to Brown's billiard rooms, which years ago was a celebrated resort of University billiard players. The house had been closed for eight months but now there was a new tenant. Some days ago it was refused, but now it was granted. 06 12 29a

1907 04 27
It is alleged that Hobson's Stream is being 'tapped' by some unauthorised body and the supply of water for public purposes is fast diminishing. Not so. To restore its former volume it simply needs flushing. Water comes from Shelford to the conduit in as plentiful a supply as ever but it is many years since the pipe which feeds the Market Hill fountain was adequately flushed and an

accumulation of rubbish prevents it receiving the amount of water it should. There is some difficulty in deciding whether the town council or the Hobson's Charity are responsible, but the cost would not exceed £5. 07 04 27

1907 05 14
In 1874 part of the Holy Sepulchre churchyard was taken for widening the street on condition that the boundary was marked by a band of stone. Now the Electric Supply Company plans to build a sub-station in Round Church Street and want the Corporation to arrange for the removal and re-interring of any human remains. But they are not willing to incur any expense. 07 05 14a

1907 06 22
Charles Lawrence's kennels at Chesterton have bred many famous animals in the dog world, winning prizes in Antwerp, Brussels and Rotterdam. Purchasers come from all over the country; Alderman Pratt of Bradford recently bought two pups for £100 while one sold for £300. During term time a familiar sight on Market Hill is a man surrounded by dogs which he sells to undergraduates at fancy prices. Mr Lawrence bought one for £2 cash, then exhibited it at a show and sold it for £150. To see a collection of valuable clumber, field and cocker spaniels gambolling in the paddock is a sight which must appeal even to those who have but the barest acquaintance with a good dog. 07 06 22b

1907 07 17
General William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, was welcomed to Cambridge by thousands of spectators who lined the road from Trumpington to the Guildhall. Three red motor cars with a Salvation Army flag in each were given quite an oration en route to Market Square where the Band struck up a popular Army tune. But the General entered the building from Peas Hill and ignored the cries of 'Speech' as he disappeared from view. 07 07 17

1907 08 10
Messrs Macmillan and Bowes, the well-known booksellers, have recently acquired the house over their premises at the corner of Trinity Street. On the new staircase, designed by Mr T.D. Atkinson, hangs a portrait of 'Maps' (John Nicholson) and old views of Cambridge. In the new reading room are exhibited manuscripts and autograph letters from Wordsworth, Tennyson and Thackeray. One room is devoted entirely to Cambridge material of which Mr Bowes published a catalogue in 1894.
07 08 10 & a

1907 08 17
Esperanto Congress held in Cambridge, Market Hill bedecked with flags. All other events in Cambridge have been dwarfed in comparison with the third International Esperanto Congress which has brought money into the town when trade was at its lowest ebb. It was hoped the University might have bestowed an honorary degree upon Dr Zamenhof, the Warsaw genius, but apart from a formal reception at the Fitzwilliam Museum it has generally stood aloof from the movement. 07 08 17a

1907 09 24
Cambridge Councillors considered the question of the old corn merchant's buildings on Peas Hill which were damaged by fire in 1904. The whole of the site, including the houses in Wheeler Street, should be used for municipal buildings with the basement and ground floor as an extension to the Central Library 07 09 24a

1907 09 24

Cambridge Automobile Company applied for a licence to store 1,000 gallons of petroleum and 200 lbs of carbide of calcium on their premises in Hobson Street. The petrol would be stored in an underground chamber, brick-built and lined with concrete. The Inspector of Explosives is satisfied so the council will recommend approval. 07 09 24a

1907 10 12
Firemen fought a blaze in the roof of house in Rose Crescent. Underneath was the Modes and Ladies' Outfitting Establishment, carried on by Miss Hutchings and a large quantity of her stock was spoilt by the streams of water. After the fire was out the assistants were kept busy in removing hats and other goods from the shop. 07 10 12

1907 10 31
Fire mineral water works, Hobson Street – 07 10 31

1907 11 05
Holy Trinity church redecoration – 07 11 05b

1907 11 27
Stetchworth Dairy supplies 400 gallons to 18 colleges and 1,800 families daily from King Street depot – feature – 07 11 27, 27a

1908 03 05
Sir – old houses in Bene't Street have rings under their eaves which are said to enable the roof to be pulled off in event of fire. But a few years ago I saw a bulky piece of furniture being drawn up to the second floor of one such property and taken in through the window. I noticed the ropes were passing through these rings under the eaves. It is obvious that to take a piano or large chest of drawers up the narrow winding staircases would be an impossibility so they were a wise provision - R. Cleaver, Chesterton. 08 03 05

1908 05 02
Bridge Street: - Sir – I have traced the history of Blackmoor Head Yard, Bridge Street, for nearly 100 years, and find it has been the custom for occupants to hang their washing across the yard. Laundresses have lived there and dried everything in the same way. Dr Dennis Adams had the stables at the bottom of the yard and when our King was up at Cambridge he often used to come there and hold the linen up with his stick to pass under it without making any fuss at all. Where must we dry them now? In the bedrooms? – S. Collingwood 08 05 02b

1908 06 12
At the bottom of Mill Lane there was a kind of wharf with steps to allow people to get down to the river. Recently Mr Scudamore had fastened a sort of wooden punt as a mooring for pleasure boats, now nobody in a boat could get to the steps without trespassing on it. But no loading of boats had been carried on for nine years, the water was only a foot deep and there had been no complaints. Anybody in a punt could use it, Scudamore claimed. However as the river was a navigable highway, this was an obstruction magistrates decided and fined him five shillings. CWN 08 06 12 p2

1908 07 24
A great deal of excitement was caused by a fire at Christ's College. Bert Holder, a butcher, noticed smoke issuing from the scullery and engine room window in Christ's Lane where the ceiling, which is of matchboarding, was well alight. Pc Fred Savidge and the head porter, Mr Chapman, fitted the college fire appliance to a hydrant and commenced to play on the flames,

which were soon extinguished owing to the prompt action of the fire brigade and police force. CWN 08 07 24

1908 08 28
Great blocks of glittering, iridescent ice are manufactured on the site of the Falcon Inn, Petty Cury, every hot midsummer morning. Mr J.V. Pryor, the fish-monger has installed plant for this modern miracle and the shrill insistent note of the dynamo is joined by the plunk-plunk of the gas engine exhaust. Like the flying machine, the ice factory is at present only in its infancy and the plant is expensive but the method of manufacture is simplicity itself, taking 50 hours to produce slabs weighing two cwt apiece and makes more than Mr Pryor needs for his ordinary fish business.
CEN 08 08 28 p3

1908 09 11
Petty Cury has been closed to vehicular traffic during the operation of replacing the Val de Travers cement that was removed to admit the underground telephone wires. This work by Italian workmen has been watched with much interest. The material in the form of steaming hot powder is placed on its concrete bed and rammed and levelled with hot irons. The rapidity with which the stuff hardens and becomes fit for use is quite remarkable. CWN 08 09 11 p5

1908 09 11
A miniature rifle range and air rifle club has been formed in connection with the Church of England Young Men's Society at their large room in St Edward's Passage. The two targets can be placed in two positions – for shooting standing up or lying down – and two good air rifles have been provided. Englishmen should learn to shoot in order to defend their own hearths and homes and the Corporation should establish a range open almost all hours of the day. CWN 08 09 11 p8

1909 01 01
A slight outbreak of fire occurred at 17 Market Hill, Cambridge, the ground floor of which is used as a shop by Messrs Bacon Bros tobacconist and the upper part by Mr Mason as a lodging house. Smoke was issuing from the floor of an upstairs sitting room. The flooring was pulled up and near the fireplace an old beam was found to be smouldering. Fireman Parsley, with the aid of a hand-pump, disposed of all danger. CWN 09 01 01

1909 02 12
Ladies who study their figures will do well to inspect the new designs in corsets exhibited at the show rooms of Messrs W.K. Vawser and Son, Petty Cury. Specially designed corsets are prepared for the Empire and Directoire style of gowns. Ladies will be delighted to find just what they need among the lovely models of the French I.C. a la Persephone corsets which are suitable for the slender willowy figures. The Adjustment for stouter figures, needing greater support, is an ideal corset, price 17s.6d. (85p). 09 02 12

1909 02 12
Hallack and Bond can trace their association with Cambridge back over 100 years: it was there that Elizabeth Woodcock purchased her groceries before being lost in the snow in 1799. Tea was a luxury then, now it is a necessity and their delicate Katharata blend produces pleasing results. A visit to their tea room is a revelation: upon a tea-tasting day fragrant bouquets from the Far East assail the nostrils and the palate including one with a beautiful peach-like perfume 09 02 12

1909 03 19

Mr W.B. Redfern's unique collection of watercolour drawings of old Cambridge excited great interest. In 1875 he started to record places of bygone and antiquarian interest which but for his timely intervention would have been lost for ever. A good many had now entirely disappeared including two houses in Shelley Row which were the residence of Oliver Cromwell during the Civil War. They were panelled with two handsome fireplaces which he had moved to his own house. Old houses in Petty Cury were the most striking and perfect places which should never have been pulled down while parts of the Falcon Yard had remained until the last few years. 09 03 19

1909 11 12
Damage was caused to the house of Mr A. Carter, cab proprietor and common lodging-house keeper on Honey Hill, formerly known as the Beehive beerhouse. Fire broke out in the former tap room, now used as a bedroom. It appears his wife went into the room for some wearing apparel and the flame from her candle ignited some fancy mats hanging on the chest of drawers. A quantity of shawls, dresses and bonnets which were hanging on the wall, some brushes and the ceiling were damaged. Another fire in the basement of a lodging house at 17 Market Hill was noticed by undergraduates and extinguished by buckets of water. CWN 09 11 12

1910

1910 02 04
Licencing –Cardinal's Cap Guildhall Place - 10 02 04e & f

1910 04 08
The first real flying machine ever delivered in Cambridge arrived at the Hobson Street garage of Cambridge Automobile and Engineering Company. It is an exact counterpart of the monoplane with which M. Bleriot flew across the channel. On Friday the engine, tractor and ignition were tested. It worked splendidly and developed great power, the screw creating a tremendous draught and exerting such a force that, although the machine had not its wings and tail fitted, it took half-a-dozen men to hold it down. 10 04 08a

1910 04 29
The University's new School of Agriculture in Downing Street was opened by the Duke of Devonshire. Designed by Arnold Mitchell it is built of dull red Dutch brick. The floors and staircase are of fireproof construction and the building is heated by hot water and lighted by electricity. It will accommodate 100 students with a lecture room, botanical laboratory, greenhouse and photographic darkroom. 10 04 29 f & g

1910 05 20
The foundation stone of the first block of the new Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at the corner of Downing Street and Tennis Court Road was laid by the Baroness Von Hugel whose husband is the curator. The ceremony was a very quiet one and the proceedings were very brief because of the death of the King. In a cavity under the stone was placed a bottle containing a couple of newspapers and a number of current coins of the realm. 10 05 20

1910 06 24
Archaeology: animal and human bones near Trinity Street – 10 06 24b

1911
Market Hill: Number of market stalls reduced by 62 from 250 & roads around square widened [1.24]

1911 03 24
Market Hill fire – 11 03 24a

1911 03 31
The new Labour Exchange in Guildhall Street was visited by large numbers of people, most of whom contented themselves with scanning the red-boarded notices of situations vacant posted up in the windows. But about 40 applicants for work gave their names and some were at once notified of vacancies. Exchanges all over the country are linked up and the Cambridge office communicated by telephone with the Aberdeen Exchange to help a Scottish man find work. There are vacancies for motor repairers, electrical fitters and shorthand typists and a good demand for healthy men expert in pick and shovel work who are willing to go to Australia as railway labourers. 11 03 31e

1911 04 07
Roller Skating Extraordinary. Last evening at the Victoria Rink on Market Hill, Monohan, the most remarkable skater in the world, gave an exhibition which evoked the greatest admiration. He performed many original turns, such as the candle maze, waltzing with a life-sized doll and concluded his wonderful display by jumping over five chairs. 11 04 07e

1911 05 26
An impudent robbery was committed at Robinson's Motor Cycle Garage in Green Street. The lock was forced and a couple of 1911 Triumph motor-cycles stolen together with two complete suits of the most expensive motor-cycle waterproof clothing, sparking plugs, repair outfits and goggles. The thieves were evidently possessed of a nice discrimination for they took only the best they could lay their hands on. The Triumphs are the thoroughbred of the motorcycle word and would sell at sight for a large sum anywhere. They could easily average 30mph so that the thieves would have had no difficulty in getting to London before the loss was discovered. 11 05 26h

1911 08 11
Street widening Magdalene Street, Sidney St etc – 11 08 11b

1911 08 11
The Cambridge Electric Theatre Company applied for a cinematograph licence to show inflammable films at the Victoria Assembly Rooms on Market Hill. Only non-inflammable films are currently used but these do not give as clear a picture. The lantern chamber was situated outside the building and was fire-proof with iron shutters to block the two openings in the wall. The hall could seat 280 and be cleared in less than two minutes. But there was no back exit and magistrates refused the application 11 08 11h & 18c

1911 11 17
'Charles Darwin lived here in 1828' is the inscription in red lettering on a stone tablet recently placed over Arthur Rutter's office in Sidney Street. This is the first tablet of its kind in Cambridge but another one has been put up over 22 Fitzwilliam Street recording that he also lived there. The idea is an excellent one and it is hoped that the example which has been set by the Master of Christ's and members of the Darwin family, will be followed by others 11 11 17

1912 02 02
A new County Hall is needed. The existing clerk, a solicitor in private practice, works from his own office. The Education and Medical departments are on opposite sides of Sidney Street, the

Finance Clerk in is Regent Street, the Architect in Hobson Street and the Surveyor in Hills Road. This is inconvenient and uneconomical and leads to inefficiency. 12 02 02h

1912 03 15
The County Council is to purchase Hobson Street Wesleyan Chapel and the adjoining house to build a Council Chamber and offices. The site is central and quiet and although the cost might appear to be high it would eventually result in a saving. There would be much greater efficiency to have all officials under one roof instead of them running backwards and forwards from one place to another. They would also need four less telephones, saving £30 12 03 15f

1912 04 05
Cambridge Automobile Co, Sidney Street; list of second-hand cars for sale – 12 04 05

1912 07 19
A motor mechanic told the Receiver he had taken the management of the University Automobile Club in Jesus Lane. Finding that the membership of the club was not large enough the garage had been given up by them and he opened it on his own four years ago. He had no money but some of the members of the club continued to use the garage and paid deposits. He had entered into partnership and paid the first instalment on a motor landaulette. But they'd had a row and he'd continued on his own. 12 07 19h

1912 07 26
Licensing - Lamb in Guildhall St (details) 12 07 26 o&p

1912 08 02
Whether one is in favour of militancy or not, the courage of those ladies who use it as a means for gaining the vote for women cannot be denied. Two ladies stood on Market Hill on Friday evening and faced the jeers and derision of a gang of rowdy youths who did all they could to make the meeting a farce. Popular songs formed the favourite medium employed for drowning the voices of the speakers and the confusion was heightened by the use of cycle bells and whistles. But Miss Roff and Miss Kate Jarvis persisted and managed to make their arguments audible 12 08 02a

1912 08 09
The County Council had considered various sites for a new County Hall. The purchase price of Hobson Street Methodist Chapel was £3,500 (£324,000 today) which was fair. In the chapel they had a good deal of material and the shell and outside walls would stand and be utilised. But it would not be sufficient. So they needed to purchase a house from Christ's College; they were not desirous of selling and the price of £2,500 was the least they would accept. The erection of county hall would increase the value of the other buildings in Hobson Street and help to bring a much-needed town improvement through the widening of Sussex Street. 12 08 09

1912 08 09
A new scheme for relieving the traffic in Silver Street recommends a new road and bridge connecting to Coe Fen Lane, passing on the east side of the old mill and along the wall of Peterhouse at a total cost of £14,246 (£1.3m today). The Corporation had purchased Mr Foster's mill. It was at present broken down and would never be used as a mill again. But there was a strong feeling against a road across Coe Fen and Sheep's Green; it ought to be more in line with Mill Lane. An alternative would take a road from Barton Road corner to Belvoir Terrace but this would destroy the bathing place. However some councillors said the congestion had been greatly exaggerated and there was no urgent need at present. 12 08 09c & d

1912 08 16
Silver Street traffic – Meik's scheme – 12 08 16dd & ee

1912 08 16
A meeting of the Women's Social and Political Union was being held and soon after Miss Kathleen Jarvis began her speech the bells of Great St Mary's struck up a deafening peal. The fair speaker's voice, pleasing but not powerful, was almost completely lost and it was only by her gesticulations that the crowd could see she was still expounding her principles. For something like an hour the unequal contest was maintained. And Miss Jarvis was the winner. A woman who had earned three periods of imprisonment was not to be daunted and was still pouring out a stream of argumentative bullets when the ringers retired - 12 08 16aa & b

1912 09 13
Sir - Cambridge fruit costs more on Cambridge market than in London since most cannot be sold locally at any price and is sent to larger towns. Good apples were sent from Histon to Manchester that were sold for a shilling per half bushel. Expenses consumed 10d and the grower got only 2d. But in his own market the grower tries to sell at remunerative prices. The only people who can sell cheaper than market traders are the hawkers. There are dozens of large lorries that hawk all over Cambridge and pay not one penny towards the expenses of the town. Yet market stallholders have to pay a very heavy toll – John Hall 12 09 13f
1912 09 20
Bankruptcy – Arthur Clarke, stationer in Trinity Street

1912 09 20
Hobson Street chapel was opened in 1849 by Wesleyans had previously met in a chapel in Fitzroy Street and a room in Green Street. It became a spiritual home for residents and undergraduates and was improved in 1891. But it has become inadequate. The Fitzroy Street chapel had become a jam warehouse but Hobson Street will be replaced by the new County Council offices. They will now meet in the Victoria Assembly Room until the new Wesley Chapel on Christ's Pieces is ready. 12 09 20c

1912 09 27
Councillors debated the proposed scheme for relieving traffic in Silver Street. A bridge from Silver Street to Mill Lane with one road across Coe Fen and another taking traffic from Newnham Croft to the Station would be a very large expenditure and ruin Sheep's Green, one of the most delightful bits of country in the town. The problem could be adequately met by widening Laundress Lane from Silver Street to Mill Lane and diverting the traffic in that direction. 12 09 27b & c

1912 10 18
Workmen digging at the rear of a shop in Peas Hill discovered the skeleton of a man and women, lying side by side. Nearby is the site of an old monastery and the assumption is that the remains were found in a former burying-ground. If so it knocks the bottom out of one of the best ghost stories in Cambridge, involving a wealthy banker whose young, beautiful wife took a lover who then disappeared. Half a body was later discovered in excavations at the Bijou Theatre Club's cellars. Now it appears they may all be linked. 12 10 18j

1912 11 15
Fire at Still & Sugar Loaf, Market Hill – 12 11 15a

1912 12 12

When Mrs Pankhurst arrived for a Suffragette meeting at the Guildhall the streets were impassable, 20 policemen were on duty at the entrance and the air was filled with the horrible stench of stink-bombs. Although the audience comprised a large opposition who created a good deal of uproar, the noise gradually diminished as her speech advanced and she was perfectly audible. Georgina Brackbenbury who took the chair had more interruption by the sound of a penny trumpet; its owner was a musician who produced notes mournful or joyous according to her words and achieved a flourishing Reveille. Afterwards crowds ringed a motor car waiting outside the Wheeler Street entrance, which had one of its tyres deflated. But Mrs Pankhurst was quietly conducted out by the Guildhall Street entrance and to the Lion Hotel. 12 12 12c & d & e

1912 12 20
The Mart in King Street has been constructed Mr J. Winship, the well-known auctioneer who has transformed what was originally a bare and ill-lighted bottling store into a fine salesroom. Soon 'The Mart' in 16-inch gold lettering will form a fitting crown to the red and gold colour scheme of the front of the premises. It is intended for the sale of furniture with a large skylight and powerful gas burners, adequate ventilation and heating. From the rostrum the auctioneer can easily see buyers and no serious bidder will fail to catch his eye 12 12 20b

1912 12 20
The Cambridge branch of the Friends of the Soviet Union held an enjoyable social at the new Left Book Club rooms in Falcon Yard at which two Russian silent films were shown. The first, 'Oil Symphony' gave an account of the tapping of some of the country's vast oil resources, while the second recounted the construction of the Baltic-White sea canal. There was also an interesting exhibition of modern Russian craft work. Copies of photographs sent to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Socialist regime were given as prizes in competitions and dances 12 12 20e

1913
Sidney Street: rebuilding, Eaden Spearing & Raynes demolished [IC.10.21]

1913
The local telephone exchange was on Market Hill under control of the National Telephone Company. In 1913 the Post Office took control and a combined trunk and local exchange was installed in old Telephone Exchange premises in Alexandra Street. When automatic telephone working was introduced in 1925 it moved to new head Post Office in St Andrew's Street – 44 05 05a

1913 01 03
Whitmore & co, wine merchants in liquidation, based in Downing Street - good stock of vintage wine, catered at Alexandra Palace, owned Bun Shop, Queens Arms

1913 02 21
A fifteen-year-old flower seller was summoned at the Children's Court for causing an obstruction in Market Street. He was offering a bunch of flowers to some ladies and had put his basket on the pavement. There were numbers of people who had shops and sold flowers and it did not seem fair competition for these others to sell in front of their shops. He was cautioned. There had been complaints of hawkers blocking thoroughfares. Another obstruction was caused by empty perambulators being wheeled on the pavements. That was clearly a breach of the law, the Chief Constable told magistrates 13 02 21 p8 CIP

1913 02 28

Mr J. Winship junior conducted his first furniture sale at The Mart, the splendid new auction rooms in King Street. They would conduct the business on business lines. They would have a sale when there was anything to sell and would not buy stuff to sell again. Furniture not sold would be stored and insured against fire free of cost and as the place was heated throughout by hot water pipes, the furniture would be kept in good condition. 13 02 28 CIP

1913 03 14
Four Cabmen were summonsed for taking their cabs on to the Senate House rank when it was already fully occupied and leaving their horses and cabs unattended. Pc Pettitt said there were four unattended cabs standing two abreast facing the reverse way to the other five waiting for business. The rank was authorised for two cabs during the week and three extra on Saturday because the Market Hill rank could not be used then. One man said he'd gone to the lavatory on Market Hill and had asked others to look after his horse. More had been to the coffee shop or had gone to breakfast. They must obey the byelaws. 13 03 14 p8 CIP

1913 04 18
Corn Exchange motor sales banned because of petrol on floor

1913 05 16
Motor Cars Act, 1903. Cambridge Borough Council have made application for a regulation to be made under the act to prohibit the driving or motor bicycles in Senate House Passage, Garret Hostel Lane & Burrell's Walk 13 05 16 p6

1913 05 30
A blaze broke out at Messrs Macintosh's foundry in Thompson's Lane. After the day's work is done the men draw the furnace to allow the fire to die out. When this is done huge sparks fly up, giving the impression that the place is on fire. But one of these sparks was blown on to the roof and set light to a beam. Had it been left the entire premises would have burnt down. But firemen, aided by undergraduates, put it out. 13 05 30 p11

1913 07 11
Market Street wood paving not satisfactory – expensive & smelly

1913 11 21
18 Peas Hill rebuild – a wretched, verminous house - 13 11 21 p7

1913 11 28
Frederick W. Metcalfe was head of the printing and publishing firm of Metcalfe & Son on the corner of Green Street which at one time produced most of the publications emanating from Cambridge. Soon after he joined the firm the Cambridge Express was started and he had charge of this popular newspaper until his father's death when it was purchased by the Conservative party. He ran a local troupe of Christy Minstrels including the finest voices amongst the senior members of college choirs. It had a very successful career for several seasons and visited all the principal towns in the area 13 11 28 p7 CIP

1913 12 19
Plans for alterations at the rear of the Guildhall were shelved after the Ratepayers Association raised a petition. They had to face a loss on the trams, the Borough Bill, Chesterton footbridge and other improvements and as the Colleges were building rapidly the town landladies found it hard to pay their rates. Now the County Council had decided to build their new offices in Hobson Street. They had been debating since 1907 and all the expense and time had been worthless. But

the Free Library was over-crowded and disease was spread in libraries where people were constantly sitting together 13 12 19 p7 CIP

1914 01 23
Cambridge Ratepayers' Association are proclaiming that they have been the means of "scotching" the Borough Council's scheme for the enlargement of the Guildhall. … the number of signatures obtained for their monster petition being a plain indication that the great majority of the ratepayers were against such a costly proceeding. One cannot but realise the need which exists for better Public Library accommodation, and it is to be hoped the dropping of the larger scheme will not prevent the work of extending and improving the Library being carried through.14 01 23 CIP of

1914 01 24
Bridge Street: rumours that St Johns to build & tenants under notice to quit - "have heard same story last 25 years [5.14]

1914 02 06
At the opening of the new County Hall in Hobson Street the chairman thanked the Town Council for allowing them to use their council chamber and committee rooms for the past 25 years. In 1747 the old Shire Hall had been built on Market Hill above arches where butchers had their stalls on market days. In 1842 this passed to the town when a new Shire Hall at Castle Hill was ready for occupation. But the enormous development of administrative business had now brought the County Council again into the centre to this new commodious and economical building, finally bringing together departments previously distributed in all parts of the town. 14 02 06, a-c

1914 03 06
The London, City and Midland Bank opened a new branch in Petty Cury next door to the Head Post Office. The offices are handsomely fitted up; the counters and doors are of fumed oak and the electroliers and other fittings are of brass. The walls are panelled and the floor paved with tessellated marble. The exterior is finished in freestone with marble columns and the offices warmed by hot water radiators and lighted by electricity. 14 03 06a

1914 03 27
Proposals for extra accommodation for the Library, Education Department, Juvenile Employment Exchange and Weights and Measures Department on the site now occupied by houses in Wheeler Street prompted long discussions. Nearly every councillor found it incumbent to express his opinions and an hour was passed away more or less pleasantly and profitably in this fashion. 14 03 27h

1914 04 04
Bene't Street paved end to end in wooden blocks in 7.5 hours [6.4]

1914 04 17
The unhappy conjunction of the name Sadd and Greef on King's Parade has been a well-worn joke. Now it is about to be broken. Mr Sadd is soon to move to premises in St Edward's Passage while Mr Greef is moving further up the Parade. The Sadds began business last century as dealer in antiques and a hairdresser in one of a row of old-fashioned houses standing in front of King's College. When the cottages were pulled down they moved opposite. His son made a sketch of the old houses 14 04 17g, falls from Kings Sept [NI.3.17]

1914 05 01

Even the casual observer cannot fail to have noticed the remarkable increase in the number and variety of motor cycles and their greatly increased popularity not only among the young bloods of the Varsity but among staid and sober individuals of maturer ages and less agility. At Robinson's Motor Cycle Garage in Green Street one can have one's machine stored, cleaned and kept in tune and where, should occasion unfortunately arise, have it repaired by workmen who are not mere 'bodgers' but really skilled in this class of work 14 05 01c

1914 05 22
Cambridge Library was one of the finest in the country but all available floor space was utilised and extensions must be made, especially to relieve congestion in the Reference department. They should develop the site now occupied by houses in Wheeler Street and adjoining vacant land, councillors heard. But a library was a luxury and ratepayers did not want it. The plan was agreed 14 05 22f & g

1914 06 04
An alarming accident happened in Petty Cury. Outside Mr A.E. Nichol's shop at the corner of Guildhall Street there are large incandescent globes suspended. One of these globes, which was illuminated, suddenly collapsed and struck the pavement with an alarming crash. The street was crowded at the time and it was marvellous that no one was hurt. The globe fell at the feet of a bystander who luckily was not injured, though glass was scattered in all directions 14 06 04 p9

1914 07 10
Cambridge Corporation had taken a strip of land from Sidney Sussex College for the widening of Sidney Street and Jesus Lane. They built a 12-high wall in place of the existing one, part of the old Franciscan Priory. The college claimed £1,763 compensation for the rebuilding of their old fives court. But it had been very seldom used and was very dilapidated. The Corporation claimed the land taken was worth much less as there was never any prospect of its sale for building purposes 14 07 10

1914 07 10
Borough Council Sued,—At the Surveyors' Institution, St. George's Street, London, S.W. on Friday, the arbitration was opened in the matter of "The Masters, Fellows and Scholars of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Cambridge."It was stated that the claim was made by the College authorities in respect to the taking (compulsorily) of a strip of land by the latter in connection with the widening of Sidney Street and Jesus Lane. Cambridge. They built a 12-high wall in place of the existing one, part of the old Franciscan Priory. The college claimed £1,763 compensation for the rebuilding of their old fives court. But it had been very seldom used and was very dilapidated. The Corporation claimed the land taken was worth much less as there was never any prospect of its sale for building purposes. The total claim on behalf of the College authorities amounted to about £2,650. The award was reserved. 14 07 10

1914 08 14
Jesus Lane widening, Sidney Sussex awarded £1,471 - 14 08

1914 08 21
Thompson's Lane fire, St Clements Gardens 14 08 21 p3

1914 09 18
There were at present about 1,000 soldiers based in Cambridge with another 1,000 expected

All the tents were being used by other troops and winter was coming. The Corn Exchange was unsatisfactory because of the small sanitary arrangements. The Girls' and Boys' county school were already being used and now the military wanted Morley Memorial and the Melbourne Place schools for the training of recruits. Emmanuel Church was prepared to give the free use of their schoolroom for the education of the children. The alternative was billeting troops on the better class houses where better class people could supervise them. But the University had been approached and the schools might not be needed, councillors heard.

1914 10 02
Guildhall extension for library, education offices, juvenile bureau and Medical Officer of Health 14 10 02

1914 11 20
Death of Mr. A. W. Rose. The news of the death of Mr. Arthur William Rose, of Market Hill, and Peas Hill, Cambridge, was received with widespread regret on Tuesday by a large number of friends. Mr. Rose had suffered from heart trouble for a considerable time, but he had been able to attend to his business up to Wednesday of last week. On that day he was caught in a rainstorm and contracted a chill, from the effects of which he never recovered. Death ensued at 6.30 on Monday morning. Mr. Rose was born at Cottenham on November 1, 1868. He entered into partnership with Mr. Lawrence about 20 years ago, and together they carried on the business of a butcher at 37, Market Hill, and 22 Peas Hill. The partnership lasted for about two years, and on the death of Mr. Lawrence the business passed into the possession of Mr. Rose. Open-hearted and generous, Mr. Rose made a wide circle of friends in Cambridge, and he was held in the greatest respect by local tradesmen. About 15 years ago he interested himself in the formation of a Butchers' Association in Cambridge, and he was one of the foundation members. For a considerable time he was treasurer of the Association. He was a sidesman of Great St. Mary's Church. Mr. Rose leaves a widow and one son.

1914 12 18
Taxis allowed Market Hill near GSM

1915 01 01
The New Year rocket custom did not take place. Mr Arthur Deck did not consider the present was a time for such a function, especially as fireworks were forbidden on November 5th as likely to cause alarm. Again the event might disturb soldiers in the hospital or encourage soldiers to keep late hours. But people sat up to welcome in the New Year and many of the soldiers from the north were seen on the doorsteps of their houses singing "The Miner's Dream of Home". Bugles were to be heard sounding the Last Post and the bells of Great St Mary's Church rang in the year 1915 15 01 01

1915 03 05
St Tibbs' Row fire, soldiers help fight – photo – 15 03 05a

1915 07 16
Guildhall extension accounts debate, includes payment made to E.C. Meech, tobacconist whose premises have been demolished for new building 15 07 16 p6

1915 08 27
Electric Theatre refurbished & reopened as Victoria Cinema. A.J. pointer applies for cinematograph exhibition at the Victoria Cinema … had held licence for music and dancing since April and for four years the premises had been used for cinema shows under a music and dancing

licence. As intended to show some recruiting pictures which used ‘inflammable’ films was necessary to obtain formal licence. Floor had been lowered, main gangway 4ft wide. The film chamber built outside main building with automatic shutters, could be emptied in less than two minutes 15 08 27 p4

1915 11 27
Wheeler Street new building - old cottages swept away gaining two yards for thoroughfare, corner premises set back so Bell Inn protrudes prominently [6.16]

1916 03 15
Cambridge Automobile and Engineering Company new works on corner Hobson St & Sidney Street – profile – 16 03 15h, advert 26 03 08g

1916 05 10
Reference Library and Education department, Peas Hill – photo & details – 16 05 10c

1916 07 05
French inspects OCC & Territorial recruits, Parkers Piece & Volunteers on Market Hill [1.15,7.7,7.20]

1916 10 11
Pratt & co, tailor established 1865, 28 Trinity Street premises have been refurbished – 16 10 11c

1916 11 01
Glove making – a new industry; when undergraduates left there was grave unemployment and Rutherford & Clothier of King's Parade introduced glove making, now producing 600 pairs a meek by women working at home on machines provided by the firm; are difficulties obtaining fabric – 16 11 01b

1916 12 06
Growing popularity of King's Parade as a shopping centre; a war-time evolution; traders have to adapt to loss of undergraduates and impression of high-price goods; notes on traders: A.R. Crossman, Ryder & Amies, Rutherford & Clothier, A.W. Smith, Lily Masters, Tredgett – 16 12 06c, d

1916 12 13
Shopping on King's Parade does not mean paying high prices – advert – 16 12 13f

1917 12 26
Margarine Queues - The queues, which have been getting larger day by day in Petty Cury, assumed such alarming dimensions on Saturday that one person at least was injured and others fainted. Margarine was the chief commodity sought, a supply having been delayed the day before owing to the fog. The Borough Food Control Committee took commendable action to consider how best to relieve the situation. They suggested that traders should transfer their stocks of margarine to the Corn Exchange and sell it there, and the Committee would give them every facility; they also suggested the margarine should only be sold in 1lbs, or multiples of 1lb. Some was transferred and between 2 and 4 o'clock 1,000 transactions in margarine had taken place. The people were arranged in queues outside the hall. The margarine was put up in 1lb and 2 lb packages, the limit to each person being 2 lb. Everything went off without a hitch

1918 01 23

The Manor House, Jesus Lane; boarding and day school for girls – advert – 18 01 23e

1918 11 20
Armistice Celebrated. Cambridge "let itself go" with full vigour on November 11 on receipt of the news that the Germans had accepted and signed the drastic armistice terms of the Allies, and the rejoicings were kept up on every evening throughout the week. The effigy of the Kaiser was hoisted on the point of a bayonet and carried through the streets, to be consigned to the flames of a Market Hill bonfire one evening. A cadet, attired as a padre, attended to the "obsequies". Later processions of cadets met on the Market Hill engaged in a Big Push. Premises occupied by the "Cambridge Magazine" at the corner of St. John's Street were wrecked by a crowd. Two other shops in the same occupation were treated in similar fashion Alleged German guns on view Market Hill; these samples of scrap iron should be consigned rubbish heap, 18 11 20v – photo – 19 04 30d

1918 12 25
Comrades of the Great War new Headquarters club opened over Halford's shop, Sidney St – 18 12 25d

1919 05 07
Opening of new University Catholic Oratory, Round Church Street; Fisher Sunday – 19 05 07a

1919 06 25
Property market - Sidney Street estate includes Price of Wales' Hotel, Dorothy Café, True Blue and Nag's Head, shops in Sussex Street and premises Hobson Street; bought by G.P. Hawkins; also houses, Duxford airfield machinery and plant – 19 06 25b

1919 07 09
Peace Sunday proclamation on Market Hill – 19 07 09a

1919 09 10
Cattle market as now conducted is of no value to town … a waste of expensive shoe leather. Previously could purchase a fowl or duck ready for table at a reasonable price, the Cambridge 'yard' of butter, eggs, fruit, meat etc. Now a dump for where high prices are rule. Patrons are those fairly comfortable who desire freshly-produced vegetables and are prepared to pay for them at prices dearer than in shops. On Saturday was fairly brisk competition in fish, meat stalls doing food business. An open market is wanted every day on Market Hill to bring down prices and dispose of tons of produce which will otherwise go rotten. Are already hawkers of fruit and vegetables. During trade depression some traders had a hard struggle; employees now coming back but require more wages to meet the rising cost of living. Fair competition doesn't cause anxiety but the open market is unfair. They buy wholesale, dire a stall for a negligible sum and sell at small margin of profit – debate – 19 09 10

1919 10 22
Two new cinemas proposed, Sidney Street by Cambridge Picture Playhouse Ltd and Guildhall Street by A.J. Pointer – 19 10 22f

1920

1920 01 14
Cambridge Picture Playhouse Ltd annual, meeting to alter articles of Association; have acquired site in Sidney St & Hobson St where propose to erect fine new building – 20 01 14a

1920 01 21
Plans for new cinema in Guildhall St & Guildhall Place to be erected by A.J. Pointer of Victoria Cinema considered – 20 01 21a

1920 01 22
Sussex Street widening discussed – no widening except at corner Sidney Street as island site had been acquired by syndicate for erecting cinema

1920 01 28
Should Sussex Street be widened; need to improve centre town, blunders of the past, council debate – Ch 20 01 28a

1920 03 30
Picture Playhouse plans, Sussex Street approved

1920 04 07
Sussex Street to be widened, proposed cinema vetoed as would delay work on houses; suggestion that council buy plot and erect municipal cinema to avoid paying heavy compensation – Ch 20 04 07a, b

1920 05 19
Sussex Street cinema lively discussion, not approve plans Sussex Street widening – to purchase land south side to widen to width of 28 feet or purchase entire site; reject cinema plans – 20 05 19a

1920 08 18
The Tea Shop, a bit of old Cambridge in St Andrew's Street, has been demolished to make room for an important business improvement by Messrs H. Robinson Ltd – photo 20 08 18a

1920 10 08 CDN
YMCA premises Alexandra Street renovated after given up for use of troops

1920 10 20
Proposed Kinema. At their meeting tomorrow, the Borough Council will be recommended by the Plans Committee to rescind their resolutions which placed a veto on the erection of the proposed kinema in Guildhall Street, and to give permission for the existing buildings to be demolished .The minute of the Plans Committee dealing with the matter states: A letter was read from Mr. A. J. Pointer, stating that a building on the site proposed to be used for the erection of a kinema would be unoccupied by the 25th October 1920, and asking that he might be allowed to proceed with the building of a kinema in Guildhall Street.

1920 10 28
Council approve demolition of buildings in Guildhall Street on site acquired by A.J. Pointer for an up-to-date Kinema – 20 10 28b, c

1920 11 03
St Benet's war memorial unveiled – 20 11 03a

1921 03 30
John Vail ironmonger of Post Office Terrace – long-service staff with hammers – 21 03 30d

1922
Corporation proposals for the widening and improvement of Sidney Street and the lower part of Petty Cury met with vigorous opposition. In 1922 they had taken powers to prescribe frontage lines and in 1924 when Messrs Woolworth's and Sainsbury's came to Cambridge they agreed to set back their premises and gave the land to the Council. Various other places were reconstructed and now the frontage line had been prescribed from Sainsbury's to Millers with the exception of Almond's and the Prudential Assurance Company. 35 04 10 & a, 35 04 11

1922 02 08
Licences of Volunteer in Green Street held over – probably redundant – 22 02 08

1922 02 15
Jesus Lane wall on corner being removed to widen road – photo – 22 02 15b

1922 06 13
"May week" has reached its second phase and the gaiety of the "Boats" has given places to a wonderful round of college balls and concerts. The May Week Ball of the First and Third Trinity Boat Clubs was probably one of the largest affairs of the kind that has ever been held in Cambridge. Hitherto, owing to a lack of accommodation the numbers attending has had to be restricted to about 650. Mr D.G. Marshall of Jesus Lane, however, found a way out of the difficulty with a somewhat novel scheme. A marquee 100 feet by 40 feet was erected on Market Hill facing the Guildhall and therein supper was laid. A delightfully cool effect was obtained by leaving open a part of the side of the tent nearest the fountain and having the fountain lit up with coloured electric lights in the background. Provision was made for some 1,100 guests and supper was served in three relays of 375 each, a special staff of chefs from the House of Commons was specially engaged for the occasion

1922 06 16
A labourer of 1, Derby-road, Cambridge, was summonsed for not having control over a horse attached to a cart in Petty Cury. P.C. Keeble said that the horse was left unattended for 20 minutes. The horse was later found at the end of Guildhall-street having apparently wandered there on its own. It was apparently making its way to the police court (Laughter). Defendant said he had been driving the animal for a number of years and had not had any trouble with it. He was fined 5s.

1923 01 01
For most people the practice of watching the Old Year out and the New Year in has considerable attraction. It had that attraction for some 700 people when Mr Arthur Deck revived the ancient custom of letting off one rocket for the departing year and one for the New Year. For the first time since 1913-14 when the War put a stop to the practice has the New Year been welcomed in Cambridge in this way. The proceedings were not marked with that liveliness that some of us remembered was evinced on previous occasions, but still the interest taken speaks well for the continuation of the custom. The firing of rockets was started in 1820 by Mr Deck's grandfather 23 01 01

1923 01 26
A shop without a sale is like a ship without a rudder. Surplus stock must be sold at all cost. We must turn our stock over, that is why we offer such knock-out bargains. Boys and youths' overcoats in naps, cheviots and all-woo blanket cloths from 5s.11d. Boys' knickers in splendid wearing quality materials from 1s. Ladies' coats for winter wear in various blanket cloths, well-

tailored, absolute bargains from 6s.11d. Special sale bargains for tomorrow - 300 men's caps 1s. Northern Clothing Co., 9 Guildhall Street (opposite Corn Exchange), Cambridge – advert

1923 02 01
Speaking at the annual dinner of the Cambridge Motor Boat Club was held at Matthew's Café, Cambridge, the Mayor said he had often, when walking on the tow path, looked at the "motorists of the Cam" with envying eyes. His recollection went back over 50 years when it was a highway of commerce. The Quayside in Bridge Street was line up with 20 or 30 barges containing coal, stone, wool and food. A great deal of employment was found on that quayside; many hundreds used to be employed there

1923 03 27 c
The forthcoming production by the Bijou amateurs brings into prominence once again a club that has held a big position in the life of Cambridge for the last 50 years. I 1870 Mr W B Redfern founded the Bijous, who took over premises on Peas Hill, where for many years was provided the only dramatic performance in Cambridge that were given with any regularity. As time went on the club found that the old Peas Hill theatre was not big enough for them and finally removed to the old skating rink in St Andrews's street, on the site of which the present New Theatre was built. It was not until 1881 that ladies were introduced into the cast, the female parts having before that date being taken by men

1923 09 21
Sir - During the time that Silver Street, Cambridge, has been closed for traffic, some hundreds of persons have used Mill Lane, Sheep's Green to Newnham mill path. This opens a solution of the problems of relieving Silver Street of a great number of bicycles, especially during the dinner hour. I would like the Corporation to consider widening the wooden bridges, lessening the gradients, covering in the outlets of Newnham mill, and improving the cobble stones in Mill Lane, in order to encourage cycle riders to use this way. The one drawback to this scheme is the sharp turn at the King's mill corner, but this might also be overcome – "Newnhamite"

1923 10 12
The long-waited for reopening of the Central Cinema, Hobson Street, Cambridge, took place in the presence of a good attendance. This popular house of amusement had so established itself with the lovers of the silent drama that its temporary withdrawal from the ranks of amusement caterers has caused no little concern. Not a few patrons felt that if a particular film did not altogether appeal to them, there was always a good orchestra to listen to, and this is doubtless one of the secrets of the Central's success. Under the renewed direction of Miss Norma Thomson the orchestra is better than ever, and some distinctly appropriate music was played with skill and efficiency.

1923 10 24
Sir - Permit me to enter a strong protest against Cambridge town council "improvements". Take the following, with all of which we are now threatened. The detestable proposal to improve St Mary's Street by lopping off nine feet of church yard; the very pleasant little old world Emmanuel St to be made banal by altering its lines and proportions; Coe fen to be utterly ruined for ever by cutting a new road for motors. And who in their right mind would dream of building public baths in so outlying and unattractive a suburb as Gwydir Street. - Delta

1923 08 28 c
A huge boiler, mounted on a trolley, and towed by two heavy traction engines, sank into the roadway at the corner of Thompson's Lane, Cambridge, at about a quarter to twelve this morning.

It appears that the boiler was being conveyed to the Electric Light Company's works in Richmond Terrace, when the road collapsed under the strain. The boiler is about 30 tons in weight, and was many feet in length, and it is estimated that together the boiler and trolley weigh 40 tons. After several hours work the boiler was extricated.

1923 10 29
The seventh bell at Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge, which was cracked on armistice night by some over-enthusiastic revellers, has just been returned from the founders. It now inclined on a pedestal in the nave of the Church awaiting re-fixing in the tower, and there it will stay until paid for. The cost of taking down, re-casting and re-fixing is close on £100. The bell was originally cast in 1667, and recast in 1723 c23 10 29

1924 01 22
Councillor Gentle raised the question of the removal of the tram rails along King's Parade and Trumpington Street, Cambridge. He had had complaints, and their removal would give employment. Alderman Stanley said that if one was cycling along the Parade the rails made it most dangerous. The reason they were not taken up was because King's Parade was a new road, and it would be a waste of money to do it now. They desired to wait until the road needed substantial repair and then do the work.

1924 02 04c
Algernon Sydney Campkin was the last survivor of a family who had for several generations farmed land at Melbourn. In 1861 he was articled to a chemist and druggist and subsequently in 1868 succeeded to the old-established business of the late Mr William Brewster, an apothecary of some eminence in Rose Crescent, Cambridge, which he very successfully conducted up to the time of his death.

1924 04 23
A consistory court heard a petition by the vicar of St Andrew the Great, Cambridge, for permission to sell to the corporation a strip of land in the church grounds required for street widening purposes. They all knew that the streets were hopelessly inadequate to deal with the volume of traffic which passed through. The only possible alternative would be to pull down the front of Christ's College. If that strip of churchyard were taken and added to the street there might be less risk of accident, and the church would not press the claims of the dead at the expense of the claims of the living 24 04 23

1924 05 24
At Cambridge council Alderman Starr said a number of buildings in Hobson Street were coming down. It would make it a 40 feet road and they believed it would eventually become a very important thoroughfare. Unfortunately they were up against a very difficult problem at the Sidney Street end because they had a bank on one side and a college on the other. But this was really a safety point because converging traffic would have a slight obstacle to pull them up 24 05 24c

1924 07 14c
Cambridge is shortly to lose a rendezvous which has become very popular in the years succeeding the war. I refer to the "Dug-Out" which, with the Black Swan public house next door (in Guildhall Place) has been sold to the University Catholic Association. It is their intention to transform the premises into a centre for Roman Catholic undergraduates

1924 07 22

The large body of photographers from the Royal Photographic Society who visited Cambridge recently were much impressed by some very artistic coloured portraits in the window of J. Palmer Clarke's establishment in Post Office Terrace. They are something quite new, and of a very high artistic quality, as nearly like oil paintings as camera portraits are likely to be made. The method of colouring is the personal work of Mr C.E. Goodrich

1924 07 29
Sidney Street setting back, p4

1924 08 06
A sturgeon which was caught in Hemingford Grey Mill pit was the subject of interest to a number of spectators at the MacFisheries depot in Petty Cury, Cambridge. It is understood to be the largest fish that has been caught in the locality for some years past. It weighed 185 lbs, was 8ft ½ inch in length, measured 38 inches round the girth and was 19 inches across the tail. It is though the fish reached so high up the river owing to the recent floods. The tail, fins and certain parts of the intestines were removed to the Zoological Laboratories and portions of the flesh and skin will be returned to Hemingford Grey

1924 10 30
Princess Mary visits Tapestry works, Thompson's Lane p6

1924 12 02
The question of a parking place for buses and private motor cars was discussed at some length by Cambridge town council. The Watch Committee suggested that Drummer Street should be used as a parking place for motor cars and buses. The Surveyor submitted a plan which included taking in a portion of Christ's Pieces. It was resolved that the scheme should not be entertained and a proposal be considered for constructing a parking place on Butts Green

1925 01 19
Petty Cury and Market Street, Cambridge, today commenced their career as one-way streets with the object of relieving congestion in these streets whose narrowness has ever been the subject of discussion. Petty Cury will only be used for vehicular traffic towards Market Hill. At present these regulations do not apply to bicycles. A policeman agreed that someone was bound to make a mistake – "It wouldn't be Cambridge if they didn't", he said

1925 03 13
Messrs Bodgers of Sidney Street, Cambridge intended to reconstruct the interior of their premises, constructing a new shop front. Cambridge Council Surveyor suggested that the firm put the premises back 11 feet as required for their street widening policy. The Council must legislate for the future and in view of the serious traffic problems must attempt to widen Sidney Street. They would pay the proprietor half the cost of the land at the present time and the remainder when the setting back took place. Some of the committee felt these terms were not as favourable as those offered to Messrs Sainsbury and Woolworth.

1925 06 06
Very many residents of Cambridge who in their leisure moments wander round the Market Place to see what literary treasure may there be picked up will be interested in a movement set on foot by prominent members of the University to do honour to Mr G. David, the well-known bookseller, who has had a stall there for close on thirty years. A luncheon will be given in the Old Combination Room, Trinity College in appreciation of the conspicuous service he has rendered to the cause of humane letters.

1925 06 20
The "one-way" traffic system in Petty Cury, Cambridge, has now been in force for so long that most people have come to regard it as a settled thing, but the regulation has to be formally approved by the Minister of Transport. The only criticism is that ordinary bicycles should be included in the term "vehicular traffic" but the Chief Constable takes the view that to prevent these riding both ways as at present would cause more trouble than the change would be worth.

1925 07 07
The Ministry of Transport inquiry into the one-way vehicular traffic scheme in Petty Cury & Market Street, Cambridge, was held in the Guildhall. There was a very small attendance. Cambridge suffered, in common with other old towns, from the traffic problem. There had always been a great deal of traffic in these streets and the congestion was very serious. Both streets were used by motor buses. There were no objections but a great body of people wanted the regulation to cover bicycles as well as other vehicles.

1925 07 18
The R.A.C. has now opened an additional local office at no.1 Bene't Street, Cambridge, in the heart of the town, and will be of service not only to residents but also to visitors, who will find information about the colleges and other points of interest. A spacious reading room is provided for the use of associate members. The office will cover the counties of Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire & Bedfordshire.

1925 08 08
The Corporation seems to have stirred up a good deal of indignation by their proposals with regard to the Drummer Street "motor park". In a town like Cambridge it certainly seems unwise to do anything that may detract from its attractiveness. A suggestion has been put that the 'park' should be established on Butt's Green and not at Drummer Street at all. A petition has been presented to the Mayor asking her to call at Town's meeting and it is hoped that the request will be acceded to.

1925 08 10
Sir – Much has been written about the street lighting of Cambridge. Emmanuel Road, Emmanuel Street and Drummer Street are all under repair and consequently all the main road traffic has to proceed via Clarendon Street or New Square. Yet in the whole length of these roads not a single lamp is lighted at nights. In fact in the whole district there is not one lamp. Isn't it time that something was done to instil a little sense into the heads of those who direct the town affairs? It is false economy to make the streets danger traps for motorists, cyclists & pedestrians. – F.I. Cowles

1925 08 12
The protest meeting against the taking of part of Christ's Pieces for parking motor vehicles attracted a crowd of over 2,000 people to Drummer Street & was marked by a remarkable climax. After a resolution of protest had been passed the crowd voted a desire to take it to the Mayor that night. Speeches had been delivered from a four-wheeled waggon and the shafts were quickly manned and the waggon containing councillors who had spoken was dragged at a good pace to the Mayor's house in Newton Road. Something like a 1,000 people followed in its wake.

1925 10 19
A comprehensive scheme for the provision of parking places in Cambridge will be laid before the Town Council who are empowered to authorise any part of a street as a parking place, though no charge can be made for parking cars in the public streets. Sites include Trumpington Street

opposite the Leys School, Maids' Causeway, Lensfield Road, King Street & Jesus Lane. In Pound Hill it is proposed to allocate space for parking motor buses from St Neots and St Ives

1925 10 21
A pleasant little function took place at the Park Street School when the Bishop of Ely paid a visit to see the improvements carried out to the babies' room to accommodate a further 35 babies.

1925 10 24
Wesley House, the new Wesleyan Methodist post-graduate theological college which has risen on a site in Jesus Lane, was formally opened. It was five years ago that the Wesleyan Methodist Conference decided to set up the college at Cambridge and a site was purchased from Jesus college. The architect, Sir Aston Webb, has carried out a pleasing design in red brick. The building comprises accommodation for 29 students. The work of the college has been carried on for the past four years in hired buildings

1925 11 18
The 100ft high chimney stack which has stood for close on 300 years on the site of the old disused flour mill at the corner of Mill Lane and Granta Place, Cambridge, was pulled down. A platform was erected at the base of the stack which rises from the now dry river bed, and fuel in the form of straw, wood and corn was placed thereon. The whole was then soaked with paraffin oil, a match applied and the work of destruction begun. But the old giant took a deal of shifting and it was not until the flames had licked about his feet for over a quarter of an hour did he sway and crash to the ground amid a deafening crescendo of falling masonry.

1925 12 01
Sir – The scenes on Sunday night in Petty Cury & Market Hill, Cambridge are disgraceful. Low hobbydehop youths and flat-chested flappers congregate and parade, whistling and shouting after each other and using language that would shame Billingsgate. Surely the police can put an end to such disgraceful proceedings – A.E.C.

1925 12 05 c
Sir – I must thank 'One of the flat-chested flappers' for corroborating my remarks as to the disgraceful conduct of the motley mob to be found in Petty Cury on Sunday nights. I should not advise anyone, particularly a young lady, in search of fresh air, to visit the Cury then, for the atmosphere is 'too blue' to be healthy, and reeks of cheap cigarette smoking, indulged in by ill-bred youths and flappers alike – A.E.C.

1926 01 02
One has been glad to see the new sign posts erected in various parts of Cambridge for in these days of ever-increasing road traffic we want to make it as easy as possible for motorists who pass through our town. As originally erected one directed travellers to Bedford along King's Parade and through Magdalene Street, but when it was pointed out that the traffic through the town should be diminished as much as possible, this offending arm was removed.

1926 02 08
Parking on King's Parade, p6

1926 02 13
I am glad to record that the projecting clock near Downing Street, Cambridge, which for many years pointed to "twenty to three", has now been removed. St Paul's church clock, which was badly damaged by a storm last spring, is in such a useful position between the town and the

railway station that we would be glad to see it going again. It hardly seems fair that the repair should fall upon the church, when it exists largely for the passers-by

1926 03 25
Cambridge Automobile and Engineering Company new works on corner Hobson St & Sidney Street – profile – 16 03 15h, advert 26 03 08g

1926 11 24
The Cambridge Electricity Supply Company is one of the oldest in the country, having been formed in 1892. It was the first in the world to adopt condensing steam turbines, now used everywhere in all large electricity generating stations. A suitable site for the generating station had to be found where large quantities of water for condensing were available and as the Corporation had insisted this should be within the Borough the site on Quayside was chosen. By 1900 the site was too cramped and is now somewhat obsolete. They must decide whether to provide an up-to-date generating station or purchase a bulk supply from elsewhere.

1926 11 27
The Cambridge Central Conservative Club in Market Passage was gutted by fire in the early hours of the morning. There were a large number of trade premises nearby and the task of saving the club, with flames nearly 100 feet high, appearing a hopeless one the Fire Brigade concentrated on confining the conflagration to the one building. Had there been a strong wind a centre of shopping would have been destroyed. The Central Hall, which had been booked for many social events for months ahead, suffered severely. The billiards room, which contained four splendid tables also suffered considerably; two of the tables fell through the floor. The club was opened in February 1888

1926 12 09
Fen Causeway, the new and important link between Newnham and the rest of Cambridge, was opened by the Mayor. The bridge and its approaches were gaily decorated with bunting and presented a colourful scene. The project of relieving Silver Street traffic had started as long ago as 1904 and discussion had gone on for nearly 20 years before the Town Council approved the plan in 1923. Nine proposals had been put forward and had it not been for the urgency of the unemployment question the same position would have existed today, only instead of nine there might have been nineteen different schemes (Laughter)

1926 12 16
The Cambridge Camera and Wireless Co. of Alexandra Street offers a very complete range of component parts or complete wireless sets. The famous Pye sets can be seen in their windows, also the self-contained “Britamax All-Wave” receivers. Specialities of this firm include reliable, but cheap, H.T. batteries, valves and loud speakers.

1927 02 01
The Cambridge Borough Surveyor reported that Magdalene College are prepared to set back and re-erect the old wall in Magdalene Street on condition the Corporation would contribute £160 towards the cost. Coun King drew attention to the desirability of pedestrians being directed to keep on the left of the pavement, but no action appears to have been taken

1927 02 07
A momentous event in the history of extra-mural teaching at Cambridge University was marked by the opening of Stuart House. Standing in Mill Lane it is a beautiful house and a worthy addition to the architectural wealth of the town. It is named after the Right Hon. James Stuart,

Fellow of Trinity College, who founded extra-mural teaching work in the University and was largely responsible for its extension to other parts of the country.

1927 02 10
Since the Cambridge Conservative Club in Market Passage had been destroyed by fire there had been many busybodies who knew exactly what was going to happen to the club premises and the site. The Chairman could now tell them: it was going to be rebuilt and rise like a Phoenix from the ashes. A very satisfactory arrangement had been made with the Northern Insurance Company and they had today received a cheque from the company. 27 02 10

1927 03
Sussex Street: site withdrawn at £20,000 [3.8]

1927 03 03
Sir – I read of the sale of the old-established grocery and provision business of Hallack and Bond. It is regrettable that the ownership of another great business passes away from Cambridge. To many the name has been a by-word and a guarantee of quality and good service through the personal supervision of people resident in Cambridge. This must become a serious menace to the welfare of the town and all good citizens should avail themselves of the service ably rendered by locally owned firms - Loyal Citizen 27 03 03

1927 03 16
The owners of the Playhouse, Mill Road, Cambridge, have just completed negotiations for the sale of that cinema to a syndicate who are said to be the owners of the Central Cinema and the Tivoli. We understand that the transfer will take place in September. The Picture Playhouses Ltd, who owned the Playhouse, also have property in Sussex Street and they are also disposing of this.

1927 04 05
Cambridge Council will debate the site of King's and Bishop's Mill, Mill Pool. Two years ago the buildings were dangerous and have been demolished. They had a scheme to beautify the area by leaving it open & constructed a new weir with facilities for getting boats from the lower to the upper river. Now the University has offered to purchase the site for erecting lecture rooms.

1927 04 06
Great St Mary's church council replied to the Corporation's plans to widen St Mary's Street. They cannot sanction obtaining a faculty for the proposed work as increased heavy motor traffic coming so close to the church will be a very real danger to the safety of the foundations and fabric. Widening the street would create a death-trap and they propose to adopt every means in their power to prevent the scheme being carried out. 27 04 06

1927 04 09
Cambridge councillors debated whether part of the King's and Bishop's Mill site should be sold to the University to erect new lecture rooms. The Corporation should not sell its property in this way; it should do so on the public market. They might get a higher offer from a firm who would like to put up a Woolworth building but they wanted an appropriate end to the Backs & such improvements would give an almost Venetian effect to the whole of the Backs river. To consider turning the site into a recreation ground with railings and white paint would be most regrettable. They should pull down the remains of the mill so that everyone could see what the site looked like when the fag-end of the foundations was up. It would expose some quite ugly buildings which would not be hidden by any plans before them

1927 04 30
Part of the club room of the Footlights Dramatic Club above the Masonic Hall in Corn Exchange Street Cambridge was damaged as a result of a fire with flames coming through the roof. It was fortunate it was discovered early or it would have worked round to a little stage where inflammable material might have created a more alarming blaze. It is feared some photographs of former members of the club have been destroyed. The water came through the ceiling of the Masonic Hall and the fine dance floor was soon flooded. The Rodney Dramatic Club had engaged the Hall for a dinner dance and it may not be available for part of the function

1927 07 07
The Conservators of the River Cam considered a scheme to make the river navigable for cargo boats up to the Quayside near Magdalene Bridge. Mr Banham had recently bought a vessel for conveying cargo and at present it can only come as far as Jesus Lock. There had been no traffic for years and the state of the river was very bad. There was a possibility that the river could be dredged but the Commons Committee had taken a lot of trouble to make Jesus Green a beauty spot and would not sanction the deposit being placed on the Common.

1927 07 13
Last stretch of tram lines removed from St Mary's street [3.6]

1927 07 16
It will interest many people to know that the authorities of King's College propose pulling down the railings in front of the college on King's Parade but are a little timid about what might follow this step and have consulted the Town Council. The Watch Committee was asked to enter into an agreement not to take any portion of the land between the railings and the college buildings for a parking place. They have reassured the college that they have no power to establish parking places on private property.

1927 07 23
Cambridge council considered the erection of advertising boards by the Empire Marketing Committee at Corn Exchange Street, Market Hill, Drummer Street, Butts Green, Northampton Street and the Cattle Market. But the path in Corn Exchange Street was only five feet wide and it would be dangerous if people stopped there to look at it. They would have to put up another sign, "Safety first. Passengers must not stop to look at this advertisement". (Laughter).

1927 08 12
An outstanding feature in the reconstruction of our new premises at 2, Market Hill, Cambridge, are the windows which are unique for a grocery business and compare in style with a London west-end store. We welcome an opportunity of showing you a store fitted and stocked in the most complete and scientific manner and where prized traditions inherited from our predecessors (Messrs Hallack and Bond) are upheld and carried forward with modern equipment. Shoppers may actually see their coffee roasted and ground. International Stores, the greatest grocers in the world. Advert.

1927 09 19
Premises in Peas Hill, Cambridge, may be acquired for the purpose of extending the Guildhall. Trinity Hall, the owners of nos 15 & 16 will sell for £5,500; Mr Sennitt will sell no.17 for £3,500, the price to include compensation for disturbance of the business and the tenant to have the option of hiring the premises until required by the Corporation. Corpus Christi College has agreed £2,200 for no.19. The Council is to apply to the Minister of Health for sanction to borrow the sum of £11,700 for the purchase

1927 09 19
Three pianos were badly damaged by an outbreak of fire in a warehouse behind shop premises opposite the Porter's Lodge in Magdalene Street, Cambridge and it was only through prompt action that a considerable amount of the old property in the district was not destroyed. An oil stove was kept alight in the warehouse used by Mr W.J. Moore, music dealer, to prevent the instruments from becoming damp and in some way this was responsible for the outbreak.

1927 09 24
Damage estimated at £2,000 was caused by a fire which broke out at the Cambridge Motor Service Co. Hobson Street. The night watchman found that motor cycle department, which also stored several cars, was alight and among the vehicles which were badly burned were a Bugatti racing car, an Austin Seven, a Trojan van and a number of motor cycles and bicycles. Some people returning from the New Theatre were attracted down Hobson Street and watched the Fire Brigade at work.

1927 10 21
King's Mill site cleared, p8

1927 10 22
Last stretch of tram lines removed from St Mary's street [3.6]

1927 10 29
The fascinating experience of lunching in Cambridge in the atmosphere of our Elizabethan forefathers is made possible by the opening of new rooms at Messrs Matthew's Café in Trinity Street. They have acquired the two upper storeys of the building & turned rooms which were formerly part of a lodging house into a charming medieval retreat. The original beams and window frames remain as well as some beautiful old carvings and the rooms have been furnished in the style of the period, pains having been taken to securer faithful reproductions even down to lamps and pewter pots.

1927 11 17
Described as one of the finest shop sites in Cambridge, no.3 Petty Cury was offered for sale by auction. The shop, now in the occupation of Mrs Kemp as a toy and fancy warehouse, was offered with vacant possession and is freehold. The auctioneer mentioned the tremendous difference that would be made to the Market Square end of Petty Cury by the opening up of a big new shop at the corner. Bidding quickly rose to £7,350 but did not reach the reserve price and was withdrawn. Immediately after the auction it was sold privately.

1927 12 17
Cambridge Conservatives who, following the disastrous fire in Market Passage in November last year, have been accommodated in temporary club premises in Petty Cury, returned to the splendid new club which Phoenix-like has risen from the ashes of the old premises. As before there is a fine lounge billiard room with four tables on the top floor, and a fine lounge and smokeroom with secretary's office and card room adjoining. Two new rooms will be used as a reading and writing room and a committee room. The colour scheme is brown and buff. The ground floor is not yet complete but will consist of a large hall with a spring dance

1928 01 10
An inquiry was held into Cambridge council's application to borrow money for the purchase of property in Peas Hill for an extension of the Guildhall. There was an increase of administrative

staff and the offices were not adequate to enable the duties to be carried out efficiently. With the acquisition of the property the Corporation would hold the entire island site which would facilitate the suggested scheme for the reconstruction of the Guildhall. They had been met in a conciliatory spirit by the owners of the property and a favourable provisional agreement had been arrived at.

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1928 01 28
King's Mill, p8*

1928 03 03
Magdalene College hopes that a start will soon be made on the building of a new court on the opposite side of the Street. Plans have been drawn up for a three-sided brick court open to the river, traditional in style. The flank parallel with Magdalene Street will not interfere with the existing shops, but the thoroughfare is long overdue for widening and from the remodelled bridge there would then be a noble prospect of the new court with a lawn or gravel forecourt separated from the pavement by a low parapet. 28 03 03

1928 04 28
Less than 20 years ago I was doing journalistic work in a Hobson Street office. In those days there was no County Hall opposite, nor talk of one. It was begun only 15 years ago and if anyone had been asked how long it would remain the County Council headquarters he might have answered 'A hundred years at least'. But so great has been the extra work thrown on the Council that already the building has been outgrown and plans are now to be prepared for a new building on the Castle Hill site. There are now 86 officials and ratepayers may ask if such an army of officers are really necessary

1928 06 17 c
Sir – the residents in Bridge Street and Magdalene Street, Cambridge, have just passed through a hectic week of sleepless nights, caused by the traffic and University men returning from balls etc all hours of the night, and just when we expect to get a little quiet and rest after May Week the Corporation start their offensive. If the street must be paved in a week why not let the men work from 7 am till 10.30 pm instead of dragging them out of their beds at 3 am and keeping other people awake as well? Why all the hustle. Is it to save the buses making a wider detour? – Harry Langdon

1928 07
Sussex Street: island site sold to Sidney Sussex College [3.10]

1928 07 17
King's Mill sale, p6

1928 07 18

The future of the Bell public house, Botolph Lane and the Plume and Feathers, Park Street, Cambridge was considered by the Licensing Committee. The Bell was difficult for police to supervise. It had no downstairs accommodation for the tenant and meals had to be taken in the smoke room during closing hours. The renewal was refused. The Plume and Feathers had little accommodation and was frequently congested with a few customers. It had been done up and the yards had been covered over. The trade had gone up and was better than the Maypole.

1928 07 28
Members of the Cambridge Drawing Society made a strong plea for the preservation of the character of the King's Mill site, protesting against the Council's scheme for the demolition of the old Mill-race and the erection of a weir. They are thankful that proposals for a tea garden and rustic bridge were not passed but feel its unique character will be utterly destroyed. The two King's and Bishop's Mills were amongst the oldest things in Cambridge, and a monument of romance. A cascade was all very well for Bedford or Tooting but was out of keeping with the spirit of Cambridge.

1928 09 01
Sir – if you walk into King's Parade, Cambridge you see on your right, stretching almost indefinitely to Trinity Street a long varied row of shops – tailors, photographers, booksellers and cafes – in fine all the indications of the necessities of modern life. You may linger before window displays of the latest dance record, buns and cakes, photographs of college eights, and books and books. You notice the windows reflect your new summer suiting and admire its fashionable cut. Yet turn round and your gaze encounters minarets and towers, white gleaming the sunshine. Great walls, vulnerable with tradition, frown coldly down at you and you feel absurdly out of place in your flannel trousers and double-breasted coat – "Awe-struck"

1928 09 21
Cambridge Watch Committee granted Messrs Brown Bros a further licence for a Lancia coach to ply for hire at Drummer Street on condition that only one of their buses is to stand there at any one time. But Ortona had six to 14 buses there at a time & Messrs Brown advertised fares at 6d to a shilling cheaper. Ortona paid the Council £250 towards the rates but if the public was being charged extra it was time this was dispensed with. A custom had grown up amongst police and other to give Ortona preference because they sent buses to various places, whilst the others went to only one.

1928 10 19
The 'Cambridge Chronicle' newspaper applied for a renewal of the lease of their printing works in Market Hill. For the last 100 years they have carried on business there, they were the best-known works of the kind and if they were obliged to quit the machinery and plant would be very costly to transfer. But the owner said she intended to pull down the premises to carry out a scheme of development.

1928 10 23
What is probably the largest single deal in Cambridge business property ever known has just been completed. A well-known local young man has purchased property with frontages in Market Hill, Petty Cury and Sidney Street and this will be developed by a company consisting of Cambridge people. It includes premises occupied by the Craft Shoe Company, the Cambridge Chronicle offices and printing works and Boots the chemist. As Messrs Boots recently secured a large amount of property in Petty Cury and Sidney Street it would appear that big changes will be seen in this part of town when both sites are developed. 28 10 23

1928 10 27
There is much speculation regarding the £42,000 Cambridge Market Hill deal; a large cinema and café are spoken of, but there are no details at present. It would be for the benefit of the town if the whole island site could be taken over by the Corporation; then as the leases run out it could be cleared and would provide a magnificent site for municipal buildings. Road traffic now demands that all building operations should be planned for what will be needed in the future, with a wider Petty Cury, Market Hill and Sidney Street. Something of the sort must eventually be done unless it is the intention to remove the Guildhall and market nearer the station.

1928 11 20
Earlier we gave details of a £42,000 deal in Cambridge Market Hill; now we can reveal proposals to build a super Victoria Cinema that will accommodate about 1,800 people and embody all the latest improvements with the most comfortable seating and an excellent orchestra. Large waiting lounges will be included to accommodate all queues in the building and protect patrons from the weather. A luxurious café restaurant is also promised. We are unable to state whether apparatus for 'talkies' will be included but no doubt if this art develops sufficiently well in time this new asset will not be overlooked.

1929 01 17
Competition in the tea-shop line is terrific, Cambridge is stiff with them, a court was told. Two ladies had taken the tenancy of 11 St John's Street in 1923 and increased the takings with a large number of resident customers as well as undergraduates. They made everything they sold except for sweets and cigarettes & paid themselves between £60 and £80 a year out of the takings. Trinity College said if the premises could not be used as a tea shop the rental value would drop from £120 down to £85 as it was in a bad position for an ordinary retail business.

1929 01 28
The County Architect presented sketch plans for a new building on the Cambridge castle site, containing office accommodation, with council chamber, library and storerooms. It was futile to prepare plans for their existing needs when it was practically certain that under the new Local Government Bill they would have a large amount of additional work thrown upon them. Mr Dunn had erected the present County Hall in Hobson Street & was able to compete with the best architects in the country with regard to a beautiful scheme and a beautiful building. But if he was forced to collaborate with another architect there would be delays and they would never get the building erected.

1929 02 14
A serious fire broke out at Caius College, Cambridge. Two rooms in Tree Court were completely gutted and others badly damaged. Policemen attracted by the blowing of a whistle in Trinity Street got a hydrant in the courtyard to work and the Fire Brigade was quickly on the scene but the inside of the building was almost a furnace. The fire was quickly got under but not before considerable damage had been done, including the falling in of a large part of the ceiling. The firemen experienced bad conditions owing to the intense cold, the water froze on their clothing and icicles were left hanging from the ledges

1929 04 27
Cambridge to have a modern caravanserie matched the modern splendours of Oxford St & Regent street where a thousand people may dine without strain on the service & dance too if they are so minded, a place of dignity & comfort & of surpassing resource. The old Dorothy cafe is to disappear - not so very old though as a modern restaurant - & a building of 3 storeys spanning space between Sidney St & Hobson street. Ground floor entrance Sidney St is shop & showroom

& on eastern side a dining hall or restaurant. Principal staircase to first floor will be from hall at Hobson street entrance & access to a dance hall with black hornbeam floor on springs. This accommodation for 320 diners at a public banquet but specially prepared for dancing for 450 at once. At western end another dining hall. Another on second floor, will seat 80, suitable private dinner of clubs & organisations. perhaps this will be the oak room which intention of Hawkins to decorate; also roof garden looking across to gardens of Christ's College. Nags Head inn will not disappear but be given place in the basement. Will take 18 months but Hobson Street side will be completed before start made with Sidney St front to ensure restaurant open throughout

1929 03 09
The dislike of railings in Cambridge seems to be growing. Some time ago the heavy railings in front of King's were taken down and now the University Press railings have been removed. This will make more room for pedestrians and traffic coming round the Silver Street corner. One wonders what is to become of them. Are they to be scrapped as 'old iron' or are there other people who would be glad to secure what we are anxious to discard.

1929 07
Discuss Guildhall enlargement, consider alternative site [2.19]

1929 10 05
The imposition of a one-way traffic in Petty Cury is not news, but a good many people are under the impression that they can ride either way after eight o'clock at night. This is not so. The actual regulation, which was adopted in October 1924, says that Market Street and Petty Cury will be one-way streets only. Obviously there would be great dangers in adopting a resolution for the day-time and changing it at night, especially in such a main thoroughfare. For although business vans may be off the road there is often plenty of other traffic on the occasion of concerts at the Guildhall or dinners at the Lion Hotel.

1929 10 19
With the passing of Mrs Eliza Jane Mason of the Livingstone Hotel, Petty Cury, Cambridge has lost a prominent member of the restaurant business. She commenced business with a university lodging house on Market Hill which became known as 'Masons' and was converted into a restaurant. It was largely used by cadets and catered for the officers stationed here during the Great War. Almost the first Belgian wounded soldiers were billeted there and she acted as a sort of nursing mother to them. Her next move was to Sadd's before she bought the Livingstone Hotel which was then only a coffee house. It is now one of the best commercial hotels in Cambridge. She also built the Rendezvous, Magrath Avenue as a skating rink in 1909.

1929 11 19
A meeting of the creditors of Messrs Headley and Edwards of Corn Exchange Street, Cambridge, in voluntary liquidation, was told they had been trading under difficulties for some time. They experienced a period of prosperity just after the war but the last account to show a profit was 1923 and they had got into financial difficulty. A buyer had been found to take over the assets as a going concern and a new Company would be formed to carry on the business.

1929 12 02
An interesting improvement scheme will shortly be undertaken in Petty Cury and Sidney Street. Messrs Boots the Chemist have acquired extensive property with a view to re-housing their old establishment which has grown during some 30 years. Now the time is ripe to erect an emporium to provide an attractive shopping centre for patrons of all classes. The architect is Mr Percy J. Bartlett of Nottingham and his primary consideration is an external appearance that will

harmonise with Cambridge's noble architectural traditions and raise the standard of commercial architecture. Building operations will commence early in the New Year CDN 2.12.1929

1929 12 05
Petty Cury - Heffer's wonderful new shop in Petty Cury, Cambridge, is a book lovers' paradise. In the basement are 'remainders' at reduced prices while the ground floor is devoted to the latest publications and an extensive foreign literature section. A wide range of second-hand volumes occupies most of the first floor where connoisseurs of original editions will find much to interest them at prices from £5 to £250. On the second floor are oriental, foreign travel and fine art books while higher still are Heffer's own publications, many of local interest. There is a special reference department and out-of-print books service. The front design successfully combines and old-world impression with a modern style. CDN 5.12.1929

1930

1930
New Electricity Company offices & showrooms opened 4 Market hill [Cam p109]

1930 01 15
An application was made for the winding up of the Cambridge Service Motor Company of Hobson Street. It had been incorporated as a private company in 1923, taking over the Service Motor Company engineering business. Their account was considerably overdrawn for much of its existence and it now had an overdraft of £6,744. The assets consisted of a number of used motor-cars of no great value. It was unable to pay its debts and should be wound up. 30 01 15 & 15a

1930 01 15
From modest beginnings in Fitzroy Street the history of the House of Heffer is one of continuous progress. The Printing Works on Hills Road has been considerable enlarged, last year saw reconstruction of the Petty Cury Bookshop which is now twice its original size, and this year sees the reconstruction of the Sidney Street Stationery and Art Shop. It will be a shop worthy of its central position. The new premises will have five floor, the frontage will be in the Georgian style with pilasters, fascia and columns of grey polished granite and the upper part will be faced with red Flemish bricks with Weldon stone dressings to the windows. A unique feature will be the Picture Gallery on the third flood with a barrel-shaped ceiling

1930 02 25
Sir – we Cambridge market traders notice that Councillor Longley wants to move our stalls into the Corn Exchange but we challenge him to produce a transferred market that has been a success. He wants to replace the stalls with car parking spaces. Cannot he see the utter foolishness of congesting the very centre of a town with cars. Those on Market Hill consist of business townsmen, clerics and travellers who sit in their expensive car, eat bread and cheese, beg an onion to go with it but do little business. The Market Hill and Peas Hill are open-air markets. An arcade was tried years ago. The building stands today, a sorry sight, in St Andrew's Hill. The stallholders all failed – W.J. Sambridge.
30 02 25

1930 03
Cambridge Chronicle leaves 9 Market Hill after 168 years [4.17]

1930 03 08b
Petty Cury demolition, p8*

1930 03 11
Two great clearances in Sidney Street: Caxton Court and remains of Messrs Heffer's old premises with the wall of G.P. Hawking's new restaurant: photos. 30 03 11, 104.03

1930 03 19
Demolition work has just begun on the Sidney Street corner of Sussex Street as a first step towards the most important of reconstruction scheme for the improvement of Cambridge for many years. Sidney Sussex College will develop the whole side on modern lines; within the next year an imposing block of buildings, providing shops and offices will rise. It will be connected to Hobson Street by an artistically-designed crescent and colonnade of 12 shops which will allow vehicles to pass freely in the middle of Sussex Street. The most striking feature will be seen in the further development of the north side 30 03 19b

1930 03 22
There never was a time surely when there were so many works of destruction going on as at present. Little bits of old Cambridge are going one by one and elaborate new buildings are rising up in their place. Following demolition in Petty Cury and Sidney Street now we see old houses and shops in Sussex Street being knocked down. No wonder that those who come back to the town after a few years' absence express amazement at the changes they see. When we think of the bridges built at Newnham and Chesterton, of the streets that have been widened, the new recreation ground opened and the great business changes effected in the heart of the town we may well gasp. 30 03 22 a

1930 03 27
Cambridge Motor Service Company had taken over a firm of motor engineers and garage proprietors in Hobson Street and hoped to acquire the business of Hunnybun and Son, coachbuilders and painters. Then in 1927 they spent £2,000 to purchase a large stock of electric lamps which were being retailed at a considerable profit. But the British Thompson-Houston Company issued a writ and the present stock of lamps was now valueless. In addition the depression in the motor trade for used cars and dealings in sports cars for which there was at one time a good demand among undergraduates had contributed to their failure. 30 03 27a & b

1930 05 28
The bookshops of Cambridge are a special feature of the town; no visitor can possibly miss David's stall on the Market Place where the book-lover may pick up a bargain. He came to Cambridge in 1896 and started his career at this stall; in 1906 he took a shop in St Edward's Passage, which is full of interesting old books and though often locked can be viewed at leisure in the window. In such esteem is he held that a luncheon was held in the Hall of Trinity College and a lithograph cartoon by Mr William Nicholson presented to him. 30 05 28a & b

1930 06 21
Six Cambridge bus drivers involved in the 'battle' of Sidney Street on the first day of the May races appeared in court charged with obstruction. Only Ortona buses were allowed to stop there but a long line of coaches had filled the whole side of the road. The drivers said the monopoly was unfair. They also complained that Ortona had increased the price of a ticket to Fen Ditton from twopence halfpenny to sixpence a trip. 30 06 21aa & b

1930 07 24
Mrs Elizabeth Haslop has been described as a woman possessed of splendid business acumen. She carried on her late husband's butcher's business in Silver Street Cambridge and was the last

link with the well-known firm which has been in existence for nearly 100 years and will be carried on. In her earlier life she was well-known in the Mill Road district where a small shop near Tension Road was run in her name. 30 07 24

1930 09 03
Magdalene Street: Another example of the 'new Cambridge' in the making is the extensive site on which Magdalene College intends erecting an imposing new wing. It is at the rear of the Pickerel and Cross Keys yards originally occupied by Bird's vinegar and mustard factory. Mallory Court will provide the principal access but eventually a complete transformation will be effected by the demolition of all the property between the bridge and Northampton Street making Magdalene Street a broad and handsome thoroughfare. 30 09 03c

1930 10 11
For the past few months workmen have been engaged in constructing Cambridge's new Central Cinema in Hobson Street. The interior is decorated in a style reminiscent of the Regal Super Cinema at Marble Arch. The prevailing colours are mauve, orange and blue and the whole is surmounted by a dome in the form of a large star surrounded by sky effects. On each of the walls there are large panels with ornamental plastering surmounted by a design in the form of sunrise and illuminated by hidden lights. 30 10 11

1930 10 13
Crowds thronged Hobson Street endeavouring to gain admission to the opening of the new Central Cinema. Many were unsuccessful. The Mayor gave a civic blessing to the picture house: it was appropriate because the assessment value of the property would go up and Hobson Street was going to pay a large contribution to the rates. The film was Harold Lloyd's first talkie 'Welcome Danger'.
30 10 13

1930 12 27
The heavy rain did not deter a large number of members of the Cambridgeshire Hunt from assembling on Cambridge Market Hill for this traditionally English spectacle. The scene was one worth a soaking to witness. Figures in the traditional red and black mingled with macintoshed horsemen, their steaming mounts were restless, the hounds silent and around was a rain-drenched crowd of about 1,000 people. They took a great deal of interest in a small terrier who looked out from the mouth of a haversack slung across a red-coated huntsman's back. 30 12 27a-b

1931
Sidney Street: rebuilding on east side for Dorothy, Woolworths etc [IC.11.1]

1931 03 06
For years King and Harper have been striving to secure an alternative entry at their Bridge Street garage for the convenience of their valued customers. Now three houses have been acquired and members of staff gave a rousing cheer when a Morris Oxford Isis Six Saloon became the first car to enter at Bridge Street and leave in Jesus Lane. 31 03 06I

1931 04 03
G.P. Hawkins opened the first tea shop in Cambridge at the corner of Sussex Street in 1900. It could hold 10 people with a waitress & two assistants. As adjoining space became available the premises were enlarged. Today the Dorothy Café can accommodate 2,000 and there is no brand of catering which cannot be undertaken. In 1904 he erected a bakery with two ovens at the side of Midsummer Common; today with seven ovens working six days a week he produces about

200,000 loaves. It also manufactures a ton of ice a day plus sufficient ice cream to supply the entire needs of Cambridge. 31 04 03a

1931 05
Sussex St demolition 1929-30, rebuild 1931 [6.13]

1931 08 28
The new Victoria Cinema on Market Hill, Cambridge opens today. The auditorium is an example of complete harmony between the architect and the decorative painter. No architectural enrichment is applied to the walls, which remain for the most part in darkness, but when the space is filled with light a gorgeous flow of rich colours rises like waves from the back of the house to reach a climax in the rich proscenium curtain of crimson and gold. 31 08 28h

1931 09 04
Cambridge's new Victoria Cinema possesses a theatre organ of the most modern type, a three manual Christie built by Messrs William Hill and Norman and Beard who have been responsible for many of the finest cinema organs in the world. It is placed on one side of the proscenium in two specially constructed chambers which house 2,000 wooden and metal pipes each of which has been 'voiced' by an expert. In the centre of the orchestra pit, placed on an electric lift, is the beautifully decorated console from which the entire organ is controlled. 31 09 04c

1931 09 04
Inquiries by the News confirm that the Central Cinema in Hobson Street is perfectly sound, despite rumours to the contrary. As part of the building is over the old King's Ditch, special attention was paid to the concrete foundations and reinforced with steel. The balcony, designed to carry 500 people, will take 2,000. The whole building is as sound today as it was when completed nearly 12 months ago. The only possible work is the renewal of some of the decorations as these were applied to wet plaster. 31 09 04e

1931 11 27
Site of new Post Office in St Andrew's Street – photo, 30 11 27, 124.50

1932 02 22
New Cambridge Industry (employing only local men). Same day dry-cleaning service by the new British wonder machine which cleans and actually strengthens fabrics leaving no smell. Special opening offer: suit, costume, coat or dress, dry cleaned, hand pressed, collected and delivered for three shillings. The Forum Cleaners and Dyers, Market Hill, Cambridge (Advert). 32 02 22

1932 02 25
Apart from the large hall and council chamber the Cambridge Guildhall is worn out and absolutely unsuitable. The accommodation in every department was deplorable – dark, dismal, horrid, unlit and unhealthy. On Castle Hill there was a fine new building being erected for the County Council who were planning to spend £8,000 on furnishing alone. Never since the war had prices in the building trade been lower; this was the right moment to consider rebuilding, councillors were told. 32 02 25 & 25a

1932 02 26
St Andrew's Court, off St Andrew's Street, was a disgraceful place in the centre of Cambridge. It was not only an eye-sore, but dangerous. Properties were dark, damp, reeking with age and decay. The houses were not fit for human habitation, children under school-leaving age will not be

permitted to live there – but what of young mothers and old people? Such slums should be demolished, the Medical Officer urged. 32 02 26

1932 03 31
Grand Opening. W.H. Peak's new furniture showrooms, King Street. Our premises have been converted into four spacious floors exhibiting the most remarkable values in furniture, carpets and linoleum that has ever been offered in Cambridge. We have built up our business by selling only reliable goods. If you cannot pay a visit, we shall be pleased to send you our catalogue. – Advert. 32 03 31b

1932 04 06
Sussex Street: new shops open [1.5]

1932 04 13
Magdalene Street: Large new buildings designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens are part of a comprehensive extension scheme by Magdalene College on land originally occupied by Bird's vinegar and mustard factory. For two years it has been one of Cambridge's biggest building contracts but the comparative obscurity of the site has kept it out of the public eye. Eventually the whole of the west side of Magdalene Street from the bridge to Northampton Street will be cleared for reconstruction with a more imposing bridge and a further college wing at right angles to the present one. 32 04 13

1932 04 16
Trumpington Street: St Catharine's was one of the colleges whose elaborate extension schemes met with a setback through the war. There was to have been a full elevation to Trumpington Street with a completely enclosed court beyond. Now the porter's lodge will be replaced, the cobbles removed and the whole area sown with grass to give a more balanced frontage. It is eight years since that the elm trees, which formed a grove, were cut down. 32 04 16

1932 05 14
King's Parade - There is praise for the improvements along King's Parade effected by the substitution of the low stone balustrade for the old hurdles and the construction of the light railings to separate King's College and Senate House Yard. All the work has been done by local labour. Messrs Coulson and Rattee and Kett have been the builders and the iron railings have been made by George Lister and Sons. 32 05 14a

1932 05 16
Flames reached the roof of King and Harper's garage in Jesus Lane when a taxi-cab caught fire as it was being filled with petrol. Cars in the garage were pushed out and the blaze extinguished. The cab was taken to the Thompson's Lane depot but some part of it still smouldered for at four in the morning it again blazed up. This time it was totally destroyed. 32 05 16

1932 06 04
A new Cambridge Guildhall should be built on the corner of East Road and Parkside where the site is three times as large, meeting the requirements of the Corporation for many years. The existing Guildhall on Market Hill should be replaced with shops on the ground floor and offices and flats above, councillors have recommended. 32 06 04a, 06a, 32 06 09a, 32 06 20 & a, 32 06 21

1932 07 15

The new Shire Hall was opened with little ceremony in the presence of a handful of people. The Architect (H.H. Dunn) presented the Chairman, Ald W.C. Jackson, with a gold-covered key engraved with the County Arms with which he unlocked the door. Soon a stream of guest arrived and the corridors presented a most animated appearance. The council chamber is very similar to that at the old County Hall in Hobson Street from which all the seats and tables have been removed while every care has been taken to provide the maximum air, light and spaciousness to the offices. 32 07 15e & f

1932 07 15
Cambridge councillors say the municipal buildings should remain on the Guildhall site and not move to Parkside as had been proposed. It should be a worthy building, not surrounded by shops. With four floors they could provide 70 per cent more accommodation for officials but five would add to the dignity of the building and leave some surplus space that could be let and provide a source of income. But it must not overwhelm the market place. 32 07 15 c & d

1932 08 12
The University of Cambridge has accepted Messrs Rattee and Kett's tender for the superstructure of the new University Library. They are also building an extension to the School of Agriculture and the Royal Society Mond Laboratory while Mr Sindall is building the new block of lecture rooms in Mill Lane and Coulson and Son have the contract for the extension to the Physiological Laboratory. These valuable contracts have been made possible largely by the munificent gift of the Rockefeller Trustees.
32 08 12b

1932 08 19
John Austin Fabb started in business as a printer, moving to Guildhall Street in 1881 and Corn Exchange Street in 1920. He printed the Cambridge Review from its inception in 1879 and conceived the idea of a list of Resident Members of the University in 1890. During the war he compiled seven editions of the list of Cambridge University men on active service. He was a prominent Freemason and founded the York Street Sick Club. 32 08 19e

1932 10 14
Cambridge market hill presented an animated appearance when the University Drag Hounds held a meeting. Thirty horsemen gathered to be welcomed by the Mayor and a silver stirrup cup was handed round to all who could persuade their mounts to remain still for 30 seconds. They then moved off followed by all but one of the hounds which soon received 'instructions' from the crowd of 200 spectators and joined his comrades. 32 10 14a

1932 10 28
John Yeomans came to Cambridge at the age of 19 in 1857 and purchased the shop at the corner of Petty Cury and Sidney Street from Mr Lyons where he carried on business as a chemist for 40 years. He had a vivid recollection of events: he knew George Stephenson personally and was a passenger in the first railway engine to run in England. 32 10 28e

1933 01 30
Guildhall 'by instalments' plan – 33 01 30e

1933 02 02
Guildhall development on Peas Hills front – 33 02 02c & d

1933 02 04

Guildhall rebuilding cartoon – 33 02 04e

1933 02 04
A young salesman employed at Sainsbury's in Sidney Street was found dead in the bathroom over the shop. The housekeeper said there were about 80 employed; eight boys lived on the premises, three maids and herself. They were the only ones to use the bath. They were told to turn off the gas before getting in. People might be enjoying the delights of a bath and suddenly find themselves overpowered by carbon monoxide fumes. The coroner hoped Sainsbury's would not use the geyser again or see it was placed outside the bathroom. 33 02 04a

1933 02 23
Sir – many a lover of trees mourns the cutting down of the fine Pagoda tree, Sophorn Japonica, which stood in Downing Street. It was about 200 years old and doubtless adorned the Botanical Garden there before it moved to its present site. A young American who was sadly photographing its headless trunk says it was one of the finest specimens in England. Why do we not value our ancient trees as we do our buildings? - F.P. Leyburn-Yarker. 33 02 23a – photo 33 03 01

1933 04 20
Cambridge councillors considered schemes for the rebuilding of the Guildhall. One would alter the whole site, the other would set back the front but the building on Guildhall Street would remain untouched and would revert to being a court. But some councillors thought the Parkside scheme was still the best and would be far cheaper. 33 04 20c & d

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1933 05 11
Portugal Terrace fire – 33 05 11

1933 05 26
Proposals to set back the line of buildings in Sidney Street would leave only two small properties jutting out between Woolworth's and the corner. There was no room for people to move on the pavement and it would be a great improvement. But Mrs Rackham said it was unreasonable to pay so much money: the owners demanded compensation that equated to nearly half a million pounds an acre. This was not new: when a building line was prescribed in King Street, property which formerly sold at £1,500 immediately fetched £2,000. 33 05 26 f & g

1933 06 26
Guildhall scheme approved – 33 06 26 & a

1933 07 05
Sir, If I were 'Traffic Dictator' for Cambridge motor cycles would not be allowed in Sussex Street or Christ's Lane, there would be no parking of cars for more than fifteen minutes or in Jesus Lane: why spend £2,000 widening it, then block the space gained by motor cars. Bus users would be made to queue up near Lloyds Bank: often it is virtually impossible to get through the crowds of waiting passengers. – 'Interested'. 33 07 05 p8

1933 07 28

The Central Hall in Market Passage may become a cinema where cultural films would be shown during the University term. It would be run by Openshaw Higgins, formerly manager of The Tivoli cinema. Mr Mullett, the architect said the amount of film in the proposed projection box would not generate sufficient heat in event of a fire to buckle the iron armour of which it would be constructed. 33 07 28

1933 07 31
The old County Hall in Hobson Street was supposed to be sold with the proceeds being used to pay for the new Shire Hall on Castle Hill. But now little tin advertising 'To Let' signs had appeared and there didn't seem to be the slightest attempt to sell it, a councillor complained. But every effort had been made to dispose of it without success and they were now hoping to let a portion to the Government's Office of Works which would suit the council equally as well as a sale. 33 07 31

1933 08 11
The veranda or shelter over the main entrance of the Guildhall was disgustingly dirty and unsafe and should be removed, the Surveyor reported. It had been built in 1878 and the public should get used to the Guildhall without it because it would not be incorporated in the new building. Others said it was a useful shelter and should be maintained at all costs: the Preservation Society would be shocked if they allowed that ancient piece of architecture to be scrapped. 33 08 11

1933 08 28
Changing face of Cambridge – Stetchworth diaries Market Street shop –33 08 28

1933 09 19
Cambridge Guildhall dated back to about 1782 and there had been various extensions. In 1928 the Corporation bought shops in Peas Hill to allow for rebuilding. The possibility of providing shops on the ground floor had been considered but this would not allow sufficient offices for the extra staff needed to cope with their increased duties, an Inquiry was told. 33 09 19

1933 10 14
Cambridge's eighth cinema, the Cosmopolitan, otherwise the Central Hall in Market Passage, will provide a regular home for cultural films. Five years ago a Film Guild was started to show a more intelligent class of film, then Mr Openshaw Higgins tried putting them into the ordinary programme before deciding on a new small cinema. It will give three performances each day during Term. 33 10 14

1933 11 17
Joel Smart was the son of a Gloucestershire cloth manufacturer. Coming to Cambridge shortly after the battle of Waterloo he commenced business at 59 Bridge Street in 1826, removing in 1840 to Petty Cury and in 1853 to 11 Market Street. Here he purchased the clothing business of Watson Taylor who had been trading from early in the century. He took his son, Charles, into partnership, in whose family the business still remains. Such is the history of one of the oldest firms in Cambridge where customers will find all the latest materials and the most fashionable styles at keen prices. 33 11 17

1933 12 30
Chesterton RDC is to transfer their headquarters from St John's Street to a floor of the old County Hall in Hobson Street. It is possible the new West Cambs RDC would also take offices and share the council chamber. Councillors decided that six houses at Rooks Lane, Cottenham were slum property and should be demolished as should four cottages in Lambs Lane even though they were

watertight and the owner, who was over 80, spent most of his old age pension in keeping them in repair. 33 12 30

1934 01 08
Thousands of people lined both side of St Andrew's Street when the Queen and Duchess of York paid a private visit to Mr Woolston's antique shop where the Queen chose several tiny ivory objects for her famous doll's house. She also inspected the Cambridge Tapestry Company's premises in Thompson's Lane where they watched the women workers actually engaged at the canvas and saw the tapestry panelling now being made for Lord Fairhaven, depicting his seat at Anglesey Abbey. 34 01 08

1934 03 02
The tenant of the Rhadeund public house in King Street had been there since 1893 but his wife had died and trade had gone down. There were six other pubs within 300 yards, three belonging to Lacons, two to Greene King and one to Mr Dale. A good many of the customers were getting on in years and some had fallen away. But it served a useful purpose socially for a certain class of people and should be kept open, magistrates were told. 34 03 02

1934 03 08
A question of moving back the railings on Christ's Pieces to extend the Drummer Street parking station again came before the council. Councillor Stubbs had opposed it from the first; at weekends there was congestion of buses in Drummer Street at a place where pedestrians were crossing. Councillor Few said it was unfair to the railways who had to find their own land for parking: it was the buses that took up the space and it was wrong to give up public property for them. But Mrs Hartree said the car park was chiefly for the people from the rural surroundings and was very important. The vote was tied. 34 03 08

1934 04 27
A large number of University and college servants gathered at the Assembly Rooms in Market Passage for the opening of their new Club by the Vice-Chancellor. The opportunity for members to meet in social intercourse was half the value of a Cambridge education. It would provide properly organised amusements for all servants during winter months, to fit in with their rather unusual hours of leisure. 34 04 27

1934 05 15
Marks and Spencer's new shop will be opened on Friday morning. The premises have a frontage to Sidney Street. The ground floor space is devoted entirely to sales while the first and second floors contain stock rooms, offices and other accommodation for the staff of 60 assistants who have been mainly recruited locally. There is a dining room where staff can obtain lunch at a cost of sixpence. There will be no 'stunt' lines at opening and 90 per cent of the goods sold are of British manufacture.
34 05 15

1934 05 29
One of the best-known Cambridge hairdressers Alexander Joseph Priziborsky was born in Cambridge 54 years ago. It was his father who founded the hairdressing establishment in Round Church Street about 1856 and on his death in 1905 his son took it over. He shaved his first customer when nine years old and built up a first class reputation, the majority of his customers coming from outside the town. 34 05 29

1934 03 06

The proprietor of the Garden House Hotel proposed to make alterations and additions and wanted to acquire a portion of Coe Fen lying in front of Coe Fen Terrace, an annexe to the hotel, to add to the gardens. There was a public footpath across it which would have to be diverted. He was the owner of the piece of land opposite the Ladies Bathing Place which would be added to the common in exchange for the land he wanted. Councillors agreed to the scheme. 34 03 06

1934 06 19
An agreement has been reached in the long-running dispute over the rebuilding of the Dorothy Café in Sidney Street. In spite of the conflict over details Messrs G.P. Hawkings now have a really beautiful, modern and commodious building that has earned praise from the Cambridge Preservation Society and the Illumination Congress while the builders are no longer under any imputation of incompetence.
34 06 19

1934 07 28
Petty Cury: widening scheme [1.19]

1934 08 01
Gonville and Caius College's scheme for the complete rebuilding of the block of shops and houses on the north side of Cambridge Market Hill has been finally approved. At present the site from Rose Crescent to St Mary's Court is occupied by a group of houses, mostly of the 18th century. Their disappearance will be regretted, even by those who knew how dilapidated they had become behind their neat Georgian facades. But the whole effect of the completed block should stifle these regrets. The shops will be set back seven feet with upper rooms carried on slender pillars. 34 08 01 [1.1,Ic. 6.17]

1934 08 01
After a history of 100 years it is hardly surprising that there is a thorough tobacco atmosphere about the shop of Messrs Bacon Bros which has stood on Market Hill since 1805 and the news that it is to be pulled down with cause regret to many. A number of ledgers over 100 years old, containing fascinating information about the smokers have come to light including the original accounts sent to C.S. Calverley whose 'Ode to Tobacco' appears on the outer wall of the shop. A new shop will be built on almost the same spot. 34 08 01

1934 08 02
Councillors considered a scheme for compulsorily purchasing the old Post Office on the corner of Petty Cury and other properties in Sidney Street to widen the road. Cambridge could not progress unless it spent money. Money was never cheaper: the banks were bursting with it. There were the materials, the men and the money available for the work. But having compulsory orders hanging over the properties would influence the price they could be sold for. 34 08 02

1934 08 11
Demolition corner Hobson Street – Sidney Street pic, p1

1934 08 28
The renovations to St John's College have been the subject of much comment in 'The Times'. It was suggested that the two turrets at the front were in imminent danger of falling away from the main tower because of a system of main drainage 30 years ago when a trench 30 feet deep was dug along the street. But there is no evidence of settlement due to foundation trouble. The walls had shattered because of vibrations caused by street traffic. 34 08 28

1934 09 15
Extensive repairs are being carried out to the roof of Great St Mary's church. Once again the cause is the death-watch beetle whose activities in the wooden beams have wrought tremendous havoc. The area around the chancel is in 'splints' with steel scaffolding but services are being held as usual. The church has only recently been cleaned and the organ renovated. One can only hope the ravages have been checked before they could cover the whole of the roof. 34 09 15 [6.13]

1934 09 21
Messrs George Stace's new windows in his Petty Cury Arcade are absolutely the latest idea. They curve inwards to reduce reflections making the glass invisible. Spotlights inside, which can be given any colour, provide the perfect finish and one feels one has only to reach out and touch the articles. Showrooms upstairs have been reconstructed and one of the workrooms moved to make space room for the new arcade. 34 09 21

1934 09 22
Statues on Market Hill conduit named – 34 09 22

1934 10 19
Cambridge University Department of Zoology's new building looks rather like the upper decks of some huge liner when viewed from Corn Exchange Street. It has been built of concrete and steel so that should the study of zoology ever fall in favour it can be adapted for other purposes. Inside it is possible to be perspiring in tropic heat in one moment and shivering in Artic cold the next. The Elementary Laboratory, the largest of its kind in the world, is on the ground floor so that the vibration caused by students entering and leaving should not be felt throughout the building. 34 10 19

1934 11 03
The Cambridge Social Club, all that survived of the old Liberal Club in Downing Street, has been wound up. It moved to Market Passage and for the last five years old party labels have gone by the board. Each year it has been difficult making ends meet but happily the club finished up free from debt. The Ranjitsinhji Billiards Bowl has been offered to the Central Conservative Club and the portrait of its donor to the Hobbs' Pavilion. 34 11 03a

1934 12 07
Barratt shoes have just opened their 126th branch at 6 Market Street Cambridge. When you consider that ten years ago they had fewer than 20 you must allow that they'd progressed. Some of the lines are stocked in no fewer than fifty alternative fittings. They are made in Barratt's own factory and sold only through their branches. From start to finish every detail is under their control and there are no middleman's profits – advert. 34 12 07

1934 12 17
Merchants at Cambridge Corn Exchange traditionally end the year by throwing about samples of their wares. The signal for the commencement of the battle was the explosion of a cracker near the door. The 'firer' was immediately bombarded and soon covered with flour, wheat and artificial manure. Crackers banged merrily, bags burst with marked effect and very soon all the dignified corn-merchants were life-like imitations of snowmen. Even the rather grim-looking statue of Jonas Webb looked comical with the flour-bag headgear that was placed on it. After 30 minutes the ammunition ran out and combat ceased, though the debris-covered floor was witness of the fight that had been in progress. 34 12 17a

1935 01 02
Guildhall – architect's drawing – 35 01 02

1935 01 17
The new A.D.C. Theatre in Park Street was opened by Miss Ellaline Terriss replacing the one destroyed by fire 14 months ago. It was a wonder it had not burnt down every time the stage was used years ago, as there was no fire-proof curtain, the theatre was lit entirely by gas and the proscenium made of painted canvas stretched on wood batons, reminisced E. Mellish Clark 35 01 17

1935 01 23
The construction of the new theatre on Peas Hill will cause the demolition of these old buildings – photo – 35 01 23, 149.34

1935 01 31
New street proposed from Downing St towards Sidney St – 35 01 31a

1935 02 02
In the gale of January 26th an ancient and somewhat decrepit sycamore in the Sidney Sussex College Fellows' Garden was blown down. This tree was the last survivor of an avenue of sycamores planted in 1607-8 along the east side of that part of the King's Ditch which crossed the college grounds from the end of Hobson Street to Jesus Lane and thence along the side of Park Street. In the college accounts are payments to Thomas Hobson, the carrier, 'for bringing the sycamore trees from London … iiis. xd' 35 02 02

1935 02 28
Market Hill: rebuilding on corner of Rose Crescent: photo showing erection of new Caius College building – 35 02 28, 149.38

1935 03 05
Queens' College proposed building Silver Street 35 03 05a

1935 03 13
A packed public meeting at Cambridge Guildhall voted against plans for a new building and called on the council to remodel the front to a more dignified style of architecture. Cambridge was a treasure house of architectural gems and they had no right to hand down to posterity a freak building, a flat and uninteresting example of early 20th-century abominations. Another motion dealing with the question of shops on the Peas Hill side of the building received scant attention as most of the audience had left before the end. 35 03 13 & a

1935 03 16
Peas Hill: houses on west side to be demolished for Arts Theatre

1935 03 27
Coad's new store, beside Woolworth's in Sidney Street, with its new arcade and island cases is a glowing example of the shop fitter's craft. There are now three floors and the splendid oak-panelled stairway has been retained. The fashion salons are already quite famous for their remarkable values in coats, woollies and blouses and the millinery salon is well lit. At the farther end lies the Lingerie and Corsetry Salon and a Younger Ladies' Department where the woman to today can shop like mother does. 35 03 27a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1935 04 10
Demolition work on Peas Hill for the new Guildhall has led to an architectural discovery of outstanding interest. It has revealed the residence and business premises of a well-to-do Tudor merchant which was subsequently divided up into a detached and two semi-detached houses. The magnificent front was covered up with lath and plaster in the reign of Queen Anne and finished with mock bricks. Dummy eaves were also added. Now each piece has been carefully taken down and numbered for preservation and re-erection. 35 04 10

1935 04 10
Corporation proposals for the widening and improvement of Sidney Street and the lower part of Petty Cury met with vigorous opposition. In 1922 they had taken powers to prescribe frontage lines and in 1924 when Messrs Woolworth's and Sainsbury's came to Cambridge they agreed to set back their premises and gave the land to the Council. Various other places were reconstructed and now the frontage line had been prescribed from Sainsbury's to Millers with the exception of Almond's and the Prudential Assurance Company. The Surveyor said the street was urgently in need of widening to cope with increased traffic 35 04 10 & a, 35 04 11

1935 05 01
The Guildhall Protest Committee criticised plans for a useless portico of a most ornate and incongruous style which could be 'put on cold' in from of the proposed façade of the new Guildhall in two years' time if the town really wanted it. They maintained the main entrance should be on Market Hill. It would allow a terrace which would form a platform for addressing meetings on Market Hill and give a façade of distinction that the people strongly desire. There was also intense feeling regarding the question of shops on the Peas Hill side 35 05 01

1935 05 13
The number employed by the Disabled Persons Workshop has varied from 9 to 10; two are doing piece work in their homes, not being able to attend at the shop. Unfortunately three who are employed are not eligible for the deficiency grants from the Ministry of Labour which has hit the income. It has been a disturbed year owing to the difficulty of finding suitable premises in Cambridge for a shop. The workshops in Gloucester Street are out of the way and they had to leave Peas Hill because of demolitions, meaning there was nowhere to sell their goods. The new premises in Trumpington Street are outside the shopping centre and the rents and rates are a strain 35 05 13

1935 05 22
Queens' College – demolition in Silver Street for new extensions – 35 05 22

1935 06 04
The Mayor (Ald R. Starr) opened the Cambridge Trustee Savings Bank's new offices in Downing Street. "I believe there are people in this town who do not trust the banks", he said. "They still keep their savings in old stockings and I often come across people who keep their money in old pewter pots. If the people of Cambridge will only feel it is their bank, and that they can deposit their money feeling it is safer than it would be in their own cottages, it would be a good thing". The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Neville Chamberlain, sent a telegram wishing the bank success. 35 06 04 & a

1935 06 15
The Cosmopolitan Cinema in Market Passage was started two years ago by Mr N. Openshaw Higgins as an experiment. Increasing numbers of people have welcomed the opportunity of seeing cultural films that do not appeal to be masses. Now it is moving to the new theatre being

constructed in Peas Hill. There has been discussion as to the most suitable name for the new venture. The Arts Theatre was talked of, but a more likely choice now is the Market Theatre. 35 06 15b

1935 05 16
Councillors argued over proposals for the Guildhall. Some wanted to spend £200,000 on the old building and still have a patchwork quilt, whereas they could have an entirely new one for £150,000. Peas Hill never had been and never would be a business centre and shops there would never be a paying proposition. The dispute had started with an unfortunate illustration of the façade in the 'Sunday Times' but the design was undoubtedly a dignified building of its kind and the average elector would vote for anything, if it were as ugly as sin, if it would only save a bit on the rates.. However Councillor Stubbs said if it had been built on Donkey Common as he'd suggested some years ago the council would not be in the muddle it was today. 35 05 16a & b

1935 07 27
Belisha Beacons have now been installed in Cambridge, whether we like them or not. They are on Market Street corner near Sainsbury's, between Christ's college and St Andrew's church, near the Midland Bank in Petty Cury, the 'Jolly Waterman' on Victoria Avenue and between Christ's Pieces and New Square. It is just as well the undergraduates are not here to see their erection. Perhaps we shall all have become thoroughly accustomed to them where our young friends come up 35 07 27b

1935 08 10
Changing market place: first stage of new Caius College buildings are fully revealed with its striking modern architectural detail – photo – 35 08 10, 151.30

1935 08 28
Sidney Street: New front to Lloyd's Bank now looks resplendent and enhances the appearance of the cornet site opposite the old Post Office – photo – 35 08 28a, 151.35

1935 09 07
New theatre on Peas Hill takes shape – photo – 35 09 07

1935 09 27
The opening of Bacon Bros' new premises on Market Hill will forge a new link in a unique chain of tradition. Old ledgers record the names of customer who became famous in every walk of life including the Prince of Wales, the future Baron Rothschild and both Alfred and Charles Tennyson. The new interior fittings are made of cedar so that the shop is like a giant cigar box with many relics of bygone days. Verses from the 'Ode to Tobacco' by Charles Stuart Calverley which featured on the wall of the old building in Rose Crescent until its demolition last year are to make their reappearance in the form of a bronze tablet. 35 09 27b & 28a

1935 10 01
Cambridge Justices approved the plans of Associated British Cinemas for a new cinema to be erected in St Andrew's Street. The site had been left derelict after fire burnt down a large part of the Castle Hotel in 1934. The application was opposed by the Theatre Cinema and the Rendezvous. There were nine cinemas in Cambridge with 6,300 seats and it would be impossible for them all to carry on if a super cinema like this were built. The Victoria was built four years ago, the Arts Theatre was completely new and the Rendezvous was having more seats and an organ. But the Cosmopolitan had closed and the Guildhall and Corn Exchange licences were rarely used. 35 10 01 & a

1935 10 17
Sidney Street to be widened at no cost to council 35 10 17

1935 10 17
The foundations of the Small Room of the Guildhall, which also supported the Borough Surveyor's room, are in such bad conditions that they must be demolished earlier than planned. It had been hoped to defer demolition until the Surveyor could move into the new wing of the Guildhall being built on Peas Hill. A ditch had been found under the site. Assurances were sought that the foundations of the rest of the Guildhall, especially the Large Room, were secure because weaknesses were not generally found in one spot but existed in veins all over the area. 35 10 17a

1935 10 18
Sir – Last Saturday afternoon I saw a fellow stuck more than half-way up Market Street with a car. He had been into a nearby shop and carefully turned the petrol off. When he came out he found a string of cars and buses held up. He got flustered at the situation, pressed the starter and nothing happened. I swung it about four times for him, and still nothing happened. Then I helped him push it down the street out of the way, and there found out the trouble. – Albert Baker 35 10 18a

1935 10 19
Second stage of Caius development - pulling down old buildings adjoining as preliminary to completing the whole of the new building – photo - 35 10 19, 151.39

1935 12 17
Electricity is the modern housewife's Father Christmas, bringing her so many labour-saving and home-brightening devices and Messrs Bailey, Grundy and Barrett of St Mary's Passage are specialists. Lamp standards, wireless sets and coffee percolators are a few gift suggestions. Harassed husbands and flurried fiancés will find solutions to all their gift problems at Messrs Eaden Lilley's which is packed full of things dear to the feminine heart such as evening gowns, furs and lingerie. The bargain basement has good quality stuff at reasonable prices. 35 12 17a

1936
Sidney Street : Almond shop & neighbouring premises demolished [IC.11.5]

1936 01 01
Cambridge University's world-famous Cavendish Laboratory, the leading centre for modern physical research, has benefited by the magnificent gift of £250,000 from Sir Herbert Austin, the motor magnate. The frontage on to Free School lane will be left as will Clark Maxwell's original lecture theatre and the rooms in which Sir J.J. Thomson discovered the electron and Lord Rutherford disintegrated the atom. The rest will be pulled down and a new five-storey block erected with a laboratory for the utilisation of very high voltages to allow experiments in the transmutation of matter by high speed particles and by radiation. 36 05 01a 36 05 02

1936 01 15
The Queen motored over from Sandringham to visit Mr Stanley Woolston's antique store where she purchased specimens of needlework and some ivories to add to her collection. As word spread the police had a hard time keeping back the ever-increasing throng of sightseers. It was noticed that one of the tyres of the royal car was a little deflated and an RAC Scout was called in to blow it up again. The Queen also visited the Cambridge Tapestry Company in Thompson's Lane where she saw one piece of tapestry that was being repaired. It had been stolen by thieves

who were forced to abandon it in a wood where it had been affected by the weather and some children had also mutilated it 36 01 15a

1936 01 18
As the Guildhall is being reconstructed the Cambridge Education Committee met in the old Post Office on the corner of Petty Cury. The large hall on the ground floor where the public business of the Post Office used to be transacted has been cleared of the counters, screens and telephone boxes and converted into a committee room. Unfortunately the CDN reporters found the acoustic properties very bad. It is never easy to follow the remarks of some of the members of the Committee and hearing was rendered doubly difficult by the roar of traffic outside. They dragged their table nearer but even then the noise of the traffic was an easy winner. 36 01 18

1936 01 23
Several thousand packed Cambridge Market Hill where from a special platform draped in purple the new King Edward VII was proclaimed. But proceedings were interrupted by the appearance overhead of an aeroplane and as a result of the noise from the engine the Mayor (Ald Wing) had to pause. Undergraduates crowded outside the Senate House where the University ceremony was held. Many of them had cameras and four or five, determined to get a good view of the ceremony, climbed into the huge bowl which stands on a pedestal in the court. 36 01 23c

1936 02 04
The Cambridge Arts Theatre opened with a gala performance by the Vic-Walls Ballet Company. It is a beautiful piece of work with furnishings in autumn leaf and includes a restaurant and café bar. The cinema and sound apparatus is of the very latest type with facilities for the reproduction of gramophone records designed by Messrs Morley and Duke. The fresh air supply can be warmed or cooled while the main heating by water-fed radiators is instantly adjustable to meet the vagarities of the English climate 36 02 04 & a

1936 02 15
A new angle on Market Square; demolition work on the Guildhall site makes possible an unusual view looking across market, taken from the new buildings on Peas Hill – photo 36 02 15, 154.35

1936 02 21
A new Blue Boar hotel, refined and distinctive yet homely has been taking shape in Trinity Street. A new Georgian cornice and canopy has been installed with flood-lighting producing a beautiful effect. Internally structural alterations, redecoration and refurbishing make the hotel a place of comfort and restful beauty with every modern refinement to ensure the enjoyment of residents who have a choice of gas, coal or electric fires in the bedrooms. The main lounge was originally a cobblestone yard into which coaches were driven. It was covered in in 1900 36 02 21 advert – 36 02 22a

1936 03 21b
Albany coffee shop St Mary's Passage notes; frontage between St Mary's Passage and St Edward's Passage sold - 36 03 21b

1936 03 21
Many people have wondered about the object of the black and white poles which have sprung up along St Andrew's Street and Hills Road. The Ministry of Transport have finally given permission to the system of unilateral parking and the posts will be adorned with notices warning motorists not to park on the wrong side of the road on the wrong day. There is also some reason

for believing that the new 'one-way' streets will also be brought into operation before very long. 36 03 21a

1936 03 23
Unilateral parking came into force in Cambridge on Saturday. Between Regent Street and the Old Post Office parking is now allowed for 15 minutes in any one hour on one side of the road on even dates and on the other side on odd. There is one short stretch against Emmanuel Street in which no parking is allowed, owing to the difficulty of traffic coming in and out of the town through this narrow street. Readers should remember they cannot now leave their cars for any longer than 15 minutes as this is the limit. 36 03 23b

1936 03 28
Under new restrictions Cambridge motorists may not travel from Market Hill towards Trinity Street or into Bene't Street from King's Parade. You may not drive into Sussex Street from Hobson Street or into Corn Exchange Street from Downing Street, nor turn at Burton's Corner, Petty Cury to go to the Victoria Cinema or from Wheeler Street into Peas Hill to get to the Arts Theatre. But cyclists may walk with their bicycles either way as they do at present in Petty Cury and Market Street. Restaurants will have to speed up their service if they wish to cater for those who leave their cars outside, for only a quarter of an hour is permitted. Travellers who do not want to get indigestion had better make use of a parking space! 36 03 28b

1936 04 17
Demolition work has begun on the north side of Sussex Street as a prelude to completing the scheme of widening: photo – 36 04 17, 69.61

1936 04 18
The work of pulling down and building up in Cambridge goes merrily on. Anyone revisiting the town after only a few years' absence must be amazed at the remarkable changes taking place from the old Post Office to the Catholic Church. In a few years this will form the most important and best shopping centre in Cambridge. Now no.14 Regent Street, which was built at the end of the 18th century, will be pulled down by Messrs Herbert Robinson to make an extension of their business. This will mean a further improvement in the building line with a consequent street widening. 36 04 18b

1936 04 25
Sussex Street: north side demolished, rebuild similar to south side [1.24]

1936 05 01
Cambridge University's world-famous Cavendish Laboratory, the leading centre for modern physical research, has benefited by the magnificent gift of £250,000 from Sir Herbert Austin, the motor magnate. The frontage on to Free School lane will be left as will Clark Maxwell's original lecture theatre and the rooms in which Sir J.J. Thomson discovered the electron and Lord Rutherford disintegrated the atom. The rest will be pulled down and a new five-storey block erected with a laboratory for the utilisation of very high voltages to allow experiments in the transmutation of matter by high speed particles and by radiation. 36 05 01a 36 05 02

1936 05 12
Marks & Spencer tender £26,000 for 10-11 Sidney Street as a general stores – 36 05 12a

1936 07 28

A tapestry showing a panoramic view of Windsor Castle that was produced as a personal Silver Jubilee gift for the late King George V and Queen Mary is now on view in London. It represents the very finest modern English weaving and was designed and woven by the Cambridge Tapestry Company in their workshops at Thompson's Lane. The weavers were Ellen Nichols, Sylvia Corby, Ethel Lander, Dorothy Pettit, Elsie Blunt and Alice Haylett working under the direction of Hilda Lister. 36 07 28a

1936 07 30
Specimen lamp standards had been put up so that everybody had equal chance of commenting and not one criticism had been received. So standards had been ordered and work was proceeding well. But then criticism poured in from the Preservation Society and Colleges who said the standards were not in keeping with the buildings around them. But while they had antique buildings in King's Parade, they also had modern traffic passing along the road at the modern fast rate. Where were the protests going to stop? 36 07 30b & c

1936 08 15
Old buildings at the back of shops opposite the 'Blue Boar' in Trinity Street caught fire. This is one of the densest areas with much valuable property including several college buildings. Trinity College fire-fighting appliance tackled the blaze from the back and the brigade's water tower fire engine was soon at work. Onlookers had a laugh when a frightened mouse was seen running along the pavement among the hoses. But the storehouse at the rear of Roper's shop was burnt out. 36 08 15

1936 09 03
When John Brown took charge of Freeman, Hardy & Willis shop on Market Hill in 1897 boots were cheap, and needed to be: "I can remember country women coming in with a dozen children and saying their husbands only earned twelve shillings a week". When he started brown boots were so scarce that people stopped and gazed at someone who sported a pair in Peterborough. Most had hob nails in the sole – even those for infants - and women wore elastic-sided boots – it didn't matter what they wore, because you never saw their feet. The shop was enlarged into premises next door in 1905 36 09 03a

1936 10 17
"Removing a dangerous 'bottle neck'" - projection of Almond's shop has made this part of street extremely inconvenient, its demolition is a welcome piece of street improvement – 36 10 17, 158.68

1936 10 17
Two old Churchwardens pipes over the string course of the parapet of Messrs Almond's shop at 11 Sidney Street, now being demolished, are a reminder that it was once used by Joshua Lee for the making of clay pipes. Mr A.T. Potter recalls that there had once been a large kiln in the centre of the shop in which the pipes were baked. There is also a very fine old lead head to the down pipe which has cross clay pipes embossed on it. 36 10 17b

1936 10 30
Sidney Street: photograph showing properties on E side from Woolworth towards Lloyd's Bank following removal of property to set back frontage. 36 10 30, 150.46

1936 11 13

Last of a familiar landmark: workmen engaged in last phase of the demolition of Ye Olde Castel Hotel in St Andrew's Street; the towering mass of the new cinema, which is taking its place is shown to the left: photo 36 11 13, 150.47

1936 11 20
Gustave David, known as 'David' to generations of undergraduates has died hours after returning by the midnight train having attended a London auction. He came to Cambridge forty years ago, opening his now-famous stall on Market Hill. Later he opened a shop in Green Street before moving to St Edward's Passage. He was the first man in Cambridge to sell rare and old books at low prices. So appreciative were Universitymen of his services that in 1925 a number of distinguished members entertained him to lunch at Trinity in recognition of the 'conspicuous services he has rendered the cause of humane letters'. 36 11 20 a & b

1936 11 28
Brazen George Inn was in St Andrew's Street, Alexandra Street was its yard – 36 11 28

1936 11 28
The Truevoice Recording Studio in Jesus Lane is now open every day for the producing of gramophone records. Your opportunity to hear yourself on a perfect 10 inch double sided wax record for a fee of 10/6. Children's voices faithfully reproduced. Specially equipped studio for music and orchestral recordings. These records make ideal Christmas Gifts to your friends. Why not make one and send it to them. They will be delighted – Advert. 36 11 28b

1936 12 09
The Cambridge Milk Bar opened on Market Hill where all the shakes and soups can be purchased at the standard price of four pence. You have only to visit it once to become an addict. The first milk bar opened in Fleet Street two years ago and they have spread rapidly attracting business men, workmen and shoppers. In cold weather what could be more sustaining that a bowl of soup made with milk while in summer a cold milk shake flavoured with fresh fruit syrups, made 'crisp' with cream and whipped is a creamy delight 36 12 09b

1936 12 30
Peas Hill windows smashed – including Sennitt – 36 12 30 & a

1937
Sidney Street: demolition at corner of Petty Cury [IC.11.10]

1937 01 15
The head offices and showroom of the Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company in Sidney Street, where all the most modern and efficient appliances for heating, cooking, refrigeration and lighting can be seen, were built in 1909. Today the total number of consumers is in the region of 25,000. Recently the villages of Willingham, Longstanton and Oakington were supplied with gas and mains are being laid to Sawston. 37 01 15b

1937 02 18
Guildhall and Market Hill site – history by Mrs Keynes – 37 02 18

1937 06 18
The Tyre Service Company claims to be one of the oldest tyre firms in Britain. Commencing in Norfolk in 1902 it moved to Cambridge in 1919 and carried on business at Pound Hill and Jesus Lane. Through constant expanding business they have transferred to more extensive premises in

Burleigh Street where they carry the largest and most comprehensive stock of motor tyres in the Eastern Counties, including a full range of Dunlop, Goodyear, Indian, Firestone and all leading makes 37 06 18

1937 07 17
Rainwater heads on Three Tuns, Central Hotel, Peas Hill – 37 07 17b

1937 07 17
Trinity college remove railings in front of college chapel, Trinity Street – photo – 37 07 17a

1937 07 24
Messrs J. Johnson and Son's premises at 51 Sidney Street, usually referred to as 'Johnson's Shirt Shop' is probably one of the oldest outfitters in Cambridge, the premises being first opened in 1880. In 1922 the business was acquired by Mr A.G. Mole and is now under the sole charge of his son, Cecil. Much of the success of this specialised Men's Outfitting business has been due to consistent advertising in the C.D.N. 37 07 24

1937 08 14
Mr W. Ridgeon established his shop in old Sussex Street in 1902 and moved to their new premises in 1932 since when the business has steadily grown. Now with their own nursery at Castle Street and lawn mower works at Westfield Lane they pride themselves on giving the best and most complete garden service in Cambridge. The business also includes a modern floral department and a section devoted to all dog and pet foods and requisites. 37 08 14

1937 09 06
The famous Festival Grill has been reborn. Connoisseurs of good food and good wine need no longer journey to Newmarket Road as the Grill has opened in more commodious premises at the corner of Bene't Street and King's Parade. It has a new name, the Festival Restaurant with a new sherry and oyster bar which together with the restaurant under the direction of Toni, is first-class in every respect. Its delightful colour scheme of red, black and cream ensures the rooms are bright but not garish and it will become one of the best-known rendezvous. 37 10 06a

1937 09 25
Jesus Lane Sunday School was set up in 1827, later moving to King Street where many local children were taught religion by undergraduates who rose to positions of eminence in the church. A new large school was erected in Paradise Street in 1868. But times change. After the war many families have moved further out so now they have sold that building and erected a new hall in Brooks Road which will also serve as a temporary church until a new one can be built. All children between eight and 15 are invited 37 09 25

1937 10 22
The Cambridge Hebrew Congregation's new synagogue in Thompson's Lane was consecrated by the Very Rev, the Chief Rabbi of the British Empire. Jews were to be found in Cambridge before the Middle Ages and the stone walls of the medieval synagogue were said to be still standing. Cambridge University was the first seat of higher learning in the modern world to have given Jewish studies academic recognition. Arthur Cohen was the first Jew to take up residence at Magdalene College in the early 1850s after representation had been made to the Prince Consort, the then Chancellor, by Sir Moses Montefiore. 37 10 22

1937 10 23

Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company's new workshops and depots in Rustat Road would lead to improved service, enhanced efficiency and – sooner or later – reduced charges. The old premises in Bene't Street had been a veritable shambles and disgrace with pipes stored at the disused Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn pumping stations. They would wage ceaseless war against waste by leakage and had a gang of plumbers ready to deal with any emergency 24 hours a day with the promptitude of the London Fire Brigade. 37 10 23b

1937 10 23
A plaque to Edward Fitzwilliam was unveiled on the wall of 19, King's Parade, where he lived from 1826 to 1830 and entertained his friends. Mr Frank Brangwyn made the design and Joseph Cribb sculptured the stone which was quarried in Rutland. It honoured a man who brought the wisdom and philosophy of the East to the West. The Omar Khayyam Club had supported the appeal but George Bernard Shaw sent a postcard saying "I am not a Fitz fan. You can do as well without me". 37 10 23a

1938 01 07
The demolition of parts of the old Guildhall has meant that several annual functions have lost their normal home. But a Mayoral reception elsewhere than in the Guildhall must surely be unique in Cambridge history. It is symbolic of the happy relations existing between the Town and the University that the Old Schools should have been placed at the disposal of the councillors. Cars containing guests pulled up on King's Parade and a lengthy walk under illuminated awnings led to the Dome Room. The Council Room, East Room, Syndicate Room and Regent House were in use but only the dais where the orchestra played for dancing was decorated 38 01 07

1938 01 14
The old Shire Hall on Cambridge Market Hill, was erected in 1747. At that a time the 14th-century Guildhall which stood on the south of Butter Row was under repair. This was pulled down in 1782 to be replaced by the Guildhall built by James Essex. Now demolition has revealed a fragment of the medieval Guildhall. Two pieces of ancient oak carved with leaves are thought to date from 1386. They will be replaced in the new building 38 01 14b

1938 02 33
House clearance Saxton Street, Gothic St area & Park Street – 38 03 22b

1938 03 04
The Health Foods and Herbal Store of Green Street has been established several years and specialises in non-fresh foods of many kinds; unrefined cereals, wholemeal flour, biscuits and cake; choice fruits, nuts, honey & oils – in fact everything nearest to nature and consequently the cheapest for man, woman and child. Now they have bought a speedy little delivery van to distribute their goods to customers. Some of their products however travel by post almost to the ends of the earth 38 03 04e

1938 03 05
Part of Sidney Street was closed to traffic following the development of a bulge in the front wall of the premises of Austin & Co., coal merchants. The bulge is sufficiently marked to be easily visible. Last night crowds gathered in the expectation that the wall might fall, but they were disappointed. In shops on either side it was a case as 'business as usual'. Traffic has been diverted via Petty Cury and St John's Street while builders work on the affected wall 38 03 05 & a

1938 03 21

Eastern Counties Omnibus Company complained of difficulties manoeuvring their buses at the Drummer Street terminus. They suggested the Corporation reduce the width of the footpath. The Borough Surveyor disagreed. He suggested that the space reserved for the parking of cars should be reduced by 54 feet from the high kerb against the coffee stall. But the Watch Committee decided that the time was now approaching when Eastern Counties should cease to use Drummer Street and consider the provision elsewhere of their own bus station 38 03 21a

1938 03 22
Market Hill fountain water not fit for human consumption – 38 03 22e

1938 03 22
One-way traffic, Hobson St deleted from scheme, Perne Road roundabout – 38 03 22d

1938 03 25
Drummer Street park was made for private cars, and now they seemed to be letting the Bus Company monopolise it; they should find a parking place of their own, a councillor urged. But Ald Starr said it was opened not for private cars but for the benefit of the working men and women who came into Cambridge by bus. Now it was used as a car park by professional and business people who left their vehicles there all morning and afternoon. Coun Stubbs said they were at their wits' end to know what to do with the traffic. It was easy to talk about telling the Bus Company to find a new park, but where could they go? 38 03 25a

1938 04 09
Demolition at Bridge Street: old houses are being demolished in connection with the St John's College extension scheme – 38 04 09

1938 04 20
'Desperate measures' are needed to save part of Queens' College where the river wall of the Essex block is in a severe state. It is absolutely necessary to deposit a bank against the wall to avert a disaster and when made temporarily safe the foundations will have to be underpinned, the Cam Conservators heard. There was concern that Silver Street Bridge might also be slightly under-mined and it should be rebuilt when money was available. 38 04 20a 38 04 27

1938 04 30
The proposed new buildings for St John's College involve the immediate erection of buildings to complete the present Chapel Court with wings projecting beyond to the north and east. These should be ready for occupation by Michaelmas 1939, including 50 undergraduates and ten fellows' sets of rooms. There will be an open court facing Bridge Street should the houses eventually be taken down and the road widened and ultimately a riverside court overlooking Magdalene 38 04 30 & a

1938 06 21
Bridge Street redevelopment by St John's College discussed – 38 06 21

1938 06 22
Queens' College have to underpin the foundations of the Essex Buildings and may rebuild it further from the road instead of on its present alignment. They asked whether the Corporation wished to acquire the land released and expedite the rebuilding of Silver Street Bridge. This could be widened to 40 feet instead of 28 feet as present. The erection of new college buildings and the construction of the bridge would proceed at the same time with the bridge completed by October 1939 38 06 22

1938 06 24
The new Cambridge Guildhall basement could be regarded as splinter-proof and it would not be difficult to render it gas-resisting, the Air Raid Precautions Committee heard. If not done they could be criticised for allowing a public building without adequate protection and could not ask other stores or factories to comply with such regulations. But it would need to have 25 feet of concrete, with earth on top, to make it bomb-proof. It was absolutely and entirely impossible. 38 06 24a & b

1938 07 05
Sidney Street is again in the throes of reconstruction: replacing road surface on approach to Jesus Lane – 38 07 05, 182.46

1938 07 22
Amongst the many improvements in Cambridge during the past few years there is none more striking that that which has been effected in Sussex Street. Those who recall the dark narrow lane of bygone days, with its overhanging roofs on either side, and its small, ill-lit shops, will hardly recognise the imposing street that has emerged from the builders' hands. When the first part of the scheme was completed it gave promise of a really worth-while improvement, and now that the other side of the street has been given a new face, with its line of modern shops and shop-fronts, the full effect is visible. Sussex Street is the most striking of the many improvements made in Cambridge during the past few years. 38 07 22

1938 07 23
H.W. Peak new premises, Sussex Street – advert – 38 07 23f

1938 07 27
Silver Street Bridge was at present 21ft 6ins wide. Some years ago the Council bought land on the south side to enable it to be increased to 28ft when re-building was done. But it was unnecessary to increase it to 40ft as the road beside the old buildings of Queens' College could not be widened. Now the college wanted to redevelop and had offered land provided the bridge was widened – 38 07 23a & b

1938 08 27
The foundation of Silver Street Bridge, built about 1850 has been partially washed away by the rush of water from the King's Mill sluice, a diver underpinning Queens' College discovered. The Cambridge Borough Survey donned a diving suit and personally inspected the damage. There is no danger of it collapsing yet but as a precaution buses and heavy lorries will be banned. For many years heavy vehicles have been limited to a speed of five mph. In June the Council adopted a scheme to construct a new one by acquiring land from the college. But the County Council opposed it. 38 08 27

1938 09 10
Property on the corner of St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel Street to be demolished to make way for a new building scheme (Prudential block) – photo - 38 09 10, 185.23

1938 10 02
The King Street Riding School is the largest and most up-to-date indoor riding school in the country. The Principal (Capt E. Cooper), as an instructor and horseman ranks second to none, having the reputation of being one of the finest riding masters to serve in the British Army. The

long list of successes gained by his pupils in all branches of equitation during his thirty years at King Street testify to his outstanding ability as a Riding Master. 38 12 02a

1938 10 05
Martin's bank opens new branch on Market Hill – 38 10 05

1938 10 07
William Coad of Cavendish Avenue has come up with an answer to the need for underground A.R.P. shelters. His scheme is to construct a sub-way car park underneath Cambridge Market Square with inlet and outlet ramps, which, in the event of an emergency, could be converted into an effective shelter accommodating several thousand people. A nominal car-parking fee would eventually pay for the initial outlay and alleviate the need for suitable garaging for business men coming into the town. 38 10 07

1938 10 10
Silver Street Bridge widening recommended in report – 38 10 10c

1938 10 15
Marshalls' spacious new motor premises on Jesus Lane include an entrance and exit to the petrol and oil filling stations, wide enough for three lines of traffic. There are showrooms on three upper floors which are approached by ramps, with the stores department in the basement. The garage and workshops behind is equipped with the most modern and up-to-date machinery and run by a large and efficient staff. The whole is laid out to afford every luxury and comfort for the motorist 38 10 15, b

1938 10 21
A.R. Nichols and Son, butchers on the corner of Petty Cury and Guildhall Street notify customers that owing to building reconstruction in Petty Cury they are temporarily carrying on their business at their East Road shop and also at a stall on Market Hill 38 10 21

1938 10 27
Park Street was a very congested area in the heart of Cambridge and the houses were upwards of 100 years old. The brickwork was weather worn and crumbled, the walls were damp, natural light was poor and the staircases narrow, winding and dark. The ceiling plaster was cracked and liable to collapse and the floor boards were weak, springy and worm-eaten. In some cases there was no copper or sink and no proper food store. Some had no water supply. They were unfit for human occupation and should be demolished, an Inquiry was told. But residents objected 38 10 27 & a also Saxon Street

1938 10 29
The West End comes to Cambridge. Paris House, the beautiful new fashion rendezvous in Sussex Street caters specifically for the High Class trade. The Inner Court, richly executed in Indian Padouk and Australian Walnut, displays the most lovely garments, becoming the rendezvous for ladies of taste. To Car Users – our Commissionaire will attend to your car with pleasure while you are in our salon – Advert 38 10 29b

1938 12 10
Queens' College have commenced a Chancery Court action against Cambridge Corporation seeking to prevent them from diverting the Cam at the sluice near the former King's and Bishop's mill so as to undermine the college buildings in Silver Street and seeking £5,150 damages for

damage already caused. The Town Clerk has been instructed to protect the Corporation's interest and take any action advised by their counsel 38 12 10

1939
St Andrews Street: buildings on corner of Emmanuel Street demolished [IC.9.13]

1939 02 23
No.7 Petty Cury, comprising a double-fronted shop in the occupation of Messrs Lipton, the upper floors providing part of the bedroom accommodation of the Lion Hotel was offered for sale by auction. Shop property in the heart of the shopping centre of Cambridge seldom came to market by public auction and formed an excellent purchase for occupation, speculation or investment. It would be very difficult to find a much better investment. Demand was especially keen in Cambridge where the best shopping area was limited owing the centre being 'horseshoed' by college buildings. But it failed to reach its reserve and was withdrawn at £11,750 (about £650,000 today) 39 02 23a

1939 04 25
The Central Cinema, Hobson Street, was burnt to a shell in the early hours of the morning. Only the fire-proof operating box, the foyer, crush hall and some of the back stalls remain intact. Firemen hauled hoses up to the roof of the Dorothy Café and from the high ladder of the Merryweather turntable in Hobson Street P.C. Kelly poured another stream of water on to the flames. But after an hour-and-a-half the roof fell in amid a shower of sparks. There was concern about Christ's College chapel where the roof had been removed because of damage done by the death watch beetle and only a tarpaulin covered the wooden ceiling. But a shower of rain helped to prevent it catching alight 39 04 25a, b

1939 05 20
Cambridge Corn Exchange was packed with 2,500 undergraduates when Winston Churchill made a striking speech on conscription which was relayed to the Lion Hotel. There was some violence when those unable to get in attempted to force an entrance; during the melee a policeman lost his helmet. Several hundred undergraduates remained outside until a proctor ordered them to disburse. Inside a motion accepting conscription was carried by ten to one 39 05 20 & a

1939 07 22
The new Cambridge Guildhall will be opened on October 9th by the Earl of Derby. The grand staircase is much more imposing than the old one, the new small room, complete with carpet, will be very convenient and the large hall improved though it is not nearly large enough for conferences, political mass meetings or big musical enterprises. The new Council chamber also seems on the small side and the aldermanic bench has been considerably shortened. 39 07 22b

1939 07 22
Silver Street bridge new design, dispute between Cambridge and county – 39 07 22a

1939 07 28
Cambridge Town council held its last meeting at Shire Hall while the Guildhall was reconstructed. The Library committee asked to use the Small Room as temporary reading room during the re-arrangement of the Central Library. But it had a very expensive carpet that might get spoilt. The library might use the Corn Exchange annexe if the cycles were moved. Ald Briggs said that was not a proper alternative: "The fact is that we have had made a beautiful Guildhall, but must not use it". The carpet could be taken up. But the Guildhall might not be finished by that

time and it would be unfortunate if people were allowed in the Small Room before the rest were completed. The request was denied – 39 07 28b & c

1939 08 02
Turner & sons, Trinity Street was founded by John Leach, chemist and photo dealer 50 years ago and taken over by W.E. Turner in 1912; has one of the most modern photographic developing and printing factories at Humberstone Road – 39 08 02b

1939 08 31
Lloyd's Bank practiced evacuating their staff to air raid shelters in the two strong rooms adjoining the main hall of the bank. Those in Lloyds Bank Chambers used a specially constructed cat-walk over the roof to the fire escape window. The two strong rooms are situated one below the other and a trapdoor will supply a means of escape should one of the entrances become blocked. In the event of a raid customers can accompany the staff or seek the nearest public shelter in wine vaults under Peas Hill 39 08 31

1939 09 05
Cambridge is getting into its war stride. After-dark bus services are curtailed owning to lighting restrictions, no cinemas are open and public libraries close at sunset. Banking hours are now 10 to two on weekdays and delays may occur in the collection of cheques. Various museums are taking steps to protect exhibits from damage and already half of the stained glass in the east window of King's College Chapel has been removed. It is being packed and taken to a place of safety. The remaining 23 windows are being left as they are, owing to the enormous nature of the task of removing the glass. 39 09 05a

1939 09 09
Peas Hill air raid shelter opens; large cavity under road shelters 400 people in converted wine cellars – photo – 39 09 09, 09a

1939 10
Bridge Street: demolition progresses [4.25]

1939 10 04
Cambridge business is experiencing a war boom with the influx of thousands of evacuees and fewer facilities for getting to London to shop. A feeling of optimism prevails among tradespeople who point out that although prices will rise in the near future it will not be due to profiteering on their part. The Paris House reports a flourishing sale in fur coats and higher priced merchandise while Mr Hensher of Peas Hill says his shop has been crowded by purchasers of black-out materials, blankets and bedding. Millers say gramophones and wirelesses are selling well and they expect a rush on pianos. 39 10 04a

1939 10 12
Guildhall first council meeting – 39 10 12a & 12b

1939 10 28
Silver Street bridge will be strengthened so it is able to takes buses again; work needs to start soon because of the inconvenience – 39 10 28a

1939 11 10
The first part of the new scheme for improving the Central library is complete. In the new lending department book shelves radiate from a central staff inclosure, providing more room and

improved natural lighting. The old lending library will become the newspaper reading room while the old reference room will be used for magazines. An innovation is the transfer of the reference room upstairs to the old Education offices, entrance to which is gained through Peas Hill. Refugees, evacuees and any person resident in Cambridge are eligible as borrowers. 39 11 10

1939 11 16
A letter from the Rev 'Tubby' Clayton was read when Cambridge Toc H Club opened above no.13 Corn Exchange Street, a place which three weeks ago was a home for pigeons. With the town labouring under the restrictions of black-out it was in need of a place where Service men can read, write and play games. On Sundays they can bring their lady friends. Above the entrance are these words: "All rank abandon ye who enter here". 39 11 16c

1939 12 08
A News reporter inspected all types of shelter and was impressed with the comparative comfort of the interiors. The person who looks for armchairs will be disappointed, but in some of the larger basements there is plenty of space to walk about and in some there is even central heating. Most shelters have been constructed to withstand any likely fall of masonry and air locks to keep out gas have been installed. The have been arranged within a short distance of areas such as the centre of town where there are usually considerable congregations of people. They are primarily intended for the protection of people caught in the streets in an emergency. Nine are now ready with the cellars under Peas Hill holding 400 people 39 12 08b

1940

1940 03 14
'Modern Hairdressing' – new ladies hair saloon and Stanwell Shoe Company, St Mary's Passage – 40 03 14a

1940 05 04
Silver Street Bridge closed heavy vehicles as unsafe – 40 05 04b

1940 07 29
Silver Street Bridge is safe despite sag in middle, Castle Mound closed as people seen with binoculars and they might be spies – 40 07 29d

1940 08 13
Mr Pointer owned Victoria Cinema and in 1929 Pointer & Co formed for purpose of building and running a modern cinema; attached was Still and Sugarloaf. In 1935 Cambridge Holdings Ltd was formed to acquire cinemas in Cambridge who wanted to acquire Victoria Cinema and restaurant. They paid Pointer & co for £30,500 – court case – 40 08 13a, 40 08 14b, 40 08 16

1940 11 01
Peas Hill air raid shelter interior, showing old wine bottles – photo – 40 11 01b

1941 04 24
A.J. Pointer cinema pioneer; took over Victoria Assembly Room in Market Hill which he ran as a roller skating rink, converting it into Cambridge's first cinema in 1910, had previously used Alexandra Hall for occasional picture shows. In 1916 he took over the Kinema, previously a variety theatre which is now the oldest cinema in Cambridge. Victoria closed 15 years ago and when new Vic re-opened under a company he handed over control to his son, Eric. Personally directed Kinema till last year when son Frank took over – 41 04 24a; had been occasional films at

Midsummer Fair but Pointer responsible for first regular showings at Alexandra Hall, now YMCA and comfortable seating was not one of the main attractions. Performances were shorter but comprised nine or 10 items such as five 'comics', one 'coloured trick', one news film of racing and two dramas. Early films were crude affairs and constant flickering made it seem as if picture taken in heavy downpour of rain – 41 04 26a. Early films – old Victoria cinema was called Electric Theatre and run by a Mr Jordain – 41 05 03a

1941 05 15
New Kitchen Club under Ministry of Food scheme in Trinity Street; equipped with electric and gas cookers – 41 05 15

1941 10 11
Lloyd George inspects Queen's Messenger Convoy in King's Parade; consists of 13 vehicles ready to visit any area damaged by enemy action; are two water vehicles, two food vehicles, two kitchens, four canteens, a utility van for the staff of 30, W.V.S. kit van and W.V.S. staff canteen – 41 10 11

1942 01 17
Jim Wooders has minded parcels at Drummer Street, Christ's Lane for 23 years – photo – 42 01 17

1942 02 06
Cambridge leave hostel for serving women opened Rose Crescent – 42 02 06a

1942 02 24
Leys laundry fire King Street – 42 02 24a

1942 07 04
David's bookstall featured in Canadian radio broadcast, started 1886 now one of oldest on market– 42 07 04

1942 07 28

Lone raider's bombs – three killed, others injured, damage to business and houses [Union Society, Bridge Street] – 42 07 28, 28a, b / 113.60, 113.60a

Lone raider's bombs on East Anglian town: photos of damage in a yard, wrecked buildings and charred timbers. Three killed and others injured. The dead were Mrs Rattle, Miss B. Johnson, a lodging house keeper, E. Nahum. Miss Johnson died on the way to hospital after an incendiary bomb crashed through the roof of her house. The more seriously injured include Pte K. Blight, Mrs Hunt and Miss Miller who were all in one house which received a direct hit. A well-known assembly room [Union Society] burned fiercely for some time. Premises damaged included those occupied by a local photographic club. – 42 07 31 CIP 113.101 & a

Recent raid damage at Cambridge: bombs on Union Society; debating hall escapes; flying at less than a hundred feet and in full view of many people a German raider dropped HE and incendiary bombs. Main damage was done to the library, writing room, committee room and the lounge. Masonry which was flung about by the explosion burst through the roofs and all the windows at the front of the premises and overlooking Round Church Street were blown out. The debating hall was only very slightly damaged and that mostly by water. The end of the library received a direct hit from a small high explosive bomb and several fire bombs but the steel stacks in which the books were housed saved them from the effect of the blast. The collection of music books were

lost. One stained glass window of the Round Church was blown in, otherwise the church escaped – 42 08 25, 42 08 25a / 113.35 [raid was July 28th]

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Photographic club meeting room Ram Yard damaged by bombs, move – 42 09 19a

Cambridge Christian Spiritualist Church had its beginning in July 1931 and met at 11 Ram Yard which was hit by a bomb and totally destroyed on 27th July 1942, a brass cross being the only thing saved. 56 12 04a

1942 08 20

Market Hill fountain covered in scaffolding – photo – 42 08 14c; displays salvage drive figures – 42 08 20a

1942 09 19

Photographic club meeting room Ram Yard damaged by bombs, move – 42 09 19a

1942 11 04

Anglo-American Hospitality Committee started in 1942 when known that more than 300,000 American airmen would be stationed in East Anglia. Leave hostel established in lecture room over St Andrew's Street Baptist church until the Bull Hotel opened on Nov 4th. By then an information centre – later club – had been opened at the English-Soaking Union at Matthew's Café. Hospitality arranged in colleges and private houses. 46 01 12

1943 06 07

Painting of an aircraft in flight, autographed by British and American service men has been subject of a competition in aid of Prisoners of War Fund at Eagle in Bene't Street. Other men have covered ceiling with lipstick or lighter flame records of their own units – 43 06 07

1943 06 29

Queue for horse meat for pets in Wheeler Street – photo – 43 06 29

1943 07 03

B.W. Beales' retirement marks end of tailor and robemaker's business started in 1800; his shop in Sidney Street the last with small-paned windows – 43 07 03a

1943 10 09

Club for transferred war workers to be established at 8-9 Petty Cury to provide canteen and recreational accommodation for men and women, including washing and ironing facilities. Will be open 10am-10pm; an attractive meeting and resting place for workers who have come from away – 43 10 09

1943 10 29

Duchess Visits Hospital An addition to the programme arranged for the Duchess of Kent's visit to Cambridge on Tuesday afternoon was a call at the American Red Cross hostel at the Bull Hotel. Earlier, after visits to Addenbrooke's Hospital and The Leys Annexe, the Duchess had tea with workers in their canteen at the new Falcon Club in Petty Cury. Her Royal Highness chatted with hospital patients, workers and American soldiers at the U.S. hostel in the course of her tour. She was accompanied by Lady Rachel Davidson. During the Duchess's visit to the children's wards at Addenbrooke's the behaviour of the little ones was exemplary.

1944 03

In March 1944 Montgomery and Eisenhower's had visited Cambridge in secret; in spring the Union Society buildings stood closed and empty. Armed sentries stood at the doors; vehicles stole through streets and halted at threshold; mysterious packages were carried within. They were putting final touches to plans for D-Day– censored - 46 10 11, 11a

1944 04 03

YWCA Hostel in Lensfield Road opened – two roomy houses standing side by side; the old hostel in Rose Crescent outgrown; many hundreds had stayed in earlier years of the war. Can now accommodate 65 service women; 1,400, including Land Army have stayed. 44 04 03

1944 05 05

Telephone supervisor, Grace Curzon retires after 45 years; was one of two telephone operators in Trunk Exchange of Old Post Office. The local telephone exchange was on Market Hill under control of the National Telephone Company. In 1913 the Post Office took control and a combined trunk and local exchange was installed in old Telephone Exchange premises in Alexandra Street. When automatic telephone working was introduced in 1925 it moved to new head Post Office in St Andrew's Street – 44 05 05a

1945 01 05

Runaway Pony. At about 11.20 a.m. on Tuesday a pony and trap was left outside Messrs Holland and Blackwell's shop in Pembroke Street, when the pony took fright. It turned into Trumpington Street and ran towards King's Parade and at the corner of Bene't Street and King's Parade struck a lamp standard. The trap and harness were damaged, and the pony having freed itself, ran along King's Parade and Trinity Street, being finally stopped uninjured in St. John's Street, It caused no further damage.

1945 04 09

Fire Jarrold's shop, Market Street; hundreds of books destroyed – 45 04 09

1945 05 08

VE celebrations, Market Square, crowd of several thousand, waste paper dump in St Mary's Passage set on fire, cars and stalls damaged, flag on top fountain, climb Guildhall clock – 45 05 08, 1945 05 09, 09a 45 05 10

1945 07 20

Old Post Office had been purchased about 1937 to give council control of improvements to the corner of Petty Cury; would have to be set back; might make ideal site for new library – 45 07 20a

1945 08 02

Presentation Freedom Borough USAAF – CDN 1945 08 02, a & b

1945 08 03
Crowds celebrate CDN 1945 08 03

1945 08 15
How Cambridge heard the great victory news, Market Hill scenes at declaration, spontaneous revelry – 45 08 15, a; Victory night of revelry on Parker's Piece – 45 08 16

1945 11 10
Council to buy Petty Cury properties adjoining old Post Office – 45 11 10

1945 11 27
Americans entertain voluntary helpers at Red Cross Services Club to mark closure of the Doughnut Dugout in Hobson St – 45 11 27

1945 12 29
King's College chapel windows to be restored soon; location kept secret for fear theft – 45 12 29

1946 01 12
Anglo-American Hospitality Committee wound up; had started in 1942 when known that more than 300,000 American airmen would be stationed in East Anglia. Leave hostel established in lecture room over St Andrew's Street Baptist church until the Bull Hotel opened on Nov 4th. By then an information centre – later club – had been opened at the English-Soaking Union at Matthew's Café. Hospitality arranged in colleges and private houses. August 1943 saw first reception at Guildhall to a regiment of Supply Troops; also Christmas Eve party in Guildhall which broadcast. Concentrated on US Hospital patients and staff of their hospitals. Garden party at Pembroke when Freedom of Cambridge to US Eighth Air Force. – 46 01 12

1946 03 02
Early cinemas. Guildhall and Corn Exchange licenced on Mar 26 1910; that year licences granted to Sturton Town Hall (now Kinema) and old Victoria Assembly Room which known as Electric Cinema. Thurston's Electric Vaudeville at Midsummer Fair. New cinemas – Playhouse, 1913, Rendezvous originally built as roller skating rink licenced 1915 but this lapsed after fire. Present building opened Nov 1932. Sturton Town Hall, first known as Empire and then as Kinema was licensed as cinema in 1910 but used as music hall until 1914 and from then to 1916 as a music hall-cinema. Central opened 1921, rebuilt 1928 it showed first 'talkies' Destroyed by fire 1939 it re-opened in 1940. Tivoli opened 1925, Victoria 1931, Cosmopolitan in Market Passage, (better known as Central Conservative Club) licensed in 1933 and in Sept 1933 the New Theatre turned into cinema and carried on until Jan 1938 presenting film shows and cine-variety with brief breaks for an occasional play. Reopened for the C.A.O.S. production of 'The Mikado' in Nov 1938. Arts Theatre has had cinema licence but films shown rarely. The last and biggest is Regal opened 1937 – 46 03 02b

1946 05 01
St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel Street road widening, discussion Council and Emmanuel College – 46 05 01

1946 09 30
The Honorary Freedom of the Borough was bestowed on the Cambridgeshire Regiment in recognition of its service in the South African War, for its superb professionalism during the fighting in Flanders and for its valiant fight in the Far East. That fight had not ended with the last

shots fired in the defence of Singapore - in fact the courage that was now being recognised was the 3½ years of captivity that followed. In prison camps scattered all over the Far East they had suffered every hardship, lack of food, disease, cruelty, indignities and utter isolation. Among many ordeals the building of the railway in the grim jungles of Siam was singled out by the Mayor for especial mention. The full extent of their sufferings was being to be revealed. Padre J.N. Duckworth told the inspiring spirit and morale under the most terrible conditions. In August 1944 he had been in the "valley of the shadow of death", 450 miles long through which they were constructing the Burma-Thailand railway, his audience were horrified to hear of the conditions and of the state of the men suffering ulcers, malaria, beri beri and dysentery. It had been August 13th 1945 when his particular camp had heard on their small Japanese radio of the atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima, four days later it was over - "there was no flag waving or anything like that, just a long sigh of relief". Now there was flag waving - and a particular flag had place of honour from the Guildhall flagpole - the blue flag of the 1st Battalion of the Cambridgeshire Regiment that had somehow been kept hidden from their captives during the long years of captivity. As the procession wended its way down Petty Cury it was the drums that marked their progress. And amongst the drums were some emblazoned with the Regiment's honours won in earlier wars but lost in the fall of Singapore. Amazingly they had been found by a Dullingham girl, Mary Taylor during her work with the Red Cross and shipped back to Cambridge. In October 1946 they led the old men of the First War and prematurely old boys from the Second to the Guildhall to receive the Freedom they had fought to preserve. – 46 09 30 & a-d

1946 10 09
Gt St Mary's curfew bell to be rung again for first time since war; will sound at 9m followed by number of strokes indicating date of month; until 1929 a bell was rung at 5am, this 'The Apprentice's Bell', later 'The Bedmakers' Bell'; was discontinued as not needed now there were alarm clocks – 46 10 09

1947 03 14
Cambridge has been hit today by some of the worst flooding for 30 years. The rapidly rising and flowing river has invaded riverside homes, Midsummer Common and other open spaces are flooded, there have been fears for the safety of Silver Street Bridge, and there is no sign of any diminution of the abnormal flow. There is an unconfirmed report that the Byron's Pool sluice has broken, and Grantchester Meadows and the "Backs" are completely under water. Silver Street was closed to all traffic during the morning.

1947 07 30
Sir - When will something be done about the disgraceful state of the traffic in Petty Cury, Cambridge. I understood some time ago that steps were being taken to stop the parking of cars on the left side of this narrow thoroughfare. Far from this being done, it is now worse than ever. Saturday, with the exception of the entrance to the Lion Hotel there were 15 large cars parked from Sidney Street to Guildhall Street, and as prams and mail carts can only use the sidewalks, pedestrians who venture on the street are taking serious risks of getting knocked down. Truly a street only fit for the quick or the dead - letter from W.M.F., Gt Shelford

1947 10 01
The Chief Constable (B.N. Bebbington) told Cambridge Rotary Club that he would like to see a scheme whereby traffic was banned - at least buses and heavy traffic - in the centre of Cambridge. "In Petty Cury on Saturdays there is insufficient room for traffic, let alone pedestrians. It would be more satisfactory if that central part of the town was for pedestrian traffic only. That is a sweeping thing to say and will not find favour in all quarters". Referring to criticism that the one-way traffic scheme soon to be introduced in the centre of town was "the wrong way round" he

explained that it diverted from the town centre the large amount of traffic going to the station from the Chesterton direction and would encourage lorry drivers passing through Cambridge to take the route through the Backs. More car parks in the centre of the town were obviously a need, and there were plans in existence to provide them

1947 10 02
New premises, a new name and new services for Cambridge's British restaurant were marked by the attendance of the Mayor at an informal opening ceremony. The new premises are in the old G.P.O. building at the corner of Petty Cury. The new name is the Cambridge Borough restaurant, and the new services are a more varied lunch menu instead of the old "flat rate". The cafeteria system of serving is being introduced, by which you slide a tray along choosing your dish and pay when you have completed your selection. First to eat in the new premises were the workmen employed on the job who were entertained to lunch with a typical menu of cream of vegetable soup, roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, baked and boiled potatoes and cabbage, blackberry and apple tart and custard

1947 10 10
A proposal to improve Drummer Street bus station was discussed at Cambridge Town Council. Ald Briggs said "Drummer Street is already overcrowded and traffic is going to increase in the coming years". The Committee had discussed a suggestion that a portion of Butt Green should be used as a bus station and had previously considered the use of New Square as a bus station. Coun Cutting considered that the proposal was too urgent to wait, "If you saw last year the thousands standing out in the cold in Drummer Street you would not have thought it was any credit to the town"

1947 10 17
The new "temple" of the fifth art was opened by the Mayor last night. The art is that of cinema; the "temple" the former Cosmopolitan in Market Passage, re- decorated and renamed the Arts Cinema. He said "I feel the cinema will prove an added amenity to Cambridge". The success of the cinema would depend to a very great extent on a wise selection of films and efficient management. Sound and projection have been improved since the cinema was the Cosmopolitan though teething troubles prevented both being experienced that their best. The seating - with seats from the Festival Theatre - is now sloped

1947 11 28
Last drops of basic petrol "went into action" on Wednesday to take their owners to the '99 Rowing Club ball, final big function in Cambridge of the shortly-to-end present "basic" era. Both the Corn Exchange and Guildhall - connected by a covered bridge across Wheeler Street which was closed for the occasion - were in use for the ball. Dancing to the delightful music of Maurice Iliffe and his orchestra took place in the Large Room of the Guildhall. In the Corn Exchange, transformed by a marquee, buffet suppers were served. Here restful music was played by the Coryton Trio. Those present numbered round about 600

1948 05 08
There must have been many conjectures as to how many cycles do pass up and down St Andrew's street, Cambridge, in the course of a day. A special cable apparatus used by Cambridge Borough Police yesterday recorded an average of 1,400 cycles per hour. During the peak period from 12.30 to 1.30 pm nearly 2,000 cyclists were clocked. Motor traffic figures are negligible by comparison only 460 vehicles an hour being "clocked" regularly over the whole day. The census was organised in connection with the one-way traffic system which will shortly be brought into operation

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1948 06 01
Today the one-way traffic system designed to relieve congestion in the centre of Cambridge came into operation. In Sidney Street and Bridge Street the traffic will flow in a northerly direction towards Magdalene Street from the town centre, while in St John's Street and Trinity Street it will flow in a southerly direction towards King's Parade. In Green Street traffic will flow in one direction from Gifford Place to Trinity Street - and the remainder of Green Street will be open for two-way traffic. This extension of "one-way" traffic will link up with the system now in operation at St Mary's street, Market Hill (north side) and Market Street

1948 06 01
Sir - the one-way system has certainly created danger spots at the corner of St John's Street, Cambridge. They could be remedied by putting traffic lights there back into operation. The only alternative would be to divert all traffic into Petty Cury. Every user of Petty Cury will have to agree that it is already far too narrow even for the present volume of traffic - pedestrians are crowded into the roadway and bus drivers often have their work cut out to squeeze their buses through at walking pace. Short of some more radical plan (e.g. banning all motor traffic from the streets round Market Hill) I think the one-way system is as good as we shall get - A.E.B. Owen

1948 06 05
Mr H.C. Bruce of New Fletton, Peterborough has written to say: "I have always had a warm spot for the Cambridge Daily News. It has had some rough passages and I like to think I helped it through one. When the 'Cambridge Gazette' started their new plant in St Tibbs' Row they also came out with a fine new yellow cart with rubber tyres. Every time we went out with our tall red cart with iron tyres and poor old mare they could beat us, because they had a fast trotter. They got to the newsagents first for some time and our returns began to increase, but with a little ingenuity on the round at night we managed to get and keep the lead. I got those papers to the agents before the 'Gazette' and had less returns to parcel up for waste paper"

1948 08 21
In one of Cambridge's worst danger spots, the closely-packed buildings of Petty Cury, the most serious fire the town has seen for two years broke out, damaging half of the stock of Messrs Montagu Burton, tailors. Firemen prevented the fire from spreading to adjoining shops but the whole of Burton's premises were gutted. Next door is Hutton's tailors where suits, coats and other clothing was covered by dust sheets to prevent damage from fumes. Burton's manager said "I went down in the cellar and saw the gas meter on fire and it was just like a giant blow lamp. We salvaged about half the stock". He added "I was flooded out at Jaywick a fortnight ago, and now ..."

1948 11 26
For the first time anywhere in the world, a new series of television was used to promote road safely at Cambridge. Traffic scenes on Market Hill were televised to the Accident Prevention Exhibition in the Corn Exchange. “Closed-circuit” as it is called is the latest development of the Cambridge firm of Pye Ltd. Two cameras were operated, one fixed to the balcony of the Guildhall and the other on top of a van at the corner of Petty Cury. Along this narrow, one-way street, between 8am and 6pm approximately 7,000 bicycles and 2,000 other vehicles pass each weekday. The slow speed of the traffic and its one-way direction helps to keep the accident rate down

1949 01 05

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Several Cambridge shops have their January sales in full swing. Messrs W. Eaden Lilley, Market Street, find that the possibility of the ending of clothes rationing is having a psychological effect. "People are inclined to be a bit rash with their coupons and the half-price, half-price coupon goods are going well". Messrs G. Stace, Petty Cury, have cleared some of their Old Look stock and a number of suits have been sold at a quarter of their price - £20 coats at £4.19s.6d. It was pointed out that the "shorter lady" scores, as some of the old length garments look new length on her

1949 05 13
A director of the firm of Findlater, Mackie and Todd, brewers, applied to turn the premises known as the Festival Grill, King's Parade, Cambridge, into fully licensed premises with meals provided. In April 1946 he had acquired the business of the Hope Inn, Bene't Street, the ground floor of which was used as an ordinary bar, whilst the first floor was converted into two wine parlours. These had become very popular but attracted a totally different type of clientele from the ground floor bar.

1949 07 16
Rapid progress has been made this week in the demolition of Coad's former shop at the junction of Emmanuel Street and St Andrew's street, Cambridge. The work, which forms part of the street widening scheme envisaged many years before the war, will involve the complete clearance of the corner and the provision of a larger curve to assist buses and increase visibility. There is no immediate prospect of further developments in the scheme but it is possible that a seat might be provided on the newly-cleared space.

1949 06 13
Occupants of the caretaker's flat had to escape in their night attire when fire badly damaged the Friends Meeting House in Jesus Lane, Cambridge. The fire caused some anxiety since it occurred in one of Cambridge's three danger zones. It appears to have started in the main hall, where a charred piano and burnt-out settee were evidence of its intensity. The usefulness of the fire brigade's recently-introduced radio equipment was effectively demonstrated for calling reinforcements

1949 09 06
Sir - None of our streets in Cambridge is wide enough to allow vehicles to be parked all down one side, as they do now. Petty Cury, on a Saturday especially, is almost a death-trap. The pavements are not wide enough for people to walk more than two abreast; therefore they walk on the road, thus giving bus drivers in particular a nightmare. This could be relieved to a certain extent if there were no vehicles parked all down one side. I suggest a big improvement would be the abolishing of all street parking and a municipal car park made on Midsummer common – Frederick Prior

1949 09 10
Sir - What I would like to see in post-war Cambridge is the removal of the car park on the Market Square and in its place a small restful garden, with the fountain cleaned and kept running with clear water as its centre-piece. A few seats conveniently placed would add to its charm, for here grandpa could peacefully smoke his pipe whilst grandma did the shopping, and maybe a mother could keep one eye on her children left watching the fountain and feeding the pigeons, as she did the rounds of the market stalls – "Garden lover"

1949 10 24

Myers Memorial Hall, Thompson's Lane, Cambridge, was the home of the Cambridge National Spiritualist church was opened. The Hall, brightly decorated, lighted, furnished & heated, bears little resemblance to the army hut it once was. The organ was dedicated to the memory of the late Mr C.W. Brown, a former member and benefactor of the church.

1949 11 01
Many people prominent in town and University life attended cocktail parties to celebrate the opening of Messrs J. F. Miller's new wine parlour at King's Parade, Cambridge. The new premises, tastefully furnished in a style fitted to the dignity of Cambridge's most distinguished thoroughfare will help the proprietors in the education of the public in the niceties of wine drinking. Meals – lunches and dinners – will be served in a dining room on the first floor

1950

1950 01 06
About half-a-dozen women bargain hunters waited all night for the opening of Messrs Heyworth's Sidney St, Cambridge, sale today. The first queuer had waited 15 hours for a brown suit reduced from 79/6 (£3.95) to £1. All the fur coats marked down from £37 to £10 have been snapped up but the main rush was in the children's section. It was expected that the bargains will just about last out the two days of the sale.

1950 01 13
Cambridge's chief sanitary inspector says the stalls on Market Square are unnecessary. "We don't like these open-air stalls at all, and I don't see that in 1950 we need them at all. I think it is an anachronism". Questioned about dogs that 'wet and sniff all over the place' he said he had spoken to stallholders and asked if they did not realise that people had to eat vegetable which had been fouled by dogs

1950 03 01
Messrs W. Eaden Lilley, Market Street, Cambridge this year celebrates their 200th anniversary. Senior member at present, whose period of service numbers just on 60 years, is Mr George Heath, who has worked his way up and is now responsible for the grocery, household goods, painting and hardware department, both wholesale and retail. His long service and keen interest in the firm have earned him a directorship. "I should they are the kindest people you could possibly work for. There is a long family tradition behind them", he said.

1950 10 16
For the past half century Miss Minnie Pate, director of the University Typewriting Office in Trinity Street has been serving the University and its scholars. And now the University is acknowledging the value of her services by conferring upon her the distinction of an honorary degree. She was one of the first typists in Cambridge and taught herself on one of the first typewriters ever to be seen here – which is still kept in her offices.

1950 11 25
A police cordon was thrown around central Cambridge following the setting off of the burglar alarm at H. Samuel's jeweller's shop in Petty Cury. The thief cut a hole through the ceiling of the arcade leading to the shop, broke the fanlight over the main door of the shop and climbed through. He made his escape over the roofs. Some articles stolen were taken from a showcase just inside the grille. Though price tickets on empty spaces showed that watches worth £10 had been stolen, one worth £21 had been overlooked

1950 12 09
"The almost hopeless state of parking in Cambridge" was referred to when Ald F.J. Priest urged the demolition without delay of Liddiard's garage on St Andrew's Hill – thus providing parking spaces for some of the season-ticket holders at Lion Yard. The building had been scheduled as an 'architectural novelty' but there would be no objection to its immediate demolition.

1951 01 08 c
The Minister of Town and County Planning has compiled a list of buildings in Cambridge, which are afforded a degree of protection which they have not hitherto enjoyed. The list is a formidable one covering colleges, University buildings, churches, public houses, business premises and private houses. It includes the modern Laboratory of Physical Chemistry in Free School Lane which incorporates the 16th-century hall of the original Perse school with its fine hammer-beam roof.

1951 01 23
Cambridge town planning committee say there can be no justification for a spine relief road between Histon Road corner and Jesus Lane merely to preserve for a few years more buildings on the west side of Magdalene Street which, although of some architectural interest, are sub-standard from every other point of view. Pending demolition the commercial use of the buildings should be terminated, doing away with the necessity for vehicles to wait outside 51 01 23

1951 01 27
Cambridge council agreed that parking spaces should be marked out in Parkside and Gonville Place and also that the paths on Parker's Piece in front of Regent Terrace should be used. Ald James said: We have to find odd spaces to put cars and if anyone can suggest any we shall be only too glad to implement those suggestions. Coun Proctor drew attention to the difficulties if proposal to use Hobson Street as a car park were implemented. It was a very narrow street and even now, with vans frequently unloading there, it was "a nightmare" for drivers of heavy vehicles who went through the street continuously

1951 02 26
A number of proposals to alleviate Cambridge's parking problem have been compiled by the Chamber of Commerce. They include the triangular site on the corner of Silver Street & Queen's Road used as a military car park during the war.

1951 03 08
An appeal against refusal of permission for Messrs. Maudes caterers of 25 Petty Cury, Cambridge, to erect a neon sign has been dismissed. The appeal related to the display of a vertical neon sign above fascia level on the front elevation of a dignified building. The Minister considers that notwithstanding the commercial character of the locality, the sign is out of keeping with the buildings of architectural and historical interest in the vicinity

1951 03 14
Cambridge Council is to recommend a scheme for a multi-deck car park at the Lion Yard. The Surveyor suggests all adjoining property owned by the council should be demolished, the opportunity being taken to widen Corn Exchange Street and St Tibb's Row and that the possibility of further extensions to St Andrews Hill for offices, shops or increased car park facilities should be borne in mind. He submitted a plan showing a building of six floors which could accommodate 825 cars 51 03 14 [1.12]

1951 03 22

Cambridge has some 150 inn signs hanging outside licensed premises. It is probable that Cambridge was the first place where public house signs were made compulsory by law. An Act passed in 1430 laid down "whoever shall brew ale in the town of Cambridge with intention of selling it must hang out a sign, otherwise he shall forfeit his ale. The Eagle and Child in Bene't Street was called by irreverent undergraduates "The Bird and Baby". There was also a "Swan and Sugarloaf", (now the Still and Sugarloaf) which was nicknamed the Duck and Acid Drop.

1951 04 02
Unfortunately the sight of flies swarming over the fish on a fishmonger's slab is still a much too common sight in the summer. It always horrifies me to see food exposed to flies and dust from the street and likely to be fingered or breathed on by prospective customers. I am pleased to report that one of the new refrigerated display cabinets for wet fish has been installed by Mr F.O. Sennitt, Peas Hill, Cambridge. I understand it is the first local fish shop to do so. The shop has also installed a machine with the same system of refrigeration for poultry and dry fish, which will be welcomed by all housewives

1951 04 28
A Royal welcome greeted the King and Queen when they arrived for their visit to King's College chapel thanksgiving service for its restoration and the replacement of windows removed for safety during the war. The car flying the Royal standard drew up to the city boundary at Newmarket Road. Many mothers from nearby houses brought their children along with little flags and some enterprising onlookers climbed on to one of Marshall's buildings to get a bird's eye view. Carried away by their enthusiasm many toddlers continued to cheer and wave small Union Jacks long after the Royal party had passed.

1951 05 08
The Whipple Museum of the History of Science was opened by the Vice Chancellor. The collection was presented to the University in 1944 and was stored in boxes in the Fitzwilliam Museum until 1948. It was at first proposed to create a museum in the former Shorts Factory on Madingley Road, but this was rendered unusable after Pye's fire. The present premises in Corn Exchange Street became available in May last year and it has at last been possible to show a large part of the collection. Amongst the guests was Mr Robert S. Whipple, the founder of the collection.

1951 05 25
Petty Cury property sold, p7

1951 06 15
A new one-way traffic system around the Cambridge guildhall comes into operation on Monday. The direction of traffic in Wheeler Street will be reversed to complete the circulatory flow around the guildhall into an anti-clockwise direction and traffic around Market Hill in a clockwise flow. Buses will be unaffected by the new order but say instead of hordes of cyclists crossing over in their path all vehicles will turn in the direction the buses approach the guildhall. The scheme has resulted from the necessity to ease traffic around the guildhall in view of the proposed Lion Yard car park development

1951 07 02
The announcement of the closing down of Messrs George Stace Ltd's Petty Cury store marks the closing of yet one more old established firm that has filled a special niche in the local fashion trade for many years. The name had come to stand for a good, solid, middle class trade. It was not

necessarily a smart one, but it met the needs of a definite section of the community. It catered for the matron, and for the essentially well-to-do family of both town and county

1951 08 30
Sir – the use of a neon sign as an advertisement in a shop window in Magdalene Street, Cambridge has been forbidden, on the grounds that it would detract from the appearance of the building and be an incongruous feature in a pleasant riverside area. The building is itself rather a poor affair with plastered walls. If Cambridge depends on such as an attraction to visitors it is surely in a poor way. The paint on the railings of the bridge has faded to a poor green overlooking the discoloured waters in the river itself. Odd cigarette signs in red and yellow and in blue and white overhang the pavement. All might be regarded as incongruous and will presumably receive attention from the Ministry which objects to small neon signs – W.W. Davidson.

1951 10 31
From the hall of the Y.M.C.A. at Alexandra Street, Cambridge a distinguished company launched an appeal for funds. The speaker said that the lonely searchlight batteries during the war were visited by the Y.M.C.A. vans three times a week. They brought the little things the soldiers liked, tea, buns, cigarettes and papers. And the ladies of the 'Y.M.' took back letters for the troops and even wrote them for soldiers who were illiterate. The Cambridge building was completed in 1871 and had a moral affect on the thousands of young people who have been through the rooms and shared the facilities.

1952 01 01
The first Provincial 4½ hours' night T.V. service for viewers if their sets go wrong is being operated by Messrs H.W. Peak Ltd., King Street, Cambridge. To the 100 feet aerial above the firm's premises the Fire Service will tomorrow bracket a V.H.F. transmitted aerial for radio contact with their engineers. A phone call will reach an operator who will contact by radio one of the firm's two servicing engineers who will be at home with a van (and a spare T.V. set) at the ready. He will go to the caller's home. Mr John Peak said: "I feel a T.V. night service is essential, as it is mainly used for evening viewing, when it is annoying for the public to find their set has a fault and they are unable to get in touch with anybody to put it right"

1952 01 14
Sir. Twenty-five years ago Magdalene College started a scheme which might have involved the widening of Magdalene Street and the removal of buildings opposite the college. But it does not now contemplate the completion of the scheme and is now strongly opposed to the widening of the street and the demolition of the buildings on the west side. The College would be strongly prejudiced if it should be divided by a street similar in character to the widened part of Bridge Street and would strongly object to such a change of character and loss of amenity in the neighbourhood – Henry Willink, Master. 52 01 14

1952 04 16
Sir – I wonder how many Cambridge ratepayers approve of the idea of water trickling along the gutters of St Andrew's Street. It was laid in case cattle wanted a drink, which was a good idea. In 1952 however it is a bad idea because it makes the street narrower, especially when cars are parked and buses are forced close to the kerb. I saw a quart of water splashed into the lap of an infant in a small go-cart when a bus went past Stanley Woolston's shop at a smart walking pace and its mother was unable to manoeuvre out of the bus's bow wave. I'll wager she would like to see the tap turned off – O.C. Cox.

1952 05 05

Cambridge city council would like to see Christ's Lane opened out as a thoroughfare to be used by the omnibuses and other traffic to alleviate congestion in the City centre and provide relief for Emmanuel Street. The present country bus station at Drummer Street would then become the main stopping place for the local buses which now pick up and set down passengers in Sidney Street constricting the traffic flow. They also propose a new road on the line of Post Office Terrace to Wheeler Street. With Corn Exchange Street widened this would provide for a good circulation of traffic in the city centre

1952 05 21
Just before six o'clock this morning Mr Frank Webster was in bed in a room above his shop in Magdalene Street, Cambridge when he heard a terrific bang. A six-tonner lorry loaded with 15 tons of wheat had crashed into the shop at the corner of Northampton Street, ploughed through the wall and ended up with its front wheels where the counter used to be. It had swerved to avoid another lorry which also crashed into the shop. Between them the vehicles made the place look as if it had received a direct hit from a bomb

1952 06 05
While 26 assistants searched for smoke they could smell in their living quarters above the premises of Messrs Robert Sayle in St Andrew's Street, Cambridge, a thick pall poured out of one of the windows on the top floor. When the alarm was raised a score of them dashed downstairs and through the shop carrying their belongings with them. One assistant, Miss Ann Todd, said: "I thought of all of my clothes and I struggled down from my room with masses of them. I wasn't going to leave them behind". As it was Thursday afternoon there were only about 30 people in the premises at the time. Staff organised a chain of buckets until the arrival of the Fire Brigade.

1952 07 25
The National Farmers Union Owen Webb committee is anxious to purchase City council premises at Gresham Road, Cambridge, to form a headquarters for all the agricultural interests in the county. Cambridge was the centre of the agricultural belt and the headquarters of the farming fraternity should be in a place other than their present miserable and dingy offices in Corn Exchange Street. It would not affect the Council's housing programme one jot. If the building were converted into flats the rent would be such that no one waiting for a Council house could afford it.

1952 08 23
Victoria Cinema restyled : "eurythmic": designer, architect & illuminators combine to make symphony of shape, colour & tone" [2.7]

1952 08 23
Jesus Lane Sunday School has been wound up. It was founded in 1827 by a group of University men distressed by the spiritual desolation of Barnwell who decided to start a "Gownsman's Sunday School". Four of them set out to visit every house in search of scholars and on the first Sunday the school opened with over 200 children attending at the Friends Meeting House. Later they erected a large new building in Paradise Street where 600 children were on the books. The 1914 war dealt the school a blow from which it never wholly recovered and in 1936 the building was sold to the Boy Scouts Association.

1952 10 03
Changed Cambridge – Petty Cury, p7

1952 10 18

The County Development Plan public inquiry took a dramatic turn when Magdalene College announced it had decided to oppose proposals to widen Magdalene Street. The "donnish mind" did not often descend to take part in proceedings of this kind but this is a "bad plan and would be a disaster both to the University and the City of Cambridge", their counsel said. "You should not have motor traffic moving so fast that the lives of pedestrians and motorists are imperilled". Everyone wants Cambridge to remain a place in which the pedestrian, the cyclist and the motorist are more on less on an equal footing. 52 10 18

1952 10 23
Proposals for the bus station at Drummer Street, Cambridge, were discussed at the Planning Inquiry. The bus company preferred a station to be sited on New Square which was double the area of Drummer Street. But would passengers agree – and they are entitled to be considered sometimes. Half to two-thirds would use Emmanuel Street. The amount of bus traffic would increase if greater provision was made & there would be a traffic blockage at Four Lamps roundabout

1952 10 29
Magdalene St - Cambridge City council has decided not to proceed with their proposal to widen Magdalene Street and reconstruct the great bridge. They had heard objections by the University and a statement on behalf of Magdalene College & believed that with mutual co-operation between the city and colleges some of the causes for the present traffic congestion could be removed. But if it became a choice of either the spine relief road or of widening Magdalene Street then they would choose the latter alternative. 52 10 29

1952 11 05
Much of the congestion in the central area of Cambridge could be dealt with by providing car parks in the right places rather than the provision of extra circulatory routes the Chief Constable told the Development Plan inquiry. Closing of Magdalene Street would inevitably lead to an increased use of the Backs and the proposed spine relief road would not afford relief to traffic in the city centre. The police had received many complaints concerning the amount of noise at Drummer Street bus station late at night. By moving it to New Square this objection would be alleviated

1952 11 06
"If Magdalene Street was closed several businesses would be affected between the Round Church and Northampton Street and the compensation would be very considerable", the Cambridge City Surveyor told the Development Plan inquiry. The council's policy on widening the road was laid down in 1925. When property was due for rebuilding the owners should set back the new building to some widened line. Boots had agreed to demolish their frontage and set it back when the time comes for the insurance office next door to be rebuilt.

1952 11 08
Some people at the Victoria Cinema almost believed they saw fish swimming above their heads in the middle of the auditorium. Others found it difficult not to duck when a cricket ball appeared to bounce right out of the screen. The cause was something new in cinema entertainment – the three-dimensional film. At present a special screen has to be used and audiences must wear tinted spectacles. Much still has to be done before stereoscopic films become commonplace but Cambridge is among the first places in England to welcome the arrival of the third dimension in the cinema c52 11 08

1952 11 17

Mr George Hawkins, who has been the sole owner of G.P. Hawkins Ltd has announced that he has disposed of his entire shareholding to the Cambridge Co-operative Society. The firm was founded in 1838 in Fitzroy Street, which is still one of their shops. At the beginning of the century the late Mr G.P. Hawkins opened a shop and café in Sidney Street. In 1929 these premises and the adjoining site were extensively developed resulting in the opening in 1931 of 'The Dorothy' as it stands today

1953 03 14
The site of England's oldest bookshop has just changed hands for the 14th time in more than 350 years. Messrs W.H. Smith have acquired Bowes and Bowes' shop on the corner of Trinity Street which has a heritage of bookselling, publishing and binding that goes back as far as 1581. In 1807 it belonged to John Nicholson, son of the celebrated 'Maps' who went his rounds of the University with a moveable stall laden with textbooks and called out "Maps and pictures". Later Kingsley and other literary men held 'tobacco parliaments' on religion and politics, Wordsworth reclined there, Thackeray dined there and Tennyson first read "Maud" in the Long Room, now the Foreign Department.

1953 03 17
Business at the Bene't Street, Cambridge, branch of Barclay's Bank has expanded to such a degree over recent years that additional premises are required to handle an 'overflow' of work. Now a new bank has been built at 3, St Andrew's Street. The counter is made of Honduras mahogany and glass panelling is extensively used, a modern feature which nevertheless preserves the traditional dignity of a bank. There is a unique feature about the new bank. Alongside the wall facing the church is a line of thirty tombstones, some 250 years old, which had to be displaced during building operations.

1953 05 29
Albert Butler, proprietor of Messrs Haslop & Co, butchers of Silver Street, Cambridge, retired after 53 years in the butchery business. He recalled going to market to buy his first bullock – the dearest one he ever bought - & remembered when families ordered 8 lb joints and rump steak was 1s 2d a pound. He prophesised the end of meat rationing within a year but thinks the trade would find itself in a serious position: while boys were not entering the business as they used to, even those who did received no slaughtering experience. "I don't know where our slaughtermen of the future are coming from", he said.

1953 06 03
On Coronation Day Pye Ltd of Cambridge operated the first colour television outside broadcast ever done in this country. It was seen in a well-known Children's Hospital and several other selected places. Three colour cameras used in transmission were sited on top of Government buildings facing Parliament Square and Whitehall. Hundreds of people assembled in Cambridge Guildhall to watch the ceremony on television. The latest television screens were used. The picture was clear and precise but there was, of course, no control over the usual interference from electrical appliances which all TV owners are forced to suffer in silence. Six domestic TV sets were installed in the Corn Exchange and because of the bright light, shields were fitted around the screens

1953 07 04
The pressure of 200 people waiting outside Rose's Fashion Centre in Sussex Street, Cambridge broke one of the shop windows. The sale was a real family affair, the husbands standing for the wives from the early hours until the woman of the family herself arrived to try and grab some of the bargains. There were four gabardine suits reduced from seven guineas (£7.35) to 15s (75p)

and a grey Melange coat at £1 (original price £8.8s.) Many bargain hunters have been reaping the reward of the disastrous summer weather. At Tobin's of Mill Road they were clearing summer frocks for 10s (50p) which originally cost up to five times as much.

1953 07 21
Cambridge City Councillors recommended the partial demolition of the Conduit Head in Market Square. Due to inherent defects and deterioration much of the stone has given way or has fractured. Rebuilding would cost some £2,200. It could be strengthened with steel rods or demolished to the level of the granite plinth. The Conduit was erected in 1855 at a cost of £554. The steps, plinth and base are granite and the structure itself of Ancaster stone

1953 07 24
Market Hill: top of fountain in Market Hill removed - 50% material useless, would cost £2,200 to rebuild; figures removed to Folk Museum [5.1, 5.6]

1953 07 27 c
Cambridge Police have issued a warning that it is essential in the public interest that there be strict compliance with the order prohibiting vehicles whose weight exceeds two tons from using Silver Street Bridge. They particularly seek the co-operation of road users making deliveries to premises in Silver Street and suggest that whenever possible light vans only should be used. Failure to observe the Order renders the person concerned liable to prosecution.

1953 10 07
The fund for re-hanging the bells of Cambridge's widely famed Great St Mary's church has raised under £1,000 of the £2,600 needed. The bells were taken down last year because of the ravages of a wood-destroying parasite and now the CDN has decided to open its own Bell Fund to supplement that sponsored by the church. All contributions will be acknowledged in our columns and whether large or small they may be handed in at our office. The CDN is opening its fund with a donation of £25 and hopes there will be a satisfying response. c53 10 07

1953 10 12
The condition of the stone of the conduit head on Cambridge Market Hill has been found to be much worse than anticipated during recent demolition work and so the Council will be recommended not to rebuild it. The condition of the stone was such that the only part which could be safely re-used was the four pillars and the cost of restoration would be at least £4,000, double the previous estimate. They propose to loan the carved figures from the conduit to the Folk Museum. The decision not to rebuild was described as a retrograde step by Ald James. "I know it is the fashion to run down Victorian architecture but I think it was very seemly. I think we should rebuild it in the same style". But Ald Priest said "If in ten years' time people see pictures of the Conduit as it was, there will be nothing to prevent them from replacing it by photographs. The majority of people are quite satisfied and the Secretary of the Preservation Society has written to say how nice we have made it". 53 10 12

1954 01 20
Cambridge planners are contemplating the rebuilding of premises in Sidney Street to complete the road widening between Petty Cury and Holy Trinity Church. In 1939 the Essex Insurance Company agreed to rebuild nos 62-64 Sidney Street but owing to the war the scheme was postponed. Then in 1943 they sold no.64 to Messrs Boots who are now seeking planning permission for change of use and this is an opportune time for the scheme to go ahead. 54 01 20

1954 01 22 c

A tenancy variation of a shop on King's Parade, Cambridge, is a rare occurrence and rarer indeed is the appearance of a new trade to this world-renowned street. From being used as premises for University outfitters A.R. Crossman, no.12a will become K.P. Camera Shop and promises to become as well-known as its parent, Campkins of Cambridge. The firm was established in 1800 and has remained in its present premises at Rose Crescent since 1867

1954 02 12
The elm tree on the pavement near the junction of Drummer Street and Emmanuel Road, Cambridge, is probably 250 years old. It is a little over 70 feet in height and sixteen feet in circumference. In the 1940s some of the lower branches were removed to prevent contact by omnibuses but now extensive rotting has taken place in the main branches. These should be removed and any hollows scraped out and filled with concrete, but in view of its scientific interest as much as possible should be retained. The Botanic Garden hopes to perpetuate samples from the old tree by grafting some of its twigs on to young elms

1954 03 15
Properties in Corn Exchange Street may be demolished to increase parking space in the Lion Yard. It could then accommodate another 60 cars. This would bring in an increased revenue of about £1,360 per annum, but be offset by a £1,286 loss on rental from the demolished premises. Councillors were considering the early provision of a multi-deck park but until the Minister had made a decision on the development plan it would be impossible even to proceed with sketch plans. Sites have also been cleared in the Park Street area, but in view of the extremely poor access they decided to take no action to form a car park in that area.

1954 03 18
The bells of St Mary's will soon ring out again due to the famous peal of 12 bells at Gt St Mary's Church, Cambridge, being re-erected after a two-year absence. A new steel frame has replaced the 200-year-old wooden frame which was eaten up and diseased by woodworm. The Coronation was the first that has not been hailed by the early 18th-century peal; they are rung for all national events and used to be rung for new and old masters of Cambridge colleges. There is a 13th bell in the tower; during the First World War it was used as a fire alarm at the First Eastern General Hospital CDN c 18.3.1954

1954 04 30
A new tower being built at Christ's College, Hobson Street, Cambridge was slightly damaged by fire. It is believed to have been caused by heat from a small fire used for copper soldering which ignited the scaffolding and the base of the new tower. The builders working on the tower could not get down. It was well alight and the fire was beginning to spread into the college when the brigade arrived. A major pump, pump escape and turntable ladder were used to extinguish the blaze and they had it under control in eight minutes

1954 06 26
An unsuccessful attempt was made to make the Cambridge Corn Exchange available for roller skating during the winter months. A petition with 900 signatures had been prepared. The people affected were between the ages of 10 and 25. In summer they could pass their time in the evenings by swimming, cycling and other outdoor amusements but in winter they needed the opportunity for healthy exercise as an alternative to dances and public houses. Many had invested in skates, the cheapest of which cost £7. But it was the only place suitable for badminton and was also used for boxing.

1954 07 19

The Minister's decision on the County Development Plan has been announced. The only major Cambridge items not approved are the site of the bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel and the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Road. All the central area road proposals including the 'spine relief road', the new Guildhall Street and a cross-town route joining Emmanuel Street with Downing Street have been approved together with the new Chesterton Bridge over the Cam near Walnut Tree Avenue, a multi-storey car park in Corn Exchange Street and a subway at the railway station.

1954 07 20
Planners have approved a new development between St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel New Court, Cambridge. There will be shops on the ground floor and offices above and the building will be of a high architectural standard in keeping with its position in the centre of the city. Provision must be made for a widening of Emmanuel Street and be sited to allow for a free circulation of the shopping traffic generated. Car parking facilities are advocated, either by way of a basement or by access to a space on the roof.

1954 08 06
St Andrew's Street: Emmanuel College has announced proposals for building a new block of shops and offices on the corner of St Andrew's Street. They will lease the property to the Prudential Assurance Company who will undertake what is by far the largest and most important commercial development since the opening of Woolworth's Stores in Sidney Street. The existing buildings will be completely taken down and a new block erected in their place with shops on the ground floor and offices above. With the parking problem so much in the forefront it will provide sufficient car parking for its occupants. Though they may be some who will regret the disappearance of the cottages in Emmanuel Street few will argue against the removal of the red brick 'giant' known as Rance's Folly with its towering storeys and overblown construction which is now used as University offices. CDN 6.8.1954

1954 08 13
This year marks the 150th anniversary of Lloyd's Bank in Cambridge. In 1804 two bothers named Foster who were already trading as millers established a bank in Bridge Street. In 1835 they transferred to the Turk's Head in Trinity Street and opened branches in St Ives, Saffron Walden and Ely. In those days two members of staff were boarded on the premises, one sleeping on a bed in front of the strong room armed with a rusty sword. At no time was the building left unattended. In 1890 they acquired a site at the junction of Hobson Street and a new building in Renaissance style was opened in 1894. The Capital and Counties Bank took them over in 1904 and 14 years later they amalgamated with Lloyd's. In 1919 the two offices were merged and the Sidney Street premises chosen as the main branch. In 1935 a considerable extension was built on the corner site

1954 09 18
It may interest readers to know that the short thoroughfare from St Andrews' Street to Drummer Street, now known as Christ's Lane, has changed its name more than any other in Cambridge. Old maps show it as Hangman's Lane, St Nicholas' Lane, Rogis Lane, Rogues' Lane, Hinton Lane and George Street. Downing Street has been Dowdivers Lane, Langrith Lane, Hogshill Lane, Bird Bolt
Lane and Plot and Nuts Lane.

1954 11 01
Miller's music shop has transformed its Sidney Street Cambridge premises with an up-to-date, spacious and extremely attractive front of an entirely unique design. The windows are non-

reflective and the lower ground floor, which is so popular with record lovers but previously almost completely hidden way, now has a mirrored view from the street. You can now pause in your shopping and look in the window, whether it be the television set your husband has promised the family for Christmas or one of the many different instruments on display

1955 02 18
A scheme for the re-development of the Fitzroy Street area as the main commercial centre of Cambridge has been submitted by a London Architect. It is a counter-proposition to the official Development Plan which could only result in the eventual complete destruction of the essential character of the city. The greater part of the area consists of out-dated two-storey cottages with extensive yards and is largely a slum. Re-development is due and can be done without the restrictions of historical associations and high land values. There would be a series of attractive courtyards unencumbered with traffic, one of which is large enough to take the place of the present Market Hill. An essential feature of the scheme is a new thoroughfare to link Gonville Place with Victoria Avenue and complete the inner Ring Road. 55 02 18a

1955 03 05
Sir - While surveying the exterior of premises over the Mac Fisheries in Petty Cury, Cambridge, I observed a row of iron spikes attached to the fascia board of the guttering. I presume they were fixed for the purpose of breaking up the large banks of snow leaving the roof and ensuring a more 'equitable distribution' on pedestrians using the pavement below. Such fittings must be something of a rarity – perhaps more observant readers can mention other buildings still retaining these spikes and enlighten me on their history – D.W. Overhill. 55 03 05

1955 04 07
Cambridge Chamber of Commerce is concerned over the 'No Parking' signs which have appeared in the vicinity of Market Hill. They have been erected to discourage stallholders from using the roadway opposite their stalls as their own private parking space. There were lines of lorries monopolising this part of town and used as temporary warehouses for supplying the stalls. But it also greatly inconvenienced shoppers who wished to leave their cars for a short time and some form of restricted parking would be better. 55 04 07b

1955 05 11
The Arts Theatre unveiled an extension to its Roof Garden restaurant, decorated in gay modern style and complete with the latest Espresso Coffee equipment. Some regretted the reduction of the outdoor terrace space but with the fickle English climate the new area would prove an agreeable amenity both for meals and during theatre intervals. Losses in the theatre could only be made up by profits from the Cinema, scenery studio and catering activities. Once the novelty of television had worn off an increasing number of people would again seek the solid satisfaction of liver performances. 55 05 11 [3.14]

1955 05 26
Francis Sidney Campkin was born 80 years ago in Rose Crescent, above the chemist's which became his whole life's work and hobby. He first helped in the shop when a boy of nine and later qualified as a pharmaceutical chemist. He also took the first examination held by the Spectacle Makers' Company. His keen interest in the optics of photography led to the development of the camera side of the business. He will be greatly missed by his staff who knew him as 'a very fine and kind gentleman'. 55 05 26

1955 07 01
Emmanuel Street: demolition photo [3.13, 3.14]

1955 07 02
Miss Kathleen Payne, 76, is retiring after a lifetime in the newsagents' business as her shop in Emmanuel Street is to be pulled down. It marks the end of one of Cambridge's familiar landmarks. The business was started by her father who remembered selling his first C.D.N. in 1888. Miss Payne has lived there all her life & recalls when chickens used to run down St Andrew's Street before the days of super shops, large cinemas and motor buses 55 07 02

1955 07 27
The Medical Officer for Cambridge says houses in Trinity Place together with warehouses to the rear of King Street are unfit for human habitation; they are dangerous and injurious to the health of the inhabitants & should be demolished. People living there will be asked to quit within two months with the Council finding alternative accommodation. 55 07 27

1955 09 02
In opening their enormous new showrooms in King Street Cambridge the firm of H.W. Peak have passed another milestone. Everything for furnishing a home is here in astonishing array. Apart from furniture there is electrical equipment such as vacuum cleaners and washing machines together with televisions and Hi-Fi sound equipment. They started just under 50 years ago selling second-hand furniture and opened a large branch at King's Lynn in 1937. 55 09 02b

1955 09 30
An old grain store in Mill Lane is being converted into the new premises of the Cambridge University Assistants' Club. It is hard to realise that the spacious lounge and dining hall once accommodated bags of golden corn brought up from the river to feed the mill. It will become one of the most modern and comfortable social centres in Cambridge. The polished floor of the dining room may do service as a ballroom whilst the common room above gives a unique view of the river and Coe Fen. 55 08 18a
The idea of a recreational club and canteen for University Assistants was first suggested in 1946 and eventually a 'disreputable warehouse' was acquired in Mill Lane. It has now been transformed into a magnificent club that was officially opened by the Vice Chancellor. It will be managed by the Assistants themselves; they have called innumerable meetings choosing decorations, furniture and china and also acquired a piano and a radiogram. 55 09 30b & c

1955 11 30
Undergraduates going to early lectures in thick fog were surprised to see a Commer van resting neatly in a large hole in the road in front of King's College with just the front two wheels sticking up to greet the morning. A breakdown van managed to pull the van out to the accompaniment of cheers from student onlookers. Later workmen were back digging the hole even deeper. 55 11 30

1956 01 19
The new choir vestry of Holy Trinity Church, Cambridge, was dedicated. Using materials of old Cambridge brick and stone it fits well with the existing buildings. It has folding doors leading into the older vestry, making a useful room for meetings. Now urgent repairs to the organ can be undertaken. 56 01 19b

1956 02 01
Castle St - A planning inquiry into who owns a garage in Castle Street, Cambridge, came to an abrupt end when an agreement was reached. Mr L.N. Reynolds will be allowed to pull down two condemned cottages and erect a paint store. The whole of the site was ugly and it would not

destroy the amenities of the area. The County was interested in it for 'local government purposes' as it allowed a clear view of Castle Mound. 56 02 01

1956 02 28
Demolition is taking place in Corn Exchange Street as part of the final scheme for the redevelopment of the area. Although final plans are as yet unsettled empty offices are being demolished and the land will be used as an extension to the Lion Car Park. A number of dilapidated houses in Park Street that were condemned before the war are also being pulled down. 56 02 28b & c

1956 03 08
The lease of 'The Spindle', a little shop selling scarves, woollen items and glass animals in Downing Street, Cambridge has been extended. But the rent will increase from £150 to £260 a year. Miss Maud Pattinson said she took the premises in 1935 and converted storage space above the shop into living accommodation. During the war years – 'the American invasion' – she made a good profit. But it was a 'poky little place and Downing Street was a 'dead street' for shopping. 56 03 08

1956 03 24
Miller's Music Shop began a 100 years ago when Mr A.T. Miller opened a workshop in Hobson Street as an organ builder and piano repairer. The family home was above his wife's millinery shop in Sidney Street and one of the rooms was opened as a pianoforte showroom. His son introduced the sale of instruments and sheet music and later came harmoniums, gramophones, radio and television and now electronic organs and tape recorders. 56 03 24d

1956 04 14
One of the old properties just demolished in Park Street, Cambridge – no.60 – has a famous connection. Back in1853 a young schoolmaster called Charles Haddon Spurgeon who lived there put an advertisement in the paper saying he intended to take six young gentlemen as day pupils. Teaching would include arithmetic, geometry and mensuration, scripture, Latin and Greek at a cost of £5 per annum. He became an eloquent preacher and, after doing great work in Waterbeach, was called to London where he addressed a gathering of 23,000 people at the Crystal Palace. 56 04 14c

1959 06 11
Sir – I was horrified to see what is happening to the Gate of Honour, Caius, in Senate House Passage. The stonework of practically the whole of the lower two-thirds is being renewed and only the cupola and stone just beneath is apparently now left of the original. Surely it is better to see the old medieval stonework than a 20th century imitation – Harry Paten, Castor Hill. 59 06 11

1956 07 14
Mr Stanley Woolston has removed his antiques business to Pembroke Street. It is a wrench to leave his former premises in St Andrew's Street after 30 years where he has been honoured by the gracious patronage of members of the Royal Family. But the buildings have been affected by the redevelopment of Emmanuel Street and plans to link Drummer Street with a shopping arcade. He will retain his warehouse at the end of Bradwell's Yard until the area is ripe for rebuilding. 56 07 14

1956 09 29
The new organ at Cambridge's Holy Trinity church will cost approximately £6,000 as compared with the £300 spent on the original organ built in the 1850's by Messrs Walker of Ruislip, who

are carrying out the present installation. The original two-manual organ was rebuilt in 1904 by Messrs Bedwell of Cambridge who moved it from the north transept into the organ chamber. 56 09 29b

1956 10 16
Councillors say that multi-storey car parks should be provided at Lion Yard, Saxon Street, Park Street and New Square and 170 cars should be parked on the site of the existing police flats at Parkside. But traffic congestion in Cambridge has become so acute that 'No Waiting' restrictions should be imposed in the central area and King Street made one-way. 56 10 16a

1956 10 22
A new library in memory of Herbert Martin Loewe, Honorary Fellow of Queens' College and a Reader in Rabbinics was opened in the Cambridge Synagogue, Thompson's Lane. He had worked hard for the many displaced refugees fleeing from Nazi armies and kept open house for students. The family had been honoured for their scholarship and respected for their public works and the library was a happy choice to commemorate his life. 56 10 22

1956 11 01
Great St Mary's church has been connected with the University since very early times and was used in the past not only for religious services but for academical proceedings. Under an agreement of 1843 the University and parish met the costs of repair and maintenance, but most of the terms are now out of date. Now they are being urged to meet the sole cost of maintaining the clock and the University organ at the west end, and sharing costs of insurance, heating, repair and cleaning. 56 11 01c

1956 11 02
A new telephone exchange to be built in St Tibb's Row will one day house the equipment for Cambridge's link-up with the rest of the country on a national trunk dialling system. Old cottages used for storage, small office units and workshops facing on to Post Office Terrace will be demolished for an extension of the present telephone exchange and in early 1961 engineers will install equipment to meet the needs of 3,000 new subscribers. In 1935 there were 2,700 telephone subscribers on the Cambridge exchange; now this has trebled to 7,700 and will reach 10,000 by 1960. 56 11 02d & e

1957 01 15
Fewer people are attending Cambridge Corn Market because of the difficulty of finding car parks and it will cease to exist if it is not moved to the Cattle Market, merchants fear. It would relieve traffic congestion in the centre of the city. But a building of the same area as the present Corn Exchange would cost £32,000 and councillors recommended no action. 57 01 15

1957 10 18
In 20 years' time Lion Yard car park will be outdated as the centre of the City will eventually have to be roped off from traffic, Canon Mervyn Stockwood told the council. He had frequently been up to the top of Great St Mary's and seen the appalling havoc of the central area in recent years. Now they proposed to put up a 'cheap and efficient sort of skyscraper'. He continued: "We are custodians of one of the most famous cities in the world. That sort of building cannot add to the dignity and loveliness of Cambridge" 57 10 18c

1957 11 20
Park Street car park inquiry at Shire Hall – 57 11 20b & c

1957 11 26
Demolition of buildings in St Andrew's Street has begun: work on the upper part of the premises formerly used as offices, adjoining the already demolished block – photo – 57 11 26, 144.47

1956 11 27
A proposal to close Christ's Lane and provide an alternative footway between Drummer Street and St Andrew's Street was approved in 1954. But now Christ's College have proposed an alternative consisting of an arcade leading into a central courtyard then through another arcade to Drummer Street. The council would be responsible for maintaining, cleaning and lighting it 56 11 27a

1956 12 01
Henekeys of Alexandra Street, Petty Cury give one shilling in the pound discount on three bottles of wines and spirits during December. A selection of prices: H.R.H. White Seal whisky 34/- (£1.70), Cognac 41/- (£2.05), Amontillado sherry 18/6 (92p), Liebraumilch Superior hock 10/10 (54p) and Veuve Grenier champagne 21/- (£1.05). 56 12 01a

1956 12 04
After 25 years and nine previous meeting places, Cambridge Christian Spiritualist Church moved into their own permanent home. The former Crown and Harp public house, John Street, can hold 100 people. The church had its beginning in July 1931 and met at 11 Ram Yard which was hit by a bomb and totally destroyed on 27th July 1942, a brass cross being the only thing saved. 56 12 04a

1957 02 13
A remarkable and widely admired artist, Mrs Gwendolen Raverat, of The Old Granary, Silver Street, has died aged 71. As a wood engraver her work was both decorative and illustrative; technically she was an excellent craftswoman who chose to engrave without the aid of fancy. She was one of the earliest members of the Society of Wood Engravers founded in 1920. 57 02 13

1957 03 15
Cambridge will soon have 141 new specially designed street lamps of the 'vertical fluorescent' type after consultations with the Cambridge Preservation Society, Royal Fine Arts Commission and College bursars. For some months several different types of lamp were erected along King's Parade to test public reaction. The only strong objection has come from the Design Society. 57 03 15

1957 06 21
Rance's Folly, the large redbrick house now being demolished in St Andrew's Street once had several lifts, four bathrooms and central heating – as well as a swimming pool. Guests even played tennis on the roof. It was built by Henry Rance who was Mayor in 1878 and 1882 – when he held council meetings in his dining room - and included a ballroom whose floor was laid by experts brought specially from Germany. Here his granddaughters were never at a loss for partners. 57 06 21 & 21a [IC.9.15,5.7]

1957 07 12
Lamp standard replaced by traffic bollards at corner Petty Cury – photo – 57 07 12

1957 08 23
Plans have been announced for a modern shopping arcade linking St Andrew's Street and Drummer Street bus station, replacing the Christ's Lane. There would be a two-storey block of

shops facing an open court together with a waiting room for bus passengers and basement parking for 21 cars and 100 bicycles. 57 08 23b & c

1957 09 14
Trinity College has started its first large-scale works this century. They will reconstruct nos.29-34 Trinity Street with hardly any alterations to the facade. The shops will remain on the ground floor but everything above is to be reconstructed to house 43 undergraduates in a small new court. This will reduce the overcrowding resulting from the termination of military service. 57 09 14 & a

1957 10 18
In 20 years' time Lion Yard car park will be outdated as the centre of the City will eventually have to be roped off from traffic, Canon Mervyn Stockwood told the council. He had frequently been up to the top of Great St Mary's and seen the appalling havoc of the central area in recent years. Now they proposed to put up a 'cheap and efficient sort of skyscraper'. He continued: "We are custodians of one of the most famous cities in the world. That sort of building cannot add to the dignity and loveliness of Cambridge" 57 10 18c

1957 11 28
Hobson's Conduit channels down each side of St Andrew's Street to be cut off, allowing road to be made wider – 57 11 28

1957 12 17
One of Cambridge's most famous pubs, the "Still and Sugarloaf" on Market Hill has been so completely modernised that it bears no resemblance to its former self. The only old part is the floor and even that has been sanded down and polished. The new lounge bar is the last word in luxury, warmth and comfort and features a brand new games room. 57 12 17a, 14 & a

1958 02 15
Fire seriously damaged the Garden House hotel; part of the roof and several bedrooms were damaged. Hundreds of people lined the banks of the Granta watching while thick white smoke gushed from under the roof. But within an hour Angela Parfitt and her 'groom Michael Lean were celebrating their wedding reception there. 58 02 15

1958 03 03
Cambridge Water Company are moving from Bene't Street, where they have been since 1866, to new offices in Rustat Road. 58 03 03

1958 03 27
Permission has been granted for the construction of a car park for 146 vehicles in Park Street, Cambridge. The site ranges from cottage and three-storey houses to warehouses and sheds. When financial conditions permit a multi-storey building will be constructed, probably with shops on the ground floor. A new access road will be made from Bridge Street along the present line of Round Church Street. 58 03 27a

1958 03 28
The Koh-i-Noor restaurant has been in St John's Street since 1936, the owner, Krishna Vir, told magistrates. Now they wanted a licence to sell beer and cider. They provided 700 meals a week and to send out for drinks from the Mitre or Baron of Beef took too much time. Dr Glyn Daniel, a Fellow of St John's College, said he occasionally visited and would like to be able to get a drink of beer 'when the curries are very hot'. 58 03 28

1958 04 25
A councillor expressed disbelieve that the reconstruction of Silver Street Bridge would take 12 months. “When I was in China I attended the opening of a bridge completed in one year which was 300 yards long over a very fast flowing river”, he said. “This bridge will only be 25 yard long. Is there a mistake? Should it be twelve weeks and not twelve months?” But Cambridgeshire County Council are rebuilding this bridge. 58 04 25b

1958 06 19
Market Street fire – 58 06 19

1958 08 02
Changed scene in Silver Street: work on new bridge – 58 08 02a

1958 08 09
Messrs Coads' department store in Sidney Street will cease trading on September 27th with a special feature sale prior to closure. It is intended to replace the Cambridge store, which has limited accommodation, by the acquisition of premises nearer London. The site has been acquired by F.W. Woolworth as an extension to their existing store which adjoins it. 58 08 09a

1958 08 23
King’s College railings – 58 08 23c

1958 09 27
Parking facilities in Cambridge were inadequate, said the Chief Constable. With more than 600 vehicles passing over Magdalene Bridge each hour, Park Street was a convenient site for a car park. Saxon Street park had been finished last week, work on King Street had not started and the Parkside car park was only a small one. Park Street was the one that should have first priority as a surface and multi-deck car park. But a thatched house in Clement Street built about 1700 should not be destroyed by ‘this cement desert’. 58 09 27 b c d

1958 11 15
Sidney Street: Boots shop front set back & rebuilding near Holy Trinity Church [4.2]

1958 12 12
King’s College announced a new rebuilding scheme in the city centre which will mean the demolition of the Central Hotel and café to provide more accommodation for students and a better headquarters for the Cambridge branch of the Midland Bank. The Bursar said the structure of the existing building is in a very parlous state and they could not for structural safety do less than rebuilding completely the whole interior. However this would only be forcing new wine into an old bottle so they had commissioned the design of a new building by Mr K.W, Capon of Architects’ Co. Partnership 58 12 12c

1959 01 13
Seven schemes are being considered for the Lion Yard area. It is felt essential for the financial success of the proposals that the redevelopment should embrace the existing property on the south side of Petty Cury from the Post Office to the Lion Hotel. It should extend over the existing car park to Downing Street and be linked with Emmanuel Street. The University are interested in obtaining access to the New Museums buildings on the west side of Corn Exchange Street, but this may not be practical. 59 01 13a & b *[for more details of the planning of Lion Yard see section c.49.67]*

1959 01 16
The new plan for the centre of Cambridge will have as its central feature a 'pedestrian shopping precinct' from which all vehicles will be excluded. An earlier scheme which foresaw a new and widened Guildhall Street running through the Lion Yard, with new shops and a multi-deck car park, has now been dropped after being criticised as likely to attract too much extra traffic. The proposal incorporates a car park which might be placed underground. But it is certain that Corn Exchange Street would become an important vehicular road. 59 01 16

1959 02 07
Bradwell's court development – sketch – 59 02 07
St Andrew's Street transformation in a year – photos – 59 02 07a

1959 02 12
Work has begun on greatly increasing the area of Messrs Boots the Chemist's premises in Sidney Street by the demolition of the old Essex and Suffolk Assurance Company buildings. It will double the width of the frontage and the shopping area behind and provide twin entrances on to the street. The staff accommodation will be more than doubled and the facilities vastly improved. Boots believe that the staff cannot be expected to look after customers properly unless their own interests are properly served by the company: contented staff means contented customers. 59 02 12b & c

1959 02 26
Gordon Thoday has specialised in fabrics for over a quarter of a century. At the new contemporary shop in St Andrew's Street modern display counters give the advantage of self-selection, or if you prefer our staff will be happy to serve you from the immense and exciting variety of the newest British and Continental fabrics. Our Sussex Street shop continues as usual – Advertisement. 59 02 26

1959 03 01
Emmanuel College's new building in St Andrew's Street has attracted many protests and the Anti-Ugly Society joined a mock funeral procession lead by four pall-bearers looking somewhat like Teddy Boys in their 'mourning weeds'. They bore a coffin inscribed 'Here Lieth British Architecture' which was placed outside the Porter's Lodge as mourners chanted 'Pull it down and burn it.' Although most onlookers treated the protest as a great joke for the Anti-Ugly Society it was a matter of serious importance in their genuine concern for architecture. 59 03 01b

1959 03 20
Cyril Ridgeon and Son, builders' merchants gave a luncheon to inaugurate their new Regent Street showroom. The shop was formerly occupied by Messrs Murdoch's and the transformation from musical instruments to household equipment is striking. The lower ground floor is devoted to a display of bathroom suites, the ground floor to tiled fireplaces and the first to kitchen requirements. They were literally bulging at the seams at Hobson Street but the new store is comparable with something in London, guests were told. 59 03 20b

1959 03 20
Silver Street Bridge open to traffic – 59 03 20d

1959 04 29
The City Council is to consider the largest project ever undertaken in Cambridge. The giant Lion Yard scheme includes a two-decker underground car park taking 731 vehicles, a unique 'pedestrian shopping precinct', a new central library, residential hotel and a petrol filling station.

Jesus College have also submitted a scheme for the redevelopment of the north side of Fitzroy Street. Many think that increases in shopping facilities ought to take place as an extension of this well-established area. 59 04 29a-d & 59 04 29e

1959 04 30
The new Bradwell's Court shopping centre is beginning to take shape with the opening of the first shop. Reeds ladies wear brings a very individual and distinctive approach to fashion selling with clothes obtained direct from the actual makers. Their slacks range covers all possible choices – gay – sombre-striped-tartans – the lot. Knitwear is a speciality ranging from Italian cottons to beautiful Orlon jumpers and cardigans, twin sets, overalls, smocks and pinarettes. 59 04 30 & a

1959 05 01
The giant scheme which is to transform the centre of Cambridge received the approval of the City Council. Not one hand was raised against it when the question of developing the Lion Yard– described as 'that revolting area' - was put to the vote. It would make it possible for townspeople to do their shopping away from the traffic on broad footpaths and provide a much-needed car park for more than 700 cars, removing the 'long-term parker' from town streets and leaving the kerbs free for motorists who wish to park for ten minutes. 59 05 01a, b, c & d

1959 05 05
Modern traffic problems have brought to an end a Cambridge tradition. David's Bookstall has occupied its site on Peas Hill on Saturdays for more than 60 years but recently the street has been turned into an area where the parking of cars is prohibited during the busiest time of the day. Motorists objected that the stall took up as much space as any car so Mr Ashley Hubert David was asked if he would move his Saturday stall to its weekday position on the market square. Many customers are indignant about the change. 59 05 05 & a

1959 05 21
"The Lion Yard scheme is the biggest re-development scheme yet in England, if we omit the blitzed cities". Ald W.G. James told the Women's Lunch Club. "In some respects it is more difficult, for the bombing often obliterated whole areas and redevelopment could start on virgin sites. Here, boundaries, established buildings and all manner of things have to be considered". Everyone agreed the area required comprehensive development but there was a divergence of opinion on how this should be done. A compromise was sought by 30 people on the County Planning Committee but as there were 30 different opinions, nothing was done. 59 05 21b

1959 06 04
St Edward's Passage development – opposition – 59 06 04

1959 06 18
The giant new Prudential Building on the junction of St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel Street incorporates the latest building techniques with heating and hot water provided by electrical units which take power from the mains during 'off-peak' hours and store it for use during the day. Acoustic ceiling tiles provide quieter working conditions, floors are of a coloured plastic tile and decorations in pastel shades. The basement contains a large garage and special storage to cater for the large use of bicycles by staff. 58 06 18

1959 06 20
When the elaborate scheme for the redevelopment of the Lion Yard area was approved one could be forgiven for being rather carried away by the sheer magnitude of the whole thing. What was to have been just a car park had rather surprisingly blossomed into a complete new city centre and

we were impressed by the dazzling piece of town planning so adroitly placed before us. Since then we have had time to mull over the full implications. Cambridge still retains something of its own individuality and it would be tragic to turn it into just another New Town. The scheme is a town planners' dream. It must not become a ratepayers' nightmare 59 06 20 & a

1959 07 04
A Cambridge man living in Los Angeles cautions against the new Lion Yard proposals. "Who is going to occupy the new offices and shops? If Cambridge thinks they can concentrate business in town and solve the car parking problem with a few hundred spaces they are indulging in the fondest of illusions. Parking meters in the streets don't help: they only add to the irritation of shoppers, free parking has become the essential stock-in-trade. In America down-town shopping areas are dying and shopping centres miles out of town are the new thing." 59 07 04

1959 07 21
Archaeologists digging in Corn Exchange Street have uncovered a 12th-century ditch and the remains of a wooden footbridge or stepping stones and handrail across it. It may have been an early town defence but at only five feet deep and 20 feet across, it was rather small for that. The ditch had only been in use for a few years and was filled with clean blue clay. Later it seems to have been a garden behind a house and rubbish pits had been dug there containing animal bones and broken pottery. A knife dating from the 16th century was also found. 59 07 21a & b

1959 07 24
Lion Yard costs have risen colossally and some councillors hoped the Minister would turn the scheme down so they could start again. They could build a car park on the site more cheaply but they were bound to the developers, Edgers, and they would be a laughing stock if they went back on their word. It was the public who determined where the city centre should be and that was where banks, theatres and cinemas had moved. When a slump came it was those on the outskirts that closed down. The scheme must go forward. In the long run it would prove economical. 59 07 24a

1959 07 24
Councillors withdrew their attention from the Lion Yard area to a part of the city which some have always considered of equal importance – Fitzroy Street. This should be comprehensively redeveloped to provide residential, shopping and business facilities with a new bus station. The Lion Yard should be developed with a library, civic restaurant and small car park, leaving the frontages as they are, some argued. 59 07 24b & c

1959 08 14
Local history is repeated: 1859 plans for redevelopment of Market Hill – 59 08 14b

1959 08 14
The new Silver Street Bridge is now open and there can be no doubt it is an exceptionally handsome piece of work. But after traffic had been admitted it was reduced to a single line again, pumps were sent for, coffer dams sunk and the word went round that all was not well. Rumours said that contractors had discovered an underground cavity, the bridge was sinking and that concrete was having to be pumped in. The County Surveyor cancelled a meeting with the press but a councillor said it was normal settlement and there was nothing wrong. 59 08 14d

1959 08 31
Research and experimental work in the University's Department of Metallurgy in Pembroke Street was brought to a standstill following a serious blaze. Flames came through the roof, two

rooms were gutted and a laboratory severely affected. Water used to fight the fire seeped into the basement and caused a great deal of damage to expensive machinery. 59 08 31a & b

1959 10 01
Cambridge University's science departments were first to occupy the central area and there is now a great concentration of laboratories on either side of Downing Street. The few open spaces between them are already overflowing with cars. There is no room to allow for the growth of research and teaching in subjects outside the established hierarchy, Lord Adrian, the retiring Vice-Chancellor told academics. Science has enlarged its premises so much that the arts faculties could not begrudge their expansion across the river. 59 10 01c

1959 11 11
The proposed Lion Yard scheme provided for a pedestrians-only shopping precinct linked to Petty Cury, office space (to be offered to the University if needed), a new Emmanuel Road, the widening of Corn Exchange Street and an underground car park including space for 750 cars of which 230 would be for office staff. There would also be a new telephone exchange, an Inquiry was told. The scheme would be completed by 1965. 59 11 11c & d & e

1959 11 19
The University thinks the Lion Yard scheme was bad planning. They are not opposed to a pedestrian precinct nor to some commercial development but preferred a mixture of University use with a concert hall seating 1,500 and some shops and offices to fill in. This would attract far less traffic at peak times. Others thought the Corn Exchange might make a site for a car park with an elevator to take cars to the upper floors. Shops could give 'Free parking vouchers' for customers who spent more than £5. This would attract shoppers into the car parks and make them economical. 59 11 19 a & c

1959 12 03
The Inquiry into the Lion Yard scheme was told that the Petty Cury frontage should be excluded from redevelopment: the present useful buildings would be preserved and the character of the street maintained. But Planners said they could not be adequately served as they lacked any rear access. Runciman's veterinary premises in Downing Street had been used for 150 years and were specially designed for the purpose. They have dealt with animals as small as a mouse and as large as an elephant. The proposed replacement buildings were incompatible with the character of Cambridge 59 12 03 & a & 04 & 04a

1959 12 04
Several tradesmen gave evidence at the Lion Yard inquiry. Both Miller's and Lyon and Cade's were old established solicitors business, their premises would be entirely swept away. G.D. Pryor owned the land let to Mac Fisheries. The former Mr Pryor was one of the last coach drivers and a fishmonger who established his business in the first half of the nineteenth century. The coach was left at the Red Lion when business had been transacted next door. The Chinese Restaurant had been greatly improved since Mr Lui took possession and was now the centre for people who enjoyed this type of food. It is difficult to imagine where it could be resited, the pedestrian precinct did not promise to be lively at night 59 12 04 abc

1959 12 05
The official inquiry into the Lion Yard Re-development Proposals – that erstwhile car park scheme blown up to make a planners' holiday – covered 15 days and produced over half-a-million words. The sponsors of the scheme and the many objectors have placed their cases fully and fairly – and sometimes forcibly. One of the main criticisms is that no evidence of the

financial side was submitted. Very few members of the public attended but there was a 'full gallery' on the final day. It will be six months before the Minister's decision is made known. 59 12 05

1959 12 10
The University's new Department of Chemical Engineering building in Pembroke Street was opened by the Chairman of Shell. The firm had made a grant of half-a-million pounds and since the first Shell Professor took up his appointment in 1946, 187 students have graduated. They carry out a research programme during their final year instead of a formal laboratory course and already some information of genuine value had been obtained. In its early days the Department was housed in a temporary building in Tennis Court Road before finding a permanent site next to the Cavendish and Zoology Laboratories. 59 12 10a

1959 12 17
There are a quarter of an acre of tunnels under Peas Hill which were used as air raid shelters during the War. They were wired for electricity, lavatories were installed and wooden seats fitted in the tunnel recesses. Oil lamps were kept close at hand in case of emergency. Quite a number of people used the shelter during day-time raids and some slept down there when there was night bombing. 'Roadsters' used them every night to sleep. They were terribly damp when first used but after a few days became quite comfortable. 59 12 17

1959 12 21
The controversy surrounding the Central Hotel in Peas Hill, which King's College want to knock down and replace by a new hostel for students has reached a new stage with the publication of a booklet. The St Edward's Committee was established when it was announced that the Central Hotel, a largely 17th-century building forming an integral part of a square around St Edward's churchyard, was to all appearances doomed. They believe it could be preserved and are pressing for a public inquiry into the proposals. 59 12 21c & d

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date.

1960

1960 01 07
Central Hotel preservation call – 60 01 07

1960 01 08
King's College has replied to criticism of its plans to demolish the 17th-century Central Hotel on the corner of St Edward's Passage and Peas Hill. Whilst the Midland Bank premises are scheduled as an ancient monument, the St Edward's Passage premises are not. The College has considered eleven schemes for the site, some of which would preserve the façade, but the preservation of the interior was a hopelessly haphazard proposition. Their architect has taken infinite care to ensure the new building preserves the essentially domestic character of St Edward's Passage, says Noel Annan, the Provost. 60 01 08b

1960 01 16
So Cambridge must be destroyed. Country folk from the surrounding pastures have decreed that, just because she develops a bald patch on her Lion Yard. But even when Petty Cury has been rebuilt with modern materials the day must come when all the new buildings fall down. But by 2020 there will be no cars, and therefore no parking problems; only the original debt. No one can possibly question the integrity of the City Fathers: by their very selection they are men apart

1960 01 21
City councillors decided to drop proposals to use Butts Green as a car park for two years - even with the Lion Yard car park finished and new car parks in King Street and Park Street, there would still not be enough parking and it would never be reinstated. The income would never meet expenditure. Eventually Cambridge would have a city centre park charging about one shilling an hour. If Butt Green was to be charged at sixpence nobody would use Lion Yard and the council would be sabotaging their own scheme. 60 01 21

1960 01 23
Bradwell's Court, the new public footway linking St Andrew's Street with Drummer Street, was opened for the first time this week. At the same time Christ's Lane, the old cobbled pathway, was closed. With an arcade at each end and an 'open style' court in the centre, the new thoroughfare is flanked by 13 shops 60 01 23c

1960 02 10
The St Edward's Committee may launch a fund to buy the Central Hotel in Peas Hill and house students in converted rooms. King's College, the owner, says it would prefer to sell the building rather than undertake the work of preservation. The Holford Committee which suggested demolishing it has now decided to study the merits of the building 60 02 10

1960 02 16
Preparations are being made for the rebuilding of the Department of Metallurgy laboratories in Downing Street, which were destroyed by fire in August. The old building was quite useless for research and the new part will be box shaped and built of steel and concrete fire-proofed to guard against further outbreaks. At the time of the blaze research in metal corrosion 'of national importance' was being carried out. 60 02 16a

1960 03 09
Central hotel sketch 60 03 09

1960 03 10
A final decision to demolish the Central Hotel was made by King's College after discussion with the Cambridge Preservation Society. Only five Fellows voted to try to preserve the St Edward's Passage façade while demolishing the rest. Everybody agrees that the interior was in a hopeless state of disrepair. When the college bought the property in 1936 they intended to develop the site. In 1956 they concluded that no part of the hotel could be preserved and commissioned a new building. 60 03 10

1960 03 24
Builders are now shoring up the interior of the Central Hotel in Peas Hill prior to demolition. Yesterday the Central Tea Bar, which occupied the corner of Market Hill and St Edward's Passage, closed and bricks were piled in front of its entrance. The Midland Bank will stay in the building although some changes will have to be made while the first phase is completed. The new building should be ready in about two years 60 03 24a

1960 04 01
Macintosh and Sons, the long-establish firm of ironmongers have moved their showrooms from Cambridge Market Hill to Mill Road owing to the congestion in the town centre. "The days have gone when farmers could pull up with their horse and trap to purchase instruments", they say. From the new warehouse and instrument shed they sell anything from a hand tool to a combine

harvester costing over £2,000. Nearby stands the foundry that was in use until 30 years ago where they made lamp standards and ploughshares for the Town Council. 60 04 01a

1960 04 08
A last-minute bid to save the Central Hotel was made too late. Fore builders are preparing for the final stage of demolition of the historic building in Peas Hill. 60 04 08

1960 05 21
In demolishing the old Central Hotel near Cambridge Market Place, the contractors have found it to be in a worse condition than they anticipated, but it has conformed fairly accurately to the surveyor's report prepared by King's College who own the site. The comparatively recent facings of the interior of the building were concealing a rotting structure underneath and the building has to be pulled down with extreme care – almost brick by brick. The hotel is being pulled down in two phases of which the first has now been completed. The first half of the new building will be erected before the second half is pulled down 60 05 21a

1960 06 03
For most people sweeping the roads would be a boring and wholly irksome task. But to Arthur Morgan, who has done it for 20 years, it is always interesting and occasionally exciting with ample scope for meeting people. Arthur, a sprightly man of 63 was once an army sniper but now sweeps the Market Square twice a day though he dislikes having to dodge the traffic. Cinema queues shed a quantity of litter which he carts away in his barrow without complaint. He has come across many items of values including rings, watches and on one occasion a car bonnet! 60 06 03a

1960 06 17
Peak's Furnishers Ltd of Fitzroy Street have opened large premises in the new covered shopping arcade in Bradwell's Court. The electrical appliances section is well-stocked with the leading makes of washing machines, spin-dryers; demonstrations are a daily event and prompt delivery guaranteed. It also has a number of model kitchens fitted right down to the last detail and attractive displays of bedroom, lounge and dining furniture are beautifully displayed in room settings. 60 06 17a & b

1960 08 30
The Minister has rejected proposals to redevelop the Lion Yard area by the building of a giant car park, shops, offices and hotel. He called the scheme 'basically unsound' as it envisaged shop and office expansion instead of decongestion in the central area and crowded too much development on to the site. He also thought that commercial expansion was neither necessary or desirable. The scheme was formulated by city and county council architects after years of study and research. It included a 750 place car park with petrol filling station and an unusual shopping precinct where all vehicular traffic was barred. 60 08 30

1960 09 07
The widening of the Market Street – Petty Cury area of Sidney Street will complement the part that was completed before the war when the Boots and Trueform buildings were erected. Some people feel that the road nearer Jesus Lane is a greater priority but the widened section by the two bus stops outside Holy Trinity will relieve traffic congestion. There is no intention of completing the process right through to Bridge Street says T.V. Burrows, the City Surveyor. 60 09 07

1960 09 09

The roller skating rink at Cambridge Corn Exchange attracts enthusiasts from a large area. Saturday morning is the children's morning and with its yards of bunting, the otherwise sombre building has a carnival air. From the very young to the really quite grown up they were tumbling about, wobbling precariously round the perimeter or pirouetting stylishly in the centre. Some of the girls swooped round in short costumes while the run-of-the-mill dressed for the rough and tumble in trousers. Skaters pay one shilling and sixpence (8p) which includes the hire of skates. The rink is leased to J.W. Harris, who also has one at Hunstanton, and is managed by Mr Lloyd Worth who has been a professional in the skating business for 53 years. 60 09 09c

1960 10 12
Sir – plans to make the centre of Cambridge a 'Pink Zone' with parking meters will have serious implications. Whereas currently 50 cars are parked in Jesus Lane, only 30 can be accommodated at meters. The result will be chaos with cars milling round in vain trying to find a parking space. Can anyone imagine a motorist being prepared to pay sixpence or a shilling to leave his car for three minutes while he takes his suit to the cleaners? Lion Yard is often full by 9.30 am and if the city is to prosper we must have space for vehicles. The only answer is to provide some very large multi-deck parks, then make motorists use them by restricting waiting on the street – 'Fair Play' 60 10 12

1960 10 18
The Vice Chancellor has banned all undergraduates from taking part in Guy Fawkes Night celebrations in the city centre. In recent years November 5th had been marked by particularly destructive and violent acts, including the use of home-make fireworks, which have caused painful injuries to innocent bystanders. Although students have played only a minor part at the occasions the University are under an obligation to help the city authorities check such disorderly conduct. Now Market Hill and the surrounding area will be out of bounds to members of the University 'in statu pupillari' between 7 pm and midnight 60 10 18

1960 10 22
The British Council's new International Centre in Trinity Street is a club formed to promote international friendship and understanding by providing a social and cultural centre for foreign residents in Cambridge and their English friends. 60 10 22

1960 11 26
Bus island in Peas Hill relieves traffic congestion outside Guildhall – 60 11 26

1960 12 07
The Low Temperature Research Station, Downing Street, is a strange place. Occasionally in some forgotten corner of one of its temperature-controlled rooms, one comes across perfectly preserved war-time stew that was meant for the civilian population but never produced in great quantities. At that time the Station was responsible for producing the 24-hour battle pack of dried food for the Commandoes who went across to France for D-Day. Now they are investigating why potatoes go brown after they have been peeled and chemically examining peas to discover why they lose sweetness and juiciness in the three days between being picked and canned. 60 12 07d

1960 12 30
Market stall holders are among Cambridge's most colourful characters. Many have taken over the stalls from their fathers or grandfathers, often reaching back five or six generations. There are a handful of names which provide the nucleus of the traders – Whitehead, David, Sharp, Reynolds, Simpkins and several others. Charles Whitehead has stood at his greengrocery stall since he was 14, Messrs Miller and Beresford are in charge of the pets stall and Mrs Sharp has been selling old

silver and brasses for 52 years. They believe that as long as they are straight and fair in their dealings, competition cannot harm them – 60 12 30b

1961 01 02
A questionnaire shows that most people think the Lion Yard area should include a concert hall, civic restaurant, hotel and assize court together with a library. This should feature a record section, an art lending department, reading room and small exhibition area. There should be a municipal crèche where children could be left while their parents shopped and a car park reserved for those who worked in the Guildhall. Half of the respondents were in favour of traffic wardens and parking meters, though some said they had no experience of them, while 81 per cent wanted a pedestrian precinct. Other suggestions included a news cinema where people could wait in comfort for evening buses and supermarkets near the edge of the city 61 01 02a

1961 01 11
Cambridge University published proposals to enhance the city's character as a university town. Historic buildings would be retained and where redevelopment is essential the new buildings would be on a scale and character compatible with the central area. The Lion Yard development could include a civic hall which is needed both by city and university together with a library and small art gallery. If the City Council cannot pay for it then the University and some of the colleges should join in a developing consortium to provide the necessary finance to carry out the development and benefit from the profits. The only area of Cambridge suitable for a regional shopping centre is that around City Road and Fitzroy Street. It has space for shops, restaurants, car parks and houses and could be well-served by public transport. By contrast the city centre does not meet the land requirement unless there is such demolition that it would affect the character of the area. The roads are poor and provision of adequate car parking would be an impossible task. 1961 01 11, 61 01 11b, 61 01 11c

1961 02 11
The delay in Lion Yard redevelopment has meant that the Civic Restaurant on the corner of Petty Cury has been given a new lease of life. The dining hall has been brightened up and the provision of window curtains will give a finishing touch. A cosmopolitan note has been struck in an announcement over the scullery in English. French, German and Italian exhorting customers to return their plates 61 02 11

1961 03 10
The 'promontory', a building that formerly housed Przibórsky's hairdressing shop, with Ram Yard to its left and Round Church Street to the right, is to be cleared by the City Council to provide a wide lead-in to the new car park in Park Street. The cottages are not very beautiful and most have been condemned as unfit by the Public Health Department. But they are home to a small community of tenants including Tim Eiloart who crossed the Atlantic in a small balloon, Jasper Rose the artist-don who has a studio there and Graham Pollard, a numismatist at the Fitzwilliam Museum. Their lives are interconnected, they give supper parties and meet together to play Bach in an upstairs room. But now they must move elsewhere 61 03 10 & a

1961 03 29
University plans for the New Museums site off Downing Street include an underground ring road with parking for 300 cars and 1,400 cycles. A maze of narrow passages would be replaced with pedestrian walkways six feet above ground. Many old dilapidated buildings will be demolished and two 15-storey high blocks for the Department of Mathematics erected. These 'skyscrapers' might not be built to their full height immediately but would gradually grow as the department

needed more space. The 1934 Zoology building, the Shell chemical engineering laboratory and the Physics Department's high tension laboratory would be retained 61 03 29 & 30, 61 03 31

1961 04 14
Cambridge Civic Restaurant produces over 1,000 meals a day either for consumption in its spacious contemporary dining room or for the Drummer Street Mobile Canteen or W.V.S. Meals-on-Wheels service. The premises at the Old Post Office in Petty Cury may have to be demolished as part of the Lion Yard scheme but the Manageress, Mrs Gillett and her staff of 30, including Mrs E. Stubbings who has been vegetable cook for the last 18 years have become very attached to the restaurant and regard their customers as 'one big family' which needs feeding. 61 04 14b

1961 04 28
City councillors decided to go ahead with a plan for a multi-deck car park with shops and filling station on the ground floor, in King Street. Steps will be taken to acquire the land from Jesus College by compulsory purchase if necessary. Congestion in the city centre is getting near to desperate: eventually parking meters would be needed and there had to be somewhere for cars to go. But it would commit the council to building a multi-deck car park when there were no details of the financial implications, Councillor Warren warned. 61 04 28c

1961 05 29
Westminster Bank opened their first Cambridge branch at the junction of Trumpington Street and Bene't Street in 1845. It was closely connected with University and College life and the original premises have been enlarged several times. Now a continued expansion in business has seen a handsome new bank in St Andrew's Street together with the modernisation of the one in Fitzroy Street which opened in 1952 to cater for that active and expanding shopping area 61 05 29a

1961 06 08
Thirteen members of the Christ's College Milton Society took part in the traditional annual 'pilgrimage' to the main door of Great St Mary's Church to burn the works of T.S. Eliot. With caps and gowns, and carrying a bust of the poet Milton, the undergraduates walked in procession through the crowded Market Square. Then in front of the church the 'damnable and dangerous works' of T.S. Eliot (Penguin edition) were set in flames on the paving stones. Crowds appeared from nowhere, cameras were clicked, and passages of Milton read before the procession returned towards Christ's and noggins of nut brown ale 61 06 08a

1961 06 13
Sir – some of the tower blocks proposed by the University for the New Museum site would be twice the height of King's College chapel. They are opposed to the very character of the historic centre. If approved it would be impossible to object to other towers such as those of the Lion Yard that have been criticised by the Preservation Society. Would it not be better for the gradual transfer of science buildings to the west of Cambridge where a development architecturally worthy of the University could take place? – V.I. Glaster 61 06 13

1961 07 01
Bradwell's Court, the new public footway linking St Andrew's Street with Drummer Street, was opened for the first time this week. At the same time Christ's Lane, the old cobbled pathway, was closed. With an arcade at each end and an 'open style' court in the centre, the new thoroughfare is flanked by 13 shops 60 01 23c The Roe family has been well known in Cambridge since Joseph Roe started in the antiques trade in Petty Cury in 1826. Now one more facet of the old times will disappear with the demolition of their shop on the corner of Christ's Lane and St Andrew's Street. It has been in existence since 1882, having been rebuilt in 1897. New buildings will rise

on the site in keeping with the contemporary Bradwell's Court. The business has relocated to Downing Street where it will be continued by Owen Roe. 61 07 01a

1961 07 01
The Roe family has been well known in Cambridge since Joseph Roe started in the antiques trade in Petty Cury in 1826. Now one more facet of the old times will disappear with the demolition of their shop on the corner of Christ's Lane and St Andrew's Street. It has been in existence since 1882, having been rebuilt in 1897. New buildings will rise on the site in keeping with the contemporary Bradwell's Court. The business has relocated to Downing Street where it will be continued by Owen Roe. 61 07 01a

1961 07 03
Stanley Rose's old-established butchers is one of the few properties in Petty Cury remaining in private hands. He acquired the premises in the early 1930s, moving from a site in Market Hill which was then being demolished for make way for the new Guildhall where the family firm had been established for three generations. He is now retiring and the business will be transferred to W.J. Adkins, the local firm of butchers. The premises have been acquired by Messrs Peter Lord, the shoe specialists. 61 07 03d

1961 07 12
A new car park attendant's hut has been installed on Cambridge Market Square. The original hut was badly damaged by fire during the Guy Fawkes celebrations two years ago and replaced by a temporary one. It is expected to be in use later this week 61 07 12

1961 07 28
The Clore-Cotton deal over the Lion Hotel – the key to the city's central redevelopment – is probably the largest single property transaction made in Cambridge. But Mr Barr, secretary of the family company owning the Lion, says he had declined a much larger offer as he thought it was not in the best interests of the town. "It is a pity there has not been more co-operation of the people interested in the development. A few years ago they could have got the hotel for half the price I got today", he said. Now there was a golden opportunity for everyone to get together and sink their differences. 61 07 28 [13.2]

1961 08 31
Przibórsky's barbers shop in Ram Yard is to be swept away by demolition and redevelopment. The site is to be incorporated into a new road leading to Park Street car park. It was founded in 1879 by Count Przibórsky after he left his position as barber at the Imperial Austrian court. The family connection elapsed in 1934 when the Count's son died and Mr Frederick Osborne took over the business. A ladies' hairdressing side catered for Girton and Newnham girls but was discontinued during the war 61 08 31a [446.16.8]

1961 09 20
Barclays Bank has opened a new branch at 35, Sidney Street. The front of the building is in Portland Stone and mahogany has been used for the counters, cashiers tills and doors. The first floor is sound-proofed from the banking hall and accommodates the typewriters and customers' statement machines. These statements are sent to the banking hall by means of pneumatic tubes, a quick means of communication which helps to keep the noise down without impairing the speed of the service 61 09

1961 09 22

Demolition in Ram Yard has revealed a brick inscribed '1509'. Its size indicates that it was part of a batch produced shortly after 1790 when the Government imposed a brick tax. As a result bricks suddenly became larger so fewer were needed to build a house. A firm at Bourn made outsize bricks of a four-inch depth, which can be seen all over the village. A very handsome gault brick was made by a Barnwell firm. These are still very much in demand and when properties are demolished they are salvaged for reuse. The Shire Hall was built from such old bricks which fetch £11 a thousand. 61 09 22a

1961 10 05
Harry Runham has retired after more than 30 years as car park attendant on Cambridge Market Hill. When he started in 1930 comparatively few vehicles were left there, owners being charged 6d for all-day parking. As the volume of traffic increased, the bull-nosed Morris gave way to other cars, lorries and motor cycles while fees for all-day parking increased until the present figure of two shillings was reached. 61 10 05

1961 11 04
City planners have turned down Cambridge University's plans for a £2million 'science island' scheme on the 'New Museums' site bordered by Corn Exchange Street and Free School Lane. It would have meant the disappearance of many old laboratory building. Councillors were concerned that the three multi-storey structures, two of which were 200 feet high, would spoil the skyline. No new buildings should be higher than the present Guildhall. 61 11 04 & 06

1961 11 16
A cluster of balloons was flown over Cambridge to give an idea of how the proposed 200ft towers of the 'Science Island' off Corn Exchange Street would look from the Backs behind the famous King's College Chapel. Theodolite readings were also taken from Rose Crescent. The proposal has been rejected by planners 61 11 16a & b

1961 12 01
Harper House in Portugal Place houses 10,000 books devoted to the British Empire. It started in 1919 with informal tea parties at which students met for cultural discussions. By 1921 these had become so popular that 'Cambridge University International Teas' and conferences were started. In 1940 Mrs Irene Harper formed the Birdwood Club open to British children whose families were 'not pacifists' and had some connection with the armed forces. The postwar years which produced a Motherland 'bewitched, bothered and bewildered about the Common Market' have thinned the ranks of the membership 61 12 01 & a

1961 12 01
A bold scheme to transform Cambridge Market Hill into the 'finest piazza in Europe' would involve banning traffic in King's Parade, demolition of a few buildings on the corner of St Mary's Passage and the complete clearance of the Market Place. The screen in front of King's college would be removed and the Senate House and Law Department buildings linked together to form one magnificent spacious vista, says architect G.M. Vickers 61 12 01b

1961 12 18
A new vestry block, a garden of rest, memorial tablet and some new windows were dedicated at Great St Mary's Church. 61 12 18 [10.3]

1962 01 04
A Council debate to decide whether to create a post of City Architect ended in chaos after the Mayor stopped discussion. A qualified architect is vital if development is to be continued with

taste. Council estates were dull in lay-out and their roads were not up to modern traffic. Uninspired planning must be stopped now. At a time when the Lion Yard, Museum site and City Road area are in the melting pot they should have the advice of an architect, some councillors felt. 62 01 04a

1962 01 24
Park St & Round Church St alterations [6.19]

1962 03 20
The City Council want a three-storey car park in King Street, between Malcolm Street and Manor Street. It is proposed that the café and public house on the corner of Malcolm Street should form part of a road widening scheme, with the new car park structure beginning where the old Wray's Almshouses now stand. The park will extend as far as Manor Street. There would be space for 260 cars together with a filling station and a maximum of nine shops. It would form part of the pattern of perimeter car parks with another in Park Street. There would be an inner 'control zone' and an outer area for car parking administered by meters. This would accommodate over 400 more vehicles and relieve congestion. Motorists were reluctant to use parks away from the city centre as they wanted to get as near as possible to their places of work, an Inquiry was told. 62 03 20 & a 62 03 22a

1962 04 05
The new Victoria Ballroom was opened by Ronald Fraser, the film and television star, who had previously appeared at the Regal Cinema as part of its 25th anniversary celebrations. Converted from a café above the Victoria Cinema, it will reduce the number of 'wallflowers' on Saturday nights when special buffet dinner dances are being run at a cost of a guinea for a double ticket. When not in use for dancing it will still be put into service as a café 62 04 05 [5.3]

1962 04 06
Angel public house, Market Street bought by the unknown purchaser of Macintosh's – 62 04 06c

1962 04 27
In 1851 Mr Alfred Bodger, 'Hosier, Glover and Shirtmaker', founded his Gentlemen's Outfitting shop opposite Holy Trinity Church. As business grew he added a tailoring shop and in 1934 moved to the present site on the corner of Sidney Street and Green Street. In 1946 the ready-to-wear site was enlarged. More expansion followed in 1954 and now internal alterations are complete allowing a full range of goods to be shown. But friendly and personal attention is always available – Advert 62 04 27b

1962 05 07
Mr Jack Cotton and Mr Charles Clore, the property millionaires, have bought the site of Heffer's from Emmanuel College on the understanding that the bookshop will be rehoused in any new redevelopment of Petty Cury. Their company, City Centre Properties, acquired the adjoining Lion Hotel site last year. The Director of Dolamore, the wine merchants, who hold the freehold of most of the corner with Guildhall Street, would not say whether they had also approached them. Recently this part of Petty Cury was included in the area scheduled for redevelopment. The firm also have an interest in the New Theatre site which is now being demolished to be replaced by a block of offices 62 05 07 [13.3]

1962 05 10
The clean-cut façade of the offices of Messrs Ellison & Co. show up well at the end of the little court in the passageway between the Lion Hotel and Heffer's bookshop in Petty Cury. The offices

were acquired by the Clore-Cotton Group's City Centre Properties when they bought the premises occupied by Heffer's and the freehold of that part of the Lion Hotel formerly held on lease from Emmanuel College. The area is scheduled for redevelopment as part of the Lion Yard scheme. 62 05 10a

1962 05 31
The University's proposals for the future development of Cambridge are designed to enhance its character as a university town. The Lion Yard area should include a multi-purpose public hall, for which they have offered to pay half, a new public library, exhibition gallery and arts centre. There would be a regional shopping centre in the City Road area including department and chain stores with large scale car parking and the segregation of pedestrians from traffic. 62 05 31a

1962 06 01
Thieves last night cleared almost the whole stock of lightweight coats, suits and cocktail dresses from the upstairs showroom of Hutton, the women's outfitters in Petty Cury. Only clothes in the showroom window were untouched. Evening dresses were left heaped on the floor and bridal gowns left on their hangers, indicating that the thieves were disturbed. Police say the raiders carried bundles of dresses to a van parked in the narrow Alexandra Street near the shop. 62 06 01

1962 06 27
Public inquiry into future development of Cambridge. Highlights three divisions of opinion on Lion Yard. University want commercial development restricted to new regional shopping centre Kite area with Lion Yard to have amenities like library, art gallery, concert hall etc. County accept library but reject concert hall. City want commercial development in new pedestrian shopping centre [2.11, 2.12]

1962 06 30
Cambridge's last surviving Victorian post-box outside King's College main gates is to disappear for a month while workmen redo the surface of the college forecourt. It will be replaced in a slightly different position and the lamps will also move back a bit. At the moment the workmen are preparing to re-lay flagstones and cobbles, which are badly worn. The side walls are also to be moved back about four feet on each side. 62 06 30

1962 07 03
King's College excavations reveal foundations of old buildings along King's Parade – 62 07 03

1962 08 11
Bradwell's Court arcade and shop development has been a joint venture between Jesus and Christ's Colleges and Ravenseft Properties. It stretches from St Andrew's Street through to Drummer Street bus station and provides a continuous covered route to the city centre. Work on demolishing the out-of-date shops and buildings started as long ago as October 1957 but was held up by difficulties over leases. The last tenant to go was the well-known antique dealer, Mr K.A. Rowe. By the time the University term begins again the development will be complete and all the 20 new shops and showrooms fully occupied. 62 08 11a

1962 08 16
The Cam Foundry in Thompson's Lane once had 20 men making cast iron, lamp posts, grating and road ironworks. Friday was the usual day for mould filling. The fire could be kindled in the cupola early in the morning and loaded up with hard furnace coke. The furnaceman was a real 'character'. A labourer, tough and very strong he would swing a 32 lb hammer to break up the

scrap and pig iron. He distained the use of gloves or goggles, his bare hands and unprotected eyes in constant danger from molten splashes and sparks. It closed in 1923 and Messrs Macintosh transferred the business to the old Romsey Town cement works at Mill Road 62 08 16a & b

1962 09 05
Bulldozers and heavy earth-moving machinery have been followed by a fleet of lorries as clearance work starts on the site of the new multi-deck car park in Park Street. It should be completed within nine months and will form an integral part of the new parking meter system for which the City Council is to seek Ministry approval. Councillors are still waiting a decision on their earlier application for another multi-storey car park about 200 yards away in King Street 62 09 05

1962 09 25
Bus wedged between parked lorries and scaffolding in Petty Cury – 62 09 25

1962 09 27
St Michael's Church in Trinity Street is "an intolerable disgrace", says the Vicar of St Mary the Great, its sister church. Now there are plans to turn it into a modern parish hall with kitchen for meetings while the east end will become a small chapel for prayer. The massive restoration scheme will cost £10,000 and to promote it the church will be flood-lit. The youth club will give a show on the lines of a 'Review' and operate a 'talent scheme' where young people will be given money to be taken away and multiplied. 62 09 27

1962 10 06
King Street almshouses on the site of the proposed multi-deck cark are being demolished. The plaque over the gateway is to be given to the Folk Museum. The almshouses were founded by Henry Wray in 1631 and rebuilt on the original site in the mid-19th century 62 10 06, 174.72

1962 10 08
King's College gateway area recobbled, lamp standard remains, post box replaced – photo – 62 10 08

1962 10 13
Pratt, Manning and Co of Trinity Street, Cambridge's oldest bespoke tailoring firm, is to close. It was established in 1865 by Thomas Pratt and acquired by Ald H.T. Wing in 1897. Until the First World War about 80% of the trade was from undergraduates who ordered three or four suits at a time. Today students on grants cannot afford high prices for hand-made clothes and they rely on professional and business men for their trade. Customer's patterns and records will be transferred to their London office and a cutter will visit Cambridge at regular intervals. 62 10 13a

1962 12 22
King Street poultry mart held its last Christmas sale. It has existed for nearly 50 years and now the auctioneer Claude Kirkup and clerk, Alfred Harding will retire. Mr Kirkup, a well-known figure, has dealt with about 1,000 chickens, turkeys and geese this week alone. He started in the mart in 1918 and was joined by Mr Harding in 1922. The site was purchased recently by Jesus College 62 12 22

1962 12 29
Reconstruction of Matthew's restaurant in Trinity Street would provide three modern restaurants – a separate steak bar, a wine and cheese bar and a chicken and ham restaurant. It would probably be called 'The Turk's Head Restaurant'. The British public should be able to have wine with their

food and were becoming more educated to this fact because they 'occasionally escaped abroad', an Inquiry was told. Mr Bernard Matthews, managing director, said the firm was leasing the restaurant from Trinity College who were not opposing the application 62 12 29

1963 01 25
Macintosh's premises, Market Street being demolished – photo – 63 01 25a

1963 02 01
Macintosh and Sons of Market Hill, Cambridge, one of the oldest ironmongery firms in the country, has been sold to an unknown purchaser. The firm's earliest records date back to 1688 when the business was sold to the Finch family. They kept it going for 200 years before it was taken over by William Macintosh who'd been in business in Sidney Street. A major redevelopment scheme is proposed for the site after their retail premises close in September. The wholesale, agricultural and workshop departments will continue to trade from 349 Mill Road 63 02 01a

1963 02 09
Afternoon shoppers in one of Cambridge's busiest streets scattered when a large piece of masonry fell from the top of a three storey building on to the pavement. Petty Cury was sealed off for an hour after an ornamental stone flower pot fell from the top of the building containing John Collier's outfitters shop and a Chinese restaurant. Fireman with a turntable escape ladder inspected another stone pot; it had hairline cracks but was left in position. 63 02 09b – photo 63 02 13

1963 03 21
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on King Street: A winding street of ancient cottages, strangely inconsistent with its situation in the heart of a University city, King St has a charm and quaintness carefully preserved by those who live and work in it. Famous for its superfluity of public houses, and well-known for its miscellany of small, individual businesses, it is a street which may become a password for motorists anxiously seeking parking space close to the commercial and historic centre of Cambridge"– 63 03 21

1963 03 29
Few visitors to King's College realise that there is a five-bedroomed house beyond the archway where Head porters have lived since 1828. It appears to be a comfortable modern house with lounge, spacious kitchen, coal cellar and two bedrooms. Heating is by coal fire but the high ceilings make it difficult to keep warm, there is no back door or garden, it has bars on the long windows and the chapel music can be heard from the bedrooms. Originally there was a gardener's house on the other side of the entrance archway but this has been converted into undergraduate rooms. 63 03 29b

1963 04 06
Civic Trust award for Bradwell's Court – 63 04 06b

1963 04 11
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Jesus Lane: "Now a very busy thoroughfare, a favourite spot for motorists to park their cars and the home of collegiate buildings with world-wide reputation. The houses retain some of their dignity, but whether this will be so when the routes of relief roads for Cambridge have finally been decided, no one can tell" – 63 04 11

1963 05 04

Sidney Street hostel on site of Sainsbury's – 63 05 04a

1963 05 15
The Government rejected the City Council's scheme to build a multi-storey car park together with shops and a petrol filling station on land near the Malcolm Street junction at King Street. The site is obscurely located in a residential area and the roads leading to it are narrow, awkward and unsatisfactory. It would cause serious detriment to adjoining properties and initiate a substantial commercial encroachment to the detriment of the special qualities of the cultural and central area of the city. An alternative site should be found, the Minister says 63 05 15, 63 05 11

1963 05 15
In 1869 William Weatherhead purchased the business of John Hatt, a bookseller and printseller in Union Street, now Peas Hill. Then in 1886 took over an established stationers' shop in Trinity Street. The two merged at his death in 1907, added a wholesale department and flourished until 1936 when they moved to its present premises in the Caius College development on Market Hill. Now it has been acquired by W.H. Smith 63 05 15a

1963 05 21
The firm of E.J. Pigott (Tools) was established in Sidney Street 100 years ago and moved to Sussex Street before the war. It has been handed down from father to son with always some member of the family behind the counter. Its handicraft shop in Hills Road was the first of its kind in East Anglia and they've recently opened an ironmongery department. It has ceased to sell hip and slipper baths but stocks 140 different types of pocket knife 63 05 21a & b

1963 08 03
Parts of a tall building overlooking Cambridge Market Square are having to be evacuated because it is a danger to both occupants and the public. Some movement has taken place at 15 Market Street which is partially occupied by Watches of Switzerland. Premier Travel and the United Dominions Trust have already moved to temporary offices. Workmen will start shoring up the building from the inside to stabilise it and remove the danger 63 08 03

1963 08 08
Cambridge firms may be able to hire the use of 'Titan', the University's new computer which is being installed at the Mathematical Laboratory in Corn Exchange Street. Their present computer has done work for 36 departments, even Archaeology have put it to use. The University was one of the pioneers and was using a computer as far back as 1949. There is one in the Engineering Department and two small ones were used by the Examinations Syndicate for processing marks. At present there are 500 computers being used in the country by the coal, car and gas industries, businessmen were told 63 08 08Red Cow and buildings in Corn Exchange Street sold – 64 02 24b

1963 08 29
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Green Street – 63 08 29

1963 09 11
Market Hill modernisation of offices of Leicester Permanent Building Society – 63 09 11

1963 10 10
The City Council is to buy a house and premises at Clement Place to provide room for extensions to the multideck car park at Park Street. 63 10 10

1963 01 25
Macintosh's premises, Market Street being demolished – photo – 63 01 25a

1963 02 01
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1963 09 11
Market Hill modernisation of offices of Leicester Permanent Building Society – 63 09 11

1963 10 28
Park Street car park opens – 63 10 28a

1963 12 09
Police will meet representatives of all businesses in Petty Cury to try to persuade them to stop deliveries by lorries to their premises during peak traffic hours. All loading and unloading could be banned between 9am and 6pm. It was an offence for vehicles to park on the pavement when serving shops and inconvenienced pedestrians. But police often used their discretion as otherwise congestion in the narrow streets would be chronic. 63 12 09

1963 12 28
New bus shelters in Sidney Street – photo – 63 12 28

1964 01 01
Cambridge's chief constable has suggested city centre traders might equip their vehicles with radio telephones to ensure they arrive at convenient times for loading and unloading. Other suggestions include avoiding excessively large vehicles and depots for breaking down loads. It would help to alleviate the problems of loading and unloading vehicles in Petty Cury between 8 and 9.30 am and noon till two o'clock 64 01 01

1964 01 02

Plans for a temporary information office in a caravan or sectional hut on Market Hill found little favour with councillors: it would be inaccessible because it would be surrounded by stalls or parked cars. They think the present information centre should remain in the Central Reference Library in Wheeler Street which has experienced much greater use since direction signs have been erected. There would be little demand for Sunday opening – we are not in the same position as Southend or Brighton in trying to attract people. 64 01 02

1964 01 06
Plans for redevelopment on corner of Downing Street and for a four storey building with bank and penthouse on the roof on New Theatre site 64 01 06

1964 01 09
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Peas Hill [RAl.4.82]

1964 01 24
At 84, Harry Capon is the oldest stallholder on the Cambridge market. He sells the same type of fancy goods as when he first set up the stall at 16. "Every Monday and Saturday I get up at 5.30 and load up the trolley with the goods and pull it from my house in Coronation Street. I set the stuff out on the stall then it's sell, sell, sell until 6pm when I start to pack up. Again another hour or so to load the trolley and then back home to bed about 9 pm. Two days a week I go up the London and the warehouses; I often get a lift with a fruitier and he leaves me at Hyde Park Corner on the way to Covent Garden", he says., adding "The market is slowly dying … fewer people and fewer stalls" 64 01 24

1964 01 30
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Thompson's Lane – 64 01 30

1964 02 13
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Rose Crescent

1964 02 29
Planned buildings for St Catharine's and King's colleges – 64 02 29 [446.8.1]

1964 02 29
Wray's Court, Sidney Street to be demolished – 64 02 29

1964 03 20
Although the pharmacy of A. Sidney Campkin and Sons of Rose Crescent is modern, it retains unique links with a long history. It still offers for sale Brewster's balsham of squills, horehound and aniseed as well as ear canker lotion for dogs. In 1955 the business passed to Mr T.E.W. Howell and now has a labour force of more than 60. It has had a 'facelift' but is still one of the older-fashioned chemists of Cambridge. 64 03 20d

1964 04 02
The Mayor of Cambridge fed a parking meter on Peas Hill with a shilling "to make them hungry and ready to bite" as one official put it, and set the new parking scheme in motion. . Long queues of traffic soon formed in streets leading to the Lion Yard car park and motorists had some acid remarks about the meters. A moped rider complained about finding a ticket stuck to his bike with thirteen inches of sticky tape. From the number of excess charges shown on the meters the city coffers will soon begin to bulge 64 04 02b

1964 04 23
The Isaac Wolfson Foundation has made a grant of £100,000 to New Hall, the first college at Cambridge to be founded this century. It is the largest single donation since an appeal was started four years ago. Others have come from Dame Catherine Fulford, Nancy Viscountess Astor and the John Lewis Partnership. At present there are 53 students on the Silver Street site but the new building on Huntingdon Road will accommodate 300. 60 06 21a

1964 04 23
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Silver Street – 64 04 23

1964 05 01
Arts Cinema is oldest repertory cinema in country; Norman Higgins opened it in 1933. Previously at the Tivoli he founded an undergraduate film society and leased Conservative Hall in Market Passage. Began showing films all year round in 1947 – 64 05 01cc

1964 05 02
Matthews is to close their grocery shop in Trinity Street after 134 years. "One cannot offer a traditional grocery service from a large city centre site at present rental values", they claimed. – 64 05 02

1964 05 21
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Park Street – 64 05 21

1964 06 02
Fuller's new restaurant at 17 King's Parade is ultra-modern in every way without losing any of the quant charm of the building which houses it or the delightful character of Cambridge itself. Here is a restaurant especially designed to cater for people of individual taste. For such a discriminating clientele it offers a retail shop, self-service or waitress restaurant. Individual rooms may be reserved for private functions. Open 9am to 8 pm, weekdays, 10 to 8 Sundays – Advert 64 06 02

1964 06 03
Whether or now new shopping development takes place in Lion Yard or at City Road the old shopping area should stay where it is and retain its highly individual character. Cambridge has continued to attract more and more visitors leading to fears of King's College ashtrays and "Kiss me quick" mortar boards. But one development benefiting both local and visitor must be the creation of a pedestrian precinct such as the one at Harlow. It would enable streets to be given over to their rightful functions as places for strolling, shopping and gossip 64 06 03a

1964 06 06
The Victoria Ballroom in market square is the principal rendezvous for groups such as The Undertakers, The Moving Coils, Black Diamonds and Dawnbreakers. Most nights it provides a musical attraction: jazz sessions on Tuesday with top flight bands such as Kenny Ball and Chris Barber. But just around the corner the Dorothy Restaurant has featured Kathy Kirby, the Merseybeats and Manfred Mann. Helping to bury the old cry that Cambridge is 'dead' after dark are the cellar-bar 'shuffles' where regulation dress is jeans or slacks, sloppy sweaters and dark glasses. When not twisting or shaking the current rage for both sexes is to smoke miniature cigars and drink 'James Bonds' 64 06 06b

1964 06 27

A giant post box has been moved from its position in Sidney Street to a spot a few yards away. It has been there for 30 years. The box is one of the largest in the provinces 64 06 27

1964 06 30
A car park was needed on the West side of the river to help clear Queen's Road and they should consider an underground car park at the Backs, councillors heard. Park Street was a mistake because it was too near the city centre but Coe Fen was one of the best places for a surface car park. Queen Anne Terrace was a marvellous site as it could have a basement, three of four storeys of flats and a roof garden restaurant. There would be a mini-bus to get shoppers into the centre which meant the Lion Yard would be used more by people who came to park for the day.64 06 30

1964 07 02
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Magdalene Street – 64 07 02-02e

1964 07 06
Cambridge expansion: Conservatives would like to encourage businesses which start in the town and want the Market Square to be the main centre. Socialists want new light industries with the Lion Yard as a civic centre and with new shopping in Burleigh Street while the Liberals favour a central pedestrian precinct with public transport in the form of a minibus service or travloator. 64 07 06a

1964 07 16
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Mill Lane – 64 07 16

1964 07 23
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Bene't Street– surveys street and people
– 64 07 23

1964 07 30
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Round Church Street – 64 07 30

1964 08 20
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on King's Parade – 64 08 20

1964 08 28
The Lion Yard area is badly laid out and contains 'obsolete development'; there should be a small increase in shopping space with the rest devoted to civic and university uses, Sir Keith Joseph, the Minister of Housing says. A brand new shopping area should be created in the City Road area – the present twilight zone. It will take traffic away from the centre, cater for modern supermarket trends and fit in with plans for the continuation of the East Road housing scheme 64 08 28, 28b [4.15]

1964 09 03
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Trinity Street 64 09 03

1964 09 10
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Market Hill: in an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge

1964 09 17
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Hobson Street – 64 09 17b-e

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1964 09 18
Liberals call for traffic-free Petty Cury – 64 09 18b

1964 10 08
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on St Andrew's Street – 64 10 08

1964 11 14
The site for the new Cambridge University graduate centre has been cleared and work will soon begin - photo - 64 11 14a

1964 11 16
Fears that the new ultra-modern building in Cambridge market square would bring an outcry from nearby traders have not materialised. Instead many of them say that the building, which replaces Mackintosh's the ironmongers, is an example to be followed. There will be shops on the ground floor and luxury flats above. Mr D.F. Yates, manager of Crown Wallpapers thinks it is an example of what neighbouring premises should look like. Mr A. Hall manager of Saxone Shoe Company agrees. But Mr Victor Balham of Bacon Bros the tobacconists does not think it the best of contemporary architecture. 64 11 16a Market St - Macintosh replacement building opens - new ultra-modern, next Watches of Switzerland [494.4.17]

1964 11 19
Marshall's printing business, Round Church Street established 1826 by Mr Wilson; were nearly destroyed by bombs in 1942; to be sold – 64 11 19e

1964 11 27
Controversial plans for an inner relief road have been deferred. The general line of the road had been known since 1950. It would be an alternative to Magdalene Bridge and give better access to Park Street car park. But people along the proposed cannot sell their houses because of the uncertainty. If the Press had not reported council meetings they would not have known anything about it. 64 10 09f
Buildings in Jordan's Yard, Round Church Street and Bridge Street should be acquired by council for preservation and extension Park Street car park – 64 11 27i

1964 11 28
Cambridge's Old Church Schools date back to 1700 when school for poor children were started by clergy. After the Education Act of 1870 introduced compulsory education Newnham School was opened in 1872 and followed in 1875 by Park Street for girls and infants. St Barnabas, Sturton Street, York Street, Catharine Street & Ross Street schools followed. St Matthews is the newest – and the most modern of all schools in Cambridge - 64 11 28

1964 12 02
Deacon's Bank opens a branch in a 19th century Georgian building in Trinity Street. The banking hall has illuminated writing desks for customers, with a night safe, interview room and manager's office. Although new to Cambridge William Deacon's Bank can trace its history back to 1771 and was acquired by the Royal Bank of Scotland in 1930. It is strongly represented in the North but has been extending and now has a network of over 250 branches. 64 12 02a

1964 12 10
Information bureau on Market Hill opposed – 64 12 10d

1964 12 28
Sir – Magdalene College's plan to pull down a row of cottages, nos.8-18, in Northampton Street and replace them with a garden would alter its character and leave a gap in this distinctive part of old Cambridge. The row at present makes a beautiful curve, a fitting foil to the more splendid Cory House and no.13 Magdalene Street. In view of the college's highly successful treatment of Magdalene Street where the aspect has been retained, I hope they will find some other solution short of complete demolition – Elizabeth Harland 64 12 28

1965 01 14
Smart & Son, the outfitters in Market Street, has been run by the same family for more than 150 years. But now they are to move to Mill Road and the shop sold – 65 01 14

1965 02 03
Inquiry into development Downing St – St Andrew's Street – 65 02 03b

1965 03 27
The new corn market building on the Cattle Market site will replace the old Saturday corn market held in the Corn Exchange. Merchants have been advocating a move for 10 years and now it is hoped the market will revive. An encouraging number of people want to take stalls. The cost of desk or box in the new building is £10 a year. People who attend to buy or sell are charged £3 for an annual ticket. Visitors are admitted free. It will also provide a small new hall for the Cherry Hinton Road – Hills Road district 65 03 27a

1965 04 01
Fisher House not to be demolished as part of Lion Yard redevelopment – 65 04 01

1965 04 04
Walker & Walker, Market Hill tailors since 1849 close, served Edward VII when Prince of Wales, undergraduates no longer use them [13.2]

1965 04 30
Jim Wooders looks after parcels Drummer Street bus station for 40 years; started 1922 – 65 04 30e

1965 05 24
Minister rejects plan for redeveloping Downing Street, Downing Place & St Andrew's Street triangle – 65 05 24, 24b

1965 06 24
Lion Yard plans unveiled by Gordon Logie Gordon Logie plans civic hall with seating for 1,800 as main feature Lion Yard – 65 06 24, 65 06 25b

1965 06 29
Jesus College announce second major redevelopment scheme within week of Lion Yard plans, this one for King Street – 65 06 29, 29a

1965 07 03
King's Parade rebuilding scheme by King's and St Catharine's – Keynes Hall – to start – 65 07 03a

1965 08 25

Demolition at Zoological site, Downing St – photo – 65 08 25a, b

1965 09 17
Bus jam Market Hill – photo – 65 09 17c

1965 10 08
Frederick Morley's working man's stores Hobson St, Bridge St, Fitzroy St – photos – 65 10 08c

1965 10 16
Lucy Cavendish College now have a home; two offices in Silver Street – 65 10 16a

1965 12 02
W.I. Market stall celebrates 2nd anniversary – 65 12 02c

1965 12 09
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Sidney Street – 64 10 15Sidney Street Christmas lights photo – 65 12 09b

1965 12 14
Conservative Club, Market Passage could close due financial crisis – 65 12 14c

1966 02 05
Hobson Street scaffolding for extension Marks & Spencer – photo – 66 02 05

1966 03 29
Mill Lane sluice tunnel old brickwork being replaced – photo – 66 03 29b

1966 03 30
Crumbling Cambridge – lack of vitality in development such as new library and Lion Yard – 66 03 30a

1966 04 01
Electricity power station Quayside wreathed in scaffolding prior demolition – photo – 66 04 01

1966 04 11
University authorities ban King Street run; started 40 years ago – 66 04 11a; does not take place 66 04 21c; takes place in defiance of proctors – 66 04 28c

1966 04 18
Guildhall needs more space, either extension or rent space in Barrett Building, Rose Crescent – 66 04 18f

1966 04 19
Corn Exchange demolition with University laboratories in background – photo – 66 04 19a

1966 05 06
University Audio adds Record Shop to its high-fidelity audio. Peas Hill – 66 05 06

1966 05 24
Corn Exchange may be adapted for council offices or used as library – plans – 66 05 24, 66 06 20

1966 07 15
Old Post Office, Petty Cury, Ministry of Pensions manned by a single clerk in room that precious housed counter activities; small corner occupied by National Savings Movement. Wide corridors lead to Overseas Students Club used by 10-12 students. Petty Cury shops well-maintained but accommodation above ground floor level has been condemned for years. Must all be demolished – letter – 66 07 15

1966 09 01
House of Dolamore bought wine and spirit business of George Morley in Petty Cury and Guildhall Street some 80 years ago; now has new address in Wellington Street – 66 09 01 & 1a

1966 09 10
Eaden Lilley men and boys clothing shop in Market Street is for sale; will more to main department store; have owned since 1907; have recently bought Smart's outfitters' shop – 66 09 10

1966 11 16
Market St - Macintosh replacement building opens - new ultra-modern, next Watches of Switzerland [494.4.17]

1966 12 09
Plan to create regional shopping centre in Fitzroy Street and develop Lion Yard primarily as civic centre approved by City Council – 66 12 09a

1967 01 13
Offices rented Barrett Building, Rose Crescent by City Council, otherwise Guildhall expansion [6.7]

1967 01 17
Trustee Savings Bank new premises Jesus Lane opened by Lord Butler - 67 01 17

1967 01 31
Tubular stalls proposed for Market which removable for weekend car parking [4.4]

1967 02 15
Councillors urge full check on Magdalene Bridge safety, oppose plans to widen Magdalene Street – 67 02 15a

1967 02 24
Market Hill no.5 was originally a private house for Watson family of grocers; has a rich shell hood with painted ceilings; building sold to mystery buyer – 67 02 24

1967 03 04
Dutch façade revealed on building during demolition work for Eaden Lilley; believed to be the only remaining trace of an old alleyway which ran parallel with Market Street – 67 03 04

1967 04 11
Quaker Meeting House, Jesus Lane to be replaced; dates from 1894 – 67 04 11

1967 05 25
King Street demolition for Jesus College redevelopment – photo – 67 05 25a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1967 06 28
Magdalene Bridge closed to buses and heavy lorries for at least a year while repairs carried out – 67 06 28a

1967 07 05
Lion Yard redevelopment plans approved by Minister – 67 07 05a

1967 10 06
Victoria Cinema reopens with giant 70 mm screen, luxury lounge area replacing seats on ground floor; restaurant and ballroom refurbished – 67 10 06

1967 10 13
Emmanuel Street: demolition [7.3]

1967 10 16
Parish Pump Peas Hill removed for repairs but no re-erection due to cost, was used to wash down old fish market; goes to Folk Museum [3.1967 11 08

1967 11 08
Abbott's Cambridge Tourist Centre started when American tour party let down; grew until 50 university students handling tours to Cambridge; then diversified into foreign travel by local residents; moved Guildhall St by Dec 1959 – 67 11 08a

1968
Bene't Street: property adjoining Barclays Bank demolished [IC.1.16]

1968
Corn Exchange Street: Masonic Hall demolished [IC.3.8]

1968 03 26
Criterion pub, Market Passage to close – brewery cannot afford new rent asked by owners, the Edward Storey Trust – 68 03 26b

1968 04 04
Walker and Walker, Market Hill tailors, to close; been there since 1849 and departure will leave only Bacons as original member of Colonnade group of shops; have served Edward VII when Prince of Wales; blame expiration of lease, rising rates and fewer old-style customers – 68 04 04

1968 05 02
City council buys block property in St Andrew's Street to make shopping arcade through to Lion Yard – 68 05 02

1968 08 22
Eaden Lilley move out of Sidney Street store for new student hostel – 68 08 22

1968 08 29
Electric Wiring and Repair Co close retail side business; established 1919 in Corn Exchange St – 68 08 29

1968 09 07

Sidgwick Museum of Zoology skeleton moves to Corn Exchange Street – photo – 68 09 07

1968 10 22
Eaden Lilley alterations, bedding department entered from Green Street – 68 10 22

1968 11 25
Trinity College start new accommodation block on site of Matthews in Sidney Street releasing land in Petty Cury for Lion Yard – 68 11 25

1969 01 15
Mathematical Laboratories in Corn Exchange Street to be demolished; how to move Titan computer; EDSAC 1 started in 1949, EDSAC 2 in 1958 – 69 01 15

1969 02 13
W. Heffer & sons open new children's bookshop in Trinity Street, plan to move main shop from Petty Cury – 69 02 13

1969 04 30
Sidney Street properties to keep façade during major changes by Trinity College – 69 04 30

1969 05 14
Bridge Street buildings on corner Round Church Street must be restored to original condition; owners P.H. Allin want to demolish – 69 04 30a. Storm over plans to demolish – 69 05 14 , 14a

1969 06 02
Trumpington Street: 300 year old stables behind Lt Rose demolished for student accommodation - perhaps Hobson's [17.6]

1969 06 06
Sainsbury's want two self-service shops to replace their antiquated premises in Sidney Street, one in Trinity Street, the other in the Kite – 69 06 06, 06a

1969 06 18
Petty Cury flower seller loses pitch with demolition of Lion Hotel, is built replacement site – 69 06 18

1969 06 23
Cambridge News new offices, Market St replacing St Andrews Street [7.8,15.2]

1969 09 20
proposal to cut Market Place in half five days for car parking, in Oct 43 cars parked when under new scheme would be space for 36;stallholders protest, 6000 petition, plans delayed; experimental parking ban with every stall occupied 6 days a week - at present only half occupied Monday-Friday; new stalls introduced [4.5]

1969 09 24
Market holders discontent over plans for Market Square – 69 09 24; plans delayed – 69 09 25; plans outlined – 69 10 01, 01a

1969 11 04

Magdalene Bridge to be replaced with present cast-iron structure replaced with 'a simple modern design', says Ministry – 69 11 04

1969 12 03
Barclay's Bank extension, Bene't St – photo – 69 12 03a

1970

1970 02 14
"Garden House riot": police make truncheon charge against mob of undergraduates who surged forward pinning score constables against shattered plate-glass windows causing £2,276 damage Garden House Hote1. City demand punishment for rioters 1000 march to Greek rally, 300 admit to being at anti-Junta demonstration four guilty of riot, seven acquitted; six sent prison periods 5-18 months, two sent to borstal. "GHR changed course of events; afterwards student violence died off, 11,280 at dinner, climax of Greek Week promoting holidays under Right-Wing military dictatorship; Police invoked Riot Act, not used for years. Judge Melford Stevenson said it most complete example of intelligent young people getting involved in complete bloody nonsense - 70 02 14, 14a, 14b, 70 02 18 & a. 70 06 24

1970 06 19
University Graduate Centre – feature – 70 06 19, 19a

1970 06 25
Barclays Bank modernise Bene't St HQ – feature – 70 06 25b & c

1970 08 18
Heffers to move bookshop to Trinity Street – 70 08 18a

1970 10 02
Heffers open new bookshop, Trinity St – 70 10 02

1970 11 04
Magdalene Bridge should be demolished and replaced say Ministry of Transport but opposition likely – photo of proposals – 70 11 04

1970 12 08
Fire True Form shoe shop, Petty Cury was caused by candles used during electricity cuts – 70 12 08

1970 12 28
Lion Yard work finally starts – 70 12 28

1970 12 31
St Andrew's Junior, Park St Infants & Junior and St Paul's infants and junior schools must go, Alderman says – 70 12 31

1971 01 07
King Street architecture criticism – 71 01 07a

1971 01 21

Jonas Moore statue moves from Corn Exchange; to relocate to South Cambs DC HQ, Hills Road –71 01 21b

1971 01 23
Archaeologists have ten days to investigate King's Ditch under Lion Yard – 71 01 23

1971 02 06
County Hall Hobson Street may be sold by county council to raise money for new offices behind Shire Hall – 71 02 06

1971 03 12
Market Hill redevelopment – British Cinemas to build offices and shops at 3-5 but plaster ceilings and beams to be preserved – 71 03 12

1971 03 13
E.S. Summers, commercial and heraldic artist for 40 years to retire when Lion Yard redevelopment sweeps away premises at 13 Alexandra Street – 71 03 13

1971 03 30
YMCA to celebrate centenary by move from Alexandra Street to Gonville Place – 71 03 30a

1971 03 30
Garden House Hotel £1m extension scheme starts – 71 03 30

1971 04 24
Corn Exchange may be converted to concert hall – 71 04 24a

1971 06 05
Jesus Lane demolition of houses to make room for new buildings at Wesley House theological college – photo – 71 06 05

1971 06 19
Bridge Street debacle: the two faces of Cambridge – laments crumbling buildings; feature 'A city in shackles' – 71 06 10 & a

1971 06 23
Lion Yard car park first level complete – view over site – 71 06 23

1971 07 17
Runciman's veterinary surgeons: profile of Cambridge business; has just moved from Downing Street to Chesterton Road – 71 07 17

1971 09 03
King Street new buildings ruin environment, Architectural Review claims – 71 09 04

1971 12 10
Sidney Street and Bridge Street townscape analysis report – 71 12 10a

1972
"King Street may not have been great architecture, but it is sickening indeed to see it give way to inhumanity and chaos; a commercial backwater it had been saved from the pressure which

disfigured the busier streets. Who would have guessed that it survived only to fall victim to the no-less disfiguring pressure of the academic world and its distinguished architects" wrote the Architectural Review in 1972 commenting on the new Christ's college development.

1972 01 14
Corn Exchange Street closed for work Lion Yard [13.8]

1972 01 18
Norwich Union building, corner St Andrew's Street and Downing Street – history – 72 01 18 & a b

1972 02 01
Petty Cury: pedestrianisation. Councillor Gough-Goodman dines in Petty Cury as no entry experiment starts – 72 02 01, 01a [2.6]

1972 02 02
Downing Street veterinary surgery used by Runciman, built as part of former Bird Bolt Hotel, demolished – photo – 72 02 02

1972 02 29
Petty Cury reopens after experiment week of closure, firms concerned about delivery problems – 72 02 29

1972 03 18
Cambridge voted a big Yes to the permanent closure of Petty Cury in a survey. The results published today show that 92.1 per cent agreed that the closure had added to the convenience of shoppers. There was also overwhelming feeling that the experiment should be tried on other roads. The most common comment was "Close the whole Market Square to traffic"

1972 03 24
Rose Crescent traffic ban & Quayside, p37

1972 03 24
It was "eyes down" for the first time last night in Cambridge's new £10,000 bingo hall which will offer enthusiasts an almost non-stop programme throughout afternoons and evenings six days a week. The bingo hall which can accommodate nearly 1,000 players at a single sitting, is in the converted former Central Cinema in Hobson Street

1972 03 07
Cambridge's Civic Restaurant, one of the last in the country, will be closed on March 30 after 30 years of service stretching back to the days of British Restaurants The old Post Office building, where it is situated, is to be demolished to make way for the next stage of the Lion Yard development. The restaurant which for several years has served an average of 1,000 lunches a day has been there since 1947. Before then its previous home since 1942 had been the the Pitt Club in Jesus Lane. It was then that it was known as a British restaurant, one of the thousands set up by the Government throughout the country to provide a communal feeding service during the war years, p5

1972 04 10
The last pint was pulled in the "George and Dragon" in Thompson's Lane, Cambridge, last night. The pub, on the corner of Jesus Green by the river is to come down to make way for a modern

pub-restaurant. Although the pub, more than 100 years old and owned by St John's College was a Tolly House its successor, to be called The Dragonfly, will be a joint venture. Undergraduates and many University organisations have used the George and Dragon, once known as the Spade and Becket. The outgoing hosts, Jack and Wynn Asplin, take over the Great Northern Hotel by the Station Road roundabout, p10

1972 04 24
Two middle-aged women who jumped from a first-floor window into the Garden House hotel's back gardens to escape the fire were later found by a Cambridge milkman wandering along Fen Causeway in their nightclothes. A friend said "The women looked like refugees with smoke-blackened hands and faces. They had walked across Coe Fen. The milkman stopped his float and asked if he could help them". Miss Sarah Wilhelm from Ohio said she was woken by a burning smell. She saw the room starting to fill up with smoke and saw the paint on the inside of the door turning brown. She jumped from the window and the other lady followed, p1

1972 05 06
New plans for office block development on the corner of Bridge Street and Round Church Street, Cambridge, are likely to be submitted soon, said developers, the Scottish Mutual Assurance Society. The Department of the Environment's refusal of the previous plans was announced yesterday, after a seven-year wrangle between developers, planners, and preservationists which culminated in a public inquiry last December. One of the crucial points of the first scheme was the future of number 10 Bridge Street on the corner which was to have been demolished. Objectors feared this would enable city planners to push back the building line in Round Church Street and set a radical precedent that would ruin the whole street, p9

1972 05 19
A Cambridge building which has had a richly varied history enters yet another era of its life when Eastern Electricity's enlarged shop opens at 4 Market Hill on Monday. At different stages of its history the Market Hill building has been a cinema - oldies of the "penny-gas" days of the early twenties before the talkies were projected on to the wall of what is now a sub-station behind the shop - and a tearoom frequented by undergraduates, who took their 1920's tea and muffins in the panelled room upstairs

1972 05 30
Sainsbury, who open a new supermarket on the Matthews site in the centre of Cambridge on August 1st, are to auction their old shop in Sidney Street. Property values in central Cambridge are soaring, agents talk confidently in top rental terms of £6 and more a square foot on prime sites. The closure of the Sidney Street premises is part of Sainsbury's policy to do away with service stores. The new shop is in standard supermarket style, p30

1972 05 31
A free parking bonus will be given to motorists using Cambridge's show-piece Lion Yard car park during its first weeks operation after the opening date on July 24 The city's Traffic and Parking Committee decided to cut parking charges by 5p during the working day for the first week, which means one hour's free parking during each parking period. If a motorist leaves his car at Lion Yard for one hour or less it will be completely free, p15

1972 06 05
Petty Cury, Cambridge, was closed to all vehicle traffic today and handed back to pedestrians for the second time this year. It is likely to stay closed to traffic for at least two years and perhaps permanently. The same city centre street was closed to traffic for a month's experiment in

February which was rated highly successful. The whole of the southern side of Petty Cury will be demolished in the next three months and a new central library will appear within the next three years

1972 06 08
Two long-haired students from the Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology picked the wrong moment to walk into a Cambridge restaurant. It was about the time of day that the cafe's manageress had seen enough shoulder-length locks to last her a lifetime. And she refused to serve the students at The Whim in Trinity Street. The students claimed they were subjected to a stream of almost hysterical abuse and told they were dirty and disgusting. The manageresss said she had tried to be patient but found it difficult to run a business when customers filled up the restaurant for hours at a time having only paid 5p for a cup of tea 72 06 08

1972 06 12
I have just had my first and last visit to Cambridge. I walked half-way round the city to find a toilet. I was directed to the one on the market. It stank so much I would not use it. Getting back to the market - it is a disgrace, with old clothes stalls which smelt and old vegetable leaves on the floor a danger to the public. There were about two decent stalls there and in the centre round the fountain were the drunks, a revolting sight - letter from visitor from Bexhill, Kent

1972 06 14
Cambridge's famous Magdalene Bridge is to be preserved, the Secretary for the Environment, Mr Peter Walker, has decided. His move follows last year's public inquiry into proposals by his Department to knock down and replace the 148-year-old bridge. Mr Walker has ruled that the bridge should be strengthened internally and that a temporary bridge should be provided alongside while work is going on, p18

1972 06 27
Although the war ended 27 years ago the little patch of Cambridge around Alexandra Street has a distinct 1940s look. In common with all the little alleyways off Petty Cury, Alexandra Street is in the throes of the Lion Yard re-development scheme. The old is being swept away by the demolition gangs to make way for the new and soon the whole face of the area will begin to change. The first phase of the project - the multi-storey car park - is due to open at the end of next week. Work on the second stage - the demolition of the southern side of Petty Cury and the building of shops and service roads on the Lion Yard - is already under way and is expected to take about two years. The third stage - the building of a large central library - will start soon after this 72 06 27

1972 07 05
The Cambridge Arts Theatre has suffered "staggering" financial losses this year - often £1,000 a week – and the Secretary and General Manager, Mr Andrew Blackwood, said yesterday : "We can't go on like that. We would soon be out of business". The reason for high production costs was that touring companies require guarantees of £1,500 or more before they would visit Cambridge. Seat prices generally ranged from 40p-90p and 50p-£1. Audience attendance figures were 14,000 down on the year - and he blamed Cambridge's impossible car parking situation for the loss c72 07 5 [7.13]

1972 07 24
The Lion Yard multi-deck car park opens on Monday proving another 500 car spaces within a stone's throw of the centre of Cambridge. The completion marks the first stage of the city

council's multi million redevelopment project for the area - which was first proposed nearly 25 years ago. The new park, which aims to cater for the shopper and the short stay motorist, is the second major car park to open in the city in less than a year. The other is at Queen Anne Terrace, which opened last October. The usual parking fees will be 5p for the first hour, 15p for two hours, 25p for three hours, up to a maximum of 75p for 10 hours. The council hope the prices will encourage people who work in the city centre to leave their cars in the parks away from the centre, like New Square and Prospect Row, where the charges are considerably less.

1972 08 08
I was among the first into the new Lion Yard multi-deck car park when it opened. The public hadn't really caught on, and the vast concrete halls echoed emptily to the dumpers and merry shouts of workmen still constructing it. Later in the week I returned. Now the park was known and very full. It was clearly making an impression on the parking situation in Cambridge for there were now more parking meters available than usual. It won't be until all the decks are in use at Lion Yard that the final effect on Cambridge parking will be seen. In my view it must be beneficial – Rodney Tibbs

1972 08 24
It has been an irritating summer for the hundreds of visitors to Cambridge who have been forced to scour the surrounding countryside for hotel rooms. Cambridge has always had a notorious reputation for being unable to accommodate all the summer visitors. This year the situation was made worse by the Garden House Hotel fire in April which left the city the poorer by 75 bedrooms. Help is already on the way. The Garden House Hotel is being rebuilt; the Gonville Hotel will open again after alterations and work has started on a 100- bedroom hotel at Bar Hill. Whitbread have outline planning permission to build a 60-bedroom motel extension at the Red Lion Hotel, Trumpington and De Vere Hotels are awaiting the outcome of the inquiry into their application to build a 200-bedroom hotel on Castle Hill

1972 08 31
The preservation and restoration of the historic frontage of 10-16 Bridge Street, Cambridge is assured in new plans for a 40,000 sq.ft. development by the Scottish Mutual Assurance Company. An earlier version of the scheme was turned down after a public inquiry. It involved knocking down the corner building and replacing it with a new structure which the inspector at the inquiry described as "aggressive in design". The new plans preserve the Bridge Street frontage. The scheme occupies a prominent site at the corner of Round Church Street and Bridge Street which has been a topic of heated discussion between developers, planners and preservationists for several years 72 08 31

1972 09 13
A full-time tourist officer should be appointed for Cambridge, a special meeting on tourism decided
yesterday. They also agreed that a disused car park attendant's hut on the Market Square should be commissioned as a tourist information centre. The Mayor, Coun. Peter Wright suggested that voluntary workers could staff a tourist information kiosk in Market Square. The City Librarian, Mr Eric Cave, suggested that if the kiosk plan went ahead it could remain open on Sundays so that the present Sunday skeleton service at the Information bureau could be closed down.

1972 09 15
Two men have launched in Cambridge a unique publications and visual aids service for industry to fill the gap between straight advertising and full scale book publication. Their firm, Woodhead-Faulkner (Publishers) ltd began business at 7 Rose Crescent this week. The whole concept is one

of "below the line" advertising in which firms sponsor books in highly specialist fields while at the same time getting publicity for their products from the sponsorship

1972 09 16
Clement Place - thatched cottage demolished [7.5]

1972 09 26
The Wolfson Building of Trinity College, Cambridge, once described as a liner stranded in a dry dock, opened its doors yesterday for an official tour of inspection. The building rises lozenge-shaped behind the historic and preserved facades of Trinity Street in the city centre. It is topped by two large winged roof-lights, which, the architects said, were added deliberately to be a modern feature of the city skyline. The scheme provides rooms for 125 Trinity students. Beneath the college buildings are the commercial premises which include the Sainsbury supermarket, Heffer's booksellers, Horne's the men's outfitters and Barclays Bank.

1972 10 05
The bulldozers and demolition gangs may have ruined the character of Petty Cury and destroyed Falcon Yard forever, but for those who appreciate the past two crumbs of comfort: Fisher House was saved. Reprieve too for Ramsey and Muspratt, the photographers in Post Office Terrace, where silver bitch trees have sprouted in the old courtyard behind the studio. There have been photographers in Post Office Terrace since the 1860s. Lettice Ramsey and Helen Muspratt took over from Palmer Clark in 1933. "We took over the whole thing, lock, stock and barrel, with about 50,000 old negatives. We have been here ever since", said Mrs Ramsey, competing with the noise of a pneumatic drill. Now she and her women assistants battle through the noise and dust every day to maintain a "business as normal" service

1972 10 20
New laws which have given the Cambridge planners control over the future of old, but not historically important buildings may preserve much of the city's side-streets and stop redevelopment in odd corners and byways The planners could use their powers for the first time when they consider a request from a London development company to demolish the Red Cow public house on the corner of Corn Exchange Street and replace it with a four storey office and shop block. The county council are thinking of preserving the adjoining Guildhall Chambers building which overlooks the Lion Yard redevelopment

1972 11 03
With plans nearly complete for the 152-bedroom Garden House Hotel, due to rise on the site of its burnt-out namesake in the middle of Cambridge, the hotel's neighbours and other people are claiming that the building will be too big, and might create a traffic nightmare. They fear the narrow streets round Granta Place will be choked by a heavier flow of vehicles and some are worried that the only answer will be a new service road across Coe Fen. Before the fire in April which destroyed the old 76-bedroomed Garden House, an extension with 48 new rooms was already under construction. Work carried on while the ruins of the old building were demolished. The site is now being prepared to take the new main section ringing the total number of bedrooms up to 152

1972 11 15
Young people in Cambridge have lost their Saturday night dances - the high spot of their week - and this has meant more violence in the city, Steve, an apprentice chef at Christ's college claims. The Dorothy - the city's best known catering and dancing centre - closed in August. Teenagers have looked for other dances, but tend to spend more time wandering around looking for

somewhere to go that staying in any place. Saturday night dances at the Corn Exchange suit another type of person, said Steve. They prefer a different sort of music, which he describes as "heavy". He and other young people who frequented the Dorothy preferred Tamla Motown music. There are more than 80 people who used to go to the Dorothy. Many of these now wander the streets of Cambridge, travelling from one pub to another looking for something to do.

1972 11 17
Plans for the conversion of Cambridge's Corn Exchange to a 1,500-seat concert hall costing £936,200 will be considered at the inaugural meeting of the Concert Hall Action group. Before the meeting will be a feasibility study drawn up by Arup Associates, the London consultants who were responsible for the Maltings concert hall at Snape. One of the partners said "not only Cambridge, but Britain as a whole, will gain a concert hall of potentially international stature". The study recommends an extension to the Corn Exchange involving the closure of Parsons Court and the acquisition of other properties on its west side

1973 02 05
Cambridge's longest slogan - all 60 yards of it - spanning the Lion Yard hoarding along Petty Cury is likely to remain for some time. The slogan, which advertises the Cambridge Claimants' Union, exceeds even the anti-Vietnam banner erected on King's College chapel some years ago. The foot-high, spray-painted slogan proclaiming: "Fight for the right to live with Claimants Union, the union for all unemployed unsupported mothers, low paid supplementary pensioners, sick people" seems set to stay

1973 03 01
The building where the first electricity for lighting in Cambridge was generated is now on the market. The property, No.2 Market Passage, was the premises of Bailey, Grundy and Barrett, electrical contractors. In 1891 the firm produced the first electricity for lighting in the city with a gas engine and a dynamo installed in the basement. In those early days private electrical generating plants were supplied by the company to several of the Cambridge colleges. Until after the 1914-18 war such plants continued to be installed in country houses in outlying districts. As this business declined, the company moved into wireless, the design and making of temperature control equipment for laboratories and other specialised apparatus

1974 03 29
Cambridge city council met for the last time yesterday. It took the council about ten seconds to dispose of their formal business – approving the spending of £1,248,000 on the new Central Library at the Lion Yard – then they went on to spend almost two hours saying goodbye to themselves, their retiring chief officers and exchanging presents. On the last day of the month, the City Council, who more or less in their present form have run Cambridge since 1836 will make way for the new Cambridge District Council.

1973 04 09
The Market Square ends of Guildhall Street and Peas Hill, Cambridge, were closed to traffic today as part of city council's plans eventually to make much of the central area into a pedestrian precinct. It is now possible to walk from Sidney Street to King's Parade without crossing a road. City surveyor, Mr Geoffrey Cresswell said that some motorists were still driving round Market Square attempting to get into Peas Hill. The present closure is officially regarded as only "temporary" - although it will last for possibly another two years - while rebuilding of the adjacent Lion Yard site is under way

1973 04 12

The £2¼ m complex for the Cavendish Laboratory on Madingley Road, Cambridge, was declared open by the Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. A.W. Deer. Large earth banks will hide the new Cavendish site from the Cambridge Inner Relief Road, if it is ever built, and it is hoped the University will not continue to crowd buildings in upon the new site until it achieves another science slum like that left behind in Downing Street

1973 05 25
After 86 years in business the Cambridge firm of A.W. Crisp and co., the first people to commercially introduce heraldic design work in the city, have closed down. Their premises at King's Parade will come up for auction next month. As one of the few freehold properties which become available in the city centre a price of £150,000 is on the cards. The firm were responsible for the wooden spoons given to the mathematics tripos candidate with the lowest examination mark.

1973 07 17
Garden House hotel supplement

1973 08 24
At the Gardenia Middle Eastern Restaurant in Rose Crescent, Cambridge, I began with Houmous (25p), a thickish paste made with chick peas and oil which you scoop up with pieces of unleavened bread. It was quite tasty though for the price not particularly plentiful. It is not particularly elegant tackling by hand a four-skewer kebab (60p) in an envelope of unleavened bread with bits of onion and tomato spilling out. But the Gardenia does not pretend to be the place to take a grande dame out to dinner with candles. The Kadeifi (15p) which followed looked on the plate like a prandial imitation of Dougal, everyone’s favourite long-haired television dog.

1973 09 07
King’s Parade pedestrianisation plans, p16

1973 09 21
Like some great suicidal spider Cambridge will have eaten its heart out by the turn of the century. Such is the dramatic prophecy of Professor John Parry Lewis who has been making a complete study of its future. Specifically he is saying is that if Cambridge proceeds with the scheme to build a twin shopping centre in the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh street area it will be signing the death knell of the present Market Square area. He concludes that a new focus for commercial activity must be developed on the edge of the city either in the Trumpington area or to the east near Marshall's airport. This cannot be done if the Fitzroy-Burleigh scheme proceeds, as the indications now are that it will

1973 09 21
Long-established family business in Cambridge city centre say they may be forced to close because their college landlords are demanding up to nine times the existing rent to renew expiring leases. The owner of Colin Lunn Ltd, a tobacconists which has stood in King’s Parade since 1899 said he had received a letter from Trinity Hall's estate agents specifying a 95% increase from his current rent of £500. Mr Peter Stockbridge attacked Corpus Christi College for almost trebling the rent for his antique shop to around £3,000. An abrasive reaction came from the proprietor of the Copper Kettle restaurant who have been told unofficially that their rent is to be trebled 73 09 21

1973 10 30

Plans by a London catering company to convert the 17th century Bath Hotel in Bene't St, Cambridge, into a steak bar rival to the Turks Head have been vetoed by Corpus Christi College who own the site. Dr Peter Lewis said, "We don't want to change the atmosphere of the Bath Hotel and these plans would have done that too drastically". The Bath Hotel is basically a 17th century building with extensive 18th century modifications. West End Catering, who put forward the proposal said, "The college's grounds for refusal are absolutely unreasonable and invalid. The dons seemed to be examining our plans as a viable place for them to eat instead of examining them in terms of popular catering"

1974 03 14
Lyons restaurant in Cambridge city centre is to close at the end of the week. It opened first as a tea shop just over 42 years ago in Petty Cury. Lyons said that the restaurant was closing because of reorganisation within the group. A spokesman said: “The shop does not fit in with our plans for the
future”

1974 04 20
Four youths were arrested and three needed hospital treatment when 1,000 pop fans went on the rampage at Cambridge Corn Exchange. 68 windows were smashed and police with dogs took an hour to restore order. Police said trouble started when an American group, The Drifters, failed to appear. The packed hall had waiting for 90 minutes for the group to turn up. Each had paid £1.10p. to get into the 8pm to 1am pop concert

1974 05 10
The placing of the garden House Hotel into the hands of a receiver-manager illustrates all too clearly the fine line between success or failure in business plans. At one moment the £2 million scheme was all go, and even at an interest rate of 10½ %, would have been viable for the family business. But then, almost overnight, rocketing interest rates killed off all hopes of doing anything other than paying a loan. Even though the hotel is making a profit on a day-to-day basis they could not contemplate it. To pay off a bank overdraft accrued since the fire that gutted the original buildings two years ago, they had to expand and create a higher turnover.

1974 05 24
The former Lyons Restaurant in Petty Cury, Cambridge, is to be reopened in the autumn as a dress shop. Dorothy Perkins Ltd have been trying to get into Cambridge for some years. The restaurant which opened 42 years ago as a tea shop was closed because of reorganisation. At first the city council planned to investigate reopening it as a Civic restaurant. But their hopes were dashed when Lyons announced they had already sold the premises to a private buyer 74 05 24

1974 06 10
Norman Higgins, a trustee and former managing director of the Cambridge Arts Theatre died at his home. Eight years ago he retired as general manager of the Arts cinema which he had started as the Cosmopolitan cinema in 1933. His contribution to the cultural life of Cambridge since he managed the old Tivoli cinema was immense. He willingly responded when Lord Keynes invited him to supervise the building of the new Arts Theatre and was subsequently responsible for more than 200 productions of opera, ballet, plays, revues and pantomimes 74 06 101

1974 06 25
The Newmarket millionaire racehorse owner, Mr David Robinson, is to sell Cambridge city centre property in Sidney Street. The site, which includes Millers Music Centre, the Arts Cinema and part of the Eaden Lilley store is due to be auctioned in London. But the future of the Arts

cinema, on which the lease does not expire until 1981, is safe. Any future owner will have to retain its use as a cinema

1974 06 27
A warning that within 10 years the Lion Yard areas of Cambridge, now being completely redeveloped will become a "twilight zone" is given in a new booklet, "Walks round vanished Cambridge", published by Land of Cokaygne. It says: "Within 10 years the town centre will have moved east to the Kite area, the University west to the science city. Lion Yard will be a twilight zone lost somewhere between the two" 74 06 27

1974 07 18
Seven generation of Barretts have been supplying the citizens of Cambridge with pottery and glass since the C18. This week the family business is virtually "coming home to roost" in opening up new premises in Gt St Mary's Passage – only a stone's throw from the spot where Simon Barrett opened up his first shop nearly 200 years ago. The long-established premises in St Andrew's Street will still remain in business.

1974 09 16
St Andrew the Great church in the centre of Cambridge may be turned into a new Civic restaurant. If the scheme goes ahead it would be only a few yards from the site of the old restaurant which was demolished two years ago to make way for the Lion Yard Development project. City officials are looking into the possibility of converting the church buildings which the Diocesan authorities have classified as redundant. A feasibility study shows it could be converted into offices but would cost at least £135,000.

1974 09 21
Housewives in Mid-Anglia who are stripping the shops of salt were described by shopkeepers and suppliers as mad and hysterical. The panic buying has been caused by false rumours and there is no shortage. Supermarket managers reported selling stocks that usually lasted three weeks in a day and a half. "This whole city has gone crackers", said one manager. The International Stores on Market Hill, Cambridge, sold out during the week.

1974 09 26
Early morning in Cambridge market place and indomitably breezy stallholders arrive with bulging cardboard boxes full of paws paws, crocus bulbs, turnips, antique Persian porcelain coins, brillo pads and all other things we need to victual our leaky ship. Before some of them can load their trestle tables from the cardboard boxes, they must gather up the broken and bloody hypodermic syringes, left behind by heroin addicts overnight. Once the syringes are out of the way, the square is soon ready for the public – Chris South

1974 10 05
A £2 million plan for converting the old Cambridge corn exchange into a multi-purpose concert hall was accepted by the City Amenities Committee. An early warning of stormy times ahead was given by Coun. Peter Cowell who said: "There is bound to be a lot of opposition". In their report the architects claim that "not only Cambridge but England as a whole will gain a concert hall of potentially international stature which could attract the finest musical talent". They suggest the reshaped building could hold up to 1500 people and would also be ideal for events such as boxing, wrestling, operas, plays, exhibitions and conferences.

1974 12 24

Cambridge planners are looking at the possibility of turning the central library buildings in Wheeler Street into a Civic Restaurant when the library is moved into a new building in the Lion Yard next summer. The Library buildings are the centre of a legal wrangle between the city and county council who have now taken over responsibility for public libraries. The county claim the old library building should be given to, it but the city is arguing that as the library forms part of the Guildhall complex – the council's administrative headquarters – the county has no claim. The replacement of a Civic restaurant has been a top priority with the new Labour-controlled city council since it took office nine years ago

1975 02 10
Cambridge's city centre traffic experiment swung into action today. Thousands of motorists faced the through-traffic ban for the first time. The road closures and a system of one-way routes will operate for six months unless "utter chaos" develops. The scheme could then be swiftly abandoned. It closes two sections of road in the centre of town to private cars. One extends along King's Parade from King's College gate to Gt St Mary's while the other runs from Woolworth's along St Andrew's street to its junction with Emmanuel St

1975 02 11
King's Parade tea party, p5

1975 04 28
The King Street run or the King Street pint to pint is a Cambridge drinking tradition. It means drinking eight pints of beer in two hours. In the old days King Street had enough ale houses for the Run to be held along it, but now the organisers have to plan the route incorporating public houses elsewhere. The run last year ended at The Zebra in Newmarket Road but licensee Mrs M. Warren won't be allowing it again. Last year youths who vomited in Fair Street outside the Hopbine bought a ban there on all future runs.

1975 05 09
Cambridge Union Society's historic debating chamber, scene of heated exchanges between Britain's top politicians this century, was badly damaged by fire. The blaze spread through part of the floor of the chamber and went up through two floors of the Round Church Street premises. Crowds gathered in Park Street as a 100-foot turntable ladder was swung into place and three pumping appliances arrived on the scene. The main part of the building was not affected by the fire. Teams of undergraduates mounted guard on the building throughout the night 75 05 09

1975 06 11
The much-criticised second stage of Cambridge city council's central area traffic experiment has been abandoned and traffic flow systems introduced five weeks ago withdrawn. This means there is again two-way traffic in Regent Street, Parkside, Emmanuel Road and Short Street. Through traffic is still banned along parts of St Andrew's Street, Sidney Street & Kings Parade. City police said many motorists were confused by the changes which it was improving impossible to enforce. Long traffic queues had built up at major junctions since the start of the experiment which brought traffic chaos to the city

1975 07 03
Only three of the 54 firms who have been given tenancies of the new shops in Lion Yard, Cambridge, are local, and there is considerable disquiet in some local quarters over this, said the secretary of Cambridge Chamber of Commerce. "A lot of the names are of big firms in London in the rag trade and jewellery. They can afford the high rents, but the smaller traders of Cambridge who would have expected to get the chance of a letting cannot", he said

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1975 07 09
Dozens of traders in central Cambridge have mounted a campaign aimed at persuading the city council to drop its traffic control scheme, which prevents cars from going along parts of King's Parade, St Andrew's Street & Sidney Street. They are complaining about a big slump in business since the scheme started six months ago. Some say they have experienced a 50% drop. Shops are hit by the traffic ban during the day and restaurants, pubs & places of entertainment suffer at night. Tomorrow the council will be recommended to ask Whitehall to make the scheme permanent.

1975 07 18
How much are stores paying to rent a unit in the Lion Yard Development? Last October companies were being asked to stump up between £15-17,000 a year. In the Lion Yard itself the asking price was between £7-10,000 per unit. Smaller units described as boutique types were on offer between £3 & £5,000. Wealthy national companies can afford to speculate and rent properties for a few years, but for small local traders the rents have proved too expensive so far. Of 54 units rented out only two may be occupied by firms based in Cambridge – Campkins (cameras) & Waits (menswear) 75 07 18

1975 07 25
A protective walkway, quantities of scaffolding and expanses of wire netting surround the Tudor buildings that huddle around the corner of Bridge Street & Round Church Street, Cambridge. Behind the façade a vast mechanical screw digs into what was once Jordan's Yard, overlooked by the empty shell and sagging roofs of the rear of the buildings. Eleven years after it was suggested that something ought to be done to rehabilitate the delaying 16th-century houses, work is finally underway to preserve them as the front of a new office and shopping development

1975 08 06
Cambridge' new £1 million plus central library being built in the Lion Yard, is due to open at the end of September – three months late. The task of transferring more than 100,000 books and reorganising the library's various departments is likely to take up to a fortnight. But Librarian Andrew Armour is hoping to keep the closure of the main library down to three days to minimise inconvenience.

1975 09 03
Frank & Babs Munns, well-known to numerous city centre newspaper buyers, have retired from their Market Passage newsagents. They have been in the business for 45 years. His family started in Newnham, one of only two wholesalers in Cambridge of Sunday newspapers. They started their first business in Castle Street and moved to Market Passage 14 years ago. Over the years there has been a big increase in the number of continental magazines people want to buy. Italians from as far afield as Bedford come to their shop for periodicals in their own language

1975 09 11
Princess Anne is to put the royal seal of approval on one of Cambridge's most controversial schemes. She has agreed to open the multi-million pound Lion Yard redevelopment complex in December. More than four years have been spent in its construction. Expert critics are unhappy about the scale of the enterprise and its relationship to the previously intimate and recently pedestrianised shopping precinct in Petty Cury. There has also been adverse comment on the nature of the shopping development which, because of the high rents, has made it a virtually unattainable Shangri-La for local businesses.

1975 09 17
Over 25 years of argument, several million pounds of ratepayers' money and three years of toil what will we get? The Lion Yard development. On the first floor is a modest entrance to a building that Cambridge has desperately needed for many years … the new library. It has three floors. The top will be used for housing the Cambridgeshire Collection. On the first floor is a children's' room where young readers can comfortably browse through their selection. The building bears about as much comparison with the old Wheeler Street library as Buckingham Palace does with the Black Hole of Calcutta

1975 09 18
A life sized mythological figure in bronze, the work of British sculptor Mr Michael Ayrton will be erected on the Lion Yard site. The semi-abstract sculpture represents Tarlos, the legendary man of bronze who was given to Mynos, ruler of Crete to defend the island. The leader of the city council, Peter Wright said: "No doubt some will like it and some will not"

1975 09 29
Number 10 Downing Street, Cambridge, the new Norwich Union Building has been 'topped out'. It replaces the former building on the corner of St Andrew's Street. There were some protests about the loss of the old buildings but planning permission was eventually given after the Royal Fine Art Commission approved the designs.

1975 10 03
The Alley Boutique is now open in new and spacious premises in the Lion Yard arcade. Mr Ian Burns said: "Customers are flocking in, but we have plenty of room for expansion and we hope to introduce a mezzanine floor. We were the first boutique in Cambridge, opening in Falcon Yard ten years ago. We get customers of 12 and up to 60 years of age, but most are young". The Boutique sells almost any clothing from a jumper to a fur coat.

1975 10 16
Never had the cherubs on top of the marble columns looked down on a scene of such noise and commotion. For years they have held sway over an atmosphere of dignified hush in the library in Wheeler Street, Cambridge. But all that changed when removal men dismantled bookcases and piled thousands of books into crates ready to go to the ultra-modern library in Lion Yard. As men stripped away its contents the room with its faded splendour and peeling yellow paint looked remarkably small. It was never easy to reach the top or bottom shelves of the tall bookcases. Anyone bold enough to crouch down and survey the low shelf inevitably collided with some other borrower standing behind.

1975 11 27
Petty Cury building, p5

1975 12 02
The Lion Yard lion is up, carrying in his proud frame many years of history as he looks down on the centre of the Cambridge new development's shopping centre. The city's acquisition of such an appropriate symbol is a combination of luck and circumstance. The lion is believed to be the original wood carving for a cast lion which stood over the old Red Lion brewery at Waterloo station. It was discovered at the Woburn Abbey antique centre four years ago. Since then it has been completely refurbished at the city engineer's workshops at Mill Road. Now it has been put up in its final home- the Lion Yard 75 12 02

1975 12 03

Lion Yard opening supplement

1975 12 04
Princess Anne, making her first official visit to Cambridge, insisted on an impromptu chat with some of the thousands of sight-seers who thronged the city centre Lion Yard shopping centre. An estimated 10,000 people packed the Market Square and stood eight deep each side of Petty Cury as she walked into the new shopping centre. She stopped to talk to the delighted shop girls who were crowding their doorways and also to the eager shoppers who pressed forward to get a closer look at her. She explained: "I am not a complete stranger here because I have been shown around the university and city unofficially by two previous students who are both fans of the old city" 75 12 04

1975 12 04
Large crowds turned out to see Princess Anne wherever she went in Cambridge during her visit yesterday. Inevitably the criticisms that have been voiced about the architecture of the Lion Yard were referred to during the formal speeches. The city council's Labour leader, Coun Peter Wright, spoke of the 'dissension' which still existed over the complex. And Princess Anne, who declared herself a "VI – that means very independent" observer of the architectural scene, said she would report back on the project to two "former students" at Cambridge University when she returned to London 75 12 04

1976 01 31
Bridge Street: lost facade comes to light in restoration [446.9.5]

1976 02 02
Because of its low unemployment figure Cambridge is a labour-importing city. Up to £3,000 worth of government grants could be given to a man and his family in an area of high unemployment to persuade them to live and work here. The new Jobcentre in Guildhall Place has aptly been described as a job supermarket. An inviting window display tempts people into the well-carpeted warmth. The centre employs 26 people who find their work far more enjoyable now than ever they did in the days of the Labour Exchange

1976 06 04
King's Parade traffic scheme, p15

1976 07 24
Downing Street cycle way

1976 08 03
The Government has decided that the experimental traffic restriction system in the centre of Cambridge can become permanent. Through traffic will be prevented from going along Sidney Street and St Andrews Street between Emmanuel and Market Street junctions, and along King's Parade. The experiment was introduced 18 months ago – against a background of support from amenity organisations and opposition from city centre traders who carried their protests to a public inquiry.

1976 11 02
The signing of a £1 million sales contract for the Garden House Hotel in Cambridge marks the end of speculation and rumour about its future. Essentially a family business established in 1910, the hotel hit world headlines in 1970 when for five hours it was the scene of some of the worst violence Cambridge has ever experienced. About 500 students besieged the hotel, hurling bricks

and abuse as a protest against the Colonel's regime in Greece and caused £2,000 damage. Two years later fire gutted the premises killing two guests. This disaster led to financial trouble and the appointment of a receiver-manager in May 1974.

1977 01 15
The Central EMI Bingo and Social Club, a converted cinema in Hobson Street, Cambridge, could quite comfortably have found a place in the zaniest of science fiction movies – with its brash psychedelic mish-mash of colours and huge electrically operated board that rises high behind the caller. The four-year-old club has 10,000 members and is an addict's paradise – open every afternoon and evening except Sunday and with hundreds of pounds at stake at each session. On Saturday the club linked up by phone to the EMI club in Oxford for a game which boasted a £400 jackpot. In the few seconds between games people dashed for the fruit machine which spills out its £30 jackpot in 50p pieces

1977 01 26
The international entertainment organisation, Mecca, has invited Cambridge City Council to talk about possible future uses for the Corn Exchange, one of the city's main entertainment centres. Five years ago Mecca turned down a request, saying Cambridge was too small to support a large-scale complex. Four years ago the Council expressed interest in a massive facelift operation, but could not afford the then £1.5m for the work and was unable to find a private backer. Coun. Garner said: "It is often criticised as a white elephant, but it is surprising just how many functions are held there. We would not want to lose this amenity"

1977 02 02
The Dorothy Continental delicatessen on the corner of Sussex Street, Cambridge, ceased trading at the weekend. It was the last remaining part of the former Dorothy restaurant and ballroom, sold by G.P. Hawkins in 1972 for £850,000. The Dorothy contained a supermarket, restaurant, large ballroom and other rooms used by many organisations for official functions. It was taken over by the Co-op in 1952. The above-ground part of the Dorothy was acquired by Waring and Gillow, the London-based furniture chain, the remainder now forms the Henekey Tavern. When the Dorothy closed, Hawkins moved it's outside catering section to the Alma Brewery site in Russell Street.

1977 02 17
What kind of shopping facilities will we see in Cambridge in the future? If recent events are pointers then the small operator will be replaced – just as quaint non-conformist Petty Cury was replaced with the corporate dullness of Lion Yard. The rents jumped enormously leaving the high mark-up multitudes – Golden Egg, Dixons, Van Allen, Etam, Chelsea Girl et al to take the units paying between £3,000 and £18,000 a year in rent. It meant that the variety of shops was reduced. If the Kite complex proposals were to see the light of day then an identical effect could occur.

1977 02 22
Cambridge open-air market traders have slammed the city council's decision to close the underground lavatories on the Market Square during the day. It will be most inconvenient for the many fruit and veg sellers obliged by health regulations to keep hot water on or near their stalls. They now face a hundred yards walk to the Lion Yard super loos, described as the most palatial in the country. But women stall holders can face up to half an hour's wait during the summer tourist season.

1977 04 23

The new Bridge House office block and restored 16th-century buildings in Bridge Street, Cambridge, are a landmark and inspiration, said the Mayor, Coun Bob May, when he opened the £1.3 million redevelopment. "If only the architects had been involved at Lion Yard then things might have turned out differently there", he said. He praised the skill with which the historic and environmentally important site had been handled by the Scottish Mutual Assurance Society and its architects, Saunders Boston of Cambridge. It was an outstanding example of how a new building could be fitted into an old environment and how old buildings could be preserved. 77 04 23

1977 06 10
One of Cambridge's best-known characters, Trevor Hughes, clocked up his 100th recorded conviction at the city magistrates' court when he admitted being drunk and disorderly in the Market Square. As he came into court, Mr Hughes, looking thinner and without his famous bobble hat or bushy beard said: "Good afternoon everybody". In court he said: "I won't deny it, but I can't remember. I like a little drop of tiddly, but I'm not abusive. But people say: 'look at that dirty old so and so', and I lose my temper". He was sent to prison for a month.

1977 06 10
More than 1,500 people packed into Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge to hear the Calcutta missionary, Mother Teresa, talk about her work among the dying and destitute of India. She asked the congregation "not to give from their abundance but to give from their love, till it hurts". Earlier she had been the first to receive an honorary degree from Prince Philip. The University Orator, Dr Frank Stubbings spoke of her work: "She saw the multitudes and had compassion on them; she went alone, in poverty, to the homes of the poorest, tended their illnesses and set up a school in the midst of the slums" 77 06 10

1977 07 01
All the customers in Berni Inns' Tudor Bar in Trinity Street, Cambridge looked like shoppers rather than office workers and it seems surprising that they have not discovered this quite spacious place to have lunch. The menu is not extensive but is reasonably priced; it includes a ploughman's lunch with either cheese or pate (65p), sandwiches and, in theory, cottage pie (46p) – but the chef was not at work. I tried the only hot pie available which the assistant "thought" was chicken and mushroom. As far as I could tell it was beef. Having spent only £1.50 between us we felt justified in lashing out on the speciality – liqueur coffee. At 51p it was an extravagance, but absolutely delicious

1977 07 13
A group of Cambridge residents have started a legal battle to stop buses using the narrow, congested Parker Street to reach the city's Drummer Street bus station. They are trying to force four major bus companies to use an alternative route via Emmanuel Street and Regent Street. The leader of the objectors said: "Parker Street is fit only for local traffic, being narrow and with houses on each side. At the moment the pollution is disgusting. You cannot open a window and the noise is above acceptable limits". The Eastern Counties traffic manager said: "Buses represent only a tiny proportion of the heavy traffic using the street, so why we are being picked on I don't know"

1977 07 23
The Mayor of Heidelberg officially opened the rooftop garden above Lion Yard, Cambridge, which has been named after the German town to mark the link between Cambridge and its twin university town. Oberburgermeister Renhold Zundel said a scheme similar to Lion Yard was being built in his city and they might have a garden named after Cambridge soon. 77 07 23

1977 08 03
Cambridge's £3 million concert and conference hall that never was began with a £2 million promise to pay for the conversion of the Corn Exchange. But that promise, made in 1974 was short-lived. Mr David Robinson decided that the Corn Exchange was ugly and should be pulled down. Instead he favoured a purpose-built concert and conference hall on the Downing Street end of the Lion Yard complex. The man at the centre of those protracted negotiations was Coun Jack Warren who told him it was a listed building and could not be pulled down but he pooh-poohed this. In October 1976 Mr Robinson wrote to say it would be impossible for him to provide the money, and then gave another £7 to Robinson College.

1977 08 19
Theoretically worth over £150,000 a year in rent, the 47,000 square foot office accommodation above the Lion Yard has stood empty since the precinct opened nearly two years ago. Agents trying to let the offices blame the economic malaise for their lack of success. The high price of central car parking is also a barrier. The city council made a former builders' site available to encourage offers and now one taker has at last been found. Vinters, the Cambridge solicitors have taken space. But Bidwells say matters will only improve when companies begin to expand and the perpetually optimistic estate agents say it is beginning to happen.

1977 12 02
Sidney Street, Cambridge can be a battleground at this time of year. The narrow pavements and heavy traffic are a strain for anyone trying to shop. A right turn down Sussex Street may prove more fruitful. It has a solid old-fashioned atmosphere and a tightly-packed variety of specialist shops. The decorations and window displays are refreshingly quiet. The shopper can get a bite in the newly-opened Took's snack-bar, or relax for a shampoo at Diane's Hair International. Pigotts has a large stock of ironmongery and clothing shops include Paris House and the Rose Cavern Boutique, Easifit shoes and Charles' leather shop.

1977 12 15
It pays to discover the shops in King Street, Cambridge. There are three antiques shops and Andrew McCulloch's and Hi-Fi for Pleasure do a wide range of sound equipment. For records there is a choice between the instant-nostalgia shop, Remember Those Oldies, who rather oddly sell punk records, and Garon Records – more conventional with a good selection of bargain-price discs. The Cambridgeshire Health and Beauty Salon offers a facial at £3.95, sauna at £2 or a manicure at £1.50 and at Norman and Son you can still buy old-fashioned woolly long-johns.

1977 12 21
Cambridge market is the logical starting point for the Christmas shopping trek: it's close to shops of every different kind, and is surrounded by banks. But heading straight for the centre and hoping to find a parking space somewhere is a mug's game at the best of times. At Christmas it's plain daft, although people still do it. Traffic wardens are not so many Santa Clauses in disguise and you'll just end up going round the one-way system a few times … slowly. Or paying £6 for the privilege of stopping.

1978 02 04
He used to stand at the corner of Trinity Street and Green Street in Cambridge, touting his wares. Every few minutes he would break out into a chant which sounded something like "Toodle-oddle-aidie-ar". One day I couldn't stand it any longer – not knowing what it meant. So I went up and asked him. "Two o'clock late London", he said, not so much as raising an eyebrow. "Paper, sir?" Every community, in every day and age, has its 'characters', even if there never seem to be quite

as many about as there once were. Today busker Jerry Bol happily makes an exhibition of himself as a one-man band, while 'Snowy' Farr and his menagerie delight thousands of people with their weekly Saturday appearances.

1978 02 13
I went for a pub-crawl the other night – without moving from my 'local'. Warmed by two or three pints of good beer I decided to call at The Criterion in Market Passage, which used to be a popular Saturday night pub, the Bun Shop just off Downing Street and the Volunteer in Green Street before tramping on to the Earl Grey in King Street and the Duke of Cambridge in Short Street. Every one of these pubs had its own special 'character'. The journey took only a few minutes but the best part of 15 years – during which time all of them have closed.

1978 02 14
A County Council report recommends that two old church schools in the centre of Cambridge, Park Street and St Matthew's, should close. It says no school will take more than 60 infants a year; all schools will have nursery classes from three-plus, and that separate infants and junior schools will be merged into one school taking children right up to 11. Catchment zones will be introduced for primary schools. At present Morley Memorial is under a great deal of pressure and children are taught in a rented church hall across a busy road while Sedley Infants and Romsey Junior have empty places.

1978 03 09
Both St Matthews and Park Street schools in Cambridge are housed in high-ceilinged, drab buildings. There are no green playing fields, the playgrounds are cramped and asphalted and Park Street has outside lavatories. But for all this they inspire a great deal of loyalty from parents who see them as small family schools within a community. Both are in the central area and a few years ago found their rolls were dropping. But now there is a definite trend bringing young families back into the city centre terraced houses and they are battling to save the schools from closure.

1978 05 12
The Sunday Times devoted many pages to portraits of such people as Burgess and Maclean photographed during their undergraduate days in a "relaxed" style then very usual. They were taken by the famous Cambridge photographers, Ramsey and Muspratt in their studios at Post Office Terrace. The article also mentioned the 50,000-odd negatives left behind there by generations of photographic firms, but there could be even more. In a separate building at the back are cupboards, not opened for at least 70 years that are absolutely stuffed with glass negatives. But now a selection of them have been printed by the Cambridgeshire Collection

1978 06 05
Most of the offices built on top of the City Council's Lion Yard complex in the centre of Cambridge are still unoccupied – nearly three years after completion of the development. Now councillors are concerned about the loss of rents and want more intensive steps taken to find tenants for the block, which is gathering dust. Only 5,750 feet has been let, to a subsidiary of Barclay's Bank but negotiations are now taking place with two organisations. If these fall through some councillors think they should let charity organisations use them

1978 06 15
The 150-year-old Magdalene Bridge in Cambridge is in grave danger of collapsing, councillors were told. For the last 11 years there has been a three-ton vehicle restriction but sometimes the inter-continental 'juggernaut' lorries travelling through the city take a wrong turning and pass over the bridge. Now the abutments, which support the bridge at both ends, are moving apart and

if this continues it could eventually break its back. Plans were made to rebuild the bridge but environmentalists objected and at a public inquiry it was decided the bridge should be strengthened, retaining its present appearance. But Government engineers came up against insuperable technical problems in the use of the cast-iron parapets and have suggested cast-steel instead.

1978 07 27
The Turk's Head, one of the largest eating places in central Cambridge, has served its last meals and drinks. Many of the 30 staff hope to be given the first chance in the project to turn the Plough and Harrow public house in Madingley Road into a restaurant. The Turk's Head opened in the 1960s as a restaurant where a range of inexpensive meals could be had across a wide price band but it was too close to another Berni Steak Bar around the corner in Rose Crescent. Now there are plans to turn it into two smaller restaurants together with a 'mini Burlington Arcade' with some 11 shops aimed at
tourists.

1978 08 08
The ice-cream war is hotting up in Cambridge's Lion Yard and the competition is getting so cut-throat that even some of the salesmen feel there are too many stands – as many as 19 on one day. A few years ago there were only two or three stalls selling hot-dogs and ice creams, or roast chestnuts in the winter. But now the proliferation is bringing complaints from shops who say their trade is suffering and from tourists, who say they are being molested. In addition the mouldering strife is threatening to erupt in violence as the growing number of traders cut into each other's sales.
1978 08 18
Jerry Bol, the popular Cambridge busker, was fined £2 as a result of the police crack-down on street vendors causing obstructions in the Lion Yard shopping precinct. Police said they counted a crowd of 67 people listening to his one-man-band. Mr Bol told the court he became a busker five years ago & since then had appeared in 25 TV programmes & films. "The children of Cambridge call me 'Mr Music Man' and I stand in Petty Cury for their safety. The Duke of Edinburgh and the Mayor of Heidelberg came to see me", he told the court, & would pay his fine with £3 given him by well-wishers since his arrest.

1978 09 12
Park Street flats, p9

1978 09 25
Protestors against the proposed closure of Park Street School Cambridge stepped up their campaign by marching on the Guildhall. The television commentator and personality, Clive James, who is leading the fight said: "There will be no financial gain from closing the school. The main reason for shutting it seems to be the size of the playground which they say is insufficient for the kids to fulfil themselves". Park Street Residents Association has joined the campaign as they feel much of the community spirit of the area will be lost if the plans go ahead.

1978 10 03
Cambridge' Drummer Street bus station may be extended on to the adjoining Christ's Pieces within the next few years as County Council traffic experts and the bus companies have agreed that expansion of the present site is the best way of bringing it up to date. The facilities such as booking office, news-stands & toilets are scattered, cramped and unsightly and there are no proper information displays. The city council has suggested the station should be moved into the

Kite Area and Conservation interests prefer disused land near the railway station should be used. But the County rejects both locations

1978 10 04
Some of the long-disused offices above Cambridge's Lion Yard shopping complex may soon be turned into restaurants. The plans have been warmly greeted by councillors who have complained for a long time about the empty space standing in one of the city's key commercial positions. The applicants want to rent the bulk of the ground floor and turn it into two restaurants, one catering for general medium price trade and the other as a high-class 'night life' restaurant. The three-storey office block which contains thousands of square feet of space has been standing empty since the development was completed three years ago. 78 10 04

1978 12 22
A remarkable cross-section of the community gathered for the funeral service of a well-known Cambridge personality. There was a former Dean of Jesus College, a police superintendent, booksellers, shopkeepers, a solicitor, market traders and college staff. They heard an address and sang hymns. Then they exchanged reminiscences about the man whose service they were attending, paid tribute to his memory and went away. A regular occurrence in a town like Cambridge, perhaps. A distinguished academic or leading businessman had died, it might be thought. But this service was for a shabby old man with a beard of no fixed abode who had some 113 convictions mainly on drinking charges and who sat and drank in the city centre – Trevor Hughes

1979
Rose Crescent rebuilt: 'best planning gain for long time' [2.14]

1979 02 06
Expansion plans for Robert Sayle's shopping complex in the centre of Cambridge were supported by the City Council's controlling Conservatives who say the extensions will improve shopping facilities and bring much needed car parking space into the city centre. But Labour says the extra cars would cause traffic problems and in any case the centre of Cambridge should not be put up for sale. Sayle's want to extend their shop floor space facing Lion Yard and provide more than 100 public and private parking spaces. It would benefit city traders and motorists alike

1979 03 07
A new double-decker bus station in the centre of Cambridge is being proposed by County traffic experts. Buses would wait only long enough to set down and take up passengers and long-distance buses would run from elsewhere in the city. This one of several options to sort out the chaos of Drummer Street. Others include expanding on to Christ's Pieces, re-siting it to the Kite area or adjacent to the railway station. For years the bus station has been the subject of intensive criticism because of its lack of facilities and poor conditions. Now councillors have made it a priority.

1979 04 02
The centre of Cambridge is well off for parking space. There are 600 spaces on the Lion Yard multi-decker, a slightly smaller number at Park Street and substantial parking at New Square. Then there are more than 500 meters dotted around. But during peak periods these are barely enough and queues build up at the park entrances. Motorists complain it is not easy to reach the city centre since King's Parade was severely restricted to through traffic. At first shopkeepers feared virtual bankruptcy but now even the most 'anti' tradesman is happy with the result – an increase in trade.

1979 09 11
Ronelles, a disco restaurant, will soon open above Lion Yard in the heart of Cambridge and one of the city's most interesting business gambles will be under way. It's a big bet. The lease is long but the odds are short that young Cambridge people will patronise a place which they have long insisted is overdue. The club will have a membership of 500 and be relatively expensive with a £100 a year membership fee. It will have an elevated restaurant, two bars, a dance floor, a waterfall and cabins. These together with palm trees and a native mask on the logo suggest the premises may have a Caribbean flavour. It will be a welcome solution to an embarrassing problem for the space, originally intended for offices, has stayed empty for years.

1979 10 18
The Government has stopped the County Council from closing Cambridge's Park Street Primary School because of its 'value to the community'. But plans to close Brunswick Primary School have been approved. This is a great disappointment for parents who campaigned vigorously to keep it open. Nearly £800,000 has been earmarked to convert the buildings into a further education centre. The County will accept the ruling but the number of children attending both schools had dropped and the problems will not go away. Now much harder decisions will have to be made that will affect schools throughout the city.

1979 10 13
Cambridge Corn Exchange may be turned into a civic restaurant. The old one in Petty Cury was demolish amid a public outcry nearly eight years ago to make way for the Lion Yard redevelopment. It was started during the Second World War under the Government's British Restaurant plans for providing cheap meals and was continued by the council. It became something of a social centre and meeting place for many old people with nowhere to go during the day.

1979 11 02
County council engineers have devised a new method to strengthen the 150-year-old Magdalene Bridge in Cambridge without altering its appearance. If Government finances permit work will start in July, more than 13 years after the bridge was closed to buses and other heavy traffic because of its unsound condition. The rebuilding has been surrounded by controversy since cracks were detected in the under-structure. A public inquiry in 1971 agreed that the new bridge should resemble the old one as far as possible but a long wrangle developed over the appearance and complex legal issues were involved because it is an ancient structure.

1980

1980 01 18
Cambridge Corn Exchange could be converted into a £1.5 million concert hall and entertainment centre after councillors voted to seek specialist advice. The Common Market is to be asked for a grant and the Arts Council will be approached for help. Some of the money the council hopes to raise from the sale of surplus land and profits from the Lottery may also go towards it. There were several voices of dissent but Coun Maurice Garner said: "It is not an elaborate and grandiose scheme. The Corn Exchange is hardly fit for use today and we must take action

1980 01 25
An imaginative plan to breathe life into the redundant church of All Saints in Jesus Lane, Cambridge was unveiled by the Bishop of Ely. The diocese is seeking planning approval for an

ambitious scheme to put most of the church back into regular use while retaining the architectural features that make it a distinctive Victorian building. If the scheme does not go through, the only future for the church, was closed in 1983, will be demolition or as an empty shell requiring £100,000 of immediate repairs. 80 01 25

1980 01 30
The new magistrates' courts, perched above the Lion Yard car park have been built to last for the next 100 years at a cost of £1.7 million. Some wonder how Cambridge managed to acquire such an expensive addition to the skyline in these times of stringent public spending cuts, the answer seems to be that it won its case just in time. Today the verdict would be different. After years of less-than-satisfactory courtroom conditions we have something of a showpiece. Compared to the old courts the new carpeted building is luxury itself. "From boarding house to Hilton" was how one prison officer described it. In fact the only criticism is that some people will consider the edifice 'too good'
80 01 30

1980 02 20
The owner of Ronelles disco restaurant in Lion Yard Cambridge is delighted with the response to the Caribbean / Polynesian theme used in the décor. He felt there was no point in providing first-class surroundings, a sophisticate atmosphere and good meals if they were to allow customers to come there in jeans and sweaters. So he warned that "scruffs" would be turned away. Would-be members are also vetted before being accepted. Admission varies from £2 to £3 and main courses in the restaurant vary from chargrilled chicken at £2.40 to duck a l'orange at under £5. Bar prices are only a few pence above the average 80 02 20a

1980 03 13
New plans for Drummer Street bus station have provoked widespread criticism from councillors. The two-storey building to accommodate offices and waiting facilities is a large transparent structure with a domed roof. But Coun Peter Wright said: "It looks like a large greenhouse; to see anything like that going up in the middle of a conservation area is absolutely unbelievable". Maurice Garner said: "I cannot say I like it – but nothing can be worse than what we have". It would be difficult for handicapped people to reach the upper floor waiting rooms. 80 03 13a

1980 03 28
Cambridge's new £1½ million magistrates' courts above the Lion Yard multi-storey car park were officially opened by Prince Philip. Although he claimed to have stopped being surprised at anything he was obviously amused that they had been built on top of a car park, but said that it was often the most eccentric ideas which were the best. He hoped they would be required as little as possible 80 03 28a

1980 04 10
Major alterations have been made to the Cambridge Arms in King Street ensuring the conservation of the old Cambridge Brewery building which has stood semi-derelict since brewing ceased in 1925. It was established by George Scales in 1866 and then supplied 13 public houses. The new Scales Bar extends beneath the old brewing floor and features brick arches which supports the heavy coppers and chimney on the upper level. Various items of brewing equipment that were removed for safe keeping have now been returned and are displayed. 80 04 10

1980 06 26
Four people were taken to hospital after a car careered across a corner of Cambridge Market Square. It ploughed across the Barclays Bank edge of the market, striking a flower stall,

scattering fruit and vegetables and hitting two shoppers before ending up four feet from the railings of Gt St Mary's church. A Girton lady working on the flower stall said: "I just saw the car out of the corner of my eye and ran for it. The stall just folded up with its legs in the air" 80 06 26

1980 06 26
Lion Yard rents increase 350-550%, from £9,000 to £40,000 [13.13]

1980 11 08
An exclusive university dining club may open its doors to the public. The Pitt Club is a miniature men-only London club where prospective members are vetted carefully and anyone without a public school education is likely to be black-balled. It also houses the Hawks Club for university sporting Blues. But it is no longer making money and is looking for tenants to share the former Turkish bath house in Jesus Lane. Strudels, one of the restaurants in the Kite facing eviction, is amongst a number to express an interest. 80 11 08

1980 11 13
The effect of sand-blasting masonry is dramatic; a building which has faded into drab insignificance under decades of dirt reveals subtle details of a mason's art. Take the Whim in Trinity Street, Cambridge. Cleaning has revealed a beautiful mellow honey-coloured stone dressed decorative carving work and topped by a turret that wouldn't look amiss on a fairy-tale castle. It has been treated with a colourless silicone wash to make it water repellent while still allowing it to breathe. This makes it self-cleaning. 80 11 13b

1980 11 26
A clampdown on the 600 motorists who every day defy traffic bans along King's Parade, Cambridge, will involve blocking off the road outside the Senate House to all traffic except cyclists and emergency vehicles. But it has angered taxi drivers who say it would make longer journeys. The move is part of a plan to improve city centre conditions for pedestrians and cyclists. 80 11 26

1980 12 04
The age of the microchip has taken all of us by surprise but now sons and daughters crave for the latest computer game, digital watch or radio-controlled car. Since Tandy came to Cambridge five years ago they have found rapidly-increasing demand in the home electronics field and have now divided their Emmanuel Street operation into two shops. One will house a veritable treasure trove of hi-fis, tv games and intercoms appealing to the young. 80 12 04b

1980 12 16
Sussex Street shops – 80 12 16

1980 12 20
One of the oldest pubs in Cambridge, the Rose in Rose Crescent, may soon be just a memory. The brewery, Whitbread, is to sell the premises and it is likely to be converted into student accommodation. Landlord Alf Barnett said it was a place where a man in gumboots and work clothes could stand alongside a businessman with brolly and bowler hat and get along together. Sons of the gentry, over late-night cups of coffee, would ask to borrow the phone to ring 'Mum' and he used to vet their girlfriends. 80 12 20

1981 01 12
The redundant All Saints church in Cambridge may have had £50,000 in its coffers when it was closed down seven years ago. The discovery has re-opened the simmering row about the future of

the Victorian church in Jesus Lane. Supporters claim it could have been used on badly-needed repairs to the fabric of the building and have accused the Diocese of letting it go to rack and ruin. But the archdeacon says money is no longer available for a church when it is made redundant and should be used for the benefit of the living church rather than the dead. 81 01 12b

1981 02 09
The new King 511 call box installed in Emmanuel Street, Cambridge is made of transparent bronze acrylic attached to a strong central column. There is no door so that users simply walk into the open canopy. British Telecom says it will curb vandalism and is more attractive in a modern environment.
81 02 09a

1981 02 26
Down Your Street article by Sara Payne on Market Street: in an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge. Continued 81 03 05

1981 03 10
Magdalene Bridge to be strengthened; Bailey Bridge erected alongside – [3.5]

1981 03 24
When the Corn Exchange re-opened earlier this year after a new roof had been fitted at a cost of £200,000 it was thought that the only major rock venue in Cambridge had been restored to the city's youngsters and an impressive line-up of bands were booked to appear. But just four concerts later the clamour of protest about noise has outmatched the decibels of the bands and put the whole future of the hall in doubt. Now the council may have to install soundproofing. 81 03 24

1981 05 28
Down Your Street article by Sara Payne on Peas Hill: an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge

1981 07 16
Drummer Street lavatories are smelly, bits of string helped tie the lavatory chains and the pipes were lagged with sacking. At Park Street t there was no paper in any of the cubicles, no soap and no towels. One seat was missing entirely. Valiant efforts are being made to keep the subterranean convenience on the market square clean – you have only to look at the gleaming brass handrail and inhale the disinfectant smell. But I wouldn't want to have to take a child in there, even in an emergency. 81 07 1

1981 07 24
Quayside plans, p16

1981 08 08
Johnsons, the menswear shop in Sidney Street has closed down after 150 years' trading in Cambridge. It started on its present site in the 1830s; the founder Octavius Johnson handed the business to his son and it passed down the family until Alfred Mole bought it. Cecil Mole who took over in 1930, said the shop's three employees had all found other work. 81 08 08

1981 08 12
King's Parade barriers, p6

1981 09 17
Down Your Street article by Sara Payne on Bene't Street: an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge; continued 81 09 24

1981 09 22
Jack Carter, the Portugal Place outfitters which has been hiring gowns, tails and dinner suits to students and townsfolk since 1937 is to close. Their lease, owned by Jesus College, has run out and the rent has trebled. The business has been hit in other ways – last year they sold just six gowns because colleges now buy their own supplies, and there are not as many formal functions as previously. 81 09 22

1981 10 06
W. Eaden Lilley's department store, now under one roof in Market Street, is Cambridge's oldest business. The shop front, built in 1930, was in the form of a deep arcade but in 1971 the store reduced it by half and used the space to increase the sales floor. They also have a warehouse in Mill Lane housing the funeral department with its private chapel while their vans are garaged and maintained in Glisson Road. 81 10 06a & b

1981 10 09
Wards have been in Cambridge for more than 70 years, originally making and selling cycles. By the 1930s they were involved in electronics, making their own wireless receiver, the Wards Three Valve. In the 1950s they expanded into communications, selling televisions and other electronic equipment, moving from East Road to a new shop in Burleigh Street in 1965 with another in Bradwell's Court. At its peak in the 1970s they won contracts with Iraq and the Defence Ministry. Now it will close for the last time. 81 10 09d

1981 10 09
The closure of Wards, means another long-established name will disappear from the streets of Cambridge. Recently Jack Carter, the outfitters in Portugal Place announced it was to close, before that Johnsons menswear shop in Sidney Street decided to end 150 years of trading and last year Walker Wallpapers, a family firm for nearly 60 years also called it a day. Reasons vary from rising rates and rent bills to increased competition or simply that the old family has run out of members. 81 10 09e

1981 11 12
It was a sad day when Strudels – one of Cambridge's most unusual restaurants – was forced to abandon their premises in the Kite Area. But now they have reopened as a high-class restaurant in the famous Pitt Club in Jesus Lane. The old favourites are still on the menu though they have an eye for the really unusual such as stuffed acorn squash. House wine is £4 a bottle. 81 11 12

1981 11 25
A startling £3.5 million plan to tunnel under The Backs has been prepared secretly by county road engineers. It would be 20 feet wide and run under Queen's Road from the Madingley junction right up to Silver Street. Meter controlled parking would then be allowed up to Garret Hostel Lane and the area to West Road would be grassed over to give an uninterrupted view of King's College chapel. The plan is certain to raise a violent storm of controversy. 81 11 25 & 26b

1981 11 27
The first Cambridge tunnels dug under Peas Hill were used as wine vaults and one is blocked off by a wall of wine bottles cemented together. During the war they were wired for electricity and fitted out as air raid shelters for 400 people and later dossers used them as overnight hostels. In

1963 came proposals for an underground road starting at Maids Causeway and running down Jesus Lane and Emmanuel Road. There was also to be a three-storey underground car park. But the scheme was rejected. 81 11 27

1981 12 07
All Saints Church in Jesus Lane, Cambridge, is to be preserved and taken over by the Redundant Churches Fund. A masterpiece of Victorian architecture, it was designed by George Bodley in the Gothic style and contains windows and wall stencils designed by William Morris. Now £100,000 will be spent on urgent repairs to the roof. 81 12 07

1982 01 20
Film fans need have no fears that Cambridge cinemas may be converted into Bingo halls. EMI, which owns the two-screen Victoria say they have plans to convert it into a triple. It is the largest in town and attracts an average audience of about 600 people. Seats are now £2.10 for adults but the manager rejects the idea it is too expensive. One of the long-term threats is the home video market 82 01 20

1982 02 03
Andy Gray decided 13 years ago to move his collection of 500 second-hand singles from Bury market to serve the more discerning musical tastes of Cambridge. He can still be found in the Market Square today, though now he has eight shops in the region. He puts his success down to undercutting the traditional record retailers as well as offering the obscure stuff you just couldn't buy elsewhere. Rather like John Peel he has kept abreast of changes, opening 'The Beat Goes On' to cater for new trends. 82 02 03b

1982 03 23
Traders are deserting Magdalene Street in the face of rent rises up to four times the present level, imposed by their college landlords. Several shops already have whitewashed windows and locked doors. Within a year, less than one-third of the original row could remain. Magdalene College says they want to keep it a specialist shopping area but have to get the market rent. 82 03 23 & 23a

1982 04 08
Two of the most familiar faces on Cambridge market have called it a day. Kitty Davis has had a stall for more than 50 years; for much of that time she and her husband Joe have traded in fabrics, buttons and bows. Generations of doll owners have bought the frilly, lacy dresses she made. Racks of them hang beside her sewing machine at home; now she will sell them for charity. Previously she had a shop, 'Kathleens', in Burleigh Street selling ladies' underwear, hosiery and fashions. 82 04 08

1982 05 06
Down Your Street article by Sara Payne on Rose Crescent: an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge; continued 82 05 13

1982 05 25
Jane Barrett, the joint managing director of the Cambridge china and glass specialists, has become the first woman in the world to have a Royal Doulton crinoline lady named after her. 'Jane', a portrait of an Edwardian lady holding a parasol, has been created exclusively to celebrate Barretts bi-centenary this year and will only be sold at their shop in St Mary's Passage. 82 05 25 & a

1982 07 20
Gallyons, a maker and seller of guns and a specialist in fishing tackle, is severing its links with Cambridge after nearly 200 years. They started in Green Street in 1784, moving to Bridge Street in 1865. They are the last firm in East Anglia to make guns and will now have just one shop in Norwich.
82 07 20

1982 07 28
More than 100 years of bookbinding comes to an end when the old established firm of John P. Gray closes down its Green Street premises. The firm was begun in 1847; it established a high reputation for the restoration and repair of ancient books and carried out special commissions for the leading private collectors. Planning permission has been obtained to turn the site into a restaurant and wine bar. 82 07 28a

1982 08 27
City councillors want a full-scale transport complex to give quick interchange for rail and bus passengers on long distance and local services to be sited at the railway station. There is plenty of parking with toilet and refreshment facilities already on hand. The County Council's controversial plans to spend £400,000 on rebuilding Drummer Street bus station would still leave it a cramped site with poor access. 82 08 27

1982 10 04
Market announces worst months trading for 30 years due to parking problems [5.8]

1982 10 05
Newly-modernised almshouses in King Street were re-opened by Baroness David. They were built in 1880 to replace the original houses dating back to 1647 which had decayed beyond repair. The new houses for single retired women have modern kitchens, bathrooms and central heating. Already they have six tenants. 82 10 05a

1982 10 14
Bridge Street: One of Cambridge's most successful rebuilding schemes, Bridge House in Bridge Street, has received a top conservation award. The project involved rebuilding and refurbishing 16th century buildings which had fallen into a sad state of decay by 1970 – Tudor houses no longer fit to live in and derelict workshops. It was judged to be an outstanding piece of restoration work: the frontage was preserved and behind it was built a new office-block which can hardly be seen from the street. 82 10 14a

1982 12
Magdalene Bridge reopens, costs had risen from £50,000 to £545,000 [3.5]

1982 12 09
Accommodation for computer-based companies in Cambridge is at a premium. Several firms are run from private houses with others based around King's Parade and Jesus Lane, where buildings are available and rents favourable. Now a technology square is planned for land at the rear of Shire Hall similar to Trinity College's Science Park but at smaller rents. There might be dual-purpose buildings for start-up companies providing both a home and an office to work in. 82 12 09

1983 01 21

Down Your Street article by Sara Payne on Market Hill: an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge; continued to 3rd February

1983 04 26
The County Council has been urging Cambridge councillors to provide more city centre parking space. They say 1,000 extra parking spaces are needed. Now they have suggested six sites: a 250-space extension to the present Lion Yard multi-deck, land behind Telephone House in Regent Street-Park Terrace (220 spaces on a four-deck park), the old Addenbrooke's Hospital site (250 spaces), land behind Shire Hall (450 spaces on a three-deck park), Saxon Street (480) and Adam and Eve Street (460 spaces). 83 04 26 p5

1983 06 09
No-one is likely to support a local post office out of charity. Business has been falling off in recent years, not helped by Government encouragement to pay many social security benefits monthly instead of weekly and to pay direct into a bank account. Some sub-postmasters have given up because their income has dropped by £1,000 a year but so far somebody else has been persuaded to take on the business. Now a 'rationalisation' programme is being carried out. First to be hit is the King Street post office which is likely to close, just as the street has a new lease of life with new shops and flats. 83 06 09 p11

1983 06 14
All Saints church in Jesus Lane, which was threatened with demolition despite being described as one of the finest examples of Victorian architecture, will open to the public for the first time in ten years. About £40,000 has been spent by the Redundant Churches Fund to make it watertight after years of rain leaking through the roof. The next project will be to clean up the interior and in particular the wall paintings 83 06 14 p10

1983 06 23
Down Your Street article by Sara Payne on St Mary's Passage: an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge; continued 83 06 30

1983 06 29
Plans for a new main bus station with a 'floating roof' and a circular office block standing alongside, in the centre of Cambridge, have come in for fierce criticisms. The County Council is adamant that the new bus station should go on the present small and restricted site in Drummer Street but the Labour- controlled City Council want it moved to the railway station. The rebuilding will see the removal of the small island with its office and large trees from the centre of the road. But the City is refusing to sell the island site or to remove the trees as part of its opposition. 83 06 29 p15

1983 07 01
The County Hall office block in Hobson Street which houses a major section of the county council's social services department may be sold to Christ's College for £1.25 million and converted into student accommodation. It would be one of the biggest property deals in the much sought-after city centre location for years. Scores of council officials would be moved into the new offices planned at the back of Shire Hall. 83 07 01 p1

1983 07 06
The closure of Stockbridge's 113-year-old antique shop in Bridge Street follows closely on that of another shop bearing the same name. C.P. Stockbridge of Histon set up two years ago when the

other branch of the family left its prime site on King's Parade. The main reason for closure is that the antique trade is depressed and the new shop never took off. 83 07 06 p5

1983 07 13
Hundreds of Cambridge residents have lost their long battle to save the sub-post office in King Street from closure. Despite massive protests the Head Postmaster has decided it must shut when the owners retire. Now the council may consider buying the building in the hope they can keep it open. Mr & Mrs Mansfield have given a first class personal service for 30 years which would be difficult to match even if the post office were to remain. 83 07 13 p7

1983 09 29
Gray's the bookbinders of Green Street has been sold, the latest of a long line of small Cambridge specialist shops which are rapidly disappearing. Victims in recent years have included Bacon Brothers cigar merchants, S.P. Ora tobacconists, Gallyon the gun and fishing tackle dealers, F.O. Sennitt, fish, game and poultry merchants and Jack Carter, University robes. They are forced out by the three R's – rent, rates and recession. As the family shops close with them goes part of Cambridge's inheritance, atmosphere and charm. 83 09 29 p16

1983 11 15
Cambridge could soon have a new underground car park, an extensive range of new shops and a luxury hotel at the edge of the Lion Yard car park. The land, which is let as a private car park, was originally scheduled for a large hotel, then the John Lewis organisation became interested. But now the City Council is considering extending the Lion Yard car park, probably underground, and selling the land for shopping. It might fetch as much as £5 million. 83 11 15 p1

1983 11 16
Mowbray's, the King's Parade bookshop, is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its foundation in Oxford. It had its origins in the Catholic revival in the Church of England but institutional and sectarian differences have been submerged in the ecumenical considerations that are now paramount in religious thinking. The Cambridge shop, which opened in 1950, is the baby of the business. It sells books, cards and smokeless, drip-free candles. 83 11 16 p22

1983 12 05
A fire at the Victoria 1 cinema on Market Hill completely destroyed the screen and part of the stage, causing damage estimated at £50,000. There appears to have been a forced entry and it is being treated as arson. The cinema was showing 'War Games'. It is hoped to open the 139-seater Victoria 2 today. 83 12 05 p1

1983 12 13
An old Cambridge family business which closed 20 years ago is being 'revived'. Matthew and Son was once a prosperous department store founded in the 1830s in Trinity Street with its own tea rooms and restaurant. It closed in 1963 because of high rents but now the great-great-nephew of the founder, Michael Matthew, has started up the tea and coffee business again in much humbler surroundings of a market stall. 83 12 13 p12

1983 12 19
Vogue, one of Cambridge's most distinctive fashion shops is closing but for them a closing-down sale does not mean a wild scrimmage as customers fight over coats and dresses. Instead a locked door keeps the bargain-hunters out on the pavement while staff deal with two or three clients at a time. Vogue first opened in 1934 when Mark Harris set out to build a high-class trade which today means dresses of up to £500 in price. They are the top fashion house in East Anglia but

soon the old shop and its garden will disappear. His father opened Modiste in a former public house further down St Andrew's street in the 1920s and all of his six brothers and sister were in business in Cambridge.
83 12 19 p5

1983 12 29
Britain has about 75,000 pubs but experts say the number will have dropped by 10,000 by the end of the century. Six Cambridge pubs have closed in the last ten years and most were knocked down and redeveloped. The Rose in Rose Crescent is the only one still standing with its basement now housing Flambards wine bar. The Bun Shop went after years spent in splendid isolation as the Lion Yard was built, The King William IV in Newmarket was flattened as was the Prince Albert in Chesterton. The Ancient Druids and Old English Gentleman were demolished as part of the Kite clearance. 83 12 29 p12

1984 02 03
The Turks Head sign swings once more in Trinity Street. Its unique charm lies in the eccentric architecture and ancient beams with rich red carpeting and soft lighting. The Tudor grill room can cater for 200 and with so many nooks and crannies they can usually find room for diners. The new charcoal grill will do delicious things to steaks and chops and there is an extensive table d'hote menu offered at £3.95 for three courses with wine at £3.95 a bottle. 84 02 03 p29

1984 02 08
Cambridge's Victoria cinema reopened after the disastrous fire and is now one of the best-equipped in the country with new equipment, new seats and much-improved lavatories. It has six-track stereo, a new screen and the new 70mm projector is seen at full benefit in films like 'Ghandi' and 'The Star Wars' trilogy which will be brought back by popular demand. When the seven-hour programme was tried out last year it attracted a full house with people in fancy costume 84 02 08 p14

1984 03 30
It is exactly 50 years since Marks and Spencer moved into Cambridge at a time when there were major alterations in the narrow Sidney Street which attracted several major stores. It quickly established itself, extending to 10,000 feet in 1937 and doubling its space in 1966. There was further development four years ago when a third floor was added. In 1965 the firm established a warehouse in a former garage in Occupation Road previously owned by Progressive Coaches. Now they are appealing for memories from previous members of staff for a special display. 84 03 30 p24

1984 04 06
The problem of alcoholics monopolising and sometimes abusing public facilities in Lion Yard has been puzzling councillors for a year. It is warm and dry in winter and in the summer they move elsewhere. They need somewhere to congregate out of public gaze. Some say the Guildhall would be suitable or a centre established in one of the five local churches. Another solution could be to rent a shop and provide drop-in facilities. But this would be costly. 84 04 06

1984 09 06
A blaze swept through the ABC Regal cinema in St Andrew's Street, gutting the central part of the 730-seat auditorium. The recently-renewed screen melted with the heat and the rest was damaged. The Polyurethane seat and floor coverings caused a lot of smoke which penetrated the upstairs ABC2 cinema. It is believed to have been started by a cigarette end left smouldering by a cinema-goer. Last year the Victoria cinema was damaged by an arson attack 84 09 06 [4.3]

1984 10 08
Pigott's, the Cambridge hardware chain has closed its central branch in Sussex Street. They have been in the street since the 1930s and always did a good trade but had increasingly severe problems with parking and with wholesalers getting to the shop. Then a rent review was the final thing, the manager said. 84 10 08 p7

1984 11 02
Own Roe, the St Andrew's Street antiques dealer, is the latest in a line of specialist private shops owners to be driven out of the centre of Cambridge by massive rent rises. His great-grandfather started in business at the corner of Christ's Lane in 1822 but that shop was pulled down to make way for Bradwell's Court in the 1960s. Recently E.J. Pigott (tools) left Sussex Street after nearly 50 years and now the Granta Wool Shop is concerned about a rent review. Model Mania in King Street has also moved. 84 11 02 p8

1984 11 30
The Champion of the Thames pub in King Street has just been completely refurbished with an Edwardian atmosphere featuring reinstated oak panelling matched up with new boarding bars, ceilings and floors. The familiar 'Champion' emblem of a sculler has been superbly etched on the new glass but the Landlord would like to know something more about him so that he can add to a selection of old rowing and sculling prints which now adorn the walls. He thinks the name may have come from either a lodger or resident who was a Thames sculling champion. 84 11 30c

1984 12 03
The church of St Andrew the Great officially became redundant on St Andrew's Day. Sunday services would have ceased immediately but the Greek Orthodox congregation, who use the church, protested that they couldn't find anywhere else at such short notice. Now diocesan authorities will allow both Greek and Anglican services to continue until January. Under the terms of the closure the parish will merge with neighbouring Holy Trinity 84 12 03

1984 12 05
KP Professional Sales started in 1968 when its position on King's Parade was ideal for building up business with university departments. But it outgrew its space in the KP Camera Shop, moving to Sussex Street and then Quayside before opening new premises in Clifton Road. It supplies Government departments, the armed forces and a host of professional photographers who need a vital piece of equipment at the last minute. There is a lot of new electronic equipment but as far as taking pictures is concerned Ian Bedson, the managing director, doesn't envisage any major innovation. 84 12 05 & a

1984 12 14
Salisbury's newly-restyled store in Petty Cury is just what Cambridge needs. It is one of their latest generation, combining fashion, function and fun. For many years the Salisbury name stood for leather handbags but perhaps mother and grandmother didn't carry so much around as girls today – maybe she didn't go out to work, read so much, do aerobics, jog, drive or make herself up as frequently! Now there are casual bags, executive cases and travel bags as well as umbrellas, hats and knitwear. From the moment the doors opened customers have been pouring in. 84 12 14a & b

1985 01 21
An old playschool bus has been fitted out with bench seats and facilities to make hot drinks and sandwiches with an informal meeting area upstairs. It will stand on waste land next to the Lion

Yard car park as a drop-in centre to provide a warm, sheltered meeting place for the homeless, unemployed and disadvantaged people of Cambridge. There will be two basic rules – no drink and no violence. It is run by the Cyrenians who will offer advice on problems with the DHSS, housing and drinking. But there has been a lot of public hostility 85 01 21

1985 02 01
The rambling photographic premises in Post Office Terrace are best known as Ramsey and Muspratt's studios. It was in 1931 that Lettice Ramsey and Helen Muspratt took over the business previously run by Palmer Clarke. They built up the portraiture side of the work, photographing most of the university students in the 1930s and carefully filing their negatives. In 1978 the business was taken over by Nicholas Lee and then Peter Lofts but has now closed. All the glass negatives of previously photographers at the studio, dating back to the 1860s, are now in the Cambridgeshire Collection. 85 02 01b & c

1985 03 21
Pipe smokers and cigar lovers will welcome a specialist shop which will fill the gap left by the closure of Bacons in 1983. Harrison and Simmonds, which was founded in Bedford in 1928, is taking the shop at 17 St John's Street, Cambridge. The fixtures and fittings have the traditional look offering a standard of service that matches the timeless quality such a store should have. Customers will be able to try tobacco from all over the world labelled with Dickensian names such as Barnaby Rudge and Pickwick and the shop offers hand-blending to give the pipe smoker optimum choice and also stock a wide range of fine pens. 85 03 21b

1985 05 29
Millers Yard, is a £3million courtyard office and shop development on the site of the former Eaden Lilley furniture depository in Mill Lane. It retains the façade of the original premises which were probably built around 1830 but the rest has been totally reconstructed in an imaginative new development consisting of a wine bar and restaurant, seven ground-floor shops and two floors of offices. 85 05 29a

1985 07 06
Lion Yard car park extension plan – 85 07 06

1985 07 18
Lettice Ramsey, a member of the Bloomsbury Group and Cambridge photographer extraordinary, has died at the age of 86. Born in Ireland, she was educated at Newnham College and married Frank Ramsey a brilliant King's philosopher who tragically died three years later. Left with two daughters she studied briefly at Regent Street Polytechnic and set up in business as a photographer in Post Office Terrace with Helen Muspratt. She was instantly successful and rapidly became fashionable, photographing the influential and up-and-coming throughout the 1930s including Anthony Blunt and Virginia Woolf. She retired in 1978 85 07 18

1985 07 24
The Blue Boar Hotel in Trinity Street may be demolished and replaced by student accommodation, a lecture theatre and new shops. The façade would be saved with a new restaurant and wine bar on the ground floor. Trust House Forte are not a bit worried about its closure as the former 'showbiz hotel' was falling behind present standards. It was difficult to stop outside the entrance, parking was non-existent, few of the bedrooms had private bathrooms and many had a poor view. 85 07 24

1985 07 25

Quayside will be transformed with new shops, office buildings, a restaurant and a café with tables spilling outside into the square. Magdalene College's planned development will change the face of one of the city's most important riverside sites. Punting and public rights of way will be retained as will the newly-created cantilevered walkway linking Bridge Street with Jesus Green. The design by Hughes and Bicknell and will be built in narrow two-inch red bricks to match those of the college. 85 07 25a

1985 07 25
Andy Gray can be seen early in the morning on Market Hill unloading four tons of records. It was as an 18-year-old straight out of school that he bought second-hand juke box records and sold them from market stalls. He took £80 on his first day at Cambridge – more money that he had seen in his life before – and opened his first shop in Mill Road. Now Andy's Records is the biggest chain of record shops in the region with a multi-million pound turnover. But he stills serves behind the counter whenever he can. 85 07 25 & 85 07 30

1985 09 01
Ian Purdy has probably done more than anybody else in modern times to shape the Cambridge we know today. He is the man who fought and won the battle to lift the years-long planning ban on Cambridge expansion, thus opening the doors to industrial development. He played the major part in approving the controversial Lion Yard redevelopment which changed the face of the city centre forever. But he did not design it – that was done by private architects - and doubts if such a scheme would have been approved even 18 months after it was given the go-ahead. "People had so much concrete redevelopment thrust on them after the war and called a halt to it", he says. 85 09 01b & c

1985 09 11
A massive £2 million shops, offices and leisure complex has been thrown out by Cambridge planners – by just one vote. Magdalene College wanted to develop the riverside area of Quayside, Bridge Street and Thompson's Lane with a three-storey building and a development that would include shops, offices, restaurant, café, residential accommodation and a research and development base. Café tables would have spilled out into a square fronting the river. But residents objected, fearing extra traffic and councillors thought it too 'heavily massed' 85 09 11

1985 10 02
Bodger's, one of Cambridge's oldest-established university menswear shops which has been on the corner of Green Street and Sidney Street since 1922, is up for sale as a going concern. It is a very prosperous business employing ten full-time staff but the most valuable part of the concern is the freehold of the shop. It includes sales areas on two floors, a cutting room and canteen together with an attached doctor's surgery with a separate entrance and is valued at £800,000. 85 10 02

1985 10 15
Pigott's, the family ironmongers which has traded in Cambridge for more than a century, is up for sale. It was in 1863 that John Pigott, son of a Landbeach farmer, opened an ironmongers shop in Sidney Street and a chain of shops were set up in Market Hill, Mill Road, Norfolk Street, Bridge Street and Hills Road. The Sussex Street branch, an established feature of the street since the late 1930s, shut down last September. The business, now in Victoria Road, includes two shops, a warehouse, stores and office. 85 10 15a

1985 10 18
Iron foundries on Quayside side – history 85 10 18

1985 10 21
The old Otto Wehrle public clock is to be returned to its former position after a decade's absence. The 102-year-old clock was removed from the Cambridge Market Square façade when the Wehrle jewellers business closed after 125 years. Now it has been discovered in Lincolnshire by a Saffron Walden dealer in ancient artefacts, Stephen McDermott. It is being restored by Rodney Firmin of Magdalene Street before being unveiled once more next spring 85 10 21

1985 10 22
The Government has given the green light for the controversial £500,000 plan for rebuilding Cambridge bus station. They have given the County permission to buy a small 'island' of land in the centre of Drummer Street owned by the city council. It was the only thing standing in the way of the proposed rebuilding plans. But the scheme is unlikely ever to go ahead. The new County council administration wants to build a long-distance coach terminal at the railway station instead, saying it would ease city centre bus congestion. 85 10 22

1985 10 28
For almost 200 years every gentleman of Cambridge popped in to the little King's Parade shop of Bays and Sons, the hatters. It was started in 1787 and the present shop was built in 1825. It was a traditional firm and never followed fashions. Each time the demand for hats dropped they added another line and eventually sold more blazers, trousers and boaters than gowns and hats. But rents tripled and the premises were taken over by New and Lingwood, shirtmakers. Now with the retirement of Jimmy Bays, the family link has been broken. 85 10 28

1985 12 13
Snowy Farr's name and face are instantly recognisable all over the world. The self-styled 'King of the Roads' in his outrageously colourful clothes and with his menagerie of animals has become a regular feature of Cambridge Market Place over the years. It was 1971 when Snowy, now 66, started collecting money for the blind. Over the years he had built up a collection of cats, mice, rabbits, birds and his faithful dog, Spot, which are all transported in a colourful home-made cart built round a bicycle. The former road sweeper has appeared on television, in newspapers and magazines as far away as Canada, Hong Kong and even Australia. 85 12 13a

1985 12 17
Cambridge's Victoria Cinema has been sold to make way for a new Marks and Spencer store. The prime market square site has housed the city's largest cinema since 1931 and underwent a major refurbishment following a fire two years ago. The sale will leave Cambridge with two other cinemas, the ABC 1 and ABC 2 complex and the Arts Cinema. But there are plans to change the old Kinema bingo hall in Mill Road back into a cinema 85 12 17

1986 01 03
Actors, actresses and directors arrived in Cambridge to mark the 50th anniversary of the Arts Theatre. Eleanor Bron, whose career started with the Cambridge Footlights, arrived first to be followed by Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Timothy West with his actress wife Prunella Scales and Judi Dench. Sir Peter Hall laughed with his old friend Trevor Nunn and was joined by Ian McKellan, the irrepressible Arthur Marshall and the broadcaster Richard Baker. The occasion was a unique recital devised by Dr George Rylands, affectionately known as 'Dadie' 86 01 03 86 02 03b & c elite of British acting world give unique Shakespeare performance - "Strange eventful history" celebrate 50th anniversary Arts Theatre, £15,000 raised [8.5] loses £181,000 at box office [8.5]

1986 01 22
King's Parade: Corpus plan facelift when lease run out 1987 - new rooms, offices, revamping buildings [14.1]

1986 01 25
Cambridge City Council wants to increase central area parking as cheaply as possible and is prepared to do a deal with a developer to sell or lease the large area of waste land next the Lion Yard car park. Possibilities include an eight screen cinema complex to be developed by an American company, offices, houses and flats, a luxury hotel or shops linked to St Andrew's Street by moving walkways. Some of the schemes are very attractive visually but the ones that could give the council the best returns are amongst the ugliest. 86 01 25

1986 01 31
The Gordon Fraser Gallery owes its international fame to very humble beginnings at a tiny shop in Portugal Street. There was little passing trade at the newly modernised bookshop-cum-art gallery opened by Gordon Fraser in 1936. But amongst the merchandise on sale were original Picasso etchings and drawings by Matisse and James Thurber. The breakthrough came during the war when he commissioned local artists to produce cards which were printed in Bedford. It was there that the Gallery grew into a major force on the greetings card scene. 86 01 31a

1986 03 11
Holiday Inn plans for hotel and extensions Lion Yard car park welcomed – 86 03 11

1986 04 02
Drummer Street bus station – officially described as a 'disaster area' - is to have a major face-lift, the first since it was built 60 years ago. An island at the centre of the site with a number of small booking offices will be demolished and the central area refurbished. The aim is to tidy up one of the most prominent sites in the city centre, the one first seen by thousands of tourists. It currently has poor passenger facilities and operating conditions and is in urgent need of improvement. 86 04 02b

1986 04 24
Michael Copley and Dag Ingram were undergraduates at Churchill College in the '70s. One had a recorder and the other borrowed £5 to buy an accordion and they started playing on Saturday morning in Lion Yard. One day they received a knock on the door from a policeman. He wanted to book them for a policeman's ball at Huntingdon. The Cambridge Buskers were on their way to stardom. They toured Germany and did a recording with Deutche Grammophon which made them pop stars. Now they have been invited back to Cambridge to play at the University Music Club 86 04 24c

1986 05 14
An amusement centre in Sidney Street has been approved by a government planning inspector, overturning the City Council's rejection of the scheme. It would attract responsible adult customers because of the type of machines installed, he believes. But councillors fear the decision will open the flood gates and that Cambridge will end up looking like Blackpool front. A similar centre opened in Mill Road last year. 86 05 14

1986 06 24
Drummer Street bus station renovation criticised – 86 06 24

1986 07 09

W.H. Smith, a familiar sight on Cambridge Market Hill for the past 25 years is to close. Staff will be transferred to their other shops in Lion Yard and at Cambridge railway station. 86 07 09

1986 07 16
Cambridge planners rejected proposals to demolish the Victoria Cinema at Market Hill and replace it with a Marks and Spencer superstore. It would deprive many people of a first-class city centre entertainments facility, the shopping proposal was contrary to development plans and it would result in added traffic congestion. But they might change their minds if Cannon reopened the Central Cinema in Hobson Street instead of using it as a bingo hall or provided a new multi-screen cinema 86 07 16

1986 08 18
EastEnders star Anita Dobson, the famous landlady of the TV show's 'Queen Vic' pub proved a powerful pulling attraction at the Coral Social Club in Cambridge where some 400 bingo players gathered to see her in the flesh. Fans cheered and queued for autographs when the actress arrived at the Hobson Street club. She called the shows 'Dirty Den' a 'rat' but said "We have a very good on-screen relationship. I'm going to string him up at Christmas. The real Den is a lovely nice person". The event was a lead-up for the club's refurbishment as a cabaret club in November 86 08 18

1986 08 21
Woolworth's in Cambridge is to undergo a massive facelift to bring it up to date. The shop in Sidney Street will close for five weeks while builders work round the clock to gut and rebuild the interior. The new shop will be brighter and more modern with an 80-seater coffee bar, an extended children's toys section and a bigger record department. Out will go bad sellers – men's and women's clothes and food lines, and the range of toiletries and electrical goods will be drastically reduced. 86 08 21

1986 09 22
Jack Carter, the Portugal Place outfitters which has been hiring gowns, tails and dinner suits since 1937 is to close. The shop's lease, owned by Jesus College, has run out and the rent has been trebled. The business has been hit in other ways: last year they sold just six gowns because colleges now buy their own supplies and there are not as many formal functions as previously. The remaining stock will be sold off at the start of the new university term. 86 09 22b

1986 10 16
Bowes and Bowes, Cambridge's oldest bookshop, marked the end of an era and the beginning of a new. The building on the corner of Trinity Street started as a bookshop under William Scarlett in 158l. It was acquired by Daniel and Alexander Macmillan who in 1845 laid the foundations for one of the largest publishing firms in the world. It became a literary centre where figures like Thackeray and Charles Kingsley were frequent visitors. Now it has been completely redesigned and reopened under its new name of Sherratt and Hughes. 86 10 16

1986 10 23
Work to widen pavements in Market Street and Sidney Street and reduce traffic using the city centre are attracting a storm of protest. 86 10 23

1986 11 26
The Corn Exchange, Cambridge's new entertainment and conference complex, has opened after years of political wrangling. The four wall shell used for pop concerts, roller skating and badminton has been developed into an auditorium with stage and versatile seating together with a

tiered balcony and mezzanine terrace that can be used for a variety of purposes. At the back are changing rooms, dressing rooms and workshops while the King Room upstairs will be available for private functions 86 11 26d & e

1987 01 08
Traders are blaming Cambridge's parking problems for turning the market into a 'morgue' and 'cutting trade by up to 50 per cent'. They say shoppers are going elsewhere and the centre is dying simply because there is nowhere to park. There are too few car parks, too high parking fees, a loss of meter spaces and cuts in bus services. A Consultant's report commissioned by leading retailers and hotel bosses has also said that poor parking facilities are costing shops lost trade and a pressure group has called for a 1,000-space underground car park 87 01 08a

1987 01 21
A new official booklet aimed at promoting tourism in Cambridge features a picture on the cover of a traffic warden booking a coach driver for parking outside King's College. It also shows groups of tourists standing under umbrellas in the rain. The drawings by a council artist appear in the Travel Trade Manual issued by the city's tourism department as part of a campaign to encourage visitors throughout the year. Councillors are amazed that they are telling millions of tourists to come to Cambridge and get booked for parking. 87 01 21

1987 03 13
Cambridge's traditional transport, the bicycle, will be deliberately used to slow down city centre traffic. The medieval central streets will be made even narrower which will make it even more difficult to overtake bikes. Traffic restrictions will also be introduced, including the banning of taxis. The streets have been reshaped and cleaned up with York stone used in areas considered 'visually sensitive'. But workmen in Trinity Street have been delayed by having to remove hundreds of wooden blocks dating back to the days of horse-drawn vehicles 87 03 13b

1987 03 14
Barrett's China and Glass shop in St Mary's Street is to close after 200 years in Cambridge with the business transferred to Newmarket. The owner says that the appalling parking problems are one factor for the move. In January a city centre gift shop and a doctor's surgery both moved out for the same reason. The Parsley Pot shop in Lion Yard has also closed. The Managing Director of Eaden Lilley has warned the parking crisis in traffic-choked Cambridge could only get worse. 87 03 14

1987 03 26
Chirpy market trader Bill Gray has gone to extreme lengths to keep his customers happy. He even skinned a rabbit for one person who stopped to buy some fruit and veg. His beaming smile and friendly small-talk has been a big boost for business. And the smile does not fade when the rain lashes down. Bill, of Gt Shelford, has been a familiar face during the past 31 years. But now he is calling it a day and will hand the business over to his son and daughter-in-law. But his regulars – who include the wife of the former Master of Trinity - will be pleased to know that he will still help out sometimes. 87 03 26

1987 03 27
The world-famous Cambridge University Hawks Club, founded in the early 19th century, is to open in the city's up-market Portugal Place. It will turn the former Blue Boar Hotel's staff hostel into a club for the university's top sportsmen similar to the better gentleman's clubs in St James, London. Residents have expressed worries about noise and one councillor thought it wrong to

spend such money when Cambridge urgently needs student accommodation. But supporters say it is a 'very valuable little house' that would be exceedingly well looked after. 87 03 27b

1987 04 28
One of Britain's oldest booksellers, Deighton Bell in Trinity Street, which dates back to 1700 and specialises in antiquarian and rare volumes, has been sold to nearby Heffers. It takes them back to second-hand books, a department it gave up in 1974 because of lack of space. Then they had sold their stock to Deighton Bell and had maintained a good relationship ever since. The shop will remain on the corner of Trinity Street and Green Street and continue to be run by John Beech his staff 87 04 28

1987 06 26
The Victoria Cinema site on Market Hill is to become a Marks and Spencer store following an Inspector's decision. M & S is planning to put up a completely new building behind the existing façade and the store will also stretch into the shoe shop next door. Refusing permission would not have saved the cinema as the owners wanted to sell the property. But planners fear traffic chaos unless the firm is responsible about deliveries: they can as of right bring huge great articulated trucks down Bridge Street and Trinity Street in the middle of the working day if they so wish. 87 06 26

1987 08 19
Ambitious plans for a £3million facelift for the Lion Yard shopping centre have been unveiled by Barclays Bank. The precinct – officially opened by Princess Anne in 1975 – will be brought bang up-to-date with new lighting, new paving and a new shop unit neat St Andrew's the Great. The biggest change will be a covered first-floor level incorporating the Heidelberg Gardens with four food kiosks and a seating area for 200. It will be a much better place and people will be able to get something to eat and drink there, developers claim. 87 08 19

1987 10 20
Cambridge residents should be given the chance to air their views about old-fashioned lampposts that are being replaced as an economy measure, says Coun Rosensteil. The 'Richardson Candles' along Magdalene Street were designed nearly 40 years ago by Sir Albert Richardson, President of the Royal Fine Arts Commission to fit in with the street. But the County Council claims they are expensive to run and that spare parts are no longer available. However the modern steel columns have angered environmentalists who say they are unsuitable for such a sensitive area. 87 10 20

1987 10 21
Classical music concerts could be curtailed at Cambridge Corn Exchange in a bid to cut losses. But 'popular' acts such as comedians Phil Cool & Victoria Wood and big-time rock groups like Motorhead and David Essex have proved a massive success. In just nine months the Corn Exchange has been established as an important venue with plenty of sell-outs and successes. This has led to agents asking if their acts can play there. David Essex, Courtney Pine, The Shadows and the Drifters are amongst those whose managements have approached them. 87 10 21

1987 11 06
Vision Park, the controversial office and high-tech development in Histon, has gained a major first tenant. Barclays Bank is taking half of the first completed building to replace their head office above the bank in Bene't Street. The move follows Lloyds Bank's decision to take a large headquarters block at Castle Park, Shire Hall and Midland's move of its management team to Parkers House in Regent Street. 87 11 05b

1987 11 16
Garden House Hotel's expansion plans include a glass-walled swimming and leisure centre with pool, squash court, saunas and solaria. There would be an extension housing 16 bedrooms, each of which would have a balcony, together with six two-bedroom apartments with kitchens, designed for longer-stay residents such as senior managers or academics. These will run along the east bank of the River Cam and be screened by trees. In addition there will be bed-sitters for staff and a two-storey car park. This would complete the hotel's business plan. But there have been criticism from preservationists. 87 11 16a

1987 12 03
A major multi-million-pound expansion scheme for the Garden House Hotel has been thrown out by planners who fear it would encroach on 'sacrosanct' land. Opponents had complained the proposals would destroy the open character of Sheeps Green and Coe Fen. Others were worried about traffic congestion. The planning officer said the original Garden House had grown into a hotel served from narrow streets. "It would be quite clearly wrong to extend further with urban scale development into a tongue of land between two critical open pieces of land", he said. 87 12 03

1988 01 15
Lights went up for the last time at the Victoria Cinema as the final performance of its last show came to an end. As the audience left after seeing 'Spaceballs' or 'Predator', manager Richard Wright reflected on the cinema's long history. Memories of MGM musicals, Saturday morning minors and all-night horror shows came flooding back. Mick Wells, who has been the chief projectionist for 24 years recalled the halcyon days when 'South Pacific' ran for two solid years and 'The Sound of Music' for three. Now the building on Cambridge Market Hill will make way for a new Marks and Spencer store. 88 01 15

1988 01 26
Joshua Taylor, one of Cambridge's most prestigious department stores has been sold. The new owner, London property developers Arlington Security plans to retain the name and upmarket image. Each of the 160 staff have their jobs guaranteed and will get an average loyalty bonus of £1,500. Included in the deal are the main Sidney Street shop, the Bridge Street houseware shop and the Taylor family's academic robe-making business. The deal ends three months of doubt over the 128-year-old store's future following the Taylor family's decision to sell up in the face of fierce competition from national chains 88 01 26

1988 02 12
Work begins on Quayside redevelopment – 88 02 12a

1988 02 20
Cambridge is set for a battle of the booksellers after news that the Waring and Gillow furniture store in Sidney Street will be refurbished as Dillons Bookstore. 88 02 20

1988 03 08
Multi-million pound plans to refurbish the Lion Yard shopping centre would include gates to shut off the precinct at night. There would be a food court with restaurant on the upper floor of the present WH Smith which would be relocated in Heidelberg Gardens. 88 03 08

1988 03 14
Restaurants in Cambridge city centre have suffered a dramatic loss of trade since the controversial closure of the Victoria Cinema and its redevelopment for a new Marks and Spencer

store. The Berni Steak House in Rose Crescent is down 150 meals a week while Flambards wine bar in Rose Crescent has also lost custom. The owner of the Italian Kitchen says there is nothing for anyone to come in for in the evening. The whole place is just deserted. 88 03 14

1988 04 18
The historic Eagle Hotel in Bene't Street has closed for a year or two while building work is carried out nearby. It has been favourite of tourists, dons and actors from the Arts Theatre. The people who discovered DNA were regulars and the traitor, Kim Philby, also drank there. Former RAF Chief Technician, James Chainey, who has made a study of the wartime writings on the ceiling, was among the final drinkers. But late arrivals found many of the pumps had already run dry and some of the fittings taken down 88 04 18

1988 04 21
Major refurbishment work has been completed at Cambridge's long-established department store. Joshua Taylor opened his first shop in Ely in 1810 which continued until 1923. His son started in Sidney Street Cambridge in 1860, spreading to Bridge Street in 1955. It became a household name to shoppers, symbolising a traditional way of life. This will continue say the new owners Arlington Securities who plan 'an exciting future' for the shop. They have retained the elegant sweeping central staircase and now with expansion and financial backing, the future looks rosy. 88 04 21c & d

1988 05 05
Lion Yard redevelopment history – 88 05 05b

1988 06 09
Health Food Stores of Rose Crescent was ahead of its time when it started under the name of Sandwiches and Health Food in Green Street in 1931. The brainchild of an Australian, Clarence Dowell and his wife, who worked in the kitchen making sandwiches, it introduced many Cambridge people to the delights of nut rissoles and vegetarian food. Now it is to close and Peppercorns delicatessen will open in the premises 88 06 09c

1988 06 25
Arlington Development plan shopping shake-up involving Joshua Taylor, Eaden Lilley and the Arts Cinema, realigning Market Passage – 88 06 25

1988 07 01
Consulting engineers Peter Dann and Partners celebrated its silver jubilee with a ball at St John's College. It has been involved with extensions at many colleges and University buildings, including the Fitzwilliam Museum, and is now working on prestigious flats at Beauford Place, Quayside, where they are building over the electricity sub-station to provide ground floor shops and a courtyard with offices above. 88 07 01 & a

1988 07 21
The future of Cambridge market could be in doubt due to parking problems, stallholders say. Until 1969 drivers could park their cars in the middle of the market area – an attendant collected the fees – while stallholders occupied all the outside area. Then the council came up with a proposal that the area be divided into two – half stalls, half cars. But this provoked indignation and all parking was banned with new metal-framed plastic-covered stalls instead of wood and canvas set out over whole area. – 88 07 21

1988 07 23

A.A. Roper's traditional tailor's shop in Trinity Street is closing after nearly 80 years and three generations of trading. Stanley Roper, son of the founder Arthur, is retiring as is 77-year-old cloth-cutter Fred Bland who is irreplaceable – his is a dying craft outside London. David Roper is sad to close the shop but says "It is not like before the war, when we used to make suits for five guineas – today the same suit would cost £300" 88 07 23a

1988 08 23
New laws to allow pubs to open from 11am to 11pm on weekdays and until 3pm on Sundays have had little impact in Cambridge. At the Baron of Beef in Bridge Street they still close mid-afternoon: with tourist coaches gone and people at work there is little going on until 5.30. But the revamped Spade and Beckett in Thompson's Lane & the Fort St George are opening all day while the Clarendon Arms are serving up afternoon cuppas & cakes. 88 08 23

1988 09 05
Nettles, one of Cambridge's most popular snack bars in St Edward's Passage, may close. 88 09 05

1988 11 15
The prestigious Garden House Hotel has been taken over by Queens Moat Houses, the first national chain to gain a foothold in the city. Its main competitor, the four-star University Arms is owned by the Bradford Family while the Ridgeon family own the Gonville and Arundel House belongs to Major John Norfolk. The Garden House was first opened in 1922 but has had an unsettled time with five different owners in the last 20 years. In 1970 it was damaged during the 'Garden House Riot' and two years later gutted by a fire. It reopened in 1973 and has since been extended. Now it will be redecorated 88 11 15

1988 11 16
Laurence Fletcher was given the challenge of opening a new Christian book shop in Cambridge in 1951; now Mowbrays which was founded in Oxford almost 140 years ago has a world-wide reputation. At his retirement party the Bishop of Ely read a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury paying tribute to Mr Fletcher's enthusiasm and knowledge of books: "I can't imagine King's Parade without him", he wrote . 88 11 16

1989 02 28
Myttons restaurant and brasserie takes up most of the ground floor of the Pitt Club in Jesus Lane. Behind the classical façade of the building originally built as a Roman bath house last century, a complete transformation has taken place. The elegant dining room provided a traditional atmosphere for substantial dining with a fully licensed bar for liquid refreshment. The brasserie offers economic lunches and dinners with most dishes under £5 89 02 28a

1989 03 09
Cambridge Tyre Company, which celebrates its 60th anniversary, has a number of early tyres in stock. They include an American Swineheart tyre for a Model T Ford and a beaded edge Michelin from the same period. Ernest Brown founded the company in 1929 based in a small shop in Jesus Lane when many tyres were of solid construction. By 1935 they'd moved to Burleigh Street when tyres were fitted at the side of the road and in 1964 took over premises owned by Winston Smith the butcher in Histon Road. 89 03 09a

1989 06 14
Cinderellas Rockerfellas –formerly Ronelles - Cambridge's top night spot, reopens with a new look. Top disc jockey Bruno Brookes will make an appearance along with Hot Flesh and their fire

dance spectacular, Marc Oberon the illusionist and robots Adam and Eve. The evening begins with a jazz band playing outside the club in the Heidelberg Gardens in Lion Yard. The club now sports a more upmarket image and incorporates Waldo T. Pepper's restaurant 89 06 14

1989 06 27
Bodgers the outfitters founded its reputation on old-fashioned courtesy and service, specialising in the sale of traditional clothes for traditional gentlemen. For 138 years generations of both town and gown have visited its respectable Sidney Street premises. But the shop, founded n 1851 is to close because of soaring interest rates, four years after it was bought by rival company Shepherd and Woodward of Oxford. The site is one of the only central freeholds not in college hands and is a prime site for speculators. 89 06 27

1989 07 13
The Dorothy was the social centre of Cambridge for many years, a place where town met gown and people enjoyed the regular afternoon dances. During the 50s its Blue Room became a major attraction for the young with rows of motor bikes and scooters lined up outside. Its oyster and fish restaurant opened in 1965 with an air-conditioning unit wafting away fishy odours and meals were cooked at the tables, under customer's noses Now the property's owner, Dillons Bookshop has leased part of the Sidney Street building to Festival Catering and the building has been reborn with a teashop, pub, restaurant and function room. 89 07 13

1989 08 05
The Government has rejected plans for a massive office block at Mitcham's Corner. But there is still a steady trade in office space. Those in old buildings without car park parking space are difficult to shift. But bright new ones are easier to find. In Rose Crescent an 18-year lease is going for £65,000 and an eight-room office in Hobson Street is £15,000 a year. Kett House is under offer and an office above the Midland Bank has just been let while in Newmarket is a brand new Stourbridge Common Business Centre 89 08 05

1989 08 09
The Gardenia in Rose Crescent is a Mediterranean restaurant, run for the last 20 years by the Loizou family who have never lost their strong Cypriot identity. Mum Paraskevi prepares all Greek meat dishes such as shevtallia meatballs while Dad, Andreas, mans the tills. They were the first to introduce the kebab into Cambridge. But now they have decided to close and the restaurant is up for sale. 89 08 09a

1989 08 11
St Andrew the Great church at the entrance to Lion Yard went into rapid decline as the congregation dwindled and was declared redundant in 1983. The diocese put in planning applications for community use then leased it to Grosvenor Square Properties, a London-based development company. Since then proposals have been met with a storm of protest. Many want church, which houses a memorial to Captain Cook, to an education and heritage centre 89 08 11a

1989 09 14
Market Hill - Marks & Spencer open although city refused planning permission 3 years ago ¢CEN 14.9.89

1989 09 21
Cambridge Arts Theatre is to launch an appeal to replace its 650 aging and tatty seats, worn carpets and poor ventilation system. Despite artistic success it has financial problems. Even when a show is a roaring success and playing to packed houses, the theatre makes a £3,000 loss. The

problem is worse when operas are performed as a full orchestra reduces seating capacity from 650 to 580. Small profits from catering services, costume-hire and renting out the building for conferences only makes a dent in the overall loss. 89 09 21

1989 10 03
A light railway system running in a tunnel under Midsummer Common is the latest official suggestion to help solve traffic problems in the centre of Cambridge. It would be an alternative to a line running down a widened section of Newmarket Road. The underground railway would link with a number of other lines from surrounding villages as far out as Fenstanton and terminate at a station in Malcolm Street. The County Council will invest £60,000 to see if a car park under Midsummer Common is feasible and another £150,000 in a feasibility study for a 60-mph light rail system. 89 10 03a

1989 11 07
Rumbelows, the television, video and hi-fi dealers are closing their branch in Petty Cury. The move, which follows the closure of Laskys in the Grafton Centre, signals the extent of distress in High Street retailing. The run up to Christmas ought to be traders' best period of the year. But with interest rates high and many potential shoppers reeling under the effects of increased mortgage payments, business is down. And Petty Cury is amongst the most expensive pitches in Cambridge. 89 11 07

1989 12 01
Anglia TV officially opened its new base in Jesus Lane – 89 12 01a

1989 12 12
Sir Arthur Marshall to retire – profile. His father set up a de luxe car hire service in Brunswick Terrace in 1909, opening garages in King Street and Jesus Lane. In 1912 carried petrol to Beta II airship which landed in grounds Jesus College. Bought first aircraft at Fowlmere in 1919. Got pilot's licence 1929 & bought a Gipsy Moth. Opened landing field behind house in Newmarket Road – 89 12 12b, c

1989 12 14
W & G Taylor of Trinity Street, one of Cambridge's oldest family menswear shops, is closing after 809 years of business. The firm started when George and Walter Taylor (no relation) who both worked at Ryder and Amies, decided to set up in business together but now a threefold increase in the lease is simply beyond their means. The shop describes itself as a gentleman's outfitters and specialises in hats. Bowlers for Cambridge colleges have been a regular line of business. 89 12 14

1989 12 15
The closure of W & G. Taylor is the latest in a line of small stores squeezed from the city centre by rocketing rents. Two other men's outfitters, Ropers and Bodgers closed this summer. Another famous shop which closed six years ago in the face of mounting rent and rates was Bacons in Market Street. The Parsley Pot in Lion Yard, Cambridge Fine Jewels of Emmanuel Street and upmarket furnishers, Johns left their Bridge Street premises for Histon Road last year blaming the traffic chaos can high parking charges 89 12 15

1990 01 24
Arlington Securities, which already owns Joshua Taylor and Arts Cinema buys Beach Villas on corner Sidney St & Market Passage – 90 01 24

1990 01 31
Corn Exchange cultural centre – feature – 90 01 31a & b

1990 03 07
Eagle Inn, Bene't Street to re-open – 90 03 07a

1990 03 13
University Audio founder Gruffydd Reece started University Cameras in St Mary's Passage after leaving the RAF in 1945. The business expanded and he opened Fencolour Laboratories in Newmarket Road, one of the first to offer colour developing and printing for amateurs. He was later joined by his brother Hugh and cousin Bryan Hyam who started University Audio in Peas Hill – 90 03 13

1990 07 18
Quayside shops and office development formally opened by Duke of Edinburgh – 90 07 18a

1990 08 10
Lion Yard car park underground extension opened – 90 08 10a; brings relief 90 08 17a

1990 08 11
Drought reveals outlines of former buildings on King's Parade – 90 08 11a

1990 08 15
Market traders put forward plan to pedestrianize the square with a quarter left free for stalls – 90 08 15a

1990 09 21
TSB to close branches in Burleigh St & Jesus Lane – 90 09 21a

1990 09 26
Market Hill revamp plans include new fountain – 90 09 26a

1990 10 08
Cambridge Robes made ceremonial robes for monarchs, bishops at Portugal Place since 1947; to close – 90 10 08b

1990 10 16
Colin Lunn tobacconist on King's Parade, opened 1899 to close – 90 10 16a

1990 10 11
Garden House Hotel taken over from Queens Moat House group by Paul Breen, plans leisure complex 90 10 11a

CAMBRIDGE DAILY NEWS, Thursday, August 16, 1956

ARBURY ROAD DEVELOPMENT

Photos Cambridge Daily News

Two views of the rapidly growing Arbury Road housing estate.

Arbury Road development 16 August 1956

c.44.6: Arbury & Kings Hedges

1900

1903 09 03
Two firewood dealers were charged with stealing a quantity of timber, the property of the Roses Timber Company. The company had purchased 53 trees on the Madingley Estate, amongst which were two elms; later they found that 17 feet had been cut from one of them, and ten feet from the other. Police discovered the timber on the defendants' premises in Beche Road, Cambridge. When questioned they said it had come from King's Hedges. They were each fined £3.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1908 10 09
Arbury Road houses proposed – CWN 08 10 09

1910

1912 03 08
Members of the University Officers' Training Corp together with the Leys, Perse and County School O.T.C. took part in night operations with the Honorary Artillery Company from London. A brisk engagement in the vicinity of Arbury Camp culminated in the capture and blowing-up of a gun posted at the windmill near Histon station. The night was not favourable for a surprise attack, the moon was shining brightly and the defenders opened fire. Soon a brisk musketry duel was in progress. 12 03 08b

1916 03 15
Farm Fire. A serious outbreak of fire occurred at King's Hedges, near Milton, on Wednesday evening on a farm in the occupation of three smallholders, Messrs. Hawkes, Curtis and Tuffin. The fire was first observed shortly before nine o'clock, and before the flames were got under control great damage had been done to the outhouses, all of which were practically burnt, whilst a pony and two pigs were also destroyed. A good deal of concern was felt in Cambridge, the reflection of the flames in the sky being plainly seen from the town. Helpers from Histon and Milton and a party of soldiers, led by an officer who had noticed the glare in the sky, rendered valuable assistance in fighting the flames, whilst the County Police, under the direction of the Deputy Chief Constable (.Supt. Webb), also afforded valuable aid. The house and several stacks and a good deal of livestock were thus saved. The loss, we understand, was covered by insurance.

1919 02 05
Chivers motor car involved fatal accident in Arbury Rd – photo – 19 02 05b

1920

1921 03 30
William Radford taxi catches fire, Arbury Rd – 21 03 30b

1922 04 20
The Whippet meeting arranged by the Cambridge Whippet Racing Club was held in the club's straight running ground, Arbury Road, Cambridge, when a good crowd of spectators witnessed some very decent running. The weather conditions were far from ideal for dog racing, and undoubtedly were responsible for some indifferent running

1922 08 28
A good crowd and a fair number of entries went to make a success of the Cambridge Whippet Racing Club's meeting, which was held in the Straight Running Ground, Arbury-road. The meeting was the last of a series of evening meetings arranged by the club and unfortunately was not favoured with very good weather. The racing was very close and exciting and several "certs" came "unstuck"

1925 02 06
Cambridge Housing and Town Planning committee recommended the council purchase land at the junction of Milton Road and King's Hedges road for £2,400. It was light soil, very suitable for the erection of houses. The Council had never bought land at such a cheap rate. Ald Starr said a

very serious objection was that Milton road was not skewered up to that point and it would cost something up to £8,000 to lay the sewers required.

1927 10 18
Cambridge Planning Committee considered a letter from the Cambridge Co-operative Society asking for St James Road to be renamed Sleaford Street. They agreed to take steps to this end. The Housing committee agreed that Triplex stoves be installed in the 112 houses being erected on the King's Hedges site and that work proceed with distempering 24 timber-framed houses on the site.

1927 11 26
Chesterton RDC received the layout submitted by Cambridge Estates Ltd for a new building estate in the parish of Impington. They had acquired 30 acres of land. The estate a considerable frontage to Arbury Road. It could be drained mainly into Milton Road by a new road to be called Hurst Park Avenue. It would be developed uniformly on garden suburb lines with wide roads & grass verges.

1930

1930 02 14
Large crowds gathered for the stone-laying of the new Arbury Road Baptist Church Hall and School. The new church will have the support of the Old Chesterton Baptists who will vacate their present chapel when the new building is complete. It will serve the needs of inhabitants of Green End Road, Milton Road and the Hurst Park & Chesterton Hall Estates and will be able to welcome members of other denominations. The ceremony was one of the most unique ever performed, there being six foundation stones laid. 30 02 14

1930 07 18
There were remarkable scenes at the opening services of the Arbury Road Baptist Church Hall and School. When the doors were flung open the crowd was far too large for the building. Although many stood at the rear many more had to be content with standing outside and taking part in the proceedings through the open windows. It meets the religious needs of a large residential area of 4,000 people which has come into existence since the war and it is hoped to built a chapel within a few years 30 07 18

1930 07 25
Cambridge councillors have received consent for a new road from Milton Road to Histon Road at a cost of £18,135. St John's College would give the land which was required for housing purposes, it would be one of the best estates and the frontages would sell at very high price. Grants have been received for King's Hedges and Green End Road as part of the unemployment scheme with one-third of the labour being imported from the distressed areas.
30 07 25d

1932 03 30
Described by its builders and furnishers as 'the ideal home at the ideal price on the ideal terms' there is a newly built house in King's Hedges Road which all prospective purchasers should inspect. With two receptions, three bedrooms, a bathroom and large garden it is on sale at the remarkably reasonable price of £625 freehold or for £35 deposit and 19/6 (97p) weekly. Robert Sayle has completely furnished it at a price of £140.10s. Lucky will be the wife whose husband presents her with this home. 32 03 30

1934 04 30
Three houses were damaged by one flash of lightning in Lovell Road, one of the new roads off Milton Road. The house which sustained the greatest damage was fortunately unoccupied; it struck the chimney stack and ripped a large hole in the roof. The flash spanned the road, missed no.113 but broke windows at nearby properties. It was seen by Mr Dale who was putting up curtains at the time and was thrown from one side of the room to the other. 34 04 30

1936 03 06
The Star Brewery want a new pub, The Golden Hind, on Milton Road, an area of 1,010 houses of which the majority had been built since 1927. It was not ribbon development but housing estates on each side and practically built up to the railway gates. King's Hedges Road would form part of the new Ring Road so further development might be expected there. If granted the brewery would surrender the licence of the 'Racehorse' on Newmarket Road and the 'Plume of Feathers'. The Women's Total Abstinence Union opposed the application. 36 03 06

1937 03 01
A horse attached to a milk float belonging to Messrs W.H. Onyett, dairymen of Chesterton, bolted while standing outside a house in Ramsden Square. After a run of about three hundred yards during which it rounded two sharp corners, distributing pieces of harness, milk crates and bottles, it came to a halt in King's Hedges Road when the near-side wheel was wrenched off the cart 37 03 01b

1937 12 08
Sir – two months ago I visited Kings Hedges Road and was surprised to find that an entirely new, first class road has been constructed, sewered, channelled, kerbed, grass verged. This has been done by the council under an agreement with the owners who threw into the highway just under half an acre of land, worth £50. The total cost of making the road was nearly £1,500. The building speculators have received a substantial gain, a splendid road, enhanced price for the houses erected, resulting in a bigger profit for them at the expense of the ratepayers – Geo. Edwards 37 12 08

1937 12 16
Back in 1924 Green End Road and Kings Hedges Road were narrow country roads with hedges on each side and a narrow carriageway in the centre with rough grass margins on either side. Then the Cambridge Town Planning Scheme began to evolve and development started to take place. The Corporation built some wood framed houses on the west side of Kings Hedges Road and the housing society erected houses on the same side of Green End Road. Gradually houses began to appear on the opposite side and then the proposed ring road was agreed. Builders told to keep their houses far enough back to enable the required width but then the council purchased the land and constructed the ring road in front of the properties without any cost to them. The same procedure was followed on King's Hedges Road from Milton Road to the old borough boundary 37 12 16c

1938 02 03
King's Hedges Road was shown as a private carriageway under the Inclosure Award of 1840, so why was it now repairable by Cambridge ratepayers, Councillor Edwards asked. The Town Clerk said that in 1912, when the Borough was extended, part of King's Hedges Road was handed over by Chesterton Urban District Council as a highway repairable by the inhabitants at large and in 1934 the County passed over the remaining portion on the same terms. It seemed Chesterton UDC had simply begun repairing the road thus making it a public highway. It was a mistake made in good faith and it would be a waste of time to consider it further. 38 02 03b

1938 03 24
King's Hedges Road controversy – no further action – 38 03 24c

1938 08 08
Hundreds of acres of barley ripe for the reaper were devastated by a disastrous storm which raged over Gt Wilbraham. Hailstones as large as lump sugar left a trail of destruction; beet was stripped of its greenery as if by a plague of locusts, hedges cut by the sharp ice and barriers of ice, like miniature mountain ranges rose to a high of four feet. "It would have killed a man if he had been out in it", an old farm worker said. 38 08 08a & b

1939 10 27
Mr. A. J. Scudamore. The funeral took place on Saturday of Mr. A. J. Scudamore, boat builder, who died the previous Thursday at his home, Rosario, King's Hedges Road, Cambridge. Mr. Scudamore was in business with his brother, the late Mr. J. C. Scudamore, who died about a year ago, assisting him in the carrying-on of the well-known business in Mill Lane and the Granta Boathouse. When motor launches were first introduced on the Cam, deceased built several of them, and they attained considerable success in the races promoted by the Motor Boat Club. He was also one of the first members of the club.

1939 10 27
Evacuees entertained Baptist Church Hall, Arbury Rd – 39 10 27

1940

1940 05 17
Charles Lovell Naylor was estate agent, set up Cambridge Building Materials Supply Co, built houses in Scotland Road and King's Hedges Road but war caused problems; purchased Rendezvous Cinema in 1930, rebuilt it after fire 1931 but sold due ill health and lost money – 40 05 17

1942 09 25
Did he escape from Singapore? Among the Cambridge men reported missing when Singapore fell was Sapper William Hall, of 178 King's Hedges Road, Cambridge. His wife has now received news from a Mrs. Harradine of 13 Owlstone Road, Cambridge, that her husband was amongst those who made their escape from the Japanese. It will be remembered that the escape of Mrs Harradine's husband. Lt. R. R. L Harradine was reported last March. Mrs. Harradine has now received a letter from her husband saying that Sapper Hall was with him when he got away from Singapore. Mrs. Hall, however, has heard nothing from her husband, and is endeavouring to get in touch with him

1945 08 29
VJ Parties – Eden St, Cherry Hinton Rd, Chestnut Grove – 45 08 29; Queen Edith's Way, Ditton Fields – 45 09 04; Young St, Petworth St, Geldart St, Marshall Rd – 45 09 04; Darwin Drive, Stretton Ave, Victoria St, Hobart Rd, Adam & Eve St – 45 09 07b; Gloucester St, Castle St, Ashfield Rd – 45 09 10; Gilbert Rd, King's Hedges Rd, Ditton Fields – 45 09 11; Lichfield Rd, Cromwell Park estate, Hawthorn Rd – 45 09 12; Catharine St, Kendal Way – 45 09 14; York St & York Terrace, Brooks Road, Gold St – 45 09 17d# Bateson Rd, Garden Walk, Argyle St, St Philip's Rd , Sedgwick St, Holbrook Rd, Mowbray Rd – 45 09 18; Akeman St, James St, Parsonage St, Vinery Rd, Kingston St, Kingston St, Mowbray Rd, Hurst Park Estate – 45 09 20;

Eastfield, New St, Kelvin Close – 45 09 24a; Hertford St, St John's Rd, Norwich St, Alpha Terrace, Sherlock Rd – 45 09 27a

1947 07 16
In order to complete the Housing Committee's anticipated programme of 5,000 houses, the following additional site are to be purchased subject to the approval of the Minister of Health. Arbury Road-King's Hedges (number of houses 1,300); Coleridge Road (180), Queen Edith's Way (250), Cherry Hinton Road (365). Total number of houses 2,095.

1949 04 14
Delay in Cambridge corporation authority's gaining access to 40 acres of allotments in Coleridge Road in readiness for their use as a housing site would upset the rate of the council's housing programme, it was stated at an Inquiry. The corporation owned two other areas of land for housing. One, recently purchased, was in Queen Edith's Way. The other, the Arbury road site, it was proposed to develop as a neighbourhood unit with ultimately 1,000 houses, but it was unlikely it could be adequately serviced for building for at least 2½ years

1950

1951 03 14
Approval of the layout of the new housing estate between Gilbert Road and Arbury Road is to be recommended by Cambridge council. Sites are provided for three-storey flats, semi-detached and blocks of four houses, a church, community centre, shops, cinema, public house and a nursery school.

1952 08 20
What may prove to be an important Roman discovery has been unearthed at a building site in Arbury Road, Cambridge. While excavating a trench for a new sewerage system Mr C. Taylor came across a coffin hewn out of solid stone. He lifted the lid, weighing many hundredweight, and there, completely enclosed in a lead lining was a complete skeleton. Nearby was another, also in good condition. It seems possible this was the burial place of an important Roman family as the stone must have been imported and the coffin enclosed in a layer of chalk – there is no chalk in the immediate area.

1953 08 19
There have been several important archaeological finds of the Roman era on the Arbury Road building site. Traces of the Roman Road, Akeman Street, a cemetery, a building and extensive rubbish pits have all been unearthed. Two waterworks engineers found some pottery and a quantity of glass which had been imported from the Rhine. But some of this has been lost; it was left on the edge of a trench and has been taken by someone not knowing its historical value

1953 10 07
For four years Mr Ken Allen had had his name down on the waiting lists for a council house. After all that time he decided he would wait no longer – and he set to work to build his own home. On Monday he stood under his own roof. Inside and out nearly a score of self-builders, members of the Cambridge Self-Build Housing Association were putting in the window frames, hammering home the floorboards, measuring here, sawing there and generally completing the interior of his house in time for moving in before Christmas. The six-roomed semi-detached dwelling on the Arbury Road housing site will have cost £1,300 – and for that he gets a house worth £2,000.

1954 04 22
Cambridge Coun Mrs Phyllis Clarke told a meeting: "One hears a lot about the big housing rate, but it is only 8d in the pound -–the same rate as the Library service. Do we hear of book borrowers being jeered at because they take home subsidised books, or properly owners complain about the cost of a subsidised policeman guarding his property". The housing programme should be expanded but she condemned the "little rabbit hutches masquerading as houses on the Arbury Road Estate"

1954 07 19
The Minister's decision on the County Development Plan has been announced. The only major Cambridge items not approved are the site of the bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel and the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Road. All the central area road proposals including the 'spine relief road', the new Guildhall Street and a cross-town route joining Emmanuel Street with Downing Street have been approved together with the new Chesterton Bridge over the Cam near Walnut Tree Avenue, a multi-storey car park in Corn Exchange Street and a subway at the railway station.

1955 01 21
A proposal to sell up to 300 plots of the Arbury Road housing estate for private building was question by City Councillors. Messrs Mowlem had asked for plots for 100 houses and William Sindall were interested in another 29 fronting Arbury Road. The council was faced with slum clearance and would have to buy land to re-house the people displaced. The Housing Committee existed to provide as many houses for people as possible and if builders offered to erect 300 houses with subsidy, without adding to the rates or national taxation then they could to welcome them. But people affected by slum clearance would not be able to afford these houses 55 01 21

1955 02 02
Plans are going ahead for the new Arbury Road Estate which should in time take a large bite out of Cambridge's 4,337 housing waiting list. Stage one will include about 240 houses, flats and bungalows; a shopping centre; two churches (Church of England and Methodist); a cinema and a publichouse. Already roads and sewers have been laid and it is hoped to start building some of the houses this year. But the shops will be a longer-job and will be built to keep pace with the demand. The new Primary School should be occupied this September. The land to the south of Arbury Road will ultimately accommodate 1,600 families in Council and privately-owned houses and it is possible the land to the north may be developed along the same lines. 55 02 02

1955 06 02
The first service was held on the site of the new church at Arbury Road, Cambridge. As a procession from parish church of St Luke's Chesterton, made its way to the site a congregation from the estate, St Augustine's and St George's was assembling. At the time of the building of St Luke's there were many who expected it to be a failure; the same was being said today but they hoped to have a church erected on the site fairly soon. 55 06 02

1955 09 16
On the map in 10 weeks. The first completed dwelling on the Arbury Road estate extension, designed and built by Monkman of Halifax Road, Cambridge was started on 1st July 1955 and occupied on the 17th September. – Advert 55 09 16b

1956 11 10
Garry Drive, a private street and a cul-de-sac just off King's Hedges Road which ends at the railway, was constructed by a Mr Naylor. He put down kerbs and channels and in May 1939 was

contemplating finishing the road himself, but the war intervened. He then left for Australia but his wife owns three properties and has written from Melbourne objecting to the council's proposed charge for making up the road. 56 11 10b

1957 07 25
John Mowlem, 'a famous name in building' have a number of houses in Tedder Way, Hurrell Road and Harding Way on the Arbury Road Estate ready for immediate occupation. First class construction, part central heating and decorations to the purchaser's choice. Prices from £2,550 on easy purchase terms: deposit £255 and repayments from £3.9.6. per week. You are cordially invited to inspect the show house at 42 Hurrell Road which is open daily – advert
57 07 25a

1957 07 31
Princess Margaret left the Arbury Estate several minutes late after laying the foundation stone of the new church of Nicholas Farrar – because a large wasp found its way on to the back seat of her car. She got in and quickly jumped out again. Her private detective spent several minutes removing it before she drove off to a garden party at St Luke's vicarage amid cheers from the huge crowd. 57 07 31

1957 08 01
Two groups of Cambridge people, one small and ageing, the other large and young will always carry vivid and happy memories of Princess Margaret's visit. One are the happy band who are passing away their 'twilight years' in the comfort and beauty of Langdon House, which she officially opened. The other are the young families who live on the new housing estate at Arbury Road where the foundation stone of a new church was laid. The Princess came into their midst, laughing, joking and chatting with them, radiating her charm and personality wherever she went. 57 08 01c

1957 09 05
Arbury estate from the air – photo – 57 09 05

1957 10 15
Flats on Arbury Road estate – 57 10 15

1958 02 26
Manor school heated pool plans – 58 02 26d & e

1958 03 11
Arbury Road to be home for replacement slum houses – 58 03 11b

1958 03 27
Alex Wood pub licence granted, Arbury – 58 03 27b

1958 10 09
Residents in Beaumont Road off Queen Edith's Way Estate appealed for a reduction in rates to bring them into line with houses on Montgomery Road near the Arbury Estate. They enjoyed fewer nearby amenities – the shops were half-a-mile away whilst residents in Montgomery Road were near one of the most modern shopping centres in Cambridge. Beaumont Road had larger gardens and backed on to open land but Montgomery Road properties were intermingled with Council houses. 58 10 09

1958 10 23
Sir – There are a considerable number of car owners living on the Arbury Estate who have to travel a considerable distance to obtain petrol so it is very important that a garage and filling station should be erected on land fronting Arbury Road and Alex Wood Road. Arrangements have already been made to provide shopping facilities for the growing population and a service station is essential – Norman Lee, Harding Way. 58 10 23

1959 06 15
Roseford Hall, on the new Arbury Estate, is an extension of the activities of the Christian Brethren of Panton Hall. It has well equipped classrooms, all of which will be needed, for already over 200 children are enrolled for the Sunday School. An invitation to local residents to inspect the new building was met by such a large response that there was 'standing room only' 59 06 15

1959 06 23
Planning permission has been granted for flats, maisonettes and 346 houses on three fields in King's Hedges Road while the site of the prefabricated bungalows will be suitable for a further 32 dwellings when they were eventually removed. There should be a through road to Arbury Road as soon as possible. Now the Council may buy the land from the University.
59 06 23a

1959 06 26
Planning permission has been granted for flats, maisonettes and 346 houses on three fields in King's Hedges Road while the site of the prefabricated bungalows will be suitable for a further 32 dwellings when they were eventually removed. There should be a through road to Arbury Road as soon as possible. Now the Council may buy the land from the University. 59 06 23a

1959 12 16
The Arbury Estate gained its second public house within 12 days with the opening of the Carlton Arms. It is unique in that it is sponsored, owned and run by two breweries, Wells and Winch and Whitbread's. Designed in a conventional fashion, it has a brightly-decorated public bar and a saloon bar that can be separated into a lounge bar by means of a Bolton gate. The new landlords, Mr & Mrs Alan Davis were previously at the Still and Sugar Loaf on the Market Square. 59 12 16b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection at Lion Yard Library has a newspaper cuttings file on this topic from the early 1960s

1960

1960 02 17
Cambridge Children's Playground Association was started after builders complained about children playing destructively with their building materials and when it was noticed that the ordinary playgrounds did not attract many youngsters. The first experimental playground was in Newmarket Road and now one may be formed on the Arbury Estate. There are hundreds of children who have already formed the habit of playing in the streets and in the shopping precinct while the estate has waited six years for a playground. The spinney at Cherry Hinton would also be an ideal site for an 'adventure playground' 60 02 17

1960 03 18

Pub inn signs have been making a comeback. The Blue Lion at Fen Ditton has a three-dimensional figure of the heraldic beast, The Angel in Market Street have put up a very pleasant sign while the new Snocat on the Arbury estate commemorates Sir Vivian Fuch's journey to the South Pole. One of the nicest of the old signs is the big glowing Golden Rose which grows out of the wall over the door of the little public house in Emmanuel Street 60 03 18b

1960 04 29
A Cambridge church in the course of erection, at present serving families whose membership extends from babies in arms to septuagenarians, once again could not cope with the size of its congregation at Easter. It is the Church of St Nicholas Ferrar on the Arbury Road Estate. The foundation stone was laid in July 1957 by Princess Margaret and part of the building was dedicated in December of the following year. But the congregation has grown too large and at Easter the parish communion had to be divided into two to accommodate the 80 families who meet there on Sundays 60 04 29b

1960 07 07
In order to rescue the Arbury Estate from the 'grave danger of creating deserts of asphalt' a playground should be constructed on a site between Alex Wood Road and Mere Way. It would have a mound of earth 15 feet high and an open flat area providing scope for ball games, tricycles, marbles etc with a play park equipped with vertical and horizontal tree trunks. The ground is to be made deliberately uneven with mounds and hollows for imaginative play. But swings have been condemned as dangerous and expensive 60 07 07

1960 09 23
Mr & Mrs Peter Issitt of Arbury Road have a beautiful small landscaped garden with miniature Alpine outcrops planned to give an illusion of space. The pond attracts a variety of wild life. Two hedgehogs, seven toads and a collection of frogs live in the garden and birds come each day for bathing and drinking. Their two small daughters have no complaints. They have a lawn with a swing to play on and appreciate the artistic setting 60 09 23

1960 11 22
Land between Kings Hedges Road and the Arbury estate may be bought by the city for housing – 60 11 22a

1961 04 18
Sir – Arbury Estate is already overcrowded and is alive with children for whose needs only the minimum facilities have been provided. Already some 730 residents have signed a petition calling for a number of open spaces for youngsters. Now the council is planning to build two blocks of flats on land at the top of Alex Wood Road. These should be resited to give a park for mothers with their prams and old people to sit in the sun with perhaps a bowling green like the one on the Whitehill estate – P.W. Cadogan, Arbury Estate Children's Playgrounds Committee 61 04 18

1961 06 29
The Manor Secondary Schools in Arbury Road were officially opened by the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University. The new buildings are designed to accommodate 450 boys and 450 girls in two separate departments linked by shared dining facilities and with a single boiler house. The Boy's Department opened in September 1959 and was shared by the girls until theirs became available in September 1960. It is the third secondary school project to be completed in Cambridge since the war 61 06 29a

1961 10 10

City council may purchase 160 acres of land north of Arbury Road – 61 10 10

1962 01 05
Alderman Albert Ernest Stubbs died at his home in Arbury Road. A Yorkshire man by birth, he came to Cambridge in 1914 and was for some years employed by the CDN as a rotary printing machinist in charge of the printing presses. In 1917 he'd been a member of the Agricultural Wages Committee and during the war was appointed to the County War Agricultural Executive Council. Ald Stubbs had an active political career on both County and Town Councils and was elected as Cambridgeshire's first Labour MP in 1945, serving until 1950. 62 01 05b

1962 02 21
Grove primary school named – 62 02 21a

1962 04 16
The parish of St George, Chesterton, has practically doubled in the past five years. Twenty four members of the congregation were engaged in welcoming new families on the new King's Hedges Estate. But the need for the appointment of a curate to assist the Vicar, the Rev J. Degwel Thomas, was urgent. Amongst those elected to the Parochial Church Council were Donald & Derrick Flory. 62 04 16a

1962 07 09
Plans for an 11-storey block of 60 flats on the junction of Roseford Road and Carlton Way met with opposition from residents concerned it would cut out a lot of light from nearby houses. Members of the Arbury Playgrounds and Open Spaces Committee say it is the only open space apart from the recreation ground on this side of the estate which will eventually house 10,000 people. You could not blame teenagers for getting into trouble if they had nowhere to go. 62 07 09

1962 08 28
Piped television begins in Cambridge on Saturday when 30 Arbury Estate subscribers tune in to receive three television and four radio programmes via a 170 ft mast in King's Hedges Road. The British Wireless Relay Company says the cost of laying a complete underground network was prohibitive but wherever possible the cables were being put in the least conspicuous places. People can hire sets for between 7s6d and 13s a week 62 08 28a

1962 10 12
An attempt to have plans for an 11-storey block of flats on the Arbury Housing Estate rejected immediately was defeated by the City Council. But they will ask the Surveyor to submit an alternative design before making a decision. Residents were unanimous in saying the block of flats was 'not desirable nor in the interest of the estate'. It would not give more units of accommodation because more open space would be needed around it. Councillor P.J. Warren said he would prefer to see high blocks in the centre of Cambridge. 62 10 12

1963 02 12
Cambridge City Council may sell 16 of its new homes, which have cost about £2,700 each to build (about £44,500 today), for a deposit of only £5 – with the buyer being allowed up to 30 years to repay the balance. The houses are in Jolley Way and Kent Way, new roads on the Arbury Estate. The City Treasurer says the scheme has been proposed as an experiment; it is the first time the idea has been suggested for Cambridge 63 02 12

1963 08 07

Minutes after the opening Cherry Hinton's new branch library by the Mayor of Cambridge, there were complaints that working men cannot get there before it closes at 7pm and it should stay open an extra hour. There has been a library of sorts for many years. Originally books were kept in a locked bookcase at the entrance to the Church of England School in High Street. It moved to Colville School in the mid-50's. Now work has started on Newmarket Road library after which another will be constructed on Arbury Road 63 08 07b

1963 09 13
Work on St Nicholas Ferrar, Good Shepherd church, Arbury estate 63 09 13b

1963 12 12
Arbury branch library plans – perhaps with flats above – 63 12 12

1964 04 17
Temporary classrooms at Bottisham and Arbury schools – 64 04 17b

1964 04 24
'Cambridge New Architecture' criticises the Addenbrooke's Hospital buildings in Hills Road. No doubt these bleak buildings work efficiently but the bungaloid growth of the out-patients building cannot mitigate the overall barrack-room atmosphere, it says. Bradwell's Court shopping centre is attractively self-effacing and the Snowcat is one of the few well-designed modern pubs. But other Arbury building is weak with prim brick terraces with utility steel or concrete doorways of modish design. It is a squandering of Cambridge's short-supply of housing land 64 04 24b

1964 05 29
Heavy explosions and columns of smoke around Duxford airfield marked the destruction of groups of blast baffle walls which were built when jet aircraft came into general use after the war. Dickerson's hope to get most of the 56 walls, each weighing 240 tons, down in one day. Sixteen baffles near the main road are being left until last so police can assess whether any special traffic precautions are needed. The concrete rubble will be broken into hardcore to be used for building work at Arbury Road. 64 05 29

1964 12 02
The twin estates of South Arbury and King's Hedges has hardly any social amenities with just one youth club which runs one evening a week in the Manor School canteen. Now Arbury Amenities Association has called for the development of a community centre and recreation ground on the corner of Campkin and Arbury Roads. There is always the danger of young children getting involved in accidents if they have to play in the roadway, especially as heavy lorries use it on their way to building sites. The licensee of the Snowcat public house says there are several hundred teenagers who have nowhere to go in the evenings except city centre dance halls. 64 12 02b

1964 12 10
Construction of five-storey block of flats on Arbury Road estate will be the biggest single housing development ever undertaken by the City Council – 64 12 10

1965 01 01
A shortage of bricks and labour problems, caused by the high wastage of recruits who complete their training before deciding that building is not for them, has forced Cambridge Council to experiment with a timber-based system for 32 houses on the Arbury Estate. Each costs nearly £800 more than conventional houses but traditional methods mean they would not be able to

provide the 500 houses needed. The situation was exacerbated by the 200-odd eroding prefabs that have to be completely replaced almost immediately. But the Ministry of Housing rejected their plans saying it was too expensive– 65 01 01

1965 01 08
Plans for 32 industrialised 'factory-built' houses on Arbury Estate rejected by Government – 65 01 08a

1965 02 04
Arbury Court branch library foundations – photo – 65 02 04c

1965 02 05
Roseford Road – Carlton Way five-storey flats approved, Arbury – 65 02 05b

1965 03 25
Arbury estate has no facilities for social recreation; reports says these should be built at Trumpington – 65 03 25a

1965 06 01
Lucy Farren retires from Cherry's Sweetshop, Arbury Road corner after 40 years – 65 06 01

1966 01 27
Arbury Road Baptist church opened; small chapel built on site 125 years ago – 66 01 27

1966 01 12
Arbury Court branch library opened – 66 01 30; Reg Tarrant stocks shelves – 66 01 12

1966 03 07
Old car abandoned, Arbury – 66 03 07a

1966 04 04
Arbury estate play equipment, Hawkins Road – photo – 66 04 04b

1966 04 28
Grove Primary School, Campkin Road opened; Lady Bragg reminisces – 66 04 28a

1966 11 21
King's Hedges estate 10 acre site for recreation ground agreed near proposed housing development off Campkin Rd – 66 11 21

1967 02 13
King's Hedges housing estate master plan approved, will have central pedestrian core and open space - 67 02 13a

1967 07 12
King's Hedges Infants' school delay increases costs; dispute over blame – 67 07 12

1967 11 07
Arbury Estate rainfall has created pond dangerous to children – photo – 67 11 07

1968 07 31
Arbury Court shopping arcade –advertisement – 68 07 31

1968 10 10
Arbury – green bounded by Crowland Way and Cadwin Fields fills with water – photo – 68 10 10a

1968 10 28
King's Hedges School, built two years ago, needs major structural alterations – 68 10 28;

1968 11 27
Two schools to be re-roofed – 68 11 27

1969 08 27
Arbury Roman settlement – archaeology – 69 08 27a

1969 11 12
Cambridge Collection grows – 'Arbury News' magazines being added by J. Barham, is developing an S.D.I. system to inform readers; copy photos, use of books increases 50% in three years – 69 11 12

1970

1970 06 26
Monsoon Day floods Campkin Road – 70 06 26 a & b

1971 03 19
Arbury residents cut off from shops; is functional and austere, offering adequate homes at economic rents and a place to sleep. But few pensioners can afford price of bus ride to centre and council puts off cheap bus fare scheme – 71 03 19a

1971 09 14
Arbury Estate gets new post office, Cameron Road – 71 09 14

1971 12 07
King' Hedges School water tower erected – 71 12 07b

1972 06 24
Labour councillors will ask the city council next week to build moderately priced houses - for sale to their tenants and private buyers - on land at Arbury Road, Cambridge, which the council plan to sell to property speculators. The six-acre site off Arbury Road - between St Laurence Junior School and the newly built multi-storey council flats - is now on offer to developers prepared to give a good price and willing to draw up a development scheme acceptable to city planners. Some property sources have suggested that the land
could be worth £500,000 to the city council

1972 07 13
For simple country folk, such as myself, living to the north of Cambridge, the Elizabeth Bridge is a godsend. For a year now it has enabled me to leave my home, 17 miles from the city, at a civilised hour and be at my office desk within 30 minutes. And in the evenings all I have to do is find my lane and with minimal traffic hold-ups be out on the A10 to Ely again. It now seems hard

to remember than once one allowed at least 20 minutes for the Newmarket road- Arbury road run at either peak hour: that to be stuck interminably at Mitcham's Corner was a commonplace. Today my only wish is that more and more improvements are allowed by the planners so that everyone can enjoy a quality of life freed as much as possible from traffic pollution

1972 08 05
The long-awaited Cambridge Transportation Study was finally published yesterday. It is two years overdue and has cost £113,000 - almost £1,000 a page. It was jointly commissioned in 1967 by the Cambridge city and County Councils and the University. It was to be carried out by R. Travers Morgan and Partners and was estimated at that time to cost £78,000. Its major proposals include a Railway Road leaving the A10 south of the Trumpington street traffic lights, hugging the northbound railway track all the way to Newmarket Road. After crossing the Cam the new road would veer sharply west to follow the St Ives railway line along to the A10 Milton Road before linking up with Arbury Road. The Railway Road should be largely dual two-lane carriageway. Full construction could take many years

1972 12 02
The Arbury Estate, a local authority complex on the northern fringe of Cambridge and Bar Hill, a new village about fives miles away, both suffer from the lack of a strong separate identity and from isolation. Bar Hill is suffering from the recent phenomenon of maximum human isolation. It arises from two factors. The first is that Bar Hill lies in a cul-de-sac. The second is that there are no lines of communication dissecting the village. This would not be so bad if there were something in the village to draw people from the surrounding area, such as a countryside museum, miniature railway or area sports centre. Without any major facilities or attractions the village is being bypassed by the community at large

1973 01 10
It is a popular view that Arbury must be treated differently from Cambridge's other outlying communities. Necklace village populations, it is argued, choose to settle away from the heart of a town and are more likely to create their own neighbourhood environments. The early Arbury settlers, on the other hand, had little choice. They were placed on an estate by circumstances over which they had little control. Because Arbury was built as an appendage of Cambridge it lacks trade, industry and recreation. And this has become a particularly serious problem since 1960 with the emergence of young vigorous families with a high proportion of active youngsters under the age of 15. Everywhere is flat and featureless. There are no mounds to run up, nor gradients to run down. It is mostly a flat maze of little dwellings and concrete paths

1973 06 22
Claims by a prominent Cambridge trades unionist that many bored and disgruntled Cambridge city council tenants were demanding to be moved from the Arbury estate were rejected this afternoon by the Housing Committee chairman, Coun John Powley. The claims were made by Don Millard. He said both young and old people were asking to be moved nearer to the city centre because they were bored with life at Arbury. He added that the boredom was due to the lack of social and community facilities and a dearth of public houses. The claims were supported by Counc Mrs Janet Jones, a Labour county councillor for the area. "Arbury and Kings Hedges are just like an isolated satellite town", she said. "People are always asking us to help them move away because they do not like living there"

1973 08 17
As the temperatures soar the queues for ice cream get longer and longer but buying ice cream nowadays is an expensive business and prices vary considerably from queue to queue. This year

ice cream should be cheaper because it is zero rated for VAT. In fact some of the ice cream makers have knocked 1p of some makes. A 3p lolly last year costs 2p in many places and a 6p choc bar last year can now be bought in some places for 5p. But prices vary from place to place. A medium sized ice cream at a shop in Arbury, Cambridge, costs 4p yet a similar one on Newmarket racecourse costs exactly double

1974 04 09
A gang of hooligans are terrorising old folk living on the Arbury estate in Cambridge, says County Councillor Mrs Janet Jones. She said the gang have let off fire extinguishers in the Edgecombe flats, cut down washing lines in the gardens of old peoples' bungalows, gathered at Arbury Court refusing to allow old people to pass and rampaged along the alleyways linking Crowland Way with Campkin Road, smashing dozens of windows in garden sheds. "There appears to be a gang going round and there is not much else one can do except to ask them to behave themselves", she said

1974 04 26
Plans are being discussed for another hospital to serve the Cambridge area in a bid to ease staff and administration problems at the giant new Addenbrooke's in Hills Road, Cambridge. The Department of Health have indicated that they think the ultimate 1,700-bed hospital is too big to be managed satisfactorily and too difficult to staff adequately. Officials have been studying surveys with a view to siting the new hospital near where it could best recruit nursing and ancillary staff. Ideally this would be near a big housing estate such as Arbury

1974 05 21
Residents of the north Arbury estate did not need a heat wave to remind them of their need for another pub and the opening of The Ship will meet with eager response. Campaigners for real ale will be pleased to find that Wells of Bedford are making this their fourth Cambridge pub, providing beer connoisseurs with their prize-winning bitter as well as a wide range of other beers, wines and spirits in spacious new premises

1974 06 04
The site of the Co-operative laundry in Cambridge, which closed at Easter, is now up for sale. The company bought the site in Histon road during the last war and began operations in 1941. At their peak 100 people worked there compared to the 60 at the time of their closure. "The problem was getting staff. It was terrible," said the Chief executive. They are keeping open three shops at Histon Road, Arbury Court and Mill Road

1974 08 02
The 1¼ acre Arbury adventure playground looks like a Wild West stockade, with tall telegraph poles visible above the high fencing and a tattered union jack blowing in the breeze. It lies on the northern edge of the housing estate. As many as 250 children are likely to be there during the school holidays. It was parents on the estate who got the venture going and raised the initial money. Fencing alone cost more than £1,000. Since then the city council have helped with grants

1974 08 28
Children on their own are banned from buying sugar in Lipton's Huntingdon supermarket because the manager says they are running a high price black-market. Others have taken action because mothers are sending in their children to beat the 2lb a family rationing by shops. In all towns in the area the story of the sugar stampede is the same : as soon as it appears in the shops it

is snapped up. The manager of Civil's supermarket in St Ives said they were having to ration to make sure a steady flow was kept. In Cambridge sugar was not available at most supermarkets but Arbury Discount had enough for every customer to be allowed one bag.

1976 03 15
The possible closure to through traffic of Arbury Road, Cambridge, will be discussed by the city council. Some councillors have been pressing for years for the road closure as a way of improving the environment for people living in the Arbury area. The road is, at peak periods, one of the busiest in Cambridge with commuter traffic. The suggestions are certain to cause a storm of protest. The main objection will centre round the claim that a lot more traffic would be pushed on to the already busy Gilbert Road.

1976 05 11
In the early days of the Arbury estate there were many complaints about the lack of shopping facilities, but with the completion of Arbury Court with its quarter-of-a-million-pound supermarket and wide range of other shops, most of the residents are more than satisfied. A very different focal point is the local, the Snowcat. Quite controversial at the time it was constructed, this Greene King house has now settled down to provide what the residents really want – a place with a bit of atmosphere where they can get together in the same way as the regulars of a village pub

1976 06 10
The Vicar of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Arbury estate, the Rev Martin Suter, climbed up the scaffolding to see workmen put the finishing touches to the iron and gold-leaf cross on the top of the church. He said a prayer of dedication before joining churchwardens and workmen for a glass of beer on the roof. It was one of the last things that had to be done before work on the church is completed in time for the visit of Princess Margaret, who laid the foundation stone in 1957

1976 07 27
It is not very often that one hears of a big building project being completed on schedule but Cambridge builders John Brignell and Co are two months ahead on two major council housing developments at Tanners Lane and Berrycroft Soham. At a time when the building trade in general is going through a sticky patch, Brignells are full of optimism. They have just been awarded two substantial contracts at Fen Ditton, for 218 dwellings, and the King's Hedges estate, Cambridge, for 167 houses, maisonettes and bungalows.

1976 10 28
It is 19 years since Princess Margaret laid the foundation stone of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Arbury Road, Cambridge. At the time the first houses on the Arbury estate had been occupied for nearly four years and acres of land still remained to be built on. Today as she sees the church finally completed the changes in the area are striking. The population of the parish is now about 17,000. When the rest of the Kings Hedges estate is finished in a few years it will be nearer 20,000 – a fifth of the people in Cambridge. Houses stretch in every direction. Arbury now forms, in effect, a small town on the edge of Cambridge.

1976 10 28
Princess Margaret whisked around Cambridge on a brisk visit. At the Arbury Estate many local people stood out in the rain to welcome her. The royal party then left for Langdon House, which she had opened during the previous visit where she met Mrs Francis Aldrich, the longest-serving

member of staff. By now she was 15 minutes ahead of schedule for her visit to the University Clinical Medical School. “It threw us into panic stations” said the Secretary, Mr J.P. Howe

1977 05 18
Massive housing estates like Arbury in Cambridge and Oxmoor in Huntingdon are breeding grounds for drug abuse, says a Cambridge psychiatrist. While some of the young people started taking drugs through their family doctor’s normal prescriptions, abuse was master-minded by European drug barons who imported the material via the east Coast ports. The influx of amphetamine-based drugs (pep pills) into large estates was considerable and there is a very sophisticated distribution network. Cannabis cost between £8 and £10 per quarter ounce – enough to last a casual user five or six days. Heroin cost around £40 a gramme.

1978 07 11
King’s Hedges junior and infants’ schools in Cambridge have closed because of a dysentery outbreak, three weeks after the first pupils went down with the disease. The number of children being kept at home has been rising daily – over 120 children and staff absent yesterday – and it is obvious they can no longer function normally. They may never know where the infection came from, with a changing number of children with the symptoms. If there is just one case in the school the very number of people using the building means it is likely to be passed on repeatedly

1978 07 13
Sightseers flocked to the dysentery-hit King’s Hedges schools in Cambridge during the three week outbreak; they sat outside in their cars with the windows closed and pointed at it as if to say ‘That is the unclean school’. The school caretaker and ancillary staff were publicly shunned in shops and pubs during the epidemic which hit nearly 100 people and closed the school. Coun Janet Jones praised the teachers: “They have been absolutely superb, and so have a lot of parents who kept their children at the school. And so have the kids”, she said.

1978 10 12
Over the last four years Cambridge city council has completed many major housing schemes – estates like King’s Hedges, Fulbourn Old Drift and Walpole Road. And the government’s new schools, fire stations and other building also proved a boon to the casualties of the time – building contractors and architects. But there has now been a cut in new town development, and home building involving architects virtually ceased overnight. In the past year there has been an upturn in private house building, but it is nowhere near the boom of the 1960’s.

1978 12 05
Supplying the needs of the massive Arbury housing estate is a daunting task but at Christmas the Arbury Court shopping precinct offers everything you could need. T. Sutton has Christmas trees while a good range of poultry is available from Dyers Meat and J. Whittaker. On a frosty morning the most tempting smell in the precinct is that of freshly-baked bread coming from Markillies Bakery who offer a wide range of cakes and pastries. Arbury Hardware has also taken on a festive appearance with a good selection of gifts from Timex watches to figurines.

1978 12 15
The East Anglian Railway Development Society urges the restoration of passenger trains on the Cambridge to St Ives line. Large domestic and industrial developments have taken place along the route and the new housing on the Arbury Road Estate would make for increased usage at Histon and even warrant a new halt in the Kings Hedges area. A Parkway station should be built to serve the Sawston area and Meldreth become the boarding point for Kings Cross trains.

1979 01 16
Cambridge's northern bypass is not a thing of beauty and has exposed the city's none-too-glorious backsides. Milton sewage works, the wrong end of the Arbury estate and a few dumping grounds that so far we have been able to conceal. For the local travelling along this stretch of dual carriageway is a new and rather bewildering experience. Coming at everything from an unfamiliar angle creates an impression that north Cambridgeshire as I knew it has been wiped off the map. The really beneficial effect was been the easing of the pressure on the Northampton Street / Castle Hill junction; five times I have passed through these usually overworked traffic lights with little delay.

1979 01 26
Two hundred people employed by Cambridge building firm R.H. Smart have lost their jobs. Work has ceased on the firm's major council housing jobs at King's Hedges, Arbury, where it contracted to build 214 houses and flats and employed 80 people. The firm began in 1960 as a plumbing business; it started on its first council housing contract in 1974 and took over Newmarket builders M. Carrick. Next year it had contracts worth £4 million to build 400 council houses

1979 02 22
As the rubbish collectors' strike continues it seems we are a tidy lot. Those now familiar piles of black shiny plastic have been kept in excellent order. A few 'hot tips' have burst into flames but as the strike goes on each dump begins to acquire a character of its own. At Arbury Court the residents' loyalty to the Beehive supermarket gives the tip a distinctive orange glow, but it is piled up against the side of the men's' lavatories, blocking the air vents. In Glebe Road loose potato peelings and carrot tops spoil a tidy dump but probably the worst is the one in Nuffield Road.

1979 04 05
Cambridge City Council's scheme of building houses for sale to its tenants or people on the housing list has proved a great success. More than 150 couples applied to buy the 24 two and three-bedroomed houses which the council are completing at Walpole Road and selling for £10 - £12,000. Nearly 300 people have asked to buy the 300 houses being built by a private company in a joint scheme next to the council's King's Hedges estate. These range from one-bedroom flats at around £10,000 to three-bedroomed detached houses at £25,000. During the past two years the council has sold nearly 300 of its houses to tenants

1979 07 23
It is the start of an intensive six-week season at the Arbury Adventure Playground. Between 150 and 300 children will daily pour into the enclosure off Wagstaff Close. It is laid out like an outpost of the US Cavalry after the Indians have been. There is a 10-foot-high perimeter stockade, big main gates and a high watch-tower in the middle. In one corner is the livestock, all snuffling, clucking and crowing. On another is 'Venus' an old landing craft looking rather washed up and nearer the middle a large battered playhut. It is not for the fastidious or tidy-minded but it is an excellent place to light fires, cook sausages and potatoes and melt down old cola cans into aluminium ingots.

1980

1980 01 10
Customers at Cherry's Stores in Norwich Street, Cambridge, have said goodbye to the couple who have run the shop for 34 years. Lionel Cherry and his wife Kathleen took over in 1946 and

built up a business which, in days when petrol was cheaper, offered a free delivery service to Newnham and Arbury. The shop was the place where Robert Sayle started as a draper and has been a grocers for more than 100 years, owned in all that time by just three shopkeepers. It will be the end of a long family connection with the trade. Mr Cherry's uncle had a shop on the junction of Arbury and Milton Roads which became known as Cherry's Corner

1980 12 11
The time taken to get through supermarket check-outs varies; at 6pm on a Thursday evening Tesco's Regent Street store, Cambridge was fairly busy and five out of the seven checkouts were in operation; it took nine minutes to get through. But at their Bar Hill store we queued for 21 minutes. At Bishop's, Arbury Court, paying by cheque meant the cashier had to get it approved by her colleague, which delayed the neighbouring queue. 80 12 11a & b

1981 05 15
Cambridge ecologists say a bus which can run on railway lines is the solution to transport problems in local villages. They plan to borrow a prototype and run it from the city centre to Huntingdon, using British Rail's tracks. It would stop at Mill Road, Chesterton and North Arbury was well as the former stations en route to Swavesey. From this point the tracks have been removed but it would run along the trackbed to St Ives and the Hemingfords. 81 05 15a

1981 09 18
Poltergeist manifestations, Arbury – Tony Cornell interviewed – 81 09 18c

1982 03 12
The Headmaster of Cambridge Manor School was forced to close his school at lunchtime after pupils went on the rampage. Children set fire to rubbish at the back of a building, smashed a door and set off a fire alarm. The trouble came on the first day of a teachers' work-to-rule which cut mealtime supervision to a minimum leaving the head with only four elderly dinner ladies for help. 82 03 12

1982 04 20
Newmarket Library is the first in the area to run a video lending library with 200 cassettes on offer at £1.95 per night. But Andrew McCulloch of Arbury Court who rents 1,000 films says although people have now got a video, or a thinking of getting, one business is not booming. An advertiser in the News offers 'adult' films for sale at £30, sent out in plain cardboard boxes. 82 04 20b

1982 05 20
The North Arbury Chapel in Cameron Road started in 1971 with weekly children's services in a building contractor's site hut. The numbers soon grew to 100 and they moved to the Grove Primary School, then swelled to 200 so they used a mobile prefabricated building. Now the first permanent building will be opened by Sir Fred Catherwood. 82 05 20

1982 05 20
Being manager of Bishop's store at Arbury Court is not an easy job. This week he had to cope with the aftermath of an armed robbery in which £3,000 was snatched. Then there are customer complaints. He does not mind his staff taking time to talk to customers but they should not argue with them – management should find out what the matter is. 82 05 20a

1982 06 19

Cambridge was today stunned by a fire which gutted most of the Grove Infants' School, Arbury, and destroyed the staff block at the Manor School. Hundreds of people were woken in the early hours by the sound of the buildings being ripped apart by flames and small explosions. They went out on the streets and watched as firemen fought to control the blaze. Many wept openly. 82 06 19 & a

1983 01 08
Planners rejected a development of 35 houses and 42 flats on part of Magdalene College playing fields at the rear of houses along Arbury Road. A bungalow would have been demolished to make an entrance. But this was the narrowest point of the road where there was already a problem. It would be criminal to put any more traffic down there and create extra danger for children walking to Manor school. It would also overload the sewers. 83 01 08a

1983 09 03
Twenty-eight Cambridgeshire schools use corporal punishment. At Burwell Village College the cane is used by the warden on very rare occasions, at Cottenham only in extreme cases such as continual bullying and Manor School carry out caning in rare and severe cases. Netherhall School says it is rarely and reluctantly resorted to by the headmaster or his deputies and St Bede's school has a similar policy 83 09 03

1983 10 31
The Manor comprehensive school on Arbury Road – one of the city's biggest with more than 800 pupils – has been earmarked for closure within three years. The County says the children will be dispersed to other comprehensives and the building handed over to the rapidly-expanding Cambridgeshire College of Further Education. The Manor Boys and Girls schools opened in 1959 to serve the rapidly-growing estate. They merged in 1970 and became a comprehensive five years later. But numbers started to fall. It is a central focus in Arbury and its loss would do immeasurable damage to the community 83 10 31 p1

1984 05 16
The Queen gave her royal seal of approval to Cambridge's multi-million pound Grafton Centre when she unveiled a plaque to marks its official opening. Cheering crowds queued for hours to glimpse her. A fanfare performed by the 20-piece orchestra from the Manor School greeted the royal party. After the opening the queen spoke to many of the children and shop staff. Earlier hundreds were outside the station for the arrival of her train, pulled by a locomotive named after Mr Jim Nightall, the brave footplateman who saved Soham from disaster by unhitching a blazing bomb-laden train during the war. 84 05 16 p12

1984 08 07
Cambridge sub-postmasters have decided not to oppose the closure of three of the city's 26 post offices. Their salaries have dropped substantially during the past year because of changes in Post Office administration and they feel the business must be spread around the remaining offices to make them viable. The sub-post offices at Arbury Road, Gwydir Street and Richmond Road are due to close by the end of the year 84 08 07 p7

1984 09 12
Campaigners have lost their battle to save two Cambridge post offices in Arbury Road and Gywidr Street. They will close within a few months, but the threatened Richmond Road sub post office will remain open in view of the weight of public opinion. Coun Andrew Duff, one of the

Liberal members fighting to keep the Richmond Road office going says he is delighted at the change of heart 84 09 12

1984 11 15
Community Magazines carry a wealth of local information. The 'Whither Whittlesford', 'Bar Hill News' and 'Voice of Arbury' publications were prize-winners in the Community News Contest. Now representatives will attend the annual dinner of the East Anglian Association of Industrial Editors at Newnham College to receive their awards. The Arbury team will use the money to buy a Polaroid camera to improve the topicality of their illustrations 84 11 15 p20

1985 03 11
King's Court, four research and development blocks on the site of Solus Electronics in Kirkwood Road, is a further step in the creation of a silicon belt near Trinity College's Science Park. Others are St John's Innovation Centre and a 20-acre Cambridge Business Park. Plans which have failed to gain permission are for a 60-acre Cambridge Technology Centre off King's Hedges Road and St John's 'teardrop' site on Milton Road. There is a tremendous demand for high-tech property with half the new development under offer before it has been advertised. 85 03 11d

1985 07 15
Pupils at Grove School in Arbury have celebrated the opening of their primary school – just days before the summer holidays start. Two classrooms and other buildings lost in a blaze on the site two years ago have been replaced. The school now has a bigger hall, new changing rooms, kitchen, library and administration and staff rooms. One of the new classrooms will be used as a unit for visually impaired children. A second stage in the rebuilding work will see the erection of a unit for physically handicapped children. 85 07 15a

1985 08 08
Cambridge could soon get a third new superstore competing with Tesco at Bar Hill, Sainsburys in Coldham's Lane and the Beehive complex off Newmarket Road. Asda plans to build a huge new complex on Milton Road opposite the Arbury and King's Hedges housing estates. It would take up almost half of the Cambridge Business Park and .include a 750-space car park 85 08 08

1985 11 07
Cambridge planners have thrown out three major proposals that would have created 1,500 new jobs for the city. Out went a scheme to build an Asda superstore in the new Cambridge Business Park in Milton Road and out went plans for a big new shopping centre between King's Hedges Road and the northern bypass. Also rejected was a Unex scheme for a giant complex for high-tech research on the site of a disused vegetable warehouse site between Hills Road and Brooklands Avenue. Planners say it left no room for landscaping and minimal room for parking. Appeals will be made against all the decisions. 85 11 07c

1986 01 22
No developments companies have expressed interest in building and running a small row of shops on the junction of Buchan Street and King's Hedges Road. The restricted site would be expensive to build and not yield high rents. In addition there has been extensive publicity about possible supermarket building schemes in the area. The city council may build the shops itself in the hope of finding tenants. 86 01 22

1986 03 18

Two city libraries at are again under threat of closure, only years after a successful survival battle. Mill Road library is on the wrong side of the railway bridge while Milton Road library is only half-a-mile from Arbury Court. But Councillor Janet Jones describes the plans as disgraceful and says many children and elderly people will be devastated if Milton Road is closed. However Bar Hill and Milton villages are fast-growing and need some library facilities, a report says. 86 03 18

1986 06 06
Camtech's plans for two giant supermarkets at Arbury Camp would fit in with the Unex Group's proposal for a major supermarket and non-food shops on a retail park off King's Hedges Road. But it would offer competition to other schemes currently under discussion. These are the giant Marks and Spencer / Tesco plan for two superstores, a 300-bedroom hotel and multi-screen cinema at Trumpington, Asda's ideas for a supermarket at the Cambridge Business Park on Milton Road and the proposed Tesco store in the Milton Park housing development 86 06 06

1986 06 14
North Arbury has been dubbed a 'no-go' area where residents fear to leave their homes at night. But on Saturday evening a mother placidly pushed her pram through the darkened streets, a toddler following at her heels. Women of all ages were walking or cycling with no signs of fear. An old woman, wearing a thick coat to keep out the damp, hobbled down the road past a couple of teenagers in summer whites headed for a Saturday night out while a couple of young lovers had found a courting spot on a quiet stretch of green. The only group missing seemed to be the police, who had publicly denied it was a 'no-go- area. And there was no sign of the vigilant groups residents had talked of setting up 86 06 14b

1986 08 02
Developers Camtech announced plans for a massive new science-cum-shops development for the giant 55-acre Arbury Camp Farm. It comprises a mixture of high-tech research and development buildings and two retail units either side of a five-acre lake. One would be a food superstore and the other sell D-I-Y and gardening products. There would also be a park-and-ride site with room for 600 cars. But an Inquiry into another scheme for the same area was told that it would have a detrimental impact on local stores and shops. 86 08 02 & 2a

1986 08 27
British Rail may build new stations near Cambridge and Huntingdon as part of a modernisation scheme. A county transportation spokesman called for stations at Milton and at new villages near Waterbeach and Swavesey which are under consideration in the Structure Plan review. He'd also like to see the St Ives to Cambridge line re-opened and a stop at Milton would help to service the Science Park as well. This was endorsed by the Railway Development Society who also suggested stations at North Arbury and Cherry Hinton. 86 08 27

1986 10 24
Cambridge councillors have changed their minds about the future of council-owned allotment land at Histon Road. They had wanted Green Belt protection on the 33-acre site which would prevent any form of development from taking place there. However 11 acres are derelict and could be reserved for possible housing schemes and recreational use. But any hypermarket development there would mean the death of the shopping centre at Arbury Court and should be blocked. 86 10 24

1986 12 22
Facilities in the King's Hedges area are not as bad as claimed: the accommodation is good and most people are quite happy watching television. But there is plenty of room for improvement,

say residents. There is a library but more nightclubs would be welcomed by young people together with public lavatories and a chemist's shop and there is only one bus service. 86 12 22

1987 03 24
Store giant Sainsbury's has announced plans for a superstore on the Arbury Camp site, creating more than 300 jobs. The supermarket could occupy a six-acre site closest to the interchange between the Northern Bypass and Histon Road. It would have a petrol station, coffee shop and parking for 500 cars. There would also be a park-and-ride site.This would be part of a mixed development of retail and research areas with a large ornamental lake. An Inspector has recommended that the site be taken out of the belt because it made a minimal contribution to the special character of Cambridge. But planners have so far disagreed 87 03 24

1987 03 30
The Education Secretary, Kenneth Baker, has approved the controversial decision to close the Roger Ascham School for the physically handicapped in Cambridge, despite a long-running battle by parents and governors to save it. Pupils will be transferred to special units at the Grove Primary School and Impington Village College as part of the county council policy of integrating handicapped youngsters with able-bodied children. The senior education officer said he was pleased, though upset that the news had been leaked before parents could be told officially. 87 03 30

1987 12 01
Cambus has bought the entire coach operation of arch rivals Premier Travel. Premier, founded in 1936 has dominated the Cambridge travel scene in recent years and is expecting record profits. It has a fleet of 75 coaches based in Kings Hedges Road and all 129 employees in the coach division will become employees of Cambus. Earlier this year the two companies started a joint venture involving a travel centre at Drummer Street bus station. 87 12 01

1988 01 02
Premier Travel, one of Cambridge's biggest coach firms, has been bought out by its management after an earlier deal with Cambus fell through. Its founder, Arthur Lainson is delighted the company will be retaining its identity. Premier Travel, founded in 1936, has dominated the local travel scene with a fleet of 75 coaches based in King's Hedges Road. The travel part of the business, which includes 14 travel agencies across East Anglia, is to be sold off separately. 88 01 02

1988 07 29
A large new township complete with a major shopping centre and a new village development off the A10, both within easy reach of Cambridge, are proposed by the Government. And Whitehall says that planning restrictions should be removed from the vast Arbury Camps Farm site bordering the Northern Bypass which should be used for hi-tech industrial purposes. But it appears as if plans for a giant housing estate at Clay Farm, Trumpington have been rejected in order to protect the Green Belt. 88 07 29

1988 08 03
A giant new housing estate may be built on allotments on the corner of King's Hedges and Histon Roads. About 30 acres could be used for housing with the remainder turned over to recreational use. In the past proposals to build have resulted in shoals of complaints from allotment holders but much of the land is disused and the allotments could be consolidated on a much smaller plot elsewhere. However the City council have no intention of making the site available for a new regional college for 16-19 years old as is being considered by the County council. 88 08 03

1988 10 13
St George's church celebrates its 50th birthday. The population of the parish almost doubled with the building of the North Arbury Estate bringing people in from different areas. To foster a community spirit parishioners launched a parish newsletter 'Chesterton Challenge' which is still going strong. It was one of the first free newspapers in the country. They also launched a 'Fish' scheme providing emergency help for anyone who needs it. The first couple to be married in the church, Frank Shaw and Dorothy Whitworth, are returning for the occasion. 88 10 13a

1989 02 15
Property developers are bidding to buy Parkside fire station so they can build houses, a hotel or offices on the site. In return they will fund new fire stations at Arbury and Trumpington. At present fire tenders are often delayed by traffic and this would boost response time. The plum site overlooks Parker's Piece and is worth many millions of pounds. Now county councillors will reconsider the idea which was previously floated a year ago. 89 02 15

1989 02 21
Kings Hedges Infants and Junior Schools in Cameron Road may need to be knocked down and completely rebuilt. The schools, which celebrate their 21st birthday this year, have fallen into a state of 'disgraceful neglect', Governors claim. The roofs leak, the windows are loose, there is no paint on the outside. It will be cheaper to demolish them rather than undertake repairs. 89 02 21

1989 04 04
A high-tech computer system set to revolutionise Cambridgeshire's 15 main libraries has gone on line. Chief librarian Brendan Dwyer checked out the first book on the 'Cambook' system at Arbury Court. It will provide instant information about books on loan and a faster reservation system. "Pioneering the latest technology will help us to continue to offer a faster efficient service throughout the 1990s", he said 89 04 04a

1989 06 28
Two internationally-known developers plan a giant new sports complex sprawling over 40 acres between King's Hedges and the northern bypass. It would have a wide range of indoor and outdoor facilities including an indoor pool and an athletics track for public use. It is on land soon to be removed from the green belt, close to the site of the new Regional College. The scheme comes after planners snubbed a £20 million scheme by Cambridge University to build a sports complex in the west of the city. 89 06 28

1989 07 14
Arbury School, Carlton Way, head teacher Barry Jones retires – 89 07 14

1989 10 30
Cambridge Regional College is to be relocated on a new, purpose-built campus at King's Hedges. It will be built in four phases starting with business studies, a library and sports hall which should be completed by 1993. It will also have a shopping mall. The old mineral railway line which runs to St Ives could be extended to transport students from the city centre. But there will be ample car parking available for teachers and students. The present city-centre sites will be sold off for redevelopment 89 10 30

1989 11 23
A giant 600-home council estate could be built on allotment land off Histon and King's Hedges Road in a bid to ease the desperate housing crisis in Cambridge. The allotments are under-used

and could be relocated. The land and a huge acreage bordering the A45 Northern Bypass is in the 'Green Belt' which is protected from development . But the Government has indicated it wants this removed so it could be used for hi-tech purposes. Some councillors are unhappy with the number of homes being suggested and would prefer fewer to be built 89 11 23

1990 03 20
King's Hedges Neighbourhood Centre, Buchan Street topped-out 90 03 20a

1990 05 25
Buchan House residential home and day centre to be kept closed until county find company to run it under new privatisation policies – 90 05 25b

1990 06 05
Primrose Croft residents to be moved to Buchan House during renovations – 90 06 05

Bene't Street 1964 246.28

c**.44.6 : Bene't Street**

1898 05 09
St Bene't's Church, Cambridge, reopened for public service with an improved organ and newly elected organ chamber, beside several minor renovations in the decoration of the interior of the building. Archdeacon Emery said that the condition of the Church in 1849, when he was ordained Deacon, with its organ Gallery at the West End, and those high pews in the nave, and green baized pews in the Chancel was then far different to what it was now. Since that time the South aisle had been erected, the West End and Tower opened and restored, the Chancel and church generally restored and seated in such a manner that all the worshippers could feel they formed one family of God.

1907 05 11
A policeman described how he secreted himself in a larder and kept observation on the Eagle Inn, Bene't Street. He could see who entered the yard and overhear conversation in the smoke-room on the other side of a lath and plaster wall. He heard talk relating to horse racing and telephonic

messages being passed to certain address giving the names of horses and mentioning sums of money. Police raided the inn and the landlord was committed for trial 07 05 11a

1908 03 05
Sir – old houses in Bene't Street have rings under their eaves which are said to enable the roof to be pulled off in event of fire. But a few years ago I saw a bulky piece of furniture being drawn up to the second floor of one such property and taken in through the window. I noticed the ropes were passing through these rings under the eaves. It is obvious that to take a piano or large chest of drawers up the narrow winding staircases would be an impossibility so they were a wise provision - R. Cleaver, Chesterton. 08 03 05

1908 08 28
An object of great curiosity has been returned to St Bene't's Church. The Black Letter Bible presented by Hobson the carrier has been missing for the last 30 years. It was discovered in the University Library where it had been sent for safe keeping when the church was restored. It has marginal notes in the writing of the donor and was at one time in a house in the parish when a charge of sixpence was made for its inspection. CWN 08 08 28 p5

1910 05 13
William Hockey was the founder of the well-known auctioneering firm based in Bene't Street. As the agent for the De Freville Estate he had much to do with the development and planning of that part of New Chesterton which has rapidly become of so much importance. He also held an important and confidential position at Trinity College, where he was highly regarded, and was Secretary of the Excelsior Building Society. For the past 20 years he was a very well-known and popular figure in the business life of Cambridge. 10 05 13k

1911 02 17
A taxi driver was summoned for dangerous driving. Richard Glasscock, cabdriver was driving a horse attached to a brougham on King's Parade with three passengers when a taxi came out of Bene't Street on the wrong side of the road at about 12 mph. He had to pull the horse on to the middle of the road and hit it with the whip to get away. The taxi caught the hub of the hind wheel and smashed the springs. Its driver had said his steering gear had been locked for two days. The Mayor said taxi-cabs were driven too fast and fined the driver five shillings 11 02 17

1911 12 22
During the week 274 persons have been supplied by the Mayor's soup kitchen and 73 gallons of soup, nine lbs of dripping and six stone of bread have been distributed. Meat, bones etc have been received from Mr W. Robinson of Bene't Street and other butchers, while G.H. French of East Road has given pea flour and Mr Wallis of Haslingfield, swedes. The sale of bone has realised one shilling and tenpence. The mayor has promised to distribute oranges today and Mrs Prior, Furniss Lodge, has kindly promised 150 mince pies. 11 12 22a

1925 07 18
The R.A.C. has now opened an additional local office at no.1 Bene't Street, Cambridge, in the heart of the town, and will be of service not only to residents but also to visitors, who will find information about the colleges and other points of interest. A spacious reading room is provided for the use of associate members. The office will cover the counties of Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire & Bedfordshire.

11936 03 28

Under new restrictions Cambridge motorists may not travel from Market Hill towards Trinity Street or into Bene't Street from King's Parade. You may not drive into Sussex Street from Hobson Street or into Corn Exchange Street from Downing Street, nor turn at Burton's Corner, Petty Cury to go to the Victoria Cinema or from Wheeler Street into Peas Hill to get to the Arts Theatre. But cyclists may walk with their bicycles either way as they do at present in Petty Cury and Market Street. Restaurants will have to speed up their service if they wish to cater for those who leave their cars outside, for only a quarter of an hour is permitted. Travellers who do not want to get indigestion had better make use of a parking space! 36 03 28b

1937 09 06
The famous Festival Grill has been reborn. Connoisseurs of good food and good wine need no longer journey to Newmarket Road as the Grill has opened in more commodious premises at the corner of Bene't Street and King's Parade. It has a new name, the Festival Restaurant with a new sherry and oyster bar which together with the restaurant under the direction of Toni, is first-class in every respect. Its delightful colour scheme of red, black and cream ensures the rooms are bright but not garish and it will become one of the best-known rendezvous. 37 10 06a

1937 10 23
Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company's new workshops and depots in Rustat Road would lead to improved service, enhanced efficiency and – sooner or later – reduced charges. The old premises in Bene't Street had been a veritable shambles and disgrace with pipes stored at the disused Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn pumping stations. They would wage ceaseless war against waste by leakage and had a gang of plumbers ready to deal with any emergency 24 hours a day with the promptitude of the London Fire Brigade. 37 10 23b

1943 06 07
Painting of an aircraft in flight, autographed by British and American service men has been subject of a competition in aid of Prisoners of War Fund at Eagle in Bene't Street. Other men have covered ceiling with lipstick or lighter flame records of their own units – 43 06 07

1945 01 05
Runaway Pony. At about 11.20 a.m. on Tuesday a pony and trap was left outside Messrs Holland and Blackwell's shop in Pembroke Street, when the pony took fright. It turned into Trumpington Street and ran towards King's Parade land at the corner of Bene't Street and King's Parade struck a lamp standard. The trap and harness were damaged, and the pony having freed itself, ran along King's Parade and Trinity Street, being finally stopped uninjured in St. John's Street, It caused no further damage.

1948 11 26
St Bene't's tower, p4

1949 05 13
A director of the firm of Findlater, Mackie and Todd, brewers, applied to turn the premises known as the Festival Grill, King's Parade, Cambridge, into fully licensed premises with meals provided. In April 1946 he had acquired the business of the Hope Inn, Bene't Street, the ground floor of which was used as an ordinary bar, whilst the first floor was converted into two wine parlours. These had become very popular but attracted a totally different type of clientele from the ground floor bar.

1951 03 22

Cambridge has some 150 inn signs hanging outside licensed premises. It is probable that Cambridge was the first place where public house signs were made compulsory by law. An Act passed in 1430 laid down "whoever shall brew ale in the town of Cambridge with intention of selling it must hang out a sign, otherwise he shall forfeit his ale. The Eagle and Child in Bene't Street was called by irreverent undergraduates "The Bird and Baby". There was also a "Swan and Sugarloaf", (now the Still and Sugarloaf) which was nicknamed the Duck and Acid Drop.

1953 02 23
A new branch of the Westminster Bank opened in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, a fairly busy district which up to now has not been served by a bank of any sort. Inside the visitor is greeted with an attractively decorated modern interior. Cheques will be taken to the parent branch in Bene't Street where they are photographed and available for the customer to examine. An interesting feature is that a night safe has been provided. The first person to open an account was Geoffrey Nichols, of the Free Press, Prospect Row

1953 03 17
Business at the Bene't Street, Cambridge, branch of Barclay's Bank has expanded to such a degree over recent years that additional premises are required to handle an 'overflow' of work. Now a new bank has been built at 3, St Andrew's Street. The counter is made of Honduras mahogany and glass panelling is extensively used, a modern feature which nevertheless preserves the traditional dignity of a bank. There is a unique feature about the new bank. Alongside the wall facing the church is a line of thirty tombstones, some 250 years old, which had to be displaced during building operations

1957 03 03
Cambridge Water Company originally hoped the new Great Wilbraham pumping station would help meet the ever-growing demand, even in times of severe drought, until 1965. But the experiences of last summer have prompted a less optimistic view and they were sinking a trial bore near Stapleford. They are also moving from Bene't Street, where they have been since 1866, to new offices in Rustat Road. 58 03 03

1961 05 29
Westminster Bank opened their first Cambridge branch at the junction of Trumpington Street and Bene't Street in 1845. It was closely connected with University and College life and the original premises have been enlarged several times. Now a continued expansion in business has seen a handsome new bank in St Andrew's Street together with the modernisation of the one in Fitzroy Street which opened in 1952 to cater for that active and expanding shopping area 61 05 29a

1964 07 23
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Bene't Street – 64 07 23-23c

1969 12 03
Barclay's Bank extension, Bene't St – photo – 69 12 03a

1970 06 25
Barclays Bank modernise Bene't St HQ – feature – 70 06 25b & c

1973 10 30
Plans by a London catering company to convert the 17th century Bath Hotel in Bene't St, Cambridge, into a steak bar rival to the Turks Head have been vetoed by Corpus Christi College who own the site. Dr Peter Lewis said, "We don't want to change the atmosphere of the Bath

Hotel and these plans would have done that too drastically". The Bath Hotel is basically a 17th century building with extensive 18th century modifications. West End Catering, who put forward the proposal said, "The college's grounds for refusal are absolutely unreasonable and invalid. The dons seemed to be examining our plans as a viable place for them to eat instead of examining them in terms of popular catering"

1985 05 24
The Landlord of the Eagle in Bene't Street is in favour of all-day opening: the pub is often still packed when drinking-up time is called in the afternoons and many people try to get a drink between 3pm and 6pm. Later hours would be attractive to tourists who don't have to get up for work next day. But the landlord of the Robin Hood and Little John, Cherry Hinton, says it would have little effect on out-of-town pubs and the Queen's Head at Newton say prices would have to go up to pay for staff wages 85 05 24a

1987 11 06
Vision Park, the controversial office and high-tech development in Histon, has gained a major first tenant which suggests that the developers were right in thinking Histon was an acceptable business location. Construction of a second phase on the former Chivers site across Station Road started in August. Barclays Bank is taking half of the first completed building to replace their head office above the bank in Bene't Street. The move follows Lloyds Bank's decision to take a large headquarters block at Castle Park, Shire Hall and Midland's move of its management team to Parkers House in Regent Street. 87 11 05b

1988 04 18
The historic Eagle Hotel in Bene't Street has closed for a year or two while building work is carried out nearby. It has been favourite of tourists, dons and actors from the Arts Theatre. The people who discovered DNA were regulars and the traitor, Kim Philby, also drank there. Former RAF Chief Technician, James Chainey, who has made a study of the wartime writings on the ceiling, was among the final drinkers. But late arrivals found many of the pumps had already run dry and some of the fittings taken down 88 04 18

1990 03 07
Eagle Inn, Bene't Street to re-open – 90 03 07a

Bradwell's Court 1961

98.69

c.44.6 : Bradwell's Court

1950

1956 07 14
Mr Stanley Woolston has removed his antiques business to Pembroke Street. It is a wrench to leave his former premises in St Andrew's Street after 30 years where he has been honoured by the gracious patronage of members of the Royal Family. But the buildings have been affected by the redevelopment of Emmanuel Street and plans to link Drummer Street with a shopping arcade. He will retain his warehouse at the end of Bradwell's Yard until the area is ripe for rebuilding. 56 07 14

1959 02 07
Bradwell's court development – sketch – 59 02 07

1959 04 30
The new Bradwell's Court shopping centre is beginning to take shape with the opening of the first shop. Reeds ladies wear brings a very individual and distinctive approach to fashion selling with clothes obtained direct from the actual makers. Their slacks range covers all possible choices – gay – sombre-striped-tartans – the lot. Knitwear is a speciality ranging from Italian cottons to beautiful Orlon jumpers and cardigans, twin sets, overalls, smocks and pinarettes. 59 04 30 & a

1960

1960 01 23
Bradwell's Court, the new public footway linking St Andrew's Street with Drummer Street, was opened for the first time this week. At the same time Christ's Lane, the old cobbled pathway, was

closed. With an arcade at each end and an 'open style' court in the centre, the new thoroughfare is flanked by 13 shops 60 01 23c

1960 06 17
Peak's Furnishers Ltd of Fitzroy Street have opened large premises in the new covered shopping arcade in Bradwell's Court. The electrical appliances section is well-stocked with the leading makes of washing machines, spin-dryers; demonstrations are a daily event and prompt delivery guaranteed. It also has a number of model kitchens fitted right down to the last detail and attractive displays of bedroom, lounge and dining furniture are beautifully displayed in room settings. 60 06 17a & b

1961 07 01
The Roe family has been well known in Cambridge since Joseph Roe started in the antiques trade in Petty Cury in 1826. Now one more facet of the old times will disappear with the demolition of their shop on the corner of Christ's Lane and St Andrew's Street. It has been in existence since 1882, having been rebuilt in 1897. New buildings will rise on the site in keeping with the contemporary Bradwell's Court. The business has relocated to Downing Street where it will be continued by Owen Roe. 61 07 01a

1962 08 11
Bradwell's Court arcade and shop development has been a joint venture between Jesus and Christ's Colleges and Ravenseft Properties. It stretches from St Andrew's Street through to Drummer Street bus station and provides a continuous covered route to the city centre. Work on demolishing the out-of-date shops and buildings started as long ago as October 1957 but was held up by difficulties over leases. The last tenant to go was the well-known antique dealer, Mr K.A. Rowe. By the time the University term begins again the development will be complete and all the 20 new shops and showrooms fully occupied. 62 08 11a

1963 04 06
Civic Trust award for Bradwell's Court – 63 04 06b

1964 04 24
'Cambridge New Architecture' criticises the Addenbrooke's Hospital buildings in Hills Road. No doubt these bleak buildings work efficiently but the bungaloid growth of the out-patients building cannot mitigate the overall barrack-room atmosphere, it says. Bradwell's Court shopping centre is attractively self-effacing and the Snowcat is one of the few well-designed modern pubs. But other Arbury building is weak with prim brick terraces with utility steel or concrete doorways of modish design. It is a squandering of Cambridge's short-supply of housing land 64 04 24b

1970

1974 06 27
Bradwell's Court carpet, p8

1975 11 26
One man and his hot-dog stand are at the centre of a furious row which threatens to erupt into court. Since early this year the hot-dog stall now opens all day on Mondays and Saturdays on the pavement outside Bradwell's Court, Cambridge. Local cafes claim it unfairly undercuts them. The manager of the Wimpy Bar said he was losing seven per cent of his takings. The owner of the Stroll-in said he was thinking of having a minimum charge. People were coming in with a hamburger and just buying a cup of tea or coffee.

1976 07 24
A Cambridge hot dog seller was in fighting spirits after the latest attempts to have him moved from his regular "pitch" at Bradwell's Court. Last week Ravenseft Properties suspended four metal poles from the arcade roof at the St Andrew's Street end to keep the stall out – but he simply side-stepped the poles. Now they have fixed more poles. In order to stay he would have to stand on the public right of way through the court – and risk being summoned for obstruction. Managers of two neighbouring cafes claim his stall is damaging their trade and he can undercut them since he doesn't pay rates, rent or wages. Yesterday he was determined to fight it out "to the bitter end. If they want me moved they will have to carry me out", he said

1980

1981 10 09
Wards have been in Cambridge for more than 70 years, originally making and selling cycles. By the 1930s they were involved in electronics, making their own wireless receiver, the Wards Three Valve. In the 1950s they expanded into communications, selling televisions and other electronic equipment, moving from East Road to a new shop in Burleigh Street in 1965 with another in Bradwell's Court. At its peak in the 1970s they won contracts with Iraq and the Defence Ministry. Now it will close for the last time. 81 10 09d

1983 05 09
Cambridge people know their cheese but have been hard-pressed to find some of the more unusual varieties. Now Cheesevale has just opened in Bradwell's Court. It stocks more than 200 different kinds with many British farmhouse cheeses that have matured for up to three years. They include a combination of Red Windsor and Stilton, one flavoured with beer and garlic and a Gormandise cheese with port. 83 05 09 p8

1984 11 02
Own Roe, the St Andrew's Street antiques dealer, is the latest in a line of specialist private shops owners to be driven out of the centre of Cambridge by massive rent rises. His great-grandfather started in business at the corner of Christ's Lane in 1822 but that shop was pulled down to make way for Bradwell's Court in the 1960s. Recently E.J. Pigott (tools) left Sussex Street after nearly 50 years and now the Granta Wool Shop is concerned about a rent review. Model Mania in King Street has also moved. 84 11 02 p8

Cambridge BROOKLANDS AVENUE Scrapbook

1899 08 08
The holiday season is now in full swing and, taking advantage of it, the burglar is busy at his nefarious profession. There are rumours that sever of these well-known "gentlemen" have paid of their periodical visits to Cambridge and have commenced operations. There has been a report of the mysterious perambulations of burglars in the vicinity of Brooklands Avenue. At any rate the movement of strangers in that district have given rise to suspicion

1900 03 07
The ire of the undergraduate once roused, not even the powerful hand of Alma Mater suffices to entirely quell the wrath that has been kindled. An attacking force of undergraduates gathered many recruits as it made its way along Hills Road and it was at once seen that the objective was the Mayor's residence in Brooklands Avenue. They were dismayed to find the thoroughfare barricaded by a posse of police constables. The mob made a bold rush. The police partially yielded but not more than half of the 'Varsity flank passed through the cordon when the police closed ranks. The trap that had been set proved effective for those who marched triumphantly down the Avenue had not negotiated more than fifty yards when they were encountered by the Proctors mustered in strong force

1905 07 08
Mr Hutchinson of Brooklands Avenue attached a pair of natural wings to a swinging balance and actuated them by means of an electric motor in the way in which a bird's wings move. Encouraged by the experiments he constructed a larger machine with wings of 60 feet square, the power being supplied by a petrol cycle engine. The results are encouraging but no actual attempt at unrestrained flight has been attempted due to the probability of an unpremeditated decent. Were it to be exhibited at the Mammoth Show what a 'draw' it would be. 05 07 08b

1908 12 18

Last week two persons were summoned for riding cycles on the footpaths in Brooklands Avenue, one being discharged and the other fined half-a-crown. It is contended by some that the Avenue is a private road, as evidence of which they point to the gate which stands at one end. If it is so what powers have the magistrates to convict? One explanation is that the footpath on the north side of the Avenue is a public footpath and it was on this that the defendants were riding. If so why does the path remain a perfect quagmire throughout the winter? CWN 08 12 18

1909 07 30
Mr S.G. Wilkinson of Brooklands Avenue said that when he called in tradesmen the builder had a Scotch foreman, the electric light foremen were Scotch, the electric bells were muddled by two Englishmen and finally put right by a Scotsman! Cambridge men would be quite content to live on the dole and would exist in discomfort rather than exert themselves over much. Most lived for the enjoyment of the next pleasure. The fair, the excursion, the treat, the Hippodrome, the sweet shop or the public house was the matter of chief moment to them. CWN 09 07 30

1910

1912 12 20
Brooklands Avenue residents happy to repair road once council makes decision about scheme for including it as part of a thoroughfare from Newnham Croft to Hills Road - 12 10 04b

1912 12 20
Brooklands Avenue is a private road with a gate at the Trumpington Road end, which is sometimes closed, though one footpath, it is claimed, is a public path. Part of the road is invariably in a disgraceful state of repair and during bad weather is little better than a quagmire with mud up to one's ankles. Yet if a cyclist, to avoid the ruts and filth, takes to the public footpath he is liable to be pounced upon by a policeman. The road connects up Trumpington and Cherry Hinton, important parts of the extended Borough, and should be taken over by the Corporation. 12 12 20c

1913 01 24
Brooklands Avenue making up

1913 05 16
Council – tramways closure foreshadowed, Brooklands Avenue to be made up, Photographers exempted from early closing, Midsummer Common changes

1918 05 22
Rook shooting in Brookside and Brooklands Avenue – photos – 18 05 22b

1920

1922 03 11
Brooklands Avenue Inquiry. It was an attempt to make a road from Hills-road to Trumpington-road. At present the greater part of the Avenue was open but it was in regard to the smaller part at the Trumpington-road end that the application was made. At the present time there was a gate fastened there and kept locked by the owner. He understood that people going to houses in the Avenue were allowed to go though and he could understand that the gentleman would like to keep it a quiet place. Personally he would oppose it if he lived there.

1922 05 06

My readers will learn with great regret that Brooklands Avenue (Cambridge) with its countless romantic associations appears to be fore-doomed to destruction. The beautiful trees which provide the leafy tunnel which for generations has been so much admired are elms, and elms have an unpleasant habit of dismembering themselves with age. A good many of the trees must come down at once, as they are in such a decayed state to be liable to split and fall without warning.
1922 05 06
Brooklands Avenue trees

1925 01 31
Brooklands Avenue trees, p6

1928 12 06
For some time Cambridge bowlers have felt the present facilities were not attractive enough and they ran the risk of losing fixtures with first-class counties because of the state of the greens. Now an anonymous donor has offered a lease on ground in Brooklands Avenue; it would not require a great deal of levelling. The act was one of extraordinary generosity and should allow the formation of Cumberland turf greens and other sporting attractions.

1929 06 14
Brooklands Avenue bowls, p7

1930

1933 05 19
Sir – the gravel footpath from Brooklands Avenue along Hobson's River up Empty Common has long been known as Finch's Walk. But how did it get its name? Some people call it Senior Wranglers' Walk and connect it with the name of the Rev G.B. Finch who was Senior Wrangler in 1857. But he never mentioned that he had anything to do with it. In an 1834 deed relating to the Hobson's Conduit Trust there is mention of two trustees called Charles Finch, one of whom died in 1762, who had a foundry and ironworks in Thompson's Lane – W.D. Bushell. 33 05 19b

1940

1944 01 21
Awarded Military Medal. Trooper E. D. Smith has been awarded the Military Medal. He is the only son of Mrs. and the late Mr. Jesse Smith, of 20 Queen's Meadow, Cherry Hinton. Before being called up he was employed by Messrs Hallock and Bond at their warehouse in Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge.

1947 07 22
The death occurred at the Catholic Nursing Home in Brooklands Avenue of Mr Edmund Joseph Kett who has been ill for the past week. Mr Kett who was 85, was a partner in the firm of Messrs Rattee and Kett, builders and contractors where he started as a boy immediately on leaving school. He retired from the firm in 1925 when the business became a limited company. During his time with the firm he was responsible for the building of the Cambridge Catholic Church and was also connected with the restoration of Arundel Castle, the Duke of Norfolk's country seat. This took 16 years to complete

1947 11 17
The S.O.S. Society's Boys' Hostel at Winston House, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge was officially opened in the presence of a large audience, including magistrates from the surrounding

district. Lord Huntingfield spoke its work in relation to its care for boys who had either come into contact with Probation Officers or had homes that were not particularly desirable. He commented "Youth, being what it is, does not always recognise the laws of the grown-ups and they are inclined to do things which bring them into conflict with the long arm of the law. These are the kind of boys taken in here and looked after".

1948 05 05
The experience of being stranded in a strange town, with nowhere to stay, is particularly unpleasant for young women. There must be many who, stranded in this way in Cambridge, have heard themselves being directed to the Bene't Hostel for Women which exists to provide such shelter. The hostel was started in Brooklands Avenue in 1943 to meet a wartime need and during the last year of hostilities 1,060 applications were received and the total number occupying beds was 8,265. Its continuing need being proved, a house was later bought at 1, Drosier Road where an average of 21 beds have been occupied nightly ever since

1949 03 30
Juvenile delinquency is very much in the news at the moment, and the problem of how to check it is increasingly occupying the attention of social workers. An experiment in this direction is being conducted in Cambridge at “Winston House”, Brooklands Avenue. Here, boys in between 14 and 17, who have been in their first trouble, are given a chance to make good by making them happy members of a little family, providing useful outlets for their mental and physical energy and helping them to make right friendships and get a sense of responsibility and self-respect.

1950

1950 01 27
Brooklands Avenue trees, p9

1950 05 19
During the Nazi “blitz” of 1940, members of the Roman Catholic Order The Sisters of Hope were driven from their home in London and came to settle in Bateman Street, Cambridge. In 1944 they moved to Brooklands Avenue. “So good has come out of evil”, said the Bishop of Northampton as he laid the foundation stone of the new nursing home at Hope House. This large extension to the present premises will be completed in 12 months’ time and will increase the capacity of the nursing home from its present nine patients to 30

1951 04 18
Seventy-one year Mr Robert O’dell went to the Ministry of Labour offices in Brooklands Avenue, in response to instructions to go for a Z Reserve medical examination. Mr O’dell – Bowie as he is widely known in Cambridge, where he has a greengrocery business – was rather surprised to get the instruction, as he has never been in the army. He was told it was all a mistake. “I asked about my expenses for travelling and lost time”, he said.

1953 08 04
To the everyday passer-by the tall stately elm trees in Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge, give the impression of being sound and sturdy. But some have now been cut down and it can be seen that sections of their trunks are hollow! Six have been taken down and there are a further 20 which have serious defects and decay. It was in April 1950 that the City Council decided to remove all the trees and replant the Avenue with new ones, but owing to public opinion the decision was reversed. If the present disease continues it will not be many years before most of the common elm trees in Cambridge have been removed.

1953 08 29
The Eastern Region Food Office is to cease to function in Cambridge after 14 years. It opened in Corpus Christi College at the beginning of the war and remained there until November 1945 when it moved to its present offices in Brooklands Avenue. In December 1946 the Essex and Hertfordshire region was also brought under Cambridge

1953 12 28
At Winston House Boys' Hostel, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge each lad had presents sent from "Fairy Godmothers" who invited a number of them for dinner. For those who remained there was roast chicken and Christmas pudding. At The Grange Children's' Home, Swavesey the children hopefully hung up their stockings at the foot of the bed and on awaking found they had been filled. There was no shortage of presents at the Little Shelford Children's' Home, partly due to the generosity of the American servicemen station in the vicinity. An American 'Father Christmas' arrived from Wimpole Park bringing tennis racquets, bagatelle, darts, dolls and tea sets.

1955 02 05
Magistrates were told that the Royal Hotel, Trumpington Street, Cambridge had been granted a restricted licence in 1938, permitting them to sell drinks to residents and persons partaking of meals, but no person could go in solely for a drink. This could now be waived. It caused the management some embarrassment. The hotel was a convenient place for motorists and passers-by and to go to other hotels a driver had to plunge into the centre of the town with its maze of one-way streets. Guests came from Addenbrooke's Hospital and Brooklands Avenue. It would not become 'a drinking house camouflaged as a residential hotel'. 55 02 05

1955 09 06
One of the finest clubrooms for civil servants opened next door to the bowling green in Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge. It is within easy reach of the officer and membership is one-penny a week. It would enhance the civil service's reputation for high standards of integrity and once members entered they should completely forget about rank. 55 09 06

1956 05 05
Britain is on the brink of war. Enemy forces are massed against us and it appears only a matter of hours that the first attack of World War Three will come. Although the man in the street is unaware of it the Army and Civil Defence are taking part in the biggest defence exercise the world has yet seen. It envisages evacuation of 800,000 people from London and authorities have joined together in the war room at Brooklands Avenue to assess the situation. 56 05 05a

1956 05 07
Biggest combined Civil Defence and military operation seen anywhere – co-ordinated from Brooklands Avenue – 56 05 07
1956 11 22
Several hundred civil servants at Brooklands Avenue will be out of work as a result of the Government's decision to close down this regional centre. Nine departments will be affected and only a very small nucleus will be retained at the site. It is more economic to have them operate from London. Cambridge sprang up as a Regional Centre during the last war. 56 11 22

1956 11 29
Preparation for petrol rationing began in mid-November and thousands of applications for supplementary rations are arriving at the Ministry of Fuel and Power at Brooklands Avenue.

Local garages say there has been little panic buying as most motorists already have their tanks full and merely call in for the odd gallon to remain topped up. But when rationing is introduced garages will only be able to obtain supplies on production of coupons handed to them by customers. Should a garage run out of petrol they will have to go without for as long as the rationing continues. 56 11 29 a & b

1957 02 08
The National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service at Brooklands Avenue has doubled its strength since 1954 and has now moved to Queen Anne Terrace. It was set up to investigate the tremendous amount of waste of fuel through poorly insulated buildings or by untrained stokers. They help bring industrial plants up to high standards of fuel utilisation enabling savings of 15 per cent during 1955-56. 57 02 08

1957 07 17
Cambridgeshire Women's Bowling Association was founded in 1937. Now their new flag in the County colours of light and dark blue and old gold was hoisted for the first time at a bowls drive at Brooklands Avenue to celebrate its 21st anniversary. 57 07 17

1957 11 18
Bus stop near Brooklands Avenue is a danger – claim – 57 11 18

1958 11 08
The Ministry of Fuel and Power which administered fuel rationing during the war has moved its regional headquarters from Brooklands Avenue to London. At first there were two offices: the petroleum office in Chaucer Road and a general office which started at Corpus Christi College and late removed to Trinity dealing with coal, gas and electricity. At its peak 300 people were employed but now a very small staff will remain to ensure that gas and electricity meters are working efficiently. 58 11 08c

1959 04 07
The Employment Exchange which has been sited in Newnham for nearly 30 years is moving to Brooklands Avenue. It provides a register of people seeking professional, managerial and senior executive posts and employees wishing to fill such vacancies. Nearly 200 men and women as well as ex-officers from HM Forces are included. The passports department and National Service registration office will also be affected. 59 04 07

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1961 03 20
Winston House, an experiment in mental after-care in Brooklands Avenue, was opened in 1958 to provide temporary accommodation for those recovering from mental and nervous sickness and looking for permanent homes of their own. It can accommodate 23 people in a homely atmosphere and since January 1960 there has been a waiting list. Last year 48 people left the hostel, 26 of them having gained benefit from their stay. 61 03 02a

1962 04 06
The newly-formed Cambridge branch of the Gideons International held its first public meeting. Almost all the local hotels have received Bibles, as have nearly 300 school-leavers and it is hoped to cover all such youngsters each year. Young folk from Queen Edith's Chapel have volunteered to read aloud Bibles given to the Blind Homes in Glisson Road. Twenty Bibles have been given

to the Rehabilitation Centre in Brooklands Avenue. The replacement Addenbrooke's Hospital will be a major challenge in the near future 62 04 06b

1962 04 30
The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament's mock funeral march through the centre of Cambridge caused traffic congestion, provoked an anti-CND march and met with a noisy reception from undergraduates in the Market Square. The 'funeral cortege' stretched for 300 yards behind a child's coffin carried by two pall bearers. Altogether 400 'mourners' took part in the march including Mr Gabor Cossa, the antique dealer. A Committee of 100 contingent joined in a demonstration at the Government buildings in Brooklands Avenue 62 04 30a

1963 05 09
South Cambs RDC plan new offices at Brooklands Avenue or Sawston – 63 05 09b

1963 05 30
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Brooklands Avenue – 63 05 30

1963 06 14
The firm of J.E. Hanger of Brooklands Avenue is concerned with the supply and repair of artificial limbs. For nearly 50 years they have dealt entirely with legs. Measurements are taken, appliances fitted and minor or emergency repairs are undertaken. The workshop has legs of all shapes, sizes and styles, with or without shoes and socks or stockings. Repainted wooden feet are hung up to dry and a grinder is used for smoothing rough metal surfaces. Shelves of screw-top jars contain nuts, bolts and screws 63 06 14a

1966 01 18
Upper freight yard depot of British Railways to close on January 31st and part of the land may be used in a new road scheme connecting Brooklands Avenue and Newmarket Road. The public depot on the other side of the main line to remain open 66 01 18c

1966 05 07
Government offices, Brooklands Avenue – photo – 66 05 07

1966 07 16
Elmhurst, Brooklands Avenue, GORA headquarters for 30 years sold to Lloyd's Bank in one of city's largest property auctions for £74,000 – 66 07 16

1967 03 30
Lloyds Bank moving district office from Hobson Street to Brooklands Avenue building that housed Gt Ouse River Authority – 67 03 30

1967 07 06
Lloyds Bank move district office to Brooklands Ave – 67 07 06 & a

1970

1972 09 08
Just in case The Bomb should ever drop, eight powerful new air raid warning sirens are to be installed in Cambridgeshire. Although few people ever see or hear them, the Home Office has about 22,000 warning points in the United Kingdom equipped with electric or hand sirens for air attack warnings and maroons for fall-out warnings. Now they are to be replaced by powerful

compressed-air sirens which are much more efficient and much louder. The eight which are to be installed in Cambridgeshire will be at Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge, Waterbeach Barracks, Oakington airfield, Great Wilbraham, the old Duxford airfield, Bassingbourn Barracks Lt Eversden & Linton 72 09 08

1975 12 08
The official opening of the Cambridge Jobcentre was carried out by the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, Miss Rosemary Murray. She said a site in the centre was desirable for any supermarket – and jobcentres had been called job supermarkets. They are a new thing to get away from the old dole queue and form-filling image of job seeking. 30 staff have been transferred to the new Jobcentre from the employment offices in Brooklands Avenue. Currently the city has 1,650 out of work and 370 jobs on offer

1980

1982 04 26
A phenomenal epidemic of wheat bulb fly in the 1950s was responsible for nearly one third of the Fenland winter cereal acreage having to be redrilled. The devastation provided the impetus for the development of a whole range of counter-measures by Frank Maskell, an entomologist whose name has become virtually synonymous with the conquest of the cereal menace. He has just retired for the Agricultural Development and Advisory Service, Brooklands Avenue. 82 04 26c

1985 08 15
Protest letters against plans for a 'hi-tech-village' near the junction with Hills Road and Brooklands Avenue are flooding into the planning department. Unex Property Group want to build 23 office-research units grouped around a central courtyard with shrubbery and trees together with 169 parking spaces. It means the displacement of E. Pordage, the vegetable wholesalers and the steel staircase company, Crescent of Cambridge. Unex say offices would be better than the existing warehouse and scrapyard. 85 08 15a

1988 05 20
Winston House, Brooklands Ave a residential home for people with psychiatric and psychological problems – 88 05 20

1988 12 28
Brooklands Avenue Government canteen to be repaired and refurbished – 88 12 28a

1989 05 19
Winston House in Brooklands Avenue, established in 1959, is a psychiatric rehabilitation centre owned by the SOS charity. There are 20 residents staying on average a year with care and advice on hand all day. All are encouraged to lead a full life and to do something constructive outside the house. But privacy is a problem in the 13-bedroomed house and an appeal has been launched to provide more single rooms and larger kitchens. 89 05 19b

1989 11 28
The National Extension College in Brooklands Avenue has more students than Cambridge University and offers courses from accounting to zoo-keeping. It was set up in the back room of a condemned cottage in 1963 to open the door to higher education through correspondence courses. It was the brainwave of Michael Young, Cambridge University's first lecturer in sociology and founder of the Consumers' Association. A forerunner of the Open University, it has 15,000

students and its expertise has been used by the BBC and Channel Four in preparing their own adult education programmes. 89 11 28

1990 03 14
Unex group has produced details of its big new development, Intercity House, on the former Pordage distribution site at the corner of Brooklands Avenue and Hills Road. It will offer air-conditioned offices with crèche, restaurant and gymnasium together with 301 car parking spaces. The windows will be high-performance anodised aluminium and the scheme will reflect the style and quality of the Victorian Royal Albert Almshouses across the road – 90 03 14

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Burleigh Street from Fitzroy Street 1970

155.81

c.44.6 : Burleigh Street

1898 09 05
Awful was the fate of an aged women residing in East Road Cambridge, on Saturday night. Her body was found scorched, blackened and blistered in her burning house. Every article of clothing was burned, and not a hair remained on her head. Those who saw it were sickened at the uncanny sight. As quickly as possible she was carried to a costermonger's barrow and covered up with the first things that came to hand, after which she was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital. The fire brigade was hampered as the telegraph wires are set so low in that part of the town that it is impossible to run the fire escape along without catching the wires and causing not only damage but delay. In this instance the escape was delayed by catching the wires in Burleigh St

1899 07 17
A fatality occurred today. The scene of the accident was the new stores being erected in Burleigh Street, Cambridge for the Co-operative Company. The outer walls have been built up and the workmen are engaged on the interior. One scaffolder, named Thomas Filby, aged 60, was engaged on the scaffolding erected above the top floor. He fell sheer into the basement on to a heap of broken brick. Before he lapsed into a state of utter insensibility he was heard to murmur, "It's all up"

1900

1900 01 25

The Cambridge Co-operative Society has erected spacious new premises in Burleigh Street. The building is imposing and by contrast with the other not very ornate premises in Burleigh Street is rendered all the more conspicuous. On the ground floor are spaces for the butchery, drapery and boot and shoe department. The first floor is well laid out for other branches with a ready-made clothes emporium and on the top floor is a really fine meeting room. The old building in Fitzroy Street will be retained for the grocery portion of the business.

1901 02 01
Great excitement was occasioned in the neighbourhood of Burleigh Street, Cambridge, by an outbreak of fire on the premises of Messrs Prime & Sons, the well-known firm of builders. The alarm quickly spread and only a few minutes elapsed before a tremendous crow of people had assembled to watch the progress of events. It was obvious that the efforts of the firemen and police were somewhat hampered by the increasing density of the large throng of onlookers. The conflagration soon illuminated the whole of the district, the flames hovering above the housetops in alarming brilliance.

1901 11 05
A fruitless burglary was committed at the Mill Road branch of the Cambridge Co-operative Society. The object was obviously cash but they were scantily repaid for their trouble, because on Saturday evening the money is cleared and lodged in the strong room of the central stores in Burleigh Street. The manager noticed the disarrangement of some sugar bags, which had been left ready for the weighing up of sugar. A steel for sharpening knives had been used in breaking open the till. The back door was unfastened but nothing is missing, the thieves preferring not to take away goods which might have been identified.

1906 06 06
Albert Whitehead, fruiterer of Burleigh Street told the court that his shop had been broken into and 90 oranges taken. Four schoolboys were charged with the theft – they had taken them to the gala ground on Midsummer Common and sold them. Two of the lads had very bad characters and were sentenced to receive 12 strokes with the birch. 06 06 06

1908 02 15
Careless wholesale confectionary, Burleigh St, bankrupt – 08 02 15e

1908 03 05
The Waggon and Horses on the corner of Burleigh Street and East already held a music licence. They had a commodious room capable of holding 50 people which they wished to use for public dancing once a week. But the Chief Constable said it was in an awkward part of Cambridge. A lot of people visited the house and it would not be well to offer further facilities. The licensee had his hands full in looking after the pub as it was at present. also Nags Head, Albion Row; Spotted Cow, Northampton St; Carpenter's Arms, King Street. 08 03 05 a & b

1910

1910 12 16
Messrs A.M. Robinson held their Christmas sale as usual at the Cattle Market. Amongst the prize-winners was Mr C. Butler of Swaffham Bulbeck whose five pigs were purchased by J. Prior, butcher of Burleigh Street. There was a fine show of hogs over ten stone which was won by W.A. Payne of Fulbourn with a special prize awarded to E. Gautrey of Cottenham. Mr Backler of Linton won in the sow class while Miss Camps of Chesterton was best in the cottagers' section, her hog being sold to Eastmans 10 12 16a

1913 05 16
Police were called to F. Gunter's jeweller's shop in Burleigh Street when a clock was spotted resting on the guttering. The attic window was open and display cases disarranged. Rumours spread that it had been burgled and a crowd assembled, grateful for anything that promised relief from the tedium of Whit Monday. Finding the back door locked, police borrowed a ladder and entered through the attic window. Inside they found a servant girl who explained that she'd dropped the clock out of the window. Returning from an excursion, Mr Gunter and his family were surprised at the commotion 1913 05 16 p2 CIP

1920

1920 03 31
Employees Welcomed Back,— There was an interesting gathering at the Co-operative Hall, Burleigh Street, Cambridge, on Wednesday evening, when the Cambridge and District Co-operative Society Ltd. gave a complimentary tea and concert formally to welcome all its employees who served in His Majesty's Forces during the war. Mr. G. R. Meaden the President of the Society, was in the chair, and at the conclusion of the tea he proposed the loyal toast and "The Returned Soldiers." Mr. James Quincey and Mr. J, Abrahams replied. Subsequently the toast of "Those we miss" was reverently acknowledged. Mr, Meaden committed on the fact that during the war every eligible man employed by the Society joined the Colours. An excellent concert was given by Mr. Hunt's concert party, and the various items of the programme were well received. The artists were Miss Dollie Hunt, Miss Dorothie Smith, Mr, Harry Collins, Mr. George Gass, and Mr, Godwin Hunt, with Mr. Arthur Noble at the piano.

1924 02 02c
The renewal of the music and dancing licence of the Cambridge co-operative hall, was objected to on the grounds of noise. Burleigh Street was one of the most densely populated parts of the town. The hall was not originally built for dancing, it had a large number of windows and the dancing room was situated on the top floor of the highest building in the neighbourhood, with the result that the sound was dissipated considerably further. As a rule the dances did not terminate until midnight and sometimes a great noise was caused by the people leaving - shouting, singing and the back-firing of motor cycles, of which a large number were brought by the people who attended

1925 12 07
The advent of Father Christmas in Cambridge marked the approach of the festive season. He entered the town by means of the railway line. Crowds of young and old alike assembled outside the station and as the train steamed in a vision of scarlet and white, with a long white flowing beard, was seen at the window. The coach that awaited his arrival might have featured in the pages of some Hans Andersen's story with his coachman resplendent in his green and gold livery, a footman in blue, & two trumpeters attired in old gold facings and velvet breeches. To the sound of a fanfare of trumpets and the strains of the band he started on a triumphal tour of the town. On his approach to his temporary home at Heyworth's stores in Burleigh Street he was officially welcomed to 'Treasure Island'

1928 01 16
Sir – there are a great many dangerous corners in Cambridge. Burleigh Street corner is dangerous on account of the Eden Baptist Chapel standing in the midst of this busy thoroughfare. I suppose this chapel has been in existence from time immemorial, but as times are now and as traffic grows

bigger and bigger, there certainly ought to be something done to remove this obstacle from this blind corner – E. Claydon

1929 12 10
Sir – I was in the vicinity of Fitzroy Street early one morning and could see a driver with a one-horse van coming from Burleigh Street. He turned right on the corner round Eden Chapel on the wrong side and left down James Street, heedless of any danger. On seeing a police constable I asked whether he had noticed the careless driving around these blind corners. He replied: "This man, being alone driving one horse and van is under no rules or regulations and if he wishes is at liberty to wobble all over the road". I suggest members of Eden Chapel should be approached over this unsightly spot, with its projecting iron fence; it is a serious block to public traffic. All such dangerous corners should be abolished – E. Claydon, Parsonage Street, Cambridge.

1930

1931 06 12
A baker told the bankruptcy court that he started at Harston in 1928 and made a living the first year. He bought a motor cycle combination hoping to increase his business but it broke down. Two other bakers had been canvassed from Cambridge so he took premises in Burleigh Street. There were five other bakers within 100 yards and he hoped to make a 'do' against them. But what with rent, wages and bus fares from Harston he became insolvent. 31 06 12j

1933 06 16
Community and Labour opinions were so divided at a conference in Burleigh Street that a proposal to form a Cambridge Anti-War Council had to be adjourned after three hours. The University Anti-War Council said workers in Cambridge laboratories had been organised against war. Mrs Foster of the Women's Cop-operative Guild wondered who were being prepared as the next enemy of Britain. It used to be the French, then the defenceless Boers and last of all the Germans. She appealed to women to play their part against the wickedness of war before the catastrophe arrived. 33 06 16 & b

1936 01 03
With the enlargement of the drapery section, the Co-operative Society's premises in Burleigh Street comprise the finest Departmental Store in Cambridge. On the ground floor, the Butchery has finest home-killed and imported meat, Grocery sells bread and confectionary, Outfitting has made-to-measure suits while Furnishing has three-piece suites and mirrors. Every Department is equipped in the most modern manner with lifts to all parts of the building. 36 01 03d & e

1936 01 30
Benjamin Rayment was first apprenticed to the shoemaking trade at a shop in Trumpington Street but decided to try his fortune elsewhere. He walked to Birmingham for work before entering the hat industry in Luton when the first hat-blocking machine was introduced from America. He returned to Cambridge and carried on business in Burleigh Street as a straw and felt hat maker for close on 70 years. When the straw hat industry was in its prime he used to supply 'boaters' to most of the University shops in the town. He had a wonderful memory with recollections of the Crimean War, the Chartist Riots and the great exhibition in Hyde Park and died in his 100th year. 36 01 30

1936 08 22
Mr & Mrs Ben Mills of Sleaford Street received a telegram of congratulations from the King on their diamond wedding. Born at Hardwick, he lost his right arm in an accident at the age of nine.

Refusing to allow that disability to mar his life, he came to St Paul's School, Cambridge and soon qualified as a teacher. He worked for W.G. Chater, the woollen merchants before joining the Co-operative movement in 1876, starting at the old shop in Fitzroy Street. In 1901 he opened the new shop in Burleigh Street with a silver key and has seen the premises grow. He became Provincial Grand Master of the Oddfellows. His wife has been a familiar figure at the functions, quietly lending a hand 'behind the scenes' and catering for juvenile outings. 36 08 22a

1937 03 12
Mr G.H. Jacob specialises in his tailoring for ladies and gentlemen and holds Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in addition to thirteen trade diplomas. He offers a complete gentlemen's outfitting service. The shop at 34 and 35 Burleigh Street was established in 1859 by Mr P.S. Stevenson and taken over by Mr Jacob in 1912. In 1926 the business was extended by the opening of a branch shop at 23 St Andrew's Street where extensive enlargements and alterations have just been completed. 37 02 12

1937 03 05
Magistrates heard that the Old Guinea public house in Russell Street was owned by the Star Brewery who had redecorated it and fitted a new fire and sink. There were seven fully-licensed houses and two off-licences within 400 yards. The Burleigh Arms in Burleigh Street was a beerhouse which provided a living for the tenant who found great difficulty in getting any work. The Rabbit in Gold Street was a comfortable little house; it had two extremely nice trade rooms and Green King had put in new windows. The residents of East Road might be 'scared off' a big place. The Cross Keys in Saxon Street was the only beer house in the neighbourhood which had five fully-licences housed within 400 yards. Beer was drawn straight from the wood, which was an attraction and trade was good. 37 03 05j

1937 06 18
The Tyre Service Company claims to be one of the oldest tyre firms in Britain. Commencing in Norfolk in 1902 it moved to Cambridge in 1919 and carried on business at Pound Hill and Jesus Lane. Through constant expanding business they have transferred to more extensive premises in Burleigh Street where they carry the largest and most comprehensive stock of motor tyres in the Eastern Counties, including a full range of Dunlop, Goodyear, Indian, Firestone and all leading makes 37 06 18

1937 07 02
Magistrates heard that the Old Guinea public house in Russell Street was redundant: it sold a little over two barrels of beer a week and there were nine other premises within 400 yards. The Star Brewery was happy for it to close. But brewers Greene King opposed the closure of the The Rabbit in Gold Street. It was a nice clean little house and they had recently made alterations and repairs. It was close to the Burleigh Arms in Burleigh Street and they would not oppose closing that instead. This was agreed. 37 07 02 & a

1938 11 18
Messrs W.A. Bull commenced business in Burleigh Street over 30 years ago – Advertisers – 38 11 18

1938 12 13
Cambridgeshire Photographic Record exhibition – includes watercolours of areas impossible to photograph including view of Fitzroy Street and Burleigh Street corner from roof of Laurie & McConnals painted by Beryl Pickering; other sketches include the Saxon Cement Works, Eagle

Hotel yard, Hobson Street from King Street end, Miss M.C. Greene paintings of yards – Ninepin, True Blue, Ram Yard, Falcon Yard. Last thatched roof in Blackamoor Head Yard - 38 12 13a

1940

1945 09 25
First two Jap prisoners arrive – James Craft of Holbroke Rd & Maurice Foreman, Burleigh St – 45 09 25

1945 05 11
Gallantry. — Lieut. S. G. Love, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Love, of 15 Burleigh Street, Cambridge, has been mentioned in dispatches for gallant and distinguished services in North-West Europe. Lieut Love is in the R.A.S.C. and is attached to the Armoured Division.

1946 05 02
George Love repaired sewing machines in Christ's Lane and Burleigh St, then furniture removals and auctioneer conducting passive resisters and Ouse Drainage distress sales – 46 05 02a

1949 05 23
A "Happy Homes" exhibition was opened at the Co-operative hall, Burleigh Street. Several of the exhibits are of goods which are being made again for the first time since the war. One, a welcome sight, is the man's fitted wardrobe, with shelves for his underwear, ties and hats, and sliding rods and rails for suits and footwear. One exhibit which drew the women, was a cream and green electrically-driven washing machine, with automatic wringer, which does the family wash in an hour and a half, at a cost of about 1d in electricity a week.

1950

1954 11 20
Thirty-seven gold coins – a sovereign and 36 half-sovereigns – were discovered by Cambridge corporation workmen, 23 of them in the sludge taken from the emptier at Swann's tip, Newmarket Road. This had come from the Birdwood Road and Norfolk Street area and when they investigated the gullies in the area thirteen further coins were found, two in a drain in Burleigh Street. These were heavy coins; they were unlikely to have been lost through a hole in a pocket; more likely they had been wrapped in something and disposed of by somebody who did not want to be found with them in his possession. Eight years ago a man in Long Road had been robbed of 100 sovereigns and 30 half-sovereigns – but there were more than this found.

1958 01 22
Fitzroy/Burleigh Street is easily the most convenient shopping area in the city, handy to the bus station and enjoys ample parking facilities. There is one car park at New Square and another in Burleigh Street. It offers the widest variety imaginable with two department stores and 39 specialist shops. You can get everything from fish cakes to furniture. Two good reasons why you should do your shopping there – Advertisement by the Fitzroy/Burleigh Street Traders Association. 58 01 22

1958 08 23
Cambridge Co-op ventured into the specialist field of gramophone records with the opening of a modern record bar in its Burleigh Street department store. Recordings are filed in classified order to make for ease of selection of the standard L.P. and E.P. records. Six sound booths give superb

reproduction for customers who wish to hear the recordings. It also stocks a selection of record players, radiograms and tape recorders. 58 08 23b

1959 01 16
Just Arrived! Presley's Fabulous New Single! 200,000 sold in one week! 'One Night' c.w. 'I Got Stung'. Co-Operative Record Bar, Burleigh Street. The centre for disc fans (Advert). 59 01 16b

1959 08 26
Sir – in the area between Warkworth Street and Burleigh Street there are many little houses which have been bought by elderly people for their retirement and by young couples starting a new home. Now having been put in good order they are to be demolished by the Council in a 'development scheme'. It is cruel, unnecessary, and wasteful to pull down houses which are in liveable condition because in the same neighbourhood there are a number that are neglected and damp. I hope ratepayers will protest – Hilda Finney, Prospect Row. 59 08 26

1959 11 04
In the past few years the Fitzroy/Burleigh Street area, with its easy access, ample car-parking facilities and huge variety of shops, has become increasingly popular as Cambridge's most convenient shopping centre. Many of the shops were formerly in ramshackle buildings, combining timber and corrugated iron with a minimum of brickwork, often built over the front gardens of houses which had their ground floors converted. But now these have made way for up-to-the-minute shopping premises and improvements are constantly going on. 59 11 04 & a

1959 11 17
Co-op new self-service super food store, Burleigh St - 59 11 17

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1962 10 20
Burleigh street property bought by London property firm – 62 10 20c

1964 04 08
Bring back the sunshine with a bright new colourful deep-woven Axminster or Wilton carpet from the Co-operative House, Burleigh Street. Laurie & McConnal or Peak's Furnishers where you can save up to one pound per square yard. [A three-page advertising feature printed in colour on 8th April, the first time colour was used extensively in the News] 64 04 08a-c

1964 05 30
Screaming teenage girls besieged the Co-op in Burleigh Street when the Merseybeats, a 'pop' music group from Liverpool, made a personal appearance. Four policemen pushed the crowds back when the group arrived in a taxi and inside girls clambered on to radiograms, refrigerators and television to see them as they signed autographs in the record department. Some girls wept and others grabbed publicity photographs. Finally John Banks, Tony Crane. Aaron Williams and Johnny Gustafson escaped and relaxed with coffee before departing for Manchester 64 05 30

1964 07 06
Cambridge expansion: Conservatives would like to encourage businesses which start in the town and want the Market Square to be the main centre. Socialists want new light industries with the

Lion Yard as a civic centre and with new shopping in Burleigh Street while the Liberals favour a central pedestrian precinct with public transport in the form of a minibus service or travloator. 64 07 06a

1964 09 01
Ward & sons, radio, bicycle and pram dealer to move from East Road to Burleigh St – 64 09 01

1965 03 11
Ward's move to new premises in Burleigh Street marks another stage in the long history of a firm which started when Jonas Ward made a living mending bicycles in East Road. For some time they made the famous Crown cycles, one of which was ridden from Cambridge to Monte Carlo in 1930. They also supplied carrier cycles and box tricycles. Later they diversified into wireless, gramophones, washing machines and baby carriages and became one of the first to stock televisions in 1938. – 65 03 11a, b

1966 03 04
Cambridge Gas Appliances garage, Burleigh Street, collapses – 66 03 04a

1966 08 03
Fitzroy Street sub-post office moved to Co-op in Burleigh Street, petition in protest – 66 08 23a

1968 03 26
Fitzroy Street – Burleigh St residents fear city council intend to demolish good houses under slum-clearance scheme – 68 03 26

1969 01 01
Trustee Savings Bank opens fourth branch in Burleigh Street – 69 01 01

1970

1971 06 28
Fitzroy Street, Burleigh Street shopping – photos – 71 06 28 & a

1972 03 20
Most of the people who will be displaced by the Burleigh Street-Fitzroy Street redevelopment (Cambridge) want to be rehoused in the same area according to a report. Counc. Christopher Bradford claimed that the land was bought by the city council for "chickenfeed" ten years ago and is now worth £65,000. The council paid only £200 to £300 development value for some of the houses and perhaps £2,000 for some of the others

1972 07 26
A total of 160 houses in the Burleigh street – Fitzroy street area of Cambridge will have to be demolished to make way for the city council's shopping redevelopment scheme. At present only 34 of the houses are unoccupied. The city council are prepared to buy the houses at full market value if the owners cannot find other buyers. Some of the houses have already been classed as slums and earmarked for demolition. A number have in fact already been closed, such as in parts of James Street or demolished, as at Adam and Eve Street. A year ago the city council gave details of a large area outside the Burleigh Street - Fitzroy Street complex which they said would not be required for demolition. This gave the house owners the go-ahead to apply for grants of up to £1,000 to improve their homes

1972 11 21
The Cambridge city council's planning consultants who are designing the redevelopment plans for the Burleigh Street- Fitzroy Street have suggested the building of a departmental store East of Napier Street. Consultants feel that the introduction of shopping uses at this point would improve the whole project in addition to saving housing land to the North of Maids Causeway and James Street. They have also proposed that the pedestrian way along Fitzroy Street should be graded down and Napier Street itself raised over the pedestrian way. This appears to be the best way of separating traffic and pedestrians

1972 12 07
A large out-of-town shopping complex covering about 10 acres is being planned for Newmarket Road, just outside the Cambridge boundary. But Cambridge planning committee decided to resist the project. Fears were expressed about the effect the shopping centre would have for the city council's plans for redeveloping the Burleigh street - Fitzroy street area. Marshalls of Cambridge (Engineering) made an application to develop the shopping complex, together with car parking and garages on a site immediately to the East of their vehicular workshops off Newmarket Road. The site faces Cambridge airport

1973 01 25
Two national organisations are interested in building a dance hall in the Fitzroy-Burleigh Street area, the Cambridge Arts and Entertainments Committee were told last night. The Director of Leisure Activities, Mr David Constant, reported that the Mecca organisation had written to the Town Clerk confirming their interest. Another firm of national dance hall promoters were also interested, he said. Meanwhile public criticism of the lack of dances in Cambridge has led to a decision to hold a series of monthly dances at the Guildhall from next October to March. Mr Constant said the cost of a ticket, without subsidy would be 75p. If the dances proved a success they might be able to lower the price

1973 02 02
Householders, traders, planners and property developers have a common hope in the outcome of next week's public inquiry into the proposed comprehensive development plan for the Burleigh Street area of Cambridge. They all want a firm answer to a question which has blighted a decade of Cambridge planning history. The answer, if it comes, will not please everybody, since homes and small businesses are threatened by the scheme, but it should put an end to years of confusion and uncertainty. The question is: Will the Government give the go-ahead for redevelopment on the lines of the current proposals?

1973 04 26
The scheme to build a hypermarket for Tesco on the outskirts of Cambridge has been rejected by the city council. The scheme was put forward on behalf of Tesco by Stokes of Cambridge Ltd. They asked permission to build a 100,000 square foot hypermarket with a car park for 900 cars on land off Milton Road next to the railway line. The store would have been one of the largest in Cambridge. In turning it down the planning committee said it was outside the area allocated for development, would encourage extra traffic on a fast trunk route and was against the shopping policy for Cambridge in which large scale development is aimed at the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh Street area

1973 08 31
The £20m redevelopment scheme for the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh Street area of Cambridge may go ahead with only minor modifications, following the result of a 13-day public inquiry earlier this year. Several schemes for the area have been considered and rejected over the past 10 years,

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but the present plans, designed by international architects Piano & Rogers were adopted by the city and county councils last year

1973 09 10
Prof John Parry Lewis, the Manchester don who has just finished the biggest Cambridge re-development plan ever devised, has told the Government that it may as well be scrapped now if the new Fitzroy-Burleigh Street shopping centre goes ahead. When his final report is published it will contain some sweeping proposals. One of these is for a new commercial centre on the Cambridge outskirts - perhaps in the Trumpington area - in order to siphon shops and traffic away from the historic heart of the city

1973 09 21
Like some great suicidal spider Cambridge will have eaten its heart out by the turn of the century. Such is the dramatic prophecy of Professor John Parry Lewis who has been making a complete study of its future. Specifically he is saying is that if Cambridge proceeds with the scheme to build a twin shopping centre in the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh street area it will be signing the death knell of the present Market Square area. He concludes that a new focus for commercial activity must be developed on the edge of the city either in the Trumpington area or to the east near Marshall's airport. This cannot be done if the Fitzroy-Burleigh scheme proceeds, as the indications now are that it will

1973 11 10
A crowd of several hundred greeted BBC disc jockey, Tony Blackburn, when he arrived at the Cambridge Co-operative Society store in Burleigh Street. Store officials, red faces streaming with perspiration, linked arms and strained hard to keep the ground, largely consisting of weeny-boppers in order. He was appearing at the store to mark its £40000 ground-floor refit. The new hanging racks of jackets and jumpers were under almost continuous siege with children of all sizes, as they tried to get nearer to Mr Blackburn. After 40 minutes he left the store pursued by young fans. Nevertheless a number of children left in tears clutching unsigned photographs

1974 02 04
When Christ church, in the parish of St Andrew the Less, Cambridge, was built in 1839 the cost was £3,800. On Saturday a new church- installed at gallery level in the original building at a cost of £40,000 - was dedicated. Rebuilding began nine months ago, following the sale of Abbey church hall and Christ church institute to Cambridge city council as part of the planned redevelopment of the Burleigh street area. Now the building provides a new church with seating for 465 and at ground level a hall with seating for 200

1974 10 29
The Parry Lewis super plan for the future of Cambridge, which took three years to prepare at a cost of £20,000, has been rejected by all the senior city and county planning officers. The plans main suggestions were for the immediate scrapping of the scheme for extensive development in the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy street area and the building of a second shopping centre in the Trumpington area. Chairman of the County Planning committee, Counc. Tony Cornell, said: “The technical boys took a look at Parry Lewis and they have not liked what they have seen”

1974 11 06
New plans for reshaping Cambridge’s Burleigh St – Fitzroy St shopping area are being unveiled at a private meeting tonight. Although the project provides for more than 80 shops, including two major departmental stores, it is on a smaller commercial scale than the plans put forward three years ago. The project includes a new underground country bus station; placing much of Napier

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street underground to avoid disruption to people living nearby, a series of underground service roads to allow pedestrians traffic free access to the main shopping area, and the creation of landscaped parks. It provides for a new store for the John Lewis organisation and another for Laurie & McConnal

1974 11 08
By Cambridge planning standards, the argument over how the Burleigh St – Fitzroy St area should be redeveloped is a relative newcomer to a list of current city controversies. It has been raging for only 15 years. Which means that at least another 10 years of inactivity are necessary before the Lion Yard redevelopment record is reached. Cambridge city council has announced its intention of making a decision on the future of the area by the end of the year. But even if this happens it will not be the end of the story by a long way. There will be inevitable objections and the problem of raising money must remain a formidable obstacle in these economic times.

1974 12 31
The controversial multi-million pound redevelopment proposals for Cambridge's Burleigh Street – Fitzroy street area may be scrapped and traders and residents encouraged to rebuild as they wish. This is just what the majority of them have been advocating for most of the 15 years over which the controversy surrounding plans for the revitalisation of the area has raged. Leading members of the City council's controlling Labour Group are now trying to whip up general support behind the scenes for the new thinking. Moves come on the eve of the Government's expected announcement that after a two-year delay official approval is on the way to the area to be declared as suitable for comprehensive redevelopment

1975 02 07
The Government has decided after two years deliberation that the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy street area of Cambridge is suitable for redevelopment. This now lays the responsibility for action squarely on the city council who are likely to decide within two months whether to drop the much-criticised official development plan and go ahead with something less contentious. The plan has been unanimously rejected by the area's residents and shopkeepers.

1975 11 28
Cambridge City Council has brought the Rumble-Tum Restaurant at Burleigh Street and two private houses at Fitzroy Street. All are in the centre of the area, known as the Kite, which the council proposes to redevelop comprehensively in the near future. The individual purchase prices are not being disclosed. The Burleigh Street and Fitzroy Street properties will show an estimate future profit for the council of £1.137 a year from rents.

1976 04 17
The future redevelopment of the Burleigh Street - Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge is back in the melting pot following the decision of the outgoing city council to throw out the massive £30 million scheme proposed by a London development company for the Kite area. The rejection of the scheme, which would have brought a greatly-increased number of shops in to the area, together with car parks, a new road and an underground country bus station, was an easy matter for the city council. But it was far less easy for them to decide how to go about working out alternatives.

1977 03 22
Cambridge & District Co-operative Society's plan to expand the Beehive complex, which was turned down by the county planners, has been given the go-ahead by the Department of the Environment. The scheme, using the former Cadbury-Schweppes warehouse near Coldham's

Lane will provide an extended shopping space, a garden centre and leisure goods sales centre. The Inspector said that as there were still no definite plans for the Fitzroy/Burleigh Street redevelopment the Beehive scheme would meet some of the shopping need without detriment to the city centre.

1977 04 20
A multi-million pound deal for the rebuilding of large parts of the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge (The Kite) which would involve a handsome handout to the ratepayers is being negotiated between the City council and two internationally known development companies. Under the deal the redevelopment could be carried out without any cost to the ratepayers. The council would hand some of its land holdings – much now derelict – to the developers on a long lease. In return they would build large car parks for the council, re-grass the New Square car park and erect a number of shops, at least one of them a department store. And at the end of the development period the company would make either a substantial lump sum payment to the council or give it a large cut of the rents collected.

1977 07 27
The issue of redevelopment in the Kite area of Cambridge may have dragged on for more years than many care to remember but the controversy it has provoked is far from disappearing. More than 300 people turned up to the Guildhall. Opinions on the scheme varied. A pork butcher, Mr Jack Curtis, who had traded in Burleigh Street since 1945 said he had never seen a scheme that hurt so few people. There were interruptions, including an appropriately timed blast or two from a bugle smuggled in by Mr Arthur Sutton whose house is due for demolition

1979 03 29
Cambridge comes out poorly in the new 'Good Food Guide'; two entries are dropped leaving the city with just one restaurant, the 'unusually suave' Peking Chinese Restaurant in Burleigh Street, and one pub, the Fort St George. Out go the Strudel's Restaurant in Fitzroy Street and the Golden Palace Chinese restaurant in Ely together with the Eagle in Bene't Street and the Plough at Coton. Old favourites which retain their rating include the Old Fire Engine House at Ely, the Old Bridge Hotel Huntingdon and the Hotel de la Poste, Swavesey. The Pink Geranium at Melbourn gets the humbler 'Pass' rating.

1979 06 02
The £10 million Kite area shopping and parking scheme scheduled for opening in 1982 may be scrapped if opposition against it throughout Cambridge is strong enough. An official of Grosvenor Estates, the development company, said "If the people of Cambridge do not want our product we shall not give it to them". But the present indications are that the public does want the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy Street area to be redeveloped as quickly as possible, despite the protests being voiced by pressure groups. The Kite Co-ordinating Council say the plans are 'hopelessly inappropriate' and it is a very cheap scheme: Cambridge deserves something much better than this.

1980

1981 09 15
A park-and-ride bus service linking shops in the Burleigh Street area with the car park in Cherry Hinton Road has started disastrously. Nobody used the service for several hours. It is being funded with £400 from city lottery profits with Kite traders adding another £100. But councillors say the money should have been earmarked for charity. 81 09 15a

1981 10 09
Wards have been in Cambridge for more than 70 years, originally making and selling cycles. By the 1930s they were involved in electronics, making their own wireless receiver, the Wards Three Valve. In the 1950s they expanded into communications, selling televisions and other electronic equipment, moving from East Road to a new shop in Burleigh Street in 1965 with another in Bradwell's Court. At its peak in the 1970s they won contracts with Iraq and the Defence Ministry. Now it will close for the last time. 81 10 09d

1981 11 13
Skirting the roadworks and dodging the demolition rubble, the visitor finds the Kite area of Cambridge hardly the easiest or most picturesque place to shop. Almost one side of Fitzroy Street is empty. The top end, which once included a Post Office, sweet shop, denture repairer and café called the Toby Jug, has been flattened. The Co-op department store in Burleigh Street have axed the traditional ceremonial arrival of Father Christmas as it would aggravate traffic problems. Add the lack of parking space and it is not surprising that traders fear for their Christmas profits. 81 11 13a

1982 04 08
Two of the most familiar faces on Cambridge market have called it a day. Kitty Davis has had a stall for more than 50 years; for much of that time she and her husband Joe have traded in fabrics, buttons and bows. Generations of doll owners have bought the frilly, lacy dresses she made. Racks of them hang beside her sewing machine at home; now she will sell them for charity. Previously she had a shop, 'Kathleens', in Burleigh Street selling ladies' underwear, hosiery and fashions. 82 04 08

1982 05 28
Darth Vader, the villain from the 'Star Wars' films and the children's television favourites, the Smurfs, will help celebrate the opening of Townsends new enlarged toy and cycle shop in Burleigh Street. The business started about 1895 in Norfolk Street, making cycles to order under their own trademark, 'Light Blues'. After the war they did up War Department stock and resold them, moving into toys in the late 1950's. 82 05 28 & a & b

1983 10 19
Businessmen and shopkeepers in the Fitzroy-Burleigh Street area are hoping that trade which has been depressed in recent years by the area's lack of glitter and by the large-scale building works, will now come bounding back. Traders such as the Cambridge Co-op, now in the throes of a re-development plan which will see the conversion of its second floor to a suite of offices for letting, should do well. 83 10 19 p14

1983 10 20
Shopkeepers in Burleigh Street feel they will be crippled by the opening of the Grafton Centre. Trade has been disastrous since the road was dug up five weeks ago and left with piles of sand, rubble and deep, wide holes. Now some are refusing to pay their rates bills. They feel developers want to make the area look like a tip so customers would stay in the Grafton Centre. But the City Surveyor says the road is going to be pedestrianised and will be completed on time. 83 10 20 p16

1984 05 14
Work on rebuilding the Cambridge Co-op store in Burleigh Street has reached the half-way mark. It will transform the historic building, bringing in new kinds of goods, a hairdressing salon and a coffee shop. For the first time it will have departments for self-assembly furniture and lighting as

well as counters for the Burleigh Street post office and the Co-op Bank. A three-storey atrium at the Fitzroy Street end of the building will provide an airy display centre for shoes and furniture. 84 05 14 p5

1984 11 14
The redevelopment of the huge Co-op site in Burleigh Street has been beset with problems ever since the first report on Cambridge shopping in the fifties. Now it has transformed its flagship store inside and out, demonstrating its faith in the twin shopping centre concept. It says much for the Co-op's business acumen that it has kept pace with the latest trends, adapting to the needs of the times and retaining a hard core of loyal support from its members. 84 11 14 suppl6

1985 01 07
Cutlack, the Ely-based hardware merchants, are to close their shop in Burleigh Street, Cambridge. It follows a period of poor trading for shops in the street. They planned the business around the creation of the Grafton Centre but pedestrianisation has not helped in any way and their Newmarket shop does two-and-a-half times more business than the Cambridge one. The site will now be redeveloped with extra shop frontage and improved access to the three floors of office space on the site 85 01 07a

1985 03 22
The Salvation Army celebrates its centenary in Cambridge with a programme of events at their Tenison Road citadel. The Norwich Citadel Band was pelted with mud and many of them knocked over as they heralded the arrival of the corps in 1885. In Burleigh Street a crowd knocked their hats off and smashed both ends of the drum. Police had to use hosepipes to clear the protestors. Businessmen involved with the drinks trader and drinkers both violently objected to the Army's tee-total ideas. Churches objected to the brass bands crusading tactics which they thought lowered the tenor of Christianity. 85 03 22a

1985 08 30
Now that the dust has settled after the upheaval of building the Grafton Centre, Burleigh Street and Fitzroy Street have emerged as pleasant shopping promenades. Very few shops remain unlet with Andy's Records and Lancashire Mills about to open. Fitzroy Street will become more interesting in October when Habitat finally open at the old Laurie & McConnell shop while Burleigh Street will get a similar boost when the House of Holland opens in the old Marcade centre. 85 08 30

1987 09 29
A new-look Co-op has come to Cambridge with the refurbishment of the old premises in Burleigh Street producing the latest of the Society's Homemaker stores. Although it now occupies only the ground floor it has a more modern look and concentrates on electrical goods bringing it more in tune with the Grafton Centre. None of the staff have been made redundant though some have moved to the Beehive site. 87 09 29a

1987 11 20
Townsend Toys and Cycles in Burleigh Street is a family firm set up nearly 100 years ago in Norfolk Street. This Christmas top sellers include a range of small animal characters, 'Sylvanian Families' featuring McBurrows moles, Slydale foxes and Treefellow owls while the Manta Force spacecraft comes complete with vehicles and spacemen inside. Since the BMX craze slackened off some devotees have switched their attention to skateboards; beginners can select a plastic board for £12 while a professional can spend £200. 87 11 20 & a

1989 03 09
Cambridge Tyre Company, which celebrates its 60th anniversary, has a number of early tyres in stock. They include an American Swineheart tyre for a Model T Ford and a beaded edge Michelin from the same period. Ernest Brown founded the company in 1929 based in a small shop in Jesus Lane when many tyres were of solid construction. By 1935 they'd moved to Burleigh Street when tyres were fitted at the side of the road and in 1964 took over premises owned by Winston Smith the butcher in Histon Road. 89 03 09a

1989 07 06
Townsend's take over Ison's cycles which was started by W.J. Ison in 1893 and made the New Chesterton cycle. Albert Townsend started in 1890s making Cambridge Light Blue Cycles in Norfolk Street, moving to Burleigh Street in early 1960s 89 06 30 Townsend's history – profile – 89 07 06

1989 11 21
Co-op chiefs have been forced to sell off the freehold of their Burleigh Street store to fend off a cash crisis. The Victorian building has been sold to a London Investment Company and they will lease back the premises. The Co-op began trading in Burleigh Street in 1908 but has been hit by soaring interest rates on loans taken out to cover major projects such as the massive Beehive Centre. It has already put branches up for sale in Mill Road, Milton Road, Waterbeach, Duxford & Cherry Hinton. 89 11 21

1990 02 01
Thornton & sons, fishing tackle and gun shop in Burleigh Street established in 1966; now to close – 90 02 01a

1990 09 21
TSB to close branches in Burleigh St & Jesus Lane – 90 09 21a

Castle Street 1920s

161.46

c.44.6 : Castle End

Note: covers the area bounded by Castle Street, Northampton Street & Mount Pleasant including the Folk Museum, Shire Hall, County Gaol, Assize Courts and the churches of St Peter and St Giles

1890

1897 06 21
Such has been the general progress during the Victorian era that it is difficult from the point of view of today to recall the Cambridge of 1837. In the year of her Majesty's accession but few houses stood on the marshy spot which we now know as the populous district of New Town. There were a few residents in Newnham and some scattered dwellings in the neighbourhood of New-square while beyond on the Newmarket-road lay Barnwell of historic note. Chesterton, as a part of Cambridge, was confined to the outgrowth of the town in the neighbourhood of Castle Hill and a plan of the town stops short at the Mill-road corner of Parker's Piece. In 1837 the population would be about 21,000. Recently it has been estimated at over 50,000.

1897 12 16
Castle Hill Institute, p3

1897 12 23
A laundress of Gloucester Street, Cambridge, was charged at the Borough Court with keeping a woman at work for more than 14 hours. Annie Sindell said she commenced work at 9.30 am Friday and worked until ten past six the next morning. She had an hour and a quarter for meals.

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The day was supposed to be of 12 hours, less meal times, and for that they got 1s.3d. She never agreed to work all night but the laundress would have the work done. She earned 7s.6d. for the whole week. The overtime pay was a penny an hour. The laundress was fined 7s.6. and costs

1898 01 06
Sewage explosion, Castle End, p3

1898 08 16
Girls in assault, Castle End, p2

1898 08 17
Castle End children case, p2

1898 08 30
Castle End tin-kettling, p3

1898 10 05
The annual report of the Cambridge public Free Library has been issued. Under competent management and the able direction of Mr Pink, it has continuously added to its resources. It is now as well equipped as anyone could desire. It has a reference library and in the Shakespeare and dramatic collections a special features of great interest and real value. Moreover there is the branch library at Mill road with 6,600 volumes and during the past year reading rooms have been opened at East road and Castle end. The people who enjoy these facilities of access to the best literature may well be envied by those who do not

1898 10 14
The eccentricity of a horse at Chesterton last night caused its driver and a fare some alarm. It bolted along Chesterton lane at a furious rate, resisting all the efforts of the driver to get it under control. The animal made a tour of Old Chesterton in record time and returned by the Milton road. At this point the driver came to the conclusion it was quite useless trying to hold the horse in any longer and advised the gentleman inside the cab to "quit". He took a flying leap into the darkness and grazed his face somewhat severely. The driver fell off the box and the off wheel passed over his legs. Continuing his career the horse came into collision with a gatepost at Northampton Street which knocked it on its hindquarters

1898 11 10
Mr Wootten told Cambridge town council there were four cottages at Castle end in a most horrible state. He said they were a disgrace to the corporation. They might talk about building houses for the poor, when all the time the corporation owned cottages which were not fit to put pigs in. Mr Campkin said some of their property was in a very bad state, some of the houses were very very old, and it would be a question of whether they should not pull the old structures down and rebuild them

1899 10 17
The formal opening took place of Westminster College, the theological college which the Presbyterian Church of England has established at Cambridge for the training of students for the ministry. It is a great thing that the work has been done so well in so short a time, but a much greater thing that the cost of building it – albeit over £40,000 has all been met. Professor Ryle, President of Queens', extended a welcome to the new college.

1900

1900 06 14
An inquest on a boy of eight, killed by a bus on Castle Hill, affirmed the death was accidental. It is hardly an exaggeration to describe Chesterton Corner as the death trap of Cambridge. Four road meet; they are all narrow, and the configuration of the corner is such that it is quite impossible for the driver of a vehicle up Magdalene Street to have the faintest notion that there is another coming along Chesterton Lane and if the two do not crash into each other it will be more of an accident than if they do. More room is needed at the corner. This would involve pulling down some old houses. The matter is one which the authorities ought to give attention at once.

1900 12 31
Baker's Arms, Shelley Row, p2

1902 03 10
Another case of smallpox has occurred at Cambridge Prison, Castle Hill. The spread of the disease is a mystery. The first case was in a prisoner from Maidstone. Prompt isolation followed. Another was found suffering from an infectious disease diagnosed as scarlet fever and he was moved to the Sanatorium. Other symptoms developed and he died. A few hours after a warder was smitten with smallpox and now there is a fourth case, a prisoner confined in the gaol for several months. Elsewhere infection has been traced to letters that have come from London where the epidemic is now raging. At Cambridge gaol mailbags are repaired in large numbers. They come from all parts of the country and may have carried the microbes that cause the disease.

1902 05 07
It will probably surprise many that there is no telephonic communication between Cambridge Police Court and the County Gaol. This morning when a trial was to have proceeded it was reported that the defendant was too unwell to leave prison. The question was asked as to how long he was likely to be absent and a special messenger was sent to Dr Buckingham, the Prison Surgeon. The Chairman said they were surprised to find there were some antiquated notions which had prevented the telephone from being laid on between the two places and thought councillors should see it was remedied

1902 07 17
Cambridge Paving Committee had approached the vicar and churchwardens of St Giles' church to ascertain whether it would be possible to acquire a portion of the churchyard for the widening of Castle Street. They would agree provided that the work of excavating and collecting human remains be screened by a hoarding & the bodies reverently re-interred. Chesterton Road corner was a most dangerous one and when the improvement was carried out one corner out of the four would be cut back.

1903 06 18
Two cottages in Albion Row belonging to Cambridge Corporation and next to the Nag's Head public house are in such an unsatisfactory state that it would be inadvisable to execute any repairs; they should be pulled down and new cottages erected in their place. By setting back the frontage it will increase the width of the road and render a further improvement possible when the lease of the adjoining property falls in.

1903 07 16
Mount Pleasant steps, p3

1903 08 04

Cambridge Borough has had its pride wounded by the London Express charging it with having incurable slums and possessing filthier homes than Whitechapel. In reply Mr Campkin, a Guardian said: "There is no doubt there is an amount of poverty and squalor in Cambridge but there has been a vast improvement in the St Matthew's district over the last 40 years. There is evidence of the effects of drink in some parts of the town but in the Romsey and Petersfield district the residents are respectable working people". Commenting on the Cambridge slums Dr Roper said: "I think even the very worst are fast becoming demolished; take St Peter's Court, Castle Street, they are pulling that down. In consequence that there are large families in the poor quarters a woman very often has to go out and work as well as her husband to keep things going, and they can't keep their houses quite so clean as they otherwise might. In New Street you will not see much dirt or dilapidation, though in summer time the people are sitting outside nearly half-dressed in consequence of the heat. But their homes are not so bad as you might imagine

1903 09 17
Mount Pleasant steps, p3

1903 11 06
Time once was when the concentrated animosity between Cambridge Town and Gown found annual outlet on 'The Fifth'. There are many old inhabitants who have seen the traditional riots gradually die down with the building up of mutual ties between University and Town. Athletic Varsitymen and pugilistic townsmen no longer belabour each other; they join issue in attempts at bonfires with police baiting thrown in as a sideline. At Castle End undergraduates managed to secure a shutter with the intention of making it the nucleus of a bonfire; a constable was rolled to the ground, his helmet knocked off and his whistle and truncheon lost before more policemen arrived and three arrests were made – one member of the Varsity, a soldier and a townsman

1905 01 21
A serious charge has been brought against the trumpeters who, on the occasion of the Assize at Cambridge, blow a fanfare as the judge steps from his carriage at the Shire hall. They are accused of being unable to keep in tune and wailing as diversely as any pair of cats. I would not undertake to estimate their ability as musicians, but as a sort of variety turn they certainly take a high place. But the learned judge expressed himself highly pleased with the way they performed their duties. # 05 01 21

1905 04 15
The rival Cambridge buses ran trial trips round the town to demonstrate the suitability of this form of traction and both were eminently successful. The Thorneycroft's hill-climbing capacities were tested on Castle Hill and seemed to present no difficulties except a decrease in speed; the Straker-Squire passed with the greatest ease. Both naturally created somewhat of a sensation in the streets and the way they threaded their way in and out of the busy traffic excited much admiration. They were under perfect control and could pass through traffic where a horsed vehicle would have to wait its turn. 05 04 15

1905 04 18
Bertram Palmer, the Melbourn Passive Resister said the County Gaol seemed to be the busiest place in Cambridge. It was like a beehive. There were a number of cells and a busy bee in each one. The warder gave him a number of mail bags to patch and said he expected to see them done by the next day. He had to keep things clean in his cell. He was given a bucket, a scrubbing brush, a piece of stone and a piece of cloth. It was not at all amusing being in gaol but he had been the 150th Passive Resister to go there and he would go again if he thought it would aid the cause. 05 04 18-c

1906 03 08
The Beehive public house, Honey Hill, Cambridge had four rooms on the ground floor, including a parlour and a taproom for the use of customers. There was a front entrance from Honey Hill and a side entrance which also gave access to four cottages. It was therefore impossible for the police to maintain proper supervision as a constable would be seen going down there and people could slip out. There were 15 other public houses within 200 yards.

1906 04 19
Collins Passage, off Northampton Street, consisted of a number of very dilapidated houses closely packed together. They had low ceilings and the floor was insecure. There was no ventilation behind and a high brick wall at the front so they got no sun at all except for half-an-hour at the height of summer. They were unfit for human habitation. A good many other premises in the area were defective but did not justify wholesale demolition. 06 04 19c

1906 10 25
Albion Row, p3

1906 11 17
Licensing compensation – Honey Hill Beehive – 06 11 17 a & b & c

1907 01 02
A warm well-lighted room in St Paul's Institute New Town was opened as a reading room. There was a collection of current literature ready for the first arrivals who drew chairs to the tables and took advantage of the comfort and facilities provided. The Free Library was one of the most popular institutions in Cambridge, ten years ago a branch was established at Mill Road with other reading rooms at Castle End and East Road. 07 01 02 & 2a

1907 03 16
Castle End Reading Room – 07 03 16

1907 03 19
Some years ago Cambridge Free Library opened a public reading room at the Castle End Mission and Working Men's Institute. It has proved a boon to those who have used it. However the Institute's work is growing and their newly-formed men's club now has a comfortable room well equipped with daily, weekly and monthly papers, a cosy parlour for games, conversation & smoking and a first-class billiard room with full-sized table. Membership is open to all men over 18. 07 03 19

1907 06 12
Northampton Street was very narrow and the corner was one of the most dangerous in Cambridge. A policeman was always on point duty there. The improvement was a most desirable one and nobody objected to it, an inquiry was told. Nine cottages would be demolished and the people rehoused in others nearby. 07 06 12a

1907 06 22
The chimes of St Giles church clock in Cambridge have been restored after a silence of six years. Notice was given in the Parish Magazine but all do not read that excellent periodical and there was much astonishment when the bells entered anew upon their purpose of telling out the hours. The tone of the large bell is much improved now it has been re-hung so that it no longer rests against the wall

07 06 22c

1907 08 08
Cambridge councillors recommended that a site in Albion Row occupied by the weigh-bridge and the Nag's Head should be offered on a building lease for 75 years and in case no satisfactory offer was received they should prepare a scheme for the erection of cottages. But first they must adopt the Housing of the Working Classes Act. 07 08 08

1907 12 31
The Cambridge Railway Building Works, better known as the firm of William Saint and Sons, entertained 170 employees to dinner at the Lion Hotel. It started in 1880 and the first job was two villas on Mill Road, later came the Cattle Market contract but Westminster College, in 1900 was the largest project they had ever tackled. They were known for the quality and execution of their work which was due to men such as Vigers, Hodson, Coe, Willmott, Taylor, Lobb and Haynes. 07 12 31 & a

1908 01 24
The owner of the Cow and Calf public house in Shelley Row has told councillors that if they will surrender the licences for the Nag's Head and Baker's Arms pubs – which they own – then he will give up land to allow for the widening of Albion Row. If they agreed to extend his lease he'd also give land for the construction of more cottages and a backway to the Pound in St Peter's Street. 08 01 24a & b

1908 03 05
The Waggon and Horses on the corner of Burleigh Street and East already held a music licence. They had a commodious room capable of holding 50 people which they wished to use for public dancing once a week. But the Chief Constable said it was in an awkward part of Cambridge. A lot of people visited the house and it would not be well to offer further facilities. The licensee had his hands full in looking after the pub as it was at present. also Nags Head, Albion Row; Spotted Cow, Northampton St; Carpenter's Arms, King Street. 08 03 05 a & b

1908 04 17
When the jury retired to consider their verdict at the Assize Court, Castle Hill, they were taken down a flight of cold stone steps into a narrow chamber of sordid aspect, dimly lit by three barred windows and furnished with two bare wooden forms. The Court does not want the retiring room made too comfortable, but there must have been times when they have made up their minds hastily to escape from that dungeon. Now a new room has been built, with a lavatory. But the court is still illuminated by gas and flooded with fumes. Silver-tongued barristers halt while the custodian, armed with his long pole, leans from the dock to light it. 08 04 17c

1908 05 16
A wardress at the County Gaol, Castle Hill, told the inquest that a single mother and her baby had been put in the reception cell and slept on a plank bed with a mattress. In the morning the baby was dead and she concluded the prisoner had overlaid it. There was no room for cradles in reception cells, which were very small, and when they were provided in the main cells the mothers never thought of laying babies there at night. The Coroner did not attach any blame to anyone. The narrow bed was altogether insufficient for the child and mother and now they knew that would not happen again. The jury said a cot should be provided. 08 05 16b

1908 09 04

Sir – now the widening of Northampton Street is fast nearing completion the improvement of one of our many narrow and dangerous streets will be accomplished. But one effect will be that the traffic is greatly accelerated to the danger of those approaching the corner from other directions. The high wall around St Giles' church should be reduced: this would enable motorists to see more clearly, make the church more conspicuous and dry the road which in winter is often in a muddy condition, being hemmed in on both sides by high walls – Chestertonian. CWN 08 09 04 p7

1908 09 18
The antics of 'The Castle End Musicians', a band of boys and girls, have caused endless entertainments to the inhabitants of that part of Cambridge. A lad who has had some experienced of the Boy's Brigade is the commander of the band, who form up in martial order, large and small, girl and boy, and parade up and down the streets with colours flying, playing the most extraordinary collection of musical instruments ever seen including toy drums and mouth organs. Now a local photographer has elevated them to picture postcard celebrities. CWN 08 09 18 p5

1908 09 25
Tenancy of Nag's Head – to close, Albion Row houses – 08 09 25 p6

1908 12 25
There were stirring times in the neighbourhood of Honey Hill with police whistles blowing and gentlemen in blue uniforms running down alleys in hot pursuit while crowds looked on. The lynx-eyed PC Evans saw two men carrying something suspicious who ran off when challenged. A vigorous chase ensued before they got away, but they flung their booty over a wall. Four dead turkeys have been recovered. CWN 08 12 25

1909 01 01
F.W. Fawcett was the architect of many Cambridge buildings including the Cavendish Laboratory & various departments in the New Museums site. He undertook the restoration of a large part of Queens' College, designed additions to Addenbrooke's Hospital, remodelled the County Gaol & built the Training College for Women, the County Police Station, several college boathouses and cricket pavilions as well as several large mansions including Longstowe and Six Mile Bottom. CWN 09 01 01

1909 02 12
Wickliffe Preachers paid a visit to St Clement's church while the vicar was hearing confessions and asked him to produce his authority for hearing confessions in the Church of England. An argument ensued and the vicar locked the Preacher in the church whilst he sent for the police. They then visited St Giles and sat down near the curate and an undergraduate who was confessing, refusing to move. Thereupon the curate whispered to the student to go to the vestry where they locked themselves in. In the evening there was a banner procession through the streets but a Protestant meeting was broken up by undergraduates. CWN 09 02 12

1909 03 05
The Rose and Crown, Pound Hill, was damp with paper peeling from the wall. There were seven other licenced premises nearby which all did better trade. But the landlord said he exercised great discretion in the customers he encouraged. Other pubs were frequented by the lower class. If it were closed it would be an inducement to the others not to cater for the better and quieter class but to draw a larger number just so they could boost their sales of beer, Magistrates renewed the licence. Also Traveller's Rest Huntingdon Road, White Horse in Coronation Street, Prince of Wales in Church St, Fox & Duck South Street, Oxford in Crispin Street, Johnny Gilpin in Gold Street & Prince Albert Castle Street. CWN 09 03 05

1909 03 19
Mr W.B. Redfern's unique collection of watercolour drawings of old Cambridge excited great interest. In 1875 he started to record places of bygone and antiquarian interest which but for his timely intervention would have been lost for ever. A good many had now entirely disappeared including two houses in Shelley Row which were the residence of Oliver Cromwell during the Civil War. They were panelled with two handsome fireplaces which he had moved to his own house. Old houses in Petty Cury were the most striking and perfect places which should never have been pulled down while parts of the Falcon Yard had remained until the last few years. 09 03 19

1909 04 23 c
The floor of the day nursery at Mill Road workhouse was not in a fit state for children to play on. There was a two-foot space and loose earth underneath the boards which caused a bad fungus, overseers heard. A wood block floor would be the best way of dealing with it but they did not wish to expend so much at this time. The Master reported the receipt of illustrated papers and a present of books from the Reading Room in St Peter's Street. Mrs Ridley of St Barnabas Road had sent a rocking horse. 09 04

1909 04 16
In a shoeing forge at Northampton Street, Cambridge, is to be seen a massive silver cup, the trophy of the Middle Weight Amateur Boxing Championships for 1909. In the same forge is a young smith, a splendid specimen of manhood with arms and legs of remarkable development. He is Mr William Child who for two years has carried off the Middle Weight Championship of England. 09 04 16

1909 05 15
Another of the veterans who took part in the Indian Mutiny more than 50 years ago, died in the Cambridge workhouse. George Redmond, who was born in Castle End, had a great desire to become a soldier of the Queen and ran away to join the army. Several other local boys were with him preparing for service in the Crimea when arrangements were altered and he was despatched to India. He remained a private until he left the army when he returned to Cambridge. 09 05 15

1909 07 09
There had been an outcry after Cambridge Corporation destroyed eight tenements when improving Northampton Street. Now they wanted to erect houses for persons of the working class on land in Albion Row, Lady Margaret Road and the Haymarket. Some would be on the site of the old cattle market. This had previously been moved to St Andrew's Hill, then in 1842 to Pound Hill and in 1887 to its present site near the railway station, an Inspector was told. CWN 09 07 09

1909 10 31
Antiquaries will regret to hear that this week workmen are engaged in removing an interesting building in Castle End. It is an old barn, situated in Shelley Row and in it rested the French prisoners who were captured in the Peninsular War (1809-1814), on their march from the South of England to the great prison at Norman Cross. For a number of years the barn, which is a lofty building with a thatched roof, was occupied by a Mr Henry Herring Smith who carried on a blacksmith's business. He sold it to a Mr White and said that he clearly remembered the French prisoners using the barn as a resting-place. He could remember them making dominoes and dice out of bones, which they sold through the bars to people as curios. [CIP 09 10 31]

1909 11 05
Kettles Yard houses unfit for human habitation – CWN 09 11 05

1909 11 12
Damage was caused to the house of Mr A. Carter, cab proprietor and common lodging-house keeper on Honey Hill, formerly known as the Beehive beerhouse. Fire broke out in the former tap room, now used as a bedroom. It appears his wife went into the room for some wearing apparel and the flame from her candle ignited some fancy mats hanging on the chest of drawers. A quantity of shawls, dresses and bonnets which were hanging on the wall, some brushes and the ceiling were damaged. Another fire in the basement of a lodging house at 17 Market Hill was noticed by undergraduates and extinguished by buckets of water. CWN 09 11 12

1909 12 31
The 250-year-old Tithe Barn in Shelley-Row, Castle End is to be pulled down to make way for new houses. It is still in good repair with patches of new straw used to mend the high and thickly-thatched roof. It was used as a resting-place by the French prisoners taken in the Peninsular War during their journey to the prison camp at Norman Cross. Many people bought objects such as dice and dominoes they made from the bones of the meat supplied to them. The 'True Blue' in Hobson Street was also one of the billets. CWN 09 12 31

1910

1910 02 04
Luke Hosegood, the Master, told Guardians there were 26 children in Cambridge workhouse. A large number of men had brought in their wives and families simply because they had been evicted from their houses as the result of slum clearance. There were several cases from Cambridge Place and a number from Castle End and if they went in at this rate all Castle End would be pauperised soon. It was getting a very serious matter. 10 02 04g

1910 02 04
Licencing – Borough Boys Northampton St, & others – 10 02 04e & f

1910 06 17
At the last stroke of eight o'clock in the morning James Henry Hancock paid the extreme penalty of the law for the murder of Alfred Doggett at Chesterton. The execution took place at the County Gaol, Castle Hill. Pierpoint was the executioner, assisted by his brother, and they accomplished their deadly work with marvellous celerity, death having been absolutely instantaneous. Only the Deputy Sheriff, the Governor of the Prison, the Prison Chaplain and Doctor were present but a crowd of several hundred assembled on the pavement opposite the Shire Hall. They kept their gaze fixed on the flag-staff, unaware that the practice of hoisting the black flag has been discontinued. Nor was the bell tolled. 10 06 17b

1910 06 17
It is 12 years since the extreme penalty of the law was last paid within the walls of the County Gaol. The last culprit was Walter Horsford, the notorious St Neots poisoner, who was hanged on 28th June 1898 for the murder of his cousin. Prior to that there was a long period during which the hangman was not called upon for it was as far back as December 1876 that Robert Browning was executed for the murder of a woman on Midsummer Common. The last public execution in the county was in March 1864 when a man was hanged for the murder of a girl at Whittlesey.

Shortly after this the law was passed putting a stop to executions in public and the tendency now is for complete privacy 10 06 17c

1910 12 16
The crowds outside the Shire Hall assembled early for the results of the poll. They stamped their cold feet on the muddy, puddley ground and scowled at the hopeless sky that spread a light unpleasant drizzle. A little girl, doubtful of her right to stand on so important a site, cuddled up closely to a friendly shop window. An errand boy allowed his political ardour to overcome his sense of what is required of express deliveries. He was joined by a butcher's boy, with a liberal show of Conservative colours, who gave his willing assistance in doing noting to their mutual satisfaction. 10 12 16d

1911 03 24
Gloucester Street child neglect – 11 03 24c

1911 04 21
At Cambridge Police Court three young men, whose names are too well known to the police, were charged with stealing a broom value one shilling from outside Frederick Friend's grocer's shop in Castle Street. They were each sentenced to seven days imprisonment and in addition two were fined for using obscene language and one sent to prison for a month for assaulting a policeman. The Mayor said one of them was a perfect pest to Castle End and it was beyond the comprehension of the magistrates to know what to do with him. It was a pity he could not get abroad. It was a thousand pities that a good-looking smart young man like him could not live a better life. 11 04 21b

1911 07 14
The Crystal Palace pub in Mill Road Cambridge was difficult to supervise, police reported. The only way to get to the back was down a narrow passage at the side, the door of which was always locked. The Bell in Northampton Street was in bad repair with terrible accommodation, the house was damp and the only cooking facilities were in an underground kitchen. 11 07 14

1911 10 13
Mr Moorhouse paid a second 'flying visit' to Cambridge. The footballers playing on Midsummer Common abandoned their game at once when the machine came into view over Castle Hill. The aeroplane looked as if it must come down among the crowd, but the airman managed the descent very cleverly, and, travelling a short distance only a few feet from the ground, eventually alighted very smoothly rather less than a hundred yards from the railings on the Maid's Causeway side. On his ascent the machine rose gracefully and easily over the trees and the river. It quickly attained a height of nearly 1,000 feet before he made a circle over Chesterton and then sped off towards Huntingdon, He is an intrepid young man of whom more will doubtless be heard in the future 11 10 13b

1911 12 08
The Cambridge Chapter of the Order of World Scouts was inaugurated in St Giles church. It is intended to bind Scoutmasters and officers more closely together in their great work and ensure good men for the positions. Every member swears solemnly to obey the Scout Law. The Histon Troop of the British Boy Scouts was present as were a patrol of the Cambridge B-P Scouts. The order was inaugurated in the Chapel Royal Savoy by the Grand Scoutmaster, Sir Francis Vane when the Cambridge British Boy Scouts were represented. 11 12 08

1912 05 10

"New Tunes to Hymns, Ancient and Modern" is the title of a little collection composed by the Rev Richard Owen of St Giles' Vicarage and published by Mr A.J. Gillson of Cambridge. In these days of multitudinous hymnals, when every church, sect and connection has its own original compilation of hymn tunes, cribbed and purloined from each other, one seeks the reason for any fresh one. This one is intended for a practiced body of choir singers, the stanzas are unsymmetrical and the rhythm is unconventional. We cordially recommend it to the attention of up-to-date choirs. 12 05 10h

1912 05 17
Romsey Town residents presented a memorial containing 1,018 signatures suggesting the council should purchase a piece of land for use as a recreation ground. In March 1898 a committee had backed the idea and various efforts had been made to secure a suitable site without result. Romsey Town residents contributed to the upkeep of other open spaces and felt it was their turn to have one. It was too far for the young children and old folk to go to Parker's Piece. Meanwhile a public-spirited individual had offered to buy a piece of building land in Castle End to be kept open for perpetuity. 12 05 17b

1912 05 31
The need of a better playground for the children of St Giles' Infants School has long been felt and no real surprise was occasioned when the Board of Education insisted the youngsters cease to play in the ill-adapted yard adjoining the school and that a new ground should be provided. A piece of ground was purchased and made into an excellent playground, part of it being converted into a grass plot. It was officially opened by Lady Albinia Donaldson when the opportunity was also taken to celebrate Empire Day. 12 05 31e

1912 07 19
Scarlet fever outbreak statistics, started Castle End – 12 07 19b

1912 10 25
Alterations to Castle End Institute Mission Hall mean that rooms are now well ventilated, brilliantly lighted with incandescent gas and have hot water heating apparatus. Two classrooms have been fitted up as a billiard room with a reading cum smoke room and a games room upstairs. The mission had begun at Frost's Passage and Kettle's Yard Night School where they had to tell the boys that soap was cheap and water was cheaper. The first site had proved unsuitable so the present site with a tiny grocer's shop at the corner and some back-to-back cottages had been bought. Now it would meet the needs of the neighbourhood and make residents lives more beautiful 12 10 25c

1912 12 27
A verdict of accidental death was given at an inquest into the death of George Selwyn, only son of the former Master of Selwyn College. He had had a motor cycle for some time and was a rider of experience. George Hammond, a labourer, saw a motor bus coming down Castle Hill when a motor cycle came out of Northampton Street and collide with it. The bus driver said the first thing he knew was when he felt the wheels bump over something. The lad had lost control and no blame was attached to the bus driver. He'd done all he could. 12 12 27a

1913 01 03
Gloucester St troublesome children

1913 01 10
Gloucester Street children troublesome – knock shutters

1913 01 24
Castle End Institute is carrying out splendid work in this thickly-populated area. There is a first-rate billiard room for men, with reading and games room upstairs; boys have a gymnasium and there are weekly sewing classes for girls. A pulpit will shortly be added to the mission room which presents very bright appearance after its redecoration.

1913 02 14
Cambridge licensing – pubs closed Crystal Palace in Mill Rd, Priory Tap Newmarket Road, Bell in Northampton St; are 250 licences, Star Brewery apply sell smaller quantities of beer from brewery 13 02 14

1913 02 07
Cambridge Advertising and Billposting Company report an extremely successful year even though there'd been no major events, such as a general election. They had hired a very fine new advertising station on Hills Road from the Great Eastern Railway which commanded the Cattle Market and had become very popular with advertisers. They'd also bought a site on Castle Hill commanding Histon and Huntingdon Roads where they'd erected a very substantial brick-built advertising station, one of the best in Cambridge 13 02 07 p5 CIP

1913 07 04 CIP
Castle End allotments & p9

1913 10 17
The appointment of a new teacher to St Peter's Boys School seemed like a put-up job, one councillor claimed. The first question on the application form was 'Can you play the piano or other musical instrument' but of those called for interview only one could play the organ and he was appointed. The Vicar had broken his holiday to be present. He'd met the successful candidate in London, took him to his house, took him to the meeting and got him appointed. He then took him over to see about the organ in St Giles' church. But they were not advertising for a man who could play the organ, they were wanting somebody who could manage the school. 13 10 17 p4 CIP

1913 10 24
Town council – dirty pavements, baths, Wallis Court Jesus lane cottages unfit, overcrowding Castle End, Trade Union demonstration Parker's Piece on Sunday opposed

1913 11 07
A Brampton man was hanged in Cambridge Gaol for the murder of his wife. Mr T.W. Pierpoint was the executioner and the hanging was expeditiously carried out, death being instantaneous. Very little interest in the execution was shown by the public. There was but a mere handful of people outside the Shire Hall, chiefly composed of errand boys and youths. The black flag was not hoisted nor was the prison bell tolled, and there was nothing whatever to indicate that anything unusual was taking place. 13 11 07

1913 11 07
List of other hangings
Hangings at Cambridge County Gaol & elsewhere

1801 03	William Grimshaw, house breaking
1802 04	William Wright & John Bullock, arson

1812 03 28 William Nightingale, alias Bird, forgery
1812 08 08 Daniel Dawson, poisoning horse at Newmarket
1816 06 28 John Dennis, Isaac Harley, Thomas Smith, William Beamiss & George Crow, Littleport riots, at Ely
1817 John Scare, burglary Whittlesford
1819 08 06 Thomas Weems, murdered wife Arrington
1824 04 03 John Lane, rape
1827 09 31 Joshua Slade, murder rector Stukely, at Huntingdon
1829 James Bishop, sheep stealing, at Huntingdon
1829 04 William Osborn, of Boxworth for highway robbery
1830 04 03 William Reader, William Turner & David Howard, arson Linton
1833 03 29 William Westnot & Charles Carter, attempted murder of gamekeeper
1833 12 John Stallan, arson, Sawston
1850 04 30 Elias Lucas & Mary Reeder, poisoning wife at Castle Camps
1861 08 10 Augustus Hilton, murder wife at Parson Drove
1864 03 11 John Green, murder of girl at Whittlesey, last public execution
1876 12 14 Robert Browning, private execution
1878 11 25 Henry Gilbert, murder of child at Hail Weston, at Huntingdon
1898 06 Walter Horsford, St Neots poisoner
1910 06 14 James Henry Hancock, murdered Alfred Doggett at Chesterton
1913 11 02 Frederick Seekings, murdered wife at Brampton
13 11 07 p8

1914 01 30
The old Primitive Methodist Chapel in St Peter's Street is now in the hands of the house-breaker and is fast disappearing, together with the adjoining cottages. From the ruins will rise new, handsome and commodious buildings. The old premises have been altogether inadequate and only a lack of funds have prevented the work starting earlier. Now work can be commenced and we are witnessing the passing of the old meeting house that for nearly 50 years has been the home of Primitive Methodism in this part of the town. It was used for the last time on Sunday week, when impressive farewell services were held. 14 01 30f pics of ext & int

1914 02 06
At the opening of the new County Hall in Hobson Street the chairman thanked the Town Council for allowing them to use their council chamber and committee rooms for the past 25 years. In 1747 the old Shire Hall had been built on Market Hill above arches where butchers had their stalls on market days. In 1842 this passed to the town when a new Shire Hall at Castle Hill was ready for occupation. But the enormous development of administrative business had now brought the County Council again into the centre to this new commodious and economical building, finally bringing together departments previously distributed in all parts of the town. 14 02 06, a-c

1914 05 29
Wonderful cycling feat - Wonderful (writes Freelance) is the energy of youth! A few days ago when cycling down past Magdalene College (Cambridge) I was overtaken by an undergraduate riding an ordinary bike. He had only one leg—the left one, which propelled the machine on which he rode. In his right hand he clutched his crutch, and at the same time steered a second push bicycle! This, too, up the Castle Hill, and a gale of wind blowing, and at the same time he almost exceeded the speed limit ! ! ! – 14 05 29 CIPof

1914 07 31
Castle Hill Methodist Sunday school opened 14 07 31

1914 12 25
Corp Frederick Potter, Northampton St, awarded DSM – profile, photo – 15 01 22b

1915 09 24
Runaway Horse killed, wall Sir Isaac Newton, Castle Hill

1916 04 12
'Their country's future defenders' – photo of lads with wooden swords in Castle Hill 1908 with names – 16 04 12b

1916 08 23
tribunal; includes: Co-operative Society; conscientious objectors; Whybro & Walker; Vinter coal merchants; Dog & Pheasant landlord; master of School House, Pound Hill; Ortona; Robert C Brown, oil & hardware; Scudamore boat maker; 16 08 23b

1917 03 07
Licenses of pubs transferred from men serving in forces to their wives; objections to Spotted Cow, Northampton Street & Jolly Butchers, Newmarket Road – 17 03 07b

1917 04 04
A Drastic Resolution. The following resolution has been passed by the Allotments Subcommittee for Newnham and Castle End: "That inasmuch as they have received 50 applications for allotments, which they are unable to satisfy, they beg to request the Town Council to break up the Lammas Land at Newnham without delay, viz., without waiting for formal authority from any higher authority". As a result the Borough Member is to be asked to interview the Authorities of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries with regard to the application of the committee for permission to use the Lammas Land and Empty Common for allotments.

1917 06 06
Lost In Mediterranean. Among those on board the British transport Transylvania, which was torpedoed in the Mediterranean on Many 4 were two Cambridge men, one of whom survived and the other was drowned. The latter was Private Ernest William Taylor of Brookside Cottage, Burnside, Cambridge, and the survivor is Private Edward Brown, of 5 North Terrace. Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge, Another victim of the Transylvania was Sgt W. H. Norman, of the R.A.M.C. (the Rev. W, H, Norman, formerly superintendent of the Castle End Mission). Mr. M, Norman entered the Ministry some years ago, and was superintendent of the Castle End Mission for a good period. Shortly before the outbreak of war he accepted a call to the pastorate of a Glasgow Congregational Church, but he obtained leave from his church and joined the R.A.M.C., feeling that it was his duty. In this regiment he rapidly gained promotion. He had served in Ireland and France, and was going out to Egypt when his ship was torpedoed

1917 06 20
Death of Mr, Arthur Matthew. — The death occurred on Friday night of Mr. Arthur Matthew, head of the well-known firm of Messrs. Matthew and Son. It took place at his private resident, The Garden House, Mount Pleasant, Cambridge, where he had been lying seriously ill for some weeks. Mr. Matthew was elected to the Town Council in 1835 and in 1903 was made an alderman.

1917 07 18

Jolly Butchers in Newmarket Road, 'Magpie & Stump' Chesterton and 'Spotted Cow' Northampton Street to close – 17 07 18a

1917 07 18
Awarded Military Medal - Private F. Jones of 10, Shelley Row, Cambridge, a regimental stretcher bearer in the Norfolk Regiment, has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry and devotion to duty when attending to the wounded under very heavy fire during an attack east of Givenchy in September last. Private Jones, who is 21 years of age, enlisted in September 1914, and was for ten weeks in France and then in hospital in England for 15 weeks with frostbite. In March, 1915, he returned to France, and he now lies in a Chester hospital with a poisoned leg and foot. Previous to enlisting, Pte. Jones was employed at a Norwich hotel.

1917 10 03
Serbian Colony, — An interesting reception, at which 100 people were present, was hold in Westminster College, Cambridge, on Saturday evening to celebrate the closing of the temporary Serbian colony at the college. This colony has been running for the past three months under the care of the Serbian Relief Fund, to enable students to pass a matriculation examination at a standard set by the Serbians, and which the British Universities had agreed shall take the place of Responsions and Little-go. Thirty Serbian students had taken part in the exam.

1918 10 09
Castle End roll of honour recently unveiled – 18 10 09c

1920

1920 03 18
William Webb, Castle End, lost his arms but bore misfortune well, dies

1920 11 17
St Giles war memorial unveiling – photos – 20 11 17

1920 12 09
Castle End Mission memorial Mrs Whibley – had visited poor in Castle End, started school in Frost's Passage; 20 12 15a; photo – 20 12 22d

1921 03 23
Assize court figures of Law, Justice, Mercy & Power to be removed – 21 03 23f, 21 03 30e

1921 07 27
Langdon & Peet, builders, St Peter's Street – advertisement showing workers and factory – 21 07 27b

1921 10 26
Westminster College chapel dedicated – gift of Sir William Noble – 21 10 26f

1922 01 04
Assize Court figures of Law, Justice, Mercy & Power to remain, had been removed 22 01 04c

1923 08 07
A driver for the Taxi Side-car company was summoned for driving a motor cycle taxi cab in a dangerous manner in Castle Street, Cambridge. Walter Langford, labourer, spoke to seeing a taxi

side-car coming down Castle Hill. At the crossing it dodged in front of a motor car, and the side-car caught the front of the motor car which struck the side of Messrs Clark's shop in Northampton Street. The motor car hit a man and knocked him down.

1925 01 19
A fire broke out in the Grand Jury Room at the Shire Hall which destroyed all the woodwork and furniture. It is a large room is situated at the front of the building on the Police Station side and contained a table and some chairs. A stairway leads from it to the grand jury gallery in the Crown Court and it was through the fire roaring up these stairs that damage was done to the court by smoke and steam.

1925 10 19
A comprehensive scheme for the provision of parking places in Cambridge will be laid before the Town Council who are empowered to authorise any part of a street as a parking place, though no charge can be made for parking cars in the public streets. Sites include Trumpington Street opposite the Leys School, Maids' Causeway, Lensfield Road, King Street & Jesus Lane. In Pound Hill it is proposed to allocate space for parking motor buses from St Neots and St Ives

1926 01 30
An unusual sight was seen in Cambridge when a hare at full tilt careered through our crowded streets from the direction of Huntingdon Road. Ignoring the police signal at Northampton Street 'pussy' tore along Bridge Street and through the crowded traffic towards Hills Road. When last seen the hare was still running. Some employers must have had a shock to see how fast their errand boys could travel when there was something to chase!

1926 05 28
Cambridge councillors heard that in 1912 a piece of land in Shelley Row, together with the house adjoining was given anonymously to the Corporation as a perpetual playground to the children of Castle End. It was assumed that the rent of the house would be available for the upkeep and improvement of the playground. £80 would be required to make a really satisfactory playground; it was resolved to spend £20 on putting the ground in order

1927 04 08
Under an Act of 1877 the Prison Commissioners took over Castle Hill, Cambridge, together with the prison from the County Justices. The prison itself has been loaned to the Record Office for the reposition of certain deeds etc. The hill could be visited by application at the old prison gates, but few availed themselves of this. Now the Cambridge Antiquarian Society suggested it be handed over to the Corporation as public open space

1927 07 26
Cambridge council considered the erection of advertising boards by the Empire Marketing Committee at Corn Exchange Street, Market Hill, Drummer Street, Butts Green, Northampton Street and the Cattle Market. But the path in Corn Exchange Street was only five feet wide and it would be dangerous if people stopped there to look at it. They would have to put up another sign, "Safety first. Passengers must not stop to look at this advertisement". (Laughter).

1927 11 03 c
A verdict of accidental death was returned at an inquest into a labourer from Tan Yard, Northampton Street, Cambridge who died as the result of injuries sustained in a motor accident. John Mayes, cinema attendant at the Tivoli Cinema said deceased was pulling a handcart; he was in the shafts on the river side of Chesterton Road. He saw the left wing of the car hit the cart and

the man went right under the car. William Tams, a photographer, estimated the car's speed at about 25 miles an hour. PC Brown said he saw the handcart being used to lever the car up in order to lift it off the man. The boy said "Some --- fool ran into me; don't let mother know".

1927 11 12
Gloucester Street workshop for disabled soldiers in Cambridge, opened by Princess Mary last year, is represented at an exhibition at the Imperial Institute. Their stall contains all kinds of basketwork, knitting and other things made at the workshops. At present there are eight men working there. All are of over 60 per cent disability through the war, and one is of over 90 per cent. The workshop can never be a paying concern but good work is being done in enabling the men to earn sufficient money to keep them "off the dole". Colonel Willis, the secretary or Miss Brearley, manageress and instructress, would be pleased to see anyone interested.

1927 11 15
Two of the proudest men in Cambridge are Mr H.A. Hagger and Mr F.C. Fuller who were in charge of the stall of the Disabled Men's Workshop, Gloucester Street, at the Imperial Institute. It was the only stall attended by the actual men who made the goods and the contents were completely disposed of by mid-way through the week. The Queen bought a pair of heather-mixture socks and a waste paper basket. The Duchess of York bought a fancy rush stool remarking "It will do for Princess Elizabeth for the nursery". By the time the Prince of Wales visited they had nothing left to sell him.

1928 01 02
The Home Secretary has decided to discontinue the Cambridge prison on Castle Hill and has offered it to the County Council for £4,812. The buildings consist of a central block comprising laundry, workshop, kitchen, labour cells, ladder store, hospital, photographers' hut, execution shed, schoolroom and governor's house. The Office of Works wishes to lease the main buildings to store their records in. This would not prevent the council in the future from building a new county hall on the prison site.

1928 01 23
An interesting discussion in regard to the future of Cambridge Prison and the Castle Mound took place at a meeting of the County Council. The Home Secretary would convey it to them for £4,812. The County did not want the mound, which was more closely connected with Cambridge than the rest of the county. All persons interested, including the Borough Council and the Cambridge Antiquarian Society would be consulted when its future was settled. Something was also said about the possibility of removing the County Hall in Hobson Street to the Shire Hall site.

1928 04 28
Less than 20 years ago I was doing journalistic work in a Hobson Street office. In those days there was no County Hall opposite, nor talk of one. It was begun only 15 years ago and if anyone had been asked how long it would remain the County Council headquarters he might have answered 'A hundred years at least'. But so great has been the extra work thrown on the Council that already the building has been outgrown and plans are now to be prepared for a new building on the Castle Hill site. There are now 86 officials and ratepayers may ask if such an army of officers are really necessary

1928 06 11
There are now 12 men on the books of the Cambridge Disabled Soldiers Workshop in Gloucester Street. Three have had the right arm amputated, seven the leg and of the remaining two one

suffered from the effects of gassing and injuries to the head and the other from severe injuries to the abdomen. Half were employed up to the 48-hour week and the maximum wage was 36s a week to the foreman. In addition to the basket and rush work and wool knitting they were developing the knitting of silk stockings, jumpers and ties, the re-upholstering of chairs and the making and renovating of mattresses

1928 08 14
Cambridge has lost a popular and familiar figure by the death of Mr James 'Jessie' Collins. He had an intimate knowledge of the antecedents and lives of almost every one of the inhabitants of 'The Boro' – the Castle End district - and was a character quite of his own. For 40 years he was employed at St John's College, rising from the position of shoe black to deputy head porter. He will be buried from St John's College, which he has served so faithfully and so long and today he lies in state in the college chapel – a fitting end to a remarkable life

1929 01 28
Certain documents of an historical nature are stored in Cambridge prison on Castle Hill and access is permitted to University students for the purpose of study. But if a County Hall is built on the site the Prison will be pulled down and the documents removed. The University fears that they would lose a very big educational factor and urge the County Council to provide accommodation for them in their new building. Having regard to the tendency of modern legislation to give Councils more work they would probably require considerably more accommodation at the end of 20 years and such storage would then be valuable for administrative purposes.

1929 02 05
The latest form of political propaganda, the Conservative's touring 'Talkifilm' is visiting Cambridge. The programme includes a speech by the Prime Minister which gives an uncanny effect of realism and a silent film showing the opening up of Canada. The van will visit Pound Hill, the Premier Hall Chesterton and Occupation Road, winding up at Cherry Hinton Road corner

1929 03 22
Cambridge council is to introduce automatic traffic signals at the crossroads at Northampton Street and Chesterton Lane for a three-month trial. The present cost of a policeman on point duty was about £400 a year and the signals, with purchase, would be about £200 with about £25 a year maintenance and repairs. But Coun Stubbs described it as "robot policemen"; a friend in Liverpool had had to wait ten minutes with a clear road before he could get a move on. He did not see how traffic could be controlled as well as by human means: "I can see myself telling it to mind its own business" (Laughter). It was at the wrong place, being at the bottom of a steep hill; it would be better at the East Road – Mill Road crossing.

1929 04 13
Shire Hall courts debate – CDN 13.4.29

1929 10 29
The Government Office of Works have made arrangements for the records at present stored in the old Prison on Castle Hill, to be removed from Cambridge to another disused gaol. It is their policy to concentrate such records at Canterbury. The Governor's House at the old Prison will be adapted to provide temporary accommodation for county council staff and rooms in the prison gatehouse used for storage purposes. This has released accommodation at the County Hall for other departments

1930

1930 04 07
The new electric traffic signals are generally working well but it seems that the average motorist accelerates when the green light is showing in order to get through before it changes. This is particularly evident at the Northampton Street – Castle Hill crossing in Cambridge as a driver going towards Huntingdon seeing a stiff climb directly ahead naturally tries to get through and up the hill. But a driver coming down often finds his car has a tendency to accurate of its own and tries to get into Chesterton Lane a little too fast, swinging out into the standard erected in the centre of the road. 30 04 07

1930 06 20
The old county gaol at Castle Hill was opened to the public. Since 1916 when it was closed because of a scarcity of prisoners – it has been said there were not enough to keep the place clean – the prison has only been used for Government record purposes. Then it changed hands and became the property of the County Council; a writer to the CDN threw out the suggestion that it should be opened for public visitation, and the scheme became an actuality. 30 06 20a

1930 06 20
Maids in their scanty summer frocks, flannelled youths, mothers and fathers and grandfathers queued for admission to the County Gaol on Cambridge Castle Hill. The execution shed was a popular rendezvous along with the condemned cell, the burial ground and padded cell. People searched for links with the past. They found few. The gaol is not what it was. Dirt and rust have replaced whitewashed walls and polished steelwork and certain parts have become dilapidated. 30 06 20a

1930 06 21
Well over 700 people visited the Cambridge County Gaol; it is a dingy old place and looks a good deal the worse for wear. Most were surprised at the size of the prison and had no idea that such extensive accommodation was provided. Having explored the interior the majority couldn't resist the fascination of a visit to the execution shed just outside. 30 06 21b

1930 07 12
General regulations affecting the use of motor vehicles first-year men are already in force but in view of the numerous road fatalities last term much more stringent bans will be in operation next year. Clare College says that the possession of motor cars and motor bicycles prevent undergraduates from making the best use of their residence in Cambridge and none of its students will be allowed to bring or drive a motor vehicle. Cars must be kept in a public garage or in one of the college garages on Castle Hill. 30 07 12a

1930 08 30
The opportunity of seeing the execution gallows and other grim items offered for sale by auction at the old County Gaol, Castle Hill, will doubtless attract a big crowd. As well as the gallows will be sold cell doors, the iron gallery railing, iron window grilles, stone steps and other component parts which went to make up a place whose passing will be lamented by none. 30 08 30e

1930 09 02

A white-coated auctioneer started the piece-meal destruction of the old Cambridge County Gaol. Bidding was brisk as lot after lot was sold. Then came the execution gallows but there were few bids and it was eventually sold for one pound. The prison clock went for the sum of £5 amid the mutterings of buyers on the debris-laden floor. 30 09 02a-c

1930 09 03
Another example of the 'new Cambridge' in the making is the extensive site on which Magdalene College intends erecting an imposing new wing. It is at the rear of the Pickerel and Cross Keys yards originally occupied by Bird's vinegar and mustard factory. Mallory Court will provide the principal access but eventually a complete transformation will be effected by the demolition of all the property between the bridge and Northampton Street making Magdalene Street a broad and handsome thoroughfare. 30 09 03c

1930 09 27
The Cambridge Disabled Soldiers Workshop in Gloucester Street has made a trading profit for the first time since it opened four years ago. Four of the nine men had returned to their villages for better pay after receiving training in repairs to cane and rush work. They made good quality baskets for laundry and bottles as well as remaking mattresses. Manufactured goods were sold at local fetes and the Exhibition at the Imperial Institute when £300 worth of sales was realised. But the net loss on the running of the institution was £141. 30 09 27b

1931 03 13
Hudson's brewery had closed six public houses in Cambridge: the Brewery Tap in Bridge Street, the White Swan and Prince Albert in Castle Street, the Beehive on Honey Hill, Spotted Cow in Northampton Street and Golden Fleece in Ram Yard. But they wanted to renew the licence for the Baron of Beef. The application was supported by a petition from the Sick Benefit Society and was granted. Also Cow & Calf & Crown & Sceptre. 31 03 13f

1931 07 24
Shire Hall demolition picture – 31 07 24f

1932 02 25
Apart from the large hall and council chamber the Cambridge Guildhall is worn out and absolutely unsuitable. The accommodation in every department was deplorable – dark, dismal, horrid, unlit and unhealthy. On Castle Hill there was a fine new building being erected for the County Council who were planning to spend £8,000 on furnishing alone. Never since the war had prices in the building trade been lower; this was the right moment to consider rebuilding, councillors were told. 32 02 25 & 25a

1932 05 23
Cambridgeshire Insurance Committee considered moving to the new County Hall, Castle Hill. It was a very fine situation but what sane business man having a base in the centre would go a mile out of town to a place scarcely anybody knew - even though there was a free motor park. But future development would be on the north of Cambridge as the County had offered a very large acreage of land between Histon railway station and the old Chesterton village. 32 05 23 & a

1932 07 15
The new Shire Hall was opened with little ceremony in the presence of a handful of people. The Architect (H.H. Dunn) presented the Chairman, Ald W.C. Jackson, with a gold-covered key engraved with the County Arms with which he unlocked the door. Soon a stream of guest arrived and the corridors presented a most animated appearance. The council chamber is very similar to

that at the old County Hall in Hobson Street from which all the seats and tables have been removed while every care has been taken to provide the maximum air, light and spaciousness to the offices. 32 07 15e & f

1932 07 15
The visit of Her Majesty, Queen Mary, was kept a close secret and her car was temporarily held up near Northampton Street traffic lights. But the news quickly spread. Later she visited the Fitzwilliam Museum where she consented to be photograph under the picture of Cambridge that she had presented. 32 07 15g

1933 03 07
Bus crashes wall St Giles church – 33 03 07

1933 07 15
The centenary of the Oxford Movement was celebrated at St Giles' church when the congregation was exceptionally large. Prof Wynne regretted the tendency of the Church to be manned with old men. It was the younger man who saw visions and who must carry on the work. These days a mass attack was being made upon Christianity, the world was growing increasingly evil. The English Church Union and the Anglo-Catholic Congress should work together. 33 07 15 p6

1933 07 31
The old County Hall in Hobson Street was supposed to be sold with the proceeds being used to pay for the new Shire Hall on Castle Hill. But now little tin advertising 'To Let' signs had appeared and there didn't seem to be the slightest attempt to sell it, a councillor complained. But every effort had been made to dispose of it without success and they were now hoping to let a portion to the Government's Office of Works which would suit the council equally as well as a sale. 33 07 31

1933 09 01
St Giles church has been damaged because of the exceptionally dry weather. A crack was seen at the east end and the wall showed a tendency to fall away from the rest of the church. There is no immediate danger, though a wooden frame will be placed around the top of the arches of the windows as a precaution but it was thought advisable to move the altar. Now the east end will probably have to be underpinned. 33 09 01

1933 09 12
Anderson (Andy) Broom was keenly interested from a boy in amateur photography and became the first Press photographer in Cambridge, having been for 20 years on the staff of the Cambridge Chronicle. Before that he worked for 37 years with the firm of Flavell and Ellis, decorators. He was member of St Giles' parish dramatic society and an athlete, chiefly engaged in cycling and skating. 33 09 12

1933 09 14
Sir – in my old curiosity shop in Trumpington Street I have formed a museum of prison, punishment and other interesting relics, many of which have come from our old Cambridge prisons. They include the clothes, mask, pistol and spurs of Dick Turpin which were left at the Three Tuns Inn, Castle Hill, on the eve of January 12th 1739. I would welcome any items connected with village punishment or an old police uniform with the beaver top hat – E. Rutter. 33 09 14

1934 01 30

Three Tuns public house plans, White Swan to close – 34 01 30

1934 03 10
The last bus he drove formed part of the funeral cortege for John Reed of Shelley Row. He had been with the Ortona and Eastern Counties' companies for 22 years and as a last tribute a large contingent of his fellow workers headed the procession to St Giles' cemetery. The bearers were drivers W. Fowler, J. Hawkes and A. Morley with conductors L. Scarr, S.Scarr and S. Ashman. 34 03 10

1934 03 28
Magistrates approved the transfer of a licence from the old Three Tuns on Castle Hill to a new County Arms nearby. There would be increased facilities for meals to cater for the new County Hall opposite. But the proprietor of Ye Olde Castle Tea Rooms and the Castle Inn objected. None of the county council staff came in and there was no trade in the winter. The neighbourhood was decreasing and it would have an effect on their businesses. 34 03 28

1934 10 31
Rotarians backed plans for the establishment of a Cambridge folk museum where objects of historic interest could be preserved for future generations. The growth of centralised industry was flooding the countryside with machine-made goods superseding those produced locally. There were many toys such as hoops, whip-tops, marbles and bar-and-trap which were being discarded that should find a place there, Coun. E.S. Peck said. 34 10 31

1935 01 10
Who can claim the greatest number of living descendants? J. Haynes of Thoday Street says: "I am 80 and have eight children living. There are 37 grandchildren and 19 great grandchildren. My eldest daughter is 39 and the youngest great grandchild 14". Miss K. Brand of Gloucester Street says "My grandmother (87) has had 12 children; there are 62 grandchildren, 62 great grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren. 35 01 10

1935 05 13
The number employed by the Disabled Persons Workshop has varied from 9 to 10; two are doing piece work in their homes, not being able to attend at the shop. Unfortunately three who are employed are not eligible for the deficiency grants from the Ministry of Labour which has hit the income. It has been a disturbed year owing to the difficulty of finding suitable premises in Cambridge for a shop. The workshops in Gloucester Street are out of the way and they had to leave Peas Hill because of demolitions, meaning there was nowhere to sell their goods. The new premises in Trumpington Street are outside the shopping centre and the rents and rates are a strain 35 05 13

1935 09 12
The White Horse Inn at the foot of Castle Hill is a 15th-century building surrounded with mystery. Between the two chimney stacks is said to exist a small secret room once used by Royalists as a hiding place from their enemies. The entrance was probably by way of the chimney but as the wide fireplaces have been bricked up there is no means of ascertaining whether there were iron rungs on one side. But inside a cupboard on the first floor landing is an iron door built a few years ago to enable a sweep to enter. The mystery may be solved if and when the building is demolished, as it may be in the near future for road widening purposes. 35 09 12a

1935 10 26

The Three Tuns public house at Castle Hill was a picturesque building and there were too few of that sort remaining. Dick Turpin was supposed to have stayed there at one time, but that was purely legendary. Mr Northfield had restored it some years ago so as to make people think it was really an ancient building but it had just been painted to look like a half-timbered house. It was not fit for human habitation and the Cambridge Preservation Society could not appeal for its retention 35 10 26a

1935 10 28
A folk museum may be established in the old White Horse Inn following a meeting called by Cambridge Rotary Club. It should be a town and county museum for objects of local interest. Dr Palmer offered some of the items which had accumulated in the attic of a house where his ancestors had lived for 300 years. This was only the beginning: the ideal folk museum should be in the open, a space in which old cottages, smithies, a windmill and other things could be shown. 35 10 28 & a

1935 12 16
Sir – the de-population of Castle End has brought a serious decline in trade in this district. Slum clearance has seen the departure of many young families to the new residential estates in other parts of Cambridge and we are left with the old people whose requirements are practically nil. When a house is vacant it is condemned and pulled down so consequently no new residents come to take their place. Some sites have been empty for years and are growing a plentiful supply of weeds and thistles. When are we going to have new houses built on these vacant sites – Tradesman 35 12 16

1936 09 23
The new Folk Museum which is to be opened in Cambridge shortly will not be filled with glass cases containing stuffed birds. The rooms will be authentically furnished – one visitor to the bar-parlour even asked for a pint of bitter. It was unfortunate that the front of the old White Horse Inn had been modernised 25 years ago, but interesting old beams were revealed after the interior walls had been stripped of many layers of paper. A modern fireplace had been removed and electricity installed. They now need everyday objects, craftsmen's tools, toys and an old smock, Mr Saville Peck told Rotarians. 36 09 23

1936 11 04
The Cambridge and County Folk Museum at the old 'White Horse Inn' was opened in the presence of a large company. It would become a clearing house of information on local matters in a town where there is more information about Papua than Pampisford. The Corporation had handed over its old measures, the steelyard used at Stourbridge Fair and the High Constable's stave while the Public Library had loaned portraits and caricatures to give a human touch to the museum. Miss Catherine Parsons has accepted the position of honorary curator with Reginald Lambeth as custodian. 36 11 04b & c

1937 01 30
Folk Museum disappointed about lack of interest – description – 37 01 30

1937 06 18
The Tyre Service Company claims to be one of the oldest tyre firms in Britain. Commencing in Norfolk in 1902 it moved to Cambridge in 1919 and carried on business at Pound Hill and Jesus Lane. Through constant expanding business they have transferred to more extensive premises in Burleigh Street where they carry the largest and most comprehensive stock of motor tyres in the

Eastern Counties, including a full range of Dunlop, Goodyear, Indian, Firestone and all leading makes 37 06 18

1937 07 07
Cambridgeshire County Council held their first meeting at the new administrative buildings on the Castle site when the recommendation that it be called 'Shire Hall' was adopted without discussion. It was admirably suited to its purpose without any frills and decorations. But Councillor Fordham regretted the purchase of two Turkey carpets for the councillors' room at cost of £37. 32 07 29a & b
Aerial photo centred over Shire Hall – 37 07 07

1937 12 21
Sir — in Cambridge we have a council which is over-ridden by an irresponsible official whose knowledge of local conditions is nil. Some councillors did oppose the removal of the pedestrian refuges at the junction of Northampton Street and Chesterton Lane but they meekly submitted and gave way to the arrogance of the dictator. It was said that large vehicles could not get round the corners and that the lamp post had been knocked down 'scores of times'. But if certain transport companies have their way it will be necessary to remove St Giles' church and part of Magdalene College! - George Hall. 37 12 21

1938 01 19
St Giles church stained glass window unveiled in memory Bishop Charles Gore – 38 01 19

1938 03 19
Mount Pleasant folk have had an interesting time seeing a modern workshop and showroom built on a corner site at Huntingdon Road without spoiling the beauty of an old house. Part of the ground below road level at the rear has been made full use of by having a sunk workshop built upon it with steel runners over the lower floor. This does away with the old idea of a car having to be run over a dark pit, when one can neither see to work well or do a job well. Dan Morley, well-known in the motor trade, had got this business going in less than four months. 38 03 19

1938 08 03
A car owned by Mr J.E. Bidwell of Gt Shelford and driven by his chauffeur was proceeding down Castle Hill when the front nearside wheel came off. The wheel collided with Alexander McFarlane, of no fixed abode, who was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital with leg and hand injuries. He was treated and taken to the Poor Law Institution. After the wheel had become detached from the car, the vehicle was stopped without further damage being done 38 08 03

1938 08 18
Queen Mary visits Folk Museum – 38 08 18

1938 09 07
New police houses, garages and recreation room at Shire Hall – 38 09 07

1938 10 22
Racing pigeon registered 1920 found in chimney of house in Castle Row – 38 10 22b

1939 01 02
Sir – During the last snowfall some bridges were a sheet of ice for a whole week and Garrett Hostel Bridge and Walk were never touched. Neither was any clearing done on Mount Pleasant, one of the most dangerous parts of Cambridge. More lorries are needed to cart away the snow

which could be dumped on the Commons, rather than taking it miles to the river. And the by-laws should be enforced – residents in Portugal Street turned out to clear the snow but one of the worst lengths of pavement in Castle Street was in front of the Shire Hall. The unemployed or people receiving public assistance should be utilised 39 01 02

1939 02 28
Folk Museum's progress, Catherine Parsons honorary curator – 39 02 28

1939 03 04
Tuberculosis work as been carried on in Camden Place for 25 years. Now the old dispensary is being demolished with a new clinic adjoining Shire Hall, Castle Hill opened by Prof Ryle. It is equipped with an X-ray apparatus of the highest quality with a skilled radiologist in charge of it. Now the death rate from tuberculosis in Cambridgeshire was one of the lowest. The new dental caravan was also on display 39 03 04a

1939 11 21
The last Georgian bow-fronted shop window in Cambridge was at 45 Bridge Street It was saved from demolition and re-erected in the yard of the Cambridge Folk Museum by Mr E.C. Lambeth, assistant curator. It is thought that the shop was Ald Nutting's coffee house attached to the old Red Lion Inn in Bridge Street 39 11 21c

1940

1940 05 07
Ambulance protest against condition of traffic lights at Castle Hill junction – sun light means cannot see what colour they are; several accidents – 40 05 07

1940 06 05
St Giles church railings removed – photo – 40 06 05

1941 05 14
Assize Courts railings to be removed – 41 05 14

1942 02 06
Folk museum large attendance on 'free days' – 42 02 06b

1942 05 08
Airman Saves Child. — Prompt action on Sunday by an R.A.F. man saved the life of Janet Chapman, aged 2½, of 3 Gloucester Street, Cambridge, She was in a pram in charge of her elder brother near Quayside when it started to run down some steps and the child was thrown out of the pram into the river. Maurice Frederick Buy, the airman, dived fully clothed into the river, rescuing the child. After; treatment she was allowed to go home.

1945 06 13
Folk Museum new home – Lord Fairhaven offers Abbey House in recognition of VE Day – 45 06 13
Abbey House – historical facts by F.A. Keynes – 45 06 15

1945 07 13
Waterworks booster station, Castle Hill opened to boost supplies to north Cambridge – 45 07 13

1945 08
VJ Parties – Gloucester St, Castle St – 45 09 10

1946 03 07
Folk Museum raises funds to accept Lord Fairhaven offer of Abbey House – 46 03 07

1946 10 05
If atom bomb dropped over Perse School it would damage all houses between Homerton College and Castle Hill, Newham and Gas Works; soon anybody will be able to manufacture it in back garden – 46 10 05

1948 03 10
An accident at the junction of Madingley Road, Queen's Road and Northampton Street, Cambridge between an American 2½ ton lorry and an articulated lorry was so violent that it took nearly 2½ hours to part the two vehicles. A heavy lorry driver said he was coming to the junction from Queens' Road an American vehicle coming from the opposite direction of Northampton Street collided with his lorry, knocking it across the road. Witnesses told the court it had taken 2½ hours to part the lorries. Various methods were tried including an American crane pulling one way and a 3½ ton lorry another, using an electric welder, but in the end the trailer of the articulated lorry had to be taken off and the two vehicles prised apart

1948 10 18
Cambridge Town Council considered an application from Messrs Chivers and sons to use a site on Pound Hill as a milk pasteurisation and bottling centre. They had been encouraged to settle there by a former Medical Officer of Health perturbed about the condition of milk handling and distribution in Cambridge. But Councillor James thought the site was not a suitable place for a factory. Councillor Peel thought the vicinity should be kept for building small houses in scale with the old houses nearby and with the little old church of St Peter

1949 04 18
A police radio network covering Cambridgeshire, the Isle of Ely, Huntingdonshire and Peterborough has come into operation. Now within a few minutes of any incident being reported the nearest cruising police cars can be speeding to the spot. Radio will help greatly in car theft cases, enabling descriptions of missing vehicles to be circulated in a few seconds over a wide area. The Fire Brigade is also in the scheme. The master station through which the whole scheme is controlled is situated at County Police Headquarters, Castle Hill, Cambridge.

1950

1950 05 05 c
A large white cob swan walked up Cambridge Castle Hill and found himself for 15 minutes the focus of much interest from the police, the press, two cats and the borough pindar. He first attracted attention waddling up the hill in the middle of the road – much to the consternation of drivers and cyclists. Oblivious to the hazards of walking in the middle of a Cambridge street, he took a look through the Shire Hall's entrance, but after a critical appraisal of the building he decided to continue his journey. It was then shepherded into the county police station yard where it stood and glared at everything that moved. Two inquisitive ginger cats approached, sniffing at the strange interloper, but they did not stay long. Neck arched, wings beating and hissing the big bird chased them away.

1950 10 21

Cambridge councillors decided not to take over Abbey House and assume responsibility for its future after the Folk Museum had raised £2,000 to effect the transfer of the Museum there from the old White Horse Inn. The house contains some very fine rooms suitable for display of exhibits but would mean they had to rehouse the families now living there. There was no doubt that in ordinary time the council would have been able to take the Museum over but it could not take on anything at the present time because they are so hard up.

1951 05 23
Cambridgeshire can now boast one of the finest rural domestic economy kitchens in the country. Until recently the R.D.E. instructress (Miss M. Constantine) was housed in a basement in Hills Road, but this was damp and subject to flooding; consequently the equipment was liable to go rusty. The new kitchen is tucked away in the grounds of the Shire Hall. It has every kind of cooking stove – electricity, gas, calor gas, oil and solid fuel and boasts a demonstration oven with a glass door. A "frig" is to come later.

1952 03 01
Councillor Stewart Todd Bull has been nominated as the next mayor of Cambridge. He is the owner of the well-known firm of dairy farmers, Messrs J.M. Bull & son. When Cambridge was attacked by enemy aircraft in 1941 he was amongst those in Hills Road who were bombed out. He is a man endued with the spirit of public service and after helping to look after the affairs of the city he frequently climbs Castle Hill to keep a watchful eye on the County Council.

1952 04 26
Canon W.W. Partridge is retiring from the living of St Luke's church, Cambridge, of which he has been vicar since 1916. He was also for two years chaplain at the prison on Castle Hill, which was demolished to make way for the new Shire Hall. The vicarage, which was built in 1923, was the first house erected on the large estate which now stretches away behind his church.

1952 05 03
The Foreign Secretary, Mr Anthony Eden opened the Anglo-U.S.A. and Allied services Club on Castle Hill, Cambridge. A year ago the city council was approached by the Women's Voluntary Service with the object of providing the site for the club. Since then much work had been done by the W.V.S. together with valuable assistance of the U.S. Air Force and the Air Ministry. The club will be open every evening during the week and, Mr Eden said, will lure out American Service men from the attractions of their camps so they could learn "what extraordinary animals the English are"

1952 05 21
Just before six o'clock this morning Mr Frank Webster was in bed in a room above his shop in Magdalene Street, Cambridge when he heard a terrific bang. A six-tonner lorry loaded with 15 tons of wheat had crashed into the shop at the corner of Northampton Street, ploughed through the wall and ended up with its front wheels where the counter used to be. It had swerved to avoid another lorry which also crashed into the shop. Between them the vehicles made the place look as if it had received a direct hit from a bomb

1952 06 12
With all the familiar colour and dignity of a royal occasion, the date of the Queen's coronation – June 2nd next year – was proclaimed today to the people of the city and county of Cambridge. It was a happy coincidence that it should mark a fitting and optimistic finale to the gay and glittering story of the May Week celebrations. A girl still in her May Ball gown and cloak was

amongst a crowd of people outside the Shire Hall courts when the High Sheriff, following a fanfare, read the ancient proclamation. On the Market Square a crowd several hundred strong was silent when the Town Clerk began to read but his voice was all but lost in the howl from jet planes speeding overhead.

1952 07 21
The whole of the structure of the 112-year-old courts of assize at the old Shire Hall, Castle Hill, is unsafe and liable to collapse at any time. Dry rot has been attacking the floors and has now spread up the walls and plaster and into the roof. The damage is said to be irreparable and it is virtually certain that the County Council will have to write off the building as a total loss. The Court House, built of brick and stone in the Italian style has a portico supported on columns and comprises two courts and a magistrates' room from which three prisoners recently escaped by removing an iron grill over a window.

1952 07 28
One of the first judges to sit in the Shire Hall Courts, built between 1814 and 1844, Mr Justice Parke, complained about the ventilation in the Crown court. Bad ventilation is one of the factors that cause dry rot and it is possible that it has taken 107 years to come to the present condition. It could be smelt very plainly and if a knife was stuck into the wood it would go in up to the hilt in most places. It was unfortunate that they had decorated the building three years ago at considerable expense and no one knew about it. Coun. Dr Woodman said: "I hope the committee will consider the dry rot in the minds of the jury as well as in the walls of the court. You are packed like peas in a pod and with bad ventilation you get one thought".

1952 08 09
The news that the roof and interior of the Shire Hall Courts on Castle Hill, Cambridge are in danger of collapse has drawn attention to the statues on top of the building. The figures represent Law – holding a book, Justice – drawn sword (scales are missing), Mercy and – holding chain – Power

1952 12 02 c
Cambridge Council will start negotiations for the purchase of sites in Northampton Street to build cottages for old people. The Cambridge Preservation Society has offered £100 towards the cost of each dwelling on condition that the cottages in Kettle'' Yard are kept in being and modernised. Because of the urgent need in Chesterton for more cottages for old people's use the Housing Committee are to consider buying land on the Scotland Farm Site.

1952 12 05
Cambridge City Council are objecting to the County Council's proposal to demolish the Shire Hall courts at present suffering from dry rot; their consent is needed as the building is scheduled as of special architectural or historic interest. Ald Wilding thought it was hardly necessary to demolish the building just because of some defects in the woodwork & Ald Taylor put forward a plan for preserving its very fine façade, but Coun George Edwards said the best thing would be to demolish it and have a new building erected in its place.

1953 01 21
Cambridge city council have asked the County not to demolish the old Assize Courts which are at present closed because of dry rot. As it is a building of special architectural interest further consideration should be given to its preservation. Dry rot does not necessarily involve the demolition of the whole structure of an affected building – none of the Colleges have had to demolish their buildings, though many of them have been affected from time to time. But the

County says there is no assurance that further infection could be prevented. They intend to re-erect the façade of the building elsewhere

1953 03 02
"Why not let the façade of the Assize Courts on Castle Hill be used as a 'Marble Arch' for the new Spine Relief Road" asked the Mayor of Cambridge during discussions on its removal. The City Council had been very concerned about its preservation but to dismantle and remake it would cost £12,000 and architects said it could not be placed on the new building. It was a secondary monument and not old enough to be preserved, being built in 1840. But the stone figures on the roof were to be saved.

1953 04 13
The Cambridgeshire Divisional Magistrates Court sat for the last time in the old Shire Hall Courts, where justice has been meted out for over 100 years. It is just over eight months since it was found that the building was infested with dry rot and since then all courts, save the County Bench, have been accommodated in the Guildhall. Since then there have been many arguments in the County Council Chamber but the only solution they could find was that the building would have to be demolished.

1953 04 25
Does anybody want the façade of the Old Shire Hall, which is being demolished? The County Council has asked the City Council of they would like it, but the reply is 'No, thank you'. It will be interesting so see if the County offers it elsewhere. Erection of new street lighting on the main roads is proceeding apace and is to be extended to Queen's Road, better known as 'The Backs'. This new lighting should add to the attractiveness of this famous beauty spot.

1953 04 29
On May 2nd the W.V.S. Anglo-American Service Club on Castle Hill, Cambridge, will be one year old. Activities include two dances a week; there are now 125 lady members who serve as dance hostesses and a waiting list has been opened for further applicants. Tours are arranged for all the American bases and there is a monthly party for convalescent patients from Wimpole Park Hospital and occasional teas for parties from Ely R.A.F. Hospital.

1953 06 10
Sir – the Shire Hall assize courts were closed on my order in July last year because the structure had become dangerous. Dry rot had been rampant for at least 50 years and the improvised repairs had done nothing to eliminate it. During the work of demolition fragments of newspapers dated 1922 and 1925 have been found that were left by workmen repairing the dry rot in those days. The council had to decide whether to save the bare walls of the old building and rebuild the roof and the whole of the interior, or to demolish it. The extent of the damage is now clearly revealed and confirms the necessity of demolition – Wilfrid Wingate, County Architect.

1953 11 02
The new Shire Hall court will not be an 'extravagant' but 'a fine utility' building, councillors were assured. They did not want panelling in every room and expensive carpets on the floor. Some wanted to build the new Court with an open frontage to the street, but it could not be done, as the site was not big enough. If they pulled down the existing police station and played 'Old Harry' it might be possible but on one side is the Castle Mound and there would be trouble galore they interfered with this.

1953 12 31

"There are cities with rotten cores and bad outsides and Cambridge is in danger of that" said the Vice Chancellor of the University and Chairman of the Preservation Society adding: "I would not be averse to a certain number of four-storey flats rather than development spreading further and further out". Cambridge was probably the only town in England which was now more beautiful than 30 years ago. But in Northampton Street was a 'horrid desert' only adorned by a small brick-built convenience; now the land has been acquired for 19 old people's cottages in a delightful architectural scheme.

1954 03 01
County councillors voted to proceed with their original plan for the new Shire Hall courts building. They also need to get their Town Planning people transferred from Hobson Street and must have further accommodation for the County Library, which is one of the finest – if not the finest – in England. Suggestions for putting another floor on the present Shire Hall would never be satisfactory. Services would be upset for about two years, the whole of the heating apparatus would have to be altered and it would cost nearly £70,000. There were plans for the basement to be used as offices but to put clerks down there would be like putting them in prison.

1954 03 15
A labourer who figured in a daring escape from the cells beneath Cambridge Shire Hall courts two years ago was arrested in London. He made his escape with two other men sentenced for housebreaking. In their getaway from the Shire Hall Courts – since demolished – the men forced up a grating weighing about one-and-a-half hundredweight in a nine-feet high ceiling near the detention room in which they had been placed pending their removal to Bedford Prison. Through this they climbed into the yard outside. The grating was not cemented down but its great weight and height above the floor made the lifting of it a considerable feat.

1954 07 17
There were strong protests at plans for new offices at Shire Hall Cambridge. The new building would contain Assize and Quarter Sessions courts, offices and accommodation for the County Library. The courts at Linton, Caxton, Melbourn and Bottisham were 'shockers', housed in old police stations and the magistrates would be only too happy to do their work in an up-to-date building. Architects had strongly advised against cheese-pairing costs of the assembly hall: Cambridge's lovely college buildings had been the best and had stood the test of time and the costs of labour and materials were rising. But a new plan for one-tier local government might mean the doom of County Councils and the scheme should be deferred.

1954 07 31
Cambridge city council attacked the County Council's cavalier attitude over their grandiose scheme for the replacement of the demolished Shire Hall Courts on Castle Hill. They can no longer tolerate the attitude of a powerful section of the County Council who seem bent on pursuing their own course with all the insensibility of a bureaucratic bulldozer. The Government has indicated it is likely to introduce Local Government reform and it is foolhardy to proceed with a scheme for more office accommodation when certain functions might transfer to the City Council and thus make the extra offices unnecessary. City residents provide 75 per cent of the county rate and should have a fair say in any such scheme.

1954 11 01
The old Shire Hall Assize courts no longer existed; it had been pulled down. That could not be altered; it was down and a new one had to be built, councillors were told. The Judges appreciate the temporary accommodation but occasionally inquire when the Assizes are expected to be held once more in the re-built Courts; they might get tired of waiting for them. We did not want to lose

Cambridge as an Assize town. A proposal to defer their erection for two years was withdrawn but tenders will not be submitted for a year.

1955 03 19
Three cottages in Gloucester Street have been purchased by the County Council who will demolish them to facilitate access to the land at the rear of Shire Hall. The cottages would shortly come outside the control of the Rents Act and they wanted to obtain possession. Until ready to start the proposed improvements they will use one of the cottages as temporary office accommodation. The present occupants will be rehoused in a Council house. 55 03 19

1955 03 26
Cambridge Folk Museum Council have made attempts to make the long-delayed move to Abbey House which was purchased for the Museum in 1946, but have found it quite impossible to proceed on financial grounds. So they have decided to give the tenants a five-year lease, as it was obvious they could not move there for some time to come. The Museum has received a gratifying number of accessions including a fine collection of 150 photographs taken by the late Dr Frank Robinson. 55 03 26a

1955 07 30
What's all this about people getting married at Shire Hall not being allowed to park their cars in the Council car park? Have the County Council no romance in their hearts and do they want to lose custom? People will be saying "Don't go to the Shire Hall for your wedding; if you do you'll be chivvied out of it pronto". Some say park in front of the County Police headquarters – but this will stop patrol cars getting out of the police yard. Who occupies the Council car park anyway? Members of the Council and staff. Are there too many of these and too many cars? I only asked! 55 07 30b

1955 12 13
The clock that changed places – St Giles' church – 55 12 13a

1956 02 25
Shire hall court tenders deferred – 56 02 25a, 56 02 26a & c

1956 03 06
The Lord Mayor of London visited Cambridge to open a new block of flats for old people at Honey Hill, Northampton Street. It was the first such visit and brought a glimpse of the pageantry in which the true Londoner takes great pride. In 1936 the frontage had been bought by the council with a quarter of the cost paid by Cambridge Preservation Society and Magdalene College. But the war intervened and the site was a blot for many years. Now the Mayor presented the keys to the first tenants, Mr & Mrs H.C. Rogers. 56 03 06a-d

1956 03 30
If the number of cars increases motorists won't be able to get in to Cambridge very easily because of all the stationary cars cluttering up the streets and the whole problem of parking is extremely frustrating. It is time to get tough. If we must set up car parks outside the city and run the people in by special buses then we mustn't hesitate. But the land once occupied by the old Shire Hall courts on Castle Hill would make a good site for a multi-deck car park. 56 03 30b

1957 04 01
Cambridge Folk Museum has been considering the need to improve its present quarters in Castle Street. Abbey House is now let with the rents from tenants forming a substantial part of its

income and another property put on the market was beyond their means. It had been suggested they might move to St Michael's Church but even if permission was granted the building was not really suitable.
57 04 01a

1957 08 31
A four-storey hostel for Clare College between the Shire Hall mound and Chesterton Road will provide the most modern accommodation in the University. Each of the 40 students will have his own bed-sitting room with adjoining washroom and clothes cupboards and central blocks of bathrooms and w.c.s. During vacations it will be used by delegates attending conferences. When the proposed Spine Relief Road is constructed the North side will face an up-to-date motorway.
57 08 31c & d

1958 01 14
Cambridge Folk Museum revived an ancient custom when workmen, having completed the re-roofing, joined the Curator (Miss Enid Porter) in 'toasting' the building in beer. This is the first time the building has been re-roofed completely since the 16th-century and its appearance now differs very little from that time as old tiles have been used. The beams were in a good state of preservation and required little attention. 58 01 14

1958 01 28
Six Cambridge churches are redundant, according to a committee appointed by the Bishop of Ely. St Peter's presents no pressing problem, St Michael's has for long been an embarrassment and should be converted into a parish hall, St Clement's is clearly redundant with few worshippers. With active evangelisation All Saints could justify its purpose as a parish church but St Botolph's would probably be taken over by Corpus Christi as a library and Great St Andrew's might be bought by the City to develop, they speculate. 58 01 28

1958 02 03
Shire Hall is to be enlarged by an additional storey, increasing office accommodation by 20 per cent. Several councillors argued this was unnecessary in times of financial stringency when secondary education had to reduce its expenditure. But builders are short of work and will do it at a competitive figure. It was a long-term policy to achieve centralisation of the council's administration. 58 02 03a & b

1958 02 10
Whippet Coaches were refused permission to use Drummer Street. Eastern Counties had paid for improvements to the bus station and 85 per cent of their country services were not remunerative. This would add to competition. The Chief Constable said it was already filled and if granted other operators from the Northampton Street terminus would also apply, leading to increased congestion. 58 02 10

1958 05 05
An extra storey was urgently needed at Shire Hall, councillors were told. In the Treasurer's Department the staff were sitting on top of one another. In the Registrar's Office, people had to wait in a passage if there was a wedding on. And the County Archivist, who really needed four rooms, had only one. But at Linton Hospital they had been asked to economise and the cost of the new Shire Hall must not interfere with works of that kind. They voted to go ahead. 58 05 05 & b

1958 07 24
Shire Hall new storey tender – 58 07 24b

1958 07 25
A little two-bedroomed cottage should be built for Enid Porter, the Curator of the Folk Museum, councillors agreed. The five-bedroomed flat they'd allocated as emergency accommodation was condemned property; it was just a mass of corrugated iron which spoils the beauty of Northampton Street. It would be an insult to offer it to her and should be used to relieve the housing problem for a larger family. 58 07 25a

1958 10 24
A new Occupation Centre for mentally handicapped children was opened at Coldham's Lane to provide daytime accommodation for the youngsters and give their parents a respite from their responsibilities. A small centre had opened in Hope Street in 1929 under the old Voluntary Mental Welfare Association. After the County Council took over responsibility in 1948 it moved to St Giles' parish rooms at Pound Hill. 58 10 24a & b

1958 10 25
Car parking should not be allowed in Cambridge city centre and motorists should be compelled to leave their vehicles on the outskirts. Parking should be banned from an area bounded by Castle Hill, Grange Road, the Catholic Church and Mill Road. If this 'perimeter parking' could not be introduced then there must be an effective underground and an overhead car park, the Mayor, Coun. L.D.V. Wordingham told police. 58 10 25c & d

1959 05 27
St Giles church clock – 59 05 27

1959 07 25
St Peter's church, Castle Hill, which was founded in 1087 and has been in almost continuous use, is once again open after its recent restoration. It has been given a new stone floor, a modern simply designed altar and a clean white limewash coat to its walls. In addition the unique Norman font, bearing a merman holding his twin tales at each angle, has been moved to a more prominent position. Now they are looking for a few pews which will retain the spacious atmosphere of the very small church. 59 07 25

1959 11 21
Castle End Mission history – 59 11 21d

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 03 18
In a small room hidden away at the back of the Shire Hall, from which the County Civil Defence services were once run, a huge and priceless collection of books, maps and documents relating to the Bedford Level Corporation have just been delivered. Soon the newly-appointed County Records Officer, Miss Clare Cross, Honorary County Archivist Captain Percy Bales and manuscript repair expert, Mr B. Grainger, will start the vast job of indexing them. The work of the County Records Office is growing so quickly that recently it moved into larger and better accommodation which once formed part of the Shire Hall Clinic 60 03 18c

1960 07 01

Thousands of people gathered at Castle Hill to protest at the Local Government Boundary Commission proposals to merge Cambridgeshire into one administrative unit with Huntingdonshire and the Isle of Ely. There was no evidence any benefit would result. The wish of the City of Cambridge to govern itself as a county borough was criticised as an act of betrayal of the county of which it was the centre. It was better to be capital of an historic and ancient shire that to be a modern statutory creature. 60 07 01b

1961 01 02
The warehouses of Radio and Television Services Ltd, Gloucester Street, were gutted by fire. Scores of people living nearby went into their gardens as showers of sparks and splinters from exploding radio valves and television tubes showered down on their premises and residents of Clare Street used garden hoses to prevent the fire endangering their garden sheds. Arthur Brett (80) said the blaze and noise was just like the battle of the Somme. Employees will be moved to other buildings in the Pye group and there will be no serious interruption in the repair and servicing facilities operated by the company. The two-storey high building also houses a technical school for overseas radio experts.61 01 02c

1961 07 21
Cambridge Pageant, Castle Hill – 61 07 21

1961 08 14
Fire swept through a warehouse and store room at the Radio and Television Service's factory in Gloucester Street. It was the second fire the firm has suffered at these premises this year, and the third to cause serious damage to the company's workshops in eight months. On New Years Day the factory was badly damaged and rebuilding work is not yet complete. Then three weeks ago their paint spraying shops at Sawston were gutted. Detectives spent the weekend probing the cause which was identified as an electrical failure 61 08 14

1961 12 06
Pythagoras Hall in Northampton Street has been bought by St John's College. It is the earliest secular building in the city and was home to the first Mayor of Cambridge. But his family lost its wealth and it was sold to Merton College, Oxford, in 1270. For several centuries it was leased to farmers and became a granary. St John's hope to use it for collegiate purposes, though it means that Lord Rothschild, a University lecturer in Zoology, will have to move 61 12 06

1961 12 21
Cambridge Folk Museum has been closed for the last nine months while various alterations and extensions have taken place. Several major improvements have been made as part of a programme that started four years ago. First the building was re-roofed, then a house was erected for the resident curator, Miss Enid Porter. This meant the old house at no.3 Castle Street became available for museum use. It has been redecorated, the staircases widened and a new system of oil heating installed 61 12 21a

1961 12 27
It is going to be even colder than it was during most of the Christmas freeze-up when ice on the Cam trapped several swans in the water. On Christmas morning fire appliances went to St Giles' church where a small fire severely damaged an electric motor in the organ. They were also called to Avery's scale makers premises in Regent Street and at Joseph Lucas on Newmarket Road where pipes in the ceilings burst and flooded the premises. The Waterworks Company dealt with 30 burst pipes on Christmas Day 61 12 27 61 12 30

1962 02 01
The changing face of old Cambridge will soon see further demolition. Already a number of houses have been pulled down in Shelley Row and four more are to follow including one boasting an elegant example of a Mansard roof. The building on the corner of Leeke Street and Newmarket Row, known as Mendicity House, formerly provided lodgings for beggars following the Napoleonic War. It was later purchased by the Industrial Dwellings Company, set up to improve the inadequate housing in the Barnwell area. It is now Harris' butcher shop. 62 02 01b & c

1962 03 19
Dispute over use of land at corner of Castle Street –Shelley Row – Mount Pleasant – 62 03 19a

1962 04 25
St Giles Cricket Club history – 62 04 25

1962 07 05
County Council plans for a new "inner relief road" linking the Huntingdon Road-Castle Hill junction with Hyde Park Corner would cost £932,000 (£16.3m today). There would be a new bridge over the Cam at Jesus Green with an underpass at Four Lamps before the road continued to Parkside and Regent Street. This figure did not include the cost of acquiring additional land. It was needed to deal with traffic problems in Magdalene Street which is very narrow, an Inquiry was told. 62 07 05b

1962 08 09
City planning inquiry considers Castle Hill area – 62 08 09a

1962 08 18
Site of old Shire Hall courts cleverly landscaped to hide the car park which lies in front of trees – 62 08 18

1963 05 17
Cyril Phythian from Dry Drayton has, after tremendous effort, produced the delightful Solway cricket ground. It is one of the most picturesque for miles, entirely enclosed by small trees and flanked by his bungalow. The pitch was used for a time by the village cricket club but now has been adopted by the St Giles Cricket Club of Cambridge. Its cedar pavilion will be a place where cricketers can bring their wives and children for an afternoon out. 63 05 17

1963 06 10
St Peter's church spire to be restored – 63 06 10

1964 04 13
The Cambridgeshire Deep Freeze Company was formed in 1952 in adapted buildings on Pound Hill, then extended into pre-fabricated cold rooms nearby. Soon however the whole of the Pound Hill area became part of a redevelopment plan and they moved to a new site at Girton during the severe winter of 1962-63. It accommodates bulk quantities of raw materials such as raspberries and blackcurrants for national processors but one cold room is sub-divided into lockers which can be hired to private individuals for the storage of game or garden produce. 64 04 13b & c

1964 06 02
Cambridgeshire County Council is anxious to buy compulsory some land at Castle Hill, including that occupied by the Sir Isaac Newton public house, for their new assize courts building scheme.

They also want a private house in Gloucester Street and a cycle store. Much of the other land between Gloucester Street corner and the county police headquarters has already been acquired for the court project permission for which has been given after a delay of several years. Work should start this year. 64 06 02a

1964 09 15
The first stage of Cambridge's Inner Relief Road would comprise twin-carriageways starting with a roundabout at Murkett's Corner, on the junction of Huntingdon and Histon Roads. The planned road goes southward through the Rex Cinema site, leaving space for the proposed law courts near Shire Hall. As it approaches Chesterton Road there will be a flyover to take the main traffic flow over a roundabout. Then there would be a new bridge over the Cam before it crosses Jesus Green parallel to Park Parade. A subway will give access under the road to Jesus Green. 64 09 15

1964 09 18
Farm Dairies, F.G. Jeater, Pound Hill – careers for milkman – 64 09 18g

1964 11 18
Cherry Trees, a club for the elderly, has opened in new buildings in St Matthew's Street which have been donated by Miss Evelyn Boake. It will be run by the W.V.S. on similar lines to their successful Hill Top Club on Castle Hill. The main room with a lounge opens out to a sun terrace. The décor is rich and colourful with easy chairs in orange blue, green and red. Coffees and lunches will be served each weekday to men and women of pensionable age who are not in full employment. At present the main problem is obtaining sufficient volunteers to help serve. 64 11 18

1964 12 28
Sir – Magdalene College's plan to pull down a row of cottages, nos.8-18, in Northampton Street and replace them with a garden would alter its character and leave a gap in this distinctive part of old Cambridge. The row at present makes a beautiful curve, a fitting foil to the more splendid Cory House and no.13 Magdalene Street. In view of the college's highly successful treatment of Magdalene Street where the aspect has been retained, I hope they will be find some other solution short of complete demolition – Elizabeth Harland 64 12 28

1965 01 27
Northampton Street cottages being reroofed – photo – 65 01 27a

1965 10 11
Northampton St at beginning century; houses being modernised and corner house to be demolished – photo – 65 10 11b

1965 10 15
Shire Hall not to open car park to public at weekend – 65 10 15b

1967 05 06
Shire Hall redevelopment envisages 15-storey block of offices and law court, car parking under pedestrian precinct – 67 05 06

1968 10 10
Panorama from Castle Hill – photo – 68 10 10

1969 03 29

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Northampton Street cottages, four empty converted by St John's college for use of married graduates – 69 03 20a

1969 04 05
Excavation of Roman town in Mount Pleasant, Albion Row area- 69 04 05

1969 08 23
Demolition on corner Gloucester Street & Castle Hill for new County Council premises – photo – 69 08 23, 69 09 23a

1970

1970 05 06
Prince Charles opens Kettle's Yard Gallery – 70 05 06a

1970 06 10
De Vere granted permission for hotel and office block at Pound Hill – but will be inquiry – 70 06 10

1970 07 29
Ely Diocesan report says four churches may close – St Andrew the Great, All Saints, St Giles and St
Peter- 70 07 29, a,b

1971 01 27
Shire Hall plan Castle Court extension with landscaped offices – 71 01 27b

1972 01 28
Roman Cambridge may be lost – dereliction of Shelley Row, Mount Pleasant area – feature – 72 01 28

1972 07 04
It is unlikely that many ratepayers will visit the Shire Hall in Cambridge this week to see how their
money is being spent on the latest chapter in the De Vere Hotel saga. They should. Almost everybody agrees that the city could do with that 200-bedroom hotel at Mount Pleasant. The proposal by De Vere Hotels to build a £2 million hotel was originally approved by the County Council but the Environment Minister claimed that the development was too large for the site. If the hotel is not built the developers could claim compensation of up to £500,000 & ratepayers would have to foot the bill

1972 09 01
The Cambridge & County Folk Museum is run on a shoestring, but thanks to its indefatigable curator,
Miss Enid Porter, it has become a model of what a people's museum should be - intimate, quaint and compact. That the museum so ably embraces the local community's way of life is due, undoubtedly, to the skill and reputation of its curator, who is acknowledged as an expert on East Anglian folk lore and witchcraft and is particularly renowned for her understanding of fenland. Miss Porter is a powerhouse of activity since coming to Cambridge in 1947 she has created an invaluable display of bygones and bric-a-brac. When it is remembered that she does it on £3,000 a year the scale and depth of the exhibition is nothing short of miraculous

1972 12 22
The £2 million De Vere hotel building project at Mount Pleasant - Huntingdon Road corner in Cambridge has been given final clearance by the Cambridgeshire planners. The drawings of the proposed 200-bedroom hotel - the largest in East Anglia were given approval privately this week by the city planning department. Last month the Environment Minister gave approval to the project. The De Vere hotel saga has dragged on for more than four years during which time it has occupied two major public inquiries and has been the subject of a High Court hearing

1973 09 04
De Vere's have been given final planning permission to go ahead with their plans to build a £2 million-plus hotel at the Huntingdon Road - Mount Pleasant junction, Cambridge - almost five years after the project was first proposed. But the London-based company are not saying yet when they intend to start building on the derelict site overlooking one of the city's busiest road junctions. It was at the beginning of 1969 that De Vere Hotels and Restaurants Ltd submitted their original plans for the hotel

1973 10 25
De Vere have finally abandoned their plans to build a 5-star 200-bedroom hotel at Cambridge's Mount Pleasant - Huntingdon Road junction. Instead the company have suggested to planners that the site could be used for a four-storey block of residential flats with a restaurant, showrooms, offices and a bank included in the development. The company say it is "no longer economically viable" to go ahead with the hotel project which has been on the stocks for four years. It is being suggested that the originally estimated building costs of around £2 million has now risen to about £3.8 million

1974 01 05
One of Cambridge's finest medieval buildings, the Abbey House in Abbey Road, was formally presented to the city council as a gift from the Cambridge Folk Museum. The house was originally given to the museum in 1946 by the first Lord Fairhaven who had hoped it would be an enlarged Folk Museum. But the curator, Miss Enid Porter, said he had come to realise the building was just not suitable and the museum did not have the resources to keep the house in good repair

1974 08 05
Cambridge teddy boys were out in force on Saturday for a double Teddy boy wedding at the Shire Hall. Members of the Cambridge Rock & Roll club dressed up to the nines in teddy boy drapes, creepers, dazzling socks and boot-lace ties formed a guard of honour for the two couples as they left the register office. All their rock & roll friends were invited to a joint reception at the Alex Wood Hall when one of the country's top rock and roll groups, the Impalas from London, played

1975 02 11
Voluntary workers in Cambridge are battling to keep an old peoples' day club and meals on wheels service going while they wait for new premises. The WRVS Hill Top Club for the elderly is run in a dilapidated "pre-fab" on Castle Hill. The workers took the building over in 1958 from American servicemen who had used it as a social club. It has been feared the building would not last until new premises at Primrose Croft were built.

1975 03 29

The Oyster Tavern in Northampton St, Cambridge is one of those restaurants that only those in the know are likely to be able to find. It is still listed in the telephone directory under "Bistro Italo". Those who remember the old Bistro will probably avoid it. They will be making a big mistake. Sirloin steak is offered at £1.90, salted beef at £1.40 and chicken Provencale at £1.25. Like almost everyone else we chose seafood and did not regret it. Apple pie and cream and chocolate nut sundae were both 25p.

1975 09 17
There is no reason why Cambridge's first mini roundabout should not become a permanent feature. The roundabout at the junction of Queen's Road with Northampton Street came into operation yesterday morning. It is hoped this will overcome the long tailback which has occurred in Queen's Road since the introduction of the city centre traffic scheme.

1976 03 03
The branch library at the Cambridge Shire Hall is to close down and will be replaced once-a-week by a visit of one of the county council's mobile libraries. The decision to close down the library – to save an estimated £6,000 a year was taken at the county budget meeting. A petition of more than 500 signatures of readers asked for the building to continue. When a vote was taken there were 25 for and 25 against and the decision was taken on the casting vote of the Chairman.

1976 03 16
Both visitors and staff at the Cambridge County Record Office, Shire Hall, are still having to put up with overcrowded conditions. One visitor has described conditions as "the worst of any record office in the country". The county archivist says in his annual report that there has been no improvement in office or search room space. One woman who had been offered a post on the staff had declined it because of the overcrowding which she had observed.

1976 12 07
The curator of the Cambridge Folk Museum, Miss Enid Porter, is retiring this week because of ill-health, after running it single-handed for about 29 years. At the moment she is in hospital and the museum is closed. Since she took charge of the museum in 1947 its popularity and size have grown considerably. It was started following an exhibition of folk items by the Women's Institute in 1936. Cambridge Rotarians launched an appeal for a folk museum and eventually the present premises in Castle Street were acquired. Miss Porter has been a prolific author, writing books on Cambridgeshire folklore and customs and contributing articles to regional magazines

1977 03 19
Cambridge University Tiddlywinks Club now has 21 members. In action in a dingy cold room upstairs at the Castle pub, Castle Hill they slouch on all fours over the felt mat playing area and talk intensely of tactics using weird words like bristolling, crudding and squopping surface. To a certain extent the dedicated members of the winking world feel under threat, their skills unrecognised by the mocking, unwinking masses, but say that tiddlywinks can give back health and mental stability to those who are ravaged by the complexity and over-mechanisation of modern life

1977 11 25
Cambridge City Council is to think again about plans to sell the mid 17th-century Abbey House in Abbey Road. The Folk Museum Trustees had given the ancient house to the city council only four years ago in the hope they would look after it. Coun Warren said: "It is shameful if the council is now considering selling the house and keeping the money itself." Coun John Powley

said that money to repair the property was limited and the best course would be to sell it to the person living there and let him carry out repair working costing thousands of pounds

1978 01 31
A recent move to sell the Abbey House, Cambridge to its long-standing tenant, retired Professor Peter Danckwerts, raised eyebrows among people who know the history of the place. It was bought for the Folk Museum by Lord Fairhaven in 1945. No endowment was made and the museum found it impossible to keep up the house. It was given to the city in 1973 and the city has found it an embarrassment ever since, spending little on repairs. But a former Mayor and chairman of the Cambridge Preservation Society threatened to take the city council to court if it was sold

1978 05 31
The News decided to celebrate its 90th birthday by doing something light-hearted and invited 90 members of the Mid-Anglia population to pose for a photograph that would show a cross-section of the diverse community it seeks to serve. People who might never meet in everyday life found themselves jumbled together on the Shire Hall lawns for a photograph. Boxer and bank manager, actress and agronomist, proctor and postman became neighbours in a marvellous mixture. There was even a dog and a rabbit to represent readers' fondness for household pets. Aqualung diver Bob Kirby was driven to taking ice from the champagne buckets in a desperate attempt to keep cool.

1979 01 16
Cambridge's northern by-pass is not a thing of beauty and has exposed the city's none-too-glorious backsides. Milton sewage works, the wrong end of the Arbury estate and a few dumping grounds that so far we have been able to conceal. For the local travelling along this stretch of dual carriageway is a new and rather bewildering experience. Coming at everything from an unfamiliar angle creates an impression that north Cambridgeshire as I knew it has been wiped off the map. The really beneficial effect was been the easing of the pressure on the Northampton Street / Castle Hill junction; five times I have passed through these usually overworked traffic lights with little delay.

1979 02 26
One of the longest-serving landlords in Cambridge is Noel Archdeacon and his wife Hannah Mae of the Cow and Calf public house on Pound Hill. They are particularly well-known to their Irish regulars, several of whom were customers at their two previous Cambridge pubs, both of which have disappeared. The Britannia in East Road was demolished years ago and The Swan in Norfolk Street is now a private house. Their present pub has belatedly had a complete internal facelift and now has one large lounge where there is plenty of room for the new pool table.

1979 04 12
A new building jutting into the Cambridge skyline from the top of Castle Hill has filled in the city's largest hole. The site was to have been used for the De Vere Hotel but after several planning applications were rejected the firm pulled out and the hole was left. Then came plans for a complex of shops, a petrol station, a bank, offices and maisonettes but each scheme failed. The site is now being developed as a 42,000 sq ft office building though the project has not gone without a hitch. The first Cambridge builders folded and the developers had to find another firm in a hurry. All they have to do now is to let the place –and there are many who say that Cambridge is overstocked with offices already.

1979 05 15

Princess Margaret made an unscheduled walk to one of Cambridge's oldest churches, St Peter's on Castle Hill. It followed her visit the University's Gallery of Modern Art at Kettle's Yard, which was opened by Prince Charles in his undergraduate days. She saw a model of the proposed extensions which if approved would double the exhibition space and provide refreshment facilities for the public. Later, at her own request, she saw a class of medical students at work in the University Department of Physiology.

1979 06 13
Since Christmas a succession of tipplers have staggered along laden with old wine bottles to the Friends of the Earth bottle shop in Castle Row, Cambridge, only to find it shut. It closed because the companies which were taking the bottles refused to take any more but now the Glass Manufacturers Federation has started opening 'bottle banks'. Its just a skip in which people throw their empties which are then smashed up melted down to make new bottles. There is talk of one being set up in Cambridge but in the meantime bottles continue to pile up unwanted outside the Friends' door.

1979 07 04
Cambridgeshire County Council has decided to establish its permanent headquarters at the Shire Hall. The council set up it 'temporary' headquarters at Cambridge following local government reorganisation more than five years ago but decided to move eventually to the Hinchingbrooke estate at Huntingdon. Now they have changed their minds: Huntingdon is not scheduled as a major centre of the future while Cambridge is a regional centre of public administration and an internationally-known city. It is a natural magnet for staff and to move would have a seriously demoralising effect. The Shire Hall site is large enough for all their administrative needs and officers pointed out the high cost of building at a time when the council was already in financial difficulties. Now the land reserved for the new office complex is to be sold.

1979 07 18
A money-saving decision taken more than a year ago looks like paying off much more than anyone expected – and all because of the oil crisis. Councillors decided to invest in an electrically –driven mobile library, the first of its kind in the country, to serve parts of Cambridge which were affected when the old Shire Hall library was closed down for economy reasons. It cost £2,000 more than a petrol-driven version but will bring big savings in operating costs. If the experiment is a success more will be bought to replace the ageing and expensive petrol-driven fleet.

1979 07 18
Not everyone in Cambridge sees Mount Pleasant House but to those who use Huntingdon Road this new office block bulks very large indeed. The initial scheme was described as "Excessively bulky, un-neighbourly, inconsiderate of adjoining owners and occupiers, out of scale with its surroundings and over-dominant in the local scene' by the Environment Minister but his decision to reject it was reversed at a subsequent inquiry. There will be 16 trees round the main building together with a number of shrubs but it will always look what it is – 50,000 square feet of office space.

1979 08 22
At the back of the Shire Hall and behind the Sir Isaac Newton pub in Cambridge sits a small, portable office. It houses four dedicated workers who are preparing for nuclear war and other major disasters such as flooding, hurricanes and air crashes. Total nuclear war is a frightening prospect and the Government has taken steps to plan for such a holocaust. Now parish councillors are to be trained as the latest part of the contingency plans; they would act as 'community advisors', helping to bring life back to normal in highly disrupted areas.

1980

1980 02 09
A dark spectre with a high collar and spiky hair has been terrifying staff at the Oyster Tavern in Northampton Street, Cambridge. The ghost has been seen twice in three weeks in the pub's downstairs bar by the manager's wife and a barmaid. They saw the figure standing in the middle of the bar about midnight; it did not move and they could not see any details of its clothes. The bar is the oldest part of the building and used to be a grocer's shop. There has been a history of strange happenings at the pub but they are not planning to have the ghost exorcised as it seems quite friendly.
80 02 09

1980 02 26
Already the new Western Bypass is having the desired effect in the Castle Hill area of Cambridge. Thomas Whitelaw whose window overlooks the street said: "Normally the heavy traffic starts at about 7.30 am and you get convoys of 12 to 15 heavy lorries every few minutes sending vibrations right through the house. Now it is much quieter". But in Wendens Ambo villagers are demanding a new road surface, soundproof barriers and double glazing, saying the peace and quiet of their village has been ruined since the new section of the M11 opened nearby 80 02 26

1980 06 20
The war plan for Cambridgeshire which will detail the role of the county council is not yet finished. A regional commissioner would be introduced in the run-up to any attack and county controllers would go to their headquarters in the basements of the Shire hall. This is a small, rather cluttered room with little more than maps, telephones and teleprinters and no special protection other than the thickness of the walls. 80 06 20c

1980 11 18
More than 1,000 demonstrators massed in the centre of Cambridge in protest over plans to slash county council spending. They chanted and jeered councillors arriving for a meeting. A macabre scaffold with a schoolboy hanging from it stood near Shire Hall as part of an attempt to halt cuts of £2 million which would serious damage services, particularly education. But Francis Pym, MP, said the world is in a very deep recession and they must make difficult decisions. 80 11 18

1981 04 30
The least expensive part of a traditional wedding is the service. In an Anglican Church the basic charges for the ceremony without music add up to £25 plus an extra £3 for reading the banns. Extras such as an organist or choir cost £5 each. A Shire Hall register office ceremony costs £13. But a wedding dress averages £65, flowers £30 and wedding photographs at least £80. A Littleport firm now offers a video film for £85 but you need a video recorder to watch it afterwards. 81 04 30a

1981 12 04
The Oak in Lensfield Road had a world-wide reputation as a centre for good Irish music. Before modernisation it was a wonderful place. Playing sessions would start up automatically on Friday nights, Saturday lunchtimes and Sundays too. But now venues for Irish music are fast disappearing in Cambridge. The demise of the Ancient Druids was another blow and the Cow and Calf on Pound Hill is virtually the only one remaining. 81 12 04b

1982 03 26
The Tansley Typewriter Company started as the British Rebuilt Typewriter Company in Gloucester Street in 1922. It was bought by David Mutch in 1974. He acquired a van, the trade name, some contracts and a few spare parts. Now the arrival of the electric typewriter has meant taking on new skills which will be adapted as it moves into word processors, memory banks and the sophisticated paraphernalia of the modern office. 82 03 26

1982 09 18
A pub, a row of shops and six acres of office buildings in Castle Hill and Gloucester Street may be sold by Cambridgeshire County Council. They want reduce the sprawling Shire Hall site and abandon the ramshackle array of offices at the rear of the main complex. They are expensive to maintain and unpopular with staff who work in them. Discussions with developers will take place soon. 82 09 15
The six-acre county council temporary office site off Castle Street and Gloucester Street may become a city council housing and industrial estate. Council officials will meet to see if a deal between the two authorities is possible. Housing and job creation have been given top priority by the City, but the county want the best financial deal they can get. 82 09 18

1982 10 15
In the basement of Shire Hall is an 'emergency planning room' packed with maps, telephones and radio sets. It has windows, thickish walls and a large conference table but would offer virtually no protection from a direct nuclear hit. It is designed to act as a communications network liaising with the emergency services, the water authority, railways and so on during any emergency from floods in Wisbech to the sudden cutting of the county's gas supplies. 82 10 15 & a

1982 12 09
Accommodation for computer-based companies in Cambridge is at a premium. Several firms are run from private houses with others based around King's Parade and Jesus Lane, where buildings are available and rents favourable. Now a technology square is planned for land at the rear of Shire Hall similar to Trinity College's Science Park but at smaller rents. There might be dual-purpose buildings for start-up companies providing both a home and an office to work in. 82 12 09

1983 01 13
Cambridge was the first place to provide a science park. Now the County Council propose to establish a technology village on the Shire Hall redevelopment site. The novel scheme would provide both houses and workshops in an attempt to create a 21st-century high technology community. It would have offices, shops, a pub and recreational facilities. Secretaries and photocopiers could be shared. 83 01 13

1983 01 25
A huddle of converted school buildings off Pound Hill has just fetched the highest price ever paid for residential land in Cambridge. The quarter-acre site, previously used by Unigate as a dairy distribution centre, has been sold for £140,000 – which is £560,000 per acre. It demonstrates the potential for this area which is close to the Cam and the centre of town. 83 01 25a

1983 03 12
The gallows from the old Cambridge prison behind the assize courts on Castle Hill have been restored in a quiet suburban back garden in Nottingham. The last hanging took place in November 1913. Hundreds of people queued to inspect the gaol in June 1930 before it was

demolished. They included Doris Melbourne; she visited the prison three times with her father, William Wale, who took photographs of the gallows in situ. 82 03 12c

1983 06 30
A scheme to develop seven acres of land behind Shire Hall for offices and a high technology centre will save the Isaac Newton pub and other buildings in Castle Street which had been under threat of demolition. It will include 520 basement car parking spaces together with twelve terrace houses on Magrath Avenue. At present the site is covered by a ramshackled array of ancient council office buildings which are difficult and expensive to maintain and unpopular with the staff working in them.
83 06 30 p7

1983 07 01
A pub, a row of shops and six acres of office buildings in Castle Hill and Gloucester Street may be sold by Cambridgeshire County Council. They want reduce the sprawling Shire Hall site and abandon the ramshackle array of offices at the rear of the main complex. They are expensive to maintain and unpopular with staff who work in them. Discussions with developers will take place soon. 82 09 15
A visit to Waffles on Castle Hill is like stepping back in time to the heyday of the unique Kite café which was such a popular venue until the bulldozers moved in. The highly successful venture was built up by Mrs Virginia Le Charite over nine years until its closure in 1981. The familiar tables and chairs, the ornate cash register, the dresser and clock are all there and it is still producing those scrumptious and filling savoury and sweet batter rolls with a variety of toppings at prices from 90p.
83 07 01 p24

1983 09 29
The Cambridge Civic Society, which fights planning applications around Cambridge, is being wound up and its members urged to join the Cambridge Preservation Society – the group from which it split off in 1961. Projects in which they have been involved include the Kite area, Stansted airport, the M11 Inquiry and Robinson College. At present they are concerned about the proposed large office development on the Shire Hall site, preferring to see it as a community area.
83 09 29 p19

1984 01 19
Enid Porter ran the Cambridge Folk Museum single-handed from 1947 for 30 years and the impressive collection now it now houses museum was largely as a result of her endeavour. She took the entrance money, arranged exhibitions and cleaned the museum. In 1968 she had not had a pay rise for 15 years; her wages were £8 a week at a time when comparable jobs were paying £1,500 a year. Richard Wilson, the current curator said "She was a marvellous lively woman who gave her life to the museum". 84 01 19 p6

1984 03 27
West's, the motor dealers, celebrates a special 25th anniversary of their association with Renault cars. Having developed their one acre site on Newmarket Road into a glittering glass-walled showroom they have stayed true to the French company and are looking forward to the next 25 years with them. The business began with Sidney and Ethel West operating a small vehicle tuning workshop in Gloucester Street 55 years ago. They now employ 64 people. 84 03 27

1984 07 25

Cambridge's office space is going fast. Mount Pleasant House on Castle Hill is now fully let as is the former Heffers printing works in Hills Road whose Betjeman House is used by two computer software firms, Acornsoft and Logica. Citibank has taken the first floor of Hunting Gate's Carlyle House while Standard Life's development on the corner of Glisson Road was let prior to the completion of the building. 84 07 25

1984 11 09
William Sindall, the construction group founded in 1881, has moved from Cherry Hinton Road to new premises at Sawston. In 1936 Harold Ridgeon and his brother Frank merged it with their housing activities based in Gloucester Street. They expanded into airfield construction during WWII and went public in 1965. 84 11 09 p34

1984 12 19
Devi Agarwala was penniless when he first moved to England in 1950 but became one of Cambridge's best-known business men. He opened the city's first Indian restaurant, the Kismet in Northampton Street, and the Harlequin club and casino in Regent Street as well as an International Centre and language school. He was a member of the Pentacle Magic Club and organised a three-day All-India Magic Conference which had to be cancelled due to the murder of India's Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Ghandi. 84 12 19

1985 04 18
The new high-tech development on Castle Hill will include full secretarial back-up facilities, a gymnasium, squash courts, restaurant and overnight accommodation. Conference rooms and access to an underground car park will also be available to those who rent rooms. The 'village' will be self-contained and will appeal to people like university lecturers who might also be a consultant and needs his own space. Rents will be 25 percent less than average in central Cambridge 85 04 18

1985 05 29
Castle Park, the £10 million high-tech development on County Council land next to Shire Hall has been inaugurated. It offers 'thinking space' to scientists and academics involved in research and development of high-technology ideas. The project will be fully self-contained with its own conference facilities, restaurant, gymnasium, squash courts and overnight accommodation as well as centrally available office equipment and secretarial support. A key attribute is its location in the heart of the city close to many of the University's colleges. 85 05 29b

1985 06 13
Prince Philip visits Lucy Cavendish College – 85 06 13

1985 09 27
Cambridge Cattle Market opened 100 years ago. Before 1885 it was held at Castle End but the stalls were inadequate for the number of beasts. Then Jesus College provided land near the railway station. Cattle docks from all four railways were within two minutes' walk and there were direct railway links to Scotland and Ireland. There are still weekly sales of stock, with horse sales every five weeks, but the area nearby that was used for grazing is now the Clifton Industrial Estate. It is filled with large corrugated boxes housing a wide variety of light industry and a 'Park and Ride' site 85 09 27

1986 05 29
Cromwell's House, Shelley Row history – 86 05 29

1986 07 03
Gloucester Street off Castle Hill, Cambridge, has seen considerable changes in the last 60 years. Until 1924 it was a little estate of its own, with labourers' terraced cottages, a few semi-detached houses, a mission room and a pub. Today nothing remains of the old residential area. But Ronald Chapman has constructed a cardboard model of it which is on display in the Cambridgeshire Collection. Every house is detailed, the street lights are in the right place as are the three outside taps which supplied some householders with their only water 86 07 03

1987 03 13
A new purpose-built car park providing 67 long-stay spaces has opened in Castle Hill, with another 57 places coming in a few months' time. City councillors say the park, near the junction with Victoria Road, will offer convenient access to shops and businesses in the north of Cambridge. It will have a park-and-display system charging 50p for any period on weekdays, doubling to £1 on April 1st. But there will be free parking in evenings and Sundays 87 03 13a

1987 04 25
City councillors have stepped in to stave off the shock closure of the Cambridge Folk Museum which is celebrating its 50th anniversary. They decided to give an immediate grant to help it over its financial crisis for the next six months after its curator, Tom Doig, told how it received little income and there were no private financial resources. Councillors are also rethinking proposals to treble the Museum's rent to £12,000 a year. 87 04 25

1987 06 12
The Cambridge Brass Rubbing Centre is one of the region's most unusual tourist attractions. Thousands of visitors from all over the world come to take rubbing from some 150 facsimiles of brasses, many from local churches. It was started as a part-time sideline by Jenny McLachlan 12 years ago and has recently moved from the Wesley Church to a new home in St Giles' Church on Castle Hill. Now it has become too busy for her and has been put up for sale 87 06 12c

1987 11 05
Vision Park, the controversial office and high-tech development in Histon, has gained a major first tenant which suggests that the developers were right in thinking Histon was an acceptable business location. Construction of a second phase on the former Chivers site across Station Road started in August. Barclays Bank is taking half of the first completed building to replace their head office above the bank in Bene't Street. The move follows Lloyds Bank's decision to take a large headquarters block at Castle Park, Shire Hall and Midland's move of its management team to Parkers House in Regent Street. 87 11 05b

1988 01 20
A desperate shortage of hotel accommodation and a dismal nightlife is putting off people visiting Cambridge, a report says. The closure of the Victoria Cinema is part of a long-term decline in entertainment in the city centre and with the exception of the Corn Exchange, little has been done to encourage more. But plans for the Cambridge Heritage Centre at St Giles' church and a leisure pool at Parkside are going ahead. 88 01 20

1988 04 14
Sir - Cambridge museums are facing severe financial problems. The Folk Museum illustrates the social and domestic life of people over the past three centuries. The curator, Tom Doig, is doing sterling work with school parties and a series of exhibitions, attracting an increasing number of visitors to the museum. But he is hampered in his work by finance levels. There is an even worse situation with the Museum of Technology where enthusiasm has ensured the preservation and

restoration of the pumping station. Adequate resources must be made available so that both can properly keep alive the heritage of the people of Cambridge – R.J. Flood 88 04 14

1988 05 19
The Merton Arms pub in Northampton Street, which belongs to St John's College, will closed at the end of September. It is one of the few pubs in the city centre which provide bed and breakfast. Now it may be converted into student accommodation 88 05 19

1988 07 11
Castle Park, Cambridge's showpiece research and development village was opened by the Duke of Edinburgh. Developed by Sheraton and financed by Royal Life, it was designed to provide 'thinking space' for scientists and academics involved in high-technology developments. The initiative came from the County Council who were faced with the need to provide more office accommodation for its staff and developed land adjoining Shire Hall. The first phase, Castle House, Babbage House and Sheraton House was completed last year 88 07 11b, c. d

1988 07 12
St Luke's, one of Cambridge's most prominent Victorian churches in Victoria Road, is to be converted into a community centre for the whole of the parish of the Ascension,. formed in 1982 by the union with St Giles and St Peter. The adjacent United Reformed Church will be demolished and the land sold for housing. There are no plans to amalgamate the two congregations who will share the new-look church. 88 07 12a

1988 08 13
Cambridge & County Folk Museum is facing a cash crisis. Curator Tom Doig says the situation is so desperate he may have to close the 500-year-old museum in Castle Street before Christmas. The County Council has refused any funding and the City has cut its grant, meaning he can no longer afford to pay staff.. The Mayor said is it outrageous that they can't find the money to keep it going The museum is of great importance as an educational resource and it would be a tragedy if it were to close 88 08 13, 88 08 17, 88 08 17a

1988 09 23
The Merton Arms in Northampton Street is closing because the owners, St John's College, has not released the lease held by Greene King. 88 09 23a

1989 10 01
The controversial Cambridge park and ride scheme has started with a whimper. At peak commuter time there were 17 cars at the 400-space Cowley Road and even fewer at the 150-space car park on Clifton Road. Users were enthusiastic: Sophy Moxley of Willingham, a sales assistant, said "It will save me money because it only costs 50p which is cheaper than parking in the city centre though Steve Field from Stretham says it is inconvenient as you don't have access to our car during the day. Councillor Andrew Duff said the area around Castle Hill, where residents-only zones have been introduced, was 'almost pastoral' though Canterbury and Benson Street were packed with cars. 89 10 01

1989 10 10
Lucy Cavendish's Oldham Hall opened – 89 10 10

1990 05 22
West's of Cambridge founded 65 years ago; started Gloucester Street in 1925, moved Newmarket Road when took Renault dealership 1959 – 90 05 22a

1990 10 05
Lucy Cavendish College silver jubilee – college heads – 90 10 05a

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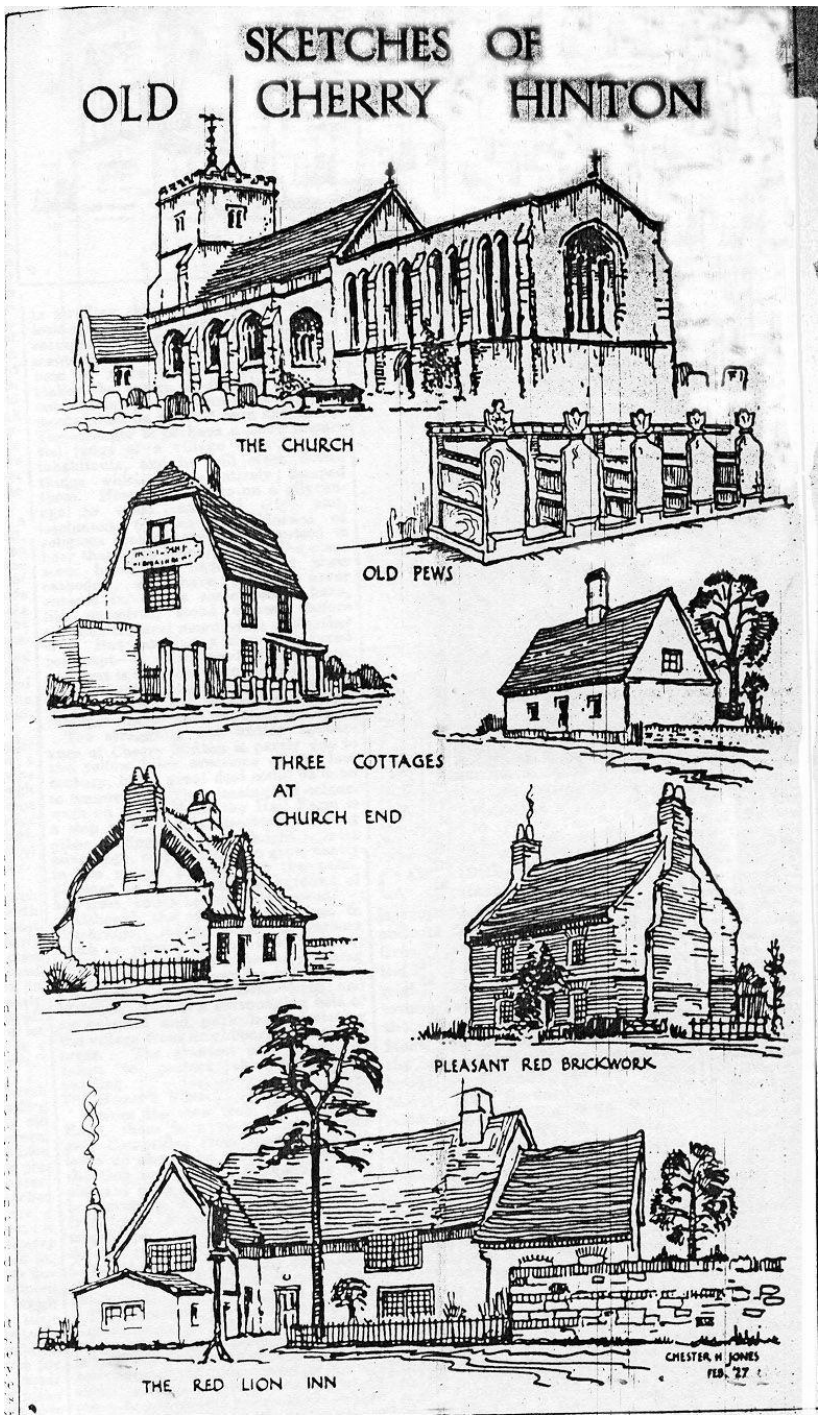

Sketches of old Cherry Hinton

Cambridge Chronicle 9th November 1927

134.78

c.44.6 : Cherry Hinton (village)

1897 02 25
Cherry Hinton lady & bread p2

1897 06 24

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Sewage, Cherry Hinton, p2

1897 12 13
A tailor of Cherry Hinton had a sad tale to relate to the Borough Coroner at the inquest held on the body of his five-year-old son. On the evening of 26th November he heard the child screaming and found him sitting on his aunt's knee with one of his fingers crushed. The child had managed to put his finger in between the rollers of the mangle and one finger was badly crushed. She had to reverse the rollers to get it out. The boy was treated at hospital but then showed signs of tetanus, grew rapidly worse and died.

1898 09 03
Cherry Hinton is the meeting place of the old and new; a study in contrasts. St John's ward contains trim villas, modern residences, and a population increasing rapidly year by year. On the other hand, St Andrew's ward is intensely rural, the scene of scattered dwellings and old thatched gables. In short, St John's is suburban, while St Andrew's yet retains its agricultural character. Thus a drainage scheme is less needed in the latter than the former and the inhabitants of St Andrew's insist that they will have none of it, while in the former it has long been common knowledge that emphatically "something must be done", and that quickly, for the constantly growing population

1898 11 18
Cherry Hinton proposed division, p3

1900

1900 08 15
An accident happened at Cherry Hinton. The 8.55 passenger train was due, but the gates over the Cherry Hinton crossing remained closed; consequently the engine, which was travelling backwards, dashed into them with horrific force and smashed them to pieces. The head lamp on the engine was broken, but no other damage was done. The gatekeeper has been suspended.

1900 10 06
Sir - 1 see that several shareholders of the Tramways Company suggest that small buses only should be allowed to run between Cherry Hinton and the Market. If it means that we are to fold and squeeze ourselves up like figs into the wretched boxes that we hoped had long since been turned into firewood the company has reckoned without their hosts. We have had enough of the stuffy snail-paced coffins and if the company can do no better we are ready to start a couple of rattling good two-horse buses of our own - G. Bland.

1901 08 27
Bottisham magistrates received an application for a licence to sell beer at premises in Coldham's Lane, Cherry Hinton. There were only two houses near, both the property of the Saxon Portland Cement Company who say it would be a great temptation to the men to obtain drink and neglect their work. The cement factory now employs about 50 men. It would be impossible for the police to have proper supervision; it would lead to Sunday drinking and become a scandal to the neighbourhood.

1902 07 16
Sir - if Cambridge and Chesterton are excluded from the County Council it will become a superfluous organisation whose few remaining functions could well be carried out by the Rural Councils. The loss of revenue would impose upon the rural districts a burden which would be

simply crushing. What would Cambridge gain - nothing unless it is made a County Borough. But with the population of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and Newnham Croft added Cambridge would still be short of the 50,000 requisite to form a County Borough - John Bester

1902 07 21
Professor T. McKenny Hughes was summoned for riding a bicycle on the footpath at Cherry Hinton. P.C. Sanford said when he stopped him the defendant then began to complain and said the police would be doing better if they were moving the horses and carts on the road as they were a great nuisance. There was no traffic about at the time. The Chairman said the defendant was hardly setting a good example and would be fined 3s 6d and 6s 6d costs.

1902 07 28
The people of Old Cherryhinton participated in festivities in celebration of the Coronation. They took the form of sports and a tea, besides various minor amusements, while music entered largely into the scheme of pleasure. 900 people availed themselves of the opportunity to take tea which took place in a large erection constructed of canvas under trees in a meadow. Beside this temporary tea-room stood a traction engine with steam up but it was not attached to any bread-cutting arrangement such as might have been necessary to cope with the extraordinary demand. It was used to boil water for the tea. CDN 1902 07 28

1902 09 26
There was an exceptionally large congregation at St Mary's church, Saffron Walden, to witness the marriage of a couple who are both deaf and dumb and there were 30 who were unable to hear and speak. The contracting parties were Mr Frederick Baish of Cherry Hinton and Miss Emily King of Saffron Walden. The ceremony was performed by the Rev A.H. Payne of the Deaf and Dumb Church, London.

1903 08 29 c
Sir - a report is circulating that a lad was sent from Cherry Hinton to the tents on Coldham's Common supposed to be suffering from smallpox and that after a week he was sent home, only to be taken away a second time in a few days. Another report is that during the recent heavy rains the beds in the tents were surrounded by water and the deaths that have occurred there have been caused by cold and not by smallpox, as reported. As ratepayers we have a right to know whether this is true or false. - Villager

1903 10 24
The recent completion of the Atlas Stone Company works at Coldham's Lane will add to the industrial importance of the Romsey Town and Cherry Hinton districts of Cambridge. A complete plant for the manufacture of artificial paving slabs on the most up-to-date principles has been installed with a hydraulic press capable of 500 slabs per day worked by electric power. The chief market is inLondon and the Eastern Counties where the value of artificial flags for footways has been firmly established.

1903 11 11
Under Government regulations no child can be boarded out with foster-parents of different religious denominations to that in which the child is registered. At Cherry Hinton a girl had been fostered with a couple who took very great interest in her. At the time they took her the wife was undoubtedly Church of England and the husband went nowhere. Since then he had started going to the Baptist Chapel and his wife felt it her duty to go with him and take the child. Now the Ladies Boarding-Out Committee had threatened to take the child away from them. Being Government servants they must obey the rules and regulations laid down for their guidance.

1904 02 11
Cherry Hinton fields, p3

1904 02 23
County Council electioneering tactics at Cherry Hinton were exposed in confidential correspondence between two potential candidates. Mr Neal, the owner of Cherry Hinton Hall, was too unknown to have the slightest chance of carrying the seat. Many scarcely knew there was a Hall and he had not had time to make it a centre of interest. The parish is Radical to the backbone and the Conservatives would be giving the seat away to the opposition were he to stand. However Mr Brooke had great strength with the cottagers and even the Dissenters would support him. In the event of his being elected he would not serve once the Education question had been settled and would stand down, making it easier for Mr Neal to win the seat.

1904 06 15 c
A terrible fatality occurred on a farm at Catley Park, Linton where a steam cultivator of Messrs Pamplin Bros of Cherry Hinton was at work pulling in a field. There was a large steam traction engine at each end of the field and the great boiler of one of them suddenly burst without the slightest warning with portions of the engine sent flying in all directions. The driver was caught by a piece of iron about the breast but is not seriously injured. A water cart was standing near under the charge of a farm workman who was struck on the head and killed on the spot. Portions of debris were found more than 200 hundred yards away. The thick iron boiler was broken and twisted into all shapes and little of the engine was left intact.

1904 06 16
The inquiry into the Linton traction engine boiler explosion heard from Elijah Pamplin the proprietor of the Cherry Hinton firm. They had purchased the engine in 1895 from the Oxford Steam Plough Company and it was not new then. It had been thoroughly overhauled and was repaired each winter. He had inspected the inside of the boiler himself and no new plates were needed. It was doing ordinary work and the steam gauges had indicated 120 lbs pressure. The bracket which supported the winding drum had been torn away from the boiler but he could not say whether it had burst at this place. The firm had done everything possible to prevent danger or injury. The jury reached a verdict of accidental death. A formal Board of Trade investigation will be held

1904 07 01
Cherry Hinton Free Church, p4

1904 11 11
Cement making has already become a very important Cambridge industry. Extensive new works are rapidly approaching completion and have made a great change in the landscape of Cherry Hinton. The pleasant path through the fields from the end of Mill Road is hardly recognisable now. It has been diverted to make room for a huge collection of buildings from which a new siding leads to the railway line close at hand. These are the Norman Cement Company's works

1905 03 10
A company is being formed to provide a service of motor 'buses for Cambridge. Eight 'buses will be put down at first by which it is hoped to run a 15 minutes' service from Chesterton, another from the Huntingdon road district to the centre of town and a seven minutes' service to the railway station. Should the venture prove successful the more outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton will be catered for 05 03 10

1905 04 08
The Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company has been formed. It is nowadays essential for the business of the town to have a convenient and quick means of transit and the omnibuses will be appreciated by the public and become a source of income to the shareholders. With eight vehicles it will be quite easy to maintain a 15 -minute service from Chesterton and the Huntingdon Road to the centre of town and a seven-minute service to the railway station. Should these prove successful it will be extended to outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton. There is little doubt that horse traction for omnibuses and tramcars will shortly be superseded by petrol and electricity. 05 04 08a

1905 10 05
Cambridge Town Council wrote to Chesterton R.D.C. saying they wish to extend their boundaries to incorporate parts of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton, Trumpington and Grantchester. Chesterton are to reply saying they will give such project its most strenuous opposition. 05 10 05-b

1906 02 13
Licences - Hopbine, Cherry Hinton - 06 02 13c

1906 06 14
Cambridge water supplies might be polluted from sewage from Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn. Householders use pails for the collection of excreta and if this is spread on the land then the possibility of typhoid organisms finding their way into the water supply must be remote. A more serious menace is the soakage of infected matter from improperly -constructed cesspools and the sewage from the Asylum. Some Cambridge people have started to boil their water 06 06 14a & b

1907 01 03
A signalman at Cherry Hinton signal box experienced the agony of seeing his son killed before his eyes. While he was on duty his three-year-old lad toddled across the line to visit his father, just as a passenger train was approaching. Unable to leave his post and unable to prevent the accident, the father saw his son knocked down by the train. He was picked up, shockingly injured, and conveyed by the train to Cambridge station and from thence to Hospital but was dead before he arrived 07 01 03b

1907 08 21
Pamplin Bros, of Cherry Hinton were summonsed after Pc Gray saw a steam roller pulling a stack elevator, water cart and a house van. Albert Anderson, the driver, said he had been at work at Chrishall and ordered to call at Audley End and pick up the house van, then call at the Fighting Cocks, Wenden and take on the stack elevator. It was a steamroller with a smooth wheel, not a locomotive. But the magistrates decided the roller was hauling and thus became a locomotive under the meaning of the Act under which they were charged. 07 08 2 1

1907 09 28
Sir - the cartage of the sewage filth into Milton is again in full swing. Considering the outbreak of fever at the Hospital and at Cherry Hinton everyone must agree this is a terrible risk to run and it should be stopped. Crude sewage was run as usual on Sunday down a ditch to Baitsbite Lock which should supply the lower fen with pure water. This is within a few feet from where the University boats start, and would hardly commend itself to rowing clubs - 'Ratepayer' 07 09 28

1907 10 30
Cherry Hinton baby choked - 07 10 30

1908 07 17
A shocking railway accident, resulting fatally, occurred at the Cherry Hinton level crossing. Two light engines were approaching and the gatekeeper, Mr West, being absent at the back of his house, his daughter was closing the gates. One easily shut but before she had time to close the second the engines were upon her and she was thrown to the ground. The unclosed gate was badly damaged. The gatekeeper was 7 1 years of age and on duty all hours. For the last four weeks he had been called at four o'clock in the morning and was on duty till 10.30 pm. CWN 08 07 17 p5

1908 09 1 1
During the harvest considerable depredations have been made in Cherry Hinton fields by parties of boys and girls who, under the guise of 'gleaners', have stolen a large quantity of beans. People should not buy beans from them. Gleaning was confined to the villagers who were allowed into the fields after a certain time but the children of Cambridge had no such rights; 22 were known to have been involved in the thefts. CWN 08 09 1 1 p3

1908 12 11
Government Inspectors say a large source of Cambridge water should be abandoned as it is dangerous to the lives and health of the inhabitants. It had been suggested that contamination came from Fulbourn Asylum sewage but the experts say the danger comes from the villages of Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn where the method of sewage disposal are at the very least primitive. Even if sewage was excluded from the present leaky sewers it would still be disposed of in cesspools and there is no certainty that these would not leak. CWN 08 12 11

1909 07 02
Cherry Hinton dairyman fined - 09 07 02

1909 12 31
As polling dates are fixed both political parties have redoubled their vigour. In Cambridge Mr S.O. Buckmaster spoke at the Gladstone Centenary Dinner at the Cherry Hinton Liberal Club while Almeric Paget has meetings arranged at St Barnabas Institute. The fight in East and West Cambs bids fair to be especially keen with meetings some distance apart. The motor car is a wonderful ally and enables the candidates to set distance and bad roads at naught but it is not conducive to the best of health to be exposed to the vagaries of the climate while travelling at high speed from one hot and crowded meeting room to the next. CWN 09 12 31

1910

1910 02 25
The high ground near Cherry Hinton was the scene of some interesting military operations. For several hours the Gogs resounded with the crackle of rifle fire and the thunder of artillery as the tide of battle rolled slowly from Reservoir Hill past the Golf Links until arrested at Limepit Hill. The operations supposed that the Great Eastern Railway line was the frontier between two states which had mobilised their troops. A cavalry brigade at Newmarket was reinforced by some infantry and guns and Fulbourn was fortified. 10 02 25m & n

1910 05 20
Residents from Cherryhinton Road complained that if linen were hung out to dry in the garden 'smuts' caused by smoke from the chimney of the Swiss Laundry made it so dirty that it had to be

taken in and washed again. The air ought not to be polluted by this offensive smell and dirt and they suggested the chimney be carried up another 50 feet and the manager of the laundry be requested to use different fuel. 10 05 20a

1910 07 15
The proprietor of the Swiss Laundry, Cherry Hinton was summonsed for allowing the chimney to send forth black smoke, causing a nuisance to residents. Complaints went back to 1903 but had stopped when they put in a new boiler in 1908 and started burning Welsh coal. Since then it had started again. It was impossible to hang clothes out to dry. Mrs Robjent said she'd washed a tablecloth three times and eventually had to send it to the laundry. The fruit in the garden got covered with black smuts and those who worked there looked like sweeps. 10 07 15a

1910 10 07
The scheme for extending the Borough boundaries so as to include Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and the urban portions of Grantchester, Trumpington and Fen Ditton was formally launched. The boundary with Chesterton is an imaginary line running down the centre of the river which presents legal difficulties over dredging. The river is used by member of the University for rowing but most of the boathouses are on the Chesterton side. The Corporation own a cemetery the parish of Fen Ditton. They have constructed a sewer and laid water mains along Newmarket Road and the land will no doubt be used for building. 10 10 07e&i&j

1910 11 18
On Saturday evening a traction engine belonging to Messrs Pamplin of Cherry Hinton was passing through Boxworth with two trucks of coal. When near the Brickyard Gate the plug was blown out, causing a stoppage of several hours near Soldier's Drove. Horses and a water cart had to be fetched from Elsworth to re-fill the engine and it was not until 1 1pm that a fresh start could be made. It returned at three in the morning. 10 1 1 18d

1911 02 03
The Inquiry into the extension of Cambridge borough boundaries heard that Cherry Hinton was part of Chesterton Rural District and divided into two wards. St John's was obviously an outgrowth of the town while the old village was in St Andrew's ward. The parish had the expenses of sewerage as a result of which their rates were very considerably in excess of the Borough rates. But the old village had no sewerage at all, the drainage being by means of cesspools. 1 1 02 03c

1911 04 07
The Local Government Board is in favour of the extension of Cambridge to include parts of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton, Grantchester and Trumpington. 1 1 04 07f

1911 04 04
Training he received in the Cherry Hinton Boy Scouts allowed Herbert Stone of the Wood Pigeon Patrol to save his two little brothers and his little sister from being burnt to death at Rydal Villa, Hartington Grove. The window curtains caught alight in their bedroom and spread to a chair containing the youngsters' clothes, then to a chest of drawers. Herbert stamped and beat the flames out just in time: the iron work of the large double bed in which the three little ones lay asleep was scorched, as was the counterpane. His hands and feet were scorched and large holes were burnt in the feet of his stockings 1 1 04 14

1911 05 19
Greater Cambridge editorial: Chesterton UDC will cease to exist, parishes of Cherry Hinton,

Trumpington and Grantchester will be divided and urban portions come into Cambridge 1 1 05 19c

1912 03 29
Today the population of the Borough of Cambridge is 40.560. On Monday it will be 57,073. The extension of the boundary now brings in Chesterton and the urban portions of Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Grantchester. These suburbs were inhabited almost entirely by people whose living lay in Cambridge but were separated from it by the River Cam or purely artificial borders. It means that the residents will now be under the care of the Cambridge Town Council. 12 03 29c

1912 06 07
Mr I.G. Elworthy told a meeting at Morley School that he had been one of the first members of Cherry Hinton parish council in 1894. When he first came there were only 50 houses but the district had developed enormously and the need for a recreation ground was very urgent. With the enormous increase of motor traffic it became more and more dangerous for children to play in the streets. The Council should purchase a site between Cherryhinton Road and Mill Road and in the meantime the Cattle Market field should be laid out as a temporary playground. It could be planted with trees like Christ's Pieces and would preserve the beauty of the district 12 06 07d & e

1912 07 26
Licensing: Cherry Hinton Russian Arms, 12 07 26 o&p

1912 11 15
Licensing compensation for Cherry Hinton Russian Arms 12 11 15

1913 05 02
East Cambs bye-election, meetings Burwell, Whittlesford, Ely, Wicken, Soham. Ely, Sawston, Cherry Hinton

1913 05 02
Stacks on a farm at Kennett had been sold before the farmer was made bankrupt and should not be claimed by the Official Receiver, a court heard. It was a custom to allow sold sacks to remain on the farm until it suited the convenience of the purchaser to remove them. Stacks of barley and pea straw had been threshed but not sainfoin or clover. But a farmer scarcely ever sold corn unthreshed in the stack because nobody would tell the exact quantity or quality and one was bound to make a bad bargain. Various estate agents said they had never heard of such a 'custom' but F.F. Doggett, a farmer from Cherry Hinton said it had existed locally for the last 30 years 13 05 02 p9 CIP

1913 08 01
Flower show, Littleport, Romsey Town, Isleham Cherry Hinton

1913 09 05
Guildhall extension ratepayer's opposition - any money spent on libraries should provide reading rooms for Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and Newnham: when a man got home from business he doesn't feel inclined to walk down to the town again - if you look into the Mill Road reading room at night you will see how much it is appreciated. 13 09 05

1914 07 17
A serious fire at Cherry Hinton razed Stevens and Harvey's carpenter's shop to the ground and gutted an adjoining cottage occupied by John Cooper, a labourer. The heat had dried the thatch to

tinder and the wind was sufficient to carry sparks to the roof of a cottage adjacent to the shop. The workshop was beyond salvation, being stocked with wood, paints and turpentine. The whole population of the village turned out to see the fire but could give no help

1914 09 25
County roads must be improved for military transport. Some need to be widened and corners rounded off with the War Office paying much of the cost. At Coton the road will run through Mr Hunt's stackyard, Grantchester church corner needs taking off; the road at Cherry Hinton needs widening near the Robin Hood with more widening in Fulbourn village. All will be strengthened to carry artillery. The idea is to get the military from the west to east without going through Cambridge.

1914 10 09
Military roads - Stretham to Soham, one of four to allow different armies to move from west to east at same time without going through Cambridge. The first from Potton though Harston to Whittlesford and Pampisford and on to London Road near Hildersham. Sinuous road through Grantchester and Trumpington on to Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn and away on the Newmarket Road.

1914 10 16
Had Britain Winked at Germany's Cruelty? — Speaking at the Free Church, Cherry Hinton, on Sunday evening. Gipsy Smith, referring to the war, said: "There are some people whose minds become confused when they think of the war and see the amount of suffering. It is not of great importance whether we live or not, but it is of great importance whether we do right or wrong. If England had winked at Germany's Cruelty and murder, we should; have been cruel murderers ourselves. I, for myself, would rather die.

1914 10 16
Cherry Hinton recruiting

1914 12 11
P.C. Lander told the inquest he had been called to the yard of Mr Webb's blacksmith shop at Cherry Hinton where he found the body of a girl lying on the ground. There was a ring of iron, a cart tyre, resting across her neck. He lifted it off and tided artificial respiration in front of the fire at the Red Lion Hotel. The tyre had been lodged against the grindstone. Children knew they were not allowed there. There was probably no more risk at this place than at many others in the village.

1916 09 20
Cherry Hinton soldier's funeral - Monk - photos - 16 09 20b

1916 10 11
Casualties includes Cherry Hinton soldiers killed by shell fire; Girton men in the Great Fight; suffering from gas poisoning

1918 10 19
A huge fire occurred at Mott's Farm, Cherry Hinton, on Saturday last. Shortly before six o'clock in the morning. Mr. Harry Pink, 49, Abbey Road, Cambridge, and his brother who are owners of the farm, were lighting an engine, and as it did not seem to draw, Mr. H. Pink opened the fire box to put in some straw. Immediately a flame shot out, which besides singeing Mr. Pink's face, ignited a stack of barley a few feet away. In an incredibly short time the stacks and farm buildings

were ablaze. Other farm hands came to assist, but there was nothing to be done but to remove the livestock and agricultural implements from the buildings, and it was a tribute to Messrs. Pink that this was done with only the loss of a portable engine and drum and a water cart, which were destroyed. The buildings, however, were gutted and 14 stacks, consisting of oats, barley, beans, wheat, hay and wheat straw were burnt, the estimated damage amounting to £5,000. 18 10 19a

1919 03 12
Licences referred: do not renew Butcher's Arms, White Swan in Castle St, Com Exchange Inn and beer houses White Swan Staffordshire St, Grafton Arms, Dog & Pheasant, Bird in Hand, Salmon on Newmarket Road; also Five Bells Cherry Hinton, Chequers at Harston and Bell, Histon - 19 03 12a

1919 09 03
New Minister. The Cherry Hinton group of Free Churches, including Cherry Hinton, Swaffham, Prior, Teversham and Wilbraham, being without a minister, the pastorate has been offered to the Rev. Charles John Fowler, of West Row, Mildenhall, and it is now announced that he has accepted. Mr, Fowler has had about 34 years' experience of ministerial and evangelical experience, and has been at West Row for more than a quarter of a century.

1920

1920 03 03
Cambridge Town Planning inquiry considers objections of cement manufacturers about land Cherryhinton Road; proposes new road from Cherry Hinton Road to Fen Ditton Road across Coldham's Common; had been excavation for coprolites and foundations were bad, brick pits. Was good supply for Cement works but this meant noise, dust and smoke - 20 03 03a

1920 03 10
Licensing sessions: refer East Road : Turnstile. George IV, Smith & Wheelwright Arms, King St: Boot; Gwydir St: Dewdrop; Newnham: Tally Ho; Chesterton: Indian Chief; Cherry Hinton Hopbine; Renew St Andrew's St: Queen's Arms - 20 03 10b

1920 07 14
Licences refused Cherry Hinton; Boot, King St; Tally Ho, Newnham Rd; Dew Drop, Gwydir St - 20 07 14b

1922 04 08
The designs of Cambridge town council to provide work for the unemployed by the construction of a road between Cherry Hinton and Newmarket road which had the sanction of the authorities have so far failed owing to what on the face of it appears to be a squabble between the committees concerned and the owners of property affected. It is high time something was done as at the present rate of delay - two winters have passed and a commencement has not yet been made - the unemployment crisis will be over before a pick or shovel has been set going. Meanwhile approaching £200 a week of ratepayers money is being spent upon relieving destitution caused by lack of work in Cambridge - "Table Talk"

1923 07 30
Cambridge men and women of all shades of political opinion, and a number of children, associated themselves with the world-wide demonstrations that were held to express the determination that there shall be no more war. The Cambridge demonstration took place on Parker's Piece on Sunday afternoon. Prior to this a procession marched to the war memorial. It

was headed by the Salvation Army band. The Cambridge town branch of the League of Nations Union was the first of the representative bodies, with three large appropriate banners bearing the words "No more war." The Cherry Hinton band also took part, and in the rear of the procession came a pathetic little band of "hunger marchers" from Sheffield with their own banner

1924 02 12c
A largely attended meeting at Cherry Hinton carried unanimously a resolution urging the necessity of providing a branch reading room and library. Some said they should not ask for a library at the moment when all building was required for houses but they might ask public authorities sometimes a long time before they got anything. If they asked for a public library and reading room there was some chance they might get a box of books. (Laughter)

1924 03 19c
The village of Cherry Hinton has been agog with excitement with rumours regarding the wealth of a sexagenarian spinster, who was removed to Chesterton workhouse infirmary. The woman has been living in a little two-roomed whitewashed thatched cottage in the Chequers yard under conditions of poverty. The amount of her wealth has been subject to considerable exaggeration and the latest rumours place the figure at about £1,000. A search revealed £140 in coin of the realm, including £15 in gold, a large number of half-crowns and many smaller coins, secreted in several places in each of the rooms of the cottage, a fact that points to her having hoarded small sums for many years.

1924 11 05c
Counc. Doggett said Coldham's Lane was a veritable slough lately and almost impassable. Its condition had got to such a pitch that one ratepayer proposed to sow it with potatoes. Mr Rowley said £100 of material had been put on the road and they were hoping to get a grant I future. There was an extraordinary amount of traffic on the lane. It was not right to spend this money just for the sake of a cement company. In the ordinary way there was no more traffic at Cherry Hinton than there was at Teversham

1925 01 21
Certain alterations are to be made in the railway station at Cambridge. The L.N.E.R. propose to extend the main line platforms at each end so that the whole of long trains may be accommodated. The goods yards on the Cherry Hinton side are to be re-arranged and extended for the storage of carriages. Up to the present the old Newmarket line had been used but this is being handed over to Jesus College and the Corporation in connection with the building of the new arterial road from Cherry Hinton to Romsey Town

1925 07 06
As from July 1st all policemen will live rent free, the Chief Constable reported. The need for a police house at Harston was very urgent because the owner of the house which the policeman now occupied had been waiting until the officer moved before he could get married. The new Cambridge town planning scheme was bringing a road from Cherry Hinton to the Ditton and Horningsea road and they wanted a site on the Cambridge side of the new road. At Burwell the police house was complete, with the exception of the water supply

1925 09 05
In spite of the difficulties caused by the long drought in June and July and the recent heavy rains, the harvest in most districts will be up to the average; one or two even say it will be better. At Cherry Hinton twelve hours incessant downfall on August 4th have delayed the end of the harvest in some cases. Potatoes, mangolds and sugar beet look well on the low land where sown early,

but otherwise they were checked by the drought and will prove a light crop. At Cottenham plums are a variable crop and light except in a few orchards where we hear of wonderful crops

1925 09 23
Mr Taylor, employed by Messrs Pamplin Bros, of Cherry Hinton as a steam roller driver told the court he stopped the roller and living van near Bartlow cross-roads for the night. He left the van locked. In the van was half a pound of cooked ham, four eggs, half a pound of butter and a quarter pound of Brooke Bond's tea. Next morning the door had been broken open and the provisions taken.

1925 11 l8 c
Foreign missions take an important place in the religious life of Cambridge, and the reports from China of the shocking ill-treatment and martyrdom of missionaries at the hands of the Boxers, have been read with grave anxiety and pain in this town. The fate of Mr & Mrs Herbert Dixon has greatly exercised the minds of their many friends and it is now recognised that all hope of their having escaped is past. They were for some months in Cambridge, residing at Mill Road and when leaving were recipients of presentations from the congregation of St Andrew's Street Baptist church. Another melancholy case is that of the sister of Mr Doggett of The Farm, Cherry Hinton but Miss Gregg has escaped and is now on her way home.

1926 07 02
An application was made for the closing of a footpath known as the Top Footpath at Cherry Hinton. There was no opposition. Mr E.G. Pamplin, the owner of the premises through which the footpath runs, had agreed to put in suitable repair an alternative route which had been almost impassable in winter and in wet weather. He would also pay over to the Parish Council the sum of £100 to be applied as they chose. When the back lane was put in repair it would be over 50 yards shorter than the present route which was really dangerous for children from cyclists.

1927 03 04
Cambridge Library Committee recommended that steps be taken to provide reading rooms in Chesterton and Cherry Hinton. At the time of amalgamation in 1911 it was one of the conditions that Chesterton should be given a public library. At Cherry Hinton they had in 1924 prevailed upon the council to provide a public reading room. It was hoped to set up a small reference library at each. Suburban Cambridge was growing rapidly and they were a necessity.

1927 09 08
Cambridge Guardians said the number of casuals received into the Institution had been increasing year by year. A position had been reached on crowded nights when the number had reached as many as 117 men. It was quite obvious that extra accommodation had to be found and a place large enough to ensure the two night's detention - a great deterrent to the work-shy tramp, and to provide suitable work for the casuals. A farm had been found near the village of Cherry Hinton, in some ways the ideal place, but the project would be expensive.

1927 12 27
The Ortona motor buses had a terrible time in the blizzard. Two buses were stuck in snowdrifts out Newmarket way, one near Teversham corner, a Willingham bus on the Huntingdon Road near the Five Bells, a Caxton bus near Toft and a Saffron Walden bus near Whittlesford station, where they remained many hours. Another bus got nearly to Sawston before it got stuck and had to be dug out and the Fulbourn bus could only get as far as the Robin Hood, Cherry Hinton. Relief gangs were sent to the rescue of the stranded vehicles and they were being dug out and coming home one by one.

1929 01 30
General regret will be felt at the news of the death of Mr Eliab Pamplin, partner in the well-known firm of agricultural engineers. With his brother, Walter, he followed in the footsteps of his father who was a pioneer in founding the engineering concern and under them it grew to still larger proportions. He farmed extensively and also found time to devote to public service; his knowledge concerning road construction proving of great value to the Highways Committee. He took an active interest in the life of Cherry Hinton and recently made a gift of £100 to the Parish Council to extend the recreation ground.

1929 04 25
Man changed mind over purchase land Cherry Hinton - CDN 25.4.29

1930

1930 02 13
The Robin Hood at Cherry Hinton was the only licensed house on the main Cambridge-Fulbourn Road but only had a beer licence. The brewery had spent a good deal of money improving the amenities and the introduction of motor buses and charabancs had made a great difference in trade. During the summer people came in almost every day for teas and meals like bread and cheese. It was much used by walkers including ladies who asked for port. 30 02 13e-f

1930 12 09
Branch library site, Chesterton & Cherry Hinton - 30 12 09

1931 04 24
A Cambridge builder was granted possession of a cottage at Mill End, Cherry Hinton. He had purchased it three years ago when the occupant paid 2s 9d a week. That man had left but there were now nine people living there in just a living room and kind of kitchen with a bedroom and a lean-to on the landing above. It was in a very bad state and he intended to carry out improvements; it should not have been re-let until in proper repair. 3 1 04 24f

1931 06 05
In all proposals affecting change to local government, the sewerage problem looms large. Cambridge is provided with a sewage scheme which appears to be adequate and the sewage farm produces a satisfactory effluent. They could cope with Chesterton and Cherry Hinton but if the town boundaries were expanded to take in Histon and Impington it would cause problems. 31 06 05 h i

1931 09 18
A big fire destroyed four cottages beside the Chequers Inn off High Street, Cherry Hinton. They were of lath and plaster and thatch and blazed fiercely, though the fire brigade were summoned they were unable to do more than keep the fire from spreading. Only one of the cottages, which were owned by Mr Smith, a baker, and were the subject of closing orders, was occupied. The village turned out in large numbers and neighbours managed to get most of the furniture from the ground floor. 31 09 18c (photo 31 09 18f)

1932 08 26
A stack fire which broke out near Coldham's Lane attracted a crowd several hundred strong. It is believed to have been started by one of the many courting couples who frequent the place. Mr A.H. Doggett of Rectory Farm, Cherry Hinton said: "The fire was not caused by internal

combustion, nor by lightning. Couples come here and lie about. I don't mind so much as long as they don't damage my property". Boy scouts from Fen Ditton worked with police and farm hands to prevent the flames spreading. 32 08 26e

1933 05 10
Cambridge was one of the worst places for rats, councillors were told. The Pumping Station and the boundary ditches at Cherry Hinton were simply teeming with them. They could get rid of them in a very short time if they adopted the old plan of paying so much for each rat destroyed. In Hertfordshire there were two rats officers, and the Isle of Ely had taken other steps. But Cambridgeshire had done nothing. 33 05 10

1933 11 23
A Cambridge man told the bankruptcy court that he had farmed at Rectory Farm Coton after the war, then gone into partnership in a retail milk and dairy business in Ely High Street. In 1927 he purchased part of the dairy business at Cherry Hinton Hall Farm and then bought a coal business in John Street, Cambridge. He did not know anything about the trade and he had competition. The weather was against him: the winter of 1932 was very bad for coal merchants and the summer of 1933 made it a jolly sight worse. 33 1 1 23

1934 04 03
The Mayor and councillors performed the ceremony of 'beating the bounds' to mark the addition of additional areas to the Borough. They began at the east end of the cemetery grounds on Newmarket Road then toured Cherry Hinton before moving on to Trumpington where the new boundary begins on the town side of Long Road. Here the Mayor cut a light-blue silk ribbon before formally stepping into the new territory. Then after visiting the boundary a quarter of a mile beyond the L.M.S. railway bridge on the Shelford Road they were entertained to tea. 34 04 03

1934 04 12
One of the first results of Cambridge borough expansion has been the taking over of the lending libraries in Trumpington and Cherry Hinton and these new branches were opened by the Mayor. He was sure the new libraries would be well looked after. Both are established in the parish schools and contain 400 modern novels and 100 popular non-fiction works. Approximately 100 volumes will be exchanged monthly with books from the Central Library. 34 04 12

1934 04 14
Orchard Estate, Cherry Hinton. Come and see these artistically designed houses on this beautify Orchard Estate. Large hall, two reception rooms, three bedrooms, spacious kitchen and bathroom fitted with shower, bath spray, electric light, gas, Company's water. Price £495 complete. £50 down and 12/9 weekly - advert. 34 04 14

1935 01 12
We felt customers would like to know something about our dairy. Our cows graze on our fields at Chesterton, Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Shelford Bottom, the finest pasture in the county. They are thoroughly groomed and their udders washed before being milked using electrical apparatus at our Abbey Street premises. The milk is cooled and bottled without being touched by hand, then kept in a cold storage chamber before delivery. The cream is separated daily. We guarantee early delivery twice daily to all parts of town. Arnold Brothers (established over 75 years). Abbey Street, Cambridge -advertisement. 35 01 12a & b

1935 06 07

It will cost less to wash in Cambridge from now on, thanks to the Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company's new water-softening station at Cherry Hinton whose plant was designed by Messrs Roby of London. They were a public utility company which while it had a duty to their shareholders, also had a duty to the public. So when in 1934 the Company had at long last freed itself from the heavy financial drain incurred by the obsolescence of the old Fulbourn pumping station, much consideration was given to the problem of how subsequent revenue surplus could be handed back to its customers. 35 06 07 & a

1935 06 26
The proposed Cambridge town planning scheme envisages a ring road to encircle the whole town with the construction of by-pass roads and the improvement of dangerous junctions. The level crossings on the Milton and Cherry Hinton roads will be replaced with bridges. An area of 190 acres on Milton Road opposite the sewage farm acres is reserved for a municipal aerodrome with a municipal golf course off Trumpington Road 35 06 26a

1935 07 05
The Five Bells was one of five fully-licensed houses in Cherry Hinton. In 1920 the Hop Bine, next door, was done away with and the Russian Arms had been closed in 1912. Lacons the brewers said the extra penny on beer had hit sales. The Five Bells had been ringing harmoniously for a good many years to the comfort and convenience of the inhabitants and should be allowed to continue to ring a litter longer. The licence was renewed - 35 07 05b

1935 08 12
Houses were threatened when a line of flame swept three-quarters of a mile of land from Trumpington to Hills Road. In Long Road helpers beat desperately at the flames to prevent them spreading along the hedges to the gardens of near-by houses whose residents used garden hoses to dampen them down. Dozens of rabbits raced wildly over the charred ground and a leveret was turned into a living mass of flame. The verge caught alight, clouds of white smoke making it impossible for passing traff ic to pass at more than a crawl. Vehicles were diverted via Cherry Hinton and all available police were mobilised to control the traffic and help fight the fire 35 08 12

1936 03 03
Trinity Hall had purchased Cherry Hinton Hall Estate with a view to development and asked the council to let them proceed or to buy it as a public park for £13,000. This was more than they'd paid but the land had recently been brought within the Borough boundary and if they were to acquire open space in areas ripe for development they should have to pay building land price. They would move the Horticultural Department there and let the grazing but parts of the house would probably be demolished- 36 03 03a 36 03 05a & b

1936 05 25
The new electric clock in the tower of Cherry Hinton Church was given by Mrs Newport-Willson in memory of her husband. She also bore the expense of leading an electric cable into the church. The three feet dial is Coventry blue with gilded figures and hands. The hours are struck on the beautiful toned fourth bell and are heard all over the village. Churchyard trees have been lopped to give an unimpeded view. Over 50 years ago Mr Carter Willson built Brooklyn on Cherry Hinton Road which was then the only house between Cherry Hinton brook and the railway bridge and the family is devoted to the parish church 36 05 25a

1937 01 28

A report from Linton parish council draws attention to the increased heavy traffic through the village and suggests that the old Roman Road from Cherry Hinton should be made up. But this would cost £6,000 a mile. An alternative scheme would be the classification of the existing road leading from the Cambridge-Haverhill road though Hildersham and the construction of a by-pass linking it with the Haverhill road south of Linton 37 01 28

1937 03 05
Annual Business review: description of activities Cherry Hinton Granaries, Coulson, S. Ginn - 37 05 05a

1937 06 24
Cherry Hinton British Legion hut - 37 06 24a

1937 06 28b
Trumpington consisted largely of houses strung out along the main road but new plans for development on land owned by the Pemberton trustees would create a self-contained colony with a recreation ground surrounded by 280 houses. It would allow the village to develop a character rather than being a string of houses, an Inquiry was told. The Council would also like to borrow £13,300 to purchase part of the Cherry Hinton Hall Estate for public walks and pleasure grounds. The Hall might become a headquarters for the propagation of plants. This was likely to be a centre of considerable building development and it would be right to secure such open space 37 07 16

1937 09 10
Many people assembled at Marshall's Aerodrome to see the competitors in the King's Cup air race pass over on their journey northwards. The first swept in from the direction of Cherry Hinton, roared over the 'drome and were lost in the void beyond, travelling at over 200 mph. But the majority of the entrants made for the wrong aerodrome, heading towards the new one near Teversham and when they discovered their mistake had to bank round towards the town. 37 09 10a

1937 10 23
Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company's new workshops and depots in Rustat Road would lead to improved service, enhanced efficiency and - sooner or later - reduced charges. The old premises in Bene't Street had been a veritable shambles and disgrace with pipes stored at the disused Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn pumping stations. They would wage ceaseless war against waste by leakage and had a gang of plumbers ready to deal with any emergency 24 hours a day with the promptitude of the London Fire Brigade. 37 10 23b

1938 03 21
Cherry Hinton Hall was a 'white elephant' and should be let as a Youth Hostel. Some 2,000 people a year would use it, spending money in Cambridge. To turn the hall, which had many rooms, into a place for meetings would mean expensive interior alterations - it would be cheaper to put up a smaller place. When the council had bought the area, the house had not even been valued, it was bought on land value alone. Parts of the ground could be used for recreation with an outdoor swimming pool - there was a stream to provide the water. 38 03 21b, 38 03 25

1938 03 31
Cherry Hinton petition for bus service - 38 03 31a

1938 05 03

Cambridge's air raid precautions are taking shape with council workers and college staff being trained in anti-gas measures and first aid. But volunteers were needed for decontamination, rescue and demolition work and 100 messengers, ambulance drivers and despatch riders were wanted. Cherry Hinton Hall would be an important centre for training and, if necessary, for a first-aid station. The greatest danger in air raids came from high explosive bombs but nothing was included about underground shelters. The Government said there is no precaution against bombing; it was the council's duty to look after the injured and see damaged buildings were taken down properly. 38 05 03 & a

1938 07 07
The Government was aware of the danger to civilian populations and had made elaborate preparations. But these would be useless unless the civilian population co-operated. In Germany practically every civilian had been trained so that in the event of an air raid they knew what to do. It was deplorable that men, women and children should be destroyed by the abuse and misuse of science, but they had to be prepared for passive resistance. Cambridge would be divided into 10 minor centres which would act as headquarters for the mobile first-aid parties and there would be five main first-aid posts. At least 1,000 volunteers were needed but at present only 200 had come forward, mainly women. They could not be expected to carry stretchers and do heavy lifting work. Cherry Hinton needed 30 air raid wardens, each looking after 120 houses 38 07 07

1938 09 32
Positively the best house property value in Cambridge is obtainable at Winston Road Estate, Cherry Hinton. Delightful houses, overlooking meadows, contain two reception rooms, three bedrooms, W.C., bath (h. & c.) and all latest labour-saving fittings. Main sewerage. Large garden. Near bus route. No road charges. Price £550 freehold (about £31,300 at today's prices) (Advert) 38 09 21a

1939 01 28
Cherry Hinton has a non-provided school with teaching of a definite Christian character. It was founded by Rev Buick Bridge and later benefactors added to it bit by bit. But it was not built to meet the ever-increasing demands of the Board of Education and 14 years ago was placed on the black list. Now it has been improved with a storeroom and staff room, modern classrooms and cloakrooms with hot water. The playground space had doubled and a field rented so the children could use it for games. 39 01 28b

1939 02 07
The Auxiliary Fire Service wound up their training at Cherry Hinton Hall with a demonstration with specially made incendiary bombs. Two were used to set fire to a house of boxes kindly donated by local tradesmen which was tackled using an ordinary hand-pump with a spray jet. Many important lessons were learned. The bombs give off intense heat and coloured glasses must be worn by the fireman to protect his eyes. The application of water increases the ferocity of the flames. 39 02 07a

1939 02 13
Auxiliary Fire Service first batch of 134 recruits now training at Cherry Hinton Hall - 39 02 13b

1939 03 24
Cherry Hinton factory proposed for Lamson Paragon Supply Company - 39 03 24

1939 03 24

Cambridge Housing Association - needs desperate, perhaps use land Cherry Hinton Hall - 39 03 24a,
b

1939 05 15
Cherry Hinton Hall Youth Hostel opened - 39 05 15b

1939 10 11
Air Raid precautions committee have ensured that petrol supplies will be available for special services and several garages have reserved tanks and pumps for them. There are decontaminating centres at Mill Road store yard, Cherry Hinton Hall and Victoria Road. First aid depots have been set up at Shirley and other Schools with first aid parties and two ambulances. Electrically controlled sirens have been installed which together with the steam sirens should be adequate to give necessary warnings 39 10 11

1939 11 29
Some classrooms in Trumpington and St Paul's schools were 'dark pits' because of first-aid depots being placed in schools. There was a great danger of sandbags making the rooms damp and as classrooms were being used for people to sleep in all night it was difficult to get them aired, councillors were told. It was also alarming to see enormous laundry vans standing in narrow playgrounds which have to be manoeuvred when the children were about. But at Cherry Hinton there was nowhere else they could go. However three halls there were being used by children now. If they were not fit for first-aid posts, they were not fit to teach children in, Mrs Rackham said. 39 1 1 29c

1940

1940 03 23
Cherry Hinton development comer Coldham's Lane & High Street rejected - 40 03 23a

1940 04 10
Cherry Hinton ward ARP work - 40 04 10c, d

1940 08 21
ARP see demonstration of National D.X. powder to extinguish incendiary bombs, at Cherry Hinton Hall -photo -40 08 21

1941 08 22
Cherry Hinton Hall Hostel for evacuated children opened at start war for children who cannot be kept in their billets. Some may stay; psychological treatment has been obtained - 41 08 22

1942 03 14
Civil Defence Committee consider invasion plans; will be shelter provision for 26,000; Coleridge Road and Lammas Land recreation grounds to be cultivated for foodstuffs; flower-growing to stop at Cherry Hinton Hall - 42 03 14

1942 07 10
Became Lord Mayor of London, — Sir William Phene Neal, a former Lord Mayor of London, died in London on Tuesday at the age of 81. For some years he lived at Cherry Hinton Hall, and from March, 1919 to March, 1922, he represented the old Fulbourn electoral division on the

Cambridgeshire County Council. A solicitor by profession, he was elected Member of Ward of Broad Street for the Corporation of the City of London in 1893. He was Senior Sheriff of the City of London 1929-39, and was elected Lord Mayor of London the following year. He received his knighthood in 1931.

1943 01 14
"Wrecked" Church. Two boys were seen running from St. Andrew's Church, Cherry Hinton. When investigation was made this is what was found inside: All the chairs had been turned on end, a number of buckets of water and sand had been upset; the Christmas decorations had been scattered about; the Crib was stuffed with hassocks and figures had been removed and put into the stove; a pillar near the door find been hacked with a pickaxe; two candles had been broken; all the hassocks in the vestry had been damaged and the mirror there had been smashed against the table; in short, the church had been wrecked, Two boys, aged 10 and 9, were summoned for causing wilful damage. Mr. W. L. Briggs, chairman of the Bench remarked "The best thing for you boys would be two or three good thrashings. The elder boy was put on probation under Mr Vione for two years.

1944 01 21
Awarded Military Medal. Trooper E- D- Smith has been awarded the Military Medal. He is the only son of Mrs. and the late Mr. Jesse Smith, of 20 Queen's Meadow, Cherry Hinton. Before being called up he was employed by Messrs Hallock and Bond at their warehouse in Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge.

1944 09 22
Married 70 Years. Mr and Mrs. William Archer, of 32 Hartington Grove, Cambridge, on Saturday celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary, which indeed must be a record. They were married at St. Andrew's Church, Cherry Hinton, in 1874 by the Rev. W. S. Parrish. Mr. and Mrs. Archer have four sons and three daughters, 19 grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Four grandsons are serving in the Forces. For 19 years after they were married they resided at John Street, City Road. Mr Archer has been a builder practically all his life. Mrs. Archer was 90 last March and Mr. Archer celebrated his 91st birthday last November. They were both born at Cherry Hinton.

1945 01 12
Cambridge Champion Weds. The marriage was solemnised on Monday at Cherry Hinton Church, the Rev. R. E. Walker officiating, between Leonard Ellis Baker, R.A.O.C. a D-Day officer, son of Mrs. E. M. Baker, of Tooting, London, S.W. 17., and Dorothy Florence Ockenden, lady golf champion of Cambridge and Hunts, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. H. Dew, of the Empress, Thoday Street, Cambridge. During the service, Mr. Edwards was at the organ. The bride, given away by her father, was in a blue cloque dress, a musquash coat and a blue flower hat with blue veiling. The duties of best man were ably carried out by Lieut-Colonel B. Spiers, R.A.O.C. Both the reception and wedding breakfast were held at The Fountain, Regent Street.

1945 04 20
Award for Gallantry. The King has been pleased to approve the following award in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the air operations: D.F.C.: Acting Squadron-Leader Anthony White Farrell, A.F.C., 85281, R.A.F.V.R., No. 105 Squadron. Squadron-Leader Farrell has at all times shown great skill and ability as a pilot. He has displayed outstanding courage and determination during a large number of operational sorties. Many of these have been completed successfully against heavily defended targets in Germany and enemy occupied territory. His high standard of resource and gallantry has enabled his crew to attain valuable results. Acting

Squadron-Leader Farrell was born in 1917 at Hampstead, and his home is at Cherry Hinton, Cambs. He enlisted in December, 1939, and was commissioned in September, 1940. He was awarded the A.F.C. in 1944.

1945 05 11
VE celebrations -45 05 11a; Beaconsfield Hall children, Sturton St, Cowper Rd, Norwich St - 45 05 16; Perne Ave, Mowbray Road, Beche Rd, Norfolk St - 45 05 18; Hobart Rd, Bradmore St, Russell St - 45 05 19b; Young St, Gonville Road & Charles St, Cam Causeway, Gt Eastern St - 45 02 22a; Ditton Fields, Romsey Women Conservatives, Suez Rd, Covent Garden, Eden St - 45 05 23; York St, Thoday St, Kingston St, Northampton St, Cherry Hinton - 45 05 24; Hills Ave, City Rd, Cavendish Rd, Malta Rd - 45 05 25; Mowbray Rd, Willow Walk, Springfield Rd, Kelvin Close - 45 05 26b; New St, Chesterton High St - 45 05 28a; Cockburn St, Newnham Croft, Madras Rd, Henley Road & Coldham's Lane - 45 05 30; Barnwell, Wellington St, Fitzroy St, Devonshire Rd - 45 05 30b; children entertained Cherry Hinton, Fairfax Rd - 45 06 02;

1945 10 19
Stack Fire. An N.F.S. engine from Cambridge successfully dealt with a 50-ton stack fire at Nice Farm, owned by Mr. Prior at Church End, Cherry Hinton, which broke out early yesterday afternoon. Other straw stacks in the farmyard were prevented from igniting.

1947 01
Housewives are dealt yet another blow today. Cambridge University & Town Waterworks Company will reluctantly be compelled to close down the water softening plant at Cherry Hinton. Cambridge's water will then be about twice its present hardness. There have been drastic reductions in the coal required to evaporate the brine at the salt works in Cheshire. Mr Philip Porteous, managing director of the company told a reporter "The Government takes the view that water softening is one of those amenities without which we can manage in times of crisis, but we appreciate only too well the difficulties of the housewife in these days of soap rationing"

1947 04 30
For over five hours the pros and cons of a proposal to erect a greyhound and sports stadium at Cherry Hinton were argued at a local inquiry into an appeal against the Borough Council's refusal of an application by Messrs Bartlett, Dash and Evans. The intention was to establish a handsome stadium, which would become a sports centre for the Eastern Counties. A promoter said Cambridge was the centre of by far the largest area in England without a greyhound track. The borough surveyor said the whole idea of the town planning scheme was to make Cherry Hinton a self-contained village community. He considered it highly important that the five mile green belt should remain inviolate. The Minister's decision might be expected in five or six weeks

1947 09 16
Clerks, shopkeepers and mechanics during the week, fifty motor-cyclist enthusiasts of the South Midland Centre took their courage - and their machines - in both hands on Sunday to give 5,000 cheering spectators the sports thrill of their lives. The occasion was the Cambridge Centaur Motor Cycle Club's second scramble of the season at Cherry Hinton chalk pits and, unhappily the last for an indefinite period because of the abolition of the basic petrol ration. For five exciting hours, the competitors urged their snorting, bucking, skidding mounts over a gruelling course which comprised nearly a mile of the toughest ground in the county

1947 09 24
The question of providing further primary school accommodation at Cherry Hinton was mentioned at the Cambridge Borough General Purposes Committee. At a July meeting, when it

was thought 200 aluminium bungalows were to be built immediately it was decided to arrange for the early erection of two classrooms adjoining Cherry Hinton School. However it is now proposed to proceed with the erection of only 100 aluminium bungalows, 75 of which would be allocated to civil servants and it was impossible to forecast the amount of educational accommodation required.

1948 01 28
The net cost per dwelling to Cambridge Town Council of the 100 permanent aluminium bungalows to be erected at Church End, Cherry Hinton may be approximately £1,142. Figures are as follows: 100 bungalows at £1,267. 7s. 3d. each; cost of foundations £19,019.3.4.; cost of roads and sewers £28,201; total gross cost £173,956.8s.4d. Less grant of £660 per bungalow this makes the individual cost per bungalow £1,079. 1 ls.3d. but if there is added the cost of the land (£1,620) and payment in event of rubble not being made available to the sub-contractor for the construction of roads the figures will be approximately £1,142

1948 05 11
The watching eyes of Britain's air defence went into action on Sunday in the biggest-scale Royal Observer Corps activity in the district since the war. Observer posts were manned at Cherry Hinton, Linton, Caxton, St Ives, Abbots Ripton, Littleport and elsewhere following the movements of jet fighters, Spitfires, Lancaster and Lincoln bombers and other types of aircraft numbering over 100 aircraft put up by the RAF. At Linton I found the observers proud of their post, built at their own expense by their own labours during the war

1948 09 13
Heavy and persistent ran put a literal damper on Cambridge Centaur Motor Cycle Club's last scramble of the 1948 season at The Moats, Caxton, but a large crowd defied the weather to watch a first-class programme of races. Mackintoshes were the order of the day - even some of the riders were wearing them! The Caxton course was slightly longer, and somewhat trickier than that at Cherry Hinton. The rain, mixing with the earth churned up by the motorcycles, quickly produced a treacherous muddy surface which increased the natural hazards facing the competitors. Indeed the first hill on the circuit proved to be practically unconquerable - rider after rider came to grief there - and quite early the course was remarked to bypass the dangerous slope

1948 10 15
Cambridge Housing committee were told that 156 houses on the Birdwood Road estate were complete, but the flats were held up through shortage of labour. Work on the Green Park Estate was extremely slow. Another disappointment concerned the 100 permanent aluminium bungalows on the Church End estate, Cherry Hinton. The weight of a travelling crane which had to be used to lower the houses on to the foundations had done considerable damage to the newly-laid drains

1949 10 12
Another step in the plan to provide nursery schools throughout Cambridge has been taken in the opening of the new nursery school at Cherry Hinton. Priority is given to the children of mothers who are working or are ill and although it is a town school it has a strong local bias. It is ideally situated on the ground floor of Cherry Hinton Hall. The house was acquired by Cambridge council in the 1930s and has subsequently been used as a youth hostel and a maternity and child welfare clinic.

1949 11 18
For the second year running, Mr Percy Warrington of Cherry Hinton, and Mrs Cynthia Pitman of

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Trumpington, have carried off the Bobwyn Challenge Bowl awarded each year to the winners of the Cambs Old Time Dance Championship. It was held at the Rex Ballroom which had been attractively decorated with lovely chrysanthemums and green ferns surround thin the bandstand and the balcony. Tables and chair for sitting-out were placed around the sides of the room. The ballroom was filled to capacity.

1950

1950 04 29
The Cambridge public health committee are to meet a deputation from the Communist Party on the question of raising the cost of baths from 6d to 9d at Gwydir Street public baths. This would raise the cost of living and be a further burden on the poor. The letter was supported by a petition with 300 signatures including people from Swavesey, Teversham and Cherry Hinton. The Mayor said: "People come further for a bath than 1 should imagine!"

1950 05 16
St Andrew's church Cherry Hinton, is yet another victim of the ravages of the death-watch beetle. The main beams supporting the roof have been attacked heavily, and may need to be replaced completely. The framework holding the bells is unsafe, and other parts of the church fabric require repair. Very little of any salvaged timber may be fit for further use. The cost is estimated at about £1,500

1950 08 05
The Youth Hostels Association has reached its 21st year and is celebrating with the publication of a history of the movement. There is mention of Cherry Hinton Hall and Houghton Mill of which it says: "Vera Watson acted as warden at Houghton nearly every weekend in 1943. Every Monday morning she cycled the 15 -miles back to her work at Cambridge in order to keep the hostel open on Sunday evenings

1951 03 07
Damage by death-watch beetles to the tower of St Andrew's church, Cherry Hinton, is so serious that all the main beams in the tower will have to be replaced. The woodwork in the rest of the church has already been treated with insecticide but further trouble has been brought to light during repairs to tiles on the roof. They were 250 years old and had in the past, as an economy measure, been turned over and refixed instead of being renewed. Consequently they were now crumbling.

1951 09 18
The Minister of Local Government and Planning has confirmed the principle that there shall be a green wedge between Cherry Hinton and the main mass of Cambridge development. He has revoked planning permission previously granted for housing between Cherryhinton Road and Queen Edith's Way and says this area should be reserved for some form of open development to ensure that Cherry Hinton is not engulfed in Cambridge.

1952 01 26
The County Council considered the development of Swann's Lime Pits, Cherry Hinton, as an armament testing range and research establishment. Coun Rackham deplored the possibility of explosions taking place at the back of the adjoining school. As well as the noise the blast runs along the ground and shakes doors and windows. People have had to replace ceilings that have been shaken down. It was suggested the company use their explosives on the huts up Madingley Road where they would soon clear the ground and everything would be lovely.

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1952 03 12
Following a visit to Swann's Lime Pit, Cherry Hinton, city councillors raise no objection to its continued use as a small -calibre range for armour-piercing projectiles, providing that any additional buildings are erected in the deeply-excavated position and that nothing larger than a six-pounder gun is used - so long as it is fired only in the morning & preceded by a warning.

1952 03 14
The booming of a six-pounder gun in a Cherry Hinton lime pit found its echo inside the City Council chamber when some members protested against the use of Swann's pit as a Ministry of Supply small calibre range for testing armour-piercing projectiles in the middle of a built-up area. But Alderman Doggett said he had stood within three or four feet of the weapon and was not 'disturbed' - "although it was true we had our fingers in our ears. There is really very little we can do and it wouldn't be of much use objecting", he said.

1952 03 19
St Andrew's church, Cherry Hinton, has raised £1,700 to remedy the ravages of the death-watch beetle in their old timbers. The roof tiles have been stripped and the belfry floor renewed. Plans are being prepared for a new Parish Hall on the Mowbray Road site, a portion of which would be used as a church. Mr F. Linsey has retired from the position of organist and choirmaster after 18 years.

1952 09 02
"The more houses the City Council give us to build, the more we can put up. We have been in Cambridge five years and can put up 400 houses as quickly as it takes to erect 50", said the foreman of Messrs John Mowlem's 150-house estate at Fisher's Lane, Cherry Hinton. A flag is now flying from the chimney of their 1,000th house in Cambridge. The fitting of the chimney stack is the traditional moment for celebration in the form of a bottle of beer all round for the workmen. The Poles working on this site are familiar with the practice which has existed in Europe for hundreds of years. A dinner-dance is being planned to celebrate when the house is handed over to the Council

1952 10 07
Cherry Hinton church held a special thanksgiving service for the completion of repair work. The tower roof has been renewed and a new steel bell frame installed; the bells have been tuned and rehung and the belfry floor renewed. All the woodwork of the church has been treated against death watch beetle and woodworm and much of the roof re-tiled. The bells then rang out for the first time in four years.

1952 10 13
Two hundred people gathered around the doorway of the new Memorial Hall of Cherry Hinton Free Church. In their midst stood the bricklayers and electricians, the carpenters and the painters who had built it. And there were the ladies who had made the tea. Churchgoers have built it with their own hands. It was a memorial to all those in the church who had played their part in the last war: on the civilian as well as on the military field of battle. It was a memorial to the living as well as to the dead.

1953 02 10 c
The Swiss Laundry and the Cherry Hinton Steam Laundry in Cambridge are both busy washing and ironing articles sent from flooded laundries at Lowestoft. All the employees volunteered to work throughout the weekend on consignments which arrived in lorries. The articles were

covered in slime and completely unrecognisable as individual garments. By Sunday the whole consignment was completed and they were surprised how clean the articles had come. The Scotsdale Laundry was also engaged on similar work

1953 02 27
A property known as 'The Spinney', Limekiln Close, Cherry Hinton was ordered to be demolished as it was unfit for human habitation & a danger to passers-by. The thatched roof was overgrown with vegetation and the timber frame of the house rotten and on the point of coming away. The cottage was very close to a road junction and may fall towards the public highway. Children had broken into it and it looked as though it had been hit by a bomb.

1953 04 28
Cambridge council approved building licences to Mr E. Maloney for five shops, twelve flats and a garage at the junction of Perne Road and Radegund Road, at a total cost not exceeding £29,300 & to the Norwich Union Insurance Societies for a block of 20 flats at Pinehurst, Grange Road. A tender is being negotiated for building 24 three-storey concrete flats on land fronting High Street, Cherry Hinton and 72 three-storey flats overlooking the Coleridge Road recreation ground. The names of Nightingale Avenue, Almoners Avenue and Kinnaird Way have been suggested for streets on the Netherhall Estate

1953 05 07
"1 thi nk it is a lot of hooey", said Coun Cox when the Cherry Hinton firing range was discussed. He thought complaints of the amount of vibration from a six -pounder gun - not much larger than an anti-tank rifle - which was fired at the range, were "stupid and fantastic". But Coun Finbow said that recently the whole of the ceiling in one of his bedrooms collapsed because of the vibration. One neighbourhood should not be subject to range firing morning, noon and night. The council approved the use of the site by the Ministry of Supply for a period of three years

1953 05 07 c
Sir -Some of the explosions from the six-pounder gun at Cherry Hinton firing range did crack walls, move brickwork, bring down plaster, crack windows and scare children, adults and animals. Now two schools are to be built almost on the doorstep and if we have similar explosions there will be damage done. When doors rattle, knockers chatter, cracks appear and are repaired, only for the plaster to be shaken out again we are at liberty to be concerned. - J.S. Read

1953 06 26
Many people know something of the good work done by the 'Food Flying Squads' known as the 'Queen's Messengers' during the last war. But these convoys must be ready to go anywhere where an emergency has arisen and W.V.S. members must be trained. Thus providing the mid-day meal for youngsters at Cherry Hinton Day Nursery provided practical experience for the crew of the convoy maintained at Cambridge. They provided minced meat, potatoes and cabbage, followed by rhubarb pastry and custard for the 60 under-fives which was cooked on Soyer-boilers.

1953 06 30 c
Cambridge Labour Party view with a I aim the proposal to grant the tenancy of a Council house to the priest-in-charge at Cherry Hinton who had taken precedence over 5,000 others on the waiting list. New Council houses were allotted to those in housing need who had been waiting longest for them but this was given to a complete stranger. The church had asked to buy a Council house for the priest but had been told they were only sold to sitting tenants. The priest was to be given a privilege that was denied to the very people he was supposed to be looking after

and it could hardly help him in his work. People will complain that the way to get a house quickly was to join the church and jump the queue.

1953 07 24
Cambridge City Council debated whether a council house in Cherry Hinton was suitable for a Baptist minister. At their previous meeting they agreed to allow an Anglican minister to occupy a council house. “But there are at least 20 recognised religious denominations in Cambridge and we are opening the door rather wide”, said Aid Mrs Rackham. It was most undesirable that a man should seek for himself privileges which were denied the people he was to serve and it would create a sense of injustice amongst people on the waiting list. But the application had come from a group of people who already had a church and were now anxious to have a minister

1954 07 28
An unknown little boy was the first person to give the alarm about a blaze at Rich’s car-breaking yard in Coldham’s Lane, Cherry Hinton. Burned stock included 10 cars, approximately 200 wheels complete with tyres, four steel motor can containers, a brick and asbestos carbide storage shed and a paraffin tanker. Luckily no petrol was stored at the yard. Flames leapt up as high as the houses and there was so much smoke it looked like a burning oil well on the films. Car batteries exploded as hundreds of people watched the inferno. Firemen had the blaze under control after an hour but it started again and they had to be re -called.

1954 09 06
In the 1920s Canadian wheatfields were being attacked by insects. The use of spray was not satisfactory as thousands of square miles were involved & the obvious answer was a biological control, but what? Then in the fields near Cherry Hinton University scientists discovered a similar problem and noticed that a group of parasites accumulated keeping a large number of the pests in check. Great quantities of stubble were collected and stored; a number of women joined in sorting and packing and the resultant collection was shipped to Canada. When the parasites emerged they attacked the pests there. This is part of the research undertaken at Cambridge University, Dr G. Salt of King’s College told a meeting.

1954 09 25
Fulbourn waterworks pumping station was reopened. Beneath the pump and control rooms is a 60,000-gallon tank. The pumps are driven by direct-current motors capable of pumping 90,000 gallons an hour to a jet chamber where dissolved carbon-dioxide is released, reducing corrosion. An efficient electricity supply and the duplication of all plant renders any breakdown almost impossible. A five-million gallon reservoir is under construction at Cherry Hinton which will bring water reserves up to two days instead of one as at present.

1954 12 28
Although there were four babies born at the Cambridge Maternity Hospital on Christmas day, not one was given a seasonable name. The first to arrive was Susan Ellis of Beche Road, then Graham Child of Cherry Hinton followed by Peter Michael Jones of Sawston and Jeremy David Pratt of Hills Road, Cambridge.

1955 07 23
Housewives turning on their taps in Fulbourn, Teversham and the Wilbrahams found the softened water, for which they have asked so long, flowing into their sinks, baths and washtubs. Cherry Hinton water softening station opened in 1935 but the laying of a new main from Fleam Dyke Pumping Station was stopped by the war and finally finished only four days ago. 55 07 23

1955 09 12
An old thatched cottage at 8 1 High Street Cherry Hinton was deliberately set alight by the Fire Service. The site has been acquired by Messrs. Dickerson for a modern Esso service station and garage. In view of the age of the cottage and the lack of any materials worthy of salvage it was decided that burning down was the most expedient way of disposal. The previous owner said: "I've had it insured against fire all these years and the policy doesn't expire until Christmas!" 55 09 12

1955 10 15
Cherry Hinton British Legion opened their new headquarters. The old building had been a source of very great worry and eventually a portable building was bought. It was stored free of charge for two- and-a-half years until a suitable site on Fisher's Lane came on to the market. They bought it using funds raised from whist drivers. 55 10 15a

1956 02 13
Restorations to the sanctuary of St Andrew's church, Cherry Hinton were dedicated by the Bishop of Huntingdon. The oak reredos behind the altar has been removed and the masonry restored. Memorial posts have been erected and altar curtains of blue and gold hung and the strong-course has been restored. The work has cost £600. 56 02 13

1956 09 06
Messrs W.J. Adkins have been granted permission to build a slaughterhouse at Rosemary Lane, Cherry Hinton. The proposal raised strong controversy among local residents but the land was already allocated for industrial use. The firm operate three pork product shops and their existing slaughterhouse was cramped and badly located, there would be little nuisance and it would not awaken the morbid interest of children. 56 09 06a

1956 11 16
G.F. Levitt, a haulage contractor of Russell Street applied for permission to transfer his business to Hall Farm, Cherry Hinton. He had 14 vehicles and six of his 17 drivers lived in the area. The site had been used for haulage work in 1932 and for storing paper since 1954. But it was not a suitable site in a residential village High Street. 56 1 1 16a & b

1957 03 01
Miss Frances Todd has always wanted to be a hairdresser. She keeps up to date with the latest methods and feels a sense of achievement when she creates a hair style that pleases her client. Just before Christmas her Cherry Hinton shop was very busy; one day she did 17 washes and sets and two perms, normally it's about ten sets and one perm. 57 03 01

1957 03 02
Plans were agreed for a new public house, 'The Robin Hood and Little John' to be built on land adjoining a pub of the same name at Cherry Hinton. Designs originally submitted two years ago had been revised and a small smoke room omitted. There was also a large car park. 57 03 02a

1958 01 24
W.J. Adkins, butchers and provision merchants announce the opening of their new modern abattoir at Cherry Hinton with stunning pens, humane slaughter, mechanical handling of carcasses and hygienic condition. Adkins will purchase and collect animals from farmers at market prices, accept commissions from butchers and sell direct to retailers. (Full-page advert with photos of slaughter hall and carcasses). 58 01 24

1958 04 29
The 60 miles, six -lap Gog Magog cycle road race started from the Red Lion, Cherry Hinton. It was neutralised over Limekiln Road but then three of the Cambridgeshire Road Club team, J. Morley, D. Cook and M. Pilsworth, made a break. Before Sawston, on the second lap, Mick Ward from Haverhill had to make mechanical adjustments but he was in fourth place by the time they came over the Gogs for the last time. 58 04 29a

1958 10 28
Cambridgeshire Women's Institutes fear the history of our villages will soon disappear in the welter of new housing estates. So they have organised a Village Histories Scrapbook competition to tell their stories from earliest times up to the present day. The histories have been compiled into books, many of them lettered and illustrated by hand. Cherry Hinton's scrapbook was awarded top prize, followed by Soham and Papworth Everard. A special award was given to the small isolated Institute of Chrishall which made an outstanding effort. 58 10 28a

1958 12 16
Cambridge City Libraries' annual staff dinner and party was held in the Guildhall. Librarian, Eric Cave recalled they had closed 'that museum piece, the East Road Reading Room and the Ditton Fields Sub-Branch while sub-branches at Cherry Hinton and Trumpington had more to better accommodation. The Libraries were much appreciated and he looked forward to their continued progress. Games, dancing and entertainment followed organised by J.W. Franklin, L.J. Horspool, C.C. Marsh, R.J. Tarrant and Miss B.K. Wadsworth. 58 12 16b

1959 10 14
Cambridge Waterworks Company has managed full unrestricted supplies throughout every drought when elsewhere in the country water has been rationed. But in July torrential rain caused electric power failures which cut out the pumps at Fulbourn and Great Wilbraham. It also flooded the basement of the Fleam Dyke Pumping Station and thousands of gallons of oily water drained back into the well, causing pollution. Despite all this they still maintained supplies from the reservoirs at Cherry Hinton. 59 10 14 & a

1959 11 26
Cambridge has a problem with smoky chimneys. Domestic smoke contains a high proportion of tar which sticks to everything it touches. The 'prefabs' at Church End, Cherry Hinton and Histon Road are a very bad example of the smoking low chimney. The 'cosy coal fire' is by no means as innocent outside the house as it looks to be inside the grate and the rights of the individual should not include the right to choke his neighbour. Smoke Control Orders should be sought, the Public Health Inspector reported. 59 1 1 26a, b & c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 02 17
Cambridge Children's Playground Association was started after builders complained about children playing destructively with their building materials and when it was noticed that the ordinary playgrounds did not attract many youngsters. The first experimental playground was in Newmarket Road and now one may be formed on the Arbury Estate. There are hundreds of children who have already formed the habit of playing in the streets and in the shopping precinct while the estate has waited six years for a playground. The spinney at Cherry Hinton would also be an ideal site for an 'adventure playground' 60 02 17

1960 04 21
Cambridge will be without its usual street decorations this summer because the staff at the Corporation's Cherry Hinton Hall Nurseries are busy preparing plants for the Royal Show ground. The Hall came into the council's possession soon after 1934 and now two acres are used to grow plants for roundabouts and recreation grounds. They include fuchsias, petunias, stocks, asters, dahlias and lobelia to say nothing of 3,000 daffodils, 20,000 pansies and 40,000 wallflowers. 60 04 21b

1960 04 29
The news that part of the worked-out British Portland Cement clay pits at Cherry Hinton are to be used as a Corporation rubbish dump have aroused opposition. There had to be some better way of getting rid of refuse than putting it in a pit. It would take 25-30 years to get it filled and unless very cartload of rubbish was immediately covered with earth it would become rat-infested. But other pits had been reclaimed: Herbert Robinson's garage in Newmarket Road was built entirely on a filled-in pit. 60 04 29

1960 06 24
A meat wholesaling firm applied for permission to build a new slaughterhouse at Cherry Hinton. They had wanted to put it at Haslingfield but were told that certain electrical apparatus they intended to use might interfere with the work of the Radio Astronomy Laboratories. Residents are appalled that children might be able to see pieces of dead animals lying abut. But there was already one slaughter house in Cherry Hinton and it would be good for people to see what happened inside one. 60 06 24d

1960 09 28
Jive session at the British Legion Hall in Fisher Lane, Cherry Hinton, attract teenagers from the surrounding villages. There is no problem with the dancing which was marvellously well organised and no alcoholic drinks are sold. It filled a need for young people and had been successful since it started a year ago. But residents complain that the noise of motor cycles revving up and roaring down the lane keeps children awake and also ruins their television pictures. 60 09 28

1962 03 03
None of the aluminium bungalows owned by Cambridge city council is in urgent need of demolition because of corrosion, an inspection has found. However work should be started on pulling down the 100 bungalows at Church End, Cherry Hinton, within two years. This would allow for the area to be cleared for redevelopment. The 135 temporary bungalows in Fisher's Lane, Roseford Close, Walpole Road and on the Green Park Estate were not in such as bad state 62 03 03 a & b

1962 06 08
Somewhere behind Cherry Hinton's facade of newness lies a village. But suburbia is spreading its tentacles into the furthest corners with the noise of cement mixers churning and hammers hammering as estates mushroom out of meadows. Even now the new estates seem to breathe a slightly dispirited air. Individualism is drowned in blanket development. People must be housed and it was inevitable that Cherry Hinton would be swallowed. But no-one who condemns the grey terraces which run beside the Tin Walk can view the new development with joy. 62 06 08

1962 11 07

Cherry Hinton chalk pit may be preserved as an area of exceptional educational value for the study of natural history. It is not an amenity at the moment but should be made one as the chalk cliff is an area of interest. Cambridge University has said it may provide the services of a warden for the area if it were left untouched. The eight-acre site, recently vacated by the Cambridge Civil Defence Corps, is next to land scheduled for extensions to the Grammar School for Boys playing field. 62 1 1 07

1962 12 19
Cherry Hinton chalk pit where Civil Defence Corps had their headquarters may be a small-bore rifle range or used as a caravan site. - 62 12 19

1963 04 18
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on High Street Cherry Hinton - 63 04 18 [DYS cut]

1963 07 08
New Chequers public house in Cherry Hinton High Street seen behind old building - 63 07 08

1963 07 26
Lime kiln shaft in disused pit working to be blown up by Civil Defence - 63 07 26

1963 08 07
Minutes after the opening Cherry Hinton's new branch library by the Mayor of Cambridge, there were complaints that working men cannot get there before it closes at 7pm and it should stay open an extra hour. There has been a library of sorts for many years. Originally books were kept in a locked bookcase at the entrance to the Church of England School in High Street. It moved to Colville School in the mid-50's. Now work has started on Newmarket Road library after which another will be constructed on Arbury Road 63 08 07b Profile of librarian, Margaret Traviss - 63 08 07c

1963 10 03
More and more Cambridge people are rejecting the idea of a three-bedroomed house and there is a growing demand for small, one or two bedroomed units. Brookfields, on East Road, should consist entirely of these types of property and be supplemented by development at the junction of Carlton Way. The improvement and conversion of the older type of pre-war council houses should be advanced at all speed, councillors were told. They will draw up proposals for the redevelopment of aluminium bungalows at Church End, Cherry Hinton 63 10 03

1964 93 96
Glider crashes Rosemary Lane, Cherry Hinton - 64 03 06

1964 05 05
Sindall Concrete Products Ltd have built a pair of semi-detached houses on their Cherry Hinton Rectory Farm estate which could lead to revolutionary changes in the building industry. The houses can be erected and completed in two days using precision-made concrete panels with built-in insulation and wallpaper or emulsion can be applied direct to the walls. There is a choice of pitched or flat roof types lifted into place by a crane and a brick outer face can be added to give a traditional appearance. 64 05 05

1964 06 13
Pre-fabricated aluminium bungalows Church End Cherry Hinton to be made safe, suffer corrosion - 64 06 13a

1965 01 22
The greenhouses of Cherry Hinton Hall are coming apart with walls bulging, rooms leaking and draughts. Dampness and poor heating make the task of producing sturdy plants soul destroying for the staff of the propagating centre. The boilers are old, obsolete and temperamental. Stoking goes on day and night in boiler rooms which have no proper ventilation. The dust is choking and at times the fumes are so powerful the stoker is in danger of being overcome. But if the temperature drops plants and seedlings will die by the score - 65 01 22

1966 04 22
Cherry Hinton parish room is rat -infested - 66 04 22a

1969 03 18
Cherry Hinton old spring cleaned out - photo - 69 03 18

1969 07 21
Wimpey to build 193 houses on estate Teversham Drift [1.4]

1970

1970 03 25
New Church of England primary school opened [1.3]

1971 04 08
Advert refers to “quiet, peaceful English hamlet of Cherry Hinton” [1.4]

1972 04 12
Hundreds of seagulls are leaving their mark on Cherry Hinton. But the people who live there are not impressed and have asked Cambridge councillors to start a clean-up campaign in the area. The seagulls live on the refuse tip at Coldham's Lane where the pickings are good. But they do not confine their activities to the waste ground and have started to make themselves felt on the residents. And this has upset the housewives who have told the councillors that they prefer their white washing to stay that way. Some residents have referred these problems dropped on them unexpectedly from the heights to the councils Conservative leader, Aid Stanley Bowles. Today he admitted "I just don't know what we can do about the problem. Perhaps we should issue the seagulls with nappies"

1972 07 10
A pirate radio station operating from a Cambridge council house was pounced on by GPO officials and police yesterday. They took away a transmitter and a cassette recorder. The raid on the house came exactly six minutes after the illegal radio station - calling itself Radio Caroline - started its regular Sunday lunchtime pirate broadcast. For more than a year GPO engineers have been trying to track down the wavelength and whereabouts of the radio and using detector vehicles they closed in on the Cherry Hinton area. The station had been broadcasting fairly regularly each Sunday for almost 18 months

1973 04 04
Proposals to eat into the Green Belt between Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn to help solve the Cambridge city housing problems were given a rough ride yesterday by Chesterton Rural District Council, who are responsible for much of the area involved. The proposals include a 1,200 unit housing programme for a 105-acre site on the borders of the city and Chesterton rural district.

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They would be built to meet the city's housing needs up to 1978. Land outside the city was investigated recently by the city and county planning authorities who favoured the Cherry Hinton site - but Chesterton councillors were upset at the likely intrusion into the green belt

1973 04 06
The villages bordering Cambridge have earned the "necklace" prefix because of their obvious connections with the city. Thousands of commuters have migrated further into the countryside during recent years and some of the once-sleepy villages have had to swallow huge dormitory populations. But, almost without exception they have fought to retain their rural independence and fiercely resisted the take-over ambitions of Cambridge City Council. Now with the county planners talking of another 100 acres for council housing at Cherry Hinton the city council may abandon their fight to expand the Cambridge boundaries

1973 07 31
As 9,500 folk music fans slowly drifted away from Cambridge's ninth and largest weekend Folk Festival, the mammoth task of clearing the site at Cherry Hinton Hall began. Damp weather also took its toll of the ground as thousands tramped over the grass. Hundreds had to be turned away as the allocation of tickets was sold out. Festival director, Ken Woollard, said, "It has become a family affair now with whole families and their children coming. If it were much larger it would lose the character and atmosphere"

1973 11 01
A senior planner warned the new Cambridge district council faced a serious position over the acute shortage of council housing land in the city. David Urwin explained that even if the council were allowed by the government to go ahead with their plans to build houses on 100 acres of land at Cherry Hinton all available council housing land in Cambridge would be used up by the end of 1978. The Environment Committee chairman said "South Cambridgeshire district council apparently do not take gladly to any form of development outside Cambridge. But 1 hope that we shall be able to negotiate with them"

1973 12 13
Councillor Don Maltby told Cambridge housing committee that Cherry Hinton had always been an isolated part of the city - and residents wanted it to remain that way. "The people of Cherry Hinton are not selfish but are wondering why all these houses should be built there. I think they are right because this is the one part of the city which has always considered itself to be a village". He was speaking about plans to build up to 1,500 houses and flats to accommodate about 4,500 people together with shops and a school in the area.

1974 02 07
During wet weather "concrete cabbages" grow in Cherry Hinton area gardens and "stone-dashed cars" appear overnight in the streets, a Labour councillor claimed. The reason for such unusual sights is the outfall from the chimney of a cement factory, he said. "If any clothes are left out to dry overnight on washing lines they need to be washed again in the morning because they are covered with a fine dust. If you clean your house windows and there is a little rain you have to clean them all over again"

1974 04 13
Cherry Hinton residents were up in arms after they woke up to find a thick film of dust sprinkled over their gardens, houses and cars after a breakdown in the nearby Norman Cement Works. The dust showered during the night from a tall chimney known locally as "Smokey Joe" which

dominates one of the new estates. A resident said "It's all very fine to talk about cars but we must be breathing this stuff in 24 hours a day"

1974 11 18
Council approve permission for 1,500 houses on 93 acre green belt to include bypass [1.8]

1975 03 06
The long dispute between Cambridgeshire planning committee and a number of Cherry Hinton residents about Cambridge city council's plan to build 1500 homes in the village has been brought to an abrupt end. The committee chairman made it clear that the decision to allow the development will stand. No public enquiry could now be held. More time had been spent on the Cherry Hinton issue than on any other matter he could remember.

1975 03 27
A bus ride from the outskirts of Cambridge to the city centre is slightly cheaper than a taxi fare. It's a close thing if you share a taxi with three other people, but if four are travelling together the private car journey, even with a lOp parking fee, is still the cheapest course. Camtax say from Cherry Hinton to the city centre the fare would be 53p. plus 2p VAT.

1975 05 15
First stage of 1,200 home scheme to start in 1978 [1.9]

1975 05 24
For the first time since it was produced almost 20 years ago a prize-winning history of Cherry Hinton is to be available for reference at libraries. The contents were compiled by the Women's Institute in 1958. But the book, hand-written and with water-colour sketches, was too fragile to be easily available. But now staff from the Cambridgeshire Collection have made three complete copies of the book. One will be at Cherry Hinton library.

1975 12 19
A plea was made for British Rail to open a station at Cherry Hinton. The existing traffic problems would get even worse when more than 4,000 extra people went to the village with the new council development. Passenger trains could easily stop there. The idea had already been suggested informally by British Rail and was under consideration. Coun Taylor said a mother with children could pay £1 just to get to Cambridge and back by bus. Coun Rowley thought his was evidence of how the bus service had failed.

1976 03 31
A 21 -year-old Cherry Hinton man was sentenced to 120 hours of community service at Cambridge Crown Court. It is the first time such an order has been made in Cambridge. The community service scheme, under which offenders are given work in the community under supervision as an alternative to imprisonment, comes into effect in the Cambridge area tomorrow.

1976 04 02
A plan for building a £13,000 halt at Cherry Hinton on the main Cambridge-Ipswich railway line was rejected by the county highways committee. Cambridge city council had asked for the halt, saying it would be useful for commuters and people working in the expanding office development in Station Road. Councillor Charles Swift (Peterborough) who is a train driver said that halts usually consisted of just a few old railway sleepers by the side of the track and not the station and buildings proposed for Cherry Hinton.

1976 04 05
A new branch of Lloyd's Bank is due to open on the comer of Regent Street and Gonville Place, Cambridge. It will be the first entirely new branch of Lloyds opened in the city since 1964, when a branch was set out at Cherry Hinton. Five cashier positions have been provided inside the bank, together with a cash dispenser for quick service.

1976 04 30
Lime Kiln Hill could eventually become a footpath and bridleway if a proposed route for the extension of the Cherry Hinton bypass near the Gogs is approved. The County Council will be asked to approve a route which passes east of the reservoir eventually linking with the A604. This was a very long-term project and it was impossible to say when it might be built. There is a lot to be said for preserving Lime Kiln Hill - it is a pleasant rural lane. There would be great problems in widening and improving it

1976 05 08
The huge council estate planned for Cherry Hinton by the former Labour-controlled city council is to be scrapped by the Conservatives following their runaway victory in the elections. The Labour plan envisaged up to 15,000 council dwellings, a bypass, shops, a community centre and four new schools. Some are likely to remain but many of the council houses will disappear in favour of privately -built homes

1976 10 08
Stop building! That was the instruction from the Government that blocked plans for new homes in Cambridge. The Department of the Environment now has the right to veto plans for new house building for at least three months. The first scheme to feel the effects is the Cherry Hinton housing development plans for Walpole Road which were before the council for approval. Although the scheme was given the go-ahead they will now not be allowed to invite tenders during the rest of 1976.

1977 03 23
Major council housing scheme plans unlikely now due to lack of money [1.10]

1977 07 21
One of the most striking features in the property market has been the resurgence of interest in the small terraced city house in the Romsey Town area. Fifteen years ago one could have bought a two up, two down, for about £1,350. By 1967 the price was £2,200 rising to £5,500 by 1972 and is now £8,500 - and increase of 530 per cent. In De Freville Avenue a semi which cost £3,000 in 1962 is now £15,000, and in Queen Edith's Way the figures are £3,350 and £14,500. A post-war semi in Cherry Hinton has risen from £10,000 to £15,000 in the five years from 1972.

1978 07 28
The star that has shone over Cambridge Folk Festival of the past 14 years appears to be waning. There is increasing evidence among the mass of faces at this international event that the serious folkie is now staying away and that Cambridge - once the most prestigious event in the folk calendar - is slowly being taken over by an unfortunate yobby element who treat Cherry Hinton Hall like a Pontins holiday camp

1978 08 04
Renewed attempts will be made to have the annual Cambridge folk festival moved from its traditional home in Cherry Hinton Hall grounds to the more spacious surroundings of Coldham's Common. They have been reinforced by the state of the grounds after the heavy rain at this year's

event which have been terribly churned up and it will take months for them to be reinstated. Last year councillors opposed such a move fearing that people living on the Whitehill housing estate would be subject to noise until late into the night.

1979 06 22
A few years ago the blacksmith's craft looked to be dying. But as the last of the old-timers retired a new generation of smiths discovered there is still plenty of business for a good craftsmen. Bill Sargent, Lode's village blacksmith for 60 years, is 81 and only keeps working to entertain himself, though he provides a valuable service to the farming community. He thinks the shortage of petrol could see farmers having to reintroduce shire horses to work the land. But 20-year-old blacksmith Vic Saunders from Cherry Hinton says his principal trade is in wrought -iron work such as balconies and gates. He likes the variety of work and would be happy to shoe horses but thinks this unlikely. When Bill Sargent finally hangs up his leather apron there will be no heir to follow him into the trade but it's quite possible another young blacksmith will buy the business and carry on where he leaves off.

1980 09 24
The Rathmore Club was founded 63 years ago as Cherry Hinton Liberal Club but with the changing political climate became a social club about 20 years ago. Now the general financial situation, falling membership - they have only 350 members - and reduced bar sales means it may cease to operate at the end of the month. 80 09 24a

1981 04 23
An era has ended at Cherry Hinton Hall with the closure of the nursery school that has flourished there since September 1949. Its head teacher for 30 years. Miss Norah Littlehales retired last August. The big-house -in-the -park, built over a century ago to house a noble family, now has its dilapidation problems and there are no immediate plans for its future use. 81 04 23

1981 05 14
Wartime correspondence between the Home Office and the man who would have run Cambridge in the event of a major disaster has been unearthed in the Public Record Office. Mr F.R. Scott would have assumed total control of the eastern counties and his letters give details of damage to Cherry Hinton Hall and private houses, including a small fire caused by an oil incendiary bomb falling on a house in Tenison Avenue. They were sent from St Regis, Montague Road, which served as the region's civil defence headquarters until 1945. Later Cambridge was again chosen as a regional seat of government in 1959 to cope with the aftermath of a nuclear attack. 81 05 14b

1982 02 08
The Bishop of Huntingdon, the Rt Rev Gordon Roe conducted the opening service at the new community centre at St Andrew's Church. Cherry Hinton. Much of the money has been raised by the Vicar, Rev Chris Barber, his son John and parishioners including a 30-hour sponsored croquet marathon by the church youth club. 82 02 08

1982 04 26
Sir - Independence for Cherry Hinton should be an election issue. Residents never wanted to be swallowed up by an expanding Cambridge and wish to be separate village. It is detached from the city by a 'green belt' including Netherhall playing fields, Coldham's Lane rubbish tips and Marshall's airfield where it is unlikely that any new development will take place. It has all the amenities such as a library, post office, shops and schools. Candidates should realise the importance of maintaining a community spirit - Cherry Hinton Liberation Front spokesman. 82 04 26

1982 08 21
British Rail's controversial plans to install automatic half-barriers at Cherry Hinton level crossing have been rejected. It marks a victory for the large numbers of protestors who considered they would be dangerous so close to two primary schools. Had they been put in residents were prepared to stand on the lines and stop trains. 82 08 21

1983 08 11
It's not just Sunday mornings which are reserved for washing the car for residents in St Bede's Crescent, Cherry Hinton: they have to whip their sponges and leathers into action every day to clean off dust from the nearby Norman Cement Works. They have complained to the company who say they are cautious about any emissions & there are several sources of dust such as a rubbish disposal tip to which lorries are constantly driving. But they gave them a bottle of diluted hydrochloric acid for cleaning the windows. 83 08 11 p8

1984 08 10
Cherry Hinton could get its long-awaited bypass if the controversial 86-acre housing development goes ahead on the outskirts of Cambridge. The new road would run from Airport Way to meet Fulbourn Road near the hospital. Originally a bypass was planned to run from Quy interchange to the foot of the Gogs Hill to link up with the A604 but the route ran into objections from conservationists and was dropped as an economy measure. 84 08 10 pl3

1984 12 14
400-home land deal delayed by technical difficulties [1.11]

1985 05 24
The Landlord of the Eagle in Bene't Street is in favour of all-day opening: the pub is often still packed when drinking-up time is called in the afternoons and many people try to get a drink between 3pm and 6pm. Later hours would be attractive to tourists who don't have to get up for work next day. But the landlord of the Robin Hood and Little John. Cherry Hinton, says it would have little effect on out-of-town pubs and the Queen's Head at Newton say prices would have to go up to pay for staff wages 85 05 24a

1985 08 02
Cambridge ratepayers received a cheque for £2 million from one of the country's largest housing developers. It was accompanied by a legally binding promise from McLean Homes to build the much-needed Cherry Hinton bypass road for free. They may also give a plot of land for a new primary school. This is the council's profit on the largest land deal in Cambridge local government history. The housing development company has bought 5 1 acres of prime housing land owned by the council and others. Another 50 acres are to be sold shortly 85 08 02

1985 12 11
Cherry Hinton community centre on recreation ground scrapped - 85 12 lib

1985 12 20
Cherry Hinton level crossing fight against half-barriers has been lost - 85 12 20

1986 02 01
Cherry Hinton railway crossing protest - 86 02 01

1986 04 22

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Cherry Hinton has a new health food and delicatessen shop. Peppercorns is stocked with all manner of rare and unusual foods with a range of Mexican. Chinese and Indian specialities. But one of the biggest sellers are the Newmarket sausages made to a traditional recipe at the Pork Shop. They also want to encourage local people to make jams, quiches and tarts that can be sold in the shop 86 04 22a

1986 08 27
British Rail may build new stations near Cambridge and Huntingdon as part of a modernisation scheme. A county transportation spokesman called for stations at Milton and at new villages near Waterbeach and Swavesey which are under consideration in the Structure Plan review. He'd also ike to see the St Ives to Cambridge line re-opened and a stop at Milton would help to service the Science Park as well. This was endorsed by the Railway Development Society who also suggested stations at North Arbury and Cherry Hinton. 86 08 27

1986 12 27
Peppercorns heath food and delicatessen, which has expanded remarkably quickly from small beginnings in Cherry Hinton, has moved into larger premises in Mill Road. The shop has shelves of natural foods, freshly-roasted coffees, 50 types of cheese and the exotic delights of houmuous and taramasalata together with quiches, pizzas and even vegetarian scotch eggs. 86 10 27

1986 12 01
Clergy at Melboum are planning an extension to the parish church on a concrete 'raft' so graves will not be disturbed. A meeting room, vestry, kitchen and lavatories will be built over the old graveyard. There are no headstones and the last burial was more than 100 years ago. It is becoming quite a common thing: similar scheme at Cherry Hinton, Milton and Ely have all been successful. If graves are disturbed the church would give special permission for reburial 86 12 01b

1987 07 08
60 years ago Cherry Hinton High Street was full of little cottages lived in my farm workers [1.14]

1987 09 18
The Cambridge - St Ives railway line could be reopened to passengers and linked with Stansted as part of a major new project. The service, shut for nearly 20 years, would be launched with a show-piece electric service along the 14-mile line which is at present only used by freight trains. There would be three new stations at the Science Park, Coldham's Lane and Long Road. Other stations would be built or reopened, under plans announced by the County council, including Chittering, Fulbourn and Cherry Hinton. 87 09 18a

1987 10 17
A giant ski and leisure park may be built in a redundant chalk pit at Lime Kiln Road, Cherry Hinton. It would include an Alpine village-style ski lodge with a club and restaurant, a 230-metre ski slope, a lake for canoeing and sub-aqua pursuits, a toboggan run and climbing on a cliff face. Full consultation has taken place with the Nature Conservation Council to protect two rare plants and ensure the natural environment is preserved. 87 10 17

1987 11 03
Peppercorns delicatessen and health food business began two years ago with an idea and a sandwich delivery round. Edmund and Christopher Bliss opened a shop in Cherry Hinton but it wasn't large enough, so when the chance came to take on a shop in Mill Road they were eager to do so. Now they have opened another in Grantchester Road. As well as coffee and bread they sell

cheese such as Cornish Yarg and English Cheddar which at £1.1 Op per lb is a popular buy with students. 87 11 03a.

1987 12 08
Businessmen behind a proposed £lm ski and leisure complex at Cherry Hinton have pledged to work with conservationists to preserve wildlife on the site at Lime Kiln Hill. If built it would feature the longest dry ski slope in England, a toboggan run, ski-hire facilities, a play area, pet's comer and a lake. But the end nearest to houses in Queen Edith's Way would remain a nature reserve. However some residents fear the development would be the 'thin end of the wedge' 87 12 08

1987 12 23
Cambridge planners back Cherry Hinton chalk pit ski -centre plans - 87 12 23a

1987 12 18
Cherry Hinton level crossing is being restored by volunteers at the Museum of Technology in Cheddars Lane, Cambridge. The aim is to resite the crossing somewhere in the area on private land. Former mayor John Woodhouse, who has campaigned against British Rail replacing the gates with automatic barriers will be asked to perform the opening ceremony 87 12 18

1988 01 07
A taxi guard of honour lined Cherry Hinton High Street in tribute to John Phillips, the big-hearted former cabbie who helped raise millions of pounds for health care. Twenty-seven cars were on parade as the funeral cortege made its way to St Andrew's Church which was packed with mourners including past and present Mayors and MPs. Mr Phillips was a former director of United Taxis and ran his own firm. He was chairman of an appeal for Addenbrooke's Hospital scanner unit opened by Prince Charles in 1981 and a magnetic response scanner opened by the Duchess of Kent last year. 88 01 07a

1988 01 07
A new railway station designed to ease Cambridge's worsening transport problems could be sited near the A10 at Milton, says British Rail. No costs for the 'Cambridge Parkway' halt have yet been worked out but BR would almost certainly look for cash from the community to build the new station and car park. Last year the City and County Councils provided £125,000 help pay for new crossing gates at Cherry Hinton 88 01 07c

1988 02 17
Three new railway stations at Cherry Hinton, Fulbourn and the Chittering area have been suggested in a County council report. But stations at Harston, Offord and Soham have been rejected on grounds of cost. British Rail plans to build a new 'parkway' station to the north of Cambridge to meet growing commuter passenger growth. But calls to re-open the Cambridge to St Ives freight line to passengers are firmly ruled out. It would cost £4.84 million, greatly outweighing potential income, consultants say 88 02 17

1989 08 01
Princess Diana opened Cherry Hinton Village Centre

1989 09 07
Cherry Hinton primary school opens in Hayster Drive 89 09 07b

1989 11 21

Co-op chiefs have been forced to sell off the freehold of their Burleigh Street store to fend off a cash crisis. The Victorian building has been sold to a London Investment Company and they will lease back the premises. The Co-op began trading in Burleigh Street in 1908 but has been hit by soaring interest rates on loans taken out to cover major projects such as the massive Beehive Centre. It has already put branches up for sale in Mill Road, Milton Road, Waterbeach, Duxford & Cherry Hinton. 89 1121

1989 11 28
The new South East Cycleway from Market Square to Cherry Hinton follows quiet back roads, avoiding the nightmarish Mill Road which can reduce cyclists to a nervous wreck. It includes a new £2million bridge across the railway near Cambridge station. This is a striking structure with a triangular tower from which cables support a cycle and walkway fully protected from the elements by a transparent polycarbonate tube. It is thought to be the longest bridge of its type in Western Europe. 89 1 1 28a, 29

1990 03 02
Robert Rhodes James MP for Cambridge, who was elected in 1976 when David Lane resigned his seat, is to stand down. He has campaigned to prevent British Rail installing controversial half barriers at Cherry Hinton railway crossing, fought the closure of St Bede's and Park Street primary schools and helped win a giant TriStar conversion deal for Marshall's. He also persuaded the Government to match the £2 million donated by David Robinson for the building of the Rosie Maternity Hospital.

But he has been a fierce critic of the student loans plan. - 90 03 02, a

1990 03 16
Cambridge's pioneering £2.6 million cycleway scheme is helping to cut the death toll on the city's roads with over 2,000 people a day using the route. Supporters say the South East Cycle Route from Cherry Hinton to the city centre is also being used by pedestrians. The giant £1.7 cycle bridge was opened by the Minister for Roads in November and is fitted with security cameras. Some people dismissed it as a hare-brained idea at first but it is worth the time and effort, says Tony Carter, after whom the bridge has been named. - 90 03 16

1990 04 13
Cherry Hinton Robin Hood & Little John pub has new restaurant - 90 04 13a

1990 05 17
Spinney School Cherry Hinton official opening - 90 05 17a

1990 07 02
Eland Way development of 84 council properties in Cherry Hinton constructed on a 'design and build' contract by Sindalls in conjunction with city council - 90 07 02a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Cherryhinton Road by Ted Mott c1925 - 98.22

c.44.6 : Cherryhinton Road Area

Cambridge Cherryhinton Road area: stories of the area east of the railway line from Rustat Road in the north to Wort's Causeway in the south. It includes stories about that section of Hills Road south from the railway bridge. There is a separate Hills Road Scrapbook and a Cherry Hinton Scrapbook covering the area of the former village.

1897 05 27
The foundation stone of the new building of St John's church, Hills Road, Cambridge, was successfully laid on the 4th May last year. The first section was completed and consecrated December 15th, 1896. The result of opening the new building has amply justified the decision to hasten the commencement of the work. The congregations have been most encouraging and the average of the weekly collections doubled

1897 06 08
St John's church new window, p3

1898 09 03
Cherry Hinton is the meeting place of the old and new; a study in contrasts. St John's ward contains trim villas, modern residences, and a population increasing rapidly year by year. On the other hand, St Andrew's ward is intensely rural, the scene of scattered dwellings and old thatched gables. In short, St John's is suburban, while St Andrew's yet retains its agricultural character.

Thus a drainage scheme is less needed in the latter than the former and the inhabitants of St Andrew's insist that they will have none of it, while in the former it has long been common knowledge that emphatically "something must be done", and that quickly, for the constantly growing population

1898 11 18
Cherry Hinton proposed division, p3

1900

1901 08 21
The Star Brewery renewed its application for a proposed new hotel on the Hills Road, adjacent to Cambridge Cattle Market. There were farmers, dealers in cattle coming from Norwich and Essex who regularly attended the market, coming by train. It was desirable that they should sleep on the spot and take care of the cattle. Mr Grain said there was opposition from Homerton College, a ladies college. What on earth they opposed for he did not know. None of those young ladies, he was sure, would go near a public house

1902 02 25
Advert. New Year's Register. Sales & approximate price. Residences: De Freville Avenue £350, Guest Road £400; Mill Road £425, Hartington Grove £425, Malta Road £425, Huntingdon Road £450; Villas, Cherryhinton Road with land £850; modern town residences £1,000; terrace near Mill Road, (let for £100) £2,000; Country residence about 3V2 acres, near station G.N.R. £2,000

1902 04 30
William Edwards of the Rock Estate, Cherry Hinton, applied for an exemption certificate from vaccination was not required. His first child died through it and, if small pox broke out at Cherry Hinton, he would not, unless forced by law, consent to his child being vaccinated. If there were a loophole of escape from it he would not have the child done, if it cost him every stick of furniture he had got. The exemption was granted.

1902 07 18

Now his Majesty is on the high road to recovery many places are holding the festivities arranged in celebration of the Coronation. Out of sympathy for King Edward these were postponed and now while the bright summer days and long mild evenings are at their best the committees are taking the wise course of holding the jubilations rather than wait until a later stage in the year when there is a greater chance of unfavourable weather. Unfortunately St John's ward, Cherry Hinton picked upon early closing day and any shop employee will say that this is practically synonymous with rain. Nevertheless the festivities must be written of as a success.

1902 12 13
A meeting of residents in St John's Ward, Cherry Hinton considered what support could be given to a scheme for running a line of omnibuses into Cambridge. Now buses had been taken off the road the value of their property would depreciate and the new houses being built would not be let readily as people would not come down that end of Cambridge if there were no buses. There was a possibility of their finding sufficient money to run a line of buses themselves if 15 people put £10 each into the concern

1903 04 18
All the arguments in favour of converting Cambridge into a County Borough having failed some

councillors have threatened to petition for an extension to the town's boundaries so as to include not only Chesterton but Newnham Croft and St John's, Cherry Hinton as well. To silence opposition they have threatened that all children from these districts attending schools in Cambridge will have to be turned out to seek education under their own authority. This has confirmed the opponents in their opposition and alienated the sympathies of supporters. Fortunately nobody is likely to be frightened by such pusillanimous threats.

1903 09 10
A crisis in education has arisen at Cherry Hinton. St John's Infants School, Blinco Grove, is to be closed due to the abominable condition of the road which makes it next to impossible for the infants to attend in wet weather. On June 30th the average attendance was 49, compared to a high of 74 and the amount received by the school has dwindled proportionally. The school was condemned three years ago but the managers were asked to carry on until the new Education Act came into force. Now the County Council has decided not to take over the school and the closing is a drastic step taken to avoid a larger deficit.

1905 01 13
Rock Road, p4

1905 03 10
A company is being formed to provide a service of motor 'buses for Cambridge. Eight 'buses will be put down at first by which it is hoped to run a 15 minutes' service from Chesterton, another from the Huntingdon road district to the centre of town and a seven minutes' service to the railway station. Should the venture prove successful the more outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton will be catered for 05 03 10

1905 03 13
Cambridge magistrates were told there were about 440 houses on the Rock Estate with one full-licensed house, the Rock Hotel and one off-licence. Either of these sent out beer to houses as ordered. There are also at least four brewers' vans to deliver beer in gallon jars and bottles, and grocers from Cambridge send up pint bottles. If they granted a new licence to William Conder of Marshall Road, which was a new and fairly populous district, it would lead to secret drinking, more especially by women at their homes. The licence was refused. 05 03 13a-c

1905 04 08
The Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company has been formed. It is nowadays essential for the business of the town to have a convenient and quick means of transit and the omnibuses will be appreciated by the public and become a source of income to the shareholders. With eight vehicles it will be quite easy to maintain a 15 -minute service from Chesterton and the Huntingdon Road to the centre of town and a seven-minute service to the railway station. Should these prove successful it will be extended to outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton. There is little doubt that horse traction for omnibuses and tramcars will shortly be superseded by petrol and electricity. 05 04 08a

1905 10 05
Cambridge Town Council wrote to Chesterton R.D.C. saying they wish to extend their boundaries to incorporate parts of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton, Trumpington and Grantchester. Chesterton are to reply saying they will give such project its most strenuous opposition. 05 10 05-b

1905 10 14
Cherry Hinton sewage, p4

1906 09 08
Building trade in Cambridge is comparatively slack just now as suburban expansion on any large scale has ceased. Six months ago there was considerable activity in the Newnham district and on the Central Estate where a large number of houses sprang up suddenly. Then there was an extension of New Cherryhinton through the erection of many houses on the Hills Road. It is now planned to open up a building estate by cutting an avenue from Hills Road to the Trumpington Road 06 09 08c

1906 10 19
Eltisley Ave & Cowper Road dedicated, p3

1910 03 04
Cherry Hinton was the most rapidly-increasing district in the neighbourhood. It was popularly believed that the dwellers in St John's parish were all well-to-do and able to supply their needs themselves, but that was quite a fallacy, said the rector. There were a very large proportion of artisans and some who were very poor. One woman, whose husband was in the Asylum, had to work at a laundry to keep herself and three children on nine shillings a week. CWN 10 03 04g

1910 08 12
A new road between Rock Estate and Romsey Town would greatly improve communication between these largely populated and widely-separated districts, Mr W.P. Fison suggests. Rustat Road, which is a private road belonging to Jesus College could be continued until it cuts into Marmora Road. It would have to cross some allotments and a farm with a bridge over the railway line. There should also be a new road from East Road through Beche Road over a bridge into Old Chesterton. Both would provide work for the numbers of unemployed men in Cambridge 10 08 12e

1910 10 07
The scheme for extending the Borough boundaries so as to include Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and the urban portions of Grantchester, Trumpington and Fen Ditton was formally launched. The boundary with Chesterton is an imaginary line running down the centre of the river which presents legal difficulties over dredging. The river is used by member of the University for rowing but most of the boathouses are on the Chesterton side. The Corporation own a cemetery the parish of Fen Ditton. They have constructed a sewer and laid water mains along Newmarket Road and the land will no doubt be used for building. 10 10 07e & i & j

1911 02 03
The Inquiry into the extension of Cambridge borough boundaries heard that Cherry Hinton was part of Chesterton Rural District and divided into two wards. St John's was obviously an outgrowth of the town while the old village was in St Andrew's ward. The parish had the expenses of sewerage as a result of which their rates were very considerably in excess of the Borough rates. But the old village had no sewerage at all, the drainage being by means of cesspools. 1 1 02 03c

1911 04 07
The Local Government Board is in favour of the extension of Cambridge to include parts of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton, Grantchester and Trumpington. 1 1 04 07f

1911 05 19
Greater Cambridge editorial: Chesterton UDC will cease to exist, parishes of Cherry Hinton,

Trumpington and Grantchester will be divided and urban portions come into Cambridge 1 1 05 19c

1912 03 29
Today the population of the Borough of Cambridge is 40,560. On Monday it will be 57,073. The extension of the boundary now brings in Chesterton and the urban portions of Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Grantchester. These suburbs were inhabited almost entirely by people whose living lay in Cambridge but were separated from it by the River Cam or purely artificial borders. It means that the residents will now be under the care of the Cambridge Town Council. 12 03 29c

1912 05 31
Mr Strangeways was the heart and soul of the Cambridge Research Hospital which was opened on Hills Road. There has been a remarkable progress of science. It is now possible to examine bones and joints as if the flesh was transparent and to take photographs of them. The position of bullets and needles can be ascertained and diseases of internal organs elucidated by the X-rays. 12 05 31a & b

1912 06 07
Mr I.G. Elworthy told a meeting at Morley School that he had been one of the first members of Cherry Hinton parish council in 1 894. When he first came there were only 50 houses but the district had developed enormously and the need for a recreation ground was very urgent. With the enormous increase of motor traffic it became more and more dangerous for children to play in the streets. The Council should purchase a site between Cherryhinton Road and Mill Road and in the meantime the Cattle Market field should be laid out as a temporary playground. It could be planted with trees like Christ's Pieces and would preserve the beauty of the district 12 06 07d & e

1912 12 20
Brooklands Avenue is a private road with a gate at the Trumpington Road end, which is sometimes closed, though one footpath, it is claimed, is a public path. Part of the road is invariably in a disgraceful state of repair and during bad weather is little better than a quagmire with mud up to one's ankles. Yet if a cyclist, to avoid the ruts and filth, takes to the public footpath he is liable to be pounced upon by a policeman. The road connects up Trumpington and Cherry Hinton, important parts of the extended Borough, and should be taken over by the Corporation. 12 12 20c

191301 31
Schoolboys & airguns in Hinton Avenue

1913 07 04
An important development in local football took place when the Cambridge Town F.C. was elected a member of the Southern Amateur League together with Weybridge. This was the fourth time they had applied and their success is largely due to their excellent performances in the last two seasons. This means they will compete against some of the leading amateur teams in the country on the Hills Road bridge ground with a home match practically every Saturday 13 07 04 p3 CIP

1914 05 22
Our First Local Fliers. The principal attraction for Cambridge residents yesterday (Thursday) afternoon was the visit of Mr. Gustav Hamel, the well-known aviator, with his monoplane, and 6,000 people assembled in the Rock Meadow, Cherry Hinton, over which Mr. Hamel gave a sensational exhibition of flying. Mr. Hamel showed that he was a complete master of his

machine, an 80 h.p. Morane-Saulnier of compact build. He circled above the field, skimmed the ground and then looped the loop to the accompaniment of loud cheering. Opportunity was given to fly with Mr. Hamel and the fee fixed with £5 5s. There were six bookings. 14 05 22 CIPof

1914 10 02
Trumpington Drift to be widened and strengthened for military purposes and will be known as Queen Edith's Way

1914 11 06
The new hut barracks on Cherry Hinton Meadows are making remarkable progress: all the frames and roofs have been erected and it presents the appearance of a miniature town. The guard house is a long oblong building with offices for the Commanding Officer and clerks, a large detention room, guard-room and a number of cells lined with sheet steel. The regimental institute contains a games and reading room, supper room and canteen, nearby is a coal yard and shower baths. A parade ground and miniature rifle range are to follow.

1915 02 28
Cherry Hinton military hospital - suicide of soldier, gassed - 17 02 28b

1917 04 18
Explosive Found on Gogs - On Thursday evening an accident occurred at Cherry Hinton in which a boy named Edwin Jennings, of 55 Hartington Grove, had three of his fingers on one hand blown off and the other hand injured. It appears that a brother had been to the "sham fight" (cadet manoeuvres) on the Gog Magog Hills in the afternoon and had brought borne a bag. Edwin opened it and inside was a small metal tube embedded in sand. Whilst examining it, it exploded. The boy's mother, who was standing near, was knocked down by the force of the explosion but escaped injury. Dr. Coombes was called in and he dressed the wounds and ordered the boy's removal to Addenbrooke's Hospital, where he is still lying. On inquiry, we were told he was fairly comfortable. As a result of what the injured boy's brother said that other boys had similar bags. Inquiries were at once set afoot by the police. It was found that boys had picked up various articles and cartridge cases. One boy, Onyett by name, had taken another of the (canvas) bags home, and with other boys, had actually been using it as a ball. On hearing of the accident, Mr. Archer, chemist, of Cherryhinton Road, went to Mr. Onyett's house, and advised that the bag should be put into water, and this was done. The accident will probably serve as a warning to others.

1917 07 11
Cherry Hinton military hospital concert - 17 07 1 lb

1917 09 26
Working man J.P. We have to record the death of a highly-esteemed townsman and a prominent figure in Friendly Society circles in the person of Mr G. H. Barnsdale, J.P., who passed away at his residence in Cherryhinton Road, Cambridge, on Wednesday morning last. For some time deceased had been suffering from an internal complaint (cancer) and the end came quite peacefully. A Hearts of Oak man, he took part in the founding of the Friendly Societies Institute at Cambridge and the Friendly Societies Council. He was born in 1851 and on May26, 1906, had the honour of being presented to the King at the opening of the new offices of the Hearts of Oak Society in Euston Road, London. In November, 1915, he was appointed a J.P. for the Borough of Cambridge, which appointment he faithfully filled up to the time of his death. He was the first, working man to be made a J.P. for the Borough.

1919 04 30
Town planning scheme selected - Romsey Town, Cherry Hinton, Coldham's Lane area - detailed article - 19 04 30a

1919 11 07

Isle War Pensions Committee - discuss buildings adaptable for training purposes. Most promising two hospitals at Cambridge. One Barnwell erected for 780 patients, other Cherry Hinton for 800, each complete accommodation residential staff - Barnwell 1,000, Cherry Hinton 1,1 10. Buildings commodious, well planned & well provided with first class roads, drainage done. Both used for venereal cases but practically vacated & notices could be put up re new use; men would not go to buildings associated with VD. Barnwell temporarily occupied by 80 general cases from 1st Eastern General Hospital while few VD cases being treated - ES 19 1 1 07 p6

1920

1920 01 28
Council decide to purchase sites on north & south side of Cavendish and Hills Avenues to erect dwellings - 20 01 28

1920 02 04
Drunk. "Guilty, your Worships," said Pte. James Connolly in an unmistakable Irish brogue at Cambridge Police Court on Friday, when charged with being drunk and incapable at Hills Road on the previous evening. P.c. Ward said that Connolly belonged to the King's Liverpools, and was a patient at Cherry Hinton Hospital. He was staggering along .the footpath and knocking into people causing them to get off the pavement. The offence occurred at 7.40 a.m. As Connolly was alone, the witness could not ascertain where he got the drink from. — A fine of 5s. was imposed and the prisoner expressed a desire to go to goal in default of payment. The Chief Constable (Mr, R. J. Pearson): The military will pay the fine, your Worships

1920 02 11
Bacon theft. At Cambridge Police Court, yesterday (Tuesday), a private soldier of the R.A.M.C. Cherry Hinton Military Hospital, was charged on remand with stealing 141bs 12ozs of bacon, valued at £1 19s 6d, the property of the War - Office, on January 31. He pleaded guilty — Sergt. Lawrence Cross, of the County Constabulary, said he noticed that the prisoner's overcoat was very bulky. He stopped the man, took possession of the bacon, and arrested prisoner. Miller said he had been drunk all the weekend, and he went out on Saturday morning to try and "cure himself". If the constable had had the "ingredients of a gentleman" he would have sent him back to camp, having regard to his state. The Bench imposed a fine of £5. and Sergt. Cross was highly commended on the action which he took in the case.

1920 02 24
Cherry Hinton hospital - Churchill asked about escapes, vegetables stolen allotments

1920 03 03
Cambridge Town Planning inquiry considers objections of cement manufacturers about land Cherryhinton Road; proposes new road from Cherry Hinton Road to Fen Ditton Road across Coldham's Common; had been excavation for coprolites and foundations were bad, brick pits. Was good supply for Cement works but this meant noise, dust and smoke - 20 03 03a

1920 03 10

Cherry Hinton Military Hospital patients get out of institution - questions to military - 20 03 10b

1920 03 17
Playing Field. Efforts are being made to secure a playing-field for the pupils at the Cambridge and County School for Boys and enquiries are being made concerning sites in the neighbourhood of Glebe Road, Cambridge. 20 03 17

1920 05 05
Plan and sketches of houses to be erected in Cherry Hinton district to relieve housing shortage - 20 05 05b

1920 06 09
Cowper Road house struck by lightning - photo - 20 06 09a

1921 03 09
Thomas Henry Bradnum, photographer, Hinton Ave traded as Art Reproduction Company, Wolverhampton - 21 03 09d

1921 03 23
King & Harper Ford garage, Hills Road - full-page photo feature - 21 03 23c, d.e

1921 03 30
Hills Avenue new council houses - photo - 2 1 03 30c

1922 04 08
The designs of Cambridge town council to provide work for the unemployed by the construction of a road between Cherry Hinton and Newmarket road which had the sanction of the authorities have so far failed owing to what on the face of it appears to be a squabble between the committees concerned and the owners of property affected. It is high time something was done as at the present rate of delay - two winters have passed and a commencement has not yet been made - the unemployment crisis will be over before a pick or shovel has been set going. Meanwhile approaching £200 a week of ratepayers money is being spent upon relieving destitution caused by lack of work in Cambridge - "Table Talk"

1922 07 25
The principal new roads proposed as part of the Cambridge town planning scheme include a main road starting from Red Cross, on Hills Road, going approximately north to Newmarket Road at the corner of Fen Ditton-lane, divided into sections. Number 3 runs in a straight line as far as the old Newmarket railway line and then slightly curves into Mill-Road. There are two branches which both lead towards the station. It will be necessary to form a subway under the railway or bridge the line, unless this line, which at present is only used for storage of railway carriages, is done away with altogether

1922 09 13
The Ministry of Health Inquiry into the proposals for the development of the east side of Cambridge was conducted at the Guildhall. There was practically no opposition. It will be remembered that the scheme provides for the laying out of 21 new roads or streets, including a main road from Hills Road to Newmarket -road. The area includes 502 acres in the rural district of Chesterton

1924 10 05c

The 1924-5 edition of Spalding's Directory for Cambridge shows progress has been made with the development of various building estates and we find for the first time the names of Hawthorn Way, Harvey Goodwin Avenue, Haig Road joining Chesterton and Cam Road, and Coleridge Road which is the name given by Jesus college to the new road between Cherryhinton road and Romsey Town.

1925 07 01
A very important addition to the garage accommodation of Cambridge is the new depot just opened by the enterprising firm of Messrs King & Harper in Hills Road. It is situated just off the busy centre of the town so that people who are timid can drive up without much trouble and receive attention without being hustled by the police. King & Harper sell so many cars that it is quite impossible for them to give the service at Bridge Street to all the people who wish to come to them. In front of the garage is a petrol filling station from which four different kinds of petrol can be obtained at a moment's notice. Two large wash-downs have been provided which owner-drivers may use for the purpose of washing their cars.

1925 07 06
As from July 1st all policemen will live rent free, the Chief Constable reported. The need for a police house at Harston was very urgent because the owner of the house which the policeman now occupied had been waiting until the officer moved before he could get married. The new Cambridge town planning scheme was bringing a road from Cherry Hinton to the Ditton and Horningsea road and they wanted a site on the Cambridge side of the new road. At Burwell the police house was complete, with the exception of the water supply

1925 07 17
The acquisition by Jesus College of the old Newmarket Railway has enabled them to develop the Station building estate by the construction of Coleridge Road, and they are offering freehold land in suitable plots for the erection of private dwelling houses in open and healthy surroundings, with ample garden ground. Coleridge Road has been constructed by the college at great expense & is the first in Cambridge constructed of reinforced concrete. Lots are offered at prices from £225 to £250.

1925 08 07
Sir - the proposed garage on Christ's Pieces has called forth a crop of protesting letters; let them be directed against the ugly, barrack-like Councils houses at Chesterton and Cavendish Avenue. The majority of the houses are literally a blot on the landscape, badly designed, dreary and poverty-stricken, they are eyesores to every passer-by. Yet they are being built without a word of protest, while the cutting down of a couple of trees evokes a regular storm of indignation - Kappal

1926 02 05
Coun Few said they were very proud of the houses they had built in Vinery Road and Coleridge Road, but they were now proposing to build houses that in a few years would become a slum area. They would be spoiling Cambridge if they built non -parlour houses with only one living room. They ought to consider the women who had to live in those houses. "We men only pop in and pop out, as it were, we are only lodgers; it is our working women who have to put up with them all the time. 1 call that type of house unfit for human being to live in as far as the wife and children are concerned", he said.

1926 09 03

Capt Ronald Leavey, who was burnt to death when an aeroplane he was piloting crashed and burst into flames near Leatherhead, is not unknown to Cambridge. Two months ago he visited Cherry Hinton where he took many passengers up at different times for pleasure flights, and also accomplished many noteworthy feats of daring in the air. His untimely end will be regretted by all who met him.

1927 03 03
The chief engineering feature of regional planning will be a new ring road all around Cambridge about two miles from the centre of the town. One length would be a road running north and south joining the Hills Road with the Newmarket Road, a length of about three miles. Certain roads and bridges were contemplated to obtain an inner ring road around the central portion of the town. Mr C.H. Tebbitt said that what had been done haphazard in the villages was the joy of the countryside and he wondered what would have happened to these beauty spots if they had been regional planned.

1927 08 11
There was a large attendance at the stone-laying ceremony of the new Parochial Hall for St John's Church, Cambridge. The object is to supply a building for Sunday School work, social and other parochial gatherings. The building would have been of a different type but for the fact that part of the site has been acquired by the Corporation for making a roadway from Blinco Grove to Cavendish Avenue.

1927 11 25
It was a memorable day in the history of St John's Church, Hills Road, Cambridge with the opening of the new Parish Hall and Sunday School. The hall, which is dedicated chiefly to the use of young people, is a fine building of red brick and is situated on the site of the old Mission Church in Blinco Grove. The Women's Union have made themselves responsible for the porch and entrance, raising £130 & money for the electric light has been raised by Miss Gwatken and her Bible Class.

1928 05 25
Amid scenes of enthusiasm the Mayor of Cambridge opened the new Coleridge Road recreation ground which has just been completed at a total cost of £7,000. It was in September 1925 the Corporation bought the ground for the public and ever since then the Surveyor and his merry men had been preparing it. By the autumn they would be able to play football on it and by next summer cricket. They wanted to make a garden as well and if any person felt disposed to present them with a dozen flowering trees the council would make good use of them. Critics said it was not wanted but in the future many would be grateful for it. It would keep the children off the streets and from the danger of the traffic.

1929 06 16
St John's church nave extension consecrated - CDN 16.6.1929

1929 08 17
Big Cambridge fire - sheds and railway trucks destroyed at Hills Road - CDN 17.8. 1929

1930

1931 04 10
Despite a steady downpour over 400 people paid for admission to the Cambridge Greyhound Racing tack in Coldham's Lane which opened with a fine programme of events. The track is in

the shape of three sides of a rectangle with a stand forming the fourth. This was occupied by about 200 people most of the time. Another meeting at Cowper Road was affected by the rain when Slow and Sure proved the speediest greyhound of the day. 31 04 lOo

1931 06 05
In all proposals affecting change to local government, the sewerage problem looms large. Cambridge is provided with a sewage scheme which appears to be adequate and the sewage farm produces a satisfactory effluent. They could cope with Chesterton and Cherry Hinton but if the town boundaries were expanded to take in Histon and Impington it would cause problems. 31 06 05 h i

1931 12 04
A Trinity Hall undergraduate appeared in court following a collision. Students were not allowed to have motorcars and he was endeavouring to leave Cambridge without being seen, but had an accident in Coleridge Road and failed to stop. A number plate was knocked from his car and by that means the driver was traced. As a result he had been sent down for good. He did not think the penalty would have been so severe. 31 12 04d

1932 05 06
St Paul's church hall, Suez Road was dedicated to serve the large community resident in the Coleridge Road district. Jesus College had given the site with sufficient land at the rear to build a church while Mrs E. Rowcroft of Torquay had send a cheque for £1,000 for the building work. 32 05 06d

1932 06 16
An 'automatic laundry' has been opened in Hartington Grove Cambridge. Dignitaries inspected the Forum Cleaning and Dyeing Company machines where several garments were cleaned and dried before their eyes in less than ten minutes. After cleaning clothes pass to a dusting wheel where they are tumbled and dried in a current of cold air before passing the eagle eye of a 'spotter' to the pressing room so that obstinate stains can be removed. 32 06 16

1932 08 19
Sir - modern education is insufficient as witnessed by the complaints of employers at the errors made by young people seeking their first post. But what can society expect whilst teachers have to attend to the requirements of 60 and more children in each class? Schools should develop character in addition to imparting knowledge but teachers have to combat indifferent home influences. If society desires protection from its vices let it not economise at the expense of its schools - Walter Billings, Coleridge Road. 32 08 19f

1932 12 23
Former Mayoress, Mrs Catherine Tillyard was an accomplished yet humble woman. Under the pen-name of 'Pertelote' she contributed a women's column when her husband edited the Cambridge Independent Press. Her daughter, Aelfrida, is an authoress of some distinction and her son, Eustace, has a number of important books to his credit. She belonged to the old aristocratic school, worshipped at St Columba's and took an active interest in the temperance cause. 32 12 23e

1933 09 20
Well-built houses, Perne Road. An attractive position, situate on the beautifully-made new ring road, close to bus stop. Prices £690 and £710. £50 down, balance £1 weekly. See Walter Driver's announcement in the auction columns for detailed particulars. Sole Agent: Drivers, la Post Office

Terrace. Tel.468 (Advertisement). 33 09 20

1933 10 20
Unemployment in Cambridge is serious: 965 men and 84 women were out of work. The University Library was nearly finished and the great building projects in the town completed. But work continued on Queen Edith's Way, Long Road and the Hundred Houses Estate as well as the paddling pool on Coldham's Common. The Minister of Transport was keen to do away with level crossings and replace them with bridges; this could mean serious expenditure but provide employment for a great number of men. 33 10 20

1934 04 03
The Mayor and councillors performed the ceremony of 'beating the bounds' to mark the addition of additional areas to the Borough. They began at the east end of the cemetery grounds on Newmarket Road then toured Cherry Hinton before moving on to Trumpington where the new boundary begins on the town side of Long Road. Here the Mayor cut a light-blue silk ribbon before formally stepping into the new territory. Then after visiting the boundary a quarter of a mile beyond the L.M.S. railway bridge on the Shelford Road they were entertained to tea. 34 04 03

1934 10 13
The Perne Road Estate. Charming modern houses from £400 freehold. Every house contains entrance hall, drawing room, kitchen, dining room, three bedrooms, bathroom, separate W.C., H. & C. Water. Room for car. Small deposit (£25). Terms from 13/2 (65p) per week. Over 40 already sold. Drivers, Estate Agents - advertisement. 34 10 13

1935 04 18
New road connecting Mowbray Road with Hills Road - Glebe or Holbrook - photo - 35 04 18

1935 06 26
The proposed Cambridge town planning scheme envisages a ring road to encircle the whole town with the construction of by-pass roads and the improvement of dangerous junctions. The level crossings on the Milton and Cherry Hinton roads will be replaced with bridges. An area of 190 acres on Milton Road opposite the sewage farm acres is reserved for a municipal aerodrome with a municipal golf course off Trumpington Road 35 06 26a

1935 08 01
After a very close debate Cambridge councillors voted to continue lighting the streets with gas. Councillor Kenney said the lighting was bad and it was ridiculous to think of giving a ten years' contract to gas. Street after street was almost entirely one-sided as regarded lighting. Beyond Hills Road railway bridge all the lamps were on the left hand side and the place was in shadow. Nothing could take the place of electric lamps suspended over the streets. But in London where there were no long lines of electric wires from remote stations there had been a number of breakdowns. How much more would that apply to Cambridge? 35 08 01

1935 08 12
Houses were threatened when a line of flame swept three-quarters of a mile of land from Trumpington to Hills Road. In Long Road helpers beat desperately at the flames to prevent them spreading along the hedges to the gardens of near-by houses whose residents used garden hoses to dampen them down Dozens of rabbits raced wildly over the charred ground and a leveret was turned into a living mass of

flame. The verge caught alight, clouds of white smoke making it impossible for passing traff ic to pass at more than a crawl. Vehicles were diverted via Cherry Hinton and all available police were mobilised to control the traffic and help fight the fire 35 08 12

1935 09 13
Two large stacks of hay, the property of Walter Doggett, were completely destroyed in a blaze of several hours' duration in a field down Queen Edith's Way. The heat of the blaze scorched the hedge bounding the fields for many yards and reduced a wooden gate to little more than charcoal. There was a continual stream of onlookers many of whom thought that some of the new houses along that part of the road were burning. Several times the crowd split up hurriedly as someone saw a rat or mouse making a hurried exit from its flame -spread home. 35 09 13a

1935 09 26
The proposed Cambridge town planning scheme envisages a ring road to encircle the whole town with the construction of by-pass roads and the improvement of dangerous junctions. The level crossings on the Milton and Cherry Hinton roads will be replaced with bridges. An area of 190 acres on Milton Road opposite the sewage farm acres is reserved for a municipal aerodrome with a municipal golf course off Trumpington Road 35 06 26a

1935 10 02

Building of Cromwell Park housing estate - photo - 35 10 02a Perne Road - 35 10 03

1935 11 14
In view of the apparent apathy it is surprising that the number of electors who voted was so high. The excitement, so far as there was any, was greatest in the outlying districts. Residents in the newly-added areas such as Trumpington and Cherry Hinton had the curious experience of living in the Borough and voting (for Parliamentary elections) in the County. So did residents on the Hurst Park Estate which used to fall within the Impington parish boundary. At Brunswick Council Schools a blind man arrived. The inner room was cleared except for the presiding officer who told him the names of the candidates and then made a cross at the voter's selection. 35 11 14

1936 01 05
An amazing tame jackdaw has made its home with Mt T.L. Naylor of Blinco Grove. It came as an uninvited guest in January last year when it flew into his garden with a cheery 'Hullo!' and was promptly adopted, At first the bird's flood was placed on the scullery window-sill but as other birds used to join in the feast its tray of tit -bits was placed inside the scullery. Now when it feels hungry the bird taps on the window to gain admission to its snack-bar. It is put to bed each night in a tomato-box which is placed in the garage and surrounded with boxes to keep the cats out. 36 01 05a & b

1936 03 03
Cambridge transmitter, G2XV, is one of the most successful amateur short wave radiotelephony stations in the country. Its semi-vertical antenna enables it to be heard on the 20-metre band in almost all corners of the world, including Australia, New Zealand, India, Honolulu and every state in the USA. It is owned by G. A. Jeapes of Perne Road, whose interest in short-wave transmissions goes back to the days before radio broadcasting was ever thought of. 37 03 03

1936 05 21
At the opening of the new Rock Road library the Mayor said that in these difficult times it was

important that there should be in every district a building which would help to circulate the best ideas and information for the guidance of residents. In the days to come the building will become more and more the intellectual home of the people who live around it. All would agree it was the right policy to encourage children to use it. He regretted the absence of a representative of the Carnegie Trust, which had helped with the money for the library 36 05 21a

1936 05 23
Mr W.A. Fenton, the Borough Librarian, has seen a tremendous growth in the reading public since he took office. The new Rock Road Library has had an excellent start -off this week. When I looked in last night 1 found a continuous flow of adults and juveniles. The children's reading room was practically full and some boys to whom 1 spoke assured me that everything was quite all right. Work on a new branch library at the corner of Milton Road and Ascham Road will begin almost immediately. The site appears to be an ideal one and new building should be complete before 1937 is very far advanced 36 05 23c

1936 10 09
King & Harper new garage Hills Road - 36 10 09a

1937 03 05
Proposed Weathervane on Perne Road refused - 37 03 05n

1937 03 05
The death occurred of Mrs Ann Smith, wife of Gypsy Smith, at their home, Romany Tan in Hinton Avenue. She was associated with Hills Road Methodist Church but led a very quiet life and although she once or twice went on tours abroad, she generally remained at home. The funeral service will be held at the house. The famous preacher is absent in America on an evangelical tour; he is at present in Charlotte, North Carolina. It is not expected that he will be able to return home until April. 37 03 05k

1937 03 27
Have you seen the luxury houses on the Fendon Estate (new road leading from Hills Road to Queen Edith's Way?). Make a visit this Easter. Architect designed houses, built with best materials and labour by a firm which is rapidly gaining a fine reputation. Houses have sold quickly to discerning buyer

1937 03 27
Waterworks Company new workshop and depot foundation stone, Rustat Road - 37 03 27c

1937 04 23
Opening Ascham Road library, the Mayor said it was a great day for Chesterton. In that beautiful building, with good light and accommodation they could look at the books and select them for themselves. The children's library would encourage youngsters to read. At present physical education was the fashion. We were in danger of producing a nation finely developed from the waist downs. The library would help to counteract it. Ten months ago they opened a branch library in Rock Road and so far 87,799 books had been issued, very close to the number at Mill Road branch which had been in existence 40 years. (Applause). 37 04 23c & d

1937 08 03
Brilliant summer weather attracted a big crowd to the annual Conservative Fete held at Sir Harold Gray's home on the Gogs. There was a steady stream of buses, cars, cycles and invalid carriages the whole of the length of Hills Road while thousands made the journey on foot. There were

numerous games and competitions concluding with dancing and a grand firework display. It was opened by the Home Secretary (Sir Samuel Hoare) who said that there would soon be sufficient gas masks for the whole of the population and production of guns, tanks and warships was coming along. 37 08 03 & a

1937 08 16
Sir - as a small boy in the 1880s my first impressions of Cambridge were so different from today as to be almost incredible. Cambridge, bounded practically by Mill Road railway gates, Paper Mills Bridge, Hills Road Bridge and Queens' Road was a glorified village. It smacked of medieval times with its Spinning House in St Andrew's Street and bread and butter was retailed in yard length by Varsity tradesmen. The fastest vehicles on the road were the pretty tandem horses in dog carts affected by rich undergraduates and hansom cabs and 1 remember assisting the shepherd of Mr Joseph Sturton's sheep with his flock to and from Parker's Piece where they were grazed - P.J. Wright 37 08 16

1937 10 23
Cambridge University and Town Waterworks Company's new workshops and depots in Rustat Road would lead to improved service, enhanced efficiency and - sooner or later - reduced charges. The old premises in Bene't Street had been a veritable shambles and disgrace with pipes stored at the disused Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn pumping stations. They would wage ceaseless war against waste by leakage and had a gang of plumbers ready to deal with any emergency 24 hours a day with the promptitude of the London Fire Brigade. 37 10 23b

1937 11 05
Coleridge Senior School in Radegund Road was opened by the Mayor. It was not yet completely equipped - only half the gymnasium fittings were fixed and although they had a dining hall and kitchen the cooking arrangements were not complete. But the halls were fitted with cinema projection rooms, there were showers for pupils, and rooms for teaching cookery, laundry, housewifery and woodwork. The spread of population to the outlying parts of Cambridge had made it possible to provide new schools with plenty of land for playing fields. 37 1 1 05a

1938 02 03
Many unscrupulous Cambridge landlords are charging more than they are entitled under the Rent Restriction Act. There should be a crusade against them. One railwayman about to retire on a pension had been paying three shillings and ninepence rent for over 20 years. Now this had been raised by three shillings (£8). Tenants in Cavendish Avenue had been told they would have to pay sixpence a week more because the landlady was supplying sanitary dustbins. Those who felt exploited should see the Poor Man's Lawyer 38 02 03c

1938 02 05
Greene King wanted a new pub, 'The Running Footman' on Coldham's Lane, opposite Brooks Road. It would cater for people needing non-alcoholic drinks and keep open outside licensing hours. There were 1,700 residents within a quarter-of-a-mile with more coming soon when the ring road opened. But the licensee of the Brookfield Tavern said it would hit his trade while the Temperance Council claimed alcohol was a narcotic drug and dangerous to motoring - that was why insurance companies offered a rebate to drivers who abstained. It was refused as was another on Perne Road to be called 'The Weathervane' 38 02 05 & a

1938 02 26
The Fendon Estate, (new road leading from Hills Road to Queen Edith's Way). Architect designed houses built with best materials and labour by a firm which is rapidly gaining a fine

reputation. Near golf course. Schools and churches nearby. Houses have sold quickly to discriminating buyers during the short period this Estate has been open. Prices £1,050 to £2,000. Secure your site now to avoid disappointment. House now ready for sale, £1,475 (about £79,000 today). Specifications include large oak hall, dining room, coal and coke stores, larder, central heating with three radiators, electric lighting, power and bell points. - Advertisement 38 02 26a

1938 03 22
One-way traffic, Hobson St deleted from scheme, Perne Road roundabout - 38 03 22d

1938 09 21
Positively the best house property value in Cambridge is obtainable at Winston Road Estate, Cherry Hinton. Delightful houses, overlooking meadows, contain two reception rooms, three bedrooms, W.C., bath (h. & c.) and all latest labour-saving fittings. Main sewerage. Large garden. Near bus route. No road charges. Price £550 freehold (about £31,300 at today's prices) (Advert) 38 09 21a

1938 09 29
Air-raid trench in garden, Coleridge Road - 38 09 29aaa

1938 10 07
William Coad of Cavendish Avenue has come up with an answer to the need for underground A.R.P. shelters. His scheme is to construct a sub-way car park underneath Cambridge Market Square with inlet and outlet ramps, which, in the event of an emergency, could be converted into an effective shelter accommodating several thousand people. A nominal car-parking fee would eventually pay for the initial outlay and alleviate the need for suitable garaging for business men coming into the town. 38 10 07

1939 05 18
Jack Brignell carried on business as a builder and undertaker in Newmarket Road for over 40 years. He erected many large buildings in Cambridge but was recently mainly engaged on Council schemes such as the erection of the Coleridge Senior School. He was a county councillor and took a keen interest in the Mill Road Infirmary, Salvation Army, Victoria Institution and Cambridge Brotherhood. He died on the eve of his only son's 21st birthday so a coming of age party arranged at his college, Sidney Sussex, has of course been abandoned. 39 05 18c

1939 07 18
Hinton Avenue flooding pic - 39 07 18a

1939 07 20
PC Brookes joined the force in January 1913 and for the first seven years was engaged mainly in plain clothes work with special reference to the campaign against the white slave trade. He also investigated the burning down of a house in Storey's Way when Suffragette troubles were at their height. Afterwards he spent time on cycle patrol, inspector of diseased animals and hackney carriages. Then he became coroner's officer and was engaged in three major tragedies - the King's College shooting affair, the five -fold shooting tragedy in Hinton Avenue and the death of a Sidney Sussex undergraduate. 39 07 20

1939 08 29
Air-raid siren set off accidentally at Waterworks in Rustat Road - 39 08 29a

1939 12 01

A Clare College undergraduate told the Conscientious Objectors' Tribunal that he hoped to do psychological work. The idea had come into his head while working in a Basque children's camp when he noticed that many of them had a king of fit at the sound of an aeroplane. He was registered on condition he continued his studies. A shop assistant from Hinton Avenue, who was a lay reader in the Methodist Church, was registered on condition he undertook agricultural work. A man from Fulbrooke Road objected on religious grounds; he was a research physicist at the Cavendish Laboratory while a King's College graduate appealed on moral grounds. He was prepared and anxious to perform non-combatant service. 39 12 01 d & e

1940 02 15
Coleridge Ward ARP wardens meeting - 40 02 15b

1940 08 02
Samuel Rudd, Mowbray Road reported wounded and missing - 40 08 02

1940 08 09
More Farmers' Boys. A party of 32 lads from the Central School Melbourne Place, Cambridge, arrived in the village (Melbourn) last Saturday, and on Monday commenced farm and orchard work where required. The lads are accompanied by the Headmaster, Mr. J. D. Livingstone, and take the place of the 30 lads from the Coleridge School, who returned home on Saturday after a fortnight's work in the orchards. After a fortnight in the village, the Central lads will leave, and their place will be taken by another party. The boys sleep in the infants' room of the Council School, and have their meals in the Church Room.

1940 10 18
Awarded D.S.C. Capt E.S. Lewis, Royal Marines, of 98 Glebe Road, Cambridge - the badge of whose corps is the famous Globe and Laurel - has been awarded the D.S.C. Before being called up last October, Capt Lewis was well-known as the Cambridge manager of Messrs E. Pordage & Co. Ltd, Hills Road and his new honour is of particular interest because during the last war he won the D.S.M. 40 10 18

1940 12 04
Communal kitchen run at Blinco Grove Parochial Hall - photo - 40 12 04b

1940 12 06
River Rescue. Writing from 66, Hills Avenue, (Cambridge), Mr Thomas C. Catlin states: "Will you allow me space in your valuable paper to express my sincere thanks and gratefulness to the gentleman who on Monday night dived into the river Cam in the fog and darkness, near Chesterton, and rescued my son from drowning? It was a very gallant and heroic action on such a. night. 1 would also like to thank the girls, who, returning home from work, went back to fetch help, and therefore helped to save the boy's life. Although still suffering from shock, he is recovering again." 40 12 06

1941 05 09
Fire bomb damage on East Anglian town - thousands of incendiaries and high explosives (Coldham's Lane, Marshall Road area) - 41 05 09

1941 06 13
Postman Honoured. The King has awarded the Imperial Service Medal for long, zealous and meritorious service to Mr. Charles Potter, postman, of 10, Derby Road, Cambridge, who has recently retired from the Post Office after nearly 50 years' service. On Wednesday the medal was

presented to Mr. Potter at the Sorting Office, Mill Road, Cambridge. Mr. G. W. Harding, the Acting Head Postmaster, made the presentation in the presence of a large gathering. He said Mr. Potter enterer the Post Office Service as auxiliary postman at Gt Wilbraham in 1893, when he was 14 years of age

1941 08 22
Death of Mr. A. B. Chater. Mr Augustine Barrett Chater, who died suddenly at his residence, 21, Hartington Grove, Cambridge, was the third son of the late Mr. Josiah Chater. He was educated in Cambridge and took his B.A. degree at the university. He was unmarried. He was admitted an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in 1895. Mr. Chater joined his father and his brother the late Mr Vernon Chater in practising at 5 Alexandra Street. He continued the business up the time of his death.

1942 01 16
Deputy Lieutenant. The London Gazette contains the following notice of a commission signed by the Lord Lieutenant of the County of Cambridge: “Major (local Lieutenant Colonel) Frederick Newton Ball Drake Digby, T.D., of 20 Fendon Road, to be a Deputy Lieutenant for the County of Cambridge. Dated 6th January, 1942" Colonel Digby is a former Commanding Officer for the Cambridgeshire Regiment.

1942 03 14
Civil Defence Committee consider invasion plans; will be shelter provision for 26,000; Coleridge Road and Lammas Land recreation grounds to be cultivated for foodstuffs; flower-growing to stop at Cherry Hinton Hall - 42 03 14

1942 05 11
Romsey & Coleridge Civil Defence inspected - 42 05 11

1944 09 22
Married 70 Years. Mr and Mrs. William Archer, of 32 Hartington Grove, Cambridge, on Saturday celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary, which indeed must be a record. They were married at St.Andrew's Church, Cherry Hinton, in 1874 by the Rev. W. S. Parrish. Mr. and Mrs. Archer have four sons and three daughters, 19 grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Four grandsons are serving in the Forces. For 19 years after they were married they resided at John Street, City Road. Mr Archer has been a builder practically all his life. Mrs. Archer was 90 last March and Mr. Archer celebrated his 91st birthday last November. They were both born at Cherry Hinton. 44 09 22

1945 06 01
Award for Gallantry. The many friends in Cambridge and the County of Lieut-Col. F. N. Drake Digby (former C.O. of the Cambridgeshire Regt.) and of Mrs. Digby (of 20 Fendon Road, will learn with interest and pleasure that their only son has received an award for gallantry in Burma. The official notification reads: The King has been pleased to approve the following award for distinguished and gallant services in Burma — D.S.O. Major (Temporary) Anthony Sergeant Drake Digby, 66273, the Suffolk Regiment, Cambridge. Before the war Major Digby had adopted the stage as his profession, and many local playgoers will remember that he appeared at the Arts Theatre, Cambridge, in "French Without Tears", a fellow player in the cast being Richard Greene, who soon afterwards went to Hollywood and has since become a well-known film star.

1945 06 21

25 Germen Prisoners of War at work on Lichfield Rd housing site; the 100 temporary houses will be pre-fabricated 'Unisec' type - photo - 45 06 21

1945 08 20
VJ Parties - Eden St, Cherryhinton Rd, Chestnut Grove - 45 08 29; Queen Edith's Way, Ditton Fields - 45 09 04; Young St, Petworth St, Geldart St, Marshall Rd - 45 09 04; Darwin Drive, Stretton Ave, Victoria St, Hobart Rd, Adam & Eve St - 45 09 07b; Gloucester St, Castle St, Ashfield Rd - 45 09 10; Gilbert Rd, King's Hedges Rd, Ditton Fields - 45 09 11; Lichfield Rd, Cromwell Park estate, Hawthorn Rd - 45 09 12; Catharine St, Kendal Way - 45 09 14; York St & York Terrace, Brooks Road, Gold St - 45 09 17d# Bateson Rd, Garden Walk, Argyle St, St Philip's Rd , Sedgwick St, Holbrook Rd, Mowbray Rd - 45 09 18; Akeman St, James St, Parsonage St, Vinery Rd, Kingston St, Kingston St, Mowbray Rd, Hurst Park Estate - 45 09 20; Eastfield, New St, Kelvin Close - 45 09 24a; Hertford St, St John's Rd, Norwich St, Alpha Terrace, Sherlock Rd - 45 09 27a# Premier Travel take over services of F.E. Weeden of Chrishall - 45 08 30; Silverwood Close, Newmarket Road, Fallowfield, Fen Rd, Water St, Mowbray Rd - 45 10 04a; Cavendish Rd, Stourbridge Grove, Fulbourn Rd, Bradmore St, Petersfield, Gwydir St, Newnham Croft, Scotland Rd, Scotland Close - 45 10 08; Suez Rd, Hale Ave, Harvey Goodwin Ave, Glebe Rd, Radegund Rd, Golding Rd - 45 10 10; Selwyn Rd, Abbey Estate, De Freville Ave, Stanley Rd - 45 10 12a; Milton Rd, Thoday St-45 10 18

1945 09 14
More about Cambridge air raids; some remarkable escapes; bombs which failed to explode - a large book in Guildhall might be placed in Library, the official record of enemy air activity; incendiary on roof of Rock Road library; incidents in county - 45 09 14a, 14b

1946 03 02
Licence removed from 'Crown and Compasses' to new 'Weathervane' on Peme Road - 46 03 02; not confirmed - 46 03 30a

1946 09 05
Squatters occupy Nissen huts in grounds of 247 Hills Road, a house formerly occupied by Army Lancers Regiment and the R.E.s which empty for a year; huts empty for two 46 09 05

1946 10 18
Lichfield Road estate pre-fabs from air - photo - 46 10 18a

1947 04 21
Simplicity and speed is the key-note in the Cambridge Borough Council's Birdwood Road building site, when 158 permanent concrete houses are being erected. Machinery used in the work of construction - like cranes, cement-

1947 07 16
In order to complete the Housing Committee's anticipated programme of 5,000 houses, the following additional site are to be purchased subject to the approval of the Minister of Health. Arbury Road- King's Hedges (number of houses 1,300); Coleridge Road (180), Queen Edith's Way (250), Cherryhinton Road (365). Total number of houses 2,095.

1947 09 24
A device by which chimneys can be cleaned without making any soot or dirt in the room is being tried out in Cambridge by Super-clean from Hartington Grove. 1 understand the customary method of chimney sweeping is followed. The difference is that a device is fitted right over the

stove, thus preventing soot from flying into the room. The main difficulty is that of adapting it to fit the many different sizes and types of grate. It costs more, and takes longer to have chimneys swept this way. An ordinary chimney costs 6s and it takes three-quarters of an hour to do the job - maybe longer. As a symbol as the cleanliness of the method the operator arrives at your door in a short white jacket

1948 04 01
"An aspiration set too high for practical achievement in these days of Government interference" was how the Chairman of the Cambridge Old People's Homes Ltd described the position of the Society at the present time. The possibility of having to wind up the Society was openly discussed. The committee had abandoned a scheme for the erection of a home in Queen Edith's Way owing to building costs having soared. They had explored the possibility of converting existing property and careful thought had been given to Hinxton Hall and detailed sketch plans of the interior prepared. It was pointed out that a place nine miles away from Cambridge which old people's friends would have some difficulty in reaching was not "ideal"

1948 10 15
Cambridge Housing committee were told that 156 houses on the Birdwood Road estate were complete, but the flats were held up through shortage of labour. Work on the Green Park Estate was extremely slow. Another disappointment concerned the 100 permanent aluminium bungalows on the Church End estate, Cherry Hinton. The weight of a travelling crane which had to be used to lower the houses on to the foundations had done considerable damage to the newly-laid drains

1949 04 14
Delay in Cambridge corporation authority's gaining access to 40 acres of allotments in Coleridge Road in readiness for then use as a housing site would upset the rate of the council's housing programme, it was stated at an Inquiry. The corporation owned two other areas of land for housing. One, recently purchased, was in Queen Edith's Way. The other, the Arbury road site, it was proposed to develop as a neighbourhood unit with ultimately 1,000 houses, but it was unlikely it could be adequately serviced for building for at least 2½ years

1949 12 06
Cambridge housing committee has authorised the Surveyor to negotiate tenders for the erection of 217 houses during the first six months on the Ditton Lane, Queen Edith's Way and Coleridge Road sites, and for 250 more and one at Ventress Farm for the remainder of the year. They have informed Marshall's Flying School that they are unable to give priority to workers holding "key posts" and also said that until the present housing position eases they cannot consider providing accommodation for further single persons.

1950

1950 02 03
Notice of the first compulsory purchase order ever to be made in Cambridge by the central Land Board is given today. It is in respect of a plot of land on the western side of Strangeways Road, Cherry Hinton and authorises them to purchase the land for the puipose of disposing of it for development. Their object is to make land available at the proper price for persons who have a licence to build a house.

1950 02 04
A start has been made on the construction of 38 garages on the Walpole Road housing estate in

Cambridge using a new system of mortar less block construction known as "Dri-crete". This patented concrete block is the invention of a local businessman, Mr B.F. Hartley, who has been a manufacturer of concrete products for several years. The British Art Tile Company of Cambridge and Whittlesey are the patentees and manufacturers.

1950 06 28
Should the new secondary modern school for the southern part of Cambridge be built in the vicinity of Wort's Causeway of on the Ventress Farm estate? Cambridge education committee prefer Wort's Causeway as being more central for Trumpington and Cherry Hinton children but the planning committee thought it suited their planning arrangements better for it to be where Queen Edith's Way joined Hills Road. An alternative had been suggested that to preserve an open space the playing fields should be situated on the Ventress Farm estate and only the school on Worts Causeway.

1950 06 30
Rock Estate and Cherryhinton Road shopping centre revised early closing arrangements. The proprietors of the establishments beg to announce that as from Thursday 6th July they will remain open all day on Thursdays and that early closing day will in future be Wednesday. Signed: Colton footwear, Reg King the Cycle Specialist, C.J. Sampson, Bennett & Moore bakers, F.G. Cornwell grocery, B. Bennett wools and lingerie & C.H. Wisbey fruiterer - Advertisement

1950 07 22
A successful fete and sports organised by the social committee of the Cherryhinton Road pre-fabs tenants association was held on Lichfield Road recreation ground, Cambridge. Attractions included a miniature railway, Punch & Judy show, treasure hunt, bran tub & a mother and father's race. Highlight of the proceedings was a tug-of-war between the "Lichfield peacocks" and the "Golding Canaries".

1951 02 02
A pair of "Unity" houses have been completed on the council estate between Queen Edith's Way and Cherryhinton Road. There are 48 three-bedroomed and four two-bedroomed flats being built with a steel frame covered with concrete slabs in two colours - buff and brown. Lattice steel floor joists are used to save timber. The council have entered into a contract for these houses to speed up production and augment their programme of traditional building

1951 03 03 c
The Ministry of Health has asked Addenbrooke's Hospital to reduce capital estimates and certain projects will have to be postponed The most important was the new operating theatre, delivery wards and premature baby unit which it was hoped would be built in 1952 at the maternity hospital. But authority had been received to enter into contracts to acquire 43,895 acres of land lying between Hills Road and Long Road for the site of a proposed new hospital.

1951 05 02
Big traffic hold-ups in Hills Road last March - when a large sale of implements and store pigs at the Cattle Market resulted in vehicles at one time taking 50 minutes to get from Hyde Park Corner - has lead to proposals for improvements. Immediate steps include the provision of a temporary entrance in Rustat Road.

1951 06 20
Cambridge councillors heard that the cattle market has become one of the most important cattle

centres in the country as a result of the great increase in the amount of business transacted since the war. Problems had arisen because of the serious congestion of traff ic in Hills Road when large sales are held and the need for better facilities for traders and customers. It was not designed for holding large sales of agricultural machines nor for the provision of parking accommodation for upwards of 1,200 motor vehicles.

1951 10 05
Cambridge Education committee made a strong attack on the planning ministry for flouting their wish to build a new secondary school at Wort's Causeway. The government had given permission to the governors of St Thomas' Hospital to develop land between Queen Edith's Way and Wort's Causeway as a housing estate. They hoped they would not put a school on the Ventress Farm site which was "a bad site and a bad position" & urged that action be taken to "rectify this bureaucratic injustice"

1951 09 18
The Minister of Local Government and Planning has confirmed the principle that there shall be a green wedge between Cherry Hinton and the main mass of Cambridge development. He has revoked planning permission previously granted for housing between Cherryhinton Road and Queen Edith's Way and says this area should be reserved for some form of open development to ensure that Cherry Hinton is not engulfed in Cambridge.

1952 08 19
A large congregation packed the church of St John the Evangelist, Hills Road, Cambridge for the dedication of the new organ. It contains 1,210 pipes which stand on the south side of the chancel with the console on the north side. For the sake of economy a certain amount of second-hand pipe work has been used. But this is no detriment as much of the timber which was easily obtainable before the war is of far higher standard than that procurable today when Siberian pine lies securely locked behind the iron curtain.

1952 03 19
St Andrew's church, Cherry Hinton, has raised £1,700 to remedy the ravages of the death-watch beetle in their old timbers. The roof tiles have been stripped and the belfry floor renewed. Plans are being prepared for a new Parish Hall on the Mowbray Road site, a portion of which would be used as a church. Mr F. Linsey has retired from the position of organist and choirmaster after 18 years.

1952 08 09
Cambridge city council won its appeal against the refusal of the County Council to grant planning permission for the erection of houses on land fronting Queen Edith's Way on either side of the approach to Wulfstan Way. The plots were intended for former owners of land which had been sterilised by the revocation of planning permission on the Ventress Farm Estate. They could be sold at a reasonable price as compared with that now commonly asked for building land near Cambridge, where there was a serious shortage of sites available for private builders. The county had wanted sufficient land left open to preserve a view of the shopping centre.

1953 01 14 c
King's College head porter, Albert Powell, was granted a possession order for his house in Marshall Road. He had bought the house in 1919. In 1936 he was made head porter at King's College, which necessitated him living in the porter's lodge. In 1938 he let the house to the present tenant but told him he would want it when he retired. Mr Powell was asked: "Would you

stay at King's if you could not get possession of the house; you are still lull of fight and able to cope with undergraduates". He replied: "No, 1 am 66 now"

1953 03 16
The Mayor (Aid S.T. Bull) formally opened the first two police houses to be erected in Cambridge. He said that some new recruits come from other parts of the county and they, like most human beings, marry and have families. There are three police houses in the area but they have no indoor sanitation. The new houses are easy to run, with light and pleasant room. There are 16 police houses being built and they will be sited at Walpole Road, Queen Edith's Way, Fulboum Road and Coleridge Road.

1953 04 28
Cambridge council approved building licences to Mr E. Maloney for five shops, twelve flats and a garage at the junction of Perne Road and Radegund Road, at a total cost not exceeding £29,300 & to the Norwich Union Insurance Societies for a block of 20 flats at Pinehurst, Grange Road. A tender is being negotiated for building 24 three-storey concrete flats on land fronting High Street, Cherry Hinton and 72 three-storey flats overlooking the Coleridge Road recreation ground. The names of Nightingale Avenue, Almoners Avenue and Kinnaird Way have been suggested for streets on the Netherhall Estate

1953 06 03
The special prize of £5 for the best decorated private house competition in Cambridge was won by Mrs M. O'Dell of Staffordshire Street who beat her nearest rival, Mr A.A. Cox of Victoria Road by one point. The standard was high and points awarded for each ward were very close. Winners included: Abbey Ward Mr R. Runham of Wellington Street; Castle: Miss J. Bowers, Windsor Road; Coleridge: Mr Blows, Cherryhinton Road; Cherry Hinton: Mr R. Abraham, Chalmers Road and Market Mr W.G.D. Clee of Union Road.

1953 07 08
Chesterton and Coleridge schools may adopt a two-shift system operating from 8.30-1.30 and 1.30-6.30 pm as means of relieving difficulties arising from the large number on the school rolls with 553 boys and 450 girls at Chesterton and 562 boys and 540 girls at Coleridge. It would not adversely affect the character of the schools, as all pupils would have normal facilities for the use of laboratories and practical rooms. But there were social consequences which would create difficulties. The schools should make full use of hall and dining rooms for teaching purposes and hire additional accommodation.

1953 07 09
Building operations are in progress to modernise the garages at the Hills Road depot of the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company and give appreciable increase in accommodation. A modern canteen and new offices and cycle racks are to be constructed. With commendable optimism, the Company are demolishing a bomb shelter which was installed during the war. Luckily it was never put to the test, but workmen are finding it a difficult assignment - an indication of the strength and protection it would have afforded. At present only one third of the garage space can be used. Buses which are now without a home are being parked in railway sidings nearby.

1953 09 24
Don Arrol, the star of "Coronation Scots" at the New Theatre, officially opened the new showroom of Messrs W.I. Cullin in Rathmore Road Cambridge. They have been appointed Austin agents and the showroom has been built to exhibit and sell Austin products. The garage,

repair and servicing of commercial and private vehicles will still continue. Guests were invited to the Goldsborough Hotel for cocktails where everyone was given a souvenir propelling pencil.

1954 05 12
A baby girl born in Cambridge has the distinction of arriving in the world with six of her eight great-grandparents still alive. Susan Carole Fuller is the daughter of Mr & Mrs D.J. Fuller of Halifax Road. Her great grandparents on her father's side are Mr & Mrs W. Fuller aged 83 and 76 who now live in Wrexham, and Mr & Mrs B. Ager of Blinco Grove. On her mother's side they are Mr & Mrs V.F. Pursey of Mill Road. She also has 18 great aunts and uncles. This is most unusual and may be a record for Cambridge

1954 05 17
An important stage of the life of the new church of St James', Cambridge will be a social to 'kick off 'the Building Fund. The first building will serve both as a church and hall and be in a central position in Wulfstan Way, almost adjoining the shops. Despite the absence of a church there is a very live congregation which meets in school hall and the Sunday School averages 145 as the majority of families in the parish have very young children

1954 07 08
Tim Abbott is one of the best-known heel and toe walking experts in Cambridgeshire. He started in 1925 when he saw an advert about the Cambridge Walking Club seven-mile road walk and by 1937 he held every walking record in the county - and still does. He has also won 30 championship medals. There was the E.H. Church Handicap Cup, a two-mile race in the Cambridge Railway Orphans Sports - he won it over a dozen times - the Royston to Cambridge road race held annually on Boxing Day, the ten-mile course along Newmarket Road and inter-county meetings without number. During the last war Army service races were won in Belgium and the Shetland Isles. Now he helps youngsters of the Coleridge Athletic Club.

1954 11 20
Thirty-seven gold coins - a sovereign and 36 half-sovereigns - were discovered by Cambridge corporation workmen, 23 of them in the sludge taken from the emptier at Swann's tip, Newmarket Road. This had come from the Birdwood Road and Norfolk Street area and when they investigated the gullies in the area thirteen further coins were found, two in a drain in Burleigh Street. These were heavy coins; they were unlikely to have been lost through a hole in a pocket; more likely they had been wrapped in something and disposed of by somebody who did not want to be found with them in his possession. Eight years ago a man in Long Road had been robbed of 100 sovereigns and 30 half- sovereigns - but there were more than this found.

1955 01 10
The old dramatic clubs are faced with serious competition with the formation of the Magpie Players had presented their first play at the Queen Edith School. The play was not a particularly good one and depends on swift production. That it was not produced with the necessary speed was partly due to the direction and partly to one player who was not quite at home with his words. But this was the only fault.

1955 06 20
The Bishop of Ely dedicated the building which is to be known as St James' Church in Wulfstan Way. He said that later they would need a new church and the present building would become the church hall. It was part of the challenge of new housing estates; in St Paul's parish they were trying to build another church and there was magnificent evangelistic work in the Coldham's Lane area which rendered another one necessary. 55 06 20 & 20a

1955 08 05
With 126 babies a lot of noises is to be expected but they were surprisingly good and few cries could be heard at Cambridge's bonniest baby exhibition. For the most part they sat contentedly on their mother's knees waiting to be judged. Winners of the various age categories were Teresa Murray from Byron Square, Joy Quinney of Queen Edith's Way; Linda Barker of Canterbury Street and Gerald Peachey of Sedgwick Street while Patricia and Jacqueline Hooks of James Street won the twins competition. 55 08 05c

1956 05 01
The Christian Brethren opened their new Queen Edith Hall in Wulfstan Way. It is an undertaking of faith and cost a great deal of money but now they have a splendid position in the centre of what would be the ultimate building estate. 56 05 01

1957 02 01
Cambridge was visited this week by a flying saucer that appeared to be about 500 feet above the ground, says a reader from Fanshawe Road. It had a dome-shaped structure on top with a series of windows around the edge, one of which was blacked out while the base glowed with a vivid green fluorescent colour that seemed to be bubbling. He contacted the University Observatory who says it might have been a meteor. 57 02 Ola

1957 03 02
A new public house, The Weathervane' can be built on Peme Road but the Star brewery must transfer the licence from The Crown and Compasses in George IV Street and will close the Crown, Wellington Street and the Star on Newmarket Road. People living in the new houses in the area objected, one lady saying she'd saved her money to buy a house there to be away from pubs. Pupils at Coleridge Evening Centre, one of the finest institutions in the country, might be degraded while people who drank were more likely to catch disease than those who did not. 57 03 02

1957 03 29
Nurse G.A. Dorrington of Coleridge Road is a midwife who has brought over 3,800 babies into the world. For 30 years she has been on call night and day, attending women in their own homes across Cambridge. Occasionally she visits a woman having a baby and finds she actually delivered the mother many years ago. Now she has been awarded the M.B.E. 57 03 29

1957 04 01
Despite a vigorous protest, magistrates agreed the erection of a new public house, 'The Weathervane' on Perne Road. There was a definite need; since 1936 around 2,500 new houses had gone up in the area with about 9,500 professional and working people. It was a respectable middle-class area and scholars would not be tempted to enter it. 57 04 01b & c

1957 05 13
In the early days in Cambridge a scout would buy a broomstick, which cost 2d, and a billy-can and spend weekends in the woods and country places round the city. Later such boys became scoutmasters but during the Great War troops had to run themselves. Then in 1925 they secured headquarters in Grafton Street which they'd sold to the Co-operative Society. Now the new Scout Headquarters in Perne Road was opened. 57 05 13d

1957 10 31

St Andrew's Catholic School was established 111 years ago and was the only Catholic school in the whole of Cambridgeshire. They had been in their new building for 21 years but now a new school would be built in the Birdwood Road area to accommodate more than 300 pupils and the existing premises would become a primary school. During the war it had housed 50 evacuated people: they slept on the stage and the balcony but the school carried on. They were shut only two days, for police reasons. 57 10 31

1958 03 03
Cambridge Water Company originally hoped the new Great Wilbraham pumping station would help meet the ever-growing demand, even in times of severe drought, until 1965. But the experiences of last summer have prompted a less optimistic view and they were sinking a trial bore near Stapleford. They are also moving from Bene't Street, where they have been since 1866, to new offices in Rustat Road. 58 03 03

1958 06 03
Addenbrooke's Hospital Governors say it is 'reasonable' for the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company to buy land opposite the proposed new hospital in Hills Road for a bus stop. But they will provide a stop near the main entrance with parking room for three buses and a shelter for passengers. The Bus Company should consider additional services along the Perne Road - Fendon Road route to save passengers from Newmarket and Mill Road from having to travel by way of the city centre. 58 06 03

1958 06 20
Netherhall School, the first new secondary school in Cambridge since the war, was officially opened by Lord McNair. The smaller the class, the more effective the teaching and they should do all they could to reuce sizes, he said. The 300 children under the headmaster (Mr Holden) and the same number under the headmistress. Miss Wilkinson, was correct. They should cut time spent on administration and teach as much as possible. In this way they could consolidate the staff. 58 06 20a

1958 09 20
Cambridge Water Company opened its new office block in Rustat Road. It was formed 106 years ago by twelve townsmen and ten prominent members of the University and now supplies 120,000 people. There was an exhibition of nylon sink tops, Perspex baths and fibre glass cisterns instead of the old-fashioned ones made of galvanised iron. 58 09 20a

1958 10 08
Coleridge Girls' School celebrated its 21st anniversary; the girls were now much more lively, efficient and adaptable than those of 2 1 years ago headmistress Miss D.M. Howlett said. Then there had been no playing field and the school children had worn far too many clothes. Boredom was the main cause of juvenile crime so they had instituted leisure time work for the girls evacuated from Islington during the war years. The idea had been that children in modern schools were only intelligent enough to read picture books but in both academic and practical work Coleridge was achieving good results. 58 10
08a

1958 10 09
Residents in Beaumont Road off Queen Edith's Way Estate appealed for a reduction in rates to bring them into line with houses on Montgomery Road near the Arbury Estate. They enjoyed fewer nearby amenities - the shops were half-a-mile away whilst residents in Montgomery Road were near one of the most modern shopping centres in Cambridge. Beaumont Road had larger

gardens and backed on to open land but Montgomery Road properties were intermingled with Council houses. 58 10 09

1958 12 19
Traffic over Hills Road railway bridge, a bottleneck on the principal road into Cambridge, is extremely heavy. Visibility over the summit is severely restricted and many accidents have occurred there. The existing steel plate girder bridge has deteriorated with age and now work will start to provide a new twin two-lane carriageways and footpaths. The new bridge will be designed to allow for widening should additional railway tracks be needed in the future. 58 12 19b

1959 01 13
The widening of Hills Road Railway Bridge may be delayed as negotiations have still to be completed on what proportion of the cost will be borne by the County Council. The East side of the new bridge should run straight from the frontage line of no. 129 Hills Road to the entrance of the coal-yard opposite the junction with Brooklands Avenue. There could be a new access from Cherryhinton Road to the Cattle Market and railway sidings. 59 01 13d

1959 07 28
Work has begun on the new Addenbrooke's Hospital in Hills Road. The first stage will include a ward block of 100 beds and although the final size has not yet been decided it will be between 600 and 800 beds. “Our responsibilities are to the future and we shall be very much to blame if in 20 years’ time we find ourselves looking for a bigger hospital”, said the Chairman of the Governors’ building committee. It will stand in a landscape planned by a woman architect, Mrs J.M. Hayward, in collaboration with the Director of the University Botanic Garden. 59 07 28

1959 08 12
Hills Road bridge reconstruction photo - 59 08 12

1959 09 01
A Ring Road was proposed for Cambridge before the war. It was to run from Trumpington Road and Brooks Road to Coldham’s Lane, then on across Milton Road, Huntingdon Road and so to Hills Road. Thousands of pounds were spent to make a dual carriageway from Coldham’s Lane to Ditton Walk with a ramp six feet high to start the viaduct across the river. This section was completed and only required the final tarmac surface. Now half of the dual carriageways have been dug up and the ramp bulldozed. It cost many thousands of pounds to make and over £34,500 to destroy. 59 09 01

1959 11 13
The Weathervane, a new public house at Perne Road, is the first to be built to serve new Cambridge housing restates. The site was purchased by Tollemache Breweries in 1937 but has been delayed for 22 years because of the war and building restrictions. Today it is uneconomic to build palatial mansions but this house is just as comfortable, the sort of place one can bring a family for a pleasant drink with its bright contemporary decorations, skirting heating and low fireplaces. “You may ask why the name ‘Weathervane’ was chosen, but 1 cannot give you any reason at all”. Lord Tollemache told guests at the opening. 59 1 1 13c, 12

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 03 18

Ninety small boys and girls flock to Rock Road library every Thursday to hear stories read by Miss Kathleen Asbery, the recently-appointed children's librarian. She visited a school's youngest infant class and when told she was from the library one small girl asked "Is she here because we have some books missing?" "It seems awful that children should think of librarians as ogres who stand behind counters, stamp books and charge them a penny for a late -returned item", Kate said 60 03 18

1960 03 22
Work on the widening of Hills Road bridge is slightly behind schedule but is expected to be open by the end of the year. Soon traffic will be diverted on to the new portion of the bridge to allow engineers to take down and rebuild the rest. Twelve beams of pre-stressed concrete have already been laid. When completed it will provide for a dual carriageway with a eight-foot wide footpath on either side of the bridge 60 03 22 - pic 60 03 24

1960 04 19
The Cambridge Cattle Market on Easter Monday was like Petticoat Lane and indeed many of the numerous stall holders came from just that place. From early morning cars and people streamed over Hills Road Bridge to the market. All the policemen Cambridge could muster were sent to exert some form of control but were fighting an impossible battle. Farmers who generally flock to the market on Monday mornings were greatly outnumbered by whole families enjoying a day out in the warm sunny weather. 60 04 19a

1960 04 28
Costs of building the new Hills Road railway bridge have increased by £20,000 because unusually difficult ground conditions mean it needs deeper and more substantial foundations. But the County Council hopes to construct a bridge over the level crossing on the Cambridge Road at Histon. It will mean the demolition of five houses and affect the gardens of 17 other properties as well as the complete rebuilding of the Histon nursery school. 60 04 28

1960 06 04
An air raid shelter erected at the beginning of the war in the garden of 44 Chalmers Road, Cambridge, was never used because it was thought to be too shaky. Mr P.C. Grimwood, who constructed it, used a wonderful variety of iron work to strengthen it including a fender, a quantity of large keys, a sewing machine, part of a bedstead and wire netting. After the war it was left because the cost of demolition was prohibitive. Now it has finally been removed after three days hard drilling with two pneumatic drills, leaving 20 tons of rubble. Workmen say it was well-built and only a direct hit in the doorway would have destroyed it. 60 06 04

1960 06 21
It took twenty men twenty hours at the week-end to demolish Cambridge's old Hills Road bridge - twice as long as the contractors had anticipated. Originally it was thought that the removal of 140 tons of steel girders would take a little over eight hours, but the trains passing underneath proved a little more troublesome than expected. The men took advantage of the frequent breaks to wipe the sweat from their brows and light a cigarette. The scene resembled firework night for, as the oxyacetylene guns cut through the girders, a spray of red hot sparks would fall on the ground giving an impression of a 'golden rain' 60 06 21

1960 07 28
Lorry overturns Peme Road island - 60 07 28

1960 08 09

Commercial and Industrial Painters of Coldham's Road has the first 62-foot long caravan transporter in the country. Customers are astounded on first seeing the trailer and local police were 'a bit taken aback' at first. So far it has not met with any difficulties as they have been able to by-pass awkward corners: when leaving Cambridge it is driven along Perne Road and Long Road to Trumpington. The firm, which began ten years in Sedgwick Street, sprays caravans and vehicles owned by haulage contractors. 60 08 09

1960 08 18
Harry Bevan joined the Ortona Motor Company in 1912 and for seven years drove the bus to Sawston, for which he was allowed 50 minutes each way. Carrying parcels as well as a steady stream of passengers he made five journeys a day and using the maximum speed of 12 mph always had time for a good smoke break at the end. The first double-decker ran from Station Road Corner to the Rock Hotel on Cherryhinton Road and back via Blinco Grove. It was not allowed to go through the town because it was a menace to shop signs. 60 08 18a & b

1960 12 17
Hills Road railway bridge is functioning almost as normal again. After a year's work during which the traffic has had to contend with considerable difficulties, the road is now suitable for two-lane traffic. Resurfacing will not be carried on for another 12 months in order to allow for subsidence and for several more weeks workmen will be patching up. Work on Churchill College continues as does work on 13 three-storey terrace houses and 60 maisonettes at East Road. Most have their roofs on and one block of houses has its windows in. 60 12 17b

1961 03 10
Cherry Hinton planning inquiry over land at Ventress Farm - 61 03 10c

1961 06 14
Nearly 400 people in the south of Cambridge have protested about a proposal to build 'the greatest and best dance hall in Great Britain' in the middle of the Queen Edith's Way housing estate. The hall, which would be used for wrestling bouts, boxing matches and rock and roll sessions, will be 'completely out of keeping with the nature of the district', they claim. The proposer said the area was currently scheduled for quarrying purposes and a hall would increase the amenities. "We could either mine chalk or build a really beautiful place", he said. 61 06 14

1961 12 01
Nightingale Avenue means something new in elegant living. It means spacious, modern four-bedroomed detached houses of quality and character by Trend Homes. Here is a rare opportunity to buy an exclusive architect designed house in a first-class position. Each will have the wonderful boon of oil fired heating built-in wardrobes and French doors to a paved terrace. Price from £5,250 - Advert 61 12 01c

1961 12 14
Queen Edith public house opens, Wulfstan Way - 61 12 14

1961 12 17
Adkins Corner. For the convenience of those who prefer out-of-town shopping with good parking facilities, W.J. Atkins have opened a self-service store by the Perne Road island in Cherryhinton Road where you will find the same quality - the best - which has made Adkins famous for English and Scottish meat, sausages, pies, cooked meats and other provisions. You pay less for the best - and you get Green Shield Stamps as well - Advert 61 12 17c

1962 03 03
None of the aluminium bungalows owned by Cambridge city council is in urgent need of demolition because of corrosion, an inspection has found. However work should be started on pulling down the 100 bungalows at Church End, Cherry Hinton, within two years. This would allow for the area to be cleared for redevelopment. The 135 temporary bungalows in Fisher's Lane, Roseford Close, Walpole Road and on the Green Park Estate were not in such as bad state 62 03 03 a & b

1962 04 06
The newly-formed Cambridge branch of the Gideons International held its first public meeting. Almost all the local hotels have received Bibles, as have nearly 300 school-leavers and it is hoped to cover all such youngsters each year. Young folk from Queen Edith's Chapel have volunteered to read aloud Bibles given to the Blind Homes in Glisson Road. Twenty Bibles have been given to the Rehabilitation Centre in Brooklands Avenue. The replacement Addenbrooke's Hospital will be a major challenge in the near future 62 04 06b

1962 04 13
A glass staircase is just one of the fascinating features of a house in Queen Edith's Way which was built just before the war. It was designed by W.A. Cairns with sweeping curves, enormous bay windows at the front, a canopy above the sun terrace and arched doorways. The framework is of steel and armour-plate glass treads on slim rubber supports. The lounge has a circular mirror decorated with an engraving of a polo pony and rider. Much of the furniture is built in, including a cocktail bar and writing bureau 62 04 13

1962 05 23
Edward Wright, who recently retired as a milk float rounds man for Goodrum's Dairies, was the last of the drivers of horse-drawn milk carts in Cambridge. However he was not happy at retiring and leaving 'Sandy', the horse he has made his milk deliveries in the Peme Road area with for the past 16 years. So he bought 'Sandy' from the diary and keeps him in a stable at his home in Cherryhinton Road. Now he has come out of retirement to advertise the Dairy Festival to be held in June 61 05 23a

1962 07 20
St Bede's Roman Catholic Secondary School in Birdwood Road was formally opened by the Bishop of Northampton. It is a co-educational school for 300 pupils with eight classrooms and a library, together with craft, woodwork and housecraft rooms and laboratories. There is a combined hall and gymnasium together with a kitchen and dining hall which can be used for teaching space. The facilities are excellent in every direction. The school was opened to pupils after Easter. 62 07 20b

1962 11 23
Roundabout at Peme Road - Birdwood Rd junction starts - 62 1 1 23a

1963 02 23
Despite appalling conditions the national cross-country championships attracted more than 250 runners to the Coldham's Common course. The race started near the old rifle butts with a dash through ice-fields and bumpy ground towards the gas works, over a bridge built by the Territorial Army then past the Whitehill Estate, keeping to the rough of the Priory School playing fields to the railway bridge. Then runners were on the course proper. A special train was laid on from Liverpool Street with buses to Coleridge School 63 02 23a 63 03 04 & a

1963 06 14
Birdwood Road residents complained about the 'fall out' of white dust from the main chimney of the nearby cement works. It turns their red roses into white ones, and makes the garden lawn appear like winter once more. The plant was closed down for a thorough examination and a defect fixed in the electrostatic precipitator. There should be no more trouble 63 06 14

1964 02 06
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Peme Road - 64 02 06

1964 03 20
The new HQ of Cambridge A.T.C. Squadron is the former Royal Observer Corps base on Newmarket Road. When the Squadron was first formed as a unit of the Air Defence Cadet Corps its members attended lectures at the University Engineering Laboratories before moving early in the war to Leighton House in Trumpington Road. But most of its time has been spent at "Rock Mill" in Rathmore Road. 64 03 20

1964 04 16
Lichfield road prefabricated bungalow fire - 64 04 16a

1964 04 24
'Cambridge New Architecture' criticises the Addenbrooke's Hospital buildings in Hills Road. No doubt these bleak buildings work efficiently but the bungaloid growth of the out-patients building cannot mitigate the overall barrack-room atmosphere, it says. Bradwell's Court shopping centre is attractively self-effacing and the Snowcat is one of the few well-designed modern pubs. But other Arbury building is weak with prim brick terraces with utility steel or concrete doorways of modish design. It is a squandering of Cambridge's short-supply of housing land 64 04 24b

1964 05 11
Sir Eric Franklin fire at Cavendish Avenue destroys diplomatic papers - 64 05 1 lc

1964 09 21
Teenage motor cycles and girl friends moved on from Wulfstan Way after complaints of noise - 64 08 2 le

1964 11 19
At Coleridge Youth Centre the hall vibrated with the sound of the latest pop tune. Outside the air was filled with the sound of motor cycles and scooters as more youths arrived. Youngsters were playing cards, table tennis and billiards, in one corner a group of girls sat talking. In between dances they sauntered to the canteen for a cup of coffee, a Coco Cola and a glance at the pile of magazines specially chosen for young people. It has a current membership of 300 of which two-thirds are boys. The future will depend on a comprehensive new youth centre to be started shortly at St Matthew's Piece 64 1 1 19c

1965 01 16
Peter Coe of Cambridge blows the tenor sax for Georgie Fame on 'Yeh Yeh' which has pushed The Beatles from the top spot in the hit parade. He is an ex Cambridge High School boy and began his playing career at Coleridge Youth Club. The jazz group he helped to found came third in a national competition organised by 'Melody Maker'. He is now a full professional with the Blue Flames who pick up £200 a performance. His parents in Catherine Street are devoted to the Blue Flames new wave Rhythm and Blues - 65 01 16

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1965 01 25
The new Mormon Church in Queen Edith's Way - the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints - is an imposing structure with a simple interior. The neat and modern design incorporates a sports room marked out with a basketball court. It was constructed using many hours of voluntary labour, many not members of that faith, and will be open to all. 65 01 25a (dedicated in 1967 when completely paid for) [11.8]

1965 02 26
Wulfstan Way bollards protest - 65 02 26a

1965 03 27
The new com market building on the Cattle Market site will replace the old Saturday corn market held in the Corn Exchange. Merchants have been advocating a move for 10 years and now it is hoped the market will revive. An encouraging number of people want to take stalls. The cost of desk or box in the new building is £10 a year. People who attend to buy or sell are charged £3 for an annual ticket. Visitors are admitted free. It will also provide a small new hall for the Cherryhinton Road - Hills Road district 65 03 27a

1965 04 26
Guides opening of new HQ in Perne Road by Lady Baden-Powell - 65 04 26a

1965 10 25
Railway not hopeful about bridge from Davy Road to link large housing estates at Cherry Hinton - 65 10 25a

1966 04 27
Adventure playgrounds needed; survey of existing facilities at Coleridge, Lammas Land - 66 04 27a

1967 07 05
St James' church, Wulfstan Way expansion programme needed; first phase will be sanctuary nave and extra rooms - 67 07 05b

1969 04 03
Cambridge prefabs to be demolished - feature; have gone from Church End, Walpole Road and Fisher's Lane; leaves 40 at Gilbert Close and in Lichfield Road - Golding Rad area - 69 04 03

1970

1971 09 10
Comprehensive education plans impeded - feature, photo Coleridge school - 71 09 10

1971 09 27
World Chief Guide, Lady Baden-Powell visits Perne Road HQ - 71 09 27

1973 11 08
Some of the Cambridge school buildings which have to be altered to turn them into comprehensives may not be ready by the time the new system starts in September 1974. Alterations costing more than £100,000 are being held up because builders, who have a lot of work on then - hands and face an acute labour shortage, are unwilling to undertake any more City council contracts. Worried council officials had to approach 13 building firms before they could

find anybody willing to undertake a £4,000 classroom building job at the Coleridge secondary school

1973 11 22
It was the Second World War which boosted the trade in used agricultural machinery at Cambridge cattle market. Now, after 30 years on the Hills Road site, it is hoped that the move to the new sales area down Milton Road will give a similar fillip to what is generally regarded as one of Europe's outstanding second-hand implements market. The cattle market developed over the years and continued unchanged until 1966 when the advent of an £8,000 new corn market proved more or less a flop from the start and received negligible support from fanners and auctioneers. There have been frequent prophecies that the cattle market will eventually go the same way. Obstinately though, it refuses to die

1974 04 06
When Cherry Mann moved into a council house in Holbrook Road, Cambridge this week it was not just a new home for her but the beginning of a whole new way of life. It was a dream came true. She has been severely disabled by a rare and incurable disease for more than 30 years, and her home for the last three years has been a hospital bed. The house been converted into a self-contained flat with wide sliding doors, accessible light switches and doors on to a specially -built patio so that she can propel herself in her wheelchair into the fresh air. "It is just incredible to be here", she said.

1975 05 03
Hundreds of Cambridge motorists were late for work today as the second stage of the city's traffic experiment turned into an enormous snarl-up. Police described the situation as chaotic. A police inspector said "Vast numbers of drivers are completely unaware of the new experimental scheme. At 8.30 this morning there was a solid block of traffic from the Catholic Church corner of Hills Road to Peme Road island. Drivers are bewildered and completely at sea". One councillor said that while the first part of the experiment was a semi-hit, the extension was a definite miss.

1976 02 10
Chips are one of those rare commodities that do not have to be sold by weight, quality or recommended retail price. So what do you get in 1976 for your six pen'orth. Well an old 6d won't even buy you a squirt of tomato ketchup in some shops. There is a growing tendency to sell ketchup and tartare sauce in sachets at 3p each. Nowhere in Cambridge could I find chips selling for less than 12p a bag. Four shops had a 15p. minimum price. The most extreme difference in value were between the Quality Fish Shop in Mill Road at 7oz for 12p compared to only 5 ozs for the same price at Mike and Julie's, Wulfstan Way and D.G. Munns, Old Chesterton

1976 10 11
Work is progressing smoothly on the extension of Barnwell Road, Cambridge, to link up in about two years' time with Brooks Road on the other side of the Cambridge -Newmarket main railway line. The aim is to provide a quick route for heavy traffic between Newmarket Road and Perne Road and out on to the main roads to London. This will by-pass the notorious traffic bottlenecks of Coldham's Lane. The scheme includes a new bridge over the railway and an extensive road island and an extensive road island at the Brook's Road - Coldham's Lane junction.

1976 12 13
The Cambridge Scouts' shop in Perne Road celebrated 50 years of existence. Known first as the

Equipment Store it opened in a rifle range half way up the stairs at the old Grafton Street headquarters on 13th December 1926. The shop's manager, Mr Kenneth North, took over in 1934. He remained when the shop moved temporarily to Russell Street and then to the new Scout headquarters in 1956. Mr John Chambers has been associated with it since he joined as a boy in 1940 & Roger Woollard, Scout leader running the 13th Cambridge Scouts Group, also helps out

1977 07 21
One of the most striking features in the property market has been the resurgence of interest in the small terraced city house in the Romsey Town area. Fifteen years ago one could have bought a two up, two down, for about £1,350. By 1967 the price was £2,200 rising to £5,500 by 1972 and is now £8,500 - and increase of 530 per cent. In De Freville Avenue a semi which cost £3,000 in 1962 is now £15,000, and in Queen Edith's Way the figures are £3,350 and £14,500. A post-war semi in Cherry Hinton has risen from £10,000 to £15,000 in the five years from 1972.

1978 04 14
It is often said in Cambridge that the cream of the city's machinists are at Cambridge Instruments. They've got to be good, working to measurement of one millionth of an inch in metal. And the firm is now looking for people with the same high skill level to help boost output. To younger people, training at Cl can be the springboard for a career anywhere in the industry, within the company on promotion or anywhere in the world. A major expansion programme and a rapidly rising inflow of international orders have created 70 new jobs. Some 750 people work at the factory in Rustat Road

1978 10 13 c
Over the last four years Cambridge city council has completed many major housing schemes - estates like King's Hedges, Fulboum Old Drift and Walpole Road. And the government's new schools, fire stations and other building also proved a boon to the casualties of the time - building contractors and architects. But there has now been a cut in new town development, and home building involving architects virtually ceased overnight. In the past year there has been an upturn in private house building, but it is nowhere near the boom of the 1960's.

1979 01 16
The heart transplant operation at Papworth Hospital came within a month of the decision to close down its cardiac unit. The Regional Health Authority wants to start work on a new unit at Addenbrooke's Hospital because they say Papworth is inconveniently located and uneconomic in its running costs; a substantial range of improvements would be needed if it was to remain in use. The new cardiac unit at Hills Road would have 90 beds with operating theatres and support facilities. Work could begin in 1985

1979 02 22
As the rubbish collectors' strike continues it seems we are a tidy lot. Those now familiar piles of black shiny plastic have been kept in excellent order. A few 'hot tips' have burst into flames but as the strike goes on each dump begins to acquire a character of its own. At Arbury Court the residents' loyalty to the Beehive supermarket gives the tip a distinctive orange glow, but it is piled up against the side of the men's' lavatories, blocking the air vents. In Glebe Road loose potato peelings and carrot tops spoil a tidy dump but probably the worst is the one in Nuffield Road.

1979 04 05
Cambridge City Council's scheme of building houses for sale to its tenants or people on the housing list has proved a great success. More than 150 couples applied to buy the 24 two and

three-bedroomed houses which the council are completing at Walpole Road and selling for £10 - £12,000. Nearly 300 people have asked to buy the 300 houses being built by a private company in a joint scheme next to the council's King's Hedges estate. These range from one -bedroom flats at around £10,000 to three-bedroomed detached houses at £25,000. During the past two years the council has sold nearly 300 of its houses to tenants.

1979 06 07
In 1921 the garage on the corner of Hills Road, Cambridge, broke all records by selling 25 Model 'T' Fords. Now the firm of Gilbert Rice which took over the premises aims for 100 times that turnover. There is a used car facility with space to display 75 cars and they have installed service and repair facilities. In the light of the impending fuel crisis smaller cars will be substituted for thirsty larger ones and there could be changes in the type of fuel used. The company is prepared to adapt and says the car dealer of the future will be running a very different type of business from today

1979 09 26 c
Cambridge Councillors want British Rail to spend £500,000 on building a footbridge over the railway lines from Rustat Road to the railway station, and also want a footpath from Devonshire Road to the entrance. It would assist many people who currently have to travel long distances and now BR is about to begin electrification they want a commitment to them. But British Rail is opposed to both plans claiming they would bring security problems as well as affecting future land development potential. The high cost is caused by the length of the bridge and the difficulties building it over the mass of rail lines.

1980

1980 02 16
A major row over whether Papworth Hospital's heart unit should be moved to Cambridge has escalated. Consultants want it to be moved to Hills Road with all its specialist and support facilities but officials from two Area Health Authorities say the site is already overcrowded. There is an upper limit of 950 beds at New Addenbrooke's and already have to fit in a replacement for Mill Road Hospital and a psychiatric unit. They believe Papworth should be transferred to the new Hinchinbrook Hospital 80 02 16

1980 09 02
Cambridge's railway electrification came a step nearer when contractors handed over the shell of the new power signal box near Hills Road Bridge. It will take another 18 months to install the mass of circuitry which will enable a couple of men to control every train, point and signal for miles around. The plan includes floodlit carriage sidings with automatic washing plant for carriages. It is expected to come into operation in May 1982 80 09 02a

1981 09 17
Netherhall School is to take a leap into the computer age with a £35,000 development programme. Their involvement in micro-processors began long before the current upsurge of interest shown by schools in computers. Two years ago staff began working out how they would like to see computer studies develop in the school. An extra teacher will be provided at Government expense and a programmer employed. They expect the delivery of 15 micro-computers soon. 81 09 17a

1981 10 09
Netherhall School has won a £35,000 computer development grant for its pioneering use of new

technology in education. The funding is coming from the Department of Industry, Cambridge colleges and Acorn Computers who will supply 16 of their new BBC Microcomputers. They will now develop computer programmes to teach science, geography, economics and history in schools around the country. 81 10 09b

1982 04 26
Sir - Independence for Cherry Hinton should be an election issue. Residents never wanted to be swallowed up by an expanding Cambridge and wish to be separate village. It is detached from the city by a 'green belt' including Netherhall playing fields, Coldham's Lane rubbish tips and Marshall's airfield where it is unlikely that any new development will take place. It has all the amenities such as a library, post office, shops and schools. Candidates should realise the importance of maintaining a community spirit - Cherry Hinton Liberation Front spokesman. 82 04 26

1983 02 11
The Aga Khan can relax: his kidnapped wonder horse Shergar is safe and well in an abbey in County Galway. He was 'found' by two Cambridge clairvoyants who came across his hideaway during an experiment using a pendulum suspended over two maps of southern Ireland taped together at their home in Netherhall Way. It was the first time they had conducted a psychic detection experiment and they admit there is a 'cocktail of doubt' about the result. 83 02 11

1983 02 22
After 40 years baking his own special brand of bread for the residents of Newnham, Basil Sargeant has retired to start a new life in Norfolk as a smallholder. In appreciation, customers presented him with a painting of his shop in Derby Road, the work of Cambridge painter Philip Martin. The new owner, Mike North, will be sticking to Basil's recipe and methods. 83 02 22

1983 04 29
A much-heralded district heating scheme which was installed in 234 council houses and flats at Lichfield Road and Neville Road is being scrapped after only 10 years. The pipes which are buried deep underground leak. There were claims it would be much cheaper but tenants said their homes were unnecessarily hot, giving 70 degrees in living rooms and 65 in bedrooms when temperatures outside were freezing. It will be replaced by individual central heating units in each property. 83 04 29

1983 10 04
Coleridge soccer club who earned a place in the Guinness Book of Records by going 28 years since their formation in 1954 without a booking have hit trouble with a referee. In the reserve team match with Romsey they lost their record of good behaviour. Twice over. Two players were cautioned. But they may retain their place in the Book as nobody is aware of any other club with such a long record. 83 10 04 pi

1984 03 21
A back garden in Perne Road has become a makeshift aircraft factory. Two plane enthusiasts, Peter Fabish and Andy Crumphorn have been chiselling, sawing and shaping the sheet metal, struts and spars which will eventually become a Soneral light racing plane capable of looping the loop and acrobatic flying. They intend to find a farmer's field from which to fly it. 84 03 21 p7

1984 11 20
Cambridge's Hills Road bus depot is to be moved to the outskirts of the city in a multi-million pound swap deal between Cambus and the Stetchworth-based Unex property group. Cambus will

exchange its one-acre site for a much larger section of the former D & H Contractor's site in Cowley Road. In return Unex will get control of the bus depot virtually next door to the former Heffer's printing works site which they successfully redeveloped as Botanic House, headquarters of Cambridge Electronic Industries, BBC Radio Cambridgeshire and Betjeman House which was subsequently sold for more than £4 million. 84 1 1 20 pi

1984 12 05
KP Professional Sales started in 1968 when its position on King's Parade was ideal for building up business with university departments. But it outgrew its space in the KP Camera Shop, moving to Sussex Street and then Quayside before opening new premises in Clifton Road. It supplies Government departments, the armed forces and a host of professional photographers who need a vital piece of equipment at the last minute. There is a lot of new electronic equipment but as far as taking pictures is concerned Ian Bedson, the managing director, doesn't envisage any major innovation. 84 12 05 & a

1985 03 01
Sir Clive Sinclair is taking a £3 million high-tech centre as part of a major expansion of his Cambridge -based research company. The present headquarters at Willis Road is bursting at the seams so he is moving to the Camtec Centre off Rustat Road. Other high-tech companies in the area include Cambridge Electronic Industries, Acornsoft and Logica. Sinclair this week launched a big advertising campaign for its £100 pocket TV and hopes to sell 200,000 units of their QL computers in . 85 03 0la

1985 03 27
Back in the 1950s when Freddie Kingdon announced plans to take a party of Coleridge Boys to the Lake District on their first ever school trip, his colleagues thought he was mad. They stayed in wooden huts and took bales of straw with them in the bus to make pillows or straw mattresses to sleep on. Each day boys walked miles over the Fells, sometimes being left to find their way to destinations using their survival skills. "We were so well equipped that we could have spent the night out in the snow, and my biggest regret is that we never did", he said. After his retirement in 1966 Mr Kingdon continued taking parties there for another five years. 85 03 27a

1985 05 10
Ask Ted Taylor how many times the siren went in Cambridge during the war and he will answer straight away - 269. He was an air-raid warden and would trot off to his post at the end of the street each time they sounded. He covered the Roseford Road area with seven other wardens, making sure there was a total blackout. One memory is of the German prisoners-of-war who built concrete roads outside prefabs which later made way for Molewood Close and Birdwood Close. Ted has given away his steel helmet and mislaid his gasmask, but he still has the stirrup pump with which he was issued. 85 05 10b

1985 05 10
Messrs Richard Larkinson Ltd has warehouses and sidings equipped with modern lifting equipment at Station Works, Hills Road to load non-ferrous metal direct on rail wagons. The family originated in Biggleswade dealing in rabbit skins then diversified into household rags using imported labour from the London area. Richard Larkinson started his business in Baldock in 1958, establishing a branch at Cottenham in 1972. Today they purchase and process all grades of scrap and export to Germany in their own company vehicles, returning with wine for their associated company, Fen Vinters Ltd. 85 05 10

1985 12 10

Morley Memorial Primary School has been waiting for improvements since the beginning of the Second World War. It suffers from leaking roofs and a totally inadequate school hall. Now parents fear that the County Council plans to sell property at 100 Blinco Grove for building development. It is densely populated area with virtually no playing space and the school uses the grounds for infants' sports, nature trails and other functions. Parents hope to form an action committee to oppose the suggestion. 85 12 10

1986 02 21
V-Cars of Perne Road have been appointed Cambridge's first dealers for Spanish company Seat's new car range. Prices for Ibiza models fitted with rear seat belts and laminated windscreen as standard equipment range from £3,995 up to £5,569 for the 1.5GLX. "The cars are exceptionally good value for money and 1 think we will sell a lot of them" said the manager. 86 02 21a

1986 04 02
Papworth Hospital, Britain's premier heart transplant centre, is to be replaced by the end of the decade. Health chiefs are considering upgrading the ancient buildings which date back 40 years to TB Isolation days, moving the entire hospital to Hinchingbrooke or rebuilding it on a quite separate site. An earlier suggestion that Papworth could be moved to the Addenbrooke's Hospital site has been put on one side because of the present congestion on the Hills Road site. Its major function is as a heart and chest disease centre, not a heart transplant unit and many of the heart physicians refuse to take part in the transportation programme 86 04 02

1986 12 08
Controversial plans to build a high-tech office block on the site of the old Eastern Counties Bus Station in Hills Road have been given Government approval, despite fierce council opposition. The Stetchworth-based property development company Unex Group can construct a three-storey office block. But alternative proposals for a four-storey block and sheltered housing, scorned by the council as 'a geriatric ghetto', have been dismissed. 86 12 08a

1987 12 08
Businessmen behind a proposed £lm ski and leisure complex at Cherry Hinton have pledged to work with conservationists to preserve wildlife on the site at Lime Kiln Hill. If built it would feature the longest dry ski slope in England, a toboggan run, ski -hire facilities, a play area, pet's corner and a lake. But the end nearest to houses in Queen Edith's Way would remain a nature reserve. However some residents fear the development would be the 'thin end of the wedge' 87 12 08

1988 05 17
Netherhall & Bar Hill schools use computers for local history projects 88 05 17 & a

1988 06 23
The very latest, sophisticated machinery is being installed in the Post Office's new sorting office in Clifton Road. Mill Road became a Mechanised Letter Office in 1972 but its technology is now in need of replacement. Conditions for the 650 staff are cramped and noisy. Now high-speed sorting machines will hold 16,000 items an hour and Mill Road will be refurbished to act as delivery centre for mail coming into Cambridge. 88 06 23a

1988 09 14
Mills & Reeve Francis solicitors take over old Cambus depot site, Hills Road 88 09 14 c

1989 03 15

The new £5.5 million mechanised letter office in Clifton Road was built to cope with the area's rapidly increasing volumes pf mail. Letters are handled by some of the latest sorting technology including machines which operate at a rate of 25,000 an hour and has scope for expansion so it can continue to grow with the city. It was formally opened by TV personality Anne Gregg, presenter of "Holiday '89". Later she waved off a special train to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the travelling post office. 89 03 15

1989 05 05
A lifetime's work educating pupils at Morley Memorial primary school was rewarded when the former headmistress laid a foundation stone for a new £500,000 building project. Miss Dorothy Hurst, who retired as head two years ago after 35 years teaching at the school, laid the stone in the walls of a new school hall for the 420 pupils in Blinco Grove. The project also includes a community room, two new classrooms and major improvements to the school. Work should be completed in time for its 90th anniversary in January next year 89 05 05a

1989 09 19
Harold Ridgeon was one of Cambridge's most famous self-made men. From humble beginnings, he graduated from Cambridge University and began his own business in 1927 with a couple of men and an agreement to build a pair of houses in Perne Road. His success was such that in 1936 he was able to purchase William Sindall, an old-established Cambridge builder. During the war they took on responsibility for airfields and defence work and today the company has a turnover of £60 million a year. His other business interests included Abington Farms, W.J. Atkins meat producers, the Gonville Hotel and the Cambridge Building Society. He was also chairman of Cambridge City Football Club for many years. 89 09 19

1989 10 01
The controversial Cambridge park and ride scheme has started with a whimper. At peak commuter time there were 17 cars at the 400-space Cowley Road and even fewer at the 150-space car park on Clifton Road. Users were enthusiastic: Sophy Moxley of Willingham, a sales assistant, said "It will save me money because it only costs 50p which is cheaper than parking in the city centre though Steve Field from Stretham says it is inconvenient as you don't have access to our car during the day. Councillor Andrew Duff said the area around Castle Hill, where residents-only zones have been introduced, was 'almost pastoral' though Canterbury and Benson Street were packed with cars. 89 10 01

1989 10 24
More than £200,000 has been paid in compensation to 16 Cambridge residents who bought their 'Unity' concrete homes from the city council and later found the buildings had major structural defects. The houses in the Queen Edith's and Coleridge areas were quickly built of pre -fabricated concrete in the 1950s to help beat the housing crisis. But major structural defects had gone undetected. Then some tenants found they were not eligible for compensation because of a legal slip-up by the city council. 89 10 24

1989 11 30
Maps and plans which have lain forgotten for 20 years may save ratepayers £500,000. They show a drainage system which was laid, but probably never used, in the Gunhild Way, Wulfstan Way and Godwin Way areas in the 1950s. Council engineers did not know of the existence of the network of pipes until elderly people told them. Now they may use it to combat a constant flooding problem in hundreds of gardens. For years the residents have complained their back gardens are frequently under many inches of water. 89 11 30

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1990 01 25
Today's squatters are usually the young and single who do not qualify to go on council housing waiting lists. But after the war couples with children occupied empty houses in Jesus Lane and Parkside that had been requisitioned by the army. Then one family moved into Nissen huts in the grounds of a house in Hills Road and another into a four-storey property in Portugal Place. From then on more huts or houses were occupied daily. Then pre-fabricated steel houses were erected in Lichfield Road and Trumpington. They were meant to be temporary but some were lived in until the 1970s -90 01 25c

1990 01 26
Plans to develop the site of the old Cattle Market into a light industrial estate met an angry response. But now it has been transformed into the Clifton Road Industrial estate with 56 units providing jobs for several hundred people. There is ample car parking and good office accommodation. The estate is fronted by the attractive Clifton Court office complex. Situated alongside the railway station, close to the city centre with park and ride facilities on its doorstep it has good access to major roads. With its landscaping it provides an industrially useful estate and a pleasant working environment for employees 90 01 26c

1990 02 15
The Junction, Cambridge's long-awaited new venue centre got off to a flying start. DJ John Peel cut his way through yards of studio tape wrapped all the way round the hexagonal building in Clifton Road. Riots four years ago highlighted the lack of facilities for younger people. The Junction - with its 400 seater auditorium, exhibition space, cafe-car and rehearsal rooms - was the city council's response. It is Britain's first purpose-built music and arts centre for young people. 90 02 14b, c. Laser- light show - 90 02 15e

1990 03 12
W.P. (Freddie) Kingdon, who was headmaster at Coleridge Boys School from 1947 to 1966 still attends school regularly - only now as a pupil at art classes. He joined as a teacher of PE in 1936 before becoming head in 1947. During the war he was put in charge of the 'Ringleaders' - the naughtiest boys. This was made easier as corporal punishment was still in use and he always allowed the boy to decide how many times they were caned. Later he organised courses for pupils who had to stay an extra year when leaving age was raised from 15 to 16 in 1966. He ran courses on drugs, drink and addiction and organised the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme - 90 03 12b

1990 10 22
Leica Cambridge, the former Cambridge Instrument Company to make 70 redundant at Clifton Rd factory - 90 10 22a

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Chesterton High Street c1925 – 148.07

c.44.6 : Chesterton

This is the main file for any mention of Chesterton
Chesterton Road entries have also been copied into another file

1897 01 23
Chesterton reject amalgamation by 985 votes to 349 p2

1897 02 01
Chesterton amalgamation dropped

1897 03 04
Chesterton sewage, p2

1897 03 05
Betting raid, p2
Free Library for Chesterton, p2

1897 03 05
The clerk (of Chesterton Urban District Council) read a letter from the chairman of the Milton Parish Council stating that he had been asked to draw the attention of the Council to the large heap of rubbish on Mr Few's land near the railway crossing which was causing a nuisance throughout the neighbourhood. It seemed the contractor who gathered their house refuse had deposited a large heap within 10 yards of the public highway. There were 200 or 300 yards of

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house refuse in a large heap, and it generated an amount of gas and bad sent. The smell was infinitely worse than the smell from the sewage farm

1897 04 03
Chesterton jubilee & pic

1897 05 05
Chesterton & jubilee, p2

1897 06 21 c
At the fortnightly meeting of the Chesterton Board of Guardians Mr Rutter said that the matron once complained of the waste of bread in the Workhouse. The inmates had too much bread, and it was thrown away. Mr Cock said he knew there was waste in some workhouses and vagrant paupers were fed with the waste food of the ordinary inmates. Mr Foster said that he had been round the house a great many times and had never discovered there was any great waste. Every pauper was allowed so much bread and they did not always eat it. Each one had a sort of little cupboard of their own, and so they had a little piece of lunch is they required it.

1897 06 21
Such has been the general progress during the Victorian era that it is difficult from the point of view of today to recall the Cambridge of 1837. In the year of her Majesty's accession but few houses stood on the marshy spot which we now know as the populous district of New Town. There were a few residents in Newnham and some scattered dwellings in the neighbourhood of New-square while beyond on the Newmarket-road lay Barnwell of historic note. Chesterton, as a part of Cambridge, was confined to the outgrowth of the town in the neighbourhood of Castle Hill and a plan of the town stops short at the Mill-road corner of Parker's Piece. In 1837 the population would be about 21,000. Recently it has been estimated at over 50,000.

1897 06 25
In commemoration of the Great Jubilee of her Majesty, a meat tea was provided for poor married couples residing in the East Ward of Chesterton. A field belonging to Mr R.H. Lord on Scotland-road was secured for the occasion. Some 500 adults sat down to the meat tea which consisted of rounds of beef, legs of mutton and hams. The meat had been admirably cooked in the kitchens of Clare College. After tea the men were supplied with tobacco, tobacco boxes and pipes and snuff and snuff boxes while strawberries were provided for the women

1897 06 28
St Andrews Chesterton new East window & reredos, p2

1897 07 02
Jubilee Old Chesterton, Newnham, p3

1897 07 08
The Cambridge Sewage Farm at Milton threatens to become a fruitful source of friction between the Chesterton Rural Authority and the Cambridge Corporation. From time to time complaints of a very serious nature are made concerning the odours which arise from that establishment, coupled with further complaints of polluted water in the public drains. It is clear that if something is not done to remedy the nuisance we shall have a recurrence of litigation

1897 08 09

Sir - Now that the Jubilee accounts have been reckoned up it seems fitting we should start afresh the matter of the new bridge. The question of a new bridge to connect Chesterton with Cambridge at the Abbey Estate is of supreme importance. The ferryman knows no rest. All the people at Old Chesterton have to be crossed over long before the omnibuses are astir. The wheels of progress anywhere in the vicinity have moved round in the past with about the same velocity as a farmer's cart! Is this to drag on for ever? The advantage of another bridge over the now-sweetened Cam would be a great gain to both Chesterton and Cambridge in equal proportion - letter signed "Chestertonian"

1897 08 28
Henry Kimpton, grocer, residing on the De Freville Estate, Chesterton, made application for licence to sell beer. There were 111 houses upon the Estate, occupied by the class of persons who would have a great objection to sending their servants to the Old Spring or the bowling green public houses for the purpose of obtaining beer. They were well aware that although there were bottle and jug entrances, these were often used by persons frequenting the houses.

1897 10 07
The Chairman of Chesterton Urban District Council stated that with reference to Crawley's gut-scraping and fat-rendering factory at the Junction, people complained severely of the offensive and sickening smell and he had asked Dr Anningson to inspect the place. The Inspector said that in addition to the business of gut-scraping, that of fat-rendering was carried on. An open vat was treated by fire from below which allowed all the vapour to escape into the open air. A quantity of disinfecting material had been used, quite inadequate for the purpose in view. Poor people who lived in the vicinity could not even partake of their food by reason of the smell

1897 10 16
Chesterton factory nuisance, p2

1897 11 27
New Chesterton Institute, p2 *

1897 12 15
Sir - The fearful state of the Chesterton roads at the present time calls for comment: they are worse than ever. Trees have lately been inserted on either side of this avenue of mud & slime. Omnibuses are running to and fro daily that are a credit to any town, especially are the horses in splendid form ready to take you from Chesterton church to the Cambridge station for twopence! The wear and tear on such roads must be very great. How very surprised people seem to be now-a-days that Victoria Bridge should have been opposed by some people. But the hour has struck when the necessity for another bridge is of equal importance. The folk at Old Chesterton, all employed in Cambridge, have to cross the classic stream either by grind or punt. The sooner both councils wake up to their duty in the matter of this great necessity, the better for people on both sides of the river - "Chestertonian"

1898 01 24
Old Chesterton playground, p3

1898 02 0-
The wind howled round the exterior of the Urban District Council offices at Chesterton last night in wild and fitful fury, shaking the windows, and making a big noise generally. In justice to the elements, it is only fair to say that a similar state of things prevailed within, and for a time the “wind” of the interior quite drowned the tumult of the exterior

1888 02 0-
Chesterton UDC discussed an ancient right of way known as Little Lane, leading from Chesterton Road to the back of Mr Foster's boathouse. It had been in existence as long as the oldest man in Chesterton could remember and there had been no obstruction of any kind. Now it had been blocked by the erection of a fence by a member of the Council

1898 03 24
Chesterton telegraph poles, p3

1898 04 02
Sir - the new bridge at Abbey Road Cambridge has become a supreme necessity. Everyone admits it now. Boats and plants have had their day, and should be done away with. Omnibuses of first class order are unable to carry people to most convenient places, and at low prices, for the want of another bridge to bring them into Cambridge. What enormous advantages to both Chesterton and Cambridge another bridge at this spot holds out. The great increase in traffic calls loudly for another bridge. The people near the Abbey again insisted upon another bridge but the Cambridge Rip Van Winkles sleep on, oblivious of anything. Procrastination is the great curse of Cambridge, and Chesterton should take warning by keeping abreast with the requirements of this important suburb – Chestertonian

1898 04 15
Chesterton Guardians, p3

1898 04 16
Chesterton school was crowded to hear the details of the vicar's offer respecting the Old Town Close. Seldom have we seen such a unanimous gathering or a more enthusiastic one. The meeting had been called concerning the bit of land on the other side of the school. The chairman declared that it had been a public piece of ground all his life, his youthful play having been enjoyed there over half a century ago. For the land to be taken away like it had been he could not understand. Now it was to be turned into a Nursery garden, and cries of "Shame" shook the cobwebs in the corner of the roofs. The Vicar said he should like to leave something in the parish as a remembrance of him, and had come to the conclusion that nothing could be better than handing over this ground to the managers of the school for the benefit of the children. He was quite sure the land would be a blessing to them for many years to come. (Cheers)

1898 06 01
The red tape has all but unrolled, and the Chesterton playground is to be redeemed. In November the school children, who number some 500, and other children, will once more be allowed to sport on the "Old Town Close". A meeting to acquaint the people of Chesterton with the present condition of affairs in the matter was held last night. The chairman who was received with tumultuous stamping, said they had done their best to bring the matter to a crisis as quickly as possible and had made up their minds that they would make a forcible entry into the ground, would make a gap in the fence at each end, and open the field for cricket or football. But a benefactor had stepped in and offered to buy the land and give it back to the villagers.

1898 06 02
Chesterton manholes, p2

1898 06 24 c
Chesterton bells, p2

1898 08 04
At Chesterton Council a letter was read claiming £3 3s for damage done to a gentleman's laundry by the hose being directed by the Fire Brigade through his window during a drill. The Captain explained it was a pure accident and the damage was trivial - 4 blouses were wetted at a cost of 6d each for rewashing. While the drill was proceeding a boy for his own amusement lifted the jet, and the water was immediately turned off by the man in charge. Mr Bester said that when they had a body of men giving their services gratuitously to the public the inhabitants should exert some leniency in regard to accidents

1898 10 14
The eccentricity of a horse at Chesterton last night caused its driver and a fare some alarm. It bolted along Chesterton lane at a furious rate, resisting all the efforts of the driver to get it under control. The animal made a tour of Old Chesterton in record time and returned by the Milton road. At this point the driver came to the conclusion it was quite useless trying to hold the horse in any longer and advised the gentleman inside the cab to "quit". He took a flying leap into the darkness and grazed his face somewhat severely. The driver fell off the box and the off wheel passed over his legs. Continuing his career the horse came into collision with a gatepost at Northampton Street which knocked it on its hindquarters

1898 10 17
The "burgling" fraternity are already on the warpath. In pursuing his unworthy calling at Chesterton some impudent member of the fraternity paid a visit to a house in Victoria Road but got little, if anything, for his trouble. The family left home having previously secured the doors and windows. On their return they were alarmed at finding the front door bolted on the inside. This aroused suspicion and gave rise to the surmise that the house had been invaded by burglars. This belief was confirmed by the movements of the depredator in his haste to beat a retreat by the back part of the premises. By means of wax matches, the debris of which was strewn about the room, Mr Burglar had found his way upstairs and examined the contents of several drawers. It can hardly be imagined that the intentions of the housebreaker were strictly honest and honourable. Probably had he not been disturbed he might have got clear with a considerable amount of booty

1898 11 23
Chesterton lady's conduct, p3 *

1898 12 28
Life in the workhouse is not so eventful that Yuletide festivities are looked forward to with anything but eager anticipation. It is the one important event of the year, bringing with it liberal fare, relaxation of the necessarily somewhat stringent rules, visits and gifts from kindly disposed persons, enjoyable entertainments, and a general air of geniality and heartiness which even those whose lot has been beset with many misfortunes can enter into. It may safely be said that in no union are more strenuous efforts made in this direction than at Chesterton where the capable Master gives the inmates a genuinely happy time

1898 12 29
Horrible discovery, Chesterton, p3

1899 03 23
Chesterton fire, p3 & 25th p2

1899 03 28
Chesterton horse club, p2

1899 05 04
Filthy almshouses, Chesterton, p2 *

1899 06 09
Chesterton board of guardians considered an offer from the Tramps' Mission to provide a library at the union for the tramps to happen to be sojourning there, also to furnish wall cards bearing matter profitable for Weary Willie's reading. The master of the workhouse viewed with very little favour these concessions to the literary tastes of those who make the Chesterton Union their hotel. In his opinion there is no matter more suitable for the tramps than the regulations which have been drawn to guide the conduct of those who resort to the workhouse for shelter. Give him text on the wall and he will have an excuse for taking his ease while he reads, or pretends to read them

1899 07 11
Sir – The population of Chesterton is mainly composed of people who have been turned out of Cambridge to make way for college and other improvements, and nearly all are employed in that ancient town. Every day brings evidence of the great need of another crossing of the Cam & that Abbey Road is the place goes without saying. The De Freville Estate, are absolutely dependent upon the old punts and other obsolete marine structures for crossing over to Cambridge. . It must be conceded that a bridge over this part of the Cam is of the highest importance – "Chestertonian"

1899 08 03
Chesterton urban district council asked how to proceed in regard to eleven owners who had not complied with an order to hang gates or doors upon their premises so that they should open on to the inside. The chairman said that in some cases it was quite impossible to open the doors inside without practically pulling down the whole of the premises. Mr Cross remarked that it inflicted greatest hardship upon owners who had had their plans passed by the surveyor and now found they had built sheds that would be rendered practically useless. Presently they would be asked to take the roof off their houses and put in on another way if this sort of thing went on

1899 08 24
Chesterton aquatics, p2

1899 09 07
At the Chesterton urban council it was agreed to levy a rate of 1s 8d in the £, about 2d higher than that of Cambridge. This has a very important bearing on the objection which they have made to becoming part of the borough. When rates are as high as they are in Cambridge there remains no single reason why Chesterton should remain outside the borough. This is a civil marriage that promises many benefits for both sides.

1899 09 18
During August agricultural workers have been fully employed at harvest work. The corn crops have ripened rapidly, and as they have not been laid by storms, it has been possible to employ self-binding machines. Thus with a steady run of fine weather the harvest has been gathered rapidly with much less manual labour than usual. Reports from the Chesterton Union show that sufficient labour has been secured for fruit picking, except for a short time when the raspberries were ripe.

1899 11 02

Tram to Chesterton, p4

1899 11 16
Communications Chesterton, p2

1899 12 08
New Hotel, "Fleur-de-Lis", Humberstone road, Chesterton. This first-class hotel is now open and replete with every comfort. Billiards room in course of erection. Gentlemen visiting the hotel will find the Smoke Room fitted with every comfort – advert.

1900

1900 03 16
A well-attended meeting of ratepayers in New Cherryhinton complained of the disgraceful state of the streets and roads, some of which are now in bad weather quite impassable. They now had 240 houses in the district and the congestion of so many cesspools and make shift drains was a source of danger, not only to the health of the resident community, but also to that of the people of Cambridge. There is some friction between the Chesterton District Council and the Corporation of Cambridge preventing the progress of negotiations for inclusion in the sewerage scheme.

1900 03 29
A debate at New Chesterton Institute was told that while at the beginning of the century. Cambridge could only boast one weekly paper, they now had something like half-a-dozen weeklies and two dailies. During the past few years the Press generally had lost its influence for good upon the public. He did not think in recent years that editors had improved (Laughter). One sometimes heard that editors were "got at" and that sometimes big prices fetched extravagant leaders. There was too much reporting of police-court cases and inquests and they could do with a little less of the tragedy. The minds of the young were being poisoned by these things.

1900 06 07
Chesterton General Purposes, p2

1900 07 12
Chesterton junction, p3

1900 09 06
Chesterton UDC lovers wall, p4

1900 10 25
An epidemic of disease has broken out in Cambridge which is of such serious importance as regards the public health that we should not be discharging a duty we owe to our readers if we did not draw attention to it, notwithstanding the reticence of the medical authority, which to say the least is inexplicable. The Medical Officer of Health has absolutely declined to take the press into his confidence. That diphtheria is prevalent is beyond dispute, nor is it confined to Cambridge for rumour is that deaths have occurred at Chesterton. The death of certain children attending Park Street mixed infants school first brought the matter under the attention of the local medical authorities. Several deaths have taken place which are directly attributed to the disease.

1901 01 29

Few spots in and around Cambridge have become more notorious for the number of fatalities which they yield than the vicinity of Barnwell Junction and the stretch of line between that point and the level crossing on the Chesterton side of the railway bridge which spans the Cam. And probably nothing has ever surpassed in ghastliness the gruesome discovery made there during the early hours of Tuesday morning. The unfortunate victim was a telegraph linesman.

1901 03 01
Chesterton Urban District Council met with the owner of the land hitherto used as allotment ground and others concerned in the development of the estate for building purposes and the making of the necessary roads. They had achieved one of the greatest possible improvements that had been effected in Chesterton in their time. The public must trust their representatives, with their fuller knowledge, to do what was right. The council approved the making of a path from Aylestone Road to Ferry Path, and the continuation and widening of Montague Road from Kimberley Road to Pretoria Road. One row of houses would have their back gardens towards Ferry Path. It was impossible to consider a 36-ft roadway because there would never be a carriage bridge as it was near Victoria Bridge, but it was suggested that a row of trees be planted to mitigate the unsightliness to the occupiers.

1901 06 22
Thomas R. of Cave's Yard, Old Chesterton was charged with having stolen a drake. Detective Marsh said he saw the prisoner with a sack on his back. He opened it and found a large brown and white drake which Thomas said he had bought yesterday from a man named Pope of Upware for 2s.6d. (12p). The bird was quite warm – prisoner replied it had been in his house by a blazing fire all day. Then he said: "I knocked it over down the fen against the sewage farm. It came out of a ditch and I gave it a crump. I ain't going to starve as long as there is anything about. You can do what you like: hang me if you like". He was remanded for a week.

1901 07 04
Chesterton allotment, p3

1901 08 07
A proposal to erect a new footbridge over the Cam between the De Freville Estate and Cambridge was advanced at a meeting of occupiers. It would put them in more direct communication with Fitzroy Street. A member of Chesterton Urban District Council thought it should be erected at the Fort St George ferry to benefit the owners of the new Central Estate; but this was a thing of the future. If they waited for this development they might wait five or ten years. They wanted a bridge for De Freville inhabitants immediately and would circulate residents for donations.

1901 09 12
Mr I. Cock told Chesterton Union they should make an attempt to get a trained officer for the post of sanitary inspector. The Local Government Board had refused to sanction the appointment of an inspector at £120 a year on the plea that the salary was insufficient and they would be wasting their time to advertise for an officer at £60 a year. In appointing an officer 15 years ago the idea was simply to fill the office generally and not have it done well. The more they improved sanitation the less illness they would have, and a smaller number of paupers.

1901 09 13
Old Chesterton Baptist chapel, p3

1901 09 26
Council merge with Chesterton, p3 *

1901 10 09 c
A special meeting of Chesterton Urban District Council was held to consider a suggestion from Cambridge that they should amalgamate with a view of forming a County Borough. The Chairman said they were bound to give proper consideration to any suggestion they had to make but that from the result of the last poll upon the subject he did not think there was the slightest chance.

1901 11
Members of the Old Chesterton Cricket Club assembled at the Bowling Green and presented Mr R.H. Lord, president of the club with a handsome inkstand. Mr Lord, who is leaving the village, promised to present to the club an average bat and also two gold centre medals, one for the highest individual score during the season and one for the best average in bowling.

1901 11 26
A Chesterton lady, Miss A. Masterson of Humberstone Road, was among a number of passengers who underwent an alarming experience while travelling by the Central London Railway, which is better known as the "Twopenny Tube". A train was suddenly stopped as it was about to enter Marble Arch Station. The tunnel became filled with dense and suffocating smoke. Several ladies fainted and others became hysterical. People were rushing pell-mell from the front of the train, scrambling over seats to get out of danger. Then the lights went out. It was twenty minutes before the train moved back slowly. There was a terrible smell of burning flesh and it was learned that a gentleman had fallen in front of the train and been crushed to death.

1902 02 12
Cambridge Electric Supply Company reported that they would probably outgrow the present site, in Thompson's Lane. They had secured a site at Chesterton, situated at the side of the railway line so they would be able to bring coals into the yard and they had also arranged for the use of the river and the road. The site would not be required yet but as no other spot on the river was so placed they were justified in buying the land.

1902 03 22
Sir – A beautiful permanent memorial of the Coronation year would be the building of a bridge at De Freville Avenue. The Avenue is planted with elm trees on each side, the houses are all substantially, and some very tastefully, built; they are all set back and have flower gardens in front, making a very attractive approach to the proposed new bridge. It would provide a safe road for children attending the best Cambridge schools and provide the nearest way to Newmarket Road and the Railway Station, thus benefiting labourers, working men, college servants etc. The more bridges there are built over the river the more surely you bind communities together to the advantage of both Cambridge and Chesterton – F.R. Leach

1902 04 03
Chesterton U.D.C. had asked the Prison Commissioners to provide accommodation for small-pox patients at Cambridge Gaol but they did not see their way to do that and urged the local authorities to provide room for the patients in their own accommodation. Chesterton would be prepared to place the small-pox hospital at the disposal of the gaol authorities but felt the prison should guarantee expenses and pointed out the difficulty of the safe custody of the prisoners.

1902 05 31
New Chesterton bike, p1

1902 05
Won on Whit Monday at Dersingham by A. Brown of Milton, 1st prize, pair of solid silver candlesticks, value £7. This prize was won on a New Chesterton Bicycle, made to order. Racing machines a speciality. I invite customers to see their machines being constructed. Riding tuition free if a new machine is purchased. Tyres re-rubbered and repaired from 8/6 each. Repairs and machines overhauled at moderate charges by experienced workmen – W.J. Ison, Chesterton Cycle Works, Chesterton Road, Cambridge – advert.

1902 06 05
Chesterton medical officer reported on the provision made for smallpox patients in the district. The hospital was now clear of patients and was closed. There was still a possibility of cases occurring, as the disease was still present in London. The buildings would be at once available for use & the staff of the Cambridge Corporation was also at their service.

1902 06 19
Cambridge & Chesterton amalgamation, p3

1907 07 08
Cambridge & Chesterton, p3

1902 07 16
Sir – if Cambridge and Chesterton are excluded from the County Council it will become a superfluous organisation whose few remaining functions could well be carried out by the Rural Councils. The loss of revenue would impose upon the rural districts a burden which would be simply crushing. What would Cambridge gain – nothing unless it is made a County Borough. But with the population of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and Newnham Croft added Cambridge would still be short of the 50,000 requisite to form a County Borough – John Bester

1902 09 16 c
Sir – Many people have felt genuine concern at the announcement that the Cambridge Omnibus Company is to be "wound up". Huntingdon Road, Old and New Chesterton, Mill Road and the rapidly growing suburb of New Cherryhinton have all benefited by its service. It is regretted that in spite of the hundred the Company has conveyed daily, the venture does not pay. Their difficulty is the Tram Company's opportunity and they should arrange for a good suburban service of 'buses to run in conjunction with their cars – New Cherryhinton

1902 10 07
Sir – Canterbury Road, Chesterton was made by ourselves, as owners, at a cost of £90, in the anticipation at the Council would take it over, which they promised to do. We have asked them several times to do so and the only excuse they make is that it must be steam rolled. We have had it rolled. We have worked in every way to conform to their orders and the only reason we have placed posts across the road is to protect and preserve the road from being cut up by vehicular traffic – J. Piddock, H. Riseley, E. Wonfor

1902 12 06
Messrs Scruby and Wright sold by auction four brick-built and tiled cottages, nos. 195-199 High Street, Old Chesterton, with outbuildings and gardens, price £310. Two adjoining houses, 64 & 76 Sturton Street, Cambridge, made £330. The family residence, Primrose Croft near Victoria Road with over an acre of land, and the windmill and cottage on the Milton Road were not sold.

1903 04 17

Brewers Lacon and Co appealed against the refusal to renew the licence of the White Horse, Chesterton. The house was of good repute and considerable size and did a good trade. It was the best of the firm's houses in the district. There were some cottages situated at the back of the property, and though there was no suggestion of secret drinking, the cottages gave facilities for it. Magistrates wanted an undertaking either to have the cottages fenced off or not used for human habitation. They could be turned into stables or something of the sort. Gates had already been put across the entrances so that anyone could not get to the public house from the cottages. The appeal was allowed.

1903 04 18
All the arguments in favour of converting Cambridge into a County Borough having failed some councillors have threatened to petition for an extension to the town's boundaries so as to include not only Chesterton but Newnham Croft and St John's, Cherry Hinton as well. To silence opposition they have threatened that all children from these districts attending schools in Cambridge will have to be turned out to seek education under their own authority. This has confirmed the opponents in their opposition and alienated the sympathies of supporters. Fortunately nobody is likely to be frightened by such pusillanimous threats.

1903 05 13
Cambridge & Chesterton, p2

1903 06 16
Numerous complaints have been received from residents of Chesterton Road about nightly depredations upon their flowerbeds and window boxes. Some of the prettiest gardens facing the road have been completely wrecked by mischievous persons. One garden was stripped of every flower. Many residents take a great deal of pride in their gardens and spend no inconsiderable amount of their incomes in keeping them smart and well stocked. It is to be hoped the police will keep a sharp eye for offenders and they will be dealt with in a manner which will prove a salutary warning to similarly-inclined persons.
1903 07 02
Chesterton chaplain, p3

1903 08 06
Chesterton sanitary precautions p4

1903 08 13
Chesterton small pox, p3

1903 10 07
Old Chesterton club, p3

1903 10 12
There was another heavy downpour of rain; the Cam has but in a few places overflowed its banks and the ferries between Cambridge and Chesterton are still working. The Granta has not behaved so well and the water is already over the banks; there is a vast expanse of water with the tops of the hedges and the trees only showing. At Grantchester mill the road is knee deep. The basement of houses in Newmarket High Street are flooded as are some of the low-lying streets at Saffron Walden and the railway line at Chesterford is threatened with being submerged.

1903 11 13

A lady from Chesterton says that since she took up her abode her house has been invaded by battalions of tradesmen's representatives, most of whom went away empty-handed, as they were all anxious to sell the same goods. One individual of righteous appearance bearing a bundle of what appeared to be the latest thing in tracts asked if the household was a teetotal one and hoped she would accept one of his pamphlets. When she came to look at the pledge form it was an advertisement for bottled beer. It is curious that all the others have been bottled beer men too.

1903 12 12
Chesterton grumble, p3 *

1904 01 01
For a span of seventy-odd years Cambridge has had a rallying point from which to speed the Old and welcome the New Year. The venerable Alderman Deck has sent two coloured rockets skyward and attracted a portion of the population to King's Parade. For the first time a similar event took place at Old Chesterton when his son ignited the fireworks close to the Horse Grind ferry. But it was not known that a new ceremony would take place and not a single resident left his abode to witness the rockets' flight

1904 04 07
A few years ago such a group such as the Cambridge and Chesterton Horse Club would have been out of the question but over the last six years it had grown beyond all expectations and now has a membership of 185. All who possess horses should join: during the past year they paid £235 to 16 members who lost horses by death. The condition of horses in Cambridge and the treatment meted out to them is much better than previously for if an owner neglected his animal he is prohibited from receiving the benefits of the club

1904 04 29
The stone laying was held of a new Wesleyan chapel being built at Old Chesterton to supersede one which has been in use for 60 years and is dilapidated and unsightly. It was first intended to erect it on Chesterton Road facing De Freville Avenue but a site in Church Street was chosen and the builders, Messrs Kerridge and Shaw have commenced operations of a simple structure capable of accommodating 150 persons together with 120 Sunday School scholars. The building was within sight of two other Christian churches but they came in the old Methodist spirit, as friends of all and the enemy of none and would not injuriously rival or detract from their work

1904 06 02
Chesterton Wesleyan chapel sale, p3 *

1904 06 10
An important property sale was conducted at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge. Several lots were offered including the Wesleyan Chapel at Old Chesterton which, however, was not sold. The brick-built building with a class room at the rear was withdrawn at £165. A plot of building land opposite De Freville Avenue fetched £285; the residence 'Sepha Villa', Lyndewode Road was withdrawn at £640 and a modern family residence known as 'Lucerne' on Hills Road with gardens of a quarter of an acre was withdrawn at £725. Winthingham House, 199 Chesterton Road with gardens and a coach house was withdrawn at £1,850 but a University lodging house at no.9 Malcolm Street, licensed to let three sets (two at £11 and one at £7) sold for £355

1904 06 13
The Rev N.W. Shelton, vicar of Old Chesterton and his party, half-a-dozen in all, met with an unpleasant experience at the 'Mays'. The party, in an ordinary rowing boat, had left the scene of

the action and arrive, after the usual difficulty, at the Pike and Eel ferry where their progress was barred for a time. During the period of waiting a big houseboat, towed by a horse, 'crashed' into the boat which it sunk and precipitated the occupants into the water. After a short period of excitement the party, which included several ladies, were landed safely on the houseboat, which proceeded on its course. It is an abominable shame that these large houseboats are allowed to travel on the river when it is crowed with smaller craft. It was going at from six to seven miles an hour and was in charge of a small boy on a horse

1904 08 06
Attendance at public bodies bear the mark of the exodus. Chesterton Urban District Council was reduced to three members and a chairman. The clerk was away on holiday. With him went the keys which keep the Council's documents away from prying eyes so when the minutes came up for confirmation there were no minutes to confirm. Then the seal could not be had because it too was under lock and key. However the business of the Council was not impeded

1904 09 02
Cambridge has had more than its fair share of tragedies. Foremost is the terrible tragedy enacted at Shrapnel Barracks, Woolwich, when a Cambridge girl was destroyed by her soldier lover who subsequently shot himself. Then there was the inquest into the wife of a Chesterton hairdresser who committed suicide, a pitiful tale of conjugal unhappiness, poverty and religious mania. Equally shocking was the terrible death of a Bassingbourn girl in a London shop fire. Emerging safely from the burning building she rushed back into the flames in a foolish attempt to rescue her engagement ring.

1904 10 04
A disastrous fire occurred at Histon when the Green Hill public house was totally destroyed. It was a quaint old house with a thatched roof and was occupied by Albert Gawthrop who also carries on the business of a grocer and baker. One room of the house had been converted into a grocer's shop, while a bakehouse was in the rear. The fire was caused by a spark from a neighbouring chimney being blown on to the roof. A number of employees of Messrs Chivers were sent to assist together with a vanload of buckets. They did excellent work until the arrival of the Chesterton Fire Brigade. All that remains is a heap of ruins with the chimney rising from the centre

1904 10 14
The Wesleyans have added another to their places of worship by opening a new chapel in Church Street, Chesterton. It is the successor of a building in the High Street which during the latter period of its existence has been difficult to reconcile with conventional ideas of what a place of worship should be. Though doubtless hallowed in the memory of many its defects were numerous. Mr B.C. Jolley provided a piece of land upon which building operations began a few months ago. The architect adopted a Queen Anne style and the result is a pleasing-looking building with an appearance more domestic than ecclesiastical

1904 10 18
Chesterton resister's sale, p3

1904 11 19
No reasonable person expects to find a ferryman on duty after ten at night and is reconciled to the necessity of grinding himself across the few yards of water. About midnight a husband and his wife returning from Chesterton determined to make a short cut across the river as rain was pouring down in pitiless fashion. The husband seized the handle of the grind to get to the other

side as quickly as possible. But when they got to the middle the ferry stuck fast, nor would it go back no matter how hard he strained and pushed. For ten minutes they wrestled with that ferry in the pouring rain and were just about to shout for help when the unwieldy affair began to work and they got back to the bank they had left. As they walked around the road home they decided that ferries were contrivances of the Evil One

1904 12 08
Chesterton council considered a petition for the construction of a footbridge across the Cam between Victoria Bridge and Dant's Ferry, subject to £200 being raised by private subscription towards the cost. But by asking for a subscription they would be setting a precedent and they would never be able to carry out public improvements without asking local occupiers to put their hands in their pockets to help them. It would be an advantage to those on the De Freville, but they all paid rates. The bridge would be an advantage, but not a pecuniary one. If it was placed at the Fort St George it would benefit a very large number of people and no ratepayer would object to a farthing rate for the project

1904 12 17
Cambridge & Chesterton, p2

1904 12 20
Chesterton amalgamation, p3

1905 01 26
Cambridge councillors were told of a fatal accident at Dant's Ferry a few days prior to Christmas when the breadwinner of a family was drowned. It was only one of many; during the present winter at least five persons had tumbled into the water at that spot. There should be a bridge in the neighbourhood of Abbey Road. But Victoria Bridge was not a long way from Dant's Ferry and before any bridges were built Chesterton would have to join Cambridge.

1905 02 23
A meeting of Chestertonians was held in furtherance of the scheme for constructing a bridge across the Cam at the Fort St George. The Council has accepted the necessity of a bridge and will spend £500 provided another £200 is raised by private subscription. It was not a large sum for such a district. Inhabitants should remember that once it was built they would save further expense on ferries. Several promises were made on the spot and various college boat clubs will be approached. 05 02 23a

1905 03 10
A company is being formed to provide a service of motor 'buses for Cambridge. Eight 'buses will be put down at first by which it is hoped to run a 15 minutes' service from Chesterton, another from the Huntingdon road district to the centre of town and a seven minutes' service to the railway station. Should the venture prove successful the more outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton will be catered for 05 03 10

1905 03 24
The begging fraternity appear to regard Chesterton as a Happy Hunting Ground. On the new estates, the De Freville and the Central the evil is particularly rampant and when the male members of the households are mostly away at business the weaker sex are particularly intimidated into relieving the able-bodied tramps who frequently threaten violence unless they receive assistance. One actually walked right into the kitchen and demanded money or food. The police have made an attempt to suppress this nuisance but when the principal penalty inflected by

magistrates is to discharge the beggar on his promising to leave town the evil quickly becomes as bad as ever. 05 03 24a

1905 03 28
Considerable indignation is being felt by Chesterton ratepayers at measures adopted by the parish to ensure the payment of the rates. Some people are being summoned while others are not. In view of the allegations made against the overseers the law should be stated: summonses can be issued seven days after a rate has been made and the fact published on the church doors. But the usual practice is to send a second notice to the ratepayers who have not complied 05 03 28a-b

1905 04 08
The Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company has been formed. It is nowadays essential for the business of the town to have a convenient and quick means of transit and the omnibuses will be appreciated by the public and become a source of income to the shareholders. With eight vehicles it will be quite easy to maintain a 15-minute service from Chesterton and the Huntingdon Road to the centre of town and a seven-minute service to the railway station. Should these prove successful it will be extended to outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton. There is little doubt that horse traction for omnibuses and tramcars will shortly be superseded by petrol and electricity. 05 04 08a

1905 05 26
Chesterton residents will be glad to see the inauguration of a new motor 'bus service by the 'Light Blue' company. Special arrangements have been made for the convenience of residents intending to travel to London by the early morning train. The 'bus will leave Old Chesterton Green at 8.25 and run through to the station in time for the 8.53 train. It will also run as frequently as possible between one and two-thirty for the convenience of residents employed in Cambridge who go to the suburbs for their midday meal 05 05 26

1905 06 27
Sir – may I protest against the needless pandemonium Chesterton residents are forced to endure during the Midsummer Fair by the hideous orchestrations attached to shows and merry-go-rounds, grinding out harsh and discordant sounds which make day and night a time of torture. No sane people can find pleasure in the ear-splitting metallic sounds emanating from these machines. Such a noise, coupled with the hooting of horns and the screeching of steam whistles render rest an impossibility – Nerves 05 06 27e

1905 09 21
The will of the late Mr Stephen Mansfield of Trumpington includes a bequest of £250 to Chesterton Baptist chapel where he once a teacher in the Sunday School. This is not his only benefaction to the village; there are five almshouses erected by him and their upkeep and stipends for the inmates are provided out of other property. He also subscribed to the Royal Albert and Victoria Friendly Societies' asylum and left £100 to the poor of Trumpington 05 09 21

1905 09 30
Chesterton club, p4

1905 10 05
Cambridge Town Council wrote to Chesterton R.D.C. saying they wish to extend their boundaries to incorporate parts of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton, Trumpington and Grantchester. Chesterton are to reply saying they will give such project its most strenuous opposition. 05 10 05-b

1905 11 03
Old Baptist chapel, Old Chesterton new infant's classroom – 05 11 03a

1905 12 02
Chesterton football, p4

1906 03 01
New Chesterton Institute, p3

11906 08 24
Chesterton fire, p3 *

1907 01 05
There is a popular delusion among residents that Chesterton is neglected by the police. But last Friday in the small hours I noticed the glare of a fire from a burning shed in Springfield Road and saw a policeman sprinting round the corner of Ferry Path. He was followed within three minutes by four others, including a sergeant. This should convince residents that the police are alert for the safety of their lives and property. But superstitions die hard. 07 01 05

1907 04 05
During a football match on Midsummer Common one of the backs, being hard pressed, kicked the ball out of play. It crashed with great force against the pipe of a spectator, knocking two teeth out and driving the stem into the roof of his mouth. Blood gushed in great quantity and an operation may be necessary. The injured man has a wife and two children dependent on him and has been out of employment for a considerable period. The Chesterton Thursday League is to appeal for money to defray his medical charges. 07 04 05

1907 06 22
Charles Lawrence's kennels at Chesterton have bred many famous animals in the dog world, winning prizes in Antwerp, Brussels and Rotterdam. Purchasers come from all over the country; Alderman Pratt of Bradford recently bought two pups for £100 while one sold for £300. During term time a familiar sight on Market Hill is a man surrounded by dogs which he sells to undergraduates at fancy prices. Mr Lawrence bought one for £2 cash, then exhibited it at a show and sold it for £150. To see a collection of valuable clumber, field and cocker spaniels gambolling in the paddock is a sight which must appeal even to those who have but the barest acquaintance with a good dog. 07 06 22b

1907 10 17
Cottages in Cave's Yard, Union Road, Chesterton are as about as bad as any in the district, an inquest into an infant was told. Vermin found on the child's body were not the fault of the mother: it would be impossible to keep such a house in that district free from vermin; the district ought to be burnt down. The slums in Old Chesterton are as bad as any you will find in London, a doctor testified. But people had to live somewhere. 07 10 17

1907 11 07
Chesterton 'slums' – 07 11 07 & a

1907 12 27
Those unfortunate persons who are forced to accept the Workhouse as their home have little in the course of a year to look forward to, at any rate with pleasure. But at Chesterton Workhouse work is suspended on Christmas Day and they are allowed to spend as happy a time as possible.

Gifts of tobacco, oranges and toys were distributed which helped to while away what would otherwise have been somewhat monotonous hours. - 07 12 27

1908 03 09
The Long Reach public house stands on the river bank a quarter of a mile from Old Chesterton. The landlord paid no rent and was allowed five shillings a week to keep the house open. The trade was about 21 barrels of beer and 12 gallons of spirit a year. It should be closed together with the Jolly Waterman in Waterbeach Fen. It had no road leading to it and the nearby Jolly Anglers was more convenient and had a ferry attached. 08 03 09

1908 04 02
Chesterton MOH report – 08 04 02

1908 05 07
Chesterton Council is to write to the Motor Bus Company complaining of the vibration caused by the buses to houses on the route as they speed past at 12 mph. We feel that such vibration is the fault of Chesterton Road which is in a shocking condition. It is the constant bumping of the bus over the volcanic-like ruts that shakes the buildings so. The buses are a boon and blessing and we should be sorry to see anything which interferes with the swiftness and regularity of the admirable service. 08 05 07 & 07a & 09a

1908 07 31
Twenty-six licensed houses are to close, magistrates decided. They include, Chesterton Long Reach, CWN 08 07 31

1908 09 04
Sir – now the widening of Northampton Street is fast nearing completion the improvement of one of our many narrow and dangerous streets will be accomplished. But one effect will be that the traffic is greatly accelerated to the danger of those approaching the corner from other directions. The high wall around St Giles' church should be reduced: this would enable motorists to see more clearly, make the church more conspicuous and dry the road which in winter is often in a muddy condition, being hemmed in on both sides by high walls – Chestertonian. CWN 08 09 04 p7

1909 02 19
Considerable excitement was occasioned in Chesterton on Sunday by an outbreak of fire at 74 Montagu Road, occupied by Thomas Carter. Crowds congregated in the road and at the rear of the house, but happily did not witness the extensive conflagration expected. At noon Mrs Carter placed a bed to air before the fire in a back bedroom and soon found it on fire. The burning bed was pitched out of the window and buckets of water poured upon other burning material in the room by neighbours. For fire insurance on profit-sharing principles contact Rayment and Dickson, 104 Regent Street. 09 02 19

1909 06 11
Abel Coole, Chesterton grocer – 09 06 11

1909 07 02
A number of village public houses are no longer economic and should close, magistrates were told. They included the British Queen Chesterton CWN 09 07 02

1909 11 12

It was time the river Cam was dredged, Mr Whibley told the Cam Sailing Club Dinner. He did not mind telling them a secret: the Conservators always had their annual river outing and last year got stuck on the mud at the Horse Grind, Chesterton. He could not help thinking what a lovely postcard that would have made! As soon as the Mayor, Ald Spalding, had been appointed he had looked into the matter. Of course they could not please everybody: a gentleman he knew who lived not far from Clayhithe had been complaining that there was a draught in his garden because the dredger had been taken away. (Laughter and applause). CWN 09 11 12

1909 12 03
Lacon's brewery should receive £143 in compensation for the closure of the Red Lion public house at Orwell, the tenant, George Everitt, £16 and the Lord of the Manor £5, councillors decided. They awarded £200 compensation for the Fox and Duck in South Street Cambridge and £325 for the White Horse in Coronation Street. Agreement was also reached on The Bell at Meldreth, The Old Elm Tree Melbourn and the British Queen and Prince of Wales in Chesterton. CWN 09 12 03

1910

1910 01 07
The Hon E.S. Montagu, Liberal MP for the Chesterton division, must be added to the few living persons who have read a report of their own death. The 'Buenos Ayres Standard' reports that he died during the King's birthday celebration at Sandringham. Such a tragedy did happen but the gentleman who died was Mr Montagu Guest. Cablegrams are very expensive luxuries and are sent in abbreviated form to be expanded for publication by the sub-editor. On consulting his reference books he evidently came to the conclusion that this was the member for West Cambs. CWN 10 01 07c

1910 03 11
A stable in Water Street, Old Chesterton, was the scene of a shocking tragedy. A 50-year-old labourer had been living with a 58 year-old woman who earned her living by travelling about the county with a caravan in the summer, visiting fairs, and in the winter time she hawked coal and coke about local villages. When he appeared in court his complexion stamped him at once as a man used to working in the open air. His face and neck were alike brick red in colour and seamed with thousands of wrinkles, the black hair was cut fairly short, but the grizzled moustache was rather ragged. He was dressed in corduroys and heavy boots. He had no collar or neck wrap and his vivid red shirt showed at the top of the sleeved waistcoat he was wearing. 10 03 11a & b

1910 03 18
Licensing meeting – Over Sow & Pig, Willingham Black Horse, Chesterton White Horse, Comberton Red Lion, Cottenham Boot, Longstanton Red Cow, Milton Three Tuns, Shelford Three Tuns 10 03 18b

1910 04 29
A professional singer from Old Chesterton told magistrates he was married at 18 but suffered a serious accident when working as a butcher's carman. His right arm was paralysed and he could do no manual labour. He earned a precarious living by singing at cinematograph shows and entertainments and was often 'one week in and two weeks out'. His wife said they had last lived together four years ago. She had gone out to service while he was trying to earn his living roaming about seeking engagements. He had contributed nothing to her support except in November when he gave her five shillings. But her application for a separation order on grounds of desertion was rejected. 10 04 29b

1910 05 13
William Hockey was the founder of the well-known auctioneering firm based in Bene't Street. As the agent for the De Freville Estate he had much to do with the development and planning of that part of New Chesterton which has rapidly become of so much importance. He also held an important and confidential position at Trinity College, where he was highly regarded, and was Secretary of the Excelsior Building Society. For the past 20 years he was a very well-known and popular figure in the business life of Cambridge. 10 05 13k

1910 05 20
Vagrants at Chesterton workhouse were kept for two nights, being given work according to their ability during the day and liberated at seven o'clock on the second morning. They had eight ounces of bread and water for breakfast and supper and eight ounces of bread and 1½ ounces of cheese for dinner. But is it fair to starve their poor wretches to this extent; not everyone is a rogue: many are just the failures of life and cannot help themselves, one Guardian said. 10 05 20

1910 06 03
The courtroom was packed for the trial of a man accused of murder at a stable in Water Street, Chesterton. A nearby house was lived in by a 58-year-old woman who earned her living by travelling about the country with a caravan in summer, visiting fairs, and in winter time she hawked coal and coke about local villages. A squabble with a 50-year-old labourer with whom she was living resulted in him cutting her brother's throat with a carving knife. He was sentenced to hang. 10 06 03 b & c

1910 06 17
At the last stroke of eight o'clock in the morning James Henry Hancock paid the extreme penalty of the law for the murder of Alfred Doggett at Chesterton. The execution took place at the County Gaol, Castle Hill. Pierpoint was the executioner, assisted by his brother, and they accomplished their deadly work with marvellous celerity, death having been absolutely instantaneous. Only the Deputy Sheriff, the Governor of the Prison, the Prison Chaplain and Doctor were present but a crowd of several hundred assembled on the pavement opposite the Shire Hall. They kept their gaze fixed on the flag-staff, unaware that the practice of hoisting the black flag has been discontinued. Nor was the bell tolled. 10 06 17b

1910 07 01
Licences for: Bassingbourn Beerhouse in the fen, Meldreth Green Man, Fulbourn Coach & Horses, Chesterton White Horse, Cottenham Boot, Fen Drayton Horse & Gate, Longstanton Red Cow, Milton Three Tuns, Shelford King William IV, Shudy Camps Chequers, Linton George & Dragon. Cambridge Star & Garter Petty Cury, Cardinal's Cap, Crown & Anchor, Borough Boys, Ship, Merry Boys, Prince Albert, Oxford – all refused. Melbourn White Lion & Swavesey Little Rose renewed 10 07 01 & a

1910 08 12
A new road between Rock Estate and Romsey Town would greatly improve communication between these largely populated and widely-separated districts, Mr W.P. Fison suggests. Rustat Road, which is a private road belonging to Jesus College could be continued until it cuts into Marmora Road. It would have to cross some allotments and a farm with a bridge over the railway line. There should also be a new road from East Road through Beche Road over a bridge into Old Chesterton. Both would provide work for the numbers of unemployed men in Cambridge 10 08 12e

1910 08 19
George Fawcett Winter, the well-known boatbuilder, became the proprietor of the boatyard near Victoria Bridge in 1876, succeeding the late Edward Searle. Ten years later he was connected with the boat-building industry at Eton: he used to spend the summer there and the winter at Cambridge. In 1900 he decided to relinquish his Cambridge business which came into the hands of Mr F. Pocock who is now carrying it on. He was well-known amongst University and Town rowing men and took an interest in the affairs of Old Chesterton. 10 08 19h

1910 10 07
The scheme for extending the Borough boundaries so as to include Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and the urban portions of Grantchester, Trumpington and Fen Ditton was formally launched. The boundary with Chesterton is an imaginary line running down the centre of the river which presents legal difficulties over dredging. The river is used by member of the University for rowing but most of the boathouses are on the Chesterton side. The Corporation own a cemetery the parish of Fen Ditton. They have constructed a sewer and laid water mains along Newmarket Road and the land will no doubt be used for building. 10 10 07e & i & j

1910 02 09
Through the enterprise of Mr W.J. Ison, the Cambridge public is able to see the latest developments in bicycles as exhibited at the great cycle exhibition at Olympia, London. In the windows of his depots in Chesterton Road and St John's Street are to be seen samples of the all-steel Raleigh cycles which attained such wide fame. Doubtless many local cyclists will take the opportunity of inspecting these latest models of all that is best and most modern in the bicycle – 10 02 09c

1910 12 16
Messrs A.M. Robinson held their Christmas sale as usual at the Cattle Market. Amongst the prize-winners was Mr C. Butler of Swaffham Bulbeck whose five pigs were purchased by J. Prior, butcher of Burleigh Street. There was a fine show of hogs over ten stone which was won by W.A. Payne of Fulbourn with a special prize awarded to E. Gautrey of Cottenham. Mr Backler of Linton won in the sow class while Miss Camps of Chesterton was best in the cottagers' section, her hog being sold to Eastmans 10 12 16a

1910 12 30
William Warren of Victoria Road, Chesterton, who was an old Volunteer, got into an argument in the Carpenter's Arms after a man spoke disrespectfully of the King. He was knocked down and fell on a glass which penetrated his thigh, severing the artery. Now he has received a letter from Sandringham which reads: 'The King regrets to hear that owing to your pluckily taking exception to disloyal language being used, you sustained deep cuts in the leg. His Majesty desires to be informed of your condition and hopes the injuries are not of a serious nature'. 10 12 30a

1911 01 06
Legislative changes have removed the pauper disqualification in connection with the Old Age Pensions Act. At Cambridge workhouse 22 men and 16 women were eligible for the pension but only three have declared their intention of leaving the House. All three are men between 70 and 75 years of age who are going to live with relatives. At Chesterton Workhouse 48 inmates are entitled to the pension but again only three are leaving, one being over 80. Another old man has not yet made up his mind. Perhaps the coming of more genial weather will bring him to a decision to accept his pension and forsake the shelter of the House. 11 01 06f

1911 01 20

Chesterton poll on amalgamation with Cambridge 11 01 20d

1911 02 03
The Inquiry into the extension of Cambridge borough boundaries heard that Cherry Hinton was part of Chesterton Rural District and divided into two wards. St John's was obviously an outgrowth of the town while the old village was in St Andrew's ward. The parish had the expenses of sewerage as a result of which their rates were very considerably in excess of the Borough rates. But the old village had no sewerage at all, the drainage being by means of cesspools. 11 02 03c

1911 02 17
The great scientist Alfred Russell Watson once accepted a challenge to prove that the earth was round and, after consultation with Prof Newton, selected six miles of the Old Bedford Canal as the scene of his experiment. But he did not satisfy all the parties concerned in the challenge. So H. Yule Oldham carried out a similar experiment by placing a mark 15 foot above the water between two bridges between Denver and Welney. A long-distance photograph showed it to be considerably above the line of sight. But an elderly lock-keeper who appeared in the photograph shown at New Chesterton Institute was still firmly convinced that the earth was flat 11 02 17c

1911 04 07
The Local Government Board is in favour of the extension of Cambridge to include parts of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton, Grantchester and Trumpington. 11 04 07f

1911 05 19
Greater Cambridge editorial: Chesterton UDC will cease to exist, parishes of Cherry Hinton, Trumpington and Grantchester will be divided and urban portions come into Cambridge 11 05 19c

1911 06 30
Chesterton Horticultural and Sports Society held their first annual show in the pretty grounds of Meadow Croft. The extreme dryness of the weather accounted for the emptiness of some of the classes but still 500 entries were received. At Burwell the long, cold spring and droughty summer almost prevented the showing of some vegetables but at Stapleford flower show the cottagers' section was especially good in regard to potatoes and beans 11 06 30f

1911 10 13
Mr Moorhouse paid a second 'flying visit' to Cambridge. The footballers playing on Midsummer Common abandoned their game at once when the machine came into view over Castle Hill. The aeroplane looked as if it must come down among the crowd, but the airman managed the descent very cleverly, and, travelling a short distance only a few feet from the ground, eventually alighted very smoothly rather less than a hundred yards from the railings on the Maid's Causeway side. On his ascent the machine rose gracefully and easily over the trees and the river. It quickly attained a height of nearly 1,000 feet before he made a circle over Chesterton and then sped off towards Huntingdon, He is an intrepid young man of whom more will doubtless be heard in the future 11 10 13b

1911 11 03
Cambridge Town Council wanted Victoria Bridge and its approaches to be declared a main road and maintained by the County Council. But they did not agree: the Bridge had been built under an Act of Parliament at the expense of Chesterton UDC and Cambridge Town Council. After the bridge was built Victoria Avenue had been declared and made a main road. But there was already

a main road from Chesterton to Cambridge via Magdalene Street and over the Great Bridge 11 11 03i & j

1912 01 26
The long-sustained wet weather and recent snowfall have brought serious floods. Rising waters have caused the stoppage of the chain ferries to Chesterton, the towing path under Victoria Bridge was submerged and meadows between Grantchester and Newnham are under water. A ride on the Great Eastern Railway from Huntingdon to Cambridge presents a view of an immense lake studded with trees and the large Portholme Meadow is under water to a considerable depth. At St Ives basements in Bridge Terrace and kitchens at Filbert's Walk are flooded. 12 01 26b

1912 03 08
The last meeting of the Chesterton Urban District Council recalled the changes during the last 40 years. Before 1880 there were no street lamps, no sewage system, no street watering and an imperfect water supply. The paths were unkerbed, there was no collection of house refuse, no medical officer, no sanitary inspector, no recreation ground and very few allotments. The population had risen from 5,000 to 12,000. Now councillors would help improve the Borough of Cambridge at large 12 03 08f

1912 03 08
University lodging-house keepers have been venting their grievances. One woman has three sets of rooms; if she lets them all the year she gets £84. For rent, rates, taxes and wages of servant she pays £53; that leaves her £31 for whitewashing, papering, staircloth, carpet etc and for food and clothes for herself. But this term all the rooms are empty. However in Chesterton there are many householders who let rooms to undergraduates; when they come part of Cambridge will the rateable values of their houses be increased? Lodging housekeepers should form themselves into a trades union. 12 03 08f

1912 03 22
Polling opened in the three contested wards of the districts to be added to the Borough – Cambridge Without, North and West Chesterton - under the most depressing conditions. Rain fell heavily which had an adverse effect on turnout. A sharp thunderstorm came on about midday, a very unfortunate time for those who wished to record their votes during the dinner hour. Some of the flashes of lightning were so vivid and the peals of thunder so heavy that doors and windows rattled while the rainfall was almost tropical in its intensity. In Chesterton East John Bester, who has done more than any other for the amalgamation with Cambridge, was returned unopposed. 12 03 22d

1912 03 29
Today the population of the Borough of Cambridge is 40.560. On Monday it will be 57,073. The extension of the boundary now brings in Chesterton and the urban portions of Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Grantchester. These suburbs were inhabited almost entirely by people whose living lay in Cambridge but were separated from it by the River Cam or purely artificial borders. It means that the residents will now be under the care of the Cambridge Town Council. 12 03 29c

1912 04 12
Complaints have been made that since the enlargement of the borough boundaries the dust and refuse from houses in Cambridge and Chesterton had been collected less punctually. Also different street light times 12 04 12d

1912 04 12

Borough health statistics improve with addition of Chesterton – 12 04 12f

1912 04 19
Sir – Cambridge Corporation have instructed all persons in the out-lying parts to telephone the Central Fire Station in case of fire. We in Chesterton are in a very awkward position. We have no telephones for public use. The nearest fire alarm post is at Quayside and one would have to walk, run or cycle there, and then fumble about in a very poor light trying to find out how to work the apparatus. We need a telephone call office instead. A doctor might be sent for, goods ordered from various tradesmen or one might even ring up his best girl – Philip Clare 12 04 19f

1912 05 31
The landlord of the Dog and Pheasant Inn, Old Chesterton told police that four bagatelle balls had been stolen from the taproom of the pub. Inquiries showed that a Fen Ditton man who'd been drinking there had offered some balls for sale next morning. He claimed to have bought them three weeks earlier from a man named 'Capp' against the Corn Exchange, saying he'd paid tenpence and a pint for them. A dealer in Regent Street said he'd bought them for eight shillings and sixpence – though the accused said he'd only got one-and-six. The landlady identified them as the ones stolen. 12 05 31f

1912 06 28
William Thomas Kirkup was the pioneer of the modern scientific system of chimney-sweeping and his business extended to nearly all of the colleges, notably Trinity and St John's. He formerly resided at King Street, then at Bottisham before returning to Chesterton Road where he passed away at the age of 67. He was an active member of the old Volunteer force and served 22 years as a bandsman. 12 06 28b

1912 07 12
Chesterton workhouse has been criticised by a lady inspector. The nursing staff was totally inadequate at the time of her visit with a solitary nurse on duty in the sick wards doing the work of three. Another complaint was that the young children were relegated to the care of incapables or undesirables. The lady visitor may be somewhat faddy but there must be some foundation for her strictures. 12 07 12d

1912 09 27
Chesterton Road was the scene of a very remarkable fire. A motor lorry belonging to Messrs Sturton of Fitzroy Street, laden with cans of petrol was totally destroyed. The highly-inflammable spirit became ignited and a fire of extraordinary fierceness blocked the road with a sheet of flame. Can after can exploded flinging its contents in a blazing shower in all directions. The flames leapt to an astonishing height, reaching above the tops of houses and were accompanied by volumes of black, oily smoke. The paint on the door of a house on the river side began to blister and trees in the garden began to shrivel and smoke. It was impossible for the fire brigade to get near and it had to be left to burn itself out 12 09 27

1912 11 29
Mr Michael Rowell was the oldest victualler in either town or county. He had been at the Scales Hotel (the Portland Arms) for over 26 years having previously kept the Bleeding Heart in Old Chesterton. He also farmed and carried on a milk and contractors business. He was an elder brother of the once-famous Charles Rowell, the champion long-distance runner of the world who smashed all records on the path is a famous six days and nights 'go-as-you-please' race. 12 11 29e

1912 12 12
Miss M.B. Thomas, M.A. of Huntingdon Road has the distinction of being the first lady in Cambridge to resist paying her taxes on the ground that taxation and representation should go together. At the Spring Inn, Chesterton Road an antique pendant and two gold bracelets will be sold by auction by the Collector of Taxes. This is very unusual: R.B. Catling, the well-known auctioneer was approached but was unwilling to conduct the sale under such circumstances. A few years ago a farmer in Burnt Fen objected to paying the education portion of the poor rate and bought a new wagon to hand over for the purpose of distraint. It was painted red and he intended to have a record of each distraint recorded on a panel in black lettering, buying it back himself. He was convinced that by the rime all the panels were filled in, he would be no longer called upon to pay the rate 12 12 12c

1912 12 20
Robert Farren, the well-known Cambridge artist, died at Highgate. Farren, who was born in Cambridge about 80 years ago, lived in Cambridge all his life with the exception of a few years' residence at Scarborough until August last when he went to live in Highgate. He was a very clever water colour artist but best known for his work in oils and his etchings. His fen pictures were well-known and his series of etchings of cathedral cities amongst his most famous work. He also produced fine etchings of the Cambridge Greek plays. His 'Degree Day' was published as a photo by Wm Farren when he lived in Rose Crescent. Farren loved to paint Cambridge & Cambridgeshire scenery and there is scarcely a picturesque 'bit' in the town or county that has not been reproduced by him. At one time he had his studios at the top of which are now the University offices but were formerly a Liberal Club. A good many years ago he resided at Mayfield, Hills Road but during the last three years lived at no.1 Station Road. In his younger days he was a very handsome figure, tall and well-built. He was a skilful fencer and attained some note as a geologist. Me married Miss Mason, a Cambridge lady and had a family of 14 children, none of whom are now living in Cambridge, his only relatives being his nephew William Farren, the naturalist, of Regent Street and his brother. Two of his daughters have inherited their father's artistic skill in no small degree. The funeral will take place at Old Chesterton churchyard where his wife is buried. – 12 12 20bb Three children of his eldest son, the late Ernest Farren live with their mother in Herbert Street 12 12 27b

1913 01 10
Old Chesterton coal club annual meeting

1913 02 14
It was with a thrill of horror that Cambridge received the news of the death of Captain Scott and the four comrades who had accompanied him on his final dash to the South Pole. Amongst them was Dr Edward Wilson, a former student of Caius College, whose talent as a water-colour artist was well-known in his Cambridge days. Another Caius man, C.W. Wright, was not among the party that met with disaster. Scott had received an honorary degree in June 1905 when the Public Orator spoke of his achievements. Mrs Keating of Chesterton Road is a sister of Mrs Scott who was on her way to New Zealand to meet her husband and was unaware of his death as the ship was out of the wireless zone. 13 02 14 p6 & 7 CIP

1913 03 28
Chesterton workhouse new master

1913 04 18
Conscription opposed at New Chesterton Institute debate

1913 05 09
Chesterton vicar's daughter missing

1913 06 20
Chesterton Guardians way ticket system
Chesterton baker bankruptcy

1913 07 18
Flower shows, Chesterton, Sawston, Duxford, Swaffhams, Melbourn & Meldreth, West Wratting,

1913 07 25
William Macintosh, a director of Messrs A. Macintosh & Sons told the court the landlord of the Spring public house, Chesterton Road had selected a bath and other things to be fixed at the pub, saying he would get the brewers, Lacons to pay it. But no payment was forthcoming. The defendant's solicitor said it was a most expensive piece of luxury. The judge: 'Do you call a bath a luxury'. 'It is here in Cambridge. We have no public baths here'. Judgement was given for the plaintiffs. 13 07 25 p9

1913 08 01
Chesterton road baker fire

1913 09 05
Guildhall extension ratepayer's opposition – any money spent on libraries should provide reading rooms for Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and Newnham: when a man got home from business he doesn't feel inclined to walk down to the town again – if you look into the Mill Road reading room at night you will see how much it is appreciated. 13 09 05 p5 CIP

1913 09 26
Lacon's brewery had 132 pubs in Cambridge; one of the best was the Spring Hotel Chesterton but a bath was essential if it was to do a good trade. Running and boating men were constantly complaining that saucer baths were inconvenient. So Lacon's Manager ordered a new one from Messrs Macintosh and they also replaced the lavatory which gave off a most offensive smell. But the brewery disputed payment and said it was up to the tenant to meet the cost. 13 09 26 p10

1913 10 10
New Chesterton Institute report

1913 10 17
Chesterton Good Templars first anniversary

1913 11 07
Hangings at Cambridge County Gaol & elsewhere
1801 03 William Grimshaw, house breaking
1802 04 William Wright & John Bullock, arson
1812 03 28 William Nightingale, alias Bird, forgery
1812 08 08 Daniel Dawson, poisoning horse at Newmarket
1816 06 28 John Dennis, Isaac Harley, Thomas Smith, William Beamiss & George Crow, Littleport riots, at Ely
1817 John Scare, burglary Whittlesford
1819 08 06 Thomas Weems, murdered wife Arrington
1824 04 03 John Lane, rape

1827 09 31	Joshua Slade, murder rector Stukely, at Huntingdon
1829	James Bishop, sheep stealing, at Huntingdon
1829 04	William Osborn, of Boxworth for highway robbery
1830 04 03	William Reader, William Turner & David Howard, arson Linton
1833 03 29	William Westnot & Charles Carter, attempted murder of gamekeeper
1833 12	John Stallan, arson, Sawston
1850 04 30	Elias Lucas & Mary Reeder, poisoning wife at Castle Camps
1861 08 10	Augustus Hilton, murder wife at Parson Drove
1864 03 11	John Green, murder of girl at Whittlesey, last public execution
1876 12 14	Robert Browning, private execution
1878 11 25	Henry Gilbert, murder of child at Hail Weston, at Huntingdon
1898 06	Walter Horsford, St Neots poisoner
1910 06 14	James Henry Hancock, murdered Alfred Doggett at Chesterton
1913 11 02	Frederick Seekings, murdered wife at Brampton

1913 11 28
Chesterton baker bankruptcy

1913 12 19
Plans for alterations at the rear of the Guildhall were shelved after the Ratepayers Association raised a petition. They had to face a loss on the trams, the Borough Bill, Chesterton footbridge and other improvements and as the Colleges were building rapidly the town landladies found it hard to pay their rates. Now the County Council had decided to build their new offices in Hobson Street. They had been debating since 1907 and all the expense and time had been worthless. But the Free Library was over-crowded and disease was spread in libraries where people were constantly sitting together 13 12 19

1914 01 16
Chesterton's Oldest inhabitant. — The death occurred at Chesterton on Friday of: Mrs. Elizabeth Beaumont, who was in her 99th year. She had the distinction of being the oldest inhabitant of Chesterton.

1914 01 30
High January rainfall adds pressure on pumping station; adoption of gas stoves has led to smaller proportion of ashes in the refuse during summer months, Newnham Walk may be made up, possible Chesterton carriage bridge – 14 01 30c

1914 02 06
Four Generations at a Baptism. —The following appears in the parish magazine of St. Andrew's (Chesterton): "An interesting event occurred in Chesterton Church on a recent Sunday afternoon. A little child was christened and there were standing round the font, the father, the grandfather and the great-grandfather — four generations present. This is such an. unusual occurrence that it is worthy of record." 14 02 06

1914 02 27
Abbey Road only suitable site for a bridge for Chesterton – 14 02 27f

1914 04 10
Chesterton need for new traffic bridge, footbridge Ferry Path or Pretoria Road – 14 04 10c, e

1914 04 10

Opposition; to Guildhall Enlargement.—In response to a petition by 80 ratepayers of Cambridge, the Mayor called a town's meeting at the Guildhall on Tuesday evening, when the following resolution was passed by a large majority. "That this meeting condemns the resolution passed by the Council at the March meeting with reference to the; Guildhall extension, and if the Corporation find they require further accommodation for their officials, they should hire offices outside for the Education Department." With reference to a proposed carriage bridge at Chesterton the meeting carried, with less than a dozen opposing: "That this meeting, having considered the .question of the postponement of the building of the bridge directed by the Cambridge Order 1911 to be built by April 1 1917, sees at this juncture no reason for such action." - 1914 04 10 CIPof

1914 05 29
Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company welcomed visitors to their workshops, test room, drawing office and stores. They were also shown the manufacture and operation of the various instruments made. Many are of great commercial value. The extension is the fourth addition since the works were moved from Panton Street to Chesterton Road. It is the chief of the few manufacturing concerns in Cambridge and now employs 180 hands 14 05 29d & e

1914 06 12
Chesterton carriage bridge poll, 1914 06 12 p4

1914 06 26
Chesterton carriage bridge opposed 1914 06 26

1914 08 14
Tom Jolley acted as ferryman at Caron's Ferry at the Pike & Eel, Old Chesterton for 39 years. The ferry is a small punt boat near the larger ferry and is used by members of the University boat clubs who pay the ferryman a termly allowance. It was worked by his father and grandfather before him. Mr Jolley was universally known as 'Caron' and his cheery good nature made him a great favourite. 14 08 14 p4

1914 08 28
A novel concert was given for men encamped on Midsummer Common: the motor launch Viscountess Bury was moored beside the bank at Stourbridge Common and its top deck used by the Magpies Concert Party was a platform. The launch was a pretty sight, decorated with varicoloured lights and hundreds of men, including officers, sat on the sloping bank. Each song was enthusiastically enjoyed. The vicar of Chesterton gave an address during the interval and invited the men to attend Holy Communion on Sunday morning

1914 08 28
A respectable Chesterton chimney sweep was charged with buying two pairs of woollen pants from soldiers camped on Midsummer Common. A constable on duty in plain clothes saw a soldier put something in a white pillowslip he was carrying; when challenged accused said it was food for his children. He found banana, meat and some mackerel, but there were also two pairs of pants with a regimental number – 6178, also W.D. and the broad arrow. The soldier said he was short of money and did not want them; they were hot, woollen things and not necessary at this time of year. Other men stole pants soldiers had washed and put on railings to dry

1914 09 25
A Novel Application. – The Chesterton Guardians had a novel application before them at their meeting held yesterday (Thursday), when the Master (Mr. A. Wild) informed the Board that there

was a man waiting downstairs who wanted to know if the Board could supply him with a young lady as a wife. During the past month the man had twice been to see him on the same question. He had told the man that he could not help him in the matter, but he wished to see the Board. Mr. Cross: Does he come from Histon? The Master: Yes. He is downstairs. I have not sent him away, but I told him I did not think you could, assist him. Mr. Hawkins: There is no one in the House who would like to, take this post? The Master: I think not, sir.

1914 10 02
P.H. Taylor, Chesterton kia

1914 10 16
Chesterton soldier's leave
New Chesterton institute

1914 10 23
Under the 1912 boundary extension proposals Cambridge had to erect a bridge over the Cam to Chesterton within five years. Walnut Tree Avenue was the best site but whether this was the best time was a matter of debate. An Inspector from London had told them what they had to do and it was now the Law of the Land. Chesterton people had voted against it - in fact nobody wanted it. The only way to overturn the order was by going through all the expense of obtaining another Act of Parliament.
Chesterton RDC Military roads

1914 11 13
Cyril Wright of Chesterton Road, a motor cyclist attached to the 1st Cavalry Division writes to his mother: Christmas is getting nearer and the war has not ended yet. I don't think it will last very much longer because of the terrible slaughter going on. I was in a village when the Germans opened a heavy artillery barrage, blowing the houses up as if they were made of putty. I was completely cut off so ran into a trench and had to stop there ten hours. After dark I crawled out under heavy rifle fire to my motor cycle only to find it smothered with broken glass and bricks. I was glad to get out of if.

1914 11 27
The first VC of the war has been won by a Cambridge man, Sergt Papworth of 15th Hussars. His parents formerly lived at Chesterton and now live at Hayward's Heath. He was with a small troop of 10 men that suddenly came across a large force of 6-700 Germans. Undaunted by the fearful odds the Hussars retired in good order, inflicting severe losses on the enemy. The Hon. E.C. Hardinge was injured and Serg Parish remained behind and kept the Germans at bay while his officer reached a point of safety. Cambridge will be proud to learn that the gallantry of a local man has won the first VC of the war

1915 08 06
Photos of fallen soldiers: F.J. Gipp, Chesterton - 15 08 06b

15 08 13
Photos of wounded soldiers - A.E. Taylor, Chesterton; H.W. Whitmore, Chesterton; J. Clark 15 08 13b

1915 12 15
Joseph Fenton, Chesterton, killed by bursting of a fuse of a German shell he was keeping as war relic in his workshop – 15 12 15e; photo – 15 12 22d

1916 02 02
Farewell. — The Rev. N. W. Shelton, who has accepted the living of the parish of Littleport, preached his farewell sermon to the parishioners of St. Andrew's, Chesterton, on Sunday. Mr. Shelton has been at Chesterton for 13 years, and there were large congregations at both morning and evening services.
Chesterton local tribunal first sitting – 16 02 23c

1916 05 03
Military Wedding, — Great interest centred in the wedding at the Wesley Church, Christ's Pieces, Cambridge, on Saturday between Miss Lucy Irene Lavender; eldest daughter of Councillor and Mrs. G. H. Lavender, of 84 Chesterton Road. Cambridge, and Mr. Charles Arthur Shrubbs, 2nd Lieut., A.S.C.. son of Mr. A. Shrubbs, of Hinxton. The church was filled by friends of the bride and the bride's parents, who are well-known and highly respected in the town. The bridegroom is a Downing man, and was at one time in the University O.T.C. The officiating clergy were the Rev. R. Winboult Harding and the Rev-Dr. T. A. Barber, Headmaster of The Leys School. The service was choral. Afterwards a reception was held in the library of Wesley Church. The honeymoon is being spent on the South Coast.

1916 11 22
Former Mayoress of Cambridge.— There passed away at her residence, Manor House, Chesterton, on Monday, Mrs. Louisa Bell, a former Mayoress of Cambridge, and the oldest resident of Chesterton. Her death will be regretted by many. Mrs. Bell was the widow of Mr. Edward Bell, corn and seed merchant, who was twice elected Mayor of the Borough. He was first elected Mayor in November, 1887, and was re-elected the following year. He died, however, in March, 1889, during his second year of office. Of a kind and charitable disposition, the late Mrs. Bell was beloved by all who knew her. During her husband's lifetime she interested herself in parochial work in St. Edward's parish. She afterwards moved to Chesterton, and here she has been an active church worker in St. Andrew's parish for many years past.

1917 07 04
Double Funeral. - A double funeral took place at Chesterton on Thursday afternoon when the remains of Mr. and Mrs. F, W. Simpson were laid to rest in Old Chesterton Churchyard. Mr. and Mrs. Simpson celebrated their golden wedding four years ago. They had lived most of their married- life in Peekshill, U.S.A., 14 years being spent in Cambridge, On June 23rd. Mr. Simpson died in Addenbrooke's Hospital, and two days later, Mrs. Simpson, who had been in weak health, died also. Deceased were buried in the same grave.

1917 07 18
Jolly Butchers in Newmarket Road, ‘Magpie & Stump’ Chesterton and ‘Sotted Cow’ Northampton Street to close – 17 07 18a

1918 04 24
A great flood.—The Cambridge district was visited last week by a flood which reached a higher level than has been recorded since the historical inundation which followed the great storm of August 3, 1879 (says the writer of Town and Country Topics). Miles of country were under water on Wednesday; roads and paths were rendered impassable to foot passengers, the ferries at Cambridge were stopped, low-lying houses and premises near the river were flooded and the water was up to the permanent way of the railway between Chesterton and Waterbeach. Fortunately the flood water was got away quickly down stream, but it rise showed what a considerable quantity of water must have fallen in the first three days of last week, and also how

important it is that there should be no obstruction at Denver. The river has shown more frequent tendencies to flood of late years than, formerly - one cause is said to be the clearing-out of ditches and water courses by War Agricultural Committees.

1918 08 14
Objected to stone-breaking in war-time. — At the Cambridge Borough Court, a 59-year-old London tailor was charged with refusing to perform his allotted task as an inmate of Chesterton Workhouse and, further, with damaging the bolts of his door and a lock on a cupboard to the amount of 7s. 6d. Defendant told the Bench that he objected to stone-breaking in time of war, and had applied for other work, which was refused. He pleaded guilty to both charges, and was sentenced to seven days' hard labour on the first charge and 14 days' hard labour on the second.

1919 01 01
Busy Day for the Mayor, — The Mayor of Cambridge (Mr. Ralph Starr) had a busy day on Christmas Day, when, in company with the Mayoress and their son and laughter, they paid visits to most if the institutions in the town, including the Borough Sanatorium, the Children's Home in Ross St. the Workhouse, Mill Road, the 1st Eastern General Hospital, York House, Newmarket Road, which is the Children's Home of the Chesterton Union and (in the afternoon) Addenbrooke's Hospital. At the hospital, the Mayor visited every ward, speaking kindly words of greeting and comfort to the patients, finishing up at the soldiers' (Bowtell) ward. This visit concluded the Mayor's programme and he returned home for a well-earned rest after what he described as a happy and pleasing experience.
Chesterton war orphans – 70 children entertained by Women's Liberal Association – photo – 20 01 14c

1920

1920 02 06
Chesterton Allotments – the Hall Farm to be taken on lease

1920 03 03
Board of Guardians—The vacancy in the South Chesterton representation on the Chesterton Board of Guardians, created by the retirement of Mrs. Marsh, has been filled by the election of Mrs. Benjamin Jolley, who was nominated by the Cambridge and District Women Citizens' Association. There, were two nominations, Mr. Edwin James Arcott, the other nominee, subsequently withdrawing and thus avoiding a contest. Mr. I. Cock, of Fen Ditton has been returned unopposed to fill the vacancy on the Chesterton Rural District Council, caused by the retirement of Mr. L. G. P. Hiring.

1920 03 06
Licensing renewals: Turnstile, Newmarket Rd; George IV East Rd; Queen's Arms, St Andrew's Street; Smith and Wheelwrights Arms, East Rd; Boot, King St; Dewdrop, Gwydir St; Tally Ho; Indian Chief, Chesterton

1920 03 10
Licensing sessions: refer East Road : Turnstile. George IV, Smith & Wheelwright Arms, King St: Boot; Gwydir St: Dewdrop; Newnham: Tally Ho; Chesterton: Indian Chief; Cherry Hinton Hopbine; Renew St Andrew's St: Queen's Arms – 20 03 10b

1920 03 30
Housing scheme land on Chesterton & Milton Roads, Mrs Gurney will sell her land

1920 04 09
Chesterton councillors want new bridges across the Cam

1920 04 14
John F. Symonds clerk Chesterton Guardians for 40 years – 20 04 14a

1920 05 20
Plans for tea and concert garden at Chesterton Road considered

1920 07 10
Public houses considered for closure –Chesterton High Street Indian Chief,

1920 07 17
Y.W.C.A. Hostel moves from Barton Road to Chesterton Road overlooking the river

1920 09 08
Mayor, — Once again the "Cambridge Chronicle" is able to be the first to announce the acceptance of the Mayoralty by the gentleman to whom it has been offered Coun. B, C. Jolley, of "Meadowcroft", old Chesterton, has accepted the position subject to the formal consent of the Conservative Party, to whom his name will be submitted as a matter of courtesy and according to custom. But it is practically decided that Councillor Jolley will succeed Councillor G. P. Hawkins in the Mayoral Chair. The choice of Mr. Hawkins' successor devolves upon the Liberal members of the Cambridge Town Council, the local arrangement of the parties providing for alternate nomination by Liberals and Conservatives of the occupant of the Chair. This understanding has proved highly satisfactory to all concerned, and has ensured the unanimous appointment of succeeding Mayors of Cambridge. Meetings of the Liberal member have been held this week, and the invitation was according to Councillor Jolley. Mr. Jolley was elected a member of the Town Council in April. 1912, following the elevation of Councillor John Bester to the Aldermanic Bench. He has done a considerable amount of work on various committees of the council, but he seldom figures in the debates at meetings of the Corporation. Closely associated with the Nonconformist movement in Cambridge, Mr. Jolley is a prominent Wesleyan and holds office at the Old Chesterton Chapel. He has not taken a strong line in local party politics.

1920 09 29
Chesterton war memorial unveiling – photos – 20 09 29

1920 09 27
Old Chesterton war memorial unveiled

1920 10 16
New Chesterton Institute war memorial unveiled

1921 07 27
A serious position has arisen in connection with the scheme for the erecting of houses by Cambridge Borough Council at Chesterton Road & Milton Road. The site was purchased some time ago and prepared for erection of 60 houses by direct labour. Construction of roads and sewers put in place. But Minister refuses to sanction other work unless whole of expense is borne by local rates. Work to stop and town will have a building site which cost over £14,000. It is impossible to proceed with building scheme without Government assistance – 21 07 27c

1922 01 11
Chesterton road bridge and position of footbridges to be left to electors to decide – 22 01 11 & a

1922 09 27
The provision of billiard tables in the New Chesterton Institute has undoubtedly been a paying concern. Four tables having proved inadequate, the billiards room has had to be extended and another table added to cope with the requirements of the experienced and budding cueists

1922 11 24
The first dairy in this part of the country to obtain a Ministry of Health licence is the Stetchworth Dairies Certified Grade A Dairy Farm, Union Lane, Chesterton, which claims to be the largest private retailer in the Eastern Counties. The herd consists of 12 cows, six of them being pedigree Guernseys. The cows are accommodated in large, airy sheds, without stalls or partitions of any kind. Our representative was shown several bottles of milk which had been bottled for eight days. One of these was opened and the contents found to be only just beginning to "turn"; certified milk will keep perfectly fresh for four or five days

1922 12 08
The urgent need for carrying out schemes of public importance in order to relieve the unemployment situation in the Borough were admitted on all hands at the meeting of the Cambridge Town Council. During the past two years they had been endeavouring as far as possible each winter to find work for those men who unfortunately were out of employ. Last year they were able to place 200 men on the Sewage Farm. That work had nearly come to a close. It was stated that there were 800 men out of work in the Borough which was an increase of nearly 100 over last year. Suggestions for further work included underground lavatories at the junction of Victoria Road, Chesterton Road and Milton Road, a bridge across the Cam at the bottom of Walnut Tree Avenue and a recreation ground on the Rock Estate

1923 01 12
After a long discussion the Cambridge Town Council today decided to embark on a scheme for the erection of 239 houses on the Chesterton Road and Milton Road site, viz 30 houses of the parlour-type, 165 houses of the non-parlour type with three bedrooms and 44 houses of the non-parlour type with two bedrooms

1923 02 01
The need for more land for the allotment holder was demonstrated at the first annual meeting of the Chesterton Allotment Association. Three hundred applications for land have already been received and it was reported that the Town Clerk is in communication with Clare College with respect to the purchase of a field in Milton and Scotland roads. There were some 24 acres contained therein. Mrs Stevenson said she was exceedingly interested in this East Chesterton's move towards getting satisfactory allotments. She thought it wise for this part of the town to see about getting their allotments before they got built over.

1923 03 02
Wheatsheaf, Chesterton – 23 03 02 p5

1923 04 13
A Cambridge boy, P S Milner-Barry, son of the late Professor Milner-Barry of De Freville Avenue, Chesterton, won the title of the first British boy chess champion. The title, which has been authorised by the British Chess Federation, was open to boys up to 18 years of age. Milner-Barry who is only 16 1/2 years of age, represented Cheltenham College in the competition, but

his success also reflects credit on his old school, St Faith's preparatory, and the Cambridge town chess club, of which he is the youngest member

1923 10 30
Sir, - many Cambridge people can remember the "Dismal Jimmies" protesting at the suggested new road from the Four Lamps over Midsummer common and the bridge to Chesterton. The council stood firm, what is the result? Victoria Avenue and the bridge has proved a complete success, the trees have grown and have become a real avenue. And not only is it a boon and a blessing to Chesterton men; it is a credit to Cambridge. I trust the council will again stand firm and this time let the boon be for Newnham, with a roadway over Coe Fen that will prove a credit to the district and then we can cycle to business without expecting to be caught in the death trap of crowded Silver Street. – "Safety First"

1923 11 20
A ceremony unique in Cambridge and of a very impressive nature took place at the Carmelite convent on Chesterton Road when his eminence Cardinal Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster gave an address. The ceremony was that of enclosing nuns. The house consists of two former dwelling houses joined together and possesses a small public chapel in which there will be public mass every day. With the exception of the nuns' choir chapel, no part of the building is actually new

1923 11 23
Mr Taylor told the house possession hearing that he was the owner of numbers 11 and 12 Church Street, Old Chesterton. He wanted to knock a hole through the wall of the adjacent house and join one bedroom on to his house. He was willing to allow one shilling off his tenant's rent. The plaintive said his wife suffered from nerves and required perfect quiet at night. The slightest noise broke her rest. Defendant and his wife annoyed him by "singing that molly-coddle hymn, 'Who shall enter the pearly gates?' for two hours at a time". The judge made an order for possession of the required bedroom and fixed the rent at 4s. a week for the rest of the house

1923 11 24
Sir with reference to the continuation bus service from Chesterton to Old Chesterton, I would like to point out that we ran the service in 1919 but it was an absolute failure and we were compelled to drop it. However as there seems to be a fresh demand I am giving it a trial. The terminus of the cars will be at Chapel Street, Old Chesterton, instead of De Freville Avenue as heretofore. The fare from Market Street to Chapel Street will be twopence. You will realise that it is quite impossible to revert to the penny fare over the whole of the services. It is true that the price of petrol has dropped, but the price of wages and labour generally has not decreased - John Walford, Ortona Motor Company

1923 12 06
The question of providing additional accommodation at Cambridge workhouse was considered. The committee had inspected the sanatorium of the Leys school in Hooper Street which was for sale. It appeared to be suitable for a nurses' home. Mr Hall said they ought to leave some of the patients at Chesterton. Some of them had been in the institution for 10 or 12 years and it would be better to leave them there to spend the evening of their life, where they knew almost everyone

1924 01 05
Chesterton houses – plot

1924 02 09

As a motor lorry, owned by Mr Parnell of Stretham and laden with 500 cans of petrol was approaching the Milton railway level crossing at a very slow speed the driver found the gates were closed to allow trains to pass. He applied his brakes, but they would not act and the lorry, which carried a very heavy load, smashed through the nearest gate, and stopped with the back part blocking the line. A coal train was approaching from Histon and a light engine from Chesterton Junction and quick action was necessary to avoid a serious accident. Gatekeeper Ernest Carter seized some fog signals and was able to stop the coal train and similar action taken by Patrol-Leader F.B. Pearson. The line was blocked for over an hour by which time the lorry was, after a small repair, able to proceed on the journey.

1924 03 20
The village of Cherry Hinton has been agog with excitement with rumours regarding the wealth of a sexagenarian spinster, who was removed to Chesterton workhouse infirmary. The woman has been living in a little two-roomed whitewashed thatched cottage in the Chequers yard under conditions of poverty. The amount of her wealth has been subject to considerable exaggeration and the latest rumours place the figure at about £1,000. A search revealed £140 in coin of the realm, including £15 in gold, a large number of half-crowns and many smaller coins, secreted in several places in each of the rooms of the cottage, a fact that points to her having hoarded small sums for many years.

1924 10 04
The 1924-5 edition of Spalding's Directory for Cambridge shows progress has been made with the development of various building estates and we find for the first time the names of Hawthorn Way, Harvey Goodwin Avenue, Haig Road joining Chesterton and Cam Road, and Coleridge Road which is the name given by Jesus college to the new road between Cherry Hinton road and Romsey Town.

1924 12 04
Progress is being made in connection with the erection of a bridge over the river at Chesterton but the Surveyor is overwhelmed with work. It is two or three years ago when the owner of the land necessary for the proposed bridge at Pretoria road said he was willing to sell the land at a reasonable price. Over 800 people had paid for season tickets to go over the ferry and the council got something like 25s a week in odd halfpennies for casual passengers.

1925 03 16
The "Tivoli", Cambridge's new cinema on Chesterton Road will be opened on Thursday and many people have been speculating as to what it looks like inside. A representative of the CDN who had a look around came away very much impressed with the general air of comfort and the attractiveness of the interior. Over 600 people can be seated in the body of the hall and gallery. It has comfort, excellent lighting and excellent decoration. If you want a private box for six people you may have one for the sum of 15s.

1925 03 20
Described as "Chesterton's super cinema", the Tivoli made its debut before the Cambridge public when there were two opening performances. Elaborate, cosy, artistically lighted and efficiently ventilated, Cambridge's sixth cinema has every justification for expressing itself in superlatives. It has a courteous staff pf brown-uniformed attendants, an excellent orchestra and a screen sufficiently large to do justice to the most elaborate film productions. The projection last night was not perfect, but this was merely a matter of adjustment.

1925 05 20

Cambridge Poor Law Guardians considered installing wireless apparatus at the Institution. Mrs Keynes said some members were not entirely satisfied that it would be a very great boon to the inmates, partly because of the nature of the entertainment and partly because the best part of the performance usually came on after their inmates had gone to bed. The chairman handed round copies of the "Radio Times" to enable members to see the types of programmes given. Messrs Allin's estimate for a six-valve set with five loud speakers was £65. Chesterton Institution had installed three loud speakers and they were appreciated.

1925 05 28
"I promised the little girl at work that I would bring her some flowers" was the excuse which a 14-year-old errand boy offered to magistrates for wilfully damaging a laburnum tree at Victoria Great Jubilee Memorial Pleasure ground, Chesterton Road. The magistrates took a lenient view of the offence and fined him 3s.

1925 06 05
Cambridge council was told that the Brunswick school did not exist at the present time because the Borough surveyor drew attention to the giving way of the building, and they first of all had to pull down the Boys' School because it was dragging the other part down, and eventually they pulled down the Girls' School. The girls were in temporary premises at Paradise Street School and the boys in Fitzroy Street. They had to bear in mind that a new bridge was going to be built at Walnut Tree Avenue some time – (laughter) – and when that was done they would have to accommodate some children from old Chesterton.

1925 08 07
Sir – the proposed garage on Christ's Pieces has called forth a crop of protesting letters; let them be directed against the ugly, barrack-like Councils houses at Chesterton and Cavendish Avenue. The majority of the houses are literally a blot on the landscape, badly designed, dreary and poverty-stricken, they are eyesores to every passer-by. Yet they are being built without a word of protest, while the cutting down of a couple of trees evokes a regular storm of indignation – Kappal

1925 09 24
Coun Porter said councillors might not realise what an old crock the ferry over the Cam at Chesterton was. When one went over in rough weather the water had to be baled out and the sides of the ferry shook. At the time of the fair the ferryman would not risk taking over a crowd of people because it was so dangerous. Children were taking a very great risk in using the ferry and the council taking the greatest risk of all in not taking steps to prevent somebody being drowned. The ferry was obsolete, it should be condemned at once and done away with.

1926 02 26
Householders in Chesterton Road have petitioned Cambridge Borough Council to lodge protest against the speed at which vehicles of the Ortona Motor Omnibus Company are driven down the road. "The effect of the excessive speed at which these jolting juggernauts are driven is to produce an intermittent earthquake which is doing great damage to our houses". They should not be allowed to exceed 10 mph, increasing to 15 mph when pneumatic tyres are fitted. The present indulgence, which allows solid-tyred vehicles to bump along at 20 to 25 mph, is altogether unreasonable, they claim

1926 04 23
Lady Newton, wife of the Cambridge MP, opened the new hall of the East Chesterton Ward Conservative Association, situate in Union Lane. It is completely equipped with cloakrooms,

kitchen, stage etc with electric light and ventilating fans and other modern appliances, and an excellent floor has been laid for dancing. They are going to cater during the summer for flannel dancing and during the winter will run the hall for dances, whist drives and a smoking concert. A gentleman had promised a full-sized billiard table and another given them a cheque for a piano.

1926 04 26
An inquiry was held into the provision of two underground public conveniences at the junction of Milton and Chesterton and Newmarket and East Roads where there would be an island in the middle of the road. The Inspector asked whether they had designed the roof to carry the weight of a heavy motor lorry; it would be a very simple matter for a lorry to jump a kerb on a foggy night as had happened at Southend when people had been injured. He also raised the question of a convenience for women and the Mayor said the matter had been very carefully considered by the committee who were anxious to get on with the work as quickly as possible.

1926 08 28
Chesterton Guardians' Coal Emergency Officer said the emergency would be on for another month and they should buy another 200 tons for the needs of the district. The villages were still suffering from shortage and farmers had no coal to thrash with. That morning he had three smallholders from Milton begging for coal. He had managed, through the kindness of Mr Warren, to let them have three tons. In future as soon as there was any indication of the likeliness of a strike they should take precautions.

1927 01 06
Cambridge council agreed to spend £7,653 on the reconstruction and widening of Victoria Avenue. The scheme was criticised on the grounds that it would tempt motorists to increase their speed along the avenue. The Surveyor said that the railings should go back an extra 11 feet as far as the trees, making the road 55 feet. Chesterton wanted a vehicular bridge at Walnut Tree Avenue which would carry much of the traffic, but this had been coming for the last 35 years and it had not come yet (laughter).

1927 03 04
Cambridge Library Committee recommended that steps be taken to provide reading rooms in Chesterton and Cherry Hinton. At the time of amalgamation in 1911 it was one of the conditions that Chesterton should be given a public library. At Cherry Hinton they had in 1924 prevailed upon the council to provide a public reading room. It was hoped to set up a small reference library at each. Suburban Cambridge was growing rapidly and they were a necessity.

1927 03 21
The Charleston shows no signs of waning in popularity at the Premier Dance Hall, Chesterton, and still reigns supreme among the habitués there. In fact this dancing habit has become so much of the place that one sees more uniformity in the style than at any other hall in Cambridge. On Saturday evening Manning's Band were in their usual good form and played extremely well. Miss Robinson must be one of the last jazz pianists in the town at present.

1927 04 08
The Cam Conservators reported they had got the Fort St George ferry up, but it sank again. It was impossible to do anything with the boat and impossible to get another one. They had agreed to employ a man to do the work but could not undertake the risk. At lunchtime too many people crowded on to the boat and a man could not order them off. The Conservators had carried on the ferry at a loss for years. They had a contract to take the people across the water and had to do something. Chesterton people felt they had been badly treated.

1927 05 13
The foundation stone of the Brunswick School in Walnut Tree Avenue, Cambridge was laid. It will provide accommodation for nearly 1,100 children. The Mayor said it was unfortunate, perhaps, that the other Brunswick School fell down but this was a better building. When they compelled children to go to school there was an obligation to see the building provided as much fresh air and sunlight as possible. They hoped that with the extra communication which some day would make traffic over the river easier for schoolchildren (laughter) Chesterton people would send their children to that school

1927 07 02
Sir – the work has been started to widen Victoria Avenue, Cambridge, from the Four Lamps to Victoria Bridge. The roadway when finished will be wide enough for vehicle traffic to proceed four abreast. The Bridge will not be so wide as the road and heavy traffic may mean serious congestion. Some suggest the road over the bridge may be made wider by making the footpaths overlap the river. If this were done the narrow road on the north side would be an obstacle and as this roadway cannot be made right through to Chesterton Road this scheme should never go forward – E. Clayden

1927 07 23
There was a good deal of grousing before the inhabitants of Chesterton had a footbridge over the Cam at Dant's Ferry. Now they have got one they have found something else to grouse about. At five minutes to eight every morning the instrument workers at Pye's are hurrying to work from the other side of the river. They curse and groan, trip and stagger under the burden of carrying their bicycles up and down a steep double flight of steps. Sooner or later some panting person carrying a bicycle will fall backwards or pitch into the river. The bridge was not made for cyclists who should get up earlier and ride up Victoria Avenue. [CDN 23rd July 1927].

1927 09 03
Chesterton folk looked very happy at the opening of the Pretoria Road footbridge and there was a fairly large crowd on both sides of the river. The bridge has been a very long time coming. There is an old proverb: "Bridges were made for wise men to walk over, and fools to ride over". Cyclists should remember this and the warning of the penalties awaiting those who do not dismount when crossing the bridge.

1927 12 15
A conference is to discuss the problem of the accommodation of tramps at Cambridge workhouse. In 1926 there was an alarming increase of over 5,000 which they hoped was due to the general strike but this year the number had been exceeded. They could deal with 60 male tramps but on one night had 118. They had to sleep on the floor, between the beds and in the corridor and the arrangement for bathing, searching, disinfecting and washing clothes became hopelessly inadequate. The solution may be found in an agreement between the Cambridge and Chesterton Union to pool resources

1928 01 10 c
A meeting was held to consider collaboration between the Cambridge and Chesterton Unions in the alleviation of the tramp problem. For some reason very few tramps go to Chesterton but very many go to Cambridge which is very seriously overcrowded. The indoor poor of the two unions should be managed by one committee who would gather together all the sick, all the babies, all the children and all the tramps and distribute them between the two existing union houses as seemed most convenient.

1928 01 27
Cambridge council discussed recommendations to build a bridge over the river at or near Abbey Road. An inner ring road would circle the town on the outskirts which was necessary in view of the ever-increasing traffic and congestion in the centre of Cambridge. They suggested that a direct by-pass road be constructed by linking Chesterton Road with Milton Road

1928 01 28
Cambridge borough council considered plans from the Cambridge Estates Ltd for the construction of roads and sewers on the Hurst Park Estate which has an acreage of 30 acres, nine being in Cambridge and 21 in the parish of Impington. It is proposed to erect approximately 190 houses. Ald Raynes thought the public who were considering purchasing plots should be fully aware of what they were doing. Only a small portion of the estate was within Cambridge and the rest was in the Chesterton Rural District Council's area who did not have a single bylaw affecting buildings or the construction of roads

1928 01 30
The story of the Chesterton ghost has attracted crowds of people to the pathway skirting the Willows and there were quite 200 spook-hunters waiting for something to turn up. Of course nobody takes the story seriously and even children have braved the darkness and the barbed wire fences to join in the hunt. All sorts of practical jokes have been played and one enthusiast sallied forth with a sheet until people started throwing things! Someone said that the ghost was defunct, having been shot by a policeman. But if the spirit doesn't materialise on the Willows it most certainly will in a licensed establishment in the adjoining Cam Road

1928 02 21
Henry Percy Bowler, undergraduate of Pembroke College, was summoned for driving a motor car at a dangerous speed in Chesterton Road, Cambridge. Sergt Nelson, who admitted he had never driven a car, stated that defendant drove at 35 miles an hour round a corner on the off-side of the road. Defendant said he drove behind a small saloon car until he saw the road was clear and then passed it, his speed was about 27 miles an hour. The make of car was an H.P.B. and he assembled it himself. He bought the engine, which was 20 h.p. in 1912 for £6. A fine of 10s was imposed.

1928 03 27
On Saturday was laid to rest in Chesterton churchyard the last surviving child of the Rev Michael Gibbs, once Treasurer of St Paul's cathedral. He was appointed to Barrington in 1835 and found the church in decay, rain pouring through the roof and the north door gone. All this he repaired but when the villagers saw the door replaced they remonstrated, saying "But where are our cattle from the green to go in winter?" He also got a thatched school built

1928 04 07
A jobbing gardener was given half a stone of potatoes to plant on Chesterton allotments, but the owner was disgusted to find that only two rows had been planted and accused his workman of planting someone else's acres with his spuds. The jobbing man came to the conclusion there was only one thing to be done to prove his innocence and proceeded to dig up the potatoes. All but three were found. An inquest is now being held to decide whose is the responsibility of replanting what will be a very valuable crop of early spuds.

1928 07 09
Close to the windmill on the north side of Milton Road, opposite Chesterton Hall Crescent, occupying one of the highest and healthiest sites in the locality and surrounded by spacious lawns

and trim walks stands the new open-air school for defective and sub-normal children. It is an ideal school, admirably adapted to its purpose and planned and equipped on a generous scale, a veritable children's paradise. The opening ceremony was an open-air function. Open air schools for delicate children have come to stay and in the future all schools will probably become open-air

1928 09 05
Ald Conder said the country was buzzing with town planners; the Cambridge East town planning scheme was drawn up by Cambridge Borough Council and covered part of Chesterton RDC area. It reserved certain land for allotments so the owner sent in a claim for compensation to the Town Council; as the land was in Chesterton they forwarded it to the RDC who decided to release it from allotments. So if one authority town planned an area outside its own boundaries it was possible that what had been done at great expense could be undone immediately it became inconvenient to another. That was the general trend throughout the country.

1928 09 11
The Cambridge works of Messrs W.G. Pye, the well-known scientific instrument and wireless apparatus makers were entered and the workshops and office ransacked. The works consist of several blocks of buildings extending from Cam Road to St Andrew's church at Old Chesterton. The visitor got into the transformer shop and then into a corridor by means of a hole which had been made in the wall for the fixing of a checking clock. Practically no damage was done and only a small sum of money is missing. It appears he was not a wireless enthusiast because none of the wireless parts were taken

1928 12 15
St Catharine's Farm, Coton, has been taken over by the Stetchworth Dairies. Built in 1922 it contains the finest buildings of any farm in the Eastern Counties and it is because of the spacious byres for cows that the Dairies have secured it. It is another asset to their fine chain of model milk producing farms, which includes Ditton Hall Farm, Rectory Farm Milton and Aldham House Farm, Chesterton. At Merton Hall Farm, Madingley Road the cows are milked by electricity.

1929 02 05
The latest form of political propaganda, the Conservative's touring 'Talkifilm' is visiting Cambridge. The programme includes a speech by the Prime Minister which gives an uncanny effect of realism and a silent film showing the opening up of Canada. The van will visit Pound Hill, the Premier Hall Chesterton and Occupation Road, winding up at Cherry Hinton Road corner

1929 02 21
Cambridge Guardians debated purchasing number 137 Gwydir Street for the few children in the Workhouse. Mr Francis said they should not build on that side; there were complaints of the smoke and grime and he could not imagine a much worse place. The right place was at Chesterton where they would at least get the air and the sun. Mr Lofts said they could not afford to expend that amount of money, while they could board children an extension was unnecessary. There was no rule against boarding out children under three but they tried to keep babies with their mothers

1929 03 09
Sir – I have watched the progress of H.M.S. Dredger at present operating off the footbridge, Chesterton Road, Cambridge. Some months ago they dredged one half of the lower river in the vicinity of Jesus Locks and deposited the sludge on the Chesterton side in the river; later the

dredged the river above the locks and deposited the sludge in the actual place previously dredged - 'One of the financing party'

1929 03 15
A case of considerable interest to people buying or selling goods on the hire-purchase system was heard at Cambridge court. Messrs Miller & Son sued the former musical director of the Tivoli Cinema, Chesterton Road over an H.M.V. gramophone and records. The agreement said that the machine was to be kept at a house in Chesterton Road but he had moved it to the nearby Spring Hotel without being granted permission. When he moved to the West Kensington Super-Cinema, London, the firm had seized the machine.

1929 11 11
The Cambridge Rifle Club's new range at Chapel Street, Old Chesterton was opened and Mr H. Ward Trinder, the originator of the club, fired the first shot. It is an indoor range of 25 yards and there is room for six people to shoot at once. It will be open from 2pm to 4.30 and 6 pm to 10 on weekdays. In the past there had been some very good clubs but owing to the war all except for one or two in the county and the Gas Company had fallen out. It was owing to Mr Trinder's efforts that this club was started and it would soon be out of debt.

1930

1930 01 20
Demolition work has begun on the Chesterton Sub-Police station, Mitcham's Corner. At one time the office of the old Chesterton Urban District Council it became a police station on the amalgamation of Chesterton with the borough. Corner improvements have made its removal desirable. Workmen are hurrying in and out and already it is windowless and completely barren internally. It will be replaced by a police-box. The familiar fire standards are also doomed to disappear; five wall boxes have been erected which will be in operation as soon as the telephones are installed. The change has been made because the public dislikes the breaking of glass in the older standards and prefer to use a telephone case of emergency 30 01 20

1930 02 14
Large crowds gathered for the stone-laying of the new Arbury Road Baptist Church Hall and School. The new church will have the support of the Old Chesterton Baptists who will vacate their present chapel when the new building is complete. It will serve the needs of inhabitants of Green End Road, Milton Road and the Hurst Park & Chesterton Hall Estates and will be able to welcome members of other denominations. The ceremony was one of the most unique ever performed, there being six foundation stones laid. 30 02 14

1930 03 22
There never was a time surely when there were so many works of destruction going on as at present. Little bits of old Cambridge are going one by one and elaborate new buildings are rising up in their place. Following demolition in Petty Cury and Sidney Street now we see old houses and shops in Sussex Street being knocked down. No wonder that those who come back to the town after a few years' absence express amazement at the changes they see. When we think of the bridges built at Newnham and Chesterton, of the streets that have been widened, the new recreation ground opened and the great business changes effected in the heart of the town we may well gasp. 30 03 22 a & b

1930 03 28

Interesting reminiscences were given as Chesterton Guardians passed out of existence after 94 years. The first meeting in 1836 appeared to have been in a public house; amongst those attending were the names of Taylor, Linton and Foster and they still had members of these names on the Board. The final report showed the number in the institution was 39 men, 40 women and one child. 30 03 28f-g

1930 04 28
Chesterton railway bridge: replacement - 30 04 28

1930 07 22
Cambridge councillors rejected plans for the erection of a bungalow on Robinson Crusoe Island & decided the existing old cottage and shed should be demolished and that the Surveyor should report on the erection of suitable sheds for boating purposes. They also considered land at Town Close, Old Chesterton which is occupied by numerous caravans; their appearance is most objectionable and they should be moved. 30 07 22c

1930 09 09
An Ortona omnibus collided with a stationary Ford van at Old Chesterton and the impact was so great that the van was hurled twenty yards along the road. William Holmes was delivering meat when the bus crashed into the rear of his butcher's vehicle. He was taken completely by surprise and flung across the footpath but managed to save a 70-year-old lady, Mrs Mansfield, by pulling her away. The van's steering gear was smashed, the body splintered and meat to the value of £10 scattered on the road. 30 09 09

1930 10 16
Five miniature golf courses are now in operation in Cambridge. There are Messrs Grays in Sidney Street and the octagon course in King Street. The Premier Hall, Old Chesterton, has added midget golf to its other attractions and the Newmarket Road has the course in the club-room at 'The Bell'. Its holes represent hazards encountered during a trip from 'Trafalgar Square' to 'The Oval'. The latest 18-hole course at the Belle Vue Gardens is all-weather and open-air. It features a howitzer gun and a water jump and has been laid down by Capt Mullett who has constructed others in Vancouver and San Francisco. 30 10 16c

1930 12 09
Branch library site, Chesterton & Cherry Hinton – 30 12 09

1930 12 12
The 'skeleton' of the Chesterton vehicular bridge came out of the municipal cupboard. It had been suggested when Victoria Bridge had been erected but the council subsequently rejected the proposals. In the meantime a temporary bridge had been erected at Dant's Ferry with the intention of moving it towards the Pike and Eel. Now it will be kept in the present position and lowered to make it easier to cross with perambulators. But it was a shame to spend £1,600 on a structure which had not been right when it was put up. 30 12 12c

1931 04 03
William James Ison started as a cycle dealer in Chesterton Road in 1897; his business prospered and at one time he had four shops selling and repairing cycles. He also put one of his own machines on the market. The 'New Chesterton' has become deservedly popular and a special racing model won over 100 prizes in 1908. His late wife was sister of Fred Lawrence of the Belmont Cycle Works in King Street. 31 04 03f

1931 06 05
In all proposals affecting change to local government, the sewerage problem looms large. Cambridge is provided with a sewage scheme which appears to be adequate and the sewage farm produces a satisfactory effluent. They could cope with Chesterton and Cherry Hinton but if the town boundaries were expanded to take in Histon and Impington it would cause problems. 31 06 05 h i

1931 06 12
The new road under construction between Milton and Histon Roads provides some exceptionally attractive sites for those wishing to erect a private house. It has much to recommend it as Chesterton is a very popular district but most of the available land within a reasonable distance of town has already been taken up. The plots are for the erection of private dwellings only and no bungalows or inadequate houses can be erected. 31 06 12k

1931 06 12
The complete reconstruction of the Cambridge Town Football Club is underway and when supporters pay their money at the gate next season they will be confronted with an entirely new sight. The old stand has been demolished and the network of frames for the new one seating 800 people erected together with a new pavilion. There will also be a full-sized Cumberland turf green for the Chesterton Bowling Club. 31 06 12l

1931 09 11
Many will mourn the loss of Miss Katharine Wilson, creator of the Chesterton Preparatory School. She had an amazing power of understanding children so that the most difficult little people became happy and tractable. Boys and girls of whatever nationality, whether Italian, Russian, American, Estonian or English, from toddlers to twelve years old, all found themselves equally at home and grew into resourceful little citizens. 31 09 11b

1932 03 05
Magistrates refused to relicence the Bowling Green public house, High Street, Chesterton. The landlord said a billiard room had been re-decorated, he had regular customers and it had become more or less an institution. But there had been a decrease in trade, despite the growing estate nearby. The Maypole in Portugal Place was the headquarters of the Whippet Club; the tenant was 70 years of age and his only means of support would be the old-age pension. This together with the Alhambra in East Road, the Eagle Tavern beerhouse in Victoria Road and the Clarendon Arms was relicenced. 32 03 05 & a

1932 05 03
Cambridge Metal Stamping Company's plans for the erection of a factory on land off St Andrew's Road, Chesterton would endanger the beautiful prospect from the river. Alderman Starr said he had viewed the site and been surprised to see a very large building for Pye's Radio Works had already been erected on the opposite side of the road. Factories were being built without consent of the council but this one could be blocked under the town planning scheme. There were other places it could go. 32 05 03 & a

1932 05 23
Cambridgeshire Insurance Committee considered moving to the new County Hall, Castle Hill. It was a very fine situation but what sane business man having a base in the centre would go a mile out of town to a place scarcely anybody knew - even though there was a free motor park. But future development would be on the north of Cambridge as the County had offered a very large acreage of land between Histon railway station and the old Chesterton village. 32 05 23 & a

1932 10 14
The new church of St George, Chesterton, was packed for the dedication by the Bishop of Ely. He welcomed those from the local district: it was for them that the church had been built. It was only a hall at present but he wanted them to see to it than an actual church was built in due course. 32 10 14a

1934 01 30
The greenhouses at Cambridge borough cemetery were beyond repair and would have to be scrapped. But more glasshouse accommodation was now required for the propagation of plants used on the recreation grounds. Two new 120 ft glasshouses could be constructed on the West Chesterton recreation ground where a house could be built for the man in charge, councillors agreed. 34 01 30

1934 02 16
Many dancers in Cambridge will learn with regret that Ron Wickes has been compelled to give up his position as official drummer to Percy Cowell's Band. He started drumming with them at the old Rendezvous before joining the band run by Mr Hensher, and later played with Manning's Band when the Premier Hall at Old Chesterton was opened up. From there he went to Skegness for two seasons, returning to the Rendezvous in the interval. He came back to Cambridge three years ago when Mr Cowell started his band at the Dorothy Café and has played with them ever since. 34 02 16

1934 04 07
Cambridge boundary extension, Chesterton reaction cartoon – 34 04 07

1934 05 05
Cambridge Mothercraft Clinic aimed to promote breast-feeding. It held clinics three days a week in Chesterton Road; over 2,000 mothers had attended and nearly 80 per-cent breast-fed their children. The class that attends the public clinics are not the best for an educational movement. They wanted to get people who are further up in educational interest, and perhaps intellectual development. The main aim was to keep well babies well. 34 05 05

1934 10 13
Sir – I do not think it is right for sheep to be grazing in the old Chesterton churchyard. They are prowling all over the mounds, damaging and eating shrubs that were planted to be living monuments to loved ones. If the church council cannot afford to have the churchyard groomed, only by sheep grazing, I say to the Vicar and his flock 'Band yourselves together with sickles in your hands to make the hallowed ground look trim and neat' - Harry Pitt. 34 10 13

1935 01 12
We felt customers would like to know something about our dairy. Our cows graze on our fields at Chesterton, Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Shelford Bottom, the finest pasture in the county. They are thoroughly groomed and their udders washed before being milked using electrical apparatus at our Abbey Street premises. The milk is cooled and bottled without being touched by hand, then kept in a cold storage chamber before delivery. The cream is separated daily. We guarantee early delivery twice daily to all parts of town. Arnold Brothers (established over 75 years), Abbey Street, Cambridge –advertisement. 35 01 12a & b

1935 01 19

On one of the finest main roads of Cambridge has arisen a new garage that has been named 'Riley House'. No hastily conceived building this with its rows of pumps and oil cans bedecked in signs and colours. Here is a garage of dignity and restraint, logical in planning and design, fitted to be the new local headquarters of 'the Finest Light Car in the World'. Here one can fill up with petrol completely under cover while the workshop is equipped with the latest pressure greasing plant. Tom Cox Motor Co., Chesterton Road, Cambridge – Advert 35 01 19

1935 04 17
In a little cottage in Union Lane, Chesterton, men on the way to the Institution can now, for a few hours daily, experience something of the comfort of home life. The once rather dilapidated house has been transformed into a cosy Wayfarers' rest. Brightly-distempered walls and a roaring fire make it a comfortable place. On arrival they are given tea and a cigarette. Upstairs is a tiny chapel where prayers are said with a bible reading for any who care to attend. 35 04 17

1935 05 11
The new West Chesterton children's playground off Histon Road was opened by the Mayor and hundreds of youngsters thronged the ground for the occasion. Since it was bought as an orchard three years ago an immense amount of work had been necessary. It was not complete and they were hoping for swings and perhaps a roundabout later. It is primarily intended for younger children and not for the playing of hard-ball games such as cricket but old and middle-aged people could also enjoy the ground for sitting about. 35 05 11b

1935 05 18
Here is a wonderful opportunity to inspect the miracle-ride Studebaker that is sweeping the country. Not even a £1,500 car can give you such a ride: its swiftness, silence, smoothness and cutter security must be experienced to be believed. Features include independent front wheel suspension, compound hydraulic brakes and full five seats. Prices: Dictator regular saloon £298, de-luxe saloon, fixed-head coupe or roadster £348. See the models in our showrooms. Tom Cox Motor Co. Ltd, Riley House, Chesterton Road – advert. 35 05 18a

1935 07 04
A motor engineer told the bankruptcy proceedings that he'd started at a small lock-up garage at Chesterton in 1933, then moved to St Tibbs Row where he sold used cars. Next year he moved to Bridge Street. He advertised for a salesman, and three or four paid £50 and received a car. An investor put £500 into the business which was for the purchase of cars 35 07 04

1935 05 27
Workmen engaged in digging operations between Scotland Road and the new Eastfields housing estate at Chesterton came across a number of human bones. George Firman and Bert Jacobs found almost a complete face, several hundred years old but with the teeth in almost perfect condition. Experts say they could have come from the burial ground of one of the nunneries or that they may have been left behind by a research student 'going down' whose landlady buried them, not knowing what else to do 35 07 27a

1935 10 25
The new Senior School off Gilbert Road, Chesterton contains separate departments for senior boys and girls, each with its own assembly hall fitted with a stage and cinema projection room. The boys department has science laboratory and woodwork and metalwork rooms while the girls' includes provision for cookery, laundry and dressmaking. A changing room, fitted with shower baths, has been included in connection with organised games. 35 10 25a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1936 01 31
There was a need for providing a community welfare centre for the housing estates on the outskirts of Cambridge where a large proportion of the houses were occupied by youngish married couples with growing children. Chesterton is like a new town, the people are isolated, lonely, vague and have no centre. Youngsters wandered aimlessly about with nothing to do and nowhere to go. They need a building for public meetings, concerts, dances, films and medical inspections. But it would not be suitable as a library and a site in Ascham Road would offer quietness and room for any necessary growth, councillors were told. 36 01 31 & a

1936 02 05
Premier Travel Ltd has been formed to take over the services of Royal Blue Coaches of Chesterton Road and the Harston and District Motor Services. Managing director, E.A. Lainson, says there is a definite need for a good independent transport company. They will offer special excursions to Hunstanton, Southend and Yarmouth, run motor tours to Europe all year round and also conduct a travel agency for steamship, motor coach and aeroplane services. 36 02 05

1936 02 13
Wells and Winch Ltd, brewers of Biggleswade, announce the opening of the new 'Yorkshire Grey' Chesterton. This house has been designed to ensure the comfort of its patrons, both new and old, and is the latest endeavour of Messrs Wells and Winch to make licensed premises clean, healthy and attractive. A spacious clubroom is available for parties – this room having a private entrance and conveniences. Tenant Thomas Evans. Architect E.H.C. Inskip & Son, Bedford 36 02 13

1936 03 06
The Star Brewery want a new pub, The Golden Hind, on Milton Road, an area of 1,010 houses of which the majority had been built since 1927. It was not ribbon development but housing estates on each side and practically built up to the railway gates. King's Hedges Road would form part of the new Ring Road so further development might be expected there. If granted the brewery would surrender the licence of the 'Racehorse' on Newmarket Road and the 'Plume of Feathers'. The Women's Total Abstinence Union opposed the application. Licence applications Elm Tree, Hare and Hounds & Dog & Pheasant. Licence of Bowling Green Chesterton transfer to new Golden Hind. 36 03 06

1936 03 21
Harry Pitt of Manor Cottage, Church Road has written recalling 'The Walking Lady of Chesterton'. "She walked for a wager 'a thousand miles in a thousand hours' in a private garden in Church Street, Chesterton 60 years ago. I have been told that she walked in tights with high-topped boots, a jockey's cap and whip in hand. The story goes that she kept up her one mile per hour, walking day and night until she completed her task and won the wager." Other readers may enlighten us still further 36 03 21c

1936 04 25
The Wayfarers' Rest at 3 Union Lane, Chesterton has been open for a year. It provides an opportunity for those on their way to the Casual Ward to spend an hour or two in homely surroundings during which they are given tea, scones and a cigarette or tobacco. They can write letters, read magazines and join in the small chapel for prayers and a short Bible reading. More than 4,700 men and 120 woman have used it so far 36 04 25a

1936 12 24

Chesterton Gravel Pits have been transformed into a flourishing business working from dawn to dusk. A Priestman dragline gets the gravel out of the ground, grabbing a third of a ton in its great steel jaws and depositing it in a truck which a patient horse drags to a narrow-gauge railway. It needs no driver but stands still while the load is emptied, then lumbers slowly back to fetch more. An ever-moving belt feeds a constant stream of raw gavel into the washing and grading machine from which it pours into appropriate heaps where a fleet of lorries cart it to its destination. 36 12 24a

1937 01 02
Gang activity at Chesterton – 37 01 02

1937 03 01
A horse attached to a milk float belonging to Messrs W.H. Onyett, dairymen of Chesterton, bolted while standing outside a house in Ramsden Square. After a run of about three hundred yards during which it rounded two sharp corners, distributing pieces of harness, milk crates and bottles, it came to a halt in King's Hedges Road when the near-side wheel was wrenched off the cart 37 03 01b

1937 04 19
The death occurred with tragic suddenness at the Gog Magog Golf Club of Percy William Gray, 65, who collapsed while practicing for a round. The club was immediately closed for the day. He was a member of the well-known auctioneer and estate agent firm, Gray, Son and Cook and was director of the Cambridge Waterworks and Gas Light Companies. In his younger days he played cricket, hockey, golf, rugby and 'soccer' and continued to hold various offices including President of the Cricket Association. He married Miss Strange, daughter of the Chesterton boat builder. 37 04 19

1937 04 23
Opening Ascham Road library, the Mayor said it was a great day for Chesterton. In that beautiful building, with good light and accommodation they could look at the books and select them for themselves. The children's library would encourage youngsters to read. At present physical education was the fashion. We were in danger of producing a nation finely developed from the waist downs. The library would help to counteract it. Ten months ago they opened a branch library in Rock Road and so far 87,799 books had been issued, very close to the number at Mill Road branch which had been in existence 40 years. (Applause). 37 04 23c & d

1937 04 24
Hundreds of Cambridge people had to walk to work and home again, or to find lunch in the town, because the bus stoppage at the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company's depot was complete. Not a single bus left and two which arrived from March and Peterborough were met by pickets and not allowed to leave. There was no violence, but men surrounded one bus which attempted to leave on the Chesterton-Station service. No other efforts to take out buses were made. Premier Travel services are not affected. Meanwhile Herbert Robinson have taken delivery of 500 Raleigh bicycles 37 04 24 & a. & c

1937 05 15
Chesterton church bells silent on Coronation Day – 37 05 15

1937 09 21
New Chesterton Institute opened a new hall over the billiards room; it would be used for debates, lectures, whist drives, dramatic society work and other functions. 37 09 21

1938 03 03
King's Hedges Road was shown as a private carriageway under the Inclosure Award of 1840, so why was it now repairable by Cambridge ratepayers, Councillor Edwards asked. The Town Clerk said that in 1912, when the Borough was extended, part of King's Hedges Road was handed over by Chesterton Urban District Council as a highway repairable by the inhabitants at large and in 1934 the County passed over the remaining portion on the same terms. It seemed Chesterton UDC had simply begun repairing the road thus making it a public highway. It was a mistake made in good faith and it would be a waste of time to consider it further. 38 02 03b

1938 04 23
Old Chesterton bells poem composed by Richard Robinson 63 years ago – 38 04 23c

1938 09 05
Mr M.C. (Jack Scudamore) served his apprenticeship with Mr J. Stranger, boat builder of Chesterton and, after serving in the Boer War, started business as a boat and launch builder in Mill Lane about 1903. He had considerable success in building motor boats and his craft won prizes for motor boat racing. When the Thames punt became the vogue he turned his attention to the building of this type of boat and was the pioneer of their use on the Backs and Granta. Since the popularity of the punt in Cambridge he has supplied them to users all over the country. 38 09 05c

1938 09 30
Pye dig trenches Old Chesterton Recreation ground – pic – 38 09 30b

1938 11 07
George Buck was head St Andrew's School, Chesterton, parish clerk and captain Boys Brigade 38 11 07

1938 12 14
Councillor Dorothy Thirza Stephenson worked for women's causes; elected Board of Guardians 1912, councillor 1919. Original member of Cambridge Housing Society, founder Hundred Housing Society, organised soldiers' canteen during war, Chesterton National Kitchen Committee, Belgian refugee and communal pig keeping committee 38 12 14 38 12 15

1939 02 08
The Grove Nursing Home was opened in 1920 with three beds. Nine years ago it was moved to Chesterton Road where there were nine beds. The most recent expansion is to 159 Hills Road where a newly completed extension gives accommodation for 20 patients as well as an up-to-date operating theatre with anaesthetising room and all the modern apparatus. The home is, of course, centrally heated 39 02 08b

1939 03 25
Chesterton Community Centre needed – 39 03 25a

1939 04 06
St Regis luxury flats, Chesterton Road. The main staircase has Rexine-finished walls with soft lights dispensing an atmosphere of well-being. The stairs are covered with cork to silence the noise. All flats are expensively fitted out and a resident caretaker will remove refuse and arrange for domestic cleaning. A unique feature is the provision of a large air raid shelter build under the

garages. It has a concrete roof and will be perfectly safe against all but a direct hit by a heavy bomb. Provision has been made for gas-proofing it in case of emergency. 39 04 06a

1939 08 11
If the A.R.P. exercises which took place during the black-out had been the 'real thing', you, dear reader would not have a copy of this paper. For one of the buildings supposed to have been fired by an incendiary bomb was the Cambridge Daily News office. A patrolling warden summoned the A.F.S. unit which dealt with the 'blaze' effectively. But whether any vital damage was done by the fire was a matter left to the imagination. Thankfully only one pub was 'hit', the Jolly Waterman in Chesterton Road. 39 08 11a & b

1939 10 09
The small new Roman Catholic chapel on the corner of High Street, Old Chesterton is a corrugated iron structure but its lines are good and the interior fittings and decoration are in excellent taste. After the Reformation there was no Catholic church in Cambridge. Then Mass began to be said in the room of a house and in 1841 a small church opened in Union Lane. This was supplanted in 1890 by the fine building in Hills Road. Now there are large congregations at four Masses every Sunday and two other chapels of ease beside the one now opened. 39 10 09

1939 12 29
Golden Wedding.—Mr. and Mrs. James Wilson, of 79, High Street, Chesterton, celebrated their golden wedding on Christmas Day. Christmas was Different. — Christmas, 1939, has meant more solemn thoughts than usual for many. In countless homes, the traditional joy and gaiety has been tempered by absence of one or more members of the family. And yet, in spite of gaps at the dinner table, and because the advice to carry on as usual is so obviously sound, there has been little outward change in the character of the Christmas festival. In Cambridge, as elsewhere, people remembered their absent ones, but through the inspiring co-operation of the radio, were able to satisfy themselves that the men in the Services were not forgotten. At home, it was the usual day of gifts—the children's day—and for many the delight lay in entertaining little evacuees whose parents were unable to do the job themselves. The change in the times was reflected, perhaps, in the opening of some cinemas on Christmas day, but found themselves comparatively few patrons; it was still a home festival for most. The Town club had their usual football fixture in the morning, but this had to be scratched. On Boxing Day their fixture with Rushden resulted in a decisive win for Cambridge. Another regular feature was the appearance of the Christmas Day bathers, who found not thick ice, but a deep fog to greet them

1940

1940 01 30
Isolation hospital provision needed at Old Chesterton owing large number evacuee children – 40 01 30d

1940 02 21
Old Chesterton Allotment Society compares position allotments today with that of 1916; hope would remain allotment holders after war – 40 02 21d

1940 04 04
Chesterton Senior School football team photo – 40 04 04

1940 04 22
Chesterton St Andrew's Church chapel and organ restored – 40 04 22

1940 05 10
King Charles II at Newmarket. - Mr. Donald Dale, of Chesterton Road, Cambridge, in a letter to Watchman, refers to King Charles II's association with Newmarket, stating: The racecourse at Newmarket was one of Charles II's favourite resorts. Horse racing, indeed, was the most popular pastime of the Court, or nearly so ... In one of his poems, my Lord of Rochester refers to "Dragon," "Darcy" and "Gee," and these names would appear to refer to racehorses, the training of which was a pastime of many noblemen and the King himself. In October, 1680, Samuel Pepys, Prince of Naval Administrators and Diarist, was with the Court at Newmarket, taking down in shorthand (Shelton's tachgraphy) from the King's own lips the story of his escape after the battle of Worcester. The manuscript in longhand, is now in the Pepysian Library at Magdalene College. "I cannot tell whether the Rowley Mile is named after the Merry Monarch's nickname (Old Rowley) . . ." he says.

1940 06 19
Last night's raid casualties listed – Vicarage Terrace; learning to tackle fires – Chesterton ladies with stirrup pump photo – 40 06 19e, f, g, h, i

1940 07 24
Motor cyclists appealed to sell motor bikes for war purposes; photo of civilian machines in front of Hallens, Chesterton Road – 40 07 24a

1940 11 14
Recreation centre opened St Andrew's Hall, Chesterton, for men & women – 40 11 14a

1940 11 29
Wicken Native's Appointment -Mr. Stanley J. Granfield, a. native of Wicken, has recently been appointed acting headmaster of Chesterton Senior School, Cambridge, while the Headmaster (Mr. G. W, Mansfield) is away on military service. Mr. Granfield will be remembered in the village for his activities in connection with the Tit-Bits Concert Party, the East Cambs. Motor Club and Fordham Rodeo. Gaining a scholarship at the local Council school, he was later at Soham Grammar School and the University of London Goldsmiths' College. He has been teaching in Cambridge since 1924.

1940 12 06
River Rescue. — Writing from 66, Hills Avenue, (Cambridge), Mr Thomas C. Catlin states: "Will you allow me space in your valuable paper to express my sincere thanks and gratefulness to the gentleman who on Monday night dived into the river Cam in the fog and darkness, near Chesterton, and rescued my son from drowning? It was a very gallant and heroic action on such a. night. I would also like to thank the girls, who, returning home from work, went back to fetch help, and therefore helped to save the boy's life. Although still suffering from shock, he is recovering again."

1941 10 10
Hostel for evacuated boys at Meadowcroft, Church Street, Chesterton – photo – 41 10 10

1941 10 24
Wedding guard of honour, Chesterton – photo – 41 10 24b

1942 02 13

Bell-ringer's Death. Many friends in Cambridge and throughout the Eastern Counties will learn with regret of the death, at his home in Union Lane, Chesterton, early on Wednesday morning of Mr. Walter Eusden, known for over three score years as one of the foremost bellringers in East Anglia. Eighty-two years of age, he had earned for himself by his unique knowledge of bells a reputation that was second to none. For 61 year of his life, he was bellringer at St. Andrew's Church, Old Chesterton, where perhaps his loss will be most felt. It was his hands that helped to toll the bells of Great St. Mary's, where for over 30 years he rang for countless famous occasions and events. Naturally, the curtailment of bellringing at the outbreak of war robbed him of his greatest interest in life. It was his ardent wish that he might ring for his diamond wedding, which he celebrated about 18 months ago. On one occasion, that of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, he rang no fewer than 5,042 changes on the bells of St Andrew's, Old Chesterton, and a tablet in the left aisle can be seen commemorating this. One of his greatest performances was to ring the first peals on the bells of the Roman Catholic Church, where also a tablet, this time in the bell tower, can be seen recalling the event. One of the most remarkable things about Mr. Eusden was that although he suffered from extreme deafness, he could tell exactly when any one bell was not striking correctly by the pull of the rope alone. He was also a great handbill ringer – 42 02 12b

1942 06 05
Jack Hobbs to the Rescue. — There is a strong likelihood that in the near future the boys of Chesterton Senior School will have a matting cricket pitch in place of the existing turf one. This step was provisionally decided upon at a meeting of the Cambridge Borough Education Committee in the Guildhall on Tuesday. The alteration was suggested by Coun. E. H. Church, who explained that: he had recently accompanied Jack Hobbs to the present pitch in the school grounds. There, he added, Mr. Hobbs had expressed the opinion that, it was impossible for the boys to play cricket, and for them even to get the pitch into a playing condition: The turf was full of weeds, and to get a good pitch would mean a complete re-turfing. The only solution was that some matting be laid down at the cost of about £10. Coun. G. Wilding expressed his agreement with the suggestion. It was agreed that the matter be left to the Education Officer for him to have the work carried out if he found it advisable.

1942 08 07
Sharp attack on East Anglian town, few casualties; fire guards prove their worth; the most intensive raid, only four people slightly hurt. A few HE landed on open ground where they did not damage except to one cow that had to be destroyed. Many houses sustained direct hits from incendiaries but fire parties had the flames under control and NFS pumps were soon in action. Mr Story said he had just taken his young child from its cot when an incendiary crashed through the rafters and on to the empty cot. In another outlying part a ‘bread-basket’ of incendiaries fell in the road and damage by blast was caused to shop premises. Incendiaries were also scattered over other streets and little piles of sand testify to the efforts of the fireguards. Here and there a hole could be seen in the rafters of houses where bombs had scored direct hits. Charred window frames and little piles of scorched furniture outside were further evidence. One air raid warden returned home to find the house adjacent to his had been almost completely destroyed by fire. The new phosperous bombs were also dropped. [700 incendiaries dropped Chesterton, Unicam factory, Stourbridge Common Newmarket Road, Ditton Fields] – 42 08 07

1943 01 09
New Archdeacon, — The Rev. W. L. Mackennal, Vicar of Hitchin, has been appointed Archdeacon of Ely, in succession to Bishop H, McC E. Price, who died last November. Mr. Mackennal is well known in Cambridgeshire, for he was formerly Vicar of St Andrew's, Chesterton and chaplain at Westcott-House

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1943 02 05
Sole survivor of Air Crash. — Mr. John Howard, the young British diplomat, who was the sole survivor of an air liner crash in Peru last week, is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Howard, of 257, Chesterton Road. Cambridge. His parents on Friday received a cablegram from the hospital where he was taken, saying that there is no need to worry. Mr Howard, who is 28 years of age, was educated at the Perse School, and later at St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, of which he is an M.A. He went out to South America about six months ago, and at the time of the crash was flying from Buenos Aires to Miami. News from Lima (Peru) described how Mr. Howard was catapulted from the back seat of the plane when the Liner crashed into a mountainside. The purser was sitting, with him, and was also thrown out but he died later from his injuries. For three days, it was stated, Mr. Howard lay injured beside the bodies of the victims before rescue services could reach him. The bodies of the 15 dead, who included three women and two other British diplomats, were taken to the Anglo-American Hospital at Lima.

1945 02 09
Road accident. The Cambridge Borough Police have issued an appeal for witnesses of an accident which occurred in Victoria Avenue near the junction of Chesterton Road, about 10.20 on Wednesday, when a pedestrian, received serious injuries after being struck by an Eastern Counties bus. The injured man was taken to hospital in the Borough Ambulance. The accident may have been seen by passengers on the bus and any witnesses are asked to communicate with the Borough Police as soon as possible.

1945 04 09
Cambridge princess rescued from Japs – Mabel Phillips of Chesterton married undergraduate who now Swaba of Mongmit, of Burma; liberated by British troops – 45 04 09a

1945 05 11
VE celebrations –45 05 11a; New St, Chesterton High St – 45 05 28a, Eastfield – 45 06 04; Catherine St, Ditton Walk, Union Lane – 45 06 05; Gwydir St, Abbey (East) – 45 06 06; Meadowlands Estate, Argyle St, Hope St, De Freville Estate – 45 06 07; Ross St, Hemingford Rd, Green End Rd, Staffordshire St, Selwyn Rd, Coldham's Grove, Coldham's Lane, Akeman St – 45 06 11; Brooks Rd, Sedgwick St, Langham Rd, Oxford Rd, Haig Road, Chesterton – 45 06 13a; Windsor Rd, Stretten Ave, Kimberley Rd, Abbey Road, Walnut Tree Ave, Brookfields – 45 06 18; Trumpington, Mansfield Hall – 45 06 19; Cavendish Ave, Hinton Ave, Hope Hall for Deaf – 45 06 21a; Histon Rd children – 45 06 30; St Peter's St, Greens Rd – 45 07 10

1945 09 28
Savings in Cambs. "Chesterton Week" in November.—Last week a meeting of the above named committee was attended by the Deputy Commissioner for National Savings, Mr. H. B. Goodman. After an interesting address on policy, he presented the Savings League challenge trophy to Mrs. Currington, who received it on behalf of Graveley, which has again resumed its former place as the winning village. The committee subsequently decided to hold Thanksgiving Week from November 10th to 17th inclusive, and fixed the target at £200,000

1946 03 15
Chesterton Men's Club building presented to club by the owner, Mrs Clark in memory son – 46 03 15a

1946 05 13

Plans for new hospital at Chesterton on site of present one approved by county council and will go to Ministry. There were beds at Chesterton which could have been used for a long time and enable them to close down the disreputable, disgraceful, uncomfortable and insanitary beds which patients now occupying. But this 50-bed ward was away from the main building and the Medical Officer would not take responsibility of opening it when they did not have enough trained people to look after it – 46 05 13

1947 06 27
It is the opinion of the Headmaster of Chesterton Modern School that every boy there is two years retarded in certain subjects. When presenting his report at yesterday's Speech Day and prize-giving he said "My estimate is that every boy in this school is two years retarded in many subjects - such as mental work, where there was no teacher during the war, science, where there was no teacher for a long period, and art, where there was a great variation of teacher and method". He knew a number of parents realised that, because many of them were only too anxious to have their boys return to school after the school-leaving age had been reached. Last year 29 returned voluntarily, and 22 of these were coming back again in September

1947 11 13
There is a need for part-time nurses in Cambridgeshire and a campaign to recruit them is to be launched. Fulbourn was described as being "in a dangerous position" and one of the main difficulties mentioned by the Matrons of hospitals in the area was getting people for night and weekend work. Asked for their views Mrs Ditchburn said: "We at the County Hospital are very fortunate. We are well staffed and have our full complement". Mrs Mace explaining the position at Chesterton said approximately a third of the present staff was part time, which meant the night, weekend and early morning duties fell to the permanent staff. Mrs Bradley said that Linton was only one short of the full complement. At Fulbourn they had 32 permanent and 27 part time nurses to look after 528 patients

1947 11 25
At the concert of St Andrew's church school, Chesterton the Vicar said that the school needed modernising. "We want new class rooms, an assembly hall, better accommodation for the staff and cloak rooms etc. Under the new development plan which has been passed the school would be entirely pulled down and rebuilt on the same site for £60 or £70,000. The manager do not agree", he declared, "they think it is a financial extravagance and believe everything that is necessary could be done for a third of that cost". The speaker concluded that modernisation could be carried out in 50 or 100 years' time, the school would still be there growing and developing and would show "a little of the history of England"

1947 11 26
Cambridge is well used to welcoming Very Important Persons but none is so sure of a vociferous reception from the youngsters as Father Christmas. He was received with traditional acclaim on Saturday when, in the presence of hundreds of youngsters, he arrived at Mitcham's Corner, Chesterton Road. On arrival he proceeded to deliver the goods in the traditional way, leaving his "reindeer coach", climbing up a ladder outside the shop and disappearing down a big chimney. A crowd of children saw him in Nurseryland, surrounded by his friends, the Three Little Pigs, Big Bad Wolf, Pluto, Micky and Minnie Mouse, Donald Duck and others. He will remain in residence until Christmas Eve

1948 07 02
What might be termed the swan-Song of the Cambridge County Council Public assistance Committee took place at Shire Hall. In common with many other similar committees its duties

will be taken over by the Ministry of Health on 5th July. The chairman, Mrs Mellish Clark, said that at the County Hospital Mill Road they decided to develop the maternity work, to close the causal wards and move the nursery children out to Linton. At Chesterton Hospital they had built a new casual ward, but when the war came these wards were converted by the additional of hospital beds and were being so used at the present time. At Linton they had built a Nurses Home but as there was no proper sanitation t Caxton they had decided to pull it down

1948 07 29
D.E. Knapman, telephone manager of the Cambridge area told Rotarians that there were 4,000 people in the area waiting for telephones. He said there are two separate wires running from the exchange right back to your house which are yours and only yours. It would be impossible to run out a separate pair of wires every time somebody asked for a telephone. They try and forecast 30 years ahead the number of subscribers they will get and then lay cable under the ground. In Sidney Street are seven or eight thousand wires serving Chesterton and the Milton Road districts

1948 08 25
The need for utilising Chesterton hospital for the elderly and infirm people of Cambridgeshire and of housing casuals in some other part of the county was discussed at a meeting of the Board of Governors of the United Cambridge Hospitals. Dr R. Ellis said "There is a tremendous need, with the closing of infirmaries, to know what to do with the people who were housed in such places. A great hardship is being imposed on people who are old - they are literally living in houses in some villages in semi-starvation and dirt. There is no hope for them living in the way they are". Mr Dennard thought that as far as casuals are concerned they should get a hut at Bourn and house them there

1948 11 22
A very important visitor who every child in Cambridge welcomes with joy, arrived on Saturday. He was none other than Santa Claus. He arrived from Toytown with a well-filled sack to deal with the seasonal requirements of the boys and girls. He was given a royal welcome. There were several hundred children of all ages ranging from tiny tots carried by their mothers, waiting in a state of great expectancy, at his destination, Mitcham's, Chesterton Road. Cheers from waiting children heralded the arrival of the smiling, rosy cheeked Santa and a knot gathered round and followed, Pied-piper fashion, to the foot of the ladder he had to climb up to the chimney before he disappeared down the chimney into Santa's Nurseryland where he will be in residence till Christmas

1949 03 14
Sir – the trouble with the Four Lamps roundabout is its bad design. It was put down many years ago and allows traffic to approach at too fast a rate. The new roundabouts on Chesterton road with its beautiful flower gardens and the one where Lensfield joins Trumpington road are of better design because they slow all traffic down to walking pace. A much greater terror is that most insane junction, Pembroke Street and Mill Lane with Trumpington Street. How people avoid being killed daily is always a marvel to me. It would be so easy to control these with traffic operated signal lights – D. McClure Campbell

1949 04 29
Cambridge council were told that some 20 years ago Messrs Pye asked for the Church meadow, Chesterton, to build a factory. There was strong opposition in letters to the press. It was one of the beauty spots of "a drab place called Old Chesterton". It was pointed out then that the firm would spread out and that was what had happened. The land concerned was 2½ acres of valuable front land which the council purchased before the war and which the people of Chesterton were told

was going to be a park. If the council did not sell the land Pyes might move their factory. The decision to sell was confirmed.

1949 06 10
Picketing by Jews and Communists outside the Chesterton secondary modern boys' school resulted in the abandonment of a meeting which was to have been held there by the British People's Party. Inside the hall, which had posters, "Britain awake", on the walls, there were eight people by the time the meeting was due to start. The meeting had been well advertised however, 2,000 handbills having been circulated. The Party believe that bad as the Conservatives certainly are, they would not do so much damage to the country as an extension of Labour rule.

1949 06 18
Winners in the Chesterton shopping week competition were presented with their prizes at the Tivoli cinema. The object was to show the public that all the goods they need can be obtained in their own area, without wasting time and energy in buses and in queues; at competitive prices and with good service and personal attention. Shopkeepers had many difficulties to contend with during the past 10 years including coupons, form filling and shortage of material, and at the present time, shortage of ready money. There was laughter when men's names were given as the winners of a home perm and two pairs of nylons

1949 09 02
Celebrating his 102nd birthday Mr Joseph Kester, formerly of Hardwick, and now living at Chesterton Hospital said he felt nothing like his age. This grand old man, who doctors say is the healthiest man in the hospital and certainly has the strongest heart, is usually the most active of the patients. He is ever cheerful, always enjoys a good joke and laugh, and was most amused by some of the comic postcards he received. He was fully employed as an agricultural labourer till he was 86. He did not give up working entirely then but continued to do odd jobs till be was 97. He lived at Hardwick till he was 100

1950

1950 09 01
Joe Kester, the Grand Old Man of Chesterton Hospital, is 103 today, and in his own words "fighting fit". He is even thinking of applying for a pair of National Health glasses so he can read the small type in the newspaper. Joe was getting ready for his daily pre-lunch half-pint of beer. "That's the best medicine I ever had, it puts more life in me than anything else. It won't hurt anybody if they use it right", he said.

1951 03 16
The roadway at High Street, Chesterton, will be improved at an estimated cost of £1,300. Coun G. Edwards said that having lived there for nearly 71 years he realised the gravity of the position. "This bottleneck in the High Street coming from Chesterton Road constitutes one of the gravest dangers in the borough. The setting back of the wall and making the corner into Union Lane a little wider would be a godsend to the residents", he said

1951 04 26
To be Water Lane, Chesterton, or to be Malting Lane, Chesterton was the question which faced Cambridge magistrates when two housewives came to court to object to the proposal to rename it. They said correspondence for Malting Lane, Newnham was never received if the word Chesterton was on the envelope. The Town Clerk said Water Lane would be associated with the adjoining Water Street. The magistrates felt it for the best and would make an order confirming the change.

1951 09 01
"I'm going to have another half dozen birthdays at least". This is the declared intention of Mr Joseph Kester, Chesterton Hospital's Grand Old Man, who today celebrated his 104th birthday. At a party he cut his own birthday cake, drank a glass of port and said: "It tastes good, but it's not as good as beer". Sitting bolt upright in his chair and dressed in a navy suit and slippers, Joe gave the impression of a film star holding court. He was surrounded by friends and submitted happily to being photographed. Three bottles of port were included in his presents and his son, bringing in a medicine bottle with brandy in it, was told with a chuckle: "Slip it into my pocket boy".

1951 09 08
When the pioneer of the moving film first sprang his new invention upon the world, Joseph Kester was a comparatively young man of 42. But Joe did not take any particular notice of those new-fangled moving pictures them, and even as they were developed through the next 62 years he never visited a cinema. As Joe reached his 104th birthday he saw his first film through the enterprise of the Central Cinema who organised a show especially for him at the Chesterton Hospital. He seemed quite enthusiastic about it, although because of his failing eyesight he could not quite see everything on the screen. The first thing he wanted to know after seeing the film was whether he had missed his tea.

1951 09 11
Mr Joseph Henry Priest of Waterbeach, who died suddenly aged 73, was well-known in sporting circles. Fifty years ago he was an amateur champion cyclist and for over 40 years he has been closely identified with the Cam Sailing Club. Setting up for himself as a stationer and printseller in Bridge Street, Cambridge, he continued until the First World War when he opened up the premises as a ladies' outfitter in conjunction with Mr C.N. Mitcham. Later he took the corner premises now occupied by Messrs Peak in Fitzroy Street and carried on as 'The Quality Shop' and subsequently joined the firm of C.N. Mitcham's of Chesterton. In the heyday of amateur theatricals he was a member of the Bijou Amateurs.

1952 01 18
After years of planning, working and hoping, members of Chesterton Methodist Church have at last a building of their own, a new church on the corner of Green End Road and Scotland Road, which was officially opened by Mrs Elliot Ridgeon. Now they have a light and bright building and the friendliness of the many members at the ceremony reflected joy and thankfulness at the completion of the new church. But their struggles are not yet over for they plan to build a school hall and hope one day to build a bigger church.

1952 02 13
The first man to drive a bus from Cambridge station to Chesterton has died at Peterborough. He was Mr T. Aldham who had been employed by the old Ortona Company where he rose from the ranks to be a senior driver and subsequently traffic foreman. Shortly after the Eastern Counties Company took over in 1932 he transferred to Peterborough. At the funeral Mr A. Darby represented Mr J.B. Walford, the original owner of Ortona and there were several of his old colleagues including Messrs R. Peat, A. January, W. Harding and H. Bullock

1952 03 21
Joe Kester has died at Chesterton Hospital at the age of 104. On his last birthday he was surrounded by five generations of his family. He was born at Kingston in 1847 but moved to Hardwick as a baby and lived there for 98 years. He remembered when his mother could take a shopping bag the size of a pillowcase to the shops and get it filled for 3s. (15p). He was six when

he started work, tending the geese, chickens and turkeys and earned 6d a week. He had only candles for lighting and a tinderbox to light them with. Joe enjoyed a half-pint of beer a day & used to say: "I lived well, worked hard and had plenty of ale and fresh air. Hard work never hurt anybody"

1952 06 03 c
Ever since he was a young land "Shorty" Hallen has been fascinated by motor cycles. Some 20 years ago he started a business of his own in a small shed in Chesterton. Then in 1936 he opened his showrooms at Chesterton Road, Cambridge. Now he has opened another shop at the Bridge Garage, St Ives. Who could have visualised that the rather tumbled-down buildings could have been turned into the magnificent premises they now are? Instead of a musty-looking building it is a brightly painted, well set out and amply stocked showroom with everything for the motor cyclist. It will add to the usefulness, drawing capacity and charm of the town.

1952 07 29
Sir – I write to protest against the proposed new public conveniences on the corner of Chapel Street & High Street, Chesterton. There are plenty of old men who like to congregate on the iron seat around the ash tree, for even with the existing police box it is undeniably a pleasant corner such as it will never be with a lavatory right in the middle. But there are numerous condemned cottages in the High Street and extensive rubbish dumps behind crumbling walls, not only unsightly but filthy, which would be improved for having public lavatories built on them – Mrs M. Sugden

1952 07 30
In the big tree-girt grass playing field of Chesterton Preparatory School the young folk entertained their elders to tea and dancing, giving a whole profusion of English Maypole Dances. I asked Miss Dorothy Hodder, the Headmistress, how they were able to train youngsters to such a pitch of excellence that they never pause or falter, and all without commands or words of instruction. She said the children (and there were no less than 64 of them) very largely teach themselves. It made a charming picture to see the tiny tots skipping so gaily round the Maypole in orderly rhythm with their brightly coloured ribands. They were obviously enjoying every second of it.

1952 12 02 c
Cambridge Council will start negotiations for the purchase of sites in Northampton Street to build cottages for old people. The Cambridge Preservation Society has offered £100 towards the cost of each dwelling on condition that the cottages in Kettle'' Yard are kept in being and modernised. Because of the urgent need in Chesterton for more cottages for old people's use the Housing Committee are to consider buying land on the Scotland Farm Site.

1953 02 10
People of Cambridge are responding well to the Queen Mother's message broadcast by the BBC appealing for clothing for the East Coast flood victims. At the W.V.S. Regional Headquarters in Chesterton Road clothing is piling up on the floor. All morning people have been arriving from Cambridge and the outlying villages with armfuls of clothes and children's toys. The British Red Cross Society are busy and a long line of people have offered bedding and bedsteads of all descriptions. The Harvey Goodwin Nursery has made an offer of babies' cots

1953 06 08
The Shirley School was the scene of festivities on two days when 900 children of Old Chesterton gathered for their Coronation party. There was a fancy dress and vehicle parade and a film show,

but the highlight was tea in the tastefully-decorated dining room. The tables were laden with sandwiches, sausage rolls, trifles, fruit-jellies and fancy cakes. Both soft drinks and tea were available. Need it be said that all these goodies disappeared rapidly.

1953 06 24
Over 100 cadets of the Cambridge District of the Order of the Sons of Temperance took part in a Coronation demonstration parade along Mill Road, headed by the Boy's Brigade Band. They were from the Hope of Cambridge, King's Own, Chesterton United and Beacon Societies. Several entered for the fancy dress competition which was judged by Mr & Mrs David Moore. The winners were, girls – Marjorie Mason (Spanish Lady), boys – Norman Knight (Guardsman). Decorated vehicle – Catherine Newman, doll's pram (golden coach).

1953 07 08
Chesterton and Coleridge schools may adopt a two-shift system operating from 8.30-1.30 and 1.30-6.30 pm as means of relieving difficulties arising from the large number on the school rolls with 553 boys and 450 girls at Chesterton and 562 boys and 540 girls at Coleridge. It would not adversely affect the character of the schools, as all pupils would have normal facilities for the use of laboratories and practical rooms. But there were social consequences which would create difficulties. The schools should make full use of hall and dining rooms for teaching purposes and hire additional accommodation.

1954 02 08
A large new railway depot is to be established at Chesterton sidings. One area equipped with two Goliath cranes will store new and second-hand rails and emergency stock; another will refettle serviceable switches and crossing units while a third will be equipped for the mechanised pre-assembly, loading and despatch of complete lengths of plain line for permanent way renewals. There will also be dismantling and sleeper areas together with a chair and smalls area and a flash butt welding plant. New access roads will be built together with a canteen.

1954 02 24
Chesterton's has been a beautiful village but during the past 20 years it has been spoiled by neglect and the erection of ugly buildings. Now its ancient village green site, the only remaining 'pleasant corner' would be spoiled by the erection of a public convenience, say residents. But the city council plan to improve the island with a cycloramic wall and flowers round the convenience. Only five houses overlook the site and the existing police box would be removed. It was in a development area where 200 houses and an old people's home were to be erected.

1954 03 09
Mr L.W. Hallen started his motor cycle trading 21 years ago in a low-roomed malting shed opposite Union Lane corner and shortly afterwards acquired premises in Hawthorn Way. During the war Government contracts for repair work on RAF vehicles helped the firm to expand and premises which were a dance hall were converted to the use of the business. They have now opened a spacious new showroom on the site of former almshouses that jutted on to Union Lane. Their empire now occupies an extensive stretch of Chesterton High Street.

1954 04 10
The Headmaster of Chesterton Secondary Modern School, Mr G.W. Manfield, has left to take up a teachers' training post in Malaya. He had been appointed in 1935 when the school was just being built and gradually its reputation had grown. Chesterton was known as a school of scholars and boys can obtain a very good situation. It is doubtful whether any other school is sending as many boys to training colleges to become teachers themselves.

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1954 05 01
Government Inspectors have turned down an application from Cambridge city council to build a public convenience on the island at the junction of High Street and Chapel Street, Chesterton. It is the site of the old village green and in its centre stands a fine old ash tree encircled at its base by a seat much used in summer evenings. The Council contended that only five houses overlooked the site and they would improve the island with a cycloramic wall and flowers. But the Preservation Society said it would destroy the pleasantest survival of Old Chesterton and there were three alternative sites.

1954 07 19
The Minister's decision on the County Development Plan has been announced. The only major Cambridge items not approved are the site of the bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel and the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Road. All the central area road proposals including the 'spine relief road', the new Guildhall Street and a cross-town route joining Emmanuel Street with Downing Street have been approved together with the new Chesterton Bridge over the Cam near Walnut Tree Avenue, a multi-storey car park in Corn Exchange Street and a subway at the railway station.

1954 07 21
The attention of county planners has been drawn to a press report setting out proposals by the British Transport Commission to establish a new railway depot at Chesterton. At no time have they given any indication of these intentions; indeed the council has pressed for the reduction of railway activities on this site. It is clear that the arrangements are so far advanced that there is no likelihood of them being held up or abandoned at this late stage. When completed the depot will require a large additional labour force, which is clearly in contradiction to the agreed industrial policy for Cambridge. Future schemes should be discussed well in advance with the planners and the matter will be placed in the hands of local Members of Parliament.

1954 11 18
Councillors discussed the problems of building a new school on Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge. It was known that the site was water-logged and deep piles would have to be provided for the foundations. Chesterton Library which had been built on deep piles was already cracking up and for the same thing to happen to this expensive school would be disastrous. These difficulties had been pointed out to the Planning Officer but they supported the 'green field' site that was now developing into a 'green G-string'

1954 12 01
Cambridge councillors suggest that 20 cottages fronting to East Road, 18 of which are empty, should be developed as soon as possible by the erection of flats. Under the new Development Plan East Road would become a trunk road and with the construction of the Chesterton Bridge the amount of traffic would greatly increase. This would cause a considerable widening and the possible construction of dual carriageways which would leave very little of the site of the cottages available for development.

1954 12 23
One cold December night just before Christmas 1933 a dozen motor cycling enthusiasts gathered in a room over a public house in Chesterton and decided to form the Centaur Motor Cycle Club. Pre-war it was mainly a social club catering for the weekend rider. With war came petrol rationing and shortage of oil but the club somehow kept going. In 1945 it began to get back on its feet, organising the first scramble at Caxton. They then pioneered events such as trials, grass track

racing and sidecar events. Now, 21 years later, over 160 members crowded into the Dorothy Restaurant to celebrate the club's coming-of-age

1955 08 04
Men of the 629 Airborne Light Regiment R.A.T.A., formerly known as the "Cambridgeshires", have completed their first parachute training course. In just two weeks the men who come from all walks of life have been transformed into fully-fledged parachutists and 140 of the volunteers will receive their wings. They include Captain L.S. Brown who as headmaster of the Chesterton School had decided to set the boys an example. But he landed awkwardly and became a visitor to the therapy centre for treatment. 55 08 04a

1956 01 03
The Mayor of Cambridge met people aged from two hours to 100 years during his New Year's Day tour. The baby was Nicola Mansfield and the centenarian Mrs Eleanor Clarke at Chesterton Hospital where the official party went round the wards handing out cigarettes and chocolate to the patients. 56 01 03a-b

1956 03 19
Chesterton Men's Club celebrated its 25th birthday. In 1931 Mrs R. Clark decided to purchase the then Mission Hall to provide men with a means to meet socially. It started off with one billiards table and facilities for darks and cards. 72 members joined on the first night and it soon had football and cricket teams. Ladies were admitted as honorary members in 1952 and the cycle accommodation was improved, a much-needed feature. 56 03 19a

1956 07 26
As part of the 21st anniversary celebrations of Chesterton Boy's School 320 boys and staff travelled by special train to London for a pleasant day's outing. The visited London Airport, Kew Gardens and Westminster Hall where they were guided by local MP, Mr Hamilton Kerr. Others went to the Zoo and on a river trip to the Maritime Museum at Greenwich. 56 07 26a

1957 04 02
Television sets are to be installed at Chesterton Secondary Modern School in an experiment to assess the value of this type of visual aid. In the years to come they may be as common as radios. However Coun Gardner-Smith claimed children spent a lot of time watching television: "Is it any wonder they are illiterate. This is simply another way of wasting time". 57 04 02a

1957 08 01
More refuse collection in Chesterton villages? – 57 08 01

1958 04 05
Old Chesterton Methodist Church was established in 1951 and has not been big enough: dances and Sunday School sessions have had to be carefully timed so as not to clash. Now their Boy's Brigade have erected a large hut to be used for drills, meetings and physical training as well as the Teenagers Club where 50 youngsters enjoy in a "rock'n'roll" session. All look forward to the day when there will be a permanent Church to cater for the new housing development in Scotland Road. 58 04 05a

1958 04 23
Boys Brigade hut, Chesterton Methodist church – 58 04 23b

1958 07 25

Cambridge milk bottling works washes 65,000 bottles every day. Out of the empties come notes, thimbles, teaspoons, dead flowers and even bicycle brake blocks and dead mice. People use them as containers for paraffin, paint brushes, home perm solutions and creosote. Another tiresome business is the punching in of foil tops, squashing them down into the bottle. Some people hoard them: 672 were found in a house in Chesterton High Street and dozens are found down wells. 58 07 25

1958 08 22
The new Roman Catholic Church of St Laurence at Milton Road is one of the most modern Catholic buildings in the diocese and replaces the existing church in Chesterton High Street. Heating is of the 'underfloor' electrical type and the lighting is also by electricity. The pews are of polished mahogany and the altar is made of stone. Much of the money has still to be raised and a local football pool is being run between the parishioners. 58 08 22a

1958 11 05
Cambridge Instrument Company proposed new laboratories, Chesterton Lane – 58 11 05 & a

1958 11 12
A Chesterton Bridge was proposed over 50 years ago but no work had been started. A Ministerial ruling had decided in favour of the route from Milton Road to Trumpington Road via Haig Road, Cam Road and Walnut Tree Avenue and this would be designated a Trunk Road in due course. However funds were limited and other works had priority. 58 11 12

1959 02 28
Edward Fitzgerald and Chesterton – 59 02 28a

1959 03 07
Fitzgerald's house at Chesterton – 59 03 07b

1959 03 16
Frederick Archibald Mace arrived as Master of Chesterton Hospital in 1946 and implemented the changes which have turned it into the bright, happy National Health Service establishment it is today. But to several old people, some of whom have been in the hospital from their childhood and until ten years ago knew it only as an institution, he was still 'the Master', but a Master who contradicted all the old Dickensian ideas of institutional life. 59 03 16

1959 03 21
Sir - The fine old ash tree opposite Hill House, Old Chesterton was planted in 1867. In my boyhood days it was surrounded with a green grass mound where the village children spent many happy hours – especially when Punch and Judy used to be performed under its shade. Chesterton village flower show was held in the garden with side-shows and plenty of amusements. Opposite Hill House stood an old inn called 'The Bleeding Heart'. From here Charles Rowell, the great runner, used to do his morning training - Harry Pitt, Manor Cottage, Church Street. 59 03 21

1959 05 08
Chesterton Hospital held an open day so people could see for themselves what life is really like in a modern old people's home. The exterior resembles structures of the Dickensian era but give no hint of the warmth, gaiety and colour prevailing inside. Every department bore testimony to how even formidable mansions can be transformed into gay fairy-like palaces. None of the old folks had the slighted complaint and had nothing but praise for the staff. 59 05 08b

1959 10 15
Cambridge Instrument Company opened its new research headquarters in Chesterton Road. Its four floors comprise laboratories for the development of instruments for mechanical engineering, electronics and physical chemistry together with a specious drawing office. It was a tribute to the unswerving devotion of the men who had worked there over the last 80 years, said Lord Adrian, University Vice-Chancellor. He had declined the use of a car and arrived on bicycle for the opening ceremony where he was presented with a compass. 59 10 15c

1959 10 16
More traffic went along Newmarket Road than any other and congestion often occurred at Four Lamps Corner. Any small incident – circuses on the Common or even May Balls - holds up traffic. Victoria Bridge vibrated when heavy vehicles had to stand on it with their engines running. We need a new bridge over the river at Walnut Tree Avenue. But a temporary bridge could be thrown over the Cam in six months by using the site of the old horse ferry next to the Chesterton footbridge. There would be a natural route for traffic up Garlic Row, Ald Symonds said. 59 10 16a & b

1958 12 16
Miss W.M. Farnsworth, headmistress of Chesterton Girls' School is retiring. She has been in charge since the school opened in 1935. It was the first of its kind to be opened in Cambridge as a result of the Hadow report of 1926 which recommended special provision for all children over 11 years. Previously it was thought that children not at grammar schools must be taught to be practical and develop handicraft skills rather than developing academic intelligence. She says schoolgirls are now taller, healthier, more graceful and beautiful than they used to be, as a result of anti-natal care and welfare services or increased facilities for physical education. 58 12 16 & a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 02 23
The News has provided a vital lead in a search for some 350-year-old manuscripts which may hold the key to the history of the Carmelite religious order. An American researcher appealed for help to find the documents which were last heard of in the Philips Collection of historical papers. The News ordered its correspondents to make inquiries and they were discovered in the library of a former Ramsey schoolteacher. Now the researcher is heading to Ramsey straight away. The Carmelites settled in Chesterton in 1237 but then moved to a site near the new Queens' College buildings. 60 02 23a

1960 03 11
The City Council is to pressure the Ministry of Transport about the proposed new bridge over the river at Chesterton. The route was approved four years ago and both Messrs Pye and Marshalls – the two large employers of labour in the area – consider it to be a matter of urgency. But the Mitcham's Corner improvement scheme would be relatively inexpensive and was being forced on them by the Government. This would further delay the proposals to provide a complete bypass on the Chesterton route. 60 03 11

1960 04 12
The parish of St Andrew the Great has had no Vicar for two years because it has had no vicarage to offer. Now it has bought a house at 142 Chesterton Road. The peoples' warden, J.W.W. Filby says it should remove the main drawback to the appointment of an incumbent to take over the

place of Canon A.L. Woodard who officially retired two years ago but has been carrying on. The gift of the living is with the Lord Chancellor whose department is actively considering a successor 60 04 12b

1960 06 08
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother opened Angel Court, the new extension to Trinity College built to ease the student accommodation problem. She travelled by normal passenger train and was fifteen minutes early arriving at the college where she showed interest in some of the ancient pottery discovered during excavation work. Later a crowd of several thousand people gave her a rousing send-off as her special launch left the forecourt of the Pike and Eel at Chesterton to take her to watch the May Races on the River Cam 60 06 08 & a

1960 06 17
Members of Chesterton Youth Club have made week-end canoe camping trips down the Granta, Rhee and Brandon Rivers using boats of their own making. No fewer that six two-seater canoes have been built in the Chesterton Evening Centre wood-work room and the finishing touches of paint and varnish are now being applied. The hobby is so popular they will shortly be starting canoe building classes 60 06 17

1960 10 21
Since the opening of the New Chesterton Institute in 1885 members have not been able to obtain any alcoholic drinks in the club. But now it has opened a bar in an effort to increase the dwindling membership. One of the first to patronise it was 89-year-old Sam Gawthrop, who has been a member of the club for 72 years. His drink was a non-alcoholic ginger–ale. “I don’t touch much of the stuff now, I am too old for that lark”, he said. 60 10 21b

1960 11 02
Many roads were flooded following a torrential downpour. Policemen with red warning lights patrolled parts of Queen’s Road which was covered to a depth of 18-inches in parts and the roadway at Chesterton Hall Crescent was also under water. Wilberforce Road was the most seriously affected where water poured off a nearby playing field and fences were pulled up to divert the flow away from houses. The Wheatsheaf Inn at Harlton and a cottage at Barton Road Haslingfield were also inundated. This has been one of the wettest years recorded in Cambridge. 60 11 02b

1961 01 03
The ‘Grand Old Man’ of Cambridge cycling, Mr C.M. Woods, was secretary of the New Chesterton Cycling Club for 35 years. He arranged ten motor and cycle race meetings on the Amalgamation Ground in Queen’s Road and was sports secretary for the Mammoth Show on Jesus Green which included the famous rodeo which attracted a record ‘gate’ of 35,000 people. During his career he came into contact with many famous cyclists including Albert White, Jack Sibbit, Ernie Payne and Reg Player. 61 01 03

1961 01 18
People cycling into Cambridge from Chesterton may one day have a special bridge all to themselves. It would permit cycles to get from the end of Pretoria Road directly across Midsummer Common to Four Lamps Corner and relieve traffic congestion over Victoria Avenue Bridge. The scheme would cost around £25,000. Councillors would also like the one-way traffic in the centre of Cambridge to flow the other way – if only for a trial period of six months – 61 01 18

1961 02 17
The Old People's Welfare Council believes the best thing for the elderly is for them to live independently as long as possible. But many cannot and there are an increasing number of people wanting care in their old age. The main problem is finding suitable premises to make into old people's homes. In 1948 the County Council had to do with Linton Hospital and a few beds at Chesterton Hospital. Since then they have been modernised and improved. After the war buildings were very difficult to get because of competition from firms wanting office accommodation and the rising cost of land. The first new home was The Grove, Fordham in 1951, followed by Willingham House and in 1956 Primrose Croft was adapted to take 35 elderly residents. The future plans are to erect purpose-designed buildings 61 02 17b

1961 02 24
Houses in Chesterton High Street and Green End Road have been subject to a demolition order since January 1960. Their occupants have gradually been re-accommodated and their homes abandoned. Now only two families remain. It is an eerie feeling to have empty houses on either side, especially when they are broken into, the wallpaper ripped and the boarded-up windows damaged. Once they have been rehoused the rickety four-roomed homes with their primitive sanitation will be pulled down for re-development. 61 02 24

1961 03 22
The strong room at Barclay's Bank in Chesterton Road was blown open and £75,000 in notes stolen in the City's biggest bank robbery. The raiders piled stacks of office furniture and cushions to muffle the noise of the explosion which blew a hole three feet across in the strong room wall, then crawled through to help themselves to the money. Arrangements have been made to transfer the silver and copper coinage the thieves left behind. 61 03 22

1961 05 27
'The Willows', a six and a half acre piece of land at Cam Road, was one of the few building sites left in Cambridge. It was just a mile from the city centre with outline planning permission for the building of 200 flats in six blocks ranging from two to 15 storeys. The proposed new trunk road and bridge linking Chesterton and Newmarket road will pass the site. But it failed to reach the reserve price and was withdrawn from auction at £50,000 61 05 27

1961 07 01
Permission to build a temporary Bailey Bridge over the River Cam at Chesterton has been refused. The Minister appreciates the council's desire to reduce the amount of cross river traffic using the Victoria Avenue – Victoria Bridge route but it would attract additional vehicles through narrow and tortuous roads. Proposals to restrict the bridge to local traffic and impose weight restrictions to prevent its use by heavy lorries would not work, he says. Now the Council will proceed with plans for a new permanent bridge 61 07 01

1961 08 12
Chesterton Hospital has 166 beds for the elderly sick and 74 custodial beds for able-bodied elderly people with no homes of their own. After decades of neglect geriatric medicine has come into its own. The number of elderly people is the highest it has ever been while a declining birth-rate has diminished the number of children available to care for their parents. Now 25 per cent of Britain's elderly are left without children to look after them in their old age. But of these 95 per cent are living independent lives and a quarter make some contribution to society until the age of 75 61 08 12

1961 11 15

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A giant pall of smoke hung over Cambridge as ten thousand old rubber tyres and about a dozen derelict cars were destroyed by fire in a vehicle breakers yard on the Blue Gates site, Chesterton Fen Road. It started when one of the assistants decided to burn some old rubbish. The wind fanned the sparks into a giant blaze. It was fortunate that the smoke and smuts drifted more or less into the open countryside and there was no danger to property or life. 61 11 15

1962 01 05
Barnwell and Wadloes Roads, sections of the Whitehill housing estate, were intended to be part of a ring road on the eastern side of Cambridge. That project was abandoned years ago but now they could form part of a proposed eastern by-pass. This should take priority over the 'Spine Relief Road' which was planned to run from Huntingdon Road, across Chesterton Road, over the river and up to Jesus Lane, councillors agreed. 62 01 05a

1962 03 02
Six barges, each 60 feet long, were towed down the River Cam from Ely to the Pike and Eel landing stage at Chesterton, where lorries were waiting to collect them. The 10-ton barges had been hired from a Hampshire firm and were used during the Ely sugar beet campaign. But the cranes needed to hoist them out of the river were too large to go on the Ely landing stage so the barges were brought to the nearest suitable spot. A police escort was provided through Cambridge streets for the lorries with their lengthy loads. 62 03 02c

1962 04 01
Police are searching for a silver-grey American car which smashed down level crossing gates in Milton Road. Crossing keeper, Edward Dyson, had just closed the gates ready for the train when a large American car coming from the Milton direction rammed them. It reversed and headed back the way it had come. Members of the Cambridge City Reserves football team returning from their evening match at King's Lynn left their coach and helped drag parts of the broken gates from the rails. Mr Dyson telephoned Chesterton Junction and had a goods train diverted through Ely. 62 04 01a

1962 04 16
The parish of St George, Chesterton, has practically doubled in the past five years. Twenty four members of the congregation were engaged in welcoming new families on the new King's Hedges Estate. But the need for the appointment of a curate to assist the Vicar, the Rev J. Degwel Thomas, was urgent. Amongst those elected to the Parochial Church Council were Donald & Derrick Flory. 62 04 16a

1962 05 01
An experiment at Mitcham's Corner designed to speed up rush hour traffic brought protests from road users and residents. Cars and lorries were brought to a complete standstill for up to ten minutes in Chesterton Hall Crescent which was used to siphon off traffic from Milton and Gilbert Roads. Residents protested saying it was a fiasco and the scheme should be abandoned. There were 16 children under ten years of age living in the Crescent and they felt strongly for their safety 62 05 01a

1962 05 12
Renovations being carried out at the Green Dragon Public House in Chesterton have led to the discovery of coins and business cards over 100 years old. They were found by the licensee, John Harrison, after a mantle shelf was taken down over the fireplace in the public bar. The coins include a Rochdale halfpenny from the 1790s showing a spinner at a weaving loom while one of the cards relate to a General Election of 1835. The pub itself is of considerable age, having been

granted an inn licence in 1630 when it afforded 'sufficient entertainment for 20 men and horses in bedding and stable rooms' 62 05 12

1962 09 14
Maurice Stevenson started as a cinema projectionist in 1927 as a lad of 16 at the old Tivoli Cinema in Chesterton Road. They were the silent days. Then he went to the Regal and later the Central. In the old 'disc' days you had to be careful even closing the door in case you shook the needle out of its groove in the record. If you lost the synchronisation between the record and film it was the devil's own job getting it back again, he remembers. The machinery is much more simple to operate now. 62 09 14

1962 10 25
New garage and flats on corner Chesterton Road nearing completion – photo - 62 10 25b

1963 03 04
Houses in Walnut Tree Avenue have been bought by the Ministry of Transport for demolition when the dual-carriageway for the proposed Chesterton bridge route is constructed. One side of Cam Road will also have to be demolished. It is expected that negotiations for the 30 properties involved will take a year to complete. The first part of the scheme will link Newmarket Road with Chesterton and Milton Roads. Later the existing roads of Lensfield Road, Gonville Place and East Road will feed into a roundabout at the junction of Sun Street and Newmarket Road 63 03 04b

1963 05 24
McManus for value in Cambridge. The Chesterton Estate, Histon Road, offers spacious three-bedroom terrace houses with attractive tile-hung elevations and in-built fuel stores with a garage nearby if required, for £2,895. Detached two-bedroom bungalows, £3,395; semi-detached £2,695. A decorated show house is available for inspection fitted with central heating in the form of Sager Tangential Flow fan heaters. Maximum Mortgages available – Advert. 63 05 24a

1963 09 13
New barriers have been erected on the Green Dragon Bridge, Chesterton in a bid to stop cattle and motor cyclists using it to cross the river. But it is now difficult to get coach-built prams through – they certainly won't get under with the hoods up. If the posts were further apart, cattle would get through, the council says. Motor cycles and scooters are official prohibited from the bridge but there is no objection to pedal and motor-assisted cycles provided they are pushed across. 63 09 13d

1963 10 16
Lloyds Bank Chesterton Road opened June 1930; adds extra storey – 63 10 16

1963 11 12
Cambridgeshire has a higher ratio of road vehicles per head of population than the national average – about one to every six. Peak hour travel is increasing as more people use their cars to journey to work. If this continues the demand for all-day parking space will increase at a greater rate than the demand for shorter parking. Increased parking and traffic loads have given rise to severe congestion and journey times have steadily increased. But one third of the traffic in the central area has no business there. The proposed Chesterton bridge scheme is thus of the highest priority, a report says. 63 11 12 & a

1963 12 31

Prince Chula-Chakta-Bongse, King of Thailand's cousin, dies. He installed the dog drinking trough Chesterton Road – 63 12 31

1964 01 17
Chesterton Youth Club being given a face lift – photos – 64 01 17 p7

1964 01 31
Chesterton bridge could be started in 1967 – 64 01 31

1964 02 21
Chesterton Bridge Route, Elizabeth Way, published – 64 02 21c

1964 03 06
Residents of Walnut Tree Avenue, which is poised on the brink of destruction for the new Chesterton, are resigned to its fate. A large proportion are retired people who have invested much in their homes. Apart from those who are widowed or retired, most work all day and have taken great care of their properties. Only a few look unkempt and these are the ones bought by the Ministry of Transport from people who are leaving anyway. 64 03 06c

1964 03 05
Traffic problems in Chesterton High Street – 64 03 05aa

1964 03 11
Cam Road & Haig Road householders fear they will lose homes with Chesterton Bridge route – 64 03 11

1964 07 22
Nearly 500 people attended a greyhound race meeting at Chesterton Fen Road, one of eight to be held during the next few weeks. Now organisers are planning a campaign for a permanent track equipped with floodlights and facilities 64 07 22b

1964 07 22
Chesterton towers to be renovated and opened to public. It would be fenced off from flats to be constructed alongside 64 07 22c

1964 09 15
The first stage of Cambridge's Inner Relief Road would comprise twin-carriageways starting with a roundabout at Murkett's Corner, on the junction of Huntingdon and Histon Roads. The planned road goes southward through the Rex Cinema site, leaving space for the proposed law courts near Shire Hall. As it approaches Chesterton Road there will be a flyover to take the main traffic flow over a roundabout. Then there would be a new bridge over the Cam before it crosses Jesus Green parallel to Park Parade. A subway will give access under the road to Jesus Green. 64 09 15

1964 11 09
H.C. Banham, the old-established boat building firm, might be forced to close if the Chesterton Road Bridge is built along its present line. It would involve destruction of major buildings, plant installation and machinery and cut their land in two 64 11 09

1964 11 11
Chesterton Bridge route would bring very heavy traffic within feet of residents – 64 11 10a

1964 11 14
During the summer a series of greyhound racing meetings were held on an improvised track near a car breaker's yard at Fen Road Chesterton. But plans for a permanent stadium may prove impractical because of drainage difficulties. If buildings containing lavatories are to be erected the problems of foul sewage disposal might prove insurmountable. There are also problems about access to the site over the Fen Road level crossing. The road is inadequate for the kind of traffic that would be attracted to race meetings. Before the war a proposal to build one at Teversham was turned down 64 11 14

1964 11 27
Wallis Autogyros Ltd, formed by Wing Commander Kenneth Wallis and his cousin, produce some of the world's smallest aircraft. Military versions of his autogyro have been tested by the Army and reached more than 10,000 feet. Now the design is being simplified for amateur flyers. Twelve are being completed at a factory at 121 Chesterton Road. His father built the 'Wallbro' monoplane in St Barnabas Road in 1909, but it was destroyed by a storm 64 11 27b

1965 01 12
Chesterton Hospital staff shortages are nothing new. Since the invention of antibiotics people do not die of disease at early ages, but live on. Geriatric nursing is not something you would be glad to see your daughter doing. Particularly when there is such a wide choice of less demanding and better-paid jobs. It is hard work: patients have to be fed, washed and helped to a degree unimaginable in other forms of illness. Sometimes their very helplessness makes the patients feel resentful at their dependence on the goodwill of others, so that they are critical rather than grateful for the help that is offered. If Chesterton is one of the most up to date in the country, one shudders to think what the rest must be like– 65 01 12

1965 02 04
Chesterton Tower – modern flats being built alongside – photo – 65 02 04

1965 02 18
East Anglian Regional Hospital Board new offices next Chesterton Hospital – feature – 65 02 18a

1965 03 16
Chesterton Road house, Mitchams, being demolished for extension Barclays Bank – photo- 65 03 16b

1965 04 22
Wallis Autogyros set up in Chesterton Road with support from people at Coton – 65 04 22a

1965 12 04
Malls Stores, derelict shop Chesterton High Street to be rebuilt – 65 12 04a

1967 03 03
Mitcham's Corner, second huge island created between Chesterton Rd & Victoria Rd – 67 03 03b

1967 03 29
Chesterton Study published – could become one of most pleasant suburbs – 67 03 29

1967 11 07
Chesterton Bowls Club was founded in 1931 with HQ in Milton Road. The lease expires next year; now found new site on St Andrew's Road – 67 11 07a; 67 12 30

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1967 12 07
St Andrew's Church Chesterton spire needs repair – 67 12 07a

1967 12 30
Chesterton Bowls Club new home – 67 12 30

1968 01 04
J. Ward & sons cycle shop in Castle Street closes after 22 years, staff transfer to Chesterton Road branch – 68 01 04a

1970

1970 04 30
Gustava Vasa memorial, Chesterton restored – 70 04 30

1970 09 15
Several charities to merge in bid to build new almshouses on Old Manor House site at Church Street, Chesterton to replace old Wray's Court Houses; Henry Wray trustees apply city council – 70 09 15

1971 06 09
Three 17th-century cottages in Water Street, Chesterton being converted into one house – photo – 71 06 09

1971 07 17
Runciman's veterinary surgeons: profile of Cambridge business; has just moved from Downing Street to Chesterton Road – 71 07 17

1972 03 01
The Cambridge M.P., Mr David Lane yesterday waived aside professional traffic statistics and asked those at the by-pass inquiry to use their eyes and their common sense. In a statement to the three-week old inquiry Mr Lane gave his whole-hearted support to both the proposed western and northern bypasses and claimed to have the backing of most people in Cambridge. A woman living in Elizabeth Way wrote "On this bend to which the big lorries cruise and then rev up hard out of it it is one frightful nightmare and the fumes are really killing". A man living in Chesterton Road wrote : "Life is now intolerable and the only acceptable answer is an alternative route by-passing the city altogether" In supporting the northern bypass Mr Lane said disturbance to Girton village must be minimised.

1972 11 30
A new hotel opens in Cambridge this week - and with 33 bedrooms it becomes the fourth largest in the city. The new Arundel House Hotel is a complex of red brick houses on Chesterton Road overlooking the River and Jesus Green. The development follows the purchase of number 61 Chesterton Road last year and its conversion into a 12-bedroomed hotel. Now John Norfolk has converted two other adjacent properties he owns - from flats and bedsitters to an integrated hotel complex. "With house prices as they are now it is virtually impossible to charge a proper rent related to these new values, " he said. "The transition of Chesterton Road into a hotel was the obvious answer to get a proper return"

1973 01 26

Cambridge Moslems will soon have their own mosque if a scheme to convert a property goes through. The City's Moslem Association have bought 175 Chesterton Road and hope to use it for their Friday prayer meetings as well as religious festivals and other meetings. A Trustee of the foundation said "We have about 70 members and we hope that it will be a meeting place for all Moslems who are living or staying in Cambridge. If we get permission for it we shall be sending back to our home countries for donations and help from there"

1973 04 13
Nurses at Chesterton Hospital have dreaded what might happen if flames gripped the most vulnerable of their wards. Sister Pat Hough, of Harston ward, said, "Our ward has 19 continuous care patients. It has a wooden floor and it is above the kitchen". But yesterday she was a lot happier after a mock fire exercise at the old people's home in which a new invention came through its first test. The invention - a harness that lies under the mattress and clicks like a car safety belt into an emergency hammock for the patient - is the brain child of the Hospital's fire officer. She said: "The first patient was down the fire escape 35 seconds after the alarm went off. That is about four times quicker than we could have expected if we had used the conventional method"

1974 03 27
Chesterton rural council (1894-1974) began its final journey into the history books of local government when chairman, Coun. Frederick Rhead, removed his chain of office to mark the end of the council. It disappears next Monday when the area will be taken over by the larger South Cambridgeshire District Council. It was created in 1894 when the poor law guardians of the Chesterton union of parishes were reorganised. The new council met in the Poor Law Institution, now Chesterton hospital in Union Lane, Cambridge.

1974 07 12
Time and cost, two major problems when you are having your own house build, have been drastically cut in a revolutionary new house in Cambridge. It took only three months to put up the tall, airy three-bedroomed house at 214 Chesterton Rd, and the cost (without land) was £7,200 – less than half the normal figure to build a house of this quality. This remarkable feat was achieved by a Cambridge University lecturer in architecture who designed it for his own family. His method was to use unconventional building material. A timber frame, flat asbestos sheets form the walls and a feature of the design is the huge expanse of glass. It is an exciting, attractive home which could set a new style in house building.

1974 07 23
The people of Cambridge would never accept the building of the proposed Western Relief Road project, linking Huntingdon road with Trumpington road and going through Newnham or near Grantchester, it was claimed by city councillors. In addition the county a road linking Huntingdon road with Madingley road. But Counc. Overhill supported the road. “If this was proposed through the middle of Chesterton, nobody would complain. It is only because it is going through Newnham that people are against it”, he said

1974 09 21
The opening of Cambridge’s new indoor bowls centre at Chesterton brings to a climax many months of work by a group of bowlers who can now boast the only six-rink indoor green in the country. Sited next to their outdoor green in Logan’s Way, the impressive new building is the next best thing to bowling on a warm summer’s day. Already there are 400 bowlers on the membership lists and secretary N. Harper-Scott says there is still room for more

1974 11 02
The owner of Tebbit's bakery, probably the last in the Cambridge area with a coal-fired oven, retires after nearly 50 years of producing crusty loaves and rolls for Chesterton and East Cambridge. The bakery, off Gold St, run by Mr William Tebbit with his wife Bunny, is to be closed. Each weekday he has got up at about 5 am to start baking his daily batch of about 500 loaves, He forms the dough for cottage loaves, Coburgs and bloomers by hand

1974 11 19
Operation Mop-Up got into full swing as flood waters subsided after nearly two hours of rain in 24 hours. In Cambridge the river burst its banks from Lammas Land in Newnham to Pye's in Chesterton where the playing fields resembled a lake. At St Neots a disable d elderly man and his wife were evacuated as flood water burst into their homes during the worst flooding in that town since 1947. Office workers at the Anglian Water Authority headquarters at Huntingdon spend an anxious afternoon – waiting to see if they would be flooded. Children at Dullingham primary school had to be ferries across floods by a local farmer's trailer when water blocked the road.

1975 01 02
A petition calling for the replacement of the hundred-year-old St Andrew's school, Chesterton, is to be presented to a Minister at the Department of Education. Efforts to get the school replaced have been going on for at least ten years. They were lent greater urgency when, last October, a young teacher was injured by a lump of plaster falling from the ceiling of one of the classrooms. Children at the school make a ten-minute walk along a dangerous road to go to lunch each day at the Shirley School in Green End Road

1975 09 26
The fire risk wards at Chesterton Hospital have been drawn directly to the attention of the Health Minister, Dr David Owen, by the city MP, Mr David Lane. He expressed concern over the Hospital's Harston and Hardwick wards where 36 elderly patients are housed in cramped conditions. Both wards are 130 years old and were condemned more than two years ago as fire risks, but because of lack of cash nothing has been done to replace them

1976 02 10
Chips are one of those rare commodities that do not have to be sold by weight, quality or recommended retail price. So what do you get in 1976 for your six pen'orth. Well an old 6d won't even buy you a squirt of tomato ketchup in some shops. There is a growing tendency to sell ketchup and tartare sauce in sachets at 3p each. Nowhere in Cambridge could I find chips selling for less than 12p a bag. Four shops had a 15p. minimum price. The most extreme difference in value were between the Quality Fish Shop in Mill Road at 7oz for 12p compared to only 5 ozs for the same price at Mike and Julie's, Wulfstan Way and D.G. Munns, Old Chesterton

1976 03 18
In the past the Green Dragon at Chesterton has not lived up to the expectations of its distinctive sign. All this has been changed by extensive alterations which have transformed this Greene King pub from a cosy but unremarkable establishment into a comfortable open-plan rendezvous which has all the modern comforts without destroying the atmosphere of a very old business. A new extension provides new toilets to replace the old outside toilets "across the yard"

1976 04 13
The Rev John Carre – latest victim in a spate of lead thefts from churches around Cambridge – has put fertiliser bags on the roof of St Andrew's. Chesterton, to keep out the weather. Thieves who stripped five sheets from the roof a few weeks ago, came back a second time and removed

lead from the organ chamber. The parochial church council is to discuss possibilities such as slippery paint, and a dye which cannot be removed from the hands, in order to discourage further thefts. Christ church, Cambridge and churches at Fen Ditton, Quy and Haslingfield are amongst those which have recently been hit by the lead thieves.

1976 12 30
The Cambridge Polish community has a simple though to reflect upon. Fascism drove them out of their country and brought them to Britain & the advent of communism back home kept them here when the war ended. Poles like Henio Muszynski and Czeslaw Rataj, young infantrymen in 1945 recall the camaraderie of a post-war further education camp at Fowlmere where many were taught English and eased into British life. Cultural and social activities thrived; there was dancing and drama, "but we would just hire a place so that people would meet every week to talk Polish and just play cards", said Mr Muszynski. Four years ago the community raised the money needed to buy a three-story club house in Chesterton Road. It has 300 members and is a comfortably furnished piece of Poland in Cambridge.

1977 03 09
The experimental mini-roundabout at the junction of Newmarket Road and Coldham's Lane, Cambridge was working well on the first morning of its operation. Even at the height of the rush hour traffic was flowing smoothly. It has been put in temporarily while the traffic lights at the junction are being taken down; they will eventually be replaced with more up-to date lights as part of the Newmarket Road improvement scheme. Police Chief Inspector Maurice Murden said: "To think our problems have been solved by an old tractor tyre! It is something we have advocated for years, and now we just hope that it will become permanent". One driver said his driving time to his home in Chesterton had been cut from 20 minutes to five.

1977 05 20
A Conservative, Coun Maurice Garner, was elected Mayor of Cambridge for the coming year, succeeding Coun Bob Wright. A legal executive with a city firm of solicitors he is closely connected with many local organisations and has served on the council for 11 years. Yesterday he recalled how he first won his West Chesterton seat. It was all a family affair, he said – there are so many of his relatives living in West Chesterton that it was a simple matter to get elected. All the family voted for him and gave him a big majority!

1977 08 16
We have become so used to inflation that price rises are readily accepted as being a necessary evil. But what about the price of chips? In February 1976 the News did a survey and we have repeated the exercise now the raw material – the potato – is costing only a fraction of its previous price. None of the shops had passed on a reduction to customers. But cod is twice the price of 18 months ago and the fryer is having to subsidise his fish price from chip sales. The best value is at D.G. Munns in Old Chesterton. At 12p a portion the price is unchanged and for an extra 3p our reporter was given an extra half portion – three ounces of chips.

1978 01 05
A plan by a Cambridge businessman to build a skateboard track on a field in Chesterton Fen Road has been turned down by planners. Mr Gordon Cave asked for permission to use one acre of the field but the plan was rejected on the grounds that the site had bad access and is two-thirds of a mile from the nearest bus stop. The majority of users would be schoolchildren, many of them young and unaccompanied, and the road had no footpath. But Coun. Peter King said: "It would be disastrous to be over-protective where young people are concerned. They are not bothered about a

bit of mud or a walk from the bus stop. It would be better to offer a skateboard park here than nowhere".

1979 03 29
The heads of two Cambridge schools are picking up the pieces after a week of violence in which pupils were assaulted and rival gangs tore through playgrounds. Mr Oliver Gaggs head of the Manor and Mr Tony Newall head of Chesterton School feel that schools are being asked to assume and day-and-night responsibility of their pupils which they cannot achieve. Mr Newall said; "Raids between schools have always taken place. In a way it's nice to know that they identify with the school and there is an honour which they want to protect. It's a pity that the methods are so misguided."

1980

1980 02 02
Caxton magistrates sat for the last time before moving to the new court building at Lion Yard, Cambridge. Some looked back through their old records going back to 1863 when courts were sometimes held in a magistrate's house or the local pub. Sentences were severe, particularly for theft. One man was jailed for 14 days with hard labour in 1864 for stealing potatoes and next year a 13-year old from Chesterton was sent to a reformatory for three years for stealing a concertina worth five shillings. Cambridge City Magistrates Court in the Guildhall also closed; it had been the starting point for many trials but working conditions were now very difficult. 80 02 02

1980 06 28
Two hundred children from St Andrew's Junior School, Chesterton watched the Bishop of Ely laid the foundation stone for their new school in Nuffield Road. What they did not see was that after the ceremony workmen knocked-down the specially-built wall and carried off the foundation stone for use another day. It will stay in store until somebody decides where in the school walls it should go. 80 06 28

1981 02 02
Cambridgeshire is the centre for illegal bare-knuckle fist-fights; they are straight knockabouts until one of the fighters drops and as much as £3,000 can change hands with single bets of around £50. A fight at Fen Road Chesterton involving two teenage boys from the gypsy fraternity and watched by a noisy crowd of more than 500 was abandoned when police moved in to break up the crowd, some of whom had travelled from all over the country. 81 02 02

1981 04 01
Gypsies want to build two permanent caravan sites themselves because they believe the county council is acting too slowly. Members of the Romany Guild, the organisation that represents traditional travelling folk, have submitted plans for sites at Grassy Corner, Chesterton Fen Road at Milton and Royston Road Duxford. This follows Government recommendations that gypsies should try and build their own sites to overcome delays facing local authority plans. But the council says both sites have already been the subject of enforcement action. 81 04 01b

1981 05 15
Cambridge ecologists say a bus which can run on railway lines is the solution to transport problems in local villages. They plan to borrow a prototype and run it from the city centre to Huntingdon, using British Rail's tracks. It would stop at Mill Road, Chesterton and North Arbury was well as the former stations en route to Swavesey. From this point the tracks have been removed but it would run along the trackbed to St Ives and the Hemingfords. 81 05 15a

1981 06 24
Scudamore's has decided to close its motor boat marina at Logan's Way, Chesterton – just four years after its controversial plans were given the go-ahead by the city council. The marina was only open for a month last summer and was no longer considered to be profitable. They ran the marina on council-owned land and negotiations are now taking place to work out what to do with the site. 81 06 24c

1982 03 12
Maurice Stevenson is Cambridge's longest-serving projectionist; he recently retired from the Victoria Cinema after showing films for 54 years. He started aged 14 at the old Tivoli Cinema in Chesterton Road, moved to the Central, then the Playhouse where he was chief projectionist at the age of 18. Later he was at the Regal. He has seen it all from the 'silent' days to the coming of 'talkies', then colour; from the advent of 3D and wide screen to stereophonic sound, from traditional projection methods to highly-developed technology. 82 03 12d

1982 06 12
When the Duchess of Gloucester officially opened St Andrew's Community Junior School at Chesterton she picked eight-year-old Wendy Braybrook to help her pull the cord to unveil a plaque. Then she was presented with a posy from Lorraine Clark and a book of pupils' work by Brian Hall before being escorted round the building by headmaster Derek Nightingale. Pye provided video equipment to record the visit that was watched by people on close circuit television. 82 06 12

1983 01 24
'Cinderella services' – the old, mentally handicapped and mentally ill - are to be boosted following a major change in health care priorities. Wards and clinics at Fulbourn and Ida Darwin Hospitals are to be given a face-lift and the new Hinchingbrooke Hospital reorganised to cope with increased numbers of elderly mentally-ill patients. Chesterton, Brookfields and Ely Tower Hospital will also benefit and Newmarket will get new sanitary facilities. 83 01 25

1983 04 25
Hallens of Cambridge is celebrating its golden jubilee. It was founded in 1933 as a used motor-cycle dealership soon moved to premises in Chapel Street, Chesterton which it shared with a haulage business, fish and chip shop and furniture removal firm. Today these premises still house the motorcycle service and parts centre. It then moved into a former dance hall in Union Lane which became the first car workshop and stores. During the war it was requisitioned with a new workshop and an air raid shelter underneath. 83 04 25 supp p10

1983 07 06
Gordon Cave is not averse to striking a hard bargain at his premises on the Fen Road, Chesterton. But he was not at all keen when a funeral service sent him a hearse for disposal. And when he heard voices just after midnight he made up his mind he would let the hearse and 7-seater Austin Princess limousine go for the proverbial song. Charlie Holliday, one of Cambridge's few genuine gypsies, agrees and neither will go near it. So if anyone wants a bargain car with an engine which purrs like a kitten, he will be happy to see you. There's always room for one more in the back. 83 07 06 p12

1983 12 29
Britain has about 75,000 pubs but experts say the number will have dropped by 10,000 by the end of the century. Six Cambridge pubs have closed in the last ten years and most were knocked

down and redeveloped. The Rose in Rose Crescent is the only one still standing with its basement now housing Flambards wine bar. The Bun Shop went after years spent in splendid isolation as the Lion Yard was built, The King William IV in Newmarket was flattened as was the Prince Albert in Chesterton. The Ancient Druids and Old English Gentleman were demolished as part of the Kite clearance. 83 12 29 p12

1984 08 28
Furious shopkeepers in Chesterton Road are banding together to fight plans to turn a derelict house into a hostel for the homeless. They claim it will be a home for drunks who will make life unbearable for people living in the area. The sub-postmaster says drug addicts and drunks are already a problem – on Thursday afternoons half the customers are drunk when they come in for their Giros. But the King Street Housing Association says it will be a refuge for the homeless with full supervision and not a place for alcoholics. 84 08 28 p5

1984 10 19
Kimberley Road, a quiet residential side street in the Chesterton area, may soon be renamed Nelson Mandela Avenue to commemorate the South African anti-apartheid freedom fighter. Residents are to be asked their views and if there is a hostile reaction councillors may turn their attention to Natal Road instead. It had been suggested that Mr Mandela be granted the Freedom of Cambridge but this is not possible under the council's laws. 84 10 17 p1

1984 11 14
Sir - This is the 50th anniversary of a great act of kindness to the dogs of Cambridgeshire by a distinguished foreign visitor. In 1934 HRH Prince Chula of Siam erected a memorial to his dog Tony in the form of a fountain at the correct height so that dogs could slake their thirst in hot weather. It still stands outside the Chesterton branch of Lloyd's Bank but is in a sorry condition. Can it not be cleaned up and maintained? - Paul Garside, Science Park. 84 11 14 p16

1984 11 23
Bowls, once the pensioners' preserve, is now attracting teenagers. Seventeen-year-old Roger Evans from Royston is their senior three-wood singles champion as well as Chesterton indoor club's under-18 champion. Greg Harlow, 16, from Ely who is a keen rugby, squash and soccer player also rates bowls as his top sport. "There are getting to be as many youngsters as old men in the game now", he observes. David Cornwell, who was barred from Ely's bowls greens and had to play at Littleport when he was 12, is now recognised as one of the country's brightest bowls innovators and has been asked to prepare a scheme for a national under-21 championship. 84 11 23

1985 01 23
Pye has been in consumer electrical goods since 1922 when W.G. Pye and Co began selling wireless kits. Now from its headquarters in St Andrew's Road, Chesterton it sells a wide range of televisions and radios under the Pye brand name though they are not made in Cambridge and have Philips internals. People have a very strong loyalty to the name 'Pye', so now they are moving back into areas which have been abandoned to the Japanese. Video cassette recorders have been selling since July and hi-fi music-centres will be launched this year. 85 01 23a

1985 04 17
Frank Bacon has lived at 100f Eastfields since 1934. It was the first house to be built on the Chesterton estate by the Hundred Houses Society for letting at reasonable rents to young married couples who could not get a council house. Frank and his wife only had one child and chose it

because it was a semi-detached. All the other five people who moved in at that time are still there and a great community spirit has developed over the years. 85 04 17

1985 08 07
The New Chesterton Institute was founded 100 years ago to promote the moral, mental and physical well-being of its members. Today with 1,100 members the NCI Sports and Social Club is still going strong. Meetings were originally held in the Coffee House, Searle Street until the present building was erected in 1891. In the early days it was famous as a debating society. Now it is known more for its sporting achievements and even has a crib team. 85 08 07a

1985 10 10
Chesterton Community College is celebrating its Golden Jubilee with a book of anecdotes. Old boy Chris Morton remembers headmaster R.C. Brown. "We used to call him 'The Major'. He used to have this habit of picking you up by the ear. He was a real gentleman. He would give you the cane and you used to feel he was being military about it". Rex Freeman was one of the favourite teachers and could bring the best out of anyone. He taught English and history, later music and remedial classes 85 10 10 & a

1985 11 15
Cambridge's experimental Neighbourhood Watch scheme involves some 500 houses in Chesterton and is aimed at giving the police back-up in their fight against crime. If residents spot something suspicious they get in touch with the street co-ordinator who notifies the Home Beat Officer. The area is going up market and the major problems are the annual influx of fair people and visitors to the 'Bumps' whose inconsiderate parking causes anger. 85 11 15b

1985 12 10
More than 200 young people entered the Rob Roy pub in Chesterton Road to hold a late-night disco. Sixty-five police prevented any more entering as toilet rolls, a chair and other pieces of furniture rained down. As there were no lights on, except for the disco light and with a crowd in excess of 200 police decided it would be unsafe to enter and clear the building. The pub had not been derelict but undergoing refurbishment and considerable damage was done to the upstairs room. It followed confrontation with several hundred youths outside the former Thakes cycle shop in East Road 85 12 10b

1986 01 23
Major structural faults have been discovered in St George's Church, Chesterton – less than 40 years after it was built. The front wall is leaning away from the roof and cracks have been found on the arches inside the building. An architect's inspection has advised that the problem areas are roped off, but services are still continuing as normal. Built in 1938, St George's was the last Cambridge church to go up before the war. It was designed by Henry Lyon, the man responsible for the chapel at Sidney Sussex College. 86 01 23

1986 04 24
A plan to turn the old Tivoli Cinema in Chesterton Road into an arts and entertainment centre has been turned down as it would cause noise and traffic problems in the area.. It hoped to have featured films, fashion shows, music and exhibitions and would sometimes have remained open for music and dancing until the early hours. But residents opposed the idea. The Tivoli was for a long time used as a storage warehouse and some months ago was granted permission to be turned into a public house and restaurant 86 04 24

1986 06 11

Chesterton Mill, in French's Road was built in 1847 but has stood derelict for the last 30 years. The eight-sided smock mill was only partially successful when driven by wind so the sails were removed in the 1890s and it was subsequently driven by steam, suction gas and diesel. It has now been renovated and starts a new lease of life as the home of Cambridge public relations firm Beveridge Kartupelis. 86 06 11a

1986 06 27
A new minibus shuttle service has been launched using 16-seater converted Transits running from the Railway Station to Chesterton. It stops at normal bus stops but can be hailed like a taxi between the Fen Estate, the Golden Hind and the Yorkshire Grey pub. The accent is on a fast, frequent, comfortable service and smoking in the nine new vehicles is banned. By increasing frequency the service becomes more convenient and more likely to attract customers, Cambus claim. A second minishuttle from Coldham's Lane to Teversham Drift may start later 86 06 27

1986 07 28
St George's Church, Chesterton is crumbling so badly that it may have to be pulled down – even though it is only 48 years old. Already the front door has been closed because the gable ends are being pushed outwards, tiles need replacing and two flat roofs need resurfacing. Arches inside are cracked and the brickwork needs re-pointing. Rev Peter Tamplin says the congregation would have to raise the money for rebuilding and residents are being asked what they would like to see in a new church 86 07 28

1986 08 28
French's Mill was built on a high point in Chesterton in 1847 by William Beart. It was a wooden-walled smock mill but didn't catch enough wind, so it was jacked up and an eight-sided brick base added. But it was still not satisfactory so in 1868 William French converted it to run on steam power. Later the sails were removed and gas engines installed, to be replaced by diesel 14 years later. At its peak small bakers used it regularly but when the adjoining land was taken as playing fields for St Peter's School it looked as if the mill was doomed. Now it has begun a new life as an office suite and the surrounding buildings house ten other small companies playing their part in the technology boom 86 08 28

1986 11 22
Although the Fen Ditton National School was considered important enough for children to be ferried across the river from Chesterton, it was never a particularly attractive place. Now the run-down building, previously used as a warehouse, has been converted to include a family home. It has an open staircase and a landing featuring an iron balustrade from a chapel in the Fens. It has been decorated cheaply and simply, using the increasingly-popular 'rag-rolling' technique. 86 11 22a

1986 12 24
The Talking Newspaper has been compiled for the past 12 years by a team of committed people to give visually-handicapped people information to enable them to participate in the normal day-to-day chat that we all indulge in. Without it the blind can feel isolated. The three team editors incorporate many of their own interests in the arts and animal life in an hour-long tape containing a mixture of news culled from local sources, features and information such as death notices and forthcoming events. The newspaper has its own recording studio at Chesterton Hospital and is distributed through the free mailing service offered by the Post Office 86 12 24

1987 03 19

European Scouts, distinguished on parade by a traditional uniform of wide-brimmed hats and shorts, are making their mark in the Cambridge area. Locally they were born amid controversy three years ago when a Girton group, then belonging to the mainstream Scout Association, switched to the Federation of European Scouting. Together with groups in Waterbeach and Chesterton, bringing numbers to 140, the now account for 10% of European Scouts in England. They stick closer to the original Baden Powell principles – concentration on skills that can't be classroom learned. 87 03 19 #

1987 09 17
Graffiti in Chesterton – 87 09 17

1987 10 02
The City Council are negotiating to buy a £300,000 16-bedroom hotel in Chesterton Road with a large dining room, lounge, extensive kitchens and parking for 15 cars. All carpets, furniture, bedding and crockery are included in the price. It will be used to provide bed-and-breakfast for homeless families waiting for permanent accommodation and will work out cheaper in the long run. Property values are increasing rapidly and it could be sold at a profit if the number of homeless families falls substantially. But one outraged neighbour described it as an upmarket dosshouse not appropriate for the area. 87 10 02

1987 12 03
Cambridge has never offered a better selection of eating establishments according to three food guides. Midsummer House, opened last year, features in all of them but Twenty-Two on Chesterton Road provides probably the best food in Cambridge. The Free Press serves some of the best pub food in East Anglia while the Shao Tao is smarter than the average provincial Chinese restaurant. Outside Cambridge there is praise for the Old Fire Engine House at Ely, Fenland Lodge at Stuntney and the St Ives Motel. 87 12 03a

1988 02 04
The Dog and Pheasant in High Street Chesterton is a true community pub with darts, crib, football and fishing teams. Originally it had three separate bars but these were combined into one in a modernisation plan completed in 1986. New kitchens have been installed with customers from nearby offices telephoning their lunch-time menu choices. The friendly 'family' pub has regulars aged from 18 to 80 who get on well together and a garden with play equipment for children. 88 02 04b

1988 04 21
When Margaret Badcock set up the new Cambridge tourist desk at the back of the library in 1971 there were three people who ran private guiding services. Now there are 150 official blue badge guides who have passed difficult examinations and are fluent in a second language. Then the University Arms was asking less than £6 for a double room with breakfast – it is now £57 - while the Sorrento Hotel in Cherry Hinton Road charges about £40 and the Belle Vue Guest House in Chesterton Road between £19 and £22, the average for a double room in a private house. 88 04 21b

1988 10 13
St George's church celebrates its 50th birthday. The population of the parish almost doubled with the building of the North Arbury Estate bringing people in from different areas. To foster a community spirit parishioners launched a parish newsletter 'Chesterton Challenge' which is still going strong. It was one of the first free newspapers in the country. They also launched a 'Fish'

scheme providing emergency help for anyone who needs it. The first couple to be married in the church, Frank Shaw and Dorothy Whitworth, are returning for the occasion. 88 10 13a

1988 11 23
Cambridge's large Polish community celebrated 40 years in the city at the Polonia Club in Chesterton Road. They have built up an impressive network of activities ranging from a drama society and folk song ensemble called Klosy to a school founded in 1952 to teach Polish language and culture. When Josef Mazur came in 1947 the only employment open to Poles was labouring, work in the mines or domestic positions. The older members of the community are suspicious that youngsters will not uphold the traditions, but they want them to survive. 88 11 23c

1988 12 15
The former Tivoli cinema building which opened on Chesterton Road in 1925 has been converted into 'The Exchange' with two large cocktail bars and a 120-seater restaurant. Later will come a basement gym, a punt landing stage and a roof garden restaurant with panoramic views over Jesus Green. Entertainment facilities include a huge electronic roll-down screen, the latest audio equipment and closed circuit television relaying film of the dance hall, But great care has been taken to preserve the distinctive atmosphere with plaster ceiling mouldings and a combination of rich dark and red wood 88 12 15a

1989 06 07
Angry residents are banding together to block plans to sell the former Roger Ascham School and part of the nearby Chesterton playing fields for a potential housing development. Founded as a school for children with physical disabilities, it closed in 1987 and is now used as a teachers' resource centre. Residents are worried about the increase in traffic and noise which would result. The amenity value and its potential for the community have been ignored, they claim 89 06 07

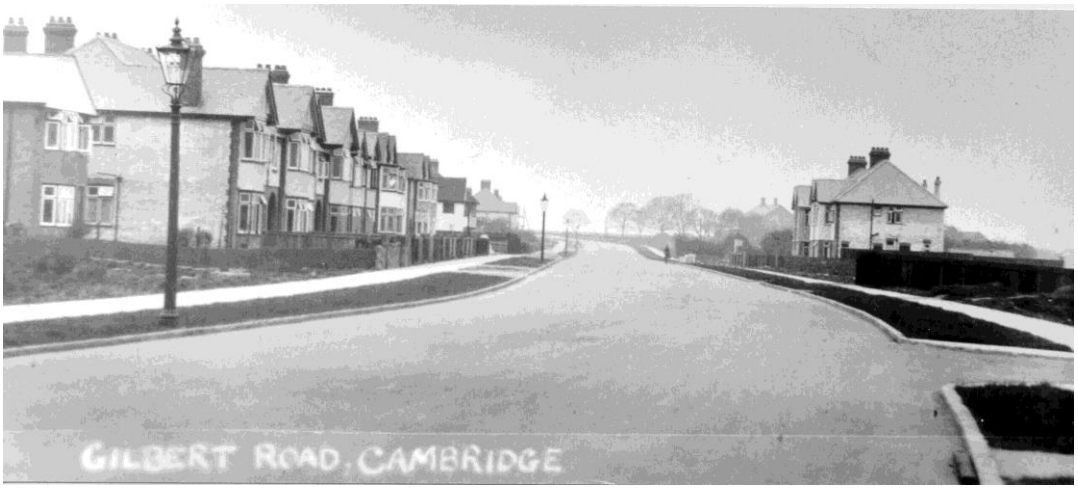
1989 07 06
Townsend's take over Ison's cycles which was started by W.J. Ison in 1893 and made the New Chesterton cycle. Albert Townsend started in 1890s making Cambridge Light Blue Cycles in Norfolk Street, moving to Burleigh Street in early 1960s 89 06 30 Townsend's history – profile – 89 07 06

1990 08 29
Hundred Houses Society opens Liley Close, Chesterton – 90 08 29a

1990 09 11
Cambridge football clubs could have new home at Chesterton sidings – plan – 90 09 11

1990 10 25
Andre Marsh Goldsmith company, Chesterton Road raided – 90 10 25a

1990 12 21
Chesterton Community College hall renamed Rex Freeman Hall – 90 12 21b



Gilbert Road 1933 - 88.88

c.44.6 : Chesterton Lane to Gilbert Road

Includes Alpha Road, Victoria Road, Stretten Avenue, Darwin Drive, Hurst Park Avenue and area; see separate section on Arbury and Kings Hedges

1897 03 25
Alpha Road dustbins p2

1898 10 14
The eccentricity of a horse at Chesterton last night caused its driver and a fare some alarm. It bolted along Chesterton Lane at a furious rate, resisting all the efforts of the driver to get it under control. The animal made a tour of Old Chesterton in record time and returned by the Milton road. At this point the driver came to the conclusion it was quite useless trying to hold the horse in any longer and advised the gentleman inside the cab to "quit". He took a flying leap into the darkness and grazed his face somewhat severely. The driver fell off the box and the off wheel passed over his legs. Continuing his career the horse came into collision with a gatepost at Northampton Street which knocked it on its hindquarters

1898 10 17
The "burgling" fraternity are already on the warpath. In pursuing his unworthy calling at Chesterton some impudent member of the fraternity paid a visit to a house in Victoria Road but got little, if anything, for his trouble. The family left home having previously secured the doors and windows. On their return they were alarmed at finding the front door bolted on the inside. This aroused suspicion and gave rise to the surmise that the house had been invaded by burglars. This belief was confirmed by the movements of the depredator in his haste to beat a retreat by the back part of the premises. By means of wax matches, the debris of which was strewn about the room, Mr Burglar had found his way upstairs and examined the contents of several drawers. It can hardly be imagined that the intentions of the housebreaker were strictly honest and honourable. Probably had he not been disturbed he might have got clear with a considerable amount of booty

1899 08 28
Victoria Road Congregational Church foundation stone laid, p3

1900

1900 02 05
Cambridge Adverting Company reported that the hoarding in Victoria Road, Chesterton was in course of enlargement and one at Shelford has recently been enlarged to meet the demand for country posters. An additional hoarding has been secured at the Traveller's Rest, Huntingdon road, and is open to still further enlargement. The secretary and foreman billposter had been most attentive to their duties

1900 03 06
Victoria Road Congregational Church Sunday School, p3

1900 06 14
An inquest on a boy of eight, killed by a bus on Castle Hill, affirmed the death was accidental. It is hardly an exaggeration to describe Chesterton Corner as the death trap of Cambridge. Four road meet; they are all narrow, and the configuration of the corner is such that it is quite impossible for the driver of a vehicle up Magdalene Street to have the faintest notion that there is another coming along Chesterton Lane and if the two do not crash into each other it will be more of an accident than if they do. More room is needed at the corner. This would involve pulling down some old houses. The matter is one which the authorities ought to give attention at once.

1902 07 17
Cambridge Paving Committee had approached the vicar and churchwardens of St Giles' church to ascertain whether it would be possible to acquire a portion of the churchyard for the widening of Castle Street. They would agree provided that the work of excavating and collecting human remains be screened by a hoarding & the bodies reverently re-interred. Chesterton Road corner was a most dangerous one and when the improvement was carried out one corner out of the four would be cut back.

1902 09 16 c
Sir – Many people have felt genuine concern at the announcement that the Cambridge Omnibus Company is to be "wound up". Huntingdon Road, Old and New Chesterton, Mill Road and the rapidly growing suburb of New Cherryhinton have all benefited by its service. It is regretted that in spite of the hundred the Company has conveyed daily, the venture does not pay. Their difficulty is the Tram Company's opportunity and they should arrange for a good suburban service of 'buses to run in conjunction with their cars – New Cherryhinton

1902 11 20
Unfortunately the Cambridge Omnibus Company have been unable to find a purchaser for their business as a going concern and their horses, omnibuses etc had to be sold at their stables in Chesterton Road. A two-horse omnibus to carry 26 passengers fitted with garden seats on the top sold for 20 guineas. Buses by the 'Star Omnibus Company' were not in such good condition and realised £10 while others went for as low a sum as £4.10s. The one-horse 'buses did not sell for much but a four-horse charabanc, "The Cambridge Belle" sold for 62 guineas to Mr Ellis Merry. Prices for horses dropped to as low as three guineas1902 12 06

1902 12 06
Messrs Scruby and Wright sold by auction four brick-built and tiled cottages, nos. 195-199 High Street, Old Chesterton, with outbuildings and gardens, price £310. Two adjoining houses, 64 &

76 Sturton Street, Cambridge, made £330. The family residence, Primrose Croft near Victoria Road with over an acre of land, and the windmill and cottage on the Milton Road were not sold.

1904 03 21
Cambridge Property for sale: Cyprus Road – freehold terrace, sure to improve, £475. Huntingdon Road – pair of villas, £650. Ross Street – freehold terrace of five well-built houses, £1,025 the five. Searle Street – freehold terrace of four houses, £600 the four. Sedgwick Street – a terrace of five freeholds, rare investment - £1,100 the five. Sturton Street – freehold bakehouse, shop, house and stabling - £350. Suez Road – three newly-erected houses, £510 the three. – advert

1904 04 28
Nonconformists launched their organised opposition to the Education Act at a meeting in Victoria Road Congregational Chapel Cambridge, held instead of the usual service. They could not give their money to pay for their children to be taught doctrines they did not believe in. The State was a secular institution and should look after secular affairs. Schools should be undenominational, paid teachers should not give religious instruction – it should be given by clergymen - and church people should appoint teachers without regard to denominational test or beliefs

1904 11 03
Chesterton Council has purchased land in Carlyle Road, Cambridge, for a recreation ground. They bought rights in the Brickfield Estate from Mrs Wragg-Gurnie and frontages to Alpha Road from Mr Thoday for £1,350. They then sold off the frontages and after paying for the land were left with a bill for £425 together with a further amount for fencing, laying out and planting the ground. This was a very small sum for so large a piece of land and they had carried out a great improvement in Carlyle Road by widening it from Dalrymple Terrace to the end of the road.

1904 11 10
The King's birthday is one of those occasions upon which a certain section of the 'Varsity and Town consider it necessary to turn themselves into public nuisances. This year they avoided the Borough police by making a raid on Chesterton. The mob made tracks for Midsummer Common with the object of having a bonfire. Several hundred crossed Jesus Green Bridge where a council of war was held. Carlyle Road was mention as leading to fuel for the fire but a number of the belligerents made an incursion down a private road. Several fences were broken down and flames shot into the air as the surreptitiously-obtained timber was thrown on to the fire. No police appeared on the scene, though a number of members of the Force were on duty on the borough side of the river

1906 01 18
Victoria Road Congregational church organ, p3

1906 03 01
New Chesterton Institute, p3

1907 01 03
One of the most flourishing of Cambridge's small industries is the confectionery factory of Pollard and Co. in Garden Walk, Victoria Road. From this delightfully-situated establishment some tons of pure boiled sweets are exported to various parts of the country. Not even with the recent extensions to the factory can they cope with the demand. One of their specialities are honey and butter balls and the marzipan for the centre of their satin pralines is made of the finest almonds. 07 01 03 & 03a

1907 01 18
When Dew Smith and Horace Darwin commenced the manufacture of certain scientific instruments for physiological work at the University Laboratory it was more as a hobby and not financially profitable. But it grew and in 1895 was turned into a limited liability company which is now flourishing at its pleasantly situated works off Chesterton Road. Among its important products is a kite used in meteorological observations and a machine for standardising small screws which has been supplied to the Japanese government. 07 01 18 & a

1907 03 30
Alexandra Gardens, Chesterton, was formally opened. Five years ago Chesterton Urban Council purchased disused brickpits with a frontage to Alpha Road. That portion was sold which enabled the council to acquire the remainder at a very moderate price. The upper part of Carlyle Road was widened, the land turfed, laid out with flower beds and planted with shrubs. It is proposed to have games of tennis and bowls as in vogue in seaside towns 07 03 30

1907 04 06
The Alexandra Gardens, Chesterton, is an excellent example of what can be done by local administrators who keep their eyes open. A few years ago what is now a delightful recreation ground for young and old was simply a collection of vile refuse, a danger and a nuisance. As the council cannot speculate in land Mr H.G. Whibley bought it for £1,350. He disposed of the Alpha Road frontage for £1,000 and made the rest over to the corporation for £350, providing residents a beautiful pleasure garden for a cost so small it is hardly worth considering. 07 04 06

1908 02 25
The sale of the estate of Mr R.R. Rowe, late Borough Surveyor, includes a block of property mid-way between the station and the Post Office which would be suitable for the erection of a college, church, hotel or other business purposes. The residence known as Park House on Parkside, together with houses in Fitzroy Street, King Street and French's Road are also offered in the largest sale held in Cambridge for some long time. 08 02 25 & a & 29

1908 08 21
The magnificent new schools at Milton Road, Chesterton have been equipped with every facility for instruction. Instead of sitting in cramped positions at unsuitable desks the tiny tots will be accommodated with seats to suit their various sizes and their lessons based on the Froebel principle, combining amusement with instruction. They mark a distinct advancement on elementary educational methods and the County Council is to be congratulated. CWN 08 08 21 p4

1908 08 29
The improvement makes a fine approach to the town from the Madingley Road, but one sincerely hopes that now the obvious danger of the corner has been removed, cyclists and others will not forget that the narrowness of the street remains none the less real. The larger portion of the traffic comes from Chesterton Lane and until the opposite corner has received the attention of the road-layer the improvement can hardly be regarded as complete. The great activity sadly disturbed the 'work-shys' who are wont to congregate at the corner for the purpose of holding up the wall. It was a delightful sight to see these groups huddling together, trying to snatch a snooze in the midst of all the clanging clamour of swinging hammers and picks. Now the road is to some

extent open the human house-props are found at their usual haunts, though considerable indignation prevails among the more energetic. [CDN 29th August 1908]

1908 09 04
Sir – now the widening of Northampton Street is fast nearing completion the improvement of one of our many narrow and dangerous streets will be accomplished. But one effect will be that the traffic is greatly accelerated to the danger of those approaching the corner from other directions. The high wall around St Giles' church should be reduced: this would enable motorists to see more clearly, make the church more conspicuous and dry the road which in winter is often in a muddy condition, being hemmed in on both sides by high walls – Chestertonian. CWN 08 09 04 p7

1908 11 06
The council had been trying for some years to bring about the widening of Carlyle Road and have now been able to make arrangements with Miss Bell, Miss Pye and Mr Darwin who all owned land adjoining. The price agreed was a fair one and Mr Darwin had given his portion to the council. It was one of the greatest improvements in Chesterton for a very great time. Now tenders would be sought to construct a new wall using local labour. CWN 08 11 06 p5

1908 12 11
Chesterton school feud – Milton Road v St Luke's – case 08 12 25

1908 12 25
Allegations that a feud exists between the boys attending Milton Road and St Luke's schools is not entirely borne out by investigation. When the Milton Road School was opened a number of boys attending St Luke's migrated. Installed in the new school they 'put on side' which was too much for their late friends and some small battles ensued. This reached the ears of the authorities and they were punished. Since then rival feelings exist only in the breasts of two or three lads and possibly a snow storm will enable both sides to wipe out all accounts. CWN 08 12 25

1909 05 05
Miss Martha Eyres told the court she managed a shop in Bridge Street. The prisoner called and asked for curtains to be sent on approval to him at the Bus Yard House, Chesterton Road. He promised to pay cash for those his wife kept. But no payment was received. George Clark, a retired butcher, said he had hired the Bus House Yard to the prisoner who'd left somewhat suddenly. 09 05 05

1909 12 10
The new skating rink at the back of Hertford Street was constructed to avoid any noise nuisance. Rinking was a fashionable amusement and there would be a charge so it would not be overrun with the rough element. They wanted to have a string band, with no drums, to play at intervals. There was not the slightest intention of making it a dancing saloon but they would like a licence so it could be used for subscription dances during May Week. CWN 09 12 10

1910

1910 08 19
George Fawcett Winter, the well-known boatbuilder, became the proprietor of the boatyard near Victoria Bridge in 1876, succeeding the late Edward Searle. Ten years later he was connected with the boat-building industry at Eton: he used to spend the summer there and the winter at Cambridge. In 1900 he decided to relinquish his Cambridge business which came into the hands

of Mr F. Pocock who is now carrying it on. He was well-known amongst University and Town rowing men and took an interest in the affairs of Old Chesterton. 10 08 19h

1910 12 16
Roller skating racing holds a prominent position in the world of sport. In Cambridge a large crowd were attracted to the University and Town Rink in Magrath Avenue to witness a half-mile amateur championship. It is undoubtedly one of the largest rinks in the Eastern Counties and well suited for racing. The floor was in excellent condition and the times recorded very good indeed. H.P. Pilbeam, a youngster of much promise, was leading up to the last lap but lacked training and could not stay the course. It was won by A. Gray who skated very finely 10 12 16

1910 12 30
William Warren of Victoria Road, Chesterton, who was an old Volunteer, got into an argument in the Carpenter's Arms after a man spoke disrespectfully of the King. He was knocked down and fell on a glass which penetrated his thigh, severing the artery. Now he has received a letter from Sandringham which reads: 'The King regrets to hear that owing to your pluckily taking exception to disloyal language being used, you sustained deep cuts in the leg. His Majesty desires to be informed of your condition and hopes the injuries are not of a serious nature'. 10 12 30a

1911 11 03
Cambridge Town Council wanted Victoria Bridge and its approaches to be declared a main road and maintained by the County Council. But they did not agree: the Bridge had been built under an Act of Parliament at the expense of Chesterton UDC and Cambridge Town Council. After the bridge was built Victoria Avenue had been declared and made a main road. But there was already a main road from Chesterton to Cambridge via Magdalene Street and over the Great Bridge 11 11 03i & j

1911 11 24
The University and Town Roller Skating Rink will open its doors as the County Rink Cinema, Magrath Avenue. A small portion of the large building is being converted into an up-to-date picture theatre where the very best films will be shown. The ticket will also give free entry to the rink and use of skates. The ring will certainly be smaller but still allow for racing and hockey. Gymkhanas and carnivals will continue to be held. 11 11 24b

1912 02 02
Cambridge Fire Brigade were called to a fire at a property in Chesterton Lane and turned out with the motor and fire engine. On arriving at the house, which is unoccupied and is one of a row which are being pulled down, they discovered the woodwork over the fire place and a cupboard adjoining were alight. The flames were quickly extinguished by the aid of the hand pump. Captain Greef, Lieut. Diver, Engineer Pearl and firemen Papworth, Brookman and others assisted. 12 02 02i

1912 02 09
Carpenter killed in fall from scaffolding at Scientific Instrument Works, Chesterton – 12 02 09a

1912 04 19
Sir – Cambridge Corporation have instructed all persons in the out-lying parts to telephone the Central Fire Station in case of fire. We in Chesterton are in a very awkward position. We have no telephones for public use. The nearest fire alarm post is at Quayside and one would have to walk, run or cycle there, and then fumble about in a very poor light trying to find out how to work the

apparatus. We need a telephone call office instead. A doctor might be sent for, goods ordered from various tradesmen or one might even ring up his best girl – Philip Clare 12 04 19f

1912 12 12
Miss M.B. Thomas, M.A. of Huntingdon Road has the distinction of being the first lady in Cambridge to resist paying her taxes on the ground that taxation and representation should go together. At the Spring Inn, Chesterton Road an antique pendant and two gold bracelets will be sold by auction by the Collector of Taxes. This is very unusual: R.B. Catling, the well-known auctioneer was approached but was unwilling to conduct the sale under such circumstances. A few years ago a farmer in Burnt Fen objected to paying the education portion of the poor rate and bought a new wagon to hand over for the purpose of distraint. It was painted red and he intended to have a record of each distraint recorded on a panel in black lettering, buying it back himself. He was convinced that by the rime all the panels were filled in, he would be no longer called upon to pay the rate 12 12 12c

1913 02 28
St Luke's was a district lying between the Chesterton & Huntingdon roads, intersected by small streets in which were houses of working class persons. Victoria Road was an important thoroughfare with a great deal of traffic especially since the Victoria Bridge was opened. The bulk of the population was artisan and the parish was more or less a happy one to work in, the Rev Hird told Barnwell Clergy Fund 13 02 28 p5 CIP

1913 04 24
Victoria Road Congregational Church annual meeting

1913 07 25
William Macintosh, a director of Messrs A. Macintosh & Sons told the court the landlord of the Spring public house, Chesterton Road had selected a bath and other things to be fixed at the pub, saying he would get the brewers, Lacons to pay it. But no payment was forthcoming. The defendant's solicitor said it was a most expensive piece of luxury. The judge: 'Do you call a bath a luxury'. 'It is here in Cambridge. We have no public baths here'. Judgement was given for the plaintiffs. 13 07 25 p9

1913 09 26
Lacon's brewery had 132 pubs in Cambridge; one of the best was the Spring Hotel Chesterton but a bath was essential if it was to do a good trade. Running and boating men were constantly complaining that saucer baths were inconvenient. So Lacon's Manager ordered a new one from Messrs Macintosh and they also replaced the lavatory which gave off a most offensive smell. But the brewery disputed payment and said it was up to the tenant to meet the cost. 13 09 26 p10

1913 11 07
The Rink Picture Palace, Hertford Street plans to show Dante's 'Inferno' was attacked by the Mayor: he had received many letters from residents; if shown any renewal of the licence by justices would be refused at once, he warned. The manager, Syd Byron wrote to the Presiding Magistrate. He offered to give a private performance and cut any objectionable scenes. Magistrates were equally divided and could not therefore prohibit the showing. They hoped he would not show it. But Mr Byron decided to go ahead 13 11 07 p10 CIP

1914 04 03

The foundation stones of the new Primitive Methodist Church Sundays Schools in Castle Street were laid when a large crowd gathered. A public tea was held afterwards in the Palace Rink, Magrath Avenue, when 350 attended. 14 04 03d

1914 04 03
Several workman engaged in tarring the road were placidly eating their mid-day meal between Alpha and Carlyle Roads when one of their two tar boilers burst into flames. Apparently the tar boiled over, pouring into the furnace and so caught fire. A barrel of tar resting on top of the boiler also caught alight and the flames rose well above the high chimney. Dense volumes of smoke darkened the road for some distance. It burned with a continuously crackling sound caused by the explosion of the granite kerbing which kept flying off in large flakes like stars from a Roman candle and showered down on the road for a distance of 15 yards 14 04 03n

1914 04 24
The Housing Difficulty. The Cambridge housing problem again came before the Cambridge Town Council at its meeting yesterday and the Town Planning Committee submitted plans for the erection of six roomed cottages on the Victoria Road estate (writes Free Lance). The estimated cost of the houses will be £200 each and the Council gave authority to the committee to consider further details of the scheme. The Stanley Road experiment in the erection of cottages was once more criticised and the committee was empowered to invite offers for the lease of the ground in Stanley Road for a term of 75 years. 14 04 24

1914 05 29
Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company welcomed visitors to their workshops, test room, drawing office and stores. They were also shown the manufacture and operation of the various instruments made. Many are of great commercial value. The extension is the fourth addition since the works were moved from Panton Street to Chesterton Road. It is the chief of the few manufacturing concerns in Cambridge and now employs 180 hands 14 05 29d & e

1914 09 25
Cambridge Men on Torpedoed; Ships. News of the disaster to three of the cruisers of the British Fleet was officially known on Tuesday. Cambridge men are stated to have been on each of the; three cruisers. H.M. ships Aboukir, Hogue and Cressy were each torpedoed by German submarines and sank. The local men known to have been on board are: H.M.S.; Aboukir: Midshipman C. A. G. Cooke, son of Dr. K. Cooke, Bridge Street, Cambridge. Mr. Cooke was among those saved. HMS Hogue: First Class P.O. Percy James Warrington, Union Road, Cambridge (reported to be safe and to have been landed at Harwich), Signalman John Toombs, East Road, Cambridge and Naval. Reservist J. L. Claydon, 6, Benson Street, Cambridge; H.M.S, Cressy: Naval Reservist O. Hinson, 57, Garden Walk, Cambridge: Mr. Hinson, who is a married man with one child, has been employed at King's College as a gate porter for about six years. Midshipman Cooke said he was in the water for three quarters of an hour before being picked up by one of the Cressy's cutters. He was afterwards taken on a fishing trawler, later transferred to H.M.S. Legion and landed at Harwich. He is now home in Cambridge on a short leave. Mr. W. Maskell of Sawston, who had a son serving on the Aboukir, received a telegram from him on Wednesday morning to inform him he was among those saved. 14 09 25

1914 10 16
Victoria Road working class houses

1914 11 13

Corp. L. Stoakley from Victoria Road writes to say he has been relieved: "We did look a crowd of tramps. Fancy ten days without a wash or shave, covered with mud and nearly dropping from want of sleep. Nobody can imagine what it is like to crouch in the trenches and hear the shells bursting overhead. It is awful. The enemy are suffering heavy losses and General French says it will just be a matter of days to see it through. There is a change of being home for Christmas yet

1916 03 08
Licensing sessions – King's Arms, Union Rd; Horse & Gate, Victoria Rd; Cross Keys, Saxon St; Swan & Pool, New St. – all referred – 16 03 08a

1916 12 13
Thirty Years Hallkeeper.—Many, especially the older generation of Cambridge, will hear with deep regret of the death of Mr. James Jacob, who for 30 years (up to September, 1900) held the post of hallkeeper at the Guildhall, Cambridge. For many years past he had been residing at 15, Hertford Street, Chesterton. He was 83 years of age

1917 01 03
Boys at St Luke's school at work in the garden and the workshop and on drill – photos – 17 01 03a

1917 05 02
Unusual Accident. An extraordinary accident occurred at the top of Victoria Road and Histon Road on Friday afternoon. A horse belonging to Mr. Edward Bolton, attached to a Corporation water-cart, which was about to flush a sewer, suddenly backed, it's off hind leg going down the manhole. Assistance was soon forthcoming, and the harness was removed from the animal. With the aid of some poles and a rein, which had been buckled around the leg, the horse was raised from its unfortunate position after several attempts. Luckily, the animal was apparently none the worse for its adventure.

1918 02 02
Chesterton Communal Kitchen, St Luke's vicarage, opens – 18 02 20a

1918 02 13
Borough licences; closure Horse & Gate on Victoria Rd; King's Arms Union Road, Swan Pool in New Street – 18 02 13a

1918 06 12
Knighted. The additional Birthday Honours, published on Saturday last, contained the name of Mr. Horace Darwin, F.R.S., head of the Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company, who becomes a Knight Commander of the Order of the British Empire. Sir Horace Darwin, who is a son of the famous Charles Darwin, was born on May 13, 1851. He was educated at Trinity College. Cambridge and founded the Scientific Instrument Company in 1881, in partnership with the late Mr. Dew Smith, and the work of what has now become a great concern was for a considerable time carried on in very modest workshops at the back of Victoria Road. The growth of this business is one of the romances of Cambridge. In 1895 he entered the Cambridge Town Council as a representative of Castle Ward and the following November he was elected Mayor, the nomination of the Conservatives and discharged the duties with great ability during the Great Jubilee year of 1897. He was appointed a J.P. in 1906.

1920

1920 07 17
Y.W.C.A. Hostel moves from Barton Road to Chesterton Road overlooking the river

1920 10 25
Victoria Road Congregational Church war memorial unveiled

1920 11 04
Plans for cinema on site of Old Spring Brewery, Chesterton Road (Tivoli); first plans for a temporary building consisting of a stage and dressing room in the garden, later plans for roofing over the garden between the building and Chesterton Road

1922 03
The Rendezvous cinema, Hertford Street. "All next week. Super attraction! Mary Pickford can no more grow up than Peter Pan & that is why her latest production "Through the back doors" is just the type of charming picture you will want to see ... the kind that made her famous ... brimful of heart interest ... intensely effective. Special music programme. Perfect projection. Warm & comfortable"

1922 12 01c
P.C. Cudworth told Cambridge magistrates that he was on duty in Victoria Road when he saw defendant riding a bicycle without a front light. He stopped him and asked him where his light was. Defendant said it has just gone out and he was going to light it. He then dismounted from the bicycle and witness noticed he showed signs of having been drinking. Defendant took a box of matches from his coat pocket and attempted to strike one. Witness then noticed that the lamp on the machine was an electric one. This aroused his suspicions.

1922 12 08
The urgent need for carrying out schemes of public importance in order to relieve the unemployment situation in the Borough were admitted on all hands at the meeting of the Cambridge Town Council. During the past two years they had been endeavouring as far as possible each winter to find work for those men who unfortunately were out of employ. Last year they were able to place 200 men on the Sewage Farm. That work had nearly come to a close. It was stated that there were 800 men out of work in the Borough which was an increase of nearly 100 over last year. Suggestions for further work included underground lavatories at the junction of Victoria Road, Chesterton Road and Milton Road, a bridge across the Cam at the bottom of Walnut Tree Avenue and a recreation ground on the Rock Estate

1923 10 26
Cambridge public health committee recommended the council make an order declaring the fried fish trade to be an offensive business. But Councillor Few said the council had power to insist there should be proper appliances for taking away the smell. Was it a question of the district where the shops were? Was it a case of no objections in New Street, but when it came to Chesterton it was offensive. He believed that in the case of the fried fish shop in Victoria Road it was the property owners that were backing opposition because they were afraid their property would suffer. Fried fish shops are the restaurants of the poor. If these shops were closed many people would be prevented from getting a hot meal

1923 11 21
Miss Alderson said that since the opening of the Cambridge shelter for girls house in 1922 there had been 91 admissions. The present house (13 Hertford Street) was absolutely in adequate. There was a lack of proper arrangements for cleansing, no possibility for a separate bedroom for

those for whom it was urgently necessary, no place except the one sitting room where the washing could be dried and the absence of any pretence of a waiting room. She described the only lines on which such a house could be run as Early Victorian if not prehistoric and appealed for support from the municipal authorities

1924 10 04
The 1924-5 edition of Spalding's Directory for Cambridge shows progress has been made with the development of various building estates and we find for the first time the names of Hawthorn Way, Harvey Goodwin Avenue, Haig Road joining Chesterton and Cam Road, and Coleridge Road which is the name given by Jesus college to the new road between Cherryhinton road and Romsey Town.

1925 03 16
The "Tivoli", Cambridge's new cinema on Chesterton Road will be opened on Thursday and many people have been speculating as to what it looks like inside. A representative of the CDN who had a look around came away very much impressed with the general air of comfort and the attractiveness of the interior. Over 600 people can be seated in the body of the hall and gallery. It has comfort, excellent lighting and excellent decoration. If you want a private box for six people you may have one for the sum of 15s.

1925 03 20
Described as "Chesterton's super cinema", the Tivoli made its debut before the Cambridge public when there were two opening performances. Elaborate, cosy, artistically lighted and efficiently ventilated, Cambridge's sixth cinema has every justification for expressing itself in superlatives. It has a courteous staff pf brown-uniformed attendants, an excellent orchestra and a screen sufficiently large to do justice to the most elaborate film productions. The projection last night was not perfect, but this was merely a matter of adjustment.

1925 05 28
"I promised the little girl at work that I would bring her some flowers" was the excuse which a 14-year-old errand boy offered to magistrates for wilfully damaging a laburnum tree at Victoria Great Jubilee Memorial Pleasure ground, Chesterton Road. The magistrates took a lenient view of the offence and fined him 3s.

1925 10 02
The new Harvey Goodwin Home for Boys which has been erected at St Luke's Park, Victoria Road, Cambridge under the auspices of the Church of England Society for Providing Homes for Children (Waifs and Strays) was formally opened. The house is a fine, red brick building, capable of housing 35 boys and stands on a splendid site, and within its own grounds. The Bishop of Ely spoke of the work of sending boys from these homes to the Dominions under proper supervision.

1926 03 05
An application was made for the renewal of the music and dancing licence of the Rendezvous, Magrath Avenue, Cambridge. Several residents objected on the grounds of noise very late at night caused by cars, people talking, and the band and the magistrates in renewing the licence curtailed it until 11 pm. Mr William Evans said the dancing was absolutely letting the whole district down. There were working men living in the area and their rest was being disturbed by motor cars until 1 o'clock in the morning. People promenaded outside and he had known them sit on the step in front of his house to do their courting.

1926 04 26

An inquiry was held into the provision of two underground public conveniences at the junction of Milton and Chesterton and Newmarket and East Roads where there would be an island in the middle of the road. The Inspector asked whether they had designed the roof to carry the weight of a heavy motor lorry; it would be a very simple matter for a lorry to jump a kerb on a foggy night as had happened at Southend when people had been injured. He also raised the question of a convenience for women and the Mayor said the matter had been very carefully considered by the committee who were anxious to get on with the work as quickly as possible.

1927 01 06
Cambridge council agreed to spend £7,653 on the reconstruction and widening of Victoria Avenue. The scheme was criticised on the grounds that it would tempt motorists to increase their speed along the avenue. The Surveyor said that the railings should go back an extra 11 feet as far as the trees, making the road 55 feet. Chesterton wanted a vehicular bridge at Walnut Tree Avenue which would carry much of the traffic, but this had been coming for the last 35 years and it had not come yet (laughter).

1927 02 01
The Rendezvous placard trolley, which has so many times gone its rounds of the streets of Cambridge advertising "thrillers" and "heart appeal" stories at this cinema met with an ignominious fate at the hands of undergraduates. It was seized by a party of merry gownsmen and pulled in triumph down Hertford Street and Magdalene Street where they sought to dispose of it by pushing it into the river. It fell on to the landing stage moored at this point but with undamped ardour the undergraduates endeavoured by their united efforts to confine this "publicity agent on wheels" to the cold depths of the Cam. Then, the last rites having been performed, the revellers went on their way rejoicing.

1927 07 02
Sir – the work has been started to widen Victoria Avenue, Cambridge, from the Four Lamps to Victoria Bridge. The roadway when finished will be wide enough for vehicle traffic to proceed four abreast. The Bridge will not be so wide as the road and heavy traffic may mean serious congestion. Some suggest the road over the bridge may be made wider by making the footpaths overlap the river. If this were done the narrow road on the north side would be an obstacle and as this roadway cannot be made right through to Chesterton Road this scheme should never go forward – E. Clayden

1927 02 04
The Rendezvous Dance Hall asked for an extension of the dancing licence. The hall was built in 1909 as a skating rink and there was then no houses in Magrath Avenue. Those who came to live there afterwards came knowing the hall was there. From 1912 it was used as a variety and picture hall and in 1915 was commandeered for the War Office. In 1919 it was returned and conducted as a dance hall and cinema. In 1925 magistrates decided it should be open until midnight but there were complaints that people leaving made a noise with their motors & cycles. It was the best dance hall in Cambridge and now no one ever dreams of a dance ever terminating until 12. The Guildhall and Masonic Hall had licences until 2 a.m.

1927 09 01
The foundation stone of two new cottages were laid at the Cambridge Victoria Friendly Society's Institution in Victoria Road, Cambridge when. One is to house the nurse-matron and the other will be for an extra inmate. They have been made possibly by the generosity of the late Miss Emily Flack. They will be one-storey buildings containing a living room, a bedroom and a scullery. The nurse's cottage will have a bathroom in addition. It was only right that old people

who had worked all their life and exercised thrift by belonging to a Friendly Society should in their old age find a haven of rest, said the President, Dr E.H. Parker.

1927 11 03 c
A verdict of accidental death was returned at an inquest into a labourer from Tan Yard, Northampton Street, Cambridge who died as the result of injuries sustained in a motor accident. John Mayes, cinema attendant at the Tivoli Cinema said deceased was pulling a handcart; he was in the shafts on the river side of Chesterton Road. He saw the left wing of the car hit the cart and the man went right under the car. William Tams, a photographer, estimated the car's speed at about 25 miles an hour. PC Brown said he saw the handcart being used to lever the car up in order to lift it off the man. The boy said "Some --- fool ran into me; don't let mother know".

1927 11 26
Chesterton RDC received the layout submitted by Cambridge Estates Ltd for a new building estate in the parish of Impington. They had acquired 30 acres of land. The estate a considerable frontage to Arbury Road. It could be drained mainly into Milton Road by a new road to be called Hurst Park Avenue. It would be developed uniformly on garden suburb lines with wide roads & grass verges.

1928 04 13
Dancers and band musicians thronged to a dance band contest at the Rendezvous in Magrath Avenue, Cambridge. Eleven bands took their turns on the platforms. Each played a fox-trot and a waltz. A fault with several bands was that the violinists showed a tendency to overdo their parts. Judging was by popular vote and the results were: 1st Cambs Mental Hospital Dance Band, 2nd Jack Vivian's Dance Band & 3rd Sid Parsley's Dance Band. The winners, who previously were practically unknown to the dancing public, played in confident style and nicely together. The band is a six-piece and undoubtedly more will be heard of it.

1928 07 09
Close to the windmill on the north side of Milton Road, opposite Chesterton Hall Crescent, occupying one of the highest and healthiest sites in the locality and surrounded by spacious lawns and trim walks stands the new open-air school for defective and sub-normal children. It is an ideal school, admirably adapted to its purpose and planned and equipped on a generous scale, a veritable children's paradise. The opening ceremony was an open-air function. Open air schools for delicate children have come to stay and in the future all schools will probably become open-air

1929 03 09
Sir – I have watched the progress of H.M.S. Dredger at present operating off the footbridge, Chesterton Road, Cambridge. Some months ago they dredged one half of the lower river in the vicinity of Jesus Locks and deposited the sludge on the Chesterton side in the river; later the dredged the river above the locks and deposited the sludge in the actual place previously dredged - 'One of the financing party'

1929 03 15
A case of considerable interest to people buying or selling goods on the hire-purchase system was heard at Cambridge court. Messrs Miller & Son sued the former musical director of the Tivoli Cinema, Chesterton Road over an H.M.V. gramophone and records. The agreement said that the machine was to be kept at a house in Chesterton Road but he had moved it to the nearby Spring Hotel without being granted permission. When he moved to the West Kensington Super-Cinema, London, the firm had seized the machine.

1929 03 22
Cambridge council is to introduce automatic traffic signals at the crossroads at Northampton Street and Chesterton Lane for a three-month trial. The present cost of a policeman on point duty was about £400 a year and the signals, with purchase, would be about £200 with about £25 a year maintenance and repairs. But Coun Stubbs described it as "robot policemen"; a friend in Liverpool had had to wait ten minutes with a clear road before he could get a move on. He did not see how traffic could be controlled as well as by human means: "I can see myself telling it to mind its own business" (Laughter). It was at the wrong place, being at the bottom of a steep hill; it would be better at the East Road – Mill Road crossing.

1929 07 19
Purchasing land between Histon Road and Frenches Road – Victoria Road – discussed CDN 19.7.29

1929 10 19
With the passing of Mrs Eliza Jane Mason of the Livingstone Hotel, Petty Cury, Cambridge has lost a prominent member of the restaurant business. She commenced business with a university lodging house on Market Hill which became known as 'Masons' and was converted into a restaurant. It was largely used by cadets and catered for the officers stationed here during the Great War. Almost the first Belgian wounded soldiers were billeted there and she acted as a sort of nursing mother to them. Her next move was to Sadd's before she bought the Livingstone Hotel which was then only a coffee house. It is now one of the best commercial hotels in Cambridge. She also built the Rendezvous, Magrath Avenue as a skating rink in 1909.

1929 12 16
French's Road houses photo, p5

1930

1930 01 20
Demolition work has begun on the Chesterton Sub-Police station, Mitcham's Corner. At one time the office of the old Chesterton Urban District Council it became a police station on the amalgamation of Chesterton with the borough. Corner improvements have made its removal desirable. Workmen are hurrying in and out and already it is windowless and completely barren internally. It will be replaced by a police-box. The familiar fire standards are also doomed to disappear; five wall boxes have been erected which will be in operation as soon as the telephones are installed. The change has been made because the public dislikes the breaking of glass in the older standards and prefer to use a telephone case of emergency 30 01 20

1930 04 07
The new electric traffic signals are generally working well but it seems that the average motorist accelerates when the green light is showing in order to get through before it changes. This is particularly evident at the Northampton Street – Castle Hill crossing in Cambridge as a driver going towards Huntingdon seeing a stiff climb directly ahead naturally tries to get through and up the hill. But a driver coming down often finds his car has a tendency to accurate of its own and tries to get into Chesterton Lane a little too fast, swinging out into the standard erected in the centre of the road. 30 04 07

1930 04 03

William James Ison started as a cycle dealer in Chesterton Road in 1897; his business prospered and at one time he had four shops selling and repairing cycles. He also put one of his own machines on the market. The 'New Chesterton' has become deservedly popular and a special racing model won over 100 prizes in 1908. His late wife was sister of Fred Lawrence of the Belmont Cycle Works in King Street. 31 04 03f

1931 06 12
The new road under construction between Milton and Histon Roads provides some exceptionally attractive sites for those wishing to erect a private house. It has much to recommend it as Chesterton is a very popular district but most of the available land within a reasonable distance of town has already been taken up. The plots are for the erection of private dwellings only and no bungalows or inadequate houses can be erected. 31 06 12k

1931 06 12
The complete reconstruction of the Cambridge Town Football Club is underway and when supporters pay their money at the gate next season they will be confronted with an entirely new sight. The old stand has been demolished and the network of frames for the new one seating 800 people erected together with a new pavilion. There will also be a full-sized Cumberland turf green for the Chesterton Bowling Club. 31 06 12l

1931 07 17
Fire completely destroyed the Rendezvous Cinema and Dance Hall at Magrath Avenue, Cambridge. The only part left standing is the fireproof operating box, which is really a separate structure. Staff removed 12,000 feet of film which, if reached by the flames, might have caused a serious explosion. The most spacious dance floor in the Eastern Counties was reduced to charred bits of wood. Renovations and improvements to the dance hall lounges were nearing completion and were to be opened as a special attraction. 31 07 17j & k

1932 03 05
Magistrates refused to relicence the Bowling Green public house, High Street, Chesterton. The landlord said a billiard room had been re-decorated, he had regular customers and it had become more or less an institution. But there had been a decrease in trade, despite the growing estate nearby. The Maypole in Portugal Place was the headquarters of the Whippet Club; the tenant was 70 years of age and his only means of support would be the old-age pension. This together with the Alhambra in East Road, the Eagle Tavern beerhouse in Victoria Road and the Clarendon Arms was relicenced. 32 03 05

1932 05 23
Cambridgeshire Insurance Committee considered moving to the new County Hall, Castle Hill. It was a very fine situation but what sane business man having a base in the centre would go a mile out of town to a place scarcely anybody knew - even though there was a free motor park. But future development would be on the north of Cambridge as the County had offered a very large acreage of land between Histon railway station and the old Chesterton village. 32 05 23 & a

1933 02 03
The Mayor, (Ald Mrs Keynes) expressed her appreciation for the support her fund for providing work for the unemployed is receiving. There are 1,600 unemployed men in Cambridge but 120 who have done no work for a year are now making the path on Long Road and levelling Coldham's Common. Another 80 will level the building ground in Brook's Road and the site of the new school and playground in Gilbert Road. 33 02 03e

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1933 03 21
St Luke's school overcrowding – 33 03 21a

1934 01 12
H.J. Gray, the Cambridge sports manufacturers are flourishing and announced plans to extend their Playfair Works into which they moved from Searle Street 25 years ago. Now a new mill and motor engine would be introduced to keep up with demand. Henry John Gray started his career in a racquets court on the site of the present University Arms Hotel nearly 90 years ago. He became champion racquets player of England – a title that had stayed in the family for 22 years - and two his brothers became champions of the world. 34 01 12

1934 01 30
The greenhouses at Cambridge borough cemetery were beyond repair and would have to be scrapped. But more glasshouse accommodation was now required for the propagation of plants used on the recreation grounds. Two new 120 ft glasshouses could be constructed on the West Chesterton recreation ground where a house could be built for the man in charge, councillors agreed. 34 01 30

1934 04 07
Cambridge boundary extension, Chesterton reaction cartoon – 34 04 07

1934 05 05
Cambridge Mothercraft Clinic aimed to promote breast-feeding. It held clinics three days a week in Chesterton Road; over 2,000 mothers had attended and nearly 80 per-cent breast-fed their children. The class that attends the public clinics are not the best for an educational movement. They wanted to get people who are further up in educational interest, and perhaps intellectual development. The main aim was to keep well babies well. 34 05 05

1934 06 29
A shell, nine inches long was found by W.G. Collins in his garden in Alpha Road. It was of a type fired by anti-aircraft guns and in a greatly rusted condition. But it was obviously 'live' so he took it to the Police Station. There he was referred to the Drill Hall, but they didn't want it either! Eventually he took it to the Officers Training Corps for disposal. This is the second such dangerous explosive recently: two live hand grenades were found some time ago. 34 06 29

1934 09 17
Consternation reigned when lightning struck two houses in Stretten Avenue, dislodging part of the chimney stack which damaged the roof. Soot was shot all over the place and there was a smell of gas. During the storm large hailstones fell in Grantchester while at Haslingfield Mr Norman Thompson's bus with a load of passengers was forced to stop when the hail beat a fusillade on the roof. 34 09 17

1934 10 06
The dog trough which stands outside Lloyds Bank in Victoria Road has been in position for some weeks. It was erected by His Royal Highness Prince Chula of Siam in memory of Tony, a dog which gave him friendship and happiness during his Cambridge years. The Prince 'went down' some time ago but left the money for the trough to be erected. 34 10 06

1935 02 20
It was time something was done about St Luke's School. The headmistress had a class of 54 in a large room divided only by a curtain from another class of 50. It was very trying for the teachers

and not very satisfactory for the children. Putting another teacher into the room would not be much use. Romsey Council School also had large classes but to move one upstairs would be difficult: the natural lighting and ventilation was poor and there was insufficient head room. The head would prefer to have eight classes under normal conditions than take a class in an attic, councillors were told. 35 02 20b

1935 05 11
The new West Chesterton children's playground off Histon Road was opened by the Mayor and hundreds of youngsters thronged the ground for the occasion. Since it was bought as an orchard three years ago an immense amount of work had been necessary. It was not complete and they were hoping for swings and perhaps a roundabout later. It is primarily intended for younger children and not for the playing of hard-ball games such as cricket but old and middle-aged people could also enjoy the ground for sitting about. 35 05 11b

1935 09 07
Victoria Road Industrial School for poor boys – photo c1860 – 35 09 07a

1935 09 26
New estates – Storeys Way & Gilbert Road – 35 09 26a

1935 10 25
The new Senior School off Gilbert Road, Chesterton contains separate departments for senior boys and girls, each with its own assembly hall fitted with a stage and cinema projection room. The boys department has science laboratory and woodwork and metalwork rooms while the girls' includes provision for cookery, laundry and dressmaking. A changing room, fitted with shower baths, has been included in connection with organised games. 35 10 25a

1936 01 10
New Chesterton Institute organised grand social at the Dorothy Café to celebrate their Golden Jubilee. The whole of the Dorothy had been booked for the occasion but even then the number had to be limited to 800 and several hundred were disappointed. There was dancing to Reg Cottage's band, a progressive whist drive and a concert in the Oak Room. Miss Queenie Chapman's pupils gave an excellent dancing display and Pat Peddle and Joan Metcalfe produced a version of 'Top Hat'. Suppers were served through the evening when a gramophone provided appropriate music. Many tired people were very glad of buses to various parts of the town.36 01 10a

1936 01 31
There was a need for providing a community welfare centre for the housing estates on the outskirts of Cambridge where a large proportion of the houses were occupied by youngish married couples with growing children. Chesterton is like a new town, the people are isolated, lonely, vague and have no centre. Youngsters wandered aimlessly about with nothing to do and nowhere to go. They need a building for public meetings, concerts, dances, films and medical inspections. But it would not be suitable as a library and a site in Ascham Road would offer quietness and room for any necessary growth, councillors were told. 36 01 31 & a

1936 03 09
The Rendezvous, in Magrath Avenue has been turned into a modern luxury super-cinema with a new café restaurant. The latest talkie equipment ensures perfect reproduction and sound, the films are of the highest quality and patrons are assured of a three-hour programme. An added attraction is the illuminated Compton organ which is played at every performance. The ballroom has been

re-decorated and is one of the finest in the Eastern Counties with popular tea dances and combined tea, picture and dancing tickets. 36 03 09

1937 03 24
Men worked in gas masks when two heavily-laden lorries came into collision at the junction of Chesterton Lane and Castle Street. The crash happened at 5.30 am when the traffic lights were not working. The vehicles were an Eastern Railways lorry laden with ten tons of fruit and a lorry carrying 4,000 bricks. The impact threw the Railways vehicle on to its side and it fell on to the street refuge, the lamp standard and two posts. A passer-by was overcome by gas so workmen donned masks to move the load so a cock could be fitted and the gas turned off. 37 02 24a

1937 04 12
Opening Ascham Road library, the Mayor said it was a great day for Chesterton. In that beautiful building, with good light and accommodation they could look at the books and select them for themselves. The children's library would encourage youngsters to read. At present physical education was the fashion. We were in danger of producing a nation finely developed from the waist downs. The library would help to counteract it. Ten months ago they opened a branch library in Rock Road and so far 87,799 books had been issued, very close to the number at Mill Road branch which had been in existence 40 years. (Applause). 37 04 23c & d

1937 08 04
Sir, as a former critic of Histon Road Cemetery may I now acknowledge the improvement which is so apparent, especially to the curator who had no easy task in taking over such a neglected place. However Alexandra Gardens in Carlyle Road is probably the worst kept of all the recreation grounds. The grass verges have been neither mown nor trimmed this year and no hoe has been used on the shrubbery border which is a mass of thistles and other weeds. It seems difficult to believe that no member of the Council ever pays a visit – 'Observer' 37 08 04

1937 09 21
New Chesterton Institute opened a new hall over the billiards room; it would be used for debates, lectures, whist drives, dramatic society work and other functions. 37 09 21

1937 12 21
Sir — in Cambridge we have a council which is over-ridden by an irresponsible official whose knowledge of local conditions is nil. Some councillors did oppose the removal of the pedestrian refuges at the junction of Northampton Street and Chesterton Lane but they meekly submitted and gave way to the arrogance of the dictator. It was said that large vehicles could not get round the corners and that the lamp post had been knocked down 'scores of times'. But if certain transport companies have their way it will be necessary to remove St Giles' church and part of Magdalene College! - George Hall. 37 12 21

1938 01 22
New Chesterton Institute annual children's concert – 38 01 22

1939 08 11
If the A.R.P. exercises which took place during the black-out had been the 'real thing', you, dear reader would not have a copy of this paper. For one of the buildings supposed to have been fired by an incendiary bomb was the Cambridge Daily News office. A patrolling warden summoned the A.F.S. unit which dealt with the 'blaze' effectively. But whether any vital damage was done by the fire was a matter left to the imagination. Thankfully only one pub was 'hit', the Jolly Waterman in Chesterton Road. 39 08 11a & b

1935 09 07
Victoria Road Industrial School for poor boys – photo c1860 – 35 09 07a

1939 10 07
Auxiliary fire service headquarters, Victoria Road – photo – 39 10 07

1939 10 11
Air Raid precautions committee have ensured that petrol supplies will be available for special services and several garages have reserved tanks and pumps for them. There are decontaminating centres at Mill Road store yard, Cherry Hinton Hall and Victoria Road. First aid depots have been set up at Shirley and other Schools with first aid parties and two ambulances. Electrically controlled sirens have been installed which together with the steam sirens should be adequate to give necessary warnings 39 10 11

1940

1941 04 11
Vocalist and Sportsman.—A well-known Cambridge vocalist and sportsman, Mr. Arthur Richard Beaten, of 33 Garden Walk, died on Tuesday at the age of 71. Mr. Benten, who was a native of Grimsby, had lived in Cambridge for 48 years, and had been principal alto of King's College for 34 years. He had been assistant librarian and later music librarian at King's. Before coming to Cambridge he was a school teacher and organist at Lincoln. As a follower of cricket, his keen knowledge of the game was well recognised, and Fenner's has lost a real personality. There were few better judges of a potential cricketer than Arthur, and many a Varsity team has he "selected" with unerring judgment after critically watching the earlier trial matches. It was a great joy to him also to attend matches on Parker's Piece when the younger generation were playing. The Cambridgeshire Cricket Association, of which he was a vice-president, will miss him sadly, for as a committee man he was very regular in his attendance and his comments always were worthy of consideration and in the best interests of the game. 41 04 11

1941 05 03
Roller skating craze at height in 1910 with University and Town Rink in Magrath Avenue, Victoria Assembly Rooms, skating rink on Market Hill and in Pythagoras Gardens where was open-air skating and shooting range – 41 05 03b

1941 12 12
Married 50 years – Many friends and neighbours will join in congratulating Mr & Mrs A.W. Cook of 70 Huntingdon Road, Cambridge, who celebrated their golden wedding on Saturday. They were married in 1891 at St. Giles Church by the Rev. G. R. Christie, and had lived in the St. Giles district ever since. Mr. Cook was a well-known professional cricketer in Cambridge, and was, last year umpire for St. Giles' cricket team He was for some time a messenger at Trinity College, and, he later became a gyp at Magdalene, retiring at the age of 65. He is now 72 and his wife 71. She is obviously very proud of her eight children, and said of them that they had not caused her or her husband any trouble at any time Mr. and Mrs. Cooks first address was 95 Alpha Road. In 1899 they moved to 13 Histon Road, where they remained for 32 years moving thence to their present address in 1929.

1942 03 17
Missing in Malaya.—Many Cambridgeshire families have received this week official intimation concerning husbands and sons who were serving in Malaya up to the fall of Singapore. In all

cases the notification has stated that there is at present no news of the man concerned, and for the time it is necessary to post him as "missing." Most of the official notices concern men serving with the Royal Engineers, and amongst these are two brothers, Sergeant William Turkentine and Sapper Allan Turkentine, sons of Mr. and Mrs. A. C, Turkentine of 34 Albert Street, Cambridge. 42 03 17

1945 02 23
Rescued from Japan.—News has been received that local prisoners of war are among those listed as being rescued from a Japanese transport carrying them from, No. 4 Thailand Camp to Tokyo. They are Sapper G. F. Spurgin, eldest son of Mr. F. Spurgin, of 65 Greville Road, Cambridge. He was formerly employed by the L.N.E.R. as a fireman. Pte. A. G. Kitson, Royal Norfolk Regiment, husband of Mrs. E. L. Kitson, of King's Lynn. Before marrying and going to King's Lynn he lived at 1 French's Road, Cambridge 45 02 23

1945 07 27
Cambs League. — Left about 100 minutes to get 166 to beat New Chesterton Institute, in the Cambs League on Saturday, Marshall's just failed to beat the clock, being 14 runs behind, with three wickets intact at the call of time. Feature of the Institute's innings of 153 for nine declared was the display of B. Arnold, who made 78 (including 10 fours) before being seventh out at 142. Half the side were out for 53, but B. Bull helped to add 75 for the seventh wicket. S. Kirby, who secured five of the wickets for 28, was top scorer for Marshall's with 46 (five fours). J. Peel, who hit a six and three fours, in his 26, was his partner in a second wicket stand of 64, and later B. Brown hit out, having two sixes and three fours in an unbeaten 40. Bowling unchanged for 19 overs, Bull took four wickets for 46 runs.

1945 08 29
VJ Parties – Eden St, Cherry Hinton Rd, Chestnut Grove – 45 08 29; Queen Edith's Way, Ditton Fields – 45 09 04; Young St, Petworth St, Geldart St, Marshall Rd – 45 09 04; Darwin Drive, Stretton Ave, Victoria St, Hobart Rd, Adam & Eve St – 45 09 07b; Gloucester St, Castle St, Ashfield Rd – 45 09 10; Gilbert Rd, King's Hedges Rd, Ditton Fields – 45 09 11; Lichfield Rd, Cromwell Park estate, Hawthorn Rd – 45 09 12; Catharine St, Kendal Way – 45 09 14; York St & York Terrace, Brooks Road, Gold St – 45 09 17d# Bateson Rd, Garden Walk, Argyle St, St Philip's Rd , Sedgwick St, Holbrook Rd, Mowbray Rd – 45 09 18; Akeman St, James St, Parsonage St, Vinery Rd, Kingston St, Kingston St, Mowbray Rd, Hurst Park Estate – 45 09 20; Eastfield, New St, Kelvin Close – 45 09 24a; Hertford St, St John's Rd, Norwich St, Alpha Terrace, Sherlock Rd – 45 09 27a
Premier Travel take over services of F.E. Weeden of Chrishall – 45 08 30; Silverwood Close, Newmarket Road, Fallowfield, Fen Rd, Water St, Mowbray Rd – 45 10 04a; Cavendish Rd, Stourbridge Grove, Fulbourn Rd, Bradmore St, Petersfield, Gwydir St, Newnham Croft, Scotland Rd, Scotland Close – 45 10 08; Suez Rd, Hale Ave, Harvey Goodwin Ave, Glebe Rd, Radegund Rd, Golding Rd – 45 10 10; Selwyn Rd, Abbey Estate, De Freville Ave, Stanley Rd – 45 10 12a; Milton Rd, Thoday St – 45 10 18

1947 10 06
In the converted green and cream day nursery, and to the happy shouts of the little ones playing in the spacious garden outside, the Harvey Goodwin House, Harvey Goodwin Avenue, which has been adapted from a Home for boys to a nursery for babies and toddlers in the care of the Church of England Children's Society (formerly the "Waifs and Strays") was opened by Lady Whitby. It will accommodate 20 children who remain there until adopted or boarded out. Many friends gathered in the day nursery which has been ideally adapted for the purpose with its cheerful

colour scheme, gay chintz curtains at the big windows, nursery pictures on the walls and evidence of its young occupants in the soft toys scattered around.

1947 12 11
Cambridge Instrument Company plans for research laboratory and office block in Carlyle Road referred for further consideration; area primarily residential and fear will destroy view – 47 12 11

1948 03 25
Eleven brave girls came forward at the Rex Ballroom last night to stake their claim to the title of Miss Cambridgeshire 1948 at the annual Glamour Ball held there. A crowd of 400 dancers watched the judges make the snap decision as to the girl with the best looks, nicest figure and so on as the girls stood in t6he full glare of the limelight. The lucky winner was Miss Eva Simpson of Victoria Road, Cambridge, and the choice appeared to be a popular one as she received a great ovation as she was presented with a silver cup and adorned with the coveted bannerette designating her "Miss Cambridgeshire 1948"

1948 09 04
There are now over 41,000 wireless licences in the Cambridge postal area. This represents one licence to every 4.5 members of the population. A recent Post Office survey shows that in some streets like Eltisley Avenue and Alpha Road, almost every house has a wireless licence, while in others only one in three is in possession. Post office officials are still finding a number of unlicensed sets and a further "comb" is being instituted for the purpose of detecting the holders of illicit sets
1948 09 18
"I feel the club has served a very useful purpose. Even if it dies now, the effect will not die for many years. It has made Gilbert Road a sociable road. So said Mr D.I. Piggott (chairman) when announcing that the Gilbert Road Social Club, which was formed out of the friendships made at the VJ party at the end of the war is in the process of being wound up. The secretary said "We have 308 adult members, but the greater part of them do not come to any ordinary functions". The proposal to wind up the club was carried unanimously

1949 06 18
Winners in the Chesterton shopping week competition were presented with their prizes at the Tivoli cinema. The object was to show the public that all the goods they need can be obtained in their own area, without wasting time and energy in buses and in queues; at competitive prices and with good service and personal attention. Shopkeepers had many difficulties to contend with during the past 10 years including coupons, form filling and shortage of material, and at the present time, shortage of ready money. There was laughter when men's names were given as the winners of a home perm and two pairs of nylons

1950

1950 07 03
Several properties changed hands at auction. The Station Garage, Linton, sold at £2,750. Nos.54 Herbert Street & 231 Victoria Rd, Cambridge, made £1500 and £1,110 respectively. No.91 Mawson Road, Cambridge, sold for £900 and no.8 Selwyn Gardens was withdrawn at £5,750 and is now for sale by public treaty

1951 03 14
Approval of the layout of the new housing estate between Gilbert Road and Arbury Road is to be recommended by Cambridge council. Sites are provided for three-storey flats, semi-detached and

blocks of four houses, a church, community centre, shops, cinema, public house and a nursery school

1951 03 24
The annual ceremony on top of Cambridge castle mound at 7.30 am on Eastern Sunday morning is becoming traditional. The company sings 'Christ the Lord is Risen Today' and then asks for God's blessing on Cambridge and its people. The event originated with Victoria Road Congregational Church and was intended to be a simple act of cheerful witness to the Easter message. Now it is attended by people from many churches. It has been held annually for the past five years and attracts around 50 people. It is strangely impressive to look over the quiet town in the light of early morning and to hear the words of Christian faith lifting from the hilltop to be carried far and wide.

1951 04 18
Cambridge's first woman traffic warden takes up her duties on Monday, to help children cross the road before and after school. She is Mrs M.E. Vail who will be attached to St Luke's school, Victoria Road. The idea of having civilian traffic wardens was taken up in January when the education committee appointed a man for Morley memorial school; a second started at St Barnabas school this week.

1953 06 03
The special prize of £5 for the best decorated private house competition in Cambridge was won by Mrs M. O'Dell of Staffordshire Street who beat her nearest rival, Mr A.A. Cox of Victoria Road by one point. The standard was high and points awarded for each ward were very close. Winners included: Abbey Ward Mr R. Runham of Wellington Street; Castle: Miss J. Bowers, Windsor Road; Coleridge: Mr Blows, Cherry Hinton Road; Cherry Hinton: Mr R. Abraham, Chalmers Road and Market Mr W.G.D. Clee of Union Road.

1954 07 19
The Minister's decision on the County Development Plan has been announced. The only major Cambridge items not approved are the site of the bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel and the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Road. All the central area road proposals including the 'spine relief road', the new Guildhall Street and a cross-town route joining Emmanuel Street with Downing Street have been approved together with the new Chesterton Bridge over the Cam near Walnut Tree Avenue, a multi-storey car park in Corn Exchange Street and a subway at the railway station.

1954 11 18
Councillors discussed the problems of building a new school on Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge. It was known that the site was water-logged and deep piles would have to be provided for the foundations. Chesterton Library which had been built on deep piles was already cracking up and for the same thing to happen to this expensive school would be disastrous. These difficulties had been pointed out to the Planning Officer but they supported the 'green field' site that was now developing into a 'green G-string'

1955 01 13
Complaints of hooliganism and late-night disturbances were aired at a stormy meeting to discuss parking arrangements for Magrath Avenue, Cambridge. The longest tirade came from one lady who said her husband was a working man and unable to get a proper night's sleep as the men outside were half drunk and the women a darned sight worse. New proposals would create

parking spaces in front of the Rex Cinema and in Clare Street so as to avoid people blocking the back entrances to houses.

1956 06 15
Residents of Hale Street, Cambridge, petitioned against the large numbers of cars parked in the street every evening, sometimes bumper to bumper along both sides of the road. Their evening television entertainment has been ruined by continual interference from the vehicles and children woken up late at night by revving car engines and slamming doors. An elderly lady in a corner house recently had a bedroom ceiling fall down. She claims excessive vibration from the cars helped it to collapse. 56 06 15

1956 06 25
Cambridge Business and Profession Women's Club opened their block of flats on Harding Way and handed six lucky women their keys to brand new self-contained homes. They have coal bunkers and Ascot hot-water heaters for sinks and baths. Faced with the overwhelming need for accommodation for single ladies in Cambridge, when it proved impossible to find a house, they had the braveness and energy to find £1,000 to form their own housing society. 56 06 25

1957 04 04
Bulldozers are clearing the ground for house building in Hurst Park Avenue where the hundred foot windmill and Mill Cottage are to be pulled down. There has been a mill on the site since the 16th century although the present building is about 120 years old. It has been a landmark for aircraft from local aerodromes and for many years has been a home for pigeons. 57 04 04a

1957 05 15
A revolutionary – even fantastic – scheme has been put forward to use Cambridge Castle Mound as a multi-deck car park. Tunnels would be driven into it to provide space for hundreds of cars with be entrances from Chesterton Lane, Huntingdon Road and Magrath Avenue. The dirt excavated could be used for filling in Coldham's Lane pit, providing more parking spaces or building land. There will no doubt be many objections. 57 05 15

1957 07 25
John Mowlem, 'a famous name in building' have a number of houses in Tedder Way, Hurrell Road and Harding Way on the Arbury Road Estate ready for immediate occupation. First class construction, part central heating and decorations to the purchaser's choice. Prices from £2,550 on easy purchase terms: deposit £255 and repayments from £3.9.6. per week. You are cordially invited to inspect the show house at 42 Hurrell Road which is open daily – advert. 57 07 25a

1957 08 31
A four-storey hostel for Clare College between the Shire Hall mound and Chesterton Road will provide the most modern accommodation in the University. Each of the 40 students will have his own bed-sitting room with adjoining washroom and clothes cupboards and central blocks of bathrooms and w.c.s. During vacations it will be used by delegates attending conferences. When the proposed Spine Relief Road is constructed the North side will face an up-to-date motorway. 57 08 31c & d

1958 03 06
The owner of Searle's Stores in Searle Street told the bankruptcy court he was making a profit of £8 a week until July 1956. Then the business started to decline. People moved from the area to council estates and he could not compete with the prices of cut-price shops. In addition his rates had increased from £5.6s.3d to £20. 58 03 06a

1958 10 23
Sir – There are a considerable number of car owners living on the Arbury Estate who have to travel a considerable distance to obtain petrol so it is very important that a garage and filling station should be erected on land fronting Arbury Road and Alex Wood Road. Arrangements have already been made to provide shopping facilities for the growing population and a service station is essential – Norman Lee, Harding Way. 58 10 23

1959 05 20
One of the recently-built council flats in Carlton Way has been opened to give prospective tenants an opportunity to inspect the types of homes to be offered, get an idea of the amount of furniture they will hold and take measurements for curtains and carpets. Each has an indoor coal bunker and its own shed. They are intended for older people whose families have grown up and left them with empty rooms. The rent is 16s.8d (84p) a week. 59 05 20

1959 09 11
Barbara Smith, woman butcher, Akeman Street – 59 09 11

1959 11 05
Cambridge Instrument Company proposed new laboratories, Chesterton Lane – 58 11 05 & a

1959 10 15
Cambridge Instrument Company opened its new research headquarters in Chesterton Road. Its four floors comprise laboratories for the development of instruments for mechanical engineering, electronics and physical chemistry together with a specious drawing office. It was a tribute to the unswerving devotion of the men who had worked there over the last 80 years, said Lord Adrian, University Vice-Chancellor. He had declined the use of a car and arrived on bicycle for the opening ceremony where he was presented with a compass. 59 10 15c

1960

1960 07 07
In order to rescue the Arbury Estate from the 'grave danger of creating deserts of asphalt' a playground should be constructed on a site between Alex Wood Road and Mere Way. It would have a mound of earth 15 feet high and an open flat area providing scope for ball games, tricycles, marbles etc with a play park equipped with vertical and horizontal tree trunks. The ground is to be made deliberately uneven with mounds and hollows for imaginative play. But swings have been condemned as dangerous and expensive 60 07 07

1960 10 21
Since the opening of the New Chesterton Institute in 1885 members have not been able to obtain any alcoholic drinks in the club. But now it has opened a bar in an effort to increase the dwindling membership. One of the first to patronise it was 89-year-old Sam Gawthrop, who has been a member of the club for 72 years. His drink was a non-alcoholic ginger–ale. "I don't touch much of the stuff now, I am too old for that lark", he said. 60 10 21b

1961 01 02
The warehouses of Radio and Television Services Ltd, Gloucester Street, were gutted by fire. Scores of people living nearby went into their gardens as showers of sparks and splinters from exploding radio valves and television tubes showered down on their premises and residents of Clare Street used garden hoses to prevent the fire endangering their garden sheds. Arthur Brett

(80) said the blaze and noise was just like the battle of the Somme. Employees will be moved to other buildings in the Pye group and there will be no serious interruption in the repair and servicing facilities operated by the company. The two-storey high building also houses a technical school for overseas radio experts.61 01 02c

1961 02 17
The Old People's Welfare Council believes the best thing for the elderly is for them to live independently as long as possible. But many cannot and there are an increasing number of people wanting care in their old age. The main problem is finding suitable premises to make into old people's homes. In 1948 the County Council had to do with Linton Hospital and a few beds at Chesterton Hospital. Since then they have been modernised and improved. After the war buildings were very difficult to get because of competition from firms wanting office accommodation and the rising cost of land. The first new home was The Grove, Fordham in 1951, followed by Willingham House and in 1956 Primrose Croft was adapted to take 35 elderly residents. The future plans are to erect purpose-designed buildings 61 02 17b

1961 04 18
Sir – Arbury Estate is already overcrowded and is alive with children for whose needs only the minimum facilities have been provided. Already some 730 residents have signed a petition calling for a number of open spaces for youngsters. Now the council is planning to build two blocks of flats on land at the top of Alex Wood Road. These should be resited to give a park for mothers with their prams and old people to sit in the sun with perhaps a bowling green like the one on the Whitehill estate – P.W. Cadogan, Arbury Estate Children's Playgrounds Committee 61 04 18

1961 09 29
History of Industrial School in Victoria Road pioneered by Harvey Goodwin – by Clifford Thurley 61 09 29d

1962 01 19
A Scandinavian-style house at 7, Hurst Park Avenue, built five years ago, is well insulated and centrally heated by a boiler featuring a small bore system with circulating pumps thermostatically controlled. The lounge has French windows opening to a terrace while the dining room has a serving hatch from the kitchen. The four bedrooms have built-in fittings with full-length wardrobes and a glass door. It is a good example of contemporary architecture on a small scale 62 01 19b

1962 01 25
Castle Street, Chesterton Lane corner widening – 62 01 25

1962 05 01
An experiment at Mitcham's Corner designed to speed up rush hour traffic brought protests from road users and residents. Cars and lorries were brought to a complete standstill for up to ten minutes in Chesterton Hall Crescent which was used to siphon off traffic from Milton and Gilbert Roads. Residents protested saying it was a fiasco and the scheme should be abandoned. There were 16 children under ten years of age living in the Crescent and they felt strongly for their safety 62 05 01a

1962 07 09
Plans for an 11-storey block of 60 flats on the junction of Roseford Road and Carlton Way met with opposition from residents concerned it would cut out a lot of light from nearby houses. Members of the Arbury Playgrounds and Open Spaces Committee say it is the only open space

apart from the recreation ground on this side of the estate which will eventually house 10,000 people. You could not blame teenagers for getting into trouble if they had nowhere to go. 62 07 09

1962 09 14
Maurice Stevenson started as a cinema projectionist in 1927 as a lad of 16 at the old Tivoli Cinema in Chesterton Road. They were the silent days. Then he went to the Regal and later the Central. In the old 'disc' days you had to be careful even closing the door in case you shook the needle out of its groove in the record. If you lost the synchronisation between the record and film it was the devil's own job getting it back again, he remembers. The machinery is much more simple to operate now. 62 09 14

1963 07 08
Blackamoor's Head in Victoria Road demolition – 63 07 08a

1963 08 13
St Luke's school buildings which are being pulled down may be replaced by gardens – 63 08 13

1963 09 06
Workmen have begun to prepare the gardens which will replace some old classrooms that were demolished because of their unsafe condition at St Luke's Primary School, Victoria Road. Low brick walls surrounding the gardens are being erected. The school authorities are to encourage the children to look after the gardens themselves 63 09 06

1963 09 09
Victoria Road Congregational Church Hall – unusual view visible by demolition – 63 09 09

1963 10 03
More and more Cambridge people are rejecting the idea of a three-bedroomed house and there is a growing demand for small, one or two bedroomed units. Brookfields, on East Road, should consist entirely of these types of property and be supplemented by development at the junction of Carlton Way. The improvement and conversion of the older type of pre-war council houses should be advanced at all speed, councillors were told. They will draw up proposals for the redevelopment of aluminium bungalows at Church End, Cherry Hinton 63 10 03

1963 10 04
St Luke's Mews, off Chesterton Lane, are the first moderately priced new town houses in central Cambridge. Although only ten minutes' walk from the centre, the houses stand in a quiet setting with mature trees. The completely modern design incorporates gas hot air central heating and independent electric thermostatically controlled domestic hot water supply. They have built-in cupboard under the stairs, built-in dustbin cupboard, two bedrooms and internal bathroom. There are gardens to rear and a forecourt for car parking. Prices from £3,110. (£55,000 at today's prices) 63 10 04

1963 10 15
Magrath Avenue residents object to Rex Cinema showing motor racing films for Cambridge Car Club – 63 10 15

1964 01 25
Many of the council houses built 30 years ago in Stretten Avenue, Darwin Drive and Scotland Road need modernisation: there is no hot water, the bath is in the scullery and they have only

outside lavatories. They were becoming 'social slums' and attracting 'the least desirable of tenants' said councillors. But residents say they are like an old fashioned community: Mrs Evelyn Pigott, who keeps a grocery shop in Akeman Street has organised a group of householders willing to help cook for neighbours while the alterations were carried out. 64 01 25b & c

1964 02 29
St Luke's church schools in Victoria Road are outdated and almost sub-standard. However since 1962, when children were shivering in classes, electric heating has been installed to take the load off the open fires. The school is fifth on the list for rebuilding within the next four years, but may slip down the list. Until a new one is built parents will have to remain dissatisfied with the accommodation. The council is not rejuvenating the decaying areas of the city but concentrating on new ones. 64 02 29a

1964 06 18
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on French's Road – 64 06 18a

1964 09 02
No new industries employing more than five people will be established and only a moderate expansion of those existing will be approved, says the Minister of Housing in his review of the Cambridge Town Map. The inner relief road will be rerouted to take it clear of Jesus College grounds and Marshall's garage and the Western Bypass will now run next to the University Observatory and behind properties in Storey's Way. Local shopping centres will be expanded at Mitcham's Corner, Mill Road and at the corner of Alex Wood Road. There will also be a car park to the south of Silver Street. 64 09 02

1964 09 15
The first stage of Cambridge's Inner Relief Road would comprise twin-carriageways starting with a roundabout at Murkett's Corner, on the junction of Huntingdon and Histon Roads. The planned road goes southward through the Rex Cinema site, leaving space for the proposed law courts near Shire Hall. As it approaches Chesterton Road there will be a flyover to take the main traffic flow over a roundabout. Then there would be a new bridge over the Cam before it crosses Jesus Green parallel to Park Parade. A subway will give access under the road to Jesus Green. 64 09 15

1965 01 21
Victoria Road Congregational Youth Club attracts 50 15-21 year-olds each week. There is a large hall and they can dance or play games, talk and drink coffee. The highlights include punt parties, sausage sizzles and barbecues. In spite of the austerity of the hall there is a genuine air of friendliness. Organisers have tried to introduce more serious activities but they have not proved too popular. The evenings end with a short epilogue, though the influence of religion is not particularly stressed. 65 01 21a

1965 02 05
Roseford Road – Carlton Way five-storey flats approved, Arbury – 65 02 05b

1966 06 28
Roseford Road panoramic view – photo – 66 06 28

1967 03 03
Mitcham's Corner, second huge island created between Chesterton Rd & Victoria Rd – 67 03 03b

1968 01 10

Staff of L. Eyres Knitwear of Searle Street work extra time on export bid – 68 01 10a

1968 11 05
Parking at Rex, Magrath Ave – photo – 68 11 05

1970

1970 05 16
Birch's Garage began Victoria Road in 1956, moved Milton Road – feature – 70 05 16

1972 03 20
Victoria road, Cambridge, is a narrow one with even narrower pavements barely wide enough for one person. But this road is used unceasingly day and night by heavy traffic. This is a confounded nuisance because of the noise and vibration and pollution caused to the unfortunate people who live there and use the road. The blast from these high-powered lorries driving at speed along the road means old and weaker people are literally blown aside by the blast. (Letter)

1972 03 22
New signals Milton Road / Gilbert Road, p16

1972 05 12
Robinson and Gimbert, the Cambridge builders with reputation for high class work have been taken
over by one of the "big boys" of British home building. From next week they will be trading under the direction of T & E Homes ltd of Reigate. The Cambridge firm who started in Guildhall Street 25 years ago and moved to Victoria Road six years ago have 60 full time employees. Robinson and Gimbert currently have schemes on the go at Oakington and Stapleford, and recently completed one at Waterbeach. They build about 50 houses a year

1972 05 15
The story-book world of Bambi the baby deer came to Gilbert Road, Cambridge, yesterday when Mr Roy Wing looked over his garden fence. He couldn't believe his eyes. A small, brown, bright-eyed young deer was sitting calmly among the foliage in his neighbour's garden at 142 Gilbert Road in the middle of suburban Cambridge, many miles from the known haunts of deer, p11

1976 03 15
The possible closure to through traffic of Arbury Road, Cambridge, will be discussed by the city council. Some councillors have been pressing for years for the road closure as a way of improving the environment for people living in the Arbury area. The road is, at peak periods, one of the busiest in Cambridge with commuter traffic. The suggestions are certain to cause a storm of protest. The main objection will centre round the claim that a lot more traffic would be pushed on to the already busy Gilbert Road.

1976 06 01
Vibration from heavy lorries thundering along Victoria Road, Cambridge, is causing considerable damage to some of the houses in the road, residents claim. Other have suffered cracking and crumbling mortar and damage to roof tiles. "The lorries are worse than ever now. It's not just the noise and vibration, it's the smell as well", says Mrs Mabel Haggis. The City Surveyor said: "The Northern bypass, which will be completed by the end of 1977, should lead to a considerable easing of the situation."

1972 11 30
A new hotel opens in Cambridge this week - and with 33 bedrooms it becomes the fourth largest in the city. The new Arundel House Hotel is a complex of red brick houses on Chesterton Road overlooking the River and Jesus Green. The development follows the purchase of number 61 Chesterton Road last year and its conversion into a 12-bedroomed hotel. Now John Norfolk has converted two other adjacent properties he owns - from flats and bedsitters to an integrated hotel complex. "With house prices as they are now it is virtually impossible to charge a proper rent related to these new values, " he said. "The transition of Chesterton Road into a hotel was the obvious answer to get a proper return"

1976 08 31
Plans for a nightclub in the former Rex Ballroom and Cinema at Magrath Avenue, Cambridge, have been scrapped after residents succeeded in opposing both a drinks licence and a music, singing and dancing licence for the club. Mr Gordon Cave wanted to open 'The Carioca Club' on the premises but faced violent objections from the police, the city council and residents who have for years protested about the noise and nuisance caused. Their complaints intensified when the ballroom was turned into a nightclub a few years ago and the cinema became a bingo hall.

1978 04 06
Quietly and without fuss our daily bread got dearer this week, with the news that the big three bakeries were adding 2p to the cost of a "standard" sliced and wrapped loaf, bringing the cost up to 28½ p. In Cambridge the price of farmhouse loaves is left to the baker. Bridgeman Bros of Norfolk Street charge 30½ p for a very crusty, tasty and attractive loaf; Tylers of Mill Road charge 30p, & E.J. How and Godfreys of Regent Street 29p. The most expensive are Dixon's of Fitzroy Street & Maskell's of Victoria Road who charge 31p for a pale golden, high, crusty, loaf.

1978 06 21
Some Cambridge colleges are threatening to ban visitors because this year's greatly increased numbers of tourists are causing problems. It is important to provide a permanent tourist coach park somewhere near the main tourist centre. A report says the best site would be on common and allotment land next to the News building on Newmarket Road. But some councillors think the ideal place would be in the vicinity of the railway station, at Saxon Street car park or on derelict land at the corner of Histon Road and Victoria Road.

1979 02 02
The old Rex Cinema and ballroom in Magrath Avenue Cambridge which has been a source of controversy among nearby residents is now owned by Cambridgeshire County Council who paid £33,000 for it at auction. The building has been almost derelict since the Abbey Sports and Social Club closed in October 1973. The exact future of the site has yet to be decided but it will extend the present facilities at the Shire Hall

1979 06 21
The price and availability of petrol has been in the news in the past few weeks. Petrol rationing in the United States and Sheikh Yamani's latest warnings on the oil crisis shake the most complacent, North Sea oil or no. Post-budget prices are well up and supplies fluctuate. Opening hours have been varied and a number of petrol stations are rationing customers to five gallons. Both Tesco (Gulf) and Sainsbury in Coldham's Lane were charging £1.04 for four star but Hallens (BP) at Victoria Road corner were 10p more. Holland's in Mill Road matched Marshall's price of £1.07, the Newmarket Road Service Station (Phoenix), where you are served as opposed to manning the pumps yourself, charged £1.08 and the Lolworth Service Station was £1.12.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1979 07 31
Pubs in and around Cambridge have come in for bitter criticism in a new guide written by two undergraduates. The Rose in Rose Crescent is described as a 'seedy little place in a seedy little street. Gay Cambridge meets there, which says little for their taste'. The Maypole in Park Street is described as a 'grotty little dive hidden rightly under the car park', the Carpenters Arms in Victoria Road is 'without redeeming feature; extremely anti-student clientele who would have beaten us up if they hadn't been so drunk. Dark and spooky'. The Locomotive in Mill Road 'ought to be exorcised, its evil … the worst pub in Cambridge' while the Midland Tavern is, they say, 'the most notorious pub in town with a reputation for being a centre of vice'. One landlord replied: "It's about time the University made these little boys do some work for their degrees … they speak too much claptrap"

1980

1980 07 31
Following the recent cut in petrol prices differences of 8p or more can be found by shopping around with Tesco at Bar Hill charging £1.32 for a gallon compared to £1.40 at Hallen's on Victoria Road corner. Four-star is the main contender in the fight for sales and a number of garages have dropped two-star altogether. Looking back a year ago when many garages were short of petrol and 'regulars only' signs littered the forecourts, the current surplus of supply seems barely credible. But it is most unlikely we will return to the days when they gave free gifts and trading stamps in a bid to attract business. 80 07 31

1981 05 01
It took £10,000, two 20-ton cranes and a good deal of ingenuity for Cambridge artist, Philip Martin, to realise a lifetime's ambitions. He has taken delivery of a 70-foot barge. The 15-ton monster had to be winched off its transporter and lowered into the Cam at Riverside before being pulled by hand a mile up river to its permanent base opposite Alpha Road. It will take some time to convert it into one of the few floating art galleries in the country. 81 05 01

1981 07 09
Mr & Mrs Jack O'Dell, the first Cambridge council house tenants to buy their own homes were given a potted plant when handed the keys to their house in Carlton Way. With a 50 per cent discount the three-bedroomed house has cost them £9,375. More than 800 other tenants have asked to buy since the law was changed last October. 81 07 09

1982 03 12
Maurice Stevenson is Cambridge's longest-serving projectionist; he recently retired from the Victoria Cinema after showing films for 54 years. He started aged 14 at the old Tivoli Cinema in Chesterton Road, moved to the Central, then the Playhouse where he was chief projectionist at the age of 18. Later he was at the Regal. He has seen it all from the 'silent' days to the coming of 'talkies', then colour; from the advent of 3D and wide screen to stereophonic sound, from traditional projection methods to highly-developed technology. 82 03 12d

1984 02 03
A £1 million scheme is being planned for 100 Cambridge council houses in the Akeman Street and Darwin Drive areas because a 'modernisation' project carried out 20 years ago has gone wrong. Prefabricated units, constructed mainly of wood and plastic were installed as a quick way of bringing the houses up to standard, but they have deteriorated badly. Now ten houses in Darwin Drive maybe pulled down to make space for flats suitable for old people or those in need of sheltered accommodation. 84 02 03 p15

1984 08 28
Furious shopkeepers in Chesterton Road are banding together to fight plans to turn a derelict house into a hostel for the homeless. They claim it will be a home for drunks who will make life unbearable for people living in the area. The sub-postmaster says drug addicts and drunks are already a problem – on Thursday afternoons half the customers are drunk when they come in for their Giros. But the King Street Housing Association says it will be a refuge for the homeless with full supervision and not a place for alcoholics. 84 08 28 p5

1984 11 14
Sir - This is the 50th anniversary of a great act of kindness to the dogs of Cambridgeshire by a distinguished foreign visitor. In 1934 HRH Prince Chula of Siam erected a memorial to his dog Tony in the form of a fountain at the correct height so that dogs could slake their thirst in hot weather. It still stands outside the Chesterton branch of Lloyd's Bank but is in a sorry condition. Can it not be cleaned up and maintained? - Paul Garside, Science Park. 84 11 14 p16

1985 05 10
Ask Ted Taylor how many times the siren went in Cambridge during the war and he will answer straight away – 269. He was an air-raid warden and would trot off to his post at the end of the street each time they sounded. He covered the Roseford Road area with seven other wardens, making sure there was a total blackout. One memory is of the German prisoners-of-war who built concrete roads outside prefabs which later made way for Molewood Close and Birdwood Close. Ted has given away his steel helmet and mislaid his gasmask, but he still has the stirrup pump with which he was issued. 85 05 10b

1985 08 07
The New Chesterton Institute was founded 100 years ago to promote the moral, mental and physical well-being of its members. Today with 1,100 members the NCI Sports and Social Club is still going strong. Meetings were originally held in the Coffee House, Searle Street until the present building was erected in 1891. In the early days it was famous as a debating society. Now it is known more for its sporting achievements and even has a crib team. 85 08 07a

1985 10 15
Pigott's, the family ironmongers which has traded in Cambridge for more than a century, is up for sale. It was in 1863 that John Pigott, son of a Landbeach farmer, opened an ironmongers shop in Sidney Street and a chain of shops were set up in Market Hill, Mill Road, Norfolk Street, Bridge Street and Hills Road. The Sussex Street branch, an established feature of the street since the late 1930s, shut down last September. The business, now in Victoria Road, includes two shops, a warehouse, stores and office. 85 10 15a

1985 12 10
More than 200 young people entered the Rob Roy pub in Chesterton Road to hold a late-night disco. Sixty-five police prevented any more entering as toilet rolls, a chair and other pieces of furniture rained down. As there were no lights on, except for the disco light and with a crowd in excess of 200 police decided it would be unsafe to enter and clear the building. The pub had not been derelict but undergoing refurbishment and considerable damage was done to the upstairs room. It followed confrontation with several hundred youths outside the former Thakes cycle shop in East Road 85 12
10b

1986 02 19

When Charles Kidman decided in 1876 to start up his own building business Britain was in the midst of a recession. Yet within 20 years he had built most of Romsey with its distinctive terraced houses plus a whole series of large contract work which enabled him to retire at the tender age of 40! Today, 110 years later, Kidman & Son is a thriving business with another Charles Kidman at the helm determined to maintain the family tradition of personal service coupled with flexibility. From their workshops in Victoria Road teams of bricklayers, carpenters and labourers are on hand for the craft of building 86 02 19b & c

1986 04 24
A plan to turn the old Tivoli Cinema in Chesterton Road into an arts and entertainment centre has been turned down as it would cause noise and traffic problems in the area.. It hoped to have featured films, fashion shows, music and exhibitions and would sometimes have remained open for music and dancing until the early hours. But residents opposed the idea. The Tivoli was for a long time used as a storage warehouse and some months ago was granted permission to be turned into a public house and restaurant 86 04 24

1986 06 11
Chesterton Mill, in French's Road was built in 1847 but has stood derelict for the last 30 years. The eight-sided smock mill was only partially successful when driven by wind so the sails were removed in the 1890s and it was subsequently driven by steam, suction gas and diesel. It has now been renovated and starts a new lease of life as the home of Cambridge public relations firm Beveridge Kartupelis. 86 06 11a

1986 08 22
The Church Housing Trust's new hostel in Victoria Road aims to get away from an institutional set-up with single rooms and bedsits for 75 homeless people. Alcohol will be banned and residents encouraged to improve their lifestyle to enable them to live in the community again. Nearby home owners have been reassured that problems will be few and far between because if residents have been drinking they keep away as they don't want to lose their accommodation. The Trust's existing premises in Willow Walk will be also retained 86 08 22

1986 08 28
French's Mill was built on a high point in Chesterton in 1847 by William Beart. It was a wooden-walled smock mill but didn't catch enough wind, so it was jacked up and an eight-sided brick base added. But it was still not satisfactory so in 1868 William French converted it to run on steam power. Later the sails were removed and gas engines installed, to be replaced by diesel 14 years later. At its peak small bakers used the it regularly but when the adjoining land was taken as playing fields for St Peter's School it looked as if the mill was doomed. Now it has begun a new life as an office suite and the surrounding buildings house ten other small companies playing their part in the technology boom
86 08 28

1986 10 28
The Council is undertaking its biggest renovation to wipe out some of Cambridge's worst living conditions. After 15 years the damp-prone bathroom 'pods' stuck on to brick kitchens will be removed from Darwin Drive, Akeman Street, Stretten Avenue and other streets. The modernisation programme will transform pokey 50-year-old homes into spacious, modern accommodation. There will be a new bedroom and bathroom, fully-fitted kitchen, central heating and new windows. Residents who move out for the 20 weeks of renovation can claim a disturbance allowance of several hundred pounds. 86 10 28a

1987 03 13
A new purpose-built car park providing 67 long-stay spaces has opened in Castle Hill, with another 57 places coming in a few months time. City councillors say the park, near the junction with Victoria Road, will offer convenient access to shops and businesses in the north of Cambridge. It will have a park-and-display system charging 50p for any period on weekdays, doubling to £1 on April 1st. But there will be free parking in evenings and Sundays 87 03 13a

1987 06 09
A small Cambridge research and development company has beaten international giants to win a prestigious engineering award. W.A. Technology, based in French's Road has clinched the Finniston Award for designing and building the world's first commercial instrument for viewing the atomic structure on the surface of materials. The scanning tunnelling microscope emerged from research by two Nobel prizewinners in conjunction with scientists at Cambridge University. The company was founded in 1982 by Barry Ambrose and Dr Colin Wilson who met when they worked at the Cavendish Laboratory 87 06 09

1987 09 16
Granta Morris, which meets at St Luke's Barn in French's Road, sprang into life five years ago. It has 16 members including a vet, a technician and some without jobs. The Squire, Leigh Watson who knows 190 dances calls out instructions as the accordion strikes up tunes such as 'Headington' which is based on bean-setting. Granta perform at fetes, pubs and college May balls. Sometimes they encounter hecklers. Three skinheads started taunting them once so Leigh invited them to have a go. The trio soon admitted Morris deserves respect. But yobs threw stink-bombs under the feet in North Wales - 87 09 16

1987 11 02
Churchill Service Station, on the corner of Huntingdon and Victoria Roads, has been sold to oil giant Texaco and will be renamed Star Cambridge. They plan to turn the garage workshop area into a supermarket, expanding the grocery section which has been serving the local community for several years. Its founder, Tom Sharpley, moved to Cambridge from Benfleet in 1976, initially selling Chevron fuel. He has mixed feelings: "I have met some horrible creatures in the business but also some first-class people while I've been here". 87 11 02a

1988 07 12
St Luke's, one of Cambridge's most prominent Victorian churches in Victoria Road, is to be converted into a community centre for the whole of the parish of the Ascension,. formed in 1982 by the union with St Giles and St Peter. The adjacent United Reformed Church will be demolished and the land sold for housing. There are no plans to amalgamate the two congregations who will share the new-look church. 88 07 12a

1988 09 20
The Bishop of Huntingdon, Rt Rev Gordon Rose, conducted the last service at St Luke's Church, Victoria Road, before builders move in to start £800,000 alterations. Afterwards he led the congregation, which included the mayor, to the United Reformed Church next door which will be their home until work is completed. Then both congregations will move back to St Luke's and the United Reformed Church will be demolished to make way for more housing. 88 09 20

1988 11 10
Residents of a controversial block of flats in Cambridge have denied their home if a terrible place to live. Tenants in Kingsway Flats, off Carlton Way, are working with the council to spruce up the block's image. It is a good place to live, the flats are excellent and when proposed

improvements are finished people will clamour to live there, they say. There is a kekab stall on the corner and a lot of young people on motor cycles hang around but on the whole it is quiet. 88 11 10

1988 12 15
The former Tivoli cinema building which opened on Chesterton Road in 1925 has been converted into 'The Exchange' with two large cocktail bars and a 120-seater restaurant. Later will come a basement gym, a punt landing stage and a roof garden restaurant with panoramic views over Jesus Green. Entertainment facilities include a huge electronic roll-down screen, the latest audio equipment and closed circuit television relaying film of the dance hall, But great care has been taken to preserve the distinctive atmosphere with plaster ceiling mouldings and a combination of rich dark and red wood 88 12 15a

1989 06 07
Angry residents are banding together to block plans to sell the former Roger Ascham School and part of the nearby Chesterton playing fields for a potential housing development. Founded as a school for children with physical disabilities, it closed in 1987 and is now used as a teachers' resource centre. Residents are worried about the increase in traffic and noise which would result. The amenity value and its potential for the community have been ignored, they claim 89 06 07

1989 07 14
Arbury School, Carlton Way, head teacher Barry Jones retires – 89 07 14

1990 01 10
United Reformed Church, Victoria Road is holding its first major service after undergoing an £830,000 redevelopment. The ceremony to welcome the Rev Norman Setchell as its new minister will take place in St Luke's Church which has been converted to create a joint home for the URC and Anglican congregations as well as a community centre. The two churches, which stood side by side for a century, will still hold separate morning services with joint worship taking place in the evenings – 90 01 10

1990 06 14
St Luke's school, French's Road opened in 1874, closed in 1969 when new school constructed – feature – 90 06 14a

1990 12 21
Chesterton Community College hall renamed Rex Freeman Hall – 90 12 21b

Chesterton Road 1963 – 152.73

c.44.6 : Chesterton Road area

These are stories relating to the area west of Elizabeth Way to Mitcham's Corner
See separate file on Chesterton Lane – Gilbert Road area

1897 08 09
Sir - Now that the Jubilee accounts have been reckoned up it seems fitting we should start afresh the matter of the new bridge. The question of a new bridge to connect Chesterton with Cambridge at the Abbey Estate is of supreme importance. The ferryman knows no rest. All the people at Old Chesterton have to be crossed over long before the omnibuses are astir. The wheels of progress anywhere in the vicinity have moved round in the past with about the same velocity as a farmer's cart! Is this to drag on for ever? The advantage of another bridge over the now-sweetened Cam would be a great gain to both Chesterton and Cambridge in equal proportion - letter signed "Chestertonian"

1897 08 28
Henry Kimpton, grocer, residing on the De Freville Estate, Chesterton, made application for licence to sell beer. There were 111 houses upon the Estate, occupied by the class of persons who

would have a great objection to sending their servants to the Old Spring or the bowling green public houses for the purpose of obtaining beer. They were well aware that although there were bottle and jug entrances, these were often used by persons frequenting the houses.

1897 12 15
Sir - The fearful state of the Chesterton roads at the present time calls for comment: they are worse than ever. Trees have lately been inserted on either side of this avenue of mud & slime. Omnibuses are running to and fro daily that are a credit to any town, especially are the horses in splendid form ready to take you from Chesterton church to the Cambridge station for twopence! The wear and tear on such roads must be very great. How very surprised people seem to be now-a-days that Victoria Bridge should have been opposed by some people. But the hour has struck when the necessity for another bridge is of equal importance. The folk at Old Chesterton, all employed in Cambridge, have to cross the classic stream either by grind or punt. The sooner both councils wake up to their duty in the matter of this great necessity, the better for people on both sides of the river - "Chestertonian"

1888 02 0-
Chesterton UDC discussed an ancient right of way known as Little Lane, leading from Chesterton Road to the back of Mr Foster's boathouse. It had been in existence as long as the oldest man in Chesterton could remember and there had been no obstruction of any kind. Now it had been blocked by the erection of a fence by a member of the Council

1898 04 02
Sir - the new bridge at Abbey Road Cambridge has become a supreme necessity. Everyone admits it now. Boats and plants have had their day, and should be done away with. Omnibuses of first class order are unable to carry people to most convenient places, and at low prices, for the want of another bridge to bring them into Cambridge. What enormous advantages to both Chesterton and Cambridge another bridge at this spot holds out. The great increase in traffic calls loudly for another bridge. The people near the Abbey again insisted upon another bridge but the Cambridge Rip Van Winkles sleep on, oblivious of anything. Procrastination is the great curse of Cambridge, and Chesterton should take warning by keeping abreast with the requirements of this important suburb – Chestertonian

1898 10 14
The eccentricity of a horse at Chesterton last night caused its driver and a fare some alarm. It bolted along Chesterton lane at a furious rate, resisting all the efforts of the driver to get it under control. The animal made a tour of Old Chesterton in record time and returned by the Milton road. At this point the driver came to the conclusion it was quite useless trying to hold the horse in any longer and advised the gentleman inside the cab to "quit". He took a flying leap into the darkness and grazed his face somewhat severely. The driver fell off the box and the off wheel passed over his legs. Continuing his career the horse came into collision with a gatepost at Northampton Street which knocked it on its hindquarters

1898 10 17
The "burgling" fraternity are already on the warpath. In pursuing his unworthy calling at Chesterton some impudent member of the fraternity paid a visit to a house in Victoria Road but got little, if anything, for his trouble. The family left home having previously secured the doors and windows. On their return they were alarmed at finding the front door bolted on the inside. This aroused suspicion and gave rise to the surmise that the house had been invaded by burglars. This belief was confirmed by the movements of the depredator in his haste to beat a retreat by the back part of the premises. By means of wax matches, the debris of which was strewn about the

room, Mr Burglar had found his way upstairs and examined the contents of several drawers. It can hardly be imagined that the intentions of the housebreaker were strictly honest and honourable. Probably had he not been disturbed he might have got clear with a considerable amount of booty

1899 07 11
Sir – The population of Chesterton is mainly composed of people who have been turned out of Cambridge to make way for college and other improvements, and nearly all are employed in that ancient town. Every day brings evidence of the great need of another crossing of the Cam & that Abbey Road is the place goes without saying. The De Freville Estate, are absolutely dependent upon the old punts and other obsolete marine structures for crossing over to Cambridge. . It must be conceded that a bridge over this part of the Cam is of the highest importance – "Chestertonian"

1899 12 08
New Hotel, "Fleur-de-Lis", Humberstone road, Chesterton. This first-class hotel is now open and replete with every comfort. Billiards room in course of erection. Gentlemen visiting the hotel will find the Smoke Room fitted with every comfort – advert.

1900

1900 02 05
Cambridge Adverting Company reported that the hoarding in Victoria Road, Chesterton was in course of enlargement and one at Shelford has recently been enlarged to meet the demand for country posters. An additional hoarding has been secured at the Traveller's Rest, Huntingdon road, and is open to still further enlargement. The secretary and foreman billposter had been most attentive to their duties

1900 06 14
An inquest on a boy of eight, killed by a bus on Castle Hill, affirmed the death was accidental. It is hardly an exaggeration to describe Chesterton Corner as the death trap of Cambridge. Four road meet; they are all narrow, and the configuration of the corner is such that it is quite impossible for the driver of a vehicle up Magdalene Street to have the faintest notion that there is another coming along Chesterton Lane and if the two do not crash into each other it will be more of an accident than if they do. More room is needed at the corner. This would involve pulling down some old houses. The matter is one which the authorities ought to give attention at once.

1901 03 01
Chesterton Urban District Council met with the owner of the land hitherto used as allotment ground and others concerned in the development of the estate for building purposes and the making of the necessary roads. They had achieved one of the greatest possible improvements that had been effected in Chesterton in their time. The public must trust their representatives, with their fuller knowledge, to do what was right. The council approved the making of a path from Aylestone Road to Ferry Path, and the continuation and widening of Montague Road from Kimberley Road to Pretoria Road. One row of houses would have their back gardens towards Ferry Path. It was impossible to consider a 36-ft roadway because there would never be a carriage bridge as it was near Victoria Bridge, but it was suggested that a row of trees be planted to mitigate the unsightliness to the occupiers.

1901 08 07
A proposal to erect a new footbridge over the Cam between the De Freville Estate and Cambridge was advanced at a meeting of occupiers. It would put them in more direct communication with

Fitzroy Street. A member of Chesterton Urban District Council thought it should be erected at the Fort St George ferry to benefit the owners of the new Central Estate; but this was a thing of the future. If they waited for this development they might wait five or ten years. They wanted a bridge for De Freville inhabitants immediately and would circulate residents for donations.

1901 11 26
A Chesterton lady, Miss A. Masterson of Humberstone Road, was among a number of passengers who underwent an alarming experience while travelling by the Central London Railway, which is better known as the "Twopenny Tube". A train was suddenly stopped as it was about to enter Marble Arch Station. The tunnel became filled with dense and suffocating smoke. Several ladies fainted and others became hysterical. People were rushing pell-mell from the front of the train, scrambling over seats to get out of danger. Then the lights went out. It was twenty minutes before the train moved back slowly. There was a terrible smell of burning flesh and it was learned that a gentleman had fallen in front of the train and been crushed to death.

1902 03 22
Sir – A beautiful permanent memorial of the Coronation year would be the building of a bridge at De Freville Avenue. The Avenue is planted with elm trees on each side, the houses are all substantially, and some very tastefully, built; they are all set back and have flower gardens in front, making a very attractive approach to the proposed new bridge. It would provide a safe road for children attending the best Cambridge schools and provide the nearest way to Newmarket Road and the Railway Station, thus benefiting labourers, working men, college servants etc. The more bridges there are built over the river the more surely you bind communities together to the advantage of both Cambridge and Chesterton – F.R. Leach

1902 05 31
New Chesterton bike, p1

1902 05
Won on Whit Monday at Dersingham by A. Brown of Milton, 1st prize, pair of solid silver candlesticks, value £7. This prize was won on a New Chesterton Bicycle, made to order. Racing machines a speciality. I invite customers to see their machines being constructed. Riding tuition free if a new machine is purchased. Tyres re-rubbered and repaired from 8/6 each. Repairs and machines overhauled at moderate charges by experienced workmen – W.J. Ison, Chesterton Cycle Works, Chesterton Road, Cambridge – advert.

1902 07 17
Cambridge Paving Committee had approached the vicar and churchwardens of St Giles' church to ascertain whether it would be possible to acquire a portion of the churchyard for the widening of Castle Street. They would agree provided that the work of excavating and collecting human remains be screened by a hoarding & the bodies reverently re-interred. Chesterton Road corner was a most dangerous one and when the improvement was carried out one corner out of the four would be cut back.

1902 09 16 c
Sir – Many people have felt genuine concern at the announcement that the Cambridge Omnibus Company is to be "wound up". Huntingdon Road, Old and New Chesterton, Mill Road and the rapidly growing suburb of New Cherryhinton have all benefited by its service. It is regretted that in spite of the hundred the Company has conveyed daily, the venture does not pay. Their difficulty is the Tram Company's opportunity and they should arrange for a good suburban service of 'buses to run in conjunction with their cars – New Cherryhinton

1902 10 07
Sir – Canterbury Road, Chesterton was made by ourselves, as owners, at a cost of £90, in the anticipation at the Council would take it over, which they promised to do. We have asked them several times to do so and the only excuse they make is that it must be steam rolled. We have had it rolled. We have worked in every way to conform to their orders and the only reason we have placed posts across the road is to protect and preserve the road from being cut up by vehicular traffic – J. Piddock, H. Riseley, E. Wonfor

1902 11 20
Unfortunately the Cambridge Omnibus Company have been unable to find a purchaser for their business as a going concern and their horses, omnibuses etc had to be sold at their stables in Chesterton Road. A two-horse omnibus to carry 26 passengers fitted with garden seats on the top sold for 20 guineas. Buses by the 'Star Omnibus Company' were not in such good condition and realised £10 while others went for as low a sum as £4.10s. The one-horse 'buses did not sell for much but a four-horse charabanc, "The Cambridge Belle" sold for 62 guineas to Mr Ellis Merry. Prices for horses dropped to as low as three guineas1902 12 06

1903 06 16
Numerous complaints have been received from residents of Chesterton Road about nightly depredations upon their flowerbeds and window boxes. Some of the prettiest gardens facing the road have been completely wrecked by mischievous persons. One garden was stripped of every flower. Many residents take a great deal of pride in their gardens and spend no inconsiderable amount of their incomes in keeping them smart and well stocked. It is to be hoped the police will keep a sharp eye for offenders and they will be dealt with in a manner which will prove a salutary warning to similarly-inclined persons.

1903 10 12
There was another heavy downpour of rain; the Cam has but in a few places overflowed its banks and the ferries between Cambridge and Chesterton are still working. The Granta has not behaved so well and the water is already over the banks; there is a vast expanse of water with the tops of the hedges and the trees only showing. At Grantchester mill the road is knee deep. The basement of houses in Newmarket High Street are flooded as are some of the low-lying streets at Saffron Walden and the railway line at Chesterford is threatened with being submerged.

1903 11 13
A lady from Chesterton says that since she took up her abode her house has been invaded by battalions of tradesmen's representatives, most of whom went away empty-handed, as they were all anxious to sell the same goods. One individual of righteous appearance bearing a bundle of what appeared to be the latest thing in tracts asked if the household was a teetotal one and hoped she would accept one of his pamphlets. When she came to look at the pledge form it was an advertisement for bottled beer. It is curious that all the others have been bottled beer men too.

1904 06 10
An important property sale was conducted at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge. Several lots were offered including the Wesleyan Chapel at Old Chesterton which, however, was not sold. The brick-built building with a class room at the rear was withdrawn at £165. A plot of building land opposite De Freville Avenue fetched £285; the residence 'Sepha Villa', Lyndewode Road was withdrawn at £640 and a modern family residence known as 'Lucerne' on Hills Road with gardens of a quarter of an acre was withdrawn at £725. Winthingham House, 199 Chesterton

Road with gardens and a coach house was withdrawn at £1,850 but a University lodging house at no.9 Malcolm Street, licensed to let three sets (two at £11 and one at £7) sold for £355

1904 11 03

Chesterton Council has purchased land in Carlyle Road, Cambridge, for a recreation ground. They bought rights in the Brickfield Estate from Mrs Wragg-Gurnie and frontages to Alpha Road from Mr Thoday for £1,350. They then sold off the frontages and after paying for the land were left with a bill for £425 together with a further amount for fencing, laying out and planting the ground. This was a very small sum for so large a piece of land and they had carried out a great improvement in Carlyle Road by widening it from Dalrymple Terrace to the end of the road.

1904 11 10

The King's birthday is one of those occasions upon which a certain section of the 'Varsity and Town consider it necessary to turn themselves into public nuisances. This year they avoided the Borough police by making a raid on Chesterton. The mob made tracks for Midsummer Common with the object of having a bonfire. Several hundred crossed Jesus Green Bridge where a council of war was held. Carlyle Road was mention as leading to fuel for the fire but a number of the belligerents made an incursion down a private road. Several fences were broken down and flames shot into the air as the surreptitiously-obtained timber was thrown on to the fire. No police appeared on the scene, though a number of members of the Force were on duty on the borough side of the river

1904 11 19

No reasonable person expects to find a ferryman on duty after ten at night and is reconciled to the necessity of grinding himself across the few yards of water. About midnight a husband and his wife returning from Chesterton determined to make a short cut across the river as rain was pouring down in pitiless fashion. The husband seized the handle of the grind to get to the other side as quickly as possible. But when they got to the middle the ferry stuck fast, nor would it go back no matter how hard he strained and pushed. For ten minutes they wrestled with that ferry in the pouring rain and were just about to shout for help when the unwieldy affair began to work and they got back to the bank they had left. As they walked around the road home they decided that ferries were contrivances of the Evil One

1904 12 08

Chesterton council considered a petition for the construction of a footbridge across the Cam between Victoria Bridge and Dant's Ferry, subject to £200 being raised by private subscription towards the cost. But by asking for a subscription they would be setting a precedent and they would never be able to carry out public improvements without asking local occupiers to put their hands in their pockets to help them. It would be an advantage to those on the De Freville, but they all paid rates. The bridge would be an advantage, but not a pecuniary one. If it was placed at the Fort St George it would benefit a very large number of people and no ratepayer would object to a farthing rate for the project

1905 01 26

Cambridge councillors were told of a fatal accident at Dant's Ferry a few days prior to Christmas when the breadwinner of a family was drowned. It was only one of many; during the present winter at least five persons had tumbled into the water at that spot. There should be a bridge in the neighbourhood of Abbey Road. But Victoria Bridge was not a long way from Dant's Ferry and before any bridges were built Chesterton would have to join Cambridge.

1905 02 23

A meeting of Chestertonians was held in furtherance of the scheme for constructing a bridge across the Cam at the Fort St George. The Council has accepted the necessity of a bridge and will spend £500 provided another £200 is raised by private subscription. It was not a large sum for such a district. Inhabitants should remember that once it was built they would save further expense on ferries. Several promises were made on the spot and various college boat clubs will be approached. 05 02 23a

1905 03 10
A company is being formed to provide a service of motor 'buses for Cambridge. Eight 'buses will be put down at first by which it is hoped to run a 15 minutes' service from Chesterton, another from the Huntingdon road district to the centre of town and a seven minutes' service to the railway station. Should the venture prove successful the more outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton will be catered for 05 03 10

1905 04 08
The Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company has been formed. It is nowadays essential for the business of the town to have a convenient and quick means of transit and the omnibuses will be appreciated by the public and become a source of income to the shareholders. With eight vehicles it will be quite easy to maintain a 15-minute service from Chesterton and the Huntingdon Road to the centre of town and a seven-minute service to the railway station. Should these prove successful it will be extended to outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton. There is little doubt that horse traction for omnibuses and tramcars will shortly be superseded by petrol and electricity. 05 04 08a

1905 05 26
Chesterton residents will be glad to see the inauguration of a new motor 'bus service by the 'Light Blue' company. Special arrangements have been made for the convenience of residents intending to travel to London by the early morning train. The 'bus will leave Old Chesterton Green at 8.25 and run through to the station in time for the 8.53 train. It will also run as frequently as possible between one and two-thirty for the convenience of residents employed in Cambridge who go to the suburbs for their midday meal 05 05 26

1905 06 27
Sir – may I protest against the needless pandemonium Chesterton residents are forced to endure during the Midsummer Fair by the hideous orchestrations attached to shows and merry-go-rounds, grinding out harsh and discordant sounds which make day and night a time of torture. No sane people can find pleasure in the ear-splitting metallic sounds emanating from these machines. Such a noise, coupled with the hooting of horns and the screeching of steam whistles render rest an impossibility – Nerves 05 06 27e

1906 03 01
New Chesterton Institute, p3

1907 01 05
There is a popular delusion among residents that Chesterton is neglected by the police. But last Friday in the small hours I noticed the glare of a fire from a burning shed in Springfield Road and saw a policeman sprinting round the corner of Ferry Path. He was followed within three minutes by four others, including a sergeant. This should convince residents that the police are alert for the safety of their lives and property. But superstitions die hard. 07 01 05

1907 01 18

When Dew Smith and Horace Darwin commenced the manufacture of certain scientific instruments for physiological work at the University Laboratory it was more as a hobby and not financially profitable. But it grew and in 1895 was turned into a limited liability company which is now flourishing at its pleasantly situated works off Chesterton Road. Among its important products is a kite used in meteorological observations and a machine for standardising small screws which has been supplied to the Japanese government. 07 01 18 & a

1907 03 30
Alexandra Gardens, Chesterton, was formally opened. Five years ago Chesterton Urban Council purchased disused brickpits with a frontage to Alpha Road. That portion was sold which enabled the council to acquire the remainder at a very moderate price. The upper part of Carlyle Road was widened, the land turfed, laid out with flower beds and planted with shrubs. It is proposed to have games of tennis and bowls as in vogue in seaside towns 07 03 30

1907 04 06
The Alexandra Gardens, Chesterton, is an excellent example of what can be done by local administrators who keep their eyes open. A few years ago what is now a delightful recreation ground for young and old was simply a collection of vile refuse, a danger and a nuisance. As the council cannot speculate in land Mr H.G. Whibley bought it for £1,350. He disposed of the Alpha Road frontage for £1,000 and made the rest over to the corporation for £350, providing residents a beautiful pleasure garden for a cost so small it is hardly worth considering. 07 04 06

1907 06 17
Cyclists have continued to ride on the footpath leading from Dant's Ferry to Cam Road, Chesterton, despite the notice prohibiting it. On 5th June PC Evans was on duty in the path and as a result a number of offenders were fined one shilling (05p). They included Powell Chandler, a clerk, James Huddlestone, a civil servant, William Heffer, a farmer and two auctioneers, Joseph Winship and Herbert T. Hockey. 07 06 17

1908 05 07
Chesterton Council is to write to the Motor Bus Company complaining of the vibration caused by the buses to houses on the route as they speed past at 12 mph. We feel that such vibration is the fault of Chesterton Road which is in a shocking condition. It is the constant bumping of the bus over the volcanic-like ruts that shakes the buildings so. The buses are a boon and blessing and we should be sorry to see anything which interferes with the swiftness and regularity of the admirable service. 08 05 07 & 07a & 09a

1908 08 21
The magnificent new schools at Milton Road, Chesterton have been equipped with every facility for instruction. Instead of sitting in cramped positions at unsuitable desks the tiny tots will be accommodated with seats to suit their various sizes and their lessons based on the Froebel principle, combining amusement with instruction. They mark a distinct advancement on elementary educational methods and the County Council is to be congratulated. CWN 08 08 21 p4

1908 08 29
The improvement makes a fine approach to the town from the Madingley Road, but one sincerely hopes that now the obvious danger of the corner has been removed, cyclists and others will not forget that the narrowness of the street remains none the less real. The larger portion of the traffic comes from Chesterton Lane and until the opposite corner has received the attention of the road-layer the improvement can hardly be regarded as complete. The great activity sadly disturbed the

'work-shys' who are wont to congregate at the corner for the purpose of holding up the wall. It was a delightful sight to see these groups huddling together, trying to snatch a snooze in the midst of all the clanging clamour of swinging hammers and picks. Now the road is to some extent open the human house-props are found at their usual haunts, though considerable indignation prevails among the more energetic. [CDN 29th August 1908]

1908 09 04
Sir – now the widening of Northampton Street is fast nearing completion the improvement of one of our many narrow and dangerous streets will be accomplished. But one effect will be that the traffic is greatly accelerated to the danger of those approaching the corner from other directions. The high wall around St Giles' church should be reduced: this would enable motorists to see more clearly, make the church more conspicuous and dry the road which in winter is often in a muddy condition, being hemmed in on both sides by high walls – Chestertonian. CWN 08 09 04 p7

1908 11 06
The council had been trying for some years to bring about the widening of Carlyle Road and have now been able to make arrangements with Miss Bell, Miss Pye and Mr Darwin who all owned land adjoining. The price agreed was a fair one and Mr Darwin had given his portion to the council. It was one of the greatest improvements in Chesterton for a very great time. Now tenders would be sought to construct a new wall using local labour. CWN 08 11 06 p5
1908 12 11
Chesterton school feud – Milton Road v St Luke's – case 08 12 25

1909 02 19
Considerable excitement was occasioned in Chesterton on Sunday by an outbreak of fire at 74 Montagu Road, occupied by Thomas Carter. Crowds congregated in the road and at the rear of the house, but happily did not witness the extensive conflagration expected. At noon Mrs Carter placed a bed to air before the fire in a back bedroom and soon found it on fire. The burning bed was pitched out of the window and buckets of water poured upon other burning material in the room by neighbours. For fire insurance on profit-sharing principles contact Rayment and Dickson, 104 Regent Street. 09 02 19

1909 05 05
Miss Martha Eyres told the court she managed a shop in Bridge Street. The prisoner called and asked for curtains to be sent on approval to him at the Bus Yard House, Chesterton Road. He promised to pay cash for those his wife kept. But no payment was received. George Clark, a retired butcher, said he had hired the Bus House Yard to the prisoner who'd left somewhat suddenly. 09 05 05

1910 05 13
William Hockey was the founder of the well-known auctioneering firm based in Bene't Street. As the agent for the De Freville Estate he had much to do with the development and planning of that part of New Chesterton which has rapidly become of so much importance. He also held an important and confidential position at Trinity College, where he was highly regarded, and was Secretary of the Excelsior Building Society. For the past 20 years he was a very well-known and popular figure in the business life of Cambridge. 10 05 13k

1910 08 12
A new road between Rock Estate and Romsey Town would greatly improve communication between these largely populated and widely-separated districts, Mr W.P. Fison suggests. Rustat Road, which is a private road belonging to Jesus College could be continued until it cuts into

Marmora Road. It would have to cross some allotments and a farm with a bridge over the railway line. There should also be a new road from East Road through Beche Road over a bridge into Old Chesterton. Both would provide work for the numbers of unemployed men in Cambridge 10 08 12e

1910 08 19
George Fawcett Winter, the well-known boatbuilder, became the proprietor of the boatyard near Victoria Bridge in 1876, succeeding the late Edward Searle. Ten years later he was connected with the boat-building industry at Eton: he used to spend the summer there and the winter at Cambridge. In 1900 he decided to relinquish his Cambridge business which came into the hands of Mr F. Pocock who is now carrying it on. He was well-known amongst University and Town rowing men and took an interest in the affairs of Old Chesterton. 10 08 19h

1910 02 09
Through the enterprise of Mr W.J. Ison, the Cambridge public is able to see the latest developments in bicycles as exhibited at the great cycle exhibition at Olympia, London. In the windows of his depots in Chesterton Road and St John's Street are to be seen samples of the all-steel Raleigh cycles which attained such wide fame. Doubtless many local cyclists will take the opportunity of inspecting these latest models of all that is best and most modern in the bicycle – 10 02 09c

1911 11 03
Cambridge Town Council wanted Victoria Bridge and its approaches to be declared a main road and maintained by the County Council. But they did not agree: the Bridge had been built under an Act of Parliament at the expense of Chesterton UDC and Cambridge Town Council. After the bridge was built Victoria Avenue had been declared and made a main road. But there was already a main road from Chesterton to Cambridge via Magdalene Street and over the Great Bridge 11 11 03i & j

1912 01 26
The long-sustained wet weather and recent snowfall have brought serious floods. Rising waters have caused the stoppage of the chain ferries to Chesterton, the towing path under Victoria Bridge was submerged and meadows between Grantchester and Newnham are under water. A ride on the Great Eastern Railway from Huntingdon to Cambridge presents a view of an immense lake studded with trees and the large Portholme Meadow is under water to a considerable depth. At St Ives basements in Bridge Terrace and kitchens at Filbert's Walk are flooded. 12 01 26b

1912 02 02
Cambridge Fire Brigade were called to a fire at a property in Chesterton Lane and turned out with the motor and fire engine. On arriving at the house, which is unoccupied and is one of a row which are being pulled down, they discovered the woodwork over the fire place and a cupboard adjoining were alight. The flames were quickly extinguished by the aid of the hand pump. Captain Greef, Lieut. Diver, Engineer Pearl and firemen Papworth, Brookman and others assisted. 12 02 02i

1912 02 09
Carpenter killed in fall from scaffolding at Scientific Instrument Works, Chesterton – 12 02 09a

1912 03 08
University lodging-house keepers have been venting their grievances. One woman has three sets of rooms; if she lets them all the year she gets £84. For rent, rates, taxes and wages of servant she pays £53; that leaves her £31 for whitewashing, papering, staircloth, carpet etc and for food and

clothes for herself. But this term all the rooms are empty. However in Chesterton there are many householders who let rooms to undergraduates; when they come part of Cambridge will the rateable values of their houses be increased? Lodging housekeepers should form themselves into a trades union. 12 03 08f

1912 03 22
Polling opened in the three contested wards of the districts to be added to the Borough – Cambridge Without, North and West Chesterton - under the most depressing conditions. Rain fell heavily which had an adverse effect on turnout. A sharp thunderstorm came on about midday, a very unfortunate time for those who wished to record their votes during the dinner hour. Some of the flashes of lightning were so vivid and the peals of thunder so heavy that doors and windows rattled while the rainfall was almost tropical in its intensity. In Chesterton East John Bester, who has done more than any other for the amalgamation with Cambridge, was returned unopposed. 12 03 22d

1912 03 29
Today the population of the Borough of Cambridge is 40.560. On Monday it will be 57,073. The extension of the boundary now brings in Chesterton and the urban portions of Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Grantchester. These suburbs were inhabited almost entirely by people whose living lay in Cambridge but were separated from it by the River Cam or purely artificial borders. It means that the residents will now be under the care of the Cambridge Town Council. 12 03 29c

1912 04 12
Complaints have been made that since the enlargement of the borough boundaries the dust and refuse from houses in Cambridge and Chesterton had been collected less punctually. Also different street light times 12 04 12d

1912 04 12
Borough health statistics improve with addition of Chesterton – 12 04 12f

1912 04 19
Sir – Cambridge Corporation have instructed all persons in the out-lying parts to telephone the Central Fire Station in case of fire. We in Chesterton are in a very awkward position. We have no telephones for public use. The nearest fire alarm post is at Quayside and one would have to walk, run or cycle there, and then fumble about in a very poor light trying to find out how to work the apparatus. We need a telephone call office instead. A doctor might be sent for, goods ordered from various tradesmen or one might even ring up his best girl – Philip Clare 12 04 19f

1912 06 28
William Thomas Kirkup was the pioneer of the modern scientific system of chimney-sweeping and his business extended to nearly all of the colleges, notably Trinity and St John's. He formerly resided at King Street, then at Bottisham before returning to Chesterton Road where he passed away at the age of 67. He was an active member of the old Volunteer force and served 22 years as a bandsman. 12 06 28b

1912 09 27
Chesterton Road was the scene of a very remarkable fire. A motor lorry belonging to Messrs Sturton of Fitzroy Street, laden with cans of petrol was totally destroyed. The highly-inflammable spirit became ignited and a fire of extraordinary fierceness blocked the road with a sheet of flame. Can after can exploded flinging its contents in a blazing shower in all directions. The flames leapt to an astonishing height, reaching above the tops of houses and were accompanied by volumes of

black, oily smoke. The paint on the door of a house on the river side began to blister and trees in the garden began to shrivel and smoke. It was impossible for the fire brigade to get near and it had to be left to burn itself out 12 09 27

1912 11 29
Mr Michael Rowell was the oldest victualler in either town or county. He had been at the Scales Hotel (the Portland Arms) for over 26 years having previously kept the Bleeding Heart in Old Chesterton. He also farmed and carried on a milk and contractors business. He was an elder brother of the once-famous Charles Rowell, the champion long-distance runner of the world who smashed all records on the path is a famous six days and nights 'go-as-you-please' race. 12 11 29e

1912 12 12
Miss M.B. Thomas, M.A. of Huntingdon Road has the distinction of being the first lady in Cambridge to resist paying her taxes on the ground that taxation and representation should go together. At the Spring Inn, Chesterton Road an antique pendant and two gold bracelets will be sold by auction by the Collector of Taxes. This is very unusual: R.B. Catling, the well-known auctioneer was approached but was unwilling to conduct the sale under such circumstances. A few years ago a farmer in Burnt Fen objected to paying the education portion of the poor rate and bought a new wagon to hand over for the purpose of distraint. It was painted red and he intended to have a record of each distraint recorded on a panel in black lettering, buying it back himself. He was convinced that by the rime all the panels were filled in, he would be no longer called upon to pay the rate 12 12 12c

1913 02 14
It was with a thrill of horror that Cambridge received the news of the death of Captain Scott and the four comrades who had accompanied him on his final dash to the South Pole. Amongst them was Dr Edward Wilson, a former student of Caius College, whose talent as a water-colour artist was well-known in his Cambridge days. Another Caius man, C.W. Wright, was not among the party that met with disaster. Scott had received an honorary degree in June 1905 when the Public Orator spoke of his achievements. Mrs Keating of Chesterton Road is a sister of Mrs Scott who was on her way to New Zealand to meet her husband and was unaware of his death as the ship was out of the wireless zone. 13 02 14 p6 & 7 CIP

1913 02 28
St Luke's was a district lying between the Chesterton & Huntingdon roads, intersected by small streets in which were houses of working class persons. Victoria Road was an important thoroughfare with a great deal of traffic especially since the Victoria Bridge was opened. The bulk of the population was artisan and the parish was more or less a happy one to work in, the Rev Hird told Barnwell Clergy Fund 13 02 28 p5 CIP

1913 07 25
William Macintosh, a director of Messrs A. Macintosh & Sons told the court the landlord of the Spring public house, Chesterton Road had selected a bath and other things to be fixed at the pub, saying he would get the brewers, Lacons to pay it. But no payment was forthcoming. The defendant's solicitor said it was a most expensive piece of luxury. The judge: 'Do you call a bath a luxury'. 'It is here in Cambridge. We have no public baths here'. Judgement was given for the plaintiffs. 13 07 25

1913 08 01
Chesterton Road baker fire

1913 09 26
Lacon's brewery had 132 pubs in Cambridge; one of the best was the Spring Hotel Chesterton but a bath was essential if it was to do a good trade. Running and boating men were constantly complaining that saucer baths were inconvenient. So Lacon's Manager ordered a new one from Messrs Macintosh and they also replaced the lavatory which gave off a most offensive smell. But the brewery disputed payment and said it was up to the tenant to meet the cost. 13 09 26 p10

1914 04 10
Opposition to Guildhall Enlargement. In response to a petition by 80 ratepayers of Cambridge, the Mayor called a town's meeting at the Guildhall on Tuesday evening, when the following resolution was passed by a large majority. "That this meeting condemns the resolution passed by the Council at the March meeting with reference to the; Guildhall extension, and if the Corporation find they require further accommodation for their officials, they should hire offices outside for the Education Department." With reference to a proposed carriage bridge at Chesterton the meeting carried, with less than a dozen opposing: "That this meeting, having considered the .question of the postponement of the building of the bridge directed by the Cambridge Order 1911 to be built by April 1 1917, sees at this juncture no reason for such action." - 1914 04 10 CIP, – 14 04 10c, e

1914 05 29
Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company welcomed visitors to their workshops, test room, drawing office and stores. They were also shown the manufacture and operation of the various instruments made. Many are of great commercial value. The extension is the fourth addition since the works were moved from Panton Street to Chesterton Road. It is the chief of the few manufacturing concerns in Cambridge and now employs 180 hands 14 05 29d & e

1914 10 23
Under the 1912 boundary extension proposals Cambridge had to erect a bridge over the Cam to Chesterton within five years. Walnut Tree Avenue was the best site but whether this was the best time was a matter of debate. An Inspector from London had told them what they had to do and it was now the Law of the Land. Chesterton people had voted against it - in fact nobody wanted it. The only way to overturn the order was by going through all the expense of obtaining another Act of Parliament.
Chesterton RDC Military roads

1914 11 13
Cyril Wright of Chesterton Road, a motor cyclist attached to the 1st Cavalry Division writes to his mother: Christmas is getting nearer and the war has not ended yet. I don't think it will last very much longer because of the terrible slaughter going on. I was in a village when the Germans opened a heavy artillery barrage, blowing the houses up as if they were made of putty. I was completely cut off so ran into a trench and had to stop there ten hours. After dark I crawled out under heavy rifle fire to my motor cycle only to find it smothered with broken glass and bricks. I was glad to get out of if.

1916 05 03
Military Wedding, — Great interest centred in the wedding at the Wesley Church, Christ's Pieces, Cambridge, on Saturday between Miss Lucy Irene Lavender; eldest daughter of Councillor and Mrs. G. H. Lavender, of 84 Chesterton Road. Cambridge, and Mr. Charles Arthur Shrubbs, 2nd Lieut., A.S.C.. son of Mr. A. Shrubbs, of Hinxton. The church was filled by friends of the bride and the bride's parents, who are well-known and highly respected in the town. The bridegroom is

a Downing man, and was at one time in the University O.T.C. The officiating clergy were the Rev. R. Winboult Harding and the Rev-Dr. T. A. Barber, Headmaster of The Leys School. The service was choral. Afterwards a reception was held in the library of Wesley Church. The honeymoon is being spent on the South Coast.

1916 12 13
Thirty Years Hallkeeper.—Many, especially the older generation of Cambridge, will hear with deep regret of the death of Mr. James Jacob, who for 30 years (up to September, 1900) held the post of hallkeeper at the Guildhall, Cambridge. For many years past he had been residing at 15, Hertford Street, Chesterton. He was 83 years of age

1918 02 02
Chesterton Communal Kitchen, St Luke's vicarage, opens – 18 02 20a

1920

1920 03 30
Housing scheme land on Chesterton & Milton Roads, Mrs Gurney will sell her land

1920 05 20
Plans for tea and concert garden at Chesterton Road considered
1920 07 17
Y.W.C.A. Hostel moves from Barton Road to Chesterton Road overlooking the river

1920 11 04
Plans for cinema on site of Old Spring Brewery, Chesterton Road (Tivoli); first plans for a temporary building consisting of a stage and dressing room in the garden, later plans for roofing over the garden between the building and Chesterton Road

1921 07 27
A serious position has arisen in connection with the scheme for the erecting of houses by Cambridge Borough Council at Chesterton Road & Milton Road. The site was purchased some time ago and prepared for erection of 60 houses by direct labour. Construction of roads and sewers put in place. But Minister refuses to sanction other work unless whole of expense is borne by local rates. Work to stop and town will have a building site which cost over £14,000. It is impossible to proceed with building scheme without Government assistance – 21 07 27c

1922 01 11
Chesterton road bridge and position of footbridges to be left to electors to decide – 22 01 11 & a

1922 12 08
The urgent need for carrying out schemes of public importance in order to relieve the unemployment situation in the Borough were admitted on all hands at the meeting of the Cambridge Town Council. During the past two years they had been endeavouring as far as possible each winter to find work for those men who unfortunately were out of employ. Last year they were able to place 200 men on the Sewage Farm. That work had nearly come to a close. It was stated that there were 800 men out of work in the Borough which was an increase of nearly 100 over last year. Suggestions for further work included underground lavatories at the junction of Victoria Road, Chesterton Road and Milton Road, a bridge across the Cam at the bottom of Walnut Tree Avenue and a recreation ground on the Rock Estate

1923 01 12
After a long discussion the Cambridge Town Council today decided to embark on a scheme for the erection of 239 houses on the Chesterton Road and Milton Road site, viz 30 houses of the parlour-type, 165 houses of the non-parlour type with three bedrooms and 44 houses of the non-parlour type with two bedrooms

1923 02 01
The need for more land for the allotment holder was demonstrated at the first annual meeting of the Chesterton Allotment Association. Three hundred applications for land have already been received and it was reported that the Town Clerk is in communication with Clare College with respect to the purchase of a field in Milton and Scotland roads. There were some 24 acres contained therein. Mrs Stevenson said she was exceedingly interested in this East Chesterton's move towards getting satisfactory allotments. She thought it wise for this part of the town to see about getting their allotments before they got built over.

1923 04 13
A Cambridge boy, P S Milner-Barry, son of the late Professor Milner-Barry of De Freville Avenue, Chesterton, won the title of the first British boy chess champion. The title, which has been authorised by the British Chess Federation, was open to boys up to 18 years of age. Milner-Barry who is only 16 1/2 years of age, represented Cheltenham College in the competition, but his success also reflects credit on his old school, St Faith's preparatory, and the Cambridge town chess club, of which he is the youngest member

1923 10 24
Sir, - In some provincial towns the local authorities have adopted a scheme whereby tenants are given the option of purchasing the houses they occupy, upon slightly increased rent-purchase terms. Cambridge town council will soon have some hundreds of houses under their control, and it would surely be of advantage if some such arrangements were come to. Some hundreds of houses will eventually be erected on the Chesterton Hall site. Even now one cannot view the place without being struck with the depressing uniformity of all the houses - all one design, all one size, all one colour - not forgetting the flap over the front door. Considering that the council employ architects one would have expected something more varied to relieve the horrid monotony – "Chestertonian"

1923 10 26
Cambridge public health committee recommended the council make an order declaring the fried fish trade to be an offensive business. But Councillor Few said the council had power to insist there should be proper appliances for taking away the smell. Was it a question of the district where the shops were? Was it a case of no objections in New Street, but when it came to Chesterton it was offensive. He believed that in the case of the fried fish shop in Victoria Road it was the property owners that were backing opposition because they were afraid their property would suffer. Fried fish shops are the restaurants of the poor. If these shops were closed many people would be prevented from getting a hot meal

1923 10 30
Sir, - many Cambridge people can remember the "Dismal Jimmies" protesting at the suggested new road from the Four Lamps over Midsummer common and the bridge to Chesterton. The council stood firm, what is the result? Victoria Avenue and the bridge has proved a complete success, the trees have grown and have become a real avenue. And not only is it a boon and a blessing to Chesterton men; it is a credit to Cambridge. I trust the council will again stand firm and this time let the boon be for Newnham, with a roadway over Coe Fen that will prove a credit

to the district and then we can cycle to business without expecting to be caught in the death trap of crowded Silver Street. – "Safety First"

1923 11 20
A ceremony unique in Cambridge and of a very impressive nature took place at the Carmelite convent on Chesterton Road when his eminence Cardinal Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster gave an address. The ceremony was that of enclosing nuns. The house consists of two former dwelling houses joined together and possesses a small public chapel in which there will be public mass every day. With the exception of the nuns' choir chapel, no part of the building is actually new

1923 11 24
Sir with reference to the continuation bus service from Chesterton to Old Chesterton, I would like to point out that we ran the service in 1919 but it was an absolute failure and we were compelled to drop it. However as there seems to be a fresh demand I am giving it a trial. The terminus of the cars will be at Chapel Street, Old Chesterton, instead of De Freville Avenue as heretofore. The fare from Market Street to Chapel Street will be twopence. You will realise that it is quite impossible to revert to the penny fare over the whole of the services. It is true that the price of petrol has dropped, but the price of wages and labour generally has not decreased - John Walford, Ortona Motor Company

1924 10 05c
The 1924-5 edition of Spalding's Directory for Cambridge shows progress has been made with the development of various building estates and we find for the first time the names of Hawthorn Way, Harvey Goodwin Avenue, Haig Road joining Chesterton and Cam Road, and Coleridge Road which is the name given by Jesus college to the new road between Cherry Hinton road and Romsey Town.

1924 12 02c
Progress is being made in connection with the erection of a bridge over the river at Chesterton but the Surveyor is overwhelmed with work. It is two or three years ago when the owner of the land necessary for the proposed bridge at Pretoria road said he was willing to sell the land at a reasonable price. Over 800 people had paid for season tickets to go over the ferry and the council got something like 25s a week in odd halfpennies for casual passengers.

1925 03 16
The "Tivoli", Cambridge's new cinema on Chesterton Road will be opened on Thursday and many people have been speculating as to what it looks like inside. A representative of the CDN who had a look around came away very much impressed with the general air of comfort and the attractiveness of the interior. Over 600 people can be seated in the body of the hall and gallery. It has comfort, excellent lighting and excellent decoration. If you want a private box for six people you may have one for the sum of 15s.

1925 03 20
Described as "Chesterton's super cinema", the Tivoli made its debut before the Cambridge public when there were two opening performances. Elaborate, cosy, artistically lighted and efficiently ventilated, Cambridge's sixth cinema has every justification for expressing itself in superlatives. It has a courteous staff pf brown-uniformed attendants, an excellent orchestra and a screen sufficiently large to do justice to the most elaborate film productions. The projection last night was not perfect, but this was merely a matter of adjustment.

1925 05 28
"I promised the little girl at work that I would bring her some flowers" was the excuse which a 14-year-old errand boy offered to magistrates for wilfully damaging a laburnum tree at Victoria Great Jubilee Memorial Pleasure ground, Chesterton Road. The magistrates took a lenient view of the offence and fined him 3s.

1925 06 05
Cambridge council was told that the Brunswick school did not exist at the present time because the Borough surveyor drew attention to the giving way of the building, and they first of all had to pull down the Boys' School because it was dragging the other part down, and eventually they pulled down the Girls' School. The girls were in temporary premises at Paradise Street School and the boys in Fitzroy Street. They had to bear in mind that a new bridge was going to be built at Walnut Tree Avenue some time – (laughter) – and when that was done they would have to accommodate some children from old Chesterton.

1925 08 07
Sir – the proposed garage on Christ's Pieces has called forth a crop of protesting letters; let them be directed against the ugly, barrack-like Councils houses at Chesterton and Cavendish Avenue. The majority of the houses are literally a blot on the landscape, badly designed, dreary and poverty-stricken, they are eyesores to every passer-by. Yet they are being built without a word of protest, while the cutting down of a couple of trees evokes a regular storm of indignation – Kappal

1925 09 24
Coun Porter said councillors might not realise what an old crock the ferry over the Cam at Chesterton was. When one went over in rough weather the water had to be baled out and the sides of the ferry shook. At the time of the fair the ferryman would not risk taking over a crowd of people because it was so dangerous. Children were taking a very great risk in using the ferry and the council taking the greatest risk of all in not taking steps to prevent somebody being drowned. The ferry was obsolete, it should be condemned at once and done away with.

1926 02 26
Householders in Chesterton Road have petitioned Cambridge Borough Council to lodge protest against the speed at which vehicles of the Ortona Motor Omnibus Company are driven down the road. "The effect of the excessive speed at which these jolting juggernauts are driven is to produce an intermittent earthquake which is doing great damage to our houses". They should not be allowed to exceed 10 mph, increasing to 15 mph when pneumatic tyres are fitted. The present indulgence, which allows solid-tyred vehicles to bump along at 20 to 25 mph, is altogether unreasonable, they claim

1926 04 26
An inquiry was held into the provision of two underground public conveniences at the junction of Milton and Chesterton and Newmarket and East Roads where there would be an island in the middle of the road. The Inspector asked whether they had designed the roof to carry the weight of a heavy motor lorry; it would be a very simple matter for a lorry to jump a kerb on a foggy night as had happened at Southend when people had been injured. He also raised the question of a convenience for women and the Mayor said the matter had been very carefully considered by the committee who were anxious to get on with the work as quickly as possible.

1927 01 06

Cambridge council agreed to spend £7,653 on the reconstruction and widening of Victoria Avenue. The scheme was criticised on the grounds that it would tempt motorists to increase their speed along the avenue. The Surveyor said that the railings should go back an extra 11 feet as far as the trees, making the road 55 feet. Chesterton wanted a vehicular bridge at Walnut Tree Avenue which would carry much of the traffic, but this had been coming for the last 35 years and it had not come yet (laughter).

1927 04 08
The Cam Conservators reported they had got the Fort St George ferry up, but it sank again. It was impossible to do anything with the boat and impossible to get another one. They had agreed to employ a man to do the work but could not undertake the risk. At lunchtime too many people crowded on to the boat and a man could not order them off. The Conservators had carried on the ferry at a loss for years. They had a contract to take the people across the water and had to do something. Chesterton people felt they had been badly treated.

1927 07 02
Sir – the work has been started to widen Victoria Avenue, Cambridge, from the Four Lamps to Victoria Bridge. The roadway when finished will be wide enough for vehicle traffic to proceed four abreast. The Bridge will not be so wide as the road and heavy traffic may mean serious congestion. Some suggest the road over the bridge may be made wider by making the footpaths overlap the river. If this were done the narrow road on the north side would be an obstacle and as this roadway cannot be made right through to Chesterton Road this scheme should never go forward – E. Clayden

1927 07 23
There was a good deal of grousing before the inhabitants of Chesterton had a footbridge over the Cam at Dant's Ferry. Now they have got one they have found something else to grouse about. At five minutes to eight every morning the instrument workers at Pye's are hurrying to work from the other side of the river. They curse and groan, trip and stagger under the burden of carrying their bicycles up and down a steep double flight of steps. Sooner or later some panting person carrying a bicycle will fall backwards or pitch into the river. The bridge was not made for cyclists who should get up earlier and ride up Victoria Avenue. [CDN 23rd July 1927].

1927 09 03
Chesterton folk looked very happy at the opening of the Pretoria Road footbridge and there was a fairly large crowd on both sides of the river. The bridge has been a very long time coming. There is an old proverb: "Bridges were made for wise men to walk over, and fools to ride over". Cyclists should remember this and the warning of the penalties awaiting those who do not dismount when crossing the bridge.

1927 11 03 c
A verdict of accidental death was returned at an inquest into a labourer from Tan Yard, Northampton Street, Cambridge who died as the result of injuries sustained in a motor accident. John Mayes, cinema attendant at the Tivoli Cinema said deceased was pulling a handcart; he was in the shafts on the river side of Chesterton Road. He saw the left wing of the car hit the cart and the man went right under the car. William Tams, a photographer, estimated the car's speed at about 25 miles an hour. PC Brown said he saw the handcart being used to lever the car up in order to lift it off the man. The boy said "Some --- fool ran into me; don't let mother know".

1928 01 27

Cambridge council discussed recommendations to build a bridge over the river at or near Abbey Road. An inner ring road would circle the town on the outskirts which was necessary in view of the ever-increasing traffic and congestion in the centre of Cambridge. They suggested that a direct by-pass road be constructed by linking Chesterton Road with Milton Road

1928 02 21
Henry Percy Bowler, undergraduate of Pembroke College, was summoned for driving a motor car at a dangerous speed in Chesterton Road, Cambridge. Sergt Nelson, who admitted he had never driven a car, stated that defendant drove at 35 miles an hour round a corner on the off-side of the road. Defendant said he drove behind a small saloon car until he saw the road was clear and then passed it, his speed was about 27 miles an hour. The make of car was an H.P.B. and he assembled it himself. He bought the engine, which was 20 h.p. in 1912 for £6. A fine of 10s was imposed.

1928 07 09
Close to the windmill on the north side of Milton Road, opposite Chesterton Hall Crescent, occupying one of the highest and healthiest sites in the locality and surrounded by spacious lawns and trim walks stands the new open-air school for defective and sub-normal children. It is an ideal school, admirably adapted to its purpose and planned and equipped on a generous scale, a veritable children's paradise. The opening ceremony was an open-air function. Open air schools for delicate children have come to stay and in the future all schools will probably become open-air

1929 03 09
Sir – I have watched the progress of H.M.S. Dredger at present operating off the footbridge, Chesterton Road, Cambridge. Some months ago they dredged one half of the lower river in the vicinity of Jesus Locks and deposited the sludge on the Chesterton side in the river; later the dredged the river above the locks and deposited the sludge in the actual place previously dredged - 'One of the financing party'

1929 03 15
A case of considerable interest to people buying or selling goods on the hire-purchase system was heard at Cambridge court. Messrs Miller & Son sued the former musical director of the Tivoli Cinema, Chesterton Road over an H.M.V. gramophone and records. The agreement said that the machine was to be kept at a house in Chesterton Road but he had moved it to the nearby Spring Hotel without being granted permission. When he moved to the West Kensington Super-Cinema, London, the firm had seized the machine.

1929 03 22
Cambridge council is to introduce automatic traffic signals at the crossroads at Northampton Street and Chesterton Lane for a three-month trial. The present cost of a policeman on point duty was about £400 a year and the signals, with purchase, would be about £200 with about £25 a year maintenance and repairs. But Coun Stubbs described it as "robot policemen"; a friend in Liverpool had had to wait ten minutes with a clear road before he could get a move on. He did not see how traffic could be controlled as well as by human means: "I can see myself telling it to mind its own business" (Laughter). It was at the wrong place, being at the bottom of a steep hill; it would be better at the East Road – Mill Road crossing.

1930

1930 01 20

Demolition work has begun on the Chesterton Sub-Police station, Mitcham's Corner. At one time the office of the old Chesterton Urban District Council it became a police station on the amalgamation of Chesterton with the borough. Corner improvements have made its removal desirable. Workmen are hurrying in and out and already it is windowless and completely barren internally. It will be replaced by a police-box. The familiar fire standards are also doomed to disappear; five wall boxes have been erected which will be in operation as soon as the telephones are installed. The change has been made because the public dislikes the breaking of glass in the older standards and prefer to use a telephone case of emergency 30 01 20

1930 02 14
Large crowds gathered for the stone-laying of the new Arbury Road Baptist Church Hall and School. The new church will have the support of the Old Chesterton Baptists who will vacate their present chapel when the new building is complete. It will serve the needs of inhabitants of Green End Road, Milton Road and the Hurst Park & Chesterton Hall Estates and will be able to welcome members of other denominations. The ceremony was one of the most unique ever performed, there being six foundation stones laid. 30 02 14

1930 04 07
The new electric traffic signals are generally working well but it seems that the average motorist accelerates when the green light is showing in order to get through before it changes. This is particularly evident at the Northampton Street – Castle Hill crossing in Cambridge as a driver going towards Huntingdon seeing a stiff climb directly ahead naturally tries to get through and up the hill. But a driver coming down often finds his car has a tendency to accurate of its own and tries to get into Chesterton Lane a little too fast, swinging out into the standard erected in the centre of the road. 30 04 07

1930 12 12
The 'skeleton' of the Chesterton vehicular bridge came out of the municipal cupboard. It had been suggested when Victoria Bridge had been erected but the council subsequently rejected the proposals. In the meantime a temporary bridge had been erected at Dant's Ferry with the intention of moving it towards the Pike and Eel. Now it will be kept in the present position and lowered to make it easier to cross with perambulators. But it was a shame to spend £1,600 on a structure which had not been right when it was put up. 30 12 12c

1931 04 03
William James Ison started as a cycle dealer in Chesterton Road in 1897; his business prospered and at one time he had four shops selling and repairing cycles. He also put one of his own machines on the market. The 'New Chesterton' has become deservedly popular and a special racing model won over 100 prizes in 1908. His late wife was sister of Fred Lawrence of the Belmont Cycle Works in King Street. 31 04 03f

1931 06 12
The new road under construction between Milton and Histon Roads provides some exceptionally attractive sites for those wishing to erect a private house. It has much to recommend it as Chesterton is a very popular district but most of the available land within a reasonable distance of town has already been taken up. The plots are for the erection of private dwellings only and no bungalows or inadequate houses can be erected. 31 06 12k

1931 06 12
The complete reconstruction of the Cambridge Town Football Club is underway and when supporters pay their money at the gate next season they will be confronted with an entirely new

sight. The old stand has been demolished and the network of frames for the new one seating 800 people erected together with a new pavilion. There will also be a full-sized Cumberland turf green for the Chesterton Bowling Club. 31 06 12l

1932 05 23
Cambridgeshire Insurance Committee considered moving to the new County Hall, Castle Hill. It was a very fine situation but what sane business man having a base in the centre would go a mile out of town to a place scarcely anybody knew - even though there was a free motor park. But future development would be on the north of Cambridge as the County had offered a very large acreage of land between Histon railway station and the old Chesterton village. 32 05 23 & a

1934 01 30
The greenhouses at Cambridge borough cemetery were beyond repair and would have to be scrapped. But more glasshouse accommodation was now required for the propagation of plants used on the recreation grounds. Two new 120 ft glasshouses could be constructed on the West Chesterton recreation ground where a house could be built for the man in charge, councillors agreed. 34 01 30

1934 04 07
Cambridge boundary extension, Chesterton reaction cartoon – 34 04 07

1934 05 05
Cambridge Mothercraft Clinic aimed to promote breast-feeding. It held clinics three days a week in Chesterton Road; over 2,000 mothers had attended and nearly 80 per-cent breast-fed their children. The class that attends the public clinics are not the best for an educational movement. They wanted to get people who are further up in educational interest, and perhaps intellectual development. The main aim was to keep well babies well. 34 05 05

1935 01 19
On one of the finest main roads of Cambridge has arisen a new garage that has been named 'Riley House'. No hastily conceived building this with its rows of pumps and oil cans bedecked in signs and colours. Here is a garage of dignity and restraint, logical in planning and design, fitted to be the new local headquarters of 'the Finest Light Car in the World'. Here one can fill up with petrol completely under cover while the workshop is equipped with the latest pressure greasing plant. Tom Cox Motor Co., Chesterton Road, Cambridge – Advert 35 01 19

1935 05 11
The new West Chesterton children's playground off Histon Road was opened by the Mayor and hundreds of youngsters thronged the ground for the occasion. Since it was bought as an orchard three years ago an immense amount of work had been necessary. It was not complete and they were hoping for swings and perhaps a roundabout later. It is primarily intended for younger children and not for the playing of hard-ball games such as cricket but old and middle-aged people could also enjoy the ground for sitting about. 35 05 11b

1935 05 18
Here is a wonderful opportunity to inspect the miracle-ride Studebaker that is sweeping the country. Not even a £1,500 car can give you such a ride: its swiftness, silence, smoothness and cutter security must be experienced to be believed. Features include independent front wheel suspension, compound hydraulic brakes and full five seats. Prices: Dictator regular saloon £298, de-luxe saloon, fixed-head coupe or roadster £348. See the models in our showrooms. Tom Cox Motor Co. Ltd, Riley House, Chesterton Road – advert. 35 05 18a

1935 10 25
The new Senior School off Gilbert Road, Chesterton contains separate departments for senior boys and girls, each with its own assembly hall fitted with a stage and cinema projection room. The boys department has science laboratory and woodwork and metalwork rooms while the girls' includes provision for cookery, laundry and dressmaking. A changing room, fitted with shower baths, has been included in connection with organised games. 35 10 25a

1936 01 10
New Chesterton Institute organised grand social at the Dorothy Café to celebrate their Golden Jubilee. The whole of the Dorothy had been booked for the occasion but even then the number had to be limited to 800 and several hundred were disappointed. There was dancing to Reg Cottage's band, a progressive whist drive and a concert in the Oak Room. Miss Queenie Chapman's pupils gave an excellent dancing display and Pat Peddle and Joan Metcalfe produced a version of 'Top Hat'. Suppers were served through the evening when a gramophone provided appropriate music. Many tired people were very glad of buses to various parts of the town.36 01 10a

1936 01 31
There was a need for providing a community welfare centre for the housing estates on the outskirts of Cambridge where a large proportion of the houses were occupied by youngish married couples with growing children. Chesterton is like a new town, the people are isolated, lonely, vague and have no centre. Youngsters wandered aimlessly about with nothing to do and nowhere to go. They need a building for public meetings, concerts, dances, films and medical inspections. But it would not be suitable as a library and a site in Ascham Road would offer quietness and room for any necessary growth, councillors were told. 36 01 31 & a

1936 02 05
Premier Travel Ltd has been formed to take over the services of Royal Blue Coaches of Chesterton Road and the Harston and District Motor Services. Managing director, E.A. Lainson, says there is a definite need for a good independent transport company. They will offer special excursions to Hunstanton, Southend and Yarmouth, run motor tours to Europe all year round and also conduct a travel agency for steamship, motor coach and aeroplane services. 36 02 05

1936 11 07
Model liners built by F.W. Thiem floated in tank in garden at corner Chesterton Hall Crescent – 36 11 07d

1937 03 24
Men worked in gas masks when two heavily-laden lorries came into collision at the junction of Chesterton Lane and Castle Street. The crash happened at 5.30 am when the traffic lights were not working. The vehicles were an Eastern Railways lorry laden with ten tons of fruit and a lorry carrying 4,000 bricks. The impact threw the Railways vehicle on to its side and it fell on to the street refuge, the lamp standard and two posts. A passer-by was overcome by gas so workmen donned masks to move the load so a cock could be fitted and the gas turned off. 37 02 24a

1937 04 12
Opening Ascham Road library, the Mayor said it was a great day for Chesterton. In that beautiful building, with good light and accommodation they could look at the books and select them for themselves. The children's library would encourage youngsters to read. At present physical education was the fashion. We were in danger of producing a nation finely developed from the

waist downs. The library would help to counteract it. Ten months ago they opened a branch library in Rock Road and so far 87,799 books had been issued, very close to the number at Mill Road branch which had been in existence 40 years. (Applause). 37 04 23c & d

1937 09 21
New Chesterton Institute opened a new hall over the billiards room; it would be used for debates, lectures, whist drives, dramatic society work and other functions. 37 09 21

1937 12 21
Sir — in Cambridge we have a council which is over-ridden by an irresponsible official whose knowledge of local conditions is nil. Some councillors did oppose the removal of the pedestrian refuges at the junction of Northampton Street and Chesterton Lane but they meekly submitted and gave way to the arrogance of the dictator. It was said that large vehicles could not get round the corners and that the lamp post had been knocked down 'scores of times'. But if certain transport companies have their way it will be necessary to remove St Giles' church and part of Magdalene College! - George Hall. 37 12 21

1938 01 22
New Chesterton Institute annual children's concert – 38 01 22

1939 02 08
The Grove Nursing Home was opened in 1920 with three beds. Nine years ago it was moved to Chesterton Road where there were nine beds. The most recent expansion is to 159 Hills Road where a newly completed extension gives accommodation for 20 patients as well as an up-to-date operating theatre with anaesthetising room and all the modern apparatus. The home is, of course, centrally heated 39 02 08b

1939 04 06
St Regis luxury flats, Chesterton Road. The main staircase has Rexine-finished walls with soft lights dispensing an atmosphere of well-being. The stairs are covered with cork to silence the noise. All flats are expensively fitted out and a resident caretaker will remove refuse and arrange for domestic cleaning. A unique feature is the provision of a large air raid shelter build under the garages. It has a concrete roof and will be perfectly safe against all but a direct hit by a heavy bomb. Provision has been made for gas-proofing it in case of emergency. 39 04 06a

1939 08 11
If the A.R.P. exercises which took place during the black-out had been the 'real thing', you, dear reader would not have a copy of this paper. For one of the buildings supposed to have been fired by an incendiary bomb was the Cambridge Daily News office. A patrolling warden summoned the A.F.S. unit which dealt with the 'blaze' effectively. But whether any vital damage was done by the fire was a matter left to the imagination. Thankfully only one pub was 'hit', the Jolly Waterman in Chesterton Road. 39 08 11a & b

1940

1940 05 10
King Charles II at Newmarket. - Mr. Donald Dale, of Chesterton Road, Cambridge, in a letter to Watchman, refers to King Charles II's association with Newmarket, stating: The racecourse at Newmarket was one of Charles II's favourite resorts. Horse racing, indeed, was the most popular pastime of the Court, or nearly so ... In one of his poems, my Lord of Rochester refers to "Dragon," "Darcy" and "Gee," and these names would appear to refer to racehorses, the training

of which was a pastime of many noblemen and the King himself. In October, 1680, Samuel Pepys, Prince of Naval Administrators and Diarist, was with the Court at Newmarket, taking down in shorthand (Shelton's tachgraphy) from the King's own lips the story of his escape after the battle of Worcester. The manuscript in longhand, is now in the Pepysian Library at Magdalene College. "I cannot tell whether the Rowley Mile is named after the Merry Monarch's nickname (Old Rowley) . . ." he says.

1943 02 05
Sole survivor of Air Crash. — Mr. John Howard, the young British diplomat, who was the sole survivor of an air liner crash in Peru last week, is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Howard, of 257, Chesterton Road. Cambridge. His parents on Friday received a cablegram from the hospital where he was taken, saying that there is no need to worry. Mr Howard, who is 28 years of age, was educated at the Perse School, and later at St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, of which he is an M.A. He went out to South America about six months ago, and at the time of the crash was flying from Buenos Aires to Miami. News from Lima (Peru) described how Mr. Howard was catapulted from the back seat of the plane when the Liner crashed into a mountainside. The purser was sitting, with him, and was also thrown out but he died later from his injuries. For three days, it was stated, Mr. Howard lay injured beside the bodies of the victims before rescue services could reach him. The bodies of the 15 dead, who included three women and two other British diplomats, were taken to the Anglo-American Hospital at Lima.

1945 02 09
Road accident. The Cambridge Borough Police have issued an appeal for witnesses of an accident which occurred in Victoria Avenue near the junction of Chesterton Road, about 10.20 on Wednesday, when a pedestrian, received serious injuries after being struck by an Eastern Counties bus. The injured man was taken to hospital in the Borough Ambulance. The accident may have been seen by passengers on the bus and any witnesses are asked to communicate with the Borough Police as soon as possible.

1945 07 27
Cambs League. — Left about 100 minutes to get 166 to beat New Chesterton Institute, in the Cambs League on Saturday, Marshall's just failed to beat the clock, being 14 runs behind, with three wickets intact at the call of time. Feature of the Institute's innings of 153 for nine declared was the display of B. Arnold, who made 78 (including 10 fours) before being seventh out at 142. Half the side were out for 53, but B. Bull helped to add 75 for the seventh wicket. S. Kirby, who secured five of the wickets for 28, was top scorer for Marshall's with 46 (five fours). J. Peel, who hit a six and three fours, in his 26, was his partner in a second wicket stand of 64, and later B. Brown hit out, having two sixes and three fours in an unbeaten 40. Bowling unchanged for 19 overs, Bull took four wickets for 46 runs.

1947 11 26
Cambridge is well used to welcoming Very Important Persons but none is so sure of a vociferous reception from the youngsters as Father Christmas. He was received with traditional acclaim on Saturday when, in the presence of hundreds of youngsters, he arrived at Mitcham's Corner, Chesterton Road. On arrival he proceeded to deliver the goods in the traditional way, leaving his "reindeer coach", climbing up a ladder outside the shop and disappearing down a big chimney. A crowd of children saw him in Nurseryland, surrounded by his friends, the Three Little Pigs, Big Bad Wolf, Pluto, Micky and Minnie Mouse, Donald Duck and others. He will remain in residence until Christmas Eve

1948 11 22

A very important visitor who every child in Cambridge welcomes with joy, arrived on Saturday. He was none other than Santa Claus. He arrived from Toytown with a well-filled sack to deal with the seasonal requirements of the boys and girls. He was given a royal welcome. There were several hundred children of all ages ranging from tiny tots carried by their mothers, waiting in a state of great expectancy, at his destination, Mitcham's, Chesterton Road. Cheers from waiting children heralded the arrival of the smiling, rosy cheeked Santa and a knot gathered round and followed, Pied-piper fashion, to the foot of the ladder he had to climb up to the chimney before he disappeared down the chimney into Santa's Nurseryland where he will be in residence till Christmas

1949 03 14
Sir – the trouble with the Four Lamps roundabout is its bad design. It was put down many years ago and allows traffic to approach at too fast a rate. The new roundabouts on Chesterton road with its beautiful flower gardens and the one where Lensfield joins Trumpington road are of better design because they slow all traffic down to walking pace. A much greater terror is that most insane junction, Pembroke Street and Mill Lane with Trumpington Street. How people avoid being killed daily is always a marvel to me. It would be so easy to control these with traffic operated signal lights – D. McClure Campbell

1949 06 18
Winners in the Chesterton shopping week competition were presented with their prizes at the Tivoli cinema. The object was to show the public that all the goods they need can be obtained in their own area, without wasting time and energy in buses and in queues; at competitive prices and with good service and personal attention. Shopkeepers had many difficulties to contend with during the past 10 years including coupons, form filling and shortage of material, and at the present time, shortage of ready money. There was laughter when men's names were given as the winners of a home perm and two pairs of nylons

1951 09 11
Mr Joseph Henry Priest of Waterbeach, who died suddenly aged 73, was well-known in sporting circles. Fifty years ago he was an amateur champion cyclist and for over 40 years he has been closely identified with the Cam Sailing Club. Setting up for himself as a stationer and printseller in Bridge Street, Cambridge, he continued until the First World War when he opened up the premises as a ladies' outfitter in conjunction with Mr C.N. Mitcham. Later he took the corner premises now occupied by Messrs Peak in Fitzroy Street and carried on as 'The Quality Shop' and subsequently joined the firm of C.N. Mitcham's of Chesterton. In the heyday of amateur theatricals he was a member of the Bijou Amateurs.

1952 06 03 c
Ever since he was a young land "Shorty" Hallen has been fascinated by motor cycles. Some 20 years ago he started a business of his own in a small shed in Chesterton. Then in 1936 he opened his showrooms at Chesterton Road, Cambridge. Now he has opened another shop at the Bridge Garage, St Ives. Who could have visualised that the rather tumbled-down buildings could have been turned into the magnificent premises they now are? Instead of a musty-looking building it is a brightly painted, well set out and amply stocked showroom with everything for the motor cyclist. It will add to the usefulness, drawing capacity and charm of the town.

1953 02 10
People of Cambridge are responding well to the Queen Mother's message broadcast by the BBC appealing for clothing for the East Coast flood victims. At the W.V.S. Regional Headquarters in Chesterton Road clothing is piling up on the floor. All morning people have been arriving from

Cambridge and the outlying villages with armfuls of clothes and children's toys. The British Red Cross Society are busy and a long line of people have offered bedding and bedsteads of all descriptions. The Harvey Goodwin Nursery has made an offer of babies' cots

1954 03 09
Mr L.W. Hallen started his motor cycle trading 21 years ago in a low-roomed malting shed opposite Union Lane corner and shortly afterwards acquired premises in Hawthorn Way. During the war Government contracts for repair work on RAF vehicles helped the firm to expand and premises which were a dance hall were converted to the use of the business. They have now opened a spacious new showroom on the site of former almshouses that jutted on to Union Lane. Their empire now occupies an extensive stretch of Chesterton High Street

1954 07 19
The Minister's decision on the County Development Plan has been announced. The only major Cambridge items not approved are the site of the bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel and the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Road. All the central area road proposals including the 'spine relief road', the new Guildhall Street and a cross-town route joining Emmanuel Street with Downing Street have been approved together with the new Chesterton Bridge over the Cam near Walnut Tree Avenue, a multi-storey car park in Corn Exchange Street and a subway at the railway station.

1954 11 18
Councillors discussed the problems of building a new school on Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge. It was known that the site was water-logged and deep piles would have to be provided for the foundations. Chesterton Library which had been built on deep piles was already cracking up and for the same thing to happen to this expensive school would be disastrous. These difficulties had been pointed out to the Planning Officer but they supported the 'green field' site that was now developing into a 'green G-string'

1957 05 15
A revolutionary – even fantastic – scheme has been put forward to use Cambridge Castle Mound as a multi-deck car park. Tunnels would be driven into it to provide space for hundreds of cars with be entrances from Chesterton Lane, Huntingdon Road and Magrath Avenue. The dirt excavated could be used for filling in Coldham's Lane pit, providing more parking spaces or building land. There will no doubt be many objections. 57 05 15

1957 08 31
A four-storey hostel for Clare College between the Shire Hall mound and Chesterton Road will provide the most modern accommodation in the University. Each of the 40 students will have his own bed-sitting room with adjoining washroom and clothes cupboards and central blocks of bathrooms and w.c.s. During vacations it will be used by delegates attending conferences. When the proposed Spine Relief Road is constructed the North side will face an up-to-date motorway. 57 08 31c & d

1959 11 05
Cambridge Instrument Company proposed new laboratories, Chesterton Lane – 58 11 05 & a

1959 10 15
Cambridge Instrument Company opened its new research headquarters in Chesterton Road. Its four floors comprise laboratories for the development of instruments for mechanical engineering, electronics and physical chemistry together with a specious drawing office. It was a tribute to the

unswerving devotion of the men who had worked there over the last 80 years, said Lord Adrian, University Vice-Chancellor. He had declined the use of a car and arrived on bicycle for the opening ceremony where he was presented with a compass. 59 10 15c

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 04 12
The parish of St Andrew the Great has had no Vicar for two years because it has had no vicarage to offer. Now it has bought a house at 142 Chesterton Road. The peoples' warden, J.W.W. Filby says it should remove the main drawback to the appointment of an incumbent to take over the place of Canon A.L. Woodard who officially retired two years ago but has been carrying on. The gift of the living is with the Lord Chancellor whose department is actively considering a successor 60 04 12b

1960 10 21
Since the opening of the New Chesterton Institute in 1885 members have not been able to obtain any alcoholic drinks in the club. But now it has opened a bar in an effort to increase the dwindling membership. One of the first to patronise it was 89-year-old Sam Gawthrop, who has been a member of the club for 72 years. His drink was a non-alcoholic ginger–ale. "I don't touch much of the stuff now, I am too old for that lark", he said. 60 10 21b

1960 11 02
Many roads were flooded following a torrential downpour. Policemen with red warning lights patrolled parts of Queen's Road which was covered to a depth of 18-inches in parts and the roadway at Chesterton Hall Crescent was also under water. Wilberforce Road was the most seriously affected where water poured off a nearby playing field and fences were pulled up to divert the flow away from houses. The Wheatsheaf Inn at Harlton and a cottage at Barton Road Haslingfield were also inundated. This has been one of the wettest years recorded in Cambridge. 60 11 02b

1961 02 17
The Old People's Welfare Council believes the best thing for the elderly is for them to live independently as long as possible. But many cannot and there are an increasing number of people wanting care in their old age. The main problem is finding suitable premises to make into old people's homes. In 1948 the County Council had to do with Linton Hospital and a few beds at Chesterton Hospital. Since then they have been modernised and improved. After the war buildings were very difficult to get because of competition from firms wanting office accommodation and the rising cost of land. The first new home was The Grove, Fordham in 1951, followed by Willingham House and in 1956 Primrose Croft was adapted to take 35 elderly residents. The future plans are to erect purpose-designed buildings 61 02 17b

1961 03 22
The strong room at Barclay's Bank in Chesterton Road was blown open and £75,000 in notes stolen in the City's biggest bank robbery. The raiders piled stacks of office furniture and cushions to muffle the noise of the explosion which blew a hole three feet across in the strong room wall, then crawled through to help themselves to the money. Arrangements have been made to transfer the silver and copper coinage the thieves left behind. 61 03 22

1961 05 27

'The Willows', a six and a half acre piece of land at Cam Road, was one of the few building sites left in Cambridge. It was just a mile from the city centre with outline planning permission for the building of 200 flats in six blocks ranging from two to 15 storeys. The proposed new trunk road and bridge linking Chesterton and Newmarket road will pass the site. But it failed to reach the reserve price and was withdrawn from auction at £50,000 61 05 27

1961 07 01
Permission to build a temporary Bailey Bridge over the River Cam at Chesterton has been refused. The Minister appreciates the council's desire to reduce the amount of cross river traffic using the Victoria Avenue – Victoria Bridge route but it would attract additional vehicles through narrow and tortuous roads. Proposals to restrict the bridge to local traffic and impose weight restrictions to prevent its use by heavy lorries would not work, he says. Now the Council will proceed with plans for a new permanent bridge 61 07 01

1962 01 25
Castle Street, Chesterton Lane corner widening – 62 01 25

1962 05 01
An experiment at Mitcham's Corner designed to speed up rush hour traffic brought protests from road users and residents. Cars and lorries were brought to a complete standstill for up to ten minutes in Chesterton Hall Crescent which was used to siphon off traffic from Milton and Gilbert Roads. Residents protested saying it was a fiasco and the scheme should be abandoned. There were 16 children under ten years of age living in the Crescent and they felt strongly for their safety 62 05 01a

1962 09 14
Maurice Stevenson started as a cinema projectionist in 1927 as a lad of 16 at the old Tivoli Cinema in Chesterton Road. They were the silent days. Then he went to the Regal and later the Central. In the old 'disc' days you had to be careful even closing the door in case you shook the needle out of its groove in the record. If you lost the synchronisation between the record and film it was the devil's own job getting it back again, he remembers. The machinery is much more simple to operate now. 62 09 14

1962 10 25
New garage and flats on corner Chesterton Road nearing completion – photo - 62 10 25b

1963 10 04
St Luke's Mews, off Chesterton Lane, are the first moderately priced new town houses in central Cambridge. Although only ten minutes' walk from the centre, the houses stand in a quiet setting with mature trees. The completely modern design incorporates gas hot air central heating and independent electric thermostatically controlled domestic hot water supply. They have built-in cupboard under the stairs, built-in dustbin cupboard, two bedrooms and internal bathroom. There are gardens to rear and a forecourt for car parking. Prices from £3,110. (£55,000 at today's prices) 63 10 04

1963 10 16
Lloyds Bank Chesterton Road opened June 1930; adds extra storey – 63 10 16

1963 12 31
Prince Chula-Chakta-Bongse, King of Thailand's cousin, dies. He installed the dog drinking trough Chesterton Road – 63 12 31

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1964 09 15
The first stage of Cambridge's Inner Relief Road would comprise twin-carriageways starting with a roundabout at Murkett's Corner, on the junction of Huntingdon and Histon Roads. The planned road goes southward through the Rex Cinema site, leaving space for the proposed law courts near Shire Hall. As it approaches Chesterton Road there will be a flyover to take the main traffic flow over a roundabout. Then there would be a new bridge over the Cam before it crosses Jesus Green parallel to Park Parade. A subway will give access under the road to Jesus Green. 64 09 15

1964 11 09
H.C. Banham, the old-established boat building firm, might be forced to close if the Chesterton Road Bridge is built along its present line. It would involve destruction of major buildings, plant installation and machinery and cut their land in two 64 11 09

1964 11 11
Chesterton Bridge route would bring very heavy traffic within feet of residents – 64 11 10a

1964 11 27
Wallis Autogyros Ltd, formed by Wing Commander Kenneth Wallis and his cousin, produce some of the world's smallest aircraft. Military versions of his autogyro have been tested by the Army and reached more than 10,000 feet. Now the design is being simplified for amateur flyers. Twelve are being completed at a factory at 121 Chesterton Road. His father built the 'Wallbro' monoplane in St Barnabas Road in 1909, but it was destroyed by a storm 64 11 27b

1965 03 16
Chesterton Road house, Mitchams, being demolished for extension Barclays Bank – photo- 65 03 16b

1965 04 22
Wallis Autogyros set up in Chesterton Road with support from people at Coton – 65 04 22a

1967 03 03
Mitcham's Corner, second huge island created between Chesterton Rd & Victoria Rd – 67 03 03b

1968 01 04
J. Ward & sons cycle shop in Castle Street closes after 22 years, staff transfer to Chesterton Road branch – 68 01 04a

1970

1971 07 17
Runciman's veterinary surgeons: profile of Cambridge business; has just moved from Downing Street to Chesterton Road – 71 07 17

1972 03 01
The Cambridge M.P., Mr David Lane yesterday waived aside professional traffic statistics and asked those at the by-pass inquiry to use their eyes and their common sense. In a statement to the three-week old inquiry Mr Lane gave his whole-hearted support to both the proposed western and northern bypasses and claimed to have the backing of most people in Cambridge. A woman living in Elizabeth Way wrote "On this bend to which the big lorries cruise and then rev up hard out of it it is one frightful nightmare and the fumes are really killing". A man living in Chesterton Road

wrote: "Life is now intolerable and the only acceptable answer is an alternative route by-passing the city altogether" In supporting the northern bypass Mr Lane said disturbance to Girton village must be minimised.

1972 11 30
A new hotel opens in Cambridge this week - and with 33 bedrooms it becomes the fourth largest in the city. The new Arundel House Hotel is a complex of red brick houses on Chesterton Road overlooking the River and Jesus Green. The development follows the purchase of number 61 Chesterton Road last year and its conversion into a 12-bedroomed hotel. Now John Norfolk has converted two other adjacent properties he owns - from flats and bedsitters to an integrated hotel complex. "With house prices as they are now it is virtually impossible to charge a proper rent related to these new values," he said. "The transition of Chesterton Road into a hotel was the obvious answer to get a proper return"

1973 01 26
Cambridge Moslems will soon have their own mosque if a scheme to convert a property goes through. The City's Moslem Association have bought 175 Chesterton Road and hope to use it for their Friday prayer meetings as well as religious festivals and other meetings. A Trustee of the foundation said "We have about 70 members and we hope that it will be a meeting place for all Moslems who are living or staying in Cambridge. If we get permission for it we shall be sending back to our home countries for donations and help from there"

1974 07 12
Time and cost, two major problems when you are having your own house build, have been drastically cut in a revolutionary new house in Cambridge. It took only three months to put up the tall, airy three-bedroomed house at 214 Chesterton Rd, and the cost (without land) was £7,200 – less than half the normal figure to build a house of this quality. This remarkable feat was achieved by a Cambridge University lecturer in architecture who designed it for his own family. His method was to use unconventional building material. A timber frame, flat asbestos sheets form the walls and a feature of the design is the huge expanse of glass. It is an exciting, attractive home which could set a new style in house building.

1974 09 21
The opening of Cambridge's new indoor bowls centre at Chesterton brings to a climax many months of work by a group of bowlers who can now boast the only six-rink indoor green in the country. Sited next to their outdoor green in Logan's Way, the impressive new building is the next best thing to bowling on a warm summer's day. Already there are 400 bowlers on the membership lists and secretary N. Harper-Scott says there is still room for more

1976 12 30
The Cambridge Polish community has a simple though to reflect upon. Fascism drove them out of their country and brought them to Britain & the advent of communism back home kept them here when the war ended. Poles like Henio Muszynski and Czeslaw Rataj, young infantrymen in 1945 recall the camaraderie of a post-war further education camp at Fowlmere where many were taught English and eased into British life. Cultural and social activities thrived; there was dancing and drama, "but we would just hire a place so that people would meet every week to talk Polish and just play cards", said Mr Muszynski. Four years ago the community raised the money needed to buy a three-story club house in Chesterton Road. It has 300 members and is a comfortably furnished piece of Poland in Cambridge.

1980

1981 06 24
Scudamore's has decided to close its motor boat marina at Logan's Way, Chesterton – just four years after its controversial plans were given the go-ahead by the city council. The marina was only open for a month last summer and was no longer considered to be profitable. They ran the marina on council-owned land and negotiations are now taking place to work out what to do with the site. 81 06 24c

1982 03 12
Maurice Stevenson is Cambridge's longest-serving projectionist; he recently retired from the Victoria Cinema after showing films for 54 years. He started aged 14 at the old Tivoli Cinema in Chesterton Road, moved to the Central, then the Playhouse where he was chief projectionist at the age of 18. Later he was at the Regal. He has seen it all from the 'silent' days to the coming of 'talkies', then colour; from the advent of 3D and wide screen to stereophonic sound, from traditional projection methods to highly-developed technology. 82 03 12d

1984 08 28
Furious shopkeepers in Chesterton Road are banding together to fight plans to turn a derelict house into a hostel for the homeless. They claim it will be a home for drunks who will make life unbearable for people living in the area. The sub-postmaster says drug addicts and drunks are already a problem – on Thursday afternoons half the customers are drunk when they come in for their Giros. But the King Street Housing Association says it will be a refuge for the homeless with full supervision and not a place for alcoholics. 84 08 28 p5

1984 10 19
Kimberley Road, a quiet residential side street in the Chesterton area, may soon be renamed Nelson Mandela Avenue to commemorate the South African anti-apartheid freedom fighter. Residents are to be asked their views and if there is a hostile reaction councillors may turn their attention to Natal Road instead. It had been suggested that Mr Mandela be granted the Freedom of Cambridge but this is not possible under the council's laws. 84 10 17 p1

1984 11 14
Sir - This is the 50th anniversary of a great act of kindness to the dogs of Cambridgeshire by a distinguished foreign visitor. In 1934 HRH Prince Chula of Siam erected a memorial to his dog Tony in the form of a fountain at the correct height so that dogs could slake their thirst in hot weather. It still stands outside the Chesterton branch of Lloyd's Bank but is in a sorry condition. Can it not be cleaned up and maintained? - Paul Garside, Science Park. 84 11 14 p16

1995 08 07
The New Chesterton Institute was founded 100 years ago to promote the moral, mental and physical well-being of its members. Today with 1,100 members the NCI Sports and Social Club is still going strong. Meetings were originally held in the Coffee House, Searle Street until the present building was erected in 1891. In the early days it was famous as a debating society. Now it is known more for its sporting achievements and even has a crib team. 95 08 07a

1985 12 10
More than 200 young people entered the Rob Roy pub in Chesterton Road to hold a late-night disco. Sixty-five police prevented any more entering as toilet rolls, a chair and other pieces of furniture rained down. As there were no lights on, except for the disco light and with a crowd in excess of 200 police decided it would be unsafe to enter and clear the building. The pub had not been derelict but undergoing refurbishment and considerable damage was done to the upstairs

room. It followed confrontation with several hundred youths outside the former Thakes cycle shop in East Road 85 12 10b

1986 04 24
A plan to turn the old Tivoli Cinema in Chesterton Road into an arts and entertainment centre has been turned down as it would cause noise and traffic problems in the area.. It hoped to have featured films, fashion shows, music and exhibitions and would sometimes have remained open for music and dancing until the early hours. But residents opposed the idea. The Tivoli was for a long time used as a storage warehouse and some months ago was granted permission to be turned into a public house and restaurant 86 04 24

1986 06 11
Chesterton Mill, in French's Road was built in 1847 but has stood derelict for the last 30 years. The eight-sided smock mill was only partially successful when driven by wind so the sails were removed in the 1890s and it was subsequently driven by steam, suction gas and diesel. It has now been renovated and starts a new lease of life as the home of Cambridge public relations firm Beveridge Kartupelis. 86 06 11a

1986 08 28
French's Mill was built on a high point in Chesterton in 1847 by William Beart. It was a wooden-walled smock mill but didn't catch enough wind, so it was jacked up and an eight-sided brick base added. But it was still not satisfactory so in 1868 William French converted it to run on steam power. Later the sails were removed and gas engines installed, to be replaced by diesel 14 years later. At its peak small bakers used the it regularly but when the adjoining land was taken as playing fields for St Peter's School it looked as if the mill was doomed. Now it has begun a new life as an office suite and the surrounding buildings house ten other small companies playing their part in the technology boom 86 08 28

1987 10 02
The City Council are negotiating to buy a £300,000 16-bedroom hotel in Chesterton Road with a large dining room, lounge, extensive kitchens and parking for 15 cars. All carpets, furniture, bedding and crockery are included in the price. It will be used to provide bed-and-breakfast for homeless families waiting for permanent accommodation and will work out cheaper in the long run. Property values are increasing rapidly and it could be sold at a profit if the number of homeless families falls substantially. But one outraged neighbour described it as an upmarket dosshouse not appropriate for the area. 87 10 02

1987 12 03
Cambridge has never offered a better selection of eating establishments according to three food guides. Midsummer House, opened last year, features in all of them but Twenty-Two on Chesterton Road provides probably the best food in Cambridge. The Free Press serves some of the best pub food in East Anglia while the Shao Tao is smarter than the average provincial Chinese restaurant. Outside Cambridge there is praise for the Old Fire Engine House at Ely, Fenland Lodge at Stuntney and the St Ives Motel. 87 12 03a

1988 04 21
When Margaret Badcock set up the new Cambridge tourist desk at the back of the library in 1971 there were three people who ran private guiding services. Now there are 150 official blue badge guides who have passed difficult examinations and are fluent in a second language. Then the University Arms was asking less than £6 for a double room with breakfast – it is now £57 - while the Sorrento Hotel in Cherry Hinton Road charges about £40 and the Belle Vue Guest House in

Chesterton Road between £19 and £22, the average for a double room in a private house. 88 04 21b

1988 11 23
Cambridge's large Polish community celebrated 40 years in the city at the Polonia Club in Chesterton Road. They have built up an impressive network of activities ranging from a drama society and folk song ensemble called Klosy to a school founded in 1952 to teach Polish language and culture. When Josef Mazur came in 1947 the only employment open to Poles was labouring, work in the mines or domestic positions. The older members of the community are suspicious that youngsters will not uphold the traditions, but they want them to survive. 88 11 23c

1988 12 15
The former Tivoli cinema building which opened on Chesterton Road in 1925 has been converted into 'The Exchange' with two large cocktail bars and a 120-seater restaurant. Later will come a basement gym, a punt landing stage and a roof garden restaurant with panoramic views over Jesus Green. Entertainment facilities include a huge electronic roll-down screen, the latest audio equipment and closed circuit television relaying film of the dance hall, But great care has been taken to preserve the distinctive atmosphere with plaster ceiling mouldings and a combination of rich dark and red wood 88 12 15a

1989 06 07
Angry residents are banding together to block plans to sell the former Roger Ascham School and part of the nearby Chesterton playing fields for a potential housing development. Founded as a school for children with physical disabilities, it closed in 1987 and is now used as a teachers' resource centre. Residents are worried about the increase in traffic and noise which would result. The amenity value and its potential for the community have been ignored, they claim 89 06 07

1989 07 06
Townsend's take over Ison's cycles which was started by W.J. Ison in 1893 and made the New Chesterton cycle. Albert Townsend started in 1890s making Cambridge Light Blue Cycles in Norfolk Street, moving to Burleigh Street in early 1960s 89 06 30 Townsend's history – profile – 89 07 06

1990 10 25
Andre Marsh Goldsmith company, Chesterton Road raided – 90 10 25a

1990 12 21
Chesterton Community College hall renamed Rex Freeman Hall – 90 12 21b

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Christ's Lane, 1950s 69.34

c.44.6 : Christ's Lane

1900

1906 02 22
Sir: Christ's Lane is a thoroughfare that is as much used as any in Cambridge, and is owned by a college. During the last two years it has been a veritable quagmire, I came through last evening and the mud was several inches thick through the lane. When is Cambridge to be governed so that there is the same law measured out for the University as there is for the worker and when is Christ's Lane to be paved in such a manner that that it shall be as pleasant to walk through as it is walking across Christ's Pieces? – B.L. 06 02 22

1906 02 22
In 1901 an agreement was made with Emmanuel College for the closing of Emmanuel Street and the opening of a new one nearer Christ's Lane. It had been needed when electric trams were being planned to remedy a dangerous corner with St Andrew's Street – but there would be a more dangerous corner to the proposed new street. Now some councillors called for the agreement to be cancelled. However the council had entered a binding contract and they were honour-bound to carry it out. 06 02 22a,b,c

1908 07 24
A great deal of excitement was caused by a fire at Christ's College. Bert Holder, a butcher, noticed smoke issuing from the scullery and engine room window in Christ's Lane where the ceiling, which is of matchboarding, was well alight. Pc Fred Savidge and the head porter, Mr Chapman, fitted the college fire appliance to a hydrant and commenced to play on the flames, which were soon extinguished owing to the prompt action of the fire brigade and police force. CWN 08 07 24

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1920

1924 06 16
Motorcycle accident, Christ's Lane, p3

1930

1933 07 05
Sir, If I were 'Traffic Dictator' for Cambridge motor cycles would not be allowed in Sussex Street or Christ's Lane, there would be no parking of cars for more than fifteen minutes or in Jesus Lane: why spend £2,000 widening it, then block the space gained by motor cars. Bus users would be made to queue up near Lloyds Bank: often it is virtually impossible to get through the crowds of waiting passengers. – 'Interested'. 33 07 05 p8

1939 03 04
Christ's Lane bar – 39 03 04

1940

1942 01 17
Jim Wooders has minded parcels at Drummer Street, Christ's Lane for 23 years – photo – 42 01 17

1950

1952 05 05
Cambridge city council would like to see Christ's Lane opened out as a thoroughfare to be used by the omnibuses and other traffic to alleviate congestion in the City centre and provide relief for Emmanuel Street. The present country bus station at Drummer Street would then become the main stopping place for the local buses which now pick up and set down passengers in Sidney Street constricting the traffic flow. They also propose a new road on the line of Post Office Terrace to Wheeler Street. With Corn Exchange Street widened this would provide for a good circulation of traffic in the city centre.

1954 09 18
It may interest readers to know that the short thoroughfare from St Andrews' Street to Drummer Street, now known as Christ's Lane, has changed its name more than any other in Cambridge. Old maps show it as Hangman's Lane, St Nicholas' Lane, Rogis Lane, Rogues' Lane, Hinton Lane and George Street. Downing Street has been Dowdivers Lane, Langrith Lane, Hogshill Lane, Bird Bolt
Lane and Plot and Nuts Lane.

1956 11 27
A proposal to close Christ's Lane and provide an alternative footway between Drummer Street and St Andrew's Street was approved in 1954. But now Christ's College have proposed an alternative consisting of an arcade leading into a central courtyard then through another arcade to Drummer Street. The council would be responsible for maintaining, cleaning and lighting it. 56 11 27a

1957 08 23
Plans have been announced for a modern shopping arcade linking St Andrew's Street and Drummer Street bus station, replacing the Christ's Lane. There would be a two-storey block of shops facing an open court together with a waiting room for bus passengers and basement parking for 21 cars and 100 bicycles. 57 08 23b & c

1959 09 11
Christ's Lane picture, p10

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1961 07 01
Bradwell's Court, the new public footway linking St Andrew's Street with Drummer Street, was opened for the first time this week. At the same time Christ's Lane, the old cobbled pathway, was closed. With an arcade at each end and an 'open style' court in the centre, the new thoroughfare is flanked by 13 shops 60 01 23c The Roe family has been well known in Cambridge since Joseph Roe started in the antiques trade in Petty Cury in 1826. Now one more facet of the old times will disappear with the demolition of their shop on the corner of Christ's Lane and St Andrew's Street. It has been in existence since 1882, having been rebuilt in 1897. New buildings will rise on the site in keeping with the contemporary Bradwell's Court. The business has relocated to Downing Street where it will be continued by Owen Roe. 61 07 01a

1980

1980 09 03
Visitors to Cambridge will be confused if they use the latest Ordnance Survey map of the city. The Lion Yard shopping centre, completed more than five years ago, is not shown but marked as a collection of tiny streets. Christ's Lane, closed for the past 15 years and not even visible, is still shown as leading from Drummer Street to St Andrew's Street whilst the University Centre is an empty space. Even the Tourist Information Centre is shown as at the front of the Guildhall, rather than the back. The O.S. said it did not seem very satisfactory 80 09 03b

1984 11 02
Own Roe, the St Andrew's Street antiques dealer, is the latest in a line of specialist private shops owners to be driven out of the centre of Cambridge by massive rent rises. His great-grandfather started in business at the corner of Christ's Lane in 1822 but that shop was pulled down to make way for Bradwell's Court in the 1960s. Recently E.J. Pigott (tools) left Sussex Street after nearly 50 years and now the Granta Wool Shop is concerned about a rent review. Model Mania in King Street has also moved. 84 11 02 p8

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Χορν Εξχηανγε Στρεετ, Θανυαρψ 1965 □ 95.29

Cambridge CORN EXCHANGE STREET Scrapbook by Mike Petty

1888

1897 04 26
Rifle Corps HQ, Corn Exchange St, p2

1897 05 13
The 3rd (Cambs) Volunteer Battalion, Suffolk Regiment are suffering seriously through lack of accommodation at their headquarters in Corn Exchange Street, Cambridge. "Most inconveniently", said the Colonel emphatically "we are unable to get the gun in"

1898 06 14
The Cambridge surveyor gave particulars of what the council propose to do to the roads. From Station Road to St Andrew's street it was proposed to lay Australian "Jarrah" hardwood blocks in the whole of the carriageway. These blocks would also be laid between the tramlines. In Corn Exchange Street the paving was now granite, very rough, large setts being used. They had been put down probably 30 or 40 years. It was now proposed to substitute the wood blocks.

1900

1900 12 11
The Exchange Toilet Saloon, Corn Exchange Street, Cambridge. The above establishment, which is extensively patronised by members of the University, Town and County, has recently been considerably enlarged and will be found replete with all the latest and most approved appliances for carrying on a business of this kind, including a continuous supply of both hold and cold water. Ladies' combings bought, and a good assortment of tails always on sale. Combings made up. Umbrellas re-covered and repaired. Advert.

1902 11 20
Bridge over Corn Exchange Street, p3 *

1903 12 23
Cambridge architect Edwin Bays has produced a plan for a new 60 feet-wide road from Downing Street to Guildhall Street, parallel to Corn Exchange Street. This would create valuable frontages for business premises on either side and lead to a site for a new Cambridgeshire County Hall. There would be a fountain to take off the nakedness of the wide entrance at St Andrew's Hill, replacing the old Corn Exchange. It would relieve the congested traffic in the narrow Petty Cury and provide a direct access to the chief colleges.

1904 09 17
Comment was aroused by the sight of a Cambridge magistrate assisting a workman to carry a heavy pail along Corn Exchange Street and into the Town Clerk's office. It was not a common or garden pail but a vessel of great antiquarian interest that had been discovered amongst some rubbish in the old office of the Inspector of Weights and Measures. It is a bushel measure of solid bronze with ornamental handles inscribed 'Elizabeth' and dated 1601. Men of the First Eastern General Hospital were quartered in Corn Exchange Street. An elaborate scheme was drawn up fir constituting Cambridge a great hospital centre and the various college buildings were mapped out for conversion into wards. But this scheme is intended in case of invasion and it is to be hoped will never be needed. At present the need is for accommodation at places were wounded men are likely to be landed 14 08 07

1920

1924 08 23
Sir – Last night on leaving the Theatre I came up Corn Exchange Street & Guildhall Street. There was not a street lamp alight. Park Terrace, admittedly a narrow and fairly dangerous corner was worse than being in a wood in the country. Many of the by-street lamps are not lit at all. It gets dark now soon after 8.30. Have we to be in by then? Cambridge is being advertised as a holiday centre. Do people on holiday have to be in by 9 o'clock, and not go to any place of amusement – 'One who is some time out after dark'

1927 04 30
Part of the club room of the Footlights Dramatic Club above the Masonic Hall in Corn Exchange Street Cambridge was damaged as a result of a fire with flames coming through the roof. It was fortunate it was discovered early or it would have worked round to a little stage where inflammable material might have created a more alarming blaze. It is feared some photographs of former members of the club have been destroyed. The water came through the ceiling of the Masonic Hall and the fine dance floor was soon flooded. The Rodney Dramatic Club had engaged the Hall for a dinner dance and it may not be available for part of the function

1927 07 23 c
Cambridge council considered the erection of advertising boards by the Empire Marketing Committee at Corn Exchange Street, Market Hill, Drummer Street, Butts Green, Northampton Street and the Cattle Market. But the path in Corn Exchange Street was only five feet wide and it would be dangerous if people stopped there to look at it. They would have to put up another sign, "Safety first. Passengers must not stop to look at this advertisement". (Laughter).

1929 11 19

A meeting of the creditors of Messrs Headley and Edwards of Corn Exchange Street, Cambridge, in voluntary liquidation, was told they had been trading under difficulties for some time. They experienced a period of prosperity just after the war but the last account to show a profit was 1923 and they had got into financial difficulty. A buyer had been found to take over the assets as a going concern and a new Company would be formed to carry on the business.

1930

1932 08 19
John Austin Fabb started in business as a printer, moving to Guildhall Street in 1881 and Corn Exchange Street in 1920. He printed the Cambridge Review from its inception in 1879 and conceived the idea of a list of Resident Members of the University in 1890. During the war he compiled seven editions of the list of Cambridge University men on active service. He was a prominent Freemason and founded the York Street Sick Club. 32 08 19e

1933 01 11
The recent starting of a Kentucky minstrel troupe at the BBC has re-awakened interest in this old form of entertainment. Now the Alabama troupe has been formed at Cambridge. They made their first appearance at the Footlights Club room, Corn Exchange Street. Dressed in red and white check costumes they sang plantation melodies like 'Oh, dem Golden Slippers' and 'Polly Wolly Doodle'. 33 01 11b

1934 10 19
Cambridge University Department of Zoology's new building looks rather like the upper decks of some huge liner when viewed from Corn Exchange Street. It has been built of concrete and steel so that should the study of zoology ever fall in favour it can be adapted for other purposes. Inside it is possible to be perspiring in tropic heat in one moment and shivering in Artic cold the next. The Elementary Laboratory, the largest of its kind in the world, is on the ground floor so that the vibration caused by students entering and leaving should not be felt throughout the building. 34 10 19

1936 03 28
Under new restrictions Cambridge motorists may not travel from Market Hill towards Trinity Street or into Bene't Street from King's Parade. You may not drive into Sussex Street from Hobson Street or into Corn Exchange Street from Downing Street, nor turn at Burton's Corner, Petty Cury to go to the Victoria Cinema or from Wheeler Street into Peas Hill to get to the Arts Theatre. But cyclists may walk with their bicycles either way as they do at present in Petty Cury and Market Street. Restaurants will have to speed up their service if they wish to cater for those who leave their cars outside, for only a quarter of an hour is permitted. Travellers who do not want to get indigestion had better make use of a parking space! 36 03 28b

1939 11 16
A letter from the Rev 'Tubby' Clayton was read when Cambridge Toc H Club opened above no.13 Corn Exchange Street, a place which three weeks ago was a home for pigeons. With the town labouring under the restrictions of black-out it was in need of a place where Service men can read, write and play games. On Sundays they can bring their lady friends. Above the entrance are these words: "All rank abandon ye who enter here". 39 11 16c

1950

1951 03 14

Cambridge Council is to recommend a scheme for a multi-deck car park at the Lion Yard. The Surveyor suggests all adjoining property owned by the council should be demolished, the opportunity being taken to widen Corn Exchange Street and St Tibb's Row and that the possibility of further extensions to St Andrews Hill for offices, shops or increased car park facilities should be borne in mind. He submitted a plan showing a building of six floors which could accommodate 825 cars

1951 05 08
The Whipple Museum of the History of Science was opened by the Vice Chancellor. The collection was presented to the University in 1944 and was stored in boxes in the Fitzwilliam Museum until 1948. It was at first proposed to create a museum in the former Shorts Factory on Madingley Road, but this was rendered unusable after Pye's fire. The present premises in Corn Exchange Street became available in May last year and it has at last been possible to show a large part of the collection. Amongst the guests was Mr Robert S. Whipple, the founder of the collection.

1952 05 05
Cambridge city council would like to see Christ's Lane opened out as a thoroughfare to be used by the omnibuses and other traffic to alleviate congestion in the City centre and provide relief for Emmanuel Street. The present country bus station at Drummer Street would then become the main stopping place for the local buses which now pick up and set down passengers in Sidney Street constricting the traffic flow. They also propose a new road on the line of Post Office Terrace to Wheeler Street. With Corn Exchange Street widened this would provide for a good circulation of traffic in the city centre.

1952 07 25
The National Farmers Union Owen Webb committee is anxious to purchase City council premises at Gresham Road, Cambridge, to form a headquarters for all the agricultural interests in the county. Cambridge was the centre of the agricultural belt and the headquarters of the farming fraternity should be in a place other than their present miserable and dingy offices in Corn Exchange Street. It would not affect the Council's housing programme one jot. If the building were converted into flats the rent would be such that no one waiting for a Council house could afford it.

1954 03 15
Properties in Corn Exchange Street may be demolished to increase parking space in the Lion Yard. It could then accommodate another 60 cars. This would bring in an increased revenue of about £1,360 per annum, but be offset by a £1,286 loss on rental from the demolished premises. Councillors were considering the early provision of a multi-deck park but until the Minister had made a decision on the development plan it would be impossible even to proceed with sketch plans. Sites have also been cleared in the Park Street area, but in view of the extremely poor access they decided to take no action to form a car park in that area.

1954 07 19
The Minister's decision on the County Development Plan has been announced. The only major Cambridge items not approved are the site of the bus station between Christ's College & Emmanuel and the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Road. All the central area road proposals including the 'spine relief road', the new Guildhall Street and a cross-town route joining Emmanuel Street with Downing Street have been approved together with the new Chesterton Bridge over the Cam near Walnut Tree Avenue, a multi-storey car park in Corn Exchange Street and a subway at the railway station

1956 02 28
Demolition is taking place in Corn Exchange Street as part of the final scheme for the redevelopment of the area. Although final plans are as yet unsettled empty offices are being demolished and the land will be used as an extension to the Lion Car Park. A number of dilapidated houses in Park Street that were condemned before the war are also being pulled down. 56 02 28b & c

1959 01 13
Seven schemes are being considered for the Lion Yard area. It is felt essential for the financial success of the proposals that the redevelopment should embrace the existing property on the south side of Petty Cury from the Post Office to the Lion Hotel. It should extend over the existing car park to Downing Street and be linked with Emmanuel Street. The University are interested in obtaining access to the New Museums buildings on the west side of Corn Exchange Street, but this may not be practical. 59 01 13a & b

1959 01 16
The new plan for the centre of Cambridge will have as its central feature a 'pedestrian shopping precinct' from which all vehicles will be excluded. An earlier scheme which foresaw a new and widened Guildhall Street running through the Lion Yard, with new shops and a multi-deck car park, has now been dropped after being criticised as likely to attract too much extra traffic. The proposal incorporates a car park which might be placed underground. But it is certain that Corn Exchange Street would become an important vehicular road. 59 01 16

1959 07 21
Archaeologists digging in Corn Exchange Street have uncovered a 12th-century ditch and the remains of a wooden footbridge or stepping stones and handrail across it. It may have been an early town defence but at only five feet deep and 20 feet across, it was rather small for that. The ditch had only been in use for a few years and was filled with clean blue clay. Later it seems to have been a garden behind a house and rubbish pits had been dug there containing animal bones and broken pottery. A knife dating from the 16th century was also found. 59 07 21a & b

1959 11 11
The proposed Lion Yard scheme provided for a pedestrians-only shopping precinct linked to Petty Cury, office space (to be offered to the University if needed), a new Emmanuel Road, the widening of Corn Exchange Street and an underground car park including space for 750 cars of which 230 would be for office staff. There would also be a new telephone exchange, an Inquiry was told. The scheme would be completed by 1965. 59 11 11c & d & e

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1961 11 04
City planners have turned down Cambridge University's plans for a £2million 'science island' scheme on the 'New Museums' site bordered by Corn Exchange Street and Free School Lane. It would have meant the disappearance of many old laboratory building. Councillors were concerned that the three multi-storey structures, two of which were 200 feet high, would spoil the skyline. No new buildings should be higher than the present Guildhall. 61 11 04 & 06

1961 11 16

A cluster of balloons was flown over Cambridge to give an idea of how the proposed 200ft towers of the 'Science Island' off Corn Exchange Street would look from the Backs behind the famous King's College Chapel. Theodolite readings were also taken from Rose Crescent. The proposal has been rejected by planners 61 11 16a & b

1963 08 08
Cambridge firms may be able to hire the use of 'Titan', the University's new computer which is being installed at the Mathematical Laboratory in Corn Exchange Street. Their present computer has done work for 36 departments, even Archaeology have put it to use. The University was one of the pioneers and was using a computer as far back as 1949. There is one in the Engineering Department and two small ones were used by the Examinations Syndicate for processing marks. At present there are 500 computers being used in the country by the coal, car and gas industries, businessmen were told 63 08 08Red Cow and buildings in Corn Exchange Street sold – 64 02 24b

1965 01 15
City's parking policy aimed to 'break even'; photo Corn Exchange Street parking – 65 01 15d

1968 08 29
Electric Wiring and Repair Co close retail side business; established 1919 I Corn Exchange St – 68 08 29

1968 09 07
Sidgwick Museum of Zoology skeleton moves to Corn Exchange Street – photo – 68 09 07

1969 01 15
Mathematical Laboratories in Corn Exchange Street to be demolished; how to move Titan computer; EDSAC 1 started in 1949, EDSAC 2 in 1958 – 69 01 15

1970

1972 10 20
New laws which have given the Cambridge planners control over the future of old, but not historically important buildings may preserve much of the city's side-streets and stop redevelopment in odd corners and byways The planners could use their powers for the first time when they consider a request from a London development company to demolish the Red Cow public house on the corner of Corn Exchange Street and replace it with a four storey office and shop block. The county council are thinking of preserving the adjoining Guildhall Chambers building which overlooks the Lion Yard redevelopment

Old Corn Exchange, Downing Street 1939 – 68.17

c.44.6 : Downing Street & Pembroke Street

1900

1904 03 01
All Cambridge united in welcoming King Edward VII and Queen Alexandra to open the new University buildings known as the Sedgwick Museum, the Squire Law Library, Botanical and Medical Schools in Downing Street. Cambridge University has never stagnated but kept pace with the demands of the time. Newer universities have their place in the general scheme of things but they can never supplant our ancient university of Cambridge, nor her twin sister on the banks of the Isis. With the increasing spread of education their prosperity increases.

1905 02 04
There have been whispers of difficulties in connection with the erection of the new premises at the corner of Downing Street, Cambridge, but they appear to have been overcome since this week recommencement of operations has been made. The site was cleared, and for several months nothing further was done. At length the foundations are being put in. Let us hope it won't be long before we are spared the expense of having a special policeman on point duty to regulate the traffic at that corner in consequence of the hoarding that has obstructed the view there for so long.
05 02 04a

1906 01 31

The new Cambridge Liberal Club premises in Downing Street includes an assembly room with a ladies gallery, reading, smoking and games rooms. But it has nothing that can compensate for the loss of the beautiful garden they enjoyed in their old home at Rance's Folly in St Andrew's Street. It will be formally opened by the Solicitor-General. 06 01 31a

1906 12 19
The handsome new Norwich Union building with its ornamental white stone façade finally stands out in bold relief. Downing Street and St Andrew's Street corner is freed from inconvenient hoardings at last. The builder was summonsed for delay in removing them: there were periods when no work was being carried on at all. Throughout construction a policeman had needed to be on point duty at a cost of £250. But he had made genuine attempts to get the work through in a reasonable time. He was fined a nominal one pound. 06 12 19a & b

1910 04 29
The University's new School of Agriculture in Downing Street was opened by the Duke of Devonshire. Designed by Arnold Mitchell it is built of dull red Dutch brick. The floors and staircase are of fireproof construction and the building is heated by hot water and lighted by electricity. It will accommodate 100 students with a lecture room, botanical laboratory, greenhouse and photographic darkroom. 10 04 29 f & g

1910

1910 05 20
The foundation stone of the first block of the new Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology at the corner of Downing Street and Tennis Court Road was laid by the Baroness Von Hugel whose husband is the curator. The ceremony was a very quiet one and the proceedings were very brief because of the death of the King. In a cavity under the stone was placed a bottle containing a couple of newspapers and a number of current coins of the realm. 10 05 20

1913 01 03
Whitmore & co, wine merchants in liquidation, based in Downing Street - good stock of vintage wine, catered at Alexandra Palace, owned Bun Shop, Queens Arms

1913 12 19
Charles Dixon said he came to Cambridge 50 years ago as a journeyman tailor and worked from three in the morning till eleven at night. Then he learnt the 'cotton' and took a manager's place in a large firm opposite St Johns after which he opened a business for himself in Downing Street. He worked hard for 40 years and built up a big trade. He built a little mission room in Victoria Street uplifting the fallen, acquired the Hoop Hotel to do away with the licence and plunged into house property. But this went wrong and he'd lost everything 13 12 19 p9

1920

1926 02 13
I am glad to record that the projecting clock near Downing Street, Cambridge, which for many years pointed to "twenty to three", has now been removed. St Paul's church clock, which was badly damaged by a storm last spring, is in such a useful position between the town and the railway station that we would be glad to see it going again. It hardly seems fair that the repair should fall upon the church, when it exists largely for the passers-by

1930

1930 02 24
The successful crews in the Lent bumping races celebrated in traditional manner. Hundreds of excited undergraduates in 'bump supper' costume filled the streets till midnight and over it all flickered the light and smoke of bonfires. Boats were burned amid shouting and bacchanalian merriment at St Catharine's, Selwyn and Emmanuel who for the first time in history had finished head of the river. An 'eight' was sacrificed in the paddock of the college upon a huge pyre. The manoeuvre of getting the boat into the college proved by no means an easy one and traffic was held up as the unwieldy craft, borne on the shoulders of the crews, was shunted into Downing Street before being passed through the narrow gate. At St Catharine's the boat was escorted to the burning by a procession headed by a band of unemployed ex-Servicemen who had been playing on the towing path. 30 02 24a

1933 02 23
Sir – many a lover of trees mourns the cutting down of the fine Pagoda tree, Sophorn Japonica, which stood in Downing Street. It was about 200 years old and doubtless adorned the Botanical Garden there before it moved to its present site. A young American who was sadly photographing its headless trunk says it was one of the finest specimens in England. Why do we not value our ancient trees as we do our buildings? - F.P. Leyburn-Yarker. 33 02 23a – photo 33 03 01

1934 11 03
The Cambridge Social Club, all that survived of the old Liberal Club in Downing Street, has been wound up. It moved to Market Passage and for the last five years old party labels have gone by the board. Each year it has been difficult making ends meet but happily the club finished up free from debt. The Ranjitsinhji Billiards Bowl has been offered to the Central Conservative Club and the portrait of its donor to the Hobbs' Pavilion. 34 11 03a

1935 01 31
New street proposed from Downing St towards Sidney St – 35 01 31a

1935 06 04
The Mayor (Ald R. Starr) opened the Cambridge Trustee Savings Bank's new offices in Downing Street. "I believe there are people in this town who do not trust the banks", he said. "They still keep their savings in old stockings and I often come across people who keep their money in old pewter pots. If the people of Cambridge will only feel it is their bank, and that they can deposit their money feeling it is safer than it would be in their own cottages, it would be a good thing". The Chancellor of the Exchequer, Neville Chamberlain, sent a telegram wishing the bank success. 35 06 04 & a

1950

1956 03 08
The lease of 'The Spindle', a little shop selling scarves, woollen items and glass animals in Downing Street, Cambridge has been extended. But the rent will increase from £150 to £260 a year. Miss Maud Pattinson said she took the premises in 1935 and converted storage space above the shop into living accommodation. During the war years – 'the American invasion' – she made a good profit. But it was a 'poky little place and Downing Street was a 'dead street' for shopping. 56 03 08

1959 08 31

Research and experimental work in the University's Department of Metallurgy in Pembroke Street was brought to a standstill following a serious blaze. Flames came through the roof, two rooms were gutted and a laboratory severely affected. Water used to fight the fire seeped into the basement and caused a great deal of damage to expensive machinery. 59 08 31a & b

1959 10 01
Cambridge University's science departments were first to occupy the central area and there is now a great concentration of laboratories on either side of Downing Street. The few open spaces between them are already overflowing with cars. There is no room to allow for the growth of research and teaching in subjects outside the established hierarchy, Lord Adrian, the retiring Vice-Chancellor told academics. Science has enlarged its premises so much that the arts faculties could not begrudge their expansion across the river. 59 10 01c

1959 12 03
The Inquiry into the Lion Yard scheme was told that the Petty Cury frontage should be excluded from redevelopment: the present useful buildings would be preserved and the character of the street maintained. But Planners said they could not be adequately served as they lacked any rear access. Runciman's veterinary premises in Downing Street had been used for 150 years and were specially designed for the purpose. They have dealt with animals as small as a mouse and as large as an elephant. The proposed replacement buildings were incompatible with the character of Cambridge.
59 12 03 & a & 04 & 04a

1959 12 10
The University's new Department of Chemical Engineering building in Pembroke Street was opened by the Chairman of Shell. The firm had made a grant of half-a-million pounds and since the first Shell Professor took up his appointment in 1946, 187 students have graduated. They carry out a research programme during their final year instead of a formal laboratory course and already some information of genuine value had been obtained. In its early days the Department was housed in a temporary building in Tennis Court Road before finding a permanent site next to the Cavendish and Zoology Laboratories. 59 12 10a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1960 02 16
Preparations are being made for the rebuilding of the Department of Metallurgy laboratories in Downing Street, which were destroyed by fire in August. The old building was quite useless for research and the new part will be box shaped and built of steel and concrete fire-proofed to guard against further outbreaks. At the time of the blaze research in metal corrosion 'of national importance' was being carried out. 60 02 16a

1960 12 07
The Low Temperature Research Station, Downing Street, is a strange place. Occasionally in some forgotten corner of one of its temperature-controlled rooms, one comes across perfectly preserved war-time stew that was meant for the civilian population but never produced in great quantities. At that time the Station was responsible for producing the 24-hour battle pack of dried food for the Commandoes who went across to France for D-Day. Now they are investigating why potatoes go brown after they have been peeled and chemically examining peas to discover why they lose sweetness and juiciness in the three days between being picked and canned. 60 12 07d

1961 03 29
University plans for the New Museums site off Downing Street include an underground ring road with parking for 300 cars and 1,400 cycles. A maze of narrow passages would be replaced with pedestrian walkways six feet above ground. Many old dilapidated buildings will be demolished and two 15-storey high blocks for the Department of Mathematics erected. These 'skyscrapers' might not be built to their full height immediately but would gradually grow as the department needed more space. The 1934 Zoology building, the Shell chemical engineering laboratory and the Physics Department's high tension laboratory would be retained 61 03 29 & 30, 61 03 31

1961 07 01
The Roe family has been well known in Cambridge since Joseph Roe started in the antiques trade in Petty Cury in 1826. Now one more facet of the old times will disappear with the demolition of their shop on the corner of Christ's Lane and St Andrew's Street. It has been in existence since 1882, having been rebuilt in 1897. New buildings will rise on the site in keeping with the contemporary Bradwell's Court. The business has relocated to Downing Street where it will be continued by Owen Roe. 61 07 01a

1963 11 26
The Beatles, the current idols of Britain's teenagers, were smuggled into Cambridge by the City Police in a Black Maria. They were driven into the Downing Street site then rushed into the rear entrance of the Regal Cinema before 200 screaming girls broke through the police cordon and dashed along Downing Place. Once inside the doors were slammed shut. Police will not let them out until after the last performance. Every available Cambridge policeman is ready for duty. But the elaborate security measures taken to prevent demonstrations before they were due to appear at the Regal Cinema went wrong: police were due to meet the Beatles' car near Trumpington but they had almost reached Lensfield Road before it was spotted 63 11 26

1964 01 06
Plans for redevelopment on corner of Downing Street and for a four storey building with bank and penthouse on the roof on New Theatre site 64 01 06

1965 02 03
Inquiry into development Downing St – St Andrews St – 65 02 03b

1965 05 24
Minister rejects plan for redeveloping Downing Street, Downing Place & St Andrew's Street triangle – 65 05 24, 24b

1965 08 25
Demolition at Zoological site, Downing St – photo – 65 08 25a, b

1970

1971 07 17
Runciman's veterinary surgeons: profile of Cambridge business; has just moved from Downing Street to Chesterton Road – 71 07 17

1972 01 18
Norwich Union building, corner St Andrew's Street and Downing Street – history – 72 01 18 & a b

1972 02 02
Downing Street veterinary surgery used by Runciman, built as part of former Bird Bolt Hotel, demolished – photo – 72 02 02

1973 04 12
The £2¼ m complex for the Cavendish Laboratory on Madingley Road, Cambridge, was declared open by the Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. A.W. Deer. Large earth banks will hide the new Cavendish site from the Cambridge Inner Relief Road, if it is ever built, and it is hoped the University will not continue to crowd buildings in upon the new site until it achieves another science slum like that left behind in Downing Street

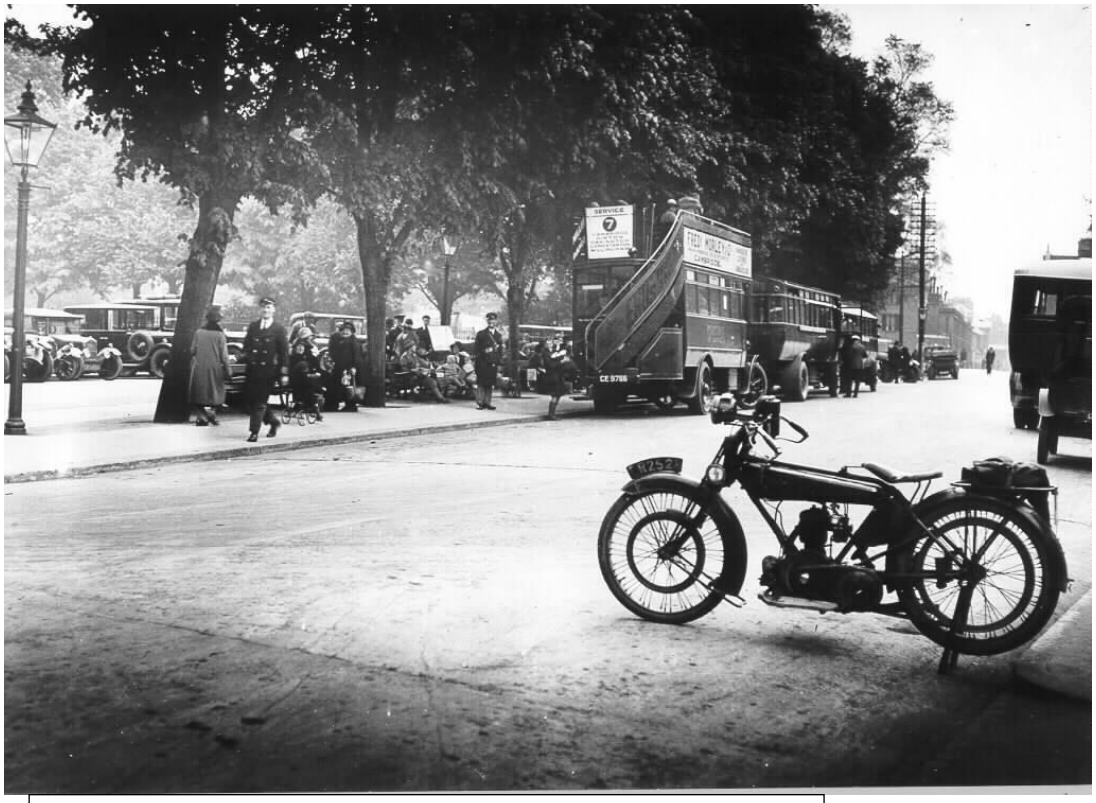
1975 03 25
Cambridge pubs range from grimy to gracious according to a drinker's guide just published by a group of undergraduates. Grime, according to the guide, is synonymous with the Locomotive pub in Mill Road, and grace is one of the virtues of the Plough Inn at Fen Ditton. Praise is lavished on the "thematic scheme" of the Galleon bar in the Burleigh Arms, Newmarket Road. The Free Press has "exceptional character" and the Baker's Arms, East Road, is called a "refreshing surprise". The Bun Shop, Downing Street is said to be "something of a Cambridge institution and well worth a visit"

1975 09 29
Number 10 Downing Street, Cambridge, the new Norwich Union Building has been 'topped out'. It replaces the former building on the corner of St Andrew's Street. There were some protests about the loss of the old buildings but planning permission was eventually given after the Royal Fine Art Commission approved the designs.

1976 07 24
Downing Street cycle way

1977 05 26
Police Sergeant Ray Dukes was proceeding in an easterly direction at midnight when he spotted something irregular – a giant turtle walking along Downing Street, Cambridge. It was not just an ordinary giant turtle, it was a giant snapping turtle and it was very angry. Taking care to avoid the snapping jaws, which can chop off a finger without too much trouble, he carried the turtle into the nearby Department of Zoology. The only person there was the night porter, Mr Charles Willard, who promptly locked it up for the night. Now the police are appealing for its owner to come forward and claim it

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk



Drummer Street Bus Station, 1920s 63.74

c.44.6 : Drummer Street

1900

1900 04 19
Cambridge Town Council were told a conference had been held between two members of the committee and the Master and Bursar of Emmanuel College with reference to the construction of a new street from Drummer Street to St Andrew's Street, and the closing and giving up of Emmanuel Street to the college.

1901 04 18
Cambridge Council reported that in 1900 a meeting had been held with Emmanuel College as to the terms of exchange of the site of Emmanuel Street for a piece of ground to form a new street from St Andrews Street to Drummer Street. The existing street was the chief means of access to the centre of the town and carried a very considerable proportion of traffic with 1,030 cyclists on Saturday. The new road would be nearly 100 feet shorter and wider. Mr Campkin suggested the advantage would rest largely with the College.

1920

1924 12 02
The question of a parking place for buses and private motor cars was discussed at some length by Cambridge town council. The Watch Committee suggested that Drummer Street should be used as a parking place for motor cars and buses. The Surveyor submitted a plan which included taking

in a portion of Christ's Pieces. It was resolved that the scheme should not be entertained and a proposal be considered for constructing a parking place on Butts Green

1925 08 08
The Corporation seems to have stirred up a good deal of indignation by their proposals with regard to the Drummer Street "motor park". In a town like Cambridge it certainly seems unwise to do anything that may detract from its attractiveness. A suggestion has been put that the 'park' should be established on Butt's Green and not at Drummer Street at all. A petition has been presented to the Mayor asking her to call at Town's meeting and it is hoped that the request will be acceded to.

1925 08 10
Sir – Much has been written about the street lighting of Cambridge. Emmanuel Road, Emmanuel Street and Drummer Street are all under repair and consequently all the main road traffic has to proceed via Clarendon Street or New Square. Yet in the whole length of these roads not a single lamp is lighted at nights. In fact in the whole district there is not one lamp. Isn't it time that something was done to instil a little sense into the heads of those who direct the town affairs? It is false economy to make the streets danger traps for motorists, cyclists & pedestrians. – F.I. Cowles

1925 08 12
The protest meeting against the taking of part of Christ's Pieces for parking motor vehicles attracted a crowd of over 2,000 people to Drummer Street & was marked by a remarkable climax. After a resolution of protest had been passed the crowd voted a desire to take it to the Mayor that night. Speeches had been delivered from a four-wheeled waggon and the shafts were quickly manned and the waggon containing councillors who had spoken was dragged at a good pace to the Mayor's house in Newton Road. Something like a 1,000 people followed in its wake.

1925 11 09 c
Three undergraduates were fined £2 each for extinguishing street lamps. James Haynes, a watchman said he saw the gentlemen approach Drummer Street. They overturned the brazier containing his fire and he had to put the fire out because the tar on the pavement commenced to flare. He saw them turn out the light of a lamp in Emmanuel Street. Two of them hoisted another up to do this. In Short Street they turned out three more lights and another five were turned out along Victoria Avenue

1925 11 28
Drummer Street parking, p8

1926 11 06
Drummer Street, p6*

1927 07 23 c
Cambridge council considered the erection of advertising boards by the Empire Marketing Committee at Corn Exchange Street, Market Hill, Drummer Street, Butts Green, Northampton Street and the Cattle Market. But the path in Corn Exchange Street was only five feet wide and it would be dangerous if people stopped there to look at it. They would have to put up another sign, "Safety first. Passengers must not stop to look at this advertisement". (Laughter).

1928 03 10
A man told Cambridge magistrates he had been asked for some side screens for a motor car. He got into a Morris Oxford car in Drummer Street parking place, Cambridge, and drove it as far as

the cemetery. He took the side screens out, rolled them up in a rug and sold them to an Ely man for a £1 note and an electric motorcycle lamp.

1928 09 17
Augustine Crossman, manager of the A.R.C. Knitting Works, Abbey Walk, Cambridge told the court he had left his Morris Oxford car at the Drummer Street parking place and when he returned it was missing. When found next day the spare wheel had been changed, the tyre being seriously damaged. The inner tube had been taken out and put under the rear seat. The body of the car had been strained, one of the doors leaving a gap when closed and the bonnet had dropped away from the radiator. A quantity of petrol and oil had been used and a pair of sun goggles stolen. The damage came to something over £10.

1928 09 21
Cambridge Watch Committee granted Messrs Brown Bros a further licence for a Lancia coach to ply for hire at Drummer Street on condition that only one of their buses is to stand there at any one time. But Ortona had six to 14 buses there at a time & Messrs Brown advertised fares at 6d to a shilling cheaper. Ortona paid the Council £250 towards the rates but if the public was being charged extra it was time this was dispensed with. A custom had grown up amongst police and other to give Ortona preference because they sent buses to various places, whilst the others went to only one.

1930

1934 03 08
A question of moving back the railings on Christ's Pieces to extend the Drummer Street parking station again came before the council. Councillor Stubbs had opposed it from the first; at weekends there was congestion of buses in Drummer Street at a place where pedestrians were crossing. Councillor Few said it was unfair to the railways who had to find their own land for parking: it was the buses that took up the space and it was wrong to give up public property for them. But Mrs Hartree said the car park was chiefly for the people from the rural surroundings and was very important. The vote was tied. 34 03 08

1938 03 21
Eastern Counties Omnibus Company complained of difficulties manoeuvring their buses at the Drummer Street terminus. They suggested the Corporation reduce the width of the footpath. The Borough Surveyor disagreed. He suggested that the space reserved for the parking of cars should be reduced by 54 feet from the high kerb against the coffee stall. But the Watch Committee decided that the time was now approaching when Eastern Counties should cease to use Drummer Street and consider the provision elsewhere of their own bus station 38 03 21a

1938 03 25
Drummer Street park was made for private cars, and now they seemed to be letting the Bus Company monopolise it; they should find a parking place of their own, a councillor urged. But Ald Starr said it was opened not for private cars but for the benefit of the working men and women who came into Cambridge by bus. Now it was used as a car park by professional and business people who left their vehicles there all morning and afternoon. Coun Stubbs said they were at their wits' end to know what to do with the traffic. It was easy to talk about telling the Bus Company to find a new park, but where could they go? 38 03 25a

1940

1942 01 17
Jim Wooders has minded parcels at Drummer Street, Christ's Lane for 23 years – photo – 42 01 17

1947 10 04
A bus driver who allowed his sympathy to exceed his caution was fined a total of £6 when he appeared before the Cambridge Petty sessions. PC Bert Patton was on patrol duty at 6.30 pm when he saw the single decker Premier Travel bus in Trumpington Street. He noticed it was a twenty seater being used as an express carriage. Besides those seated there were 20 adult passengers standing. Several more were sitting on the steps at the entrance, and on the right of the driver there was a passenger sitting on the emergency door, the window of which was open. The body of this passenger was protruding outside the bus for a distance of nine inches. The constable allowed the defendant to drive the vehicle to Drummer Street so as not to inconvenience the passengers. Here he pointed out that the vehicle was being used as an express carriage and there should have been no people standing. To this the driver replied "Well, you cannot very well leave them behind"

1947 10 10
A proposal to improve Drummer Street bus station was discussed at Cambridge Town Council. Ald Briggs said "Drummer Street is already overcrowded and traffic is going to increase in the coming years". The Committee had discussed a suggestion that a portion of Butt Green should be used as a bus station and had previously considered the use of New Square as a bus station. Coun Cutting considered that the proposal was too urgent to wait, "If you saw last year the thousands standing out in the cold in Drummer Street you would not have thought it was any credit to the town"

1949 05 03
The Drummer Street bus station is a topic always sure of a lively discussion at Women's Institute meetings. At the annual meeting of the Cambridgeshire Federation the present provisions were condemned in no uncertain terms. A Fulbourn member thought it would be a waste to spend more money on the existing system, which was all wrong. Advocating the use of New Square she spoke of the danger to children running across the road after school to catch buses. "There will be a fatal accident there before long, then perhaps something will be done", she said

1950

1951 05 05
Drummer Street bus station glazed with armour plated glass, p10

1951 05 17
Drummer Street parking, p7

1951 06 29
The new Civic mobile canteen was officially opened by Ald W.J. Briggs, chairman of the Cambridge Communal Feeding Committee. The brand new, beautifully equipped caravan will be a great asset to the city as a whole, and even more so to the people who use the Drummer Street bus station. It replaces the old stall which used to be there. The whole thing is in charge of the City Catering Officer, Mrs C. Howson. It is expected to be open from 8.30am to 10pm on week-days and from 2pm to 9pm on Sundays.

1952 05 05

Cambridge city council would like to see Christ's Lane opened out as a thoroughfare to be used by the omnibuses and other traffic to alleviate congestion in the City centre and provide relief for Emmanuel Street. The present country bus station at Drummer Street would then become the main stopping place for the local buses which now pick up and set down passengers in Sidney Street constricting the traffic flow. They also propose a new road on the line of Post Office Terrace to Wheeler Street. With Corn Exchange Street widened this would provide for a good circulation of traffic in the city centre.

1952 10 23
Proposals for the bus station at Drummer Street, Cambridge, were discussed at the Planning Inquiry. The bus company preferred a station to be sited on New Square which was double the area of Drummer Street. But would passengers agree – and they are entitled to be considered sometimes. Half to two-thirds would use Emmanuel Street. The amount of bus traffic would increase if greater provision was made & there would be a traffic blockage at Four Lamps roundabout

1952 11 05
Much of the congestion in the central area of Cambridge could be dealt with by providing car parks in the right places rather than the provision of extra circulatory routes the Chief Constable told the Development Plan inquiry. Closing of Magdalene Street would inevitably lead to an increased use of the Backs and the proposed spine relief road would not afford relief to traffic in the city centre. The police had received many complaints concerning the amount of noise at Drummer Street bus station late at night. By moving it to New Square this objection would be alleviated

1952 11 20
Edward Lainson of Premier Travel told the Development Plan Inquiry that it would be highly undesirable to move the bus station from Drummer Street to New Square. Access would be difficult and the crossing of Emmanuel Road by a large number of people would constitute a danger. It would cause congestion because a lot of people who found the buses handy would start using their cars

1954 01 09
A large meteorite is believed to have been seen over Cambridge. Following reports that an explosion, thought to have been due to a meteorite smashing into the earth's atmosphere, had rocked Dieppe about 160 miles from Cambridge, several members of the City Police Force have claimed to have seen the object. P.C. R. Barlow, on duty in Drummer Street described 'a meteorite of exceptional size, oval-shaped and green in colour' falling in a south-east direction. Other policemen claim to have seen the flash as it apparently struck the earth.

1954 02 12
The elm tree on the pavement near the junction of Drummer Street and Emmanuel Road, Cambridge, is probably 250 years old. It is a little over 70 feet in height and sixteen feet in circumference. In the 1940s some of the lower branches were removed to prevent contact by omnibuses but now extensive rotting has taken place in the main branches. These should be removed and any hollows scraped out and filled with concrete, but in view of its scientific interest as much as possible should be retained. The Botanic Garden hopes to perpetuate samples from the old tree by grafting some of its twigs on to young elms

1954 09 18

It may interest readers to know that the short thoroughfare from St Andrews' Street to Drummer Street, now known as Christ's Lane, has changed its name more than any other in Cambridge. Old maps show it as Hangman's Lane, St Nicholas' Lane, Rogis Lane, Rogues' Lane, Hinton Lane and George Street. Downing Street has been Dowdivers Lane, Langrith Lane, Hogshill Lane, Bird Bolt Lane and Plot and Nuts Lane.

1956 07 14
Mr Stanley Woolston has removed his antiques business to Pembroke Street. It is a wrench to leave his former premises in St Andrew's Street after 30 years where he has been honoured by the gracious patronage of members of the Royal Family. But the buildings have been affected by the redevelopment of Emmanuel Street and plans to link Drummer Street with a shopping arcade. He will retain his warehouse at the end of Bradwell's Yard until the area is ripe for rebuilding. 56 07 14

1956 11 27
A proposal to close Christ's Lane and provide an alternative footway between Drummer Street and St Andrew's Street was approved in 1954. But now Christ's College have proposed an alternative consisting of an arcade leading into a central courtyard then through another arcade to Drummer Street. The council would be responsible for maintaining, cleaning and lighting it. 56 11 27a

1956 12 04
If you have seen a street fight and want to report it or are a motorist lost in Cambridge and want to know your way, it is simple. You go to the nearest Police Pillar, open the door and pick up the telephone inside. At once you are in touch with the information room at police headquarters. The Mayor made the first 'emergency' call from the Police Pillar in Drummer Street and within minutes a sleek black saloon containing two stalwart policemen drew up. 56 12 04

1957 08 23
Plans have been announced for a modern shopping arcade linking St Andrew's Street and Drummer Street bus station, replacing the Christ's Lane. There would be a two-storey block of shops facing an open court together with a waiting room for bus passengers and basement parking for 21 cars and 100 bicycles. 57 08 23b & c

1958 02 10
Whippet Coaches were refused permission to use Drummer Street. Eastern Counties had paid for improvements to the bus station and 85 per cent of their country services were not remunerative. This would add to competition. The Chief Constable said it was already filled and if granted other operators from the Northampton Street terminus would also apply, leading to increased congestion. 58 02 10

1958 07 07
Drummer Street instead of Merton Arms for Whippet coaches – 58 07 07

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 01 23
Bradwell's Court, the new public footway linking St Andrew's Street with Drummer Street, was opened for the first time this week. At the same time Christ's Lane, the old cobbled pathway, was

closed. With an arcade at each end and an 'open style' court in the centre, the new thoroughfare is flanked by 13 shops 60 01 23c

1960 05 13
Have you ever been shopping and wanted to get rid of the heaviest of your parcels, or needed somewhere to park a suitcase or bicycle? Here in Cambridge one example of private enterprise has a solution for this kind of problem. If you travel regularly to and from Drummer Street 'bus station you will know Jim Wooders, who sits at the end of Christ's Pieces and has been looking after parcels for well over 30 years 60 05 13c

1961 04 14
Cambridge Civic Restaurant produces over 1,000 meals a day either for consumption in its spacious contemporary dining room or for the Drummer Street Mobile Canteen or W.V.S. Meals-on-Wheels service. The premises at the Old Post Office in Petty Cury may have to be demolished as part of the Lion Yard scheme but the Manageress, Mrs Gillett and her staff of 30, including Mrs E. Stubbings who has been vegetable cook for the last 18 years have become very attached to the restaurant and regard their customers as 'one big family' which needs feeding. 61 04 14b

1962 08 11
Bradwell's Court arcade and shop development has been a joint venture between Jesus and Christ's Colleges and Ravenseft Properties. It stretches from St Andrew's Street through to Drummer Street bus station and provides a continuous covered route to the city centre. Work on demolishing the out-of-date shops and buildings started as long ago as October 1957 but was held up by difficulties over leases. The last tenant to go was the well-known antique dealer, Mr K.A. Rowe. By the time the University term begins again the development will be complete and all the 20 new shops and showrooms fully occupied. 62 08 11a

1965 04 30
Jim Wooders looks after parcels Drummer Street bus station for 40 years; started 1922 – 65 04 30e

1970

1977 07 13
A group of Cambridge residents have started a legal battle to stop buses using the narrow, congested Parker Street to reach the city's Drummer Street bus station. They are trying to force four major bus companies to use an alternative route via Emmanuel Street and Regent Street. The leader of the objectors said: "Parker Street is fit only for local traffic, being narrow and with houses on each side. At the moment the pollution is disgusting. You cannot open a window and the noise is above acceptable limits". The Eastern Counties traffic manager said: "Buses represent only a tiny proportion of the heavy traffic using the street, so why we are being picked on I don't know"

1978 10 03
Cambridge' Drummer Street bus station may be extended on to the adjoining Christ's Pieces within the next few years as County Council traffic experts and the bus companies have agreed that expansion of the present site is the best way of bringing it up to date. The facilities such as booking office, news-stands & toilets are scattered, cramped and unsightly and there are no proper information displays. The city council has suggested the station should be moved into the Kite Area and Conservation interests prefer disused land near the railway station should be used. But the County rejects both locations

1979 03 07
A new double-decker bus station in the centre of Cambridge is being proposed by County traffic experts. Buses would wait only long enough to set down and take up passengers and long-distance buses would run from elsewhere in the city. This one of several options to sort out the chaos of Drummer Street. Others include expanding on to Christ's Pieces, re-siting it to the Kite area or adjacent to the railway station. For years the bus station has been the subject of intensive criticism because of its lack of facilities and poor conditions. Now councillors have made it a priority.

1979 09 28
Drummer Street, p1

1979 12 08
Drummer Street, p1

1980

1980 03 13
New plans for Drummer Street bus station have provoked widespread criticism from councillors. The two-storey building to accommodate offices and waiting facilities is a large transparent structure with a domed roof. But Coun Peter Wright said: "It looks like a large greenhouse; to see anything like that going up in the middle of a conservation area is absolutely unbelievable". Maurice Garner said: "I cannot say I like it – but nothing can be worse than what we have". It would be difficult for handicapped people to reach the upper floor waiting rooms. 80 03 13a

1980 09 03
Visitors to Cambridge will be confused if they use the latest Ordnance Survey map of the city. The Lion Yard shopping centre, completed more than five years ago, is not shown but marked as a collection of tiny streets. Christ's Lane, closed for the past 15 years and not even visible, is still shown as leading from Drummer Street to St Andrew's Street whilst the University Centre is an empty space. Even the Tourist Information Centre is shown as at the front of the Guildhall, rather than the back. The O.S. said it did not seem very satisfactory 80 09 03b

1981 07 16
Drummer Street lavatories are smelly, bits of string helped tie the lavatory chains and the pipes were lagged with sacking. At Park Street t there was no paper in any of the cubicles, no soap and no towels. One seat was missing entirely. Valiant efforts are being made to keep the subterranean convenience on the market square clean – you have only to look at the gleaming brass handrail and inhale the disinfectant smell. But I wouldn't want to have to take a child in there, even in an emergency. 81 07 16

1982 07 08
Chaotic Drummer Street is a nightmare for passengers and bus drivers during the busy rush hours. Nobody knows where their buses are and if you go to the information offices the queues are so long that by the time you get to the desk the bus will have gone anyway. Premier Travel driver Hedley Hammond said he was five minutes late already and couldn't get round to his bay. Dismal and dilapidated the worn-out bus station just can't cope with the traffic of the 1980s. 82 07 08a & b

1982 08 27

City councillors want a full-scale transport complex to give quick interchange for rail and bus passengers on long distance and local services to be sited at the railway station. There is plenty of parking with toilet and refreshment facilities already on hand. The County Council's controversial plans to spend £400,000 on rebuilding Drummer Street bus station would still leave it a cramped site with poor access. 82 08 27

1983 06 29
Plans for a new main bus station with a 'floating roof' and a circular office block standing alongside, in the centre of Cambridge, have come in for fierce criticisms. The County Council is adamant that the new bus station should go on the present small and restricted site in Drummer Street but the Labour- controlled City Council want it moved to the railway station. The rebuilding will see the removal of the small island with its office and large trees from the centre of the road. But the City is refusing to sell the island site or to remove the trees as part of its opposition. 83 06 29 p15

1983 09 20
Drummer Street, p11

1984 05 01
Drummer Street island, p7

1985 10 22
The Government has given the green light for the controversial £500,000 plan for rebuilding Cambridge bus station. They have given the County permission to buy a small 'island' of land in the centre of Drummer Street owned by the city council. It was the only thing standing in the way of the proposed rebuilding plans. But the scheme is unlikely ever to go ahead. The new County council administration wants to build a long-distance coach terminal at the railway station instead, saying it would ease city centre bus congestion. 85 10 22

1986 04 02
Drummer Street bus station – officially described as a 'disaster area' - is to have a major face-lift, the first since it was built 60 years ago. An island at the centre of the site with a number of small booking offices will be demolished and the central area refurbished. The aim is to tidy up one of the most prominent sites in the city centre, the one first seen by thousands of tourists. It currently has poor passenger facilities and operating conditions and is in urgent need of improvement. 86 04 02b

1986 06 24
Drummer Street bus station renovation criticised – 86 06 24

1987 12 01
Cambus has bought the entire coach operation of arch rivals Premier Travel. Premier, founded in 1936 has dominated the Cambridge travel scene in recent years and is expecting record profits. It has a fleet of 75 coaches based in Kings Hedges Road and all 129 employees in the coach division will become employees of Cambus. Earlier this year the two companies started a joint venture involving a travel centre at Drummer Street bus station. 87 12 01

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East Road from corner Burleigh Street 1964 – 249.66

c.44.6 : East Road

1888

1897 05 20
East Road library, p2

1897 05 26
East Road reading room, p3

1897 06 02
East Road library, p2

1897 08 17
East Road reading room, p2

1897 08 19
East Road reading room, p2 *

1897 08 21
For several years Cambridge has been in a state of chronic poverty. With hardly a sou in the bank – not sufficient to meet tradesmen's bill as they become due - the financial outlook has been far from cheering to the ratepayer. A farthing rate to retain East Road Reading Room is denied, yet in the next breath the modest sum of £21,000 is voted for street improvements. And again there is the front of the Guildhall. No sane person can defend the retention of a monstrosity like that and if it is not to be retained it must be replaced and care must be taken that the new building is worthy of the town

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1897 08 25
East Rad library, p2

1897 11 27
Sir. The Reading Room on East Road, Cambridge will be re-opened on Monday next, from six till half-past nine o'clock. Everything has been done to make the room as efficient and comfortable as possible, new gas fittings and furniture provided and the floor has been covered throughout with linoleum. By the liberality of the Mayor about one hundred volumes of useful works of reference, biography and travel will be placed upon the open shelves. There will be supplied 15 daily newspapers and it is hoped that there will be a large attendance and an appreciable use made of the literature supplied - John Pink, Librarian

1897 11 30
Once again the good folk of Barnwell are in possession of their reading-room. This time improvements have been carried out and the workers around East Road will not only have a convenient room, but also an attractive and comfortable one. The room is the same as of yore, and the exterior is as ugly as ever, but inside everything has been re-painted and varnished, & incandescent lights have replaced the old-fashioned flickering gas jet. Although Mr John Pink, the borough librarian, opposed the re-opening, since the decision of the Council to again provide facilities for the thoughtful working men of Barnwell he has done his utmost to ensure they are as full and liberal as possible

1898 07 11
Messrs Green, Moyes and Wisbey attended the Lion Hotel, Cambridge, and offered by auction several beerhouses. The Lion and Lamb at Denver sold for £765. The Queen's Head at Hilgay realised £510. Lot three was the freehold beer house known as the Volunteer, Mildenhall which, together with a cottage, realised £710. The Swan beerhouse Isleham realised £460. The last lot was the fully licensed freehold public house in East Road, Cambridge known by the sign of the Red Lion. The bidding started at £600, and ultimately reached £975 at which figure it was disposed of. The prices realised are considered very satisfactory by the vendors.

1898 09 05
Awful was the fate of an aged women residing in East Road Cambridge, on Saturday night. Her body was found scorched, blackened and blistered in her burning house. Every article of clothing was burned, and not a hair remained on her head. Those who saw it were sickened at the uncanny sight. As quickly as possible she was carried to a costermonger's barrow and covered up with the first things that came to hand, after which she was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital. The fire brigade was hampered as the telegraph wires are set so low in that part of the town that it is impossible to run the fire escape along without catching the wires and causing not only damage but delay. In this instance the escape was delayed by catching the wires in Burleigh St

1898 09 12 c
Fanny Elizabeth Laxton, an unfortunate, was charged with wilfully breaking two panes of glass at the Three Compasses, East Road Cambridge, doing damage to the amount of one shilling and with refusing to quit that house. She was also charged with being drunk. For breaking the window she was sent to prison for a month with hard labour, and for refusing to quit two weeks with hard labour. Prisoner was removed to the cells vowing vengeance. As she left the dock to the regions below her voice could still be heard crying, "You ought to wear a Salvation Army bonnet, that you ought"

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1898 09 16
This morning shows a big blank in the row of houses in Church End, Cottenham. A little after before eight o'clock some children called Mrs Smith and told her that a boy was setting a fire near her husband's stacks. Very quickly the stacks, outbuildings, barn and furniture were devoured. In the buildings were two horses and two pigs, which it was impossible to save, and they were roasted alive. The burning flesh could be smelled a long way down the Street. On went the fire to the adjoining premises, "The Jolly Millers" inn. In a back room lay Mr Thomas Legge, the veteran postman, fast asleep, and he was carried out of harm's way just in the nick of time. That ancient, lumbering instrument known as the Cottenham fire engine was hauled out from among the cobwebs and after a lengthy leakage it did its best to sprout the limited supply of water on the flames
Woman burnt to death, East Road, p3

1898 10 05
The annual report of the Cambridge public Free Library has been issued. Under competent management and the able direction of Mr Pink, it has continuously added to its resources. It is now as well equipped as anyone could desire. It has a reference library and in the Shakespeare and dramatic collections a special features of great interest and real value. Moreover there is the branch library at Mill road with 6,600 volumes and during the past year reading rooms have been opened at East road and Castle end. The people who enjoy these facilities of access to the best literature may well be envied by those who do not

1899 02 16
Mr Slingsby drew the attention of Cambridge council to the want of public conveniences. He thought the present state of affairs was a disgrace and a scandal to this civilised and intellectual town. They should consider underground lavatories for males and females at Hyde Park Corner (under the shelter), Market Hill (under the Conduit) & at the junction of East Road and Newmarket Road

1899 03 09
East Road fire, rear Reading Room, p3

1899 09 22
During the tempestuous weather a hot pea stall, belonging to James Gerald, of Wilton terrace, East Road, Cambridge, which had been erected at the corner of Garlic Row in readiness for Stourbridge horse fair, was blown away bodily and carried by the boisterous wind across the road on to a piece of land forty yards away, used by Mr Robert Lee as a market garden. Another booth belonging to David Odell was also overthrown by the storm.

1899 11 16
East Road schools, p3

1900

1900 05 09
Sir – As an old user of the East Road Reading Room, Cambridge may I complain of the insufficient supply of newspapers there. Morning newspapers are entirely absent, excepting one a day old. I received a severe shock some time ago when I founded posted up a copy of the "Times" newspaper, but found it was an old copy. In the old days we were allowed the "Times". The reading matter is so seriously curtailed as to prevent one from arriving at a consensus of

opinion; this tending to keep in darkness a not highly favoured part of the town – A. Clark, Walnut Tree Lane

1900 07 19
East Road widening, p3

1900 09 04
Those who now assemble to witness the ancient ceremony of proclaiming Stourbridge Fair can guess to what extent its glory has departed. The fair has dwindled down to almost the level of the village feast. At one time business and pleasure stalls extended from the railway bridge to East Road and down to the river's edge on Stourbridge common. The custom of proclaiming the different portions of the fair is still religiously observed – the leather fair, the hop fair, the wood fair and so on, when no such exist or are likely to be revived. The Toll Collector broke down a portion of the fence dividing Newmarket road from what was in years gone by part of the fairground, and hurled the portion of broken fence on to the now cultivated ground thereby signifying the right of the Corporation to that ground for six weeks. This concluded the ceremony and the Mayor and town officers departed.

1900 11 22
The Cambridge Coroner opened an enquiry at the Blackbirds public house, East Road, Cambridge into the circumstances of the death of an East Road shopkeeper and her three children who were found lying on the bed in their front upstairs room with their throats cut. She had appeared perfectly sane and was reported not to have financial problems but was very much troubled about her husband leaving her. She was very fond of her children and was a good mother. A lodger said he had come downstairs but found no breakfast ready. He had knocked on her door and got no answer. He had looked into the room, seen the bodies and sent for the police.

1901 05 13
While playing about on East Road, Cambridge, a two-year-old child was knocked down by a tram horse and run over by the vehicles, sustaining such injuries that she succumbed shortly after. The tram driver said that when he first saw the child she was about a yard from his tram. He applied his brake immediately but it was impossible to stop the heavy car before reaching her. The wheel went over her thigh and she was fearfully mangled about her limbs and lower body

1902 09 06
The Mayor of Cambridge, Alderman Kett made a tour of sixteen schools for the purpose of distributing Coronation medals to the infant scholars. It had been suggested that they should also be given a tea in the tents on Parker's Piece but it was felt that little mites of four could hardly be expected to walk to and from the Piece and it was more advisable to provide tea for them at the various schoolrooms. At East Road school tea had to be provided for 250 infants and the cutting up of the large quantity of bread and cake entailed several hours for work for the teachers.

1902 10 02
In the centre of Cambridge a man will pay any price in reason for the tobacco which appeals most to his palate. But in other quarters, such as Mill Road where the small shopkeeper thrives and people like a lot for their money a great quantity of cigarette packets containing showy photographs and alluring coupons have been sold. Mr Banyard of East Road, Cambridge says customers gave over their regular brands for those with the coupons but the demand was chiefly in cheap cigarettes. But Cambridge undergraduates have not descended to packs of Tabs, or even to tu-penny-ha'-penny Guinea Gold.

1903 04 06c
A licensed refreshment house keeper of East Road, Cambridge, was summonsed for keeping his premises open during prohibited hours. P.C. Symonds said he saw a man eating something from a paper outside the shop after 11 o'clock. He told the owner he had seen a man eating fish, but the defendant said it was potatoes. The man had come in while he was sweeping the shop out and his wife served him. The policeman was in plain clothes and never said he was a policeman. The magistrates recorded a conviction, but there was no further penalty

1905 02 14
Cambridge Women's Temperance Association have acquired the tenancy of an East Road property formerly known as the Barnwell Coffee Palace which they have transformed into 'The White Ribbon', a well-conducted temperance establishment at which palatable food and clean lodgings can be obtained at moderate prices. The position of the building in one of the poorer districts has led to some apprehension but care is to be taken to ensure that the frequenters of the establishment are somewhat more select than formerly. It is not intended for the tramp class but for young people who require lodgings. It contains 16 bedrooms with a tastefully-furnished sitting room 05 02 14a

1907 01 02
A warm well-lighted room in St Paul's Institute New Town was opened as a reading room. There was a collection of current literature ready for the first arrivals who drew chairs to the tables and took advantage of the comfort and facilities provided. The Free Library was one of the most popular institutions in Cambridge, ten years ago a branch was established at Mill Road with other reading rooms at Castle End and East Road. 07 01 02 & 2a

1908 06 05
Quite recently, the Burlington Press, which for a number of years carried on business in East Road, has removed to larger premises at Foxton. Dr Briggs, the founder of the business as an adjunct of the University Correspondence College entertained the entire staff to dinner inside the works and proposed a toast of 'Success to the University Tutorial Press'. CWN 08 06 05 p6

1909 01 15
On Friday night a man died in an East Road Lodging House and the landlady was naturally anxious to relieve her house of the body at the earliest moment. She had no knowledge of the man's relatives and a 'parish burial' was ordered. The undertaker said she had wanted to put the body in the yard covered up with clothes but he had removed it at his own expense. But relatives complained that the coffin was too small and the body laid on bare wood with the feet sticking to the pitch. All there was to cover him was a piece of thin stuff which did not meet in the middle. CWN 09 01 15

1909 01 17
The staff and scholars of the Cambridge and County School for Girls have left the unpretentious and inconvenient building in East Road and are safely ensconced in a brand new school built on the most scientific lines and equipped with everything the modern educational establishment requires. It is approached by a drive from Collier Road and surrounded by ample grounds. CWN 09 09 17

1909 12 31
The Costermongers Boxing Day Marathon race was run between East Road and Bottisham and back. It is open to men who earn their living by hawking and the fact that 17 came forward with their barrows in such unfavourable conditions says a good deal for their hardiness. Soon mud

began to bespatter the runners. Tom Nunn took the lead in the outward journey but was finally beaten by Sam George. CWN 09 12 31

1910

1910 04 29
A Willingham labourer was charged with stealing £40 in gold from his mother. His parents had gone to work leaving him alone in the house and the money under the mattress of the bed. The neighbour saw the lad with a handful of gold and a search revealed it had gone. Police discovered he had been showing a lot of gold in a public house at Longstanton before leaving for Cambridge by train. When arrested at the Compasses lodging house in East Road he said "They should not leave the money lying about in the house. I told her I should do her one. She always scrapped the last penny out of me and is always cadging money of me" 10 04 29c

1910 08 12
A new road between Rock Estate and Romsey Town would greatly improve communication between these largely populated and widely-separated districts, Mr W.P. Fison suggests. Rustat Road, which is a private road belonging to Jesus College could be continued until it cuts into Marmora Road. It would have to cross some allotments and a farm with a bridge over the railway line. There should also be a new road from East Road through Beche Road over a bridge into Old Chesterton. Both would provide work for the numbers of unemployed men in Cambridge 10 08 12e

1910 10 28
The National Telephone Company sought to recover rent for a telephone installed at the premises of Herbert Quinsee cycle and motor engineer, East Road. Quinsee said he'd wanted to be cut off immediately it was installed in 1909. It had been fixed in his workshop, whereas he'd asked for it in the showroom. The company said they would put on extra bells, which he would have to pay for. He could not take the apparatus down because it was not his property but as it was not removed people rang him up. 10 10 28e

1910 12 23
Two confectioners in East Road were fined for having penny-in-the-slot machines on their premises. When a penny was placed in the slot three balls came into play. By pulling a small lever the ball was shot around the machine and if it went into a cup the player received a ticket for groceries. There were hundreds of other machines in use in places where players got beer or tobacco. But these were aimed at children. Now the use of all such machines should cease 10 12 23a

1911 03 10
A collision occurred between a motor van belonging to Messrs Lever of the Port Sunlight Soap Company and a motor car (CE 1037), at the junction of East Road and Newmarket Road. The back wheel of the motor car struck the back part of the van with the result that the front axle and steering gear were bent and the speedometer damaged. A spoke was broken from the nearside back wheel and a bolt smashed out of the hub of the wheel of the motor car. Fortunately the damage done was not very serious and no personal injuries were sustained. 11 03 10c

1911 05 12
George IV pub, East Road theft – 11 05 12

1911 07 28

A slight outbreak of fire occurred at the Picture Palace, East Road. The heat during the day had been intense and the lantern operator, Harry Pink, became a little faint and accidentally knocked a small piece of film on to the lantern, the heat igniting it. The film flared up and Pink quickly turned off the light, pulled down the safety shutters of the box, which is a fire-proof structure, and jumped out. The film soon burnt out and the audience, consisting of 37 children and three adults, walked out without any panic 11 07 28d

1911 12 22
During the week 274 persons have been supplied by the Mayor's soup kitchen and 73 gallons of soup, nine lbs of dripping and six stone of bread have been distributed. Meat, bones etc have been received from Mr W. Robinson of Bene't Street and other butchers, while G.H. French of East Road has given pea flour and Mr Wallis of Haslingfield, swedes. The sale of bone has realised one shilling and tenpence. The mayor has promised to distribute oranges today and Mrs Prior, Furniss Lodge, has kindly promised 150 mince pies. 11 12 22a

1911 12 29
Two Fen Ditton labourers were charged with stealing a lead pump. John Thornton of Quy Water Farm said it had been taken from his yard. He went to a marine store dealer's on East Road and there saw the pump cut up in lengths. The dealer said he'd bought it from a man who said it was of no more use. The accused admitted the theft but claimed they'd been drunk at the time and dare not take it back. They recompensed the farmer for its loss. 11 12 29a

1912 03 29
Amond Cannell, gamekeeper of Trumpington, told the court he had set three iron rat traps in a field near the road. When he returned next morning they had gone. Det-Serg Marsh went to the Butcher's Arms lodging house and asked two men how they accounted for hawking rat traps on East Road the previous day. They claimed to have bought them from a man near the Catholic Church for threepence. They were sent to gaol for a month. 12 03 29a

1912 07 26
Mr Lloyd ex-manager, pianist and vocalist of the East Road Picture Palace told the court that Mr Hawkins had informed him he would close it for a month but that he should move to a new hall in Herne Bay. But he did not give notice or fill in the month as promised. Mr Hawkins, the proprietor of this and other halls in Cambridge, said he had tried to find Lloyd work and he'd be pleased for him to open at the Picture Palace again on August Bank Holiday Monday. Lloyd was a very able and competent man and it was astonishing he should cut his throat in this way. The case was dismissed. 12 07 26n

1912 07 26
Kirtling had three public houses, the Beehive, Queen's Head and the Red Lion with a licensed house in the hamlet of Upend nearly a mile away. Dr Wilkins had his surgery at the Beehive and some of his patients had their meals there, Methodist preachers left their horses there – although most now cycle. It was the most convenient for the men visiting Perrin's smithy and the allotments. All the principal people of the village – apart from the parson – had signed a memorial to keep it, licensing magistrates were told. Also : Licensing: Steeple Morden Hill House, Cherry Hinton Russian Arms, Swavesey Red Lion, Cambridge: Duke of Gloucester Prospect Row, Rose & Crown & Windmill in Russell St, Danish Flag in Fitzroy St, Lamb in Guildhall St (details), Compasses in East Road 12 07 26 o&p #

1913 01 03

Steam roller breaks through road at corner Brook Street & East Road, several hours for it to be extracted

1913 01 10
Steam roller in hole, East Road

1913 03 14
Cambridge pubs – Newmarket Road - Bird Bolt; East Road, Shakespeare; Norwich Street – Norwich Arms; Cambridge Place – Three Pigeons; Fitzroy Street – Old English Gentleman adjoined Wesson's Brewery and had been in the Wesson family for 70 years. The accommodation was good, the rooms were spacious, lofty and airy. It had a good bottle and jug department, a good bar, billiard room, smoke room, cellar and bedroom accommodation.

1913 03 14
Lacons brewers applied for the renewal of the licence for the Turnstile on East Road. This was a small cottage before it became a licensed house. It had been in the same family for over 40 years and the tenant, James Hobbs was anxious to continue. The pub was near the tram terminus and when people were waiting for the trams they did so in his house. He got a good lot of customers and sold a good deal of wine. 13 03 14 p8 CIP

1913 06 27
Mrs Elizabeth Pont and her late husband were familiar figures at fairs and feasts for miles around where their stall of feast rock etc was always to be found. For over 40 years she took her stall on Histon village green at exactly the same place where her goods were always sought by a large number of visitors 13 06 27 p12

1913 10 24
The idea of growing tobacco in England seems absurd. But at Elveden there are acres of healthy tobacco plants with leaves large enough to cover a rabbit and several sheds filled with yellow-coloured leaves. Messrs J.S. Banyard of East Road has purchased the entire crop of 25 acres grown by Lord Iveagh and have it made up both as pipe tobacco and in cigarettes. The cigarettes are similar to Virginia but have a slight Havana flavour.

1913 12 26
Territorials to make Drill Hall East Road in Technical Institute

1914 02 06
After negotiations lasting 18 months work has finally started on digging the foundations of the new Drill Hall and miniature rifle range on the site of the Technical Institute in East Road. It will have offices for the three Territorial units, stores for the large quantity of mobilisation equipment now needed, lecture rooms and messes. The drill hall will be the largest allowed and the range will allow a good number of targets to be used simultaneously. 14 02 06j

1914 02 13
Cambridge licenses – Duke of Gloucester Prospect Row, Rose and Crown & Windmill in Russell St, Danish Flag in Fitzroy St, Compasses on East Rd have closed; are 233 licensed for sale intoxicating liquor on premises and 36 off – 14 02 13, a

1914 02 13
Effects to be Sold.—Within a week, the street tramway cars which had been a feature of Cambridge for 30 years will have ceased to run. Auctioneers have received instructions from the

Official Receiver to sell the whole of the effects of the Cambridge Street Tramways Company, which has been compulsorily wound up on the application of the Cambridge Corporation. The sale will take place at the Company's headquarters, East Road, at noon on Friday next. On inquiry yesterday a Press representative was informed that the date on which the trams will cease to run will be announced within a few days, but it is probable that Wednesday next will be the last day of running. The effects for sale include 24 draught horses, 8 tramway cars (4ft. gauge), including six-double-deck cars to carry 18 persons inside, and 22 to 25 outside, two single-deck cars to carry 18 persons inside, 10 sets of harness, a Crossley 2 h.p. engine and oat-crushing machines etc. 14 02 13 CIPof

1914 04 24
King's Visit. — Six thousand Cambridge schoolchildren, with flags gaily flying, will next Thursday line the Cambridge streets and with hearty voices join their elders in bidding welcome to their King. Although the King's visit is to be regarded as one specially made to the Leys School, the townspeople are naturally taking a keen interest in the event. His Majesty will motor from Newmarket and is due to arrive at the Leys at 11 a.m. It is probable he will reach the outskirts a few minutes before that hour and will proceed to the school via Newmarket Road, East Road, Lensfield Road and Trumpington Road. Upon arrival at the school, the King will be received by a guard of honour consisting of members of the school's Junior Officers' Training Corps and met by Dr. Barber, the headmaster and members of the governing body He will then be conducted to the chapel to view the memorial erected to the memory of the Old Leysians who fell in the South African War. Following this he will proceed to the large hall and receive an address of welcome. Then His Majesty will inspect the gymnasium, swimming baths, science buildings, etc. In accordance with a request made by the Mayor of Cambridge (Mr. J. A. Sturton), the royal car will be slowed down when passing the junction of Newmarket Road and East Road. This is perhaps, the most convenient spot for the schoolchildren to assemble and they will line up on either side.– 1914 04 24 CIPof

1914 05 01
Appeals for people to decorate their houses along the King's route to the Leys School were effective. Along Newmarket Road and East Road houses vary in size but an elaborate display of flags and bunting had been arranged. The favourite plan was a Union Jack hung from the bedroom window or bunting arranged along the window ledges, busin3esses were tastefully embellished while scores of streamers were hung across the road with a tremendous banner inscribed 'Cambridge Working Men's Club'. Many of the side streets made good displays 14 05 01e

1914 05 08
The Provincial Motor Cab Co. Ltd. (In liquidation). The Receiver is authorised to receive tenders for the business of Motor Cab and Automobile Garage Proprietors recently carried on by the Provincial Motor Cab Company Ltd at is garage on East Road and for the cabs, tools, plant and accessories of a Motor Cab Garage therein. The number of cabs at the garage is nine, of which eight are in use. – Notice. 14 05 08f

1914 06 26
There is no lodging house accommodation for women only in Cambridge. Two licensed houses cater for only the painted or vagrant classes. There is a need for some place to which respectable women and girls in need of a night's lodgings could go. Formerly they were taken at the White Ribbon Coffee Tavern on East Road but this has stopped. Now the council have purchased a house for the purpose and plans for conversion are underway 14 06 26 p4

1914 07 31
Ortona monopoly – no buses East Road *

1914 11 06
The new Territorial Forces headquarters in East Road are nearly completed and have been occupied by troops training in Cambridge. But the formal opening has been postponed. It stands on the site of the Technical Schools which have been adapted and added to and includes a spacious drill hall and miniature rifle range abutting on to Adam and Eve Row. The Quartermaster's stores include a wooden gallery for use as a saddlery store for the Yeomanry.

1914 12 11
Soldiers billeted at Melbourne Place School would move to the hutments on Cherryhinton Road shortly but others have arrived and could take their place The Drill Hall in East Road and the Girls' County School are already overcrowded. It would mean that East Road and King Street Schools would no longer be required. The military would pay £400, about one-tenth of the cost of billeting. But billeting would relieve the hardship of lodging house keepers now fewer undergraduates were studying at university.

1918 02 06
Communal Dinners. — Young children enjoy midday meals at the East Road schools now. The meals, which were started on January 14, are supplied by the Fitzroy Street communal kitchen, and each child pays a small sum per week for five dinners. When the school was first started there were only 23 children who availed themselves of the opportunity of taking their dinner at the school, but now the number has increased to about 40. The dinner is served in a room which was formerly the baby room of the old school, but which for a number of years has been used as a .storeroom. The room has been cleaned, distempered and decorated, and presents quite a cheery appearance 18 02 06c

1919 02 04
Licencing – Fox & Duck South St, White Horse Coronation St, Prince of Wales Church St, George IV East Road, Cardinal's Cap Guildhall Place, Borough Boys Northampton St, & others – 19 02 04e & f

1919 04 09
John Rayment, Nelson St & East Road, rag and metal merchant – advert showing premises – 19 04 09b, 19 04 30e

1919 11 19
F. Winton Smith's new food factory, Wellington House, East Road – detailed feature article – 19 11 19a ; formally opened – 19 11 26b

1920

1920 03 10
Licensing sessions: refer East Road : Turnstile. George IV, Smith & Wheelwright Arms, King St: Boot; Gwydir St: Dewdrop; Newnham: Tally Ho; Chesterton: Indian Chief; Cherry Hinton Hopbine; Renew St Andrew's St: Queen's Arms – 20 03 10b

1920 03 06

Licensing renewals: Turnstile, Newmarket Rd; George IV East Rd; Queen's Arms, St Andrew's Street; Smith and Wheelwrights Arms, East Rd; Boot, King St; Dewdrop, Gwydir St; Tally Ho; Indian Chief, Chesterton

1920 07 10
Public houses considered for closure – Victoria, Barrington; Guilden Morden Pig & Whistle, Cherry Hinton Hopbine, Castle Camps George & Dragon, Linton Axe & Saw, King Street Boot, Chesterton High Street Indian Chief, Newnham Road Tally Ho, East Road Turnstile, Gwydir Street Dew Drop #

1925 01 10
The final contingent of happy kiddies crowded into the Drill Hall, East Road and emulated the example set by their predecessors. The clamour of half a thousand happy young lungs and energetic tongues was present throughout the proceedings. Cheery children of all ages participated in the scenes of revelry, four-year old toddlers giving utterance to their gratification with gurgles of joy as sincere as the shouts of the elder children were loud.

1925 05 21
Two shopkeepers occupying adjacent premises in East Road, Cambridge, appeared before magistrates. Frederick Peak, a wholesale confectioner said a big Smith's van pulled up outside his premises to deliver some tins of potato chips. His neighbour came and complained about the van standing near her door. He was carrying ten tins of chips, stacked as high as his chin, when she put up both her hands and deliberately knocked them from his arms. Two lids came off and the contents were spilled. On another occasion she threw soapy water on him from an upstairs window.

1926 01 16
There were lively scenes in East Road, Cambridge, when another "sale" of goods distrained by the Ouse Drainage Board for the non-payment of rates was to have taken place. A "jazz band" quickly attracted a crowd to the scene and the sight of 30 men attired in top hats, paper hats etc, caused considerable amusement. Some had toy trumpets, some hunting horns, some penny whistles while a few motor hooters added to the "harmony". Attempts to conduct the sale were drowned in a general uproar and all the lots were withdrawn.
1
926 03 12
A Cambridge school girl died of small-pox at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Mill Road and as a result the East Road Boys', Girls' and Infants' Schools have been closed for at least a week for disinfection. The Medical Officer strongly advises people to get vaccinated. The last outbreak occurred in 1921 when a man was affected. There was also an isolated outbreak in 1919

1926 04 26
An inquiry was held into the provision of two underground public conveniences at the junction of Milton and Chesterton and Newmarket and East Roads where there would be an island in the middle of the road. The Inspector asked whether they had designed the roof to carry the weight of a heavy motor lorry; it would be a very simple matter for a lorry to jump a kerb on a foggy night as had happened at Southend when people had been injured. He also raised the question of a convenience for women and the Mayor said the matter had been very carefully considered by the committee who were anxious to get on with the work as quickly as possible.

1926 07 17

Trade at the George the Fourth public house in East Road, a beer drinking, working-class residential neighbourhood, had been carried on for years without complaint. There were about 20 persons living there every night of whom 16 had been there from one to 12 years; one old man, aged 83, had been living there for ten. Housing conditions in Cambridge are very bad, there were 700 or 800 applications for houses at the present time. It was difficult to see what was going to happen to these people if the license was withdrawn and the pub closed down 1926 07 17c

1926 09 16
Sir – Will the Transport Authority please have a look at Mill Road junction with East Road, Cambridge. Corners are being rounded off and visibility increased in many parts but at this extremely busy point efforts seem to have been multiplied to prevent a safe flow of traffic. The large block of lavatories and the telephone kiosk form nuclei for masses of trees, shrubs and large flowering plants which entirely obstruct the view. Everyone enjoys greenery and colour, but in this instance they are in the wrong place, without doubt, and call for removal – "Safety First"

1929 01 04
Zion Baptist Church, East Road, Cambridge was opened on January 1st 1879 and nothing has been done to the fabric for several years. Now a scheme has begun for renovating and repairing the church. Mr Dunwell recalled his former Sunday school fellows: "The boys were ten times worse than they are today. The teachers used to read to them from 'Uncle Tom's Cabin' which often made them cry, but did their part in helping to build up character. Today there were not so many willing to work among the children"

1929 10 01c
Cambridge Town Council were asked to pay a Landbeach smallholder for the loss of his horse. It had slipped on the surface of East Road after a shower, and was killed. The Corporation declined to accept responsibility but it was suggested that a subscription list should be opened to which individual councillors would be pleased to subscribe. This was done with the result that the owner will receive £13, £3 more than had been suggested

1930

1932 01 25
The 'White Ribbon' Coffee House and Temperance Hotel in East Road has been taken over by the Salvation Army. After redecorating it will be run as a hostel and restaurant providing good refreshment and lodgings for 40 men at a reasonable charge. 32 01 25

1932 02 15
Of all the memorable gatherings which have been held in the Drill Hall, East Road, none has ever come up to the vast assembly which gathered when the Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades' Association held its first reunion dinner. When they arrived at Southampton 17 years ago one NCO said: "It's taken three trains to get us here, a carriage will be enough to get us back". That prediction came true! A silent toast was drunk to the 900 officers and men who fell in the Great War. 32 02 15

1932 03 05
Magistrates refused to relicence the Bowling Green public house, High Street, Chesterton. The landlord said a billiard room had been re-decorated, he had regular customers and it had become more or less an institution. But there had been a decrease in trade, despite the growing estate nearby. The Maypole in Portugal Place was the headquarters of the Whippet Club; the tenant was 70 years of age and his only means of support would be the old-age pension. This together with

the Alhambra in East Road, the Eagle Tavern beerhouse in Victoria Road and the Clarendon Arms was relicenced. 32 03 05 & a

1932 06 04
A new Cambridge Guildhall should be built on the corner of East Road and Parkside where the site is three times as large, meeting the requirements of the Corporation for many years. The existing Guildhall on Market Hill should be replaced with shops on the ground floor and offices and flats above, councillors have recommended. 32 06 04a, 06a, 06aa

1933 07 07
The Carlton public house in Lensfield Road owned by Lacons brewery had seen an increase in trade following the Budget decrease. There had been no complaints about the tenant, Edward Bettesworth, who was getting a living and wanted to retain it. Its licence was renewed but not those of the Coach and Horses on Newnham Road or the Alhambra on East Road where there were five other pubs within 220 yards and the trade was decreasing. 33 07 07 p12

1934 02 26
Play performed in Bloy's smithy, East Road – 34 02 26

1935 03 07
S.A. Rolfe's wholesale confectioners and tobacconists business started 25 years ago in a very small way on East Road. Now it is the largest of its kind in the Eastern Counties with nine full-time travellers and 15 motor vans. New premises in Newmarket Road house an enormous variety of brands including chocolates from R.S. Murray and 'Classic' bottle sweets made by Messrs Parkes. Mr Rolfe was hailed as a hard-working and keen young business man who by sheer determination and grit had made his mark in his chosen trade. 35 03 07, 35 03 09 & a

1936 01 08
An amazing roof collapse awakened residents in Broad Street, East Road, shortly after midnight. When they rushed into the street they found that the whole of the roof of a storehouse and garage belonging to Messrs Whitehead, the fruiterers, had crashed down on the contents of the building. It is thought the long-continued rain and damp weather may have affected the wooden beams. One of the three lorries in the building had the engine badly knocked about and some boxes of fruit were smashed by beams and tiles. It is said that when the old All Saints Church opposite St John's College was pulled down, the stone was auctioned off and many loads of it went into the building of this store house 36 01 08

1937 03 05
Magistrates heard that the Old Guinea public house in Russell Street was owned by the Star Brewery who had redecorated it and fitted a new fire and sink. There were seven fully-licensed houses and two off-licences within 400 yards. The Burleigh Arms in Burleigh Street was a beerhouse which provided a living for the tenant who found great difficulty in getting any work. The Rabbit in Gold Street was a comfortable little house; it had two extremely nice trade rooms and Green King had put in new windows. The residents of East Road might be 'scared off' a big place. The Cross Keys in Saxon Street was the only beer house in the neighbourhood which had five fully-licences housed within 400 yards. Beer was drawn straight from the wood, which was an attraction and trade was good. 37 03 05j

1937 12 13
A new police and fire station should be erected at Parkside, between Warkworth Terrace and East Road. The site is a very central one, had the great advantage of good access and egress from a

fire-fighting point of view and the area is adequate for present and future requirements, councillors were told. Bearing in mind the possible future requirements for protection against air raids it was desirable that both police and fire stations should be in one unit on a new site 37 12 13

1938 05 30
S.A. Rolfe's wholesale tobacconist and confectioners business began in a very small way in East Road, in 1911. Now it is the largest in the Eastern Counties employing nine full-time travellers. In March 1935 they moved to Newmarket Road where the stock is kept in perfect condition and its 20 motor vans can be loaded completely under cover. They cover a territory reaching as far as Clacton, Frinton-on-Sea, Peterborough and Luton conveying tons of tobacco every day. All leading brands are stocked including R.S. Murray (chocolates and confectionary) and Messrs Parkes 'Classic' boiled sweets – Advert. 38 05 30b

1938 07 28
Plans for a new police and fire station on Parkside between Warkworth Terrace and East Road came before an Inspector. It was a central site with good access for engine and ambulances and suitable for future requirements. It comprised five houses with a pork pie factory behind. But owners, Peterhouse, did not want to sell. They were concerned about noise at night and some undesirable 'guests' at the police station reducing the value of adjacent property. 38 07 28

1938 09 29
Cambridge prepares for influx of evacuees; sandbags piled outside East Road drill hall 38 09 29bb

1938 10 21
A.R. Nichols and Son, butchers on the corner of Petty Cury and Guildhall Street notify customers that owing to building reconstruction in Petty Cury they are temporarily carrying on their business at their East Road shop and also at a stall on Market Hill 38 10 21

1938 10 28
The Cambridge & County Girls School started in 1900 in the Drill Hall, East Road, then known as the Technical Institute. By 1903 they overflowed into rooms belonging to the Zion Chapel Sunday School and it was not until 1909 that they moved to the present buildings, retiring headmistress, Miss Dovey said. But in August 1914, when war broke out, the school was taken possession of by the Welsh Fusiliers and other regiments. For a year the school was housed in Emmanuel College lecture rooms and St Andrew's Street Sunday School. Soon they would move to new premises in Long Road 38 10 28 & a

1938 12 10
The Home of Mercy dates back to 1836 when residents concerned about the lack of provision for women, hired Dover House in East Road as a place of refuge. Then in 1838 the Cambridge Female Refuge opened in Christchurch Street in which girls who have fallen into evil ways can receive Christian guidance and discipline in a home-like atmosphere. Last year nine left to go into service and four were returned to their parents. One was baptised and three received Confirmation. 38 12 10b & c

1939 01 20
Wards on East Road was originally a cycle business, producing Crown bikes, then came a wireless department and baby carriages, electrical installations and fittings – 39 01 20

1939 12 23
Daguerreotype photographs were expensive and it was not until 1851 that a cheaper process came along. This was the collodion positive invented by Mr F. Scott Archer of Bishop's Stortford who died in 1857. These were framed portraits on glass and they were made in thousands at feasts in Cambridgeshire villages and on the beach at the seaside. One of the most notable makers was a Cambridge man called Dick Hutchinson who lived somewhere on the East Road and worked Yarmouth beach every summer. He had no studio in Cambridge. 39 12 23a

1940

1942 09 24
A.E. Stearn started as grocer in East Road in Jan 1893; in 1908 wholesale side transferred to Fitzroy Street where carried on by sons. – 42 09 24

1943 08 12
Mrs Clarke, 50 East Road grows tomatoes in front garden – photo – 43 08 12

1946 03 09
J.H. Bullock remembers that 'Priory' site was nothing but a grass field unbuilt on below the Old Abbey House with a few houses at the top of Walnut Tree Lane. Down East Road one of main sewers discharged into river; storm may have caused back-up which flooded Dover St – 46 03 09a

1948 09 11
When the East Road Boys' Club reopens in its new premises behind the St John's Mission Church in Wellington Street, Cambridge, another year of really constructive work by its members will have begun. This club has proved what great feats can be accomplished when a team of boys learn to work together and understand their responsibilities to the community and club. The boys' ages range from 14 to 18 and their programme is designed to create a balance in their physical, spiritual and mental development. During the past year, for example, they won the Pointer Cup for boxing. It is run entirely by voluntary effort and has a membership of 100 boys.

1949 10 06
The proposal to buy St John's hall, Wellington St, Cambridge, for use as the East Road Boys' Club was criticised. The building was described as "a filthy hovel, scheduled for demolition and without sun and air", part had been condemned as unsafe some years ago. "It is a place I would not want to put pigs in", said Coun. Dennard. Mrs Rackham agreed it was a poor neighbourhood, but thought it would take years and years for the whole of the district to be demolished

1950

1950 10 09
Girls in their teens, middle aged women and some in their sixties mingled together at a jubilee reunion of the Cambridgeshire High School for Girls. For many it was their first visit to the new school in Long Road. Their own memories took them back to the Drill Hall in East Road, where the school began, or to the Collier Road premises, now the Technical College and School of Art. The happy times spent there were recalled often during the evening.

1952
Crowds lining Parker's Piece saw a free but unofficial rodeo with policemen in the role of cowboys. Three crossbred steers on their way to the killing pens escaped from Winton Smith's

slaughterhouse in East Road, Cambridge. Off they went with the slaughterhouse men in pursuit. On the Piece they charged about for half an hour. Police formed a barricade but one of the animals charged a sergeant and chased a motorcycle. When they were finally cornered a lady in a red dressing gown opened her door and put out a bowl of water for them.

1952 11 12
Ninety-one percent of the properties in the East Road area of Cambridge fell into the "short life" or "no life" categories the Development Plan inquiry was told. The area as a whole was described as "densely packed". The age of the houses was about 100 years, they were generally poorly constructed and the worst property in Cambridge lay in the area. The plan envisages using Norfolk Street as a local shopping centre to keep East Road free for a traffic route. But Mr S.P. Yarrow, retail grocer at 35 East Road said that if he went to Norfolk Street his turnover would be cut by half. B.G. Reynolds of Renbro Wireless Services, East Road, said he had one of the best positions in the area and business would go down if he moved. They did not see why two shops in East Road should impede the flow of traffic.

1953 01 14
Work on the roundabout at East Road corner with Newmarket Road, Cambridge, has been in progress for about five weeks; it is hoped it will be completed in another six. Before long the traffic lights will be removed and the centre of the junction will be sealed off so that the roundabout can be erected. Traffic will still be able to use the crossing, as by then the road surface at the corners will have been filled in.

1953 06 13
A spy wandering the streets of Cambridge on Thursday night would not have stood a chance. Three patrols, each in charge of an officer and NCO of the Cambs Home Guard patrolled the East Road area and collared five suspects, amongst whom were two spies. A slenderly-built, quietly dressed brunette was stopped by a patrol who found a flaw in her identity card and she was taken away in a car to Battalion H.Q. This was, of course, an exercise but in a real emergency Cambridge people need not worry about spies wandering the streets of the city.

1953 12 12
Nearly 500 people attended one of the most looked-forward to and popular functions of the year, the Dustman's Christmas Ball in Cambridge Guildhall. Dustbins were displayed on the stage behind the Astrals All Star Dance Orchestra, reminding the dancers of the occasion. Miss Daphne Frostick of East Road was chosen as the new "Queen of Scavengeria". The cabaret was amusing and skilful with four men and four girls entering into a ballet. Although the men were a little less graceful than their partners they gave a performance that will long be remembered, but whether for its precision or other factors we will not say

1954 01 19
Cambridge councillors recommend the purchase of half-an-acre of land fronting East Road owned by Herbert Robinson Ltd for £5,420. Jesus College lands, consisting of a reading room and 59-63 East Road (lock-up garages, stable and land off Staffordshire Street) will be bought for £5,710. The trustees of John Stanley have inquired whether the council desires to purchase vacant land in Gas Lane and Jesus College has asked about nos.18-28 Staffordshire Street. An architect with experience of the type of development contemplated will be asked to prepare plans of the detailed lay-out of the area

1954 01 22

Proposals to erect traffic lights at the junction of East Road and Newmarket Road, Cambridge were debated by councillors. One said: "Lights are not needed here; they are an obstruction and an annoyance to drivers, another added: "The speed of traffic is about half of other towns and now we are proposing to slow it up still further". A roundabout would be better than lights. But another said: "As a cyclist I am conscious of danger every time I pass the junction, which is blind in more than one direction, you have to be darned quick or you are dead"

1954 12 01
Cambridge councillors suggest that 20 cottages fronting to East Road, 18 of which are empty, should be developed as soon as possible by the erection of flats. Under the new Development Plan East Road would become a trunk road and with the construction of the Chesterton Bridge the amount of traffic would greatly increase. This would cause a considerable widening and the possible construction of dual carriageways which would leave very little of the site of the cottages available for development.

1955 05 02
The stretch of Newmarket Road between East Road corner and Ivett and Reed's shop has high accident rates and publicity is being given to the dangers of the road. 'Accident Area' and 'Caution' signs are being displayed and posters and leaflets distributed. Last year in Cambridge 604 people were injured and a total of 1,540 accidents were reported to the police. 55 05 02a

1956 06 29
Cambridge has 1,350 dwellings unfit for human habitation including 100 in the East Road, Gothic and Doric Street areas. The Council is to submit proposals for the demolition of 500 dwellings in the next five years and the remainder within the following seven. But three condemned cottages at Brookside in Toft have been reinstated by the Cottage Improvement Society and now make a charming group in this beautiful yet little known corner of the village. 55 06 29

1956 02 10
East Road demolition – 56 02 10a & b

1956 03 21
Councillors want to acquire land at Coldham's Lane to resite existing industry from the East Road and Lion Yard area. Previously the land's only use was agricultural but there would be no difficulty in selling the land for industry. There had been plans for housing development on the north side of Church End but would probably now never take place. The present houses in Rosemary Lane were on cesspools and the council put in a foul sewer. 56 03 21a-d

1956 04 19
An enquiry heard that Cambridge city council had wanted to purchase land at the junction of Fitzroy Street and Wellington Street, pull down the old houses and use the land to re-site industry displaced from the East Road area. They offered to pay the current price but the owner, a former chairman of the Council's Finance Committee, said that if the land had potential for light industry then the price should be higher. Eventually negotiations broke down. Now he applied to redevelop the area, but the council opposed his plans. 56 04 19a & b

1956 06 23
A wall of a house at Parker Terrace, East Road is in such 'alarming condition' it is in danger of collapsing on nearby property. There was a large bulge in the centre of the wall, hanging five inches over the foundations, but the elderly lady occupying it is unwilling to move. The owner was ordered to have it demolished or repaired within 21 days. 56 06 23b

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1956 07 23
Councillors received a report on the redevelopment of the East Road comprehensive development area. The first stage provides for 51 dwellings – maisonettes, flats and houses – to house 206 people, as well as six shops and seven garages. Two more stages will see 212 dwellings, housing 737 people. There will be a district heating scheme from a central boiler house for the supply of hot water throughout the estate. 56 07 23a

1956 09 08
Great progress has been made since the devastating fire which destroyed more than half the factory of Corrugated Fittings of Burwell last April. Temporary buildings and even a marquee have been utilised, printers have dug ditches, engineers have loaded lorries and girls have taken apart and repainted machinery, redecorated and helped in cleaning up. Messrs MacKay of East Road have soured the country for sufficient steel sections to allow rebuilding in time for new machinery. 56 09 08d

1957 07 18
School House Lane off East Road garage appeal – 57 07 18

1957 09 05
Plans to use five two-storey dwellings in East Road for storage and business purposes were turned down. The buildings were occupied and producing an annual income of £60 but the Council wanted to serve demolition orders to get the site for road improvements without fair compensation. The Minister said that East Road was narrow and attracted heavy traffic. It was to be widened but such use would add seriously to the present congestion. 57 09 05

1958 01 16
Percy John Todd was apprenticed to the scale and weighing machine trade at the firm of Headley and Edwards. In 1931 he started Todd's Scale Work on East Road and was the senior partner until his death. In his younger days he played for the Cambridge Victoria and Cambridge Hotspurs Football Clubs and ran with the Albert Institute Harriers. 58 01 16a

1958 03 11
East Road district heating plan abandoned – 58 03 11

1958 09 25
An inquiry into plans for the compulsory purchase and clearance orders affecting 67 houses in East Road, Fitzroy Street, Adam and Eve Street and Gloucester Terrace heard from three objectors. Mr J.N. Baldry had plans to develop his site in connection with his mineral water business. But the Medical Officer said the area contained some of the worst houses in Cambridge: they were all unfit and clearance would serve the interests of public health. 58 09 25

1958 12 16
Cambridge City Libraries' annual staff dinner and party was held in the Guildhall. Librarian, Eric Cave recalled they had closed 'that museum piece, the East Road Reading Room and the Ditton Fields Sub-Branch while sub-branches at Cherry Hinton and Trumpington had more to better accommodation. The Libraries were much appreciated and he looked forward to their continued progress. Games, dancing and entertainment followed organised by J.W. Franklin, L.J. Horspool, C.C. Marsh, R.J. Tarrant and Miss B.K. Wadsworth. 58 12 16b

1959 06 03

Winton-Smith, the Cambridge butchers, have been looking for a site for a new, modernised slaughterhouse to replace the one they own in East Road. They have chosen a site in Haslingfield but there are objections from residents and so a public inquiry was held. 59 06 03

1959 08 20
Mackays of East Road has donated a Blackstone horizontal diesel engine to Freetown, Sierra Leone. The engine was first installed in 1930 and gave them complete independence to power cuts. It ran throughout the war with virtually no maintenance. They have completed the electrification of their plant and John Mellanby, the well-known Cambridge electrician, suggested it be offered to the Technical Institute over there. Similar engines have been working at Heffers printing works and Coulson's wood mill. 59 08 20

1959 09 30
The area between East Road, Norfolk Street and St Matthew's Street comprises narrow streets and courts of dwellings of the demolition standard, creating a general impression of decay. The whole area should be demolished and rebuilt, the Surveyor told an Inquiry. Every house in Staffordshire Street was damp, some roofs are sunken and some water closets are across the street from the houses they serve. But many owners objected to plans for compulsory purchase. 59 09 30c & d

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 03 12
The Minister has confirmed compulsory purchase orders concerning houses in Norfolk Street which the City Council are anxious to pull down for the second stage of the East Road redevelopment scheme. The area affected was generally dilapidated, over-crowded and of a demolition standard with some of the buildings giving a general impression of decay. Now they can go ahead with erecting new houses, flats and shops 60 03 12

1960 03 25
Three new major building projects are all progressing satisfactorily. The first storey of at least one building on the Churchill College site is already visible from Madingley Road. The cast iron arches of the old Garret Hostel Lane Bridge have been removed with a temporary wooden structure erected over the river. In East Road the scheme for redeveloping a large area previously occupied with derelict buildings is rapidly taking shape. Maisonettes will be constructed in the first stage followed by shops, flats, roads and houses. 60 03 25d

1960 12 17
Hills Road railway bridge is functioning almost as normal again. After a year's work during which the traffic has had to contend with considerable difficulties, the road is now suitable for two-lane traffic. Resurfacing will not be carried on for another 12 months in order to allow for subsidence and for several more weeks workmen will be patching up. Work on Churchill College continues as does work on 13 three-storey terrace houses and 60 maisonettes at East Road. Most have their roofs on and one block of houses has its windows in. 60 12 17b

1961 07 08
By 1966 it is hoped that the new trunk-road linking the main Cambridge-London and Cambridge-Newmarket Roads will have been fully operational for some years. East Road would then be carrying about 1,000 vehicles an hour and Winton-Smith applied to build a petrol station in place

of their slaughter house. But planners told an Inquiry that it would interfere with the free flow of traffic and cause confusion for motorists 61 07 08

1961 08 24
Motorists are quick to seize every chance that comes their way of finding a parking space for their cars. Already several have made the most of the opportunity provided by the demolition work in Adam and Eve Street. Vehicles now stand where a row of cottages used to exist. The buildings were cleared as part of the City Council's redevelopment scheme in the East Road district 61 08 24a

1961 09 08
Members of the Women's Royal Army Corps Territorial Association are examining aerial photographs at the new Air Photo Interpretation Centre at the Drill Hall in East Road. Until April they were a Motor Transport Company and when reorganised were divided into two sections with the other studying signals at Coldham's Lane. The women have to sign on for two years and receive full army pay with an annual bounty of ten guineas. Uniforms are given and they train each Monday evening. But it is difficult if there are small children for in wartime the T.A. are the first to be called up. 61 09 08b

1961 11 21
Two silver birch trees transported by road to the new block of flats in East Road – 61 11 06a
The proposed new Cambridge fire station on the corner of Parkside and East Road is without doubt the best situation that could be found. It is on the immediate perimeter of the inner congested centre of Cambridge, has access to good routes and is well-placed to take advantage of the proposed new bridge over the Cam. It will replace the present fire station built in 1944 at the corner of Newmarket Road and Coldham's Lane which consists of war-time huts and brick structures on the site of a refuse pit. 61 11 21a

1962 05 03
An inquiry into the Bradmore Street area heard that 119 houses between Petersfield, East Road, Broad Street and the CCAT were unfit for human habitation and should be demolished under the slum clearance plan. The area would be used for extensions to the college and the Mill Road Sorting Office. But six householders objected. One lady had lived in her home for 50 years, she was 89 and blind and would find it difficult to move. Another had been deaf and dumb from birth; she had lived there for 54 years and was frightened at the prospect of being relocated. 62 05 03a

1962 09 11
Army Cadet HQ in East Road demolished – move to Drill Hall – 62 09 11a

1962 09 26
Cambridge Amateur Boxing Club is seeking for a piece of land on which it can build a gymnasium in place of their headquarters in Henley Road. They have more new members than at any time in their history and have collected over £2,000 towards a new building which will include kitchen and seating accommodation. In addition the club's President, Arthur Cooper, has promised a brand new £100 ring. The season opens with a fixture against the University at the Corn Exchange with another in the Drill Hall, East Road 62 09 26b

1962 12 07
John Shrive had osier beds at Horningsea and Fen Ditton until he died 40 years ago, employing five men to grow and cut them with bundles kept moist in the Green End ditch until needed. Most

of the women of Fen Ditton were employed in peeling or cleaving on a casual basis, sitting on each side of the road with their bundles beside them. Stripped osiers were collected by horse and cart then taken to Mr Shrive's workshop in East Road where they were woven into baskets to be sold from his shop on Peas Hill. School reports up to 1912 list frequent absenteeism with children 'helping with rod peeling' 62 12 07a

1963 07 31
St George's Church of England Secondary School opened in 1835 with separate departments for senior boys and girls. For 100 years it was called East Road School until the infants section closed in 1931. Pupils will attend other secondary schools until new premises are built on a site in St George's parish. The old school will be rebuilt to house the St Matthew's Infants School 63 07 31a

1963 09 04
East Road, once a narrow, cluttered thoroughfare, is gradually being improved; photo of new works adjacent to the widened East Road carriageway 63 09 04c

1963 10 02
Part of the East Road dual carriageway is now open. 63 10 02

1963 10 03
More and more Cambridge people are rejecting the idea of a three-bedroomed house and there is a growing demand for small, one or two bedroomed units. Brookfields, on East Road, should consist entirely of these types of property and be supplemented by development at the junction of Carlton Way. The improvement and conversion of the older type of pre-war council houses should be advanced at all speed, councillors were told. They will draw up proposals for the redevelopment of aluminium bungalows at Church End, Cherry Hinton 63 10 03

1963 11 14
Headquarters of the Suffolk and Cambridgeshire Territorial Army may move from Ipswich to Bury or Newmarket. The Drill Hall in East Road may close 63 11 14a

1964 03 04
Houses in Walnut Tree Avenue have been bought by the Ministry of Transport for demolition when the dual-carriageway for the proposed Chesterton Bridge Route is constructed. One side of Cam Road will also have to be demolished. It is expected that negotiations for the 30 properties involved will take a year to complete. The first part of the scheme will link Newmarket Road with Chesterton and Milton Roads. Later the existing roads of Lensfield Road, Gonville Place and East Road will feed into a roundabout at the junction of Sun Street and Newmarket Road 64 03 04b

1964 08 28
The Lion Yard area is badly laid out and contains 'obsolete development'; there should be a small increase in shopping space with the rest devoted to civic and university uses, Sir Keith Joseph, the Minister of Housing says. A brand new shopping area should be created in the City Road area – the present twilight zone. It will take traffic away from the centre, cater for modern supermarket trends and fit in with plans for the continuation of the East Road housing scheme 64 08 28, 28b

1964 09 01
Ward & sons, radio, bicycle and pram dealer to move from East Road to Burleigh St – 64 09 01

1965 03 11

Ward's move to new premises in Burleigh Street marks another stage in the long history of a firm which started when Jonas Ward made a living mending bicycles in East Road. For some time they made the famous Crown cycles, one of which was ridden from Cambridge to Monte Carlo in 1930. They also supplied carrier cycles and box tricycles. Later they diversified into wireless, gramophones, washing machines and baby carriages and became one of the first to stock televisions in 1938. – 65 03 11a, b

1968 12 09
Walter Easy drives Cambridge taxis for 50 years; was provincial car company in 190 which started at old tram depot in East Road; father one of first to have motor transport – T-model Ford, later motor-cycle taxis – details – 68 12 09

1969 05 20
East Road roundabout planted with flowers – photo – 69 05 20

1970

1970 01 14
Simon community derelict pub on East Road taken over as place of refuge is to close – 70 01 14

1970 05 28
Fire Serck Services radiator firm, East Road – 70 05 28

1971 06 17
Toilet at East Road – Mill Road junction being demolished – 71 06 17a

1971 12 07
Mackay plans to extend engineering factory and build more shops and offices on East Road blocked – 71 12 07a

1972 06 09
The family firm of D. Mackay, Britannia Works, East Road, Cambridge, celebrate their 60th year jubilee this week. The Britannia Public house from which the works took its name has recently been demolished, and the houses which formed Britannia Place have long since disappeared, as has the Smith which stood in the public house yard. Many other landmarks have been swept away in the new Roadworks. It used to be said that by standing at the corner of East Road and Newmarket Road one would be sure to meet one's friends. Now it is difficult to see which is the corner, and the traffic roars past too fast for leisurely greetings

1972 06 15
People living in Norfolk Street and Gwydir Street made it clear at a meeting in Cambridge that they want some peace and quiet - and soon. They want to be able to park their cars free outside their own homes and are calling for rapid police action to enforce parking bans in the area. Half the 1,400 vehicles recorded during a 13-hour period were using the narrow roads in the area as a short cut between Mill Road and East Road

1972 11 23
Billy the Kid, fresh from his latest brush with the law, stood in a makeshift office in the derelict, boarded-up pub in East Road that is the Cyrenian's haven for dossers in Cambridge and threw down a challenge. "I'll bet you", he said in the most confidential of tones, "that I can pick up in Cambridge as much in one week as ever you can earn". Now Billy the Kid's reputation among the

"touchers" of Cambridge stands high. Billy the Kid is the city's uncrowned king and no sane man would ever doubt his begging ability. "Well", I queried, playing safe, "I might be interested". "You've got to beat 75-quid and most of that is from the students"

1972 12 08
An estimated 2,000 people turned up for the first day's trading at the Marcade, Cambridge's first indoor market. The Marcade is the brainchild of two city businessmen, one of whom said "We have spoken to every trader today and most of them have said they have taken as much in five hours todays as they usually take in a week" There are 48 stands in the market, which is in the old Eastern Electricity buildings in East Road and they hope to have a total of 100 by January. "The whole idea is to make it a good market where someone can buy anything at competitive prices and of good quality". They were aiming at a market where a customer could buy everything from a kitchen sink to a fur coat, said Mr Smith

1973 11 19
The cost of bringing the White Ribbon Hotel at East Road, Cambridge up to the standard needed to meet fire safety regulations and public health requirements now about £4,000 – nearly three times the amount originally estimated. Until last April the hotel was run by the Salvation Army as a hostel for city working men with no family roots. But, because of the high cost of maintaining the building and bringing it up to the new standards, the Salvation Army moved out and the |County council took over the building. Cambridge city council have told the county that they will not pay any more than £750.

1974 02 08
Cambridge city council's controversial plan to stop Gwydir Street being used as a short-cut between East Road and Mill road has come into action and already shopkeepers are reporting trading losses of up to 50%. Norfolk street, once continually busy with traffic, is now silent and virtually at a standstill. And the shopkeepers of the street are beginning to wonder if they might soon be at a standstill too. Mrs Linda Gregoris who owns the Athena restaurant lent on her broom and surveyed the five customers. "It is 11am and normally this place is chock-a-block and people have to fight for a seat. Yesterday we had five people in here – normally it would be as many as 80"

1974 07 06
The White Ribbon Hostel, in Cambridge, which provides accommodation for nearly 30 single men with no family backgrounds, may soon be run jointly by Cambridgeshire County and Cambridge City Councils. Until 18 months ago the Salvation Army ran the hostel at East Road. But rising costs and the prospects of having to pay thousands of pounds to bring it up to the new fire safety standards led them to hand over the project.

1974 08 02
The White Ribbon hostel in East Road, Cambridge, which provides a home for 30 working men with no family backgrounds, has been declared a great fire hazard by Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service. For many years the hostel was run by the Salvation Army but they were forced to give up when the high cost of bringing the building up to fire safety standards was discovered last year. The building was then run by Cambridgeshire Mental Welfare Association. But because of other commitments, they have handed over the administration to the county council. Eventually the authorities hope to replace the old buildings with new ones. But no swift action is likely in rebuilding because of the present serious shortage of money in local government circles.

1975 03 25

Cambridge pubs range from grimy to gracious according to a drinker's guide just published by a group of undergraduates. Grime, according to the guide, is synonymous with the Locomotive pub in Mill Road, and grace is one of the virtues of the Plough Inn at Fen Ditton. Praise is lavished on the "thematic scheme" of the Galleon bar in the Burleigh Arms, Newmarket Road. The Free Press has "exceptional character" and the Baker's Arms, East Road, is called a "refreshing surprise". The Bun Shop, Downing Street is said to be "something of a Cambridge institution and well worth a visit"

1975 05 22
Twelve traders at the Marcade in East Road, Cambridge, were each fined up to £10 for serving customers on a Sunday. The charges arose from an undisclosed complaint on the Sunday before Christmas and a visit to the covered market by a public health officer and three inspectors. One of the traders said he carried out a survey on the same Sunday and discovered 17 other shops open and selling goods contravening the law. They were giving a public service on the run-up to Christmas and were surprised other shops doing the same thing were not prosecuted.

1975 09 01
Stallholders at the Marcade, East Road, Cambridge, were today counting the cost of a blaze which gutted the indoor market on Saturday night, destroying more than £100,000 worth of stock. The fire was first spotted at about 11.45pm and within half an hour the market was a raging inferno as clothes, antiques, records and household goods went up in flames and asphalt and glass sections of the roof began to cave in. The Marcade was opened two and a half years ago and many of the stallholders were just beginning to build up a profitable livelihood.

1976 01 24
The fire risk and crumbling condition of the building at the Cambridge Cyrenian's community short stay hostel for down-and-outs in East Road has added new urgency to their eight-year search for new premises. The chairman said: The building itself, the bricks and wood, are falling to pieces. You could pour £5,000 into it and achieve nothing. The dozen men living in the hostel all sleep downstairs because of the difficulty of evacuating in an emergency

1976 03 17
One of Cambridge's best-known characters, Trevor Hughes, was rescued by firemen from a blazing room in a derelict house in East Road. He was found choking in a smoke-filled room at the back of the old headquarters of the Cyrene Community. Trevor, the elder statesman of the Cambridge dosser community, is well-known to shoppers in the Market Square where he sits daily by the fountain1976

1977 09 30
The newsagents business of Lokers on East Road has been something of a landmark since Dobbie Loker founded the firm in 1861. They have come a long way, expanding from a little paper shop to one of the biggest wholesalers in the area and providing books, paperbacks, toys and other sundries as well as stationery for the newsagents of Cambridge. They were the last shop to leave the south side of East Road during redevelopment. Ten years ago they decided to concentrate on wholesale trade and look for new accommodation. They have now moved to Severn Place.

1977 10 20
Take the dull and empty expanse of East Road roundabout in Cambridge, combine it with the recent clamour for a city skateboard park and the result is a plan which has just won Cambridge architect Keith Garbett and artist Jon Harris first place in a national competition. The idea incorporates a "pipe" with a viewing platform above where spectators can watch skateboarders

emerge from a tunnel, a bowl with an up-and-down return slope and a slalom slope where skateboarders can weave in and out of rubber bollards. The Mayor said he would be happy to see the plan go before council officials for consideration but would it attract children to a busy junction and might impede its real purpose which is to let people cross the road safely

1978 10 13
The Varsity Handbook's pub guide includes a bitter attack on several Cambridge pubs. At The Horse and Groom, King Street it claims "the beer is foul, the bar dirty and the landlord unpleasant". The Pickerel, Magdalene Street, fares little better: "Foul place, selling foul beer and swamped by inhabitants of a certain nearby college". Whitbread pubs in particular come in for a bad time: "Why does Whitbread charge so much money for their freezing cold fizzy beer", it asks. But it likes the Baker's Arms, East Road - "friendly and near a fish and chip shop"

1979 02 26
One of the longest-serving landlords in Cambridge is Noel Archdeacon and his wife Hannah Mae of the Cow and Calf public house on Pound Hill. They are particularly well-known to their Irish regulars, several of whom were customers at their two previous Cambridge pubs, both of which have disappeared. The Britannia in East Road was demolished years ago and The Swan in Norfolk Street is now a private house. Their present pub has belatedly had a complete internal facelift and now has one large lounge where there is plenty of room for the new pool table.

1979 04 27
What is claimed to be the largest cycle shop in Cambridge, with a stock of thousands of new and used machines has opened on the corner of East Road and Norfolk Street. The new shop – 'Thakes – the Cycle King' – is the fourth in a rapidly-growing string owned by Nick Thake who calls himself 'the 27-year-old work maniac'. His other shops are in the London suburban and Southend areas. It will offer discounts of up to 50 per cent with a guarantee of rapid service and total satisfaction and also specialise in finding parts for very old cycles or obscure foreign makes

1980

1981 07 20
Mr Ben Sharpe, who drove the last Cambridge horse tram, has died aged 86. It was on 18th February 1914 that he took a single-decker tram on its last ceremonial journey from its East Road depot to King's Parade. Within the year public transport was motorised and most of the men who had manned the horse trams were in France with the British Expeditionary Force. Mr Sharp served with the Cambridgeshire Regiment and was both wounded and gassed. Afterwards he worked for the Ortona Omnibus Company and later Eastern National operating between Cambridge and Bedford. 81 07 20

1981 10 09
Wards have been in Cambridge for more than 70 years, originally making and selling cycles. By the 1930s they were involved in electronics, making their own wireless receiver, the Wards Three Valve. In the 1950s they expanded into communications, selling televisions and other electronic equipment, moving from East Road to a new shop in Burleigh Street in 1965 with another in Bradwell's Court. At its peak in the 1970s they won contracts with Iraq and the Defence Ministry. Now it will close for the last time. 81 10 09d

1981 11 05
Shocked traders at Cambridge's Beaumont Centre in East Road have been given notice to quit, just weeks before Christmas. The indoor market, which was gutted by fire six years ago and

reopened after a £100,000 facelift, is to be closed down and demolished. Now they are desperately searching for new premises to try and keep their businesses going. 81 11 05a

1982 10 04
Children from St Matthew's Primary School joined a raincoated march protesting against the proposed East Road dual carriageway which would take part of their playground. They stopped outside the Grafton Information Centre, which has supported the County Council's plans, for some orchestrated slogan shouting. About 250 marchers gathered at Parker's Piece expressing concern about increased noise, lead pollution and the danger to children posed by the 'road to nowhere'. 82 10 04a

1983 02 16
Cambridge is rapidly becoming one of the country's leading computer centres. The latest to enter the fray is Herald Computers of East Road. They are convinced there is a gap in the market for tailor-made systems designed to help small businesses choose the right computer and programmes for their particular purposes and so their activities will be outside the range of the man-in-the-street. 83 02 16

1983 05 17
Cambridge Working Men's' Club's 100-year old existence is in doubt because the city and county councils cannot agree on its resiting. Grosvenor Developments who built the Grafton Centre, offered to pay £500,000 for it to be resited on ground a few yards away owned by the city council. But they will not sell because if it moves it will leave the way clear for the county council to go ahead with the widening of East Road which the Labour city council opposes. Now Grosvenor may withdraw its offer and leave ratepayers to foot the entire bill. 83 05 17 p20

1983 12 27
The controversial plan to finish the widening of East Road is to go ahead despite growing opposition. The County Council leader says nothing is going to stop them from completing the work. The City council claim the road is a waste of money and would have a serious and harmful effect on St Matthew's primary school. They have placed a tree preservation order on saplings growing in the school forecourt to prevent the county from starting to widen the road. But the county claim this is illegal and challenged it in the High Court. 83 10 27 p11

1983 12 09
The Royal coat of arms on the old Drill Hall, East Road, is a work of art and may be saved when the building is demolished thanks to a change meeting 50 years ago. At that time Gordon Higgins was chatting to an elderly villager in Newton, Albert Prime, the man who made it. He had been a copper worker and raised the sign from a plate of copper 50 years earlier. He was taken to a yellow-painted hut – it was a Rip Van Winkie workshop; all the tools and templets were piled as if they had been there for 100 years. Now it will be preserved. 83 12 09 p16

1985 01 31
The Government's decision to allow the widening of East Road has been called 'a disaster for Cambridge' by City Councillors who oppose the plan. They feel widening would harm the environment and represent a health hazard for children at St Matthew's School, part of whose playing fields would be dug up. But County Council road engineers claim the plan to dual the final 400-yard stretch from Norfolk Street to Mill Road corner is an essential part of the city's traffic pattern and will be completed as soon as possible. 85 01 31

1985 03 11

A major shake-up to cope with the forecast massive increase in Cambridge traffic has been unveiled by the County Council. It suggests an underground car park at the Butts Green end of Midsummer Common and a new road following the main railway line with a new bridge over the Cam. There could be reconstruction of a number of major road junctions including East Road - Newmarket Road and at Hyde Park Corner with widening of dual carriageways and new cycleways. A park-and-ride system of new car parks linked to the centre by frequent buses is also proposed 85 03 11

1985 05 07
The new-look Cambridgeshire County Council may descend into political chaos unless a compromise over who works with whom can be worked out. The Liberal SDP Alliance with 26 seats is seeking a three-way administration with the Conservatives (29 seats) or the Labour with 21. But Labour has turned down the Alliance Plan and the Conservatives will agree to power sharing only if the new council accepts their financial policies. Controversial plans to widen East Road have been scrapped as has a railway-road plan which would have destroyed large housing and commercial areas of Cambridge. 85 05 07

1985 05 13
East Road widening plans scrapped after £1 million spent – 85 05 13

1985 06 26
For 50 years the name of F.H. Fry has been associated with scales and scale-making in Cambridge. It was started by Frederic Fry in East Road in 1935 and moved to Perowne Street in 1962. Now they have branched out to include cash registers, gravity-feed slicers and sausage fillers. Modern scales are so clever they can not only weigh and automatically calculate the price but they also check themselves to see they are in working order. Yet despite all this progress a brass weight is used to check they are accurate. 85 06 26b

1985 10 24
Squatters who are being turned out of the derelict Thakes Cycle Shop on East Road are angry that the building will lie empty. It was bought by the County Council under a compulsory purchase order and was to have been demolished to make way for the controversial road widening scheme which has now been scrapped. It could still be pulled down to improve the road junction with Norfolk Street. The squatters had dreams of turning it into a social centre with a vegetarian café and crèche 85 10 24b

1985 12 02
Cambridge is counting the cost of a night of violence. Three policemen were injured and 13 police vehicles damaged during a three-hour confrontation with up to 300 youths in East Road. Tempers flared and scuffles broke out as would-be revellers tried to enter the former Thakes cycle shop for a party with a disco and a band. The building had been purchased by the County Council and was due to be flattened to make way for a new dual carriageway, but the scheme was scrapped. Now it may be demolished as soon as possible 85 12 02

1985 12 10
Council chiefs are setting up an ‘action squad’ to in a bid to defuse mounting mob tension on the streets of Cambridge following a violent clash outside the former Thakes cycle shop on East Road. At a noisy meeting in the Guildhall more than 100 youngsters spelled out a simple desperate plea – give us somewhere to meet. Now the councillors will try to find a disused warehouse for them to convert into a late-night venue or set up an ‘open house’ building which

they could use during the day. The unemployed workers' centre could also be put to more intensive use. 85 12 10a

1985 12 10
More than 200 young people entered the Rob Roy pub in Chesterton Road to hold a late-night disco. Sixty-five police prevented any more entering as toilet rolls, a chair and other pieces of furniture rained down. As there were no lights on, except for the disco light and with a crowd in excess of 200 police decided it would be unsafe to enter and clear the building. The pub had not been derelict but undergoing refurbishment and considerable damage was done to the upstairs room. It followed confrontation with several hundred youths outside the former Thakes cycle shop in East Road 85 12 10b

1987 09 03
Temporary traffic lights at the junction of Elizabeth Way roundabout with Newmarket Road and East Road have been switched on in an experiment to ease rush-hour congestion. 87 09 03

1988 05 12
From the moment the Grafton Centre opened in October 1983, everybody connected with it knew that it was too small at 300,000 sq feet. It was locked in by its location with the only real scope for expansion on the East Road side. This needed a deal with Coulsons, the long-established Cambridge builder. Retailers had reservations about the initial plans for a major new store built around Presto supermarket. It had been intended to provide the kind of balanced development considered important in the 1970s, but had never proved successful 88 05 12 & a

1988 06 02
Loker and Co. Cambridge newsagents since 1861, is to close as a result of sweeping changes in newspaper and magazine wholesaling. Moved from corner of East Road and School House Lane in 1977 – 88 06 02

Emmanuel Street from St Andrew's Street, 1938

10449

c.44.6 : Emmanuel Street

1900

1901 04 18
Cambridge Council reported that in 1900 a meeting had been held with Emmanuel College as to the terms of exchange of the site of Emmanuel Street for a piece of ground to form a new street from St Andrews Street to Drummer Street. The existing street was the chief means of access to the centre of the town and carried a very considerable proportion of traffic with 1,030 cyclists on Saturday. The new road would be nearly 100 feet shorter and wider. Mr Campkin suggested the advantage would rest largely with the College.

1903 10 10
Emmanuel St, p2

1906 02 22
In 1901 an agreement was made with Emmanuel College for the closing of Emmanuel Street and the opening of a new one nearer Christ's Lane. It had been needed when electric trams were being planned to remedy a dangerous corner with St Andrew's Street – but there would be a more dangerous corner to the proposed new street. Now some councillors called for the agreement to be cancelled. However the council had entered a binding contract and they were honour-bound to carry it out.06 02 22a,b,c

1906 05 17
An agreement had been made between the Borough Council and Emmanuel College for the closure of Emmanuel Street and the creation of a new road further north. As a result the college had taken no steps to erect new buildings on the site of two dilapidated houses that had been pulled down and had lost ground rent for several years. Now the council had changed its mind.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

They should make compensation by providing, free of cost, a subway to link college property on either side of Emmanuel Street 06 05 17b & c

1910

1911 09 05
A number of Cambridge schoolboys 'came out' on strike, some because they had a half-holiday and others because they hadn't. Some say there were several hundred boys and girls carrying 'On Strike' banners and they had chalked the same on the doors of their schools. They held a mass meeting on Christ's Pieces then marched down Emmanuel Street where they came into contact with the police (one constable). The demonstration then collapsed. But teachers say there was no strike. They were not schoolboys but hooligans; they made a disturbance outside the school but the flashing eye of the schoolmaster made them retreat 11 09 15c

1920

1923 10 24
Sir - Permit me to enter a strong protest against Cambridge town council "improvements". Take the following, with all of which we are now threatened. The detestable proposal to improve St Mary's Street by lopping off nine feet of church yard; the very pleasant little old world Emmanuel Streeet to be made banal by altering its lines and proportions; Coe fen to be utterly ruined for ever by cutting a new road for motors. And who in their right mind would dream of building public baths in so outlying and unattractive a suburb as Gwydir Street. - Delta

1925 08 10
Sir – Much has been written about the street lighting of Cambridge. Emmanuel Road, Emmanuel Street and Drummer Street are all under repair and consequently all the main road traffic has to proceed via Clarendon Street or New Square. Yet in the whole length of these roads not a single lamp is lighted at nights. In fact in the whole district there is not one lamp. Isn't it time that something was done to instil a little sense into the heads of those who direct the town affairs? It is false economy to make the streets danger traps for motorists, cyclists & pedestrians. – F.I. Cowles

1925 11 09 c
Three undergraduates were fined £2 each for extinguishing street lamps. James Haynes, a watchman said he saw the gentlemen approach Drummer Street. They overturned the brazier containing his fire and he had to put the fire out because the tar on the pavement commenced to flare. He saw them turn out the light of a lamp in Emmanuel Street. Two of them hoisted another up to do this. In Short Street they turned out three more lights and another five were turned out along Victoria Avenue.

1930

1936 03 23
Unilateral parking came into force in Cambridge on Saturday. Between Regent Street and the Old Post Office parking is now allowed for 15 minutes in any one hour on one side of the road on even dates and on the other side on odd. There is one short stretch against Emmanuel Street in which no parking is allowed, owing to the difficulty of traffic coming in and out of the town through this narrow street. Readers should remember they cannot now leave their cars for any longer than 15 minutes as this is the limit. 36 03 23b

1940

1946 05 01
St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel Street road widening, discussion Council and Emmanuel College – 46 05 01

1949 07 16
Rapid progress has been made this week in the demolition of Coad's former shop at the junction of Emmanuel Street and St Andrew's street, Cambridge. The work, which forms part of the street widening scheme envisaged many years before the war, will involve the complete clearance of the corner and the provision of a larger curve to assist buses and increase visibility. There is no immediate prospect of further developments in the scheme but it is possible that a seat might be provided on the newly-cleared space.

1950

1952 05 05
Cambridge city council would like to see Christ's Lane opened out as a thoroughfare to be used by the omnibuses and other traffic to alleviate congestion in the City centre and provide relief for Emmanuel Street. The present country bus station at Drummer Street would then become the main stopping place for the local buses which now pick up and set down passengers in Sidney Street constricting the traffic flow. They also propose a new road on the line of Post Office Terrace to Wheeler Street. With Corn Exchange Street widened this would provide for a good circulation of traffic in the city centre

1952 10 23
Proposals for the bus station at Drummer Street, Cambridge, were discussed at the Planning Inquiry. The bus company preferred a station to be sited on New Square which was double the area of Drummer Street. But would passengers agree – and they are entitled to be considered sometimes. Half to two-thirds would use Emmanuel Street. The amount of bus traffic would increase if greater provision was made & there would be a traffic blockage at Four Lamps roundabout

1954 07 19
The Minister's decision on the County Development Plan has been announced. The only major Cambridge items not approved are the site of the bus station between Christ's College & Emmanuel and the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Road. All the central area road proposals including the 'spine relief road', the new Guildhall Street and a cross-town route joining Emmanuel Street with Downing Street have been approved together with the new Chesterton Bridge over the Cam near Walnut Tree Avenue, a multi-storey car park in Corn Exchange Street and a subway at the railway station.

1954 07 20
Planners have approved a new development between St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel New Court, Cambridge. There will be shops on the ground floor and offices above and the building will be of a high architectural standard in keeping with its position in the centre of the city. Provision must be made for a widening of Emmanuel Street and be sited to allow for a free circulation of the shopping traffic generated. Car parking facilities are advocated, either by way of a basement or by access to a space on the roof.

1954 08 06

Emmanuel College has announced proposals for building a new block of shops and offices on the corner of St Andrew's Street. They will lease the property to the Prudential Assurance Company who will undertake what is by far the largest and most important commercial development since the opening of Woolworth's Stores in Sidney Street. The existing buildings will be completely taken down and a new block erected in their place with shops on the ground floor and offices above. With the parking problem so much in the forefront it will provide sufficient car parking for its occupants. Though they may be some who will regret the disappearance of the cottages in Emmanuel Street few will argue against the removal of the red brick 'giant' known as Rance's Folly with its towering storeys and overblown construction which is now used as University offices. CDN 6.8.1954

1954 10 19
Emmanuel Street plans, p4

1955 07 01
Emmanuel Street demolition photo, p12

1955 07 02
Miss Kathleen Payne, 76, is retiring after a lifetime in the newsagents' business as her shop in Emmanuel Street is to be pulled down. It marks the end of one of Cambridge's familiar landmarks. The business was started by her father who remembered selling his first C.D.N. in 1888. Miss Payne has lived there all her life & recalls when chickens used to run down St Andrew's Street before the days of super shops, large cinemas and motor buses. 55 07 02

1956 07 14
Mr Stanley Woolston has removed his antiques business to Pembroke Street. It is a wrench to leave his former premises in St Andrew's Street after 30 years where he has been honoured by the gracious patronage of members of the Royal Family. But the buildings have been affected by the redevelopment of Emmanuel Street and plans to link Drummer Street with a shopping arcade. He will retain his warehouse at the end of Bradwell's Yard until the area is ripe for rebuilding. 56 07 14

1959 06 18
The giant new Prudential Building on the junction of St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel Street incorporates the latest building techniques with heating and hot water provided by electrical units which take power from the mains during 'off-peak' hours and store it for use during the day. Acoustic ceiling tiles provide quieter working conditions, floors are of a coloured plastic tile and decorations in pastel shades. The basement contains a large garage and special storage to cater for the large use of bicycles by staff. 58 06 18

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1970

1975 02 10
Cambridge's city centre traffic experiment swung into action today. Thousands of motorists faced the through-traffic ban for the first time. The road closures and a system of one-way routes will operate for six months unless "utter chaos" develops. The scheme could then be swiftly abandoned. It closes two sections of road in the centre of town to private cars. One extends along

King's Parade from King's College gate to Gt St Mary's while the other runs from Woolworth's along St Andrew's street to its junction with Emmanuel St

1977 07 13
A group of Cambridge residents have started a legal battle to stop buses using the narrow, congested Parker Street to reach the city's Drummer Street bus station. They are trying to force four major bus companies to use an alternative route via Emmanuel Street and Regent Street. The leader of the objectors said: "Parker Street is fit only for local traffic, being narrow and with houses on each side. At the moment the pollution is disgusting. You cannot open a window and the noise is above acceptable limits". The Eastern Counties traffic manager said: "Buses represent only a tiny proportion of the heavy traffic using the street, so why we are being picked on I don't know"

1980

1980 12 04
The age of the microchip has taken all of us by surprise but now sons and daughters crave for the latest computer game, digital watch or radio-controlled car. Since Tandy came to Cambridge five years ago they have found rapidly-increasing demand in the home electronics field and have now divided their Emmanuel Street operation into two shops. One will house a veritable treasure trove of hi-fis, tv games and intercoms appealing to the young. 80 12 04b

1981 02 09
The new King 511 call box installed in Emmanuel Street, Cambridge is made of transparent bronze acrylic attached to a strong central column. There is no door so that users simply walk into the open canopy. British Telecom says it will curb vandalism and is more attractive in a modern environment.
81 02 09a

1989 12 15
The closure of W & G. Taylor is the latest in a line of small stores squeezed from the city centre by rocketing rents. Two other men's outfitters, Ropers and Bodgers closed this summer. Another famous shop which closed six years ago in the face of mounting rent and rates was Bacons in Market Street. The Parsley Pot in Lion Yard, Cambridge Fine Jewels of Emmanuel Street and upmarket furnishers, Johns left their Bridge Street premises for Histon Road last year blaming the traffic chaos can high parking charges 89 12 15

Fitzroy Street c.1905 72.90

c.44.6 : Fitzroy Street

1888

1897
None enjoy the ecstasy of health so much as those who have just emerged from the pain and discomfort of a serious illness. It is a notorious fact in the neighbourhood of Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, that Mr George Stokes, confectioner, had for the past five years been unable to follow his business in consequence of the breakdown of his health. He then related how he came to read in "Lloyds Newspaper" how Dr Williams' Pink Pills for Pale People had worked marvellous cures. "I got the first box of Dr Williams Pink Pills on the 5th of February. After taking the first three pills I began to sleep better, I can now move my neck, limbs and joints without pain except my knees. Certainly the change has been marvellous since I took Dr Williams' Pink Pills"

1897 05 07
Will you allow me a small space to refer to the arrangements for sweeping and cleaning Fitzroy Street? After one gets one's place thoroughly cleaned and dusted, ready for business, we have three men commence sweeping the street and it is impossible sometimes to see across the road for dust. After this is done and the cart takes the rubbish away the water cart makes its appearance about two hours later. Considering that Fitzroy-street is one of the busiest streets of Cambridge I

think these things could be altered to the benefit of the tradespeople of the street - letter from "Shopkeeper"

1898 05 0--
About quarter past four am P.C. Thomas Leeds, being on duty in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, noticed a smell as of something burning and saw a volume of smoke issuing from the house of Thomas More, bricklayer and small shopkeeper. By dint of hammering on the door, shouting, and blowing his whistle, he succeeded in rousing the inmates to a sense of their danger. Mrs More was very nervous about being passed through the window, and her husband was almost obliged to force her out. Meanwhile, other policemen, having heard the whistling, had hurried to the scene, and the alarm was sent to the fire station from the alarm post in Fitzroy Street. In less than ten minutes the men were on the spot with the hose and a steady jet of water directed on to the flames.

1898 09 02
Last night the people of Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, were startled by a loud crash and it was found that one of Messrs Sturton's shop windows had smashed. It seemed that a quantity of hams and cheeses were stored in the window and some becoming dislodged, had rolled down to the glass and smashed it. The window was completely wrecked and the cheeses and hams rolled into the street. The police were promptly in attendance and remained on guard until Mr Sturton arrived and had the window boarded up

1898 10 24
The normal quiet of Cambridge was interrupted by serious conflagration in Fitzroy Street which proved the most destructive to property that has occurred for many years. Cambridge is happily furnished with ample means of notifying outbreaks of fire, and it was through one of the electric alarms erected in various parts of the borough for immediate communication with the central fire station that the resident night watchman received an intimidation that a fire was in progress. Telegraphic communications were without delay dispatched to the competent director of the Volunteer Fire Brigade and the majority of the corps. The wires running to those residing in and about Mill Road were unfortunately out of order, and seven of the willing firemen were therefore debarred from taking an early part in the work

1898 11 05
Fitzroy Street fire, p2

1898 12 09
The keeper of the coffee tavern in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, was summoned for permitting gaming. P.C. Wright stated he saw 15 boys and young men, several of whom were playing dominoes. He noticed they were playing a "run out game". He asked defendant whether he allowed the lads to play for anything and he replied "Yes, they play for coffee". The police said they were not allowed to play for money or money's worth. The chairman said it was most desirable to prevent gaming among boys but they did not think it was a very bad case and defendant would only have to pay the costs

1899 05 03
The tripe season. Established over 50 years. E. J. Edwards, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge. The only wholesale and retail neats' feet and tripe dresser, and glaze manufacturer. Eat Edwards' tripe (fresh boiled daily). Recommended by the most eminent medical men as a safe cure for weak stomach and impaired digestion. All the leading colleges and hotels supplied. – Advertisement

1899 10 14
T.B. Hunt opened studio 130 Fitzroy Street, p1

1899 12 16
The tripe season is now in full swing and the noted house for this commodity is E.J. Edward's, 36 Fitzroy St, Cambridge. Tripe is a valuable edible for dyspeptics and other suffering from impaired digestion and as such there should be a good demand for it during the ensuing festive season. Mr Edward's name has been before the public for the past 50 years as a tripe dresser and glaze manufacturer and there is no doubt the stock he has laid in for Christmas will be more than equal to the increased demand.

1899 12 23
While making excavations at the junction of City Road and Fitzroy Street some workmen in the employ of the Cambridge Electric Lighting Company came upon some gruesome remains. They dug up some coffins. It is supposed the site is that of the old burial ground of Eden Street chapel. The remains were removed to Mill Road cemetery, where they were interred. For some reason efforts are being made to prevent the real facts becoming known. The employees of the Electric Light jealously guard what they deem an important secret, and refuse to give any details.

1900

1900 01 25
The Cambridge Co-operative Society has erected spacious new premises in Burleigh Street. The building is imposing and by contrast with the other not very ornate premises in Burleigh Street is rendered all the more conspicuous. On the ground floor are spaces for the butchery, drapery and boot and shoe department. The first floor is well laid out for other branches with a ready-made clothes emporium and on the top floor is a really fine meeting room. The old building in Fitzroy Street will be retained for the grocery portion of the business.

1900 03 30
A bedmaker's help was charged with stealing various articles of clothing from a room at Emmanuel College. She had taken four waistcoats and three pairs of trousers to Norman Bradley's pawnbrokers in Fitzroy Street. She had also pledged a vest for 1s.6d, a pair of gold studs for 4s. & a nightshirt, pants etc which she said were her own property. As a customer for the past 30 years the manager was quite satisfied with her explanation

1900 11 23
Fire broke out at the rear of the premises of Messrs Laurie & McConnal, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge. An employee noticed smoke coming from stacks of brooms, a bag of feathers, a stock of confetti and other material in the cellar. The staff of the firm set to work to extinguish the blaze and by dint of the application of water from a line of buckets and from a hose attached to the water tap, the fire was practically extinguished before the arrival of the fire brigade. It is surmised that a match was dropped down the lift hole by a passer by, and so caused the outbreak

1901 01 17
The Cambridge British Schools removed to handsome and commodious premises in Auckland Road abutting on Midsummer Common – an exceeding pleasant site where there is plenty of light and fresh air. The common will in summer afford an excellent playground for the boys and a playground for the girls and infants is laid out within the confines of the school premises. Accommodation is provided for 706 scholars and the school is already all but full. Hitherto the

scholars have been educated at schools in Fitzroy Street but these buildings have become antiquated

1901 08 07
A proposal to erect a new footbridge over the Cam between the De Freville Estate and Cambridge was advanced at a meeting of occupiers. It would put them in more direct communication with Fitzroy Street. A member of Chesterton Urban District Council thought it should be erected at the Fort St George ferry to benefit the owners of the new Central Estate; but this was a thing of the future. If they waited for this development they might wait five or ten years. They wanted a bridge for De Freville inhabitants immediately and would circulate residents for donations.

1901 09 16
Fitzroy Street fire, p3

1902 03 31
Three men were charged with breaking into a warehouse in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge and stealing a quantity of oranges, the property of Messrs Sturton Bros. Detective White said he found a box with three compartments, two were full of oranges, the third was empty. There was a quantity of orange peel on the warehouse floor. He eventually went to a house in Brunswick Walk where the wife showed him some oranges. Later one man admitted the offence. The men were remanded in custody, an application for bail was refused.

1902 04 18
Coronation 1902. A Proclamation. Messrs Starr and Rignall, the people's photographers, being confident that every loyal subject of H.M. King Edward will appreciate some memento of this the most eventful year of the present decade have decided to give everyone the opportunity of securing one of their high-class cabinet portraits, finished in their best style, for one shilling. See window for special babies' offer. 108 Fitzroy Street, Cambridge. – advert

1902 09 03
Burglars, evidently no 'prentice hands at their business, entered the premises of Messrs Norman Bradley, pawnbrokers, in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge and after rifling the jewellery department left with goods to the value of several hundred pounds. The establishment has suffered in this way before. Iron bars have been added to windows until it might have been assumed that everything was secure against even the most determined cracksman. So the thieves turned their attention to the weakest spot - the roof

1902 09 15
The mystery attaching to the discovery of a suit of khaki clothing on the river bank at Clayhithe has been solved in a remarkable manner. The person seen by four labourers is declared not to have been a man at all, but a woman in disguise. When the khaki clothed individual carrying a brown paper parcel was lost sight of a woman appeared from the same direction. The theory is that the parcel contained not only a woman's attire but was further intended to be the means of removing property which was that night to be stolen from Norman Bradley's pawnbrokers premises in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge.

1902 12 23
At the spacious premises of Laurie and McConnal, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge readers can secure anything they require for a seasonable gift. A special showroom is set apart for the display of cards, pictures, books, toys, games etc and they have a chose selection of mechanical toys which are quite a novelty in themselves. There is also a variety of artificial grasses and plants which it

would be difficulty to tell from real; these would make very pretty decorations. There has just recently been added a lending library which includes books of the best-known writers.

1902 12
A good Christmas dinner is desired by all and Messrs Sturton Bros of Fitzroy Street, Cambridge are open to provide everything required. A good fat turkey or goose and a nice ripe Stilton cheese are their specialities. Their groceries are of the very best quality and in the hardware department will be found a large display of useful goods suitable for presents.

1903 02 14
Messrs Laurie and McConnal are almost universal providers, for their extensive premises, nos.121-124 Fitzroy Street, contained many departments. Today they are no more. In their place is a great gap, a space which instead of containing the thousand and one articles wherewith to furnish the homes of Cambridge has nothing to show but heaps of charred timber, twisted iron girders and dismembered masses of masonry. The whole premises have been destroyed as completely as fire can destroy. In less than three hours they licked up goods and buildings valued at up to £100,000

1903 02 17
Many thousands of Cambridge people witnessed the spectacle of the fire at Laurie and McConnell's in Fitzroy Street. The crowd increased to gigantic proportions and to keep them in check it was necessary to stretch ropes across on either side. The Mayor, Aldermen and members of the Fire Brigade Committee watched the progress of the fire and the unremitting efforts of the firemen. The interested crowd did not let the firemen work without encouragement and the fireman with the nozzle working in clouds of smoke was cheered heartily when he commenced his task. As soon as the hopelessness of saving Lauries was recognised special attention was turned to defending the adjoining premises of Messrs Sturton and Mumford

1903 02 20
After the great fire in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, public opinion was strongly expressed in favour of the Volunteer Fire Brigade being in possession of a steam fire engine. It would require, with driver and stoker, eight men to work the engine and, with reliefs of the same number, would necessitate 16 men being engaged. But with only one engine they would have been able to play four jets on either the front or back of the fire, and one side would be entirely unprovided for. The engines and paid brigade would be so expensive that the town authorities would not be justified in incurring the outlay for protecting the few buildings at which they might be necessary.

1903 02 20
The Great Fire. Laurie & McConnal, Ltd., Universal stores, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, will open their temporary premises in Fair Street with brand new stock of furnishing, general ironmongery, stationery, haberdashery, china and glass. Business usual in the Boot and Tool department, right opposite the destroyed building. – Advert

1903 05 21
Cambridge councillors discussed plans for the erection of new premises for Laurie and McConnal, Fitzroy Street. The bye-laws said there should be a certain amount of air-space behind domestic buildings – house, office or shop - and these had no such space. There was no doubt the plans were in contravention of the bye-laws, the question was whether the Council would refuse them. If they were passed it would be an illegal act. They should not alter the bye-laws to suit the convenience of any class of people

1903 09 03
Cambridge burgesses who for conscientious reasons refuse to pay the Education Rate appeared in court. Large crowds packed the entrance as cheering in the street heralded the approach of the passive resisters. The decorum of the court broke down and applause gave way to lusty cheering which the police made no effort to subdue. George Shippey said public money should not be devoted to denominational teaching. Benjamin Liles of Fitzroy Street said the Education Act violates the British Constitution; hitherto he had an opportunity of taking part in the election of the persons who made the rate, now he would have no voice and that was why he refused to pay

1903 11 21
One of the events of the year was the great fire which swept away the extensive premises of Messrs Laurie & McConnal in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge. Now within nine months the ruins have been replaced by more convenient, commodious and up-to-date premises and the business is in full swing in its new home. They are the first entirely steel-frame buildings erected in this country. Those who remember the former premises cannot but be struck with the immense improvement effected, with lifts, driven by an electric motor, at the service of customers any time of the day.

1904 01 21
Cambridge councillors considered the purchase of a steam fire engine. The two fires at Addenbrooke's Hospital and Fitzroy Street were bad, but took place under favourable conditions – in the first the wind took the flames away from the Hospital and in the other there was a brick wall, instead of lathe and plaster. Since then there had been two other fires, in Sidney Street and Rose Crescent which might have resulted disastrously. In the centre of town whole blocks of buildings might be burnt down. The only additional expenditure would be the cost of an engineer. But the Fire Brigade did not want one and they ought to know more than councillors

1904 05 14
Some years ago a Wicken labourer who was remonstrated with by the parson for not sending his son to school, gave as his reason the ignorance of the schoolmaster who "actually taught his son Alf to spell 'taters' with a 'p'!" But in Fitzroy Street Cambridge we have a 'Shrit' maker (presumably a maker of shirts) and find 'fresh fish on sail every day'. A shoemaker announces that boots are sold and heeled at reasonable prices' and nearby there is a 'wheelebarrow for sale'. Not far removed one can read that 'Horehound Bear' is on sale.

1905 09 23
The differences between the Cambridge Town Council and the National Telephone Company have resulted in a grave situation. A writ ordering the removal of poles from Corporation property has been issued which, if obeyed, would disconnect the whole of Fitzroy Street and Newmarket Road from the rest of the system. The crux of the matter is the Council's decision not to allow the Company to lay underground wires. But this would give a more efficient service and they have offered to pay the Council to do the work and give them half-a-crown per subscriber. 05 09 23 & a

1907 05 09
There has been a great increase in the number of people leaving Cambridgeshire for Canada. One agent, Alfred Suttle, tobacconist of Fitzroy Street, has booked 67 passengers since February. The ocean passage is from £5 10s (third class). The majority are skilled mechanics of the working class, railway labourers or domestic servants trying for their fortune in a land where wages are double what they are here. 07 05 09a

1907 10 15
A fire occurred at the Fitzroy Street premises of Messrs Sturton. The possibilities of a similar conflagration to that which occurred at Laurie and McConnal's establishment a few years ago seemed probable for close by were a large number of paraffin barrels and tanks containing oil. Capt Greef and 20 firemen were soon on the scene with the horsed fire escape and the steam fire engine was got out in readiness. But their services were not required as P.C. Gee, assisted by several civilians, extinguished the flames. 07 10 15a

1907 12 20
Everyone's digestion is impaired at Christmas by the quantity of unsuitable food which our tyrannous English customs force us to consume. When your gastric juices are quite dried up, a length or two of toothsome tripe (fresh boiled daily) purchased at Edwards' Tripe Shop, 36 Fitzroy Street, will soon put you right. - 07 12 20

1908 01 17
Canada has many miles of fertile land only awaiting the plough and the harrow, the farmer and the fruit grower to yield an abundance of food to the world and increase the wealth of those who can and will work. For labourers of the 'right stuff' there is plenty of work, good homes and good wages. There is no room for fellows who won't work but unlimited opportunities for men who will, meetings at Cambridge Guildhall and Willingham were told. Emigrants should contact Mr A. Suttle, 109 Fitzroy Street, the agent for Canada. 08 01 17d & e

1908 02 25
The sale of the estate of Mr R.R. Rowe, late Borough Surveyor, includes a block of property mid-way between the station and the Post Office which would be suitable for the erection of a college, church, hotel or other business purposes. The residence known as Park House on Parkside, together with houses in Fitzroy Street, King Street and French's Road are also offered in the largest sale held in Cambridge for some long time. 08 02 25 & a & 29

1910

1910 01 14
Mr Paget's supporters held a torchlight procession through Regent Street, Emmanuel Road, Fitzroy Street, King Street and St Andrew's Street. Torches of many kinds, some of an evidently hastily prepared character, were held aloft and Mr Paget rode in a carriage in the centre of the procession, which included about 30 horsemen who formed an imposing guard of honour. The Conservative candidate was accompanied by crowds of men, lads and even women and girls, bearing aloft torches, pink lights and Union Jacks, and blowing tin trumpets and whistles. CWN 10 01 14a

1910 04 01
Easter 1910 will be long remembered for its delightful holiday weather. The religious services both on Friday and Sunday were remarkably well attended and on Friday evening a large audience attended a performance of the 'Messiah' at the Guildhall. Many Cambridge people went out of town by train. Yarmouth, Lowestoft and Cromer were the most popular watering places, Hunstanton attracting fewer people than usual. There were scores of cyclists and motorists on the roads, all very cheerful in spite of the dust nuisance. The Territorials held a parade for 250 men and the 1st Eastern General Hospital were busy training at Haslingfield. A miniature rifle range was opened at the Working Men's Institute in Fitzroy Street. 10 04 01a

1910 04 29

Frederick Hawkins, proprietor of the Picture Palace, Workman's Hall, Fitzroy Street appeared in court under the Gaming Act. He had distributed numbered handbills and given half-a-crown to the person whose number he showed on screen. On Saturday night there were other prizes of a silver-plated teapot, silver-plated cruet and six teaspoons in a case. Hawkins said he'd done it to test if advertising by handbills was any good. But it was a breach of the law and he was given a nominal fine. 10 04 29a

1910 11 25
A postman named Hall noticed smoke issuing from the front door of a house at 7 Hobart Road. The kitchen window was open and in company with George Hills, a rag and bone dealer, he entered the house and found the chimney-place in the living room on fire. Another blaze broke out in Mr George Wesson's residence situated close to the brewery in Fitzroy Street. His wife had placed a portable gas stove in the bath-room which set light to the curtains and furniture. The amount of damage has been estimated at £20 and is covered by insurance. A number of constables and 13 firemen under Captain Greef were in attendance. 10 11 25a

1912 01 05
'Canada, the land of opportunities and work for all' was the title of a lecture at Orwell by Mr F.O. Chapman accompanied by Mr Alfred Suttle, the well-known shipping agent of Fitzroy Street. He has parties leaving every week and those desirous of emigrating should secure their berths with him. The schoolroom was packed with one of the largest audiences ever seen in the village and the lecture, illustrated by beautiful photographic views, was heartily applauded at the close. Cities were springing up like mushrooms, the wondrous fertility of the soil made husbandry enormously remunerative and the Canadian Government offered any man 160 acres of land free.12 01 05 & a

1912 01 05
An Excise officer walked into Thomas Hardy's sweet shop in Fitzroy Street at 10.30 one evening and bought a bottle of lemonade, which he drank on the premises. This rendered the shopkeeper liable to a penalty of £20 for 'keeping a refreshment house without a licence'. It is perfectly legal to drink lemonade in the shop until ten at night and after five in the morning but otherwise it is a serious offence. The magistrates dismissed the case. It will act as a warning to those who wish to oblige thirsty teetotallers after the mystic hour of ten 12 01 05j & k

1912 07 26
Kirtling had three public houses, the Beehive, Queen's Head and the Red Lion with a licensed house in the hamlet of Upend nearly a mile away. Dr Wilkins had his surgery at the Beehive and some of his patients had their meals there, Methodist preachers left their horses there – although most now cycle. It was the most convenient for the men visiting Perrin's smithy and the allotments. All the principal people of the village – apart from the parson – had signed a memorial to keep it, licensing magistrates were told. Also : Licensing: Steeple Morden Hill House, Cherry Hinton Russian Arms, Swavesey Red Lion, Cambridge: Duke of Gloucester Prospect Row, Rose & Crown & Windmill in Russell St, Danish Flag in Fitzroy St, Lamb in Guildhall St (details), Compasses in East Road 12 07 26 o&p

1912 09 20
Hobson Street chapel was opened in 1849 by Wesleyans had previously met in a chapel in Fitzroy Street and a room in Green Street. It became a spiritual home for residents and undergraduates and was improved in 1891. But it has become inadequate. The Fitzroy Street chapel had become a jam warehouse but Hobson Street will be replaced by the new County Council offices. They will now meet in the Victoria Assembly Room until the new Wesley Chapel on Christ's Pieces is ready. 12 09 20c

1912 09 27
Chesterton Road was the scene of a very remarkable fire. A motor lorry belonging to Messrs Sturton of Fitzroy Street, laden with cans of petrol was totally destroyed. The highly-inflammable spirit became ignited and a fire of extraordinary fierceness blocked the road with a sheet of flame. Can after can exploded flinging its contents in a blazing shower in all directions. The flames leapt to an astonishing height, reaching above the tops of houses and were accompanied by volumes of black, oily smoke. The paint on the door of a house on the river side began to blister and trees in the garden began to shrivel and smoke. It was impossible for the fire brigade to get near and it had to be left to burn itself out 12 09 27

1912 10 18
Charles Sharpe, furniture dealer Fitzroy St bankruptcy – 12 10 18h

1912 12 27
A serious case of overcrowding was reported at a lodging house at 57 Fitzroy Street. The Medical Officer said there were four rooms, two of which were bedrooms. The front sitting room was used as a bedroom by night. It was occupied by the owner, his wife and five-month-old baby, a man and 10-year-old daughter and Mr & Mrs Smith with two girls aged 14 & 12 and three boys of seven, five and two years. Such overcrowding was injurious to the people and a danger to neighbours as infectious diseases could easily spread 12 12 27c

1913 02 21
The Trustees of the 'Hope' Classroom in Paradise Street have offered to present it to the Education Committee for educational purposes. The Trustees of Eden Street Higher Grade School also offered their site and building for educational purposes on payment of £200 to be invested in maintaining the St Andrew the Less Parish Institute in Fitzroy Street. The school had been closed down because the buildings were too bad and a new one built in Melbourn Place but could be used for instruction in domestic subjects 13 02 21 p7 CIP

1913 03 14
Cambridge pubs – Newmarket Road - Bird Bolt; East Road, Shakespeare; Norwich Street – Norwich Arms; Cambridge Place – Three Pigeons; Fitzroy Street – Old English Gentleman adjoined Wesson's Brewery and had been in the Wesson family for 70 years. The accommodation was good, the rooms were spacious, lofty and airy. It had a good bottle and jug department, a good bar, billiard room, smoke room, cellar and bedroom accommodation.

1913 04 25
John Clee, assistant to Morley, pawnbrokers of Fitzroy Street, testified he had hung up a new suit outside the shop but when he went to take it in he found just the coat and waistcoat – the trousers were missing. An assistant at Norman Bradley, pawnbrokers, said a regular customer had come in and pledged them for three shillings and sixpence. The prisoner said he'd met a man in Fitzroy Street who'd asked him to pledge the trousers and had received sixpence for doing so. But the Mayor read over a list of convictions dating back to 1893. He was convicted and sentenced to one month's imprisonment with hard labour 13 04 25 p3 CIP

1913 07 11
P. Schick, Fitzroy St patent for bakers' ovens

1914 02 13

Cambridge licenses – Duke of Gloucester Prospect Row, Rose and Crown & Windmill in Russell St, Danish Flag in Fitzroy St, Compasses on East Rd have closed; are 233 licensed for sale intoxicating liquor on premises and 36 off – 14 02 13,

1915 09 03
Fitzroy St fire, shops – Peake's, Waller tailoring, Rouse outfitters

1916 08 16
Tribunal includes: Macintosh applies for cutler and grinder; Sturton St grocery stores; Higher Grade School master; Roff, grocer and furniture dealer St Philip's Rd; Verlander of Fitzroy St, china dealer; Histon Road cemetery curator; Saints garage; Cambridge Brick Company; Panton Brewery; Fabb & Tyler; 16 08 16a

1918 01 02
Incident – horse dashes into window Norman Bradley pawnbroker's shop, Fitzroy St – 18 01 02a

1918 02 06
Communal dinner for children at East Road School, supplied by Fitzroy Street Communal Kitchen – 18 02 06c

1918 11 06
Communal Dinners. — Young children enjoy midday meals at the East Road schools now. The meals, which were started on January 14, are supplied by the Fitzroy Street communal kitchen, and each child pays a small sum per week for five dinners. When the school was first started there were only 23 children who availed themselves of the opportunity of taking their dinner at the school, but now the number has increased to about 40. The dinner is served in a room which was formerly the baby room of the old school, but which for a number of years has been used as a .storeroom. The room has been cleaned, distempered and decorated, and presents quite a cheery appearance.

1918 10 02
Mayoralty. — At a meeting of the Liberal members of the Borough Council .on Monday evening, Coun. Ralph Starr was selected as Mayor for the ensuing year as from November 9 next. Mr. Starr's name has been mentioned on more than one occasion with the Mayoralty, so that his selection now will come as no surprise. A meeting of the Conservative councillors has been called, when the chairman (Col. Beales) will announce the receipt of a formal intimation of the Liberal Party's decision, and no doubt, following the usual custom, the Conservatives will acquiesce. The Mayor-elect, who is a member of the firm of Messrs. Starr and Rignall. Photographers, Fitzroy Street, has been a member of the council since February, 1904.

1919 04 30
Hot cross buns and new-laid eggs distributed in Fitzroy Street – 19 04 30c

1920

1920 01 30
Fire back Peak's stores, Fitzroy Street

1921 07 13

Public house closures – Melbourn Oak, Shepreth Half-way House; Over Black Horse, Bourn Greyhound' Cambridge Cherry Tree in Fitzroy St; Sovereign in Gold Street; Marquis of Granby in Bridge St; - 21 07 13b

1921 11 23
Fitzroy Street fire Sturton's shop – 21 11 23c

1923 05 26
Cambridge is justly proud of its business veterans, and it may truly be said that no one is held in higher respect than Mr William Heffer. He started as a groom but resolved to make a start in business on his own, and opened as a stationers and newsagents in a shop which is still his, the Post Office in Fitzroy Street. It has been said that Mr Heffer to a large extent altered the character of Fitzroy Street, for when he introduced to Cambridge the 25% discount off books, university men and others not accustomed to frequenting that part of the town, began to stream up there, and, of course, other tradesmen - benefited in consequence.

1923 09 10
Fire at T.B. Hunt photographer's shop Fitzroy Street; confined to outhouse which he used as developing room; destroys cameras plates and developing set

1925 06 05
Cambridge council was told that the Brunswick school did not exist at the present time because the Borough surveyor drew attention to the giving way of the building, and they first of all had to pull down the Boys' School because it was dragging the other part down, and eventually they pulled down the Girls' School. The girls were in temporary premises at Paradise Street School and the boys in Fitzroy Street. They had to bear in mind that a new bridge was going to be built at Walnut Tree Avenue some time – (laughter) – and when that was done they would have to accommodate some children from old Chesterton.

1927 05 06
Cambridge Guildhall was packed for "Welcome Home" and jubilee celebrations organised in honour of Gypsy Smith, the world-famed evangelist, who has just returned from Australia and New Zealand. The Gypsy told of some of his experiences during this last tour and recounted again how he was converted in the little chapel in Fitzroy Street. A telegraph of "much satisfaction" was received from the King and he was presented with a history of Cambridge. The Mayor said that 50 years of service was a wonderful record. He was the missionary and evangelist to the English-speaking people and had probably spoken to more of the English race that any person, living or dead. Cambridge ought to be particularly proud as his career had started here.

1927 08 11
A man was arrested in connection with the burglary at Norman Bradley's Fitzroy Street premises where entry had been made by forcing apart the iron bars of a window. He was traced and identified by fingerprints left on a glass panel inside the shop. They had been sent to New Scotland Yard for examination. The jewellery, which amounts to £239 has not yet been recovered.

1928 01 06
A gale swept through Cambridge & telephone communication to all places was lost, with the exception of direct traffic to London. Three large windows at the front of Eden Baptist Church, Fitzroy Street, were blown in and the wreckage smashed three front seats in the gallery. The flag staff at Great St Mary's church snapped under the pressure of the high wind. Cyclists who

attempted to battle against the elements were almost stationary on their machines. In Hills Road an errand boy was blown from his bike and sustained a cut knee. In the flooded areas the wind whipped the water into whirling maelstroms.

1929 01 16
Joseph Ashworth Sturton, principal director of Messrs Sturton Ltd of Fitzroy Street and a former Mayor of Cambridge has died at Bournemouth. The son of Joseph Sturton, the founder of the business 100 years ago who developed the land now known as Sturton Town, he was born above the shop and proved an industrious business man, opening branches throughout the region. In 1919 he purchased Thurston's bakers and confectioners and soon added a café. Mr Sturton was one of the first in Cambridge to interest himself in the motor car and took up the commercial car in connection with his business. He was a prominent nonconformist and founded the flourishing New Street Men's Bible Class.

1929 03 22
Cambridge councillors debated the proposed exchange of Butts Green for New Square in order that it might be converted into a parking place. If I lived in New Square I should not be at all pleased at the idea of that nice little patch of green giving way to a parking place, but if I had a business establishment in Fitzroy Street I should say "Yes, let the cars park there by all means". There is a danger of New Square being built upon in the near future and residents may consider a car park the least of two evils. Others are concerned about using the amenities of Butts Green, though one questioned whether it was used for anything but beating carpets.

1929 03 22
Percival Rodrigo, a canvasser … obtaining photograph … from Gertrude Thompson … said he was setting up a branch in Fitzroy Street and canvassing photos for advertisements – would enlarge it .. Represented the Westminster Studios. Albert Chandler, photographer printed leaflets warning about canvassers - CDN 22.3.29

1929 12 10
Sir – I was in the vicinity of Fitzroy Street early one morning and could see a driver with a one-horse van coming from Burleigh Street. He turned right on the corner round Eden Chapel on the wrong side and left down James Street, heedless of any danger. On seeing a police constable I asked whether he had noticed the careless driving around these blind corners. He replied: "This man, being alone driving one horse and van is under no rules or regulations and if he wishes is at liberty to wobble all over the road". I suggest members of Eden Chapel should be approached over this unsightly spot, with its projecting iron fence; it is a serious block to public traffic. All such dangerous corners should be abolished – E. Calydon, Parsonage Street, and Cambridge.

1930

1930 01 15
From modest beginnings in Fitzroy Street the history of the House of Heffer is one of continuous progress. The Printing Works on Hills Road has been considerable enlarged, last year saw reconstruction of the Petty Cury Bookshop which is now twice its original size, and this year sees the reconstruction of the Sidney Street Stationery and Art Shop. It will be a shop worthy of its central position. The new premises will have five floor, the frontage will be in the Georgian style with pilasters, fascia and columns of grey polished granite and the upper part will be faced with red Flemish bricks with Weldon stone dressings to the windows. A unique feature will be the Picture Gallery on the third flood with a barrel-shaped ceiling

1932 04 11
A woman had a narrow escape from injury when the pavement blew up as she was walking down Fitzroy Street. She had almost passed the 'Fitzroy Arms' when an electrical junction blew opposite Williamson's shop sending a shower of stones into the air. Smoke coming out of the cracked pavement turned into a sheet of flame six foot high after a man threw a bucket of water on it. 32 04 11

1932 09 23
The Union of British Methodism – bringing together the Wesleyan, Primitive and United Methodists - is the most important event in the history of British Nonconformity since the birth of Wesley. Cambridge's first Methodist chapel in Fitzroy Street was where Gipsy Smith heard the sermon which led to him becoming an evangelist. It is now Fellowship House for the local unemployed. 32 09 23b & c

1933 10 21
The club for unemployed men at Fellowship House, Fitzroy Street has been renovated by members and now present a very cost appearance. It has a club room and canteen, a workroom fitted with benches at which men do woodwork and picture framing, a concert and lecture room complete with a piano purchased for three shillings, and a ping-pong and billiards room. During the war the Welsh troops had used it as a cookhouse, later it became a brush factory and furniture store but no better use could possibly be made of it. 33 10 21

1935 01 22
Fire destroyed the Evelyn White drapery shop in Fitzroy Street shop and the owner and his wife escaped in their nightclothes, with only a coat thrown over them. All that remains is a tangled mass of debris, blackened and ruin by the flames. Here and there the remnants of a dress could be recognised but everything was burnt beyond repair. Flames also threatened Norman Bradley's shop next door: the thin dividing wall was scorching and might have flared up at any moment. Firemen were kept fully occupied in keeping smouldering materials from catching again and were badly hampered through the insulation having been burnt off the electric light wires, several received electric shocks before it was decided to have the current cut off at the main. 35 01 22

1935 12 05
John Whitehead, 65, has been in the fruit and vegetable trade all his life. He started hawking goods on a barrow and then with a horse and cart. About 40 years ago he took a shop in Fitzroy Street and struggled to bring up a big family – he had 13 sons. It was difficult to obtain goods during the Great War but afterwards got a motor lorry and in 1933 went to London for goods for the Christmas trade. They were brought to a garage in Cambridge from which they were stolen. Then a run-away horse smashed up his van and the lorry ran into a lamp post. 35 12 05b

1936 05 30
Fitzroy Street shop owner blames losses on Corporation slum clearance and multiple shops 36 05 30

1936 08 22
Mr & Mrs Ben Mills of Sleaford Street received a telegram of congratulations from the King on their diamond wedding. Born at Hardwick, he lost his right arm in an accident at the age of nine. Refusing to allow that disability to mar his life, he came to St Paul's School, Cambridge and soon qualified as a teacher. He worked for W.G. Chater, the woollen merchants before joining the Co-operative movement in 1876, starting at the old shop in Fitzroy Street. In 1901 he opened the new shop in Burleigh Street with a silver key and has seen the premises grow. He became Provincial

Grand Master of the Oddfellows. His wife has been a familiar figure at the functions, quietly lending a hand 'behind the scenes' and catering for juvenile outings. 36 08 22a

1938 04 19
A Cambridge newsagent for over half a century, Mr Frederick Rossendale passed away after a stroke at the age of 81. A well-known figure locally, he was a member of the Borough Police Force before he opened his newsagent's business at 14 Fitzroy Street, trading under the name of Rossendale and Clamp. As a bank messenger he had the task of taking the bank money from Cambridge to London by train before the days of modern transport facilities. 38 04 19

1934 04 05
Frank Suttle started in Fitzroy Street in 1901 with well-remembered slogan, 'Suttle's my tailor – make him yours' – Advertisers - 38 04 05

1938 12 13
Cambridgeshire Photographic Record exhibition – includes watercolours of areas impossible to photograph including view of Fitzroy Street and Burleigh Street corner from roof of Laurie & McConnal's painted by Beryl Pickering; other sketches include the Saxon Cement Works, Eagle Hotel yard, Hobson Street from King Street end, Miss M.C. Greene paintings of yards – Ninepin, True Blue, Ram Yard, Falcon Yard. Last thatched roof in Blackamoor Head Yard - 38 12 13a

1940

1942 03 23
Frank Evans, Fitzroy Street tailor & outfitter & Cam Sailing Club supporter, dies – 42 03 23

1942 07 10
Peaks carting co, Fitzroy Street – furniture delivery vans – advert – 42 07 10

1942 09 24
A.E. Stearn started as grocer in East Road in Jan 1893; in 1908 wholesale side transferred to Fitzroy Street where carried on by sons. – 42 09 24

1945 05 11
VE celebrations –45 05 11a; Beaconsfield Hall children, Sturton St, Cowper Rd, Norwich St – 45 05 16; Perne Ave, Mowbray Road, Beche Rd, Norfolk St – 45 05 18; Hobart Rd, Bradmore St, Russell St – 45 05 19b; Young St, Gonville Road & Charles St, Cam Causeway, Gt Eastern St – 45 02 22a; Ditton Fields, Romsey Women Conservatives, Suez Rd, Covent Garden, Eden St – 45 05 23; York St, Thoday St, Kingston St, Northampton St, Cherry Hinton – 45 05 24; Hills Ave, City Rd, Cavendish Rd, Malta Rd – 45 05 25; Mowbray Rd, Willow Walk, Springfield Rd, Kelvin Close – 45 05 26b; New St, Chesterton High St – 45 05 28a; Cockburn St, Newnham Croft, Madras Rd, Henley Road & Coldham's Lane – 45 05 30; Barnwell, Wellington St, Fitzroy St, Devonshire Rd – 45 05 30b; children entertained Cherry Hinton, Fairfax Rd – 45 06 02; Vinery Rd, Eastfield – 45 06 04; Catherine St, Ditton Walk, Union Lane – 45 06 05; Gwydir St, Abbey (East) – 45 06 06; Meadowlands Estate, Argyle St, Hope St, De Freville Estate – 45 06 07; Ross St, Hemingford Rd, Green End Rd, Staffordshire St, Selwyn Rd, Coldham's Grove, Coldham's Lane, Akeman St – 45 06 11; Brooks Rd, Sedgwick St, Langham Rd, Oxford Rd, Haig Road, Chesterton – 45 06 13a; Windsor Rd, Stretten Ave, Kimberley Rd, Abbey Road, Walnut Tree Ave, Brookfields – 45 06 18; Trumpington, Mansfield Hall – 45 06 19; Cavendish Ave, Hinton Ave, Hope Hall for Deaf – 45 06 21a; Histon Rd children – 45 06 30; St Peter's St, Greens Rd – 45 07 10

1947 08 09
An obituary notice in "The Times" of Wednesday began with these words: "Mr Rodney ('Gypsy') Smith, one of the most remarkable evangelists of modern times, died at the age of 87 on the Queen Mary while on his way to Florida to recuperate after a severe illness". It was I believe in 1938, a year after the death of his first wife, that Gypsy Smith gave up "Romany Tan", his residence in Cambridge, but for many years before that he was a familiar figure in the town. In his autobiography he tells how he was converted at "a little Primitive Methodist Chapel in Fitzroy Street", Cambridge.

1948 08 12
At Cambridge petty sessions a 19-year old soldier appeared on a charge of possessing a "Walther" 6.35 automatic pistol at the time of attempting to steal cash from a weighing machine. PC Bass said he was in Fitzroy Street and heard the sound of coins being rattled. He saw two men bending over a slot weighing machine, both ran off but he followed the defendant on his bicycle and eventually caught him. Next day a small automatic pistol was found lying on a wall. Defendant said, "I dumped it there after the policeman had arrested me and while he was ringing the Police Station for a conveyance"

1949 01 22
During the war the Tabernacle Methodist Church in Newmarket road, Cambridge, was closed and the property sold. The history of the church went back over many years, having its early beginnings in the old Fitzroy Street chapel. There were hopes that at some future date the work so nobly done by the two old chapels would be carried on. In the very near future some of these hopes may be realised, as the trustees intend to acquire the piece of land adjoining the YWCA hall and opposite the Borough cemetery, Newmarket road, for the purpose of commencing a new Methodist cause

1949 06 23
The fact that two families had to be rehoused owing to the direct harm done children through being in the proximity of a slaughterhouse was mentioned at the meeting of the Cambridge National Council of Women. Three children in one family have been recommended for the Open Air School as they were in a nervous condition, entirely due to being near a slaughterhouse. They expressed “grave concern” at the council’s decision to renew the slaughterhouse licence in Fitzroy Street, which was in a congested residential area & urged the council to provide a municipal abattoir with the most modern hygienic equipment for the humane slaughter of animals, situated away from a residential district.

1950

1951 09 11
Mr Joseph Henry Priest of Waterbeach, who died suddenly aged 73, was well-known in sporting circles. Fifty years ago he was an amateur champion cyclist and for over 40 years he has been closely identified with the Cam Sailing Club. Setting up for himself as a stationer and print seller in Bridge Street, Cambridge, he continued until the First World War when he opened up the premises as a ladies’ outfitter in conjunction with Mr C.N. Mitcham. Later he took the corner premises now occupied by Messrs Peak in Fitzroy Street and carried on as ‘The Quality Shop’ and subsequently joined the firm of C.N. Mitcham’s of Chesterton. In the heyday of amateur theatricals he was a member of the Bijou Amateurs.

1952 05 20

Known throughout Cambridge as "Lightning", 78-years-old Ernest Siggers, a former well-known local newsvendor has died. He lived the life of a recluse. The only time his neighbours in Fitzroy Street ever took any notice of him was just before he went to Linton Hospital in 1948. On that occasion he lit an explosive flu cleaner to clear the chimney of soot. It cleared the soot all right. And early cleared the flat and its contents too.

1952 11 17
Mr George Hawkins, who has been the sole owner of G.P. Hawkins Ltd has announced that he has disposed of his entire shareholding to the Cambridge Co-operative Society. The firm was founded in 1838 in Fitzroy Street, which is still one of their shops. At the beginning of the century the late Mr G.P. Hawkins opened a shop and café in Sidney Street. In 1929 these premises and the adjoining site were extensively developed resulting in the opening in 1931 of 'The Dorothy' as it stands today.

1953 02 23
A new branch of the Westminster Bank opened in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, a fairly busy district which up to now has not been served by a bank of any sort. Inside the visitor is greeted with an attractively decorated modern interior. Cheques will be taken to the parent branch in Bene't Street where they are photographed and available for the customer to examine. An interesting feature is that a night safe has been provided. The first person to open an account was Geoffrey Nichols, of the Free Press, Prospect Row.

1954 07 07
The old-established department store of Laurie and McConnal of Fitzroy Street, Cambridge has been purchased by the London firm of Shirley Bros, but they say the public will not notice the changes. The store was opened by Mr James Laurie and in recognition of advice given by his friend Mr McConnal he decided to use both names as a trading title, though only members of the Laurie family actually held shares. It prospered as an ironmonger's shop but following a major fire in 1903 was rebuilt as one of the biggest departmental stores in East Anglia, increasing its scope to include almost everything for the home and garden.

1955 02 18
A scheme for the re-development of the Fitzroy Street area as the main commercial centre of Cambridge has been submitted by a London Architect. It is a counter-proposition to the official Development Plan which could only result in the eventual complete destruction of the essential character of the city. The greater part of the area consists of out-dated two-storey cottages with extensive yards and is largely a slum. Re-development is due and can be done without the restrictions of historical associations and high land values. There would be a series of attractive courtyards unencumbered with traffic, one of which is large enough to take the place of the present Market Hill. An essential feature of the scheme is a new thoroughfare to link Gonville Place with Victoria Avenue and complete the inner Ring Road. 55 02 18a

1955 10 15
Two brothers, both of whom carry on house furnishing business in Cambridge, brought their fourth High Court action against each other. A woman customer had gone to buy a refrigerator, saw a shop named Peak's in King Street and assumed it was the same as Peak's Furnishers of Fitzroy Street where she had an account. It was delivered to her house but then she went to Fitzroy Street to pay for it. The judge said this was a case of the utmost triviality and it was surprising it had not happened many times before. 55 10 15

1955 12 13

Current trends in two-wheeled transport seem to be moving in favour of the motor-scooter. Now Hallens have opened a new showroom in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge devoted solely to scooters and 'mopeds' (known to the uninitiated as auto-cycles) which illustrates the increased public demand for this form of transport. 55 12 13

1956 02 21
Fire seriously damaged Laurie and McConnal's warehouse in Willow Place, Fitzroy Street. Children and old folk were evacuated as over 50 firemen fought Cambridge's biggest fire for years in near-arctic conditions. They were taken to the Church Army Hall where, huddling round a blazing fire, they wondered what would happen to their homes. Volunteers from the Hopbine public house assisted firemen to save their furniture. 56 02 21c & d

1956 04 19
An enquiry heard that Cambridge city council had wanted to purchase land at the junction of Fitzroy Street and Wellington Street, pull down the old houses and use the land to re-site industry displaced from the East Road area. They offered to pay the current price but the owner, a former chairman of the Council's Finance Committee, said that if the land had potential for light industry then the price should be higher. Eventually negotiations broke down. Now he applied to redevelop the area, but the council opposed his plans. 56 04 19a & b

1958 05 10
A new Supermarket in Fitzroy Street was picketed by shop workers protesting against late opening. Fine Fare has a policy of opening until eight o'clock on Friday nights for the convenience of the public and the shop was full of people. But the Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers see this as leading to a return to the twelve-hour days shop assistants used to have to work. 57 11 31c
Reston House, Fitzroy Street – John Reston, Master of Jesus 1546 bequeathed land which sold in 1956 to fund building - 58 05 10a

1958 09 25
An inquiry into plans for the compulsory purchase and clearance orders affecting 67 houses in East Road, Fitzroy Street, Adam and Eve Street and Gloucester Terrace heard from three objectors. Mr J.N. Baldry had plans to develop his site in connection with his mineral water business. But the Medical Officer said the area contained some of the worst houses in Cambridge: they were all unfit and clearance would serve the interests of public health. 58 09 25

1959 04 29
The City Council is to consider the largest project ever undertaken in Cambridge. The giant Lion Yard scheme includes a two-decker underground car park taking 731 vehicles, a unique 'pedestrian shopping precinct', a new central library, residential hotel and a petrol filling station. Jesus College have also submitted a scheme for the redevelopment of the north side of Fitzroy Street. Many think that increases in shopping facilities ought to take place as an extension of this well-established area.
59 04 29a-d & 59 04 29e

1959 07 24
Councillors withdrew their attention from the Lion Yard area to a part of the city which some have always considered of equal importance – Fitzroy Street. This should be comprehensively redeveloped to provide residential, shopping and business facilities with a new bus station. The Lion Yard should be developed with a library, civic restaurant and small car park, leaving the frontages as they are, some argued. 59 07 24b & c

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1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 06 17
Peak's Furnishers Ltd of Fitzroy Street have opened large premises in the new covered shopping arcade in Bradwell's Court. The electrical appliances section is well-stocked with the leading makes of washing machines, spin-dryers; demonstrations are a daily event and prompt delivery guaranteed. It also has a number of model kitchens fitted right down to the last detail and attractive displays of bedroom, lounge and dining furniture are beautifully displayed in room settings. 60 06 17a & b

1961 01 11
The only area of Cambridge suitable for a regional shopping centre is that around City Road and Fitzroy Street, a University development plan says. It has space for shops, restaurants, car parks and houses and could be well-served by public transport. By contrast the city centre does not meet the land requirement unless there is such demolition that it would affect the character of the area. The roads are poor and provision of adequate car parking would be an impossible task. 61 01 11c

1961 05 29
Westminster Bank opened their first Cambridge branch at the junction of Trumpington Street and Bene't Street in 1845. It was closely connected with University and College life and the original premises have been enlarged several times. Now a continued expansion in business has seen a handsome new bank in St Andrew's Street together with the modernisation of the one in Fitzroy Street which opened in 1952 to cater for that active and expanding shopping area 61 05 29a

1962 05 09
Cambridgeshire Planning Department has described the University's scheme to create a new regional shopping centre in the Fitzroy Street area as 'basically an impractical proposal'. Their idea is incompatible with the County Development Plan principle of restricting industrial and population growth. The extra traffic would mean roads would have to be improved to urban motorway standard and rehousing the existing residential population would impose a severe strain on the building industry 62 05 09a

1962 07 19
The University's plans for Cambridge envisage a new shopping area off Fitzroy Street providing sites for large retailing units, segregated pedestrians and vehicular traffic areas and car parking close enough for shoppers to walk. All future schemes for redevelopment of University sites should have adequate car parking; this is the University's view and they will bear their share of the car parking burden, the Estate Manager told an Inquiry. 62 07 19

1963 12 19
One Cambridge bandstand is always empty. It was built 60 years ago and originally stood in a tea garden belonging to Laurie & McConnal, from where a violinist would have entertained the customers. The tea garden closed before the bandstand could be use and it has stood silent ever since. To get there the musician must climb three flights of stairs, borrow a ladder, open two fanlights, climb a railing and walk across the roof of the roof of the store. For it stands 100 feet above Fitzroy Street and is perched on a corner of the store roof 63 12 19

1964 04 02
P.F. Thompson furniture shop bought premises in Fitzroy Street in 1881 – feature – 64 04 02a

1964 05 22
Peaks new carpet centre, Fitzroy St – 64 05 22

1964 08 28
Traders are split over proposals for a new shopping centre off Fitzroy Street. Claude Scott, motor agents, say trade would be increased but he would seek full compensation to leave. T. Tarrants tobacconists, say it would be good but family businessman A.P. Cook of Prospect Row, who has run a grocery store for 50 years, says he will fight hard against compulsory purchase. Mrs J.A. Douglas of Earl Street, who has just modernised her house, is horrified at the proposals. 64 08 28c

1964 08 31
Nearly 1,000 houses and 60 businesses will be effected in creating a new regional shopping centre off Fitzroy Street. 64 08 31

1964 09 30
Fitzroy Street shopping development to be linked to centre by free bus – feature – 64 09 30b

1965 01 30
Llewellyn-Davies invited to prepare plan for new shopping Centre, Fitzroy Street – 65 01 30a

1965 05 24
Co-op shoe repair premises, Fitzroy St damaged by fire – 65 05 24a

1965 07 30
Laurie & McConnal modernising the whole of their shop frontage in Fitzroy Street; new display windows will replace the arcade-type ones there since 19th century; "faith in City Road as new shopping centre – 65 07 30a

1965 10 08
Frederick Morleys working man's stores Hobson St, Bridge St, Fitzroy St – photos – 65 10 08c

1966 08 23
Fitzroy Street sub-post office moved to Co-op in Burleigh Street, petition in protest – 66 08 23a

1966 10 07
Burleigh/Fitzroy Street favoured for shopping redevelopment in preference to Lion Yard – 66 10 07

1966 10 31
Louis Sylvester has been making ice cream for 60 years; used to have barrows in Fitzroy Street – profile – 66 10 31

1966 11 23
If Fitzroy St area developed as shopping centre CCAT students will have nowhere to park their cars – 66 11 23

1966 12 09

Plan to create regional shopping centre in Fitzroy Street and develop Lion Yard primarily as civic centre approved by City Council – 66 12 09a

1967 05 31
Fitzroy Street 'Corner Shop' demolition – photo – 67 05 31

1967 07 05
Fitzroy Street neglected area – photo – 67 07 05c

1968 03 26
Fitzroy Street – Burleigh St residents fear city council intend to demolish good houses under slum-clearance scheme – 68 03 26

1969 02 21
Fitzroy Street redevelopment – architect's impression – 69 02 21, 21a

1969 07 17
George Moons shop, Fitzroy Street recalled – 69 07 17

1970

1971 04 28
Fitzroy Street shopping report published – feature – 71 04 28

1971 05 05
Gas works retort house landmarks to disappear; put up 15 years ago; five-storey warehouse in Fitzroy Street also to be demolished – 71 05 05

1971 06 28
Fitzroy Street, Burleigh Street shopping – photos – 71 06 28 & a

1972 03 20
Most of the people who will be displaced by the Burleigh Street-Fitzroy Street redevelopment (Cambridge) want to be rehoused in the same area according to a report. Counc. Christopher Bradford claimed that the land was bought by the city council for "chickenfeed" ten years ago and is now worth £65,000. The council paid only £200 to £300 development value for some of the houses and perhaps £2,000 for some of the others

1972 07 26
A total of 160 houses in the Burleigh street – Fitzroy street area of Cambridge will have to be demolished to make way for the city council's shopping redevelopment scheme. At present only 34 of the houses are unoccupied. The city council are prepared to buy the houses at full market value if the owners cannot find other buyers. Some of the houses have already been classed as slums and earmarked for demolition. A number have in fact already been closed, such as in parts of James Street or demolished, as at Adam and Eve Street. A year ago the city council gave details of a large area outside the Burleigh Street - Fitzroy Street complex which they said would not be required for demolition. This gave the house owners the go-ahead to apply for grants of up to £1,000 to improve their homes

1972 11 21

The Cambridge city council's planning consultants who are designing the redevelopment plans for the Burleigh Street- Fitzroy Street have suggested the building of a departmental store East of Napier Street. Consultants feel that the introduction of shopping uses at this point would improve the whole project in addition to saving housing land to the North of Maids Causeway and James Street. They have also proposed that the pedestrian way along Fitzroy Street should be graded down and Napier Street itself raised over the pedestrian way. This appears to be the best way of separating traffic and pedestrians

1972 12 07
A large out-of-town shopping complex covering about 10 acres is being planned for Newmarket Road, just outside the Cambridge boundary. But Cambridge planning committee decided to resist the project. Fears were expressed about the effect the shopping centre would have for the city council's plans for redeveloping the Burleigh Street - Fitzroy street area. Marshalls of Cambridge (Engineering) made an application to develop the shopping complex, together with car parking and garages on a site immediately to the East of their vehicular workshops off Newmarket Road. The site faces Cambridge airport

1973 02 16
Mr Jeremy Thorpe, the Liberal leader, visited residents in the Burleigh-Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge, whose homes are endangered by the proposed shopping development which is at present the subject of an inquiry. Amongst the people he met was Mrs Lavinia Hawes, who moved to her James Street home six months ago and said that it suited her family perfectly. She would be giving evidence at the inquiry. After a visit to the new Cambridge volunteer bureau in Fitzroy Street, Mr Thorpe left to see Bar Hill

1973 04 26
The scheme to build a hypermarket for Tesco on the outskirts of Cambridge has been rejected by the city council. The scheme was put forward on behalf of Tesco by Stokes of Cambridge Ltd. They asked permission to build a 100,000 square foot hypermarket with a car park for 900 cars on land off Milton Road next to the railway line. The store would have been one of the largest in Cambridge. In turning it down the planning committee said it was outside the area allocated for development, would encourage extra traffic on a fast trunk route and was against the shopping policy for Cambridge in which large scale development is aimed at the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh Street area

1973 08 31
The £20m redevelopment scheme for the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh Street area of Cambridge may go ahead with only minor modifications, following the result of a 13-day public inquiry earlier this year. Several schemes for the area have been considered and rejected over the past 10 years, but the present plans, designed by international architects Piano & Rogers were adopted by the city and county councils last year

1973 09 21
Like some great suicidal spider Cambridge will have eaten its heart out by the turn of the century. Such is the dramatic prophecy of Professor John Parry Lewis who has been making a complete study of its future. Specifically he is saying is that if Cambridge proceeds with the scheme to build a twin shopping centre in the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh street area it will be signing the death knell of the present Market Square area. He concludes that a new focus for commercial activity must be developed on the edge of the city either in the Trumpington area or to the east near Marshall's airport. This cannot be done if the Fitzroy-Burleigh scheme proceeds, as the indications now are that it will

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1974 10 29
The Parry Lewis super plan for the future of Cambridge, which took three years to prepare at a cost of £20,000, has been rejected by all the senior city and county planning officers. The plans main suggestions were for the immediate scrapping of the scheme for extensive development in the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy street area and the building of a second shopping centre in the Trumpington area. Chairman of the County Planning committee, Counc. Tony Cornell, said: "The technical boys took a look at Parry Lewis and they have not liked what they have seen"

1974 11 06
New plans for reshaping Cambridge's Burleigh St – Fitzroy St shopping area are being unveiled at a private meeting tonight. Although the project provides for more than 80 shops, including two major departmental stores, it is on a smaller commercial scale than the plans put forward three years ago. The project includes a new underground country bus station; placing much of Napier street underground to avoid disruption to people living nearby, a series of underground service roads to allow pedestrians traffic free access to the main shopping area, and the creation of landscaped parks. It provides for a new store for the John Lewis organisation and another for Laurie & McConnal

1974 11 08
By Cambridge planning standards, the argument over how the Burleigh St – Fitzroy St area should be redeveloped is a relative newcomer to a list of current city controversies. It has been raging for only 15 years. Which means that at least another 10 years of inactivity are necessary before the Lion Yard redevelopment record is reached. Cambridge city council has announced its intention of making a decision on the future of the area by the end of the year. But even if this happens it will not be the end of the story by a long way. There will be inevitable objections and the problem of raising money must remain a formidable obstacle in these economic times.

1974 12 31
The controversial multi-million pound redevelopment proposals for Cambridge's Burleigh Street – Fitzroy street area may be scrapped and traders and residents encouraged to rebuild as they wish. This is just what the majority of them have been advocating for most of the 15 years over which the controversy surrounding plans for the revitalisation of the area has raged. Leading members of the City council's controlling Labour Group are now trying to whip up general support behind the scenes for the new thinking. Moves come on the eve of the Government's expected announcement that after a two-year delay official approval is on the way to the area to be declared as suitable for comprehensive redevelopment

1975 02 07
The Government has decided after two years deliberation that the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy street area of Cambridge is suitable for redevelopment. This now lays the responsibility for action squarely on the city council who are likely to decide within two months whether to drop the much-criticised official development plan and go ahead with something less contentious. The plan has been unanimously rejected by the area's residents and shopkeepers.

1975 06 23
Shoppers in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, were astonished to hear the strains of a brass band drifting down to them apparently right out of the sky. But the band was real enough. Perched in the little bandstand on the top of Laurie & McConnal's store the player jogged memories back 40 years or more to the time when such entertainment was a regular event for Saturday shoppers. The revival was the idea of Kite Community Action. Eight members of a local jazz group agreed to revive the

past and play again. Whether the Saturday morning continues is up to the players. The store would be very happy to have them play anytime

1975 11 28
Cambridge City Council has brought the Rumble-Tum Restaurant at Burleigh Street and two private houses at Fitzroy Street. All are in the centre of the area, known as the Kite, which the council proposes to redevelop comprehensively in the near future. The individual purchase prices are not being disclosed. The Burleigh Street and Fitzroy Street properties will show an estimate future profit for the council of £1.137 a year from rents

1976 02 25
When Texas open the door of their new super-store at Coldham's Lane on Saturday, Cambridge will have the largest Do-It-Yourself centre in East Anglia. Spurred on by the success of their year-old store which took over from Peaks Furnishers in Fitzroy Street, Texas are sure that Cambridge shoppers will make extensive use of the new premises, which are packed with all kinds of goods for the handyman.

1976 03 11
A new store, the Talk of the Town, is to open in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge in the building formerly occupied by Peaks Furnishers. The store is divided into individual sections, some let to local traders & some rented to national companies. An Elizabethan Tea Room complete with period furniture and fittings and a wedding dress section are on the top floor. The store has special design features such as log cabins for changing rooms in the fashion section and thatched roofing for the farm produce section

1976 04 17
The future redevelopment of the Burleigh Street - Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge is back in the melting pot following the decision of the outgoing city council to throw out the massive £30 million scheme proposed by a London development company for the Kite area. The rejection of the scheme, which would have brought a greatly-increased number of shops in to the area, together with car parks, a new road and an underground country bus station, was an easy matter for the city council. But it was far less easy for them to decide how to go about working out alternatives.

1976 08 02
An experimental free bus service for the Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge commenced at the weekend, providing the public with the first buses in the area for almost three years. 67 people made use of the first bus run at 10am on Saturday. The owner of the Talk of the Town shopping arcade, Mr Carl Owen, has hired one bus from the Eastern Counties Bus Company at a cost of £30 per day. He said he will hire more for a four-week period to prove the company were wrong to stop the service.

1977 04 20
A multi-million pound deal for the rebuilding of large parts of the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge (The Kite) which would involve a handsome handout to the ratepayers is being negotiated between the City council and two internationally known development companies. Under the deal the redevelopment could be carried out without any cost to the ratepayers. The council would hand some of its land holdings – much now derelict – to the developers on a long lease. In return they would build large car parks for the council, re-grass the New Square car park and erect a number of shops, at least one of them a department store. And at

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the end of the development period the company would make either a substantial lump sum payment to the council or give it a large cut of the rents collected.

1977 10 04
The Cambridge department store Laurie and McConnal in Fitzroy Street is to close in December. Indecision over plans for the Kite area redevelopment is the reason, said Mr Anthony Frais. "We have tried everything we know to get something moving in the Kite, and while the council is now at last seeing sense we cannot afford to wait the two years before anything actually happens. As a small family company are paying penal rates." The business was established nearly 100 years ago.

1978 01 19
Laurie & McConnal's department store in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, opened its doors for the last time as the auctioneers moved in, just over a month after closing. Between 200-300 people milled around the five floors as the left-overs of almost 100 years of trading went under the hammer. Most of the faces were strangers, but a few of the old employees called in just to pay their respects. The sale will strip the building down to its last box of light bulbs – even part of a tin of toilet soap was in the catalogue. According the agents the building itself has attracted a few offers around the asking price of £250,000, but no-one has signed anything yet.

1978 03 07
Residents are occupying a deserted house in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, after learning that the city council is about to demolish three other "unsafe" houses in the Kite area. Officers offered to re-assess the situation if the protesters paid them £340 – the cost of making the buildings safe. The Kite group stayed up collecting the money, only to be told the council would not accept it after all. The action is in spite of an assurance that demolition would only take place once the redevelopment scheme had been approved. The protesters are deeply disturbed that private citizens have to pay for council work in order to avoid the premature demolition of sound properties in the Kite.

1978 04 06
Quietly and without fuss our daily bread got dearer this week, with the news that the big three bakeries were adding 2p to the cost of a "standard" sliced and wrapped loaf, bringing the cost up to 28½ p. In Cambridge the price of farmhouse loaves is left to the baker. Bridgeman Bros of Norfolk Street charge 30½ p for a very crusty, tasty and attractive loaf; Tylers of Mill Road charge 30p, & E.J. How and Godfreys of Regent Street 29p. The most expensive are Dixon's of Fitzroy Street & Maskell's of Victoria Road who charge 31p for a pale golden, high, crusty, loaf.

1978 09 01
The Government has stopped Cambridge City Council's plan to rebuild the Kite area. They have refused to allow them to borrow the £2.3 million needed to buy the land for shopping development which means the 20-year saga of decay will continue indefinitely. The council's Conservative leader claimed it was a political decision, probably part of a General Election run-up. M.P. Robert Rhodes James said the blight in the Fitzroy Street area would be perpetuated and the general economic and physical decline of the area would continue remorselessly. But organisations which have been fighting the plans are delighted.

1978 11 10
Wilder Pinney, a dental repair man of Fitzroy Street, Cambridge told the News: "Some dentures I have to handle are horrible – all slimy and mucky. The smokers' are the worst, covered in tar they are. Black. You have to clean them before you can start work on them. People break their

dentures in all sorts of ways. With schoolboys it's usually because they've been keeping them in their pockets. People are terribly embarrassed without their teeth. Some daren't leave the shop but sit hiding behind a magazine, others walk about with a hanky over their faces. Especially the ladies."

1979 03 29
Cambridge comes out poorly in the new 'Good Food Guide'; two entries are dropped leaving the city with just one restaurant, the 'unusually suave' Peking Chinese Restaurant in Burleigh Street, and one pub, the Fort St George. Out go the Strudel's Restaurant in Fitzroy Street and the Golden Palace Chinese restaurant in Ely together with the Eagle in Bene't Street and the Plough at Coton. Old favourites which retain their rating include the Old Fire Engine House at Ely, the Old Bridge Hotel Huntingdon and the Hotel de la Poste, Swavesey. The Pink Geranium at Melbourn gets the humbler 'Pass' rating.

1979 06 02
The £10 million Kite area shopping and parking scheme scheduled for opening in 1982 may be scrapped if opposition against it throughout Cambridge is strong enough. An official of Grosvenor Estates, the development company, said "If the people of Cambridge do not want our product we shall not give it to them". But the present indications are that the public does want the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy Street area to be redeveloped as quickly as possible, despite the protests being voiced by pressure groups. The Kite Co-ordinating Council say the plans are 'hopelessly inappropriate' and it is a very cheap scheme: Cambridge deserves something much better than this.

1979 09 03
Cambridge's newest bookshop has opened in Fitzroy Street, run by a six-member collective, two of whom are squatting on the premises. Grapevine Books is a non-profitmaking venture in the former Vacuum Cleaner Centre owned by the City Council. They are trying to provide an outlet for environment and other groups such as Gingerbread & Friends of the Earth who have difficulty in distributing their publications.

1980

1980 02 08
Nearly 50 squatters crammed into a tiny room in a derelict house at Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, to stop council workmen from demolishing the building. City councillors were on the scene of the biggest confrontation between squatters and squads of police who failed to persuade them to move. Both sides are preparing for a long-drawn out confrontation. The workmen intended to demolish a whole row of property between Christchurch Street and Napier Street to make way for the first phase of the controversial Kite shopping and parking scheme. Councillors opposing the demolition are trying to see what action can be taken to halt the work. 80 02 08

1980 03 14
Waffles' waffles have been selling like hot cakes in Cambridge for seven years. Now the small Kite café has been mentioned in the Egon Ronay guide 'Just A Bite'. "Queues of hungry students form outside the door every evening at this most welcoming of little cafes", it writes. But Waffles' days at its present address are numbered because the little shop on the corner of Gold Street and Fitzroy Street is marked for demolition as part of the Kite redevelopment programme. Set in a devastated urban wasteland of rubble and decaying brick the café with its steamy windows, Edwardian interior and babbling conversation provides a friendly island of humanity. 80 03 14d

1981 05 27
A Cambridge consortium which owns a shop in the centre of the planned £15 million Kite rebuilding scheme is steadfastly refusing to sell to make way for the giant new redevelopment. No.56 Fitzroy Street was bought in a bid to stop the scheme and their leader, a Cambridge don, says: "Under no circumstances are we going to budge – not even if they offered us £5 million. They can build all around us if they like – I am looking forward to our little shop becoming part of the shopping precinct with a large glass dome over the roof". 81 05 27

1981 06 01
Bitter personal arguments, the sound of falling masonry and a series of costly court actions have punctuated the 30-year-Kite saga. In 1950, the Holford Report suggested that the city's historic centre could not meet the shopping needs of future generations. "We regard Fitzroy Street as a valuable relief for pressure on the older centre", it said. Now with the news that Debenhams is to move into the new development and that work is due to start this summer, the saga may be nearing its end. 81 06 01

1981 07 11
Another old Cambridge landmark – the former Little Kettle premises in Fitzroy Street – disappeared when it was demolished as part of the Kite re-development programme. Over the years the premises had various uses, but they are best remembered as the general hardware shop which had a small kettle hanging outside. 81 07 11

1981 07 28
The former Laurie and McConnal store and a number of small adjoining shops in Fitzroy Street have been sold to Grosvenor Estates, who are redeveloping the Kite. It was one of the city's largest and longest-established department stores but has been empty since the firm closed down at the end of 1977. Now it will be refurbished and brought back into retail use. 81 07 28

1981 08 03
The saga of property dealing and controversy in the Kite redevelopment area of Cambridge has come to an end. The last remaining privately-owned shop at 56 Fitzroy Street has been sold to the city council and its partner, Grosvenor Estates for a price of around £30,000. This has given the owners, a consortium of university dons, a £5,000 profit which will be distributed to two charities. As part of the deal a number of small traders will be allowed to stay in their shops for up to three months. 81 08 03c

1981 08 04
Sir – as squatters in the old 'Strudels' building in Fitzroy Street we had come to an amicable arrangement with the council to move out to make way for the Kite redevelopment. We spent the night packing but were aroused by the front door being broken down at 8 am, other demolition men began smashing the plate-glass windows of the shop adjacent scattering glass over the road where our removal vehicles needed to park. We were lucky no serious damage was done to our possessions – H. Williams & others. 81 08 04

1981 09 08
Amid much music and good cheer, the Ancient Druids closed – the last of nine pubs in Fitzroy Street. Soon the 200-year-old rafters will collapse under the developer's sledge-hammers to make way for the multi-million pound Kite shopping development. But last night they rang to the rollicking rhythm of Irish ceilidh music from Ted Stacey's melodeon, accompanied by guitars,

penny whistles, banjo and drums. The wake ended when it ran out of beer. The brewers, Charles Wells, are building another when the development is completed. 81 09 08

1981 11 13
Skirting the roadworks and dodging the demolition rubble, the visitor finds the Kite area of Cambridge hardly the easiest or most picturesque place to shop. Almost one side of Fitzroy Street is empty. The top end, which once included a Post Office, sweet shop, denture repairer and café called the Toby Jug, has been flattened. The Co-op department store in Burleigh Street have axed the traditional ceremonial arrival of Father Christmas as it would aggravate traffic problems. Add the lack of parking space and it is not surprising that traders fear for their Christmas profits. 81 11 13a

1982 08 24
W. Thompson and Son, the Fitzroy Street furniture firm, is closing after 150 years' trading in Cambridge. It started as a cabinet makers in Willow Place in 1832 and a fully-fledged furniture makers and sellers had been established by 1881. They had an undertakers' business for years, as well as selling china wholesale. But Peter Thompson says their style of business was becoming outdated: customers were now more conscious of price than quality with big warehouses changing the way furniture is sold. 82 08 24

1983 08 04
Seventeen flats and maisonettes being built as part of the Grafton Centre are now on the market. The flats in Fitzroy Street have a bedroom, living room, kitchen, bathroom & private rooftop terraced areas and sell for £29,500. The maisonettes are on two floors and have two bedrooms, they sell for £42,000. The scheme also includes 22 one-bedroomed flats in Christchurch Street which will be available on a share-ownership basis through the King Street Housing Society. Most have been allocated already. 83 08 04 p12

1984 01 04
Grosvenor Estates, landlords of the Grafton Centre are turning away potential tenants for the remaining shops. At present seven of the major units are unlet plus two smaller ones, with another six in the smaller Eden Hall and four in Fitzroy Street. Very few new traders have appeared since the summer and a number are still waiting to open, including Gerrards the greengrocers, Studio (Harry Fenton) menswear, Zales jewellers and Our Price records. But Grosvenor say they are doing better than they anticipated. 84 01 04

1984 05 14
Work on rebuilding the Cambridge Co-op store in Burleigh Street has reached the half-way mark. It will transform the historic building, bringing in new kinds of goods, a hairdressing salon and a coffee shop. For the first time it will have departments for self-assembly furniture and lighting as well as counters for the Burleigh Street post office and the Co-op Bank. A three-storey atrium at the Fitzroy Street end of the building will provide an airy display centre for shoes and furniture. 84 05 14 p5

1985 04 11
Choppen's links with Saffron Walden go back to the 19th century when the family moved their engineering business to the town from Great Chesterford. John Choppen, the founder, was also a local fireman and drove the horse-drawn fire engine. His son Frank, under whose control the business prospered, died in 1962. They established a branch in Fitzroy Street Cambridge in 1964 with a purpose-built garden machinery centre in Barnwell road opening in 1980. Now expansion

continues with a new headquarters with offices, workshops and showrooms in Thaxted Road, Walden. 85 04 11

1985 08 30
Now that the dust has settled after the upheaval of building the Grafton Centre, Burleigh Street and Fitzroy Street have emerged as pleasant shopping promenades. Very few shops remain unlet with Andy's Records and Lancashire Mills about to open. Fitzroy Street will become more interesting in October when Habitat finally open at the old Laurie & McConnell shop while Burleigh Street will get a similar boost when the House of Holland opens in the old Marcade centre. 85 08 30

1985 10 23
Eight years after Laurie's doors closed forever, the tiers of galleries round the central well which gave the old store such a distinctive character will be alive with shoppers once again. On the official opening a band will once again occupy the bandstand on top of the building in Fitzroy Street. Traders are hoping that the arrival of Habitat will bring an influx of new shoppers to boost the whole area. Sofas are their best-selling furniture line in a range which includes lighting, self-assembly kitchens and fabrics. 85 10 23

1985 12 02
A plan devised by Grosvenor Estates could add a third to the size of the Grafton Centre. The extension would be built around a central mall at right angles to the present one using the site of the present bus interchange and the land now occupied by the yard of Coulsons, the building contractors. It would have a two-storey roof park for 350 cars with a number reserved for shop staff. Coupled with the opening of Habitat in Fitzroy Street it would strengthen the appeal of the area against that of Cambridge's traditional city centre. 85 12 02a

1986 08 13
Big Mac fans supporters lost the beef-burgers battle. Despite a petition signed by 30,000 hamburger fans an Inspector has rejected plans for a fast-food bar in Fitzroy Street saying it would cause a public nuisance and severe litter problems. Residents in New Square are delighted. But city planners say that they'd be happy to consider another application from McDonalds for a more suitable site 86 08 13

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Γρεεν Στρεε τ, 1977

245.30

Cambridge GREEN STREET Scrapbook, by Mike Petty

1900

1902 07 26
An important property sale was conducted under instructions of executors of the late Messrs Edmond and Ebeneezer Foster. Amongst the lots were dwelling-houses, offices and shops in Cambridge and farm houses and cottages. A tailor's shop in Green Street sold for £1,500, & a newly-built farmhouse at Gt Eversden sold to Mr J. Fossey for £550. Livery stables in Gwydir Street Cambridge were withdrawn at £325, as was a residence in Scroope Terrace at £300

1904 09 03
Green Street, Cambridge would hardly be suspected of any pretensions to the romantic. Its well-ordered lodging-houses, the policemen who parade it and the milkmen who visit it, all seem to bar the entrance to anything more fanciful. Yet it is home to a Russian Pole, Mr Ignatius Knaster who became a political offender by the publication of a political pamphlet dealing with the conditions in Poland and was given the alternative of incarceration or banishment.

1910

1911 05 26
An impudent robbery was committed at Robinson's Motor Cycle Garage in Green Street. The lock was forced and a couple of 1911 Triumph motor-cycles stolen together with two complete suits of the most expensive motor-cycle waterproof clothing, sparking plugs, repair outfits and goggles. The thieves were evidently possessed of a nice discrimination for they took only the best they could lay their hands on. The Triumphs are the thoroughbred of the motorcycle word and

would sell at sight for a large sum anywhere. They could easily average 30mph so that the thieves would have had no difficulty in getting to London before the loss was discovered. 11 05 26h

1912 09 20
Hobson Street chapel was opened in 1849 by Wesleyans had previously met in a chapel in Fitzroy Street and a room in Green Street. It became a spiritual home for residents and undergraduates and was improved in 1891. But it has become inadequate. The Fitzroy Street chapel had become a jam warehouse but Hobson Street will be replaced by the new County Council offices. They will now meet in the Victoria Assembly Room until the new Wesley Chapel on Christ's Pieces is ready. 12 09 20c

1913 02 21
Women Suffrage Association Annual meeting, Green Street

1913 11 28
Frederick W. Metcalfe was head of the printing and publishing firm of Metcalfe & Son on the corner of Green Street which at one time produced most of the publications emanating from Cambridge. Soon after he joined the firm the Cambridge Express was started and he had charge of this popular newspaper until his father's death when it was purchased by the Conservative party. He ran a local troupe of Christy Minstrels including the finest voices amongst the senior members of college choirs. It had a very successful career for several seasons and visited all the principal towns in the area 13 11 28 p7 CIP

1914 05 01
Even the casual observer cannot fail to have noticed the remarkable increase in the number and variety of motor cycles and their greatly increased popularity not only among the young bloods of the Varsity but among staid and sober individuals of maturer ages and less agility. At Robinson's Motor Cycle Garage in Green Street one can have one's machine stored, cleaned and kept in tune and where, should occasion unfortunately arise, have it repaired by workmen who are not mere 'bodgers' but really skilled in this class of work 14 05 01c

1920

1922 02 08
Licences of Volunteer in Green Street, Old Nag's Head Hobson St, Brickmaker's Arms Newmarket Road, Cross Keys in Saxon St held over – probably redundant – 22 02 08

1928 01 23
It was with feelings of justifiable pride and deep gratitude that the Unitarians of Cambridge assembled in their new Memorial Church, Emmanuel Road for its dedicatory service. It stands as a perpetual memorial to the memory of Mr G.W. Brown. The church has been designed by Ronald P. Jones who was responsible for the Church Hall in 1922 and follows the normal "college chapel" design. Prof Burkitt referred to the difficulties the movement experienced in the '80s when services were held in the smoky atmosphere of a billiard room in Green Street.

1930

1936 11 20
Gustave David, known as 'David' to generations of undergraduates has died hours after returning by the midnight train having attended a London auction. He came to Cambridge forty years ago, opening his now-famous stall on Market Hill. Later he opened a shop in Green Street before

moving to St Edward's Passage. He was the first man in Cambridge to sell rare and old books at low prices. So appreciative were Universitymen of his services that in 1925 a number of distinguished members entertained him to lunch at Trinity in recognition of the 'conspicuous services he has rendered the cause of humane letters'. 36 11 20 a & b

1938 03 04
The Health Foods and Herbal Store of Green Street has been established several years and specialises in non-fresh foods of many kinds; unrefined cereals, wholemeal flour, biscuits and cake; choice fruits, nuts, honey & oils – in fact everything nearest to nature and consequently the cheapest for man, woman and child. Now they have bought a speedy little delivery van to distribute their goods to customers. Some of their products however travel by post almost to the ends of the earth 38 03 04e

1940

1946 02 01
Francis Gatward Metcalfe, head of printers and stationers, dies. Known as 'Metcalfe's' in 1730 and as Metcalfe and Palmer before then. Original premises in Green St. He joined 1884 – 46 02 01

1948 06 01
Today the one-way traffic system designed to relieve congestion in the centre of Cambridge came into operation. In Sidney Street and Bridge Street the traffic will flow in a northerly direction towards Magdalene Street from the town centre, while in St John's Street and Trinity Street it will flow in a southerly direction towards King's Parade. In Green Street traffic will flow in one direction from Gifford Place to Trinity Street - and the remainder of Green Street will be open for two-way traffic. This extension of "one-way" traffic will link up with the system now in operation at St Mary's street, Market Hill (north side) and Market Street

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1962 04 27
In 1851 Mr Alfred Bodger, 'Hosier, Glover and Shirtmaker', founded his Gentlemen's Outfitting shop opposite Holy Trinity Church. As business grew he added a tailoring shop and in 1934 moved to the present site on the corner of Sidney Street and Green Street. In 1946 the ready-to-wear site was enlarged. More expansion followed in 1954 and now internal alterations are complete allowing a full range of goods to be shown. But friendly and personal attention is always available – Advert 62 04 27b

1963 08 29
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Green Street; "But in the mind's eye at least, the charm of Green Street, its institutions and personalities, will always remain" – 63 08 29

1967 02 15
Green street traffic shakes shop, Gray's shop front repaired after struck by vehicle – 67 02 15

1968 10 22
Eaden Lilley alterations, bedding department entered from Green Street – 68 10 22

1970

1973 12 10
A series of explosions rocked the centre of Cambridge over the weekend and so far the cause remains a mystery. Gas board officials say the bangs have nothing to do with natural gas leaks. The bangs were reported to police by householders in the Green Street – Sidney Street area. They brought people rushing from their houses, but they could find no cause for the explosions. While the people were outside more bangs occurred, apparently from underground

1977 12 16
Green Street, p26-7

1978 02 04
He used to stand at the corner of Trinity Street and Green Street in Cambridge, touting his wares. Every few minutes he would break out into a chant which sounded something like "Toodle-oddle-aidie-ar". One day I couldn't stand it any longer – not knowing what it meant. So I went up and asked him. "Two o'clock late London", he said, not so much as raising an eyebrow. "Paper, sir?" Every community, in every day and age, has its 'characters', even if there never seem to be quite as many about as there once were. Today busker Jerry Bol happily makes an exhibition of himself as a one-man band, while 'Snowy' Farr and his menagerie delight thousands of people with their weekly Saturday appearances.

1978 02 13
I went for a pub-crawl the other night – without moving from my 'local'. Warmed by two or three pints of good beer I decided to call at The Criterion in Market Passage, which used to be a popular Saturday night pub, the Bun Shop just off Downing Street and the Volunteer in Green Street before tramping on to the Earl Grey in King Street and the Duke of Cambridge in Short Street. Every one of these pubs had its own special 'character'. The journey took only a few minutes but the best part of 15 years – during which time all of them have closed.

1978 02 23
Shopping Guide decided to investigate the cost of a cup of tea in Cambridge snack bars. Best value for money was The Whim in Trinity Street where a pot of tea costs 15p and with a jug of hot water and plenty of milk you can get three cups for your money. Worst was the tea and coffee counter at the Arts Theatre Roof Garden where you pay 15p for one cup. Thornhills in Regent Street was the best for choice as you can have a cup (8p) or pot (18p) whilst at the Coffee Pot in Green Street you pay 20p for a pot that held four cups, if you had the thirst to match it. Joshua Taylor is the only department store which has a coffee or tea shop but has a lunch-time minimum charge.

1980

1982 07 20
Gallyons, a maker and seller of guns and a specialist in fishing tackle, is severing its links with Cambridge after nearly 200 years. They started in Green Street in 1784, moving to Bridge Street in 1865. They are the last firm in East Anglia to make guns and will now have just one shop in Norwich.
82 07 20

1982 07 28
More than 100 years of bookbinding comes to an end when the old established firm of John P. Gray closes down its Green Street premises. The firm was begun in 1847; it established a high

reputation for the restoration and repair of ancient books and carried out special commissions for the leading private collectors. Planning permission has been obtained to turn the site into a restaurant and wine bar. 82 07 28a

1983 09 29
Gray's the bookbinders of Green Street has been sold, the latest of a long line of small Cambridge specialist shops which are rapidly disappearing. Victims in recent years have included Bacon Brothers cigar merchants, S.P. Ora tobacconists, Gallyon the gun and fishing tackle dealers, F.O. Sennitt, fish, game and poultry merchants and Jack Carter, University robes. They are forced out by the three R's – rent, rates and recession. As the family shops close with them goes part of Cambridge's inheritance, atmosphere and charm. 83 09 29 p16

1985 05 30
Cambridge Capital, a new merchant banking venture has been launched in Green Street. It is another step in the growing complexity of Cambridge's financial community. Merchant bankers Singer and Friedlander are already here and two more big-league accountants, Arthur Andersen and Robson Rhodes are getting established this summer. All this is in addition to the existing structure of bankers, accountants and financial advisers and means Cambridge could be a professional and financial centre of really some significance 85 05 30

1985 10 02
Bodger's, one of Cambridge's oldest-established university menswear shops which has been on the corner of Green Street and Sidney Street since 1922, is up for sale as a going concern. It is a very prosperous business employing ten full-time staff but the most valuable part of the concern is the freehold of the shop. It includes sales areas on two floors, a cutting room and canteen together with an attached doctor's surgery with a separate entrance and is valued at £800,000. 85 10 02

1987 04 28
One of Britain's oldest booksellers, Deighton Bell in Trinity Street, which dates back to 1700 and specialises in antiquarian and rare volumes, has been sold to nearby Heffers. It takes them back to second-hand books, a department it gave up in 1974 because of lack of space. Then they had sold their stock to Deighton Bell and had maintained a good relationship ever since. The shop will remain on the corner of Trinity Street and Green Street and continue to be run by John Beech his staff 87 04 28

1988 06 09
Health Food Stores of Rose Crescent was ahead of its time when it started under the name of Sandwiches and Health Food in Green Street in 1931. The brainchild of an Australian, Clarence Dowell and his wife, who worked in the kitchen making sandwiches, it introduced many Cambridge people to the delights of nut rissoles and vegetarian food. Now it is to close and Peppercorns delicatessen will open in the premises 88 06 09c

TURES.

GIRTON HONOURS ITS WAR HEROES.

Over Win the Histon Cup.

Unveiling Girton War Memorial January 1920

c.44.6 : Girton

1897 03 22
Education in rural districts – Girton example, p3

1898 01 07
Girton church restoration, p3

1898 07 09
Girton jubilee, p3

1899 01 14
Sir - I should like to know how it is the children who come over a mile to Girton school cannot be provided with a little water to drink, as there is a well and a pump not 50 yards from the school doors. Some of the cottagers compare its water to Monkey Brand soap - it is not fit to wash clothes. If you put it in a copper and boil it there is a scum like yeast. It is no use letting the water be consumed and disease spread – Neptune

1899 01 19
Girton water, p3

1899 01 23
Sir - there are many schools that have no water supply at all on their own premises, where the children have to depend on “kind and motherly” neighbours who are good enough to attend to the children's wants in this respect. I do not know how many children attend Girton school but can

only feel amazed at the task of the kind neighbour who was equal to the work of filtering and supplying the thirsty little throats of the village school children during such a drought as we experienced in 1898. She is undoubtedly well worthy of an honourable position in the annals of Girton - Rusticus

1899 01 25
Sir - your correspondent appears to forget that where there is a village school there is generally a village. The children obtain at home most of the water they drink. In the dinner hour and in the intervals in the midst of morning and afternoon school, the thirsty little ones can, as a rule, run to their parents' house for what they require. There is ample supply always ready for the little scholars from a distance, who eat their dinners on school premises, and at other times no really thirsty child is sent away empty. It should be remembered that the hottest weather generally occurs in the harvest holidays. During the time I have been a manager of the school at Girton, I have never had a complaint about the water supply from child, or parent or teacher. It is unfortunately true that many children come to our school in a very dirty condition - J D Lawrence

1899 01 27
Girton water supply, p3

1899 01 31
Girton School, p2

1899 03 07
At a meeting at Girton for electing parish councillors the schoolmaster raised the question of the parish pump and remarked that the state of affairs with regard to the water supply was disgraceful, more than one-third of the houses having either no water supply or water unfit to drink and as the council had taken no steps to remedy the matter they were guilty. Cries of "Puppy soup", "Cesspool drainings" etc were frequently heard

1899 03 08
Girton & water, p3
1899 03 16
Girton water supply, p3

1900

1901 03 28
Girton water supply, p3

1901 08 05
Suggestions that the model cottage is not so comfortable as the old-fashioned thatched dwellings must not be accepted without some qualification. Surely nobody will contend that the thatched cottage, with a low roof and a ladder for a staircase, is more comfortable than the brick cottage. Very few have inspected the model cottage on Mr Crisp's estate at Girton or they would not have committed themselves to such an unfortunate pronouncement. It is nothing short of a grave scandal that such large centres as Cottenham, Swavesey and Soham are in danger in the summer of suffering from a short water supply.
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1901 10 05
Girton stud dispute, p4

1902 07 05
Girton water, p3 *

1902 10 11
The villagers of Girton hope to conclude their celebration of the Coronation in November. The commemorative festivities have been taking place by instalments. Two celebrations are now things of the past. It is singular that neither of them coincided with the ceremony the memory of which they were meant to perpetuate. On the original date a tea was held but subsequently no time could be spared for anything less serious that the harvest. Wet weather accounts for the third postponement until "the Fifth" when the villagers will see a fireworks display and then at last Girton's Coronation festivities will be over

1910

1910 08 12
A well-known travelling fishmonger from Cambridge, when watering his horse in a pond near Conington church, got stuck in the mud – at least his horse and cart did – and the services of men with ropes and a tumbrel cart were needed before they could be extricated. A quoits handicap played between members of Barton village club during the last few weeks was won by F. Pratt with C. Trundle and T. Disbrey runners up. At Girton the Rector presented watches to schoolchildren Gladys Nightingale and Victor Watson for nine years' perfect attendance 10 08 12

1911 04 07
Girton Village Institute is designed to promote the religious, intellectual and social welfare of villagers. An evening class for men of the artesian and labouring classes has been established. A small library of interesting books and a billiard and bagatelle table have been provided and there will be lectures, concerts and entertainment. The Rector uses it for Sunday and Bible Classes and mothers' meetings in the day time. Such facilities are needed if we are to keep people on the land and make life in villages more interesting. 11 04 07d

1912 02 23
About 150 Boy Scouts took part in a convoy scheme at Histon. The idea was that a Blue Force, about 40 in number, was besieged in Histon village by a Red Force of over 60 Scouts, while a Blue relief column from Cambridge, some 40 strong, divided into two parts, each with a trek-cart, endeavoured to relive them. The relief party, under Scoutmaster Curzon, advanced via Milton but met with serious opposition at Impington. A detachment of the Red Force was sent to hold the level crossing on the Histon-Girton Road but was ambushed. After the 'Cease Fire' the scouts had tea at Histon Institute 12 02 23h

1912 06 07
Our little motor took us over a nice piece of tarred road towards Girton College but all too soon it ended and we were wending our way over some choice examples of the celebrated Cambridgeshire patches. Just outside Fenstanton a sudden improvement in the road surface was so marked that I looked round to see the reason, and espied the post marking the county boundary. The reason was at once apparent – I had left Cambs and was now in Hunts. But an abrupt turn to the right took us on the road to St Ives, and I began to wonder if I was back in Cambridgeshire. 12 06 07a & b

1913 02 14

County pubs closed: Cottenham Red Lion, Dry Drayton Five Bells, Girton White Horse, Harston Pemberton Arms, Over Black Horse & Sow & Pigs, Swavesey Little Rose & Willingham Black Lion
Girton cruelty to cow

1913 03 14
Licensing sessions - Over Black Horse – Frederick Webster, farmer employed a number of men who used the house; the yard was a great convenience for traffic, Sow & Pigs. Harston Pemberton Arms – people left horses when went away by train. Swavesey Little Rose. Dry Drayton Five Bells. Willingham Black Lion. Cottenham Red Lion. Girton White Horse

1913 11 14
Public houses compensation awards: Melbourn Tailors Arms, Over Sow & Pigs & Black Horse, Dry Drayton Five Bells, Gamlingay Three Horse Shoes, Elsworth Three Horse Shoes, Bourn King William IV, Girton White Horse, Cottenham Red Lion, Willingham Black Lion, Shakespeare Newmarket Rd

1914 03 27
Miss Ethel Sargent, the well-known botanist of Girton College, enjoys the distinction of being the first woman to hold the office of President of any section of the British Association. But she is refusing to pay the King's Taxes as a protest against being taxed without having a vote. Articles, including microscopic accessories and Zeiss lenses were seized and sold by auction on the Green at Girton. It is the third such sale since 1912 14 03 27b & c

1914 04 17
Girton man found hanging in burning cottage – 14 04 17a

1914 04 17
Tragedy at Girton.—A dreadful tragedy was enacted at Girton on Saturday night, when a labourer set fire to his cottage and afterwards hanged himself. On the discovery of the fire a local man showed conspicuous courage in entering the house and cutting down the body. At the time the labourer was carried from the burning cottage he was alive, but he expired a few minutes afterwards. An inquest jury on Monday returned a verdict of "Suicide during temporary insanity" on the deceased. –14 04 17

1914 08 14
Rumours of the presence of spies have been circulating during the last few days. At Warboys the telegraph wire which rings the signal bell at the station on the Somersham to Ramsey branch line was cut during the night and another partially severed. Two foreign gentlemen were seen by Mr W.J. Unwin acting in a suspicious manner at Histon. He followed them to Girton and at each of the three bridges they stopped and examined them. At Girton he phoned the police and a constable was sent out. The men were requested to go to the police station which they did without demure and after questioning were liberated at once. Meanwhile police have been issued with rifles 14 08 14 p7

1915 07 16
With the Colours. Free Lance, referring to a letter from Mr. C. K. V. Adeane, Chairman of the County Territorial Association, giving figures relating to local recruitment to the forces, says: "We get an approximate estimate of 11,000 Cambridgeshire men serving with the colours, viz, 8,197 from the County and Isle and 2,777 from the Borough. A glance at the table (quoted in the letter) shows how many parts which have not nearly come up to scratch, and where there must be

hundreds of men still content to remain at home when they should be taking their places beside their fellow countrymen on the training ground or in the trenches. The parish figuring best in the percentage column is Madingley, which, with 20 out of 83, comes out with 22.4 and Girton, Pampisford, Sawston and Cheveley, all top the 21 per cent, but of these 1 think Sawston shows up to the best advantage, having sent 166 out of a total male population of 789. Out of a total of 18, Shingay can boast four with the colours, which gives the place a percentage of 22.2. Barton and Conington are other villages to have done exceedingly well. Ely can boast of having sent the largest actual number, 753 having gone out of a male population of 3,909, which gives the excellent percentage for a place of this size of 19.2

1916 05 17
Miss E.C. Jones, Mistress of Girton – profile – 16 05 17b

1920

1920 01 24
A large congregation assembled to witness the unveiling of the new Girton War Memorial to the memory of those who gave their lives in the cause of freedom in the Great War. It was dedicated by Bishop Price, Archdeacon of Ely and unveiled by Lieut.-Col M.C. Clayton of the Cambridgeshire Regiment.

1921 06 15
Pavement Club – 500 on King's Parade with every form of locomotion known, journey to Girton – 21 06 15b

1922 04 24
Late Constance Jones, Girton, p3

1922 12 18
Sir Horace and Lady Darwin opened the splendid new playroom built by Mr C. W. Shinkfield and the boys at the Littleton House School, Girton. This room, which has been erected in the garden, takes the form of a timbered hut. The stove, flooring, electric lights and decorating have been set up and carried out by Mr Shinkfield and the boys.

1923 06 09
Four undergraduates of Christ's College, Cambridge, were summoned for wilfully damaging a finger-post in Girton. They all pleaded guilty. P.C. Mead stated that owing to complaints with reference to the post being pulled down five times before he was instructed to watch the post. Four men came from a car and tried to pull down the finger post. They did not succeed, and went back for some tools. At about 11.30 they succeeded in getting the finger off. When they had finished witness caught the driver of the car, the other three ran away but came back later. One said, "You have done me. It was too heavy. I could not run with it, it was wood other times". They said they did not know that there had been any accidents at Girton, and that the signpost and been put up for the purpose of avoiding accidents. They were fined £2 each

1924 01 05
Two young men, who are alleged to have broken and entered Girton College and stolen a number of articles on Boxing Day appeared in court. It was stated by Supt. Allen that the men took him round the college and showed the rooms they had entered, and one of them showed him a lady's bed in which he had slept for the night, after borrowing a pair of pyjamas from the next room

1924 01 15
The inquest on a Girton man who died from lock jaw following an injury to his nose caused by walking into a tumbrel cart in the dark was held at Addenbrooke's Hospital. Witness said the cart was standing on the Green and the man ran straight into it. He was bleeding from a cut on the bridge of the nose so he took him to the district nurse who dressed the wound with iodine and lint. His sister said she got him a cup of beef tea but he could not open his mouth. Dr Lund administered anti-tetanus serum but it was too later and he died.

1924 01 26
A particularly sad story was related to the Cambridge coroner when an inquiry was held into the death of an 18 year old student at Girton College. The girl, who was stated to be fond of rock climbing, attempted to ascend the Tower of the college with the intention of seeing an owls nest. Apparently she slipped and fell to the ground. From the injuries sustained to her legs she evidently alighted on her feet, which goes to prove that she hung on somewhere for a moment before she fell. Before she died she had said, "I so wanted to see the little owls".

1924 10 18
The Conservative candidate's meeting at Girton was marked by uproar. The rowdy element consisted chiefly of youths. About midway through Capt Briscoe's speech, Mr Thurlbourne, a prominent member of the Girton Labour Party entered the room and was greeted with great enthusiasm. He asked a number of questions but the answers were lost in the uproar

1926 05 10
Five hundred of the Civil Constabulary reserve, mostly undergraduates, left Cambridge early this morning for duty in the East End of London. An advance party of 100 went off yesterday. The journey was made by road, the procession of cars stretching for a distance of nearly a mile. In addition some are cleaning carriages at Paddington and Waterloo stations and others unloading cargo at Tilbury Docks. A large number are at dock work and engineering jobs at Hull, while a small contingent is at Grimsby employed at the quayside. A number of Girton and Newnham girls are working as cyclist messengers in the district

1927 01 28
Chesterton RDC considered filling up the pond at Girton. Half belonged to the Wellbrooke Laundry, over which the Parish Council had rights, and half to the Charity Trustees and if the pond was filled in it was essential they should waive their rights to it. The matter was urgent because the Laundry, which abuts the pond, had extended their premises. There was a quantity of building material they were anxious to get rid of which could be used in filling up the pond.

1927 06 15
Three well-known Cambridge sportsmen who have completed their academic careers distinguished themselves by spending part of the night in the grounds of one of the women's colleges and part in another. At midnight on Saturday they climbed into Newnham, taking with them a tent which they pitched in full view and were not discovered until they were all snug in "bed", when they commenced community singing. Newnham Dons became alarmed and phoned for the police, who turned them out. They then motored to Girton, scaled a twelve-foot wall and pitched the tent. They were not discovered until the early hours of the morning when the earliest risers amongst the lady students saw the strange sight in the middle of the court.

1928 07 07
Girton burglary, p5

1928 08 15
Cambridge University has lost yet another distinguished son, by the death of Baron von Hugel, founder of the University Catholic Association. In 1883 he was appointed curator of the Museum of Archaeology, to which he had presented a unique collection of Fiji war instruments. Then commenced a period of service which will never be forgotten. He raised the money required for a new building and played a prominent part in the collection of local antiques, carrying out extensive excavations at Girton. During the War the Baron took charge of the Belgian refugees in Cambridge and received a medal.

1928 08 28
Coun Rowley spoke of the serious pollution of Histon Brook. There was a stream of black sewage matter six inches deep. From this pollution he had lost two horses and another which was about to die and he had been put to very heavy expenditure for water. If water was taken from a pump at Cottenham fed by the brook it ate through the tubes in one hour. They should apply for an injunction against Messrs Chivers resulting in the stopping of the factory. But there were a large number of cottages, a large laundry and a butcher all discharging water into the brook crude, and not filtered as at Chivers. The pollution came from up the brook at Girton as well as lower down

1928 09 24
Sir Horace Darwin, a son of Charles Darwin, died at his home, The Orchard, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge having been in failing health for some time. By his passing we have lost yet another distinguished son of inventive and scientific genius and a personality who will be much missed. A former Mayor and chairman of the Cambridge Instrument Company, he was much interested in the training of mentally deficient children and helped to establish a home for them at Girton

1930

1930 07 25
The controversy over the University Farm on Huntingdon Road was resolved when Cambridge councillors rejected proposals for a road across the land. It had never been a ring road, only a road to be planned in the event of traffic conditions demanding it. It was altogether wrong to put an arterial road in the middle of a rural area which they desired to preserve and which they hoped would never be required. They should ensure that Grantchester and Coton were not swallowed up by Cambridge in the way that Trumpington and Girton were. 30 07 25a-c

1931 10 02
Sir - Many in Histon and Impington are perplexed as to how they will be affected by proposals to include them in Cambridge. This failure is largely due to their own neglect by not attending public meetings organised by the parish councils. The critical factor is sewerage: there are plans to build an estate at Girton but the Ministry say it must be sewered and Histon would be included to make it worthwhile. A sump near the Ballast Hole, a pipe line following the railway and sewer beds near Milton seem the answer. But how will it be paid for? – W.F. Robinson. 31 10 02f

1937 09 11
Thompson's houses sell because they are quality built, using only the best materials and stand on good sites. The 'Windsor Estate' is being rapidly completed with houses for sale from £585 to £850 (£32,500 - £45,200 today). It is in a very healthy position on one of the highest points and served by two main bus routes. The 'Thornton Estate' houses cost from £800 to £1,500 (about £83,340). Each is freehold and the price includes roads and paths, fencing, decoration and large gardens. Ralph Thompson Ltd, Fulbourn – Advert 37 09 11a

1938 09 21
Thornton estate, Huntingdon Road – finest house value in this district – 38 09 21b

1940

1940 03 01
Confirmation. Nine candidates were presented, viz., five by the Rector of Girton and four by the Rector of Cottenham at the confirmation which was held in Girton Parish Church by Bishop Price on Thursday week. Tea was provided after the service for the candidates' and their friends in the Village Hall.

1942 03 16
Frida Stewart of Girton escapes German internment camp in France by crawling through hole in barbed wire – 42 03 16

1942 07 17
Youngest Inspector. At the age of 36 Leonard Arthur Unwin becomes the youngest inspector in the Cambridgeshire County Constabulary. The promotion took place as from the first of this month. Inspector Unwin joined the force in 1927, and was given the rank of sergeant in 1938. He has been stationed at Melbourn. Bourn, Girton and Madingley and is at present out at Newmarket. He is one of the most earnest supporters of sporting activities in the Force, and is a member of the cricket eleven. He is secretary of the recreation club.

1943 03 12
Thornton estate, Girton, cesspool problems –43 03 12

1943 05 07
Three Little Sisters. By picking and selling wild flowers in the village (Girton), three little sisters, Barbara, Hilda and Lily Seymour, have forwarded the sum of £1 10s. to the British Red Cross Agriculture Fund. 43 05 07

1944 09 08
Girton Golden Wedding. — Mr. and Mrs. Harry Sadler, of 70 High Street, Girton, celebrated their golden wedding anniversary on Monday. They were married on September 4, 1894, at Saxmundham Parish Church and for the past 35 years have lived in Girton. On Monday last a reception was held in the Village Institute to mark the occasion and approximately 150 guests were entertained. Mr Sadler will be well remembered by members of the old 11th Battalion, Suffolk Regiment, in which he held the rank of C.S.M. having 25½ years of service to his credit. 44 09 08

1945 12 17
Girton first 25 demobbed soldiers return – 45 12 17a

1946 04 17
Thornton Estate litigation over refusal permission for further houses on grounds that drainage proposals unsatisfactory – 46 04 17

1946 06 27
Thornton Estate drainage litigation to continue – 46 06 27

1947 03 05
Girton refuse borough expansion, p4

1948 04 28
To perpetuate the memory of a great student of natural history, Miss Alice Hibbert-Ware, whose influence during the thirteen years she lived at Girton played an important part in the life of the village, a memorial garden was opened there. Widely known as a teacher, lecturer, writer, research worker and trainer of teachers in natural history, Miss Hibbert-Ware was also praised by speakers or the enthusiasm and wise counsel which she exercised in all affairs of the village in which she participated. Girton Parish Council has undertaken to maintain the garden so that it may for all time be enjoyed by the public

1948 10 21
As the Queen left Girton College yesterday evening, following her visit there, many students gathered in the drive made appropriate if unorthodox use of the gowns they now wear as symbols of their recently won rights to be full members of the University. They took off their gowns and waved them in farewell to the Royal lady, who in the morning had symbolised those new rights as she received in the Senate House the first degree to be conferred upon a woman in University history

1950

1950 12 05
Cambridge, along with practically every other town and village, presented a traditional Christmas-card picture yesterday with freshly fallen snow decorating the trees and hedges. The roads, however, were not quite so picturesque and once the snow had hardened on them they became very treacherous. Melbourn hill was completely blocked by three lorries across the road. Madingley Hill was another treacherous point, with cars unable to climb it and there were long queues also in the Girton road because they could not get a sufficient hold on a rising road.

1950 12 18
"I think every road leading on to Huntingdon Road should have a 'Halt' sign", Coun A.T. Shelley told the Road Safety Committee. "I don't think there is one corner on Huntingdon Road between Fenstanton and Girton where there has not been an accident. It is the fastest road in the whole of East Anglia", he declared.

1951 04 14
A proposal to establish a police out-station in Girton clashes with the interests of a market gardening partnership and there has been an appeal against the County Council's application. The Clerk said the intention was to establish a police house with garage and office accommodation. A site 70 feet wide by 150 feet deep was the minimum requirement, governed by the disposal of sewage. There was no satisfactory public sewer in Cambridgeshire. The Chief Constable spoke of the extreme difficulty of getting recruits because of lack of accommodation. The constable now at Girton lived in a council house.

1951 06 11
The Cambridgeshire of the future will have a number of new roads, fire & police stations, sewerage schemes, old peoples' homes, a new children's home and a mental deficiency colony. Planners say villages recommended for enlargement include Milton, Fulbourn, Shelford, Barton and Coton where the population will increase from 400 to 1,840. Road improvements recommended include a bypass to the east of Girton relinking the road interrupted by the RAF

station but Cambridge bypasses are not shown as surveys show there is no immediate need for them.

1951 07 09
Alderman Mrs C.D. Rackham opened the first instalment of the new Glebe school, Girton. When complete it will take 300 children from five to 11, as well as a group of "under-fives". "We aim to have a nursery class in all our new junior schools where mothers will be able to leave their younger children until they reach the age of five", she said; "we believe this facility an essential feature of our new schools".

1951 09 13
Eighty-two acres of land bordering Thornton Road, at present comprising part of the parish of Impington, may soon become annexed to Girton. During the war by a "gentleman's agreement" the land had been administered by Girton Parish Council in connection with Civil Defence administration and organisation. Local residents had frequently attended Girton Parish Council meetings but had been banned from voting. The transfer of the land would change that. Impington Parish Council has no objections.

1942 06 02
There are gaps in Girton to be filled as a result of sporadic war-time development in the village. Mr J.J. Crown said in 1945 that his firm had purchased land in Cambridge Road to build 90 houses. It was not to be ribbon development – they propose to develop the back land. Building land was very scarce and he had received inquiries practically every day from people wishing to build, but who had no land. There was the question of a proposed by-pass on the Cambridge side of Girton to be laid in the next 20 years. Girton would be contained within the line of the by-pass.

1955 12 09
Mrs Glover lived a full life. She was born in 1875 at Willingham and was entered for Girton College but instead went to Berlin and studied German and music. She married Terrot Glover, a Fellow of St John's College and entertained undergraduates to large tea parties, as was usual at that time. She helped start the Tipperary Club for young mothers during the Great War. Later she developed a special tenderness for the old and forgotten. She also worked with the Cambridge Tapestry Company and won high praise from Queen Mary. During the war she was a billeting officer and found room in her own house for many evacuees. 55 12 09b-d

1957 06 07
The Minister has approved plans to reduce the rate of growth of Cambridge but increase the development of nearby villages like Histon, Girton, Milton and Coton. However no deliberate expansion will take place at Teversham, Hauxton, Madingley or Grantchester. Villages can only preserve their identity and character if they remain physically separate from each other so a Green Belt will be introduced. 57 06 07a

1957 11 21
Distinction between Thornton Way, Thornton Road and Thornton Close at Girton are not clear enough – 57 11 21a

1957 11 29
Thornton Estate street names not to be changed at present – 57 11 29d

1958 08 23

James Ison of Girton is a well-known stonemason who has worked on many college buildings including King's college chapel, where he made the pinnacles, and Caius where he assisted William Topper with the carvings on the Gate of Honour and Gate of Virtue. He also made the foundation stone for the new Catholic Church in Milton Road. Now he started his own business and has carved the gargoyles and medallions that are going to help restore the second court of St John's. 58 08 23a

1939 03 23
The Wellbrook Laundry on Girton Road was originally opened for the benefit of Girton College in the days when they sent the clothes by horse and carts, so it was fitting that the Mistress performed the formal opening ceremony of the new dry cleaning department. After wards visitors viewed the laundry which included the sorting of customers' work by tape recording and sheets automatically folded by machine. 59 03 23c

1959 03 25
Girton parishioners discussed Cambridge council's claim for County Borough status, including the extension of their boundary to Pepys Way. This comprised half the population of the village and the remainder would have to bear the whole cost of the existing village area. They were quite happy as they were and deplored the suggestion to split the village.59 03 25

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 06 24
Fred Matthews of Sawston has been singing at the village church for 72 years. At the age of 79 his strong baritone voice still rings out at many services accompanied in the choir by his own son and grandson. He is a jovial, robust character who is perfectly contented with memories of his active and varied life, including how he was once sent to Girton College to teach the ladies how to play cricket. His bell-ringing activities continue and his greatest pleasure is to a take a trip to the seaside whenever there's a spare seat on a coach be it with the WI, Young Wives or Mothers' Union – he does not mind. 60 06 24e

1960 03 04
Throughout the year the CIP carried a series of feature articles relating to Cambridgeshire villages. They include Girton – 60 03 04

1961 03 28
Girton parish church has death-watch beetle and wood rot in its floors and workmen are trying to repair the damage before April. The beetle was first discovered in the north aisle and further inspection revealed that all the floor timbers were riddled as was the floor to the belfry. During the week the whole church is in turmoil as workmen replace the rotten timbers and concrete the floor beneath to prevent damp seeping into them. They have to clear up for special weekday and ordinary Sunday services which are held at little inconvenience to the congregation 61 03 28a

1961 04 14
Ghost hunters will investigate a small house in Staffordshire Gardens although the building is not haunted and is scheduled to be demolished. Tony Cornell of Girton, who travels all over the country investigating haunted houses, believes it is not spirits who throw things or cause the mysterious knockings which have driven people from their homes in fright. The effects may be caused by vibrations coming through the floor and up the walls. He will attach a 'vibration

machine' to the wall and place ornaments on the floor and mantelpieces then conduct a scientific experiment to simulate the erratic wanderings of a poltergeist. 61 04 14a

1964 04 13
The Cambridgeshire Deep Freeze Company was formed in 1952 in adapted buildings on Pound Hill, then extended into pre-fabricated cold rooms nearby. Soon however the whole of the Pound Hill area became part of a redevelopment plan and they moved to a new site at Girton during the severe winter of 1962-63. It accommodates bulk quantities of raw materials such as raspberries and blackcurrants for national processors but one cold room is sub-divided into lockers which can be hired to private individuals for the storage of game or garden produce. 64 04 13b & c

1964 04 29
Memories will flood back to Girton man, Vic Watson, when his old team West Ham play in a Wembley Cup Final. The last time they were there was in 1923 and Vic, then 25, was leading the attack as centre-forward. They lost 2-0 to Bolton in a game that became known as the 'White Horse Final'. Vic was with the club for 16 years and won seven England caps. After retirement he became club coach at Cambridge Town for nearly 20 years until they turned professional. Now he will be a guest of the club together with Jimmy Ruffell, Billy Moore and G. Brown. After the match they have been invited to the team's reception at the Hilton Hotel in Park Lane. 64 04 29c

1965 01 29
Girton photo feature – 65 01 29a

1965 05 11
Rethatching cottage Binfield Cottage, Girton by Joe Kursij – 65 05 11d

1969 06 10
Queen Mother attends centenary lunch at Girton College – 69 06 10, 11a

1970

1972 03 01
The Cambridge M.P., Mr David Lane yesterday waived aside professional traffic statistics and asked those at the by-pass inquiry to use their eyes and their common sense. In a statement to the three-week old inquiry Mr Lane gave his whole-hearted support to both the proposed western and northern bypasses and claimed to have the backing of most people in Cambridge. A woman living in Elizabeth Way wrote "On this bend to which the big lorries cruise and then rev up hard out of it it is one frightful nightmare and the fumes are really killing". A man living in Chesterton Road wrote: "Life is now intolerable and the only acceptable answer is an alternative route by-passing the city altogether" In supporting the northern bypass Mr Lane said disturbance to Girton village must be minimised.

1972 03 29
Girton College was warned yesterday that without the Cambridge by-passes the road outside their front gate would be "a hell on earth" within the next 20 years. The County Surveyor said it was estimated that by 1990 the road would have to carry the equivalent of more than 50,000 cards a day - well over twice its present load. It would necessitate the provision of dual three-lane carriageways and this would mean the demolition of many of the properties fronting the road

1972 04 25
Girton bypass, p14

1972 05 19
Faith, Hope and Charity will never be quite the same again if the Government go ahead with their proposed motorway interchange at Girton. Faith, Hope and Charity are the names of three fields on the Cambridge University Farm - and their future is in some doubt because they lie at the exact spot where the city's Northern and Western bypasses are due to meet up with the A604. Although the university farm has some picturesque names - Youngman's Pasture, Pheasant Meadow and Stickfast - it is an experimental unit rather than a pure agricultural investment

1972 06 13
Girton College now has more rooms for resident students than any other women's college in Oxford or Cambridge, claimed the Mistress, Professor Muriel Bradbrook yesterday. She was speaking at the official opening of Wolfson Court which adds 100 rooms to those available at the main college site. It was financed by an appeal including a £150,000 contribution from the Wolfson Foundation, p15

1972 09 28
We, the teenagers of Girton village, strongly resent the slur that has been cast on us. Admittedly we use the bus shelter as a meeting place, but that is because there is literally nowhere else to go. There are about 20 of us basically decent, normal, healthy teenagers with the boisterousness of youth and it is not physically possible to meet all at once in each other's houses. So the only building which protects us from the weather is the bus shelter. We absolutely deny that it has an offensive smell and is strewn with litter. In fact the bus shelter at Mayfield Road is in a far worse condition and is not used by members of our age group. - letter signed by 23 Girton youngsters

1973 07 10
The scheme to widen the notorious A604 Cambridge to Huntingdon road could be axed as a result of the big cutback in Government road spending announced a few weeks ago. The A604 is one of the few roads in the area with long stretches of three-lane single carriageway and has been described by the Chief Constable as the worst road in East Anglia. It is also one of the busiest with much of the East coast port traffic and there have been improvement plans n the pipeline for several years. Under present proposals the road would be turned into a full six-lane highway between Girton and Godmanchester 73 07 10

1973 07 20
Girton Parish Council is to ask the county council to give urgent consideration to drawing up a village plan in a bid to get effective control over large-scale development. The prime concern is the preservation of the Old Rectory, in the heart of the village, until parishioners can decide whether they wished to retain the 18th century building or not. Already 150 homes have been approved which takes Girton to its 1981 population limit. Now it could mean a further large area of land being released for development

1973 09 19
The environmental effects on the Cambridgeshire countryside and a number of villages in the building of the Cambridge bypasses are given in the Government's go-ahead to the projects. The inspector concludes that at Grantchester environmental intrusion would be mitigated by a properly conceived planting scheme & the effects on the village would not be serious. At Hauxton and Lt Shelford the environmental effects, though great, would not be intolerable. The Inspector does not support Girton's claims that the area will be severed in any practical sense by the Cambridge Northern Bypass. The new road would pass in a cutting and noise screening is

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recommended. At Fenstanton the Inspector thinks that the noise problem is more important than any partial severance of the village by the A604. He recommends noise screening

1973 10 15
An appeal for special heavy-duty breakdown equipment went out after an articulated lorry overturned at Mitcham's Corner, Cambridge - and the wrecked vehicle and its scattered load were still there six hours later. The lorry overturned outside Wallis' garage showroom at 6.40 am. But the major equipment of local garages was already committed to other things and later the army sent some from Waterbeach. The accident caused extensive delays - at one time there was a queue right back to Washpit Lane, Girton, more than a mile from the city boundary on Huntingdon Road

1974 01 07
Many more young people are sleeping rough in and around Cambridge than anyone has estimated. A man who has slept rough for the last 30 years says he knows of about 100 people aged from 17 to 30 sleeping out in woods and fields around Cambridge. But his estimate has been rejected as “exaggeration” by the rector of Girton, who has been helping to tackle the problem

1974 08 17
Two Cambridge honeymoon couples are among the thousands of people hit by the collapse of the Court Line Holiday Group. One couple, due to be married at Girton, paid £190 for their honeymoon on Lake Como in Italy. Another couple who were due to be married this afternoon have had to make last-minute changes to their plans. They were due to fly out from Luton for a holiday in Ibiza for which they paid £133

1974 09 10
Anglian Water Authority have asked Souths Cambs district council to refuse permission for any new development and severely restrict building in a further 19 because of the overloading of the sewage treatment works, Milton, whose drains lead into the Cambridge works has suffered from a d development embargo for the last four years. It is now joined by Shelford, Girton, Histon and Fen Ditton where a complete ban on development is requested. At Over, Gamlingay and Bassingbourn permission will only be given to one-building application. All of these sewage works have been badly overloaded for some time but the cuts in public spending have prevented AWA from going ahead with extension schemes

1975 01 18
The question of whether to re-open the road across Oakington airfield is developing into an inter-village row. Villagers at Oakington and Girton say they do not want the road opened to traffic, but a number of people at Longstanton are in favour of the idea. The chairman of their parish council pointed out the new flyover on the A604 would cut out most of the inconvenience and danger to motorists and this may well be completed before any decision on the airfield road is taken.

1975 07 21
News photographer Tony Jedrej took a souvenir picture of his wallet by accident on Friday – then drove away from Girton and never saw it again. Part of his car was included in pictures taken near the Old Crown public house and it was not until later, when the developed the film, that he saw he had left his wallet on the boot. Mr Jedrej believes the wallet, containing £1, fell off when he drove away from Girton, though his long search of the area afterwards was fruitless

1977 01 28

Girton golf club, p26

1977 02 10
Planners took a long hard look around Cambridge to see where development could best be accommodated. They soon dismissed Histon or Girton because they have relatively limited potential for longer-term growth. At Milton there is considerable opportunity for expansion within the new road framework. Both Bar Hill and Waterbeach possess characteristics suitable for growth, but Cottenham is less accessible to Cambridge. Growth of up to 4,000 might be contemplated in the Teversham-Fulbourn area and the same at Bottisham. To the south it would be possible to develop the Clay Farm area of Trumpington and the Shelfords but Sawston seems to have the greatest development potential

1979 01 20
Girton price rises, p7

1979 03 14
The 600-plus parking meters in the centre of Cambridge may be scrapped as one of the options for helping to sort out traffic chaos. But if they continue the city council is backing a 67 per cent increase in all meter charges because they are facing a £12,000 loss due to increased pay for the traffic wardens. Councillors are also considering residents' parking schemes to meet mounting demand for this facility. They may also provide the city's first cycle lane along the Huntingdon Road from Girton College to Murkett's Corner.

1979 03 15
Girton could become the place for an experiment in rubbish collection – the first of its kind in the country. The idea for a trial run of a new system comes from a German firm with plans to open up the British market. So far only South Cambs District Council has shown any interest in the service which means plastic bins on wheels for householders and special lorries. Meanwhile they are to order three million plastic rubbish sacks after hearing that the cost may double by next year

1979 05 19
Forty per cent of Cambridge students are potential psychiatric cases, according to a report published by the Students' Union. There are a large number of reasons but whether Cambridge attracts people with a predisposition to mental illness or creates that illness once they arrive, the university has a responsibility to its students. The women in men's colleges are far more stressed than their counterparts in single-sex colleges and the male students about to be introduced into Girton, the oldest women's college, could end up suffering a corresponding weight of stress. The report is bound to spark off controversy among dons.

1980

1980 01 03
Girton College has one of the country's most unusual orchards. It boasts about 153 trees representing 83 varieties of rustic English apples. The oldest are some Blenheim Orange apples which date back 90 years. They have been the pride and joy of Bill Stringer who is retiring after 32 years on the college staff. But the survival of the orchard could depend on the continuing interest of his successor. Already picking has become a problem with the loss of casual labour and there is no desire to use the apples for college meals as instant cooking phases out demand for apple dumpling or charlottes. In addition the college has sold land for the Cambridge Northern by-pass which will put pressure on the remainder as the student intake grows.

1980 01 11
Reports of a UFO which held Harston villagers spellbound have been received from other parts of the world. A researcher who investigated the phenomenon says they appear to be genuine descriptions of an unknown technology. Other reports have been received locally. Desmond January, a Cambridge estate agent, said he watched a line of three white lights which he thought at first were helicopters, but there was no noise and one shot away at right angles up into the sky. Another resident of Hauxton reported something similar that evening while on New Year's Day a lady described seeing a dark cylindrical object pass over her home in Hills Road, Cambridge. The following day two teenagers at Girton told of a light 'burning like magnesium ribbon'

1980 02 27
Senior dons at Girton are pursuing an astonishing plan to link their college with Cambridge by railway. They are proposing a mono-rail link which would run mainly at ground level on university and college-owned land to the Sidgwick Avenue arts site and University Library. The main difficulties are the high cost of the project, which would need to cross the Huntingdon and Madingley Roads and the delicate negotiations with other colleges. The college's undergraduates have to cycle two miles in all weathers to attend lectures and many have been injured in road accidents. But two recent changes may ensure it is never built: the opening of the Western By-pass has reduced the amount of traffic and there will soon be a cycle lane. 80 02 27

1980 03 13
More details have been released of the amazing project to run a mono-rail between Girton College and Cambridge. The Swiss system employs a steel rail carried on concrete pillars about 20 feet above the ground. Electrically-powered trains carrying 100 people in two 50-seater cars would run five journeys each way at rush hour at a speed of 30 mph. It would do the journey in five minutes. The train would not be obtrusive and would make less noise than a motorcar. The scheme would cost about £500,000 and need a private Act of Parliament. 80 03 13

1980 06 06
Girton College's imaginative plan to build a two-mile aerial roadway into Cambridge has been shelved. A driverless 100-seater train would have run 20 feet above ground taking students from the college to Grange Road. But they have had difficulty crossing land owned by other colleges and raising the money and there has been an improvement in traffic conditions since the opening of the Western by-pass 80 06 06a

1980 06 26
Four people were taken to hospital after a car careered across a corner of Cambridge Market Square. It ploughed across the Barclays Bank edge of the market, striking a flower stall, scattering fruit and vegetables and hitting two shoppers before ending up four feet from the railings of Gt St Mary's church. A Girton lady working on the flower stall said: "I just saw the car out of the corner of my eye and ran for it. The stall just folded up with its legs in the air" 80 06 26

1980 06 27
According to an undergraduate there were more men living in Girton college before it officially went co-residential than there are now. A number of women have not exactly welcomed the admission of men with open arms. One scientist referred to "the horrible increase in the number of couples holding hands in the dinner queue". She felt the college had lost its character. "I don't see why anybody would bother to apply here. There is nothing really to attract people", she said. 80 06 27a

1980 07 19

Girton bus, p6

1982 05 06
The Travellers Rest, the 100th Beefeater Steak House, has opened at Girton. Weathered bricks and dark wood have come from an old mill in Lancashire to give the former Whitbread pub a warmth and intimacy. Hundreds of plants with an unusual water feature add both colour and life but the over-riding ingredient for success is value for money with no extra costs hidden within the menu. 82 05 06

1982 12 16
A gentle coffee-coloured steer made it a happy day for Dick Underwood of Godmanchester at the Cambridge Christmas livestock show at the Cattle Market. The pig championship went to Mr F. Ketteridge of Ashdon, with the reserve title going to Littleton House School, Girton. In the sheep section T. Wakefield of Caxton beat the Boxworth Farming Company for the title. 82 12 16

1986 06 04
Wilfreda Leakey was the original secretary of the Girton and Oakington Child Welfare Centre established in 1936. The warm, friendly atmosphere was a focus for village life where mothers could get expert help on child care from the visiting doctors and nurses. During the war it ensured children received supplies of food and vitamins and when toothbrushes were impossible to find they obtained a consignment that they sold for threepence each. A library lending books on child care to mothers and reading material for the youngsters started in the 1940s and continues to this day. Now she has written its history. 86 06 04a

1986 08 11
Patrick Woods' first task when appointed sub-postmaster at Girton 18 years ago was to construct the building itself. For eight weeks 'Postman Pat' had to make do in a little shed, taking everything back to his home in Mildenhall each evening. But business blossomed and the post office and stores in Dodford Lane have become a familiar sight in the village which for a while feared it might lose its post office for ever. Now Mr Woods and his wife are calling it a day. "It's no longer a piggy-bank business. It's very streamlined and we have to spend half the evening doing paperwork", he said 86 08 11a

1986 11 26
Girton Golf Club celebrated its 50th anniversary. It has come a long way since the days when a special rule had to be introduced to cope with the sheep grazing on the greens. It was founded in 1936 by Scottish professional Allan Gow as a privately run organisation. Membership was three guineas for gentlemen and a round of the nine-hole course cost one shilling and sixpence. The course flooded several times a year and members squelched across water-logged fairways for most of the winter. In summer they had to negotiate huge cracks when the ground dried out. 86 11 26c

1987 03 19
European Scouts, distinguished on parade by a traditional uniform of wide-brimmed hats and shorts, are making their mark in the Cambridge area. Locally they were born amid controversy three years ago when a Girton group, then belonging to the mainstream Scout Association, switched to the Federation of European Scouting. Together with groups in Waterbeach and Chesterton, bringing numbers to 140, the now account for 10% of European Scouts in England. They stick closer to the original Baden Powell principles – concentration on skills that can't be classroom learned. 87 03 19

1987 08 10
The search for somewhere to live is becoming increasingly desperate. Yet more than 400 council homes in the region are standing empty. In Cambridge – where the council housing list tops 4,000 – one house in Fen Road has been empty for a tear, another in Long Reach Road for nine months and a property in Oak Tree Avenue for 20. At Girton four police houses have been empty for almost two years. Officials say some need repair, campaigners claim it is down to inefficiency. 87 08 10b & c

1987 08 14
The 'Beautiful Cambridge' competition is aimed to find the most imaginative gardens. Maureen Brown has done wonders with her back garden in Greville Road and Leslie North of Beche Road can be proud of his landscaping talents. But it was Mary Gosal's garden in Girton Road which delighted the judges. Three years ago it was just a rubbish tip; weeds were waist high and the ground uneven. Now it is a secluded, fragrant, multi-coloured botanical delight with foxgloves, azaleas and alpines. 87 08 14b & c

1987 11 16
An old broken-down 1930s Fordson tractor has been painted red, blue and green and given a new lease of life as a toy for primary schoolchildren at Girton Glebe School. – 87 11 16

1988 01 26
Joice Taylor of Girton comes from an academic family. She has organised the Cambridge Lectures for young people which have run each Christmas at the University Engineering Department from 1963. Under the chairman, Dr Ronald Gray, the lectures by experts in their field cover topics such as spiders, snakes and scorpions, how the weather is forecast, a talk by Mary Archer about solar energy [and even some by a young Mike Petty]. 88 01 26a

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Crowds in Gt St Mary's Passage at death King George V, 1936

173.05

c.44.6 : Great St Mary's Passage

1898 10 18
The photographer who is also an artist has a great advantage over the photographer who is merely a mechanic. One may realise this very clearly by paying a visit to the studio at St Mary's Passage, Cambridge, of Mr Clement A. Shaw. His first love was painting but in his portrait work he found the advantage of being able to take a photograph of the subject, in that tedious sittings could often be curtailed. His studios are covered with specimens of his work. There are photographs in all processes - opals, miniatures, pastels and oil paintings. There are several pictures painted on an enlarged scale from photographs which are very meritorious indeed

1900

1903 07 07
Cambridge is becoming an uncongenial place for the purveyor of pirated music. The latest of several seizures took place at the instigation of Messrs Bedwell, music dealers of St Mary's Passage. A member of the firm, with the assistance of police, examined a stock of music being sold by several hawkers on Market Hill. About 80 copies of well-known songs and some of Sousa's marches were found among the stock being sold cheaper than authorised charges for music produced by the holders of the copyright. They were promptly confiscated and taken to the police station. The hawkers were agents of a huge and craftily constituted organisation that exists for the distribution over the country of music of this description.

1905 09 13
Sir – I believe the earliest Cambridge photographer was George Proctor, who lived in New Square until he died about 1850. About the same time Sarony, a celebrated photographer, was allowed to carry on his business in a caravan on Parker's Piece. There were others including Nichols who had a flourishing business; he moved from Slaughter House Lane to St Mary's

Passage and later his son to Post Office Terrace. He took my own portrait in 1854 and it is as good today as it was then – 'Three-score and twelve' 05 09 13a

1930

1935 12 17
Electricity is the modern housewife's Father Christmas, bringing her so many labour-saving and home-brightening devices and Messrs Bailey, Grundy and Barrett of St Mary's Passage are specialists. Lamp standards, wireless sets and coffee percolators are a few gift suggestions. Harassed husbands and flurried fiancés will find solutions to all their gift problems at Messrs Eaden Lilley's which is packed full of things dear to the feminine heart such as evening gowns, furs and lingerie. The bargain basement has good quality stuff at reasonable prices. 35 12 17a

1936 03 12
Albany Café in St Mary's Passage – painting – 36 03 12b

1936 03 21b
Albany coffee shop St Mary's Passage notes; frontage between St Mary's Passage and St Edward's Passage sold - 36 03 21b

1940

1940 03 14
'Modern Hairdressing' – new ladies hair saloon and Stanwell Shoe Company, St Mary's Passage – 40 03 14a

1945 05 08
VE celebrations, Market Square, crowd of several thousand, waste paper dump in St Mary's Passage set on fire, cars and stalls damaged, flag on top fountain, climb Guildhall clock – 45 05 08, 45 05 10

1950

1950 06 03
Film company International Realistic has been in Cambridge filming part of a feature film with many well-known local scenes as backgrounds. The film will probably be called "The scarlet thread", and is an exciting "cops and robbers" starring Laurence Harvey and Kathleen Byron. Market Hill is included with a dash to Gt St Mary's Passage and a realistic rugger tackle by the fountain. The exposed film was rushed each day to London for processing and back again next day in time for screening at the Victoria Cinema after the usual performances.

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1961 12 01
A bold scheme to transform Cambridge Market Hill into the 'finest piazza in Europe' would involve banning traffic in King's Parade, demolition of a few buildings on the corner of St Mary's Passage and the complete clearance of the Market Place. The screen in front of King's college would be removed and the Senate House and Law Department buildings linked together to form one magnificent spacious vista, says architect G.M. Vickers 61 12 01b

1970

1974 07 18
Seven generation of Barretts have been supplying the citizens of Cambridge with pottery and glass since the C18. This week the family business is virtually "coming home to roost" in opening up new premises in Gt St Mary's Passage – only a stone's throw from the spot where Simon Barrett opened up his first shop nearly 200 years ago. The long-established premises in St Andrew's Street will still remain in business.

1980

1984 02 25
Jane Barrett, the joint managing director of the Cambridge china and glass specialists, has become the first woman in the world to have a Royal Doulton crinoline lady named after her. 'Jane', a portrait of an Edwardian lady holding a parasol, has been created exclusively to celebrate Barretts bi-centenary this year and will only be sold at their shop in St Mary's Passage. 82 05 25 & a

1990 03 13
University Audio founder Gruffydd Reece started University Cameras in St Mary's Passage after leaving the RAF in 1945. The business expanded and he opened Fencolour Laboratories in Newmarket Road, one of the first to offer colour developing and printing for amateurs. He was later joined by his brother Hugh and cousin Bryan Hyam who started University Audio in Peas Hill – 90 03 13

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Green Street, 1977

245.30

c.44.6 : Green Street

1900

1902 07 26
An important property sale was conducted under instructions of executors of the late Messrs Edmond and Ebeneezer Foster. Amongst the lots were dwelling-houses, offices and shops in Cambridge and farm houses and cottages. A tailor's shop in Green Street sold for £1,500, & a newly-built farmhouse at Gt Eversden sold to Mr J. Fossey for £550. Livery stables in Gwydir Street Cambridge were withdrawn at £325, as was a residence in Scroope Terrace at £300

1904 09 03
Green Street, Cambridge would hardly be suspected of any pretensions to the romantic. Its well-ordered lodging-houses, the policemen who parade it and the milkmen who visit it, all seem to bar the entrance to anything more fanciful. Yet it is home to a Russian Pole, Mr Ignatius Knaster who became a political offender by the publication of a political pamphlet dealing with the conditions in Poland and was given the alternative of incarceration or banishment.

1910

1911 05 26
An impudent robbery was committed at Robinson's Motor Cycle Garage in Green Street. The lock was forced and a couple of 1911 Triumph motor-cycles stolen together with two complete suits of the most expensive motor-cycle waterproof clothing, sparking plugs, repair outfits and goggles. The thieves were evidently possessed of a nice discrimination for they took only the best

they could lay their hands on. The Triumphs are the thoroughbred of the motorcycle word and would sell at sight for a large sum anywhere. They could easily average 30mph so that the thieves would have had no difficulty in getting to London before the loss was discovered. 11 05 26h

1912 09 20
Hobson Street chapel was opened in 1849 by Wesleyans had previously met in a chapel in Fitzroy Street and a room in Green Street. It became a spiritual home for residents and undergraduates and was improved in 1891. But it has become inadequate. The Fitzroy Street chapel had become a jam warehouse but Hobson Street will be replaced by the new County Council offices. They will now meet in the Victoria Assembly Room until the new Wesley Chapel on Christ's Pieces is ready. 12 09 20c

1913 02 21
Women Suffrage Association Annual meeting, Green Street

1913 11 28
Frederick W. Metcalfe was head of the printing and publishing firm of Metcalfe & Son on the corner of Green Street which at one time produced most of the publications emanating from Cambridge. Soon after he joined the firm the Cambridge Express was started and he had charge of this popular newspaper until his father's death when it was purchased by the Conservative party. He ran a local troupe of Christy Minstrels including the finest voices amongst the senior members of college choirs. It had a very successful career for several seasons and visited all the principal towns in the area 13 11 28 p7 CIP

1914 05 01
Even the casual observer cannot fail to have noticed the remarkable increase in the number and variety of motor cycles and their greatly increased popularity not only among the young bloods of the Varsity but among staid and sober individuals of maturer ages and less agility. At Robinson's Motor Cycle Garage in Green Street one can have one's machine stored, cleaned and kept in tune and where, should occasion unfortunately arise, have it repaired by workmen who are not mere 'bodgers' but really skilled in this class of work 14 05 01c

1920

1922 02 08
Licences of Volunteer in Green Street, Old Nag's Head Hobson St, Brickmaker's Arms Newmarket Road, Cross Keys in Saxon St held over – probably redundant – 22 02 08

1928 01 23
It was with feelings of justifiable pride and deep gratitude that the Unitarians of Cambridge assembled in their new Memorial Church, Emmanuel Road for its dedicatory service. It stands as a perpetual memorial to the memory of Mr G.W. Brown. The church has been designed by Ronald P. Jones who was responsible for the Church Hall in 1922 and follows the normal "college chapel" design. Prof Burkitt referred to the difficulties the movement experienced in the '80s when services were held in the smoky atmosphere of a billiard room in Green Street.

1930

1936 11 20
Gustave David, known as 'David' to generations of undergraduates has died hours after returning by the midnight train having attended a London auction. He came to Cambridge forty years ago,

opening his now-famous stall on Market Hill. Later he opened a shop in Green Street before moving to St Edward's Passage. He was the first man in Cambridge to sell rare and old books at low prices. So appreciative were Universitymen of his services that in 1925 a number of distinguished members entertained him to lunch at Trinity in recognition of the 'conspicuous services he has rendered the cause of humane letters'. 36 11 20 a & b

1938 03 04
The Health Foods and Herbal Store of Green Street has been established several years and specialises in non-fresh foods of many kinds; unrefined cereals, wholemeal flour, biscuits and cake; choice fruits, nuts, honey & oils – in fact everything nearest to nature and consequently the cheapest for man, woman and child. Now they have bought a speedy little delivery van to distribute their goods to customers. Some of their products however travel by post almost to the ends of the earth 38 03 04e

1940

1946 02 01
Francis Gatward Metcalfe, head of printers and stationers, dies. Known as 'Metcalfe's' in 1730 and as Metcalfe and Palmer before then. Original premises in Green St. He joined 1884 – 46 02 01

1948 06 01
Today the one-way traffic system designed to relieve congestion in the centre of Cambridge came into operation. In Sidney Street and Bridge Street the traffic will flow in a northerly direction towards Magdalene Street from the town centre, while in St John's Street and Trinity Street it will flow in a southerly direction towards King's Parade. In Green Street traffic will flow in one direction from Gifford Place to Trinity Street - and the remainder of Green Street will be open for two-way traffic. This extension of "one-way" traffic will link up with the system now in operation at St Mary's street, Market Hill (north side) and Market Street

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1962 04 27
In 1851 Mr Alfred Bodger, 'Hosier, Glover and Shirtmaker', founded his Gentlemen's Outfitting shop opposite Holy Trinity Church. As business grew he added a tailoring shop and in 1934 moved to the present site on the corner of Sidney Street and Green Street. In 1946 the ready-to-wear site was enlarged. More expansion followed in 1954 and now internal alterations are complete allowing a full range of goods to be shown. But friendly and personal attention is always available – Advert 62 04 27b

1963 08 29
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Green Street; "But in the mind's eye at least, the charm of Green Street, its institutions and personalities, will always remain" – 63 08 29

1967 02 15
Green street traffic shakes shop, Gray's shop front repaired after struck by vehicle – 67 02 15

1968 10 22
Eaden Lilley alterations, bedding department entered from Green Street – 68 10 22

1970

1973 12 10
A series of explosions rocked the centre of Cambridge over the weekend and so far the cause remains a mystery. Gas board officials say the bangs have nothing to do with natural gas leaks. The bangs were reported to police by householders in the Green Street – Sidney Street area. They brought people rushing from their houses, but they could find no cause for the explosions. While the people were outside more bangs occurred, apparently from underground

1977 12 16
Green Street, p26-7

1978 02 04
He used to stand at the corner of Trinity Street and Green Street in Cambridge, touting his wares. Every few minutes he would break out into a chant which sounded something like "Toodle-oddle-aidie-ar". One day I couldn't stand it any longer – not knowing what it meant. So I went up and asked him. "Two o'clock late London", he said, not so much as raising an eyebrow. "Paper, sir?" Every community, in every day and age, has its 'characters', even if there never seem to be quite as many about as there once were. Today busker Jerry Bol happily makes an exhibition of himself as a one-man band, while 'Snowy' Farr and his menagerie delight thousands of people with their weekly Saturday appearances.

1978 02 13
I went for a pub-crawl the other night – without moving from my 'local'. Warmed by two or three pints of good beer I decided to call at The Criterion in Market Passage, which used to be a popular Saturday night pub, the Bun Shop just off Downing Street and the Volunteer in Green Street before tramping on to the Earl Grey in King Street and the Duke of Cambridge in Short Street. Every one of these pubs had its own special 'character'. The journey took only a few minutes but the best part of 15 years – during which time all of them have closed.

1978 02 23
Shopping Guide decided to investigate the cost of a cup of tea in Cambridge snack bars. Best value for money was The Whim in Trinity Street where a pot of tea costs 15p and with a jug of hot water and plenty of milk you can get three cups for your money. Worst was the tea and coffee counter at the Arts Theatre Roof Garden where you pay 15p for one cup. Thornhills in Regent Street was the best for choice as you can have a cup (8p) or pot (18p) whilst at the Coffee Pot in Green Street you pay 20p for a pot that held four cups, if you had the thirst to match it. Joshua Taylor is the only department store which has a coffee or tea shop but has a lunch-time minimum charge.

1980

1982 07 20
Gallyons, a maker and seller of guns and a specialist in fishing tackle, is severing its links with Cambridge after nearly 200 years. They started in Green Street in 1784, moving to Bridge Street in 1865. They are the last firm in East Anglia to make guns and will now have just one shop in Norwich. 82 07 20

1982 07 28

More than 100 years of bookbinding comes to an end when the old established firm of John P. Gray closes down its Green Street premises. The firm was begun in 1847; it established a high reputation for the restoration and repair of ancient books and carried out special commissions for the leading private collectors. Planning permission has been obtained to turn the site into a restaurant and wine bar. 82 07 28a

1983 09 29
Gray's the bookbinders of Green Street has been sold, the latest of a long line of small Cambridge specialist shops which are rapidly disappearing. Victims in recent years have included Bacon Brothers cigar merchants, S.P. Ora tobacconists, Gallyon the gun and fishing tackle dealers, F.O. Sennitt, fish, game and poultry merchants and Jack Carter, University robes. They are forced out by the three R's – rent, rates and recession. As the family shops close with them goes part of Cambridge's inheritance, atmosphere and charm. 83 09 29 p16

1985 05 30
Cambridge Capital, a new merchant banking venture has been launched in Green Street. It is another step in the growing complexity of Cambridge's financial community. Merchant bankers Singer and Friedlander are already here and two more big-league accountants, Arthur Andersen and Robson Rhodes are getting established this summer. All this is in addition to the existing structure of bankers, accountants and financial advisers and means Cambridge could be a professional and financial centre of really some significance 85 05 30

1985 10 02
Bodger's, one of Cambridge's oldest-established university menswear shops which has been on the corner of Green Street and Sidney Street since 1922, is up for sale as a going concern. It is a very prosperous business employing ten full-time staff but the most valuable part of the concern is the freehold of the shop. It includes sales areas on two floors, a cutting room and canteen together with an attached doctor's surgery with a separate entrance and is valued at £800,000. 85 10 02

1987 04 28
One of Britain's oldest booksellers, Deighton Bell in Trinity Street, which dates back to 1700 and specialises in antiquarian and rare volumes, has been sold to nearby Heffers. It takes them back to second-hand books, a department it gave up in 1974 because of lack of space. Then they had sold their stock to Deighton Bell and had maintained a good relationship ever since. The shop will remain on the corner of Trinity Street and Green Street and continue to be run by John Beech his staff 87 04 28

1988 06 09
Health Food Stores of Rose Crescent was ahead of its time when it started under the name of Sandwiches and Health Food in Green Street in 1931. The brainchild of an Australian, Clarence Dowell and his wife, who worked in the kitchen making sandwiches, it introduced many Cambridge people to the delights of nut rissoles and vegetarian food. Now it is to close and Peppercorns delicatessen will open in the premises 88 06 09c

A

Traffic jam in Guildhall Street 1960 – 228.61

c.44.6 : Guildhall Street & Guildhall Place

1899 04 02c
The Red Cow Inn concert hall, Guildhall Street, Cambridge. Special engagement for six nights of Miss Sadie St John, comedienne and dancer; Miss Gracie White, serio and dancer and Mr G. Kent, comedian and mimic. American bowling saloon now open. – Advert

1900

1903 12 23
Cambridge architect Edwin Bays has produced a plan for a new 60 feet-wide road from Downing Street to Guildhall Street, parallel to Corn Exchange Street. This would create valuable frontages for business premises on either side and lead to a site for a new Cambridgeshire County Hall. There would be a fountain to take off the nakedness of the wide entrance at St Andrew's Hill, replacing the old Corn Exchange. It would relieve the congested traffic in the narrow Petty Cury and provide a direct access to the chief colleges.

1910

1910 02 04
Licencing –Cardinal's Cap Guildhall Place - 10 02 04e & f

1911 03 31
The new Labour Exchange in Guildhall Street was visited by large numbers of people, most of whom contented themselves with scanning the red-boarded notices of situations vacant posted up in the windows. But about 40 applicants for work gave their names and some were at once notified of vacancies. Exchanges all over the country are linked up and the Cambridge office communicated by telephone with the Aberdeen Exchange to help a Scottish man find work. There are vacancies for motor repairers, electrical fitters and shorthand typists and a good demand for

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healthy men expert in pick and shovel work who are willing to go to Australia as railway labourers. 11 03 31e

1911 10 06
The Cambridge offices of the Board of Trade Labour Exchange have been removed from Guildhall Street to Regent Street and the work of finding and filling vacant situations is going on smoothly. The site near Hyde Park Corner most convenient with larger rooms for men and women. Every effort is made to encourage applicants to make use of the office as a waiting room – not a smoke room – with daily papers and magazines where they may remain in the hope they will be the right person in the right place when a job turns up. 11 10 06

1912 07 26
Licensing - Lamb in Guildhall St (details) 12 07 26 o&p

1914 06 04
An alarming accident happened in Petty Cury. Outside Mr A.E. Nichol's shop at the corner of Guildhall Street there are large incandescent globes suspended. One of these globes, which was illuminated, suddenly collapsed and struck the pavement with an alarming crash. The street was crowded at the time and it was marvellous that no one was hurt. The globe fell at the feet of a bystander who luckily was not injured, though glass was scattered in all directions 14 06 04 p9

1919 10 22
Two new cinemas proposed, Sidney Street by Cambridge Picture Playhouse Ltd and Guildhall Street by A.J. Pointer – 19 10 22f

1920

1920 01 21
Plans for new cinema in Guildhall St & Guildhall Place to be erected by A.J. Pointer of Victoria Cinema considered – 20 01 21a

1920 04 03
Building of new cinemas in Sussex Street and Guildhall Street vetoed by council

1920 10 20
Proposed Kinema. At their meeting tomorrow, the Borough Council will be recommended by the Plans Committee to rescind their resolutions which placed a veto on the erection of the proposed kinema in Guildhall Street, and to give permission for the existing buildings to be demolished .The minute of the Plans Committee dealing with the matter states: A letter was read from Mr. A. J. Pointer, stating that a building on the site proposed to be used for the erection of a kinema would be unoccupied by the 25th October 1920, and asking that he might be allowed to proceed with the building of a kinema in Guildhall Street.

1920 10 28
Council approve demolition of buildings in Guildhall Street on site acquired by A.J. Pointer for an up-to-date Kinema – 20 10 28b

1923 01 08
The staff of the "Cambridge Daily News" had a night off on Saturday when they sat down to dinner together in "The Dug-Out", Guildhall Street, Cambridge. It was the first gathering of the kind for very many years. Mr A.C. Taylor (managing director) said he had tried to carry on the

good work that his father had done in the town. He had the advantage of a loyal staff and he knew that on them depended the actual work during the few years that he was trying to pick up the threads of newspapers. Mr Morley Stuart (Editor) said some of the staff who had been working together for a good many years and had passed through some rather strenuous times had felt it would be a good thing if they could meet round the dinner table. It helped to rub off the rough edges and to enable them to understand each other better.

1923 01 26
A shop without a sale is like a ship without a rudder. Surplus stock must be sold at all cost. We must turn our stock over, that is why we offer such knock-out bargains. Boys and youths' overcoats in naps, cheviots and all-woo blanket cloths from 5s.11d. Boys' knickers in splendid wearing quality materials from 1s. Ladies' coats for winter wear in various blanket cloths, well-tailored, absolute bargains from 6s.11d. Special sale bargains for tomorrow - 300 men's caps 1s. Northern Clothing Co., 9 Guildhall Street (opposite Corn Exchange), Cambridge – advert

1924 07 14c
Cambridge is shortly to lose a rendezvous which has become very popular in the years succeeding the war. I refer to the "Dug-Out" which, with the Black Swan public house next door (in Guildhall Place) has been sold to the University Catholic Association. It is their intention to transform the premises into a centre for Roman Catholic undergraduates

1930

1930 09 04
A Cambridge women told the court she had locked the door of her home at no.5 Guildhall Place but left the front window unfastened to allow her son to get in during the night. She was awakened by her estranged common-law husband who had got in and was flourishing a revolver. He said it was a dummy revolver loaded with blank cartridges and explained they had lived together for 14 years until she took up with a new man. 30 09 04a

1932 08 19
John Austin Fabb started in business as a printer, moving to Guildhall Street in 1881 and Corn Exchange Street in 1920. He printed the Cambridge Review from its inception in 1879 and conceived the idea of a list of Resident Members of the University in 1890. During the war he compiled seven editions of the list of Cambridge University men on active service. He was a prominent Freemason and founded the York Street Sick Club. 32 08 19e

1933 04 20
Cambridge councillors considered schemes for the rebuilding of the Guildhall. One would alter the whole site, the other would set back the front but the building on Guildhall Street would remain untouched and would revert to being a court. But some councillors thought the Parkside scheme was still the best and would be far cheaper. 33 04 20c & d

1938 10 21
A.R. Nichols and Son, butchers on the corner of Petty Cury and Guildhall Street notify customers that owing to building reconstruction in Petty Cury they are temporarily carrying on their business at their East Road shop and also at a stall on Market Hill 38 10 21

1939 10 06
Suggestions for brightening the black-out at Cambridge. Heffer's have a selection of indoor games such as Autobridge, dominoes and jig-saw puzzles. Coad's stock khaki wools and other

artistic shades for personal shoppers while Johnson's have a range of novels as well as black-out paper. Gray of Sidney Street can supply miniature billiard tables but those who prefer the real thing should visit the Guildhall Street Billiards Saloon which is open from early morning till late at night. 39 10 06b

1950

1954 07 19
The Minister's decision on the County Development Plan has been announced. The only major Cambridge items not approved are the site of the bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel and the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Road. All the central area road proposals including the 'spine relief road', the new Guildhall Street and a cross-town route joining Emmanuel Street with Downing Street have been approved together with the new Chesterton Bridge over the Cam near Walnut Tree Avenue, a multi-storey car park in Corn Exchange Street and a subway at the railway station.

1959 01 16
The new plan for the centre of Cambridge will have as its central feature a 'pedestrian shopping precinct' from which all vehicles will be excluded. An earlier scheme which foresaw a new and widened Guildhall Street running through the Lion Yard, with new shops and a multi-deck car park, has now been dropped after being criticised as likely to attract too much extra traffic. The proposal incorporates a car park which might be placed underground. But it is certain that Corn Exchange Street would become an important vehicular road. 59 01 16

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1962 05 07
Mr Jack Cotton and Mr Charles Clore, the property millionaires, have bought the site of Heffer's from Emmanuel College on the understanding that the bookshop will be rehoused in any new redevelopment of Petty Cury. Their company, City Centre Properties, acquired the adjoining Lion Hotel site last year. The Director of Dolamore, the wine merchants, who hold the freehold of most of the corner with Guildhall Street, would not say whether they had also approached them. Recently this part of Petty Cury was included in the area scheduled for redevelopment. The firm also have an interest in the New Theatre site which is now being demolished to be replaced by a block of offices 62 05 07

1966 09 01
House of Dolamore bought wine and spirit business of George Morley in Petty Cury and Guildhall Street some 80 years ago; now has new address in Wellington Street – 66 09 01 & 1a

1967 11 08
Abbott's Cambridge Tourist Centre started when American tour party let down; grew until 50 university students handling tours to Cambridge; then diversified into foreign travel by local residents; moved Guildhall St by Dec 1959 – 67 11 08a

1970

1972 05 12

Robinson and Gimbert, the Cambridge builders with reputation for high class work have been taken
over by one of the "big boys" of British home building. From next week they will be trading under the direction of T & E Homes ltd of Reigate. The Cambridge firm who started in Guildhall Street 25 years ago and moved to Victoria Road six years ago have 60 full time employees. Robinson and Gimbert currently have schemes on the go at Oakington and Stapleford, and recently completed one at Waterbeach. They build about 50 houses a year

1973 04 09
The Market Square ends of Guildhall Street and Peas Hill, Cambridge, were closed to traffic today as part of city council's plans eventually to make much of the central area into a pedestrian precinct. It is now possible to walk from Sidney Street to King's Parade without crossing a road. City surveyor, Mr Geoffrey Cresswell said that some motorists were still driving round Market Square attempting to get into Peas Hill. The present closure is officially regarded as only "temporary" - although it will last for possibly another two years - while rebuilding of the adjacent Lion Yard site is under way

1974 07 02
It was 50 years ago that Mrs Ruth Mellanby began to guide people round the colleges when she was asked by a newly-opened travel agency in Guildhall St, Cambridge to take two elderly American tourists round. This was the beginning of a life-long and distinguished career as a guide. In 1950 she wrote her little book, “Cambridge in brief” as a thumbnail sketch of the colleges. Then 20 years ago she started the Cambridge Guide Service, training a group of around 20 guides. The Guild of Guide Lecturers ultimately drove the street touts who at one time operated their own dubious type of tours, out of business

1976 02 02
Because of its low unemployment figure Cambridge is a labour-importing city. Up to £3,000 worth of government grants could be given to a man and his family in an area of high unemployment to persuade them to live and work here. The new Jobcentre in Guildhall Place has aptly been described as a job supermarket. An inviting window display tempts people into the well-carpeted warmth. The centre employs 26 people who find their work far more enjoyable now than ever they did in the days of the Labour Exchange

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Ηιλλσ Ροαδ χ1905

c.44.6 : Hills Road area

Includes Blinco Grove, Cambridge Place, Cattle Market, Cavendish Avenue, Glebe Road, Hartington Grove, Harvey Road, Hills Avenue, Holbrook Road, Luard Road, Red Cross Lane, St Paul's Church, Station Road, Worts Causeway
See also
Hills Road Newtown area
Cherryhinton Road Area

1897 03 19
St Paul's Church Institute opened, p3

1897 05 27
The foundation stone of the new building of St John's church, Hills Road, Cambridge, was successfully laid on the 4th May last year. The first section was completed and consecrated December 15th, 1896. The result of opening the new building has amply justified the decision to hasten the commencement of the work. The congregations have been most encouraging and the average of the weekly collections doubled

1898 04 11
At the vestry meeting of St Paul's church, Cambridge the chairman said that every Sunday morning their quiet communion service was greatly disturbed by the Roman Catholic Church bells. When they first started they hoped they would get used to them, but, as they continued to disturb them he took the opportunity of speaking to the Roman Catholic priest, and he said he would consult his congregation. But for a long time he could get no response, but afterwards he replied that the St Paul's bells rang for five minutes before eight o'clock, and disturbed the Roman Catholic service. The speaker had given orders that St Paul's bell should be wrung for half a

minute to warn the people, and half a minute when the service was to commence, and expressed a hope that the Roman Catholic priest would see his way to having his rung for a short time only. This he refused to do, and so every Sunday morning half the St Paul's quiet service was disturbed by the ringing of the Roman Catholic bells. Mr Catling also spoke of the noisy bells of the Catholic Church, and the disturbance caused to those living around

1899 11 25
The London Scottish Rifle Volunteers arrived in Cambridge for the purpose of engaging with the University Volunteer Corps in certain field operations. The idea was for the Scots to gain an entrance to Cambridge. The University Volunteers marched in the direction of Shelford, where they expected to meet the attacking force. The opposing forces formed up at Caius College Farm and then proceeded via Hills Road to Cambridge.

1900

1900 03 07
The ire of the undergraduate once roused, not even the powerful hand of Alma Mater suffices to entirely quell the wrath that has been kindled. An attacking force of undergraduates gathered many recruits as it made its way along Hills Road and it was at once seen that the objective was the Mayor's residence in Brooklands Avenue. They were dismayed to find the thoroughfare barricaded by a posse of police constables. The mob made a bold rush. The police partially yielded but not more than half of the 'Varsity flank passed through the cordon when the police closed ranks. The trap that had been set proved effective for those who marched triumphantly down the Avenue had not negotiated more than fifty yards when they were encountered by the Proctors mustered in strong force

1900 04 05
Property sale Hills Road etc, p2

1900 08 17
Hills Road perils, p2

1900 08 22
In 1885 a large cattle market was erected & shortly after some buildings were erected for providing refreshment for those who required it. These were very small & now the Star Brewery wished to erect a commodious hotel with 10 bedrooms which would be used to put up those who came to the market to buy cattle. At the present there was no accommodation for Irishmen attending the market. Many come on Friday night with their stock & it was necessary for them to be constantly attending to them. It would be put a considerable way back from the road and have space for 50 to 70 horses. The nearest hotel was the Great Northern but it had only a few beds so they had to go to the Red Lion in Petty Cury. 00 08 22

1901 05 21
Sir – As a resident of Bateman Street, Cambridge, permit me to protest against the closing of the end adjoining Hills Road and converting it into a workman's yard. For more than a week we have had to put up with hearing the men at work as early as six in the morning. One recognises that the work of preparing the foundation of Hills Road must be done somewhere but it would not require a genius of road-making to arrange that only one half of the street should be blocked at one time – M.A.

1901 08 21

The Star Brewery renewed its application for a proposed new hotel on the Hills Road, adjacent to Cambridge Cattle Market. There were farmers, dealers in cattle coming from Norwich and Essex who regularly attended the market, coming by train. It was desirable that they should sleep on the spot and take care of the cattle. Mr Grain said there was opposition from Homerton College, a ladies college. What on earth they opposed for he did not know. None of those young ladies, he was sure, would go near a public house.

1901 10 30
A new Diocesan Lodge for the Girls' Friendly Society was opened at Hills Road, Cambridge. Several spacious apartments will be used as recreation and classrooms with lectures on nursing, home hygiene, needlework and astronomy and classes for musical drill and singing. There are rooms for girls being trained for domestic service & accommodation for lady boarders and visitors. The old Servants' Training Home, formerly situated in King Street has ceased to exist as a separate institution. It had been established for 80 years and more than 400 girls had passed through; it had also afforded a home to many strange and friendless girls.

1902 02 03
Sir – Allow me to warn cyclists using Hills Road that if the large patches of stones on the road tempt them to save their tyres by riding on the footpath they will probably be taken by constables in plain clothes. I am told they use a convenient post for observation, where they can watch the progress of cyclists along the footpath. Their action can be expected to yield a good crop of cases before the magistrates and fines of five or even ten shillings. Authorities who set constables to pounce on cyclists have devised a mean and contemptible means of employing a set of honourable men. This is against the spirit by which the law is meant to be administered – G.F. Searle.

1902 02 25
Advert. New Year's Register. Sales & approximate price. Residences: De Freville Avenue £350, Guest Road £400; Mill Road £425, Hartington Grove £425, Malta Road £425, Huntingdon Road £450; Villas, Cherryhinton Road with land £850; modern town residences £1,000; terrace near Mill Road, (let for £100) £2,000; Country residence about 3½ acres, near station G.N.R. £2,000

1902 03 25
Sir – with regard to the Clock Tower Permanent Memorial which it is proposed to erect at the Hills Road end of Station Road, Cambridge. I cannot see the need of such a clock there as I am quite sure anyone can see the clock at Hyde Park Corner from Station Road. Would it not be more beneficial if it was placed in the centre of Parker's Piece? It would not only serve the cricketers and footballers but would be of great boon to the working man as he passes two and fro – F. Miller

1902 05 09 c
Artificial teeth. Set of teeth from £1.0s.0d. Single tooth from 2s.6d. Advice and any information concerning the manufacture and adaptation of artificial teeth to the mouth given free of charge. All cases guaranteed. Consultation and every information free daily from 9 till 7. Mr P. Hawkes, 26, Hills Road, Cambridge – advert.

1902 08 12
All day the great mass of silk which was presently to make a journey to the skies was a source of deep interest. Around Parker's Piece where the balloon was taking its huge meal of 32,000 feet of coal-gas were rings of spectators. Slowly the gas inflated the silk, the aeronauts loosened the ropes and the balloon rose from the grass a graceful pear-like shape. After settling the final details

Spencer gave the word for the two passengers to jump aboard, then with a startling rapidity the balloon leaped up and was soon several hundred feet above the earth. It first travelled in the direction of Hills Road but then, caught by a current of wind, sailed over to the Newmarket side

1903 01 23
Dr Cocks and his chauffeur were proceeding along Hills Road, Cambridge, in a motor car, when the car skidded. The front wheel turned into the gutter and came into contact with the kerbstone with great force. The wheel was completely battered and every spoke was broken. Fortunately no one was hurt and the car was removed to the Cambridge and Newmarket Autocar Company for repairs. No less than seven cyclists also had spills through the greasy state of the road.

1903 08 06
Cambridge police are attempting to discover a man who, when he broke into a Hills Road house, wore clothing of such inconsiderable value that he relinquished it without hesitation, and emerged from the premises faultlessly attired. In all probability he had his exit in a blue serge suit, walked in a pair of boots nearly new and freshly cleaned, carried a couple of overcoats despite the month being August, and had his pockets full of cigars.

1903 09 14
The Cambridge & County School for Boys, which during the past four years has been very insufficiently accommodated at St Columba's Hall, reached an important stage in its career. The builders were displaced by the boys at the new school house that has been erected upon Hills Road and henceforth the scholars will participate in the manifold advantages that the most approved educational equipment, utilised amidst ideal surroundings, can supply. Few buildings can possess such a curious means of access. The boys are to make their entrances by means of a slope leading into the basement where they can leave their bicycles, hats and coats before climbing a broad staircase to the ground floor.

1903 09 10
A crisis in education has arisen at Cherry Hinton. St John's Infants School, Blinco Grove, is to be closed due to the abominable condition of the road which makes it next to impossible for the infants to attend in wet weather. On June 30th the average attendance was 49, compared to a high of 74 and the amount received by the school has dwindled proportionally. The school was condemned three years ago but the managers were asked to carry on until the new Education Act came into force. Now the County Council has decided not to take over the school and the closing is a drastic step taken to avoid a larger deficit.

1903 11 14
A recital was given at Cambridge to exhibit the capabilities of the Angelus piano player, an instrument for assisting the interpretation of compositions for which much is claimed. Its power has by no means been over-rated. It can be manipulated by anyone, with no knowledge of music and gives a perfect command of the piano. The recital was arranged by Messrs G.C. Bedwell, music sellers of Hills Road, Cambridge.

1904 02 13
The funeral took place of Mr W.R. Brown. He served his time as a grocer on Hills Road but retail grocery had no charm for him; books and book lore engrossed very much of his leisure and he acquired much antiquarian knowledge about local persons, places and things. Not only could he describe what he saw but he could produce sketches from his own pen and pencil. The local press received many contributions from him and he published a series of numbers variously entitled 'Cambridgeshire Cameos', 'Mems and Gems' and 'Leaflets of Local Lore'

1904 06 10
An important property sale was conducted at the Lion Hotel, Cambridge. Several lots were offered including the Wesleyan Chapel at Old Chesterton which, however, was not sold. The brick-built building with a class room at the rear was withdrawn at £165. A plot of building land opposite De Freville Avenue fetched £285; the residence 'Sepha Villa', Lyndewode Road was withdrawn at £640 and a modern family residence known as 'Lucerne' on Hills Road with gardens of a quarter of an acre was withdrawn at £725. Winthingham House, 199 Chesterton Road with gardens and a coach house was withdrawn at £1,850 but a University lodging house at no.9 Malcolm Street, licensed to let three sets (two at £11 and one at £7) sold for £355

1904 06 14
It is not often that a school attracts the attention of the burgling fraternity but the Cambridge and County Boys' school on Hills Road has done so. The intruders obtained entrance by forcing open the door of a bicycle shed and got into the school kitchen where they forced a drawer which contained money. The headmaster's bicycle, which was also in the kitchen, the intruders punctured by sticking a fork into each tyre. They then made their way upstairs to the masters' room and each locker was plundered. In all their haul consisted of £1 16s in coppers, a corduroy tobacco pouch with the initial 'C' worked upon it, a light waterproof overcoat and a cap. Several burnt wax matches and the stump of a cigarette were left behind by the burglars. No arrest has yet been made.

1904 09 15
A poorly-attended council meeting considered an offer from the Cambridge Electric Tramways Syndicate to electrify and extend the present tramway system. The overhead trolley system for running the cars would not to be employed in King's Parade without the consent of the council. But consultants say that the existing lines in King's Parade should be abandoned & they cannot recommend new lines in the town centre because the narrowness of the streets would generate great opposition from residents. A new line should be laid in Silver Street but this is so narrow that the trams would take their turn with ordinary road traffic and keep to the left. There may be some objection to a track down Queen's Road which has the character of a boulevard but this would not be disturbed by the working of the tramways. The busiest section would be Hills Road where trams would run at about 2¾ minute intervals

1905 03 13
Cambridge magistrates were told there were about 440 houses on the Rock Estate with one full-licensed house, the Rock Hotel and one off-licence. Either of these sent out beer to houses as ordered. There are also at least four brewers' vans to deliver beer in gallon jars and bottles, and grocers from Cambridge send up pint bottles. If they granted a new licence to William Conder of Marshall Road, which was a new and fairly populous district, it would lead to secret drinking, more especially by women at their homes. The licence was refused. 05 03 13a-c

1905 10 06
Cheshunt College opened its doors to theological students without any ceremonial. It was founded in 1768 by Selina, the Countess of Huntingdon, and is strictly undenominational. It moved to Cheshunt in 1792 where it was recognised by the University of London and has now transferred to Cambridge. Houses in Cintra Terrace, Hills Road, have been adapted for the 15 students; most will become members of the University and read for degrees. 05 10 06

1906 09 08

Building trade in Cambridge is comparatively slack just now as suburban expansion on any large scale has ceased. Six months ago there was considerable activity in the Newnham district and on the Central Estate where a large number of houses sprang up suddenly. Then there was an extension of New Cherryhinton through the erection of many houses on the Hills Road. It is now planned to open up a building estate by cutting an avenue from Hills Road to the Trumpington Road 06 09 08c

1906 09 08
Many residents have been plagued by the clouds of dust raised by motor cars and other traffic. Dust-destroying measures have usually involved evil-smelling solutions but now Cambridge is to experiment by pouring boiling tar over the surface of Hills Road and sprinkling it with granite chips. The section chosen where the wood paving ends near Brooklands Avenue, but it carries heavy traffic and is constantly watered so the new surface may peel off. 06 09 08c

1906 09 24
Hills Road Methodist organ, p4

1906 10 10
A Cambridge bus driver appeared in court for dangerous driving in Hills Road. He said he was going 15 mph because he was obliged to pass another bus. It was not illegal as Parliament had fixed the maximum as 20 mph. The road was wide and there were no pedestrians about. The policeman admitted he had little experience of motors but had never seen one go faster. The driver had now been dismissed because of the complaint. 06 10 10

1907 04 03
Mr Nichols' butchers delivery cart was proceeding along Hills Road when the horse shied at a piece of paper blown in the wind and charged full tilt into the window of Mr E. Field, chemist. The glass was shivered into fragments, cameras, bottles containing chemicals and perfumes came hurtling down from shelves upon the maddened animal whose head was pierced by a stout iron bracket. It snapped off and remained embedded in the skull until the horse was liberated and death mercifully assisted. 07 04 03

1908 05 29
Alfred Wright, a driver for Crampton's mineral water manufacturers of Sawston was harnessing two horses in the Crown yard, Cambridge, when one took fright. It dashed into Hills Road and galloped towards the town. As it neared Hyde Park Corner it ran full tilt into a lamp-post and sustained injuries of such a shocking character that death was almost instantaneous. The lamp standard was completely broken off at the base and the gas piping bent right across the path. CWN 08 05 29 p3

1908 08 21
The Ortona Motorbus Company, inaugurated a year ago, now possesses five double-deckers, a char-a-banc and a big 'bus'. They have two services from the railway station, one to De Freville and the other to Huntingdon Road. At the well-equipped garage on Hills Road there is always one car that can be despatched the instant a breakdown is reported and even replacing a broken axle can be carried out by their own mechanics. Now country people who used to disfavour these 'machinations of the evil one' patronise them with perfect confidence. CWN 08 08 21 p5

1909 04 02
A domestic servant of Renfig, Hills Road, was sued for 50 shillings instalments on a Bible. A representative of the Bible Union Society had called at the house and after a great deal of

persuasion she had agreed to join. He then produced a special bible with explanatory notes and pictures, saying it was only lent to her. But then they wrote demanding payment. She'd returned it but they had taken her to court. These men roved around the town back doors and got girls to sign; it was a misrepresentation. She was awarded cost. 09 04 02

1909 07 09
Hills Road mystery – baby – CWN 09 07 09

1910

1910 02 04
Luke Hosegood, the Master, told Guardians there were 26 children in Cambridge workhouse. A large number of men had brought in their wives and families simply because they had been evicted from their houses as the result of slum clearance. There were several cases from Cambridge Place and a number from Castle End and if they went in at this rate all Castle End would be pauperised soon. It was getting a very serious matter. 10 02 04g

1910 10 21
A serious outbreak of fire took place on the premises of John Jarvis, horticultural builder of Hills Road, Cambridge and a large carpenter's workshop which backed on to the stables of the Warwick Hotel was burnt to the ground. It had been filled with wood and a fire was always kept burning to boil down glue. The brigade was soon on the steam but the engine had such a short run it did not have a chance to get up steam. When the water did come the flames had abated. A group of those ever-invaluable little mortals, the Boy Scouts, rendered valuable assistance in keeping back the crowd and helping with the hoses 10 10 21

1911 03 03
The Black Bear Press was started by Mr Dixon, a printer and stationer, with premises in Hills Road and machinery had been bought. It had been placed on the Paris Bourse stock exchange but this had proved unsuccessful and had accepted contracts at unremunerative prices. They had now sold the printing plant and machinery as well as "The Gownsman" but not "The Hairdresser" or "The Cambridge Directory" and there were shares in the Maxwell Publishing Company, for whom they did printing, creditors were told. 11 03 03b

1911 03 31
Fire broke out at the Hills Road branch of Mr B.T. Waits, the well-known tailor and outfitter. It appears that four of his workpeople left the workroom at the back of the shop for a few minutes and on returning found a wooden case standing by the fireplace had caught fire and a number of garments were burning. A dozen overcoats were completely destroyed before the flames were extinguished 11 03 31d

1911 04 21
A serious accident occurred when a horse and trolley belonging to Mr H. Winter, contractor of Hills Road, was engaged in removing the luggage of the members of the 'Silver King', who are performing at the New Theatre, to their respective lodgings. The horse took fright either at a passing car or at one of the hampers on the trolley touching it and bolted. At the corner of Donkey Common the wheels collided with the kerb and the horse was thrown down, breaking a bone in its shoulder. Mr Runciman, veterinary surgeon attended to the animal which had to be carted away in a float. Mr Charles Grant, the property manager of the company cut his head badly. 11 04 21

1912 02 02

A new County Hall is needed. The existing clerk, a solicitor in private practice, works from his own office. The Education and Medical departments are on opposite sides of Sidney Street, the Finance Clerk in is Regent Street, the Architect in Hobson Street and the Surveyor in Hills Road. This is inconvenient and uneconomical and leads to inefficiency. 12 02 02h

1912 05 31
Mr Strangeways was the heart and soul of the Cambridge Research Hospital which was opened on Hills Road. There has been a remarkable progress of science. It is now possible to examine bones and joints as if the flesh was transparent and to take photographs of them. The position of bullets and needles can be ascertained and diseases of internal organs elucidated by the X-rays. 12 05 31a & b

1912 10 04
Brooklands Avenue residents happy to repair road once council makes decision about scheme for including it as part of a thoroughfare from Newnham Croft to Hills Road - 12 10 04b

1912 12 27
Robert Farren, the well-known Cambridge artist, died at Highgate. Farren, who was born in Cambridge about 80 years ago, lived in Cambridge all his life with the exception of a few years' residence at Scarborough until August last when he went to live in Highgate. He was a very clever water colour artist but best known for his work in oils and his etchings. His fen pictures were well-known and his series of etchings of cathedral cities amongst his most famous work. He also produced fine etchings of the Cambridge Greek plays. His 'Degree Day' was published as a photo by Wm Farren when he lived in Rose Crescent. Farren loved to paint Cambridge & Cambridgeshire scenery and there is scarcely a picturesque 'bit' in the town or county that has not been reproduced by him. At one time he had his studios at the top of which are now the University offices but were formerly a Liberal Club. A good many years ago he resided at Mayfield, Hills Road but during the last three years lived at no.1 Station Road. In his younger days he was a very handsome figure, tall and well-built. He was a skilful fencer and attained some note as a geologist. Me married Miss Mason, a Cambridge lady and had a family of 14 children, none of whom are now living in Cambridge, his only relatives being his nephew William Farren, the naturalist, of Regent Street and his brother. Two of his daughters have inherited their father's artistic skill in no small degree. The funeral will take lace at Old Chesterton churchyard where his wife is buried. – 12 12 20bb Robert Farren's funeral at Old Chesterton. Three children of his eldest son, the late Ernest Farren live with their mother in Herbert Street 12 12 27b

1913 02 07
Cambridge Advertising and Billposting Company report an extremely successful year even though there'd been no major events, such as a general election. They had hired a very fine new advertising station on Hills Road from the Great Eastern Railway which commanded the Cattle Market and had become very popular with advertisers. They'd also bought a site on Castle Hill commanding Histon and Huntingdon Roads where they'd erected a very substantial brick-built advertising station, one of the best in Cambridge 13 02 07 p5 CIP

1913 05 30
Dr Strangeway's house, Luard Road broken into

1914 02 14
PC Law said he was on duty in Hills Road when he noticed the pavements outside no.36 were in a filthy condition: there were pools of water and refuse lying about. He's asked the occupant to

clean them up, but the man had refused. The bye-law said occupiers should cleanse the footway adjoining their property once a day. But this had taken place at 9.10 am and that was too early; there was no evidence it was not clean at 10 o'clock. The case was dismissed. 14 02 14 p9 CIP

1913 06 13
The foundation stone of the new Cheshunt College buildings in Bateman Street was laid by the Lord Chancellor. The college was formed in 1768 by Selina Countess of Huntingdon to prepare men for evangelistic work and its students can enter any church. It moved to Hills Road Cambridge in 1905 and is now attached to the University. Most of its students take the Theological Tripos. A number have risen to eminence as missionaries in the foreign field 13 06 13 p7 CIP

1913 07 04
An important development in local football took place when the Cambridge Town F.C. was elected a member of the Southern Amateur League together with Weybridge. This was the fourth time they had applied and their success is largely due to their excellent performances in the last two seasons. This means they will compete against some of the leading amateur teams in the country on the Hills Road bridge ground with a home match practically every Saturday 13 07 04 p3 CIP

1914 05 29
The work of Suffrage Societies in the Eastern Federation has grown so much that reorganisation is needed. The Hon Sec for Cambridgeshire is Mrs Heitland, who with Miss Garlick as organiser is arranging meetings in North Cambs villages represented in Parliament by an anti-suffragist, the Hon. Neil Primrose. At Chatteris the Picture Palace was filled with other meetings in Whittlesey & Wisbech. Two ardent Cambridge suffragists, Miss Ida Freud, later lecture at Newnham College and Miss Smith of Hills Road, are much missed. Nine labourers were fined for disturbing a meeting at St Neots by shouting, dancing and singing. 14 05 29c

1914 09 18
A Petroleum inspector said Mr Moss, motor proprietor of Hills Road was licensed for 200 gallons of petrol. There was none in the garage but in the yard there were five barrels, some were leaking and there was a danger of fire. In the stable were tanks containing petrol with more at the Bell Hotel. Mr Moss said there was a tremendous demand from the military and it had to be supplied. He'd risked future business by refusing petrol to his private customers. All the petrol was confiscated and he was fined. 14 09 18

1914 10 23
More Wounded Arrive.—A Great Western Red Cross train arrived at Cambridge on Monday evening with a number of wounded soldiers from the front, including many men of the 6th Division, who were recently at Cambridge. There were 174 patients, including 33 cot cases, and 156 of the men were taken to the 1st Eastern General Hospital in Burrell's Walk, and the remainder to the Research Hospital, Hills Road. 14 10 23

1914 12 25
Christmas at Cambridge promises to be the quietest ever known, with the shadow of war hanging over the land. But everything possible will be done to brighten the lot of the wounded soldiers at the Military Hospital. On Christmas Eve carols will be sung in the recreation room. The distribution of Princess Mary's gifts will take place next morning and a turkey and plum pudding served. The 180 nurses will have their Christmas dinner in the recreation room in the evening. At the Belgian's Rest House on Hills Road presents will be distributed to all men but the public are

asked to refrain from treating the soldiers to alcoholic liquors. They are suffering from wounds and even a small quantity of alcohol will retard recovery 14 12 25

1914 12 25
Jane Pegg, wife of an Impington coal merchant, said she saw a man at Histon station wearing a blue overcoat similar to the greatcoats of the Belgian soldiers. He told he was from Hills Road Hospital; he'd been wounded at Liege where his father was killed by his side. Felling sorry, she'd given him a meal and invited him to stay for the weekend. But really he was a butcher from St Ives. The lad said he'd return to his mother and promise to be a good boy. But he was sent to prison with hard labour. 14 12 25

1915 01 22
Bankruptcy Christopher Charles Brown, oil and hardware merchant, Hills Rd – 15 01 22a

1915 02 26
V.C. Hero. Among the wounded soldiers who arrived at Cambridge on Christmas day was Pte Henry H. Robson. of the 2nd Battn, Royal Scots (Lothian) Regt., as brave a hero as ever walked in two shoes. His gallant conduct in rescuing a comrade under heavy fire, and attempting a second rescue has met with a fitting reward, for the King has been graciously pleased to bestow upon him the Victoria Cross, the most coveted of all honours. Pte Robson has been at 1st Eastern General Hospital, Cambridge, for about seven weeks recovering from wounds received while performing the particular brave deed for which he was awarded the V.C., but last week he was removed to the 1st Borough Red Cross Hospital, Hills Road, convalescent, and we are happy to state he is on the high road to recovery 15 02 26 CIP

1915 04 30 CIP
Royal Visit. On Wednesday, HRH Princess Henry of Battenberg and HRH Princess Marie Louise of Schleswig Holstein visited the Research Hospital, Hills Road, and the First Eastern General Hospital, Cambridge. Mr. Victor Cochran accompanied their royal Highnesses, who arrived during the morning by motor car from London. They were guests of the Master of Christ's College (Dr. A. E. Shipley), with whom they lunched and had tea later. 15 04 30 CIP

1916 01 12
Horse's Escapade - At about. 12.30 p.m. on Monday, a horse attached to a spring cart belonging to Mr. J. Papworth, of Landbeach which was being driven along Hills Road by a boy got out of control and bolted up the bridge. It first collided with a perambulator containing a child, but no personal injury was sustained. Continuing on its wild escapade, the horse smashed into a lamppost, which was completely overturned. The animal was shortly afterwards brought to a standstill by several pedestrians. 16 01 12

1916 02 09
Farm railway,—Mr. Fred Hiam, of Raylands, Hills Road, has built a light railway on one of his farms which in these days of shortage of manual and team labour, facilitates the collection and loading of the produce in no small degree. 16 02 09

1916 07 19
Another Heavy List Of Casualties. - Many additional casualties - the price which must be paid for all great victories - among Cambs. men at the Front, has come to hand during the past week. Mingled, however, with the expression of deep sympathy with the relatives of those who have fallen and the earnest hope for the recovery of the wounded, is a feeling of great pride in our gallant county lads and their valiant conduct in the Great Push. Fearlessly "and in a storm of shell,

rifle bullets and machine gun bullets" to use the words of one of them - the lads of Cambridgeshire leaped out of their trenches when the word was given in the early hours of the morning of July 1. Many fell, but "most of the boys got there "and gloriously did they acquit themselves. Town and county have cause to be proud of the part played by their sons on this memorable July morning. And before then, too, and since. In addition to the local casualties published last week, further casualties include five killed in action (including Capt. the. Hon. Roland E. Phillips, Royal Fusiliers, only surviving son 0f Lord St. Davids), six died of wounds, one missing believed killed, four missing, including Capt. G. W. Deighton, son of Dr. Deighton, of Hills Road, Cambridge and over 40 wounded.

1919 02 05
Magistrate Summoned. At the Cambridge Borough Court, a County magistrate living in Hills Road, Cambridge, was summoned that, as occupier of premises, he did not as soon as conveniently may be after the cessation of a fall of snow, remove or cause to be removed from the footway and pavement all snow on such footway and pavement. He did not appear, but sent a letter to the Bench explaining that he only had one domestic, and could not call on her to clear the snow away. An odd man, who was called, wanted art extravagant sum for removing it. The Mayor said the case was a proper one for the police to bring before the court. It was a considerable comfort to the public if every householder cleared away the snow from his own frontage. He warned the public that cases of this kind would be dealt with more severely in the future, but as this was the first of the kind to come before the Bench this year, they had decided to dismiss it on payment of costs. 19 02 05 CIP

1919 09 03
Sale of army horses at Cattle Market. The present shed was erected in 1908; Grain & Son increasing their horse sale but object to them allowing purchasers to try horses and mules in harness on Sundays – 19 09 03a

1919 03 19
To police station on barrow. "We cannot understand how it is, with the shortage of drink, that you men get into this condition," said the Mayor at the Borough Court when a labourer was charged with being drunk and disorderly. A police constable said that by the way the man was staggering about with a barrow in Hills Road he could see he was drunk. Thinking he might cause an accident, he took him in charge. Defendant became very violent, but with assistance, witness got the handcuffs on, and putting him on his own barrow, took him to the police station. Defendant was fined 20s., or 14 days' imprisonment.' 19 03 19

1919 08 20
Cambridge from air shows Hills Road with Catholic Church centre – 19 08 20f

1919 09 17
Tar and Feathers Case. A further incident in what is known popularly as the "tar and feathering case" aroused widespread interest on Wednesday. A lieutenant of the Royal Engineers appeared before a court martial at Cambridge on a charge of assaulting a civilian on or about June 6. The nature of the assault alleged against the accused was that he stripped the civilian of his clothing tarred and feathered him, fastened a heavy chain round his neck and with this chain fastened him to a tree in Harvey Road, Cambridge. The drama of the eternal triangle was submitted by the defence. It was slated that the finding of the court would be promulgated. 19 09 17 CIP

1920

1920 01 28
Fined. Penalties amounting to 30s. were imposed at Cambridge Police Court on Friday on Eric Scot Burns, 'undergraduate' of St Catharine's College. He was proceeded against for driving without an identification plate; and for driving a motor cycle without a licence at the same time and place and for driving a motorcycle without a silencer in Hills Road on January 19th. He admitted each of the offences and was fined 10s in each case 20 01 28

1920 01 28
Council decide to purchase sites on north & south side of Cavendish and Hills Avenues to erect dwellings – 20 01 28

1920 02 04
Drunk. "Guilty, your Worships," said Pte. James Connolly in an unmistakable Irish brogue at Cambridge Police Court on Friday, when charged with being drunk and incapable at Hills Road on the previous evening. P.c. Ward said that Connolly belonged to the King's Liverpools, and was a patient at Cherry Hinton Hospital. He was staggering along .the footpath and knocking into people causing them to get off the pavement. The offence occurred at 7.40 a.m. As Connolly was alone, the witness could not ascertain where he got the drink from. A fine of 5s. was imposed and the prisoner expressed a desire to go to goal in default of payment. The Chief Constable (Mr, R. J. Pearson): The military will pay the fine, your Worships

1920 04 20
New Road. A proposed road in Cambridge, which new will relieve the pressure of traffic in Silver Street, was described at a meeting of the Cambs. County Council on Saturday. The Town Council had written to the County authorities stating that they pro-posed to promote a Bill in the ensuing session of Parliament, and that they would be prepared to insert a clause providing for the construction by the County Council for a by-pass road from the Barton Road to Hills Road, with the necessary bridges. The Roads Committee of the County Council considers that such a road would he a desirable improvement, and the County Surveyor, the County Architect, and the Borough Surveyor are to confer with a view to preparing a plan showing the suggested links for the proposed new road, together with an estimate of the cost. Alderman J. Q. Vinter said that the time had come when there should be proper communications between these districts. Councillor W. L. Rayners observing that the scheme might not be clear to some members of …. It consisted of a road starting at the corner of the Barton Road, next to the Caius Ground, going down .over a sort of drift way towards the bathing sheds at the bottom of the Lammas Ground, which the Borough bought a little while ago, then across some private land reaching the river. There was a bridge, and over that bridge the road would join on the Pemberton Estate and link up with Chaucer Road, then reaching the main London road. It would then turn back a little way to the bridge over the Brook, joining up with Brooklands Avenue. It would make a main by-pass road which would avoid the necessity of using Silver Street, a main road with a bridge which was often dangerous for the traffic. The County Council agreed that the Town Council should be asked to insert a clause to the proposed bill 20 04 20

1920 04 21
New road from Barton Road to Hills Road with bridge suggested by council – 20 04 21a

1920 06 03
Memorial Unveiled. The parochial war memorial in connection with St. John Hills Road, Cambridge was unveiled last (Tuesday) evening by Bishop Price, Archdeacon of Ely. The memorial, which was designed by Mr. A. P. Macalister takes the form of a tablet in the south wall

of the chancel. Underneath the representation of a dove hovering over a field of battle, is a polished brass plate bearing the names of 45 men of the parish who fell in the war. The memorial is in Hopton Wood stone in early English style, and was executed by Messrs. Leyton and Leach. 20 06 03

1920 09 15
Borough War Memorial. Statue of Soldier Recommended. Station Road Corner Site. A meeting was held at the Cambridge Guildhall yesterday (Tuesday) of the Monuments Sub-Committee of the Cambridgeshire Joint War Memorial. The meeting gave its final consideration to the suggested monument, for the Borough of Cambridge. The sculpture and architect were in attendance and explained their scheme, which the Committee agreed to place before the General Committee with the recommendation that it be adopted. The architect for the Record in Ely Cathedral regretted that he had not been able to complete his revised plans but hoped to do so by the end of September. The Committee decided to meet again on October 2nd to consider, this scheme and to interview the architect. 20 09 15 CIPof

1920 12 03
Our Lady war memorial unveiled - CDN 20 12 03

1920 12 08
Our Lady memorial tablet – Ch 20 12 08a, b

1921 03 23
King & Harper Ford garage, Hills Road – full-page photo feature – 21 03 23c,d.e

1921 03 03
Hills Avenue new council houses – photo – 21 03 30c

1922 07 04
His Royal Highness the Duke of York unveiled the War memorial which has been erected in Cambridge. The ceremony was attended by thousands of people and was of a deeply impressive nature. It was raining heavily as the Prince mounted the platform for the unveiling ceremony. The band played the opening bar of the hymn "O God, our help in ages past" to the accompaniment of rain drumming on hundreds of umbrellas. A few minutes later the rain ceased and the rest of the ceremony was carried though amid brilliant sunshine. The Prince pulled a rope which released the drapery revealing the bronze figure of an infantryman 22 07 04
When the new King unveiled the War Memorial – 36 12 12

1922 07 11
The model of the soldier on the Cambridge War Memorial which, owing to an unavoidable delay, had to be used for the unveiling ceremony last week, has to-day been replaced by the actual bronze, so that the figure now in position is as it will be seen for all time. The bronze was brought from the foundry at Thames Ditton by motor lorry at four o'clock this morning. Mr Kett and ten men were in waiting and so expeditiously was the work carried out that by 8 o'clock the model figure had been taken down and the other set up and fixed in its proper position. A couple of hours later the scaffolding was removed 22 07 11

1922 07 25
The principal new roads proposed as part of the Cambridge town planning scheme include a main road starting from Red Cross, on Hills Road, going approximately north to Newmarket Road at the corner of Fen Ditton-lane, divided into sections. Number 3 runs in a straight line as far as the

old Newmarket railway line and then slightly curves into Mill-Road. There are two branches which both lead towards the station. It will be necessary to form a subway under the railway or bridge the line, unless this line, which at present is only used for storage of railway carriages, is done away with altogether

1922 09 13
The Ministry of Health Inquiry into the proposals for the development of the east side of Cambridge was conducted at the Guildhall. There was practically no opposition. It will be remembered that the scheme provides for the laying out of 21 new roads or streets, including a main road from Hills Road to Newmarket-road. The area includes 502 acres in the rural district of ChestertonHills Road garage owner bankruptcy, 22 10 12 p5*

1923 11 03
Hills Road skeletons, 23 11 03 p5*

1925 07 01
A very important addition to the garage accommodation of Cambridge is the new depot just opened by the enterprising firm of Messrs King & Harper in Hills Road. It is situated just off the busy centre of the town so that people who are timid can drive up without much trouble and receive attention without being hustled by the police. King & Harper sell so many cars that it is quite impossible for them to give the service at Bridge Street to all the people who wish to come to them. In front of the garage is a petrol filling station from which four different kinds of petrol can be obtained at a moment's notice. Two large wash-downs have been provided which owner-drivers may use for the purpose of washing their cars.

1925 08 07
Sir – the proposed garage on Christ's Pieces has called forth a crop of protesting letters; let them be directed against the ugly, barrack-like Councils houses at Chesterton and Cavendish Avenue. The majority of the houses are literally a blot on the landscape, badly designed, dreary and poverty-stricken, they are eyesores to every passer-by. Yet they are being built without a word of protest, while the cutting down of a couple of trees evokes a regular storm of indignation – Kappal

1926 01 30
An unusual sight was seen in Cambridge when a hare at full tilt careered through our crowded streets from the direction of Huntingdon Road. Ignoring the police signal at Northampton Street 'pussy' tore along Bridge Street and through the crowded traffic towards Hills Road. When last seen the hare was still running. Some employers must have had a shock to see how fast their errand boys could travel when there was something to chase!

1926 10 30
Cambridge Borough Surveyor submitted four schemes for the lay-out of land at the Cattle Market. The site comprised 11½ acres and was purchased about 1884 from Jesus College. The west side was used for vehicles of those attending the market, the east side was partly used for allotments and the question had arisen of developing part for conveniences, a free library and an abattoir, which was most important. The Railway Company wanted to provide up and down platforms at the station. It was unlikely the bridge would be widened for railway traffic was decreasing 26 10 11

1927 03 03

The chief engineering feature of regional planning will be a new ring road all around Cambridge about two miles from the centre of the town. One length would be a road running north and south joining the Hills Road with the Newmarket Road, a length of about three miles. Certain roads and bridges were contemplated to obtain an inner ring road around the central portion of the town. Mr C.H. Tebbitt said that what had been done haphazard in the villages was the joy of the countryside and he wondered what would have happened to these beauty spots if they had been regional planned.

1927 04 29
The stone-laying ceremony in connection with the new hall at Hills Road Wesleyan Church, Cambridge took place. It will be a single-storey building but with a view to enlarging later, if necessary. Mr C. Kerrridge and Mr W.A. Gray, members of the church, are the honorary architects and the building is being done by Messrs J.R. Bennett & sons. Too often had they had to work under most depressing and unfavourable conditions. The Young Men's Fraternal had increased from five to nearly 50; if they did not make provision for these young fellows others would step in and reap what they had sown.

1927 05 28
A new private road – Sedley Taylor Road – will be opened shortly leading from the Hills Road via Luard Road to Long Road. It has been constructed under the supervision of Messrs Bidwell & Sons, acting on behalf of Trinity College on whose building estate the road is situated. It opens up a large number of building sites in this popular residential district. The late Mr Sedley Taylor was a distinguished Fellow of Trinity and well known for his foresight in promoting the establishment of school dental clinics in Cambridge, the first in the country.

1927 11 25
It was a memorable day in the history of St John's Church, Hills Road, Cambridge with the opening of the new Parish Hall and Sunday School. The hall, which is dedicated chiefly to the use of young people, is a fine building of red brick and is situated on the site of the old Mission Church in Blinco Grove. The Women's Union have made themselves responsible for the porch and entrance, raising £130 & money for the electric light has been raised by Miss Gwatken and her Bible Class.

1927 08 11
There was a large attendance at the stone-laying ceremony of the new Parochial Hall for St John's Church, Cambridge. The object is to supply a building for Sunday School work, social and other parochial gatherings. The building would have been of a different type but for the fact that part of the site has been acquired by the Corporation for making a roadway from Blinco Grove to Cavendish Avenue.

1928 01 06
A gale swept through Cambridge & telephone communication to all places was lost, with the exception of direct traffic to London. Three large windows at the front of Eden Baptist Church, Fitzroy Street, were blown in and the wreckage smashed three front seats in the gallery. The flag staff at Great St Mary's church snapped under the pressure of the high wind. Cyclists who attempted to battle against the elements were almost stationary on their machines. In Hills Road an errand boy was blown from his bike and sustained a cut knee. In the flooded areas the wind whipped the water into whirling maelstroms.

1929 08 17
Big Cambridge fire – sheds and railway trucks destroyed at Hills Road, p5

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1929 08 28
Hills Road fires, p5*

1929 09 16
Luard Road private street objectors, p8

1930

1930 01 15
From modest beginnings in Fitzroy Street the history of the House of Heffer is one of continuous progress. The Printing Works on Hills Road has been considerable enlarged, last year saw reconstruction of the Petty Cury Bookshop which is now twice its original size, and this year sees the reconstruction of the Sidney Street Stationery and Art Shop. It will be a shop worthy of its central position. The new premises will have five floor, the frontage will be in the Georgian style with pilasters, fascia and columns of grey polished granite and the upper part will be faced with red Flemish bricks with Weldon stone dressings to the windows. A unique feature will be the Picture Gallery on the third flood with a barrel-shaped ceiling

1930 05 07
A young man fired two pistol shots with deadly effect by in the Lion Hotel Yard, Cambridge. They were fired at a distance of a few yards – the first at a fire arising from a petrol-soaked strip of carpet, the other at a roaring fire in a wooden structure which had been soaked with tar and petrol. At each discharge a cone-shaped column of whitish powder was projected into the base of the fire and instantly extinguished the flames. The weapon was an 'Antifyre' Standard model and the man was W. Hardesty of Hills Road, who is the district agent. 30 05 07

1930 05 31
Mass murder, Hills Road – 32 05 31a, b, 32 06 01 & b

1932 02 16
An 'automatic laundry' has been opened in Hartington Grove Cambridge. Dignitaries inspected the Forum Cleaning and Dyeing Company machines where several garments were cleaned and dried before their eyes in less than ten minutes. After cleaning clothes pass to a dusting wheel where they are tumbled and dried in a current of cold air before passing the eagle eye of a 'spotter' to the pressing room so that obstinate stains can be removed. 32 06 16

1933 02 09
Cambridge has lost an old-established tailor by the death of Mr Byron Thomas Wait of Mill Road. His father was a tailor at St Ives but Byron came to Cambridge 52 years ago and opened the shop in Hills Road. Thirty-five years ago he extended the business to the shop at 28 Mill Road and four years later to 100 Regent Street. Two of his sons are carrying on the business. 33 02 09b

1933 07 18
Two Cambridge bus drivers had their lives saved by the use of new equipment acquired by the Borough Ambulance. D.G. Boyd & R.A. Doe became overcome by exhaust fumes after doing duty on the starting gang at the Hills Road garage and were removed to hospital. Boyd was revived from a state of unconsciousness through the use of the Novox resuscitation apparatus and Doe also benefited by the oxygen mixture. A conductor was also slightly affected by fumes, but quickly recovered. 33 07 18

1934 11 07
Bus and lorry collide, Hills Road – pic – 34 11 07b

1935 04 18
New road connecting Mowbray Road with Hills Road – Glebe or Holbrook – photo – 35 04 18

1935 06 22
The well-known dairy farmers J.M. Bull & son of Hills Road have won outright the silver challenge cups for clean milking at the County Show. Their cows are fed entirely on foods that produce the very best vitamin milk which is cooled immediately then bottled and delivered direct to the consumer within a few minutes. Milk produced under such hygienic conditions and from such healthy cows is undoubtedly the best form of food, as well as the cheapest as far as children are concerned. The same scrupulous care is also given to their cream cheese and the quality of their butter and cream is a by-word in Show circles. 35 06 22 & a

1935 08 01
After a very close debate Cambridge councillors voted to continue lighting the streets with gas. Councillor Kenney said the lighting was bad and it was ridiculous to think of giving a ten years' contract to gas. Street after street was almost entirely one-sided as regarded lighting. Beyond Hills Road railway bridge all the lamps were on the left hand side and the place was in shadow. Nothing could take the place of electric lamps suspended over the streets. But in London where there were no long lines of electric wires from remote stations there had been a number of breakdowns. How much more would that apply to Cambridge? 35 08 01

1935 08 12
Houses were threatened when a line of flame swept three-quarters of a mile of land from Trumpington to Hills Road. In Long Road helpers beat desperately at the flames to prevent them spreading along the hedges to the gardens of near-by houses whose residents used garden hoses to dampen them down Dozens of rabbits raced wildly over the charred ground and a leveret was turned into a living mass of flame. The verge caught alight, clouds of white smoke making it impossible for passing traffic to pass at more than a crawl. Vehicles were diverted via Cherry Hinton and all available police were mobilised to control the traffic and help fight the fire 35 08 12

1935 09 27
Before the war the peat industry was flourishing and enabled families in the fens to obtain a livelihood from a natural product. There is still a demand for it as fuel in private houses and by nurserymen and gardens for horticultural purposes. Peat is obtainable in Cambridge at a cost of twenty-four shillings for 600 pieces (technically called 1,000) delivered. While not suitable for closed stoves and grates it is very pleasant for the hearth fires found in so many houses today. Pieces are 11x4 inches, are clean to handle and take up little room when stacked. It can only be dug in fine weather so orders should be placed as soon as possible with the Rural Community Council, Cambridgeshire House, Hills Road, Cambridge 35 09 27

1936 03 21
Many people have wondered about the object of the black and white poles which have sprung up along St Andrew's Street and Hills Road. The Ministry of Transport have finally given permission to the system of unilateral parking and the posts will be adorned with notices warning motorists not to park on the wrong side of the road on the wrong day. There is also some reason for believing that the new 'one-way' streets will also be brought into operation before very long. 36 03 21a

1936 06 06
Mrs Arthur Walters book 'My Wayside' describes life in Cambridge where Arthur Walters was minister Hills Road Methodist church - 36 06 06b

1936 06 22
The landlord of The Oak in Lensfield Road was awakened by a terrible crash which shook the whole property. He found a Winston Smith van imbedded in the woodwork. It had been crossing the junction with Regent Street and Hills Road at about 4 a.m. when another van ran into it swinging it right round and smashing it backwards into the wooden wall of the pub. At this time of the morning the traffic lights are off and it is against the law to sound a horn or hooter. 36 06 22

1936 07 04
Cambridge street lighting is being brought up to standard. Hills Road and St Andrew's Street are already ablaze. So is Sidney Street. Twenty-three miles of streets will be illuminated by autumn. Side lights properly equipped with seven watt bulbs are all that are now required by motorists. Pedestrians and cyclists are now visible from afar after dark. The lamps are lit automatically by clock devices and soon the familiar figure of the lamp-lighter will disappear from the streets forever 36 07 04 William Allen, retired railwayman, joined Wesley Methodist Church, Hills Road in 1867 when it worshipped in a temporary building at the rear of the present church. He compiled a book telling how he started at Wesley Church but found them unfriendly 36 08 22e

1936 07 28
Cambridge Place houses unfit for human habitation and should be demolished – 36 07 28

1936 07 30
Cattle Market needed modern facilities and expansion – 36 07 30d

1936 10 09
King & Harper new garage Hills Road – 36 10 09a

1936 10 13
The Housing Committee was told that over 170 people would be displaced by the demolition of buildings in Cambridge Place; the houses would have to be vacated within two months from the date of the clearance order. Plans would be drawn up to build 47 houses to re-home residents on land off Newmarket Road which the Council would purchase from G.P. Hawkins and W. Boyton for nearly £10,000. 36 10 13b

1936 12 31
Cambridge Place was a long, narrow cul-de-sac with a narrow entrance from Hills Road. It used to have an unenviable reputation but had now greatly improved. It was a convenient place for residents engaged in unskilled work who left their houses early and returned late. But the houses were unfit for human habitation. Nearly all the roofs were sunken, the doors perished, the plaster was decayed, the stairs dark and steep. They were all were damp, thirty-three shared a water tap with another house and none had a water closet inside nor any proper place to keep food, an Inquiry heard. 36 12 30b & c, picture 36 12 31

1937 02 27
The Cambridge Light Car Company opened premises in Hills Road about six years ago as Used Car Showrooms. The business rapidly increased and within two years the management found it

necessary to take larger garage premises in Norwich Street for car storage and repairs. They were appointed distributors for the now famous High-class Triumph cars that have come rapidly to the fore during the last four seasons. They are also Morris deals and stock Standard, Austin and other popular makes of car 37 02 27

1937 03 05
The death occurred of Mrs Ann Smith, wife of Gypsy Smith, at their home, Romany Tan in Hinton Avenue. She was associated with Hills Road Methodist Church but led a very quiet life and although she once or twice went on tours abroad, she generally remained at home. The funeral service will be held at the house. The famous preacher is absent in America on an evangelical tour; he is at present in Charlotte, North Carolina. It is not expected that he will be able to return home until April. 37 03 05k

1937 03 27
Have you seen the luxury houses on the Fendon Estate (new road leading from Hills Road to Queen Edith's Way?). Make a visit this Easter. Architect designed houses, built with best materials and labour by a firm which is rapidly gaining a fine reputation. Houses have sold quickly to discerning buyers. Every house is detached and different. Schools and churches nearby. Prices from £975 to £1,500. Advert 37 03 27b

1937 05 11
It came as something of a surprise to most Cambridge people to find buses on the streets again after a strike of 17 days. When the Eastern Counties Omnibus garage doors opened on Hills Road pedestrians and even motorists stopped to see what would happen. Then drivers and conductors appeared in uniform. Managers say the men have returned to work unconditionally and there would be no victimisation; every man would be reinstated except those who had caused wilful damage to buses. 37 05 11Bull's diary has cowsheds behind shop in Hills Road – advertisers – 37 05 29a

1937 05 20
Sir - What we have come to know as the Cambridge War Memorial was part of a three-fold memorial scheme which embraced a substantial grant to Addenbrooke's Hospital for extension work, a complete record in Ely Cathedral of the names of local men killed in the war or who died from wounds and the monument at the junction of Station Road. This was to commemorate all Cambridgeshire infantry and should be 'To Victory'. It was not to be a memorial to the dead but to the *living.* It is for this reason that we who pass the memorial do not lift our hats as we do at the Cenotaph in London – E.W.R. 37 05 20

1937 06 30
The Nazi salute was given as German ex-prisoners of war honoured Cambridge's war dead. Members of the Reichsvereiningung Ehem from Kriegsgefangener marched to the memorial where the ranks of local British Legion standard bearers were joined by the German standard-bearer, carrying the Nazi flag. While standards were dipped, one of the visitors placed a laurel wreath on the memorial as members of the German party gave the Nazi salute. They then left for a civic reception at the Guildhall. 37 06 30 & a & b

1937 08 03
Brilliant summer weather attracted a big crowd to the annual Conservative Fete held at Sir Harold Gray's home on the Gogs. There was a steady stream of buses, cars, cycles and invalid carriages the whole of the length of Hills Road while thousands made the journey on foot. There were numerous games and competitions concluding with dancing and a grand firework display. It was

opened by the Home Secretary (Sir Samuel Hoare) who said that there would soon be sufficient gas masks for the whole of the population and production of guns, tanks and warships was coming along. 37 08 03 & a

1937 08 16
Sir – as a small boy in the 1880s my first impressions of Cambridge were so different from today as to be almost incredible. Cambridge, bounded practically by Mill Road railway gates, Paper Mills Bridge, Hills Road Bridge and Queens' Road was a glorified village. It smacked of medieval times with its Spinning House in St Andrew's Street and bread and butter was retailed in yard length by Varsity tradesmen. The fastest vehicles on the road were the pretty tandem horses in dog carts affected by rich undergraduates and hansom cabs and I remember assisting the shepherd of Mr Joseph Sturton's sheep with his flock to and from Parker's Piece where they were grazed – P.J. Wright 37 08 16

1938 02 03
Many unscrupulous Cambridge landlords are charging more than they are entitled under the Rent Restriction Act. There should be a crusade against them. One railwayman about to retire on a pension had been paying three shillings and ninepence rent for over 20 years (about £10.04 today). Now this had been raised by three shillings (£8). Tenants in Cavendish Avenue had been told they would have to pay sixpence a week more because the landlady was supplying sanitary dustbins. Those who felt exploited should see the Poor Man's Lawyer 38 02 03c

1938 02 26
The Fendon Estate, (new road leading from Hills Road to Queen Edith's Way). Architect designed houses built with best materials and labour by a firm which is rapidly gaining a fine reputation. Near golf course. Schools and churches nearby. Houses have sold quickly to discriminating buyers during the short period this Estate has been open. Prices £1,050 to £2,000. Secure your site now to avoid disappointment. House now ready for sale, £1,475 (about £79,000 today). Specifications include large oak hall, dining room, coal and coke stores, larder, central heating with three radiators, electric lighting, power and bell points. – Advertisement 38 02 26aNutt Motor Co, Hills Road – advert – 38 03 12a

1938 03 24
Nutt Motor Co moves from Newnham to Hills Road – 38 03 24

1938 07 16
Territorials off to camp down Hills Rd – 38 07 16 & a

1938 10 07
William Coad of Cavendish Avenue has come up with an answer to the need for underground A.R.P. shelters. His scheme is to construct a sub-way car park underneath Cambridge Market Square with inlet and outlet ramps, which, in the event of an emergency, could be converted into an effective shelter accommodating several thousand people. A nominal car-parking fee would eventually pay for the initial outlay and alleviate the need for suitable garaging for business men coming into the town. 38 10 07

1939 02 08
The Grove Nursing Home was opened in 1920 with three beds. Nine years ago it was moved to Chesterton Road where there were nine beds. The most recent expansion is to 159 Hills Road where a newly completed extension gives accommodation for 20 patients as well as an up-to-date

operating theatre with anaesthetising room and all the modern apparatus. The home is, of course, centrally heated 39 02 08b

1939 06 13
An inquest heard that a car had come into contact with a lamp standard in Hills Road. The impact was very severe indeed as the car ran up the post for a distance of eight feet and the force of the impact was sufficient to break the axle of the front wheel, which came off. There must have been considerable speed behind the car, for despite the loss of the two front wheels, it travelled for some distance. The driver was found unconscious ten feet away. He'd previously been drinking with an undergraduate friend in a pub and had a slight collision with a taxicab 39 06 13

1939 10 09
The small new Roman Catholic chapel on the corner of High Street, Old Chesterton is a corrugated iron structure but its lines are good and the interior fittings and decoration are in excellent taste. After the Reformation there was no Catholic church in Cambridge. Then Mass began to be said in the room of a house and in 1841 a small church opened in Union Lane. This was supplanted in 1890 by the fine building in Hills Road. Now there are large congregations at four Masses every Sunday and two other chapels of ease beside the one now opened. 39 10 09

1940

1940 10 04
Killed in Air Fight. Pilot Officer Frederick Harrold, only son of Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Harrold, of 38, Hills Road, Cambridge, is reported killed in action during air fighting on Saturday. Educated at the County School, he was employed at the University Library until a year before war broke out, when he joined the R.A.F. on a short service com-mission. He was a well-known member of the Cambridge Town Rowing Club. 40 10 04

1940 10 18
Awarded D.S.C. Capt E.S. Lewis, Royal Marines, of 98 Glebe Road, Cambridge – the badge of whose corps is the famous Globe and Laurel – has been awarded the D.S.C. Before being called up last October, Capt Lewis was well-known as the Cambridge manager of Messrs E. Pordage & Co. Ltd, Hills Road and his new honour is of particular interest because during the last war he won the D.S.M. 40 10 18

1940 12 04
Communal kitchen run at Blinco Grove Parochial Hall – photo – 40 12 04b

1940 12 18
F. Gough & son, Hills Road; fire averted – 40 12 18a

1941 02 25
Ten Die in Raid. Ten people are known to have been killed and a number of others injured when a fairly concentrated attack was made on an East Anglian town (Cambridge) on Monday night. Six of the dead are women and four men. Three of the injured are stated to be in a serious condition. The fatal casualties included an elderly air raid warden, Mrs. Charles Gent and several other fire watchers who were standing in the road outside a hotel. Sapper Day and Mr. Brittain were among the other victims. Hund-reds of incendiary bombs and a considerable number of high explosives were dropped by the raiders, which flew over very low at intervals. Many flares could be seen in the sky around the outlying parts of the town and British fighters were heard overhead. The main brunt of the damage was borne by business and commercial premises in one street,

where for some distance along both sides of the road (Hills Road) shops were demolished or damaged. Hardly a pane of glass intact in this district and several houses in side streets nearby suffered broken windows. It was in this area that two of the other fatal casualties, Mr. A. Negus and Mrs. Robertson, occurred. An eyewitness said next morning that during the raid a German plane appeared to fly over the road dropping incendiaries and was followed a few minutes later by another machine, which dropped high explosives. It was these which caused a large number of casualties. In another district a single high explosive bomb landed directly on a house, killing the Misses Barker, who were in the building at the time. Neighbours were also injured, but not seriously. The three others to lose their lives were Miss Thaxter, Mrs. Woodcock and Mr. Ashman. – 41 02 25a, b, c

1941 05 09
Fire bomb damage on East Anglian town – thousands of incendiaries and high explosives (Coldham's Lane, Marshall Road area) – 41 05 09

1941 09 08
Soldier killed and eight injured in army vehicle road crash, Hills Road – 41 09 08

1945 03 12
Burglaries. Jewellery and other property, valued at several hundred pounds, was stolen in burglaries at several Cambridge houses on Monday night. The intruders appear to have concentrated on houses in the Hills Road district. From three of them property was taken, but in the fourth the burglar was disturbed. 45 03 12

1945 04 06
Fire damages several hundred 20s in tyre store behind Eastern Counties Omnibus Co garage, Hills Road – 45 04 06

1945 05 11
VE celebrations –45 05 11a; Beaconsfield Hall children, Sturton St, Cowper Rd, Norwich St – 45 05 16; Perne Ave, Mowbray Road, Beche Rd, Norfolk St – 45 05 18; Hobart Rd, Bradmore St, Russell St – 45 05 19b; Young St, Gonville Road & Charles St, Cam Causeway, Gt Eastern St – 45 02 22a; Ditton Fields, Romsey Women Conservatives, Suez Rd, Covent Garden, Eden St – 45 05 23; York St, Thoday St, Kingston St, Northampton St, Cherry Hinton – 45 05 24; Hills Ave, City Rd, Cavendish Rd, Malta Rd – 45 05 25; Mowbray Rd, Willow Walk, Springfield Rd, Kelvin Close – 45 05 26b; New St, Chesterton High St – 45 05 28a; Cockburn St, Newnham Croft, Madras Rd, Henley Road & Coldham's Lane – 45 05 30; Barnwell, Wellington St, Fitzroy St, Devonshire Rd – 45 05 30b; children entertained Cherry Hinton, Fairfax Rd – 45 06 02; Vinery Rd, Eastfield – 45 06 04; Catherine St, Ditton Walk, Union Lane – 45 06 05; Gwydir St, Abbey (East) – 45 06 06; Meadowlands Estate, Argyle St, Hope St, De Freville Estate – 45 06 07; Ross St, Hemingford Rd, Green End Rd, Staffordshire St, Selwyn Rd, Coldham's Grove, Coldham's Lane, Akeman St – 45 06 11; Brooks Rd, Sedgwick St, Langham Rd, Oxford Rd, Haig Road, Chesterton – 45 06 13a; Windsor Rd, Stretten Ave, Kimberley Rd, Abbey Road, Walnut Tree Ave, Brookfields – 45 06 18; Trumpington, Mansfield Hall – 45 06 19; Cavendish Ave, Hinton Ave, Hope Hall for Deaf – 45 06 21a; Histon Rd children – 45 06 30; St Peter's St, Greens Rd – 45 07 10

1946 09 05
Squatters occupy Nissen huts in grounds of 247 Hills Road, a house formerly occupied by Army Lancers Regiment and the R.E.s which empty for a year; huts empty for two 46 09 05

1947 09 24
A device by which chimneys can be cleaned without making any soot or dirt in the room is being tried out in Cambridge by Super-clean from Hartington Grove. I understand the customary method of chimney sweeping is followed. The difference is that a device is fitted right over the stove, thus preventing soot from flying into the room. The main difficulty is that of adapting it to fit the many different sizes and types of grate. It costs more, and takes longer to have chimneys swept this way. An ordinary chimney costs 6s and it takes three-quarters of an hour to do the job - maybe longer. As a symbol as the cleanliness of the method the operator arrives at your door in a short white jacket

1949 04 21
A fine of £2 was imposed on a van driver for careless driving at the junction of Hills Road and Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge. P.C. J. Ramsey said he saw a "Keep Left" bollard in the centre of the road, damaged and tipped over to one side. Defendant told him he had hit it. He said that new bread inside the van had steamed up the windows and windscreen

1949 06 01
Two local G.I. brides arrived in Cambridge recently on a three-months' visit. They are Mrs Violet Mitchell, of Buffalo, N.Y. (daughter of Mrs Ives of Harston) & Mrs Irene Mateer of West Coxsackle, N.Y., daughter of Mr & Mrs Lupson, Hills road, Cambridge. One impression gained in the short time they have been here is the high prices of children's' clothes. Another was the shocked reaction of the assistant when they asked for a piece of ham in a local store.

1949 07 25
The Ministry of Transport's refusal to accede to their application for a grant towards the cost of building a ring road from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk was attacked at the meeting of the Cambridge town council. Ald. Raynes said they had decided in 1938 to proceed with a ring road on the East side of the town to link up Milton Road, over the river and railway on the north side, and the Hauxton and Hills Road on the south side. It was a tremendous job financially, and would obviously serve the nation and not merely the ratepayers of Cambridge

1949 10 12
Cambridge town council considered the proposed resiting of the war memorial. A scheme for a traffic roundabout at the Station Road junction means that if it were left in its present position it would be marred by the number of "Keep left" bollards and other traffic signs which would be necessary for the direction of traffic. An alternative position involved the acquisition of certain land fronting the Botanic Garden which would provide a restful haven away from traffic. None of the Servicemen's organisations was in favour of the removal of the War memorial front its present position. 49 10 12

1949 10 24
British Legion veterans of the 1914-18 war strongly opposed proposals to move and resite the Station road war memorial. Two sets of plans are being drawn up by the council. One involves the removal of the memorial into a proposed new entrance to the Botanic Gardens, and the other of placing it in the middle of a road island where it already stood. Capt Taylor said he thought the whole perspective of the memorial would be altered if it were removed. Dr R. Salisbury Wood suggested that floodlighting would add to the attraction of the site. The Cambridge memorial was the most beautiful one he had seen. If it was moved it would be a disgrace, said A.E. Mudd 49 10 24

1949 11 02

Construction has now commenced on a new roundabout at the junction of Hills Road and Station road, Cambridge. Proposals are being discussed for an alternative site for the war memorial. Site one: the memorial to remain in its present position in the eastern corner of the traffic roundabout. The dignity of the memorial might be marred to some extent by traffic signs. Two: memorial to be moved to the centre of the new roundabout. Three: the memorial to be moved to a position in front of the entrance to the Botanic Gardens, nearly at right-angle to Station Road so the statue of the soldier will still face the town centre. This site would provide a restful haven away from traffic and the memorial would not be marred by traffic signs.

1950

1950 01 27
New site for war memorial – cutting showing roadworks 27 Jan 1950 – 50 01 27

1950 03 25
War memorial shrouded for move, p7

1950 06 28
Should the new secondary modern school for the southern part of Cambridge be built in the vicinity of Wort's Causeway of on the Ventress Farm estate? Cambridge education committee prefer Wort's Causeway as being more central for Trumpington and Cherry Hinton children but the planning committee thought it suited their planning arrangements better for it to be where Queen Edith's Way joined Hills Road. An alternative had been suggested that to preserve an open space the playing fields should be situated on the Ventress Farm estate and only the school on Worts Causeway.

1950 07 09
Another freak summer storm swept across Cambridge leaving in its wake a trail of flooded houses and business premises. Firemen spent nine hours pumping 5,000 gallons of water from the basement of Frederick Day's the Hills Road hairdresser. He said: "It has cost me £100. A permanent waving machine and a dryer which were in the basement were completely ruined. I had to dump them on the tank-trap in Coldham's Lane this morning".

1951 03 04 c
The Ministry of Health has asked Addenbrooke's Hospital to reduce capital estimates and certain projects will have to be postponed The most important was the new operating theatre, delivery wards and premature baby unit which it was hoped would be built in 1952 at the maternity hospital. But authority had been received to enter into contracts to acquire 43,895 acres of land lying between Hills Road and Long Road for the site of a proposed new hospital.

1951 04 26
"1939-45" added to War Memorial, April [4.2]

1951 05 02
Big traffic hold-ups in Hills Road last March – when a large sale of implements and store pigs at the Cattle Market resulted in vehicles at one time taking 50 minutes to get from Hyde Park Corner - has lead to proposals for improvements. Immediate steps include the provision of a temporary entrance in Rustat Road.

1951 05 23
Cambridgeshire can now boast one of the finest rural domestic economy kitchens in the country. Until recently the R.D.E. instructress (Miss M. Constantine) was housed in a basement in Hills

Road, but this was damp and subject to flooding; consequently the equipment was liable to go rusty. The new kitchen is tucked away in the grounds of the Shire Hall. It has every kind of cooking stove – electricity, gas, calor gas, oil and solid fuel and boasts a demonstration oven with a glass door. A "frig" is to come later.

1951 06 20
Cambridge councillors heard that the cattle market has become one of the most important cattle centres in the country as a result of the great increase in the amount of business transacted since the war. Problems had arisen because of the serious congestion of traffic in Hills Road when large sales are held and the need for better facilities for traders and customers. It was not designed for holding large sales of agricultural machines nor for the provision of parking accommodation for upwards of 1,200 motor vehicles.

1951 10 05
Cambridge Education committee made a strong attack on the planning ministry for flouting their wish to build a new secondary school at Wort's Causeway. The government had given permission to the governors of St Thomas' Hospital to develop land between Queen Edith's Way and Wort's Causeway as a housing estate. They hoped they would not put a school on the Ventress Farm site which was "a bad site and a bad position" & urged that action be taken to "rectify this bureaucratic injustice"

1952 01 11
Cambridge Council agreed to include a £75,000 scheme for a sub-way approach to the railway station; thousands of people would benefit from it and it could take the place of another item on the priority list - £150,000 for a multi-deck car park. Coun H.C. Ridgeon aid it would mean a tremendous saving to traffic from Hills Road and Mill Road and prove a great advantage to the town as a whole. Ald Briggs vigorously supported the suggestion to make it a top priority and pointed to the present "nightmare congestion" to press the need.

1952 02 09
Long before the arrival of the ten-coach funeral train bearing the body of King George VI, large crowds had gathered at the main vantage points along the line at Ely to pay their homage. At the station crossing hundreds of people assembled on both sides, whilst lines of traffic extended for some distance. Heads were bared as the train rolled smoothly through the station. Workmen who had given up part of their dinner hour and American servicemen were amongst the crowds. At the little village station of Waterbeach about 100 housewives, farmworkers and children gathered. A crowd of more than 800 people lined the marshalling yards on either side of Mill Road Bridge, Cambridge. The long black funeral coach, with all its windows blacked out passed exactly on time. Queen Elizabeth II gazed pensively out of a carriage window as the train passed a group of railwaymen standing caps off near Hills Road Bridge.

1952 02 09
There are happy memories of King George VI's undergraduate days at Trinity College, Cambridge in 1919-20 when with his brother he sojourned at "Southacre" in Latham Road. In 1922 he unveiled the war memorial in Hills Road and attended the Royal Show at Trumpington & in 1932 he opened the new wing for children and private patients at Addenbrooke's Hospital. His last visit was last year when he attended the Service of Thanksgiving at King's College

1952 03 01

Councillor Stewart Todd Bull has been nominated as the next mayor of Cambridge. He is the owner of the well-known firm of dairy farmers, Messrs J.M. Bull & son. When Cambridge was attacked by enemy aircraft in 1941 he was amongst those in Hills Road who were bombed out. He is a man endued with the spirit of public service and after helping to look after the affairs of the city he frequently climbs Castle Hill to keep a watchful eye on the County Council.

1952 08 19
A large congregation packed the church of St John the Evangelist, Hills Road, Cambridge for the dedication of the new organ. It contains 1,210 pipes which stand on the south side of the chancel with the console on the north side. For the sake of economy a certain amount of second-hand pipe work has been used. But this is no detriment as much of the timber which was easily obtainable before the war is of far higher standard than that procurable today when Siberian pine lies securely locked behind the iron curtain.

1952 10 31
Within the last 60 years Cambridge Cattle Market, once one of the smallest in the country, has become one of the largest. When the Mayor opens the latest addition – the new store cattle sale yard with its covered-in accommodation for about 500 people and penning facilities for upwards of 1,000 head of cattle – it will mark the beginning of a new era in which the Cattle Market may well become a national centre for livestock sales. The present market was opened in 1885 and until 1912 was small; by 1939 it was handling 200-300 fat cattle, 1,000 sheep and 500 pigs a week.

1952 11 04
The Mayor of Cambridge auctioned ten first-cross blue and white store pigs for the good price of £7 5s. He was opening the new sales yard at Cambridge Cattle Market. They were 12 months overdue due to difficulty in getting steel because of the Government's re-armament policy but were part of the council's plans to make it one of the best in the country. "We hope these extensions will make producers send more cattle and livestock and thus attract buyers from all over the country", he said. They were awaiting Government policy on the question of an abattoir and there was a move to start a wool market.

1953 01 16 c
King's College head porter, Albert Powell, was granted a possession order for his house in Marshall Road. He had bought the house in 1919. In 1936 he was made head porter at King's College, which necessitated him living in the porter's lodge. In 1938 he let the house to the present tenant but told him he would want it when he retired. Mr Powell was asked: "Would you stay at King's if you could not get possession of the house; you are still full of fight and able to cope with undergraduates". He replied: "No, I am 66 now"

1953 03 09
Hills Road bridge, p10

1953 04 20
The circus has come to town – and it was greeted by thousands of smiling Cambridge faces. Six of Bertram Mills' Burmese elephants marched from the railway station, trunk to tail as the midget clown, Nikki, distributed leaflets about the circus from the basket of his fairy cycle. Elephants Lechney and Company did not lose their way – they've taken the same stroll for the last 18 years. Crowds covered the roundabout at Hills Road. The one at the Four Lamps was unrecognisable, the circus-gazers had swept half-way across the road. Soon afterwards the 'two-ton-tessies; were under canvas, chained to a platform.

1953 06 15
Cavendish Avenue elms, p11

1953 07 09
Building operations are in progress to modernise the garages at the Hills Road depot of the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company and give appreciable increase in accommodation. A modern canteen and new offices and cycle racks are to be constructed. With commendable optimism, the Company are demolishing a bomb shelter which was installed during the war. Luckily it was never put to the test, but workmen are finding it a difficult assignment – an indication of the strength and protection it would have afforded. At present only one third of the garage space can be used. Buses which are now without a home are being parked in railway sidings nearby.

1954 05 08
Membership of the Automobile Association has increased by a million since the end of the war and now totals 1,400,000. Nearly 30,000 of these live in the Cambridgeshire district and for their benefit a new area office has been opened at Hills Road Cambridge with a cocktail party. It was first envisaged 20 years ago and will become part of their national radio network by which patrolmen were sent to motorists in distress.

1954 11 17
The Automobile Association has put into service a new radio transmitting station from their Cambridge headquarters in Hills Road which gives continuous communication with 'A.A.' patrols with a radius of 40 miles. There are six radio-controlled motor-cycle combinations together with a Land Rover to provide prompt assistance for motorists whenever a breakdown occurs on the road.

1954 12 06
The Government has partially allowed an appeal by Moss (Cambridge) Ltd over two advertising boards displayed at first floor level on a shop in Hills Road. It says that one of them seriously detracts from the appearance of the building. The premises are at a busy junction in a mixed locality. On the opposite side are two large garages and a parade of shops. To the north the road crosses over the railway and adjoining the bridge are the rail goods yards and the market. There are large advertising hoardings on each side of the bridge and numerous other advertisements on buildings in the vicinity

1954 12 28 c
Although there were four babies born at the Cambridge Maternity Hospital on Christmas day, not one was given a seasonable name. The first to arrive was Susan Ellis of Beche Road, then Graham Child of Cherry Hinton followed by Peter Michael Jones of Sawston and Jeremy David Pratt of Hills Road, Cambridge.

1955 04 26
At the last two sales of machinery at Cambridge Cattle Market there has been considerable congestion in all the main roads and residents complained that nearly 600 cars had been parked in the streets in addition to more than 1,000 in the market car parks. The City Surveyor suggested demolishing loose boxes and a Nissen hut to provide 250 more spaces. The machinery sales were probably the largest in the world attracting buyers from overseas. About 250 tractors were refused for sale owing to the lack of space. 55 04 26

1956 07 10

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Naylors, the hardware dealers and ironmongers have replaced two shops at 38 Hills Road, Cambridge, with one new one with three times as much store room. It was designed by Ellis and Macleod and built by Johnson and Bailey. There are several unusual features including the window glass of the demonstration frontage reaching right down to the pavement where there will be demonstrations of paper hanging and paint scraping. 56 07 10

1957 10 03
The tallest residential block in England may be erected in Hills Road. It would tower 135 feet high and, with a series of smaller blocks, accommodate 161 families. The 15-storey building would be of slender design, using modern materials to create homes for today, not pale imitations of the past. It will provide homes for the middle classes who have been saddled with houses at a cost beyond their means which, on re-sale, show a loss of hundreds of pounds. 57 10 03 a & b

1958 03 29
Perse School plans, Hills Road – 58 03 29b & c

1958 06 03
Addenbrooke's Hospital Governors say it is 'reasonable' for the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company to buy land opposite the proposed new hospital in Hills Road for a bus stop. But they will provide a stop near the main entrance with parking room for three buses and a shelter for passengers. The Bus Company should consider additional services along the Perne Road – Fendon Road route to save passengers from Newmarket and Mill Road from having to travel by way of the city centre. 58 06 03

1958 06 06
Six members of the Order of the Irish Christian Brothers lived together in a Victorian house in Hills Road. There was a retired teacher in charge, a practically bed-ridden man, one who acted as a general factotum, one who did the cooking and two members they were sending to the Technical School and University. The house closed in the vacation. The Valuation Panel decided it was not a hostel but a private house, which reduced their rating assessment. 58 06 06

1958 08 08
The Bell School of Languages held a garden party in the spacious grounds of their newly-acquired premises in Red Cross Lane, the former St Anne's House. Three hundred guests attended the 'house-warming', giving them the opportunity to celebrate the move to the splendid building in large and lovely grounds. It was the first social occasion at the new premises hosted by the Principal, F.E. Bell and the eighty students. 58 08 08

1958 12 19
Traffic over Hills Road railway bridge, a bottleneck on the principal road into Cambridge, is extremely heavy. Visibility over the summit is severely restricted and many accidents have occurred there. The existing steel plate girder bridge has deteriorated with age and now work will start to provide a new twin two-lane carriageways and footpaths. The new bridge will be designed to allow for widening should additional railway tracks be needed in the future. 58 12 19b

1959 01 13
The widening of Hills Road Railway Bridge may be delayed as negotiations have still to be completed on what proportion of the cost will be borne by the County Council. The East side of the new bridge should run straight from the frontage line of no.129 Hills Road to the entrance of the coal-yard opposite the junction with Brooklands Avenue. There could be a new access from Cherryhinton Road to the Cattle Market and railway sidings. 59 01 13d

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1959 02 27
Having completed their flat project at Applecourt on Newton Road, Span Developments have just announced several big redevelopment plans. One is a 15-story high tower block of flats in Hills Road where two Victorian houses have been demolished but the magnificent trees standing in their gardens are to be left undisturbed. Another is a complete new village planned for Histon Road. They are also negotiating a scheme for factory development which will bring more well-paid work to the Cambridge area. 59 02 27, 59 03 01 & 01a

1959 07 28
Work has begun on the new Addenbrooke's Hospital in Hills Road. The first stage will include a ward block of 100 beds and although the final size has not yet been decided it will be between 600 and 800 beds. "Our responsibilities are to the future and we shall be very much to blame if in 20 years' time we find ourselves looking for a bigger hospital", said the Chairman of the Governors' building committee. It will stand in a landscape planned by a woman architect, Mrs J.M. Hayward, in collaboration with the Director of the University Botanic Garden. 59 07 28

1959 08 12
Hills Road bridge reconstruction photo – 59 08 12

1959 09 01
A Ring Road was proposed for Cambridge before the war. It was to run from Trumpington Road and Brooks Road to Coldham's Lane, then on across Milton Road, Huntingdon Road and so to Hills Road. Thousands of pounds were spent to make a dual carriageway from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk with a ramp six feet high to start the viaduct across the river. This section was completed and only required the final tarmac surface. Now half of the dual carriageways have been dug up and the ramp bulldozed. It cost many thousands of pounds to make and over £34,500 to destroy. 59 09 01

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 03 22
Work on the widening of Hills Road bridge is slightly behind schedule but is expected to be open by the end of the year. Soon traffic will be diverted on to the new portion of the bridge to allow engineers to take down and rebuild the rest. Twelve beams of pre-stressed concrete have already been laid. When completed it will provide for a dual carriageway with a eight-foot wide footpath on either side of the bridge 60 03 22 – pic 60 03 24

1960 04 19
The Cambridge Cattle Market on Easter Monday was like Petticoat Lane and indeed many of the numerous stall holders came from just that place. From early morning cars and people streamed over Hills Road Bridge to the market. All the policemen Cambridge could muster were sent to exert some form of control but were fighting an impossible battle. Farmers who generally flock to the market on Monday mornings were greatly outnumbered by whole families enjoying a day out in the warm sunny weather. 60 04 19a

1960 04 28
Costs of building the new Hills Road railway bridge have increased by £20,000 because unusually difficult ground conditions mean it needs deeper and more substantial foundations. But

the County Council hopes to construct a bridge over the level crossing on the Cambridge Road at Histon. It will mean the demolition of five houses and affect the gardens of 17 other properties as well as the complete rebuilding of the Histon nursery school. 60 04 28

1960 06 21
It took twenty men twenty hours at the week-end to demolish Cambridge's old Hills Road bridge – twice as long as the contractors had anticipated. Originally it was thought that the removal of 140 tons of steel girders would take a little over eight hours, but the trains passing underneath proved a little more troublesome than expected. The men took advantage of the frequent breaks to wipe the sweat from their brows and light a cigarette. The scene resembled firework night for, as the oxyacetylene guns cut through the girders, a spray of red hot sparks would fall on the ground giving an impression of a 'golden rain' 60 06 21

1960 10 28
Over 100 houses and shops, a Church Institute and a public house in an area near the Roman Catholic Church, Hills Road, may be compulsorily purchased by the City Council. Properties in Coronation Street, King George IV Street, Union Road, Bentinck Street, Princess Street and Queen's Street have reached the end of their useful life and were unfit for human habitation. Slates were off the roof, they had rising damp and woodworm. But shopkeepers protested and one owner said she was very attached to the house and it would be a great hardship to leave. 60 10 28

1960 12 17
Hills Road railway bridge is functioning almost as normal again. After a year's work during which the traffic has had to contend with considerable difficulties, the road is now suitable for two-lane traffic. Resurfacing will not be carried on for another 12 months in order to allow for subsidence and for several more weeks workmen will be patching up. Work on Churchill College continues as does work on 13 three-storey terrace houses and 60 maisonettes at East Road. Most have their roofs on and one block of houses has its windows in. 60 12 17b

1961 01 13
Children's Relief International, based in Harvey Road, have already organised a holiday camp for 60 displaced children in Germany. Now they hope to build a large modern house in a village near Cambridge where refugee children from all over Europe would be brought up as a large 'family' under the care of house parents. They would make friends and share some of their delightful facilities with local English children. Madingley would be an ideal spot for such a house. 61 01 13

1961 01 14
W. Heffer printers and booksellers celebrate 50 years at Hills Road – 61 01 14

1961 05 26
University Examination Syndicate plans for move to Hills Road – 61 05 26b

1961 07 03
The new Perse School building at Hills Road was opened by Princess Alexandra of Kent. The new large assembly hall was filled to capacity, guests overflowing into a large marquee. The old buildings in Gonville Place, dating from 1890, had proved inadequate for a rapidly-growing school and here, on the extensive playing fields was a noble site beyond the noise and traffic of the city. It includes the Mummery miniature theatre, a biology laboratory with its own pool for the growing of specimens and a special room for school prefects. 61 07 03 & a & b

1961 11 23
Claude Kirkup became manager of Cambridge Cattle Market in 1936 and has seen tremendous changes. He can remember the days when sheep and pigs were brought to the market in tumbrel carts or by horse and cart. With the advent of motor traffic the market increased ten-fold and animals now come from a very wide radius. Many Continental buyers attend the Monday agricultural machinery sales. 61 11 23

1962 05 05
Highsett, Hills Road, comprises elegant town houses in a sheltered green and pleasant place. Designed by a leading architect, they include a large living room, study, two double bedrooms and well-equipped kitchen. House warming is by underfloor heating, thermostatically controlled. No cold spots, no stoking, no dust. Good insulation keeps running costs down. They are grouped round a central landscaped green maintained through a Residents Society which is also responsible for structural repairs and external decoration. First house ready soon on 99 years lease, £4,975. Span Developments. Advert 62 05 02a

1963 03 28
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Station Road – 63 03 28

1963 05 21
The firm of E.J. Pigott (Tools) was established in Sidney Street 100 years ago and moved to Sussex Street before the war. It has been handed down from father to son with always some member of the family behind the counter. Its handicraft shop in Hills Road was the first of its kind in East Anglia and they've recently opened an ironmongery department. It has ceased to sell hip and slipper baths but stocks 140 different types of pocket knife 63 05 21a & b

1963 08 07
St Paul's School children survey traffic at junction Bateman Street and Hills Road – 63 08 07

1963 09 05
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Hills Road pt.1 – 63 09 05, 63 09 12

1964 01 30
Experimental traffic island sign being erected at junction Station Road and Hills Road – 64 01 30

1964 04 24
'Cambridge New Architecture' criticises the Addenbrooke's Hospital buildings in Hills Road. No doubt these bleak buildings work efficiently but the bungaloid growth of the out-patients building cannot mitigate the overall barrack-room atmosphere, it says. Bradwell's Court shopping centre is attractively self-effacing and the Snowcat is one of the few well-designed modern pubs. But other Arbury building is weak with prim brick terraces with utility steel or concrete doorways of modish design. It is a squandering of Cambridge's short-supply of housing land 64 04 24b

1964 05 11
Sir Eric Franklin fire at Cavendish Avenue destroys diplomatic papers – 64 05 11c

1964 07 01
Produce market now open Cattle Market, for nearly year without market after King St closed [3.18]

1964 08 26

Spillers laboratory Station Road fire, explosion fear – 64 08 26b

1965 03 27
The new corn market building on the Cattle Market site will replace the old Saturday corn market held in the Corn Exchange. Merchants have been advocating a move for 10 years and now it is hoped the market will revive. An encouraging number of people want to take stalls. The cost of desk or box in the new building is £10 a year. People who attend to buy or sell are charged £3 for an annual ticket. Visitors are admitted free. It will also provide a small new hall for the Cherryhinton Road – Hills Road district 65 03 27a

1965 04 05
New £8,000 corn market opened Cattle Market, marks end of trading in Corn Exchange

1965 04 29
Local examinations syndicate building in Hills Road opened – 65 04 29a, b

1965 11 12
Old Contemptibles march Hills Road – photo – 65 11 12c

1966 04 25
New nursery school opened in Station Road by Cambridge Association for Advancement of State Education – 66 04 25

1966 07 02
Chesterton RDC new offices at Gt Eastern House, Station Road, to open – 66 07 02

1967 02 02
Plans to move Cattle Market to Milton Road [4.2]

1967 04 13
Alfred Barrett, tailor to take Rose pub; Percy Cornwell retires from grocery shop, Hills Road – 67 04 13

1967 11 02
Trading at Cambridge Corn Market on the Cattle Market site has sunk almost to zero and the specially designed £8,000 hall launched two years ago is tottering towards its doom. Council was under legal obligation to provide a new corn market once they decided the old one was not viable. 47 merchants said they wanted a stand, it opened with 32 but this has dwindled to 22; on Mondays it is often empty – 68 11 02

1968 01 11
Cambridge Cattle Market flourishing but farmers find Bury more convenient – 68 01 11a

1969 05 01
Tanner and Hall roofers move from Hills Road railway siding to new offices at Harston, formed in 1953 – 69 05 01, 01a

1970

1970 08 01

Jonas Webb statue to move from Corn Exchange – 70 08 01, 70 09 18; to relocate to South Cambs DC HQ, Hills Road – 70 11 05

1970 10 07
Taxis running on propane gas with United Taxis private gas tanks in Hills Road – 70 10 07a

1971 05 24
Billy Smart's circus procession Hills Road – photo – 71 05 24

1972 04 10
The last pint was pulled in the "George and Dragon" in Thompson's Lane, Cambridge, last night. The pub, on the corner of Jesus Green by the river is to come down to make way for a modern pub-restaurant. Although the pub, more than 100 years old and owned by St John's College was a Tolly House its successor, to be called The Dragonfly, will be a joint venture. Undergraduates and many University organisations have used the George and Dragon, once known as the Spade and Becket. The outgoing hosts, Jack and Wynn Asplin, take over the Great Northern Hotel by the Station Road roundabout, p10

1972 09 01
Cambridge folk have become accustomed to large scale demolition in various parts of the city, and soon yet another prominent building will disappear when the premises of the Hills Road Methodist Church are sold and taken down for development. The building is much too large; its seating capacity is 750 and the present membership is less than 200. Secondly the premises are over 100 years old, and while the sanctuary is in good condition, the premises downstairs are in a poor state and hopelessly out of date. As the adjoining premises were being developed it seemed a suitable time to sell.

1973 06 29
Latest casualty in the Hills Road office redevelopment programme is the 100-year-old Methodist Church. Demolition work started yesterday. In autumn last year any people were surprised to learn that an active church in so sound a financial position and such good repair should close its doors. But the trustees had been aware for some time that the building was just too large; it has a seating capacity for 750 and a congregation of less than 200. The congregation transferred to the Wesley Church, Christ's Pieces, or to other Methodist churches closer to their homes. The property went on the market in November 1972.

1973 07 13
Hills Road SOS, p17

1973 11 22
It was the Second World War which boosted the trade in used agricultural machinery at Cambridge cattle market. Now, after 30 years on the Hills Road site, it is hoped that the move to the new sales area down Milton Road will give a similar fillip to what is generally regarded as one of Europe's outstanding second-hand implements market. The cattle market developed over the years and continued unchanged until 1966 when the advent of an £8,000 new corn market proved more or less a flop from the start and received negligible support from farmers and auctioneers. There have been frequent prophecies that the cattle market will eventually go the same way. Obstinately though, it refuses to die

1974 04 06

When Cherry Mann moved into a council house in Holbrook Road, Cambridge this week it was not just a new home for her but the beginning of a whole new way of life. It was a dream came true. She has been severely disabled by a rare and incurable disease for more than 30 years, and her home for the last three years has been a hospital bed. The house been converted into a self-contained flat with wide sliding doors, accessible light switches and doors on to a specially-built patio so that she can propel herself in her wheelchair into the fresh air. "It is just incredible to be here", she said.

1974 04 16
Traditional Easter Monday market, Cattle Market [4.9]

1974 04 26
Plans are being discussed for another hospital to serve the Cambridge area in a bid to ease staff and administration problems at the giant new Addenbrooke's in Hills Road, Cambridge. The Department of Health have indicated that they think the ultimate 1,700-bed hospital is too big to be managed satisfactorily and too difficult to staff adequately. Officials have been studying surveys with a view to siting the new hospital near where it could best recruit nursing and ancillary staff. Ideally this would be near a big housing estate such as Arbury

1974 07 02
Police sealed off part of Hills Road, Cambridge, for most of yesterday afternoon after a 1½ ton container of deadly formic acid toppled from an open-backed lorry and began to spill its contents on to the road. The acid is poisonous and corrosive. Cambridge has experienced 21 such incidents in the past two years. Police cars blocked the road and three fire units drenched the rear end of the lorry with water, yet a girl on her way to a nearby post-box splashed through the liquid around the lorry, wearing nothing on her feet but wooden sandals 74 07 02

1975 05 05
Hundreds of Cambridge motorists were late for work today as the second stage of the city's traffic experiment turned into an enormous snarl-up. Police described the situation as chaotic. A police inspector said "Vast numbers of drivers are completely unaware of the new experimental scheme. At 8.30 this morning there was a solid block of traffic from the Catholic Church corner of Hills Road to Perne Road island. Drivers are bewildered and completely at sea". One councillor said that while the first part of the experiment was a semi-hit, the extension was a definite miss.

1975 05 29
With the reorganisation of secondary school education 16-year olds must now look round at all the subject choices and courses at the different Sixth Form Centres. CCAT is far and away the largest A-level centre in the area. Its total of over 500 full-time A-level students considerably exceeds that of the Hills Road and Long Road Sixth Form Colleges together. 75 05 29

1976 04 02
A plan for building a £13,000 halt at Cherry Hinton on the main Cambridge-Ipswich railway line was rejected by the county highways committee. Cambridge city council had asked for the halt, saying it would be useful for commuters and people working in the expanding office development in Station Road. Councillor Charles Swift (Peterborough) who is a train driver said that halts usually consisted of just a few old railway sleepers by the side of the track and not the station and buildings proposed for Cherry Hinton.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1976 12 17
A storm of protest followed the building of a line of office blocks in Hills Road, Cambridge, about three years ago. Public meetings were organised and people claimed the character of the area was being ruined, good housing lost and small shops demolished or forced out of business. Most of the offices replaced large terraced houses of little architectural interest. But the busy main road was not an ideal site for housing and several were no longer private homes. The new buildings are individually of quite a high standard, but they appear completed isolated and out of character with the shopping area. They need something to break up their long facades and link them with the variety and bustle of the shopping area. But the offices have injected a new source of life into the area; already a bank and several eating places have opened up, presumably to catch the lunch time trade from the offices.

1977 01 14
The Cambridge cattle market, which has stood at Cherryhinton Road for almost 100 years, should be closed on its present site as soon as possible, the city council decided, because the ratepayers receive no benefit from the thousands of pounds spent on subsidising it each year. It is the only sizeable market in the whole of the county and played an important part in the city's life. Its closure did not exclude the possibility of its re-opening elsewhere. In the meantime the market should be accommodated on a smaller part of the site, thus releasing an amount of valuable land for industrial development. 77 01 14

1978 02 02
Sunday market proposals vetoed on Market Hill & Cattle Market[5.2]

1979 01 16
The heart transplant operation at Papworth Hospital came within a month of the decision to close down its cardiac unit. The Regional Health Authority wants to start work on a new unit at Addenbrooke's Hospital because they say Papworth is inconveniently located and uneconomic in its running costs; a substantial range of improvements would be needed if it was to remain in use. The new cardiac unit at Hills Road would have 90 beds with operating theatres and support facilities. Work could begin in 1985

1979 02 15
Cattle Market to be laid out for industry [5.3]

1979 06 07
In 1921 the garage on the corner of Hills Road, Cambridge, broke all records by selling 25 Model 'T' Fords. Now the firm of Gilbert Rice which took over the premises aims for 100 times that turnover. There is a used car facility with space to display 75 cars and they have installed service and repair facilities. In the light of the impending fuel crisis smaller cars will be substituted for thirsty larger ones and there could be changes in the type of fuel used. The company is prepared to adapt and says the car dealer of the future will be running a very different type of business from today

1979 06 16
Residents in Bateman Street, Cambridge fear it might be totally spoilt if a new language centre is built. The School did an excellent job but the destruction of the existing houses would mean a drastic change in the Victorian residential street. They could be refurbished and make pleasant and attractive homes. Not all were against the scheme for a modern language centre for 200 students. One was highly critical of the character of the street as it stood and said the opening of a

new nightclub on Hills Road had a far bigger impact. If the scheme were not approved the site might be redeveloped as a hotel

1979 10 24
Eighteen months ago you could buy a reasonable-sized plot of land outside Cambridge for about £5,000; now the figure is about £11,000. In the city a plot in the De Freville Road area has doubled to over £20,000 and an unbuilt site off Hills Road recently went for £23,000. Land is very scarce and plots generally go for auction. These prices reflect inflation and the present generation of people who are building their own houses is likely to be the last. Hereafter it will be an undertaking only for the very rich. The burden of loan interest at around 17 per cent adds to an anxious business and even after tax relief interest charges will be £6 a day.

1979 10 27
The Panos Restaurant in Hills Road, Cambridge, opened three weeks ago and provides an excellent cabaret - Panos Antoniou who is owner, cook and sometimes waiter. When not employed behind the counter, charcoal grilling the juicy, tender steaks for which this restaurant will soon become famous (mark my words), he spreads himself over a chair at a vacant table and puffs a cigar, keeping up relentless badinage with the diners. It is pricey – a bottle of house wine was £2.85 and Scotch steak au poivre vert, £5.95 with coffee at 45p for an inexhaustible potful – but considering the high quality the damage did not seem that unkind.

1979 11 28
A bullock went on the rampage in Cambridge for several hours, terrifying pedestrians. The half-ton animal – destined for the slaughterhouse – nearly brought rush-hour traffic to a grinding halt. Armed police were called in and combed the city looking for it until a panda car driver spotted the animal running along the road in front of him. It charged in and out of the Eastern Counties bus station in Hills Road, knocked a pensioner off his bike and attacked two pedestrians in Station Road. Then with three police cars on its tail it was cornered in a garden at Highsett but escaped by leaping over a panda car and the chase started again. A wall was partly-demolished and three police cars damaged before it was finally herded into the cattle market pen.

1980

1980 01 11
Reports of a UFO which held Harston villagers spellbound have been received from other parts of the world. A researcher who investigated the phenomenon says they appear to be genuine descriptions of an unknown technology. Other reports have been received locally. Desmond January, a Cambridge estate agent, said he watched a line of three white lights which he thought at first were helicopters, but there was no noise and one shot away at right angles up into the sky. Another resident of Hauxton reported something similar that evening while on New Year's Day a lady described seeing a dark cylindrical object pass over her home in Hills Road, Cambridge. The following day two teenagers at Girton told of a light 'burning like magnesium ribbon'

1980 02 12
South Cambridgeshire District Councillors agreed an extension to their offices costing nearly £1½ m in spite of opposition which claimed the move was ill-timed in the light of Government cuts. At present their administration is divided between Great Eastern House, in Station Road and South Cambridgeshire Hall about a quarter of a mile away. The aim is to sell off this site for offices which would help offset costs of the new council chamber and car park. But some say there would be more advantages in developing a site outside Cambridge with a city office to deal with the public. 80 02 12

1980 02 16
A major row over whether Papworth Hospital's heart unit should be moved to Cambridge has escalated. Consultants want it to be moved to Hills Road with all its specialist and support facilities but officials from two Area Health Authorities say the site is already overcrowded. There is an upper limit of 950 beds at New Addenbrooke's and already have to fit in a replacement for Mill Road Hospital and a psychiatric unit. They believe Papworth should be transferred to the new Hinchinbrook Hospital 80 02 16

1980 09 02
Cambridge's railway electrification came a step nearer when contractors handed over the shell of the new power signal box near Hills Road Bridge. It will take another 18 months to install the mass of circuitry which will enable a couple of men to control every train, point and signal for miles around. The plan includes floodlit carriage sidings with automatic washing plant for carriages. It is expected to come into operation in May 1982 80 09 02a

1981 03 30
Six hundred young people took to the streets to demonstrate against the threat to live music in Cambridge. They marched from the Great Northern Pub in Station Road to the Corn Exchange – the two rock venues at the centre of a row over noise levels. The landlord of the pub has been in dispute with the city's environmental health department over the noise made by band playing there and the Corn Exchange also faces legal action if they do not act on the noise problem. 81 03 30

1982 05 12
South Cambs councillors may pull down the temporary prefabricated building known as South Cambridgeshire Hall and build a four-storey office block in its place. They would then dispose of Great Eastern House near the railway station and centralise all its staff on the Hills Road site. Whether they will actually be prepared to spend a lot of money on the scheme has yet to be seen. In the past councillors have brought up the idea on numerous occasions but decided against it on cost grounds. 82 05 12a

1982 06 03
The Great Northern Hotel on the corner of Station Road had a wide reputation as a 'jazz pub. In the 1970s it was converted into a hostel for Technical College students with rooms directly above the stage and Raffles nightclub in the basement. Despite music on two levels there were no complaints until a new landlord introduced rock bands. Now its licence has been withdrawn and Cambridge has lost one of its last live music venues. 82 06 03

1982 07 19
Work is continuing on the Clifton industrial estate, a joint development between the City Council and Dencora Securities on the site of the former of Cattle Market. There will be 31 units providing 225 jobs in light industry and warehousing with the first opening shortly. Much emphasis is being placed on a good quality of construction and landscaping to ensure a good working environment. 82 07 19

1982 09 30
A row has blown up over South Cambridgeshire District Council's 'foolhardy' scheme to spend £2.6 million on new offices in Cambridge. Histon Labour Party says there can be no justification for office building while the council skimps on essential public services. Councillor Robin Page has also described the plans as 'the silliest scheme I have ever heard of'. But South Cambs'

Chairman says it would increase efficiency by having their staff on one site in Hills Road. 82 09 30

1983 02 12
Plans to move the Cambridge War Memorial from the Hills Road – Station Road junction have been scrapped. Instead of making way for a new system of computer-controlled traffic lights, the memorial will remain as an island. Originally the County Council wanted to relocate it to a small shady spot under the trees in the Botanic Garden, but the City refused to co-operate. 83 02 12a

1983 09 27
The arson attack on the Carioca Club has removed a bright nightspot from the already bleak picture of Cambridge entertainment. It leaves Ronelles, the up-market disco restaurant in the city centre, Route 66 and the Last Resort. Complaints about noise spelt the end of Silks in Hills Road. The city council is thinking of building a special factory-type unit on the old cattle market industrial site off Cherryhinton Road to house an 'alternative venue centre'. 83 09 27 p13

1983 11 02
Station Road sign, p10

1984 03 23
The vexed question of whether Cambridge's traffic problems are real or illusory will be a recurring theme of future discussions as a result of the decision to scrap Mill Road traffic lights. The faces of traders lit up at the news that the lights on the bridge were – finally – going out. Traffic mandarins have persisted in introducing more and more lights throughout Cambridge. The Station Road lights are another example where traffic management has gone awry yet there is no sign these will be removed. 84 03 23 p20

1984 06 01
Falling numbers of pupils have forced the Shrubbery School to close its doors to senior pupils. However juniors up to 11 years old will still be able to attend the private school which charges £250 a term. The Shrubbery opened its doors in Hills Road before moving to Barton Road 37 years ago and has been run by Alfred Wainwright and his wife since 1962. 84 06 01 p9

1984 07 06
Computerised control of traffic in Cambridge by means of traffic lights has been in operation along two major routes since March. Chaos has not ensued and the county council's traffic management scheme claims it has knocked several minutes off journey times in peak periods. 'Scoot' operates in Hills Road and Queen's Road by marshalling traffic into 'platoons' of vehicles and then pilots them through as many sets of lights as possible. 84 07 06

1984 07 25
Cambridge's office space is going fast. Mount Pleasant House on Castle Hill is now fully let as is the former Heffers printing works in Hills Road whose Betjeman House is used by two computer software firms, Acornsoft and Logica. Citibank has taken the first floor of Hunting Gate's Carlyle House while Standard Life's development on the corner of Glisson Road was let prior to the completion of the building. 84 07 25

1984 11 20
Cambridge's Hills Road bus depot is to be moved to the outskirts of the city in a multi-million pound swap deal between Cambus and the Stetchworth-based Unex property group. Cambus will exchange its one-acre site for a much larger section of the former D & H Contractor's site in

Cowley Road. In return Unex will get control of the bus depot virtually next door to the former Heffer's printing works site which they successfully redeveloped as Botanic House, headquarters of Cambridge Electronic Industries, BBC Radio Cambridgeshire and Betjeman House which was subsequently sold for more than £4 million. 84 11 20 p1

1985 04 20
South Cambridgeshire ratepayers can be assured there are no frills or trimmings in the new £2 million council headquarters on Hills Road. The new base is an energy-saving building which will be workmanlike and maintenance-free. There is an air-conditioned council chamber with video facilities that may be rented out for conferences. Bullet-proof glass will increase security. The idea of moving out into a village was rejected as Cambridge was felt to be a central point. But car parking is likely to be a problem with 105 spaces for the 200 staff many of whom will have to park in the streets when councillors are meeting 85 04 20

1985 04 25
A major jobs bonanza is being predicted for Cambridge following a decision to give the green light to a new high-tech development on the outskirts of the city. Up to 750 new jobs may be created at the massive development in Cowley Road where a mixture of high-tech units and warehouses are to be built on the eight-acre site formerly occupied by d & H Contractors. Part of the site will be occupied by Cambus who will move from its Hills Road depot 85 04 25

1985 05 10
Messrs Richard Larkinson Ltd has warehouses and sidings equipped with modern lifting equipment at Station Works, Hills Road to load non-ferrous metal direct on rail wagons. The family originated in Biggleswade dealing in rabbit skins then diversified into household rags using imported labour from the London area. Richard Larkinson started his business in Baldock in 1958, establishing a branch at Cottenham in 1972. Today they purchase and process all grades of scrap and export to Germany in their own company vehicles, returning with wine for their associated company, Fen Vinters Ltd. 85 05 10

1985 08 15
Protest letters against plans for a 'hi-tech-village' near the junction with Hills Road and Brooklands Avenue are flooding into the planning department. Unex Property Group want to build 23 office-research units grouped around a central courtyard with shrubbery and trees together with 169 parking spaces. It means the displacement of E. Pordage, the vegetable wholesalers and the steel staircase company, Crescent of Cambridge. Unex say offices would be better than the existing warehouse and scrapyard. 85 08 15a

1985 09 26
Spillers' new flour packing factory in Station Road is a model of modern efficiency. Combined with the existing Homepride mill it will be capable of producing 20 million packets of flour annually, making it their main processing plant in Britain and enabling cost increases to be kept to a minimum. It is part of a major centralisation plan by Spillers Homepride which is moving its headquarters into Cambridge. 85 09 26

1985 09 27
Cambridge Cattle Market opened 100 years ago. Before 1885 it was held at Castle End but the stalls were inadequate for the number of beasts. Then Jesus College provided land near the railway station. Cattle docks from all four railways were within two minutes' walk and there were direct railway links to Scotland and Ireland. There are still weekly sales of stock, with horse sales every five weeks, but the area nearby that was used for grazing is now the Clifton Industrial

Estate. It is filled with large corrugated boxes housing a wide variety of light industry and a 'Park and Ride' site 85 09 27

1985 10 15
Pigott's, the family ironmongers which has traded in Cambridge for more than a century, is up for sale. It was in 1863 that John Pigott, son of a Landbeach farmer, opened an ironmongers shop in Sidney Street and a chain of shops were set up in Market Hill, Mill Road, Norfolk Street, Bridge Street and Hills Road. The Sussex Street branch, an established feature of the street since the late 1930s, shut down last September. The business, now in Victoria Road, includes two shops, a warehouse, stores and office. 85 10 15a

1985 11 07
Cambridge planners have thrown out three major proposals that would have created 1,500 new jobs for the city. Out went a scheme to build an Asda superstore in the new Cambridge Business Park in Milton Road and out went plans for a big new shopping centre between King's Hedges Road and the northern bypass. Also rejected was a Unex scheme for a giant complex for high-tech research on the site of a disused vegetable warehouse site between Hills Road and Brooklands Avenue. Planners say it left no room for landscaping and minimal room for parking. Appeals will be made against all the decisions. 85 11 07c

1985 12 10
Morley Memorial Primary School has been waiting for improvements since the beginning of the Second World War. It suffers from leaking roofs and a totally inadequate school hall. Now parents fear that the County Council plans to sell property at 100 Blinco Grove for building development. It is densely populated area with virtually no playing space and the school uses the grounds for infants' sports, nature trails and other functions. Parents hope to form an action committee to oppose the suggestion. 85 12 10

1984 04 02
Papworth Hospital, Britain's premier heart transplant centre, is to be replaced by the end of the decade. Health chiefs are considering upgrading the ancient buildings which date back 40 years to TB Isolation days, moving the entire hospital to Hinchingbrooke or rebuilding it on a quite separate site. An earlier suggestion that Papworth could be moved to the Addenbrooke's Hospital site has been put on one side because of the present congestion on the Hills Road site. Its major function is as a heart and chest disease centre, not a heart transplant unit and many of the heart physicians refuse to take part in the transportation programme 86 04 02

1986 12 08
Controversial plans to build a high-tech office block on the site of the old Eastern Counties Bus Station in Hills Road have been given Government approval, despite fierce council opposition. The Stetchworth-based property development company Unex Group can construct a three-storey office block. But alternative proposals for a four-storey block and sheltered housing, scorned by the council as 'a geriatric ghetto', have been dismissed. 86 12 08a

1986 12 16
Hills Road Sixth Form College Ball, which was started by principal Colin Greenhalgh three years ago, was a sell-out. Students donned black ties and fancy gowns and danced until the early hours to the Billy White Band and Tiger Disco. Almost 100 of them had ballroom dancing lessons during school lunchtimes in preparation for the event. The hall was decorated with Christmas holly, balloons and silver paper borrowed from Unigate Dairy with a superb buffet provided by the school meals service 86 12 16

1988 09 14
Mills & Reeve Francis solicitors take over old Cambus depot site, Hills Road 88 09 14 c

1989 05 05
A lifetime's work educating pupils at Morley Memorial primary school was rewarded when the former headmistress laid a foundation stone for a new £500,000 building project. Miss Dorothy Hurst, who retired as head two years ago after 35 years teaching at the school, laid the stone in the walls of a new school hall for the 420 pupils in Blinco Grove. The project also includes a community room, two new classrooms and major improvements to the school. Work should be completed in time for its 90th anniversary in January next year 89 05 05a

1989 06 24
Radical plans for Cambridge's Station Road area could help the chronic housing crisis. Nearly 400 houses, 35 bedsits and 52 flats could be constructed together with 897 new car parking spaces and leisure facilities. The measures would alleviate chronic traffic problems caused by commercial development and some existing businesses such as Spillers, Charringtons and Ridgeons might be asked to move out to more suitable sites. They are generally unattractive, out of scale and out of character with the area, councillors say 89 06 24

1989 11 02
A high proportion of the 5,500 patients on the books of a small practice in Hills Road are elderly but they may be squeezed out by government plans to pay doctors by the number of patients they attract. Young, healthy bodies will be more profitable than older, unhealthy ones which are much more time-consuming, one GP says. Surgeries with older patients would also lose one-off payments covering immunisation, contraception or cervical smears. "It has got very political and it's a shame", she says 89 11 02a

1990 01 25
Today's squatters are usually the young and single who do not qualify to go on council housing waiting lists. But after the war couples with children occupied empty houses in Jesus Lane and Parkside that had been requisitioned by the army. Then one family moved into Nissen huts in the grounds of a house in Hills Road and another into a four-storey property in Portugal Place. From then on more huts or houses were occupied daily. Then pre-fabricated steel houses were erected in Lichfield Road and Trumpington. They were meant to be temporary but some were lived in until the 1970s - 90 01 25c

1990 02 15
The Junction, Cambridge's long-awaited new venue centre got off to a flying start. DJ John Peel cut his way through yards of studio tape wrapped all the way round the hexagonal building in Clifton Road. Riots four years ago highlighted the lack of facilities for younger people. The Junction – with its 400 seater auditorium, exhibition space, café-car and rehearsal rooms – was the city council's response. It is Britain's first purpose-built music and arts centre for young people. 90 02 14b, c. Laser-light show – 90 02 15e

1990 03 14
Unex group has produced details of its big new development, Intercity House, on the former Pordage distribution site at the corner of Brooklands Avenue and Hills Road. It will offer air-conditioned offices with crèche, restaurant and gymnasium together with 301 car parking spaces. The windows will be high-performance anodised aluminium and the scheme will reflect the style and quality of the Victorian Royal Albert Almshouses across the road – 90 03 14 Waits outfitters

celebrates centenary, opened Cutter and Tailor at 70 Hills Road 1890, moved 49 Hills Road 1936 with other branches – 90 09 28c

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Coronation Street 1964 259.73

c.44.6 : Hills Road 'New Town' area - Lensfield Road to Brooklands Avenue

Includes Bateman Street, Brooklands Avenue, Botanic Garden, Brookside, Coronation Street, Cheshunt College, Lensfield Road, Norwich Street, Perse Girls, Russell Place, Russell Street, St Eligius Street, Union Road

1897 06 21
Such has been the general progress during the Victorian era that it is difficult from the point of view of today to recall the Cambridge of 1837. In the year of her Majesty's accession but few houses stood on the marshy spot which we now know as the populous district of New Town. There were a few residents in Newnham and some scattered dwellings in the neighbourhood of New-square while beyond on the Newmarket-road lay Barnwell of historic note. Chesterton, as a part of Cambridge, was confined to the outgrowth of the town in the neighbourhood of Castle Hill and a plan of the town stops short at the Mill-road corner of Parker's Piece. In 1837 the population would be about 21,000. Recently it has been estimated at over 50,000.

1897 07 23 c
The annual show in connection with the Mill Road, Barnwell and New Town Amateur Gardeners' Association has long been one of the most popular attractions of the summer months. The competition in vegetables was keen among the cottagers' classes. As for amusement at first- class bill of fare was provided for the holiday-makers who began to stream into the building later on in the day

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1899 02 19 c
Sir the very narrow escape of a highly respectable burgess from death through the fall of a high wall in Union Road should sound a note of alarm. There are several high walls in the centre of Cambridge towering up to great heights that are standing very much on the skew, ready for falling which would be much improved by a lowering process. Cambridge is a town noted for many bye-laws, good, bad and indifferent, which can be twisted to suit all occasions when brought into requisition – "Cantab"

1899 06 17
New Town Motor Company advert, p1

1899 08 08
The holiday season is now in full swing and, taking advantage of it, the burglar is busy at his nefarious profession. There are rumours that sever of these well-known "gentlemen" have paid of their periodical visits to Cambridge and have commenced operations. There has been a report of the mysterious perambulations of burglars in the vicinity of Brooklands Avenue. At any rate the movement of strangers in that district have given rise to suspicion

1900

1900 03 07
The ire of the undergraduate once roused, not even the powerful hand of Alma Mater suffices to entirely quell the wrath that has been kindled. An attacking force of undergraduates gathered many recruits as it made its way along Hills Road and it was at once seen that the objective was the Mayor's residence in Brooklands Avenue. They were dismayed to find the thoroughfare barricaded by a posse of police constables. The mob made a bold rush. The police partially yielded but not more than half of the 'Varsity flank passed through the cordon when the police closed ranks. The trap that had been set proved effective for those who marched triumphantly down the Avenue had not negotiated more than fifty yards when they were encountered by the Proctors mustered in strong force.

1902 05 31
New Town Cycles adv, p1

1902 11 17
A serious accident occurred at Hyde Park Corner, Cambridge. Two horse attached to a farm cart became restive when passing a flock of sheep and dashed off at great speed in the direction of the shelter at the corner of Lensfield Road. An old man who was crossing the road was knocked down and considerably injured. The cart came violently into contact with the shelter, the railings around the entrance to the public convenience were dislodged and the stonework supporting them broken in several places.

1903 07 21
Smallpox Scare. The Stetchworth Dairies beg to inform our numerous patrons that the utmost precaution is being taken to protect them during the prevailing epidemics, the Dairies being under strict medical supervision. The working staff are being vaccinated. Eucalyptus Soap, specially manufactured by the Castle Soap Company, Castle Works, Cambridge, is one of the surest means to prevent contagion. Petrol Preparations keep off infection; order through your chemist or apply to Petrol, Limited, Union Road, Cambridge. – Adverts

1903 09 17
Lensfield Rd tree, p3

1904 01 02
Laurence Humphry, physician, was summoned for not clearing the footway in front of his house known as Lensfield, on Lensfield Road, Cambridge. The pavement had been covered with leaves which fell chiefly from a tree in the doctor's garden so a constable called and told him it was in a dangerous condition. However the Corporation had erected a fence separating his land from the highway; his premises adjoined the fence but did not adjoin the footpath. He had another frontage to Panton Street and swept the pavement there.

1905 07 08
Mr Hutchinson of Brooklands Avenue attached a pair of natural wings to a swinging balance and actuated them by means of an electric motor in the way in which a bird's wings move. Encouraged by the experiments he constructed a larger machine with wings of 60 feet square, the power being supplied by a petrol cycle engine. The results are encouraging but no actual attempt at unrestrained flight has been attempted due to the probability of an unpremeditated decent. Were it to be exhibited at the Mammoth Show what a 'draw' it would be. 05 07 08b

1905 10 06
Cheshunt College opened its doors to theological students without any ceremonial. It was founded in 1768 by Selina, the Countess of Huntingdon, and is strictly undenominational. It moved to Cheshunt in 1792 where it was recognised by the University of London and has now transferred to Cambridge. Houses in Cintra Terrace, Hills Road, have been adapted for the 15 students; most will become members of the University and read for degrees. 05 10 06

1906 03 08
Licencing: White Horse Coronation Street 06 03 08c & d

1906 09 08
Many residents have been plagued by the clouds of dust raised by motor cars and other traffic. Dust-destroying measures have usually involved evil-smelling solutions but now Cambridge is to experiment by pouring boiling tar over the surface of Hills Road and sprinkling it with granite chips. The section chosen where the wood paving ends near Brooklands Avenue, but it carries heavy traffic and is constantly watered so the new surface may peel off. 06 09 08c

1906 10 25
Cambridge Library committee recommended that a branch reading room be opened in a room in St Paul's Institute, Coronation Street. But Prof Sorley said a reading room supplied people with ephemeral newspapers and magazines, it did not supply literary, technical, scientific or reference works and the central library did not have the works it should have. However it would prevent a great deal of loafing about in the streets which was productive of crime. 06 10 25b

1906 12 31
New Town reading room, p3

1907 01 02
A warm well-lighted room in St Paul's Institute New Town was opened as a reading room. There was a collection of current literature ready for the first arrivals who drew chairs to the tables and took advantage of the comfort and facilities provided. The Free Library was one of the most

popular institutions in Cambridge, ten years ago a branch was established at Mill Road with other reading rooms at Castle End and East Road. 07 01 02 & 2a

1908 07 10
Fire damaged the Christadelphian Hall in Coronation Street, Cambridge, but fortunately the harmonium was not injured to any great extent. Another fire which broke out at Hale's Farm, Haverhill is believed to have been caused by the heat of the sun. During the afternoon the sun's rays had been extremely hot, the roof of the shed, under the slates was boarded and during the last winter had been stocked with stover. CWN 08 07 10 p2

1908 11 06
The women candidates for Cambridge borough councillors have quickened interest in the recent elections. All though the day rumours of the arrival of the Pankhurst brigade were flying about with speculation that 50 militant females had arrived from London, but nobody saw any suffragettes. The crowd expressed their pleasure in cheers when it was announced that both the lady candidates, Miss Kennedy who stood in New Town and Miss Philpott who stood in Petersfield, had been defeated.
CWN 08 11 06 p3

1908 12 18
Last week two persons were summoned for riding cycles on the footpaths in Brooklands Avenue, one being discharged and the other fined half-a-crown. It is contended by some that the Avenue is a private road, as evidence of which they point to the gate which stands at one end. If it is so what powers have the magistrates to convict? One explanation is that the footpath on the north side of the Avenue is a public footpath and it was on this that the defendants were riding. If so why does the path remain a perfect quagmire throughout the winter? CWN 08 12 18

1909 03 05
Licencing: White Horse in Coronation Street CWN 09 03 05

1909 03 12
Thomas Adkins of Musgrave Farm, Fen Ditton carried on a butcher's business in Norwich Street for 30 years. He was well-known at the Cattle Market and was one of the judges at the Christmas Fat Stock sales. His death at the age of 61 came as a surprise, as he usually enjoyed excellent health. About a month ago, however, he broke a blood vessel and in spite of constant and skilful medical attention he died. 09 03 12

1909 07 30
Mr S.G. Wilkinson of Brooklands Avenue said that when he called in tradesmen the builder had a Scotch foreman, the electric light foremen were Scotch, the electric bells were muddled by two Englishmen and finally put right by a Scotsman! Cambridge men would be quite content to live on the dole and would exist in discomfort rather than exert themselves over much. Most lived for the enjoyment of the next pleasure. The fair, the excursion, the treat, the Hippodrome, the sweet shop or the public house was the matter of chief moment to them. CWN 09 07 30

1909 12 03
Lacon's brewery should receive £143 in compensation for the closure of the Red Lion public house at Orwell, and £325 for the White Horse in Coronation Street. CWN 09 12 03

1910

1910 02 04
Licencing – White Horse Coronation Street – 10 02 04e & f

1912 03 08
A mock funeral started from the "corpse's" lodging in Lensfield Road. There was a long line of taxis, hansoms and even four-wheelers stretching some distance down Trumpington Street. There was no elaborate "hearse" as in previous funerals: the body was placed quite simply in a hansom bearing the words "Alas! My poor brother" and smoked cigars throughout. His "cabby's" hat was draped with crepe while the majority of the fancifully-dressed mourned wore complimentary black-eyes out of respect for the 'deceased'. There were an extraordinary number of "flappers" – quite stunning flappers some of them were too. One of the best was a suffragette and Mrs Pankhurst also figured in the procession. 12 03 08

1912 05 24
Mrs H. Bonnett of Lensfield Road has offered to build, equip and endow a Clinical Laboratory for the benefit of Addenbrooke's Hospital as a memorial to her son, the late Mr John Bonnett, who was for many years secretary and legal adviser to the Hospital and one of its most earnest advocates and supporters. It is not often that such a generous, one might almost say princely, benefaction is offered for such an invaluable object. It is a most generous gift at a time when the Governors are about to decide on plans for a new Children's Ward and out-patients' department. 12 05 24f

1912 10 04
Brooklands Avenue residents happy to repair road once council makes decision about scheme for including it as part of a thoroughfare from Newnham Croft to Hills Road - 12 10 04b

1912 12 20
Brooklands Avenue is a private road with a gate at the Trumpington Road end, which is sometimes closed, though one footpath, it is claimed, is a public path. Part of the road is invariably in a disgraceful state of repair and during bad weather is little better than a quagmire with mud up to one's ankles. Yet if a cyclist, to avoid the ruts and filth, takes to the public footpath he is liable to be pounced upon by a policeman. The road connects up Trumpington and Cherry Hinton, important parts of the extended Borough, and should be taken over by the Corporation. 12 12 20c

1913 01 24
Brooklands Avenue making up

1913 03 14
Cambridge pubs – Norwich Street – Norwich Arms

1913 03 14
Cheshunt College proposed new building

1913 04 25
Cheshunt College foundation stone to be laid

1913 05 02
Star Brewery sue for rent for the Oak, Lensfield Rd

1913 06 13

The foundation stone of the new Cheshunt College buildings in Bateman Street was laid by the Lord Chancellor. The college was formed in 1768 by Selina Countess of Huntingdon to prepare men for evangelistic work and its students can enter any church. It moved to Hills Road Cambridge in 1905 and is now attached to the University. Most of its students take the Theological Tripos. A number have risen to eminence as missionaries in the foreign field 13 06 13

1913 11 07
Cheshunt college progress

1913 12 12
Miss Street was appointed the first headmistress of the Perse when the school opened in January 1881 and retired in July 1909. She was signally successful: the numbers rising from 16 to 206. That was before the founding of the Girls' County School and then there was a slight decrease 13 12 12 p5 CIP

1913 12 26
There were people who did not like the Catholic school on Union Road and wanted to turn the Catholics out so they could bring people in to teach anything but the Faith for which it had been built. If parents rallied the school could be retained. But every child taken away was a power and interest lost future. How could anyone say the school was not efficient: they had never had a set of boys so nicely behaved and intelligent? Every parent ought to be proud to say their children went there, Monsignor Scott said at prize giving. 13 12 26 p6 CIP

1914 06 19
If Chaucer Road was a newly-made road the council would not allow the owners to build until they had made the road up to the required standard. But if the residents wanted to keep the road private and did not want water and the other benefits of civilisation they had a right to keep as they were, one councillor said. Owners had petitioned against council plans to have the road made up. But in Grange Road, Brooklands Avenue and Selwyn Gardens householders had paid and it was unfair to treat one set of ratepayers differently from another 14 06 19 p3

1914 07 24
Cheshunt College to open October

1914 09 18
Cheshunt college formal opening cancelled

1914 11 27
The Hospitality Committee for Belgian refugees has equipped four houses in which 55 refugees have been accommodated. They are 'Scotsdale' on Grantchester Rd where a Flemish priest has been lodged with nine members of his family and 'South House' Barton Road which houses 14 members of doctor's family. A young lace maker and a family of eight from Louvain lodges at No.4 West View Newnham while at No.11 Brookside there are 22 refugees from Malines and Ostend. In Regent Street a studio has been converted into a fair-sized reading room where Dutch, French and English papers are supplied. * & p5 14 11 27

1915 02 05
Cheshunt College. The dedication of new building's at Cheshunt College, Cambridge, took place on Tuesday afternoon. A service was held in the Lecture Room, and an address was given by the Rev. Principal Selbie. The total cost of the buildings, apart from the cost of the land, including all

expenses, is just over £18,000 and the total donations paid and those promised amount to £14,500. 15 02 05

1916 03 08
Licensing sessions – King's Arms, Union Rd; Horse & Gate, Victoria Rd; Cross Keys, Saxon St; Swan & Pool, New St. – all referred – 16 03 08a

1918 02 13
Borough licences; closure Horse & Gate on Victoria Rd; King's Arms Union Road, Swan Pool in New Street – 18 02 13a

1918 05 22
Rook shooting in Brookside and Brooklands Avenue – photos – 18 05 22b

1920

1920 02 11
Cheap cottages in Coronation St, New Street auctioned – 20 02 11c

1922 03 11
Brooklands Avenue Inquiry. It was an attempt to make a road from Hills-road to Trumpington-road. At present the greater part of the Avenue was open but it was in regard to the smaller part at the Trumpington-road end that the application was made. At the present time there was a gate fastened there and kept locked by the owner. He understood that people going to houses in the Avenue were allowed to go though and he could understand that the gentleman would like to keep it a quiet place. Personally he would oppose it if he lived there.

1922 05 06
My readers will learn with great regret that Brooklands Avenue (Cambridge) with its countless romantic associations appears to be fore-doomed to destruction. The beautiful trees which provide the leafy tunnel which for generations has been so much admired are elms, and elms have an unpleasant habit of dismembering themselves with age. A good many of the trees must come down at once, as they are in such a decayed state to be liable to split and fall without warning

1922 07 22
The prospect of a serious deficiency at the Botanic Garden is almost a certainty; it is expected to be about £1,362. A suggestion has been made that the public should be charged a small fee for admission, but there is a natural objection to adopting this course, the garden having been open so long and so extensively used by the public. A suggested alternative is that the garden should close at 5.30. A further proposal is that the principal greenhouses should be closed and their contents sold. Something will have to be done. The Garden practically ranks as a public park. We are in danger of losing that park

1922 10 03
Sir, I wish to call attention to the great nuisance and obstruction caused by the bicycles outside the Perse School in Panton Street, Cambridge. At about 10 minutes to 9 there must be at least a score of girls waiting, every one with her cycle facing the door and blocking the pavement. Surely the doors could be opened earlier, or else the scholars could be made to form up properly in a queue round Union road – A ratepayer

1925 01 31

Brooklands Avenue trees, p6

1925 04 09
Two attempts were made to stop an armed motorist who broke into Daisley's shop at Coronation Street, Cambridge, & stole a quantity of chocolates, cigarettes etc. A car travelling at high speed was seen by a constable at Bishop's Stortford. Shortly after PC Dodson of Harlow police station was notified of the approach of the car. Dashing out of the police station in his pyjamas he stood in the middle of the road and signalled the car to stop. It continued its course and the constable had to jump very quickly out of the way.

1926 01 18
Sir – Years ago the owners and residents of Brookside, Cambridge, planned and built their houses. Naturally these men were entirely ignorant of the future introduction and rapid growth of motor traffic and innocently planned their property to the main road in the form of a large parking place. Necessity soon decided that man should chose sites as parking places for stationery traffic to shelter from danger, load and unload etc, out of the busy road. Now an avaricious council espied the large ready-made parking place and coveted it, causing its lawful owners such 'nuisance' as will eventually drive them from their homes. – Sympathetic Ratepayer

1926 01 23
"I want to remind you that the Labour Party is not a party of Bolshevists, or Communists, or Anarchists, or anything like that. Most of us are simple, honest, straightforward men and women. We have absolute confidence that our party is the part of the future", said Major Freyer at a well-attended meeting organised by New Town Ward Labour Party. He added: "I can assure you that the Liberals and Conservatives on Cambridge Town Council are practically the same." He believed the essential services such as water, gas and electric power, and transport should be community-owned.

1926 05 11
The Recorder gave his judgement on the appeal of residents of Brookside, Cambridge, against the council's order authorising part of Trumpington Road as a parking place. They anticipated noise from the vehicles and their attendants who would gaze into their windows. They also thought it would be used for charabancs and omnibuses. Having heard the evidence and visited the spot he was satisfied that the fears are to a great extent groundless

1928 06 05
The first paid Marconigram was transmitted on June 3rd, 30 years ago. It was sent by Lord Kelvin who was visiting Senatore Marconi's experimental wireless station on the Isle of Wight. In order to illustrate his belief in its commercial future, Lord Kelvin insisted upon paying one shilling for a wireless telegram to be sent to Sir George Stokes at Lensfield Cottage, Union Road, Cambridge.

1928 11 10 c
An explosion in Lensfield Road, Cambridge brought people to their doors and it was seen that the cover of a large manhole in the pavement had been blown into the air and flung on the roadway where it had smashed. Fortunately there was no one near at the time and no personal injury. Even a horse standing by attached to a milk cart was untouched and apparently unperturbed by the untoward happening. The manhole contains GPO telephone cables; two employees were at work at a smaller manhole, about 80 yards away. They were applying a blowlamp when the explosion took place; it is thought the two manholes are connected and the flame must have ignited gas.

1928 12 06
For some time Cambridge bowlers have felt the present facilities were not attractive enough and they ran the risk of losing fixtures with first-class counties because of the state of the greens. Now an anonymous donor has offered a lease on ground in Brooklands Avenue; it would not require a great deal of levelling. The act was one of extraordinary generosity and should allow the formation of Cumberland turf greens and other sporting attractions.

1929 06 14
Brooklands Avenue bowls, p7

1930

1930 11 04
In a quiet street in Cambridge, a very charming old lady celebrates her 100th birthday. She is Mrs Howes, widow of the late John Howes head of the bicycle firm in Regent Street. She comes of a long-lived family. She was born in Coronation Street. Her father, John Galley, a reader at the Pitt Press, lived to the age of 86 and her mother to 80. She has still living four sons and three daughters, 23 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Her memory is still good and she has vivid memories of her girlhood. She was present at the dinner on Parker's Piece to celebrate Queen Victoria's coronation, when her father was one of the carvers. 30 11 04b

1930 12 16
Miss M.H. Catley, headmistress of the Perse High School for Girls, took her degree at Oxford and came to Cambridge in 1926. She is with all her heart and all her desire, a trainer of girls. The keynote to her success is her understanding of youth – she is herself barely out of this category. She takes full part in sports and is an enthusiastic Girl Guide. There is still a long vista of years ahead of her and her success will be reaped when the young girls she is today training have themselves come to maturity. 30 12 16

1931 07 17
An undergraduate rag in celebration of examination success let to two young army officers appearing in court charged with the theft of coloured lenses and other fittings belonging to traffic lights on the corner of Lensfield Road. They were of no conceivable value except as a trophy. One was the son of a distinguished soldier in the Coldstream Guards killed at Arras during the war. If convicted it would have a grave effect on his army career. The case was dismissed. 31 07 17b & c

1933 02 11
An amazing criminal record in Canada and America, including safe blowing and the theft of bombs, and sentences among which was one of 30 years' imprisonment, were revealed against an Ashwell man who stood in the dock at Cambridge Police Court. He had been deported from Canada and America three times. The prisoner, a carpenter lodging in Norwich Street, was found with twelve £5 notes and a bunch of skeleton keys. He was sent to prison for three months. 33 02 11 & a

1933 05 06
There is a good deal of interest in the building operations in progress at the corner of Lensfield Road. It is for the Scott Polar Research Institute which has been based in a house at the corner of Panton Street since 1925. The new building, designed by Sir Herbert Baker and being built by Messrs Sindall, should be completed next year. 35 05 06a & b

1933 05 19
Sir – the gravel footpath from Brooklands Avenue along Hobson's River up Empty Common has long been known as Finch's Walk. But how did it get its name? Some people call it Senior Wranglers' Walk and connect it with the name of the Rev G.B. Finch who was Senior Wrangler in 1857. But he never mentioned that he had anything to do with it. In an 1834 deed relating to the Hobson's Conduit Trust there is mention of two trustees called Charles Finch, one of whom died in 1762, who had a foundry and ironworks in Thompson's Lane – W.D. Bushell. 33 05 19b

1933 07 07
The Carlton public house in Lensfield Road owned by Lacons brewery had seen an increase in trade following the Budget decrease. There had been no complaints about the tenant, Edward Bettesworth, who was getting a living and wanted to retain it. Its licence was renewed but not those of the Coach and Horses on Newnham Road or the Alhambra on East Road where there were five other pubs within 220 yards and the trade was decreasing. 33 07 07 p12

1933 11 18
Perse school extension – 33 11 18

1934 11 17
Perse School extensions opened by Stanley Baldwin – 34 11 17b

1935 08 02
The foundation stone of the new Roman Catholic Schools in Union Road was laid by the Bishop of Northampton. Such schools were almost as important as churches. Catholics cannot be satisfied with a sort of elementary Christian faith: their children must be taught as soon as they are able to read and understand. Cambridge Catholics would have to make very considerable sacrifices: more than £8,000 would be required when the new schools were completed. 35 08 02

1936 06 22
The landlord of The Oak in Lensfield Road was awakened by a terrible crash which shook the whole property. He found a Winston Smith van imbedded in the woodwork. It had been crossing the junction with Regent Street and Hills Road at about 4 a.m. when another van ran into it swinging it right round and smashing it backwards into the wooden wall of the pub. At this time of the morning the traffic lights are off and it is against the law to sound a horn or hooter. 36 06 22

1936 09 25
The opening and blessing of the new Roman Catholic Schools and Hall at Union Road, Cambridge, presented a picturesque spectacle of stately ceremonial. In the morning Archbishop Goodier preached following a Pontifical High Mass in the Church of Our Lady when the glory of mauve and splendour of gold vestments stood out vividly among the black cassocks and white surplices. The new buildings were opened and blessed in the afternoon whilst the Roswitha Players from London gave the first stage show at the new Houghton Hall in the evening. 36 09 24b 36 09 25a

1937 02 06
The Star Brewery applied for the transfer of a licence from the Crown and Compasses in Coronation Street to a new 'Vine' pub in Vinery Way. There had been 817 new houses nearby and many residents supported the application. But several residents thought it would devalue their property and Mr Skeel, who has an off-licences in Vinery Road, opposed it. Greene King also wanted to erect 'The Running Footman' in Coldham's Lane opposite Brooks Road. It would be

open at all times for the sale of teas and would have a Cumberland turf bowling green. Both were refused. 37 02 06b

1937 02 27
The Cambridge Light Car Company opened premises in Hills Road about six years ago as Used Car Showrooms. The business rapidly increased and within two years the management found it necessary to take larger garage premises in Norwich Street for car storage and repairs. They were appointed distributors for the now famous High-class Triumph cars that have come rapidly to the fore during the last four seasons. They are also Morris deals and stock Standard, Austin and other popular makes of car 37 02 27

1937 12 22
"Mr Clark", the canary that called 'Time!' at the Spread Eagle, Lensfield Road, was suffocated to death by smoke when fire broke out in the saloon bar. He had been an affectionately regarded inhabitant of the pub for some eight years. His almost human intelligence made his cage hanging from the bar ceiling a frequent centre of attraction. The bird was alive when rescued but although given brandy was too overcome by smoke to recover. The fire was caused by Christmas decorations accidentally catching fire 37 12 22b

1938 05 02
Charles Daisley, a library assistant of Coronation Street, was injured when the aeroplane he was piloting crashed at Quy. He was practising forced landings when the two-seater, of which he was the sole occupant, landed in a field and tipped sidewards. The front cockpit was damaged by the engine being forced into it. He was in the rear cockpit but sustained a broken nose and concussion. He was one of the first to join the RAF Volunteer Reserve when they started training in Cambridge a few months ago and was doing part of his 15 days' annual training. 38 05 02b

1938 12 24
Lombary Poplar by Catholic church was planted by Julian Skrine in his garden at 'Lensfield' the grounds of which extended to where Catholic Church now stands; has photo of garden showing windmill in Mill Road. 38 12 24b

1940

1941 01 16
East Anglian town's miniature fire blitz. Famous public school [Perse] damaged 41 01 16, a,b,c Perse school treasures saved after fire destroyed library and classrooms. The shields which hung around the walls, the War Memorial and the portrait of Dr Rouse survived – 41 02 15a, 41 02 20b

1942 09 04
Death of Solicitor. Many people in Cambridge will learn with regret of the death of Mr. H. F. Shaw, which occurred on Sunday after a long illness, at his home at 54, Lensfield Road. A well-known and much respected figure, Mr. Shaw had practised as a solicitor in the town since just after the last war. He was 50 years of age. During the last war he lost the sight of an eye while serving in the 12th Suffolk Regiment, and very shortly afterwards came up to Christ's College to study law. He took his M.A. and Ll.B. degrees and studied practical law for some time under Mr. Guy Stanley. Later he be-came a partner in the firm, and for the past 18 month, since the retirement of Mr. Stanley, had been in sole charge. In 1936 he was appointed Clerk to the Cambridge County Petty Sessions at the Shire Hail. In the Borough he was a frequent prosecutor for the police, and also instructed many counsel for the Crown at Assizes

1944 01 21
Awarded Military Medal. Trooper E. D. Smith has been awarded the Military Medal. He is the only son of Mrs. and the late Mr. Jesse Smith, of 20 Queen's Meadow, Cherry Hinton. Before being called up he was employed by Messrs Hallock and Bond at their warehouse in Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge.

1944 04 03
YWCA Hostel in Lensfield Road opened – two roomy houses standing side by side; the old hostel in Rose Crescent outgrown; many hundreds had stayed in earlier years of the war. Can now accommodate 65 service women; 1,400, including Land Army have stayed. 44 04 03

1946 09 10
Squatters 38 Lensfield Rd which requisitioned and used as extension of the YWCA hostel next door; photo of military policeman guarding wire-barricaded huts on Donkey Common, making sure ATS do not get any squatter neighbours – 46 09 10

1946 11 04
Miss M.H. Catley, headmistress of Perse for 20 years, resigns; numbers had increased from 284 to 486 – 46 11 04

1947 07 22 c
The death occurred at the Catholic Nursing Home in Brooklands Avenue of Mr Edmund Joseph Kett who has been ill for the past week. Mr Kett who was 85, was a partner in the firm of Messrs Rattee and Kett, builders and contractors where he started as a boy immediately on leaving school. He retired from the firm in 1925 when the business became a limited company. During his time with the firm he was responsible for the building of the Cambridge Catholic Church and was also connected with the restoration of Arundel Castle, the Duke of Norfolk's country seat. This took 16 years to complete

1947 11 17
The S.O.S. Society's Boys' Hostel at Winston House, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge was officially opened in the presence of a large audience, including magistrates from the surrounding district. Lord Huntingfield spoke its work in relation to its care for boys who had either come into contact with Probation Officers or had homes that were not particularly desirable. He commented "Youth, being what it is, does not always recognise the laws of the grown-ups and they are inclined to do things which bring them into conflict with the long arm of the law. These are the kind of boys taken in here and looked after".

1948 05 05
The experience of being stranded in a strange town, with nowhere to stay, is particularly unpleasant for young women. There must be many who, stranded in this way in Cambridge, have heard themselves being directed to the Bene't Hostel for Women which exists to provide such shelter. The hostel was started in Brooklands Avenue in 1943 to meet a wartime need and during the last year of hostilities 1,060 applications were received and the total number occupying beds was 8,265. Its continuing need being proved, a house was later bought at 1, Drosier Road where an average of 21 beds have been occupied nightly ever since

1949 03 30
Juvenile delinquency is very much in the news at the moment, and the problem of how to check it is increasingly occupying the attention of social workers. An experiment in this direction is being conducted in Cambridge at “Winston House”, Brooklands Avenue. Here, boys in between 14 and

17, who have been in their first trouble, are given a chance to make good by making them happy members of a little family, providing useful outlets for their mental and physical energy and helping them to make right friendships and get a sense of responsibility and self-respect.

1949 08 11
Sitting in the bar of the Jolly Brewers in Union Rd, Cambridge, Jasper Maskelyne, the famous magician who is appearing at the New Theatre, saw the landlord take up his banjo and prepare to play. "When I heard how well he could play I decided he was certainly good enough for the stage", he said. As a result the licensee, Mr Percy Jackson, will appear at the first house on Friday night and may be heard later over the radio. Mr Jackson strummed and sang a popular Western number and showed that his skill is well worth a wider audience than that of his bar, crowded though that gets when he leads a singsong on Saturday nights.

1950

1950 01 27
Brooklands Avenue trees, p9

1950 04 03
The death of Dr Alexander Wood, University don and distinguished townsman, has robbed Cambridge of one of its best-known public figures. He stood as Labour candidate for Cambridge University in 1929 and for Cambridge in 1931, 34 & 35. He represented Labour in the fight for the New Town ward in the Cambridge borough elections in 1925 and was defeated. Elected next year there followed an unbroken period of service until 1945 when he was made an Alderman. For the last 10 years he was chairman of the Cambridge housing committee & worked tirelessly to ease living conditions in Cambridge. He often confessed publicly his sense of the great responsibility he held.

1951 04 18
Seventy-one year Mr Robert O'dell went to the Ministry of Labour offices in Brooklands Avenue, in response to instructions to go for a Z Reserve medical examination. Mr O'dell – Bowie as he is widely known in Cambridge, where he has a greengrocery business – was rather surprised to get the instruction, as he has never been in the army. He was told it was all a mistake. "I asked about my expenses for travelling and lost time", he said.

1951 11 21
There is an air of excitement at the Perse School for Girls as their new hall is growing day-by-day in the school grounds to replace the ramshackled wooden building – two Army huts knocked into one – which has served the school since 1918. The Headmistress, Miss M.A. Scott says that many responsible for the building have family connections. It will not only be a place for morning assembly and prayers but will be used for various lessons & for recreation during the dinner hour The school is working hard to help pay for it and girls are doing all sorts of odd jobs, including running errands, baby sitting, darning socks and stockings, washing up and saving bus fares by walking to school.

1953 06 03
The special prize of £5 for the best decorated private house competition in Cambridge was won by Mrs M. O'Dell of Staffordshire Street who beat her nearest rival, Mr A.A. Cox of Victoria Road by one point. The standard was high and points awarded for each ward were very close. Winners included: Abbey Ward Mr R. Runham of Wellington Street; Castle: Miss J. Bowers,

Windsor Road; Coleridge: Mr Blows, Cherryhinton Road; Cherry Hinton: Mr R. Abraham, Chalmers Road and Market Mr W.G.D. Clee of Union Road.

1953 07 03
Botanic Garden expansion, p9

1953 08 04
To the everyday passer-by the tall stately elm trees in Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge, give the impression of being sound and sturdy. But some have now been cut down and it can be seen that sections of their trunks are hollow! Six have been taken down and there are a further 20 which have serious defects and decay. It was in April 1950 that the City Council decided to remove all the trees and replant the Avenue with new ones, but owing to public opinion the decision was reversed. If the present disease continues it will not be many years before most of the common elm trees in Cambridge have been removed.

1953 08 29
The Eastern Region Food Office is to cease to function in Cambridge after 14 years. It opened in Corpus Christi College at the beginning of the war and remained there until November 1945 when it moved to its present offices in Brooklands Avenue. In December 1946 the Essex and Hertfordshire region was also brought under Cambridge

1953 12 28
At Winston House Boys' Hostel, Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge each lad had presents sent from "Fairy Godmothers" who invited a number of them for dinner. For those who remained there was roast chicken and Christmas pudding. At The Grange Children's' Home, Swavesey the children hopefully hung up their stockings at the foot of the bed and on awaking found they had been filled. There was no shortage of presents at the Little Shelford Children's' Home, partly due to the generosity of the American servicemen station in the vicinity. An American 'Father Christmas' arrived from Wimpole Park bringing tennis racquets, bagatelle, darts, dolls and tea sets.

1954 07 19
The Minister has approved a western by-pass for Cambridge using the northern leg of Storeys Way and a link from Barton Road through Chaucer Road to Trumpington Road. There will be a road from the end of Brooklands Avenue across the railway sidings and joining Station Road opposite the end of Tenison Road. This means it will be possible eventually to have a complete ring road near the centre of the city.

1955 09 06
One of the finest clubrooms for civil servants opened next door to the bowling green in Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge. It is within easy reach of the officer and membership is one-penny a week. It would enhance the civil service's reputation for high standards of integrity and once members entered they should completely forget about rank. 55 09 06

1956 05 05
Britain is on the brink of war. Enemy forces are massed against us and it appears only a matter of hours that the first attack of World War Three will come. Although the man in the street is unaware of it the Army and Civil Defence are taking part in the biggest defence exercise the world has yet seen. It envisages evacuation of 800,000 people from London and authorities have joined together in the war room at Brooklands Avenue to assess the situation. 56 05 05a

1956 05 07
Biggest combined Civil Defence and military operation seen anywhere – co-ordinated from Brooklands Avenue – 56 05 07

1956 11 22
Several hundred civil servants at Brooklands Avenue will be out of work as a result of the Government's decision to close down this regional centre. Nine departments will be affected and only a very small nucleus will be retained at the site. It is more economic to have them operate from London. Cambridge sprang up as a Regional Centre during the last war. 56 11 22

1956 11 29
Preparation for petrol rationing began in mid-November and thousands of applications for supplementary rations are arriving at the Ministry of Fuel and Power at Brooklands Avenue. Local garages say there has been little panic buying as most motorists already have their tanks full and merely call in for the odd gallon to remain topped up. But when rationing is introduced garages will only be able to obtain supplies on production of coupons handed to them by customers. Should a garage run out of petrol they will have to go without for as long as the rationing continues. 56 11 29 a & b

1957 02 08
The National Industrial Fuel Efficiency Service at Brooklands Avenue has doubled its strength since 1954 and has now moved to Queen Anne Terrace. It was set up to investigate the tremendous amount of waste of fuel through poorly insulated buildings or by untrained stokers. They help bring industrial plants up to high standards of fuel utilisation enabling savings of 15 per cent during 1955-56. 57 02 08

1957 04 16
The central island containing the underground public convenience at Hyde Park Corner is to be removed to make way for new traffic signals. The toilets might be resited on Lensfield Road where trees and a fence will provide a screen from the Scott Polar Research Institute. But the University suggests that Parker's Piece would be a better location. 57 04 16a

1957 07 17
Cambridgeshire Women's Bowling Association was founded in 1937. Now their new flag in the County colours of light and dark blue and old gold was hoisted for the first time at a bowls drive at Brooklands Avenue to celebrate its 21st anniversary. 57 07 17

1957 11 18
Bus stop near Brooklands Avenue is a danger – claim – 57 11 18

1958 05 30
One of the most outstanding features of the Botanic Garden is the new rock garden by the lake. Designed and built by the staff it is composed of Westmorland limestone and sandstone from Sussex so that plants which enjoy both these conditions may flourish. The limestone section is not yet completed but one can see the many alpine treasures which grow at its edge. 58 05 30a

1958 09 24
Miss Mary Cattley was Headmistress of the Perse School for Girls from 1926-1947. She introduced the house system, saw the building of the new school block in 1930, the establishment of the games field and the river bathing place which was acquired in 1934. During the war the

school welcomed refugee girls from Europe, many of whom have married and settled down in Cambridge. 58 09 24

1958 11 06
Princess Margaret was described as a person who could 'blend approachability with majesty in a wonderful way' when she received an Honorary Degree in the Senate House. Looking radiant and beautiful, dressed in a brilliant mauve velvet coat, she was given a rousing welcome by thousands of cheering schoolchildren as she drove from the station. Later she opened the new Chemical Laboratories in Lensfield Road. 58 11 06 & abc, 58 11 07 & bc

1958 11 08
The Ministry of Fuel and Power which administered fuel rationing during the war has moved its regional headquarters from Brooklands Avenue to London. At first there were two offices: the petroleum office in Chaucer Road and a general office which started at Corpus Christi college and late removed to Trinity dealing with coal, gas and electricity. At its peak 300 people were employed but now a very small staff will remain to ensure that gas and electricity meters are working efficiently. 58 11 08c

1959 04 07
The Employment Exchange which has been sited in Newnham for nearly 30 years is moving to Brooklands Avenue. It provides a register of people seeking professional, managerial and senior executive posts and employees wishing to fill such vacancies. Nearly 200 men and women as well as ex-officers from HM Forces are included. The passports department and National Service registration office will also be affected. 59 04 07

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1960 06 20
Chemical laboratory Lensfield Road windows shattered by violent explosion – 60 06 20a

1960 10 28
Over 100 houses and shops, a Church Institute and a public house in an area near the Roman Catholic Church, Hills Road, may be compulsorily purchased by the City Council. Properties in Coronation Street, King George IV Street, Union Road, Bentinck Street, Princess Street and Queen's Street have reached the end of their useful life and were unfit for human habitation. Slates were off the roof, they had rising damp and woodworm. But shopkeepers protested and one owner said she was very attached to the house and it would be a great hardship to leave. 60 10 28

1961 03 02
Winston House, an experiment in mental after-care in Brooklands Avenue, was opened in 1958 to provide temporary accommodation for those recovering from mental and nervous sickness and looking for permanent homes of their own. It can accommodate 23 people in a homely atmosphere and since January 1960 there has been a waiting list. Last year 48 people left the hostel, 26 of them having gained benefit from their stay. 61 03 02a

1962 04 06
The newly-formed Cambridge branch of the Gideons International held its first public meeting. Almost all the local hotels have received Bibles, as have nearly 300 school-leavers and it is hoped to cover all such youngsters each year. Young folk from Queen Edith's Chapel have volunteered

to read aloud Bibles given to the Blind Homes in Glisson Road. Twenty Bibles have been given to the Rehabilitation Centre in Brooklands Avenue. The replacement Addenbrooke's Hospital will be a major challenge in the near future 62 04 06b

1962 04 30
The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament's mock funeral march through the centre of Cambridge caused traffic congestion, provoked an anti-CND march and met with a noisy reception from undergraduates in the Market Square. The 'funeral cortege' stretched for 300 yards behind a child's coffin carried by two pall bearers. Altogether 400 'mourners' took part in the march including Mr Gabor Cossa, the antique dealer. A Committee of 100 contingent joined in a demonstration at the Government buildings in Brooklands Avenue 62 04 30a

1962 12 13
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Lensfield Road 62 12 13

1963 02 20
Plans for the New Town area will retain the strong community spirit with different blocks of flats and houses centred on a 'village green'. There will be a church, local shops, public house, old people's flatlets, a children's playing space and hall, an Inquiry heard. However 87 properties in Russell Street & Coronation Street not fit for human habitation would be compulsorily purchased and 27 others redeveloped. The roofs are in bad shape, the brickwork and chimneys perished and all have outside toilets. It could be rebuilt in stages to minimise disruption. But some residents objected. 63 02 20

1963 04 15
Cambridge's latest jazz club in the dimly-lit cellar of the Dolphin public house in Coronation Street is fast building a reputation for modern jazz. Every Wednesday the resident group, the Percy Seeby quartet, backed during the interval by records, plays to a membership now limited to 100. Half an hour after the band starts the cellar was full and it was even difficult to climb down the dozen or so steps. Another popular item in the programme is poetry reading lead by Nigel Gordon. 63 04 15

1963 05 09
South Cambs RDC plan new offices at Brooklands Avenue or Sawston – 63 05 09b

1963 05 30
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Brooklands Avenue – 63 05 30

1963 06 06
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Brookside – 63 06 06

1963 06 14
The firm of J.E. Hanger of Brooklands Avenue is concerned with the supply and repair of artificial limbs. For nearly 50 years they have dealt entirely with legs. Measurements are taken, appliances fitted and minor or emergency repairs are undertaken. The workshop has legs of all shapes, sizes and styles, with or without shoes and socks or stockings. Repainted wooden feet are hung up to dry and a grinder is used for smoothing rough metal surfaces. Shelves of screw-top jars contain nuts, bolts and screws 63 06 14a

1964 01 24

At 84, Harry Capon is the oldest stallholder on the Cambridge market. He sells the same type of fancy goods as when he first set up the stall at 16. "Every Monday and Saturday I get up at 5.30 and load up the trolley with the goods and pull it from my house in Coronation Street. I set the stuff out on the stall then it's sell, sell, sell until 6pm when I start to pack up. Again another hour or so to load the trolley and then back home to bed about 9 pm. Two days a week I go up the London and the warehouses; I often get a lift with a fruitier and he leaves me at Hyde Park Corner on the way to Covent Garden", he says., adding "The market is slowly dying … fewer people and fewer stalls" 64 01 24

1964 04 09
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Coronation Street – 64 04 09

1964 06 06
Compulsory purchase orders have been confirmed for the clearance of areas at Napier Street, Leeke Street, Coronation Street, Gold Street and Russell Street. But the Minister has excluded some properties in Newmarket Road and Burleigh Place together with no 9 Coronation Street which his inspectors say is fit for habitation. Objectors had claimed that compulsory acquisition would cause hardship and was not necessary for redevelopment. 64 06 06a

1964 07 01
Sites in St Matthew's Ward, which have been cleared for redevelopment, are being used for rubbish dumping and becoming overgrown with weeds. The worst parts are a big dump of soot and abandoned car parts in Burleigh Place. There were also concerns about sites in Petworth Street and Staffordshire Street as well as Coronation Street. If a property was not demolished at once, vagrants moved in. There was a risk of squatting if they didn't fence off some of the areas, councillors heard. 64 07 01a

1965 07 02
Waste paper warehouse, Norwich Street deliberately set on fire – 65 07 02a

1966 02 23
'Crumbling Cambridge' feature – derelict houses, vermin; pictures Nelson St, Coronation St, Leeke St – 66 02 23a

1966 05 07
Government offices, Brooklands Avenue – photo – 66 05 07

1966 07 16
Elmhurst, Brooklands Avenue, GORA headquarters for 30 years sold to Lloyd's Bank in one of city's largest property auctions for £74,000 – 66 07 16

1966 10 11
Cheshunt College staff and students to join with Westminster College, premises in Bateman Street for sale; was founded in Wales in 1768, moved to Cambridge in 1905, new buildings 1913 – 66 10 11; premises for sale – 66 10 21b

1967 03 15
Cheshunt College sale may be concluded to private buyer – 67 03 15

1967 03 30

Lloyds Bank moving district office from Hobson Street to Brooklands Avenue building that housed Gt Ouse River Authority – 67 03 30

1967 07 06
Lloyds Bank move district office to Brooklands Ave – 67 07 06 & a

1967 07 27
Cheshunt College bought by Freemasons – 67 07 27

1970

1972 09 08
Just in case The Bomb should ever drop, eight powerful new air raid warning sirens are to be installed in Cambridgeshire. Although few people ever see or hear them, the Home Office has about 22,000 warning points in the United Kingdom equipped with electric or hand sirens for air attack warnings and maroons for fall-out warnings. Now they are to be replaced by powerful compressed-air sirens which are much more efficient and much louder. The eight which are to be installed in Cambridgeshire will be at Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge, Waterbeach Barracks, Oakington airfield, Great Wilbraham, the old Duxford airfield, Bassingbourn Barracks Lt Eversden & Linton 72 09 08

1975 12 08
The official opening of the Cambridge Jobcentre was carried out by the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University, Miss Rosemary Murray. She said a site in the centre was desirable for any supermarket – and jobcentres had been called job supermarkets. They are a new thing to get away from the old dole queue and form-filling image of job seeking. 30 staff have been transferred to the new Jobcentre from the employment offices in Brooklands Avenue. Currently the city has 1,650 out of work and 370 jobs on offer

1976 12 13
The Cambridge Scouts' shop in Perne Road celebrated 50 years of existence. Known first as the Equipment Store it opened in a rifle range half way up the stairs at the old Grafton Street headquarters on 13th December 1926. The shop's manager, Mr Kenneth North, took over in 1934. He remained when the shop moved temporarily to Russell Street and then to the new Scout headquarters in 1956. Mr John Chambers has been associated with it since he joined as a boy in 1940 & Roger Woollard, Scout leader running the 13th Cambridge Scouts Group, also helps out

1976 12 17
The Cambridge County Court moved into a new office block between Bateman Street and Norwich Street earlier this year. Both the court and the offices are uncompromisingly modern. They are efficient, comfortable but quite impersonal. The court room with simple modern furniture lacks the character of the old premises in the centre of Cambridge. But most cases dealt with are divorce and perhaps the less daunting informal atmosphere is more suitable. The witness boxes are so close to the judge's chair than an incensed witness could hit the judge and certainly see his notes.

1977 02 02
The Dorothy Continental delicatessen on the corner of Sussex Street, Cambridge, ceased trading at the weekend. It was the last remaining part of the former Dorothy restaurant and ballroom, sold by G.P. Hawkins in 1972 for £850,000. The Dorothy contained a supermarket, restaurant, large

ballroom and other rooms used by many organisations for official functions. It was taken over by the Co-op in 1952. The above-ground part of the Dorothy was acquired by Waring and Gillow, the London-based furniture chain, the remainder now forms the Henekey Tavern. When the Dorothy closed, Hawkins moved its outside catering section to the Alma Brewery site in Russell Street.

1977 07 16
The two leading private gardens in the CEN gardens competition were in the easy working are of Trumpington. The winner, Stuart Brown and his wife Shirley, had moved into the usual near dereliction about three years ago. Runner-up was Mr V. Pike who has spent a lifetime in gardening. Other class winners were W. Brunt of Rayson Way, E.W. Gentle of Thoday Street, F.J. Elbourn, Norwich Street and K.C. Newman, Fallowfield.

1978 05 19
Cambridge City Council has applied for St Paul's school in Russell Street to be listed as a protected historic building. Built in 1845 it is the earliest elementary school in Cambridge and was designed by Ambrose Poynter, possibly the only classical school building by him in England. For 10 years there have been plans to build a brand new school on an adjoining site but now there are proposals to remodel the old one to allow more classroom space.

1978 06 08
St Paul's school in Russell Street, Cambridge is one of the earliest elementary schools in Cambridge. It dates from 1845 and was designed by Ambrose Poynter, probably the only classical school building in England ever designed by him. Now it could be in danger of partial demolition since the school managers have decided rebuild on a site that cuts right through it. It unlikely demolition will occur because the old building is on one side of Russell Street and plans for the new building are on the other side of the road. Now the City Council has asked for the building to be listed.

1978 08 08
A leading churchman gave warning on the aims of the Moonies sect, which have been operating from a terraced house in Norwich Street in Cambridge for the past six or seven years. The Regius Professor of Divinity said the movement demanded total commitment and obedience from the young people who joined & was not a Christian organisation as it claimed to be. A Unification Church spokesman said the church was far more representative of the living Christianity than many of the more traditional denominations

1978 09 18
The New Town area of Cambridge was developed in the 1820s with unpretentious terraces, many of which were ill-built. But at least they had unity. Today, largely demolished and patchily replaced, New Town strikes one as a sorry mess. Panton Street is a mixture of discreet, elegant houses with intrusive modern developments. The St Anthony's Walk almshouses are a discordant construction, their severe frontage characterised by jutting ventilatory contraptions: a battery-house for humans. Opposite begins the Russell Court complex of flats; as such developments go the quality is good and attempts have been made at a humanised appearance. Will its stark modern brick ever attain the serene texture of the houses over the way – Graham Chainey

1979 03 09
In theory the Cambridge Drugs Clinic has a lot of control over its registered drug addicts. In practice it often has very little. Once registered with the clinic in Lensfield Road the only obligation on the junkie is that he turns up for regular consultation with one of the doctors. That

amounts to a few minutes once a fortnight. The clinic's work is hampered by lack of money: it comes within the general budget of the psychiatric clinic it shares a building with. It serves a vast area, from Felixstowe to Bedford; apart from its head there are just three part-time doctors and twos social workers, which according to DHSS recommendations is only enough for 50 patients.

1980

1980 01 10
Customers at Cherry's Stores in Norwich Street, Cambridge, have said goodbye to the couple who have run the shop for 34 years. Lionel Cherry and his wife Kathleen took over in 1946 and built up a business which, in days when petrol was cheaper, offered a free delivery service to Newnham and Arbury. The shop was the place where Robert Sayle started as a draper and has been a grocers for more than 100 years, owned in all that time by just three shopkeepers. It will be the end of a long family connection with the trade. Mr Cherry's uncle had a shop on the junction of Arbury and Milton Roads which became known as Cherry's Corner

1981 01 17
The Perse School for Girls celebrated its 100th birthday with a mammoth birthday cake made by the school cooks. It was left to the youngest pupil, Amanda Higgins, to blow out the candles. Head girl, Rachel Bendall presided over the cutting while the headmistress, Miss Mary Rose Bateman, help with the serving to each of the 701 pupils and staff. Later there was of a film depicting its history and a thanksgiving service. 81 01 17

1981 12 04
The Oak in Lensfield Road had a world-wide reputation as a centre for good Irish music. Before modernisation it was a wonderful place. Playing sessions would start up automatically on Friday nights, Saturday lunchtimes and Sundays too. But now venues for Irish music are fast disappearing in Cambridge. The demise of the Ancient Druids was another blow and the Cow and Calf on Pound Hill is virtually the only one remaining. 81 12 04b

1982 07 20
The Alma Brewery in Russell Court is reopening as a free house under the control of CAMRA. The pub, which dates back to 1835, was one of the first buildings to be erected in the former Balls Folly Field. It took its name from the Battle of the Alma in the Crimean War. Brewing stopped in 1909 but it continued to be run as a pub until it closed in March. 82 07 20a

1982 08 26
Preservationists have won a long fight to stop the old St Paul's School buildings in Russell Street from being demolished. They are the oldest primary school buildings in Cambridge, designed by Ambrose Poynter, a pupil of the great Regency architect, John Nash. They have not been used since the new school was opened a year ago. 82 08 26

1983 02 22
Coronation Street used to be a real community with two breweries, three pubs, a general store, hard-ware shop, tailors' and a greengrocer's. Small houses with pretty cottage gardens lined the street and the inhabitants knew each other's business in the nicest possible way. Change came when the council pulled down a line of old homes and rehoused many streeters in nearby flatblocks. More work bulldozed the Victorian streetscape and now it is one of the most modern-looking in Cambridge, clean and possibly rather sterile. 83 02 22a

1985 07 05
Police are investigating a massive fire which ripped through the Perse School for Girls in the early hours of the morning. Two laboratories were gutted and the rest of the building was severely smoke damaged. Today the school was closed. Many of the 540 pupils arriving for classes were unaware of the fire and were sent home. Headmistress Miss Mary Bateman said it was a serious nuisance but not a tragedy and hopefully the school would reopen on Monday 85 07 05

1985 10 14
The waiting lists for St Paul's School in Coronation Street and St Matthew's in Norfolk Street have become so full that there is a queue for every place. Pregnant mothers are wanting to sign in their as yet unborn babies. But there are no plans to expand the schools from their present roll and children who cannot be admitted will have to be taken to other schools across the city. The problem is due to the changing face of Cambridge: once the local streets were full of lodging houses and bedsitters. Now professional people have moved in and renovated the houses 85 10 15

1988 05 20
Winston House, Brooklands Ave a residential home for people with psychiatric and psychological problems – 88 05 20

1988 08 26
Girls were prettier and better dressed, 60 years ago, say former 'flappers' at an old people's home in Coronation Street. They never relied as heavily on make-up and let fresh air get to their skin. Laura Bidwell, 85, was a tender 17 in 1920 and never wore more than a touch of face powder and a smudge of lipstick which she bought from a small Boots store on the corner of Petty Cury. Beatrice Webb remembers wearing a lacy flapper dresses at a party. "You always had the proper rig-out then, with hat, handbag and shoes to match", says Alice Hodder, 91, 88 08 26

1988 10 17
The Perse School for Girls has opened a new science and crafts building at a cost of almost £1 million. The four-storey block, to be used by over 600 girls, was opened by eminent scientist Dame Rosemary Murray, the first woman vice-chancellor of Cambridge University. It has facilities for the teaching of electronics, computing, design technology and photography and includes the Maddocks physics laboratory, named after a former pupil who made a major donation to the fund. 88 10 17

1988 12 28
Brooklands Avenue Government canteen to be repaired and refurbished – 88 12 28a

1989 05 19
Winston House in Brooklands Avenue, established in 1959, is a psychiatric rehabilitation centre owned by the SOS charity. There are 20 residents staying on average a year with care and advice on hand all day. All are encouraged to lead a full life and to do something constructive outside the house. But privacy is a problem in the 13-bedroomed house and an appeal has been launched to provide more single rooms and larger kitchens. 89 05 19b

1989 06 23
A new bridge over Hobson's Conduit is part of a scheme to beat traffic jams at the junction of Lensfield and Trumpington Roads. Vehicles would turn along a short stretch of Brookside then cross the stream towards Trumpington. The rest of the junction would be controlled by a complex system of traffic lights based on the successful new computer system on Huntingdon Road. Some

of the cost would be met by whichever company develops the ground-level car park in Saxon Street, county engineers say. But it was rejected as 'devastating and environmentally disastrous' by city officials. 89 06 23 & b

1989 11 28
The National Extension College in Brooklands Avenue has more students than Cambridge University and offers courses from accounting to zoo-keeping. It was set up in the back room of a condemned cottage in 1963 to open the door to higher education through correspondence courses. It was the brainwave of Michael Young, Cambridge University's first lecturer in sociology and founder of the Consumers' Association. A forerunner of the Open University, it has 15,000 students and its expertise has been used by the BBC and Channel Four in preparing their own adult education programmes. 89 11 28

1990 03 14
Unex group has produced details of its big new development, Intercity House, on the former Pordage distribution site at the corner of Brooklands Avenue and Hills Road. It will offer air-conditioned offices with crèche, restaurant and gymnasium together with 301 car parking spaces. The windows will be high-performance anodised aluminium and the scheme will reflect the style and quality of the Victorian Royal Albert Almshouses across the road – 90 03 14

1990 04 17
Hobson's Publishing, Bateman Street, which has announced losses may be taken over by Daily Mail and General Investments group – 90 04 17a

1990 08 28
Alma Brewery, Russell Court, damaged by fire – 90 08 28a

c.44.6: Histon Road area

Includes Akeman Street, Brierley Road, Brownlow Road, Carisbrooke Road, Darwin Drive, Gilbert Road, Tavistock Road, Warwick Road, Windsor Road,
See also Huntington Road area, Milton Road area

1900

1909 07 02
Harry Johnson, senior partner of the St Andrew's Street firm of newsagents, was endued with gentle courtesy and had not the personality which enters upon public contests with joy. He was a member of the Free Library Committee from 1875 and supported the Liberal Club, Young Men's Christian Association and the Peace and Arbitration Society. He was one of the earliest directors of the General (Histon Road) Cemetery Committee and treasurer of the Cambridge Esperanto Society. A large number of townspeople attended his funeral, anxious to pay their respects. CWN 09 07 02

1910

1914 04 03
Departure of Mr. J. E, Pullen. - Many will read with regret of the pending departure of Mr. F. J. E. Pullen, of "Roseneath," Histon Road. He is engineer at the Cambridge Prison, and has been promoted to Leicester Gaol in the same capacity, the Cambridge Prison losing one of its prominent officers through his appointment. 14 04 03

1914 06 20
The Storms. During the past week Cambridge has been visited by two severe thunderstorms. On Friday the lightning was very vivid at times, and following one vivid flash, a horse, belonging to Mr. Lander, Merton Cottage, Grantchester, fell down on the Mill Road and expired. The animal had been killed by the lightning. Another storm burst over the town on Sunday afternoon and although of short duration, was very sharp while it lasted. Some hours before the storm burst the sky had been overcast. About 2 o'clock several heavy claps of thunder were heard, and rain

began to descend in torrents. In places large hall-stones fell. Vivid flashes of forked lightning preceded each crash of thunder. A house in Histon Road was struck, damage being done to a chimney. Two ladies, Mrs. Lumb and her daughter, who were standing opposite, received a bad shock, the elder lady being knocked down and rendered unconscious. Another flash appears to have struck the Queen's Arms public house in Histon Road. Two chimneys were damaged and a signboard destroyed. Several things inside the house were destroyed, including a looking glass, which, although thrown several feet away, remained intact. There were many instances of basements being flooded. The storm was all over in half an hour, and the remainder of the day was fine. –14 06 26

1915 05 14
Pte Charles Butler, of Histon Road, dies of wounds – photo – 15 05 14b

1917 05 02
Unusual Accident. An extraordinary accident occurred at the top of Victoria Road and Histon Road on Friday afternoon. A horse belonging to Mr. Edward Bolton, attached to a Corporation water-cart, which was about to flush a sewer, suddenly backed, it's off hind leg going down the manhole. Assistance was soon forthcoming, and the harness was removed from the animal. With the aid of some poles and a rein, which had been buckled around the leg, the horse was raised from its unfortunate position after several attempts. Luckily, the animal was apparently none the worse for its adventure.

1920

1920 03 24
Land Divided.—The land on Histon Road recently acquired by the Chesterton Allotments Society has been divided amongst 200 new members,

1925 11 04
Sir – if all the grumblers would combine to get the custodian of the Histon Road cemetery, Cambridge, a better wage they would do some real good. Each man begins cheerfully and willingly, but how can he be expected to keep a good heart and pay for auxiliary labour out of a 25s. wage. Every man who had taken the job has gone out owning himself beaten by a starvation wage. I heard one say he had to buy his own grass-cutting machine and bedding-out plants. Even with a house thrown in the job appears to be more a 'man-trap' than cemetery. – 'Anti-Fat'

1926 08 21
Sir – A steam driven lorry was proceeding along Histon Road, Cambridge, when suddenly the covering over the goods was blazing on top, as a result of a hot cinder being thrown up from the fire of the engine. This happened right outside one of the long-since obsolete hand manual lock-up sub fire stations. It would be of enormous advantage if they contained something more effective such as buckets of sand, hand patent chemical appliances, a hatchet or two, a crowbar and a couple of extending ladders and if the key might be procured from an obliging near-by resident – A. Burlton

1929 07 19
Purchasing land between Histon Road and Frenches Road – Victoria Road – discussed, p8 1930 07 25
Cambridge councillors have received consent for a new road from Milton Road to Histon Road at a cost of £18,135. St John's College would give the land which was required for housing purposes, it would be one of the best estates and the frontages would sell at very high price.

Grants have been received for King's Hedges and Green End Road as part of the unemployment scheme with one-third of the labour being imported from the distressed areas. 30 07 25d

1930

1931 06 12
The new road under construction between Milton and Histon Roads provides some exceptionally attractive sites for those wishing to erect a private house. It has much to recommend it as Chesterton is a very popular district but most of the available land within a reasonable distance of town has already been taken up. The plots are for the erection of private dwellings only and no bungalows or inadequate houses can be erected. 31 06 12k

1932 06 18
The Stokesay Laundry of Histon Road is a happy hive of industry where women and girls work under ideal conditions in a healthy atmosphere. They have installed a wonderful ironing machine which is the last word in efficiency. The extensive drying grounds in a very large garden ensure final cleanliness and sweetness. 32 06 18 & 18a

1932 07 08
The publican of the Prince of Wales, Histon Road, Cambridge became licensee in May 1914. His wife ran it while he served in the army during the war and afterwards he made 25 per cent profit on beer and a third on spirits. But his furniture was not very good and there was no inducement for people to come there. There were four other pubs in the locality and he lost trade when the depression set in.
32 07 08b

1932 09 09
New estate linking Histon Road with St Luke's estate – photo – 32 09 09c

1933 01 19
Some of the buildings erected during 1932 in Cambridge and district by Kidman and Sons Ltd, Abbey Walk. 'The British Queen', Histon Road, Sedley Taylor School, Cambridge Co-operative Society cooked meat factory and milk depot, St Paul's church hall in Suez Road and Spicer's Cinema, Sawston (Full page advertisement with photos). 33 01 19 a & b

1935 05 11
The new West Chesterton children's playground off Histon Road was opened by the Mayor and hundreds of youngsters thronged the ground for the occasion. Since it was bought as an orchard three years ago an immense amount of work had been necessary. It was not complete and they were hoping for swings and perhaps a roundabout later. It is primarily intended for younger children and not for the playing of hard-ball games such as cricket but old and middle-aged people could also enjoy the ground for sitting about. 35 05 11b

1935 05 14
Cambridge General Cemetery Company asked that the Corporation take over control of the Histon Road Burial Ground which was established nearly 100 years ago by a private company. There are still a number of private grave spaces available for burials and it would be in the public interest. This was agreed 35 05 14

1935 09 26
New estates – Storeys Way & Gilbert Road – 35 09 26a

1935 10 25
The new Senior School off Gilbert Road, Chesterton contains separate departments for senior boys and girls, each with its own assembly hall fitted with a stage and cinema projection room. The boys department has science laboratory and woodwork and metalwork rooms while the girls' includes provision for cookery, laundry and dressmaking. A changing room, fitted with shower baths, has been included in connection with organised games. 35 10 25a

1936 01 29
Arrangements have been made with the Cambridge General Cemetery Company for the Histon Road Cemetery to be transferred to the Borough Council as from February. The cottage, chapel and old mortuary required considerable repairs, the paths regravelled and the grounds cleared up. The cottage should be made habitable for a man to live there and have general charge of the ground, a report recommended. 36 01 29a

1936 12 10
Murkett Brothers, automobile engineers, who have large garages in Huntingdon, Peterborough and Bedford, opened their new premises on the corner of Huntingdon & Histon Road in May 1931. Owing to the satisfactory service they have given business has developed to such an extent that an additional garage is shortly to be built. This will cater for commercial vehicles and heavy repairs, whilst the Huntingdon Road depot will be for new and second-hand cars, with light repairs and service facilities 36 12 10i

1937 08 04
Sir, as a former critic of Histon Road Cemetery may I now acknowledge the improvement which is so apparent, especially to the curator who had no easy task in taking over such a neglected place. However Alexandra Gardens in Carlyle Road is probably the worst kept of all the recreation grounds. The grass verges have been neither mown nor trimmed this year and no hoe has been used on the shrubbery border which is a mass of thistles and other weeds. It seems difficult to believe that no member of the Council ever pays a visit – 'Observer' 37 08 04

1937 11 04
Cambridge Co-operative Society's new store on corner of Histon and Windsor Road serves the needs of this new and populous district. The attractive up-to-date building has been designed with a dignity worthy of its position; the elevations are faced with Portland Stone and multi-coloured red bricks, forming a frame for the blue and gold mosaic panels incorporating the Society's name. The shop fronts are of bronze with oak entrance doors and polished granite stall board risers. The floor of the butchery shop is covered with marble mosaic and the grocery shop with rubber flooring 37 11 04a

1940

1940 08 26
Seaman Reginald Carter, Histon Road, kia – 40 08 26a

1941 02 07
Killed by enemy action. News has reached Cambridge that A/C George Pope, son of Mr. J. Pope, of 55 Gwydir Street, Cambridge, has been killed as the result of enemy action. A/C Pope, who was 29 years of age, had been employed by Mr. T. Freeman, plumbing and heating engineer, of Histon Road, Cambridge, and was very popular with all his workmates. He joined the Volunteer Air Reserve, and was called up for service at the beginning of the war. 41 02 07

1941 02 12
RAF bomber crashes on top houses in Histon Road, three aged women killed – Miss Catharine Allen, Mrs Ann Warland, Mrs Ada Sara Blackwell. A fourth, Mrs Mary Hewitt, taken to hospital. The plane caught the top of the houses, completely wrecking the top storey of the village, Afterwards it came to rest on a tennis court at the back of the houses. The crew were uninjured – 41 02 12a photo 41 02 13a. Inquest details – 41 02 14a

1941 12 12
Married 50 years – Many friends and neighbours will join in congratulating Mr & Mrs A.W. Cook of 70 Huntingdon Road, Cambridge, who celebrated their golden wedding on Saturday. They were married in 1891 at St. Giles Church by the Rev. G. R. Christie, and had lived in the St. Giles district ever since. Mr. Cook was a well-known professional cricketer in Cambridge, and was, last year umpire for St. Giles' cricket team He was for some time a messenger at Trinity College, and, he later became a gyp at Magdalene, retiring at the age of 65. He is now 72 and his wife 71. She is obviously very proud of her eight children, and said of them that they had not caused her or her husband any trouble at any time Mr. and Mrs. Cooks first address was 95 Alpha Road. In 1899 they moved to 13 Histon Road, where they remained for 32 years moving thence to their present address in 1929. 41 12 12

1943 11 19
Guide Medal-Winner. Sixteen-year-Old Joan Phyllis Folkes, of 60 Windsor Road, Cambridge, has been awarded the Gilt Cross of the Girl Guides Association for bravery in rescuing 18-year-old Joyce Collis from the Hauxton Mill when they were on a camping holiday last Whitsun. It happened that there were several Girl Guides bathing at the time, but they were quite unaware that Joyce was in difficulties, Joan noticed that the other girl had already gone under twice, and quickly dived and got her out—Joan is a Patrol Leader of the Poppy Patrol in the 12th County School Company, and holds several proficiency badges, with service stars and a war service badge. 43 11 19

1945 05 11
VE celebrations –45 05 11a; Beaconsfield Hall children, Sturton St, Cowper Rd, Norwich St – 45 05 16; Perne Ave, Mowbray Road, Beche Rd, Norfolk St – 45 05 18; Hobart Rd, Bradmore St, Russell St – 45 05 19b; Young St, Gonville Road & Charles St, Cam Causeway, Gt Eastern St – 45 02 22a; Ditton Fields, Romsey Women Conservatives, Suez Rd, Covent Garden, Eden St – 45 05 23; York St, Thoday St, Kingston St, Northampton St, Cherry Hinton – 45 05 24; Hills Ave, City Rd, Cavendish Rd, Malta Rd – 45 05 25; Mowbray Rd, Willow Walk, Springfield Rd, Kelvin Close – 45 05 26b; New St, Chesterton High St – 45 05 28a; Cockburn St, Newnham Croft, Madras Rd, Henley Road & Coldham's Lane – 45 05 30; Barnwell, Wellington St, Fitzroy St, Devonshire Rd – 45 05 30b; children entertained Cherry Hinton, Fairfax Rd – 45 06 02; Vinery Rd, Eastfield – 45 06 04; Catherine St, Ditton Walk, Union Lane – 45 06 05; Gwydir St, Abbey (East) – 45 06 06; Meadowlands Estate, Argyle St, Hope St, De Freville Estate – 45 06 07; Ross St, Hemingford Rd, Green End Rd, Staffordshire St, Selwyn Rd, Coldham's Grove, Coldham's Lane, Akeman St – 45 06 11; Brooks Rd, Sedgwick St, Langham Rd, Oxford Rd, Haig Road, Chesterton – 45 06 13a; Windsor Rd, Stretten Ave, Kimberley Rd, Abbey Road, Walnut Tree Ave, Brookfields – 45 06 18; Trumpington, Mansfield Hall – 45 06 19; Cavendish Ave, Hinton Ave, Hope Hall for Deaf – 45 06 21a; Histon Rd children – 45 06 30; St Peter's St, Greens Rd – 45 07 10

1945 06 08

Distinguished Service. Captain Reginald Carter, R.A.O.C., husband of Mrs. R. Carter, of 28 Windsor Road, Cambridge, has been mentioned in despatches for "distinguished service." At the time of being mentioned, Capt. Carter was serving in Italy, where he still is 45 06 08

1945 08 29
VJ Parties – Eden St, Cherryhinton Rd, Chestnut Grove – 45 08 29; Queen Edith's Way, Ditton Fields – 45 09 04; Young St, Petworth St, Geldart St, Marshall Rd – 45 09 04; Darwin Drive, Stretton Ave, Victoria St, Hobart Rd, Adam & Eve St – 45 09 07b; Gloucester St, Castle St, Ashfield Rd – 45 09 10; Gilbert Rd, King's Hedges Rd, Ditton Fields – 45 09 11; Lichfield Rd, Cromwell Park estate, Hawthorn Rd – 45 09 12; Catharine St, Kendal Way – 45 09 14; York St & York Terrace, Brooks Road, Gold St – 45 09 17d# Bateson Rd, Garden Walk, Argyle St, St Philip's Rd , Sedgwick St, Holbrook Rd, Mowbray Rd – 45 09 18; Akeman St, James St, Parsonage St, Vinery Rd, Kingston St, Kingston St, Mowbray Rd, Hurst Park Estate – 45 09 20; Eastfield, New St, Kelvin Close – 45 09 24a; Hertford St, St John's Rd, Norwich St, Alpha Terrace, Sherlock Rd – 45 09 27a
Premier Travel take over services of F.E. Weeden of Chrishall – 45 08 30; Silverwood Close, Newmarket Road, Fallowfield, Fen Rd, Water St, Mowbray Rd – 45 10 04a; Cavendish Rd, Stourbridge Grove, Fulbourn Rd, Bradmore St, Petersfield, Gwydir St, Newnham Croft, Scotland Rd, Scotland Close – 45 10 08; Suez Rd, Hale Ave, Harvey Goodwin Ave, Glebe Rd, Radegund Rd, Golding Rd – 45 10 10; Selwyn Rd, Abbey Estate, De Freville Ave, Stanley Rd – 45 10 12a; Milton Rd, Thoday St – 45 10 18

1945 09 21
Tool Shed Fire. Fire broke out in a tool-shed at the rear of 37 Windsor Road, Cambridge, in the early hours of Saturday. The Cambridge Section of the N.F.S. received the call at 4 a.m. and, using the hose reel, had the outbreak under control in less than half an hour. The shed, which was used as a workshop, was only slightly damaged. The cause of the fire is not yet known 45 09 21

1945 09 28
First pre-fabricated houses on Histon Road site – 45 09 28

1947 09 01
A young couple paying 30s. rent for two rooms in Cambridge had their rent reduced to 19s. weekly at a sitting of the Rents Tribunal in the Guildhall. Appellant rented two rooms in Longview Terrace, Histon Road. She had the use of the kitchen and a gas stove, and the cost of electricity and gas was included in the rent. Because the bathroom was now used as a bedroom, she said, it was only possible to have a bath once every three weeks or a month - and then water had to be carried into the bathroom

1948 09 18
"I feel the club has served a very useful purpose. Even if it dies now, the effect will not die for many years. It has made Gilbert Road a sociable road. So said Mr D.I. Piggott (chairman) when announcing that the Gilbert Road Social Club, which was formed out of the friendships made at the VJ party at the end of the war is in the process of being wound up. The secretary said "We have 308 adult members, but the greater part of them do not come to any ordinary functions". The proposal to wind up the club was carried unanimously

1950

1951 01 23

Cambridge town planning committee say there can be no justification for a spine relief road between Histon Road corner and Jesus Lane merely to preserve for a few years more buildings on the west side of Magdalene Street which, although of some architectural interest, are sub-standard from every other point of view. Pending demolition the commercial use of the buildings should be terminated, doing away with the necessity for vehicles to wait outside

1951 03 14
Approval of the layout of the new housing estate between Gilbert Road and Arbury Road is to be recommended by Cambridge council. Sites are provided for three-storey flats, semi-detached and blocks of four houses, a church, community centre, shops, cinema, public house and a nursery school

1953 06 03
The special prize of £5 for the best decorated private house competition in Cambridge was won by Mrs M. O'Dell of Staffordshire Street who beat her nearest rival, Mr A.A. Cox of Victoria Road by one point. The standard was high and points awarded for each ward were very close. Winners included: Abbey Ward Mr R. Runham of Wellington Street; Castle: Miss J. Bowers, Windsor Road; Coleridge: Mr Blows, Cherryhinton Road; Cherry Hinton: Mr R. Abraham, Chalmers Road and Market Mr W.G.D. Clee of Union Road.

1959 02 27
Having completed their flat project at Applecourt on Newton Road, Span Developments have just announced several big redevelopment plans. One is a 15-story high tower block of flats in Hills Road where two Victorian houses have been demolished but the magnificent trees standing in their gardens are to be left undisturbed. Another is a complete new village planned for Histon Road. They are also negotiating a scheme for factory development which will bring more well-paid work to the Cambridge area. 59 02 27, 59 03 01 & 01a

1959 09 11
Barbara Smith, woman butcher, Akeman Street – 59 09 11

1959 11 26
Cambridge has a problem with smoky chimneys. Domestic smoke contains a high proportion of tar which sticks to everything it touches. The 'prefabs' at Church End, Cherry Hinton and Histon Road are a very bad example of the smoking low chimney. The 'cosy coal fire' is by no means as innocent outside the house as it looks to be inside the grate and the rights of the individual should not include the right to choke his neighbour. Smoke Control Orders should be sought, the Public Health Inspector reported. 59 11 26a, b & c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 09 09
McManus, the company that caused a stir when they agreed to pay £4,500 an acre for land have decided to put up terraced houses rather than the traditional semi-detached properties on their projected estate between Histon Road and Windsor Road. They call it an experiment in contemporary living that can accommodate the same number of families but with a greater amount of open space around the houses for children to play on. The houses are selling for nearly £2,400 60 09 09a

1963 04 04
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Histon Road – 63 04 04

1963 05 24
Mcmanus for value in Cambridge. The Chesterton Estate, Histon Road, offers spacious three-bedroom terrace houses with attractive tile-hung elevations and in-built fuel stores with a garage nearby if required, for £2,895. Detached two-bedroom bungalows, £3,395; semi-detached £2,695. A decorated show house is available for inspection fitted with central heating in the form of Sager Tangential Flow fan heaters. Maximum Mortgages available – Advert. 63 05 24a

1963 12 06
Standing on the old town boundary at Histon road, this house was for many years the last in Cambridge. Now it is scheduled for demolition. It was built in 1881 and at one stage was a Dr Barnardo's Home for Girls when a fire escape was installed. Not it is used as offices by Moore's of Cambridge Ltd, precision engineers 63 12 06h

1964 01 25
Many of the council houses built 30 years ago in Stretten Avenue, Darwin Drive and Scotland Road need modernisation: there is no hot water, the bath is in the scullery and they have only outside lavatories. They were becoming 'social slums' and attracting 'the least desirable of tenants' said councillors. But residents say they are like an old fashioned community: Mrs Evelyn Pigott, who keeps a grocery shop in Akeman Street has organised a group of householders willing to help cook for neighbours while the alterations were carried out. 64 01 25b & c

1964 09 15
The first stage of Cambridge's Inner Relief Road would comprise twin-carriageways starting with a roundabout at Murkett's Corner, on the junction of Huntingdon and Histon Roads. The planned road goes southward through the Rex Cinema site, leaving space for the proposed law courts near Shire Hall. As it approaches Chesterton Road there will be a flyover to take the main traffic flow over a roundabout. Then there would be a new bridge over the Cam before it crosses Jesus Green parallel to Park Parade. A subway will give access under the road to Jesus Green. 64 09 15

1965 12 07
Histon Road building land surprises agents – 65 12 07a

1967 05 19
Histon Road new Esso petrol station has showroom and servicing facilities – 67 05 19

1968 03 08
McManus, London-based building firm terminating Cambridge interests because of attitude of local planners; selling 6-acre building site off Histon Road – 68 03 08b

1969 03 19
Front of McManus estate on Histon Road, which has been derelict for several years, is to be developed; new firm hopes to start work on 63-house estate – 69 03 19a

1970

1970 11 10
Granta Tyres buy old Granary building in Histon Road – 70 11 10

1972 05 15
The story-book world of Bambi the baby deer came to Gilbert Road, Cambridge, yesterday when Mr Roy Wing looked over his garden fence. He couldn't believe his eyes. A small, brown, bright-eyed young deer was sitting calmly among the foliage in his neighbour's garden at 142 Gilbert Road in the middle of suburban Cambridge, many miles from the known haunts of deer, p11

1972 07 28
With Murkett Bros' move to new premises in Histon Road on Tuesday, Cambridge will shortly lose a familiar landmark. The Huntingdon-based firm's motor car showrooms and offices at the corner of Huntingdon Road and Histon Road is to be demolished and a million-gallon-a-year petrol service station built in its place. Murkett's sold their prime corner city centre site to Chevron Oil (U.K.) earlier this year. Chevron consider the purchase of the old showrooms a coup. "With a traffic count of around 40,000 cars a day at this junction, it is a prime site equal to some of the best in London", said a spokesman

1972 09 16
Cambridge City Council have halted the demolition of some of their old prefab bungalows at Histon Road while officials find out if they could be used for housing Ugandan Asians. The bungalows, which were built shortly after the Second World War as temporary homes, are being demolished to make way for a large council houses and flats development. A few of the buildings are still occupied but the tenants are due to move shortly.

1973 07 05
Emergency hospital treatment had to be given to 11 people after a drum of poisonous chemical spilled on to the roadway at one of Cambridge's busiest junctions as the afternoon rush hour started. The chemical spilled when the drum containing ethyl acrylate split open after falling from a lorry at the Huntingdon Road - Histon Road corner. Immediately the air, in spite of a strong breeze was pungent with the smell of the liquid. The police and fire brigade were called to deal with the problem. The drama, which led ultimately to the total ban of traffic at the junction began at 3.10pm, by 6pm the acrylate was safely loaded on to a sand covered trailer, then in convoy with two fire tenders and police cars it was taken at less than 10 mph the seven miles to the Royal Engineer's airfield at Waterbeach

1974 06 04
The site of the Co-operative laundry in Cambridge, which closed at Easter, is now up for sale. The company bought the site in Histon Road during the last war and began operations in 1941. At their peak 100 people worked there compared to the 60 at the time of their closure. "The problem was getting staff. It was terrible," said the Chief executive. They are keeping open three shops at Histon Road, Arbury Court and Mill Road 74 06 04

1976 03 15
The possible closure to through traffic of Arbury Road, Cambridge, will be discussed by the city council. Some councillors have been pressing for years for the road closure as a way of improving the environment for people living in the Arbury area. The road is, at peak periods, one of the busiest in Cambridge with commuter traffic. The suggestions are certain to cause a storm of protest. The main objection will centre round the claim that a lot more traffic would be pushed on to the already busy Gilbert Road.

1978 06 21

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Some Cambridge colleges are threatening to ban visitors because this year's greatly increased numbers of tourists are causing problems. It is important to provide a permanent tourist coach park somewhere near the main tourist centre. A report says the best site would be on common and allotment land next to the News building on Newmarket Road. But some councillors think the ideal place would be in the vicinity of the railway station, at Saxon Street car park or on derelict land at the corner of Histon Road and Victoria Road.

1979 07 27
Cambridge's most modern squash club on Histon Road already has 300 members but is looking for another 150 to bring it up to the target envisaged by the local businessmen who have made the £150,000 project a reality. There are four courts, one with a glass back wall for safe viewing, a bar and large clubroom where they intend to provide light refreshments and real ale. They also hope to provide a variety of social functions catering for all the family and to meet the needs of both 'town and gown' by providing excellent playing and social facilities.

1980

1981 12 31
Simons House, the Histon Road sheltered housing for the elderly, and the nearby Rackham Close bungalows have won a major Housing Design Award. The scheme was judged to provide 'most agreeable homes for elderly people' and many of the residents agree. Mrs Bertha Kent described it 'as a lovely little place', Daisy Woodcock says it's very friendly and John Manning thinks 'it's really ideal'. 81 12 31a

1983 08 30
Four major car parks on the outskirts of Cambridge linked to the city centre by a frequent park-and-ride bus service are suggested in a new report aimed a sorting out the city's traffic tangles. They are on fields at Barton Road, a small piece of disused land between the bypass interchange at Histon Road, allotment land near Newmarket Road cemetery and the old Cattle Market site at Cherryhinton Road. It also proposes extensive residents-only parking schemes with a tightening-up of long-term parking in the city centre. 83 08 30 p1

1984 02 03
A £1 million scheme is being planned for 100 Cambridge council houses in the Akeman Street and Darwin Drive areas because a 'modernisation' project carried out 20 years ago has gone wrong. Prefabricated units, constructed mainly of wood and plastic were installed as a quick way of bringing the houses up to standard, but they have deteriorated badly. Now ten houses in Darwin Drive maybe pulled down to make space for flats suitable for old people or those in need of sheltered accommodation. 84 02 03 p15

1985 01 07
The concept of a Green Belt around Cambridge was first put forward in the issued in 1949. Since it was last reviewed pressure has grown for certain parts to be declassified. One area is the Histon Road allotments site: some has been developed with council housing and now the County Council wants the rest removed from the Green Belt so it can be considered as suitable for redevelopment in the years ahead. A piece of the extensive acreage of Clay Farm, Trumpington, is also suitable for declassification say the planners. But 500 organisation have objected to the proposals. 85 01 07b & c

1985 09 17
The Green Belt around Cambridge was designed to protect the area from development and to preserve large areas of open space between villages. Now County planners want to release land to

make way for the city to breathe including 70 acres at Trumpington, Histon Road allotments and the University Farm in Huntingdon Road. They say this would not mean developers' lorries moving in. Nearly 500 organisations objected at an Inquiry but the County are pleased with the result which backs most of their proposals. 85 09 17 a b c

1986 01 22
A lollipop patrol crisis is posing a road safety risk to Cambridge youngsters. Three city schools have been left without crossing patrols after staff have left but the County Council has run into major problems recruiting people to take their place. They have advertised and put notices in shop windows appealing for unemployed housewives or active pensioners able to spare ten hours a week for pay of £2.13 an hour. The principal worry is at Mayfield School as children of junior and infant age need to cross the extremely busy Histon Road. 86 01 22a

1986 10 24
Cambridge councillors have changed their minds about the future of council-owned allotment land at Histon Road. They had wanted Green Belt protection on the 33-acre site which would prevent any form of development from taking place there. However 11 acres are derelict and could be reserved for possible housing schemes and recreational use. But any hypermarket development there would mean the death of the shopping centre at Arbury Court and should be blocked. 86 10 24

1986 10 28
The Council is undertaking its biggest renovation to wipe out some of Cambridge's worst living conditions. After 15 years the damp-prone bathroom 'pods' stuck on to brick kitchens will be removed from Darwin Drive, Akeman Street, Stretten Avenue and other streets. The modernisation programme will transform pokey 50-year-old homes into spacious, modern accommodation. There will be a new bedroom and bathroom, fully-fitted kitchen, central heating and new windows. Residents who move out for the 20 weeks of renovation can claim a disturbance allowance of several hundred pounds. 86 10 28a

1987 03 24
Store giant Sainsbury's has announced plans for a superstore on the Arbury Camp site, creating more than 300 jobs. The supermarket could occupy a six-acre site closest to the interchange between the Northern Bypass and Histon Road. It would have a petrol station, coffee shop and parking for 500 cars. There would also be a park-and-ride site.This would be part of a mixed development of retail and research areas with a large ornamental lake. An Inspector has recommended that the site be taken out of the belt because it made a minimal contribution to the special character of Cambridge. But planners have so far disagreed 87 03 24

1987 04 14
Frederick Moore is retiring from the company he started over 50 years ago. After some initial work at Oakington he moved to the present Histon Road site in 1937 where most of the work involved re-boring car engines. Extensions were built in the early '50s and late '60s when the workforce climbed to 36-strong. Now one of Cambridge's oldest engineering firms, it carries out general motor engineering and machine tool-grinding. The business has been bought by Griffin Machine Tools of Keighley, Yorkshire who may build a new workshop on the site 87 04 14

1987 11 04
The family-run small works roofing and plumbing company of TR Freeman began trading from a terraced house in Histon Road in 1887. Their early customers were Cambridge colleges who demanded an exacting standard of work on superb buildings and companies in the Freeman

Group still work for them, fulfilling the need for traditional skills using traditional materials. The firm has expanded into an internationally operating combine with a workforce of more than 300. Now celebrating its centenary, it is shortly to move into new corporate headquarters on the outskirts of Cambridge 87 11 04

1988 08 03
A giant new housing estate may be built on allotments on the corner of King's Hedges and Histon Roads. About 30 acres could be used for housing with the remainder turned over to recreational use. In the past proposals to build have resulted in shoals of complaints from allotment holders but much of the land is disused and the allotments could be consolidated on a much smaller plot elsewhere. However the City council have no intention of making the site available for a new regional college for 16-19 years old as is being considered by the County council. 88 08 03

1989 01 19
Land on Histon Road fenced off to prevent travellers – 89 01 19b

1989 03 09
Cambridge Tyre Company, which celebrates its 60th anniversary, has a number of early tyres in stock. They include an American Swineheart tyre for a Model T Ford and a beaded edge Michelin from the same period. Ernest Brown founded the company in 1929 based in a small shop in Jesus Lane when many tyres were of solid construction. By 1935 they'd moved to Burleigh Street when tyres were fitted at the side of the road and in 1964 took over premises owned by Winston Smith the butcher in Histon Road. 89 03 09a

1989 12 15
The closure of W & G. Taylor is the latest in a line of small stores squeezed from the city centre by rocketing rents. Two other men's outfitters, Ropers and Bodgers closed this summer. Another famous shop which closed six years ago in the face of mounting rent and rates was Bacons in Market Street. The Parsley Pot in Lion Yard, Cambridge Fine Jewels of Emmanuel Street and upmarket furnishers, Johns left their Bridge Street premises for Histon Road last year blaming the traffic chaos can high parking charges 89 12 15

1990 09 18
Leisure facilities plan including ice-skating, roller skating and ten-pin bowling at Histon Road may be shelved – 90 09 18

Hobson Street, 1921

10270

c.44.6 : Hobson Street

1899 09 25
Hobson Street chapel renovation, p3

1900

1903 12 23
An important property sale was conducted, consisting of various properties in Sidney Street, one of the most central and important positions in the business part of Cambridge. Naturally there was a large attendance and the bidding was spirited. It included the coachbuilder's factory of T. Hunnybun, including carriage showroom and harness-maker's shop. These were withdrawn but sold after the sale at a considerably enhanced price; we understand they will continue their business in Hobson Street. A draper's shop occupied by F. Blott found a purchaser at £3,600.

1904 04 21
Cambridge Paving Committee received a memorial from a number of residents in the Hobson Street area calling attention to the present state of the carriage-way. They directed the Surveyor to report the cost of paving the street with wood blocks, together with the portion of St Andrew's Street from the tramway terminus. But Hobson Street was used by very few people; traffic was not half what it used to be and as the trams were likely to be electrified it would be better to wait. However a great amount of traffic came from Newmarket Road to the centre of town down King Street; very often there was a great block of traffic in Sussex Street because it was dangerous to go down Hobson Street where the pebbles were very uneven. Traffic went on dropping, and business went on dropping, simply because the street was so badly paved

1906 02 02

A London carpenter was charged with driving a motor car at greater speed than was reasonable and proper. PC Aworth said he saw a car turn into Hobson Street, Cambridge and put on speed. "The car went 30 mph, if fact I never saw a motor car go faster", he said. In turning the corner at Sussex Street the wheels went for some distance along the pavement. Harry Stearn, a photographer, said he was walking in the gutter and had to jump on the path to save himself. The driver was fined 50s. 06 02 02a

1907 09 24
Cambridge Automobile Company applied for a licence to store 1,000 gallons of petroleum and 200 lbs of carbide of calcium on their premises in Hobson Street. The petrol would be stored in an underground chamber, brick-built and lined with concrete. The Inspector of Explosives is satisfied so the council will recommend approval. 07 09 24a

1907 10 31
Fire mineral water works, Hobson Street – 07 10 31

1907 12 20
According to artists Santa Claus no longer drives his Russian sleigh; he is now more generally depicted in a magnificent motor car such as those from the Cambridge Automobile Company. Their works and garage in Hobson Street are open day and night, Sundays included, and all repairs effected by a staff of skilled mechanics. - 07 12 20

1910

1910 04 08
The first real flying machine ever delivered in Cambridge arrived at the Hobson Street garage of Cambridge Automobile and Engineering Company. It is an exact counterpart of the monoplane with which M. Bleriot flew across the channel. On Friday the engine, tractor and ignition were tested. It worked splendidly and developed great power, the screw creating a tremendous draught and exerting such a force that, although the machine had not its wings and tail fitted, it took half-a-dozen men to hold it down. 10 04 08a

1912 02 02
A new County Hall is needed. The existing clerk, a solicitor in private practice, works from his own office. The Education and Medical departments are on opposite sides of Sidney Street, the Finance Clerk in is Regent Street, the Architect in Hobson Street and the Surveyor in Hills Road. This is inconvenient and uneconomical and leads to inefficiency. 12 02 02h

1912 03 15
The County Council is to purchase Hobson Street Wesleyan Chapel and the adjoining house to build a Council Chamber and offices. The site is central and quiet and although the cost might appear to be high it would eventually result in a saving. There would be much greater efficiency to have all officials under one roof instead of them running backwards and forwards from one place to another. They would also need four less telephones, saving £30 12 03 15f

1912 07 26
Cambridgeshire County Council does not appoint its own clerk even though he has supreme control of the whole of the county business. Some councillors felt this would cause friction with various heads of department. But it should check extravagance, waste and overlapping which has been almost inevitable in the present state of affairs with separate departments based in different buildings around Cambridge. The new clerk will be a whole-time officer and the whole of the

scattered staff will be directly under his supervision in the new County Hall to be constructed in Hobson Street. 12 07 26e

1912 08 09
The County Council had considered various sites for a new County Hall. The purchase price of Hobson Street Methodist Chapel was £3,500 (£324,000 today) which was fair. In the chapel they had a good deal of material and the shell and outside walls would stand and be utilised. But it would not be sufficient. So they needed to purchase a house from Christ's College; they were not desirous of selling and the price of £2,500 was the least they would accept. The erection of county hall would increase the value of the other buildings in Hobson Street and help to bring a much-needed town improvement through the widening of Sussex Street. 12 08 09

1912 09 20
Hobson Street chapel was opened in 1849 by Wesleyans had previously met in a chapel in Fitzroy Street and a room in Green Street. It became a spiritual home for residents and undergraduates and was improved in 1891. But it has become inadequate. The Fitzroy Street chapel had become a jam warehouse but Hobson Street will be replaced by the new County Council offices. They will now meet in the Victoria Assembly Room until the new Wesley Chapel on Christ's Pieces is ready. 12 09 20c

1912 10 11
The laying of the foundation stone of the new Wesleyan Chapel adjoining Christ's Pieces to replace the old Hobson Street church marks an important epoch in Cambridge history. Built of white Bath stone, the style is Late Perpendicular and all the seats will be of oak. Thomas Ferns was handed a silver trowel by Mr Gunton, the architect, as a memento of the occasion but he did not use such a lovely object and took another to perform the ceremony. He was followed by Mrs Lavender, who was a young girl teacher when the stone was originally laid in Hobson Street. A bottle placed under the main stone states that the site was purchased in on 7th August 1903. 12 10 11 f & g 12 10 18b & c

1912 11 01
Wesley church bazaar raises final funds; publication of a shilling souvenir with all chapels in circuit and on Hobson Street Sunday School. The other compiled by Mrs Ryder, Hobson Street, who wrote to old ministers and asked for a shilling and a quotation. – 12 11 01h & i

1912 11 08
It was one of the noisiest 'rags' seen for some years, for the introduction of a variety of bomb-firework, which gives a report louder than a rifle shot, more than compensated for the fewer Varsity men than usual. The liveliest scene occurred in King Street where the crowd were attracted by the sight of the hoarding outside the partly-demolished Hobson Street Chapel. Instead they turned their attention array of woodwork in connection with the building of the new Wesleyan Chapel near Christ's Pieces, but this was strongly guarded by police. Another battle broke out in Grange Road where some 400 undergraduates damaged the fence around Mr Ebenezer Smith's garden. 12 11 08a & b

1913 12 19
Plans for alterations at the rear of the Guildhall were shelved after the Ratepayers Association raised a petition. They had to face a loss on the trams, the Borough Bill, Chesterton footbridge and other improvements and as the Colleges were building rapidly the town landladies found it hard to pay their rates. Now the County Council had decided to build their new offices in Hobson Street. They had been debating since 1907 and all the expense and time had been worthless. But

the Free Library was over-crowded and disease was spread in libraries where people were constantly sitting together 13 12 19 p7

1914 02 06
At the opening of the new County Hall in Hobson Street the chairman thanked the Town Council for allowing them to use their council chamber and committee rooms for the past 25 years. In 1747 the old Shire Hall had been built on Market Hill above arches where butchers had their stalls on market days. In 1842 this passed to the town when a new Shire Hall at Castle Hill was ready for occupation. But the enormous development of administrative business had now brought the County Council again into the centre to this new commodious and economical building, finally bringing together departments previously distributed in all parts of the town. 14 02 06, a-c

1916 03 15
Cambridge Automobile and Engineering Company new works on corner Hobson St & Sidney Street – profile – 16 03 15h, advert 26 03 08g

1919 06 25
Property market _ Sidney Street estate includes Price of Wales' Hotel, Dorothy Café, True Blue and Nag's Head, shops in Sussex Street and premises Hobson Street; bought by G.P. Hawkins; also houses, Duxford airfield machinery and plant – 19 06 25b

1920

1920 01 14
Cambridge Picture Playhouse Ltd annual, meeting to alter articles of Association; have acquired site in Sidney St & Hobson St where propose to erect fine new building – 20 01 14a

1921 03 30
Corporation refuse plans for conversion Automobile Company premises in Hobson Street into a kinema; Picture Playhouse Company to appeal over their plans for cinema in Sidney Street – 21 03 30j

1922 02 08
Licences of Volunteer in Green Street, Old Nag's Head Hobson St, Brickmaker's Arms Newmarket Road, Cross Keys in Saxon St held over – probably redundant – 22 02 08

1923 01 04
The Rendezvous was the scene of a most enjoyable function when about 60 members of the staff and friends of the Central Cinema in Hobson Street, Cambridge, were entertained to a supper dance by the directors of the Cinema. The proceedings commenced at 11 o'clock with a supper. Mr L.A. Boulter (Wardour Film Co) said he considered the Central Cinema one of the best equipped cinemas in the Eastern Counties. The company then adjourned to the dance hall for dancing and games which were kept up until 4.30 on Wednesday morning

1923 10 12
The long-waited for reopening of the Central Cinema, Hobson Street, Cambridge, took place in the presence of a good attendance. This popular house of amusement had so established itself with the lovers of the silent drama that its temporary withdrawal from the ranks of amusement caterers has caused no little concern. Not a few patrons felt that if a particular film did not altogether appeal to them, there was always a good orchestra to listen to, and this is doubtless one of the secrets of the Central's success. Under the renewed direction of Miss Norma Thomson the

orchestra is better than ever, and some distinctly appropriate music was played with skill and efficiency.

1924 05 29
At Cambridge council Alderman Starr said a number of buildings in Hobson Street were coming down. It would make it a 40 feet road and they believed it would eventually become a very important thoroughfare. Unfortunately they were up against a very difficult problem at the Sidney Street end because they had a bank on one side and a college on the other. But this was really a safety point because converging traffic would have a slight obstacle to pull them up

1927 09 24
Damage estimated at £2,000 was caused by a fire which broke out at the Cambridge Motor Service Co. Hobson Street. The night watchman found that motor cycle department, which also stored several cars, was alight and among the vehicles which were badly burned were a Bugatti racing car, an Austin Seven, a Trojan van and a number of motor cycles and bicycles. Some people returning from the New Theatre were attracted down Hobson Street and watched the Fire Brigade at work.

1928 04 28
Less than 20 years ago I was doing journalistic work in a Hobson Street office. In those days there was no County Hall opposite, nor talk of one. It was begun only 15 years ago and if anyone had been asked how long it would remain the County Council headquarters he might have answered 'A hundred years at least'. But so great has been the extra work thrown on the Council that already the building has been outgrown and plans are now to be prepared for a new building on the Castle Hill site. There are now 86 officials and ratepayers may ask if such an army of officers are really necessary

1929 01 28
The County Architect presented sketch plans for a new building on the Cambridge castle site, containing office accommodation, with council chamber, library and storerooms. It was futile to prepare plans for their existing needs when it was practically certain that under the new Local Government Bill they would have a large amount of additional work thrown upon them. Mr Dunn had erected the present County Hall in Hobson Street & was able to compete with the best architects in the country with regard to a beautiful scheme and a beautiful building. But if he was forced to collaborate with another architect there would be delays and they would never get the building erected.

1929 04 27
Cambridge to have a modern caravanserie matched the modern splendours of Oxford St & Regent street where a thousand people may dine without strain on the service & dance too if they are so minded, a place of dignity & comfort & of surpassing resource. The old Dorothy cafe is to disappear - not so very old though as a modern restaurant - & a building of 3 storeys spanning space between Sidney St & Hobson street. Ground floor entrance Sidney St is shop & showroom & on eastern side a dining hall or restaurant. Principal staircase to first floor will be from hall at Hobson street entrance & access to a dance hall with black hornbeam floor on springs. This accommodation for 320 diners at a public banquet but specially prepared for dancing for 450 at once. At western end another dining hall. Another on second floor, seat 80, suitable private dinner of clubs & organisations. perhaps this will be the oak room which intention of Hawkins to decorate; also roof garden looking across to gardens of Christ's College. Nags Head inn will not disappear but be given place in the basement. Will take 18 months but Hobson Street side will be completed before start made with Sidney St front to ensure restaurant open throughout

1930

1930 01 15
An application was made for the winding up of the Cambridge Service Motor Company of Hobson Street. It had been incorporated as a private company in 1923, taking over the Service Motor Company engineering business. Their account was considerably overdrawn for much of its existence and it now had an overdraft of £6,744. The assets consisted of a number of used motor-cars of no great value. It was unable to pay its debts and should be wound up. 30 01 15 & 15a

1930 01 21
There was a return of undergraduate hooliganism when hundreds of 'Varsity men rushed one of the entrances of the Central Cinema in Hobson Street in an attempt to see the extraordinary British talkie 'High Treason'. The trouble arose with those who had booked their seats. The orderliness of the queue became disorganised through latecomers surging round the entrance and when the door was thrown open a dense and disorderly crowd surged forward like an avalanche. The attendants attempted to stem the tide but were bruised in their struggle to stop in inevitable onrush. "Such a thing has never occurred before; the undergraduates were undoubtedly the cause, they think they can do as they like. We never had all this fuss in the vacation and we had full houses then", the manager said. 30 01 21

1930 03 19
Demolition work has just begun on the Sidney Street corner of Sussex Street as a first step towards the most important reconstruction scheme for the improvement of Cambridge in many years. Sidney Sussex College will develop the whole site on modern lines; within the next year an imposing block of buildings, providing shops and offices will rise. It will be connected to Hobson Street by an artistically-designed crescent and colonnade of 12 shops which will allow vehicles to pass freely in the middle of Sussex Street. 30 03 19b

1930 03 27
Cambridge Motor Service Company had taken over a firm of motor engineers and garage proprietors in Hobson Street and hoped to acquire the business of Hunnybun and Son, coachbuilders and painters. Then in 1927 they spent £2,000 to purchase a large stock of electric lamps which were being retailed at a considerable profit. But the British Thompson-Houston Company issued a writ and the present stock of lamps was now valueless. In addition the depression in the motor trade for used cars and dealings in sports cars for which there was at one time a good demand among undergraduates had contributed to their failure. 30 03 27a & b

1930 10 11
For the past few months workmen have been engaged in constructing Cambridge's new Central Cinema in Hobson Street. The interior is decorated in a style reminiscent of the Regal Super Cinema at Marble Arch. The prevailing colours are mauve, orange and blue and the whole is surmounted by a dome in the form of a large star surrounded by sky effects. On each of the walls there are large panels with ornamental plastering surmounted by a design in the form of sunrise and illuminated by hidden lights. 30 10 11

1930 10 13
Crowds thronged Hobson Street endeavouring to gain admission to the opening of the new Central Cinema. Many were unsuccessful. The Mayor gave a civic blessing to the picture house: it was appropriate because the assessment value of the property would go up and Hobson Street

was going to pay a large contribution to the rates. The film was Harold Lloyd's first talkie 'Welcome Danger'.
30 10 13

1931 09 04
Inquiries by the News confirm that the Central Cinema in Hobson Street is perfectly sound, despite rumours to the contrary. As part of the building is over the old King's Ditch, special attention was paid to the concrete foundations and reinforced with steel. The balcony, designed to carry 500 people, will take 2,000. The whole building is as sound today as it was when completed nearly 12 months ago. The only possible work is the renewal of some of the decorations as these were applied to wet plaster. 31 09 04e

1932 07 15
The new Shire Hall was opened with little ceremony in the presence of a handful of people. The Architect (H.H. Dunn) presented the Chairman, Ald W.C. Jackson, with a gold-covered key engraved with the County Arms with which he unlocked the door. Soon a stream of guest arrived and the corridors presented a most animated appearance. The council chamber is very similar to that at the old County Hall in Hobson Street from which all the seats and tables have been removed while every care has been taken to provide the maximum air, light and spaciousness to the offices. 32 07 15e & f

1933 07 31
The old County Hall in Hobson Street was supposed to be sold with the proceeds being used to pay for the new Shire Hall on Castle Hill. But now little tin advertising 'To Let' signs had appeared and there didn't seem to be the slightest attempt to sell it, a councillor complained. But every effort had been made to dispose of it without success and they were now hoping to let a portion to the Government's Office of Works which would suit the council equally as well as a sale. 33 07 31

1933 12 30
Chesterton RDC is to transfer their headquarters from St John's Street to a floor of the old County Hall in Hobson Street. It is possible the new West Cambs RDC would also take offices and share the council chamber. Councillors decided that six houses at Rooks Lane, Cottenham were slum property and should be demolished as should four cottages in Lambs Lane even though they were watertight and the owner, who was over 80, spent most of his old age pension in keeping them in repair. 33 12 30

1934 08 11
Demolition corner Hobson Street – Sidney Street pic, p1

1935 02 02
In the gale of January 26th an ancient and somewhat decrepit sycamore in the Sidney Sussex College Fellows' Garden was blown down. This tree was the last survivor of an avenue of sycamores planted in 1607-8 along the east side of that part of the King's Ditch which crossed the college grounds from the end of Hobson Street to Jesus Lane and thence along the side of Park Street. In the college accounts are payments to Thomas Hobson, the carrier, 'for bringing the sycamore trees from London … iiis. xd' 35 02 02

1935 12 10
A local history exhibition in the Central Library Reference Room in connection with the Local Government Centenary Celebrations shows how Cambridge looked in days gone by.

Schoolchildren are showing the greatest interest as they make tours of the exhibits. Photographs show the changes more vividly than anything: it is hard to believe that the Hobson Street pictured is the same one today. Political broadsheets from the 1840s comment on the 'horrible extravagance' of police expenditure and hint that all was not well with the painting of the inside of the Council Chamber - it advises local painters to have nothing to do with the job. 35 12 10

1936 03 28
Under new restrictions Cambridge motorists may not travel from Market Hill towards Trinity Street or into Bene't Street from King's Parade. You may not drive into Sussex Street from Hobson Street or into Corn Exchange Street from Downing Street, nor turn at Burton's Corner, Petty Cury to go to the Victoria Cinema or from Wheeler Street into Peas Hill to get to the Arts Theatre. But cyclists may walk with their bicycles either way as they do at present in Petty Cury and Market Street. Restaurants will have to speed up their service if they wish to cater for those who leave their cars outside, for only a quarter of an hour is permitted. Travellers who do not want to get indigestion had better make use of a parking space! 36 03 28b

1938 03 22
One-way traffic, Hobson St deleted from scheme, Perne Road roundabout – 38 03 22d

1939 04 25
The Central Cinema, Hobson Street, was burnt to a shell in the early hours of the morning. Only the fire-proof operating box, the foyer, crush hall and some of the back stalls remain intact. Firemen hauled hoses up to the roof of the Dorothy Café and from the high ladder of the Merryweather turntable in Hobson Street P.C. Kelly poured another stream of water on to the flames. But after an hour-and-a-half the roof fell in amid a shower of sparks. There was concern about Christ's College chapel where the roof had been removed because of damage done by the death watch beetle and only a tarpaulin covered the wooden ceiling. But a shower of rain helped to prevent it catching alight 39 04 25a, b

1940

1945 11 27
Americans entertain voluntary helpers at Red Cross Services Club to mark closure of the Doughnut Dugout in Hobson St – 45 11 27

1949 08 26
There was an atmosphere of spontaneous gaiety at the birthday celebrations of the Central Cinema, Hobson St, Cambridge. The highlight of the evening was the personal appearance on the stage of Mrs Morrow-Tait, immediately after the newsreel showing her arrival in this country following her round-the-world air journey.

1950

1951 01 27
Cambridge council agreed that parking spaces should be marked out in Parkside and Gonville Place and also that the paths on Parker's Piece in front of Regent Terrace should be used. Ald James said: We have to find odd spaces to put cars and if anyone can suggest any we shall be only too glad to implement those suggestions. Coun Proctor drew attention to the difficulties if proposal to use Hobson Street as a car park were implemented. It was a very narrow street and even now, with vans frequently unloading there, it was "a nightmare" for drivers of heavy vehicles who went through the street continuously

1954 03 01
County councillors voted to proceed with their original plan for the new Shire Hall courts building. They also need to get their Town Planning people transferred from Hobson Street and must have further accommodation for the County Library, which is one of the finest – if not the finest – in England. Suggestions for putting another floor on the present Shire Hall would never be satisfactory. Services would be upset for about two years, the whole of the heating apparatus would have to be altered and it would cost nearly £70,000. There were plans for the basement to be used as offices but to put clerks down there would be like putting them in prison.

1954 04 30
A new tower being built at Christ's College, Hobson Street, Cambridge was slightly damaged by fire. It is believed to have been caused by heat from a small fire used for copper soldering which ignited the scaffolding and the base of the new tower. The builders working on the tower could not get down. It was well alight and the fire was beginning to spread into the college when the brigade arrived. A major pump, pump escape and turntable ladder were used to extinguish the blaze and they had it under control in eight minutes

1954 08 13
This year marks the 150th anniversary of Lloyd's Bank in Cambridge. In 1804 two bothers named Foster who were already trading as millers established a bank in Bridge Street. In 1835 they transferred to the Turk's Head in Trinity Street and opened branches in St Ives, Saffron Walden and Ely. In those days two members of staff were boarded on the premises, one sleeping on a bed in front of the strong room armed with a rusty sword. At no time was the building left unattended. In 1890 they acquired a site at the junction of Hobson Street and a new building in Renaissance style was opened in 1894. The Capital and Counties Bank took them over in 1904 and 14 years later they amalgamated with Lloyd's. In 1919 the two offices were merged and the Sidney Street premises chosen as the main branch. In 1935 a considerable extension was built on the corner site

1956 03 24
Miller's Music Shop began a 100 years ago when Mr A.T. Miller opened a workshop in Hobson Street as an organ builder and piano repairer. The family home was above his wife's millinery shop in Sidney Street and one of the rooms was opened as a pianoforte showroom. His son introduced the sale of instruments and sheet music and later came harmoniums, gramophones, radio and television and now electronic organs and tape recorders. 56 03 24d

1959 03 20
Cyril Ridgeon and Son, builders' merchants gave a luncheon to inaugurate their new Regent Street showroom. The shop was formerly occupied by Messrs Murdoch's and the transformation from musical instruments to household equipment is striking. The lower ground floor is devoted to a display of bathroom suites, the ground floor to tiled fireplaces and the first to kitchen requirements. They were literally bulging at the seams at Hobson Street but the new store is comparable with something in London, guests were told. 59 03 20b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1964 09 17
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Hobson Street – 64 09 17b-e

1965 10 08
Frederick Morley's working man's stores Hobson St, Bridge St, Fitzroy St – photos – 65 10 08c

1965 10 22
County Hall, Hobson Street, offices to rent – 65 10 22a

1966 02 05
Hobson Street scaffolding for extension Marks & Spencer – photo – 66 02 05

1967 03 30
Lloyds Bank moving district office from Hobson Street to Brooklands Avenue building that housed Gt Ouse River Authority – 67 03 30

1970

1971 02 06
County Hall Hobson Street may be sold by county council to raise money for new offices behind Shire Hall – 71 02 06

1972 03 24
It was "eyes down" for the first time last night in Cambridge's new £10,000 bingo hall which will offer enthusiasts an almost non-stop programme throughout afternoons and evenings six days a week. The bingo hall which can accommodate nearly 1,000 players at a single sitting, is in the converted former Central Cinema in Hobson Street

1977 01 15
The Central EMI Bingo and Social Club, a converted cinema in Hobson Street, Cambridge, could quite comfortably have found a place in the zaniest of science fiction movies – with its brash psychedelic mish-mash of colours and huge electrically operated board that rises high behind the caller. The four-year-old club has 10,000 members and is an addict's paradise – open every afternoon and evening except Sunday and with hundreds of pounds at stake at each session. On Saturday the club linked up by phone to the EMI club in Oxford for a game which boasted a £400 jackpot. In the few seconds between games people dashed for the fruit machine which spills out its £30 jackpot in 50p pieces

1980

1983 07 01
The County Hall office block in Hobson Street which houses a major section of the county council's social services department may be sold to Christ's College for £1.25 million and converted into student accommodation. It would be one of the biggest property deals in the much sought-after city centre location for years. Scores of council officials would be moved into the new offices planned at the back of Shire Hall. 83 07 01 p1

1986 07 16
Cambridge planners rejected proposals to demolish the Victoria Cinema at Market Hill and replace it with a Marks and Spencer superstore. It would deprive many people of a first-class city centre entertainments facility, the shopping proposal was contrary to development plans and it would result in added traffic congestion. But they might change their minds if Cannon reopened

the Central Cinema in Hobson Street instead of using it as a bingo hall or provided a new multi-screen cinema 86 07 16

1986 08 18
EastEnders star Anita Dobson, the famous landlady of the TV show's 'Queen Vic' pub proved a powerful pulling attraction at the Coral Social Club in Cambridge where some 400 bingo players gathered to see her in the flesh. Fans cheered and queued for autographs when the actress arrived at the Hobson Street club. She called the shows 'Dirty Den' a 'rat' but said "We have a very good on-screen relationship. I'm going to string him up at Christmas. The real Den is a lovely nice person". The event was a lead-up for the club's refurbishment as a cabaret club in November 86 08 18

1989 08 05
The Government has rejected plans for a massive office block at Mitcham's Corner. But there is still a steady trade in office space. Those in old buildings without car park parking space are difficult to shift. But bright new ones are easier to find. In Rose Crescent an 18-year lease is going for £65,000 and an eight-room office in Hobson Street is £15,000 a year. Kett House is under offer and an office above the Midland Bank has just been let while in Newmarket is a brand new Stourbridge Common Business Centre 89 08 05

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Huntingdon Road c1900

c.44.6 : Huntingdon Road area – *includes Benson Street, North Street, Priory Street, Canterbury Street, Halifax Road, Richmond Road, Oxford Road, Sherlock Road, Eachard Road, Woodlark Road, Hoadley Road*

1898 08 27
Cambridge, the one and only, Barnum and Bailey Greatest Show on Earth, grounds on Huntingdon Road, September 8th. An overwhelming equestrian department, teeming with every valuable attraction, filled with wonders, overflowing with grand features, crowded with startling surprises, brim-full of novelties, running over with mirthful scenes, and abounding with thrilling sensations and glorious events. Presenting, in vast Amplitude of Detail, Wild Beast, Chariot and Pedestrian Races, Fearless Contests, Trials of Speed, Skill and Endurance. A World's Fair of modern marvels. 1,000 men, women, giants, midgets, dwarfs, tattooed people, sword swallowers, bearded and long-haired lady, dog-faced boy, armless and legless men, snake charmers. 1,000 marvellous sights and curious creations. One ticket admits to all the attractions. (Advert)

1898 10 19
Sir - for many years I have constantly visited the Mill road cemetery, Cambridge, and feel quite certain that if the present cemetery were made into a general and open place of burial it would last for many years. When the time arrives to provide a new cemetery, why not use that which is situated on the Huntingdon Road, which has a field adjoining sufficient to make a very large cemetery. I know that the Castle End hill is an obstacle, but an extra horse could be used to assist in drawing the hearse over this spot. This would be far preferable to going through Barnwell – R.R.

1900 02 05
Cambridge Adverting Company reported that the hoarding in Victoria Road, Chesterton was in course of enlargement and one at Shelford has recently been enlarged to meet the demand for country posters. An additional hoarding has been secured at the Traveller's Rest, Huntingdon

road, and is open to still further enlargement. The secretary and foreman billposter had been most attentive to their duties

1901 07 04
Sir – may I ask when the bus company intend to provide a large 'bus for the Huntingdon Road route in Cambridge? The small bus this hot weather is nearly suffocating. We have increased fares with less comfort. A top bus would bring in more revenue and residents could leave and return to their homes in comfort instead of going through a sardine process. If the bus company cannot really afford to put a large bus on the route perhaps some enterprising individual will run a motor car to Huntingdon Road. I'm sure there would be a good return for the investment – Resident

1902 02 25
Advert. New Year's Register. Sales & approximate price. Residences: De Freville Avenue £350, Guest Road £400; Mill Road £425, Hartington Grove £425, Malta Road £425, Huntingdon Road £450; Villas, Cherryhinton Road with land £850; modern town residences £1,000; terrace near Mill Road, (let for £100) £2,000; Country residence about 3½ acres, near station G.N.R. £2,000

1902 03 06
A small pox case from Richmond Road, Cambridge, has been removed to the small pox hut in Coldham's Lane and all steps taken to minimise any future danger. The clothes and the whole of the bedding had been destroyed and the house was thoroughly disinfected. The public vaccinator had vaccinated persons willing to be vaccinated

1902 09 16 c
Sir – Many people have felt genuine concern at the announcement that the Cambridge Omnibus Company is to be "wound up". Huntingdon Road, Old and New Chesterton, Mill Road and the rapidly growing suburb of New Cherryhinton have all benefited by its service. It is regretted that in spite of the hundred the Company has conveyed daily, the venture does not pay. Their difficulty is the Tram Company's opportunity and they should arrange for a good suburban service of 'buses to run in conjunction with their cars – New Cherryhinton

1903 12 12
Sir – Some weeks ago a travelling tinker called at my house and told my wife the old, old story of out of work and wife dying of starvation etc. She took pity on him and gave him a small job to repair a kettle, for which after putting a piece of putty in the hole he had the audacity to charge 8d. My wife paid him out of fear. Then some rascal decamped with my shirt and some tablecloths from our washing line. People should not encourage travelling tinkers and rag-and-bone-men who come to see in the daylight what can be had at a later period – A. Stevens, Richmond Road, Cambridge. 03 12 12

1904 03 21
Cambridge Property for sale: Cyprus Road – freehold terrace, sure to improve, £475. Huntingdon Road – pair of villas, £650. Ross Street – freehold terrace of five well-built houses, £1,025 the five. Searle Street – freehold terrace of four houses, £600 the four. Sedgwick Street – a terrace of five freeholds, rare investment - £1,100 the five. Sturton Street – freehold bakehouse, shop, house and stabling - £350. Suez Road – three newly-erected houses, £510 the three. – advert

1904 06 15
One day only. The one exhibition in the world that has no counterpart: Buffalo Bill's Wild West and congress of Rough Riders of the World headed and personally introduced by Col W.F. Cody,

'Buffalo Bill'. Three special trains, 500 horses, 800 people. 100 Redskin braves including the famous warriors of the Sioux, Ogallallas, Brutes, Uncapappas, Cheyenne and Apache tribes in Indian pastimes and war dances. Includes the Battle of Little Big Horn, Custer's last rally. The vast arena illuminated at night by special electric light plants. The entire grand programme will positively be presented twice daily (Rain or Shine). Dennis James' Fields, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge. Friday June 24th – Advert

1905 03 10
A company is being formed to provide a service of motor 'buses for Cambridge. Eight 'buses will be put down at first by which it is hoped to run a 15 minutes' service from Chesterton, another from the Huntingdon Road district to the centre of town and a seven minutes' service to the railway station. Should the venture prove successful the more outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton will be catered for 05 03 10

1905 04 08
The Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company has been formed. It is nowadays essential for the business of the town to have a convenient and quick means of transit and the omnibuses will be appreciated by the public and become a source of income to the shareholders. With eight vehicles it will be quite easy to maintain a 15-minute service from Chesterton and the Huntingdon Road to the centre of town and a seven-minute service to the railway station. Should these prove successful it will be extended to outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton. There is little doubt that horse traction for omnibuses and tramcars will shortly be superseded by petrol and electricity. 05 04 08a

1908 06 05
There has been an Alpine fever amongst undergraduates, finding a vent in climbing trees along the Backs. The wireless telegraphy station on the Huntingdon Road has been the site of the latest exploit. This is a pole over 200 feet in height which receives messages from Cumnor Hill near Oxford. Two undergraduates merrily commenced the ascent by means of the metal spikes driven in at convenient intervals and managed to reach the top. But the return voyage was not so easily accomplished and they reached terra firma with a distinct sigh of relief. It is a matter for common wonder what object will next receive the attention of this strange species. CWN 08 06 05 p5

1908 08 21
The Ortona Motorbus Company, inaugurated a year ago, now possesses five double-deckers, a char-a-banc and a big 'bus'. They have two services from the railway station, one to De Freville and the other to Huntingdon Road. At the well-equipped garage on Hills Road there is always one car that can be despatched the instant a breakdown is reported and even replacing a broken axle can be carried out by their own mechanics. Now country people who used to disfavour these 'machinations of the evil one' patronise them with perfect confidence. CWN 08 08 21 p5

1909 03 05
The Rose and Crown, Pound Hill, was damp with paper peeling from the wall. There were seven other licenced premises nearby which all did better trade. But the landlord said he exercised great discretion in the customers he encouraged. Other pubs were frequented by the lower class. If it were closed it would be an inducement to the others not to cater for the better and quieter class but to draw a larger number just so they could boost their sales of beer, Magistrates renewed the licence. Also Traveller's Rest Huntingdon Road, White Horse in Coronation Street, Prince of Wales in Church St, Fox & Duck South Street, Oxford in Crispin Street, Johnny Gilpin in Gold Street & Prince Albert Castle Street. CWN 09 03 05

1909 04 23
Police alleged that the Traveller's Rest beerhouse on Huntingdon Road was frequented by people of bad character and a married woman lived there in the guise of a single person. It was very remote from police supervision and used a great deal by persons from Girton where public houses had to close at ten o'clock. But the brewery said they had put in a new tenant who said would be no raffles and no improper characters, whether men or women, would be allowed there. The licence was renewed. 09 04 23

1910

1910 03 11
On Tuesday evening a motor cycle with trailer came to a standstill on the Huntingdon Road near Oakington because of a puncture. It was dark but three cottages were close by, so the cyclist and his passenger took the machine into the room of one of them to repair the damage. While searching for the puncture with the aid of a light, the petrol became ignited and the carpet and other contents of the room were damaged. Some of the occupants who had retired to rest hastily left their beds in alarm. The cyclist and his friend then proceeded to the Five Bells and the landlord drove them, cycle and trailer in a pig float back to St Ives. 10 03 11i

1910 08 19
The Crippen capture has caused Cambridge citizens to pay far more respect to the wireless telegraphy pole standing near the Huntingdon Road. More interest has been aroused by the fact that Crippen and Le Neve's whereabouts were note by wireless than has been manifested since the invention was first made. 10 08 19c & d

1912 12 13
Miss M.B. Thomas, M.A. of Huntingdon Road has the distinction of being the first lady in Cambridge to resist paying her taxes on the ground that taxation and representation should go together. 12 12 13c

1914 09 25
Cambridge Men on Torpedoed; Ships. News of the disaster to three of the cruisers of the British Fleet was officially known on Tuesday. Cambridge men are stated to have been on each of the; three cruisers. H.M. ships Aboukir, Hogue and Cressy were each torpedoed by German submarines and sank. The local men known to have been on board are: H.M.S.; Aboukir: Midshipman C. A. G. Cooke, son of Dr. K. Cooke, Bridge Street, Cambridge. Mr. Cooke was among those saved. HMS Hogue: First Class P.O. Percy James Warrington, Union Road, Cambridge (reported to be safe and to have been landed at Harwich), Signalman John Toombs, East Road, Cambridge and Naval. Reservist J. L. Claydon, 6, Benson Street, Cambridge; H.M.S, Cressy: Naval Reservist O. Hinson, 57, Garden Walk, Cambridge: Mr. Hinson, who is a married man with one child, has been employed at King's College as a gate porter for about six years. Midshipman Cooke said he was in the water for three quarters of an hour before being picked up by one of the Cressy's cutters. He was afterwards taken on a fishing trawler, later transferred to H.M.S. Legion and landed at Harwich. He is now home in Cambridge on a short leave. Mr. W. Maskell of Sawston, who had a son serving on the Aboukir, received a telegram from him on Wednesday morning to inform him he was among those saved. 14 09 25

1914 10 09
Military roads - Stretham to Soham, one of four to allow different armies to move from west to east at same time without going through Cambridge. The first from Potton though Harston to Whittlesford and Pampisford and on to London Road near Hildersham. A sinuous road through

Grantchester and Trumpington on to Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn and away on the Newmarket Road. Another down Huntingdon Road, across Midsummer Common and along Newmarket Road

1914 12 04
George Lucas, a taxi driver, was driving along Huntingdon Road, when after passing the Traveller's Rest, he saw a large portion of an elm tree that had been blown across the road. He could not stop in time and the car crashed into the tree. The windscreen and headlights were shattered but no occupant was hurt. Immediately afterwards another large piece of the tree fell and the road was completely blocked. Police in a taxi hurried to the scene. They removed the side-lamps of their motor and put one each side of the obstruction to warn traffic of the danger. Then with saws and pickaxes borrowed from people in the vicinity they cut a way through the obstruction

1915 09 17
Motor cyclists testing machines on Huntingdon Road

1915 09 24
Death of Mr. W. J. Aspinall. We regret to record the death, which took place at his residence, The Limes. Benson Street, Cambridge, on Tuesday, of Mr. William John Aspinall, a retired printer and farmer, at one time in business at Chatteris. Mr. Aspinall was 67 years of age and had been in fail¬ing health for some little time. He came to Cambridge in 1908 and resided ever since at the Limes. Be¬fore coming to Cambridge, he was in business at Chatteris as a printer and stationer, whilst he was also engaged in farming. He was for some years a member of the Chatteris Urban District Council. In politics, Mr. Aspinall was a strong Conservative. He did con¬siderable work for the party whilst residing in Chatteris. Since being in Cambridge he has not taken any part in public affairs. He leaves a widow and two children by his first wife 15 09 24

1917 02 28
Military Cross for old County Boy. Lt. (Acting Captain) Everett, of the Bedford Regt., an old County School boy, son of Mr. E. Everett, of 27, Richmond Road, Cambridge, has been awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry. Lt. Everett joined the Public School Corps in September, 1914, and gained his commission in April, 1915. He went to France in August last. 17 02 28

1917 07 25
Wireless telegraph mast Huntingdon Road damaged by high winds, old sailor climbed to top, 214 ft to repair – 17 07 25a

1918 02 27
H.G. Gray Playfair Athletic Works, Benson Street gutted by fire – 18 02 27g 18 03 06dFactory Blaze.—A fire, which did a great deal of damage, broke out about six o'clock on Tuesday morning in the main building of Mr. H. G. Gray's Athletic Works, Benson Street, Cambridge. This building, which is a three-storeyed place, used partly as a workshop and partly as a storehouse, stands a few feet back from the road and adjoins a row of cottages. The flames, however, were confined to the building and the cottages escaped damage. 18 02 27

1918 12 18
Election day pictures - Mrs Percy Muggleton whose husband is in Francs was the first woman to record her vote at stroke of 8 at Richmond Rd school p7

1920
1920 09 04
Mary Stewart Robinson, artist, Halifax Road, in court

1921 02 23
Parachute descent by Major Orde Lees witnessed by several thousand in Huntingdon Road meadow – 21 02 16a, b

1922 04 21
Impressive scenes were witnessed at the funeral of an Indian undergraduate. The funeral was carried out according to the Mohammedan ritual, and the interment was at St Giles' cemetery, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge. The coffin was conveyed in a hearse and was followed on foot by over 50 Indian undergraduates. Arrived at the cemetery the coffin was placed on the lawn at the entrance. Then several of the mourners, removing their shoes, conducted a short form of service, after which the coffin and mourners were photographed by an Indian student. The body was carried to the graveside and lowered by a party of the mourners. Nobody who was not directly concerned with the ceremony was allowed within 25 yards of the grave

1923 01 17
Richmond Road school, p3

1923 02 01
Richmond Road school closure, p5

1925 09 25
Canterbury Street bungalows, p5

1926 09 15
Considerable interest was taken in agricultural circles in a demonstration of stubble cleaning on the University Farm, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge. It had the dual object of acquainting farmers with the instruments available for such work and of bringing instrument makers in touch with them so they may visualise what improvements are required. Light land was used in the morning and heavy loam in the afternoon and included both tractor and horse work by a variety of instruments, though the exhibition was in the main concerned with tractors.

1927 06 21
Huntingdon Road junction, p5

1928 09 24
Sir Horace Darwin, a son of Charles Darwin, died at his home, The Orchard, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge having been in failing health for some time. By his passing we have lost yet another distinguished son of inventive and scientific genius and a personality who will be much missed. A former Mayor and chairman of the Cambridge Instrument Company, he was much interested in the training of mentally deficient children and helped to establish a home for them at Girton

1930

1930 06 07
The University told Cambridge planners that if they would change the route of the proposed ring road to avoid crossing the University Farm on the Huntingdon Road then they would agree that the land would never be used for any business, commercial development or housing scheme but

remain a private open space. After careful consideration the planners were unable to agree. 30 06 07 f & g

1930 06 12
The University is opposed to the proposed ring road round Cambridge crossing the University Farm on Huntingdon Road. It was of national importance, a road cutting up the farm would do a great amount of damage to the experiments which had been in progress for many years. But everybody could use the same argument and say 'You are not going to come across my cabbage patch'. Somebody had to give way and the University should be big enough to do so. Anyway the road would not be wanted for 50 years. 30 06 12a-d

1930 07 21
Cambridge planners say that Huntingdon and Barton Road are already practically fully developed on both sides, similar building is taking place along Trumpington Road & housing in Madingley Road will increase now the sewers are laid. There will probably be spur roads which will have no regard to the traffic needs of the area as a whole and the result will be a hotch-potch similar to that before the days of town planning. Soon there will be no possibility getting a cross-road between Huntingdon Road and Trumpington without the demolition of buildings or serious interference with the land-owners. 30 07 21a-c

1930 07 25
The controversy over the University Farm on Huntingdon Road was resolved when Cambridge councillors rejected proposals for a road across the land. It had never been a ring road, only a road to be planned in the event of traffic conditions demanding it. It was altogether wrong to put an arterial road in the middle of a rural area which they desired to preserve and which they hoped would never be required. They should ensure that Grantchester and Coton were not swallowed up by Cambridge in the way that Trumpington and Girton were. 30 07 25a-c

1931 05 22
Messrs Murkett Bros, the well-known garage proprietors and motor agents, are now installed in their imposing new premises on the Huntingdon Road, Cambridge. They were pioneers in the motor industry and their extensive new motor showrooms and repair shops will provide the best of sales and service. If all garages installed such up-to-date machinery and gave such service then insurance companies could bring down their premiums. 31 05 22 e f g

1934 03 08
A plastering contractor said he'd been told there was "a bag of money for plasterers in Cambridge" and had come from Sutton Bridge with £900 to his credit. There was a strike on at the time and he started on 20 houses in Huntingdon Road for Mr John Brignell then contracted to plaster 212 houses in Kendal Way. But another workman's strike arose – a strike that never ceased. His last contract was for houses at Harston, Eversden and Coldham's Lane. He attributed his failure to other people's bankruptcy and bad debts. 34 03 08

1935 01 22
We have to report the death of Miss L.M. Brooks of Oxford Road, portress of Newnham College since 1924. She served the college with devotion and made herself respected and loved by successions of students, Fellows and staff alike. Her unfailing courtesy and interest, and the joy in life which was evident in her, won everybody's affection. She kept in touch with old students in remote parts of the world and remembered everyone who came back. The college has suffered a great loss by the removal of so charming and gracious a personality. 35 01 22a

1936 05 12
The Seed Testing Station, Huntingdon Road was established as during the Great War farmers had not been getting the best seeds and new regulations had to be worked out. The main work is carried out by a staff of 30 girls. There are sections dealing with cereals, grasses and clover – where a bad weed called dodder has to be separated - together with a vegetable germination room where an ingenious devise automatically plants 200 seeds in a pan. Onion and parsnip seeds are tested periodically – they will keep for two years then go off altogether. 36 05 12

1936 12 08
The draft Cambridge town planning scheme would see the construction of bridges and closure of the level crossings at Histon and Shelford with footbridges for pedestrians. The line of the Ring Road from Huntingdon Road to Shelford was agreed and the difficult question of the aerodrome settled. 36 12 08

1937 03 10
Murkett Brothers, automobile engineers, who have large garages in Huntingdon, Peterborough and Bedford, opened their new premises on the corner of Huntingdon & Histon Road in May 1931. Owing to the satisfactory service they have given business has developed to such an extent that an additional garage is shortly to be built. This will cater for commercial vehicles and heavy repairs, whilst the Huntingdon Road depot will be for new and second-hand cars, with light repairs and service facilities 36 12 10i

1937 10 29
Cambridge & Counties Crematorium Ltd was incorporated on 8th June 1936 to establish a crematorium on an attractive site on the main Huntingdon Road with a chapel, incinerating chambers, columbaria for the reception of urns and waiting rooms. The Borough Council have decided not to proceed with a Municipal Crematorium so this will be the only one within 50-60 miles and has every prospect of success. The Company's revenue will consist not only of fees for cremations but also for the storage of urns and for niches. Shares are now available – advertisement 37 10 29a & b

1938 03 19
Mount Pleasant folk have had an interesting time seeing a modern workshop and showroom built on a corner site at Huntingdon Road without spoiling the beauty of an old house. Part of the ground below road level at the rear has been made full use of by having a sunk workshop built upon it with steel runners over the lower floor. This does away with the old idea of a car having to be run over a dark pit, when one can neither see to work well or do a job well. Dan Morley, well-known in the motor trade, had got this business going in less than four months. 38 03 19

1938 04 08
Miss D.I. Macdonald, who lives in Sherlock Road, has recently returned from Spain where she was caught in air raids. "There is nothing you can do except sit still and I was frightened because I felt completely trapped". The universities were picked out specifically as targets by the attackers who feared the people in them. Government suggestions that covered-in trenches should be constructed in the gardens of houses here are very sensible; the great thing is to have covered protection against splinters and machine gun bullets. In Spain they were not unsightly as flower beds have been planted on top of them. 38 04 08

1938 09 21
Thornton estate, Huntingdon Road – finest house value in this district – 38 09 21b

1939 01 16
Huntingdon Road house struck by lightning – photo – 39 01 16

1939 04 01
Rudd's Garage and Petrol Filling Station on the Huntingdon Road is well-known to thousands of motorists as a place where they may obtain expert and courteous service at a reasonable charge. For many years it has specialised in the presentation of reliable used cars. They currently have a very handsome selection of the popular low horse-powered used vehicles, all spick and span and ready for the road and almost indistinguishable from new. They are also sole agents for the new Renault 'Eight'
39 04 01

1939 09 02
An important announcement from Cambridge bakers. As new Acts have been applied to the baking trade, Master Bakers have agreed to provide a shorter working week for employees. We have decided not to bake or deliver dread on Thursdays. Signed: J. Harwood of Derby St, W.H. Pratt of Halifax Road, G.P. Hawkins of Parsonage Street, A.E. Mason of Trumpington Street together with Tylers, Maskell, Markillie, Horspool, Summerlin and over 20 other bakers. [advert]
39 09 02a

1939 10 05
Dressmaker, hairdresser, dancing expert, officer clerk, shop assistant and television worker. All these are working side by side potato picking, milking cows, muck spreading and clearing out pigsties at the Cambridge University Farm on Huntingdon Road. The girls are members of the Women's Land Army undergoing a month's training before being sent to work for farmers. The majority are in their late teens and early twenties but some are older. One has her two grown-up daughters with her; her son and his brother are doing their bit in the Tank Corps in France. 39 10 05

1938 11 13
Horace George Gray was the son of the founder of H.J. Gray, sports good manufacturers. Early premises were in Grange Road and firm later moved to Benson Street – 39 11 13b

1940

1941 09 20
Air raid on Huntingdon Road – photos of debris – 41 09 20b

1940 01 05
Long Service on Town Council. Many in Cambridge heard with regret of the death of Councillor William Henry Swift, which occurred suddenly at Cambridge last week at his home at 34 Halifax Road. He was 73 years of age. A familiar figure in Cambridge, where he had lived since he started his career at the University Press, Mr. Smith had given close on 20 years' unbroken and faithful service to the Cambridge Town Council. It was in 1920 that he was first returned to the Council as the representative of West Chesterton, where he had lived since coming to Cambridge, and when the redistribution of seats took place in 1935, he was again elected as one of the three members for Castle Ward. And until the last he attended meetings of the Council and the meetings on which he served. Born in the vicinity of Harrogate in 1866, Mr. Swift came to Cambridge at an early age, when he started work at the Cambridge University Press. Over 50 years later, in May, 1931, he retired from the post as head of the Reading Department. In the

course of his service there he saw the building double and treble its size, and watched its marvellous modern developments added as time went on. 40 01 05

1941 12 12
Married 50 years – Many friends and neighbours will join in congratulating Mr & Mrs A.W. Cook of 70 Huntingdon Road, Cambridge, who celebrated their golden wedding on Saturday. They were married in 1891 at St. Giles Church by the Rev. G. R. Christie, and had lived in the St. Giles district ever since. Mr. Cook was a well-known professional cricketer in Cambridge, and was, last year umpire for St. Giles' cricket team He was for some time a messenger at Trinity College, and, he later became a gyp at Magdalene, retiring at the age of 65. He is now 72 and his wife 71. She is obviously very proud of her eight children, and said of them that they had not caused her or her husband any trouble at any time Mr. and Mrs. Cooks first address was 95 Alpha Road. In 1899 they moved to 13 Histon Road, where they remained for 32 years moving thence to their present address in 1929.

1944 10 23
Myrtle Wright of Huntingdon Road talks of experiences in Norway and of resistance – 44 10 23

1945 05 11
VE celebrations –45 05 11a; Beaconsfield Hall children, Sturton St, Cowper Rd, Norwich St – 45 05 16; Perne Ave, Mowbray Road, Beche Rd, Norfolk St – 45 05 18; Hobart Rd, Bradmore St, Russell St – 45 05 19b; Young St, Gonville Road & Charles St, Cam Causeway, Gt Eastern St – 45 02 22a; Ditton Fields, Romsey Women Conservatives, Suez Rd, Covent Garden, Eden St – 45 05 23; York St, Thoday St, Kingston St, Northampton St, Cherry Hinton – 45 05 24; Hills Ave, City Rd, Cavendish Rd, Malta Rd – 45 05 25; Mowbray Rd, Willow Walk, Springfield Rd, Kelvin Close – 45 05 26b; New St, Chesterton High St – 45 05 28a; Cockburn St, Newnham Croft, Madras Rd, Henley Road & Coldham's Lane – 45 05 30; Barnwell, Wellington St, Fitzroy St, Devonshire Rd – 45 05 30b; children entertained Cherry Hinton, Fairfax Rd – 45 06 02; Vinery Rd, Eastfield – 45 06 04; Catherine St, Ditton Walk, Union Lane – 45 06 05; Gwydir St, Abbey (East) – 45 06 06; Meadowlands Estate, Argyle St, Hope St, De Freville Estate – 45 06 07; Ross St, Hemingford Rd, Green End Rd, Staffordshire St, Selwyn Rd, Coldham's Grove, Coldham's Lane, Akeman St – 45 06 11; Brooks Rd, Sedgwick St, Langham Rd, Oxford Rd, Haig Road, Chesterton – 45 06 13a; Windsor Rd, Stretten Ave, Kimberley Rd, Abbey Road, Walnut Tree Ave, Brookfields – 45 06 18; Trumpington, Mansfield Hall – 45 06 19; Cavendish Ave, Hinton Ave, Hope Hall for Deaf – 45 06 21a; Histon Rd children – 45 06 30; St Peter's St, Greens Rd – 45 07 10

1945 08 29
VJ Parties – Eden St, Cherryhinton Rd, Chestnut Grove – 45 08 29; Queen Edith's Way, Ditton Fields – 45 09 04; Young St, Petworth St, Geldart St, Marshall Rd – 45 09 04; Darwin Drive, Stretton Ave, Victoria St, Hobart Rd, Adam & Eve St – 45 09 07b; Gloucester St, Castle St, Ashfield Rd – 45 09 10; Gilbert Rd, Kings Hedges Rd, Ditton Fields – 45 09 11; Lichfield Rd, Cromwell Park estate, Hawthorn Rd – 45 09 12; Catharine St, Kendal Way – 45 09 14; York St & York Terrace, Brooks Road, Gold St – 45 09 17d# Bateson Rd, Garden Walk, Argyle St, St Philip's Rd , Sedgwick St, Holbrook Rd, Mowbray Rd – 45 09 18; Akeman St, James St, Parsonage St, Vinery Rd, Kingston St, Kingston St, Mowbray Rd, Hurst Park Estate – 45 09 20; Eastfield, New St, Kelvin Close – 45 09 24a; Hertford St, St John's Rd, Norwich St, Alpha Terrace, Sherlock Rd – 45 09 27a

Premier Travel take over services of F.E. Weeden of Chrishall – 45 08 30; Silverwood Close, Newmarket Road, Fallowfield, Fen Rd, Water St, Mowbray Rd – 45 10 04a; Cavendish Rd, Stourbridge Grove, Fulbourn Rd, Bradmore St, Petersfield, Gwydir St, Newnham Croft, Scotland Rd, Scotland Close – 45 10 08; Suez Rd, Hale Ave, Harvey Goodwin Ave, Glebe Rd, Radegund Rd, Golding Rd – 45 10 10; Selwyn Rd, Abbey Estate, De Freville Ave, Stanley Rd – 45 10 12a; Milton Rd, Thoday St – 45 10 18

1950

1950 02 08
A modest world champion who attributes his achievements rather to "the luck of the game" is Cambridge-born Tommy Price. After an eventful career ever since he first rode a motor cycle in his back garden at the age of 8, Tommy last year became the world speedway champion. He was born in Oxford Road and left Cambridge at 13 for London. He did everything for himself – even the building and assembly of his machines.

1950 06 03
Cambridge has had its hottest day for a number of years past. Ald F. Doggett, the well-known weather recorder, reports that before mid-afternoon the temperature was 95 degrees in the sun at his station at Oxford Road. Last night was the hottest of the year with the temperature rising to as much as 63 degrees. The average night temperature is 49 degrees. At Trumpington AA box traffic was reported to be the heaviest for a Saturday this year.

1950 12 18
"I think every road leading on to Huntingdon Road should have a 'Halt' sign", Coun A.T. Shelley told the Road Safety Committee. "I don't think there is one corner on Huntingdon Road between Fenstanton and Girton where there has not been an accident. It is the fastest road in the whole of East Anglia", he declared.

1952 05 12
Nearly 100 children walked calmly out of Richmond Road Infants' School, Cambridge when fire swept the 50-foot-long school roof. The school caretaker, Mrs E.N. Mansfield said: "The children were perfectly calm and they walked out with their little coats so smartly". The headmistress (Miss W.E. Chandler) and her assistant, Miss K.E. Buck took their pupils to a nearby recreation ground while firemen tackled the blaze on the tiles. The Chief Constable, Mr B.N. Bebbington, was amongst a crowd of willing helpers who moved school furniture and equipment to safety

1952 11 24
The County Council have designs on a quarter of an acre of smallholdings let to Redgate Nurseries on the corner of Hick's Lane and Cambridge Road Girton. It is proposed to establish a police station and house on the site which would give adequate supervision of the Huntingdon Road – a black spot for accidents in the past. The County Police force has been undermanned since the war and better accommodation would attract more recruits. The constable at Girton was responsible for policing the parishes of Girton, Oakington and Westwick. A council house was not suitable; if a constable had to detain a prisoner there was only the living room of the house available.

1954 05 12
A baby girl born in Cambridge has the distinction of arriving in the world with six of her eight great-grandparents still alive. Susan Carole Fuller is the daughter of Mr & Mrs D.J. Fuller of Halifax Road. Her great grandparents on her father's side are Mr & Mrs W. Fuller aged 83 and 76

who now live in Wrexham, and Mr & Mrs B. Ager of Blinco Grove. On her mother's side they are Mr & Mrs V.F. Pursey of Mill Road. She also has 18 great aunts and uncles. This is most unusual and may be a record for Cambridge

1955 08 05
With 126 babies a lot of noises is to be expected but they were surprisingly good and few cries could be heard at Cambridge's bonniest baby exhibition. For the most part they sat contentedly on their mother's knees waiting to be judged. Winners of the various age categories were Teresa Murray from Byron Square, Joy Quinney of Queen Edith's Way; Linda Barker of Canterbury Street and Gerald Peachey of Sedgwick Street while Patricia and Jacqueline Hooks of James Street won the twins competition. 55 08 05c

1955 09 16
On the map in 10 weeks. The first completed dwelling on the Arbury Road estate extension, designed and built by Monkman of Halifax Road, Cambridge was started on 1st July 1955 and occupied on the 17th September. – Advert. 55 09 16b

1956 01 31
The Sisters of Saint Margaret, East Grinstead, an Anglican community founded a century ago by Dr John Mason Neale of Trinity College, have opened a centre in Huntingdon Road, Cambridge. The small number of Sisters in residence must endeavour to make their house self-supporting, in accordance with their Community's rules, and plan 'open teas' on Sunday afternoons. 56 01 31b & c

1957 05 15
A revolutionary – even fantastic – scheme has been put forward to use Cambridge Castle Mound as a multi-deck car park. Tunnels would be driven into it to provide space for hundreds of cars with be entrances from Chesterton Lane, Huntingdon Road and Magrath Avenue. The dirt excavated could be used for filling in Coldham's Lane pit, providing more parking spaces or building land. There will no doubt be many objections. 57 05 15

1957 07 19
There will be a lot of sadness at Richmond Road School when Miss Chandler retires after 22 years as headmistress. Scores of children owe a great deal to her care and devotion. The other day a young boy gave her sixpence and said 'This is for making us work so hard'. Now she is going to learn to use the typewriter that was presented to her but will be going away for a few days when the children start school again as she will feel her retirement more acutely at that time. 57 07 19

1958 05 17
A Cambridge man, Barry Mason of Huntingdon Road, is a trumpeter in one of the bands travelling to New York and back on the Queen Mary liner. An old Perse School boy, he first started playing the trumpet in 1949 with Freddie Webb and Ken Stevens' bands. He enjoys life on the ship, although it does mean working irregular hours, sometimes until 3.30 in the morning. 58 05 17

1959 07 16
The Minister of Agriculture opened new laboratory and office buildings at the National Institute of Agricultural Botany. The extension had been needed for a very long time: it has been bursting at the seams. NIAB was established in 1919 and in October 1921 King George V opened the

Huntingdon Road headquarters designed by Morley Horder. Since then the average yield of wheat has gone up from 17 cwt to nearly 25 cwt and that of barley had increased more than half. 59 07 16, 18 & a

1959 09 01
A Ring Road was proposed for Cambridge before the war. It was to run from Trumpington Road and Brooks Road to Coldham's Lane, then on across Milton Road, Huntingdon Road and so to Hills Road. Thousands of pounds were spent to make a dual carriageway from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk with a ramp six feet high to start the viaduct across the river. This section was completed and only required the final tarmac surface. Now half of the dual carriageways have been dug up and the ramp bulldozed. It cost many thousands of pounds to make and over £34,500 to destroy. 59 09 01

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 06 03
Islip House Preparatory School in Huntingdon Road is one of those good things in independent education which, after many years or unobtrusive excellence, will have to fade away under the onslaught of modern financial difficulties. Miss Mildred Turner, its Principal, is taking no more new pupils. The nine she teaches at the moment will be taken to the point where they are reader to enter the Perse or another Grammar School, but will be the last pupils that Islip House will ever have. 60 06 03b

1960 06 21
The Isaac Wolfson Foundation has made a grant of £100,000 to New Hall, the first college at Cambridge to be founded this century. It is the largest single donation since an appeal was started four years ago. Others have come from Dame Catherine Fulford, Nancy Viscountess Astor and the John Lewis Partnership. At present there are 53 students on the Silver Street site but the new building on Huntingdon Road will accommodate 300. 60 06 21a

1961 04 21
Lacon's the brewers want to knock down the Travellers Rest public house in Huntingdon Road, Cambridge and erect another one further back. A petrol filling station would then be built on the site with no major repair facilities, just a routine check of oils, tyre pressures and sparking plugs. There was no filling station on that side of the road until passing the Lolworth Transport Café. But planners say there is already a petrol station opposite. There is heavy traffic visiting the nearby Cattle Breeders Association and Messrs French's Flour Mills and many coach parties would continue to use the public house. A lighted cigarette end thrown from an open coach window by a passenger would land near the petrol pumps. 61 04 21a

1961 10 05
Sir - The pavement on the right-hand side of Huntingdon Road has been reduced to a strip barely wide enough to allow two prams to pass. This narrowing has been caused by the construction of four lay-bys of extraordinary length. It is certain these will be used by heavy lorries and visitors to the new colleges to be built on the other side of the road. Traffic is already heavy and goes much too fast. This will increase noise and vibration and turn it into the most dangerous and undisciplined road in Cambridge. – J.R. Northam 61 10 05a

1962 01 05

Barnwell and Wadloes Roads, sections of the Whitehill housing estate, were intended to be part of a ring road on the eastern side of Cambridge. That project was abandoned years ago but now they could form part of a proposed eastern by-pass. This should take priority over the 'Spine Relief Road' which was planned to run from Huntingdon Road, across Chesterton Road, over the river and up to Jesus Lane, councillors agreed. 62 01 05a

1962 02 23
Westfield House has been formally opened as a Lutheran House of Studies with an inaugural lecture by the Bishop of Gothenburg in the presence of an invited audience of senior members of the University. The spacious building on Huntingdon Road will take students from home and abroad who are preparing for the Lutheran ministry and will have a library specialising in Reformation studies. 62 02 23

1962 05 09
Cambridge University wants to erect a petrol filling station on Huntingdon Road using land designated for educational and research requirements – Inquiry 62 05 09

1962 07 05
County Council plans for a new "inner relief road" linking the Huntingdon Road-Castle Hill junction with Hyde Park Corner would cost £932,000 (£16.3m today). There would be a new bridge over the Cam at Jesus Green with an underpass at Four Lamps before the road continued to Parkside and Regent Street. This figure did not include the cost of acquiring additional land. It was needed to deal with traffic problems in Magdalene Street which is very narrow, an Inquiry was told. 62 07 05b

1963 06 13
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Huntingdon Road - 63 06 13

1963 07 05
Electronic computers are being used by W. & C. French to speed the building of New Hall at Huntingdon Road. The severe weather delayed progress for three months but with their aid it is hoped they will still finish within the deadline. It is the first time computers have been used in this region to devise a logical schedule of jobs to be carried out & grading them according to importance. The college dining hall is taking shape with its elegant dome using ferro-concrete previously used in boat building. A huge crane is playing a major part to gain lost time 63 07 05f

1963 10 04
Fitzwilliam House's first stage on Huntingdon Road is completed. 63 10 04a

1964 07 19
Grays of Cambridge, manufacture of high-quality sports equipment, are best known for as makers of rackets. H.J. Gray, the founder, became rackets champion in 1864 when he was succeeded by his brother. Business grew rapidly and in 1912 they moved to the present factory in Benson Street. Then they developed a revolutionary tennis rack and never looked back. Now hockey sticks are their most successful line but ski-ing is the sport of the future 64 07 10b

1964 10 07
The Community of St John the Baptist of Neale House, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge have been told that their temporary chapel has been granted planning permission until September 1967. It was built in 1959 by the former occupants of the house, the religious order of the Sisters of St Margaret, from East Grinstead. 64 10 07

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1970

1972 07 28
With Murkett Bros' move to new premises in Histon Road on Tuesday, Cambridge will shortly lose a familiar landmark. The Huntingdon-based firm's motor car showrooms and offices at the corner of Huntingdon Road and Histon Road is to be demolished and a million-gallon-a-year petrol service station built in its place. Murkett's sold their prime corner city centre site to Chevron Oil (U.K.) earlier this year. Chevron consider the purchase of the old showrooms a coup. "With a traffic count of around 40,000 cars a day at this junction, it is a prime site equal to some of the best in London", said a spokesman

1972 12 22
The £2 million De Vere hotel building project at Mount Pleasant - Huntingdon Road corner in Cambridge has been given final clearance by the Cambridgeshire planners. The drawings of the proposed 200-bedroom hotel - the largest in East Anglia were given approval privately this week by the city planning department. Last month the Environment Minister gave approval to the project. The De Vere hotel saga has dragged on for more than four years during which time it has occupied two major public inquiries and has been the subject of a High Court hearing

1973 07 05
Emergency hospital treatment had to be given to 11 people after a drum of poisonous chemical spilled on to the roadway at one of Cambridge's busiest junctions as the afternoon rush hour started. The chemical spilled when the drum containing ethyl acrylate split open after falling from a lorry at the Huntingdon Road - Histon Road corner. Immediately the air, in spite of a strong breeze was pungent with the smell of the liquid. The police and fire brigade were called to deal with the problem. The drama, which led ultimately to the total ban of traffic at the junction began at 3.10pm, by 6pm the acrylate was safely loaded on to a sand covered trailer, then in convoy with two fire tenders and police cars it was taken at less than 10 mph the seven miles to the Royal Engineer's airfield at Waterbeach

1973 09 04
De Vere's have been given final planning permission to go ahead with their plans to build a £2 million-plus hotel at the Huntingdon Road - Mount Pleasant junction, Cambridge - almost five years after the project was first proposed. But the London-based company are not saying yet when they intend to start building on the derelict site overlooking one of the city's busiest road junctions. It was at the beginning of 1969 that De Vere Hotels and Restaurants Ltd submitted their original plans for the hotel

1973 10 25
De Vere have finally abandoned their plans to build a 5-star 200-bedroom hotel at Cambridge's Mount Pleasant - Huntingdon Road junction. Instead the company have suggested to planners that the site could be used for a four-storey block of residential flats with a restaurant, showrooms, offices and a bank included in the development. The company say it is "no longer economically viable" to go ahead with the hotel project which has been on the stocks for four years. It is being suggested that the originally estimated building costs of around £2 million has now risen to about £3.8 million

1974 07 23
The people of Cambridge would never accept the building of the proposed Western Relief Road project, linking Huntingdon Road with Trumpington road and going through Newnham or near

Grantchester, it was claimed by city councillors. In addition the county proposed a road linking Huntingdon Road with Madingley road. But Counc. Overhill supported the road. "If this was proposed through the middle of Chesterton, nobody would complain. It is only because it is going through Newnham that people are against it", he said

1979 03 14
The 600-plus parking meters in the centre of Cambridge may be scrapped as one of the options for helping to sort out traffic chaos. But if they continue the city council is backing a 67 per cent increase in all meter charges because they are facing a £12,000 loss due to increased pay for the traffic wardens. Councillors are also considering residents' parking schemes to meet mounting demand for this facility. They may also provide the city's first cycle lane along the Huntingdon Road from Girton College to Murkett's Corner.

1979 07 18
Not everyone in Cambridge sees Mount Pleasant House but to those who use Huntingdon Road this new office block bulks very large indeed. The initial scheme was described as "Excessively bulky, un-neighbourly, inconsiderate of adjoining owners and occupiers, out of scale with its surroundings and over-dominant in the local scene' by the Environment Minister but his decision to reject it was reversed at a subsequent inquiry. There will be 16 trees round the main building together with a number of shrubs but it will always look what it is – 50,000 square feet of office space.

1980

1980 02 20
One of Cambridgeshire's few remaining traditional bakers, Mr John Edward Wright (known as Ted) has died. He built up the Copper Kettle firm & supplied bread to shops all over Cambridge. He moved to Haddenham at the end of the war and later opened a bakery and shop in Halifax Road, Cambridge as well as in Sutton & Cottenham. He also ran the Copper Kettle tea shop at one time. He always took great pride in the fact that his bread was always made the traditional way with no additives 80 02 20

1984 08 07
Cambridge sub-postmasters have decided not to oppose the closure of three of the city's 26 post offices. Their salaries have dropped substantially during the past year because of changes in Post Office administration and they feel the business must be spread around the remaining offices to make them viable. The sub-post offices at Arbury Road, Gwydir Street and Richmond Road are due to close by the end of the year. 84 08 07 p7

1984 09 12
Campaigners have lost their battle to save two Cambridge post offices in Arbury Road and Gywidr Street. They will close within a few months, but the threatened Richmond Road sub post office will remain open in view of the weight of public opinion. Coun Andrew Duff, one of the Liberal members fighting to keep the Richmond Road office going says he is delighted at the change of heart 84 09 12

1984 12 14
Foreign competition is forcing Grays to stop volume production of wooden squash racquets early next year due to the difference between the cost of labour and overheads in Cambridge and Taiwan. But production of a limited range of top-quality specialist racquets will continue as will its cricket bat and ball factories in Sussex and Kent. The129-year-old company, which has its

headquarters at the Playfair Works in Benson Street and a sports shop in Sidney Street, employs around 110 people locally. 84 12 14

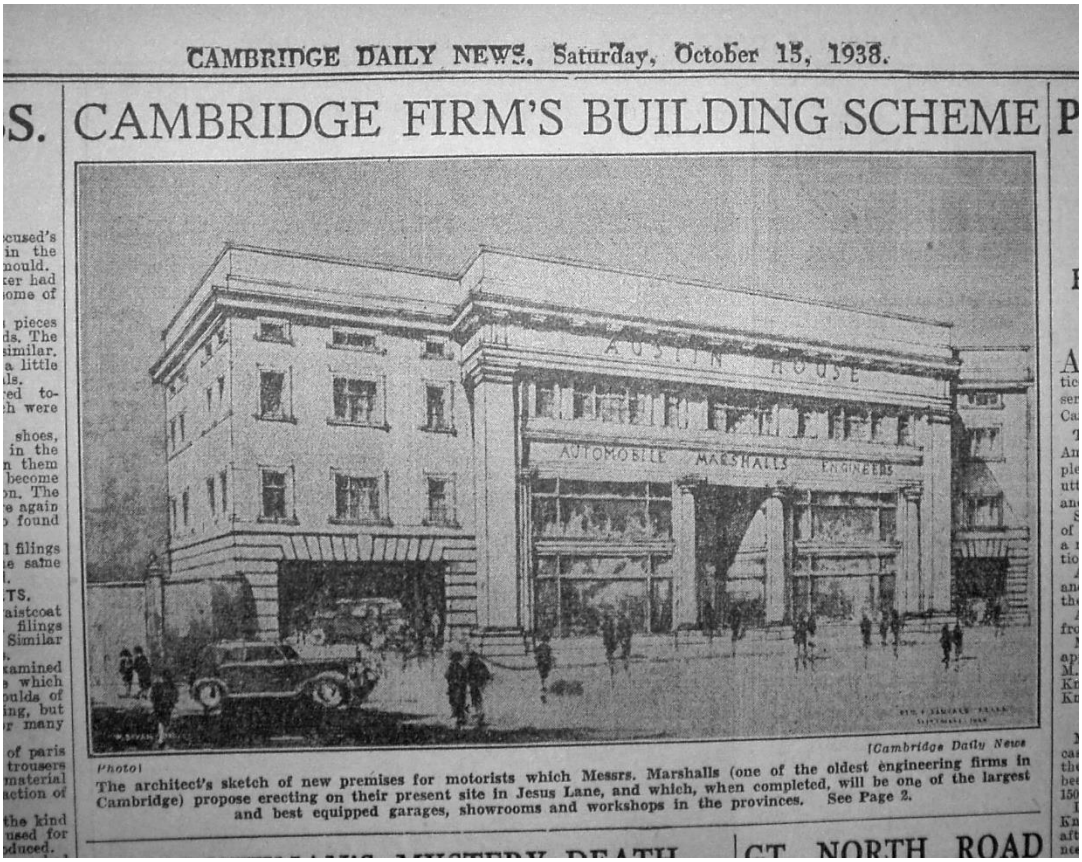
1985 09 17
The Green Belt around Cambridge was designed to protect the area from development and to preserve large areas of open space between villages. Now County planners want to release land to make way for the city to breathe including 70 acres at Trumpington, Histon Road allotments and the University Farm in Huntingdon Road. They say this would not mean developers' lorries moving in. Nearly 500 organisations objected at an Inquiry but the County are pleased with the result which backs most of their proposals. 85 09 17 a b c

1986 06 17
Grays of Cambridge, the 130-years-old sports firm, has reached the end of an era with the closure of its Benson Street headquarters. The only remaining presence locally is a small racquet-making factory at Coton on the site of their former sawmill. The last 18 months have seen the workforce dwindle from 150 to just six. The main reasons for decline have been increased competition from Taiwan and a change away from wooden frames towards graphite and metal racquets and. Now they produce them for the small market of real tennis and rackets players 86 06 17a

1986 07 04
Churchill Service Station on the junction of Histon and Huntingdon Road in Cambridge is to open 24 hours a day. Garages cannot make a profit on discount petrol alone so it has diversified into selling milk, sandwiches and a range of household goods from dog food to washing powder. Newnham Service Station has been a village shop for several years stocking frozen food alongside chamois leathers and polish. But they have to obey Sunday trading laws like everybody else 86 07 04 & a

1987 05 05
A £10million plan for building a huge 'tertiary college' at Howes Close off Huntingdon Road has been secretly dropped by the County Council. The proposals for a three-storey building to accommodate at least 2,000 students caused a wave of protest when it was first announced as it would have worsened the already bad traffic conditions. But plans for an alternative site for a new college, which would mean the end of the present sixth-form college system, will continue 87 05 05a

1989 10 01
The controversial Cambridge park and ride scheme has started with a whimper. At peak commuter time there were 17 cars at the 400-space Cowley Road and even fewer at the 150-space car park on Clifton Road. Users were enthusiastic: Sophy Moxley of Willingham, a sales assistant, said "It will save me money because it only costs 50p which is cheaper than parking in the city centre though Steve Field from Stretham says it is inconvenient as you don't have access to our car during the day. Councillor Andrew Duff said the area around Castle Hill, where residents-only zones have been introduced, was 'almost pastoral' though Canterbury and Benson Street were packed with cars. 89 10 01



CAMBRIDGE DAILY NEWS, Saturday, October 15, 1938.

S. CAMBRIDGE FIRM'S BUILDING SCHEME P

AUSTIN HOUSE

AUTOMOBILE MARSHALLS ENGINEERS

(Photo) [Cambridge Daily News

The architect's sketch of new premises for motorists which Messrs. Marshalls (one of the oldest engineering firms in Cambridge) propose erecting on their present site in Jesus Lane, and which, when completed, will be one of the largest and best equipped garages, showrooms and workshops in the provinces. See Page 2.

CT NORTH ROAD

c.44.6 : Jesus Lane

1899 05 18
The new Clergy Training School in Jesus Lane Cambridge was opened by the Bishop of Durham. It has been erected adjacent to All Saints Church at a cost of nearly £8000. The most experienced teachers in Cambridge have long felt a want of a centre to which the younger members might naturally turn when they wished for conference, or counsel, or sympathy in reference to the choice of their vocation in life. Many men of ability were lost to the Ministry of the church through the want of such opportunities for brotherly conference with men nearly of their own age.

1901 05 23 c
Guidice Gelsomnio, an Italian organ-grinder was summonsed for playing a musical instrument in Jesus Lane, Cambridge; as the defendant did not understand English an interpreter named Antonio Arpino was engaged. The occupier of Little Trinity, Mr James Herbert Taylor, said he asked him to desist playing within 100 yards of his house. Defendant gave up playing and went away. He was playing in Bridge Street in the evening. P.C. Evans measured the distance to be 75 yards. Defendant said he did not know how many yards it was from one house to another. He was fined 2s.6d.

1902 08 06
Popular Country Drives. The "Alexandra" and "Coronation" char-a-bancs will leave Cambridge Market Hill on Wednesday for Shelford, Newton and Whittlesford; return fare 1s. Thursday special drive to Royston, Friday Haslingfield and Saturday Earith bridge. Special Sunday drive to

Whittlesford Bridge pleasure gardens. H. Buck, jobmaster, Crown Inn, Jesus Lane, Cambridge – advert

1902 09 08
Sir – Of all places Cambridge seems to suffer most from the plague of bell-ringing. It is not time the custom was discouraged? Now every home possesses at least one timepiece church bell-ringing seems superfluous. What must be the sufferings of any nervous invalid in or near Jesus Lane, compelled to lie and listen, sometimes for twenty minutes on end, to the doleful "Ding, dang, dong" which comes from that direction. Why should people be allowed to murder the calm of a Sabbath evening with the hideous din of their bellwhacking? – Americus

1904 11 07
The results of the fifth of November 'rag' in Cambridge were more or less serious injuries to two policemen, considerable damage to private property and several police-court summonses. A little boy engaged in firing a squib in the midst of a 'ragging' party proceeding along Jesus Lane was knocked down by a cyclist and rendered insensible. Fortunately he was soon revived by a number of undergraduates who at once attended to him. One man fainted and another was admitted to Hospital suffering from injuries to the head caused by his being knocked down by a cab

1906 03 03
Sir – for the past two Saturday afternoons a young Freshman has been disporting himself on a motor bicycle, making a circuit of the main thoroughfares of Cambridge, starting from Jesus Lane and ending at the Catholic Church, taking in Petty Cury and the Market Place. Being market-day the already too-congested streets are filled with many country folk, ladies and children, both on foot and on bicycles. He evidently likes to hear the sound of his hooter and the stench from his machine is disgusting. L.P.C. Macquaid. 06 03 03

1907 02 12
A Chinese undergraduate of St Catharine's college was summoned for driving a motor car in Jesus Lane at a furious rate. Frederick Siggers, a college porter, said he was wheeling a plate basket when the car passed within two feet of the wall on the wrong side of the road at 18 miles an hour. The student said it would be a wonderful car that could get up to that speed after a sharp corner. But he was convicted and his licence endorsed. 07 02 12
1908 08 07
Early on Saturday morning a motorist ran his car into a pillar-box in Jesus Lane, it then crossed the pavement damaging the wall around Jesus College grounds. The offside front wheel was knocked off and the front of the car badly damaged but the occupants escaped unhurt. The driver gave the curious explanation that he had been travelling all night and had 'dozed off' and thus lost control of the steering wheel. CWN 08 08 07 p3

1909 11 26
Councillors considered a police report on the auctioneers or cheap-jacks who visit Cambridge Market Hill on Saturday evenings and the Peas Hill in daytime with 'mock' jewellery. It was agreed such persons be not allowed and that in future 'Hoop-la' stalls be not allowed on Market Hill. A suggestion from the Cambridge University Automobile Club as to the placing of mirrors at the Bridge Street end of Jesus Lane was rejected. Drains in City Road and Eden Street were a nuisance and injurious to health, owners should do the necessary work or it will be done by the Surveyor and charged to them. CWN 09 11 26

1910

1910 02 11
Harry Cox of King Street was an old pugilist who learnt in a hard school where gloves were regarded as unnecessary. He started in a travelling fairground booth but when he visited Midsummer Fair decided to settle in Cambridge. He took part in many open-air fights without the sanction of the law which were witnessed by large numbers. Pupils from the University attended his rooms at the Green Lion in Short Street and later at the Royston Arms, Jesus Lane. "Professor Cox" also gave lessons at St John's and other colleges and several University champions passed through his hands including T. Milvain of Trinity Hall who was heavyweight champion of All England in 1868-69 and is now Judge Advocate General. 10 02 11c

1912 05 24
Cambridge Automobile & Engineering Company, Sidney St action against George Dash, motor and garage proprietor, Jesus Lane for work done - 12 05 24b

1912 07 19
A motor mechanic told the Receiver he had taken the management of the University Automobile Club in Jesus Lane. Finding that the membership of the club was not large enough the garage had been given up by them and he opened it on his own four years ago. He had no money but some of the members of the club continued to use the garage and paid deposits. He had entered into partnership and paid the first instalment on a motor landaulette. But they'd had a row and he'd continued on his own. 12 07 19h

1913 10 24
Town council – dirty pavements, baths, Wallis Court Jesus lane cottages unfit

1914 07 10
Cambridge Corporation had taken a strip of land from Sidney Sussex College for the widening of Sidney Street and Jesus Lane. They built a 12-high wall in place of the existing one, part of the old Franciscan Priory. The college claimed £1,763 compensation for the rebuilding of their old fives court. But it had been very seldom used and was very dilapidated. The Corporation claimed the land taken was worth much less as there was never any prospect of its sale for building purposes 14 07 10

1914 07 10
Borough Council Sued,—At the Surveyors' Institution, St. George's Street, London, S.W. on Friday, the arbitration was opened in the matter of "The Masters, Fellows and Scholars of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Cambridge." It was stated that the claim was made by the College authorities in respect to the taking (compulsorily) of a strip of land by the latter in connection with the widening of Sidney Street and Jesus Lane. Cambridge. The total claim on behalf of the College authorities amounted to about £2.650. The award was reserved. 1914 07 10

1914 08 14
Jesus Lane widening, Sidney Sussex awarded £1,471 - 14 08 14 p4

1918 01 23
The Manor House, Jesus Lane; boarding and day school for girls – advert – 18 01 23e

1920

1920 09 29

Improvements agreed Fair Street & Jesus Lane – 20 09 29b

1922 02 15
Jesus Lane wall on corner being removed to widen road – photo – 22 02 15b

1925 10 24
Wesley House, the new Wesleyan Methodist post-graduate theological college which has risen on a site in Jesus Lane, was formally opened. It was five years ago that the Wesleyan Methodist Conference decided to set up the college at Cambridge and a site was purchased from Jesus college. The architect, Sir Aston Webb, has carried out a pleasing design in red brick. The building comprises accommodation for 29 students. The work of the college has been carried on for the past four years in hired buildings

1927 10 04
A motor road sweeper and street cleaner was demonstrated in Jesus Lane, Cambridge. The makers claim it has a small capital outlay, low operating costs, small turning circle and ease of control. The brush can be lifted when not in use and sprays fitted to damp down dust in hot weather. The machine worked over 150 yards of road which had been specially covered with a layer of refuse. It showed a fine turn of speed - with the brush not in use it can do 20 mph - and the rubbish was quickly and neatly removed to the gutters. Compared with the horse sweeper now used it is much superior.

1927 10 26
Cambridge councillors spent a couple of hours observing the capabilities of another motor road sweeper, the "Karrier" Patent Road Sweeper, Sprinkler and Collector". It was first tried in Jesus Lane where a large quantity of newly fallen plane tree leaves were thickly scattered about the roadway and had drifted to a depth of four inches. A quantity of road sweepings had also been laid and pressed down firmly by passing traffic. Some of this and patches of horse droppings proved very difficult to remove and the large leaves presented a serious problem. A great quantity of the leaves was removed and lifted into the tipping truck at the back of the vehicle but some of the leaves spun round with the brush and were deposited on the roadway again behind it.

1929 03 15 c
A Cambridge undergraduate was fined for an assault on a taxicab driver who attempted to push him off the running-board of a stationary cab. It took place after a bump supper when he was in a very excited condition. Robert Osborne said he went to the ADC Theatre and left his cab on the rank on Jesus Lane. The undergrad and others came along the road and turned the starting handle of the taxis. He jumped on his running-board and would not get off, so he pushed him off. The lad then hit him several times.

1929 10 14
Cambridge councillors will discuss swapping a portion of Butt Green running alongside Victoria Avenue from Jesus Lane towards the river. It would be surrendered to Jesus College and would be fenced, although a footpath would be made. In exchange they would get New Square which would then be converted into a motor car park, together with two acres of land off Auckland Road which would be thrown into Midsummer Common and a small piece of land in front of the new Brunswick School buildings.

1930

1931 03 06

For years King and Harper have been striving to secure an alternative entry at their Bridge Street garage for the convenience of their valued customers. Now three houses have been acquired and members of staff gave a rousing cheer when a Morris Oxford Isis Six Saloon became the first car to enter at Bridge Street and leave in Jesus Lane. 31 03 06I

1932 05 16
Flames reached the roof of King and Harper's garage in Jesus Lane when a taxi-cab caught fire as it was being filled with petrol. Cars in the garage were pushed out and the blaze extinguished. The cab was taken to the Thompson's Lane depot but some part of it still smouldered for at four in the morning it again blazed up. This time it was totally destroyed. 32 05 16

1933 07 05
Sir, If I were 'Traffic Dictator' for Cambridge motor cycles would not be allowed in Sussex Street or Christ's Lane, there would be no parking of cars for more than fifteen minutes or in Jesus Lane: why spend £2,000 widening it, then block the space gained by motor cars. Bus users would be made to queue up near Lloyds Bank: often it is virtually impossible to get through the crowds of waiting passengers. – 'Interested'. 33 07 05 p8

1935 02 02
In the gale of January 26th an ancient and somewhat decrepit sycamore in the Sidney Sussex College Fellows' Garden was blown down. This tree was the last survivor of an avenue of sycamores planted in 1607-8 along the east side of that part of the King's Ditch which crossed the college grounds from the end of Hobson Street to Jesus Lane and thence along the side of Park Street. In the college accounts are payments to Thomas Hobson, the carrier, 'for bringing the sycamore trees from London … iiis. xd' 35 02 02

1936 11 28
The Truevoice Recording Studio in Jesus Lane is now open every day for the producing of gramophone records. Your opportunity to hear yourself on a perfect 10 inch double sided wax record for a fee of 10/6. Children's voices faithfully reproduced. Specially equipped studio for music and orchestral recordings. These records make ideal Christmas Gifts to your friends. Why not make one and send it to them. They will be delighted – Advert. 36 11 28b

1937 06 18
The Tyre Service Company claims to be one of the oldest tyre firms in Britain. Commencing in Norfolk in 1902 it moved to Cambridge in 1919 and carried on business at Pound Hill and Jesus Lane. Through constant expanding business they have transferred to more extensive premises in Burleigh Street where they carry the largest and most comprehensive stock of motor tyres in the Eastern Counties, including a full range of Dunlop, Goodyear, Indian, Firestone and all leading makes 37 06 18

1937 09 25
Jesus Lane Sunday School was set up in 1827, later moving to King Street where many local children were taught religion by undergraduates who rose to positions of eminence in the church. A new large school was erected in Paradise Street in 1868. But times change. After the war many families have moved further out so now they have sold that building and erected a new hall in Brooks Road which will also serve as a temporary church until a new one can be built. All children between eight and 15 are invited 37 09 25

1938 10 15

Marshalls' spacious new motor premises on Jesus Lane include an entrance and exit to the petrol and oil filling stations, wide enough for three lines of traffic. There are showrooms on three upper floors which are approached by ramps, with the stores department in the basement. The garage and workshops behind is equipped with the most modern and up-to-date machinery and run by a large and efficient staff. The whole is laid out to afford every luxury and comfort for the motorist 38 10 15, b

1940

1942
Bomb on Jesus Lane 1942 – 85 05 24b

1949 06 13
Occupants of the caretaker's flat had to escape in their night attire when fire badly damaged the Friends Meeting House in Jesus Lane, Cambridge. The fire caused some anxiety since it occurred in one of Cambridge's three danger zones. It appears to have started in the main hall, where a charred piano and burnt-out settee were evidence of its intensity. The usefulness of the fire brigade's recently-introduced radio equipment was effectively demonstrated for calling reinforcements

1950

1950 05 27
Motorists have been queuing up at Cambridge garages to fill up for Whitsun joy-rides. As a result of petrol derationing local garages have put extra men on the pumps to cope with the demand and early this afternoon there was no sign of a slackening off. Marshalls reported increased sale of petrol. Three men manned the pumps instead of the usual one and happy motorists told them to "Fill her up till she flows over!" The firm's Jesus Lane depot has well over 5,000 gallons in stock and can get more if it is needed.

1951 01 23
Cambridge town planning committee say there can be no justification for a spine relief road between Histon Road corner and Jesus Lane merely to preserve for a few years more buildings on the west side of Magdalene Street which, although of some architectural interest, are sub-standard from every other point of view. Pending demolition the commercial use of the buildings should be terminated, doing away with the necessity for vehicles to wait outside

1952 08 23
Jesus Lane Sunday School has been wound up. It was founded in 1827 by a group of University men distressed by the spiritual desolation of Barnwell who decided to start a "Gownsman's Sunday School". Four of them set out to visit every house in search of scholars and on the first Sunday the school opened with over 200 children attending at the Friends Meeting House. Later they erected a large new building in Paradise Street where 600 children were on the books. The 1914 war dealt the school a blow from which it never wholly recovered and in 1936 the building was sold to the Boy Scouts Association.

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 02 01

An 18-inch-long canister marked 'Explosive' was found lying in the gutter near the Milton Road roundabout at Mitcham's Corner. It was removed by the RAF who said it was probably a mortar type bomb. Recently Swastikas and the words 'Juden Raus' were daubed in bright green distemper on the cream entrance to the University Pitt Club in Jesus Lane. This was formed in 1835 as a political club but is now one of the most exclusive and expensive social clubs in Cambridge 60 02 01 60 02 15

1960 09 07
The widening of the Market Street – Petty Cury area of Sidney Street will complement the part that was completed before the war when the Boots and Trueform buildings were erected. Some people feel that the road nearer Jesus Lane is a greater priority but the widened section by the two bus stops outside Holy Trinity will relieve traffic congestion. There is no intention of completing the process right through to Bridge Street says T.V. Burrows, the City Surveyor. 60 09 07

1960 10 12
Sir – plans to make the centre of Cambridge a 'Pink Zone' with parking meters will have serious implications. Whereas currently 50 cars are parked in Jesus Lane, only 30 can be accommodated at meters. The result will be chaos with cars milling round in vain trying to find a parking space. Can anyone imagine a motorist being prepared to pay sixpence or a shilling to leave his car for three minutes while he takes his suit to the cleaners? Lion Yard is often full by 9.30 am and if the city is to prosper we must have space for vehicles. The only answer is to provide some very large multi-deck parks, then make motorists use them by restricting waiting on the street – 'Fair Play' 60 10 12

1962 01 05
Barnwell and Wadloes Roads, sections of the Whitehill housing estate, were intended to be part of a ring road on the eastern side of Cambridge. That project was abandoned years ago but now they could form part of a proposed eastern by-pass. This should take priority over the 'Spine Relief Road' which was planned to run from Huntingdon Road, across Chesterton Road, over the river and up to Jesus Lane, councillors agreed. 62 01 05a

1963 04 11
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Jesus Lane – 63 04 11

1967 01 17
Trustee Savings Bank new premises Jesus Lane opened by Lord Butler - 67 01 17

1967 04 11
Quaker Meeting House, Jesus Lane to be replaced; dates from 1894 – 67 04 11

1970

1971 06 05
Jesus Lane demolition of houses to make room for new buildings at Wesley House theological college – photo – 71 06 05

1972 03 07
Cambridge's Civic Restaurant, one of the last in the country, will be closed on March 30 after 30 years of service stretching back to the days of British Restaurants The old Post Office building, where it is situated, is to be demolished to make way for the next stage of the Lion Yard development. The restaurant which for several years has served an average of 1,000 lunches a

day has been there since 1947. Before then its previous home since 1942 had been the the Pitt Club in Jesus Lane. It was then that it was known as a British restaurant, one of the thousands set up by the Government throughout the country to provide a communal feeding service during the war years, p5

1980

1980 01 25
An imaginative plan to breathe life into the redundant church of All Saints in Jesus Lane, Cambridge was unveiled by the Bishop of Ely. The diocese is seeking planning approval for an ambitious scheme to put most of the church back into regular use while retaining the architectural features that make it a distinctive Victorian building. If the scheme does not go through, the only future for the church, was closed in 1983, will be demolition or as an empty shell requiring £100,000 of immediate repairs. 80 01 25

1980 11 08
An exclusive university dining club may open its doors to the public. The Pitt Club is a miniature men-only London club where prospective members are vetted carefully and anyone without a public school education is likely to be black-balled. It also houses the Hawks Club for university sporting Blues. But it is no longer making money and is looking for tenants to share the former Turkish bath house in Jesus Lane. Strudels, one of the restaurants in the Kite facing eviction, is amongst a number to express an interest. 80 11 08

1981 01 12
The redundant All Saints church in Cambridge may have had £50,000 in its coffers when it was closed down seven years ago. The discovery has re-opened the simmering row about the future of the Victorian church in Jesus Lane. Supporters claim it could have been used on badly-needed repairs to the fabric of the building and have accused the Diocese of letting it go to rack and ruin. But the archdeacon says money is no longer available for a church when it is made redundant and should be used for the benefit of the living church rather than the dead. 81 01 12b

1981 11 12
It was a sad day when Strudels – one of Cambridge's most unusual restaurants – was forced to abandon their premises in the Kite Area. But now they have reopened as a high-class restaurant in the famous Pitt Club in Jesus Lane. The old favourites are still on the menu though they have an eye for the really unusual such as stuffed acorn squash. House wine is £4 a bottle. 81 11 12

1981 11 27
The first Cambridge tunnels dug under Peas Hill were used as wine vaults and one is blocked off by a wall of wine bottles cemented together. During the war they were wired for electricity and fitted out as air raid shelters for 400 people and later dossers used them as overnight hostels. In 1963 came proposals for an underground road starting at Maids Causeway and running down Jesus Lane and Emmanuel Road. There was also to be a three-storey underground car park. But the scheme was rejected. 81 11 27

1981 12 07
All Saints Church in Jesus Lane, Cambridge, is to be preserved and taken over by the Redundant Churches Fund. A masterpiece of Victorian architecture, it was designed by George Bodley in the Gothic style and contains windows and wall stencils designed by William Morris. Now £100,000 will be spent on urgent repairs to the roof. 81 12 07

1982 08 10
Traffic through the centre of Cambridge was brought to a standstill for nearly an hour when an articulated car transporter loaded with two new Cortinas was unable to turn the corner of Jesus Lane into Bridge Street. Despite several attempts at reversing the driver became completely stuck until police removed a traffic sign. The lorry had to reverse over the stump of the sign and crush it in order to get free. 82 08 10

1982 12 09
Accommodation for computer-based companies in Cambridge is at a premium. Several firms are run from private houses with others based around King's Parade and Jesus Lane, where buildings are available and rents favourable. Now a technology square is planned for land at the rear of Shire Hall similar to Trinity College's Science Park but at smaller rents. There might be dual-purpose buildings for start-up companies providing both a home and an office to work in. 82 12 09

1983 06 14
All Saints church in Jesus Lane, which was threatened with demolition despite being described as one of the finest examples of Victorian architecture, will open to the public for the first time in ten years. About £40,000 has been spent by the Redundant Churches Fund to make it watertight after years of rain leaking through the roof. The next project will be to clean up the interior and in particular the wall paintings 83 06 14 p10

1984 03 28
Sidney Archer, head chef at Emmanuel College started his career at 14 in the Pitt Club in Jesus Lane, then worked at the University Arms Hotel and the Red Lion in Petty Cury before going to Emmanuel where worked for 40 years. He specialised in sauces and fish dishes and was scheduled to cook lunch for the Queen when she visits in May as part of the college's 400th celebrations. 84 03 28 p4

1985 06 05
The young men of Cambridge University who admit to being 'Young Fogeys' are rather proud of the title. They saunter out of the Pitt Club on Jesus Lane planning another cocktail party and pretending the 'Orrible Eighties' have simply not arrived. Forget computers, aluminium briefcases, digital watches and body-building. These young men would swap the whole lot for a good wine, a Betjeman poem and a bank manager who called them 'Sir' and did not try to distribute cash-dispenser cards. 85 06 05 & a

1989 02 28
Myttons restaurant and brasserie takes up most of the ground floor of the Pitt Club in Jesus Lane. Behind the classical façade of the building originally built as a Roman bath house last century, a complete transformation has taken place. The elegant dining room provided a traditional atmosphere for substantial dining with a fully licensed bar for liquid refreshment. The brasserie offers economic lunches and dinners with most dishes under £5 89 02 28a

1989 03 09
Cambridge Tyre Company, which celebrates its 60th anniversary, has a number of early tyres in stock. They include an American Swineheart tyre for a Model T Ford and a beaded edge Michelin from the same period. Ernest Brown founded the company in 1929 based in a small shop in Jesus Lane when many tyres were of solid construction. By 1935 they'd moved to Burleigh Street when tyres were fitted at the side of the road and in 1964 took over premises owned by Winston Smith the butcher in Histon Road. 89 03 09a

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1989 12 01
Anglia TV officially opened its new base in Jesus Lane – 89 12 01a

1989 12 12
Sir Arthur Marshall to retire – profile. His father set up a de luxe car hire service in Brunswick Terrace in 1909, opening garages in King Street and Jesus Lane. In 1912 carried petrol to Beta II airship which landed in grounds Jesus College. Bought first aircraft at Fowlmere in 1919. Got pilot's licence 1929 & bought a Gipsy Moth. Opened landing field behind house in Newmarket Road – 89 12 12b, c

1990 01 25
Today's squatters are usually the young and single who do not qualify to go on council housing waiting lists. But after the war couples with children occupied empty houses in Jesus Lane and Parkside that had been requisitioned by the army. Then one family moved into Nissen huts in the grounds of a house in Hills Road and another into a four-storey property in Portugal Place. From then on more huts or houses were occupied daily. Then pre-fabricated steel houses were erected in Lichfield Road and Trumpington. They were meant to be temporary but some were lived in until the 1970s - 90 01 25c

1990 06 22
Armed robbery at TSB Bank, Jesus Lane – 90 06 22

1990 09 21
TSB to close branches in Burleigh St & Jesus Lane – 90 09 21a

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Cambridge KING STREET Scrapbook by Mike Petty

1899 06 13
Frederick Lawrence of the Belmont Cycle Works, King St, was summonsed for furiously driving a motor car in St Andrew's street, Cambridge. Defendant said he had had a deal of experience in motor-cars. They were going about 6 miles an hour. They were using the "Large" lever by which the car was unable to go more than 8 mph. The magistrate said that when there was considerable traffic in a street 6 mph constituted furious driving. A fine of £1 was imposed.

1900 04 23
A fishmonger of Mill Road, Cambridge, told the bankruptcy court he had started business in 1887 in King Street without any capital. He also traded as a vinegar dealer. He had done some betting and made a small "book". He had not kept accounts, had gambled, had traded when he knew he was insolvent, and had incurred debts when he had no prospect of paying them. It was a very unsatisfactory business altogether

1901 05 07
Sanguine people imagined that the rejoicing for the return of the South African Volunteers would pass off quietly. A parental Corporation had taken the wise precaution to secure materials for a fine bonfire on Midsummer Common to prevent the destruction of property. This time it was a plan doomed to partial failure. The fire was comparatively short-lived and undergraduates found a wealth of additional fuel in King Street where a wooden hoarding was dragged off to the Common and triumphantly flung upon the bonfire. Policemen stood guard over the bandstand on Christ's Pieces.

1901 10 30

A new Diocesan Lodge for the Girls' Friendly Society was opened at Hills Road, Cambridge. Several spacious apartments will be used as recreation and classrooms with lectures on nursing, home hygiene, needlework and astronomy and classes for musical drill and singing. There are rooms for girls being trained for domestic service & accommodation for lady boarders and visitors. The old Servants' Training Home, formerly situated in King Street has ceased to exist as a separate institution. It had been established for 80 years and more than 400 girls had passed through; it had also afforded a home to many strange and friendless girls.

1902 01 01
Last evening an employee of the New Theatre was passing along King Street, Cambridge, when he observed that fire had broken out on the ground floor of one of St Mary's Almshouses, which are situated on the west side of the street adjoining the Horse and Groom. He found the inmate of the room lying unconscious on the floor and the fire had taken a strong hold. The construction of the almshouses made the situation really dangerous for those who lived in the upper rooms, to which the only communication is by a narrow staircase. Fortunately 16 firemen with three hose carts were quickly upon the scene and the flames were soon got under

1902 06 03
Peace in South Africa produced strife in Cambridge – one of those fierce contests between the police and the united forces of town and gown which, combined with the destruction of property, constitutes a "rag". In King Street a large double gate was attacked as wood for a bonfire but a vigorous-looking dame appeared from the other side. Her only weapon was a duster, but such a formidable appearance did she present that the crowd melted away before her advance. Skirmishers went towards the Circus of Varieties to obtain a hoarding but this was well guarded and soon they were retracing their steps. The hoarding which surrounded the underground toilets on Market Hill was torn down and lighted. More wood was wanted and the mob pulled down glazed bricks and girders, door-posts and window frames. Next morning the appearance of the projected underground lavatory was more like an archaeological excavation. Thousands of bricks were lying in the bottom mixed up with the dirt and pieces of wood and the general appearance of the place showed how wanton and reckless had been the young hot heads who had wrought the damage

1904 03 22
Big Fire at 'Belmont'. We do not think the meaning of this heading will be very clear to you: we have only put it there to attract your attention. What we really want to do is to let you know about the 'Royal Belmont' bicycles, tricycles, tradesmen's carrier tricycles and trucks built to order on the premises. Belmont Cycle and Motor Works, King Street and Belmont Place, Cambridge - advert

1904 03 26
Messrs J. Carter Jonas sold by auction an important estate in King Street, Cambridge comprising the fully-licensed public house, the Millers Arms and adjoining dwelling house and outbuildings. The pub contains beer cellars and washhouse in the basement, a large room fitted with a kitchen range, bar parlour etc now in the occupation of Messrs Bailey & Tebbutt. The business premises at the rear include a paint shop, workshop and stables whilst the house has four bedrooms. When Sussex Street is widened King Street must become an important business thoroughfare. It was acquired by Mr Nockolds at £3,700

1904 04 21
Cambridge Paving Committee received a memorial from a number of residents in the Hobson Street area calling attention to the present state of the carriage-way. They directed the Surveyor to

report the cost of paving the street with wood blocks, together with the portion of St Andrew's Street from the tramway terminus. But Hobson Street was used by very few people; traffic was not half what it used to be and as the trams were likely to be electrified it would be better to wait. However a great amount of traffic came from Newmarket Road to the centre of town down King Street; very often there was a great block of traffic in Sussex Street because it was dangerous to go down Hobson Street where the pebbles were very uneven. Traffic went on dropping, and business went on dropping, simply because the street was so badly paved

1904 09 14
The Official Receiver examining the affairs of a cycle dealer in King Street, Cambridge heard that he had begun business in 1895 and made a fair income until two years ago. The causes of his failure were bad trade, loss on a motor car and the illness of his wife and family. Since the receiving order had been made he had kept two men on the premises at work doing repairs to keep the business going. The New Hudson people had written asking what he would take for the whole thing and Mr Ison had also been after it. The Receiver said 'A man who would work would do very well. Of course when a man stands outside for an admiring crowd to gaze at you cannot wonder …' Among his creditors were Macintosh and Sons, J.F. Amps, Enfield Cycle Co, The Cycle Exchange and H. Swainland

1906 03 08
The Beehive public house, Honey Hill, Cambridge had four rooms on the ground floor, including a parlour and a taproom for the use of customers. There was a front entrance from Honey Hill and a side entrance which also gave access to four cottages. It was therefore impossible for the police to maintain proper supervision as a constable would be seen going down there and people could slip out. There were 15 other public houses within 200 yards. Also: Golden Cross, Suffolk Hotel Grafton St, White Horse Coronation St, Sun in Sun St, Star in Castle St, Boot in King St 06 03 08c & d

1907 11 27
Stetchworth Dairy supplies 400 gallons to 18 colleges and 1,800 families daily from King Street depot – feature – 07 11 27, 27a

1908 02 25
The sale of the estate of Mr R.R. Rowe, late Borough Surveyor, includes a block of property mid-way between the station and the Post Office which would be suitable for the erection of a college, church, hotel or other business purposes. The residence known as Park House on Parkside, together with houses in Fitzroy Street, King Street and French's Road are also offered in the largest sale held in Cambridge for some long time. 08 02 25 & a & 29

1908 03 05
The Waggon and Horses on the corner of Burleigh Street and East already held a music licence. They had a commodious room capable of holding 50 people which they wished to use for public dancing once a week. But the Chief Constable said it was in an awkward part of Cambridge. A lot of people visited the house and it would not be well to offer further facilities. The licensee had his hands full in looking after the pub as it was at present. also Nags Head, Albion Row; Spotted Cow, Northampton St; Carpenter's Arms, King Street. 08 03 05 a & b

1909 09 03
'Charlie' Rowell, one of the greatest long-distance runners the world has ever seen, died at his residence in King Street. In the days when six-day races were popular Rowell was a name to conjure in two continents. He won races innumerable, won a cart-load of trophies and cash prizes

to an enormous value. He paid several visits to America where on one occasions his opponents drugged his food. But he still finished second! CWN 09 09 03

1910

1910 01 14
Mr Paget's supporters held a torchlight procession through Regent Street, Emmanuel Road, Fitzroy Street, King Street and St Andrew's Street. Torches of many kinds, some of an evidently hastily prepared character, were held aloft and Mr Paget rode in a carriage in the centre of the procession, which included about 30 horsemen who formed an imposing guard of honour. The Conservative candidate was accompanied by crowds of men, lads and even women and girls, bearing aloft torches, pink lights and Union Jacks, and blowing tin trumpets and whistles. CWN 10 01 14a

1910 02 11
Harry Cox of King Street was an old pugilist who learnt in a hard school where gloves were regarded as unnecessary. He started in a travelling fairground booth but when he visited Midsummer Fair decided to settle in Cambridge. He took part in many open-air fights without the sanction of the law which were witnessed by large numbers. Pupils from the University attended his rooms at the Green Lion in Short Street and later at the Royston Arms, Jesus Lane. "Professor Cox" also gave lessons at St John's and other colleges and several University champions passed through his hands including T. Milvain of Trinity Hall who was heavyweight champion of All England in 1868-69 and is now Judge Advocate General. 10 02 11c

1910 02 25
A hurricane with winds of 80 mph caused considerable damage. Hoardings in Belmont Place, King Street, belonging to the Billposting Company were unable to withstand the onslaught of the wind and fell while a large elm tree opposite Trinity Fellows' Garden was bespoiled of its top. At Ely Cathedral a window depicting St John the Baptist was damaged; the apostle's head was blown out but falling upon the lawn, the glass was not broken. At St Ives the wind blew down the home signal on the railway line and caught the gable end of Mr Holloway's music shop in Bridge Street, blowing off four yards of tiles. CWN 10 02 25a & b

1911 05 19
In a little side passage in King Street a barrel organ was draped with black and mauve as hansoms, taxis and growlers arrived in their dozens. The coffin was covered with crepe surmounted by cap and gown while plumes barely concealed the lines of an express delivery van in which sat the 'corpse' smartly dressed in grey suit and felt bowler. There were about 100 horses and motor vehicles in the procession to the station where the tops of the railway carriages were filled with figures clad in varying garb from pyjamas and rowing shorts to mourning suits and dress suits. It was the most imposing mock funeral ever seen in Cambridge 11 05 19d & e

1912 06 28
William Thomas Kirkup was the pioneer of the modern scientific system of chimney-sweeping and his business extended to nearly all of the colleges, notably Trinity and St John's. He formerly resided at King Street, then at Bottisham before returning to Chesterton Road where he passed away at the age of 67. He was an active member of the old Volunteer force and served 22 years as a bandsman. 12 06 28b

1912 11 08

It was one of the noisiest 'rags' seen for some years, for the introduction of a variety of bomb-firework, which gives a report louder than a rifle shot, more than compensated for the fewer Varsity men than usual. The liveliest scene occurred in King Street where the crowd were attracted by the sight of the hoarding outside the partly-demolished Hobson Street Chapel. Instead they turned their attention array of woodwork in connection with the building of the new Wesleyan Chapel near Christ's Pieces, but this was strongly guarded by police. Another battle broke out in Grange Road where some 400 undergraduates damaged the fence around Mr Ebenezer Smith's garden. 12 11 08a & b

1912 12 20
The Mart in King Street has been constructed Mr J. Winship, the well-known auctioneer who has transformed what was originally a bare and ill-lighted bottling store into a fine salesroom. Soon 'The Mart' in 16-inch gold lettering will form a fitting crown to the red and gold colour scheme of the front of the premises. It is intended for the sale of furniture with a large skylight and powerful gas burners, adequate ventilation and heating. From the rostrum the auctioneer can easily see buyers and no serious bidder will fail to catch his eye 12 12 20b

1913 02 28
Mr J. Winship junior conducted his first furniture sale at The Mart, the splendid new auction rooms in King Street. They would conduct the business on business lines. They would have a sale when there was anything to sell and would not buy stuff to sell again. Furniture not sold would be stored and insured against fire free of cost and as the place was heated throughout by hot water pipes, the furniture would be kept in good condition. 13 02 28 CIP

1913 06 27
Skull unearthed King Street

1914 12 11
Soldiers billeted at Melbourne Place School would move to the hutments on Cherryhinton Road shortly but others have arrived and could take their place The Drill Hall in East Road and the Girls' County School are already overcrowded. It would mean that East Road and King Street Schools would no longer be required. The military would pay £400, about one-tenth of the cost of billeting. But billeting would relieve the hardship of lodging house keepers now fewer undergraduates were studying at university.

1920

1920 03 06
Licensing renewals: Turnstile, Newmarket Rd; George IV East Rd; Queen's Arms, St Andrew's Street; Smith and Wheelwrights Arms, East Rd; Boot, King St; Dewdrop, Gwydir St; Tally Ho; Indian Chief, Chesterton

1920 03 10
Licensing sessions: refer East Road : Turnstile. George IV, Smith & Wheelwright Arms, King St: Boot; Gwydir St: Dewdrop; Newnham: Tally Ho; Chesterton: Indian Chief; Cherry Hinton Hopbine; Renew St Andrew's St: Queen's Arms – 20 03 10b

1920 07 10
Public houses considered for closure – Victoria, Barrington; Guilden Morden Pig & Whistle, Cherry Hinton Hopbine, Castle Camps George & Dragon, Linton Axe & Saw, King Street Boot, Chesterton High Street Indian Chief, Newnham Road Tally Ho, East Road Turnstile, Gwydir

Street Dew DropLicences refused Hopbine, Cherry Hinton; Boot, King St; Tally Ho, Newnham Rd; Dew Drop, Gwydir St – 20 07 14b

1921 07
King Street murder: Alice Lawn murdered. King Street murder funeral – 21 08 03c; Reports & trial – 21 08 03d,e 21 08 10a, b, e 21 08 24b,c,d 21 09 07c 21 09 14a,b 21 09 21a,b ; 21 10 19a,b,c; 21 10 19j' not guilty – 21 10 26c. Photos, funeral – 21 08 03b, 21 08 17d , 21 10 19f, 21 10 26a. Suspect in court – 21 08 24a, 21 09 21d
Sweetshop owner Alice Lawn was found battered to death on the back stairs of her house in Milton's Walk. An itinerant French Polisher was arrested and sent for trial; over the four days of the trial there were long queues for copies of the Cambridge Daily News that carried reports of the proceedings. In in the event he was found not guilty and the murder was never solved. But the man acquitted is reported to have taken to wearing a placard stating 'I am the Cambridge murderer' and later returned to the scene of the crime, swearing that he would kill those who had given evidence against him

1922 03 15
King Street murder man takes shop bankrupt, p5

1925 10 19
A comprehensive scheme for the provision of parking places in Cambridge will be laid before the Town Council who are empowered to authorise any part of a street as a parking place, though no charge can be made for parking cars in the public streets. Sites include Trumpington Street opposite the Leys School, Maids' Causeway, Lensfield Road, King Street & Jesus Lane. In Pound Hill it is proposed to allocate space for parking motor buses from St Neots and St Ives

1930

1930 08 30
There are a five-seater, a quad, a triplet and a tandem bicycle to be found at the Belmont Cycle and Motor Works, King Street, Cambridge. They were formerly part of the fleet of pacing multicycles used by the famous Dunlop racing teams at the old Herne Hill track. Owing to the amount of motor traffic nowadays it is not advisable to ride the 'quint', a lengthy machine, but the others are still available for use. 30 08 30b & c

1930 10 16
Five miniature golf courses are now in operation in Cambridge. There are Messrs Grays in Sidney Street and the octagon course in King Street. The Premier Hall, Old Chesterton, has added midget golf to its other attractions and the Newmarket Road has the course in the club-room at 'The Bell'. Its holes represent hazards encountered during a trip from 'Trafalgar Square' to 'The Oval'. The latest 18-hole course at the Belle Vue Gardens is all-weather and open-air. It features a howitzer gun and a water jump and has been laid down by Capt Mullett who has constructed others in Vancouver and San Francisco. 30 10 16c

1931 02 20
William Carter joined the Cambridge Borough Police Force in 1867 and retired as Inspector in 1894. He had a vivid memory of the opening of the Corn Exchange in 1870 when undergraduates caused a disturbance and six were arrested. At their trial a mob gathered and dashed to King Street, the residence of the Mayor, John Death. But, headed by Carter, the police got there first and shut the gates. Missiles of all kinds were thrown and the fighting continued for some hours. Apart from a battered and torn helmet, Mr Carter was not hurt. 31 02 20j

1931 04 03
William James Ison started as a cycle dealer in Chesterton Road in 1897; his business prospered and at one time he had four shops selling and repairing cycles. He also put one of his own machines on the market. The 'New Chesterton' has become deservedly popular and a special racing model won over 100 prizes in 1908. His late wife was sister of Fred Lawrence of the Belmont Cycle Works in King Street. 31 04 03f

1931 12 18
King Street market goose – photo – 31 12 18I

1932 01 21
King Street shoe repairer – John Motley – bankruptcy – 32 01 21a

1932 03 31
Grand Opening. W.H. Peak's new furniture showrooms, King Street. Our premises have been converted into four spacious floors exhibiting the most remarkable values in furniture, carpets and linoleum that has ever been offered in Cambridge. We have built up our business by selling only reliable goods. If you cannot pay a visit, we shall be pleased to send you our catalogue. – Advert. 32 03 31b

1932 12 09
A Cambridge publican told the bankruptcy court he had taken the Horse and Groom in King Street in October 1925 and made a profit until the General Strike when trade was hit throughout the country. He borrowed money and in May 1930 took the Rose Hotel, Rose Crescent. But the increase in beer by a penny a pint hit sales so he left and moved to a pub in Maidstone. 32 12 09b & c

1933 05 26
Proposals to set back the line of buildings in Sidney Street would leave only two small properties jutting out between Woolworth's and the corner. There was no room for people to move on the pavement and it would be a great improvement. But Mrs Rackham said it was unreasonable to pay so much money: the owners demanded compensation that equated to nearly half a million pounds an acre. This was not new: when a building line was prescribed in King Street, property which formerly sold at £1,500 immediately fetched £2,000. 33 05 26 f & g

1934 03 02
The tenant of the Rhadeund public house in King Street had been there since 1893 but his wife had died and trade had gone down. There were six other pubs within 300 yards, three belonging to Lacons, two to Greene King and one to Mr Dale. A good many of the customers were getting on in years and some had fallen away. But it served a useful purpose socially for a certain class of people and should be kept open, magistrates were told. 34 03 02

1934 07 24
A good deal of controversy has been aroused amongst local anglers by a fish which was caught in the Cam by Mr F.W. Arnold. It is rather like a roach except that the colour is golden-red, similar to a carp. Some say it is a red mullet or a golden orfe. Mr Agger of the fishing depot in King Street is unable to identify it, nor are anglers with 40 years' experience. It is on show at Mr Agger's and will finally be pickled. 34 07 24

1935 04 29

Cambridge Salvation Army's earliest days, 50 years ago were recalled by the Mayor, Ald Ralph Starr. He told how a band from Liverpool had come to give them a send-off: "I remember seeing them go down King Street, a singing multitude of people thronging around the band, who were trying to play, and some lads and lasses marching behind. The crowd were not only hustling and pushing them but dealing out blows to those who were playing. Several bandsmen had blood on their faces, but they did not retaliate. It was that which affected me most", he said. 35 04 29

1935 11 09
The licensee of the Wagon and Horses at Cottenham the court that a man planning to establish a branch the 'National Smallholders' Society' in the village had stayed several nights but had not settled the bill. A village dairyman said he'd paid five shillings to join the Society but had heard nothing more and did not receive a book of rules. Altogether 362 people had subscribed. Police saw a poster headed "National Smallholders' Society" in the window of a house in King Street, Cambridge and arrested the occupant. He was convicted for obtaining money by false pretences 35 11 09

1935 12 19
King Street Christmas poultry market picture – 35 12 19

1936 04 09
Important Notice. Peak's furnishers, King Street, Cambridge have built up the name and reputation for selling reliable goods. We give an expert furnishing service with 150 bedroom, dining and drawing room suites always on show. Don't be misled. We have no branch shop and no connection with any other furniture store. – Advert 36 04 09b

1936 05 09
Did you see this Holliman's furniture van in your district? It was delivering guaranteed furniture that had been bought for cash. Do be wise and furnish for cash. You will then know that the home is your own. Hollimans', the firm that guarantees you satisfaction. The King Street Furniture Galleries, Cambridge - Advert 36 05 09

1936 08 29
'Sunnyfields' Estate at Histon features the latest type of labour saving houses built by F.L. Unwin and furnished by H.W. Peak of King Street Cambridge. 36 08 29b

1937 01 30
Peaks Furnishers of King Street was commenced in 1924 by Mr W.H. Peak and by dealing in reliable goods, together with a sound service, he has rapidly built up business. The premises have been extended and improved from time to time and a very large floor space is now devoted to the display of floor coverings and furniture. Consistent advertising in the CDN for a number of years has helped considerably to make this firm so widely known. 37 01 30f

1937 09 25
Jesus Lane Sunday School was set up in 1827, later moving to King Street where many local children were taught religion by undergraduates who rose to positions of eminence in the church. A new large school was erected in Paradise Street in 1868. But times change. After the war many families have moved further out so now they have sold that building and erected a new hall in Brooks Road which will also serve as a temporary church until a new one can be built. All children between eight and 15 are invited 37 09 25

1938 08 27

Whenever you see Hollimans' vans they are delivering 'paid-for' furniture to the homes of contented and satisfied customers. You have the choice of the largest selection of guaranteed furniture at keen prices and save the additional 'easy-payment' charges. Save money and enjoy the additional prestige when our vans deliver the goods to your home: the neighbours will be certain you have not bought on convenient terms. Linoleums and carpets fitted free. Holliman's 'Cash Only' Furnishers, 71 King Street – Advert. 38 08 27a

1938 10 02
The King Street Riding School is the largest and most up-to-date indoor riding school in the country. The Principal (Capt E. Cooper), as an instructor and horseman ranks second to none, having the reputation of being one of the finest riding masters to serve in the British Army. The long list of successes gained by his pupils in all branches of equitation during his thirty years at King Street testify to his outstanding ability as a Riding Master. 38 12 02a

1940

1942 02 24
Leys laundry fire King Street – 42 02 24a

1942 03 06
Richard Welcher, carried on business at King Street in name of Allen & Welcher, dies – 42 03 06

1945 12 11
Senior police officers A.E. Lilley and Inspector Jacob retire, memories of CID work. King St murder and Sinn Fein arrest – 45 12 11

1950

1951 02 09
The Queen and Princess Margaret came to Cambridge on a private visit to their favourite local antique shop. They came by road from Sandringham and the Royal car was half-an-hour later than expected. It was held up for five minutes in a traffic jam in King Street. The sight of uniformed and plain clothed police in the vicinity of Mr Stanley Woolston's shop drew a crowd to the spot and there were well over a hundred people-mostly women with shopping baskets – waiting when the Royal car drew into the kerb.

1951 03 27
Thieves smashed a shop window of G.D. Pickering, watchmaker and jeweller of King Street, Cambridge, in the early hours of the morning, but from a window display of £200 worth of goods all they took were two ladies' watches, valued together at £9. The robbery is believed to have taken place at 2.30 am because neighbours heard the breaking of glass and a car revving up quickly. A car starting handle was left behind, and it is thought that this was thrown at the window

1952 01 01
The first Provincial 4½ hours' night T.V. service for viewers if their sets go wrong is being operated by Messrs H.W. Peak Ltd., King Street, Cambridge. To the 100 feet aerial above the firm's premises the Fire Service will tomorrow bracket a V.H.F. transmitted aerial for radio contact with their engineers. A phone call will reach an operator who will contact by radio one of the firm's two servicing engineers who will be at home with a van (and a spare T.V. set) at the ready. He will go to the caller's home. Mr John Peak said: "I feel a T.V. night service is essential,

as it is mainly used for evening viewing, when it is annoying for the public to find their set has a fault and they are unable to get in touch with anybody to put it right"

1952 01 07
How to put an aerial above your roof in three not-so-easy stages. 1: call the Fire Brigade. 2: Ask the Chief Fire Officer (Mr Tom Knowles) to fire a rocket attached to a rope over a T.V. aerial crossbar. 3: Use a bow and arrow. All three methods were used in Cambridge by Mr John Peak of the King Street T.V. and furniture dealers. He wanted to bracket a V.H.F. aerial to the firm's existing aerial in connection with their T.V. night service. But the Fire brigade's turntable ladder was a foot short & the rocket missed its mark. Then an arrow from the bow of John Ridgeon (leader of the Cambridge Bowmen) went over the top. Attached to it was the rope with the new aerial which was then hauled up.

1952 10 11
Seven thousand Cambridge television viewers are promised almost perfect reception if official sanction is received for a new T.V. broadcasting station to open early in the New Year. The original BBC signal will be picked up on a 50-foot-high aerial on the "Gogs" and beamed down on the city. John Peak, manager of Peak's King Street television service, the sponsors of the scheme said: "Viewers will receive an almost unmarred signal well in time for the Coronation". The large "H" aerial now on chimney-pots would no longer be necessary; instead a small rod can be hung from the bedroom window.

1954 03 18
The proposed arrangements for an alternative television programme will not give a satisfactory signal in the Cambridge area. Multi channel convertors now being incorporated in some makes of set may be outdated and unserviceable when the Cambridge viewer wants to use them. Our advice is to have the convertor fitted when – and only when – Cambridge comes within the range of the proposed new stations. To buy a set with a convertor at present means paying 5-7 guineas more for what is, to the Cambridge viewer, a useless article. – H.W. Peak, Radio & Television Dept, King Street – advert

1955 07 27
The Medical Officer for Cambridge says houses in Trinity Place together with warehouses to the rear of King Street are unfit for human habitation; they are dangerous and injurious to the health of the inhabitants & should be demolished. People living there will be asked to quit within two months with the Council finding alternative accommodation. 55 07 27

1955 09 02
In opening their enormous new showrooms in King Street Cambridge the firm of H.W. Peak have passed another milestone. Everything for furnishing a home is here in astonishing array. Apart from furniture there is electrical equipment such as vacuum cleaners and washing machines together with televisions and Hi-Fi sound equipment. They started just under 50 years ago selling second-hand furniture and opened a large branch at King's Lynn in 1937. 55 09 02b

1955 09 03
Fireworks and flying saucers celebrated the opening of the new showrooms of H.W. Peak in King Street, Cambridge. Giant rockets were released from the roof of the floodlit and gaily decorated building and the city was 'bombed' with balloons released from aircraft. Each contained a numbered card and winners will share in the distribution of £200 worth of furniture. 55 09 03

1955 10 15

Two brothers, both of whom carry on house furnishing business in Cambridge, brought their fourth High Court action against each other. A woman customer had gone to buy a refrigerator, saw a shop named Peak's in King Street and assumed it was the same as Peak's Furnishers of Fitzroy Street where she had an account. It was delivered to her house but then she went to Fitzroy Street to pay for it. The judge said this was a case of the utmost triviality and it was surprising it had not happened many times before. 55 10 15

1956 07 20
Since the Queen had her ears pierced there has been a tremendous increase in the wearing of earrings. George Pickering of King Street Cambridge has been piercing ears for nine years. His clients have ranged from three years old to 85, although there are not as many tiny children as there used to be. Just recently he had a queue of girls from a Haverhill factory. He started his watch repair and jewellery business after the war in a little shop where the Home Guard used to clean their rifles. 56 07 20a

1956 10 16
Councillors say that multi-storey car parks should be provided at Lion Yard, Saxon Street, Park Street and New Square and 170 cars should be parked on the site of the existing police flats at Parkside. But traffic congestion in Cambridge has become so acute that 'No Waiting' restrictions should be imposed in the central area and King Street made one-way. 56 10 16a

1956 11 02
W. Holliman and Sons, the well-known Cambridge firm of removal contractors have again chosen a Morris vehicle for their fleet of pantechnicons. Every vehicle since 1926 has been a Morris, proof of their faith in this make. They are also house furnishers and their showrooms, the King Street Furniture Galleries, were the first 'Walk Round Showrooms' in Cambridge, dating back to 1923 when they moved from Mill Road. 56 11 02a

1957 12 11
New Court, King Street, p8

1958 02 01
Harry Ingrey was the first monotype operator in Cambridge in 1904 and apart from the Great War has been at the keyboard ever since. In the early years people from the University Press would call into the Cambridge Express Printing Works in King Street to see things new in the printing line. Harry recalls the pleasure of printing 'Granta' and its undergraduate editors – "everything always went nice and smooth with them", he says. 58 02 01b

1958 09 27
Parking facilities in Cambridge were inadequate, said the Chief Constable. With more than 600 vehicles passing over Magdalene Bridge each hour, Park Street was a convenient site for a car park. Saxon Street park had been finished last week, work on King Street had not started and the Parkside car park was only a small one. Park Street was the one that should have first priority as a surface and multi-deck car park. But a thatched house in Clement Street built about 1700 should not be destroyed by 'this cement desert'. 58 09 27 b c d

1958 11 29
Ernest Hilton art gallery, King Street – 58 11 29

1959 10 24
Gaming machine in Royal Arms, King St – 59 10 24c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 01 21
City councillors decided to drop proposals to use Butts Green as a car park for two years - even with the Lion Yard car park finished and new car parks in King Street and Park Street, there would still not be enough parking and it would never be reinstated. The income would never meet expenditure. Eventually Cambridge would have a city centre park charging about one shilling an hour. If Butt Green was to be charged at sixpence nobody would use Lion Yard and the council would be sabotaging their own scheme. 60 01 21

1960 03 07
A 25-hour non-stop jive session at The Dorothy ballroom was won by The Rebels, a team of jivers from the Corner House Café in King Street. The American team from Alconbury were the first to crack, followed by the Corpus Christi team and Daddy's Nite Club. At the end of the session only three members of these teams were on their feet. Back at the Corner House Café the Rebels' supporters took the news of their triumph quietly. In their leather jacket and jeans they talked over cups of coffee. But the juke box was silent by order of Magistrates. Two of the Rebels, Colin Knight and Graham Jones used the session as a practice for a 25-mile cycle sprint race. 60 03 07

1964 04 01
George Pickering the King Street jeweller took up ear-piercing as a sideline eight years ago. Since then he has pierced the lobes of more than 7,000 pairs of ears – about 20 'patients' a week. Girls come in groups from Haverhill, Ely, Huntingdon and Northampton and often queue up to go behind the screens for the three-and-a-half minute procedure which will turn them into women capable of wearing ear-rings. Very few of them faint. He has also had a few boy customers who just want the left ear pierced. 60 04 01

1961 04 28
City councillors decided to go ahead with a plan for a multi-deck car park with shops and filling station on the ground floor, in King Street. Steps will be taken to acquire the land from Jesus College by compulsory purchase if necessary. Congestion in the city centre is getting near to desperate: eventually parking meters would be needed and there had to be somewhere for cars to go. But it would commit the council to building a multi-deck car park when there were no details of the financial implications, Councillor Warren warned. 61 04 28c

1961 06 30
The proposed King Street car park would have to earn three shillings and three pence per car space per day. But apart from Saturdays the car park would not be filled by members of the public. The Lion Yard only took three shillings – though councillors and employees parked there free. However they would also put in parking meters and with car parking meters there would be no worries about the multi-storey car park. But a shop and filling station were an important part of the project 61 06 30a

1962 02 20
The city council want a three-storey car park in King Street, between Malcolm Street and Manor Street. There would be space for 260 cars together with a filling station and a maximum of nine shops. It would form part of the pattern of perimeter car parks with another in Park Street. There

would be an inner 'control zone' and an outer area for car parking administered by meters. This would accommodate over 400 more vehicles and relieve congestion. Motorists were reluctant to use parks away from the city centre as they wanted to get as near as possible to their places of work, an Inquiry was told. 62 02 20 & a 62 03 22a

1962 09 05
Bulldozers and heavy earth-moving machinery have been followed by a fleet of lorries as clearance work starts on the site of the new multi-deck car park in Park Street. It should be completed within nine months and will form an integral part of the new parking meter system for which the City Council is to seek Ministry approval. Councillors are still waiting a decision on their earlier application for another multi-storey car park about 200 yards away in King Street 62 09 05

1962 12 22
King Street poultry mart held its last Christmas sale. It has existed for nearly 50 years and now the auctioneer Claude Kirkup and clerk, Alfred Harding will retire. Mr Kirkup, a well-known figure, has dealt with about 1,000 chickens, turkeys and geese this week alone. He started in the mart in 1918 and was joined by Mr Harding in 1922. The site was purchased recently by Jesus College 62 12 22

1963 03 21
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on King Street – 63 03 21

1963 04 03
The new car park at the rear of Queen Anne Terrace has now been completed and is open for public use, free of charge. It adjoins the car park at the new swimming pool which can accommodate 67 cars and has been constructed as part of the council's policy for traffic control in anticipation of the Minister's approval of the parking meter scheme. The multi-storey car park in Park Street should be in use by the middle of the year and a decision is awaited on an application for another in King Street 63 04 03 King Street car park approval delayed, plans for controlled parking outlined – 63 05 01

1963 05 15
The Government rejected the City Council's scheme to build a multi-storey car park together with shops and a petrol filling station on land near the Malcolm Street junction at King Street. The site is obscurely located in a residential area and the roads leading to it are narrow, awkward and unsatisfactory. It would cause serious detriment to adjoining properties and initiate a substantial commercial encroachment to the detriment of the special qualities of the cultural and central area of the city. An alternative site should be found, the Minister says 63 05 15, 63 05 11

1965 05 27
Metals Research Ltd to close sites at King Street and Milton and open at Melbourn. The firm, which has a world lead in the production of metal single crystals was formed in 1957 and now employs 120 workers – 65 05 27

1965 06 29
Jesus College announce second major redevelopment scheme within week of Lion Yard plans, this one for King Street – 65 06 29, 29a

1965 09 24
Jesus College proposals for King Street development – model – 65 09 24

1966 04 11
University authorities ban King Street run; started 40 years ago – 66 04 11a; does not take place 66 04 21c; takes place in defiance of proctors – 66 04 28c

1966 07 29
City planner Gordon Logie reveals six possible scheme for a new Cambridge shopping centre; one would build on part of Christ's Pieces and extend grass over the King St area – 66 07 29, a, b

1967 05 25
King Street demolition for Jesus College redevelopment – photo – 67 05 25a

1969 07 04
P.O. Reed, hairdresser started 53 Trumpington St, 1946 to Mill Road, then King St etc – history – 69 07 04

1970

1971 01 07
King Street architecture criticism – 71 01 07a

1971 09 03
King Street new buildings ruin environment, Architectural Review claims – 71 09 04

1972 10 02
John Nicholson is a tall, solemn, ranging character with a Biblical appearance. Currently he runs two shops in Cambridge. Neither of them makes a profit. Before that he published an "alternative" newspaper "Cambridge Voice", a paper which ran to 16 issues. After a skirmish with "The Shilling Paper" he felt that a University element were against him. His two shops are the King Street Market and Cockaygne, Portland Place, New Square. It's an unusual shop selling a range of science fiction and occult books, "underground" periodicals, American comic books and all sorts of pamphlets

1973 01 04
King Street almshouses, p12

1975 04 16
King Street run, p6

1975 04 28
The King Street run or the King Street pint to pint is a Cambridge drinking tradition. It means drinking eight pints of beer in two hours. In the old days King Street had enough ale houses for the Run to be held along it, but now the organisers have to plan the route incorporating public houses elsewhere. The run last year ended at The Zebra in Newmarket Road but licensee Mrs M. Warren won't be allowing it again. Last year youths who vomited in Fair Street outside the Hopbine bought a ban there on all future runs.

1977 08 03
Cambridge pop groups are to be given a chance to make their names in the music industry. Lee Wood, the owner of "Remember Those Oldies" record shop in King Street has just launched his own record label for lively local bands. Having acquired the 16-track recording facilities at

Spaceward Studios he is looking for local groups to promote on his new label entitled "RAW" and has plans to produce an LP of all the Cambridge groups over the last ten years. One of the first bands to be recorded are punk-rockers The Users, whose single "Sick of You" has already sold 10,000 copies.

1977 12 15
It pays to discover the shops in King Street, Cambridge. There are three antiques shops and Andrew McCulloch's and Hi-Fi for Pleasure do a wide range of sound equipment. For records there is a choice between the instant-nostalgia shop, Remember Those Oldies, who rather oddly sell punk records, and Garon Records – more conventional with a good selection of bargain-price discs. The Cambridgeshire Health and Beauty Salon offers a facial at £3.95, sauna at £2 or a manicure at £1.50 and at Norman and Son you can still buy old-fashioned woolly long-johns.

1978 01 03
A tornado cut a two-mile swathe through Newmarket. Roofs were ripped off buildings, windows smashed and cars overturned. Every window in the railway station signal box was smashed. Chief Inspector Trevor Hewitt of Newmarket police said: "It's a disaster area. It was just a freak storm and only lasted a couple of minutes. The damage is appalling. Roofs have caved in, windows have been smashed and cars overturned". In Cambridge the wind lifted the roof from a house in King Street.

1978 02 13
I went for a pub-crawl the other night – without moving from my 'local'. Warmed by two or three pints of good beer I decided to call at The Criterion in Market Passage, which used to be a popular Saturday night pub, the Bun Shop just off Downing Street and the Volunteer in Green Street before tramping on to the Earl Grey in King Street and the Duke of Cambridge in Short Street. Every one of these pubs had its own special 'character'. The journey took only a few minutes but the best part of 15 years – during which time all of them have closed.

1978 10 13
The Varsity Handbook's pub guide includes a bitter attack on several Cambridge pubs. At The Horse and Groom, King Street it claims "the beer is foul, the bar dirty and the landlord unpleasant". The Pickerel, Magdalene Street, fares little better: "Foul place, selling foul beer and swamped by inhabitants of a certain nearby college". Whitbread pubs in particular come in for a bad time: "Why does Whitbread charge so much money for their freezing cold fizzy beer", it asks. But it likes the Baker's Arms, East Road - "friendly and near a fish and chip shop"

1980

1980 04 10
Major alterations have been made to the Cambridge Arms in King Street ensuring the conservation of the old Cambridge Brewery building which has stood semi-derelict since brewing ceased in 1925. It was established by George Scales in 1866 and then supplied 13 public houses. The new Scales Bar extends beneath the old brewing floor and features brick arches which supports the heavy coppers and chimney on the upper level. Various items of brewing equipment that were removed for safe keeping have now been returned and are displayed. 80 04 10

1980 09 24
There are twice as many bicycles in Cambridge than in other towns, but there are three times as many bike shops. The proprietor of University Cycles of King Street says the overheads are high but with hard work it is possible to make a comfortable living. Second-hand bike sales peak at the

start of a university term and winter is a good time for repairs as with ice and snow there are frequent breakages. But Cedar Cycles of Cottenham say people travel out to them because they are the cheapest in the area. 80 09 24b-c

1981 05 11
Five years ago the problem of housing single people in Cambridge was desperate. But now 20 local housing associations like Granta and King Street have added hundreds of rooms. The Argyle Street Housing Co-operative is different: half the places are earmarked for CCAT students and the rest will go to single people. Members will run the properties themselves, doing some of the maintenance. Living near a railway line is not everyone's idea of heaven but it does have its advantages: the rents will be around £15 a week. 81 05 11

1982 10 05
Newly-modernised almshouses in King Street were re-opened by Baroness David. They were built in 1880 to replace the original houses dating back to 1647 which had decayed beyond repair. The new houses for single retired women have modern kitchens, bathrooms and central heating. Already they have six tenants. 82 10 05a

1983 06 09
No-one is likely to support a local post office out of charity. Business has been falling off in recent years, not helped by Government encouragement to pay many social security benefits monthly instead of weekly and to pay direct into a bank account. Some sub-postmasters have given up because their income has dropped by £1,000 a year but so far somebody else has been persuaded to take on the business. Now a 'rationalisation' programme is being carried out. First to be hit is the King Street post office which is likely to close, just as the street has a new lease of life with new shops and flats. 83 06 09 p11

1983 07 13
Hundreds of Cambridge residents have lost their long battle to save the sub-post office in King Street from closure. Despite massive protests the Head Postmaster has decided it must shut when the owners retire. Now the council may consider buying the building in the hope they can keep it open. Mr & Mrs Mansfield have given a first class personal service for 30 years which would be difficult to match even if the post office were to remain. 83 07 13 p7

1093 08 20
Dozens of Cambridge residents gathered outside King Street Post Office to protest against its closure. It was the last day of business for the owners, Tom and Ivy Mansfield who are retiring after 30 happy years. The decision to close was taken despite vigorous opposition from the city council. "They haven't given a thought to the inconvenience it will cause people", say protestors, but the Head Postmaster says there are too many post offices in Cambridge. 83 08 20 p3

1983 08 22
One of the last letters to be postmarked by the King Street Post Office, which closed despite public protest, has been kept as a memento. The registered letter was sent to the News by John Mellanby, a city tourist guide, as a souvenir of the closure. He recorded the dates the post office opened and closed, 1898-1983 and blames MP Robert Rhodes James for not supporting the fight. 83 08 22 p7

1984 11 02
Own Roe, the St Andrew's Street antiques dealer, is the latest in a line of specialist private shops owners to be driven out of the centre of Cambridge by massive rent rises. His great-grandfather

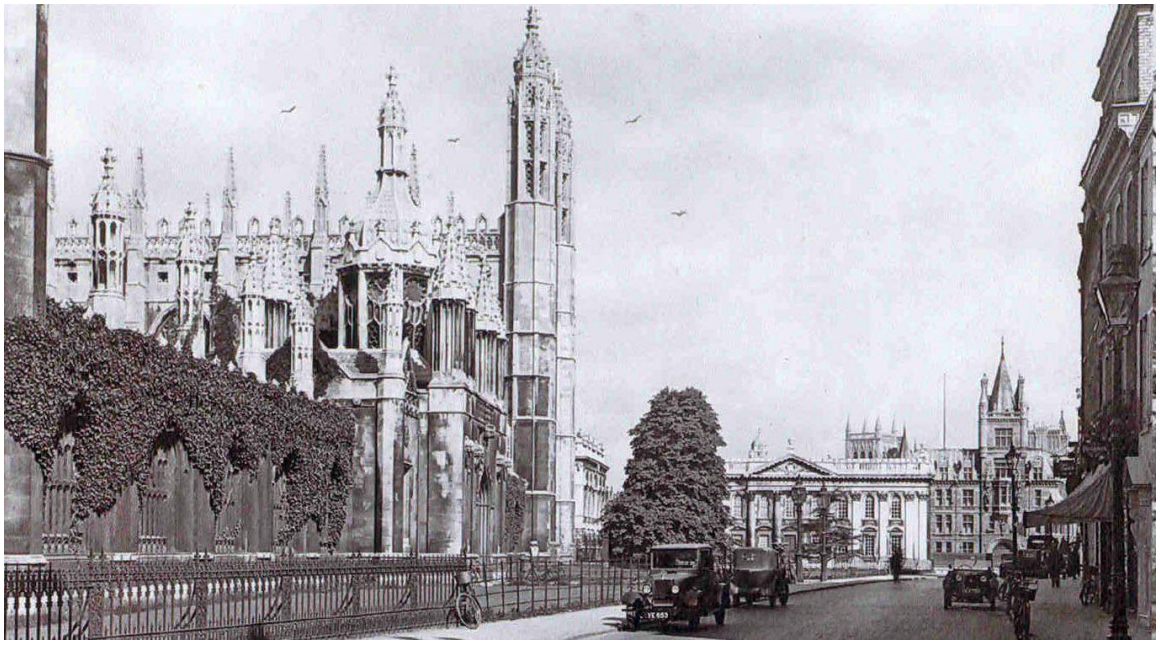
started in business at the corner of Christ's Lane in 1822 but that shop was pulled down to make way for Bradwell's Court in the 1960s. Recently E.J. Pigott (tools) left Sussex Street after nearly 50 years and now the Granta Wool Shop is concerned about a rent review. Model Mania in King Street has also moved. 84 11 02 p8

1984 11 30
The Champion of the Thames pub in King Street has just been completely refurbished with an Edwardian atmosphere featuring reinstated oak panelling matched up with new boarding bars, ceilings and floors. The familiar 'Champion' emblem of a sculler has been superbly etched on the new glass but the Landlord would like to know something more about him so that he can add to a selection of old rowing and sculling prints which now adorn the walls. He thinks the name may have come from either a lodger or resident who was a Thames sculling champion. 84 11 30c

1985 10 10
Wrights Ski Chalet shop opens King Street – 85 10 10b & c

1986 05 27
Thirty novels reflecting life in Cambridge over the past 75 years have been given to the Cambridgeshire Collection. They are the lifetime's work of Jack Overhill. Only three books have been published: 'Romantic Youth', a townsman's view of the university, 'The Miller of Trumpington' and 'The Snob' telling of life in Gothic Street. Two volumes that describe life in King Street in the 1930s came close to becoming a television serial in 1973. Most were written at the end of a busy day, in some cases on a typewriter balanced on his knees in an air-raid shelter. "Every word in them is true. I have remembered all that happened in my life. Now it torments me", says Jack 86 05 27 b & c

1989 12 12
Sir Arthur Marshall to retire – profile. His father set up a de luxe car hire service in Brunswick Terrace in 1909, opening garages in King Street and Jesus Lane. In 1912 carried petrol to Beta II airship which landed in grounds Jesus College. Bought first aircraft at Fowlmere in 1919. Got pilot's licence 1929 & bought a Gipsy Moth. Opened landing field behind house in Newmarket Road – 89 12 12b, c



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Cambridge KING'S PARADE Scrapbook by Mike Petty

1898 01 02
Shortly before the clock of Great St Mary's with deep-toned impressiveness proclaimed the exit of 1897 and the advent of 1898 King's Parade was thronged with people awaiting the fiery messengers sent up year after year by Ald Beck. We have a shrewd suspicion that the unusual sight of letting off rockets at midnight attracted the bulk of the people who visited King's Parade last night. "Beer, beer, glorious beer" chorused a lively portion of the crowd. Precisely upon the stroke of 12 there was a swish and roar in front of the portals of King's and the first rocket soared aloft proclaiming abroad the significant fact that the old year was out. A second rocket heralded in the new year, and after some slight ebullition of feeling and a feeble attempt at "Aud lang syne" the crowds dispersed, and the streets resumed their normal state 1898 01 02

1899 01 02
As 12 o'clock draws near on New Year's Eve in Cambridge the interest of the crowd is directed towards the House of Alderman Deck. For many years he has made himself responsible for a display of rockets on King's Parade as the Old Year gives place to the New; and he is not going disappoint his fellow townspeople tonight. Just a few minutes before twelve he leaves his house and set up the stand from which two rockets are to be fired on the causeway in front of the gates of King's College. While the expectant crowd eagerly looks on, he lights a fuse and just on the first stroke of twelve the first rocket, that in honour of the Old Year, is set off. It has hardly completed its flight when another rocket, that in honour of the New Year, shoots up into the sky

1900

1901 01 01
All over the country people keep up the practice of watching the Old Year out and the New Year in, but Cambridge is probably unique in the sending up of rockets. Mr Alderman Deck has

religiously observed the practice inaugurated by his father and the townspeople are grateful to him for it. Hundreds of people gathered on King's Parade. The two rockets were placed in a crate and just as King's clock was striking the midnight hour the venerable Alderman applied a light to one of the rockets and with its flight was symbolised the flight of 1900. A few moments later the second rocket was sent up, heralding the birth of the New Year and the New Century.

1901 06 18
A large number witnessed the quaint custom of the presentation of the wooden spoon to the last man in the University Mathematical Tripos. This year two candidates were bracketed at the bottom of the list and both gentlemen received large spoons emblazoned and trimmed with their college colours. The spoons were lowered down to their owners from the gallery in the Senate House amid much interest. Mess Crisp & Co of King's Parade, Cambridge, again supplied the spoons, which were artistically painted and decorated. Mr D. Buchanan, who comes from South Africa, has had an additional spoon presented to him by his South African friends, with the arms and coloured ribbons of Cape Colony.

1902 01 01
The one event in Cambridge on New Year's Eve that rises superior to all others is the midnight ceremony on King's Parade, where for many years past the public have assembled to bid farewell to the old year and welcome the new, in a manner that obtains in a few other towns in the Kingdom. There was little except the associations of the ceremony to tempt hundreds of people to make a midnight journey. The space in front of Alderman Deck's house, facing King's College was densely packed and shortly before 12 o'clock the first rocket ascended and about a minute later the second followed. A few illuminative fireworks were discharged near the church and King's Parade resumed its normal appearance by 12.15

1902 12 27
The demand for electric light is continually on the increase and Messrs Millington and Everett, King's Parade, Cambridge, have a good show of high-class electric lamps which they are selling at 1s. These lamps are guaranteed to be much more economical than the ordinary electric lamp. Telephone and electric bells are also well displayed here.

1903 01 01
Young men and matrons, old men and children, gathered on King's Parade, Cambridge, at midnight to speed the dying year and welcome the new. Everyone was waiting for Alderman Deck who left his house a few minutes before the hour, carrying the rockets, to see the flight of which so many people flock to the Parade. Standing in front of King's gate the venerable alderman lighted the rockets and the crowds broke into hearty cheers.

1904 09 15
A poorly-attended council meeting considered an offer from the Cambridge Electric Tramways Syndicate to electrify and extend the present tramway system. The overhead trolley system for running the cars would not to be employed in King's Parade without the consent of the council. But consultants say that the existing lines in Kings Parade should be abandoned & they cannot recommend new lines in the town centre because the narrowness of the streets would generate great opposition from residents. A new line should be laid in Silver Street but this is so narrow that the trams would take their turn with ordinary road traffic and keep to the left. There may be some objection to a track down Queen's Road which has the character of a boulevard but this would not be disturbed by the working of the tramways. The busiest section would be Hills Road where trams would run at about 2¾ minute intervals

1905 10 28
An exhibition of watercolour sketches of Grantchester by Mr Payne Garnett, art master of the Leys School is being held at the well-lighted galleries of Crisp and Co., King's Parade. Many of the sketches are of exceedingly high artistic merit including his studies of the river by moonlight. Already most of the pictures have been bespoken.05 10 28a

1905 12 09
Last night a man was seen careering around the floor at a Covent Garden Ball in a suit made of sateen upon which pages of the CDN was printed. It was made by Mr A.W. Smith of King's Parade to the order of an old University man. The same trader made a similar order two years ago but the material was then white. On this occasion it was pink. 05 12 09c

1906 01 01
The old custom of assembling on King's Parade to witness the death of the old year and the birth of the new, as signalized by the discharge of a couple of rockets, was again observed by a large number of the inhabitants of Cambridge. The crowd was in a happy frame of mind but there was nothing to complain of in their behaviour. A few seconds before midnight one rocket soared skywards to the accompaniment of cheers. Shortly afterwards 1906 was heralded by a second. The custom, which was initiated by the late Mr Deck, has now reached its 80th anniversary. 06 01 01a

1906 01 16
The newly-elected Cambridge Liberal MP, Mr Buckmaster, proceeded to the Bull Hotel. Hundreds upon hundreds thronged King's Parade and still hundreds more from Market Hill arrived, cheering as they came. When he appeared on the balcony the applause reached fever heat, handkerchiefs and hats were waved and he was informed that he was a jolly good fellow. At last, it seemed from very exhaustion, the people settled down to hear his speech. 06 01 16b

1906 08 07
Cambridge fire brigade undoubtedly saved a portion of King's Parade, St Edward's Passage and Peas Hill from destruction by fire. There are numerous old houses, warehouses, sheds and outhouses of all descriptions, many constructed chiefly of wood. It broke out at Mons Buol's bakery, 17 King's Parade; the bakehouse was gutted and hundreds of pounds of chocolate, almonds and sugar damaged. 06 08 07

1906 08 09
A demonstration of the capabilities of the new steam fire engine attracted hundreds of townspeople. It is a double cylinder variable expansion type made by Shand, Mason & Co., generating steam by oil fuel resulting in the complete absence of thick smoke and sparks. Water drawn from the stream in front of Addenbrooke's Hospital was thrown high above the roof of the building. It was then moved to King's Parade and threw water 20ft above the flagpole of Gt St Mary's church. 06 08 09a

1906 10 20
A remarkable event happened in Cambridge the other day. Put on its mettle, no doubt, by the performance of the motor 'buses, a tram horse, determined to show that it could go, and ran away at quite a terrifying pace along King's Parade. The petrol 'buses will have to look to their laurels when acetylene horses begin to show their true powers like this. 06 10 20

1907 01 01

The Cambridge custom of ushering in the New Year by the discharge of rockets from King's Parade has rarely been observed under more favourable conditions and a good crowd congregated near King's gate where a wooden stand had been erected. The Chief of the Fire Brigade and the Chief Constable stood by with a number of 'blue lights' spluttering in their hands ready to fire the symbols of farewell and welcome. 07 01 01

1908 09 04
Arthur Deck was one of the best-known inhabitants of Cambridge. Hundreds annually gathered on King's Parade to witness his quaint tradition of firing rockets at midnight every New Year's Eve. As a young man he made balloon ascents including one from Fenner's when the balloon tore a slice off the pavilion roof. Even when a white-haired old man he could be seen on sunny mornings taking his dip upon Sheep's Green, distaining shallow water and swimming slowly between the ladders. CWN 08 09 04 p5

1910

1910 01 07
An amusing story of how a Cambridge don achieved sartorial immortality has been forwarded to me by Mr G. White of Regent Street. Dr Lowther-Yates, master of St Catharine's College at the close of the 1700s, enjoyed the distinction of being the first Cambridge Don who dared to wear trousers in public. When he walked as Vice Chancellor to the University wearing trousers instead of the conventional knee-breeches, somebody shouted out of a window on King's Parade: "Gadzoons! Gadzoons! Lowther Yates in pantaloons". The mysterious word 'Gadzoons' was a favourite ejaculation of surprise that he used. CWN 10 01 07f

1910 12 23
Dr George Cunningham, the dentist of King's Parade, conceived the idea a curling stone that could be used on roller skating rinks. He sought assistance from Henry Birch, a scientific instrument maker. At first the wheels carried the dust into the ball races and clogged them, so he invented a device to prevent the dust from getting in. Then he tried rubber wheels but these were a complete failure. Dr Cunningham never complained of the prices charged but disputed the number of hours it had taken. 10 12 23f

1911 02 17
A taxi driver was summoned for dangerous driving. Richard Glasscock, cabdriver was driving a horse attached to a brougham on King's Parade with three passengers when a taxi came out of Bene't Street on the wrong side of the road at about 12 mph. He had to pull the horse on to the middle of the road and hit it with the whip to get away. The taxi caught the hub of the hind wheel and smashed the springs. Its driver had said his steering gear had been locked for two days. The Mayor said taxi-cabs were driven too fast and fined the driver five shillings 11 02 17

1914 04 17
The unhappy conjunction of the name Sadd and Greef on King's Parade has been a well-worn joke. Now it is about to be broken. Mr Sadd is soon to move to premises in St Edward's Passage while Mr Greef is moving further up the Parade. The Sadds began business last century as dealer in antiques and a hairdresser in one of a row of old-fashioned houses standing in front of King's College. When the cottages were pulled down they moved opposite. His son made a sketch of the old houses 14 04 17g

1915 01 01

The New Year rocket custom did not take place. Mr Arthur Deck did not consider the present was a time for such a function, especially as fireworks were forbidden on November 5th as likely to cause alarm. Again the event might disturb soldiers in the hospital or encourage soldiers to keep late hours. But people sat up to welcome in the New Year and many of the soldiers from the north were seen on the doorsteps of their houses singing "The Miner's Dream of Home". Bugles were to be heard sounding the Last Post and the bells of Great St Mary's Church rang in the year 1915 15 01 01

1916 11 01
Glove making – a new industry; when undergraduates left there was grave unemployment and Rutherford & Clothier of King's Parade introduced glove making, now producing 600 pairs a meek by women working at home on machines provided by the firm; are difficulties obtaining fabric – 16 11 01b

1916 12 06
Growing popularity of King's Parade as a shopping centre; a war-time evolution; traders have to adapt to loss of undergraduates and impression of high-price goods; notes on traders: A.R. Crossman, Ryder & Amies, Rutherford & Clothier, A.W. Smith, Lily Masters, Tredgett – 16 12 06c, d

1916 12 13
Shopping on King's Parade does not mean paying high prices – advert – 16 12 13f

1918 05 29
Tram line removal necessary as were becoming dangerous except in King's Parade and past the side of Gt St Mary's – 18 05 29a

1920

1921 06 15
Pavement Club – 500 on King's Parade with every form of locomotion known, journey to Girton – 21 06 15b

1923 01 01
For most people the practice of watching the Old Year out and the New Year in has considerable attraction. It had that attraction for some 700 people when Mr Arthur Deck revived the ancient custom of letting off one rocket for the departing year and one for the New Year. For the first time since 1913-14 when the War put a stop to the practice has the New Year been welcomed in Cambridge in this way. The proceedings were not marked with that liveliness that some of us remembered was evinced on previous occasions, but still the interest taken speaks well for the continuation of the custom. The firing of rockets was started in 1820 by Mr Deck's grandfather 23 01 01

1923 11 19
The Cambridge undergraduates have once more been the source of innocent amusement. The "rag" consisted in the purchase of one of the old 4- wheeled tram cars that used in bygone days to be both a convenience and an adornment to the streets of Cambridge. On Saturday when it was expected that the tram would be towed in state through Cambridge streets the authorities were alarmed by the appearance of numbers undergraduates outside the yard where the tram was stored. At this moment another tram made its appearance, a tram of Lilliputian dimensions, towed with steady ropes by a happy band of undergraduates. The miniature car was solemnly dragged

into the centre of town and along old tram lines, which have for many years or so useless a feature in King's Parade.

1924 01 22
Councillor Gentle raised the question of the removal of the tram rails along King's Parade and Trumpington Street, Cambridge. He had had complaints, and their removal would give employment. Alderman Stanley said that if one was cycling along the Parade the rails made it most dangerous. The reason they were not taken up was because King's Parade was a new round, and it would be a waste of money to do it now. They desired to wait until the road needed substantial repair and then do the work.

1924 04 25
Cars on King's Parade, p5

1925 12 28
The many hundreds of people who crowded Market Hill to see the meet of the Cambridgeshire Hunt on Boxing Day morning will have an opportunity of trying to pick themselves out in a special film at the Victoria Cinema. The photography is extraordinarily good and the picturesque scene well depicted. The spectator gets good views of various sections of the crowds and the huntsmen are seen partaking of the refreshments supplied by the Mayor. Later as the Hunt moves off we see them in King's Parade.

1926 01 02
One has been glad to see the new sign posts erected in various parts of Cambridge for in these days of ever-increasing road traffic we want to make it as easy as possible for motorists who pass through our town. As originally erected one directed travellers to Bedford along King's Parade and through Magdalene Street, but when it was pointed out that the traffic through the town should be diminished as much as possible, this offending arm was removed.

1926 02 08
Parking on King's Parade, p6

1927 02 25
"The first marriage according to the new Prayer Book" was solemnised in Cambridge when an undergraduate "bride" and "bridegroom" were joined together in unholy matrimony on King's Parade. The blushing bride with the bowing bridegroom was preceded by a piper and a clergyman who was wearing "flannel bags" under his surplice and carried a doll's sunshade. The bride's dress was a pair of white lace curtains and she carried a large bouquet of Brussels sprouts. The bridegroom wore a dilapidated silk hat and a red nose – and carried a banana. They stepped into a waiting carriage followed by a motley through of ludicrously attired "relations and friends"

1927 07 16
It will interest many people to know that the authorities of King's College propose pulling down the railings in front of the college on King's Parade but are a little timid about what might follow this step and have consulted the Town Council. The Watch Committee was asked to enter into an agreement not to take any portion of the land between the railings and the college buildings for a parking place. They have reassured the college that they have no power to establish parking places on private property.

1928 09 01

Sir – if you walk into King's Parade, Cambridge you see on your right, stretching almost indefinitely to Trinity Street a long varied row of shops – tailors, photographers, booksellers and cafes – in fine all the indications of the necessities of modern life. You may linger before window displays of the latest dance record, buns and cakes, photographs of college eights, and books and books. You notice the windows reflect your new summer suiting and admire its fashionable cut. Yet turn round and your gaze encounters minarets and towers, white gleaming the sunshine. Great walls, vulnerable with tradition, frown coldly down at you and you feel absurdly out of place in your flannel trousers and double-breasted coat – "Awe-struck"

1930

1932 05 14
There is praise for the improvements along King's Parade effected by the substitution of the low stone balustrade for the old hurdles and the construction of the light railings to separate King's College and Senate House Yard. All the work has been done by local labour. Messrs Coulson and Rattee and Kett have been the builders and the iron railings have been made by George Lister and Sons. 32 05 14a

1934 01 29
The Queen paid another visit to Cambridge when she inspected two antique shops and called at a café on King's Parade. The large crowd who had been waiting was surprised when a small blue car drew up and she stepped out. The Royal limousine had broken down on the Ely Road and Mr Percy Titmous, a brewer's manager, had stopped to offer assistance. He then drove her to Cambridge. The Queen was intensely amused at the somewhat unexpectedness of her arrival and at the little adventure which had befallen her, he said. 34 01 29

1934 03 05
A Cambridge police constable was injured during the 'rag' which followed the inter-college rugby cup final between Clare and St Catharine's. At Burrell's Walk undergraduates used wooden palisades to make a bonfire. The fire engine was called out but was surrounded by a crowd of students some of whom pulled the hose off the drum. Others clambered on to the engine and took the front and side lamps off. The fire was put out by college porters. In Queen's Road the police were forced to defend themselves. Truncheons were used to prevent their helmets being snatched off. There was some hard fighting. A number of street lamps were broken and a window was smashed in King's Parade. Two undergraduates were arrested, charged with assaulting the police. 34 03 05

1936 02 25
An undergraduate was discovered with his head terribly injured on King's Parade at midnight. He was removed to a nursing home in the police ambulance but died on the way. He had apparently fallen from the fourth-floor window of the house where he lodged and was dressed only in pyjamas, coat and socks. His landlady found the door of his room sealed up with adhesive tape and there was a smell of gas. A sealed letter was found. 36 02 25

1936 03 28
Under new restrictions Cambridge motorists may not travel from Market Hill towards Trinity Street or into Bene't Street from King's Parade. You may not drive into Sussex Street from Hobson Street or into Corn Exchange Street from Downing Street, nor turn at Burton's Corner, Petty Cury to go to the Victoria Cinema or from Wheeler Street into Peas Hill to get to the Arts Theatre. But cyclists may walk with their bicycles either way as they do at present in Petty Cury and Market Street. Restaurants will have to speed up their service if they wish to cater for those

who leave their cars outside, for only a quarter of an hour is permitted. Travellers who do not want to get indigestion had better make use of a parking space! 36 03 28b

1936 07 30
Specimen lamp standards had been put up so that everybody had equal chance of commenting and not one criticism had been received. So standards had been ordered and work was proceeding well. But then criticism poured in from the Preservation Society and Colleges who said the standards were not in keeping with the buildings around them. But while they had antique buildings in King's Parade, they also had modern traffic passing along the road at the modern fast rate. Where were the protests going to stop? 36 07 30b & c

1936 10 02
G.H. Lavender, fancy draper, King's Parade – photo - 36 10 02a

1937 09 06
The famous Festival Grill has been reborn. Connoisseurs of good food and good wine need no longer journey to Newmarket Road as the Grill has opened in more commodious premises at the corner of Bene't Street and King's Parade. It has a new name, the Festival Restaurant with a new sherry and oyster bar which together with the restaurant under the direction of Toni, is first-class in every respect. Its delightful colour scheme of red, black and cream ensures the rooms are bright but not garish and it will become one of the best-known rendezvous. 37 10 06a

1937 10 23
A plaque to Edward Fitzwilliam was unveiled on the wall of 19, King's Parade, where he lived from 1826 to 1830 and entertained his friends. Mr Frank Brangwyn made the design and Joseph Cribb sculptured the stone which was quarried in Rutland. It honoured a man who brought the wisdom and philosophy of the East to the West. The Omar Khayyam Club had supported the appeal but George Bernard Shaw sent a postcard saying "I am not a Fitz fan. You can do as well without me". 37 10 23a

1938 01 07
The demolition of parts of the old Guildhall has meant that several annual functions have lost their normal home. But a Mayoral reception elsewhere than in the Guildhall must surely be unique in Cambridge history. It is symbolic of the happy relations existing between the Town and the University that the Old Schools should have been placed at the disposal of the councillors. Cars containing guests pulled up on King's Parade and a lengthy walk under illuminated awnings led to the Dome Room. The Council Room, East Room, Syndicate Room and Regent House were in use but only the dais where the orchestra played for dancing was decorated 38 01 07

1939 09 05
Cambridge is getting into its war stride. After-dark bus services are curtailed owning to lighting restrictions, no cinemas are open and public libraries close at sunset. Banking hours are now 10 to two on weekdays and delays may occur in the collection of cheques. Various museums are taking steps to protect exhibits from damage and already half of the stained glass in the east window of King's College Chapel has been removed. It is being packed and taken to a place of safety. The remaining 23 windows are being left as they are, owing to the enormous nature of the task of removing the glass. 39 09 05a

1940

1940 09 21

James Thomas Masters, gentleman's outfitter King's Parade, dies – 40 09 21a

1941 10 11
Lloyd George inspects Queen's Messenger Convoy in King's Parade; consists of 13 vehicles ready to visit any area damaged by enemy action; are two water vehicles, two food vehicles, two kitchens, four canteens, a utility van for the staff of 30, W.V.S. kit van and W.V.S. staff canteen – 41 10 11

1944 05 08
Record crowd salutes the soldier – troops march past Fitzwilliam Museum – 44 05 08a, war-time monsters on King's Parade 44 05 08

1945 01 05
Runaway Pony. At about 11.20 a.m. on Tuesday a pony and trap was left outside Messrs Holland and Blackwell's shop in Pembroke Street, when the pony took fright. It turned into Trumpington Street and ran towards King's Parade land at the corner of Bene't Street and King's Parade struck a lamp standard. The trap and harness were damaged, and the pony having freed itself, ran along King's Parade and Trinity Street, being finally stopped uninjured in St. John's Street, It caused no further damage.

1945 12 29
King's College chapel windows to be restored soon; location kept secret for fear theft – 45 12 29

1947 01
A London company secretary who left his Chrysler car on King's Parade during the night of Christmas Eve and the morning of Christmas day was summonsed for obstruction and for leaving it without lights. PC Tasker spoke of getting a hurricane lamp from the police station & attaching it to the car to warn other traffic. He was fined 10/- in the first case and 20/- in the second

1948 06 01
Today the one-way traffic system designed to relieve congestion in the centre of Cambridge came into operation. In Sidney Street and Bridge Street the traffic will flow in a northerly direction towards Magdalene Street from the town centre, while in St John's Street and Trinity Street it will flow in a southerly direction towards King's Parade. In Green Street traffic will flow in one direction from Gifford Place to Trinity Street - and the remainder of Green Street will be open for two-way traffic. This extension of "one-way" traffic will link up with the system now in operation at St Mary's street, Market Hill (north side) and Market Street

1949 05 13
A director of the firm of Findlater, Mackie and Todd, brewers, applied to turn the premises known as the Festival Grill, King's Parade, Cambridge, into fully licensed premises with meals provided. In April 1946 he had acquired the business of the Hope Inn, Bene't Street, the ground floor of which was used as an ordinary bar, whilst the first floor was converted into two wine parlours. These had become very popular but attracted a totally different type of clientele from the ground floor bar1949 09 14
King's Parade, p5

1949 10 03
A London dental surgeon was accused of leaving a bull mastiff bitch weighing 12 stone inside a car on King's Parade on one of the hottest days of the Summer, with all the doors and windows shut and thereby caused it extreme suffering. PC R. Tuck said he was on duty when he was called

to the car. He was compelled to force and make entry because of the "enraged and hostile attitude" of the crowd. He opened the door with his truncheon and it was like opening an oven. Cold water was obtained from a nearby house and this was applied to the dog which was too heavy to be lifted out. Defendant was fined £2

1949 11 01
Many people prominent in town and University life attended cocktail parties to celebrate the opening of Messrs J. F. Miller's new wine parlour at King's Parade, Cambridge. The new premises, tastefully furnished in a style fitted to the dignity of Cambridge's most distinguished thoroughfare will help the proprietors in the education of the public in the niceties of wine drinking. Meals – lunches and dinners – will be served in a dining room on the first floor

1950

1951 04 28
A Royal welcome greeted the King and Queen when they arrived for their visit to King's College chapel thanksgiving service for its restoration and the replacement of windows removed for safety during the war. The car flying the Royal standard drew up to the city boundary at Newmarket Road. Many mothers from nearby houses brought their children along with little flags and some enterprising onlookers climbed on to one of Marshall's buildings to get a bird's eye view. Carried away by their enthusiasm many toddlers continued to cheer and wave small Union Jacks long after the Royal party had passed.

1951 06 07
Installed as Chancellor of Cambridge University before the brilliantly robed dignitaries of the University and a crowded Senate House, Marshall of the Royal Air Forces, Lord Tedder, described it as "The greatest honour that can ever come to a Cambridge man". King's Parade was crowded with people seeking a glimpse of this unique event whilst inside the Senate House itself every available inch of room was taken up with people standing inside the windowsills. The gallery too was crowded, mostly with undergraduates and girl students

1952 10 17
King's Parade Chocolate room, p7

1954 01 22 c
A tenancy variation of a shop on King's Parade, Cambridge, is a rare occurrence and rarer indeed is the appearance of a new trade to this world-renowned street. From being used as premises for University outfitters A.R. Crossman, no.12a will become K.P. Camera Shop and promises to become as well-known as its parent, Campkins of Cambridge. The firm was established in 1800 and has remained in its present premises at Rose Crescent since 1867

1955 11 30
Undergraduates going to early lectures in thick fog were surprised to see a Commer van resting neatly in a large hole in the road in front of King's College with just the front two wheels sticking up to greet the morning. A breakdown van managed to pull the van out to the accompaniment of cheers from student onlookers. Later workmen were back digging the hole even deeper. 55 11 30
1956 05 09
King's Parade was chosen to demonstrate how an ordinary Austin saloon car fits comfortably in the cargo carrying space of the British Straddle-Carrier, a heavy transport vehicle manufactured at Bourn. Because of its peculiar shape it easily handles awkward loads, obviating the need for

cranes and overhead gantries. It can be seen at the Mechanical Handling Exhibition at Earl's Court. 56 05 09a

1957 03 15
Cambridge will soon have 141 new specially designed street lamps of the 'vertical fluorescent' type after consultations with the Cambridge Preservation Society, Royal Fine Arts Commission and College bursars. For some months several different types of lamp were erected along King's Parade to test public reaction. The only strong objection has come from the Design Society. 57 03 15

1958 08 23
King's College railings – 58 08 23c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1961 11 17
Buckets of water cascaded over undergraduates who marched along King's Parade as a protest against having to wear gowns. About 250, many without gowns, walked four abreast to the Senate House escorted by a solitary policeman. Other students chanted 'Keep the Gown'. When they reached Senate House Hill three Proctors accompanied by two Bulldogs took down some of the names – they are liable to a fine of six shillings and eightpence. The only 'casualty' was a Bulldog who had his top hat snatched by an undergraduate who ran off in Trinity Street 61 11 17b

1961 12 01
A bold scheme to transform Cambridge Market Hill into the 'finest piazza in Europe' would involve banning traffic in King's Parade, demolition of a few buildings on the corner of St Mary's Passage and the complete clearance of the Market Place. The screen in front of King's college would be removed and the Senate House and Law Department buildings linked together to form one magnificent spacious vista, says architect G.M. Vickers 61 12 01b

1962 06 30
Cambridge's last surviving Victorian post-box outside King's College main gates is to disappear for a month while workmen redo the surface of the college forecourt. It will be replaced in a slightly different position and the lamps will also move back a bit. At the moment the workmen are preparing to re-lay flagstones and cobbles, which are badly worn. The side walls are also to be moved back about four feet on each side. 62 06 30

1962 07 03
King's College excavations reveal foundations of old buildings along King's Parade – 62 07 03

1962 10 08
King's College gateway area recobbled, lamp standard remains, post box replaced – photo – 62 10 08

1962 12 18
Noel Teulon Porter was an original. From 1911 for over 22 years he was a familiar figure in Cambridge. His progress along King's Parade was one continuous procession of cheerful encounters and although he was not a member of the University he was given a pass to enter the

University Library and allowed to attend certain lectures. During WWI he was co-opted onto all manner of Faculty boards. In 1915 he bought the former Half Moon pub in Little St Mary's Lane and began to cultivate the church graveyard as a garden, clearing out tons of old rubbish. 62 12 18

1963 03 29
Few visitors to King's College realise that there is a five-bedroomed house beyond the archway where Head porters have lived since 1828. It appears to be a comfortable modern house with lounge, spacious kitchen, coal cellar and two bedrooms. Heating is by coal fire but the high ceilings make it difficult to keep warm, there is no back door or garden, it has bars on the long windows and the chapel music can be heard from the bedrooms. Originally there was a gardener's house on the other side of the entrance archway but this has been converted into undergraduate rooms. 63 03 29b

1964 06 02
Fuller's new restaurant at 17 King's Parade is ultra-modern in every way without losing any of the quant charm of the building which houses it or the delightful character of Cambridge itself. Here is a restaurant especially designed to cater for people of individual taste. For such a discriminating clientele it offers a retail shop, self-service or waitress restaurant. Individual rooms may be reserved for private functions. Open 9am to 8 pm, weekdays, 10 to 8 Sundays – Advert 64 06 02

1964 06 03
Whether or now new shopping development takes place in Lion Yard or at City Road the old shopping area should stay where it is and retain its highly individual character. Cambridge has continued to attract more and more visitors leading to fears of King's College ashtrays and "Kiss me quick" mortar boards. But one development benefiting both local and visitor must be the creation of a pedestrian precinct such as the one at Harlow. It would enable streets to be given over to their rightful functions as places for strolling, shopping and gossip 64 06 03a

1964 08 20
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on King's Parade – 64 08 20

1965 07 03
King's Parade rebuilding scheme by King's and St Catharine's – Keynes Hall – to start – 65 07 03a

1970

1971 11 01
Queen Anne car park unused; photo parking King's Parade – 71 11 01

1973 04 09
The Market Square ends of Guildhall Street and Peas Hill, Cambridge, were closed to traffic today as part of city council's plans eventually to make much of the central area into a pedestrian precinct. It is now possible to walk from Sidney Street to King's Parade without crossing a road. City surveyor, Mr Geoffrey Cresswell said that some motorists were still driving round Market Square attempting to get into Peas Hill. The present closure is officially regarded as only "temporary" - although it will last for possibly another two years - while rebuilding of the adjacent Lion Yard site is under way

1973 05 25

After 86 years in business the Cambridge firm of A.W. Crisp and co., the first people to commercially introduce heraldic design work in the city, have closed down. Their premises at King's Parade will come up for auction next month. As one of the few freehold properties which become available in the city centre a price of £150,000 is on the cards. The firm were responsible for the wooden spoons given to the mathematics tripos candidate with the lowest examination mark.

1973 09 07
King's Parade pedestrianisation plans, p16

1973 09 21
Long-established family business in Cambridge city centre say they may be forced to close because their college landlords are demanding up to nine times the existing rent to renew expiring leases. The owner of Colin Lunn Ltd, a tobacconists which has stood in King's Parade since 1899 said he had received a letter from Trinity Hall's estate agents specifying a 95% increase from his current rent of £500. Mr Peter Stockbridge attacked Corpus Christi College for almost trebling the rent for his antique shop to around £3,000. An abrasive reaction came from the proprietor of the Copper Kettle restaurant who have been told unofficially that their rent is to be trebled 73 09 21

1975 02 10
Cambridge's city centre traffic experiment swung into action today. Thousands of motorists faced the through-traffic ban for the first time. The road closures and a system of one-way routes will operate for six months unless "utter chaos" develops. The scheme could then be swiftly abandoned. It closes two sections of road in the centre of town to private cars. One extends along King's Parade from King's College gate to Gt St Mary's while the other runs from Woolworth's along St Andrew's street to its junction with Emmanuel St

1975 02 11
King's Parade tea party, p5

1975 06 11
The much-criticised second stage of Cambridge city council's central area traffic experiment has been abandoned and traffic flow systems introduced five weeks ago withdrawn. This means there is again two-way traffic in Regent Street, Parkside, Emmanuel Road and Short Street. Through traffic is still banned along parts of St Andrew's Street, Sidney Street & King's Parade. City police said many motorists were confused by the changes which it was improving impossible to enforce. Long traffic queues had built up at major junctions since the start of the experiment which brought traffic chaos to the city

1975 07 09
Dozens of traders in central Cambridge have mounted a campaign aimed at persuading the city council to drop its traffic control scheme, which prevents cars from going along parts of King's Parade, St Andrew's Street & Sidney Street. They are complaining about a big slump in business since the scheme started six months ago. Some say they have experienced a 50% drop. Shops are hit by the traffic ban during the day and restaurants, pubs & places of entertainment suffer at night. Tomorrow the council will be recommended to ask Whitehall to make the scheme permanent.

1976 06 04
King's Parade traffic scheme, p15

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1976 08 03
The Government has decided that the experimental traffic restriction system in the centre of Cambridge can become permanent. Through traffic will be prevented from going along Sidney Street and St Andrews Street between Emmanuel and Market Street junctions, and along King's Parade. The experiment was introduced 18 months ago – against a background of support from amenity organisations and opposition from city centre traders who carried their protests to a public inquiry.

1977 09 26
Before I met The Stranglers I met their fans who formed a bizarrely-painted and clothed chain stretching from the Corn Exchange to King's Parade. First in the queue was a character by the name of Rat Rancid, with his mate Garry Gangrene, from King's Lynn. Here were some punks that looked every bit as vile as the ones we've all read about. They were horrible. I think it was the safety pins through the cheeks that made me feel slightly sick, but it may just have been the chains through their noses. They snarled and leered while my colleague, Mike Manni, took their pictures. Then Rat put down his can of Party Seven and scribbled his address. Could we send some prints. "To Rat Rancid", I asked. "Oh, no", he gasped. "My mum wouldn't like that"

1979 04 02
The centre of Cambridge is well off for parking space. There are 600 spaces on the Lion Yard multi-decker, a slightly smaller number at Park Street and substantial parking at New Square. Then there are more than 500 meters dotted around. But during peak periods these are barely enough and queues build up at the park entrances. Motorists complain it is not easy to reach the city centre since King's Parade was severely restricted to through traffic. At first shopkeepers feared virtual bankruptcy but now even the most 'anti' tradesman is happy with the result – an increase in trade.

1980

1980 11 26
A clampdown on the 600 motorists who every day defy traffic bans along King's Parade, Cambridge, will involve blocking off the road outside the Senate House to all traffic except cyclists and emergency vehicles. But it has angered taxi drivers who say it would make longer journeys. The move is part of a plan to improve city centre conditions for pedestrians and cyclists. 80 11 26

1981 07 20
Mr Ben Sharpe, who drove the last Cambridge horse tram, has died aged 86. It was on 18th February 1914 that he took a single-decker tram on its last ceremonial journey from its East Road depot to King's Parade. Within the year public transport was motorised and most of the men who had manned the horse trams were in France with the British Expeditionary Force. Mr Sharp served with the Cambridgeshire Regiment and was both wounded and gassed. Afterwards he worked for the Ortona Omnibus Company and later Eastern National operating between Cambridge and Bedford. 81 07 20

1981 08 12
King's Parade barriers, p6

1982 03 30

The film 'Chariots of Fire', partly shot in Cambridge, was the toast of Hollywood after winning the Oscar for the best picture of 1981. The film ran into trouble with college authorities during production with various 'Cambridge' scenes being shot at Eton public school. King's Parade was returned to the 1920s and some 150 students were employed as extras. 82 03 30

1982 06 23
Prince Philip was greeted with cries of "Hello grandad" by shoppers as he walked down King's Parade today. Other bystanders clapped and cheered. Meanwhile the most talked-about baby in the world was settling into his nursery at Kensington Palace. Prince Charles has refused to give any clue as to his name – George is the favourite - but a street off King George Avenue in Exning will be named after the royal baby when it is known. 82 06 23

1982 12 09
Accommodation for computer-based companies in Cambridge is at a premium. Several firms are run from private houses with others based around King's Parade and Jesus Lane, where buildings are available and rents favourable. Now a technology square is planned for land at the rear of Shire Hall similar to Trinity College's Science Park but at smaller rents. There might be dual-purpose buildings for start-up companies providing both a home and an office to work in. 82 12 09

1983 07 06
The closure of Stockbridge's 113-year-old antique shop in Bridge Street follows closely on that of another shop bearing the same name. C.P. Stockbridge of Histon set up two years ago when the other branch of the family left its prime site on King's Parade. The main reason for closure is that the antique trade is depressed and the new shop never took off. 83 07 06 p5

1983 11 16
Mowbray's, the King's Parade bookshop, is celebrating the 150th anniversary of its foundation in Oxford. It had its origins in the Catholic revival in the Church of England but institutional and sectarian differences have been submerged in the ecumenical considerations that are now paramount in religious thinking. The Cambridge shop, which opened in 1950, is the baby of the business. It sells books, cards and smokeless, drip-free candles. 83 11 16 p22

1984 03 04
Astonished shoppers saw Prince Edward sipping champagne in King's Parade and shouting at young people dancing on the roof of a taxi. It was his off-beat way of letting people know about the charity show he is producing for the University Rag Week. But his elaborate publicity stunt almost flopped when he failed to find the old London taxi he needed. So he asked the News for help and as a result Londoner Maurice Hamilton made a special trip to Cambridge with his cab. 84 03 03

1984 12 05
KP Professional Sales started in 1968 when its position on King's Parade was ideal for building up business with university departments. But it outgrew its space in the KP Camera Shop, moving to Sussex Street and then Quayside before opening new premises in Clifton Road. It supplies Government departments, the armed forces and a host of professional photographers who need a vital piece of equipment at the last minute. There is a lot of new electronic equipment but as far as taking pictures is concerned Ian Bedson, the managing director, doesn't envisage any major innovation. 84 12 05 & a

1985 10 28

For almost 200 years every gentleman of Cambridge popped in to the little King's Parade shop of Bays and Sons, the hatters. It was started in 1787 and the present shop was built in 1825. It was a traditional firm and never followed fashions. Each time the demand for hats dropped they added another line and eventually sold more blazers, trousers and boaters than gowns and hats. But rents tripled and the premises were taken over by New and Lingwood, shirtmakers. Now with the retirement of Jimmy Bays, the family link has been broken. 85 10 28

1985 11 05
Pamela Sue Martin – who played Fallon in 'Dynasty' – along with veteran actor Dick Van Dyke and Ben Cross, star of 'Chariots of Fire', were part of a glittering galaxy of Hollywood stars who have been smuggled in and out of Cambridge during the last couple of days for the filming of a multi-million dollar TV mini-series called 'Strong Medicine'. Shooting began in King's Parade with heart-throb Sam Neil and then shifted to the university's chemistry department in Lensfield Road. Two local schoolboys James Stevenson and Dan Nashaat gave a hand fetching and carrying. They met the stars and were paid £3 for their work. 85 11 05

1986 03 24
Winds gusting up to 70mph brought chaos, killing one man, injuring others and causing thousands of pounds' damage. In Cambridge King's Parade was sealed off after material was dislodged from the chapel roof and an international computer exhibition at the University Centre was called off after windows and skylights were smashed. Duxford Museum closed after gales damaged a replica Spitfire and blew over a security man and a corrugated iron roof was ripped off the old Falcon Hotel ballroom in St Neots 86 03 24

1987 01 21
A new official booklet aimed at promoting tourism in Cambridge features a picture on the cover of a traffic warden booking a coach driver for parking outside King's College. It also shows groups of tourists standing under umbrellas in the rain. The drawings by a council artist appear in the Travel Trade Manual issued by the city's tourism department as part of a campaign to encourage visitors throughout the year. Councillors are amazed that they are telling millions of tourists to come to Cambridge and get booked for parking. 87 01 21

1988 11 16
Laurence Fletcher was given the challenge of opening a new Christian book shop in Cambridge in 1951; now Mowbrays which was founded in Oxford almost 140 years ago has a world-wide reputation. At his retirement party the Bishop of Ely read a letter from the Archbishop of Canterbury paying tribute to Mr Fletcher's enthusiasm and knowledge of books: "I can't imagine King's Parade without him", he wrote . 88 11 16

1990 08 11
Drought reveals outlines of former buildings on King's Parade – 90 08 11a

1990 10 16
Colin Lunn tobacconist on King's Parade, opened 1899 to close – 90 10 16a

Adam & Eve Street 1977 – 192.46

c.44.6 : 'Kite Area'

Streets between Emmanuel Road and East Road including
Adam and Eve Street, Brandon Place, Britannia Place, (Burleigh Street – see separate Scrapbook), Church Street, City Road, Clarendon Street, Crispin Street, Earl Street, (East Road – see separate Scrapbook), Eden Street, Elm Street, Emmanuel Road, (Fitzroy Street – see separate Scrapbook), Gold Street, Grafton Street, James Street, John Street, Maids Causeway, Nelson Street, New Square, Orchard Street, Paradise Street, Parker Street, Portland Place, Prospect Row, Sun Street, Victoria Street, Warkworth Street, Wellington Street, Willow Place, Willow Walk

1897 11
A well-attended meeting was held in Eden Street School, Cambridge to discuss the proposed expenditure on a new Guildhall front. Mr R. Sturton said they must have a new cemetery as he did not suppose sanitary science would advance sufficiently rapidly to go in for cremation en bloc. Then there was the new Police Station and something would have to be done to the Sanatorium. Mr Burwick though the more they beautified Cambridge the more good they would do to business. Why not have a police station at the town hall, offices for the payment of rates, swimming baths. He did not see why shops should not be built on Peas Hill so as to bring in a considerable amount

1897 12 17
Eden Street school, p3

1897 12 30

The Tenison Road Chapel was opened for divine service this morning in the presence of a large congregation. The chapel has been built to take the place of the Hope Chapel in Paradise Street. It was in 1861 that the Hope Chapel was built, and for many years there was no pastor. Since 1892 the number of worshippers has increased to such an extent that the need of a larger building was felt for some time. The new building has been constructed to seat ultimately 335 persons, but at present a portion has been partitioned off to serve as a class-room.

1898 03 15
The annual Tea of the Friends adult school was held in Sturton Town Hall, Cambridge. The objects of the school are to promote self-help, brotherly kindness, and a practical Christian life. They had 167 members on the books, 114 at Nelson Street, 31 at River Lane, and 22 at Swavesey, with an average attendance of 117 in the three schools on Sunday mornings for the year. It was difficult to get much interest manifested in the intellectual pursuits by labouring men at the end of a day's work, although the friends of the school believed if they made efforts in this direction they would find it a real relaxation. It was much hoped that this way of employing leisure, so much more sensible and profitable than the absolute waste of time in comic singing and other senseless amusement in vogue in some of the young people's guilds, would become more common among them.

1898 03 18
Firing pistol, New Square

1898 05 0--
The pretty and interesting ceremony of electing and enthroning a May Queen was observed at the Higher Grade School, Eden Street. Teachers and girls had been busy transforming their room into a perfect garden of flowers, and the Royal dais, covered with a green carpet. The retiring Queen (Ethel Norman) having robed and put on a crown of pansies she ascended the throne and abdicated at the end of a very happy reign. May Rossendale was elected the new Queen by a large majority and to the strains of a stately march she appeared, preceded by her bodyguard bearing garlands of flowers with which they made a triumphal arch for her May Majesty's procession.

1898 05 11
Fair St, Cambridge was the scene of an unpleasant and dangerous accident. A Hansom cab add belonging to Mr Andrews, of Salmon Lane, was on its way to the stable when the horse unaccountably bolted. The animal ran full tilt into the window of a small grocer shop, kept by Mr Cox. Then ensued a melee, in which the window with its frame were utterly demolished. A good deal of stock was damaged, and several articles lying about were smashed. The course kicked wildly, and bled to a dangerous extent from a multitude of cuts inflicted by broken glass and debris.

1898 06 16
Animals on New Square, p3 *

1898 06 21
Inspector Jordan of the N.S.P.C.C. said he visited a house at Portland Place Cambridge. There he saw six children ranging in age from 12 years down to six months. The children appeared to the very neglected, were filthily dirty, and the three-year-old child had only one garment on although he was lying in front of the fire, suffering from a very bad cold. Each child seemed to have but one ragged garment. The mother was apparently sober, but as dirty and ragged as the children. She was feeding the baby on bread and cold water and said she had no milk. The living room was

filthy, and the other room contained one "truckle" bedstead in a loathsome condition. Upstairs there was no furniture. On the table there was a loaf of bread - that was all.

1899 07 04
Sir – now we are in the midst of the fruit season it would be well for property owners in the neighbourhood of Midsummer Common to keep a sharp look out. “The gentry” have started on me again, robbing my garden of fruit. It appears our properties are at the mercy of a lot of lazy, loafing scamps. Woe betide the unfortunate individual I catch as I have ready a nice stout cord and a pail of tar to decorate him with so his “dear mother” won’t know him – J.C. Longstaff, New Square, Cambridge.

1899 09 25
Fire Hawkins bakery, Gold Street, p2

1899 11 14
Mr Richard Langford of James Street, Cambridge, has passed away within a fortnight of obtaining the great age of 100 years. He was early in life placed in a gang of lighters which plied between King’s Lynn and Cambridge and acquired a gang of his own. For many years he brought coals to Cambridge until the railway was opened, when he retired.

1899 12 23
While making excavations at the junction of City Road and Fitzroy Street some workmen in the employ of the Cambridge Electric Lighting Company came upon some gruesome remains. They dug up some coffins. It is supposed the site is that of the old burial ground of Eden Street chapel. The remains were removed to Mill Road cemetery, where they were interred. For some reason efforts are being made to prevent the real facts becoming known. The employees of the Electric Light jealously guard what they deem an important secret, and refuse to give any details.

1900

1901 12 05
The Church Street Mission is quite distinct from the Cambridge Female Refuge but is auxiliary to it. Miss Elsden walks about the street at night and is able to persuade women who have gone astray to go with her to the Mission House and stay in safety for a few days until they can be received into the Refuge. Sometimes women come voluntarily and sometimes they are brought by the police. She also provides an escort for female prisoners on their discharge, meeting them at the prison and escorting them to the railway station, thus protecting them from evil influences in the town at the first moment of their freedom.

1900 05 01
For several years past the 1st of May has been observed at the Eden Street Higher Grade School, Cambridge, by a ceremony which is at once attractive and imposing. The scholars assemble in costumes suitable to the best traditions of the sunny month and elect one of their number as Queen for the year. It is a happy survival of May Day festivities, which it is hoped will be perpetuated. Queen Kate and her retinue walked to the throne which was bright with a profusion of spring flowers. The children voted for the new Queen and Ellie Fisher was elected. She was crowned with a wreath of white flowers and saluted with a sisterly kiss by the dowager Queen

1900 06 18
Proposed new Emmanuel Road, p2

1902 01 3-
Cambridge Discharged Prisoners Aid Society heard that Cambridge prison has not been fully occupied by local prisoners during the past year but the Commissioner had sent down a number of military prisoners as well as others from London and other prisons. These transfer cases had added considerably to their work. They had investigated 186 cases, including 53 female. The Church Army Home in Fair Street & the Cambridge Female Mission had been most helpful. An Association of Lady Visitors had been established to adopt measures for setting up in honest life of those unfortunate women who come under the grip of criminal law, in whose case the attendant shame is always attended with peculiar difficulty

1902 05 01
Old English customs are, unhappily, dying out slowly but surely. Even the romantic revels which formerly attached to May Day have to a large extent disappeared and but little remains to mark what was an important day in the calendar. May Day is essentially a day for youthful jubilation and in one place in Cambridge is at least observed as such. Scholars at Eden Street Higher Grade Schools annually take part in a quaintly pretty ceremony of choosing a May Queen. Queen Nellie – last year's queen was escorted to her throne and formally abdicated. Votes were taken and it was announced that Miss Daisy Coulson had been elected and she was crowned with a crown of roses.

1903 02 20
The Great Fire. Laurie & McConnal, Ltd., Universal stores, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, will open their temporary premises in Fair Street with brand new stock of furnishing, general ironmongery, stationery, haberdashery, china and glass. Business usual in the Boot and Tool department, right opposite the destroyed building. – Advert

1903 03 13
Sir – I read in the CDN of the advantages for the farming man in Canada. I know it to be true; I went to London, Ontario and found it a beautiful, healthy and prosperous country, inhabited by intelligent, hospitable people. I am sure that any industrious Englishman will have a hearty welcome in the Dominion of Canada – W. Pitstow, James Street, Cambridge.

1903 04 21
P.C. Symonds said he heard dancing from an upper room of the Hopbine public house, Fair Street, Cambridge and found six couples dancing to music supplied by a harp and concertina. Charles Huntlea said he went to the Hopbine with his brother of their own free will to play music either for the customers to listen to or to accompany dancing if anyone indulged in it. Their remuneration depended on the generosity of the customers, the landlady had never given them anything and he had to pay for his drink. She had a licence for music, but not dancing and was fined 10s.

1904 01 18
A Warkworth Terrace man told Cambridge magistrates that he believed his neighbours had some artificial means of making their voices heard by him alone: "They use talking machines and electric wires contrived to convey sound to a certain point only. I have seen what look like an electric telegraph wire in their garden beside a system of beams, boards and ropes which I conclude to be part of some telephoning system. Nearby in Melbourn Place there lives a telegraph clerk who searches my room with an exceedingly strong electric searchlight and conveys a message by Marconi's wireless telegraphy to let them know the right time to call out and wake me"

1904 10 04
Eden Street School, p4

1905 08 29
Cambridge councillors refused to allow the Post Office to lay an underground cable along Emmanuel Road to complete a telegraphic communication with Ely if telephone wires belonging to the National Telephone Company were also laid. Now the Postmaster will have to exercise statutory powers to complete the work. There is already direct communication with Ipswich, Norwich and Peterborough; recently a private wire giving the state of play in the Cambs v Norfolk match was handed in at Norwich Post Office and in the offices of the C.D.N. eight minutes later. 05 08 29a & b

1905 09 05
It is approaching 20 years ago that the strange sect called the Agapemonites founded by the late Brother Prince first secured a footing in Cambridge. Its advent is surrounded in some mystery and owing to the secrecy imposed on its followers it is difficult to speak with any degree of certainty of its growth. It was the time when the Wesleyan community was undergoing a severe trial and many families left the church, some joining the Abode of Love at a little school room in Elm Street where services were marked with great simplicity. The death of Prince was a severe test to his followers' faith but things have gone on much as before. 05 09 05 – 05c

1905 09 13
Sir – I believe the earliest Cambridge photographer was George Proctor, who lived in New Square until he died about 1850. About the same time Sarony, a celebrated photographer, was allowed to carry on his business in a caravan on Parker's Piece. There were others including Nichols who had a flourishing business; he moved from Slaughter House Lane to St Mary's Passage and later his son to Post Office Terrace. He took my own portrait in 1854 and it is as good today as it was then – 'Three-score and twelve' 05 09 13a

1905 10 13
Nelson Street fight, p4

1906 02 17
Wellington St fire, p3

1906 02 19
Wellington St fire, p3

1906 03 08
The Beehive public house, Honey Hill, Cambridge had four rooms on the ground floor, including a parlour and a taproom for the use of customers. There was a front entrance from Honey Hill and a side entrance which also gave access to four cottages. It was therefore impossible for the police to maintain proper supervision as a constable would be seen going down there and people could slip out. There were 15 other public houses within 200 yards. Also: Golden Cross, Suffolk Hotel Grafton St, White Horse Coronation St, Sun in Sun St, Star in Castle St, Boot in King St 06 03 08c & d

1906 04 02
Patrick Canty was born in County Kerry and fought at Sebastopol during the Crimean campaign when he went to the rescue of a French general and was awarded the Legion of Honour, one of

the few Irishmen to have received that medal. He emigrated to the USA before coming to Cambridge as licensee of the Crown and Harp pub in John Street. 06 04 02a

1906 12 12
The condition of Eden Street Higher Grade School gave cause for concern. The small infants room was encumbered with a huge gallery and another received practically no light. It had no playground and there could be few places in which so many children were crowded together on such a small site. Only because the staff was very efficient and the children very teachable did instruction meet with the success to which reports testified. 06 12 12 & a

1907 02 23
Cambridge Fire Brigade received news that a fire had broken out at Rhadegund Brewery, James Street, occupied by F.J. Swann. Fortunately the services of the steam engine were not required. The fall of live coal on a rug left the room full of smoke but Mr Swann threw buckets of water towards the grate while furniture was removed from the room below. 07 02 23

1907 03 15
William Maltby of Devonshire Road joined the police force in 1849, rising to the rank of inspector. In those days constables wore top hats instead of helmets with cut-away coats around which they wore a belt of piratical proportions. There were only 30 constables, two inspectors and a superintendent whose headquarters were in Emmanuel Road. 07 03 15

1909 03 05
The Rose and Crown, Pound Hill, was damp with paper peeling from the wall. There were seven other licenced premises nearby which all did better trade. But the landlord said he exercised great discretion in the customers he encouraged. Other pubs were frequented by the lower class. If it were closed it would be an inducement to the others not to cater for the better and quieter class but to draw a larger number just so they could boost their sales of beer, Magistrates renewed the licence. Also Traveller's Rest Huntingdon Road, White Horse in Coronation Street, Prince of Wales in Church St, Fox & Duck South Street, Oxford in Crispin Street, Johnny Gilpin in Gold Street & Prince Albert Castle Street. CWN 09 03 05

1909 10 22
A number of cyclists appeared in court for various offences. Undergraduates from Caius, Trinity and St John's colleges were fined for causing obstructions with their bicycles. Geoffrey Clayton of Pembroke College was summonsed for wheeling his bike across Christ's Pieces; he said he was a Freshman and had not seen the warning notices. Harold Grace of Queens' was fined for a similar offence in Portugal Place as was Edgar Proctor, a tobacconist of Mill Road. Carey Palmer, a printer of Warkworth Street, was fined five shillings for riding a cycle with no lights on New Square. CWN 09 10 22

1909 11 26
Councillors considered a police report on the auctioneers or cheap-jacks who visit Cambridge Market Hill on Saturday evenings and the Peas Hill in daytime with 'mock' jewellery. It was agreed such persons be not allowed and that in future 'Hoop-la' stalls be not allowed on Market Hill. A suggestion from the Cambridge University Automobile Club as to the placing of mirrors at the Bridge Street end of Jesus Lane was rejected. Drains in City Road and Eden Street were a nuisance and injurious to health, owners should do the necessary work or it will be done by the Surveyor and charged to them. CWN 09 11 26

1910

1910 01 14
Mr Paget's supporters held a torchlight procession through Regent Street, Emmanuel Road, Fitzroy Street, King Street and St Andrew's Street. Torches of many kinds, some of an evidently hastily prepared character, were held aloft and Mr Paget rode in a carriage in the centre of the procession, which included about 30 horsemen who formed an imposing guard of honour. The Conservative candidate was accompanied by crowds of men, lads and even women and girls, bearing aloft torches, pink lights and Union Jacks, and blowing tin trumpets and whistles. CWN 10 01 14a

1910 01 28
Leon Rothschild, a Russian tailor's cutter and Israel Schnitzer a tailor of Prospect Row appeared in court. Leon said he worked from 8am to 8pm and earned two guineas a week, but had then been given the sack. Israel however said he gave Leon work when there was any for him to do and he was paid at the rate of seven pence an hour. He had lent Rothschild money for his wedding expenses, paying for a ring and a pair of ear-rings. An IOU was produced but there was dispute as to whether a Russian word on the document meant 'received' or not so an interpreter was called in. 10 01 218f

1910 07 29
The Cambridge Cooperative Bakery in James Street is now the best-equipped and most up-to-date in the country. The yard used for loading vans has been built upon and the old bread-room demolished and replaced with a spacious new model bakery. A large rotary mixer can covert four sacks of flour into perfectly mixed dough in ten minutes and an ingenious piece of machinery turns out 2,000 loaves an hour. After the opening a procession of the Society's 30 vans and carts preceded by a brass band paraded the principal streets 10 07 29d

1911 05 12
The work of beautifying St John's Church in Wellington Street has been carried on steadily. The chancel curtains and all windows were thoroughly cleaned and the walls brushed down, the Holy Table has been restained, the communion rails polished and the ironwork regilded. It is hoped the organ may be cleaned and repaired and that a new lectern may be purchased. Mrs de Candole's kind gift of shrubs and plants has done much to beautify the churchyard 11 05 12e

1912 03 01
The merry sound of children's voices and laughter brought many of the residents in Melbourne Place to their doors. A host of happy schoolboys were sporting on the greensward where the old tennis courts used to be and now forms the site of the new higher grade schools, just about to be erected. A file of girls was entering from the Eden Street end while a troop of Boy Schools was drawn up, colours fluttering in the breeze near a piece of ground marked out with surveyors measuring staves. They had come to see the Head Master and Head Mistress turn the first sods on the spot where the new schools are to be built. 12 03 01a

1912 07 26
The last speech day of the Higher Girls School in Eden Street was held; soon staff and scholars will be at work in the magnificent new buildings in Melbourn-Place. History of school reviewed. 12 07 26 I & j

1912 07 26

Licensing: Steeple Morden Hill House, Cherry Hinton Russian Arms, Swavesey Red Lion, Cambridge: Duke of Gloucester Prospect Row, Rose & Crown & Windmill in Russell St, Danish Flag in Fitzroy St, Lamb in Guildhall St (details), Compasses in East Road 12 07 26 o&p

1912 09 13
Death headmaster of High Grade School, Paradise Street – 12 09 13c

1913 01 24
It seems practically certain that Cambridge United will lose their popular captain, Jack Rowell, for he has gone into business on his own account which will necessitate him giving up playing on Saturdays.
has gone into business on his own account which will necessitate him giving up playing on Saturdays. Visiting clubs should note that Jack has taken over at the Hopbine in Fair Street where he will be able to accommodate them when playing in Cambridge. It is a great thing for teams to have somewhere to go where they will be well looked after and he understands their requirements. Jack is about to assume other responsibilities, for in a very short time he will have taken unto himself a wife. 1913 01 24 p3 CIP

1913 02 21
The Trustees of the 'Hope' Classroom in Paradise Street have offered to present it to the Education Committee for educational purposes. The Trustees of Eden Street Higher Grade School also offered their site and building for educational purposes on payment of £200 to be invested in maintaining the St Andrew the Less Parish Institute in Fitzroy Street. The school had been closed down because the buildings were too bad and a new one built in Melbourn Place but could be used for instruction in domestic subjects 13 02 21 p7 CIP

1913 04 18
The strained relations between the Superintendent of the Zion Sunday School and other church officers have resulted in a definite split. When the Sunday School was closed three weeks ago the local Press were asked to make no mention of the trouble in the hope that a peaceful settlement might be reached without publicity. But negotiations have failed and a new Prospect Sunday School and Mission Room has now been started in the former 'Express' Printing Works in Eden Street. 13 04 18 p5 CIP

1913 05 02
St John's church, Wellington Street organ reopening 13 05 02 p12

1913 07 18
Claverlery, jeweller, City Road, death *

1913 10 24
Prospect Row house defective

1913 11 21
Fair Street widening, 13 11 21 p7

1913 12 19
Charles Dixon said he came to Cambridge 50 years ago as a journeyman tailor and worked from three in the morning till eleven at night. Then he learnt the 'cotton' and took a manager's place in a large firm opposite St Johns after which he opened a business for himself in Downing Street. He worked hard for 40 years and built up a big trade. He built a little mission room in Victoria Street

uplifting the fallen, acquired the Hoop Hotel to do away with the licence and plunged into house property. But this went wrong and he'd lost everything 13 12 19 p9

1914 02 23
Cambridge licenses – Duke of Gloucester Prospect Row, Rose and Crown & Windmill in Russell St, Danish Flag in Fitzroy St, Compasses on East Rd have closed; are 233 licensed for sale intoxicating liquor on premises and 36 off – 14 02 13, a

1914 03 20
Exciting scenes were witnessed when a man escaped from custody at the bottom of Wellington Street, bolted up the Newmarket Road, crossed the G.E. Railway and got beyond the Rifle Butts on Coldham's Common before being recaptured. Many people followed the fortunes of the chase for a considerable distance. A rag-and-bone collector has been arrested but managed to wriggle out of the constable's grasp and bolt off. After leading police a pretty dance he was handcuffed and conveyed to the police station. Officers were subjected to a considerable amount of shouting and booing from the crowd.14 03 20c

1914 05 01
Departure of Headmistress. - Miss Etheldreda Fleet, the Head¬mistress of the Infants' Department of the Linton Schools, leaves today (Friday). She has held that situa¬tion five years, having been appointed in March 1909. Previous to coming to Linton, Miss Fleet held the post of assistant teacher at Eden Street Higher Grade School, Cambridge, and she has also held posts in other parts of the County. Yesterday (Thursday) Miss Fleet was presented with a marble clock and breakfast cruet from the School Managers, teachers and children. As is already known, Miss Fleet is to marry Mr, J. H. Clarke, of Trinity College, Cambridge, shortly, and a number of' local people have al-ready sent presents. Her duties at the School will be taken up by Miss Houseman, from Yorkshire– 1914 05 01 CIPof

1914 08 28
Cambridge people are adding to the comfort of the soldiers encamped here. A refreshment tent has been set up for the artillerymen on the Polo Ground at Trumpington with another on Mr Matthew's meadow, Cherry Hinton Road. The Church Institute allows soldiers the use of their billiard table. There is a reading room in the Newnham School for the camp on Lammas Ground and a games room at the Prospect Church in Eden Street with writing material and picture postcards. Many socks for soldiers are being taken to the small striped tent on Midsummer Common and shirts would also be appreciated

1914 10 02
More wounded arrive, including a number of men recently at Cambridge who expressed their delight at returning to the place they were so well treated. Amongst them was the Haslingfield postman who cheerfully called 'I told you I should come back'. At Trinity College bugler Edwin Royston, who was on duty at the gate, suddenly recognised his half-brother, Serg. Hubert Wootten, among the wounded. He did not know he'd gone to the front, much less that he was returned. Both brothers belong to Cambridge, their relatives living in Willow Walk 14 10 02

1914 11 06
The new Territorial Forces headquarters in East Road are nearly completed and have been occupied by troops training in Cambridge. But the formal opening has been postponed. It stands on the site of the Technical Schools which have been adapted and added to and includes a spacious drill hall and miniature rifle range abutting on to Adam and Eve Row. The Quartermaster's stores include a wooden gallery for use as a saddlery store for the Yeomanry.

1915 09 10
RAMC men on missing ship – include Rogers, Haslop, Rule of City Road – list of men of East Anglian Casualty Clearing Station & Field Ambulance

1916 03 15
Local tribunals at work – names members; includes Higher Grade School, Warkworth St, head; Flack & sons bootmakers; Hayward, marquee provider for soldiers - other trades – 16 03 15g

1916 07 26
Tipperary Club roll of honour, Fitzroy Hall, Wellington Street – names – 16 07 19b; photo of unveiling – 16 07 26a

1917 06 20
First Cambridge War Kitchen on corner of Church Street opened; to promote economy by cooking on a large scale and enabling people to purchase food at small prices – 17 06 20b, photo 17 06 27c

1918 03 13
Cambridge pubs referred: Earl of Durham, Newmarket Road; Johnnie Gilpin, Gold Street; Racehorse, Newmarket Road; Brickmaker's Arms, Newmarket Road – 18 03 13a

1918 07 24
Licensing meeting; Star Brewery's Racehorse renewed, Earl of Durham on Newmarket Road; Johnny Gilpin, Gold Street; Horseshoe, Fen Drayton; Swan with two necks, Swavesey; Garden Gate, Histon closed; Harvest Home, Oakington renewed – 18 07 24a

1919 02 04
Licencing – Fox & Duck South St, White Horse Coronation St, Prince of Wales Church St, George IV East Road, Cardinal's Cap Guildhall Place, Borough Boys Northampton St, & others – 19 02 04e & f

1919 02 19
Floods highest since 1879; homes inundated Riverside & Newnham, parapet of house in Parker St collapses – 19 02 19a

1919 04 09
John Rayment, Nelson St & East Road, rag and metal merchant – advert showing premises – 19 04 09b, 19 04 30e

1920

1920 02 20
Shelter for Girls (Church Street Mission) founded 1854; its work explained

1920 02 25
Cambridge Shelter for Girls established 1851 by undergraduates and occupied building in Church St; had workshop in Newmarket Road till temporarily closed in 1918 because of lack of a worker. Re-opened 1918 as first-aid station for women in distress; needs support – 20 02 25a

1920 09 29

Improvements agreed Fair Street & Jesus Lane – 20 09 29b

1921 07 13
Public house closures – Melbourn Oak, Shepreth Half-way House; Over Black Horse, Bourn Greyhound' Cambridge Cherry Tree in Fitzroy St; Sovereign in Gold Street; Marquis of Granby in Bridge St; - 21 07 13b

1922 01 18
Robert Odell, jobmaster and horse dealer of Britannia Place meeting creditors – 22 01 18a

1922 12 22
The casual spectator dropping in at the Service Buildings, Eden Street, Cambridge might well believe he had found the headquarters of toy-land. It is here that the work of packing and distributing the toys sent in connection with the Children's Toy Fund is taking place with a busy hive of workers, largely composed of Boy Scouts and Girl Guides engaged in carrying out these duties. For the guidance of the packers a blackboard announces the fact that each parcel should contain two oranges, one apple, one bag of nuts, one bag of sweets, one bon-bon, two large and one small toy. Besides this each child was to receive a book or picture paper, and chocolates were to be given to babies

1923 01 22
Saturday and Sunday were great days in the history of local Unitarians, for they witnessed the realisation of a dream - the opening and dedication of a permanent Unitarian Church building in Cambridge. For something like 20 years Unitarians in Cambridge have been meeting in hired halls. The new hall is a particularly fine one in Victoria Street and eminently suitable for the purpose intended. It was also stated that a member of the congregation had now undertaken to erect a memorial church, which would mean that the new hall would be greatly extended

1923 10 12
Alfred Deines, organ grinder, was summoned for making "a noise to the annoyance of inhabitants" in Orchard Street, Cambridge. P.C. Willis stated he heard him shouting "water cress" and told him that in view of complaints he would be reported. Defendants took his barrow and went away. He was fined 2s.6d.

1923 12
The satisfaction of the 18 men who spent Christmas at the Cambridge Church Army Home, Willow Walk may be summed up in the words of one of them – "a very nice time indeed - splendid". Their four course Christmas dinner included pork and beef and Christmas pudding. On Christmas Day they entertained themselves by playing and singing whilst on Boxing Day they were able to entertain friends. We saw two enjoying a game of billiards with oranges for balls!

1924 04 20
Walter Flack said he was driving a tumbril cart along Emmanuel Road, Cambridge, and when he got to the corner he saw that tarring was in progress. He took a wide sweep to avoid an accident and a labourer shouted to him to get off the tar. He stopped and got out because his horse was restive and asked why he was shouting, when he was hit over head with a broom, knocking him to his knees. The wound was 11 inches long, penetrating to the bone. He was taken home in the police ambulance. John Mayes, a cinema attendant, said he was pulling the advertisement trolley of the Central cinema and saw the occurrence

1924 12 21c

Sir - we in Clarendon Street, Cambridge, are pleased to see the road being repaired, but cannot something be done to prevent the inhabitants being awakened at half-past-three in the morning? At this unearthly hour the steam rollers are stoked up and this continues every half hour and it is impossible for anyone in the vicinity to get any sleep. If I were to make such a noise so early I should be promptly called to order by the police for creating a nuisance -W. H. Thompson

1925 06 05
Cambridge council was told that the Brunswick school did not exist at the present time because the Borough surveyor drew attention to the giving way of the building, and they first of all had to pull down the Boys' School because it was dragging the other part down, and eventually they pulled down the Girls' School. The girls were in temporary premises at Paradise Street School and the boys in Fitzroy Street. They had to bear in mind that a new bridge was going to be built at Walnut Tree Avenue some time – (laughter) – and when that was done they would have to accommodate some children from old Chesterton.

1925 08 08
Sir – Much has been written about the street lighting of Cambridge. Emmanuel Road, Emmanuel Street and Drummer Street are all under repair and consequently all the main road traffic has to proceed via Clarendon Street or New Square. Yet in the whole length of these roads not a single lamp is lighted at nights. In fact in the whole district there is not one lamp. Isn't it time that something was done to instil a little sense into the heads of those who direct the town affairs? It is false economy to make the streets danger traps for motorists, cyclists & pedestrians. – F.I. Cowles

1925 10 19
A comprehensive scheme for the provision of parking places in Cambridge will be laid before the Town Council who are empowered to authorise any part of a street as a parking place, though no charge can be made for parking cars in the public streets. Sites include Trumpington Street opposite the Leys School, Maids' Causeway, Lensfield Road, King Street & Jesus Lane. In Pound Hill it is proposed to allocate space for parking motor buses from St Neots and St Ives

1925 12 12
The Cambridge Women's Welfare Association was formed recently to bring a knowledge of birth control methods within reach of poor mothers. It is a rule that every woman attending must be seen by a doctor and the Cambridge Centre, Fitzroy Hall, Wellington Street has both a lady doctor and a certified midwife in attendance. The London Society for the Provision of Birth Control Clinics began its work in a small way at Walworth and now has centres at North Kensington and Wolverhampton as well as Cambridge. At Walworth 5,275 separate cases have been dealt with since its work began in 1921.

1926 04 16
PC Bird told magistrates he saw the defendant riding a motor cycle in James Street, Cambridge. He was standing on the saddle and with his hands on the handlebars. Witness told him he had no control over the machine, and he replied "None whatsoever". There were other machines in the street and some children playing on the footpath. Defendant who pleaded guilty said: "I did not think there was any harm in doing it in a quiet street near my house", he said. Magistrates took a lenient view and dismissed him with a caution.

1926 07 17
The Star Brewery applied for the renewal of the licence of the Crown beerhouse in Wellington Street, Cambridge. There were seven fully-licensed houses and three beerhouses within 260 yards. They had lost the licenses of the Woodman's Arms & Crown and Anchor in Newmarket

Road in 1907 & 1910, the Oxford, Crispin Street in 1916 and the Priory Tap in 1911. The brewery had rebuilt and brought the Crown up to date in 1914 but as the tenant's family increased the trade was neglected: It was not a good thing for a house of this kind when there was a lot of children running about.

1927 02 21
A craze for driving cars lead to the appearance at Cambridge Police Court of two youths who were charged with stealing petrol and oil used while having a joy ride in stolen cars. Terence Gray of Gog Magog House said he had left his car at the Sun Street parking place, Newmarket Road, Cambridge; when he went for it it was missing. The Chief Constable said he had received numerous complaints from people who had left their cars there. The prisoner said: "I did not intent to steal it. I have a craze for driving cars. We have had three".

1927 09 17
Street improvement operations are taking place at the corner of New Square and Fair Street, Cambridge. The corner house occupied by Mr Woodley Betts, the dentist, tends to obstruct the view of traffic and work has started on demolishing it. It is proposed to round the corner by pulling down the present house and building another with a rounding feature. In this way a good deal of ground will be thrown into the public roadway and the line of vision greatly improved.

1928 01 23
It was with feelings of justifiable pride and deep gratitude that the Unitarians of Cambridge assembled in their new Memorial Church, Emmanuel Road for its dedicatory service. It stands as a perpetual memorial to the memory of Mr G.W. Brown. The church has been designed by Ronald P. Jones who was responsible for the Church Hall in 1922 and follows the normal "college chapel" design. Prof Burkitt referred to the difficulties the movement experienced in the '80s when services were held in the smoky atmosphere of a billiard room in Green Street.

1928 02 04
Justices turned down an application for the removal of the licence of the Elm Tree, Orchard Street, Cambridge to premises proposed to be erected at the junction of Milton Road and Green End Road. The Elm Tree was redundant and not necessary for the needs of the locality and there were over 100 people in favour of the new site. Large numbers of houses were being erected in that area which would be inhabited by people who would not be able to afford a wine cellar of their own and have to go to a public house for their bottle of beer. But the residents were people who had been taken from the slums; their incomes were very small and there was no margin for drink in their budget.

1928 04 19
At the diamond jubilee celebrations of the Cambridge Co-operative Society the Chairman, Mr G.J. Golding, said he wondered what the people concerned with the little business in City Road, Cambridge, sixty years ago would think of the Society today with annual sales of £190,000, a membership of 16,000, 20 branches and 370 employees. Half the population of Great Britain, directly or indirectly, was now within the Co-operative movement

1929 03 02
Cambridge councillors debated the proposed exchange of Butts Green for New Square in order that it might be converted into a parking place. If I lived in New Square I should not be at all

pleased at the idea of that nice little patch of green giving way to a parking place, but if I had a business establishment in Fitzroy Street I should say "Yes, let the cars park there by all means". There is a danger of New Square being built upon in the near future and residents may consider a car park the least of two evils. Others are concerned about using the amenities of Butts Green, though one questioned whether it was used for anything but beating carpets.

1929 10 03
Cambridge Labour Party was told that if they wanted Butts Green as a parking place they must be prepared to face the question: 'Are you in favour of free parking?' They could not charge for cars on common land. Councillor Stubbs said there was no more objection to free parking than to free recreation. He personally objected to paying rates and then being charged for parking his 'Rolls'. Would residents in New Square like to have the noise and smell of the motors?

1929 10 14
Cambridge councillors will discuss swapping a portion of Butt Green running alongside Victoria Avenue from Jesus Lane towards the river. It would be surrendered to Jesus College and would be fenced, although a footpath would be made. In exchange they would get New Square which would then be converted into a motor car park, together with two acres of land off Auckland Road which would be thrown into Midsummer Common and a small piece of land in front of the new Brunswick School buildings.

1929 12 10
Sir – I was in the vicinity of Fitzroy Street early one morning and could see a driver with a one-horse van coming from Burleigh Street. He turned right on the corner round Eden Chapel on the wrong side and left down James Street, heedless of any danger. On seeing a police constable I asked whether he had noticed the careless driving around these blind corners. He replied: "This man, being alone driving one horse and van is under no rules or regulations and if he wishes is at liberty to wobble all over the road". I suggest members of Eden Chapel should be approached over this unsightly spot, with its projecting iron fence; it is a serious block to public traffic. All such dangerous corners should be abolished – E. Claydon, Parsonage Street, Cambridge

1930

1930 05 19
Cambridge has found dealing with motor traffic increasingly difficult in recent years, Counsel told an inquiry. He emphasised the inconvenience to motorists when no central parking places were available but now the council had made an agreement with Jesus College for the use of New Square as a car park in exchange for Butt Green and a piece of Midsummer Common. It would mean the surrender of 2½ acres of Common Land, but it would remain undeveloped & would allow the college to make a new entrance. The scheme was approved. 30 05 19 & b

1931 02 13
Cambridge justices heard that the Crown and Sceptre in Clarendon Street was only open from Monday to Saturday and closed at nine o'clock instead of ten, which was the ordinary time for licenced houses. It was a comfortable house and the company was good but customers found early closing irksome and went to other pubs of which there were five within 200 yards. A full licence was granted subject to improvement in the sanitary arrangements. 31 02 13c-d

1931 07 17
A Cambridge women resident in Salmon Lane, off Fair Street, told the court she went out for a bottle of stout when another punched her in the mouth and tore the sleeve of her dress. "I have

had to endure this life for two years", she said. "Each time I go out of my house I'm insulted because I'm a respectable married woman & won't mix with them". She denied that she'd hit her husband and cut his head open or that her baby kept neighbours awake with its crying. 31 07 17e

1932 03 23
After all the controversy and heated arguments of a few years ago, there was no excitement at the opening of the New Square parking place. The council turned up in force and from under the shelter of umbrellas watched the Mayoress drive her car through the pale blue ribbon that had been knotted across the opening. At last motorists have a place where they can leave their cars and not come into the police courts. The Master of Jesus suggested that path inside the trees should be known as Coleridge Walk. 32 03 23b

1932 04 09
Sir – as motorists do not appear to need the new New Square car park I suggest something useful should be done with it. It could be turned into tennis courts or used as a model yacht pond, a skating rink or the site for the new Guildhall. Meanwhile the surface should be coloured an appropriate shade of green as the white grey of the desolate expanse of concrete hurts my eyes. And could passers-by spare a few books for the attendant to read while he is waiting for the customers who never come – Ratepayer. 32 04 09

1933 07 19
Crowds of about 5,000 persons witnessed the thrilling demonstrations of the wonderful non-skid properties of Michelin Zigzag tyres at New Square car park. After It was drenched with water two Austin Sevens, a Morris '14' commercial van and a Citroen saloon went whizzing round at a dizzy speed, twisting, turning, swerving abruptly to right and left, corkscrewing and turning figures of eight in a perfectly hair-raising fashion. Their tyres gripped like octopuses. 33 07 19

1933 11 23
Cambridge man told the bankruptcy court that he had farmed at Rectory Farm Coton after the war, then gone into partnership in a retail milk and dairy business in Ely High Street. In 1927 he purchased part of the dairy business at Cherry Hinton Hall Farm and then bought a coal business in John Street, Cambridge. He did not know anything about the trade and he had competition. The weather was against him: the winter of 1932 was very bad for coal merchants and the summer of 1933 made it a jolly sight worse. 33 11 23

1933 11 28
Cambridge Victoria Friendly Society's Institution opened its new pavilion with a verandah from which residents could watch Cambridge Town Football Club's matches. It had started in hired cottages in James Street but in 1841 the foundation stone for the present building was laid. Cottages were added in 1888 and 1899 thanks to the Jubilee fund with the four others known as Miller's Buildings opened in 1906. It provides accommodation for 37 residents whose average age is 70 years. 33 11 28

1934 08 13
Cambridge Fire Brigade averted a serious conflagration in Paradise Street. They were called to some lock-up garages beneath Messrs Coulson's stores where a lorry was found to be blazing fiercely with flames through the floor of the store above. If the fire had reached a petrol and oil store another row of garages would inevitably have become involved. Their smart work confined the damage to the lorry, which was practically burnt out. 34 08 13

1934 08 17

We regret to announce the deaths of three well-known Cambridge men - Dr F.E. Apthorpe Webb, medical practitioner of Grafton House, Maids Causeway was registrar of the 1st Eastern General Hospital during the war until and later held several official appointments. Mr A.E. Chaplin, governing director of Messrs R. Sayle & Co was at one time its sole proprietor. He lost both his sons during the War and in 1919 the business became a limited liability company. Mr Haydn Inwards was for many years leader of the Cambridge University Musical Society orchestra and extremely popular with local audiences. All three were members of the Scientific Lodge of Freemasons. 34 08 17

1935 08 03
Prince the Airedale dog owned by Mrs Rowell of Fair Street is one of the most persistent cadgers. His life-long occupation is to sit in a public house and beg for pennies from customers which he does by tapping their pockets with his muzzle to make them jingle. If he is offered a penny he goes to the counter and buyers a biscuit which he lays at the feet of the donor and waits for permission to eat. He also goes to the shop and buys a newspaper for his mistress every morning. 35 08 03b

1935 08 27
Political travelling cinema, New Square car park – photo – 35 08 27

1935 09 03
Ernest Zaratini, depot manager for T. Wall, ice-cream merchant at Cambridge told the court that a man was sent to him from the Labour Exchange and engaged as an ice-cream vendor. He was issued with a complete outfit and ice-cream and went off on his round. The tricycle was later found abandoned in Gold Street close to the White Ribbon Hostel. There was £1.6s.4d worth of ice-cream missing. 35 09 03a

1935 11 22
As a Cambridge Corporation steam roller made its majestic way along Adam and Eve Row the road gently subsided. So did the steam roller as one wheel became buried nearly up to the axle, fracturing the water main. Mr A.C. Mallyon, the driver, said "I felt the roller sink a little so opened the regulator to try and get it past the spot before it sank, but before you could say 'one' it was in. If I hadn't had hold of the regulator handle I reckon I should have fallen overboard". It was several hours before the roller was eventually 'rescued' by means of jacks and the main repaired. 35 11 22b pics 35 11 22c

1936 07 15
James Street was the scene of one of the most serious blazes Cambridge has experienced in years. It started when a Ford van caught fire at the premises of William Scott, house decorators, builders, motor and coach painters. It spread to their motor-body room where a number of cars were in for renovation. The place was soon a veritable inferno as drums of paint and oil exploded. Flames engulfed ladders and handcarts belonging to the Cambridge Window Cleaning Company then Messrs Pate's builders workshops which were reduced to ashes or scrap. The damage must run to many thousands of pounds 36 07 15 & a

1937 03 05
Magistrates heard that the Old Guinea public house in Russell Street was owned by the Star Brewery who had redecorated it and fitted a new fire and sink. There were seven fully-licensed houses and two off-licences within 400 yards. The Burleigh Arms in Burleigh Street was a beerhouse which provided a living for the tenant who found great difficulty in getting any work. The Rabbit in Gold Street was a comfortable little house; it had two extremely nice trade rooms

and Green King had put in new windows. The residents of East Road might be 'scared off' a big place. The Cross Keys in Saxon Street was the only beer house in the neighbourhood which had five fully-licences housed within 400 yards. Beer was drawn straight from the wood, which was an attraction and trade was good. 37 03 05j

1937 04 23
Wm Scott and Son, art decorators and painting opened their new premises in James Street. On the site of the disastrous fire which gutted the old site in July last has arisen one of the most up-to-date works equipped with the very latest plant and materials for high quality motor-body and van repairs, cellulose spraying, painting, lettering, joinery work etc. They are specialists in glass & sign writing, plumbing and repairs to residential and business property and have achieved distinction for the high quality of all work. – Advert. 37 04 23e

1937 09 25
Jesus Lane Sunday School was set up in 1827, later moving to King Street where many local children were taught religion by undergraduates who rose to positions of eminence in the church. A new large school was erected in Paradise Street in 1868. But times change. After the war many families have moved further out so now they have sold that building and erected a new hall in Brooks Road which will also serve as a temporary church until a new one can be built. All children between eight and 15 are invited 37 09 25

1937 10 01
Cambridge Spiritualists held a fair in the Carpenter Hall, Victoria Street, in aid of their building fund. They had bought a piece of freehold land, despite some misgivings, and were anxious to put a church on it. There was no state support. All the spiritualist churches in the country had been secured by their own efforts. "If we are not here in physical form we shall be in the spiritual body to see the church" they were told by Mr A.J. Case, the president 37 10 01

1937 12 13
A new police and fire station should be erected at Parkside, between Warkworth Terrace and East Road. The site is a very central one, had the great advantage of good access and egress from a fire-fighting point of view and the area is adequate for present and future requirements, councillors were told. Bearing in mind the possible future requirements for protection against air raids it was desirable that both police and fire stations should be in one unit on a new site 37 12 13

1938 01 04
Mrs Emma Turner, Cambridge's only centenarian, looks not a day over seventy and stands as upright as she did fifty years ago. Born on 4th January 1838 at East Harling, Norfolk, she has an amazing ability to hold intelligent conversations with a stream of visitors at her cottage in Paradise Row, off Paradise Street. She has not been out of doors for five or six years, but retains all her faculties apart from very slight deafness and is able to sew and read without glasses. The arrival of a telegram of congratulations from the King and Queen brought her much pleasure. 38 01 04

1938 05 14
A new mental welfare centre for children was opened at the Fitzroy Hall, Wellington Street. When such a child came of school age he was excluded from school so the mother had to have him at home all day, teaching what she could and preventing him getting into danger. This was in addition to her ordinary work. The child missed the social life and companionship of other pupils.

The new centre would allow classes five days a week with the elder girls cooking a hot meal and doing all the laundry and kitchen work. 38 05 14 & a

1938 05 30
Wm Scott & Son, the oldest motor body decorating firm with modern ideas, James Street – 38 05 30

1938 07 28
Plans for a new police and fire station on Parkside between Warkworth Terrace and East Road came before an Inspector. It was a central site with good access for engine and ambulances and suitable for future requirements. It comprised five houses with a pork pie factory behind. But owners, Peterhouse, did not want to sell. They were concerned about noise at night and some undesirable 'guests' at the police station reducing the value of adjacent property. 38 07 28

1938 08 19
A fracas at Wellington Street had a sequel at Cambridge Police Court. One man claimed another had insulted his wife by calling her a 'wireless set' so he hit his mother and grandfather. After that there was a free fight. The Mayor said they could not do that sort of thing and Wellington Street must be better behaved. People should not meddle with other people's private affairs. 32 08 19a

1938 11 24
During the recent gale the roof of St Barnabas' Institute was damaged, bricks blown from a chimney stack at Hawkins' shop on the corner of Gold Street and a chimney pot lifted clean off a house in Sturton Street. Extensive damage was also caused to two shops at Green End Road. Haystacks, especially those unthatched, suffered badly and a furniture lorry was blown over near the Swavesey turning when the gale was at its height. 38 11 24a

1939 05 17
When Christ Church was established, 100 years ago, Barnwell inhabitants were described as 'heathen and dissolute'. Nelson Street was known as 'Devil Street' and there were many proctorial raids. The credit for the change was due to churches such as Christ Church and Zion who had now eliminated many of the differences between themselves. Congregations had been very hard hit by the demolition of houses in the districts but they hoped more young people would offer support, the centenary celebrations were told 39 05 17

1939 12 30
George Proctor was earliest photographer, says Pink; he lived in New Square and died 1867. Ernest Smart has a number of family portraits 39 12 30

1940

1940 02 16
Late Butler of Emmanuel. The Master and Fellows of Emmanuel, as well as many of the staff, attended the funeral of Mr. Percy William Fisher, butler at the college, which took place in the college chapel on Monday. Mr. Fisher, who was 58 years of age and lived in Warkworth Street, Cambridge, had been in the service of the college for 36 years, during the last two of which he had been butler

1940 07 19
Sapper W. Gurner, Willow Place missing since Dunkirk – 40 07 19c

1941 09 25
Mobile help for blitz victims on display New Square – converts into mobile office, carries marquee –

1941 12 11
WVS open-air cooking demonstration, New Square – 41 12 11

1943 01 08
Golden Wedding on New Year's Day. — On Friday. Mr. and Mrs Samuel Birne of the Golden Rose, Emmanuel Road Cambridge, celebrated their' golden wedding on New Year's Day. Mr. Birne, who, at the age of 73, has just recovered from a serious stomach operation, is well-known in the sporting world as a former racehorse trainer, and a sports correspondent. Until the start of the present war, he was Royston correspondent for the "Sporting Life," 'the "Sporting Chronicle" and the Press Association. He had served in this capacity for these newspapers for 50 years and for the P.A. for 40 years. He once had his own training establishment at Royston. This he closed owing to the Heath restrictions in 1904 although he kept on a stable with a few horses. Mr. and Mrs. Birne were married in London in 1893, and have had three sons and two daughters, all of whom have married.

1945 01 30
First horse bus to operate in Cambridge, driven by H. Willis; taken outside depot in John Street, the bus serving the Mill Road district – photo – 45 01 30

1945 05 11
VE celebrations –45 05 11a; Beaconsfield Hall children, Sturton St, Cowper Rd, Norwich St – 45 05 16; Perne Ave, Mowbray Road, Beche Rd, Norfolk St – 45 05 18; Hobart Rd, Bradmore St, Russell St – 45 05 19b; Young St, Gonville Road & Charles St, Cam Causeway, Gt Eastern St – 45 02 22a; Ditton Fields, Romsey Women Conservatives, Suez Rd, Covent Garden, Eden St – 45 05 23; York St, Thoday St, Kingston St, Northampton St, Cherry Hinton – 45 05 24; Hills Ave, City Rd, Cavendish Rd, Malta Rd – 45 05 25

1945 05 25
Local P.O.W. Gunner E.C. Prevett, R.A., son of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Prevett, of 182 Newmarket Road, has returned home after three years in captivity. He was captured Tobruk in July 1942, and was in an Italian P.O.W. camp until Italy capitulated when he was transferred to Stalag 4C, whence he was liberated. Another Cambridge man has this week returned home from a German P.O.W. camp. He is Brd. J. Andrews, of 59 Ross Street, and has been a prisoner for nearly three years, being liberated from Stalag 18A. Previous to the outbreak of war he was in business with his uncle, Mr. W. Bell, butcher, of Ross: Street. H.A.V. Clark, of 8a George IV Street, Cambridge, has returned home from Stalag XXB. He was taken prisoner on May 231940 at Boulogne. He is known as Nobby the Cook. News has been received by Mr. A and Mrs. Gurner, of 19 Willow Place, Cambridge, that their son, Sapper B. Gurner has arrived in England, and will be shortly at home. He was in Stalag 344 and was a prisoner five years

1945 08 29
VJ Parties – Eden St, Cherry Hinton Rd, Chestnut Grove – 45 08 29; Queen Edith's Way, Ditton Fields – 45 09 04; Young St, Petworth St, Geldart St, Marshall Rd – 45 09 04; Darwin Drive, Stretton Ave, Victoria St, Hobart Rd, Adam & Eve St – 45 09 07b; Gloucester St, Castle St, Ashfield Rd – 45 09 10; Gilbert Rd, King's Hedges Rd, Ditton Fields – 45 09 11; Lichfield Rd, Cromwell Park estate, Hawthorn Rd – 45 09 12; Catharine St, Kendal Way – 45 09 14; York St &

York Terrace, Brooks Road, Gold St – 45 09 17d# Bateson Rd, Garden Walk, Argyle St, St Philip's Rd , Sedgwick St, Holbrook Rd, Mowbray Rd – 45 09 18; Akeman St, James St, Parsonage St, Vinery Rd, Kingston St, Kingston St, Mowbray Rd, Hurst Park Estate – 45 09 20; Eastfield, New St, Kelvin Close – 45 09 24a; Hertford St, St John's Rd, Norwich St, Alpha Terrace, Sherlock Rd – 45 09 27a

1945 09 07
VJ Parties – Eden St, Cherry Hinton Rd, Chestnut Grove – 45 08 29; Queen Edith's Way, Ditton Fields – 45 09 04; Young St, Petworth St, Geldart St, Marshall Rd – 45 09 04; Darwin Drive, Stretton Ave, Victoria St, Hobart Rd, Adam & Eve St – 45 09 07b

1947 04 08
Sir, I am interested in the letter of H.O. Fleming on the collection of refuse. The only way to have the old dustbin removed is to see the dustmen personally and make a suitable arrangement with them. I have had to do this myself and have found them very civil and helpful. The dustmen are highly selective and seem to go through the bins carefully, taking out anything they do not fancy and strewing it about. They also batter the bin out of shape very quickly and in many case leave it some distance away from where it is placed outside my premises. Now that we have provided cars for officials they might perhaps get around a little and see what is being done - (letter from J.R.Partington, Maids Causeway, Cambridge)

1947 10 10
A proposal to improve Drummer Street bus station was discussed at Cambridge Town Council. Ald Briggs said "Drummer Street is already overcrowded and traffic is going to increase in the coming years". The Committee had discussed a suggestion that a portion of Butt Green should be used as a bus station and had previously considered the use of New Square as a bus station. Coun Cutting considered that the proposal was too urgent to wait, "If you saw last year the thousands standing out in the cold in Drummer Street you would not have thought it was any credit to the town"

1948 09 11c
When the East Road Boys' Club reopens in its new premises behind the St John's Mission Church in Wellington Street, Cambridge, another year of really constructive work by its members will have begun. This club has proved what great feats can be accomplished when a team of boys learn to work together and understand their responsibilities to the community and club. The boys' ages range from 14 to 18 and their programme is designed to create a balance in their physical, spiritual and mental development. During the past year, for example, they won the Pointer Cup for boxing. It is run entirely by voluntary effort and has a membership of 100 boys.

1949 03 03
Speaking to a crowded assembly at the opening of the Free Poles Club in St Andrew's Hall, Emmanuel Road, Cambridge the Vice Chancellor described the need for friendly relations between Britons and the Free Poles in this country, as a step which would foster inter-national harmony. The club is open not only to Poles all over the country but to anyone showing interest in Anglo-Polish relationship

1949 05 03
The Drummer Street bus station is a topic always sure of a lively discussion at Women's Institute meetings. At the annual meeting of the Cambridgeshire Federation the present provisions were condemned in no uncertain terms. A Fulbourn member thought it would be a waste to spend more money on the existing system, which was all wrong. Advocating the use of New Square she

spoke of the danger to children running across the road after school to catch buses. “There will be a fatal accident there before long, then perhaps something will be done”, she said

1949 10 06
The proposal to buy St John’s hall, Wellington St, Cambridge, for use as the East Road Boys’ Club was criticised. The building was described as “a filthy hovel, scheduled for demolition and without sun and air”, part had been condemned as unsafe some years ago. “It is a place I would not want to put pigs in”, said Coun. Dennard. Mrs Rackham agreed it was a poor neighbourhood, but thought it would take years and years for the whole of the district to be demolished.

1950

1952 09 12
Fire caused thousands of pounds worth of damage at Jack N. Baldry’s Mineral Water Works at Gold Street, Cambridge. It broke out in the first floor of the factory where corks, labels and bottles were kept & ran the whole length of the roof of one wing, most of which was destroyed. Firemen were hampered by extremely dense smoke, melting lead from the valleys of the roof and by many of the mineral water bottles exploding

1952 10 23
Proposals for the bus station at Drummer Street, Cambridge, were discussed at the Planning Inquiry. The bus company preferred a station to be sited on New Square which was double the area of Drummer Street. But would passengers agree – and they are entitled to be considered sometimes. Half to two-thirds would use Emmanuel Street. The amount of bus traffic would increase if greater provision was made & there would be a traffic blockage at Four Lamps roundabout

1952 11 05
Much of the congestion in the central area of Cambridge could be dealt with by providing car parks in the right places rather than the provision of extra circulatory routes the Chief Constable told the Development Plan inquiry. Closing of Magdalene Street would inevitably lead to an increased use of the Backs and the proposed spine relief road would not afford relief to traffic in the city centre. The police had received many complaints concerning the amount of noise at Drummer Street bus station late at night. By moving it to New Square this objection would be alleviated

1952 11 20
Edward Lainson of Premier Travel told the Development Plan Inquiry that it would be highly undesirable to move the bus station from Drummer Street to New Square. Access would be difficult and the crossing of Emmanuel Road by a large number of people would constitute a danger. It would cause congestion because a lot of people who found the buses handy would start using their cars

1953 02 23
A new branch of the Westminster Bank opened in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, a fairly busy district which up to now has not been served by a bank of any sort. Inside the visitor is greeted with an attractively decorated modern interior. Cheques will be taken to the parent branch in Bene’t Street where they are photographed and available for the customer to examine. An interesting feature is that a night safe has been provided. The first person to open an account was Geoffrey Nichols, of the Free Press, Prospect Row.

1953 06 03
The special prize of £5 for the best decorated private house competition in Cambridge was won by Mrs M. O'Dell of Staffordshire Street who beat her nearest rival, Mr A.A. Cox of Victoria Road by one point. The standard was high and points awarded for each ward were very close. Winners included: Abbey Ward Mr R. Runham of Wellington Street; Castle: Miss J. Bowers, Windsor Road; Coleridge: Mr Blows, Cherry Hinton Road; Cherry Hinton: Mr R. Abraham, Chalmers Road and Market Mr W.G.D. Clee of Union Road.

1954 02 12
The elm tree on the pavement near the junction of Drummer Street and Emmanuel Road, Cambridge, is probably 250 years old. It is a little over 70 feet in height and sixteen feet in circumference. In the 1940s some of the lower branches were removed to prevent contact by omnibuses but now extensive rotting has taken place in the main branches. These should be removed and any hollows scraped out and filled with concrete, but in view of its scientific interest as much as possible should be retained. The Botanic Garden hopes to perpetuate samples from the old tree by grafting some of its twigs on to young elms

1955 08 05
With 126 babies a lot of noises is to be expected but they were surprisingly good and few cries could be heard at Cambridge's bonniest baby exhibition. For the most part they sat contentedly on their mother's knees waiting to be judged. Winners of the various age categories were Teresa Murray from Byron Square, Joy Quinney of Queen Edith's Way; Linda Barker of Canterbury Street and Gerald Peachey of Sedgwick Street while Patricia and Jacqueline Hooks of James Street won the twins competition. 55 08 05c

1956 02 21
Fire seriously damaged Laurie and McConnal's warehouse in Willow Place, Fitzroy Street. Children and old folk were evacuated as over 50 firemen fought Cambridge's biggest fire for years in near-arctic conditions. They were taken to the Church Army Hall where, huddling round a blazing fire, they wondered what would happen to their homes. Volunteers from the Hopbine public house assisted firemen to save their furniture. 56 02 21c & d

1956 04 19
Cambridge Boys Club in Wellington Street is meeting a real need since it opened six years ago. Councillor Burkitt said the first time he went there the noise was terrific, there was not a single pane left unbroken and the club was very disorderly. Now it was well-run and had established a tradition of decent behaviour and loyalty; the boys took pride in making it a credit to the community. 55 11 17a
An enquiry heard that Cambridge city council had wanted to purchase land at the junction of Fitzroy Street and Wellington Street, pull down the old houses and use the land to re-site industry displaced from the East Road area. They offered to pay the current price but the owner, a former chairman of the Council's Finance Committee, said that if the land had potential for light industry then the price should be higher. Eventually negotiations broke down. Now he applied to redevelop the area, but the council opposed his plans. 56 04 19a & b

1956 10 16a
Councillors say that multi-storey car parks should be provided at Lion Yard, Saxon Street, Park Street and New Square and 170 cars should be parked on the site of the existing police flats at Parkside. But traffic congestion in Cambridge has become so acute that 'No Waiting' restrictions should be imposed in the central area and King Street made one-way. 56 10 16a

1956 12 04
After 25 years and nine previous meeting places, Cambridge Christian Spiritualist Church moved into their own permanent home. The former Crown and Harp public house, John Street, can hold 100 people. The church had its beginning in July 1931 and met at 11 Ram Yard which was hit by a bomb and totally destroyed on 27th July 1942, a brass cross being the only thing saved. 56 12 04a

1957 03 02
A new public house, The Weathervane' can be built on Perne Road but the Star brewery must transfer the licence from The Crown and Compasses in George IV Street and will close the Crown, Wellington Street and the Star on Newmarket Road. People living in the new houses in the area objected, one lady saying she'd saved her money to buy a house there to be away from pubs. Pupils at Coleridge Evening Centre, one of the finest institutions in the country, might be degraded while people who drank were more likely to catch disease than those who did not. 57 03 02

1957 04 20
It had been planned to make a car park on the site of the proposed County Fire Station at 44 Parkside. But as this is to be built sooner than expected the site for the new Police Station should be used instead since it would not be needed for another 15 years. But this was a residential area, the Chief Constable had dozens of complaints regarding even a police garage there. There were other sites: New Square could take another 90 cars very easily and there is plenty of space round the backs of the colleges. 57 04 20

1957 09 04
The Cambridge Dunkirk Veteran's Association held their inaugural meeting at the 'Hopbine' in Fair Street. The evacuation bought out the best in all three services in adversity but they should remember those who died on the beachheads. Close on 40 members are expected to join and it is hoped their name will soon command the same respect as that enjoyed by the Old Contemptibles who are now very old. 57 09 04a

1958 01 22
Fitzroy/Burleigh Street is easily the most convenient shopping area in the city, handy to the bus station and enjoys ample parking facilities. There is one car park at New Square and another in Burleigh Street. It offers the widest variety imaginable with two department stores and 39 specialist shops. You can get everything from fish cakes to furniture. Two good reasons why you should do your shopping there – Advertisement by the Fitzroy/Burleigh Street Traders Association. 58 01 22

1958 02 22
Cambridge Boys Club in St John's Hall, Wellington Street is flourishing under the leadership of Chris Silcock. Despite the volume of noise the youngsters are not idle. In well-equipped workshops they are taught woodwork and metalwork while the more artistic are instructed in modelling and painting. There is table tennis, P.T. and boxing along with photography, chess, talks and trips abroad. Parents attend on open nights when the fun is shared by all. 58 02 22

1958 09 25
An inquiry into plans for the compulsory purchase and clearance orders affecting 67 houses in East Road, Fitzroy Street, Adam and Eve Street and Gloucester Terrace heard from three objectors. Mr J.N. Baldry had plans to develop his site in connection with his mineral water

business. But the Medical Officer said the area contained some of the worst houses in Cambridge: they were all unfit and clearance would serve the interests of public health. 58 09 25

1959 01 16
A former University student told the court that when he went down he had left some property in the attic of his former lodgings in Victoria Street. The house had been sold and the new owner, who knew nothing about the arrangement, had cleared 'a few books and some moth-eaten rubbish'. But the student said it included a 'Kentecloth', a robe given him by his grandfather, who was brother of the Paramount Chief of Western Mzima in Ghana and demanded its return. 59 01 16a

1959 06 06
The Cambridge Association for Social Welfare told how in 1854 a group of undergraduates opened a Mission in Church Street, later to be called Stanton House, where spiritual and material help was given to women and girls in serious moral trouble. Then in 1883 a group of University ladies formed the 'Cambridge Association for the Care of Girls' finding work for girls living under dangerous circumstances

1959 08 26
Sir – in the area between Warkworth Street and Burleigh Street there are many little houses which have been bought by elderly people for their retirement and by young couples starting a new home. Now having been put in good order they are to be demolished by the Council in a 'development scheme'. It is cruel, unnecessary, and wasteful to pull down houses which are in liveable condition because in the same neighbourhood there are a number that are neglected and damp. I hope ratepayers will protest – Hilda Finney, Prospect Row. 59 08 26

1959 11 11
The proposed Lion Yard scheme provided for a pedestrians-only shopping precinct linked to Petty Cury, office space (to be offered to the University if needed), a new Emmanuel Road, the widening of Corn Exchange Street and an underground car park including space for 750 cars of which 230 would be for office staff. There would also be a new telephone exchange, an Inquiry was told. The scheme would be completed by 1965. 59 11 11c & d & e

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 02 02
Civil Defence HQ opens Warkworth Terrace – 60 02 02

1960 02 03
The picturesque 'Free Press' public house in Prospect Row stands in an area which the City Council wish to clear for redevelopment and is likely to be demolished one day. It once catered for printers from the old University Press in Brandon Place and consists of two cottages knocked into one. The licensee, Geoffrey Nichols, has been in occupation since 1927. When he first came it was 'an old spittoon sort of place' but now businessmen like its smoke room, workmen and their wives enjoy a drink in the public bar, and the snug, the slip and the bottle and jug department each cater for a public of their own. The walls are covered with photographs of actors and variety artists who used to lodge nearby while appearing at the New Theatre. 60 02 03

1960 04 29
All the property on the south side of John Street, Cambridge, is good property; quite a lot is privately owned by the occupiers who wanted to stay. They should not be forced to leave their home because the whole area is to be demolished and rebuilt. The council would be adopting 'Gestapo methods' if they insisted on the destruction of their houses. But people who lived in hovels felt exactly the same and if the council subtracted one or two properties they would destroy the whole scheme 60 04 29d

1960 05 28
Prospect Row demolition concerns – 60 05 28

1960 06 01
Sir – Orchard Street is one of the minor beauties of Cambridge. Its old gas lamps harmonized well with the curving row of low-roofed cottages, enhanced their picturesqueness and were charming objects in themselves. But they are to be uprooted and replaced by hexagonal aluminium obelisks which are out of character among old tiles and climbing roses. Orchard Street is not a bypass and does not need glaring lights. – Guy Ottewell 60 06 01c also: Opinion on new street lamps divided – Warkworth Terrace – 60 06 02a

1960 08 26
Houses in Prospect Row and Brandon Place will be compulsorily purchased and demolished. Most of the 62 properties were overcrowded, suffering from dampness, deteriorating woodwork and perishing plaster. A Government Inspector agreed they were unsuitable for human habitation. But resident say the Council are trying to get the property 'on the cheap' and they are not being offered adequate compensation. 60 08 26

1960 08 31
People living in cottages shortly to be demolished in Prospect Row and Brandon Place described conditions. One housewife told of hearing rats at the back door, "I found the hole and covered it with coal". Another spoke of having two rats in the house which is so damp she has to redecorate once a year. "My eldest boy, who is four, catches cold after cold and I shall be glad when we move. I don't care where it is as long as it has three bedrooms and a bathroom", she says. A Ministry inspector said the properties were unfit for human habitation. But an 81-year-old lady who has lived in her house for 11 years said: "I can't understand why they want to knock them down". 60 08 31a

1960 09 23
Residents of properties in John Street, Adam and Eve Street and Dover Street objected to proposals that their houses be compulsorily purchased for redevelopment. They were not yet of demolition standard and owners had spent a lot of money providing them with modern amenities. Some had been living in the streets for many years and did not like the prospect of moving. Even if they were paid the full market value it would not be sufficient to purchase other houses. But the Council said it was essential for the future that the whole area be developed now. 60 09 23c

1960 10 14
The Freebooters Coffee Bar and Club in Wellington Street was set up through the determination of John Ewen, a theological student at Ridley Hall. It has full-sized billiard & table-tennis tables & a dart board. But there are no rules. Soon youngsters banned from other coffee bars because of damage started to drop in. A key concern was motor cycles but plans are under way for a maintenance shop and a 'scramble'. They had teething troubles: the record player was stolen and

all the records taken, but they were brought back and now various sports clubs have been formed. 60 10 14

1960 11 04
Cambridge's City Librarian, Eric Cave (46), looks upon his job as a vocation. Its prime function is to provide a book and information service for the public it serves. The Reference Library take delight in answering any question on any subject including the date of erection of a certain house in Orchard Street, the best method of cultivating edelweiss and the best food to give a pet frog. They also had a telephone call from a rather harassed married man, whose wife was on holiday, asking for details of how to cook a joint of meat with its trimmings. 60 11 04b

1960 12 09
The Butts Green end of Midsummer Common is now used as an extra car park on Saturday mornings but vehicles overflow into side streets to the annoyance of residents. People in Earl Street complain of motorists parking in front of their houses blocking the light to basement rooms while in New Square drivers resent paying sixpence to use the car park and prefer to stop in front of the houses. Massive furniture vans sometimes stay for as long as two days and in summer busloads of tourists sit on people's front window sills eating fish and chips. 60 12 09

1960 12 12
Congestion in Clarendon Street – photo – 60 12 12

1960 12 19
The Butts Green end of Midsummer Common is now used as an extra car park on Saturday mornings but vehicles overflow into side streets to the annoyance of residents. People in Earl Street complain of motorists parking in front of their houses blocking the light to basement rooms while in New Square drivers resent paying sixpence to use the car park and prefer to stop in front of the houses. Massive furniture vans sometimes stay for as long as two days and in summer busloads of tourists sit on people's front window sills eating fish and chips. 60 12 09

1961 01 11
The only area of Cambridge suitable for a regional shopping centre is that around City Road and Fitzroy Street, a University development plan says. It has space for shops, restaurants, car parks and houses and could be well-served by public transport. By contrast the city centre does not meet the land requirement unless there is such demolition that it would affect the character of the area. The roads are poor and provision of adequate car parking would be an impossible task. 61 01 11c

1961 01 20
New Square was a very good site for a multi-deck car park, councillors were told. But Coun P.J. Warren said that when the site was conveyed to the Corporation in 1923 they'd given an undertaking that no building would ever be erected there. Even now they were spoiling the best example of domestic lay-out in Cambridge. People who lived in New Square already had enough to put up with without such a suggestion. It should never be raised again in their lifetime, the Traffic Committee agreed 61 01 20

1961 02 23
Freebooters Club Wellington Street repairs – 61 02 23

1961 04 20

A terraced house at 10 Emmanuel Road has become a show house for the National Coal Board to demonstrate the latest method of central heating by solid fuel. The property has 13 of its rooms centrally heated by this method, including two bathrooms and three kitchens and the system is driven by a virtually silent pipe in the basement. Installation is straightforward as the small copper pipe can be fixed unobtrusively to skirting boards cutting out costly structural work. 61 04 20

1961 08 24
Motorists are quick to seize every chance that comes their way of finding a parking space for their cars. Already several have made the most of the opportunity provided by the demolition work in Adam and Eve Street. Vehicles now stand where a row of cottages used to exist. The buildings were cleared as part of the City Council's redevelopment scheme in the East Road district 61 08 24a

1961 10 28
Two Cambridge couples are attempting to beat the Cambridge 25 hours non-stop jiving record at the Freebooters Club in Wellington Street. The dancing started last night at 9 o'clock with eight couples competing but six of these became exhausted and had to give up in the early hours. However Adrian Mead and his partner Linda Worboys and Fred Ellis with Bridget Holmes are continuing. The boys are not allowed to stop, but their partners can have a standby 61 10 28

1961 11 09
Maids Causeway trees cut down to widen roundabout – 61 11 09

1962 01 01
Queens Road & Earl Street with snowed-up cars – photo – 62 01 01a

1962 01 04
A Council debate to decide whether to create a post of City Architect ended in chaos after the Mayor stopped discussion. A qualified architect is vital if development is to be continued with taste. Council estates were dull in lay-out and their roads were not up to modern traffic. Uninspired planning must be stopped now. At a time when the Lion Yard, Museum site and City Road area are in the melting pot they should have the advice of an architect, some councillors felt. 62 01 04a

1962 03 22
A police dog and handler make nightly patrols of Prospect Row where Irish labourers are camping out in empty houses, sleeping on wet mattresses and ripping up floor boards to make fires in the open grates. The houses will be demolished when a home is found for 82 year-old Lily Wilkin, who has lived in the Row all her life. Meanwhile Corporation workmen are stapling strong wire mesh over doors and windows in nearby Brandon Place and Adam and Eve Street. But no attempt can be made to clear the rubbish which litters many of the tiny backyards. 62 03 22

1962 04 11
An inquest was told that a 23-year-old man found dead in his rooms in Emmanuel Road had smoked 'reefer' cigarettes. He'd bought some Indian Hemp in London 62 04 11c

1962 05 31
The University's proposals for the future development of Cambridge are designed to enhance its character as a university town. The Lion Yard area should include a multi-purpose public hall, for

which they have offered to pay half, a new public library, exhibition gallery and arts centre. There would be a regional shopping centre in the City Road area including department and chain stores with large scale car parking and the segregation of pedestrians from traffic. 62 05 31a

1962 06 25
University plans for the future of Cambridge envisage that in the Lion Yard there would be a new hall for conferences, concerts and all kinds of music with a new library, small shops, cafes and homes for 300 people. A new regional shopping centre in City Road would be free of all vehicular traffic and there could be more homes on the site than before. The housing areas which are close to the centre are also the oldest and many are in need of redevelopment. Already 4,000 people have had to leave since 1950 but the University wants to see at least as many living in these areas as were there ten years go. 62 06 25

1962 09 21
Prospect Row showing demolition – 62 09 21a; Free Press in area of redevelopment – 62 09 21

1962 12 06
Electric power lost in City Road area - 62 12 06

1963 01 02
The Freebooters Club has closed down. It was started in Wellington Street for youngsters who could not fit into the regular pattern of youth activities. It had done good work and some of the young people who had been 'unclubable' had settled down in other established youth clubs. But there has been a recent heavy decline in club membership and an adverse financial position had been reached. John Ewan, the University theological student who started it two years ago, was thanked for his inspiration in forming the club and wholehearted devotion to the task of running it. 63 01 02

1963 09 17
Lloyds new bank on Newmarket Road is the only one in Cambridge with its own private car and cycle park. Facing Sun Street, it will take three cars and five bikes. The bank replaces the temporary wooden structure which has housed the business for more than a year and will offer a full range of services. It is under the supervision of Mr E.J. Furley, manager of Lloyds main local branch at Sidney Street 63 09 17

1963 12 09
Sir – the site of the demolished houses in Prospect Row is being covered with tarmac to serve as a 'temporary' car park. Yet again people are being displaced by motor cars, even though the area is designated for residential use. The traffic problem is indeed urgent and the temptation to use slum clearance areas conveniently near the city centre must be great. But such streets should be rebuilt with houses of suitable design and cost so more people could live within walking distance rather than have to rely on transport – Julie Larter, Cambridge Civic Society 63 12 09a

1964 02 10
Recruits for Cambridge City Civil Defence are drawn from a wide and diverse field. Amongst the 575 on strength at the Warkworth Lodge headquarters there is a 55-year-old University professor and a 20-year-old farm labourer. Other volunteers include an optician, compositor, school teacher, window cleaner, scientist and housewife. The Mayor and Mayoress, Mr & Mrs J.B. Collins both hold the civil defence medal for long service. "Somebody has got to be available to pick up the pieces and start again. In the event of nuclear warfare we would try and care for survivors", one said. 64 02 10

1964 03 04
Houses in Walnut Tree Avenue have been bought by the Ministry of Transport for demolition when the dual-carriageway for the proposed Chesterton bridge route is constructed. One side of Cam Road will also have to be demolished. It is expected that negotiations for the 30 properties involved will take a year to complete. The first part of the scheme will link Newmarket Road with Chesterton and Milton Roads. Later the existing roads of Lensfield Road, Gonville Place and East Road will feed into a roundabout at the junction of Sun Street and Newmarket Road 63 03 04b

1964 06 03
Whether or now new shopping development takes place in Lion Yard or at City Road the old shopping area should stay where it is and retain its highly individual character. Cambridge has continued to attract more and more visitors leading to fears of King's College ashtrays and "Kiss me quick" mortar boards. But one development benefiting both local and visitor must be the creation of a pedestrian precinct such as the one at Harlow. It would enable streets to be given over to their rightful functions as places for strolling, shopping and gossip 64 06 03a

1964 06 05
Listed buildings may not be demolished but owners need not keep them in repair and they often deteriorate until they are condemned as a danger to public safety. Cromwell's barn in St Ives was a magnificent example of a 16th-century manorial barn but it was burn down because it became unsafe. In Cambridge many little cottages are disappearing behind scaffolding to emerge with a completely different character and price-tag. Some houses in Portugal Place and a tiny court near Sidney Sussex College are in danger but Orchard Street has been saved by the Preservation Society 64 06 05b

1964 06 06
Compulsory purchase orders have been confirmed for the clearance of areas at Napier Street, Leeke Street, Coronation Street, Gold Street and Russell Street. But the Minister has excluded some properties in Newmarket Road and Burleigh Place together with no 9 Coronation Street which his inspectors say is fit for habitation. Objectors had claimed that compulsory acquisition would cause hardship and was not necessary for redevelopment. 64 06 06a

1964 08 28
Traders are split over proposals for a new shopping centre off Fitzroy Street. Claude Scott, motor agents, say trade would be increased but he would seek full compensation to leave. T. Tarrants tobacconists, say it would be good but family businessman A.P. Cook of Prospect Row, who has run a grocery store for 50 years, says he will fight hard against compulsory purchase. Mrs J.A. Douglas of Earl Street, who has just modernised her house, is horrified at the proposals. 64 08 28c

1964 08 28
The Lion Yard area is badly laid out and contains 'obsolete development'; there should be a small increase in shopping space with the rest devoted to civic and university uses, Sir Keith Joseph, the Minister of Housing says. A brand new shopping area should be created in the City Road area – the present twilight zone. It will take traffic away from the centre, cater for modern supermarket trends and fit in with plans for the continuation of the East Road housing scheme 64 08 28, 28b

1964 11 19
University offer money to engage planning team so submit plans for Lion Yard and new shopping area in City Road as urgent action needed – 64 11 19, 19d

1964 12 09
The Sunday night 'Drop-in' Youth Club in Wellington Street provides somewhere for youngsters to get to know each other. There is table tennis, snooker and badminton together with a coffee bar and a juke box providing music for dancing. Some girls complain that boys will not ask them to dance but the boys say if they do they get stared at. They come because they are bored, there is nothing to do, nowhere else to go. Many houses are so small they can get little privacy and parents may lose their peace because a radio or record player is blaring, they say. But it's sad they cannot find companionship and interests at home, just one night a week. 64 12 09

1965 02 26
Jack Baldry, the Cambridge mineral water firm, has installed a new soft drink production plant which has doubled their bottle output and cut factory staff by a third. Two production lines now complete the cycle of washing, filling, capping and labelling the drinks, a job preciously done by three bottle lines and about 35 employees working on equipment which was up to 18 years old. Now 10,000 bottles an hour can be made up at the Gold Street factory 65 02 26c

1965 04 30
Orchard Street grant for terrace – 65 04 30b

1965 07 30
Laurie & McConnal modernising the whole of their shop frontage in Fitzroy Street; new display windows will replace the arcade-type ones there since 19th century; "faith in City Road as new shopping centre – 65 07 30a [13.8]

1965 08 07
Drugs found in raid on house Clarendon St – 65 08 07; three guilty – 65 09 03

1965 08 17
Adam & Eve car park showing wrecked cars – photo – 65 08 17a

1966 01 21
New Square Residents Association issue 'The Second Centre' report opposing Inner Relief Road; seeks bus station Gold Street, one-way streets, commercial development – 66 01 21c

1966 02 22
Risk of drug-taking by students in college hostels and lodgings – teacher fined for house used for smoking Indian hemp; "beatnik parasites', Clarendon St– 66 02 22a, b, 66 02 23b

1966 02 23
'Crumbling Cambridge' feature – derelict houses, vermin; pictures Nelson St, Coronation St, Leeke St – 66 02 23a

1966 04 28
Morley's Wine Bar in Petty Cury to close; will be off-sales in Wellington St; established since turn of the century, need to expand – 66 04 28b

1966 09 01
House of Dolamore bought wine and spirit business of George Morley in Petty Cury and Guildhall Street some 80 years ago; now has new address in Wellington Street – 66 09 01 & 1a

1967 11 24
Prince Richard of Gloucester transformed house in Victoria Street with five friends – 67 11 24b

1968 10 29
Orchard Street cottages photo – 68 10 29

1968 11 01
Bird's eye of New Square car park from Lauries – photo – 68 11 01a

1969 05 17
Baldry's move to new factory in Harvest Way from Gold St; started in 1923, first to use all-automatic crown cork sealed bottles; took over Cambridge Soda Works and in 1925 acquired important contract for mineral waters with a local brewery; began bottling cider in 1930 and in 1935 extended range to confectionary, cocktail sausages, pickles and groceries. Bought Sawston Aerated Water Company – 69 05 17a, b, c

1970

1971 12 22
Prime, Cambridge building firm started more than 150 years ago cease trading, main yard at Adam & Eve Street – 71 12 22

1972 02
"The visual quality of New Square is totally spoiled at present by its use as a car park. When new multi-storey car parks are built in the Fitzroy-Burleigh area however the square will be returned to grass and will once again be a valuable part of the Cambridge townscape"

1972 06 09
The family firm of D. Mackay, Britannia Works, East Road, Cambridge, celebrate their 60th year jubilee this week. The Britannia Public house from which the works took its name has recently been demolished, and the houses which formed Britannia Place have long since disappeared, as has the Smith which stood in the public house yard. Many other landmarks have been swept away in the new Roadworks. It used to be said that by standing at the corner of East Road and Newmarket Road one would be sure to meet one's friends. Now it is difficult to see which is the corner, and the traffic roars past too fast for leisurely greetings

1972 07 24
The Lion Yard multi-deck car park opens on Monday proving another 500 car spaces within a stone's throw of the centre of Cambridge. The completion marks the first stage of the city council's multi million redevelopment project for the area - which was first proposed nearly 25 years ago. The new park, which aims to cater for the shopper and the short stay motorist, is the second major car park to open in the city in less than a year. The other is at Queen Anne Terrace, which opened last October. The usual parking fees will be 5p for the first hour, 15p for two hours, 25p for three hours, up to a maximum of 75p for 10 hours. The council hope the prices will encourage people who work in the city centre to leave their cars in the parks away from the centre, like New Square and Prospect Row, where the charges are considerably less.

1972 07 26
A total of 160 houses in the Burleigh street – Fitzroy street area of Cambridge will have to be demolished to make way for the city council's shopping redevelopment scheme. At present only

34 of the houses are unoccupied. The city council are prepared to buy the houses at full market value if the owners cannot find other buyers. Some of the houses have already been classed as slums and earmarked for demolition. A number have in fact already been closed, such as in parts of James Street or demolished, as at Adam and Eve Street. A year ago the city council gave details of a large area outside the Burleigh Street - Fitzroy Street complex which they said would not be required for demolition. This gave the house owners the go-ahead to apply for grants of up to £1,000 to improve their homes

1972 08 12
Cambridge University student, Mr Colin Rosensteil, was so annoyed by the grubby looking and almost illegible street nameplate outside his home in John Street that he decided to brighten it up himself. Now he is thinking about going round the other street nameplates in the area - if his requests to the city council to do the work fall on deaf ears. He has written to the city council's Conservative leader, Ald Stanley Bowlesasking for a rush programme of sign repainting throughout the city.

1972 10 02
John Nicholson is a tall, solemn, ranging character with a Biblical appearance. Currently he runs two
shops in Cambridge. Neither of them makes a profit. Before that he published an "alternative" newspaper "Cambridge Voice", a paper which ran to 16 issues. After a skirmish with "The Shilling Paper" he felt that a University element were against him. His two shops are the King Street Market and Cockaygne, Portland Place, New Square. It's an unusual shop selling a range of science fiction and occult books, "underground" periodicals, American comic books and all sorts of pamphlets

1972 11 21
The Cambridge city council's planning consultants who are designing the redevelopment plans for the Burleigh Street- Fitzroy Street have suggested the building of a departmental store East of Napier Street. Consultants feel that the introduction of shopping uses at this point would improve the whole project in addition to saving housing land to the North of Maids Causeway and James Street. They have also proposed that the pedestrian way along Fitzroy Street should be graded down and Napier Street itself raised over the pedestrian way. This appears to be the best way of separating traffic and pedestrians

1973 02 16
Mr Jeremy Thorpe, the Liberal leader, visited residents in the Burleigh-Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge, whose homes are endangered by the proposed shopping development which is at present the subject of an inquiry. Amongst the people he met was Mrs Lavinia Hawes, who moved to her James Street home six months ago and said that it suited her family perfectly. She would be giving evidence at the inquiry. After a visit to the new Cambridge volunteer bureau in Fitzroy Street, Mr Thorpe left to see Bar Hill

1974 05 01
Parking may soon cost up to 50% more at some of the Cambridge's city council parks. If suggestions are accepted the charge at Park Street will go up from 5p to 7p an hour with a maximum rate of 75p for more than five hours. The present maximum is 50p. The daily charge for the Queen Anne Terrace (multi) and the Saxon street ground level park will go up from 10p to 15p. At New Square the maximum for more than five hours will rise to 40p.

1974 07 12

Charges at some Cambridge city car parks are to rise by as much as 50%. At Park Street the charge for the first hour will rise from 5p to 7p and a sliding scale will increase other charges to a maximum of 75p for more than five hours. New Square will start at 7p and rise to 40p. At Queen Anne Terrace and the Saxon Street parks the daily charge will increase from 10p to 15p.

1974 11 02
The owner of Tebbit's bakery, probably the last in the Cambridge area with a coal-fired oven, retires after nearly 50 years of producing crusty loaves and rolls for Chesterton and East Cambridge. The bakery, off Gold St, run by Mr William Tebbit with his wife Bunny, is to be closed. Each weekday he has got up at about 5 am to start baking his daily batch of about 500 loaves, He forms the dough for cottage loaves, Coburgs and bloomers by hand

1975 04 28
The King Street run or the King Street pint to pint is a Cambridge drinking tradition. It means drinking eight pints of beer in two hours. In the old days King Street had enough ale houses for the Run to be held along it, but now the organisers have to plan the route incorporating public houses elsewhere. The run last year ended at The Zebra in Newmarket Road but licensee Mrs M. Warren won't be allowing it again. Last year youths who vomited in Fair Street outside the Hopbine bought a ban there on all future runs.

1975 05 16
Fourteen Cambridge student bodyguards were out in the city last night looking after single girls who fear the rapist may strike again. The Eden Street based Townswomen's Liberation Group has arranged for a self-defence demonstration. It will be for the benefit of anyone fearing assault. The Cambridge Evening News has offered a reward of £1,000 for information leading to the rapist's arrest and conviction.

1976 01 19
The Free Press public house, Prospect Row, Cambridge, is being sold back to Greene King by the City Council. The tiny Kite-area pub, council-owned since the 1960s when it was bought as part of a slum clearance area was due to be demolished to make way for a road. That scheme was dropped in 1969 and now they are negotiating its sale back to the brewery, which continued to lease the pub after the council bought it.

1976 05 21
Plans for radical alterations to two listed cottages in the "Kite area" of Cambridge, the subject of a long and bitter row between a city man and council officials, would cost £59,000, it was stated at a planning inquiry. The scheme involves dismantling and rebuilding an 1825 façade and excavating a basement in Orchard Street. A council witness said the plan to build a facsimile of the façade would destroy the weathered texture and unity of the terrace.

1976 06 01
The Kite is a thriving shopping and business centre with all the charm of a village within Cambridge, where the scale is human, where homes and businesses blend and where shopkeepers and shoppers know each other. It wears its quirks and curiosities proudly; where else could you browse through art nouveau curios (James Street), munch a crispy delicious waffle dripping maple syrup (Waffles) or buy a bargain pine dresser (City Road). There's a Kite community fighting every inch of the way to preserve the homes, the shops and the personality of this game little patch of Victorian Cambridge which is now more full of life than ever

1975 06 11

The much-criticised second stage of Cambridge city council's central area traffic experiment has been abandoned and traffic flow systems introduced five weeks ago withdrawn. This means there is again two-way traffic in Regent Street, Parkside, Emmanuel Road and Short Street. Through traffic is still banned along parts of St Andrew's Street, Sidney Street & Kings Parade. City police said many motorists were confused by the changes which it was improving impossible to enforce. Long traffic queues had built up at major junctions since the start of the experiment which brought traffic chaos to the city

1975 07 11
Motorists will soon have to pay up to 50% more to park in the centre of Cambridge. Meter parking will cost up to 15p an hour and parking at Lion Yard and Park Street multi-deck parks and on the New Square surface park will cost up to 10p an hour, and increase of 3p.

1976 04 12
Jesus College opened its Eden Street housing development to the public to show just what can be done with old properties in Cambridge's Kite area. The college plans the conversion of more than 30 two and three-bedroomed homes at rentals from £8 to £10 a week. Two major types of conversion are in hand, one of extending existing terraced houses to give two-bedroomed homes, and the other of combining two terraced houses to make one new one

1976 06 01
The Kite is a thriving shopping and business centre with all the charm of a village within Cambridge, where the scale is human, where homes and businesses blend and where shopkeepers and shoppers know each other. It wears its quirks and curiosities proudly; where else could you browse through art nouveau curios (James Street), munch a crispy delicious waffle dripping maple syrup (Waffles) or buy a bargain pine dresser (City Road). There's a Kite community fighting every inch of the way to preserve the homes, the shops and the personality of this game little patch of Victorian Cambridge which is now more full of life than ever.

1977 04 20
A multi-million pound deal for the rebuilding of large parts of the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge (The Kite) which would involve a handsome handout to the ratepayers is being negotiated between the City council and two internationally known development companies. Under the deal the redevelopment could be carried out without any cost to the ratepayers. The council would hand some of its land holdings – much now derelict – to the developers on a long lease. In return they would build large car parks for the council, re-grass the New Square car park and erect a number of shops, at least one of them a department store. And at the end of the development period the company would make either a substantial lump sum payment to the council or give it a large cut of the rents collected.

1977 07 13
A group of Cambridge residents have started a legal battle to stop buses using the narrow, congested Parker Street to reach the city's Drummer Street bus station. They are trying to force four major bus companies to use an alternative route via Emmanuel Street and Regent Street. The leader of the objectors said: "Parker Street is fit only for local traffic, being narrow and with houses on each side. At the moment the pollution is disgusting. You cannot open a window and the noise is above acceptable limits". The Eastern Counties traffic manager said: "Buses represent only a tiny proportion of the heavy traffic using the street, so why we are being picked on I don't know"

1978 07 17

A sophisticated version of rotten egg-throwing provided one of the highlights at Saturday's Tudor Fayre for those with certain views on the proposed Kite development plans. Artist Mr Peter Fluck of Maids Causeway was commissioned by the Kite Co-ordinating Council to draw an outsized head of Coun John Powley, the man spearheading plans to build a large shopping complex. The picture was then electrically wired up and served as a dartboard. Anyone hitting the 'brain cell' rang a bell. During the afternoon more than one Labour councillors was seen surreptitiously to aim a dart at the target

1978 09 21
Some of the brightest artistic talents in Cambridge struggle along in two linked huts, sharing cramped premises with enthusiastic leisure groups. That they carry on with such professionalism is testimony to the spirit of the Cambridge Arts and Leisure Association (CALA). It was formed thirteen years ago to bring together under one roof in pleasant surroundings individuals and societies interested in all kinds of leisure activities and promote the enjoyment of Arts and Crafts. They are still campaigning from their base in Warkworth Street

1979 01 27
The doors of the Two Swans pub in Clarendon Street, Cambridge, may reopen – 67 years after they closed for the last time. 'Last orders' was called for good in 1912 and the pub was converted into a grocery and off-licence. Now Mr Percy Wing is hoping to change it back. The pub would keep its old name and be run as a free house. His wife said: "It would be something intimate, no music, no juke boxes, no darts – by doing this we can keep in touch with older as well as younger people who could come in for a cup of coffee. I think there are a lot of people who prefer coffee to a drink"

1979 04 02
The centre of Cambridge is well off for parking space. There are 600 spaces on the Lion Yard multi-decker, a slightly smaller number at Park Street and substantial parking at New Square. Then there are more than 500 meters dotted around. But during peak periods these are barely enough and queues build up at the park entrances. Motorists complain it is not easy to reach the city centre since King's Parade was severely restricted to through traffic. At first shopkeepers feared virtual bankruptcy but now even the most 'anti' tradesman is happy with the result – an increase in trade.

1979 04 09
Cambridge squatters protested as demolition men moved into James Street and started breaking up roofs and floors in some houses. This follows a court decision granting the council possession of seven houses where squatters claimed they had a licence to stay. The team of contractors arrived early in the morning and started on an empty house with pick axes; gas, water and electricity engineers also got to work. Police stood by as the confused squatters gathered in the street outside. Protestors say the council should never have acquired the houses in the first place. They were never used, allowed to stand empty for 20 years and became derelict. The squatters have actually tried to save them from demolition. Now Cambridge is to lose a Victorian street, probably unique in the country, with its small modest houses and shops.

1979 04 27
The home of Henry 'Jock' Hall has always been easy to pick out by the sign above the front door reading 'University Chimney Sweep". Now it has been left in not-so-splendid isolation amongst the demolition rubble of what was once a row of terraced houses in James Street, Cambridge. The innards of neighbouring houses hang from the outside walls and the dust gets everywhere. Even a

sweep and his wife, used to dealing with sooty grime, cannot help noticing it. The rest of the houses were occupied by squatters who were thrown out when the demolition workers moved in.

1979 06 12
A Venture centre has opened at the home of the Eden Centre of Dance in City Road, Cambridge. It houses a photographer and a potter and anyone is free to do anything in the other rooms. Now there are plans for a café in the basement to allow people from local streets to drop in and find out what is going on. It is an attractive three-storey building built in the 18890s as the Cambridge Friendly Society Institute and Working Men's Club which hired out its rooms to a number of smaller societies. But as they grew so they acquired their own headquarters elsewhere. The Institute could not be wound up until the building was sold and that couldn't take place until the planning blight on the Kite was lifted. While it stood empty squatters got in and caused damage.

1979 12 04
Cambridge councillors and top officials entered the Mayor's Guildhall office and retrieved documents he had impounded after a furious showdown earlier in the day. The documents relate to a bitter ten-year planning wrangle over plans for a house in Orchard Street. The seizure of the papers was described as an unprecedented step and now the Mayor has called for the Chief Executive and the City Secretary and Solicitor to be relieved of their duties until a full inquiry is held.

1980

1980 02 26
Squatters have become a way of life in parts of Cambridge. A bloke called Bleep started it all in 1975 when he somehow entered 13 James Street and called it home. Squatting in the Kite had begun. Numbers swelled, including students, doctors, nurses, research students and the unemployed. They came simply because they were homeless and the Kite had lots of empty houses which could stay empty for years until the time came for demolition. A lot of residents are sympathetic and appreciate having people squatting rather than an empty property next door to them. Some who have left the area have handed over their keys or deliberately left doors open 80 02 26a

1980 03 14
Waffles' waffles have been selling like hot cakes in Cambridge for seven years. Now the small Kite café has been mentioned in the Egon Ronay guide 'Just A Bite'. "Queues of hungry students form outside the door every evening at this most welcoming of little cafes", it writes. But Waffles' days at its present address are numbered because the little shop on the corner of Gold Street and Fitzroy Street is marked for demolition as part of the Kite redevelopment programme. Set in a devastated urban wasteland of rubble and decaying brick the café with its steamy windows, Edwardian interior and babbling conversation provides a friendly island of humanity. 80 03 14d

1981 02 18
Percy Wing's shop has been in business in Clarendon Street, Cambridge, since 1912. A grocer's and off-licence, it sells all sorts of things from Chelsea buns and bundles of firewood to apricot wine and John Smith's beer. It's the sort of shop where customers can still hold weekly or monthly accounts and have their orders made up and delivered. One customer has had an account there since 1914. Young customers ask for advice and recipes, elderly customers come in for a quarter of a pound of butter or a couple of rashers of bacon. On occasions they have sold a single egg at a time. 81 02 18b

1981 11 20
Driving through Cambridge it seems a particularly malicious gremlin has got loose, armed with a pick-axe, and is busy making holes in any old bit of road he can find. For a start there is the Kite redevelopment which has reduced the amount of parking and led to major roadworks, then sewers have collapsed in Emmanuel Road, there is resurfacing in Coldham's Lane and Eastern Gas has moved into Tennis Court Road. There are temporary traffic lights in Silver Street and the continuing work on Magdalene Bridge adds to the disruption. 81 11 20b

1981 11 27
The first Cambridge tunnels dug under Peas Hill were used as wine vaults and one is blocked off by a wall of wine bottles cemented together. During the war they were wired for electricity and fitted out as air raid shelters for 400 people and later dossers used them as overnight hostels. In 1963 came proposals for an underground road starting at Maids Causeway and running down Jesus Lane and Emmanuel Road. There was also to be a three-storey underground car park. But the scheme was rejected. 81 11 27

1982 04 20
A former school and warehouse buildings in Eden Street have been turned into eight studio flats for sale at about £28,000. Each comprises a living-dining room, fitted kitchen, bathroom and bedroom with low maintenance and running costs. Eden Court blends in with the surrounding cottages in an area well-served with corner shops and pubs which gives it an atmosphere unique to Cambridge. 82 04 20a

1982 08 24
W. Thompson and Son, the Fitzroy Street furniture firm, is closing after 150 years' trading in Cambridge. It started as a cabinet makers in Willow Place in 1832 and a fully-fledged furniture makers and sellers had been established by 1881. They had an undertakers' business for years, as well as selling china wholesale. But Peter Thompson says their style of business was becoming outdated: customers were now more conscious of price than quality with big warehouses changing the way furniture is sold. 82 08 24

1983 04 26
The County Council has been urging Cambridge councillors to provide more city centre parking space. They say 1,000 extra parking spaces are needed. Now they have suggested six sites: a 250-space extension to the present Lion Yard multi-deck, land behind Telephone House in Regent Street-Park Terrace (220 spaces on a four-deck park), the old Addenbrooke's Hospital site (250 spaces), land behind Shire Hall (450 spaces on a three-deck park), Saxon Street (480) and Adam and Eve Street (460 spaces). 83 04 26 p5

1984 09 28
A Cambridge pensioner is hoping for dry days ahead after weeks of rain pouring through her bedroom ceiling. Every downpour has seen the 82-year-old crippled widow setting out basins and old chamber pots to catch the flow through the roof of her house in Eden Street. Landlords Jesus College sent builders round but weeks later the roof was even worse. She is also without a bathroom and the toilet is outside at the bottom of the garden. She hates going out and it is terrible in winter when there is snow around. The college is holding discussions with the city council about modernising such properties. 84 09 28

1985 12 23

Christmas is just another day for some residents of the Church Housing Association in Willow Walk. But despite the distinct lack of enthusiasm Captain Andrew Entecott and his helpers are busy at work. The cook will be dishing up turkey and all the trimmings for 36 men and gifts will be presented in the afternoon. The Cyrenian's home in Short Street is like a big happy family and they have planned a Christmas meal. But many homeless people will be wandering the streets with nowhere to go 85 12 23

1986 08 13
Big Mac fans supporters lost the beef-burgers battle. Despite a petition signed by 30,000 hamburger fans an Inspector has rejected plans for a fast-food bar in Fitzroy Street saying it would cause a public nuisance and severe litter problems. Residents in New Square are delighted. But city planners say that they'd be happy to consider another application from McDonalds for a more suitable site 86 08 13

1986 08 22
The Church Housing Trust's new hostel in Victoria Road aims to get away from an institutional set-up with single rooms and bedsits for 75 homeless people. Alcohol will be banned and residents encouraged to improve their lifestyle to enable them to live in the community again. Nearby home owners have been reassured that problems will be few and far between because if residents have been drinking they keep away as they don't want to lose their accommodation. The Trust's existing premises in Willow Walk will be also retained 86 08 22

1986 09 21
'Thirty Three' is a new walk-in centre for young people funded by Save The Children. Based in Clarendon Street the confidential service has voluntary counsellors who will listen to youngsters' fears on any aspect of life including difficulties with parents or boy friends, anorexia or abortion. They will offer no criticism and never pass judgement but instead offer positive help. College students have their own counselling services, but there is nothing comparable for other 86 09 21a

1987 12 14
Paradise Street, a young Cambridge band, have released an album of songs most written by members of the group, all pupils of Netherhall School. The band – originally known as Captain Kirk and the Klingon Army Choir - formed when Mark Curtis, Ben Coombes, John Evans and brothers Mark and Paul Pocock were asked to do something for the school disco. Their music is loud and raunchy, influenced by Kiss and Motley Crue, though the lyrics are more on the lines of Marillion or Genesis. They have sent a copy of their tape to rock magazine 'Kerrang' but are not planning to approach record companies nor enter the pop world full-time just yet. A-levels have more priority 87 12 14d

1988 04 18
Regulars at the Free Press in Prospect Row are toasting success after it was named one of Britain's 100 classic pubs in the new CAMRA guide. The little pub, packed with settles, panelled walls and memorabilia was first licensed in 1834 when a home brewer named Sarah Horne turned her cottages into a commercial establishment. It takes its name from a local temperance paper named the Free Press which railed unsuccessfully against the evils of alcohol. The bar carries a notice warning of the 'degradation of drunkenness' but is a jolly, uninhibited place, the haunt of students, cricket and rowing enthusiasts. 88 04 18a

1990 01 29
Maids Causeway Dukes Court office complex 90 01 29, a

Lion Yard Area

1950s

73.48

c.44.6 : 'Lion Yard' area
Includes Alexandra Street, Falcon Yard, Post Office Terrace, St Andrew's Hill

1900

1900 07 31
E.S. Payne has opened premises at Alexandra Street, Cambridge for the manufacture of artificial teeth. Complete sets, upper or lower from £1. Single tooth added, 2s.6d. Easy payment taken. Teeth scaled, stopped or extracted. Trusses and elastic stockings made to order – advert

1902 10 24
The members of the Cambridge Y.M.C.A. celebrated their jubilee with a soiree in their rooms in Alexandra Street. 50 years ago the Church of England Young Men's Society and the Sunday School Teachers' Institute amalgamated, forming the Association. It settled in Rose Crescent. In 1853 it moved to larger premises at 5, Sidney Street, moving to Hobson Place in 1858 and then St Edward's Passage. In 1870 the first stone was laid of their present building; it was completed a year later. To call the soiree a success is scarcely adequate; the visitors never had a dull moment from the time they entered the door until the National Anthem brought the evening to a close.

1903 08 11
Our attention has been drawn to the fact that another link with the fascinating past of Cambridge is being severed by the almost entire demolition of the one-time famous 'Falcon Inn'. Many years ago the front of the building, with its fine old gables facing Petty Cury, disappeared and about eight years ago the buildings on the left side of the Falcon Yard were demolished to make way for business extensions. Now the rooms on the right side are in process of demolition for extra accommodation for the Lion Hotel. The back part possessing a small specimen of the open gallery remains

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1903 10 14
St Tibbs Row Livery stables, p3

1903 12 23
Cambridge architect Edwin Bays has produced a plan for a new 60 feet-wide road from Downing Street to Guildhall Street, parallel to Corn Exchange Street. This would create valuable frontages for business premises on either side and lead to a site for a new Cambridgeshire County Hall. There would be a fountain to take off the nakedness of the wide entrance at St Andrew's Hill, replacing the old Corn Exchange. It would relieve the congested traffic in the narrow Petty Cury and provide a direct access to the chief colleges.

1904 02 19
Cambridge Liberals have been turned out of their handsome home in St Andrew's Street. Few provincial political clubs have had such a palatial clubhouse with large lofty rooms, spacious hall and staircase with a terrace overlooking gardens. The deceased Alderman, Henry Rance, who built the extensive premises practically ruined himself in the process. Members are now removed to a property in St Tibb's Row formerly occupied by a now defunct newspaper until new premises are completed on the site of the old Bird Bolt Hotel.

1905 09 13
Sir – I believe the earliest Cambridge photographer was George Proctor, who lived in New Square until he died about 1850. About the same time Sarony, a celebrated photographer, was allowed to carry on his business in a caravan on Parker's Piece. There were others including Nichols who had a flourishing business; he moved from Slaughter House Lane to St Mary's Passage and later his son to Post Office Terrace. He took my own portrait in 1854 and it is as good today as it was then – 'Three-score and twelve' 05 09 13a

1909 03 19
Mr W.B. Redfern's unique collection of watercolour drawings of old Cambridge excited great interest. In 1875 he started to record places of bygone and antiquarian interest which but for his timely intervention would have been lost for ever. A good many had now entirely disappeared including two houses in Shelley Row which were the residence of Oliver Cromwell during the Civil War. They were panelled with two handsome fireplaces which he had moved to his own house. Old houses in Petty Cury were the most striking and perfect places which should never have been pulled down while parts of the Falcon Yard had remained until the last few years. 09 03 19

1909 11 12
An old lady over 80 years of age who lived alone in a house in Vicar's terrace leading from St Tibb's Row was found nearly asphyxiated from gas and never regained consciousness. Her son-in-law noticed that the blinds were drawn and broke a window to get in. He noticed a peculiar smell as if somebody had been using methylated spirit. The lady never regained consciousness. It seems that a main became broken from heavy traffic and the escaping gas got under the flooring of the house in the night. CWN 09 11 12

1910

1912 12 20
The Cambridge branch of the Friends of the Soviet Union held an enjoyable social at the new Left Book Club rooms in Falcon Yard at which two Russian silent films were shown. The first,

'Oil Symphony' gave an account of the tapping of some of the country's vast oil resources, while the second recounted the construction of the Baltic-White sea canal. There was also an interesting exhibition of modern Russian craft work. Copies of photographs sent to commemorate the 20th anniversary of the Socialist regime were given as prizes in competitions and dances 12 12 20e

1912 12 20
John Vail, ironmonger of Post Office Terrace and oldest East Anglia Freemason dies 12 12 20bb

1913 08 01
PC. Law told the court he was on duty in St Tibbs Row at 11pm and heard singing of the ragtime song 'Dixie' going on inside the Carriers Arms. He told the landlord it was time to close and showed him his watch, which was 1½ minutes slow. The landlord said he had a clock in the bar which he compared with the one in Downing Street and kept eight minutes fast. He'd seen the policeman outside and warned his wife not to serve beer after eleven. The young constable had been a little too zealous in his duty. Magistrates warned him to close on time in future. 13 08 01 p9 CIP

1915 03 05
St Tibbs' Row fire, soldiers help fight – photo – 15 03 05a1935 07 04

1920

1920 10 08 CDN
YMCA premises Alexandra Street renovated after given up for use of troops

1921 03 30
John Vail ironmonger of Post Office Terrace – long-service staff with hammers – 21 03 30d

1923 09 12
We regret to record the death of Mr J E L Whitehead, town clerk of Cambridge. He attended Emmanuel College and took the law as his profession, being articled to his uncle who was many years Borough Treasurer. He practised at an office in Alexandra Street until he was appointed town clerk in succession to Mr Edmund Foster in August 1887. For many years he was a member of the Cam sailing club and was a prominent member of the Bijou Amateur dramatic Club and played juvenile lead in many of their productions

1924 07 22
The large body of photographers from the Royal Photographic Society who visited Cambridge recently were much impressed by some very artistic coloured portraits in the window of J. Palmer Clarke's establishment in Post Office Terrace. They are something quite new, and of a very high artistic quality, as nearly like oil paintings as camera portraits are likely to be made. The method of colouring is the personal work of Mr C.E. Goodrich

1925 03 09 c
We regret to announce the death of Alderman W.T. See. He entered the office of the late Mr James Catling, auctioneer valuer, house and estate agent, with whom he served for 25 years. He gave up his work and devoted himself to music and became well-known as a teacher or organ and piano playing. He was conductor for many years of the Cambridge Choral Society. About three years ago he re-entered business life, going into partnership with Mr P. Freeman, under the name of Messrs See & freeman, estate agents, Alexandra Street, Cambridge.

1926 12 16
The Cambridge Camera and Wireless Co. of Alexandra Street offers a very complete range of component parts or complete wireless sets. The famous Pye sets can be seen in their windows, also the self-contained "Britamax All-Wave" receivers. Specialities of this firm include reliable, but cheap, H.T. batteries, valves and loud speakers.

1930

1933 09 20
Well-built houses, Perne Road. An attractive position, situate on the beautifully-made new ring road, close to bus stop. Prices £690 and £710. £50 down, balance £1 weekly. See Walter Driver's announcement in the auction columns for detailed particulars. Sole Agent: Drivers, 1a Post Office Terrace. Tel.468 (Advertisement). 33 09 20

1933 11 02
Photographs taken during a holiday in Russia are displayed at Ramsey and Muspratt studio in Post Office Terrace. Two studies, 'Dneiprastron: the new town' and 'Moscow: the Kremlin' show there is beauty in the new and old. The human side is captured in a fine study of the 'Intourist' bus driver and a Young Pioneers' demonstration while 'The Infants School' shows the Russian child. 'Prison Settlement', is a photo of another aspect of Russian life. 33 11 02

1936 11 28
Brazen George Inn was in St Andrew's Street, Alexandra Street was its yard – 36 11 28

1935 07 04
A motor engineer told the bankruptcy proceedings that he'd started at a small lock-up garage at Chesterton in 1933, then moved to St Tibbs Row where he sold used cars. Next year he moved to Bridge Street. He advertised for a salesman, and three or four paid £50 and received a car. An investor put £500 into the business which was for the purchase of cars 35 07 04

1940

1941 08 22
Death of Mr. A. B. Chater. Mr. Augustine Barrett Chater, who died suddenly at his residence, 21, Hartington Grove, Cambridge, was the third son of the late Mr. Josiah Chater. He was educated in Cambridge and took his B.A. degree at the university. He was unmarried. He was admitted an Associate of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in 1895. Mr. Chater joined his father and his brother the late Mr Vernon Chater in practising at 5 Alexandra Street. He continued the business up the time of his death. 41 08 22

1944 05 05
Telephone supervisor, Grace Curzon retires after 45 years; was one of two telephone operators in Trunk Exchange of Old Post Office. The local telephone exchange was on Market Hill under control of the National Telephone Company. In 1913 the Post Office took control and a combined trunk and local exchange was installed in old Telephone Exchange premises in Alexandra Street. When automatic telephone working was introduced in 1925 it moved to new head Post Office in St Andrew's Street – 44 05 05a

1948 06 05
Mr H.C. Bruce of New Fletton, Peterborough has written to say: "I have always had a warm spot for the Cambridge Daily News. It has had some rough passages and I like to think I helped it

through one. When the 'Cambridge Gazette' started their new plant in St Tibbs' Row they also came out with a fine new yellow cart with rubber tyres. Every time we went out with our tall red cart with iron tyres and poor old mare they could beat us, because they had a fast trotter. They got to the newsagents first for some time and our returns began to increase, but with a little ingenuity on the round at night we managed to get and keep the lead. I got those papers to the agents before the 'Gazette' and had less returns to parcel up for waste paper"

1950

1951 03 14
Cambridge Council is to recommend a scheme for a multi-deck car park at the Lion Yard. The Surveyor suggests all adjoining property owned by the council should be demolished, the opportunity being taken to widen Corn Exchange Street and St Tibb's Row and that the possibility of further extensions to St Andrew's Hill for offices, shops or increased car park facilities should be borne in mind. He submitted a plan showing a building of six floors which could accommodate 825 cars

1951 10 31
From the hall of the Y.M.C.A. at Alexandra Street, Cambridge a distinguished company launched an appeal for funds. The speaker said that the lonely searchlight batteries during the war were visited by the Y.M.C.A. vans three times a week. They brought the little things the soldiers liked, tea, buns, cigarettes and papers. And the ladies of the 'Y.M.' took back letters for the troops and even wrote them for soldiers who were illiterate. The Cambridge building was completed in 1871 and had a moral affect on the thousands of young people who have been through the rooms and shared the facilities.

1952 04 16
Much as we should all like to dispense with the yearly job of collecting new ration books there is no chance of this happening yet awhile. The Food Office has announced that the new ration books will be distributed from the Corn Exchange and the Old Sorting Office in Post Office Terrace, Cambridge. Elderly people and mothers with babies are recommended to visit the Corn Exchange as it is ground floor accommodation. It is not necessary to take along identity cards on this occasion but unless your full name is entered on page four of the old book the Food Office will be unable to issue a new one

1952 05 05
Cambridge city council would like to see Christ's Lane opened out as a thoroughfare to be used by the omnibuses and other traffic to alleviate congestion in the City centre and provide relief for Emmanuel Street. The present country bus station at Drummer Street would then become the main stopping place for the local buses which now pick up and set down passengers in Sidney Street constricting the traffic flow. They also propose a new road on the line of Post Office Terrace to Wheeler Street. With Corn Exchange Street widened this would provide for a good circulation of traffic in the city centre.

1956 11 02
A new telephone exchange to be built in St Tibb's Row will one day house the equipment for Cambridge's link-up with the rest of the country on a national trunk dialling system. Old cottages used for storage, small office units and workshops facing on to Post Office Terrace will be demolished for an extension of the present telephone exchange and in early 1961 engineers will install equipment to meet the needs of 3,000 new subscribers. In 1935 there were 2,700 telephone

subscribers on the Cambridge exchange; now this has trebled to 7,700 and will reach 10,000 by 1960. 56 11 02d & e

1956 12 01
Henekeys of Alexandra Street, Petty Cury give one shilling in the pound discount on three bottles of wines and spirits during December. A selection of prices: H.R.H. White Seal whisky 34/- (£1.70), Cognac 41/- (£2.05), Amontillado sherry 18/6 (92p), Liebraumilch Superior hock 10/10 (54p) and Veuve Grenier champagne 21/- (£1.05). 56 12 01a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1962 06 01
Thieves last night cleared almost the whole stock of lightweight coats, suits and cocktail dresses from the upstairs showroom of Hutton, the women's outfitters in Petty Cury. Only clothes in the showroom window were untouched. Evening dresses were left heaped on the floor and bridal gowns left on their hangers, indicating that the thieves were disturbed. Police say the raiders carried bundles of dresses to a van parked in the narrow Alexandra Street near the shop. 62 06 01

1965 04 02
A new folk group, the Blue River Boys, specialise in American Bluegrass Music. They comprise two guitarists, Andrew Kendon and Mike Scott, mandolin player Joe Watson, banjo picker Erik Grainger and bassist Adrian Kendon. Meetings at the Horse and Groom have become so packed that the Cambridge Folk Club is moving to the large hall of the YMCA in Alexandra Street where 200 can sit in comfort. Later a concert will be held featuring Mike Seegar, brother of America's leading folk singer, Pete Seegar 65 04 02b

1967 11 17
Drayman makes delivery in Alexandra Street – photo – 67 11 17

1970

1971 03 13
E.S. Summers, commercial and heraldic artist for 40 years to retire when Lion Yard redevelopment sweeps away premises at 13 Alexandra Street – 71 03 13

1971 03 30
YMCA to celebrate centenary by move from Alexandra Street to Gonville Place – 71 03 30a

1972 06 27
Although the war ended 27 years ago the little patch of Cambridge around Alexandra Street has a distinct 1940s look. In common with all the little alleyways off Petty Cury, Alexandra Street is in the throes of the Lion Yard re-development scheme. The old is being swept away by the demolition gangs to make way for the new and soon the whole face of the area will begin to change. The first phase of the project - the multi-storey car park - is due to open at the end of next week. Work on the second stage - the demolition of the southern side of Petty Cury and the building of shops and service roads on the Lion Yard - is already under way and is expected to take about two years. The third stage - the building of a large central library - will start soon after this, p17

1972 10 05
The bulldozers and demolition gangs may have ruined the character of Petty Cury and destroyed Falcon Yard forever, but for those who appreciate the past two crumbs of comfort: Fisher House was saved. Reprieve too for Ramsey and Muspratt, the photographers in Post Office Terrace, where silver bitch trees have sprouted in the old courtyard behind the studio. There have been photographers in Post Office Terrace since the 1860s. Lettice Ramsey and Helen Muspratt took over from Palmer Clark in 1933. "We took over the whole thing, lock, stock and barrel, with about 50,000 old negatives. We have been here ever since", said Mrs Ramsey, competing with the noise of a pneumatic drill. Now she and her women assistants battle through the noise and dust every day to maintain a "business as
normal" service

1973 07 13
St Tibbs Row, p5

1974 01 31
Since the traditional bar in Alexandra Street was closed down for the Lion Yard development, the name of Henekeys has been missing from the city scene. The Henekey Tavern, which has just been completed under the former Dorothy Restaurant has brought it back in style. The Alexandra Bar keeps a link with the past and adjoining it is a farmhouse-style chop bar. In the contrasting Squires Bar a more substantial meal can be eaten in plush surroundings

1978 05 12
The Sunday Times devoted many pages to portraits of such people as Burgess and Maclean photographed during their undergraduate days in a “relaxed” style then very usual. They were taken by the famous Cambridge photographers, Ramsey and Muspratt in their studios at Post Office Terrace. The article also mentioned the 50,000-odd negatives left behind there by generations of photographic firms, but there could be even more. In a separate building at the back are cupboards, not opened for at least 70 years that are absolutely stuffed with glass negatives. But now a selection of them have been printed by the Cambridgeshire Collection

1980

1985 02 01
The rambling photographic premises in Post Office Terrace are best known as Ramsey and Muspratt’s studios. It was in 1931 that Lettice Ramsey and Helen Muspratt took over the business previously run by Palmer Clarke. They built up the portraiture side of the work, photographing most of the university students in the 1930s and carefully filing their negatives. In 1978 the business was taken over by Nicholas Lee and then Peter Lofts but has now closed. All the glass negatives of previously photographers at the studio, dating back to the 1860s, are now in the Cambridgeshire Collection. 85 02 01b & c

1985 07 18
Lettice Ramsey, a member of the Bloomsbury Group and Cambridge photographer extraordinary, has died at the age of 86. Born in Ireland, she was educated at Newnham College and married Frank Ramsey a brilliant King’s philosopher who tragically died three years later. Left with two daughters she studied briefly at Regent Street Polytechnic and set up in business as a photographer in Post Office Terrace with Helen Muspratt. She was instantly successful and rapidly became fashionable, photographing the influential and up-and-coming throughout the 1930s including Anthony Blunt and Virginia Woolf. She retired in 1978 85 07 18

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c.44.6 : Magdalene Street

1900 06 14
An inquest on a boy of eight, killed by a bus on Castle Hill, affirmed the death was accidental. It is hardly an exaggeration to describe Chesterton Corner as the death trap of Cambridge. Four road meet; they are all narrow, and the configuration of the corner is such that it is quite impossible for the driver of a vehicle up Magdalene Street to have the faintest notion that there is another coming along Chesterton Lane and if the two do not crash into each other it will be more of an accident than if they do. More room is needed at the corner. This would involve pulling down some old houses. The matter is one which the authorities ought to give attention at once.

1910

1911 08 11
Street widening Magdalene Street, Sidney St etc – 11 08 11b

1920

1922 10 09
There were exciting scenes at the Pickerel Yard, Magdalene Street after a loud explosion was heard in the harness-room. Fred Silk had been cleaning his motor bicycle and in filling the tank had spilt petrol. He then lit the acetylene lamp and threw the match down. Immediately flames sprang from the floor and the petrol tank exploded. His arm was rather badly burned and bicycle left in a fearful state, though not damaged beyond repair: about half the back tyre was burned

completely away. The fire was put out by Thomas Frohock, a porter at Magdalene College, using a Minimax patent extinguisher. CWN 09 10 22

1926 01 02
One has been glad to see the new sign posts erected in various parts of Cambridge for in these days of ever-increasing road traffic we want to make it as easy as possible for motorists who pass through our town. As originally erected one directed travellers to Bedford along King's Parade and through Magdalene Street, but when it was pointed out that the traffic through the town should be diminished as much as possible, this offending arm was removed.

1926 11 04
No little excitement was caused when an undergraduate, fully-clothed and wearing cap and gown, jumped off the Magdalene Bridge into the river, using an umbrella as a parachute. A film record of the exploit was taken by Lord Burghley, the famous athlete, who had his baby film camera mounted on the top of his motor car. The undergraduate, being hard up, had hit on this idea as a way of getting money and has netted enough to keep him for a week or two in pocket-money

1927 02 01
The Cambridge Borough Surveyor reported that he had asked the authorities of St John's College if they would consent to the fence between the spinney and footpath leading to the bridge at Burrell's Walk being set back. The Bursar said they were prepared to give up the spinney, containing 1,225 square yards, for the use of the public. It was resolved to accept the offer with thanks and that the land should be placed in charge of the Commons Committee. Magdalene College are prepared to set back and re-erect the old wall in Magdalene Street on condition the Corporation would contribute £160 towards the cost. Coun King drew attention to the desirability of pedestrians being directed to keep on the left of the pavement, but no action appears to have been taken

1927 07 07
The Conservators of the River Cam considered a scheme to make the river navigable for cargo boats up to the Quayside near Magdalene Bridge. Mr Banham had recently bought a vessel for conveying cargo and at present it can only come as far as Jesus Lock. There had been no traffic for years and the state of the river was very bad. There was a possibility that the river could be dredged but the Commons Committee had taken a lot of trouble to make Jesus Green a beauty spot and would not sanction the deposit being placed on the Common.

1927 09 19
Three pianos were badly damaged by an outbreak of fire in a warehouse behind shop premises opposite the Porter's Lodge in Magdalene Street, Cambridge and it was only through prompt action that a considerable amount of the old property in the district was not destroyed. An oil stove was kept alight in the warehouse used by Mr W.J. Moore, music dealer, to prevent the instruments from becoming damp and in some way this was responsible for the outbreak.

1928 03 03
Magdalene College hopes that a start will soon be made on the building of a new court on the opposite side of the Street. Plans have been drawn up for a three-sided brick court open to the river, traditional in style. The flank parallel with Magdalene Street will not interfere with the existing shops, but the thoroughfare is long overdue for widening and from the remodelled bridge there would then be a noble prospect of the new court with a lawn or gravel forecourt separated from the pavement by a low parapet.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1928 06 17 c
Sir – the residents in Bridge Street and Magdalene Street, Cambridge, have just passed through a hectic week of sleepless nights, caused by the traffic and University men returning from balls etc all hours of the night, and just when we expect to get a little quiet and rest after May Week the Corporation start their offensive. If the street must be paved in a week why not let the men work from 7 am till 10.30 pm instead of dragging them out of their beds at 3 am and keeping other people awake as well? Why all the hustle. Is it to save the buses making a wider detour? – Harry Langdon

1930

1930 03 31
Perhaps fired by childhood memories of Blondin, the famous tightrope walker, a young man attempted the perilous crossing of the River Cam in the wee small hours of the morning. Unfortunately his skill and possibly his sobriety were not equal to his enthusiasm. He first demonstrated his agility by climbing the lamp-post at the end of the bridge then wandered three paces along the parapet of Magdalene Bridge before sliding gracefully into the watery depths beneath. Although able to swim he was exhausted by the time he reached Quayside and it took the combined efforts of his companions and a policeman to get him out, wetter but slightly more sober. 30 03 31

1930 09 03
Another example of the 'new Cambridge' in the making is the extensive site on which Magdalene College intends erecting an imposing new wing. It is at the rear of the Pickerel and Cross Keys yards originally occupied by Bird's vinegar and mustard factory. Mallory Court will provide the principal access but eventually a complete transformation will be effected by the demolition of all the property between the bridge and Northampton Street making Magdalene Street a broad and handsome thoroughfare. 30 09 03c

1932 04 13
Large new buildings designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens are part of a comprehensive extension scheme by Magdalene College on land originally occupied by Bird's vinegar and mustard factory. For two years it has been one of Cambridge's biggest building contracts but the comparative obscurity of the site has kept it out of the public eye. Eventually the whole of the west side of Magdalene Street from the bridge to Northampton Street will be cleared for reconstruction with a more imposing bridge and a further college wing at right angles to the present one. 32 04 13

1940

1948 06 01
Today the one-way traffic system designed to relieve congestion in the centre of Cambridge came into operation. In Sidney Street and Bridge Street the traffic will flow in a northerly direction towards Magdalene Street from the town centre, while in St John's Street and Trinity Street it will flow in a southerly direction towards King's Parade. In Green Street traffic will flow in one direction from Gifford Place to Trinity Street - and the remainder of Green Street will be open for two-way traffic. This extension of "one-way" traffic will link up with the system now in operation at St Mary's street, Market Hill (north side) and Market Street

1949 03 11
A driver told the court that when driving his lorry along Magdalene street, Cambridge he had to slow down to a crawl because of the other traffic, when he heard a chattering noise and before he

could alight a young lady appeared at the side of his cabin window shouting that he had cut her in. Asked if she was hurt, he alleged she said: "Mister, I have ruined a good pair of nylons and someone is going to pay for it". He told her he did not think it was his fault that her brakes did not act. He was fined 20s.

1949 11 21
People passing over Magdalene Bridge this morning were surprised to see the usual colour of the River Cam had changed to a bright green. The discoloration extended from the bridge along the Backs of the colleges and beyond. It will be recalled that following a discoloration of the Cam last year – not then green – a public meeting of protest was called by the Federation of Anglers.

1950

1951 01 23
Cambridge town planning committee say there can be no justification for a spine relief road between Histon Road corner and Jesus Lane merely to preserve for a few years more buildings on the west side of Magdalene Street which, although of some architectural interest, are sub-standard from every other point of view. Pending demolition the commercial use of the buildings should be terminated, doing away with the necessity for vehicles to wait outside

1951 09 01 C
Sir – the use of a neon sign as an advertisement in a shop window in Magdalene Street, Cambridge has been forbidden, on the grounds that it would detract from the appearance of the building and be an incongruous feature in a pleasant riverside area. The building is itself rather a poor affair with plastered walls. If Cambridge depends on such as an attraction to visitors it is surely in a poor way. The paint on the railings of the bridge has faded to a poor green overlooking the discoloured waters in the river itself. Odd cigarette signs in red and yellow and in blue and white overhang the pavement. All might be regarded as incongruous and will presumably receive attention from the Ministry which objects to small neon signs – W.W. Davidson.

1952 01 14
Sir. Twenty-five years ago Magdalene College started a scheme which might have involved the widening of Magdalene Street and the removal of buildings opposite the college. But it does not now contemplate the completion of the scheme and is now strongly opposed to the widening of the street and the demolition of the buildings on the west side. The College would be strongly prejudiced if it should be divided by a street similar in character to the widened part of Bridge Street and would strongly object to such a change of character and loss of amenity in the neighbourhood – Henry Willink, Master.

1952 05 21
Just before six o'clock this morning Mr Frank Webster was in bed in a room above his shop in Magdalene Street, Cambridge when he heard a terrific bang. A six-tonner lorry loaded with 15 tons of wheat had crashed into the shop at the corner of Northampton Street, ploughed through the wall and ended up with its front wheels where the counter used to be. It had swerved to avoid another lorry which also crashed into the shop. Between them the vehicles made the place look as if it had received a direct hit from a bomb

1952 10 18
The County Development Plan public inquiry took a dramatic turn when Magdalene College announced it had decided to oppose proposals to widen Magdalene Street. The "donnish mind" did not often descend to take part in proceedings of this kind but this is a "bad plan and would be

a disaster both to the University and the City of Cambridge", their counsel said. "You should not have motor traffic moving so fast that the lives of pedestrians and motorists are imperilled". Everyone wants Cambridge to remain a place in which the pedestrian, the cyclist and the motorist are more on less on an equal footing

1952 10 29
Cambridge City council has decided not to proceed with their proposal to widen Magdalene Street and reconstruct the great bridge. They had heard objections by the University and a statement on behalf of Magdalene College & believed that with mutual co-operation between the city and colleges some of the causes for the present traffic congestion could be removed. But if it became a choice of either the spine relief road or of widening Magdalene Street then they would choose the latter alternative

1952 11 05
Much of the congestion in the central area of Cambridge could be dealt with by providing car parks in the right places rather than the provision of extra circulatory routes the Chief Constable told the Development Plan inquiry. Closing of Magdalene Street would inevitably lead to an increased use of the Backs and the proposed spine relief road would not afford relief to traffic in the city centre. The police had received many complaints concerning the amount of noise at Drummer Street bus station late at night. By moving it to New Square this objection would be alleviated

1952 11 06
"If Magdalene Street was closed several businesses would be affected between the Round Church and Northampton Street and the compensation would be very considerable", the Cambridge City Surveyor told the Development Plan inquiry. The council's policy on widening the road was laid down in 1925. When property was due for rebuilding the owners should set back the new building to some widened line. Boots had agreed to demolish their frontage and set it back when the time comes for the insurance office next door to be rebuilt.

1953 03 09
Police inquiries are being made to find the person responsible for blocking Magdalene Street in Cambridge with a length of iron fencing. It was stretched across the road, one end was chained to a lamp post and the other to a direction sign. There was a red lamp in the centre with a notice "Beware – foot and mouth disease". There was a diversion sign on the bridge and on Northampton Street traffic lights was a sign that warned, "Track closed".

1953 10 13
Magdalene Bridge weight, p3

1957 03 06
A hundred undergraduates who gathered on Magdalene Bridge to see the inaugural Shrove Tuesday Pancake Race run between the porters and bulldogs of three colleges were the victims of a joke. But not entirely. Diminutive, cheerful Horace Reed, who is 56 and works in Magdalene kitchens, appeared alone, aproned and carrying a frying pan. He ran the course, tossing a pancake from time to time. The event was arranged by the Pitt Club, who have inaugurated several successful hoaxes recently. 57 03 06

1958 09 27
Parking facilities in Cambridge were inadequate, said the Chief Constable. With more than 600 vehicles passing over Magdalene Bridge each hour, Park Street was a convenient site for a car

park. Saxon Street park had been finished last week, work on King Street had not started and the Parkside car park was only a small one. Park Street was the one that should have first priority as a surface and multi-deck car park. But a thatched house in Clement Street built about 1700 should not be destroyed by 'this cement desert'. 58 09 27 b c d

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1962 07 05
County Council plans for a new "inner relief road" linking the Huntingdon Road-Castle Hill junction with Hyde Park Corner would cost £932,000 (£16.3m today). There would be a new bridge over the Cam at Jesus Green with an underpass at Four Lamps before the road continued to Parkside and Regent Street. This figure did not include the cost of acquiring additional land. It was needed to deal with traffic problems in Magdalene Street which is very narrow, an Inquiry was told. 62 07 05b

1964 07 02
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Magdalene Street – 64 07 02-02e

1964 10 09
Controversial plans for an inner relief road have been deferred. The general line of the road had been known since 1950. It would be an alternative to Magdalene Bridge and give better access to Park Street car park. But people along the proposed cannot sell their houses because of the uncertainty. If the Press had not reported council meetings they would not have known anything about it. 64 10 09f

1964 12 28
Sir – Magdalene College's plan to pull down a row of cottages, nos.8-18, in Northampton Street and replace them with a garden would alter its character and leave a gap in this distinctive part of old Cambridge. The row at present makes a beautiful curve, a fitting foil to the more splendid Cory House and no.13 Magdalene Street. In view of the college's highly successful treatment of Magdalene Street where the aspect has been retained, I hope they will be find some other solution short of complete demolition – Elizabeth Harland 64 12 28

1967 02 15
Councillors urge full check on Magdalene Bridge safety, oppose plans to widen Magdalene Street – 67 02 15a

1967 06 28
Magdalene Bridge closed to buses and heavy lorries for at least a year while repairs carried out – 67 06 28a

1969 11 04
Magdalene Bridge to be replaced with replaced with 'a simple modern design', says Ministry – 69 11 04

1969 11 26
Traffic jams in Magdalene Street due accident – photo – 69 11 26

1970

1970 11 04
Magdalene Bridge should be demolished and replaced say Ministry of Transport but opposition likely – photo of proposals – 70 11 04

1972 06 14
Cambridge's famous Magdalene Bridge is to be preserved, the Secretary for the Environment, Mr Peter Walker, has decided. His move follows last year's public inquiry into proposals by his Department to knock down and replace the 148-year-old bridge. Mr Walker has ruled that the bridge should be strengthened internally and that a temporary bridge should be provided alongside while work is going on, p18

1973 08 10
Magdalene Bridge, p23

1975 01 09
Magdalene Bridge, p7

1975 10 08
Magdalene Bridge, p9

1977 11 11
Magdalene Bridge, p1

1978 06 15
The 150-year-old Magdalene Bridge in Cambridge is in grave danger of collapsing, councillors were told. For the last 11 years there has been a three-ton vehicle restriction but sometimes the inter-continental 'juggernaut' lorries travelling through the city take a wrong turning and pass over the bridge. Now the abutments, which support the bridge at both ends, are moving apart and if this continues it could eventually break its back. Plans were made to rebuild the bridge but environmentalists objected and at a public inquiry it was decided the bridge should be strengthened, retaining its present appearance. But Government engineers came up against insuperable technical problems in the use of the cast-iron parapets and have suggested cast-steel instead.

1978 10 13
The Varsity Handbook's pub guide includes a bitter attack on several Cambridge pubs. At The Horse and Groom, King Street it claims "the beer is foul, the bar dirty and the landlord unpleasant". The Pickerel, Magdalene Street, fares little better: "Foul place, selling foul beer and swamped by inhabitants of a certain nearby college". Whitbread pubs in particular come in for a bad time: "Why does Whitbread charge so much money for their freezing cold fizzy beer", it asks. But it likes the Baker's Arms, East Road - "friendly and near a fish and chip shop"

1979 11 02
County council engineers have devised a new method to strengthen the 150-year-old Magdalene Bridge in Cambridge without altering its appearance. If Government finances permit work will start in July, more than 13 years after the bridge was closed to buses and other heavy traffic because of its unsound condition. The rebuilding has been surrounded by controversy since cracks were detected in the under-structure. A public inquiry in 1971 agreed that the new bridge should resemble the old one as far as possible but a long wrangle developed over the appearance and complex legal issues were involved because it is an ancient structure.

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1980

1981 01 27
Magdalene Bridge, p8

1981 10 20
Magdalene Bridge, p8

1981 11 20
Driving through Cambridge it seems a particularly malicious gremlin has got loose, armed with a pick-axe, and is busy making holes in any old bit of road he can find. For a start there is the Kite redevelopment which has reduced the amount of parking and led to major roadworks, then sewers have collapsed in Emmanuel Road, there is resurfacing in Coldham's Lane and Eastern Gas has moved into Tennis Court Road. There are temporary traffic lights in Silver Street and the continuing work on Magdalene Bridge adds to the disruption. 81 11 20b

1982 03 23
Traders are deserting Magdalene Street in the face of rent rises up to four times the present level, imposed by their college landlords. Several shops already have whitewashed windows and locked doors. Within a year, less than one-third of the original row could remain. Magdalene College says they want to keep it a specialist shopping area but have to get the market rent. 82 03 23 & 23a

1982 06 11
Three Cambridge restaurants have been recommended in a new guide to vegetarian cooking. But Renwick's Restaurant in Magdalene Street closed in March. Hobbs Pavilion comes in for the highest praise for its chilled cucumber soup while Nettles in St Edward's Passage serves a bulgar wheat pie that looks unappetising but tastes remarkable. 82 06 11a

1985 10 21
The old Otto Wehrle public clock is to be returned to its former position after a decade's absence. The 102-year-old clock was removed from the Cambridge Market Square façade when the Wehrle jewellers business closed after 125 years. Now it has been discovered in Lincolnshire by a Saffron Walden dealer in ancient artefacts, Stephen McDermott. It is being restored by Rodney Firmin of Magdalene Street before being unveiled once more next spring 85 10 21

1987 10 20
Cambridge residents should be given the chance to air their views about old-fashioned lampposts that are being replaced as an economy measure, says Coun Rosensteil. The 'Richardson Candles' along Magdalene Street were designed nearly 40 years ago by Sir Albert Richardson, President of the Royal Fine Arts Commission to fit in with the street. But the County Council claims they are expensive to run and that spare parts are no longer available. However the modern steel columns have angered environmentalists who say they are unsuitable for such a sensitive area. 87 10 20

CAMBRIDGE DAILY NEWS. Saturday, August 10, 1935.

S-ROADS

THE CHANGING MARKET PLACE

MISS D. MARSH MARRIED

Over 200 Guest Cambridge

Photo) (Cambridge Daily News

Caius College building—now fully revealed to the public —with its strikingly modern architectural

c.44.6 : Market Hill Area

These stories feature Cambridge Market Hill and the adjacent streets that feed into it.
They cover the market itself, the Guildhall, Corn Exchange, Arts Theatre and Victoria Cinema for each of which I have more detailed files.
They also reflect stories of some of the individuals who have lived and worked there.

1888 03 02
Agitation for covered market at Cambridge [1.17]

1889 02 15
Royal Commission on Market Rates & Tolls enquiry [1.18]

1891
Hallack & Bond sketch of new building [NI.1.14]

1891
The building where the first electricity for lighting in Cambridge was generated is now on the market. The property, No.2 Market Passage, was the premises of Bailey, Grundy and Barrett, electrical contractors. In 1891 the firm produced the first electricity for lighting in the city with a gas engine and a dynamo installed in the basement. In those early days private electrical generating plants were supplied by the company to several of the Cambridge colleges. Until after the 1914-18 war such plants continued to be installed in country houses in outlying districts. As this business declined, the company moved into wireless, the deign and making of temperature control equipment for laboratories and other specialised apparatus c73 03 04

1897
Hallack & Bond new premises Petty Cury [NI.1.14]

1897 03 05
Wm Henry Chapel Smith, draper of 13 Market Street was summoned for hanging a pair of corsets and a roll of calico outside his shop front so as to incommode passengers. P.C. Savidge said the things projected four inches. Defendant said "I have lived in the street 25 years and you have been in the force 25 minutes. I think you were drawing the line too close. I don't know what we are coming to". He said the bye-law was an injustice to traders. The Chairman said it seemed to him admitted that something projected beyond the line of the shop. Fined 1/-

1897 03 09
Cover Market with glass for Jubilee, p3

1897 04 12
Proposed covered market, p2

1897 04 24
A memorial from certain inhabitants of the Cambridge in Favour of covering the Market Hill with a permanent covering of iron and glass was read by the Town Clerk. Coun Nichols thought the state of their present market was a disgrace to civilisation. They were paying at least £400 a year for putting up and taking down those wretched wooden structures and the cloths that covered them were of no use whatever. Mr F. Morley did not believe in the Corporation entering into competition with the shopkeepers of the town and driving the trade into the hand of people who paid no rates. Mr Campkin felt the question of a covered market elsewhere was too serious a matter for them to consider for many years to come. (The council voted against the proposal)

1897 05 21
After the Senate House scenes yesterday (when the University voted against degrees for women) there was a brief respite. It was the calm before the storm. About 7 o'clock there was a grand gathering of the clans. Undergraduates began trooping through the streets to what was obviously a pre-arranged rendezvous - the Market Hill. From the four corners of the square fire was opened upon everybody and everything within range. Bombs, hand-rockets, and every description of firework manufactured were flung haphazard into the crowd until the scene resembled nothing so much as the bombardment of a hostile camp, It is no exaggeration to say that hundreds of pounds worth of stuff were got rid of during the five hours the proceedings lasted

1897 06 23
Providence set the seal of approval on the absolutely flawless celebration of Queen Victoria's Jubilee. Cambridge Market-place presented a particularly attractive spectacle with the Guildhall illuminated and the long lines of coloured lamps; above all with the moving masses of eager folk, who had come out in the best of tempers to be amused. One or two cranky people pretended to be shocked at the extreme naughtiness of letting off a few squibs, which was not to be compared with the imprudence of running heavy 'busses through the narrow and crowded Cury and Market-hill. A remarkably beautiful sunset was succeeded by the exquisite Jubilee twilight mingling into the dawn of the longest day; and in Cambridge, as elsewhere, everybody who went to bed - and most folks sought that sensible repose – did so with high hopes of the morrow

1897 08 20
For several years Cambridge has been in a state of chronic poverty. With hardly a sou in the bank – not sufficient to meet tradesmen's bill as they become due - the financial outlook has been far

from cheering to the ratepayer. A farthing rate to retain East Road Reading Room is denied, yet in the next breath the modest sum of £21,000 is voted for street improvements. And again there is the front of the Guildhall. No sane person can defend the retention of a monstrosity like that and if it is not to be retained it must be replaced and care must be taken that the new building is worthy of the town c1897 08 20

1897 09 30
Holy Trinity Church, Cambridge, was filled with a large congregation, the occasion being the re-opening service after the church had been closed for purposes of restoration. When the cement was removed from the buttresses, real solid stonework was found to be concealed underneath, and on theses buttresses the date 1516 was discovered. An old consecration cross was also found by the architect. This cross, he says, is very unique and it is intended that it should be covered with glass in order to preserve it c1897 09 30

1897 11 25
A well-attended meeting was held in Eden Street School, Cambridge to discuss the proposed expenditure on a new Guildhall front. Mr R. Sturton said they must have a new cemetery as he did not suppose sanitary science would advance sufficiently rapidly to go in for cremation en bloc. Then there was the new Police Station and something would have to be done to the Sanatorium. Mr Burwick though the more they beautified Cambridge the more good they would do to business. Why not have a police station at the town hall, offices for the payment of rates, swimming baths. He did not see why shops should not be built on Peas Hill so as to bring in a considerable amount

1897 12 11
Cambridge Market Committee recommended that a new form of market stall known as the "Diamond Stall" be erected on Market Hill. Mr Nichols remarked that the long vexed question of covering in the market was the objection to a permanent structure being erected on Market Hill. They were paying now £850 per year for putting up and taking down all those wretched stalls and their repairs. At some length he described the advantages to the town that the scheme would bring about, amid some manifestations of impatience on the part of the Council c1897 12 11

1898 02 07
Cycle traders of Cambridge have put on one side petty jealousy, and uniting under the title of the Cambridge City Traders' Association have prepared an exhibition in the Corn Exchange. Every description of cycle is here, from the child's small machine and the slim one of the fair sex to the stout roadster of the hardy, touring, record-making male. The latest novelties find a place, and motor cycles and tricycles tempt those to whom ease and novelty are more than exercise. In this connection we may mention that it is proposed to have a motor car running during the week about the town in connection with the show. Special railway facilities have been granted and the exhibition should be an immense success. To all we would say "Go", whether a wheeler or not.

1898 02 17
Cambridge market stalls – buy new, p3 *

1898 04 13
Holy Trinity Church renovation of interior and enlarged electric lighting CDN 1898 04 13

1898 05 06
At Cambridge Corn Exchange there took place an assault-at-arms, in which the many well-known exponents of the art of self-defence and kindred sports took part. One of the most interesting

events was the wrestling between the champion of Bulgaria and the middleweight champion of England. Now and again one of the combatants would hurl his opponent to the ground with platform shaking force, and time after time the thrown one would come up to the scratch smiling, and more wonderful still, with unbroken bones. The audience dispersed well satisfied with the entertainment and the entertainers.

1898 05 09
St Bene't's Church, Cambridge, reopened for public service with an improved organ and newly elected organ chamber, beside several minor renovations in the decoration of the interior of the building. Archdeacon Emery said that the condition of the Church in 1849, when he was ordained Deacon, with its organ Gallery at the West End, and those high pews in the nave, and green baized pews in the Chancel was then far different to what it was now. Since that time the South aisle had been erected, the West End and Tower opened and restored, the Chancel and church generally restored and seated in such a manner that all the worshippers could feel they formed one family of God.

1898 05 19
Cambridge town council was requested to consider permitting a cabmen's shelter to be placed on the Market Hill. Mr Darwin said that he received a petition asking for the provision of some place for them to warm themselves during the cold months in some central position in the town. At present there was only one cabmen's shelter in the town and that was very widely used. If they provided another the public would gain some advantage because the cabmen, instead of going to the public houses, as they now did, would go to the shelter. The only possible harm it would do was that perhaps it would make the neighbouring public houses sell less beer

1898 05 28
There was but little crush as the stream of mourners poured from all quarters of the town into Great St Mary's Church for the Memorial Service to Mr Gladstone. A subdued calm seem to fall like a veil over the centre of Cambridge as the bell tolled forth its tail of loss to the nation, and a hush, as it were, of the chamber of death seemed even to spread itself over the busy market place. Quietly the people filed into the Church and stepped into the first empty pew; none stopping to haggle for a seat. Even as the doors were being closed, as the last bars of the echoing National Anthem waned to science, latecomers yet found room in one or other of the galleries, and no one was turned from the Church

1898 09
St Mary's electricity substation equipped & Guildhall sub-station demolished [2.10.11]

1898 09 23
Rose, Rose Crescent licence not renewed * 24th p2

1898 10 07
Cambridge town council has issued an additional report on the proposed new Guildhall buildings. The accommodation will be considerably increased and will include in the basement, additional coal store, public lavatories for men and women and three new storerooms. On the ground floor a greatly improved entrance with grand staircase, cloak rooms, retiring rooms, two new public meeting rooms, kitchen and offices. Facing Union Street three new shops will be provided. On the first floor the Aldermen's parlour will be enlarged and improved and there will be rooms for the town clerk as well as a Mayor's reception room and a new enlarged council chamber. The cost is estimated at £38,000 CDN 1898 10 07

1898 10 13
The Town Council of Cambridge has asked the burgesses whether they are of a mind to make a beginning at once with the extension of the Guildhall, and with the building of a new front, and the ratepayers have given their answer. There is no ambiguity about that answer; the "No" is emphatic enough. The attendance at the Guildhall was so large that those who know by experience how difficult it is to get the public to take an active interest in public questions must have been surprised. CDN 1898 10 13

1898 10 18
The photographer who is also an artist has a great advantage over the photographer who is merely a mechanic. One may realise this very clearly by paying a visit to the studio at St Mary's Passage, Cambridge, of Mr Clement A. Shaw. His first love was painting but in his portrait work he found the advantage of being able to take a photograph of the subject, in that tedious sittings could often be curtailed. His studios are covered with specimens of his work. There are photographs in all processes - opals, miniatures, pastels and oil paintings. There are several pictures painted on an enlarged scale from photographs which are very meritorious indeed

1898 11 07
Saturday was a typical "fifth" in Cambridge. Faithfully following the precedent set in former years a number of Varsity men and townspeople assembled in the market place, which for three hours or so was crowded with excitable and pugilisitically-inclined youths, representing Town and gown. The Gown driven from pillar to post by the howling mob, appeared to be greatly terrified, and despite the vigilance of the police, of whom a large number were told off for special duty, the celebration was not entirely free from violence. Neither town nor gown missed many opportunities of displaying their physical prowess and many are the reports circulated as to the results of the pugilistic encounters that ensued

1898 11 24
Great crowds had been assembling outside Great St Mary's and the railings before the Senate House with the exception of a pathway of about five yards which the police were endeavouring to keep clear for those attending the honorary degree ceremony for Lord Kitchener. It was evidence that the constables were having hard work in keeping the crowds from encroaching. At length the looked-for rush took place and such was the force that the police were quite powerless to check it. A general scramble to get upon the railings ensued when without the slightest warning the railings suddenly gave way and fell outwards carrying many unfortunate persons to the ground with them. The solidity of this great piece of ironwork is well known and it is wonderful that more were not seriously injured. CDN 1898 11 24

1899 02 16
Mr Slingsby drew the attention of Cambridge council to the want of public conveniences. He thought the present state of affairs was a disgrace and a scandal to this civilised and intellectual town. They should consider underground lavatories for males and females at Hyde Park Corner (under the shelter), Market Hill (under the Conduit) & at the junction of East Road and Newmarket Road

1899 04 01
An outcome of the exhibition of motors at the Corn Exchange is a new company under the title of the Cambridge and Eastern Counties Auto Mobile Company. The first instalment of the new vehicles have already arrived and they can be booked for parties. They are driven by the Daimler motors, and are in charge of qualified drivers from the manufactory

1899 04 02c
The Red Cow Inn concert hall, Guildhall Street, Cambridge. Special engagement for six nights of Miss Sadie St John, comedienne and dancer; Miss Gracie White, serio and dancer and Mr G. Kent, comedian and mimic. American bowling saloon now open. – Advert

1899 08 23
Albert Hart applied for a licence for 'The Sirdar', Market St, Cambridge. The place had been largely patronised but he laboured under a disadvantage of not being able to provide his customers with spirits or beers. The fashion of drinking wine in the middle of the day had been discountenanced for many years past by doctors and everybody that went to a place for lunch required spirits or soda water. He had to send out for such drinks to some public house in the vicinity. The money had to be extracted from the customer who had to wait until his refreshments were brought to him through the street. That was not an advantage to the liquor itself, especially with the dust flying about and the intense heat of the sun.

1899 10 03
Cambridge cabmen's union was told that certain ladies had volunteered to provide a cabmen's shelter on Peas Hill, close to St Edward's church. The chairman hoped the cabmen would always maintain their proper rank of respectability, and keep themselves above suspicion of rowdyism or anything approaching to it

1899 11 06
The announcement that a number of Reserve men belonging to the Suffolk Regiment would leave Cambridge to join the regiment sufficed to bring thousands of people together in the Market Hill to give them a hearty send off. It detracted somewhat from the picturesqueness of the effect that the Reserve men were not in uniform but in their ordinary clothes but they could not have evoked greater enthusiasm on the part of the public. Heads of colleges were there, undergraduates in caps and gowns rubbed shoulders with farm workers form the country. Old soldiers wearing their medals had come to live over again stirring scenes from their youth. Women were there and children also. It was a crowd thoroughly resolved upon manifesting its goodwill to the men who were going away

1899 12 04
An ostler and an undergraduate were summoned for causing an affray by fighting in Petty Cury. P.C. Belling said he took them both into custody. On the way to the station the undergraduate was wrestled from his custody by another 'Varsityman and his finger was injured. On returning to the Market Hill he saw the student with some friends and he admitted having escaped from custody. After the magistrates had deliberated they found the charges not substantiated and the case was dismissed.

1900

1900 03 01
The greatest possible excitement followed the receipt of the news of the relief of Ladysmith. The telegrams conveying the announcement was received at the chief Post office shortly after 10 o'clock and the intelligence spread with marvellous rapidity to all parts of the town. When a private wire was posted in the Market Place the excitement was intense. From all approaches people could be seen rushing to get a view of the telegram and the wildest enthusiasm prevailed. The crowd raised hearty cheers and there was much waving of hats and handkerchiefs.

1900 03 03

There was great rejoicings in Cambridge on the relief of Ladysmith and despite the edict sent forth by the University authorities the conduct of the undergraduate element was again such as to necessitate the intervention of the police. The Varsitymen managed to draw police attention off the market place to scenes elsewhere and, during their temporary absence, succeeded in lighting a bonfire. There was great excitement as one by one the wooden frameworks of the stalls was committed to the flames. The band-stand on Christ's Pieces was attacked and the seats removed to the Market and quickly consumed. Similar damage was occasioned in all parts of the town.

It was on that night that the last really big bonfire was started on Cambridge Market Square. Old horse buses, "growlers" filled with tar and straw, market stalls – all went to feed those triumphant flames whose heat cracked every window in the Market Square. 52 02 26

1900 12 22
A serious fire occurred on the premises of Messrs Coulson & Co., drapers at Peas Hill, Cambridge, and the flames were not extinguished until the entire stock of goods in the shop were completely destroyed. Captain Greef of the Fire Brigade arrived as did 14 firemen and nearly a dozen constables. The fronts of the shop were much damaged. The cause of the fire is attributed to the overturning of one of the incandescent burners in the shop window.

1901 05 20
Smells, Market Hill, p2

1901 05 20 c
Messrs Bidwell, auctioneers, conducted a very successful sale of property in Wheeler Street and Parsons Court, Cambridge. Two shops with a dwelling house, being No.11 Peas Hill, sold for £2,050. Nos.1 & 2 Wheeler Street comprising a cabinet-makers shop, with dwelling house, and a harness maker's shop brought in £1,800 while a private house in Parsons Court was knocked down for £750

1901 06 11
Between 400 and 500 guests were present at the ball of the First and Third Trinity Boat Club held in the Cambridge Guildhall. Supper was served in the Corn Exchange by Mr W.E. Wood of Trinity Kitchen, who hit upon the happy idea of purchasing all the exhibition roses in the Horticultural Society's show with which to decorate the supper tables. Stanislaus Wurm's orchestra provided the music.

1901 07 13
What say the shareholders of the Cambridge Tramways Company to the advent of a new service of motor buses working only from Market Hill to the Station – a penny service running from 8.30am to 9.30 pm. I have been assured by one of the promoters that the first of a batch of six new motor 'buses intended to be used on the new smooth road from the Post Office to the station will be tried in Cambridge within a month. It is certain such rivalry would destroy the present useful and satisfactory tram service – "A"

1901 11 11
It being the King's 60th birthday it was expected that nightfall would be the occasion for rowdyism and possible an attempt to illuminate Cambridge Market Hill. The authorities cleared away the stalls, but their action left the historic centre of all "rags" open and free for the antics of the crowd. For a long time nothing occurred except the explosion of a few crackers or the discharge of a pistol from a window overlooking the hill. Large numbers of police were hustled about considerably, and were compelled to defend themselves, but compared with other 'rags',

they did not have to exert themselves very much. It was a very tame, spiritless affair that will doubtless be deemed by the "bloods" to have been a complete failure, considering that practically no damage to property was done

1901 11 19
One of the largest companies ever seen at a boxing display was present at the assault-at-arms in Cambridge Corn Exchange. A ten-round contest between two promising local lads, W. Shipp and Bill Topper created a great amount of interest and so gamely did they box that the audience was roused to enthusiasm. A powerful left-hander flush in the face so dazed Shipp that he caved in and Topper was returned an easy winner

1902 02 04
In at least one thing Cambridge is abreast of the times. She has the craze for ping-pong, or to call it by its more dignified name, table tennis. For a long time past the ping of the racket could be heard coming from the houses of the up-to-date. By Christmastime ping-pong parties had become quite general, ping-pong clubs were formed and now Cambridge has been brought into line with the metropolis by holding a tournament. It was to be held at the Conservative Club, but owing to the large entry it was decided to transfer operations to the Corn Exchange. The one table reserved for ladies was always an attraction. The lady competitors, generally in smart costumes, played a milder game, though there were some who would have made the male sex jump about

1902 02 21
Sir – Verily the doing of Cambridge Town Council are marvellous. They have recommended the installation of the electric light in the Corn Exchange "owing to the representations made to them by 'corn merchants and others' using it". I should have thought they would have known that corn dealers can only carry on their business by daylight and it is impossible to buy and sell corn by electric or other artificial light. Moreover the business of the Corn Exchange is all over by 4.30, so what do they want the electric light for? If the council thinks it necessary to light it by electricity by all means let them do so, but they should not talk nonsense as they do when they say the traders want it. – J. Toosher

1902 02 25
The Cycle and Motor Show at the Cambridge Corn Exchange has undoubtedly "caught on"; those who do not cycle are a steadily decreasing minority, while motorists are daily increasing in number. Messrs Macintosh are exhibiting a Sunbeam Mabley Motor Car which is a very handsome-looking vehicle with several distinctive features. The riders are in a position to face each other, although occupying different ends of the motor. The car is not of extraordinary width and can be manipulated with the greatest ease; a small exhibition run was made even on the limited floor space of the now-crowded Corn Exchange

1902 06 03
Peace in South Africa produced strife in Cambridge – one of those fierce contests between the police and the united forces of town and gown which, combined with the destruction of property, constitutes a "rag". In King Street a large double gate was attacked as wood for a bonfire but a vigorous-looking dame appeared from the other side. Her only weapon was a duster, but such a formidable appearance did she present that the crowd melted away before her advance. Skirmishers went towards the Circus of Varieties to obtain a hoarding but this was well guarded and soon they were retracing their steps. The hoarding which surrounded the underground toilets on Market Hill was torn down and lighted. More wood was wanted and the mob pulled down glazed bricks and girders, door-posts and window frames. Next morning the appearance of the projected underground lavatory was more like an archaeological excavation. Thousands of bricks

were lying in the bottom mixed up with the dirt and pieces of wood and the general appearance of the place showed how wanton and reckless had been the young hot heads who had wrought the damage

1902 06 27
Never before has Cambridge Corn Exchange been the scene of such a curious sight as when a distribution was made of the large quantity of food intended to form part of the feast to the old folks in celebration of the Coronation. When the news of its postponement was received the cooking of the food had already begun. Several hundred of the poorest inhabitants gathered outside the front gates of the Corn Exchange as quickly as their too-evident infirmities would allow them. Quite a number wrapped quantities of fruit tart in grimy newspapers that could hardly have improved their semi-liquid contents.

1902 08 06
Popular Country Drives. The "Alexandra" and "Coronation" char-a-bancs will leave Cambridge Market Hill on Wednesday for Shelford, Newton and Whittlesford; return fare 1s. Thursday special drive to Royston, Friday Haslingfield and Saturday Earith bridge. Special Sunday drive to Whittlesford Bridge pleasure gardens. H. Buck, jobmaster, Crown Inn, Jesus Lane, Cambridge – advert

1902 08 21
Market St paving, p2

1902 10 24
The members of the Cambridge Y.M.C.A. celebrated their jubilee with a soiree in their rooms in Alexandra Street. 50 years ago the Church of England Young Men's Society and the Sunday School Teachers' Institute amalgamated, forming the Association. It settled in Rose Crescent. In 1853 it moved to larger premises at 5, Sidney Street, moving to Hobson Place in 1858 and then St Edward's Passage. In 1870 the first stone was laid of their present building; it was completed a year later. To call the soiree a success is scarcely adequate; the visitors never had a dull moment from the time they entered the door until the National Anthem brought the evening to a close.

1902 11 20
Bridge over Corn Exchange Street, p3 *

1902 12 18
Cambridge Water Company sued Messrs Kerridge and Shaw for water supplied for a building in course of construction in Rose Crescent, Cambridge. The supply recorded by a water meter had increased from 78,000 gallons one quarter up to 220,000 gallons the next. A new meter was installed and consumption fell. They claimed the old meter must have got out of order. But it was quite possible considering the number of taps they were using that one was left running and the water wasted.

1903 02 23
The Cambridge Corn Exchange exhibition of cycles and motors has become an annual event. Motors and motor cycles are as yet in their infancy and each year sees great strides taken towards perfection. There are on view some fine, up-to-date specimens of motor cars. The Mayor said he was a cyclist of some years' standing but his experiences of motor cars was very limited. He had been for a ride on a motor car, and thoroughly enjoyed it. Manufacturers were handicapped by stringent laws as to the pace motors might travel over public roads. While so many horses were

about it was startling for them to find a vehicle coming at 20 miles an hour and making rather a peculiar noise

1903 07 07
Cambridge is becoming an uncongenial place for the purveyor of pirated music. The latest of several seizures took place at the instigation of Messrs Bedwell, music dealers of St Mary's Passage. A member of the firm, with the assistance of police, examined a stock of music being sold by several hawkers on Market Hill. About 80 copies of well-known songs and some of Sousa's marches were found among the stock being sold cheaper than authorised charges for music produced by the holders of the copyright. They were promptly confiscated and taken to the police station. The hawkers were agents of a huge and craftily constituted organisation that exists for the distribution over the country of music of this description

1903 08 26
A meeting arranged by the Cambridge Anti-Vaccination League was held on Market Hill. A large crowd of people assembled but the opinions of the principal speaker aroused some opposition & a little heckling took place. Someone placed a quantity of calcium carbide into the water of the fountain. & the acetylene gas which was generated was borne among the audience to whom the disagreeable odour was most objectionable

1903 12 05
The Central Temperance Hotel and Coffee Tavern, Market Hill, Cambridge was for sale by auction. It has been an important and famous inn for centuries; originally known as the 'Three Tuns' it was visited by Pepys in 1660. The large ballroom with the minstrels' gallery still exists with valuable panelling and carved chimney pieces. It occupies an excellent position in a busy thoroughfare and is freehold.

1903 12 23
Cambridge architect Edwin Bays has produced a plan for a new 60 feet-wide road from Downing Street to Guildhall Street, parallel to Corn Exchange Street. This would create valuable frontages for business premises on either side and lead to a site for a new Cambridgeshire County Hall. There would be a fountain to take off the nakedness of the wide entrance at St Andrew's Hill, replacing the old Corn Exchange. It would relieve the congested traffic in the narrow Petty Cury and provide a direct access to the chief colleges.

1904 01 04
Considerable damage was done by a fire that started in the attic at the Rose Hotel, Rose Crescent, Cambridge. News was received at the Fire Station by means of the fire alarm post on Market Hill and they were soon on the scene with the horsed fire escape and tender. Much damage was done in a comparatively small area but every room in the hotel suffered from the effects of water, which saturated the ceilings. Fortunately none of the bedrooms were occupied at the time

1904 01 21
Cambridge councillors considered the purchase of a steam fire engine. The two fires at Addenbrooke's Hospital and Fitzroy Street were bad, but took place under favourable conditions – in the first the wind took the flames away from the Hospital and in the other there was a brick wall, instead of lathe and plaster. Since then there had been two other fires, in Sidney Street and Rose Crescent which might have resulted disastrously. In the centre of town whole blocks of buildings might be burnt down. The only additional expenditure would be the cost of an engineer. But the Fire Brigade did not want one and they ought to know more than councillors.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1904 01 22
Discussion about site for War Memorial, one suggestion is at junction of Hills Road & Station Road, finally decide to erect it at East end exterior of Gt St Mary's church [1.10]

1904 06 03
Fire in Messrs Bell and Son's premises in Wheeler Street, an ancient building used as a corn and seed merchants premises for two or three centuries. Police constable Winter noticed fire and smoke at 4.30 am and gave the alarm. The hose reel from the Guildhall was affixed to a hydrant and a stream of water directed on the burning building. Firemen appeared on the scene with the horsed fire-escape and tender but the building of three floors and constructed largely of lath and plaster was burning fiercely. The flames leapt high through the roof and shot out through the windows. In a very short time the roof fell in with a crash and all hope for saving the property was destroyed. The efforts of 28 firemen and 15 police was directed towards preventing the spread of the fire to the adjoining property. The cause of the outbreak is unknown. There had been unusual activity among the rats and mice in the old premises, now taken as a sign that the fire had got a good hold on Sunday evening. The damage was extensive. The fire and second floors, used for the storage of fodder and seed were nearly burnt out, the ground floor and offices were severely damaged by smoke. The basement and the top floor and a small part of the roof of the 'Bell' public house were damaged by water as were the contents of the tobacconist's shop at the end of Wheeler Street occupied by Mr Canham. The window frames of the Cambridge Free Library were slightly damaged by the heat. 04 06 03

1904 06 16
Cambridge Library committee referred to the recent fire on Peas Hill and the destruction of the premises adjacent to the library. But for the skill of the fire brigade the reading room must have been destroyed and the contents lost. The accumulation of books, pictures and scarce literature could never be replaced. Now the old dilapidated buildings should be cleared away and a more appropriate building erected. Next year they would celebrate the jubilee of the opening of the library and the appointment of Mr Pink as Librarian. The Library Association should be invited to hold their annual meeting at Cambridge, free of charge.

1904 06 16
Cambridge Town Council honoured Alexander Peckover, Lord Lieutenant of Cambridgeshire with the Freedom of the Borough in recognition of his services to Cambridge and his munificence to Addenbrooke's Hospital and the Eastern Counties Asylum at Colchester which has made his name a household word in the neighbourhood. The address was enclosed in an ebony casket supplied by Messrs Cole of Market Street on which was a silver plate. It was, said Peckover, something he would value very highly. The casket would go down as an heirloom to his daughter

1904 07 13
Few realise the lavish expenditure on the May Balls held in Cambridge Corn Exchange. After the corn merchants have vacated the building on the Saturday evening a small army of workmen take possession. They labour until midnight when the advent of the Sabbath and the strict rules governing municipal buildings shut them out for 24 hours. With the first hour of Monday morning they re-enter and by eight that evening the place is transformed into an artistic ballroom through which not a vestige of the prosaic Corn Exchange is seen. What of the cost? There is not less than £2,000 worth of goods in the ball room; add to that the cost of utilising the Guildhall as a supper room and include the china and plates for the supper and you have a total of some thousands of pounds to provide our moneyed visitors with an evening's entertainment.

1904 09 20

Sunday saw the realization of a scheme in connection with Great St Mary's church, Cambridge, which has been in progress 15 years: the filling of the clerestory with windows. The church was re-opened having been closed so that the remaining three windows might be put in. Two were given in memory of W.H. Hattersley & Alderman Scales. They are a great improvement to the church and represent the three verses of the Te Deum CDN 20.9.1904

1905 04 15
Both Cambridge buses started to ply for hire and the novelty induced people to make trips. Had several more 'buses been running they would have been crowded. The scene on Market Hill was unprecedented. Apart from those who lined one pavement in the hope of obtaining a seat it was alive with folk who were content with watching. As soon as a vehicle drew up a crowd swarmed around the steps, clutching the handrail and endeavouring to get a foothold on the step. Each time there were many left waiting on the pavement disappointed and most waited until it returned. 05 04 15 & a

1905 06 13
The memorial to the Cambridge men who died during the South African War was unveiled at Great St Mary's Church. It is not inside the church but looks out upon the Market Place, seeming to say that in the midst of life we were in death. A guard of honour consisting of a hundred men of the Cambridge Town Volunteers together with a detachment of the Suffolk Militia, a dismounted body of Hussars, Cambridge University Rifle Volunteers and the band of the Scots Grays joined old soldiers who had seen service in South Africa to witness the proceedings 05 06 13c

1905 06 17
The unveiling of the South African war memorial was marred by two small incidents. The Mayor of Cambridge was without his trusty mace-bearers - apparently the maces were securely locked up and the individual who holds the keys was not to be found. Then police failed to recognise the military veterans and refused them admittance to the ceremony to which they had been invited. There was a considerable amount of confusion until the constables were enlightened as to the nature of the guests and allowed them to pass. 05 06 17

1905 07 18
The landlord of the Central Hotel, Cambridge, told how a man rang the bell in the commercial room and as if he could have a 'number''. This was the customary way in which commercial travellers asked for a room. Later the man said he could not pay his bill. He did not believe he was a commercial traveller and called the police. The man carried a parcel, neatly done up similar to those carried by travellers but when opened it contained two racing calendars, a tin of boot polish and some newspapers. 05 07 18d & e

1905 08 26
Sir – I wish to protest against an act of vandalism. The fine of Cambridge from the corner of Petty Cury with the stalls, old fountain and University Church has been ruined by the erection of a lofty 'stink pipe' in the middle of the Market Place, cutting the east window of the church in half. Why could this not have been run up the side of the Guildhall where it would not have been such an eyesore? – Cantab. 05 08 26c

1905 09 13
Sir – I believe the earliest Cambridge photographer was George Proctor, who lived in New Square until he died about 1850. About the same time Sarony, a celebrated photographer, was allowed to carry on his business in a caravan on Parker's Piece. There were others including

Nichols who had a flourishing business; he moved from Slaughter House Lane to St Mary's Passage and later his son to Post Office Terrace. He took my own portrait in 1854 and it is as good today as it was then – 'Three-score and twelve' 05 09 13a

1906 01 13
When the election meeting at Newnham concluded the candidate's carriage was drawn to the Conservative Club followed by a procession which included a couple of motor buses. Just as it reached Cambridge Market Hill a similar procession of demonstrating Liberals poured out of Petty Cury. These two bodies of citizens conceived an intense dislike for each other, shouting vigorously. A little later there was an exhibition of fisticuffs in Sidney Street 06 01 13

1906 03 03
Sir – for the past two Saturday afternoons a young Freshman has been disporting himself on a motor bicycle, making a circuit of the main thoroughfares of Cambridge, starting from Jesus Lane and ending at the Catholic Church, taking in Petty Cury and the Market Place. Being market-day the already too-congested streets are filled with many country folk, ladies and children, both on foot and on bicycles. He evidently likes to hear the sound of his hooter and the stench from his machine is disgusting. L.P.C. Macquaid. 06 03 03

1906 08 07
Cambridge fire brigade undoubtedly saved a portion of King's Parade, St Edward's Passage and Peas Hill from destruction by fire. There are numerous old houses, warehouses, sheds and outhouses of all descriptions, many constructed chiefly of wood. It broke out at Mons Buol's bakery, 17 Kings Parade; the bakehouse was gutted and hundreds of pounds of chocolate, almonds and sugar damaged. 06 08 07

1906 08 09
A demonstration of the capabilities of the new steam fire engine attracted hundreds of townspeople. It is a double cylinder variable expansion type made by Shand, Mason & Co., generating steam by oil fuel resulting in the complete absence of thick smoke and sparks. Water drawn from the stream in front of Addenbrooke's Hospital was thrown high above the roof of the building. It was then moved to King's Parade and threw water 20ft above the flagpole of Gt St Mary's church. 06 08 09a

1907 04 17
A retired Indian Civil servant was found dead with a revolver by his side. The deceased, who graduated at Caius College and was a teacher of Bengali, had been in ill-health for some time. His absence from home at Stapleford aroused comment so his son cycled over to the Indian Civil Service Rooms on Market Hill Cambridge where he found his father sitting in an armchair, shot through the heart. 07 04 17

1907 04 27
It is alleged that Hobson's Stream is being 'tapped' by some unauthorised body and the supply of water for public purposes is fast diminishing. Not so. To restore its former volume it simply needs flushing. Water comes from Shelford to the conduit in as plentiful a supply as ever but it is many years since the pipe which feeds the Market Hill fountain was adequately flushed and an accumulation of rubbish prevents it receiving the amount of water it should. There is some difficulty in deciding whether the town council or the Hobson's Charity are responsible, but the cost would not exceed £5. 07 04 27

1907 06 19
The 'Unity Brotherhood' had conducted some sort of mission for some months, circulating pamphlets couched in violent language attacking a Cambridge minister. The two men took up position on the Market Hill reading from a bundle of papers until there were about 1,000 people there. The crowd became hostile, hooting, shouting and trying hustle them until police intervened. They were remanded in gaol so their mental condition might be inquired into. 07 06 19 & a

1907 06 22
Charles Lawrence's kennels at Chesterton have bred many famous animals in the dog world, winning prizes in Antwerp, Brussels and Rotterdam. Purchasers come from all over the country; Alderman Pratt of Bradford recently bought two pups for £100 while one sold for £300. During term time a familiar sight on Market Hill is a man surrounded by dogs which he sells to undergraduates at fancy prices. Mr Lawrence bought one for £2 cash, then exhibited it at a show and sold it for £150. To see a collection of valuable clumber, field and cocker spaniels gambolling in the paddock is a sight which must appeal even to those who have but the barest acquaintance with a good dog. 07 06 22b

1907 07 17
General William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, was welcomed to Cambridge by thousands of spectators who lined the road from Trumpington to the Guildhall. Three red motor cars with a Salvation Army flag in each were given quite an oration en route to Market Square where the Band struck up a popular Army tune. But the General entered the building from Peas Hill and ignored the cries of 'Speech' as he disappeared from view. 07 07 17

1907 08 17
Esperanto Congress held in Cambridge, Market Hill bedecked with flags. All other events in Cambridge have been dwarfed in comparison with the third International Esperanto Congress which has brought money into the town when trade was at its lowest ebb. It was hoped the University might have bestowed an honorary degree upon Dr Zamenhof, the Warsaw genius, but apart from a formal reception at the Fitzwilliam Museum it has generally stood aloof from the movement. 07 08 17a

1907 08 12
Esperanto has seized Cambridge like a raging fever. Genuine and spurious Esperanto fills the air as the autolycus of the gutter shouts unintelligent jargon to a street comrade and calls it Esperanto. But when a picturesque figure from the Swiss Canton appeared in the street the impudence of the street Arab was silenced. He was impressed by the tight green breeches and head capped by genuine Alpine hat. A Turk and Indians in national costume add considerably to the effect of this new kind of circus.
07 08 12a

1907 09 24
Cambridge Councillors considered the question of the old corn merchant's buildings on Peas Hill which were damaged by fire in 1904. The whole of the site, including the houses in Wheeler Street, should be used for municipal buildings with the basement and ground floor as an extension to the Central Library 07 09 24a

1907 10 12
Firemen fought a blaze in the roof of house in Rose Crescent. Underneath was the Modes and Ladies' Outfitting Establishment, carried on by Miss Hutchings and a large quantity of her stock

was spoilt by the streams of water. After the fire was out the assistants were kept busy in removing hats and other goods from the shop. 07 10 12

1907 11 05
Holy Trinity church redecoration – 07 11 05b

1907 12 14
Suffragettes, unable to gain admission to the Guildhall, held a meeting outside in the rain. Two ladies from the Women's Social and Political Union picketed the entrance, distributing leaflets. Then they climbed on a market stall and addressed the crowd. To the credit of Cambridge the ladies were accorded a very fair hearing, but when Mr Keeling of Trinity mounted the platform there was such an uproar that, though his mouth was seen to be moving, not a word could be heard. Later they were surrounded by such a crowd that the police escorted them to a four-wheeler which drove off. - 07 12 14 & a

1908 02 18
Frank Andreae, known as 'The Fat Boy' to his friends, was stopped on Market Hill for not having the identification mark affixed to the back of his motor bicycle. He said he had travelled to Cambridge by train and it had been broken off during the journey. He had left his licence in his tool bag in London. He was very forgetful, magistrates were told, and had even forgotten to have breakfast before he attended the court. In that case it was doubtful whether he ought to be allowed to ride a motor-bicycle, the Major commented. 08 02 18d

1908
County Council negotiate over use of Town Council offices, would mean rebuilding Guildhall front & using all corporation property on South side of Market Hill - "would prove popular [1.17]

1908 04 01
More than 1000 people gathered on Cambridge Market Hill at midnight to witness the official extinction of the Third (Cambs) Volunteer Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment. As the clock chimed the buglers played 'The Last Post' and the Volunteers were no more. But after a few seconds 'Reveille' was sounded, melancholy vanished and cheers greeted the new Cambridgeshire Battalion of the Territorial Force. The bugle band played the officers back to the mess room where they sang 'Auld Lang Syne'. 08 04 01 a & b

1908 09 11
A miniature rifle range and air rifle club has been formed in connection with the Church of England Young Men's Society at their large room in St Edward's Passage. The two targets can be placed in two positions – for shooting standing up or lying down – and two good air rifles have been provided. Englishmen should learn to shoot in order to defend their own hearths and homes and the Corporation should establish a range open almost all hours of the day. CWN 08 09 11 p8

1908 11 13
A singular accident in which a taximeter cab played a singular part occurred in Peas Hill. The lamp of taxi cab number 214, driven by a man named Darby, caught the awning connecting a couple of stalls and there was a general upset. The stall of Mr Reynolds was practically demolished and the sweets strewn about with the result that a number of boys had a scramble and pocketed as much as they could. The adjoining drapery stall of Mr Nicholls fared better. The affair caused a great deal of commotion CWN 08 11 13

1909 01 01

A slight outbreak of fire occurred at 17 Market Hill, Cambridge, the ground floor of which is used as a shop by Messrs Bacon Bros tobacconist and the upper part by Mr Mason as a lodging house. Smoke was issuing from the floor of an upstairs sitting room. The flooring was pulled up and near the fireplace an old beam was found to be smouldering. Fireman Parsley, with the aid of a hand-pump, disposed of all danger. CWN 09 01 01

1909 02 12
Hallack and Bond can trace their association with Cambridge back over 100 years: it was there that Elizabeth Woodcock purchased her groceries before being lost in the snow in 1799. Tea was a luxury then, now it is a necessity and their delicate Katharata blend produces pleasing results. A visit to their tea room is a revelation: upon a tea-tasting day fragrant bouquets from the Far East assail the nostrils and the palate including one with a beautiful peach-like perfume 09 02 12

1909 05 07
A number of undergraduates played havoc with the meeting of the Cambridge Association for Women's Suffrage. The Corn Exchange has a seating capacity of about 1,500 but by utilising the farmers' desks and standing in every available space, an audience of 2,000 listened to – or interrupted – the arguments. Quite 80 per cent of the meeting was composed of women, of whom Newnham and Girton contributed a considerable quota. But it was the minority whose increasingly violent disruptions caused the meeting to break up in a disorderly manner, though not before the resolutions had been carried by a large majority.

1909 06 25
There was an exciting scene in Cambridge Market Street when a lady screamed "I am on fire". Her dress was blazing furiously and the combined effect of the screams and the flames on the crowded street can easily be imagined. Fortunately Mr A. Kester tore off the burning skirt with his hands and staff from Eaden Lilley rushed out of the shop with mats and rugs in which she was rolled until the flames were extinguished. It is presumed the dress, which was of flimsy material, was ignited by a match carelessly dropped by a passer-by. 09 06 25

1909 11 12
Damage was caused to the house of Mr A. Carter, cab proprietor and common lodging-house keeper on Honey Hill, formerly known as the Beehive beerhouse. Fire broke out in the former tap room, now used as a bedroom. It appears his wife went into the room for some wearing apparel and the flame from her candle ignited some fancy mats hanging on the chest of drawers. A quantity of shawls, dresses and bonnets which were hanging on the wall, some brushes and the ceiling were damaged. Another fire in the basement of a lodging house at 17 Market Hill was noticed by undergraduates and extinguished by buckets of water. CWN 09 11 12

1909 11 19
Frederic William Hodgson carried on the business as plumber and decorator for nearly 30 years. He was a life-long abstainer and the oldest Deputy Grand Worthy Patriarch of the Cambridge Sons of Temperance, having cycled some thousands of miles whilst engaged in propaganda work. The sad cortege proceeded from his house in Peas Hill to Mill Road cemetery where the first part of the funeral service was conducted in the chapel. The coffin was borne by fellow members of friendly societies. CEN 09 11 19

1909 11 26
Councillors considered a police report on the auctioneers or cheap-jacks who visit Cambridge Market Hill on Saturday evenings and the Peas Hill in daytime with 'mock' jewellery. It was agreed such persons be not allowed and that in future 'Hoop-la' stalls be not allowed on Market

Hill. A suggestion from the Cambridge University Automobile Club as to the placing of mirrors at the Bridge Street end of Jesus Lane was rejected. Drains in City Road and Eden Street were a nuisance and injurious to health, owners should do the necessary work or it will be done by the Surveyor and charged to them. CWN 09 11 26

1910

1910 01 21
Crowds waited on Cambridge market hill for the results of the election. As the hands of the clock dragged with exasperating slowness, the excitement grew even keener. But by half-past ten even the cheering began to subside. "Wish I'd brought my breakfast" said one ruby-faced gentleman whose appearance suggested that he had dined exclusively on beer. "Blooming long time countin' up nine thawsan' votes" said a Barnwellian. Suddenly the Mayor appeared on the Guildhall balcony with the successful candidate. "Buckie's beaten" was the sentence spoken half unconsciously by scores of Buckmaster's supporters as if the brain refused to grasp the significance of what the eye could see. CWN 10 01 21 & a

1910 02 04
Licencing –Cardinal's Cap Guildhall Place - 10 02 04e & f

1911
Number of market stalls reduced by 62 from 250 & roads around square widened [1.24]

1911 01 13
Stall holders on Cambridge Market have been troubled by repeated small thefts. The elusive genius of the pilfering urchin is well known but Cambridge boys have resorted to other devices. One favourite plan is for two boys to walk past and for one to throw the other's cap on the stall. In recovering the cap the boy generally manages to get an orange or two underneath it. Another is for a boy to have a piece of wood with a nail on the end and to spike an apple or other fruit with it. The police have been keeping a sharp look-out with the result that a lad of 14 was arrested for stealing nougat from Mr Careless's sweet stall. 11 01 13g

1911 03 24
Market Hill fire – 11 03 24a

1911 03 31
The new Labour Exchange in Guildhall Street was visited by large numbers of people, most of whom contented themselves with scanning the red-boarded notices of situations vacant posted up in the windows. But about 40 applicants for work gave their names and some were at once notified of vacancies. Exchanges all over the country are linked up and the Cambridge office communicated by telephone with the Aberdeen Exchange to help a Scottish man find work. There are vacancies for motor repairers, electrical fitters and shorthand typists and a good demand for healthy men expert in pick and shovel work who are willing to go to Australia as railway labourers. 11 03 31e

1911 04 07
Roller Skating Extraordinary. Last evening at the Victoria Rink on Market Hill, Monohan, the most remarkable skater in the world, gave an exhibition which evoked the greatest admiration. He performed many original turns, such as the candle maze, waltzing with a life-sized doll and concluded his wonderful display by jumping over five chairs. 11 04 07e

1911 05 05
The landlady of the Rose public house, Rose Crescent was fined for allowing gambling. Detective Marsh said he went into a room at the back of the bar and saw a young man put money in a penny-in-the-slot machine. He pulled a lever and a ball was forced round. If it had got into a red compartment it paid out two pence but it fell into a white compartment and the money was lost. There was another machine of a different make in the bar. Police had received definite instructions to prosecute in all cases where the machines were found. But there was a similar machine at the Mitre, where it was allowed 11 05 05

1911 08 11
The Cambridge Electric Theatre Company applied for a cinematograph licence to show inflammable films at the Victoria Assembly Rooms on Market Hill. Only non-inflammable films are currently used but these do not give as clear a picture. The lantern chamber was situated outside the building and was fire-proof with iron shutters to block the two openings in the wall. The hall could seat 280 and be cleared in less than two minutes. But there was no back exit and magistrates refused the application 11 08 11h & 18c

1911 10 06
The Cambridge offices of the Board of Trade Labour Exchange have been removed from Guildhall Street to Regent Street and the work of finding and filling vacant situations is going on smoothly. The site near Hyde Park Corner most convenient with larger rooms for men and women. Every effort is made to encourage applicants to make use of the office as a waiting room – not a smoke room – with daily papers and magazines where they may remain in the hope they will be the right person in the right place when a job turns up. 11 10 06

1911 11 24
John Stanley, poulterer of Peas Hill sued the G.E.R. Company for damages sustained in the carriage of 84 ducklings and three geese from Liverpool Street to Cambridge. They were to have been sent by passenger train the same day. But instead they were taken on to Doncaster. He made numerous inquiries but it was not until 9pm that the birds arrived at the station but the GER could not deliver them until Monday, by which time they would have been bad. But he had an old contract that said the goods were sent at his risk and he lost his case. 11 11 24f

1912 07 12
Women's suffrage meeting, Market Hill – 12 07 12g

1912 07 26
Licensing - Lamb in Guildhall St (details) 12 07 26 o&p

1912 08 02
Whether one is in favour of militancy or not, the courage of those ladies who use it as a means for gaining the vote for women cannot be denied. Two ladies stood on Market Hill on Friday evening and faced the jeers and derision of a gang of rowdy youths who did all they could to make the meeting a farce. Popular songs formed the favourite medium employed for drowning the voices of the speakers and the confusion was heightened by the use of cycle bells and whistles. But Miss Roff and Miss Kate Jarvis persisted and managed to make their arguments audible 12 08 02a

1912 08 16
A meeting of the Women's Social and Political Union was being held and soon after Miss Kathleen Jarvis began her speech the bells of Great St Mary's struck up a deafening peal. The fair speaker's voice, pleasing but not powerful, was almost completely lost and it was only by her

gesticulations that the crowd could see she was still expounding her principles. For something like an hour the unequal contest was maintained. And Miss Jarvis was the winner. A woman who had earned three periods of imprisonment was not to be daunted and was still pouring out a stream of argumentative bullets when the ringers retired - 12 08 16aa & b

1912 09 13
Sir - Cambridge fruit costs more on Cambridge market than in London since most cannot be sold locally at any price and is sent to larger towns. Good apples were sent from Histon to Manchester that were sold for a shilling per half bushel. Expenses consumed 10d and the grower got only 2d. But in his own market the grower tries to sell at remunerative prices. The only people who can sell cheaper than market traders are the hawkers. There are dozens of large lorries that hawk all over Cambridge and pay not one penny towards the expenses of the town. Yet market stallholders have to pay a very heavy toll – John Hall 12 09 13f

1912 10 18
Workmen digging at the rear of a shop in Peas Hill discovered the skeleton of a man and women, lying side by side. Nearby is the site of an old monastery and the assumption is that the remains were found in a former burying-ground. If so it knocks the bottom out of one of the best ghost stories in Cambridge, involving a wealthy banker whose young, beautiful wife took a lover who then disappeared. Half a body was later discovered in excavations at the Bijou Theatre Club's cellars. Now it appears they may all be linked. 12 10 18j

1912 10 25
P.C. Smith told the court he was in plain clothes in Trinity Street when he saw an eleven-year-old boy carrying his cap in his hands. It looked rather bulky and was found to contain walnuts. The lad admitted he'd put his hand through a hole at the back of Whitehead's stall on the market and taken them. His mother said he was unruly at home and went out in the evening when he had no business to do so. Magistrates sentenced him to six strokes of the birch. If he re-offended he would be sent to the reformatory school 12 10 25aa

1912 11 01
Women's social & political union meeting Market Hill on suffrage – 12 11 01e

1912 11 15
Fire at Still & Sugar Loaf, Market Hill – 12 11 15a

1912 12 12
When Mrs Pankhurst arrived for a Suffragette meeting at the Guildhall the streets were impassable, 20 policemen were on duty at the entrance and the air was filled with the horrible stench of stink-bombs. Although the audience comprised a large opposition who created a good deal of uproar, the noise gradually diminished as her speech advanced and she was perfectly audible. Georgina Brackbenbury who took the chair had more interruption by the sound of a penny trumpet; its owner was a musician who produced notes mournful or joyous according to her words and achieved a flourishing Reveille. Afterwards crowds ringed a motor car waiting outside the Wheeler Street entrance, which had one of its tyres deflated. But Mrs Pankhurst was quietly conducted out by the Guildhall Street entrance and to the Lion Hotel. 12 12 12c & d & e

1912 12 20
Robert Farren, the well-known Cambridge artist, died at Highgate. Farren, who was born in Cambridge about 80 years ago, lived in Cambridge all his life with the exception of a few years' residence at Scarborough until August last when he went to live in Highgate. He was a very

clever water colour artist but best known for his work in oils and his etchings. His fen pictures were well-known and his series of etchings of cathedral cities amongst his most famous work. He also produced fine etchings of the Cambridge Greek plays. His 'Degree Day' was published as a photo by Wm Farren when he lived in Rose Crescent. Farren loved to paint Cambridge & Cambridgeshire scenery and there is scarcely a picturesque 'bit' in the town or county that has not been reproduced by him. At one time he had his studios at the top of which are now the University offices but were formerly a Liberal Club. A good many years ago he resided at Mayfield, Hills Road but during the last three years lived at no.1 Station Road. In his younger days he was a very handsome figure, tall and well-built. He was a skilful fencer and attained some note as a geologist. Me married Miss Mason, a Cambridge lady and had a family of 14 children, none of whom are now living in Cambridge, his only relatives being his nephew William Farren, the naturalist, of Regent Street and his brother. Two of his daughters have inherited their father's artistic skill in no small degree. The funeral will take place at Old Chesterton churchyard where his wife is buried. – 12 12 20bb Robert Farren's funeral at Old Chesterton. Three children of his eldest son, the late Ernest Farren live with their mother in Herbert Street 12 12 27b

1913 01 03
Electric Theatre, Market Hill safe raided by attendant

1913 02 21
A fifteen-year-old flower seller was summoned at the Children's Court for causing an obstruction in Market Street. He was offering a bunch of flowers to some ladies and had put his basket on the pavement. There were numbers of people who had shops and sold flowers and it did not seem fair competition for these others to sell in front of their shops. He was cautioned. There had been complaints of hawkers blocking thoroughfares. Another obstruction was caused by empty perambulators being wheeled on the pavements. That was clearly a breach of the law, the Chief Constable told magistrates 13 02 21 p8 CIP

1913 03 14
Four Cabmen were summonsed for taking their cabs on to the Senate House rank when it was already fully occupied and leaving their horses and cabs unattended. Pc Pettitt said there were four unattended cabs standing two abreast facing the reverse way to the other five waiting for business. The rank was authorised for two cabs during the week and three extra on Saturday because the Market Hill rank could not be used then. One man said he'd gone to the lavatory on Market Hill and had asked others to look after his horse. More had been to the coffee shop or had gone to breakfast. They must obey the byelaws. 13 03 14 p8 CIP

1913 04 18
The handsome new Electric Picture Palace being erected on the corner of Covent Garden, Mill Road, is making excellent progress with up to 35 men working on the job. When complete it will have the handsomest front of any place of entertainment in Cambridge. There will be a vestibule where 60 people can wait under shelter and the seats will be of the tip-up variety, upholstered in plush. The Electric Theatre, as well as that on Market Hill, will be under the management of Mr Adrian Jordan but the programmes will be quite distinct. 13 04 18 p9 CIP

1913 04 18
Corn Exchange motor sales banned because of petrol on floor

1913 05 09

Yes! It is true! Perfectly true! That the new Picture Playhouse in Mill Road will open at 2.30 on Whit Monday, and present the strongest picture programme ever seen in Cambridge. It is also true, that an equally strong programme will be presented at the Electric Theatre, Market Hill 13 05 09 p01 CIP

1913 07 04
Women's suffrage meeting Market Hill

1913 07 11
Market Street wood paving not satisfactory – expensive & smelly

1913 07 25
Suffragette meeting, Market Hill - 13 07 25 p12 CIP

1913 08 15
Militant suffragettes Market Hill meeting - 13 08 15 p7 CIP

1913 08 29 CIP
Militant suffragists Market Hill

1913 11 21
18 Peas Hill rebuild – a wretched, verminous house - 13 11 21 p7

1913 12 19
Plans for alterations at the rear of the Guildhall were shelved after the Ratepayers Association raised a petition. They had to face a loss on the trams, the Borough Bill, Chesterton footbridge and other improvements and as the Colleges were building rapidly the town landladies found it hard to pay their rates. Now the County Council had decided to build their new offices in Hobson Street. They had been debating since 1907 and all the expense and time had been worthless. But the Free Library was over-crowded and disease was spread in libraries where people were constantly sitting together 13 12 19 p7 CIP

1914 01 23
Cambridge Ratepayers' Association are proclaiming that they have been the means of "scotching" the Borough Council's scheme for the enlargement of the Guildhall. … the number of signatures obtained for their monster petition being a plain indication that the great majority of the ratepayers were against such a costly proceeding. One cannot but realise the need which exists for better Public Library accommodation, and it is to be hoped the dropping of the larger scheme will not prevent the work of extending and improving the Library being carried through.14 01 23 CIP of

1914 02 06
At the opening of the new County Hall in Hobson Street the chairman thanked the Town Council for allowing them to use their council chamber and committee rooms for the past 25 years. In 1747 the old Shire Hall had been built on Market Hill above arches where butchers had their stalls on market days. In 1842 this passed to the town when a new Shire Hall at Castle Hill was ready for occupation. But the enormous development of administrative business had now brought the County Council again into the centre to this new commodious and economical building, finally bringing together departments previously distributed in all parts of the town. 14 02 06, a-c

1914 02 13
"Brawling" in Church.- Interruptions in Divine Service were made at Holy Trinity Church, St. Matthew's Church and the Friends' Meeting House by militant suffragettes. Militant methods of madness have already put a brake on the advancement of an. excellent movement and the disturbance of church worshippers is no argument in favour of votes for women 14 02 13 CIPof

1914 03 27
Proposals for extra accommodation for the Library, Education Department, Juvenile Employment Exchange and Weights and Measures Department on the site now occupied by houses in Wheeler Street prompted long discussions. Nearly every councillor found it incumbent to express his opinions and an hour was passed away more or less pleasantly and profitably in this fashion. 14 03 27h

1914 04 10
Opposition to Guildhall Enlargement - resolution condemns … if the Corporation require further accommodation for their officials, they should hire offices outside for the Education Department 14 04 10 CIPof

1914 04 17
The unhappy conjunction of the name Sadd and Greef on King's Parade has been a well-worn joke. Now it is about to be broken. Mr Sadd is soon to move to premises in St Edward's Passage while Mr Greef is moving further up the Parade. The Sadds began business last century as dealer in antiques and a hairdresser in one of a row of old-fashioned houses standing in front of King's College. When the cottages were pulled down they moved opposite. His son made a sketch of the old houses 14 04 17g

1914 05 22
Cambridge Library was one of the finest in the country but all available floor space was utilised and extensions must be made, especially to relieve congestion in the Reference department. They should develop the site now occupied by houses in Wheeler Street and adjoining vacant land, councillors heard. But a library was a luxury and ratepayers did not want it. The plan was agreed 14 05 22f & g

1914 06 04
An alarming accident happened in Petty Cury. Outside Mr A.E. Nichol's shop at the corner of Guildhall Street there are large incandescent globes suspended. One of these globes, which was illuminated, suddenly collapsed and struck the pavement with an alarming crash. The street was crowded at the time and it was marvellous that no one was hurt. The globe fell at the feet of a bystander who luckily was not injured, though glass was scattered in all directions 14 06 04 p9

1914 07 10
Suffragette campaign Market Hill: Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association organising a series of open-air meetings on Market Hill every Tuesday evening during July

1914 08 07
The Cambridge squadron of the Royal Suffolk Yeomanry paraded and were sent to their billets at Ross Street School and the County Girls School. A number of others were quartered in the Corn Exchange. The streets presented a military appearance. Territorials in uniform carrying their kit bags and rifles were to be seen. Officers in motorcars or motor cycles and orderlies on bicycles

were hurrying to and fro, sentries with fixed bayonets were posted at the Corn Exchange and vehicular traffic stopped by the police

1914 08 07
Men of the First Eastern General Hospital were quartered in Corn Exchange Street. An elaborate scheme was drawn up for constituting Cambridge a great hospital centre and the various college buildings were mapped out for conversion into wards. But this scheme is intended in case of invasion and it is to be hoped will never be needed. At present the need is for accommodation at places were wounded men are likely to be landed

1914 08 14
There has been a splendid response to Lord Kitchener's appeal for men; each day large numbers have signed on at the Corn Exchange including Jack Child, the well-known boxer Langley as despatch rider 14 08 14 p5

1914 09 18
There were at present about 1,000 soldiers based in Cambridge with another 1,000 expected
All the tents were being used by other troops and winter was coming. The Corn Exchange was unsatisfactory because of the small sanitary arrangements. The Girls' and Boys' county school were already being used and now the military wanted Morley Memorial and the Melbourne Place schools for the training of recruits. Emmanuel Church was prepared to give the free use of their schoolroom for the education of the children. The alternative was billeting troops on the better class houses where better class people could supervise them. But the University had been approached and the schools might not be needed, councillors heard.

1914 10 02
Guildhall extension for library, education offices, juvenile bureau and Medical Officer of Health 14 10 02

1914 10 16
Another trainload of wounded Belgian soldiers arrived at the station and were taken to the Hospital at Trinity College. Now 100 Belgian refugees are expected who will be housed temporarily in the Corn Exchange before they are found homes. Not many households can take a whole family but streets might share them. Professors from the University of Louvain professors have arrived and a room at the Engineering Laboratory made available for lectures

1914 11 20
Death of Mr. A. W. Rose. The news of the death of Mr. Arthur William Rose, of Market Hill, and Peas Hill, Cambridge, was received with widespread regret on Tuesday by a large number of friends. Mr. Rose had suffered from heart trouble for a considerable time, but he had been able to attend to his business up to Wednesday of last week. On that day he was caught in a rainstorm and contracted a chill, from the effects of which he never recovered. Death ensued at 6.30 on Monday morning. Mr. Rose was born at Cottenham on November 1, 1868. He entered into partnership with Mr. Lawrence about 20 years ago, and together they carried on the business of a butcher at 37, Market Hill, and 22 Peas Hill. The partnership lasted for about two years, and on the death of Mr. Lawrence the business passed into the possession of Mr. Rose. Open-hearted and generous, Mr. Rose made a wide circle of friends in Cambridge, and he was held in the greatest respect by local tradesmen. About 15 years ago he interested himself in the formation of a Butchers' Association in Cambridge, and he was one of the foundation members. For a considerable time he was treasurer of the Association. He was a sidesman of Great St. Mary's Church. Mr. Rose leaves a widow and one son.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1914 12 11
Fishmonger's child scarlet fever, Peas Hill stall

1914 12 18
Taxis allowed Market Hill near GSM

1915 07 16
Guildhall extension accounts debate, includes payment made to E.C. Meech, tobacconist whose premises have been demolished for new building 15 07 16 p6

1915 08 27
Electric Theatre refurbished & reopened as Victoria Cinema. A.J. pointer applies for cinematograph exhibition at the Victoria Cinema … had held licence for music and dancing since April and for four years the premises had been used for cinema shows under a music and dancing licence. As intended to show some recruiting pictures which used 'inflammable' films was necessary to obtain formal licence. Floor had been lowered, main gangway 4ft wide. The film chamber built outside main building with automatic shutters, could be emptied in less than two minutes 15 08 27 p4

1915 09 10
Servant stole from Three Tuns, Peas Hill

1916 03 01
Snow photos: snow plough, clearing snow Market St, bus, snow balling – 16 03 01a

1916 03 08
Egg stall on Market for wounded – 16 03 08f

1916 05 10
Reference Library and Education department, Peas Hill – photo & details – 16 05 10c

1916 05 17
Seat on Market Hill for use of wounded soldiers – photo – 16 05 17b

1916 06 21
Decorated.—Lt. Alex E. Bonham. 11th Royal Warwicks, who was when war broke out, a class master at East Road Boys' School, .has been awarded the Military Cross. Lance Corporal W. Hassock, London Rifles (who, previous to joining up was employed by Messrs. W and R. Fletcher, Ltd., Peas Hill) has been awarded the D.C.M He was attached to a machine-gun section and continued to work his gun when all his comrades had fallen

1916 07 05
French inspects OCC & Territorial recruits, Parkers Piece & Volunteers on Market Hill [1.15,7.7,7.20]

1916 08 02
VTC leave from Market for march to Trumpington – photo – 16 08 02a

1916 12 13

Temperance Worker. His many friends in Cambridge and district have learned with considerable regret of the pending departure of Mr. Horace Brown, the known temperance worker and advocate, a regret which is shared by Town, County and University residents who have, in business matters, been brought into contact with him. Mr. Horace Brown has been a member of the Cambs. Band of Hope Union Executive Committee, representing the Eastern Division for the past three years, whilst he took a leading part in the Band of Hope pageants which were presented at Cambridge with so much success, his role being respectively Oliver Cromwell and the Mayor in "Stourbridge Fair". He has been in the employ of the Midland and. L. and N.W. Railways for 17 years and during the past ten years has been in charge of the joint inquiry office at Market Hill, Cambridge.

1917 05 30
Empire Day. Empire Day was officially celebrated at Cambridge by the assembling of a large number of schoolchildren on the Market Place, where the Mayor (Lieut.-Col. B. W. Beales) read the King's Proclamation on food rationing, and the children sang a hymn and the National Anthem and raised three hearty cheers for His Majesty Photos of mobilisation at start of war – Market Hill, leaving from railway station for training, French inspects troops – 18 11 20d

1917 12 26
Margarine Queues - The queues, which have been getting larger day by day in Petty Cury, assumed such alarming dimensions on Saturday that one person at least was injured and others fainted. Margarine was the chief commodity sought, a supply having been delayed the day before owing to the fog. The Borough Food Control Committee took commendable action to consider how best to relieve the situation. They suggested that traders should transfer their stocks of margarine to the Corn Exchange and sell it there, and the Committee would give them every facility; they also suggested the margarine should only be sold in 1lbs, or multiples of 1lb. Some was transferred and between 2 and 4 o'clock 1,000 transactions in margarine had taken place. The people were arranged in queues outside the hall. The margarine was put up in 1lb and 2 lb packages, the limit to each person being 2 lb. Everything went off without a hitch

1918 11 20
Armistice Celebrated. Cambridge "let itself go" with full vigour on November 11 on receipt of the news that the Germans had accepted and signed the drastic armistice terms of the Allies, and the rejoicings were kept up on every evening throughout the week. The effigy of the Kaiser was hoisted on the point of a bayonet and carried through the streets, to be consigned to the flames of a Market Hill bonfire one evening. A cadet, attired as a padre, attended to the "obsequies". Later processions of cadets met on the Market Hill engaged in a Big Push. Premises occupied by the "Cambridge Magazine" at the corner of St. John's Street were wrecked by a crowd. Two other shops in the same occupation were treated in similar fashion Alleged German guns on view Market Hill; these samples of scrap iron should be consigned rubbish heap, 18 11 20v – photo – 19 04 30d

1919 07 09
Peace Sunday proclamation on Market Hill – 19 07 09a

1919 09 10
Cattle market as now conducted is of no value to town … a waste of expensive shoe leather. Previously could purchase a fowl or duck ready for table at a reasonable price, the Cambridge ‘yard’ of butter, eggs, fruit, meat etc. Now a dump for where high prices are rule. Patrons are those fairly comfortable who desire freshly-produced vegetables and are prepared to pay for them

at prices dearer than in shops. On Saturday was fairly brisk competition in fish, meat stalls doing food business. An open market is wanted every day on Market Hill to bring down prices and dispose of tons of produce which will otherwise go rotten. Are already hawkers of fruit and vegetables. During trade depression some traders had a hard struggle; employees now coming back but require more wages to meet the rising cost of living. Fair competition doesn't cause anxiety but the open market is unfair. They buy wholesale, dire a stall for a negligible sum and sell at small margin of profit – debate – 19 09 10

1919 04 23
Captured German Guns. Two captured German field guns are being exhibited on the Market Hill Cambridge but are however attracting comparatively little attention

1919 06 25
Jubilee Tour. Cambridge was the first town of importance visited by Mrs, General Booth of the Salvation Army, on her Jubilee tour, which commenced on Friday. The "Generaless" arrived at Cambridge by motor on Saturday evening and was received on the Market Hill by Alderman Sidney Campkin, who delivered an address of welcome. Mrs. Booth spoke to a large crowd who had assembled.

1919 10 22
Two new cinemas proposed, Sidney Street by Cambridge Picture Playhouse Ltd and Guildhall Street by A.J. Pointer – 19 10 22f

1919 11 12
"Fifth" fizzles at Cambridge. The stage was set on Wednesday evening for an old-time celebration of the 5th of November. Proctors, "bulldogs," special constables, mounted police, mere "Roberts", undergraduates, townspeople and schoolboys turned out to play their respective roles, but nothing happened. A few fire-works - cannons, crackers etc - were discharged on Market Hill but the proceedings were almost as tame as the original affair arranged by Mr. Guy Fawkes and a few of his fanatical friends.

1920

1920 01 21
Plans for new cinema in Guildhall St & Guildhall Place to be erected by A.J. Pointer of Victoria Cinema considered – 20 01 21a

1920 03 23
Property sales 56 years ago – no.1 Market Hill, Petty Cury including Boots site

1920 04 03
Building of new cinemas in Sussex Street and Guildhall Street vetoed by council

1920 10 20
Proposed Kinema. At their meeting tomorrow, the Borough Council will be recommended by the Plans Committee to rescind their resolutions which placed a veto on the erection of the proposed kinema in Guildhall Street, and to give permission for the existing buildings to be demolished .The minute of the Plans Committee dealing with the matter states: A letter was read from Mr. A. J. Pointer, stating that a building on the site proposed to be used for the erection of a kinema would be unoccupied by the 25th October 1920, and asking that he might be allowed to proceed with the building of a kinema in Guildhall Street.

1920 10 28
Council approve demolition of buildings in Guildhall Street on site acquired by A.J. Pointer for an up-to-date Kinema – 20 10 28b c

1920 11 03
St Benet's war memorial unveiled – 20 11 03a

1920 11 12
Armistice 'Rag', chariot of flame on Market Hill, siege of Newnham College, burst through gates where for half hour of bliss … few odd battalions of infuriated Dons and hysterical Newnhamites, police charge

1921 11 16
Charlie Chaplin film in Guildhall, staged by A.J. Pointer of Victoria Cinema – 21 11 16a

1922 06 13
"May week" has reached its second phase and the gaiety of the "Boats" has given places to a wonderful round of college balls and concerts. The May Week Ball of the First and Third Trinity Boat Clubs was probably one of the largest affairs of the kind that has ever been held in Cambridge. Hitherto, owing to a lack of accommodation the numbers attending has had to be restricted to about 650. Mr D.G. Marshall of Jesus Lane, however, found a way out of the difficulty with a somewhat novel scheme. A marquee 100 feet by 40 feet was erected on Market Hill facing the Guildhall and therein supper was laid. A delightfully cool effect was obtained by leaving open a part of the side of the tent nearest the fountain and having the fountain lit up with coloured electric lights in the background. Provision was made for some 1,100 guests and supper was served in three relays of 375 each, a special staff of chefs from the House of Commons was specially engaged for the occasion

1922 11 06
A lamp-boy, G.E.R. of Thoday street, Cambridge was summoned for throwing a firework on Senate House-hill on 4th inst. - Fined 1s. Ten shillings was the fine imposed upon an undergraduate of Trinity College for a similar offence on Market-hill. Defendant said he did not know they were arresting people for letting fireworks off, or else he would not have been foot enough to do so in front of half the police force. An undergraduate of Corpus Christi who was fined 10/- stated that the came on to the square and saw a lot of police loafing about so he thought he would like to throw some fireworks

1922 11 10
Armistice Day - Remembrance Day as many people prefer to call it - once again comes round tomorrow. The occasion will be observed with all the solemnity of former years by all, not excepting the exuberant spirits who will participate in a promised 'Varsity "rag" for they will hold their noise at 11am and join with the rest in the two minutes' silence which will ensue throughout the country. The "rag" will take the form of a "circus". Undergraduates will be attired in the skins of wild animals. It is rumoured that the effigy of the ex- Kaiser will be burnt at the stake on Market Hill in the evening!

1922 11 11
As in every other town and village throughout the land the Two Minutes Silence was observed in Cambridge today. In the streets traffic was stopped by the police and pedestrians stood just where they were when the first maroon went off. Market Hill was densely crowded and as the Guildhall

clock started to chime men stood to attention and removed their hats, all movement ceased and the traffic stopped. The only sounds to be heard were the crying of one or two babies. Shortly before the second maroon a shuffling step was heard coming slowly along the Cury, a few turned their heads and saw an old man who, apparently oblivious, kept on his way undisturbed until a penetrating hiss: "Stand still, Beaver!" brought him back to this world and he stood with the rest of mankind

1923 01 08
The staff of the "Cambridge Daily News" had a night off on Saturday when they sat down to dinner together in "The Dug-Out", Guildhall Street, Cambridge. It was the first gathering of the kind for very many years. Mr A.C. Taylor (managing director) said he had tried to carry on the good work that his father had done in the town. He had the advantage of a loyal staff and he knew that on them depended the actual work during the few years that he was trying to pick up the threads of newspapers. Mr Morley Stuart (Editor) said some of the staff who had been working together for a good many years and had passed through some rather strenuous times had felt it would be a good thing if they could meet round the dinner table. It helped to rub off the rough edges and to enable them to understand each other better.

1923 01 26
A shop without a sale is like a ship without a rudder. Surplus stock must be sold at all cost. We must turn our stock over, that is why we offer such knock-out bargains. Boys and youths' overcoats in naps, cheviots and all-woo blanket cloths from 5s.11d. Boys' knickers in splendid wearing quality materials from 1s. Ladies' coats for winter wear in various blanket cloths, well-tailored, absolute bargains from 6s.11d. Special sale bargains for tomorrow - 300 men's caps 1s. Northern Clothing Co., 9 Guildhall Street (opposite Corn Exchange), Cambridge – advert

1923 01 29
The third annual meeting of the Cambridgeshire Federation of Women's Institutes was held in the Cambridge Guildhall. Representatives from 28 out of 29 institutes attended and steady expansion was reported in all branches. The office and shop at 10 St Edward's Passage has been a great factor in this advance. Institute members now have a central meeting place where they can view each other's work and exchange ideas, whilst inhabitants of Cambridge have the opportunity of getting into touch with country women and are glad to profit from the results of the homecrafts practiced by their country sisters

1923 03 27 c
The forthcoming production by the Bijou amateurs brings into prominence once again a club that has held a big position in the life of Cambridge for the last 50 years. I 1870 Mr W B Redfern founded the Bijous, who took over premises on Peas Hill, where for many years was provided the only dramatic performance in Cambridge that were given with any regularity. As time went on the club found that the old Peas Hill theatre was not big enough for them and finally removed to the old skating rink in St Andrews's street, on the site of which the present New Theatre was built. It was not until 1881 that ladies were introduced into the cast, the female parts having before that date being taken by men

1923 06 16
A remarkable story of how a large sum of money was snatched from the jaws of death, as typified by the corporation refuse destructor reached me the other day. It appears that a certain tradesman on Peas Hill, Cambridge, had by some strange mischance consigned a wallet containing money to the dustbin. A frenzied telephone message to the contractor revealed that one of his dustcarts had collected at the address that day. The cart was searched, but without

success. Eventually the missing wallet was discovered on the very threshold of destruction and found to contain Treasury notes to the value of between £200 and £300. Some people back Derby winners and others have luck in other directions.

1923 08 17
A meeting was held on Cambridge Market Hill under the auspices of the local branch of the World's League Against Vivisection. Some hundreds gathered around the first speaker who was heard amid a running series of questions and interruptions. He gallantly held his post for over an hour, and many of his points were agreed to, even by opponents of the movement generously. Certain diseases had been lowered doing the last 50 years in response to sanitary improvements, he said, but no direct evidence could be found as to any decrease of the death rate as a result of vivisection.

1923 09 07
The death took place early this morning of Mr Ebeneezer Peters, a partner in the firm of Peters, Elworthy and Moore, accountants and auditors. He was born in Cambridge & commenced his business career with the late Mr Dixon, bookseller, Market Street. He then joined his brother and formed the partnership of Peters Brothers over 40 years ago, carrying out the duties of assessor and collector of taxes from then up to the time of his death

1923 10 24
Sir - Permit me to enter a strong protest against Cambridge town council “improvements”. Take the following, with all of which we are now threatened. The detestable proposal to improve St Mary's Street by lopping off nine feet of church yard; the very pleasant little old world Emmanuel St to be made banal by altering its lines and proportions; Coe fen to be utterly ruined for ever by cutting a new road for motors. And who in their right mind would dream of building public baths in so outlying and unattractive a suburb as Gwydir Street. - Delta

1923 10 29
The seventh bell at Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge, which was cracked on armistice night by some over-enthusiastic revellers, has just been returned from the founders. It now inclined on a pedestal in the nave of the Church awaiting re-fixing in the tower, and there it will stay until paid for. The cost of taking down, re-casting and re-fixing is close on £100. The bell was originally cast in 1667, and recast in 1723 c23 10 29

1923 11 03
The subject of the censorship of cinematograph films came before the Cambridgeshire county council. They agreed that no film - other than photographs of current events - which has not been passed for universal exhibition by British Board of Film Censors shall be exhibited without the consent of the council. The Vice Chancellor thought that films such as those of the rags on Market Hill, he personally would be very glad to see stopped. (Laughter.) If there were no films of "rags" there would be no "rags" to film. (Laughter)

1923 11 06
Cambridge would be disappointed indeed if the Fifth of November failed to produce a rag of some sort. Last night's effort was, to say the least of it, feeble and was sustained for the most part by such residents of the town as come out for excitement on such occasions, and a handful of very callow freshmen. Fireworks there were in plenty, but the old spirit was lacking. Had it not been for the mounted police and the proctors, the market square would have been its usual desolate self soon after 9.30 pm. It was noticeable that as soon as the mounted police left the crowd decreased by 50 per cent.

1923 11 06
One hundred years ago the Royal and ancient game of rugby football was initiated, and today an alleged representation of the first game was given in Cambridge market square. Some time before noon the square was roped off and surrounded by police. The fountain was converted into a Royal box and the telephone kiosk into a press box. At noon the teams marched on to the ground. At their head was carried a large and considerably elongated football on a butchers tray. With the teams marched a portly and bearded Proctor, complete with "bullers" and a nasty looking birch, which he did not hesitate to use when occasion demanded

1923 11 10
The Sun had dispelled a heavy fog when the Cambridgeshire regiment, headed by their regimental band arrived on Cambridge Market Hill and formed three sides of a hollow square. There was almost complete silence, broken only by some restive motor in an adjoining street. Then the beautiful chimes of Great St Mary's struck the hour. A few seconds later came the report of the maroon and automatically the parade sprang to attention. Our thoughts were with a glorious dead, and of all they had suffered in those years of agony. And then … boom! A role on the drums broke in on the silence, and the buglers sounded the "Last Post"

1923 11 10
A merry and light-hearted party of undergraduates, despite police vigilance, succeeded in obtaining their hearts desire - they manage to light a fire on Market Hill. Certain of the undergraduate community attracted the attention of some constables to a gas lamp on the one corner of the square. They demonstrated a desire to figure on the charge sheet of the police court by the charmingly simple process of putting out the light. The police "fell for it" and kept watch on that particular part of the market place. Meanwhile another body of the faithful rushed on to the Market Hill with a rowing eight filled with petrol and had it alight before people realised what was towards.

1923 11 24
Sir with reference to the continuation bus service from Chesterton to Old Chesterton, I would like to point out that we ran the service in 1919 but it was an absolute failure and we were compelled to drop it. However as there seems to be a fresh demand I am giving it a trial. The terminus of the cars will be at Chapel Street, Old Chesterton, instead of De Freville Avenue as heretofore. The fare from Market Street to Chapel Street will be twopence. You will realise that it is quite impossible to revert to the penny fare over the whole of the services. It is true that the price of petrol has dropped, but the price of wages and labour generally has not decreased - John Walford, Ortona Motor Company

1923 12 06
Elections, like boots, beer and, of course, bananas, are generally held to be much below pre-war standard. Some of the old spirit seems to have been awakened in the campaign which closed last night, and a "certain liveliness" on Cambridge Market Hill was slightly reminiscent of the old eve of the poll scenes. Many discussions were hastily adjourned as dense clouds of acrid smoke from a smoke bomb rolled down on them, and there was a gentle scramble for some minutes. While this was going on an agile disciple of Tarzan shinned up a lamppost and revived the ancient pastime of "dousing the glim". A slick-handed undergraduate switched on a constable's lamp attached to the latter's belt at the rear, and the limb of the law strode around blissfully unconscious of the shining light behind.

1924 02 04c

Algernon Sydney Campkin was the last survivor of a family who had for several generations farmed land at Melbourn. In 1861 he was articled to a chemist and druggist and subsequently in 1868 succeeded to the old-established business of the late Mr William Brewster, an apothecary of some eminence in Rose Crescent, Cambridge, which he very successfully conducted up to the time of his death.

1924 04
Crowds on Market Hill listen to Kings speech at opening of Wembley exhibition [2.12]

1924 07 14c
Cambridge is shortly to lose a rendezvous which has become very popular in the years succeeding the war. I refer to the "Dug-Out" which, with the Black Swan public house next door (in Guildhall Place) has been sold to the University Catholic Association. It is their intention to transform the premises into a centre for Roman Catholic undergraduates

1924 11 08c
The night of the 5th of November was clear and calm, and there was a bright moon to light the way of revellers – ideal conditions for a "rag". So evidently thought a large crowd of undergraduates and townsmen that gathered on Cambridge Market Hill in hopes. Police stood around in little groups taking a giving chaff good humouredly with the crowd. Squibs and occasional small rockets broke the peace and were heralded by faint cheers and feminine shrieks if they happened to go off in the press. The first intimation of anything interesting was the sight of a small youth, pale and very troubled looking, marching up St Andrew's street, firmly held by a constabulary hand.

1925 01 19
Petty Cury and Market Street, Cambridge, today commenced their career as one-way streets with the object of relieving congestion in these streets whose narrowness has ever been the subject of discussion. Petty Cury will only be used for vehicular traffic towards Market Hill. At present these regulations do not apply to bicycles. A policeman agreed that someone was bound to make a mistake – "It wouldn't be Cambridge if they didn't", he said

1925 02 19
For the University Pitt Club ball the Guildhall has always been very cleverly decorated. The Large Room served as ballroom, the orchestra seats hidden behind tapestry hangings. There were close on 400 dancers. As a buffet the Small Room has seldom looked better. Supper was served in the Corn Exchange, access to which was gained by means of a covered way connecting it with the Guildhall. The fare provided was most appetising. Our representative gazed with pardonable envy upon a well-dressed boar's head, a swan with a waxen neck and other fine fare.

1925 03 09
The bright idea was to unveil a 'statue' of Eros on Cambridge Market Hill, but they did not appear till quite three-quarters of an hour late. The crowd got tired of waiting and certain of their number pelted some adventurous spirits perched on the Market cross with oranges, and this little incident led to a general exchange of soft and 'squashy' fruit. Oranges gave place to tomatoes, which were followed by eggs and bags of flour. Besides being unpleasant, practice of this sort is dangerous.

1925 06 06
Very many residents of Cambridge who in their leisure moments wander round the Market Place to see what literary treasure may there be picked up will be interested in a movement set on foot

by prominent members of the University to do honour to Mr G. David, the well-known bookseller, who has had a stall there for close on thirty years. A luncheon will be given in the Old Combination Room, Trinity College in appreciation of the conspicuous service he has rendered to the cause of humane letters.

1925 07 07
The Ministry of Transport inquiry into the one-way vehicular traffic scheme in Petty Cury & Market Street, Cambridge, was held in the Guildhall. There was a very small attendance. Cambridge suffered, in common with other old towns, from the traffic problem. There had always been a great deal of traffic in these streets and the congestion was very serious. Both streets were used by motor buses. There were no objections but a great body of people wanted the regulation to cover bicycles as well as other vehicles.

1925 11 06
Cambridge usually expects a 'rag' on Guy Fawkes' night but this year's affair was of a harmless character, plenty of noise being the chief characteristic. Fireworks galore were discharged and the Market Hill was occasionally lit up with flame-coloured flares. But this was rather a tame sort of amusement for undergraduates and they proceeded to accomplish the now stale feat of extinguishing the gas lamps in the neighbourhood of the Hill. Some undergrads took it into their heads to relight the lamps in the centre, which enabled one of their number to climb the fountain on the top of which something indistinguishable was placed. This being done out went the lamps again, coins being the smashing factor once more.

1925 12 01
Sir – The scenes on Sunday night in Petty Cury & Market Hill, Cambridge are disgraceful. Low hobbydehop youths and flat-chested flappers congregate and parade, whistling and shouting after each other and using language that would shame Billingsgate. Surely the police can put an end to such disgraceful proceedings – A.E.C.

1926 06 15
One of the contingents of Women Peacemakers who are converging on London from various parts of the country arrived in Cambridge. Meetings had been held in village after village by the side of the war memorials. They were met by members of the local Pilgrimage Committee and proceeded to the Market Hill where an impromptu meeting was held. They carried various banners and red and blue flags. Mrs Rackham said the gathering recalled the great Women's Suffrage Pilgrimage of 1913 when crowds gathered on the same spot. The Pilgrims leave for Saffron Walden tomorrow.

1926 09 07
A vivid flash followed by a terrific explosion occurred last night and at about the same time various people in Cambridge declare that they, too, saw a peculiar flare in the sky. No noise was heard. A police constable described the flash as lasting from five to six seconds and as making it appear as bright moonlight. Miss G. Gould, who was in charge of the coffee stall on Market Hill, said the whole of the sky in the south was lit up for about five seconds by a blue flame. A member of the "Stop! Look! and Listen" company said she noticed a vivid flash from her dressing room window.

1926 11 27
The Cambridge Central Conservative Club in Market Passage was gutted by fire in the early hours of the morning. There were a large number of trade premises nearby and the task of saving the club, with flames nearly 100 feet high, appearing a hopeless one the Fire Brigade

concentrated on confining the conflagration to the one building. Had there been a strong wind a centre of shopping would have been destroyed. The Central Hall, which had been booked for many social events for months ahead, suffered severely. The billiards room, which contained four splendid tables also suffered considerably; two of the tables fell through the floor. The club was opened in February 1888

1927 02 10
Since the Cambridge Conservative Club in Market Passage had been destroyed by fire there had been many busybodies who knew exactly what was going to happen to the club premises and the site. The Chairman could now tell them: it was going to be rebuilt and rise like a Phoenix from the ashes. A very satisfactory arrangement had been made with the Northern Insurance Company and they had today received a cheque from the company.

1927 03 03
Sir – I read of the sale of the old-established grocery and provision business of Hallack and Bond. It is regrettable that the ownership of another great business passes away from Cambridge. To many the name has been a by-word and a guarantee of quality and good service through the personal supervision of people resident in Cambridge. This must become a serious menace to the welfare of the town and all good citizens should avail themselves of the service ably rendered by locally owned firms - Loyal Citizen 27 04 03

1927 03 21
It must be 25 years since the seats and fences of Clare Hall Pieces were burnt on the Cambridge Market Hill. With the increasing number of visitors the lack of seats on the Backs is often felt and now that Cambridge attractions are being advertised the placing of seats in this favourite spot, where so many visitors go to view the west elevation of King's Chapel would be appreciated by many

1927 04 06
Great St Mary's church council replied to the Corporation's plans to widen St Mary's Street. They cannot sanction obtaining a faculty for the proposed work as increased heavy motor traffic coming so close to the church will be a very real danger to the safety of the foundations and fabric. Widening the street would create a death-trap and they propose to adopt every means in their power to prevent the scheme being carried out.

1927 06 09
Cambridge Undergraduates took upon themselves the duty of opening "Joanna Southcott's" famous box on the Market Hill. A crowd of mammoth proportions assembled. A melancholy dirge was heard from Petty Cury and there appeared a party of pipers and following them in one of Dale's lorries came a weird array of 24 "bishops" and a delegation of "Mormons" wearing huge straw sombreros. One "archbishop" proceeded to open the box, producing several layers of red tape, a teddy bear, a pair of old football boots and a number of bananas with which he pelted the crowd. The "rag" was organised to provide funds for the Cambridge Fruiting Campaign to help strawberry pickers in the Wisbech area.

1927 07 13
Last stretch of tram lines removed from St Mary's street [3.6]

1927 07 23
Cambridge council considered the erection of advertising boards by the Empire Marketing Committee at Corn Exchange Street, Market Hill, Drummer Street, Butts Green, Northampton

Street and the Cattle Market. But the path in Corn Exchange Street was only five feet wide and it would be dangerous if people stopped there to look at it. They would have to put up another sign, "Safety first. Passengers must not stop to look at this advertisement". (Laughter).

1927 08 12
An outstanding feature in the reconstruction of our new premises at 2, Market Hill, Cambridge, are the windows which are unique for a grocery business and compare in style with a London west-end store. We welcome an opportunity of showing you a store fitted and stocked in the most complete and scientific manner and where prized traditions inherited from our predecessors (Messrs Hallack and Bond) are upheld and carried forward with modern equipment. Shoppers may actually see their coffee roasted and ground. International Stores, the greatest grocers in the world. Advert.

1927 09 19
Premises in Peas Hill, Cambridge, may be acquired for the purpose of extending the Guildhall. Trinity Hall, the owners of nos 15 & 16 will sell for £5,500; Mr Sennitt will sell no.17 for £3,500, the price to include compensation for disturbance of the business and the tenant to have the option of hiring the premises until required by the Corporation. Corpus Christi College has agreed £2,200 for no.19. The Council is to apply to the Minister of Health for sanction to borrow the sum of £11,700 for the purchase 27 09 19

1927 11 17
Described as one of the finest shop sites in Cambridge, no.3 Petty Cury was offered for sale by auction. The shop, now in the occupation of Mrs Kemp as a toy and fancy warehouse, was offered with vacant possession and is freehold. The auctioneer mentioned the tremendous difference that would be made to the Market Square end of Petty Cury by the opening up of a big new shop at the corner. Bidding quickly rose to £7,350 but did not reach the reserve price and was withdrawn. Immediately after the auction it was sold privately.

1927 12 15 c
Many a charming gift can be purchased at a chemist's shop. Ladies always find scent very acceptable and at Messrs Campkin and Sons, Rose Crescent, Cambridge, there can be obtained a choice selection of perfume. Soap and bath salts in dainty packages, or toilet brushware are suggestions that may help to solve the gift problems for those whose pockets are not very deep.

1927 12 17
Cambridge Conservatives who, following the disastrous fire in Market Passage in November last year, have been accommodated in temporary club premises in Petty Cury, returned to the splendid new club which Phoenix-like has risen from the ashes of the old premises. As before there is a fine lounge billiard room with four tables on the top floor, and a fine lounge and smokeroom with secretary's office and card room adjoining. Two new rooms will be used as a reading and writing room and a committee room. The colour scheme is brown and buff. The ground floor is not yet complete but will consist of a large hall with a spring dance

1928 01 10
The Toft carrier, Mr John Chapman, lost his balance when getting into his cart while owing to a strong gust of wind, and fell heavily, striking his head on the ground. For the past 43 years as a carrier and egg and poultry dealer he has regularly attended the Cambridge market on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Although 78 years of age he was a man of exceptional vitality, able to carry on his business with all the energy and vigour of his former days.

1928 01 10
An inquiry was held into proposals to alter the charges for stalls on Cambridge market. There were 112 stalls, 64 of which were interior stalls but some, particularly those at the four corners of the market were more valuable than others. The present charge was 2s. 6d. per day and it was proposed to increase it to 6s. 10s for corner stalls, with frontage stalls increased to 4s.8d and the interior stalls raised to 3s. 4d. But the proposals had not been received with enthusiasm by the traders.

1928 01 23
An inquiry was held into Cambridge council's application to borrow money for the purchase of property in Peas Hill for an extension of the Guildhall. There was an increase of administrative staff and the offices were not adequate to enable the duties to be carried out efficiently. With the acquisition of the property the Corporation would hold the entire island site which would facilitate the suggested scheme for the reconstruction of the Guildhall. They had been met in a conciliatory spirit by the owners of the property and a favourable provisional agreement had been arrived at 28 01 23

1928 06 07
A dealer who kept a stall at Cambridge market and said that a few years' back he was taking big money and making a profit of £7 a week, ascribed his failure to a variety of causes. They included bad weather, law costs and keen competition since Woolworth's Stores had been opened. He bought a Ford lorry but it caught fire as he was going to Lakenheath for a sale and all the goods were burnt at the roadside.

1928 10 19
The 'Cambridge Chronicle' newspaper applied for a renewal of the lease of their printing works in Market Hill. For the last 100 years they have carried on business there, they were the best-known works of the kind and if they were obliged to quit the machinery and plant would be very costly to transfer. But the owner said she intended to pull down the premises to carry out a scheme of development.

1928 10 23
What is probably the largest single deal in Cambridge business property ever known has just been completed. A well-known local young man has purchased property with frontages in Market Hill, Petty Cury and Sidney Street and this will be developed by a company consisting of Cambridge people. It includes premises occupied by the Craft Shoe Company, the Cambridge Chronicle offices and printing works and Boots the chemist. As Messrs Boots recently secured a large amount of property in Petty Cury and Sidney Street it would appear that big changes will be seen in this part of town when both sites are developed.

1928 10 27
There is much speculation regarding the £42,000 Cambridge Market Hill deal; a large cinema and café are spoken of, but there are no details at present. It would be for the benefit of the town if the whole island site could be taken over by the Corporation; then as the leases run out it could be cleared and would provide a magnificent site for municipal buildings. Road traffic now demands that all building operations should be planned for what will be needed in the future, with a wider Petty Cury, Market Hill and Sidney Street. Something of the sort must eventually be done unless it is the intention to remove the Guildhall and market nearer the station.

1928 11 20

Earlier we gave details of a £42,000 deal in Cambridge Market Hill; now we can reveal proposals to build a super Victoria Cinema that will accommodate about 1,800 people and embody all the latest improvements with the most comfortable seating and an excellent orchestra. Large waiting lounges will be included to accommodate all queues in the building and protect patrons from the weather. A luxurious café restaurant is also promised. We are unable to state whether apparatus for 'talkies' will be included but no doubt if this art develops sufficiently well in time this new asset will not be overlooked.

1929 03 16
A member of the Cambridge Watch Committee was seen chalking the number on the front of his motor car in Market Street. His front number plate had recently been repainted and, forgetting it was not in its usual place, he went for a 40-mile trip. Next day he was stopped by an observant policeman who was adamant that he could not go on. "What shall I do", asked the motorist. "Go into Heffer's and get a pennyworth of chalk" said the policeman, which suggestion was at once acted upon.

1929 04 04
'Talkies for Cambridge' film in October – Central Cinema manager; new super-cinema on Market Hill next year – CDN 4.4.29

1929 07
Discuss Guildhall enlargement, consider alternative site [2.19]

1929 10 05
The imposition of a one-way traffic in Petty Cury is not news, but a good many people are under the impression that they can ride either way after eight o'clock at night. This is not so. The actual regulation, which was adopted in October 1924, says that Market Street and Petty Cury will be one-way streets only. Obviously there would be great dangers in adopting a resolution for the day-time and changing it at night, especially in such a main thoroughfare. For although business vans may be off the road there is often plenty of other traffic on the occasion of concerts at the Guildhall or dinners at the Lion Hotel.

1929 10 19
With the passing of Mrs Eliza Jane Mason of the Livingstone Hotel, Petty Cury, Cambridge has lost a prominent member of the restaurant business. She commenced business with a university lodging house on Market Hill which became known as 'Masons' and was converted into a restaurant. It was largely used by cadets and catered for the officers stationed here during the Great War. Almost the first Belgian wounded soldiers were billeted there and she acted as a sort of nursing mother to them. Her next move was to Sadd's before she bought the Livingstone Hotel which was then only a coffee house. It is now one of the best commercial hotels in Cambridge. She also built the Rendezvous, Magrath Avenue as a skating rink in 1909.

1929 11 06
Nearly thirty arrests were made during a Guy Fawkes 'Rag' on Cambridge Market Hill. Early in the evening an attempt was made to light at bonfire in Petty Cury and there was a considerable blaze in front of Falcon Yard before the police noticed it and it was extinguished. In Rose Crescent an effigy was soaked with petrol, stuffed with fireworks and deposited near the Market Hill end. This was quickly extinguished and the effigy confiscated, but the petrol continued to burn for a long time afterwards. A new feature of the scrimmages was the use of police whistles by undergraduates which added to the confusion.

1930

1930
New Electricity Company offices & showrooms opened 4 Market hill [Cam p109]

1930 02 05
The novel sight of people being lowered from an upper window of Messrs Macintosh's establishment in Market Street Cambridge by means of a new automatic fire escape has attracted considerable attention. The escape consists of a small metal box containing geared mechanism through which runs a steel cable with a safety belt fixed at each end. It can be fixed to the wall inside the window. The belt is placed round the body, under the arms and the person is lowered to the ground automatically at the rate of two feet per second. Most of the colleges have been equipped with it. Anybody desirous of testing the escape can do so and already a number of people, including one of the CDN photographers have done so. 30 02 05

1930 02 25
Sir – we Cambridge market traders notice that Councillor Longley wants to move our stalls into the Corn Exchange but we challenge him to produce a transferred market that has been a success. He wants to replace the stalls with car parking spaces. Cannot he see the utter foolishness of congesting the very centre of a town with cars. Those on Market Hill consist of business townsmen, clerics and travellers who sit in their expensive car, eat bread and cheese, beg an onion to go with it but do little business. The Market Hill and Peas Hill are open-air markets. An arcade was tried years ago. The building stands today, a sorry sight, in St Andrew's Hill. The stallholders all failed – W.J. Sambridge.
30 02 25

1930 03
Cambridge Chronicle leaves 9 Market Hill after 168 years [4.17]

1930 03 12
A crowd of nearly 3,000 massed in front of the loud speaker which Pye Radio had installed in the main window of the Cambridge Guildhall. Business in the market was suspended and the lanes between the stalls were solid with people. In the shops and offices there was a general cessation of work; counters and desks were forsaken and faces appeared at every window. There was a cheer when the Cambridge boat crew drew level and overtook Oxford. Workers hurrying home eagerly bought copies of the special edition of the CDN and pictures are being shown at the Central and Tivoli cinema this evening. 30 03 12

1930 05 28
The bookshops of Cambridge are a special feature of the town; no visitor can possibly miss David's stall on the Market Place where the book-lover may pick up a bargain. He came to Cambridge in 1896 and started his career at this stall; in 1906 he took a shop in St Edward's Passage, which is full of interesting old books and though often locked can be viewed at leisure in the window. In such esteem is he held that a luncheon was held in the Hall of Trinity College and a lithograph cartoon by Mr William Nicholson presented to him. 30 05 28a & b

1930 09 04
A Cambridge women told the court she had locked the door of her home at no.5 Guildhall Place but left the front window unfastened to allow her son to get in during the night. She was awakened by her estranged common-law husband who had got in and was flourishing a revolver.

He said it was a dummy revolver loaded with blank cartridges and explained they had lived together for 14 years until she took up with a new man. 30 09 04a

1930 11 06
Cambridge police had cold feet with waiting for something to turn up in a temperature several degrees under freezing point. But the dreaded 'Fifth', that traditional battle between University and police failed to explode in the time-honoured fashion. There was a constant bombardment on the outskirts of town and some spasmodic firework throwing on the market where smoke screens were used to some effect. Using the cloud as cover two lamps were extinguished under the very nose of a sergeant. There were a few arrests but no helmets were knocked off. 30 11 06b

1930 12 27
The heavy rain did not deter a large number of members of the Cambridgeshire Hunt from assembling on Cambridge Market Hill for this traditionally English spectacle. The scene was one worth a soaking to witness. Figures in the traditional red and black mingled with macintoshed horsemen, their steaming mounts were restless, the hounds silent and around was a rain-drenched crowd of about 1,000 people. They took a great deal of interest in a small terrier who looked out from the mouth of a haversack slung across a red-coated huntsman's back. 30 12 27a-b

1931 08 28
The new Victoria Cinema on Market Hill, Cambridge opens today. The auditorium is an example of complete harmony between the architect and the decorative painter. No architectural enrichment is applied to the walls, which remain for the most part in darkness, but when the space is filled with light a gorgeous flow of rich colours rises like waves from the back of the house to reach a climax in the rich proscenium curtain of crimson and gold. 31 08 28h

1931 09 04
Cambridge's new Victoria Cinema possesses a theatre organ of the most modern type, a three manual Christie built by Messrs William Hill and Norman and Beard who have been responsible for many of the finest cinema organs in the world. It is placed on one side of the proscenium in two specially constructed chambers which house 2,000 wooden and metal pipes each of which has been 'voiced' by an expert. In the centre of the orchestra pit, placed on an electric lift, is the beautifully decorated console from which the entire organ is controlled. 31 09 04c

1931 10 23
Cambridge University Drag Hunt first meet on Market Hill – photo – 31 10 23e

1931 11 13
The Poppy Day collection in Cambridge has again smashed all records with undergraduate collectors struggling with money still coming in. Nearly two tons of coppers have passed through their hands. Early in the day the stock of poppies was exhausted and a fresh supply had to be brought in by train. Market Hill was the scene of half-a-dozen well organised 'rags' and at Silver Street the Demon Diver jumped in flames into the river and the collectors drew in good sums for his 'widow' and 'children'.
31 11 13 i & j

1932 02 22
New Cambridge Industry (employing only local men). Same day dry-cleaning service by the new British wonder machine which cleans and actually strengthens fabrics leaving no smell. Special

opening offer: suit, costume, coat or dress, dry cleaned, hand pressed, collected and delivered for three shillings. The Forum Cleaners and Dyers, Market Hill, Cambridge (Advert). 32 02 22

1932 02 25
Apart from the large hall and council chamber the Cambridge Guildhall is worn out and absolutely unsuitable. The accommodation in every department was deplorable – dark, dismal, horrid, unlit and unhealthy. On Castle Hill there was a fine new building being erected for the County Council who were planning to spend £8,000 on furnishing alone. Never since the war had prices in the building trade been lower; this was the right moment to consider rebuilding, councillors were told. 32 02 25 & 25a

1932 06 04
A new Cambridge Guildhall should be built on the corner of East Road and Parkside where the site is three times as large, meeting the requirements of the Corporation for many years. The existing Guildhall on Market Hill should be replaced with shops on the ground floor and offices and flats above, councillors have recommended. 32 06 04a, 06a, 06aa New Guildhall debate – 32 06 09a, 32 06 20 & a, 32 06 21

1932 07 15
Cambridge councillors say the municipal buildings should remain on the Guildhall site and not move to Parkside as had been proposed. It should be a worthy building, not surrounded by shops. With four floors they could provide 70 per cent more accommodation for officials but five would add to the dignity of the building and leave some surplus space that could be let and provide a source of income. But it must not overwhelm the market place. 32 07 15 c & d

1932 08 19
John Austin Fabb started in business as a printer, moving to Guildhall Street in 1881 and Corn Exchange Street in 1920. He printed the Cambridge Review from its inception in 1879 and conceived the idea of a list of Resident Members of the University in 1890. During the war he compiled seven editions of the list of Cambridge University men on active service. He was a prominent Freemason and founded the York Street Sick Club. 32 08 19e

1932 10 14
Cambridge market hill presented an animated appearance when the University Drag Hounds held a meeting. Thirty horsemen gathered to be welcomed by the Mayor and a silver stirrup cup was handed round to all who could persuade their mounts to remain still for 30 seconds. They then moved off followed by all but one of the hounds which soon received ‘instructions’ from the crowd of 200 spectators and joined his comrades. 32 10 14a

1932 12 09
A Cambridge man told the bankruptcy court he had started as a second-hand bookseller from a stall on Market Hill. Then he took a shop at 17 Peas Hill selling antiquarian books. But a slump in trade 18 months ago meant Americans were not buying books so he had to borrow from moneylenders. 32 12 09a & b

1933 01 30
Guildhall ‘by instalments’ plan – 33 01 30e

1933 02 02
Guildhall development on Peas Hills front – 33 02 02c & d

1933 02 04
Guildhall rebuilding cartoon – 33 02 04e

1933 03 09
Gt St Mary's bells a nuisance – 33 03 09

1933 04 14
Guildhall plans – 33 04 14a

1933 04 20
Cambridge councillors considered schemes for the rebuilding of the Guildhall. One would alter the whole site, the other would set back the front but the building on Guildhall Street would remain untouched and would revert to being a court. But some councillors thought the Parkside scheme was still the best and would be far cheaper. 33 04 20c & d

1933 06 12
Saturday was one of the quietest bump supper nights on record. A few blazered undergraduates wearing dress shirts roamed the streets and occasionally a cheer could be heard. Then there was a squad of those who went through various drill movements, using the pavement as a parade ground. But they were remarkably steady, and mild, possibly because the bump-supper beer was likewise! A constable remarked, "Sid Moon (the News cartoonist) should draw a cartoon of an empty Market Hill with a yawning policeman, because that all there's doing tonight". 33 06 12a

1933 06 26
Guildhall scheme approved – 33 06 26 & a

1933 07 28
The Central Hall in Market Passage may become a cinema where cultural films would be shown during the University term. It would be run by Openshaw Higgins, formerly manager of The Tivoli cinema. Mr Mullett, the architect said the amount of film in the proposed projection box would not generate sufficient heat in event of a fire to buckle the iron armour of which it would be constructed. 33 07 28

1933 08 11
The veranda or shelter over the main entrance of the Guildhall was disgustingly dirty and unsafe and should be removed, the Surveyor reported. It had been built in 1878 and the public should get used to the Guildhall without it because it would not be incorporated in the new building. Others said it was a useful shelter and should be maintained at all costs: the Preservation Society would be shocked if they allowed that ancient piece of architecture to be scrapped. 33 08 11

1933 09 19
Cambridge Guildhall dated back to about 1782 and there had been various extensions. In 1928 the Corporation bought shops in Peas Hill to allow for rebuilding. The possibility of providing shops on the ground floor had been considered but this would not allow sufficient offices for the extra staff needed to cope with their increased duties, an Inquiry was told 33 09 19

1933 10 14
Cambridge's eighth cinema, the Cosmopolitan, otherwise the Central Hall in Market Passage, will provide a regular home for cultural films. Five years ago a Film Guild was started to show a more intelligent class of film, then Mr Openshaw Higgins tried putting them into the ordinary

programme before deciding on a new small cinema. It will give three performances each day during Term. 33 10 14

1933 11 27
Joel Smart was the son of a Gloucestershire cloth manufacturer. Coming to Cambridge shortly after the battle of Waterloo he commenced business at 59 Bridge Street in 1826, removing in 1840 to Petty Cury and in 1853 to 11 Market Street. Here he purchased the clothing business of Watson Taylor who had been trading from early in the century. He took his son, Charles, into partnership, in whose family the business still remains. Such is the history of one of the oldest firms in Cambridge where customers will find all the latest materials and the most fashionable styles at keen prices. 33 11 27

1934 02 15
A blindfolded motorist drove through Cambridge at the height of the rush hour as people made their way home to lunch. Professor Popjie's claims that he has 'second sight' enabling him to sense anything in the way was tested when a pedal-propelled invalid chair caused him to slow somewhat abruptly He threaded his way through traffic down Petty Cury, round the Market and back to the New Theatre where he is appearing with his electrical figure 'Radiana'. 34 02 15

1934 04 27
A large number of University and college servants gathered at the Assembly Rooms in Market Passage for the opening of their new Club by the Vice-Chancellor. The opportunity for members to meet in social intercourse was half the value of a Cambridge education. It would provide properly organised amusements for all servants during winter months, to fit in with their rather unusual hours of leisure. 34 04 27

1934 08 01
Gonville and Caius College's scheme for the complete rebuilding of the block of shops and houses on the north side of Cambridge Market Hill has been finally approved. At present the site from Rose Crescent to St Mary's Court is occupied by a group of houses, mostly of the 18th century. Their disappearance will be regretted, even by those who knew how dilapidated they had become behind their neat Georgian facades. But the whole effect of the completed block should stifle these regrets. The shops will be set back seven feet with upper rooms carried on slender pillars. 34 08 01

1934 08 01
After a history of 100 years it is hardly surprising that there is a thorough tobacco atmosphere about the shop of Messrs Bacon Bros which has stood on Market Hill since 1805 and the news that it is to be pulled down with cause regret to many. A number of ledgers over 100 years old, containing fascinating information about the smokers have come to light including the original accounts sent to C.S. Calverley whose 'Ode to Tobacco' appears on the outer wall of the shop. A new shop will be built on almost the same spot. 34 08 01

1934 09 15
Extensive repairs are being carried out to the roof of Great St Mary's church. Once again the cause is the death-watch beetle whose activities in the wooden beams have wrought tremendous havoc. The area around the chancel is in 'splints' with steel scaffolding but services are being held as usual. The church has only recently been cleaned and the organ renovated. One can only hope the ravages have been checked before they could cover the whole of the roof. 34 09 15 [6.13]

1934 09 22
Statues on Market Hill conduit named – 34 09 22

1934 09 27
Hot Bargains at the great re-building sale at the Peas Hill Cash Drapery Stores. Household linens, blankets, dress and underwear fabrics at knock-out prices including Wigan sheeting, Jaspe bedspreads, Gent's fancy socks, Ladies artificial silk knickers (slightly fleeced) and interlock woven pyjamas. From college hire, 50 pairs of single bed sheets, once used and laundered, from 3/6 each. Six dozen heavy white Turkish Towels (one used and laundered) nine-pence three-farthings each. – Advertisement. 34 09 27

1934 11 03
The Cambridge Social Club, all that survived of the old Liberal Club in Downing Street, has been wound up. It moved to Market Passage and for the last five years old party labels have gone by the board. Each year it has been difficult making ends meet but happily the club finished up free from debt. The Ranjitsinhji Billiards Bowl has been offered to the Central Conservative Club and the portrait of its donor to the Hobbs' Pavilion. 34 11 03a

1934 11 06
Cambridge saw one of the most riotous celebrations of the 'Fifth' for many years. In the course of demonstrations around Market Hill nearly 40 arrests were made, many of the police lost their helmets, several more had their tunics ripped right down the back and not a few sustained split knuckles and bruises. When supplies of fireworks began to run low parties of undergraduates attempted to put out every light but carried their efforts too far and smashed the glass of two shop windows and the traffic signal at the top of Petty Cury. There were 35 defendants including seven for assaults on the police, three for resisting the police a number for obstructing the police. Other summonses were for extinguishing street lamps and throwing fireworks. A Trinity undergraduate was fined for 'tipping' a policeman's helmet. Several times during the hearing there were outbursts of laughter. 34 11 06, a & b

1934 12 07
Barratt shoes have just opened their 126th branch at 6 Market Street Cambridge. When you consider that ten years ago they had fewer than 20 you must allow that they'd progressed. Some of the lines are stocked in no fewer than fifty alternative fittings. They are made in Barratt's own factory and sold only through their branches. From start to finish every detail is under their control and there are no middleman's profits – advert. 34 12 07

1934 12 17
Merchants at Cambridge Corn Exchange traditionally end the year by throwing about samples of their wares. The signal for the commencement of the battle was the explosion of a cracker near the door. The 'firer' was immediately bombarded and soon covered with flour, wheat and artificial manure. Crackers banged merrily, bags burst with marked effect and very soon all the dignified corn-merchants were life-like imitations of snowmen. Even the rather grim-looking statue of Jonas Webb looked comical with the flour-bag headgear that was placed on it. After 30 minutes the ammunition ran out and combat ceased, though the debris-covered floor was witness of the fight that had been in progress. 34 12 17a

1935 01 02
Guildhall – architect's drawing – 35 01 02

1935 03 07
Police guarded the closed gates of the University Arms Hotel while Sir Oswald Mosley was at a dinner organised by the University Fascist Society. Outside a meeting organised by the University Socialist Society was held on Parker's Piece with speeches by John Cornford, Maurice Cornford and Maurice Dobb. Then a torchlight procession by 200 undergraduates shouting anti-Fascist slogans such as 'We want Mosley dead or alive' and singing 'The Internationale' marched to Peas Hill where more speeches were made before a Proctor arrived and they dispersed. 35 03 07c

1935 03 13
A packed public meeting at Cambridge Guildhall voted against plans for a new building and called on the council to remodel the front to a more dignified style of architecture. Cambridge was a treasure house of architectural gems and they had no right to hand down to posterity a freak building, a flat and uninteresting example of early 20th-century abominations. Another motion dealing with the question of shops on the Peas Hill side of the building received scant attention as most of the audience had left before the end. 35 03 13 & a

1935 04 10
Demolition work on Peas Hill for the new Guildhall has led to an architectural discovery of outstanding interest. It has revealed the residence and business premises of a well-to-do Tudor merchant which was subsequently divided up into a detached and two semi-detached houses. The magnificent front was covered up with lath and plaster in the reign of Queen Anne and finished with mock bricks. Dummy eaves were also added. Now each piece has been carefully taken down and numbered for preservation and re-erection. 35 04 10

1935 05 01
The Guildhall Protest Committee criticised plans for a useless portico of a most ornate and incongruous style which could be 'put on cold' in from of the proposed façade of the new Guildhall in two years' time if the town really wanted it. They maintained the main entrance should be on Market Hill. It would allow a terrace which would form a platform for addressing meetings on Market Hill and give a façade of distinction that the people strongly desire. There was also intense feeling regarding the question of shops on the Peas Hill side 35 05 01

1935 05 13
The number employed by the Disabled Persons Workshop has varied from 9 to 10; two are doing piece work in their homes, not being able to attend at the shop. Unfortunately three who are employed are not eligible for the deficiency grants from the Ministry of Labour which has hit the income. It has been a disturbed year owing to the difficulty of finding suitable premises in Cambridge for a shop. The workshops in Gloucester Street are out of the way and they had to leave Peas Hill because of demolitions, meaning there was nowhere to sell their goods. The new premises in Trumpington Street are outside the shopping centre and the rents and rates are a strain 35 05 13

1935 05 18
Cambridge Drawing Society exhibition includes many local views including 'Peas Hill' by Dorothy E. Bradford, 'Pembroke College' by Joyce Shillington Scales and Fenners by Mary Fyson. Fulbourn Mill has provided R.C. Lambeth with a subject. His detailed painting of the interior of the mill and its machinery will interest all with a mechanical turn of mind. Madame Raverat has some beautiful woodcuts including an unusually large cut of St John's Old Bridge printed from three wood blocks. 35 05 18

1935 06 15

The Cosmopolitan Cinema in Market Passage was started two years ago by Mr N. Openshaw Higgins as an experiment. Increasing numbers of people have welcomed the opportunity of seeing cultural films that do not appeal to be masses. Now it is moving to the new theatre being constructed in Peas Hill. There has been discussion as to the most suitable name for the new venture. The Arts Theatre was talked of, but a more likely choice now is the Market Theatre. 35 06 15b

1935 05 16
Councillors argued over proposals for the Guildhall. Some wanted to spend £200,000 on the old building and still have a patchwork quilt, whereas they could have an entirely new one for £150,000. Peas Hill never had been and never would be a business centre and shops there would never be a paying proposition. The dispute had started with an unfortunate illustration of the façade in the 'Sunday Times' but the design was undoubtedly a dignified building of its kind and the average elector would vote for anything, if it were as ugly as sin, if it would only save a bit on the rates.. However Councillor Stubbs said if it had been built on Donkey Common as he'd suggested some years ago the council would not be in the muddle it was today. 35 05 16a & b

1935 07 27
Belisha Beacons have now been installed in Cambridge, whether we like them or not. They are on Market Street corner near Sainsbury's, between Christ's college and St Andrew's church, near the Midland Bank in Petty Cury, the 'Jolly Waterman' on Victoria Avenue and between Christ's Pieces and New Square. It is just as well the undergraduates are not here to see their erection. Perhaps we shall all have become thoroughly accustomed to them where our young friends come up 35 07 27b

1935 09 07
New theatre on Peas Hill takes shape – photo – 35 09 07

1935 09 27
The opening of Bacon Bros' new premises on Market Hill will forge a new link in a unique chain of tradition. Old ledgers record the names of customer who became famous in every walk of life including the Prince of Wales, the future Baron Rothschild and both Alfred and Charles Tennyson. The new interior fittings are made of cedar so that the shop is like a giant cigar box with many relics of bygone days. Verses from the 'Ode to Tobacco' by Charles Stuart Calverley which featured on the wall of the old building in Rose Crescent until its demolition last year are to make their reappearance in the form of a bronze tablet. 35 09 27b & 28a

1935 10 01
Cambridge Justices approved the plans of Associated British Cinemas for a new cinema to be erected in St Andrew's Street. The site had been left derelict after fire burnt down a large part of the Castle Hotel in 1934. The application was opposed by the Theatre Cinema and the Rendezvous. There were nine cinemas in Cambridge with 6,300 seats and it would be impossible for them all to carry on if a super cinema like this were built. The Victoria was built four years ago, the Arts Theatre was completely new and the Rendezvous was having more seats and an organ. But the Cosmopolitan had closed and the Guildhall and Corn Exchange licences were rarely used. 35 10 01 & a

1935 10 17
The foundations of the Small Room of the Guildhall, which also supported the Borough Surveyor's room, are in such bad conditions that they must be demolished earlier than planned. It had been hoped to defer demolition until the Surveyor could move into the new wing of the

Guildhall being built on Peas Hill. A ditch had been found under the site. Assurances were sought that the foundations of the rest of the Guildhall, especially the Large Room, were secure because weaknesses were not generally found in one spot but existed in veins all over the area. 35 10 17a

1935 10 18
Sir – Last Saturday afternoon I saw a fellow stuck more than half-way up Market Street with a car. He had been into a nearby shop and carefully turned the petrol off. When he came out he found a string of cars and buses held up. He got flustered at the situation, pressed the starter and nothing happened. I swung it about four times for him, and still nothing happened. Then I helped him push it down the street out of the way, and there found out the trouble. – Albert Baker 35 10 18a

1935 11 11
The Two Minutes' Silence was observed. Life was paralysed and sound was stilled. A crowd of several hundreds gathered on Cambridge Market Hill, waiting. At two minutes to the hour a clock in the vicinity struck and a whistle blew on the Guildhall demolition site and the Silence began. Buses, cars, carts, cycles and pedestrians were perfectly still. When what was actually the first maroon went off at eleven the crowd mistook it for the second and during what should have been the Silence the ordinary bustle recommenced. The second maroon took everyone by surprise with the exception of the few who had realised the mistake and remained still. 35 11 11

1935 11 26
Cambridge Disabled Soldiers' Workshop had been through a difficult period. The largest number of men in the workshop was 12 and at present there were only seven, none of which were complete in their bodies. One had lost his leg in the South African War. The shop in Trumpington Street was not in so good a situation as at Peas Hill and they did not get the streams of passing undergraduates. We should never forget the men who had served, suffered and saved our country through its years of dire peril. 35 11 26

1935 12 17
Electricity is the modern housewife's Father Christmas, bringing her so many labour-saving and home-brightening devices and Messrs Bailey, Grundy and Barrett of St Mary's Passage are specialists. Lamp standards, wireless sets and coffee percolators are a few gift suggestions. Harassed husbands and flurried fiancés will find solutions to all their gift problems at Messrs Eaden Lilley's which is packed full of things dear to the feminine heart such as evening gowns, furs and lingerie. The bargain basement has good quality stuff at reasonable prices. 35 12 17a

1936 01 23
Several thousand packed Cambridge Market Hill where from a special platform draped in purple the new King Edward VII was proclaimed. But proceedings were interrupted by the appearance overhead of an aeroplane and as a result of the noise from the engine the Mayor (Ald Wing) had to pause. Undergraduates crowded outside the Senate House where the University ceremony was held. Many of them had cameras and four or five, determined to get a good view of the ceremony, climbed into the huge bowl which stands on a pedestal in the court. 36 01 23c

1936 02 04
The Cambridge Arts Theatre opened with a gala performance by the Vic-Walls Ballet Company. It is a beautiful piece of work with furnishings in autumn leaf and includes a restaurant and café bar. The cinema and sound apparatus is of the very latest type with facilities for the reproduction of gramophone records designed by Messrs Morley and Duke. The fresh air supply can be

warmed or cooled while the main heating by water-fed radiators is instantly adjustable to meet the vagarities of the English climate 36 02 04 & a

1936 03 12
Albany Café in St Mary's Passage – painting – 36 03 12b

1936 03 21
Albany coffee shop St Mary's Passage notes; frontage between St Mary's Passage and St Edward's Passage sold - 36 03 21b

1936 03 28
Under new restrictions Cambridge motorists may not travel from Market Hill towards Trinity Street or into Bene't Street from King's Parade. You may not drive into Sussex Street from Hobson Street or into Corn Exchange Street from Downing Street, nor turn at Burton's Corner, Petty Cury to go to the Victoria Cinema or from Wheeler Street into Peas Hill to get to the Arts Theatre. But cyclists may walk with their bicycles either way as they do at present in Petty Cury and Market Street. Restaurants will have to speed up their service if they wish to cater for those who leave their cars outside, for only a quarter of an hour is permitted. Travellers who do not want to get indigestion had better make use of a parking space! 36 03 28b

1936 09 03
When John Brown took charge of Freeman, Hardy & Willis shop on Market Hill in 1897 boots were cheap, and needed to be: "I can remember country women coming in with a dozen children and saying their husbands only earned twelve shillings a week". When he started brown boots were so scarce that people stopped and gazed at someone who sported a pair in Peterborough. Most had hob nails in the sole – even those for infants - and women wore elastic-sided boots – it didn't matter what they wore, because you never saw their feet. The shop was enlarged into premises next door in 1905 36 09 03a

1936 10 13
The Central Library Lending Department is housed in the oldest and most unhygienic part of the building in Wheeler Street. The room is badly provided with natural lighting and artificial light has to be used. When 'open access' was installed in 1921 the annual circulation was 141,968 books and now it is over 309,000. It should move into the present domed Reading Room. Most of the bookcases have been in use since 1862 and would be unsightly; they should be replaced by steel shelving. 36 10 13c

1936 11 20
Gustave David, known as 'David' to generations of undergraduates has died hours after returning by the midnight train having attended a London auction. He came to Cambridge forty years ago, opening his now-famous stall on Market Hill. Later he opened a shop in Green Street before moving to St Edward's Passage. He was the first man in Cambridge to sell rare and old books at low prices. So appreciative were Universitymen of his services that in 1925 a number of distinguished members entertained him to lunch at Trinity in recognition of the 'conspicuous services he has rendered the cause of humane letters'. 36 11 20 a & b

1936 12 09
The Cambridge Milk Bar opened on Market Hill where all the shakes and soups can be purchased at the standard price of four pence. You have only to visit it once to become an addict. The first milk bar opened in Fleet Street two years ago and they have spread rapidly attracting business men, workmen and shoppers. In cold weather what could be more sustaining that a bowl of soup

made with milk while in summer a cold milk shake flavoured with fresh fruit syrups, made 'crisp' with cream and whipped is a creamy delight 36 12 09b

1936 12 30
Peas Hill windows smashed – including Sennitt – 36 12 30 & a

1937 02 18
Guildhall and Market Hill site – history by Mrs Keynes – 37 02 18

1937 05 12
Cambridge celebrated the coronation of King George V with a decorated vehicle display on Midsummer Common. The entries hardly reached the standard of the Jubilee procession and the crowds did not seem to be quite so thick, but the right spirit was present. Modern decorations in the shape of coloured electric bulbs and weatherproof materials were utilised to the full with triple garlands spanning Market Hill and central streets. The war memorial and the colleges were bathed with floodlighting 37 05 12b

1937 07 16
An 18-feet long scale model of H.M.S. Repulse was exhibited on Cambridge Market Square to stimulate recruiting and advertise Navy Week. It is fitted with electric search-lights and Morse lamps and illuminated by powerful lamps from the Vauxhall lorry that tows it. Extensive alterations have been made to the upper deck of the ship since the model was first made and these have been effected on the model which was originally constructed at Portsmouth docks for instructional purposes.37 07 16a

1937 07 17
Rainwater heads on Three Tuns, Central Hotel, Peas Hill – 37 07 17b

1937 08 20
Sir – way back in the 1890s I booked a seat with the Sawston carrier. The morning broke with a grey sky. I remember his suspicious look until I paid him the ninepence fare and threepence extra providing there was no 'scorching'. I also recollect his need of a shave. We made Stapleford in the first three hours, on to Shelford and rounded the Stone Bridge, Trumpington about noon, to schedule. But then the offside-wheel came off. I alighted at Market Hill, walked down Petty Cury and boarded a horse tram. Then from the delightful rhythm and sway of that luxuriously-upholstered vehicle I drank in the scenery of the skyscraper buildings in Regent Street before returning home – 'Blisters' 37 08 20

1938 01 07
The demolition of parts of the old Guildhall has meant that several annual functions have lost their normal home. But a Mayoral reception elsewhere than in the Guildhall must surely be unique in Cambridge history. It is symbolic of the happy relations existing between the Town and the University that the Old Schools should have been placed at the disposal of the councillors. Cars containing guests pulled up on King's Parade and a lengthy walk under illuminated awnings led to the Dome Room. The Council Room, East Room, Syndicate Room and Regent House were in use but only the dais where the orchestra played for dancing was decorated 38 01 07

1938 01 14
The old Shire Hall on Cambridge Market Hill, was erected in 1747. At that a time the 14th-century Guildhall which stood on the south of Butter Row was under repair. This was pulled down in 1782 to be replaced by the Guildhall built by James Essex. Now demolition has revealed

a fragment of the medieval Guildhall. Two pieces of ancient oak carved with leaves are thought to date from 1386. They will be replaced in the new building 38 01 14b

1938 03 22
Exhibition of furniture at Central Hall, Market Passage – 38 03 22

1938 03 22
Market Hill fountain water not fit for human consumption – 38 03 22e

1938 03 28
Thomas Gregg, a familiar face on the Market Hill, has retired after 30 years as a colporteur. He came to Cambridge in 1908 and has sold Bibles, Testaments and texts on his market stall near the fountain every Saturday since. It was often used as a meeting place for preachers and people from the villages. He also works as a lay preacher and travels round on his bicycle. "I have cycled to chapels as far away as Ely and once preached five sermons at Wilburton on one Sunday", he said 38 03 28a

1938 06 24
The new Cambridge Guildhall basement could be regarded as splinter-proof and it would not be difficult to render it gas-resisting, the Air Raid Precautions Committee heard. If not done they could be criticised for allowing a public building without adequate protection and could not ask other stores or factories to comply with such regulations. But it would need to have 25 feet of concrete, with earth on top, to make it bomb-proof. It was absolutely and entirely impossible. 38 06 24a & b

1938 10 05
Martin's bank opens new branch on Market Hill – 38 10 05

1938 10 07
William Coad of Cavendish Avenue has come up with an answer to the need for underground A.R.P. shelters. His scheme is to construct a sub-way car park underneath Cambridge Market Square with inlet and outlet ramps, which, in the event of an emergency, could be converted into an effective shelter accommodating several thousand people. A nominal car-parking fee would eventually pay for the initial outlay and alleviate the need for suitable garaging for business men coming into the town. 38 10 07

1938 10 21
A.R. Nichols and Son, butchers on the corner of Petty Cury and Guildhall Street notify customers that owing to building reconstruction in Petty Cury they are temporarily carrying on their business at their East Road shop and also at a stall on Market Hill 38 10 21

1938 10 29
Fireworks, jeers, cheers and shouts punctuated a meeting organised by the University Socialist Club addressed by Major Atlee, the Leader of the Opposition, in the Corn Exchange. The noise died down when he began to speak but there were frequent interruptions caused by exploding fireworks. All police leave was cancelled because of the meeting and a visit by Sir Oswald Mosley to the C.U. Fascist Association dinner in the Dorothy Café. But rowdyism was principally of the vocal kind. 38 10 29a

1938 11 11

Undergraduates invaded the streets, skilfully extracting all the spare coppers with various ingenious stunts. In white sweaters and kilts of many clans the University Pipe Band paraded to Market Square for a display of Highland dancing, then toured public houses. The 'Peace Group' were perched on a cart disguised as a camouflaged tank decorated with "Atlee's pants" – which appeared to be pale pink in colour. Standing on the tank were two dictatorial-looking figures in uniform. Amongst the individual performers was a man on a pair of stilts made from sculls while barrel-organ players were dressed as ghosts 38 11 11

1939 01 09
A mass meeting of farmers held in Cambridge Corn Exchange expressed alarm at the catastrophic fall in the price of certain agricultural produce and called for guaranteed prices. In 1938 they'd increased their production of barley by 60,000 acres but received the same amount as the previous year. The consumer demands cheap food, but this should not be at the expense of the farm worker; acres were going out of cultivation and farmers were getting harder and harder up. The farmer was traditionally Conservative and in the old days the party was drawn largely from the land. But now it was made up of industrialists and financiers. 39 01 09 & a

1939 05 20
Cambridge Corn Exchange was packed with 2,500 undergraduates when Winston Churchill made a striking speech on conscription which was relayed to the Lion Hotel. There was some violence when those unable to get in attempted to force an entrance; during the melee a policeman lost his helmet. Several hundred undergraduates remained outside until a proctor ordered them to disburse. Inside a motion accepting conscription was carried by ten to one 39 05 20 & a

1939 07 22
The new Cambridge Guildhall will be opened on October 9th by the Earl of Derby. The grand staircase is much more imposing than the old one, the new small room, complete with carpet, will be very convenient and the large hall improved though it is not nearly large enough for conferences, political mass meetings or big musical enterprises. The new Council chamber also seems on the small side and the aldermanic bench has been considerably shortened. 39 07 22b

1939 07 28
Cambridge Town council held its last meeting at Shire Hall while the Guildhall was reconstructed. The Library committee asked to use the Small Room as temporary reading room during the re-arrangement of the Central Library. But it had a very expensive carpet that might get spoilt. The library might use the Corn Exchange annexe if the cycles were moved. Ald Briggs said that was not a proper alternative: "The fact is that we have had made a beautiful Guildhall, but must not use it". The carpet could be taken up. But the Guildhall might not be finished by that time and it would be unfortunate if people were allowed in the Small Room before the rest were completed. The request was denied – 39 07 28b & c

1939 08 31
Lloyd's Bank practiced evacuating their staff to air raid shelters in the two strong rooms adjoining the main hall of the bank. Those in Lloyds Bank Chambers used a specially constructed cat-walk over the roof to the fire escape window. The two strong rooms are situated one below the other and a trapdoor will supply a means of escape should one of the entrances become blocked. In the event of a raid customers can accompany the staff or seek the nearest public shelter in wine vaults under Peas Hill 39 08 31

1939 09 09

Peas Hill air raid shelter opens; large cavity under road shelters 400 people in converted wine cellars – photo – 39 09 09, 09a

1939 10 04
Cambridge business is experiencing a war boom with the influx of thousands of evacuees and fewer facilities for getting to London to shop. A feeling of optimism prevails among tradespeople who point out that although prices will rise in the near future it will not be due to profiteering on their part. The Paris House reports a flourishing sale in fur coats and higher priced merchandise while Mr Hensher of Peas Hill says his shop has been crowded by purchasers of black-out materials, blankets and bedding. Millers say gramophones and wirelesses are selling well and they expect a rush on pianos. 39 10 04a

1939 10 06
Suggestions for brightening the black-out at Cambridge. Heffer's have a selection of indoor games such as Autobridge, dominoes and jig-saw puzzles. Coad's stock khaki wools and other artistic shades for personal shoppers while Johnson's have a range of novels as well as black-out paper. Gray of Sidney Street can supply miniature billiard tables but those who prefer the real thing should visit the Guildhall Street Billiards Saloon which is open from early morning till late at night. 39 10 06b

1939 10 12
Guildhall first council meeting – 39 10 12a & 12b [and see Memories 20th Oct 2014]

1939 11 10
The first part of the new scheme for improving the Central library is complete. In the new lending department book shelves radiate from a central staff inclosure, providing more room and improved natural lighting. The old lending library will become the newspaper reading room while the old reference room will be used for magazines. An innovation is the transfer of the reference room upstairs to the old Education offices, entrance to which is gained through Peas Hill. Refugees, evacuees and any person resident in Cambridge are eligible as borrowers. 39 11 10

1939 12 08
A News reporter inspected all types of shelter and was impressed with the comparative comfort of the interiors. The person who looks for armchairs will be disappointed, but in some of the larger basements there is plenty of space to walk about and in some there is even central heating. Most shelters have been constructed to withstand any likely fall of masonry and air locks to keep out gas have been installed. The have been arranged within a short distance of areas such as the centre of town where there are usually considerable congregations of people. They are primarily intended for the protection of people caught in the streets in an emergency. None are now ready with the cellars under Peas Hill holding 400 people 39 12 08b

1940

1940 02 22
Robert Henshaw, furnishing fabrics, Peas Hill/St Edward's Passage: illustrated advert – 40 02 22a

1940 03 14
'Modern Hairdressing' – new ladies hair saloon and Stanwell Shoe Company, St Mary's Passage – 40 03 14a

1940 04 24

A.J. Pointer cinema pioneer; took over Victoria Assembly Room in Market Hill which he ran as a roller skating rink, converting it into Cambridge's first cinema in 1910, had previously used Alexandra Hall for occasional picture shows. In 1916 he took over the Kinema, previously a variety theatre which is now the oldest cinema in Cambridge. Victoria closed 15 years ago and when new Vic re-opened under a company he handed over control to his son, Eric. Personally directed Kinema till last year when son Frank took over – 41 04 24a; had been occasional films at Midsummer Fair but Pointer responsible for first regular showings at Alexandra Hall, now YMCA and comfortable seating was not one of the main attractions. Performances were shorter but comprised nine or 10 items such as five 'comics', one 'coloured trick', one news film of racing and two dramas. Early films were crude affairs and constant flickering made it seem as if picture taken in heavy downpour of rain – 41 04 26a. Early films – old Victoria cinema was called Electric Theatre and run by a Mr Jordain – 41 05 03a

1940 06 24
Great salvage drive – refuse collector on Market Hill – 40 06 24a

1940 08 13
Mr Pointer owned Victoria Cinema and in 1929 Pointer & Co formed for purpose of building and running a modern cinema; attached was Still and Sugarloaf. In 1935 Cambridge Holdings Ltd was formed to acquire cinemas in Cambridge who wanted to acquire Victoria Cinema and restaurant. They paid Pointer & co for £30,500 – court case – 40 08 13a, 40 08 14b, 40 08 16

1940 09 06
Death of Mr. W. H. Francis. A familiar figure in Cambridge, of which he was Mayor before the Great War, Mr. Walter H. Francis, passed away on Thursday at the age of 82. His home was at 3 Grange Road and he had been in failing health for some time. Since the death of his brother (Mr. Musgrave Francis) Mr. Francis had been senior partner in the Francis and Co., solicitors of Peas Hill 1940 11 01
Peas Hill air raid shelter interior, showing old wine bottles – photo – 40 11 01b

1940 11 26
Nazi that was Messerschmitt-en – Corn Exchange war weapons exhibition – 40 11 26b, c

1941 04 26
A.J. Pointer cinema pioneer; took over Victoria Assembly Room in Market Hill which he ran as a roller skating rink, converting it into Cambridge's first cinema in 1910, had previously used Alexandra Hall for occasional picture shows. In 1916 he took over the Kinema, previously a variety theatre which is now the oldest cinema in Cambridge. Victoria closed 15 years ago and when new Vic re-opened under a company he handed over control to his son, Eric. Personally directed Kinema till last year when son Frank took over – 41 04 24a; had been occasional films at Midsummer Fair but Pointer responsible for first regular showings at Alexandra Hall, now YMCA and comfortable seating was not one of the main attractions. Performances were shorter but comprised nine or 10 items such as five 'comics', one 'coloured trick', one news film of racing and two dramas. Early films were crude affairs and constant flickering made it seem as if picture taken in heavy downpour of rain – 41 04 26a. Early films – old Victoria cinema was called Electric Theatre and run by a Mr Jordain – 41 05 03a

1941 05 03
Roller skating craze at height in 1910 with University and Town Rink in Magrath Avenue, Victoria Assembly Rooms, skating rink on Market Hill and in Pythagoras Gardens where was open-air skating and shooting range – 41 05 03b

1941 08 15
James Henry Kidd of Kidd & Baker dies aged 72; first worked for Faulkner-White in St Andrew's Street, then Scott & Wilkinson. Opened his own business in St Mary's studios 36 years ago and was joined by Miss Baker who had worked with him at Scott & Wilkinson. Business thrived, good mixed trade with University and town. War produced difficulties in obtaining materials and the studio was forced to close – 41 08 15a

1942 06 15
United Nations day in Cambridge – march down Market Street – 42 06 15c

1942 07 04
David's bookstall featured in Canadian radio broadcast, started 1886 now one of oldest on market– 42 07 04

1942 08 20
Market Hill fountain covered in scaffolding – photo – 42 08 14c; displays salvage drive figures – 42 08 20a

1943 06 29
Queue for horse meat for pets in Wheeler Street – photo – 43 06 29

1943 08 28
J. Hopkins of Stretham retires from Cambridge market after 60 years selling poultry, eggs and butter – 43 08 28 & a

1943 11 01
Cambridge Corn Exchange venue for Barn Dance staged by American Red Cross for US forces' celebration of traditional American custom of Hallowe'en … at one end a Guy Fawkes surrounded by straw … dances consisted slow foxtrots and quicksteps to the famous American Flying Eagles band. Were crates of apples and pears from which the many dancers, numbering about 1,800 were at liberty to help themselves. Refreshments served free of charge by an American clubmobile – a canteen on wheelers – about 3,000 American doughnuts, 25 gallons of coffee and 30 gallons of cider, beside orange and lemonade. Pumpkins cut into faces grotesquely illuminated by candles … 43 11 01

1943 12 28
Stanley Rampling, dies; was surgical appliance maker, Market Street – 43 12 28a

1944 04 03
Cambridge leave hostel for serving women opened Rose Crescent – 42 02 06aYWCA Hostel in Lensfield Road opened – two roomy houses standing side by side; the old hostel in Rose Crescent outgrown; many hundreds had stayed in earlier years of the war. Can now accommodate 65 service women; 1,400, including Land Army have stayed. 44 04 03

1944 05 05
Telephone supervisor, Grace Curzon retires after 45 years; was one of two telephone operators in Trunk Exchange of Old Post Office. The local telephone exchange was on Market Hill under control of the National Telephone Company. In 1913 the Post Office took control and a combined trunk and local exchange was installed in old Telephone Exchange premises in Alexandra Street.

When automatic telephone working was introduced in 1925 it moved to new head Post Office in St Andrew's Street – 44 05 05a

1945 04 06
Salvage. The hon. local salvage organiser (Mr. E. W. Bullman) reports that over two tons of waste paper and cardboard was sent from Linton last week, also 3 cwt. of bones. Waste paper and bones are still urgently needed by the Ministry of Supply to aid victory in the war effort, but rubber, tins and scrap metal must not be dumped in the Market Place. All rubbish of this kind must be put out by the householder when the monthly collection of house refuse is made.

1945 04 09
Fire Jarrold's shop, Market Street; hundreds of books destroyed – 45 04 09

1945 05 08
VE celebrations, Market Square, crowd of several thousand, waste paper dump in St Mary's Passage set on fire, cars and stalls damaged, flag on top fountain, climb Guildhall clock – 45 05 08, 1945 05 09, 09a 45 05 10

1945 05 10
Crowds dance Market Hill – photo – 45 05 10

1945 05 14
Thanksgiving service Gt St Mary's church – CDN 1945 05 14

1945 06 29
Music, singing and dancing licences for Theatre Cinema, Regal, Victoria, Tivoli, Central and Playhouse transferred to Max Milder from Eric Lightfoot who leaving the A.B.C. company – CDN 1945 06 29

1945 08 02
Presentation Freedom Borough USAAF – CDN 1945 08 02, a & b Crowds celebrate CDN 1945 08 03

1945 08 16
How Cambridge heard the great victory news, Market Hill scenes at declaration, spontaneous revelry – 45 08 15, a; Victory night o revelry on Parker's Piece – 45 08 16

1946 03 02
Early cinemas – Guildhall and Corn Exchange licenced on Mar 26 1910; that year licences granted to Sturton Town Hall (now Kinema) and old Victoria Assembly Room which known as Electric Cinema. Thurston's Electric Vaudeville at Midsummer Fair. New cinemas – Playhouse, 1913, Rendezvous originally built as roller skating rink licenced 1915 but this lapsed after fire. Present building opened Nov 1932. Sturton Town Hall, first known as Empire and then as Kinema was licensed as cinema in 1910 but used as music hall until 1914 and from then to 1916 as a music hall-cinema. Central opened 1921, rebuilt 1928 it showed first 'talkies' Destroyed by fire 1939 it re-opened in 1940. Tivoli opened 1925, Victoria 1931, Cosmopolitan in Market Passage, (better known as Central Conservative Club) licensed in 1933 and in Sept 1933 the New Theatre turned into cinema and carried on until Jan 1938 presenting film shows and cine-variety with brief breaks for an occasional play. Reopened for the C.A.O.S. production of 'The Mikado' in Nov 1938. Arts Theatre has had cinema licence but films shown rarely. The last and biggest is Regal opened 1937 – 46 03 02b

1946 05 11
Police officer with portable loudspeaker equipment in Market Street for road safety campaign – photo – 46 05 11

1946 09 30
The Honorary Freedom of the Borough was bestowed on the Cambridgeshire Regiment in recognition of its service in the South African War, for its superb professionalism during the fighting in Flanders and for its valiant fight in the Far East. That fight had not ended with the last shots fired in the defence of Singapore - in fact the courage that was now being recognised was the 3½ years of captivity that followed. In prison camps scattered all over the Far East they had suffered every hardship, lack of food, disease, cruelty, indignities and utter isolation. Among many ordeals the building of the railway in the grim jungles of Siam was singled out by the Mayor for especial mention. The full extent of their sufferings was being to be revealed. Padre J.N. Duckworth told the inspiring spirit and morale under the most terrible conditions. In August 1944 he had been in the "valley of the shadow of death", 450 miles long through which they were constructing the Burma-Thailand railway, his audience were horrified to hear of the conditions and of the state of the men suffering ulcers, malaria, beri beri and dysentery. It had been August 13th 1945 when his particular camp had heard on their small Japanese radio of the atom bomb dropped on Hiroshima, four days later it was over - "there was no flag waving or anything like that, just a long sigh of relief". Now there was flag waving - and a particular flag had place of honour from the Guildhall flagpole - the blue flag of the 1st Battalion of the Cambridgeshire Regiment that had somehow been kept hidden from their captives during the long years of captivity. As the procession wended its way down Petty Cury it was the drums that marked their progress. And amongst the drums were some emblazoned with the Regiment's honours won in earlier wars but lost in the fall of Singapore. Amazingly they had been found by a Dullingham girl, Mary Taylor during her work with the Red Cross and shipped back to Cambridge. In October 1946 they led the old men of the First War and prematurely old boys from the Second to the Guildhall to receive the Freedom they had fought to preserve. – 46 09 30 & a-d

1946 10 09
Gt St Mary's curfew bell to be rung again for first time since war; will sound at 9m followed by number of strokes indicating date of month; until 1929 a bell was rung at 5am, this 'The Apprentice's Bell', later 'The Bedmakers' Bell'; was discontinued as not needed now there were alarm clocks – 46 10 09

1947 10 17
The new "temple" of the fifth art was opened by the Mayor last night. The art is that of cinema; the "temple" the former Cosmopolitan in Market Passage, re- decorated and renamed the Arts Cinema. He said "I feel the cinema will prove an added amenity to Cambridge". The success of the cinema would depend to a very great extent on a wise selection of films and efficient management. Sound and projection have been improved since the cinema was the Cosmopolitan though teething troubles prevented both being experienced that their best. The seating - with seats from the Festival Theatre - is now sloped

1947 11 06
Six undergraduates and two RAF men were arrested during the usual Guy Fawkes Night scenes in the centre of Cambridge last night. From 7.30 crowds grew steadily on Market Hill. Fireworks were discharged freely and the din reached its peak between eight and half-past. Members of the University who earlier had been outnumbered by more than ten to one were in force by nine o'clock, several minor scuffles occurred about this time, and the first of several policemen's

helmets disappeared. Proctors and their "bulldogs" early kept undergraduates on the move. After that the crowd gradually thinned away, and by 1.15 there were only groups here and there

1947 11 28
Last drops of basic petrol "went into action" on Wednesday to take their owners to the '99 Rowing Club ball, final big function in Cambridge of the shortly-to-end present "basic" era. Both the Corn Exchange and Guildhall - connected by a covered bridge across Wheeler Street which was closed for the occasion - were in use for the ball. Dancing to the delightful music of Maurice Iliffe and his orchestra took place in the Large Room of the Guildhall. In the Corn Exchange, transformed by a marquee, buffet suppers were served. Here restful music was played by the Coryton Trio. Those present numbered round about 600

1948 03 08
Sir - When crossing the Market Hill, Cambridge, one afternoon of this week I was asked the following question by a young lady, whom I thought might have been more profitably employed; "Would you care to sign our petition for the reduction of prices, and the cutting of profits?" I then discovered a stall draped with Communist bills and other literature. I curtly and firmly refused to sign and I thought to myself: "So this is England, England that still stands firm for freedom, and yet at the same time allows the vile doctrine of Communism to be openly, and shamelessly, broadcast amongst the people on its public market place". It would be interesting to know what Mr Hamilton Kerr (prospective Conservative candidate) have to say about it. Yours etc "AJAX"

1948 05 07
The death occurred on Monday of Fred Markham, familiarly known as "Cuthbert". He will be missed by many stallholders in Cambridge Market Place where from early morning till evening he could be seen, either pushing his barrow or at times helping to hold down stalls in squally weather. Farmers, cattle dealers, auctioneers too, will miss him both at the Cattle Market in Cambridge and throughout East Anglia. "A very sociable man and a good mixer" would describe his personality. He was an ex-cavalry man, and had much foreign service to his credit. He was 56

1948 06 01
Today the one-way traffic system designed to relieve congestion in the centre of Cambridge came into operation. In Sidney Street and Bridge Street the traffic will flow in a northerly direction towards Magdalene Street from the town centre, while in St John's Street and Trinity Street it will flow in a southerly direction towards King's Parade. In Green Street traffic will flow in one direction from Gifford Place to Trinity Street - and the remainder of Green Street will be open for two-way traffic. This extension of "one-way" traffic will link up with the system now in operation at St Mary's street, Market Hill (north side) and Market Street

1948 06 01
Sir - the one-way system has certainly created danger spots at the corner of St John's Street, Cambridge. They could be remedied by putting traffic lights there back into operation. The only alternative would be to divert all traffic into Petty Cury. Every user of Petty Cury will have to agree that it is already far too narrow even for the present volume of traffic - pedestrians are crowded into the roadway and bus drivers often have their work cut out to squeeze their buses through at walking pace. Short of some more radical plan (e.g. banning all motor traffic from the streets round Market Hill) I think the one-way system is as good as we shall get - A.E.B. Owen

1948 06 11 c
Sir - I have just had the pleasure of reading your Diamond Jubilee supplement. It took me back in thought half a century when Billy Gates sold ice cream from his gay barrow - a halfpenny for a

shallow glass and a penny for a deeper one, with a choice of flavour - strawberry, vanilla or mixed. There were no refinements, neither wafer nor spoon: we used our tongues and Billy dipped the used glass in a pail of water. It was a primitive service. To lick ice cream on Market Hill was, no doubt, very bad form, but it was jolly good taste! - H.R. Royston

1948 07 07
The assurance that the days of sweated labour in the mining industry were over, and that what is now needed are young men to work the highly complicated new machinery in the pits was given by the National Coal Board which is touring the country on a recruitment and training drive. On Tuesday at the Cambridge Market Hill they screened two films from a mobile van, one of them being a progress parade and the other about miners at work in the pits. They are visiting several schools in Cambridge and the surrounding villages

1948 08 25
Every housewife knows what it is like to spend a tiring time round the shops, perhaps queuing at some, and then having to wend her way home, laden with a heavy shopping basket and numerous parcels. Women in particular therefore will be interested to hear about a delivery system which is to be started in Cambridge by means of which the public can have their shopping delivered, instead of having to carry it home themselves. The firm will operate from a stall on the market place. Shoppers will be able to take their shopping to the stall and have them delivered at their home the same morning. The charge will be 6d in the borough and 1s. in the county within a five mile radius. The originators are Delivery Services, Cambridge, who started up in business as "errand boy" to local firms last year

1948 11 06
Cambridge's annual Guy Fawke's battle was waged in the market square and surrounding streets. Five undergraduates were amongst those who were arrested and placed in the Guildhall cells until being bailed. There were three charges of assaulting the police. Though a strong warning had been given by the university authorities there was considerable rowdyism. RAF men from nearby airfields and US service personnel were banned from Cambridge for the night. Ten people were taken to Addenbrooke's hospital having received slight injuries or fainted in the large crowds

1948 11 26
For the first time anywhere in the world, a new series of television was used to promote road safely at Cambridge. Traffic scenes on Market Hill were televised to the Accident Prevention Exhibition in the Corn Exchange. "Closed-circuit" as it is called is the latest development of the Cambridge firm of Pye Ltd. Two cameras were operated, one fixed to the balcony of the Guildhall and the other on top of a van at the corner of Petty Cury. Along this narrow, one-way street, between 8am and 6pm approximately 7,000 bicycles and 2,000 other vehicles pass each weekday. The slow speed of the traffic and its one-way direction helps to keep the accident rate down

1949 01 05
Several Cambridge shops have their January sales in full swing. Messrs W. Eaden Lilley, Market Street, find that the possibility of the ending of clothes rationing is having a psychological effect. "People are inclined to be a bit rash with their coupons and the half-price, half-price coupon goods are going well". Messrs G. Stace, Petty Cury, have cleared some of their Old Look stock and a number of suits have been sold at a quarter of their price - £20 coats at £4.19s.6d. It was pointed out that the "shorter lady" scores, as some of the old length garments look new length on her

1949 01 19
The Cambridge trades fair was officially opened in the Corn Exchange. Among the exhibitors Messrs Alkit show a special January offer of made-to-measure utility suits and suede boottees with crepe souls. Messrs Coads are featuring a wide range of children's clothing from baby to teen age. Messrs J. A. Easton ltd are displaying demonstrations of a "Kara" permanent cold wave hair styling scalp treatments, chiropody and cosmetics. On the stand of Messrs Miller & sons ltd, is a fine display of reconditioned pianos and the newest models of radio and television, displays being given daily

1949 09 10
Sir - What I would like to see in post-war Cambridge is the removal of the car park on the Market Square and in its place a small restful garden, with the fountain cleaned and kept running with clear water as its centre-piece. A few seats conveniently placed would add to its charm, for here grandpa could peacefully smoke his pipe whilst grandma did the shopping, and maybe a mother could keep one eye on her children left watching the fountain and feeding the pigeons, as she did the rounds of the market stalls – "Garden lover"

1949 11 07
The quietest Guy Fawkes night "rag" long-service Cambridge police officers can remember passed off without even a street lamp being extinguished – another "within living memory" record. A crowd gathered on the Market Square by 7pm and fireworks were thrown. A police car which arrived on the scene radioed for reinforcements. These shepherded the crowd off the square. After that police posted at the entrances to the square prevented people entering the area. Early in the evening a few rotten eggs were thrown, and a smoke bomb exploded in the Sidney Street area. These incidents, and the intermittent throwing of fireworks, constituted about the only "excitement" of the evening, though there was an occasion when a "bulldog" pursued a man at full speed in front of the Guildhall.

1950

1950 01 13
Cambridge's chief sanitary inspector says the stalls on Market Square are unnecessary. "We don't like these open-air stalls at all, and I don't see that in 1950 we need them at all. I think it is an anachronism". Questioned about dogs that 'wet and sniff all over the place' he said he had spoken to stallholders and asked if they did not realise that people had to eat vegetable which had been fouled by dogs

1950 03 01
Messrs W. Eaden Lilley, Market St, Cambridge this year celebrates their 200th anniversary. Senior member at present, whose period of service numbers just on 60 years, is Mr George Heath, who has worked his way up and is now responsible for the grocery, household goods, painting and hardware department, both wholesale and retail. His long service and keen interest in the firm have earned him a directorship. "I should they are the kindest people you could possibly work for. There is a long family tradition behind them", he said.

1950 06 03
Film company International Realistic has been in Cambridge filming part of a feature film with many well-known local scenes as backgrounds. The film will probably be called "The scarlet thread", and is an exciting "cops and robbers" starring Laurence Harvey and Kathleen Byron. Market Hill is included with a dash to Gt St Mary's Passage and a realistic rugger tackle by the

fountain. The exposed film was rushed each day to London for processing and back again next day in time for screening at the Victoria Cinema after the usual performances

1951 04 02
Unfortunately the sight of flies swarming over the fish on a fishmonger's slab is still a much too common sight in the summer. It always horrifies me to see food exposed to flies and dust from the street and likely to be fingered or breathed on by prospective customers. I am pleased to report that one of the new refrigerated display cabinets for wet fish has been installed by Mr F.O. Sennitt, Peas Hill, Cambridge. I understand it is the first local fish shop to do so. The shop has also installed a machine with the same system of refrigeration for poultry and dry fish, which will be welcomed by all housewives

1951 06 15
A new one-way traffic system around the Cambridge guildhall comes into operation on Monday. The direction of traffic in Wheeler Street will be reversed to complete the circulatory flow around the guildhall into an anti-clockwise direction and traffic around Market Hill in a clockwise flow. Buses will be unaffected by the new order but say instead of hordes of cyclists crossing over in their path all vehicles will turn in the direction the buses approach the guildhall. The scheme has resulted from the necessity to ease traffic around the guildhall in view of the proposed Lion Yard car park development

1951 11 10
A year ago Cambridge was the scene of an exciting street chase – engineered for the purposes of a film. "The Scarlet Thread". Now it is complete and will be shown at the Victorian Cinema. It has a "cops and robbers" story concerning the theft from a jeweller's shop in Sidney Street and a chase across Market Hill. This part was filmed from the top of the Victoria Cinema. The film was made by the International Realist Coy and stars Kathleen Byroa, Lawrence Harvey and Sidney Tatler

1951 11 20
Agriculture has suffered a severe loss in the passing of Mr Samuel Owen Webb at his home at Streetley Hall, West Wickham. He was grandson of Jonas Webb to whom a statue was erected in the Corn Exchange. He was the founder and first president of the Cambridgeshire Farmers' Federation. In the 1914-18 was he was appointed chairman of the War Agricultural Committee and again during the second war. A keen showman he helped re-form the Cambs Agricultural Society which became one of the largest shows in the country

1952 02 11
As the King's funeral procession was winding its slow way through London's streets, hundreds of Cambridge people at similar services in the city joined in Britain's mourning for her late Sovereign. City and County combined at Great St Mary's church where a separate University service was held later. About a thousand people filled the church. Most of the men wore black ties. The scarlet robes of City aldermen provided the one touch of colour; even the gilt of the maces was subdued by a draping of black. The service was relayed to an overflow gathering in the Guildhall. A crowd of some 300 people gathered on the Market Place for the two minute's silence. As the maroon exploded men removed their hats and heads were lowered.

1952 02 26
Veterans of the Boer War will meet in London to mark the anniversary of the relief of Ladysmith. It was on that night that the last really big bonfire was started on Cambridge Market Square. Old horse buses, "growlers" filled with tar and straw, market stalls – all went to feed those triumphant

flames whose heat cracked every window in the Market Square. The number of Boer War Veterans in Cambridge is now very small. The doyen of them all, Capt. A.E. Longley, now in his 82nd year, will have only one Cambridge comrade – Mr J. Collings – at the reunion.

1952 03 25
Claude Hulbert, the loveable comedian, heads the cast at the Arts Theatre, Cambridge in his brother, Jack's production of the famous farce, "Nothing but the Truth", which ran for 578 performances in London. The Hulberts have many associations with the area. Sons of an Ely doctor both came to Caius College and were enthusiastic members of the Footlights Dramatic Club. Jack appeared at the Arts in "The Hulbert Follies" with his famous wife, Cicely Courtneidge, in July 1941, while Claude had a notable success in "Worth a Million" when he co-starred with Edmund Gwen and Ruby Miller. CDN c25.3.1952

1952 06 12
With all the familiar colour and dignity of a royal occasion, the date of the Queen's coronation – June 2nd next year – was proclaimed today to the people of the city and county of Cambridge. It was a happy coincidence that it should mark a fitting and optimistic finale to the gay and glittering story of the May Week celebrations. A girl still in her May Ball gown and cloak was amongst a crowd of people outside the Shire Hall courts when the High Sheriff, following a fanfare, read the ancient proclamation. On the Market Square a crowd several hundred strong was silent when the Town Clerk began to read but his voice was all but lost in the howl from jet planes speeding overhead.

1952 08 23
Victoria restyled : "eurythmic": designer, architect & illuminators combine to make symphony of shape, colour & tone" [2.7]

1952 10 13
Arts Theatre ask City Council to help meet their losses but withdraw request "since Council has no pride of ownership of theatre or gratitude over what achieved over last 16 years" [3.3,3.5]

1952 11 08
Some people at the Victoria Cinema almost believed they saw fish swimming above their heads in the middle of the auditorium. Others found it difficult not to duck when a cricket ball appeared to bounce right out of the screen. The cause was something new in cinema entertainment – the three-dimensional film. At present a special screen has to be used and audiences must wear tinted spectacles. Much still has to be done before stereoscopic films become commonplace but Cambridge is among the first places in England to welcome the arrival of the third dimension in the cinema c52 11 08

1953 02 21
A travel-worn motor coach came to rest on Market Hill, Cambridge, after a 3,000-mile, seven week "Go to Clacton" tour of the Midlands. And Mr E.A. Lainson, Managing Director of Premier Travel Ltd hopes it will bring him £6,000 worth of business this summer. The 35-seater is no ordinary vehicle for the passengers cannot see through the windows. But as a mobile cinema it has taken the golden sands and sunshine of Clacton to hundreds of housewives and factory workers in industrial towns and cities far away from the sea, showing an eight-minute colour film 'Back to the Sun'

1953 03 25

With a rosy glow reflected on the windows of Great St Mary's church, a University, City and County congregation paid their last respects to her late Majesty, Queen Mary. While the beautiful gaunt notes of the Dead March in Saul rang through the pillared church there was a silence so complete, so moving as to be perhaps the loveliest and most memorable part of Cambridge people's memorial to the late Queen. Then led by the Mayor and Corporation the congregation melted out into the brightness of a fine March day. 53 03 25

1953 06 03
On Coronation Day Pye Ltd of Cambridge operated the first colour television outside broadcast ever done in this country. It was seen in a well-known Children's Hospital and several other selected places. Three colour cameras used in transmission were sited on top of Government buildings facing Parliament Square and Whitehall. Hundreds of people assembled in Cambridge Guildhall to watch the ceremony on television. The latest television screens were used. The picture was clear and precise but there was, of course, no control over the usual interference from electrical appliances which all TV owners are forced to suffer in silence. Six domestic TV sets were installed in the Corn Exchange and because of the bright light, shields were fitted around the screens

1953 07 21
Cambridge City Councillors recommended the partial demolition of the Conduit Head in Market Square. Due to inherent defects and deterioration much of the stone has given way or has fractured. Rebuilding would cost some £2,200. It could be strengthened with steel rods or demolished to the level of the granite plinth. The Conduit was erected in 1855 at a cost of £554. The steps, plinth and base are granite and the structure itself of Ancaster stone

1953 10 07
The fund for re-hanging the bells of Cambridge's widely famed Great St Mary's church has raised under £1,000 of the £2,600 needed. The bells were taken down last year because of the ravages of a wood-destroying parasite and now the CDN has decided to open its own Bell Fund to supplement that sponsored by the church. All contributions will be acknowledged in our columns and whether large or small they may be handed in at our office. The CDN is opening its fund with a donation of £25 and hopes there will be a satisfying response. c53 10 07

1953 10 12
The condition of the stone of the conduit head on Cambridge Market Hill has been found to be much worse than anticipated during recent demolition work and so the Council will be recommended not to rebuild it. The condition of the stone was such that the only part which could be safely re-used was the four pillars and the cost of restoration would be at least £4,000, double the previous estimate. They propose to loan the carved figures from the conduit to the Folk Museum.

1953 10 12
A decision not to rebuild the Conduit head in Market Hill, Cambridge was described as a retrograde step by Ald James. "I know it is the fashion to run down Victorian architecture but I think it was very seemly. I think we should rebuild it in the same style". But Ald Priest said "If in ten years' time people see pictures of the Conduit as it was, there will be nothing to prevent them from replacing it by photographs. The majority of people are quite satisfied and the Secretary of the Preservation Society has written to say how nice we have made it".

1953 10 21
Cambridge Daily News feature on Arts Theatre's "17 years of successful endeavour" [3.8]

1954 01 22 c
A tenancy variation of a shop on King's Parade, Cambridge, is a rare occurrence and rarer indeed is the appearance of a new trade to this world-renowned street. From being used as premises for University outfitters A.R. Crossman, no.12a will become K.P. Camera Shop and promises to become as well-known as its parent, Campkins of Cambridge. The firm was established in 1800 and has remained in its present premises at Rose Crescent since 1867

1954 03 18
The bells of St Mary's will soon ring out again due to the famous peal of 12 bells at Gt St Mary's Church, Cambridge, being re-erected after a two-year absence. A new steel frame has replaced the 200-year-old wooden frame which was eaten up and diseased by woodworm. The Coronation was the first that has not been hailed by the early 18th-century peal; they are rung for all national events and used to be rung for new and old masters of Cambridge colleges. There is a 13th bell in the tower; during the First World War it was used as a fire alarm at the First Eastern General Hospital CDN c 18.3.1954

1954 06 22
The usual crowd of Saturday shoppers saw a colourful poster parade through the centre of Cambridge with some 15 people carrying posters bearing the slogans 'You can ban the H-bomb – public protest counts' and 'Make the powers agree to ban the H-bomb – sign the national protest'. The petition, which is supported by the Cambridge Peace Council, seeks to demonstrate the great strength of public opinion. More than 100 signatures were collected while the parade circled the Market Place.

1954 06 26
An unsuccessful attempt was made to make the Cambridge Corn Exchange available for roller skating during the winter months. A petition with 900 signatures had been prepared. The people affected were between the ages of 10 and 25. In summer they could pass their time in the evenings by swimming, cycling and other outdoor amusements but in winter they needed the opportunity for healthy exercise as an alternative to dances and public houses. Many had invested in skates, the cheapest of which cost £7. But it was the only place suitable for badminton and was also used for boxing.

1954 07 19
The Minister's decision on the County Development Plan has been announced. The only major Cambridge items not approved are the site of the bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel and the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Road. All the central area road proposals including the 'spine relief road', the new Guildhall Street and a cross-town route joining Emmanuel Street with Downing Street have been approved together with the new Chesterton Bridge over the Cam near Walnut Tree Avenue, a multi-storey car park in Corn Exchange Street and a subway at the railway station.

1954 11 06
Police helmets will be treasured possession in the homes of undergraduates and Cambridge 'Teddy-Boys' who contributed to the Guy Fawkes Night high jinks. One police constable, helmet-less, went back to base for another. But in double-quick time this went too! Frequent clashes broke out between police and revellers. In Market Square a crowd of more than 5,000 screamed, shouted, pushed and laughed but it was 'good natured fooling'. "Teddy" girls screamed at each bang, unsuspecting undergraduates were pounced on by Proctors and 'Bulldogs' and there

were boos and hisses each time an untidy-looking urchin was led away, and each time the urchin would protest his innocence of throwing any fireworks.

1955 02 18
A scheme for the re-development of the Fitzroy Street area as the main commercial centre of Cambridge has been submitted by a London Architect. It is a counter-proposition to the official Development Plan which could only result in the eventual complete destruction of the essential character of the city. The greater part of the area consists of out-dated two-storey cottages with extensive yards and is largely a slum. Re-development is due and can be done without the restrictions of historical associations and high land values. There would be a series of attractive courtyards unencumbered with traffic, one of which is large enough to take the place of the present Market Hill. An essential feature of the scheme is a new thoroughfare to link Gonville Place with Victoria Avenue and complete the inner Ring Road. 55 02 18a

1955 04 07
Cambridge Chamber of Commerce is concerned over the 'No Parking' signs which have appeared in the vicinity of Market Hill. They have been erected to discourage stallholders from using the roadway opposite their stalls as their own private parking space. There were lines of lorries monopolising this part of town and used as temporary warehouses for supplying the stalls. But it also greatly inconvenienced shoppers who wished to leave their cars for a short time and some form of restricted parking would be better. 55 04 07b

1955 05 11
The Arts Theatre unveiled an extension to its Roof Garden restaurant, decorated in gay modern style and complete with the latest Espresso Coffee equipment. Some regretted the reduction of the outdoor terrace space but with the fickle English climate the new area would prove an agreeable amenity both for meals and during theatre intervals. Losses in the theatre could only be made up by profits from the Cinema, scenery studio and catering activities. Once the novelty of television had worn off an increasing number of people would again seek the solid satisfaction of liver performances. 55 05 11 [3.14]

1955 05 26
Francis Sidney Campkin was born 80 years ago in Rose Crescent, above the chemist's which became his whole life's work and hobby. He first helped in the shop when a boy of nine and later qualified as a pharmaceutical chemist. He also took the first examination held by the Spectacle Makers' Company. His keen interest in the optics of photography led to the development of the camera side of the business. He will be greatly missed by his staff who knew him as 'a very fine and kind gentleman'. 55 05 26

1955 06 25
Cambridge came out in the sun for the visit of the Regimental Band of the Coldstream Guards. Crowds lined the market square for the high spot of the day, a march past the Guildhall, and then jammed the roads as they marched to Christ's Pieces for a concert. The purpose of the visit was 'Good will and courtesy – with recruiting into the bargain'. Asked if there had been any results so far an official from the Mill Road recruiting office said 'Not yet, but we have a feeling there will be'. 55 06 25d

1955 10 20
A crowd of several thousand massed in Cambridge Market Place as the Royal procession moved slowly towards the Guildhall. The Queen looked radiant as the Mayor (Ald E. Halnan) presented her with an Electryte Cardiograph adapted by a local firm to monitor the heart of her

thoroughbred racehorses. She thanked him warmly saying "this ingenious machine will be put to good use". Then she made an appearance on the balcony, waving to the crowd who cheered back. 55 10 20b

1955 11 14
Dr Billy Graham said his Cambridge mission had been one of the most rewarding of his life. It had won people to Christ, got the University talking about religion and started a revival among Christians. Every available inch of space in Gt St Mary's was filled and many had to be re-directed to Holy Trinity where the service was being relayed. It also went to the universities of Aberdeen, Durham, Manchester and four others. Now he has started his journey back to America 55 11 14

1956 01 19
The new choir vestry of Holy Trinity Church, Cambridge, was dedicated. Using materials of old Cambridge brick and stone it fits well with the existing buildings. It has folding doors leading into the older vestry, making a useful room for meetings. Now urgent repairs to the organ can be undertaken. 56 01 19b

1956 09 08
Baron the famous photographer (Mr Stirling Henry Nahum) commenced his career in Cambridge after his mother gave him a £16 camera. In 1935 he started a correspondence course with the Mallinson School of Journalism and Photography in Rose Crescent and had his lessons posted to Monte Carlo where he was living. He already showed promise and the School sold several of his photographs during the two years he was with them. 56 09 08e

1956 09 29
The new organ at Cambridge's Holy Trinity church will cost approximately £6,000 as compared with the £300 spent on the original organ built in the 1850's by Messrs Walker of Ruislip, who are carrying out the present installation. The original two-manual organ was rebuilt in 1904 by Messrs Bedwell of Cambridge who moved it from the north transept into the organ chamber. 56 09 29b

1956 11 01
Great St Mary's church has been connected with the University since very early times and was used in the past not only for religious services but for academical proceedings. Under an agreement of 1843 the University and parish met the costs of repair and maintenance, but most of the terms are now out of date. Now they are being urged to meet the sole cost of maintaining the clock and the University organ at the west end, and sharing costs of insurance, heating, repair and cleaning. 56 11 01c

1957 01 15
Fewer people are attending Cambridge Corn Market because of the difficulty of finding car parks and it will cease to exist if it is not moved to the Cattle Market, merchants fear. It would relieve traffic congestion in the centre of the city. But a building of the same area as the present Corn Exchange would cost £32,000 and councillors recommended no action. 57 01 15

1957 02 14
Six girls dressed in attractive costumes acted as hostesses as Dutch Dairy Week was launched at a reception where members of the local grocery fraternity they tasted a variety of cheeses. It was a pity that so many famous cheeses had gone out of production, among them the local 'Double-

Cottenham'. A Dutch caravan will be stationed on Peas Hill where people can sample as much as they could take. 57 02 14

1957 08 21
University Aunts offer a wide range of services from their offices in Wheeler Street, including arranging accommodation, escorting foreign visitors, typing theses, personal shopping or finding people to look after babies. Students form a large part of their clientele seeking bachelor mending, quick laundry or girl partners for dances. The Head Aunts depend on a network of part-time helpers and need women with initiative to act as emergency housekeepers. 57 08 21

1957 10 01
The removal of the mighty organ from the pit of the Victoria Cinema illustrates graphically how far this kind of musical entertainment has fallen from public favour. The only other cinema organ in Cambridge – that at the Regal – is never seen without its dust cover. The management says it is kept in good order and could be played at any time. However it would need a travelling organist to come up from A.B.C. headquarters in London. If the truth be told it is in permanent retirement. 57 10 01b

1957 10 18
In 20 years' time Lion Yard car park will be outdated as the centre of the City will eventually have to be roped off from traffic, Canon Mervyn Stockwood told the council. He had frequently been up to the top of Great St Mary's and seen the appalling havoc of the central area in recent years. Now they proposed to put up a 'cheap and efficient sort of skyscraper'. He continued: "We are custodians of one of the most famous cities in the world. That sort of building cannot add to the dignity and loveliness of Cambridge" 57 10 18c

1957 12 17
One of Cambridge's most famous pubs, the "Still and Sugarloaf" on Market Hill has been so completely modernised that it bears no resemblance to its former self. The only old part is the floor and even that has been sanded down and polished. The new lounge bar is the last word in luxury, warmth and comfort and features a brand new games room. 57 12 17a, 14 & a

1958 05 23
Sno-cat on Market Hill – photo – 58 05 23

1958 06 19
Market Street fire – 58 06 19

1958 09 20
The re-introduction of professional wrestling to Cambridge by Dale Martin Promotions proved very popular. Large crowds filled the Corn Exchange to watch an international heavyweight contest between Tibor Czakacs (Budapest) and Joseph Zaranoff of Russia. Spencer Churchill (London) lost to Charlie Fisher of Eltham and Tommy Mann of Manchester beat Al Nicol of Nottingham by two straight falls. Then Mick McManus knocked-out Jackie Pallo with a flying shoulder charge. 58 09 20

1958 12 12
King's College announced a new rebuilding scheme in the city centre which will mean the demolition of the Central Hotel and café to provide more accommodation for students and a better headquarters for the Cambridge branch of the Midland Bank. The Bursar said the structure of the existing building is in a very parlous state and they could not for structural safety do less

than rebuilding completely the whole interior. However this would only be forcing new wine into an old bottle so they had commissioned the design of a new building by Mr K.W, Capon of Architects' Co. Partnership. 58 12 12c

1959 01 16
The new plan for the centre of Cambridge will have as its central feature a 'pedestrian shopping precinct' from which all vehicles will be excluded. An earlier scheme which foresaw a new and widened Guildhall Street running through the Lion Yard, with new shops and a multi-deck car park, has now been dropped after being criticised as likely to attract too much extra traffic. The proposal incorporates a car park which might be placed underground. But it is certain that Corn Exchange Street would become an important vehicular road. 59 01 16

1959 04 15
'Milkmaid' new milk and cheese bar, Market Hill – 59 04 15

1959 05 05
Modern traffic problems have brought to an end a Cambridge tradition. David's Bookstall has occupied its site on Peas Hill on Saturdays for more than 60 years but recently the street has been turned into an area where the parking of cars is prohibited during the busiest time of the day. Motorists objected that the stall took up as much space as any car so Mr Ashley Hubert David was asked if he would move his Saturday stall to its weekday position on the market square. Many customers are indignant about the change. 59 05 05 & a

1959 06 04
St Edward's Passage development – opposition – 59 06 04

1959 08 14
Local history is repeated: 1859 plans for redevelopment of Market Hill – 59 08 14b

1959 09 02
Frederick Mansfield was 'the character' of Cambridge market for nearly 50 years. He took over a book and toy stall opposite the Victoria Cinema from his parents and the family hope this will be now continued by his youngest son. Other stallholders speak of him as a cheerful and helpful man and a 'real market character' well-loved by all, especially the children for whom he always had a cheerful world. 59 09 02b

1959 12 03
A monitor screen at the back of the church, shirt-sleeved technicians tip-toeing around, cameras rolling silently up and down the aisle and bright glaring lights pointing in every direction. This was just a part of what was involved in the telerecording of a Christmas service in Gt St Mary's church. It is to be shown by Anglia Television on Christmas night. The service was intended as a corporate act of worship for overseas students in Cambridge and a reminder of how the nations of the world might live together 59 12 03b & c

1959 12 17
There are a quarter of an acre of tunnels under Peas Hill which were used as air raid shelters during the War. They were wired for electricity, lavatories were installed and wooden seats fitted in the tunnel recesses. Oil lamps were kept close at hand in case of emergency. Quite a number of people used the shelter during day-time raids and some slept down there when there was night bombing. 'Roadsters' used them every night to sleep. They were terribly damp when first used but after a few days became quite comfortable. 59 12 17

1959 12 21
The controversy surrounding the Central Hotel in Peas Hill, which King's College want to knock down and replace by a new hostel for students has reached a new stage with the publication of a booklet. The St Edward's Committee was established when it was announced that the Central Hotel, a largely 17th-century building forming an integral part of a square around St Edward's churchyard, was to all appearances doomed. They believe it could be preserved and are pressing for a public inquiry into the proposals. 59 12 21c & d

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date which are more detailed than this selection. They cover Market Hill, Market Street, Guildhall, Corn Exchange, Rose Crescent and other topics

1960

1960 01 07
Central Hotel preservation call – 60 01 07

1960 01 08
King's College has replied to criticism of its plans to demolish the 17th-century Central Hotel on the corner of St Edward's Passage and Peas Hill. Whilst the Midland Bank premises are scheduled as an ancient monument, the St Edward's Passage premises are not. The College has considered eleven schemes for the site, some of which would preserve the façade, but the preservation of the interior was a hopelessly haphazard proposition. Their architect has taken infinite care to ensure the new building preserves the essentially domestic character of St Edward's Passage, says Noel Annan, the Provost. 60 01 08b

1960 02 10
The St Edward's Committee may launch a fund to buy the Central Hotel in Peas Hill and house students in converted rooms. King's College, the owner, says it would prefer to sell the building rather than undertake the work of preservation. The Holford Committee which suggested demolishing it has now decided to study the merits of the building 60 02 10

1960 03 09
Central hotel sketch 60 03 09

1960 03 09
Central hotel college attitude 60 03 09

1960 03 10
A final decision to demolish the Central Hotel was made by King's College after discussion with the Cambridge Preservation Society. Only five Fellows voted to try to preserve the St Edward's Passage façade while demolishing the rest. Everybody agrees that the interior was in a hopeless state of disrepair. When the college bought the property in 1936 they intended to develop the site. In 1956 they concluded that no part of the hotel could be preserved and commissioned a new building. 60 03 10

1960 03 18
Pub inn signs have been making a comeback. The Blue Lion at Fen Ditton has a three-dimensional figure of the heraldic beast, The Angel in Market Street have put up a very pleasant sign while the new Snocat on the Arbury estate commemorates Sir Vivian Fuch's journey to the

South Pole. One of the nicest of the old signs is the big glowing Golden Rose which grows out of the wall over the door of the little public house in Emmanuel Street 60 03 18b

1960 03 24
Builders are now shoring up the interior of the Central Hotel in Peas Hill prior to demolition. Yesterday the Central Tea Bar, which occupied the corner of Market Hill and St Edward's Passage, closed and bricks were piled in front of its entrance. The Midland Bank will stay in the building although some changes will have to be made while the first phase is completed. The new building should be ready in about two years 60 03 24a

1960 04 01
Macintosh and Sons, the long-establish firm of ironmongers have moved their showrooms from Cambridge Market Hill to Mill Road owing to the congestion in the town centre. "The days have gone when farmers could pull up with their horse and trap to purchase instruments", they say. From the new warehouse and instrument shed they sell anything from a hand tool to a combine harvester costing over £2,000. Nearby stands the foundry that was in use until 30 years ago where they made lamp standards and ploughshares for the Town Council. 60 04 01a

1960 04 08
A last-minute bid to save the Central Hotel was made too late. Fore builders are preparing for the final stage of demolition of the historic building in Peas Hill. 60 04 08

1960 05 21
In demolishing the old Central Hotel near Cambridge Market Place, the contractors have found it to be in a worse condition than they anticipated, but it has conformed fairly accurately to the surveyor's report prepared by King's College who own the site. The comparatively recent facings of the interior of the building were concealing a rotting structure underneath and the building has to be pulled down with extreme care – almost brick by brick. The hotel is being pulled down in two phases of which the first has now been completed. The first half of the new building will be erected before the second half is pulled down 60 05 21a

1960 06 03
For most people sweeping the roads would be a boring and wholly irksome task. But to Arthur Morgan, who has done it for 20 years, it is always interesting and occasionally exciting with ample scope for meeting people. Arthur, a sprightly man of 63 was once an army sniper but now sweeps the Market Square twice a day though he dislikes having to dodge the traffic. Cinema queues shed a quantity of litter which he carts away in his barrow without complaint. He has come across many items of values including rings, watches and on one occasion a car bonnet! 60 06 03a

1960 06 11
Arts Theatre appeal for £75,000 memory Keynes [7.12]

1960 08 26
Cambridge roller-skating enthusiasts will be able to enjoy an extra day's pleasure this season because the man who rents the Corn Exchange rink is superstitious. John Harris, who runs a chain of rinks round the country, never likes reopening on Fridays. Local skaters took full advantage and several dozen were speeding round the wooden floor within minutes of opening time. His Cambridge manager W. Lloyd-Worth, who has spent over 50 years in the roller and ice-skating business, hopes to organise National Skating Association championships and has sought proctorial permission from the University. 60 08 26

1960 09 07
The widening of the Market Street – Petty Cury area of Sidney Street will complement the part that was completed before the war when the Boots and Trueform buildings were erected. Some people feel that the road nearer Jesus Lane is a greater priority but the widened section by the two bus stops outside Holy Trinity will relieve traffic congestion. There is no intention of completing the process right through to Bridge Street says T.V. Burrows, the City Surveyor. 60 09 07

1960 09 09
The roller skating rink at Cambridge Corn Exchange attracts enthusiasts from a large area. Saturday morning is the children's morning and with its yards of bunting, the otherwise sombre building has a carnival air. From the very young to the really quite grown up they were tumbling about, wobbling precariously round the perimeter or pirouetting stylishly in the centre. Some of the girls swooped round in short costumes while the run-of-the-mill dressed for the rough and tumble in trousers. Skaters pay one shilling and sixpence (8p) which includes the hire of skates. The rink is leased to J.W. Harris, who also has one at Hunstanton, and is managed by Mr Lloyd Worth who has been a professional in the skating business for 53 years. 60 09 09c

1960 10 18
The Vice Chancellor has banned all undergraduates from taking part in Guy Fawkes Night celebrations in the city centre. In recent years November 5th had been marked by particularly destructive and violent acts, including the use of home-make fireworks, which have caused painful injuries to innocent bystanders. Although students have played only a minor part at the occasions the University are under an obligation to help the city authorities check such disorderly conduct. Now Market Hill and the surrounding area will be out of bounds to members of the University 'in statu pupillari' between 7 pm and midnight 60 10 18

1960 11 09
Last market stall for Mrs B.M. Hughes, handicraft maker; profit to Cambridge Association for Social Welfare – 60 11 09

1960 11 26
Bus island in Peas Hill relieves traffic congestion outside Guildhall – 60 11 26

1960 12 30
Market stall holders are among Cambridge's most colourful characters. Many have taken over the stalls from their fathers or grandfathers, often reaching back five or six generations. There are a handful of names which provide the nucleus of the traders – Whitehead, David, Sharp, Reynolds, Simpkins and several others. Charles Whitehead has stood at his greengrocery stall since he was 14, Messrs Miller and Beresford are in charge of the pets stall and Mrs Sharp has been selling old silver and brasses for 52 years. They believe that as long as they are straight and fair in their dealings, competition cannot harm them – 60 12 30b

1961 02 11
Central Hotel redevelopment photo – 61 02 11a

1961 04 25
'Beyond the Fringe' hit the Arts Theatre audience with the force of a thunderbolt. The four young men performed throughout in lounge suits against an unchanging background. There was Jonathan Miller, elastic in voice, features and limbs, Peter Cook with his more serious type of humour and semi-apologetic expression and Alan Bennett who looks like a cross between an aged

professor and an endearing but mischievous schoolboy. The music was in the hands of pianist Dudley Moore, whose prize piece was a variation of 'Colonel Bogey'. It was certainly a revue in the highest calibre of entertainment 61 04 25

1961 06 08
Thirteen members of the Christ's College Milton Society took part in the traditional annual 'pilgrimage' to the main door of Great St Mary's Church to burn the works of T.S. Eliot. With caps and gowns, and carrying a bust of the poet Milton, the undergraduates walked in procession through the crowded Market Square. Then in front of the church the 'damnable and dangerous works' of T.S. Eliot (Penguin edition) were set in flames on the paving stones. Crowds appeared from nowhere, cameras were clicked, and passages of Milton read before the procession returned towards Christ's and noggins of nut brown ale 61 06 08a

1961 07 03
Stanley Rose's old-established butchers is one of the few properties in Petty Cury remaining in private hands. He acquired the premises in the early 1930s, moving from a site in Market Hill which was then being demolished for make way for the new Guildhall where the family firm had been established for three generations. He is now retiring and the business will be transferred to W.J. Adkins, the local firm of butchers. The premises have been acquired by Messrs Peter Lord, the shoe specialists. 61 07 03d

1961 07 12
A new car park attendant's hut has been installed on Cambridge Market Square. The original hut was badly damaged by fire during the Guy Fawkes celebrations two years ago and replaced by a temporary one. It is expected to be in use later this week 61 07 12

1961 10 05
Harry Runham has retired after more than 30 years as car park attendant on Cambridge Market Hill. When he started in 1930 comparatively few vehicles were left there, owners being charged 6d for all-day parking. As the volume of traffic increased, the bull-nosed Morris gave way to other cars, lorries and motor cycles while fees for all-day parking increased until the present figure of two shillings was reached. 61 10 05

1961 11 16
A cluster of balloons was flown over Cambridge to give an idea of how the proposed 200ft towers of the 'Science Island' off Corn Exchange Street would look from the Backs behind the famous King's College Chapel. Theodolite readings were also taken from Rose Crescent. The proposal has been rejected by planners 61 11 16a & b

1961 11 23
Claude Kirkup became manager of Cambridge cattle market in 1936 and has seen tremendous changes. He can remember the days when sheep and pigs were brought to the market in tumbrel carts or by horse and cart. With the advent of motor traffic the market increased ten-fold and animals now come from a very wide radius. Many Continental buyers attend the Monday agricultural machinery sales. 61 11 23

1961 12 01
A bold scheme to transform Cambridge Market Hill into the 'finest piazza in Europe' would involve banning traffic in King's Parade, demolition of a few buildings on the corner of St Mary's Passage and the complete clearance of the Market Place. The screen in front of King's

college would be removed and the Senate House and Law Department buildings linked together to form one magnificent spacious vista, says architect G.M. Vickers 61 12 01b

1961 12 18
A new vestry block, a garden of rest, memorial tablet and some new windows were dedicated at Great St Mary's Church. 61 12 18 [10.3]

1962 03 30
Cambridge Central Library has spent 100 years in Wheeler Street. Drastic and effective reforms took place between 1954 and 1959 to make more efficient use of staff, facilitate access to the shelves for ticket-holders and give the children their own library. Space was cleared in the reference library (formerly the reading room) to seat 47 people. Reference library staff are generally able to lay their hands on a diversity of volumes relating to every aspect of any subject almost before the reader has formulated his real requirements. Year by year the service becomes more far-reaching and the qualifications demanded of librarians become more exacting. 62 03 30

1962 04 05
The new Victoria Ballroom was opened by Ronald Fraser, the film and television star, who had previously appeared at the Regal Cinema as part of its 25th anniversary celebrations. Converted from a café above the Victoria Cinema, it will reduce the number of 'wallflowers' on Saturday nights when special buffet dinner dances are being run at a cost of a guinea for a double ticket. When not in use for dancing it will still be put into service as a café 62 04 05 [5.3]

1962 04 06
Angel public house, Market Street bought by the unknown purchaser of Macintosh's – 62 04 06c

1962 04 30
The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament's mock funeral march through the centre of Cambridge caused traffic congestion, provoked an anti-CND march and met with a noisy reception from undergraduates in the Market Square. The 'funeral cortege' stretched for 300 yards behind a child's coffin carried by two pall bearers. Altogether 400 'mourners' took part in the march including Mr Gabor Cossa, the antique dealer. A Committee of 100 contingent joined in a demonstration at the Government buildings in Brooklands Avenue 62 04 30a

1962 05 07
Mr Jack Cotton and Mr Charles Clore, the property millionaires, have bought the site of Heffer's from Emmanuel College on the understanding that the bookshop will be rehoused in any new redevelopment of Petty Cury. Their company, City Centre Properties, acquired the adjoining Lion Hotel site last year. The Director of Dolamore, the wine merchants, who hold the freehold of most of the corner with Guildhall Street, would not say whether they had also approached them. Recently this part of Petty Cury was included in the area scheduled for redevelopment. The firm also have an interest in the New Theatre site which is now being demolished to be replaced by a block of offices 62 05 07

1962 09 13
Sir - Cambridge fruit costs more on Cambridge market than in London since most cannot be sold locally at any price and is sent to larger towns. Good apples from Histon sold in Manchester for a shilling per half bushel. But expenses consumed 10d and the grower got only 2d. In his own market the grower tries to sell at remunerative prices. The only people who can sell cheaper than

market traders are the hawkers. There are dozens of large lorries that hawk all over Cambridge and pay not one penny towards the expenses of the town. Yet market stallholders have to pay a very heavy toll – John Hall 62 09 13f

1962 10 24
A crowd of 5,000 people, mainly students, swarmed through Cambridge after police and Proctors stopped a political protest rally about the American-Cuban crisis on the Market Square. Carrying placards declaring 'Hands Off Cuba' they made their way to Parker's Piece where the meeting got under way with speakers both supporting and opposing President Kennedy's moves. One warned 'We are on the verge of a nuclear war'. Later police prevented another rally outside the Guildhall where demonstrators hammered on the side of passing buses. 62 10 24

1962 12 07
John Shrive had osier beds at Horningsea and Fen Ditton until he died 40 years ago, employing five men to grow and cut them with bundles kept moist in the Green End ditch until needed. Most of the women of Fen Ditton were employed in peeling or cleaving on a casual basis, sitting on each side of the road with their bundles beside them. Stripped osiers were collected by horse and cart then taken to Mr Shrive's workshop in East Road where they were woven into baskets to be sold from his shop on Peas Hill. School reports up to 1912 list frequent absenteeism with children 'helping with rod peeling' 62 12 07a

1963 01 25
Macintosh's premises, Market Street being demolished – photo – 63 01 25a

1963 02 01
Macintosh and Sons of Market Hill, Cambridge, one of the oldest ironmongery firms in the country, has been sold to an unknown purchaser. The firm's earliest records date back to 1688 when the business was sold to the Finch family. They kept it going for 200 years before it was taken over by William Macintosh who'd been in business in Sidney Street. A major redevelopment scheme is proposed for the site after their retail premises close in September. The wholesale, agricultural and workshop departments will continue to trade from 349 Mill Road 63 02 01a

1963 05 15
In 1869 William Weatherhead purchased the business of John Hatt, a bookseller and printseller in Union Street, now Peas Hill. Then in 1886 took over an established stationers' shop in Trinity Street. The two merged at his death in 1907, added a wholesale department and flourished until 1936 when they moved to its present premises in the Caius College development on Market Hill. Now it has been acquired by W.H. Smith 63 05 15a

1963 07 10
A court heard of a secret meeting along the Cambridge-Newmarket Road once a week when American cigarettes and bottles of spirits were exchanged. An Isleham labourer pleaded guilty to five charges involving two cameras, 6,460 cigarettes, 44 bottles of spirits and one bottle of wine on which duty had not been paid. While working at Mickey's tea bar at RAF Mildenhall he'd lent money to American servicemen was paid back partly in cigarettes. Later an airman asked him to sell liquor for him to a 'gypsy-looking man' in a pub near Cambridge Market 63 07 10

1963 08 03
Parts of a tall building overlooking Cambridge Market Square are having to be evacuated because it is a danger to both occupants and the public. Some movement has taken place at 15 Market

Street which is partially occupied by Watches of Switzerland. Premier Travel and the United Dominions Trust have already moved to temporary offices. Workmen will start shoring up the building from the inside to stabilise it and remove the danger 63 08 03

1963 09 11
Market Hill modernisation of offices of Leicester Permanent Building Society – 63 09 11

1963 11 09
Cambridge had a carnival atmosphere for the annual Poppy Day Rag. A procession of 35 gay noisy floats was the first 'organised' procession in rag history. They depicted the Great Train Robbery and the Channel Tunnel. Degrees were sold outside the Senate House, passers-by were menaced with toy guns and undergraduates scrubbed zebra crossing, delaying motorists who were surrounded by students waving collecting tins. It was claimed that The Beatles pop group had been kidnapped and would be sold in Market Square. But News Agency reports say they were returning to Liverpool by car after a tour of Ireland. 63 11 09, a,b

1963 12 16
Gt St Mary's holds beat service to attract young [10.3]

1964 01 02
Plans for a temporary information office in a caravan or sectional hut on Market Hill found little favour with councillors: it would be inaccessible because it would be surrounded by stalls or parked cars. They think the present information centre should remain in the Central Reference Library in Wheeler Street which has experienced much greater use since direction signs have been erected. There would be little demand for Sunday opening – we are not in the same position as Southend or Brighton in trying to attract people. 64 01 02

1964 01 09
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Peas Hill [RAl.4.82]

1964 01 24
At 84, Harry Capon is the oldest stallholder on the Cambridge market. He sells the same type of fancy goods as when he first set up the stall at 16. "Every Monday and Saturday I get up at 5.30 and load up the trolley with the goods and pull it from my house in Coronation Street. I set the stuff out on the stall then it's sell, sell, sell until 6pm when I start to pack up. Again another hour or so to load the trolley and then back home to bed about 9 pm. Two days a week I go up the London and the warehouses; I often get a lift with a fruitier and he leaves me at Hyde Park Corner on the way to Covent Garden", he says., adding "The market is slowly dying … fewer people and fewer stalls" 64 01 24

1964 02 13
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Rose Crescent

1964 03 06
Alice Springs was named after Alice Bell, daughter of Peas Hill corn merchant – 64 03 06b

1964 03 20
Although the pharmacy of A. Sidney Campkin and Sons of Rose Crescent is modern, it retains unique links with a long history. It still offers for sale Brewster's balsham of squills, horehound

and aniseed as well as ear canker lotion for dogs. In 1955 the business passed to Mr T.E.W. Howell and now has a labour force of more than 60. It has had a 'facelift' but is still one of the older-fashioned chemists of Cambridge. 64 03 20d

1964 04 02
The Mayor of Cambridge fed a parking meter on Peas Hill with a shilling "to make them hungry and ready to bite" as one official put it, and set the new parking scheme in motion. Long queues of traffic soon formed in streets leading to the Lion Yard car park and motorists had some acid remarks about the meters. A moped rider complained about finding a ticket stuck to his bike with thirteen inches of sticky tape. From the number of excess charges shown on the meters the city coffers will soon begin to bulge 64 04 02b

1964 05 01
Arts Cinema is oldest repertory cinema in country; Norman Higgins opened it in 1933. Previously at the Tivoli he founded an undergraduate film society and leased Conservative Hall in Market Passage. Began showing films all year round in 1947 – 64 05 01cc

1964 05 08
Every Saturday children start arriving at the Victoria and Central cinemas for the matinee performances. Many are brought by their mothers who are grateful for the chance to do the weekend shopping without them. Before the film starts they sing 'We are Minors of the A.B.C.' to the tune of 'Blaze Away'. There's always one cartoon like Tweetie Pie, then the serial in which the action is fast and furious. It's followed by a short comedy film, then a full-length feature with plenty of action, usually made by the Children's Film Foundation 64 05 08

1964 06 06
The Victoria Ballroom in market square is the principal rendezvous for groups such as The Undertakers, The Moving Coils, Black Diamonds and Dawnbreakers. Most nights it provides a musical attraction: jazz sessions on Tuesday with top flight bands such as Kenny Ball and Chris Barber. But just around the corner the Dorothy Restaurant has featured Kathy Kirby, the Merseybeats and Manfred Mann. Helping to bury the old cry that Cambridge is 'dead' after dark are the cellar-bar 'shuffles' where regulation dress is jeans or slacks, sloppy sweaters and dark glasses. When not twisting or shaking the current rage for both sexes is to smoke miniature cigars and drink 'James Bonds' 64 06 06b

1964 07 23
Cambridge News 'Down Your Street' article on Bene't Street published – surveys street and people
– 64 07 23

1964 07 06
Cambridge expansion: Conservatives would like to encourage businesses which start in the town and want the Market Square to be the main centre. Socialists want new light industries with the Lion Yard as a civic centre and with new shopping in Burleigh Street while the Liberals favour a central pedestrian precinct with public transport in the form of a minibus service or travloator. 64 07 06a

1964 07 23
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Bene't Street

1964 09 10

Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Market Hill: in an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge

1964 11 16
Fears that the new ultra-modern building in Cambridge market square would bring an outcry from nearby traders have not materialised. Instead many of them say that the building, which replaces Mackintosh's the ironmongers, is an example to be followed. There will be shops on the ground floor and luxury flats above. Mr D.F. Yates, manager of Crown Wallpapers thinks it is an example of what neighbouring premises should look like. Mr A. Hall manager of Saxone Shoe Company agrees. But Mr Victor Balham of Bacon Bros the tobacconists does not think it the best of contemporary architecture. 64 11 16a

1964 12 10
Information bureau on Market Hill opposed – 64 12 10d

1965 01 14
Smart & Son, the outfitters in Market Street, has been run by the same family for more than 150 years. But now they are to move to Mill Road and the shop sold – 65 01 14

1965 03 27
The new corn market building on the Cattle Market site will replace the old Saturday corn market held in the Corn Exchange. Merchants have been advocating a move for 10 years and now it is hoped the market will revive. An encouraging number of people want to take stalls. The cost of desk or box in the new building is £10 a year. People who attend to buy or sell are charged £3 for an annual ticket. Visitors are admitted free. It will also provide a small new hall for the Cherry Hinton Road – Hills Road district 65 03 27a

1965 04 04
Walker & Walker, Market Hill tailors since 1849 close, served Edward VII when Prince of Wales, undergraduates no longer use them [13.2]

1965 04 12
Yardbirds cancel Corn Exchange concert due to flu – 65 04 12b

1965 09 17
Bus jam Market Hill – photo – 65 09 17c

1965 12 02
W.I. Market stall celebrates 2nd anniversary – 65 12 02c

1965 12 14
Conservative Club, Market Passage could close due financial crisis – 65 12 14c

1966 01 21
Gt St Mary's holds first ecumenical service of Holy Communion [10.3]

1966 04 18
Guildhall needs more space, either extension or rent space in Barrett Building, Rose Crescent – 66 04 18f

1966 05 06

University Audio adds Record Shop to its high-fidelity audio. Peas Hill – 66 05 06

1966 05 24
Corn Exchange may be adapted for council offices or used as library – plans – 66 05 24, 66 06 20

1966 09 01
House of Dolamore bought wine and spirit business of George Morley in Petty Cury and Guildhall Street some 80 years ago; now has new address in Wellington Street – 66 09 01 & 1a

1966 09 10
Eaden Lilley men and boys clothing shop in Market Street is for sale; will more to main department store; have owned since 1907; have recently bought Smart's outfitters' shop – 66 09 10

1966 11 08
Motor show exhibition, Corn Exchange – 66 11 08

1966 11 16
Market St - Macintosh replacement building opens - new ultra-modern, next Watches of Switzerland [494.4.17]

1967 01 13
Offices rented Barrett Building, Rose Crescent, otherwise Guildhall expansion [6.7]

1967 01 31
Tubular stalls proposed for Market which removable for weekend car parking [4.4]

1967 02 24
Market Hill no.5 was originally a private house for Watson family of grocers; has a rich shell hood with painted ceilings; building sold to mystery buyer – 67 02 24

1967 03 04
Dutch façade revealed on building during demolition work for Eaden Lilley; believed to be the only remaining trace of an old alleyway which ran parallel with Market Street – 67 03 04

1967 09 25
Gt St Mary's multi-faith service picketed [10.3]

1967 10 06
Victoria Cinema reopens with giant 70 mm screen, luxury lounge area replacing seats on ground floor; restaurant and ballroom refurbished – 67 10 06

1967 10 16
Parish Pump Peas Hill removed for repairs but no re-erection due to cost, was used to wash down old fish market; goes to Folk Museum [3.5]

1967 11 08
Abbott's Cambridge Tourist Centre started when American tour party let down; grew until 50 university students handling tours to Cambridge; then diversified into foreign travel by local residents; moved Guildhall St by Dec 1959 – 67 11 08a

1968 01 01
Market Hill fountain from CIP 1858 - 68 01 01

1968 03 26
Criterion pub, Market Passage to close – brewery cannot afford new rent asked by owners, the Edward Storey Trust – 68 03 26b

1968 04 04
Walker and Walker, Market Hill tailors, to close; been there since 1849 and departure will leave only Bacons as original member of Colonnade group of shops; have served Edward VII when Prince of Wales; blame expiration of lease, rising rates and fewer old-style customers – 68 04 04

1968 08 20
David book stall on Market increases prices – feature – 68 08 20

1969 06 23
Cambridge News new offices, Market St replacing St Andrews Street [7.8,15.2]]

1969 09 20
proposal to cut Market Place in half five days for car parking, in Oct 43 cars parked when under new scheme would be space for 36;stallholders protest, 6000 petition, plans delayed; experimental parking ban with every stall occupied 6 days a week - at present only half occupied Monday-Friday; new stalls introduced [4.5]

1969 09 24
Market holders discontent over plans for Market Square – 69 09 24; plans delayed – 69 09 25; plans outlined – 69 10 01, 01a

1970

1971 01 21
Jonas Moore statue moves from Corn Exchange; to relocate to South Cambs DC HQ, Hills Road –71 01 21b

1971 03 12
Market Hill redevelopment – British Cinemas to build offices and shops at 3-5 but plaster ceilings and beams to be preserved – 71 03 12

1971 04 24
Corn Exchange may be converted to concert hall – 71 04 24a

1972 03 18
Cambridge voted a big Yes to the permanent closure of Petty Cury in a survey. The results published today show that 92.1 per cent agreed that the closure had added to the convenience of shoppers. There was also overwhelming feeling that the experiment should be tried on other roads. The most common comment was "Close the whole Market Square to traffic"

1972 05 12
Robinson and Gimbert, the Cambridge builders with reputation for high class work have been taken

over by one of the "big boys" of British home building. From next week they will be trading under the direction of T & E Homes ltd of Reigate. The Cambridge firm who started in Guildhall Street 25 years ago and moved to Victoria Road six years ago have 60 full time employees. Robinson and Gimbert currently have schemes on the go at Oakington and Stapleford, and recently completed one at Waterbeach. They build about 50 houses a year

1972 05 19
A Cambridge building which has had a richly varied history enters yet another era of its life when Eastern Electricity's enlarged shop opens at 4 Market Hill on Monday. At different stages of its history the Market Hill building has been a cinema - oldies of the "penny-gas" days of the early twenties before the talkies were projected on to the wall of what is now a sub-station behind the shop - and a tearoom frequented by undergraduates, who took their 1920's tea and muffins in the panelled room upstairs

1972 06 12
I have just had my first and last visit to Cambridge. I walked half-way round the city to find a toilet. I was directed to the one on the market. It stank so much I would not use it. Getting back to the market - it is a disgrace, with old clothes stalls which smelt and old vegetable leaves on the floor a danger to the public. There were about two decent stalls there and in the centre round the fountain were the drunks, a revolting sight - letter from visitor from Bexhill, Kent

1972 07 05
Arts The Cambridge Arts Theatre has suffered "staggering" financial losses this year - often £1,000 a week – and the Secretary and General Manager, Mr Andrew Blackwood, said yesterday : "We can't go on like that. We would soon be out of business". The reason for high production costs was that touring companies require guarantees of £1,500 or more before they would visit Cambridge. Seat prices generally ranged from 40p-90p and 50p-£1. Audience attendance figures were 14,000 down on the year - and he blamed Cambridge's impossible car parking situation for the loss c72 07 5 [7.13]

1972 09 13
A full-time tourist officer should be appointed for Cambridge, a special meeting on tourism decided
yesterday. They also agreed that a disused car park attendant's hut on the Market Square should be commissioned as a tourist information centre. The Mayor, Coun. Peter Wright suggested that voluntary workers could staff a tourist information kiosk in Market Square. The City Librarian, Mr Eric Cave, suggested that if the kiosk plan went ahead it could remain open on Sundays so that the present Sunday skeleton service at the Information bureau could be closed down.

1972 09 15
Two men have launched in Cambridge a unique publications and visual aids service for industry to fill the gap between straight advertising and full scale book publication. Their firm, Woodhead-Faulkner (Publishers) ltd began business at 7 Rose Crescent this week. The whole concept is one of "below the line" advertising in which firms sponsor books in highly specialist fields while at the same time getting publicity for their products from the sponsorship

1972 11 15
Young people in Cambridge have lost their Saturday night dances - the high spot of their week - and this has meant more violence in the city, Steve, an apprentice chef at Christ's college claims. The Dorothy - the city's best known catering and dancing centre - closed in August. Teenagers have looked for other dances, but tend to spend more time wandering around looking for

somewhere to go that staying in any place. Saturday night dances at the Corn Exchange suit another type of person, said Steve. They prefer a different sort of music, which he describes as "heavy". He and other young people who frequented the Dorothy preferred Tamla Motown music. There are more than 80 people who used to go to the Dorothy. Many of these now wander the streets of Cambridge, travelling from one pub to another looking for something to do.

1972 11 17
Plans for the conversion of Cambridge's Corn Exchange to a 1,500-seat concert hall costing £936,200 will be considered at the inaugural meeting of the Concert Hall Action group. Before the meeting will be a feasibility study drawn up by Arup Associates, the London consultants who were responsible for the Maltings concert hall at Snape. One of the partners said "not only Cambridge, but Britain as a whole, will gain a concert hall of potentially international stature". The study recommends an extension to the Corn Exchange involving the closure of Parsons Court and the acquisition of other properties on its west side

1973 03 01
The building where the first electricity for lighting in Cambridge was generated is now on the market. The property, No.2 Market Passage, was the premises of Bailey, Grundy and Barrett, electrical contractors. In 1891 the firm produced the first electricity for lighting in the city with a gas engine and a dynamo installed in the basement. In those early days private electrical generating plants were supplied by the company to several of the Cambridge colleges. Until after the 1914-18 war such plants continued to be installed in country houses in outlying districts. As this business declined, the company moved into wireless, the design and making of temperature control equipment for laboratories and other specialised apparatus

1973 04 09
The Market Square ends of Guildhall Street and Peas Hill, Cambridge, were closed to traffic today as part of city council's plans eventually to make much of the central area into a pedestrian precinct. It is now possible to walk from Sidney Street to King's Parade without crossing a road. City surveyor, Mr Geoffrey Cresswell said that some motorists were still driving round Market Square attempting to get into Peas Hill. The present closure is officially regarded as only "temporary" - although it will last for possibly another two years - while rebuilding of the adjacent Lion Yard site is under way

1973 08 09
Cambridge is breaking all records this year for visitors. Business at the city council's tourist information bureau has almost doubled and staff are working flat out to cope with the demand for help and advice. The council's new hotel booking service has been overwhelmed by visitors looking for rooms and late yesterday a queue of tourists looking for accommodation had formed at the Guildhall bureau. Miss Margaret Badcock, who is in charge of tourist information estimates that the market square kiosk is handling up to 300 questions a day. She estimates that business was up by between 80 and 90 per cent

1973 08 24
At the Gardenia Middle Eastern Restaurant in Rose Crescent, Cambridge, I began with Houmous (25p), a thickish paste made with chick peas and oil which you scoop up with pieces of unleavened bread. It was quite tasty though for the price not particularly plentiful. It is not particularly elegant tackling by hand a four-skewer kebab (60p) in an envelope of unleavened bread with bits of onion and tomato spilling out. But the Gardenia does not pretend to be the place to take a grande dame out to dinner with candles. The Kadeifi (15p) which followed looked on the plate like a prandial imitation of Dougal, everyone’s favourite long-haired television dog.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1973 09 21
Like some great suicidal spider Cambridge will have eaten its heart out by the turn of the century. Such is the dramatic prophecy of Professor John Parry Lewis who has been making a complete study of its future. Specifically he is saying is that if Cambridge proceeds with the scheme to build a twin shopping centre in the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh street area it will be signing the death knell of the present Market Square area. He concludes that a new focus for commercial activity must be developed on the edge of the city either in the Trumpington area or to the east near Marshall's airport. This cannot be done if the Fitzroy-Burleigh scheme proceeds, as the indications now are that it will

1974 02 18
The three Cambridge parliamentary candidates competed for the ears of shoppers in a battle of decibels in the Market Place. The Liberal, Dr Michael O'Loughlin, was coming to the end of his soap-box session when his Conservative opponent, Mr David Lane, arrived armed with a megaphone. Minutes later the Labour contingent arrived with their candidate, Mr Jim Curran. Their loudspeaker van made a tour of the Market Square booming out the socialist message and drowning everyone else.

1974 04 20
Four youths were arrested and three needed hospital treatment when 1,000 pop fans went on the rampage at Cambridge Corn Exchange. 68 windows were smashed and police with dogs took an hour to restore order. Police said trouble started when an American group, The Drifters, failed to appear. The packed hall had waiting for 90 minutes for the group to turn up. Each had paid £1.10p. to get into the 8pm to 1am pop concert

1974 05 22
Arch-goon Spike Milligan hosted a reception at the University Arms Hotel with folksinger Jeremy Taylor to mark the release of a double album, "An adult entertainment: Spike Milligan live at Cambridge University", recorded in concert at the Lady Mitchell Hall last year before an invited audience. Spike made a military entrance dressed in a blue-denim jacket – buttoned up wrongly – and a flowery shirt and inspected the guests who lined up in military ranks. He had spent the day in Cambridge being filmed by a BBC crew. In the afternoon he visited the market and briefly served behind the counter of Mr Andy Gray's record stall

1974 06 11
Norman Higgins, a trustee and former managing director of the Cambridge Arts Theatre died at his home. Eight years ago he retired as general manager of the Arts cinema which he had started as the Cosmopolitan cinema in 1933. His contribution to the cultural life of Cambridge since he managed the old Tivoli cinema was immense. He willingly responded when Lord Keynes invited him to supervise the building of the new Arts Theatre and was subsequently responsible for more than 200 productions of opera, ballet, plays, revues and pantomimes c74 06 11

1974 07 02
It was 50 years ago that Mrs Ruth Mellanby began to guide people round the colleges when she was asked by a newly-opened travel agency in Guildhall St, Cambridge to take two elderly American tourists round. This was the beginning of a life-long and distinguished career as a guide. In 1950 she wrote her little book, "Cambridge in brief" as a thumbnail sketch of the colleges. Then 20 years ago she started the Cambridge Guide Service, training a group of around 20 guides. The Guild of Guide Lecturers ultimately drove the street touts who at one time operated their own dubious type of tours, out of business

1974 07 18
Seven generation of Barretts have been supplying the citizens of Cambridge with pottery and glass since the C18. This week the family business is virtually "coming home to roost" in opening up new premises in Gt St Mary's Passage – only a stone's throw from the spot where Simon Barrett opened up his first shop nearly 200 years ago. The long-established premises in St Andrew's Street will still remain in business.

1974 09 21
Housewives in Mid-Anglia who are stripping the shops of salt were described by shopkeepers and suppliers as mad and hysterical. The panic buying has been caused by false rumours and there is no shortage. Supermarket managers reported selling stocks that usually lasted three weeks in a day and a half. "This whole city has gone crackers", said one manager. The International Stores on Market Hill, Cambridge, sold out during the week. At Lipton's in Royston a delivery which normally would have lasted all week, sold out on the same day. At St Neots the Co-op sold out within an hour of delivery

1974 09 26
Early morning in Cambridge market place and indomitably breezy stallholders arrive with bulging cardboard boxes full of paws paws, crocus bulbs, turnips, antique Persian porcelain coins, brillo pads and all other things we need to victual our leaky ship. Before some of them can load their trestle tables from the cardboard boxes, they must gather up the broken and bloody hypodermic syringes, left behind by heroin addicts overnight. Once the syringes are out of the way, the square is soon ready for the public – Chris South

1974 09 27
A fourth candidate today joined the Cambridge election contest. He is Mr Christopher Curry, a 28 year old electrical engineer who is representing the United Democratic Party. Their platform is basically anti Common-Market. He said he had only heard of the party at the start of the week. Nevertheless he is organising an active campaign programme. The other three candidates were all surprised. Mr David Lane said: "We had a Digger last time. This will make a change".

1974 10 05
A £2 million plan for converting the old Cambridge corn exchange into a multi-purpose concert hall was accepted by the City Amenities Committee. An early warning of stormy times ahead was given by Coun. Peter Cowell who said: "There is bound to be a lot of opposition". In their report the architects claim that "not only Cambridge but England as a whole will gain a concert hall of potentially international stature which could attract the finest musical talent". They suggest the reshaped building could hold up to 1500 people and would also be ideal for events such as boxing, wrestling, operas, plays, exhibitions and conferences.

1974 12 24
Cambridge planners are looking at the possibility of turning the central library buildings in Wheeler Street into a Civic Restaurant when the library is moved into a new building in the Lion Yard next summer. The Library buildings are the centre of a legal wrangle between the city and county council who have now taken over responsibility for public libraries. The county claim the old library building should be given to, it but the city is arguing that as the library forms part of the Guildhall complex – the council's administrative headquarters – the county has no claim. The replacement of a Civic restaurant has been a top priority with the new Labour-controlled city council since it took office nine years ago

1975 02 14
For many months Andy's record stall has been one of the biggest market square attractions in the country. And with the opening of his new shop in Mill Road, Cambridge, Andy Gray has achieved another success. Opened by "Mr Top Twenty", Alan Freeman, the shop already houses more than 500 LPs covering the whole spectrum of folk, country and western, rock, motown and soul. There is also a cassette corner in the new shop. They will continue to offer discounts of between 50p and 90p off most LPs and albums.

1975 03 08
The Kojak craze has hit Cambridge. Sales of the sort of lollipop the actor Telly Savalas sucks in the popular television series have soared in the past three weeks in Cambridge, according to Mr Jim Reynolds, the 'Rock King' of Newmarket Road. He believes that most of the increased sales are being made to adults, not children. As far as Kojak hairstyles are concerned, Mr Terry Taylor, of Topman, Market Hill, Cambridge, said he had one or two customers who were thinking about adopting the Kojak look, but no-one has actually had the style done yet, he said

1975 04 12
The Prime Minister, Harold Wilson, came to Cambridge last night. For an hour he overcame both hecklers and the notorious acoustics of the city's Corn Exchange to win a standing ovation from almost 1,000 people. His main topic was the Common Market. He then went through a list of election promises and while harassed by the hecklers, who had paid 15p to get into the meeting, spelled out how each promise had been fulfilled.

1975 06 26
The temptation to buy strawberries this weekend may be overwhelming, but buy without thought and you have a more than even chance of being taken for a ride. Prices vary from 42p to 40p per half-pound & only the astute shopped can be sure of getting quality and the right quantity. At a stall on Market Hill I selected a 25p box and asked for them to be weighed. They were below ½ lb and with a cheerful smile the assistant added two more strawberries – from another punnet!

1975 09 03
Frank & Babs Munns, well-known to numerous city centre newspaper buyers, have retired from their Market Passage newsagents. They have been in the business for 45 years. His family started in Newnham, one of only two wholesalers in Cambridge of Sunday newspapers. They started their first business in Castle Street and moved to Market Passage 14 years ago. Over the years there has been a big increase in the number of continental magazines people want to buy. Italians from as far afield as Bedford come to their shop for periodicals in their own language

1975 09 17
Over 25 years of argument, several million pounds of ratepayers' money and three years of toil what will we get? The Lion Yard development. On the first floor is a modest entrance to a building that Cambridge has desperately needed for many years … the new library. It has three floors. The top will be used for housing the Cambridgeshire Collection. On the first floor is a children's' room where young readers can comfortably browse through their selection. The building bears about as much comparison with the old Wheeler Street library as Buckingham Palace does with the Black Hole of Calcutta

1975 10 16
Never had the cherubs on top of the marble columns looked down on a scene of such noise and commotion. For years they have held sway over an atmosphere of dignified hush in the library in Wheeler Street, Cambridge. But all that changed when removal men dismantled bookcases and

piled thousands of books into crates ready to go to the ultra-modern library in Lion Yard. As men stripped away its contents the room with its faded splendour and peeling yellow paint looked remarkably small. It was never easy to reach the top or bottom shelves of the tall bookcases. Anyone bold enough to crouch down and survey the low shelf inevitably collided with some other borrower standing behind.

1975 12 04
Princess Anne, making her first official visit to Cambridge, insisted on an impromptu chat with some of the thousands of sight-seers who thronged the city centre Lion Yard shopping centre. An estimated 10,000 people packed the Market Square and stood eight deep each side of Petty Cury as she walked into the new shopping centre. She stopped to talk to the delighted shop girls who were crowding their doorways and also to the eager shoppers who pressed forward to get a closer look at her. She explained: "I am not a complete stranger here because I have been shown around the university and city unofficially by two previous students who are both fans of the old city"

1976 02 02
Because of its low unemployment figure Cambridge is a labour-importing city. Up to £3,000 worth of government grants could be given to a man and his family in an area of high unemployment to persuade them to live and work here. The new Jobcentre in Guildhall Place has aptly been described as a job supermarket. An inviting window display tempts people into the well-carpeted warmth. The centre employs 26 people who find their work far more enjoyable now than ever they did in the days of the Labour Exchange

1976 03 17
One of Cambridge's best-known characters, Trevor Hughes, was rescued by firemen from a blazing room in a derelict house in East Road. He was found choking in a smoke-filled room at the back of the old headquarters of the Cyrene Community. Trevor, the elder statesman of the Cambridge dosser community, is well-known to shoppers in the Market Square where he sits daily by the fountain1976

1976 08 03
The Government has decided that the experimental traffic restriction system in the centre of Cambridge can become permanent. Through traffic will be prevented from going along Sidney Street and St Andrews Street between Emmanuel and Market Street junctions, and along King's Parade. The experiment was introduced 18 months ago – against a background of support from amenity organisations and opposition from city centre traders who carried their protests to a public inquiry.

1976 11 22
The former Liberal Party leader, Mr Jeremy Thorpe, spoke to shoppers near the Market Square, Cambridge above the noise of Conservative electioneering from the next-door stand. He arrived to join the Liberal candidate, Dr Michael O'Loughlin in addressing people at the corner of the Guildhall. A few yards away the Conservative candidate, Mr Robert Rhodes James broadcast his message through a megaphone. The Labour candidate, Mr Martin Smith, remained away from the shouting match – meeting people further along Lion Yard

1977 01 26
The international entertainment organisation, Mecca, has invited Cambridge City Council to talk about possible future uses for the Corn Exchange, one of the city's main entertainment centres. Five years ago Mecca turned down a request, saying Cambridge was too small to support a large-scale complex. Four years ago the Council expressed interest in a massive facelift operation, but

could not afford the then £1.5m for the work and was unable to find a private backer. Coun. Garner said: "It is often criticised as a white elephant, but it is surprising just how many functions are held there. We would not want to lose this amenity"

1977 01 31
A wave of soccer hooliganism swept across Cambridgeshire as hundreds of supporters passed through the county on their way to three major matches in East Anglia. At one time a convoy of 21 coaches carrying about 1,000 fans was escorted by police. A whole coachload of Derby fans was arrested in Cambridge city centre and escorted back to the Essex border after cars were damaged and occupants hurt by thrown bricks, bottles and beer cans. Cambridge United's Fourth Division clash with Darlington at the Abbey Stadium was free from serious trouble but pubs reported incidents as fans swept through the city. A soldier was injured outside the Still and Sugar Loaf public house at the Market Square.

1977 02 22
Cambridge open-air market traders have slammed the city council's decision to close the underground lavatories on the Market Square during the day. It will be most inconvenient for the many fruit and veg sellers obliged by health regulations to keep hot water on or near their stalls. They now face a hundred yards walk to the Lion Yard super loos, described as the most palatial in the country. But women stall holders can face up to half an hour's wait during the summer tourist season.

1977 05 28
The Mayor of Cambridge, Coun Maurice Garner, has offered to arrange skate-boarding sessions for city children in the Corn Exchange, where the council has a roller skating area, to keep them off the streets and away from the traffic. The new craze is rapidly gaining popularity and already some schools have banned their pupils from practising in the school grounds. For months the Road Safety Committee has expressed concern at the growing practice of skateboarding in the streets. A council report concludes: "As more people join in with the sport there is no doubt that the local authority will be asked to provide skate parks such as are provided in the United States"

1977 06 10
One of Cambridge's best-known characters, Trevor Hughes, clocked up his 100th recorded conviction at the city magistrates' court when he admitted being drunk and disorderly in the Market Square. As he came into court, Mr Hughes, looking thinner and without his famous bobble hat or bushy beard said: "Good afternoon everybody". In court he said: "I won't deny it, but I can't remember. I like a little drop of tiddly, but I'm not abusive. But people say: 'look at that dirty old so and so', and I lose my temper". He was sent to prison for a month.

1977 06 12
More than 1,500 people packed into Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge to hear the Calcutta missionary, Mother Teresa, talk about her work among the dying and destitute of India. She asked the congregation "not to give from their abundance but to give from their love, till it hurts". Earlier she had been the first to receive an honorary degree from Prince Philip. The University Orator, Dr Frank Stubbings spoke of her work: "She saw the multitudes and had compassion on them; she went alone, in poverty, to the homes of the poorest, tended their illnesses and set up a school in the midst of the slums" c77 06 12

1977 08 03
Cambridge's £3 million concert and conference hall that never was began with a £2 million promise to pay for the conversion of the Corn Exchange. But that promise, made in 1974 was

short-lived. Mr David Robinson decided that the Corn Exchange was ugly and should be pulled down. Instead he favoured a purpose-built concert and conference hall on the Downing Street end of the Lion Yard complex. The man at the centre of those protracted negotiations was Coun Jack Warren who told him it was a listed building and could not be pulled down but he pooh-poohed this. In October 1976 Mr Robinson wrote to say it would be impossible for him to provide the money, and then gave another £7 to Robinson College.

1977 09 26
Before I met The Stranglers I met their fans who formed a bizarrely-painted and clothed chain stretching from the Corn Exchange to King's Parade. First in the queue was a character by the name of Rat Rancid, with his mate Garry Gangrene, from King's Lynn. Here were some punks that looked every bit as vile as the ones we've all read about. They were horrible. I think it was the safety pins through the cheeks that made me feel slightly sick, but it may just have been the chains through their noses. They snarled and leered while my colleague, Mike Manni, took their pictures. Then Rat put down his can of Party Seven and scribbled his address. Could we send some prints. "To Rat Rancid", I asked. "Oh, no", he gasped. "My mum wouldn't like that"

1977 12 21
Cambridge market is the logical starting point for the Christmas shopping trek: it's close to shops of every different kind, and is surrounded by banks. But heading straight for the centre and hoping to find a parking space somewhere is a mug's game at the best of times. At Christmas it's plain daft, although people still do it. Traffic wardens are not so many Santa Clauses in disguise and you'll just end up going round the one-way system a few times … slowly. Or paying £6 for the privilege of stopping.

1977 12 22
Cambridge is not short of record shops, so what chance has another one got? The answer, says Andy Gray, is plenty. His latest shop "The Beat Goes On" is something out of the ordinary in that it caters for those interested in "golden oldies" and New Wave records. They specialise in records up to the 1970s and have on display portraits of "The Jam" who opened the shop on Friday. The new shop in Regent Street supplements the premises opened in Mill Road three years ago and Andy's Record Stall on Cambridge market which is still a gathering place for music lovers.

1978 02 13
I went for a pub-crawl the other night – without moving from my 'local'. Warmed by two or three pints of good beer I decided to call at The Criterion in Market Passage, which used to be a popular Saturday night pub, the Bun Shop just off Downing Street and the Volunteer in Green Street before tramping on to the Earl Grey in King Street and the Duke of Cambridge in Short Street. Every one of these pubs had its own special 'character'. The journey took only a few minutes but the best part of 15 years – during which time all of them have closed.

1978 03 03
'Giant Haystacks', otherwise known as Luke McMasters, towers above every other wrestler in the British ring at 6ft 11in and 32 stone and you could only pity tiny 15½ stone Mike Marino as he stepped into the Corn Exchange ring to pit his strength against him. The bout looked over when Haystacks body-slammed Marino to the canvas and, with a contemptuous glance, headed for the dressing room. But incredibly Marino managed to stagger to his feet before the count ended and Haystacks could not lumber back into the ring in time. Earlier a crowd of 700 watched Bert Royal and Vic Falkner beat Hungarian exile Zoltan Boscik and Britain's Chris Bailey.

1978 07 27

The Turk's Head, one of the largest eating places in central Cambridge, has served its last meals and drinks. Many of the 30 staff hope to be given the first chance in the project to turn the Plough and Harrow public house in Madingley Road into a restaurant. The Turk's Head opened in the 1960s as a restaurant where a range of inexpensive meals could be had across a wide price band but it was too close to another Berni Steak Bar around the corner in Rose Crescent. Now there are plans to turn it into two smaller restaurants together with a 'mini Burlington Arcade' with some 11 shops aimed at tourists.

1978 12 22
A remarkable cross-section of the community gathered for the funeral service of a well-known Cambridge personality. There was a former Dean of Jesus College, a police superintendent, booksellers, shopkeepers, a solicitor, market traders and college staff. They heard an address and sang hymns. Then they exchanged reminiscences about the man whose service they were attending, paid tribute to his memory and went away. A regular occurrence in a town like Cambridge, perhaps. A distinguished academic or leading businessman had died, it might be thought. But this service was for a shabby old man with a beard of no fixed abode who had some 113 convictions mainly on drinking charges and who sat and drank in the city centre – Trevor Hughes

1979 01 05
Gt St Mary's 5th centenary appeal launched [10.3]

1979 03 05
The Mayor of Cambridge, Coun Alec Molt, faced 300 chanting cyclists outside the Guildhall and signed their petition demanding better provision for cyclists. The demonstration began with a lecture on road safety and bike maintenance by the police, then led by a Panda car, they took at 15-minute tour of the city centre streets before returning to Peas Hill to hear councillors' views. Their priorities include cycle lanes on the Huntingdon & Madingley Roads and a contra-flow cycle lane in Downing Street.

1979 02 12
Two hundred Iranian students made Cambridge demonstration history when they knelt on Parker's Piece, preyed and recited from the Koran. In what is thought to be the first political demonstration starting with a mass prayer ritual on improvised prayer mats covering the wet turf, the Muslims called upon Allah to bless the efforts of the Ayatollah Khomeini to establish a republic in Iraq based on Koranic law. They then marched to the Market Square. No incidents were reported though some confusion existed among Saturday shoppers, knowing it was the first day of Rag Week. But the slogans "Death to the Shah" and "Long live Khomeini" soon dispelled their doubts.

1979 07 31
Pubs in and around Cambridge have come in for bitter criticism in a new guide written by two undergraduates. The Rose in Rose Crescent is described as a 'seedy little place in a seedy little street. Gay Cambridge meets there, which says little for their taste'. The Maypole in Park Street is described as a 'grotty little dive hidden rightly under the car park', the Carpenters Arms in Victoria Road is 'without redeeming feature; extremely anti-student clientele who would have beaten us up if they hadn't been so drunk. Dark and spooky'. The Locomotive in Mill Road 'ought to be exorcised, its evil … the worst pub in Cambridge' while the Midland Tavern is, they say, 'the most notorious pub in town with a reputation for being a centre of vice'. One landlord replied: "It's about time the University made these little boys do some work for their degrees … they speak too much claptrap"

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1979 09 26
At the Strangers performance in Cambridge Corn Exchange the punks were matched in numbers by a fair splattering of pseudo-intellectuals and Hawkwind types. They could remember the energy the band used to put into their shows, but now with their softer approach the maniacal crowd response was lacking. The pulverising brutality of 'Death and Night and Blood' still surges out but the Stranglers have now come of age and command respect. "We're trying a lot of new things, more complex, a bit of jazz. It went OK, at least Cambridge is always a good crowd", said Hugh Cornwell, recalling the Corn Exchange concert two years ago when bouncers took unkindly to being picked out by spotlights.

1979 10 01 c
Cambridge councillors complained that many of the city's traffic and parking regulations were not being enforced. One traffic warden went round the market square issuing parking tickets to motorists who had parked on double yellow lines but a few minutes later had a long friendly chat with the driver of an ice-cream van parked on the same lines. The van was towing a trailer which did not have any numberplates or lights. But police say the traffic warden force was only half its proper strength of 36 officers, two of whom were in office jobs.

1979 10 13
Cambridge Corn Exchange may be turned into a civic restaurant. The old one in Petty Cury was demolish amid a public outcry nearly eight years ago to make way for the Lion Yard redevelopment. It was started during the Second World War under the Government's British Restaurant plans for providing cheap meals and was continued by the council. It became something of a social centre and meeting place for many old people with nowhere to go during the day.

1980

1980 01 18
Cambridge Corn Exchange could be converted into a £1.5 million concert hall and entertainment centre after councillors voted to seek specialist advice. The Common Market is to be asked for a grant and the Arts Council will be approached for help. Some of the money the council hopes to raise from the sale of surplus land and profits from the Lottery may also go towards it. There were several voices of dissent but Coun Maurice Garner said: "It is not an elaborate and grandiose scheme. The Corn Exchange is hardly fit for use today and we must take action

1980 05 15
The TUC Day of Action was ignored by thousands of trade unionists in the Cambridge area who turned up for work as normal. But this failed to dampen the spirits of those who organised the protest against Government policies. The highlight was a mass public meeting in Market Square, preceded by a march through the city by 250 trade unionists. It was the biggest turn out the organisers can remember in Cambridge; when May Day marches were held there were fewer on the march than attended a normal trades council meeting 80 05 15b

1980 06 26
Four people were taken to hospital after a car careered across a corner of Cambridge Market Square. It ploughed across the Barclays Bank edge of the market, striking a flower stall, scattering fruit and vegetables and hitting two shoppers before ending up four feet from the railings of Gt St Mary's church. A Girton lady working on the flower stall said: "I just saw the car out of the corner of my eye and ran for it. The stall just folded up with its legs in the air" 80 06 26

1980 07 08
Cambridge City Council may refuse to make extra spending cuts because it wants to prevent staff sackings and reductions in public services. They may save money set aside for work on the Cattle Market site – which will not be ready this year anyway – and on modernising the Market Square lavatories. But they want to continue drawing up plans for the Kite area if the present scheme fails. 80 07 08c

1980 12 20
One of the oldest pubs in Cambridge, the Rose in Rose Crescent, may soon be just a memory. The brewery, Whitbread, is to sell the premises and it is likely to be converted into student accommodation. Landlord Alf Barnett said it was a place where a man in gumboots and work clothes could stand alongside a businessman with brolly and bowler hat and get along together. Sons of the gentry, over late-night cups of coffee, would ask to borrow the phone to ring 'Mum' and he used to vet their girlfriends. 80 12 20

1981 02 26
Down Your Street article by Sara Payne on Market Street: in an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge. Continued 81 03 05

1981 03 24
When the Corn Exchange re-opened earlier this year after a new roof had been fitted at a cost of £200,000 it was thought that the only major rock venue in Cambridge had been restored to the city's youngsters and an impressive line-up of bands were booked to appear. But just four concerts later the clamour of protest about noise has outmatched the decibels of the bands and put the whole future of the hall in doubt. Now the council may have to install soundproofing. 81 03 24

1981 05 28
Down Your Street article by Sara Payne on Peas Hill: an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge

1981 07 16
Drummer Street lavatories are smelly, bits of string helped tie the lavatory chains and the pipes were lagged with sacking. At Park Street t there was no paper in any of the cubicles, no soap and no towels. One seat was missing entirely. Valiant efforts are being made to keep the subterranean convenience on the market square clean – you have only to look at the gleaming brass handrail and inhale the disinfectant smell. But I wouldn't want to have to take a child in there, even in an emergency. 81 07 16

1981 10 06
W. Eaden Lilley's department store, now under one roof in Market Street, is Cambridge's oldest business. The shop front, built in 1930, was in the form of a deep arcade but in 1971 the store reduced it by half and used the space to increase the sales floor. They also have a warehouse in Mill Lane housing the funeral department with its private chapel while their vans are garaged and maintained in Glisson Road. 81 10 06a & b

1981 09 17
Down Your Street article by Sara Payne on Bene't Street: an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge; continued 81 09 24

1981 11 27
The first Cambridge tunnels dug under Peas Hill were used as wine vaults and one is blocked off by a wall of wine bottles cemented together. During the war they were wired for electricity and fitted out as air raid shelters for 400 people and later dossers used them as overnight hostels. In 1963 came proposals for an underground road starting at Maids Causeway and running down Jesus Lane and Emmanuel Road. There was also to be a three-storey underground car park. But the scheme was rejected. 81 11 27

1982 01 20
Film fans need have no fears that Cambridge cinemas may be converted into Bingo halls. EMI, which owns the two-screen Victoria say they have plans to convert it into a triple. It is the largest in town and attracts an average audience of about 600 people. Seats are now £2.10 for adults but the manager rejects the idea it is too expensive. One of the long-term threats is the home video market 82 01 20

1982 02 03
Andy Gray decided 13 years ago to move his collection of 500 second-hand singles from Bury market to serve the more discerning musical tastes of Cambridge. He can still be found in the market square today, though now he has eight shops in the region. He puts his success down to undercutting the traditional record retailers as well as offering the obscure stuff you just couldn't buy elsewhere. Rather like John Peel he has kept abreast of changes, opening 'The Beat Goes On' to cater for new trends. 82 02 03b

1982 04 08
Two of the most familiar faces on Cambridge market have called it a day. Kitty Davis has had a stall for more than 50 years; for much of that time she and her husband Joe have traded in fabrics, buttons and bows. Generations of doll owners have bought the frilly, lacy dresses she made. Racks of them hang beside her sewing machine at home; now she will sell them for charity. Previously she had a shop, 'Kathleens', in Burleigh Street selling ladies' underwear, hosiery and fashions. 82 04 08

1982 05 06
Down Your Street article by Sara Payne on Rose Crescent: an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge; continued 82 05 13

1982 05 25
Jane Barrett, the joint managing director of the Cambridge china and glass specialists, has become the first woman in the world to have a Royal Doulton crinoline lady named after her. 'Jane', a portrait of an Edwardian lady holding a parasol, has been created exclusively to celebrate Barretts bi-centenary this year and will only be sold at their shop in St Mary's Passage. 82 05 25 & a

1982 06 01
The lights went up for the last time on the ABC Minors Matinee at the Victoria Cinema, Cambridge. The final credits brought to an end an institution which has won a place in the hearts of thousands of children. No more will Keith Kendall and his part-time cleaner colleagues sneak into the lavatories to catch some 12-year-olds having a crafty cigarette. Sid Perkiss, who has manned the box office, remembers when two or three hundred children packed the cinema. Now it has been killed by the one-eyed villain, television. 82 06 01

1982 06 11
Three Cambridge restaurants have been recommended in a new guide to vegetarian cooking. But Renwick's Restaurant in Magdalene Street closed in March. Hobbs Pavilion comes in for the highest praise for its chilled cucumber soup while Nettles in St Edward's Passage serves a bulgar wheat pie that looks unappetising but tastes remarkable. 82 06 11a

1982 10 04
Market announces worst months trading for 30 years due to parking problems [5.8]

1982 11 23
£1M appeal recital at Barbican by artists who started careers in Cambridge as tribute George Rylands who just retired as Chairman Arts Theatre Trust aged 80 [8.3]

1983 01 21
Down Your Street article by Sara Payne on Market Hill: an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge; continued to 3rd February

1983 06 23
Down Your Street article by Sara Payne on St Mary's Passage: an important series featuring tradesmen and residents in different areas of Cambridge; continued 83 06 30

1983 12 05
A fire at the Victoria 1 cinema on Market Hill completely destroyed the screen and part of the stage, causing damage estimated at £50,000. There appears to have been a forced entry and it is being treated as arson. The cinema was showing 'War Games'. It is hoped to open the 139-seater Victoria 2 today. 83 12 05 p1

1983 12 13
An old Cambridge family business which closed 20 years ago is being 'revived'. Matthew and Son was once a prosperous department store founded in the 1830s in Trinity Street with its own tea rooms and restaurant. It closed in 1963 because of high rents but now the great-great-nephew of the founder, Michael Matthew, has started up the tea and coffee business again in much humbler surroundings of a market stall. 83 12 13 p12

1983 12 29
Britain has about 75,000 pubs but experts say the number will have dropped by 10,000 by the end of the century. Six Cambridge pubs have closed in the last ten years and most were knocked down and redeveloped. The Rose in Rose Crescent is the only one still standing with its basement now housing Flambards wine bar. The Bun Shop went after years spent in splendid isolation as the Lion Yard was built, The King William IV in Newmarket was flattened as was the Prince Albert in Chesterton. The Ancient Druids and Old English Gentleman were demolished as part of the Kite clearance. 83 12 29 p12

1984 02 08
Cambridge's Victoria cinema reopened after the disastrous fire and is now one of the best-equipped in the country with new equipment, new seats and much-improved lavatories. It has six-track stereo, a new screen and the new 70mm projector is seen at full benefit in films like 'Ghandi' and 'The Star Wars' trilogy which will be brought back by popular demand. When the seven-hour programme was tried out last year it attracted a full house with people in fancy costume 84 02 08 p14

1984 09 06
A blaze swept through the ABC Regal cinema in St Andrew's Street, gutting the central part of the 730-seat auditorium. The recently-renewed screen melted with the heat and the rest was damaged. The Polyurethane seat and floor coverings caused a lot of smoke which penetrated the upstairs ABC2 cinema. It is believed to have been started by a cigarette end left smouldering by a cinema-goer. Last year the Victoria cinema was damaged by an arson attack 84 09 06 [4.3]

1984 11 22
Cambridge's Savoy Jazzmen, who are celebrating 25 years of rip-roaring music, have announced they are to quit. The group's leader and only remaining original member, Barry Palser, has promised they will get together for special gigs. The Jazzmen have performed throughout Europe and have a single due for release in Germany. They got together to play for their own enjoyment in 1959 but were then invited to play for parties. They have become part of Cambridge music heritage, playing in parades, jazz clubs and Festivals. Barry remembers when Kenny Ball and Acker Bilk called into the Rose pub in Rose Crescent and joined in a couple of sessions. 84 11 22b

1984 12 03
The church of St Andrew the Great officially became redundant on St Andrew's Day. Sunday services would have ceased immediately but the Greek Orthodox congregation, who use the church, protested that they couldn't find anywhere else at such short notice. Now diocesan authorities will allow both Greek and Anglican services to continue until January. Under the terms of the closure the parish will merge with neighbouring Holy Trinity 84 12 03

1985 02 11
More than 5,000 Sinclair C5 electric vehicles have been sold during the first four weeks of production. At the moment it is sold by mail order but they are already talking to a number of High Street retailers who would sell the £400 machine direct to the public. Interest has come from as far away as the Outer Hebrides and Cornwell and from both teenagers and old age pensioners. In Cambridge the Eastern Electricity showrooms on Market Hill report continued interest in the machine they have on display and have distributed over 2,000 order forms 85 02 11

1985 07 25
Andy Gray can be seen early in the morning on Market Hill unloading four tons of records. It was as an 18-year-old straight out of school that he bought second-hand juke box records and sold them from market stalls. He took £80 on his first day at Cambridge – more money that he had seen in his life before – and opened his first shop in Mill Road. Now Andy's Records is the biggest chain of record shops in the region with a multi-million pound turnover. But he stills serves behind the counter whenever he can. 85 07 25 & 85 07 30

1985 10 15
Pigott's, the family ironmongers which has traded in Cambridge for more than a century, is up for sale. It was in 1863 that John Pigott, son of a Landbeach farmer, opened an ironmongers shop in Sidney Street and a chain of shops were set up in Market Hill, Mill Road, Norfolk Street, Bridge Street and Hills Road. The Sussex Street branch, an established feature of the street since the late 1930s, shut down last September. The business, now in Victoria Road, includes two shops, a warehouse, stores and office. 85 10 15a

1985 10 21

The old Otto Wehrle public clock is to be returned to its former position after a decade's absence. The 102-year-old clock was removed from the Cambridge Market Square façade when the Wehrle jewellers business closed after 125 years. Now it has been discovered in Lincolnshire by a Saffron Walden dealer in ancient artefacts, Stephen McDermott. It is being restored by Rodney Firmin of Magdalene Street before being unveiled once more next spring 85 10 21

1985 12 13
Snowy Farr's name and face are instantly recognisable all over the world. The self-styled 'King of the Roads' in his outrageously colourful clothes and with his menagerie of animals has become a regular feature of Cambridge Market Place over the years. It was 1971 when Snowy, now 66, started collecting money for the blind. Over the years he had built up a collection of cats, mice, rabbits, birds and his faithful dog, Spot, which are all transported in a colourful home-made cart built round a bicycle. The former road sweeper has appeared on television, in newspapers and magazines as far away as Canada, Hong Kong and even Australia. 85 12 13a

1985 12 17
Cambridge's Victoria Cinema has been sold to make way for a new Marks and Spencer store. The prime market square site has housed the city's largest cinema since 1931 and underwent a major refurbishment following a fire two years ago. The sale will leave Cambridge with two other cinemas, the ABC 1 and ABC 2 complex and the Arts Cinema. But there are plans to change the old Kinema bingo hall in Mill Road back into a cinema 85 12 17

1986 01 03
Actors, actresses and directors arrived in Cambridge to mark the 50th anniversary of the Arts Theatre. Eleanor Bron, whose career started with the Cambridge Footlights, arrived first to be followed by Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Timothy West with his actress wife Prunella Scales and Judi Dench. Sir Peter Hall laughed with his old friend Trevor Nunn and was joined by Ian McKellan, the irrepressible Arthur Marshall and the broadcaster Richard Baker. The occasion was a unique recital devised by Dr George Rylands, affectionately known as 'Dadie' 86 01 03 86 02 03b & c elite of British acting world give unique Shakespeare performance - "Strange eventful history" celebrate 50th anniversary Arts Theatre, £15,000 raised [8.5] loses £181,000 at box office [8.5]

1986 07 09
W.H. Smith, a familiar sight on Cambridge Market Hill for the past 25 years is to close. Staff will be transferred to their other shops in Lion Yard and at Cambridge railway station. 86 07 09

1986 07 16
Cambridge planners rejected proposals to demolish the Victoria Cinema at Market Hill and replace it with a Marks and Spencer superstore. It would deprive many people of a first-class city centre entertainments facility, the shopping proposal was contrary to development plans and it would result in added traffic congestion. But they might change their minds if Cannon reopened the Central Cinema in Hobson Street instead of using it as a bingo hall or provided a new multi-screen cinema 86 07 16

1986 10 23
Work to widen pavements in Market Street and Sidney Street and reduce traffic using the city centre are attracting a storm of protest. 86 10 23

1986 11 26

The Corn Exchange, Cambridge's new entertainment and conference complex, has opened after years of political wrangling. The four wall shell used for pop concerts, roller skating and badminton has been developed into an auditorium with stage and versatile seating together with a tiered balcony and mezzanine terrace that can be used for a variety of purposes. At the back are changing rooms, dressing rooms and workshops while the King Room upstairs will be available for private functions 86 11 26d & e

1986 12 27
Sales fever hit Cambridge as shoppers converged on city stores. Hundreds of bargain hunters took more than 10 minutes to throng into Eaden Lilley's in Market Street when the doors opened on the first day of the sales while at Joshua Taylor's nearby clothes and furniture were snapped up. In the Grafton Centre Debenhams was overwhelmed with people rushing to get in while Laskys hi-fi dealers are expecting a bumper day up and the Queensway furniture store in Coldham's Lane say sales have been booming. 86 12 27

1987 01 08
Traders are blaming Cambridge's parking problems for turning the market into a 'morgue' and 'cutting trade by up to 50 per cent'. They say shoppers are going elsewhere and the centre is dying simply because there is nowhere to park. There are too few car parks, too high parking fees, a loss of meter spaces and cuts in bus services. A Consultant's report commissioned by leading retailers and hotel bosses has also said that poor parking facilities are costing shops lost trade and a pressure group has called for a 1,000-space underground car park 87 01 08a

1987 03 14
Barrett's China and Glass shop in St Mary's Street is to close after 200 years in Cambridge with the business transferred to Newmarket. The owner says that the appalling parking problems are one factor for the move. In January a city centre gift shop and a doctor's surgery both moved out for the same reason. The Parsley Pot shop in Lion Yard has also closed. The Managing Director of Eaden Lilley has warned the parking crisis in traffic-choked Cambridge could only get worse. 87 03 14

1987 03 26
Chirpy market trader Bill Gray has gone to extreme lengths to keep his customers happy. He even skinned a rabbit for one person who stopped to buy some fruit and veg. His beaming smile and friendly small-talk has been a big boost for business. And the smile does not fade when the rain lashes down. Bill, of Gt Shelford, has been a familiar face during the past 31 years. But now he is calling it a day and will hand the business over to his son and daughter-in-law. But his regulars – who include the wife of the former Master of Trinity - will be pleased to know that he will still help out sometimes. 87 03 26

1987 04 06
Veteran rocker Jerry Lee Lewis gave a high voltage performance at the Corn Exchange. The audience ranged from the Mayor, John Woodhouse, to the secretary of Cambridge Elvis Presley Fan Club. Quiffs and DAs sprouted from male heads while the girls sported pony tails, satin or chiffon ribbons and bright lipstick. Teds wore their distinctive plumage of drape jackets and drainpipe trousers. All united in a huge roar as a short figure strolled on to the stage and the opening bars of 'Roll Over Beethoven' powered round the hall. 87 04 06

1987 06 26
The Victoria Cinema site on Market Hill is to become a Marks and Spencer store following an Inspector's decision. M & S is planning to put up a completely new building behind the existing

façade and the store will also stretch into the shoe shop next door. Refusing permission would not have saved the cinema as the owners wanted to sell the property. But planners fear traffic chaos unless the firm is responsible about deliveries: they can as of right bring huge great articulated trucks down Bridge Street and Trinity Street in the middle of the working day if they so wish. 87 06 26

1987 10 21
Classical music concerts could be curtailed at Cambridge Corn Exchange in a bid to cut losses. But 'popular' acts such as comedians Phil Cool & Victoria Wood and big-time rock groups like Motorhead and David Essex have proved a massive success. In just nine months the Corn Exchange has been established as an important venue with plenty of sell-outs and successes. This has led to agents asking if their acts can play there. David Essex, Courtney Pine, The Shadows and the Drifters are amongst those whose managements have approached them. 87 10 21

1987 11 03
Mini skirts are back in fashion – even the Duchess of York has been seen stepping out in a skirt which exposed the royal knee. Snob in Market Street has pleated minis, knitted minis, straight minis – the style does not matter. For evenings they have frothy, flared minis which are teamed with stiff net petticoats and clingy 'hunza' dresses. Mini-wearer Nim Bruce of Mill Street says: "It doesn't matter if you've got good legs or not – they are frivolous and fun" 87 11 03

1987 11 10
Shadows at Corn Exchange – 87 11 10

1988 01 15
Lights went up for the last time at the Victoria Cinema as the final performance of its last show came to an end. As the audience left after seeing 'Spaceballs' or 'Predator', manager Richard Wright reflected on the cinema's long history. Memories of MGM musicals, Saturday morning minors and all-night horror shows came flooding back. Mick Wells, who has been the chief projectionist for 24 years recalled the halcyon days when 'South Pacific' ran for two solid years and 'The Sound of Music' for three. Now the building on Cambridge Market Hill will make way for a new Marks and Spencer store. 88 01 15

1988 01 22
The Cambridge Rock Group Competition saw 1,000 fans jammed into the Corn Exchange to support the seven bands battling out for places in the semi-final. The gentle jazz-rock group, Curious, featured the magnificent vocals of Hilary Bailey and her 10-string Chapman stick bass which gave them a clean sound, Bogus Renegades were impressive for their years but Turn to Blue's squeaky clean pop was not fashionable in this competition. In the end it was the dynamic Nutmeg and Indiscretion who took the honours. 88 01 22a

1988 03 14
Restaurants in Cambridge city centre have suffered a dramatic loss of trade since the controversial closure of the Victoria Cinema and its redevelopment for a new Marks and Spencer store. The Berni Steak House in Rose Crescent is down 150 meals a week while Flambards wine bar in Rose Crescent has also lost custom. The owner of the Italian Kitchen says there is nothing for anyone to come in for in the evening. The whole place is just deserted. 88 03 14

1988 06 09
Health Food Stores of Rose Crescent was ahead of its time when it started under the name of Sandwiches and Health Food in Green Street in 1931. The brainchild of an Australian, Clarence

Dowell and his wife, who worked in the kitchen making sandwiches, it introduced many Cambridge people to the delights of nut rissoles and vegetarian food. Now it is to close and Peppercorns delicatessen will open in the premises 88 06 09c

1988 06 25
Arlington Development plan shopping shake-up involving Joshua Taylor, Eaden Lilley and the Arts Cinema, realigning Market Passage – 88 06 25

1988 07 21
The future of Cambridge market could be in doubt due to parking problems, stallholders say. Until 1969 drivers could park their cars in the middle of the market area – an attendant collected the fees – while stallholders occupied all the outside area. Then the council came up with a proposal that the area be divided into two – half stalls, half cars. But this provoked indignation and all parking was banned with new metal-framed plastic-covered stalls instead of wood and canvas set out over whole area. – 88 07 21

1988 09 05
Nettles, one of Cambridge's most popular snack bars in St Edward's Passage, may close. 88 09 05

1989 05 01
Tourists contributed £165 million to Cambridge's economy last year, supporting between 8 and 10,000 people in the service industry. Each spends about £47. But just £157,000 was spent on welcoming them – less than 5p a head. The council cash went on running the tourism office in Wheeler Street which has 12 full-time staff and another dozen workers in the summer. The colleges are a major attraction but university life would be seriously disrupted if they were allowed to roam uncontrolled. Most colleges close during exams but are anxious not to close their gates unnecessarily. 89 05 01a, 02

1989 08 05
The Government has rejected plans for a massive office block at Mitcham's Corner. But there is still a steady trade in office space. Those in old buildings without car park parking space are difficult to shift. But bright new ones are easier to find. In Rose Crescent an 18-year lease is going for £65,000 and an eight-room office in Hobson Street is £15,000 a year. Kett House is under offer and an office above the Midland Bank has just been let while in Newmarket is a brand new Stourbridge Common Business Centre 89 08 05

1989 08 09a
The Gardenia in Rose Crescent is a Mediterranean restaurant, run for the last 20 years by the Loizou family who have never lost their strong Cypriot identity. Mum Paraskevi prepares all Greek meat dishes such as shevtallia meatballs while Dad, Andreas, mans the tills. They were the first to introduce the kebab into Cambridge. But now they have decided to close and the restaurant is up for sale. 89 08 09a

1989 09 21
Cambridge Arts Theatre is to launch an appeal to replace its 650 aging and tatty seats, worn carpets and poor ventilation system. Despite artistic success it has financial problems. Even when a show is a roaring success and playing to packed houses, the theatre makes a £3,000 loss. The problem is worse when operas are performed as a full orchestra reduces seating capacity from 650 to 580. Small profits from catering services, costume-hire and renting out the building for conferences only makes a dent in the overall loss. 89 09 21

1989 11 06
A poll-tax protestor hurled a petrol bomb through the window of city council offices in Peas Hill and daubed 'No Poll Tax' in red paint on the wall and doors 89 11 06

1990 01 31
Corn Exchange cultural centre – feature – 90 01 31a & b

1990 03 13
University Audio founder Gruffydd Reece started University Cameras in St Mary's Passage after leaving the RAF in 1945. The business expanded and he opened Fencolour Laboratories in Newmarket Road, one of the first to offer colour developing and printing for amateurs. He was later joined by his brother Hugh and cousin Bryan Hyam who started University Audio in Peas Hill – 90 03 13

1990 05 02
Andrew Blackwood retires as manager of Arts Theatre, Stephen Walton his successor; interview – 90 05 02a, b

1990 08 15
Market traders put forward plan to pedestrianize the square with a quarter left free for stalls – 90 08 15a

1990 09 26
Market Hill revamp plans include new fountain – 90 09 26a

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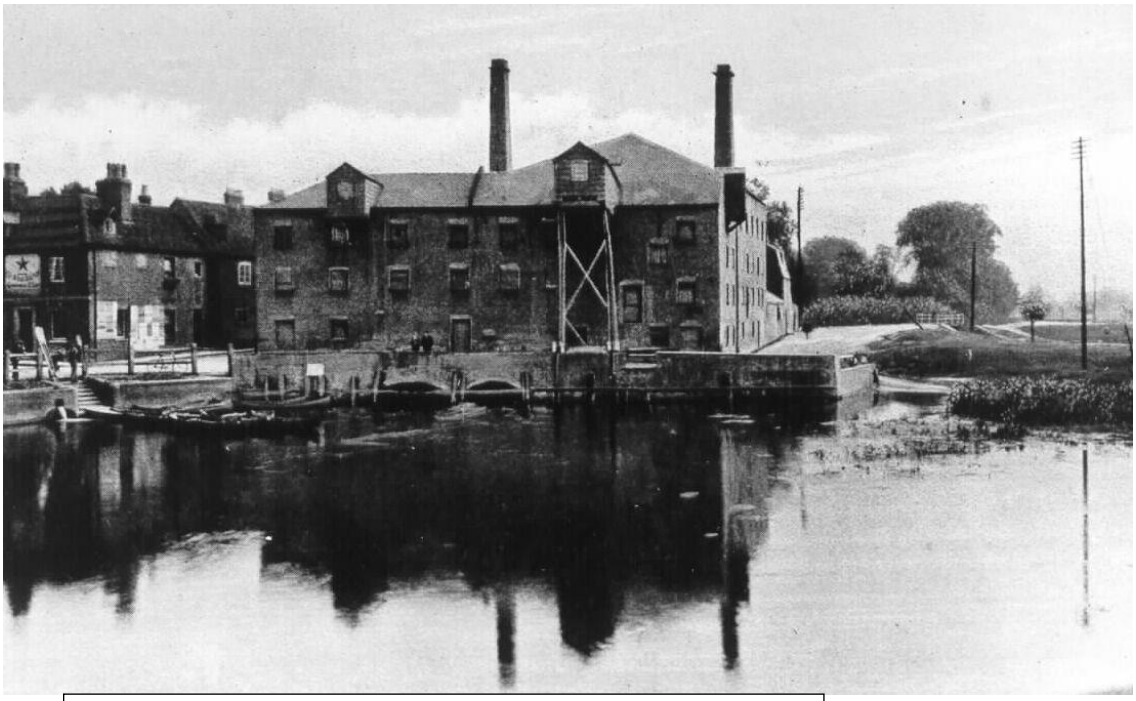


Κινγ□σ & Βισηοπ□σ Μιλλ χ1910 68.04

Cambridge MILL LANE & GRANTA PLACE Scrapbook by Mike Petty

1900

1908 06 12
At the bottom of Mill Lane there was a kind of wharf with steps to allow people to get down to the river. Recently Mr Scudamore had fastened a sort of wooden punt as a mooring for pleasure boats, now nobody in a boat could get to the steps without trespassing on it. But no loading of boats had been carried on for nine years, the water was only a foot deep and there had been no complaints. Anybody in a punt could use it, Scudamore claimed. However as the river was a navigable highway, this was an obstruction magistrates decided and fined him five shillings. CWN 08 06 12 p2

1909 08 13 CWN
A petrol-driven motor boat owned by Mr John Scudamore, boat-builder of Mill Lane, and occupied by a party of five undergraduates caught fire when at the back of King's College and was burnt down to the water's edge. They had experienced difficulties with the 3½ horse-power engine and Mr Scudamore went to their assistance. He was examining it when it burst into flame. The cause is a mystery: nobody was smoking, the engine-bearings were not overheated and there was no escape of petrol. CWN 09 08 13

1910

1912 08 09
A new scheme for relieving the traffic in Silver Street recommends a new road and bridge connecting to Coe Fen Lane, passing on the east side of the old mill and along the wall of Peterhouse at a total cost of £14,246 (£1.3m today). The Corporation had purchased Mr Foster's

mill. It was at present broken down and would never be used as a mill again. But there was a strong feeling against a road across Coe Fen and Sheep's Green; it ought to be more in line with Mill Lane. An alternative would take a road from Barton Road corner to Belvoir Terrace but this would destroy the bathing place. However some councillors said the congestion had been greatly exaggerated and there was no urgent need at present. 12 08 09c & d

1912 09 27
Councillors debated the proposed scheme for relieving traffic in Silver Street. A bridge from Silver Street to Mill Lane with one road across Coe Fen and another taking traffic from Newnham Croft to the Station would be a very large expenditure and ruin Sheep's Green, one of the most delightful bits of country in the town. The problem could be adequately met by widening Laundress Lane from Silver Street to Mill Lane and diverting the traffic in that direction. 12 09 27b & c

1920

1923 09 21
Sir - During the time that Silver Street, Cambridge, has been closed for traffic, some hundreds of persons have used Mill Lane, Sheep's Green to Newnham mill path. This opens a solution of the problems of relieving Silver Street of a great number of bicycles, especially during the dinner hour. I would like the Corporation to consider widening the wooden bridges, lessening the gradients, covering in the outlets of Newnham mill, and improving the cobble stones in Mill Lane, in order to encourage cycle riders to use this way. The one drawback to this scheme is the sharp turn at the King's mill corner, but this might also be overcome – "Newnhamite"

1925 07 03
The annual swim through Cambridge may be said to rank as one of the finest races witnessed since its inception. There were 37 competitors, including 14 ladies. The course followed by the swimmers from the Old Mill, Mill Lane to Strange's Boathouse, Jesus Lock, via the Backs of the colleges is approximately 1,360 yards. The town turned out in force at every point of vantage to watch the progress of the swimmers. H.P. Lavender passed the winning post barely five yards in front of Miss Lavender amidst the applause of the onlookers.

1925 11 18
The 100ft high chimney stack which has stood for close on 300 years on the site of the old disused flour mill at the corner of Mill Lane and Granta Place, Cambridge, was pulled down. A platform was erected at the base of the stack which rises from the now dry river bed, and fuel in the form of straw, wood and corn was placed thereon. The whole was then soaked with paraffin oil, a match applied and the work of destruction begun. But the old giant took a deal of shifting and it was not until the flames had licked about his feet for over a quarter of an hour did he sway and crash to the ground amid a deafening crescendo of falling masonry.

1927 02 07
A momentous event in the history of extra-mural teaching at Cambridge University was marked by the opening of Stuart House. Standing in Mill Lane it is a beautiful house and a worthy addition to the architectural wealth of the town. It is named after the Right Hon. James Stuart, Fellow of Trinity College, who founded extra-mural teaching work in the University and was largely responsible for its extension to other parts of the country.

1927 04 05

Cambridge Council will debate the site of King's and Bishop's Mill, Mill Pool. Two years ago the buildings were dangerous and have been demolished. They had a scheme to beautify the area by leaving it open & constructed a new weir with facilities for getting boats from the lower to the upper river. Now the University has offered to purchase the site for erecting lecture rooms.

1927 04 09
Cambridge councillors debated whether part of the King's and Bishop's Mill site should be sold to the University to erect new lecture rooms. The Corporation should not sell its property in this way; it should do so on the public market. They might get a higher offer from a firm who would like to put up a Woolworth building but they wanted an appropriate end to the Backs & such improvements would give an almost Venetian effect to the whole of the Backs river. To consider turning the site into a recreation ground with railings and white paint would be most regrettable. They should pull down the remains of the mill so that everyone could see what the site looked like when the fag-end of the foundations was up. It would expose some quite ugly buildings which would not be hidden by any plans before them

1927 10 21
King's Mill site cleared, p8

1928 01 28
King's Mill, p8*

1928 07 17
King's Mill sale, p6

1928 07 28
Members of the Cambridge Drawing Society made a strong plea for the preservation of the character of the King's Mill site, protesting against the Council's scheme for the demolition of the old Mill-race and the erection of a weir. They are thankful that proposals for a tea garden and rustic bridge were not passed but feel its unique character will be utterly destroyed. The two King's and Bishop's Mills were amongst the oldest things in Cambridge, and a monument of romance. A cascade was all very well for Bedford or Tooting but was out of keeping with the spirit of Cambridge.

1930

1932 08 12
The University of Cambridge has accepted Messrs Rattee and Kett's tender for the superstructure of the new University Library. They are also building an extension to the School of Agriculture and the Royal Society Mond Laboratory while Mr Sindall is building the new block of lecture rooms in Mill Lane and Coulson and Son have the contract for the extension to the Physiological Laboratory. These valuable contracts have been made possible largely by the munificent gift of the Rockefeller Trustees.
32 08 12b

1934 03 06
The proprietor of the Garden House Hotel proposed to make alterations and additions and wanted to acquire a portion of Coe Fen lying in front of Coe Fen Terrace, an annexe to the hotel, to add to the gardens. There was a public footpath across it which would have to be diverted. He was the owner of the piece of land opposite the Ladies Bathing Place which would be added to the common in exchange for the land he wanted. Councillors agreed to the scheme. 34 03 06

1934 09 28
Thousands packed the area around Mill Pool and gathered on Silver Street Bridge to watch a demonstration of the new fire engine. The most thrilling display was lifesaving by the Davey apparatus as 'victims' were lowered from the roof of the Mill Lane Examination Rooms. The only flaw in the organisation was that the spectators were not warned when the water tower was set in use with the result that many, especially women and children, had a soaking. 34 09 28

1937 02 13
Sir – I remember Ditton Docks some 70 years ago. It was then a small landing stage, long disused and out of repair. There was also a more pretentious one further down the river – Horningsea Pier we used to call it - and I was told that in pre-railway days this had been extensively used. My father would speak of the times, before the present locks were installed, when strings of barges were kept waiting sometimes for several weeks for the river to rise sufficiently for them to come up. They carried coal and corn to Mill Lane or timber and sand to Walnut Tree Lane (now Avenue). Dant of Dant's Ferry had a fleet of barges at that time – A. Cox 37 02 13

1938 09 05
Mr M.C. (Jack Scudamore) served his apprenticeship with Mr J. Stranger, boat builder of Chesterton and, after serving in the Boer War, started business as a boat and launch builder in Mill Lane about 1903. He had considerable success in building motor boats and his craft won prizes for motor boat racing. When the Thames punt became the vogue he turned his attention to the building of this type of boat and was the pioneer of their use on the Backs and Granta. Since the popularity of the punt in Cambridge he has supplied them to users all over the country. 38 09 05c

1938 12 10
Queens' College have commenced a Chancery Court action against Cambridge Corporation seeking to prevent them from diverting the Cam at the sluice near the former King's and Bishop's mill so as to undermine the college buildings in Silver Street and seeking £5,150 damages for damage already caused. The Town Clerk has been instructed to protect the Corporation's interest and take any action advised by their counsel 38 12 10

1939 10 23
Mr J.A. Scudamore, the boat builder, has died aged 52. He built several motor launches when they were first introduced on the Cam and had considerable success in the races promoted by the Motor Boat Club of which he was an early member. In the summer months he was a well-known and genial figure in Mill Lane, being in charge of the new Granta boat houses which he'd helped to plan. 39 10 23

1940

1949 03 14
Sir – the trouble with the Four Lamps roundabout is its bad design. It was put down many years ago and allows traffic to approach at too fast a rate. The new roundabouts on Chesterton road with its beautiful flower gardens and the one where Lensfield joins Trumpington road are of better design because they slow all traffic down to walking pace. A much greater terror is that most insane junction, Pembroke Street and Mill Lane with Trumpington Street. How people avoid being killed daily is always a marvel to me. It would be so easy to control these with traffic operated signal lights – D. McClure Campbell

1950

1955 09 30
An old grain store in Mill Lane is being converted into the new premises of the Cambridge University Assistants' Club. It is hard to realise that the spacious lounge and dining hall once accommodated bags of golden corn brought up from the river to feed the mill. It will become one of the most modern and comfortable social centres in Cambridge. The polished floor of the dining room may do service as a ballroom whilst the common room above gives a unique view of the river and Coe Fen. 55 08 18a
The idea of a recreational club and canteen for University Assistants was first suggested in 1946 and eventually a 'disreputable warehouse' was acquired in Mill Lane. It has now been transformed into a magnificent club that was officially opened by the Vice Chancellor. It will be managed by the Assistants themselves; they have called innumerable meetings choosing decorations, furniture and china and also acquired a piano and a radiogram. 55 09 30b & c

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1960 10 31
Charles Whitaker was one of the country's greatest wood carvers and sculptors. But his most prominent memorial is in Cambridge where he lived. His first stone-carving job was at Ridley Hall but every college bears the mark of his skill. He was responsible for the restoration of the outside of King's chapel, Trinity College fountain and the Gate of Honour at Caius. He also carved the University Arms over the Examination School in Mill Lane and designed the coats of arms on Fen Causeway Bridge and Ascham Road Library. 60 10 31

1961 02 14
Mill Pool weir picture 61 02 14c

1962 03 27
Robinson Crusoe Island, the strip of grassland in the River Cam between Fen Causeway Bridge and the Mill Pool, is to be developed as a beauty spot. Scudamore's boat building company will plant flower beds and lay lawns; old tree stumps will be uprooted and an old boat store pulled down. It will probably be used as a stopping-off point for people punting or rowing to Grantchester. Extensive works are also being carried out to the river bank along the frontage of the Garden House Hotel as part of a gardens improvement scheme 62 03 27a

1964 07 16
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Mill Lane – 64 07 16

1964 11 14
The site for the new Cambridge University graduate centre has been cleared and work will soon begin - photo - 64 11 14a

1966 03 29
Mill Lane sluice tunnel old brickwork being replaced – photo – 66 03 29b
1970

1970 02 14

"Garden House riot": police make truncheon charge against mob of undergraduates who surged forward pinning score constables against shattered plate-glass windows causing £2,276 damage Garden House Hote1. City demand punishment for rioters 1000 march to Greek rally, 300 admit to being at anti-Junta demonstration four guilty of riot, seven acquitted; six sent prison periods 5-18 months, two sent to borstal. "GHR changed course of events; afterwards student violence died off, 11,280 at dinner, climax of Greek Week promoting holidays under Right-Wing military dictatorship; Police invoked Riot Act, not used for years. Judge Melford Stevenson said it most complete example of intelligent young people getting involved in complete bloody nonsense - 70 02 14, 14a, 14b, 70 02 18 & a. 70 06 24

1970 06 19
University Graduate Centre – feature – 70 06 19, 19a

1971 03 30
Garden House Hotel £1m extension scheme starts – 71 03 30

1972 04 24
Two middle-aged women who jumped from a first-floor window into the Garden House hotel's back gardens to escape the fire were later found by a Cambridge milkman wandering along Fen Causeway in their nightclothes. A friend said "The women looked like refugees with smoke-blackened hands and faces. They had walked across Coe Fen. The milkman stopped his float and asked if he could help them". Miss Sarah Wilhelm from Ohio said she was woken by a burning smell. She saw the room starting to fill up with smoke and saw the paint on the inside of the door turning brown. She jumped from the window and the other lady followed, p1

1972 08 24
It has been an irritating summer for the hundreds of visitors to Cambridge who have been forced to scour the surrounding countryside for hotel rooms. Cambridge has always had a notorious reputation for being unable to accommodate all the summer visitors. This year the situation was made worse by the Garden House Hotel fire in April which left the city the poorer by 75 bedrooms. Help is already on the way. The Garden House Hotel is being rebuilt; the Gonville Hotel will open again after alterations and work has started on a 100- bedroom hotel at Bar Hill. Whitbread have outline planning permission to build a 60-bedroom motel extension at the Red Lion Hotel, Trumpington and De Vere Hotels are awaiting the outcome of the inquiry into their application to build a 200-bedroom hotel on Castle Hill

1972 09 12
Garden House Hotel lady, p5

1972 11 03
With plans nearly complete for the 152-bedroom Garden House Hotel, due to rise on the site of its burnt-out namesake in the middle of Cambridge, the hotel's neighbours and other people are claiming that the building will be too big, and might create a traffic nightmare. They fear the narrow streets round Granta Place will be choked by a heavier flow of vehicles and some are worried that the only answer will be a new service road across Coe Fen. Before the fire in April which destroyed the old 76-bedroomed Garden House, an extension with 48 new rooms was already under construction. Work carried on while the ruins of the old building were demolished. The site is now being prepared to take the new main section ringing the total number of bedrooms up to 152

1973 07 17
Garden House hotel supplement

1973 08 17
Mini "bombers" are terrorising tourists on the River Cam. Mr Bell of Scudamore's boatyards, Mill Lane, Cambridge, said "A lot of people who cannot swim go out on the river. It seems nothing is going to be done till somebody is seriously injured or drowned". He said youngsters were playing "bombing" games, jumping in at the iron bridge and diving boards near the swimming pool and landing as close to the boats as possible. He understands that youngsters involved are in the seven to 11 age group 73 08 17

1974 05 10
The placing of the garden House Hotel into the hands of a receiver-manager illustrates all too clearly the fine line between success or failure in business plans. At one moment the £2 million scheme was all go, and even at an interest rate of 10½ %, would have been viable for the family business. But then, almost overnight, rocketing interest rates killed off all hopes of doing anything other than paying a loan. Even though the hotel is making a profit on a day-to-day basis they could not contemplate it. To pay off a bank overdraft accrued since the fire that gutted the original buildings two years ago, they had to expand and create a higher turnover.

1976 03 05
With its four-star grading proudly displayed the Garden House Hotel seems to be changing for the better. The a la carte menu us comprehensive but expensive. Main courses are priced at £3-£4 plus the cost of vegetables at 45p a dish. Starters and sweets are priced between 50p and £1. We settled eventually for the table d'hôte menu & our bill came to £12.60 and we thought the meal was disappointing for such a highly-rated hotel.

1976 11 02
The signing of a £1 million sales contract for the Garden House Hotel in Cambridge marks the end of speculation and rumour about its future. Essentially a family business established in 1910, the hotel hit world headlines in 1970 when for five hours it was the scene of some of the worst violence Cambridge has ever experienced. About 500 students besieged the hotel, hurling bricks and abuse as a protest against the Colonel's regime in Greece and caused £2,000 damage. Two years later fire gutted the premises killing two guests. This disaster led to financial trouble and the appointment of a receiver-manager in May 1974.

1980

1981 10 06
W. Eaden Lilley's department store, now under one roof in Market Street, is Cambridge's oldest business. The shop front, built in 1930, was in the form of a deep arcade but in 1971 the store reduced it by half and used the space to increase the sales floor. They also have a warehouse in Mill Lane housing the funeral department with its private chapel while their vans are garaged and maintained in Glisson Road. 81 10 06a & b

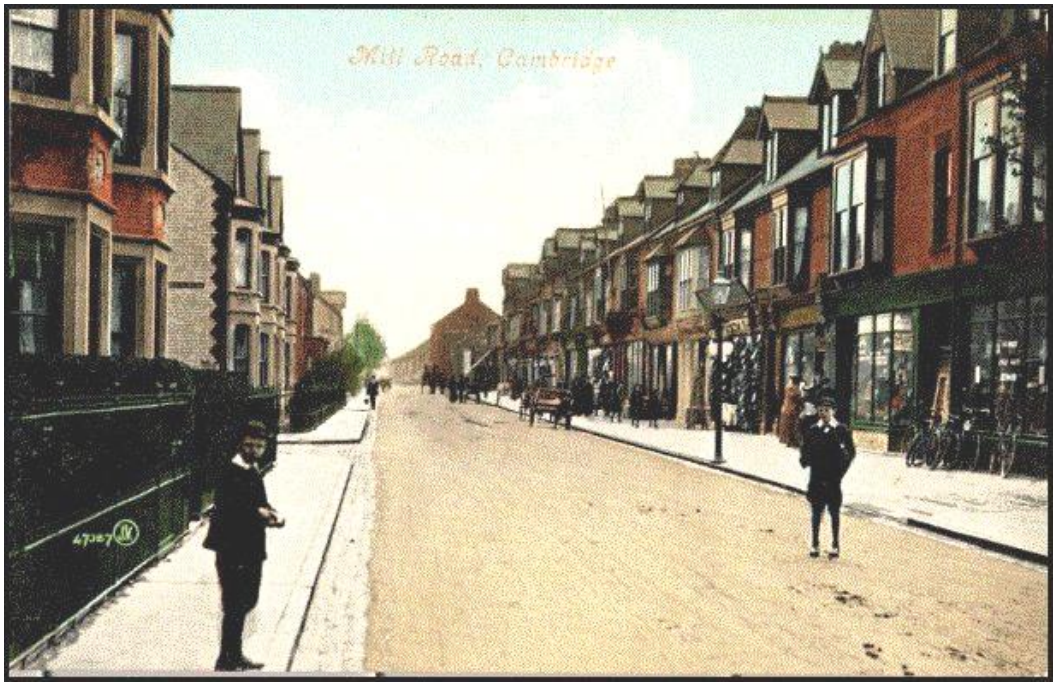
1985 05 29
Millers Yard, is a £3million courtyard office and shop development on the site of the former Eaden Lilley furniture depository in Mill Lane. It retains the façade of the original premises which were probably built around 1830 but the rest has been totally reconstructed in an imaginative new development consisting of a wine bar and restaurant, seven ground-floor shops and two floors of offices. 85 05 29a

1987 11 16
Garden House Hotel's expansion plans include a glass-walled swimming and leisure centre with pool, squash court, saunas and solaria. There would be an extension housing 16 bedrooms, each of which would have a balcony, together with six two-bedroom apartments with kitchens, designed for longer-stay residents such as senior managers or academics. These will run along the east bank of the River Cam and be screened by trees. In addition there will be bed-sitters for staff and a two-storey car park. This would complete the hotel's business plan. But there have been criticism from preservationists. 87 11 16a

1987 12 03
A major multi-million-pound expansion scheme for the Garden House Hotel has been thrown out by planners who fear it would encroach on 'sacrosanct' land. Opponents had complained the proposals would destroy the open character of Sheeps Green and Coe Fen. Others were worried about traffic congestion. The planning officer said the original Garden House had grown into a hotel served from narrow streets. "It would be quite clearly wrong to extend further with urban scale development into a tongue of land between two critical open pieces of land", he said. 87 12 03

1988 11 15
The prestigious Garden House Hotel has been taken over by Queens Moat Houses, the first national chain to gain a foothold in the city. Its main competitor, the four-star University Arms is owned by the Bradford Family while the Ridgeon family own the Gonville and Arundel House belongs to Major John Norfolk. The Garden House was first opened in 1922 but has had an unsettled time with five different owners in the last 20 years. In 1970 it was damaged during the 'Garden House Riot' and two years later gutted by a fire. It reopened in 1973 and has since been extended. Now it will be redecorated 88 11 15

1990 10 11
Garden House Hotel taken over from Queens Moat House group by Paul Breen, plans leisure complex 90 10 11a



Mill Road c 1910

c.44.6 : Mill Road

1897 02 01
Propose new GER station – present station dangerous, extension to Mill Road, Coldham's Common site proposed, Hyde Park Corner possible p3

1897 05 17
Mill Road library opening, p2

1897 05 27
Mill Road sale property, p2

1897 07 23 c
The annual show in connection with the Mill Road, Barnwell and New Town Amateur Gardeners' Association has long been one of the most popular attractions of the summer months. The competition in vegetables was keen among the cottagers' classes. As for amusement at first- class bill of fare was provided for the holiday-makers who began to stream into the building later on in the day

1897 11 10
Sir - I should like to ask my fellow ratepayers, more especially those living in the vicinity of Mill Road, Cambridge, which is more important to them – the improvement of the Guildhall, which I understand to cost £40,000, or the stinking condition of the Mill road sewers, which has for its vent the manholes. From two of them, especially the Petersfield one, the stench on Sunday was enough to breed an epidemic. How long are we to stand this sort of business? - James Plant

1897 12 20

There is no more handsome piece of furniture in a house than a pianoforte. Thanks to keen competition the prices generally are but little more than those of 10 years ago and today pianofortes are within reach of the majority of working men. But if you feel you cannot afford a new one, go to 14, Mill Road, Cambridge, where Mr H. Leavis conducts his business and get a second-hand one. He keeps organs and harmoniums in stock at as low a figure as £3, and you can obtain a capital pianoforte for the moderate outlay of £5

1898 04 13
Mr Dixon said that Mill Road cemetery was always locked up on Sundays, because, if not, swarms of little children rampaged about over the graves; and while he was conducting a funeral it was very annoying to have some little urchins come up and say, "Oh, my! Ain't that a little coffin!" The children jumped about over the graves, while labourers going to work made the cemetery a thoroughfare. The matter was giving the committee a great deal of trouble.

1898 10 05
The annual report of the Cambridge public Free Library has been issued. Under competent management and the able direction of Mr Pink, it has continuously added to its resources. It is now as well equipped as anyone could desire. It has a reference library and in the Shakespeare and dramatic collections a special features of great interest and real value. Moreover there is the branch library at Mill road with 6,600 volumes and during the past year reading rooms have been opened at East road and Castle end. The people who enjoy these facilities of access to the best literature may well be envied by those who do not

1898 10 19
Sir - for many years I have constantly visited the Mill road cemetery, Cambridge, and feel quite certain that if the present cemetery were made into a general and open place of burial it would last for many years. When the time arrives to provide a new cemetery, why not use that which is situated on the Huntingdon Road, which has a field adjoining sufficient to make a very large cemetery. I know that the Castle End hill is an obstacle, but an extra horse could be used to assist in drawing the hearse over this spot. This would be far preferable to going through Barnwell – R.R.

1898 10 24
The normal quiet of Cambridge was interrupted by serious conflagration in Fitzroy Street which proved the most destructive to property that has occurred for many years. Cambridge is happily furnished with ample means of notifying outbreaks of fire, and it was through one of the electric alarms erected in various parts of the borough for immediate communication with the central fire station that the resident night watchman received an intimidation that a fire was in progress. Telegraphic communications were without delay dispatched to the competent director of the Volunteer Fire Brigade and the majority of the corps. The wires running to those residing in and about Mill Road were unfortunately out of order, and seven of the willing firemen were therefore debarred from taking an early part in the work

1898 10 27
The population of the town of Cambridge has increased very much during the past 10 years, especially in the Petersfield and Romsey town area. Up till 10 years ago the chancel of the present St Barnabas Church was the only place of worship in the extensive district. Mainly by reason of the enterprise of Mr Sturton in providing land for building purposes, the district became so large that it became necessary to carry out the building of the complete Church; this was done in 1887.

1889 12 2-

The substitution by the Great Eastern Railway Company of a handsome bridge for the old level crossing in Mill Road gave a great impetus to building in what is now Romsey town and the church of ease of St Phillip's was established. Now the time has come for Romsey town to be raised to the status of an ecclesiastical Parish, with St Phillip's as the parish church1889 12 2-

1899 01 09
Owing to the mildness of the season, Mr Lewis of Mill Road, Cambridge, is offering a thousand overcoats at half their original price, so that no one need be without warm clothing this Christmas time

1899 01 09
Joseph Redfarn, butcher of Mill Road, Cambridge stated he was walking by a shop in Gwydir Street. He saw a row of foot baths and pails standing in the gutter and on the roadway. About an hour afterwards he repassed the shop in a trap. The sun was shining on the pails and caused the horse he was driving to shy. The animal then went on to the path and fell, breaking the shaft off the cart. The defendant said one of his assistants put some pails and baths outside the front of the shop for the purpose of loading them on the van which was going out to the country. Another quantity of galvanised goods were bought to his shop by a G.N.R van

1899 06 02
The custodian of the Mill Road cemetery, Cambridge, Thomas Stanbridge, said he saw the defendants approaching with a handcart containing a headstone. There was a funeral taking place against the entrance gate so endeavoured to prevent them from entering the cemetery. In so doing he was pushed right under one of the coaches attending the funeral and got his leg fixed between the wheel and a headstone. He called out and the people at the funeral were disturbed by his remarks. Then the defendant stuck him under the chin, and threatened to pull his beard out.

1899 09 26
There are some who deplore it very much that the Free Library readers should resort so much to fiction. There can be no greater waste of time than the reading of novels that are not worth reading. At the Central Library there were issued during the year 67,661 volumes in the class of fiction and it must be admitted that Cambridge might with advantage become a little more serious in its reading. At the Mill Road branch 293 borrowers were added whereby it is made clear that the branch supplies a very real demand.

1899 12 06
Two impudent burglaries were committed in Mill Road, Cambridge. The premises occupied by Mrs Emma Coleman, confectioner, and the Danish Dairy Company's shop were broken into, but fortunately the nocturnal visitors carried away but little booty as the result of their efforts. Each of the door bear muddy scratches leaving no doubt that the burglar must have been agile and diminutive enough to squeeze in through the limited space afforded by the open fanlight. In his decent from the fanlight the burglar knocked down a row of jellies, but the thief was of an orderly turn of mind for they were all picked up and neatly stacked on the counter

1899 12 23
While making excavations at the junction of City Road and Fitzroy Street some workmen in the employ of the Cambridge Electric Lighting Company came upon some gruesome remains. They dug up some coffins. It is supposed the site is that of the old burial ground of Eden Street chapel. The remains were removed to Mill Road cemetery, where they were interred. For some reason efforts are being made to prevent the real facts becoming known. The employees of the Electric Light jealously guard what they deem an important secret, and refuse to give any details.

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1900

1900 01 22
Mr G.W. Rawlinson of Mill Road, Cambridge has received a letter from Private Caswell, who is well known in the town. He writes: "at daybreak we attacked the Boers who were holding a low-lying hill from which they poured a very severe fire. We kept steadily on till we were within 100 yards of them, when we fixed bayonets and charged them. In retiring they had to cross a valley. We poured volley after volley into them with deadly effect. Later I was struck on the ankle by a shell which did not burst and which has made be an invalid for a fortnight

1900 04 21
A serious bus accident happened in Mill Road, Cambridge. The omnibus was waiting for passengers opposite the Royal Standard public house and while the driver was talking on the path, the horses for some unknown reason bolted. The driver and conductor immediately ran after the horses, but were unable to catch them. Two passengers named Annie & Frances Scull, who were on the top of the 'bus jumped off. When the bus was about to pass the Durham Ox it collided with a market cart belonging to Jonas Wilmott, carrier of Orwell and then another cart in charge of Eli Newman, a hawker, of Bottisham

1900 04 23
A fishmonger of Mill Road, Cambridge, told the bankruptcy court he had started business in 1887 in King Street without any capital. He also traded as a vinegar dealer. He had done some betting and made a small "book". He had not kept accounts, had gambled, had traded when he knew he was insolvent, and had incurred debts when he had no prospect of paying them. It was a very unsatisfactory business altogether

1900 05 14
The extensive Portland Cement Works which are being erected in the neighbourhood of Coldham's Lane and Mill Road are now assuming enormous dimensions; in fact the buildings already completed are ample evidence that one of the largest and most modern cement works in England will be situated near Cambridge. The celebrated gun-makers, Messrs Krupp of Essen, are supplying most of the extensive machinery for the company and a cement will be manufactured that conforms to the specifications of the Board of Admiralty and the London County Council

1900 07 13
Mill Road library, p2

1900 09 28
Cambridge magistrates received a petition against renewal of the licence of the Windmill public house in Mill Road. Frederick Hodson considered the neighbourhood was overcrowded with them. Mr Papworth said he had visited the house on many occasions but never seen more than two people at the bar at a time. Freeman & Sons, brewers and owners said the house was in a bad state and had been closed for repairs, not because there was no trade. They had no right to take away the licence even if the tenant only sold a barrel of beer a week. Albert Brand, the new tenant said business had trebled, 60 people patronised the house every day and last Saturday he had upwards of 100 customers. The licence was not renewed

1900 10 19

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

An appeal was heard against the refusal to grant a licence to the Windmill public house in Mill Road, Cambridge. It had good stabling and in fact was the only public house with stabling. It had been licensed since 1835 and had been thoroughly renovated. It was a labourer's house in a neighbourhood of labourers. A petition signed by 112 residents was opposed to the licence but another signed by 230 was in favour. The decision was reversed and the licence renewed

1900 11 17
Fire Mill Road shop

1901 07 15
Cricketers will learn with much regret at the death at his residence, Mill Road, Cambridge, of the veteran cricketer and umpire, Bob Carpenter. He was 27 when he played in his first match at Lord's for the United England XI. A powerful hitter, his favourite stroke was to square leg. Playing for Cambridgeshire against Surrey in 1861 he made an innings of 100 described as "probably the greatest display of batting the world has ever seen". He played regularly for England in company with two other Cambridgeshire cricketers 'Pepper' Tarrant and Tom Hayward

1901 09 24
The Infectious Diseases Hospital, long known as the Sanatorium, in Mill Road, Cambridge is at the centre of the system under which all cases of scarlet fever, diphtheria, typhoid fever and small-pox are notified and wherever isolation at home is difficult the patient is removed for treatment to the hospital. Although Romsey Town has encroached extensively upon what not very long ago were open fields, the Sanatorium is still upon the verge of the country. From the grounds the view of a fine expanse of rural scenery is commanded; the air is fresh and invigorating. There is a large field behind and in this the new diphtheria block has been erected.

1901 11 05
A fruitless burglary was committed at the Mill Road branch of the Cambridge Co-operative Society. The object was obviously cash but they were scantily repaid for their trouble, because on Saturday evening the money is cleared and lodged in the strong room of the central stores in Burleigh Street. The manager noticed the disarrangement of some sugar bags, which had been left ready for the weighing up of sugar. A steel for sharpening knives had been used in breaking open the till. The back door was unfastened but nothing is missing, the thieves preferring not to take away goods which might have been identified.

1901 11 25
The funeral of Mr C.F.G. Stanhope, who was better known by the stage name of Mr Charles Gervase, under which he played the part of Harry Bronson in Mr W. Greet's "Belle of New York" Company, took place at Mill Road Cemetery. The deceased actor contracted typhoid fever whilst at Cambridge and died at Addenbrooke's Hospital. The internment took place in the presence of a large number of persons who showed deep sympathy with the mourners.

1902 02 25
Advert. New Year's Register. Sales & approximate price. Residences: De Freville Avenue £350, Guest Road £400; Mill Road £425, Hartington Grove £425, Malta Road £425, Huntingdon Road £450; Villas, Cherryhinton Road with land £850; modern town residences £1,000; terrace near Mill Road, (let for £100) £2,000; Country residence about 3½ acres, near station G.N.R. £2,000

1902 03 19

A regrettable occurrence took place in Mill Road, Cambridge; beasts from Kingston were being driven to the slaughterhouse in Tenison Road when one bullock became excited. It ran away near Donkey common and charged a twelve-year old girl, tossing her as high as the top of a street lamp. Miraculously no bones were broken but there are slight internal injuries.

1902 04 22 c
Sir – may I call attention to an almost intolerable nuisance that maintains on Mill Road, Cambridge. The shopkeepers are in the habit of sweeping the refuse from their establishments into the streets (especially on Saturday night) with the result that dirty paper is blown about the streets and into the gardens of private houses. It is most objectionable and annoying to have one's gardens and yards filled with rubbish of this description. Is it not an offence against the bye-laws? – Resident

1902 05 10
The funeral of P.C. Thompson of the Cambridge police was conducted on military lines. His comrades, accompanied by members of the Borough Fire Brigade, marched to Sturton Street. As the coffin was brought out of the house the police band played the death march in "Saul" and Drum Major Inspector Johnson, his staff draped with crepe, led the hearse & mourning coaches in procession to Mill Road cemetery. The route was line by people and many were the manifestations of sympathy with the mourners. The funeral arrangements were carried out by Mr Ellis Merry

1902 06 12
On 13th June 1889 the foundation stone of St Philip's Church, Mill Road, Cambridge, was laid by Professor Babington; on June 11th 1902 it was consecrated by the Bishop to the worship of God and "for ever set apart from all profane and common uses". A small wooden church was built by a pious, but somewhat eccentric Churchman, which was eventually to give place to the present building. It is a chapel-of-ease to the populous parish which ere long may be a distinct ecclesiastical parish.

1902 07 25
P.C. Savidge said he was walking along Mill Road, Cambridge and noticed a motor-car which appeared to have been on fire outside Mr Storey's shop. A number of boys were looking at it and a three-year-old boy was on the path near the motor car. Defendant came out of a shop and deliberately kicked the boy with such force that he was lifted off the ground. The man said there were parts of the car liable to injury if meddled with by inexperienced hands. A number of boys were "pulling it about the whole afternoon". Time after time he warned them away and had "cuffed" two or three boys. The youngsters were a perfect pest in Mill Road and he considered the charge ridiculous. There was no doubt defendant lost his temper and he was fined £2

Mill Road flower show, p3

1902 09 16 c
Sir – Many people have felt genuine concern at the announcement that the Cambridge Omnibus Company is to be "wound up". Huntingdon Road, Old and New Chesterton, Mill Road and the rapidly growing suburb of New Cherryhinton have all benefited by its service. It is regretted that in spite of the hundred the Company has conveyed daily, the venture does not pay. Their difficulty is the Tram Company's opportunity and they should arrange for a good suburban service of 'buses to run in conjunction with their cars – New Cherryhinton

1902 10 02

In the centre of Cambridge a man will pay any price in reason for the tobacco which appeals most to his palate. But in other quarters, such as Mill Road where the small shopkeeper thrives and people like a lot for their money a great quantity of cigarette packets containing showy photographs and alluring coupons have been sold. Mr Banyard of East Road, Cambridge says customers gave over their regular brands for those with the coupons but the demand was chiefly in cheap cigarettes. But Cambridge undergraduates have not descended to packs of Tabs, or even to tu-penny-ha'-penny Guinea Gold.

1903 03 09
A dangerous outbreak of fire occurred at 245 Mill Road, Cambridge when a lighted standard lamp was accidentally knocked over by a child. The contents of the lamp spilled upon the floor and became ignited near to the windows. Before the flames were extinguished the curtains, Venetian blinds and several articles of furniture were destroyed and a carpet and table cover badly damaged. News of the fire was received through the Mill Road fire alarm post but when firemen arrived at the scene with the horsed fire escape and tender the fire had been extinguished.

1903 07 28
Sir - An exciting scene occurred at 11.30 pm when the small-pox hearse was just reaching its destination and turning round previous to receiving the body of a young man who had died that morning. The night was very dark and the hearse overturned on its side, the smashing of glass and the bumping of the vehicle on the road causing a great commotion. After some delay it was righted again, the body duly deposited inside and it rumbled and groaned off to the cemetery, grating on the road with its iron-shod wheels in the dead of the night in a most unpleasant manner. Any private firm would have an india-rubber tyred vehicle for such work but Cambridge Corporation have apparently yet to discover that such 'luxuries' exist – 'Mill Road'

1903 08 19
Sir – last evening I met three horses running loose and apparently unattended along Mill Road, Cambridge. Some distance behind them two men were being dragged along by a young horse which they were evidently trying to 'break in'. Carts, cycles and other users of the road overtaking them had to slow down until they could dash past & foot passengers had to seek safety in doorways. I have also frequently met in St Andrew's Street a high-spirited, high-stepping horse being led by a single rein about 20 feet long, the other end being held by a man on a bicycle! These things ought not to be allowed in our streets – Citizen

1903 11 21
A growing demand for the stone, marble and granite objects with which the memory of the dead are perpetuated indicates an expansion of business for those who provide these melancholy tokens. Messrs Ivett and Reed have found their premises on Mill Road and Regent Street inadequate and have opened a new branch on Newmarket Road, appropriately near the new cemetery. The premises consist of a dwelling house and show-room and are built of Bath stone with a portico supported by two graceful Corinthian pillars. Inside is a chimney-piece of statuary marble upon which delicate-looking foliage is represented in the Italian style

1903 12 02
If the scene that attended the opening of the children's reading room at the Mill Road branch of the Cambridge Free Library can be relied upon the experiment ought to be attended with the happiest results. Within a few minutes of opening it was fully occupied by boys and girls and the demand for admittance was in excess of expectations with a large number waiting patiently outside until room could be made for them. Some had a long wait as once the children had settled down to the store of attractive books and pictures provided the employment became completely

absorbing. Their clean faces and hands and well-brushed hair helped form a charming sight which their complete quietness and good behaviour rendered all the more attractive.

1903 12 03
Mill Road library opened a reading room for the exclusive benefit of children. Apart from the love of books and pictures likely to be instilled into the youthful mind there are habits of cleanliness, order & discipline. Dirty hands and faces are not permitted to enter and bad behaviour is punished by immediate expulsion. The children will be well looked after and tired mothers and weary fathers can rest with easy minds knowing their offspring are enjoying themselves without injuring either their bodies or their morals

1903 12 30
Mill Road trench collapse, p3

1904 05 18
A fire destroyed Mrs Cornell's fishmonger's shop on Mill Road, Cambridge. It was caused through the ignition of some fat used for the purpose of frying fish. Although the shop was sparsely stocked there was sufficient inflammable material in it to make it impossible to arrest the fire in its early stages, and soon the interior was a mass of flames which rapidly penetrated through the ceiling and attacked the contents of the front room on the first floor. The alarm was given by means of the Thoday Street fire alarm and the firemen arrived within twelve minutes with the horsed fire escape and tender and prevented the flames attacking adjoining premises.
1904 05 19
Cambridge cemetery committee considered whether to close the whole of the Mill Road burial ground. They had asked the various incumbents as to the number of grave spaces allotted to their parishes and whether it was possible to identify the graves of all persons buried there. It appeared to be dependent on the knowledge of the sexton and there was no way of identifying the position of each grave. There should be a public enquiry. But there were many timid widows who had husbands buried there and would like to be buried there too who would not go to an enquiry. Alderman Kett agreed: he would like his bones to be laid there and had six or seven unoccupied spaces for members of his family. What would an inspector care about such sentiments? He would be overruled by those fanatics of sanitary improvement.

1904 05 19
Mill Road cemetery, p3 *

1904 07 05
An inquiry into the proposed closure of Mill Road cemetery, Cambridge heard objections from several parishes. The All Saints portion would not be absolutely full for another 23 years and was as sanitary as any other. There were 142 spaces available for Holy Sepulchre and 120 for St Paul's parish which was strongly opposed to closure. The Rev E.C. Pearce of St Bene't's said there were 60 vaults and brick graves likely to be used again; he had never seen remains exposed when a new grave had been made. At St Edward's there had been 47 interments in the last 10 years, 23 of which were not parishioners and had no right to burial in the ground & there was space for another 120 graves. But St Michael's parish only had space for 50

1904 07 06
Mill Road cemetery, p2

1904 08 25

The Local Government Board have decided to close those parts of Mill Road cemetery which are assigned to the parishes of St Andrew the Less, St Mary the Less and St Botolph but say there is no need for the protection of public health for other areas to be closed. The three portions will be sealed while in the rest of the burial ground interments will continue as usual. This is in accordance with the deep feelings expressed at the inquiry where representatives of the other parishes had protested strongly against their grounds being closed, with the single exception of the Rev Wood who was acting in direct opposition to the wishes of his parishioners. His 'aesthetic' vapourings were appreciated by the Inspector for their true worth

1904 11 11
Cement making has already become a very important Cambridge industry. Extensive new works are rapidly approaching completion and have made a great change in the landscape of Cherry Hinton. The pleasant path through the fields from the end of Mill Road is hardly recognisable now. It has been diverted to make room for a huge collection of buildings from which a new siding leads to the railway line close at hand. These are the Norman Cement Company's works.

1904 11 17
Up to last night there was a cluster of buildings, workshops, tool-sheds and fowl houses at the apex of a triangle formed by property facing Mill Road, Hemingford Road and Belgrave Road, Cambridge. Today nothing remains but a heap of charred timber and twisted iron. Fire has made a clean sweep of the evidences of industry of several inhabitants and caused damage of about £250. Mr G. Woolfenden, an electrician, has lost a workshop. Most people living in the three roads have a wooden erection of some kind at the end of their gardens and those burnt down stood side by side or back to back in an area covered by 20 square yards.

1905 04 11
Sir – in June 1902 I purchased a house situate on Mill Road, Cambridge having a side street with roads and paths made. To my surprise I received a letter from the council saying that the previous owner had agreed to pay the costs of road making by instalments but had not done so and that I have to pay the debt and the interest for twelve months before I had the house. There must be some neglect somewhere. I have the honour of being an Honorary Freeman of the Borough and it seems that I am paying very dear for it. – Arthur Livermore. 05 04 11

1905 08 05
The burglary scare in Romsey Town has caused several amusing and one dangerous incident. A gentleman was keeping an all-night watch for the burglar and about 1.30 a.m. thought he observed his quarry. At any rate a revolver which he had in his possession went off. The bullet sped across the street and through the window of a house opposite. It cut two holes in the hanging curtains, smashed a large fruit dish and ended its career in a photographic frame. 05 08 05e

1905 12 09
Cambridge Corporation's new Mill Road storeyard is nearing completion on land behind the Free Library. Here material for the repair and making of roads is stored, vehicles housed and mended and appliances for any contingency kept in readiness. It has a siding to the railway for granite or cement, an open shed for refuse vehicles and stables together with accommodation for two steam rollers. There are blacksmiths, carpenters and wheelwright's shops and a men's mess room 05 12 09a & b

1905 12 30
Fire Mill Road boot stores – 05 12 30a

1906 01 01
Fire gutted the Mill Road Boot Stores adjoining St Barnabas Church, Cambridge. The flames rose to a great height and melted some of the lead of the windows of the church. The building was a one-storeyed erection, largely composed of wood. A number of wooden packing cases at the rear formed a source of danger as they connected with a thatched cottage and a stonemason's yard adjoining was also seriously placed. 06 01 01b

1906 02 09
For some years the people attending the little Wesleyan chapel at the far end of Mill Road, Cambridge, have been inconvenienced by lack of space due to the growth of the neighbourhood. An idea has been afoot for some years to build a chapel to seat 380 people on the ground adjoining the present building. The land has been purchased and the plan is approaching maturity. It would not include a gallery at first but they were confident this would soon be needed.06 02 09a & b

1906 06 05
When the Wesleyan chapel in Romsey Town was erected in Hemingford Road, space was left for a more commodious structure. The new chapel of which Mr W. Wren of Castle Street is the architect is designed in the Queen Anne style with utility, rather than elaborate decoration; nevertheless the building with its cathedral-like windows will be a considerable addition to the notable buildings of that end of Mill Road. 06 06 05

1906 07 05
Girls County School should be erected to be convenient for girls coming by train – Mill Road 06 07 05

1906 07 16
Members of two religious sects came into collision on Parker's Piece. For the past six weeks representatives of the Mormons have been holding Sunday evening meetings and have attracted some opposition. A member of the Romsey Town Mission began to argue on the subject of polygamy; a hostile demonstration ensued and the Mormons were hustled off along Mill Road followed by a booing crowd. 06 07 16

1906 07 19
Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association held a well-attended meeting in the grounds of The Lodge, Mill Road when addresses were given by Miss Isabella Ford, a prominent suffragist, Mrs Rackham and other local ladies. Women could be guardians or medical officers but could not vote for a representative in Parliament. The grounds, which present a beautiful appearance, proved an ideal venue. 06 07 19

1906 09 15
Mill Road has never known anything quite so strange as eighteen cassowaries which have been translated from the Pacific Islands to a piece of ground reached by a short lane down Gwydir Street. They have been collected by the Hon Walter Rothschild who is writing an monograph and placed in the charge of Mr F Doggett as they flourish better here than anywhere else in England. 06 09 15a

1906 10 06
Joseph Moule was a veteran of the Crimea but rarely talked of his hardships in the trenches outside Sebastopol or of the stirring relief of Lucknow. Then as one of the gallant 90th Foot he was one of the hardened campaigners who went direct from the perils of the Crimea to the horrors

of the Indian Mutiny. He expired suddenly at his home in Mill Road aged 72, thus the ranks of veterans get thinner and thinner 06 10 06

1907 01 02
A warm well-lighted room in St Paul's Institute New Town was opened as a reading room. There was a collection of current literature ready for the first arrivals who drew chairs to the tables and took advantage of the comfort and facilities provided. The Free Library was one of the most popular institutions in Cambridge, ten years ago a branch was established at Mill Road with other reading rooms at Castle End and East Road. 07 01 02 & 2a

1907 12 31
The Cambridge Railway Building Works, better known as the firm of William Saint and Sons, entertained 170 employees to dinner at the Lion Hotel. It started in 1880 and the first job was two villas on Mill Road, later came the Cattle Market contract but Westminster College, in 1900 was the largest project they had ever tackled. They were known for the quality and execution of their work which was due to men such as Vigers, Hodson, Coe, Willmott, Taylor, Lobb and Haynes. 07 12 31 & a

1908 12 18
Fire broke out in Madame Holt's milliners shop in Mill Road. A large number of hats, bonnets ribbons and ladies underwear in the window were smouldering but police extinguished them with pails of water. It is thought a defective incandescent mantle flamed up and caught some ribbons surrounding the gas pip. But Miss Holt's assistant, Miss Key, who was in charge of the business is emphatic that she'd turned the gas off. CWN 08 12 18

1909 01 22
The line near Cambridge station was blocked by a collision between two goods trains. One engine and four trucks were derailed and the goods thrown in all directions. One was completely overturned and its contents scattered over the line while others loaded with granite had the sides ripped open. The accident happened under Mill Road Bridge where a crowd of spectators watched the arduous task of clearing the line. 09 01 22

1909 01 22
Harriet Evans was a well-known figure around Mill Road. She usually wore a white veil and carried a portmanteau or bag in each hand and would walk along in a methodical manner until a certain shop was reached where she would have sixpennyworth of firewood carefully placed in one of her leather bags. She was so confirmed a man hater that she would not use money that bore the king's head. If she was given any she would throw it in the fire. She had never had a sweetheart and never wanted one, her inquest was told. 09 01 22

1909 02 19
The gallant band of old soldiers who fought in the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny gets smaller every year. Cambridge man James Gray died in the workhouse, where the poor are so well looked after and was buried at Mill Road cemetery. There was no time to arrange for a military funeral but Captain Heal sent a large Union Jack to be placed on the coffin. Four members of the Territorial Force volunteered to act as pall bearers but assembled at Newmarket Road cemetery. On realising their mistake they drove to Mill Road which they reached just after the sorrowful ceremony had concluded and the mourners had left. 09 02 19

1909 04 -

The floor of the day nursery at Mill Road workhouse was not in a fit state for children to play on. There was a two-foot space and loose earth underneath the boards which caused a bad fungus, overseers heard. A wood block floor would be the best way of dealing with it but they did not wish to expend so much at this time. The Master reported the receipt of illustrated papers and a present of books from the Reading Room in St Peter's Street. Mrs Ridley of St Barnabas Road had sent a rocking horse. 09 04

1909 05 14
Two spinsters, aged 50 and 30, appeared in court charged with stealing carnations value sixpence from a grave in Mill Road cemetery. The custodian said he saw them take the flowers from the side of the grave of Trooper Truscott; he took the ladies to his house, locked the door and sent for a policeman. They were respectable Sunday school teachers who had known the deceased well and picked up flowers that had dropped from a wreath to take home and press in remembrance of him. The custodian was legally correct but for him to lock them up, send for a policeman and cart them through the streets to the police station was very regrettable. 09 05 14

1909 06 11
Romsey House, Mill Road with its large gardens and shrubberies was the residence of the late Mr W.E. Curry and was built for the late J.W. Prior from the designs of Mr G.H. Shackle, architect of Marlborough. It is in red brick in the Tudor style and contains several exceptionally large rooms. It was bought with fixtures, by the Romsey Town Institute Committee for £1,435. 09 06 11

1909 10 22
A number of cyclists appeared in court for various offences. Undergraduates from Caius, Trinity and St John's colleges were fined for causing obstructions with their bicycles. Geoffrey Clayton of Pembroke College was summonsed for wheeling his bike across Christ's Pieces; he said he was a Freshman and had not seen the warning notices. Harold Grace of Queens' was fined for a similar offence in Portugal Place as was Edgar Proctor, a tobacconist of Mill Road. Carey Palmer, a printer of Warkworth Street, was fined five shillings for riding a cycle with no lights on New Square. CWN 09 10 22

1909 11 19
Frederic William Hodgson carried on the business as plumber and decorator for nearly 30 years. He was a life-long abstainer and the oldest Deputy Grand Worthy Patriarch of the Cambridge Sons of Temperance, having cycled some thousands of miles whilst engaged in propaganda work. The sad cortege proceeded from his house in Peas Hill to Mill Road cemetery where the first part of the funeral service was conducted in the chapel. The coffin was borne by fellow members of friendly societies. CEN 09 11 19

1910

1910 07 01
A little boy named Clifford Dawson, aged 7, who lives with his grandfather in Mill Road, set out to see the Fair on Saturday and did not turn up again. At first people did not worry but on Sunday morning inquiries were made of the police. Nothing was heard until Sunday night when he was brought home by train from Foxton, where he had been to see his mother. The little boy, who was only wearing light clothes and must have been out in the pouring rain, had apparently started out to walk to the village and had got a lift on the way 10 07 01c

1910 12 09

George Storey was actively engaged in building operations in Romsey Town for many years. Later he conducted an ironmonger, painter and paperhanger's business in Mill Road and then traded as a cycle agent. He had been a member of the Liberal '400' for many years, was the first treasurer of the Cambridge Ratepayers' Association and served on the committee of the Mammoth Show, Wanderers' Cycle Club and National Skating Association. His widow is head of the toy and fancy business in Regent Street while his eldest daughters are founders of the first Cambridge Ladies' Cycling Club and conductor of dancing classes. 10 12 09f

1911 05 26
Great excitement was caused in Hooper Street by an outbreak of fire in the stable and warehouse behind Mr Wheeler's shop. The lean-to erection built against some cottage property contained goods of an extremely inflammable nature and there was quickly a blaze of alarming dimensions and intensity. Police sergeant Leonard Savidge ran for the Mill Road hose reel and firemen arrived with the motor tender. Happily there was no horse in the stable and the paraffin tank was not touched by the flames 11 05 26i

1911 06 30
Great excitement was caused in Mill Road by the escapade of an old man, 76 years of age, who escaped from a first-floor window of the Cambridge Union Workhouse, climbed down a sharply-slanting roof, dropped ten feet into the garden and disappeared. Workhouse officials, neighbours and police joined in a search for the fugitive and after four hours seeking by lantern-light and daylight he was eventually found in the cemetery in a state of collapse. Police were able to treat the injury to the old man's shoulder which was fractured when he dropped to the ground from the roof 11 06 30b

1911 97 14
The Crystal Palace pub in Mill Road Cambridge was difficult to supervise, police reported. The only way to get to the back was down a narrow passage at the side, the door of which was always locked. The Bell in Northampton Street was in bad repair with terrible accommodation, the house was damp and the only cooking facilities were in an underground kitchen. The landlady of the Chequers Impington said it was the only place to get a good glass of beer and if it closed many a man would become a teetotaller. The Gravel Diggers was right down in Cottenham fen but there was a considerable amount of labour at certain seasons. The tenant had held the licence for 30 years. It was renewed 11 07 14. also Priory Tap, Melbourn White Horse, Guilden Morden Black Swan, Dry Drayton Prince of Wales, Swavesey Middle Watch & Black Horse, Soham Black Horse
11 07 07a

1912 03 15
Mrs S. Elbourn lives at 30 Stockwell Street, near the Mill Road Baptist Chapel, Cambridge. A year ago she said, "I have to be lifting and stooping about all day at my business and have suffered badly with my back, and with other symptoms of kidney disorder. I didn't know how to move sometimes, I had such pains. I could not get comfort in any position and used to be hours getting to sleep. But since using Doan's backache kidney pills I have not had any trouble" Now twelve months later she is better. "People have often asked me about my cure and I have always been glad to tell them how much good Doan's pills did me". Ask distinctly for Doan's backache kidney pills, the same as Mrs Elbourn had – Advert. 12 03 15a

1912 04 26
Romsey Town children had been in court charged with playing in Ross Street or St Philip's Road to the annoyance of the householders. Efforts had been made for 14 years to secure a public

recreation ground; now land between the Council School and Mill Road is advertised for sale. It represents one of the last chances to secure an open space. The children of Romsey Town are on the whole healthy and strong and should have an opportunity of breathing fresh air on this open space, a meeting was told. 12 04 26c

1912 06 07
Mr I.G. Elworthy told a meeting at Morley School that he had been one of the first members of Cherry Hinton parish council in 1894. When he first came there were only 50 houses but the district had developed enormously and the need for a recreation ground was very urgent. With the enormous increase of motor traffic it became more and more dangerous for children to play in the streets. The Council should purchase a site between Cherry Hinton Road and Mill Road and in the meantime the Cattle Market field should be laid out as a temporary playground. It could be planted with trees like Christ's Pieces and would preserve the beauty of the district 12 06 07d & e

1912 06 07
Frank Ward grocers successful year; Mill Road was once of the best centres for shopping with plenty of competition making prices competitive – 12 06 07h

1912 07 12
New Cinema Theatre in Mill Road, Covent Garden, should be set back – 12 07 12f 13 01 31 p11 p12

1913 02 14
New Electric Theatre, Mill Road makes progress

1913 02 14
Cambridge licensing – pubs closed Crystal Palace in Mill Rd, Priory Tap Newmarket Road, Bell in Northampton St; are 250 licences, Star Brewery apply sell smaller quantities of beer from brewery 13 02 14 p9

1913 04 11
Mr W.L. Raynes applied for a cinematograph and music licence for the new Picture Playhouse being erected in Mill Road. The building, which is fireproof, will accommodate 167 in the gallery and 602 in the body of the hall. The architect, Mr Baines, said the walls, which were 25 feet high, complied with byelaws and steel stanchions had been embedded in the brickwork which could not possibly bend as the result of a strong wind. 13 04 11 p9

1913 04 18
Sir – A visitor to the Mill Road Picture Palace of Varieties complained that a song with a refrain "But I'm not satisfied, and you're not satisfied" was very suggestive and the entertainment was too much of that class. This song is sung in every music hall in the country. It is my aim to provide an entertainment to which men can bring their wives and daughters without embarrassment. My patrons number the most respectable families and if I were to allow anything questionable, they would cease to patronise me – Fred Hawkins, The Empire, Mill Road. 13 04 18 p7 CIP

1913 04 18
The handsome new Electric Picture Palace being erected on the corner of Covent Garden, Mill Road, is making excellent progress with up to 35 men working on the job. When complete it will have the handsomest front of any place of entertainment in Cambridge. There will be a vestibule

where 60 people can wait under shelter and the seats will be of the tip-up variety, upholstered in plush. The Electric Theatre, as well as that on Market Hill, will be under the management of Mr Adrian Jordan but the programmes will be quite distinct. 13 04 18 p9 CIP

1913 04 25
Mrs Emma Hosegood was Matron of workhouse, for 36 years. As Miss Porter she started as schoolmistress at Caxton workhouse before moving to Cambridge where Luke Hosegood was schoolmaster. They married and were offered the posts of Master and Matron at Mill Road. All her life was devoted to her work, striving to improve and maintain the high standard of efficiency she set up. 13 04 25 p10 CIP

1913 05 02
Builders working on the new Mill Road Picture Palace were taking their dinner on planks near the wall when a man rushed up and, pointing to the sky, called their attention to a passing aeroplane. Whilst they were gazing in astonishment at this interesting object he suddenly seized a dinner bag from one of them and bolted. A cry of 'Stop thief' was raised and a policeman gave chase, speedily joined by a fireman and a boy scout who captured his quarry with a lasso. The whole thing was a 'put up job' by the manager of the Electric Theatre whose operators took a cinematograph picture of the event to be shown at the cinema on Market Hill. 13 05 02 p10 CIP

1913 05 09
Yes! It is true! Perfectly true! That the new Picture Playhouse in Mill Road will open at 2.30 on Whit Monday, and present the strongest picture programme ever seen in Cambridge. It is also true, that an equally strong programme will be presented at the Electric Theatre, Market Hill 13 05 09 p01

1913 05 16
The newly-opened Picture Playhouse in Mill Road is the most comfortable in Cambridge. From the imposing frontage with its domes and balcony, through the hall, brightly lit and tastefully furnished, to the magnificent proscenium, everything is of the very best. A small orchestra adds much to the attractiveness of the entertainment. All the nearly 800 seats were filled on the first night and hundreds had to be turned away. The films included some taken by the Company's own operator and 'The 13th Man', about an undergraduate club whose reunion leads to some remarkable incidents. The show is continuous and the programme changed twice a week. . 13 05 16 p7 CIP

1913 04 23
Magistrates heard two cases involving the new Picture Playhouse in Mill Road. Messrs Picture and Sons, the builders, were summonsed under the Lords Day Observance Act for working there on Whit Sunday. There was no evidence and the case was dismissed. But the Manager of the Electric Light Company was fined for parking his car across the footway in Covent Garden at the back of the cinema. He claimed it was in the entrance-yard that was filled with parking materials. He had pushed it in as far as he could and pedestrians could pass easily. He was there for 20 minutes and had moved as soon as he'd been asked by a policeman. 13 04 23 p9 CIP

1913 07 04
The automatic boxes on the doors of a number of Cambridge public conveniences have been rifled lately, the last to receive attention being the convenience on the corner of Mill Road and Hyde Park corner. One attendance is in charge of several of these places and the thefts have been committed during his absence 13 07 04 p37 CIP

1913 05 11 Women's suffrage pageant, Lodge Mill Rd

1913 07 18
H.J. Linsey bankruptcy examination, cycle dealer, Mill Road

1913 07 25
A film of great interest is being shown at the Picture Playhouse. Mill Road, special pictures having been taken by the theatre's own operator of the suffrage procession in Cambridge. The film is 230 feet long and depicts incidents of the arrival of the pilgrims on Saturday and the departure from Cambridge on Monday. Many other attractive pictures are included in the week's programme and the fine selection of classical and popular music played by Max Bennett and his clever orchestra adds much to the enjoyment of the audience 13 07 25 p7 CIP

1913 08 22
Mill Rd flower show

1913 09 05
Guildhall extension ratepayer's opposition – any money spent on libraries should provide reading rooms for Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and Newnham: when a man got home from business he doesn't feel inclined to walk down to the town again – if you look into the Mill Road reading room at night you will see how much it is appreciated. 13 09 05 p5 CIP

1913 09 19
Funeral J. Pierson, Mill Road, director of Sturton Town Hall

1913 11 21
Dipsomaniac stole wood Mill Road as impressed by undergraduate bonfire rag

1913 12 19
Suffrage pageant performed Lodge Mill Road

1914 04 10
Under the proposed new regulation every cinematograph house should have a fireman in uniform to attend to the fire appliances and take precaution against fire. But when the Cambridge Picture Playhouse was built on Mill Road it met all the regulations and they had blankets and appliances with a fire drill each week. To have a fireman in uniform would be expensive and was apt to produce a panic in the event of a fire, magistrates were told 14 04 10f

1914 05 08
Mrs L. Missing of 9 Romsey Terrace, Mill Road, says: I had a very large uric acid stone removed from my bladder and hoped I would be cured of the serious kidney problems I had suffered for years. But six months ago the trouble came on as badly as ever and I was doubled up with pain. I could not do my housework and was obliged to have a woman to do my work. But I took Doan's backache kidney pills and by the time I had finished the third box all the pain had gone. Ask distinctly for Doan's pills, the same as Mrs Missing had – Advert 14 05 08e

1914 06 26
The Storms. During the past week Cambridge has been visited by two severe thunderstorms. On Friday the lightning was very vivid at times, and following one vivid flash, a horse, belonging to Mr. Lander, Merton Cottage, Grantchester, fell down on the Mill Road and expired. The animal had been killed by the lightning. 1914 06 26 CIPof

1914 09 25
Mr & Mrs Kerry of Mill Road have received news of the death of their son, serving with the 16th Lancers. His sergeant wrote: 'Walter was shot about one o'clock and died three-and-a-half hours later. He was conscious up to the finish. He told me to tell you that his last thoughts were with you all and that he died like a man. Poor young Horlock, of Cambridge, was thrown from his horse and hurt at the same time, but he is not seriously injured'

1914 10 23
Railway Tragedy. — A fatality occurred on the Great Eastern Railway line at Cambridge on Saturday, when a platelayer named William James Thurlow was knocked down by a truck while engaged in oiling points near Mill Road Bridge. Thurlow was working with a man named Jack Andrews, who was also knocked down and injured. Thurlow died after admission to hospital, and at an inquest the jury returned a verdict of "accidental death."

1914 11 13
Wounded Soldiers Entertained. —Striking scenes were witnessed at the Playhouse, Mill Road, Cambridge, on Thursday afternoon, when about a 100 wounded British soldiers, who were being entertained by the Directors, rose to a man and cheered lustily 50 Belgian comrades, who were also guests of the management. The Belgians returned the compliment by giving three hearty cheers for their British friends. Tea, chocolates arid cigarettes were handed to the soldiers by a number of ladies, who volunteered their assistance.

1914 12 29
Gale causes damage, gable end of house Mill Road blown down, Robert Sayle window and others damage – 14 12 29e

1915 09 17
Cambridge Men's Brotherhood started 10 years ago, meetings St Andrew's Street Baptist, now to meet Playhouse, Mill Rd

1916 03 22
Sexton. The funeral of Mr. John Robert Peck took place at Mill Road Cemetery on Saturday afternoon. The deceased was a well-known Cambridge man, having been sexton at St. Andrew's the Less for about 29 years. He passed away after a painful illness at his home, 79, Norfolk Street, Cambridge. It was impossible to visit the cemetery without seeing Mr. Peck, and having been there for so many years he knew the situation of every grave. Six of the sextons from other churches offered to act as bearers. The deceased was one of the oldest Foresters, having been a member of Court "Loyal Cantab" for 49 years. He was clerk of St. Matthew's, having served under three vicars of that parish

1916 07 26
Stationmaster Honoured. – All Cambridge will join in extending heartiest congratulations to Mr. A. Peacocke, the new stationmaster at Cambridge, upon the honour conferred upon him by His Majesty the King, who has graciously awarded him the Royal Victorian Medal in recognition of long and faithful personal service rendered during the period he was travelling inspector in charge of the Royal train on the G.E.R's system. Although Mr. Peacocke only took over the duties of stationmaster at Cambridge at the beginning of the present month, he was well-known in the town, having, up to two years ago, resided in Mill Road for upwards of 15 years. The presentation was made at Buckingham Palace last Friday.

1916 08 23
Mill Road Cemetery, — A few weeks ago (says the writer of Town and Country topics) we called attention to the lamentable condition of a considerable part of the Mill Road Cemetery. We have abstained so far from further comment in the hope that it might be rendered unnecessary by some attempt being made to effect an improvement, but as nothing whatever has been done, we must point out that the part referred to is under the jurisdiction of the parish of Christ Church. The present state of things must have escaped the observation of the persons concerned. The whole area is a howling wilderness with grass reaching to a tall man's waist and we cannot think that the parish is content to let things bide as they are. We appreciate the labour and other difficulties which have to be encountered at this time and we are prepared to make reasonable allowances, but the present state of things in the Christ Church portion of Mill Road Cemetery is past all excuse.

1917 03 28
Marriage of a V.C. Hero. - A large number of persons were present at St. Barnabas' Church, Mill Road, Cambridge, on Saturday, when Private J. J. Caffrey, V.C. of Nottingham, was married to Miss Florence Avey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Avey. 69 Great Eastern Street, Cambridge. Like all heroes. Pte. Caffrey is very disinclined to say much about himself. It was on November 15th. 1915, when Pte. Caffrey (who is a stretcher bearer in the R.A.M.C. attached to the York and Lancaster Regiment) was sent with a corporal into "No man's land" in order to rescue a wounded comrade. After bandaging the man the corporal was shot in the head whilst endeavouring to put him on Pte. Caffrey's back. Our hero then placed the man down again, bandaged the corporal and brought the former into our own lines. He then returned for the corporal and also reached our lines with him. Pte. Caffrey is also the possessor of the Cross of St. George given by the Tsar of Russia on October 23, 1914 which he won by carrying a wounded Brigadier-General to the base, which was two miles away, and all the time exposed to heavy shell-fire.

1918 05 22
Minister's Resignation.—The Rev. J. D. Pay has resigned his appointment as minister of the Mill Road Baptist Church (Cambridge) and is expecting to leave Cambridge in the course of a week to take up a post as Chaplain to the Forces at Salonika. Mr. Pay, who has been at the Mill Road Baptist Church for eight years, has been a member of the Board of Guardians since December, 1915.

1918 11 13
Corporation Motor Lorry. — A motor lorry is shortly to be used by the Cambridge Corporation for the purpose of house refuse collecting and general haulage. The body was built on to a Ford chassis at the Corporation Works Department, Mill Road, and the lorry will make its ‘appearance in public,' as it were, as soon as a driver is available.

1918 12 25
Communal Kitchen.—the Mayor (Councillor Ralph Starr) opened a new communal kitchen at Mill Road, Cambridge, last week. Later he and Councillor Thompson (treasurer) partook of the first meal.

1920

1920 12 06
Ministry of Transport would grant aid construction of road from Cherry Hinton Road to Mill Road, Barton Road to Trumpington Rd

1920 12 09
Mill Road communal kitchen a failure, unlike others

1920 05 08
Appointment, — At a meeting of the County War Pensions Committee, held at Cambridge on Saturday, candidates for the post of cashier and accounts clerk were interviewed. Six applicants appeared before the Committee and ultimately the appointment went to Mr, G, B. Hosegood, of 89 Mill Road, Cambridge, who prior to the war was cashier and ledger clerk at Messrs. Matthew and Sons, Trinity Street. Subsequent of demobilisation he has held the position of finance officer at the local Employment Exchange.
1920 05 12
Telephone Kiosks. — The Borough Council will tomorrow be asked to approve of the erection of telephone kiosks under the shelter at Hyde Park Corner, and near Sidgwick Avenue (or the side of Queens' Road). Suggested sites on the Newmarket Road (near Abbey Road) and on the public footpath on Mill Road (near Catharine Street) have failed , to secure the approval of the Paving, etc., Committee, and in the former case the Borough Surveyor has been asked to select a suitable position in Sun Street, whilst in the latter the Post Office authorities have been requested to obtain another site on private property. The attention of the Post Office authorities is to be drawn to the need of a kiosk in the Cambridge Without District and a request made for the erection of one at the junction of Cherry Hinton

1922 12 22
Two new roads to make work unemployed – from Cherry Hinton Road to Mill Road (near huts to Brookfields) and from The Grove, Newnham to Trumpington Road via Coe Fen Lane – 22 12 22b #

1923 01 01
A "Cat Lover" writes asking me to draw attention to the fact that the almost annual outbreak of poisoning of cats is occurring in the neighbourhood of Mill Road, Cambridge. For some years past at this period of the year many domestic pets have been lost in the district in this way, and he suggests it is time the perpetrators of these outrages was detected and punished. Of course to some people "pussy" is anathema, but so are crowing crocks, cackling hens and seed-consuming pigeons to others and we have to learn to bear and forbear. Owners of cats will do well to take warning from this notice and seep a watch on their pets

1923 04 07
As a frequent visitor to the Cambridge Free Library, I have noticed with interest the very good use to which the reference library is put. It is especially satisfying to notice the number of school teachers and senior scholars who spend their Saturday mornings there, and this I have observed at the Mill Road branch as well as the Central Library, showing that the Cambridge library is, as it should be, a valuable auxiliary to the educational machine. The Mill Road Library was the worst sufferer in the necessary economies of wartime and is to receive preferential treatment in consequence.

1924 01 21
The railway strike has now begun, and reduced services are everywhere being run. No Cambridge locomotive man has taken an engine out of the sheds this morning, said W Few, secretary of the local branch of ASLEF at their headquarters, the Kingston cafe, Mill road. “The whole of our members, with the exception of 2, have ceased to work and if any driver in the NUR of whom there are 20 at Cambridge, signs on duty, there is no firemen to work with him”.

Tomorrow a large covered-in motor charabanc will leave the Ortona depot for London King's Cross at 8.30. The return fare is 12s.6d.

1924 02 17
"I have never known the Cambridge roads to get into such a bad state as they are at present. Take Mill Road. Here we have considerable traffic and the pedestrian and cyclist are faced with the prospect of a mud bath after every shower. To go through Trumpington road is worse than driving through a ploughed field"

1924 06 15
Many in Cambridge associated with Poor Law work will regret the death of Mr Luke Hosegood, who for 37 years was master of the workhouse in Mill Road. He was appointed schoolmaster in 1870 when there were 150 children at the Workhouse, and when tuition had to be provided for them there. In April 1883 a serious fire occurred in the men's infirmary. His brave conduct and self-possession was the means of preventing any loss of life. In recognition of his prompt work and meritorious conduct in rescuing some of the inmates he was presented with a testimonial

1925 03 05 c
A good many questions were asked at Cambridge bankruptcy court concerning certain boot-repairing machinery. Debtor said he had worked for Messrs Freeman, Hardy & Willis and later commenced business on his own account as a boot repairer in Mill Road. There was an electric motor and combination finishing machine, which cost £44. There was also a patching-machine. He had been pressed by creditors so he sold these machined to get money to satisfy them. The machines had not been removed from his premises and he did not tell his creditors he had sold them. It was untrue to say that gambling was one of the reasons for his appearance in that court.

1925 10 08
A Cambridge man who has been at one time or another general labourer, cook, dock labourer, railway worker, amusement caterer, ice-cream vendor, toy retailer, fish merchant, wholesale biscuit dealer and greengrocer, appeared for his public examination in bankruptcy at Cambridge. He had come to Cambridge in 1916 and started an "amusement arcade" in Mill Road. The amusements consisted of automatic machines, darts, games etc. He used to go round public houses with his automatic machines, half the profits were to go to the pub and half to himself. Soon after he opened business the police issued a summons against him and he scrapped four or five gaming machines.

1925 10 22
There was another 'battle of the bridges' at Cambridge Town Council when the question of the erection of bridges across the Cam was brought forward. With the opening up of Mill Road there were people who only got ten minutes home to dinner owing to delay at the ferry. The Paving committee recommended that the footbridge at Pretoria Road be proceeded with and that a temporary footbridge be erected at Dant's Ferry pending construction of a vehicular bridge. It was dangerous to go over Victoria Bridge and they must have a new vehicular bridge if only to modify that danger.

1925 11 18 c
Foreign missions take an important place in the religious life of Cambridge, and the reports from China of the shocking ill-treatment and martyrdom of missionaries at the hands of the Boxers, have been read with grave anxiety and pain in this town. The fate of Mr & Mrs Herbert Dixon has greatly exercised the minds of their many friends and it is now recognised that all hope of their having escaped is past. They were for some months in Cambridge, residing at Mill Road and

when leaving were recipients of presentations from the congregation of St Andrew's Street Baptist church. Another melancholy case is that of the sister of Mr Doggett of The Farm, Cherry Hinton but Miss Gregg has escaped and is now on her way home.

1926 02 26
Sir – as a business man obliged to use the railways I wish to draw attention to the lack of punctuality of trains from the St Ives branch at Cambridge station. The 8.25 pm is invariably anything from a quarter to half-an-hour late, generally waiting ten minutes at Mill Road bridge whilst room is being found to run up to the platform. There is a rumour that the Ortona Motor Bus Company is shortly linking up with the National Bus Company at St Ives. The railway companies grumble about road transport competition, but it is their own fault and they have a remedy by being more punctual with the passenger service – H.G. Parker

1926 03 12
A Cambridge school girl died of small-pox at the Infectious Diseases Hospital, Mill Road and as a result the East Road Boys', Girls' and Infants' Schools have been closed for at least a week for disinfection. The Medical Officer strongly advises people to get vaccinated. The last outbreak occurred in 1921 when a man was affected. There was also an isolated outbreak in 1919

1926 09 16
Sir – Will the Transport Authority please have a look at Mill Road junction with East Road, Cambridge. Corners are being rounded off and visibility increased in many parts but at this extremely busy point efforts seem to have been multiplied to prevent a safe flow of traffic. The large block of lavatories and the telephone kiosk form nuclei for masses of trees, shrubs and large flowering plants which entirely obstruct the view. Everyone enjoys greenery and colour, but in this instance they are in the wrong place, without doubt, and call for removal – "Safety First"

1926 09 23
Cambridge Guardians received a complaint from a resident in Gwydir Street: "How much longer have we to put up with the filthy, stinking smoke which is belching forth from the Workhouse chimney in Mill Road. My little girl is delicate and it makes her so ill that I have to take her out of the house as the smoke penetrates every room, besides killing the flowers in our little garden and making our washing filthy". The black smoke was terrible and had made people ill. The Workhouse Master attributed the trouble to steam coal which had to be used.

1926 10 07
By the death of Mr Henry Flanders, chemist of Mill Road, Cambridge we feel we have lost a friend to whom we could have gone at all times for advice. We admired his knowledge and tact and the way he treated everybody alike. There was no distinction between rich and poor in his shop. He was the poor man's guide, philosopher and friend. We who have in time of many ailments sought his friendly counsel have come away relieved by his cheery words. When it happened – fairly frequently – that a poor client had not at the moment the cash ready he would invariably say, "Oh, yes, yes, that's all right"

1926 10 27
An important new block is about to be opened as an extension of the Cambridge Poor Law Institution. The Mill Road workhouse received its first inmates in September 1838; just before Christmas married couples and the aged women arrived, and the sick and infirm were brought 'in fives' from the Poor-house of St Sepulchre and St Mary-the-Less. As tea was then 3s.3d. a lb 'small beer' was allowed in its place and sometimes given in excess so the quantity was limited to one quart daily per inmate. It has served with certain alterations and additions for three

generations but now is inadequate for present requirements. The new block contains sick wards, maternity wards and nurseries. It will prove very useful and be a credit to the town.

1926 12 16
It may not be generally known to the Cambridge public that Mr Carne, the manager of the Playhouse, Mill Road, is the "Victor Carne" who figures in the record list of the Vocalion Gramophone Co. He has recorded "The Holy City" and "The Star of Bethlehem" for their Christmas list and these and other of his records are obtainable at Messrs Leavis's, Regent Street. Wireless enthusiasts will no doubt remember the many times he has sung from London and Daventry.

1927 03 16
The owners of the Playhouse, Mill Road, Cambridge, have just completed negotiations for the sale of that cinema to a syndicate who are said to be the owners of the Central Cinema and the Tivoli. We understand that the transfer will take place in September. The Picture Playhouses Ltd, who owned the Playhouse, also have property in Sussex Street and they are also disposing of this.

1927 04 29
Mill Road Baptist Church, Cambridge, was packed when a new organ which has just been installed was formally opened. There was a time when a church of that sort would not have had an organ at any price. It appears to be a good all-round instrument and some of the stops are beautifully mellow. The organ was built by the local firm of Messrs Miller & Son, Sidney Street, and they have certainly made a splendid job. They have used some of the pipes of the old organ and worked in the old with the new excellently.

1927 10 17
A slight failure occurred at one of the Electricity Supply Company substations and for about half-an-hour people living in Mill Road, Cambridge and not equipped with gas were feeling their way in the darkness. Temporary confusion reigned at the Gwydir Street baths where the weekly ablutions were being performed. All the baths were occupied and the bathers found themselves in a somewhat awkward predicament. One gentleman spent some time looking for the soap. But the situation was overcome by the prompt action of one of the attendants who sped to a nearby shop and purchased some candles.

1928 05 03
Cambridge was visited by a thunderstorm characterised by some very heavy peals of thunder and very sharp flashes of lightning. The chimney of a house at 54 St Barnabas Road was struck. Mr Easton, a Mill Road cycle agent, said his family had not left the back bedroom more than two minutes when they were startled by a terrific explosion. The electric light failed and they found that a bedroom fireplace had been blown out into the room and lay smothered with dust and soot on the floor.

1928 08 21
The funerals of the two victims of the level-crossing disaster at Shepreth, the fireman of the engine and the driver of the motor lorry, took place at Cambridge. The passing of each cortege along Mill Road was watched by a number of silent sympathisers. Owing no doubt to the rain comparatively few people had assembled when the procession of the lorry driver passed from Romsey Terrace. Heads were bared and traffic stopped, an Ortona bus remaining stationary until the party had passed. A short while afterwards the cortege of the fireman turned out of Suez Road. It was headed by railwaymen, then came the bearers followed by a motor hearse, the top of which was covered with beautiful wreaths.

1928 12 27
There was no place in Cambridge where greater efforts were made to bring about a happy Christmas that at the Poor Law Institution, Mill Road. Gone forever were the old traditions of Bumbledom and the hardships associated with the workhouse regime. Enthusiastic spirits and untiring hands had transformed this already 'rejuvenated' building into a place which re-echoed in every corner to the joyous note of Yuletide happiness. The vestibules were almost as gaily decorated as the wards, festoons and balloons meeting the eye in every direction. A novel feature was the use of Flanders poppies, given by the British Legion. Santa Claus arrived in a sleigh drawn by two Alsatians; strangely enough the Master was not to be found when Santa arrived.

1929 02 18
The North East Coast contingent of the unemployed marchers who are making their way to London arrived in Cambridge. Carrying banners, singing old war songs and rattling collecting boxes they entered the town via Huntingdon Road. The local Labour Party and Trades Council having decided not to give them official recognition the 88 marchers proceeded direct to the Poor Law Institution, Mill Road, where the staff had made preparations for them. They were given Irish stew and entertained at their private cinema installation.

1929 03 22
Cambridge council is to introduce automatic traffic signals at the crossroads at Northampton Street and Chesterton Lane for a three-month trial. The present cost of a policeman on point duty was about £400 a year and the signals, with purchase, would be about £200 with about £25 a year maintenance and repairs. But Coun Stubbs described it as "robot policemen"; a friend in Liverpool had had to wait ten minutes with a clear road before he could get a move on. He did not see how traffic could be controlled as well as by human means: "I can see myself telling it to mind its own business" (Laughter). It was at the wrong place, being at the bottom of a steep hill; it would be better at the East Road – Mill Road crossing.

1930

1930 01 09
Cambridge bankruptcy court heard of a young man who began trading as a milk retailer. He bought a motor-cycle truck sidecar for milk work then exchanged it for a Ford touring car. But it was no good – he had engine trouble and practically everything went wrong. It was broken up and he bought at Austin 20 for £17 and had it converted into a lorry. He had about 90 customers in Mill Road but they dropped to 20 when the Co-op started in the milk business; he then tried his luck as a haulage contractor and finally tried to recoup his losses by racing greyhounds at Cambridge.

1930 04 01
The disappearance of Boards of Guardians and the transference of the Poor Law work to the Public Assistance Committees has caused some bewilderment. The chief institution in Cambridge is that at 81a Mill Road; it was erected in 1838 as a 'Union' to replace numerous small parish workhouses. The name has been changed to Poor Law Institution in recent years. The demand for accommodation became so acute that in 1923 they had to build a new block. The Infirmary of the old Workhouse has become a hospital with 124 beds in up-to-date wards with a large nursing staff including three certified midwives. 30 04 01a-c

1930 -7 24

Mrs Elizabeth Haslop has been described as a woman possessed of splendid business acumen. She carried on her late husband's butcher's business in Silver Street Cambridge and was the last link with the well-known firm which has been in existence for nearly 100 years and will be carried on. In her earlier life she was well-known in the Mill Road district where a small shop near Tension Road was run in her name. 30 07 24

1930 09 01
Sir – Old Romsey Town is a labyrinth of mean streets but it has enjoyed an oasis of green and trees on the area bounded by Mill Road, Cavendish Road, Sedgwick Street and St Philip's Road. But half of this green and pleasant land is destined to disappear. Already trees have been cut down and little box-like houses have been erected in their place in Sedgwick Street and similar erections are expected to displace the mature trees shading St Philip's Road. Except for the inclusion of bathrooms these houses are not one whit more attractive than many others in the area. An enlightened authority would have realised the potential of this site for recreation – 'Busybody'. 30 09 01

1930 09 20
The whole of Mill Road, Cambridge, was affected by a two-hour electricity stoppage which came just as the first performance finished at both the Playhouse and Kinema cinemas. The Kinema audience who had been watching a Western thriller, whiled away the time in community singing. But some trouble was experienced with the queue for the last show at the Playhouse which did not finish until midnight. 30 09 20

1932 05 19
A fire broke out at the Corporation Store Yard, Mill Road when a tar boiler, containing 240 gallons, boiled over. The tar blazed up and ran under some old timber, setting it alight. Several barrels of tar and a horse lorry also became involved in the blaze. Flames shot 30 ft in the air and a dense, black pall of smoke settled over the neighbourhood. Employees attempted to put it out with water and sand. Had the wind been blowing in the opposite direction, serious damage might have been done. 32 05 19a

1933 02 09
Cambridge has lost an old-established tailor by the death of Mr Byron Thomas Wait of Mill Road. His father was a tailor at St Ives but Byron came to Cambridge 52 years ago and opened the shop in Hills Road. Thirty-five years ago he extended the business to the shop at 28 Mill Road and four years later to 100 Regent Street. Two of his sons are carrying on the business. 33 02 09b

1933 06 03
W.D. Nicholes, Mill Road store refurbishment – 33 06 03

1933 12 27
The two dozen kiddies confined to the Mill Road Isolation Hospital for Christmas found a keen and energetic staff to brighten up the holiday. Balloons, paper decorations, flags and mistletoe were to be seen in profusion and the girls' ward contained a huge Christmas tree sparkling with fancy ornaments and tinsel. At the Union Road Institution there was breakfast of sausages and dinner of roast pork, beef and mutton with sprouts, parsnips and potatoes followed by Christmas pudding and custard. Fruit, tobacco, beer and lemonade were also provided and afterwards the inmates listened to the King's speech on the wireless. 33 12 27

1934 11 12

Several hundred people joined in a peace meeting on Parker's Piece organised by the Cambridge Anti-War Council and the University Anti-War Movement before marching in a torchlight procession to the War Memorial. The procession, some 300 strong began their march along Mill Road, increasing in size as it went along. But they missed the turning into Tenison Road and crossed Mill Road Bridge before winding its way round the back streets to the War Memorial. They laid a wreath 'To those of all countries who fell in the last war from those who are pledged to prevent another'. 34 11 12c

1935 01 26
Sir – The Mill Road footbridge over the railway line was opened to the public on Monday August 3rd 1889. I was the last one to take the keys of the gates to the station – William Nelson. Sir - The iron footbridge over the railway on Mill Road had wooden steps and gave access to the open fields beyond it. In fact, so countrified was the area that when the Royal Standard was built it was known as 'Apthorpe's Folly' from William Apthorpe the brewer who built it. The bridge now stands on Coldham Common where it spans the Newmarket Line – H.D.C. 35 01 26

1935 02 22
A feather bed caught fire in Cambridge. It was being aired in front of the fire in the sitting-room of a house in Mill Road, occupied by Mrs Wilkins. The Brigade was called and turned out under P.S. Clague, but the blaze was extinguished with pails of water by Mrs Wilkins and others in the house before the engine arrived. 35 02 22h

1936 01 17
It is many years since Raymond Bennett was a Cambridge semi-professional entertainer who made early appearances in cine-variety at the Playhouse, Mill Road. He has progressed rapidly and Cambridge audiences now have an opportunity of seeing him at the Theatre Cinema with his partner of many broadcasts. Bennett and McNaughton have achieved great success on the music halls, including the Holborn Empire, and have attained great popularity as broadcasting stars. Those who have listened to their broadcasts will be glad of this opportunity of renewing acquaintance with a popular local artiste 36 01 17

1936 02 22
Harvey's Church Farm Estate at Eversden & Harlton offers a brick-built bungalow with an acre of well-drained land suitable for nurseries, glasshouses or poultry fattening - Mr Creighton, who lives on the Estate, is an expert and would be pleased to show you the methods. The basis of a house is the foundations and the material comes from our own sand pits at Cottenham. We use Fletton Bricks and tiles fitted by the Marley Tile Company who give a 40 years guarantee with each roof. Window frames and doors come from Newsums of Lincoln, ranges and locks by Cakebread Robey & Co while Sir William Rose & Company supply the paints and distemper and electrical installations are carried out by A.W. Matthews of Mill Road, Cambridge. Advert 36 02 22d

1936 12 28
Christmas in Sanatorium Mill Road, Church Army work aid home, Harvey Goodwin Home, District Nurses' Home – 36 12 28

1937 03 24
When the Salvation Army first came to Cambridge Ellis Merry gave them what was then his wash-house in which to hold their meetings. He was one of the early sergeant-majors and associated himself with their work in the villages, using a concertina and violin to good effect. He

was the first to run a penny bus, from Mill Road into town and also did the horse mail work. Until his retirement Mr Merry carried on the business of undertaker. 37 03 24c

1937 04 23
Opening Ascham Road library, the Mayor said it was a great day for Chesterton. In that beautiful building, with good light and accommodation they could look at the books and select them for themselves. The children's library would encourage youngsters to read. At present physical education was the fashion. We were in danger of producing a nation finely developed from the waist downs. The library would help to counteract it. Ten months ago they opened a branch library in Rock Road and so far 87,799 books had been issued, very close to the number at Mill Road branch which had been in existence 40 years. (Applause). 37 04 23c & d

1938 01 01
Sir – as a small boy in the 1880s my first impressions of Cambridge were so different from today as to be almost incredible. Cambridge, bounded practically by Mill Road railway gates, Paper Mills Bridge, Hills Road Bridge and Queens' Road was a glorified village. It smacked of medieval times with its Spinning House in St Andrew's Street and bread and butter was retailed in yard length by Varsity tradesmen. The fastest vehicles on the road were the pretty tandem horses in dog carts affected by rich undergraduates and hansom cabs and I remember assisting the shepherd of Mr Joseph Sturton's sheep with his flock to and from Parker's Piece where they were grazed – P.J. Wright 37 08 16
Dick Whittington and his cat ushered in the New Year at the Dorothy Café where Percy Cowell and his band kept up a programme of old and new dances including the Palais Glide. Just before midnight all lights in the ballroom were extinguished as Dick, joined by two fairies, bombard the 650 dancers with paper hats and other carnival novelties. At the Salisbury Conservative Working Men's Club in Mill Road just over 200 danced to the rhythm of Cliff West's band while Son's Accordion Band played to a packed floor at the Beaconsfield Hall. 38 01 01a & b

1938 02 02
About 200 members of Joe Davis' billiards club in Mill Road, Cambridge, watched an exhibition by Miss Joyce Gardiner, six times the world's woman billiards champion who was paying her first visit to the hall. A stylist, she was watched with rapt attention all through her demonstration. Her highest break in an exhibition is 213 but in practice she has made one of over 300.

1938 06 16
The Bishop told the clergy he had money to make Mill Road cemetery chapel more dignified and beautiful. He would ask an architect to prepare plans. The chapel was used from time to time and more funerals might be held there. But it was felt that as so few burials took place, it was not worth the expenditure. It was extremely damp, there was no heating, it was difficult to ring the bell and it was such an ugly building it could never be made beautiful. But it was too drastic to close it altogether 38 06 16a & b

1938 08 27
Many cemetery chapels are utterly dismal and depressing, the Bishop of Ely says, work may be undertaken at Mill Road cemetery – 38 08 27

1938 08 31
Smart-looking Army Recruiting Office in Mill Road attracts inquirers – photo – 38 08 31

1938 09 15

Residents of Hope Street, off Mill Road, should not be surprised if they see a goose and gander waddling down the road. Mr E.R. Smith has tamed them to accompany him for walks each morning and evening. "You can get a goose to follow you by enticing it with a piece of cabbage or lettuce", he says. The pets are not traffic shy and keep to the side of the road or go on the pavement. They wait outside while he goes shopping. He bought them when they were a fortnight old and is fattening them to adorn the table at Christmas. 38 09 15a

1938 12 24
Lombardy Poplar by Catholic church was planted by Julian Skrine in his garden at 'Lensfield' the grounds of which extended to where Catholic Church now stands; has photo of garden showing windmill in Mill Road. 38 12 24b

1939 03 25
Mill Road cemetery chapel to be decorated by Reginald Hallwood – 39 03 25

1939 04 01
Mill Road cemetery chapel has been redecorated and a dedicatory service was conducted by the Bishop of Ely who said he was very keen about cemetery chapels, some of which were in a very sorry condition. Before this chapel was redecorated it was much better than some others. It is exceptional for a cemetery chapel to be inspiring and uplifting; they should be beautiful and eloquent of the Christian faith. He thanked the decorators for their work and a collection was taken in aid of the fund for the readornment of the chapel. 39 04 01a

1939 04 06
The Bishop of Ely dedicated the redecorated Mill Road cemetery chapel. He was very keen about cemetery chapels, some of which were in a very sorry condition. Before this chapel was redecorated it was much better than some others. It is exceptional for a cemetery chapel to be inspiring and uplifting but they should be beautiful and eloquent of the Christian faith. He thanked the decorators for their work and a collection was taken in aid of the fund for the readornment of the chapel

1939 05 18
Jack Brignell carried on business as a builder and undertaker in Newmarket Road for over 40 years. He erected many large buildings in Cambridge but was recently mainly engaged on Council schemes such as the erection of the Coleridge Senior School. He was a county councillor and took a keen interest in the Mill Road Infirmary, Salvation Army, Victoria Institution and Cambridge Brotherhood. He died on the eve of his only son's 21st birthday so a coming of age party arranged at his college, Sidney Sussex, has of course been abandoned. 39 05 18c

1939 07 01
Mill Road library was built on part of the old workhouse field; a Chesterton reader recalls "The firm who did the plumbing were so short of work that they 'small-ganged' this job and in the forming the foreman used to say "Mill-road gang, fall in". The library is very handy to pop in to read the papers. A.E.H. remarks: "I have good reason to know it as I spent many happy hours in the management of that establishment when I was an assistant librarian under the late John Pink" 39 07 01

1939 10 11
Air Raid precautions committee have ensured that petrol supplies will be available for special services and several garages have reserved tanks and pumps for them. There are decontaminating centres at Mill Road store yard, Cherry Hinton Hall and Victoria Road. First aid depots have been

set up at Shirley and other Schools with first aid parties and two ambulances. Electrically controlled sirens have been installed which together with the steam sirens should be adequate to give necessary warnings 39 10 11

1939 12 27
Christmas festivities; Addenbrooke's Hospital, Church Army Home, Mill Road infirmary evacuees 39 12 27

1940

1940 07 04
Sailor Peter Barker, Mill Road describes sinking by submarine – 40 07 04a

1940 09 04
F. Gillson, Mill Road, Salvation Army memories – 40 09 04a

1940 09 13
Daniel Dunsden, platelayer of Mill Road killed when caught be trailing cable of barrage balloon and carried for 300 yards; cable threw wireless pole through roof of house Mill Road, damaged chimney stack Teversham Hall Farm – 40 09 13a, 40 09 17a

1940 09 18
Girl killed by army motor truck, Mill Road – 40 09 18a

1940 07 05
Golden Wedding.—"Given good health, we could live it all over again." Thus said Mr. and Mrs. A. G. Gilbert, of 254 Mill Road, Cambridge, reviewing their married life on their golden wedding day. They were married at Christ Church on July 1, 1890, and in 1892 opened a grocer's business in Kingston Street. At the same time. Mr. Gilbert was bacon store manager for Messrs. Hallack and Bond. It was here, in 1904, that he fell down a lift shaft and was unconscious for three days. It may be added that Mr. Gilbert is a non-drinker and non-smoker. He retired from business in 1937. Mr. and Mrs. Gilbert have two daughters and a son, and speak proudly of their four granddaughters, Mr. Gilbert; is 74 and his wife 70, but both look at least ten years younger. In this respect it is interesting to note that Mrs. Gilbert made her own cake for the celebration supper.

1940 09 06
Killed by Drifting Balloon.—A man was killed and considerable damage done when a barrage balloon drifted over Cambridge yesterday afternoon. The dead man was Daniel Dunston, a platelayer, of 146 Mill Road, Cambridge. Aged over 60, he was near the railway between Mill Road and Coldham's Lane Bridge when he was caught by a steel cable trailing from the balloon. He was carried for a distance of over 30 yards and then dropped, sustaining fatal injuries. Before the accident the balloon had passed over the town at a considerable height. In the Mill Road area it came lower, and the cable threw a wireless pole through the roof of a house in Mill Road. The interior of the house was not damaged and no-body was injured in this incident. The balloon then gained height and drifted in the direction of Teversham. At Teversham Hall an old chimney stack on a scullery was struck by the cable. A piece of the cable was snapped off and the balloon at once shot up into the air and continued in an easterly direction. Telephone wires were damaged and the electricity supply for a village was affected for a time.

1941 01 27
Sand bags tied to lamp posts vandalised in Mill Rd – 41 01 27a

1941 01 31
Three people are feared to have been 'killed and four others received head injuries when a German raider dropped several high explosive bombs on an East Anglian town yesterday afternoon. The plane dived low before releasing the bombs, said an eye-witness. One bomb fell on a row of small houses, demolishing two, and some of the casualties were people in these premises – 41 01 31 CIPof

1941 01 31
Bombs next door … Mill Road bombing – 41 01 31b

Creeping in from Ely at low level during the dull, dreary Thursday afternoon, it dropped nine 50 kg HEs at 15:57 straddling Mill Road Bridge. Bombs burst in the Corporation store yard, and No 130 Mill Road and the next house were shattered by a direct hit. Other bombs exploded in the rail yard. Although the undershoot meant that the locomotive maintenance area escape destruction, two civilians were killed and ten injured, for the bridge was being used by many pedestrians and cyclists at the time. (Michael Bowyer 'Air Raid' p137)

1942 07 24
Isolation Hospital Mill Road temporary extension opened for infectious diseases – 42 07 24

1943 11 25
Scotney's butchers of Mill Road summoned for selling met above maximum price and delivering food to Romsey Community Feeding Centre without proper paperwork – 43 11 25

1944 01 08
H.J. Robinson retires as Librarian, Mill Road; was appointed in 1897 when 12,000 books issued. Brother was P.R. Robinson of Trumpington – 44 01 08
1946 02 20
Coloured airmen in scuffle on Mill Road – 46 02 20

1946 11 20
County hospital, Mill Road, largely used as Maternity Unit – feature – 46 11 20

1947 05 06
A period piece, the period of which the members of the Library Committee do not particularly appreciate, was how the present high domed roof of Mill Road branch library was described when a resolution authorising the provision of a new false ceiling was criticised at Cambridge town council meeting. Ald E.S. Peck said "When I was chairman I thought it was rather a charming building architecturally and I think it would be entirely spoilt if they put a new ceiling in

1947 08 06
Because of the danger of ice-cream spreading conditions of infectious diseases three defendants were summoned for not displaying their name and address on the vehicle from which they were selling the ice-cream. Ernesto Fella of Mill Road, Cambridge pointed out that his tricycle had just been painted, but the address had been omitted. This error had now been rectified. Another said that while he was waiting to get the name painted on the van he had stuck two labels on the side but these had come off during one of the storms. The name and address were painted on the following morning. All were fined £1

1948 01 07
As the Mayoress of Cambridge (Mrs Hickson is the mother of three children) it was very natural that she should take a particular interest in the maternity services at the County Hospital in Mill Road when she paid her Christmas visit there last week. Mrs Hickson had a long talk with the matron (Mrs Ditchburn) who expressed the view that both the young mother of today and her baby are in better condition than she has ever known before. In spite of rationing and the hard times in which we are living the modern woman approaches motherhood with far less apprehension than in pre-war days. Matron pointed out that the extra milk, vitamin tablets and orange juice help to replace the shortages due to rationing

1948 02 03
A new Cambridge ballroom known as The Embassy is to be opened at Mill Road tomorrow evening. Formerly a billiards hall, the building has been converted by Mr Harry Bradford, who claims that as a result of the labours of himself and friends the building is now "a lovely ballroom". For the opening tomorrow the new resident professional band is led by Freddie Webb, who has just left the Bag o'Nails Club, London, to take over the leadership. With him are Tony Rivers, alto saxophone, Dusty Myatt (piano) and Freddy Webb, drummer. Guest vocalist with the band is Harry Roy, vocalist Terry da Costa

1948 02 06
"It could not have been better placed for now it will eliminate the necessity of people of this district having to go to the Guildhall and like places for their entertainment. The management are to be congratulated on the redecoration of the building". So said Ald A.E. Stubbs, M.P. of the new "Embassy" ballroom Mill Road, Cambridge. And if the reaction of a "capacity" crowd who flocked to this new venture are anything to go by, his words were most heartily endorsed. From the word "Go" at 7.30 the crowd set out to make the most of their new ballroom, and numbers steadily increased until the maximum of 300 dancers had been reached

1948 07 02
What might be termed the swan-Song of the Cambridge County Council Public assistance Committee took place at Shire Hall. In common with many other similar committees its duties will be taken over by the Ministry of Health on 5th July. The chairman, Mrs Mellish Clark, said that at the County Hospital Mill Road they decided to develop the maternity work, to close the causal wards and move the nursery children out to Linton. At Chesterton Hospital they had built a new casual ward, but when the war came these wards were converted by the additional of hospital beds and were being so used at the present time. At Linton they had built a Nurses Home but as there was no proper sanitation t Caxton they had decided to pull it down

1948 12 23
An unusual display of Christmas cheer amid the austerity of today has attracted considerable attention in Cambridge's Mill Road. On view and on the premises of Messrs Roger Harris and Son, family butchers and poultry dealers, are nearly 1,000 birds - and everyone is spoken for. Every registered customer who wanted a Christmas dinner was catered for, and in addition, a few other customers were lucky enough to place orders. Butcher Harris has made a speciality of Christmas poultry for years and the display represents 18 years of goodwill and business with local poultry-keepers

1949 01 03
When visiting the county hospital, Mill Road, Cambridge, the Mayoress saw the hospital's "miracle baby" and heard from the Matron (Mrs D. Ditchburn) how this baby, premature and

weighing 3lb 1 oz at birth and kept in an oxygen tent, has survived three relapses when blood transfusions and oxygen had to be given, and now at 3 ½ months weighs 6 ½ lbs and is making steady progress. In the fight to keep her alive she has been given penicillin and streptomycin and the sulphonamide drugs.

1949 02 09
To celebrate the first anniversary of the opening of the Embassy Ballroom, Mill Road, Cambridge a birthday ball was held there when the resident band, under Freddy Webb, was augmented. A very happy note was struck by the appearance of Ken Turner and his band from the Rex Ballroom, together with their wives and lady friends, on the dance floor, dancing for a change, instead of playing for others. Altogether a very happy birthday evening for the ballroom.

1949 02 28
Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company meeting was told that 8 ¾ miles of new mains had been laid. The supply had been extended to Teversham and Coton and a new low-pressure feeder main installed between Newmarket road and Mill road, Cambridge. This necessitated laying a section of the main six feet underneath the four lines of railway track at Coldham's Lane Bridge. Statistics revealed 600 new consumers, the supply of 1,606 gas cookers and a growing interest in central heating through automatically operated gas boilers.

1949 03 02
Triplets born at the Mill Road Maternity Hospital are making excellent progress. They are all healthy, alert little babies who have not given a moment's anxiety since their arrival. All weighed over 4lb at birth. The hospital staff are understandably proud of their triplets, for they are the first born there in the 15 years since maternity cases were first handled

1949 05 18
Among the few air-raids Cambridge suffered was the one a night in August 1941 which besides damaging a number of houses in Romsey town, completely demolished an old building which was used as a primary Sunday school by Mill Road Baptists. A handsome hall is now being built and is expected to be opened in the autumn.

1949 10 15
A man whose name became famous throughout Cambridge and the Eastern Counties through the chain of stores which he began, Mr Frederick Winton Smith, died yesterday. He came to Cambridge in 1910 and set up the well-known butchery and provisions trade at Mill Road. Within a very short time he was able to expand the business until the firm is familiar throughout East Anglia.

1950

1950 01 02
There was a record crowd at the Embassy ballroom, Mill Road, Cambridge where over 500 people "danced-in" 1950 to the accompaniment of Freddy Webb and the resident band. At midnight the chimes of Big Ben heard from a portable radio, brought a hush in the crowded room and an illuminated sign bearing the figures '1950' descended onto the stage. Dancing stopped at midnight, but there was still half-an-hour to welcome 1950 with the hit tunes of 1949 and it was a grand sing-song that brought the evening to a close.

1950 04 12

Mr J. Hyden, who until recently was a station officer in the Cambridge fire brigade has given up the job of quenching fires to take on one of quenching thirsts. He is now the landlord of the Durham Ox in Mill Road, Cambridge. The reason for the change is that since he was burnt nearly three years ago by mustard gas when helping to put out a fire near Fulbourn on a train carrying cylinders, he has suffered from skin trouble when exposed to heat.

1950 07 06
Using pre-cast and interlocking concrete blocks three men laid the equivalent of 3,000 bricks in just under 3½ hours on the Newmarket Road housing estate, Cambridge. The blocks, patented under the name of "Dri-Crete" are the results of research by Mr B. F. Hartley, director of the British Art Tile Co. of Mill Road. During 1950 two houses have been erected at the new satellite town of Newton Aycliffe, near Darlington, using the blocks. Members of the Dri –Crete Association visited Papworth to see farm buildings erected form the blocks and to Waterbeach RAF station to inspect Dri-Crete walls.

1950 08 14
In another 20 years Cambridge should be certain of having a strong and healthy community of young men & women, for surely the present day babies must be the best of any generation. This was brought to mind at the Bonny Baby Show when proud mothers watched their babies judged by an expert authority, Sister Sparrow, of the Mill Road Maternity Hospital. One has only to walk along the street and look into every pram you pass to see that all the occupants, with a few very rare exceptions, are happy and contented little souls.

1950 09 22
Roger Keith Woollard of Mill Road, Cambridge, - eight years old – is surely Cambridge's youngest aircraft recognition expert. You can see him any Sunday up at Cambridge airport noting down numbers and types of aircraft flying there with the same enthusiasm that some youngsters collect car or engine numbers. I asked him what he did if an aircraft arrived which he could not identify. "I go and ask the duty pilot what it is", he said. His devotion to this hobby deserves recognition, I would suggest by the appointment as the official mascot of Marshall's airport

1950 9 27
The news that Mr Douglas Nicholes is disposing of his well-known drapery and outfitting business in Mill Road will be received with regret by local people who admire the pioneer spirit and enterprise of a family concern. There are still people who can remember the early days of what was then a small lock-up shop surrounded by fields – known as Feke's Meadows - on both sides of the roads on the town side. It is 68 years since Mr W.D. Nicholes founded the business. In those early days they were the largest wholesalers of foreign goods in East Anglia. The retail side was developed later and menswear has always been a speciality.

1950 11 30
Local tradesmen are becoming worried about the parking situation in Cambridge. They fear that if this goes on the people will not come shopping in the town, said a solicitor appearing for a motorist summoned for a parking offence. Altogether there were 16 cases before the court and fines totalling £12 10s were imposed. One motorist, whose car was punctured late one night, parked it in a side street off Mill Road and knowing that the battery would last only two hours at the most had not put his lights on. There was nothing else he could do. He was fined 10s.

1951 05 16
The Playhouse Cinema, Mill Road, completed 38 years of service and entertainment. To celebrate the event the manager (Mr Eric Dallman) arranged a special birthday month. He opened with a

brief history of the cinema and read telegrams of congratulation from Richard Todd and Joan Dowling, the two popular British stars. A request for any member of the audience who was at the opening in 1913 resulted in one patron coming to the stage. He was Mr W.J. Pugh who had been a regular patron since it opened. The audience was then introduced to the longest serving member of staff, Mrs F. Hewett who had done most jobs except the operating box – but thought she would like to try that as well!

1951 05 21
The finals of the crooning contest were held at the Playhouse Cinema, Mill Road. Only two finalists competed, Miss Eve Lynn and Mr Bob Garner. Judging was by Mr Dickie Valentine, who appeared by permission of the New Theatre management. Music for the finals was supplied by Freddie Webb and his band. Mr Garner was declared the winner and presented with the Vaughn Munroe trophy by Dickie Valentine, who then sang three songs at the request of the manager, Mr Eric Dallman.

1951 07 19
"The problem of old age will get the county down unless we learn ways of doing it economically as well as efficiently" said the speaker at Cambridgeshire Old People's Welfare Council. Her interest had started over half a century ago when she was taken to the old workhouse in Mill Road and had been absolutely appalled at the condition of the old ladies. Some of them looked after babies for twelve hours a day with no reward except extra cups of tea. "They paid for the sin of being old in those days", she said.

1951 07 28
Cambridge is a town that likes to be visited; "put out your flags" urges the mayor to set the town in a blaze of colour for the Festival. In the past many of our college buildings have been given a new beauty by the use of flood lighting and this is being introduced again. Great St Mary's church, the Senate House and Old Schools, King's College chapel, Clare College Bridge and the University Library will be lit. Most of the work is being carried out by a local firm of electricians, A.W. Matthews of Mill Road.

1951 10 05
The manager of the Kinema, Mill Road, Cambridge was convicted for his part in conspiracies involving nine tons of rationed foodstuffs without the surrender of necessary permits and coupons in contravention of the Defence Regulations 1939. It involved more than 1½ tons of margarine worth about £190; six tons of sugar worth £360 and 1½ tons of butter valued at £300. He was sent to prison for six months.

1952 02 09
Long before the arrival of the ten-coach funeral train bearing the body of King George VI, large crowds had gathered at the main vantage points along the line at Ely to pay their homage. At the station crossing hundreds of people assembled on both sides, whilst lines of traffic extended for some distance. Heads were bared as the train rolled smoothly through the station. Workmen who had given up part of their dinner hour and American servicemen were amongst the crowds. At the little village station of Waterbeach about 100 housewives, farmworkers and children gathered. A crowd of more than 800 people lined the marshalling yards on either side of Mill Road Bridge, Cambridge. The long black funeral coach, with all its windows blacked out passed exactly on time. Queen Elizabeth II gazed pensively out of a carriage window as the train passed a group of railwaymen standing caps off near Hills Road Bridge.

1953 05 22

The Playhouse Cinema on Mill Road, Cambridge, celebrates its 40th anniversary as a place of cinematic entertainment. It opened at Whitsun 1913 when there were two shows per evening with a children's matinee on Saturdays. Nowadays we are used to newsreels which are distributed on a national basis but then their own cameraman took the pictures for a newsreel of local interest, including the Cambridge Police Sports and Juvenile Fishing Match. Music was supplied by the Playhouse's own orchestra under Musical Director Max Bennett

1953 06 24
Over 100 cadets of the Cambridge District of the Order of the Sons of Temperance took part in a Coronation demonstration parade along Mill Road, headed by the Boy's Brigade Band. They were from the Hope of Cambridge, King's Own, Chesterton United and Beacon Societies. Several entered for the fancy dress competition which was judged by Mr & Mrs David Moore. The winners were, girls – Marjorie Mason (Spanish Lady), boys – Norman Knight (Guardsman). Decorated vehicle – Catherine Newman, doll's pram (golden coach).

1953 07 04
The pressure of 200 people waiting outside Rose's Fashion Centre in Sussex Street, Cambridge broke one of the shop windows. The sale was a real family affair, the husbands standing for the wives from the early hours until the woman of the family herself arrived to try and grab some of the bargains. There were four gabardine suits reduced from seven guineas (£7.35) to 15s (75p) and a grey Melange coat at £1 (original price £8.8s.) Many bargain hunters have been reaping the reward of the disastrous summer weather. At Tobin's of Mill Road they were clearing summer frocks for 10s (50p) which originally cost up to five times as much.

1953 08 25
While the National Radio Exhibition at Earls Court offers the best in radio and television under one roof, Cambridge's own exhibition goes on throughout the year in the windows and showrooms of the city's radio stores. Langham Radio Services of Mill Road have the Sobel 14-inch tv for 64 guineas or the Cossor 12-inch at 50 guineas. Morley & Duke offer a free demonstration in your own home of the Pye V4 television with automatic picture control which costs £64.18.0 or on H.P. at 15/- weekly.

1954 05 12
A baby girl born in Cambridge has the distinction of arriving in the world with six of her eight great-grandparents still alive. Susan Carole Fuller is the daughter of Mr & Mrs D.J. Fuller of Halifax Road. Her great grandparents on her father's side are Mr & Mrs W. Fuller aged 83 and 76 who now live in Wrexham, and Mr & Mrs B. Ager of Blinco Grove. On her mother's side they are Mr & Mrs V.F. Pursey of Mill Road. She also has 18 great aunts and uncles. This is most unusual and may be a record for Cambridge

1955 04 15
Cambridge fish and chip sellers have called the national newspaper strike 'a catastrophe'. Many London chippies are running a 'bring your own paper' campaign. Comics are no good as they are too small. The C.D.N. is in great demand but chip shops say they are fighting a losing battle with the housewife who relies on it for her fires, and things are getting difficult. Mr W. Wade of Mill Road says he can visualise people coming to collect fish suppers in a soup tureen or saucepan. 55 04 15

1955 06 25
Cambridge came out in the sun for the visit of the Regimental Band of the Coldstream Guards. Crowds lined the market square for the high spot of the day, a march past the Guildhall, and then

jammed the roads as they marched to Christ's Pieces for a concert. The purpose of the visit was 'Good will and courtesy – with recruiting into the bargain'. Asked if there had been any results so far an official from the Mill Road recruiting office said 'Not yet, but we have a feeling there will be'. 55 06 25d

1955 07 08
A youth dressed in a dark grey 'Teddy Boy' suit pleaded guilty to two charges of assault following a fight between two 'Teddy Boys' at the Embassy Ballroom in Mill Road Cambridge. "I had a row with my girlfriend and started swinging out at everyone until somebody said the police were coming and I got frightened and ran away", he said. 55 07 08c

1956 02 25
Mill Road Library has been transformed from 'a barn of a place' to a branch library in keeping with the present-day idea of the service. The Reading Room that occupied more space than the lending library, which issues over 1,000 books on peak days, has been reduced in size yet will still accommodate more than 40 readers and the newspapers will be displayed on slopes and tables. 56 02 25c

1956 03 03
A neighbour complained about noises from the gentlemen's toilets at the Grasshopper public house on Mill Road and ash falling from their dustbins into her garden. But she had a grudge against the brewery & had complained about various things since 1935. The brewery had built a higher wall between them and tried to reduce noise by putting down rubber floor coverings. The license was renewed. 56 03 03c

1956 09 10
The garden in front of St Philip's Church, Mill Road, has been transformed into a Field of Remembrance by the Romsey British Legion. It is the only one in Cambridge and will give people the opportunity to place a cross in memory of those who gave their lives in two World Wars. A parade marched through pouring rain for the dedication service. 56 09 10b 9 (photo 56 09 10a)

1956 10 05
Mr & Mrs Ditchburn have seen many changes at Mill Road Maternity Hospital in the 22 years they have been Senior Administrative Officer and Matron. When they came in 1934 it was the County Infirmary and was mostly for old people. During the next five years a new wing was built, together with a new ward and theatre. Gradually the chronic patients became fewer and now there are only 23. During the war it was an emergency Medical Services Hospital with only one bed left for maternity patients. In 1934 there were only 56 births at the Hospital but 1,831 were recorded in 1954. 56 10 05a & b

1956 11 02
W. Holliman and Sons, the well-known Cambridge firm of removal contractors have again chosen a Morris vehicle for their fleet of pantechnicons. Every vehicle since 1926 has been a Morris, proof of their faith in this make. They are also house furnishers and their showrooms, the King Street Furniture Galleries, were the first 'Walk Round Showrooms' in Cambridge, dating back to 1923 when they moved from Mill Road. 56 11 02a

1956 12 14
Bill Oliver has been a Cambridge dustman since 1928, the year before mechanical transport came in. There are 33 such men, together with nine drivers for the nine lorries and a foreman at the Mill

Road depot to act as a first-line peacemaker between them and the owners of dented dustbins. In all districts there is forbidden garden rubbish, brick rubble, hot cinders, sump oils and liquids that make an untippable mulch of the refuse. 56 12 14c & d

1956 12 22
Raymond Bennett, the talented comedian and theatre manager laments the closing down of the Playhouse in Mill Road. It was there he made his debut as a single-turn music hall artiste. In those days it had a small orchestra and had one turn each week with the pictures. They included Godwin Hunt, baritone and humorous vocalist, George Gass, comedian of 'The Magpies' concert party and Sydney Pratt the conjurer. 56 12 22a & b

1957 04 06
In 1956 Messrs Holland was refused permission to erect a petrol filling station on the junction of Mill Road and Ross Street as was another in the area. This was obsolete, they claimed, with a limited forecourt. But its owner said there was no need for another – some evenings he did not have a single customer. Protestors fear it would attract additional motor traffic into a residential area, with noise, television interference and the smell of petrol. 57 04 06 & a

1957 05 23
Messrs C. Holland won their appeal to erect a petrol filling station on the corner of Ross Street and Mill Road. The site is at present occupied by a house and garden, the surrounding area is predominately residential but with some schools, shops, social clubs and industry. In such areas motorists prefer to fill their tanks locally at the start of the day & it would not increase traffic risks to children. 57 05 23

1958 01 09
A man told the bankruptcy court he had rented the Kinema Café, Mill Road in 1956 paying £12 a week which included everything. He worked hard to build up the business, taking about £8 a week for himself. But there was a fire in August 1957 which forced him to close for ten days and he was then hit by a rates demand. He was now employed as a kitchen hand at Waterbeach airfield. 58 01 09b

1958 01 24
A derailment in the Coldham's Lane arrival sidings, visible from Mill Road Bridge, attracted a good deal of public attention yesterday. Engine, tender and three wagons of a goods train came off the rails while the train was moving at reduced speed into the sidings. The driver and firemen got clear but the guard suffered some facial bruises. 58 01 24a

1958 07 24
Should there be shops on the corner of Coldham's Lane and Vinery Road? Two local shopkeepers, H. Wilson and H. Sykes, said there was no room for more shops in the area. Mill Road, East, is quite a substantial shopping centre; there are 80 to 90 shops at present with more planned. The houses in the area were built between 1928 and 1940 and that site was bought in 1924 for possible development as a public house. The owners had tried for shops, houses, flats and garages. Now they wanted a chemist's shop, fish shop and newsagents. 58 07 24 & a

1958 08 14
The Corporation Storeyard, Mill Road was severely damaged by fire. The alarm was raised by storekeeper, Mr Frederick Tungatt, who lives at the yard. Employees brought their own fire-fighting equipment into operation but as fast as the hoses played water on it the blaze spread rapidly and soon a large section of a store roof became an inferno of flames. More men rescued

equipment including 'No Waiting' highways signs. The way they went about it – just as if the property were their own – earned the admiration of the City Surveyor, T.V. Burrows. 58 08 14 & a

1959 05 21
Mill Road fire Barney's – 59 05 21 & a

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1960 03 17
The new Mill Road branch of Barclays Bank will be under the management of Mr C.R. Smith who is also manager of the Bank's Cherry Hinton Road branch. Barclays has had a small branch on Mill Road for some time, but the new one is larger and offers wider facilities. 60 03 17a

1960 04 01
Macintosh and Sons, the long-establish firm of ironmongers have moved their showrooms from Cambridge Market Hill to Mill Road owing to the congestion in the town centre. "The days have gone when farmers could pull up with their horse and trap to purchase instruments", they say. From the new warehouse and instrument shed they sell anything from a hand tool to a combine harvester costing over £2,000. Nearby stands the foundry that was in use until 30 years ago where they made lamp standards and ploughshares for the Town Council. 60 04 01a

1960 04 07
The owner of the Kinema Café in Mill Road said that when he took it over in 1957 he tried to make it attractive and spent a great deal of money on putting it in order. At first he deterred teenagers by taking out the automatic phonograph and tried to attract the student trade by dressing up the tables with white cloths and menu card. But this failed. The only clients he could draw were teenagers, 85 per cent of the sales were of tobacco and the rest cups of tea. 60 04 07

1960 08 06
Mill Road Railway Bridge was built in 1889 and Percy North, the well-known chiropodist, remembers playing under the bridge arches when they were being constructed. There was a level crossing over the railway then but it was not much used because there was hardly any traffic. There was nothing beyond, Great Eastern Street and Argyle Street were just ballast pits for the railway and the only house was a large one where the Broadway stands today, he recalls. 60 08 06 & a

1960 10 14
Romsey has gained new shopping facilities with the opening of the Co-operative Society's Supermarket in Mill Road. It occupies practically the whole block between Catharine Street and Thoday Street and is a complete transformation of their former grocery, butchery, pharmacy and cottage property. The shop front features anodised aluminium metal work while the four check-out stations are finished in an attractive shade of plastic. 60 10 14b

1960 10 21
New Co-op supermarket, Mill Road – 60 10 21aa

1961 02 04

Three years ago there were perhaps one or two West Indians working in Cambridge. Now the number must fast be approaching 100. They have all been invited by the Cambridge Brotherhood to attend their international service at the Mill Road Baptist Church when the address will be delivered by Canon Hay, the Chaplain appointed by the Anglican Church to serve Jamaican immigrants. The invitation is extended to all friends and includes a social gathering after the service 61 02 04a

1961 05 09
The whole of 'The Broadway' on Mill Road is being put up for sale. It runs from Cavendish Road to Sedgwick Street and is the largest shopping area in the eastern half of Cambridge. It was built 23 years ago and consists of 14 shops with eight flats above. The London company that owns the site says it is a good investment: the properties currently realise £2,848 a year in rents which will increase to more than £4,000 in three years' time. 61 05 09

1961 05 16
The Broadway, Mill Road sold for £35,000 – 61 05 16

1961 08 10
Last summer's bad weather was the culmination of the vicissitudes faced by an Italian ex-prisoner of war. Gaetano Risitano, who traded as 'Guys', bought an ice cream business on Mill Road but problems started when he became involved in litigation with the previous owner. This was followed by a bad season in 1960 and profits were not big enough to support his outgoings so he put it up for sale. 61 08 10

1961 11 01
When the Prince of Wales inaugurated the new butt and parade ground of the Cambridge University Rifle Volunteers at Grange Road in October 1861 he presented a cup described as 'of massive silver, but chaste in design – a kneeling rifleman surmounting the lid, in the act of taking aim'. It is still awarded to the best shot at 1,000 yards. The Corps at first had a ground on Mill Road in conjunction with the 1st Cambridgeshire (Town Corps) but the range was found to be too short. The Grange Road ground consisted of two fields with the butt at the extreme end. 61 11 01

1962 10 03
Supplies of salt are fast running out at Cambridge grocery shops as people adopt a 'do-it-yourself' policy towards clearing away the snow from their doorsteps. In two of the largest stores stocks of block or crushed cooking salt are negligible. But there is still plenty at the Corporation store yard in Mill Road despite a considerable amount being used on the streets. Hard-packed frozen snow still prevails on all roads and overnight fog reduced visibility. One result of the snow-up in Royston was the postponement of the meeting of the Urban Council 62 10 03

1963 02 01
Macintosh and Sons of Market Hill, Cambridge, one of the oldest ironmongery firms in the country, has been sold to an unknown purchaser. The firm's earliest records date back to 1688 when the business was sold to the Finch family. They kept it going for 200 years before it was taken over by William Macintosh who'd been in business in Sidney Street. A major redevelopment scheme is proposed for the site after their retail premises close in September. The wholesale, agricultural and workshop departments will continue to trade from 349 Mill Road 63 02 01a

1962 05 03

An inquiry into the Bradmore Street area heard that 119 houses between Petersfield, East Road, Broad Street and the CCAT were unfit for human habitation and should be demolished under the slum clearance plan. The area would be used for extensions to the college and the Mill Road Sorting Office. But six householders objected. One lady had lived in her home for 50 years, she was 89 and blind and would find it difficult to move. Another had been deaf and dumb from birth; she had lived there for 54 years and was frightened at the prospect of being relocated. 62 05 03a

1962 08 16
The Cam Foundry in Thompson's Lane once had 20 men making cast iron, lamp posts, grating and road ironworks. Friday was the usual day for mould filling. The fire could be kindled in the cupola early in the morning and loaded up with hard furnace coke. The furnaceman was a real 'character'. A labourer, tough and very strong he would swing a 32 lb hammer to break up the scrap and pig iron. He distained the use of gloves or goggles, his bare hands and unprotected eyes in constant danger from molten splashes and sparks. It closed in 1923 and Messrs Macintosh transferred the business to the old Romsey Town cement works at Mill Road 62 08 16a & b

1962 10 18
Mill Road cemetery gravestones – 62 10 18

1962 11 28
Post office sorting department in Mill Road demolition – photo – 62 11 28a

1964 01 07
Plans for a 24-lane ten-pin bowling alley on Mill Road have been approved subject to conditions that the premise should be closed between midnight and 8am. It would include a snack bar, changing rooms, kitchen and offices. But now developers want to extend the project to include either a dance floor or ice-rink, a public house with flat over, service station with office and parking for 150 cars. 64 01 07

1964 09 02
No new industries employing more than five people will be established and only a moderate expansion of those existing will be approved, says the Minister of Housing in his review of the Cambridge Town Map. The inner relief road will be rerouted to take it clear of Jesus College grounds and Marshall's garage and the Western Bypass will now run next to the University Observatory and behind properties in Storey's Way. Local shopping centres will be expanded at Mitcham's Corner, Mill Road and at the corner of Alex Wood Road. There will also be a car park to the south of Silver Street. 64 09 02

1964 10 12
Mill Road shift workers say dustbins left in darkened streets are a menace and danger. Residents drag their dustbins into the street ready for an early collection. But at midnight all the street lights go out and people bump into them in the blackness of dreadful dustbin alleys. Elderly people say refuse collectors could take bins from the rear of their homes. But this would mean dustmen going through their houses. 64 10 12a

1965 01 14
Smart & Son, the outfitters in Market Street, has been run by the same family for more than 150 years. But now they are to move to Mill Road and the shop sold – 65 01 14

1965 02 08

The world's largest and most advanced amateur television station is based in Jeremy Royle's home at Duddenhoe End and he puts out a regular transmission each evening. Another station is owned by Douglas Wiles of Mill Road whose equipment and home-made camera is fitted into his living room. Both are members of the Cambridge Amateur Radio Club and the audience consists of about half-a-dozen people who can switch on their transmitter and chat to the figure on the screen. The availability of cheap war surplus material gave amateur radio and television a boost in the post-war years but today the supplies have died away 65 02 08c

1965 03 13
Mill Road bowling alley work progresses – photo – 65 03 13b

1965 04 08
Mill Road bowling alley to open – feature – 65 04 08c

1966 02 25
Mill Road becoming a coloured area – organisation to give practical help to immigrants – 66 02 25, a

1966 03 12
Kinema cinema, Mill Road closing; has 400 seats and staff of seven. Owner is George Webb. It may continue as cinema under new ownership – 66 03 12a

1967 04 27
Lloyds Bank alterations to Mill Road branch; now light & airy – 67 04 27b

1968 02 16
Mill Road Broadway shops with flats over sold for double price of seven years ago – 68 02 16

1968 05 01
E.J. How, Mill Road, baker for 100 years – 68 05 01

1968 08 30
Mill Road library issues drop due parking restrictions – 68 08 30

1960 07 04
P.O. Reed, hairdresser started 53 Trumpington St, 1946 to Mill Road, then King St etc – history – 60 07 04

1969 10 08
Mill Road maternity hospital premature baby unit opened – 69 10 08

1970

1970 02 17
Tenpin bowling rink, Mill Road, shuts down suddenly by Magnet Bowling who opened it in 1965 – 70 02 17

1971 06 17
Toilet at East Road – Mill Road junction being demolished – 71 06 17a

1971 10 10

First automatic mail sorting machines delivered to Post Office in Mill Road – 71 10 10

1972 06 14 c
People living in Norfolk Street and Gwydir Street made it clear at a meeting in Cambridge that they want some peace and quiet - and soon. They want to be able to park their cars free outside their own homes and are calling for rapid police action to enforce parking bans in the area. Half the 1,400 vehicles recorded during a 13-hour period were using the narrow roads in the area as a short cut between Mill Road and East Road

1972 08 04
Cambridge housewives face soaring prices this weekend as thousands of tons of vital imports lie strike-bound in Britain's ports. Fruit and meat imports are the biggest casualties of the national dock strike which entered its second week today. In Cambridge the Mill Road greengrocers, Clements have raised the price of imported Granny Smith apples from 11p to 14p a pound, while bananas are up from 8p to 11p a pound. At Tesco, in Regent Street, the manager said they had run out of bananas, but oranges and apples were still available and had not gone up. Tomatoes however had risen by about 5p to 18p a pound

1972 10 31
Twenty-five thousand second class letters are being deliberately held up every night at the Post office's mechanised sorting centre in Mill Road, Cambridge. The letters are sorted into bundles by the 2pm to 10pm shift ready for loading on to trains from Cambridge. But they do not leave the centre until the next morning after the rest of the second class post has been sorted. Assistant Post-master for Cambridge, Mr Reginald Starkey said "It is a second class standard of service. They have paid only 21/2 pence". Ironically it is only the second class post which goes through the £500,000 worth of equipment installed at the Mill Road office five months ago

1973 09 28
A group called the Romsey Town project intend to open a cafe which will serve as a community centre, discussion room and open newsroom for their paper "Romsey News". The paper, which is self-supporting at 2p a copy has a circulation of 1,500. Jean White, an organiser, said "The people of Romsey Town get a rough deal in Cambridge as far as amenities are concerned. There is no cinema - only pubs and the Labour Club. There is no real centre for the town as Mill Road carries traffic straight through - though in my opinion the shopping centre is better than the centre of Cambridge. We have joked about charging higher prices depending on the length of hair so that the cafe will not become a student centre from the University"

1973 09 28
The cost of improving and modernising the public library at Mill Road, Cambridge, has risen to £13,790 due to inflation. For a number of years the Library Committee have had a programme of improvements they hoped to make to some of their ageing branch libraries. But repeatedly the economy-conscious city council have cut back on the projects. This year they agreed that the Mill Road scheme could go ahead to brighten up and repair the buildings. But since the estimates were received inflation has taken its toll

1973 10 19
A £13,000 facelift for Mill Road branch library in Cambridge has been shelved by the city council to leave their architects free to concentrate on housing schemes. The Library Committee were forced to postpone the modernisation plan after hearing that it would be caught in the Government's current economic policy to cut back local council's capital spending. Mill Road was to have been the first of three branch libraries in the city to be modernised with new lighting,

decorations and layout. Those at Rock Road and Milton Road were to follow. Members agreed to contact the new Cambridgeshire County Council, who will take over libraries in April, to ask them to consider the three schemes sympathetically

1974 02 08
Cambridge city council's controversial plan to stop Gwydir Street being used as a short-cut between East Road and Mill road has come into action and already shopkeepers are reporting trading losses of up to 50%. Norfolk street, once continually busy with traffic, is now silent and virtually at a standstill. And the shopkeepers of the street are beginning to wonder if they might soon be at a standstill too. Mrs Linda Gregoris who owns the Athena restaurant lent on her broom and surveyed the five customers. "It is 11am and normally this place is chock-a-block and people have to fight for a seat. Yesterday we had five people in here – normally it would be as many as 80"

1974 06 04
The site of the Co-operative laundry in Cambridge, which closed at Easter, is now up for sale. The company bought the site in Histon road during the last war and began operations in 1941. At their peak 100 people worked there compared to the 60 at the time of their closure. "The problem was getting staff. It was terrible," said the Chief executive. They are keeping open three shops at Histon Road, Arbury Court and Mill Road

1974 11 11
Sir – In the death of Mrs Doris Ditchburn, Cambridge has lost a much-loved citizen who will be missed by a wide circle. She and her husband came to Cambridge in 1934 to work at the old County Hospital in Mill Road. Together they worked to improve the standards of the hospital and towards her dream of a first-rate maternity hospital. Mrs Ditchburn was a most understanding person and most unlike the old-fashioned dragon of a matron, but insisted on a high standard from her nurses and gained their affection and respect. – Margaret Reed

1975 01 17
Until Sainsbury's opened their new filling station alongside the supermarket in Coldham's Lane, Holland Motors at the end of Mill Road provided the cheapest petrol in Cambridge. Sainsbury's station opened this week offering 4-star petrol only and no other forecourt services. Their price of 68p a gallon is regarded as something of an opening offer. Holland motors comes second with 4-star at 71p a gallon. The dearest is Oliver Rix at 74p

1975 02 14
For many months Andy's record stall has been one of the biggest market square attractions in the country. And with the opening of his new shop in Mill Road, Cambridge, Andy Gray has achieved another success. Opened by "Mr Top Twenty", Alan Freeman, the shop already houses more than 500 LPs covering the whole spectrum of folk, country and western, rock, motown and soul. There is also a cassette corner in the new shop. They will continue to offer discounts of between 50p and 90p off most LPs and albums.

1975 03 03
The first gas-powered police car takes to the road today. With gas at about 30p a gallon and the cost of conversion from petrol to gas around £140 the car should be saving taxpayers' money in September. But police want to find out any problems that may crop up before committing themselves to spending money on more conversions. Other vehicles owned by the county council also fill up from the big storage tank in the Corporation yard, Mill Road, Cambridge

1975 03 25
Cambridge pubs range from grimy to gracious according to a drinker's guide just published by a group of undergraduates. Grime, according to the guide, is synonymous with the Locomotive pub in Mill Road, and grace is one of the virtues of the Plough Inn at Fen Ditton. Praise is lavished on the "thematic scheme" of the Galleon bar in the Burleigh Arms, Newmarket Road. The Free Press has "exceptional character" and the Baker's Arms, East Road, is called a "refreshing surprise". The Bun Shop, Downing Street is said to be "something of a Cambridge institution and well worth a visit"

1975 04 11
It is difficult to equate gastronomic expertise with Mill Road, Cambridge. But when faced with a fancy for honest French cuisine it is just the place to go. For although La Garconne is a modest restaurant there is nowhere else quite like it. There is the temptation of pigeon in red wine (£1.10), or a casserole of rabbit (£1). Unfortunately the coq au vin (£1.35) was not ready until later in the evening. A brandy at 40p rounded off a very good meal for two which cost £7.86. It is possible to have an equally satisfying meal for two, with wine, for just under £4. By today's standards that is pretty good.

1975 04 15
Eight old houses near the railway line, at Mill Road, Cambridge, are being offered by the city council, which owns them, to dossers and down-and-outs. The houses are scheduled for eventual demolition to allow British Rail to widen the bridge when it starts work on electrifying the main Cambridge-London line. But because no date has been set the council has offered them on an annual basis to Cambridge Night Shelter. The council considers the houses which stand on the Argyle Street corner to be suitable because there are no other occupied houses immediately adjacent.

1975 06 27
Sky-rocketing potato prices look like forcing many Mid-Anglian fish & chip shops into temporary closure. With new potatoes being quoted at upwards of £170 a ton owners are saying: "either we put up our prices and lose customers, or we shut for a while". "None of us want to sell chips at 14p a portion", said Mr Jack Holliday of the Quality Fish Shop in Mill Road. If he increased his price for a portion of chips from 8p to 12p or alternatively halved the size of the portion the public would cringe, he added.

1976 03 10
Two Cambridge brothers have just completed 50 years in the bakery business. Maurice and Dennis How, the bakers and confectioners in Mill Road started in the business by chance after leaving school. "Our father, who ran the business, was taken ill and had to go into hospital", explained Maurice. "There was no one else to take over and keep things going. When we started a large loaf cost four pence in old money. Now the same sort of loaf is 17p". Their father, Mr John How, started business at Shelford in 1868 and moved to Mill Road in 1901

1976 11 16
One-time superstar Billy J. Kramer, who had a string of world-wide hits in the 60's, walked down Mill Road, Cambridge, looking for a sauna. The more exotic delights of the street didn't quite capture his imagination. Later at Romsey Labour Club his hour-long show combined new material with well-rehearsed medleys of old hits. By the end of the night people were standing on tables, clapping, stamping and cheering as he ran for the door to a waiting get-away car

1977 03 30

Motorists pushed and fought their way to the petrol pumps in a panic-stricken rush to fill up before prices rose. Service stations were forced to close to save their remaining stocks and stop the motoring stampede. When news of the increase was announced on the radio Holland's garage, Cambridge, was one of the first to be besieged. A line of traffic stretched halfway along Mill Road and motorists, jealously guarding their place in the queue, were not even letting other cars out of the garage. At Huntingdon one petrol pump attendant said motorists had appeared to have "gone berserk" at the budget news

1977 04 06
Mill Road Maternity Hospital in Cambridge, a former workhouse, was slammed for its cramped and appalling conditions. A report highlights overcrowding, complete lack of privacy for patients, appalling residences for nurses & pregnant women having to sit clad only in a dressing gown in draughty corridors waiting for attention. It is virtually impossible to expand the hospital, access is difficult and car parking impossible. This is a disgraceful state of affairs for a maternity hospital doing the standard of work that Cambridge does. It should be replaced by a 100-bed obstetrics hospital on the New Addenbrooke's site as soon as finance is available

1977 05 17
Mill Road Maternity Hospital in Cambridge is medically second to none. The staff is good, the equipment the most up-to-date … but both are severely hampered by "appalling conditions" in the cramped old workhouse building. There is intense congestion in the antenatal clinic. Patients using the modern ultra-sound equipment have a long walk in their dressing gowns to reach a draughty corridor where they have to set near swing doors leading out of the hospital. Another £15,000 ultra-sound machine is being purchased but no-one knows where it can be placed. But the neo-natal care unit for new-born babies is regarded as probably one of the best in the country.

1977 08 26
A campaign has been launched against the threatened closure of the Mill Road public library, Cambridge. It library is one of six which may close because of lack of money caused by severe cutbacks in Government grants. The County Librarian, Royston Brown, said the library needed £15,000 worth of repairs – and the county council did not have that sort of money. But the Romsey area has the highest percentage of old people in the city who use it as a daily reading room because they cannot afford to buy newspapers and magazines

1977 09 10
The prospect of severe bread famine saw about 300 people waiting outside bread shops in Mill Road before they were open. About 80 per cent of the bread sold in the city comes from the big bakeries now on strike. At Spillers-French Baking in Sleaford Street, which makes about half of the bread sold in the area, 100 bakers joined the strike. Some small bakeries are limiting sales to one or two loaves or serving regular customers first. The joint owner of one of Cambridge's smaller bakeries, Mr Jim Markillie, accused housewives of hoarding.

1977 12 22
Cambridge is not short of record shops, so what chance has another one got? The answer, says Andy Gray, is plenty. His latest shop "The Beat Goes On" is something out of the ordinary in that it caters for those interested in "golden oldies" and New Wave records. They specialise in records up to the 1970s and have on display portraits of "The Jam" who opened the shop on Friday. The new shop in Regent Street supplements the premises opened in Mill Road three years ago and Andy's Record Stall on Cambridge market which is still a gathering place for music lovers.

1978 01 20

Dozens of public libraries throughout Cambridgeshire will double up as social and community centres if a pilot scheme is a success. They could be used as meeting centres, law and political 'surgeries', advice centres, or simply as places where young mothers or elderly people with time on their hands could meet and chat over cups of tea. The social and community uses would run alongside the general library function as much as possible – but would also continue after library hours. The Mill Road branch library in Cambridge, which is threatened with closure, would be an ideal site for the pilot scheme. The county council sees the dual-use project as a way of raising extra cash for buying books for the libraries, which are threatened with severe cuts because of cuts in Government grants

1978 03 03
No public libraries in Cambridgeshire will be closed this year – and books stocks will not be depleted – although the County Council is facing a continuing financial crisis. The council had threatened to close the Milton Road and Mill Road libraries in Cambridge, village libraries at Stapleford and Milton and two libraries in Peterborough. The threats caused storms of protest and now financial experts have discovered the council has saved £60,000 on last year's spending which can be used to buy new books.

1978 04 06
Quietly and without fuss our daily bread got dearer this week, with the news that the big three bakeries were adding 2p to the cost of a "standard" sliced and wrapped loaf, bringing the cost up to 28½ p. In Cambridge the price of farmhouse loaves is left to the baker. Bridgeman Bros of Norfolk Street charge 30½ p for a very crusty, tasty and attractive loaf; Tylers of Mill Road charge 30p, & E.J. How and Godfreys of Regent Street 29p. The most expensive are Dixon's of Fitzroy Street & Maskell's of Victoria Road who charge 31p for a pale golden, high, crusty, loaf

1978 05 27
The Government is to give £40,000 towards a controversial plan to convert the Methodist Church in Mill Road, Cambridge into a youth centre for the Romsey area. Objectors are concerned about traffic noise and vandalism that might result from the centre. But it will always be supervised, no alcohol will be served and most of the children will be too young to drive motor bikes or cars. It is designed to take trouble-makers off the streets and give them something to do

1978 11 04
A wave of panic buying hit shops as housewives rushed to buy bread a full three days before a threatened national bakers' strike is due to start. Sainsbury's store in Coldham's Lane Cambridge has rationed people to just two loaves and How's bakery in Mill Road said that all stocks were sold out by lunchtime. A Tesco in Regent Street exceptionally heavy buying emptied the shop of bread by mid-morning. Anxious shoppers out to stock up their freezers with loaves were described as "greedy" by shopkeepers. The strike is not yet a certainty and independent bakeries are not involved.

1979 01 08
Romsey Methodist Church in Mill Road, Cambridge will have its final service before closing down. The congregation will continue to worship in the nearby Diocesan Chapel in Romsey Terrace. After alterations it will reopen as a youth and community centre. The church buildings will become a gymnasium, the hall will remain a youth club and a coffee bar and social centre will be built onto the car park. It is also hoped to include a quiet room and tv den. The main users will be a playgroup, over-60s and youngsters. The scheme is being organised by five Cambridge churches.

1979 01 26
Cambridge came to a halt early today in the worst traffic chaos for decades. Ungritted icy roads produced a nightmare tangle of cars and lorries which choked all man roads into the city for up to three hours. Dozens of car drivers abandoned their vehicles and walked into work and thousands of schoolchildren waited in vain for buses which failed to get further than the road outside the bus depot. The traffic only began to move again when council workers broke picket lines outside the Mill Road depot and brought gritting lorries back into action

1979 02 27
The long-awaited scheme for adding a community centre complex to the Mill Road public library in Cambridge has been given the go-ahead. It aims to inject new life into the old building which had been in danger of closure. But this sparked a furious row and after intensive public pressure the county council relented and agreed the refurbishing and extension plan as a way of keeping the building open, reducing costs and keeping everybody happy. It will become a blue-print for other dual-use projects

1979 07 31
Pubs in and around Cambridge have come in for bitter criticism in a new guide written by two undergraduates. The Rose in Rose Crescent is described as a 'seedy little place in a seedy little street. Gay Cambridge meets there, which says little for their taste'. The Maypole in Park Street is described as a 'grotty little dive hidden rightly under the car park', the Carpenters Arms in Victoria Road is 'without redeeming feature; extremely anti-student clientele who would have beaten us up if they hadn't been so drunk. Dark and spooky'. The Locomotive in Mill Road 'ought to be exorcised, its evil … the worst pub in Cambridge' while the Midland Tavern is, they say, 'the most notorious pub in town with a reputation for being a centre of vice'. One landlord replied: "It's about time the University made these little boys do some work for their degrees … they speak too much claptrap"

1979 09 17
The mobile library being used while Cambridge's Mill Road library is being repaired has received a parking ticket while operating outside the building. It has now moved to Great Eastern Street on the other side of the railway bridge. Now there are fears that its isolation and lack of electricity will force its closure, leaving thousands of Romsey residents without a library. The police action has angered Cambridge councillors; Coun Sweeney said: "I have asked the City Surveyor if he could get a pot of black paint and paint out the yellow lines so the library can remain there. It is no use moving to Great Eastern Street because that area too is earmarked for double yellow lines"

1979 09 28
They carry on the business of life and death at Mill Road Maternity Hospital in what is little better than a clinical slum. Yet when the question of replacing it comes up this week, those with the power to close it are committed to keeping it open for another 10 years. In that time all that stands between the death of a baby, the death of a mother, or both, is the determination of the highly-motivated people who work there. But it snows on the patients in the X-ray department and there is only one lavatory for a dozen pregnant women. The operating theatre needs creosoting – it's an ex-Army hut – and boxes, bottles and laundry-bags littler the tunnel they call corridors.

1979 11 27
An expectant mother enters Cambridge's Mill Road Maternity Hospital in one of two ways: through an archway of plastic urine bottles or under a boiler-house chimney stack. In the ante-

natal clinic she will jostle for space with dozens of other mothers and give her personal details within earshot of whoever happens to be next to her. She may have to squeeze past other patients in the narrow corridor to take her urine sample to the little window. The corridors are bad enough for people of normal size to pass each other but pregnancy makes it nearly impossible. Should the birth prove difficult she may have to go to the theatre – an ex-Army hut wooden hut built for Dunkirk wounded during the war. The nurses find it a tough place to work, but they're proud of their record – they lose fewer babies than anywhere else in the country.

1979 12 14
Still-born babies are being ferried by taxi from Cambridge's maternity hospital to the mortuary at Addenbrooke's Hospital because of inadequate facilities at Mill Road. Twice a week a hospital porter makes the grisly two-mile journey carrying an anonymous coffin – a small stone-coloured metal box. This morbid shuttle-service accounts for just a few of the two dozen emergency runs made each week by S & H Taxis, often with a police escort to beat the traffic jams.

1980

1980 04 19
Mill Road Library, Cambridge, which faced closure three years ago, has been given a new lease of life with a £30,000 facelift. During the five-moth renovation work the library staff operated from temporary mobile quarters, which on one occasion collected a parking ticket. The library includes a new community meeting room in place of the old reading room. County councillor Jean Ganczarski who protested against the planned closure said; "It is very good to think the building has now got a new life" 80 04 19b

1980 05 24
There is little chance that Cambridge will have a new maternity hospital before 1988. Plans to resite it had been agreed in 1961 but constantly deferred because of lack of funds. The Government says there is no doubt the present buildings in Mill Road are dreadful and the facilities inadequate. Ways are being found to relieve some of the pressure; pregnancies would no longer be terminated there – giving more beds – and the closure of the Grange maternity unit at Ely means that more midwives were available so more mother could give birth at home. 80 05 24a

1980 05 28
Once over the railway bridge Cambridge's Mill Road takes on the atmosphere of a village. The roads and pavements widen and in spite of the busy traffic, the pace of life seems to slacken. It is a street where you can enjoy sauntering along, enjoying the many and varied shops. There is K.S. Neale which specialises in door handles and locks, David Neech's where you can buy an electric organ and Surefit the stretch cover specialists. Cornwell's is a fascinating shop to browse through looking for bargains, piled from floor to ceiling with new and second-hand furniture 80 05 28 & a

1960 05 30
Mothers in the Ely area cannot have their babies at home despite assurances this would compensate for the closure of the Grange maternity unit. Parliament was told that most mothers would now be expected to use the RAF Hospital freeing midwives for home deliveries. But there are none capable of providing 24-hour cover and the RAF hospital is not staffed to provide a flying squad. The nearest cover is at Mill Road, Cambridge where there is one midwife working a 40-hour week and the other who backs her up has a 10-mile radius to cover. 80 05 30a

1980 06 13

Britain's top maternity hospital is the one in Mill Road, Cambridge – and that's official. It handles the most difficult births and a fifth of all babies in the region are born there. Government figures show that it copes with 4,000 births annually, many referred from other hospitals for specialist care, but its only operating theatre is a wooden shed built for the Dunkirk wounded during the last War. 80 06 13

1980 07 02
Cambridge is now left with only one regular nightly music spot following the closure of the Beaconfield and Alex Wood Halls and the Alma pub, mainly because of complaints of noise. But there are at least 40 bands desperate for somewhere to play and countless people who want to hear live music. The Carioca Club on Newmarket Road is willing to let bands play on Tuesday nights but at a total rental cost of £115 bands can't afford it while the Salisbury Conservative Club on Mill Road is almost fully booked until 1982. It leaves just the Great Northern Hotel. 80 07 02b

1980 08 20
A nationally-famous armchair hedge in Mill Road, Cambridge, has gone up in flames. Mr Thomas Conroy had carefully trimmed it over the past six years into the shape of an armchair as 'a bit of nonsense'. Countless tourists have taken snapshots of it. But now the house has changed hands and the hedge has been dug up and burned because its roots were threatening to cause problems to the foundations. 80 08 20

1980 12 04
Cambridge's Mill Road is ideal for bargain-hunting. Inghams has one shop entirely devoted to carpets and another with furniture and bedding at the least possible price for top-quality merchandise. The Children's Shop, situated a few yards from the Maternity Hospital, caters for the important needs of premature babies. Easiglaze Windows can show how your new replacement windows could look in your home – no more choosing from brochures while W.F. Webb is one of the best-known in the area; they have been supplying customers since the very early days of radio. 80 12 04c

1981 05 14
Since 1962 the price of a semi in Perne Road Cambridge has risen from £3,000 to £30,000 and in De Freville it is much higher. The leap in prices in the early 1970s meant that first-time buyers they turned to the Mill Road area and prices rocketed. If you had bought a terraced house in Romsey Town in 1962 it would have cost £1,350. Now it is worth more than £20,000. 81 05 14c

1981 05 15
Cambridge ecologists say a bus which can run on railway lines is the solution to transport problems in local villages. They plan to borrow a prototype and run it from the city centre to Huntingdon, using British Rail's tracks. It would stop at Mill Road, Chesterton and North Arbury was well as the former stations en route to Swavesey. From this point the tracks have been removed but it would run along the trackbed to St Ives and the Hemingfords. 81 05 15a

1981 08 05
Mill Road may be made one-way heading out of the city if new plans by residents go ahead. But the scheme has already run into opposition. One councillor said: 'We think the idea is daft'. Mill Road has a worse accident record for pedestrians and cyclists than any other in Cambridge but it is one thing to stop up some side streets to prevent rat-runs by motorists and quite another to cut a major city road. 81 08 05

1981 09 04
As a midwife, Phyllis Baker has brought 2,001 babies into the world. She started at Mill Road Hospital in 1940 when the maternity ward was full of pregnant evacuees and most local people had their babies at home - only going into hospital if there was something wrong or her housing conditions were particularly bad. She has made numerous friends: "I walked into Sainsbury's and somebody said 'Hello, Nurse Barker, this is one of yours' pointing to her child". 81 09 04

1982 09 08
Frank Holland Motors was formed 25 years ago with the franchise for Hillman and Sunbeam cars, then in 1966 they obtained the distributorship for Simca on their present site at Mill Road. Four years later Frank Holland took over a second garage in Coldham's Lane trading as F.H. Motors and selling Datsuns. They have now introduced the Holland Hyperwash – a new-style car wash centre which can handle 60 cars an hour. 82 09 08a

1982 09 28
Jack Lowe, the Cambridge man who founded a chain of do-it-yourself shops, has died. He learned his trade as a plumber with the building firm of William Saint which collapsed in the Great Depression and set up his own plumbing business in 1936. He opened a tool shop in Mill Road in the late 1940s and eventually established one of the first D-I-Y shops in the city. 82 09 28

1983 04 19
Regional health chiefs delivered a massive snub to both Cambridge City and the University by placing the Mill Road maternity unit and the old Addenbrooke's Hospital sites on the open market. They will go to the highest bidder which rules out the chance of the city buying Mill Road for an old peoples' sheltered housing scheme. They have also disregarded a gentleman's agreement with the University to give them first refusal on the Addenbrooke's site which is worth between £1 and £2 million. 83 04 19 p12

1983 04 23
Les Neal is retiring after half-a-century of dedicated, devoted and skilful service as a gentleman's hairdresser. Apprenticed at the age of 14 in 1932 to Walter George Ambrose, he served with the Przyborsky business in Round Church Street before moving to Watson's in Mill Road. He is a dedicated supporter and leader of the Scout movement and an enthusiastic and expert player of the bagpipes. – Frank Matthews. 83 04 23

1983 07 07
Cambridge pianist Doris Waterson began her career playing for silent films at the old Playhouse in Mill Road. She played ballet and modern dance music for the Perse Girls and the old County Schools but was best known as pianist with Josephine's Gypsy Orchestra. It was formed about 1934 and played for 26 years at venues such as Christ's Pieces bandstand. Doris also had her own band called the Keynotes and worked during the war with Alice Reynolds who organised concert parties for troops. 83 07 07 p16

1983 12 02
Houses which look like a two-up and two-down off Mill Road are being sold for more than £60,000. But the going price for most standard houses there is only half this figure. For more than 10 years unfashionable backstreets such as Gwydir Street have been gradually taken over by young couples and modernised. Since the Kite has been finally settled dozens of little houses on the perimeter are undergoing vast changes. 83 12 02 p13

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1984 01 24
The old maternity hospital at Mill Road will be bought by Cambridge City Council. Now it has won its battle against commercial rivals it will develop the site as a multi-million pound housing complex for young and old people. At an estimated price of £750,000 it is the city's most expensive residential land deal and to help recoup some of the money the council is considering renting some of the old buildings to the Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology. 84 01 24 p5

1984 01 30
Furious traders in Mill Road are drawing battle lines for a fight with the city council over traffic congestion. They claim trade has slumped and traffic conditions deteriorated since the council installed traffic lights at Mill Road bridge. Shopkeepers are fed up with constant jams and complaints from the customers who say it can take half an hour to drive from the old Maternity Hospital to their shops in Romsey town. 84 01 30 p6

1984 02 27
The traffic lights at Mill Road Bridge could be turned off for good. It is a move which would delight thousands of Cambridge road users and please traders who claim their businesses have suffered. The lights were installed in June at the request of the city council traffic management team who were concerned about the rising accident rate. They thought many vehicles were using it only as a short cut. But accidents have risen faster since they were put in and road users started an immediate outcry, complaining about long, frustrating delays. 84 02 27 p12

1984 03 22
The row of railway cottages by Mill Road Bridge were once attractive homes. Now the windows are bricked up, the garden is a wilderness of weeds and the walls show only the attention of local spray paint artists. Inside the story is worse, Candles light the damp rooms and empty bottles and baked beans congesting in half-opened cans are the remains of countless unappetising suppers. But a judge has refused to evict the squatters immediately so that the city council can sell them to the Cambridge Housing Society who want to turn them into a home for the homeless. 84 03 22 p7

1984 03 23
The vexed question of whether Cambridge's traffic problems are real or illusory will be a recurring theme of future discussions as a result of the decision to scrap Mill Road traffic lights. The faces of traders lit up at the news that the lights on the bridge were – finally – going out. Traffic mandarins have persisted in introducing more and more lights throughout Cambridge. The Station Road lights are another example where traffic management has gone awry yet there is no sign these will be removed. 84 03 23 p20

1984 08 25
Traffic experts say there is now no way in which traffic flow down Mill Road can be reduced but they can reduce accidents by switching their sights to the side roads. The new plans would inconvenience residents and local workers by banning cars from certain streets and putting in 'sleeping policemen' in Vinery Road. With a number of turning bans into Mill Road, traffic along Tenison Road will be increased dramatically but new traffic lights will improve the flow. 84 08 25 p1

1984 09 28
Cambridge's oldest greengrocer's business, Naylors of Mill Road which been trading since January 1900 has closed. It was founded by William Thomas Naylor who moved from his family's farm at Duck End, Guilden Morden. Before long he had opened a second shop, now a

delicatessen and a greengrocer's in Norfolk Street. The Mill Road shop had a better clientele in those days. Many of the houses were owned by fairly wealthy families. Now they are let as bed-sitters and most of the custom has been from students. Doctors and maternity hospital staff were good customers but the hospital has now closed. Courgettes, kiwi fruit and aubergines have joined traditional English products in recent years. 84 09 28

1984 09 07
"The colonel" was one of Cambridge's best-known characters in the 50s and 60s, John Ingersol Turpin was the oldest of the brothers who ran a timber yard in Mill Road. It started in 1929 selling timber from Sweden, Russia and Canada but supplies stopped in 1939 so he started attending household sales. He became as well-known for his second-hand goods shop as his timber-selling; people often spoke of the wonderful bargains they bought for a few shillings, his daughter Margaret Lusher recalled 84 09 07

1984 10 24
Thousands of people living in the Mill Road area are being asked for their views on the new proposals for controlling traffic and reducing accidents in Romsey. Past attempts to reduce the high accident rate have failed and the controversial traffic lights at the railway bridge were scrapped after widespread protests and gigantic traffic delays. The new proposals involve road closures and traffic lights at the junction with Tenison Road together with parking restrictions. 84 10 24 p9

1984 10 01
Ninety years ago a shrewd and enterprising woman was born, Mrs Catherine Holland. Her first husband died young and she needed to make a living by supplying yeast which was much in demand among the many local bakers. Although vital it was only used in minute amounts so Mr Holland was able to cycle around making his deliveries. The yeast was supplied in huge sacks and the secret was to keep it fresh by selling it in small amounts at regular intervals. For a long time the business was continued in the family home in Sedgwick Street but during the First World War they got the sole agency for a major brand and moved to Mill Road. After that the business prospered. 84 10 01 p15

1985 05 22
Cambridge has a big drug abuse problems with as many as 800-1,000 young people thought to be dependent on hard drugs. Twenty years ago the 'News' went on the city streets and found drug abusers when the agencies claimed there was no problem. As a result of the publicity Cambridge police set up a drugs squad which lead to an Association for the Prevention of Drug Addiction. Now an advice centre, 'The Bridge Project' will be opened in Mill Road. 85 05 22

1985 06 06
Coleridge Community College art students are being commissioned to brighten up the concrete and metalwork of Mill Road Railway Bridge. They will paint a mural depicting a night-and-day changing scene of Cambridge and Romsey featuring some of the better-known buildings of the area. The City Council hopes it will make people respect the environment more and reduce vandalism. The mural will be coated with special anti-graffiti paint. 85 06 06

1985 07 25
Andy Gray can be seen early in the morning on Market Hill unloading four tons of records. It was as an 18-year-old straight out of school that he bought second-hand juke box records and sold them from market stalls. He took £80 on his first day at Cambridge – more money that he had seen in his life before – and opened his first shop in Mill Road. Now Andy's Records is the

biggest chain of record shops in the region with a multi-million pound turnover. But he stills serves behind the counter whenever he can. 85 07 25 & 85 07 30

1985 08 22
One of Cambridge's least-known grand houses has come on the market. The eight-bedroom mansion stands in more than three-quarters of an acre of ground and is approached by a long drive and carriage sweep. It has a fine entrance hall, large drawing and dining rooms, butler's pantry and a boiler house. It all sounds like the Newnham home of a Victorian worthy. The actual address is 242 Mill Road. The house is the former vicarage of St Philip's Church and there is planning consent for 17 sheltered homes to be built on the site. 85 08 22

1985 10 15
Pigott's, the family ironmongers which has traded in Cambridge for more than a century, is up for sale. It was in 1863 that John Pigott, son of a Landbeach farmer, opened an ironmongers shop in Sidney Street and a chain of shops were set up in Market Hill, Mill Road, Norfolk Street, Bridge Street and Hills Road. The Sussex Street branch, an established feature of the street since the late 1930s, shut down last September. The business, now in Victoria Road, includes two shops, a warehouse, stores and office. 85 10 15a

1985 11 22
Sally Ann's, Cambridge Salvation Army's highly successful charity shop set up five years ago, is now open for business at its new home on the site of the former Fine Fare supermarket in Mill Road, having moved from the Tesco shop in Regent Street. It sells everything from bric-a-brac to books but also has second-hand furniture such as wardrobes, dressers, beds and three-piece suites. These can be used to assist 'distress cases' where a family urgently needs furniture. About 100 volunteers price the items, launder and iron the clothes and operate a delivery service but more are desperately needed to keep up with all the jobs that need doing. 85 11 22b

1985 11 25
Stanton House residents celebrated its silver jubilee with a ploughman's lunch and old-time music hall. It has 28 bedsits with shared bathrooms, giving elderly people their independence while under the watchful eye of a warden who lives on the premises. It was the first sheltered housing scheme to open in Cambridge and has proved very popular. But the fact that residents are made so comfortable means they live longer and more and more homes of this kind are needed. Now Mill Road maternity hospital and St Philip's School in Thoday Street are to be converted. 85 11 25

1985 11 29
Hundreds of Muslims in Cambridge regularly make their way to the mosque, tucked discreetly away near bustling Mill Road. Leading the gathering was the Imam, an Egyptian PhD student in chemistry at Cambridge University. He spoke in Arabic and English, stressing the importance of unity among Muslims. Many of the congregation were of Middle-Eastern origin but there were also several Orientals and English people. They were predominately in the 25 to 40 age range and listened intently. Upstairs a woman followed the service alone, out of sight. After 40 minutes the meeting ended, as it had begun, with a reading from the Koran. 85 11 29b

1985 12 12
The old 100-year-old Kinema bingo hall in Mill Road, which is currently on the market for £170,000, may be restored and turned back into a cinema to meet the fast-growing demand for the showing of old-time and specialist films. The City Council, who owns most of the property

nearby, think it could become a major tourist attraction helping to tempt visitors away from the city centre 85 12

1985 12 17
Cambridge's Victoria Cinema has been sold to make way for a new Marks and Spencer store. The prime market square site has housed the city's largest cinema since 1931 and underwent a major refurbishment following a fire two years ago. The sale will leave Cambridge with two other cinemas, the ABC 1 and ABC 2 complex and the Arts Cinema. But there are plans to change the old Kinema bingo hall in Mill Road back into a cinema 85 12 17

1985 12 27
The Kinema in Mill Road was built in 1882 when it was called the Theatre Royal. It was also known as Sturton Town Hall and Gladstone Liberal Club and staged shows until 1885. It was taken over by the Salvation Army who were ousted in 1910 then renamed the Empire, showing variety and pictures until 1916 before changing its name to the Kinema. It was badly supported and became a bingo hall. Now it may be restored as a cinema with a café, bookshop and entertainment complex. It is owned by the Sturton Town Hall Liberal Company, named after Joseph Sturton, a powerful Liberal who bought land in the area in 1897 and built houses for poor people. 85 12 27

1986 01 25
Two new entertainment facilities may be established in Cambridge. A site on the former cattle market has been allocated as a late-night rock music and young people's entertainment venue. It is well away from houses and has ample car parking facilities. The former Kinema cinema on Mill Road is to be surveyed to see if it can be restored to its former Edwardian music hall glory. The Kinema which had been used as a bingo hall, closed down before Christmas 86 01 25a

1986 01 30
Hundreds of Cambridge students are being forced to live in dirty, cramped rooms without heating. Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology has had an accommodation problem since the early 70s as language students and young professionals can pay much higher rents. Anger at housing shortages boiled over in 1973 when the health authority hostel at Owlstone Croft was occupied by squatters. Since then CCAT have had temporary use of the Mill Road hospital site but would like to build a hostel for 1,500 students. 86 01 30a

1986 02 03
At the newly-opened Mill Road amusement centre disco music is just audible above the muted electronic sounds and a handful of youths are shoving tokens into luridly-coloured machines. The maximum win is £3, half paid in cash and half in tokens which can be exchanged for prizes. One teenager says it gives him something to do instead of just hanging round the streets while other people pop in for five or ten minutes on their way from work or shopping. But most shoppers rarely glance in beyond the window display of china ornaments. 86 02 03d

1986 03 17
Railway House Association provides accommodation for youngsters in houses on Mill Road bridge – 86 03 17a

1986 03 18
Two city libraries at are again under threat of closure, only years after a successful survival battle. Mill Road library is on the wrong side of the railway bridge while Milton Road library is only half-a-mile from Arbury Court. But Councillor Janet Jones describes the plans as disgraceful and

says many children and elderly people will be devastated if Milton Road is closed. However Bar Hill and Milton villages are fast-growing and need some library facilities, a report says. 86 03 18

1986 04 08
Plans for a super cinema complex on the site of the main Post Office sorting office in Mill Road could see six separate cinema units each capable of holding 300 people together with a massive cycle parking space. Thorn-EMI says they need more screens and the Victoria Cinema site is unsuitable for conversion. The Post Office, which is currently building a new sorting office on the Clifton Industrial Estate, already has permission for housing or the site might accommodate Technical College students. 86 04 08
1986 04 10
Cambridge City Council has abandoned its plans for the former Kinema in Mill Road. When the building closed as a bingo hall there were hopes it might be restored and reopened as an Edwardian music hall and become an out-of-centre tourist attraction. Others felt the site could be used for housing or demolished to allow the widening of Mill Road. Now a private entertainments company hope to reopen it as a specialist cinema. 86 04 10

1984 04 22
Campaigners protesting against the threatened closure of Mill Road and Milton Road branch libraries are to lobby councillors when they visit the buildings. A report that says libraries are now in the wrong situation to give the best service to the community. But Mill Road local councillor Anne Campbell said "It is an essentially facility for the area. Many of the present users cannot visit the central library in Lion Yard". 86 04 22

1986 04 25
Two Cambridge libraries threatened with closure are facing their second crisis in eight years. The axe first loomed over Milton Road and Mill Road branches in 1977 but they were saved together with others in Milton and Stapleford. Now a report says they are old and in the wrong position to provide the best service. But Cambridgeshire Labour councillors have started a campaign to save them and Alliance councillors are organising a petition against closure. 86 04 25

1986 06 25
Mill Road could do with more shops, residents say. It is an important shopping centre especially for convenience foods. Key groups such as the elderly, people with young children and those without cars depend on it. But many are dissatisfied with the range of goods available. During the past few years a number have closed down or been put to other uses. One has become a one-armed bandit amusement arcade. 86 06 25

1981 09 04
Midwife Phyllis Baker started as a trainee at Mill Road in 1940. Then the hospital mainly catered for geriatrics though there was a maternity ward which was full of pregnant evacuees. In 1958 she became a community midwife when a high percentage of deliveries were at home and mothers only went to hospital if there was something wrong. Mill Road is a very happy hospital and she is happy to have been associated with it for so long. Now staff are compiling a photographic album of all the 2,001 babies she has delivered during her career 81 09 04

1986 12 07
Squatters at the old Salvation Army shop in Mill Road doze on sofas and chairs by the log fire or in sleeping bags in the eaves of the roof, and when they need a toilet they wander to the public lavatories just down the road. The squat is a protest to high-light the social depression,

unemployment and lack of facilities for the young. Anarchist slogans have been painted boldly over the shop front replacing the old religious messages. 86 10 07a

1986 12 27
Peppercorns heath food and delicatessen, which has expanded remarkably quickly from small beginnings in Cherry Hinton, has moved into larger premises in Mill Road. The shop has shelves of natural foods, freshly-roasted coffees, 50 types of cheese and the exotic delights of houmuous and taramasalata together with quiches, pizzas and even vegetarian scotch eggs. 86 10 27

1987 01 26
Cambridge councillors have abandoned plans to buy the old Kinema cinema and bingo hall in Mill Road because repairing the century-old building would cost too much. It had been hoped to restore it to its former glory as a Victorian entertainments palace but a structural survey has revealed more than 40 major faults. Some of the walls bulge, the building needs a complete new roof and all the woodwork would have to be renewed. Now it might be demolished to widen the road. 87 01 26

1987 03 24
The Railway House Association stands as a chilling monument to the suffering, heartache and degradation inflicted on youngsters in the Cambridge area. Many of those who have sought sanctuary have been subjected to physical violence, neglect, mental abuse and sexual crimes. In the last year the Mill Road hostel, which consists of three houses divided into 12 flats, has taken in 26 young people who might otherwise have been sleeping rough. But another 60 have had to be turned away. 87 03 24a & b

1987 07 29
Cambridge Light Blue Trading Company was opened on Mill Road in 1933, its name an indication of the all-pervasive influence of the University. Then it dealt mainly in small loans to citizens. Now known as Cambridge Credit one of its main activities is secured loans of from £1,000 to £100,000 which are guaranteed by the borrower's property. But they would rather turn down an application than see the loan become an insupportable commitment. It has also entered the very competitive vehicle leasing business 87 07 29a & b

1987 11 03
Peppercorns delicatessen and health food business began two years ago with an idea and a sandwich delivery round. Edmund and Christopher Bliss opened a shop in Cherry Hinton but it wasn't large enough, so when the chance came to take on a shop in Mill Road they were eager to do so. Now they have opened another in Grantchester Road. As well as coffee and bread they sell cheese such as Cornish Yarg and English Cheddar which at £1.10p per lb is a popular buy with students. 87 11 03a.

1988 01 02
City Bargains in Mill Road is shutting up shop, closing a chapter in Cambridge history. It is one of the last traditional general stores where even the prices are rung up in pounds, shillings and pence and converted by mental arithmetic to decimal. They sold most things, from a packet of pins to a pram and were renowned for supplying anything buyers wanted Former market stall holder Dennis Capon and his wife, who have run it for 27 years, have happy memories of their customers: "They'd come here for a laugh and a chat and got to know us". 88 01 02a

1988 01 20

Futons, the Japanese form of bedding, is gaining in popularity. Now a new shop, Futopia, has opened in Mill Road 88 01 20a

1988 06 23
The first residents have moved into Ditchburn Place, the former Mill Road Maternity Hospital which is being turned into an assortment of 100 flats and houses for young single people and elderly couples. A small number of units have been built for people who have moved out of psychiatric institutions. When complete next year it will incorporate a laundry, restaurant, coffee bar and day centre for the frail and elderly. It is a very attractive scheme, offering a higher standard than the private sector could have afforded and is unlikely to be repeated in current financial circumstances. 88 06 13a
The very latest, sophisticated machinery is being installed in the Post Office's new sorting office in Clifton Road. Mill Road became a Mechanised Letter Office in 1972 but its technology is now in need of replacement. Conditions for the 650 staff are cramped and noisy. Now high-speed sorting machines will hold 16,000 items an hour and Mill Road will be refurbished to act as delivery centre for mail coming into Cambridge. 88 06 23a

1988 09 07
Mill Road sewer collapse, hole disrupts traffic – 88 09 07

1988 09 26
Mill Road residents want more corner shops and fewer take-aways; history – 88 09 26 & a

1989 01 19
William Hunt opened a shop on Mill Road in 1918 as a centre for jewellery repairs. He then sold watches and clocks together with a few sports trophies. As these became popular he decided to concentrate on this side of the business, together with some engraving. Mr Hunt died about 22 years ago and the shop was continued by his daughter, Joyce. She came on a temporary basis in 1937 and has stayed ever since. Now she is retiring and there is no one in the family to carry it on. 89 01 19a

1989 07 08
Masked council workers have been sent to fumigate a Cambridge house and clear out the debris left by squatters. Graffiti had been daubed on the walls, rotting food and mouldy bread litters the floors and rubbish was strewn everywhere. There was a risk of rats and fleas taking over the empty council house in Mill Road. Neighbours are relieved the squatters have moved out: they had been playing music and drums in the garden all night, and throwing bottles out of the window. 89 07 08

1989 07 24
Mill Road residents protest about Confidential Bookshop sex shop – 89 07 24

1989 09 20
Mill Road sorting office may be used for low-cost housing – 89 09 20a

1989 11 09
Coun David Wolfe is to launch a campaign to stop the closure of Mill Road library as part of a County Council economy drive. Cambridge was one of the first towns in the country to have a local free library service. Mill Road library has served the community for 92 years and is a valuable resource. With the opening of city council housing schemes at Ditchburn Place and

Thoday Street increasing the numbers of elderly people and young families moving into the area it is a particularly convenient service, he says – 89 11 09c

1989 11 21
Co-op chiefs have been forced to sell off the freehold of their Burleigh Street store to fend off a cash crisis. The Victorian building has been sold to a London Investment Company and they will lease back the premises. The Co-op began trading in Burleigh Street in 1908 but has been hit by soaring interest rates on loans taken out to cover major projects such as the massive Beehive Centre. It has already put branches up for sale in Mill Road, Milton Road, Waterbeach, Duxford & Cherry Hinton. 89 11 21

1989 11 28
The new South East Cycleway from Market Square to Cherry Hinton follows quiet back roads, avoiding the nightmarish Mill Road which can reduce cyclists to a nervous wreck. It includes a new £2million bridge across the railway near Cambridge station. This is a striking structure with a triangular tower from which cables support a cycle and walkway fully protected from the elements by a transparent polycarbonate tube. It is thought to be the longest bridge of its type in Western Europe. 89 11 28a, 29

1989 12 12
Mill Road and the Broadway are a convenient place for Christmas shopping with many cycle shops supplying everything from BMXs to tandems. There is an extensive choice of clothes stores offering everything from ski and leisure wear to glittering ball gowns, from distinctive menswear to the popular new 'rave' clothing. There are futon sofabeds, Magimix blenders, video cassettes for under £10 or the most sophisticated hi-fi audio systems The many discount stores and secondhand shops have inexpensive gifts 89 12 12d

1989 12 20
Ditchburn Place, the former Mill Road Workhouse celebrates transformation into home for the elderly and meeting place for the community – 89 12 20a
1989 12 22
Mill Road library reprieved from closure – 89 12 22a

1990 01 26
The City council are persuading private house owners not to leave their property vacant. Some had been left properties by an elderly relative, others bought houses for an investment in the property boom, then found they could not sell them. Police houses in Girton stood empty for three years and Ministry of Defence houses in Radegund Road that were empty for years have not been sold off by the army. Flats above the old Co-op in Mill Road are also being used to provide low cost housing for council tenants 90 01 26b

1990 05 09
Armed robbery at TSB bank, Mill Road – 90 05 09

Milton Road looking north, c1925 89.97

c.44.6 : Milton Road area between Histon Road and Scotland Road - *Includes Chesterfield Road, Chesterton Hall Crescent, Cowley Road, Downhams Lane, Fraser Road, George Street, Gilbert Road, Green End Road, Gurney Way, Herbert Road, Highworth Avenue, Hurst Park Avenue, Kendal Way Kings Hedges Road, Lovell Road, Mortlock Road, Nuffield Road, Oak Park Drive, Ramsden Square, St George's Church. Science Park (selection), Trinity Hall Farm, Union Lane, Warren Road, Woodhead Drive*

1898 10 14
The eccentricity of a horse at Chesterton last night caused its driver and a fare some alarm. It bolted along Chesterton lane at a furious rate, resisting all the efforts of the driver to get it under control. The animal made a tour of Old Chesterton in record time and returned by the Milton Road. At this point the driver came to the conclusion it was quite useless trying to hold the horse in any longer and advised the gentleman inside the cab to "quit". He took a flying leap into the darkness and grazed his face somewhat severely. The driver fell off the box and the off wheel passed over his legs. Continuing his career the horse came into collision with a gatepost at Northampton Street which knocked it on its hindquarters

1900

1900 03 06
Sir – At present gates cross the railway line on Milton Road, Cambridge, and a sub-way is provided for vehicular traffic. After heavy rains it is flooded some feet deep and a few days ago the driver of a carriage containing an invalid lady found over five feet of water there, and no room to turn round. The invalid and her attendant had to sit up to their knees in water, and in their saturated clothes had to proceed to the Hospital. – Viator

1902 01 28
A rabbit coursing and whippet race meeting was held in a field near the Milton Road, Cambridge and some good sport was witnessed. There was a smaller programme than on some former occasions. A good entry was received and some fine dogs were in the field. A proposal has been made to organise a coursing society for Cambridge and the idea is receiving considerable support

1902 12 06
Messrs Scruby and Wright sold by auction four brick-built and tiled cottages, nos. 195-199 High Street, Old Chesterton, with outbuildings and gardens, price £310. Two adjoining houses, 64 & 76 Sturton Street, Cambridge, made £330. The family residence, Primrose Croft near Victoria Road with over an acre of land, and the windmill and cottage on the Milton Road were not sold.

1903 06 26
Local sportsmen will be sorry to hear that the provisional committee of the proposed Cambridge Town Football Club have been unsuccessful in securing a ground for the coming season. The ground near the Cattle Market belonging to the Corporation was not available and negotiations were entered into for a ground at the corner of Milton Road. Mrs Gurney, the owner, has not been able to see her way to allow its use as it is too close to her private garden. She offered a ground near Dant's Ferry but the preparation would cost about £100 for draining and was out of the question.

1904 05 09
The Association of Managers of Sewage Disposal Works inspected the Cambridge pumping station destructors where all kinds of refuse turned out from households daily, sweepings and other undesirable matter is tipped into huge trucks and burnt, giving off heat used whose steam is used to pump sewage. During winter months some 40 tons of refuse is burned each day. The disinfector was examined with interest; it was installed in 1902 and during the smallpox of 1904 was of great service in disinfecting a great number of articles using super-heated steam. They then moved to the Corporation sewage farm, Milton Road, for a practical demonstration of sewerage analysis

1906 05 08
Mr E. Finch was delivering milk on Milton Road when a motor car ran into his cart and horse. They were thrown upon the path, the cart was badly damaged and the horse severely cut about the knees. The lad in charge of the cart was also thrown out. The car, which was travelling at a good pace, did not escape without injury: two lamps and a mudguard were broken and the fore part considerably bent about. An amicable arrangement has been agreed whereby the motorist will defray all damages. 06 05 08b

1908 08 21
The magnificent new schools at Milton Road, Chesterton have been equipped with every facility for instruction. Instead of sitting in cramped positions at unsuitable desks the tiny tots will be accommodated with seats to suit their various sizes and their lessons based on the Froebel principle, combining amusement with instruction. They mark a distinct advancement on elementary educational methods and the County Council is to be congratulated. CWN 08 08 21 p4

1908 09 04
See the children assemble in the great hall at the new Milton Road School. From the classrooms come files of boys and girls, not in perfect military style but in very fair order awaiting an

instruction that playtime has arrived. The word given, the boys swing out of one door, the girls out at another and the paved playgrounds, separated by an iron partition, resound with merriment. Boys learn woodwork under Mr Holt and the girls commence cookery instruction under Mrs Walker of Cheveley. CWN 08 09 04 p5

1908 12 25
Allegations that a feud exists between the boys attending Milton Road and St Luke's schools is not entirely borne out by investigation. When the Milton Road School was opened a number of boys attending St Luke's migrated. Installed in the new school they 'put on side' which was too much for their late friends and some small battles ensued. This reached the ears of the authorities and they were punished. Since then rival feelings exist only in the breasts of two or three lads and possibly a snow storm will enable both sides to wipe out all accounts. CWN 08 12 25

1908 12 25
Chesterton school feud – Milton Road v St Luke's – case 08 12 25

1910

1913 09 12
Milton Road school evening classes

1913 09 19
Aird & co Cambridge contracts – laying pipes to sewage station on Milton Road and water mains in Cambridge and from Fleam Dyke works to Fulbourn

1913 11 28
A demonstration of the humane slaughtering of animals for food was organised by the RSPCA. The instruments employed were their own cattle killer and the Behr captive-bolt pistol. Three sheep, two pigs and a large bullock were despatched. Mr Rose, butcher of Milton Road, said he had used the humane killer for four years and it had never gone wrong. He kept a poleaxe in case of emergency but had never needed it. Several butchers ordered the new instrument. 13 11 28 p8

1913 12 19
Milton Road council school prize giving

1914 06 19
Whippet Racing. The Cambridge Whippet Racing Club held a meeting on the clubs grounds,, Milton Road, Chesterton last evening. The attendance was up to the average, and some keen racing was witnessed, especially in the finals.

1914 08 07
Mammoth show double parachute descent from balloon owned by Spencer Brothers; descended in field near Milton Road level crossing; balloon landed near Baitsbite Lock. Ascents for passengers

1915 09 17
Palmer, Herbert Street six sons fighting

1915 12 29
S.B. Andrews of Milton Road awarded Medaille Militaire – photo – 15 12 29d

1918 06 12
Lieut Frank Banks, Milton Road, killed on first solo flight – 18 06 12e

1920

1920 03 30
Housing scheme land on Chesterton & Milton Roads, Mrs Gurney will sell her land

1920 07 21
Football Tournament. Among the local attractions arranged for Bank Holiday is an interesting six-a-side football tournament which is being organised by the Committee of the Cambridge Town Football Club. Magdalene College Ground, Milton Road, has been secured as the venue for the competitions and 16 teams have entered. Refreshments and teas will be provided on the ground, and during the afternoon musical selections will be given by the Cambridge Borough Police Band. Dancing will wind up in what should prove an enjoyable and unique Bank Holiday function.

1921 07 27
A serious position has arisen in connection with the scheme for the erecting of houses by Cambridge Borough Council at Chesterton Road & Milton Road. The site was purchased some time ago and prepared for erection of 60 houses by direct labour. Construction of roads and sewers put in place. But Minister refuses to sanction other work unless whole of expense is borne by local rates. Work to stop and town will have a building site which cost over £14,000. It is impossible to proceed with building scheme without Government assistance – 21 07 27c

1921 08 03
Milton Road level crossing gateman's cottage burnt to ground – photo – 21 08 03a

1921 10 12
Cambridge Town Football club new ground Milton Road – photo across site – 21 10 12a1

1922 02 02
Cambridge Town Council Housing Committee ... approve the lay-out proposed of thirty houses next Milton Road and Union Road with white brick facings, solid walls & slated roofs. The windows to be sash ones with larger squares of glass.

1922 11 24
The first dairy in this part of the country to obtain a Ministry of Health licence is the Stetchworth Dairies Certified Grade A Dairy Farm, Union Lane, Chesterton, which claims to be the largest private retailer in the Eastern Counties. The herd consists of 12 cows, six of them being pedigree Guernseys. The cows are accommodated in large, airy sheds, without stalls or partitions of any kind. Our representative was shown several bottles of milk which had been bottled for eight days. One of these was opened and the contents found to be only just beginning to "turn"; certified milk will keep perfectly fresh for four or five days

1922 12 08
The urgent need for carrying out schemes of public importance in order to relieve the unemployment situation in the Borough were admitted on all hands at the meeting of the Cambridge Town Council. During the past two years they had been endeavouring as far as possible each winter to find work for those men who unfortunately were out of employ. Last year they were able to place 200 men on the Sewage Farm. That work had nearly come to a close. It

was stated that there were 800 men out of work in the Borough which was an increase of nearly 100 over last year. Suggestions for further work included underground lavatories at the junction of Victoria Road, Chesterton Road and Milton Road, a bridge across the Cam at the bottom of Walnut Tree Avenue and a recreation ground on the Rock Estate

1923 01 12
After a long discussion the Cambridge Town Council today decided to embark on a scheme for the erection of 239 houses on the Chesterton Road and Milton Road site, viz 30 houses of the parlour-type, 165 houses of the non-parlour type with three bedrooms and 44 houses of the non-parlour type with two bedrooms

1923 05 24 c
An attendance of upwards of 5000 at the first athletics meeting held on the Town Football Club's ground, Milton road, may be regarded as entirely satisfactory. The first part of the day was taken up with six-a-side football. The various races were keenly contested on a track which made the cyclists very cautious. In two of the races there were two nasty spills. Sir Douglas Newton presented the Invicta cycle to Mr Fuller of Shelly row, who was the fortunate winner of a handsome machine given to the purchaser of a ticket before the day of the event. The proud processor was apparently not a cyclist, for he wheeled it around the track, notwithstanding that the spectators invited him to "jump on and ride".

1923 07 24
Central School scheme – Milton Road school, p3

1923 07 26
Milton Road School opposition closure, p3

1923 11 30
Milton Road bus service, p5

1924 02 09
As a motor lorry, owned by Mr Parnell of Stretham and laden with 500 cans of petrol was approaching the Milton railway level crossing at a very slow speed the driver found the gates were closed to allow trains to pass. He applied his brakes, but they would not act and the lorry, which carried a very heavy load, smashed through the nearest gate, and stopped with the back part blocking the line. A coal train was approaching from Histon and a light engine from Chesterton Junction and quick action was necessary to avoid a serious accident. Gatekeeper Ernest Carter seized some fog signals and was able to stop the coal train and similar action taken by Patrol-Leader F.B. Pearson. The line was blocked for over an hour by which time the lorry was, after a small repair, able to proceed on the journey.

1924 05 28
Sir - it is only quite recently some considerable amount of public money was spent for labour and material on Milton Road, Cambridge, and today the passage of a traction engine or heavy vehicle of some kind has simply torn the road up, and the expenditure is to all intents and purposes rendered useless. Surely the authorities whose duty it is to control the highways should take some drastic steps to stop this sort of thing happening – A.H. Reed, Cambridge

1925 02 06
Cambridge Housing and Town Planning committee recommended the council purchase land at the junction of Milton Road and King’s hedges road for £2,400. It was light soil, very suitable for

the erection of houses. The Council had never bought land at such a cheap rate. Ald Starr said a very serious objection was that Milton Road was not sewered up to that point and it would cost something up to £8,000 to lay the sewers required.

1925 08 20
Members of the veterinary and medical sciences cemented feelings of professional friendship with the laying of the foundation stone of the Field Laboratories, Milton Road, in connection with the Institute of Animal Pathology which is to be erected in Tennis Court Road, Cambridge. Recent benefactions to the University of £100,000 from Mr Gates, the Rockerfellow Foundation & the Corn Repeal Act Fund are to be drawn upon for the erection of the new unit. The vice-chancellor remarked jestingly that he was relieved that it was proposed to keep the greater number of animals here, "some little distance from Cambridge & from where I live" (Laughter)

1925 12 02
The overnight frost in Cambridge was sufficiently severe to ensure another day's sport for skaters. At the Cambridge sewage Farm, Milton Road, where the ice had a thickness of about two inches, skating was continued with safety and there were quite a number of people, chiefly Varsitymen, "making gay while the ice holds". The popular plus four suit and warm pull-over, is just the thing for this kind of sport, but one noticed a number skating in ordinary suits.

1925 12 05
Lively scenes took place at an intended auction sale of goods distrained on the instructions of the Ouse Drainage Board for non-payment of the rate. Some 30 men attended the sale at Scales' Hotel, Milton Road, Cambridge. As soon as the auctioneer opened the sale there was loud cheering, followed by a continued hubbub. Accordions were played more or less melodiously, the shriek of penny whistles rent the air, and mouth organs and toy trumpets added to the general pandemonium. A Welsh pony was trotted out from the stable, it's back covered with a large Union Jack and was run to and fro to the sounds of much music amid a constant flow of racing terms. It was also sternly admonished to 'keep its tail up' and was confidently dubbed next year's Derby winner. No bids were forthcoming.

1925 12 18
Sir – regular users of the main road between Milton and Cambridge have occasion to complain of the unsatisfactory working of the Milton Road Level Crossing. The gates are practically never open to the users of the road, the average being about once in twenty that one can get through. The L.N.E.R. say that on account of the heavy traffic on the line 'the gate-keeper is justified in keeping his gates across the public road in the normal position'. The dangerous and almost prehistoric state of the avoiding cutting is utterly unfit for modern traffic & is nothing short of a public disgrace. – P.W. Essex

1926 04 23
Lady Newton, wife of the Cambridge MP, opened the new hall of the East Chesterton Ward Conservative Association, situate in Union Lane. It is completely equipped with cloakrooms, kitchen, stage etc with electric light and ventilating fans and other modern appliances, and an excellent floor has been laid for dancing. They are going to cater during the summer for flannel dancing and during the winter will run the hall for dances, whist drives and a smoking concert. A gentleman had promised a full-sized billiard table and another given them a cheque for a piano.

1927 02 19
The newly-formed Cambridge Housing Society has lost little time in getting to work. It has obtained a site in Green End Road, Cambridge and plans for 22 hoses have been approved. The

houses are to cost about £420 each and are to be let at a weekly rental of 5s.6d. It is hoped to have them complete by September.

1927 05 12
The foundation stone-laying in connection with the new houses being built by the Cambridge Housing Society at Green End Road, Milton Road was performed by the Master of Trinity. The Society was formed to provide houses for people with larger families who are not in a position to pay council house rents. Overcrowding produced bad results and in Cambridge there were 200 condemned houses which could not be scrapped because there were no other houses in which to put the occupants. It was hoped that what was spent on these houses would be saved on gaols, workhouses, hospitals and other institutions.

1927 11 26
Chesterton RDC received the layout submitted by Cambridge Estates Ltd for a new building estate in the parish of Impington. They had acquired 30 acres of land. The estate a considerable frontage to Arbury Road. It could be drained mainly into Milton Road by a new road to be called Hurst Park Avenue. It would be developed uniformly on garden suburb lines with wide roads & grass verges.

1927 12 27
Many of the main roads in the county were blocked with snowdrifts from six to ten feet deep over Christmas. Trains, motor buses and cars were held up and travellers stranded. The wheels of the mail vans were equipped with chains with the result that hold-ups were uncommon, though one van on the Histon – Milton Road had to be dug out. A thatched cottage at Melbourn collapsed about seven o'clock in Sunday evening. The bedroom end of the house fell out, but, happily, Mrs Greig was in the bottom room and escaped injury. She would not move however until the policeman came on Monday morning. She is now living in a cottage just opposite.

1928 01 27
Cambridge council discussed recommendations to build a bridge over the river at or near Abbey Road. An inner ring road would circle the town on the outskirts which was necessary in view of the ever-increasing traffic and congestion in the centre of Cambridge. They suggested that a direct by-pass road be constructed by linking Chesterton Road with Milton Road

1928 02 04
Justices turned down an application for the removal of the licence of the Elm Tree, Orchard Street, Cambridge to premises proposed to be erected at the junction of Milton Road and Green End Road. The Elm Tree was redundant and not necessary for the needs of the locality and there were over 100 people in favour of the new site. Large numbers of houses were being erected in that area which would be inhabited by people who would not be able to afford a wine cellar of their own and have to go to a public house for their bottle of beer. But the residents were people who had been taken from the slums; their incomes were very small and there was no margin for drink in their budget.

1928 02 04
The first annual report of the Cambridge Housing Society shows they have built 22 houses at Green End Road to be let at an average rent of 5s.6d. per week. Twenty-two families with 91 children are accommodated and thus given the chance of growing up in healthy surroundings in houses with three bedrooms, modern sanitation and good gardens. But there are still problems of providing modern houses for poor families at rents they can reasonably afford

1928 02 06
The football fraternity in Cambridge will regret to hear of an accident to Mr Cecil Cannon, the Town goalkeeper, who was overcome by fumes from a geyser in the bathroom of his house. He is greatly concerned about being indisposed in view of the Town's amateur cup-tie with Stockton at Milton Road next Saturday. Although this is only his first season he is a goalkeeper of exceptional ability, his name having been suggested more than once for international honours. All readers will wish him a speedy recovery and hope soon to see him in his accustomed position between the "sticks".

1928 04 07
The sun worked overtime to make Good Friday a glorious harbinger of Easter-tide and all Cambridge was out of doors. Parker's Piece proved a popular children's playground, and the East Road end, where the quaint survival of Good Friday skipping is to be seen every year, was alive with the babel of children's voices. The inevitable ice-cream carts and sweet stalls did a good trade, and so did the stalls selling gaily-coloured windmills. A 6,000 crowd, which broke the Milton Road ground record, saw the Town beat Ipswich in the Southern Amateur League, while there was a very good attendance at the whippet races at Station Farm.

1928 07 09
Close to the windmill on the north side of Milton Road, opposite Chesterton Hall Crescent, occupying one of the highest and healthiest sites in the locality and surrounded by spacious lawns and trim walks stands the new open-air school for defective and sub-normal children. It is an ideal school, admirably adapted to its purpose and planned and equipped on a generous scale, a veritable children's paradise. The opening ceremony was an open-air function. Open air schools for delicate children have come to stay and in the future all schools will probably become open-air

1928 09 14
About 50 children from Milton Road school, Cambridge journeyed by special Ortona bus to visit the industries of Sawston. Two groups called on the paper mill where the various processes were explained while another was piloted through the glove factory by Mr Hutchings whose patience in giving so many simple explanations calls for commendation. They joined forces to visit the works of Messrs Thomas Evans to see the various processes skins go through. During the journey home childish voices exuberantly declared that they would live in Dixie, where the hens lay omelettes. School was reached at 8 pm

1928 12 08
Ramsden Square lamps, p5

1929 02 02
Milton Road pub, p6

1929 03 02
Cambridge Justices approved a hotel of a 'superior improved modern type' on land adjoining no.203 Milton Road. It would meet the needs of people as a social club and be a house for travellers as well, with a dining and tea room. The luncheon room should be open all day and the manager be a man of catering experience who should be encouraged to sell non-alcoholic refreshments and food. Opposition was forthcoming from the Master of Magdalene College who have a sports ground nearby and from various temperance, religious and welfare bodies.

1929 06 17

Town council sensation – price of land, Milton Road, p6

1929 09 24
Green End Road land needed for housing inquiry, p8*

1930

1930 02 14
Large crowds gathered for the stone-laying of the new Arbury Road Baptist Church Hall and School. The new church will have the support of the Old Chesterton Baptists who will vacate their present chapel when the new building is complete. It will serve the needs of inhabitants of Green End Road, Milton Road and the Hurst Park & Chesterton Hall Estates and will be able to welcome members of other denominations. The ceremony was one of the most unique ever performed, there being six foundation stones laid. 30 02 14

1930 04 25
Sensational scenes were witnessed when Cambridge Town met Ipswich in a vital football match at Milton Road. The crowd, numbering over 7,300, were annoyed by some disputable rulings by the referee. At the final whistle they surged on to the field and surrounded him. The situation looked very ugly when Cambridge players and police with drawn truncheons went to his assistance. They got him to the pavilion but the crowd tried to storm the building. When the Chairman, W.R. Paige, tried to gain order with the aid of a megaphone he was shouted down. But for the quick work of many police, both uniformed and plain clothes, players and officials, the referee might have been very roughly handled. 30 04 25

1930 05 15
Green End Road houses, p3

1930 07 25
Cambridge councillors have received consent for a new road from Milton Road to Histon Road at a cost of £18,135. St John's College would give the land which was required for housing purposes, it would be one of the best estates and the frontages would sell at very high price. Grants have been received for King's Hedges and Green End Road as part of the unemployment scheme with one-third of the labour being imported from the distressed areas. 30 07 25d

1930 08 20
Milton Road new road, photo, p8

1930 10 20
The 'Westland Wessex' three-engined six-seater cabin monoplane de luxe arrived at Marshall's aerodrome. A CDN representative, seated in a padded brown leather seat with arm and head rests found it glided so smoothly that he could scrawl down his experiences in his best hand. From the air the new estate at Milton Road gave the appearance of a toy town, King's College chapel was a landmark and the white-fronted Central Cinema very prominent. There is no vibration and the businessman can take his secretary, for letters and notes are typed with ease. 30 10 20

1930 12 01
Milton Road heroes – football cartoon – 30 12 01a

1931 05 08

Why do tramps prefer Cambridge? Councillor Edwards had given lifts to men on the road from London. They told him that its casual wards offer a great measure of comfort to the gentlemen of the road and it is a convenient jumping-off ground for tramps en route to Newmarket races. "If we carry on as we are, we shall get casuals and plenty of them", he told councillors who were considering a scheme to build new accommodation for 150 casuals at Union Lane. They agreed to reduce the size of the building. 31 05 08c

1931 09 04
Cambridge Town Football Club's £4,000 stand was officially opened by the Mayor as Milton Road took on again its usual Saturday afternoon activity. In the centre of the pitch the Railway Band played crowds into the new stand and the lily badges of the Town Supporters' Club were well to the fore. The new dressing rooms were not in use and players used the old pavilion. Cambridge won 4-3. 31 09 04f

1932 03 30
Described by its builders and furnishers as 'the ideal home at the ideal price on the ideal terms' there is a newly built house in Kings Hedges Road which all prospective purchasers should inspect. With two receptions, three bedrooms, a bathroom and large garden it is on sale at the remarkably reasonable price of £625 freehold or for £35 deposit and 19/6 (97p) weekly. Robert Sayle has completely furnished it at a price of £140.10s. Lucky will be the wife whose husband presents her with this home. 32 03 30

1932 05 28
St George's church appeal – (detailed) – 32 05 28 & 28a

1932 06 11
St George's church foundation stone – 32 06 11 [3.6, 6.7]

1932 06 16
The new Trinity Hall Estate off Milton Road is one of the highest, healthiest and more popular residential districts of Cambridge. It has been developed on garden suburb lines with grass verges and street lighting. The rooms are airy and spacious, hot and cold water is supplied to the bathroom, and there is a good garden with space for a garage. The first seven houses were sold before they were complete. 32 06 16b

1932 09 23
On the Kendal Way Estate 375 new panels had had to be put in the front doors as they had cracked badly and fallen out on the mats. To put them in workmen had nailed pieces of wood at the back of the doors and nailed the new panels on to them. Such bodged-up doors should be taken out straight away and replaced with new ones. In every house one can find one or more of the ceilings and walls cracked. Jobs were only done properly when the clerk of the works was around. 32 09 23e

1932 09 23
Green End Road school photo, p12

1932 10 14
The new church of St George, Chesterton, was packed for the dedication by the Bishop of Ely. He welcomed those from the local district: it was for them that the church had been built. It was only a hall at present but he wanted them to see to it than an actual church was built in due course. 32 10 14a

1932 11 04
The Rev Herbert Appleford was a notable benefactor to the new parish of St George that covers the new housing estates in the Milton Road district. It has been an open secret that his enthusiasm and generosity made possible the work of the church. He provided money to purchase a site, he laid the foundation stone and was present at its dedication. He also furnished the sanctuary and gave half the cost of the clergyman's house. The new church practically owes its existence to his generosity. 32 11 04

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1932 12 23
A sanitary inspector visited a house in Green End Road where he found eleven people living in the three bedrooms. It was a very bad case of overcrowding. One family told him they had moved to Cherryhinton Road but after they had carted the furniture in various perambulators the new landlord said he would not have them in the house, so they went back. But after six months something should have been done. 32 12 23f

1933 01 27
St George's church – why not move St Michael's – 33 01 27g

1933 02 03
The Mayor, (Ald Mrs Keynes) expressed her appreciation for the support her fund for providing work for the unemployed is receiving. There are 1,600 unemployed men in Cambridge but 120 who have done no work for a year are now making the path on Long Road and levelling Coldham's Common. Another 80 will level the building ground in Brook's Road and the site of the new school and playground in Gilbert Road. 33 02 03e

1933 05 08
A motorist had a narrow escape at the Milton Road railway crossing subway. A medical student was driving towards Cambridge when two boys ran out into the road. One was knocked down. The car continued on a short distance before crashing into the fence and being left with one wheel suspended over the ten-feet drop. 33 05 08b

1933 04 06
While those living on the outskirts of Cambridge had many advantages in the way of fresh air and beautiful surroundings they did suffer certain disadvantages such as facilities for book-borrowing. Now two branch libraries have been opened in Morley Memorial Schools on the Rock Estate and Shirley Schools in the Green End Road districts. Each contains four hundred modern novels (mostly entirely new) and 100 popular non-fiction works and are open one evening a week from 6-8. This pioneering service could spread, if successful. 33 04 06

1934 03 08
A plastering contractor said he'd been told there was "a bag of money for plasterers in Cambridge" and had come from Sutton Bridge with £900 to his credit. There was a strike on at

the time and he started on 20 houses in Huntingdon Road for Mr John Brignell then contracted to plaster 212 houses in Kendal Way. But another workman's strike arose – a strike that never ceased. His last contract was for houses at Harston, Eversden and Coldham's Lane. He attributed his failure to other people's bankruptcy and bad debts. 34 03 08

1934 04 30
Three houses were damaged by one flash of lightning in Lovell Road, one of the new roads off Milton Road. The house which sustained the greatest damage was fortunately unoccupied; it struck the chimney stack and ripped a large hole in the roof. The flash spanned the road, missed no.113 but broke windows at nearby properties. It was seen by Mr Dale who was putting up curtains at the time and was thrown from one side of the room to the other. 34 04 30

1935 04 17
In a little cottage in Union Lane, Chesterton, men on the way to the Institution can now, for a few hours daily, experience something of the comfort of home life. The once rather dilapidated house has been transformed into a cosy Wayfarers' rest. Brightly-distempered walls and a roaring fire make it a comfortable place. On arrival they are given tea and a cigarette. Upstairs is a tiny chapel where prayers are said with a bible reading for any who care to attend. 35 04 17

1935 06 26
The proposed Cambridge town planning scheme envisages a ring road to encircle the whole town with the construction of by-pass roads and the improvement of dangerous junctions. The level crossings on the Milton and Cherry Hinton roads will be replaced with bridges. An area of 190 acres on Milton Road opposite the sewage farm acres is reserved for a municipal aerodrome with a municipal golf course off Trumpington Road 35 06 26a

1935 09 26
New estates – Storeys Way & Gilbert Road – 35 09 26a

1935 10 25
The new Senior School off Gilbert Road, Chesterton contains separate departments for senior boys and girls, each with its own assembly hall fitted with a stage and cinema projection room. The boys department has science laboratory and woodwork and metalwork rooms while the girls' includes provision for cookery, laundry and dressmaking. A changing room, fitted with shower baths, has been included in connection with organised games. 35 10 25a

1936 03 06
The Star Brewery want a new pub, The Golden Hind, on Milton Road, an area of 1,010 houses of which the majority had been built since 1927. It was not ribbon development but housing estates on each side and practically built up to the railway gates. King's Hedges Road would form part of the new Ring Road so further development might be expected there. If granted the brewery would surrender the licence of the 'Racehorse' on Newmarket Road and the 'Plume of Feathers'. The Women's Total Abstinence Union opposed the application. Licence applications Elm Tree, Hare and Hounds & Dog & Pheasant. Licence of Bowling Green Chesterton transfer to new Golden Hind. 36 03 06

1936 04 25
The Wayfarers' Rest at 3 Union Lane, Chesterton has been open for a year. It provides an opportunity for those on their way to the Casual Ward to spend an hour or two in homely surroundings during which they are given tea, scones and a cigarette or tobacco. They can write

letters, read magazines and join in the small chapel for prayers and a short Bible reading. More than 4,700 men and 120 woman have used it so far 36 04 25a

1936 08 22
Cambridge has sent its sons and daughters to places all over the world. Miss Freda Mary Sennitt, 27-year-old daughter of F.O. Sennitt of Milton Road, received training in nursing and midwifery and has now been appointed to the charge of one of the hospitals in Nigeria under the Methodist Missionary Society. She will be the only white woman at the hospital where her first spell of duty, owning to the climate and conditions, will be for only 18 months. 36 08 22d

1936 10 05
Six people were injured following a collision near Milton Road level crossing. A passenger train struck a light engine which was stationary on the reception goods line and its driver and fireman had a fortunate escape from being buried under tons of coal from the tender. The crossing-keeper said the passenger train was on the wrong line. Its front was badly smashed and a coupling broke but it did not leave the track. The passengers received a severe jolting. 36 10 05

1936 10 15
More than 737 new street lamps had been installed and from Milton Road to Northampton Street there was excellent lighting. But the council had deliberately left a big black patch along the Backs. Discussions had taken place with the Cambridge Preservation Society and Heads of Colleges; Queen's Road was unique, they had to reconcile its beauty and character with the efficient lighting which would protect life 36 10 15

1936 11 07
Model liners built by F.W. Thiem floated in tank in garden at corner Chesterton Hall Crescent – 36 11 07d

1936 11 09
Gas demonstration platform at Premier Hall, Union Lane – photo – 36 11 09

1937 03 01
A horse attached to a milk float belonging to Messrs W.H. Onyett, dairymen of Chesterton, bolted while standing outside a house in Ramsden Square. After a run of about three hundred yards during which it rounded two sharp corners, distributing pieces of harness, milk crates and bottles, it came to a halt in King's Hedges Road when the near-side wheel was wrenched off the cart 37 03 01b

1937 07 27
Milton Road railway crossing bridge proposed – 37 07 27

1937 10 20
The Bishop of Ely says money is needed for building new churches in rapidly developing centres of population, such as St George's off Milton Road, Cambridge, and the maintenance of church schools. But many old buildings are in serious structural difficulties due to subsidence or dry rot. Some such as Upwood and Croydon are already 'hospital cases'. Inhabitants of Balsham, Caldecote, Benwick and Carlton do their best but are unable to meet the expenditure necessary to put their churches into repair. Soon an Appeal Fund will be launched. 37 10 20e

1937 11 04
Milton Road railway bridge over level crossing proposed – 37 11 04

1937 12 08
Sir – two months ago I visited Kings Hedges Road and was surprised to find that an entirely new, first class road has been constructed, sewered, channelled, kerbed, grass verged. This has been done by the council under an agreement with the owners who threw into the highway just under half an acre of land, worth £50. The total cost of making the road was nearly £1,500. The building speculators have received a substantial gain, a splendid road, enhanced price for the houses erected, resulting in a bigger profit for them at the expense of the ratepayers – Geo. Edwards 37 12 08

1937 12 16
Back in 1924 Green End Road and Kings Hedges Road were narrow country roads with hedges on each side and a narrow carriageway in the centre with rough grass margins on either side. Then the Cambridge Town Planning Scheme began to evolve and development started to take place. The Corporation built some wood framed houses on the west side of Kings Hedges Road and the housing society erected houses on the same side of Green End Road. Gradually houses began to appear on the opposite side and then the proposed ring road was agreed. Builders told to keep their houses far enough back to enable the required width but then the council purchased the land and constructed the ring road in front of the properties without any cost to them. The same procedure was followed on King's Hedges Road from Milton Road to the old borough boundary 37 12 16c

1937 12 28
Christmas festivities at Cambridge, Ross Street Children's Home, Home of Mercy – 37 12 28

1938 01 08
Mill Road Infirmary, Harvey Goodwin Home, Mill Road Sanatorium, Church Army Home, Union Lane Institution 37 12 28a Two wayfarers of the Public Assistance Institution, Union Lane were summoned that, being persons habitually wandering from place to place, they took a five-year-old child with them, thus preventing it receiving elementary education. They admitted they had no fixed abode and the boy only attended school for a few weeks at Long Sutton. The small solemn-faced lad was led into the court and lifted on to one of the benches for the magistrates to see him. He was well-nourished and well looked-after. He had never been neglected. The boy was taken into care though the father could see him once a month. 38 01 08

1938 02 03
Kings Hedges Road was shown as a private carriageway under the Inclosure Award of 1840, so why was it now repairable by Cambridge ratepayers, Councillor Edwards asked. The Town Clerk said that in 1912, when the Borough was extended, part of Kings Hedges Road was handed over by Chesterton Urban District Council as a highway repairable by the inhabitants at large and in 1934 the County passed over the remaining portion on the same terms. It seemed Chesterton UDC had simply begun repairing the road thus making it a public highway. It was a mistake made in good faith and it would be a waste of time to consider it further. 38 02 03b

1938 03 24
Kings Hedges Road controversy – no further action – 38 03 24c

1938 04 14
Gurney Way, p6
The old brick windmill in Hurst Park Avenue was built in 1855 by J.M. Mann and ended its working days some 60 years ago when the sails were removed. The mill was last operated by

William French from Hildersham whose family have been millers for four generations. It is now used as storage by S.A. Rose, the butcher, whose slaughterhouse once stood close by.

1938 04 15
Go house hunting this weekend. See the new attractive labour-saving houses at Gurney Way, just off Milton Road. Four bedrooms, bathroom (h & c), two reception rooms, large kitchen with 'Cozy' stove, garage and nice garden. Prices from £1,150 freehold, main sewerage and no road charges (about £66,000 at today's values). Builders S. Ginn & Sons, Herbert Street – Advert 38 04 15a

1938 04 23
Huge crowds turned out to welcome the Princess Royal when she laid the foundation stone of St George's new church on Milton Road. The building with its 107 ft tower is visible for several miles around and has become a new landmark in the northern part of Cambridge. The ceremony took the form of an open-air service conducted by the Bishop of Ely. Practically all the local clergy came together with the Lord Lieutenant, the Mayor, architect (T.H. Lyon) and the builder (Mr C. Kerridge) 38 04 23, a & b, 25

1938 09 29
Calmly and without fuss, Cambridge people have started to collect their gas masks in readiness for 'come what may'. A steady stream of callers arrived at all distribution centres. Schoolmistress and volunteers showed each caller the simple method of fitting the masks on. Tragic was the contrast at Milton Road School where during playtime small children shouted 'We want peace' while adults waited outside to be fitted with their masks. It drove home Mr Chamberlain's words "How horrible that we should be digging trenches and trying on gas masks because of a quarrel in a far-away country between people of whom we know nothing" 38 09 29aa

1938 10 08
At long last a start is to be made on the construction of a railway bridge on Milton Road in place of the present level crossing. Ministry of Transport approve has finally come through and work is expected to take 18 months. The crossing is frequently closed to road traffic and the adjacent subway, which has not sufficient head-room for larger vehicles, is narrow with steep gradients. Now there will be a bridge 44ft wide with a 30 ft carriageway and two footpaths. In 1935 2,000 motor vehicles and 1,000 pedal cycles used the road each day 38 10 08

1938 10 13
St George's church consecration – 38 10 13b

1938 10 24
A sixteen-year-old boy was injured by an explosion in a shed 'laboratory' in his garden at 132 Ramsden Square. Neighbour C.F. Brown said "There was a terrific bang like the explosion of an eighteen-pounder shell. Seeing that the shed had been wrecked I jumped over the fence and looked for the lad among the ruins. Then I heard his mother scream. He had been blown through the door of the shed and managed to stumble into the house". Only the frame of the hut remained, the sides and roof was blown away, some being flung 20 yards. Flames and smoke shot 40 feet into the air. The lad had been making fireworks. 38 10 24

1938 11 24
During the recent gale the roof of St Barnabas' Institute was damaged, bricks blown from a chimney stack at Hawkins' shop on the corner of Gold Street and a chimney pot lifted clean off a house in Sturton Street. Extensive damage was also caused to two shops at Green End Road.

Haystacks, especially those unthatched, suffered badly and a furniture lorry was blown over near the Swavesey turning when the gale was at its height. 38 11 24a

1938 12 21
RAF plane crashes in snowstorm near Milton Road railway crossing – picture – 38 12 21Parts of Milton Road branch library are unsafe and re-building is the only cure, the Library Committee was told. It was constructed on the site of an old brickyard and there has been a serious settlement. Every cove cornice in every part was cracked and the whole library should be pulled down. A new building a short distance away was erected a short time ago and when the foundations were exposed it was found they had no bottom. It had to be built on piles that went 15 feet down to get a foundation. 39 03 23a

1939 05 09
Milton Road Library – surveyor's report on site; some movement but hundreds of houses have been built on sites excavated for gravel or coprolite – 39 05 09. But cracking continues – 39 05 11b

1939 09 01
An experimental gas mask drill was held for Ramsden Square children. Over 100 assembled and were instructed in the proper use of the gas masks by the senior warden, Mr E. Winkworth. They were told a whistle would sound in the event of an air raid, that the sound of a rattle would indicate a gas attack and a bell would sound when it was safe for them to come from their shelters. Aeroplanes roared overhead as the children were instructed 39 09 01b

1939 09 13
Milton Road school ARP trenches – 39 09 13

1939 10 09
The small new Roman Catholic chapel on the corner of High Street, Old Chesterton is a corrugated iron structure but its lines are good and the interior fittings and decoration are in excellent taste. After the Reformation there was no Catholic church in Cambridge. Then Mass began to be said in the room of a house and in 1841 a small church opened in Union Lane. This was supplanted in 1890 by the fine building in Hills Road. Now there are large congregations at four Masses every Sunday and two other chapels of ease beside the one now opened. 39 10 09

1939 10 13
First vicar of St George's – 39 01 13

1940

1940 05 17
Charles Lovell Naylor was estate agent, set up Cambridge Building Materials Supply Co, built houses in Scotland Road and Kings Hedges Road but war caused problems; purchased Rendezvous Cinema in 1930, rebuilt it after fire 1931 but sold due ill health and lost money – 40 05 17

1940 06 07
Milton Road Library – surveyor to place further paper strips over settlement cracks, parts should be taken down and rebuilt; it should have been built on piers – 40 02 02b

1940 06 07

R.A.F. Man's Rescue. A Royal Air Force man, Cpl. R. A. Laxton, effected a river rescue at Cambridge on Sunday afternoon. Seeing a man in the water, near the Fen Causeway Bridge, he dived in from the bank and brought him to safety. It is understood that the man, Mr. P. C. Phillips, of Milton Road (Cambridge), had fallen into the water from a punt. 40 06 07

1940 07 10
Air raid shelter constructed by two neighbours in Milton Road – photo – 40 07 10bMilton Road library slight movement on one side caused by sub-soil, not to underpin at present due shortage pf material – 40 10 09a

1941 07 15
ARP exercises Milton Road area – photos – 41 07 15

1940 07 16
Warren Road shelter interior – photo – 40 07 16a

1941 07 21
Milton Road library wall underpinned; problem with clay – 41 07 21

1942 09 25
Did he escape from Singapore? Among the Cambridge men reported missing when Singapore fell was Sapper William Hall, of 178 Kings Hedges Road, Cambridge. His wife has now received news from a Mrs. Harradine of 13 Owlstone Road, Cambridge, that her husband was amongst those who made their escape from the Japanese. It will be remembered that the escape of Mrs Harradine's husband. Lt. R. R. L Harradine was reported last March. Mrs. Harradine has now received a letter from her husband saying that Sapper Hall was with him when he got away from Singapore. Mrs. Hall, however, has heard nothing from her husband, and is endeavouring to get in touch with him

1943 07 06
Kendal Way children help Red Cross – named photo – 43 07 06

1944 08 11
Holiday gala. An easy first in popularity with the stay-at-home Bank Holiday crowds at Cambridge on Monday was the big programme of sporting events on the Town football ground at Milton Road. Some 7,000 people made this event their mecca, and partly forgetting, at least, the troubled times of the moment, lapsed back for a few hours into the traditionally-English Bank Holiday spirit. Arranged by the Borough Entertainments Committee, the events included a continuous four-hour sports programme, an A.T.S. physical fitness display, a spectacular display of flags of the United Nations, a variety entertainment and a beauty show. 44 08 11

1945 07 07
Woman shot through heart by coloured sentry at American camp in Milton Road; said she had spent the night in the camp, called guard names, refused to stop – 45 07 071945 07 11
Two girls slept in Home Guard hut opposite American camp on Milton Road, had blankets got from an American – 45 07 11

1945 08 29
VJ Parties – Eden St, Cherryhinton Rd, Chestnut Grove – 45 08 29; Queen Edith's Way, Ditton Fields – 45 09 04; Young St, Petworth St, Geldart St, Marshall Rd – 45 09 04; Darwin Drive, Stretton Ave, Victoria St, Hobart Rd, Adam & Eve St – 45 09 07b; Gloucester St, Castle St,

Ashfield Rd – 45 09 10; Gilbert Rd, King's Hedges Rd, Ditton Fields – 45 09 11; Lichfield Rd, Cromwell Park estate, Hawthorn Rd – 45 09 12; Catharine St, Kendal Way – 45 09 14; York St & York Terrace, Brooks Road, Gold St – 45 09 17d# Bateson Rd, Garden Walk, Argyle St, St Philip's Rd , Sedgwick St, Holbrook Rd, Mowbray Rd – 45 09 18; Akeman St, James St, Parsonage St, Vinery Rd, Kingston St, Kingston St, Mowbray Rd, Hurst Park Estate – 45 09 20; Eastfield, New St, Kelvin Close – 45 09 24a; Hertford St, St John's Rd, Norwich St, Alpha Terrace, Sherlock Rd – 45 09 27a; Premier Travel take over services of F.E. Weeden of Chrishall – 45 08 30; Silverwood Close, Newmarket Road, Fallowfield, Fen Rd, Water St, Mowbray Rd – 45 10 04a; Cavendish Rd, Stourbridge Grove, Fulbourn Rd, Bradmore St, Petersfield, Gwydir St, Newnham Croft, Scotland Rd, Scotland Close – 45 10 08; Suez Rd, Hale Ave, Harvey Goodwin Ave, Glebe Rd, Radegund Rd, Golding Rd – 45 10 10; Selwyn Rd, Abbey Estate, De Freville Ave, Stanley Rd – 45 10 12a; Milton Rd, Thoday St – 45 10 18

1947 06 13
The road was partially blocked and a single line of traffic caused at Milton Road crossing, Cambridge, yesterday when an engine loaded with tanks at the army camp, G.23, ran into the buffers and was carried on to the road. It came to a standstill with the engine projecting across the grass verge. It is understood that the engine began to move whilst each of the 12 trucks was being loaded with a Sherman tank. We understand that the front wheels of the engine were buried in the ground and that the rails are being burnt up. It may be some time before the engine can be lifted off the road by crane.

1948 02 04
In the Commons yesterday, Mr Leslie Symonds (Lab., Cambridge) asked the Secretary for War how many persons the former U.S. Army camp at Milton Road, Cambridge, was built to accommodate and how many persons were accommodated there now. Mr Shinwell replied that the camp was built to accommodate 850 troop on a war basis. On a peace-time basis it could accommodate 700. The unit at present occupying it totalled some 400 and the surplus accommodation was earmarked for another unit which would move in this month

1948 04 28
The Mayoress of Cambridge (Mrs G.F. Hickson) paid an official visit to the Open Air School in Ascham Road, off Milton road, Cambridge. The school is composed of a number of small, single storey buildings with windows extending nearly to the floor. It comprises classrooms, surgery and shower room, kitchens, dining hall, laundry & practical rooms and the quarters of the headmistress. These are set in attractively designed and well-tended ground surrounded by a playing field and kitchen gardens which the children help to cultivate. The school is for delicate children for whom it is thought that a course of special treatment and open-air life would be beneficial. There are also maladjusted children and a few cases of some form of paralysis

1948 07 29
D.E. Knapman, telephone manager of the Cambridge area told Rotarians that there were 4,000 people in the area waiting for telephones. He said there are two separate wires running from the exchange right back to your house which are yours and only yours. It would be impossible to run out a separate pair of wires every time somebody asked for a telephone. They try and forecast 30 years ahead the number of subscribers they will get and then lay cable under the ground. In Sidney Street are seven or eight thousand wires serving Chesterton and the Milton Road districts

1948 08 30
Pleading guilty to taking a US Army truck belonging to the American Graves Registration Command of Milton Road, Cambridge, because he wanted to attend a Saturday night dance in a

neighbouring village, a 35-year old Newmarket labourer was sentenced to three months imprisonment. The vehicle was an open type of truck used to convey Newmarket workmen to Cambridge. Defendant took it from Newmarket and drove to Dullingham. But as he parked the vehicle he ran the nearside wheels into the ditch.

1948 09 18
"I feel the club has served a very useful purpose. Even if it dies now, the effect will not die for many years. It has made Gilbert Road a sociable road. So said Mr D.I. Piggott (chairman) when announcing that the Gilbert Road Social Club, which was formed out of the friendships made at the VJ party at the end of the war is in the process of being wound up. The secretary said "We have 308 adult members, but the greater part of them do not come to any ordinary functions". The proposal to wind up the club was carried unanimously

1948 11 01
The vanguard of the "Vanguards" has arrived in Cambridge. An example of this fine new Standard car is on view at Messrs King and Harper's Milton Road depot and is attracting a steady stream of visitors. The model will not be available until early next year but it is one of those cars which is worth waiting for. First there is the price. For £425 plus £118 16.7d. purchase tax you get a five to six seater car with bold, thoroughly modern lines, a 17 h.p. engine capable of speeds in the region of 80 m.p.h. and a petrol consumption of 22 miles per gallon. The engine is a four cylinder one with a three-speed gearbox and gives fine performance

1948 12 08
Cambridgeshire is the home base of some 50% of the RAF aircraft and crews at present bringing help on the airlift to Berlin. Oakington, one of the war-time Pathfinder airfields, and Waterbeach, are the two stations on which Dakota squadrons taking part in the lift have their home base. Another Cambridge link is that the commander of the squadron equipped with Hastings transport aircraft is a Cambridge man, Squadron-Leader P. J. Finlayson of Milton Road. He was the first man to pilot a Hastings carrying coal into Gatow, one of the Berlin termini of the lift.

1949 07 25
The Ministry of Transport's refusal to accede to their application for a grant towards the cost of building a ring road from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk was attacked at the meeting of the Cambridge town council. Ald. Raynes said they had decided in 1938 to proceed with a ring road on the East side of the town to link up Milton Road, over the river and railway on the north side, and the Hauxton and Hills Road on the south side. It was a tremendous job financially, and would obviously serve the nation and not merely the ratepayers of Cambridge.

1950

1950 04 01
17-years-old Joy Carter of Newmarket Road, Cambridge was by popular vote last night chosen as Miss Cambridgeshire, 1950. She was one of four entrants who reached the finals of this fifth annual contest held at the Rex Ballroom. The others were Angela Barker of Gt Shelford, Jean Hickman of Histon and Dorothy Sampson of Ramsden Square, Cambridge.

1950 07 03
Several properties changed hands at auction. The Station Garage, Linton, sold at £2,750. Nos.54 Herbert Street & 231 Victoria Rd, Cambridge, made £1500 and £1,110 respectively. No.91 Mawson Road, Cambridge, sold for £900 and no.8 Selwyn Gardens was withdrawn at £5,750 and is now for sale by public treaty

1950 07 26
Cambridge Council is considering purchasing sites for industrial purposes at Brooklands Farm, between Cromwell Road and the railway and at Union Lane. The committee recommends the Union Lane site is more suitable for housing, Brooklands Farm is unsuitable for industry owing to drainage difficulties and that the Allotments Committee's views be sought on the Cromwell Road site. They also reject proposals for a site off Clarendon Road for the University Press printing works owing to traffic difficulties and the need to preserve the existing green wedge.

1951 03 14
Approval of the layout of the new housing estate between Gilbert Road and Arbury Road is to be recommended by Cambridge council. Sites are provided for three-storey flats, semi-detached and blocks of four houses, a church, community centre, shops, cinema, public house and a nursery school

1952 01 18
After years of planning, working and hoping, members of Chesterton Methodist Church have at last a building of their own, a new church on the corner of Green End Road and Scotland Road, which was officially opened by Mrs Elliot Ridgeon. Now they have a light and bright building and the friendliness of the many members at the ceremony reflected joy and thankfulness at the completion of the new church. But their struggles are not yet over for they plan to build a school hall and hope one day to build a bigger church

1952 06 21
Mr Lloyd Stokes, owner of land at Trinity Hall Farm, Milton, said there were 140 armoured vehicles on the land waiting to be shipped. He wanted an access from Green Park because he had a number of tanks coming through the back and wished to enlarge the front entrance on to Milton Road. It was dangerous and an agricultural machine such as a 12-foot combine could not get through. The County council suggested the city should buy this piece of land and put there light industry, not likely to cause any nuisance.

1952 11 10
In swerving to avoid a dog in the road a 101 bus being driven along Green End Road, Cambridge on Sunday morning crashed into a house. The conductress, E. Chalker, who was taking an 11-year-old girl passenger's fare, was slightly injured. The girl, Marilyn Hall, was also injured when she was shot forward almost into the house. As she was being lifted into the ambulance Marilyn asked her mother "Can we have our fares back now? We didn't go anywhere".

1953 08 01
A Pageant for Coronation year is to be performed in the grounds of St John's College in aid of the Cambridge Residential Home for Old People. In this enterprise Town and University combine. About 150 people take part from a distinguished historian to a little girl of six. It includes a genuine ancient broadsword lent by Prof G.M. Trevelyan, Master of Trinity and greatest of living historians. Amongst those taking part are Michael Cogman, a nine-year-old pupil from Milton Road School, Charles Batts, Timothy Roach and David Bartlett.

1954 03 09
Mr L.W. Hallen started his motor cycle trading 21 years ago in a low-roomed malting shed opposite Union Lane corner and shortly afterwards acquired premises in Hawthorn Way. During

the war Government contracts for repair work on RAF vehicles helped the firm to expand and premises which were a dance hall were converted to the use of the business. They have now opened a spacious new showroom on the site of former almshouses that jutted on to Union Lane. Their empire now occupies an extensive stretch of Chesterton High Street.

1954 03 25
Mr John Gambling of Milton Road Cambridge who has died at the age of 82 was the oldest active magician in the British Isles. A member of the Inner Magic Circle since its earliest days he first became interested in 1881 when he acted as assistant to 'Signor Bosco' and later performed on land, sea, in the air and down a coal mine. During the First World War entertained nearly every evening at the First Eastern General Hospital. After retirement from his post of Borough Road Surveyor he lived a life of adventure. He made many trips to Morocco and was the only white magician known to have performed in a harem. The Moors learned to recognise his pointed moustache and would gather round him clamouring for an on-the-spot show.

1954 07 27
City planners discussed 13 acres of land to the east of Milton Road which had been earmarked to meet the needs of industrial concerns whose existing premises were incapable of expansion or intended for residential use. The land, owned by Trinity Hall, was on the market in 1951 but the council could not acquire it at the time. It was bought by Mr Stokes but he was refused permission for it to be used for industrial purposes. The council envisaged that two or three acres should remain in his ownership but that they should acquire the remainder and divide it into plots for sale or lease to industrialists

1955 06 25
Sawston residents objected to the 'obnoxious smell' that would be caused if a sewerage disposal station were constructed near their homes. One said that he had never known a sewerage works not to smell and referred to the 'terrible stink along the Milton Road'. Experts said the smell did not come so much when the winds blew as in wet, warm muggy weather. 55 06 25b-c

1955 12 03
The first of the new M.G.A. 1½ litre sports cars has appeared in Hallens showrooms, Union Lane. It combines traditional craftsmanship with modern race-bred performance and in racing trim can reach 112 mph. At a price of £595 plus £299 purchase tax it is an attractive proposition to any enthusiast and it is unfortunate that there is a long wait for those who wish to enjoy it. 55 12 03

1956 04 26
Since the Cambridge sewage purification works at Milton Road were first built, over 60 years ago, treatment has consisted of settlement in tanks followed by passing the sewage to land areas from which is drained into the river. Now new extensions are being built, all sewage will be properly purified and land treatment will be ended for ever. At a later stage gas driven off during the drying process will be burnt to drive electricity generators for the works and for a new pumping station at Cheddars Lane. 56 04 26a

1956 05 25
A Cambridge man was injured when he fell with a rotten electricity pole on which he had been working at the Milton Road Army camp. Several poles had blown down in a storm in March 1953. The Clerk of Works said that as that one had withstood the gale he had assumed it was safe. 56 05 25a
A Lambretta Service Station has been opened by King and Harper at their Milton Road branch. It features all the necessary service tools and equipment. Now routine checks can be completed in a

matter of minutes with even the most extensive overhaul carried out within a week. Cambridge people have been quick to adapt to this modern form of transport and already own many hundreds of machines. For many housewives, typists and office workers the scooter is here to stay. 56 11 02b

1957 02 25
Keys to a bungalow at 246 Green End Road House were officially handed over to its first occupants, Mr & Mrs L. Hart, by the Mayor. It is the 4,000 council house completed since 1945- an average of 353 houses each year. The 1000th was opened in Peverel Road in December 1948, the 2,000th in Whitehill Road in May 1953 and the 3,000th in Colville Road, March 1952. The site had been an eyesore, now it is a tremendous improvement. 57 02 25c

1957 04 04
Bulldozers are clearing the ground for house building in Hurst Park Avenue where the hundred foot windmill and Mill Cottage are to be pulled down. There has been a mill on the site since the 16th century although the present building is about 120 years old. It has been a landmark for aircraft from local aerodromes and for many years has been a home for pigeons. 57 04 04a

1958 03 13
The foundation stone was laid of the new Roman Catholic Church of St Laurence the Martyr in Milton Road, Cambridge. Since the Rev Father P. Oates was appointed in 1951 he has worked hard to make the building possible. Already £4,000 has been raised, but there is still a long way to go. 58 03 13

1958 06 07
Trinity Hall Farm appeal – needed for displaced industries – 58 06 07a & b

1958 08 22
The new Roman Catholic Church of St Laurence at Milton Road is one of the most modern Catholic buildings in the diocese and replaces the existing church in Chesterton High Street. Heating is of the 'underfloor' electrical type and the lighting is also by electricity. The pews are of polished mahogany and the altar is made of stone. Much of the money has still to be raised and a local football pool is being run between the parishioners. 58 08 22a

1958 08 23
James Ison of Girton is a well-known stonemason who has worked on many college buildings including King's college chapel, where he made the pinnacles, and Caius where he assisted William Topper with the carvings on the Gate of Honour and Gate of Virtue. He also made the foundation stone for the new Catholic Church in Milton Road. Now he started his own business and has carved the gargoyles and medallions that are going to help restore the second court of St John's. 58 08 23a

1958 09 01
A 70 year-old Cambridge grandmother was the oldest of 18 Jehovah's Witnesses who received baptism by total immersion at the City Football Ground, Milton Road. They radiated confidence and seemed in very high spirits as, wearing bathing costumes, they stepped into a bath which contained two feet of luke-warm water and were immersed one at a time. It was part of a three-day Assembly attended by over 700. 58 09 01b

1958 11 12

A Chesterton Bridge was proposed over 50 years ago but no work had been started. A Ministerial ruling had decided in favour of the route from Milton Road to Trumpington Road via Haig Road, Cam Road and Walnut Tree Avenue and this would be designated a Trunk Road in due course. However funds were limited and other works had priority. 58 11 12

1959 02 26
The memory of the night the lights that were turned on at Milton Road football ground will live for a long time judging by the way the inaugural match between Cambridge City and West Ham United was received by the 11,000 crowd. Even though the First Division club beat their hosts to the tune of five goals to two, they endeared themselves to all the spectators by the manner in which they did it. They even had the courtesy to allow the City to be the first to score under the new floodlights – although perhaps it wasn't intended! Barry Kin drove the ball hard from the wing and it matter not that the West Ham goalkeeper helped the ball into the net. 59 02 26b

1959 06 23
Cambridge Model Engineering Society's new premises and railway track in Fulbrooke Road was officially opened by Sir Vivian Fuchs. He praised the craftsmanship of the models, including one of a 'Sno-cat', the vehicle on which he had made his trans-Antarctic journey. The Society had started in Union Lane, then Mr Banham allowed them to build a track at The Willows before they acquired this site. 59 06 23

1959 06 23
Planning permission has been granted for flats, maisonettes and 346 houses on three fields in Kings Hedges Road while the site of the prefabricated bungalows will be suitable for a further 32 dwellings when they were eventually removed. There should be a through road to Arbury Road as soon as possible. Now the Council may buy the land from the University. 59 06 23a

1959 09 01
A Ring Road was proposed for Cambridge before the war. It was to run from Trumpington Road and Brooks Road to Coldham's Lane, then on across Milton Road, Huntingdon Road and so to Hills Road. Thousands of pounds were spent to make a dual carriageway from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk with a ramp six feet high to start the viaduct across the river. This section was completed and only required the final tarmac surface. Now half of the dual carriageways have been dug up and the ramp bulldozed. It cost many thousands of pounds to make and over £34,500 to destroy. 59 09 01

1959 11 27
Milton Road new athletics track opened – 59 11 27d

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files form this date

1960

1960 01 20
Supermarkets are undercutting smaller shops – an identical tin of coffee varies by as much as sixpence. But Mr L.C. Cherry of Milton Road has banded together with several other grocers to buy goods in bulk, enabling him to give customers special offers. A high percentage of orders are now taken over the telephone, credit is given and goods delivered. At Sutton Mr L.F. Lindsell has seen no decline since the opening of a supermarket at Ely: the customer saves a bus fare, get good service and can always come back and complain. Several housewives praised the supermarket but others said it tempted them to buy rather more than they first intended 60 01 20

1960 11 02
Many roads were flooded following a torrential downpour. Policemen with red warning lights patrolled parts of Queen's Road which was covered to a depth of 18-inches in parts and the roadway at Chesterton Hall Crescent was also under water. Wilberforce Road was the most seriously affected where water poured off a nearby playing field and fences were pulled up to divert the flow away from houses. The Wheatsheaf Inn at Harlton and a cottage at Barton Road Haslingfield were also inundated. This has been one of the wettest years recorded in Cambridge. 60 11 02b

1960 11 22
Land between Kings Hedges Road and the Arbury estate may be bought by the city for housing – 60 11 22a

1961 02 01
An 18-inch-long canister marked 'Explosive' was found lying in the gutter near the Milton Road roundabout at Mitcham's Corner. It was removed by the RAF who said it was probably a mortar type bomb. Recently Swastikas and the words 'Juden Raus' were daubed in bright green distemper on the cream entrance to the University Pitt Club in Jesus Lane. This was formed in 1835 as a political club but is now one of the most exclusive and expensive social clubs in Cambridge 60 02 01 60 02 15
Milton Road cottages opposite school demolition photo – 61 02 14b

1962 01 19
A Scandinavian-style house at 7, Hurst Park Avenue, built five years ago, is well insulated and centrally heated by a boiler featuring a small bore system with circulating pumps thermostatically controlled. The lounge has French windows opening to a terrace while the dining room has a serving hatch from the kitchen. The four bedrooms have built-in fittings with full-length wardrobes and a glass door. It is a good example of contemporary architecture on a small scale 62 01 19b

1961 02 24
Houses in Chesterton High Street and Green End Road have been subject to a demolition order since January 1960. Their occupants have gradually been re-accommodated and their homes abandoned. Now only two families remain. It is an eerie feeling to have empty houses on either side, especially when they are broken into, the wallpaper ripped and the boarded-up windows damaged. Once they have been rehoused the rickety four-roomed homes with their primitive sanitation will be pulled down for re-development. 61 02 24

1962 01 31
An experiment to prevent traffic jams at Mitcham's Corner was judged a success. It reroutes traffic along the Milton Road junction road island around the houses, and makes several of the nearby side streets one-way only. One-way traffic means cars could use the whole of the road and motorists would soon get used to it. Only three policemen would be needed to help control the traffic if the scheme was put into operation. 62 01 31

1962 02 23
Sir – I admire the paintings of Edward Vulliamy and hope there may be an exhibition of his work. I have two examples of his genius. One, dated 1929-31, is a superb watercolour of a drainage windmill that stood near Wicken Fen, the other is a pencil sketch of the windmill on Madingley Hill. They hang alongside other fenland etchings – R.W. Macbeth's 'Fen Flood', 'Potato Harvest

in the Fens' and Robert Farren's 'Holywell' and 'Sunrise on Wicken Lode'. I hope I shall find somewhere that Cambridge people may enjoy them as I have done – William Farren, Milton Road, Cambridge. 62 02 23f & 24

1962 04 02
Police are searching for a silver-grey American car which smashed down level crossing gates in Milton Road. Crossing keeper, Edward Dyson, had just closed the gates ready for the train when a large American car coming from the Milton direction rammed them. It reversed and headed back the way it had come. Members of the Cambridge City Reserves football team returning from their evening match at King's Lynn left their coach and helped drag parts of the broken gates from the rails. Mr Dyson telephoned Chesterton Junction and had a goods train diverted through Ely. 62 04 02a

1962 04 16
The parish of St George, Chesterton, has practically doubled in the past five years. Twenty four members of the congregation were engaged in welcoming new families on the new King's Hedges Estate. But the need for the appointment of a curate to assist the Vicar, the Rev J. Degwel Thomas, was urgent. Amongst those elected to the Parochial Church Council were Donald & Derrick Flory. 62 04 16a

1962 05 01
An experiment at Mitcham's Corner designed to speed up rush hour traffic brought protests from road users and residents. Cars and lorries were brought to a complete standstill for up to ten minutes in Chesterton Hall Crescent which was used to siphon off traffic from Milton and Gilbert Roads. Residents protested saying it was a fiasco and the scheme should be abandoned. There were 16 children under ten years of age living in the Crescent and they felt strongly for their safety 62 05 01a

1962 08 28
Piped television begins in Cambridge on Saturday when 30 Arbury Estate subscribers tune in to receive three television and four radio programmes via a 170 ft mast in Kings Hedges Road. The British Wireless Relay Company says the cost of laying a complete underground network was prohibitive but wherever possible the cables were being put in the least conspicuous places. People can hire sets for between 7s6d and 13s a week 62 08 28a

1962 10 29
More than 200 people in the 'No War over Cuba' march around Cambridge. The marchers were mostly students but included 87-year-old Mrs Clara Rackham, 87, and were led by Robert Davies, the Prospective Labour Party Candidate. Four undergraduates carrying placards 'Hands off Cuba' distributed leaflets to the thousands of spectators streaming into the City Football ground on Milton Road. Members of the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, who were meeting to discuss safety in the building industry, petitioned Mr Gaitskell and the TUC over the moves made by President Kennedy 62 10 29

1963 01 04
Milton Road 'Mayflower Court' flats to be unfurnished – 63 01 04

1963 02 27
Clearing ice at Milton road football ground – 63 02 27a

1963 02 28

Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Union Lane – 63 02 28

1963 05 23
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Milton Road – 63 05 23

1963 07 05
People in Kings Hedges Road thought a bomb had dropped in the street when a thunderbolt hit no.39 and shattered the windows of houses hundreds of yards away. After crashing through the house it flashed along electricity cables the length of the street. All the pipes in the house split open as well as the asbestos walls and ceilings. Light switches were pushed out of the wall and all the light bulbs in the house next door dropped out. The gas meter caught fire, lumps of concrete and plaster shot out across the room. 63 07 05d

1964 03 04
Houses in Walnut Tree Avenue have been bought by the Ministry of Transport for demolition when the dual-carriageway for the proposed Chesterton bridge route is constructed. One side of Cam Road will also have to be demolished. It is expected that negotiations for the 30 properties involved will take a year to complete. The first part of the scheme will link Newmarket Road with Chesterton and Milton Roads. Later the existing roads of Lensfield Road, Gonville Place and East Road will feed into a roundabout at the junction of Sun Street and Newmarket Road 64 03 04b

1964 03 18
Herbert Lowe, who runs a grocery shop in Herbert Street, decided to give up selling cigarettes and tobacco when the American Medical Association published their report on the link between smoking and lung cancer. He claims he has lost no customers, none ask for cigarettes though they still come in for sweets and other things they used to buy. But a stranger did ask for some and commented ‘Good Gracious’ before walking out. 64 03 18

1964 04 22
Green End Road derelict land subject planning application – photo – 64 04 22

1964 12 14
King & Harper showrooms in Bridge Street to be sold to Trinity College with a new sales centre built at Milton Road says Oliver Rix who acquired company in November 64 12 14c

1965 05 06
Oban Court flatlets for elderly people in Union Lane; have kitchenettes, bed-sitting room and dressing room with washbasin and lavatory. The double ones have bathroom. To be officially opened – 65 05 06

1965 07 27
King & Harper new Milton Road garages revealed by demolition – photos – 65 07 27a

1965 08 18
Milton Road railway gates hit by lorry – 65 08 18a

1965 10 02
Stokes wall blocks access Trinity Hall Farm industrial estate from Milton Road – 65 10 02b

1966 11 22

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First new 'blended' petrol pumps installed at BP garage, King and Harper's, Milton Rd – 66 11 22

1967 04 27
Cambridge City and Cambridge United directors consider merger of clubs; one condition the selling of the Milton Road ground- 67 04 27, 67 04 28

1967 11 07
Chesterton Bowls Club was founded in 1931 with HQ in Milton Road. The lease expires next year; now found new site on St Andrew's Road – 67 11 07a; 67 12 30

1968 01 06
Trinity Hall Farm industrial estate entrance on Milton Road to be blocked, Stokes protests – 68 01 06a

1970

1970 04 25
Trinity College plan 13-acre Science Park – 70 04 25a

1970 06 16
Birch's Garage began Victoria Road in 1956, moved Milton Road – feature – 70 06 16

1972 03 22
New signals Milton Road / Gilbert Road, p16

1972 05 15
The story-book world of Bambi the baby deer came to Gilbert Road, Cambridge, yesterday when Mr Roy Wing looked over his garden fence. He couldn't believe his eyes. A small, brown, bright-eyed young deer was sitting calmly among the foliage in his neighbour's garden at 142 Gilbert Road in the middle of suburban Cambridge, many miles from the known haunts of deer, p11

1972 05 24
Two homeless, unsupported mothers have taken over a house in Milton Road, Cambridge, as squatters and intend to make it their home. They expect to be joined by four more mothers and another nine children. The mothers, who refused to give their names, are members of a group who call themselves the Cambridge Squatters, formed only a week ago. They want to bring greater recognition to the social problems of unsupported mothers, p12

1972 07 29
The Department of the Environment have squashed a plan to develop a 20-acre industrial estate in Milton Road, Cambridge, opposite Trinity College's proposed 13-acre science park. Bitter controversy has shadowed the scheme from the start. It was first approved by Cambridge City Council but later vetoed by the County Council who said they had already earmarked sufficient land for industry. The planning permission was for construction of roads and sewers as a first step to an industrial estate being sought by Stokes of Cambridge ltd. When they were turned down by the County council they appealed to Whitehall and a public inquiry was held in February this year

1972 08 05
The long-awaited Cambridge Transportation Study was finally published yesterday. It is two years overdue and has cost £113,000 - almost £1,000 a page. It was jointly commissioned in 1967

by the Cambridge city and County Councils and the University. It was to be carried out by R. Travers Morgan and Partners and was estimated at that time to cost £78,000. Its major proposals include a Railway Road leaving the A10 south of the Trumpington street traffic lights, hugging the northbound railway track all the way to Newmarket Road. After crossing the Cam the new road would veer sharply west to follow the St Ives railway line along to the A10 Milton Road before linking up with Arbury Road. The Railway Road should be largely dual two-lane carriageway. Full construction could take many years

1972 10 21
Fears of another prolonged power dispute this winter have led to panic buying of every type of candle in towns throughout Mid-Anglia. Stores report that candle stocks are low or run out and emergency heating and lighting lines are rapidly dwindling. The rush for stock started last week, and now that the electricity power workers have given October 27 as Disruption Day demand for emergency heating and lighting equipment are so great that stores are having difficulty in coping. The manager of Hatters Hardware in Milton Road said his lamp trade had gone up by 60 per cent this week. But he was sorry for the shoppers. "There may not be a strike. If not, the £3 or £4 they spend in here seems rather an expensive insurance policy"

1972 11 30
Cambridge City Council's Trinity Hall Farm Industrial Estate looks more like an army practice ground than a land of golden opportunity for trade and commerce. The only thing that is conspicuous by its absence is industry. Although it is now 10 years since the 12.6 acres off Nuffield Road were designated for industrial use there are still only two firms with premises there. Only firms displaced by council re-development or public works can be sited there. At last week's council meeting members agreed to seek permission from the Department of the Environment to change the re-location criteria in order to allow other firms to take up sites on the estate 72 11 30

1973 03 20
Laser-Scan Ltd, who will become the first Cambridge company to move on to the Trinity Collage science park at Milton Road, are a typical science-based concern. Founded in 1969 the Company was the brainchild of three Cavendish Laboratory scientists. They could not afford the type of equipment which could do the work they wanted, so decided to design their own apparatus and get it made. Within two years they had established firmly the principles they wished to follow, within two further years they had built the necessary working equipment, known as a "sweepnik". However a firm cannot stand still and the firm hopes to be in their 5,000 square feet factory on the Science Park by the end of the summer. As a high-technology business Laser-Scan are precisely what the planners have in mind for the science Park. Work on laying the spine road and sewers began this month and developers hope to have the first phase completed by August. When fully developed the 13-acre site is planned to provide up to sixteen factory units. Trinity College expect the final development to provide jobs for up to 1,000 people

1973 04 14
When 80-year old Louis Sylvester died a secret died with him. For more than sixty years Cambridge people marvelled at the irresistible ice cream that "Lew" of Milton Road, Cambridge, made in the family business he took over from his father. His son Tony said, "Nobody has ever made ice cream like dad. He won diplomas at Olympia for it. I used to help him but only he knew the secret. It is the end of the line now". No other people in Cambridge run that sort of business. When Mr Sylvester left his shop four years ago his departure marked the end of 100 years of the Sylvester ice-cream business

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1973 04 26
The scheme to build a hypermarket for Tesco on the outskirts of Cambridge has been rejected by the city council. The scheme was put forward on behalf of Tesco by Stokes of Cambridge Ltd. They asked permission to build a 100,000 square foot hypermarket with a car park for 900 cars on land off Milton Road next to the railway line. The store would have been one of the largest in Cambridge. In turning it down the planning committee said it was outside the area allocated for development, would encourage extra traffic on a fast trunk route and was against the shopping policy for Cambridge in which large scale development is aimed at the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh Street area

1973 10 19
A £13,000 facelift for Mill Road branch library in Cambridge has been shelved by the city council to leave their architects free to concentrate on housing schemes. The Library Committee were forced to postpone the modernisation plan after hearing that it would be caught in the Government's current economic policy to cut back local council's capital spending. Mill Road was to have been the first of three branch libraries in the city to be modernised with new lighting, decorations and layout. Those at Rock Road and Milton Road were to follow. Members agreed to contact the new Cambridgeshire County Council, who will take over libraries in April, to ask them to consider the three schemes sympathetically

1973 10 19
Laser-Scan Laboratories Ltd, a science-based Cambridge firm set up four years ago, made history when they became the first tenants of the new Cambridge Science Park this week. The Trinity College scheme is being developed on land off Milton road. The Senior Bursar, Dr John Bradfield said they believed it was the first science park in England. "We are 99 per cent certain on signing a contract with a second tenant and we have two more in advanced stages of negotiation", he said. "The idea was first mooted four years ago by the Mott committee and I think we have done very well to get this far in four years". He said the college were looking for a commercial return on their venture, but not necessarily in the usual financial expectations of recovering costs in a given number of years 73 10 19

1973 11 22
It was the Second World War which boosted the trade in used agricultural machinery at Cambridge cattle market. Now, after 30 years on the Hills Road site, it is hoped that the move to the new sales area down Milton Road will give a similar fillip to what is generally regarded as one of Europe’s outstanding second-hand implements market. The cattle market developed over the years and continued unchanged until 1966 when the advent of an £8,000 new corn market proved more or less a flop from the start and received negligible support from farmers and auctioneers. There have been frequent prophecies that the cattle market will eventually go the same way. Obstinately though, it refuses to die

1973 11 27
Cambridge greyhound stadium moves from the dog racing backwoods in February next year when their twice-weekly meetings will come under the auspices of the National Greyhound Racing Club. At present their meetings at Cambridge City Football Club’s Milton Road ground are continuing on Wednesday and Saturday during the floodlighting ban with the aid of a generator installed at Milton Road.

1974 02 19
Cambridge city council are negotiating privately with the University to buy 20 acres off Milton Road which could provide space for up to 400 council houses. The council’s Conservative leader,

John Powley, denied any behind-the-scenes deal with the University on planning permission for the new Robinson College in exchange for the housing land. The 20 acre site lies behind the council housing estate at Ramsden Square. It is occupied by a number of university departments. Some of the land is used for genetic experiments with plants.

1974 03 27
Chesterton Rural Council (1894-1974) began its final journey into the history books of local government when chairman, Coun. Frederick Read, removed his chain of office to mark the end of the council. It disappears next Monday when the area will be taken over by the larger South Cambridgeshire District Council. It was created in 1894 when the poor law guardians of the Chesterton union of parishes were reorganised. The new council met in the Poor Law Institution, now Chesterton hospital in Union Lane, Cambridge.

1974 06 25
Ramsden Square modernisation, p13

1974 08 01
Cambridgeshire Football Association's annual attempt to improve their position as one of the poorest of poor relations where coaching is concerned gets under way at Cambridge City's Milton Road, ground. Freddie Barrett, the county's head of coaching, has been running short, intensive annual courses for 25 years since he qualified as a full-time FA coach, but despite his considerable efforts, coaching in Cambridgeshire is still in its infancy. Over 6,000 people turn out every weekend in Cambridgeshire to play football which puts in perspective the figure of 32 for attendance at last year's coaching course

1974 09 11
Cambridge city football club have submitted plans for a £500,000 night club at their Milton road ground. It is planned that the 1,000-seater cabaret theatre will be built at the Milton Road end of the ground on a site that present houses the supporters' club. "Modern football is in the doldrums and will never pay for itself again", said the chairman. If the club get the go-ahead they intend to engage international stars and provide first-class food and drink

1975 01 02
A petition calling for the replacement of the hundred-year-old St Andrew's school, Chesterton, is to be presented to a Minister at the Department of Education. Efforts to get the school replaced have been going on for at least ten years. They were lent greater urgency when, last October, a young teacher was injured by a lump of plaster falling from the ceiling of one of the classrooms. Children at the school make a ten-minute walk along a dangerous road to go to lunch each day at the Shirley School in Green End Road 75 01 02

1975 06 11
The River Cam is not only so polluted as to be a bather's health hazard, but in recent years has had to be artificially aerated to keep fish alive, an Anglian Water Authority spokesman has confirmed. He spoke of children who suffered "diarrhoea and tummy upsets" after accidentally falling into the river in the Clayhithe area, and of skin divers who were ill after a sponsored Cam swim. He agreed that via Milton Road sewage works some 8 million gallons of effluent were going into the Cam daily. 75 06 11

1975 06 25
Cambridge Science Park was officially opened by Sir Alan Hodgkin, President of the Royal Society and Fellow of Trinity College. The park came from an idea by Sir Neville Mott, who led

a committee which first proposed the setting up of a Science Park in Cambridge to further scientific industrial development in the city. Trinity College has spent £650,000 to date on developing the centre. The site has four tenants so far.

1976 03 15
The possible closure to through traffic of Arbury Road, Cambridge, will be discussed by the city council. Some councillors have been pressing for years for the road closure as a way of improving the environment for people living in the Arbury area. The road is, at peak periods, one of the busiest in Cambridge with commuter traffic. The suggestions are certain to cause a storm of protest. The main objection will centre round the claim that a lot more traffic would be pushed on to the already busy Gilbert Road.

1977 03 09
Cambridge City Football Club's move to quit the Southern League for the Isthmian League third division brought a blazing Milton Road mutiny last night. City chairman Laurie Boost was presented with a petition of 221 names calling for the directors to reverse their decision – or resign. Manager Roy Johnson announced he would quit at the end of the season, club secretary John Aves, groundsman and trainer Bill Brignell and even ball-boys Paul Craft and Philip Butler said they would follow suit if the directors stick to their decision. The players also repeated their view that none of them would drop into the Isthmian League with City.

1977 12 06
Cambridge City Council should consider linking with a private developer to build a skateboard park & look at providing a beginners' skateboarding area and practice runs from the rates. A report says that contrary to some people's beliefs skateboarding is not just a passing phase. Areas like the Romsey recreation ground and the King George playing fields at Trumpington would be suitable introductory areas and Kings Hedges recreation ground and the disused bandstand on Christ's Pieces could be suitable for practising. But it would be difficult to get permission to use the Elizabeth Way roundabout

1978 03 03
No public libraries in Cambridgeshire will be closed this year – and books stocks will not be depleted – although the County Council is facing a continuing financial crisis. The council had threatened to close the Milton Road and Mill Road libraries in Cambridge, village libraries at Stapleford and Milton and two libraries in Peterborough. The threats caused storms of protest and now financial experts have discovered the council has saved £60,000 on last year's spending which can be used to buy new books.

1978 03 29
A Cambridge businessman, Lloyd Stokes, has submitted plans to build a 21-acre industrial estate just north of the old railway on the A10. It is opposite the Trinity Hall Farm science park which he developed from farmland worth about £130 an acre and has recently sold for £200,000. Mr Stokes is still involved in a four-year planning wrangle over what the District Council considers an illegal road at the rear of the Milton Industrial Estate.

1978 04 18
It would cost nearly £300,000 for Cambridge United to move to the Cambridge City club's ground in Milton Road – and the facilities would be no better than those at the Abbey Stadium. The suggestion had been made repeatedly over the years by supporters of both clubs and has come to a head again with United's plans for expansion and a skateboard park. Directors know

their plans to take over common land would be an emotive issue, but it is a waste area and they would pipe a stream which is usually nothing more than a foul ditch.

1979 02 22
As the rubbish collectors' strike continues it seems we are a tidy lot. Those now familiar piles of black shiny plastic have been kept in excellent order. A few 'hot tips' have burst into flames but as the strike goes on each dump begins to acquire a character of its own. At Arbury Court the residents' loyalty to the Beehive supermarket gives the tip a distinctive orange glow, but it is piled up against the side of the men's' lavatories, blocking the air vents. In Glebe Road loose potato peelings and carrot tops spoil a tidy dump but probably the worst is the one in Nuffield Road.

1980

1980 01 10
Customers at Cherry's Stores in Norwich Street, Cambridge, have said goodbye to the couple who have run the shop for 34 years. Lionel Cherry and his wife Kathleen took over in 1946 and built up a business which, in days when petrol was cheaper, offered a free delivery service to Newnham and Arbury. The shop was the place where Robert Sayle started as a draper and has been a grocers for more than 100 years, owned in all that time by just three shopkeepers. It will be the end of a long family connection with the trade. Mr Cherry's uncle had a shop on the junction of Arbury and Milton Roads which became known as Cherry's Corner

1980 06 28
Two hundred children from St Andrew's Junior School, Chesterton watched the Bishop of Ely laid the foundation stone for their new school in Nuffield Road. What they did not see was that after the ceremony workmen knocked-down the specially-built wall and carried off the foundation stone for use another day. It will stay in store until somebody decides where in the school walls it should go. 80 06 28

1980 12 30
Thomas Orbell, the owner of a garage in Milton Road Cambridge for almost 50 years has died. He was widely-known in motor-racing circles because of his son, David, who won the second round of the Clubmans Register Championship at Brands Hatch in April. He was still involved in engine development for his son's present venture in Formula Three racing. 80 12 30

1981 04 08
Cambridge City Football Club hopes to set up an ice rink at their Milton Road ground using synthetic ice. It would be housed in a semi-permanent aluminium and heavy-duty PVC structure which could also be used for five-a-side football, tennis and exhibitions. They hope it will be in place by June and prove a licence to print money. 81 04 08

1982 01 05
Secret wartime experiments involving the production of deadly anthrax serum were conducted at the Institute of Animal Pathology on Milton Road. Now doubts remain about the safety of a piece of land where the carcasses of 12 horses were buried. Details have emerged as the university has applied for planning permission for housing on land close to the Dunn Nutritional Laboratory. The risk of infection is minimal and they plan to cover the immediate area with a concrete slab. 82 01 05 & 05a

1982 02 06

A second burial site thought to contain anthrax-infected carcasses is a stone's throw away from a school for severely-handicapped children says a man who worked at the Milton Road Institute of Animal Pathology during the war. He remembers tight securing precautions after heifers from Newmarket were found to have the disease and buried by council workmen. 82 02 06

1982 04 28
Radioactive rats that had been used in experiments by biochemists were buried on the anthrax site on Milton Road, Cambridge, 25 years ago. Council officials who inspected the land with Geiger counters have found no more radiation than elsewhere. But they had to rely on the memory of a university employee who helped bury them to identify the spot. Samples of soil were sent to Porton Down, the Government's chemical research centre for analysis. They show the site is safe for housing. 82 04 28

1982 05 07
A small sprig of yew to help ward away evil spirits was placed in the concrete during the ceremonial topping out of a futuristic new building at Cambridge Science Park. It will become Napp Laboratories central research and medical centre bringing facilities from four other bases. Around 200 people will work at the new complex which stands in a landscaped site with the main access provided by way of a plaza and a bridge across a canal. 82 05 07

1983 04 25
Hallens of Cambridge is celebrating its golden jubilee. It was founded in 1933 as a used motor-cycle dealership soon moved to premises in Chapel Street, Chesterton which it shared with a haulage business, fish and chip shop and furniture removal firm. Today these premises still house the motorcycle service and parts centre. It then moved into a former dance hall in Union Lane which became the first car workshop and stores. During the war it was requisitioned with a new workshop and an air raid shelter underneath. 83 04 25 supp p10

1983 05 10
Cambridge University is planning to build a £6 million sports complex in the Grange Road area with a new eight-lane athletics track, swimming pool and sports hall. They have long argued that the Kelsey Kerridge sports hall and Milton Road athletics track are too far away from the centre of undergraduate activities. They hope to sell the Milton Road site for housing. 83 05 10 p5

1983 08 31
The so-called 'radio-active anthrax site' off Milton Road has been officially declared safe and not a health risk, Scientists say there is no reason why it cannot be developed for housing. But the areas where animal carcases said to have been infected with anthrax were buried 40 years ago should be concreted over and made into car-parking areas or garages. 83 08 31 p1

1984 02 01
Planning permission has been given for a £10 million redevelopment scheme for Cambridge City Football Club's ground at Milton Road. The present pitch, greyhound track and stands will be demolished and be replaced by a three-storey block of research and development buildings with an underground car park. The development will guarantee the future of the club. 84 02 01 p1

1984 05 22
One of the landmarks of Cambridge's skyline has gone. Cambridge City football club's floodlights were pulled down as demolition men clear the ground in preparation for the construction of a science park. West Ham played at Milton Road to mark the erection of the lights

when City entered the Southern League in 1958. Work has also started on pulling down the two stands as the club moves its ground to an area at the far end. 84 05 22 p34

1984 09 05
Cambridge City Football Club's expanding Thursday market moved to its new base in Cowley Road. Started as part of the club's solvency drive it has developed to become a popular city attraction that has survived the sale of its old site – part of the club's ground in Milton Road. The 70 market traders are hoping to take their regular big crowd to the new site. There will be special buses run by the club from various points in the city. Since it began three years the quality of merchandise has steadily improved. 84 09 05

1984 10 26
The symbol of Cambridge City Football Club's rebuilding programme has risen from the ground at Milton Road. The new pitch is down, the lights are up but there won't be soccer action there until the turn of the year. Then there will be the prospect of real comfort for the 400 or so who will be able to watch from the new stand. In addition to changing and other rooms there will be a social club and café and even a glass-fronted viewing room for directors and guests. 84 10 26 p44

1984 11 20
Cambridge's Hills Road bus depot is to be moved to the outskirts of the city in a multi-million pound swap deal between Cambus and the Stetchworth-based Unex property group. Cambus will exchange its one-acre site for a much larger section of the former D & H Contractor's site in Cowley Road. In return Unex will get control of the bus depot virtually next door to the former Heffer's printing works site which they successfully redeveloped as Botanic House, headquarters of Cambridge Electronic Industries, BBC Radio Cambridgeshire and Betjeman House which was subsequently sold for more than £4 million. 84 11 20 p1

1985 01 23
Hundreds of farmers and traders flocked to Milton Road sale ground for the biggest traction auction in the country. Yilmaz Alademir had come all the way from Farmagusta, Cyprus looking for a tractor he could ship home as they were much cheaper in England. A more typical buyer was Gavin Hamilton of Manor Farm, Great Chesterford. He was looking for wheels and rollers among the dozens of machines and implements at the back of the saleground. The sale was started in the early 1940s by Mr Henry Grain & Cambridge auctioneers Cheffins, Grain and Chalk have been pulling the crowds ever since 85 01 23b

1985 02 11
Cambridge Innovation Centre, designed to provide facilities and support services essential to small companies during their initial development, was opened by the Duke of Edinburgh at the Science Park. For three companies, Cambridge Robotics, Torus Systems and Prelude Technology Investments it represents expansion from previous Science Park premises. Altek Automation and Data Analysis and Research have come from outside Cambridge while Synoptics, which is involved in image processing, has been established by two Cambridge University academics. 86 02 11a

1985 03 11
King's Court, four research and development blocks on the site of Solus Electronics in Kirkwood Road, is a further step in the creation of a silicon belt near Trinity College's Science Park. Others are St John's Innovation Centre and a 20-acre Cambridge Business Park. Plans which have failed to gain permission are for a 60-acre Cambridge Technology Centre off King's Hedges Road and

St John's 'teardrop' site on Milton Road. There is a tremendous demand for high-tech property with half the new development under offer before it has been advertised. 85 03 11d

1985 04 25
A major jobs bonanza is being predicted for Cambridge following a decision to give the green light to a new high-tech development on the outskirts of the city. Up to 750 new jobs may be created at the massive development in Cowley Road where a mixture of high-tech units and warehouses are to be built on the eight-acre site formerly occupied by d & H Contractors. Part of the site will be occupied by Cambus who will move from its Hills Road depot 85 04 25

1985 06 03
American football came to Cambridge with all the razzmatazz and fun which makes it a real family affair across the Atlantic. The air was filled with the smell of quarter-pounders, the sun blazed down Californian-style and even the lady selling fan club paraphernalia was saying 'Have a nice day' as Cambridge Cats made their home debut against Basingstoke Cavaliers at the Cambridge City Stadium in Milton Road. No-one had thought to provide any popcorn and there were no Budweisers but the 600 spectators enjoyed the game. 85 06 03

1985 08 08
Cambridge could soon get a third new superstore competing with Tesco at Bar Hill, Sainsburys in Coldham's Lane and the Beehive complex off Newmarket Road. Asda plans to build a huge new complex on Milton Road opposite the Arbury and King's Hedges housing estates. It would take up almost half of the Cambridge Business Park and include a 750-space car park 85 08 08

1985 10 22
The new park-and-ride service from Cowley Road to the heart of Cambridge has met a slow response. The experimental service which also runs to the Grafton Centre has been laid on in time for the build-up to Christmas with buses every ten minutes and a return fare of 35p. The first day was very quiet but Cambus expect it will get a great deal busier with about 20 passengers per bus. They are also improving the regular service between the cattle market & the city centre. 85 10 22a

1985 11 07
Cambridge planners have thrown out three major proposals that would have created 1,500 new jobs for the city. Out went a scheme to build an Asda superstore in the new Cambridge Business Park in Milton Road and out went plans for a big new shopping centre between King's Hedges Road and the northern bypass. Also rejected was a Unex scheme for a giant complex for high-tech research on the site of a disused vegetable warehouse site between Hills Road and Brooklands Avenue. Planners say it left no room for landscaping and minimal room for parking. Appeals will be made against all the decisions. 85 11 07c

1986 01 22
No developments companies have expressed interest in building and running a small row of shops on the junction of Buchan Street and Kings Hedges Road. The restricted site would be expensive to build and not yield high rents. In addition there has been extensive publicity about possible supermarket building schemes in the area. The city council may build the shops itself in the hope of finding tenants. 86 01 22

1986 01 23
Major structural faults have been discovered in St George's Church, Chesterton – less than 40 years after it was built. The front wall is leaning away from the roof and cracks have been found

on the arches inside the building. An architect's inspection has advised that the problem areas are roped off, but services are still continuing as normal. Built in 1938, St George's was the last Cambridge church to go up before the war. It was designed by Henry Lyon, the man responsible for the chapel at Sidney Sussex College. 86 01 23. May need demolition [9.15]

1986 03 18
Two city libraries at are again under threat of closure, only years after a successful survival battle. Mill Road library is on the wrong side of the railway bridge while Milton Road library is only half-a-mile from Arbury Court. But Councillor Janet Jones describes the plans as disgraceful and says many children and elderly people will be devastated if Milton Road is closed. However Bar Hill and Milton villages are fast-growing and need some library facilities, a report says. 86 03 18

1986 04 22
Campaigners protesting against the threatened closure of Mill Road and Milton Road branch libraries are to lobby councillors when they visit the buildings. A report that says libraries are now in the wrong situation to give the best service to the community. But Mill Road local councillor Anne Campbell said "It is an essentially facility for the area. Many of the present users cannot visit the central library in Lion Yard". 86 04 22

1986 04 24
Employment at Cambridge's booming Science Park has gone up 30 per cent in a year and now stands at around 1,940 jobs. And this does not take account of the growing army of temporary and ancillary staff who keep the park cleaned, fed, serviced and patrolled. Four companies have left over the past year, but 17 new ones arrived. The biggest growth has been shown by Cambridge Life Sciences where staffing has risen from 28 to 50, LKB Biochrom, Napp Laboratories and Torus Systems. Further growth will come by GEC's Marconi Underwater Applied Research Laboratory and the London International Group which is building a research laboratory. 86 04 24a

1986 04 25
Two Cambridge libraries threatened with closure are facing their second crisis in eight years. The axe first loomed over Milton Road and Mill Road branches in 1977 but they were saved together with others in Milton and Stapleford. Now a report says they are old and in the wrong position to provide the best service. But Cambridgeshire Labour councillors have started a campaign to save them and Alliance councillors are organising a petition against closure. 86 04 25

1986 06 06
Camtech's plans for two giant supermarkets at Arbury Camp would fit in with the Unex Group's proposal for a major supermarket and non-food shops on a retail park off King's Hedges Road. But it would offer competition to other schemes currently under discussion. These are the giant Marks and Spencer / Tesco plan for two superstores, a 300-bedroom hotel and multi-screen cinema at Trumpington, Asda's ideas for a supermarket at the Cambridge Business Park on Milton Road and the proposed Tesco store in the Milton Park housing development 86 06 06

1986 07 28
St George's Church, Chesterton is crumbling so badly that it may have to be pulled down – even though it is only 48 years old. Already the front door has been closed because the gable ends are being pushed outwards, tiles need replacing and two flat roofs need resurfacing. Arches inside are cracked and the brickwork needs re-pointing. Rev Peter Tamplin says the congregation would have to raise the money for rebuilding and residents are being asked what they would like to see in a new church 86 07 28

1986 08 01
One of Cambridge's better-known private hotels, the Suffolk House in Milton Road, is for sale at £250,000. The main structure was built in about 1930 by a Cambridge doctor and later owned by a professor of botany who stocked the garden with many kinds of trees and shrub. Outbuildings include a summer house and two-bedroomed timber chalet for the owners' occupation. It was converted from a private house in 1970 and is primarily used by business clients connected with Pye group of companies and firms on the Science Park 86 08 01a

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1986 12 12
Milton Road Infants is one of eight Cambridgeshire schools linked through a modem to an electronic mail system, the 'Times Network System'. Using word processors the children begin a story which is then finished by children at the Beeches School in Peterborough where 70 per cent of the pupils are Pakistani. They are also hoping to link up with Newcastle and America or a kibbutz in Israel. If teachers use the links imaginatively the pioneering new project will prove its worth. 86 12 12 & a

1987 03 07
An Alliance county councillor's plans to close Milton Road public library and sell off the site for redevelopment has staggered his party colleagues. He claims the closure together with another in Lt Downham and two in Peterborough would be in accordance with plans to 'rationalise' the number of libraries. But other councillors say they will start a campaign to keep them open. Robert Rhodes James, MP, has also vowed to fight 'tooth and nail' to save Milton Road library from closure 87 03 07, 12a

1987 03 13
Milton Road library is not to be closed – 87 03 13

1987 06 23
The controversial 'anthrax' site off Milton Road is to be sealed off under a giant new office block complex. Cambridge University plan to build a biotechnology research park covering 10 acres where the bodies of infected animal carcases were buried during the war. Extensive testing has proved that the site is safe and no trace of the killer disease was found. Now it will be covered with concrete to provide a car park 87 06 23

1987 08 10
The search for somewhere to live is becoming increasingly desperate. Yet more than 400 council homes in the region are standing empty. In Cambridge – where the council housing list tops 4,000 – one house in Fen Road has been empty for a tear, another in Long Reach Road for nine months and a property in Oak Tree Avenue for 20. At Girton four police houses have been empty for almost two years. Officials say some need repair, campaigners claim it is down to inefficiency. 87 08 10b & c

1987 12 01
Cambus has bought the entire coach operation of arch rivals Premier Travel. Premier, founded in 1936 has dominated the Cambridge travel scene in recent years and is expecting record profits. It has a fleet of 75 coaches based in Kings Hedges Road and all 129 employees in the coach division will become employees of Cambus. Earlier this year the two companies started a joint venture involving a travel centre at Drummer Street bus station. 87 12 01

1988 01 02
Premier Travel, one of Cambridge's biggest coach firms, has been bought out by its management after an earlier deal with Cambus fell through. Its founder, Arthur Lainson is delighted the company will be retaining its identity. Premier Travel, founded in 1936, has dominated the local travel scene with a fleet of 75 coaches based in Kings Hedges Road. The travel part of the business, which includes 14 travel agencies across East Anglia, is to be sold off separately. 88 01 02

1988 04 21
House-starved Cambridge is to get two massive new housing developments. More than 170 properties will be built on Milton Road near the Science Park, part of a 38-acre scrubland site owned by Cambridge University, where Trend Housing plans to construct 102 houses costing from £55 - £120,000. The King Street Housing Society has also bought two acres where H. Rose (Builders) of Stretham will start 69 properties on Monday. Some will be sold to first-time buyers on a shared ownership basis. 88 04 21

1988 10 18
Hallens have converted their Shell garage at Mitcham's Corner to become self-service with the latest electronic pumps. There has been a petrol station on the site for many years. Previously it was operated by Oliver Rix and sold Texaco fuel. Hallens has sold petrol since the 1930s and until now has maintained the traditional attended service. This will continue at its garage in Union Lane for customers who value the personal service. 88 10 18e

1989 05 11
Labgear Cablevision, the television communications equipment company. It makes good profits but its business in the area of satellite dishes, aerials and cable TV distribution systems does not fit into CEI's new strategic plans. It employs 125 people on the Cambridgeshire Business Park at Ely with 100 more at its main base at Abbey Walk, a site being considered for redevelopment for housing. It is one of three that Cambridge Electronic Industries plan to sell, leaving Cathodeon Crystals at Nuffield Road, Newmarket Microsystems, PED & Varelco at Newmarket in the local area. Cambridge Interconnection Technology, which used to be on the Cambridge Science Park has moved to Scotland 89 05 11

1989 05 17
A light railway may be built, with private cash, linking the centre of Cambridge with the main line station on the outskirts. It could form a part of an extensive park-and-ride network based on a light railway system around the northern and eastern industrial sections of the city. County Councillors have also asked experts to consider building a gigantic car park under the Butts Green end of Midsummer Common. A new road system to relieve the heavily congested areas of Milton Road and Elizabeth Way are also being examined to sort out the growing traffic chaos quickly 89 05 17

1989 05 19

The A10 will be dualled from Cambridge to Ely as part of an unprecedented Government roads programme. The A1 is to be made a continuous three-lane motorway from London to Huntingdon, the M11 is to have three continuous lanes from London to Cambridge and the A604 is to be dualled with three lanes on each side from Cambridge to Huntingdon. The A11 will be made a dual carriageway from Newmarket and to Norwich and the Northern bypass will have three lanes from Girton interchange to Milton Road. It will all save lives and make industry more competitive. 89 05 19

1989 07 28
Fifteen people were taken to hospital and a dozen evacuated from their homes after a major chemical alert in Cambridge. Forty firemen battled to prevent an explosion after highly toxic chemicals overheated at the Cleanaway plant. One was rushed to hospital when a safety wall collapsed crushing him against drums on the site in Cowley Road and three police offices were hurt as they helped families to escape the toxic fumes. Emergency services stopped all trains and the nearby Cambus depot was also affected. 89 07 28

1989 10 01
The controversial Cambridge park and ride scheme has started with a whimper. At peak commuter time there were 17 cars at the 400-space Cowley Road and even fewer at the 150-space car park on Clifton Road. Users were enthusiastic: Sophy Moxley of Willingham, a sales assistant, said "It will save me money because it only costs 50p which is cheaper than parking in the city centre though Steve Field from Stretham says it is inconvenient as you don't have access to our car during the day. Councillor Andrew Duff said the area around Castle Hill, where residents-only zones have been introduced, was 'almost pastoral' though Canterbury and Benson Street were packed with cars. 89 10 01

1989 10 09
Cowley Road park and ride site taken over by auction – 89 10 09

1989 11 21
Co-op chiefs have been forced to sell off the freehold of their Burleigh Street store to fend off a cash crisis. The Victorian building has been sold to a London Investment Company and they will lease back the premises. The Co-op began trading in Burleigh Street in 1908 but has been hit by soaring interest rates on loans taken out to cover major projects such as the massive Beehive Centre. It has already put branches up for sale in Mill Road, Milton Road, Waterbeach, Duxford & Cherry Hinton. 89 11 21

1989 11 23
A giant 600-home council estate could be built on allotment land off Histon and Kings Hedges Road in a bid to ease the desperate housing crisis in Cambridge. The allotments are under-used and could be relocated. The land and a huge acreage bordering the A45 Northern Bypass is in the 'Green Belt' which is protected from development. But the Government has indicated it wants this removed so it could be used for hi-tech purposes. Some councillors are unhappy with the number of homes being suggested and would prefer fewer to be built 89 11 23

1989 12 21
Cambridge's Park and Ride scheme is failing to attract its major target – the city's commuters. Yesterday morning there were only 15 cars parked at Cowley Road while queues of vehicles drove bumper-to-bumper down Milton Road. But it is drawing off-peak shoppers and tourists. The County say it is too soon to draw conclusions. A similar scheme in Oxford had taken a long time to become established. 89 12 21a

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1990 01 19
Science park feature – 90 01 19a

1990 01 24
Heffer's opened a brand-new one-stop business centre at Cambridge Business Park, Milton Road, bringing their commercial stationery, office equipment and office furniture departments under one roof 90 01 24a

1990 02 26
Trinity Hall Industrial Estate in Nuffield Road was developed in 1982 housing firms such as Cathodeon, Camlab, Serck Services, Allgoods and Andrew McCulloch. Now it includes Dan Morley Engineering, Platonoff and Harris and TeleTape Video which produces commercial videos. The estate is located on land formerly owned by Cambridge businessman, Mr Lloyd Stokes, who also owned the site on which the adjacent Cambridge Business Park is still being developed. 90 02 26a

1990 03 01
Super high speed bus lanes are to be built alongside roads in a bid to ease Cambridge's traffic chaos. Experts hope this will give a boost to the flagging park-and-ride scheme. Buses would be equipped with a special electronic 'eye' to change traffic lights in their favour. The first would run from Cowley Road to the city centre and later most main roads would incorporate them. At present buses are held up in traffic jams and passengers take just as long as they would have done in their cars. On some peak time journeys buses have only five passengers but large numbers of shoppers have been using them– 90 03 01

1990 03 23
Development plans that could have brought 1,000 new jobs to Cambridge have been thrown out by council planners worried about increased traffic congestion. Opposing the scheme for more offices on the Cambridge Business Park one councillor said 'Cambridge does not need 1,000 jobs'. Crown Estates wanted to build 15 new units on the Cowley Road site but the scheme was rejected since they felt it would bring firms from outside which would further worsen the housing problem. 90 03 22a

1990 12 23
New checks ordered on anthrax site, Milton Rd – 90 10 23, a

Newmarket Road towards East Road, 1928

10456

c.44.6 : Newmarket Road area

1897 03 01
Mr B.W. Beales has the pleasure to announce that he has disposed of the business carried on for many years by him as a brewer and wine and spirit merchant at the Panton Brewery in this town, to Messrs Harold Barber Bailey (son of the late Mr Frederick Bailey, of Burleigh House, Newmarket Road) and Herbert Hazeldine Tebbutt, the continuing partner in the late firm of Robinson & Tebbutt, and the business will in future be carried on by these gentlemen under the style of Bailey & Tebbutt

1897 04 02
Row on Newmarket Road, p2

1897 06 21
Such has been the general progress during the Victorian era that it is difficult from the point of view of today to recall the Cambridge of 1837. In the year of her Majesty's accession but few houses stood on the marshy spot which we now know as the populous district of New Town. There were a few residents in Newnham and some scattered dwellings in the neighbourhood of New-square while beyond on the Newmarket-road lay Barnwell of historic note. Chesterton, as a part of Cambridge, was confined to the outgrowth of the town in the neighbourhood of Castle Hill and a plan of the town stops short at the Mill-road corner of Parker's Piece. In 1837 the population would be about 21,000. Recently it has been estimated at over 50,000.

1897 06 23
The festivities in Cambridge (for Victoria's Jubilee) were inaugurated on Monday evening with a cyclists' lantern parade and a more successful commencement it would have been difficult to suggest. Over a hundred cyclists attended by far the greater portion being in costume or having their machines decorated. The cyclists assembled in the Priory Grounds, Newmarket-road. A

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large crowd gathered in the neighbourhood and hailed with applause the decorated machines as they approached. The first prize for the best decorated machine was awarded to Mr Dunn who had made his machine represent the Indian jungle. A deer's head was shown from the front of the machine in the middle of grasses and evergreen, while behind, monkeys sported among the ferns and vegetation. Mr Dunn himself was attired in the garb of a hunter.

1897 08 02
Messrs Gain, Moyes and Wisbey offered for sale the Shakespeare Brewery, Newmarket-road, Cambridge and 15 freehold licensed inns, public houses and beerhouses. Lots commenced at £500 and rose rapidly - in the case of the Red Bull, Barton Road to £2,050. Other prices included The Shakespeare Brewery and Inn (£2,000), The Greyhound, Lt Wilbraham (£800), The Bakers' Arms, Fulbourn (£950), The Railway Inn, Harlton (£725) and The Cherry Tree beerhouse, Swaffham Fen (£600)

1897 11 06
Carter Jonas offered for sale by auction the important freehold property of the Fen Ditton Hall Estate, comprising the fine old manor house known as "Ditton Hall", Ditton Meadows on the Long Reach, the Home Farm at Fen Ditton and 402 acres of land. Three lots on the east side of Ditton Lane, each containing 1 acre of land were sold for £325 and three acres fronting Newmarket Road realised £220. The Fen Ditton Hall, with 72 acres of grass land known as Ditton Meadows found several bidders but the property was bought in at £4,000 and several small plots of grass land adjoining were withdrawn

1898 10 19
Mr Langford, of Newmarket Road, Cambridge sustained serious injuries as the result of an attempt to stop a runaway horse. The infuriated animal, which was attached to a cart, took fright on King's Parade and continued its mad career in the direction of King's College. On reaching the college entrance, the runaway attracted the attention of Mr Langford who rushed up, and seizing the reigns, succeeded in bringing the horse to a standstill. The suddenness with which the animal was brought up caused it to swerve and one of the wheels of the vehicle passed over his face, which was very badly cut.

1899 02 16
Mr Slingsby drew the attention of Cambridge council to the want of public conveniences. He thought the present state of affairs was a disgrace and a scandal to this civilised and intellectual town. They should consider underground lavatories for males and females at Hyde Park Corner (under the shelter), Market Hill (under the Conduit) & at the junction of East Road and Newmarket Road.

1900

1900 01 18
Messrs Headley & Edwards told an inquiry that Cheddar's Lane afforded access to the brickyard belonging to Thoday and Co. Ltd who were large employees of labour in Cambridge and a very great deal of the traffic passed between the brickyards and Newmarket Road. As a result the lane was in a very bad condition.

1900 08 29
The Star Brewery applied for a licence for a new hotel which it was proposed to build in close contiguity to the new railway station which the Great Eastern Company were building at Newmarket. The station would be one of the architectural features of the town and it had occurred

to those who catered for the public that if a station of that magnitude was to be erected, there should be a hotel worthy of the station. The Brewery had secured the services as architect of Colonel Edis, who had prepared the plans of Sandringham House. It would be in the Georgian style with a red brick front and would contain eight bedrooms. The company would give up the Lamb Inn licence and the provisional licence for a new hotel near Warren Hill station. The licence was refused.

1900 09 04
Those who now assemble to witness the ancient ceremony of proclaiming Stourbridge Fair can guess to what extent its glory has departed. The fair has dwindled down to almost the level of the village feast. At one time business and pleasure stalls extended from the railway bridge to East Road and down to the river's edge on Stourbridge common. The custom of proclaiming the different portions of the fair is still religiously observed – the leather fair, the hop fair, the wood fair and so on, when no such exist or are likely to be revived. The Toll Collector broke down a portion of the fence dividing Newmarket road from what was in years gone by part of the fairground, and hurled the portion of broken fence on to the now cultivated ground thereby signifying the right of the Corporation to that ground for six weeks. This concluded the ceremony and the Mayor and town officers departed.

1900 11 26
On Saturday the Inns of Court Mounted Infantry joined the Cambridge University Rifles in a field day on the Newmarket Road. The tactical scheme presumed that a convoy from Newmarket was desirous of entering Cambridge along the main road through Quy and south of Fen Ditton. The CURV were told to attack, capture, hamper or destroy this convoy. Most interesting operations followed with cyclists, horsemen and infantry all fully employed. As dusk set in the convoy seized its opportunity and slipped past. The public schools and town and local corps were unable to attend at the last moment as their rifles had been called in for Government inspection.

1901 02 18
An outbreak of fire occurred at the works of the Cambridge Brick Company, situated between Coldham's Lane and Newmarket Road on the outskirts of the densely populated district of Barnwell. The fire attracted large crowds and the flames, aided by a gentle breeze, spread rapidly, soon mounting in the air a distance of about a hundred feet. In just over two hours everything had yielded to the flames and all that remained was the damaged and broken parts of the valuable machinery. Fortunately the conflagration was confined to the corrugated iron roofed wooden building covering the machinery or the entire works could easily scarcely have escaped destruction

1901 11 22
The 32nd anniversary of the Theatre Royal Barnwell Mission, Newmarket Road, Cambridge was celebrated. Three private boxes had been prepared for the comfort of those who attended the meetings, the building frequently containing over 1,000. If the theatre had been altered when it came into their possession it would not have done a tenth of the good it had done. By keeping it in the original form they get people who would not attend an ordinary place of worship. They had introduced lantern services, which had caused prejudice, but people were very nervous about any new form of service.

1902 03 22
Sir – A beautiful permanent memorial of the Coronation year would be the building of a bridge at De Freville Avenue. The Avenue is planted with elm trees on each side, the houses are all substantially, and some very tastefully, built; they are all set back and have flower gardens in

front, making a very attractive approach to the proposed new bridge. It would provide a safe road for children attending the best Cambridge schools and provide the nearest way to Newmarket Road and the Railway Station, thus benefiting labourers, working men, college servants etc. The more bridges there are built over the river the more surely you bind communities together to the advantage of both Cambridge and Chesterton – F.R. Leach

1902 04 11
Sir – Cambridge council propose to erect a clock tower at the end of Station Road as a permanent memorial of the coronation. There are other places more suitable. The Four Lamps on Newmarket Road would be better and a great convenience to Barnwell and Chesterton. But why not erect a statue to our departed Queen, Victoria? This could be done by the removal of the present dirty drinking fountain and replaced by one more useful with the statue to her memory – Charles Hoppett

1902 08 12
All day the great mass of silk which was presently to make a journey to the skies was a source of deep interest. Around Parker's Piece where the balloon was taking its huge meal of 32,000 feet of coal-gas were rings of spectators. Slowly the gas inflated the silk, the aeronauts loosened the ropes and the balloon rose from the grass a graceful pear-like shape. After settling the final details Spencer gave the word for the two passengers to jump aboard, then with a startling rapidity the balloon leaped up and was soon several hundred feet above the earth. It first travelled in the direction of Hills Road but then, caught by a current of wind, sailed over to the Newmarket side

1903 05 20
Another prosecution for driving a motor car at excessive speed was brought before magistrates. PC Connell said that on Easter Monday he was on duty near the 50 mile stone on Newmarket Road when he saw a motor car occupied by three gentlemen being driven at great speed. When the car passed he noticed the time, then mounted his cycle and followed after the car to the next milestone near Worcester Lodge where he conferred with PC Bugg and found the mile was completed in 110 seconds, which worked out at the rate of 32½ miles per hour. The driver was fined £1.

1903 06 03
The new municipal cemetery, which Cambridge Corporation has prepared on Newmarket Road, was opened for interments. In anticipation of the time when the general public will regard burial more from a sanitary than from a sentimental point of view, a part of the ground adjoining Ditton Lane has been reserved for the erection of a crematorium. The first interment was a child named Alfred Willet Whitmore; the coffin was borne by six young ladies and Mr Ellis Merry was the undertaker.

1903 08 10 c
Sir – Barnwell is not a "most miserable part of Cambridge" but a neighbourhood inhabited by respectable working people; there are whole streets of bay-windowed respectable residences occupied by shopmen, clerks etc who work in the centre of the town. I will admit than on Newmarket Road, a district about a mile in length, cursed by about twenty public houses, there are a few poor cottages, but chiefly where the pubs are thickest – A Barnwell Tradesman

1903 10 06
From certain events that occurred in Shamrock Passage, Newmarket Road, Cambridge recently it appears that the virtues of the flat-iron as an aid to argument continues to meet with dangerous recognition. One woman adopted this method of silencing her neighbour who was rendered

insensible. Complainant: "She flew out of the house, shouted 'You old ---, take that'. I went down and remember nothing afterwards. Defendant: "When I came home you was wonderful drunk … you kicked me and 'busted my door open"

1903 11 21
A growing demand for the stone, marble and granite objects with which the memory of the dead are perpetuated indicates an expansion of business for those who provide these melancholy tokens. Messrs Ivett and Reed have found their premises on Mill Road and Regent Street inadequate and have opened a new branch on Newmarket Road, appropriately near the new cemetery. The premises consist of a dwelling house and show-room and are built of Bath stone with a portico supported by two graceful Corinthian pillars. Inside is a chimney-piece of statuary marble upon which delicate-looking foliage is represented in the Italian style

1904 04 21
Cambridge Paving Committee received a memorial from a number of residents in the Hobson Street area calling attention to the present state of the carriage-way. They directed the Surveyor to report the cost of paving the street with wood blocks, together with the portion of St Andrew's Street from the tramway terminus. But Hobson Street was used by very few people; traffic was not half what it used to be and as the trams were likely to be electrified it would be better to wait. However a great amount of traffic came from Newmarket Road to the centre of town down King Street; very often there was a great block of traffic in Sussex Street because it was dangerous to go down Hobson Street where the pebbles were very uneven. Traffic went on dropping, and business went on dropping, simply because the street was so badly paved

1904 06 28
Newmarket Road Tabernacle, p3

1904 07 02
Newmarket Road cemetery, p3

1904 10 01 c
William Chapman, a travelling hawker and umbrella repairer at present staying in a caravan at the Butcher's Arms, Newmarket Road, Cambridge told magistrates a man had asked to drink out of his mother's glass. When she refused he'd used bad language and struck his wife who called out "Bill run quick, there's a man a-beating of me". The man, tripped him up, got on top of him and bit his arm. Defendant, a pedlar who was staying at the pub, said he was under the influence of drink and was sentenced to a month's imprisonment with hard labour. Police said they would make a full report on the condition and management of the pub.

1904 12 07 c
The anticipation of the probability of distress in Cambridge some weeks ago, before the wintry weather came to give a keener edge to hunger and a more painful and sharp reminder to the poor of their inadequate resources in food and clothing, was widely discussed but was felt to be unduly magnified. The Town Council vetoed a proposal to supply aid to the unemployed. But Miss Wilson of the Nursing Institution on Newmarket Road began to undertake the provision of free dinners to which the children of poor parents resort for their midday meal of soup and bread. "We give the children as much as ever they can hold", she said. Boys in pitiably ragged garments and decrepit old women and little girls with starvation all too plainly written on their features come with jugs to take soup home to those unable through illness or lack of clothing to come themselves

1904 12 22
A clay gas pipe has been dug up in Newmarket Road. It is probably one of those used when coal gas was first introduced to Cambridge about 1836. Previous to this oil gas was manufactured by John Grafton from works in Staffordshire Street and found considerable favour with inhabitants until about 1830. Six years later he began to manufacture coal gas; there were only two small gas holders and by 1848 only 400 street lamps. Now the Cambridge Gas Company supplies 1,160 public lamps in the town alone

1904 12 31
For some time Miss Wilson and her hard-working band of ladies have been daily allaying the pangs of hunger in hundreds of little children and their mothers in the Newmarket Road area of Cambridge by giving them free dinners. Now their effort is brought to an end. Not only are the financial resources exhausted but the staff have physically worked themselves out. But on the very day that these free meals cease the CDN Shilling Fund commences its distribution of tickets for food, fuel and clothing, continuing the work they have been compelled to give up. Subscriptions continue to come steadily in with cheques from Messrs Starr and Rignall photographers, Moore and Company tobacconists and the Cambridge Waterworks Company

1905 06 15
The whole of the Duchess of Westminster's missing jewellery has been discovered in Cambridge including a very valuable pearl necklace and twenty diamond brooches. Police arrested a Cambridge man formerly employed as a night watchman at Grosvenor House; they then went to a house in Priory Road and to a field up Newmarket Road where the jewellery was found. 05 06 15a

1905 07 18
The new Cambridge cemetery on Newmarket Road is nothing less than a small farm with oats, wheat and barley covering over 20 acres. As yet very few interments have taken place and years must elapse before graves encroach upon a great expanse of the site which would otherwise be lying unproductive. The crops have a very promising appearance and will produce a profit for ratepayers 05 07 18a & b

1906 01 06
Last night's gale was one of the most severe within living memory. Great damage was done all over Cambridge. On Newmarket Road a tall chimney at the brickworks began to sway violently and then fell with a tremendous crash. The large trees at the Backs suffered considerably; five were uprooted and blown into Queen's Road. During the morning numbers of poor people were busily engaged in taking away the portions they could carry for firewood. Two children took away a branch of considerable weight using a pair of wheels taken from a perambulator 06 01 06d-e

1906 02 08
We deeply regret the death of Harry Cotterill Stearn of the famous Cambridge photographic firm. He asked to be laid at rest in the new cemetery, Newmarket Road, 'within sound of my work' – the commotion caused by the University boat races where for many years his slight figure has been familiar to successive generations of undergraduates. 06 02 08a

1906 03 21
Since 1886 the parish of St Andrew the Less has theoretically been richer by the sum of £5,299 through the munificence of Frederick Bailey, a well-known brewer who resided at Burleigh House, Newmarket Road. Up to the present the riches have conferred no practical benefit but now

a scheme has been formulated and income will flow to the relief of poor residents. There is also to be a commemoration service on his birthday. Now a poor parish will receive a substantial charity and the memory of a generous benefactor will be kept green for many an age. 06 03 21a & b

1906 05 12
Stourbridge Fair was once very important but now was of very small dimension. The council took a toll of 4d for each horse, 2d for each pony and 1d for a cow. They also got money from the roundabouts and shows, making £33. But they had the expense of opening the fair, which meant a couple of carriages. Most of the fair was held on the side of Garlic Row but now there was a scheme for bringing a road right through from the Newmarket Road. Mr Banyard had started to erect some house and wanted to stop fair people putting their vans upon his ground. 06 05 12c &d

1906 08 25
Newmarket Road was the scene of a demonstration which proves that whatever the morality of a district individually, collectively it is on the side of strict morality. The people who incurred the displeasure of the neighbourhood were the objects of a considerable amount of hustling in the streets and a crowd gathered in front of their house beating tin kettles and similar utensils. 06 08 25a

1906 11 16
The Compensation Authority considered claims for premises closed under the Licensing Act. They included a beerhouse at North Brook End, Steeple Morden, The Plough at Comberton, the Red Cow, Landbeach and Carrier's Cart at Lt Shelford. Potton Brewery said they would lose £275 if the licence of a beerhouse at Heath Road, Litlington was taken away but accepted £240 as compensation. However Benskin's Watford Brewery refused £251 for the Sun in Newmarket Road, Cambridge. also Stapleford Dolphin, Waterbeach Haunch of Mutton & Plough & Horses, Sawston – Flower Pot, Willingham – King William IV, Bottisham Plough, Soham Queen's Arms and Old Brewery 06 11 16a & b

1906 11 17
Licensing compensation – Sawston Flower Pot, Cambridge: Newmarket Road Sun, Honey Hill Beehive; Willingham King William IV – 06 11 17 a & b & c

1906 11 19
For many years it has been the custom for men employed in the various bakery businesses in Cambridge to hold an annual supper known as the Bakers' Clem, provided through the generosity of the master bakers and millers. This year 70 men and boys sat down to a substantial meal at the Star Tap, Newmarket Road after which songs were sung 06 11 19

1907 04 02
The name of Fred Karno is synonymous with mirth and hilarity, his pantomimic sketches are popular everywhere. Two are being staged nightly at the Hippodrome, Newmarket Road which he has specially transformed into a comfortable music hall. Last night the place was crowded 07 04 02

1907 07 27
Sir - On Thursday afternoon 89 motor cars passed over the Newmarket Road to London and the average speed was 40 mph! It is not at all uncommon to see them travelling between 60 and 85

miles per hour, exceeding the fastest train. Motorists fly past knowing that often the dust is so great that the number plate is obscured – 'Farmer' 07 07 27

1907 10 12
When Sanger's Circus marched into Cambridge from Newmarket, a roadman was sitting by the side of the road near the 'Paper Mills' devouring his breakfast. The observant eye of one of the elephants was quick to perceive this, and stretching out his trunk he 'commandeered' the poor man's basket, which contained his dinner as well. 07 10 12b

1907 11 05
A brewer's drayman was fined for hawking beer. An Inland Revenue officer said he saw a boy stop a cart belonging to William Pegg, brewer of Newmarket Road, and say "They want you over there", pointing to some men engaged in harvesting. The man had taken them a gallon jar off the cart for which he received one shilling. It was extremely unfair to sell beer that way as it took away from the custom of those who were legally entitled to sell it. The brewer said he had told the drayman not to sell beer without an order; the brewing business was a hobby of his and he would not be intentionally guilty of an illegal practice. 07 11 05 & a

1908 03 12
In the St Matthew's area of Cambridge are many public houses and the poverty of small homes threw the young people into the streets in search of amusement. There were thirteen different buildings in which social evenings and gymnastic clubs were continually held throughout the week. But some young men find infinitely more pleasure in racing through the streets and hooliganism. A boys' club at the Barnwell Theatre Mission or the Coffee Tavern on Newmarket Road would be worth trying. 08 03 12b & c

1908 04 16
Newmarket Road cemetery was too expensive, ratepayers claimed. The land had cost four times what adjacent ground had fetched, the walls were crumbling and the cottage built of the poorest bricks so the papers hung in strips inside. There were four greenhouses and a kind of chapel where part of the service was held – all of which had to be heated. A number of beds had been planted with bulbs and expensive flowers whereas herbaceous plants would do quite well. A number of people visited on a Sunday bringing children who played in the open space, but it should not be a recreation ground. 08 04 16

1908 08 14
Newmarket roads, speed of motors – CWN 08 08 14

1908 09 18
Last year Cambridge magistrates granted eleven occasional licences for the period of Stourbridge Fair. But this year they have been reduced to just six, three for the horse fair and three for the pleasure fair. They are to the landlords of the Dog and Pheasant, Birdbolt and Burleigh Arms on Newmarket Road, The Ship in Princess Street, Empress on Thoday Street and City Arms, Sturton Street. CWN 08 09 18 p3

1909 09 25
If the safety of England can be gauged by her miniature rifle clubs, then England must be safe indeed. Everywhere these little societies of keen shots have been springing up like mushrooms and nowhere has been more prolific than Cambridge. The latest club meets at the Bell Inn, Newmarket Road and already has a membership of 50. They would learn not only to hit the bull's

eye at practice, but in times of dire necessity to shoot straight at other targets and so keep their land intact in case of invasion. CWN 09 09 25 p3

1908 11 06
The Cambridge District Nurses moved into their new home standing in its own grounds on Newmarket Road. Designed by W.M. Fawcett and built by Coulson and Lofts, it has a smart exterior appearance. Facing the road is the entrance to the surgery with the dining room, and kitchen with sitting rooms for the Superintendent and nurses on the first floor together with four bedrooms and another three on the second floor. The building is lighted by incandescent gas and fitted with electric bells. CWN 08 11 06 p5

1908 12 04
Cambridge is not too well supplied with private nursing homes for the treatment of medical and surgical cases so the Priory Nursing Home almost opposite Christ Church, Newmarket Road, is welcome. It stands in grounds of nearly an acre with a garden sloping down to the river, isolated from the throb and vibration of traffic in one of the healthiest spots in Cambridge. A sense of comfort pervades the rooms and lurks in the corners and it seems hard to realise one is in a place associated with sickness and physical discomfort. 08 12 04

1909 01 22
The new Abbey miniature rifle range opened in the grounds of the coffee tavern at 158, Newmarket Road. The eight targets, which can be set and returned for inspection by a winding mechanism, are illuminated by incandescent gas burners and the building is absolutely fireproof. It is hoped to build a pavilion and to have an open-air range in the summer. The district can now boast of two clubs, the other being at the 'Bell'. 09 01 22

1909 02 19
The gallant band of old soldiers who fought in the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny gets smaller every year. Cambridge man James Gray died in the workhouse, where the poor are so well looked after and was buried at Mill Road cemetery. There was no time to arrange for a military funeral but Captain Heal sent a large Union Jack to be placed on the coffin. Four members of the Territorial Force volunteered to act as pall bearers but assembled at Newmarket Road cemetery. On realising their mistake they drove to Mill Road which they reached just after the sorrowful ceremony had concluded and the mourners had left. 09 02 19

1909 09 24
An explosion occurred at the Cambridge Gasworks on Newmarket Road. Two men working on the top of the beds of the retorts were badly cut but managed safely to descend a ladder to the ground. Covered with tar and bleeding profusely they were conveyed in a cab to Addenbrooke's Hospital. One refused to be put under chloroform whilst his injuries were dressed as that would necessitate his detention in the Hospital. CWN 09 09 24

1910

1910 03 04
By the death of Charles Stearn of Brookfields Cambridge loses one of its few Crimean veterans. He was born at Barrington and joined the Cambridgeshire Regiment in 1846 with whom he fought at the Alma where at least 1,400 men lost their lives. At Inkerman the Russians came right up to the bayonets and the Russian dead numbered six to each Englishman. After a couple of years in the Crimea the Regiment was sent off to Canada where their boat struck a rock off Newfoundland and went down in half an hour. He had his wife and youngest son on board and

got them into the lifeboats with difficulty. Later he was landlord of the Seven Stars on Newmarket Road CWN 10 03 04j & k

1910 07 08
A foreigner, accompanied by a performing bear, stopped to refresh himself and his animal at the Bird Bolt public house, Newmarket Road. Sitting down on some straw next to another man the alien proceeded to break up a loaf of bread he had bought. The bear, who was held by a chain round his foot, evidently thinking the other chap was going to receive its share of the food, clawed hold of the man's leg and then sprang at and clawed his shoulder. The owner showing remarkable promptitude in pulling the animal off but. A performing bear badly mauled the landlady of a public house in Hertfordshire on Saturday. 10 07 08bb

1910 10 07
The scheme for extending the Borough boundaries so as to include Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and the urban portions of Grantchester, Trumpington and Fen Ditton was formally launched. The boundary with Chesterton is an imaginary line running down the centre of the river which presents legal difficulties over dredging. The river is used by member of the University for rowing but most of the boathouses are on the Chesterton side. The Corporation own a cemetery the parish of Fen Ditton. They have constructed a sewer and laid water mains along Newmarket Road and the land will no doubt be used for building. 10 10 07e & i & j

1911 03 10
A collision occurred between a motor van belonging to Messrs Lever of the Port Sunlight Soap Company and a motor car (CE 1037), at the junction of East Road and Newmarket Road. The back wheel of the motor car struck the back part of the van with the result that the front axle and steering gear were bent and the speedometer damaged. A spoke was broken from the nearside back wheel and a bolt smashed out of the hub of the wheel of the motor car. Fortunately the damage done was not very serious and no personal injuries were sustained. 11 03 10c

1911 07 28
Manure heap fire Newmarket Road – 11 07 28b
Fire manure heap back of Old Priory Tap, Newmarket Road 11 07 28m

1912 01 19
Thomas Askham was one of the oldest and best-known of Cambridge tradesmen. As a young man he worked for Thomas Hunnybun, the coach builder of Sidney Street, and then founded the coach builder businesses on Newmarket Road, Regent Street and a house in London. But as the motor industry grew, there was less for him to do and he had to employ fewer men. Jointly with Mr Tudor, he built the Hippodrome on Auckland Road, of which he was proprietor at his death. Before the era of the picture palace this place of amusement was exceedingly popular and provided many with healthy enjoyment who would otherwise have been walking the street. 12 01 19c

1912 02 23
In 1898 a number of men in the neighbourhood of Newmarket Road decided to form an allotment association to acquire land that the Co-operative Society were relinquishing. 12 02 23f

1912 09 13
A serious accident occurred to an employee of Messrs Watts and Son, timber merchants, on Newmarket Road. He was working at his tile machine when he caught his right hand in the gault knives, which drew his arm into the machine. His fellow worker was able to stop the machine at

once. Drs Naish and Pain were called and it was found necessary to chloroform him and take the machine to pieces before the arm could be extricated. He was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital where the arm was amputated speedily. He is doing as well as can be expected 12 04 26e

1912 10 25
Messrs King and Harper's magnificent new motor garage and showroom in Bridge Street is one of the most commodious in the Eastern Counties. It has accommodation for over 100 motor cars and several hundred motor cycles, there is a large stock of new and second-hand machines and the workshops are completely equipped with up-to-date plant driven by electric power. It is on three storeys with an electric lift capable of conveying the largest car to the top floor in a few seconds. The architect is Sidney French and the builder J. Brignell of Newmarket Road. 12 10 25

1912 12 06
The Cambridge Home of Mercy (Female Refuge) afforded women who have been following a sinful court of life a home where they may be usefully employed and instructed in religion. The Mission House on Newmarket Road provided temporary shelter for girls and women while inquiries were made, then placed them in homes and situations. It was unfortunate that men led women astray and women led men astray and the blame must be borne by both. The girls were grateful to be rescued; one who had led a notorious and openly evil life had married and now leads a respectable life 12 12 06e

1913 03 14
Cambridge pubs – Newmarket Road - Bird Bolt; East Road, Shakespeare; Norwich Street – Norwich Arms; Cambridge Place – Three Pigeons; Fitzroy Street – Old English Gentleman adjoined Wesson's Brewery and had been in the Wesson family for 70 years. The accommodation was good, the rooms were spacious, lofty and airy. It had a good bottle and jug department, a good bar, billiard room, smoke room, cellar and bedroom accommodation.

1913 06 06
The former manager of Lacon's Cambridge Brewery told the bankruptcy court he had purchased licensed houses as ventures on his own account as a way of increasing the brewery's business. But the Black Swan and the Sirdah in Cambridge lost money, as did the Victoria Bar in Newmarket and the White Horse at St Ives. He was a Town Councillor and Guardian and had been extravagant 13 06 06 p9

1913 10 03
P.C. Thirkettle told that court that while on Newmarket Road he received a complaint from Mrs Manning, a stall-keeper on the fair ground, that her stall had been entered and she had lost a toy fire engine, three rubber balls and a quantity of chocolate cream and butterscotch. A 20-year-old painter from Stanley Road had admitted to stealing the engine. He said he rolled up the canvas from the bottom. He'd produced one of the rubber balls but said he only took two butterscotches. He'd not been in trouble before. He was fined £5 13 10 03 p8

1913 10 10
Christ Church, Newmarket Road, has undergone a much-needed transformation. An ugly roof of matchboarding has been decorated, the east end has been enclosed by panelling which will form two new vestries and the stone work of the pillars, hitherto painted brown, has been restored. The cumbrous pulpit staircase has been brought under the gallery, giving space for the choir stalls. It

gives a feeling of lightness and beauty to a church hitherto not marked by these characteristics, with evident regard to modern taste 13 10 10 p8

1913 11 14
Public houses compensation awards: Melbourn Tailors Arms, Over Sow & Pigs & Black Horse, Dry Drayton Five Bells, Gamlingay Three Horse Shoes, Elsworth Three Horse Shoes, Bourn King William IV, Girton White Horse, Cottenham Red Lion, Willingham Black Lion, Shakespeare Newmarket Rd

1913 11 28
John Conway told the Inquest he was a mat-mender of no fixed abode, lodging at the Butcher's Arms on Newmarket Road with the deceased who was the wife of a travelling musician. They had enjoyed a little jollification on the way home and she was under the influence of beer. When they woke in the morning she said she was cold. He put a coat around her and got twopennyworth of rum which she drank. Soon after she frothed at the mouth and died later. There was no question of foul play. 13 11 28 p8 CIP

1914 03 20
Exciting scenes were witnessed when a man escaped from custody at the bottom of Wellington Street, bolted up the Newmarket Road, crossed the G.E. Railway and got beyond the Rifle Butts on Coldham's Common before being recaptured. Many people followed the fortunes of the chase for a considerable distance. A rag-and-bone collector has been arrested but managed to wriggle out of the constable's grasp and bolt off. After leading police a pretty dance he was handcuffed and conveyed to the police station. Officers were subjected to a considerable amount of shouting and booing from the crowd. 14 03 20c

1914 03 27
Death of ex-Sergeant Carter. — We regret to record the death of ex-Sergeant Samuel Carter which occurred at his residence, 61, Newmarket Road, at the age of 70 years. Mr. Carter was a native of Melbourn and was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Carter, of the village. Up to the age of 20 years, he followed the occupation of a farm labourer with his father and joined the Borough Police Force in 1863, ultimately retiring in 1895 as a Sergeant after 32 years' faithful service. On his retirement from the force, Mr. Carter was appointed custodian of the Botanic Gardens and remained in that situation up to the time of his death. He has also been on the staff of the New Theatre since its opening in 1896 and his face will be missed at the pit door. In all, he has worn uniform for 51 years, which is indeed a record. - 1914 03 27

1914 04 24
Crowds of children lined Newmarket Road to see the King make his way to the Leys School. The vice-chairman of the Education Committee rode along the route on his bicycle to see the children looking happy and not at all tired. The NSPCC inspector was also on duty. A kindly gentleman was standing outside the Jolly Butchers entertaining the children with a cockatoo. The little ones laughed very heartily as the comical bird flapped its wings and laid down the law with its beak whilst conversing with its master. Presently a large Daimler car was seen. "Here comes the King" shouted someone and the shrilling cheering and waving of flags told those at Page's Corner that his Majesty had come

1914 04 01
Appeals for people to decorate their houses along the King's route to the Leys School were effective. Along Newmarket Road and East Road houses vary in size but an elaborate display of flags and bunting had been arranged. The favourite plan was a Union Jack hung from the

bedroom window or bunting arranged along the window ledges, busin3esses were tastefully embellished while scores of streamers were hung across the road with a tremendous banner inscribed 'Cambridge Working Men's Club'. Many of the side streets made good displays

1914 07 24
The whole of the Watts' Timber Yard on Newmarket Road., including sawmills, drying sheds and kilns were destroyed by fire. The blaze started in the stoke hole from which flames spread to the engine room and brick-making shed adjoining. The saw-mill nearby, containing a lot of wood, was soon alight and the wind blowing from Newmarket Road swept the blaze to the drying sheds and kilns where workmen removed the bricks. The tall chimney was expected to fall at any moment but the gable end of the saw-mill fell outwards, just missing firemen standing beneath it. However sheds holding valuable stock of flooring boards were put out. 14 07 24 14 07 31

1914 10 09
Military roads - Stretham to Soham, one of four to allow different armies to move from west to east at same time without going through Cambridge. The first from Potton though Harston to Whittlesford and Pampisford and on to London Road near Hildersham. Sinuous road through Grantchester and Trumpington on to Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn and away on the Newmarket Road. Another down Huntingdon Road, across Midsummer Common and along Newmarket Road. Huntingdon, Wilburton & Stretham where new road would start. Newmarket RDC to make and improve road from Cam through Wicken. At one point there was a green track where the whole of the road would be constructed. At Wicken there was another piece of road about eight feet wide where flint would need to be pressed in. Through Wicken the road was a good second class decent road.

1914 10 16
Two military funerals took place from the First Eastern General Hospital at Trinity College. One body was sent in a coffin wrapped in a Union Jack to the station and put on a train to Durham. The railway expenses were generously defrayed by Nurse Keep. The funeral of other, Arthur Larkin of the Royal Scots, was held at Newmarket Road cemetery. He'd been wounded at Mons and the cause of death was tetanus. Bugler Royston sounded the 'Last Post'
1914 11 13
A double military funeral of soldiers who died at the 1st Eastern General Hospital took place at Newmarket Road cemetery. Both coffins were conveyed in one cortege. One was a Belgian soldier whose funeral service in the Catholic Church was attended by many Belgian wounded. The service for Ernest Thorne of the Coldstream Guards was held at Christ Church. He had been a fine strapping fellow standing over 6ft 3". His leg was amputated in France. Despite the fierce rainstorm many assembled at the cemetery where the soldiers were accorded full military honours and interred in separate graves. Meanwhile 200 more wounded soldiers arrived at Cambridge station. Reading and refreshment rooms for soldiers have opened in Cintra Terrrace. A gramophone has been donated but they would welcome presents of records

1915 09 03
Insurance act inquiry Dr Naish, Newmarket Road

1916 03 08
Military Isolation Hospitals – grave danger; men escaped Newmarket Road and plundered orchards, indecent assault; guards should be increased – 16 03 08f

1916 10 04

Won D.C.M. — Another Cambridge man to win battlefield honours is Company Sergeant Major Wm. North, of the Royal Scots Fusiliers, who has been awarded the D.C.M. for bravery, having crawled to the German trenches and carried his Company officer, who was badly wounded, back to our trenches. Having done up his wounds he gallantly went back and led his company to the attack. C.S.M. North enlisted in the Regular Army in 1912 at the age of 18. He was formerly in the employ of Messrs. Headly and Edwards, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, and has been in France and Belgium for two years. He is well-known in Cambridge.

1917 03 07
licenses of pubs transferred from men serving in forces to their wives; objections to Spotted Cow, Northampton Street & Jolly Butchers, Newmarket Road – 17 03 07b

1917 06 13
Crosses erected over graves of those died in service buried at Newmarket Road cemetery – photo – 17 06 13a

1917 07 18
Jolly Butchers in Newmarket Road, 'Magpie & Stump' Chesterton and 'Sotted Cow' Northampton Street to close – 17 07 18a

1917 02 14
Gas Explosion,—-A gas explosion under the floor of the bar of the The Jolly Butchers public house, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, caused a fire to break out on Thursday morning. The landlord, Mr. A. W. Hawes, had a narrow escape, for, although knocked down by the force of the explosion, he escaped injury. The cause of the explosion was apparently a leakage of gas, but exactly how it occurred is unknown. The gas meter was blown from its position, and three large windows and a quantity of glass in the bar were broken. The floor boards became ignited, and although the licensee took prompt action, he found it impossible to extinguish the flames with buckets of water, and so gave the alarm to the Fire Station. The firemen, with motor tender and escape, were speedily on the scene, and the fire was soon extinguished. An examination of the gas pipes failed to reveal from where the gas escaped

1918 03 13
Cambridge pubs referred: Earl of Durham, Newmarket Road; Johnnie Gilpin, Gold Street; Racehorse, Newmarket Road; Brickmaker's Arms, Newmarket Road – 18 03 13a

1918 07 24
Licensing meeting; Star Brewery's Racehorse renewed, Earl of Durham on Newmarket Road; Johnny Gilpin, Gold Street; Horseshoe, Fen Drayton; Swan with two necks, Swavesey; Garden Gate, Histon closed; Harvest Home, Oakington renewed – 18 07 24a

1919 03 12
Licences referred: do not renew Butcher's Arms, White Swan in Castle St, Corn Exchange Inn and beer houses White Swan Staffordshire St, Grafton Arms, Dog & Pheasant, Bird in Hand, Salmon on Newmarket Road; also Five Bells Cherry Hinton, Chequers at Harston and Bell, Histon – 19 03 12a

1919 01 01

Busy Day for the Mayor, — The Mayor of Cambridge (Mr. Ralph Starr) had a busy day on Christmas Day, when, in company with the Mayoress and their son and laughter, they paid visits to most if the institutions in the town, including the Borough Sanatorium, the Children's Home in Ross St. the Workhouse, Mill Road, the 1st Eastern General Hospital, York House, Newmarket Road, which is the Children's Home of the Chesterton Union and (in the afternoon) Addenbrooke's Hospital. At the hospital, the Mayor visited every ward, speaking kindly words of greeting and comfort to the patients, finishing up at the soldiers' (Bowtell) ward. This visit concluded the Mayor's programme and he returned home for a well-earned rest after what he described as a happy and pleasing experience.

1919 05 14
Child filled by explosion of a shell fuse on Newmarket Road; four others injured – 19 05 14f

1919 07 16
Licenses refused: White Swan, Castle St; Corn Exchange Inn, Grafton Arms, Salmon on Newmarket Road; White Swan, Staffordshire St; granted Butcher's Arms, Newmarket Rd, Bird in Hand, Newmarket Rd – 19 07 16a

1918 06 05
A Crying Shame. There are some people who are safely sheltered in this country at the expense of so much misery and suffering on the part of others to whom danger and the instant need of meeting it makes no appeal. On Monday evening taxicabs were hastening in bustling procession between the railway station and the hotels with packed loads of burly shirkers on their way to the racing at Newmarket, and at night the streets were filled with men whose very atmosphere was an offence to decency. We wish those in high authority to understand most emphatically that Cambridge protests against being made the dumping ground of such undesirables. It is urged that we must have racing in order to further the breeding of horses. Very good. What we are concerned with is that we should not, as a nation, foster the production of ruffians, and that is exactly what .most conspicuously horse-racing does as at present conducted. Let the Government stop betting on the course as it stops betting and gambling in places within the meaning of the Act, and we venture to predict that horse-racing would be purged of its most offensive and demoralising accompaniments, and we should no longer be troubled at Cambridge with the presence of the hulking loafers who mark the arrival of a Newmarket week . How these men escape the military must ever remain a mystery.

1920

1920 02 25
Cambridge Shelter for Girls established 1851 by undergraduates and occupied building in Church St; had workshop in Newmarket Road till temporarily closed in 1918 because of lack of a worker. Re-opened 1918 as first-aid station for women in distress; needs support – 20 02 25a

1920 03 06
Licensing renewals: Turnstile, Newmarket Rd; George IV East Rd; Queen's Arms, St Andrew's Street; Smith and Wheelwrights Arms, East Rd; Boot, King St; Dewdrop, Gwydir St; Tally Ho; Indian Chief, Chesterton

1920 02 04
Used Bad Language. — A rag and bone collector named Harry Edward Hall, of 204 Newmarket Road appeared before the Cambridge justices on Friday in respect to the use of words which are not used in the dictionary. Evidence was given by Mrs. Wilkinson and Mrs. Brignell of Garden

Walk, and the epithets of which they complained were conveyed to the magistrates in writing. Acting Sergt. Sirett also gave evidence, and the defendant gave a denial to the charge. The magistrates having decided to convict, the Chief Constable (Mr. R. J. Pearson) proved a previous conviction for a similar offence, and that there had been numerous complaints concerning the man. A fine of 5s. was imposed, and defendant promised to pay the money during the week.

1920 03 03
Unconscious—Yesterday (Tuesday) morning an elderly man who formerly lived on the Newmarket Road, but who has lately been working away from the town, was found lying unconscious, and apparently in a fit, under a hedge at Brookfields, Mill Road. He was conveyed on the police ambulance to Addenbrooke's, where he received attention.

1920 05 12
Telephone Kiosks. — The Borough Council will tomorrow be asked to approve of the erection of telephone kiosks under the shelter at Hyde Park Corner, and near Sidgwick Avenue (or the side of Queens' Road). Suggested sites on the Newmarket Road (near Abbey Road) and on the public footpath on Mill Road (near Catharine Street) have failed , to secure the approval of the Paving, etc., Committee, and in the former case the Borough Surveyor has been asked to select a suitable position in Sun Street, whilst in the latter the Post Office authorities have been requested to obtain another site on private property. The attention of the Post Office authorities is to be drawn to the need of a kiosk in the Cambridge Without District and a request made for the erection of one at the junction of Cherry Hinton

1922 02 08
Licences of Volunteer in Green Street, Old Nag's Head Hobson St, Brickmaker's Arms Newmarket Road, Cross Keys in Saxon St held over – probably redundant – 22 02 08

1922 03 04
Det-Constable Abbott presented his report (to the Borough Licencing panel). He said the trade in beer of the Bird in Hand, Newmarket Road, was better than that of the Hare & Hounds which was 107 yards away. The next nearest house was the Crown in Wellington-street. Charles Byatt, the tenant, said he had held the licence for about 20 years. He was quite satisfied with the living he was making. Arthur E.W. Payne, secretary for Messrs Bailey & Tebbutt said the house had been doing four barrels a week. John W. Pate, architect and surveyor said he had produced plans to rebuild the premises as soon as the company took over the house in January 1919. The work had not been done owing to the difficulty in getting tenders from builders through lack of skilled labour and materials. Joshua Charles Newman, a builder, said the best part of the local skilled labour had been commandeered by the Government for housing schemes

1922 04 08
The designs of Cambridge town council to provide work for the unemployed by the construction of a road between Cherry Hinton and Newmarket road which had the sanction of the authorities have so far failed owing to what on the face of it appears to be a squabble between the committees concerned and the owners of property affected. It is high time something was done as at the present rate of delay - two winters have passed and a commencement has not yet been made - the unemployment crisis will be over before a pick or shovel has been set going. Meanwhile approaching £200 a week of ratepayers money is being spent upon relieving destitution caused by lack of work in Cambridge - "Table Talk"

1922 07 15

Something more than a talking-to ought to be administered to the boys who have committed so much wilful damage to the remains of the Barnwell Military Hospital adjoining the Newmarket-road just beyond the Cambridge Borough boundary. For some reason the boiler house and one complete section of the wooden hutments have been left, apparently totally uncared for, and are rapidly going to wreck and ruin. The site of the hospital, overgrown with weeds and littered with debris, forms a happy hunting ground for children who are able to get through the gap where the gates used to be. The bolder and most mischievous of the boys have found the remaining buildings a tempting target for stones, and scarcely a pane of glass remains undamaged

1922 07 25
The principal new roads proposed as part of the Cambridge town planning scheme include a main road starting from Red Cross, on Hills Road, going approximately north to Newmarket Road at the corner of Fen Ditton-lane, divided into sections. Number 3 runs in a straight line as far as the old Newmarket railway line and then slightly curves into Mill-Road. There are two branches which both lead towards the station. It will be necessary to form a subway under the railway or bridge the line, unless this line, which at present is only used for storage of railway carriages, is done away with altogether

1922 08 05
The return of the Cambridge Mammoth Show to its old time variety and importance will recall to many minds the last occasion of its so presenting itself to the public. The gloom which rested over the Bank Holiday and show in 1914 will never be forgotten by those who experienced it. The megaphone calls in all parts of the ground for postmen to repair to their duty at once told the tale that war was regarded as inevitable, and that the mobilisation notices were to go out. On the following Friday Cambridge suddenly found itself an armed camp, through the arrival on mobilisation of the Sixth Division. One remembers the sight of the humble little shopkeepers on Newmarket-road coming out to greet the tired artillerymen and make offerings of fruit, sweets and cigarettes and the great wave of united purpose and offer of service which swept over Cambridge

1922 09 04
Monday morning Cambridge saw the performance of a very ancient ceremony - but a showy relic of more palmy days - the proclamation of "Ye Ancient Faire of Sturbridge". Shortly before mid-day the Mayor, accompanied by the Town Clark, the Bailiffs, the Mace-bearer and councillors proceeded to Barnwell Bridge for the first proclamation. Both side of Newmarket Road bore a sprinkling of small boys and others curious to see the ancient ceremony. Arrived at the bridge the party alighted from their cars and the Clark read the customary proclamation and new bright coins freely distributed, resulting in a wild scramble. The party next proceeded on to the Common by way of Garlic-row, turned round and repeated the proclamation at the old oyster house. The Fair will commence on September 25th

1923 01 06
Before the criminal business was commenced at the County Quarter Sessions Sir George Fordham said he would like to call attention to the state of Newmarket Road on race days. The danger to foot passengers was acute and scandalous and they went in danger of their lives. Cars were driven at a high speed and tried to pass one another. A case had come before the Royston bench when a young man had been serious injured owing to a car suddenly coming out from behind a large lorry. It was a great and growing evil and the Home Office should consult as to some effective method of police supervision

1923 02 14

In the Divorce Court a Cambridge man petitioned for the dissolution of his marriage because of his wife's adultery. Three months after he returned to France from a leave in November 1918 he had a letter from his wife telling him she was expecting a child. In March 1919 he was demobilised and returned home and found his wife unwell. She told him there had been a slight mishap. On March 10th she became very ill and was taken to the hospital where she was delivered of a still-born child. He spoke to his wife on the subject and she admitted it and said that he was not the father. The corespondent, of Newmarket Road, admitted misconduct with the wife at Napier Street and several other places out-of-doors

1923 04 18
An interesting scheme with wide possibilities is embodied in the establishment of a co-operative dairy school by a committee of Cambridgeshire farmers, which was formally opened on Tuesday afternoon. In co-operation with the farmers, Cambridgeshire education committee have arranged for courses of instruction in cheese making and dairying to be held at the school, which is temporarily in premises on Newmarket Road. The instruction period will extend over four months, and the dairy will then be carried on by the farmers on a commercial basis. During that period the milk is being supplied by the farmers supporting the scheme who will take the cheeses

1923 07 28
The offer of the London and North Eastern Railway Company in connection with the acquisition of the site of the old Newmarket railway line for the purpose of linking up Cherry Hinton road with Mill road, Cambridge, led to a good deal of discussion at the town council. For many years they had tried to get the company to come to terms, so that they could join the Rock Estate with Romsey town. The line was the key of the situation, and there were great possibilities of development on that side of the town. Mill Road too was strangled at present. Councillor Ambrose hoped the negotiations would be conditional on some promise of a bridge or railway for the people to get to the station from the Rock estate

1923 07 30
Soon after seven o'clock on Sunday evening passers-by in the vicinity of Newmarket Road were somewhat surprised by the appearance of a saloon car carrying a wildness outfit. The aerial was comparatively large, and was suspended from two poles at either end of the roof. The sight was sufficiently rare to cause much curiosity and comment. A number of new inventions have been referred to in our wireless articles and it is easy to foresee that in a few years, far from being a novelty, no car will be complete without its wireless installation

1923 08 09
Sir - I would like to make a suggesting regarding the new traffic arrangements at the junction of the Newmarket Road, Jesus Lane, and the three other tributary traffic arteries at that point. It seems to me such a pity to rob our dear old town of Cambridge of a cherished sign manual viz. "The Four Lamps," a titular description of a point in the town becoming ever more known and used, which is spoken of by old Cantabrigians wherever they meet the world over. I always regretted the removal of the old four-armed lamp, ugly as it was. – Ex-councillor

1924 05 19c
Since the beginning of this month there has been on sale Cambridgeshire Cheddar cheese, made at the Cambridge milk and cheese factory situated in Newmarket Road. This is the outcome of the co-operative cheese making school run by the County Council in conjunction with the National

Farmers Union. This new venture looks like providing a successful commercial proposition and forms a convenient means of disposing of the surplus milk produced in the district.

1925 04 25
In 1908 the County council started a programme of reconstructing the roads in the county, but they forgot about Cambridge. Nothing had been done apart from a few roads in the middle and it was only recently that they realised there were motors on the roads. Newmarket Road had been made up in the old way and in a few weeks potholes appeared. The problem was the motor traffic. The money that was being raised by motor taxation was being spent for purposes it was never intended to be spent on. They must have the money for the roads from the proper quarter, namely motor taxation.

1926 04 26
An inquiry was held into the provision of two underground public conveniences at the junction of Milton and Chesterton and Newmarket and East Roads where there would be an island in the middle of the road. The Inspector asked whether they had designed the roof to carry the weight of a heavy motor lorry; it would be a very simple matter for a lorry to jump a kerb on a foggy night as had happened at Southend when people had been injured. He also raised the question of a convenience for women and the Mayor said the matter had been very carefully considered by the committee who were anxious to get on with the work as quickly as possible.

1926 07 17
The Star Brewery applied for the renewal of the licence of the Crown beerhouse in Wellington Street, Cambridge. There were seven fully-licensed houses and three beerhouses within 260 yards. They had lost the licenses of the Woodman's Arms & Crown and Anchor in Newmarket Road in 1907 & 1910, the Oxford, Crispin Street in 1916 and the Priory Tap in 1911. The brewery had rebuilt and brought the Crown up to date in 1914 but as the tenant's family increased the trade was neglected: It was not a good thing for a house of this kind when there was a lot of children running about.

1926 11 19
When the new Festival Theatre in Newmarket Road, Cambridge, opens on Monday a fresh phase in the history of the Drama in England will have commenced. Without destroying the principle of the old Theatre Royal, with its memories of the old Regency days, the promoters of this new venture have so adapted the building that it is the most modern and up-to-date in England. The new stage gradually merges into the stalls by a series of shallow steps, behind is a revolving middle stage backed by a raised and sliding backstage with the cylindrical cyclorama as its background. The lighting will be a special feature and the theatre will be warmed by a central heating system.

1927 02 21
A craze for driving cars lead to the appearance at Cambridge Police Court of two youths who were charged with stealing petrol and oil used while having a joy ride in stolen cars. Terence Gray of Gog Magog House said he had left his car at the Sun Street parking place, Newmarket Road, Cambridge; when he went for it it was missing. The Chief Constable said he had received numerous complaints from people who had left their cars there. The prisoner said: "I did not intent to steal it. I have a craze for driving cars. We have had three".

1927 04 30
A demonstration of a new British invention which insures motorists against tyre trouble was given at Messrs Saints' garage, Newmarket Road, Cambridge. The Otomatic Service is a powder

composed of particles of raw rubber and cork and flakes of mica which is inserted into the inner tube of a tyre through the valve hole with a small quantity of liquid formalin and water. When the tyre is inflated and the car put in motion a thin film is distributed inside the tread which automatically seals any puncture which may occur. In event of a burst the inner tubes will be repaired free of charge for 12 months, no matter how numerous the bursts, provided they are not over three inches in length.

1927 05 07
The Festival Theatre in Newmarket Road, Cambridge has opened a roof garden. In warm weather there could hardly be anything more pleasanter than a meal on the roof preparatory to seeing the performance below and there is not the slightest doubt that it will be a great attraction to visitors. The view is not extensive, it is true, but the surroundings are novel and amongst undergraduates it will certainly be "the thing to do" as often as funds permit.

1927 05 11
The complete story of the Festival Theatre in Newmarket Road was told by Mr C. Harold Ridge to the Cambridge Rotary Club. It had sprung from the kindred interests of Mr Gray, Mr Prentice and himself. They had spent a couple of years in London searching for a suitable building to start a repertory theatre but regulations made it impossible. They considered Sheffield but eventually the Barnwell Theatre was taken. They wished to present some of the great number of plays which stood no chance of being publicly performed elsewhere. There was no room for actors who wanted to be waited on at the Festival Theatre. All were expected to make themselves useful, putting their hands to stage carpentry and before one performance were washing down the stage steps. They worked seven days a week and 14 hours a day, and everyone was frightfully keen.

1929 03 16
The new edict with regard to flying by undergraduates is well timed. Conington aerodrome is used by the Aeroplane Club and now comes news of a private aerodrome for Cambridge. Marshalls, automobile engineers of Jesus Lane are opening it shortly. It is on the main Newmarket Road less than two miles from Cambridge. There is a railway station 200 yards away and a 20-minute bus service connection. One hangar has already been erected and the whole site is about to be put down to grass. Marshalls are agents for the de Haviland Aircraft Company and already have their own demonstration machine ready at the aerodrome.

1929 11 16 c
The Royal Institute of British Architects has presented a bronze medal to be awarded annually for a building of outstanding merit erected in Essex, Cambridgeshire and Hertfordshire. One of the conditions is that it must front to a street, road, square or court to which the public has access. Its first award is for the Rose and Crown public house on Newmarket Road, Cambridge designed by Basil Oliver and built by W. Sindall for Greene, King & Sons. A suitable tablet will be fixed to the building

1930

1930 02 01
Architects, brewers and builders gathered outside the Rose and Crown public house on Newmarket Road, Cambridge, to witness the unveiling of a plaque proclaiming it one of the best buildings erected in East Anglia during 1928. They then adjourned to the very attractive club room for speeches. The Vice Chancellor said that Cambridge had a good tradition for good beer. When he was an undergraduate there was a college servant who sang: "I likes a glass of good beer, I does. It does you no harm, and does you a lot of good". 30 02 01

1930 06 16
By the courtesy of A.G. Marshall of the Newmarket Road Aerodrome, who placed a plane at the disposal of the C.D.N., our representative was able to secure a bird's eye view of the bumping races. "I could hear nothing of the general buzz which must be going on by the river, only the roar of the engine and the voice of my companion through the speaking tube. He tells me he is regulating his height so that we are well in gliding distance of a landing place all the time. I am very comforted – I should hate to drop on Jesus or a crew just making a bump", he writes. 30 06 16 & 16a

1930 07 15
An old Cambridge rag and bone collector sued a motorist for damages. She was pushing her handcart across Newmarket Road when the car ran into her; it knocked one of the wheels 'all to smithereens' and scattered her bags of rags in the road. She claimed loss of earning of one big bag of rags at four stone each day and had to hire another cart at two-and-six a week. The motorist, who said he was 73 and first began driving a year ago, alleged the woman had 'persisted in going on' and getting in his way. 30 07 17a-c

1930 08 30
There are at present 107 stablemen out of work in Newmarket and there is little chance of their being employed. The number will be serious increased by reductions in Lord Derby's staff at Stanley House. It is by far the largest racing stable and has always been noted for its good treatment of the men. Frank Butters, the trainer, said it was a great surprise; it was not the fault of the stable but the heavy additional taxation which compelled the closure. 30 08 30a

1930 10 16
Five miniature golf courses are now in operation in Cambridge. There are Messrs Grays in Sidney Street and the octagon course in King Street. The Premier Hall, Old Chesterton, has added midget golf to its other attractions and the Newmarket Road has the course in the club-room at 'The Bell'. Its holes represent hazards encountered during a trip from 'Trafalgar Square' to 'The Oval'. The latest 18-hole course at the Belle Vue Gardens is all-weather and open-air. It features a howitzer gun and a water jump and has been laid down by Capt Mullett who has constructed others in Vancouver and San Francisco. 30 10 16c

1931 06 12
A Cambridge motor firm – W.E. Harding of Seven Sisters garage, Newmarket Road – has been barred from trading with undergraduates by the Vice Chancellor. Under university rules tradesmen must notify tutors by the end of term of any debt exceeding £5 incurred by an undergraduate. But Mr Harding had not been told this. Only two other such notices have appeared within living memory. Now any student having any dealings with the firm may be suspended or rusticated. 31 06 12b

1931 07 03
The last vans, trains of tractors and heavy wagons have made their way from the Showman's Guild fair ground, Newmarket Road, bearing the dismantled remains of the devices which have thrilled thousands during the week. The Guild have eliminated the undesirables and shown Cambridge that travelling folk are as sober and industrious as the rest. Midsummer Common was more central but the only complaints were about the bus fares to the ground. 31 07 03a

1932 03 05

Justices approved a licence for the Vine Hotel proposed at the corner of Vinery Road and Coldham's Lane. Basil Oliver, the architect of the award-winning Rose and Crown on Newmarket Road would design it with a large dining which many workmen would use for lunch. Over 200 of the residents of new houses recently erected in the area had signed a petition in support. 32 03 05c

1932 09 02
Abbey United started their football campaign in fine style. Not only did they play their first match on their new ground but they won it. The ground is situated close to the former pitch at Newmarket Road and has been levelled and fenced-in. All this was possible through the generosity of the club president, Mr H.C. Francis and it was officially declared open by Mr R.J. Wadsworth. 32 09 02b

1932 12 23
Mr F. Plumby of Abbey Walk, who looks after the Cambridge Greyhound racing track on Newmarket Road, said he was at work in the middle of the track when a hare dashed on to it, closely pursued by a pack of harriers. It ran right round the whole 565 yards length of the course, and just as it reached the winning-post the dogs came up with it. It ran into the space reserved for the judge, and there the pack killed it. 32 12 23b

1933 02 03
Councillors heard that a common lodging house on Newmarket Road accommodated 16 or 17 lodgers without any sort of bathroom. But none of the users had asked for one. There were three girls sleeping in a small room separated only by a narrow wall from a room in which 15 men slept. This was not right: the language in a common lodging house was not always what it should be. It was time the council consider setting up a municipal lodging house for women as well as men. 33 02 03a

1933 02 03
Demolition orders were made in respect of houses in Wellington Passage, Sun Court, Smith's Gardens and Newmarket Road. Some were in such a precarious state they would not last much longer. But the people moved from slum dwellings just found accommodation in lodgings, which meant two families in one house. It would be no kindness to rebuild on the site of demolished houses. People should be moved to more spacious sites on the outskirts of Cambridge. 33 02 03d

1933 08 10
Cambridge is well ahead with its slum clearance schemes. In the Newmarket Road area there was a case for clearance near the Tabernacle but most of the people worked in the neighbourhood and if they were rehoused on the outskirts it would mean increased cost in getting to work. They had displaced 342 people and only provided homes for 218 of them: would the rest be put onto the street? There was controversy over the fate of one old lady whose house had been demolished, but it was better than leaving her in a building so dangerous it might collapse and bury her. 33 08 10

1934 04 03
The Mayor and councillors performed the ceremony of 'beating the bounds' to mark the addition of additional areas to the Borough. They began at the east end of the cemetery grounds on Newmarket Road then toured Cherry Hinton before moving on to Trumpington where the new boundary begins on the town side of Long Road. Here the Mayor cut a light-blue silk ribbon before formally stepping into the new territory. Then after visiting the boundary a quarter of a

mile beyond the L.M.S. railway bridge on the Shelford Road they were entertained to tea. 34 04 03

1934 05 18
Newmarket Amateur Cine Society, in only its second year, has accomplished a splendid performance by winning first prize in a competition organised by 'Home Movies and Home Talkies'. Their film was directed by Merrick Griffiths, with J.W. McGlone responsible for the photography. The prize consists of a gold medal and a 16 m.m. projector. 34 05 18

1935 03 07
S.A. Rolfe's wholesale confectioners and tobacconists business started 25 years ago in a very small way on East Road. Now it is the largest of its kind in the Eastern Counties with nine full-time travellers and 15 motor vans. New premises in Newmarket Road house an enormous variety of brands including chocolates from R.S. Murray and 'Classic' bottle sweets made by Messrs Parkes. Mr Rolfe was hailed as a hard-working and keen young business man who by sheer determination and grit had made his mark in his chosen trade. 35 03 07, 35 03 09 & a

1935 05 17
Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company needed to lay a main from their works in Newmarket Road to Cam Road. The first proposal was to lay it under the river but negotiations were opened with a view to the erection of a footbridge which would serve the Company and also meet the growing needs of the residents in the neighbourhood. The cost would be £4,000 of which the Gas Company offered to pay a quarter providing the skeleton of the bridge was provided during this financial year 35 05 17

1936 01 05
Cambridge has lost a well-known butcher in the death of Mr James Traylen, aged 82. Born at Oundle he had his first experience in the meat trade at Peterborough and came to Cambridge at the age of 20. He carried on his own business at 122 Newmarket Road until he retired in 1912 after which his two sons took on the shop. Mr Traylen spent much of his time after retirement in gardening. 36 01 05c

1936 01 28
The Air Ministry say it is very desirable that a new Cambridge municipal aerodrome site should be provided in the near future. Land at Milton had been recommended by Sir Alan Cobham but this would cost more than £33,000 and take at least two years to build. Messrs Marshall's existing flying ground at Newmarket Road is quite inadequate for present requirements and they could have a new site at Teversham ready in a year, councillors heard. 36 01 28b & c 36 01 30a

1936 02 22
Meadowlands Estate Newmarket Road, Cromwell Park estate – adverts 36 02 22c & e

1936 03 06
The Star Brewery want a new pub, The Golden Hind, on Milton Road, an area of 1,010 houses of which the majority had been built since 1927. It was not ribbon development but housing estates on each side and practically built up to the railway gates. King's Hedges Road would form part of the new Ring Road so further development might be expected there. If granted the brewery would surrender the licence of the 'Racehorse' on Newmarket Road and the 'Plume of Feathers'. The Women's Total Abstinence Union opposed the application. Licence applications Elm Tree, Hare and Hounds & Dog & Pheasant. Licence of Bowling Green Chesterton transfer to new Golden Hind. 36 03 06

1936 05 15
Rose and Crown, Newmarket Road – Greene King advert – 36 05 15e

1936 10 13
The Housing Committee was told that over 170 people would be displaced by the demolition of buildings in Cambridge Place; the houses would have to be vacated within two months from the date of the clearance order. Plans would be drawn up to build 47 houses to re-home residents on land off Newmarket Road which the Council would purchase from G.P. Hawkins and W. Boyton for nearly £10,000. 36 10 13b

1936 10 16
Councillors had considered the erection of a municipal crematorium before 1900 and earmarked a piece of land at the cemetery on Newmarket Road. Now a private company had come forward and it was time to act. It would cost £12,000, including land, a chapel, furnace and accessories together with a garden of rest. Running costs were extraordinarily low. Quite half the senior members of the University who died were cremated and it would soon pay for itself. 36 10 16

1936 12 10
Thick fog invaded Romsey Town hours before it reached Huntingdon Road. Once it settled it did so in earnest and visibility was practically nil. Buses were reduced to trailing through the streets on the heels of the conductors and even they could not see their way properly: one stopped himself just in time from leading a No.106 into the pit on Newmarket Road. Where conditions were not quite so bad drivers 'convoyed' and as many as six buses were seen in single file. One conductor walked from Cambridge to Ely, leading his bus – and did the journey in 4½ hours 36 12 10a

1937 01 18
Fire broke out at English Bros' timber yard in Newmarket Road; soon timber stacks, some of them 25 feet high were blazing with over half-an-acre of crackling 70-foot high flames. The Gasworks were far enough away but at Nightingale's garage a number of petrol lorries were in the danger zone and were moved. All three of the Brigade's engines were called into service but it was 13 hours before they were able to return to the station. A timber-drying shed was completely destroyed, a saw-mill damaged and a lorry completely burnt-out. 37 01 18

1937 02 04
Magistrates received an application from the Star Brewery for the removal of the licence of the Garden Gate at Little Wilbraham to premises to be erected on Newmarket Road to be known as the Airport Hotel. However Lacons Albion Brewery asked for the removal of the licence of the Cow and Hare at Lode to a new pub to be known as the King George, also on Newmarket Road near the borough boundary. While they might regard one application with sympathy, two were out of the question and the decision was deferred. 37 02 04c

1937 03 05
Sir Alan Cobham, the world-famous airman, spoke in favour of a nine-bedroom Airport Hotel on Newmarket Road. Every Continental airfield had a hotel where accommodation was available in the same way as at a terminal railway station. A man had a terrible inconvenience when he landed at an airport and a first-class hotel was one of the amenities which was going to make people fly. A rival proposal by Lacons Brewery was withdrawn: people like Mr Marshall who were training pilots were doing a work of very great importance and entitled to reasonable facilities. 37 03 04a & b 37 03 05l

1937 10 06
The famous Festival Grill has been reborn. Connoisseurs of good food and good wine need no longer journey to Newmarket Road as the Grill has opened in more commodious premises at the corner of Bene't Street and King's Parade. It has a new name, the Festival Restaurant with a new sherry and oyster bar which together with the restaurant under the direction of Toni, is first-class in every respect. Its delightful colour scheme of red, black and cream ensures the rooms are bright but not garish and it will become one of the best-known rendezvous. 37 10 06a

1937 10 15
The Festival Theatre in Newmarket Road reopened under entirely new management. The building has been redecorated and improved and will begin with what it is hoped will be a successful regime of plays, ballet and opera. Meanwhile the glamorous Marlene Dietrich's Technicolor film 'The Garden of Allah' is the principal attraction at the Regal Cinema while the Kinema presents 'The Princess comes across' starring Carole Lombard and Fred MacMurray 37 10 15

1937 12 15
E.M. Vinsen, Newmarket Road post office – advertisers – 37 12 15b

1938 04 20
Millions of tons of refuse have been tipped into the disused blue gault pit belonging to Messrs Watts and Son in Newmarket Road during the past 35 years. The Corporation and innumerable householders have dumped their rubbish there until an area of nearly two and a half acres has been filled to a depth of fifty feet. Now the tipping has got to stop. There is a grave danger that, in the event of a heavy rainstorm, part of the area filled in will be carried over a slender barrier and encroach upon the adjoining pit being worked by the Cambridge Brick Company. The blue gault is used for making bricks for the majority of local houses and is the best wearing material because of its remarkable durability. 38 04 20a

1938 05 03
W.M. Nightingale garage, Newmarket Road – advert – 38 05 30a

1938 05 30
S.A. Rolfe's wholesale tobacconist and confectioners business began in a very small way in East Road, in 1911. Now it is the largest in the Eastern Counties employing nine full-time travellers. In March 1935 they moved to Newmarket Road where the stock is kept in perfect condition and its 20 motor vans can be loaded completely under cover. They cover a territory reaching as far as Clacton, Frinton-on-Sea, Peterborough and Luton conveying tons of tobacco every day. All leading brands are stocked including R.S. Murray (chocolates and confectionary) and Messrs Parkes 'Classic' boiled sweets – Advert. 38 05 30b

1938 12 30
The new Cambridge Model Aircraft Club, formed to get model makers working together, held an exhibition at the YMCA including flying scale models of actual machines. They have been very lucky as the old Cambridge aerodrome on Newmarket Road has been generously loaned to them by Mr Marshall and already Mr Powdrill has recorded the longest flight with the 'Merlin', a model of his own design while the "Fairy Facular" built by Mr Hayden flew for over a minute-and-a-half from a hand launch 38 12 30

1939 03 24
Swann's Yard, Newmarket Road 'offensive trade' – rags & bones – 39 03 24b

1939 05 18
Jack Brignell carried on business as a builder and undertaker in Newmarket Road for over 40 years. He erected many large buildings in Cambridge but was recently mainly engaged on Council schemes such as the erection of the Coleridge Senior School. He was a county councillor and took a keen interest in the Mill Road Infirmary, Salvation Army, Victoria Institution and Cambridge Brotherhood. He died on the eve of his only son's 21st birthday so a coming of age party arranged at his college, Sidney Sussex, has of course been abandoned. 39 05 18c

1939 05 27
A feature of the newly-finished ring road between Ditton Walk and Newmarket Road in Cambridge is a special track for cyclists, which is an innovation in this district – 39 05 27

1939 11 02
The Corporation want to construct a refuse-dump at Swann's brickyard, Newmarket Road. Their destructor could only incinerate two-thirds of the town's refuse and the remainder disposed of by controlled tipping. It was a deep disused clay pit and brick-making works and when filled a good part of the area could be added to Stourbridge Common. There were houses only on one side and it was quite remote. There would be a seven-foot high screen around the pit and the estimated life of the tip was ten years 39 11 02b

1940

1940 06 20
More air-raid shelters approved for Newmarket Road similar to those on Christ's Pieces – 40 06 20b

1940 02 16
Mr. H. C. Francis. — A well-known County Council alderman, Mr. Henry Clement Francis, of Burleigh House, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, died in a Cambridge nursing home on Wednesday after a short illness. He was born in Cambridge in 1857. In 1876 he left the country to farm in Australia, staying there, save for a period of leave, until 1896, when he returned to England. After a year's work on an estate as agent, he became a director of the Star Brewery, Cambridge. The firm's fine horses were an especial interest of his; he used to supervise their care and their purchase, with results of which material evidence was the awards they won at local shows. In local government matters, and in many other ways, he did much for the Abbey Ward, where his helpfulness will be especially missed. One of his acts was to present to the Abbey Football Club their Newmarket Road ground. Of this club he was President. His local government work began in 1902 when he was elected to the Board of Guardians for the Abbey Ward. He was chairman from 1924 to 1925. In 1907 he was elected to the County Council, becoming an alderman in 1931. He served on many committees.

1940 06 14
Land in Trust. Mr. Henry Clement Francis, of Burleigh House, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, who died on February 13 last, aged 83 years left gross estate of the value of £33,512 13s. 2d., with net personality £30,614 17s. 11d. Testator left Freehold land in the parish of Fen Ditton, now used by the Abbey United Football Club, to the Vicar of Fen Ditton and the Mayor of Cambridge, in trust to be used for football and for grazing and dancing, and if no longer required for those

purposes, to sell the ground, and one half of the proceeds to be given to the Cambridge and District Nurses and one half to the Abbey Church.

1942 08 07
Sharp attack on East Anglian town, few casualties; fire guards prove their worth; the most intensive raid, only four people slightly hurt. A few HE landed on open ground where they did not damage except to one cow that had to be destroyed. Many houses sustained direct hits from incendiaries but fire parties had the flames under control and NFS pumps were soon in action. Mr Story said he had just taken his young child from its cot when an incendiary crashed through the rafters and on to the empty cot. In another outlying part a 'bread-basket' of incendiaries fell in the road and damage by blast was caused to shop premises. Incendiaries were also scattered over other streets and little piles of sand testify to the efforts of the fireguards. Here and there a hole could be seen in the rafters of houses where bombs had scored direct hits. Charred window frames and little piles of scorched furniture outside were further evidence. One air raid warden returned home to find the house adjacent to his had been almost completely destroyed by fire. The new phosperous bombs were also dropped. [700 incendiaries dropped Chesterton, Unicam factory, Stourbridge Common Newmarket Road, Ditton Fields] – 42 08 07

1942 12 31
On Newmarket Road in 1918 there was training camp for Russians who were trained to take commissions – 42 12 31
American serviceman knocks down child in Newmarket Road – trial – 42 12 31

1944 01 31
Accident saw mill at Watts' Wood Yard, Newmarket Road – details - 44 01 31

1945 06 27
Cambridge and the balloon barrage: war work at the Gas Works – were 2,400 balloons. In 1940 supply of hydrogen became difficult and Cambridge approached as to facilities available such as blue water gas and steam or existing plant such as purifiers and gasholders. Was one of 19 sites selected and production hydrogen started early 1942, producing enough for 8,000 balloons. They brought down enemy aircraft over an East Anglian city. Output increased due large number balloons required for the flying bombs. Loads of long round steel cylinders on long trailers carried them. Ascents from Midsummer Common before the last war needed gas supplied from the Newmarket Road works by a main specially aid for the purpose. Recently have made nitrogen of very high degree of purity for Air Ministry – 45 06 27

1945 10 04
VJ Parties –Silverwood Close, Newmarket Road, Fallowfield, Fen Rd, Water St, Mowbray Rd – 45 10 04a

1945 05 25
Local P.O.W, Gunner E. C. Prevett, R.A., son of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Prevett, of 182 Newmarket Road, has returned home after three years in captivity. He was captured Tobruk in July 1942, and was in an Italian P.O.W. camp until Italy capitulated when he was transferred to Stalag 4C, whence he was liberated. Another Cambridge man has this week returned home from a German P.O.W. camp. He is Brd. J. Andrews, of 59 Ross Street, and has been a prisoner for nearly three years, being liberated from Stalag 18A. Previous to the outbreak of war he was in business with his uncle, Mr. W. Bell, butcher, of Ross: Street. H.A.V. Clark, of 8a George IV Street, Cambridge, has returned home from Stalag XXB. He was taken prisoner on May 23 1940 at Boulogne. He is known as Nobby the Cook. News has been received by Mr. A and Mrs.

Gurner, of 19 Willow Place, Cambridge, that their son, Sapper B. Gurner has arrived in England, and will be shortly at home. He was in Stalag 344 and was a prisoner five years.

1945 06 29
Motor Cycle Trials. — A Cambridge man who entered the Royal Tank Corps in 1934, and was a despatch rider in Egypt and the desert before the war, won the motor cycle trials recently held in Germany by the 79th Armoured Division. Over a course on Luneburg Heath, in Hanover, which contained eight stiff hazards, Lieut C. T. Mace, of 29, Garlic Row, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, came in first with a score of 194 points out of a possible 200. The trial consisted of two laps of a five-mile course, and was a severe test for both men and machines. Hazards included a long run through a sand pit, baptism in a water splash, and an arduous run through a muddy field.

1945 08 31
Repatriating Prisoners.— Among British troops who will be helping in the repatriation of prisoners of war from the Far East is Capt. Albert Cox, R.A., whose home is at 158 Newmarket Road, Cambridge. He leaves shortly by air for the Far East, and is one of a number of British officers and men, who, having been engaged on work at transit camps in this country, will now use their experience in repatriating men from Japan. Well known before the war as a singer, Capt. Cox is a former member of the Mackenzie School of Music,

1946 09 07
Squatters take RAF wooden dormitory huts Newmarket Road – 46 09 07

1947 07 05
"Sir - Living in Newmarket Road, Cambridge, in close vicinity to Christ Church I would like to ask whether this road is intended to make up for the now closed Brooklands motor race course? The speed limit seems to be double that of other roads of the town, judging by the racing prevailing among country buses, motor lorries of the heaviest type, even 60 feet long ones, and motor cycles, the throttles of which to open in this region of private houses seems to be point of honour. It seems to me high time the police came with their stop watches, specially in the late afternoon" - letter signed "Ignotus"

1947 07 14
Sir - I think it is scandalous that 31 trees should be removed from Newmarket Road, Cambridge. This is easily the least imposing approach to the town and the removal of the trees will make it ten times worse. Why is this road always chosen when a site has to be found for a new refuse dump. Why has it such a bad road surface for such an important main thoroughfare. Those things just have to be tolerated, I suppose, but I sincerely hope that Newmarket Road may retain its one redeeming feature - the trees - letter from L.R. Thurston

1948 03 24
Abbey East Social club was formally opened at the Old School, Fen Ditton. In October 1942 it was decided at the Wardens' Post, Newmarket Road, to form a committee to make plans for a club to meet the social needs of the area. In the war people realised they were enjoying something they had not had before - good fellowship, companionship and getting to know the people who lived next door. Permission had been given to use an old A.R.P. post near the borough cemetery and functions had been arranged from there. The Deputy Mayor said "I do hope it will be a very successful centre for those on the east side of the bridge. It was a very sore point that you were so isolated and there was this large estate, which has grown without any means of getting into the town"

1948 04 02
Yesterday saw the passing of the National Fire Service which had been administered from the Home Office since March 1941. Under the provision of the Fire Services Act of 1947 the Cambridgeshire County Council assumed the responsibility for the provision and maintenance of fire-fighting services for the county, and the occasion was marked by a transfer ceremony at No.1 Station, Newmarket Road, Cambridge

1948 06 18
Strong protests with regard to the filling of the tip opposite the Gasworks in Newmarket Road were voiced at Cambridge Town Council and it was recommended that a corrugated iron fence be erected along the whole of the frontage to Newmarket Road. Moving an amendment requiring owners to remove "the existing barrier of motor bodies", Councillor Gilbert said that residents had complained about the smell and inconvenience caused by the owners putting a number of dismantled motor bodies along the frontage. Coun. Cutting said there was filth, disease and "the most unsightly heap of rubbish you have ever seen in England" at this place and it was increasing day by day

1948 07 23
Radio is to be brought into place shortly to help Cambridgeshire fire fighters. Two fire engines and four staff cars at the Newmarket Road Headquarters are to be fitted with a V.H.F.-type speech transmitter and receiver, similar to those fitted to R.A.F. planes. The fixed 12-watt transmitter will also be used by the police force to originate their message operation. The two fire engines fitted with radio are the ones normally sent out immediately on receipt of a fire call. "The advantage of using radio is that we have no need to depend on telephone for getting reinforcements," said Chief Officer Knowles

1948 08 06
Six residents of Ditton Fields appeared before Cambridge magistrates charged with stealing varying amounts of timber from 89 Maintenance Camp (Squatter's Camp), Newmarket Road, the property of H.M. Government. Mr Harry Crowe, a civil engineer, said the sides of a number of timber huts had been stripped of all timber. One of the defendants said, "I have seen other people going up to the site, taking away timber, and not getting into trouble for it, so I thought it would be all right". Another said he was walking across the site of the Newmarket Road camp when two Irishmen working there stopped him and asked if he wanted to buy some timber. After he had paid £3 the man in charge took the timber from the huts which he understood had to be pulled down

1948 09 13
Blasting operations were carried out in Cambridge in an effort to locate an underground fire which is known to have been burning for a fortnight. It is at Messrs Duce's scrap dump in Newmarket Road. A squad of Royal Engineers from Bury S Edmunds fired three 10 lb charges of nitro-glycerine type of explosive, but the fire could not be traced. Traffic was stopped while the explosions took place and a certain amount of small debris fell onto the road. The fire is amongst scrap which has been tipped into a disused pit and covered with earth. Smoke has been seen issuing form widely-separated points in the ground and firemen have been digging in an effort to find the seat of the blaze

1948 12 15
The first important milestone in Cambridge post-war housing drive was reached when the Mayor opened the council's'1,000th house – an "Easiform", at 27 Peverell Road on the Newmarket road site, where tenant, Mrs Betson, was waiting. Beforehand they had been taken on a tour of some of

the principal housing estates in the town and saw estates at all stages of development - ranging from the neat, well-established looking one at Trumpington, only lacking the shops which will come one day, to the unfinished but partly-tenanted. At these mothers with perambulators have to be helped through the mud, and children kept in wellington boots.

1950

1950 01 11
Mr Owen Duce of Scrapbanks works, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, told an inquiry that he used the pit for dumping waste from his scrap business & also accepted other materials such as brick rubble and old wire, but no domestic rubbish which might give rise to vermin or the risk of fire. He has recently erected a high steel fence along the road frontage. It has already resulted in the production of 4,000 tons of scrap for steel works besides valuable quantities of platinum for export.

1950 04 01
17-years-old Joy Carter of Newmarket Road, Cambridge was by popular vote last night chosen as Miss Cambridgeshire, 1950. She was one of four entrants who reached the finals of this fifth annual contest held at the Rex Ballroom. The others were Angela Barker of Gt Shelford, Jean Hickman of Histon and Dorothy Sampson of Ramsden Square, Cambridge.

1950 07 06
Using pre-cast and interlocking concrete blocks three men laid the equivalent of 3,000 bricks in just under 3½ hours on the Newmarket Road housing estate, Cambridge. The blocks, patented under the name of "Dri-Crete" are the results of research by Mr B. F. Hartley, director of the British Art Tile Co. of Mill Road. During 1950 two houses have been erected at the new satellite town of Newton Aycliffe, near Darlington, using the blocks. Members of the Dri –Crete Association visited Papworth to see farm buildings erected form the blocks and to Waterbeach RAF station to inspect Dri-Crete walls.

1950 10 06
Waterbeach and Upwood are amongst airfields which are "warming up" in preparation for the start of the biggest air exercise since the war. It has been designed to test the control of air defence operations. Cambridge members of the Royal Observer Corps will man the operations room in the Newmarket Road headquarters and posts throughout the countryside. Every aircraft passing over the county will be plotted, and the information passed to the RAF.

1951 02 17
Ten minutes after Friday's funeral service of Mrs Grace Thurston, wife of the well-known amusement contractor was due to start, the cars containing mourners were still pulling up in front of Christ Church, Newmarket Road, Cambridge. In all there were 20 cars bringing mourners and 30 additional cars parked near the church, which was crowded for the service. At one time the funeral procession, which was headed to the church by three flower-decked cars before the actual hearse itself, caused a traffic jam more than a quarter of a mile long, and it took the efforts of two police officers to get Newmarket Road normal again.

1951 04 28
A Royal welcome greeted the King and Queen when they arrived for their visit to King's College chapel thanksgiving service for its restoration and the replacement of windows removed for safety during the war. The car flying the Royal standard drew up to the city boundary at Newmarket Road. Many mothers from nearby houses brought their children along with little flags

and some enterprising onlookers climbed on to one of Marshall's buildings to get a bird's eye view. Carried away by their enthusiasm many toddlers continued to cheer and wave small Union Jacks long after the Royal party had passed.

1951 06 01
The Mayor of Cambridge toured three of the council's housing estates and saw the 2000th council house to be built since the war. It is on a 61-acre site at Newmarket Road which will accommodate 244 houses and 160 flats. The house has three bedrooms, a drawing room and a kitchen. With outbuildings it cost £1,417. The Mayor handed the key to the lucky tenant, Mr F.A. Cross, who said: "My speech must be brief. I'm much too excited to get inside and see around". He has been waiting over five years to get a house

1951 07 21
Methodism in Cambridge has suffered a severe loss with the passing of Mr Albert Endersby in his 73rd year. He had been associated with the Sturton Street Methodist Church since he was first taken there as a baby in arms and he never lost his enthusiasm for the fervour of Methodist singing and the thrill of Christian witness. He had been a steward for 50 years and was chairman of the Young Men's Club which met at the Tabernacle, Newmarket Road, before that church was closed. He was a mattress maker at Messrs Eaden Lilley.

1951 10 02
Members of a new company of the Boys' Brigade were seen in their first church parade and march past in the Newmarket Road area of Cambridge on Sunday. The company, that of Ditton Fields Free Church, is at the beginning of its career; it is hoped that by October there will be a sufficient number of recruits to justify the company being fully enrolled in the Brigade. It was augmented by the 5th Cambridge Company which has been established more than 50 years. Mr H.A. Twinn told them: "You must have discipline if you are to do anything at all". Some boys' organisations had been compared with Hitler's youth movement but their members were trained in a helpful and Christian way of life, he said

1951 12 08
Reminiscences of the First World War when the Star Brewery, Cambridge, was manned almost entirely by women were shared by Major Freeman at the celebration of the firm's diamond jubilee anniversary. When he joined in 1903 there were 30 public houses on the Newmarket Road. It had come into being in 1891; in 1935 it became a subsidiary of the Tollemache Company and recently the firm of Messrs Whitmore, in St Andrew's Hill, had been acquired. The brewery had stabling for 25 horses up to 1935 when motor transport was first introduced. It had been a great success and was now considered to be the county's "star" brewery.

1952 03 31
Meadlowland Methodists in Cambridge revealed a venturesome spirit when, in driving snow, they dedicated the site of the proposed new church and offices. The simple service was conducted in the East Barnwell Community Centre & Coun Herbert Finbow cut the first turf. Mr Henry Hughes, the architect, explained a model of the new building which will present an impressive aspect when viewed from Newmarket Road. Finance will come in part from the sale of the Tabernacle Church.

1952 11 07
Cambridge council objected to the proposed development of land at Stourbridge Common as a professional football ground. The land was acquired for tipping purposes and they wished it to be zoned for storing Civil Defence materials or for use as a lorry park. The Chief Constable said

that, assuming the aim was to bring Third Division football to Cambridge with possible crowds of 15,000 people, it would not present much difficulty in dispersing them from Newmarket Road after a match. The City council proposed a municipal sports ground at Trumpington Road. The class of football envisaged would attract gates of not more than 1,000 and would not be in the same class as Cambridge City or United football clubs.

1953 01 14
Work on the roundabout at East Road corner with Newmarket Road, Cambridge, has been in progress for about five weeks; it is hoped it will be completed in another six. Before long the traffic lights will be removed and the centre of the junction will be sealed off so that the roundabout can be erected. Traffic will still be able to use the crossing, as by then the road surface at the corners will have been filled in.

1953 05 23
A Cambridge butcher's Coronation sausages have caused a stir. Derek Traylen of Newmarket Road was painting his shop front blue, with a white and red fascia when his wife commented on the pleasing effect. "Pity we can't apply this colour scheme to the something else"" she said and Mr Traylen looked hard at the strings of sausages. "Why not the sausages. We could dip the skins in vegetable dye and have a special Coronation line". He advertised them in the CDN and received a phone call from a journalist in Glasgow. Then came other enquiries from Manchester, the 'Daily Mirror' and 'Empire News' while the 'Meat Traders Journal' came out with a cartoon. Customers were delighted, but somewhat apprehensive with regard to the blue sausages.

1954 01 22
Proposals to erect traffic lights at the junction of East Road and Newmarket Road, Cambridge were debated by councillors. One said: "Lights are not needed here; they are an obstruction and an annoyance to drivers, another added: "The speed of traffic is about half of other towns and now we are proposing to slow it up still further". A roundabout would be better than lights. But another said: "As a cyclist I am conscious of danger every time I pass the junction, which is blind in more than one direction, you have to be darned quick or you are dead"

1954 07 08
Tom Abbott is one of the best-known heel and toe walking experts in Cambridgeshire. He started in 1925 when he saw an advert about the Cambridge Walking Club seven-mile road walk and by 1937 he held every walking record in the county – and still does. He has also won 30 championship medals. There was the E.H. Church Handicap Cup, a two-mile race in the Cambridge Railway Orphans Sports – he won it over a dozen times - the Royston to Cambridge road race held annually on Boxing Day, the ten-mile course along Newmarket Road and inter-county meetings without number. During the last war Army service races were won in Belgium and the Shetland Isles. Now he helps youngsters of the Coleridge Athletic Club

1954 09 20
A new Civil Defence rescue training centre was opened in Newmarket Road, Cambridge. There are two tumble-down structures – a façade and a rescue set – and volunteers set to work showing rescue attempts in an Atomic-bomb war. Major-Gen Bruce said: "In view of the present threat, where we needed one volunteer before we now want 100. It is un-British to have the attitude of mind that we are going to be frightened and blackmailed into putting up with might". Heavy explosives and incendiaries are likely to go out of business, but not in the first two years of another war, because our enemy has a tremendous amount of aircraft and bombs that he will want to use.

1954 11 20
Thirty-seven gold coins – a sovereign and 36 half-sovereigns – were discovered by Cambridge corporation workmen, 23 of them in the sludge taken from the emptier at Swann's tip, Newmarket Road. This had come from the Birdwood Road and Norfolk Street area and when they investigated the gullies in the area thirteen further coins were found, two in a drain in Burleigh Street. These were heavy coins; they were unlikely to have been lost through a hole in a pocket; more likely they had been wrapped in something and disposed of by somebody who did not want to be found with them in his possession. Eight years ago a man in Long Road had been robbed of 100 sovereigns and 30 half-sovereigns – but there were more than this found.

1955 03 16
Cambridge Gas Works is progressing with its new retort house near the Newmarket Road end of River Lane. The interior of the old disused retort house has been completely demolished and the new one should be completed by 1957. Coal will then flow into the retorts through closed hoppers and the coke will be extracted already quenched, eliminating a prolific source of dust and grit which has caused complaints from nearby residents. 55 03 16c

1955 05 02
The stretch of Newmarket Road between East Road corner and Ivett and Reed's shop has high accident rates and publicity is being given to the dangers of the road. 'Accident Area' and 'Caution' signs are being displayed and posters and leaflets distributed. Last year in Cambridge 604 people were injured and a total of 1,540 accidents were reported to the police. 55 05 02a

1955 06 18
Cambridge City Libraries are celebrating their centenary with an exhibition in the Guildhall which will look at the past, consider the present and glimpse into the future. This may include a branch library at Newmarket Road, a Mobile Library service, a new Central Library – all projects which from time to time receive consideration. 55 06 18b

1956 01 20
Proposals for a mobile library service for Cambridge failed by a single vote. The present service was hopelessly inadequate; the Newmarket Road area had a population of over 10,000 with only the difficult-to-find Ditton Fields branch library. The council would not become bankrupt by buying a lorry for a mobile library. But maintenance would be £1,000 a year and they should not spend such a large amount on a service which was not a necessity. 56 01 20c

1956 08 20
Sir – my father, J.R. Bennett, a master builder, constructed a chimney for the Star Brewery at Newmarket Road, Cambridge. Boy-like I used to play round the site and one day about 1889, when the work was almost complete, he made me climb the ladders up the scaffolding and stand on the extreme summit, saying 'You will be the only one who will ever stand there' – G.A. Bennett, Wisbech. 56 08 20

1956 11 03
Young people from both the city and university have formed a club called 'Stan Kelly's Skiffle' at the Dog and Pheasant, Newmarket Road. Each Thursday evening the rafters ring with folk tunes, work songs, ballads, blues and the like. It has a membership of 80 and anyone who can sing or play an instrument is welcome. Stan Kelly himself leads the group which comprises guitar, bass, drums and a wash-board. The beer crates which form the furniture help add to the atmosphere. 56 11 03b

1956 12 11
Stan Kelly's Skiffle club, which meets at the Dog and Pheasant on Newmarket Road, has grown in popularity and threatens to become one of the outposts against the mass entertainment media of film and television. Stan is a mathematician working in London who says only a few traditional folk songs have yet found their way into print and the only way to preserve them is by singing them. Now the BBC may feature it in one of their programmes. 56 12 11

1956 12 10
Hundreds of people daily pass the unobtrusive grey brick Festival Theatre building in Newmarket Road, but few are aware that some of the foremost names in British acting began to learn their art there. Now used as a wardrobe and for scene painting by the Arts Theatre, the footlights have been dimmed and the seats are empty. But the stage and auditorium are in good condition and one day the curtain may rise again. 56 12 10

1957 03 02
A new public house, The Weathervane' can be built on Perne Road but the Star brewery must transfer the licence from The Crown and Compasses in George IV Street and will close the Crown, Wellington Street and the Star on Newmarket Road. People living in the new houses in the area objected, one lady saying she'd saved her money to buy a house there to be away from pubs. Pupils at Coleridge Evening Centre, one of the finest institutions in the country, might be degraded while people who drank were more likely to catch disease than those who did not. 57 03 02

1957 04 03
The opening of Herbert Robinson's new Sales and Service department on Newmarket Road, equipped with every aid to modern truck servicing techniques, marks another important step in the development of the company who are Rootes Group dealers for Cambridgeshire. From a cycle shop bought in 1905 has grown the present concern embracing the motor, cycle and radio industries. 57 04 03

1957 04 04
Jimmy Edwards, complete with the famous moustache, performed the opening of Herbert Robinson's new garage at Newmarket Road. 'A few jocularities and not all of them in good taste' was how he introduced his remarks, observing somewhat ruefully that with the rate of present development the new premises might eventually be quite near Cambridge. After the inevitable disparaging comments about his radio colleague, Dick Bentley, he commented on the number of cars now fitted with radio – 'a good sign we will not be thrown out of work'. 57 04 04

1957 07 01
Last year an Adventure Playground started on a patch of rough ground bordering Newmarket Road. Cambridge council gave a generous quantity of odd timber, other people provided tree trunks and old motor tyres. But it all vanished during the winter. Now they are seeking more together with an old motor car chassis, corrugated iron, bricks, pick-axes, hammers, nails and other lumber. They also need a strong lockable shed to keep it in. 57 07 01

1957 07 22
The Adventure Playground off Newmarket Road does not seem to be wanted, judging from a lively meeting. Residents said was being used by hooligans who broke up the equipment and should be moved far from homes where a nuisance is likely to be caused. They called for the area to be used as tennis courts instead. 57 07 22 & 22a

1957 08 24
National Benzole want to open a three-pump filling station on Newmarket Road opposite the junction the Coldham's Lane. The property belonged to Mr West and was used for the maintenance and storage of motor vehicles with three pumps behind a screen wall. They would knock down two adjoining properties to widen the frontage. But planners say the city fire station was across the road and it would hold up the flow of traffic. There were eight other petrol stations on the left-hand side of the road as far as Bottisham. 57 08 24 & a & b

1957 09 13
Residents living near the 'adventure playground' on the Whitehill Estate, Newmarket Road have protested against the things that happen there. Bad language – really filthy barrack room stuff – is a constant annoyance, noise is at a high level with children beating on drums and fuel tanks and the staccato bark of the old motor cycle housed on the ground, especially when it is running without a silencer. It is a place where parents of decent families prevent their children from going, attracts the wrong type of youth and encourages the formation of gangs. 57 09 13a & b

1958 03 08
'The Racehorse', a new public house, is to be erected on the corner of Newmarket Road and the ring road to serve the growing population on the new estate. There are now 5,000 people in the area, many of whom have to travel over the Barnwell Bridge to the Dog and Pheasant for a drink as The Globe gets so crowded people have to wait a long time. 58 03 08

1958 03 15
Newmarket Road library opening postponed – 58 03 15

1958 09 27
Newmarket Road branch library was the first to be opened in Cambridge for 21 years. "That is the progress in this enlightened City in providing the citizens with books", commented Ald. Howard Mallett. The premises were of a temporary nature and later another building would be erected when finances permitted. The librarian would be Mrs M.A. Traviss and it would open every weekday from 10 am to 7pm, (1pm Wednesdays). 58 09 27a

1958 09 13
An Adventure Playground run at Newmarket Road attracted 60 youngsters. There was bad language at first, destructive activities by local roughs created great difficulties and neighbours objected. The children tunnelled, built huts and dens, made swings of ropes and tyres, lit fires and roasted potatoes. They also made boats, guns, swords and a puppet theatre. Some put an old motor cycle into running order. 58 09 13 & a

1959 02 23
The Lucas depot on the Newmarket Road offers expert overhaul of fuel injection diesel engines with special equipment beyond the financial reach of many garages. They also check and overhaul Lucas electrical equipment. The stores hold nearly 4,000 bits and pieces each sealed in polythene and 'factory fresh'. There are batteries for scooters, tractors, whoppers for special jobs and units for the locally-built Lister Jaguars. Practically everyone who works there lives in Cambridge. 59 02 23

1959 08 10
There are traffic lights everywhere - but not one to be seen if you are a motorist about to join Newmarket Road from the forecourt of West's Garage. The lights recently installed at the junction of Coldham's Lane give both streams of traffic a fair crack of the whip, but the man who

wishes to join the road after topping up his tank is left completely in the dark. A repeater light facing the forecourt might save a serious accident at this busy junction. 59 08 10

1959 10 16
More traffic went along Newmarket Road than any other and congestion often occurred at Four Lamps Corner. Any small incident – circuses on the Common or even May Balls - holds up traffic. Victoria Bridge vibrated when heavy vehicles had to stand on it with their engines running. We need a new bridge over the river at Walnut Tree Avenue. But a temporary bridge could be thrown over the Cam in six months by using the site of the old horse ferry next to the Chesterton footbridge. There would be a natural route for traffic up Garlic Row, Ald Symonds said. 59 10 16a & b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 02 17
Cambridge Children's Playground Association was started after builders complained about children playing destructively with their building materials and when it was noticed that the ordinary playgrounds did not attract many youngsters. The first experimental playground was in Newmarket Road and now one may be formed on the Arbury Estate. There are hundreds of children who have already formed the habit of playing in the streets and in the shopping precinct while the estate has waited six years for a playground. The spinney at Cherry Hinton would also be an ideal site for an 'adventure playground' 60 02 17

1960 03 16
One of the landmarks of Cambridge which has overlooked the city for about 60 years was demolished. The 100-foot chimney on the Newmarket Road once belonged to one of the city's brickworks which closed down about a year ago owing to the lack of clay. A large portion of the base of the chimney was cut away and propped up by wooden supports. These were then set alight using paraffin and wood shavings and smoke gushed from the top of the chimney for the last time before it fell slowly and gracefully to the ground. The actual kilns have already been demolished to make way for Watts and Son, timber importers 60 03 16

1960 04 29
The news that part of the worked-out British Portland Cement clay pits at Cherry Hinton are to be used as a Corporation rubbish dump have aroused opposition. There had to be some better way of getting rid of refuse than putting it in a pit. It would take 25-30 years to get it filled and unless every cartload of rubbish was immediately covered with earth it would become rat-infested. But other pits had been reclaimed: Herbert Robinson's garage in Newmarket Road was built entirely on a filled-in pit. 60 04 29

1960 09 30
Basket making and embroidery are usually thought to be the preserve of women. But this is far from true. Since he retired as a chiropodist, Percy North of Newmarket Road, has made many cushion covers, table cloths and chair backs which he gives to the Red Cross Society for their annual bazaar. His other hobby is photography and he also does his own cooking, baking bread twice a week. Mr F.G. Biggs of Impington has become extremely proficient at basket-making which he first learned after being invalided out of the First World War. He sent a fruit basket filled with roses to Princess Margaret as a wedding gift. Both men are in their seventies. 60 09 30

1960 11 17
Land in Stanley Road was a breeding ground for rats and filthy rubbish had been dumped there, an inquiry was told. Cambridge Caravans moved part of its operations from Ditton Road to Newmarket Road in 1956 and now wanted to store up to 40 caravans on the site behind a wattle fence six feet high. The land was an old claypit found to be unsuitable for building. Some of the houses around it had settled and cracked and were practically unsafe to live in. An adjoining electricity sub-station made a humming noise which rendered the site unsuitable for residential purposes. But planners said five similar applications had been refused and it was reserved for residential development. 60 11 17

1961 02 01
The Chequers Rock'n'Roll group, formed by members of St Luke's Youth Club, staged a dance in the Guildhall. Jennifer Smith plays the drums, the vocalist is Andy Peters, bass guitarist Tony Saintey, rhythm guitarist Noel Gooch and solo guitarist Tony White. They featured four of their own tunes which are intended for an experimental record they hope to make soon. Johnny Cullum and the Phantoms, a group better known in Newmarket, also performed. 61 02 01c

1961 04 27
A new plant at Eastern Gas Board's works in Newmarket Road will produce gas from oil, replacing a 22-year-old retort installation which produced tar and coke as well. It will be more economical and reduce some of the dust emissions which have caused many complaints. The new plant is housed in a sound-proofed building and any surplus will be pumped into the gas grid which now covers the local area. But it will still use 400 tons of coal each day so grit will not be completely eliminated. 61 04 27

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1961 07 08
By 1966 it is hoped that the new trunk-road linking the main Cambridge-London and Cambridge-Newmarket Roads will have been fully operational for some years. East Road would then be carrying about 1,000 vehicles an hour and Winton-Smith applied to build a petrol station in place of their slaughter house. But planners told an Inquiry that it would interfere with the free flow of traffic and cause confusion for motorists 61 07 08

1961 07 20
Herbert Robinson's premises in Regent Street were erected in the early 1930s to the design of George Banyard, a well-known architect responsible for a number of Cambridge's principal buildings. They comprise extensive showrooms, garages and workshops together with substantial office premises known as Llandaff Chambers. Now they are transferring to spacious new premises on Newmarket Road and the property is being offered for sale. The firm are retaining the electrical showrooms at 14 Regent Street 61 07 20

1961 08 01
Hopes that Cambridge would become a County Borough able to manage its own affairs have been dashed by the Local Government Commission. The improvement of county government

should take priority: it could not be effective without the city and would have to be enlarged by taking in other areas. Cambridgeshire should join with the Isle of Ely to form one unit and the town of Royston should come into the area. The position of Newmarket has not yet been determined. 61 08 01

1961 09 08
Joseph Farrington has worked for the Gas Board since 1917. He operates a Super Sentinel Loco, called 'Lucy', at the Coldham's Lane depot. Every morning he gets it going on a diet of wood and coke, eases her out of her shed and down to the six trucks with which they move supplies of coal from the main railway line, depositing it in a tipper. The operation is repeated until 400 tons have been shifted. The coal is then taken up into a hopper and unloaded into a lorry which transports it to the gasworks on Newmarket Road. 61 09 08c

1961 11 21
The proposed new Cambridge fire station on the corner of Parkside and East Road is without doubt the best situation that could be found. It is on the immediate perimeter of the inner congested centre of Cambridge, has access to good routes and is well-placed to take advantage of the proposed new bridge over the Cam. It will replace the present fire station built in 1944 at the corner of Newmarket Road and Coldham's Lane which consists of war-time huts and brick structures on the site of a refuse pit. 61 11 21a

1961 12 21
Tollemache and Cobbold Breweries announce the opening of The Racehorse, Newmarket Road, Cambridge. This house has been designed for maximum comfort and service. There are three well-appointed and furnished bars and decoration is tasteful and modern. Sandwiches and snacks will always be obtainable. One of the rooms will be available for clubs and private parties. Apply to the manager, Arthur Shatford. – Advert 61 12 21b

1961 12 27
It is going to be even colder than it was during most of the Christmas freeze-up when ice on the Cam trapped several swans in the water. On Christmas morning fire appliances went to St Giles' church where a small fire severely damaged an electric motor in the organ. They were also called to Avery's scale makers premises in Regent Street and at Joseph Lucas on Newmarket Road where pipes in the ceilings burst and flooded the premises. The Waterworks Company dealt with 30 burst pipes on Christmas Day 61 12 27 61 12 30

1962 01 19
Radioactive waste materials with a short life, from University departments, can be buried under six feet of earth at the Cambridge rubbish dump off Newmarket Road. There were concerns that children might dig it up before the radioactivity had dropped or rats might become contaminated and spread it around. Dangers might also arise if a fire broke out on the dump or if some of the material got into sewers or drains. Councillors recommend the waste, wrapped in plastic, should be delivered by University vehicles and buried after strict safety checks have been observed by University officials. 62 01 19

1962 02 03
Quainton Close, Newmarket Road, Cambridge is a distinctive garden site development. There is a choice of 5 designs – split-level and open plan houses, detached bungalows and luxury flats in Kensington Court. Show house and flat now open for inspection. Prices from £3,150 to £4,350 with 90% mortgages to approved purchasers. Architect G.M. Vickers. Builders J.M. Hill (Ampthill) - Advertisement. 62 02 03

1962 04 16
Cambridge Daily News moved from St Andrew's Street to Newmarket Road – 62 04 16c1962 04 23
The massive square building of the Cambridge Maltings on Newmarket Road is where barley is converted into malt for malted food and beverages but mainly for brewing into light ale. The loading room holds row upon row of sacks bulging with fat, glossy barley grains which has to be dried in a huge perforated drum. It is carried to bins where it is rested for six weeks and then conveyed to the square brick tower which rises higher than the main malt-house roof. When the process is complete it is hauled by electric elevators on to lorries to be taken to the leading breweries. 62 04 23 & a

1962 09 05
Douglas Goodwin from Field Road, Ramsey, was driving his lorry laden with four-and-a-half tons of baled straw along Newmarket Road, Cambridge, when a heavy downpour tightened the ropes and pulled the load to one side. He turned the lorry round and made for the nearest lamp post against which the load rested safely until it could be transferred to another vehicle to complete its journey to Stowmarket 62 09 05a

1962 10 05
Rag and metal merchant Ronald Arber of Newmarket Road says rags are still in great demand. He receives as much as six tons a week often brought in by children during the holidays and when the Midsummer Fair is being held, so that they can get a few more coppers to spend. They are baled up and sent to a London merchant where they are sorted into various categories and used for such things as cleaning materials and roofing felt. Considerable quantities are exported to Italy. Metals are similarly sorted. Lead is delivered to London mills to be made into lead piping, roofing materials and the lead bricks used at atomic power stations, such as Harwell. The demand for iron and steel has decreased in the past few years both at home and abroad. Most metal merchants are finding they can get more scrap iron and steel than they are able to sell. Bones, which used to provide an extremely good trade, no longer interest Mr Arber because the glues for which they were used are now made from other substances. Much of the material comes from the public. They bring their odds and ends in all the time: bed rails, gardening tools, bicycles, brass pots, radiators, car batteries, mangles, even refrigerators and fish-frying ranges along with aluminium saucepans and kettles. Jumble sale left-overs also provide a source of trade. An electric guillotine cuts as many of the items as possible into short lengths for easy transportation. After pressing, melting and recasting at other factories, it its surprising how many of these waste articles find their way back into the home. Looking at a rag and metal merchant's premises is like looking at a wilderness of destruction. But there is order in the wilderness and every item has its place. The firm has been established for 40 years and he is confident it will remain for many years to come 62 10 05a

1963 03 22
Nicholls & co new garage, Newmarket Road, National Fuels – advert 63 03 22f

1963 07 11
Considered some years ago to accommodate some of the most squalid and unsightly houses in Cambridge, various efforts have been made to clear the local slums. It has several terraces of 19th-century cottages, several large-scale business developments and a lot of small shops of considerable antiquity. The people living in these houses or running these shops are frequently members of families which have been on Newmarket Road for as long and they can remember and would never want to live elsewhere. However much people may grumble about the amount of

traffic it has to carry and however much they complain that it is not the most attractive of approach roads, without it Cambridge wouldn't have any gas, any local newspaper, any fire service, or any airport [CDN 11th July 1963].

1963 07 20
The Gainsborough Company is selling its new brand of petrol at Cook's garage, Newmarket Road at 4s 5d a gallon 63 07 20b

1963 08 07
Minutes after the opening Cherry Hinton's new branch library by the Mayor of Cambridge, there were complaints that working men cannot get there before it closes at 7pm and it should stay open an extra hour. There has been a library of sorts for many years. Originally books were kept in a locked bookcase at the entrance to the Church of England School in High Street. It moved to Colville School in the mid-50's. Now work has started on Newmarket Road library after which another will be constructed on Arbury Road 63 08 07b Profile of librarian, Margaret Traviss – 63 08 07c

1963 09 17
Lloyds new bank on Newmarket Road is the only one in Cambridge with its own private car and cycle park. Facing Sun Street, it will take three cars and five bikes. The bank replaces the temporary wooden structure which has housed the business for more than a year and will offer a full range of services. It is under the supervision of Mr E.J. Furley, manager of Lloyds main local branch at Sidney Street 63 09 17

1963 11 29
The Duce's Tip site between Coldham's Lane and Newmarket Road may become a new suburban shopping centre with a two-storey supermarket, a garage and filling station with parking 1,000 cars. Space would be available for relocating premises affected by any redevelopment. But there was a danger that the Lion Yard scheme might not start commercially if trade were drawn away to another area, planners fear 63 11 29

1964 03 04
Houses in Walnut Tree Avenue have been bought by the Ministry of Transport for demolition when the dual-carriageway for the proposed Chesterton bridge route is constructed. One side of Cam Road will also have to be demolished. It is expected that negotiations for the 30 properties involved will take a year to complete. The first part of the scheme will link Newmarket Road with Chesterton and Milton Roads. Later the existing roads of Lensfield Road, Gonville Place and East Road will feed into a roundabout at the junction of Sun Street and Newmarket Road 64 03 04b

1964 03 20
The new HQ of Cambridge A.T.C. Squadron is the former Royal Observer Corps base on Newmarket Road. When the Squadron was first formed as a unit of the Air Defence Cadet Corps its members attended lectures at the University Engineering Laboratories before moving early in the war to Leighton House in Trumpington Road. But most of its time has been spent at "Rock Mill" in Rathmore Road. 64 03 20

1964 04 10
Work on Cambridge's Eastern Bypass was interrupted by the war and today only a short section is in existence. It runs from Wadloes Road, across the main Newmarket Road and peters out at the end of Barnwell Road where a muddy track and footpaths picks its way towards Coldham's Lane. Standing amid the rubbish dumps, tumbledown sheds and chicken houses which adorn this

part of the route one can hear the distant rumble of traffic on Newmarket Road. It is likely to be many years before the scheme is revived. 64 04 10

1964 06 02
Newmarket Road footbridge discussed – 64 06 02b

1964 06 06
Compulsory purchase orders have been confirmed for the clearance of areas at Napier Street, Leeke Street, Coronation Street, Gold Street and Russell Street. But the Minister has excluded some properties in Newmarket Road and Burleigh Place together with no 9 Coronation Street which his inspectors say is fit for habitation. Objectors had claimed that compulsory acquisition would cause hardship and was not necessary for redevelopment. 64 06 06a

1964 06 16
Fire Brigade HQ, Parkside soon to open; 'temporary' buildings in Newmarket Road built during war have outlived usefulness – 64 06 16c

1964 09 10
Newmarket Road new branch library needs extra children's books – 64 09 10

1964 10 08
Cambridge Ring Road – the eastern bypass which was proposed before the war – is today bordered by rows of neat council houses and old peoples' flats. It runs from Fen Ditton to the main road under the name Wadloes Road then crosses Newmarket Road and continues as Barnwell Road. Then it peters out into a track behind Cambridge Airport until finally reaching Coldham's Lane. Now a new Inner Relief Road is proposed from Huntingdon Road to Jesus Green. But will either of them ever be completed? 64 10 08

1964 11 07
Cambridge News wins 1964 Newspaper Design Award for evening newspapers; acquired by Lord Iliffe five years ago; he built new works and offices on Newmarket Road which opened April 1962 with printing plant of the latest design. New headline type, old five-column pages gave way to present six – 64 11 07

1965 03 10
Newmarket Road work on dual carriageway – 65 03 10b, 65 03 25b

1965 10 12
Newmarket Road Gas site cottages being bull-dozed – photo – 65 10 12a

1966 01 18
Upper freight yard depot of British Railways to close on January 31st and part of the land may be used in a new road scheme connecting Brooklands Avenue and Newmarket Road. The public depot on the other side of the main line to remain open 66 01 18c

1967 04 19
Greene King to transfer Cambridge depot from Panton Street to new premises Newmarket Road; stopped brewing in Cambridge in 1957 – 67 04 19

1968 01 17
Book Bros garage in Newmarket Road up for sale following death Laurence Cook – 68 01 17a

1969 01 30
Challis & Sons fishing tackle shop in Newmarket Rd to close after 31 years, was formerly Hardings; made Pembroke and Trinity reels – feature – 69 01 30b

1969 02 03
Kenneth Gilbert closes butcher's shop in Newmarket Road; to become coin-laundrette – 69 02 03a

1970

1970 04 01
Richard Duce took over Coldham's Lane site in 1948 after a brickyard closed and since then recovered 23,000 tons of copper and aluminium from scrap metal' has sold most site to London property company for new trading estate; to demolish chimney and move to bottom of the site between railway line & Newmarket Road – 70 04 01

1970 05 16
Painting farm house junction Newmarket Road & Coldham's Lane – 70 05 16 & a

1970 05 18
Newmarket Road new roundabout – photo – 70 05 18a

1970 11 23
Sewerage work Newmarket Road to replace surface water sewer – feature – 70 11 23

1971 07 26
Harry Cooper opened furniture shop in Newmarket Road about 50 years ago; would pull down shutters for fear bullocks would get in – 71 07 26

1971 08 23
Newmarket Road derelict house last of 'padding cans' houses built for navvies who came to build railways and dig coprolite – 71 08 23

1972 06 09
The family firm of D. Mackay, Britannia Works, East Road, Cambridge, celebrate their 60th year jubilee this week. The Britannia Public house from which the works took its name has recently been demolished, and the houses which formed Britannia Place have long since disappeared, as has the Smith which stood in the public house yard. Many other landmarks have been swept away in the new Roadworks. It used to be said that by standing at the corner of East Road and Newmarket Road one would be sure to meet one's friends. Now it is difficult to see which is the corner, and the traffic roars past too fast for leisurely greetings

1972 08 05
The long-awaited Cambridge Transportation Study was finally published yesterday. It is two years overdue and has cost £113,000 - almost £1,000 a page. It was jointly commissioned in 1967 by the Cambridge city and County Councils and the University. It was to be carried out by R. Travers Morgan and Partners and was estimated at that time to cost £78,000. Its major proposals include a Railway Road leaving the A10 south of the Trumpington street traffic lights, hugging the northbound railway track all the way to Newmarket Road. After crossing the Cam the new road would veer sharply west to follow the St Ives railway line along to the A10 Milton Road

before linking up with Arbury Road. The Railway Road should be largely dual two-lane carriageway. Full construction could take many years

1972 09 25
Police arrested five youths, two from Peterborough, and rushed a sixth to hospital after running battles between rival gangs of supporters following Saturday's Fourth Division derby at the Abbey Stadium. Fighting broke out at the Newmarket Road end soon after Cambridge United scored the first of their three goals. Police moved in and restored a vestige of order. This was the pattern with skin-headed youths proudly presenting bloodied noses for their pals' benefit. A raging battle with fists and feet flying sent ordinary supporters scurrying for shelter. Fathers lifted children above their heads and cups of coffee and orange squash were hurled into peaceful sections of the crowd.

1972 11 28
The opening of the Union of Construction, Allied Trades and Technician's eastern regional headquarters in Cambridge marks a major step forward in acquiring the "modern image" required in today's union activities. For several years the Union, known then as the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, operated from small offices in Newmarket Road. Now with the move completed to new offices at the corner of Abbey Road "the union are in a position to project their image", says regional secretary Ivor Jordan. The offices were to have been opened in July but the ceremony was put off because of the building workers strike

1973 01 17
This year could see the beginning of changes in the pattern of shopping for people who live in Cambridge and the surrounding areas. Plans have been put forward to build several "out-of-town" shopping complexes and a public inquiry next week will hear an appeal by J. Sainsbury Ltd against Cambridge City Council's refusal to allow their "edge of-town" supermarket at Coldham's Lane. Last month the Council turned down an application by Marshall to develop a 10-acre site on the Newmarket Road as a shopping complex. A scheme by Brierley's to build a big drive-up shop on a 3 1/2 acre site at Bar Hill with parking for several hundred cars was withdrawn

1973 10 03
Tolly, the East Anglia brewers may sell off their £1 million Star Brewery site in Newmarket Road, Cambridge within the next three years. The 4½acre site includes the brewery buildings and the Burleigh Arms public house. The old Star Brewery stopped production last year and the buildings have been used as a storage depot. It is understood the directors have been considering various possibilities for the Newmarket Road site, which is bounded roughly by Auckland Road, Midsummer Common and Parsonage Street. One includes building luxury flats, a hotel and public house on the site. "There is no possibility of us leaving Cambridge. It is a very important place for us", said Tolly's managing director

1973 11 08
Motorists are having to wait for up to a month for spare parts in a situation which is becoming a head ache for some Cambridge garages. Mr Frank Taylor of B.E. Cocks' garage in Newmarket Road commented: "Delays are getting longer and it's proving to be an awful headache" Apart from the long waits motorists are having to face large bills for hiring other cars. "We do the repair work as quickly as possible and then it comes to a full stop because we have been unable to obtain the necessary parts", added Mr Taylor. "The spare parts situation is becoming a joke in the trade"

1974 01 24

Many Cambridge Scots have been spared the disappointment of a Burns Night without haggis thanks to a 120-mile "mercy dash" by a city butcher. Because of rail and post problems the supplies to Mr Derek Traylen, a Newmarket road butcher dried up over Christmas which left many of his regular customers without haggis for Hogmanay. So with Buns Night coming up he decided that he could not let his regulars go without again. His Glasgow suppliers were unable to send a normal parcel because of the train drivers' industrial action but they could send his delivery direct to Euston station. So Mr Traylen drove to London and picked up about 2 cwt of haggis yesterday

1975 03 08
The Kojak craze has hit Cambridge. Sales of the sort of lollipop the actor Telly Savalas sucks in the popular television series have soared in the past three weeks in Cambridge, according to Mr Jim Reynolds, the 'Rock King' of Newmarket Road. He believes that most of the increased sales are being made to adults, not children. As far as Kojak hairstyles are concerned, Mr Terry Taylor, of Topman, Market Hill, Cambridge, said he had one or two customers who were thinking about adopting the Kojak look, but no-one has actually had the style done yet, he said

1975 03 25
Cambridge pubs range from grimy to gracious according to a drinker's guide just published by a group of undergraduates. Grime, according to the guide, is synonymous with the Locomotive pub in Mill Road, and grace is one of the virtues of the Plough Inn at Fen Ditton. Praise is lavished on the "thematic scheme" of the Galleon bar in the Burleigh Arms, Newmarket Road. The Free Press has "exceptional character" and the Baker's Arms, East Road, is called a "refreshing surprise". The Bun Shop, Downing Street is said to be "something of a Cambridge institution and well worth a visit

1975 04 28
The King Street run or the King Street pint to pint is a Cambridge drinking tradition. It means drinking eight pints of beer in two hours. In the old days King Street had enough ale houses for the Run to be held along it, but now the organisers have to plan the route incorporating public houses elsewhere. The run last year ended at The Zebra in Newmarket Road but licensee Mrs M. Warren won't be allowing it again. Last year youths who vomited in Fair Street outside the Hopbine bought a ban there on all future runs.

1975 11 10
Clashes between football fans and Cambridge police lasted more than three hours on Saturday; 13 fans were arrested, nine of them were Northampton supporters. The first clash came about 2pm when the glazed door of the Dog and Pheasant public house on Newmarket Road was smashed as rival fans met on the way to the match. As police broke up the confrontation, United fans collected £2.50 to help pay for the damage to the pub door.

1976 06 18
Cambridgeshire's motorists are being treated to nearly £60m of new roads but they have a price to pay … years of disruptive construction work. Top priority is the northern bypass which is due to start in August. An important adjunct is improvements on the A604 Huntingdon road which will be turned into a dual carriageway. Elsewhere the County Council is constructing a dual carriageway from Coldham's Lane to Barnwell Bridge; a dualling of Newmarket road beyond this will be delayed until the effect of the northern by-pass can be seen. Next year remains the official start date for the western bypass

1976 07 17

At Cambridge Museum of Technology there is no indication that the old Cheddar's Lane sewage station off Newmarket Road, is now a museum. The place looks a shambles surrounded as it is by knee-high weeds and forbidding "Keep Out" signs. Go there; don't be put off by the haphazard arrangement of exhibits and ask the helpful attendants when you fail to understand. A computer in a museum? An electron microscope – both are on display in this potentially breath-taking exhibition. I can't help but suspect that when the lease runs out the museum is going to be transformed into a profitable block of riverside flats. But I hope this does not happen.

1976 07 30
The garage business of B.E. Cocks and Co. at Newmarket Road, Cambridge, has been bought by Marshall of Cambridge, and is to become a Leyland car centre. The purchase includes almost four acres of prime garage site next to the main A45 road, modern showrooms and repair facilities and the goodwill of a business which has been running in the city for almost half a century. This and the capturing of the Daimler, Jaguar, Rover and Triumph franchises from Wallis and Sons means the Marshall group is a real force against the big garage chains operating in the region.

1976 08 23
The landlord of a public house in Newmarket Road, Cambridge, issued a blunt warning to customers: "Watch out, there's football fans about". This is an area which has taken the brunt of local soccer hooliganism and violence. Walk along the Road on a Saturday afternoon when United are at home and you will sense an underlying tension as supporters trek to and from the Abbey Stadium. When the final whistle blows the United supporters and the respectable part of the crowd are allowed to leave. Nearly half an hour later the visitors are permitted to make their exit under escort.

1976 10 11
Work is progressing smoothly on the extension of Barnwell Road, Cambridge, to link up in about two years' time with Brooks Road on the other side of the Cambridge-Newmarket main railway line. The aim is to provide a quick route for heavy traffic between Newmarket Road and Perne Road and out on to the main roads to London. This will by-pass the notorious traffic bottlenecks of Coldham's Lane. The scheme includes a new bridge over the railway and an extensive road island and an extensive road island at the Brook's Road – Coldham's Lane junction.

1976 12 23
When it's finished it will be the house that Jack – and Tom and Dick and Harry – built. In fact, almost everyone who lives in the Riverside Improvement Area will have made some kind of contribution towards the conversion of 6 Priory Road, Cambridge to make it their Neighbourhood House. At the moment it's a disused vegetable store, but now the City's Property Panel have given the go-ahead to turn it into a neighbourhood centre – on the understanding that residents carried out the work themselves. The centre will be mainly for the older people in the community. At the moment they go to the Howard Mallett club but it is very difficult crossing the busy Newmarket Road. Money raising ideas have already been put into operation. Christmas cards with a local Riverside area scene are selling like hot cakes. They were designed by Richard Darlington, closely involved in the project as the council's Area Improvement Officer.

1977 02 04
Every one of four generation of the Reynolds family is a past, present or future "rock king". They are Mr James Robert Reynolds, aged 85, his son Jack, his grandson John and his great grandson James Robert, seven. Jack still makes old-fashioned brown rock – square, not lettered - in a tiny plant at the back of his shop in Newmarket Road, Cambridge which he mans seven days a week. He joined his father when he left school at the age of 14. There have been "rock kings" in the

family for at least six generations. "It would be nice to see it go on – and every one of them a 'J'" he said.

1977 03 09
The experimental mini-roundabout at the junction of Newmarket Road and Coldham's Lane, Cambridge was working well on the first morning of its operation. Even at the height of the rush hour traffic was flowing smoothly. It has been put in temporarily while the traffic lights at the junction are being taken down; they will eventually be replaced with more up-to date lights as part of the Newmarket Road improvement scheme. Police Chief Inspector Maurice Murden said: "To think our problems have been solved by an old tractor tyre! It is something we have advocated for years, and now we just hope that it will become permanent". One driver said his driving time to his home in Chesterton had been cut from 20 minutes to five.

1977 10 26
The Jesus Green and Abbey outdoor swimming pools in Cambridge may be drained until early spring and turned into temporary skateboarding rinks. The Mayor has asked city council officers to look into the possibilities and if the investigation proves they can be used he will try and persuade the city council to approve the plan, thus bypassing the long and tedious committee procedure. Meanwhile Forest Heath District Council has decided that skateboarding is here to stay and accepted in principle a proposal to provide 'beginners' skateboarding tracks at Mildenhall, Newmarket and Brandon.

1978 03 17
Cambridge schoolchildren will soon get their first skateboard park, perhaps two. Cambridge councillors earmarked money to convert hard tennis courts at Romsey and Trumpington with wooden embankments and ramps, but it may not now be possible to do both. They also decided that the former council storeyard off Newmarket Road would be ideal for the building of a large-scale permanent skateboard park. Four commercial firms interested in building a park have approached the council who have agreed to offer the land on lease if the park is built at no cost to the ratepayers

1978 06 21
Some Cambridge colleges are threatening to ban visitors because this year's greatly increased numbers of tourists are causing problems. It is important to provide a permanent tourist coach park somewhere near the main tourist centre. A report says the best site would be on common and allotment land next to the News building on Newmarket Road. But some councillors think the ideal place would be in the vicinity of the railway station, at Saxon Street car park or on derelict land at the corner of Histon Road and Victoria Road.

1978 10 29
Experimental mini-roundabouts at the Lensfield Road – Trumpington Road junction in Cambridge have been approved by the Government and will be made permanent. They replaced traffic lights which for years caused long delays and have speeded-up traffic at the once-notorious bottleneck. In addition a pelican crossing is to be built at Fen Causeway at the entrance to the Engineering Laboratories with another at Trumpington Road. There will also be one over Brooks Road when the new and controversial link with Newmarket Road is opened shortly.

1979 06 21
The price and availability of petrol has been in the news in the past few weeks. Petrol rationing in the United States and Sheikh Yamani's latest warnings on the oil crisis shake the most complacent, North Sea oil or no. Post-budget prices are well up and supplies fluctuate. Opening

hours have been varied and a number of petrol stations are rationing customers to five gallons. Both Tesco (Gulf) and Sainsbury in Coldham's Lane were charging £1.04 for four star but Hallens (BP) at Victoria Road corner were 10p more. Holland's in Mill Road matched Marshall's price of £1.07, the Newmarket Road Service Station (Phoenix), where you are served as opposed to manning the pumps yourself, charged £1.08 and the Lolworth Service Station was £1.12.

1980

1980 05 31
The Carioca building on Newmarket Road, Cambridge has had a chequered history, from non-conformist chapel to furniture store and now night-club. When it first opened in March 1978 it did a roaring trade into the early hours but has been plainly feeling the impact of the opening of Ronelles' in Lion Yard. It offers a restaurant, disco and dance floor together with a games room with bar billiards and juke box for a membership charge of 10p a week. Drinks are cheaper than pub prices but the choice of draught beers – Tolly's Cobbold and Younger Tartan – is disappointing. 80 05 31

1980 07 02
Cambridge is now left with only one regular nightly music spot following the closure of the Beaconfield and Alex Wood Halls and the Alma pub, mainly because of complaints of noise. But there are at least 40 bands desperate for somewhere to play and countless people who want to hear live music. The Carioca Club on Newmarket Road is willing to let bands play on Tuesday nights but at a total rental cost of £115 bands can't afford it while the Salisbury Conservative Club on Mill Road is almost fully booked until 1982. It leaves just the Great Northern Hotel. 80 07 02b

1980 09 22
Police are investigating a fire which badly damaged the former paper mill on Newmarket Road, Cambridge and spread into the roof of the adjoining Globe pub where customers were finishing their drinks. One who was using an outside lavatory spotted the blaze and alerted the landlord who evacuated the pub and called the fire brigade. The former mill, built in 1872, is owned by Norwich Brewers and has been empty for years. The roof has been badly burned and the walls damaged by smoke, heat and water. 80 09 22

1980 10 08
Sir – I was distressed at the news of the fire at the Papermills on Newmarket Road which is believed to have been started deliberately. The house was listed in the 1970s as of historical interest and Norwich Brewery was ordered to put it in order. The only results are some scaffolding in the back yard. The hoist is of industrial archaeological interest as it was the second paper-mill in England, dating from around 1700. Perhaps the fire may result in repairs to what was once described as 'the most beautiful house in Cambridge' – Nan Youngman 80 10 08

1981 05 14
Cambridge's unique 100-year-old spiky pillar box has been moved from the corner of Newmarket Road and Cheddar's Lane after local firms protested that its seven-inch aperture was too small for modern-day packages. It was built about 1880 and does not have the royal cipher or the words 'Post Office' on it. But nobody knows why it has spikes on the top. Some say it was to stop people climbing over the gas works wall, others that it was to frighten away a troublesome swan that used to perch on the top or provide an uncomfortable landing for a hapless German parachutist. 81 05 14a

1982 04 20
Newmarket Library is the first in the area to run a video lending library with 200 cassettes on offer at £1.95 per night. But Andrew McCulloch of Arbury Court who rents 1,000 films says although people have now got a video, or a thinking of getting, one business is not booming. An advertiser in the
News offers 'adult' films for sale at £30, sent out in plain cardboard boxes. 82 04 20b

1982 05 27
One of Cambridge's first self-service grocery stores, Traylen's of Newmarket Road, is to concentrate on the butchery side of its business. Before the War the shop had its own slaughterhouse on the premises and cattle were driven along the streets from the market. But the opening of Elizabeth Way, increasing traffic and parking restrictions mean customers have found it hard to get to the store. 82 05 27

1982 07 16
An Aladdin's cave of curious dusty lots comes under the hammer as former stage props are auctioned off at the old Festival Theatre in Newmarket Road, Cambridge. There's a glorious throne, the prow of a sailing ship and a pair of giant Corinthian columns, most of which have appeared at the Arts Theatre, which owns the building. It is said the Festival has a ghost – an old woman who was brought in to die after being run down by a horse and cart which bolted when delivering scenery. Dame Flora Robson wrote of meeting her. 82 07 16

1982 09 16
Cambridge isn't an easy place for a couple to buy a house for the first time. The average purchase price is around £22,000 which means finding a deposit of £2,500 and with mortgage interest rates of 12 per cent over 25 years would cost £148.82 a month after tax relief. Currently a modernised Victorian house in Newmarket Road is on sale for £22,250 and a two-bedroomed, centrally-heated house in Stanley Road costs £21,500. 82 09 16 & a

1983 06 29
Charles Wells, the Bedford brewers, are planning to set up a micro-brewery as part of the Ancient Druids public house which is due to open in Napier Street on the edge of the Grafton Centre in 1984. The brewery will be quite small and will brew beer for consumption in the house. It will mean the return of brewing to Cambridge which once had numerous breweries including five or six on Newmarket Road. 83 06 29 p3

1983 08 30
Four major car parks on the outskirts of Cambridge linked to the city centre by a frequent park-and-ride bus service are suggested in a new report aimed a sorting out the city's traffic tangles. They are on fields at Barton Road, a small piece of disused land between the bypass interchange at Histon Road, allotment land near Newmarket Road cemetery and the old Cattle Market site at Cherry Hinton Road. It also proposes extensive residents-only parking schemes with a tightening-up of long-term parking in the city centre. 83 08 30 p1

1983 09 26
The Carioca Club in Newmarket Road is today a burnt-out shell after fire was started in three different parts of the building. The entire contents were destroyed and walls and floors wrecked. Police say an 'inflammable liquid' was poured over materials in the building to start the blaze. 'Racks' night club which has 450 members is now looking for a temporary venue. The Carioca was originally a chapel and was used as a furniture depot before it became a night-club in 1978. 83 09 26 p1

1983 12 08
Beer at 1930s prices attracted drinkers when the Burleigh Arms, Newmarket Road, re-opened. It had been closed for six months while the front wall was rebuilt and the two bars redecorated. It now has a 1930s theme deliberately chosen in an attempt to go up-market and attract shoppers from the new Grafton Centre. The Zebra and the Bird in Hand have also been revamped. 83 12 08 p6

1983 12 29
Britain has about 75,000 pubs but experts say the number will have dropped by 10,000 by the end of the century. Six Cambridge pubs have closed in the last ten years and most were knocked down and redeveloped. The Rose in Rose Crescent is the only one still standing with its basement now housing Flambards wine bar. The Bun Shop went after years spent in splendid isolation as the Lion Yard was built, The King William IV in Newmarket Road was flattened as was the Prince Albert in Chesterton. The Ancient Druids and Old English Gentleman were demolished as part of the Kite clearance. 83 12 29 p12

1984 02 11
Motorists are set to cash in on the latest petrol-cuttings war, and could be paying as little as £1.73 a gallon as the oil companies slash prices to win custom. Some of the cheapest prices are to be found in Hypermarkets but along Newmarket Road, where there is a heavy concentration of filling stations, prices have already taken a knock. At Marshall's four pence has come off the price at the pumps and Jet's prices have fallen to £1.78 for 4-star. 84 02 11 p1

1984 03 15
A security man delivering wages to the Cambridge News offices in Newmarket Road was confronted by two armed men wearing balaclavas as he stepped out of a lift on the second floor of the building. They pressed a chloroform-soaked rag on his face before taking a black security bag containing wages of over £8,000. The men, who were wearing boiler suits, then walked calmly down the stairs and out of the front door. 84 03 15 p1

1984 03 27
West's, the motor dealers, celebrates a special 25th anniversary of their association with Renault cars. Having developed their one acre site on Newmarket Road into a glittering glass-walled showroom they have stayed true to the French company and are looking forward to the next 25 years with them. The business began with Sidney and Ethel West operating a small vehicle tuning workshop in Gloucester Street 55 years ago. They now employ 64 people. 84 03 27

1984 06 16
The view from the top flats of The Maltings, off Newmarket Road, is splendid. The new building, on the site of the old Star Brewery, overlooks Midsummer Common and the River Cam. But it is costing buyers £68,500 - £6,000 more than others in the development. All of the 50 units have been sold in eight months. It is one of the better Cambridge housing developments with communal gardens, cycle stand and 'car lodges'. 84 06 16 p12

1984 10 03
Darwin Instruments, the Cambridge educational supply company which two years ago won a £37 million Mexican export order, has opened its new headquarters. It has completely refurbished the Old Paper Mills on the corner of Newmarket Road and Ditton Walk which two years ago was completely derelict. 84 10 03 p13

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1984 12 29
The Festival Theatre in Newmarket Road, which dates back to 1808, is one of the oldest in the country. It still has many original fittings including what is probably the oldest revolving stage in the country. In 1878 it became an evangelistic mission with religious texts painted on the stalls. Some still survive and may be part of a new permanent display which will feature other memorabilia including a scrapbook of cuttings when it was rebuilt by Terence Gray in 1926. During WWII the building was used for storage by the RAF and is currently the Arts Theatre wardrobe and scenery workshop. 84 12 29

1985 03 11
A major shake-up to cope with the forecast massive increase in Cambridge traffic has been unveiled by the County Council. It suggests an underground car park at the Butts Green end of Midsummer Common and a new road following the main railway line with a new bridge over the Cam. There could be reconstruction of a number of major road junctions including East Road - Newmarket Road and at Hyde Park Corner with widening of dual carriageways and new cycleways. A park-and-ride system of new car parks linked to the centre by frequent buses is also proposed 85 03 11

1985 05 10
Cygnus Studios, the Cambridge theatre workshop, is closing and the magic props and gadgets painstakingly made by Philip Bond for productions throughout the country and abroad are to be auctioned off. It will mark the end of another chapter in the mixed fortunes of the Festival Theatre on Newmarket Road which closed its doors to productions in 1938 and was bought by Cambridge's Arts Theatre. Now an axe and block, complete with severed head, a stuffed stoat and a thunder sheet to rival the Gods will go under the auctioneer's hammer 85 05 10a

1985 08 08
Cambridge could soon get a third new superstore competing with Tesco at Bar Hill, Sainsburys in Coldham's Lane and the Beehive complex off Newmarket Road. Asda plans to build a huge new complex on Milton Road opposite the Arbury and King's Hedges housing estates. It would take up almost half of the Cambridge Business Park and .include a 750-space car park 85 08 08

1985 08 21
One of Cambridge's oldest family butcher's is closing. Derek Traylen's grandfather opened the first shop in Newmarket Road 113 years ago. They had their own slaughterhouse until 1937 and ran three butcher's vans that toured the villages. Derek started in 1938 and is one of the few people in the business who can rear animals, slaughter them, dress them, cut and prepare them, advise people about them and cook them. But people now buy pre-packed meat in supermarkets 85 08 21

1985 11 22
The Carioca Club on Newmarket Road is finally being demolished after years of doubt about its future. It was built in the 1870s as a Methodist Chapel but with falling attendances it was a financial embarrassment and as early as 1909 there was talk of selling it. In 1941 it became a furniture storage depot and was turned into a nightclub and disco in 1976 with a take-away kebab shop. But it was gutted by fire in 1983 and never reopened. 85 11 22

1985 12 02
After more than a century of almost unremitting dreariness the Methodist Tabernacle in Newmarket Road is being pulled down. The hideous old bulk of a chapel wore sunlight like a

shroud. The foundation stone was laid in 1876 but within 14 years the congregation shrank and in 1909 there was talk of selling it. It struggled on and in 1941 was given over to the storage of furniture. Later it became the Carioca nightclub and its face daubed with appalling blue and orange paint. Worse was to come: the lower part was turned into a take-away kebab joint. Fire gutted the old pile in 1983 and its doors finally closed for ever 85 12 02b

1985 12 18
Robert Sitton and Alfred Mothersole commenced business on the Newmarket Road in 1945 repairing and refurbishing motor vehicles. They moved to Abbey Street in 1952 and from there to premises at the corner of Coldham's Lane and Henley Road in 1973. They were the first in Cambridgeshire to install a stoving oven for the refinishing of car paintwork. 85 12 18a

1987 02 16
Intercell, the distinctive smoked glass building on the corner of Newmarket Road and Coldham's Lane, is to become home to a firm specialising in printed circuits. Work on the building, initially called the Zigzag, started in October 1985. Designed by Cambridge firm Roger Perrin Architects for a high-tech company wanting a high profile it features air-conditioning, anti-static carpet and a lift together with parking for 47 cars. 87 02 16

1987 02 27
Cambridge United are aiming to build a major office complex at the Abbey Stadium in a bid to win their battle for soccer survival. The idea is to provide office space over the car park adjoining Newmarket Road which would produce £30,000 a year. Other options are to seek help from the city council or consider part-time football. Chairman David Ruston told shareholders that he might quit unless the club's cash position improves. 87 02 27

1987 09 03
Temporary traffic lights at the junction of Elizabeth Way roundabout with Newmarket Road and East Road have been switched on in an experiment to ease rush-hour congestion. 87 09 03

1987 09 14
Developers are eying-up property in Newmarket Road. They have approached Greene King about acquiring the Seven Stars, Corner House, Five Bells, Rose and Crown and Bird in Hand public houses Already Eastern Gas has sold off more than three acres of the former gas works and the disused Chapman and Arber scrap yard has also attracted interest. Gray's the tobacconist has sold up, Jack Reynold's sweet shop closes next month and Grosvenor will soon start work on the old Carioca nightclub site which will house offices and small businesses 87 09 14b

1987 10 14
Jack Reynolds, rock maker and confectioner, is to retire after 40 years in the rock business. His father, James, was known as 'The Rock King' whose stall at the fairs on Midsummer Common was a familiar sight. Jack opened a shop on Newmarket Road about 1947 and has lived in the area all his life. The road has changed a lot; when he came there were houses in Occupation Road and several businesses have disappeared. He no longer makes his own rock but his son and grandson are carrying on the family name. 87 10 14a

1988 03 02
Mr 'Jimmy' Wild was a law student at Sidney Sussex College 75 years ago but in 1914 volunteered to go to the front. He returned to practice law in Cambridge in 1934 renting an office opposite Emmanuel College. Three years later he employed a young assistant, Roy Hewitson and the business flourished, moving to Sidney Street where they were joined by Peter Shaw. It is now

one of the largest legal firms in East Anglia and has just relocated to Shakespeare House on Newmarket Road with a team of 23 partners and over 100 staff. 88 03 02a

1988 09 10
Computers are the key weapon in the 'News' battle against deadlines. Previously crucial minutes were lost while journalists' stories were re-set into type by other staff. Now writing and typesetting can be done by one person. The process begins at 7.30 am each day. The newsdesk – run by the news editor, the assistant news editor, the chief reporter and an editorial assistant – decide on the best stories and brief the 15 reporters based in Newmarket Road and another eight in district officers. Stories flood in from every source imaginable and more than 100 press releases and letters are received each day 88 09 10 & a

1989 03 16
Cambridge Brickworks on Newmarket Road – memories of Hilda Swann – 89 03 16c1989 04 18
The Zebra a good, solid, 1930s pub in Newmarket Road has been given a facelift. But rather than being 'tarted up' the 30s atmosphere has been retained and even improved with a stylish dark red and cream colour scheme. Originally it consisted of three small rooms but now it boasts one large bar and customers can move freely through the different areas. The landlords aim to turn it back into a traditional town pub where people can have a drink and meet their friends. 89 04 18a

1989 08 05
The Government has rejected plans for a massive office block at Mitcham's Corner. But there is still a steady trade in office space. Those in old buildings without car park parking space are difficult to shift. But bright new ones are easier to find. In Rose Crescent an 18-year lease is going for £65,000 and an eight-room office in Hobson Street is £15,000 a year. Kett House is under offer and an office above the Midland Bank has just been let while in Newmarket Road is a brand new Stourbridge Common Business Centre 89 08 05

1989 10 03
A light railway system running in a tunnel under Midsummer Common is the latest official suggestion to help solve traffic problems in the centre of Cambridge. It would be an alternative to a line running down a widened section of Newmarket Road. The underground railway would link with a number of other lines from surrounding villages as far out as Fenstanton and terminate at a station in Malcolm Street. The County Council will invest £60,000 to see if a car park under Midsummer Common is feasible and another £150,000 in a feasibility study for a 60-mph light rail system. 89 10 03a

1989 10 17
Work has begun to turn the CEN into the most advanced newspaper in East Anglia. By 1991 the News will be printed on a full-colour German press, the first in Britain, at a state-of-the-art press complex at Milton. It will include a paper store, press hall, four storey administration and engineering support block and a despatch area. A separate building will allow the company to service its own vehicles. Editorial, advertising, circulation and administration teams will remain at the head office in Newmarket Road. 89 10 27

1989 12 12
Sir Arthur Marshall to retire – profile. His father set up a de luxe car hire service in Brunswick Terrace in 1909, opening garages in King Street and Jesus Lane. In 1912 carried petrol to Beta II airship which landed in grounds Jesus College. Bought first aircraft at Fowlmere in 1919. Got pilot's licence 1929 & bought a Gipsy Moth. Opened landing field behind house in Newmarket Road – 89 12 12b, c

1990 01 17
Barnwell Pit and lake, off Newmarket Road may be bought by the city council and turned into an amenity area. Environmental improvements would include removing large amounts of rubbish, enhancing the wildlife habitats and fishing facilities, tree planting and landscaping. The pit stands between the Cambridge to Ely railway line and the back of an industrial estate. Planners have refused applications for a restaurant and boating facilities saying there would be traffic problems and that wildlife would be seriously harmed 90 01 17a

1990 03 13
University Audio founder Gruffydd Reece started University Cameras in St Mary's Passage after leaving the RAF in 1945. The business expanded and he opened Fencolour Laboratories in Newmarket Road, one of the first to offer colour developing and printing for amateurs. He was later joined by his brother Hugh and cousin Bryan Hyam who started University Audio in Peas Hill – 90 03 13

1990 05 22
West's of Cambridge founded 65 years ago; started Gloucester Street in 1925, moved Newmarket Road when took Renault dealership 1959 – 90 05 22a

1990 10 09
Newmarket Road, one of the ugliest should be left an eyesore – 90 10 09b

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Eltisley Avenue c1925 – 295.21

c.44.6 : Newnham Area

1897 03 20
Mr Edwin Bays, architect, forwards particulars of a scheme for erecting a viaduct, with Bathing Sheds under, leading from the Trumpington Road, Cambridge, to Newnham. The proposed viaduct road would start from the Leys School grounds, Coe Fen, Newnham and terminating at Grantchester and Barton-roads. It will be necessary to construct two river and three road arches and it is intended to utilise one as a Swimming Bath for women, and the other two as dressing rooms

1897 05 01
Newnham Croft sewage, p2

1897 06 07
A good number of people are attending the fete on Midsummer Common. In that part of the enclosure nearest Maid's Causeway, shooting galleries, stalls, cocoanut shies and one of Thurston's steam roundabouts were gathered and kept matters lively. During the afternoon a fancy dress bicycle carnival took place, handsome prizes were awarded for the best costumes. The first prize for the ladies, a diamond and ruby crescent brooch, was awarded to Miss L. Unwin of Newnham who, with helmet, breastplate, shield and trident made a dignified Britannia. Miss Unwin will also receive the silver "King of the Road" lamp and baby bell given by the Humber Cycle Supply Co.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1897 06 21
Such has been the general progress during the Victorian era that it is difficult from the point of view of today to recall the Cambridge of 1837. In the year of her Majesty's accession but few houses stood on the marshy spot which we now know as the populous district of New Town. There were a few residents in Newnham and some scattered dwellings in the neighbourhood of New-square while beyond on the Newmarket-road lay Barnwell of historic note. Chesterton, as a part of Cambridge, was confined to the outgrowth of the town in the neighbourhood of Castle Hill and a plan of the town stops short at the Mill-road corner of Parker's Piece. In 1837 the population would be about 21,000. Recently it has been estimated at over 50,000.

1897 06 30
The Great Jubilee was successfully celebrated by the inhabitants of the village of Newnham amid every demonstration of loyalty and public rejoicing. The form of celebration chosen was a fete champetre held on Corpus Cricket Ground. Pinafores were given to a number of girls, and caps to boys; silver bangles were given to 12 older girls and to the old folks calico and flannel was presented. The evening's rejoicing were inaugurated by an excellent tea which included ham, beef, cakes, strawberries and cream, and buns and biscuits galore, about 200 persons partaking of the bountiful repast.

1897 07 02
Jubilee Old Chesterton, Newnham, p3

1897 08 02
Messrs Gain, Moyes and Wisbey offered for sale the Shakespeare Brewery, Newmarket-road, Cambridge and 15 freehold licensed inns, public houses and beerhouses. Lots commenced at £500 and rose rapidly - in the case of the Red Bull, Barton Road to £2,050. Other prices included The Shakespeare Brewery and Inn (£2,000), The Greyhound, Lt Wilbraham (£800), The Bakers' Arms, Fulbourn (£950), The Railway Inn, Harlton (£725) and The Cherry Tree beerhouse, Swaffham Fen (£600)

1898 03 04
Newnham Croft sewage, p2 *

1898 03 30
Newnham Croft stories, p3 *

1898 07 06
Mr Foster told a meeting in the parish room adjacent to St Mark's temporary Church, Newnham Croft, that he remembered hearing about 20 years ago, that it was seriously proposed that St Botolph's Church should be removed bodily and re-erected on the present site of Caius fellows' garden. The idea was not responded to and the consequence was that that part of Newnham was left without a place of worship, and eventually that Little St Mark's Church was erected. When he first came to that neighbourhood, 15 years ago, he remembered thinking what a poor, dilapidated place it was, and wondering how long they in that corner of Cambridge would have to worship there. But he had got to know St Mark's so well that he looked upon it now has a dear little place. They would all be sorry to have it removed but it was only a temporary building, and temporary buildings must give way to permanent ones.

1898 12 17
Mr Steven, vice principal of Newnham College Cambridge, in distributing the prizes at Kingston-on-Thames school for girls, said it was most undesirable, even in the highest classes, that more

than an hour a day should be devoted by girls to home lessons. There were instances in which girls occupied far more time than was necessary over such work. In view of what has repeatedly been maintained respecting the prejudicial effect of over-study upon girls the statement of Miss Stevens, who speaks with a wide experience, is most important

1900

1900 05 23
A period of nearly 30 years has elapsed since St Mark's church, a primitive wooden structure, was erected at Barton Road, Cambridge, to meet the needs of churchmen. Newnham is destined to become one of the principle residential districts & as the neighbourhood has gradually developed so the need of a permanent church has been the more keenly felt. The scheme which is now intended to carry out is but a part of a larger and more liberal one. The foundation stone now laid will only consist of the main parts of the nave and the north aisle and the extreme west end, and the south aisle will be left for future extensions. The new church will provide for a congregation numbering about 300. 1900 08 30
We deeply regret to announce the death of Dr Henry Sidgwick, until recently Professor of Moral Philosophy at the University of Cambridge. Though he was at some slight disadvantage in the matter of enunciation his lectures were unusually attractive and even eloquent. He married Eleanor Balfour, sister of the Rt Hon Arthur James Balfour, the present Leader of the House of Commons. She rendered great assistance in the organisation of Newnham College, being appointed principal in 1892. Her husband resided with her at Newnham and took much interest from the first in the foundation and development of the college. With his death the country loses one of the clearest thinkers that the later half of the 19th century had produced.

1901 04 26
The new church of St Mark, Newnham, built to supersede the structure that had done duty for so many years was consecrated by the Bishop of Ely. The Master of Corpus said that in the new church they had visible proof of the continuity of the Church of God and that the gates of hell should not prevail against them; it was a visible link in a long chain of God's claim on the adoration and service of mankind.

1901 06 11
There has been no abatement in the interest displayed in this year's Mathematical tripos at Cambridge University. There were 73 male candidates and of these no fewer than 27 are directly interested in sport. Women started well with one of their number taking a high place in part one while in part two Miss Hudson of Newnham equalled the highest achievement of any man

1902 07 16
Sir – if Cambridge and Chesterton are excluded from the County Council it will become a superfluous organisation whose few remaining functions could well be carried out by the Rural Councils. The loss of revenue would impose upon the rural districts a burden which would be simply crushing. What would Cambridge gain – nothing unless it is made a County Borough. But with the population of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and Newnham Croft added Cambridge would still be short of the 50,000 requisite to form a County Borough – John Bester

1903 04 18
All the arguments in favour of converting Cambridge into a County Borough having failed some councillors have threatened to petition for an extension to the town's boundaries so as to include

not only Chesterton but Newnham Croft and St John's, Cherry Hinton as well. To silence opposition they have threatened that all children from these districts attending schools in Cambridge will have to be turned out to seek education under their own authority. This has confirmed the opponents in their opposition and alienated the sympathies of supporters. Fortunately nobody is likely to be frightened by such pusillanimous threats.

1903 05 07
While excavating in Grange Road, Cambridge, some workmen who were digging a trench for drainage purposes came across a skeleton of great age, but in a perfect state of preservation. Behind the skull was a small vessel of yellow ware, with a handle. Messrs Coulson and Lofts had the remains carefully uncovered. Other remains, including a stone coffin and brooches have been found in the adjoining area and confirm the date as late Roman. It is hoped the remains will be removed exactly as found and placed in a glass case at the Archaeological Museum.

1903 06 27
Clare road repairs, p4

1904 09 15
A poorly-attended council meeting considered an offer from the Cambridge Electric Tramways Syndicate to electrify and extend the present tramway system. The overhead trolley system for running the cars would not to be employed in King's Parade without the consent of the council. But consultants say that the existing lines in Kings Parade should be abandoned & they cannot recommend new lines in the town centre because the narrowness of the streets would generate great opposition from residents. A new line should be laid in Silver Street but this is so narrow that the trams would take their turn with ordinary road traffic and keep to the left. There may be some objection to a track down Queens Road which has the character of a boulevard but this would not be disturbed by the working of the tramways. The busiest section would be Hills Road where trams would run at about 2¾ minute intervals

1904 12 20
For the last three days the thermometer has been registering eleven degrees of frost; should it hold the professional skating race open to all the world for the Littleport Fifty Guineas Challenge Cup will take place. It is imperative that skaters all over the country should receive due notice; once the amateur champion, W. Housden of Wicken Fen, did not hear and was u4nable to defend his title. There is already a fine sheet of ice on Lingay Fen but it is doubtful if the public will be allowed on it for a few days. Sheets of ice promise to be ready for use at Newnham shortly & 1904 12 24

1905 01 27
Skating would have been quite possible on the Electric Light Ground, Newnham, today had not some evilly disposed person drawn the water from the ground the other evening. The work was done with a care and thoroughness worthy of a better cause. The bank of the ditch which runs from the river to the pump was cut through and so great a fall allowed that the whole of the water on the ground was drained away. Two ladies heard somebody at work on the bank but imagined it was the proprietor and paid little heed. In addition to the annoyance caused the proprietor has suffered a considerable financial hardship. 05 01 27a

1905 03 10
A company is being formed to provide a service of motor 'buses for Cambridge. Eight 'buses will be put down at first by which it is hoped to run a 15 minutes' service from Chesterton, another from the Huntingdon road district to the centre of town and a seven minutes' service to the

railway station. Should the venture prove successful the more outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton will be catered for 05 03 10

1905 04 08
The Cambridge Motor Omnibus Company has been formed. It is nowadays essential for the business of the town to have a convenient and quick means of transit and the omnibuses will be appreciated by the public and become a source of income to the shareholders. With eight vehicles it will be quite easy to maintain a 15-minute service from Chesterton and the Huntingdon Road to the centre of town and a seven-minute service to the railway station. Should these prove successful it will be extended to outlying districts such as Newnham Croft and Cherry Hinton. There is little doubt that horse traction for omnibuses and tramcars will shortly be superseded by petrol and electricity. 05 04 08a

1905 10 05
Grantchester Road fire

1905 10 06
Selwyn Road, p4

1905 10 26
Cambridge councillors discussed an alternative route from Madingley Road to the Cattle Market by constructing a road from Barton Road over the river by Newnham Mill Pit and along Coe Fen Lane to Trumpington Road. Two bridges would have to be erected and the Leys School would give up a strip of land. But there was no argument in favour of making a winding lane into a straight road unless it was for traffic. It was a bad system to introduce a big scheme piecemeal and commit the council first by one step and then another. 05 10 26b

1906 01 06
Last night's gale was one of the most severe within living memory. Great damage was done all over Cambridge. On Newmarket Road a tall chimney at the brickworks began to sway violently and then fell with a tremendous crash. The large trees at the Backs suffered considerably; five were uprooted and blown into Queens Road. During the morning numbers of poor people were busily engaged in taking away the portions they could carry for firewood. Two children took away a branch of considerable weight using a pair of wheels taken from a perambulator 06 01 06d-e

1906 01 13
When the election meeting at Newnham concluded the candidate's carriage was drawn to the Conservative Club followed by a procession which included a couple of motor buses. Just as it reached Cambridge Market Hill a similar procession of demonstrating Liberals poured out of Petty Cury. These two bodies of citizens conceived an intense dislike for each other, shouting vigorously. A little later there was an exhibition of fisticuffs in Sidney Street 06 01 13

1906 07 12
Any clerk or artisan with £25 can become the owner of a well-built convenient house just outside the borough boundary in Grantchester within ten minutes' walk of Market Hill. The houses contain eight good rooms with bathroom, two w.c.s and nice garden. Gas and water laid on. The price is £250 and the balance can be spread over any number of years to suit the purchaser's convenience – E. Parcell & co., Builders, Newnham – advert. 06 07 12a

1906 10 19

Eltisley Ave & Cowper Road dedicated, p3

1907 01 15
When Parliament re-assembles there will be a stupendous effort on behalf of the enfranchisement of women. A canvass is being organised in Cambridge which already includes the heads and staffs of Newnham and Girton Colleges and the Secondary Training Colleges for Women. Small informal drawing-room meetings are being held and addresses on suffrage given to meetings of the Women's Liberal Association and the Co-operative Women's Guild. 07 01 15b

1907 01 18
Residents of Newnham Croft complained that the parish road leading to the University Bathing Shed meadows was narrower than the 20ft specified on the Enclosure Award. The meadows and garden alongside were now being turned into a large building estate and it was important the road be defined to stop houses being erected on parish land. 07 01 18b

1907 03 18
A movement is on foot amongst English Roman Catholics to establish a college for women, on the lines of Girton or Newnham, at the University. The leader is Miss Eleanor Warner who recently visited the Catholic Convent in Bateman Street. She is now in Rome for a meeting with the Pope. Opinion is strongly favourable and that Cambridge may soon see an addition to her institutions. 07 03 18a

1907 06 11
Some disappointment has been occasioned by the moderate success of women mathematicians this year. Only ten sat for the Tripos and Miss Eva Smith of Newnham is the only wrangler. The highest position ever attained by a woman was in 1890 when Miss Fawcett, daughter of the former blind Postmaster-General, was placed above the Senior Wrangler – G.T. Bennett, Fellow of Emmanuel College.

1907 07 25
Dr Edward John Routh, was the most famous mathematical coach of his day. He coached 27 Senior Wranglers, 41 Smith's Prizemen, and over 500 Wranglers and was the author of numerous works on statics and dynamics. He died at Newnham Cottage, Queen's Road leaving an estate valued at more than £80,620.

1907 10 01
Ever since the Cambridge University Rugby Football ground was acquired in Grange Road ten years ago, the absence of dressing rooms has been a problem. When famous clubs like the 'Springboks' and 'All Blacks' visited they had to change in the cottage at the corner of the ground. Now the new pavilion contains showers, lavatories and kitchens with a stand for 200 people. The old roofless wooden stand, long regarded as an eyesore, has been moved to the opposite side of the ground - 07 10 10

1907 10 11
St Mark's church, Newnham Croft, presented a scene of unwonted beauty and impressiveness when a large congregation assembled to witness the dedication of the new organ. It will meet a need which has been long felt, the harmonium being quite inadequate to lead the singing. The organ was built by Messrs Norman and Beard, is a two manual with 11 stops and cost £276. - 07 10 11

1907 12 14

Cambridge Gas Light Company told a meeting in St Mark's parish room that they would erect street columns, lanterns and piping, ready for lighting in any street in Newnham where the mains were laid and also lay mains in King's Road and Selwyn Road. They would keep lights burning all night for £2 12s 3d per lamp, including gas, lighting and extinguishing them, maintaining mantles and keeping the lamps clean and in repair. This was agreed unanimously. - 07 12 14c

1908 03 13
E. Wareham Harry was Cambridge Borough Surveyor for the past 20 years. In the repair of 50 miles of sewer trenches and the laying of miles of concrete paving he did work which deserves well of the town. When he came the roads were in an indifferent condition, many without any foundation while others were merely coated with gravel. Now all the Macadam roads have been coated with granite. His efficiency was impaired by an attack of influenza and he died at his residence in Selwyn Gardens. 08 03 13

1908 03 14
Undergraduates climb Backs trees, roped together in Alpine fashion - 08 03 14

1908 06 05
There has been an Alpine fever amongst undergraduates, finding a vent in climbing trees along the Backs. The wireless telegraphy station on the Huntingdon Road has been the site of the latest exploit. This is a pole over 200 feet in height which receives messages from Cumnor Hill near Oxford. Two undergraduates merrily commenced the ascent by means of the metal spikes driven in at convenient intervals and managed to reach the top. But the return voyage was not so easily accomplished and they reached terra firma with a distinct sigh of relief. It is a matter for common wonder what object will next receive the attention of this strange species. CWN 08 06 05 p5

1908 06 19
The greatest demonstration that woman has yet made of her desire for the suffrage was the gigantic procession through the streets of London to the Albert Hall. Ten thousand strong, it comprised almost every class: lady doctors marched with factory girls, famous lady novelists and domestic servants. Cambridge played an active part: about 130 ladies joined in, including Mrs Heitland, Mrs Ward and Mrs Rackham bearing a splendid blue silk banner with in gold lettering 'Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association, founded 1883'. At the Albert Hall both Newnham and Girton colleges took a box, many ladies attired in academic dress. 08 06 19 p2 08 06 19 p2

1908 08 29
The improvement makes a fine approach to the town from the Madingley Road, but one sincerely hopes that now the obvious danger of the corner has been removed, cyclists and others will not forget that the narrowness of the street remains none the less real. The larger portion of the traffic comes from Chesterton Lane and until the opposite corner has received the attention of the road-layer the improvement can hardly be regarded as complete. The great activity sadly disturbed the 'work-shys' who are wont to congregate at the corner for the purpose of holding up the wall. It was a delightful sight to see these groups huddling together, trying to snatch a snooze in the midst of all the clanging clamour of swinging hammers and picks. Now the road is to some extent open the human house-props are found at their usual haunts, though considerable indignation prevails among the more energetic.

1909 02 12

Cambridge Police has a special staff of men employed in looking after unoccupied houses. The intending burglar who usually watches the policeman on his beat pass the empty property he intends to break into cannot now know when he may be dropped upon. Last year 802 residents used the service and except for one house in Madingley Road, where the gates were locked and police unable to obtain access, there has been no robbery from an unoccupied house of which they have been given notice. CWN 09 02 12

1909 02 19
Complaints had been made about cyclists and horses being ridden on the footpath from Burrell's Walk to Coton. Part of the footpath known as Love Lane was now merged in Adams Road where it had been converted into a carriage way. But if cyclists were allowed to use it why not a carriage and pair? A tricycle would completely impede a pedestrian, magistrates were told at the first prosecution of a cyclist for riding on the footpath. 09 02 19

1909 03 05
An inquest was held into the death of a domestic servant at a private residence in Grantchester Meadows. She had been standing in front of the fire in a newly-starched dress when it burst into flames. Her employer, a private tutor, wrapped her in a rug and telephoned for the doctor but she was extensively burnt and despite the services of two trained nurses the woman died. 09 03 05

1909 03 26
The proposed extension of Grantchester churchyard provoked debate. There was unoccupied ground in the old churchyard which could be used. But this might be the graves of poor people who had been unable to provide a stone. Newnham Croft was expanding more and more and it was undesirable that the burial ground of this increasing population should be in the centre of the village. It would become one of the great cemeteries of the University town. CWN 09 03 26

1909 05 07
A number of undergraduates played havoc with the meeting of the Cambridge Association for Women's Suffrage. The Corn Exchange has a seating capacity of about 1,500 but by utilising the farmers' desks and standing in every available space, an audience of 2,000 listened to – or interrupted – the arguments. Quite 80 per cent of the meeting was composed of women, of whom Newnham and Girton contributed a considerable quota. But it was the minority whose increasingly violent disruptions caused the meeting to break up in a disorderly manner, though not before the resolutions had been carried by a large majority. 09 05 07

1909 09 17
A new religious house has been founded at Cambridge. It will have no official connection with the University and be used for serious study. Its head is Father Waggett who gave a series of lectures which attracted considerable attention. The house in Malting Lane is a beautiful structure whose deeds date back to the time of Charles I. Its delightful old-world garden of nearly two acres would permit of ample additions in future years. CWN 09 09 17

1910

1910 05 13
On a certain day 49 years ago several undergraduates while walking along the Madingley Road were overtaken by a heavy rainstorm. They were not provided with any protection against such weather and there was every likelihood they would be thoroughly drenched. An old lady living in

one of the brick-built cottages noticed their plight and they gladly took the opportunity to wait in her dwelling until the violence of the storm had abated. Before they left the kindly old dame insisted upon one of the young men accepting the loan of her umbrella. It was returned the next day with a substantial gift in recognition of her kindness. That undergraduate afterwards became King Edward VII 10 05 13h

1910 07 22
Fire broke out at Great Dumpling's Farm, Barton. A cyclist gave the alarm at the Ridley Hall post and a section of the Cambridge brigade under the command of Capt Greef soon had the flames under control. Farming implements including a self-binder, chaff-cutter and elevator were damaged. PC Evans saw two boys running away; he caught one who admitted they'd been playing with matches near some straw on the farm 10 07 22a

1910 10 21
PC Keep, stationed at Newnham Croft, was on duty near the Hat and Feathers when he saw a pony attached to a governess cart lying in the road in a very exhausted state. It was very poor, nothing but a bag of bones and totally unfit to walk along the road alone. He put it in a meadow where it staggered about and the owner went away leaving the trap in the middle of the road. The man said he'd intended to work it until he was stopped. Now he would have it killed. 10 10 21

1911 04 07
Cambridge advocates of women's suffrage decided to protest against legislation without representation. A number of people of well-known name and position in the University and town spent the night at the houses of suffragists who had decided to defy the Census and not fill in their papers. One of these was Mrs Vulliamy of Maitland House, Barton Road who is on the Executive Committee of the Women's Freedom League. She wrote across her paper 'No vote, no Census' and entertained a house full of ladies. 11 04 07a

1911 05 12
The camp of the Loyal Suffolk Hussars Regiment of Yeomanry has been pitched in Grantchester Meadows and already the greater part of the canvas village has been erected and presents a very picturesque appearance. There is a large marquee where men will take their meals and portable wooden buildings for the officers' mess. But it is a long walk into Cambridge and local motor-bus and taxi-cab proprietors and waggonette and cab proprietors might find it worth their while to run a service. There will be something like 500 men in camp and many who will gladly pay to be taken in to town for the evening. 11 05 12h

1911 05 26
Sir Robert Baden-Powell inspected 500 Boy Scouts at a grand rally in Grange Road. The assembly was one of the most remarkable that has ever taken place in Cambridge, certainly nothing like it has ever been seen in the locality before. 'B.P.' has set in motion a mighty engine. Like an electric train it has gathered way with amazing swiftness and desolate is the place that has not heard the call of the Boy Scout engaged in an errand such seeking some lost child or succouring someone in danger or distress. 11 05 26b-d

1912 01 26
The long-sustained wet weather and recent snowfall have brought serious floods. Rising waters have caused the stoppage of the chain ferries to Chesterton, the towing path under Victoria Bridge was submerged and meadows between Grantchester and Newnham are under water. A ride on the Great Eastern Railway from Huntingdon to Cambridge presents a view of an immense lake

studded with trees and the large Portholme Meadow is under water to a considerable depth. At St Ives basements in Bridge Terrace and kitchens at Filbert's Walk are flooded. 12 01 26b

1912 06 07
Spring Close, Burwell, which includes the site of Burwell Castle which was held for King Stephen against the rebellious Mandeville, will be offered for sale by auction. It should be purchased by the Parish Council and preserved as an open space to remind future generations of the part played by the village in the history of England in the days when High Town was a Norman residence and Newnham a Saxon village, when the church stood where the boys' school now stands and the dead were buried where schoolboys now cultivate their beds of garden. Should the cost – about £500 – be too great the council should ensure the site is preserved from any interference 12 06 07o

1912 08 09
A new scheme for relieving the traffic in Silver Street recommends a new road and bridge connecting to Coe Fen Lane, passing on the east side of the old mill and along the wall of Peterhouse at a total cost of £14,246 (£1.3m today). The Corporation had purchased Mr Foster's mill. It was at present broken down and would never be used as a mill again. But there was a strong feeling against a road across Coe Fen and Sheep's Green; it ought to be more in line with Mill Lane. An alternative would take a road from Barton Road corner to Belvoir Terrace but this would destroy the bathing place. However some councillors said the congestion had been greatly exaggerated and there was no urgent need at present. 12 08 09c & d
1912 09 27
Councillors debated the proposed scheme for relieving traffic in Silver Street. A bridge from Silver Street to Mill Lane with one road across Coe Fen and another taking traffic from Newnham Croft to the Station would be a very large expenditure and ruin Sheep's Green, one of the most delightful bits of country in the town. The problem could be adequately met by widening Laundress Lane from Silver Street to Mill Lane and diverting the traffic in that direction. 12 09 27b & c

1912 10 04
Brooklands Avenue residents happy to repair road once council makes decision about scheme for including it as part of a thoroughfare from Newnham Croft to Hills Road - 12 10 04b

1912 11 01
The new vestry at St Mark's Church, Newnham Croft, given by Mr & Mrs C.F. Foster in memory of their two sons, was dedicated. The vestry, which is the work of Mr W. Sindall, is built with ordinary red brick and stone, with oak wood. It is partitioned off with a moveable screen allowing the choir to use one side and the clergy the other. A heating chamber is situated beneath it. The architects were Mess James, Laycock and Bellamy of London. 12 11 01g

1912 11 08
It was one of the noisiest 'rags' seen for some years, for the introduction of a variety of bomb-firework, which gives a report louder than a rifle shot, more than compensated for the fewer Varsity men than usual. The liveliest scene occurred in King Street where the crowd were attracted by the sight of the hoarding outside the partly-demolished Hobson Street Chapel. Instead they turned their attention array of woodwork in connection with the building of the new Wesleyan Chapel near Christ's Pieces, but this was strongly guarded by police. Another battle broke out in Grange Road where some 400 undergraduates damaged the fence around Mr Ebenezer Smith's garden. 12 11 08a & b

1913 01 03
P.C. John Wallage heard a noise in St John's college garden, looked over the hedge and saw the prisoner pulling up beetroot and putting them in a sack. The man ran off down Madingley Road. When caught he used very bad language and threatened to 'bash his brains out' and shoot him. The language woke a gardener living 100 yards away. Frederick Hutt, gardener at St John's College found the place where some beetroot had been growing: they were very similar to the ones in the sack. The thief was fined ten shillings 11 09 15bNew Cambridge Knight. Among the new knights (in the New Year Honours List) appears the name of Hr. Francis Darwin, D.Sc., M.B., F.R.S. of 10, Madingley Road, Cambridge, and Hon. Fellow of Christ's College. Sir Francis, to whom heartiest congratulations will be extended on all hands, is the third son of the late Professor Charles Darwin, and is in his 65th year. 13 01 03

1913 03 07
Mrs Pankhurst, leader of the militant suffragists addressed a meeting at the Blue Boar Hotel. A gramophone in the window of an undergraduate's room was playing the Dead March as she entered the hotel but there was no demonstration. A vigorous anti-suffrage campaign has also been conducted with meetings at Newnham Croft and Fen Ditton disagreeing with votes for women. If women ever sat in Parliament they would insist on a debate on the flannelette question before consideration of foreign policy. 13 03 07 p4

1913 03 14
Newnham Croft proposed school

1913 04 25
Suffragette outrage – tries burn down tree on Backs?

1913 05 09
Student drowned 'shooting the rapids' in Newnham Mill Pit *

1913 05 09
Ridley Hall thefts

1913 05 16
Ridley Hall thefts

1913 05 16
The bridge over the brook at Burrell's Walk should be replaced with one a foot higher so as to prevent it being covered with water in time of flood. A post should be placed at each end to compel cyclists who rode over it to do so at a moderate pace, councillors heard. But this was a waste of money: it only flooded once every five years and it was only a short diversion to come down by the tennis court. The scheme was dropped. 12 03 01a Motor Cars Act, 1903. Cambridge Borough Council have made application for a regulation to be made under the act to prohibit the driving or motor bicycles in Senate House Passage, Garret Hostel Lane & Burrell's Walk 13 05 16 p6

1913 06 13
Corporation to enlarge Guildhall while County Borough question unsettled – opposition; Lammas Land should be made into Newnham recreation ground 13 06 13 p7

1913 07 04
Newnham Croft school plans

1913 09 05
Guildhall extension ratepayer's opposition – any money spent on libraries should provide reading rooms for Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and Newnham: when a man got home from business he doesn't feel inclined to walk down to the town again – if you look into the Mill Road reading room at night you will see how much it is appreciated. 13 09 05 p5

1913 11 14
Suffrage meeting at Malting House, Newnham

1913 11 21
Newnham college new Fellows and scholars

1914 01 16
R. Hamer Towgood, leading agriculturalist & paper maker; Marion Grace Kennedy, Newnham College founder – obituaries – 14 01 16e

1914 01 30
High January rainfall adds pressure on pumping station; adoption of gas stoves has led to smaller proportion of ashes in the refuse during summer months, Newnham Walk may be made up, possible Chesterton carriage bridge – 14 01 30c

1914 05 29 ;
A May Morris and Country Festival opened in the grounds of 'Elterholm', Madingley Road. A display of country dances was given by Miss Kerley's classes and tea served. A fine rain fell during the entertainment but a large audience sitting with umbrellas and raincoats buttoned to the chin seemed to appreciate the dances and music. The babies dancing 'Hot Cockles' were loudly applauded and the orchestra, under Miss Fletcher, did yeoman service from the kindly shelter of a tree 14 05 29b

1914 05 29
The work of Suffrage Societies in the Eastern Federation has grown so much that reorganisation is needed. The Hon Sec for Cambridgeshire is Mrs Heitland, who with Miss Garlick as organiser is arranging meetings in North Cambs villages represented in Parliament by an anti-suffragist, the Hon. Neil Primrose. At Chatteris the Picture Palace was filled with other meetings in Whittlesey & Wisbech. Two ardent Cambridge suffragists, Miss Ida Freud, later lecture at Newnham College and Miss Smith of Hills Road, are much missed. Nine labourers were fined for disturbing a meeting at St Neots by shouting, dancing and singing. 14 05 29c

1914 06 19
An Inquiry was held into council proposals to borrow money to purchase a recreation ground in Newnham. It was Lammas Land where people had common rights to pasture a cow between August and April. At present it was being used for cricket, football and golf. There was no golf course, play being with a club and ball. But they had no business there which is why it should become a recreation ground giving access to the whole of the river. At present the lands belonged to colleges and others and were fenced only by hedges 14 06 19 p10

1914 06 19
If Chaucer Road was a newly-made road the council would not allow the owners to build until they had made the road up to the required standard. But if the residents wanted to keep the road

private and did not want water and the other benefits of civilisation they had a right to keep as they were, one councillor said. Owners had petitioned against council plans to have the road made up. But in Grange Road, Brooklands Avenue and Selwyn Gardens householders had paid and it was unfair to treat one set of ratepayers differently from another 14 06 19 p3

1914 06 19
OTC military tournament, Parade Ground, Grange Road p3

1914 07 10
Cambridge Voluntary Aid Detachments and Red Cross held an exercise at Newnham College. It assumed severe fighting had been going on in Norfolk and a large number of casualties had been sent to the First Eastern General Hospital. When another train load of wounded arrived they received orders to convert Sidgwick Hall into a temporary hospital where eleven beds were provided and patients were treated for crushed hands and fractured tibia Other nurses were prepared splints and bandages and a sceptic ward was set up 14 07 10 p4

1914 08 28
Cambridge people are adding to the comfort of the soldiers encamped here. A refreshment tent has been set up for the artillerymen on the Polo Ground at Trumpington with another on Mr Matthew's meadow, Cherry Hinton Road. The Church Institute allows soldiers the use of their billiard table. There is a reading room in the Newnham School for the camp on Lammas Ground and a games room at the Prospect Church in Eden Street with writing material and picture postcards. Many socks for soldiers are being taken to the small striped tent on Midsummer Common and shirts would also be appreciated

1914 09 04
Cambridge is one of the principal base hospitals to which the brave men wounded at Mons have been brought, 150 are now being cared for at King's College, to which the First Eastern General Hospital has been transferred from the Leys School. They include a Cambridge man, Leonard Cornwell of Gwydir Street, who was the very last to be placed in the train. So within a month of his departure he is back in his own town bearing marks of the terrible conflict. 14 09 04

1914 09 04
The train with wounded from the front was delayed. Rooms on the Great Northern platform were converted into wards for serious cases before being taken to hospital. Outside a fleet of motor cars and tradesmen's vans converted to ambulances were ready to take the men to the First Eastern Hospital now at Trinity College. It was not easy to lift the badly-wounded men out of the carriages but stretchers were placed on luggage trolleys and wheeled slowly along the platform. There were tears in the eyes of onlookers 14 09 04 p7

1914 09 25
Hat & Feathers Barton Rd disturbance

1914 09 25
A complete military hospital to accommodate 520 patients is to be built on college playing fields, Burrell's Walk. The hospital has to be completed within a month – indeed a considerable part is required within a fortnight so that the present hospital at Trinity College may be vacated before term commences. It will comprise of five wards with 100 beds in each, a supply block, operating theatre, mortuary kitchens etc. This means working at top pressure, night and day. When complete it will be one of the largest of its kind,

1914 09 25
Belgians arrive, Newnham – Baroness von Hugel

1914 10 09
Mayoralty. Councillor William Luard Raynes, of West Point, Adams Road, a partner of the firm of Messrs. Eaden, Spearing and Raynes, has been offered and has accepted the Mayoralty of the Borough. The invitation to succeed Mr. J. A. Sturton in the Chief Magistracy of Cambridge was extended to Mr. Raynes on Wednesday at a meeting of the Conservative members of the Corporation, with whom the choice this year, in accordance with the agreement arrived at between the two political parties, rested. Mr. Raynes having accepted the invitation, his nomination will be submitted to the Liberal members; there is not the least likelihood of any opposition on their part. Mr. Raynes, an M.A. of Cambridge University, has an intimate knowledge of a wide range of subjects, and is an authority on financial matters, and the present sound financial basis of the Corporation's investments are a striking, tribute to his efforts. Few members of the Corporation worked harder in connection with Town's application for County Borough powers than Mr. Raynes, who was one of the witnesses to give evidence before the House of Commons Select Committee. 14 10 09

1914 10 16
Ridley Hall chapel extension & memorial windows opened

1914 10 23
More Wounded Arrive. A Great Western Red Cross train arrived at Cambridge on Monday evening with a number of wounded soldiers from the front, including many men of the 6th Division, who were recently at Cambridge. There were 174 patients, including 33 cot cases, and 156 of the men were taken to the 1st Eastern General Hospital in Burrell's Walk, and the remainder to the Research Hospital, Hills Road. 14 10 23

1914 11 13
Mrs Hinson of Merton Street has received from a photograph of her husband's grave at Angers, France, together with a translation of the speech delivered over the graves of the English soldiers who lie buried there. They were sent by Major Stoney Archer's wife who enclosed a very kind letter expressing deepest sympathy. The hospital in which he was treated is beautifully equipped and he received the best of care and nursing. It is such kindly actions which make our British officers beloved by their men and which cements the good feeling between all classes in this country.

1914 11 13
Corp. H. Simpson of the 6th Division of the Royal Field Artillery who were in tents on Midsummer Common writes: When I was in Cambridge growling because we were kept in England I did not realise how terrible war was. I think that nearly a quarter of the men that were at Cambridge are either killed or wounded. Capt Scholey writes to Mr Dockrill of Marlowe Road: A great number of those where on the Meadows have been killed or wounded while Pte Layfield, writing to Miss Smart, asks for a bit of home-made cake

1914 11 20
Another trainload of wounded soldiers arrived at Cambridge station. Owing to the inclement weather and having to remain for hours at a stretch up to their waist in water in the trenches, many of the men had to be invalided home suffering from rheumatism. The new wards at the Military Hospital in Burrell's Walk are practically completed and at present there are about 900 wounded soldiers receiving treatment there. 14 11 20

1914 11 20
Mr E.E. Paine of Derby Street has received a letter from Pte Hutchins of the Royal Engineers: "We have put up many miles of barbed wire in front of our trenches and after the Germans have charged during the night the morning shows their bodies hanging on the wire like clothes left out to dry. I have seen many German prisoners and wounded and they all appear to be 16 to 18 years of age or else very old men"

1914 11 27
The Hospitality Committee for Belgian refugees has equipped four houses in which 55 refugees have been accommodated. They are 'Scotsdale' on Grantchester Rd where a Flemish priest has been lodged with nine members of his family and 'South House' Barton Road which houses 14 members of doctor's family. A young lace maker and a family of eight from Louvain lodges at No.4 West View Newnham while at |No.11 Brookside there are 22 refugees from Malines and Ostend. In Regent Street a studio has been converted into a fair-sized reading room where Dutch, French and English papers are supplied. * & p5

1915 09 10
St Mark's roll of honour

1915 09 24
Chedworth Street School to be named Newnham Croft

1915 10 27
Newnham Croft school opening – photo – 15 10 27b

1916 01 15
Service of intercession, Gt St Mary's: Mayor, Dr Alex Wood, with umbrella inspects V.A.D.'s attached to St Chad's and Wordsworth Grove Red Cross Hospital sand lines of Red Cross and troops on Senate House Hill – photo - 16 01 05b

1916 01 28
Wordsworth Grove Hospital new recreation room opened – 16 01 26a

1916 03 08
Wordsworth Grove VAD Hospital – photo feature – 16 03 08d

1916 04 12
Funeral of wife of Lieut J. Leach, VC, 13 Fulbrooke Road – 16 04 12a; photo - 16 04 19b

1916 04 26
Rookeries. The rookeries in Cambridge have been a good deal upset by the recent gales. Trees, which for generations have yearly been occupied by rooks, have been blown down, and some of the college grounds most frequented by them are now almost deserted, the silence being I most remarkable to those accustomed to the "cawing" of the sable birds. This is particularly noticeable at St. John's, formerly one of the most favourable nesting centres, and generally at the Backs there are fewer nests than usual. death Alfred Paget Humphry, deputy Lieutenant … fame as a rifle shot; fired from tower of Pitt Press aiming at the targets on University range at Backs of colleges; won Queen's Prize at Wimbledon; represented England etc 16 10 11a

1916 07 12

Big Push Casualties - there was a long list of casualties or local men as result of the Big Push, which is now progressing so satisfactorily. Large numbers of wounded have arrived at the First Eastern Hospital—as many as 460 reached Cambridge in two days— and a number of medical officers have left the hospital for service at a daughter hospital in Egypt 16 07 12

1916 08 09
King private visit, few aware, to inspect the various military units in the town and to visit the 1st Eastern General Hospital. He evinced the keenest interest in everything he saw at the hospital, and stayed for a moment or so by the side of many a wounded hero. They stay in Cambridge lasted exactly 2 ¾ hours. His Majesty was in khaki, and looked fit and well 16 08 09

1916 09 13
Vicar of Impington Resigns. During the afternoon service at Impington Parish Church on Sunday, the Vicar (the Rev. Dennis Hall) announced that the harvest festival would be held on the last Sunday in this month, and owing to the lighting restrictions, it would be held in the afternoon. He trusted the church would be decorated in the same manner this year as in past years. On this occasion, the Vicar said, it would be the last time he would occupy that pulpit as their Vicar. The Rev. Dennis Hall, who resides at Newnham, Cambridge, has been Vicar of Impington since 1882. He was formerly curate of Stow-cum-Quy. He is Honorary Assistant Under Librarian of the Cambridge University Library. A very good amateur carpenter, one of the first things Mr. Hall did at Impington was to buy a small organ from a parish church in Leicestershire, enlarge it, and fit it up in the church entirely by himself. He has evinced a keen interest in music, and himself possessed a fine tenor voice. The living is in the gift of the Archdeacon of Ely. 16 09 13

1916 12 27
Christmas at Cambridge; wounded colonial soldiers book beds for next year; includes Huntley Red Cross Hospital , Wordsworth Grove VAD & Serbian boy refugees – 16 12 27c

1917 01 31
Skating at Newnham – photo feature – 17 01 31a

1917 02 28
County Schoolboys stake out allotments on land of Barton Road, originally Queens' College Cricket Ground – photo feature – 17 02 28c

1917 04 04
A Drastic Resolution. The following resolution has been passed by the Allotments Subcommittee for Newnham and Castle End: "That inasmuch as they have received 50 applications for allotments, which they are unable to satisfy, they beg to re-quest the Town Council to break up the Lammas Land at Newnham without delay, viz., without waiting for formal authority from any higher authority". As a result the Borough Member is to be asked to interview the Authorities of the Board of Agriculture and Fisheries with regard to the application of the committee for permission to use the Lammas Land and Empty Common for allotments. – 17 04 04

1917 12 26
Consecration of Church. There was a large congregation at St. Mark's Church, Newnham on Thursday afternoon when the Bishop of Ely consecrated the building as a chapel of ease to Grantchester, 17 12 26

1918 01 16
Fun on the ice photos: skating at Newnham - 18 01 16b

1918 01 30
Floods. The severe weather and the thaw of last week has had further detrimental effects upon the trees at the Backs of the Colleges and our riverside walks (says the writer of Town and Country Topics). Many old familiar arboreal friends have been dismembered, notably the veteran weeping willow on the south-west side of Trinity College Bridge. The floods which followed the thaw rose to a considerable height and considerable damage is now seen to have been done to the river banks at Sheep's Green. Part of the trouble here is said to have been caused through the flood gates at the Apron being out of repair, and a casual inspection shows them, to be in a very dilapidated condition. The condition of the streets this weekend has been deplorable, presumably owing to the shortage of labour and haulage, but an improvement is now being effected. We hear rumours of further demands from labour, which appear to be due to the irresponsible way in which workpeople are being attracted to some new enterprise. We think that representations should be made to the Government as to the mischief that is being done and a more rational system introduced 1920 05 12

1918 03 27
Wordsworth Grove Hospital use Newnham gymnasium for massage and electrical department – photos – 18 03 27f

1918 10 16
Queen and Princess Mary visit First Eastern General Hospital, Cambridge where the Queen, evidently recognising the difficulties which beset a photographer owing to the bad climate conditions, at her own request stood for a few moments to enable him to secure a snapshot. 18 10 16

1918 12 11
40 cases a day. Wordsworth Grove Hospital, Cambridge, has been fortunate in having the Newnham gymnasium lent to them for their massage and electrical department, a large, airy bright building where between 30 and 40 cases a day are treated—men in hospital in the mornings, and out-patients and discharged soldiers in the afternoons from Swavesey, Newton, Harston, Duxford and outlying villages. The treatments are massage, galvanism and Faradism, radiant heat, hot air and ionisations and exercise. The work here, as in all other Red Cross Hospitals in the county, is carried on under the supervision of Miss Laven, who has been untiring in her efforts on behalf of the wounded ever since the outbreak of war.

1919 02 12
Skating at Newnham – photos – 19 02 12f

1919 02 19
Floods highest since 1879; homes inundated Riverside & Newnham, parapet of house in Parker St collapses – 19 02 19a

1919 03 05
Oxygen treatment for gas poisoning, specially erected chambers at ‘Springfield’, Sidgwick Avenue in connection EGH. Research started in Physiological Laboratories early in 1917 under Joseph Barcroft who made Superintendent in Physiology to Ministry of Munitions. Thirty cases have been treated. Requires exercise and physical training in spacious grounds. Has inner chamber of iron and glass which is airtight. Oxygen added. – 19 03 05a

1919 03 12
First ladies ‘eight’ on Cam – Newnham college; photos – 19 03 12c

1919 05 14
Wordsworth Grove VAD disbanding – photos – 19 05 14d

1919 07 16
From air: across West Road to First Eastern General – 19 07 16b

1919 08 27
Cambridge from air, based over Newnham and Grantchester Street allotments – 19 08 27c

1919 09 24
Cambridge from the air – University bathing place in Grantchester Meadows – 19 09 24c

1919 11 05
Newnham institute unveil war memorial – 19 11 05d

1920

1920 01 22
Newnham Institute report – need new building

1920 02 18
Burrell's Walk hut – experiences of resident – 20 02 18a

1920 02 24
Burrells Walk – tenants to be allowed to store furniture in premises not suitable for habitation; one hut as hospital for Naval officers, cannot use as shop

1920 03 10
Licensing sessions: refer East Road: Turnstile. George IV, Smith & Wheelwright Arms, King St: Boot; Gwydir St: Dewdrop; Newnham: Tally Ho; Chesterton: Indian Chief; Cherry Hinton Hopbine; Renew St Andrew's St: Queen's Arms – 20 03 10b

1920 03 30
Burrell's Walk – 242 applications for accommodation, 74 in occupation of tenements and on completion of the first part of the housing scheme would be accommodation for further 60; 108 for whom no accommodation. Two of the wards were still in occupation of military who could not vacate for another month

1920 04 21
New Road. A proposed road in Cambridge, which new will relieve the pressure of traffic in Silver Street, was described at a meeting of the Cambs. County Council on Saturday. The Town Council had written to the County authorities stating that they pro-posed to promote a Bill in the ensuing session of Parliament, and that they would be prepared to insert a clause providing for the construction by the County Council for a by-pass road from the Barton Road to Hills Road, with the necessary bridges. The Roads Committee of the County Council considers that such a road would he a desirable improvement, and the County Surveyor, the County Architect, and the Borough Surveyor are to confer with a view to preparing a plan showing the suggested links for the proposed new road, together with an estimate of the cost. Alderman J. Q. Vinter said that the time had come when there should be proper communications between these districts. Councillor W. L. Rayners observing that the scheme might not be clear to some members of …. It consisted

of a road starting at the corner of the Barton Road, next to the Caius Ground, going down over a sort of drift way towards the bathing sheds at the bottom of the Lammas Ground, which the Borough bought a little while ago, then across some private land reaching the river. There was a bridge, and over that bridge the road would join on the Pemberton Estate and link up with Chaucer Road, then reaching the main London road. It would then turn back a little way to the bridge over the Brook, joining up with Brooklands Avenue. It would make a main by-pass road which would avoid the necessity of using Silver Street, a main road with a bridge which was often dangerous for the traffic. The County Council agreed that the Town Council should be asked to insert a clause to the proposed bill – 20 04 21a

1920 05 11
Burrells Walk agree plans for remainder of the buildings which have been handed over; question of branch library – no

1920 05 12
Telephone Kiosks. The Borough Council will tomorrow be asked to approve of the erection of telephone kiosks under the shelter at Hyde Park Corner, and near Sidgwick Avenue (or the side of Queens' Road). Suggested sites on the Newmarket Road (near Abbey Road) and on the public footpath on Mill Road (near Catharine Street) have failed to secure the approval of the Paving Committee, and in the former case the Borough Surveyor has been asked to select a suitable position in Sun Street, whilst in the latter the Post Office authorities have been requested to obtain another site on private property. The attention of the Post Office authorities is to be drawn to the need of a kiosk in the Cambridge Without District and a request made for the erection of one at the junction of Cherry Hinton … 20 05 12

1920 05 12
Queen pays informal visit to two princes at Southacre and Trinity, walk Backs

1920 07 10
Public houses considered for closure – Victoria, Barrington; Guilden Morden Pig & Whistle, Cherry Hinton Hopbine, Castle Camps George & Dragon, Linton Axe & Saw, King Street Boot, Chesterton High Street Indian Chief, Newnham Road Tally Ho, East Road Turnstile, Gwydir Street Dew Drop

1920 07 14
Licences refused Hopbine, Cherry Hinton; Boot, King St; Tally Ho, Newnham Rd; Dew Drop, Gwydir St – 20 07 14b

1920 07 17
Y.W.C.A. Hostel moves from Barton Road to Chesterton Road overlooking the river

1920 08 04
Proposed road between Barton Rd & Trumpington Road turned down – 20 08 04a

1920 10 08
Newnham war memorials unveiled, St Mark's church

1920 10 13
St Mark's church Newnham war memorial unveiled – photos – 20 10 13b

1920 11 10
St Mark's church jubilee – history – 20 11 10a

1920 11 12
Armistice 'Rag', chariot of flame on Market Hill, siege of Newnham College, burst through gates where for half hour of bliss … few odd battalions of infuriated Dons and hysterical Newnhamites, police charge

1920 12 06
Ministry of Transport would grant aid construction of road from Cherry Hinton Road to Mill Road, Barton Road to Trumpington Rd

1920 12 22
Two new roads to make work unemployed – from Cherry Hinton Road to Mill Road (near huts to Brookfields) and from The Grove, Newnham to Trumpington Road via Coe Fen Lane – 20 12 22b

1921 01 26
Burrell's Walk tenant summonsed for assault another – 21 01 26

1921 02 23
Burrell's Walk tenancy – ejectment order – 21 02 23

1922 08 05
The commencement of the school holidays has at once placed a great strain upon those who are responsible for the conduct of our recreation grounds and open spaces, and nowhere has it been more felt that at Sheep's Green, Cambridge, where our young water-rats spend the greater part of their vacations in alternating river-bathing and sun-baths. The place is in a great state of dilapidation and at any moment might become an utter ruin. The rottenness of the woodwork of the bathing shed is concealed by paint and putty, timbering on both sides of the river is falling to pieces and on the Newnham side the banks are crumbling to bits. It really does seem that before any new bathing places are built this grand old one should be put into a state worthy of its reputation and popularity - Table Talk

1922 10 07
Full Term commences next week and with it the activities of the new academical year. The open question now is as to the probable number of Freshmen and residents. Most of the Service students, who created the congestion which existed in the University from the Lent Term of 1912, went down last June, and left plenty of elbow room. This year we have got back to the public school boy, the pre-war type of Freshman. Girton and Newnham and the Women's Training College have not an empty room

1922 11 18
Undergraduates - both male and female - took a prominent part in the parliamentary election contest. I learn that 212 undergraduates and students of Newnham and Girton registered their names as volunteers, and a large number ably assisted the Conservatives in the County, Borough and University contests. They help was particularly valuable in the County as flying motor columns were organised for visits to remote villages, where the villagers were assembled by the ringing of a bell and addresses were given by some of the undergraduates, whilst others distributed literature or canvassed voters

1923 05 01
A new burial ground for St Mark's parish, Cambridge, was consecrated by the Bishop of Ely. A short service was held in the Church, and the people then proceeded to the burial ground, which is situated about two miles away, by the side of Barton road, where already lie the remains of Mr J. H. Briggs who had been one of the foremost in the steps taken to acquire a burial ground for the parish. The Bishop said it was a curious & pathetic and coincidence that very shortly before the service of consecration, one who was deeply interested in it, and who had worked well for it, had passed away, and that he should be the first to be laid to rest in the new burial ground of the parish before its concentration. The Bishop said the service was the last act in a long process - the formation of St Mark's into a separate parish.

1923 05 01
An undergraduate of Park Street was summoned for causing an obstruction by means of a motor tricycle in Burrells Walk Cambridge. P.C. Saunders said that as a result of complaints he kept observation and whilst doing so defendant left his roundabout outside the racket courts. Defendant told the court that cars much larger than his were usually left there and he did not think his small one could have caused an obstruction Fined 10s.

1923 05 25
Lady M. Darwin, of Newnham Grange, Cambridge, appeared at the police court when she was summonsed for riding a bicycle on the footway at West Road. She appeared and pleaded not guilty. P.C. Hagger stated that he saw the defendant riding along the footpath and rode after the on his bicycle. When he told her she would be reported, she replied, "I was riding very slowly; you should make the Corporation lay the tar better; it spoils bicycle tyres". (Laughter) "I don't think I was doing any harm to anyone. Some of the friends I see before me have admitted during the same thing". (Laughter). She was fined five shillings.

1923 06 13
The annual Inter-Varsity military tournament was held on the University Rifle Range, Grange Road when Cambridge beat Oxford by six events to 4. Perhaps the most popular event was the tent pegging, which reached an extremely high standard. One rarely sees it done better at Olympia. The artillery drive, too, was extremely well done. Some regular artillery offices in the audience, the hardest critics of all, seemed somewhat sceptical about it when the team drove into the arena, but after the first-time round their criticism changed to praise. The events won by Cambridge were the R.F.A. Alarm race, the individual jumping, the half section jumping, tent pegging, wrestling on horseback, and the cavalry dummy thrusting but they were beaten by Oxford in the cable laying competition. Oxford's other successes were the bayonet fighting, the artillery driving, and the tug of war.

1923 07 11
1,700 women members of the West Ham Central Mission Women's Meeting descended upon Cambridge on their annual outing. The huge party arrived in 56 motor coaches which drew up in a long line in Queens Road. In a solid mass they came over King's Bridge like an army of Amazons on the march, some expressing disappointment that the Cam was not as wide as the Thames. But as they entered the cool sanctuary of the chapel there was a continuous stream of enthusiastic remarks. The chairs were quickly occupied with mothers with their babies. We doubt there was ever such a scene in the historic chapel before.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1923 09 21
Sir - During the time that Silver Street, Cambridge, has been closed for traffic, some hundreds of persons have used Mill Lane, Sheep's Green to Newnham mill path. This opens a solution of the problems of relieving Silver Street of a great number of bicycles, especially during the dinner hour. I would like the Corporation to consider widening the wooden bridges, lessening the gradients, covering in the outlets of Newnham mill, and improving the cobble stones in Mill Lane, in order to encourage cycle riders to use this way. The one drawback to this scheme is the sharp turn at the King's mill corner, but this might also be overcome – "Newnhamite"

1923 09 28
Cambridge town council agreed a scheme to construct a road across Coe Fen from the Coach and Horse public house, Newnham, to Coe Fen Lane. The Ministry of Transport have agreed to pay half the cost, and the road will be commenced almost at once so as to provide work for the unemployed during the coming winter. The scheme had been before the Council for nearly 20 years. Nine or 10 schemes had been presented and each member of the council appeared to think his particular scheme was the best. The great advantage of the present scheme was that the whole length of the road would be on the council's own land.

1923 10 15
An Avro biplane was taking two passengers over Cambridge yesterday afternoon and when returning to the licenced aerodrome on Barton round, the under-carriage fouled the hedge, causing the machine to fall almost vertically on its nose. The pilot was slightly injured. The passengers were uninjured and motored the pilot to the Evelyn nursing home where he was detained. The machine, which stands in the field in an almost vertical position, appears to have suffered but little damage other than that sustained by the under-carriage

1923 10 30
Sir, - many Cambridge people can remember the "Dismal Jimmies" protesting at the suggested new road from the Four Lamps over Midsummer common and the bridge to Chesterton. The council stood firm, what is the result? Victoria Avenue and the bridge has proved a complete success, the trees have grown and have become a real avenue. And not only is it a boon and a blessing to Chesterton men; it is a credit to Cambridge. I trust the council will again stand firm and this time let the boon be for Newnham, with a roadway over Coe Fen that will prove a credit to the district and then we can cycle to business without expecting to be caught in the death trap of crowded Silver Street. – "Safety First"

1924 05 01
Through the munificence of Sir Charles and Lady Walston, handsome iron gates in the early English style have been erected at the entrance to the King's College grounds on the Backs. Sir Charles presented them to the college. Mr A W Elwood the maker of the gates, presented the key to Lady Walston who opened them.

1924 05 13
An aeroplane came to grief while alighting in a field on Barton Road, Cambridge, and the pilot and two passengers had a narrow escape from serious injuries. The plane was attached to Edward's Flying Service, which provides flights from a field off Barton road. It appears that the pilot was about to land and was manoeuvring for a position suitable to the direction of the strong wind when the engine stopped, and he was forced to land. The aeroplane crashed into a hedge and turned completely over, its back being broken.

1924 11 04

The first of a series of film displays with the object of educating public opinion of certain dread diseases was held in Newnham. Of all the dread diseases which devastated civilise countries to-day, venereal diseases were perhaps the most serious. A centre was established at Addenbrooke's where treatment was free and secret. Since 1917 the number of attendances was 11,905. The disease was so serious as to warrant the most vigorous propaganda. The responsibility of parents in the education of their children in sex matters ought not to be shirked.

1924 11 25
Sir – To my thinking there are, for a town the size of Cambridge, too many useless trees by half: trees that are neither useful not ornamental. Take a walk along Grange Road and look at some of the expensive villas there being ruined by trees planted in the small space of ground around them, blocking out the air and harbouring all kinds of insects. Where can you take a walk and get a view of a glorious sunset or beautiful landscape. Your vision is marred by a lot of unnecessary trees. I think a good purpose would be served if hundreds of trees were cut down and sold as cheap firing to many poor people – "An old lover of Cambridge"

1924 12 01
Sir – Having lived in Derby Street, Cambridge for nearly ten years I can faithfully describe its condition. During this period not a stone has been laid on the road. On rainy days each house occupier has his own lake situate along the front. After long years of passive submission a "round robin" was sent to the authorities asking if they will lay a path for us. The answer came this week. If the tenants will pay 6s.9d. per foot frontage, all's well, as it is, in the opinion of the Council, a private street – E. Frost

1925 05 30
Some interesting competitions in clay target shooting were held on Messrs Gallyon's shooting park, at Moor Barns Farm, Madingley Road, Cambridge. They were the first of the kind to be held in the Eastern Counties and attracted a good attendance. A new automatic trap which has just been installed on the ground gave general satisfaction. This is the first time that a trap of this kind has been used in Cambridge and proved its value, not only from the economical point of view, but also for accelerating the competition.

1925 09 05
Sir – When are Fulbrooke and Owlstone Roads going to be taken in hand? The longer they are left the greater the disgrace to companies who cut channels across the roads and never filled them in properly. Grantchester Meadows beyond Marlowe Road does not win much praise from foot passengers, and it is the approach to the most popular walk around Cambridge. As someone has rather neatly said 'The road to Paradise is a path of difficulty'

1926 01 18
Skating has been in full swing over the weekend. The Cambridge Sewage Farm has been the rendezvous of the majority of skaters and on Sunday over 500 skaters were 'on' in the afternoon. Mr Nicholls' field in Grantchester Meadows was flooded and many skaters availed themselves of the opportunity it offered, whilst others went over to Swavesey. Hundreds indulged in winter sports on the slopes of Royston Heath, tobogganing and ski-ing were general

1926 02 12
An unemployed labourer pleaded guilty to stealing a packet of ten Player's cigarettes, value 6d, from an automatic box. He placed in the machine a farthing that had been cut down at the edge to the six of a sixpence and by this means obtained the pack of cigarettes. George Lay, tobacconist

of Burrell's Walk, Cambridge, said he had placed marked packets in the machine after finding farthings, pieces of lead and foreign coins in the money box.

1926 05 10
Five hundred of the Civil Constabulary reserve, mostly undergraduates, left Cambridge early this morning for duty in the East End of London. An advance party of 100 went off yesterday. The journey was made by road, the procession of cars stretching for a distance of nearly a mile. In addition some are cleaning carriages at Paddington and Waterloo stations and others unloading cargo at Tilbury Docks. A large number are at dock work and engineering jobs at Hull, while a small contingent is at Grimsby employed at the quayside. A number of Girton and Newnham girls are working as cyclist messengers in the district

1926 08 16
Earthquake shocks of unusual severity were felt on Sunday morning. In Cambridge occupants were awakened by the rattle of windows, crockery and furniture. Two residents in West Road were aroused from sleep by the oscillation of their beds; a lofty wardrobe continued to shake and its contents to rattle for some time. Railwaymen on night duty said the telegraph poles rattled and the windows of signal cabins shook. Several residents of Huntingdon felt three tremors

1926 09 28
An article in "Country Life" relates to the house, no.21 Madingley Road Cambridge in a choice spot beside the Backs which is included in an auction sale. "Everyone knows that building is costly, but there will be curiosity as to how as much as £6,000 could be spent in building a house in which the chief accommodation consisted of only six bedroom. Some four years ago an American laid out that sum on the house which is he now vacating. The auctioneer have orders to treat on the basis of market value, not cost, so someone will get a bargain".

1926 10 23
The Officers' Training Corps range on Grange Road, Cambridge, has been closed down, having been condemned by a Military Board on account of the danger to Coton. The Cambridge University Rifle Association will for a time carry on shooting at the Territorial range on Coldham's Common. But there is a likelihood of this range being closed down too in the near future because the new road in course of erection will come up behind the butts. A united effort will be made to secure a sufficiently large area of land for the erection of a new, full-sized range.

1926 10 29
The name of a well-known onion – Nuneham Park – as a fitting one for the new recreation ground at Newnham, because of the many tears it has caused on the ground of cost, was suggested by Councillor Edwards at Cambridge council. Another name proposed was Lamentations Land as a perpetual reminder that they had been guilty of the most extravagant and wilful expenditure of public money. Finally the Council decided on Lammas Land. It would signify that the ground formerly opened during certain seasons of the year was now closed permanently against any private owner's rights and the public had the rights for the whole of the year.

1926 12 09
Fen Causeway, the new and important link between Newnham and the rest of Cambridge, was opened by the Mayor. The bridge and its approaches were gaily decorated with bunting and presented a colourful scene. The project of relieving Silver Street traffic had started as long ago as 1904 and discussion had gone on for nearly 20 years before the Town Council approved the

plan in 1923. Nine proposals had been put forward and had it not been for the urgency of the unemployment question the same position would have existed today, only instead of nine there might have been nineteen different schemes (Laughter)

1927 02 01
The Cambridge Borough Surveyor reported that he had asked the authorities of St John's College if they would consent to the fence between the spinney and footpath leading to the bridge at Burrell's Walk being set back. The Bursar said they were prepared to give up the spinney, containing 1,225 square yards, for the use of the public. It was resolved to accept the offer with thanks and that the land should be placed in charge of the Commons Committee. Magdalene College are prepared to set back and re-erect the old wall in Magdalene Street on condition the Corporation would contribute £160 towards the cost. Coun King drew attention to the desirability of pedestrians being directed to keep on the left of the pavement, but no action appears to have been taken

1927 03 03
Dr Francis Shillington Scales one of the foremost radiologists in the country has died. He was appointed medical officer in charge of the X-ray department at Addenbrooke's Hospital and made much of the apparatus himself. He had an extensive private practice in the special branch of medicine to which he had elevated himself, and had an elaborate X-ray apparatus installed at his residence in Adams Road

1927 03 21
It must be 25 years since the seats and fences of Clare Hall Pieces were burnt on the Cambridge Market Hill. With the increasing number of visitors the lack of seats on the Backs is often felt and now that Cambridge attractions are being advertised the placing of seats in this favourite spot, where so many visitors go to view the west elevation of King's Chapel would be appreciated by many

1927 04 09
Cambridge councillors debated whether part of the King's and Bishop's Mill site should be sold to the University to erect new lecture rooms. The Corporation should not sell its property in this way; it should do so on the public market. They might get a higher offer from a firm who would like to put up a Woolworth building but they wanted an appropriate end to the Backs & such improvements would give an almost Venetian effect to the whole of the Backs river. To consider turning the site into a recreation ground with railings and white paint would be most regrettable. They should pull down the remains of the mill so that everyone could see what the site looked like when the fag-end of the foundations was up. It would expose some quite ugly buildings which would not be hidden by any plans before them

1927 04 27
"I feel it should be the utmost endeavour to get townspeople now existing in Burrell's Walk out of those hutments and into council houses with the greatest expediency", said A.C. Taylor, the Independent candidate in the Castle Ward by-election. He was gravely concerned with the sanitary conditions of the place and while the huts served a very useful purpose years ago they were never intended to be permanent abodes of civil population. There were some worse cases in Cambridge but for young people with families the cramped conditions and colourless surroundings did not make for the bringing up of bright, healthy children.

1927 05 11

Fifteen years ago the Mayor, as plain Mr J. Conder, suggested that that Lammas Land at Newnham, might be turned into a recreation ground. "I little thought it would come true", he confessed when he opened the said Lammas Land to the general public. This latest recreation ground will supply a long-felt want. The habits of the people had improved and one reason was the provision of suitable recreation which enabled them to enjoy themselves in a healthy and happy way.

1927 06 15
Three well-known Cambridge sportsmen who have completed their academic careers distinguished themselves by spending part of the night in the grounds of one of the women's colleges and part in another. At midnight on Saturday they climbed into Newnham, taking with them a tent which they pitched in full view and were not discovered until they were all snug in "bed", when they commenced community singing. Newnham Dons became alarmed and phoned for the police, who turned them out. They then motored to Girton, scaled a twelve-foot wall and pitched the tent. They were not discovered until the early hours of the morning when the earliest risers amongst the lady students saw the strange sight in the middle of the court.

1927 07 26
A remarkable demonstration of the new "Bibendum Comfort" tyres was given at "The Backs", Queens Road, Cambridge. The test consisted of driving a car along the road at about 38 mph and bursting the inner tube of the back tyre by means of a special device. The car was driven to the same spot at about 30 mph with the tyre half deflated and then purposely skidded and again with the tyre fully deflated. These tests were particularly severe, the car skidding right round, leaving skid marks 25 feet long, but the tyre never budged from the rim.

1927 09 01
Sir – I wish to protest against the almost intolerable nuisance caused by the beating of college carpets on "The Backs", which is robbing not a few of us of all possibility of quiet thought and study. A vast number of visitors can hardly carry away an agreeable impression of a place where their ears have been so persistently assailed and affronted. Why cannot the Colleges do what is done by all the great hotels. The resources of modern science and ingenuity lie equally open to them. Why then these means of barbarism? – Thomas Thornely.

1927 09 07
During the holidays a good deal of wanton damage had been done to the wall and outbuildings of the Romsey Council School. The plots of ground adjoining – a no man's land at the present time – enabled young people with very little else to do to try to climb the wall. On top of that the caretaker had received notice to vacate his premises and was now in Burrell's Walk. That was a long way from the school. The council will inquire of the Bursar of Jesus College as to the cost of purchasing the site immediately next to the school.

1927 09 10
A poem had been received on the subject of carpet beating on the Backs. "One noon two hypochondriacs, Were strolling through the Cambridge Backs. Said one: It seems to me that I hear smacks, And slaps and thumps and bumps and hacks, Distinctly and nerve racking thwacks, My ear drum's split, my limbs relax. It seems to me we'd best make tracks, Till carpet beating's off the Backs"

1927 12 07

Sir – the death of Mr Alfred Lander has cast quite a gloom over the Sidgwick Avenue – Silver Street bit of Cambridge. For many a year his familiar figure stood in all weathers under his big old tree, sheltered by the wall, generally accompanied by a robin or dog, his special friends. A casual passer-by might suppose he did nothing but stand there holding his broom, but he was a very useful man. To the best of his limited ability he was famous for going messages and taking care of this and that – and all this above and beyond his 'professional' work as a crossing-sweeper (the only unofficial one in the town). So afflicted, but such a simple, kindly and cheery soul; accident made him a cripple in his childhood, and life must have been a long struggle but of late things have been brighter again for him – A mourner

1928 04 14
'The Times' has published a picture of the proposed new Cambridge University Library from the provisional designs prepared by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott. For some years past the imperative need of additional rooms to accommodate the never-ending increase of books has been urged but the enormous cost of erecting an entirely new library on another site – the old playing field of King's and Clare Colleges - presented what seemed an insurmountable difficulty. Even if the proposed scheme is realised it provides for only one-half of the projected library and involves a debt which will not be cleared for 50 years

1928 10 01
Conditions at the University Library have become more and more serious and in 1924 a Syndicate recommended a new library on a new site. Land was bought and plans prepared by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, estimated at £500,000. But it was possible for them to finance only half that amount. Now an offer has been received from the Rockerfeller Foundation of a sum to enable the building of the complete library without delay.

1928 12 12
Women having been granted the Parliamentary vote the Cambridge Committee for Equal Citizenship celebrated this great event. Invitations were sent out to all members of the Cambridge Women's Suffrage Association to meet Dame Millicent Fawcett at Newnham College. There was a very large attendance. Mrs Bethune-Baker traced the history of the movement in Cambridge. Among the first subscribers were the Mayor and Vice Chancellor but the cause fell on evil days. Members of the voteless sex had stood all day at polling booths on a wet day and undergraduates had tried to force their way into a meeting at the Guildhall.

1928 12 15
St Catharine's Farm, Coton, has been taken over by the Stetchworth Dairies. Built in 1922 it contains the finest buildings of any farm in the Eastern Counties and it is because of the spacious byres for cows that the Dairies have secured it. It is another asset to their fine chain of model milk producing farms, which includes Ditton Hall Farm, Rectory Farm Milton and Aldham House Farm, Chesterton. At Merton Hall Farm, Madingley Road the cows are milked by electricity.

1929 03 02
Sir: Quite a number of people took advantage of the frozen river last weekend to skate to Ely and among them were three Newnham girls. It is 34 years since last such a journey was possible. It was February 1895 that I and two friends undertook the journey. On arrival it was suggested we continue to Denver Sluice but after two miles the ice was very bad, so we returned. I wonder how many have ever succeeded in it, a distance of 72 miles there and back. I am fond of skating and have been to Ely five times – 'Septuagenarian'

1929 04 30

Millington Road – CDN 30.4.1929

1929 05 07
Burrell's Walk eviction – CDN 7.5.1929

1929 06 18
Burrells Walk evictions – CDN 18.6.29

1929 07 20
Burrells Walk evictions.

1929 11 27
Women students packed the gallery at the Cambridge Union Society when a motion supporting full University rights for women was carried. A sensation was caused before the debate when it was proposed that in view of the importance of the issue involved the gallery should be cleared but the President ruled that this would cause too much disturbance. Women students lived under a code of rules that could only be described as fatuous; one of the women's colleges allowed its students to go unchaperoned to King's Chapel, but to no other. Girton allowed them to go to the theatre 'provided the party was of reasonable size', whilst Newnham were permitted provided the party 'was not of unreasonable size' (laughter)

1930

1930 01 10
Extensive netting was carried out in the ponds at Madingley Hall; over 8,000 fish, mostly roach and rudd, were transferred in tanks to Newnham Mill Pool. The party, which included Mr Ambrose Harding and Horace Coulson arrived equipped with nets and tanks which strongly resembled dust-bins. The first haul was made across the bridge end of the pond and resulted in the capture of about 400 small roach which were taken to Cambridge by lorry. The next produced upwards of 2,000 fish, too many for the lorry so Mr Coulson took some in pails in his car. The third pond yielded a still finer
Catch

1930 01 13
Cambridge experienced the full force of the gales. Broken fragments of tiles and chimney pots told their own tale including the house of Mr David Crown, the builder, which had a large hole in the roof. Many trees were blown down along the Backs of the Colleges; two on the corner of Queens' Green were both snapped off by the violence of the winds, another fell across the road opposite St John's College and several giant elms were snapped off like matchwood. A large tree fell across the road at Trumpington and a motor cyclist collided with it, without injury. A poplar on the edge of Snob's Stream, Sheeps Green fell carrying with it a large number of telegraph wires.

1930 02 01
The Backs look very desolate just now for fifteen of the giant elms have been condemned to death and the axe and saw has already accounted for most of them. The trees are being felled because their tops have become rotten and there is a danger of passers-by. Children are making the scene their playground and gathering firewood to take home and young amateur woodmen trying their skills with choppers when the workmen are not looking at them. The trees will be

replaced by young elms. There is a variety of opinion about the age of the trees; some put them at 180 years but other say none is more than 100 years old. 30 02 01c

1930 03 08
Sir – the rabbit factory in York Terrace, Cambridge, is a disgusting nuisance, excluding a horrible stench. Had this factory been on Grange Road the foundations would never have been dug but York Terrace stands for poverty and insignificance and so maggots, flies and stenches should apparently be borne with that humility that has been the bane of the workers all down the ages – P.J. Wright. 30 03 08

1930 03 22
There never was a time surely when there were so many works of destruction going on as at present. Little bits of old Cambridge are going one by one and elaborate new buildings are rising up in their place. Following demolition in Petty Cury and Sidney Street now we see old houses and shops in Sussex Street being knocked down. No wonder that those who come back to the town after a few years' absence express amazement at the changes they see. When we think of the bridges built at Newnham and Chesterton, of the streets that have been widened, the new recreation ground opened and the great business changes effected in the heart of the town we may well gasp. 30 03 22 a & b

1930 04 08
Councillor Mrs Rackham first came to Newnham College in 1895. Returning on her marriage in 1901 she entered into public life as school manager, Guardian and town councillor. In 1902 she started the first local branch of the Women's Co-operative Movement. Her clear-cut voice is well-known on radio and she has recently completed a series of six talks from Savoy Hill on Local Government. She is also a journalist of standing and has contributed a column to 'The Woman's Leader' for the last seven years. 30 04 08a

1930 07 21
Cambridge planners say that Huntingdon and Barton Road are already practically fully developed on both sides, similar building is taking place along Trumpington Road & housing in Madingley Road will increase now the sewers are laid. There will probably be spur roads which will have no regard to the traffic needs of the area as a whole and the result will be a hotch-potch similar to that before the days of town planning. Soon there will be no possibility getting a cross-road between Huntingdon Road and Trumpington without the demolition of buildings or serious interference with the land-owners. 30 07 21a-c

1930 08 23
One of the new Willys-Manchester 35 cwt lorries arrived in Cambridge as part of its 10,000-mile demonstration run. The lorry, which is fully laden & fitted with a special publicity body, toured the town attracting considerable attention. It carried 60 pennants of agents which have been visited and the proprietors of the Queens' Garage, Newnham Road added theirs before it left for Hitchin. The garage is to be shortly extended, provision being made for a showroom and toilet rooms. 30 08 23

1930 09 13
Much has been said about the destruction of the beauties of the Backs. But I must protest against the awful wastepaper baskets that have made their appearance. It is good to try and prevent litter along this favourite walk but surely something more in harmony with the surroundings might have been found that these huge baskets which look more suited for undergraduates' laundry than litter. 30 09 13

1930 09 27
Mr W.H. Evans who conducts the orchestra at the Cambridge New Theatre won fame as one of the first airman to fly to Cambridge. He founded the first flying school in Scotland and flew across the Firth of Forth in 1911. He made a flying tour on behalf of the 'Daily Mail' and chose Cambridge as his first stopping place, landing his Caudron biplane on the University Rifle Range, Grange Road on 27th June 1912. 30 09 27 b & c

1930 10 14
Altering the Backs – straightening road – photo – 30 10 14

1930 10 16
Changing backs – removing elms, Queens Road with steam roller - 30 10 16b

1930 11 11
It was in the state of mind anticipating moral extinction that I tapped on the door of the portress at Newnham College and asked if I could see the Principal's secretary. Within five minutes Miss Strachey had herself received me. Here was no austere 'school marm' but a charming, well-dressed, quite feminine woman of the world, with a sense of humour and the blessed gift of putting nervous people at their ease. She is a great educationalist but also a most charming and modest lady. 30 11 11a

1930 11 25
Never did learning of so weighty a nature sit so lightly on so smiling a personality as Miss Wood, principal of the Cambridge Training College for Post-graduate Women. She has a formidable list of classical achievements but proves that learning does not inevitably mean dullness. The College opened in two small cottages in Newnham Croft in 1885 and has provided hundreds of teachers for secondary schools in many parts of the Empire. 30 11 25

1930 12 06
Sir – all Cambridge men will be alarmed at the threat to build an arterial ring road bisecting Grantchester Meadows. The meadows are owned by King's College. We regard their preservation as a trust; we will not build on them, nor near them. We will do nothing to change their character and refuse to contemplate such a calamity – The Dean of King's 30 12 06

1931 01 09
Lady Darwin, wife of Sir George the Professor of Astronomy, is an American with an interest in the feminine movement. In 1914 she wrote an article on policewomen; the idea of creating a female police corps created tremendous excitement and during the war a small number were appointed... She is very hospitable and is never happier than when her house, Newnham Grange, is full of guests, particularly American undergraduates. Her eldest daughter is Mrs Gwen Raverat, a distinguished wood-engraver. 31 01 09a

1931 05 29
Territorial machine gunners on new range, Barton Road – photo – 31 05 29c

1931 07 17
The question of cricket on Lammas Land, Newnham produced a spirited debate: old ladies crossing the grass might be hit with the hard cricket ball. The Commons Committee is going through a spasm of kill-joy spirit: boys played on the streets but as soon as they went to open space they were told they must not do so. Perhaps a soft ball could be used – or a golf ball.

Newnham Institute sought permission for a cricket pitch, but this would turn it into a second Parker's Piece. 31 07 17f & g

1931 10 02
Modern house on Madingley road – photo – 31 10 02s

1932 02 23
New-constructed bus turning point Newnham route, Barton Rd – 32 02 23d

1932 04 03
New High Sheriff. The new High Sheriff for Cambridgeshire for 1942, appointed by the King in Council, is Mr. Roger H. Parker, M.A., M.C., of Thorneycreek, Herschel Road, Cambridge. A director and local director of Barclays Bank, Mr. Parker was educated at Eton and Trinity. During the last war he served with the 5th (P.C.W.) Dragoon Guards, and was awarded the Military Cross. His interest in Addenbrooke's Hospital, of whose General Committee he is chairman, is well-known, whilst his county associations include the Joint Mastership of the Cambridgeshire Hunt, his work for Trumpington No.2 electoral division and a deputy lieutenant-ship. As commander of the 4th Battalion of the Cambridgeshire Home Guard, he holds the rank of lieutenant colonel. 42 04 03

1932 04 15
Corpus Christi College is to auction 'Pinehurst' and eight acres of land facing Selwyn College, close to the new University Library. There is every reason to think that apart from preventing the covering of the site with ordinary houses, its purchase for collegiate use would in time be found to be a very wise step. The vendors may be trusted to give the friendliest consideration to any proposal that may tend to the advantage of the college. 32 04 15c

1932 06 01
The 'Brighter Roofs for Colleges' movement is growing. Overnight at Ridley Hall two cords were stretched from one of the college towers. On them pyjamas, pyjamas and still more pyjamas were floating in the wind. Large ones, small ones, brightly-coloured and silk examples were proudly swaying in the breeze and in the middle was suspended a parson's hat. After they had been lowered to the ground their various owners joined in a frantic scramble for their particular pairs which had been removed from their rooms. 32 06 01a

1932 08 12
The University of Cambridge has accepted Messrs Rattee and Kett's tender for the superstructure of the new University Library. They are also building an extension to the School of Agriculture and the Royal Society Mond Laboratory while Mr Sindall is building the new block of lecture rooms in Mill Lane and Coulson and Son have the contract for the extension to the Physiological Laboratory. These valuable contracts have been made possible largely by the munificent gift of the Rockefeller Trustees.
32 08 12b

1932 10 28
A Baroness complained that without buses it was impossible for people in Storey's Way to keep cooks – they are elderly people and cannot ride bicycles. Many households had reduced the number of servants. She herself had been obliged to give up her car and lower her expenditure considerably, consequently she was an ardent bus-rider. Lady Hope of Herschel Road said the buses ran irregularly and never in connection with one to the railway station. But very few Grange Road residents used them and some would even object to a service. 32 10 28d

1933 03 24
Three Tuns licence to be withdrawn, Coach & Horses, Newnham – 33 03 24c

1933 04 18
Grange Road proposed new road, Adams Road – 33 04 18 & 33 04 21

1933 05 18
Hangman's Corner, Barton Road presented a scene of excitement when the British Hospital's Air Pageant visited Cambridge and all afternoon there was the incessant 'zoom' of aeroplanes 'taking off' and landing. All-in advanced aerobatics provided a thrill; the 'crazy' flying drew many a gasp whilst equally entertaining was the dancing to music by the tiniest machines in the show. Wing-walking and parachute jumping were presented, together with balloon bursting and a chase after a 'kidnapped' bride. One machine which caused amusement was Mr Heath Robinson's conception of a Chinese dragon: the 'flying motor cycle'. 33 05 18

1933 05 24
Newnham nursing association meeting – 33 05 24

1933 06 08
A Newnham College student was summoned for dangerous flying. Mary Barnard said she had taken off from Marshall's flying school on a solo flight and descended to 1,000 feet over her College. But Dr John Bury, who had flown for five years, said she had descended rather rapidly, then flattened out and crossed Corpus Christi gardens at about 600 feet, he could read the letters on the plane quite clearly. As it was the first prosecution of its kind the magistrates decided to dismiss the case with a caution. 33 06 08a

1933 06 08
Pinehurst flats – advert – 33 06 08
1933 06 16
The latest feature of building development at Cambridge is the erection of two blocks of modern flats at Pinehurst, Grange Road. The site, formerly occupied by a large house used as a private school, has been acquired by the Strand and Savoy Properties. Each block has 20 flats at rentals from £145 to £175 per annum. Messrs Stockbridge furnished on display flat in antique style including a Queen Anne bureau-bookcase, another had modern furniture by Papworth Industries with an 'all-electric' kitchen. 33 06 16a

1933 07 07
The Carlton public house in Lensfield Road owned by Lacons brewery had seen an increase in trade following the Budget decrease. There had been no complaints about the tenant, Edward Bettesworth, who was getting a living and wanted to retain it. Its licence was renewed but not those of the Coach and Horses on Newnham Road or the Alhambra on East Road where there were five other pubs within 220 yards and the trade was decreasing. 33 07 07 p12

1933 10 20
Unemployment in Cambridge is serious: 965 men and 84 women were out of work. The University Library was nearly finished and the great building projects in the town completed. But work continued on Queen Edith's Way, Long Road and the Hundred Houses Estate as well as the paddling pool on Coldham's Common. The Minister of Transport was keen to do away with level crossings and replace them with bridges; this could mean serious expenditure but provide employment for a great number of men. 33 10 20

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1933 11 15
Wilberforce Road being made up – photo – 33 11 15

1933 12 12
St Botolph's church has never had a house for its incumbent. Former rectors have generally been Fellows of Queens' and entitled to a set of rooms in the college. But recent clergy have been family men and had to provide their own living accommodation. Now a new rectory in Summerfield, Newnham Road, has been designed by C.F. Skipper. 33 12 12

1933 12 19
Miss M.H. Catley, Headmistress of the Perse Girls' School, was called hurriedly home from a school dance when a blaze in the front room of her house in Barton Road threatened to envelop the whole building. Her housekeeper found a curtain had been set alight by an electric fire and rushed to the house next door to telephone the fire brigade. But there was some mix-up and they went to the Perse School buildings in Panton Street. 33 12 19

1934 03 05
A Cambridge police constable was injured during the 'rag' which followed the inter-college rugby cup final between Clare and St Catharine's. At Burrell's Walk undergraduates used wooden palisades to make a bonfire. The fire engine was called out but was surrounded by a crowd of students some of whom pulled the hose off the drum. Others clambered on to the engine and took the front and side lamps off. The fire was put out by college porters. In Queens Road the police were forced to defend themselves. Truncheons were used to prevent their helmets being snatched off. There was some hard fighting. A number of street lamps were broken and a window was smashed in King's Parade. Two undergraduates were arrested, charged with assaulting the police. 34 03 05

1934 05 05
Air circus, Barton Road – 34 05 05, 34 05 07

1934 06 01
The great move has begun. At four o'clock the doors of the old University Library near the Senate House closed to readers. There had been many visitors all day to say farewell to the building and some tender-hearted ladies left the library in tears before the bell rang for the last time. Librarians have been packing volumes into boxes and Eaden Lilley's staff began the work of loading the horse-drawn carts for the journey to the new library in West Road. The process will go on day after day for about three months. 34 06 01

1934 09 06
University Library big move – 34 09 06

1934 09 22
Life in the University would not be complete without humour, Ald Tweedy told a dinner. He mentioned a professor who was lecturing on a part of the world where men greatly outnumbered the women. "I believe that even the young women of Girton and Newnham would be able to find husbands there", he said. As a protest all the members of these colleges rose and turned to go out. "Wait a minute", said the Professor. "There's no hurry. The boat doesn't go till Friday". 34 09 22

1934 10 22

Thousands greeted the King and Queen when they made their way to the new University Library. Washing and cooking alike was forgotten in hundreds of homes as women formed a great part of the crowds which were thickest in Trinity Street where undergraduates in cap and gown added to the number. Of all the wonderful products of man's skill in art and labour the Library must rank of one of the most inspiring and peculiarly permanent of our national institutions and with while clouds scudding over its lofty tower this unique building occupied the centre of a delightful scene. An exceptionally good film of the visit, taken by Gaumont especially for the Victoria Cinema will be shown next week. 34 10 22 & 25

1935 01 07
Sir Alfred James Ewing of Herschel Road, Cambridge, was the brains behind the famous 'Room 40'. When the Great War began he was asked to undertake the task of collecting and deciphering enemy messages. Numerous listening stations were set up on the East coast at which enemy fleet signals and other wireless messages were received. From December 1914 the German Fleet made no movement which was not known in advance. The work was probably the best-kept secret of the war and the full story has never been told for he was refused permission to deal with it in his reminiscences 35 01 07a & b

1935 01 22
We have to report the death of Miss L.M. Brooks of Oxford Road, portress of Newnham College since 1924. She served the college with devotion and made herself respected and loved by successions of students, Fellows and staff alike. Her unfailing courtesy and interest, and the joy in life which was evident in her, won everybody's affection. She kept in touch with old students in remote parts of the world and remembered everyone who came back. The college has suffered a great loss by the removal of so charming and gracious a personality. 35 01 22a

1935 01 28
Snow plough Grange Road photo – 35 01 28, tipped into river – 35 01 30

1935 03 20
Backs tree demolished 35 03 20

1935 03 30
Those who worked or lived at the First Eastern General Hospital huts in Burrell's Walk immediately after the war will be sorry to learn that many of the huts that were transferred from there to Manea for use as hen houses have been destroyed by fire. A big enterprise had been built up at Fodder Fen by Mrs Harry Crouch, who was a pioneer of the intensive system of poultry keeping. The long rows of sheds have been a familiar sight to those travelling by train but now about a quarter of a mile of them have been burnt. 35 03 30a

1935 04 04
Dr Herbert Allen Giles of Selwyn Gardens, formerly Professor of Chinese and at one-time H.M. Consul at Ningpo left gross estate of the value of £23,614. He willed £1,000 to his faithful housekeeper, Mabel Slinton and legacies to others who helped make his life bearable. They include Mabel Faiers-Pikett (late housemaid), Alice Ryder and E.M. Halls (cooks) and his 'trusty housemaid' Dorothy Baker to whom he left £100 and £15 for each year of service over three years 35 04 04

1935 09 17
A gale which raged all night wreaked sad havoc amongst the lefty avenues and clusters of trees of which Cambridge is so proud. The Backs bore the appearance of having been shelled by a volley

of artillery and Queens Road had to be closed. A Huntingdon elm, the pride of Trinity garden, was blown down. A tree was blown half into the water at Jesus Green Baths while another came down near Park Parade. Hundreds of 'conkers' were blown down, to the delight of the kiddies and large quantities of ripe and unripe fruit fell on the ground. 35 09 17

1935 09 28
A new agricultural machine, known as the gyrotiller, has been working on Vicar's Farm, Madingley Road. It stirs up the soil very deeply – as much as two feet if required – and breaks up the hard 'roof' just below the surface. It leaves no 'wheelings' and so it is not necessary to send a horse to plough into the field to finish up after it. Its action seems ideal and crops yielded by land on which it has been used are extremely good. 35 09 28b

1936 02 06
The Cambridge University Mummers, who are still the only University Dramatic Society to admit women members equally with men in all their activities, are presenting 'Heartbreak House' by Bernard Shaw. In the cast there are four members of Newnham, the most prominent of whom is Miss Teresa Mayor. She will be supported by Beryl Eeman, Cecilia Hopkinson and Deirdre Moore. The play will be produced by George Rylands who is well known for productions at the A.D.C. 36 02 06a

1936 02 10
Skating at Newnham – photo – 36 02 10 Death Mrs Henry Sidgwick, Principal of Newnham – 36 02 11

1936 03 06
Sir - Great falls and breakages in the main line of elms along the Backs began in a gale 40 years ago. They have come at intervals ever since and will certainly continue as the trees are much more diseased and feeble than the public knows. Twelve years ago King's cleared fifty yards of the sad wreckage of old trees and planted a double reserve line. These are now well grown but some have been broken. The public may look forward to more random falls whenever the wind is high and a limited amount of controlled felling and replanting where the trees are judged to be worst. But there will be no sudden large clearances and we are taking the best advice we can – Vice-Provost, King's College 36 03 06c

1936 10 09
Sir – I wish to make a protest about the condition of Barton Road in Cambridge. A few months ago this was tarred and chipped, but why were the holes not filled in where the mains were laid to new homes? Now new light standards have been erected and tremendous holes again left. The other day I broke an axle at 28 mph on one of these holes. The motorist doesn't mind. He's used to paying for things not done and to accidents for which he is not to blame – E.K. Howell. 36 10 09

1936 10 15
More than 737 new street lamps had been installed and from Milton Road to Northampton Street there was excellent lighting. But the council had deliberately left a big black patch along the Backs. Discussions had taken place with the Cambridge Preservation Society and Heads of Colleges; Queens Road was unique, they had to reconcile its beauty and character with the efficient lighting which would protect life 36 10 15

1937 01 15

A fire at a large house at 10 Adams Road in the early morning caused considerable damage. There were six people living there and the haste with which they had to leave their rooms was obvious, for several were still wearing pyjamas and overcoats whilst engaged in salvage work this morning. The Merryweather fire engine was sent for and the brigade fought the flames from the water tower, managing to confine the outbreak to the upper storeys. Mr P. Hirsch, the owner, said several hundred pounds had recently been spent in redecoration and more damage had been done by water than fire. 37 01 15a, pic 15

1937 02 01
Alexander Paul MacAlister was articled to Messrs Fawcett's, a Cambridge firm of architects, before starting on his own in St Andrew's Street 45 years ago. He designed the new block at Fulbourn Mental Hospital and the Tubercular Hospital at Antwerp as well as many houses in Madingley Road. He founded the Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society and played parts in all the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. 37 02 01

1937 02 13
Cambridge Training College for Women celebrated its Jubilee. It had started in two cottages at Newnham when Miss Hughes, the principal, was the sole staff and lectured on every subject. Early staff, if they did receive their salaries, paid them back into the college in some way until the new buildings were started. When it moved into Queen Anne Terrace 1,000 guests gathered in a marquee for the ceremony. So great was the crush that those who were to sit on the platform could only get to it through a hole cut in the marquee. 36 06 02 & a Gladstone tree at Newnham College recalled – 37 02 13b

1937 04 29
Parts of Newnham College known as 'The Slums' include a number of small dark bedrooms which get no light at all and from which the view consists of a blank wall. Owing to congestion and overcrowding these are now used as students' bed-sitting-rooms. Some bathrooms are used for washing crockery and there is insufficient accommodation for food and coal storage. But some new rooms are large and light with basins fitted with hot and cold water. 37 04 29b

1937 05 31
About 2,000 people gathered on Grange Road Rifle Range to see a display of first aid by the British Red Cross Society under air raid conditions. Three bombers from Duxford took part in the raid, exactly as though on active service. As they dived at speeds of 240 mph there were realistic bangs and clouds of smoke. People in the area rushed about screaming and collapsed wounded or from the effects of the gas. When the raid was over the rescue parties, clad in gas masks and decontamination suits commenced work. A musketry party fired on the 'planes during the raid 37 05 31

1937 07 07
Elm disease has attacked some of the trees along the Backs at Cambridge. Some have been topped and others are definitely going bad. But experts believe the disease is not so serious as first feared. A number of trees have recovered and there is no need to be in a hurry to fell those which have been affected. At Sheep's Green and Coe Fen the trees are chiefly willows but some are not as happy as they might be. They could be replaced by cricket bat willows which are pretty trees and the most profitable grown at present, a Forestry expert told Rotarians. 37 07 07b

1937 10 18
Cambridge University Officers Training Corps gave a demonstration at the Grange Road rifle range. It opened with a display by the Vickers machine gun section followed by mortars laying a

smoke screen. Cavalry were in action reconnoitring and dummy-thrusting with swords while communication by wireless and cable was also shown. A spectacular display of demolishing a bridge was followed by a battery action by two 18-pounder field guns. Visitors could inspect the equipment and try out an army gas mask in the gas chamber. 37 10 18

1937 12 15
Cambridge Photographic Club's annual competition was 'Street characters and customs". There were interesting entries depicting well-known characters and street scenes. Graham Turner submitted a picture of 'William Davis, pedlar', Capt C.G.M. Hatfield was awarded a certificate for a photograph of 'Banjo Joe', a familiar figure on the Backs, while Graham Turner and T.E. Collier were praised for their entries 37 12 15c

1938 02 28
Sir Frederick Hiam, a former High Sheriff, died at his residence, Grange Road. He was best-known as an agriculturalist, acquiring many farmers in the Eastern Counties after 1910. He was Director of Vegetable Supplies in the Ministry of Food 1918-21 and toured the Colonies, being knighted for his services. He took a great interest in skating, winning the 220 yards word championship in 1895 in record time and was president of Cambridge Town Football Club. He was a member of the Ouse Drainage Board and chairman of three Drainage Commissioners. His funeral will take place at Ely, where Lady Hiam was laid to rest three weeks ago. 38 02 28

1938 03 01
Charles Edmund Brock, the artist, died at his residence in Grange Road. He was chiefly known as a water colour artist and book illustrator, including novels by Charles Dickens and Jane Austen and also did a fair amount of work for 'Punch'. He painted portraits of University worthies, several being exhibited at the Royal Academy, and two portraits of former Mayors, Ald Spalding and Ald Sinker, hung in the Guildhall before the rebuilding. His brother H.M. Brock, another artist, lives nearby. 38 03 01

1938 03 24
Nutt Motor Co moves from Newnham to Hills Road – 38 03 24

1938 08 12
Queen Mary named the first block of the new buildings at Newnham College after Professor and Mrs Fawcett and their daughter Philippa. It was at the Fawcett's house in December 1869 that the first meeting was held to discuss plans which resulted in the foundation of the college. Twenty-one years later Miss Philippa Fawcett justified her parents' faith by being placed above the Senior Wrangler in the Mathematical Tripos. She was amongst the guests and was presented to the Queen who has taken the keenest interest in the College 38 08 12

1938 09 01
New roundabout junction Fen Causeway & Barton Rd - pic – 38 09 01

1938 10 01
The Mayor said he'd received a telegram that plans to evacuate London children had been cancelled. Later he got another saying they were on their way. They arrived in three motor coaches, the children's ages ranging from six weeks to four years. Accommodation was found at Homerton and Newnham College. Their mothers left the children, aged from six weeks to four years, to the tender mercies of students and returned to London. Today the babies have rejoined their mothers, which is a very happy solution. 38 10 01

1938 12 05
A pavilion erected in memory of H.G. Comber and W.F. Smith was opened on the University Hockey Ground, Barton Road. Comber had been captain of the University side in 1893, chairman of the council of the Hockey Association and first President of the Eastern Counties Association formed in 1908 while Mr Smith had been its Secretary for many years and had played for England from 1911-21. Inside is a case containing a collection of old hockey and bandy sticks 38 12 05

1939 01 07
Cambridge Town & County Lawn Tennis club to have last season on existing ground in Madingley Road and Wilberforce Road; will move to fine ground nearer centre town with 16 to 20 first-class grass and one hard court 39 01 07

1939 01 11
The aconites are coming up in the Spinney, the little triangular bit of woodland at the end of Burrell's Walk with the Binn brook running through it. When old Mr Whitaker was a boy it was a pretty stream fringed with rushes and haunted by butterflies. He watched a fresh water mussel creeping over the mud at the bottom of the ditch and remembers boys used to catch cray fish to sell to St John's kitchens. In February 1919 came a great snowfall which led to Garrett Hostel Lane being flooded from end to end and the boys were climbing along the railings from the Queens Road to the Bridge. 39 01 11b

1939 01 12
Much opposition to women taking holy orders came from a spirit of trade unionism among the clergy, a conference at Ridley Hall was told. The present position was illogical: women were allowed to give addresses, but seldom to preach and were not permitted to use the pulpit. The ministry of the Sacrament was denied, the priesthood was forbidden. Women had intelligence and wit worthy to be matched against the finest masculine brains and had to receive the opportunity to make full use of their God-given powers. But if they came crowding into the church it would bring competition for male clergy – a job that though poorly paid was safe and still fairly respectable. 39 01 12

1939 03 07
Cambridge & District Town Planning scheme inquiry heard that Grantchester Meadows, a large area of land between Cambridge and Coton, the University Farm and land at the Gog Magog Hills had been safeguarded. An area of 160 acres near Trumpington should be reserved for a municipal golf course. But at Rectory Farm, Milton the field the Corporation wanted to take was the only old pasture on the farm and the tenant had 21 cows and a bull. If he had to give it up it would take 10 years before the grass would be useful for milking purposes 39 03 07a

1939 05 06
Dorothy Garrod of Newnham College elected first woman professor of Cambridge University – women are not officially members of the university and have no gowns – 39 05 06

1939 09 02
An important announcement from Cambridge bakers. As new Acts have been applied to the baking trade, Master Bakers have agreed to provide a shorter working week for employees. We have decided not to bake or deliver dread on Thursdays. Signed: J. Harwood of Derby St, W.H. Pratt of Halifax Road, G.P. Hawkins of Parsonage Street, A.E. Mason of Trumpington Street together with Tylers, Maskell, Markillie, Horspool, Summerlin and over 20 other bakers. [advert] 39 09 02a

1939 09 04
Fenners cricket ground was opened in 1846 but there have been only three groundsmen, Tom Parmenter who remained to 1862, Walter Watts and Dan Hayward who took over in 1908. He has also been custodian of the University Football and Hockey Grounds. His father used to look over the Rugger and Soccer pitches on Parker's Piece where they played until the Grange Road ground opened in 1896 and the two clubs amalgamated. Dan's own sport is cricket and he once took all ten wickets for 32 runs, though he considers his nine wickets for eight runs against Bury to be his best performance. Now he is retiring 36 09 04a

1939 09 11
Newnham youngsters at paddling pool with gas masks –photo – 39 09 11a

1939 11 13
Haymaking on Grange Road rifle range – photo – 39 07 06 Horace George Gray was the son of the founder of H.J. Gray, sports good manufacturers. Early premises were in Grange Road and firm later moved to Benson Street – 39 11 13b

1939 12 01
A Clare College undergraduate told the Conscientious Objectors' Tribunal that he hoped to do psychological work. The idea had come into his head while working in a Basque children's camp when he noticed that many of them had a king of fit at the sound of an aeroplane. He was registered on condition he continued his studies. A shop assistant from Hinton Avenue, who was a lay reader in the Methodist Church, was registered on condition he undertook agricultural work. A man from Fulbrooke Road objected on religious grounds; he was a research physicist at the Cavendish Laboratory while a King's College graduate appealed on moral grounds. He was prepared and anxious to perform non-combatant service. 39 12 01d & e

1939 12 06
Newnham College students instructed in use of stirrup pump – photo – 39 12 06

1939 12 09
Call to the colours: thousands of young men registered for military service – old Church Schools Newnham - photo – 39 12 09

1940

1940 01 27
Skating at Newnham – photo taken fortnight ago, blocked due censorship – 40 01 27a

1940 02 09
Death of Professor Hickson. One of the leading authorities in the world on his own subject, the study of certain branches of undersea life, Professor Sydney John Hickson, died at his home at 26 Barton Road, Cambridge, after a short illness. He was 91 years of age. 40 02 09 CIP

1940 09 09
Pilot Hugh Ellis, Fulbrooke Road, missing – 40 09 09b

1940 09 23
Man killed by army truck, Bulstrode Gardens – 40 09 23a

1941 03 21
Shelling out with a vengeance. From Mrs. Joshua Barnard, of Barton Road, Haslingfield (writes Watchman) I have had this interesting letter—Dear Watchman, I've a hen that has laid three large eggs, one every third day. The measurements are 9½ inches round lengthwise, 7 inches round the centre; they weigh 6 ounces each. Is this a record? I wonder if any one of my readers can equal or surpass this.

1941 04 25
Interesting Trumpington Wedding. The wedding took place quietly at Trumpington Church on Saturday of Francis Wingate William Pemberton, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Pemberton, of Trumpington Hall, and Diana Patricia Woods, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Salisbury Woods, of St. John's House, Grange Road. The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. A.B. Wright (Vicar of Trumpington) and the Rev. C. C. H James, late vicar of St. Giles'. Dr. H.S. Middleton (Trinity College) was at the organ, and the Trumpington choir led the singing. The bride was given away by her father. 41 04 25

1941 12 05
Death of D. R. C. Gillie. — Many in Cambridge will regret to learn of the death, which took place suddenly in London on Saturday, of the Rev. R. C. Gillie. One o£ the most noted Free Church preachers in the country, Dr. Gillie, who was 75 years of age, had resided in Cambridge for the past two years, and though retired from the active ministry, was still in great demand as a speaker and preacher. His modern outlook and vigorous personality endeared him to many friends. A fire watcher in his little group on Barton Close, Dr. Gillie would have been on duty the night before he died. 41 12 05

1942 09 25
Did he escape from Singapore? Among the Cambridge men reported missing when Singapore fell was Sapper William Hall, of 178 King's Hedges Road, Cambridge. His wife has now received news from a Mrs. Harradine of 13 Owlstone Road, Cambridge, that her husband was amongst those who made their escape from the Japanese. It will be remembered that the escape of Mrs Harradine's husband. Lt. R. R. L Harradine was reported last March. Mrs. Harradine has now received a letter from her husband saying that Sapper Hall was with him when he got away from Singapore. Mrs. Hall, however, has heard nothing from her husband, and is endeavouring to get in touch with him 42 09 25

1942 12 11
Former Vicar of Meldreth. - Many mourners from Christchurch, near Wisbech, and from Meldreth, were present at Little St. Mary's Church, Cambridge, on Monday afternoon for the funeral of the Rev. Percy Harvey, who died at his home at Grantchester Meadows, Cambridge, on Friday. Mr. Harvey, who was in his 82nd year, was for 37 years vicar of Meldreth, and for the past three year or so had been doing duty at Christchurch, in the absence on war service of the vicar. While returning from a service one night, he lost his way in the black-out, and fell into a dyke. He sustained a shock from which he never recovered. 42 12 11

1943 02 19
Sturgeon caught In the Cam - Mayor Newton, of Cambridge, tells in a diary, under the date of June 11, 1680, of a fine sturgeon being caught in the Cam (says Watchman). Here is the entry condensed and in modern English: "At the back of Alderman Dickinson's house in Cambridge next to the causeway between Small Bridges and Newnham, against Felmonger's Pits, was taken in a casting net, by a fisherman named Coward, a sturgeon near two yards long measured by my

Japan cane. I saw it measured, and it was very near two lengths of my cane, which, with its ivory handle, is Bear a yard long. The waters were then pretty high, and the place where the fish was caught about four feet deep."

1943 04 02
Death of Sir Havilland Hiley. The death occurred in a London nursing home on Tuesday of Sir Havilland Hiley, the Eastern Regional Traffic Commissioner. His home was at 14 Madingley Road, Cambridge, but he had been in London for a short time for medical treatment. In East Anglia, Sir Havilland was best known as Chairman of the Eastern Area Traffic Tribunal, with its headquarters at Sussex House, Cambridge, having been appointed when tribunals were set up all over the country in 1931. An acknowledged expert on transport matters, he gained, much of his early experience with the London and North-Eastern Railway, which he joined in 1891. (It was then the G.E.R.). He held responsible posts at York, Hull and Newcastle and, from 1905-8 was Passenger Member of the Great Northern Railway in London. 43 04 02

1943 07 24
Jack Overhill junior dives from tree at Grantchester Meadows – 43 07 24a

1944 07 13
Fire guards from Newnham and Grange Road extinguish real incendiary bombs with stirrup pumps in exercise – 44 07 13

1944 09 08
Promoted Head Postmaster. The many friends of Mr. J. Moir, postal superintendent at Cambridge will be pleased to learn that he has been promoted head postmaster of Sudbury, and will take over his new duties at an early date. Mr Moir who lives at 30 Marlowe Road, Newnham, began his postal career at Montrose, Scotland, and came to Cambridge 34 years ago. He served from 1914-19 in the Great War in England, France and Salonica. Since then he has passed through the successive grades of official promotion, becoming overseer, assistant superintendent and postal superintendent.

1944 10 26
Garret Hostel Bridge ‘an ugly blot on the Backs’ should be rebuild as war memorial – 44 10 26b

1945 03 09
Kit store supervisor – When the gunners go to war from the Middle East the man in whose safekeeping they leave their most treasured possessions (writes a Military Observer) is Gunner Alfred Barrett, whose home is at 28 Hope Street, Mill Road: Cambridge. He is clerk and supervisor at the kit store of the Middle East, B.D.R.A., and the largest military kit store out there. At the present moment he is helping to look after the baggage of many regiments, and over 5,000 miscellaneous kits in addition. "Batches" of letters from home, photos, watches and 'civvy' clothing, is what the boys are most anxious should be kept safely for them," Gunner Barrett said recently. Before the war he was college porter at Downing College. Cambridge. He joined the Army in October. 1940, and went out to the Middle East in July. 1942. 'He has served with the 53rd A/Tank Regiment, but went to B.D.R.A when he was medically downgraded. He is married and has two daughters, Anne, aged ten and Judith, seven. His mother is Mrs A.W. Barrett of 22 Derby Street, Newnham, Cambridge

1945 05 04

Business Houses Football League. The Business Houses Football League Championship has been won on goal average by Madingley Road Sports, having secured the title from Pye Radio, who had been leading the field for so long. Both have 14 points from 10 games but the Sports have scored 48 goals against 26, compared with Pye's 41 against 24. In the match which decided the championship the sports beat their colleagues from Bourn by the odd goal of five. 45 05 04

1945 05 11
VE celebrations –45 05 11a; Beaconsfield Hall children, Sturton St, Cowper Rd, Norwich St – 45 05 16; Perne Ave, Mowbray Road, Beche Rd, Norfolk St – 45 05 18; Hobart Rd, Bradmore St, Russell St – 45 05 19b; Young St, Gonville Road & Charles St, Cam Causeway, Gt Eastern St – 45 02 22a; Ditton Fields, Romsey Women Conservatives, Suez Rd, Covent Garden, Eden St – 45 05 23; York St, Thoday St, Kingston St, Northampton St, Cherry Hinton – 45 05 24; Hills Ave, City Rd, Cavendish Rd, Malta Rd – 45 05 25; Mowbray Rd, Willow Walk, Springfield Rd, Kelvin Close – 45 05 26b; New St, Chesterton High St – 45 05 28a; Cockburn St, Newnham Croft, Madras Rd, Henley Road & Coldham's Lane – 45 05 30; Barnwell, Wellington St, Fitzroy St, Devonshire Rd – 45 05 30b; children entertained Cherry Hinton, Fairfax Rd – 45 06 02; Vinery Rd, Eastfield – 45 06 04; Catherine St, Ditton Walk, Union Lane – 45 06 05; Gwydir St, Abbey (East) – 45 06 06; Meadowlands Estate, Argyle St, Hope St, De Freville Estate – 45 06 07; Ross St, Hemingford Rd, Green End Rd, Staffordshire St, Selwyn Rd, Coldham's Grove, Coldham's Lane, Akeman St – 45 06 11; Brooks Rd, Sedgwick St, Langham Rd, Oxford Rd, Haig Road, Chesterton – 45 06 13a; Windsor Rd, Stretten Ave, Kimberley Rd, Abbey Road, Walnut Tree Ave, Brookfields – 45 06 18; Trumpington, Mansfield Hall – 45 06 19; Cavendish Ave, Hinton Ave, Hope Hall for Deaf – 45 06 21a; Histon Rd children – 45 06 30; St Peter's St, Greens Rd – 45 07 10

1945 05 26
Council for Preservation of Rural England gravely concerned that factories placed on Madingley Road – 45 05 26

1945 05 30
Madingley Road factories – was essential that Sebro should be built at the most convenient point for the surrounding aerodromes. The building, working and running of the factory meant a great deal of energy and terrific amount of worry; when built was one of a chain of shadow factories; repaired bombers; was built in wrong place from workers' point of view – should have been built near backs and then Trinity could have been used as a hostel, saving long journeys to work. That part of Madingley Road is hardly a beauty spot – letters – 45 05 30b

1945 07 22
Fire Force Netball. A team of Cambridge firewomen, representing No. 12 (Stevenage) Fire Force, won the N.F.S. All-England Net-ball Championship on Saturday, when the semi-final and final were played on the Amalgamation ground, Queens Road, Cambridge. In the semi-finals No. 26 (Liverpool) defeated No. 4 (Leeds) by 15-13 while No. 12 scored a 17-14 victory over No. 31 (Brighton). The Cambridge girls left nothing to chance in the final and notched 22 goals against Liverpool's nine. The winning team comprised: AGO H. M. Cornwall (captain), A.G.O. D. B F. Pamby, L.-Fw. J. M. Collins, Fw. V. M. Leigh, Fw. R. Finbow. Fw. P. Anderton, and Fw. P. Coxhead (reserve). 45 07 22

1945 08 29

VJ Parties – Eden St, Cherry Hinton Rd, Chestnut Grove – 45 08 29; Queen Edith's Way, Ditton Fields – 45 09 04; Young St, Petworth St, Geldart St, Marshall Rd – 45 09 04; Darwin Drive, Stretton Ave, Victoria St, Hobart Rd, Adam & Eve St – 45 09 07b; Gloucester St, Castle St, Ashfield Rd – 45 09 10; Gilbert Rd, King's Hedges Rd, Ditton Fields – 45 09 11; Lichfield Rd, Cromwell Park estate, Hawthorn Rd – 45 09 12; Catharine St, Kendal Way – 45 09 14; York St & York Terrace, Brooks Road, Gold St – 45 09 17d# Bateson Rd, Garden Walk, Argyle St, St Philip's Rd , Sedgwick St, Holbrook Rd, Mowbray Rd – 45 09 18; Akeman St, James St, Parsonage St, Vinery Rd, Kingston St, Kingston St, Mowbray Rd, Hurst Park Estate – 45 09 20; Eastfield, New St, Kelvin Close – 45 09 24a; Hertford St, St John's Rd, Norwich St, Alpha Terrace, Sherlock Rd – 45 09 27a
Premier Travel take over services of F.E. Weeden of Chrishall – 45 08 30; Silverwood Close, Newmarket Road, Fallowfield, Fen Rd, Water St, Mowbray Rd – 45 10 04a; Cavendish Rd, Stourbridge Grove, Fulbourn Rd, Bradmore St, Petersfield, Gwydir St, Newnham Croft, Scotland Rd, Scotland Close – 45 10 08; Suez Rd, Hale Ave, Harvey Goodwin Ave, Glebe Rd, Radegund Rd, Golding Rd – 45 10 10; Selwyn Rd, Abbey Estate, De Freville Ave, Stanley Rd – 45 10 12a; Milton Rd, Thoday St – 45 10 18

1945 09 07
Royal Visit. Two young Ethiopian Princes, both direct descendants of the Emperor, paid a private visit to Cambridge on Saturday, when they were guests of the Vice-Chancellor. The Royal visitors were Prince Sachie Salassie, the 15-year-old son of the Emperor, and Prince Alexander Desta, aged 11, a son of the Emperor's daughter. They arrived at Trinity at midday, where they were received by Mr. A. Marcos, a third year Ethiopian student at the college, before meeting the Vice-Chancellor at Emmanuel and going on to lunch at the University Arms Hotel. With Dr. Hele and Mrs. Hele at the lunch were Mr. Zaude (Secretary of the Ethiopian Ministry in London), Professor Jevons (English Adviser to the Ministry), Mr. P. W. Duff (of Trinity) and Mr. A. Marcos. During the afternoon the Princes toured the University with Mr. Duff as guide, and when they arrived back at Trinity they were shown round by the Vice-Master (Mr. D. A. Winstanley). An informal tea followed in Mr. Marcos' rooms. Mr. Marcos, who is the only Ethiopian representative in Cambridge, was previously chaplain to the Royal household at Bath. Professor Jevons is the founder of the Abyssinian Association, and was one of the Emperor's confidential advisers while he was in England. The young princes, who are at present in London, are going to school in Scotland in September. Another relative Princess Aida, sister of Prince Alexander, will be coming to Cambridge to study at Newnham

1945 12 23
Tank kills student at junction Newnham Rd & Queen's Road – 45 10 23; inquest – 45 10 25, 45 11 30

1946 02 16
Mounting stone on Backs was being used by RAF mechanics as an anvil; was moved to Fellow's Garden of King's and will be returned – 46 02 16a

1946 09 09
Squatters occupy old 'ack ack' site Long Road, at 'Leighton' Trumpington Rd and Madingley Rd huts that NFS HQ; had been empty for a year and were to have been taken over by Ministry of Works for milk testing – 46 09 09

1947 03 14
Cambridge has been hit today by some of the worst flooding for 30 years. The rapidly rising and flowing river has invaded riverside homes, Midsummer Common and other open spaces are

flooded, there have been fears for the safety of Silver Street Bridge, and there is no sign of any diminution of the abnormal flow. There is an unconfirmed report that the Byron's Pool sluice has broken, and Grantchester Meadows and the "Backs" are completely under water. Silver Street was closed to all traffic during the morning. There were fears that the rush of water would seriously affect the foundations of the bridge. Street lighting was switched on in Linton when residents of houses in Meadow Lane and Chapel Terrace made a hurried evacuation of their waterlogged homes. The water rose to well over knee-deep but was subsiding this morning. At Sawston the sub-power station was marooned and electricity was cut off this morning. The Great North Road beyond Brampton is under water and the A.A. scout at Brampton cross roads was "up to his knees" at his post this morning

1947 08 27
Sir - a recent letter in defence of present punt charges prompts me to indulge in some mathematical calculation. At a large boathouse on the upper river I counted seventy punts recently. On any fine summer afternoon there is usually a queue waiting to hire them. Assume that each punt is hired for three hours only at 3s.per hour, and it must be clear that the weekly turn-over must be approximately £200. Deduct from this the wages of four men (say £25), allow £25 for running costs and there is a clear profit of £150 per week - J.A. Parkinson, Newnham Rd, Cambridge

1947 10 01
The Chief Constable (B.N. Bebbington) told Cambridge Rotary Club that he would like to see a scheme whereby traffic was banned - at least buses and heavy traffic - in the centre of Cambridge. "In Petty Cury on Saturdays there is insufficient room for traffic, let alone pedestrians. It would be more satisfactory if that central part of the town was for pedestrian traffic only. That is a sweeping thing to say and will not find favour in all quarters". Referring to criticism that the one-way traffic scheme soon to be introduced in the centre of town was "the wrong way round" he explained that it diverted from the town centre the large amount of traffic going to the station from the Chesterton direction and would encourage lorry drivers passing through Cambridge to take the route through the Backs. More car parks in the centre of the town were obviously a need, and there were plans in existence to provide them

1948 03 10
An accident at the junction of Madingley Road, Queen’s Road and Northampton Street, Cambridge between an American 2½ ton lorry and an articulated lorry was so violent that it took nearly 2½ hours to part the two vehicles. A heavy lorry driver said he was coming to the junction from Queens' Road an American vehicle coming from the opposite direction of Northampton Street collided with his lorry, knocking it across the road. Witnesses told the court it had taken 2½ hours to part the lorries. Various methods were tried including an American crane pulling one way and a 3½ ton lorry another, using an electric welder, but in the end the trailer of the articulated lorry had to be taken off and the two vehicles prised apart

1948 05 19
Fears about Cambridge's famous "Backs" being incorporated in a Trunk Road system were expressed at a County Council meeting and one member declared that if the amenities of the "Backs" were spoilt the "whole feeling of the town" would be altered. The committee requested the Minister of Transport to expedite the construction of a ring road so as to relieve the "Backs" of through traffic

1948 06 18

Cambridge Town Council discussed proposals for the future of the disused factory site at Madingley Road. Ald Wilding said he was under the impression when the works were first erected early in the war that the Ministry had given an assurance of their removal within a reasonable time. He was therefore surprised to see that other buildings were to be erected in their place. Counc. Mrs Rackham spoke of the damage already done to that approach to Cambridge and asked if the buildings were to be used for atomic energy research. If so the Council had already granted 200 acres in Barton road for that purpose

1948 08 18
Flying a proctor light aircraft Mrs Richarda Morrow-Tait of Cambridge set out from Marshall's airport on her attempt to be the first woman to fly a light aircraft round the world. She was accompanied by her navigator and co-pilot Mr Michael Townsend of Cranmer Road, Cambridge. They carried only a minimum amount of baggage but included in it was a .303 rifle and ammunition, as part of the flight will be over uninhabited territory. Maps and baggage stowed away, including some sandwiches cut for Mrs Morrow-Tait by her husband the two climbed into the aircraft. Her husband said, "She is a wonderful person, full of courage and determination. The machine is an ex-RAF aircraft which has been thoroughly overhauled and fitted with a reconditioned engine.

1948 09 04
There are now over 41,000 wireless licences in the Cambridge postal area. This represents one licence to every 4.5 members of the population. A recent Post Office survey shows that in some streets like Eltisley Avenue and Alpha Road, almost every house has a wireless licence, while in others only one in three is in possession. Post office officials are still finding a number of unlicensed sets and a further "comb" is being instituted for the purpose of detecting the holders of illicit sets

1948 10 23
Everyone will agree that Cambridge is very "full". The railways have had a particularly busy time. "We always prepare for a heavy October", said one official, "but the amount of luggage this term has been abnormal, especially bicycles, which are not easy things to handle in bulk". There is now the record number of 7,500 undergraduates in residence, a thousand more than this time last year. This is accounted for to some extent by the admission of Newnham and Girton to the University, but there are something like 400 more men. "This is a peak year", according to Mr E. Welbourne of Emmanuel, who does not think that a major decrease can be expected until 1951-2

1948 10 27
One amusing incident of the Queen's visit to Cambridge, certainly not intended for the record, was the rather surprising use to which several of the dons were seen to put their gowns whilst waiting to be presented at the Newnham college gates. Having inadvertently trodden on the red carpet they were observed hastily wiping off their footmarks with the corner of their gowns!

1948 12 16
Captain C.R. Benstead, senior proctor of the University, spoke of the lighter side of proctoring. He said; “How do we know a Girton or Newnham girl when we see one in the dark without a gown? One night we espied a girl of transcending beauty wheeling a very academic-looking bicycle. We picked her up – in the proctorial sense! – only to discover later that she was a bus conductress!”

1949 07 20

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

People living in the vicinity of Newnham College have watched with interest the building operations being carried out there. The new porters' lodge will take the place of the original entrance – with its beautiful bronze gates – in Newnham Walk. Over it is the college's first real lecture room, lectures having previously been given in the main hall. The building is extremely modern in style and provides an interesting break in Sidgwick Avenue

1949 11 29
Damage believed approaching £900,000 was done when fire destroyed several thousand of finished wireless sets, 300-400 television sets and numerous components stored in a hangar rented by Pye Ltd at the former stereo works in Madingley Road. A director said: "Many of the sets were for export. Included in the stock destroyed were several thousand television cabinets. Some of our telecommunication equipment was also stored there, including a complete set of blind landing equipment due to be shipped today"

1950

1950 03 23
A feature of this season's Cambridge ladies hockey club is that it includes three sets of twins, from the Harris, Macleod and Cook families. The club started over 50 years ago on one of Mr Nutter's fields at Grantchester but moved to the paddock at Pinehurst. They now play on the Perse girls school ground. Past members of the club include Miss Rose Macaulay, the authoress, Miss Irene Flanders and Miss Margaret Field Hyde, both well-known in the musical world.

1950 07 03
Several properties changed hands at auction. The Station Garage, Linton, sold at £2,750. Nos.54 Herbert Street & 231 Victoria Rd, Cambridge, made £1500 and £1,110 respectively. No.91 Mawson Road, Cambridge, sold for £900 and no.8 Selwyn Gardens was withdrawn at £5,750 and is now for sale by public treaty

1950 07 29
At the opening of the new Headquarters of Newnham British Legion, behind the Hat & Feathers in Kings Road, Cambridge the Mayor criticised those who allowed one or two "old sweats" to get on with the work. "Remember that some of we 'old sweats' do not grow any younger and it is up to you to bring along the right type of younger sweat to take over the heat and burden of the day. That is the only way you can be absolutely sure of the continuity of the work of the British Legion", he said

1950 11 18
An unseen stationary radar 'eye' checked the speed of vehicles on the Madingley Road during the last fortnight. The 'eye' belonged to a 'radar speed meter', an American device which is having its first full-scale operational test in England. A small green van on the roadside house the equipment. The 'eye' was concealed in an ordinary cardboard box on top of the vehicle.

1951 02 26
A number of proposals to alleviate Cambridge's parking problem have been compiled by the Chamber of Commerce. They include the triangular site on the corner of Silver Street & Queens Road used as a military car park during the war; the site on Trumpington Road formerly occupied by army huts but now in temporary occupation by squatters; at Castle Street opposite the Shire Hall and also on Butts Green during the building operations at Lion Yard.

1951 04 26

To be Water Lane, Chesterton, or to be Malting Lane, Chesterton was the question which faced Cambridge magistrates when two housewives came to court to object to the proposal to rename it. They said correspondence for Malting Lane, Newnham was never received if the word Chesterton was on the envelope. The Town Clerk said Water Lane would be associated with the adjoining Water Street. The magistrates felt it for the best and would make an order confirming the change.

1951 05 01
Over the last few decades St John's college grounds in the Backs have suffered severely from the loss of trees by decay, storm damage and elm disease. A survey showed there were many trees so diseased that they might fall down at any time, including most of those in the remains of the Avenue leading to Queens Road. A comprehensive scheme for replanting has been adopted. In place of the former elms a new avenue of limes will be planted.

1951 05 08
The Whipple Museum of the History of Science was opened by the Vice Chancellor. The collection was presented to the University in 1944 and was stored in boxes in the Fitzwilliam Museum until 1948. It was at first proposed to create a museum in the former Shorts Factory on Madingley Road, but this was rendered unusable after Pye's fire. The present premises in Corn Exchange Street became available in May last year and it has at last been possible to show a large part of the collection. Amongst the guests was Mr Robert S. Whipple, the founder of the collection.

1951 06 02
"One would like Cambridge to have one outlet where people could walk out and get straight into the country" Dr G.M. Trevelyan, Master of Trinity College, told the Council for the Preservation of Rural England. He advocated the desirability of leaving the west side of Cambridge free from development and preserve it as countryside. This was injured to some extent by the erection of a factory on the Madingley Road and though this was partly destroyed during the war there is a danger since it still stands.

1951 08 04
Sir – the Cambridge Backs are unfortunately no more – at all events in their full glory of the giant and venerable trees. If King's College chapel should disappear from the scene untold photographic representations of it would remain, but of these giant monuments of the past there is little. To fill the void I have reproduced in picture postcard form a photograph of my own. There may be many persons who have walked under the shadow of these great trees of the Backs and I could arrange for it to be on sale. – Sir Henry McAnally

1951 10 29
Air Ministry proposals to use the Stella Maris nursing home to accommodate members of an Inter-Services course learning Russian at the University was described as a "scandal". It was admirably equipped for use as a hospital, has accommodation for 40 patients, two completely equipped operating theatres and could relieve the 2,000-strong waiting list at Addenbrooke's Hospital. A proposal by the Ministry to acquire the Heritage guest house in Silver Street and 9, Newnham Terrace, Cambridge, had not gone through after college freeholders had 'dug their heels in'.

1951 11 01
The golden jubilee of the Gog Magog Golf Club was celebrated with a dinner at the Dorothy Café. Guest of honour was Mr Bernard Darwin, the famous authority on the game who was an early member of the club when an undergraduate at Trinity College. Recalling his early golfing

days he mentioned some of the local courses, including one on Coldham's Common, one at Coton and another "somewhere near the Grange Road". The Gogs club was founded for the recreation of the senior members of the University and the first rules provided that the number of undergraduates permitted to play should not interfere with the convenience and enjoyment of the senior members of the University.

1952 01 26
The County Council considered the development of Swann's Lime Pits, Cherry Hinton, as an armament testing range and research establishment. Coun Rackham deplored the possibility of explosions taking place at the back of the adjoining school. As well as the noise the blast runs along the ground and shakes doors and windows. People have had to replace ceilings that have been shaken down. It was suggested the company use their explosives on the huts up Madingley Road where they would soon clear the ground and everything would be lovely.

1952 07 05
Cambridge University announced proposals to erect a number of new buildings for the arts faculties between Sidgwick Avenue and West Road. It will provide accommodation in the first instance for the Faculty of Modern and Medieval Languages, Economics and Politics, English and Moral Sciences. At a later stage the scheme will provide for museums and a lecture theatre to seat 1,000 students constructed to permit its use for musical or dramatic productions. It is not possible to say when work will begin.

1952 07 19
I was very sorry to learn of the death of Mr A.E. Reeve of Grantchester Street, Cambridge whose articles brought to light many fascinating historical facts about Cambridge through the ages. His interest in old Cambridge began with the burning down of Grantchester Mill well over 20 years ago which roused the interest of the London newspapers who were guilty of some inaccuracies which 'A.E.R.' felt bound to point out. He acquired a mass of literature and became probably the most knowledgeable man on Cambridge and its past. Eminent members of the University often came to him for information. His elder son, Mr Frank Reeve, is continuing with his researches.

1952 09 01
With a fanfare from six scarlet-suited trumpeters Cambridge's third Trades Fair on Midsummer Common was opened. Immediately afterwards the Mayor went to the Interflora stand and sent a basket of roses by air to the Mayor of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Three local firms, Messrs Biggs of Peas Hill, Messrs J. Rogers of Newnham and Messrs Ridgeon's of Sussex Street, pooled their dollar allocations to provide the roses for America. In the first six hours 12,642 people paid for admission

1952 11 05
Much of the congestion in the central area of Cambridge could be dealt with by providing car parks in the right places rather than the provision of extra circulatory routes the Chief Constable told the Development Plan inquiry. Closing of Magdalene Street would inevitably lead to an increased use of the Backs and the proposed spine relief road would not afford relief to traffic in the city centre. The police had received many complaints concerning the amount of noise at Drummer Street bus station late at night. By moving it to New Square this objection would be alleviated

1952 11 24
There was confirmation from Newmarket of the Cambridge flying saucer report. Mr J. Beirne reported seeing 'a definite circular object while cycling along Madingley Road, Cambridge. Now

comes a report from a bus conductor of seeing a 'bright cigar-shaped object' flying at great speed at Newmarket. It gave out an orange-coloured tint and was fire by three small tappets at the rear. There have been isolated cases of practical demonstrations of guided missiles being carried out in the Mildenhall area and on the Norfolk coast. These guided weapons are known to be capable of speeds over 2,000 m.p.h.

1953 02 04
Varsity, the university student magazine, reports that the rooms in women's colleges may be poky, unsuitably furnished and dimly lighted but they are not dowdy. At Newnham all the rooms are attractive but dim lighting and inadequate heating are the main faults and there is a dearth of food cupboards. Male visitors may be shocked to see that their hostess keeps food and crockery in her wardrobe together with damp towels and that the desk drawers contain undies. At Girton some rooms contain antique furnishings which give an air of luxury but others are completely modern with unique mobiles and original paintings by Avante Garde artists.

1953 02 10
Sir Hugh Lucas-Tooth, Parliamentary Under-Secretary for the Home Office, visited W.V.S. centres in Cambridge. He saw American airmen working alongside British civilians in sorting and packing hundreds of articles which are still being received for the East Coast Flood victims. 500 blankets were sent today from Cambridge to Yarmouth where many people are going back to their homes. The hangar at Madingley Road which has been opened as a receiving centre is so packed with clothing and bedding that the heads of students working there are touching the roof.

1953 02 14
Bad weather delayed the Royal Car when Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother came to Cambridge to visit depots where clothing is being stored for East Coast flood victims. She visited the hangar on Madingley Road in which is stacked some 400 tons of clothing sent by post, road and rail from all parts of the country. There she watched undergraduates unloading lorries, saw the clothing being sorted and then went to the canteen where she accepted a beaker of tea, declining sugar. Then she walked into the open to see the Soya boilers used to provide hot meals. During part of the time in the shed Her Majesty was under the glare of television cameras which were recording the proceedings

1953 03 12
If you have a few hours to spare any day – including Sundays – you will be welcome at the W.V.S. depot at Madingley Road, Cambridge. There in the huge wartime aircraft hangar a big job still awaits. The surge of generosity following the East Coast floods produced vast quantities of clothing of all kinds and the boxes and bundles are stacked to the roof. They need to be sorted and prepared for despatch. The building is bright and warm and an amplification system is in operation to provide music while you work. A midday meal is provided and a sandwich tea in the afternoon but the reward is to see the lorries leaving every day loaded with neat, clearly-labelled packages which will help to ease the burden of families whose possessions were destroyed in a single night.

1953 04 25
Does anybody want the façade of the Old Shire Hall, which is being demolished? The County Council has asked the City Council of they would like it, but the reply is 'No, thank you'. It will be interesting so see if the County offers it elsewhere. Erection of new street lighting on the main

roads is proceeding apace and is to be extended to Queens Road, better known as 'The Backs'. This new lighting should add to the attractiveness of this famous beauty spot.

1953 04 28
Cambridge council approved building licences to Mr E. Maloney for five shops, twelve flats and a garage at the junction of Perne Road and Radegund Road, at a total cost not exceeding £29,300 & to the Norwich Union Insurance Societies for a block of 20 flats at Pinehurst, Grange Road. A tender is being negotiated for building 24 three-storey concrete flats on land fronting High Street, Cherry Hinton and 72 three-storey flats overlooking the Coleridge Road recreation ground. The names of Nightingale Avenue, Almoners Avenue and Kinnaird Way have been suggested for streets on the Netherhall Estate

1953 05 01
Cambridge councillors approved a scheme for replacing gas lamps with sodium lighting along 'The Backs'. Ald Hickson wanted assurance this would not be a prelude to Queens Road becoming a trunk road. It was becoming more frequently used. But the beauty was only apparent during daytime and at night it was only a blur of trees. The same arguments were probably put forward when the present gas standards were installed and in ten year's time the university would say what a lot of fools they were to oppose the scheme

1954 01 27
The extension to the nurses' training school in Owlstone Road, Cambridge has everything for the convenience of the nurses. There are two shampoo rooms where the girls can wash their hair, two ironing rooms and a drying room for doing their washing and provision may be made for a small kitchen so they can fill a hot water bottle at night. Each bedroom has its own washbasin, while the dressing tables are really dressing-tables-cum-writing desks. A games room has been provided where they can enjoy table tennis or listen to the radio. There is also a piano so they can hold dances there if they wish. With such ideal conditions it will not be surprising if would-be-nurses will want to come to Cambridge for their training.

1954 02 03
Mr Charles F. Morley, who died recently, was a cyclist who won the Eastern Counties championship for every distance from sprint to fifty miles. He was truly a great little sportsman. He was a founder member of the Granta Cycling Club & many of his successes were gained on the quarter mile circular dirt track of the University Bicycling Club off Grange Road. As a speed skater he was up with the amateurs of his day; he was elected chairman of the National Skating Association Fen Department and presented a handsome challenge cup. He was the sole survivor of a quartet of friends who made local and national history at the turn of the century including J.H. Priest, one-mile cycling champion, F.J. Christmas, cross-country champion and A.E. Tebbutt, amateur skating champion of Great Britain

1954 02 17
Extensions to the Owlstone Road training school for nurses in Cambridge will provide accommodation for 70 more nurses in a fine new building with all the advantages that new methods in architecture can produce. In the nursing career there is none of the 'too old at 40' business. The fully qualified nurse has a secure career in a variety of appointments until she chooses to leave at the retiring age. But she must always remain receptive to new ideas and changing methods

1954 07 19

The Minister has approved a western by-pass for Cambridge using the northern leg of Storeys Way and a link from Barton Road through Chaucer Road to Trumpington Road. There will be a road from the end of Brooklands Avenue across the railway sidings and joining Station Road opposite the end of Tenison Road. This means it will be possible eventually to have a complete ring road near the centre of the city.

1954 11 09
Sir – as one who wishes to guard the 'Backs' from the abuses of motorists may I draw attention to that stretch of Queens Road from Burrell's Walk to St John's Wilderness? On both sides of the road are grass margins which motorists use for cheap parking. One individual has the cool cheek to park his car at the corner at 9 a.m. and it is still there four hours later. Recently a heavy lorry drove off the road, crushing the verge flat, so that the driver and his mate could have their midday meal and on several occasions I have seen this side full of cars. Wooden rails have been erected on the other side of Burrell's Walk and I hope these will be continued along the stretch in question – 'Non-collegiate'

1955 02 09
The 'character' of Grange Road was an elusive quality a planning inquiry was told when a retired scientist applied to build a house in Grange Gardens, Cambridge. But the planners say the house, which is comparatively small, would not harmonise with the neighbourhood. The applicant owned one plot of land but the planners would only consent to her building on two. 'We cannot afford large houses these days; many of the existing houses had been converted into flats and were mediocre from an architectural point of view. Land is increasingly difficult to get and large and small houses should be developed, provided they were well designed', she said. 55 02 09

1955 04 29
No. 7963 is the number which Mrs Claudette Kennedy of Eltisley Avenue, Cambridge will always bear as a reminder of four terrible years spent in the concentration camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau. At this camp alone four million people died. She survived because of her knowledge of biology and was put to work in a large synthetic rubber factory, extracting rubber from dandelions. She escaped after guards took fright at the advancing allied armies and made her way to Paris where she was reunited with her small son. After the war she came to Cambridge for an International conference on biochemistry where she met her husband. 55 04 29a & b

1955 05 03
Cambridge University Officers Training Corps is to have a wing of the Women's Royal Army Corps with most of the recruits coming from Girton, Newnham and New Hall. All work would come after the prior claims of their courses and no decisive steps would be taken until after they have graduated. The main object would be to produce good officers but driving, vehicle maintenance, radio and photographic interpretation may also be available. However large the numbers it will have to face a considerable drain on the 'marriage market'. 55 05 03a

1955 05 24
Cambridge was 'invaded' by nearly 600 London Auxiliary Fire Service men and women. They travelled in 80 green emergency fire-fighting vehicles for a large-scale exercise. The new radio control system worked perfectly and only one small group of vehicles managed to get lost. Some vehicles went to the old 'Shorts' factory at Madingley Road, the others to Wisbey's gravel pit Hauxton for pumping exercises. 55 05 24

1955 10 01

The Bell School of Languages in Cranmer Road, Cambridge was opened by the Chancellor of Cambridge University, Marshal of the Royal Air Force, Lord Tedder. This term 50 men and women from 22 countries including Germany, Cambodia, Saudi Arabia and Finland are studying there. The Principal, Mr Bell, said the aim was not only to teach the way we say things but the way we do them and warned students not to be 'a little colony of foreigners in England'. 55 10 01 & a

1956 01 20
Kelsey Kerridge said his father had acquired land at Hangman's Corner, Barton Road, Cambridge in 1934 and gained approval to build eight houses. Now there were proposals to build a western by-pass here but it was a dangerous spot; there was a brook which was liable to flooding and any roundabout would have to take it into consideration. The County Surveyor said the proposed by-pass would carry up to 5,000 vehicles a day and benefit city traffic and delivery vans. 56 01 20b

1956 05 12
The Cambridge Employment Exchange at Newnham used to be a school and the exterior is a little drab. But inside an astounding transformation has taken place. Now it is bright and pleasant, with pastel shades and the setting up of cubicles in which business may be conducted with a welcome degree of privacy. The Women's Section too has been decorated. 56 05 12

1956 05 16
The White Horse Riding Establishment in Barton Road, Cambridge, has been used as a riding school for 35 years and has stabling for 24 horses. Much of the teaching takes place on land down Grange Road and it would reduce the dangers for inexperienced riders taking horses down Barton Road if they had an Indoor Riding School. But neighbours complained that it was noisy and smelly and a relic of the past. Horse boxes unloaded on the pavement and children stacked their bikes against the wall when they popped in to give the horses tit-bits. 56 05 16a

1956 08 21
When the Suez crisis threw the country into turmoil it meant there were no Regular Army personnel to assist the Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force. Their annual camp was cancelled but instead 200 boys moved into the Coldham's Lane Territorial Training Centre. They had to beg, borrow or steal all sort of equipment but a full programme of training was carried out with shooting on the Barton Road range and trips around the colleges. 56 08 21

1956 08 29
The Observatory domes on Madingley Road house the most up-to-date astronomical instruments. Dr D. W. Dewhirst said the 36-inch reflecting telescope cost around £40,000; it has a mirror accurate to two-millionths of an inch that has to be kept at constant temperature with fans drawing cool night air over it. Various pieces of apparatus are designed and constructed in the workshops to measure the brightness of stars. 56 08 29

1957 04 12
Anna Gordon Gosse – Anna Gordon Keown, poet and novelist of Grantchester Street – dies 1907 - 57 04 12a

1957 04 29
Countess Mountbatten of Burma visited Cambridge to receive the gift of Fitzpatrick House in Barton Road and declare it open as the new county headquarters of the St John Ambulance Brigade. Then on Lammas Land she inspected more than 300 men, women, boys and girls who

make up the Brigade and presented the Grand Prior's Badge to nursing cadet Averil Turville. 57 04 29a & b & c

1958 01 22
During 1940 Glyn Daniel, the Cambridge University archaeologist and internationally famous television personality, lived a 'nightmare existence'. As a photographic interpreter he viewed pictures from photo-reconnaissance Spitfires and Mosquitoes showing hundreds of German war barges being readied to invade England. Another was Miss Constance Babbington Smith of Newnham who is to publish a book telling the full story. 58 01 22a

1958 03 04
An exceptionally large number of shags have been seen in Cambridge recently, probably driven from the East Coast by the spell of cold weather. One bird, which has a silky green and brown plumage, was photographed at Newnham Mill. Another that was found dead was taken to the University Department of Zoology where it has been skinned in preparation for research examination. 58 03 04a

1958 06 12
Daphne Harrington suffers from 'fragile bones' which means she must spend her days in a plaster cast and be moved about in a wheeled bed. But she runs an active Brownie company, earns money by typing, designing knitting patters and making small household articles. So she was not going to let her disability prevent her going on holiday. She left her Selwyn Road home in an ambulance to journey to Norway where she will join other handicapped girl guides in a camp halfway up a mountain. 57 06 12a

1958 07 09
Cantabrian Athletics equipment made by the London Instrument Company of Newnham Mill will be used at the British Empire Games at Cardiff. It includes pole vault standards, hammers, javelins and gauges for the high jump. Much of it was designed by Henry Rottenburg, the owner of the firm which moved to Cambridge in 1910. They have also supplied the Olympic Games and European Championships. 58 07 09a

1958 07 17
The new Principal's Lodge at Newnham College is a showpiece of design. It features sheets of glass, said to be the tallest in the world, and includes three bedrooms so arranged that if there should be a married Principal a husband's sitting room and dressing room could be provided. It is little wonder that Miss Cohen is delighted. The garden, while immature at the moment, is spacious and has the promise of great beauty. 58 07 17b

1958 07 22
Motorists in Cambridge are unlikely to have their speeds regularly checked by radar for at least another year. Manufacturers have demonstrated a number of existing instruments which councillors consider 'not entirely satisfactory' at present. There is hope their efficiency will improve in time. But radar has been used by the Chief Constable to check speeds in Queens Road and Trumpington. 58 07 22

1958 10 25
Car parking should not be allowed in Cambridge city centre and motorists should be compelled to leave their vehicles on the outskirts. Parking should be banned from an area bounded by Castle Hill, Grange Road, the Catholic Church and Mill Road. If this 'perimeter parking' could not be

introduced then there must be an effective underground and an overhead car park, the Mayor, Coun. L.D.V. Wordingham told police. 58 10 25c & d

1958 11 08
Many householders opened their doors early to a young man in pyjamas or an undergraduate turbaned like a caliph and bought a poppy, then poured into Cambridge to see the fun. Every entrance was barricaded, every vehicle stopped, and toll demanded. Progress was difficult in one street because Mr John Day of Trinity was having breakfast with Miss Alexandra Hearnshaw, a Newnham mathematician, on a Belisha crossing. In Petty Cury two rival dragons occupied most of the road – a dinosaur quite 70 feet long and containing numberless undergraduates of whom only the feet were visible and a toothy monster centipede writhing from the direction of the Senate House. 58 11 08

1959 01 07
A number of roads flooded following overnight rain and early morning snow. The Caxton village crossroads had water up to eight feet deep and a large lorry was stranded in the middle. Ickleton High Street was flooded and several pigs drowned at Church Hall Farm, Whaddon. Queen's Road, Cambridge, was flooded opposite St John's College with traffic diverted along Grange Road. The level of the Cam was the highest since 1947 and overflowed Pye's Sports Ground. 59 01 07

1959 02 17
Sergeant Cornwell of Marlowe Road joined the police in 1926 and was due to retire this year. He was a member of the committee of Police Poor and Needy Fund, secretary of the Recreation Society and the Police Athletic Association. A great sportsman, he was champion for putting the weight, secretary of the Table Tennis Association and Thursday Football League. He won the Defence, Police Long Service, Good Conduct and Coronation Medals. The Chief Constable described him as a loyal and respect colleague who would be sadly missed. 59 02 17

1959 03 06
There is one pot less on the chimney stack of the Hat and Feathers, Barton Road, since an isolated lightning flash struck the public house during a storm. The chimney pot shattered and parts of it damaged a glass shelter as they fell. The licensee, Alex Taylor, said he was glad it had not come five minutes later as children from the Shrubbery School might have been passing. 59 03 06b

1959 04 07
The Employment Exchange which has been sited in Newnham for nearly 30 years is moving to Brooklands Avenue. It provides a register of people seeking professional, managerial and senior executive posts and employees wishing to fill such vacancies. Nearly 200 men and women as well as ex-officers from HM Forces are included. The passports department and National Service registration office will also be affected. 59 04 07

1959 04 25
The Cambridgeshire Branch of the British Red Cross Society celebrated its Golden Jubilee. The first detachment (women) was formed in Cambridge in 1910 and followed by Bourn, Swavesey, Shelford & Willingham. The first men's detachment was formed at Melbourn in 1913. With the coming of the First World War valuable work was done at hospitals in Cintra Terrace and Wordsworth Grove which laid the foundation for their well-established reputation for invaluable service. 59 04 25c

1959 06 12

Eleanor Bron, a 21-year-old Newnham student, is the only girl in the Footlight Dramatic Club's annual May Week revue directed by John Bird. She plays a variety of parts, some of which call for singing and dancing. But when asked if she intended to make the stage her career replied 'Definitely no'. In her second year, brunette Eleanor is reading modern languages, finishing her examinations a few hours before opening night. 59 06 12a

1959 06 23
Cambridge Model Engineering Society's new premises and railway track in Fulbrooke Road was officially opened by Sir Vivian Fuchs. He praised the craftsmanship of the models, including one of a 'Sno-cat', the vehicle on which he had made his trans-Antarctic journey. The Society had started in Union Lane, then Mr Banham allowed them to build a track at The Willows before they acquired this site. 59 06 23

1959 09 25
Sidgwick Avenue site ready for new term – 59 09 25

1959 10 12
The character of Adams Road had changed due to the increase in the number of heterogeneous houses, the older houses had deteriorated in appearance, one was unfenced and children played all over the road. The bus service was valueless in the afternoons and at week-ends and it was a very popular thoroughfare for people using the footpath to Coton. A year ago it was a reasonable area, now it had changed because of the noise from certain houses, the Valuation Panel was told. But they upheld the rating assessment. 59 10 12

1959 10 13
The University's Mullard Radio Astronomy Laboratory employed a helicopter to transport one of their big parabolic aerials from a site in Grange Road to Offal End, near Haslingfield. An airlift was the only practical way of moving such an unwieldy load, 27 feet in diameter and so intricately built that it would have been difficult to dismantle it. Cambridge engineer, Mr Donald MacKay was responsible for preparing the complicated piece of freight for its journey. 59 10 13

1959 10 21
Sir - Adams Road has changed little in the last 40 years apart for three major upheavals: the decline of domestic staff which is part of a national pattern, the introduction of a bus route which was bitterly resented by residents who have been prominent bicyclists, and the new houses erected since the war. These have made the biggest impact. All the older houses were of a substantial character whereas some of the new ones are out of place in the neighbourhood. It has always been a family road with many childish pleasures including ice skating. – P. Rottenberg. 59 10 21a & b

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has taken newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1960 01 11
A 23-ton tanker lorry containing nearly 3,000 gallons of varnish-oil overturned at Madingley Road and was completely wrecked. The 12-wheeler vehicle got out of control near the old aircraft factory, veered across the road and snapped off a telegraph pole before overturning. The driver scrambled out unscathed and walked two miles in below-freezing conditions to a café at Hardwick to call for assistance. Firemen using heavy lifting gear dragged the vehicle off the road on to the verge and stood by until the oil was transferred to another tanker 60 01 11

1960 01 27
Lady Margaret Bullard makes most attractive jewellery from her home in Clarkson Road, Cambridge. It includes pottery ear-rings which, following a magazine feature, she sells by the thousands every year. Lady Bullard designs all the items herself and has countless styles and shapes. Practically every town in the country has shops selling her jewellery which is exported to Jamaica and Central Africa. Some of her latest work is in Roman gold. She has also written three books, one based on Cambridge before and during the war, called 'A Perch in Paradise' 60 01 27

1960 03 25
Three new major building projects are all progressing satisfactorily. The first storey of at least one building on the Churchill College site is already visible from Madingley Road. The cast iron arches of the old Garret Hostel Lane Bridge have been removed with a temporary wooden structure erected over the river. In East Road the scheme for redeveloping a large area previously occupied with derelict buildings is rapidly taking shape. Maisonettes will be constructed in the first stage followed by shops, flats, roads and houses. 60 03 25d

1960 06 15
Blanche Althena Clough, vice-principal of Newnham College dies – 60 06 15

1960 06 24
The small independent Kimway School is to close when the twin sisters, the Misses M.L. and E.A. Macleod retire. They have run the school in Millington Road since 1941 on the ideas proved successful with Brownie packs and 621 pupils have passed through their hands. The children range from three to 11 years and stay to take their 11-plus or try for scholarships to the Perse. Recently the number of children from university families has dwindled and now the wooden part of the school premises has rotted and the cost of heating and repairs is becoming increasingly expensive. 60 06 24c

1960 07 15
Dons are considering Cambridge's latest controversy – the designs of Lady Mitchell Hall, part of the Sidgwick Avenue development. One called it 'a monstrosity' and a 'primitive log stockade'. Dr W.H. Plommer detests 'the sheer brutality of the scale, the unaccommodating harshness of the shape … it could be anything from a prison to a power station'. But architects say they find the comments that it is 'ugly and brutal' and 'mad and revolting' hard to understand 60 07 15c

1960 09 17
Fire swept through a dining hall at Newnham College causing thousands of pounds worth of damage. Firemen wearing oxygen breathing equipment struggled through thick black smoke to reach the heart of the blaze. A section of the flooring in the Sidgwick Hall was burned away and three hotplates damaged. Smoke has blackened the walls and panels have split outwards with the heat. It is not likely to be repaired before the undergraduates return and the girls will be split up in the other three dining rooms 60 09 17

1960 10 05
A ten ton tank filled to capacity and mounted on a trailer drawn by an articulated vehicle turned over as it was negotiating the roundabout at the Newnham end of Fen Causeway. As it fell it hit a parked car a glancing blow. The industrial glue trickled out of the tank's head in a steady stream and traffic had to be controlled while a breakdown truck towed away the car. The resin, used for making chip board, was on its way from the CIBA factory at Duxford. As there was no crane in Cambridge capable of raising the tank, Welch's Transport of Stapleford, sent two six-ton

vehicles, and after the resin had been pumped out into other tankers, managed to complete the job shortly after midnight. The final traces of the accident were cleared away when council workers washed down the road 60 10 05

1960 10 14
The Freebooters Coffee Bar and Club in Wellington Street was set up through the determination of John Ewen, a theological student at Ridley Hall. It has full-sized billiard & table-tennis tables & a dart board. But there are no rules. Soon youngsters banned from other coffee bars because of damage started to drop in. A key concern was motor cycles but plans are under way for a maintenance shop and a 'scramble'. They had teething troubles: the record player was stolen and all the records taken, but they were brought back and now various sports clubs have been formed. 60 10 14

1960 10 31
Charles Whitaker was one of the country's greatest wood carvers and sculptors. But his most prominent memorial is in Cambridge where he lived. His first stone-carving job was at Ridley Hall but every college bears the mark of his skill. He was responsible for the restoration of the outside of King's chapel, Trinity College fountain and the Gate of Honour at Caius. He also carved the University Arms over the Examination School in Mill Lane and designed the coats of arms on Fen Causeway bridge and Ascham Road Library. 60 10 31

1960 11 02
Many roads were flooded following a torrential downpour. Policemen with red warning lights patrolled parts of Queen's Road which was covered to a depth of 18-inches in parts and the roadway at Chesterton Hall Crescent was also under water. Wilberforce Road was the most seriously affected where water poured off a nearby playing field and fences were pulled up to divert the flow away from houses. The Wheatsheaf Inn at Harlton and a cottage at Barton Road Haslingfield were also inundated. This has been one of the wettest years recorded in Cambridge. 60 11 02b

1961 01 03
The 'Grand Old Man' of Cambridge cycling, Mr C.M. Woods, was secretary of the New Chesterton Cycling Club for 35 years. He arranged ten motor and cycle race meetings on the Amalgamation Ground in Queens Road and was sports secretary for the Mammoth Show on Jesus Green which included the famous rodeo which attracted a record 'gate' of 35,000 people. During his career he came into contact with many famous cyclists including Albert White, Jack Sibbit, Ernie Payne and Reg Player. 61 01 03

1961 02 09
Two people were taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital when their car was in collision with a heavy armoured car driven by two members of the Cambridge University Officer's Training Corps. The vehicle, with a muzzled two pounder gun mounted on top of it, was on a delivery run from Colchester to the Corps' headquarters in Grange Road when the accident happened at Great Abington. The students were uninjured 61 02 09

1961 02 20
A team from Pan American Airways visited Cambridge speaking to applicants from the girls' colleges to fill their quota for air stewardesses, one of the most glamorous carers in the 20th-century.. One said "We thought we might get a nice type of girl from the University – the sort who, once she has got her degree, would like to spend a year or 18 months flying with us. By the time they're 23 they want to marry; you can't blame them really". The firm were quite reconciled

to it and it kept their service fresh and active. In spite of the attractive prospects there were very few applicants for interview from Girton or Newnham students 61 02 20

1961 03 21
Women undergraduates are rather spoiled, with ten men to each girl, and marry at a younger age so Newnham has problems finding College Fellows, the Principal complained. Sometimes girls staying in Cambridge after their marriage could continue their work but often it meant recruiting Dons from outside. This brought other problems as Newnham could not afford to pay a good income meaning many candidates were unable to take up the appointment 61 03 21

1961 05 04
Women undergraduates should stop trying to be competitive with the men and become complementary to them instead. There should be optional University classes in cookery, needlework and floral arrangements for the benefit of women, a Girton undergraduate writes in the 'Cambridge Review'. But two Newnham students are indignant that anyone should suppose they are not already proficient in domestic matters when they came up to Cambridge and deny women have no recreation other than working or taking tea 61 05 04

1961 05 04
Paradise Island forms an appealing nature reserve of great interest to botanists and a wonderful playground for children. It has a peace and charm of its own which would be lost if a block of flats were to be erected on land at Newnham. But there was already a Preliminary Training School for Hospitals at Owlstone Croft and there could possibly be some 40 flats of four-storey height, a planning inquiry was told. 61 05 04a

1961 08 12
Corpus Christi College has decided to sell a 13-acre strip of land adjoining Barton Road for high quality residential development. It is the last major site within a short distance of the city centre. There will be a maximum of seven dwellings to the acre with two-storey houses and a small number of flats. Corpus had Leckhampton House and a portion of land sufficient for college needs and with the building of Churchill College and the development of the Sidgwick Avenue site it was felt that the needs of the University were well-covered. 61 08 12a & b

1961 08 31
Przibórsky's barbers shop in Ram Yard is to be swept away by demolition and redevelopment. The site is to be incorporated into a new road leading to Park Street car park. It was founded in 1879 by Count Przibórsky after he left his position as barber at the Imperial Austrian court. The family connection elapsed in 1934 when the Count's son died and Mr Frederick Osborne took over the business. A ladies' hairdressing side catered for Girton and Newnham girls but was discontinued during the war 61 08 31a

1961 10 20
We're giving away petrol! To mark the opening of our new garage in Newnham Road, Cambridge, we will give each customer on the opening day one gallon of Shell petrol completely free of charge. We are open every day from 8 to 8 offering a Super Service and the kind of attention that makes so much difference to your motoring. B.E. Cocks & Co. – Advert. 61 10 20c

1961 10 28
Parents have bought a £400 hut to provide Newnham Croft School with an additional classroom. Erection of the prefabricated building has started 61 10 28b

1961 11 01
When the Prince of Wales inaugurated the new butt and parade ground of the Cambridge University Rifle Volunteers at Grange Road in October 1861 he presented a cup described as 'of massive silver, but chaste in design – a kneeling rifleman surmounting the lid, in the act of taking aim'. It is still awarded to the best shot at 1,000 yards. The Corps at first had a ground on Mill Road in conjunction with the 1st Cambridgeshire (Town Corps) but the range was found to be too short. The Grange Road ground consisted of two fields with the butt at the extreme end. 61 11 01

1961 11 16
Corpus Christi College has embarked on a plan to fulfil two great needs in the university. It has created a graduate extension at Leckhampton House in Grange Road to enable research students to enter fully into university life and to extend to teaching staff the social advantages and responsibilities which attach to being a Fellow of a college. Only about half the research students and unmarried Fellows normally wish to live in college rooms. 61 11 16d

1961 12 08
The collared dove is a new and exciting addition to the birds of Cambridgeshire. The first of these invaders from Eastern Europe settled on the Norfolk coast about five years ago and nested successfully at Overstrand. But they were first recorded in Cambridgeshire only two years ago. Three broods have been recorded from a pair nesting in Littleport and another pair has been seen in Adams Road. It will be interesting to see how they will stand a really hard winter. 61 12 08b

1961 12 14
After a gloomy day's location work on the film 'The War Lover' some thirty men and women trudged to their cars parked on Queens Road and made off for a hot bath. The day had seen two shots of film stars Shirley Anne Field and Robert Wagner walking up to and leaning on King's bridge. Miss Field plays a research worker and Mr Wagner an American officer, caught up in the romantic agonies of war. Such is the way of film making that even after a morning in which it was too wet to work, the fire brigade still had to hose water onto the bridge to make it wet enough to show. 61 12 14b

1962 01 01
Queens Road & Earl Street with snowed-up cars – photo – 62 01 01a

1962 08 01
Fellows of Gonville and Caius College saw the shape of things to come when they toured the College's newly constructed Harvey Court designed by Sir Leslie Martin, the University Professor of Architecture. It is the first of a new range of University and College buildings in West Road providing bed-sitting rooms for 100 undergraduates and Fellows, allowing them to spend two years in college instead of one. The building will be inspected by architects from U.N.E.S.C.O. 62 08 01a

1962 11 22
The University rugby ground in Grange Road is one of the finest in the country. Two years ago millions of gallons of water were pumped during the heat of the summer and hundredweights of seed used to repair the ravages of the winter season. After months of loving and expert care the groundsman defied me to traverse the pitch and produce a dozen weeds. I didn't bother to accept the challenge. The playing surface looked, if shaved, fit for bowls. It was a credit to the efforts of the Hayward family who care for it. 62 01 06 Down Your Street articles by Eric Dimock Grange Rd – 62 11 22

1963 01 10
Recently qualified State Registered Nurses were present with their certificates at the Preliminary Training School, Owlstone Road. Miss Puddiscombe, the Matron, outlined the current situation at Addenbrooke's Hospital and its various departments 63 01 10b

1963 01 22
London Instrument Company manufactures athletics equipment in the Old Mill, Newnham Pond. It employs 30 people annually producing 5,000 hurdles, 1,500 javelins as well as starting blocks and shots. It was founded by Henry Rottenburg in 1911, Fellow of Kings and lecturer in the University Engineering Laboratories. In collaboration with the University Athletic Club they developed a long jump measuring device, scoreboards and an ill-fated starting gate which nearly strangled a competitor. 63 01 22c

1963 01 26
Tower blocks should be banned from city centre says planning consultant Thomas Sharp in his report 'Dreaming Spires & Teeming Towers'. They would destroy the character of the Backs, Parker's Piece and Midsummer Common. The New Museums and Downing sites are 'deplorable in their high crowding, overdevelopment by dull buildings'. This comes when the University has plans for proposals for a tower block as part of its 'Science Island'. Any rebuilding in the central streets should be by small units rather than large-scale frontages, he says 63 01 26c

1963 02 02
Parts of the Backs should be flooded and turned into skating rinks, says a Cambridge botanist. There are a few natural ideal spots, used for lawn tennis, which could be easily flooded to provide skating. The initial cost would be insignificant but the benefit for the young and 'young at heart' (meaning dons) would be enormous. The maintenance of the skating rink would be easily covered by a small entrance fee. And it wouldn't spoil the tennis courts as ice and snow give the best protection for the species of grasses which might otherwise be damaged by the continuous cold. 63 02 02a

1963 05 24
Revised plans for the Sidgwick Avenue site include parking for 300 cars underground. But it will not include the West Hall which was to have contained 1,000 seats and provided for symphony concerts and full-scale theatrical productions. A site closer to the city centre would be needed if this was to be a success. The Faculty of History will include studies for academic staff and a library with space for 300 readers. But the need of faculties 20 years hence cannot be accurately forecast and some of those now planned may be accommodated elsewhere. 63 05 24

1963 05 27
Until a few weeks ago there was a farm in the heart of Cambridge where cattle grazed in fields not a stone's throw from the University Library. Now Mr Dale of Grange Farm, Adams Road is moving and the livestock and implements have been sold. In 1939 the farm, owned by St John's, extended to some 200 acres but part of this was used for the building of a repair shop and later Churchill College. The farm house itself is large and rambling with 14 rooms and an absolute contrast to the nearby house on Herschel Road recently built by Lord Rothschild 63 05 27

1963 08 08
Down Your Street articles by Eric Dimock - Barton Rd – 63 08 08

1964 04 02
Down Your Street articles by Eric Dimock - Newnham Rd – 64 04 02

1964 04 09
Cambridge University Croquet and Lawn Tennis Club, known as the 'Cock and Hen' club is moving to a new home on Madingley Road. It is the oldest tennis club in Cambridge founded before 1885 by and for senior members of the Universities of Oxford & Cambridge who were expected to join in pairs – hence the name. Now half are townspeople. Croquet has not been played since the Great War but some say a lawn could be laid at Gilling Paddock. 64 04 09b

1964 04 29
History Faculty library planned for Sidgwick Avenue site – 64 04 29

1964 06 30
A car park was needed on the West side of the river to help clear Queens Road and they should consider an underground car park at the Backs, councillors heard. Park Street was a mistake because it was too near the city centre but Coe Fen was one of the best places for a surface car park. Queen Anne Terrace was a marvellous site as it could have a basement, three of four storeys of flats and a roof garden restaurant. There would be a mini-bus to get shoppers into the centre which meant the Lion Yard would be used more by people who came to park for the day. 64 06 30

1964 08 01
Madingley Cricket Club, who have bought the old Queens' College pavilion on the Barton Road ground, may cut it in sections and move it that way. Queens' new pavilion, which is a memorial to a former president, Dr J.A. Venn, will be ready for the start of term and the groundsman has already moved into an adjoining bungalow. It has the most modern facilities in Cambridge with showers, toilets and its own bar. But the planned car park has been left for a later date. 64 08 01a

1964 11 28
Cambridge's Old Church Schools date back to 1700 when school for poor children were started by clergy. After the Education Act of 1870 introduced compulsory education Newnham School was opened in 1872 and followed in 1875 by Park Street for girls and infants. St Barnabas, Sturton Street, York Street, Catharine Street & Ross Street schools followed. St Matthews is the newest – and the most modern of all schools in Cambridge - 64 11 28

1965 03 01
Pinehurst building site sale – 65 03 01c

1965 03 27
Two and three-quarter acres of freehold building land at Grange Road with planning permission for 60 flats and 67 garages sold for £26,000 an acre at auction. Building of high-class flats will start 'almost immediately'. This was probably the best piece of land ever made available for this type of development in Cambridge, said Douglas January & Partners 65 03 27b

1965 03 30
Western bypass a priority along with ban on all vehicles parking Queens Road – 65 03 30b

1966 06 14
Bredon House, Selwyn Gardens converted from private house to University College - 66 06 15b

1966 10 21
Hershel House, Herschel Road demolition – photo – 66 10 21a

1967 02 22
University plan new Cavendish Laboratory as part of 'science city' in west Cambridge - 67 02 22

1968 03 29
Plough and Harrow, Barton Road, being replaced by new pub – photo – 68 03 29

1968 11 06
Clare Hall topping out – Brian Pippard photo – 68 11 06

1969 07 25
Walt-ham-stell, large house in landscaped gardens, Barton Rd is the 1795 'House in the Fen', a famous old coaching inn; is tunnel to Grantchester & Roman well. Permission granted for demolition but should be saved – 69 07 25a

1969 10 09
Dons divided on plans for science city proposals for West Cambridge site – 69 10 09

1969 12 10
Clare Hall new college – feature – 69 12 10, 10a
1970

1970 02 04
Ministry of Technology Computer Aided Design Centre, Madingley Road operating nine months; staff outnumber the firms who have found anything useful to design by computer – 70 02 04

1970 02 10
Malting Lane, Newnham – sketch – 70 02 10

1971 01 08
Rudi Dutschke who came to Britain in 1968 to recover from gunshot wounds and has been living at Clare Hall should not be allowed to stay, Tribunal recommends – 71 01 08; call for University strike – 71 01 11; students plan protest – 71 01 14; 1,000 students march – 71 01 16

1971 05 01
Progress on 'Science City' development adjoining Madingley Road may be slow, Senate says – 71 05 01

1972 08 07
The Backs have been described as "one of the world's most beautiful assemblies of buildings and grass and trees". Queen's Road, which skirts The Backs, is also one of the busiest heavy lorry roads in Cambridge. For many years the university have urged the closure of Queen's Road to through traffic, but the counter-argument is that there is no other convenient traffic route in west Cambridge. Travers Morgan's Transportation Study proposes a new West Road which would carry some 60 per cent of the traffic using Queens Road and Grange Road which would then be closed, to bring peace once again to the Backs

1972 11 04
Britain's top female liberationist, Miss Germaine Greer, told Cambridge undergraduates of the sexual tensions she had become aware of in the university while studying at Newnham College five years ago. She said: "Most people feel that this university enshrines the most incapacitating

mistakes about the relationship between men and women. Why was it when it came to May Balls male undergraduates always invite girls from the language schools, or their cousins from London? The thing that amazes me is that the girls do not break into the May Balls by inviting all kinds of truck drivers as their escort. I went to most of the balls over the fence and what I cannot understand is why girls have baulked at this male confidence trick"

1972 11 11
Mr David Robinson, the millionaire Newmarket racehorse owner and businessman may be the "mystery benefactor" behind the plans of Gonville and Caius college Cambridge, for a new mixed undergraduate college. Mr Robinson's name has been linked with the anonymous gift announced a year ago which is thought to be worth about £5 million. Caius college, founded in 1348, has been considering possible sites for the proposed college. The college-owned house "Finella" on Queen's Road and their sports ground on Barton Road have been considered.

1973 04 12
The £2¼ m complex for the Cavendish Laboratory on Madingley Road, Cambridge, was declared open by the Vice Chancellor of the University, Prof. A.W. Deer. Large earth banks will hide the new Cavendish site from the Cambridge Inner Relief Road, if it is ever built, and it is hoped the University will not continue to crowd buildings in upon the new site until it achieves another science slum like that left behind in Downing Street

1973 12 21
Cambridge University has been given £10 million to build and endow a new college for graduate and undergraduate students, the Vice-Chancellor, Prof Jack Linnett, announced today. The lump sum gift has been handed over by the Newmarket racehorse owner, Mr David Robinson, who started his career at the age of 15 as an apprentice in his father's cycle shop in Cambridge. The new college will be built on a 12½ acre site on land bounded by Herschel Road and Grange Road.

1974 02 19
Cambridge city council are negotiating privately with the University to buy 20 acres off Milton Road which could provide space for up to 400 council houses. The council's Conservative leader, John Powley, denied any behind-the-scenes deal with the University on planning permission for the new Robinson College in exchange for the housing land. The 20 acre site lies behind the council housing estate at Ramsden Square. It is occupied by a number of university departments. Some of the land is used for genetic experiments with plants.

1974 03 16
Cambridge University gave Mr David Robinson's £10 million new college a massive go-ahead when a total of 916 dons voted for the project and only 135 against. The university will now apply for outline planning permission for the college on the Herschel Road, Thorneycreek site.

1974 07 20
The people of Cambridge would never accept the building of the proposed Western Relief Road project, linking Huntingdon road with Trumpington road and going through Newnham or near Grantchester, it was claimed by city councillors. In addition the county a road linking Huntingdon road with Madingley road. But Coun. Overhill supported the road. "If this was proposed through the middle of Chesterton, nobody would complain. It is only because it is going through Newnham that people are against it", he said

1974 11 19

Operation Mop-Up got into full swing as flood waters subsided after nearly two hours of rain in 24 hours. In Cambridge the river burst its banks from Lammas Land in Newnham to Pye's in Chesterton where the playing fields resembled a lake. At St Neots a disable d elderly man and his wife were evacuated as flood water burst into their homes during the worst flooding in that town since 1947. Office workers at the Anglian Water Authority headquarters at Huntingdon spend an anxious afternoon – waiting to see if they would be flooded. Children at Dullingham primary school had to be ferries across floods by a local farmer's trailer when water blocked the road.

1974 12 09
The rapist terrorising girls in Cambridge's bed-sit land claimed his fourth victim in two months when he struck in the Newnham area of the city yesterday. It was the fifth attack on single girls living alone. Four have been raped and one fought her attacker off on the doorstep. The man leading the 20-strong special police squad, Detective Superintendent Bernard Hotson said today: "We are looking for an extremely sick and dangerous man"

1975 01 15
Report of General Board aim equal art-science ration amongst students with undergrad-postgrad ratio 25-75, size limited 1400; further developments in arts & social sciences in vicinity University Library, physical sciences & engineering in West Cambridge while biological etc in New Museums & Old Addenbrooke's area [16.1]

1975 02 04
A complete Cambridge college – the second in eight years – is being offered for sale on the open market at an unspecified price, thought to be in the region of £1 million. Ridley Hall is for sale following a decision in 1971 to enter into federation with two other Anglican training colleges, In 1967 Cheshunt College in Bateman Street was sold for in excess of £225,000.

1975 08 01
It was a wet welcome that Cambridge was offering any tourist foolhardy enough to punt past Sheep's Green bathing place, Newnham. Young swimmers aged about 15 kept up a barrage of dive-bombing from springboards at the bathing place and from the footbridge nearby. A custodian said: "It's a hazard that people who come punting have to put up with. There's no way I can keep an eye on the whole lot: on a busy day there's probably 3,000 people here. Only a few every complain, I think most people enjoy being splashed"

1975 08 04
Hundreds of people crowded around the entrance to the Senate House to watch Prince Charles arrive in academic cap & gown to collect his MA Degree. They waited patiently for 20 minutes when he emerged again after the ceremony. But the formal schedule of his procession was broken when Mrs Phyllis Hepburn, a friend from his student days, hailed him from the crowd. The Prince turned and stopped to chat with her. She said he used to come to her home in Millington Road to play in a string quartet.

1975 09 03
Frank & Babs Munns, well-known to numerous city centre newspaper buyers, have retired from their Market Passage newsagents. They have been in the business for 45 years. His family started in Newnham, one of only two wholesalers in Cambridge of Sunday newspapers. They started their first business in Castle Street and moved to Market Passage 14 years ago. Over the years there has been a big increase in the number of continental magazines people want to buy. Italians from as far afield as Bedford come to their shop for periodicals in their own language

1975 09 17
There is no reason why Cambridge's first mini roundabout should not become a permanent feature. The roundabout at the junction of Queens Road with Northampton Street came into operation yesterday morning. It is hoped this will overcome the long tailback which has occurred in Queens Road since the introduction of the city centre traffic scheme.

1975 11 11
A storm blew up today over a plan published by City council engineers to build a road across the famous Grantchester Meadows beauty spot. The plan was condemned by one of the city's leading environmentalists, Coun Colin Rosensteil as "idiotic". And he warned: "It will never be built because there will be such a gigantic public outcry"

1975 11 20
The number of women seeking Cambridge University places has remained virtually unchanged despite the opening of three previously all-male colleges to girl applicants. At present, with three women's and three mixed colleges about 500 women a year are being admitted. By 1978 four more colleges will have become mixed, bringing the expected number to 650 women. Miss Sheila Edmonds, Vice-Principal of Newnham College said while some well-qualified candidates still do not secure a Cambridge place, this would not be true if the total admission were 650, instead of 500.

1975 12 17
The controversial proposals for building a major road across the Grantchester Meadows beauty spot just outside Cambridge have been abandoned for the time being by the city council following the surprise discovery of a legal document signed 43 years ago. The document, signed by the Borough Council, King's College and the Cambridge preservation Society, effectively bans the building of roads across the meadows by local councils anywhere between the city boundary and the south of Grantchester village. Legal experts are to examine the document to see if it is still valid. The document came to light after King's College authorities drew the council's attention to it. None of the council's legal department remembered it.

1976 01 16
Trees along Cambridge's world-famous Backs felled because of the spread of Dutch elm disease have now been replaced. More than a dozen lime tree have been planted at Trinity College Pieces to replace 20 elms recently felled. Trinity college bursar said, "Not all of the elms were diseased but they were felled because, once the disease starts in a row it is difficult to contain unless all are removed". The disease was beginning to appear in a number of other elms, although at the moment those in the Fellows' Garden were unaffected.

1976 06 19
Cambridge's newest language school, the Newnham Language Centre, was officially opened at a reception. It is the brainchild of Mr Michael Short who was adult tutor at Comberton Village College for ten years. Students pay £70 for a four-week vacation course or £165 for a ten-week term and stay with Cambridge families. Tours to colleges and local country houses are arranged. It aims to provide facilities for small groups to learn the language in really attractive surroundings.

1976 07 14
The bamboo brainchild of a group of Cambridge University student architects which has been built over Grantchester primary school swimming pool could become a permanent feature of the landscape, if planners agree. But the dome has already run into trouble with some villagers who

claim it is intrusive and damaging the view from Grantchester Meadows. When it was originally put up earlier this year the structure was only intended to be temporary but now the headmaster, Mr Kenneth Jackson would like it to be retained. "It helps to keep the pool warm and keeps out leaves and other dirt. It has many uses and we are pleased with it", he said.

1977 03 16
For the Cambridge disco pub, the Plough and Harrow in residential Madingley Road, the dancing is over – and another venue for city youngsters loses its attraction. Brewers Tolly Cobbold have decided not to appeal following objections from people living in expensive property nearby. One resident said: "We are all academic and professional people around here and need quiet to be able to work. We don't spend money on alcohol because we haven't got it. We spent it on books and things". The county councillor said: "I think the pub could do very well as an eating house; many people would like somewhere to go for a quiet drink without feeling out of place".

1977 07 20
Parents and children said goodbye to Mrs Betty Barrett and Mrs Norah Hudson who have run Cambridge's oldest nursery school, the Cranmer Nursery School in Newnham Lane for many years. Now the Old Oast House which has been rented each weekday morning is being sold by its owners. Their long experience with pre-school children will not be wasted as they plan to give advice and help to someone starting up a new nursery school in another part of Cambridge. They were presented with silver engraved forks in appreciation of their work.

1977 11 09
Crowds waving flags and demonstrators waving banners greeted the Queen and Prince Philip as they arrived to open the new Wolfson College. For the Duke there must have been something familiar about the scene. For the second time in less than five months he was met in the city by pouring rain and by a group campaigning for nursery facilities in the university. He gave them a friendly wave as the car drove past. The Queen said she had laid the foundation stone of a college at Oxford and subsequently opened another of the same name at Cambridge. That this was possible was proof of the generosity of the Wolfson Foundation.

1978 06 21
Cambridge University Library tower, the last great challenge to the student night climbing fraternity, has been scaled. Two men took just four hours and 15 minutes to climb to the base of the flagpole and attributed their success to the unsuccessful attempts of others during the past twelve months who left bolts attached to the brickwork for safety purposes. It is without doubt the most difficult and dangerous building to climb. On the ascent they caused damage to a small window on the top of the tower. "This was completely unintentional and very much regretted. We have already sent off money to pay for the damage", one student said.

1978 06 23
The cost of providing a complete flood protection scheme for the Newnham and Riverside areas of Cambridge would be 'totally out of proportion to the benefits, however desirable', councillors have been told. Flooding occurred for two days on the Gough Way housing estate when the Bin Brook overflowed during heavy rain and the River Cam overflowed its banks at Riverside during the same period. But the emergencies arose from exceptionally heavy and intense rainfall for which it is not reasonable to provide capacity within the sewers, water courses or main rivers and relatively few residential properties were actually flooded.

1978 07 14

The risk of flooding may become a more important consideration when councils decide where houses can be built. Steps are also being taken to identify areas where the risks are greatest so that a better warning system for householders can be introduced. A gauge has already been installed at Gough Way, Cambridge, where the Bin Brook overflowed and damaged 20 houses and Newnham Terrace and Riverside may be flood proofed. It was suggested that the height the floodwater reached should be marked on houses which were involved. People would then be aware of the threat and could take their own measures.

1978 07 27
The Turk's Head, one of the largest eating places in central Cambridge, has served its last meals and drinks. Many of the 30 staff hope to be given the first chance in the project to turn the Plough and Harrow public house in Madingley Road into a restaurant. The Turk's Head opened in the 1960s as a restaurant where a range of inexpensive meals could be had across a wide price band but it was too close to another Berni Steak Bar around the corner in Rose Crescent. Now there are plans to turn it into two smaller restaurants together with a 'mini Burlington Arcade' with some 11 shops aimed at tourists.

1979 03 05
The Mayor of Cambridge, Coun Alec Molt, faced 300 chanting cyclists outside the Guildhall and signed their petition demanding better provision for cyclists. The demonstration began with a lecture on road safety and bike maintenance by the police, then led by a Panda car, they took at 15-minute tour of the city centre streets before returning to Peas Hill to hear councillors' views. Their priorities include cycle lanes on the Huntingdon & Madingley Roads and a contra-flow cycle lane in Downing Street.

1979 03 14
At the university's new music school in West Road you will hear a sound possibly unique in the history of music making. It is an orchestra of string instruments all made by one violinmaker and her apprentices. She is Juliet Barker, founder of the 'Cambridge School' of violin making and her apprentices are the doctors, vicars, housewives and students who have attended her evening classes at the Cambridge Tech since 1960. Between them they have turned out some 50 violins, 35 violas, 12 cellos and a violone. A violin takes the average student three years to make and when finished fetches around £750.

1979 10 02
Robinson College, the University's £17 million gift from the Newmarket millionaire, Mr David Robinson, was topped out. But the man who made it all possible was not there. He turned down the building contractor's invitation to the celebration and preserved his reputation as a shy, publicity-shunning benefactor. Professor Jack Lewis, warden of the college and Prof Charles Brink the chairman of trustees were presented with trade union cards before mounting the scaffolding. Then as an overhead skip delivered a load of wet concrete they smoothed down a part of the roof and planted a Union Jack. The work on site stopped whilst dons and workers joined together for pork pies and beers.

1979 10 12
A network of early five warning flood devices is expected to be ready for the danger period early in the New Year. They will measure water levels and automatically give an up-to-date picture of the possibility of floods. But it could costs £40,000 to carry out a major flood protection scheme at Stretham which was badly hit by floods in May that were caused by blockages in the drainage system. More money must be spent on the Bin Brook which was blamed for flooding in the

Gough Way area of Cambridge but maintenance problems must be solved before the work goes ahead

1979 10 30
Cambridge city council's main house waiting list is well on its way to doubling within one year. It is not a crisis: anyone now on the list might still be rehoused in 15 months' time if they are prepared to live in any part of the city. There are only two dozen council houses in the whole of Newnham and such is the pressure to win a house in favoured developments like Lichfield Road off Cherryhinton Road that it might take an applicant five years to get there. Applicants must be married or, if single, over 21, be living or working in the city (but students are not eligible) and have a proven housing need. There is a special list for engaged couples, parents can join children already living here and retired people who want to come back to Cambridge can be catered for.

1979 12 27
'Red' Rudi Dutschke, the German revolutionary who provided Cambridge undergraduates with a cause celebre which rocked the university, has died. He slipped into Britain in 1968 for medical treatment for a bullet wound received during a demonstration in Berlin. He was offered a place at Clare Hall so that he could continue his studies here and did not take part in active politics. But when Home Secretary Reginald Maudling refused to allow him to stay dons protested and the Cambridge Students' Union mounted its first-ever national march in London. It was to no avail and Rudi left in 1971. But when Mr Maudling agreed to meet his critics it took the biggest security operation ever in Cambridge to protect the meeting at The Leys School.

1980

1980 01 10
Customers at Cherry's Stores in Norwich Street, Cambridge, have said goodbye to the couple who have run the shop for 34 years. Lionel Cherry and his wife Kathleen took over in 1946 and built up a business which, in days when petrol was cheaper, offered a free delivery service to Newnham and Arbury. The shop was the place where Robert Sayle started as a draper and has been a grocers for more than 100 years, owned in all that time by just three shopkeepers. It will be the end of a long family connection with the trade. Mr Cherry's uncle had a shop on the junction of Arbury and Milton Roads which became known as Cherry's Corner

1980 02 14
The old University hockey ground in Newnham hasn't been played on for years, but the pavilion was used as headquarters for various groups until 14 months ago. Since then it's stood idle and is now vandalised – a tragic misuse of facilities. The University sold the site to Granta Housing Society in order to raise money to buy more urgently needed land in the west of Cambridge and they now have planning permission for 53 homes with building scheduled to go ahead any day now. They have offered the University Hare and Hounds Society the use of the pavilion again but the cross-country club, who now meet at the bottom of a staircase in Queens' College say it needs too much work. 80 02 14

1980 02 27
Senior dons at Girton are pursuing an astonishing plan to link their college with Cambridge by railway. They are proposing a mono-rail link which would run mainly at ground level on university and college-owned land to the Sidgwick Avenue arts site and University Library. The main difficulties are the high cost of the project, which would need to cross the Huntingdon and Madingley Roads and the delicate negotiations with other colleges. The college's undergraduates have to cycle two miles in all weathers to attend lectures and many have been injured in road

accidents. But two recent changes may ensure it is never built: the opening of the Western By-pass has reduced the amount of traffic and there will soon be a cycle lane. 80 02 27

1980 06 06
Girton College's imaginative plan to build a two-mile aerial roadway into Cambridge has been shelved. A driverless 100-seater train would have run 20 feet above ground taking students from the college to Grange Road. But they have had difficulty crossing land owned by other colleges and raising the money and there has been an improvement in traffic conditions since the opening of the Western by-pass 80 06 06a

1980 07 12
One of the biggest private houses & the last commercial farm in Cambridge is up for sale. Rectory Farm on Madingley Road, built 16 years ago, is regarded as an outstanding neo-Georgian design with five reception rooms, six bedrooms, two bathrooms and a swimming pool. It is set in three acres of mature gardens & could fetch around £250,000. 80 07 12

1981 01 13
The 15-year old problem of finding a suitable site for a multi-storey car park in West Cambridge must be solved by the summer, city councillors have decided. The residents of Newnham are to be told that, whether they like it or not, something must be done. A major problem has been finding a suitable site but it can be built just as cheaply underground, perhaps adjacent to the junction of Queen's Road and Madingley Road. 81 01 13a

1981 02 18
Cambridge councillors have thrown out the idea of ever building a multi-storey car park anywhere near the Backs. They condemned as 'barbaric' suggestions from senior officials that such a park, either above or below ground, could be built on college gardens, playing fields or open spaces along Queen's Road. "It is even more ridiculous than the plan to put a major road cross Grantchester Meadows", said Councillor Rosenstiel. 81 02 18a

1981 05 29
Robinson College officially opened by Queen

1981 11 25
A startling £3.5 million plan to tunnel under The Backs has been prepared secretly by county road engineers. It would be 20 feet wide and run under Queen's Road from the Madingley junction right up to Silver Street. Meter controlled parking would then be allowed up to Garret Hostel Lane and the area to West Road would be grassed over to give an uninterrupted view of King's College chapel. The plan is certain to raise a violent storm of controversy. 81 11 25 & 26b

1981 12 04
Queens Road tunnel 'bordering on the obscene' – 81 12 04a

1981 12 07
Thousands of motorists may soon be asked to leave their cars on the outskirts of Cambridge and cycle into the city to solve the parking problem. They would park in west Cambridge or near Stourbridge Common and make their way by hired bikes through the Backs or along the river. The park and cycle scheme is being suggested as an alternative to the park and ride bus scheme by road engineers who are also planning a tunnel under Queens Road. 81 12 07a

1982 04 23

Snooker has gained a new respectability, operating from high-class, exclusive clubs. Now the Dodgers Snooker and Billiard Club has opened in the old historic Newnham Watermill. It has five new tables of the finest Brazilian mahogany and an antique match table which has been restored to its original condition. With each table weighing over a ton, the floors have been reinforced. Members are issued with a computer-controlled access card with video cameras acting as a double check against gate crashers. 82 04 23a

1982 11 04
Newnham is a unique and quite exceptional area of Cambridge, and planners intend to keep it that way. Its 'up-market' aspect is reflected in property prices. A 10-bedroomed house at 5 Cranmer Road recently sold for £145,000 while £38,000 buys a three-bedroomed house in Owlstone Road. Properties in Gough Way fetch about £65,000, Grange Road £59,000 and Hardwick Street £39,500. A flat at Cherwell Court, Barton Road is £38,000 for a 99-year lease while one in Westberry Court is £60,000 82 11 04

1983 01 27
Lady Nicol of Newnham, the former Cambridge councillor, took her seat in the House of Lords. Lady Nicol, who was the first woman president of the Cambridge Co-op, was sponsored by Lady David, a former Labour Cambridgeshire County Councillor. She does not know when she will make her maiden speech but it will probably be on the environment in which she has a special interest. 83 01 27

1983 02 22
After 40 years baking his own special brand of bread for the residents of Newnham, Basil Sargeant has retired to start a new life in Norfolk as a smallholder. In appreciation, customers presented him with a painting of his shop in Derby Road, the work of Cambridge painter Philip Martin. The new owner, Mike North, will be sticking to Basil's recipe and methods. 83 02 22

1983 05 10
Cambridge University is planning to build a £6 million sports complex in the Grange Road area with a new eight-lane athletics track, swimming pool and sports hall. They have long argued that the Kelsey Kerridge sports hall and Milton Road athletics track are too far away from the centre of undergraduate activities. They hope to sell the Milton Road site for housing. 83 05 10 p5

1983 08 12
Robinson College, which was opened by the Queen in 1981, has won one of the country's top architectural awards from the Royal Institute of British Architects. It says a complex and demanding brief had been met with vigour and imagination and a building produced which may well grow in stature with the passage of time. Prime Minister, Margaret Thatcher, also praised it as "just perfect – an absolutely lovely college which manages to be original, elegant, beautiful and functional". 83 08 12

1983 08 30
Four major car parks on the outskirts of Cambridge linked to the city centre by a frequent park-and-ride bus service are suggested in a new report aimed a sorting out the city's traffic tangles. They are on fields at Barton Road, a small piece of disused land between the bypass interchange at Histon Road, allotment land near Newmarket Road cemetery and the old Cattle Market site at Cherry Hinton Road. It also proposes extensive residents-only parking schemes with a tightening-up of long-term parking in the city centre. 83 08 30 p1

1983 09 28

Grange Road is being lit up as Cambridge University take delivery of a £20,000 present – a complete set of floodlights. The lights, which are the final stage of a campaign to turn Grange Road into one of the best-equipped rugby grounds in the country, have been given to the Light Blues by a firm of London merchant bankers. 83 09 28 p30

1984 04 25
Harry Stonebridge died, as he wished, 'with his hat on'. He spent most of the last six years at a Cyrenian house in Gonville Place and his 'beat' took him to Newnham where kind-hearted residents gave him tea and toast. He didn't mind working but his penchant for cutting down bushes and trees soon convinced people that it was not a good idea to let him loose in their gardens. If he didn't like somebody he would resort to the same piece of one-upmanship. "Have you been to China", he would ask. And if they said 'no' he would say 'Daft B----'and ignore them. 84 04 25 p17

1984 06 01
Falling numbers of pupils have forced the Shrubbery School to close its doors to senior pupils. However juniors up to 11 years old will still be able to attend the private school which charges £250 a term. The Shrubbery opened its doors in Hills Road before moving to Barton Road 37 years ago and has been run by Alfred Wainwright and his wife since 1962. 84 06 01 p9

1984 07 06
Computerised control of traffic in Cambridge by means of traffic lights has been in operation along two major routes since March. Chaos has not ensued and the county council's traffic management scheme claims it has knocked several minutes off journey times in peak periods. 'Scoot' operates in Hills Road and Queens Road by marshalling traffic into 'platoons' of vehicles and then pilots them through as many sets of lights as possible. 84 07 06

1984 09 27
A bar 'unique to Cambridge' is the claim made for J. Millars on Newnham Road. It is not a wine bar or a cocktail bar. When the Chinese beer ran out they tracked down an alternative in Brighton. Apart from tsing tsio they have beers from Germany, Czechoslovakia and Holland and claim to offer the widest range of import beers, liquers and spirits outside London. They offer all-day faculties for business conferences and hold wedding receptions. 84 09 27

1984 11 15
Community Magazines carry a wealth of local information. The 'Whither Whittlesford', 'Bar Hill News' and 'Voice of Arbury' publications were prize-winners in the Community News Contest. Now representatives will attend the annual dinner of the East Anglian Association of Industrial Editors at Newnham College to receive their awards. The Arbury team will use the money to buy a Polaroid camera to improve the topicality of their illustrations. 84 11 15 p20

1985 07 18
Lettice Ramsey, a member of the Bloomsbury Group and Cambridge photographer extraordinary, has died at the age of 86. Born in Ireland, she was educated at Newnham College and married Frank Ramsey a brilliant King's philosopher who tragically died three years later. Left with two daughters she studied briefly at Regent Street Polytechnic and set up in business as a photographer in Post Office Terrace with Helen Muspratt. She was instantly successful and rapidly became fashionable, photographing the influential and up-and-coming throughout the 1930s including Anthony Blunt and Virginia Woolf. She retired in 1978 85 07 18

1985 07 31

The History Faculty building on the Sidgwick Avenue site has been saved. After nine months of reports and meetings the university has decided to carry out extensive repairs rather than knock it down and rebuild. Each option would cost about £2million but the repairs could be spread over a number of years. Now work will start on weather-proofing it to stop rain penetrating through the façade and terraces. The building received an architectural award in 1970 and its designer, Mr James Stirling, was awarded a Gold Medal for Architecture in 1980. 85 07 31c

1985 08 03
One hundred years ago 14 women students enrolled in a new pioneering college set up in two houses in Merton Street, Newnham. Its aim was to train women to teach in secondary schools. Over the century that college has changed character and direction several times and under its present name of Hughes Hall it has just been awarded Approved Foundation status within Cambridge University. Despite the financial problems of the present day it is planning new buildings at its site in Wollaston Road. 85 08 03a

1985 08 03
Mrs Hinson of Merton Street has received from a photograph of her husband's grave at Angers, France, together with a translation of the speech delivered over the graves of the English soldiers who lie buried there. They were sent by Major Stoney Archer's wife who enclosed a very kind letter expressing deepest sympathy. The hospital in which he was treated is beautifully equipped and he received the best of care and nursing. It is such kindly actions which make our British officers beloved by their men and which cements the good feeling between all classes in this country.
One hundred years ago 14 women students enrolled in a new pioneering college set up in two houses in Merton Street, Newnham. Its aim was to train women to teach in secondary schools. Over the century that college has changed character and direction several times and under its present name of Hughes Hall it has just been awarded Approved Foundation status within Cambridge University. Despite the financial problems of the present day it is planning new buildings at its site in Wollaston Road. 85 08 03a

1985 08 22
One of Cambridge's least-known grand houses has come on the market. The eight-bedroom mansion stands in more than three-quarters of an acre of ground and is approached by a long drive and carriage sweep. It has a fine entrance hall, large drawing and dining rooms, butler's pantry and a boiler house. It all sounds like the Newnham home of a Victorian worthy. The actual address is 242 Mill Road. The house is the former vicarage of St Philip's Church and there is planning consent for 17 sheltered homes to be built on the site. 85 08 22

1986 07 04
Churchill Service Station on the junction of Histon and Huntingdon Road in Cambridge is to open 24 hours a day. Garages cannot make a profit on discount petrol alone so it has diversified into selling milk, sandwiches and a range of household goods from dog food to washing powder. Newnham Service Station has been a village shop for several years stocking frozen food alongside chamois leathers and polish. But they have to obey Sunday trading laws like everybody else 86 07 04 & a

1986 12 11
David Reed Homes have gained a reputation for exclusive developments. Five-bedroom residences at their flagship house building scheme at Friends Walk Saffron Walden have sold for £160,000. They have constructed developments at Sawston, Park Lane Histon, Waterbeach and Grange Road Cambridge 86 12 11a

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1987 02 13
Tributes to Conservative County Council leader Mrs Emily Blatch have been flowing in following the news that she is to become a baroness. Social Security Minister, Mr John Major, said "She was an outstanding leader and will make a very substantial contribution to the work of Parliament" while Sir Anthony Grant MP thinks it's very good news. Mrs Blatch is the fifth woman in Cambridgeshire to be made a baroness. Among her colleagues in the Lords will be Baroness Nicol of Newnham 87 02 13

1987 09 02
Wolfson College are negotiating to buy the large Victorian home of polar explorer Sir Vivian Fuchs which is set in two-and-a-half acres on Barton Road. Sir Vivian, a former director of the British Antarctic Survey plan to move to another house in the same road. The big house takes a lot to keep tidy so they are going somewhere smaller, he says. 87 09 02

1987 11 03
Peppercorns delicatessen and health food business began two years ago with an idea and a sandwich delivery round. Edmund and Christopher Bliss opened a shop in Cherry Hinton but it wasn't large enough, so when the chance came to take on a shop in Mill Road they were eager to do so. Now they have opened another in Grantchester Road. As well as coffee and bread they sell cheese such as Cornish Yarg and English Cheddar which at £1.10p per lb is a popular buy with students. 87 11 03a.

1988 03 28
Residents whose gardens back on to the medieval lake known as Bolton's Pit, off Barton Road, Cambridge opposed plans for a new development. The lake is a haven for wildlife and a designated place of natural history interest. Mallards, moorhens, kingfishers and rare mandarin ducks would be disturbed, they claim. The area is protected by a covenant saying nothing should be done to damage the rural aspect. But developers say intruders have been taking the duck and by putting a property on the site it would help protect the wildfowl. 88 03 28a

1988 04 29
Alan Bennett came to Cambridge in 1953 as part of his National Service to learn Russian with a view to getting into the Intelligence Service. He was based at Douglas House in Trumpington Road and stayed in digs at Foxton and Newnham Terrace. He remembers many hours doing his work in the city library opposite the Corn Exchange. It left him with an abiding affection for Cambridge though now, he says, it has lost a lot of its simple charm and the traffic problems seem as bad as anywhere. 88 04 29a

1988 06 23
A mere thirty miles separate two Victorian homes but the price difference is a huge £100,000. A three-bedroom town house in Hardwick Street, Newnham with a wood store but no garage, will still cost you around £195.000. But at Hilgay, £90,000 would buy a detached home with four bedrooms, two lavatories, three reception rooms, a garage and outbuildings, and a third of an acre of gardens backing on to the church and open fields. 88 06 23

1988 10 06
Sir Clive Sinclair is moving out of Cambridge, though his business interests will bring him back to the city regularly. One of his companies, Anamartic is based at Milton Hall and another, Cambridge Computers has flats in Bridge Street, where he can stay. His home, The Stone House on Madingley Road, which dates back to 1896, has a white marble hall floor with a central oak

staircases leading to eight bedrooms and three bathrooms, and a drawing room more than 30 feet long, is now for sale. 88 10 06

1988 10 29
Sir Clive Sinclair's Stone House, on Madingley Road was built in 1896. If he had chosen a fortress to protect him from prying eyes he could hardly have found a more solid building. The walls are more than a foot thick in solid stone and even the front door is a formidable structure of metal and class. It has a Middle Eastern annexe with a fabulous hand-painted ceiling and a collection of calculators and computers in a large glass cabinet. It is on the market for £750,000 88 10 29a

1988 11 02
A new university sports complex off Madingley Road will cater for every level from general recreation to high-performance athletes. The first phase will include a 10-lane Olympic-standard synthetic athletics track with field events facilities and a pavilion. Later there will be a 34-metre swimming pool with a deep-water full-size international water polo court. A sports hall, rowing, training tank, combat salle, dance studio, squash and fives court and table tennis facilities will follow 88 11 02

1989 01 21
The University's world-renowned Veterinary School may be axed following a report by a Government Working Party. Although the University has until March to respond, there is little prospect of changing their mind. The last intake of students will be in October and the school, which has 300 students, would close when they finish their six-year degree course. No decision has been made on the future use of the Madingley Road site or the Vet's Hospital, which is a leading centre for cancer treatment in animals 89 01 21

1989 03 25
A major developer is slicing £10,000 off the cost of new homes in Milton in a bid to ease the stagnant market. Bovis has brought the price of its smallest three-bedroom detached home at The Sonnets down to £104.500 and similar reductions are reflected throughout the range. The four-bedroomed detached 'Newnham' is now £136.950, 'The Tewkesbury' has been slashed from £122,950 to £113,950 and the three-bed detached Aura-style home comes down to £117,950. Town houses are selling for £113,950 instead of £122,950. It is hoped buyers in a chain will now reduce the prices of their properties to get sales moving again. 89 03 25.

1989 04 14
Lady Alice Bragg, Cambridge's first woman mayor from 1945-46, read history at Newnham College between 1918 and 1921. In the year she finished she married Sir Laurence Bragg who was already a renowned scientist, having won the Nobel Prize for physics six years previously, aged 25. She served as an independent councillor, magistrate and chairman of the National Marriage Guidance Council in recognition of which she was made a CBE 89 04 14

1989 06 10
The £15 million park-and-ride scheme planned for Cambridge is now officially buried. County Conservatives had promised during the election campaign that the plan would be dropped if they took control and have told officials to stop work on the joint scheme with the city council. And a plan for an interchange where Madingley Road meets the M11 has been delayed. Work was due to start in 1990 but now the M11 is to be widened into a three lane carriageway between Cambridge and Stansted Airport. The council is now looking for alternative road schemes to spend the money on. 89 06 10

1989 08 09
Anne Stamford was 14 when the Great War shattered the peace of her native Cambridge. Her father helped build a hospital in Burrell's Walk; "being a master carpenter, it was the first time he'd had regular work. He was paid a wage and he had his first bike then; every man who was available had to build it", she recalls. Men were billeted – my mother had two but ended up feeding six. The ration man used to take the meat and veg round every day to the houses where the soldiers were. Food became short but when she worked for a family of brewers in Madingley Road she found there were different rules for the rich. Sugar was scarce but they had some that was supposed to go in for the beer. 89 08 09

1990 03 22
Tributes have been paid to maverick banker, scientist and government confidant, Lord Victor Rothschild. The millionaire Labour peer, who lived in Herschel Road joined M15 in 1940 and was awarded the George Medal for defusing German bombs at a time when he was Winston Churchill's official taster. He was described as 'one of the world's greatst experts in counter espionage' but was later alleged to be the 'fifth man' in a group of agents recruited by Russia in 1930s Cambridge 90 03 22b

1990 03 28
Cambridge's most luxurious flat is one of three penthouses in a new block called The Oast House at Pinehurst South off Grange Road. It has three bedrooms with a spiral staircase leading to a striking room like a Kentish oasthouse with a 25-foot ceiling and glass doors on to a roof garden. It will have all the luxury fittings expected including a video surveillance system. The Cambridge-based developer Nigel Grimshaw says "Nothing approaching it has ever been offered in Cambridge". The developers have produced a 52-page book listing its attributes 90 03 28a, b

1990 04 02
Pinehurst South, Oast House & Redwood Lodge feature – 90 04 02b

1990 05 12
Pinehurst South development sells well – 90 05 12b

1990 05 24
International standard University sports complex planned for west Cambridge – 90 05 24a

1990 06 30
Sir Clive Sinclair's Cambridge Computer firm is moving to Scotland; meteoric rise and fall; started Sinclair Radionics in 1962, moving to Cambridge in 1967; produced digital watch and calculator, tv and computers. Won Queen's Award in 1975 and knighted 1983. But C5 flopped, marriage broke up and sold his house on Madingley Road in 1989 – 90 06 30a

Park Street 1964 – 242.13

c.44.6 : Park Street

1900

1900 10 25
An epidemic of disease has broken out in Cambridge which is of such serious importance as regards the public health that we should not be discharging a duty we owe to our readers if we did not draw attention to it, notwithstanding the reticence of the medical authority, which to say the least is inexplicable. The Medical Officer of Health has absolutely declined to take the press into his confidence. That diphtheria is prevalent is beyond dispute, nor is it confined to Cambridge for rumour is that deaths have occurred at Chesterton. The death of certain children attending Park Street mixed infants school first brought the matter under the attention of the local medical authorities. Several deaths have taken place which are directly attributed to the disease.

1900 11 01
We have received an official statement from Mr Alderman T. Hyde, respecting the outbreak of diphtheria at Cambridge. 'Last Friday I stated that we knew of 12 cases of the disease. Since then we have had a rather unexpected increase which made a total of 35 today. There have been four deaths from the disease. With a few doubtful exceptions all cases have been proved to have originated in connection with the Park Street Infants School, although so far investigations have shown no reason for supposing that the actual building on the site has had anything to do with the causation of the disease. No expense or labour will be grudged in the endeavour to stamp out the disease. It is thought advisable not to allow children to attend meetings in public halls during the present conditions".

1901 01 01

The Cambridge Medical Officer of Health reported on the recent outbreak of diphtheria. He had inspected Park Street School and could find no cause for complaint except as to the odours arising from a cesspool. Alderman Dalton said the present school might be perfectly healthy as workshops, or a Sunday School or an evening institute. There was a great difference between children assembling for a couple of hours in one day of the week and living in the place the whole of their time. The question should be decided whether the school should be carried on under the present unsatisfactory conditions or whether new buildings should be erected.

1920

1925 10 21
A pleasant little function took place at the Park Street School when the Bishop of Ely paid a visit to see the improvements carried out to the babies' room to accommodate a further 35 babies.

1928 07 18
The future of the Bell public house, Botolph Lane and the Plume and Feathers, Park Street, Cambridge was considered by the Licensing Committee. The Bell was difficult for police to supervise. It had no downstairs accommodation for the tenant and meals had to be taken in the smoke room during closing hours. The renewal was refused. The Plume and Feathers had little accommodation and was frequently congested with a few customers. It had been done up and the yards had been covered over. The trade had gone up and was better than the Maypole.

1930

1932 02 23
Many people will regret the passing of 'Lame Walter' - James Walter Mansfield – of Dove House, Park Street. He retired in 1918 after about 40 years of cab driving. He was a well-known figure in later years with his tricycle and dog, much liked for his cheery disposition. He leaves three sons and three daughters. 32 02 23, photo 23a

1935 01 17
The new A.D.C. Theatre in Park Street was opened by Miss Ellaline Terriss replacing the one destroyed by fire 14 months ago. It was a wonder it had not burnt down every time the stage was used years ago, as there was no fire-proof curtain, the theatre was lit entirely by gas and the proscenium made of painted canvas stretched on wood batons, reminisced E. Mellish Clark 35 01 17

1938 02 22
House clearance Saxton Street, Gothic St area & Park Street – 38 03 22b

1938 10 27
Park Street was a very congested area in the heart of Cambridge and the houses were upwards of 100 years old. The brickwork was weather worn and crumbled, the walls were damp, natural light was poor and the staircases narrow, winding and dark. The ceiling plaster was cracked and liable to collapse and the floor boards were weak, springy and worm-eaten. In some cases there was no copper or sink and no proper food store. Some had no water supply. They were unfit for human occupation and should be demolished, an Inquiry was told. But residents objected 38 10 27 & a also Saxon Street

1950

1954 03 15
Properties in Corn Exchange Street may be demolished to increase parking space in the Lion Yard. It could then accommodate another 60 cars. This would bring in an increased revenue of about £1,360 per annum, but be offset by a £1,286 loss on rental from the demolished premises. Councillors were considering the early provision of a multi-deck park but until the Minister had made a decision on the development plan it would be impossible even to proceed with sketch plans. Sites have also been cleared in the Park Street area, but in view of the extremely poor access they decided to take no action to form a car park in that area.

1956 02 28
Demolition is taking place in Corn Exchange Street as part of the final scheme for the redevelopment of the area. Although final plans are as yet unsettled empty offices are being demolished and the land will be used as an extension to the Lion Car Park. A number of dilapidated houses in Park Street that were condemned before the war are also being pulled down. 56 02 28b & c

1956 04 14
One of the old properties just demolished in Park Street, Cambridge – no.60 – has a famous connection. Back in1853 a young schoolmaster called Charles Haddon Spurgeon who lived there put an advertisement in the paper saying he intended to take six young gentlemen as day pupils. Teaching would include arithmetic, geometry and mensuration, scripture, Latin and Greek at a cost of £5 per annum. He became an eloquent preacher and, after doing great work in Waterbeach, was called to London where he addressed a gathering of 23,000 people at the Crystal Palace. 56 04 14c

1956 10 16
Councillors say that multi-storey car parks should be provided at Lion Yard, Saxon Street, Park Street and New Square and 170 cars should be parked on the site of the existing police flats at Parkside. But traffic congestion in Cambridge has become so acute that 'No Waiting' restrictions should be imposed in the central area and King Street made one-way. 56 10 16a

1957 11 20
Park Street car park inquiry at Shire Hall – 57 11 20b & c

1958 03 27
Permission has been granted for the construction of a car park for 146 vehicles in Park Street, Cambridge. The site ranges from cottage and three-storey houses to warehouses and sheds. When financial conditions permit a multi-storey building will be constructed, probably with shops on the ground floor. A new access road will be made from Bridge Street along the present line of Round Church Street. 58 03 27a

1958 09 27
Parking facilities in Cambridge were inadequate, said the Chief Constable. With more than 600 vehicles passing over Magdalene Bridge each hour, Park Street was a convenient site for a car park. Saxon Street park had been finished last week, work on King Street had not started and the Parkside car park was only a small one. Park Street was the one that should have first priority as a surface and multi-deck car park. But a thatched house in Clement Street built about 1700 should not be destroyed by 'this cement desert'. 58 09 27 b c d

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1962 02 20
The city council want a three-storey car park in King Street, between Malcolm Street and Manor Street. There would be space for 260 cars together with a filling station and a maximum of nine shops. It would form part of the pattern of perimeter car parks with another in Park Street. There would be an inner 'control zone' and an outer area for car parking administered by meters. This would accommodate over 400 more vehicles and relieve congestion. Motorists were reluctant to use parks away from the city centre as they wanted to get as near as possible to their places of work, an Inquiry was told. 62 02 20 & a 62 03 22a

1962 09 05
Bulldozers and heavy earth-moving machinery have been followed by a fleet of lorries as clearance work starts on the site of the new multi-deck car park in Park Street. It should be completed within nine months and will form an integral part of the new parking meter system for which the City Council is to seek Ministry approval. Councillors are still waiting a decision on their earlier application for another multi-storey car park about 200 yards away in King Street 62 09 05

1963 04 03
The new car park at the rear of Queen Anne Terrace has now been completed and is open for public use, free of charge. It adjoins the car park at the new swimming pool which can accommodate 67 cars and has been constructed as part of the council's policy for traffic control in anticipation of the Minister's approval of the parking meter scheme. The multi-storey car park in Park Street should be in use by the middle of the year and a decision is awaited on an application for another in King Street 63 04 03

1963 10 10
The City Council is to buy a house and premises at Clement Place to provide room for extensions to the multideck car park at Park Street. 63 10 10

1963 10 28
Park Street car park opens – 63 10 28a

1964 05 21
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Park Street – 64 05 21

1964 06 18
Meters fail to pay new Park Street car park losses – 64 06 18

1964 06 30
A car park was needed on the West side of the river to help clear Queen's Road and they should consider an underground car park at the Backs, councillors heard. Park Street was a mistake because it was too near the city centre but Coe Fen was one of the best places for a surface car park. Queen Anne Terrace was a marvellous site as it could have a basement, three of four storeys of flats and a roof garden restaurant. There would be a mini-bus to get shoppers into the centre which meant the Lion Yard would be used more by people who came to park for the day.64 06 30

1964 11 27
Controversial plans for an inner relief road have been deferred. The general line of the road had been known since 1950. It would be an alternative to Magdalene Bridge and give better access to

Park Street car park. But people along the proposed cannot sell their houses because of the uncertainty. If the Press had not reported council meetings they would not have known anything about it. 64 10 09f
Buildings in Jordan's Yard, Round Church Street and Bridge Street should be acquired by council for preservation and extension Park Street car park – 64 11 27i

1964 11 28
Cambridge's Old Church Schools date back to 1700 when school for poor children were started by clergy. After the Education Act of 1870 introduced compulsory education Newnham School was opened in 1872 and followed in 1875 by Park Street for girls and infants. St Barnabas, Sturton Street, York Street, Catharine Street & Ross Street schools followed. St Matthews is the newest – and the most modern of all schools in Cambridge - 64 11 28

1968 11 01
Problems of multi-deck car park – photo Park Street and Lion Yard – 68 11 01b

1970

1970 12 31
St Andrew's Junior, Park St Infants & Junior and St Paul's infants and junior schools must go, Alderman says – 70 12 31

1975 05 09
Cambridge Union Society's historic debating chamber, scene of heated exchanges between Britain's top politicians this century, was badly damaged by fire. The blaze spread through part of the floor of the chamber and went up through two floors of the Round Church Street premises. Crowds gathered in Park Street as a 100-foot turntable ladder was swung into place and three pumping appliances arrived on the scene. The main part of the building was not affected by the fire. Teams of undergraduates mounted guard on the building throughout the night 75 05 09

1978 02 14
A County Council report recommends that two old church schools in the centre of Cambridge, Park Street and St Matthew's, should close. It says no school will take more than 60 infants a year; all schools will have nursery classes from three-plus, and that separate infants and junior schools will be merged into one school taking children right up to 11. Catchment zones will be introduced for primary schools. At present Morley Memorial is under a great deal of pressure and children are taught in a rented church hall across a busy road while Sedley Infants and Romsey Junior have empty places.

1978 03 09
Both St Matthews and Park Street schools in Cambridge are housed in high-ceilinged, drab buildings. There are no green playing fields, the playgrounds are cramped and asphalted and Park Street has outside lavatories. But for all this they inspire a great deal of loyalty from parents who see them as small family schools within a community. Both are in the central area and a few years ago found their rolls were dropping. But now there is a definite trend bringing young families back into the city centre terraced houses and they are battling to save the schools from closure.

1978 09 12
Park Street flats, p9

1978 09 25

Protestors against the proposed closure of Park Street School Cambridge stepped up their campaign by marching on the Guildhall. The television commentator and personality, Clive James, who is leading the fight said: "There will be no financial gain from closing the school. The main reason for shutting it seems to be the size of the playground which they say is insufficient for the kids to fulfil themselves". Park Street Residents Association has joined the campaign as they feel much of the community spirit of the area will be lost if the plans go ahead.

1979 07 31
Pubs in and around Cambridge have come in for bitter criticism in a new guide written by two undergraduates. The Rose in Rose Crescent is described as a 'seedy little place in a seedy little street. Gay Cambridge meets there, which says little for their taste'. The Maypole in Park Street is described as a 'grotty little dive hidden rightly under the car park', the Carpenters Arms in Victoria Road is 'without redeeming feature; extremely anti-student clientele who would have beaten us up if they hadn't been so drunk. Dark and spooky'. The Locomotive in Mill Road 'ought to be exorcised, its evil … the worst pub in Cambridge' while the Midland Tavern is, they say, 'the most notorious pub in town with a reputation for being a centre of vice'. One landlord replied: "It's about time the University made these little boys do some work for their degrees … they speak too much claptrap

1979 10 18
The Government has stopped the County Council from closing Cambridge's Park Street Primary School because of its 'value to the community'. But plans to close Brunswick Primary School have been approved. This is a great disappointment for parents who campaigned vigorously to keep it open. Nearly £800,000 has been earmarked to convert the buildings into a further education centre. The County will accept the ruling but the number of children attending both schools had dropped and the problems will not go away. Now much harder decisions will have to be made that will affect schools throughout the city.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Fish Market Peas Hill 1930

1024

c.44.6 : Peas Hill

1897 11 25
A well-attended meeting was held in Eden Street School, Cambridge to discuss the proposed expenditure on a new Guildhall front. Mr R. Sturton said they must have a new cemetery as he did not suppose sanitary science would advance sufficiently rapidly to go in for cremation en bloc. Then there was the new Police Station and something would have to be done to the Sanatorium. Mr Burwick though the more they beautified Cambridge the more good they would do to business. Why not have a police station at the town hall, offices for the payment of rates, swimming baths. He did not see why shops should not be built on Peas Hill so as to bring in a considerable amount

1899 10 03
Cambridge cabmen's union was told that certain ladies had volunteered to provide a cabmen's shelter on Peas Hill, close to St Edward's church. The chairman hoped the cabmen would always maintain their proper rank of respectability, and keep themselves above suspicion of rowdyism or anything approaching to it

1900 12 22
A serious fire occurred on the premises of Messrs Coulson & Co., drapers at Peas Hill, Cambridge, and the flames were not extinguished until the entire stock of goods in the shop were completely destroyed. Captain Greef of the Fire Brigade arrived as did 14 firemen and nearly a dozen constables. The fronts of the shop were much damaged. The cause of the fire is attributed to the overturning of one of the incandescent burners in the shop window.

1901 05 20 c
Messrs Bidwell, auctioneers, conducted a very successful sale of property in Wheeler Street and Parsons Court, Cambridge. Two shops with a dwelling house, being No.11 Peas Hill, sold for

£2,050. Nos.1 & 2 Wheeler Street comprising a cabinet-makers shop, with dwelling house, and a harness maker's shop brought in £1,800 while a private house in Parsons Court was knocked down for £750

1904 06 03
Fire in Messrs Bell and Son's premises in Wheeler Street, an ancient building used as a corn and seed merchants premises for two or three centuries. Police constable Winter noticed fire and smoke at 4.30 am and gave the alarm. The hose reel from the Guildhall was affixed to a hydrant and a stream of water directed on the burning building. Firemen appeared on the scene with the horsed fire-escape and tender but the building of three floors and constructed largely of lath and plaster was burning fiercely. The flames leapt high through the roof and shot out through the windows. In a very short time the roof fell in with a crash and all hope for saving the property was destroyed. The efforts of 28 firemen and 15 police was directed towards preventing the spread of the fire to the adjoining property. The cause of the outbreak is unknown. There had been unusual activity among the rats and mice in the old premises, now taken as a sign that the fire had got a good hold on Sunday evening. The damage was extensive. The fire and second floors, used for the storage of fodder and seed were nearly burnt out, the ground floor and offices were severely damaged by smoke. The basement and the top floor and a small part of the roof of the 'Bell' public house were damaged by water as were the contents of the tobacconist's shop at the end of Wheeler Street occupied by Mr Canham. The window frames of the Cambridge Free Library were slightly damaged by the heat. 04 06 03

1904 06 16
Cambridge Library committee referred to the recent fire on Peas Hill and the destruction of the premises adjacent to the library. But for the skill of the fire brigade the reading room must have been destroyed and the contents lost. The accumulation of books, pictures and scarce literature could never be replaced. Now the old dilapidated buildings should be cleared away and a more appropriate building erected. Next year they would celebrate the jubilee of the opening of the library and the appointment of Mr Pink as Librarian. The Library Association should be invited to hold their annual meeting at Cambridge, free of charge.

1906 08 07
Cambridge fire brigade undoubtedly saved a portion of King's Parade, St Edward's Passage and Peas Hill from destruction by fire. There are numerous old houses, warehouses, sheds and outhouses of all descriptions, many constructed chiefly of wood. It broke out at Mons Buol's bakery, 17 Kings Parade; the bakehouse was gutted and hundreds of pounds of chocolate, almonds and sugar damaged. 06 08 07

1907 09 24
Cambridge Councillors considered the question of the old corn merchant's buildings on Peas Hill which were damaged by fire in 1904. The whole of the site, including the houses in Wheeler Street, should be used for municipal buildings with the basement and ground floor as an extension to the Central Library 07 09 24a

1908 11 13
A singular accident in which a taximeter cab played a singular part occurred in Peas Hill. The lamp of taxi cab number 214, driven by a man named Darby, caught the awning connecting a couple of stalls and there was a general upset. The stall of Mr Reynolds was practically demolished and the sweets strewn about with the result that a number of boys had a scramble and pocketed as much as they could. The adjoining drapery stall of Mr Nicholls fared better. The affair caused a great deal of commotion. 08 11 13

1909 11 19
Frederic William Hodgson carried on the business as plumber and decorator for nearly 30 years. He was a life-long abstainer and the oldest Deputy Grand Worthy Patriarch of the Cambridge Sons of Temperance, having cycled some thousands of miles whilst engaged in propaganda work. The sad cortege proceeded from his house in Peas Hill to Mill Road cemetery where the first part of the funeral service was conducted in the chapel. The coffin was borne by fellow members of friendly societies. CEN 09 11 19

1910

1911 11 24
John Stanley, poulterer of Peas Hill sued the G.E.R. Company for damages sustained in the carriage of 84 ducklings and three geese from Liverpool Street to Cambridge. They were to have been sent by passenger train the same day. But instead they were taken on to Doncaster. He made numerous inquiries but it was not until 9pm that the birds arrived at the station but the GER could not deliver them until Monday, by which time they would have been bad. But he had an old contract that said the goods were sent at his risk and he lost his case. 11 11 24f

1912 10 18
Workmen digging at the rear of a shop in Peas Hill discovered the skeleton of a man and women, lying side by side. Nearby is the site of an old monastery and the assumption is that the remains were found in a former burying-ground. If so it knocks the bottom out of one of the best ghost stories in Cambridge, involving a wealthy banker whose young, beautiful wife took a lover who then disappeared. Half a body was later discovered in excavations at the Bijou Theatre Club's cellars. Now it appears they may all be linked. 12 10 18j

1913 11 21
River Cam dredged from Jesus Sluice to above Railway Bridge; to continue to Long Reach; wood blocks for paving from Hyde Park Corner to station and around Market Hill; 16 Sussex Street to be pulled down; 18 Peas Hill rebuild – a wretched, verminous house; Fair Street widening, 13 11 21 p7

1914 12 11
Fishmonger's child scarlet fever, Peas Hill stall

1915 09 10
Servant stole from Three Tuns, Peas Hill

1916 05 10
Reference Library and Education department, Peas Hill – photo & details – 16 05 10c

1916 06 21
Decorated.—Lt. Alex E. Bonham. 11th Royal Warwicks, who was when war broke out, a class master at East Road Boys' School, .has been awarded the Military Cross. Lance Corporal W. Hassock, London Rifles (who, previous to joining up was employed by Messrs. W and R. Fletcher, Ltd., Peas Hill) has been awarded the D.C.M He was attached to a machine-gun section and continued to work his gun when all his comrades had fallen

1920

1923 03 31
The forthcoming production by the Bijou amateurs brings into prominence once again a club that has held a big position in the life of Cambridge for the last 50 years. I 1870 Mr W B Redfern founded the Bijous, who took over premises on Peas Hill, where for many years was provided the only dramatic performance in Cambridge that were given with any regularity. As time went on the club found that the old Peas Hill theatre was not big enough for them and finally removed to the old skating rink in St Andrews's street, on the site of which the present New Theatre was built. It was not until 1881 that ladies were introduced into the cast, the female parts having before that date being taken by men

1923 06 16
A remarkable story of how a large sum of money was snatched from the jaws of death, as typified by the corporation refuse destructor reached me the other day. It appears that a certain tradesman on Peas Hill, Cambridge, had by some strange mischance consigned a wallet containing money to the dustbin. A frenzied telephone message to the contractor revealed that one of his dustcarts had collected at the address that day. The cart was searched, but without success. Eventually the missing wallet was discovered on the very threshold of destruction and found to contain Treasury notes to the value of between £200 and £300. Some people back Derby winners and others have luck in other directions.

1927 09 19
Premises in Peas Hill, Cambridge, may be acquired for the purpose of extending the Guildhall. Trinity Hall, the owners of nos 15 & 16 will sell for £5,500; Mr Sennitt will sell no.17 for £3,500, the price to include compensation for disturbance of the business and the tenant to have the option of hiring the premises until required by the Corporation. Corpus Christi College has agreed £2,200 for no.19. The Council is to apply to the Minister of Health for sanction to borrow the sum of £11,700 for the purchase

1928 01 11
An inquiry was held into Cambridge council's application to borrow money for the purchase of property in Peas Hill for an extension of the Guildhall. There was an increase of administrative staff and the offices were not adequate to enable the duties to be carried out efficiently. With the acquisition of the property the Corporation would hold the entire island site which would facilitate the suggested scheme for the reconstruction of the Guildhall. They had been met in a conciliatory spirit by the owners of the property and a favourable provisional agreement had been arrived at.

1930

1933 09 19
Cambridge Guildhall dated back to about 1782 and there had been various extensions. In 1928 the Corporation bought shops in Peas Hill to allow for rebuilding. The possibility of providing shops on the ground floor had been considered but this would not allow sufficient offices for the extra staff needed to cope with their increased duties, an Inquiry was told. 33 09 19

1934 09 27
Hot Bargains at the great re-building sale at the Peas Hill Cash Drapery Stores. Household linens, blankets, dress and underwear fabrics at knock-out prices including Wigan sheeting, Jaspe bedspreads, Gent's fancy socks, Ladies artificial silk knickers (slightly fleeced) and interlock woven pyjamas. From college hire, 50 pairs of single bed sheets, once used and laundered, from

3/6 each. Six dozen heavy white Turkish Towels (one used and laundered) nine-pence three-farthings each. – Advertisement. 34 09 27

1935 03 07
Police guarded the closed gates of the University Arms Hotel while Sir Oswald Mosley was at a dinner organised by the University Fascist Society. Outside a meeting organised by the University Socialist Society was held on Parker's Piece with speeches by John Cornford, Maurice Cornford and Maurice Dobb. Then a torchlight procession by 200 undergraduates shouting anti-Fascist slogans such as 'We want Mosley dead or alive' and singing 'The Internationale' marched to Peas Hill where more speeches were made before a Proctor arrived and they dispersed. 35 03 07c

1935 03 13
A packed public meeting at Cambridge Guildhall voted against plans for a new building and called on the council to remodel the front to a more dignified style of architecture. Cambridge was a treasure house of architectural gems and they had no right to hand down to posterity a freak building, a flat and uninteresting example of early 20th-century abominations. Another motion dealing with the question of shops on the Peas Hill side of the building received scant attention as most of the audience had left before the end. 35 03 13 & a

1935 04 10
Demolition work on Peas Hill for the new Guildhall has led to an architectural discovery of outstanding interest. It has revealed the residence and business premises of a well-to-do Tudor merchant which was subsequently divided up into a detached and two semi-detached houses. The magnificent front was covered up with lath and plaster in the reign of Queen Anne and finished with mock bricks. Dummy eaves were also added. Now each piece has been carefully taken down and numbered for preservation and re-erection. 35 04 10

1935 05 01
The Guildhall Protest Committee criticised plans for a useless portico of a most ornate and incongruous style which could be 'put on cold' in from of the proposed façade of the new Guildhall in two years' time if the town really wanted it. They maintained the main entrance should be on Market Hill. It would allow a terrace which would form a platform for addressing meetings on Market Hill and give a façade of distinction that the people strongly desire. There was also intense feeling regarding the question of shops on the Peas Hill side 35 05 01

1935 05 13
The number employed by the Disabled Persons Workshop has varied from 9 to 10; two are doing piece work in their homes, not being able to attend at the shop. Unfortunately three who are employed are not eligible for the deficiency grants from the Ministry of Labour which has hit the income. It has been a disturbed year owing to the difficulty of finding suitable premises in Cambridge for a shop. The workshops in Gloucester Street are out of the way and they had to leave Peas Hill because of demolitions, meaning there was nowhere to sell their goods. The new premises in Trumpington Street are outside the shopping centre and the rents and rates are a strain 35 05 13

1935 05 18
Cambridge Drawing Society exhibition includes many local views including 'Peas Hill' by Dorothy E. Bradford, 'Pembroke College' by Joyce Shillington Scales and Fenners by Mary Fyson. Fulbourn Mill has provided R.C. Lambeth with a subject. His detailed painting of the interior of the mill and its machinery will interest all with a mechanical turn of mind. Madame

Raverat has some beautiful woodcuts including an unusually large cut of St John's Old Bridge printed from three wood blocks. 35 05 18

1935 06 15
The Cosmopolitan Cinema in Market Passage was started two years ago by Mr N. Openshaw Higgins as an experiment. Increasing numbers of people have welcomed the opportunity of seeing cultural films that do not appeal to be masses. Now it is moving to the new theatre being constructed in Peas Hill. There has been discussion as to the most suitable name for the new venture. The Arts Theatre was talked of, but a more likely choice now is the Market Theatre. 35 06 15b

1935 09 07
New theatre on Peas Hill takes shape – photo – 35 09 07

1935 11 26
Cambridge Disabled Soldiers' Workshop had been through a difficult period. The largest number of men in the workshop was 12 and at present there were only seven, none of which were complete in their bodies. One had lost his leg in the South African War. The shop in Trumpington Street was not in so good a situation as at Peas Hill and they did not get the streams of passing undergraduates. We should never forget the men who had served, suffered and saved our country through its years of dire peril. 35 11 26

1936 12 30
Peas Hill windows smashed – including Sennitt – 36 12 30 & a

1937 07 17
Rainwater heads on Three Tuns, Central Hotel, Peas Hill – 37 07 17b

1939 08 31
Lloyd's Bank practiced evacuating their staff to air raid shelters in the two strong rooms adjoining the main hall of the bank. Those in Lloyds Bank Chambers used a specially constructed cat-walk over the roof to the fire escape window. The two strong rooms are situated one below the other and a trapdoor will supply a means of escape should one of the entrances become blocked. In the event of a raid customers can accompany the staff or seek the nearest public shelter in wine vaults under Peas Hill 39 08 31

1939 09 09
Peas Hill air raid shelter opens; large cavity under road shelters 400 people in converted wine cellars – photo – 39 09 09, 09a

1939 10 04
Cambridge business is experiencing a war boom with the influx of thousands of evacuees and fewer facilities for getting to London to shop. A feeling of optimism prevails among tradespeople who point out that although prices will rise in the near future it will not be due to profiteering on their part. The Paris House reports a flourishing sale in fur coats and higher priced merchandise while Mr Hensher of Peas Hill says his shop has been crowded by purchasers of black-out materials, blankets and bedding. Millers say gramophones and wirelesses are selling well and they expect a rush on pianos. 39 10 04a

1939 11 10

The first part of the new scheme for improving the Central library is complete. In the new lending department book shelves radiate from a central staff inclosure, providing more room and improved natural lighting. The old lending library will become the newspaper reading room while the old reference room will be used for magazines. An innovation is the transfer of the reference room upstairs to the old Education offices, entrance to which is gained through Peas Hill. Refugees, evacuees and any person resident in Cambridge are eligible as borrowers. 39 11 10

1939 12 08
A News reporter inspected all types of shelter and was impressed with the comparative comfort of the interiors. The person who looks for armchairs will be disappointed, but in some of the larger basements there is plenty of space to walk about and in some there is even central heating. Most shelters have been constructed to withstand any likely fall of masonry and air locks to keep out gas have been installed. The have been arranged within a short distance of areas such as the centre of town where there are usually considerable congregations of people. They are primarily intended for the protection of people caught in the streets in an emergency. None are now ready with the cellars under Peas Hill holding 400 people 39 12 08b

1940

1940 02 22
Robert Henshaw, furnishing fabrics, Peas Hill/St Edward's Passage: illustrated advert – 40 02 22a

1940 11 01
Peas Hill air raid shelter interior, showing old wine bottles – photo – 40 11 01b

1940 09 06
Death of Mr. W. H. Francis. A familiar figure in Cambridge, of which he was Mayor before the Great War, Mr. Walter H. Francis, passed away on Thursday at the age of 82. His home was at 3 Grange Road and he had been in failing health for some time. Since the death of his brother (Mr. Musgrave Francis) Mr. Francis had been senior partner in the Francis and Co., solicitors of Peas Hill

1950

1951 04 02
Unfortunately the sight of flies swarming over the fish on a fishmonger's slab is still a much too common sight in the summer. It always horrifies me to see food exposed to flies and dust from the street and likely to be fingered or breathed on by prospective customers. I am pleased to report that one of the new refrigerated display cabinets for wet fish has been installed by Mr F.O. Sennitt, Peas Hill, Cambridge. I understand it is the first local fish shop to do so. The shop has also installed a machine with the same system of refrigeration for poultry and dry fish, which will be welcomed by all housewives

1957 02 14
Six girls dressed in attractive costumes acted as hostesses as Dutch Dairy Week was launched at a reception where members of the local grocery fraternity they tasted a variety of cheeses. It was a pity that so many famous cheeses had gone out of production, among them the local 'Double-Cottenham'. A Dutch caravan will be stationed on Peas Hill where people can sample as much as they could take. 57 02 14

1959 05 05

Modern traffic problems have brought to an end a Cambridge tradition. David's Bookstall has occupied its site on Peas Hill on Saturdays for more than 60 years but recently the street has been turned into an area where the parking of cars is prohibited during the busiest time of the day. Motorists objected that the stall took up as much space as any car so Mr Ashley Hubert David was asked if he would move his Saturday stall to its weekday position on the market square. Many customers are indignant about the change. 59 05 05 & a

1959 12 17
There are a quarter of an acre of tunnels under Peas Hill which were used as air raid shelters during the War. They were wired for electricity, lavatories were installed and wooden seats fitted in the tunnel recesses. Oil lamps were kept close at hand in case of emergency. Quite a number of people used the shelter during day-time raids and some slept down there when there was night bombing. 'Roadsters' used them every night to sleep. They were terribly damp when first used but after a few days became quite comfortable. 59 12 17

1959 12 21
The controversy surrounding the Central Hotel in Peas Hill, which King's College want to knock down and replace by a new hostel for students has reached a new stage with the publication of a booklet. The St Edward's Committee was established when it was announced that the Central Hotel, a largely 17th-century building forming an integral part of a square around St Edward's churchyard, was to all appearances doomed. They believe it could be preserved and are pressing for a public inquiry into the proposals. 59 12 21c & d

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1960 01 08
King's College has replied to criticism of its plans to demolish the 17th-century Central Hotel on the corner of St Edward's Passage and Peas Hill. Whilst the Midland Bank premises are scheduled as an ancient monument, the St Edward's Passage premises are not. The College has considered eleven schemes for the site, some of which would preserve the façade, but the preservation of the interior was a hopelessly haphazard proposition. Their architect has taken infinite care to ensure the new building preserves the essentially domestic character of St Edward's Passage, says Noel Annan, the Provost. 60 01 08b

1960 02 10
The St Edward's Committee may launch a fund to buy the Central Hotel in Peas Hill and house students in converted rooms. King's College, the owner, says it would prefer to sell the building rather than undertake the work of preservation. The Holford Committee which suggested demolishing it has now decided to study the merits of the building 60 02 10

1960 03 24
Builders are now shoring up the interior of the Central Hotel in Peas Hill prior to demolition. Yesterday the Central Tea Bar, which occupied the corner of Market Hill and St Edward's Passage, closed and bricks were piled in front of its entrance. The Midland Bank will stay in the building although some changes will have to be made while the first phase is completed. The new building should be ready in about two years 60 03 24a

1960 04 08

A last-minute bid to save the Central Hotel was made too late. Fore builders are preparing for the final stage of demolition of the historic building in Peas Hill. 60 04 08

1960 11 26
Bus island in Peas Hill relieves traffic congestion outside Guildhall – 60 11 26

1962 12 07
John Shrive had osier beds at Horningsea and Fen Ditton until he died 40 years ago, employing five men to grow and cut them with bundles kept moist in the Green End ditch until needed. Most of the women of Fen Ditton were employed in peeling or cleaving on a casual basis, sitting on each side of the road with their bundles beside them. Stripped osiers were collected by horse and cart then taken to Mr Shrive's workshop in East Road where they were woven into baskets to be sold from his shop on Peas Hill. School reports up to 1912 list frequent absenteeism with children 'helping with rod peeling' 62 12 07a

1963 05 15
In 1869 William Weatherhead purchased the business of John Hatt, a bookseller and printseller in Union Street, now Peas Hill. Then in 1886 took over an established stationers' shop in Trinity Street. The two merged at his death in 1907, added a wholesale department and flourished until 1936 when they moved to its present premises in the Caius College development on Market Hill. Now it has been acquired by W.H. Smith 63 05 15a

1964 03 06
Alice Springs was named after Alice Bell, daughter of Peas Hill corn merchant – 64 03 06b

1964 04 02
The Mayor of Cambridge fed a parking meter on Peas Hill with a shilling "to make them hungry and ready to bite" as one official put it, and set the new parking scheme in motion. . Long queues of traffic soon formed in streets leading to the Lion Yard car park and motorists had some acid remarks about the meters. A moped rider complained about finding a ticket stuck to his bike with thirteen inches of sticky tape. From the number of excess charges shown on the meters the city coffers will soon begin to bulge 64 04 02b

1966 05 06
University Audio adds Record Shop to its high-fidelity audio. Peas Hill – 66 05 06

1970

1973 04 09
The Market Square ends of Guildhall Street and Peas Hill, Cambridge, were closed to traffic today as part of city council's plans eventually to make much of the central area into a pedestrian precinct. It is now possible to walk from Sidney Street to King's Parade without crossing a road. City surveyor, Mr Geoffrey Cresswell said that some motorists were still driving round Market Square attempting to get into Peas Hill. The present closure is officially regarded as only "temporary" - although it will last for possibly another two years - while rebuilding of the adjacent Lion Yard site is under way

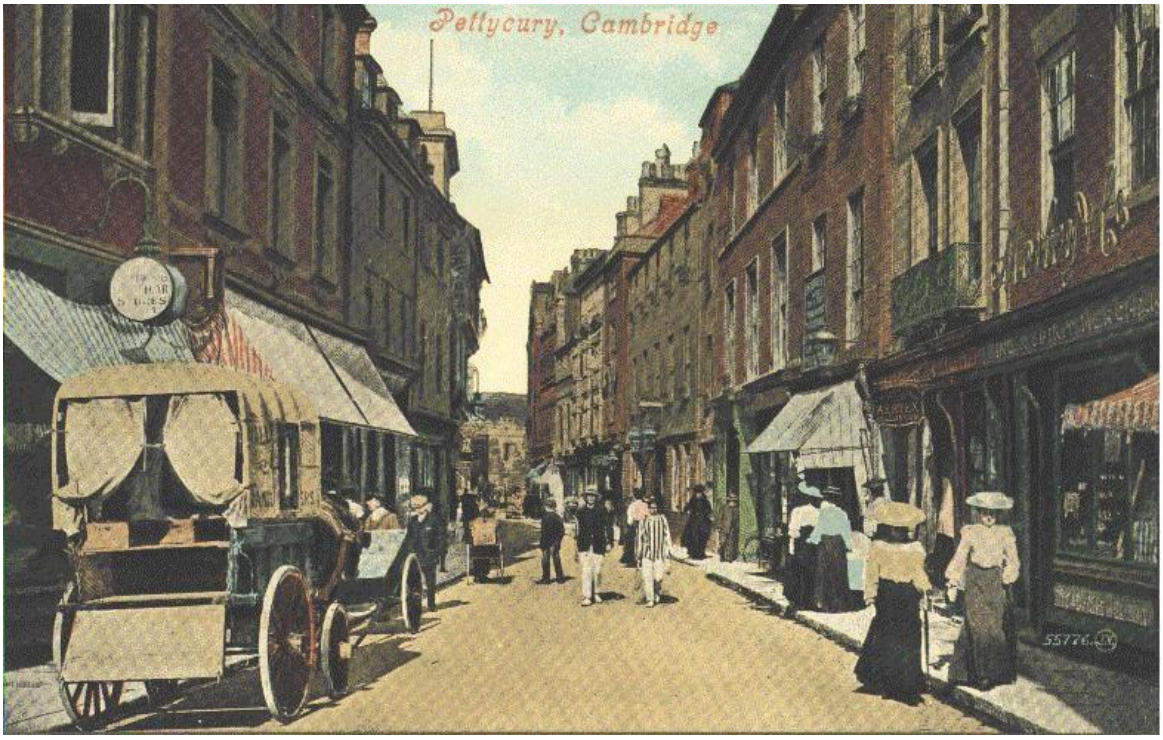
1979 03 05
The Mayor of Cambridge, Coun Alec Molt, faced 300 chanting cyclists outside the Guildhall and signed their petition demanding better provision for cyclists. The demonstration began with a lecture on road safety and bike maintenance by the police, then led by a Panda car, they took at

15-minute tour of the city centre streets before returning to Peas Hill to hear councillors' views. Their priorities include cycle lanes on the Huntingdon & Madingley Roads and a contra-flow cycle lane in Downing Street.

1980

1981 11 27
The first Cambridge tunnels dug under Peas Hill were used as wine vaults and one is blocked off by a wall of wine bottles cemented together. During the war they were wired for electricity and fitted out as air raid shelters for 400 people and later dossers used them as overnight hostels. In 1963 came proposals for an underground road starting at Maids Causeway and running down Jesus Lane and Emmanuel Road. There was also to be a three-storey underground car park. But the scheme was rejected. 81 11 27

1989 11 06
A poll-tax protestor hurled a petrol bomb through the window of city council offices in Peas Hill and daubed 'No Poll Tax' in red paint on the wall and doors 89 11 06
1990 03 13
University Audio founder Gruffydd Reece started University Cameras in St Mary's Passage after leaving the RAF in 1945. The business expanded and he opened Fencolour Laboratories in Newmarket Road, one of the first to offer colour developing and printing for amateurs. He was later joined by his brother Hugh and cousin Bryan Hyam who started University Audio in Peas Hill – 90 03 13



Petty Cury c1905 01.05

c.44.6 : Petty Cury

1898 05 09
Still the merry burglar enjoys his nocturnal pleasantries in Cambridge. Instead of going to the seaside for "Saturday to Monday", the latest investigators prefer a weekend in the clothing and spirit establishments of Dale brothers, Petty Cury, where they may satisfy alike their pockets, their interiors, and their sartorial fancy. Both the outfitting establishment and the wine and spirit store were left in their usual security on Saturday night, due attention having been paid to doors, windows, etc. Therefore the enterprising gents sometime between closing time on Saturday and daylight on Monday made their careful way down the back passage from Alexander Street and effected an entrance to the clothing establishment from the rear.

1898 07 05
George Stace, draper, of Petty Cury, Cambridge, was summoned for employing Kate Ladds after eight o'clock contrary to the Workshops and Factories Act. She said she was 17 years of age. On June 4th she began work at nine o'clock in the morning and finished at 9.20 at night. She was not paid anything extra for the overtime. Out of the time mentioned she had an hour and a half for meals. She said some of the employees in the showroom began at 8.30. On this particular night she was making a hat that a lady wanted home that night. Mr Stace was not a hard taskmaster and was not sweating the girls he employed. He was fined one shilling.

1898 07 25
George Baynes, proprietor of the newly opened wax works exhibition in Petty Cury, Cambridge, was summoned for carrying on his show without the permission of the mayor. Dr Cooper (looking at the wax works programme): I see this is a regular chamber of horrors Sergeant Baker

said he had told the defendant he was liable to a penalty of £20 and advised him to close the show. The defendant however said he did not think it was necessary as he had a similar show eleven years ago without permission. He kept the exhibition open till 10 o'clock and a large number of persons visited it, the crowd causing great inconvenience in the street. The bench inflicted a fine of 20s.

1898 07 26
A meeting in connection with the proposed Cambridge Ice and Cold Storage Company was held at the University Arms Hotel. A central site had been secured at Petty Cury and they had customers both for ice and cold storage. The two biggest firms in Cambridge had agreed to have cold storage, beside many other gentlemen, and they would have orders for eleven hundred tons of ice for the first weeks working. Some hundreds of shares were taken up before the meeting ended.

1898 12 17
A stroll through Petty Cury, Cambridge and a glance at the shop windows of Boots Limited gives a good idea of the effort which this firm has made to cater for all tastes and all classes in the selection of Christmas presents. The windows have been dressed in a most skilful and artistic fashion and they look very effective. Articles of every conceivable description are on view and an inspection of the interior of the shop soon convinces one that for price and quality, the old adage, "go further and fare worse", very aptly applies. Those desirous of purchasing suitable presents for their cousins, their aunts, and sweethearts should pay a visit to Boots, in the Cury

1899 01 18
A fire which might have resulted in a very large amount of destruction broke out in Petty Cury, Cambridge. Mr Baynes, manager to Messrs Pollard and company, confectioners informed police constable Leonard Savidge at 1.15am that his wife could smell something burning. It was discovered there was a fire at the back of the adjoining shop occupied by Mr George Jackson, butter merchant. The constable ascended to the roof but was unable to get into the yard. Mr Baynes obtained some buckets of water from a tap on the premises and handed them up to him to pour on the flames. Acting sergeant Wright on going into Caxton Court from Sydney Street, found a ladder by which means he got over the wall and there found that a butter barrel, containing a quantity of paper was on fire. There was a considerable quantity of empty boxes and other inflammable goods about the yard and if they had become ignited there would have been disastrous results

1899 12 04
An ostler and an undergraduate were summoned for causing an affray by fighting in Petty Cury. P.C. Belling said he took them both into custody. On the way to the station the undergraduate was wrestled from his custody by another ‘Varsityman and his finger was injured. On returning to the Market Hill he saw the student with some friends and he admitted having escaped from custody. After the magistrates had deliberated they found the charges not substantiated and the case was dismissed.

1900

1900 03 09
The large ornamental advertising lamp which hung outside the Star and Garter, Petty Cury, Cambridge, all but cost Mr Ernest Simpkin, a tailor of Russell Street, his life this afternoon. He was walking along the Cury when a bus ran very close to the kerb. The top caught the lamp with such force as to bring it with a crash to the ground and one of the brass ornaments struck him on

the side of the head. He was conveyed in a hansom to Mr Lucas, surgeon of St Andrew's street for medical treatment.

1900 08 22
In 1885 a large cattle market was erected & shortly after some buildings were erected for providing refreshment for those who required it. These were very small & now the Star Brewery wished to erect a commodious hotel with 10 bedrooms which would be used to put up those who came to the market to buy cattle. At the present there was no accommodation for Irishmen attending the market. Many come on Friday night with their stock & it was necessary for them to be constantly attending to them. It would be put a considerable way back from the road and have space for 50 to 70 horses. The nearest hotel was the Great Northern but it had only a few beds so they had to go to the Red Lion in Petty Cury. 00 08 22

1900 09 07
At Cambridge police court a girl of 11 years of age was charged with stealing various articles of food, salmon and shrimp paste, tea, herrings, potted ham and preserved peaches from the shop of Messrs Hallack and Bond, Petty Cury. The Chairman said she was very young and the Magistrates felt she had been more sinned against than sinning. Her mother was evidently not a fit person to have charge of her, and she would therefore be sent to a reformatory for five years. They hoped at the end of that time she would be a better girl. The mother was sent to prison for three months with hard labour.

1902 04 29
Outside Cambridge police court there was an air of suppressed excitement. As soon as the doors of the court were opened the space allotted to the public quickly filled. Hundreds were unable to obtain admission and eagerly waited outside for the chance of catching some details. A butcher from Petty Cury was accused of cheating and defrauding Caius College since January 1888. It was alleged t
hat meat was constantly booked to the college which was not delivered at all and the cook was supplied his own meat gratis.

1903 08 11
Sir – I believe a great number of antiquarians in Cambridge will learn with regret that the Falcon Inn Yard in Petty Cury has been removed to make way for modern improvements. So quietly has the old Falcon taken flight that I fear our local photographers have not secured pictures of the old buildings and its destruction has escaped even the lynx-eyed representatives of the Press. I am consoled that I have retained my water-colour drawing of this famous inn, which I made 25 years ago for 'Old Cambridge' – W.B. Redfern

1903 08 11
Our attention has been drawn to the fact that another link with the fascinating past of Cambridge is being severed by the almost entire demolition of the one-time famous 'Falcon Inn'. Many years ago the front of the building, with its fine old gables facing Petty Cury, disappeared and about eight years ago the buildings on the left side of the Falcon Yard were demolished to make way for business extensions. Now the rooms on the right side are in process of demolition for extra accommodation for the Lion Hotel. The back part possessing a small specimen of the open gallery remains

1903 08 12
Sir – the alarm about the old Falcon Inn, Petty Cury, being demolished unrecorded seems to me unnecessary. Certainly within the last 40 years I have sent out almost as many drawings of it, to

say nothing of the etchings. It, with the old Wrestlers Inn, has been a small gold mine to me. One noticeable thing I might mention: it was the last inn to hang out a flag as a sign that the recruiting sergeant was at home – Robert Farren

1903 12 23
Cambridge architect Edwin Bays has produced a plan for a new 60 feet-wide road from Downing Street to Guildhall Street, parallel to Corn Exchange Street. This would create valuable frontages for business premises on either side and lead to a site for a new Cambridgeshire County Hall. There would be a fountain to take off the nakedness of the wide entrance at St Andrew's Hill, replacing the old Corn Exchange. It would relieve the congested traffic in the narrow Petty Cury and provide a direct access to the chief colleges

1904 01 02
The Eastern Vacuum Cleaning Company has cleaned two of the large rooms, the coffee room and the commercial room, of the Lion Hotel in Petty Cury, Cambridge and the result is remarkable. The carpets are rich, large carpets, so large in fact as to be almost unwieldy under the old method of beating, but under this system they have been cleaned in the most perfect manner and not a particle of dust can be found. Out of one carpet 28 lbs of dust and dirt was extracted and now the whole of the hotel is to be dealt with in similar manner

1905 05 02
An outbreak of fire occurred at the premises of Messrs Hallack and Bond, wholesale grocers, Petty Cury, Cambridge. About 11.18 pm smoke and flames were discovered issuing from a store room. The alarm was at once given and the horsed fire escape, tender and hose cart were soon on the scene. With the aid of one hydrant, the inmates of the building and the firemen succeeded in extinguishing the outbreak just in time to prevent a serious conflagration 05 05 02b

1905 08 26
Sir – I wish to protest against an act of vandalism. The fine sight of Cambridge from the corner of Petty Cury with the stalls, old fountain and University Church has been ruined by the erection of a lofty 'stink pipe' in the middle of the Market Place, cutting the east window of the church in half. Why could this not have been run up the side of the Guildhall where it would not have been such an eyesore? – Cantab. 05 08 26c

1906 01 13
When the election meeting at Newnham concluded the candidate's carriage was drawn to the Conservative Club followed by a procession which included a couple of motor buses. Just as it reached Cambridge Market Hill a similar procession of demonstrating Liberals poured out of Petty Cury. These two bodies of citizens conceived an intense dislike for each other, shouting vigorously. A little later there was an exhibition of fisticuffs in Sidney Street 06 01 13

1906 01 16
The polling box from Norfolk Street was the last to arrive at Cambridge Guildhall and with it came the story of a tactful police inspector who had piloted the carriage containing some hundreds of votes through a Petty Cury crowded with excited partisans. Inside the ballot papers were counted and it became known that Mr Buckmaster was elected. Mr Paget, with the generosity of an English gentleman, shook his hand and congratulated him on the victory 06 10 16b

1906 03 03

Sir – for the past two Saturday afternoons a young Freshman has been disporting himself on a motor bicycle, making a circuit of the main thoroughfares of Cambridge, starting from Jesus Lane and ending at the Catholic Church, taking in Petty Cury and the Market Place. Being market-day the already too-congested streets are filled with many country folk, ladies and children, both on foot and on bicycles. He evidently likes to hear the sound of his hooter and the stench from his machine is disgusting. L.P.C. Macquaid. 06 03 03

1907 04 25
George Stace, draper and milliner of Petty Cury claimed payment from Charles Sugden, the well-known actor, for goods supplied to his wife in July 1903. It was custom to make out bills to the lady who had paid some money on account. Mr Sugden said he had been in America and not given her any authority to pledge his credit, she had her own income. But Elizabeth Thorpe, manageress in the mantle and gown department, remembered him coming into the shop with her. 07 04 25

1908 08 28
Great blocks of glittering, iridescent ice are manufactured on the site of the Falcon Inn, Petty Cury, every hot midsummer morning. Mr J.V. Pryor, the fish-monger has installed plant for this modern miracle and the shrill insistent note of the dynamo is joined by the plunk-plunk of the gas engine exhaust. Like the flying machine, the ice factory is at present only in its infancy and the plant is expensive but the method of manufacture is simplicity itself, taking 50 hours to produce slabs weighing two cwt apiece and makes more than Mr Pryor needs for his ordinary fish business.
CEN 08 08 28 p3

1908 09 11
Petty Cury has been closed to vehicular traffic during the operation of replacing the Val de Travers cement that was removed to admit the underground telephone wires. This work by Italian workmen has been watched with much interest. The material in the form of steaming hot powder is placed on its concrete bed and rammed and levelled with hot irons. The rapidity with which the stuff hardens and becomes fit for use is quite remarkable. CWN 08 09 11 p5

1909 02 12
Ladies who study their figures will do well to inspect the new designs in corsets exhibited at the show rooms of Messrs W.K. Vawser and Son, Petty Cury. Specially designed corsets are prepared for the Empire and Directoire style of gowns. Ladies will be delighted to find just what they need among the lovely models of the French I.C. a la Persephone corsets which are suitable for the slender willowy figures. The Adjustment for stouter figures, needing greater support, is an ideal corset, price 17s.6d. (85p). 09 02 12

1909 03 19
Mr W.B. Redfern's unique collection of watercolour drawings of old Cambridge excited great interest. In 1875 he started to record places of bygone and antiquarian interest which but for his timely intervention would have been lost for ever. A good many had now entirely disappeared including two houses in Shelley Row which were the residence of Oliver Cromwell during the Civil War. They were panelled with two handsome fireplaces which he had moved to his own house. Old houses in Petty Cury were the most striking and perfect places which should never have been pulled down while parts of the Falcon Yard had remained until the last few years. 09 03 19

1910

1910 07 01
Licences for: Bassingbourn Beerhouse in the fen, Meldreth Green Man, Fulbourn Coach & Horses, Chesterton White Horse, Cottenham Boot, Fen Drayton Horse & Gate, Longstanton Red Cow, Milton Three Tuns, Shelford King William IV, Shudy Camps Chequers, Linton George & Dragon. Cambridge Star & Garter Petty Cury, Cardinal's Cap, Crown & Anchor, Borough Boys, Ship, Merry Boys, Prince Albert, Oxford – all refused. Melbourn White Lion & Swavesey Little Rose renewed 10 07 01 & a

1914 03 06
The London, City and Midland Bank opened a new branch in Petty Cury next door to the Head Post Office. The offices are handsomely fitted up; the counters and doors are of fumed oak and the electroliers and other fittings are of brass. The walls are panelled and the floor paved with tessellated marble. The exterior is finished in freestone with marble columns and the offices warmed by hot water radiators and lighted by electricity. 14 03 06a

191406 04
An alarming accident happened in Petty Cury. Outside Mr A.E. Nichol's shop at the corner of Guildhall Street there are large incandescent globes suspended. One of these globes, which was illuminated, suddenly collapsed and struck the pavement with an alarming crash. The street was crowded at the time and it was marvellous that no one was hurt. The globe fell at the feet of a bystander who luckily was not injured, though glass was scattered in all directions 14 06 04 p9

1916 09 27
Heroes – photos: Tyler, Whitehead, Kent, Watts, Chanter, Christmas, Northfield, Hines, Newman – 16 09 27a
Tribunal – includes: conscientious objectors; Palmer, hatter, Petty Cury; Stockbridge, antique dealer; Ellis Merry, mail contractor; University Library assistant in charge of periodicals and binding – still obtained from Germany - 16 09 27b

1917 12 26
Margarine Queues - The queues, which have been getting larger day by day in Petty Cury, assumed such alarming dimensions on Saturday that one person at least was injured and others fainted. Margarine was the chief commodity sought, a supply having been delayed the day before owing to the fog. The Borough Food Control Committee took commendable action to consider how best to relieve the situation. They suggested that traders should transfer their stocks of margarine to the Corn Exchange and sell it there, and the Committee would give them every facility; they also suggested the margarine should only be sold in 1lbs, or multiples of 1lb. Some was transferred and between 2 and 4 o'clock 1,000 transactions in margarine had taken place. The people were arranged in queues outside the hall. The margarine was put up in 1lb and 2 lb packages, the limit to each person being 2 lb. Everything went off without a hitch

1920

1920 03 03 Domestic Hazard of Petty Cury profiteered over wash-board – claim

1920 03 23
Property sales 56 years ago – no.1 Market Hill, Petty Cury including Boots site

1922 06 16

A labourer of 1, Derby-road, Cambridge, was summonsed for not having control over a horse attached to a cart in Petty Cury. P.C. Keeble said that the horse was left unattended for 20 minutes. The horse was later found at the end of Guildhall-street having apparently wandered there on its own. It was apparently making its way to the police court (Laughter). Defendant said he had been driving the animal for a number of years and had not had any trouble with it. He was fined 5s.

1924 08 06
A sturgeon which was caught in Hemingford Grey Mill pit was the subject of interest to a number of spectators at the MacFisheries depot in Petty Cury, Cambridge. It is understood to be the largest fish that has been caught in the locality for some years past. It weighed 185 lbs, was 8ft ½ inch in length, measured 38 inches round the girth and was 19 inches across the tail. It is though the fish reached so high up the river owing to the recent floods. The tail, fins and certain parts of the intestines were removed to the Zoological Laboratories and portions of the flesh and skin will be returned to Hemingford Grey

1925 01 19
Petty Cury and Market Street, Cambridge, today commenced their career as one-way streets with the object of relieving congestion in these streets whose narrowness has ever been the subject of discussion. Petty Cury will only be used for vehicular traffic towards Market Hill. At present these regulations do not apply to bicycles. A policeman agreed that someone was bound to make a mistake – "It wouldn't be Cambridge if they didn't", he said

1925 02 06
Cambridge council considered the application of Mr J. Sanders of Petty Cury, seedsman, for a licence to sell certain poisonous weed-destroyers, vaporising compounds and insecticides. It had been said they must not allow seedsmen to sell these compounds because people might buy poisons in order to kill their wives. (Laughter). It was not much good buying them from a chemist unless he had expert knowledge of gardening, whereas a seedsman could advise on their best use in the garden. The licence was granted

1925 06 20
The "one-way" traffic system in Petty Cury, Cambridge, has now been in force for so long that most people have come to regard it as a settled thing, but the regulation has to be formally approved by the Minister of Transport. The only criticism is that ordinary bicycles should be included in the term "vehicular traffic" but the Chief Constable takes the view that to prevent these riding both ways as at present would cause more trouble than the change would be worth.

1925 07 07
The Ministry of Transport inquiry into the one-way vehicular traffic scheme in Petty Cury & Market Street, Cambridge, was held in the Guildhall. There was a very small attendance. Cambridge suffered, in common with other old towns, from the traffic problem. There had always been a great deal of traffic in these streets and the congestion was very serious. Both streets were used by motor buses. There were no objections but a great body of people wanted the regulation to cover bicycles as well as other vehicles.

1925 12 01
Sir – The scenes on Sunday night in Petty Cury & Market Hill, Cambridge are disgraceful. Low hobbydehop youths and flat-chested flappers congregate and parade, whistling and shouting after each other and using language that would shame Billingsgate. Surely the police can put an end to such disgraceful proceedings – A.E.C.

1925 12 05 c
Sir – I must thank 'One of the flat-chested flappers' for corroborating my remarks as to the disgraceful conduct of the motley mob to be found in Petty Cury on Sunday nights. I should not advise anyone, particularly a young lady, in search of fresh air, to visit the Cury then, for the atmosphere is 'too blue' to be healthy, and reeks of cheap cigarette smoking, indulged in by ill-bred youths and flappers alike – A.E.C.

1926 10 09
Strawberries in October! Such a sight in the front window of Sambridge's in Petty Cury, Cambridge, promoted a CDN representative to ask some questions. They were grown within 15 miles of Cambridge on one of Messrs Chivers' farms and were picked that morning. In the future we may get English strawberries all the year round. Experiments are being carried on all over the country. And the strawberry season is reckoned to close in the middle of July! Life is full of wonders and disappointments!

1927 06 09
Cambridge Undergraduates took upon themselves the duty of opening "Joanna Southcott's" famous box on the Market Hill. A crowd of mammoth proportions assembled. A melancholy dirge was heard from Petty Cury and there appeared a party of pipers and following them in one of Dale's lorries came a weird array of 24 "bishops" and a delegation of "Mormons" wearing huge straw sombreros. One "archbishop" proceeded to open the box, producing several layers of red tape, a teddy bear, a pair of old football boots and a number of bananas with which he pelted the crowd. The "rag" was organised to provide funds for the Cambridge Fruiting Campaign to help strawberry pickers in the Wisbech area.

1927 11 17
Described as one of the finest shop sites in Cambridge, no.3 Petty Cury was offered for sale by auction. The shop, now in the occupation of Mrs Kemp as a toy and fancy warehouse, was offered with vacant possession and is freehold. The auctioneer mentioned the tremendous difference that would be made to the Market Square end of Petty Cury by the opening up of a big new shop at the corner. Bidding quickly rose to £7,350 but did not reach the reserve price and was withdrawn. Immediately after the auction it was sold privately.

1927 12 17
Cambridge Conservatives who, following the disastrous fire in Market Passage in November last year, have been accommodated in temporary club premises in Petty Cury, returned to the splendid new club which Phoenix-like has risen from the ashes of the old premises. As before there is a fine lounge billiard room with four tables on the top floor, and a fine lounge and smokeroom with secretary's office and card room adjoining. Two new rooms will be used as a reading and writing room and a committee room. The colour scheme is brown and buff. The ground floor is not yet complete but will consist of a large hall with a spring dance

1928 10 23
What is probably the largest single deal in Cambridge business property ever known has just been completed. A well-known local young man has purchased property with frontages in Market Hill, Petty Cury and Sidney Street and this will be developed by a company consisting of Cambridge people. It includes premises occupied by the Craft Shoe Company, the Cambridge Chronicle offices and printing works and Boots the chemist. As Messrs Boots recently secured a large amount of property in Petty Cury and Sidney Street it would appear that big changes will be seen in this part of town when both sites are developed.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1928 10 27
There is much speculation regarding the £42,000 Cambridge Market Hill deal; a large cinema and café are spoken of, but there are no details at present. It would be for the benefit of the town if the whole island site could be taken over by the Corporation; then as the leases run out it could be cleared and would provide a magnificent site for municipal buildings. Road traffic now demands that all building operations should be planned for what will be needed in the future, with a wider Petty Cury, Market Hill and Sidney Street. Something of the sort must eventually be done unless it is the intention to remove the Guildhall and market nearer the station.

1929 10 19
With the passing of Mrs Eliza Jane Mason of the Livingstone Hotel, Petty Cury, Cambridge has lost a prominent member of the restaurant business. She commenced business with a university lodging house on Market Hill which became known as 'Masons' and was converted into a restaurant. It was largely used by cadets and catered for the officers stationed here during the Great War. Almost the first Belgian wounded soldiers were billeted there and she acted as a sort of nursing mother to them. Her next move was to Sadd's before she bought the Livingstone Hotel which was then only a coffee house. It is now one of the best commercial hotels in Cambridge. She also built the Rendezvous, Magrath Avenue as a skating rink in 1909.

1929 11 06
Nearly thirty arrests were made during a Guy Fawkes 'Rag' on Cambridge Market Hill. Early in the evening an attempt was made to light at bonfire in Petty Cury and there was a considerable blaze in front of Falcon Yard before the police noticed it and it was extinguished. In Rose Crescent an effigy was soaked with petrol, stuffed with fireworks and deposited near the Market Hill end. This was quickly extinguished and the effigy confiscated, but the petrol continued to burn for a long time afterwards. A new feature of the scrimmages was the use of police whistles by undergraduates which added to the confusion.

1929 12 02
An interesting improvement scheme will shortly be undertaken in Petty Cury and Sidney Street. Messrs Boots the Chemist have acquired extensive property with a view to re-housing their old establishment which has grown during some 30 years. Now the time is ripe to erect an emporium to provide an attractive shopping centre for patrons of all classes. The architect is Mr Percy J. Bartlett of Nottingham and his primary consideration is an external appearance that will harmonise with Cambridge's noble architectural traditions and raise the standard of commercial architecture. Building operations will commence early in the New Year

1929 12 05
Heffer's wonderful new shop in Petty Cury, Cambridge, is a book lovers' paradise. In the basement are 'remainders' at reduced prices while the ground floor is devoted to the latest publications and an extensive foreign literature section. A wide range of second-hand volumes occupies most of the first floor where connoisseurs of original editions will find much to interest them at prices from £5 to £250. On the second floor are oriental, foreign travel and fine art books while higher still are Heffer's own publications, many of local interest. There is a special reference department and out-of-print books service. The front design successfully combines and old-world impression with a modern style.

1930

1930 01 15

From modest beginnings in Fitzroy Street the history of the House of Heffer is one of continuous progress. The Printing Works on Hills Road has been considerable enlarged, last year saw reconstruction of the Petty Cury Bookshop which is now twice its original size, and this year sees the reconstruction of the Sidney Street Stationery and Art Shop. It will be a shop worthy of its central position. The new premises will have five floor, the frontage will be in the Georgian style with pilasters, fascia and columns of grey polished granite and the upper part will be faced with red Flemish bricks with Weldon stone dressings to the windows. A unique feature will be the Picture Gallery on the third flood with a barrel-shaped ceiling

1930 03 08b
Petty Cury demolition, p8*

1930 03 22
There never was a time surely when there were so many works of destruction going on as at present. Little bits of old Cambridge are going one by one and elaborate new buildings are rising up in their place. Following demolition in Petty Cury and Sidney Street now we see old houses and shops in Sussex Street being knocked down. No wonder that those who come back to the town after a few years' absence express amazement at the changes they see. When we think of the bridges built at Newnham and Chesterton, of the streets that have been widened, the new recreation ground opened and the great business changes effected in the heart of the town we may well gasp. 30 03 22 a & b

1931 12 25
Cambridge Rabbits' Cricket Club, formerly Heals, held their annual dinner at the Corner House Café, Petty Cury. They had enjoyed a most successful season and were thoroughly established and well-known. Mr D. Burton further showed his generosity by offering to present yet another cup for the most outstanding bowling performance of the season. His cup for the most outstanding performance went to Mr R.P. Fuller. 31 12 25d

1932 03 01
P.C. Woolf stated that while on duty in Petty Cury he saw some water thrown from a first-floor window of the Lion Hotel. He visited room 36 where he noted the curtains were soaking wet. The defendant said he had been spending the evening with his friends who had been drinking whiskies and sodas. Being a teetotaller himself, but not wishing to offend them, he had thrown his drinks out of the window. He was fined £1. 32 03 01

1932 10 28
John Yeomans came to Cambridge at the age of 19 in 1857 and purchased the shop at the corner of Petty Cury and Sidney Street from Mr Lyons where he carried on business as a chemist for 40 years. He had a vivid recollection of events: he knew George Stephenson personally and was a passenger in the first railway engine to run in England. 32 10 28e

1933 11 17
Joel Smart was the son of a Gloucestershire cloth manufacturer. Coming to Cambridge shortly after the battle of Waterloo he commenced business at 59 Bridge Street in 1826, removing in 1840 to Petty Cury and in 1853 to 11 Market Street. Here he purchased the clothing business of Watson Taylor who had been trading from early in the century. He took his son, Charles, into partnership, in whose family the business still remains. Such is the history of one of the oldest firms in Cambridge where customers will find all the latest materials and the most fashionable styles at keen prices. 33 11 17

1934 02 15
A blindfolded motorist drove through Cambridge at the height of the rush hour as people made their way home to lunch. Professor Popjie's claims that he has 'second sight' enabling him to sense anything in the way was tested when a pedal-propelled invalid chair caused him to slow somewhat abruptly He threaded his way through traffic down Petty Cury, round the Market and back to the New Theatre where he is appearing with his electrical figure 'Radiana'. 34 02 15

1934 08 02
Councillors considered a scheme for compulsorily purchasing the old Post Office on the corner of Petty Cury and other properties in Sidney Street to widen the road. Cambridge could not progress unless it spent money. Money was never cheaper: the banks were bursting with it. There were the materials, the men and the money available for the work. But having compulsory orders hanging over the properties would influence the price they could be sold for. 34 08 02

1934 09 21
Messrs George Stace's new windows in his Petty Cury Arcade are absolutely the latest idea. They curve inwards to reduce reflections making the glass invisible. Spotlights inside, which can be given any colour, provide the perfect finish and one feels one has only to reach out and touch the articles. Showrooms upstairs have been reconstructed and one of the workrooms moved to make space room for the new arcade. 34 09 21

1935 04 10
Corporation proposals for the widening and improvement of Sidney Street and the lower part of Petty Cury met with vigorous opposition. In 1922 they had taken powers to prescribe frontage lines and in 1924 when Messrs Woolworth's and Sainsbury's came to Cambridge they agreed to set back their premises and gave the land to the Council. Various other places were reconstructed and now the frontage line had been prescribed from Sainsbury's to Millers with the exception of Almond's and the Prudential Assurance Company. The Surveyor said the street was urgently in need of widening to cope with increased traffic. The Livingstone Hotel had been carried on in Sidney Street for 30 years. Under street widening proposals they would be left with the second, third and fourth floors which they could not get at at all. It was used by travellers who could not afford more expensive hotels. 35 04 10 & a, 35 04 11

1935 07 27
Belisha Beacons have now been installed in Cambridge, whether we like them or not. They are on Market Street corner near Sainsbury's, between Christ's College and St Andrew's church, near the Midland Bank in Petty Cury, the 'Jolly Waterman' on Victoria Avenue and between Christ's Pieces and New Square. It is just as well the undergraduates are not here to see their erection. Perhaps we shall all have become thoroughly accustomed to them where our young friends come up 35 07 27b

1935 12 17
If you are hard up for ideas for gifts, visit Samuels in Petty Cury. The manager produced an Everite 'King' watch and threw it on the floor. It did not hurt it – a similar watch was dropped from the top of Big Ben and was still going when picked up. Diamond rings are available at prices up to forty shillings and the latest for a lady's handbag is a combined flap-jack and cigarette-lighter. Canteens of cutlery, eminently suitable for wedding presents, are priced from fifteen shillings (75p) 35 12 17a

1936 01 18

As the Guildhall is being reconstructed the Cambridge Education Committee met in the old Post Office on the corner of Petty Cury. The large hall on the ground floor where the public business of the Post Office used to be transacted has been cleared of the counters, screens and telephone boxes and converted into a committee room. Unfortunately the CDN reporters found the acoustic properties very bad. It is never easy to follow the remarks of some of the members of the Committee and hearing was rendered doubly difficult by the roar of traffic outside. They dragged their table nearer but even then the noise of the traffic was an easy winner. 36 01 18

1936 02 04
Mrs A.A. Moyes' charming, pleasant nature was well-known to countless visitors to the Lion Hotel in Petty Cury hotel. Her memory was outstanding: many commercial travellers recall how she could take up a conversation practically where it had been left off, even after many months. Undergraduates had the greatest respect: even during the liveliest of moments she was able to quell impending trouble without outside assistance. She had the present glass roof put above the former courtyard, which was used for traffic up to 1907. Now the family have severed their links with the hotel after over 80 years. 36 02 04c

1936 03 28
Under new restrictions Cambridge motorists may not travel from Market Hill towards Trinity Street or into Bene't Street from King's Parade. You may not drive into Sussex Street from Hobson Street or into Corn Exchange Street from Downing Street, nor turn at Burton's Corner, Petty Cury to go to the Victoria Cinema or from Wheeler Street into Peas Hill to get to the Arts Theatre. But cyclists may walk with their bicycles either way as they do at present in Petty Cury and Market Street. Restaurants will have to speed up their service if they wish to cater for those who leave their cars outside, for only a quarter of an hour is permitted. Travellers who do not want to get indigestion had better make use of a parking space! 36 03 28b

1937 10 19
The Mayor opened a model anti-gas room at Boot's shop in Petty Cury. With the disturbed state of international politics the company was anxious to help people to retain a sense of proportion concerning air raids. Any room could be made gasproof at a trifling cost. It had been tested under the most severe conditions with war gas. The Home Office Air Raids Precautions Department welcomed the initiative. If people took the simple precautions suggested they would be able to deal with the emergency quite successfully. 37 10 19b

1938 03 05
Part of Sidney Street was closed to traffic following the development of a bulge in the front wall of the premises of Austin & Co., coal merchants. The bulge is sufficiently marked to be easily visible. Last night crowds gathered in the expectation that the wall might fall, but they were disappointed. In shops on either side it was a case as 'business as usual'. Traffic has been diverted via Petty Cury and St John's Street while builders work on the affected wall 38 03 05 & a

1938 10 21
A.R. Nichols and Son, butchers on the corner of Petty Cury and Guildhall Street notify customers that owing to building reconstruction in Petty Cury they are temporarily carrying on their business at their East Road shop and also at a stall on Market Hill 38 10 21

1939 02 23
No.7 Petty Cury, comprising a double-fronted shop in the occupation of Messrs Lipton, the upper floors providing part of the bedroom accommodation of the Lion Hotel was offered for sale by auction. Shop property in the heart of the shopping centre of Cambridge seldom came to market

by public auction and formed an excellent purchase for occupation, speculation or investment. It would be very difficult to find a much better investment. Demand was especially keen in Cambridge where the best shopping area was limited owing the centre being 'horseshoed' by college buildings. But it failed to reach its reserve and was withdrawn at £11,750 (about £650,000 today) 39 02 23a

1939 04 21
The Victoria Friendly Institution was inaugurated at a meeting at the Wrestlers Inn, Petty Cury in 1837 and the foundation stone of the old building laid in 1841. A programme and a number of coins were also placed in a bottle. But there is no trace of them. Now six houses have been erected to mark their centenary, providing happiness for those fortunate enough to be elected tenants. It was a great satisfaction to know there were such places in which people could spend the eventide of life 39 04 21

1940

1940 01 27
Margarine queue in Petty Cury, photo taken Jan 28 1918 – 40 01 27d

1942 12 21
Baby girl abandoned at Corner House Café, Petty Cury – 42 12 21

1943 10 09
Club for transferred war workers to be established at 8-9 Petty Cury to provide canteen and recreational accommodation for men and women, including washing and ironing facilities. Will be open 10am-10pm; an attractive meeting and resting place for workers who have come from away – 43 10 09

1943 10 29
Duchess Visits Hospital — An addition to the programme arranged for the Duchess of Kent's visit to Cambridge on Tuesday afternoon was a call at the American Red Cross hostel at the Bull Hotel. Earlier, after visits to Addenbrooke's Hospital and The Leys Annexe, the Duchess had tea with workers in their canteen at the new Falcon Club in Petty Cury. Her Royal Highness chatted with hospital patients, workers and American soldiers at the U.S. hostel in the course of her tour. She was accompanied by Lady Rachel Davidson. During the Duchess's visit to the children's wards at Addenbrooke's the behaviour of the little ones was exemplary.

1945 07 20
Old Post Office had been purchased about 1937 to give council control of improvements to the corner of Petty Cury; would have to be set back; might make ideal site for new library – 45 07 20a

1945 11 10
Council to buy Petty Cury properties adjoining old Post Office – 45 11 10

1947 07 30
Sir - When will something be done about the disgraceful state of the traffic in Petty Cury, Cambridge. I understood some time ago that steps were being taken to stop the parking of cars on the left side of this narrow thoroughfare. Far from this being done, it is now worse than ever. Saturday, with the exception of the entrance to the Lion Hotel there were 15 large cars parked from Sidney Street to Guildhall Street, and as prams and mail carts can only use the sidewalks,

pedestrians who venture on the street are taking serious risks of getting knocked down. Truly a street only fit for the quick or the dead - letter from W.M.F., Gt Shelford

1947 10 01
The Chief Constable (B.N. Bebbington) told Cambridge Rotary Club that he would like to see a scheme whereby traffic was banned - at least buses and heavy traffic - in the centre of Cambridge. "In Petty Cury on Saturdays there is insufficient room for traffic, let alone pedestrians. It would be more satisfactory if that central part of the town was for pedestrian traffic only. That is a sweeping thing to say and will not find favour in all quarters". Referring to criticism that the one-way traffic scheme soon to be introduced in the centre of town was "the wrong way round" he explained that it diverted from the town centre the large amount of traffic going to the station from the Chesterton direction and would encourage lorry drivers passing through Cambridge to take the route through the Backs. More car parks in the centre of the town were obviously a need, and there were plans in existence to provide them

1947 10 02
New premises, a new name and new services for Cambridge's British restaurant were marked by the attendance of the Mayor at an informal opening ceremony. The new premises are in the old G.P.O. building at the corner of Petty Cury. The new name is the Cambridge Borough restaurant, and the new services are a more varied lunch menu instead of the old "flat rate". The cafeteria system of serving is being introduced, by which you slide a tray along choosing your dish and pay when you have completed your selection. First to eat in the new premises were the workmen employed on the job who were entertained to lunch with a typical menu of cream of vegetable soup, roast beef and Yorkshire pudding, baked and boiled potatoes and cabbage, blackberry and apple tart and custard

1948 06 04 c
Sir - the one-way system has certainly created danger spots at the corner of St John's Street, Cambridge. They could be remedied by putting traffic lights there back into operation. The only alternative would be to divert all traffic into Petty Cury. Every user of Petty Cury will have to agree that it is already far too narrow even for the present volume of traffic - pedestrians are crowded into the roadway and bus drivers often have their work cut out to squeeze their buses through at walking pace. Short of some more radical plan (e.g. banning all motor traffic from the streets round Market Hill) I think the one-way system is as good as we shall get - A.E.B. Owen

1948 08 21
In one of Cambridge's worst danger spots, the closely-packed buildings of Petty Cury, the most serious fire the town has seen for two years broke out, damaging half of the stock of Messrs Montagu Burton, tailors. Firemen prevented the fire from spreading to adjoining shops but the whole of Burton's premises were gutted. Next door is Hutton's tailors where suits, coats and other clothing was covered by dust sheets to prevent damage from fumes. Burton's manager said "I went down in the cellar and saw the gas meter on fire and it was just like a giant blow lamp. We salvaged about half the stock". He added "I was flooded out at Jaywick a fortnight ago, and now ..."

1948 11 26
For the first time anywhere in the world, a new series of television was used to promote road safely at Cambridge. Traffic scenes on Market Hill were televised to the Accident Prevention Exhibition in the Corn Exchange. “Closed-circuit” as it is called is the latest development of the Cambridge firm of Pye Ltd. Two cameras were operated, one fixed to the balcony of the Guildhall and the other on top of a van at the corner of Petty Cury. Along this narrow, one-way

street, between 8am and 6pm approximately 7,000 bicycles and 2,000 other vehicles pass each weekday. The slow speed of the traffic and its one-way direction helps to keep the accident rate down

1949 01 05
Several Cambridge shops have their January sales in full swing. Messrs W. Eaden Lilley, Market Street, find that the possibility of the ending of clothes rationing is having a psychological effect. "People are inclined to be a bit rash with their coupons and the half-price, half-price coupon goods are going well". Messrs G. Stace, Petty Cury, have cleared some of their Old Look stock and a number of suits have been sold at a quarter of their price - £20 coats at £4.19s.6d. It was pointed out that the "shorter lady" scores, as some of the old length garments look new length on her

1949 09 06
Sir - None of our streets in Cambridge is wide enough to allow vehicles to be parked all down one side, as they do now. Petty Cury, on a Saturday especially, is almost a death-trap. The pavements are not wide enough for people to walk more than two abreast; therefore they walk on the road, thus giving bus drivers in particular a nightmare. This could be relieved to a certain extent if there were no vehicles parked all down one side. I suggest a big improvement would be the abolishing of all street parking and a municipal car park made on Midsummer common – Frederick Prior

1950

1950 11 25
A police cordon was thrown around central Cambridge following the setting off of the burglar alarm at H. Samuel's jeweller's shop in Petty Cury. The thief cut a hole through the ceiling of the arcade leading to the shop, broke the fanlight over the main door of the shop and climbed through. He made his escape over the roofs. Some articles stolen were taken from a showcase just inside the grille. Though price tickets on empty spaces showed that watches worth £10 had been stolen, one worth £21 had been overlooked

1951 03 08
An appeal against refusal of permission for Messrs. Maudes caterers of 25 Petty Cury, Cambridge, to erect a neon sign has been dismissed. The appeal related to the display of a vertical neon sign above fascia level on the front elevation of a dignified building. The Minister considers that notwithstanding the commercial character of the locality, the sign is out of keeping with the buildings of architectural and historical interest in the vicinity

1951 05 25
Petty Cury property sold, p7

1951 07 02
The announcement of the closing down of Messrs George Stace Ltd's Petty Cury store marks the closing of yet one more old-established firm that has filled a special niche in the local fashion trade for many years. The name had come to stand for a good, solid, middle class trade. It was not necessarily a smart one, but it met the needs of a definite section of the community. It catered for the matron, and for the essentially well-to-do family of both town and county

1952 10 03
Changed Cambridge – Petty Cury, p7

1954 01 20
Cambridge planners are contemplating the rebuilding of premises in Sidney Street to complete the road widening between Petty Cury and Holy Trinity Church. In 1939 the Essex Insurance Company agreed to rebuild nos 62-64 Sidney Street but owing to the war the scheme was postponed. Then in 1943 they sold no.64 to Messrs Boots who are now seeking planning permission for change of use and this is an opportune time for the scheme to go ahead.

1954 11 27
Cambridge assize courts should be moved to the City Library site at the Guildhall, councillors suggested. There might be some overcrowding on the first day of the Assize when all the prisoners, witnesses and jurymen in all cases had to be present or if there was a case that attracted particular public interest. But there would be a substantial saving in capital expenditure. For some time they had wished to provide new premises for the library as the Central Lending Library and Reading Rooms were no longer adequate; before the war there had been proposals to move it to the old Post Office building in Petty Cury

1955 03 05
Sir - While surveying the exterior of premises over the Mac Fisheries in Petty Cury, Cambridge, I observed a row of iron spikes attached to the fascia board of the guttering. I presume they were fixed for the purpose of breaking up the large banks of snow leaving the roof and ensuring a more 'equitable distribution' on pedestrians using the pavement below. Such fittings must be something of a rarity – perhaps more observant readers can mention other buildings still retaining these spikes and enlighten me on their history – D.W. Overhill. 55 03 05

1956 03 02
Plain-clothes men filtered among the packed crowd which had gone to the Lion Hotel, Petty Cury, to hear the boss of Britain's Fascists, Sir Oswald Mosley. But the atmosphere was very different from when he came two years ago. Then it was trouble all the way. This time there were more cheers than jeers. He argued that armed war was now impossible due to the H-bomb. 56 03 02

1956 12 01
Henekeys of Alexandra Street, Petty Cury give one shilling in the pound discount on three bottles of wines and spirits during December. A selection of prices: H.R.H. White Seal whisky 34/- (£1.70), Cognac 41/- (£2.05), Amontillado sherry 18/6 (92p), Liebraumilch Superior hock 10/10 (54p) and Veuve Grenier champagne 21/- (£1.05). 56 12 01a

1957 07 12
Lamp standard replaced by traffic bollards at corner Petty Cury – photo – 57 07 12

1959 01 13
Seven schemes are being considered for the Lion Yard area. It is felt essential for the financial success of the proposals that the redevelopment should embrace the existing property on the south side of Petty Cury from the Post Office to the Lion Hotel. It should extend over the existing car park to Downing Street and be linked with Emmanuel Street. The University are interested in obtaining access to the New Museums buildings on the west side of Corn Exchange Street, but this may not be practical. 59 01 13a & b

See separate section for more details on Lion Yard Redevelopment Proposals

1959 11 11
The proposed Lion Yard scheme provided for a pedestrians-only shopping precinct linked to Petty Cury, office space (to be offered to the University if needed), a new Emmanuel Road, the widening of Corn Exchange Street and an underground car park including space for 750 cars of which 230 would be for office staff. There would also be a new telephone exchange, an Inquiry was told. The scheme would be completed by 1965. 59 11 11c & d & e

1959 12 03
The Inquiry into the Lion Yard scheme was told that the Petty Cury frontage should be excluded from redevelopment: the present useful buildings would be preserved and the character of the street maintained. But Planners said they could not be adequately served as they lacked any rear access. Runciman's veterinary premises in Downing Street had been used for 150 years and were specially designed for the purpose. They have dealt with animals as small as a mouse and as large as an elephant. The proposed replacement buildings were incompatible with the character of Cambridge. 59 12 03 & a & 04 & 04a

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 01 16
So Cambridge must be destroyed. Country folk from the surrounding pastures have decreed that, just because she develops a bald patch on her Lion Yard. But even when Petty Cury has been rebuilt with modern materials the day must come when all the new buildings fall down. But by 2020 there will be no cars, and therefore no parking problems; only the original debt. No one can possibly question the integrity of the City Fathers: by their very selection they are men apart, towering above their fellows in mental and moral stature – C.R. Benstead feature 60 01 16

1960 09 07
The widening of the Market Street – Petty Cury area of Sidney Street will complement the part that was completed before the war when the Boots and Trueform buildings were erected. Some people feel that the road nearer Jesus Lane is a greater priority but the widened section by the two bus stops outside Holy Trinity will relieve traffic congestion. There is no intention of completing the process right through to Bridge Street says T.V. Burrows, the City Surveyor. 60 09 07

1961 02 11
The delay in Lion Yard redevelopment has meant that the Civic Restaurant on the corner of Petty Cury has been given a new lease of life. The dining hall has been brightened up and the provision of window curtains will give a finishing touch. A cosmopolitan note has been struck in an announcement over the scullery in English. French, German and Italian exhorting customers to return their plates 61 02 11

1961 04 14
Cambridge Civic Restaurant produces over 1,000 meals a day either for consumption in its spacious contemporary dining room or for the Drummer Street Mobile Canteen or W.V.S. Meals-on-Wheels service. The premises at the Old Post Office in Petty Cury may have to be demolished as part of the Lion Yard scheme but the Manageress, Mrs Gillett and her staff of 30, including Mrs E. Stubbings who has been vegetable cook for the last 18 years have become very attached to the restaurant and regard their customers as 'one big family' which needs feeding. 61 04 14b

1961 07 01

The Roe family has been well known in Cambridge since Joseph Roe started in the antiques trade in Petty Cury in 1826. Now one more facet of the old times will disappear with the demolition of their shop on the corner of Christ's Lane and St Andrew's Street. It has been in existence since 1882, having been rebuilt in 1897. New buildings will rise on the site in keeping with the contemporary Bradwell's Court. The business has relocated to Downing Street where it will be continued by Owen Roe. 61 07 01a

1961 07 03
Stanley Rose's old-established butchers is one of the few properties in Petty Cury remaining in private hands. He acquired the premises in the early 1930s, moving from a site in Market Hill which was then being demolished for make way for the new Guildhall where the family firm had been established for three generations. He is now retiring and the business will be transferred to W.J. Adkins, the local firm of butchers. The premises have been acquired by Messrs Peter Lord, the shoe specialists. 61 07 03d

1962 05 07
Mr Jack Cotton and Mr Charles Clore, the property millionaires, have bought the site of Heffer's from Emmanuel College on the understanding that the bookshop will be rehoused in any new redevelopment of Petty Cury. Their company, City Centre Properties, acquired the adjoining Lion Hotel site last year. The Director of Dolamore, the wine merchants, who hold the freehold of most of the corner with Guildhall Street, would not say whether they had also approached them. Recently this part of Petty Cury was included in the area scheduled for redevelopment. The firm also have an interest in the New Theatre site which is now being demolished to be replaced by a block of offices 62 05 07

1962 05 10
The clean-cut façade of the offices of Messrs Ellison & Co. show up well at the end of the little court in the passageway between the Lion Hotel and Heffer's bookshop in Petty Cury. The offices were acquired by the Clore-Cotton Group's City Centre Properties when they bought the premises occupied by Heffer's and the freehold of that part of the Lion Hotel formerly held on lease from Emmanuel College. The area is scheduled for redevelopment as part of the Lion Yard scheme. 62 05 10a

1962 06 01
Thieves last night cleared almost the whole stock of lightweight coats, suits and cocktail dresses from the upstairs showroom of Hutton, the women's outfitters in Petty Cury. Only clothes in the showroom window were untouched. Evening dresses were left heaped on the floor and bridal gowns left on their hangers, indicating that the thieves were disturbed. Police say the raiders carried bundles of dresses to a van parked in the narrow Alexandra Street near the shop. 62 06 01

1962 09 25
Bus wedged between parked lorries and scaffolding in Petty Cury – 62 09 25

1963 02 09
Afternoon shoppers in one of Cambridge's busiest streets scattered when a large piece of masonry fell from the top of a three storey building on to the pavement. Petty Cury was sealed off for an hour after an ornamental stone flower pot fell from the top of the building containing John Collier's outfitters shop and a Chinese restaurant. Fireman with a turntable escape ladder inspected another stone pot; it had hairline cracks but was left in position. 63 02 09b – photo 63 02 13

1963 12 09
Police will meet representatives of all businesses in Petty Cury to try to persuade them to stop deliveries by lorries to their premises during peak traffic hours. All loading and unloading could be banned between 9am and 6pm. It was an offence for vehicles to park on the pavement when serving shops and inconvenienced pedestrians. But police often used their discretion as otherwise congestion in the narrow streets would be chronic. 63 12 09

1964 01 01
Cambridge's chief constable has suggested city centre traders might equip their vehicles with radio telephones to ensure they arrive at convenient times for loading and unloading. Other suggestions include avoiding excessively large vehicles and depots for breaking down loads. It would help to alleviate the problems of loading and unloading vehicles in Petty Cury between 8 and 9.30 am and noon till two o'clock 64 01 01

1964 09 18
Liberals call for traffic-free Petty Cury – 64 09 18b

1964 10 22
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Petty Cury – 64 10 22

1968 11 25
Trinity College start new accommodation block on site of Matthews in Sidney Street releasing land in Petty Cury for Lion Yard – 68 11 25

1969 02 13
W. Heffer & sons open new children's bookshop in Trinity Street, plan to move main shop from Petty Cury – 69 02 13

1969 06 18
Petty Cury flower seller loses pitch with demolition of Lion Hotel, is built replacement site – 69 06 18
J. Lyons & Co sign Petty Cury to change – photo – 69 07 01a

1970

1970 12 08
Fire True Form shoe shop, Petty Cury was caused by candles used during electricity cuts – 70 12 08

1972 02 01
Councillor Gough-Goodman dines in Petty Cury as no entry experiment starts – 72 02 01, 01a1972 02 29

1972 02 29
Petty Cury reopens after experiment week of closure, firms concerned about delivery problems – 72 02 29

1972 03 18
Cambridge voted a big Yes to the permanent closure of Petty Cury in a survey. The results published today show that 92.1 per cent agreed that the closure had added to the convenience of

shoppers. There was also overwhelming feeling that the experiment should be tried on other roads. The most common comment was "Close the whole Market Square to traffic

1972 03 23
Petty Cury trial ban backed, p1

1972 06 05
Petty Cury, Cambridge, was closed to all vehicle traffic today and handed back to pedestrians for the second time this year. It is likely to stay closed to traffic for at least two years and perhaps permanently. The same city centre street was closed to traffic for a month's experiment in February which was rated highly successful. The whole of the southern side of Petty Cury will be demolished in the next three months and a new central library will appear within the next three years

1972 06 27
Although the war ended 27 years ago the little patch of Cambridge around Alexandra Street has a distinct 1940s look. In common with all the little alleyways off Petty Cury, Alexandra Street is in the throes of the Lion Yard re-development scheme. The old is being swept away by the demolition gangs to make way for the new and soon the whole face of the area will begin to change. The first phase of the project - the multi-storey car park - is due to open at the end of next week. Work on the second stage - the demolition of the southern side of Petty Cury and the building of shops and service roads on the Lion Yard - is already under way and is expected to take about two years. The third stage - the building of a large central library - will start soon after this, p17

1972 09 08
Verdict on Petty Cury, p18

1972 10 05
The bulldozers and demolition gangs may have ruined the character of Petty Cury and destroyed Falcon Yard forever, but for those who appreciate the past two crumbs of comfort: Fisher House was saved. Reprieve too for Ramsey and Muspratt, the photographers in Post Office Terrace, where silver bitch trees have sprouted in the old courtyard behind the studio. There have been photographers in Post Office Terrace since the 1860s. Lettice Ramsey and Helen Muspratt took over from Palmer Clark in 1933. "We took over the whole thing, lock, stock and barrel, with about 50,000 old negatives. We have been here ever since", said Mrs Ramsey, competing with the noise of a pneumatic drill. Now she and her women assistants battle through the noise and dust every day to maintain a "business as normal" service

1973 02 05
Cambridge's longest slogan - all 60 yards of it - spanning the Lion Yard hoarding along Petty Cury is likely to remain for some time. The slogan, which advertises the Cambridge Claimants' Union, exceeds even the anti-Vietnam banner erected on King's College chapel some years ago. The foot-high, spray-painted slogan proclaiming: "Fight for the right to live with Claimants Union, the union for all unemployed unsupported mothers, low paid supplementary pensioners, sick people" seems set to stay

1974 03 14
Lyons restaurant in Cambridge city centre is to close at the end of the week. It opened first as a tea shop just over 42 years ago in Petty Cury. Lyons said that the restaurant was closing because

of reorganisation within the group. A spokesman said: “The shop does not fit in with our plans for the
future”

1974 05 24
The former Lyons Restaurant in Petty Cury, Cambridge, is to be reopened in the autumn as a dress shop. Dorothy Perkins Ltd have been trying to get into Cambridge for some years. The restaurant which opened 42 years ago as a tea shop was closed because of reorganisation. At first the city council planned to investigate reopening it as a Civic restaurant. But their hopes were dashed when Lyons announced they had already sold the premises to a private buyer 74 05 24

1975 09 11
Princess Anne is to put the royal seal of approval on one of Cambridge’s most controversial schemes. She has agreed to open the multi-million pound Lion Yard redevelopment complex in December. More than four years have been spent in its construction. Expert critics are unhappy about the scale of the enterprise and its relationship to the previously intimate and recently pedestrianised shopping precinct in Petty Cury. There has also been adverse comment on the nature of the shopping development which, because of the high rents, has made it a virtually unattainable Shangri-La for local businesses.

1975 11 27
Petty Cury building, p5

1975 12 04
Princess Anne, making her first official visit to Cambridge, insisted on an impromptu chat with some of the thousands of sight-seers who thronged the city centre Lion Yard shopping centre. An estimated 10,000 people packed the Market Square and stood eight deep each side of Petty Cury as she walked into the new shopping centre. She stopped to talk to the delighted shop girls who were crowding their doorways and also to the eager shoppers who pressed forward to get a closer look at her. She explained: “I am not a complete stranger here because I have been shown around the university and city unofficially by two previous students who are both fans of the old city”

1977 02 17
What kind of shopping facilities will we see in Cambridge in the future? If recent events are pointers then the small operator will be replaced – just as quaint non-conformist Petty Cury was replaced with the corporate dullness of Lion Yard. The rents jumped enormously leaving the high mark-up multitudes – Golden Egg, Dixons, Van Allen, Etam, Chelsea Girl et al to take the units paying between £3,000 and £18,000 a year in rent. It meant that the variety of shops was reduced. If the Kite complex proposals were to see the light of day then an identical effect could occur.

1978 08 18
Jerry Bol, the popular Cambridge busker, was fined £2 as a result of the police crack-down on street vendors causing obstructions in the Lion Yard shopping precinct. Police said they counted a crowd of 67 people listening to his one-man-band. Mr Bol told the court he became a busker five years ago & since then had appeared in 25 TV programmes & films. “The children of Cambridge call me ‘Mr Music Man’ and I stand in Petty Cury for their safety. The Duke of Edinburgh and the Mayor of Heidelberg came to see me”, he told the court, & would pay his fine with £3 given him by well-wishers since his arrest.

1979 10 13

Cambridge Corn Exchange may be turned into a civic restaurant. The old one in Petty Cury was demolish amid a public outcry nearly eight years ago to make way for the Lion Yard redevelopment. It was started during the Second World War under the Government's British Restaurant plans for providing cheap meals and was continued by the council. It became something of a social centre and meeting place for many old people with nowhere to go during the day.

1980

1984 03 28
Sidney Archer, head chef at Emmanuel College started his career at 14 in the Pitt Club in Jesus Lane, then worked at the University Arms Hotel and the Red Lion in Petty Cury before going to Emmanuel where worked for 40 years. He specialised in sauces and fish dishes and was scheduled to cook lunch for the Queen when she visits in May as part of the college's 400th celebrations. 84 03 28 p4

1984 12 14
Salisbury's newly-restyled store in Petty Cury is just what Cambridge needs. It is one of their latest generation, combining fashion, function and fun. For many years the Salisbury name stood for leather handbags but perhaps mother and grandmother didn't carry so much around as girls today – maybe she didn't go out to work, read so much, do aerobics, jog, drive or make herself up as frequently! Now there are casual bags, executive cases and travel bags as well as umbrellas, hats and knitwear. From the moment the doors opened customers have been pouring in. 84 12 14a & b

1988 08 26
Girls were prettier and better dressed, 60 years ago, say former 'flappers' at an old people's home in Coronation Street. They never relied as heavily on make-up and let fresh air get to their skin. Laura Bidwell, 85, was a tender 17 in 1920 and never wore more than a touch of face powder and a smudge of lipstick which she bought from a small Boots store on the corner of Petty Cury. Beatrice Webb remembers wearing a lacy flapper dresses at a party. "You always had the proper rig-out then, with hat, handbag and shoes to match", says Alice Hodder, 91, 88 08 26

1989 11 07
Rumbelows, the television, video and hi-fi dealers are closing their branch in Petty Cury. The move, which follows the closure of Laskys in the Grafton Centre, signals the extent of distress in High Street retailing. The run up to Christmas ought to be traders' best period of the year. But with interest rates high and many potential shoppers reeling under the effects of increased mortgage payments, business is down. And Petty Cury is amongst the most expensive pitches in Cambridge. 89 11 07

Robes made for the King and Queen of Tonga by Jack Carter of Portugal Place, 1965

155.02

c.44.6 : Portugal Street

1900

1902 02 27
Everyone in Cambridge knows the Maypole in Portugal Place, kept by Mr Rowell, the renowned pedestrian who holds the championship of the world. They will be sorry to hear that Mrs Hetty Rowell has not been enjoying the best of health lately; in fact she has been suffering from disorder of the kidneys, for which she has been taking Doan's Backache Kidney Pills. "I have so much improved that I cannot speak too highly of the pills", she says. A free sample. Send 1d stamp for postage and a sample will be sent at once. Mention Cambridge Daily News – advert.

1909 10 22
A number of cyclists appeared in court for various offences. Undergraduates from Caius, Trinity and St John's Colleges were fined for causing obstructions with their bicycles. Geoffrey Clayton of Pembroke College was summonsed for wheeling his bike across Christ's Pieces; he said he was a Freshman and had not seen the warning notices. Harold Grace of Queens' was fined for a similar offence in Portugal Place as was Edgar Proctor, a tobacconist of Mill Road. Carey Palmer, a printer of Warkworth Street, was fined five shillings for riding a cycle with no lights on New Square. CWN 09 10 22

1930

1932 03 05
Magistrates refused to relicence the Bowling Green public house, High Street, Chesterton. The landlord said a billiard room had been re-decorated, he had regular customers and it had become more or less an institution. But there had been a decrease in trade, despite the growing estate nearby. The Maypole in Portugal Place was the headquarters of the Whippet Club; the tenant was 70 years of age and his only means of support would be the old-age pension. This together with the Alhambra in East Road, the Eagle Tavern beerhouse in Victoria Road and the Clarendon Arms was relicenced. 32 03 05 & a

1933 05 11
Portugal Terrace fire – 33 05 11

1939 01 02
Sir – During the last snowfall some bridges were a sheet of ice for a whole week and Garrett Hostel Bridge and Walk were never touched. Neither was any clearing done on Mount Pleasant, one of the most dangerous parts of Cambridge. More lorries are needed to cart away the snow which could be dumped on the Commons, rather than taking it miles to the river. And the by-laws should be enforced – residents in Portugal Street turned out to clear the snow but one of the worst lengths of pavement in Castle Street was in front of the Shire Hall. The unemployed or people receiving public assistance should be utilised 39 01 02

1940

1942 05 20
Birdwood Club for dependents of service people, children garden in Portugal Place – photo – 42 05 20

1945 02 16
No thriving licence. A resident of Portugal Place pleaded guilty to driving a car at Histon on January 13th without being the holder of a licence. The case was proved by W. R. Ison, Histon, who said that the defendant's licence had expired on March 1st. 1943. The defence put forward by Mr. Wild was that the defendant was a member of the Observer Corps, and had overlooked the fact that they did not cover him for a licence. He was fined 30s. 45 02 16

1950

1956 09 07
Portugal Place Lewis sketch – 56 09 07

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1961 12 01
Harper House in Portugal Place houses 10,000 books devoted to the British Empire. It started in 1919 with informal tea parties at which students met for cultural discussions. By 1921 these had become so popular that 'Cambridge University International Teas' and conferences were started. In 1940 Mrs Irene Harper formed the Birdwood Club open to British children whose families were 'not pacifists' and had some connection with the armed forces. The postwar years which produced a Motherland 'bewitched, bothered and bewildered about the Common Market' have thinned the ranks of the membership 61 12 01 & a

1964 06 05
Listed buildings may not be demolished but owners need not keep them in repair and they often deteriorate until they are condemned as a danger to public safety. Cromwell's barn in St Ives was a magnificent example of a 16th-century manorial barn but it was burn down because it became unsafe. In Cambridge many little cottages are disappearing behind scaffolding to emerge with a completely different character and price-tag. Some houses in Portugal Place and a tiny court near Sidney Sussex College are in danger but Orchard Street has been saved by the Preservation Society 64 06 05b

1980

1981 09 22
Jack Carter, the Portugal Place outfitters which has been hiring gowns, tails and dinner suits to students and townsfolk since 1937 is to close. Their lease, owned by Jesus College, has run out and the rent has trebled. The business has been hit in other ways – last year they sold just six gowns because colleges now buy their own supplies, and there are not as many formal functions as previously. 81 09 22

1981 10 09
The closure of Wards, means another long-established name will disappear from the streets of Cambridge. Recently Jack Carter, the outfitters in Portugal Place announced it was to close, before that Johnsons menswear shop in Sidney Street decided to end 150 years of trading and last year Walker Wallpapers, a family firm for nearly 60 years also called it a day. Reasons vary from rising rates and rent bills to increased competition or simply that the old family has run out of members. 81 10 09e

1986 01 31
The Gordon Fraser Gallery owes its international fame to very humble beginnings at a tiny shop in Portugal Street. There was little passing trade at the newly modernised bookshop-cum-art gallery opened by Gordon Fraser in 1936. But amongst the merchandise on sale were original Picasso etchings and drawings by Matisse and James Thurber. The breakthrough came during the war when he commissioned local artists to produce cards which were printed in Bedford. It was there that the Gallery grew into a major force on the greetings card scene. 86 01 31a

1986 07 24
Hawks Club wants to convert disused hotel in Portugal Place into meeting place – 86 07 24

1986 09 22
Jack Carter, the Portugal Place outfitters which has been hiring gowns, tails and dinner suits since 1937 is to close. The shop's lease, owned by Jesus College, has run out and the rent has been trebled. The business has been hit in other ways: last year they sold just six gowns because colleges now buy their own supplies and there are not as many formal functions as previously. The remaining stock will be sold off at the start of the new university term. 86 09 22b

1987 03 27
The world-famous Cambridge University Hawks Club, founded in the early 19th century, is to open in the city's up-market Portugal Place. It will turn the former Blue Boar Hotel's staff hostel into a club for the university's top sportsmen similar to the better gentleman's clubs in St James, London. Residents have expressed worries about noise and one councillor thought it wrong to

spend such money when Cambridge urgently needs student accommodation. But supporters say it is a 'very valuable little house' that would be exceedingly well looked after. 87 03 27b

1990 01 25
Today's squatters are usually the young and single who do not qualify to go on council housing waiting lists. But after the war couples with children occupied empty houses in Jesus Lane and Parkside that had been requisitioned by the army. Then one family moved into Nissen huts in the grounds of a house in Hills Road and another into a four-storey property in Portugal Place. From then on more huts or houses were occupied daily. Then pre-fabricated steel houses were erected in Lichfield Road and Trumpington. They were meant to be temporary but some were lived in until the 1970s - 90 01 25c

1990 10 08
Cambridge Robes made ceremonial robes for monarchs, bishops at Portugal Place since 1947; to close – 90 10 08b

Quayside
1910

10261

c.44.6 : Quayside

1892
Cambridge Electric Supply Company established, begin construction of power station at Thompson's Lane, Magdalene College objections unsuccessful [P14]

1897 09 04
An extraordinary general meeting of the Cambridge Electric Supply co. ltd was held at the Company's offices, Thompson's Lane, Cambridge. The chairman reported that their first capital had been £40,000 which had been spent on plant and the necessary things to equip the station. They had gone over that and had borrowed £2,250 from the bank. The business of the company was increasing and the capital must be increased too. Now was the time for shareholders to reap the reward of their enterprise if the use of electric light became universal in Cambridge 1897 08 04

1900

1902 03 20 c
Cambridge councillors considered possible sites for public baths, including Mackenzie Road, Quayside and Castle Street. The most suitable is Christ's Pieces. In order to provide a good swimming bath, length baths, a Turkish bath installation, together with boilers etc a sum of £8,000 would have to be expended, exclusive of the purchase of the site. £500 a year would be required for maintenance. In view of the half-hearted character of the public meeting they could not recommend expenditure of so large a sum of money

1902 09 29
A fire did considerable damage at 30 Bridge Street, Cambridge, a University lodging house situated close to the Quayside. The only fire in the house was a small one in the grate of the back

sitting room on the ground floor, but this room was not damaged. In the front room most of the furniture was consumed and the walls and ceiling badly burned. The fire broke out close to a gas pipe and although the grate contained paper, sticks and coal laid in the usual way, the fire only scorched the paper.
Sir – Cambridge Corporation have instructed all persons in the out-lying parts to telephone the Central Fire Station in case of fire. We in Chesterton are in a very awkward position. We have no telephones for public use. The nearest fire alarm post is at Quayside and one would have to walk, run or cycle there, and then fumble about in a very poor light trying to find out how to work the apparatus. We need a telephone call office instead. A doctor might be sent for, goods ordered from various tradesmen or one might even ring up his best girl – Philip Clare 12 04 19f

1920

1923 02 01
Speaking at the annual dinner of the Cambridge Motor Boat Club was held at Matthew's Café, Cambridge, the Mayor said he had often, when walking on the tow path, looked at the "motorists of the Cam" with envying eyes. He had thought what a lazy lot of chaps they were. (Laughter). But he had also thought what a jolly good time they were having. The Town Council had just become Conservators of the Cam. The Bill was an accomplished fact, and no doubt those present were looking to the Council to use a magic wand and make an ideal waterway of the river at once. (Hear, hear). If those who were motorists of the Cam could hand over to the Council about £20,000, he thought the Council could manage that. His recollection went back over 50 years when it was a highway of commerce. The quayside in Bridge Street was line up with 20 or 30 barges containing coal, stone, wool and food. A great deal of employment was found on that quayside; many hundreds used to be employed there

1923 11 21
Mr R C Pierce the manager of the Cambridge electricity Supply Company said that there was there had been three central generating stations built in 1891 of which Cambridge was one. They were built to prove that the turbines could work for in those days everyone was afraid because of the speed of the machine. The dynamos gave trouble and used to burn out at inconvenient moments. Cambridge started in 1892 and was run by very carefully trained men whose motto was "Never mind what happens, keep it going". Some people thought that the power in the town was very costly but it compared favourably with others of the same kind 23 11 21

1926 11 24
The Cambridge Electricity Supply Company is one of the oldest in the country, having been formed in 1892. It was the first in the world to adopt condensing steam turbines, now used everywhere in all large electricity generating stations. A suitable site for the generating station had to be found where large quantities of water for condensing were available and as the Corporation had insisted this should be within the Borough the site on Quayside was chosen. By 1900 the site was too cramped and is now somewhat obsolete. They must decide whether to provide an up-to-date generating station or purchase a bulk supply from elsewhere.

1927 07 07
The Conservators of the River Cam considered a scheme to make the river navigable for cargo boats up to the Quayside near Magdalene Bridge. Mr Banham had recently bought a vessel for conveying cargo and at present it can only come as far as Jesus Lock. There had been no traffic for years and the state of the river was very bad. There was a possibility that the river could be dredged but the Commons Committee had taken a lot of trouble to make Jesus Green a beauty spot and would not sanction the deposit being placed on the Common.

1929 02 14
For the first time since 1895 there was skating on the River Cam. A thick sheet of ice powered with white snow, stretched unbroken from Silver Street to the electric light works. It was too inviting to be resisted and several skating parties took advantage of it. Many undergraduates took to the ice in front of King's College and at Quayside a man was seen cycling on the slippery surface. However the ice bore and he neither came off nor went in. At Silver Street it was possible to cross to the mill on the ice but below Jesus Lock, where the dredges is at work, the ice was broken up by the flow and black pools and crevices had appeared in the thin surface.

1930

1930 03 31
Perhaps fired by childhood memories of Blondin, the famous tightrope walker, a young man attempted the perilous crossing of the River Cam in the wee small hours of the morning. Unfortunately his skill and possibly his sobriety were not equal to his enthusiasm. He first demonstrated his agility by climbing the lamp-post at the end of the bridge then wandered three paces along the parapet of Magdalene Bridge before sliding gracefully into the watery depths beneath. Although able to swim he was exhausted by the time he reached Quayside and it took the combined efforts of his companions and a policeman to get him out, wetter but slightly more sober. 30 03 31

1940

1945 05 02
Airman Saves Child. Prompt action on Sunday by an R.A.F. man saved the life of Janet Chapman, aged 2½, of 3 Gloucester Street, Cambridge, She was in a pram in charge of her elder brother near Quayside when it started to run down some steps and the child was thrown out of the pram into the river. Maurice Frederick Buy, the airman, dived fully clothed into the river, rescuing the child. After; treatment she was allowed to go home. 45 05 02

1947 12 03
It was a bewildering experience to visit the Cambridge Electric Supply Company's power station, Thompson's Lane, during one of yesterday's peak periods. Bewildering because of the steady hum of the generating plant, the mass of gauges and dials, the terrific heat thrown out as the inspection doors in the coal-burning "stokers" were opened and because of the comparatively small number of men engaged in controlling this veritable image of machinery. While the bulk of Cambridge's power is generated at the station a proportion comes off the nationally controlled "grid - 47 12 03

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1961 07 26
Scudamore's boat yard at Quayside is experimenting with a prototype fibreglass punt, the first of its kind in Cambridge. The red-and-blue punt with its yellow cushions is much livelier and virtually impossible to overturn or sink. Built in Hull it costs £110, the same as a wooden punt, but the cost of maintenance is much lower. If it proves a success there will be a gradual take-over from the traditional mahogany boats. Scudamore's already have several fibreglass dinghies and other boat yards have similar canoes 61 07 26

1962 01 02
Clearing snow St Andrews Street & dumping it at Quayside – photos – 62 01 02b

1965 07 08
Thompson's Lane power station to close March 1966 [2.2]

1966 04 01
Electricity power station Quayside wreathed in scaffolding prior demolition – photo – 66 04 01

1970

1972 03 24
Rose Crescent traffic ban & Quayside, p37

1980

1981 07 24
Quayside plans, p16

1984 01 07
Quayside plan, p1

1984 12 05
KP Professional Sales started in 1968 when its position on King's Parade was ideal for building up business with university departments. But it outgrew its space in the KP Camera Shop, moving to Sussex Street and then Quayside before opening new premises in Clifton Road. It supplies Government departments, the armed forces and a host of professional photographers who need a vital piece of equipment at the last minute. There is a lot of new electronic equipment but as far as taking pictures is concerned Ian Bedson, the managing director, doesn't envisage any major innovation. 84 12 05 & a
1985 07 25
Quayside will be transformed with new shops, office buildings, a restaurant and a café with tables spilling outside into the square. Magdalene College's planned development will change the face of one of the city's most important riverside sites. Punting and public rights of way will be retained as will the newly-created cantilevered walkway linking Bridge Street with Jesus Green. The design by Hughes and Bicknell and will be built in narrow two-inch red bricks to match those of the college. 85 07 25a

1985 09 11
A massive £2 million shops, offices and leisure complex has been thrown out by Cambridge planners – by just one vote. Magdalene College wanted to develop the riverside area of Quayside, Bridge Street and Thompson's Lane with a three-storey building and a development that would include shops, offices, restaurant, café, residential accommodation and a research and development base. Café tables would have spilled out into a square fronting the river. But residents objected, fearing extra traffic and councillors thought it too 'heavily massed' 85 09 11

1985 10 18
Iron foundries on Quayside side – history 85 10 18

1986 06 06

Cambridge's latest high-tech office block on the corner of Newmarket Road and Coldham's Lane is called The Zigzag because of the beams used in its construction. It has been designed by Roger Perrin Architects of Quayside whose associated firm Tartan Buildings are in charge of the development. The 13,000 sq foot building is due for completion next month 86 06 06a

1988 02 12
Work begins on Quayside redevelopment – 88 02 12a

1988 07 01
Consulting engineers Peter Dann and Partners celebrated its silver jubilee with a ball at St John's College. It has been involved with extensions at many colleges and University buildings, including the Fitzwilliam Museum, and is now working on prestigious flats at Beauford Place, Quayside, where they are building over the electricity sub-station to provide ground floor shops and a courtyard with offices above. They are also involved in the Docklands redevelopment in London 88 07 01 & a

1990 07 18
Quayside shops and office development formally opened by Duke of Edinburgh – 90 07 18a

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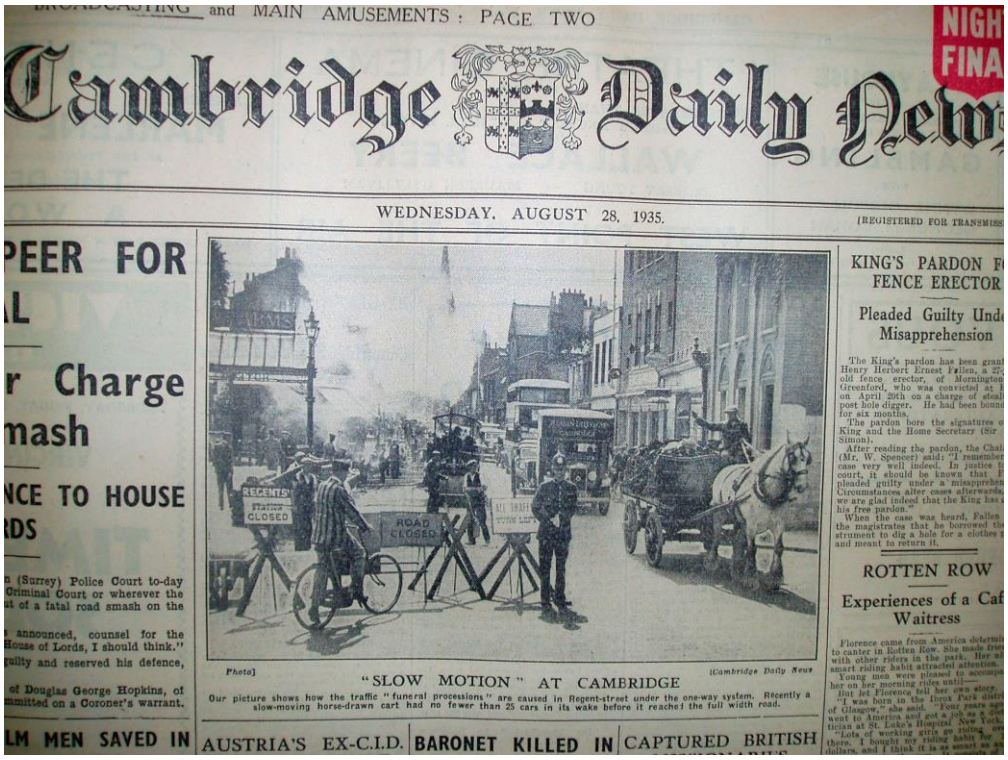

and MAIN AMUSEMENTS : PAGE TWO

Cambridge Daily News

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28, 1935.

[REGISTERED FOR TRANSMISS

PEER FOR
L
r Charge
mash
NCE TO HOUSE
RDS

(Surrey) Police Court to-day
Criminal Court or wherever the
t of a fatal road smash on the

announced, counsel for the
House of Lords, I should think."
guilty and reserved his defence,

of Douglas George Hopkins, of
mitted on a Coroner's warrant.

LM MEN SAVED IN

REGENT Street CLOSED

ROAD CLOSED

Photo] [Cambridge Daily News

"SLOW MOTION" AT CAMBRIDGE

Our picture shows how the traffic "funeral processions" are caused in Regent-street under the one-way system. Recently a slow-moving horse-drawn cart had no fewer than 25 cars in its wake before it reached the full width road.

KING'S PARDON F
FENCE ERECTOR

Pleaded Guilty Und
Misapprehension

The King's pardon has been gran
Henry Herbert Ernest Fellen, a 2
old fence erector, of Mornington
Greenford, who was convicted at
on April 20th on a charge of steal
post hole digger. He had been bonn
for six months.
The pardon bore the signatures
King and the Home Secretary (Sir
Simon).
After reading the pardon, the Chai
(Mr. W. Spencer) said: "I remember
case very well indeed. In justice t
court, it should be known that
pleaded guilty under a misapprehen
Circumstances after cases afterwards
we are glad indeed that the King has
his free pardon."
When the case was heard, Fellen
the magistrates that he borrowed th
strument to dig a hole for a clothes
and meant to return it.

ROTTEN ROW

Experiences of a Caf
Waitress

Florence came from America determi
to canter in Rotten Row. She made fri
with other riders in the park. Her s
smart riding habit attracted attention.
Young men were pleased to accompa
her on her morning rides until——
But let Florence tell her own story.
"I was born in the Brook Park distri
of Glasgow," she said. "Four years ag
went to America and got a job as a cl
tician at St. Luke's Hospital New York.
"Lots of working girls go riding
there. I bought my riding habit for
dollars, and I think it is as smart as

AUSTRIA'S EX-C.I.D. | BARONET KILLED IN | CAPTURED BRITISH

Regent Street traffic 1935

c.44.6 : Regent Street

1898 06 03
The Cambridge YWCA, having found its old quarters growing too small and inadequate to its requirements has obtained Geneva House, Regent Street, and there established its head-quarters. Yesterday a meeting was convened at which the Vice Chancellor of the university presided and spoke. He said that the new premises were in every way more suited to the needs of the Association. In their new house the windows of the back rooms, which he fancied would be those most used by the young women, overlooked his garden, and he was unable to disabuse himself of an idea they would keep an eye on him. The Master of Trinity then rose. He said he had known nothing of the removal, and had been ignorant of the nature of the gathering he was to address. He did not like to trust his eyes, which were not of the best. He had never in all his experience known an educational establishment change its quarters without bettering itself

1898 12 02
Regent Street sewer subsidence, p2

1900

1900 03 16
Mr W. Farren of Regent Street, Cambridge, has received a fine specimen of the dog otter, which was killed near Upware. It weighs 24lbs and is on view in the window of his shop.

1900 09 11

Cambridge magistrates gave their decision in the cases against certain tradespeople who had been summoned for obstructing the public footpaths by means of overhanging blinds. A regulation had been issued by the police that sun binds must hand not lower than six feet from the kerb. Ellen Frohock, R.R. Dawson and Alfred Hyman of Regent Street were fined 1s. each

1901 03 08
Miss W—of Regent Street, Cambridge was summoned for causing an obstruction by leaving some refuse tins in the street. P.C. Cole said he saw the tins outside her premises at 10.11 pm and they were still there at one o'clock the next morning. She said she placed the rubbish outside overnight because the scavenger came so early in the morning – 6.35am - before she was up. The Chief Constable said something had to be done to stop the practice of putting pails of rubbish out overnight. The defendant was cautioned and dismissed.

1902 02 07
The memorial window to the late Mr James Hough is now complete and the church of St Benedict is in possession of a work of art which will be a constant reminder of a Christian life. It is a three-light stained glass window immediately over the altar, designed by Arthur Savell of London and Regent Street, Cambridge.

1902 02 26
How often is the extremely low-priced machine a pitfall and a snare to the unwary novice. Glittering plate and enamel make it as attractive as the more reliable cycle, but also serve to hide a crowd of defects. The sensible cyclist knows that good value can only be obtained in one way and Messrs J. Howes and son of Regent Street, Cambridge have proved that good value is the foundation of good business. Their own bicycle, the Granta, is a fine piece of workmanship constructed with the greatest care. Now that the free wheel has come to stay, brakes have become absolutely essential.

1903 07 17
A milliner carrying on business in Regent Street, Cambridge was summonsed under the Factory Acts. When an Inspector visited the workshop the occupier, who could only legally have ten people in the room because of the size, had as a matter of fact employed 11. She told one, Hilda Redding, to go out of the work-room, to prevent the Inspector from seeing there were more present than there ought to have been. The case was as bad as it could be. A fine of £1 was imposed.

1903 07 23 c
Sir – Being engaged in preparing a list of the Cambridgeshire mammals for the Victoria County History I should be very grateful for any local specimens of mice or bats, or notes relating to the mammalia of the district. Specimens may be left with Mr W. Farren, Regent Street, Cambridge – J. Lewis Bonhote, Ditton Hall.

1903 11 21
A growing demand for the stone, marble and granite objects with which the memory of the dead are perpetuated indicates an expansion of business for those who provide these melancholy tokens. Messrs Ivett and Reed have found their premises on Mill Road and Regent Street inadequate and have opened a new branch on Newmarket Road, appropriately near the new cemetery. The premises consist of a dwelling house and show-room and are built of Bath stone with a portico supported by two graceful Corinthian pillars. Inside is a chimney-piece of statuary marble upon which delicate-looking foliage is represented in the Italian style.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1912 01 19
Thomas Askham was one of the oldest and best-known of Cambridge tradesmen. As a young man he worked for Thomas Hunnybun, the coach builder of Sidney Street, and then founded the coach builder businesses on Newmarket Road, Regent Street and a house in London. But as the motor industry grew, there was less for him to do and he had to employ fewer men. Jointly with Mr Tudor, he built the Hippodrome on Auckland Road, of which he was proprietor at his death. Before the era of the picture palace this place of amusement was exceedingly popular and provided many with healthy enjoyment who would otherwise have been walking the street. 12 01 19c

1912 02 02
A new County Hall is needed. The existing clerk, a solicitor in private practice, works from his own office. The Education and Medical departments are on opposite sides of Sidney Street, the Finance Clerk in is Regent Street, the Architect in Hobson Street and the Surveyor in Hills Road. This is inconvenient and uneconomical and leads to inefficiency. 12 02 02h

1912 05 31
The landlord of the Dog and Pheasant Inn, Old Chesterton told police that four bagatelle balls had been stolen from the taproom of the pub. Inquiries showed that a Fen Ditton man who'd been drinking there had offered some balls for sale next morning. He claimed to have bought them three weeks earlier from a man named 'Capp' against the Corn Exchange, saying he'd paid tenpence and a pint for them. A dealer in Regent Street said he'd bought them for eight shillings and sixpence – though the accused said he'd only got one-and-six. The landlady identified them as the ones stolen. 12 05 31f

1912 06 28
The Unemployment Insurance Scheme provides for payment of contributions by all employers and workpeople in certain trades and for the payment of benefit to the workpeople when unemployed. In Cambridge it will be administered by the Labour Exchange in Regent Street who are distributing leaflets. The scheme covers house building, railway construction and shipbuilding – but this also covers local boat builders – while 'vehicle construction 'will include people repairing cars and bicycles. 12 06 28f

1912 08 23
Youths and children clustered closely to the lorry from which Mrs Brailsford was speaking to the crowds on Parker's Piece; they pushed it six inches in one direction, then a foot back. The crowd moved with it. Then it was pushed right across towards Park Terrace. She thanked the boys for the nice ride and picked up her speech exactly where she'd left it. The lads then pushed her into the middle of a cricket match before a policeman chained up one of the back wheels. Later they scrambled on to the lorry and tore up the 'Votes for Women' papers. "For a University town, it is absolutely disgraceful, I never had such a thing happen before, not even in Whitechapel", she said before heading down Regent Street followed by a crowd, booing and shouting 12 08 23i

1912 12 27
Robert Farren, the well-known Cambridge artist, died at Highgate. Farren, who was born in Cambridge about 80 years ago, lived in Cambridge all his life with the exception of a few years' residence at Scarborough until August last when he went to live in Highgate. He was a very clever water colour artist but best known for his work in oils and his etchings. His fen pictures were well-known and his series of etchings of cathedral cities amongst his most famous work. He also produced fine etchings of the Cambridge Greek plays. His 'Degree Day' was published as a photo by Wm Farren when he lived in Rose Crescent. Farren loved to paint Cambridge &

Cambridgeshire scenery and there is scarcely a picturesque 'bit' in the town or county that has not been reproduced by him. At one time he had his studios at the top of which are now the University offices but were formerly a Liberal Club. A good many years ago he resided at Mayfield, Hills Road but during the last three years lived at no.1 Station Road. In his younger days he was a very handsome figure, tall and well-built. He was a skilful fencer and attained some note as a geologist. Me married Miss Mason, a Cambridge lady and had a family of 14 children, none of whom are now living in Cambridge, his only relatives being his nephew William Farren, the naturalist, of Regent Street and his brother. Two of his daughters have inherited their father's artistic skill in no small degree. The funeral will take lace at Old Chesterton churchyard where his wife is buried. – 12 12 20bb # c.63 Robert Farren's funeral at Old Chesterton. Three children of his eldest son, the late Ernest Farren live with their mother in Herbert Street 12 12 27b

1913 07
Patent F.T. Vine, Regent St re advertising

1914 06 12
A new pump has just been placed on the Orwell Road at Barrington by Mr Edward Conybeare who has always taken a great interest in the water supply of the village. Residents in the lower part have hitherto been obliged to go some distance for their water. The pump is the fourth and finest that he has presented to the village. Constructed by Mr H. Newton of Regent Street, Cambridge, it is of lead with a case of oak. There is a rest for buckets under the spout and the water drains off into a ditch near by 1914 06 12 p12

1914 07 10
Bradley's teeth: 27 years steadily increasing reputation. Time has proved Bradley's Teeth to be satisfactory right from the beginning. If you require Artificial Teeth send for a free book to F.W. Bradley who attends at Llandaff Chambers, 4 Regent Street on Mondays and Saturdays. Also at Thompson's chemist Fore Hill Ely, W.H. Clayton's saddler Huntingdon, G.A. Smith's St Ives and Bobby's chemists at Soham: advertisement

1914 11 27
The Hospitality Committee for Belgian refugees has equipped four houses in which 55 refugees have been accommodated. They are 'Scotsdale' on Grantchester Rd where a Flemish priest has been lodged with nine members of his family and 'South House' Barton Road which houses 14 members of doctor's family. A young lace maker and a family of eight from Louvain lodges at No.4 West View Newnham while at |No.11 Brookside there are 22 refugees from Malines and Ostend. In Regent Street a studio has been converted into a fair-sized reading room where Dutch, French and English papers are supplied. * & p5 14 11 27

1919 09 24
Tar and Feather Court Martial. Sentence was promulgated at Cambridge on Saturday in the recent "Tar and Feathering" court martial. The court found Lt. Wright guilty of the offence and sentenced him to be reprimanded. Lt. Wright, who received a message ovER the phone from the A.P.M. that the finding of the court had been sent on from Eastern Command, arrived at the A.P.M, offices in Regent Street about midday. In the presence of Major Minchener, O.C., 6th Company, Royal Fusiliers (to which company Lt. Wright was attached for the purpose of the court martial) the finding of the court was read out by Major Braithwaite-Wallis. Both officers shook hands with Lt. Wright, who expressed himself very satisfied with the result. He said later: "From beginning to end the tar and feathering cost me £12. I have never spent £12 so satisfactorily." 19 09 24

1920

1920 11 17
Regent Street shops feature, photo, advertisement – 20 11 17b & 20 11 24a , 20 11 17d

1921 05 25
H. Leavis of Regent St, piano dealer, dies following road smash – 21 05 25e

1924 04 03
A constables passing Messrs H. Leavis' pianoforte warehouse, Regent Street, Cambridge noticed signs of fire. The whole of the upper floor of Messrs Constable's stained glass works was gutted and the glass cracked and popped. Messrs Leavis' premises seem to have suffered from the effects of water. Pianos & portions of pianos, undamaged by fire were surrounded by pools of dirty water, drops of which fell with a monotonous slash from the ceiling.

1924 04 26
The new showroom of Messrs Herbert Robinson Ltd, Regent Street, Cambridge was formally opened. There is room for the display of 15 cars at a time, and those at present on view include such well known makes as Vauxhall, Fiat, Hillman, Citroen, Daimler and Calthorpe, all of the latest type. Demonstration runs will be given, with no obligation to buy. They will take your present motor car in part exchange for a new one, and arrange deferred payments if you wish.

1926 03 11
The Bankruptcy court was told a woman had taken the Glengarry Hotel, Regent Street, Cambridge, in January 1921. It was entirely a licensed University lodging house for the students of Downing College only and continued so until 1924. It had not been successful owing to the college being unable to fill all the rooms. Subsequently she converted it into a private commercial hotel and made a profit of about £2 a week. The major part of the deficiency arose while it was a lodging house.

1926 03 26
Regent Street widening, p6

1926 12 16
It may not be generally known to the Cambridge public that Mr Carne, the manager of the Playhouse, Mill Road, is the "Victor Carne" who figures in the record list of the Vocalion Gramophone Co. He has recorded "The Holy City" and "The Star of Bethlehem" for their Christmas list and these and other of his records are obtainable at Messrs Leavis's, Regent Street. Wireless enthusiasts will no doubt remember the many times he has sung from London and Daventry.

1927 05 30
Buses are taking people right through Regent Street into the town and, once there, they make their purchases at the nearest shop. Now Regent Street tradesmen have organised a shopping week & made their windows more than usually attractive. They claim to be the "Street of Specialists' Traders" & boast the only taxidermist in Cambridge and many more lady hairdressers than any other street. A slogan is being used: "You get what you want and want what you get in Regent Street"

1927 09 07

A "rag" by four Cambridge undergraduates in Bedford has cost them the suspension of the degrees (the gaining of which they were celebrating) for six months. A constable in Regent Street, Cambridge saw the defendants at two o'clock in the morning 'larking about' with a lifebuoy and notice board belonging to Bedford Military Band. They regretted what they had done; this kind of thing might be all right in Cambridge, where it was understood, but that it would not be tolerated in Bedford. It was within the power of the college authorities, in the event of them being convicted of a felony, to prohibit them from taking their degrees at all which would be a lifetime penalty and debar them from taking any post under the Government - in the Civil Service, Army or Navy.

1927 10 04
Theophilus Philip Starke, a boot and shoe maker, told magistrates that two men called at his shop in Regent Street, Cambridge, and said they had come about the sun blind, which needed repair. They borrowed a ladder and appeared to do the work. He paid them 25 shillings but his suspicions were aroused by the way they "scuttled off". The blind was examined by an expert who found practically nothing had been done to it

1928 03 22
Sir – May I draw attention to a new form of pastime which should be nipped in the bud before some fatality is recorded. I refer to the increasing practice of boys using roller skates in the streets and on the pavements. This afternoon two lads were careering along Regent Street amongst the traffic. Other towns have already taken action to put a stop to this new boyish craze and it is to be hoped that Cambridge will do likewise – "Safety First"

1928 05 18
In the spring a motorist's fancy turned to the thought of a new car and the Cambridge public have the opportunity of inspecting the whole range produced by the well-known Vauxhall firm. These are attractively displayed in the spacious showroom of Messrs Herbert Robinson & Son, Regent Street. The staff has been augmented with chauffeurs, salesmen, mechanics and service engineers under the charge of the assistant car sales manager of Vauxhall Motors. The models on view include the Princeton tourer, £475; Bedford saloon, £495 and Kimpton coach-built sports saloon, £695

1928 12 11
Cambridge councillors considered the provision of a car to replace the Ford at present used in the Highways Department. They agreed to transfer the Austin used by the Borough Surveyor and authorise him to obtain prices for the purchase of a new car. Subsequently he submitted estimates for a new Austin in part exchange for the old Ford car from Messrs Marshall & Co, Jesus Lane (£285.2s) and Herbert Robinson, Regent Street (£276). They are to accept the Robinson's offer

1929 01 12
The Wolseley 16/45 h.p. 'Silent Six' is the finest two-litre six-cylinder car that money and experienced have ever succeeded in producing. Its silence, smoothness and rapid acceleration are really wonderful. It is vibrationless from 6 to 60 mph. Let us give you a trial run – we shall be pleased to do so. Tourer £365. Saloon, £375. Authorised main distributors – E.T. Saint & Co. Ltd, Regent Street, Cambridge. – advert

1929 09 23
An outbreak of window scratching has occurred in Cambridge over the weekend. Shopkeepers along St Andrew's Street discovered with disgust that scratches and scrawls which had not been there when the shops closed. On some of the windows grooves have been cut, apparently with a

diamond. Among the worst affected are Johnson Bros dyers, Flack and Judge grocers, G.P. Hawkins confectioners and the Ideal Cleaning Company. Marks of a previous outbreak of a more serious nature are still to be seen on many shop windows in Regent Street, p8

1929 12 30
Regent Street bus traffic, p5
1930

1930 10 23
Herbert Robinson, the motor engineer told the court he had purchased the leasehold of 'The Fountain' pub, Regent Street, Cambridge from the Star Brewery intending to add the site to his business premises. He granted the lease to a landlord for five years with a provision that he could regain possession earlier and now wanted it back. 30 10 23a-c

1930 11 04
In a quiet street in Cambridge, a very charming old lady celebrates her 100th birthday. She is Mrs Howes, widow of the late John Howes head of the bicycle firm in Regent Street. She comes of a long-lived family. She was born in Coronation Street. Her father, John Galley, a reader at the Pitt Press, lived to the age of 86 and her mother to 80. She has still living four sons and three daughters, 23 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. Her memory is still good and she has vivid memories of her girlhood. She was present at the dinner on Parker's Piece to celebrate Queen Victoria's coronation, when her father was one of the carvers. 30 11 04b

1933 02 09
Cambridge has lost an old-established tailor by the death of Mr Byron Thomas Wait of Mill Road. His father was a tailor at St Ives but Byron came to Cambridge 52 years ago and opened the shop in Hills Road. Thirty-five years ago he extended the business to the shop at 28 Mill Road and four years later to 100 Regent Street. Two of his sons are carrying on the business. 33 02 09b

1933 06 15
David John Scott had been engaged in photographic work all his business life. He first started in 1884 in partnership with Mr Wilkinson at 47, St Andrew's Street. They bought an existing business for £300 and traded for five or seven years before the partnership was dissolved and he bought Wilkinson out. About September 1932 he had to leave those premises and remove to 59 Regent Street, which affected the business. Trade had declined and people were not having their photographs taken as much as they used to. 33 06 15c

1933 09 21
Herbert Robinson opened a small shop in Regent Street, 30 years ago, where he commenced selling Premier bicycles. Today his extensive new garage occupies the site of Llandaff Chambers and the old Fountain Inn. It embraces motorcars, motor cycles, bicycles, baby carriages, wireless and gramophones and features a turntable for cars and an overhead runway which enables parts to be conveyed from one side to another. 33 09 21

1933 10 17
New Fountain inn plans, Regent Street – 33 10 17

1935 08 28
Regent Street traffic congestion during roadworks – photo – 35 08 28

1936 03 23

Unilateral parking came into force in Cambridge on Saturday. Between Regent Street and the Old Post Office parking is now allowed for 15 minutes in any one hour on one side of the road on even dates and on the other side on odd. There is one short stretch against Emmanuel Street in which no parking is allowed, owing to the difficulty of traffic coming in and out of the town through this narrow street. Readers should remember they cannot now leave their cars for any longer than 15 minutes as this is the limit. 36 03 23b

1936 04 18
The work of pulling down and building up in Cambridge goes merrily on. Anyone revisiting the town after only a few years' absence must be amazed at the remarkable changes taking place from the old Post Office to the Catholic Church. In a few years this will form the most important and best shopping centre in Cambridge. Now no.14 Regent Street, which was built at the end of the 18th century, will be pulled down by Messrs Herbert Robinson to make an extension of their business. This will mean a further improvement in the building line with a consequent street widening. 36 04 18b

1936 06 22
The landlord of The Oak in Lensfield Road was awakened by a terrible crash which shook the whole property. He found a Winston Smith van imbedded in the woodwork. It had been crossing the junction with Regent Street and Hills Road at about 4 a.m. when another van ran into it swinging it right round and smashing it backwards into the wooden wall of the pub. At this time of the morning the traffic lights are off and it is against the law to sound a horn or hooter. 36 06 22

1937 06 01
The King of Egypt arrived in Cambridge on the first visit he has paid to the town. He had been expected at Clare College at about six o'clock but was late as he'd waited for His mother, the Queen, who'd booked a suite at the University Arms Hotel. The King strolled about Regent Street and visited Barbara Fuller's dog shop where he purchased a wire fox terrier puppy which he played with in the college. Very few people knew of his visit which was to meet Egyptian students. About twenty were introduced to him, many being members of the Pharoahs Club. 37 06 01b

1937 09 17
Plans to demolish Newmarket houses under clearance orders were met with objections. The Medical Officer said houses in the Queen Street area were unfit for human habitation. But the owner claimed they were better now than when she bought them; they were all she had to live on and the council were going to take them away. Houses in Regent Street were somewhat dark because of the shrubbery in the churchyard but occupants were able to open the windows. One of the residents had been there 23 years and had brought up ten healthy children. There was such a shortage of accommodation that two families were living in each council house and few houses at a rent of six shillings a week (£16.70 today) suitable for old people. 37 09 17a & b

1937 12 30
Regent Street café owner unable pay Peak's furniture which sold Cooper – 37 12 30

1938 11 26
Collins' Agency, High-Class Registry for Servants at 55 Regent Street has been established in Cambridge for over 28 years and now has offices in Bridge Street, at Peterborough and Chelmsford. The extent of the business is shown by the fact that in 1937 more than 1,500 ladies

were suited with maids in spite of the great dearth of servants. Collins' Agency advertisements regularly appear in Cambridge newspapers 38 11 26

1938 11 29
Mayfair, Cambridge's new fashion specialist opened its salon at 75 Regent Street, transforming an empty shop into a revelation of smartness and beauty. Mannequins displayed a collection of the loveliest prevailing fashions comprising a galaxy of dresses grave and gay, day and evening gowns, tailored suits and winter coats. They will supply only exclusive models with special attention to smart styles for the fuller figure. 38 11 29

1939 10 09
The majority of basements in Cambridge are useless as public air raid shelters since they need to be capable of holding between 50 and 100 people. But those at Herbert Robinson's Garage in Regent Street, Zion Baptist Church, Mr Wheatley's in Sturton Street and Potts' Mineral Water Works in Castle Street are suitable. However these are not enough and shelters should be constructed in various areas. They will be of brick and concrete and accommodate 50 people. Shelters in schools should be available for the public during the night and at week-ends.39 10 09a

1939 10 27
Hitler's bombs will have no effect on the air raid shelter in the basement of Herbert Robinson's garage in Regent Street which is not only the largest in Cambridge but impregnable even from a direct hit. It has three steel reinforced floors above the actual basement which comprise the shelter. Experts say that even if the first or second floors were damaged by a direct hit from a bomb, people sheltered would still be immune. It comprises 6,000 square feet and has accommodation for over 700 people 39 10 27a

1940

1940 04 09
Airmen marching in Regent Street wearing gas masks – photo – 40 04 09

1940 09 06
Salvationists' Diamond Wedding. Two Salvation Army veterans who took part in Cambridge's first Army open-air service, celebrated c their diamond wedding anniversary on Wednesday. They are Mr. and Mrs. F. Gillson, of 67 Mill Road, now staying at 12 St. Phillip's Road, Cambridge, who were married in St. Matthew's Church at 8 o'clock on September 4. 1880. "There was no such thing as confetti in those days," Mrs. Gillson said. "They threw rice, which stung your face." Mr. Gillson is 80 years old and his wife 78, and they can remember clearly their first march through Cambridge as Salvationists. "The Norwich band came here to be present at the opening of the Cambridge Corps about 55 years ago," said Mr. Gillson. "My wife and I met the band at the station, and marched through Regent Street, St. Andrew's Street, Hobson Street, King Street and the Causeway, finishing up at Sturton Town Hall. We got a hiding for our pains, too. We were pelted with clods of earth from Butt Green, and one enterprising person threw an old cat at us. The police had been told to stop us holding an open-air meeting. We held it, all the same, in Hobson Street, by walking very slowly, singing all the time. Our main meeting was held at Sturton Town Hall." Mr. and Mrs. Gillson have stuck to the Army through thick and thin. It was popular at first to manhandle the "Sallies" and on one occasion they were besieged by a crowd of students in their citadel. 40 09 06

1941 10 09
Clement Attlee sees war work factory at Robinson's premises, Regent Street – photo – 41 10 09

1947 10 09
Rotary & town planning – East Road & Regent Street, p5

1949 05 18
The Humber Hawk, newest car to come off the production line, is one of a group of cars and lorries displayed at Messrs Herbert Robinson's garage, Regent Street, Cambridge in their first show since the war ended. Other types include the Humber Pullman Super Snipe, Sunbeam-Talbot 90 and Hillman Minx. If you care to put your name on the end of about 600 other people you might get your new car in a few years time! Meanwhile, until new cars become more plentiful we must be satisfied just with looking at them through such shows

1949 10 01
On a cold evening in 1889, the secretaries of a dozen local cricket clubs and a few enthusiasts met at Dan Hayward's "The Prince Regent" in Regent St, Cambridge. Thus was sown the seed that was to grow into the stature of the Cambridgeshire Cricket Association. Last night, 60 years later, a gathering numbering more than 170 celebrated at a dinner at the Dorothy Café. Among them was England's and Cambridge's Jack Hobbs, still ranked by many as the world's finest batsman.

1950

1950 05 12
When Stetchworth Dairies roundsman, Mr John Shorter, came out of a house in Downing Street he found his milk van had vanished. The horse had taken fright at noise from building operations and bolted at full gallop. Despite heavy traffic the horse swerved round the corner into St Andrew's Street, missed five motor cars and a bus by inches, and continued at a gallop towards Regent Street. Mr John Higgins cycled after the runaway, seized the bridles and gradually gained control over the horse and forced it to a standstill beyond the University Arms Hotel. Mr Higgins, not a young man, was handicapped by a heavy box of plants on the front of his cycle and his prompt and plucky action exhausted him

1954 01 01
A building in Cambridge that probably started life as a private house has just been rejuvenated at a cost of several thousand pounds. Number 70 Regent Street will be remembered as the wholesale warehouse formerly used by Barwells, the tyre company. It is now the Co-operative Permanent Building Society, a luxurious block of offices with the latest in equipment and a full-length plate glass window, complete with neon sign. In the past Cambridge has been neglected by building societies. Until recently there was only one but there are now four more.

1955 03 16
The Belfast Linen shop is celebrating its jubilee. 50 years ago a young man of 23 cycled into Cambridge with £100 in his pocket and an ambition to start his own business. He was Harry Nichols. He took an empty shop in Regent Street and Belfast Linen Warehouses had begun. It was not all easy going and there were times when he could not even afford to buy a new suit. It is still a family concern. Royalty, famous hotels and colleges are among his patrons and the R.101 airship on its ill-fated flight had sheets and towels supplied by the firm. 55 03 16a

1958 10 18
Millers may be the oldest music shop in Cambridge. They started trading as music and musical instrument dealers about 1886 when the late A.H. Miller joined the firm. Now they have taken

over the business of Messrs Murdoch. In the 1920s Murdoch took over Leavis and Bedwells who had a retail shop on the corner of Glisson Road before moving to Regent Street. 58 10 18

1959 03 20
Cyril Ridgeon and Son, builders' merchants gave a luncheon to inaugurate their new Regent Street showroom. The shop was formerly occupied by Messrs Murdoch's and the transformation from musical instruments to household equipment is striking. The lower ground floor is devoted to a display of bathroom suites, the ground floor to tiled fireplaces and the first to kitchen requirements. They were literally bulging at the seams at Hobson Street but the new store is comparable with something in London, guests were told. 59 03 20b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1961 07 20
Herbert Robinson's premises in Regent Street were erected in the early 1930s to the design of George Banyard, a well-known architect responsible for a number of Cambridge's principal buildings. They comprise extensive showrooms, garages and workshops together with substantial office premises known as Llandaff Chambers. Now they are transferring to spacious new premises on Newmarket Road and the property is being offered for sale. The firm are retaining the electrical showrooms at 14 Regent Street 61 07 20

1961 12 27
It is going to be even colder than it was during most of the Christmas freeze-up when ice on the Cam trapped several swans in the water. On Christmas morning fire appliances went to St Giles' church where a small fire severely damaged an electric motor in the organ. They were also called to Avery's scale makers premises in Regent Street and at Joseph Lucas on Newmarket Road where pipes in the ceilings burst and flooded the premises. The Waterworks Company dealt with 30 burst pipes on Christmas Day 61 12 27 61 12 30

1962 07 05
County Council plans for a new "inner relief road" linking the Huntingdon Road-Castle Hill junction with Hyde Park Corner would cost £932,000 (£16.3m today). There would be a new bridge over the Cam at Jesus Green with an underpass at Four Lamps before the road continued to Parkside and Regent Street. This figure did not include the cost of acquiring additional land. It was needed to deal with traffic problems in Magdalene Street which is very narrow, an Inquiry was told. 62 07 05b

1962 09 15
Herbert Robinson's electrical premises with a large double frontage in Regent Street have been sold to a Messrs Skertchley, the cleaners and dyers for a price in the region of £100,000 (c£1.7m today). The firm has been selling the remaining electrical equipment at reduced prices with two-year old television sets down to £15. On two occasions the shop together with the adjacent garage and Llandaff Chambers have failed to reach the reserve price at auction 62 09 15

1962 09 26
Mrs C. Clark has been secretary of the Cambridgeshire Society for the Blind for 15 years. She supervises two homes for the blind in Cambridge as well as the blind workers' shop in Regent Street. But there is more: she deals with the loan of wireless sets – there are more than 250 at present, visits blind people in need of help and arranges parties or outings. There is a 'talking

books' system and two blind undergraduates who had difficulty in finding textbooks were grateful to the people who read the information to them. Volunteers are needed to take people out for walks or help with teas at the weekend when the domestic staff are off-duty. 62 09 26

1963 10 12
Cambridge's night life is waking up! The opening of the Café Royale, Regent Street, is positive proof that Cambridge is not so dead after all. Now at last you can wine and dine amidst the splendour of majestic elegance. The only restaurant where you can enjoy English, French, Italian, Spanish, German and Oriental cuisine. Starlit dining room, bar, dancing, resident band. Cabaret presenting stars of radio, television and stage. – Advert 63 10 12a & b

1964 01 22
The Refugee Aid Shop in Regent Street gives away its entire profits and is staffed mainly by voluntary workers. Last year it donated more than £2,000 to charity and each week sends 10 sacks of warm clothing to Oxfam. Local people have given a mass of articles including books and sometimes bicycles or prams. Clothing should be clean with at least six months wear left. Most is sold at a little above jumble sale prices with winter coats at five shillings each. Material from worn cotton dresses is salvaged and made into aprons. The worst ends up at the rag merchants 64 01 22

1964 03 04
Tesco to open store in Regent Street in former Herbert Robinson garage site – 64 03 04

1964 04 30
A Regent Street trader has lost 78 per cent of his usual turnover since parking meters were introduced, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce was told. A survey of over 30 shops showed the average loss in turnover as 45%. There should be a reduction in rateable values and compensation for businesses which are forced to close. Meters should be closed down and a return made to unilateral parking supervised by wardens. But the Parking Committee chairman said that if motorists used the meters to the full they would get most of their customers back 64 04 30

1964 09 24
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Regent Street – 64 09 24, 64 10 01 [RAl.4.75]

1964 11 14
The Pagoda, a new Chinese restaurant in Regent Street offers a variety of 120 dishes served in an atmosphere of luxury at reasonable prices. The décor is modern, a six-foot golden pagoda stands just inside the door with a Buddha enshrined on the wall of the restaurant. A small rockery with a waterfall stands by the staircase to the first floor which permits dining and dancing until midnight. The menu includes succulent Chinese and traditional English meals ranging from omelettes to a ten-course meal. It will be the most modern and hygienic restaurant in East Anglia 64 11 14b

1964 11 20
The Cambridge Society for the Blind runs two homes in Glisson Road providing comfortable surroundings for 20 people and operates a small shop in Regent Street selling handicrafts made by the blind. Those registered are allowed craft materials at cost price, receive a free radio licence or get a rebate on the cost of a television licence. They also have access to the Nuffield Talking Book Library. The newly-formed Cambridge Rehabilitation Centre for the Blind provides the opportunity for meetings and discussion at the Barnwell Community Centre 64 11 20 cdef

1967 01 10
Jock Langley has sold newspapers from pitch in Regent Street for 40 years, now has to move – 67 01 10a

1970

1971 03 06
Head Post Office in Regent Street modernised – 71 03 06a

1971 08 26
John Howes cycle firm founded 1840, move into new showrooms, Regent Street – 71 08 26Undergraduates at Downing College today continued a 24-hour occupation of the dining hall despite a warning that violent protest could close the college for the rest of this term. They are protesting against the expulsion of two undergraduates and the rustication of a third for their part in sending an obscene leaflet to Downing college dons and undergraduates. A supported by a march last night by more than 500 students blocked Regent Street for more than an hour, with demonstrators seated in the road outside the college, 72 03 04 p11

1972 03 04
Undergraduates at Downing College today continued a 24-hour occupation of the dining hall despite a warning that violent protest could close the college for the rest of this term. They are protesting against the expulsion of two undergraduates and the rustication of a third for their part in sending an obscene leaflet to Downing college dons and undergraduates. A supported by a march last night by more than 500 students blocked Regent Street for more than an hour, with demonstrators seated in the road outside the college, 72 03 04 p11

1972 08 04
Cambridge housewives face soaring prices this weekend as thousands of tons of vital imports lie strike-bound in Britain's ports. Fruit and meat imports are the biggest casualties of the national dock strike which entered its second week today. In Cambridge the Mill Road greengrocers, Clements have raised the price of imported Granny Smith apples from 11p to 14p a pound, while bananas are up from 8p to 11p a pound. At Tesco, in Regent Street, the manager said they had run out of bananas, but oranges and apples were still available and had not gone up. Tomatoes however had risen by about 5p to 18p a pound

1972 10 10
An 1875 bicycle made a rare appearance on the streets of Cambridge to promote Cambridge City Library's exhibition "Tourism in Cambridge" at the Small Hall of the Guildhall. Its owner, Mr J.D. Howes took it from his Regent Street shop and gave it a spin along the road before it went to the Guildhall. The third exhibition of its type to be staged by the library it puts Cambridge into its proper setting for both Fenland, county and city are covered by the various displays.

1972 10 13
At the Pagoda Chinese restaurant in Regent Street Cambridge there are over 100 items listed on the menu. The easy way out might have been to opt for Special Meal (£2.55 for two persons) but that sounds too much like totalitarianism so we sifted out portions of Sweet and Sour Pork (large 48p, small 42p), Chicken on bean sprouts (48p, 40p) and Sliced Beef, green pepper and Black Bean Sauce (55p). Fried rice (14p) went almost without saying. Cheefoo White Wine, bottled in the People's Republic was not worth the £2.15 it cost per bottle. After all this only a sense of duty led us to share a dish of lychees (25p). The meal cost us £6.57 for two, but if you did not fall for the "wine of the country" bit, it would be very good value

1973 12 24
Shoppers in Cambridge defied the gloom of crisis-torn Britain and were out in force to do their last-minute Christmas shopping. At Woolworth's in Sidney Street the manager said: "People are determined to enjoy Christmas despite the gloom and doom". Tesco, in Regent Street, said they were fairly busy. The general manager of Joshua Taylor said that trade was about 20% up compared with last year. 73 12 24

1975 06 11
The much-criticised second stage of Cambridge city council's central area traffic experiment has been abandoned and traffic flow systems introduced five weeks ago withdrawn. This means there is again two-way traffic in Regent Street, Parkside, Emmanuel Road and Short Street. Through traffic is still banned along parts of St Andrew's Street, Sidney Street & King's Parade. City police said many motorists were confused by the changes which it was improving impossible to enforce. Long traffic queues had built up at major junctions since the start of the experiment which brought traffic chaos to the city

1975 12 04
Regent Street rebuilding, p8

1976 04 05
A new branch of Lloyd's Bank is due to open on the corner of Regent Street and Gonville Place, Cambridge. It will be the first entirely new branch of Lloyds opened in the city since 1964, when a branch was set out at Cherry Hinton. Five cashier positions have been provided inside the bank, together with a cash dispenser for quick service.

1977 07 13
A group of Cambridge residents have started a legal battle to stop buses using the narrow, congested Parker Street to reach the city's Drummer Street bus station. They are trying to force four major bus companies to use an alternative route via Emmanuel Street and Regent Street. The leader of the objectors said: "Parker Street is fit only for local traffic, being narrow and with houses on each side. At the moment the pollution is disgusting. You cannot open a window and the noise is above acceptable limits". The Eastern Counties traffic manager said: "Buses represent only a tiny proportion of the heavy traffic using the street, so why we are being picked on I don't know"

1977 12 22
Cambridge is not short of record shops, so what chance has another one got? The answer, says Andy Gray, is plenty. His latest shop "The Beat Goes On" is something out of the ordinary in that it caters for those interested in "golden oldies" and New Wave records. They specialise in records up to the 1970s and have on display portraits of "The Jam" who opened the shop on Friday. The new shop in Regent Street supplements the premises opened in Mill Road three years ago and Andy's Record Stall on Cambridge market which is still a gathering place for music lovers.

1978 02 23
Shopping Guide decided to investigate the cost of a cup of tea in Cambridge snack bars. Best value for money was The Whim in Trinity Street where a pot of tea costs 15p and with a jug of hot water and plenty of milk you can get three cups for your money. Worst was the tea and coffee counter at the Arts Theatre Roof Garden where you pay 15p for one cup. Thornhills in Regent Street was the best for choice as you can have a cup (8p) or pot (18p) whilst at the Coffee Pot in Green Street you pay 20p for a pot that held four cups, if you had the thirst to match it. Joshua

Taylor is the only department store which has a coffee or tea shop but has a lunch-time minimum charge.

1978 04 06
Quietly and without fuss our daily bread got dearer this week, with the news that the big three bakeries were adding 2p to the cost of a "standard" sliced and wrapped loaf, bringing the cost up to 28½ p. In Cambridge the price of farmhouse loaves is left to the baker. Bridgeman Bros of Norfolk Street charge 30½ p for a very crusty, tasty and attractive loaf; Tylers of Mill Road charge 30p, & E.J. How and Godfreys of Regent Street 29p. The most expensive are Dixon's of Fitzroy Street & Maskell's of Victoria Road who charge 31p for a pale golden, high, crusty, loaf.

1978 11 04
A wave of panic buying hit shops as housewives rushed to buy bread a full three days before a threatened national bakers' strike is due to start. Sainsbury's store in Coldham's Lane Cambridge has rationed people to just two loaves and How's bakery in Mill Road said that all stocks were sold out by lunchtime. A Tesco in Regent Street exceptionally heavy buying emptied the shop of bread by mid-morning. Anxious shoppers out to stock up their freezers with loaves were described as "greedy" by shopkeepers. The strike is not yet a certainty and independent bakeries are not involved.

1979 07 07
Cambridge's oldest taxi driver Ernie Zarattini has taken his final fare – aged 80. And he has disclosed some of the cheeky goings-on he has witness during 39 years as a cab driver. On one occasion he picked up a couple who wanted to go to Regent Street. "Suddenly I saw them misconducting themselves on the floor of the cab. I said 'Not for half-a-crown you don't' and flung them out", he said. Fares used to be eight pence – old money – for the first mile and tuppence-a-mile after that, but now customers have to pay 45p for the first three-quarters of a mile and 25p for every one-sixth of a mile after that.

1979 10 06
Tesco's superstore at Bar Hill is to open on Mondays following a switch to six-day trading by Sainsbury's supermarkets. The store says that it was demand from customers living in the local community which had led to the move: "Since we have been here we have tried to blend in with the community", said their Public Relations Director. "We really owe it to everyone here to provide the service they want". Tesco's store in Regent Street Cambridge already opens on Mondays.

1979 12 18
Regent Street plans, p17

1980

1980 12 11
The time taken to get through supermarket check-outs varies; at 6pm on a Thursday evening Tesco's Regent Street store, Cambridge was fairly busy and five out of the seven checkouts were in operation; it took nine minutes to get through. But at their Bar Hill store we queued for 21 minutes. At Bishop's, Arbury Court, paying by cheque meant the cashier had to get it approved by her colleague, which delayed the neighbouring queue. 80 12 11a & b

1982 07 22

A survey of egg and tomato sandwiches found that those from Marks and Spencer (55p) had the edge for moisture and taste with Donks of Regent Street top for value at 32p. Cornucopia ran them a close second while Thornhills were biggest value for money, although the bread was too dry. But Travellers Fare from the station buffet were the dearest and least inspiring. They could not rise to an egg and tomato sandwich and it came in a wrapping that was fiddly to open. 82 07 22

1982 07 29
The Cambridge Blind Shop in Regent Street is to close, ending a tradition that goes back 50 years. Its original purpose was to provide an outlet for the work of local blind people who relied on basket-making, chair-caning or knitting for an income. Today the same necessity does not really exist and the number of local craftsmen has dwindled, making the shop no longer viable. 82 07 29

1983 03 04
Well-known Cambridge character and critic of some of the modern city architecture, Dr Hugh Plommer, has died while giving a lecture in London. He was a prolific writer – in a recent letter to the News he described newly-designed buildings in Regent Street as looking "as if they came out of an erratic computer and probably did". He described the new University Centre as "a converted multi-storey car park and Churchill College as "if it stood some siege by Cromwell's New Model Army".
83 03 04 p16

1983 04 26
The County Council has been urging Cambridge councillors to provide more city centre parking space. They say 1,000 extra parking spaces are needed. Now they have suggested six sites: a 250-space extension to the present Lion Yard multi-deck, land behind Telephone House in Regent Street-Park Terrace (220 spaces on a four-deck park), the old Addenbrooke's Hospital site (250 spaces), land behind Shire Hall (450 spaces on a three-deck park), Saxon Street (480) and Adam and Eve Street (460 spaces). 83 04 26 p5

1983 09 21
Tesco is to close its Cambridge Regent Street supermarket. The store, which opened in 1964, has been left behind by developments in supermarket design. Managers now consider it too small – it is 11,000 square feet as compared to 30,000 at Bar Hill – and there is no provision for car parking. It would need a major refit to bring it up to modern standards and this could not be justified. 83 09 21 p16 83 09 22 p5

1984 12 19
Devi Agarwala was penniless when he first moved to England in 1950 but became one of Cambridge's best-known business men. He opened the city's first Indian restaurant, the Kismet in Northampton Street, and the Harlequin club and casino in Regent Street as well as an International Centre and language school. He was a member of the Pentacle Magic Club and organised a three-day All-India Magic Conference which had to be cancelled due to the murder of India's Prime Minister, Mrs Indira Ghandi. 84 12 19

1985 04 10
Cambridge Mortgage Centre has opened in Regent Street. The idea of Cambridge Insurance, a firm of brokers who offer pensions, investment and life policies, it will help people find a mortgage and advise which payment suits the applicant best. The staff will make sure clients pay

the lowest rate possible: it is possible for someone with a £30,000 mortgage to be paying around 15 per cent or even less 85 04 10

1985 11 22
Sally Ann's, Cambridge Salvation Army's highly successful charity shop set up five years ago, is now open for business at its new home on the site of the former Fine Fare supermarket in Mill Road, having moved from the Tesco shop in Regent Street. It sells everything from bric-a-brac to books but also has second-hand furniture such as wardrobes, dressers, beds and three-piece suites. These can be used to assist 'distress cases' where a family urgently needs furniture. About 100 volunteers price the items, launder and iron the clothes and operate a delivery service but more are desperately needed to keep up with all the jobs that need doing. 85 11 22b

1987 11 05
Vision Park, the controversial office and high-tech development in Histon, has gained a major first tenant which suggests that the developers were right in thinking Histon was an acceptable business location. Construction of a second phase on the former Chivers site across Station Road started in August. Barclays Bank is taking half of the first completed building to replace their head office above the bank in Bene't Street. The move follows Lloyds Bank's decision to take a large headquarters block at Castle Park, Shire Hall and Midland's move of its management team to Parkers House in Regent Street. 87 11 05b

Przibórsky's Hairdressers, 1961

153.74

c.44.6 : Round Church Street & Ram Yard

1900 11 19
Sir – Among the many urgent improvements needed in Cambridge stands that of abolishing the old, worn-out buildings and improving the thoroughfares of the town. Disease is prevalent to a large extent and is to be found in districts with narrow thoroughfares and tumble-down houses. The buildings between Round Church Street and Ram Yard are a disgrace and in any other town would have been demolished long since; they should not be tolerated even in conservative Cambridge. - "W"

1900 12 03
Sir – no one who takes the trouble to make even a cursory inspection of the unlovely mass of bricks and timber in Ram Yard, Cambridge, can fail to see that its removal would be a matter of little inconvenience to a very few residents. Several of the buildings show no sign of occupation by night – there is one of two storeys which is occupied as a shoemaker's workroom. Another gloomy pile, now unoccupied, was, I believe, a blacksmith's shop. The whole block is uniformly hideous and obstructive. No one has a good word to say for it – V.S.N.

1900 12 07
Ram Yard, p3

1900 12 08
Ram Yard, p3 *

1903 02 13
The Rev Charles Crump, of Sawston, was summoned for riding a bicycle on the footpath. The police superintendent held up his hand and the defendant rode on the road saying, "You have fairly caught me". The road was in an abominable condition; had he been a young lady not a

word would have been said, but he supposed the policeman was glad to catch a parson. He was fined 6d. An undergraduate of Caius College was summoned for wheeling a bicycle on the footpath in Round Church Street. He said perambulators and mail carts were being wheeled along the path and he was not causing any danger or annoyance. He was fined 10s.

1906 12 29
Hudson's brewery applied for the transfer of the licence of the Golden Fleece, Ram Yard, an old beer-house attached to Brown's billiard rooms, which years ago was a celebrated resort of University billiard players. The house had been closed for eight months but now there was a new tenant. Some days ago it was refused, but now it was granted. 06 12 29a

1907 05 14
In 1874 part of the Holy Sepulchre churchyard was taken for widening the street on condition that the boundary was marked by a band of stone. Now the Electric Supply Company plans to build a sub-station in Round Church Street and want the Corporation to arrange for the removal and re-interring of any human remains. But they are not willing to incur any expense. 07 05 14a

1910

1919 05 07
Opening of new University Catholic Oratory, Round Church Street; Fisher Sunday – 19 05 07a

1930

1931 03 13
Hudson's brewery had closed six public houses in Cambridge: the Brewery Tap in Bridge Street, the White Swan and Prince Albert in Castle Street, the Beehive on Honey Hill, Spotted Cow in Northampton Street and Golden Fleece in Ram Yard. But they wanted to renew the licence for the Baron of Beef. The application was supported by a petition from the Sick Benefit Society and was granted. Also Cow & Calf & Crown & Sceptre. 31 03 13f

1932 01 21
A Ram Yard plumber told Cambridge bankruptcy court he had been successful until 1929 but due to the trade depression he could not get sufficient work and certain customers did not pay. He built a house in Belvoir Road for his own occupation with the very best plumbing and if this sold for £1,100 he could repay his creditors. 32 01 21

1934 05 29
One of the best-known Cambridge hairdressers Alexander Joseph Priziborsky was born in Cambridge 54 years ago. It was his father who founded the hairdressing establishment in Round Church Street about 1856 and on his death in 1905 his son took it over. He shaved his first customer when nine years old and built up a first class reputation, the majority of his customers coming from outside the town. 34 05 29

1938 12 13
Cambridgeshire Photographic Record exhibition – includes watercolours of areas impossible to photograph including view of Fitzroy Street and Burleigh Street corner from roof of Laurie & McConnals painted by Beryl Pickering; other sketches include the Saxon Cement Works, Eagle Hotel yard, Hobson Street from King Street end, Miss M.C. Greene paintings of yards – Ninepin, True Blue, Ram Yard, Falcon Yard. Last thatched roof in Blackamoor Head Yard - 38 12 13a

1940

1940 05 17
Undergraduate fired blanks from starting pistol in Round Church Street – 40 05 17a

1942 08 01
Recent raid damage at Cambridge: bombs on Union Society; debating hall escapes; flying at less than a hundred feet and in full view of many people a German raider dropped HE and incendiary bombs. Main damage was done to the library, writing room, committee room and the lounge. Masonry which was flung about by the explosion burst through the roofs and all the windows at the front of the premises and overlooking Round Church Street were blown out. The debating hall was only very slightly damaged and that mostly by water. The end of the library received a direct hit from a small high explosive bomb and several fire bombs but the steel stacks in which the books were housed saved them from the effect of the blast. The collection of music books were lost. One stained glass window of the Round Church was blown in, otherwise the church escaped – 42 08 01, 42 08 01a [raid was July 23rd]

1942 09 19
Photographic club meeting room Ram Yard damaged by bombs, move – 42 09 19a

1943 10 07
Cambridge Photographic Society move HQ from Ram Yard to Cambridgeshire Technical School, though dark room will continue until Christmas; first lady president (Mrs K. Moore) retires Hon Sec for 15 years, I.S. Moore had died – 43 10 07a; death Agnes Johnson – 43 12 30

1950

1956 12 04
After 25 years and nine previous meeting places, Cambridge Christian Spiritualist Church moved into their own permanent home. The former Crown and Harp public house, John Street, can hold 100 people. The church had its beginning in July 1931 and met at 11 Ram Yard which was hit by a bomb and totally destroyed on 27th July 1942, a brass cross being the only thing saved. 56 12 04a
1958 03 27
Permission has been granted for the construction of a car park for 146 vehicles in Park Street, Cambridge. The site ranges from cottage and three-storey houses to warehouses and sheds. When financial conditions permit a multi-storey building will be constructed, probably with shops on the ground floor. A new access road will be made from Bridge Street along the present line of Round Church Street. 58 03 27a

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1961 03 10
The 'promontory', a building that formerly housed Prziborsky's hairdressing shop, with Ram Yard to its left and Round Church Street to the right, is to be cleared by the City Council to provide a wide lead-in to the new car park in Park Street. The cottages are not very beautiful and most have been condemned as unfit by the Public Health Department. But they are home to a small community of tenants including Tim Eiloart who crossed the Atlantic in a small balloon, Jasper Rose the artist-don who has a studio there and Graham Pollard, a numismatist at the

Fitzwilliam Museum. Their lives are interconnected, they give supper parties and meet together to play Bach in an upstairs room. But now they must move elsewhere 61 03 10 & a

1961 08 31
Przibor sky's barbers shop in Ram Yard is to be swept away by demolition and redevelopment. The site is to be incorporated into a new road leading to Park Street car park. It was founded in 1879 by Count Przibor sky after he left his position as barber at the Imperial Austrian court. The family connection elapsed in 1934 when the Count's son died and Mr Frederick Osborne took over the business. A ladies' hairdressing side catered for Girton and Newnham girls but was discontinued during the war 61 08 31a

1961 09 22
Demolition in Ram Yard has revealed a brick inscribed '1509'. Its size indicates that it was part of a batch produced shortly after 1790 when the Government imposed a brick tax. As a result bricks suddenly became larger so fewer were needed to build a house. A firm at Bourn made outsize bricks of a four-inch depth, which can be seen all over the village. A very handsome gault brick was made by a Barnwell firm. These are still very much in demand and when properties are demolished they are salvaged for reuse. The Shire Hall was built from such old bricks which fetch £11 a thousand. 61 09 22a

1964 07 30
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Round Church Street – 64 07 30

1964 11 19
Marshall's printing business, Round Church Street established 1826 by Mr Wilson; were nearly destroyed by bombs in 1942; to be sold – 64 11 19e

1964 11 27
Buildings in Jordan's Yard, Round Church Street and Bridge Street should be acquired by council for preservation and extension Park Street car park – 64 11 27i

1969 05 14
Bridge Street buildings on corner Round Church Street must be restored to original condition; owners P.H. Allin want to demolish – 69 04 30a. Storm over plans to demolish – 69 05 14 , 14a

1970

1972 05 06
New plans for office block development on the corner of Bridge Street and Round Church Street, Cambridge, are likely to be submitted soon, said developers, the Scottish Mutual Assurance Society. The Department of the Environment's refusal of the previous plans was announced yesterday, after a seven-year wrangle between developers, planners, and preservationists which culminated in a public inquiry last December. One of the crucial points of the first scheme was the future of number 10 Bridge Street on the corner which was to have been demolished. Objectors feared this would enable city planners to push back the building line in Round Church Street and set a radical precedent that would ruin the whole street, p9

1972 08 31
The preservation and restoration of the historic frontage of 10-16 Bridge Street, Cambridge is assured in new plans for a 40,000 sq.ft. development by the Scottish Mutual Assurance Company. An earlier version of the scheme was turned down after a public inquiry. It involved knocking

down the corner building and replacing it with a new structure which the inspector at the inquiry described as "aggressive in design". The new plans preserve the Bridge Street frontage. The scheme occupies a prominent site at the corner of Round Church Street and Bridge Street which has been a topic of heated discussion between developers, planners and preservationists for several years.

1975 05 09
Cambridge Union Society's historic debating chamber, scene of heated exchanges between Britain's top politicians this century, was badly damaged by fire. The blaze spread through part of the floor of the chamber and went up through two floors of the Round Church Street premises. Crowds gathered in Park Street as a 100-foot turntable ladder was swung into place and three pumping appliances arrived on the scene. The main part of the building was not affected by the fire. Teams of undergraduates mounted guard on the building throughout the night 75 05 09

1975 07 25
A protective walkway, quantities of scaffolding and expanses of wire netting surround the Tudor buildings that huddle around the corner of Bridge Street & Round Church Street, Cambridge. Behind the façade a vast mechanical screw digs into what was once Jordan's Yard, overlooked by the empty shell and sagging roofs of the rear of the buildings. Eleven years after it was suggested that something ought to be done to rehabilitate the delaying 16th-century houses, work is finally underway to preserve them as the front of a new office and shopping development

1980

1983 04 23
Les Neal is retiring after half-a-century of dedicated, devoted and skilful service as a gentleman's hairdresser. Apprenticed at the age of 14 in 1932 to Walter George Ambrose, he served with the Prziborsky business in Round Church Street before moving to Watson's in Mill Road. He is a dedicated supporter and leader of the Scout movement and an enthusiastic and expert player of the bagpipes. – Frank Matthews. 83 04 23

Castle Hotel, St Andrew's Street 1907 – 62.07

c.44.6 : St Andrew's Street

1898 06 14
The Cambridge surveyor gave particulars of what the council propose to do to the roads. From Station Road to St Andrew's street it was proposed to lay Australian "Jarrah" hardwood blocks in the whole of the carriageway. These blocks would also be laid between the tramlines. In Corn Exchange Street the paving was now granite, very rough, large setts being used. They had been put down probably 30 or 40 years. It was now proposed to substitute the wood blocks.

1899 04 19
The days of the Cambridge Spinning House are numbered. It is to be pulled down in order that a house of detention after the best approved modern ideas may arise on its site. There is no more stirring chapter in the history of modern Cambridge than that which this forbidding looking building in St Andrew's street recalls. It speaks of many things which the Cambridge of today is glad to forget. It is an ugly monument of an ugly feud between the authorities of the University and town. The feud is dead: would that the razing to the ground of the Spinning House were sufficient to efface all memory of it

1899 06 13
Frederick Lawrence of the Belmont Cycle Works, King St, was summonsed for furiously driving a motor car in St Andrew's street, Cambridge. Defendant said he had had a deal of experience in motor-cars. They were going about 6 miles an hour. They were using the "Large" lever by which

the car was unable to go more than 8 mph. The magistrate said that when there was considerable traffic in a street 6 mph constituted furious driving. A fine of £1 was imposed.

1899 11 02
When residents in St Andrew's street, Cambridge, saw a procession of cabs passing onward "all mournful and slow" to the railway station the people knew that someone had been sent down from the University. From Emmanuel College a youth emerged and under a shower of rice made hurriedly for the cab waiting at the door. The driver, "Gentleman Joe" wore a tall hat draped with crape, and so did the drivers of some four cabs what followed. The hero of the hour entered the Great Northern Station, the train moving out to the strains of "Auld Lang Syne". Meanwhile the cabbies grove back to their respective stands. They were of more cheerful aspect on the return journey and each puffed a festive cigar.

1899 11 24
An unusual incident took place in the Baptist chapel. St Andrew's street, Cambridge. The pulpit was occupied by the Rev Jackson of Reading who preached a very able sermon. Afterwards the Rev. Charles Keene, who was in the audience, occupying a seat in the gallery, rose and made a few remarks criticising what the preacher had said. Mr Keene was quietly heard and when he had finished Mr Jackson thanked him, and the service was closed in the usual way.

1900

1900 02 28
The building which stands off St Andrew's street, Cambridge, and which has recently been erected through the munificence of Mrs Lewis & Mrs Gibson, members of the congregation of St Columba's Presbyterian Church was formally opened. The need for such a hall had long been felt and is undoubtedly one of the best buildings of the kind. It has cost no less than £2,000 & is lighted with electric light.

1900 03 09
The large ornamental advertising lamp which hung outside the Star and Garter, Petty Cury, Cambridge, all but cost Mr Ernest Simpkin, a tailor of Russell Street, his life this afternoon. He was walking along the Cury when a bus ran very close to the kerb. The top caught the lamp with such force as to bring it with a crash to the ground and one of the brass ornaments struck him on the side of the head. He was conveyed in a hansom to Mr Lucas, surgeon of St Andrew's street for medical treatment.

1900 04 19
Cambridge Town Council were told a conference had been held between two members of the committee and the Master and Bursar of Emmanuel College with reference to the construction of a new street from Drummer Street to St Andrew's Street, and the closing and giving up of Emmanuel Street to the college.

1900 12 21
A middle-aged labourer employed at the New Police Station buildings, St Andrew's Street, Cambridge, met with an accident. He was on the top scaffold, shifting roof principals. In doing so he tumbled off the platform and fell a distance of 18 feet to the next floor, breaking his jaw.

1900 12 24
A Corporation employee descended beneath the surface of the road in St Andrew's Street, Cambridge, with a candle in his hand and approached the gas main running under the tramlines.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

This pipe contained a leakage, and a quantity of gap was escaping. The flames of the candle caused the escaped gap to explode and flames shot up out of the cavity in an alarming manner. The employee arrived at the surface little the worse for his experience. Traffic was suspended for some time until the leakage was repaired.

1901 03 05
There is good reason for believing that before long St Andrew's Street Baptist Chapel, Cambridge, will be materially renovated. The Police Station has gone, the Spinning House has followed suit and now the alterations of the last of the three pre-historic buildings are in contemplation. The Chapel is not exactly a thing of beauty and the removal of the present front in favour of one of greater architectural beauty will be a welcome contribution to the aesthetics of Cambridge. A committee has under consideration whether the present chapel should be "mended or ended". At any rate the present front must go.

1901 04 18
Cambridge Council reported that in 1900 a meeting had been held with Emmanuel College as to the terms of exchange of the site of Emmanuel Street for a piece of ground to form a new street from St Andrew's street to Drummer Street. The existing street was the chief means of access to the centre of the town and carried a very considerable proportion of traffic with 1,030 cyclists on Saturday. The new road would be nearly 100 feet shorter and wider. Mr Campkin suggested the advantage would rest largely with the College.

1901 06 19
St Andrew's Street subsidence, p2

1901 10 02
A young bull with journalistic instincts paid a hurried visit to the editorial department of the C.D.N. The editor's assistant went to the door on hearing a slight knock to be confronted by the bull, who evidently desired to see the "chief". As the animal did not present a card, a movement was made to get him off the premises. In this a butcher's boy rendered great assistance and the courageous animal trotted merrily into St Andrew's Street to resume his journey to happier surroundings.

1901 11 11
St Andrew's Street footpath, p3

1901 12 07
The wood paving of the main street of Cambridge from the station to the post office has now been completed and last evening the men engaged in the work had a dinner at the Red Lion. When the mind is carried back to the days of the Long Vacation when St Andrew's Street was so decidedly 'up', some impatience may be forgiven to shopkeepers and householders who were anxious that normal conditions should be restored. Credit should be given to the police for the excellent way the traffic was regulated during the 'upheaval'. There was not a single accident.

1901 12 18
Sir – Crowds which perambulate St Andrew's Street, Cambridge, on Sunday evenings have been growing in numbers and disorderly conduct and unless something is done we shall soon have a reproduction of the conditions prevailing in many of the large manufacturing cities. I am no prude, but to those going and returning from places of worship these crowds are an intolerable nuisance. In almost every parish with an artisan population there is an institute or club or reading room, but how many of these are opened for free use on Sunday. Should not the clergy seek out

and rescue these lads and girls from the vice and immorality which is involved in their method of "getting through Sunday". – J.J.

1902 01 17
Cambridge Volunteer Fire Brigade's new fire station in St Andrew's Street is in telephonic communication with different parts of the town through the National telephone Co and by means of ten fire alarm posts. There are three permanent salaried firemen on duty, one during the day, and two during the night. They have a double call bell to the stables of the Lion Hotel where there were two horses in readiness to be called out for the fire tender. It was contemplated to have a steam fire engine but how soon it would come it was not possible to say.

1902 01 24 c
An accident of somewhat curious character occurred in St Andrew's Street, Cambridge. A butcher's cart collided with a tram and the wheel of the cart went on to the platform of the tram. A mail van then collided with the tram and cart and for a while everything was in disorder. The vehicles were with difficulty separated without, fortunately, anyone being injured.

1902 11 10
Notice to Entertainment Providers. Messrs Coulson & Co of St Andrew's Street Cambridge have purchased one of the latest Cinematograph Machines that it is possible to get. This machine is capable of showing 2,000 feet of pictures without any breakages. Pictures shown are very bright and steady and any size up to 20 feet may be obtained. It can be used either in dining room or public hall with equal safety. Sleight of hand and other items of entertainment can also be supplied.

1903 01 28
St Andrew's Street Baptist Chapel, Cambridge, is to be swept away and another more ornate is to be substituted. It has often excited the curiosity of strangers and not a little ridicule has been bestowed upon those who have worshipped in such a prison-like building. Even Charles Spurgeon described it as suitable for private executions. The new building will have both a tower and spire and be worthy of the prominent position it will occupy.

1903 05 06
The work of rebuilding St Andrew's Street Baptist Chapel, Cambridge, has reached an important stage with the ceremony of laying the foundation stone. The travelling crane upon the elevated railroad around the site was stationary, the workmen had turned their attention to the erection of a platform to accommodate the spectators. An important factor was the bottle placed under the stone which may in some remote age meet the gaze of an explorer yet unborn, the contents being a plan of the church, a programme of the day's ceremony and a copy of the CDN.

1903 08 19
Sir – last evening I met three horses running loose and apparently unattended along Mill Road, Cambridge. Some distance behind them two men were being dragged along by a young horse which they were evidently trying to 'break in'. Carts, cycles and other users of the road overtaking them had to slow down until they could dash past & foot passengers had to seek safety in doorways. I have also frequently met in St Andrew's Street a high-spirited, high-stepping horse being led by a single rein about 20 feet long, the other end being held by a man on a bicycle! These things ought not to be allowed in our streets – Citizen

1903 09 24

The result of the Rochester by-election was received in Cambridge about 10.20pm and was announced to all and sundry by the ascent of the Cambridge Daily News balloon with its coloured lantern attached. An alternative signal of a green flare from a parapet overlooking St Andrew's Street was also given, and the numbers were read out from the door of the CDN. A large crowd assembled in the vicinity and the announcement was received with cheers, mingled with an occasional groan. The news was conveyed to the New Theatre where it was announced from the stage by Mr Charles Gerant, who worked it cleverly into his dialogue. It was received with enthusiastic and prolonged applause from all parts of the house

1903 10 23
St Andrew's Street chapel weathervane, p3 *

1904 01 28
St Andrew's street chapel, p3 *

1904 02 01
The new St Andrew's Street Baptist chapel, Cambridge, was formally dedicated. The exterior of the building is captivating, the interior is beautiful and the structural arrangements for the comfort of the congregation well considered. Unfortunately the pastor who had so strenuously worked on the scheme was unable to attend due to illness but so that he should not be entirely deprived of participation in the events the deacons arranged to have the speeches delivered in the building transmitted to his home by means of electrophone

1904 02 01
Sir – I read of safety concerns about the new St Andrew's Street Baptist Church in Cambridge. No public building in Cambridge is better provided with safe and speedy exits. The new gallery can be cleared in much less time than before; all the doors open outwards, the stairs are wide, the exits are accessible and unobstructed. The chapel is lighted by electricity but there is an auxiliary service of gas which can be brought instantly into use. Panics very rarely occur in ordinary religious assemblies and we have taken all reasonable precautions to deal with an unexpected calamity – Chas. Joseph

1904 02 19
Cambridge Liberals have been turned out of their handsome home in St Andrew's Street. Few provincial political clubs have had such a palatial clubhouse with large lofty rooms, spacious hall and staircase with a terrace overlooking gardens. The deceased Alderman, Henry Rance, who built the extensive premises practically ruined himself in the process. Members are now removed to a property in St Tibb's Row formerly occupied by a now defunct newspaper until new premises are completed on the site of the old Bird Bolt Hotel.

1904 03 09 c
On any evening youths of between fourteen and eighteen roam about the principal streets of Cambridge for hours. This is not an altogether innocent activity. For them the streets are not thoroughfares but a rendezvous from whence 'the temptations of our streets' proceeds. It is difficult to attract these young people to the churches; for some years a small institute with two rooms and a pantry has been open in St Andrew's Street for reading, games, boxing, Indian club exercises. It is managed by a committee of University men and its success has now emboldened them to hold lantern services in the Victoria Assembly Rooms

1904 04 21

Cambridge Paving Committee received a memorial from a number of residents in the Hobson Street area calling attention to the present state of the carriage-way. They directed the Surveyor to report the cost of paving the street with wood blocks, together with the portion of St Andrew's Street from the tramway terminus. But Hobson Street was used by very few people; traffic was not half what it used to be and as the trams were likely to be electrified it would be better to wait. However a great amount of traffic came from Newmarket Road to the centre of town down King Street; very often there was a great block of traffic in Sussex Street because it was dangerous to go down Hobson Street where the pebbles were very uneven. Traffic went on dropping, and business went on dropping, simply because the street was so badly paved.

1904 11 05
St Andrew's street builders, p4

1904 11 22
Frederick Silk told the court that he was driving the prison van along St Andrew's Street in Cambridge when he ran into a handcart & knocked its 63-year old driver down, cutting his hands and face. The man had been drunk and pushed the cart into his wheel; there was no other traffic on the road at the time. Silk could not stop because he was going to the station with the 'Black Maria' to fetch some prisoners from the 4.30 train. He was fined £1

1905 07 17
The new Cambridge buses have experienced their first small accident. The 'Light Blue' was slowing down in St Andrew's Street and drew up close to the kerb in order to take in a passenger. The incline of the road naturally caused a slight tilt of the bus and as the cradles of the street lamps project over the road the two met with the result that the top of the lamp was bent and a pane of glass smashed.05 04 17a

1905 04 20
Cambridge Street Tramways Company have determined to improve their service by constructing an extra passing loop in St Andrew's Street opposite Emmanuel College to enable them to double the number of trams on that route. But no cart would be able to pass if two trams were standing together and there was already a great deal of traffic at the dangerous corner with Downing Street. There was talk of some 20 motor 'buses and if so it was unlikely whether any other traffic would venture in the streets at all 05 04 20c

1906 01 31
The new Cambridge Liberal Club premises in Downing Street includes an assembly room with a ladies gallery, reading, smoking and games rooms. But it has nothing that can compensate for the loss of the beautiful garden they enjoyed in their old home at Rance's Folly in St Andrew's Street. It will be formally opened by the Solicitor-General. 06 01 31a

1906 02 22
In 1901 an agreement was made with Emmanuel College for the closing of Emmanuel Street and the opening of a new one nearer Christ's Lane. It had been needed when electric trams were being planned to remedy a dangerous corner with St Andrew's Street – but there would be a more dangerous corner to the proposed new street. Now some councillors called for the agreement to be cancelled. However the council had entered a binding contract and they were honour-bound to carry it out.06 02 22a,b,c

1906 04 10

George Edward Foster was the principal partner in the banking firm of Foster and Co which was amalgamated with the Capital and Counties Bank. He never married and concentrated his whole energies on the undertaking which attained great dimensions through his skilful direction. His wealth enabled him to be munificent to an unusual degree. When St Andrew's Street Baptist Church was replaced he gave £1,500 towards the new structure 06 04 10a

1906 05 08
Water colour exhibition by M.C. Greene, A.G. Chataway, A.J. Pertz & M. Watson of the Garden Studio, St Andrew's Street – 06 05 08a

1906 12 19
The handsome new Norwich Union building with its ornamental white stone façade finally stands out in bold relief. Downing Street and St Andrew's Street corner is freed from inconvenient hoardings at last. The builder was summonsed for delay in removing them: there were periods when no work was being carried on at all. Throughout construction a policeman had needed to be on point duty at a cost of £250. But he had made genuine attempts to get the work through in a reasonable time. He was fined a nominal one pound. 06 12 19a & b

1907 01 09
A new development of gas lighting in St Andrew's Street renders the exterior of the New Theatre almost as light as day. By the use of an automatic compressor the power of ordinary incandescent light is increased fourfold but cost of the gas consumed is halved. There are two other installations in Cambridge, one in the locomotive department at the railway station and the other at Messrs Crossman's knitting factory in Norfolk Street. 07 01 09

1909 01 22
Cambridge New Theatre was built on the site of an arcade of small shops from St Andrew's Street to Parkside. The arcade became a roller-skating rink but this proved a bad speculation. It was taken by the Conservative Club who christened it St Andrew's Hall, where amateur theatrical performances were sometimes held. Mr Redfern leased the building which he reconstructed and in 1882 the first performance was given in 'The Theatre Royal'. Then in 1895 the foundation stone of the New Theatre was laid. 09 01 22

1909 04 09
The Rev Charles Joseph, minister of St Andrew's Street Baptist Church, has had a varied career, having been a commercial traveller and journalist with a weekly column in the 'Baptist Times'. He came to Cambridge in 1898 and oversaw the erection of the new chapel in 1903. His forcible preaching is so much appreciated that he is in constant request as a special preacher and his engagement book is full many months ahead. 09 04 09

1909 07 02
Harry Johnson, senior partner of the St Andrew's Street firm of newsagents, was endued with gentle courtesy and had not the personality which enters upon public contests with joy. He was a member of the Free Library Committee from 1875 and supported the Liberal Club, Young Men's Christian Association and the Peace and Arbitration Society. He was one of the earliest directors of the General (Histon Road) Cemetery Committee and treasurer of the Cambridge Esperanto Society. A large number of townspeople attended his funeral, anxious to pay their respects. CWN 09 07 02

1909 10 29

A terrible story of the most revolting cruelties imaginable was told by the secretary of the Congo Reform Association to a large audience at St Andrew's Street Chapel. He had seen natives with their little baskets of rubber being whipped by white men. The rules state they may be given 28 strokes in one day but this must stop if they bleed or faint away. Christian men and women should to use their influences to secure better conditions. CDN 09 10 29

1909 11 19
The latest addition to the numerous miniature rifle clubs has been formed in connection with the Loyal Suffolk Hussars at Ye Olde Castel Hotel, St Andrew's Street. - CWN 09 11 19

1910

1910 01 14
Mr Paget's supporters held a torchlight procession through Regent Street, Emmanuel Road, Fitzroy Street, King Street and St Andrew's Street. Torches of many kinds, some of an evidently hastily prepared character, were held aloft and Mr Paget rode in a carriage in the centre of the procession, which included about 30 horsemen who formed an imposing guard of honour. The Conservative candidate was accompanied by crowds of men, lads and even women and girls, bearing aloft torches, pink lights and Union Jacks, and blowing tin trumpets and whistles. CWN 10 01 14a

1910 07 08
Bankruptcy W.J. Pink, ladies and gentlemen's hosier, St Andrew's st - 10 07 08 & a
St Andrew's street Baptist new minister, Rev M.E. Audrey

1912 05 17
Cambridge tobacconists are organising a petition in favour of compulsory closing. Many wish to close but a tobacconist in St Andrew's Street complains that although he would be glad of a rest on Thursday afternoons he cannot afford to do so as shops on either side of him are doing a good trade and his regular customers would desert him. College kitchens have stores of tobacco which they will sell to members of the University and this will have to be fought out in the future. Amongst the signatures are John Kitteridge, A.J. Ransom, Albert Maile, S.P. Ora and Bacon Bros. 12 05 17

1913 02 28
Rev M.E. Aubrey, minister St Andrew's Street Baptist church – profile, 13 02 28 p3 & 5 CIP

1915 09 17
Cambridge Men's Brotherhood started 10 years ago, meetings St Andrew's Street Baptist, now to meet Playhouse, Mill Rd.

1918 07 10
Motor car nearly overturns bus on St Andrew's Street – 18 07 10b

1920

1920 03 06 CDN
Licensing renewals: Turnstile, Newmarket Rd; George IV East Rd; Queen's Arms, St Andrew's Street; Smith and Wheelwrights Arms, East Rd; Boot, King St; Dewdrop, Gwydir St; Tally Ho; Indian Chief, Chesterton

1920 03 10
Licensing sessions: refer East Road : Turnstile. George IV, Smith & Wheelwright Arms, King St: Boot; Gwydir St: Dewdrop; Newnham: Tally Ho; Chesterton: Indian Chief; Cherry Hinton Hopbine; Renew St Andrew's St: Queen's Arms – 20 03 10b

1920 12 31
Herbert Robinson garage, St Andrew's street to open in New Year

1921 07 06
St Andrew's Street Baptist Church war memorial unveiled – 21 07 06a

1924 09 27
Nowadays telephones are accepted as belonging to the general order of thing that are, and even the proverbial small boy ceases to be curious. Businessmen alternately regard the telephone was an infernal nuisance or an indispensable instrument. Telephones were curiosities in 1878 when an undergraduate at Pembroke College fixed up two between his digs in St Andrew's street and a little summerhouse at the bottom of the garden. These were absolutely the first seen in Cambridge.

1924 11 06
The night of the 5th of November was clear and calm, and there was a bright moon to light the way of revellers – ideal conditions for a "rag". So evidently thought a large crowd of undergraduates and townsmen that gathered on Cambridge Market Hill in hopes. Police stood around in little groups taking a giving chaff good humouredly with the crowd. Squibs and occasional small rockets broke the peace and were heralded by faint cheers and feminine shrieks if they happened to go off in the press. The first intimation of anything interesting was the sight of a small youth, pale and very troubled looking, marching up St Andrew's street, firmly held by a constabulary hand.

1925 02 06
The recommendation of the Watch Committee that Cambridge Town Council purchase for the sum of £5,500 the Fountain public house, St Andrew's street, for the purpose of extending the police and fire brigade stations was not adopted. Coun. Few said they had heard a lot about not being able to afford works of utility, now they were proposing to buy premises and pull them down, thereby using skilled labour which might be used in building houses. Coun. Kenney asked if the brigade needed to be in such a prominent position

1925 11 18 c
Foreign missions take an important place in the religious life of Cambridge, and the reports from China of the shocking ill-treatment and martyrdom of missionaries at the hands of the Boxers, have been read with grave anxiety and pain in this town. The fate of Mr & Mrs Herbert Dixon has greatly exercised the minds of their many friends and it is now recognised that all hope of their having escaped is past. They were for some months in Cambridge, residing at Mill Road and when leaving were recipients of presentations from the congregation of St Andrew's Street Baptist church. Another melancholy case is that of the sister of Mr Doggett of The Farm, Cherry Hinton but Miss Gregg has escaped and is now on her way home.

1929 09 23
An outbreak of window scratching has occurred in Cambridge over the weekend. Shopkeepers along St Andrew's Street discovered with disgust that scratches and scrawls which had not been there when the shops closed. On some of the windows grooves have been cut, apparently with a

diamond. Among the worst affected are Johnson Bros dyers, Flack and Judge grocers, G.P. Hawkings confectioners and the Ideal Cleaning Company. Marks of a previous outbreak of a more serious nature are still to be seen on many shop windows in Regent Street, p8

1929 12 04
An explosion in St Andrew's Street plunged a considerable part of Cambridge's shopping centre into darkness. The cover plate of a junction box of the Electric Supply Company was blown off and several people had a narrow escape from injury. Flames leapt up from the hole and blazed fiercely. For some minutes there was great excitement, people rushing hither and thither. Police whistles were blown and the Fire Brigade turned out but found that the fire had already been put out by a motorist with a fire-extinguisher from his car. Shops and houses in a large area were deprived of light and the printing of the 6.30 edition of the C.D.N. was held up.

1930

1930 02 13
Arbury Baptist church stonelaying photo, p5
St Andrew's street cables photo, p8

1930 12 12
There was an exciting scene in the centre of Cambridge at mid-day. Amid cries of 'Stop, stop' and the blowing of police whistles, a man made a headlong dash down St Andrew's Street. People turned and stared and as a means of stopping him a cycle was thrown in front of his path. Eventually he was captured and, with a stalwart policeman on each side, was walked back to the police station. He appeared to be a young man, smartly dressed in a light coloured suit and grey soft hat. He was charged with passing counterfeit half-crowns. 30 12 12b & 30 12 13

1932 02 26
St Andrew's Court, off St Andrew's Street, was a disgraceful place in the centre of Cambridge. It was not only an eye-sore, but dangerous. Properties were dark, damp, reeking with age and decay. The houses were not fit for human habitation, children under school-leaving age will not be permitted to live there – but what of young mothers and old people? Such slums should be demolished, the Medical Officer urged. 32 02 26

1933 06 15
David John Scott had been engaged in photographic work all his business life. He first started in 1884 in partnership with Mr Wilkinson at 47, St Andrew's Street. They bought an existing business for £300 and traded for five or seven years before the partnership was dissolved and he bought Wilkinson out. About September 1932 he had to leave those premises and remove to 59 Regent Street, which affected the business. Trade had declined and people were not having their photographs taken as much as they used to. 33 06 15c

1934 01 08
Thousands of people lined both side of St Andrew's Street when the Queen and Duchess of York paid a private visit to Mr Woolston's antique shop where the Queen chose several tiny ivory objects for her famous doll's house. She also inspected the Cambridge Tapestry Company's premises in Thompson's Lane where they watched the women workers actually engaged at the canvas and saw the tapestry panelling now being made for Lord Fairhaven, depicting his seat at Anglesey Abbey. 34 01 08

1934 01 30
Another interesting part in the Queen's visit to Cambridge was played by Mr Walter Riddy, proprietor of the St Andrew's Road Garage, Chesterton. After the Royal car had broken down and the Queen had been driven by Mr Percy Titmous, he received a telephone message requesting the hire of a Daimler saloon at short notice. He changed out of his working clothes and drove to Mr Roe's shop in St Andrew's Street to take the Queen to the Copper Kettle Café and then on to Exning. There she invited him to remain for lunch but he had another engagement and could not accept. 34 01 30

1934 05 29
The new Cambridge Post Office in St Andrew's Street was needed to meet ever-growing demand. People knew they could obtain wireless licences, motor licences and gun licences but not that they could get marriage licences as well. There was criticism that the stamps remained the same but it was not policy to make money out of philatelists by creating unnecessary issues and would mean altering stamp machines. Now deliveries would improve and the 26,000 letters a week delivered by second post will in future secure first post delivery. 34 05 29 & 30

1934 06 29
In spite of its delightfully antique appearance the inside of the new Fountain public house in St Andrew's Street is the last word in modern efficiency. Owned by William Younger of Edinburgh, the architect was C.M. Quilter and the Tudor style mirrors their other pubs up and down the country. The Scottish atmosphere is maintained by the variety of tartan panels and coats of arms which decorate the windows. 34 06 29

1934 08 02
Road repairs St Andrew's St – photo – 34 08 02

1934 08 16
Ye Olde Castle Hotel in St Andrew's Street was devastated by fire. Every fireman and policeman was called from other duties as smoke billowed from the gabled windows leaving people gasping at its pungency. Staff and volunteers busied themselves removing furniture. The Hotel ranked as one of the oldest inns in Cambridge, dating back to the 13th century. It was reconstructed about 1620 and the last extensive additions were in 1891. It is doubted whether it will be possible to restore the damaged parts of this historic building. 34 08 16

1935 01 23
Her Majesty, Queen Mary, paid a surprise visit to Cambridge to purchase some antiques for her collection. So informal was the visit that even the police were not told she was coming and did not know she was in the town until her car was recognised. Officers then proceeded to Stanley Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's Street where there was soon a crowd of about 1,000 people. Motor cars parked nearby were removed and for some time bewildered drivers were inquiring the whereabouts of their vehicles. The Queen visiting all 16 rooms and bought a number of choice specimens of china, glass a furniture which were placed gently in her car. 35 01 23a

1935 10 01
Cambridge Justices approved the plans of Associated British Cinemas for a new cinema to be erected in St Andrew's Street. The site had been left derelict after fire burnt down a large part of the Castle Hotel in 1934. The application was opposed by the Theatre Cinema and the Rendezvous. There were nine cinemas in Cambridge with 6,300 seats and it would be impossible for them all to carry on if a super cinema like this were built. The Victoria was built four years

ago, the Arts Theatre was completely new and the Rendezvous was having more seats and an organ. But the Cosmopolitan had closed and the Guildhall and Corn Exchange licences were rarely used. 35 10 01 & a

1936 03 21
Many people have wondered about the object of the black and white poles which have sprung up along St Andrew's Street and Hills Road. The Ministry of Transport have finally given permission to the system of unilateral parking and the posts will be adorned with notices warning motorists not to park on the wrong side of the road on the wrong day. There is also some reason for believing that the new 'one-way' streets will also be brought into operation before very long. 36 03 21a

1936 03 25
Roger Roe carried on the antique business in St Andrew's Street in succession to his father and many times had the honour of waiting upon royalty, dies – 36 03 25c

1936 06 11
"Sluice" (George Edward) Parker was a street vendor of various things, at one time flowers, at another matches. It was a matter of common knowledge that he was always a little "tipply" on his legs and was ever so deaf. He had been crossing St Andrew's Street when a number of cyclists came round the corner which seemed to daze him. He'd stepped back right into the path of a Homerton student. Police said he smelled strongly of drink but was not drunk. It would only have taken the merest touch to upset his equilibrium. He'd been taken to Hospital in the Police Ambulance where he died of pneumonia. 36 06 11

1936 07 04
Cambridge street lighting is being brought up to standard. Hills Road and St Andrew's Street are already ablaze. So is Sidney Street. Twenty-three miles of streets will be illuminated by autumn. Side lights properly equipped with seven watt bulbs are all that are now required by motorists. Pedestrians and cyclists are now visible from afar after dark. The lamps are lit automatically by clock devices and soon the familiar figure of the lamp-lighter will disappear from the streets forever 36 07 04

1936 08 24
A freshwater eel, well over two feet long appeared in St Andrew's Street about tea-time on Saturday. The eel, which appeared to have been dead for some time, first made its appearance through the grating which carries the stream by the side of St Andrew's Street. A passer-by saw it floating and lifted the grating, allowing the eel to fall into the gutter. It attracted great interest until removed by a Corporation scavenger. The water flows up into the gutter from the underground Hobson's Brook and the eel must have been carried along by the stream 36 08 24

1936 11 28
Billy Cotton, who is bringing his popular band to the Theatre Cinema, St Andrew's Street, has a style of his own. He stands coolly in the centre of the stage and with little more than a flick of the wrist gets just what he wants from the musicians The band is a variety show in itself, best-liked on the stage because the wireless and gramophone cannot do them full justice. The comedians are especially good, there are two Japanese entertainers, a conjuror, dancers and a pair of trick cyclists. But Cotton is also a keen racing motorist and has just bought Sir Malcolm Campbell's original 'Bluebird' which he intends racing at Southport. 36 11 28a & 36 12 01

1936 11 28

Brazen George Inn was in St Andrew's Street, Alexandra Street was its yard – 36 11 28

1937 02 01
Alexander Paul MacAlister was articled to Messrs Fawcett's, a Cambridge firm of architects, before starting on his own in St Andrew's Street 45 years ago. He designed the new block at Fulbourn Mental Hospital and the Tubercular Hospital at Antwerp as well as many houses in Madingley Road. He founded the Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society and played parts in all the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. 37 02 01

1937 02 04
Proposed alterations to the police and fire station were opposed by councillors as it meant compulsory purchase of property belonging to St Andrew's street Baptist Church. The fire station could be moved to Maid's Causeway allowing the police space for the next 50 years. But there did need to be accommodation for constables – recently when a large number of additional men were required for emergency service the Chief Constable had to send motor ambulances and motor patrol vans to whip them up. 37 02 04a & b

1937 02 06
Although rebuilt as recently as 1935, Robinson's garage in St Andrew's Street has again been enlarged to meet ever-increasing business. This has enabled them to enlarge their radio department which is quite distinct from the motoring side of the business. It is staffed by men who have made radio their special study and offers hundreds of brand-new sets (some in their original cases) at pounds below list prices. The radio service department is one of the finest in the entire country with engineers from Marconi, H.M.V. and Pye factories. 37 02 06c & d

1937 02 12
Mr G.H. Jacob specialises in his tailoring for ladies and gentlemen and holds Gold, Silver and Bronze medals in addition to thirteen trade diplomas. He offers a complete gentlemen's outfitting service. The shop at 34 and 35 Burleigh Street was established in 1859 by Mr P.S. Stevenson and taken over by Mr Jacob in 1912. In 1926 the business was extended by the opening of a branch shop at 23 St Andrew's Street where extensive enlargements and alterations have just been completed. 37 02 12

1937 08 16
Sir – as a small boy in the 1880s my first impressions of Cambridge were so different from today as to be almost incredible. Cambridge, bounded practically by Mill Road railway gates, Paper Mills Bridge, Hills Road Bridge and Queens' Road was a glorified village. It smacked of medieval times with its Spinning House in St Andrew's Street and bread and butter was retailed in yard length by Varsity tradesmen. The fastest vehicles on the road were the pretty tandem horses in dog carts affected by rich undergraduates and hansom cabs and I remember assisting the shepherd of Mr Joseph Sturton's sheep with his flock to and from Parker's Piece where they were grazed – P.J. Wright 37 08 16

1938 10 28
The Cambridge & County Girls School started in 1900 in the Drill Hall, East Road, then known as the Technical Institute. By 1903 they overflowed into rooms belonging to the Zion Chapel Sunday School and it was not until 1909 that they moved to the present buildings, retiring headmistress, Miss Dovey said. But in August 1914, when war broke out, the school was taken possession of by the Welsh Fusiliers and other regiments. For a year the school was housed in Emmanuel College lecture rooms and St Andrew's Street Sunday School. Soon they would move to new premises in Long Road 38 10 28 & a

1939 06 17
Theatre Cinema, St Andrew's Street, known for many years as the New Theatre, was closed in January of last year after the pantomime but specially reopened for one week in November for the annual production by Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society of 'The Pirates of Penzance'. Now the ABC company has decided to use the building once again as a cinema 39 06 17

1940

1940 11 09
Duchess of Gloucester opens new WVS club, St Andrew's Street – 40 11 09a & b

1941 06 21
Mayor cuts down railings WVS HQ, St Andrew's Street – photo – 41 06 21b

1941 98 15
James Henry Kidd of Kidd & Baker dies aged 72; first worked for Faulkner-White in St Andrew's Street, then Scott & Wilkinson. Opened his own business in St Mary's studios 36 years ago and was joined by Miss Baker who had worked with him at Scott & Wilkinson. Business thrived, good mixed trade with University and town. War produced difficulties in obtaining materials and the studio was forced to close – 41 08 15a

1944 01 29
CDN publisher, C. Maile celebrates 50 years – memories – front office was at extreme end of arcade facing the street; on one side entrance to Theatre Royal and on other entrance to kindergarten school when New Theatre wanted old office as refreshment buffet for stalls the front was moved to present editorial offices. Later moved right up to St Andrew's Street in place of Alphonso Smith's boot shop and Scott & Wilkinson's photographic establishment. Helped publish Victoria Diamond supplement. Appointed published in 1913 and has remained. Remembers when 'Weekly' printed four pages a time on the old Wharfedale press when copies had to be 'knocked up' and counted out in dozens. During General Strike of 1926 CDN produced a single morning sheet which circulated widely. Delivery of weekly paper provided problem in absence of trains and buses and with only one horse and cart for town delivery. Managed with help of Bim Hodder and his sports car, the Herts and Beds Bacon Company and a hired lorry – 44 01 29

1944 05 05
Telephone supervisor, Grace Curzon retires after 45 years; was one of two telephone operators in Trunk Exchange of Old Post Office. The local telephone exchange was on Market Hill under control of the National Telephone Company. In 1913 the Post Office took control and a combined trunk and local exchange was installed in old Telephone Exchange premises in Alexandra Street. When automatic telephone working was introduced in 1925 it moved to new head Post Office in St Andrew's Street – 44 05 05a

1945 08 24
Queen Mary re-enters car after shopping visit to St Andrew's Street – 45 08 24

1946 01 12
Anglo-American Hospitality Committee wound up' started in 1942 when known that more than 300,000 American airmen would be stationed in East Anglia. Leave hostel established in lecture room over St Andrew's Street Baptist church until the Bull Hotel opened on Nov 4th. By then an

information centre – later club – had been opened at the English-Soaking Union at Matthew's Café. Hospitality arranged in colleges and private houses. August 1943 saw first reception at Guildhall to a regiment of Supply Troops; also Christmas Eve party in Guildhall which broadcast. Concentrated on US Hospital patients and staff of their hospitals. Garden party at Pembroke when Freedom of Cambridge to US Eighth Air Force. – 46 01 12

1946 05 01
St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel Street road widening, discussion council and Emmanuel College – 46 05 01

1946 05 03
Proposal for car park at rear of Regent Terrace, would take 85 cars and no parking ban on St Andrew's Street – opposed – 46 05 03; demolition of air raid shelters means more light for residents

1947 11 20
The thoughts of women everywhere will be with H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth, when, in a few short hours from now, she goes to the altar of Westminster Abbey to her bridegroom, Lieut Philip Mountbatten. Wedding presents have been bought as a response to the public appeal launched some time ago, when people were invited to subscribe a shilling each. Cambridgeshire's money has been spent on a collection of antique furniture and glass, two sets of books and two garden seats. The latter were made at Papworth Industries, but everything else was purchased in Cambridge and is on view to the public at Mr Stanley Woolston's shop in St Andrew's Street

1948 01 21
Princess Margaret paid her first visit to Cambridge to-day, when she accompanied Queen Elizabeth and Queen Mary on a visit to Mr S.N. Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's Street. The Princess wore a pale blue costume, with a pale blue halo hat with a feather in it. Her coast was fawn fur, and she had blue lizard sling back shoes and a grey lizard bag. Her youthful charm drew spontaneous admiring remarks from the crowd which saw the Royal party leave. The Princess showed great interest in all she saw during her tour of the premises and asked several questions. She was obviously fascinated by the shop and its contents

1948 05 08
There must have been many conjectures as to how many cycles do pass up and down St Andrew's street, Cambridge, in the course of a day. A special cable apparatus used by Cambridge Borough Police yesterday recorded an average of 1,400 cycles per hour. During the peak period from 12.30 to 1.30 pm nearly 2,000 cyclists were clocked. Motor traffic figures are negligible by comparison only 460 vehicles an hour being "clocked" regularly over the whole day. The census was organised in connection with the one-way traffic system which will shortly be brought into operation

1949 01 17
The Queen, Queen Mary and Princess Margaret arrived in Cambridge by road from Sandringham to visit Mr Stanley Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's street. They were welcomed by an unusually large "arrival" crowd which had started gathering about half-an-hour earlier. The concentration of police in the area had a magnetising effect. The Queen wore a dress and coat of rich purple, with matching felt hat and sling-back skin shoes, and silver grey fox furs. The hat was trimmed with veiling and small purple flowers. The crowd swelled steadily until there were several hundreds lining both sides of the pavements. The Queen was chatting when she walked

from the shop to the car, and those nearest were honoured with the lovely, charming well-known smile

1949 07 16
Rapid progress has been made this week in the demolition of Coad's former shop at the junction of Emmanuel Street and St Andrew's street, Cambridge. The work, which forms part of the street widening scheme envisaged many years before the war, will involve the complete clearance of the corner and the provision of a larger curve to assist buses and increase visibility. There is no immediate prospect of further developments in the scheme but it is possible that a seat might be provided on the newly-cleared space.

1950

1950 05 12
When Stetchworth Dairies roundsman, Mr John Shorter, came out of a house in Downing Street he found his milk van had vanished. The horse had taken fright at noise from building operations and bolted at full gallop. Despite heavy traffic the horse swerved round the corner into St Andrew's Street, missed five motor cars and a bus by inches, and continued at a gallop towards Regent Street. Mr John Higgins cycled after the runaway, seized the bridles and gradually gained control over the horse and forced it to a standstill beyond the University Arms Hotel. Mr Higgins, not a young man, was handicapped by a heavy box of plants on the front of his cycle and his prompt and plucky action exhausted him

1950 12 30
A plea for the Borough Court to bring pressure to bear on the corporation to provide better parking facilities in Cambridge was made by a solicitor when he appeared on behalf of a motorist summoned for causing a motor car to wait in St Andrew's Street for a longer period than the permitted 15 minutes. "I feel it is only a matter of time before every motorist in Cambridge comes to court because he is forced to leave his car somewhere. The parking situation is a nightmare', said Mr A.H. Wild. 'One feels the police are carrying this vendetta to extreme lengths", he added.

1952 04 16
Sir – I wonder how many Cambridge ratepayers approve of the idea of water trickling along the gutters of St Andrew's Street. It was laid in case cattle wanted a drink, which was a good idea. In 1952 however it is a bad idea because it makes the street narrower, especially when cars are parked and buses are forced close to the kerb. I saw a quart of water splashed into the lap of an infant in a small go-cart when a bus went past Stanley Woolston's shop at a smart walking pace and its mother was unable to manoeuvre out of the bus's bow wave. I'll wager she would like to see the tap turned off – O.C. Cox.

1952 05 17
Over ten years ago St Andrew's Street Baptist Church commenced work on the Ditton Fields Estate, Cambridge. A Sunday School was opened in the old Community Centre and later an Army hut was bought and re-erected on a grass verge on the estate. Now a new advance is in prospect; a splendid site at the corner of Dudley Road was made available by the Corporation and work is proceeding on the new building.

1952 06 05
While 26 assistants searched for smoke they could smell in their living quarters above the premises of Messrs Robert Sayle in St Andrew's Street, Cambridge, a thick pall poured out of one

of the windows on the top floor. When the alarm was raised a score of them dashed downstairs and through the shop carrying their belongings with them. One assistant, Miss Ann Todd, said: "I thought of all of my clothes and I struggled down from my room with masses of them. I wasn't going to leave them behind". As it was Thursday afternoon there were only about 30 people in the premises at the time. Staff organised a chain of buckets until the arrival of the Fire Brigade.

1953 01 02
About 200 cups of tea were served to bargain hunters as they queued waiting for the opening of the Belfast Linen Store's January sale. The queue started to form along St Andrew's Street soon after 5 a.m. and the long, chilly vigil was relieved by a welcome cup of piping hot tea at about 8 o'clock. It was dispensed from a van supplied by Hobbs' Pavilion, Parker's Piece. First bargains to go were quilt sets slashed from 12 to four guineas, spring interior mattresses reduced to £3 19s. and pillow cases at 1s. each.

1953 01 20
Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, accompanied by Princess Margaret, paid a surprise visit to Cambridge to call at Mr Stanley Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's Street. News of their coming was a secret, but a handful of people appreciated the significance of the 'No Waiting' signs & when the sleek Royal car drew up a crowd of about 200 had been attracted to the scene. The Queen Mother, fresh and charming as ever, returned the cheers of the crowd with a smile and a friendly nod. Princess Margaret, demure, attractive and smiling followed her mother into the shop which has now enjoyed Royal patronage for a great many years.

1953 03 17
Business at the Bene't Street, Cambridge, branch of Barclay's Bank has expanded to such a degree over recent years that additional premises are required to handle an 'overflow' of work. Now a new bank has been built at 3, St Andrew's Street. The counter is made of Honduras mahogany and glass panelling is extensively used, a modern feature which nevertheless preserves the traditional dignity of a bank. There is a unique feature about the new bank. Alongside the wall facing the church is a line of thirty tombstones, some 250 years old, which had to be displaced during building operations.

1953 05 20
A dress to be worn in Westminster Abbey on Coronation Day by a Cambridge resident has been sold by Vogue's of St Andrew's Street. An afternoon dress of pure silk its price was 65 guineas. "We are absolutely thrilled, it is a great honour", said Mr M. Harris, the proprietor. They have also sold three evening gowns to be worn at Coronation balls in London connected with the Court. White is proving to be the most popular choice this year for May Ball dresses; the off-the-shoulder style is in demand and the average price is 15 guineas

1953 11 16
The Cambridge Daily News made their own news when a fire broke out in the front office of the St Andrew's Street premises which are immediately opposite the Fire Station. P.C. Roberts noticed smoke coming from the building and smashed the front doors. While he was under a table smothering the flames the rising heat brought the sprinkler system into operation, preventing the blaze from spreading. The Fire Station send over a pump escape and turntable ladder and the fire was under control within four minutes. A number of replies to advertisements were damaged and it would be advisable if readers who have answered adverts within the last few days would write again.

1954 01 13

A crowd of about 100, including a fair sprinkling of undergraduates, saw Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother and Princess Margaret arrive at Stanley Woolston's antique shop in St Andrew's Street, Cambridge on one of the private shopping visits which they so often make while at Sandringham. The Royal Party remained inside for an hour and during this time one of the biggest crowds to be seen had collected. The pavements on both sides of the street were a solid mass of people and shop assistants took up vantage positions in windows overlooking the scene. The mid-day meal must have been late in many homes judging by the number of housewives with heavily-laden shopping baskets who stood in the crowd.

1954 06 30 c
An undergraduate who tore down a small signboard from the outside wall of the Cambridge Daily News office and then waved it in the road to stop traffic, was fined a total of £2 and ordered to pay 10s., the cost of replacing it. Pc D. Murfitt said he was in St Andrew's street at 11.10 pm and saw a group of undergraduates coming towards him. One of them was trying to stop traffic in the centre of the road by waving a blue board. When the lad saw him he tried to conceal the board under his gown. The undergrad wrote admitting the offence adding: "I am afraid I behaved very foolishly. The exams were over and this was a stupid way of letting off steam".

1954 07 20
Planners have approved a new development between St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel New Court, Cambridge. There will be shops on the ground floor and offices above and the building will be of a high architectural standard in keeping with its position in the centre of the city. Provision must be made for a widening of Emmanuel Street and be sited to allow for a free circulation of the shopping traffic generated. Car parking facilities are advocated, either by way of a basement or by access to a space on the roof.

1955 07 02
Miss Kathleen Payne, 76, is retiring after a lifetime in the newsagents' business as her shop in Emmanuel Street is to be pulled down. It marks the end of one of Cambridge's familiar landmarks. The business was started by her father who remembered selling his first C.D.N. in 1888. Miss Payne has lived there all her life & recalls when chickens used to run down St Andrew's Street before the days of super shops, large cinemas and motor buses. 55 07 02

1955 11 02
She was only about eight but she looked far more confident than many of the car drivers who edged their way out of Downing Street at lunch time. Unescorted she steered her conveyance neatly through the traffic and with a satisfied shake of her head rode off on her little black pond down St Andrew's Street. The cars were left behind at the junction. 55 11 02a

1956 07 14
Mr Stanley Woolston has removed his antiques business to Pembroke Street. It is a wrench to leave his former premises in St Andrew's Street after 30 years where he has been honoured by the gracious patronage of members of the Royal Family. But the buildings have been affected by the redevelopment of Emmanuel Street and plans to link Drummer Street with a shopping arcade. He will retain his warehouse at the end of Bradwell's Yard until the area is ripe for rebuilding. 56 07 14

1956 11 27
A proposal to close Christ's Lane and provide an alternative footway between Drummer Street and St Andrew's Street was approved in 1954. But now Christ's College have proposed an alternative consisting of an arcade leading into a central courtyard then through another arcade to

Drummer Street. The council would be responsible for maintaining, cleaning and lighting it. 56 11 27a

1957 06 26
Rance's Folly, the large redbrick house now being demolished in St Andrew's Street once had several lifts, four bathrooms and central heating – as well as a swimming pool. Guests even played tennis on the roof. It was built by Henry Rance who was Mayor in 1878 and 1882 – when he held council meetings in his dining room - and included a ballroom whose floor was laid by experts brought specially from Germany. Here his granddaughters were never at a loss for partners. 57 06 21 & 21a

1957 08 23
Plans have been announced for a modern shopping arcade linking St Andrew's Street and Drummer Street bus station, replacing the Christ's Lane. There would be a two-storey block of shops facing an open court together with a waiting room for bus passengers and basement parking for 21 cars and 100 bicycles. 57 08 23b & c

1957 09 06
You would hardly expect to find flowers and plants high above Cambridge in the land of roof tops and chimney stacks but among the slated slopes of 4, St Andrew's Street Mrs P. Southgate has created a roof garden. She has turned a small lobby into a conservatory with trailing plants and ferns, tubs and boxes of earth making an attractive relief to what can so easily be a dismal scene. 57 09 06

1957 11 26
St Andrew's Street development photo, p7

1957 11 28
Hobson's Conduit channels down each side of St Andrew's Street to be cut off, allowing road to be made wider – 57 11 28

1959 02 07
Bradwell's court development – sketch – 59 02 07
St Andrew's Street transformation in a year – photos – 59 02 07a

1959 02 26
Gordon Thoday has specialised in fabrics for over a quarter of a century. At the new contemporary shop in St Andrew's Street modern display counters give the advantage of self-selection, or if you prefer our staff will be happy to serve you from the immense and exciting variety of the newest British and Continental fabrics. Our Sussex Street shop continues as usual – Advertisement. 59 02 26

1959 03 01
Emmanuel College's new building in St Andrew's Street has attracted many protests and the Anti-Ugly Society joined a mock funeral procession lead by four pall-bearers looking somewhat like Teddy Boys in their 'mourning weeds'. They bore a coffin inscribed 'Here Lieth British Architecture' which was placed outside the Porter's Lodge as mourners chanted 'Pull it down and burn it.' Although most onlookers treated the protest as a great joke for the Anti-Ugly Society it was a matter of serious importance in their genuine concern for architecture. 59 03 01b

1959 06 18

The giant new Prudential Building on the junction of St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel Street incorporates the latest building techniques with heating and hot water provided by electrical units which take power from the mains during 'off-peak' hours and store it for use during the day. Acoustic ceiling tiles provide quieter working conditions, floors are of a coloured plastic tile and decorations in pastel shades. The basement contains a large garage and special storage to cater for the large use of bicycles by staff. 58 06 18

1959 07 02
Exclusive shoemakers for over a century – that is the proud tradition of A. Jones and Sons who came to Cambridge as successors to Thrussells of St Andrew's Street – a name known for courtesy, quality and value. Their fine new shop is the latest of 35 Jones branches and stocks Airborne, Joyce, Rayne, Scandies and Van-Dal shoes for ladies – advertisement. 59 07 02

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1960 01 23
Bradwell's Court, the new public footway linking St Andrew's Street with Drummer Street, was opened for the first time this week. At the same time Christ's Lane, the old cobbled pathway, was closed. With an arcade at each end and an 'open style' court in the centre, the new thoroughfare is flanked by 13 shops 60 01 23c

1961 05 29
Westminster Bank opened their first Cambridge branch at the junction of Trumpington Street and Bene't Street in 1845. It was closely connected with University and College life and the original premises have been enlarged several times. Now a continued expansion in business has seen a handsome new bank in St Andrew's Street together with the modernisation of the one in Fitzroy Street which opened in 1952 to cater for that active and expanding shopping area 61 05 29a

1961 06 16
New Theatre, formerly St Andrew's Hall and Theatre Royal, St Andrew's Street – history by F.A. Reeve 61 06 16c & d

1961 07 01
The Roe family has been well known in Cambridge since Joseph Roe started in the antiques trade in Petty Cury in 1826. Now one more facet of the old times will disappear with the demolition of their shop on the corner of Christ's Lane and St Andrew's Street. It has been in existence since 1882, having been rebuilt in 1897. New buildings will rise on the site in keeping with the contemporary Bradwell's Court. The business has relocated to Downing Street where it will be continued by Owen Roe. 61 07 01a

1962 01 02
Clearing snow St Andrew's street & dumping it at Quayside – photos – 62 01 02b

1962 04 16
Cambridge Daily News moved from St Andrew's Street to Newmarket Road – 62 04 16c

1962 08 11
Bradwell's Court arcade and shop development has been a joint venture between Jesus and Christ's Colleges and Ravenseft Properties. It stretches from St Andrew's Street through to

Drummer Street bus station and provides a continuous covered route to the city centre. Work on demolishing the out-of-date shops and buildings started as long ago as October 1957 but was held up by difficulties over leases. The last tenant to go was the well-known antique dealer, Mr K.A. Rowe. By the time the University term begins again the development will be complete and all the 20 new shops and showrooms fully occupied. 62 08 11a

1962 09 05
A voice on the telephone last night warned the manageress of the Kenya Coffee House in St Andrew's Street, 'There is a time-bomb in the café, it will wreck the place within an hour'. An emergency call went to the police and a squad of ten detectives who rushed to the café ordered its immediate closure. It was the second bomb hoax on the premises within the last month. Staff say they lost about £4 in takings while the premises were closed. At about the same time the Fire Brigade received a call from a foreign sounding voice to say the Scotch Hoose Café was on fire. But nothing was wrong. 62 09 05b

1963 12 31
Cambridge News new offices on corner St Andrew's Street marks transfer of business from office in New Theatre Building – 63 12 31a

1964 03 04
St Andrew's Street rebuilding photos – 64 03 04a

1964 10 08
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on St Andrew's Street – 64 10 08

1965 02 03
Inquiry into development Downing St – St Andrew's Street – 65 02 03b

1965 05 24
Minister rejects plan for redeveloping Downing Street, Downing Place & St Andrew's Street triangle – 65 05 24, 24b

1967 11 30
Cambridge Building Society formed as Cambridge Benefit Building Society in 1847open new offices in St Andrew's Street – 67 11 30, a

1968 05 02
City council buys block property in St Andrew's Street to make shopping arcade through to Lion Yard – 68 05 02

1969 03 19
Milletts outfitters, St Andrew's Street damaged by fire which threatened a whole block of shops and offices; may have been raided – 69 03 19, 19f

1970

1972 01 18
Norwich Union building, corner St Andrew's Street and Downing Street – history – 72 01 18 & a b

1974 07 18

Seven generation of Barretts have been supplying the citizens of Cambridge with pottery and glass since the C18. This week the family business is virtually "coming home to roost" in opening up new premises in Gt St Mary's Passage – only a stone's throw from the spot where Simon Barrett opened up his first shop nearly 200 years ago. The long-established premises in St Andrew's Street will still remain in business.

1975 02 10
Cambridge's city centre traffic experiment swung into action today. Thousands of motorists faced the through-traffic ban for the first time. The road closures and a system of one-way routes will operate for six months unless "utter chaos" develops. The scheme could then be swiftly abandoned. It closes two sections of road in the centre of town to private cars. One extends along King's Parade from King's College gate to Gt St Mary's while the other runs from Woolworth's along St Andrew's street to its junction with Emmanuel St

1975 05 09
The Varsity restaurant in St Andrew's Street, Cambridge, is not the place to go if you are fussy in demanding smart décor. But it does offer good wholesome food at extremely low prices. We saw one elderly gentleman complaining that his carafe of wine (£1.10 a half litre) was too cold. The obliging waiter held it in front of an electric convector fire to bring it to a more acceptable temperature. It was little more than a gesture, as the fire was not plugged in. We ate a three-course meal, with wine, and the bill for two was £3.25 75 05 09

1975 06 11
The much-criticised second stage of Cambridge city council's central area traffic experiment has been abandoned and traffic flow systems introduced five weeks ago withdrawn. This means there is again two-way traffic in Regent Street, Parkside, Emmanuel Road and Short Street. Through traffic is still banned along parts of St Andrew's Street, Sidney Street & Kings Parade. City police said many motorists were confused by the changes which it was improving impossible to enforce. Long traffic queues had built up at major junctions since the start of the experiment which brought traffic chaos to the city

1975 07 09
Dozens of traders in central Cambridge have mounted a campaign aimed at persuading the city council to drop its traffic control scheme, which prevents cars from going along parts of King's Parade, St Andrew's Street & Sidney Street. They are complaining about a big slump in business since the scheme started six months ago. Some say they have experienced a 50% drop. Shops are hit by the traffic ban during the day and restaurants, pubs & places of entertainment suffer at night. Tomorrow the council will be recommended to ask Whitehall to make the scheme permanent.

1975 09 29
Number 10 Downing Street, Cambridge, the new Norwich Union Building has been 'topped out'. It replaces the former building on the corner of St Andrew's Street. There were some protests about the loss of the old buildings but planning permission was eventually given after the Royal Fine Art Commission approved the designs.

1976 07 24
A Cambridge hot dog seller was in fighting spirits after the latest attempts to have him moved from his regular "pitch" at Bradwell's Court. Last week Ravenseft Properties suspended four metal poles from the arcade roof at the St Andrew's Street end to keep the stall out – but he simply side-stepped the poles. Now they have fixed more poles. In order to stay he would have to

stand on the public right of way through the court – and risk being summoned for obstruction. Managers of two neighbouring cafes claim his stall is damaging their trade and he can undercut them since he doesn't pay rates, rent or wages. Yesterday he was determined to fight it out "to the bitter end. If they want me moved they will have to carry me out", he said

1976 08 03
The Government has decided that the experimental traffic restriction system in the centre of Cambridge can become permanent. Through traffic will be prevented from going along Sidney Street and St Andrew's street between Emmanuel and Market Street junctions, and along King's Parade. The experiment was introduced 18 months ago – against a background of support from amenity organisations and opposition from city centre traders who carried their protests to a public inquiry.

1980

1980 09 03
Visitors to Cambridge will be confused if they use the latest Ordnance Survey map of the city. The Lion Yard shopping centre, completed more than five years ago, is not shown but marked as a collection of tiny streets. Christ's Lane, closed for the past 15 years and not even visible, is still shown as leading from Drummer Street to St Andrew's Street whilst the University Centre is an empty space. Even the Tourist Information Centre is shown as at the front of the Guildhall, rather than the back. The O.S. said it did not seem very satisfactory 80 09 03b

1983 03 26
It is 30 years since Charles Antoni took over the Varsity Restaurant in St Andrew's Street. His philosophy is to provide a warm and pleasant atmosphere coupled with good food and service at a price which did not leave you with a full stomach and light wallet. The menu offers Greek, French, Cypriot and English dishes. Starters cost between 40p and £1.05 and apart from a range of charcoal-grilled steaks and a couple of kebab dishes, none of the main courses cost more than £2.70. Sweets are priced between 60 and 80p. 83 03 26 p10

1983 12 19
Vogue, one of Cambridge's most distinctive fashion shops is closing but for them a closing-down sale does not mean a wild scrimmage as customers fight over coats and dresses. Instead a locked door keeps the bargain-hunters out on the pavement while staff deal with two or three clients at a time. Vogue first opened in 1934 when Mark Harris set out to build a high-class trade which today means dresses of up to £500 in price. They are the top fashion house in East Anglia but soon the old shop and its garden will disappear. His father opened Modiste in a former public house further down St Andrew's street in the 1920s and all of his six brothers and sister were in business in Cambridge.
83 12 19 p5

1984 09 06
A blaze swept through the ABC cinema in St Andrew's Street, gutting the central part of the 730-seat auditorium. The recently-renewed screen melted with the heat and the rest was damaged. The Polyurethane seat and floor coverings caused a lot of smoke which penetrated the upstairs ABC2 cinema. It is believed to have been started by a cigarette end left smouldering by a cinema-goer. Last year the Victoria cinema was damaged by an arson attack. 84 09 06

1984 11 02

Own Roe, the St Andrew's Street antiques dealer, is the latest in a line of specialist private shops owners to be driven out of the centre of Cambridge by massive rent rises. His great-grandfather started in business at the corner of Christ's Lane in 1822 but that shop was pulled down to make way for Bradwell's Court in the 1960s. Recently E.J. Pigott (tools) left Sussex Street after nearly 50 years and now the Granta Wool Shop is concerned about a rent review. Model Mania in King Street has also moved. 84 11 02 p8

1986 01 25
Cambridge City Council wants to increase central area parking as cheaply as possible and is prepared to do a deal with a developer to sell or lease the large area of waste land next the Lion Yard car park. Possibilities include an eight screen cinema complex to be developed by an American company, offices, houses and flats, a luxury hotel or shops linked to St Andrew's Street by moving walkways. Some of the schemes are very attractive visually but the ones that could give the council the best returns are amongst the ugliest. 86 01 25

1988 12 28
St Andrew's Street Baptist Church has opened a new three-storey Stone Yard Centre which nestles between the church and the Canon cinema, with a restaurant open to the public as its focal point. The cost has been high for the 300 regular churchgoers to find but plans are advanced for other projects including a luncheon club for the elderly and a marriage counselling service. 88 12 28b

...Daily News

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 1936

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King Ghazi accepted,

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F.W. WOOLWORTH & CO. LTD.

[Photo] [Cambridge Daily News

CAMBRIDGE STREET IMPROVEMENT

The appearance of Sidney Street now that the last piece of abutting property has been removed reveals the value of this long-needed improvement.

MOTHER ACCUSED OF SON'S MURDER

ILL-TREATMENT OF BRITONS

VON RIBBENTROP AT PALACE

Presents Credentials to

JIM MOLLI... DOES IT AGAI...

Record Atl... Flight

OCEAN CROSSE... 13 HOURS

JIM MOLLISON has conquer... Jantic by air for the third... established another record.

He is the first airman to ha... plished the treble.

He landed at Croydon airpor... plane Dorothy at 9.56 a.m., h... Harbour Grace, Newfoundland... last night, local time (8.40 G.M...

WELL WITHIN RECOR...

The wonderful flight of 2,300 ... thus completed in 13 hours 16 ... well within the record of 18 hou... by the Americans, Richman and... in their flight from Harbour G... Wales.

Mollison's own estimate for the ... had been 14½ hours.

Jim Mollison has thus added an... cord to his magnificent list.

He first flew the North Atlant... east to west—in August, 1932. He ... from Dublin and reached New Br... in 30 hours 10 minutes. This was ... time that the vast ocean had been ... in a light plane.

Mollison's next crossing was in ... 1933. He was accompanied by his ... pid wife, Amy, and the flight nearl... ed in disaster when their plane c... at Bridgeport, Connecticut. This t... cupied 39 hours.

Before Mollison started on his ... journey last night he was handed a ... age from Amy wishing him good...

St Edward's Passage 1961

242.58

c.44.6 : St Edward's Passage

1900

1902 10 24
The members of the Cambridge Y.M.C.A. celebrated their jubilee with a soiree in their rooms in Alexandra Street. 50 years ago the Church of England Young Men's Society and the Sunday School Teachers' Institute amalgamated, forming the Association. It settled in Rose Crescent. In 1853 it moved to larger premises at 5, Sidney Street, moving to Hobson Place in 1858 and then St Edward's Passage. In 1870 the first stone was laid of their present building; it was completed a year later. To call the soiree a success is scarcely adequate; the visitors never had a dull moment from the time they entered the door until the National Anthem brought the evening to a close.

1905 07 18
The landlord of the Central Hotel, Cambridge, told how a man rang the bell in the commercial room and as if he could have a 'number''. This was the customary way in which commercial travellers asked for a room. Later the man said he could not pay his bill. He did not believe he was a commercial traveller and called the police. The man carried a parcel, neatly done up similar to those carried by travellers but when opened it contained two racing calendars, a tin of boot polish and some newspapers. 05 07 18d & e
1906 08 07
Cambridge fire brigade undoubtedly saved a portion of King's Parade, St Edward's Passage and Peas Hill from destruction by fire. There are numerous old houses, warehouses, sheds and outhouses of all descriptions, many constructed chiefly of wood. It broke out at Mons Buol's bakery, 17 Kings Parade; the bakehouse was gutted and hundreds of pounds of chocolate, almonds and sugar damaged. 06 08 07

1908 09 11

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

A miniature rifle range and air rifle club has been formed in connection with the Church of England Young Men's Society at their large room in St Edward's Passage. The two targets can be placed in two positions – for shooting standing up or lying down – and two good air rifles have been provided. Englishmen should learn to shoot in order to defend their own hearths and homes and the Corporation should establish a range open almost all hours of the day. CWN 08 09 11 p8

1910

1914 04 17
The unhappy conjunction of the name Sadd and Greef on King's Parade has been a well-worn joke. Now it is about to be broken. Mr Sadd is soon to move to premises in St Edward's Passage while Mr Greef is moving further up the Parade. The Sadds began business last century as dealer in antiques and a hairdresser in one of a row of old-fashioned houses standing in front of King's College. When the cottages were pulled down they moved opposite. His son made a sketch of the old houses 14 04 17g

1920

1923 01 29
The third annual meeting of the Cambridgeshire Federation of Women's Institutes was held in the Cambridge Guildhall. Representatives from 28 out of 29 institutes attended and steady expansion was reported in all branches. The office and shop at 10 St Edward's Passage has been a great factor in this advance. Institute members now have a central meeting place where they can view each other's work and exchange ideas, whilst inhabitants of Cambridge have the opportunity of getting into touch with country women and are glad to profit from the results of the homecrafts practiced by their country sisters

1930

1930 05 28
The bookshops of Cambridge are a special feature of the town; no visitor can possibly miss David's stall on the Market Place where the book-lover may pick up a bargain. He came to Cambridge in 1896 and started his career at this stall; in 1906 he took a shop in St Edward's Passage, which is full of interesting old books and though often locked can be viewed at leisure in the window. In such esteem is he held that a luncheon was held in the Hall of Trinity College and a lithograph cartoon by Mr William Nicholson presented to him. 30 05 28a & b

1936 03 21
Albany coffee shop St Mary's Passage notes; frontage between St Mary's Passage and St Edward's Passage sold - 36 03 21b

1936 11 20
Gustave David, known as 'David' to generations of undergraduates has died hours after returning by the midnight train having attended a London auction. He came to Cambridge forty years ago, opening his now-famous stall on Market Hill. Later he opened a shop in Green Street before moving to St Edward's Passage. He was the first man in Cambridge to sell rare and old books at low prices. So appreciative were Universitymen of his services that in 1925 a number of distinguished members entertained him to lunch at Trinity in recognition of the 'conspicuous services he has rendered the cause of humane letters'. 36 11 20 a & b

1940

1940 02 22
Robert Henshaw, furnishing fabrics, Peas Hill/St Edward's Passage: illustrated advert – 40 02 22a

1950

1958 12 12
King's College announced a new rebuilding scheme in the city centre which will mean the demolition of the Central Hotel and café to provide more accommodation for students and a better headquarters for the Cambridge branch of the Midland Bank. The Bursar said the structure of the existing building is in a very parlous state and they could not for structural safety do less than rebuilding completely the whole interior. However this would only be forcing new wine into an old bottle so they had commissioned the design of a new building by Mr K.W, Capon of Architects' Co. Partnership. 58 12 12c

1959 06 04
St Edward's Passage development – opposition – 59 06 04

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collections has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1960 01 07
Central Hotel preservation call – 60 01 07

1960 01 08
King's College has replied to criticism of its plans to demolish the 17th-century Central Hotel on the corner of St Edward's Passage and Peas Hill. Whilst the Midland Bank premises are scheduled as an ancient monument, the St Edward's Passage premises are not. The College has considered eleven schemes for the site, some of which would preserve the façade, but the preservation of the interior was a hopelessly haphazard proposition. Their architect has taken infinite care to ensure the new building preserves the essentially domestic character of St Edward's Passage, says Noel Annan, the Provost. 60 01 08b

1960 03 09
Central hotel sketch 60 03 09

1960 03 09
Central hotel college attitude 60 03 09

1960 03 10
A final decision to demolish the Central Hotel was made by King's College after discussion with the Cambridge Preservation Society. Only five Fellows voted to try to preserve the St Edward's Passage façade while demolishing the rest. Everybody agrees that the interior was in a hopeless state of disrepair. When the college bought the property in 1936 they intended to develop the site. In 1956 they concluded that no part of the hotel could be preserved and commissioned a new building. 60 03 10

1960 03 24
Builders are now shoring up the interior of the Central Hotel in Peas Hill prior to demolition. Yesterday the Central Tea Bar, which occupied the corner of Market Hill and St Edward's

Passage, closed and bricks were piled in front of its entrance. The Midland Bank will stay in the building although some changes will have to be made while the first phase is completed. The new building should be ready in about two years 60 03 24a

1960 05 21
In demolishing the old Central Hotel near Cambridge Market Place, the contractors have found it to be in a worse condition than they anticipated, but it has conformed fairly accurately to the surveyor's report prepared by King's College who own the site. The comparatively recent facings of the interior of the building were concealing a rotting structure underneath and the building has to be pulled down with extreme care – almost brick by brick. The hotel is being pulled down in two phases of which the first has now been completed. The first half of the new building will be erected before the second half is pulled down 60 05 21a

1961 02 11
Central Hotel redevelopment photo – 61 02 11a

1980

1982 06 11
Three Cambridge restaurants have been recommended in a new guide to vegetarian cooking. But Renwick's Restaurant in Magdalene Street closed in March. Hobbs Pavilion comes in for the highest praise for its chilled cucumber soup while Nettles in St Edward's Passage serves a bulgar wheat pie that looks unappetising but tastes remarkable. 82 06 11a

1988 09 05
Nettles, one of Cambridge's most popular snack bars in St Edward's Passage, may close. 88 09 05

Repairs to St John's College, 1934

68.63

c.44.6 : St John's Street

1910

1910 12 09 CWN
Through the enterprise of Mr W.J. Ison, the Cambridge public is able to see the latest developments in bicycles as exhibited at the great cycle exhibition at Olympia, London. In the windows of his depots in Chesterton Road and St John's Street are to be seen samples of the all-steel Raleigh cycles which attained such wide fame. Doubtless many local cyclists will take the opportunity of inspecting these latest models of all that is best and most modern in the bicycle – 10 02 09c

1933

1933 12 30
Chesterton RDC is to transfer their headquarters from St John's Street to a floor of the old County Hall in Hobson Street. It is possible the new West Cambs RDC would also take offices and share the council chamber. Councillors decided that six houses at Rooks Lane, Cottenham were slum property and should be demolished as should four cottages in Lambs Lane even though they were watertight and the owner, who was over 80, spent most of his old age pension in keeping them in repair. 33 12 30

1934 08 28

The renovations to St John's College have been the subject of much comment in 'The Times'. It was suggested that the two turrets at the front were in imminent danger of falling away from the main tower because of a system of main drainage 30 years ago when a trench 30 feet deep was dug along the street. But there is no evidence of settlement due to foundation trouble. The walls had shattered because of vibrations caused by street traffic. 34 08 28

1936 01 08
An amazing roof collapse awakened residents in Broad Street, East Road, shortly after midnight. When they rushed into the street they found that the whole of the roof of a storehouse and garage belonging to Messrs Whitehead, the fruiterers, had crashed down on the contents of the building. It is thought the long-continued rain and damp weather may have affected the wooden beams. One of the three lorries in the building had the engine badly knocked about and some boxes of fruit were smashed by beams and tiles. It is said that when the old All Saints Church opposite St John's College was pulled down, the stone was auctioned off and many loads of it went into the building of this store house 36 01 08

1937 03 04
Miss Lilian Clarke gave a lantern lecture on 'Lady Margaret and her two colleges' in the Reference Room of the Central Library. She drew on her wonderful store of knowledge of bygone Cambridge with many interesting anecdotes that kept her large audience entertained. Recently it has been found that the main gate of St John's College was being rattled down by the heavy lorries which passed through the narrow streets every night. It will be necessary to rebuild, but there are problems in getting bricks to match 37 03 04

1938 04 30
The proposed new buildings for St John's College involve the immediate erection of buildings to complete the present Chapel Court with wings projecting beyond to the north and east. These should be ready for occupation by Michaelmas 1939, including 50 undergraduates and ten fellows' sets of rooms. There will be an open court facing Bridge Street should the houses eventually be taken down and the road widened and ultimately a riverside court overlooking Magdalene 38 04 30 & a

1938 03 05
Part of Sidney Street was closed to traffic following the development of a bulge in the front wall of the premises of Austin & Co., coal merchants. The bulge is sufficiently marked to be easily visible. Last night crowds gathered in the expectation that the wall might fall, but they were disappointed. In shops on either side it was a case as 'business as usual'. Traffic has been diverted via Petty Cury and St John's Street while builders work on the affected wall 38 03 05 & a

1940

1947 01 14
One-way traffic extension scheme – Sidney Street, St John's Street, p5

1948 06 01
Today the one-way traffic system designed to relieve congestion in the centre of Cambridge came into operation. In Sidney Street and Bridge Street the traffic will flow in a northerly direction towards Magdalene Street from the town centre, while in St John's Street and Trinity Street it will flow in a southerly direction towards King's Parade. In Green Street traffic will flow in one direction from Gifford Place to Trinity Street - and the remainder of Green Street will be open for

two-way traffic. This extension of "one-way" traffic will link up with the system now in operation at St Mary's street, Market Hill (north side) and Market Street

1948 06 04 c
Sir - the one-way system has certainly created danger spots at the corner of St John's Street, Cambridge. They could be remedied by putting traffic lights there back into operation. The only alternative would be to divert all traffic into Petty Cury. Every user of Petty Cury will have to agree that it is already far too narrow even for the present volume of traffic - pedestrians are crowded into the roadway and bus drivers often have their work cut out to squeeze their buses through at walking pace. Short of some more radical plan (e.g. banning all motor traffic from the streets round Market Hill) I think the one-way system is as good as we shall get - A.E.B. Owen

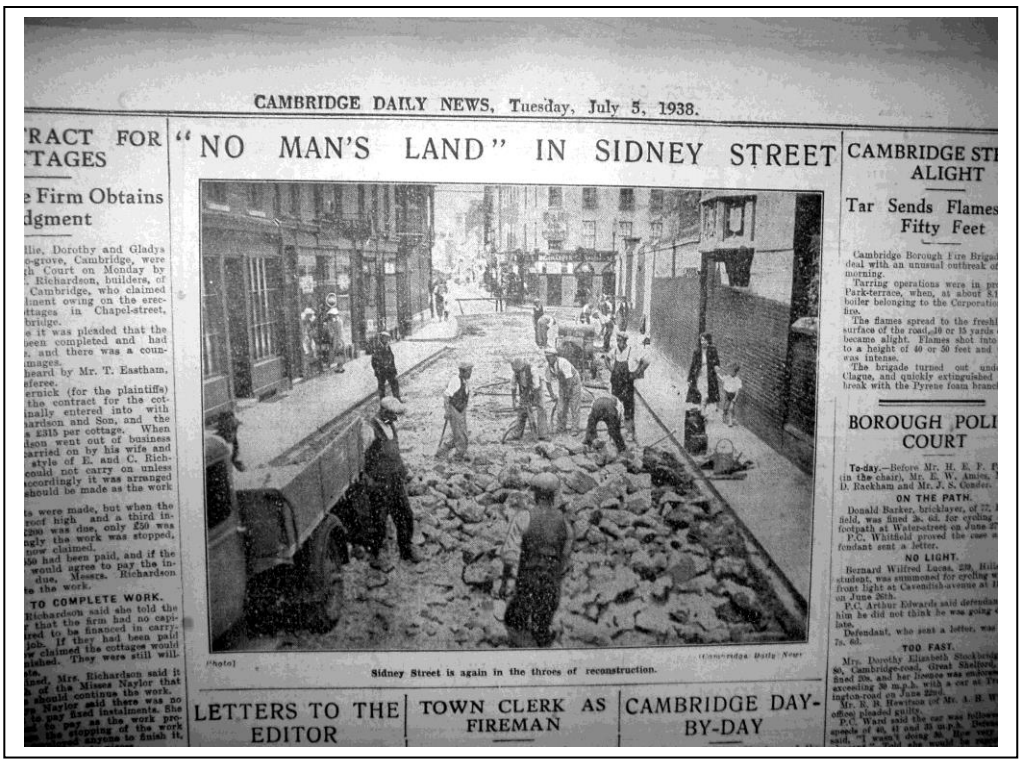
1950

1958 03 28
The Koh-i-Noor restaurant has been in St John's Street since 1936, the owner, Krishna Vir, told magistrates. Now they wanted a licence to sell beer and cider. They provided 700 meals a week and to send out for drinks from the Mitre or Baron of Beef took too much time. Dr Glyn Daniel, a Fellow of St John's College, said he occasionally visited and would like to be able to get a drink of beer 'when the curries are very hot'. 58 03 28

1982

1982 09 30
The chapel bell at St John's College has been tolled by hand since the 17th century. But now the college porters will no longer have to climb the 30 steps in the gatehouse at six o'clock every day, and twice on Sundays, to summon the congregation to prayer. Engineers have installed an electronic control unit so the bells can ring out at the touch of a switch. Bob Fuller, the head porter, said "I have just celebrated 30 years of working at the college and this is the best present." 82 09 30b

1985 03 21
Pipe smokers and cigar lovers will welcome a specialist shop which will fill the gap left by the closure of Bacons in 1983. Harrison and Simmonds, which was founded in Bedford in 1928, is taking the shop at 17 St John's Street, Cambridge. The fixtures and fittings have the traditional look offering a standard of service that matches the timeless quality such a store should have. Customers will be able to try tobacco from all over the world labelled with Dickensian names such as Barnaby Rudge and Pickwick and the shop offers hand-blending to give the pipe smoker optimum choice and also stock a wide range of fine pens. 85 03 21b



CAMBRIDGE DAILY NEWS, Tuesday, July 5, 1938.

RACT FOR TAGES

Firm Obtains dgment

"NO MAN'S LAND" IN SIDNEY STREET

CAMBRIDGE ST ALIGHT

Tar Sends Flames Fifty Feet

BOROUGH POLI COURT

Sidney Street is again in the throes of reconstruction.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR | TOWN CLERK AS FIREMAN | CAMBRIDGE DAY-BY-DAY

c.44.6 : Sidney Street

1897 12 14
In view of the approach of the Christmas season, and in order to assist our readers in their shopping we today give the first of our notices of the special attractions and goods which are to be found in the Cambridge shops. Every family, however unmusical at other seasons of the year, burst forth into song as Christmas Day approaches. Music for every taste can be bought at Mr Miller's warehouse, Sidney Street. Pianos and all instruments of the best makes are ready for purchase or hire

1900

1900 05 01
A branch of the Capital and Counties Bank Ltd has been opened in Cambridge at 63 Sidney Street. The fact that it has been thought desirable to set down another banking establishment is proof of the outside belief in the prosperity of the town. The bank was established in 1834 and have numerous branches in various parts of the country.

1900 05 19
Cambridge has suffered intense anxiety regarding the welfare of Baden-Powell and his gallant men who for the past seven months have been locked up in Mafeking. It was about ten when the glad news was first made known regarding the relief and people began to assemble in crowds to await with baited breath the confirmation. The some half-dozen individuals emerged from Sidney Street and their lusty cheers led many to the conclusion that the garrison had really been relieved. As the little crowd moved along the streets the cheering increased, and people seemed intoxicated with excitement.

1902 10 24

The members of the Cambridge Y.M.C.A. celebrated their jubilee with a soiree in their rooms in Alexandra Street. 50 years ago the Church of England Young Men's Society and the Sunday School Teachers' Institute amalgamated, forming the Association. It settled in Rose Crescent. In 1853 it moved to larger premises at 5, Sidney Street, moving to Hobson Place in 1858 and then St Edward's Passage. In 1870 the first stone was laid of their present building; it was completed a year later. To call the soiree a success is scarcely adequate; the visitors never had a dull moment from the time they entered the door until the National Anthem brought the evening to a close.

1903 11 25
An agreement has been reached for the incorporation of the Capital and Counties Bank, London and Messrs Foster's bank in Sidney Street, Cambridge. The Capital was established more than 69 years ago and holds eminent rank among the leading London clearing banks. It is already well known here, having a branch in Cambridge under the management of Mr Guilmant, and others at Newmarket, Haverhill and Wisbech. We feel confident that the enlargement by this amalgamation with Messrs Foster of the Bank's sphere of operations cannot but prove of general advantage.

1903 11 27
A fire broke out in a storehouse at Messrs Lincoln's premises in Sidney Street, Cambridge; a quantity of petroleum became ignited and the fire assumed dangerous proportions. Three hydrants were quickly at work with hoses were taken through Trinity College and directed from college windows. But as the water streamed along the floor oil settled on the surface and becoming ignited created an effect of running streams of flame. At the time of going to press the fire was still burning but has been sufficiently subdued to enable some of the goods in the store-room to be removed. There were over 100 gallons of petroleum in store.

1903 11 28
As reported yesterday nearly 150 gallons of petroleum became ignited in a warehouse in Sidney Street, Cambridge. It appears that one of Messrs Lincoln's carmen sent a lad to the warehouse to trim a van lamp. The boy was apparently not aware that the warehouse is lighted by electricity and while trimming the lamp he allowed it to remain alight. The oil in the lamp by some means became ignited and he dropped it on the floor. Two tanks of petroleum and a cask of methylated spirits were soon blazing furiously and the interior was a mass of flame.

1903 12 23
Sidney Street sale, p3 *

1903 12 23
An important property sale was conducted, consisting of various properties in Sidney Street, one of the most central and important positions in the business part of Cambridge. Naturally there was a large attendance and the bidding was spirited. It included the coachbuilder's factory of T. Hunnybun, including carriage showroom and harness-maker's shop. These were withdrawn but sold after the sale at a considerably enhanced price; we understand they will continue their business in Hobson Street. A draper's shop occupied by F. Blott found a purchaser at £3,600.

1904 01 21
Cambridge councillors considered the purchase of a steam fire engine. The two fires at Addenbrooke's Hospital and Fitzroy Street were bad, but took place under favourable conditions – in the first the wind took the flames away from the Hospital and in the other there was a brick wall, instead of lathe and plaster. Since then there had been two other fires, in Sidney Street and Rose Crescent which might have resulted disastrously. In the centre of town whole blocks of

buildings might be burnt down. The only additional expenditure would be the cost of an engineer. But the Fire Brigade did not want one and they ought to know more than councillors.

1904 02 12
Messrs. Church and King's establishment in Sidney Street is the first business in Cambridge to be cleaned by the Eastern Vacuum Cleaning Company. The settees in the showroom were a fair test of the process. In thick upholstery dust must necessarily accumulate but after the cleaner had been applied no amount of beating could raise a speck of dust. The carpet also was cleaned effectually and the colours brightened. Mr King said: "It takes absolutely all the dust out"

1906 01 13
When the election meeting at Newnham concluded the candidate's carriage was drawn to the Conservative Club followed by a procession which included a couple of motor buses. Just as it reached Cambridge Market Hill a similar procession of demonstrating Liberals poured out of Petty Cury. These two bodies of citizens conceived an intense dislike for each

1906 11 02
Eugen Sandow has opened consulting rooms in Sidney Street where advice regarding health matters may be obtained. Provided your ailment is not an incurable one he guarantees to bring you to a pitch of physical perfection. The Cambridge Manager will take particulars of your case and forward them to him in London where Mr Sandon will plan your course and the Cambridge Manager will show you how to correctly carry out instructions 06 11 02b

1907 04 30
In the records of sport there is no instance of one family attaining greater re-eminence in any particular branch of sport that of the Gray family of Cambridge, in raquets. From 1863 onwards there have been five professional champions. Henry James Gray who was the first, is a town councillor and head of the well-known firm of athletic outfitters of Sidney Street. 07 04 30a & b

1908 02 15
Colonel Barnet William Beales of Sidney Street, was a splendid type of local patriot. He was a pioneer in the Cambridge Volunteers, treasurer of the Church Defence Association and churchwarden of St Michael's. To mention all the associations of his long and honourable career would involve re-telling many pages of Cambridge history but he found time for the duties of an Income Tax Commissioner and the Panton Brewery. Nine years ago he was knocked down by a retriever dog and never completely recovered. 08 02 15f

1909 10 08
St Botolph's Church reopened after restoration. The old ceiling in the nave, which was in a very dilapidated condition, has been replastered and re-decorated. A new hot-water pipe heating apparatus has been installed by Messrs Headley and Edwards together with a hydraulic appliance for blowing the organ by Messrs Miller of Sidney Street. CWN 09 10 08

1909 11 05
An old Fenlander walked to Cambridge seeking a good square meal. He searched a goodish few streets and wandered into colleges seeking a good juicy steak. Getting desperate he noticed a shop in Sidney Street where spread out on a gleaming white tablecloth was an amplitude of appetising cold viands. He entered only to emerge swearing: "That be a gas shop, and I am starving". He was right. It has been opened to demonstrate the popularity of gas for lighting, heating and cooking. CWN 09 11 05

1910

1911 08 11
Street widening Magdalene Street, Sidney St etc – 11 08 11b

1911 11 17
'Charles Darwin lived here in 1828' is the inscription in red lettering on a stone tablet recently placed over Arthur Rutter's office in Sidney Street. This is the first tablet of its kind in Cambridge but another one has been put up over 22 Fitzwilliam Street recording that he also lived there. The idea is an excellent one and it is hoped that the example which has been set by the Master of Christ's and members of the Darwin family, will be followed by others 11 11 17

1912 01 19
Thomas Askham was one of the oldest and best-known of Cambridge tradesmen. As a young man he worked for Thomas Hunnybun, the coach builder of Sidney Street, and then founded the coach builder businesses on Newmarket Road, Regent Street and a house in London. But as the motor industry grew, there was less for him to do and he had to employ fewer men. Jointly with Mr Tudor, he built the Hippodrome on Auckland Road, of which he was proprietor at his death. Before the era of the picture palace this place of amusement was exceedingly popular and provided many with healthy enjoyment who would otherwise have been walking the street. 12 01 19c

1912 02 02
A new County Hall is needed. The existing clerk, a solicitor in private practice, works from his own office. The Education and Medical departments are on opposite sides of Sidney Street, the Finance Clerk in is Regent Street, the Architect in Hobson Street and the Surveyor in Hills Road. This is inconvenient and uneconomical and leads to inefficiency. 12 02 02h

1912 04 05
Cambridge Automobile Co, Sidney Street; list of second-hand cars for sale – 12 04 05

1912 05 24
Cambridge Automobile & Engineering Company, Sidney St action against George Dash, motor and garage proprietor, Jesus Lane for work done - 12 05 24b

1914 07 10
Cambridge Corporation had taken a strip of land from Sidney Sussex College for the widening of Sidney Street and Jesus Lane. They built a 12-high wall in place of the existing one, part of the old Franciscan Priory. The college claimed £1,763 compensation for the rebuilding of their old fives court. But it had been very seldom used and was very dilapidated. The Corporation claimed the land taken was worth much less as there was never any prospect of its sale for building purposes 14 07 10

1914 07 10
Borough Council Sued. At the Surveyors' Institution, St. George's Street, London, S.W. on Friday, the arbitration was open¬ed in the matter of "The Masters, Fellows and Scholars of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and the Mayor, Aldermen and Bur¬gesses of the Borough of Cam¬bridge."It was stated that the claim was made by the College authorities in respect to the tak¬ing (compulsorily) of a strip of land by the latter in connection with the widening of Sidney Street and Jesus Lane. Cambridge. The total claim on behalf of the College authorities amounted to about £2.650. The award was reserved. 14 07 10 CIPof

1916 03 08
Cambridge Automobile & Engineering Company, new showrooms, Sidney St: advert – 16 03 08g

1916 03 15
Cambridge Automobile and Engineering Company new works on corner Hobson St & Sidney Street – profile – 16 03 15h, advert 16 03 08g

1916 03 22
Death of Ald. W. P. Spalding, - We regret to have to record the death of Alderman William Potter Spalding, J.P., which took place on Tuesday morning in the midst of his family, in his 69th year. He was the eldest son of a printer, stationer and bookseller, Mr. William Spalding (Ipswich), and was apprenticed to his father. He started business in Cambridge on his own account in Sidney Street, Cambridge, in 1873. This prospered and was enlarged in many ways, and in 1881 he became a member of the Cambridge Town Council, proving an expert debater and administrator. Mr. Spalding was elected to the aldermanic bench and in 1908 was chosen Mayor in succession to his friend, Mr. H. G. Whibley. He had been appointed a J.P. in 1897. During 35 years of faithful public service, Ald. Spalding left his mark in many ways upon the affairs of the borough.

1916 09 27
Death of Mr. C, T, Holt, — The death took place yesterday (Tuesday) morning of Mr. Cuthbert Thomas Holt, the well-known leather merchant of 64 Sidney Street, Cambridge. Although of a. quiet and retiring disposition, the late Mr. C. T. Holt was particularly well-known throughout the district, and was a man greatly respected and esteemed. A son of the late Mr. Henry Holt, the deceased gentleman was born in Cambridge 72 years ago, and succeeded his father in the business in 1888. This he carried on until his death, with the assistance of two of his sons. For several years he was an overseer for the Borough. He was a regular worshipper at Holy Trinity Church and for 14 years held the position of churchwarden. 16 09 27

1918 11 27
Comrades of Great War club to be opened opened above Halford's, Sidney, Sidney St – 18 11 27j

1918 12 25
Comrades of the Great War new Headquarters club opened Sidney St – 18 12 25d

1919 06 25
Property market _ Sidney Street estate includes Price of Wales' Hotel, Dorothy Café, True Blue and Nag's Head, shops in Sussex Street and premises Hobson Street; bought by G.P. Hawkins; also houses, Duxford airfield machinery and plant – 19 06 25b

1919 10 22
Two new cinemas proposed, Sidney Street by Cambridge Picture Playhouse Ltd and Guildhall Street by A.J. Pointer – 19 10 22f

1920

1920 01 14
Cambridge Picture Playhouse Ltd annual, meeting to alter articles of Association; have acquired site in Sidney St & Hobson St where propose to erect fine new building – 20 01 14a

1920 01 22

Sussex Street widening discussed – no widening except at corner Sidney Street as island site had been acquired by syndicate for erecting cinema

1921 04 06
Frederick Woor, Master Tailor, Sidney St, paid less than minimum wage to his women – 21 04 06c

1921 11 16
Sidney Street cinema – Corporation had refused as want to widen Sidney Street, were wrong – 21 11 16n

1922 06 15
Messrs W. Heffer and Sons have become well known for the excellence of anything exhibited at their Sidney Street galleries. Well above the standard of the rest of their exhibits is some of the truly wonderful work of a Scottish artist, Mr William Watt Milne, who has a studio in St Ives. The six pictures which are exhibited have been painted in the neighbourhood of Houghton. "Flood at Houghton" is the title of a pretty little piece of work depicting the picturesque village street on a grey day with the threatening sky reflected in a pool of water in the foreground. One of the best pictures is that called "The Old Inn at Houghton", a superb piece of work

1923 09 20
The death took place of Mr James Newton. A Cambridge man born and bred he was respected amongst local butchers, farmers and others associated with the butchery trade in Cambridge. He had a remarkable record of continuous service with one firm having been apprenticed at the age of ten years, in 1852, to Mr John Goodliffe, of Sidney Street Cambridge, and remained in the service of the same firm all his working life. He retired in 1922 after 70 years faithful and interrupted service. Mr Newton was one of the founders of the Master Butchers Association which was established in March 1898.

1924 05 29
At Cambridge council Alderman Starr said a number of buildings in Hobson Street were coming down. It would make it a 40 feet road and they believed it would eventually become a very important thoroughfare. Unfortunately they were up against a very difficult problem at the Sidney Street end because they had a bank on one side and a college on the other. But this was really a safety point because converging traffic would have a slight obstacle to pull them up

1924 07 29
Sidney Street setting back, p4

1925 03 13
Messrs Bodgers of Sidney Street, Cambridge intended to reconstruct the interior of their premises, constructing a new shop front. Cambridge Council Surveyor suggested that the firm put the premises back 11 feet as required for their street widening policy. The Council must legislate for the future and in view of the serious traffic problems must attempt to widen Sidney Street. They would pay the proprietor half the cost of the land at the present time and the remainder when the setting back took place. Some of the committee felt these terms were not as favourable as those offered to Messrs Sainsbury and Woolworth.

1925 07 11
Part of a boot supplied by a Cambridge firm has led to the identity of an officer who fell in the first year of the war. During the work of exhumation and reburial recently carried out in France

there was discovered part of a boot stamped with the name of Messrs G. Dewberry & Son of Sidney Street. An examination of their books showed it belonged to a pair supplied to Lieut. R. Walmesley, late of Magdalene College, whose family lived in Huntingdon.

1927 10 29
Bike parking, Sidney Street, p8

1928 10 23
What is probably the largest single deal in Cambridge business property ever known has just been completed. A well-known local young man has purchased property with frontages in Market Hill, Petty Cury and Sidney Street and this will be developed by a company consisting of Cambridge people. It includes premises occupied by the Craft Shoe Company, the Cambridge Chronicle offices and printing works and Boots the chemist. As Messrs Boots recently secured a large amount of property in Petty Cury and Sidney Street it would appear that big changes will be seen in this part of town when both sites are developed.

1928 10 27
There is much speculation regarding the £42,000 Cambridge Market Hill deal; a large cinema and café are spoken of, but there are no details at present. It would be for the benefit of the town if the whole island site could be taken over by the Corporation; then as the leases run out it could be cleared and would provide a magnificent site for municipal buildings. Road traffic now demands that all building operations should be planned for what will be needed in the future, with a wider Petty Cury, Market Hill and Sidney Street. Something of the sort must eventually be done unless it is the intention to remove the Guildhall and market nearer the station.

1929 04 27
Cambridge to have a modern caravanserie matched the modern splendours of Oxford St & Regent street where a thousand people may dine without strain on the service & dance too if they are so minded, a place of dignity & comfort & of surpassing resource. The old Dorothy cafe is to disappear - not so very old though as a modern restaurant - & a building of 3 storeys spanning space between Sidney St & Hobson street. Ground floor entrance Sidney St is shop & showroom & on eastern side a dining hall or restaurant. Principal staircase to first floor will be from hall at Hobson street entrance & access to a dance hall with black hornbeam floor on springs. This accommodation for 320 diners at a public banquet but specially prepared for dancing for 450 at once. At western end another dining hall. Another on second floor, seat 80, suitable private dinner of clubs & organisations. perhaps this will be the oak room which intention of Hawkins to decorate; also roof garden looking across to gardens of Christ's College. Nags Head inn will not disappear but be given place in the basement. Will take 18 months but Hobson St side will be completed before start made with Sidney St front to ensure restaurant open throughout

1929 12 02
An interesting improvement scheme will shortly be undertaken in Petty Cury and Sidney Street. Messrs Boots the Chemist have acquired extensive property with a view to re-housing their old establishment which has grown during some 30 years. Now the time is ripe to erect an emporium to provide an attractive shopping centre for patrons of all classes. The architect is Mr Percy J. Bartlett of Nottingham and his primary consideration is an external appearance that will harmonise with Cambridge's noble architectural traditions and raise the standard of commercial architecture. Building operations will commence early in the New Year

1930

1930 01 08
Sidney Street bus accident

1930 01 11
The new night safe at Lloyds Bank in Sidney Street is not yet in working order but I had a peep and was impressed by the ingenious working of the arrangement. The safe is Lloyds' own invention and the Cambridge branch is amongst the earliest to have it installed. There was a time when people of small means did not trouble the banks very much but now the humblest investor seems to be welcomed. There are various kinds of home safe including a tasteful little book safe in four colours

1930 01 15
From modest beginnings in Fitzroy Street the history of the House of Heffer is one of continuous progress. The Printing Works on Hills Road has been considerable enlarged, last year saw reconstruction of the Petty Cury Bookshop which is now twice its original size, and this year sees the reconstruction of the Sidney Street Stationery and Art Shop. It will be a shop worthy of its central position. The new premises will have five floor, the frontage will be in the Georgian style with pilasters, fascia and columns of grey polished granite and the upper part will be faced with red Flemish bricks with Weldon stone dressings to the windows. A unique feature will be the Picture Gallery on the third flood with a barrel-shaped ceiling

1930 03 11
Sidney Street photo – Caxton Court, p8*

1930 03 19
Demolition work has just begun on the Sidney Street corner of Sussex Street as a first step towards the most important reconstruction scheme for the improvement of Cambridge in many years. Sidney Sussex College will develop the whole site on modern lines; within the next year an imposing block of buildings, providing shops and offices will rise. It will be connected to Hobson Street by an artistically-designed crescent and colonnade of 12 shops which will allow vehicles to pass freely in the middle of Sussex Street. 30 03 19b

1930 03 22
There never was a time surely when there were so many works of destruction going on as at present. Little bits of old Cambridge are going one by one and elaborate new buildings are rising up in their place. Following demolition in Petty Cury and Sidney Street now we see old houses and shops in Sussex Street being knocked down. No wonder that those who come back to the town after a few years' absence express amazement at the changes they see. When we think of the bridges built at Newnham and Chesterton, of the streets that have been widened, the new recreation ground opened and the great business changes effected in the heart of the town we may well gasp. 30 03 22 a & b

1930 06 21
Six Cambridge bus drivers involved in the 'battle' of Sidney Street on the first day of the May races appeared in court charged with obstruction. Only Ortona buses were allowed to stop there but a long line of coaches had filled the whole side of the road. The drivers said the monopoly was unfair. They also complained that Ortona had increased the price of a ticket to Fen Ditton from twopence halfpenny to sixpence a trip. 30 06 21aa & b

1930 09 24
Shop Mill Road, Sidney Street, p3

1930 10 16
Five miniature golf courses are now in operation in Cambridge. There are Messrs Grays in Sidney Street and the octagon course in King Street. The Premier Hall, Old Chesterton, has added midget golf to its other attractions and the Newmarket Road has the course in the club-room at 'The Bell'. Its holes represent hazards encountered during a trip from 'Trafalgar Square' to 'The Oval'. The latest 18-hole course at the Belle Vue Gardens is all-weather and open-air. It features a howitzer gun and a water jump and has been laid down by Capt Mullett who has constructed others in Vancouver and San Francisco. 30 10 16c

1931 12 25
Sir – when Mr W. Rouse Ball and myself were invited to consider a local guide for publicity purposes we also recommended a volume of old views of Cambridge. In our local library and with the Photographic Club and many citizens, there are many old pictures which would prove of lasting interest as a record of the past, a volume which would appeal to all those who are interested in the township – Charles Porter, Sidney Street. 31 12 25c

1932 10 28
John Yeomans came to Cambridge at the age of 19 in 1857 and purchased the shop at the corner of Petty Cury and Sidney Street from Mr Lyons where he carried on business as a chemist for 40 years. He had a vivid recollection of events: he knew George Stephenson personally and was a passenger in the first railway engine to run in England. 32 10 28e

1933 02 04
A young salesman employed at Sainsbury's in Sidney Street was found dead in the bathroom over the shop. The housekeeper said there were about 80 employed; eight boys lived on the premises, three maids and herself. They were the only ones to use the bath. They were told to turn off the gas before getting in. People might be enjoying the delights of a bath and suddenly find themselves overpowered by carbon monoxide fumes. The coroner hoped Sainsbury's would not use the geyser again or see it was placed outside the bathroom. 33 02 04a

1933 05 20
Sidney Street rebuilding – 33 05 20a

1933 05 26
Proposals to set back the line of buildings in Sidney Street would leave only two small properties jutting out between Woolworth's and the corner. There was no room for people to move on the pavement and it would be a great improvement. But Mrs Rackham said it was unreasonable to pay so much money: the owners demanded compensation that equated to nearly half a million pounds an acre. This was not new: when a building line was prescribed in King Street, property which formerly sold at £1,500 immediately fetched £2,000. 33 05 26 f & g

1933 08 26
Millers Music shop, Sidney Street – 33 08 26

1933 12 19
Bus crowds in Sidney Street – 33 12 19

1934 05 15
Marks and Spencer's new shop will be opened on Friday morning. The premises have a frontage to Sidney Street. The ground floor space is devoted entirely to sales while the first and second

floors contain stock rooms, offices and other accommodation for the staff of 60 assistants who have been mainly recruited locally. There is a dining room where staff can obtain lunch at a cost of sixpence. There will be no 'stunt' lines at opening and 90 per cent of the goods sold are of British manufacture.
34 05 15

1934 06 19
An agreement has been reached in the long-running dispute over the rebuilding of the Dorothy Café in Sidney Street. In spite of the conflict over details Messrs G.P. Hawkings now have a really beautiful, modern and commodious building that has earned praise from the Cambridge Preservation Society and the Illumination Congress while the builders are no longer under any imputation of incompetence.
34 06 19

1934 07 21
Diamond Jubilee memory – Sidney Street photo, p6

1934 08 02
Councillors considered a scheme for compulsorily purchasing the old Post Office on the corner of Petty Cury and other properties in Sidney Street to widen the road. Cambridge could not progress unless it spent money. Money was never cheaper: the banks were bursting with it. There were the materials, the men and the money available for the work. But having compulsory orders hanging over the properties would influence the price they could be sold for. 34 08 02

1935 01 31
New street proposed from Downing St towards Sidney St – 35 01 31a

1933 03 27
Coad's new store, beside Woolworth's in Sidney Street, with its new arcade and island cases is a glowing example of the shop fitter's craft. There are now three floors and the splendid oak-panelled stairway has been retained. The fashion salons are already quite famous for their remarkable values in coats, woollies and blouses and the millinery salon is well lit. At the farther end lies the Lingerie and Corsetry Salon and a Younger Ladies' Department where the woman to today can shop like mother does. 35 03 27a

1935 04 10
Corporation proposals for the widening and improvement of Sidney Street and the lower part of Petty Cury met with vigorous opposition. In 1922 they had taken powers to prescribe frontage lines and in 1924 when Messrs Woolworth's and Sainsbury's came to Cambridge they agreed to set back their premises and gave the land to the Council. Various other places were reconstructed and now the frontage line had been prescribed from Sainsbury's to Millers with the exception of Almond's and the Prudential Assurance Company. The Surveyor said the street was urgently in need of widening to cope with increased traffic. The Livingstone Hotel had been carried on in Sidney Street for 30 years. Under street widening proposals they would be left with the second, third and fourth floors which they could not get at at all. It was used by travellers who could not afford more expensive hotels. 35 04 10 & a, 35 04 11

1935 08 28
New front to Lloyd's Bank, Sidney St – photo – 35 08 28a

1935 10 17

Sidney Street to be widened at no cost to council 35 10 17

1935 10 25
Sidney Street widening, p1

1936 05 12
Marks & Spencer tender £26,000 for 10-11 Sidney Street as a general stores – 36 05 12a

1936 07 04
Cambridge street lighting is being brought up to standard. Hills Road and St Andrew's Street are already ablaze. So is Sidney Street. Twenty-three miles of streets will be illuminated by autumn. Side lights properly equipped with seven watt bulbs are all that are now required by motorists. Pedestrians and cyclists are now visible from afar after dark. The lamps are lit automatically by clock devices and soon the familiar figure of the lamp-lighter will disappear from the streets forever 36 07 04

1936 10 17
Two old Churchwardens pipes over the string course of the parapet of Messrs Almond's shop at 11 Sidney Street, now being demolished, are a reminder that it was once used by Joshua Lee for the making of clay pipes. Mr A.T. Potter recalls that there had once been a large kiln in the centre of the shop in which the pipes were baked. There is also a very fine old lead head to the down pipe which has cross clay pipes embossed on it. 36 10 17b

1937 01 15
The head offices and showroom of the Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company in Sidney Street, where all the most modern and efficient appliances for heating, cooking, refrigeration and lighting can be seen, were built in 1909. Today the total number of consumers is in the region of 25,000. Recently the villages of Willingham, Longstanton and Oakington were supplied with gas and mains are being laid to Sawston. 37 01 15b

1937 07 24
Messrs J. Johnson and Son's premises at 51 Sidney Street, usually referred to as 'Johnson's Shirt Shop' is probably one of the oldest outfitters in Cambridge, the premises being first opened in 1880. In 1922 the business was acquired by Mr A.G. Mole and is now under the sole charge of his son, Cecil. Much of the success of this specialised Men's Outfitting business has been due to consistent advertising in the C.D.N. 37 07 24

1937 12 08
Dear Ladies. Let me help you to choose a Christmas Gift for your menfolk. How about a shirt? I can show you excellent ranges in neat stripes and plain shades with two collars to match. Is your man warm and cosy at night? If not, let me suggest a suit of woollen Pyjamas. Is he in a hurry? How about a 'Corby' stretcher press so he can start the day immaculate with perfectly creased trousers. I remain, always at your service, S. Phillips, head salesman, shirt and hosiery department, Johnsons, 51 Sidney Street, Cambridge – Advertisement 37 12 08b

1938 03 05
Part of Sidney Street was closed to traffic following the development of a bulge in the front wall of the premises of Austin & Co., coal merchants. The bulge is sufficiently marked to be easily visible. Last night crowds gathered in the expectation that the wall might fall, but they were disappointed. In shops on either side it was a case as 'business as usual'. Traffic has been diverted via Petty Cury and St John's Street while builders work on the affected wall 38 03 05 & a

1938 11 29
Gift ideas. New fashion gloves in rich suede, fine glace kidskin, pigskins, calfskin … all beautifully styled. Classic shortie, gauntlet, costume types – George Stace, Petty Cury. British made sewing machines and stainless bread knives – A. Macintosh, Market Place. Private Christmas cards; sample book sent to your home for inspection. Autograph cards from 6d per box – Harry Johnson & Nephew, St Andrew's Street. The popular G.E.C. electric cleaner will be welcomed because its period of service extends far beyond the festive season; £8.15.0 cash or 8/6 a month – Allin's, Sidney Street.– Adverts 38 11 29a

1939 10 06
Suggestions for brightening the black-out at Cambridge. Heffer's have a selection of indoor games such as Autobridge, dominoes and jig-saw puzzles. Coad's stock khaki wools and other artistic shades for personal shoppers while Johnson's have a range of novels as well as black-out paper. Gray of Sidney Street can supply miniature billiard tables but those who prefer the real thing should visit the Guildhall Street Billiards Saloon which is open from early morning till late at night. 39 10 06b

1940

1943 07 03
B.W. Beales' retirement marks end of tailor and robemaker's business started in 1800; his shop in Sidney Street the last with small-paned windows – 43 07 03a

1944 03 10
Daring Shop Robbery. A daring robbery, carried out in broad daylight, resulted in rings valued at £1,079 being removed from the display window of Messrs. Walter Stockbridge and Son, the well-known antique dealers, of Sidney Street, Cambridge. "The rings, which were of gold, set with diamonds, were in place in the window at 11.30 on Saturday morning," Mr. Stockbridge said "They were missed at 12.10, when we next had occasion to visit the window. It is not known whether the thief, had an accomplice who distracted the attention of the assistant while the robbery was carried out.

1944 10 13
Bus overturns in Sidney Street – 44 10 13

1947 01 14
One-way traffic extension scheme – Sidney Street, St John's Street, p5

1947 07 30
Sir - When will something be done about the disgraceful state of the traffic in Petty Cury, Cambridge. I understood some time ago that steps were being taken to stop the parking of cars on the left side of this narrow thoroughfare. Far from this being done, it is now worse than ever. Saturday, with the exception of the entrance to the Lion Hotel there were 15 large cars parked from Sidney Street to Guildhall Street, and as prams and mail carts can only use the sidewalks, pedestrians who venture on the street are taking serious risks of getting knocked down. Truly a street only fit for the quick or the dead - letter from W.M.F., Gt Shelford

1947 11 20
Many people unable to be in their homes listened to the broadcast of the Royal Wedding in Cambridge cinemas, all of which were thrown open for the purpose, free of charge. The biggest

audience is reported from the Central Cinema who estimated the total as being in the neighbourhood of 500. The sound equipment at the Regal broke down at the last minute and the small queue which had formed there was diverted to the New Theatre opposite, where a set had been hastily brought from his home and installed in the foyer by the Manager and the thrilling, impressive and historic service of the wedding of H.R.H. Princess Elizabeth, future Queen of England and Lieut. Mountbatten, Duke of Edinburgh, was heard by a number of people. Messrs Miller ad Sons, Sidney Street, to meet many requests from customers, televised the proceedings in one of their studios, which was packed

1948 06 01
Today the one-way traffic system designed to relieve congestion in the centre of Cambridge came into operation. In Sidney Street and Bridge Street the traffic will flow in a northerly direction towards Magdalene Street from the town centre, while in St John's Street and Trinity Street it will flow in a southerly direction towards King's Parade. In Green Street traffic will flow in one direction from Gifford Place to Trinity Street - and the remainder of Green Street will be open for two-way traffic. This extension of "one-way" traffic will link up with the system now in operation at St Mary's street, Market Hill (north side) and Market Street

1948 07 29
D.E. Knapman, telephone manager of the Cambridge area told Rotarians that there were 4,000 people in the area waiting for telephones. He said there are two separate wires running from the exchange right back to your house which are yours and only yours. It would be impossible to run out a separate pair of wires every time somebody asked for a telephone. They try and forecast 30 years ahead the number of subscribers they will get and then lay cable under the ground. In Sidney Street are seven or eight thousand wires serving Chesterton and the Milton Road districts

1949 11 07
The quietest Guy Fawkes night “rag” long-service Cambridge police officers can remember passed off without even a street lamp being extinguished – another “within living memory” record. A crowd gathered on the Market Square by 7pm and fireworks were thrown. A police car which arrived on the scene radioed for reinforcements. These shepherded the crowd off the square. After that police posted at the entrances to the square prevented people entering the area. Early in the evening a few rotten eggs were thrown, and a smoke bomb exploded in the Sidney Street area. These incidents, and the intermittent throwing of fireworks, constituted about the only “excitement” of the evening, though there was an occasion when a “bulldog” pursued a man at full speed in front of the Guildhall.

1950

1950 01 06
About half-a-dozen women bargain hunters waited all night for the opening of Messrs Heyworth’s Sidney St, Cambridge, sale today. The first queuer had waited 15 hours for a brown suit reduced from 79/6 (£3.95) to £1. All the fur coats marked down from £37 to £10 have been snapped up but the main rush was in the children’s section. It was expected that the bargains will just about last out the two days of the sale.

1950 09 09
Messrs G. Heyworth of Sidney Street took the opportunity to let their suppliers see their stand at the Cambridge Trades Fair. Mr Heyworth said theirs was one of the older types of family business with a progressive outlook. Special reference was made to the excellent standard set by

the CDN and the trouble the editorial staff went to in order to get inside knowledge and get their facts right on any particular matter they wished to present to the public.

1951 03 24
The Cambridge Plate Glass Mutual Insurance Society has reached its centenary and this important milestone is being observed by the waiving of premiums for 1951. It was founded to defray the expense of accidents to plate glass windows and the first meeting was held at the King's Head Inn, Sidney Street.

1951 11 10
A year ago Cambridge was the scene of an exciting street chase – engineered for the purposes of a film. "The Scarlet Thread". Now it is complete and will be shown at the Victorian Cinema. It has a "cops and robbers" story concerning the theft from a jeweller's shop in Sidney Street and a chase across Market Hill. This part was filmed from the top of the Victoria Cinema. The film was made by the International Realist Coy and stars Kathleen Byroa, Lawrence Harvey and Sidney Tatler

1952 05 05
Cambridge city council would like to see Christ's Lane opened out as a thoroughfare to be used by the omnibuses and other traffic to alleviate congestion in the City centre and provide relief for Emmanuel Street. The present country bus station at Drummer Street would then become the main stopping place for the local buses which now pick up and set down passengers in Sidney Street constricting the traffic flow. They also propose a new road on the line of Post Office Terrace to Wheeler Street. With Corn Exchange Street widened this would provide for a good circulation of traffic in the city centre.

1952 07 18
First arrival in the queue at Heyworth's, Sidney Street, Cambridge, sale was a man. He arrived at 3.45 a.m. to buy his wife a red whipcord coat reduced from £10.10s. to 29s.11d. He was joined at 4 a.m. by a commercial traveller who got up at this early hour to buy his wife a grey gabardine suit marked down from £21.10s. to 59s.11d. One or two bargain hunters had walked three or four miles to join the queue and by 9 a.m. tickets had been given out to 370 waiting to secure the many half-price bargains. Everybody was happy, and there were no sale fights.

1952 10 08
It has long been the ambition of Heyworths of Sidney Street, Cambridge, to be able to claim that they catered for their women customers from head to foot. But there was one thing missing. They did not stock shoes. This has now been rectified and a brand new women's shoe department was opened in the basement. Only "Lotus" and "Delta" shoes will be sold, including shoes for day (fashion and walking) and evening wear. The innovation is welcomed by customers and trade has been brisk.

1952 11 17
Mr George Hawkins, who has been the sole owner of G.P. Hawkins Ltd has announced that he has disposed of his entire shareholding to the Cambridge Co-operative Society. The firm was founded in 1838 in Fitzroy Street, which is still one of their shops. At the beginning of the century the late Mr G.P. Hawkins opened a shop and café in Sidney Street. In 1929 these premises and the adjoining site were extensively developed resulting in the opening in 1931 of 'The Dorothy' as it stands today

1953 04 30 c

While on a football visit to Cambridge three Oxford undergraduates took a 4ft by 2ft sign valued at £50 from outside the shop of a Cambridge outfitter, intending to take it back to Oxford as a souvenir. Two girls saw a crowd outside Messrs Johnson & Sons shop in Sidney Street. A man was bending down and another balancing on his back was unhooking the sign. The police were informed and Sgt Ellison of the Bedfordshire Constabulary, after receiving a telephone message from Cambridge, stopped the undergraduates' coach outside Bedford and retrieved the sign.

1953 09 25 c
In a hundred Victorian houses landladies are renewing notices in the bathrooms. Along Sidney Street a young man in a yellow polo-neck sweater trundles a handcart bearing a tin trunk, two leather bags, a violin case, a worn armchair, and a gaily-painted bird-cage. His un-oiled hair slips sideways towards his ears as he pauses to allow a busload of office workers to hurry by. Gently rumbling towards Magdalene comes a mechanical horse towing twenty-two identical cabin trunks. A new term has begun

1954 01 20
Cambridge planners are contemplating the rebuilding of premises in Sidney Street to complete the road widening between Petty Cury and Holy Trinity Church. In 1939 the Essex Insurance Company agreed to rebuild nos 62-64 Sidney Street but owing to the war the scheme was postponed. Then in 1943 they sold no.64 to Messrs Boots who are now seeking planning permission for change of use and this is an opportune time for the scheme to go ahead.

1954 03 09
Sir – although I call myself a robemaker I do not personally make gowns. This is done as it has been for hundreds of years by operatives working in their own homes and many of them can trace back a couple of centuries. One of the best known names in Cambridge is that of Maltby, a member of which family is still active and busy in that occupation. Any unfamiliar details which we require we can generally obtain from this source with its accumulated knowledge – A.R. Almond, Sidney Street, Cambridge.

1954 08 13
This year marks the 150th anniversary of Lloyd's Bank in Cambridge. In 1804 two bothers named Foster who were already trading as millers established a bank in Bridge Street. In 1835 they transferred to the Turk's Head in Trinity Street and opened branches in St Ives, Saffron Walden and Ely. In those days two members of staff were boarded on the premises, one sleeping on a bed in front of the strong room armed with a rusty sword. At no time was the building left unattended. In 1890 they acquired a site at the junction of Hobson Street and a new building in Renaissance style was opened in 1894. The Capital and Counties Bank took them over in 1904 and 14 years later they amalgamated with Lloyd's. In 1919 the two offices were merged and the Sidney Street premises chosen as the main branch. In 1935 a considerable extension was built on the corner site

1954 10 13
An attractive demonstration theatre is now in full operation at the Eastern Gas Board's headquarters in Sidney Street, Cambridge where gas consumers will always be welcome to see the latest developments in gas appliance design. Demonstrations will be conducted by the Home Service Adviser, Shirley Snow, whose advice is readily available either in person, by post or telephone.

1954 11 01

Miller's music shop has transformed its Sidney Street Cambridge premises with an up-to-date, spacious and extremely attractive front of an entirely unique design. The windows are non-reflective and the lower ground floor, which is so popular with record lovers but previously almost completely hidden way, now has a mirrored view from the street. You can now pause in your shopping and look in the window, whether it be the television set your husband has promised the family for Christmas or one of the many different instruments on display

1954 11 06
There was absolute chaos in Cambridge as traffic was held up to allow Dick Turpin, complete with Bonny Black Bess, to go galloping through the streets. Outside Emmanuel College a Flying Bedstead made periodical attempts to get airborne while a gent dressed as an arm of the law directed traffic into Downing Street, whether cars and cyclists wanted to go or not. In Sidney Street traffic was halted when the "Vice-Chancellor's" procession walked slowly down the centre of the road, complete with pick-axes and shovels slung over their shoulders. It was part of the Poppy Day Rag.

1956 03 24
Miller's Music Shop began a 100 years ago when Mr A.T. Miller opened a workshop in Hobson Street as an organ builder and piano repairer. The family home was above his wife's millinery shop in Sidney Street and one of the rooms was opened as a pianoforte showroom. His son introduced the sale of instruments and sheet music and later came harmoniums, gramophones, radio and television and now electronic organs and tape recorders. 56 03 24d

1958 08 09
Messrs Coads' department store in Sidney Street will cease trading on September 27th with a special feature sale prior to closure. It is intended to replace the Cambridge store, which has limited accommodation, by the acquisition of premises nearer London. The site has been acquired by F.W. Woolworth as an extension to their existing store which adjoins it. 58 08 09a

1959 02 12
Work has begun on greatly increasing the area of Messrs Boots the Chemist's premises in Sidney Street by the demolition of the old Essex and Suffolk Assurance Company buildings. It will double the width of the frontage and the shopping area behind and provide twin entrances on to the street. The staff accommodation will be more than doubled and the facilities vastly improved. Boots believe that the staff cannot be expected to look after customers properly unless their own interests are properly served by the company: contented staff means contented customers. 59 02 12b & c

1959 11 21
Percy Piggott was owner of a printing business, a journalist, a keen Tory, an Amateur theatrical producer and a leading light in the Cambridgeshire Sailing Club. His father, Frank, founded the printing business in what was then called Caxton Court (now the front of Boots' in Sidney Street) and had been editor of the Cambridge Chronicle. Following in his father's footsteps he was University Correspondent for 'The Times' and official scorer of the University Cricket team, managing them on tours and producing a booklet '50 Years at Fenners'. 59 11 21a

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1960 09 07

The widening of the Market Street – Petty Cury area of Sidney Street will complement the part that was completed before the war when the Boots and Trueform buildings were erected. Some people feel that the road nearer Jesus Lane is a greater priority but the widened section by the two bus stops outside Holy Trinity will relieve traffic congestion. There is no intention of completing the process right through to Bridge Street says T.V. Burrows, the City Surveyor. 60 09 07

1961 09 20
Barclays Bank has opened a new branch at 35, Sidney Street. The front of the building is in Portland Stone and mahogany has been used for the counters, cashiers tills and doors. The first floor is sound-proofed from the banking hall and accommodates the typewriters and customers' statement machines. These statements are sent to the banking hall by means of pneumatic tubes, a quick means of communication which helps to keep the noise down without impairing the speed of the service 61 09 20

1963 02 01
Macintosh and Sons of Market Hill, Cambridge, one of the oldest ironmongery firms in the country, has been sold to an unknown purchaser. The firm's earliest records date back to 1688 when the business was sold to the Finch family. They kept it going for 200 years before it was taken over by William Macintosh who'd been in business in Sidney Street. A major redevelopment scheme is proposed for the site after their retail premises close in September. The wholesale, agricultural and workshop departments will continue to trade from 349 Mill Road 63 02 01a

1962 04 27
In 1851 Mr Alfred Bodger, 'Hosier, Glover and Shirtmaker', founded his Gentlemen's Outfitting shop opposite Holy Trinity Church. As business grew he added a tailoring shop and in 1934 moved to the present site on the corner of Sidney Street and Green Street. In 1946 the ready-to-wear site was enlarged. More expansion followed in 1954 and now internal alterations are complete allowing a full range of goods to be shown. But friendly and personal attention is always available – Advert 62 04 27b

1962 08 30
Painting lamp standard Sidney St – 62 08 30a

1962 10 13
Police cleared hundreds of lunch time shoppers from Woolworth's main shop in Sidney Street in five minutes after an anonymous telephone call warned that two time bombs had been placed in the store and were to blow up at 1.30pm. A thorough search was made but nothing was found. This is the third bomb hoax in Cambridge in the last three months. On two occasions police cleared a coffee bar after a similar warning. This time the caller had a foreign-sounding voice. 62 10 13

1963 05 04
Sidney Street hostel on site of Sainsbury's – 63 05 04a

1963 05 21
The firm of E.J. Pigott (Tools) was established in Sidney Street 100 years ago and moved to Sussex Street before the war. It has been handed down from father to son with always some member of the family behind the counter. Its handicraft shop in Hills Road was the first of its kind in East Anglia and they've recently opened an ironmongery department. It has ceased to sell hip and slipper baths but stocks 140 different types of pocket knife 63 05 21a & b

1963 12 28
New bus shelters in Sidney Street – photo – 63 12 28

1964 02 04
The biggest pillar box in England, in Sidney Street, may be moved to relieve traffic congestion – 64 02 04

1964 02 29
Wray's Court, Sidney Street to be demolished – 64 02 29

1964 06 26
Large postbox being moved further along Sidney Street – 64 06 26a

1964 06 27
A giant post box has been moved from its position in Sidney Street to a spot a few yards away. It has been there for 30 years. The box is one of the largest in the provinces 64 06 27

1965 12 09
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Sidney Street – 64 10 15Sidney Street Christmas lights photo – 65 12 09b

1966 08 02
Cambridge city centre deserted – Sidney Street – on date world cup final – 66 08 02

1968 08 22
Eaden Lilley move out of Sidney Street store for new student hostel – 68 08 22

1968 11 25
Trinity College start new accommodation block on site of Matthews in Sidney Street releasing land in Petty Cury for Lion Yard – 68 11 25

1969 04 30
Sidney Street properties to keep façade during major changes by Trinity College – 69 04 30

1969 06 06
Sainsbury's want two self-service shops to replace their antiquated premises in Sidney Street, one in Trinity Street, the other in the Kite – 69 06 06, 06a

1970

1971 12 10
Sidney Street and Bridge Street townscape analysis report – 71 12 10a

1972 05 30
Sainsbury, who open a new supermarket on the Matthews site in the centre of Cambridge on August 1st, are to auction their old shop in Sidney Street. Property values in central Cambridge are soaring, agents talk confidently in top rental terms of £6 and more a square foot on prime sites. The closure of the Sidney Street premises is part of Sainsbury's policy to do away with service stores. The new shop is in standard supermarket style, p30

1973 04 09
The Market Square ends of Guildhall Street and Peas Hill, Cambridge, were closed to traffic today as part of city council's plans eventually to make much of the central area into a pedestrian precinct. It is now possible to walk from Sidney Street to King's Parade without crossing a road. City surveyor, Mr Geoffrey Cresswell said that some motorists were still driving round Market Square attempting to get into Peas Hill. The present closure is officially regarded as only "temporary" - although it will last for possibly another two years - while rebuilding of the adjacent Lion Yard site is under way

1973 12 10
A series of explosions rocked the centre of Cambridge over the weekend and so far the cause remains a mystery. Gas board officials say the bangs have nothing to do with natural gas leaks. The bangs were reported to police by householders in the Green Street – Sidney Street area. They brought people rushing from their houses, but they could find no cause for the explosions. While the people were outside more bangs occurred, apparently from underground

1973 12 24
Shoppers in Cambridge defied the gloom of crisis-torn Britain and were out in force to do their last-minute Christmas shopping. At Woolworth's in Sidney Street the manager said: "People are determined to enjoy Christmas despite the gloom and doom". Tesco, in Regent Street, said they were fairly busy. The general manager of Joshua Taylor said that trade was about 20% up compared with last year. 73 12 24

1974 01 11
With heavy symbolism and an optimism to fight the gloom of the national crisis, Cambridge's erstwhile unlit Christmas lights were lit up in all their glory last night. At least a small group of them in Sidney Street were aglow for just two minutes. In the face of the ban on public decorative lighting the Chamber of Commerce could not have the cheerful Christmas light gaiety in the city centre. But, because they had bought new lights, they thought they would like at least a glimpse of what might have been, had it not been for the Government bans.

1974 06 25
The Newmarket millionaire racehorse owner, Mr David Robinson, is to sell Cambridge city centre property in Sidney Street. The site, which includes Millers Music Centre, the Arts Cinema and part of the Eaden Lilley store is due to be auctioned in London. But the future of the Arts cinema, on which the lease does not expire until 1981, is safe. Any future owner will have to retain its use as a cinema

1975 06 11
The much-criticised second stage of Cambridge city council's central area traffic experiment has been abandoned and traffic flow systems introduced five weeks ago withdrawn. This means there is again two-way traffic in Regent Street, Parkside, Emmanuel Road and Short Street. Through traffic is still banned along parts of St Andrew's Street, Sidney Street & Kings Parade. City police said many motorists were confused by the changes which it was improving impossible to enforce. Long traffic queues had built up at major junctions since the start of the experiment which brought traffic chaos to the city

1975 07 09
Dozens of traders in central Cambridge have mounted a campaign aimed at persuading the city council to drop its traffic control scheme, which prevents cars from going along parts of King's Parade, St Andrew's Street & Sidney Street. They are complaining about a big slump in business

since the scheme started six months ago. Some say they have experienced a 50% drop. Shops are hit by the traffic ban during the day and restaurants, pubs & places of entertainment suffer at night. Tomorrow the council will be recommended to ask Whitehall to make the scheme permanent.

1976 08 03
The Government has decided that the experimental traffic restriction system in the centre of Cambridge can become permanent. Through traffic will be prevented from going along Sidney Street and St Andrews Street between Emmanuel and Market Street junctions, and along King's Parade. The experiment was introduced 18 months ago – against a background of support from amenity organisations and opposition from city centre traders who carried their protests to a public inquiry.

1977 12 02
Sidney Street, Cambridge can be a battleground at this time of year. The narrow pavements and heavy traffic are a strain for anyone trying to shop. A right turn down Sussex Street may prove more fruitful. It has a solid old-fashioned atmosphere and a tightly-packed variety of specialist shops. The decorations and window displays are refreshingly quiet. The shopper can get a bite in the newly-opened Took's snack-bar, or relax for a shampoo at Diane's Hair International. Pigotts has a large stock of ironmongery and clothing shops include Paris House and the Rose Cavern Boutique, Easifit shoes and Charles' leather shop.

1980

1981 08 08
Johnsons, the menswear shop in Sidney Street has closed down after 150 years' trading in Cambridge. It started on its present site in the 1830s; the founder Octavius Johnson handed the business to his son and it passed down the family until Alfred Mole bought it. Cecil Mole who took over in 1930, said the shop's three employees had all found other work. 81 08 08

1981 10 09
The closure of Wards, means another long-established name will disappear from the streets of Cambridge. Recently Jack Carter, the outfitters in Portugal Place announced it was to close, before that Johnsons menswear shop in Sidney Street decided to end 150 years of trading and last year Walker Wallpapers, a family firm for nearly 60 years also called it a day. Reasons vary from rising rates and rent bills to increased competition or simply that the old family has run out of members. 81 10 09e

1984 03 30
It is exactly 50 years since Marks and Spencer moved into Cambridge at a time when there were major alterations in the narrow Sidney Street which attracted several major stores. It quickly established itself, extending to 10,000 feet in 1937 and doubling its space in 1966. There was further development four years ago when a third floor was added. In 1965 the firm established a warehouse in a former garage in Occupation Road previously owned by Progressive Coaches. Now they are appealing for memories from previous members of staff for a special display. 84 03 30 p24

1984 12 14
Foreign competition is forcing Grays to stop volume production of wooden squash racquets early next year due to the difference between the cost of labour and overheads in Cambridge and Taiwan. But production of a limited range of top-quality specialist racquets will continue as will

its cricket bat and ball factories in Sussex and Kent. The129-year-old company, which has its headquarters at the Playfair Works in Benson Street and a sports shop in Sidney Street, employs around 110 people locally. 84 12 14

1985 10 02
Bodger's, one of Cambridge's oldest-established university menswear shops which has been on the corner of Green Street and Sidney Street since 1922, is up for sale as a going concern. It is a very prosperous business employing ten full-time staff but the most valuable part of the concern is the freehold of the shop. It includes sales areas on two floors, a cutting room and canteen together with an attached doctor's surgery with a separate entrance and is valued at £800,000. 85 10 02

1985 10 15
Pigott's, the family ironmongers which has traded in Cambridge for more than a century, is up for sale. It was in 1863 that John Pigott, son of a Landbeach farmer, opened an ironmongers shop in Sidney Street and a chain of shops were set up in Market Hill, Mill Road, Norfolk Street, Bridge Street and Hills Road. The Sussex Street branch, an established feature of the street since the late 1930s, shut down last September. The business, now in Victoria Road, includes two shops, a warehouse, stores and office. 85 10 15a

1986 05 14
An amusement centre in Sidney Street has been approved by a government planning inspector, overturning the City Council's rejection of the scheme. It would attract responsible adult customers because of the type of machines installed, he believes. But councillors fear the decision will open the flood gates and that Cambridge will end up looking like Blackpool front. A similar centre opened in Mill Road last year. 86 05 14

1986 08 21
Woolworth's in Cambridge is to undergo a massive facelift to bring it up to date. The shop in Sidney Street will close for five weeks while builders work round the clock to gut and rebuild the interior. The new shop will be brighter and more modern with an 80-seater coffee bar, an extended children's toys section and a bigger record department. Out will go bad sellers – men's and women's clothes and food lines, and the range of toiletries and electrical goods will be drastically reduced. 86 08 21

1986 10 23
Work to widen pavements in Market Street and Sidney Street and reduce traffic using the city centre are attracting a storm of protest. 86 10 23

1987 12 29
Bargain hunters were out in their thousands as sale fever hit Cambridge. Shoppers queued right into Sidney Street as they waited for the doors to open at Eaden Lilley while Joshua Taylor said they had never seen a sale go as well. Woolworths' record department was the most popular with people spending their Christmas money and vouchers. At MFI furniture store all lines were selling well and there were long tailbacks in Coldham's Lane as people waited to get on to the Coral Park Trading Estate 87 12 29

1988 01 26
Joshua Taylor, one of Cambridge's most prestigious department stores has been sold. The new owner, London property developers Arlington Security plans to retain the name and upmarket image. Each of the 160 staff have their jobs guaranteed and will get an average loyalty bonus of

£1,500. Included in the deal are the main Sidney Street shop, the Bridge Street houseware shop and the Taylor family's academic robe-making business. The deal ends three months of doubt over the 128-year-old store's future following the Taylor family's decision to sell up in the face of fierce competition from national chains 88 01 26

1988 02 20
Cambridge is set for a battle of the booksellers after news that the Waring and Gillow furniture store in Sidney Street will be refurbished as Dillons Bookstore. 88 02 20

1988 03 02
Mr 'Jimmy' Wild was a law student at Sidney Sussex College 75 years ago but in 1914 volunteered to go to the front. He returned to practice law in Cambridge in 1934 renting an office opposite Emmanuel College. Three years later he employed a young assistant, Roy Hewitson and the business flourished, moving to Sidney Street where they were joined by Peter Shaw. It is now one of the largest legal firms in East Anglia and has just relocated to Shakespeare House on Newmarket Road with a team of 23 partners and over 100 staff. 88 03 02a

1988 04 21
Major refurbishment work has been completed at Cambridge's long-established department store. Joshua Taylor opened his first shop in Ely in 1810 which continued until 1923. His son started in Sidney Street Cambridge in 1860, spreading to Bridge Street in 1955. It became a household name to shoppers, symbolising a traditional way of life. This will continue say the new owners Arlington Securities who plan 'an exciting future' for the shop. They have retained the elegant sweeping central staircase and now with expansion and financial backing, the future looks rosy. 88 04 21c & d

1989 06 27
Bodgers the outfitters founded its reputation on old-fashioned courtesy and service, specialising in the sale of traditional clothes for traditional gentlemen. For 138 years generations of both town and gown have visited its respectable Sidney Street premises. But the shop, founded n 1851 is to close because of soaring interest rates, four years after it was bought by rival company Shepherd and Woodward of Oxford. The site is one of the only central freeholds not in college hands and is a prime site for speculators. 89 06 27

1989 07 13
The Dorothy was the social centre of Cambridge for many years, a place where town met gown and people enjoyed the regular afternoon dances. During the 50s its Blue Room became a major attraction for the young with rows of motor bikes and scooters lined up outside. Its oyster and fish restaurant opened in 1965 with an air-conditioning unit wafting away fishy odours and meals were cooked at the tables, under customer's noses Now the property's owner, Dillons Bookshop has leased part of the Sidney Street building to Festival Catering and the building has been reborn with a teashop, pub, restaurant and function room. 89 07 13

1990 01 24
Arlington Securities, which already owns Joshua Taylor and Arts Cinema buys Beach Villas on corner Sidney St & Market Passage – 90 01 24

CAMBRIDGE DAILY NEWS, Wednesday, March 19, 1930

PREPARING for the NEW SUSSEX STREET

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["Cambridge Daily News."

Photo]. The work of pulling down the buildings in Sussex Street is now in progress. These ancient houses will be replaced by up-to-date business premises.

LOCAL DIVORCE | TRANSFORMING | LATE EARL OF

c.44.6 : Sussex Street

1897 11 20
Sussex Street improvements, p2

1900

1904 03 26
Messrs J. Carter Jonas sold by auction an important estate in King Street, Cambridge comprising the fully-licensed public house, the Millers Arms and adjoining dwelling house and outbuildings. The pub contains beer cellars and washhouse in the basement, a large room fitted with a kitchen range, bar parlour etc now in the occupation of Messrs Bailey & Tebbutt. The business premises at the rear include a paint shop, workshop and stables whilst the house has four bedrooms. When Sussex Street is widened King Street must become an important business thoroughfare. It was acquired by Mr Nockolds at £3,700

1904 04 21
Cambridge Paving Committee received a memorial from a number of residents in the Hobson Street area calling attention to the present state of the carriage-way. They directed the Surveyor to report the cost of paving the street with wood blocks, together with the portion of St Andrew's Street from the tramway terminus. But Hobson Street was used by very few people; traffic was not half what it used to be and as the trams were likely to be electrified it would be better to wait. However a great amount of traffic came from Newmarket Road to the centre of town down King Street; very often there was a great block of traffic in Sussex Street because it was dangerous to go down Hobson Street where the pebbles were very uneven. Traffic went on dropping, and business went on dropping, simply because the street was so badly paved

1905 01 14

Sussex St fire, p3

1906 02 02
A London carpenter was charged with driving a motor car at greater speed than was reasonable and proper .PC Aworth said he saw a car turn into Hobson Street, Cambridge and put on speed. "The car went 30 mph, if fact I never saw a motor car go faster", he said. In turning the corner at Sussex Street the wheels went for some distance along the pavement. Harry Stearn, a photographer, said he was walking in the gutter and had to jump on the path to save himself. The driver was fined 50s. 06 02 02a

1910

1912 05 03
Two Cambridge 13-year-old boys were summonsed after P.C. Moss saw them with pistols in Fen Ditton Lane. The boys, who were in Scouts' uniform, said they'd gone there to try them and did not know they were doing wrong. The guns contained loaded cartridges which they'd bought at a shop in Sussex Street. The magistrates said he would write to the Scoutmaster. The Scouts' movement was a good one and it was bad for the corps that they should do this in uniform. The pistols were forfeited. 12 05 03b

1912 08 09
The County Council had considered various sites for a new County Hall. The purchase price of Hobson Street Methodist Chapel was £3,500 (£324,000 today) which was fair. In the chapel they had a good deal of material and the shell and outside walls would stand and be utilised. But it would not be sufficient. So they needed to purchase a house from Christ's College; they were not desirous of selling and the price of £2,500 was the least they would accept. The erection of county hall would increase the value of the other buildings in Hobson Street and help to bring a much-needed town improvement through the widening of Sussex Street. 12 08 09

1913 11 21
16 Sussex Street to be pulled down; 18 Peas Hill rebuilt – a wretched, verminous house; Fair Street widening, 13 11 21 p7

1919 06 25
Property market _ Sidney Street estate includes Price of Wales' Hotel, Dorothy Café, True Blue and Nag's Head, shops in Sussex Street and premises Hobson Street; bought by G.P. Hawkins; also houses, Duxford airfield machinery and plant – 19 06 25b

1920

1920 01 22
Sussex Street widening discussed – no widening except at corner Sidney Street as island site had been acquired by syndicate for erecting cinema

1920 01 28
Should Sussex Street be widened; need to improve centre town, blunders of the past, council debate – 20 01 28a

1920 03 30
Picture Playhouse plans, Sussex Street approved

1920 04 03
Building of new cinemas in Sussex Street and Guildhall Street vetoed by council

1920 04 06
Sussex Street should be widened from end to end, council says; was bit of old Cambridge

1920 04 07
Sussex Street to be widened, proposed cinema vetoed as would delay work on houses; suggestion that council buy plot and erect municipal cinema to avoid paying heavy compensation – 20 04 07a, b

1920 05 11
Sussex Street widening too expensive

1920 05 14
Sussex Street widening, long secret debate
Sussex Street cinema lively discussion, not approve plans

1920 05 19
Sussex Street widening – to purchase land south side to widen to width of 28 feet or purchase entire site; reject cinema plans – 20 05 19a

1920 06 17
Picture Playhouse Company appeal for erection of a kinema on the Sussex Street site

1920 07 02
Playhouse appeal against decision to block Sussex Street cinema lost

1921 01 05
Proposed Sussex Street cinema plans discussed – 21 01 05

1921 01 19
Sussex Street cinema – undesirable on the site proposed – 21 01 19a, b

1927 03 16
The owners of the Playhouse, Mill Road, Cambridge, have just completed negotiations for the sale of that cinema to a syndicate who are said to be the owners of the Central Cinema and the Tivoli. We understand that the transfer will take place in September. The Picture Playhouses Ltd, who owned the Playhouse, also have property in Sussex Street and they are also disposing of this.

1927 03 23
Sussex Street site sale, p5

1930

1930 03 19
Demolition work has just begun on the Sidney Street corner of Sussex Street as a first step towards the most important reconstruction scheme for the improvement of Cambridge in many years. Sidney Sussex College will develop the whole site on modern lines; within the next year an imposing block of buildings, providing shops and offices will rise. It will be connected to Hobson

Street by an artistically-designed crescent and colonnade of 12 shops which will allow vehicles to pass freely in the middle of Sussex Street. 30 03 19b

1930 03 20
Sussex Street sketches, p6

1930 03 22
There never was a time surely when there were so many works of destruction going on as at present. Little bits of old Cambridge are going one by one and elaborate new buildings are rising up in their place. Following demolition in Petty Cury and Sidney Street now we see old houses and shops in Sussex Street being knocked down. No wonder that those who come back to the town after a few years' absence express amazement at the changes they see. When we think of the bridges built at Newnham and Chesterton, of the streets that have been widened, the new recreation ground opened and the great business changes effected in the heart of the town we may well gasp. 30 03 22 a & b

1931 04 03
G.P. Hawkins opened the first tea shop in Cambridge at the corner of Sussex Street in 1900. It could hold 10 people with a waitress & two assistants. As adjoining space became available the premises were enlarged. Today the Dorothy Café can accommodate 2,000 and there is no brand of catering which cannot be undertaken. In 1904 he erected a bakery with two ovens at the side of Midsummer Common; today with seven ovens working six days a week he produces about 200,000 loaves. It also manufactures a ton of ice a day plus sufficient ice cream to supply the entire needs of Cambridge. 31 04 03a

1933 07 05
Sir, If I were 'Traffic Dictator' for Cambridge motor cycles would not be allowed in Sussex Street or Christ's Lane, there would be no parking of cars for more than fifteen minutes or in Jesus Lane: why spend £2,000 widening it, then block the space gained by motor cars. Bus users would be made to queue up near Lloyds Bank: often it is virtually impossible to get through the crowds of waiting passengers. – 'Interested'. 33 07 05 p8

1936 03 28
Under new restrictions Cambridge motorists may not travel from Market Hill towards Trinity Street or into Bene't Street from King's Parade. You may not drive into Sussex Street from Hobson Street or into Corn Exchange Street from Downing Street, nor turn at Burton's Corner, Petty Cury to go to the Victoria Cinema or from Wheeler Street into Peas Hill to get to the Arts Theatre. But cyclists may walk with their bicycles either way as they do at present in Petty Cury and Market Street. Restaurants will have to speed up their service if they wish to cater for those who leave their cars outside, for only a quarter of an hour is permitted. Travellers who do not want to get indigestion had better make use of a parking space! 36 03 28b

1936 04 17
Sussex Street, p1

1937 08 14
Mr W. Ridgeon established his shop in old Sussex Street in 1902 and moved to their new premises in 1932 since when the business has steadily grown. Now with their own nursery at Castle Street and lawn mower works at Westfield Lane they pride themselves on giving the best and most complete garden service in Cambridge. The business also includes a modern floral department and a section devoted to all dog and pet foods and requisites. 37 08 14

1938 07 22
Sussex Street is the most striking of the many improvements made in Cambridge during the past few years. Those who recall the dark, narrow lane of bygone days, with its overhanging roofs on either side, and its small, ill-lit shops, will hardly recognise the imposing street that has emerged from the builders' hands with its line of modern shops and shop-fronts. It is now Cambridge's latest shopping centre. 38 07 22

1938 07 23
H.W. Peak new premises, Sussex Street – advert – 38 07 23f

1938 10 29
The West End comes to Cambridge. Paris House, the beautiful new fashion rendezvous in Sussex Street caters specifically for the High Class trade. The Inner Court, richly executed in Indian Padouk and Australian Walnut, displays the most lovely garments, becoming the rendezvous for ladies of taste. To Car Users – our Commissionaire will attend to your car with pleasure while you are in our salon – Advert 38 10 29b

1940

1940 02 23
Paris House, Sussex Street, fashions – advert – 40 02 23a

1950

1952 09 01
With a fanfare from six scarlet-suited trumpeters Cambridge's third Trades Fair on Midsummer Common was opened. Immediately afterwards the Mayor went to the Interflora stand and sent a basket of roses by air to the Mayor of Cambridge, Massachusetts. Three local firms, Messrs Biggs of Peas Hill, Messrs J. Rogers of Newnham and Messrs Ridgeon's of Sussex Street, pooled their dollar allocations to provide the roses for America. In the first six hours 12,642 people paid for admission

1953 07 04
The pressure of 200 people waiting outside Rose's Fashion Centre in Sussex Street, Cambridge broke one of the shop windows. The sale was a real family affair, the husbands standing for the wives from the early hours until the woman of the family herself arrived to try and grab some of the bargains. There were four gabardine suits reduced from seven guineas (£7.35) to 15s (75p) and a grey Melange coat at £1 (original price £8.8s.) Many bargain hunters have been reaping the reward of the disastrous summer weather. At Tobin's of Mill Road they were clearing summer frocks for 10s (50p) which originally cost up to five times as much.

1959 02 26
Gordon Thoday has specialised in fabrics for over a quarter of a century. At the new contemporary shop in St Andrew's Street modern display counters give the advantage of self-selection, or if you prefer our staff will be happy to serve you from the immense and exciting variety of the newest British and Continental fabrics. Our Sussex Street shop continues as usual – Advertisement. 59 02 26

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1963 05 21
The firm of E.J. Pigott (Tools) was established in Sidney Street 100 years ago and moved to Sussex Street before the war. It has been handed down from father to son with always some member of the family behind the counter. Its handicraft shop in Hills Road was the first of its kind in East Anglia and they've recently opened an ironmongery department. It has ceased to sell hip and slipper baths but stocks 140 different types of pocket knife 63 05 21a & b

1970

1977 02 02
The Dorothy Continental delicatessen on the corner of Sussex Street, Cambridge, ceased trading at the weekend. It was the last remaining part of the former Dorothy restaurant and ballroom, sold by G.P. Hawkins in 1972 for £850,000. The Dorothy contained a supermarket, restaurant, large ballroom and other rooms used by many organisations for official functions. It was taken over by the Co-op in 1952. The above-ground part of the Dorothy was acquired by Waring and Gillow, the London-based furniture chain, the remainder now forms the Henekey Tavern. When the Dorothy closed, Hawkins moved it's outside catering section to the Alma Brewery site in Russell Street
.
1977 12 02
Sidney Street, Cambridge can be a battleground at this time of year. The narrow pavements and heavy traffic are a strain for anyone trying to shop. A right turn down Sussex Street may prove more fruitful. It has a solid old-fashioned atmosphere and a tightly-packed variety of specialist shops. The decorations and window displays are refreshingly quiet. The shopper can get a bite in the newly-opened Took's snack-bar, or relax for a shampoo at Diane's Hair International. Pigotts has a large stock of ironmongery and clothing shops include Paris House and the Rose Cavern Boutique, Easifit shoes and Charles' leather shop.

1980

1980 12 16
Sussex Street shops – 80 12 16

1984 10 08
Pigott's, the Cambridge hardware chain has closed its central branch in Sussex Street. They have been in the street since the 1930s and always did a good trade but had increasingly severe problems with parking and with wholesalers getting to the shop. Then a rent review was the final thing, the manager said. 84 10 08 p7

1984 11 02
Own Roe, the St Andrew's Street antiques dealer, is the latest in a line of specialist private shops owners to be driven out of the centre of Cambridge by massive rent rises. His great-grandfather started in business at the corner of Christ's Lane in 1822 but that shop was pulled down to make way for Bradwell's Court in the 1960s. Recently E.J. Pigott (tools) left Sussex Street after nearly 50 years and now the Granta Wool Shop is concerned about a rent review. Model Mania in King Street has also moved. 84 11 02 p8

1984 12 05

KP Professional Sales started in 1968 when its position on King's Parade was ideal for building up business with university departments. But it outgrew its space in the KP Camera Shop, moving to Sussex Street and then Quayside before opening new premises in Clifton Road. It supplies Government departments, the armed forces and a host of professional photographers who need a vital piece of equipment at the last minute. There is a lot of new electronic equipment but as far as taking pictures is concerned Ian Bedson, the managing director, doesn't envisage any major innovation. 84 12 05 & a

1985 10 15
Pigott's, the family ironmongers which has traded in Cambridge for more than a century, is up for sale. It was in 1863 that John Pigott, son of a Landbeach farmer, opened an ironmongers shop in Sidney Street and a chain of shops were set up in Market Hill, Mill Road, Norfolk Street, Bridge Street and Hills Road. The Sussex Street branch, an established feature of the street since the late 1930s, shut down last September. The business, now in Victoria Road, includes two shops, a warehouse, stores and office. 85 10 15a

1988 10 19
Jane Webb is a name well-known in Newmarket for large, elegantly-stocked dress shops. She started as a child, helping her parents on a menswear stall and, aged 13, ran a tiny dress shop in Sun Street with her mother. Ten years ago she moved into the derelict gas showrooms and stocked upmarket clothes. Now she also has a large shop in Sussex Street Cambridge and employs a staff of 40. This autumn she has flown to fashion fairs around Europe and makes weekly buying trips to London 88 10 19

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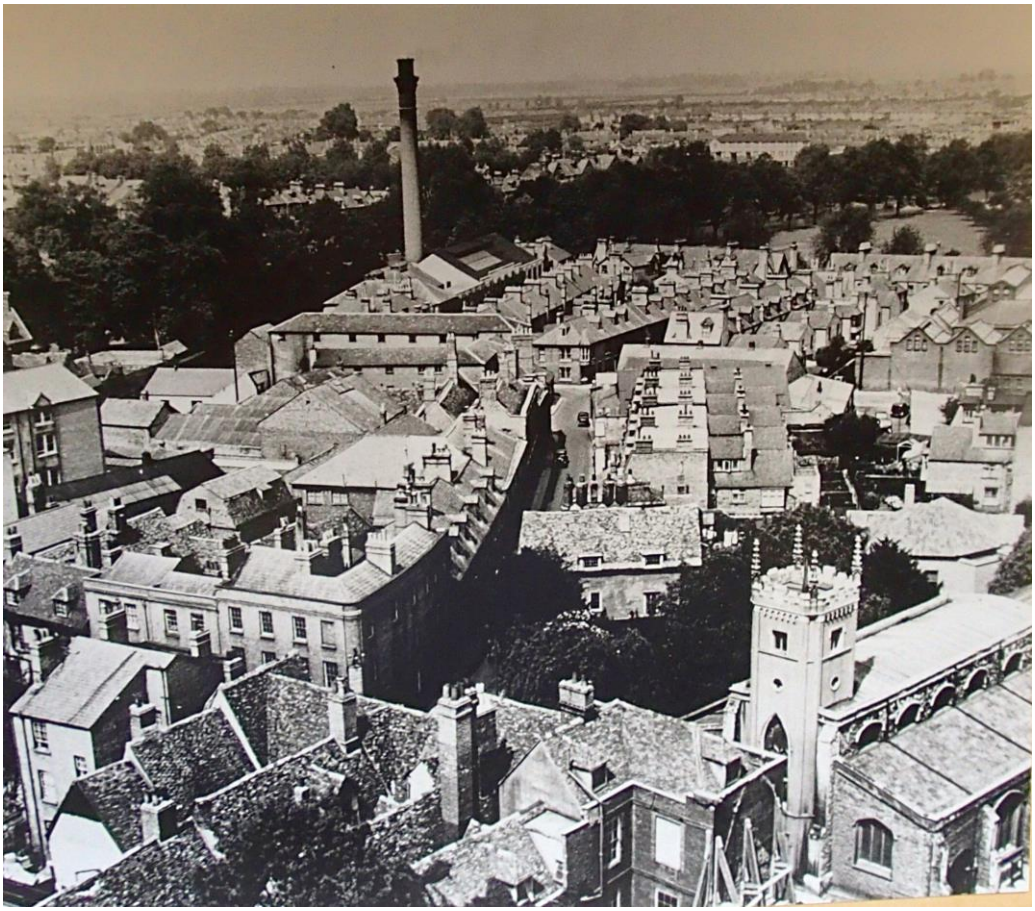

Thompson's Lane 1930s

242.93

c.44.6 : Thompson's Lane

1897 08 04
An extraordinary general meeting of the Cambridge Electric Supply co. ltd was held at the Company's offices, Thompson's Lane, Cambridge. The chairman reported that their first capital had been £40,000 which had been spent on plant and the necessary things to equip the station. They had gone over that and had borrowed £2,250 from the bank. The business of the company was increasing and the capital must be increased too. Now was the time for shareholders to reap the reward of their enterprise if the use of electric light became universal in Cambridge

1900

1902 02 12
Cambridge Electric Supply Company reported that they would probably outgrow the present site, in Thompson's Lane. They had secured a site at Chesterton, situated at the side of the railway line so they would be able to bring coals into the yard and they had also arranged for the use of the river and the road. The site would not be required yet but as no other spot on the river was so placed they were justified in buying the land.

1910

1913 05 30

A blaze broke out at Messrs Macintosh's foundry in Thompson's Lane. After the day's work is done the men draw the furnace to allow the fire to die out. When this is done huge sparks fly up, giving the impression that the place is on fire. But one of these sparks was blown on to the roof and set light to a beam. Had it been left the entire premises would have burnt down. But firemen, aided by undergraduates, put it out. 13 05 30 p11

1913 07 11
Renaming of streets, Thompson's Lane

1914 08 21
Thompson's Lane fire, St Clements Gardens 14 08 21 p3

1920

1923 08 28 c
A huge boiler, mounted on a trolley, and towed by two heavy traction engines, sank into the roadway at the corner of Thompson's Lane, Cambridge, at about a quarter to twelve this morning. It appears that the boiler was being conveyed to the Electric Light Company's works in Richmond Terrace, when the road collapsed under the strain. The boiler is about 30 tons in weight, and was many feet in length, and it is estimated that together the boiler and trolley weigh 40 tons. After several hours work the boiler was extricated.

1924 10 30
Princess Mary visits Tapestry works, Thompson's Lane p6

1930

1932 05 16
Flames reached the roof of King and Harper's garage in Jesus Lane when a taxi-cab caught fire as it was being filled with petrol. Cars in the garage were pushed out and the blaze extinguished. The cab was taken to the Thompson's Lane depot but some part of it still smouldered for at four in the morning it again blazed up. This time it was totally destroyed. 32 05 16

1933 05 19
Sir – the gravel footpath from Brooklands Avenue along Hobson's River up Empty Common has long been known as Finch's Walk. But how did it get its name? Some people call it Senior Wranglers' Walk and connect it with the name of the Rev G.B. Finch who was Senior Wrangler in 1857. But he never mentioned that he had anything to do with it. In an 1834 deed relating to the Hobson's Conduit Trust there is mention of two trustees called Charles Finch, one of whom died in 1762, who had a foundry and ironworks in Thompson's Lane – W.D. Bushell. 33 05 19b

1934 01 08
Thousands of people lined both side of St Andrew's Street when the Queen and Duchess of York paid a private visit to Mr Woolston's antique shop where the Queen chose several tiny ivory objects for her famous doll's house. She also inspected the Cambridge Tapestry Company's premises in Thompson's Lane where they watched the women workers actually engaged at the canvas and saw the tapestry panelling now being made for Lord Fairhaven, depicting his seat at Anglesey Abbey. 34 01 08

1936 01 15

The Queen motored over from Sandringham to visit Mr Stanley Woolston's antique store where she purchased specimens of needlework and some ivories to add to her collection. As word spread the police had a hard time keeping back the ever-increasing throng of sightseers. It was noticed that one of the tyres of the royal car was a little deflated and an RAC Scout was called in to blow it up again. The Queen also visited the Cambridge Tapestry Company in Thompson's Lane where she saw one piece of tapestry that was being repaired. It had been stolen by thieves who were forced to abandon it in a wood where it had been affected by the weather and some children had also mutilated it 36 01 15a

1936 07 28
A tapestry showing a panoramic view of Windsor Castle that was produced as a personal Silver Jubilee gift for the late King George V and Queen Mary is now on view in London. It represents the very finest modern English weaving and was designed and woven by the Cambridge Tapestry Company in their workshops at Thompson's Lane. The weavers were Ellen Nichols, Sylvia Corby, Ethel Lander, Dorothy Pettit, Elsie Blunt and Alice Haylett working under the direction of Hilda Lister. 36 07 28a

1937 05 10
Remarkably fine silken embroideries have been prepared for the embellishment of the thrones to be used at the Coronation of their Majesties King George VI and Queen Elizabeth. The King's throne is adorned with the Royal Arms while the Queen's also carried her newly-granted Bowes Lyon arms. The Cambridge Tapestry Company was entrusted with the work of embroidering the backs of the thrones. All the preliminary drawings on linen were made in Cambridge and the work was completed at the company's premises at Ickleford, near Hitchin 37 05 10

1937 10 22
The Cambridge Hebrew Congregation's new synagogue in Thompson's Lane was consecrated by the Very Rev, the Chief Rabbi of the British Empire. Jews were to be found in Cambridge before the Middle Ages and the stone walls of the medieval synagogue were said to be still standing. Cambridge University was the first seat of higher learning in the modern world to have given Jewish studies academic recognition. Arthur Cohen was the first Jew to take up residence at Magdalene College in the early 1850s after representation had been made to the Prince Consort, the then Chancellor, by Sir Moses Montefiore. 37 10 22

1938 07 18
The Spanish people were fighting our battle & the British Government should take strong measures, a Conference on Spain in the Cambridge Masonic Hall was told. If Franco were to win as the pawn of Mussolini and Hitler another European war would be much closer. Meanwhile a service of prayer on behalf of religious persecution in Germany was held at the Synagogue in Thompson's Lane. Cambridge Refugee Committee exists to help all German and Austrian refugees and would be pleased to receive gifts of money 38 07 18 & a

1940

1948 07 15
The River Cam Conservators considered a request from the Eastern Electricity Board to run cables under the river from Magdalene College to Thompson's Lane. The Board propose to cover the cables with bags of cement in order to protect them from punt poles. Mr Burrows informed the meeting that dredging of the river was proceeding most satisfactorily. Following the meeting the Conservators set off for Bottisham Locks on board the "Viscountess Bury", but had barely left Jesus Lock when it became stuck in a sandbank

1949 10 24
Myers Memorial Hall, Thompson's Lane, Cambridge, was the home of the Cambridge National Spiritualist church was opened. The Hall, brightly decorated, lighted, furnished & heated, bears little resemblance to the army hut it once was. The organ was dedicated to the memory of the late Mr C.W. Brown, a former member and benefactor of the church.

1950

1956 10 22
A new library in memory of Herbert Martin Loewe, Honorary Fellow of Queens' College and a Reader in Rabbinics was opened in the Cambridge Synagogue, Thompson's Lane. He had worked hard for the many displaced refugees fleeing from Nazi armies and kept open house for students. The family had been honoured for their scholarship and respected for their public works and the library was a happy choice to commemorate his life. 56 10 22

1957 11 02
Thompson's Lane, p7

1959 05 06
The Eastern Electricity Board has introduced five Auto-Call Alarms in the fens area. Should the electricity supply be lost the small transistorised machine rings up control at Thompson's Lane and with the aid of a pre-recorded voice tells the engineer that a fault has developed. If the number is engaged the machine waits four minutes, then tries again. The whole operation is repeated four times. It is a triumph for the Board's 'boffins'. 59 05 06a

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 09 01
Bill Walton joined the staff of King and Harper at their Thompson's Lane garage in 1910. In his early days he was concerned with the extremely temperamental racing car 'Chitty-Bang-Bang II'. This powerful monster consisted mainly of an ex-Zeppelin airship engine mounted on a Mercedes chassis. Another of his charges was a 'Prince Henry' Metallurique which in 1912 was the fastest car ever seen in Cambridge. He once went to a customer's house to collect a car only to find it could only be moved in reverse. He drove it backwards to the Bridge Street garage through Saturday afternoon traffic.
60 09 01

1962 08 16
The Cam Foundry in Thompson's Lane once had 20 men making cast iron, lamp posts, grating and road ironworks. Friday was the usual day for mould filling. The fire could be kindled in the cupola early in the morning and loaded up with hard furnace coke. The furnaceman was a real 'character'. A labourer, tough and very strong he would swing a 32 lb hammer to break up the scrap and pig iron. He distained the use of gloves or goggles, his bare hands and unprotected eyes in constant danger from molten splashes and sparks. It closed in 1923 and Messrs Macintosh transferred the business to the old Romsey Town cement works at Mill Road 62 08 16a & b

1964 01 30
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Thompson's Lane – 64 01 30

1964 11 13
Eastern Electricity's new Fens Sub-Area control room knocks spots off the old system used at Thompson's Lane. A huge panel displays the entire electrical network while control desks have radio communications and lists of emergency engineering staff who can be called out. There is a standby generator which starts automatically should the main power fails. All this is the work of Pye Ltd. There is not a second when it is left empty. But it is unlikely that full-scale automation will ever be introduced. 64 11 13

1970

1972 04 10
The last pint was pulled in the "George and Dragon" in Thompson's Lane, Cambridge, last night. The pub, on the corner of Jesus Green by the river is to come down to make way for a modern pub-restaurant. Although the pub, more than 100 years old and owned by St John's College was a Tolly House its successor, to be called The Dragonfly, will be a joint venture. Undergraduates and many University organisations have used the George and Dragon, once known as the Spade and Becket. The outgoing hosts, Jack and Wynn Asplin, take over the Great Northern Hotel by the Station Road roundabout, p10

1980

1985 09 11
A massive £2 million shops, offices and leisure complex has been thrown out by Cambridge planners – by just one vote. Magdalene College wanted to develop the riverside area of Quayside, Bridge Street and Thompson's Lane with a three-storey building and a development that would include shops, offices, restaurant, café, residential accommodation and a research and development base. Café tables would have spilled out into a square fronting the river. But residents objected, fearing extra traffic and councillors thought it too 'heavily massed' 85 09 11

1988 08 23
New laws to allow pubs to open from 11am to 11pm on weekdays and until 3pm on Sundays have had little impact in Cambridge. At the Baron of Beef in Bridge Street they still close mid-afternoon: with tourist coaches gone and people at work there is little going on until 5.30. But the revamped Spade and Beckett in Thompson's Lane & the Fort St George are opening all day while the Clarendon Arms are serving up afternoon cuppas & cakes. 88 08 23

1989 08 22
Business is booming in some local pubs. The Volunteer in Trumpington has seen a 20 per cent increase in turnover since all-day opening was introduced a year ago. They get a lot of business people in for long lunches and often folk call in on their way from work. Tourists also take advantage of the afternoon opening. The White Hart at St Ives also reports many businessmen drinking in the afternoon. The Spade and Becket, Thompson's Lane says they may follow suit as people are queuing outside the doors from five o'clock. 89 08 22

Trinity Street 1960s

243.02

c.44.6 : Trinity Street

1897 10 23
Sir - Cannot something be done to stop this frightful nuisance of organ-grinding? I have rooms in Trinity Street and as I write the organ has been "going on" for nearly an hour. The "Washington Post" is a fine march and "Come back to Erin" a delightful melody, but not when repeated eight or ten times over. The routine of coaching work is quite monotonous without further annoyance at the hands (and handles) of the lazy riff- raff of Italian Whitechapel - M.A.

1900

1903 01 16
Samuel Sleigh, formerly occupier of the Blue Boar Hotel, Trinity Street, Cambridge, sued an architect for damages. In 1899 he took the lease of the Blue Boar which was very much out of repair, both structurally and otherwise. Trinity College, the owners, recommended Coulson and Lofts to carry out alterations and consented to expend £3,000, but no more. When the costs went over budget he had been sued for the extra but claimed the architect had been negligent. His case was dismissed

1903 01 26
An undergraduate told the court he was riding his motor car in Trinity Street, Cambridge. Opposite the entrance to Rose Crescent the car suddenly stopped in consequence of something going wrong with the gear. A hackney carriage was coming along and he held up his hand, thinking there was not sufficient room for it to pass the car. The cabman did not stop, but swore and carried on. The cab came into contract with the motor car and two mudguards were bent. The cab-proprietor was fined 5s.

1905 02 25

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

The Cambridge Amateur Dramatic Club completed its 50th year of existence with a dinner in the Guildhall. It has experienced financial embarrassment and its defaulting cashier; it has been served with writs; in its early days it suffered from something nearly akin to ostracism. A Royal patron and social and official recognition followed. The first performances were given in lodgings over a shop in Trinity Street, then moved to a room at the Hoop Hotel. In 1856 one of its members while escorting some ladies to a ball underwent the unpleasant experience of being served with a writ for £50 due to a carpenter 05 02 25a

1907 08 10
Messrs Macmillan and Bowes, the well-known booksellers, have recently acquired the house over their premises at the corner of Trinity Street. On the new staircase, designed by Mr T.D. Atkinson, hangs a portrait of 'Maps' (John Nicholson) and old views of Cambridge. In the new reading room are exhibited manuscripts and autograph letters from Wordsworth, Tennyson and Thackeray. One room is devoted entirely to Cambridge material of which Mr Bowes published a catalogue in 1894.
07 08 10 & a

1909 05 14
A cavalcade of six horses, with postilions, attached to a brake containing a party of gaily-clad undergraduates, created a good deal of amusement and surprise. Trinity Street was drowsing in the hot sunshine and steeped in its usual placidity, when with a clatter of horses' hoofs the turn-out dashed in among the shoppers and bicycles and drew up opposite Trinity College. It was the latest undergraduate attempt to achieve the bizarre. 09 05 14

1910

1910 06 24
Archaeology: animal and human bones near Trinity Street – 10 06 24b

1912 09 20
Bankruptcy – Arthur Clarke, stationer in Trinity Street, Kirtling builder. Lt Downham smallholder -12 09 20a

1912 10 25
P.C. Smith told the court he was in plain clothes in Trinity Street when he saw an eleven-year-old boy carrying his cap in his hands. It looked rather bulky and was found to contain walnuts. The lad admitted he'd put his hand through a hole at the back of Whitehead's stall on the market and taken them. His mother said he was unruly at home and went out in the evening when he had no business to do so. Magistrates sentenced him to six strokes of the birch. If he re-offended he would be sent to the reformatory school 12 10 25aa

1913 06 06
Death Henry Hitzman, sub-postmaster, Trinity Street 13 06 06 p7

1916 03 01
Cambridge Borough Tribunal – Matthew of Trinity St have had 60 men enlist, only one left in hardware department; Cambridge Chronicle apply for machine minder – 16 03 01c

1916 07 26
Heroic Officer. Cambridge has sustained some heavy losses during the present month, and prominent among them has been the death, through wounds, of Captain Robert W. Michell,

R.A.M.C., better known to Cambridge people as Dr. Michell, he having been in practice here for some years, occupying premises in Trinity Street, nearly opposite Caius College, of which he was a member. An accomplished oarsman, he was in much request as a rowing coach. Every afternoon during Term he was to be met down the river advising either the crews of his own college or others, for Dr. Michell was always ready to give instruction to those who wished for it. He possessed a charming personality and was extremely popular with everyone who frequented the riverside. His death occurred in a private nursing home in London on Wednesday last from wounds received at the Front on July 3. Capt. Michell was wounded whilst performing an act of great gallantry, for which, we understand, he had been recommended the Victoria Cross. 16 07 26

1916 10 11
Pratt & co, tailor established 1865, 28 Trinity Street premises have been refurbished – 16 10 11c

1917 04 11
Mr W.A. Macfarlane-Grieve. The death took place of Mr. William Alexander Macfarlane-Grieve at 9.40 on Sunday night at his Cambridge residence 35 Trinity Street, at the age of 72 years. The deceased gentleman was educated at St. John's College, Oxford, where he proceeded to the degrees of M.A. and Sc.L. In the year 1896 he became an incorporated M.A. of the University of Cambridge. He also held the degree of F.S.A. of Scotland of which he was always very proud. Mr. Macfarlane-Grieve bought Impington Park shortly before joining Clare College. He was known to be a staunch Conservative, although he had never taken any active part in the various campaigns, nor did he take any active part in the public life of the district. He was, however, an active member of the County Bench, being created a magistrate in 1903. It was only a fortnight ago since deceased's eldest son, Lieut. A. R. Macfarlane-Grieve of the Argyle and Sutherland Highlanders, was killed in action (March 17) and he also lost his daughter recently. He leaves a widow and three sons, all holding commissions in the Army. 17 04 11

1919 02 22
Newsboys in Court. At the Cambridge Borough Juvenile Court, two errand boys were summoned for shouting newspapers to the annoyance of inhabitants in Trinity Street and Bene't Street, Cambridge. They pleaded guilty. The cases were dismissed. 19 02 22

1920

1920 05 05
Appointment. At a meeting of the County War Pensions Committee, held at Cambridge on Saturday, candidates for the post of cashier and accounts clerk were interviewed. Six applicants appeared before the Committee and ultimately the appointment went to Mr, G, B. Hosegood, of 89 Mill Road, Cambridge, who prior to the war was cashier and ledger clerk at Messrs. Matthew and Sons, Trinity Street. Subsequent of demobilisation he has held the position of finance officer at the local Employment Exchange. 20 05 05

1924 10 17
Holiday Snaps. Why don't you make lantern slides of your holiday snaps. You will be surprised what pleasure it will give the youngsters to see themselves on the screen. Call and ask us about it. The winter evenings are coming on. Get ready for them, and make the youngsters happy. W.F. Turner, the Camera House, Trinity St, Cambridge – advert

1925 02 28

We regret to announce the death of Mr Cyrus Johnson, the well-known portrait painter. He was the youngest son of the late Mr Elijah Johnson who founded the Cambridge bookselling firm in Trinity Street. Born at Cambridge he was educated at the Perse school and afterwards studied in Paris. He exhibited at the Royal Academy as a portrait painter in 1877 in which branch of art he achieved much distinction. He resided in Cambridge from 1916 until last year. (funeral 5th Mar p6)

1927 10 29
The fascinating experience of lunching in Cambridge in the atmosphere of our Elizabethan forefathers is made possible by the opening of new rooms at Messrs Matthew's Café in Trinity Street. They have acquired the two upper storeys of the building & turned rooms which were formerly part of a lodging house into a charming medieval retreat. The original beams and window frames remain as well as some beautiful old carvings and the rooms have been furnished in the style of the period, pains having been taken to securer faithful reproductions even down to lamps and pewter pots.

1928 09 01
Sir – if you walk into King's Parade, Cambridge you see on your right, stretching almost indefinitely to Trinity Street a long varied row of shops – tailors, photographers, booksellers and cafes – in fine all the indications of the necessities of modern life. You may linger before window displays of the latest dance record, buns and cakes, photographs of college eights, and books and books. You notice the windows reflect your new summer suiting and admire its fashionable cut. Yet turn round and your gaze encounters minarets and towers, white gleaming the sunshine. Great walls, vulnerable with tradition, frown coldly down at you and you feel absurdly out of place in your flannel trousers and double-breasted coat – "Awe-struck"

1929 02 14
A serious fire broke out at Caius College, Cambridge. Two rooms in Tree Court were completely gutted and others badly damaged. Policemen attracted by the blowing of a whistle in Trinity Street got a hydrant in the courtyard to work and the Fire Brigade was quickly on the scene but the inside of the building was almost a furnace. The fire was quickly got under but not before considerable damage had been done, including the falling in of a large part of the ceiling. The firemen experienced bad conditions owing to the intense cold, the water froze on their clothing and icicles were left hanging from the ledges

1930

1932 05 25
'Varsity Weekly', an undergraduate newspaper conducted on sensational lines, claimed that errand boys had been sumptuously entertained by members of the University in rooms in Trinity Street. As a result the writer was challenged to a duel. But police were waiting outside Girton College when a car drew up early in the morning. Inside they found three fencing epees with their protective buttons cut off and the points filed down to needle sharpness. 32 05 25b

1934 10 22
Thousands greeted the King and Queen when they made their way to the new University Library. Washing and cooking alike was forgotten in hundreds of homes as women formed a great part of the crowds which were thickest in Trinity Street where undergraduates in cap and gown added to the number. Of all the wonderful products of man's skill in art and labour the Library must rank of one of the most inspiring and peculiarly permanent of our national institutions and with while clouds scudding over its lofty tower this unique building occupied the centre of a delightful scene.

An exceptionally good film of the visit, taken by Gaumont especially for the Victoria Cinema will be shown next week. 34 10 22 & 25

1935 10 25
The first new Morris 8-10 cwt light van in Cambridge has been supplied to Matthew and Sons Ltd of Trinity Street. It is revolutionary in its design with an offset engine mounting and a large rear opening for loading. The spare wheel, an eyesore on even the most attractive car, is neatly concealed in a carrier which incorporates the rear number plate. It has dipping headlights and traffic signal arms. The most remarkable feature is the price of £169 10s. in ship grey with blue or green paint three pound extra.35 10 25

1936 02 21
A new Blue Boar hotel, refined and distinctive yet homely has been taking shape in Trinity Street. A new Georgian cornice and canopy has been installed with flood-lighting producing a beautiful effect. Internally structural alterations, redecoration and refurbishing make the hotel a place of comfort and restful beauty with every modern refinement to ensure the enjoyment of residents who have a choice of gas, coal or electric fires in the bedrooms. The main lounge was originally a cobblestone yard into which coaches were driven. It was covered in in 1900 36 02 21 advert – 36 02 22a

1936 03 28
Under new restrictions Cambridge motorists may not travel from Market Hill towards Trinity Street or into Bene't Street from King's Parade. You may not drive into Sussex Street from Hobson Street or into Corn Exchange Street from Downing Street, nor turn at Burton's Corner, Petty Cury to go to the Victoria Cinema or from Wheeler Street into Peas Hill to get to the Arts Theatre. But cyclists may walk with their bicycles either way as they do at present in Petty Cury and Market Street. Restaurants will have to speed up their service if they wish to cater for those who leave their cars outside, for only a quarter of an hour is permitted. Travellers who do not want to get indigestion had better make use of a parking space! 36 03 28b

1936 08 15
Old buildings at the back of shops opposite the 'Blue Boar' in Trinity Street caught fire. This is one of the densest areas with much valuable property including several college buildings. Trinity College fire-fighting appliance tackled the blaze from the back and the brigade's water tower fire engine was soon at work. Onlookers had a laugh when a frightened mouse was seen running along the pavement among the hoses. But the storehouse at the rear of Roper's shop was burnt out. 36 08 15

1937 07 17
Trinity college remove railings in front of college chapel, Trinity Street – photo – 37 07 17a

1939 08 02
Turner & sons, Trinity Street was founded by John Leach, chemist and photo dealer 50 years ago and taken over by W.E. Turner in 1912; has one of the most modern photographic developing and printing factories at Humberstone Road – 39 08 02b

1940

1941 05 15
New Kitchen Club under Ministry of Food scheme in Trinity Street; equipped with electric and gas cookers – 41 05 15

1941 11 07
New Magistrates. Two new borough magistrates were sworn in by the Mayor of Cambridge (Ald. E. O. Brown) on Monday. They were Mr. Bernard John Matthew, of The Thatched Cottage, Caxton, and Mrs. Elizabeth Florence Cole, of 99 Hawthorn Way, Cambridge. Mr. Matthew, managing director of the well-known Trinity Street firm of Messrs. Matthew and Son Ltd., is a former President of the Cambridge Rotary Club, and now holds the office of honorary secretary. Mrs. Cole has for some years taken a leading part in adult education matters, and has been especially active in her work for the Workers Educational Association. Her particular interest has been in the sphere of local government. She is a keen supporter of the Co-operative movement.
41 11 07

1945 01 05
Runaway Pony. At about 11.20 a.m. on Tuesday a pony and trap was left outside Messrs Holland and Blackwell's shop in Pembroke Street, when the pony took fright. It turned into Trumpington Street and ran towards King's Parade land at the corner of Bene't Street and King's Parade struck a lamp standard. The trap and harness were damaged, and the pony having freed itself, ran along King's Parade and Trinity Street, being finally stopped uninjured in St. John's Street, It caused no further damage.

1947 05 14
Filmgoers who have seen Miss Betty Grable's previous films with doubtless find her latest something of a novelty for "The Shocking Miss Pilgrim" shows her as one of the first typists, taping merrily on the keyboard of one of the first typewriters ever manufactured, nearly 80 years ago. There is an added novelty however, inasmuch as a machine similar to the one she uses is actually owned by a Cambridge resident who taught herself to type on it many years ago. This collector's piece is the property of Miss M. Pate, proprietress since 1900 of the University Typewriting Office in Trinity Street. Before that it was owned by Oscar Browning of King's College and bears on the lid a handwritten note saying it was "seen with much interest and tried by George Eliot" when on a visit to Mr Browning

1948 06 01
Today the one-way traffic system designed to relieve congestion in the centre of Cambridge came into operation. In Sidney Street and Bridge Street the traffic will flow in a northerly direction towards Magdalene Street from the town centre, while in St John's Street and Trinity Street it will flow in a southerly direction towards King's Parade. In Green Street traffic will flow in one direction from Gifford Place to Trinity Street - and the remainder of Green Street will be open for two-way traffic. This extension of "one-way" traffic will link up with the system now in operation at St Mary's street, Market Hill (north side) and Market Street

1950

1950 10 16
For the past half century Miss Minnie Pate, director of the University Typewriting Office in Trinity Street has been serving the University and its scholars. And now the University is acknowledging the value of her services by conferring upon her the distinction of an honorary degree. She was one of the first typists in Cambridge and taught herself on one of the first typewriters ever to be seen here – which is still kept in her offices.

1953 03 14

The site of England's oldest bookshop has just changed hands for the 14th time in more than 350 years. Messrs W.H. Smith have acquired Bowes and Bowes' shop on the corner of Trinity Street which has a heritage of bookselling, publishing and binding that goes back as far as 1581. In 1807 it belonged to John Nicholson, son of the celebrated 'Maps' who went his rounds of the University with a moveable stall laden with textbooks and called out "Maps and pictures". Later Kingsley and other literary men held 'tobacco parliaments' on religion and politics, Wordsworth reclined there, Thackeray dined there and Tennyson first read "Maud" in the Long Room, now the Foreign Department.

1953 06 25
Customers calling at the grocery department of Matthew and Son in Trinity Street, Cambridge, have been startled to find, in the midst of all the food displayed – a caravan! Strictly speaking, 'caravanette' is a more accurate description, for it is not much larger than an ordinary farm-car trailer. It can be hauled behind an 8 h.p. car or even a motor-cycle combination, yet provides ample sleeping accommodation for two people and has a miniature kitchen. Moderately priced, it is likely to prove one of the most popular models that Cambridge Caravans Ltd have produced.

1954 08 13
This year marks the 150th anniversary of Lloyd's Bank in Cambridge. In 1804 two bothers named Foster who were already trading as millers established a bank in Bridge Street. In 1835 they transferred to the Turk's Head in Trinity Street and opened branches in St Ives, Saffron Walden and Ely. In those days two members of staff were boarded on the premises, one sleeping on a bed in front of the strong room armed with a rusty sword. At no time was the building left unattended. In 1890 they acquired a site at the junction of Hobson Street and a new building in Renaissance style was opened in 1894. The Capital and Counties Bank took them over in 1904 and 14 years later they amalgamated with Lloyd's. In 1919 the two offices were merged and the Sidney Street premises chosen as the main branch. In 1935 a considerable extension was built on the corner site.

1957 09 14
Trinity College has started its first large-scale works this century. They will reconstruct nos.29-34 Trinity Street with hardly any alterations to the facade. The shops will remain on the ground floor but everything above is to be reconstructed to house 43 undergraduates in a small new court. This will reduce the overcrowding resulting from the termination of military service. 57 09 14 & a

1960's The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960

1960 06 08
Queen Mother opens Trinity Angel Court, started 1957 to house 45 undergraduates to help reduce overcrowding resulting from termination of military service & anticipated baby-bulge, but will still need licensed lodgings. She travelled by normal passenger train and was fifteen minutes early arriving at the college where she showed interest in some of the ancient pottery discovered during excavation work. Later a crowd of several thousand people gave her a rousing send-off as her special launch left the forecourt of the Pike and Eel at Chesterton to take her to watch the May Races on the River Cam 60 06 08 & a [6.14]

1960 10 22

The British Council's new International Centre in Trinity Street is a club formed to promote international friendship and understanding by providing a social and cultural centre for foreign residents in Cambridge and their English friends. 60 10 22

1961 11 17
Buckets of water cascaded over undergraduates who marched along King's Parade as a protest against having to wear gowns. About 250, many without gowns, walked four abreast to the Senate House escorted by a solitary policeman. Other students chanted 'Keep the Gown'. When they reached Senate House Hill three Proctors accompanied by two Bulldogs took down some of the names – they are liable to a fine of six shillings and eightpence. The only 'casualty' was a Bulldog who had his top hat snatched by an undergraduate who ran off in Trinity Street 61 11 17b

1962 09 27
St Michael's Church in Trinity Street is "an intolerable disgrace", says the Vicar of St Mary the Great, its sister church. Now there are plans to turn it into a modern parish hall with kitchen for meetings while the east end will become a small chapel for prayer. The massive restoration scheme will cost £10,000 and to promote it the church will be flood-lit. The youth club will give a show on the lines of a 'Review' and operate a 'talent scheme' where young people will be given money to be taken away and multiplied. 62 09 27

1962 10 13
Pratt, Manning and Co of Trinity Street, Cambridge's oldest bespoke tailoring firm, is to close. It was established in 1865 by Thomas Pratt and acquired by Ald H.T. Wing in 1897. Until the First World War about 80% of the trade was from undergraduates who ordered three or four suits at a time. Today students on grants cannot afford high prices for hand-made clothes and they rely on professional and business men for their trade. Customer's patterns and records will be transferred to their London office and a cutter will visit Cambridge at regular intervals. 62 10 13a

1962 12 29
Reconstruction of Matthew's restaurant in Trinity Street would provide three modern restaurants – a separate steak bar, a wine and cheese bar and a chicken and ham restaurant. It would probably be called 'The Turk's Head Restaurant'. The British public should be able to have wine with their food and were becoming more educated to this fact because they 'occasionally escaped abroad', an Inquiry was told. Mr Bernard Matthews, managing director, said the firm was leasing the restaurant from Trinity College who were not opposing the application 62 12 29

1963 05 15
In 1869 William Weatherhead purchased the business of John Hatt, a bookseller and printseller in Union Street, now Peas Hill. Then in 1886 took over an established stationers' shop in Trinity Street. The two merged at his death in 1907, added a wholesale department and flourished until 1936 when they moved to its present premises in the Caius College development on Market Hill. Now it has been acquired by W.H. Smith 63 05 15a

1964 05 02
Matthews is to close their grocery shop in Trinity Street – 64 05 02

1964 12 02
Down Your Street article by Erica Dimock on Trinity Street = 64 09 03Deacon's Bank opens a branch in a 19th century Georgian building in Trinity Street. The banking hall has illuminated writing desks for customers, with a night safe, interview room and manager's office. Although

new to Cambridge William Deacon's Bank can trace its history back to 1771 and was acquired by the Royal Bank of Scotland in 1930. It is strongly represented in the North but has been extending and now has a network of over 250 branches. 64 12 02a

1969 02 13
W. Heffer & sons open new children's bookshop in Trinity Street, plan to move main shop from Petty Cury – 69 02 13

1969 06 06
Sainsbury's want two self-service shops to replace their antiquated premises in Sidney Street, one in Trinity Street, the other in the Kite – 69 06 06, 06a

1970

1970 08 18
Heffers to move bookshop to Trinity Street – 70 08 18a

1970 10 02
Heffers open new bookshop, Trinity St – 70 10 02

1972 06 08
Two long-haired students from the Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology picked the wrong moment to walk into a Cambridge restaurant. It was about the time of day that the cafe's manageress had seen enough shoulder-length locks to last her a lifetime. And she refused to serve the students at The Whim in Trinity Street. The students claimed they were subjected to a stream of almost hysterical abuse and told they were dirty and disgusting. The manageresss said she had tried to be patient but found it difficult to run a business when customers filled up the restaurant for hours at a time having only paid 5p for a cup of tea 72 06 08

1972 09 26
The Wolfson Building of Trinity College, Cambridge, once described as a liner stranded in a dry dock, opened its doors yesterday for an official tour of inspection. The building rises lozenge-shaped behind the historic and preserved facades of Trinity Street in the city centre. It is topped by two large winged roof-lights, which, the architects said, were added deliberately to be a modern feature of the city skyline. The scheme provides rooms for 125 Trinity students. Beneath the college buildings are the commercial premises which include the Sainsbury supermarket, Heffer's booksellers, Horne's the men's outfitters and Barclays Bank.

1976 05 21
The Turks Head Berni Inn, Trinity Street, Cambridge, sucks inside an almost relentless stream of visitors. The upstairs bar serves ducking and scampi but we were heading for the simple steak sort of menu. Our two schooners of sherry cost 32p each and the wine, Cotes de Rhone, £2.34. The food was worth a wait. We had rump steak (£1.91) and a fillet steak (£2.73) which were very tasty, with chips, peas and tomatoes. We followed up with chocolate icecreams, which were included in the main course price. We could have had instead cheese and biscuits. Other offerings were Dover sole (£2.44) and Sirloin steak (£1.89).

1977 07 01
All the customers in Berni Inns' Tudor Bar in Trinity Street, Cambridge looked like shoppers rather than office workers and it seems surprising that they have not discovered this quite spacious place to have lunch. The menu is not extensive but is reasonably priced; it includes a

ploughman's lunch with either cheese or pate (65p), sandwiches and, in theory, cottage pie (46p) – but the chef was not at work. I tried the only hot pie available which the assistant "thought" was chicken and mushroom. As far as I could tell it was beef. Having spent only £1.50 between us we felt justified in lashing out on the speciality – liqueur coffee. At 51p it was an extravagance, but absolutely delicious

1977 09 19
Veteran charity fundraiser Snowy Farr led about 150 children around Cambridge city centre with the intention of filming the opening sequences of a children's television series in which he stars. But Snowy took the wrong turning and helpful police radioed around the route trying to locate him; over-exuberant children kept overtaking his bike; cats fell off the trailer and the goats couldn't get through the crowd. And then, to cap it all, sirens screamed and blue lights flashed as three fire engines raced up Trinity Street to the Whim Restaurant. The whole thing was organised by a group of independent cameramen who are planning to sell a series to foreign television networks.

1978 02 04
He used to stand at the corner of Trinity Street and Green Street in Cambridge, touting his wares. Every few minutes he would break out into a chant which sounded something like "Toodle-oddle-aidie-ar". One day I couldn't stand it any longer – not knowing what it meant. So I went up and asked him. "Two o'clock late London", he said, not so much as raising an eyebrow. "Paper, sir?" Every community, in every day and age, has its 'characters', even if there never seem to be quite as many about as there once were. Today busker Jerry Bol happily makes an exhibition of himself as a one-man band, while 'Snowy' Farr and his menagerie delight thousands of people with their weekly Saturday appearances.

1978 02 23
Shopping Guide decided to investigate the cost of a cup of tea in Cambridge snack bars. Best value for money was The Whim in Trinity Street where a pot of tea costs 15p and with a jug of hot water and plenty of milk you can get three cups for your money. Worst was the tea and coffee counter at the Arts Theatre Roof Garden where you pay 15p for one cup. Thornhills in Regent Street was the best for choice as you can have a cup (8p) or pot (18p) whilst at the Coffee Pot in Green Street you pay 20p for a pot that held four cups, if you had the thirst to match it. Joshua Taylor is the only department store which has a coffee or tea shop but has a lunch-time minimum charge

1980

1980 11 13
The effect of sand-blasting masonry is dramatic; a building which has faded into drab insignificance under decades of dirt reveals subtle details of a mason's art. Take the Whim in Trinity Street, Cambridge. Cleaning has revealed a beautiful mellow honey-coloured stone dressed decorative carving work and topped by a turret that wouldn't look amiss on a fairy-tale castle. It has been treated with a colourless silicone wash to make it water repellent while still allowing it to breathe. This makes it self-cleaning. 80 11 13b

1983 12 13
An old Cambridge family business which closed 20 years ago is being 'revived'. Matthew and Son was once a prosperous department store founded in the 1830s in Trinity Street with its own tea rooms and restaurant. It closed in 1963 because of high rents but now the great-great-nephew

of the founder, Michael Matthew, has started up the tea and coffee business again in much humbler surroundings of a market stall. 83 12 13 p12

1984 02 03
The Turks Head sign swings once more in Trinity Street. Its unique charm lies in the eccentric architecture and ancient beams with rich red carpeting and soft lighting. The Tudor grill room can cater for 200 and with so many nooks and crannies they can usually find room for diners. The new charcoal grill will do delicious things to steaks and chops and there is an extensive table d'hote menu offered at £3.95 for three courses with wine at £3.95 a bottle. 84 02 03 p29

1985 07 24
The Blue Boar Hotel in Trinity Street may be demolished and replaced by student accommodation, a lecture theatre and new shops. The façade would be saved with a new restaurant and wine bar on the ground floor. Trust House Forte are not a bit worried about its closure as the former 'showbiz hotel' was falling behind present standards. It was difficult to stop outside the entrance, parking was non-existent, few of the bedrooms had private bathrooms and many had a poor view. 85 07 24

1986 10 16
Bowes and Bowes, Cambridge's oldest bookshop, marked the end of an era and the beginning of a new. The building on the corner of Trinity Street started as a bookshop under William Scarlett in 158l. It was acquired by Daniel and Alexander Macmillan who in 1845 laid the foundations for one of the largest publishing firms in the world. It became a literary centre where figures like Thackeray and Charles Kingsley were frequent visitors. Now it has been completely redesigned and reopened under its new name of Sherratt and Hughes. 86 10 16

1987 03 13
Cambridge's traditional transport, the bicycle, will be deliberately used to slow down city centre traffic. The medieval central streets will be made even narrower which will make it even more difficult to overtake bikes. Traffic restrictions will also be introduced, including the banning of taxis. The streets have been reshaped and cleaned up with York stone used in areas considered 'visually sensitive'. But workmen in Trinity Street have been delayed by having to remove hundreds of wooden blocks dating back to the days of horse-drawn vehicles 87 03 13b

1987 04 28
One of Britain's oldest booksellers, Deighton Bell in Trinity Street, which dates back to 1700 and specialises in antiquarian and rare volumes, has been sold to nearby Heffers. It takes them back to second-hand books, a department it gave up in 1974 because of lack of space. Then they had sold their stock to Deighton Bell and had maintained a good relationship ever since. The shop will remain on the corner of Trinity Street and Green Street and continue to be run by John Beech his staff 87 04 28

1987 06 26
The Victoria Cinema site on Market Hill is to become a Marks and Spencer store following an Inspector's decision. M & S is planning to put up a completely new building behind the existing façade and the store will also stretch into the shoe shop next door. Refusing permission would not have saved the cinema as the owners wanted to sell the property. But planners fear traffic chaos unless the firm is responsible about deliveries: they can as of right bring huge great articulated trucks down Bridge Street and Trinity Street in the middle of the working day if they so wish. 87 06 26

1988 04 14
For half a century Roger Asbury has coaxed women's hair into place while listening to their confidences and problems. There has been an Asbury cutting hair in Cambridge since his father, Wilfred, took over a business called Alma Mater in Trinity Street in 1919. Perms were very different when Roger started in hairdressing at 17. In his Cherryhinton Road salon he keeps the old perming equipment from the days when women would site with their hair in curlers strung up to an electrical machine. In those days they expected perms to last six months. 88 04 14a

1988 07 23
A.A. Roper's traditional tailor's shop in Trinity Street is closing after nearly 80 years and three generations of trading. Stanley Roper, son of the founder Arthur, is retiring as is 77-year-old cloth-cutter Fred Bland who is irreplaceable – his is a dying craft outside London. David Roper is sad to close the shop but says "It is not like before the war, when we used to make suits for five guineas – today the same suit would cost £300" 88 07 23a

1989 12 14
W & G Taylor of Trinity Street, one of Cambridge's oldest family menswear shops, is closing after 809 years of business. The firm started when George and Walter Taylor (no relation) who both worked at Ryder and Amies, decided to set up in business together but now a threefold increase in the lease is simply beyond their means. The shop describes itself as a gentleman's outfitters and specialises in hats. Bowlers for Cambridge colleges have been a regular line of business. 89 12 14

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

c.44.6 : Trumpington

1897 03 20
Mr Edwin Bays, architect, forwards particulars of a scheme for erecting a viaduct, with Bathing Sheds under, leading from the Trumpington Road, Cambridge, to Newnham. The proposed viaduct road would start from the Leys School grounds, Coe Fen, Newnham and terminating at Grantchester and Barton-roads. It will be necessary to construct two river and three road arches and it is intended to utilise one as a Swimming Bath for women, and the other two as dressing rooms

1897 04 02
Trumpington jubilee reading room, p3

1897 08 18
Today we have pleasure in chronicling a capture which redoubts to the credit of the Cambridgeshire County Constabulary. There appears to be an idea prevalent amongst London thieves that once in this county they have an easy job in "cracking a crib" and getting away with their booty. Evidently full of this delusion two such men ran down to Trumpington, their innocent hearts full of the joys in store. They bargained however without the personality of P.C. Salmon, the resident guardian of Trumpington's peace, a burly and genial officer to those who keep the

law and a terror to those who "love darkness rather than light because their deeds are evil". P.C. Salmon - alas for the hopes of these two disciples of Bill Sykes - sleeps only when the burglar is not "serenading" and moreover he rides a "bike". To this cycle the culprits owe the fact that their "cycle of freedom" is run and that they have fallen "a cropper" with a bad puncture.

1897 10 28
Trumpington burglary trial, p3

1897 11 13
Trumpington chrysanthemum show, p3

1898 02 03
Messrs Grain. Moyes and Wisbey attended at the Lion Hotel and offered for sale by auction the well-known freehold inn, The Green Man, Trumpington, with yard, stabling and outbuildings, pleasure and kitchen gardens and a paddock, the whole having an area of about 3 acres. Bidding commenced at £2,000 and quickly reached £3,100, at which price the property was declared sold

1899 01 09
Trumpington Rd, p2

1899 07 28
The village of Trumpington has been selected for the making of a peculiarly interesting and hopeful experiment on the part of Cambridgeshire nonconformity. The question recently came up how best to continue religious services for those in the village who do not belong to the Church of England and was answered by the suggestion that they should have a Free Church to seat 150 persons. Yesterday the memorial stone was laid by Mr S. Mansfield.

1899 08 11
It is possible there are people just now in Cambridge who are cross with the fate which compels them to stay in the town while their friends at making merry in popular holiday resorts or rusticating deep in the heart of the country. Let them consider what a delightful place Cambridge is in the Long Vacation. They have the river all to themselves, they can row on it, fish in it, bathe in it. The Omnibus Company has materially enhanced the attractions of summer by instituting a series of drives to places of interest. The Company have provide a set of excellently appointed brakes and in a brake and large wagonette a party of 50 persons drove to Trumpington, on to Newton and Whittlesford where there was a stay of half an hour. The drive then resumed through Shelford back to Cambridge. The fare was just one shilling a head. It is right that this enterprise should be so successful

1900 01 04
The last scene in a long life of much usefulness to the county of Cambridge was enacted at Trumpington when the funeral of Mr Henry Pemberton of Trumpington Hall took place. The villagers unobtrusively gave expression to their heart-felt sympathy. During the time mourners were assembling and during the funeral service the blinds at almost every residence in the village were drawn, the few places of business were closed, and at the corners passed by the cortege there were knots of inhabitants who, with reverently uncovered heads, watched the body on its last journey.

1900 04 14
On Good Friday the members of Trumpington Free Church held a tea meeting in their new place of worship in the village. To the tea about one hundred persons sat down. There was a small

attendance at the subsequent meeting. The chairman said the building was very nearly paid for. 118 persons had contributed a shilling or less which showed a large number of people in Trumpington had a share in the building.

1901 05 16
Cambridge Fire Brigade Committee received a letter from the clerk to Trumpington Parish Council asking whether and on what terms the services of the brigade could be engaged in case of fire. Grantchester Parish Council accepted terms for the attendance of the brigade in that parish on condition that the charge for the number of men sent should be limited to the number required.

1902 11 17
Young England will learn with regret the death of Mr G.A. Henty. He was a soldier, miner & war correspondent but it was as a novelist that he will go down to posterity. He was born at Trumpington and went to Caius College, Cambridge, but before he could take his degree an opportunity occurred which was irresistible to a young man of his adventurous temperament. The Crimean War broke out and he received an appointment in the Purveyor's Department of the Army. His stories for boys numbered considerably over eighty and he sometimes produced a book in three weeks.

1903 04 17
Magistrates considered the renewal of the licence of the Unicorn Inn, Trumpington. The accommodation consisted of three bedrooms, two were furnished and used by those living in the house. The third, the guest chamber, was at present bare. The Chairman: Poor guest. Mr Ralkes: He would be a very poor guest who came there. There was no stabling; the landlord did keep a pony and trap, but whether he kept them in the unfurnished room he did not know. (Laughter). It was difficult for a man to make a living there; the actual consumption of beer in the house per week was half a barrel

1903 07 08
The light-fingered gentry were very busy at the Moat Farm sale and an aged farmer from Trumpington had his pocket picked and a purse containing £20 stolen. The horse, trap and harness so closely associated with the murder, which fetched such good prices, were purchased for exhibition purposes. After the sale the trap had to be placed under the protection of the police to save it from the ravages of memento hunters. The number of people who visited the farm was upwards of 3,000.

1903 12 14
The organ which for many years had been in use at Trumpington church has been replaced by an instrument of a much more satisfactory character and one which will add considerably to the beauty of the musical portion of the service. It cannot be described as being entirely new as old parts and part of the old case have been incorporated into the ancient instrument's successor which was built by Messrs Miller and Sons of Cambridge.

1904 04 04
'Tally Ho', Trumpington, p3

1904 08 06
The current issue of the 'Strand Magazine' possesses a special interest for Cambridge people since the town has furnished Sir Arthur Conan Doyle with material for his latest Sherlock Holmes story, The Missing Three-quarter. It concerns the disappearance of a member of the Cambridge

University rugger team on the eve of the annual match against Oxford. Holmes is supposed to visit Cambridge, residing in an inn next to a bicycle shop; he explores Histon, Oakington and Waterbeach before the final scene of the story is set in a lonely cottage in a field near Trumpington.

1905 09 21
The will of the late Mr Stephen Mansfield of Trumpington includes a bequest of £250 to Chesterton Baptist chapel where he once a teacher in the Sunday School. This is not his only benefaction to the village; there are five almshouses erected by him and their upkeep and stipends for the inmates are provided out of other property. He also subscribed to the Royal Albert and Victoria Friendly Societies' asylum and left £100 to the poor of Trumpington 05 09 21

1905 10 05
Cambridge Town Council wrote to Chesterton R.D.C. saying they wish to extend their boundaries to incorporate parts of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton, Trumpington and Grantchester. Chesterton are to reply saying they will give such project its most strenuous opposition. 05 10 05-b

1907 02 09
Natives of Cambridge appear to penetrate to every corner of the globe. Hardly a disaster happens but the C.D.N. receives a description from a local man on the spot. Several Cambridge soldiers were in Jamaica at the time of the Kingston earthquake and we have now received a letter from Frank Thompson Freestone of Trumpington who was there when buildings began to fall all around him. He reports that bodies, burned and mutilated beyond recognition were carried to the sea where hundreds of sharks awaited them. 07 02 09a

1907 07 17
General William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, was welcomed to Cambridge by thousands of spectators who lined the road from Trumpington to the Guildhall. Three red motor cars with a Salvation Army flag in each were given quite an oration en route to Market Square where the Band struck up a popular Army tune. But the General entered the building from Peas Hill and ignored the cries of 'Speech' as he disappeared from view 07 07 17

1908 03 19
Military manoeuvres attracted considerable attention. One force, including Perse School cadets, was ordered to hold the line of the Cam from Trumpington to the Mill Inn, Hauxton. Timber and cordage was seized from some scaffolding and the engineering section constructed a bridge sufficient to have carried Cavalry. The whole of the Cambridge University mounted infantry was captured, which would have had disastrous results in a real war. 08 03 19a

1908 07 31
Ebenezer Bird Foster of Anstey Hall, Trumpington together with his late brother, George, were directors of the Capital and Counties Bank. Their personal estates were nearly equal to the whole of the deposits for which the bank was liable. It must be remembered that the capital of a partner in a private bank may be withdrawn in consequence of his death. Ebenezer left £50,000 to each of his nephews, £500 each to his butler Thomas Harrington, and gardener Charles Forbes, as well as annuities to his housekeeper, coachman and housemaid. CWN 08 07 31

1908 08 29
George Hutt has been the respected headmaster of Trumpington National School for the last 44 years. It was not for want of energy that he is leaving but the wisdom of the Government in

compelling him to give up his post at the age of 65. He would not advise teaching as a vocation for men but felt sure there was a future for women as educational instructors. CWN 08 08 29 p5

1908 09 18
The Cambridge Church of England Mission to the Deaf and Dumb was started two years ago to meet their spiritual needs. It meets at St Philip's church and attracts people from Swaffham Bulbeck, Milton and Trumpington. Several special services of Holy Communion have been held with Mr G.A. Mackenzie interpreting in the sign language. CWN 08 09 18 p5

1908 10 23
Trumpington village hall opened – CWN 08 10 23

1908 11 13
William Cooking, Manager of the Taxi-meter Cab Company of Cambridge was summonsed for driving a taxi-cab at the dangerous speed of 23 miles an hour in Trumpington. He was liable to a penalty of £20 and to have his licence suspended but magistrates only fined him £3. They were determined to put down fast driving through the villages. CWN 08 11 13 p3

1909 12 03
The Ortona Motor Bus Company, whose enterprise has proved such a boon in Cambridge and Chesterton, intend to commence a service to Sawston via Trumpington, Shelford and Stapleford. A fine new Maudsley bus has been obtained which will do the full journey in 50 minutes. Parcels as well as passengers will be carried. CWN 09 12 03

1910 02 04
Since the Ortona Bus Company was established in Cambridge they have done much towards linking up the station and the town with outlying suburbs. A few weeks ago they commenced a service of motor 'buses to Trumpington, Shelford and Sawston and have now inaugurated another to Histon and Cottenham which has been well patronised by passengers 10 02 04m

1910 08 12
Trumpington amalgamation scheme discussed 10 08 12i 10 08 19b

1910 10 07
The scheme for extending the Borough boundaries so as to include Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and the urban portions of Grantchester, Trumpington and Fen Ditton was formally launched. The boundary with Chesterton is an imaginary line running down the centre of the river which presents legal difficulties over dredging. The river is used by member of the University for rowing but most of the boathouses are on the Chesterton side. The Corporation own a cemetery the parish of Fen Ditton. They have constructed a sewer and laid water mains along Newmarket Road and the land will no doubt be used for building. 10 10 07e & i & j

1911 04 07
The Local Government Board is in favour of the extension of Cambridge to include parts of Chesterton, Cherry Hinton, Grantchester and Trumpington. 11 04 07f

1911 05 19
Greater Cambridge editorial: Chesterton UDC will cease to exist, parishes of Cherry Hinton, Trumpington and Grantchester will be divided and urban portions come into Cambridge 11 05 19c

1912 03 29
Today the population of the Borough of Cambridge is 40.560. On Monday it will be 57,073. The extension of the boundary now brings in Chesterton and the urban portions of Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Grantchester. These suburbs were inhabited almost entirely by people whose living lay in Cambridge but were separated from it by the River Cam or purely artificial borders. It means that the residents will now be under the care of the Cambridge Town Council. 12 03 29c

1912 03 29
Amond Cannell, gamekeeper of Trumpington, told the court he had set three iron rat traps in a field near the road. When he returned next morning they had gone. Det-Serg Marsh went to the Butcher's Arms lodging house and asked two men how they accounted for hawking rat traps on East Road the previous day. They claimed to have bought them from a man near the Catholic Church for threepence. They were sent to gaol for a month. 12 03 29a

1912 05 03
Two ancient and honoured families were joined together when Lieut Francis Percy Campbell Pemberton, 2nd Life Guards, only son of the Rev Canon and Mrs Pemberton of Trumpington Hall was married to Miss Winifred Worsley of Hovington Hall, Yorkshire. The wedding was a fashionable and brilliant function. Amongst the presents was a handsome silver tea tray from the 19 servants at Trumpington Hall including Miss Frederica Thomas (30 years in service), Miss Harriet Stalley (19 years), Miss Florence Attlesey, James Dayle (chauffeur), Arthur Haslop (coachman) and Albert Negus (groom) 12 05 03

1912 06 28
A crowd of about 10,000 watched Mr H. Ewen, the 'Daily Mail' airman give a flying demonstration from the University O.T.C. parade ground. The Caudron biplane was wheeled out of the enclosure and the engine started up. He ran along the ground for about 150 yards then rose into the air amidst the cheers of the crowd. On reaching a height of 600 feet he flew over Grantchester and Trumpington. The wind was too treacherous for him to attempt any risky manoeuvres but the public were quite satisfied and cheered as he landed. Mr Ewen was called upon for a speech but felt he had given a 20 minutes exhibition and had done his task. 12 06 28e

1912 09 13
Manoeuvres – Dash on Grantchester, aircraft crashes, Trumpington Street fighting,

1912 12 20
Brooklands Avenue is a private road with a gate at the Trumpington Road end, which is sometimes closed, though one footpath, it is claimed, is a public path. Part of the road is invariably in a disgraceful state of repair and during bad weather is little better than a quagmire with mud up to one's ankles. Yet if a cyclist, to avoid the ruts and filth, takes to the public footpath he is liable to be pounced upon by a policeman. The road connects up Trumpington and Cherry Hinton, important parts of the extended Borough, and should be taken over by the Corporation. 12 12 20c

1913 05 09
An undergraduate motorist was charged with driving to the danger of the public. Supt Webb was cycling along Harston Road, Trumpington when he saw a motor car driven more furiously than he had ever seen before. The speed would be at the very least forty miles an hour. It created a great deal of dust and it was impossible to see who was driving, but he took the number. When

tracked down the defendant said "I don't like these summonses, Robert. They take such a lot of money to meet. If they fine me, I shall make the other three chaps who were with me help to pay for the fine". He then asked "Robert" to have a drink, which he refused. The lad had two previous convictions and was fined £10 13 05 09 p03

1913 07 04
Trumpington feast

1914 08 28
Cambridge people are adding to the comfort of the soldiers encamped here. A refreshment tent has been set up for the artillerymen on the Polo Ground at Trumpington with another on Mr Matthew's meadow, Cherry Hinton Road. The Church Institute allows soldiers the use of their billiard table. There is a reading room in the Newnham School for the camp on Lammas Ground and a games room at the Prospect Church in Eden Street with writing material and picture postcards. Many socks for soldiers are being taken to the small striped tent on Midsummer Common and shirts would also be appreciated

1914 10 02
Trumpington Drift to be widened and strengthened for military purposes and will be known as Queen Edith's Way

1914 10 09
Military roads - Stretham to Soham, one of four to allow different armies to move from west to east at same time without going through Cambridge. The first from Potton though Harston to Whittlesford and Pampisford and on to London Road near Hildersham. Sinuous road through Grantchester and Trumpington on to Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn and away on the Newmarket Road. Another down Huntingdon Road, across Midsummer Common and along Newmarket Road. Huntingdon, Wilburton & Stretham where new road would start. Newmarket RDC to make and improve road from Cam through Wicken. At one point there was a green track where the whole of the road would be constructed. At Wicken there was another piece of road about eight feet wide where flint would need to be pressed in. Through Wicken the road was a good second class decent road.

1914 10 30
First Cambs. Officer to Fall. Deep regret has been caused throughout Cambridgeshire by the official news that Captain Francis Percy Campbell Pemberton, of the 2nd Life Guards, of Trumpington Hall, was killed in action near Roulers on Monday, October 19. The news was conveyed to members of the deceased officer's family on Friday evening. His Majesty the King, who is Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, and Her Majesty the Queen have telegraphed their deep sympathy to Canon and Mrs. Pemberton. Captain Pemberton, who was 29 years of age, was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge. He entered the Army in 1907, and received a captaincy in August last. In May, 1912, he was seconded from his regiment (the 2nd Life Guards) to take up duties of cavalry instructor to the Oxford and Cambridge Officers' Training Corps. The appointment would have expired next March, but on the declaration of war he was recalled to his regiment. Capt. Pemberton was extremely popular and at both Oxford and Cambridge had a large circle of friends. Widespread sympathy is felt for the Canon, Mrs. Pemberton, Miss Pemberton and the widow in their great loss. The news was received with, the deepest regret in Trumpington, where Capt. Pemberton was much beloved. He was a fine all-round sportsman, a splendid cricketer, a keen huntsman and an extraordinarily good shot. He was a member of the County Cricket Club, and Vice-President and member of the Trumpington Cricket Club. Shortly before the declaration of war he played for the Village cricket club in their county cup-tie against New

Chesterton Institute. He had a great natural gift for music. Capt. Pemberton is the first Trumpington man who has fallen in the war. He is also the first Cambridgeshire officer who has died for his country in this great struggle. The Trumpington estate has been in the Pemberton family since 1675, when it was bought by Francis Pemberton, who became Chief Justice of England and presided at the state trial of Lord Russell. From Francis Pemberton the Trumpington estate has come down in direct line to Captain Pemberton's mother.

1914 11 06
Memorial Service. How widespread is the sympathy extended to Canon and Mrs. Pemberton, of Trumpington Hall, in the loss of their only son, Capt. P. F. C. Pemberton, 2nd Life Guards, who was killed in action near Roulers on October 19, and with the gallant officer's widow, was manifest on Wednesday, when a large congregation, representative of Town, University and County, attended a memorial service held in the church of St. Mary and St. Michael, Trumpington. The service was a most impressive one, and will never be forgotten by those present. The chancel of the church was adorned with white chrysanthemums and ferns, whilst a cross of similar Mowers, which hung from the chancel rails, bore the inscription: "With most loving sympathy."

1914 11 06
The whole of the village of Trumpington was in mourning for Captain Francis Percy Campbell Pemberton of the 2nd Life Guards who was killed in action on October 19th.

1914 11 27
No Politics. Politics being tabooed for the season (or while the war lasts) the Unionist Committees of the two villages, Grantchester and Trumpington, met in friendly rivalry at cards recently. Playing at Grantchester, Trumpington won by one game, 15 to 14. The return match will be played shortly at Trumpington. 14 11 27

1914 12 25
The Red Lion public house at Trumpington was completely gutted but the landlord and his family escaped out of the bedroom window. Flames burst through every window and the inside was completely burnt out but the roof was hardly damaged. Very little commotion was caused in the village and people living in a cottage opposite were not aware of the fire until the following morning. The contents were completely destroyed, including £50 in notes of Slate Club money. But gold and silver were recovered from the ruins

1915 09 03
Trumpington roll of honour board unveiled at church

1915 09 17
Photos soldiers kia: Capt Seaton, Pte Everitt of Exning, Haslop of Trumpington

1915 11 10
Trumpington VTC – photo – 15 11 10d

1915 11 17
Trumpington VTC on duty guarding railway bridge – photo -15 11 17b

1916 02 23
Thomas Percy Pemberton, canon, Trumpington Hall – profile – 16 02 23b

1916 06 14

Trumpington Man as Mayor. Mr. Charles Harradine, principal verger and sub-sacrist of Lichfleld Cathedral, has accepted the unanimous invitation of the Lichfield City Council to become Mayor in succession to the late Aid. J. T. Raby, whose death took place suddenly last week. Coun. Harradine who is a native of Trumpington, filled the office of Sheriff of Lichfield in 1904 and 1905, his colleague as Mayor being Ald. D. Harrison, Vicar Choral of Lichfield Cathedral. 16 06 14

1916 08 02
VTC leave from Market for march to Trumpington – photo – 16 08 02a

1916 09 20
Heroes: photos – Banyard, Anable, Gifford, Robert Wilson of Trumpington, Few, Porter, Nunn, King

1917 05 30
Capt Hugh Chaplin buried with military honours, Trumpington – photo – 17 05 30e

1918 03 20
Trumpington unveil third Roll of Honour board – 18 03 20b

1918 06 05
Accident at Trumpington coprolite works – 18 06 05a

1919 08 06
Aerial photo over Trumpington – 19 08 06g

1918 10 29
Munitions Ministry robbed. Wholesale thefts of Government property were described at the Shire Hall, Cambridge, on Saturday morning, when four prisoners were charged with stealing bedding, bedsteads, and various other articles the property of the Ministry of Munitions. In the corridors outside the County Divisional Police Court were heaps of blankets, sheets, pillows, bed ticks and iron bedsteads, and inside the court was another miscellaneous collection of articles, which were exhibits in the case. The bulk of the property was stolen from the Coprolite 'Works at Trumpington, but a number of the articles had been removed from, the munitions works at Gretna Green, and conveyed by the prisoners to Trumpington. The thefts were admitted and three of the prisoners were sent to gaol. The fourth offender—a lad of 15—was bound over.

1919 12 10
Hounds meet again. - After a lapse of six years, the Cambridgeshire Hounds met at Anstey Hall, Trumpington, the residence of Mr. G. R. C. Foster, last week. There was a good muster. 19 12 10

1920 07 03
Battle of bottles between two whelk merchants at Trumpington feast

1920 03 10
Royal Show. It is pleasing to notice the enthusiastic manner in which the Mayor (Councillor G. P Hawkins), supported by an active sub-committee of the Borough Council, and other co-opted members are proceeding with the preliminary arrangements for the Cambridge "Royal" show. It has been decided that the Eastern Counties Farmers' Association Ltd., and Messrs. Gautrey and Sons (Cottenham) should supply the grass seed mixtures which it is necessary to sow on about 103 acres of the Trinity College Farm, situate between the line on the London and North Western

Railway and Trumpington Road. The Committee desire to acknowledge the generosity of .the Master, Fellows and Scholars of Trinity College in providing such an excellent site for the show, and to express their appreciation of the personal efforts of their agents (Messrs. Bidwell and Sons) and the tenants Messrs. Arnold Bros, and Mr. G. Duke to facilitate the work of the sub-committee in sowing the grass seeds, and carrying out the necessary preliminary arrangements to meet the requirements of the Royal Agricultural Society, The Hon. Treasurers report that in response to the first appeal for contributions to the Local Fund, the sum of £900 has been promised.

1921 02 02
Death Canon T.P. Pemberton, Trumpington Hall – 21 02 02

1921 08 31
Trumpington old wayside cross discovery – 21 08 31c

1921 11 30
Steam wagon driver scalded at Trumpington – 21 11 30g

1921 11 14
Trumpington wayside memorial unveiled – 21 11 14b, 21 11 21a

1922 06 28
The great week to which we have all looked forward so eagerly and for which such extensive preparations have been made, will shortly be upon us. The Royal Show promises to be one of outstanding importance. This will be the third visit of the Show to Cambridge. It is probably true to say that in no other country in the world is there to be found a show of anything like the same magnitude as that which will be seen on the Trumpington-road ground.

1922 07 03
A glance at the huge entries in all sections of the Royal Show will give one some idea of the heavy burden imposed on the Railway Company, and the colossal task of arranging for the distribution of traffic. The G.E.R. has built unloading docks situated at the Trumpington signal-box on the Long-road, Cambridge, where there is also another entrance to the Show ground. The work of unloading machinery and materials has been in progress since May 25th and considerably more than 2,000 tons will have been handled before the closing date for delivery. The intensive period will be when the livestock are received. About sixty special trains have been booked to arrive commencing at 3.40am on Saturday morning.

1922 07 07
The great agricultural city on the Trumpington-road (the Royal Show) is in full blast today - in more senses than one. A stiff south-westerly gale had been sweeping over the show ground for the greater part of last night and it continued with unbated strength during the day. The tents and shedding for the most part withstood the gale remarkably well but a dozen of the larger structure were blown down wholly or in part and the Mayor's tent was levelled to the ground. In the latter a man was sleeping but escaped unhurt, although the circumstances gave rise to an erroneous rumour that a man had been killed

1923 10 15
Major Stanley raised the question of motor cyclists. A good many ladies and gentlemen didn't realise they ought to have a proper silencer. He did not think that 10 per cent of the people had one. There was one “fiend" who went through Trumpington about 11 o’clock at night and made

enough noise to rouse the dead. Dr Ellis agreed and said that in his village the speed was something terrific. They went through at 60 miles an hour and seemed to be proud of it. The chief constable said he thought he knew who the offenders were

1924 04 13c
As climax to many months efforts on the part of those concerned, the stone-laying ceremony of the Trumpington Free Church Sunday school new building took place. The outside world might not look upon it as a very big thing, that somewhere in a little village in England it had been found necessary to enlarge Sunday school, but they in Trumpington knew that it meant that the Kingdom of Jesus Christ was not falling and, if in spite of all obstacles, it had triumphed there, there was the promise that one-day it would triumph everywhere.

1924 05 21c
An unusual accident occurred at Trumpington when a student of St John's College was returning from London in De Dion Bouton two seater car. On coming round the bend on the main road the car ran into a house with devastating results. Bricks were scattered right across the road and a gaping hole in the wall was so big that it is surprising that the whole front of the house did not collapse. Fortunately no one was in the house and the front room was empty of furniture as the tenant had packed preparatory to leaving.

1925 02 16
The Community Council heard that village halls were of many different types. Some had been designed as assembly rooms only, as at Whittlesford; some were only suitable for social club purposes, as at Borough Green; some attempted to serve both these purposes by dividing the main space with temporary partitions, such as Bourn; others contained both an assembly hall and club room sunder the same roof, as at Trumpington. The provision of a village hall did not mean that the social life of the village was satisfactory.

1928 07 31
Ely readers will learn with regret of the death of Mrs Elizabeth Cross, widow of the late Mr F.T. Cross of Forehill. She was born at Little Downham but for over 40 years had carried on the confectionery and bakery business at Ye Olde Tea Rooms, Ely and also at the Pem Café, Trumpington Street, Cambridge during the last two years. Of a kindly disposition she will be missed for her generosity to the aged residents of the almshouses who for many years have received a large hamper of delicacies at Christmas. She leaves at son, Mr Vernon Cross, and a daughter.

1930 01 13
Cambridge experienced the full force of the gales. Broken fragments of tiles and chimney pots told their own tale including the house of Mr David Crown, the builder, which had a large hole in the roof. Many trees were blown down along the Backs of the Colleges; two on the corner of Queens' Green were both snapped off by the violence of the winds, another fell across the road opposite St John's College and several giant elms were snapped off like matchwood. A large tree fell across the road at Trumpington and a motor cyclist collided with it, without injury. A poplar on the edge of Snob's Stream, Sheeps Green fell carrying with it a large number of telegraph wires.

1930 07 21
Cambridge planners say that Huntingdon and Barton Road are already practically fully developed on both sides, similar building is taking place along Trumpington Road & housing in Madingley Road will increase now the sewers are laid. There will probably be spur roads which will have no

regard to the traffic needs of the area as a whole and the result will be a hotch-potch similar to that before the days of town planning. Soon there will be no possibility getting a cross-road between Huntingdon Road and Trumpington without the demolition of buildings or serious interference with the land-owners. 30 07 21a-c

1930 07 25
The controversy over the University Farm on Huntingdon Road was resolved when Cambridge councillors rejected proposals for a road across the land. It had never been a ring road, only a road to be planned in the event of traffic conditions demanding it. It was altogether wrong to put an arterial road in the middle of a rural area which they desired to preserve and which they hoped would never be required. They should ensure that Grantchester and Coton were not swallowed up by Cambridge in the way that Trumpington and Girton were. 30 07 25a-c

1931 01 16
Miss Kitty Willers of Trumpington is a member of the Ladies' Guild of Change Ringers and is one of the very few women who regularly ring church bells. She has rung in over 200 towers in 14 different countries, once cycling 55 miles each way. On Saturday she biked 65 miles – partly in the rain - to attend the opening ceremony of the bells at St Mary's church, Bocking by the Bishop of Chelmsford.
Elijah Lawrence learned the trade of blacksmith under his elder brother, James Lawrence of Harston and took over the smithy at Trumpington where he worked for nearly 50 years. He was a keen and competent tradesman, shoeing a considerable number of horses before advancing years caused him to transfer the business to his son-in-law. He had grown more feeble but a fortnight previously was driving himself in his pony-cart. 31 01 16d

1931 07 24
A unique performance has been accomplished by Jack Overhill of Trumpington who, although only three years of age, has mastered the art of swimming. The tiny record breaker is also the youngest member of the Cambridge Amateur Swimming Club. He has been a real 'water baby' since his first introduction to the river at the age of one year and nine months. Since May he has been in the river twice daily, even during cold spells. 31 07 24a

1931 10 16
An Inquiry opened into plans to expand Cambridge's boundaries. It was the centre for education, shopping and amusement for adjacent villages where people were still dependent on cesspools: these would be provided with a sewerage system. Less than 500 acres were available for building because of the attitude of certain colleges, but it was undesirable that Cambridge should be filled up as if it were a manufacturing town. Most of the new houses in Shelford and Trumpington were of the working-class type. 31 10 16d

1934 04 03
The Mayor and councillors performed the ceremony of 'beating the bounds' to mark the addition of additional areas to the Borough. They began at the east end of the cemetery grounds on Newmarket Road then toured Cherry Hinton before moving on to Trumpington where the new boundary begins on the town side of Long Road. Here the Mayor cut a light-blue silk ribbon before formally stepping into the new territory. Then after visiting the boundary a quarter of a mile beyond the L.M.S. railway bridge on the Shelford Road they were entertained to tea. 34 04 03

1934 04 12

One of the first results of Cambridge borough expansion has been the taking over of the lending libraries in Trumpington and Cherry Hinton and these new branches were opened by the Mayor. He was sure the new libraries would be well looked after. Both are established in the parish schools and contain 400 modern novels and 100 popular non-fiction works. Approximately 100 volumes will be exchanged monthly with books from the Central Library. 34 04 12

1934 05 14
Trumpington motor trap – 34 05 14

1934 08 28
The opening of the new exchange at Trumpington is the first step towards the great change-over to automatic telephones. Engineers dashed to remove the wooden plugs which set the system working and waited for the first call. Soon a line crackled and a bulb lit up. But it was a false alarm. The second caller had forgotten the changeover and, not getting a verbal answer, hung up. Twice more this happened but after eleven minutes a call came through from the Trumpington A.A. box and the new apparatus was officially launched. 34 08 28

1934 10 12
Trumpington churchyard had been in a deplorable condition: 17 loads of rubbish had been removed and they had burnt shrubs, bushes and ivy for four days. After clearing they had left the land fallow until the autumn when grass was set. The new churchyard was not in quite so bad a state: Ted Peters spent two days a week there and had made a transformation, a public meeting was told. 34 10 12

1935 01 12
We felt customers would like to know something about our dairy. Our cows graze on our fields at Chesterton, Trumpington, Cherry Hinton and Shelford Bottom, the finest pasture in the county. They are thoroughly groomed and their udders washed before being milked using electrical apparatus at our Abbey Street premises. The milk is cooled and bottled without being touched by hand, then kept in a cold storage chamber before delivery. The cream is separated daily. We guarantee early delivery twice daily to all parts of town. Arnold Brothers (established over 75 years), Abbey Street, Cambridge –advertisement. 35 01 12a & b

1935 06 26
The proposed Cambridge town planning scheme envisages a ring road to encircle the whole town with the construction of by-pass roads and the improvement of dangerous junctions. The level crossings on the Milton and Cherry Hinton roads will be replaced with bridges. An area of 190 acres on Milton Road opposite the sewage farm acres is reserved for a municipal aerodrome with a municipal golf course off Trumpington Road 35 06 26a

1935 07 05
The tenant of the Red Lion at Trumpington had been there since 1916. If the licence was taken away he would be deprived of his livelihood & the Red Lion Self-Help Club would be broken up, magistrates heard. There were 34 allotment holders on ground belonging to the pub and half the allotment land in the village had already been lost on account of building. It was an old-fashioned house, very quiet and homely and the Feast was held in a field at the rear. They served teas to anybody who asked for them, but not much beer. The licence was renewed 35 07 05b

1935 08 12

Houses were threatened when a line of flame swept three-quarters of a mile of land from Trumpington to Hills Road. In Long Road helpers beat desperately at the flames to prevent them spreading along the hedges to the gardens of near-by houses whose residents used garden hoses to dampen them down Dozens of rabbits raced wildly over the charred ground and a leveret was turned into a living mass of flame. The verge caught alight, clouds of white smoke making it impossible for passing traffic to pass at more than a crawl. Vehicles were diverted via Cherry Hinton and all available police were mobilised to control the traffic and help fight the fire 35 08 12

1935 10 14
The electric light which has been installed in Trumpington church was designed by Professor Richardson and the old wrought iron gas standards and brackets have been used as far as possible. In addition there are six pendants in the west bays of the church which give the effect of flood-lighting without its disadvantages and do not break the lines of the graceful pillars. Most of the work has been done locally and E.W. Haynes was praised for wiring without cutting into the stonework. The cost of £89 has been raised by parishioners. 35 10 14b

1935 11 14
In view of the apparent apathy it is surprising that the number of electors who voted was so high. The excitement, so far as there was any, was greatest in the outlying districts. Residents in the newly-added areas such as Trumpington and Cherry Hinton had the curious experience of living in the Borough and voting (for Parliamentary elections) in the County. So did residents on the Hurst Park Estate which used to fall within the Impington parish boundary. At Brunswick Council Schools a blind man arrived. The inner room was cleared except for the presiding officer who told him the names of the candidates and then made a cross at the voter's selection. 35 11 14

1936 11 14
Trumpington petition for faculty to have plain marble kerb to enclose grave – 36 11 14

1936 11 14
Trumpington 'The Volunteer' inn sign exhibited in London – 36 11 14b

1937 07 16
Trumpington consisted largely of houses strung out along the main road but new plans for development on land owned by the Pemberton trustees would create a self-contained colony with a recreation ground surrounded by 280 houses. It would allow the village to develop a character rather than being a string of houses, an Inquiry was told. The Council would also like to borrow £13,300 to purchase part of the Cherry Hinton Hall Estate for public walks and pleasure grounds. The Hall might become a headquarters for the propagation of plants. This was likely to be a centre of considerable building development and it would be right to secure such open space 37 07 16

1937 07 16
Workmen excavating for a sewer at Bishop's Road, Trumpington, found a skeleton about two feet six inches below the surface. A number of Roman coins were found in the vicinity some years ago and the skeleton may be of similar date. The bones were in a crumbling condition but the teeth in the jaw were practically perfect. The remains have been handed to the Cambridge Coroner's officer 37 07 16d

1937 08 20

Sir – way back in the 1890s I booked a seat with the Sawston carrier. The morning broke with a grey sky. I remember his suspicious look until I paid him the ninepence fare and threepence extra providing there was no 'scorching'. I also recollect his need of a shave. We made Stapleford in the first three hours, on to Shelford and rounded the Stone Bridge, Trumpington about noon, to schedule. But then the offside-wheel came off. I alighted at Market Hill, walked down Petty Cury and boarded a horse tram. Then from the delightful rhythm and sway of that luxuriously-upholstered vehicle I drank in the scenery of the skyscraper buildings in Regent Street before returning home – 'Blisters' 37 08 20

1938 01 29
Henry Brunning of Great Shelford was a blacksmith for 55 years being kicked by horses many times. He did an apprenticeship at Barrington, then joined Alec Redhouse's firm of engineers and general smiths at Balsham. He later worked at forges at Linton, Shelford and Stapleford. He remembers when all travelling had to be done by walking or carrier carts and there were more penny-farthing cycles than anything else. During the Great War he worked in a munitions factory at Trumpington. He treasures a box of six spoons sent by his daughter who served in France as a nurse; each carries the name of a battlefield on which she'd served. 38 01 29

1938 10 25
For over ten years the road fork near Trumpington A.A. box has been free from serious accident. But after the introduction of a system of experimental traffic islands there was a collision between a lorry and a van. Another slight accident also occurred earlier. 38 10 25

1939 03 07
Cambridge & District Town Planning scheme inquiry heard that Grantchester Meadows, a large area of land between Cambridge and Coton, the University Farm and land at the Gog Magog Hills had been safeguarded. An area of 160 acres near Trumpington should be reserved for a municipal golf course. But at Rectory Farm, Milton the field the Corporation wanted to take was the only old pasture on the farm and the tenant had 21 cows and a bull. If he had to give it up it would take 10 years before the grass would be useful for milking purposes 39 03 07a

1939 08 21
Lightning strikes Trumpington general store, houses at Huntingdon – 39 08 21a

1939 11 29
Some classrooms in Trumpington and St Paul's schools were 'dark pits' because of first-aid depots being placed in schools. There was a great danger of sandbags making the rooms damp and as classrooms were being used for people to sleep in all night it was difficult to get them aired, councillors were told. It was also alarming to see enormous laundry vans standing in narrow playgrounds which have to be manoeuvred when the children were about. But at Cherry Hinton there was nowhere else they could go. However three halls there were being used by children now. If they were not fit for first-aid posts, they were not fit to teach children in, Mrs Rackham said. 39 11 29c

1940 08 23
Golden Wedding. — Messages of congratulation from all parts of the world were received on Monday by the Rt. Rev. J. A. and Mrs. Kempthorne, of Maris House, Trumpington, on the occasion of their golden wedding. The first one they opened came from the Archbishop of Canterbury. Dr. Kempthorne and his wife, who is the daughter of the late Master of Christ's College, Mr. Peel, were married in the college chapel on August 19, 1890. Dr. Kempthorne has held appointments in many parts of the country, including Hull, when he was Assistant Bishop to

the present Archbishop of Canterbury, who was then Archbishop of York. In addition, he was Bishop of Lichfield for 23 years, retiring three years ago. On his retirement. Dr. Kempthorne and his wife made a trip round the world, and then settled down in Trumpington. Though he is 76 (his wife is three years younger), Dr. Kempthorne still travels about frequently, preaching in various places. 40 08 23

1940 10 02
Tramp knocked down by car during blackout in Trumpington High Street – 40 10 02c

1940 12 06
47 Years a Solicitor. — We regret to announce the death of Mr. S. J. Miller, which occurred at his home, "Gilmerton," Trumpington, on Tuesday. Mr. Miller, who was 70 years of age, was a Cambridge man, educated at the Perse School, and University School, Hastings. He had been practising law in Cambridge since 1893. During the last war he was national service representative for Cambridge, and was for 15 years secretary of the Cambridge Conservative Club. Mr. Miller, who was -married in London 42 years ago, leaves a widow and a married son and daughter. 40 12 06

1940 12 23
Trumpington first-aid post opened – 40 12 23a

1941 04 25
Interesting Trumpington Wedding. The wedding took place quietly at Trumpington Church on Saturday of Francis Wingate William Pemberton, elder son of Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Pemberton, of Trumpington Hall, and Diana Patricia Woods, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Salisbury Woods, of St. John's House, Grange Road. The ceremony was conducted by the Rev. A.B. Wright (Vicar of Trumpington) and the Rev. C. C. H James, late vicar of St. Giles'. Dr. H.S. Middleton (Trinity College) was at the organ, and the Trumpington choir led the singing. The bride was given away by her father. 41 04 25

1942 04 03
New High Sheriff. The new High Sheriff for Cambridgeshire for 1942, appointed by the King in Council, is Mr. Roger H. Parker, M.A., M.C., of Thorneycreek, Herschel Road, Cambridge. A director and local director of Barclays Bank, Mr. Parker was educated at Eton and Trinity. During the last war he served with the 5th (P.C.W.) Dragoon Guards, and was awarded the Military Cross. His interest in Addenbrooke's Hospital, of whose General Committee he is chairman, is well-known, whilst his county associations include the Joint Mastership of the Cambridgeshire Hunt, his work for Trumpington No.2 electoral division and a deputy lieutenant-ship. As commander of the 4th Battalion of the Cambridgeshire Home Guard, he holds the rank of lieutenant colonel. 42 04 03

1942 09 18
Gleaning. 'One who has benefited" (Trumpington) writes: "I am sure that many would join me in this, a letter of appreciation, to Mr Cornwell farmer, of Trumpington, for not only allowing folk to glean his fields, but encouraging them to do so, thus helping them to try and solve the poultry food problem for the winter." 42 09 18

1942 12 04
Death of Mrs. Charles Salmon. We have to record the death, after a very short illness, of Mrs. Alice Salmon, widow of ex-Supt. Charles Salmon, a member of the Cambs. County Constabulary for 35 years. Mrs. Salmon, who was 82 years of age, died on Monday at her home, York House,

Melbourn. She was widely known throughout South Cambs, as during her husband's occupancy of police stations at Melbourn (as sergeant), Caxton as inspector) and Arrington (as superintendent), she acted as police matron. She was also well-known in Melbourn and Trumpington where Mr. Salmon was stationed as a constable before his promotions. When ex-Supt. Salmon retired in September, 1919, he and his wife came to live in Melbourn and he died there in February of this year.

1943 04 27
Death W.W. Pemberton, Trumpington, former High Sheriff – 43 04 27, funeral 43 04 29

1942 12 03
Percy Robert Robinson, Trumpington school master 40 years, collected data on history village and gave lantern slides; dies – 43 12 03

1943 01 01
A fine roach. Fishing near Brazel Bridge on Boxing Day, Mr R. E. Clarke, of 51, Shelford Road Trumpington landed a fine roach 17 inches long and weighing 2 lb. It was in excellent condition and in the words of a correspondent "was evidently an old warrior, as it showed some battle scars." 43 01 01

1943 04 30
Death of Mr W. W. Pemberton. The death occurred at Trumpington Hall on Easter Monday: of Mr. William Warburton Pemberton, a former High Sheriff of the county and for some years a member of the Cambridgeshire County Council. Mr. Pemberton was born at Ludford, Lincolnshire, in 1866, and was the elder son of Mr. William Wingate. He received his early education at Tonbridge School, going up to Guy's Hospital in 1885. After qualifying as a doctor, he came up to Jesus College in 1890 and took his M.B. degree four years later. He then went into practice at Cambridge with the late Mr. Hyde Hills and Dr. Doughtey, first at 60, St. Andrew's Street, and after 1911, from Scroope House. He retired from the practice in 1919. Mr. Pemberton was married in 1895, but lost his wife by death in the following year. They had one daughter, now the wife of Mr. R. V. Southwell, F.R.S. In 1915, he was married again to Miss Viola Pemberton, of Trumpington Hall, and in 1923, when Mrs. Pemberton became possessor of the Pemberton estates, they changed their name by Royal licence from Wingate to Pemberton. There are for sons of the marriage. Mr. Pemberton was a Justice of the Peace for the county for many years, a member of the Addenbrooke's Hospital General Committee and from 1933-39 chairman of the Evelyn Nursing Home. When he was appointed High Sheriff for Cambridgeshire, Huntingdonshire and the Isle of Ely in 1935 one of his duties was the reading of the proclamation of the Coronation of King George VI 43 04 30

1943 12 10
Schoolmaster for 40 years – By the death last week of Mr. Percy Robert Robinson, of Trumpington, the county loses a typical village schoolmaster. Aged 65, he had been a schoolmaster for 40 years and for 36 years headmaster at Trumpington school. During this long period, his staunchness and character caused him to become the friend and adviser of the villagers, and his passing removes a man of wise counsel and high standing. 43 12 10

1944 01 08
H.J. Robinson retires as Librarian, Mill Road; was appointed in 1897 when 12,000 books issued. Brother was P.R. Robinson of Trumpington – 44 01 08

1944 09 13
OBE awarded to William Benton of Trumpington for action at exploding ammunition dump; another gets George Medal – 44 09 13

1944 03 24
Death of Tom Phillips. The funeral took place at Trumpington on Friday of Mr. Thomas Martin Phillips, of 1, Hauxton Road, who died on the previous Monday at the age of 70. Mr. Phillips, who had: been in failing health for some time, was well-known in sporting circles, particularly football, having been connected with the Cambs. Football Association since 1902 first as a member of the Council, then as acting Vice-President, Assistant Secretary and Hon. League Secretary. He was also actively associated with the Cambs. Referees Association. In his younger days he was a stalwart supporter of the old Albert Institute, and excelled at boxing, cricket, football, gymnastics, rowing and swimming. At cricket he was a first string bowler, a decent bat and a good fielder and captain. Jack Hobbs played for the Ainsworth C.C. under his captaincy. Tom also captained the Albert Institute football team and later was a member of the Cambridge St. Mary's team when they won the Senior Cup for the first time in 1898-9. He played a leading part in the formation of the Cambridge Railway Sports Club, of which he was the first secretary, a post he held for several years. Until his retirement a few years ago, he was employed in the Civil Engineers Department of the L.N.E.R. 44 03 24

1944 08 25
Vicar's Retirement. Having been Vicar of Trumpington for 10 years, the Rev. Arthur Basil Wright is retiring from the parish on September 30. He will devote himself to voluntary work. He came to Trumpington in 1934 and was appointed Rural Dean of Barton in 1938. 44 08 25

1944 11 17
Trumpington Vicar. "The future generation must be taught to know God and to learn the Christian faith of God's Will better", said the Bishop of Ely at an induction service held at Trumpington Church last night, when the Rev. Thomas Young was installed as vicar of the parish. He was formally a member of the Royal Army Chaplain's Department. 44 11 17

1945 04 26
Forced march ordeal – Arthur Rumsey, Shelford Rd, Trumpington – 45 04 26

1945 09 16
VE celebrations –Trumpington, Mansfield Hall – 45 06 19

1945 06 26
Queens Messenger convoy at garage at Trumpington before leaving to do welfare work for troops – photo – 45 06 26

1945 07 14
Communists decide contest Cambridge municipal elections for first time, Mrs Pearl Lilley candidate for Trumpington Ward – 45 07 14

1946 04 10
Houses under construction at new estate, Trumpington – photo – 46 04 10

1946 09 06

Squatters at Army huts Trumpington Rd; 21 huts in camp, 7 claimed, the rest locked by Military Police who had no power to eject them. The soldiers who had been living in them had been billeted outside to make room for the garrison engineer and staff who would soon have to move out of requisitioned house next door – 46 09 06

1946 09 09
Squatters occupy old 'ack ack' site Long Road, at 'Leighton' Trumpington Rd and Madingley Rd huts that NFS HQ; had been empty for a year and were to have been taken over by Ministry of Works for milk testing – 46 09 09

1946 10 16
Steel re-fabs being erected at Trumpington – photos – 46 10 16a

1947 05 28
There is an urgent requirement at Trumpington for school accommodation to meet the needs of children from the new housing estate. Coun Mrs Rackham told the Cambridge primary education sub-committee that children were "coming in fast" from the new estate but it would not be a wise proceeding to erect huts as it would take such a very long time and it was doubtful if they would be ready before the new school in, it was hoped, September 1948. The playground too would be very much spoiled by building operations and it was a far better idea, if possible, to use the Free Church Schoolroom

1947 12 17
Arranged by the Board of Extra Mural Studies the first of a series of lectures was given by the Mayor in the Guildhall. In a new venture organised to give German prisoners of war a wide, varied and accurate picture of English community life in Cambridge. Twenty-five representative English speaking PoWs from Trumpington camp attended the meeting. The lectures will include talks on the working conditions of a factory and on the administration of the Post Office - 47 12 17

1948 04 10
The last production of what is known as the German Youth Stage at Trumpington P.O.W. camp before they go home in June will be given at the Houghton Hall. It will be a performance of the classical comedy "Der Zerbrochene Krug". Not only will it be acted outside the camp, but amongst the cast of 12 will be four British girls. The play will be acted in German but an introduction in English is provided. The performance will be open, without charge, to anyone who may be interested.

1948 11 15
The weight of Princess Elizabeth's baby at birth was 7lb 6oz. The Duke of Edinburgh was informally dressed in open-necked shirt and sweater when the doctors brought him the news: "It's a boy". Immediately he went in to see his wife, who had not then come round from the anaesthetic. At least six babies were born in Cambridge to share the royal birthday. The happy mothers are Mrs Nicholls, Summers, Montesiory, Withington and Moss of Cambridge and Mrs Narkiewicz of the Polish hostel, Trumpington

1948 12 15
The first important milestone in Cambridge post-war housing drive was reached when the Mayor opened the council's'1,000th house – an "Easiform", at 27 Peverell Road on the Newmarket road site, where tenant, Mrs Betson, was waiting. Beforehand they had been taken on a tour of some of

the principal housing estates in the town and saw estates at all stages of development - ranging from the neat, well-established looking one at Trumpington, only lacking the shops which will come one day, to the unfinished but partly-tenanted. At these mothers with perambulators have to be helped through the mud, and children kept in wellington boots.

1949 02 02
A mobile canteen was completely destroyed by fire on the Weston Colville road. The 2½ ton Bedford owned by Mr Alfred Eversham of Trumpington was being driven near West Wratting when the driver smelled burning. He stopped the vehicle and opened the shutter at the back to find the inside on fire. The outbreak is thought to have been caused by a gas stove left alight. The van was used for selling tea and sandwiches to displaced persons in the area

1949 03 05
A vigorous and forceful speech appealing to Christians to out-speak and out-think, out-do and, if necessary out-die the communists and to present a case for Jesus Christ was made by Dr Donald Soper at a meeting to commemorate the jubilee of Trumpington free church. He described those who flirted with communism as "silly fatheads"

1949 04 14
The new school at Trumpington is to be known as the "Fawcett" primary school. It is being named after Prof. Henry Fawcett, who died in 1884. He was well-known to a former generation as "the blind postmaster general", and was one of the first holders of the Chair of Political Economy in Cambridge University. He lived in Brookside, and was buried in Trumpington churchyard. He was a man who had set an outstanding example of courage in the face of misfortune.

1949 06 07
Cambridge county agricultural show fully lived up to its well-earned reputation of being one of the best one-day events of its kind in the country. The show covered 45 acres of ground at Trumpington that will form part of the site for the Royal Show in 1951 and can with truth be described as a "dress rehearsal" for the country's premier agricultural event. Banker's row, smart caravan banking establishments – emphasised the fact that this was a business occasion. There was an unusual machinery demonstration where Messrs Sindall, public works contractors, had several giant bulldozers and excavators working in a pit.

1949 08 29
In the glorious sunshine which has marked most open-air functions this year, members of the Trumpington Friendship Club ("over-sixties") held their first garden party in the lovely garden of 14 Bentley Road. More than 90 of the club's 120 members attended including the oldest member, 93-years-old Mrs Seymour. Membership includes residents, both of the village and the new estate, and many have never missed a single meeting since the club was opened 18 months ago

1949 09 30
Between 700 and 800 sheep were checked over by the Cambridge Pindar after a lorry had run into a flock on the Shelford Rd, Trumpington. Six of the animals were killed in the collision. The remainder were driven to the site of this year's Cambridgeshire show where officials made certain none was injured. The flock was moved from one field to another early in the morning to avoid traffic.

1949 11 18

For the second year running, Mr Percy Warrington of Cherry Hinton, and Mrs Cynthia Pitman of Trumpington, have carried off the Bobwyn Challenge Bowl awarded each year to the winners of the Cambs Old Time Dance Championship. It was held at the Rex Ballroom which had been attractively decorated with lovely chrysanthemums and green ferns surround thin the bandstand and the balcony. Tables and chair for sitting-out were placed around the sides of the room. The ballroom was filled to capacity.

1950 01 14
Members of the employment committee visited Trumpington Industrial Hostel and commented on the satisfactory manner in which the camp had been converted into reasonable accommodation. There were dining rooms, dormitories to accommodate about six men each, a theatre, laundry and ironing facilities and good reception arrangements. Although the premises were not ideal they thought the hostel was remarkable satisfactory and very useful.

1950 06 03
Cambridge has had its hottest day for a number of years past. Ald F. Doggett, the well-known weather recorder, reports that before mid-afternoon the temperature was 95 degrees in the sun at his station at Oxford Road. Last night was the hottest of the year with the temperature rising to as much as 63 degrees. The average night temperature is 49 degrees. At Trumpington AA box traffic was reported to be the heaviest for a Saturday this year.

1950 06 28
Should the new secondary modern school for the southern part of Cambridge be built in the vicinity of Wort's Causeway of on the Ventress Farm estate? Cambridge education committee prefer Wort's Causeway as being more central for Trumpington and Cherry Hinton children but the planning committee thought it suited their planning arrangements better for it to be where Queen Edith's Way joined Hills Road. An alternative had been suggested that to preserve an open space the playing fields should be situated on the Ventress Farm estate and only the school on Worts Causeway.

1951 05 15
Peak traffic period in Cambridge over the holiday was from 5.30 to 6.30 pm on Monday when no fewer than 800 vehicles – 50 per cent of them pre-war models – were passing the Trumpington A.A. box. On Saturday the stream of traffic averaged 500 vehicles an hour past the Newmarket Road A.A. box but with the deterioration of the weather there was a marked decrease. A feature of the traffic was the large proportion of cars and coaches travelling towards London. Only a small amount headed for the East coast via Ely and the Clacton road.

1951 06 21
During the last few days twelve thatchers, all members of the East Midlands Master Thatchers Association have been working on pavilions at the Rural Industries Bureau stand at the Royal Showground, Trumpington, to show what expert thatching looks like. One is thatched with long straw, one with Norfolk reed and the other with Devon reed.

1951 07 03
The finest "Royal" and the finest site – such is the general opinion about Britain's 1951 Festival of Agriculture which opened at Trumpington. Today's blazing sun was a pleasant contrast to the gales and torrential rains which marked Cambridge's last Royal in 1922. From early in the morning cars streamed towards the showground. As traffic pressure increased the effect made itself felt even on the outskirts of town where there were occasionally short hold-ups. But

movement into the car parks flowed smoothly and to get from the C.D.N. offices in St Andrew's Street took only 15 minutes

1951 07 07
The Royal Show at Trumpington came to an end with the total paid attendance of 131,333. The business done by stand holders has been most encouraging, one exhibitor said that on the first day he had taken orders to the value of £100,000. Even before the showground had closed work had begun on dismantling some of the stands. The steady flow of private cars from the car parks was interspersed with cattle lorries, horse boxes and commercial vehicles – a sign of the end of the year's work which goes into a Royal Show.

1952 02 09
There are happy memories of King George VI's undergraduate days at Trinity College, Cambridge in 1919-20 when with his brother he sojourned at "Southacre" in Latham Road. In 1922 he unveiled the war memorial in Hills Road and attended the Royal Show at Trumpington & in 1932 he opened the new wing for children and private patients at Addenbrooke's Hospital. His last visit was last year when he attended the Service of Thanksgiving at King's College.

1952 11 07
Cambridge council objected to the proposed development of land at Stourbridge Common as a professional football ground. The land was acquired for tipping purposes and they wished it to be zoned for storing Civil Defence materials or for use as a lorry park. The Chief Constable said that, assuming the aim was to bring Third Division football to Cambridge with possible crowds of 15,000 people, it would not present much difficulty in dispersing them from Newmarket Road after a match. The City council proposed a municipal sports ground at Trumpington Road. The class of football envisaged would attract gates of not more than 1,000 and would not be in the same class as Cambridge City or United football clubs.

1952 12 18
Following an inspection by South Cambs R.D.C. of some "no fines" concrete houses they recommend the erection of 100 such houses in Sawston, and 50 in Duxford, Linton and Bassingbourn. The houses were comfortable to live in and of a smaller area that the type of house they had been building. They will not have to find any labour for erection as the firm will supply the men who will probably be billeted in the Trumpington National Service Hostel

1954 12 15
Trumpington industrial hostel is one of the few remaining hostels opened in 1947 to accommodate Poles from the Polish Resettlement Corps on the transfer to civilian status. It has continued as an industrial hostel with Polish residents numbering more than half the total. The 130 residents are employed locally but it is a costly business and it will shortly be closed. Many of those displaced will probably find lodgings with other Polish workers who have homes in the neighbourhood.

1955 04 22
Chesterton R.D.C. received a letter from Addenbrooke's to say that cases of diphtheria would no longer be admitted to the hospital. There were outbreaks at Impington and Trumpington, the fourth in the village. The provision of an isolation hospital had been postponed for a long time, with the object of avoiding expense but was now imperative. They could erect one at a cost of about £650 which would meet the needs of the district for a long time to come. 55 04 22b

1955 07 16
The Plant Breeding Institute's new buildings and experimental grounds at Trumpington were opened by the Minister of Agriculture. It investigates the improvement of spring and winter wheat and breeds oats adapted to climatic conditions of the Eastern counties whilst in potatoes its chief concern is the battle with blight, eelworm, wart and virus diseases. A pathological section has recently been established. 55 07 16a & aa

1956 03 06
A captive balloon will be used for parachute jumping at Trumpington. Although intended primarily for members of the University Parachute Club, 50 'chutes have been allotted to the Cambridgeshire Regiment Parachute Light Regiment. All men now have a reserve parachute strapped to his middle as a second line of defence. 56 03 06e

1956 06 18
Herbert Robinson's contemporary-style filling and service station has opened on the London Road at Trumpington. It is one of the most up-to-date in the country. All groups of Shell petrols are supplied from the latest type pumps and an Avery Hardoll 'Petroiler' for two-stroke motor-cycles is also available while the latest type Weaver auto-wash equipment will clean any car in 15 minutes. 56 06 18a

1956 09 26
The annual Hawkey supper organised by Trumpington Young Farmers' Club was a real harvest supper in the old-fashioned spirit. Mrs V.C. Pemberton described how 70 years ago when hired themselves to farmers who took them on for a year, paying wages at the end of the engagement. In 1922 shepherds wore a piece of wool in their buttonhole, horsekeepers a piece of whipcord and men who were not much good for anything a piece of cow's tail. The bargain was sealed by both parties shaking hands on the 'luck penny' which was as good as an oath. 56 09 26 & a

1957 02 19
Trumpington Boy Scouts' new hut marks the culmination of the hopes of the troop which had long desired to establish its own headquarters. The Village Hall Trustees helped find a site, their parents provided voluntary labour, the Lay Committee worked market stalls to augment the 'Bob-a-Job' ventures of the boys; it was 'jolly good teamwork', said the Mayor. 57 02 19a

1957 07 11
Miss C.E. Willers has been ringing Trumpington church bells for nearly 40 years; now she is paying for two new bells as a memorial to her family who have been in the village for generations. She cycled to Loughborough from her home in the High Street – and did the 85-mile journey in one day – to see them being cast. "Trumpington church is so old and beautiful it's a privilege to do anything for it", she said. 57 07 11 & 11a

1957 08 31
The landlord of the Green Man in Trumpington is Charlie Shadwell, the well-known conductor of the BBC Variety Orchestra which has made over 11,000 radio broadcasts, many of them in the 'Itma' series that were so popular during the war years. He also conducted the Cambridge New Theatre orchestra during 1930. He makes regular trips to London to arrange music for the BBC television shows. 57 08 31 & a

1957 09 16
Trumpington bells returned – photo – 57 09 16b

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1957 10 19
Trumpington petrol station appeal – 57 10 19a

1958 07 22
Motorists in Cambridge are unlikely to have their speeds regularly checked by radar for at least another year. Manufacturers have demonstrated a number of existing instruments which councillors consider 'not entirely satisfactory' at present. There is hope their efficiency will improve in time. But radar has been used by the Chief Constable to check speeds in Queen's Road and Trumpington. 58 07 22

1958 12 16
Cambridge City Libraries' annual staff dinner and party was held in the Guildhall. Librarian, Eric Cave recalled they had closed 'that museum piece, the East Road Reading Room and the Ditton Fields Sub-Branch while sub-branches at Cherry Hinton and Trumpington had more to better accommodation. The Libraries were much appreciated and he looked forward to their continued progress. Games, dancing and entertainment followed organised by J.W. Franklin, L.J. Horspool, C.C. Marsh, R.J. Tarrant and Miss B.K. Wadsworth. 58 12 16b

1959 09 11
A Grantchester Tested Vehicle has undergone a 100-mile test run by one of our own employees when petrol and oil consumption, brakes, steering and lights are checked under normal condition. We then offer you a test report and a full tank of National Benzole. Come to this small privately owned garage for the best in sales and service. We are never open after midnight but being the most progressive organisation in the county we are unique in our use of the phenomenal Ansaphone on Trumpington 3133. – Grantchester Garage Ltd advert. 59 09 11c & d

1959 09 23
The Headmaster of Fawcett Junior School, Trumpington (Mr F.N. Walker) declared the school's new swimming pool was "well and truly open" after he had been pushed fully dressed into the water. Roars of laughter came from the Mayor (Wallace Cole), Mayoress and parents who were present but the Head took his ducking in good part and swam vigorously for half a length. The pool has been built by the parents with the help of the children themselves. 59 09 23

The Cambridgeshire Collection at Cambridge Central Library, Lion Yard, has newspaper cuttings from this date

1960 04 13
The A.A. box that used to stand in the fork at the junction of the main Cambridge-London and Cambridge-Bishop's Stortford roads at Trumpington has been moved to a small lay-by on the London Road almost opposite the junction. The new lay-by provides safer off-road parking for motorists and is more convenient. 60 04 13

1960 07 05
There was a damp welcome for early visitors to the Royal Show at Trumpington. But those who ventured out stared at the sheep, peered at the pigs and commented on the cattle and horses being paraded in the Grand Ring. In the Demonstration Area six red hot forges, each manned by two blacksmiths, were busy fitting horses with new shoes. One of the strangest sights was of farmers standing in the pouring rain watching demonstrations of artificial irrigation machines pumping gallons of water on grass already soaked by overnight rain. 60 07 05

1960 08 09

Commercial and Industrial Painters of Coldham's Road has the first 62-foot long caravan transporter in the country. Customers are astounded on first seeing the trailer and local police were 'a bit taken aback' at first. So far it has not met with any difficulties as they have been able to by-pass awkward corners: when leaving Cambridge it is driven along Perne Road and Long Road to Trumpington. The firm, which began ten years in Sedgwick Street, sprays caravans and vehicles owned by haulage contractors. 60 08 09

1961 04 07
Royal Show site at Trumpington being prepared – 61 04 07c

1961 07 05
A visitor to the Royal Show asked if he could park on the playing field of Fawcett School in Alpha Terrace, Trumpington, less than a mile from the showground. But the headmaster told him he could not. So he climbed back into the cockpit of his plane and took off with a 30 yard run. The machine had circled low before landing and Mr F.N. Walker thought it had made a forced landing. But the pilot, who was wearing a Royal Society member's badge, jumped down and asked if he could leave the plane there while he went to the Show. 61 07 05

1962 02 13
Foxton Hall has been added to the ever-growing list of country mansions to be used for new purposes. It has been acquired by Dr H. Hurst to study his new technology for inserting a liquid damp-proof course into buildings which are being ruined by rising damp. Initial research was carried out at the Cambridge University Department of Colloid Science and continued at the Timber-proofing Laboratories at Trumpington. It has been employed at the Leys School, Bourn Vicarage and the Royal Oak public house at Stretham. 62 02 13a

62 12 04
Whitelocks Yard, Trumpington is a quit oasis from traffic thundering by on the main road. Now the twelve 100-year-old houses are being put up for sale by the trustees of the charity of George Whitelock who say they need considerable improvements and a lot of money spending on them. But the elderly tenants are concerned for the future, fearing they may be thrown out on the streets. The homes, with a half-acre site, are being sold for £4,750 (about £83,360 now) 62 12 04a

1962 12 10
Royal Engineers spent an hour and a half in drenching rain preparing to demolish the last concrete base on the Royal Show site at Trumpington. They tunnelled holes into it, under it and around it and inserted twenty pounds of plastic explosives. Two men were sent to warn Addenbrooke's Hospital of an ear-splitting bang before the men took cover. But there was just a weak muffled 'back-fire' noise and only a few cracks in the base – not really worth stopping the trains on the nearby railway line. Two hours later came a very satisfying bang and the great concrete block was lifted out of the ground in a shower of smaller chunks and metal bolts. 62 12 10a

1962 12 17
The occupiers of five cottages nestling against the footpath of Trumpington High Street are confused about the future of their homes. The houses – three of them thatched – have recently been listed as of special architectural interest. This means they cannot be demolished without Ministerial permission. But the Ministry of Transport has plans for a road improvement scheme in that area. One of the owners has recently erected a modern fireplace in place of an inglenook and now wants to create a bathroom. But he is not prepared to spend money if the houses are to come down 62 12 17

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1963 01 18
Miss Alice Haslop, 95, Trumpington's oldest parishioner; was born and lived all her life in the village where he father was bootmaker and carrier to Cambridge. She was a laundress of no mean repute and a good plain needlewoman, particularly in making pillow-slips. She insisted on doing her own housework as long as she could and possessed a sense of humour. As a child the nearest doctor was near Woollards Lane, Shelford, and medicine had to be fetched, walking to the surgery before breakfast. "I liked going", she said with an impish gleam in her eye, "because then I was late for school". Her death closes a chapter in the village's history. 63 01 18c

1964 01 11
Trumpington cottages demolished to make way for new housing – 64 01 11

1965 02 12
Trumpington problem with increasing car parking in Byron Square – photo - 65 02 12c

1963 03 25
Arbury estate has no facilities for social recreation; reports says these should be built at Trumpington – 65 03 25a

1966 03 15
Viola Pemberton of Trumpington Hall, president of Women's Institutes for 20 years – profile – 66 03 15a

1967 08 31
Trumpington church Black Magic celebration & desecration – 67 08 31 & a

1968 07 19
Trumpington cottages to be demolished – 68 07 19

1969 06 19
Gelignite used to blast away one of four brick piers which carried the old Cambridge to Bedford railway line over the Cam at Trumpington – 69 06 19

1972 07 18
Two large new city council housing estates - each with probably hundreds of homes - are being planned for Trumpington and at Fen Ditton, just outside the Cambridge boundary. The Trumpington site was the home of the Royal Show some years ago and is expected to start a storm of controversy because it involves land regarded by the preservationists as being of high scenic value. The Fen Ditton scheme, too, is unlikely to meet with much approval from the village authorities, because it would greatly increase the community's size

1972 08 05
The long-awaited Cambridge Transportation Study was finally published yesterday. It is two years overdue and has cost £113,000 - almost £1,000 a page. It was jointly commissioned in 1967 by the Cambridge city and County Councils and the University. It was to be carried out by R. Travers Morgan and Partners and was estimated at that time to cost £78,000. Its major proposals include a Railway Road leaving the A10 south of the Trumpington street traffic lights, hugging the northbound railway track all the way to Newmarket Road. After crossing the Cam the new road would veer sharply west to follow the St Ives railway line along to the A10 Milton Road

before linking up with Arbury Road. The Railway Road should be largely dual two-lane carriageway. Full construction could take many years

1972 08 22
It has been an irritating summer for the hundreds of visitors to Cambridge who have been forced to scour the surrounding countryside for hotel rooms. Cambridge has always had a notorious reputation for being unable to accommodate all the summer visitors. This year the situation was made worse by the Garden House Hotel fire in April which left the city the poorer by 75 bedrooms. Help is already on the way. The Garden House Hotel is being rebuilt; the Gonville Hotel will open again after alterations and work has started on a 100- bedroom hotel at Bar Hill. Whitbread have outline planning permission to build a 60-bedroom motel extension at the Red Lion Hotel, Trumpington and De Vere Hotels are awaiting the outcome of the inquiry into their application to build a 200-bedroom hotel on Castle Hill

1972 12 01
A plan to build up to 600 houses on farm land off Long Road, Trumpington has brought mixed reaction from local residents. A Birmingham development company who earlier this year took over Cambridge builders I.J. Stocker ltd, want to build houses and a group of shops on land at Clay Farm. But some local residents object because they think the land should remain open. It is zoned as open space and playing fields, with most of it within the green belt, in the Cambridge town map. The developers said it would be a 5 or 6 year scheme from the starting date

1972 12 29
Fen Ditton will die if Cambridge City Council go ahead with their plans for a 1,000-home estate in the village, says the parish Rector, the Rev Raymond Harrison. Writing in the parish magazine he says that with an estate of almost 1,000 homes in the village the population would increase by nearly 4,000 people. "This plan is not for some distant future, but in three or four years' time when the city fathers allege they will have no more building land in the city area. Clearly the whole character of Ditton will be altered if this pernicious plan is put into operation". The city council are continuing their efforts to get planning permission to develop an 80-acre site in the village, and another at Trumpington

1973 09 10
Prof John Parry Lewis, the Manchester don who has just finished the biggest Cambridge re-development plan ever devised, has told the Government that it may as well be scrapped now if the new Fitzroy-Burleigh Street shopping centre goes ahead. When his final report is published it will contain some sweeping proposals. One of these is for a new commercial centre on the Cambridge outskirts - perhaps in the Trumpington area - in order to siphon shops and traffic away from the historic heart of the city

1973 09 21
Like some great suicidal spider Cambridge will have eaten its heart out by the turn of the century. Such is the dramatic prophecy of Professor John Parry Lewis who has been making a complete study of its future. Specifically he is saying is that if Cambridge proceeds with the scheme to build a twin shopping centre in the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh street area it will be signing the death knell of the present Market Square area. He concludes that a new focus for commercial activity must be developed on the edge of the city either in the Trumpington area or to the east near Marshall's airport. This cannot be done if the Fitzroy-Burleigh scheme proceeds, as the indications now are that it will

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1974 07 19
Parry Lewis and his team of planners have examined the possibility of expanding Cambridge. Their studies convince them the best plan was to expand the city in a southern direction. Development would follow a line east of the new Western bypass. A second shopping centre would be located to the south-west of Trumpington. There would in addition be various district centres and a suitable amount of industrial and office development

1974 07 2
The people of Cambridge would never accept the building of the proposed Western Relief Road project, linking Huntingdon road with Trumpington road and going through Newnham or near Grantchester, it was claimed by city councillors. In addition the county a road linking Huntingdon road with Madingley road. But Counc. Overhill supported the road. "If this was proposed through the middle of Chesterton, nobody would complain. It is only because it is going through Newnham that people are against it", he said

1974 10 29
The Parry Lewis super plan for the future of Cambridge, which took three years to prepare at a cost of £20,000, has been rejected by all the senior city and county planning officers. The plans main suggestions were for the immediate scrapping of the scheme for extensive development in the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy street area and the building of a second shopping centre in the Trumpington area. Chairman of the County Planning committee, Counc. Tony Cornell, said: "The technical boys took a look at Parry Lewis and they have not liked what they have seen"

1975 03 06
Cambridgeshire planning committee yesterday drove another nail in the coffin of the Parry Lewis development plan for Cambridge when they joined the growing list of local council bodies which have pronounced the last rites over the plan which cost £20,000 and took nearly three years to produce. The plan suggests the city should scrap its super-shops plans for the Burleigh-Fitzroy area and develop a new large commercial centre in the Trumpington region.

1975 04 03
Leaving your car in the Lion Yard car park, Cambridge, between 5.30 pm and 6.30 pm can be costly. Mrs Carol Taylor of Trumpington drove her car into the Lion Yard at 5.46 pm and drove out again at 6.18 pm. She was charged 17p – 7p for the 14 minutes before 6 o'clock and 10p for the 18 minutes after. The charges change at 6 pm when the evening tariff comes into operation. She felt this was an unfair charge for 32 minutes of parking time.

1975 10 03
The Conservatives held the Trumpington Division seat in yesterday's County Council by-election. Now the victor, Mrs Jane Brookes, a Cambridge housewife, says that she is "ready for anything" the council has to offer her. She added: "I am interested in people and that is what counts"

1977 02 10
Planners took a long hard look around Cambridge to see where development could best be accommodated. They soon dismissed Histon or Girton because they have relatively limited potential for longer-term growth. At Milton there is considerable opportunity for expansion within the new road framework. Both Bar Hill and Waterbeach possess characteristics suitable for growth, but Cottenham is less accessible to Cambridge. Growth of up to 4,000 might be contemplated in the Teversham-Fulbourn area and the same at Bottisham. To the south it would

be possible to develop the Clay Farm area of Trumpington and the Shelfords but Sawston seems to have the greatest development potential

1977 02 23
Miss Kitty Willers, for more than 60 years a bellringer at Trumpington parish church, has died at the age of 78, having lived her whole life there. Her cycling and bellringing feats established her reputation as something of an eccentric. Until recently she would think nothing of cycling hundreds of miles. Once she refused offers of a lift to Loughborough to see the church's new bells being cast. When the church party arrived at the foundry they found Miss Willers there already as part of the reception committee. She had started cycling at four in the morning.

1977 07 16
The two leading private gardens in the CEN gardens competition were in the easy working are of Trumpington. The winner, Stuart Brown and his wife Shirley, had moved into the usual near dereliction about three years ago. Runner-up was Mr V. Pike who has spent a lifetime in gardening. Other class winners were W. Brunt of Rayson Way, E.W. Gentle of Thoday Street, F.J. Elbourn, Norwich Street and K.C. Newman, Fallowfield.

1977 12 06
Cambridge City Council should consider linking with a private developer to build a skateboard park & look at providing a beginners' skateboarding area and practice runs from the rates. A report says that contrary to some people's beliefs skateboarding is not just a passing phase. Areas like the Romsey recreation ground and the King George playing fields at Trumpington would be suitable introductory areas and Kings Hedges recreation ground and the disused bandstand on Christ's Pieces could be suitable for practising. But it would be difficult to get permission to use the Elizabeth Way roundabout

1978 03 17
Cambridge schoolchildren will soon get their first skateboard park, perhaps two. Cambridge councillors earmarked money to convert hard tennis courts at Romsey and Trumpington with wooden embankments and ramps, but it may not now be possible to do both. They also decided that the former council storeyard off Newmarket Road would be ideal for the building of a large-scale permanent skateboard park. Four commercial firms interested in building a park have approached the council who have agreed to offer the land on lease if the park is built at no cost to the ratepayers

1984 03 01
New flats in Anstey Way, Trumpington, are selling like hot cakes even though the show flat is not yet open. Six were released as an initial step and were sold immediately. They appeal to older people wanting to put an end to the problem of maintaining a big house and garden and most of the ground floor flats have gone to senior citizens. Prices range from £28,450 to £29,450. 84 03 01

1985 01 07
The concept of a Green Belt around Cambridge was first put forward in the issued in 1949. Since it was last reviewed pressure has grown for certain parts to be declassified. One area is the Histon Road allotments site: some has been developed with council housing and now the County Council wants the rest removed from the Green Belt so it can be considered as suitable for redevelopment in the years ahead. A piece of the extensive acreage of Clay Farm, Trumpington, is also suitable for declassification say the planners. But 500 organisation have objected to the proposals. 85 01 07b & c

1985 09 17
The Green Belt around Cambridge was designed to protect the area from development and to preserve large areas of open space between villages. Now County planners want to release land to make way for the city to breathe including 70 acres at Trumpington, Histon Road allotments and the University Farm in Huntingdon Road. They say this would not mean developers' lorries moving in. Nearly 500 organisations objected at an Inquiry but the County are pleased with the result which backs most of their proposals. 85 09 17 a b c

1985 12 05
An old blacksmith's smithy in Trumpington is to be demolished to make way for new offices. It was not a listed building and the scruffy corner would inevitably be developed at some time. But protestors say a two-storey office development would take away the character of the corner of Church Street and High Street in what was essentially a village-type area and be at the expense of a piece of village history. 85 12 05

1986 02 08
Plans have been revealed for a multi-million pound shopping centre on the outskirts of Cambridge. Marks and Spencer and Tesco have proposed a double superstore with park-and-ride facilities on land bounded by the M11 and Hauxton Road, Trumpington. A dual carriageway would connect the A10 to the privately-owned Clay Farm area which has already been identified for potential housing. 86 02 08

1986 02 21
Trumpington blacksmith forge memories – 86 02 21

1986 05 27
Thirty novels reflecting life in Cambridge over the past 75 years have been given to the Cambridgeshire Collection. They are the lifetime's work of Jack Overhill. Only three books have been published: 'Romantic Youth', a townsman's view of the university, 'The Miller of Trumpington' and 'The Snob' telling of life in Gothic Street. Two volumes that describe life in King Street in the 1930s came close to becoming a television serial in 1973. Most were written at the end of a busy day, in some cases on a typewriter balanced on his knees in an air-raid shelter. "Every word in them is true. I have remembered all that happened in my life. Now it torments me", says Jack 86 05 27 b & c

1986 06 06
Camtech's plans for two giant supermarkets at Arbury Camp would fit in with the Unex Group's proposal for a major supermarket and non-food shops on a retail park off King's Hedges Road. But it would offer competition to other schemes currently under discussion. These are the giant Marks and Spencer / Tesco plan for two superstores, a 300-bedroom hotel and multi-screen cinema at Trumpington, Asda's ideas for a supermarket at the Cambridge Business Park on Milton Road and the proposed Tesco store in the Milton Park housing development 86 06 06

1986 07 14
Outraged Trumpington residents unanimously called on city planners to throw out controversial proposals to build two superstores, a hotel and multi-screen cinema together with a bus terminus and park-and-ride car park on a 70-acre site on Hauxton Road. A separate plan has also been submitted for a 300-bedroomed hotel. Developers have offered to construct a by-pass from the M11 to Long Road but this had not allayed their fears 86 07 14

1986 07 28
Months of uncertainty for the Trumpington-based Plant Breeding Institute have been ended with confirmation that parts are to be sold to the private sector and others amalgamated with a newly-created Plant Science Institute. Staff may be relocated and some research might halt completely. The sugar beet programme has already been wound up and one man now tends the gene bank of varieties – 7,000 for barley alone – from which much of its celebrated work makes its humble beginnings. 86 07 28a

1987 02 27
Trumpington newsagent Bert Truelove is celebrating half a century in the trade – and he is only 57. He started selling papers in his father's Stapleford shop in 1937 when he was so small that he had to stand on a box to see the customers. After the war the family came to Trumpington and battled through years of austerity when a shortage of papers meant demand for copies of the News often succeeded supplies. It is a different picture now with a boom in sales. New technology ensures he gets the papers on time. He has not forgotten the paper boys and girls who have helped him over the years: they have been invited to a disco in the village hall. 87 02 27a

1987 05 05
Comberton may expand under controversial new plans. Developers Alfred McAlpine Homes want to build 215 houses and an employment centre on a 40-acre site to meet the growing demand for housing. It would safeguard the Village College and speed the connection of gas. The village is not earmarked for development in the county structure plans and there is no support for the scheme by residents. But with the recent rejection of plans for Clay Farm Trumpington there is pressure for extra housing in nearby settlements 87 05 05

1987 07 03
Scientists at the Plant Breeding Institute at Trumpington are preparing to welcome Princess Anne who will present them with another Queen's Award for Industry, this one for breeding high winter wheats. Their work in producing crops resistant to the ravages of disease and selecting varieties that flourish in harsh conditions is vital to poor countries. But, after 75 years, the Institute is being sold off by the Government with many of the scientists having to move to Norwich 87 07 03b

1987 07 04
Trumpington residents want to ban vehicles from turning right from the High Street into Church Lane. They are convinced this will ease traffic flows during the rush hour which cause massive hold-ups. Many motorists are using Church Lane as a short cut to reach Barton Road instead of going into the city. Now the County Transportation department has finally agreed to consider their suggestions 87 07 04

987 09 04
Plans by house-builder Bovis to build 33 homes for elderly people together with 55 large detached and 54 town houses on the Clay Farm site at Trumpington have attracted opposition from people anxious to keep a wedge of green land between Cambridge and the Shelfords. The site has been at the centre of controversy for some time with county planners saying it should be in the Green Belt. But the city wants to build hundreds of homes to solve a housing shortage 87 09 04

1987 10 27

A multi-million-pound shopping, hotel, cinema and parking project planned for south Trumpington by Marks and Spencer and Tesco has been scrapped. The vast hypermarket-type development attracted more complaints than any other single planning application ever made in Cambridge. It would have been on green belt land, where building was banned and the city had shown no support. Residents say this is a wonderful day and there will be great rejoicing in the Trumpington area. 87 10 27

1987 11 05
Trumpington Mothers' Union history – 87 11 05c

1987 12 14
The Government is being asked to stop a controversial housing development planned for the Clay Farm site at Trumpington. Local MPs want the land to be designated as Green Belt as they fear the development of 100-plus houses would automatically open the door for almost 1,000 others. There is great public hostility to such housing on the open farmland. Housing giant Bovis Homes want to build 57 large houses, 33 small ones and 23 old people's flats on a 12-acre site off Long Road 87 12 14

1988 04 14
Pensioner Fred Holman from Trumpington, who trains his birds by bus, has won one of the first big homing races of the season. His pigeon was the first of more than 1,000 in a race from Salisbury, winning first prize for the Cambridge South Road Flying Club. It was the latest success in a booming career stretching back to his days as a 13-year-old schoolboy in London. Twice a week he catches a coach to Royston or Baldock to set his birds free for training flights back to his home in Byron Square where he has a loft of 20 racing pigeons 88 04 14b

1988 07 29
A large new township complete with a major shopping centre and a new village development off the A10, both within easy reach of Cambridge, are proposed by the Government. And Whitehall says that planning restrictions should be removed from the vast Arbury Camps Farm site bordering the Northern Bypass which should be used for hi-tech industrial purposes. But it appears as if plans for a giant housing estate at Clay Farm, Trumpington have been rejected in order to protect the Green Belt. 88 07 29

1988 11 30
Trumpington teenager Guiliano Maiorana joins Manchester United 88 11 30

1989 02 15
Property developers are bidding to buy Parkside fire station so they can build houses, a hotel or offices on the site. In return they will fund new fire stations at Arbury and Trumpington. At present fire tenders are often delayed by traffic and this would boost response time. The plum site overlooks Parker's Piece and is worth many millions of pounds. Now county councillors will reconsider the idea which was previously floated a year ago. 89 02 15

1989 08 22
Business is booming in some local pubs. The Volunteer in Trumpington has seen a 20 per cent increase in turnover since all-day opening was introduced a year ago. They get a lot of business people in for long lunches and often folk call in on their way from work. Tourists also take advantage of the afternoon opening. The White Hart at St Ives also reports many businessmen drinking in the afternoon. The Spade and Becket, Thompson's Lane says they may follow suit as people are queuing outside the doors from five o'clock. 89 08 22

1990 01 25
Today's squatters are usually the young and single who do not qualify to go on council housing waiting lists. But after the war couples with children occupied empty houses in Jesus Lane and Parkside that had been requisitioned by the army. Then one family moved into Nissen huts in the grounds of a house in Hills Road and another into a four-storey property in Portugal Place. From then on more huts or houses were occupied daily. Then pre-fabricated steel houses were erected in Lichfield Road and Trumpington. They were meant to be temporary but some were lived in until the 1970s - 90 01 25c

1990 06 01
Fifty families were forced to flee their homes after a gas pipe blew up in Alpha Terrace, Trumpington, sending gas streaming into the street. Emergency teams were called and the street sealed off. Residents were taken to the Fawcett School – 90 06 01

1990 08 14
Medical Research Council withdraws funding for Medical Cryobiology Unit at Trumpington – 90 08 14a

Councillors inspect Elizabeth Bridge from ferry, 1970 *73.93*

c.44.7 : Bridges & ferries

Dant, Cutter ferry history and account of barge traffic – 62 08 03b & c

In 1880-81 Headley and Edwards built an iron bridge over the river near Coe Fen and in 1897-8 the sum of £411 15s was paid for Robinson Crusoe Bridge. But mystery surrounds the name. Leases from 1500 call the site the Swan's Nest which, with the old stock of boats, was sold by auction in 1895. Readers recall there was previously a ferry boat. Mr Edward Goode lived with his sister in a little cottage beside the bridge and a former Chief Constable used to have a garden there. Mrs Robson loved to sit in the garden beside the boatman's house 39 08 05

1888 09 14
Much debate about proposal to build new bridge (Victoria Bridge) to link Cambridge & Chesterton (which would open the way for the amalgamation of Chesterton Urban District into Cambridge) [1.16]

1888 09 21

"People of Chesterton have got Cambridge people to pay half the expense of the Victoria Bridge" [1.17]

1888 11 02
Poll approves Victoria Bridge proposal by 2,784 to 1,754; apply for Act of Parliament to authorise construction of this and a second bridge further downstream [1.18]

1889 08 03
Sir – The Mill Road footbridge over the railway line was opened to the public on Monday August 3rd 1889. I was the last one to take the keys of the gates to the station – William Nelson. Sir - The iron footbridge over the railway on Mill Road had wooden steps and gave access to the open fields beyond it. In fact, so countrified was the area that when the Royal Standard was built it was known as 'Apthorpe's Folly' from William Apthorpe the brewer who built it. The bridge now stands on Coldham Common where it spans the Newmarket Line – H.D.C. 35 01 26[1.8]
Mill Road Railway Bridge was built in 1889 and Percy North, the well-known chiropodist, remembers playing under the bridge arches when they were being constructed. There was a level crossing over the railway then but it was not much used because there was hardly any traffic. There was nothing beyond, Great Eastern Street and Argyle Street were just ballast pits for the railway and the only house was a large one where the Broadway stands today, he recalls. 60 08 06 & a

1889 09 20
Victoria Bridge: operations have just been commenced in connection with the construction of the first of the bridges authorised by the Cam Bridges Act. Engineers: Messrs J.J. Webster (Liverpool) and F. Waters (Cambridge), Contractor: John Mackay of Hereford. The bridge to be erected opposite to Bridge Road and will be approached from the Cambridge side by a road across Midsummer Common. The contractor has agreed to complete the undertaking in ten months. A number of townsmen have been engaged and local materials such as pipes are being used. 1889 09 20 Ch

1889 11 08
Victoria Bridge: Laying the foundation stone. The bridge will have a superstructure of iron and steel, principally six elliptical main ribs spanning the river. The main rib will be 100 feet, clear span with a clear rise above the water of 14ft 6inches. The will consider of wrought iron plate and angle iron and will be so designed that with two traction engines in the centre of the bridge, and the whole span covered with passengers the metal will not in any part of the structure be submitted to a greater test than five tons per square inch in compression. The extreme length of the bridge is to be 40 feet with two footways of seven feet wide each and a roadway of 26 feet – ample room for the two widest vehicles to pass with ease. The new connecting road across the common is to be 40 feet wide with footways seven feet wide and granite tarmacadam. The cost will be under £10,000. The foundation stone was laid by the Mayor (F. Wace) and J. Bester, Chairman of the Chesterton Local Board 1899 11 08

1890 12 11
Victoria Bridge opens, December [1.2]

1892
'High Back' bridge at Jesus lock replaced by more convenient design

1893
Petition for another bridge across river at Abbey road [NI.3.20]

1897
1897-8 the sum of £411 15s was paid for Robinson Crusoe Bridge. 39 08 05

1897 08 09
Sir - Now that the Jubilee accounts have been reckoned up it seems fitting we should start afresh the matter of the new bridge. The question of a new bridge to connect Chesterton with Cambridge at the Abbey Estate is of supreme importance. The ferryman knows no rest. All the people at Old Chesterton have to be crossed over long before the omnibuses are astir. The wheels of progress anywhere in the vicinity have moved round in the past with about the same velocity as a farmer's cart!. Is this to drag on for ever?. The advantage of another bridge over the now-sweetened Cam would be a great gain to both Chesterton and Cambridge in equal proportion - letter signed "Chestertonian 1897 08 09

1898 04 02
Sir - the new bridge at Abbey Road Cambridge has become a supreme necessity. Everyone admits it now. Boats and plants have had their day, and should be done away with. Omnibuses of first class order are unable to carry people to most convenient places, and at low prices, for the want of another bridge to bring them into Cambridge. What enormous advantages to both Chesterton and Cambridge another bridge at this spot holds out. The great increase in traffic calls loudly for another bridge. The people near the Abbey again insisted upon another bridge but the Cambridge Rip Van Winkles sleep on, oblivious of anything. Procrastination is the great curse of Cambridge, and Chesterton should take warning by keeping abreast with the requirements of this important suburb – Chestertonian 1898 04 02

1899 07 11
Sir – The population of Chesterton is mainly composed of people who have been turned out of Cambridge to make way for college and other improvements, and nearly all are employed in that ancient town. Every day brings evidence of the great need of another crossing of the Cam & that Abbey Road is the place goes without saying. The De Freville Estate, are absolutely dependent upon the old punts and other obsolete marine structures for crossing over to Cambridge. . It must be conceded that a bridge over this part of the Cam is of the highest importance – "Chestertonian" - 1899 07 11

1900

1901 08 07
A proposal to erect a new footbridge over the Cam between the De Freville Estate and Cambridge was advanced at a meeting of occupiers. It would put them in more direct communication with Fitzroy Street. A member of Chesterton Urban District Council thought it should be erected at the Fort St George ferry to benefit the owners of the new Central Estate; but this was a thing of the future. If they waited for this development they might wait five or ten years. They wanted a bridge for De Freville inhabitants immediately and would circulate residents for donations 01 08 07

1902 03 22
Sir – A beautiful permanent memorial of the Coronation year would be the building of a bridge at De Freville Avenue. The Avenue is planted with elm trees on each side, the houses are all substantially, and some very tastefully, built; they are all set back and have flower gardens in front, making a very attractive approach to the proposed new bridge. It would provide a safe road for children attending the best Cambridge schools and provide the nearest way to Newmarket

Road and the Railway Station, thus benefiting labourers, working men, college servants etc. The more bridges there are built over the river the more surely you bind communities together to the advantage of both Cambridge and Chesterton – F.R. Leach CDN 1902 03 22

1904 10 17
Moves to annul clause re new road bridge, poll opposes bridge & traffic it would cause; committee report favours Walnut Tree Avenue as best site at cost £20,000 [2.7]

1904 11 19
No reasonable person expects to find a ferryman on duty after ten at night and is reconciled to the necessity of grinding himself across the few yards of water. About midnight a husband and his wife returning from Chesterton determined to make a short cut across the river as rain was pouring down in pitiless fashion. The husband seized the handle of the grind to get to the other side as quickly as possible. But when they got to the middle the ferry stuck fast, nor would it go back no matter how hard he strained and pushed. For ten minutes they wrestled with that ferry in the pouring rain and were just about to shout for help when the unwieldy affair began to work and they got back to the bank they had left. As they walked around the road home they decided that ferries were contrivances of the Evil One CDN 19.11.1904

1904 12 08
Chesterton council considered a petition for the construction of a footbridge across the Cam between Victoria Bridge and Dant's Ferry, subject to £200 being raised by private subscription towards the cost. But by asking for a subscription they would be setting a precedent and they would never be able to carry out public improvements without asking local occupiers to put their hands in their pockets to help them. It would be an advantage to those on the De Freville, but they all paid rates. The bridge would be an advantage, but not a pecuniary one. If it was placed at the Fort St George it would benefit a very large number of people and no ratepayer would object to a farthing rate for the project CDN 8.12.1904 [2.2]

1904 12 23
P.C. Winter told an inquest that he went to Dant's Ferry and found a body in the water fully dressed with the head towards Victoria Bridge and the feet under the ferry boat. He raised the head out of the water but the body was caught in the chains and he could not lift it. The Coroner said that a bridge instead of a ferry would probably be better and the number of accidents would be less. The ferry boat was a private concern, people paid tuppence a week and pulled themselves across early in the morning or late at night. There was no blame, it was one of those unfortunate circumstances which had happened at the same spot before. CDN 23.12.1904

1905 01 26
Cambridge councillors were told of a fatal accident at Dant's Ferry a few days prior to Christmas when the breadwinner of a family was drowned. It was only one of many; during the present winter at least five persons had tumbled into the water at that spot. There should be a bridge in the neighbourhood of Abbey Road. But Victoria Bridge was not a long way from Dant's Ferry and before any bridges were built Chesterton would have to join Cambridge. 05 01 26

1905 02 23
A meeting of Chestertonians was held in furtherance of the scheme for constructing a bridge across the Cam at the Fort St George. The Council has accepted the necessity of a bridge and will spend £500 provided another £200 is raised by private subscription. It was not a large sum for such a district. Inhabitants should remember that once it was built they would save further

expense on ferries. Several promises were made on the spot and various college boat clubs will be approached. 05 02 23a

1905 06 12
The sinister hand of Death has cast its shadow over Cambridge in its most joyous mood. In the very midst of the May Week holiday three people were drowned through the capsizing of the ferryboat known as the Red Grind at Fen Ditton. Two journeys had been made after the racing, the ferry crowded each time and when the boat was ready for the third about 20 people commenced the fateful voyage. Two University men jumped on at the last moment, the ferry gave a lurch and turned turtle pitching the screaming occupants into six feet of water. Words cannot describe the scene at Fen Ditton when the ferry sank. People in the grounds of the Plough rushed to the bank, one or two men plunged into the water, others seized chairs and hurled them towards the struggling mass in the river. Pleasure boats hurried and scurried in answer to frantic appeals for help and the Ditton men shoved off in their black fishing boats. Off the twenty or so who went down with the ferry all but three were saved. Miss Violet Handscombe was engaged to Mr Thomas Day and together they enjoyed a visit to the May races. From the Plough pleasure gardens they stepped aboard the ill-fated Red Grind ferry. When it sank Mr Day became separated from his intended bride and managed to reach the bank unassisted. Eagerly he looked for his betrothed but she had become entangled with the rail when the ferry capsized; he plunged into the river again and brought her to dry land but she had been so long under water that life was extinct. Miss Minnie Murkin is the central figure of the Fen Ditton ferry sinking. Today she was to have been a happy bride but now her body will be borne to the tomb. At her home in Selwyn Terrace the last few days have witnessed all the preliminary events that precede the wedding; presents have been arriving and her finance came from Swansea. He was on the bank, witnessed the upsetting of the boat and endured the agony of seeing his prospective bride dragged beneath the surface by the sinking craft. 05 06 12, a-c [1.3]

1905 06 13
The inquests on the three victims of the ferry sinking was opened in Fen Ditton schoolroom. The jury proceeded to the melancholy task of viewing the bodies. Those of Mrs Annie Thompson and Miss Minnie Murkin were laid side by side in a darkened room at the Plough, attired in white as for burial, and awaiting outside were the coffins. They then proceeded to a house in which Miss Handscombe was already laid in her coffin. Next they viewed the boat which had been raised from the river. 05 06 13a

1905 07 17
Licensing magistrates were told that the old ferry at the Plough, Fen Ditton, scene of the tragic sinking, would not be used again and a new boat would be obtained. The old tenant had no knowledge of boats but the new one was a lighterman by trade and understood the workings of a ferry. The old ferry was a ‘death trap’ and the new one must be a safe one and competent to carry passengers. 05 07 17a

1905 12 08
Proposed footbridge Fort St George – 05 12 07

1905 12 12
Mr Thomas Day, whose sweetheart, Miss Violet Handscombe, was one of the victims of the Fen Ditton Red Grind ferry disaster, has died in Addenbrooke’s Hospital aged 25. He was with her on the ferry when it upset and they became separated. He reached the bank, then plunged back into the river and found her, but she later died. The shock had a detrimental effect on his physical

condition and when he was attacked with illness quickly succumbed. He died of bronchial pneumonia and rupture of the lungs. 05 12 12

1909 12 24
New bye-laws relating to the illumination of chain ferry boats and barges after dark were adopted. CWN 09 12 24

1910

1910 05 27
A Trinity College undergraduate was summoned for riding a motor cycle on the footway in Garret Hostel Lane. P.S. Merry said there were about 100 people on the bridge watching the boats when defendant rode down the lane and, without sounding his horn, went through the posts on to the bridge at a speed of five miles an hour. It was a public footpath and even if police had not prosecuted cyclists before, there was no reason why they should not if necessary. The lad said police had seen him do it before and he'd since asked at the Police Station and been told it was all right. The case was dismissed. 10 05 27b

1910 07 08
Ferry boats to be lighted – 10 07 08c

1911 04 07
Upware Ferry. At a meeting of County School Attendance Committee a letter was received from Mr Benjamin Read stating that he had obtained a new boat for ferrying the children across the river at Upware and asking that the payment to him might be increased from £6 to £8 per annum. Seven-tenths of the cost will be charged to the parish of Waterbeach 11 04 07

1911 11 03
Cambridge Town Council wanted Victoria Bridge and its approaches to be declared a main road and maintained by the County Council. But they did not agree: the Bridge had been built under an Act of Parliament at the expense of Chesterton UDC and Cambridge Town Council. After the bridge was built Victoria Avenue had been declared and made a main road. But there was already a main road from Chesterton to Cambridge via Magdalene Street and over the Great Bridge 11 11 03i & j

1912 03 01
The bridge over the brook at Burrell's Walk should be replaced with one a foot higher so as to prevent it being covered with water in time of flood. A post should be placed at each end to compel cyclists who rode over it to do so at a moderate pace, councillors heard. But this was a waste of money: it only flooded once every five years and it was only a short diversion to come down by the tennis court. The scheme was dropped. 12 03 01a

1912 04 13
Borough ordered to build new road bridge as part of provisions of Local Government Board Extension Order [2.3]

1912 05 17
Councillors should consider a footbridge over the river near the Fort St George ferry. If anyone saw the large amount of people who passed over the ferries and the waste of time entailed they would agree that a bridge was most desirable. The system was antiquated and in times of flood they had to rely on Victoria Bridge only. Last winter when the river was running high, the

custodian had chained the ferry up to the lamp post. There had been a sum of money guaranteed when it was proposed to put the bridge opposite the end of De Freville Avenue. But the scheme fell through because of the large sum required to purchase the land to get through Jesus College boat yard. – 12 05 17c & d

1913 06 13
Two sites were considered for the erection of a footbridge over the river; one at Ferry Path and the other at Pretoria Road. It was undesirable to land the steps of the bridge at the front door of the Fort St George public house – however welcome that might be to the landlord. In addition Ferry Path landowners demanded a great deal of money for a strip of land to give access. The Pretoria Road site could not be as expensive so councillors agreed to a bridge 8ft 6inches wide there 13 06 13 p7 CIP

1913 06 14
Borough decide that a bridge to replace Fort St George ferry is now necessity (have discussed it for 25 years). Annual revenue from ferry is £100 after expenses, causes delays to people wishing to cross & when ferryman not on duty need to pull it to their side of bank using damp & weedy chain. Will cost £1-2,000 [2.4]

1914 03 20
There is a great need for a footbridge across the Cam near Snob's Point, a meeting heard. It would open up one of the finest rambles and be the nearest route to the railway station. But it would interfere with the ladies' bathing place; there would be such publicity they would have to shift it. And they already had one footbridge and if they wanted the area developed they must have a road bridge 14 03 20b

1914 04 10
Chesterton need for new traffic bridge, footbridge Ferry Path or Pretoria Road – 14 04 10c, e

1914 05 08
The Cam Conservators were told that if they relaid the floor of Jesus Green Bridge in reinforced concrete, the council would pay half the cost. It had been put up to replace an old wooden bridge. There was formerly a lock and weir at Fort St George, and a bridge there. When the lock was moved to Jesus Green the liability attached to the old bridge was moved on to the new bridge. There was a public right of way over the bridge and the Conservators thought it more convenient to build an iron bridge 14 05 08

1914 08 14
Tom Jolley acted as ferryman at Caron's Ferry at the Pike & Eel, Old Chesterton for 39 years. The ferry is a small punt boat near the larger ferry and is used by members of the University boat clubs who pay the ferryman a termly allowance. It was worked by his father and grandfather before him. Mr Jolley was universally known as 'Caron' and his cheery good nature made him a great favourite. 14 08 14 p4

1914 10 23
Under the 1912 boundary extension proposals Cambridge had to erect a bridge over the Cam to Chesterton within five years. Walnut Tree Avenue was the best site but whether this was the best time was a matter of debate. An Inspector from London had told them what they had to do and it was now the Law of the Land. Chesterton people had voted against it - in fact nobody wanted it. The only way to overturn the order was by going though all the expense of obtaining another Act of Parliament. 14 10 23

1919 02 05
Heavy snowfall, Garret Hostel bridge – many more people have passed over this bridge during the past four years on their way to First Eastern General Hospital that throughout the whole of its previous existence – 19 02 05c

1920

1924 12 04
Progress is being made in connection with the erection of a bridge over the river at Chesterton but the Surveyor is overwhelmed with work. It is two or three years ago when the owner of the land necessary for the proposed bridge at Pretoria road said he was willing to sell the land at a reasonable price. Over 800 people had paid for season tickets to go over the ferry and the council got something like 25s a week in odd halfpennies for casual passengers. 24 12 04

1924 12 06
The Town Clerk reported the receipt of a petition against the erection of a bridge over the river at Walnut Tree Avenue, Cambridge. It stated that the present extensive outlook of considerable beauty across the Commons was much appreciated by the residents and this would be practically eliminated by the approach to the proposed bridge. The value of property would be considerably depreciated 24 12 06

1925 09 24
Coun Porter said councillors might not realise what an old crock the ferry over the Cam at Chesterton was. When one went over in rough weather the water had to be baled out and the sides of the ferry shook. At the time of the fair the ferryman would not risk taking over a crowd of people because it was so dangerous. Children were taking a very great risk in using the ferry and the council taking the greatest risk of all in not taking steps to prevent somebody being drowned. The ferry was obsolete, it should be condemned at once and done away with 25 09 24

1925 10 22
There was another 'battle of the bridges' at Cambridge Town Council when the question of the erection of bridges across the Cam was brought forward. With the opening up of Mill Road there were people who only got ten minutes home to dinner owing to delay at the ferry. The Paving committee recommended that the footbridge at Pretoria Road be proceeded with and that a temporary footbridge be erected at Dant's Ferry pending construction of a vehicular bridge. It was dangerous to go over Victoria Bridge and they must have a new vehicular bridge if only to modify that danger 25 10 22

1926 12 02
The official testing took place of the bridges along the new road through Coe Fen, The Fen Causeway. They are Snobbs' Bridge, Flood Water Bridge and the River Bridge. The last is the most important and five steam rollers and one steam tractor, together weighing 63 tons were driven across it, passing each other, thus making 63 tons rolling weight, equivalent to about 100 tons dead weight. The Cambridge Borough Surveyor and councillors boarded a punt and viewed the deflectometer under the bridge, which gave a satisfactory reading. The foundations consist of 100 piles of 40 feet length, weighing about four tons each 26 12 02

1926 12 09
Fen Causeway, the new and important link between Newnham and the rest of Cambridge, was opened by the Mayor. The bridge and its approaches were gaily decorated with bunting and

presented a colourful scene. The project of relieving Silver Street traffic had started as long ago as 1904 and discussion had gone on for nearly 20 years before the Town Council approved the plan in 1923. Nine proposals had been put forward and had it not been for the urgency of the unemployment question the same position would have existed today, only instead of nine there might have been nineteen different schemes (Laughter) 26 12 09

1927 04 08
The Cam Conservators reported they had got the Fort St George ferry up, but it sank again. It was impossible to do anything with the boat and impossible to get another one. They had agreed to employ a man to do the work but could not undertake the risk. At lunchtime too many people crowded on to the boat and a man could not order them off. The Conservators had carried on the ferry at a loss for years. They had a contract to take the people across the water and had to do something. Chesterton people felt they had been badly treated. 27 04 08

1927 07 23
New footbridge opened at Dant's Ferry, near Walnut Tree Avenue. There was a good deal of grousing before the inhabitants of Chesterton had a footbridge over the Cam at Dant's Ferry. Now they have got one they have found something else to grouse about. At five minutes to eight every morning the instrument workers at Pye's are hurrying to work from the other side of the river. They curse and groan, trip and stagger under the burden of carrying their bicycles up and down a steep double flight of steps. Sooner or later some panting person carrying a bicycle will fall backwards or pitch into the river. The bridge was not made for cyclists who should get up earlier and ride up Victoria Avenue. 27 07 23.

1927 09 03
Chesterton folk looked very happy at the opening of the Pretoria Road footbridge and there was a fairly large crowd on both sides of the river. The bridge has been a very long time coming. There is an old proverb: "Bridges were made for wise men to walk over, and fools to ride over". Cyclists should remember this and the warning of the penalties awaiting those who do not dismount when crossing the bridge. 27 09 03 [1.12, 1.15]

1928 04 13
Sir – I protest against the ejection of Mr Pauley and his family from the ferry house, Midsummer Common. They have done their best to find a house but without success. The man and his son worked the ferry over the river, night and day, including Sundays, and in all weathers for the convenience of the Cambridge ratepayers, thus filling one of the most monotonous jobs; the man for 35 years and the boy for 16. On the completion of the footbridge they are completely cast over, no compensation being paid and no pension. To send people adrift in this matter is neither a moral or Christian act – Charles Porter. 28 04 13

1929
Motor car crashes through railings of Magdalene Bridge & hangs over river

1929 07 13
Dant's ferry footbridge and bicycles – 29 07 13

1930

1930 04 28
The railway came to Cambridge in 1845 and was carried onwards to Ely by a trestle bridge; this was replaced by a low girder bridge until April 1930 when crowds descended to witness its

replacement by a much larger and stronger bridge. The operation was a spectacular one, commencing at midnight engineers worked in the light of white acetylene flames to cut the steelwork in the centre of the old bridge and remove the track at either end. It was then raised on hydraulic jacks before being removed. Then the new bridge which had already been erected alongside was carefully moved into place, the lines reconnected and all was ready for trains to run again. 30 04 28

1930 12 12
The 'skeleton' of the Chesterton vehicular bridge came out of the municipal cupboard. It had been suggested when Victoria Bridge had been erected but the council subsequently rejected the proposals. In the meantime a temporary bridge had been erected at Dant's Ferry with the intention of moving it towards the Pike and Eel. Now it will be kept in the present position and lowered to make it easier to cross with perambulators. But it was a shame to spend £1,600 on a structure which had not been right when it was put up. 30 12 12c

1932 02 17
Back to the Ferry – Dant's ferry being used again while approaches to footbridge reconstructed – photo – 32 02 17 [CIP 19.2.32p12]

1935 05 17
Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company needed to lay a main from their works in Newmarket Road to Cam Road. The first proposal was to lay it under the river but negotiations were opened with a view to the erection of a footbridge which would serve the Company and also meet the growing needs of the residents in the neighbourhood. The cost would be £4,000 of which the Gas Company offered to pay a quarter providing the skeleton of the bridge was provided during this financial year 35 05 17

1935 08 24
Laying foundation for new bridge over Cam on site of Horse Grind Ferry – photo – 35 08 24

1935 08 27
Widening Long Road railway bridge – photo – 35 08 27a

1935 11 09
Horse Grind Ferry going – will be replaced by bridge – photo - 35 11 09a

1935 11 25
Horse Grind ferry bridge nears completion – photo 35 11 25

1936 03 03
Long Road new railway bridge – photo – 36 03 03

1936 04 27
New bridge replacing old ferry at Horse Grind is now in use – photo – 36 04 27 [1.1]

1936 07 31
The High Back Bridge at Jesus Lock was 40 years old and not designed for prams. Recently two little children were trying to push one across when it overturned and the baby was thrown out. However they were getting less bulky and when one of the heavier prams came along people were not backward in giving a helping hand. A long sloping ramp would be very detrimental to

the quaint old lock and increase the danger from cyclists. The Surveyor was instructed to provide two cycle ramps on the steps on Jesus Green side of the bridge 36 07 31

1938 06 22
Queens' College have to underpin the foundations of the Essex Buildings and may rebuild it further from the road instead of on its present alignment. They asked whether the Corporation wished to acquire the land released and expedite the rebuilding of Silver Street bridge. This could be widened to 40 feet instead of 28 feet as present. The erection of new college buildings and the construction of the bridge would proceed at the same time with the bridge completed by October 1939 38 06 22

1938 07 27
Silver Street Bridge was at present 21ft 6ins wide. Some years ago the Council bought land on the south side to enable it to be increased to 28ft when re-building was done. But it was unnecessary to increase it to 40ft as the road beside the old buildings of Queens' College could not be widened. Now the college wanted to redevelop and had offered land provided the bridge was widened – 38 07 23a & b. Borough council decide to apply for funding – 38 07 27

1938 08 27
The foundation of Silver Street Bridge, built about 1850 has been partially washed away by the rush of water from the King's Mill sluice, a diver underpinning Queens' College discovered. The Cambridge Borough Survey donned a diving suit and personally inspected the damage. There is no danger of it collapsing yet but as a precaution buses and heavy lorries will be banned. For many years heavy vehicles have been limited to a speed of five mph. In June the Council adopted a scheme to construct a new one by acquiring land from the college. But the County Council opposed it. 38 08 27

1939 06 09
Clayhithe's New Bridge which has superseded the old toll bridge, was formally opened. The first vehicle which crossed over the bridge after the opening was a pony and trap driven by Ald. Francis. 39 06 09 CIPof

1939 07 22
Silver Street bridge new design, dispute between Cambridge and county – 39 07 22a

1940

1940 05 04
Silver Street Bridge closed to buses as foundations unsafe – 40 05 04b

1950

1953 07 27
Cambridge Police have issued a warning that it is essential in the public interest that there be strict compliance with the order prohibiting vehicles whose weight exceeds two tons from using Silver Street Bridge. They particularly seek the co-operation of road users making deliveries to premises in Silver Street and suggest that whenever possible light vans only should be used. Failure to observe the Order renders the person concerned liable to prosecution.

1953 10 13
Magdalene Bridge restricted to 12 tons [1.13]

1956 06 12
Territorial Army sappers erected a bridge across the Cam to act as a substitute for the Jesus Green footbridge which is temporally closed for repairs. A large crowd watched them build the floating bays made up of folding boats, road bearers and decking. The folding boat equipment bridge is normally used by 3-ton military lorries but the City Surveyor has added additional handrails for public use. 56 06 12

1956 07 30
Robinson Crusoe footbridge linking Sheep's Green with Coe Fen was built years before Fen Causeway Bridge and was then the only way across the river. But it was now structurally unsound and should be closed. Coun A.C. Taylor said he once used it three times a week to go to the Sheep's Green bathing shed but now few people knew where it was; Coun Mrs Henn said she'd lived in the area for 30 years and never had occasion to use it. 56 07 30 [1.14]

1958 08 02
Silver Street bridge demolished, temporary bridge erected while rebuilding takes place (reopened August 1959) – 58 08 02a [1.22,1.24]

1958 12 19
Traffic over Hills Road railway bridge, a bottleneck on the principal road into Cambridge, is extremely heavy. Visibility over the summit is severely restricted and many accidents have occurred there. The existing steel plate girder bridge has deteriorated with age and now work will start to provide a new twin two-lane carriageways and footpaths. The new bridge will be designed to allow for widening should additional railway tracks be needed in the future 58 12 19b

1959 03 20
Silver Street bridge open to traffic – 59 03 20d

1959 08 12
Hills Road railway bridge reconstructed [CDN12.8.59p9]

1959 08 14
The new Silver Street Bridge is now fully open and there can be no doubt it is an exceptionally handsome piece of work. But after traffic had been admitted it was reduced to a single line again, pumps were sent for, coffer dams sunk and the word went round that all was not well. Rumours said that contractors had discovered an underground cavity, the bridge was sinking and that concrete was having to be pumped in. The County Surveyor cancelled a meeting with the press but a councillor said it was normal settlement and there was nothing wrong. 59 08 14d [3.7]

1959 10 16
More traffic went along Newmarket Road than any other and congestion often occurred at Four Lamps Corner. Any small incident – circuses on the Common or even May Balls - holds up traffic. Victoria Bridge vibrated when heavy vehicles had to stand on it with their engines running. We need a new bridge over the river at Walnut Tree Avenue. But a temporary bridge could be thrown over the Cam in six months by using the site of the old horse ferry next to the Chesterton footbridge. There would be a natural route for traffic up Garlic Row, Ald Symonds said. 59 10 16a & b

1959 11 21

An anonymous gentleman has offered to fund a new bridge across the Cam at Garret Hostel Lane. It will have a span of 15 feet greater than the present one and the height above water level will be increased by five feet. The current bridge is a Victorian cast iron structure painted green beneath which various pipes and cables are slung in a manner out of keeping with this part of the river. 59 11 21c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 03 11
The City Council is to pressure the Ministry of Transport about the proposed new bridge over the river at Chesterton. The route was approved four years ago and both Messrs Pye and Marshalls – the two large employers of labour in the area – consider it to be a matter of urgency. But the Mitcham's Corner improvement scheme would be relatively inexpensive and was being forced on them by the Government. This would further delay the proposals to provide a complete bypass on the Chesterton route. 60 03 11

1960 06 21
It took twenty men twenty hours at the week-end to demolish Cambridge's old Hills Road Bridge – twice as long as the contractors had anticipated. Originally it was thought that the removal of 140 tons of steel girders would take a little over eight hours, but the trains passing underneath proved a little more troublesome than expected. The men took advantage of the frequent breaks to wipe the sweat from their brows and light a cigarette. The scene resembled firework night for, as the oxyacetylene guns cut through the girders, a spray of red hot sparks would fall on the ground giving an impression of a 'golden rain' 60 06 21

1960 10 24
New Garret Hostel bridge opened, the gift of the Trusted family; history – 60 10 24 [1.25,1.27]

1960 12 02
The steepness of the new Garret Hostel Bridge brings complaints, muffled in puffs and pantings, from cyclists, pedestrians and pram-pushers. A gentleman made his laborious way, pulling himself up the slope with the help of the elegant bronze balustrade. A lady, pushing her cycle loaded with laundry in the front basket, exclaimed "Horrible bridge it is now, isn't it". Another added "If it gets ice on it in winter it will be worse still". In fact the council have already been putting grit on the bridge to combat the early frost on its surface. But, as one woman remarked, "There's nothing they can do about it now, of course" 60 12 02

1960 12 17
Hills Road Railway Bridge is functioning almost as normal again. After a year's work during which the traffic has had to contend with considerable difficulties, the road is now suitable for two-lane traffic. Resurfacing will not be carried on for another 12 months in order to allow the sufficient subsidence of the present structure and for several more weeks workmen will be patching up. Work on Churchill College continues as does work on 13 three-storey terrace houses and 60 maisonettes at East Road. Most have their roofs on and one block of houses has its windows in. 60 12 17b

1961 03 10
Dozens of people were thrown into the fast flowing River Cam on Saturday afternoon when the ferry at Fen Ditton suddenly sank. Undergraduates who were watching the Lent Bumps plunged into the water to help the men, women and children who were striking out for the bank. Several

were taken into nearby public houses where medical students assisted them and two people went to Addenbrooke's Hospital suffering from shock 61 03 06 Inquiry – 61 03 10d

1961 04 06
Steps are being taken to prevent another accident on the river ferry at The Plough public house, Fen Ditton. Police will ensure that no more than 20 people board the boat at once and Whitbread's brewery will erect removable crush barriers during race weeks to control crowds. The accident happened when one man tried to jump on the ferry as another jumped off. The balance of the boat was upset and it began rocking in the water. At the time the police had been called away to sort out a serious traffic tangle in the village. 61 04 06

1961 06 07
The ferry across the River Cam at Fen Ditton has been removed for the rest of the current boating season by its owners, Whitbread's Brewery, in the interest of public safety. A few weeks ago, at the end of the University Lent bumping races, the chain operated ferry sank throwing more than 30 people into the water. Known to University students as the 'Red Grind' because of its bright colouring it has been part of the Cambridge river scene for many years 61 06 07

1961 07 01
Permission to build a temporary Bailey Bridge over the River Cam at Chesterton has been refused. The Minister appreciates the council's desire to reduce the amount of cross river traffic using the Victoria Avenue – Victoria Bridge route but it would attract additional vehicles through narrow and tortuous roads. Proposals to restrict the bridge to local traffic and impose weight restrictions to prevent its use by heavy lorries would not work, he says. Now the Council will proceed with plans for a new permanent bridge 61 07 01

1961 10 05
The River Cam Conservators will approach Whitbread's to try and bring back the ferry that connected the grounds of 'The Plough' at Fen Ditton with the opposite river bank. After the ferry overturned last March, throwing many people into the water, the brewery considered erecting safety barriers on the bank but then decided to remove the boat altogether. It was later taken to Ely 61 10 05c

1962 04 11
Dant's Ferry, memories and 'Cuckoo' Dant – 62 04 11b

1963 09 13
New barriers have been erected on the Green Dragon Bridge, Chesterton in a bid to stop cattle and motor cyclists using it to cross the river. But it is now difficult to get coach-built prams through – they certainly won't get under with the hoods up. If the posts were further apart, cattle would get past, the council says. Motor cycles and scooters are officially prohibited from the bridge but there is no objection to pedal and motor-assisted cycles provided they are pushed across. 63 09 13d

1965 05 17
Minister of Transport to authorise the building of the Chesterton Bridge Route (Elizabeth Way) following public inquiry – 65 05 17

1967 06 28

Magdalene Bridge found to have a two-inch sag; closed to buses and heavy lorries for at least a year while repairs carried out – 67 06 28a. (New bridge proposed 1968. Ministry 'to replace in 1971'.)

1968 11 25
Three-wheel car hung under Bridge of Sighs – details – 68 11 25a

1969 06 24
Walnut Tree Avenue site for storage equipment for construction Elizabeth Bridge; Banham's boatyard has moved to new premises, ferry remains – 69 06 24

1969 07 10
Elizabeth Bridge engineering problems – feature – 69 07 10

1969 11 04
Magdalene Bridge to be replaced with present cast-iron structure replaced with 'a simple modern design', says Ministry – 69 11 04

1969 11 20
Tunnellers prepare for Elizabeth Bridge, divert pipes underground – profile – 69 11 20

1970

1970 03 13
Elizabeth Bridge last concrete span fixed in place – 70 03 13a

1970 11 04
Magdalene Bridge should be demolished and replaced say Ministry of Transport but opposition likely – photo of proposals – 70 11 04

1971
Magdalene Bridge inquiry 1971, to be preserved 1972,

1971 07 06
Queens' College apply for new footbridge over Cam between Mathematical Bridge and King's; would allow access to proposed new building- 71 07 06

1971 07 13
Elizabeth Bridge and approach roads opened by Lord Butler. It included a major approach road from Milton Road to Newmarket Road with roundabout on Chesterton Road which completely transformed Hawthorn Way, Cam Road, Haig Road and Walnut Tree Avenue – 71 07 13; review feature – 71 07 13a, b, c, d; complaints – 71 07 15a. 1971 07 13. Initially Speeds traffic 'like motoring on Sunday morning' – 71 07 14. Brings problems people living beside it – 71 07 15 complaints – 71 07 15a. 21,000 vehicles use per day 71 09 22 [8.9]

1972 06 14
Cambridge's famous Magdalene Bridge is to be preserved, the Secretary for the Environment, Mr Peter Walker, has decided. His move follows last year's public inquiry into proposals by his Department to knock down and replace the 148-year-old bridge. Mr Walker has ruled that the bridge should be strengthened internally and that a temporary bridge should be provided alongside while work is going on, p18

1978 06 15
The 150-year-old Magdalene Bridge in Cambridge is in grave danger of collapsing, councillors were told. For the last 11 years there has been a three-ton vehicle restriction but sometimes the inter-continental 'juggernaut' lorries travelling through the city take a wrong turning and pass over the bridge. Now the abutments, which support the bridge at both ends, are moving apart and if this continues it could eventually break its back. Plans were made to rebuild the bridge but environmentalists objected and at a public inquiry it was decided the bridge should be strengthened, retaining its present appearance. But Government engineers came up against insuperable technical problems in the use of the cast-iron parapets and have suggested cast-steel instead. 78 06 15

1979 11 02
County council engineers have devised a new method to strengthen the 150-year-old Magdalene Bridge in Cambridge without altering its appearance. If Government finances permit work will start in July, more than 13 years after the bridge was closed to buses and other heavy traffic because of its unsound condition. The rebuilding has been surrounded by controversy since cracks were detected in the under-structure. A public inquiry in 1971 agreed that the new bridge should resemble the old one as far as possible but a long wrangle developed over the appearance and complex legal issues were involved because it is an ancient structure.

1980

1981 03 10
Magdalene Bridge to be strengthened; Bailey Bridge erected alongside – [3.5]

1982 12
Magdalene Bridge reopens, costs had risen from £50,000 to £545,000 [3.5]

1986 06 13
Victoria Bridge is rusting away. The 97-year old structure has taken a battering from heavy vehicles over the years, despite a lorry ban and weight limit. It is in such a bad state of repair that it needs to be entirely rebuilt – a project which will cause chaos for 18 months. Engineers hope to keep traffic moving by repairing half the bridge at a time. All the county's other 2,000 bridges are also being inspected 86 06 13

1989 11 28
New cycle bridge - longest of type in Western Europe opens: The new South East Cycleway from Market Square to Cherry Hinton follows quiet back roads, avoiding the nightmarish Mill Road which can reduce cyclists to a nervous wreck. It includes a new £2million bridge across the railway near Cambridge station. This is a striking structure with a triangular tower from which cables support a cycle and walkway fully protected from the elements by a transparent polycarbonate tube. It is thought to be the longest bridge of its type in Western Europe. 89 11 28a, 29

1990 08 24
Trinity College erect Bailey bridge across river during underground extension to college library – 90 08 24a

1990 07 27
Victoria Bridge refurbishment plan – 90 07 27a

1990 08 18
Victoria Bridge restoration to start – 90 08 18a

1990 09 14
Victoria Bridge girders revealed during rebuilding – 90 09 14a

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M.J.Petty A Chronicle of Cambridge News 1888-

Inspection of C.U.O.T.C. motor cycle section *74.59*

c.45.4 : Cambridge Military Activity 1897 to 1913

1897 04 26
The officers of the 3rd (Cambs) Volunteer Battalion Suffolk Regiment has issued an appeal for subscriptions to enable them to build a new armoury. The present headquarters in Corn Exchange street are totally inadequate for the requirements of the corps. The present is a good year for patriotic effort. The Volunteer Force is no longer on its trial; it occupies an important place in the scheme of military defences; and we have much pleasure in commending the movement just initiated to the general consideration of the public - Editorial - 1897 04 26

1897 07 09
The annual inspection of the Third (Cambs) Volunteer Battalion, Suffolk Regiment took place at the University Rifle Range. Various battalion movements were executed and the the inspection concluded with a sham fight in which the cycling section and the machne gun were opposed to the main body of the troops. The sham fight would have been done better if the non-commissioned officers in charge of the sections had not repeated the words too quickly - 1897 07 09

1897 11 13

On Saturday night a Western force was advancing on Cambridge from the direction of St Neots and an Eastern force had been assembled to protect the town. They established a line of outposts from Coton to Barton church. At about three o'clock the opposing forces came into collision. The first firing took place in Barton village. Barton hill formed a strong point in the defence and here Colonel Cronin, much assisted by the Maxim-guns made a prolonged stand, but the numerical superiority of the attacking force compelled him at length to retire, fighting hard - 1897 11 13

1898 04 25
The third meeting of the Eastern District Tactical Society was held at Newmarket and orders issued for an exercise in the open country. The general idea was that a Western army was advancing from Cambridge with the object of driving an Eastern army out of Bury St Edmunds. This gave commanders of regiments some useful experience in the organisation of columns of march, some of the troops being supposed to be located at Cambridge, and others around Newmarket. On Thursday the central position was Cheveley, and the outpost were formed along the line, Limekilns, Cheveley, Kirtling. The members of the Society were engaged in working out the dispositions, and the exercises concluded with some general remarks on the action supposed to follow CDN 1898 04 25

1899 05 08
Coldham's Common, Cambridge where the Suffolk Regiment is to undergo its annual training is a scene of bustle and animation, the recruits of the regiment having arrived to go through their musketry course before the whole regiment assembles. The camp occupiers the whole of the town side of the common. The officers quarters are situated at the bridge end and extend in three rows to the railway. There are the usual latrines and cooking paraphernalia. In this regiment the old earthen ovens are to be abolished, and army cooking ranges, and an ingenious device known as the Aldershot oven substituted. A hospital tents is, of course, an item

1899 10 16
Home there are today in the town and county of Cambridge which are without a head because husbands and fathers have responded to the call upon Reserves to join their regiments. Cambridgeshire has already made a significant contribution to the British strength in South Africa, while those left behind are in deepest anxiety as to the safety of their absent ones. We owe it to ourselves as Englishmen to see that the wives and children do not suffer in material comfort because the breadwinners have gone forth to fight. Many are reduced to living upon the Government allowance of a few shilling in the week. We would take the liberty of suggesting that the Mayor Of Cambridge should open a fund for the families of Reserve men and the active interest of Alderman Kett makes it appropriate that he should put himself at the head of the movement. – Editorial 1899 10 16

1899 10 22
From a Cambridge man at the front, Pietermaritzburg, South Africa. "I am out here now and we have to go up to the Transval and pump some lead for Kruger, and I hope to present a lock of his whiskers to our Fitzwilliam Museum. There are plenty of Cambridge lads out here in the Fifth Lancers who have just gone up to Ladysmith. Every man has 109 round of lead & I have been selected to fill the post of stretcher bearer to pick up dead or wounded comrades; but perhaps I might be picked up myself. I hope to come out safe and I won't forget Kruger's whiskers" - Paddy Hopkins c1899 10 22

1899 10 23
The war in South Africa has already levied toll upon Cambridge. Among those who were killed at Glencoe was Private J. Best, whose parents reside here, and on the list of the wounded at Elands

Laagte is Lance Cororal Henry Turner, a Cambridge man. Their relatives have the very sincere sympathy of the people of Cambridge. Whether the end of this war come soon or comes late, it will have cost the British Army dear. Already hundreds of brave fellows have found their graves among the hills of Natal 1899 10 23

1899 11 04
Two more constables of the Cambridge police force have received notice to join their regiments preparatory to leaving for South Africa. These are P.C.s John Waylett and Goodchild. The former left Cambridge by train, being accompanied to the station by Sergt Baker and eight of his comrades in the police force. As the train steamed out of the station three cheers for the gallant 44th were lustily given by the policemen 1899 11 04

1899 11 06
The announcement that a number of Reserve men belonging to the Suffolk Regiment would leave Cambridge to join the regiment sufficed to bring thousands of people together in the Market Hill to give them a hearty send off. . It detracted somewhat from the picturesqueness of the effect that the Reserve men were not in uniform but in their ordinary clothes but they could not have evoked greater enthusiasm on the part of the public. Heads of colleges were there, undergraduates in caps and gowns rubbed shoulders with farm workers form the country. Old soldiers wearing their medals had come to live over again stirring scenes from their youth. Women were there and children also. It was a crowd thoroughly resolved upon manifesting its goodwill to the men who were going away 1899 11 06

1899 11 13
Cambridge has got a long railway station, but there would not have been an inch of standing room to spare on the platform if all the people who desired to get in had been permitted to do so. Shortly before noon the procession of Reservists arrived and from that time till the train left all was wild excitement. The difficulty was to get the men who were leaving away from their friends, and in the long run there was nothing for it but to effect something like a forcible separation. Eventually, amid vociferous cheering the train got away and the defenders of the country were fairly on their way to do the country's bidding 1899 11 13

1899 11 25
The London Scottish Rifle Volunteers arrived in Cambridge for the purpose of engaging with the University Volunteer Corps in certain field operations. The idea was for the Scots to gain an entrance to Cambridge. The University Volunteers marched in the direction of Shelford, where they expected to meet the attacking force. The opposing forces formed up at Caius College Farm and then proceeded via Hills Road to Cambridge - 1899 11 25

1899 11 27
Following their manoeuvres at Shelford the London Scottish Rifle Volunteers had a further engagement with the University corps in the vicinity of Caius Farm, near the Gog Magogs. The Scots marched out to occupy the farm and were reinforced at Fulbourn by a company of the Newmarket Suffolk Volunteers. The actual firing operations began at 2.45. The farm having been taken the defending and attacking forces were formed up in line and the march home was begun, the Scottish pipers leading the way 1899 11 27

1900

1900 01 20

For the second time since the Boer ultimatum the consequences of war have been brought very close to Cambridge. This morning there was a second demonstration in which Town and Gown joined hands in a common feeling of respect for those who, though not compelled by laws to leave the old country, were nevertheless anxious to lend a hand in the war. Shortly after ten o'clock the special train steamed out of the siding, kisses were blown and the Volunteers who will represent Cambridge at the front were out of sight, but not out of mind CDN 1900 01 20

1900 01 22
Mr G.W. Rawlinson of Mill Road, Cambridge has received a letter from Private Caswell, who is well known in the town. He writes: "at daybreak we attacked the Boers who were holding a low-lying hill from which they poured a very severe fire. We kept steadily on till we were within 100 yards of them, when we fixed bayonets and charged them. In retiring they had to cross a valley. We poured volley after volley into them with deadly effect. Later I was struck on the ankle by a shell which did not burst and which has made be an invalid for a fortnight" - 00 01 21

1900 01 31
Graces are to be submitted to the Senate of Cambridge University to authorise the Vice Chancellor to grant the use of the Senate House for a meeting to consider an increased establishment of the University Rifle Volunteers, and to allow the use of the Senate House as a drill room for recruits at times when it is not required for University purposes - 00 01 31

1900 03 01
The greatest possible excitement followed the receipt of the news of the relief of Ladysmith. The telegrams conveying the announcement was received at the chief Post office shortly after 10 o'clock and the intelligence spread with marvellous rapidity to all parts of the town. When a private wire was posted in the Market Place the excitement was intense. From all approaches people could be seen rushing to get a view of the telegram and the wildest enthusiasm prevailed. The crowd raised hearty cheers and there was much waving of hats and handkerchiefs - 00 03 01

1900 03 03
There was great rejoicings in Cambridge on the relief of Ladysmith and despite the edict sent forth by the University authorities the conduct of the undergraduate element was again such as to necessitate the intervention of the police. The Varsitymen managed to draw police attention off the market place to scenes elsewhere and, during their temporary absence, succeeded in lighting a bonfire. There was great excitement as one by one the wooden frameworks of the stalls was committed to the flames. The band-stand on Christ's Pieces was attacked and the seats removed to the Market and quickly consumed. Similar damage was occasioned in all parts of the town - 00 03 03

1900 03 08
The first khaki wedding in Cambridge was held at St Botolph's church. The bride was attired in regulation khaki tight-fitting bodice, braided Hussar, with braid to match, khaki straw hat, trimmed with white chiffon and silk. She wore a spray of orange blossom and carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley and snowdrops, covered with maidenhair fern. The bridesmaids wore khaki shirts with silk tunics to match. They also wore scarlet shoes and hats - 00 03 08

1900 04 04
Private Percy Darby, one of the Cambridge men serving in South Africa, describes the rations of an ordinary fighting man. They got two biscuits for a day's rations, and as for bread he had not seen any for a month. The number of prisoners coming into the English camp made matters worse for our troops had to give half their rations to the captured enemy. He saw two wagon loads of

dead Highlanders brought into the camp. “They looked horrible; their heads and legs hanging over the sides of the wagon as blue and black as anything. They buried 59 of them in one long grave and it made me feel quite bad” - 00 04 04

1900 05 19
Cambridge has suffered intense anxiety regarding the welfare of Baden-Powell and his gallant men who for the past seven months have been locked up in Mafeking. It was about ten when the glad news was first made known regarding the relief and people began to assemble in crowds to await with baited breath the confirmation. The some half-doze individuals emerged from Sidney Street and their lusty cheers led many to the conclusion that the garrison had really been relieved. As the little crowd moved along the streets the cheering increased, and people seemed intoxicated with excitement - 00 05 19

1900 05 21
In Cambridge every precaution had been taken to keep the great bonfire on Midsummer Common intact until the news of the relief of Mafeking had been confirmed, and special constables barricaded the enclosure within which the wood and other material had been stacked. Subsequently another posse of police constables arrived and the pile was made practically secure. There were attempts to fire it, however. Matches, vestas in particular, were in great demand and there seemed a determination on the part of many to have a blaze. One young man procured a box of matches, lighted them and then threw the burning mass on the brushwood. The police promptly scaled the fence and extinguished the flames. Tomorrow night we will light the biggest bonfire that has ever been seen in Cambridge - 00 05 21

1900 05 21
Cambridge has celebrated the relief of Mafeking and it has done it right nobly. There was no recurrence of the riotous scene witnessed on the occasion of the relief of Ladysmith, no destruction of property. This was due to one thing, the discretion shown by the powers that be in organising a bonfire on Midsummer Common. People poured in in thousands from the country in anticipation of the festivities and so great was the influx that some streets were rendered well night impassable. Still, the crowds were orderly and the police had no difficulty regulating the traffic - 00 05 21

1900 10 31
Mrs Doggett, of Gt Eastern Street, Cambridge, has received a letter from her son in South Africa, who has been a prisoner. He sent his mother a South African caterpillar with a rose. On arrival the rose had disappeared, and the letter was partially eaten. The caterpillar was very thin, but alive - 00 10 31

1900 11 26
On Saturday the Inns of Court Mounted Infantry joined the Cambridge University Rifles in a field day on the Newmarket Road. The tactical scheme presumed that a convoy from Newmarket was desirous of entering Cambridge along the main road through Quy and south of Fen Ditton. The CURV were told to attack, capture, hamper or destroy this convoy. Most interesting operations followed with cyclists, horsemen and infantry all fully employed. As dusk set in the convoy seized its opportunity and slipped past. The public schools and town and local corps were unable to attend at the last moment as their rifles had been called in for Government inspection - 00 11 26

1901 04 06

The special manoeuvres for cycling troops began on Good Friday. Frequent bright sunshine made the day a pleasant one for the riders traversing the Essex roads and it is to be regretted that the numbers participating have not proved so large as anticipated. The Home District Force's expected thousand cyclists have diminished by quite three hundred. The great purposes is to learn whether it is possible to employ with advantage cyclist troops in large bodies for the defence of the country, using them against the flanks and rear of an advancing enemy. The general idea is that an enemy landed at Aldeburgh has send forth a cycling forced reconnoitring towards London; while the Home Army has sent out a similar force towards the invaders to keep them in check whilst the ordinary troops are taking up their positions as a defending line - 01 04 06

1901 05 03
A large gathering of Post Office employees bade farewell to three of their number who have recently received appointments as telegraphists in South Africa. They might be sent to any part of an unsettled country and it was though an appropriate token of goodwill would be a weapon of self-defence. Accordingly three revolvers were purchased and presented to H. Emmerson, H. Winny and E.W. Gee. They hoped the only use they would have of them would be to hang them over the mantelpiece and look at them while they smoked - 01 05 03

1901 05 06
Today Cambridge formally recognises and honours the loyalty of her sons who have been at the war in South Africa. The arrival of the Volunteers at Cambridge Station was very quiet and orderly. There were no decorations but a barrier had been drawn across the platform & as time wore on the railway officials became more stringent as to whom they allowed within. There was excitement as a train was seen slowing steaming in with khaki-coloured arms and bronzed faces thrust out of the windows and in another minute the men were standing on the platform, after fifteen months' experience of war and travelling - 01 05 06

1901 05 07
Sanguine people imagined that the rejoicing for the return of the South African Volunteers would pass off quietly. A parental Corporation had taken the wise precaution to secure materials for a fine bonfire on Midsummer Common to prevent the destruction of property. This time it was a plan doomed to partial failure. The fire was comparatively short-lived and undergraduates found a wealth of additional fuel in King Street where a wooden hoarding was dragged off to the Common and triumphantly flung upon the bonfire. Policemen stood guard over the bandstand on Christ's Pieces - 01 05 07

1901 05 21
Sir – I learn with surprise that the starting of the proposed Cyclist Volunteer Company at Cambridge is "hung up" and may be abandoned owing to an insufficient number of names having been sent in. I hope we shall be able to prevent such a conspicuous admission of the want of patriotism on the part of Cambridge cyclists. We ought not to lag behind Bury St Edmunds where they are organising a company. Ten more names are wanted to make up the 75 required. – A Would-Be Cyclist Volunteer - - 01 05 21

1902 10 25
Not long ago the remotest of all probabilities seemed to be that a time would come when, at Cambridge, Briton and Boer would grasp hands in perfect concord. Yet that strange event has come to pass. Boers visited and received a cordial welcome from a large number of people. But unfortunately their reception by a certain section of the inhabitants had neither the element of cordiality nor of welcome. The appearance of our former foes was the signal for a hostile demonstration. A huge crowd gathered in front of the Auckland Road Circus to witness the

arrival of the Generals, whose visit was to raise money to restock Boer farms. Bricks and stones were hurled upon the zinc roof and hooting and shouting mingled with the other noises. - 02 10 25

1903 01 20
The visit of General Sir John French will remain memorable for his reception by all sections of the inhabitants. The famous cavalry leader was sought after, first at the railway station when he arrived and later when he proceeded to the Guildhall where he received the freedom of the Borough. Lord Kitchener's is the first name on the roll of Cambridge Freemen and its fitting that the name of General French should follow his illustrious Commander in the South African war. Many who have already been presented with the freedom have served under him and learned to admire him as an ideal commander who never asked them to do what he was not prepared to do himself. - 03 01 20

1904 01 22
Discussion about site for War Memorial, one suggestion is at junction of Hills Road & Station Road, finally decide to erect it at East end exterior of Gt St Mary's church – 04 01 22 [1.10]

1904 09 06
Three Cambridge lads were charged with committing damage to the Cambridge Volunteer Corps rifle butts. Quartermaster-Sergt Rumbolt said that no sooner had shooting concluded than these boys invaded the butts and pulled the earthwork about in their search for bullets. This is a great nuisance and a great deal of expense has been incurred in restoring them. The Corps could obtain £20 per ton for the bullets - 04 09 06

1904 09 09
Our Special Correspondent gives a graphic account of the days fighting at the Essex manoeuvres which resulted in the defeat of the defenders and the fall of Colchester. The Bedfordshires had just entrenched themselves when suddenly the sentries gave the alarm that the enemy was upon them in the darkness. They endeavoured to make a stand and began firing vigorously but General French attacked with nearly a whole division and in the end they had to clear out of their camp or be captured. – 04 09 09 et seq

1905 02 11
Mock battle between CURV & HAC – 05 02 11[1.11]

1905 05 23
The memorial to the men of Cambridge who fell in the South African War has been completed. It takes the form of a brass tablet designed by Mr W.W. Fawcett affixed to the wall of Great St Mary's church. It is surrounded by stone moulding surmounted by the badge of the Suffolk Regiment but commemorates all local men who died in the war. 05 05 23 [NI.3.22]

1905 06 09
Some 500 working men have been spending a very pleasant month under canvas just outside Colchester. They have been comfortably housed in spacious bell tents, fed on the best of food and entertained between meals by military exercises, shooting competitions and the like. Nor has the holiday been an expensive one. On the contrary each man has received a shilling a day pocket money. In other words the 4th Battalion (Cambs) Suffolk Regiment have been enjoying their annual training. 05 06 09

1905 06 13

The memorial to the Cambridge men who died during the South African War was unveiled at Great St Mary's Church. It is not inside the church but looks out upon the Market Place, seeming to say that in the midst of life we were in death. A guard of honour consisting of a hundred men of the Cambridge Town Volunteers together with a detachment of the Suffolk Militia, a dismounted body of Hussars, Cambridge University Rifle Volunteers and the band of the Scots Grays joined old soldiers who had seen service in South Africa to witness the proceedings 05 06 13c

1905 06 17
The unveiling of the South African war memorial was marred by two small incidents. The Mayor of Cambridge was without his trusty mace-bearers - apparently the maces were securely locked up and the individual who holds the keys was not to be found. Then police failed to recognise the military veterans and refused them admittance to the ceremony to which they had been invited. There was a considerable amount of confusion until the constables were enlightened as to the nature of the guests and allowed them to pass. 05 06 17

1906 03 08
A miniature rifle range for Morris tube practice opened on the premises of Mr W.H. Rickwood. It is central, comfortable and contains all the essential points of a good range, making it a valuable addition to the equipment of the Ely Volunteers. To make the Empire safe it was important that every man could shoot and shoot straight. Capt Stuart, the new Militia adjutant formally opened it by firing down the range and Lieut Bullock also shot. 06 03 08e

1906 03 08
The Battle of Haggis and Dumpling Farms took place on Wednesday. They stand on either side of the road from Coton to Grantchester and here the Cambridge and Oxford University Rifle Volunteer Corps engaged in an interesting encounter. About 1,800 combatants included cadets from the Leys and County Boys Schools, with mounted infantry and cycle contingents on both sides. The rifle fire was continuous and maxim guns added their sinister bark to the noise. Fortunately the weather was fine. 06 03 08a & b

1906 03 15
The militia assembled at Ely barracks for training. Recruit numbers are a record: it provides men with a healthy enjoyable holiday and brings them in winter, when wages are low and work scarce, a bounty which must prove acceptable. They are paid a shilling a day, a sum that scores of farm labourers would regard as munificent. They also receive certain articles of clothing and boots which they are allowed to retain and last till the next training. The barracks have a pleasant recreation room and good food, regular hours, drill and discipline improve the men both physically and morally. 06 03 15d

1906 04 02
Patrick Canty was born in County Kerry and fought at Sebastopol during the Crimean campaign when he went to the rescue of a French general and was awarded the Legion of Honour, one of the few Irishmen to have received that medal. He emigrated to the USA before coming to Cambridge as licensee of the Crown and Harp pub in John Street. 06 04 02

1906 05 09
A most regrettable accident occurred at Ely Conservative Club garden party to inaugurate the new Morris Tube range and bowling green. Part of the proceedings consisted of a shooting competition for ladies on the indoor miniature range. A number had shot when a rifle held by Mrs J.S. Barnett accidentally exploded and the bullet struck her husband in the neck while he was

writing his wife's name on the target. Fortunately the wound was not serious but it spread horror and dismay over the gathering 06 05 09b

1906 07 31
A rifle range was opened at Abington by Mr Binney. After firing a few shots he said we imagine that our insular position made England unassailable. We have not suffered the disaster of blockade and do not realise what a dangerous position this island is in. In other countries shooting took the place of our cricket and football. Every man ought to be able to handle a rifle and this was a move in the right direction. 06 07 31b

1906 08 11
The British Army of the future will possess a body of men unique in the history of warfare. 'The Legion of Frontiersmen' are men prepared to take their part in operations in time of war, guiding and scouting rather than fighting; not so much soldiers as guerrillas. They include J.H. Thornton of Teversham and W. McArthur of Quy who took part in the suppression of the American Indian rebellion. The uniform includes khaki pants, dark blue shirt and a Stetson hat with a loosely-slung cartridge belt and revolver. 06 08 11a & b

1906 10 06
Joseph Moule was a veteran of the Crimea but rarely talked of his hardships in the trenches outside Sebastopol or of the stirring relief of Lucknow. Then as one of the gallant 90th Foot he was one of the hardened campaigners who went direct from the perils of the Crimea to the horrors of the Indian Mutiny. He expired suddenly at his home in Mill Road aged 72, thus the ranks of veterans get thinner and thinner 06 10 06

1907 09 09
General Sir John French and 80 army officers arrived in Cambridge by special train with 27 cars containing Army Motor Reserve officers joining them at Trinity College from all parts of the country. They are part of the 'Blue' army, a Continental power capable of mobilising three million troops, which has landed on the East coast after 'Redland' – the UK – lost command of the sea. The exercise is designed to give the higher commanders an opportunity of considering the strategical problems and working out tactics. 07 09 09

1907 09 14
Cambridge is taking very placidly the invasion of East Anglia by a foreign foe under the command of that redoubtable warrior, Sir John French. The brilliant cavalry leader is comfortably ensconced in rooms at Trinity College and in the quietude of the Great Court can carry out his plans for the annihilation of the British troops. 07 09 14 [1.12]

1907 11 02
The old Volunteer force has ceased to exist after a splendid record of 50 years' service. Now territorial battalions will be under county organisations and in touch with the county line battalions on the one hand and the civilian population on the other. In Cambridgeshire the Lord Lieutenant, Viscount Clifden, has already invited a number of county gentlemen, military and civilian, to confer with him. Unless it has the hearty support of all classes there would be no alternative to compulsory military service.07 11 02 & a, c, d

1907 11 08
A miniature rifle range just opened at the Beaconsfield Club is equipped with the best Winchester rifles. It is the first duty of every citizen to learn to use a rifle and the club should have a useful existence. In the warfare of the future everybody should be able to handle a rifle, move about

with the lightest possible equipment and be able to seek cover when there is no advantage to be gained by being marked in the open. 07 11 08 & a

1907 12 04
"The Fighting Fullers" were three brothers who served in the Indian Mutiny and the Crimean War. John Fuller who lives at Newton fought at the Alma, Balaclava and Sebastopol. His brother James was invalidated out of the army with a pension of 8d a day – which a grateful country halved. But Lord Wolseley sent him £5 and got the pension raised to 9d. Nathan Fuller was wounded by a piece of shell but in those days the British soldier had to endure suffering bravely and he could not be spared from the fighting to go to hospital. Later he lost all his toe nails from frost bite. 07 12 04 & a

1908 01 10
Everybody in Cambridgeshire is concerned in the attempt to induce the War Office to retain the 4th Battalion Suffolk Regiment, better known as the Cambs Militia. It now only trains once a year and inculcates habits of discipline to the men who join. During the Napoleonic wars it had an exciting time and went to Ireland in 1799. In 1816 they assisted the Royal Dragoons to overpower the Littleport rioters but by 1852 there was only an old sergeant major and some antiquated sergeants at Ely. 08 01 10 h i - more history

1908 02 15
Colonel Barnet William Beales of Sidney Street, was a splendid type of local patriot. He was a pioneer in the Cambridge Volunteers, treasurer of the Church Defence Association and churchwarden of St Michael's. To mention all the associations of his long and honourable career would involve re-telling many pages of Cambridge history but he found time for the duties of an Income Tax Commissioner and the Panton Brewery. Nine years ago he was knocked down by a retriever dog and never completely recovered. 08 02 15f

1908 03 19
Military manoeuvres attracted considerable attention. One force, including Perse School cadets, was ordered to hold the line of the Cam from Trumpington to the Mill Inn, Hauxton. Timber and cordage was seized from some scaffolding and the engineering section constructed a bridge sufficient to have carried Cavalry. The whole of the Cambridge University mounted infantry was captured, which would have had disastrous results in a real war. 08 03 19a

1908 03 28
Volunteer colours to GSM, history – 08 03 28c 08 03 31 & a & b - RC

1908 04 01
More than 1000 people gathered on Cambridge Market Hill at midnight to witness the official extinction of the Third (Cambs) Volunteer Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment. As the clock chimed the buglers played 'The Last Post' and the Volunteers were no more. But after a few seconds 'Reveille' was sounded, melancholy vanished and cheers greeted the new Cambridgeshire Battalion of the Territorial Force. The bugle band played the officers back to the mess room where they sang 'Auld Lang Syne' 08 04 01 a & b

1908 05 16
An appeal to the patriotism of members of the University is never made in vain. Scenes of the greatest enthusiasm reigned in the Senate House when the Secretary of State for War appealed to the University to do its part is supplying the deficiency of about 8,000 officers in the Army. The science of war had progressed and they fought not with a rabble but with organised bodies of men

on a great scale who went through the opposing forces without resistance. An Officer's Training Corps gave a man a second opportunity: if he went to the bar and did not like it, then he could become an Army officer. 08 05 16 & a

1908 06 27
Cavalry on exercise "repelling German invasion" – 08 06 27 [1.13]

1908 07 03
The Lensfield club's new miniature rifle range off Newmarket Road was opened by Colonel Harding. Membership had risen from six to 100 in a year, it was a step towards handling the service rifle and ammunition and taking an interest in the Territorial Army. Now they wanted a new pavilion. CWN 08 07 03 p5

1908 09 11
A miniature rifle range and air rifle club has been formed in connection with the Church of England Young Men's Society at their large room in St Edward's Passage. The two targets can be placed in two positions – for shooting standing up or lying down – and two good air rifles have been provided. Englishmen should learn to shoot in order to defend their own hearths and homes and the Corporation should establish a range open almost all hours of the day. CWN 08 09 11 p8

1908 09 25
If the safety of England can be gauged by her miniature rifle clubs, then England must be safe indeed. Everywhere these little societies of keen shots have been springing up like mushrooms and nowhere has been more prolific than Cambridge. The latest club meets at the Bell Inn, Newmarket Road and already has a membership of 50. They would learn not only to hit the bull's eye at practice, but in times of dire necessity to shoot straight at other targets and so keep their land intact in case of invasion. CWN 09 09 25 p3

1908 11 13
For several hours the district between Lord's Bridge and Haslingfield was the scene of warfare which, had it been real, would have strewn the countryside with dead and dying. The C.U. Officers' Training Corps was joined by the Leys, Perse, Cambridge County and other schools as several hundreds of troops, cavalry, infantry and engineers were engaged. The idea was that a hostile army was retiring towards Royston and being harried by the home army. Their retreat was attended with difficulty since all the bridges over the Cam were destroyed and fords existed for mounted troops only - 08 11 13

1909 01 22
The new Abbey miniature rifle range opened in the grounds of the coffee tavern at 158, Newmarket Road. The eight targets, which can be set and returned for inspection by a winding mechanism, are illuminated by incandescent gas burners and the building is absolutely fireproof. It is hoped to build a pavilion and to have an open-air range in the summer. The district can now boast of two clubs, the other being at the 'Bell'. 09 01 22

1909 01 22
The Saxon Cement Works' Miniature Rifle Range was opened by Major Bourke, of Rorke's Drift fame. It has a range of up to fifty yards where rifle shooting may be practiced in fair weather and foul, in daytime or at night, electricity affording the requisite illumination. In rain the bull's eyes are accessible to the bullet fired from the verandah of a comfortable club house. Every member possesses his own rifle. 09 01 22

1909 02 05
In military exercises around Grantchester the University Officer Training Corps attacked Dumpling Hall, near Haggis Gap Farm. Engineers rapidly and noiselessly constructed a bridge of boats across the river and the force advanced over the fields. The night promised to be foggy but turned out bright and starlight with a strong moon so the troops were unusually conspicuous. By the time they arrived the enemy general who had been based there had managed to escape 09 02 05

1909 02 19
The gallant band of old soldiers who fought in the Crimea and the Indian Mutiny gets smaller every year. Cambridge man James Gray died in the workhouse, where the poor are so well looked after and was buried at Mill Road cemetery. There was no time to arrange for a military funeral but Captain Heal sent a large Union Jack to be placed on the coffin. Four members of the Territorial Force volunteered to act as pall bearers but assembled at Newmarket Road cemetery. On realising their mistake they drove to Mill Road which they reached just after the sorrowful ceremony had concluded and the mourners had left 09 02 19

1909 02 19
Airships were the real menace, Burwell Rifle Club was told. Foreign nations had an immense number of them capable of living up in the air for 48 hours away from their base. They could carry half a ton of dynamite. They could not dodge over floating ironclads and attack them but they could drop dynamite into our naval dockyards and a navy without a base was not a navy at all. The authorities in the United States were very worried about them 09 02 19

1909 03 05
During military night operations around Cambridge residents were discomforted by the activity of an eight-inch howitzer entrenched in a capitally-constructed earth fort on the high ground of Madingley Hill. It was attacked by the Cambridge University officer Training Corps who found the rush uphill on the double was too long and exhausting. There was the danger of troops arriving out of breath and in scattered formation being charged with the bayonet. So they marched across country, crossing fences and ditches in silence. After the roar of an explosion, symbolising the destruction of the howitzer they retired to Coton 09 03 05

1909 06 11
It is a surprise that Cambridge has long been immune from the raids of the 'scareship'. There are splendid places such as the roof of King's College chapel where a Zeppelin might find a lovely anchorage. Now a flag flaunting an eagle rampant has been picked up in the dead of night. This gaudy tinselled thing lies stowed away in the police station bearing the inscription 'This flag, believed to have been dropped from an airship, was found on Midsummer Common'. Nervous readers should be assured that it is a flimsy trifle, two inches square, and it is thought improbable that the owners will return in search of their missing property 09 06 11 [1.14]

1909 11 19
The latest addition to the numerous miniature rifle clubs has been formed in connection with the Loyal Suffolk Hussars at Ye Olde Castel Hotel, St Andrew's Street. - CWN 09 11 19

1910

1910 01 28
A meeting was held to encourage British breeders to supply the British Army with British horses. They were woefully short of them: the number required in case of mobilisation was 129,000. The

bus horse had been the most valuable immediate supply but these were now almost entirely extinct so the army hired horses during the 14 days annual training. An Imperial Horse Society should be established, the Master of the Cambridgeshire Hounds told farmers. 10 01 28 & a

1910 02 25
The high ground near Cherry Hinton was the scene of some interesting military operations. For several hours the Gogs resounded with the crackle of rifle fire and the thunder of artillery as the tide of battle rolled slowly from Reservoir Hill past the Golf Links until arrested at Limepit Hill. The operations supposed that the Great Eastern Railway line was the frontier between two states which had mobilised their troops. A cavalry brigade at Newmarket was reinforced by some infantry and guns and Fulbourn was fortified. 10 02 25m & n

1910 03 04
OTC successful night attack -10 03 04j & k

1910 07 15
Henry James, a watercress seller from River Lane, was accused of searching for spent bullets in the soil at the Rifle Butts without having permission of the Commanding Officer of the Cambridgeshire Regiment. He'd got some girls to help to pick up about 6lbs of bullets that he'd sold to Mr Charles Carless, a marine store dealer of Broad Street. Two boys were also cautioned for picking up bullets. The Territorial Army said a good deal of damage had been done to the Rifle Butts by people picking up the bullets and they wanted to stop people buying them 10 07 15b

1910 11 11
A convoy, broken-down and captured by the enemy near Cantelupe Farm Haslingfield formed the objective of some interesting operations by the University Officer Training Corps and a small force of public school boys from the Leys School. The Cambridge garrison were very short of fuses and a convoy of wagons, disguised as manure carts had tried to reach them. But the horses became exhausted and they'd been obliged to halt for the night. The commander sent out column 500 strong to bring them in but encountered the opposing cavalry. The Maxim gun detachment did good service, firing from near the inn at Barton 10 11 11c & d

1910 11 18
The rising ground near Histon Station was the scene of operations by the C.U.O.T.C. It included an advance across country by the infantry battalion on a position near the windmill where a very strong gun emplacement had been constructed complete with communications trenches. The attackers crept cautiously to within 50 yards of the position without a sound being heard, then swarmed over the breastworks. A dummy gun was blown up with a thunderous boom which rolled away over the countryside. 10 11 18 & a.

1911 01 27
French inspects members of Cambridge University Officer Training Corps, field day, Gogs – 11 01 27a

1911 01 28
Red Cross Voluntary Aid Detachments formed to complete medical establishment required for Territorial Force in event of invasion – 11 01 28 [1.17]

1911 02 24

The ideas governing military manoeuvres are generally very practical and prosaic, if a trifle far-fetched. But those of the University Officers Training Corps are often diverting. General Stummakoffski had received a wound from the lance of one of his troops which prevented him sitting in the saddle and was forced to continue his flight in a litter, trying to reach Comberton. Firing was carried out at murderously short range and had ball cartridges been used they would have put enough bullets into the litter to have considerably alarmed 'The General' to say the least! 11 02 24c

1911 05 12
The camp of the Loyal Suffolk Hussars Regiment of Yeomanry has been pitched in Grantchester Meadows and already the greater part of the canvas village has been erected and presents a very picturesque appearance. There is a large marquee where men will take their meals and portable wooden buildings for the officers' mess. But it is a long walk into Cambridge and local motor-bus and taxi-cab proprietors and waggonette and cab proprietors might find it worth their while to run a service. There will be something like 500 men in camp and many who will gladly pay to be taken in to town for the evening. 11 05 12

1911 08 04
A public meeting was called to deal with objections over land that might be used during the forthcoming military manoeuvres. But no farmer or landowner attended. This was not due to apathy but to the methods adopted by the authorities for making the meeting known. No notice was inserted in Cambridge newspapers so the majority of the population remained ignorant. There would be danger of abortions in breeding ewes and any stock should be removed. Civil compensation offices will adjudicate in any dispute. Engineers will report on all roads before and after the manoeuvres and meet local authorities with regard to any damage caused. 11 08 04g

1911 08 25
The proposed army manoeuvres have been abandoned due to the drought. This is a disappointment to local tradesmen. The tender of G.P. Hawkins had been accepted for the supply of bread to troops expected at Cambridge, Gt Wilbraham, Babraham, Fulbourn and elsewhere. Bicycles hired for the use of the advance party engaged in constructing telegraphs were returned to Robinson's bicycle showroom. The Royal Engineers encamped near Whittlesford station will take down the telegraph posts and wires already erected. Landlords of village inns have cause to regret the abandonment for the advance party of troops had evidenced a liking for a variation of camp fare. 11 08 25b

1911 09 01
Large crowds have witnessed successful flights during the week by the Army airmen encamped at Hardwick. Lieut. Cammell, flying his own Bleriot monoplane, was expected to arrive from Hendon shortly after dark on Friday night and petrol flares were lit on the camp ground which acted at once as beacons and as a guide to the most convenient place to land. But at Baldock he ran into a storm and was compelled to alight. He arrived early next morning. He later made another flight when the sight of the aerial monster combined with the noise it created terrified some farm horses. 11 09 01 (see also c. 26.1 for other accounts of flying in connection with the manoeuvres)

1911 11 24
The Intelligence Department of the War Office have been busy making a minute return of everything likely to be of use in case of war. The number of horses available, places suitable for camps, locality of wells, blacksmiths' shops and farms have all been noted. Cambridge would be a great medical base and a Red Cross hospital would receive medical and surgical cases from all

the county hospitals in East Anglia. The headquarters of the surgical division would be at King's College and the medical wards in the Senate House. The nurses would be quartered in Downing College. 11 11 24c

1912 01 19
Everyone should be able to live in safety in their own homes without fear of being murdered or having their property stolen, Prof Ridgeway told a packed meeting at Fen Ditton. The object of the National Service League was to make sure of the defensive powers of this country, so that if any force should land the forces of this nation should be able to repel them and destroy them, and keep the homes of the people in safety. The audience expressed their approval. 12 01 19e

1912 03 08
Members of the University Officers' Training Corp together with the Leys, Perse and County School O.T.C. took part in night operations with the Honorary Artillery Company from London. A brisk engagement in the vicinity of Arbury Camp culminated in the capture and blowing-up of a gun posted at the windmill near Histon station. The night was not favourable for a surprise attack, the moon was shining brightly and the defenders opened fire. Soon a brisk musketry duel was in progress. 12 03 08b

1912 04 12
A parade of past and present members of the Forces presented a very pretty spectacle. First came the Yeomanry in dark green uniforms with red and yellow facings, then came a blaze of scarlets – the 1st Cambridgeshires - followed by the Medicals in dark grey with maroon facings. Bringing up the rear the National Reserve with several veterans, including a Lancer, proudly wearing their uniforms, a fine body of men fit and ready to shoulder rifle again in defence of hearth and home if need be. Overnight they were accommodated in the Corn Exchange, where they were provided with straw palliasses and blankets. 12 04 12c

1912 04 19
Newmarket was only 53 miles from the sea. If a hostile force landed on the Suffolk coast a stand might be made at Needham Market and a battle might take place at Bury St Edmunds resulting in 1,100 casualties. Where would they be taken, fed and nursed? Voluntary Aid Detachments trained men and women to give aid to the sick and wounded in the event of this country being invaded. Otherwise they would be neglected and left to look after themselves, Newmarket section of the British Red Cross Society was told 12 04 19 & a

1912 07 26
"Expect 40 wounded men 3 o'clock" read the telegram received by Croxton detachment of the British Red Cross Society. It appeared the army had been engaged with a force of the enemy near St Neots and as a result 40 men were wounded. By the time they arrived at Croxton Park the hospital camp had been pitched and everything was in readiness – stores, a kitchen and operating tent. The sufferers – members of the Croxton and Eltisley Boy Scouts - were treated by 80 men and women who had turned up. There was only one real casualty during the exercise – a child was bitten by a dog.12 07 26b & c

1912 07 26
The Army Manoeuvres centred on Cambridge are the most important in the country for a considerable time. They will be a searching test of the scheme for the defence of London from an invading army landing on the East Coast. Some 80,000 troops will be engaged so people will see more soldiers and gain a better idea of modern warfare than ever before in their lives. All arms of the service will be involved with a large body of Territorials moving on bicycles to oppose the

invaders, demonstrating their mobility and capacity for swift action. These wheelmen would bear the brunt of the earliest fighting and are capable of covering long distances. 12 07 26g & h

1912 08 30
Army manoeuvres; hostilities next week – 12 08 30i & j

1912 09 06
Manoeuvres begin – Stourbridge common, Linton – 12 09 06h & I; Fighting – detailed report – 12 09 13

1912 09 13
'Manoeuvreitis' – reflections – 12 09 13g

1912 09 13
Manoeuvres – Dash on Grantchester, aircraft crashes, Trumpington street fighting, Newmarket operations – 12 09 13i & j & l training near Fen Ditton, Airship camp, John French visit, cavalry at Royston – 12 09 13h; photos arrival Liverpool Territorials at station, camp at Linton – 12 09 13m; air scouts, Col Cody biplane photo – 12 09 20

1912 09 20
His Majesty the King visited the Hardwick aero camp where he spoke to Colonel S.F. Cody, and inspected his famous biplane. He showed much interest in the position of the propeller, which is behind the pilot and not in front, as in the other biplanes at the camp. The King then commanded Col Cody to make a short exhibition flight. In a few seconds the plane was in the air, making several circuits, flying both high and low before pulling up gracefully within a few yards of the Royal party. The King then inspected the Naval biplanes before leaving. Shortly afterwards Mr de Havilland arrived in a biplane from the 'seat of war' – the manoeuvres around Linton 12 09 20e also 20d, photos 20f, g. Airmen's triumph, Mutlow Hill taken etc – 20h; fighting Horseheath – 20i, Castle Camps – 20j, airship 20k 20l 20n Swaffham Bulbeck see plane, troops based on the Green, Histon – 12 09 20o Swavesey has been little affected by the grand manoeuvres; a plane passed over and on three armed cyclists scouts rode through. But a village man driving a load of crates of empty beer bottles along the Huntingdon Road was captured by a detachment of soldiers. When first challenged he was not inclined to stop, but speedily did so when he had to look down the barrels of rifles. After the cart was overhauled he was allowed to proceed 12 09 20n

1912 10 04
A review of the recent army manoeuvres recognises the value of cyclists as a screen. The Welsh cyclists biked the whole distance from Cardiff in two days. One of the first cyclist corps was started in Cambridge under Major Rhodes. Those of the Cambridgeshire Territorial Battalion are now drawn from Ely but are only a few in number. There are probably more cyclists in Cambridgeshire than any other county and could easily furnish a whole battalion of wheelman. The number of civilian cyclists noticed at the Manoeuvres was really remarkable and they seemed able to follow the troops anywhere and everywhere. 12 10 04e

1912 11 01
Sir – the Territorial cyclist has been used for the first time during the army manoeuvres. There is a battalion in Norfolk, Suffolk and Essex who would be distributed along the coast to repel any enemy landings or fight a delaying action until troops largely dependent upon the railway can arrive. Should there not be a cyclist battalion in Cambs who could proceed to any threatened place as reinforcements? Despite their shortcomings on open ground, the cyclist is the ideal

mobile fighting man for home defence and should take his proper place in our military system – A Cyclist Sergeant 12 11 01f

1912 11 08
The Great Eastern Railway Company accomplished great work during the army manoeuvres running 200 trains to move troops, horses and guns. An engine in steam with an accident van and steam crane was made ready, carpenters prepared to perform any services and the edges of all platforms were whitened with lime. No less than 45 type-written special train notices had to be prepared involving the reproduction of many thousand copies by means of hand rotary machines. Blue paper was used for the inward travel and yellow for the outward. All this without interfering with ordinary passenger traffic 12 11 08

1912 11 22
Battle of Grantchester over swampy meadows – CUOTC night operations cross river by boat bridge – 12 11 22b & c

1913 01 10
Sir – Indirect conscription is one way to increase the efficiency of our forces. We suggest that no undergraduate should take the BA until he has trained as a Territorial. As well as learning to use weapons it would keep them healthy, nimble and strong. This would amount to 2,000 men in three years from Cambridge alone. The same principle should apply to candidates for the Civil Service, Police Force, municipal and railway workers. Employees of private firms do not have the same permanence of employment and could not be made liable. Signed Arthur Gray, A.E. Shipley, W. Cunningham and other Cambridge Academics 13 01 10

1913 01 24
The moon and mud were the most momentous factors in the night military manoeuvres. The searchlight might have played an important part but could not be used at the last moment. But the bright moon meant it was possible to see men half-way across the field they had to cross before attacking the hills between Shelford station and Hills Road where wire entanglements had been prepared and two companies of infantry were waiting. Firing was fast and furious, the big guns and Maxim sounding above the splattering of rifles 13 01 24e

1913 02 21
Boer war veterans reunion – memories 13 02 21 p9 CIP

1913 02 28
The proposal of Cambridge dons that the BA Degree should be made conditional upon service in the Territorial Force has been met with a good deal of ridicule. Degrees and national development proposal met with ridicule 13 02 28 p8 CIP ; poem p6

1913 06 20
Military parade, open-air service Parker's Piece 13 06 20 p5 CIP

1913 08 01
Red Cross VAD detachments had a field day at Newton Hall Park. Shepreth send a complete detachment of both men and women. The village has a pensioned R.A.M.C., Mr A. Smith, who they made Quartermaster and threw himself heartily into the work. He improvised stretchers using ash poles but slings. These are necessary for it is quite impossible for bearers to carry wounded men long distances without them 13 08 01 p2 CIP

1913 10 31
College Servants formed a VAD so they could train to join the First Eastern Hospital. This was at a skeleton stage. Cambridge was an ideal place with all its colleges capable of holding a large number of people. It needed to be run on military lines 13 10 31 p10 CIP

1913 12 05
Following a battle on the Gog Magog Hills an enemy force have camped on Parker's Piece. They know the defeated English volunteers have hidden large supplies of ammunition near between Green End and Biggin Abbey and intend capturing it. But Cambridge Scouts will stop them. Assembling at Barnwell Railway footbridge with marksmen, matches, cycles and signal flags they will find the explosives first and blow it up rather than allow them to get it while Sea Scouts attack the enemy from the river. It should be an interesting field day. 13 12 05 p5 CIP

Armoured motor cars on Market Hill, 1915 *168.07*

c.45.5 : Military activity 1914-1919

These stories principally relate to events in Cambridge itself. They were mainly published in the Cambridge Chronicle and Cambridge Independent Press (CIP). Both were weekly papers issued on the same day. Many of the reports were similar in both.
For a fuller record of stories see 'A Cambridgeshire Scrapbook 1897 to 1990', available on the bit.ly/CambsCollection link.

1914 January

1914 01 16
Territorial recruiting week has seen the Cambridgeshire Regiment up to full strength proving patriotic feeling remains strong and true. The wave of enthusiasm is spreading with recruits coming forward in gratifying numbers in Ely, March and Soham, proving Fenmen are determined not to be outdone in sturdy patriotism by the men of Cambridge. March is experiencing a wonderful revival of military fervour; the numbers had sunk very low but now there is every prospect the Company will be brought up to full strength. – pic Col Louis Tebbutt & Capt H. Littledale, parade outside Gt St Mary's – 14 01 16 j,k,l – 430 recruits

Too Old. The ladies have thrown themselves into the Recruiting Week effort with much enthusiasm and their work has been a pleasing feature. A rather good story is told of a lady who called at various houses in Cambridge, and asked several wives whether their husbands were Territorials. The lady in question asked one comely young wife if her husband was at home, and received a negative answer. She was also informed that the husband was not a Territorial, and the wife expressed her doubts as to whether he would join the citizen army. The lady canvasser noted the number of the house and promised to call on the husband, despite the fact that the

housewife continued to express grave doubts as to whether her husband would enlist. On the occasion of the next visit to the house, the wife's dubious views were realised – the man of the house was an old age pensioner! 14 01 16

1914 February

1914 02 06
After negotiations lasting 18 months' work has finally started on digging the foundations of the new Drill Hall and miniature rifle range on the site of the Technical Institute in East Road. It will have offices for the three Territorial units, stores for the large quantity of mobilisation equipment now needed, lecture rooms and messes. The drill hall will be the largest allowed and the range will allow a good number of targets to be used simultaneously. 14 02 06j [4.19]

1914 02 27
The undulating country between Lord's Bridge and Old North Road Stations was the scene of a sharp engagement between troops of the University Officers' Training Corps and a number of public school OTC contingents. The actual fighting was of a very heavy and determined character with one battle near Quarry Farm, Lt Eversden. The crisp crackle of rifle fire swelled in volume until it became continuous 14 02 27i

1914 March

1914 April

1914 May

Visit of Austro-Hungarian ambassador [455.5a.7]

1914 05 22
Wimpole Park was the scene of a fight for an imaginary buried treasure between members of the C.U. and Leys School O.T.C.s and the 1st Battalion Cambridgeshire Regiment. All the troops travelled from Cambridge in motor cars and motor wagonettes or on motor cycles and bicycles on Saturday night. They carried out a lengthy programme of operations, had breakfast and were back by six next morning. But the exercise was marred by the lack of independent umpires. Nobody knew how things worked out. 14 05 22b & c

1914 June

1914 06 12
The field day and inspection of the Red Cross Voluntary Aid Detachments was held at Linton. At the station railway wagons or carriages were prepared as for the reception of the wounded and the waiting room was fitted up with half a dozen beds with a field kitchen in the goods yard. The platform in the goods shed became a ward for less serious cases and in a siding stood the carriages used for the stretchers containing the wounded. 1914 06 12 p4

1914 06 26 CIP
County school OTC

1914 July

Cambridgeshire Regiment 1st Battalion at full peace strength, 960 assembled for training – RC

1914 07 10
Cambridge Voluntary Aid Detachments and Red Cross held an exercise at Newnham College. It assumed severe fighting had been going on in Norfolk and a large number of casualties had been sent to the First Eastern General Hospital. When another train load of wounded arrived they received orders to convert Sidgwick Hall into a temporary hospital where eleven beds were provided and patients were treated for crushed hands and fractured tibia Other nurses were prepared splints and bandages and a sceptic ward was set up 14 07 10

Red Cross Field Day: a hostile force had landed at Cromer and much fighting was taking place, forcing the First Eastern General Hospital, normally stationed here to transfer to Bedford. Wounded from a make-believe battle near Duxford … were taken by field ambulances to a field hospital at Whittlesford Station where he platform was used for refreshment and for re-bandaging the less serious wounded. Temporary wards were erected in the station yard to be filled with the 'wounded', represented by Perse School Boy Scouts who arrived in railway goods van. 14 07 10

1914 August

Cambridgeshire Regiment mobilised, 5th; contingents from Wisbech, March and Ely travel by train to Cambridge where billeted in schools including Girls County school; colours marched under escort to Gt St Mary's and handed over for safe keeping. Following morning entrained for Romford; officers and men invited to volunteer for service abroad – RC p3 Cambridgeshire Regiment Reserve Battalion authorised 31 Aug – 2/1st Battalion

St Luke's school classrooms taken 4th Cheshire Territorial Reserve; woodwork classes used make splints EGH; on Saturday woodwork classes held for Serbian refugees [446.12.2]

University assemble as usual but leave for those serving [5a.12]

2 'spies' arrested Midsummer Common [4.27]

Prices forced up by selfish actions [5a.11]

1914 08 07
The European Blaze. The long anticipated crisis has come and Cambridge is in the grip of a patriotic war fever. Of panic there is none. A few scaremongers there may be, and the voice of the Little Englander is once more to be heard … but their screeching and squealing are only to be faintly heard in the brief lulls which occur between the surging roar of the intensely loyal, patriotic, confident band of Britishers. Cambridgeshire men are in the front rank of the battle … amazed at the number who have .responded to the call for Reservists … Throughout the first two or three days of the week Cambridge residents experienced the feeling of tension which has been typical of the country. Large crowds of townspeople have assembled outside newspaper offices during the week, in order to learn the latest war news and when the intelligence of war with Germany became known, the tension of the previous few days was partially relieved. Cambridge members of the Naval Reserve received notices calling upon them to report themselves. The calling up of the Army Reserve had an even wider operation, employees in colleges, railwaymen, policemen, postal officials, Vanmen, etc abandoning their civil occupations at the call of the State. The railway station presented an animated scene, hundreds of

Reservists arriving from all parts of the town and district and proceeding to their regimental headquarters 14 08 07 CIP

The army reservists, including a dozen members of the police force, received orders to join the colours without delay. About 20 left Cambridge station that evening by the mail trail. They received a hearty send off from a crowd of 250 which included a cornet player from the Salisbury Club. The train was a little late and the men had a long wait which was enlivened when the crowd sang patriotic songs. When the train steamed out the crowd sang 'Auld Lang Syne' and cheered till it was out of sight 14 08 07

How Cambridge Mobilised. Throughout the first two or three days of the week Cambridge residents experienced the feeling of tension which has been typical of the country. Large crowds of townspeople have assembled outside newspaper offices during the week, in order to learn the latest war news, and such anxiety has not been displayed since the dark days of the South African War. Until the early hours of Wednesday morning, large numbers of Cambridge people paraded the streets in the hope of hearing some news as to the reply of Germany to the British ultimatum, and when the intelligence of war with Germany became known, the tension of the previous few days was partially relieved. Late on Sunday, and early on Monday morning, Cambridge members of the Naval Reserve received notices calling upon them to re-port themselves at their respective headquarters. There was a large number of Naval Reservists in Cambridge, and the men immediately proceeded to Portsmouth, Chatham and other important naval centres. While the effect of the withdrawal of the naval men did not have so drastic an effect as the orders had in coast towns, it was rather surprising to find that in Cambridge there were so many ex-naval men and Marines who had settled down to landsmen's work in the inland town. The calling up of the Army Reserve had an even wider operation, employees in colleges, railwaymen, policemen, postal officials, Vanmen, etc., abandoning their civil occupations at the call of the State. The railway station presented an animated scene, hundreds of Reservists arriving from all parts of the town and district and proceeding to their regimental headquarters. The local Staff officers of the Territorial Force lso responded to the summons, and rejoined their regiments - 14 08 07 CIP

The Cambridge squadron of the Royal Suffolk Yeomanry paraded and were sent to their billets at Ross Street School and the County Girls School. A number of others were quartered in the Corn Exchange. The streets presented a military appearance. Territorials in uniform carrying their kit bags and rifles were to be seen. Officers in motorcars or motor cycles and orderlies on bicycles were hurrying to and fro, sentries with fixed bayonets were posted at the Corn Exchange and vehicular traffic stopped by the police 14 08 07

Men of the First Eastern General Hospital were quartered in Corn Exchange Street. An elaborate scheme was drawn up fir constituting Cambridge a great hospital centre and the various college buildings were mapped out for conversion into wards. But this scheme is intended in case of invasion and it is to be hoped will never be needed. At present the need is for accommodation at places were wounded men are likely to be landed 14 08 07

Prices of provisions have been forced up almost to famine pitch by the selfish actions of people who are laying in large supplies. The cost of all foodstuffs have gone up by leaps and bounds: on Tuesday sugar and butter rose a halfpenny a pound, flour four pence a stone and butter to one shilling and sixpence. Cambridge Co-op admits there was a temporary shortage but there is sufficient stuff at the docks and there should be no real shortage. Butchers decided to raise the price of meat due to the increased cost of cattle and pigs. Mt Adkins said he was selling the bone with the meat at the same price for which he previously sold the meat alone

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

On the news of German and French mobilisation there was a general exodus of students of both nationalities who were attending the Summer Meeting. On Sunday morning a group of about a dozen German students were on the station platform early, waiting for the first train to London

Local farmers have expressed fears they will not be able to get through their harvest because the Government wants their horses for military purposes. But definite instructions have been given not to take any horses required for harvest. At the same time horses are greatly needed and the public will be doing a great and patriotic service if they will place all they can possibly spare at the disposal of the government by notifying the nearest police station. Major Phillips of the Hussars is in Newmarket purchasing hacks for the Government. Prices offered are as high as £50 for anything special. Army officers and men are similarly engaged in Cambridge

1914 08 14
Cambridge scouts guard telephone exchange - 14 08 14 p2

Arrangements are in hand for the accommodation of a very large number of wounded in the event of Cambridge being established as a base hospital and completely equipped wards have been fitted up in many of the colleges. Nearly 100 Army Nursing Corps nurses have been quartered at Downing College and a large number of beds lent by various colleges. Scores of voluntary workers are making clothing. Accommodation for 500 wounded may be required when the Great Court of Trinity College would become a huge temporary hospital 14 08 14 p5

Red Cross hospitals have been equipped throughout the county. At Cottenham 40 beds are ready at one hour's notice, 25 are ready for wounded at Histon Council School, Oakington has 15. At Waterbeach the Baptist Sunday Schoolroom is equipped as a hospital with nurses in uniform presenting a neat appearance. At Newmarket thirty beds are fitted in the King Edward VII Memorial Hall. Should 100 wounded men be sent further beds will be fitted in the Astley Institute, Town Hall and Technical Institute. 14 08 14 p8. Shepreth VAD could have a hospital for 26 patients ready within 24 hours. 14 08 14 p5

There has been a splendid response to Lord Kitchener's appeal for men; each day large numbers have signed on at the Corn Exchange including Jack Child, the well-known boxer
Langley as despatch rider 14 08 14 p5

Cambridge Yeomanry marched from the stores in Panton Street to the railway station where they loaded their baggage into luggage vans. A number of horses were requisitioned in the station yard, including a cab horse which was taken out of the cab, unharnessed, then placed in a horse van. A butcher's horse was handed over. A country trap came into the yard to convey sad tidings to three of the men that their father had died. It was impossible for them to return home and they had to remain with their comrades. Finally a special train including vans loaded with machine guns and ammunition pulled out while the crowd sang 'Rule Britannia' 14 08 14 p6

Territorials paraded on Parker's Piece then marched at ease, their rifles slung or at the slope as it pleased them off to the station 14 08 14 p6

Cambridge scouts guard telephone exchange - 14 08 14 p2

Rumours of the presence of spies have been circulating during the last few days. At Warboys the telegraph wire which rings the signal bell at the station on the Somersham to Ramsey branch line was cut during the night and another partially severed. Two foreign gentlemen were seen by Mr

W.J. Unwin acting in a suspicious manner at Histon. He followed them to Girton and at each of the three bridges they stopped and examined them. At Girton he phoned the police and a constable was sent out. The men were requested to go to the police station which they did without demure and after questioning were liberated at once. Meanwhile police have been issued with rifles 14 08 14 p7

How Long Will the War Last? The question of how long this great war is likely to last interests every soul in Europe, but it is astonishing to see how wide apart are the different estimates. From three weeks to three years have been suggested as the probable duration of the contest, with every variety of intermediate estimate, and it is evident that few people have given the matter much serious thought (says the "Times" military correspondent). This whirlpool of wars, in which we are suddenly engulfed, we must regard from the German point of view, because Germany has been the aggressor and would be the peacemaker. For Germany a long dragging war is sheer disaster. Her position between two great and hostile military states, the closing of the sea and the paralysis of her whole maritime industries together with the danger which her overseas colonies will incur, absolutely prohibits any German from thinking of a dragging war. There are certainly four, it may he six, million Germans in arms, counting garrisons, depots and reserve, and though German financial experts who have written on war have suggested ways and means for raising the wind for a period of six months, no one has been able to see beyond that term, and moreover the calculation has not been considered that more than three million men will be in the field. – 1914 08 14 CIP

Wages of Men on Active Service. At a meeting of the Cambridge Town Council yesterday, Councillor Raynes, on behalf of the Paving, etc., Committee, said that 13 men of the permanent staff had been called up for active service. Their wages varied from 3s. 4d. to 3s. 10d. per day, and it was suggested that during their absence, their position be kept open, and that half-pay should be given. Ald Stace said that other Committees were similarly affected, and he hoped that they would bear this in mind, and treat their employees in the way suggested. Councillor Negus: "It is important that all Committees should act on the same lines, and it is just a question as to whether this ought not to be referred to the General Purposes Committee so that uniform action may be taken (hear, hear). The question was referred to the General Purposes Committee, with power to act. – 14 08 14 CIP

1914 08 16
Soldiers encamped on Common, Brunswick Walk residents bring pails of water for men, hot meals etc; people flock to see & give fruit though soldiers pestered by hawkers; refreshment tents & waiting rooms established, Wesley Church opens recreation room & would pray for individuals, but pubs close at 9pm - 14 08 16 [4.21,5a.13,6.9]

Boy Scouts allowed to shoot on miniature rifle range, aid VAD – 14 08 16 [4.20, 4.23]

1914 08 21
Exchange and the Prince Albert, Ely. The troops encamped in Cambridge appreciate the way patriotic men and women have welcomed them and ministered to their comforts. Every camp has a tent where tea and coffee, bread and cakes can be obtained with another for reading or writing letters. A post box is cleared every two hours and a stall set up selling envelopes and pencils. It is one of the finest camping grounds they have ever been upon and the large well-kept open spaces are well suited to their new use. 14 08 21 p5

East Coast resorts are recovering from the panic which, when the war broke out, caused many Cambridge people to abandon their holidays. Rumours have circulated that visitors to Gt

Yarmouth and Gorleston-on-Sea have been requested to leave and no persons are allowed on the sands. Steamships are running along the coast between London and ports in the north of England, proof that no danger exists either to shipping or coastal towns. There is no shortage of food.

Cambridge pubs are to close at 9pm during the presence of the military in the town. It is important that all who are in training here should be guarded against excesses. Cambridge residents are largely to blame for the drunkenness seen during the past few days. They have been encouraging drinking by treating the soldiers, causing a great deal of trouble to the military

Recruiting for the Second Army is going on well with centres set up at Cambridge Corn Exchange and the Prince Albert, Ely. The troops encamped in Cambridge appreciate the way patriotic men and women have welcomed them and ministered to their comforts. Every camp has a tent where tea and coffee, bread and cakes can be obtained with another for reading or writing letters. A post box is cleared every two hours and a stall set up selling envelopes and pencils. It is one of the finest camping grounds they have ever been upon and the large well-kept open spaces are well suited to their new use. 14 08 21 p5

Cambridge as hospital base, Leys school

Soldier fatalities, Midsummer Common

Last Sunday Mr Arthur Savidge of Cottenham ran his bus to Cambridge to give the people an opportunity of seeing the large number of troops in the town. There was a full load of passengers and he has handed the proceeds to Mrs Hayden Cox for the Cottenham Red Cross Society's fund. The village of Rampton is doing its best and will equip beds while Miss Ivatt of the Manor House will provide rooms, fully equipped, if necessary

Busy Histon Factory. A brisk time is being experienced at the Histon factory of Messrs Chivers and Sons, jam and preserve manufacturers, and the greater number of employees who were recently temporarily suspended have been re-engaged in order to cope with demands which have been made on the factory. The sudden mobilisation of the British Army has resulted in an enormous increase of business to the large firms who manufacture and deal in food products. It is almost impossible for the general public to realise what the feeding and equipment of a great army really involves, but the resources of reputable firms throughout the country are being taxed to the full in order to fulfil the large contracts which are being given out. Fortunately a large share of this business is being participated in locally, Messrs. Chivers having received some substantial Army contracts for jams. In order to execute these orders and to meet the increase of general business which has resulted from the declaration of war, Messrs. Chivers' factory at Histon is working at high pressure, thus giving beneficial employment to a large amount of Cambridge labour which would otherwise have been idle. –14 08 21 CIP

1914 08 22
Certain colleges closed, American visitors refused admission to Trinity & Pembroke [4.25, 5a.12]

1914 08 28
The War and Cambridge Trade. So far as Cambridge and the war is concerned (writes Free Lance), I am glad to notice that trade has not suffered in any greater proportion than in other parts of the country; as a matter of fact, I believe I should be right in saying that, compared with other places of its size, Cambridge has suffered less in this respect. This is to be accounted for by fact that August and September are months looked upon as to all intents and purposes dead so far as Cambridge business is concerned, so that with the advent of the troops many of our tradespeople

are in the happy position of being able to boast of a larger turn-over than is usual at this time of the year. The various Relief Funds are coming in splendidly, both in town and county. What I should like to see however is a larger esponse to Lord Kitchener's appeal for his Second Army. Hitherto, Cambridge could never be accused of lack of patriotism as at the beginning of the year was amply demonstrated by the large number who flocked to enrol in the Territorial Force. Now it is up to our young men to come forward and give further evidence of Cambridgeshire's loyalty and patriotism by offering their service to the Empire in its hour of need. – 14 08 28 CIP

Cambridge people are adding to the comfort of the soldiers encamped here. A refreshment tent has been set up for the artillerymen on the Polo Ground at Trumpington with another on Mr Matthew's meadow, Cherry Hinton Road. The Church Institute allows soldiers the use of their billiard table. There is a reading room in the Newnham School for the camp on Lammas Ground and a games room at the Prospect Church in Eden Street with writing material and picture postcards. Many socks for soldiers are being taken to the small striped tent on Midsummer Common and shirts would also be appreciated 14 08 28 p4

1914 08 28
Soldier from Stourbridge common camp drowns 14 08 28 p5

A novel concert was given for men encamped on Midsummer Common: the motor launch Viscountess Bury was moored beside the bank at Stourbridge Common and its top deck used by the Magpies Concert Party was a platform. The launch was a pretty sight, decorated with vari-coloured lights and hundreds of men, including officers, sat on the sloping bank. Each song was enthusiastically enjoyed. The vicar of Chesterton gave an address during the interval and invited the men to attend Holy Communion on Sunday morning 14 08 28 p7

A respectable Chesterton chimney sweep was charged with buying two pairs of woollen pants from soldiers camped on Midsummer Common. A constable on duty in plain clothes saw a soldier put something in a white pillowslip he was carrying; when challenged accused said it was food for his children. He found banana, meat and some mackerel, but there were also two pairs of pants with a regimental number – 6178, also W.D. and the broad arrow. The soldier said he was short of money and did not want them; they were hot, woollen things and not necessary at this time of year. Other men stole pants soldiers had washed and put on railings to dry 14 08 28 p7

The Cambridge Summer Meeting concluded with an enjoyable social meeting. The attendance was not large, many of the students having been compelled to leave prematurely because of the war, while some are unable to return to their own countries. Hospitality for these unfortunate students is being kindly provided by Cambridge friends.

Undergraduate arrested as spy in Germany

Patriotic Cambridge has furnished a squadron of Yeomanry and 129 recruits for Lord Kitchener's Second Army. Many firms are making provision for wives and families left behind, supplementing the men's army wages. The University Press has sent 61 men, the Gas Company 35, Eaden Lilley 18 and William Saint the builder 17. (The paper lists the names of the men). Several men have left Sawston and at Reach Jack Ridgell offered his services but was not accepted, he being just over the age lime of 42 years. But at Linton men were asked not to join up until the harvest has been gathered in. also Fulbourn, Histon, Fen Drayton,

1914 08 30

Cambridge horrified by German sack of Louvain, here "the University Library, Senate House & Kings College chapel would be fired, shell-fire would rake the range of colleges along the Backs & the University Labs razed to the ground. Mayor & Vice- Chancellor, ministers of religion & editors of newspapers would be lined up & shot, male inhabitants herded into compounds & women & children driven out" [4.26]

1914 08 31
First Eastern General Hospital moves from Leys school to Trinity College, arrangements for 500 wounded – 14 08 31 [3.3,5a.14]

1914 September

14 enemy aliens arrested [3.8]
2nd army recruits sent Cambridge for training, other depots full [5a.15]
Regular troops who camped on commons leave Cambridge 130 wounded arrive [3.6]
Temporary hospitals Clare playing fields [5a.19]

1914 09 04
Cambridge is one of the principal base hospitals to which the brave men wounded at Mons have been brought, 150 are now being cared for at King's College, to which the First Eastern General Hospital has been transferred from the Leys School. They include a Cambridge man, Leonard Cornwell of Gwydir Street, who was the very last to be placed in the train. So within a month of his departure he is back in his own town bearing marks of the terrible conflict. 14 09 04

The train with wounded from the front was delayed. Rooms on the Great Northern platform were converted into wards for serious cases before being taken to hospital. Outside a fleet of motor cars and tradesmen's vans converted to ambulances were ready to take the men to the First Eastern Hospital now at Trinity College. It was not easy to lift the badly-wounded men out of the carriages but stretchers were placed on luggage trolleys and wheeled slowly along the platform. There were tears in the eyes of onlookers 14 09 04 p7

The presence of the military has greatly improved the trade prospects of Cambridge and there is no immediate fear of unemployment. The end of the Long Vacation is always a slack time but at the moment the town is busier than usual. It is not certain the town can rely on the continued presence of troops throughout the war and many firms are not sure how they can keep going. The printing trade has been hit by the stoppage of trade circulars and advertisements, builders say contracts have been postponed putting plasterers & stonemasons out of work and the position of college servants and is being considered. The problems of lodging house keepers may be overcome by the billeting of officers and the presence of relatives of the men in the hospitals. But they may not get the rent usually paid by undergraduates. In laundry work the hospitals and military have gone to the larger laundries and demand from ordinary householders has decreased due to motives of economy. Tailors have sufficient work owing to the army orders but women's outfitting department report a shortage of custom. Several jobbing gardeners are out of work & owners of unused plots should consider putting them into cultivation to grown vegetables. 14 09 04 p

Stourbridge common camp soldier drowns, Longley rescue

Cambridge lady's journey through France

Heroes of Mons. Stirring scenes were witnessed at Cambridge on Monday evening, when, with thrilling cheers and tears of sympathy, a large crowd welcomed to the University town, now one of the most important Red Cross Hospital centres, 150 wounded soldiers. The wounded were mostly from the regiments which took part in the fierce fighting at Mons (Belgium) and were brought up from Southampton, where they were landed on Monday. - 14 09 04 CIP

"A Righteous and Holy War". Preaching at a drumhead service on Jesus Green, Cambridge, on Sunday morning, the Bishop of Ely (Dr. F. H. Chase) said: "We believe—I have thought about it a great deal—that this is a righteous and holy war. It is that God's rule may come in ways which we cannot understand. And we are as sure as sure can be that God hates as you and I hate, only infinitely more, these acts of cowardly cruelty of which we read in the papers, and He would have these acts—these cowardly and cruel acts—stopped. So you are going out as deliverers in God's Name . . . You are going out, it may be, in God's Providence, as deliverers to take your part in making God's Will done on earth. He may not give us victory so soon as we could wish, but I am certain that never has a prayer been offered which God has not heard, and in His own time, has answered. And so, my Brothers, remember to pray at the beginning of the day and at the end of the day of hard work and danger." - 14 09 04 CIP

600 Volunteer for the Front. At a meeting of the Cambs. and Isle of Ely Territorial Force Association held at the County Hall, Cambridge, on Monday, at which the Lord Lieutenant was present, and Mr. C. R. W. Adeane in the chair, the following resolution was passed unanimously, amidst applause.—"That the County Association has heard with pride and satisfaction that Col.. Tebbutt the officers, the N.C.O.'s and 600 men of the Cambridgeshire, Regiment had volunteered for foreign service, and assures Col. Tebbutt that it will do its utmost to bring the regiment up to war strength." - 14 09 04 CIP

1914 09 05
Men come forward “now they know the facts”, Rolls of Honour produced [5.1]

1914 09 11
Battle of Mons report, p2
All troops departed from Cambridge, p4
Cambridge as a training centre, p4
German barbarities – letter from Cambridge Hospital, p6
Cambridge recruits, p8

When the war began Cambridge Scouts were anxious to help and a committee was formed. Requests came from every quarter. For the first fortnight Scout patrols, aided by members of the C.U.O.T.C., guarded by day and night the important telegraph wires on the Newmarket to London road. Some were sent to Ramsgate and Sandwich to do coastguard work until replaced by military authorities. Others assisted in the recreation and refreshment tents for the military camps on Midsummer Common, Coldham’s Common, Coe Fen, Parker’s Piece, Huntingdon Road and Stourbridge Common. They have provided a secretary and bugler for Major Comber at Pembroke College and at Corpus the Board of Military Studies has used them as messengers. They have collected large quantities of magazines and papers for the military hospitals at the Leys School and Trinity College. Now they are returning to school

Lieut R MacLeod of Cambridge, who was wounded during the fighting at Mons, gave an interesting account of his ‘holiday’ at a recruiting meeting in Waterbeach. The Germans outnumbered us by five to one. They came on in masses and we mowed them down. But still they kept coming. They burned our transport so we got no breakfast but locals gave us eggs and fruit.

We hung on to the position as long as we could but they got up to the right and left and enfiladed us from both flanks. We managed to save all our guns, though lots of teams were shot down. I was wounded in trying to get a team, he said. The cavalry did very fine work as did the aeroplanes

Sawston Hall was attacked by some of the troops based in Cambridge. The crack of rifles was heard about midnight and patrols were seen crawling along by the roadside; cycles and foot passengers were challenged. One man was frightened out of his wits, fearing the Germans were upon him. At dawn the attackers bore down on the defenders' left but they held their positions stubbornly until a large body of cavalry plunged into their midst 'wiping them out'. Victory was declared in favour of the attackers who then took breakfast with Mr Huddleston at the Hall. Sawston Co-operative Society arranged the catering.

"The Cambridgeshires". At a meeting held at Cambridge, over which the Mayor (Mr. J. A. Sturton) presided, and addresses were given by the Hon. E. S. Montagu, M.P., Mr. Almeric Paget, M.P., Mr. H. Spender and others, the following resolution was carried: "That this meeting is of strong opinion that the recruits now being raised in Cambridgeshire shall form part of a regiment of the line to be called the Cambridgeshires." – 1914 09 11 CIP

1914 09 13
Cambridge Daily News War Bulletin of 13 Sept 1914 gave impression war almost over – 66 09 16

1914 09 18
Cambridge man in Heligoland battle, p2
New military hospital to be constructed on King's playing fields, p5
Cambridgeshire Regiment & Second Army roll honour – names, p6

The coroner heard that an officer had been admitted to the 1st Eastern General Hospital suffering from a bladder complaint that meant he was unable to march. He was given a tent to himself and an orderly to attend him. Officers retained their clothes and kit, including a service revolver. He was found lying on the floor bleeding from the mouth with the loaded revolver across his chest.

The proprietor of the Old Castle Inn, Cambridge, said he supplied horses to the army; he had sold all his animals and visited Histon men seeking more. He'd told them the army wanted the horses and would take them; they would pay less than he offered and they'd have to wait for the money. He made it clear he was buying to sell again and wanted to make a bit of profit. But the farmer got the impression he was buying on behalf of the Government and complained to the police.

A Petroleum inspector said Mr Moss, motor proprietor of Hills Road was licensed for 200 gallons of petrol. There was none in the garage but in the yard there were five barrels, some were leaking and there was a danger of fire. In the stable were tanks containing petrol with more at the Bell Hotel. Mr Moss said there was a tremendous demand from the military and it had to be supplied. He'd risked future business by refusing petrol to his private customers. All the petrol was confiscated and he was fined.

There were at present about 1,000 soldiers based in Cambridge with another 1,000 expected. All the tents were being used by other troops and winter was coming. The Corn Exchange was unsatisfactory because of the small sanitary arrangements. The Girls' and Boys' county school were already being used and now the military wanted Morley Memorial and the Melbourne Place schools for the training of recruits. Emmanuel Church was prepared to give the free use of their

schoolroom for the education of the children. The alternative was billeting troops on the better class houses where better class people could supervise them. But the University had been approached and the schools might not be needed, councillors heard.

1914 09 25
Hopwood experiences, Kitchener's army 14 09 25
Military occupation of schools & Melbourne Place school soldiers p7
Cambridge & Louvain, p7
Civilian Drill & Rifle Club formed, - 450 enrol, made butt of jokes [5.3,5a.22]

Wounded Soldiers. — About 200 wounded soldiers arrived after a long and tiring journey by rail and sea from the front. There were comparatively few Cambridge people at the railway station when the special trains arrived, and with all possible speed under the circumstances the wounded men were conveyed to the East Anglian Divisional Hospital at Trinity College. 14 09 25 CIP

A complete military hospital to accommodate 520 patients is to be built on college playing fields, Burrell's Walk. The hospital has to be completed within a month – indeed a considerable part is required within a fortnight so that the present hospital at Trinity College may be vacated before term commences. It will comprise of five wards with 100 beds in each, a supply block, operating theatre, mortuary kitchens etc. This means working at top pressure, night and day. When complete it will be one of the largest of its kind 14 09 25

Nearly 200 wounded soldiers arrived at Cambridge in two specially-fitted ambulance trains. They had come straight off the hospital ship that had brought them from France; some had been travelling for four days. They lay on beds arranged in two tiers along the sides of long compartments and were carried on stretchers to the ambulance vans waiting outside the station. Quite a large crowd waited patiently for several hours to see them arrive and give them a cheer as they were brought out. 14 09 25
Wounded Soldiers. About 200 wounded soldiers arrived in Cambridge in the early hours of Wednesday morning after a long and tiring journey by rail and sea from the front. There were comparatively few Cambridge people at the railway station when the special trains arrived, and with all possible speed under the circumstances the wounded men were conveyed to the East Anglian Divisional Hospital at Trinity College.

County roads must be improved for military transport. Some need to be widened and corners rounded off with the War Office paying much of the cost. At Coton the road will run through Mr Hunt's stackyard, Grantchester church corner needs taking off; the road at Cherry Hinton t needs widening near the Robin Hood with more widening in Fulbourn village. All will be strengthened to carry artillery. The idea is to get the military from the west top east without going through Cambridge.

Cambridge Men on Torpedoed Ships. News of the disaster to three of the cruisers of the British Fleet was officially known on Tuesday. Cambridge men are stated to have been on each of the; three cruisers. H.M. ships Aboukir, Hogue and Cressy were each torpedoed by German submarines and sank. The local men known to have been on board are: H.M.S.; Aboukir: Midshipman C. A. G. Cooke, son of Dr. K. Cooke, Bridge Street, Cambridge. Mr. Cooke was among those saved. HMS Hogue: First Class P.O. Percy James Warrington, Union Road, Cambridge (reported to be safe and to have been landed at Harwich), Signalman John Toombs, East Road, Cambridge and Naval. Reservist J. L. Claydon, 6, Benson Street, Cambridge; H.M.S, Cressy: Naval Reservist O. Hinson, 57, Garden Walk, Cambridge: Mr. Hinson, who is a married man with one child, has been employed at King's College as a gate porter for about six years.

Midshipman Cooke said he was in the water for three quarters of an hour before being picked up by one of the Cressy's cutters. He was afterwards taken on a fishing trawler, later transferred to H.M.S. Legion and landed at Harwich. He is now home in Cambridge on a short leave. Mr. W. Maskell of Sawston, who had a son serving on the Aboukir, received a telegram from him on Wednesday morning to inform him he was among those saved.

Mr & Mrs Kerry of Mill Road have received news of the death of their son, serving with the 16th Lancers. His sergeant wrote: 'Walter was shot about one o'clock and died three-and-a-half hours later. He was conscious up to the finish. He told me to tell you that his last thoughts were with you all and that he died like a man. Poor young Horlock, of Cambridge, was thrown from his horse and hurt at the same time, but he is not seriously injured'

1914 09 26
Melbourn Place school used to quarter troops, a military bread depot established at .P. Hawkins bakers Parsonage Street & area full of army wagons [5a.2, 3.5,5a.16]

1914 October

Less than half the usual number of undergraduates, lodging house keepers suffer [5a.20]

Barracks for Cambridgeshire battalion Suffolk Regiment started Cherry Hinton Road [3.9]

1914 10 02
Cambridge Battalion regular army raised
EA Field Hospital men inoculated
Half men up this term – impact on lodging house keepers
Trumpington Drift to be widened and strengthened for military purposes and will be known as Queen Edith's Way
Signaller Toombs account submarine attack
Affect on academic year

Wounded Soldiers Return. About five weeks ago, thousands of British soldiers were under canvas at Cambridge in readiness for departure to the Front. Their destination was unknown, and it was naturally surmised by the men that they would be going to Belgium. Yesterday afternoon some of these soldiers returned to Cambridge, maimed in some cases and badly wounded in other cases. The ambulance train arrived at Cambridge about 5 p.m., and contained 130 wounded men from infantry, cavalry and artillery regiments. In 30 cases the soldiers were unable to walk, and were carried from the train on stretchers by the local members of the Voluntary Aid Detachments, and thence to Trinity College, the headquarters of the 1st Eastern General Hospital (T). Included in the wounded were men of the East and West Yorks. Regiments, Royal Fusiliers, R.H.A., Norfolks and Suffolks, and a large proportion of them were men of the Brigade which was encamped in Cambridge recently. 14 10 02 CIP

More wounded arrive, including a number of men recently at Cambridge who expressed their delight at returning to the place they were so well treated. Amongst them was the Haslingfield postman who cheerfully called 'I told you I should come back'. At Trinity College bugler Edwin Royston, who was on duty at the gate, suddenly recognised his half-brother, Serg. Hubert Wootten, among the wounded. He did not know he'd gone to the front, much less that he was returned. Both brothers belong to Cambridge, their relatives living in Willow Walk - 14 10 02

Cambridge Automobile Company was charged with storing petrol in Sturton Street without a licence. People had become panicky and were buying petrol and storing it in their gardens and elsewhere. So the company purchased the petrol for use of military and medical men to be sold at ordinary pre-war prices lest a shortage should arise. They'd asked the Chief Constable if they could store it in Sturton Street. They did not know there was a petroleum inspector but there was, and he seized it. They were fined but the petrol was returned - 14 10 02

1914 10 09 CIP
Langley tried rescue drowning soldier, Cambridge, p3
Hodder despatch rider reports, p7

The work of raising and training the new Cambridgeshire Battalions is proceeding very satisfactorily. Recruits are being treated well, comfortably houses, warmly clothed and well fed. Their physical improvement has been great and they have mastered the rudiments of drill and learned fixing and unfixing bayonets. When rifles arrive they will be well fitted to bear them. 14 10 09

Troops are based at Melbourne Place School and the County Girls' School where classrooms make admirable barrack rooms. The men sleep on the floor in straw palliasses – canvas bags filled with straw – and a blanket apiece. The kitchens are well equipped and the catering in the hands of Mr G.P. Hawkins of the Dorothy Café. 14 10 09

At Melbourne Place school canteens have been installed adjoining the dining hall. Mr Dodds of the Abbey Stores, Abbey Road has one counter where soldiers can obtain all kinds of groceries, sardines, apples and walnuts together with writing materials, boot polish, braces and bachelors' buttons. Everything is sold at moderate prices. A penny will purchase almost anything in stock. At the wet canteens men can obtain beer or minerals and hot coffee is supplied night and morning. 'Reveille' is sounded at 6 a.m. and, after coffee, men have a spell of Swedish exercises before breakfast. Then there are lectures on musketry or guard-mounting by NCOs, all old soldiers, followed by drill. After dinner there is a short period for a smoke or a look at the papers. Afternoon parade and drill follows, then a lecture before the men go for a short route march during which they are allowed to smoke and exercise their vocal abilities in 'Tipperary'. After tea they are free until 9 pm. Uniform and boots for the soldiers based at Melbourne Place School are expected to arrive shortly. Meanwhile they are wearing their civilian attire but have been issued with shirts and socks. The men seem happy and well-pleased with their lot. One farm labourer from Wood Ditton says "I'm better off now than I ever was. My guvnor's payi8ng me seven shillings a week and I'm getting seven bob here and board and lodgings and clothes". He was contemplating marriage before the call to arms came but he and his sweetheart have patriotically agreed to wait until the war is over. Let us hope their happiness may not long be deferred.

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Military roads - Stretham to Soham, one of four to allow different armies to move from west to east at same time without going through Cambridge. The first from Potton though Harston to Whittlesford and Pampisford and on to London Road near Hildersham. Sinuous road through Grantchester and Trumpington on to Cherry Hinton and Fulbourn and away on the Newmarket Road. Another down Huntingdon Road, across Midsummer Common and along Newmarket Road. Huntingdon, Wilburton & Stretham where new road would start. Newmarket RDC to make and improve road from Cam through Wicken. At one point there was a green track where the whole of the road would be constructed. At Wicken there was another piece of road about eight feet wide where flint would need to be pressed in. Through Wicken the road was a good second class decent road.

A soldier from the Gloucester Regiment, lying in Trinity College, writes "I am a wounded soldier who has lost his leg whilst fighting at the front. I had it taken off by Lieut.-Col. Deighton at Cambridge Hospital, which was a great relief to me and saved my life. I wish to thank all the visitors who came in to see us wounded soldiers and for the presents I have received. We get treated very well and the nurses and sisters are so kind and gentle. A choir comes to sing on two evenings. It is lovely and we enjoy it so much. I am proud to say that I lost my leg for King and country. Others including Sawston 14 10 09

1914 10 16 CIP
Chesterton soldier's leave, p2
Higher Grade Pupils based elsewhere as soldiers have school, p3
Comforts for soldiers, p4
Troops may be based Parker's Piece, p5

A wounded soldier lying at Cambridge Military Hospital has a nightmare every night. "We had captured eight German guns when the enemy were reinforced with 4,000 more men. One of the shells we call 'coal boxes' came amongst us, killing 60 of us and leaving just me and a Coldstream Guard. We were wounded but pretended to be dead. German cavalry rode over where we lay, the wheels of one of the gun carriages going over my foot. Next morning we found our comrades all cut to pieces. Every time I close my eyes I go through it again"

Another trainload of wounded Belgian soldiers arrived at the station and were taken to the Hospital at Trinity College. Now 100 Belgian refugees are expected who will be housed temporarily in the Corn Exchange before they are found homes. Not many households can take a whole family but streets might share them. Professors from the University of Louvain professors have arrived and a room at the Engineering Laboratory made available for lectures

Mr G.W. Hodder has received a letter from his son with a German bullet hole clean through it. He was carrying it in his jacket pocket at the time. 'Bim' writes: "We are quartered in a hay-loft; it is a bit smelly but its warm and dry after nights spent under the stars. We have got Roger Hepburn of Magdalene with us. He is one of the best. There have been things to see which re not good for human sight – men torn to pieces. The only thing I have been really badly off for is boots."

A Call to Civilians.—I am asked (writes Free Lance) to call the attention of all civilians to the fact that a general meeting under the auspices of the Cambridge Civilian Drill and Sporting Club is called for Monday evening at 8.15 at the Castle Hotel. It will certainly not reflect to the credit

of the Borough of Cambridge unless we can secure a total enrolment of several thousands of civilians not eligible for the Regular Army, and who are willing to put themselves into training so that they may be of service to their country should the necessity arise

Had Britain Winked at Germany's Cruelty? Speaking at the Free Church (Cherry Hinton) on Sunday evening. Gipsy Smith, referring to the war, said: "There are some people whose minds become confused when they think of the war and see the amount of suffering. It is not of great importance whether we live or not, but it is of great importance whether we do right or wrong. If England had winked at Germany's Cruelty and murder, we should; have been cruel murderers ourselves. I, for myself, would rather die.

Cambridge Civilian Drill and Sporting Club: It will certainly not reflect to the credit of the Borough of Cambridge unless we can secure a total enrolment of several thousands of civilians not eligible for the Regular Army, and who are willing to put themselves into training so that they may be of service to their country should the necessity arise.14 10 16 CIP

Two military funerals took place from the First Eastern General Hospital at Trinity College. One body was sent in a coffin wrapped in a Union Jack to the station and put on a train to Durham. The railway expenses were generously defrayed by Nurse Keep. The funeral of other, Arthur Larkin of the Royal Scots, was held at Newmarket Road cemetery. He'd been wounded at Mons and the cause of death was tetanus. Bugler Royston sounded the 'Last Post' 14 10 16

1914 10 23 CIP
Belgian refugees Sawston, Histon, concert, Huntingdon, list Cambridge names & where billeted; p3 Caxton Infectious Diseases Hospital to be used, p2
Bethune inspects troops Parkers Piece & EGH, p5
Mansfield kia, p5
Civilian Drill club inaugural meeting, p7

Alien Enemies at Cambridge. Fourteen alien enemies have been arrested in Cambridge, and the men have been dispatched to a military camp. The arrests were made by the local police in pursuance of an order of the Home Office directing the police to arrest all Germans, Austrians and Hungarians of military age and to hand them over to the military authorities. This order followed on Wednesday's announcement that the measures hitherto adopted by the Government for the detection and suppression of espionage were being reconsidered

After the Home Office ordered the arrest of all German of military age 14 were detained in Cambridge. The arrests were effected very quietly, the prisoners being conveyed in taxi-cabs to the Police Station where they slept on the floor of the recreation room. Two are undergraduates. Then were removed to the railway station in a motor bus and sent off to an internment camp under the charge of Det-Serg Marsh. Their destination is secret, but the train goes to Doncaster. One or two of their relatives were able to say good-bye to them.

When the war broke out a number of German women were in Cambridge for the University Extension Course. One of them has described her experiences in the 'Cologne Gazette' which is strictly anti-English. She says that they had been cut off from their families and were without money. They were taken into families who helped them, raised funds, took them to the station and arranged for their journey home. They were treated courteously in every respect. 14 10 23

A new barracks is to be erected on the flying ground on Cherry Hinton Road, recently used by Gustav Hamel. It will provide for 1,000 men, thirty to a hut. It needs to be completed in six weeks

and jobs will be found for 400 men, working day and night. The builders are W. Sindall. It will include officers' mess, cookhouses, shower baths, horse shelters, stores and guard houses together with a comfortable institute with reading room and canteen. 14 10 23

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1914 10 28
Cambridge Women Suffragette Association has published a leaflet 'How to Help in Cambridge in time of war' listing organisations rendering public service. It includes the local branches of the National Relief Fund Committee and the Soldiers and Sailors' Families Association, relieving distress and supporting dependents of men serving. The Red Cross Society conveys wounded to the First Eastern Hospital and supplies blankets. Others are the Ladies' Recruiting Committee, the Sidgwick School of Needlework and the Charity Organisation Society 14 10 28

As motor ambulances are much needed Cambridge Red Cross have decided to hire a chassis from the Cambridge Automobile and Engineering Company and build an ambulance upon it. Other chassis have been lent by Mr Briscoe of Longstowe, Lady Inchcape and Mr Douglas Newton while Lady Waldstein has also converted one of her cars into an ambulance. These, together with those lend by Messrs King & Harper will convey wounded with increased comfort from the station to the First Eastern General Hospital 14 10 28

First Cambs. Officer to Fall. Deep regret has been caused throughout Cambridgeshire by the official news that Captain Francis Percy Campbell Pemberton, of the 2nd Life Guards, of Trumpington Hall, was killed in action near Roulers on Monday, October 19. The news was conveyed to members of the deceased officer's family on Friday evening. His Majesty the King, who is Colonel-in-Chief of the Regiment, and Her Majesty the Queen have telegraphed their deep sympathy to Canon and Mrs. Pemberton. Captain Pemberton, who was 29 years of age, was educated at Trinity College, Cambridge. He entered the Army in 1907, and received a captaincy in August last. In May, 1912, he was seconded from his regiment (the 2nd Life Guards) to take up duties of cavalry instructor to the Oxford and Cambridge Officers' Training Corps. The appointment would have expired next March, but on the declaration of war he was recalled to his regiment. Capt. Pemberton was extremely popular and at both Oxford and Cambridge had a large circle of friends. Widespread sympathy is felt for the Canon, Mrs. Pemberton, Miss Pemberton and the widow in their great loss. The news was received with, the deepest regret in Trumpington, where Capt. Pemberton was much beloved. He was a fine all-round sportsman, a splendid cricketer, a keen huntsman and an extraordinarily good shot. He was a member of the County Cricket Club, and Vice-President and member of the Trumpington Cricket Club. Shortly before the declaration of war he played for the Village cricket club in their county cup-tie against New Chesterton Institute. He had a great natural gift for music. Capt. Pemberton is the first Trumpington man who has fallen in the war. He is also the first Cambridgeshire officer who has died for his country in this great struggle. The Trumpington estate has been in the Pemberton family since 1675, when it was bought by Francis Pemberton, who became Chief Justice of England and presided at the state trial of Lord Russell. From Francis Pemberton the Trumpington estate has come down in direct line to Captain Pemberton's mother. 14 10 28, 14 10 30 CIP

1914 10 30
Recruiting, p5
Wounded entertained at New Theatre, p5
Belgians entertained at Playhouse, p5
Haynes on German atrocities

More Wounded Arrive. A Great Western Red Cross train arrived at Cambridge on Monday evening with a number of wounded soldiers from the front, including many men of the 6th Division, who were recently at Cambridge. There were 174 patients, including 33 cot cases, and 156 of the men were taken to the 1st Eastern General Hospital in Burrell's Walk, and the remainder to the Research Hospital, Hills Road. 14 10 30 CIP

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Romsey Town Institute billiard team had done well, the ladies had organised concerts and a garden party. When the 6th Division were in camp the club was thrown open to soldiers who enjoyed the games and were supplied with free writing material. Nineteen members are serving with the colours. But membership was declining due to slackness of trade and the war. The time has arrived when they needed a bar. This had been blocked in the past by the Temperance Party but some of them had not been in the building since it opened. They could not keep going with teetotallers.

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1914 November

People stopped from visiting Burrell's Walk hospital [5.4]

Large number of special constables sworn in [5a.24]

Sergeant Parish awarded Victoria Cross [5a.25]

1914 11 06
Belgian University Louvain guest list 14 11 06
Belgian Minister visits, p6
240 more wounded including Belgians, p6
Suffragette on women's war work, p6
Addenbrooke's Hospital & war, nurses to EGH. P8

Sergeant-Major Longley went to war as a despatch rider, landing in August. He was transferred for mounted duty and is now in charge of 200 men and 150 horses. He has been mentioned in

despatches. He fought at Mons and helps the R.A.M.C. in Field Hospitals in his spare time "I do not want to talk of the horrors which I've witnessed and should be only too pleased to forget it, if possible", he says..

The new Territorial Forces headquarters in East Road are nearly completed and have been occupied by troops training in Cambridge. But the formal opening has been postponed. It stands on the site of the Technical Schools which have been adapted and added to and includes a spacious drill hall and miniature rifle range abutting on to Adam and Eve Row. The Quartermaster's stores include a wooden gallery for use as a saddlery store for the Yeomanry 14 11 06

The new hut barracks on Cherry Hinton Meadows are making remarkable progress: all the frames and roofs have been erected and it presents the appearance of a miniature town. The guard house is a long oblong building with offices for the Commanding Officer and clerks, a large detention room, guard-room and a number of cells lined with sheet steel. The regimental institute contains a games and reading room, supper room and canteen, nearby is a coal yard and shower baths. A parade ground and miniature rifle range are to follow 14 11 06

Memorial Service. How widespread is the sympathy extended to Canon and Mrs. Pemberton, of Trumpington Hall, in the loss of their only son, Capt. P. F. C. Pemberton, 2nd Life Guards, who was killed in action near Roulers on October 19, and with the gallant officer's widow, was manifest on Wednesday, when a large congregation, representative of Town, University and County, attended a memorial service held in the church of St. Mary and St. Michael, Trumpington. The service was a most impressive one, and will never be forgotten by those present. The chancel of the church was adorned with white chrysanthemums and ferns, whilst a cross of similar Mowers, which hung from the chancel rails, bore the inscription: "With most loving sympathy."

1914 11 13 CIP
200 more wounded, p4
Cambridgeshire Territorials at full strength, p4
Cintra Terrace reading room for soldiers, p4
Corp. C. Heals experiences – letter, p6
Spy peril, p6

The County Council should be granted power to deal with the espionage suspected to exist in Cambridgeshire. We had German professors in the University who had laboratories and carried on experiments. We had traders who were born Germans and remained Germans on whom our troops were being billeted. We had sons of Prussian officers in the Officers' Training Corps. There were thousands of cases of people being naturalised and then going back to Germany to fight against us.

Mrs Hinson of Merton Street has received from a photograph of her husband's grave at Angers, France, together with a translation of the speech delivered over the graves of the English soldiers who lie buried there. They were sent by Major Stoney Archer's wife who enclosed a very kind letter expressing deepest sympathy. The hospital in which he was treated is beautifully equipped and he received the best of care and nursing. It is such kindly actions which make our British officers beloved by their men and which cements the good feeling between all classes in this country.

A double military funeral of soldiers who died at the 1st Eastern General Hospital took place at Newmarket Road cemetery. Both coffins were conveyed in one cortege. One was a Belgian soldier whose funeral service in the Catholic Church was attended by many Belgian wounded. The service for Ernest Thorne of the Coldstream Guards was held at Christ Church. He had been a fine strapping fellow standing over 6ft 3". His leg was amputated in France. Despite the fierce rainstorm many assembled at the cemetery where the solders were accorded full military honours and interred in separate graves. Meanwhile 200 more wounded soldiers arrived at Cambridge station. Reading and refreshment rooms for soldiers have opened in Cintra Terrrace. A gramophone has been donated but they would welcome presents of records

Cyril Wright of Chesterton Road, a motor cyclist attached to the 1st Cavalry Division writes to his mother: Christmas is getting nearer and the war has not ended yet. I don't think it will last very much longer because of the terrible slaughter going on. I was in a village when the Germans opened a heavy artillery barrage, blowing the houses up as if they were made of putty. I was completely cut off so ran into a trench and had to stop there ten hours. After dark I crawled out under heavy rifle fire to my motor cycle only to find it smothered with broken glass and bricks. I was glad to get out of it.

Corp. L. Stoakley from Victoria Road writes to say he has been relieved: "We did look a crowd of tramps. Fancy ten days without a wash or shave, covered with mud and nearly dropping from want of sleep. Nobody can imagine what it is like to crouch in the trenches and hear the shells bursting overhead. It is awful. The enemy are suffering heavy losses and General French says it will just be a matter of days to see it through. There is a change of being home for Christmas yet.

Paul Gilroy writes: one British regiment crept up to the enemy's advanced trenches and bayoneted the whole lot without arousing the trench behind them. They then quietly filled them in so that the Germans could not occupy them. One Ghurkha officer attacked another trench in the night and kukried the whole lot, about 150 in all. The terrified howls of the Germans were dreadful to hear – but the Ghurkhas killed them all, and came grinning back

Corp. H. Simpson of the 6th Division of the Royal Field Artillery who were in tents on Midsummer Common writes: When I was in Cambridge growling because we were kept in England I did not realise how terrible war was. I think that nearly a quarter of the men that were at Cambridge are either killed or wounded. Capt Scholey writes to Mr Dockrill of Marlowe Road: A great number of those where on the Meadows have been killed or wounded while Pte Layfield, writing to Miss Smart, asks for a bit of home-made cake

Wounded Soldiers Entertained. At the Playhouse, Mill Road about a 100 wounded British soldiers, who were being entertained by the Directors, rose to a man and cheered lustily 50 Belgian comrades, who were also guests of the management. The Belgians returned the compliment by giving three hearty cheers for their British friends. Tea, chocolates arid cigarettes were handed to the soldiers by a number of ladies, who volunteered their assistance. 14 11 13 CIP

Important War Post. Mr. T. S. Ablewhite, Conservative Agent for East Cambs., says he has heard from the Member for the Division, Mr. J. C. Denison-Pender, and that the latter has been appointed by the Government as Honorary Secretary to the British Red Cross Society Detachment at the Front. Mr. Denison-Pender is in the best of health, and is fully employed in dealing with the supervision of the motor ambulance transports, etc. He has no time for letter writing, but in the course of a message to Mr. Ablewhite, he expresses the intention of "sticking it to the end." Every good wish will go to Mr. Denison-Pender in the arduous and patriotic mission which he has undertaken in a voluntary capacity. Cordial congratulations will also be extended to

the Member and his wife on the birth of a son, which took place at 16, Hans Crescent, London, S.W., on Friday last. They have now a family of two sons and one daughter.

1914 11 20 CIP
Memorial service University & Town, p5
Experiences – Housden of Peterhouse, Traylen, Fulbourn Taylor w., Horlock of St John's Rd - Lancers letter, p6.

Death of Lord Roberts. Field Marshal Earl Roberts passed away on Saturday evening, and the whole Empire mourns the loss of a great commander. Lord Roberts was in his 83rd year, and died as the result of a chill contracted while visiting the Indian troops at the front. Pneumonia supervened. Cambridge University on June 3, 1893, conferred the honorary degree of LL.D. on Lord Roberts. His visit to Cambridge on that occasion of the manoeuvres in the Eastern Counties (in 1912) is well remembered by residents. Lord Roberts was cordially received in the town.

Wounded arrive from the War - another train-load of wounded soldiers arrived at Cambridge. There were in all 173 wounded, and of these 25 were stretcher cases. Included in the party were members of the 6th Division which had laid at Cambridge in August last.14 11 20 CIP

The Home Office has authorised the Isle of Ely Chief Constable to enrol up to 300 special constables, some of whom could carry and use firearms. He was to take 'certain actions' on the roads in consequence of the war; the nature of the obstructions to be utilised on the roads left to his discretion and he could obtain additional equipment as necessary. Payment was to be made for subsistence of Boy Scouts rendering assistance to the police. Ely Water Tower continues to be guarded, but what of the bridge – the water main runs across it

Suspected Espionage in Cambs. Motion passed "That this Council makes urgent representations to the Home Office that powers be granted to local authorities to deal with the espionage suspected to exist in Cambridgeshire, and that such powers be more practical and stringent than those already possessed by the police with regard to aliens and recently naturalised persons." There was some opposition to the motion which was eventually carried by a majority of 26 to 15.14 11 20 CIP

The Germans had a great network of spies, County Councillors were told. The county should be purged of all spies or people of treasonable actions. The Emergency committees which were being formed should ensure people were not installing secret petrol stores for Zeppelins or watch for partisans with carrier pigeons or wireless apparatus. University Laboratories were doing much undisclosed research involving explosives and chemicals and employed a high proportion of aliens. A man who had watched army evolutions on Parker's Piece was pursued and arrested by two police constables after an old lady denounced him as a spy. A large number of naturalised German people lived locally but in the zeal to put down espionage an enormous amount of injustice had been done. 14 11 20

People in Shelford and Stapleford are worried about mysterious lights shining on the Gogs and are concerned that there are spies. But Dr Henry Bond says the light came from his house. There is concrete in the foundations and the removal of the house might provide a base from which a German gun could demolish King's College chapel. He admits he speaks German and has had holidays there. But he is not a spy and honest folk are quite safe. However given the present alarm nobody who has electric light in his house, a bottle of German wine in his cellar, or worse of all (like our Royal Family) German blood in his veins, will be safe. 14 11 20

There is no more potent cause of disease amongst soldiers than impure water. When Cambridge became a mobilisation centre and the Sixth Division was camped along the Cam from Jesus Lock to the Pike & Eel, Sims Woodhouse, the Prof of Pathology, took a bucketful of river water, from a spot where the soldiers were bathing and washing their clothes and by experiment turned it into perfectly pure and palatable drinking water. Even water polluted by corpses is made innocuous. It will be surprising if the whole army does not benefit by his research 14 11 20

University student numbers have almost halved as some 2,000 undergraduates have been commissioned into the army. This has led to nearly 1,500 empty lodgings, meaning difficulties for lodging-house keepers. They saw the grey uniforms of Universitymen about the town and soon they would have another lot of undergraduates going away. All this affected tradesmen. It was time to rebuild the workhouse 14 11 20

Another trainload of wounded soldiers arrived at Cambridge station. Owing to the inclement weather and having to remain for hours at a stretch up to their waist in water in the trenches, many of the men had to be invalided home suffering from rheumatism. The new wards at the Military Hospital in Burrell's Walk are practically completed and at present there are about 900 wounded soldiers receiving treatment there. 14 11 20

1914 11 27 CIP
Lights on Gogs – amateur spy hunt, p5
Ortona buses for war, p6
Hodder wounded despatch rider experiences, p7
More wounded arrive, p8

The Hospitality Committee for Belgian refugees has equipped four houses in which 55 refugees have been accommodated. They are 'Scotsdale' on Grantchester Road where a Flemish priest has been lodged with nine members of his family and 'South House' Barton Road which houses 14 members of doctor's family. A young lace maker and a family of eight from Louvain lodges at No.4 West View Newnham while at No.11 Brookside there are 22 refugees from Malines and Ostend. In Regent Street a studio has been converted into a fair-sized reading room where Dutch, French and English papers are supplied. 14 11 27

The first VC of the war has been won by a Cambridge man, Sergt Papworth of 15th Hussars. His parents formerly lived at Chesterton and now live at Hayward's Heath. He was with a small troop of 10 men that suddenly came across a large force of 6-700 Germans. Undaunted by the fearful odds the Hussars retired in good order, inflicting severe losses on the enemy. The Hon. E.C. Hardinge was injured and Serg Parish remained behind and kept the Germans at bay while his officer reached a point of safety. Cambridge will be proud to learn that the gallantry of a local man 14 11 27

1914 December

1914 12 04
Cambridgeshire Battalion inspection Parker's Piece
Scout Defence Corps formed
Effect of war on Cambridge
County School Boys – 200 with colours

Chance for Women Policemen. It is not so long ago (writes Free Lance) since Lady Darwin suggested the appointment of one or two women policemen for the Borough of Cambridge, and if

only part of what I hear is correct, there would be plenty of scope for the services of such an official in Cambridge just now. Reports reach me of a most undesirable state of things existing after nightfall on Parker's Piece and other open spaces and it is suggested that clergy and ministers should take the matter up with a view to asking the military authorities whether it would not be possible to keep these places under keen surveillance at night. The Women's Franchise Association, too, now that they are experiencing a time of more or less inactivity, might with advantage, exercise their influence upon the young girls to be found in these spots at such undesirable hours.

The Safety of Realm Act gives power to army to take possession of land and construct military works, including roads and bridges. They can take possession of any buildings for supply of gas electric and water, put buildings in a state of defence or remove them. They may order people to leave any area needed for military use and order the removal of vehicles and boats. No person may communicate information about disposition of forces, communicate with the enemy, spread false reports or prejudice recruiting, training or discipline; nor to sell drink to soldiers on duty 1914 12 04

The Cambridge Corps of Guides is composed of men with an intimate knowledge of their locality, its roads, bridges, blacksmith and wheelwright's shops, camping grounds and billeting accommodation. They will not bear arms or wear uniforms but have been supplied with button-hole badges. In event of invasion they will act as a guide to troops. They include F.W. Crain of Fen Ditton, Frank Muncey from Fordham and George Watson from Babraham 1914 12 04

With so many regular troops abroad any man trained to defend the homeland in as emergency will be invaluable, the Chief Scout says. We are driven to be on our defence lest we come under the heel of the Prussian bully and it is the duty of every patriot to take up arms in a good cause. If Scouts can supply a few thousand 16-year-old boys, trained to discipline and marksmanship will be worth a dozen men trained to nothing in particular. It will not be a permanent policy for the scout movement

Stephen Marshall of Cambridge was one of the three survivors when HMS Bulwark was destroyed at Sheerness. He was drinking tea when he was blown 100 feet up into the air then found himself in the sea which was swirling tempestuously. There was no wreckage to which he could cling and he was obliged to start swimming until picked up by a boat. He is being treated in Chatham Hospital. His family, in Trinity Place, rejoice to hear of his lucky escape. But Joseph Ellis, a stoker on the ship, was killed. His father is a hairdresser almost opposite Burwell church

Soldiers billeted at Melbourne Place School would move to the hutments on Cherryhinton Road shortly but others have arrived and could take their place. The Drill Hall in East Road and the Girls' County School are already overcrowded. It would mean that East Road and King Street Schools would no longer be required. The military would pay £400, about one-tenth of the cost of billeting. But billeting would relieve the hardship of lodging house keepers now fewer undergraduates were studying at university

1914 12 11
Lodging house keepers' problems
Wounded – 400 arrive
Territorial Army Battalion strength raised
Parker's Piece parade cancelled due state ground
First Eastern General Hospital Christmas appeal
Scout Langley rescues soldier Cam

The term which has just ended has been described as perhaps the most wonderful on record. At the beginning some 1,800 men were up, of these about 500 joined the O.T.C. with some 400 training for commissions. But we may still expect between 1,200 and 1,500 men back after Christmas; then there are 183 Belgian students in residence & plenty more non-combatants may be expected

Trade & employment in Cambridge have not been hit by the war. But with nearly 600 students missing, colleges that are hardest hit will be unable to keep on all their servants. Twenty per cent of builders are now out of work. Many women are employed in the jam factory at Histon and in the two knitting factories where War Office orders have provided more work than usual. Women have obtained posts vacated by men clerks who have gone to war but a large number of day girls are out of work owing to the plight of the lodging-house keepers. As these girls are in many cases the daughters of women who are themselves injured by the war, this state of affairs means a further depletion of an already scanty income. For good general servants there is a greater demand than supply, but there is very little demand for the services of any of the better class of servants and the number of between-maids out of employment is especially large. Hand laundresses have been very hard hit by the war. The great majority of these women are normally engaged in working for the colleges and, owing the stoppages of games, the amount of washing sent per man is much less this term. When the woman is the chief breadwinner of the family their position is extremely serious. The laundresses themselves are not in such a bad plight, for many have made considerable sums during the busy six months of the year and many of them have savings laid by. But only in very few cases have they got husbands in independent work. A large number of tailoresses are entirely unemployed and the remainder are working short time. Some have gone to Leeds to work making khaki uniforms and others will probably follow. The better class dressmakers seem more affected than the inferior ones Business is slack just now and is expected to be much worse after Christmas when business is usually slack. The dressmakers and milliners' hands employed in shops seem to be on short time. Here too the better class shops are worse hit than the cheapest establishments and several employees say they will be unable to keep their hands for a prolonged period without a considerable improvement. Shirt makers are busy at present but their usual work is almost entirely replaced by the making of shirts for officers' outfits and there is apprehension that at the end of this term this work will be to a large extent cease

Emergency committees have been appointed to act in concert with the military authorities in case of invasion. That for the Isle of Ely is headed by Mr C. Bidwell and includes Mr Luddington of Littleport, F. Harlock of Ely, A.E. Wright of Haddenham & Owen Ambrose from Stuntney. Their powers include the removal of livestock, vehicles and foodstuffs from the scene of operations and facilitating the passage of troops through the area. Every man should take his part in the struggle. If he is not employed in permanent work he should enlist or join the nearest Volunteer Corps. He will be provided with a badge and counted as a combatant though no arms, ammunition or clothing will be supplied. Anyone who declines to enlist must not take part in the defence of his country and in case of invasion must surrender any arms he has in his possession. He will be liable to duties such as digging trenches or burying the dead. The public should not carry arms on any account. This applies to some local gentlemen who have threatened to use arms in case of invasion: such steps would provoke reprisals on inhabitants and the destruction of buildings

1914 12 18
Royal visit Princess Christian of Schleswig-Holstein to First Eastern General Hospital

Their Royal Highnesses Princess Christian and Princess Victoria visited Cambridge on Thursday afternoon and spent a considerable time at the 1st Eastern General Hospital, where they spoke to a large number of patients, both British and Belgian. 14 12 18 CIP

The Mayor and Vice Chancellor had appealed to the War Office to send more troops. They could be billeted in lodging houses, two in the living room and two in the bedroom. As there would be no vacation they would be better off than they would be letting to University men. But troops would be billeted first on the outer parts of the town and work towards the centre to give some margin for emergency by having the central part to fall back on 14 12 18

Mr Stearn said that it was not troops that Cambridge required but something to take the place of gentlemen undergraduates. There were 'crack' regiments like the Honorable Artillery Company, sportsmen's brigades and gentlemen's brigades. But they could not put troops from mining districts in rooms fitted with electric lights and Smyrna carpets. But the Mayor said they could not dictate to the War Office what troops they got and no purpose would be served by debating their quality 14 12 18

Professor Sims Woodhead, said while members of the Sixth Division were based in Cambridge, before going to the front, one man was found dead in his tent. There were rumours he had succumbed to typhoid inoculation but a post-mortem showed he had not been given one. To get the best results from inoculation men should be rested and given light food. Then they would be well again after one or two days. But a man who would not rest and have his arm in a sling was four of six days in a very uncomfortable condition 14 12 18

Shot During a Bayonet Charge. Mrs. A. Shinn. of 20, Suez Road, Romsey Town. Cambridge has received an official communication of the death of her husband. Pte, Arthur Shinn, at the front. Upon the outbreak of war, the deceased soldier, who was a Reservist, joined his Regiment the 2nd Duke of Wellington's ('A' Company), at Halifax, which was one of the first to proceed to France. He went through the Battle of Mons. and had a marvellous escape, a bullet going through his hat and leaving him unscathed. He was also in several other engagements. On Sunday, November 8, at Ypres, his regiment made a bayonet charge, and it was here that he was shot through the heart, death being instantaneous.

1914 12 19
Large number of troops arrive after slack time, solving problems of lodging house keepers – 14 12 19 [5.5,5a.27]

1914 12 25
Vain propaganda – pro German letters from Cambridge
Wounded – 150 more
Marriott, Sturton St, kia
Jack Stevens motor cyclist experiences
Prior experiences
White, York St, letter

Nurse Boutle of South Street volunteered for foreign service with the Red Cross Society. She was taken prisoner in Brussels and sent to nurse wounded German and French soldiers. When the Germans refused to let them go she disguised herself and after a risky journey and an exciting incident with a German sentry – three minutes afterwards a man was shot at the same spot – she reached the coast. On the crossing the steamer passed two floating mines. She had no complaints about the conduct of the Germans who saluted nurses in the street.

Christmas at Cambridge promises to be the quietest ever known, with the shadow of war hanging over the land. But everything possible will be done to brighten the lot of the wounded soldiers at the Military Hospital. On Christmas Eve carols will be sung in the recreation room. The distribution of Princess Mary's gifts will take place next morning and a turkey and plum pudding served. The 180 nurses will have their Christmas dinner in the recreation room in the evening. At the Belgian's Rest House on Hills Road presents will be distributed to all men but the public are asked to refrain from treating the soldiers to alcoholic liquors. They are suffering from wounds and even a small quantity of alcohol will retard recovery

Storm and Floods responsible for considerable damage to telegraph and telephone wires. The heavy downpour of rain and the blinding snowstorm late at night found the weak spots in an enormous number of house roofs in Cambridge, and the exceptional downpour swelled the stream of the Cam until the water flowed over the banks. The greater part of Midsummer Common was covered with water and the paths were impassable. Boathouse and boathouse yards were flooded and military men who were billeted in the boathouses were seriously inconvenienced. In several instances they were compelled to seek billets elsewhere. Thousands of acres of land in and around Cambridge were flooded.14 12 25 CIP

Soldiers are to be supplied with liquor in Cambridge public houses only between 12 noon and 8.30 p.m. by order Headquarters of the visiting troops. The Mayor has addressed a letter to the licence holders in the town strongly recommending the order is strictly obeyed. 14 12 25 CIP

Jane Pegg, wife of an Impington coal merchant, said she saw a man at Histon station wearing a blue overcoat similar to the greatcoats of the Belgian soldiers. He said he was from Hills Road Hospital and had been wounded at Liege where his father was killed by his side. Feeling sorry, she'd given him a meal and invited him to stay for the weekend. But really he was a butcher from St Ives. The lad said he'd return to his mother and promise to be a good boy. But he was sent to prison with hard labour 14 12 25

Billeting – where the military authorities take an empty room in a house, the amount paid is 3d per night per man. Where bed and attendance is provided this is 9d. The War Office will accept as a 'bed' a mattress on the floor, with bedclothes, so a householder can get the extra sixpence. For this he is expected to cook the men's rations – they can draw their meat ration twice a week and so get a decent joint. Corn Exchange requisitioned 14 12 25

1915 January

1915 01 01
VAD Hospital established Hills Rd [1.2]
Welsh Division inspected, large crowd witnessed [8.12]

Compared with their comrades in the trenches, the soldiers quartered in Cambridge had a fairly good time. The wounded in the First Eastern General Hospital spent as enjoyable a time as it was possible for injured men to do. Men at the new hut barracks at Cherryhinton Meadows also got on well, despite their muddy surroundings, albeit they had to depend entirely upon the generosity of their officers, supplemented by their own resources, for the seasonable fare they enjoyed. The Territorial troops billeted in private houses also had a good time but, it must be confessed, the rations issued were somewhat meagre and the men were dependent on the good nature of the townspeople on whom they were billeted. Some were provided with a Christmas dinner by their officers and temporary reading rooms were opened in various parts of the town. Unfortunately the

Territorials arrived such a short time before Christmas that there was not sufficient time to organise anything on a large scale to deal with so many troops. Householders did their best to make as pleasant a possible the Christmastide of the lads who had left their distant homes at the call of duty and most shared in the family's Christmas dinner. Some men billeted in empty houses spent rather and rough and ready Christmas. 15 01 01

The season of peace and goodwill has seen no cessation in the stream of stricken humanity from the battlefield and on Christmas Eve another trainload of 150 wounded men arrived at Cambridge station. A further batch of 100 arrived next morning; 99 of the 100 had such serious injuries they had to be removed on stretchers. This made a heavy demand upon the ambulance resources of the Red Cross Society but fortunately there were a number of field ambulances belonging to the Welsh Division and these were brought into use. On Christmas morning Princess Mary's gifts were distributed; this comprised a substantially-made and handsomely-embossed japanned box containing a packet of tobacco, a briar pipe, a packet of cigarettes and a dainty Christmas card. These together with Christmas cards from the King and Queen, Vice Chancellor and Mayor and gifts of chocolates, crackers etc from Mr Almeric Paget, MP. On Boxing Day the men received gifts from the Lady Waldstein's Fund comprising Japanese tin boxes, coloured light blue and bearing an excellent view of King's and Clare College from the Backs printed on the lid In the evening a Punch and Judy show toured the wards creating much amusement among the Belgian soldiers, some of whom had never seen them before. Christmas dinner was accompanied by mineral water supplied by Messrs Barker & Sons together with grape fruit and oranges from Jamaica. The wards presented a very seasonable appearance, being lavishly adorned with holly & mistletoe 15 01 01

Four companies (954 men) of the Cambs Battalion Suffolk Regiment spent Christmas at the new hut barracks at Cherryhinton Meadows. They also got on well, despite their muddy surroundings, albeit they had to depend entirely upon the generosity of their officers, supplemented by their own resources, for the seasonable fare they enjoyed. They decorated their huts and made them look as bright as possible with one or two Union Jacks, a few fathoms of coloured paper chains, an armful of evergreens and some streamers. We regret that practically no Christmas gifts were sent to the barracks from outside – except those they received from their relatives – and the whole of the expense of the festivities fell upon the officers and men themselves. Some of the companies had turkey or roast beef, and other luxuries. After dinner the men were free to do as they pleased and most amused themselves with impromptu entertainments in the huts which seemed to be sufficiently warmed by the slow-combustion stoves. The camp institute is well-lighted and comfortable room with various games and a canteen and when the curtains separating the games room from the canteen are drawn aside a large room is available for entertainments, assaults-at-arms etc. It had been arranged to hold athletic sports but the weather conditions were so bad this could not be carried out and a boxing tournament was hastily arranged together with exhibitions of bayonet fighting. The YMCA have kindly given a large hut which will be erected in the centre of the barracks and should be open in January 15 01 01

The Belgian soldiers at the Rest Home (1st Borough Red Cross Hospital in Hills Road) were given a good time; the rooms were cheerfully decorated and special Christmas fare provided. Each man received a gift

A short service to welcome the troops to Cambridge was preached in Kings College Chapel on Christmas morning. Most are likely to come back from active service but some will return no more. It may be you or it may be the man next to you. All ought to be prepared to die with a clear conscience. Do not leave a heritage of woe and shame to some poor weak member of the gentler sex, just because your own self-control failed you in the midst of temptations in this town

Field Ambulance Corps not in private billets were entertained at the quarters in the pavilion of the Gonville and Caius College Cricket Ground. Officers and men of one of the regiments enjoyed a dinner at the Skating Rink, Chesterton. 650 men sat down to a meal at the Corn Exchange supplied by Mr G. Lambert of Sussex Street. Men billeted in empty houses at Brookside were entertained to tea on Christmas Day in the large hall at the Leys school – not sufficient time to organise a dinner. Smoking Concert in the Guildhall, for greater part of the evening the large room was well filled with soldiers in spite of the event not being very well advertised and several regiments had their own functions. The Mayor (W. L. Raynes) opened the programme with an organ solo. He said no town was more acutely hit by the war than Cambridge. The soldiers had just come from a big manufacturing centre and they would appreciate that in Cambridge the University corresponded to a big industry. Cambridge had done splendidly in providing officers for the Army – and the heart of her industry had been taken away. 15 01 01

1915 01 02
Pro-German letters published in American press from Cambridge, thought to be from Independent Labour Party which 'chiefly engaged in pro-German activities in England & has held meetings here [6.1]

Belgian refugees have difficulty cooking, cook-book issued [6.2]

1915 01 15
The Military have occupied Melbourne Place, Eden Street, Christ Church Institute and Milton Road infants' school. Now they have also taken that Richmond Road East Road Schools despite opposition from the Managers. This means 700-800 children had no educational home to go to. The kind of children was the sort who left as early as possible and it was a serious thing for them to lose any schooling. It is astonishing that in Cambridge with all its college buildings, most of them unoccupied at present, that there should be any places for soldiers. 15 01 15

Cambridgeshire has contributed 4,359 officers, NCOs and men to the military forces since the war broke out. Others have enlisted in towns outside the county and in addition a large number were already serving in the Navy & Regular Army. Premises were purchased on East Road which have been converted into a drill hall for the units trained in Cambridge and recruiting stations opened in Ely, Soham and Linton. All officers and men of the 1st Battalion Cambridgeshire Regiment have volunteered for foreign service though Lieut-Colonel L. Tebbutt resigned as he was not fit. He has been appointed to command the Reserve Battalion 15 01 15

1915 01 16
Several hundred undergraduates fewer but not missed due troops [6.3]
Troops billeted at house Newmarket Rd find it haunted [6.4]
Police join up - experience [6.5]

1915 01 22
Corp Frederick Potter, Northampton St, awarded DSM – profile, photo – 15 01 22b

German Aircraft Raid. German aircraft made a raid on the East Coast on Tuesday evening and dropped bombs on Gt. Yarmouth. Sandringham, King's Lynn, Cromer and Sheringham. The accounts of the attacks vary in details, notably in regard to the number of people killed, but they agree on the main facts. The first attack would seem to have been made on Yarmouth at about half-past eight o'clock. It was too dark to discern the hostile craft, but nine bombs appear to have been dropped on the town and two people killed. A soldier was also injured, and several of the

townspeople sustained wounds from broken glass. The damage to buildings does not seem to have been extensive. Subsequent raids were made on Sandringham and King's Lynn, and on Cromer and Sheringham, where bombs were dropped. Two people were killed at Lynn. The accounts in this case speak definitely of a Zeppelin. Whether the raids were made by the same aircraft cannot be said but a telegram from Amsterdam speaks of four German airships passing over the Dutch islands earlier in the day 15 01 22 CIP

Troops Inspected. General Sir Ian Hamilton, on Wednesday inspected the troops quartered in Cambridge. Accompanied by General Bruce Hamilton and a number of staff officers, the Inspecting Officer took up a position in Gonville Place and the troops marched past the saluting base in column of route. Earlier in the day the men had marched by various routes, and on their return they concentrated in three columns on Hyde Park Corner and then marched down Gonville Place past General Sir Ian Hamilton. A large crowd assembled on Parker's Piece to witness the imposing military scene, and townspeople assembled in large numbers at other points of vantage. A great crowd gathered to watch General Hamilton inspect troops on Parker's Piece. After the mounted officers came the communications company – cyclists, field telegraphs and flag signallers on horseback. An armoured car and a squad of motor-cyclists came next, then the cavalry, infantry, Maxim guns, Howitzer batteries and ammunition train. One horse took fright at the music of the drums and bugles and dashed towards the Inspecting Officer. It seemed as if would be run down but he stood his ground and a staff officer dashed forward to seize the bridle and pull it up. However one trooper was thrown from his horse, his foot caught in the stirrups and he was dragged some distance15 01 22 CIP

Red Cross Society review of recent activities: 3,000 wounded received. Five subsidiary hospitals have been established. The first was the Belgian Rest Home with 50 beds followed by Linton Infirmary and The Firs Histon, for Belgians. Fulbourn Institute has 23 beds for British soldiers and Shepreth Village Hall opened on January 4th with 20 beds. They have all been doing very good work treating men from the First Eastern Hospital 15 01 22

Military Hospital Concert.—The New Theatre Company and the variety artistes who were appearing at the Theatre gave an enjoyable performance at the 1st Eastern General Hospital on Friday afternoon. The arrangements were made by Mr. P. H. Adams, the box office manager, and Mr. J. Lindsell .superintended the staging. The full orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Gilbey Briggs, was in attendance. The large company of wounded .soldiers, nurses, semi-convalescents, and members of the R.A.M.C. showed the greatest appreciation of the programme provided. 15 01 22 CIP

Instructions have been issued in event of invasion by land or air. People in the street should take cover immediately. There is danger from bombs from aircraft and also fragments of shell and bullets from the guns used against raiders. The nearest basement would be the safest place. Any fragments of shells should be handed to the police. School teachers should continue lessons as far as possible in the normal way. Remove children from the neighbourhood of windows. Children should not be brought from upper floors to crowd ground floor classrooms. In the event of damage they should be marched out as in fire drill. 15 01 22

1915 01 23
Civilian volunteer movement has 600, veteran corps form signal & cycle sections [6.6]
Diary of 6th Div since left Cambridge [6.7]

1915 February

Cambridgeshire Regiment to front line St Eloi
Cambridgeshire Regiment Depot moved to newly-completed Territorial Army HQ in East Road
Cambridgeshire Regiment 2nd Reserve Battalion formed – 3/1st Battalion

1915 02 05
People in Mill Road on Sunday evening were surprised to see a civilian being escorted by a party of soldiers with fixed bayonets. Behind walked a large crowd of excited soldiers and townspeople and passers-by were informed that a stranger, who was supposed to be a German spy, had been arrested near Romsey Town Railway Bridge. The man, who could be heard protesting volubly, was marched into the guardroom at the County Girls School and the crowd was left to speculate about his fate. He was an assistant to a Cambridge doctor who had lost his way and had asked directions to the residence. He addressed a soldier and the foreigner spoke broken English. He was liberated after enquiries. This illustrates the vigilance of the authorities to protect the country from the enemy within our gates 15 02 05

1915 02 12
King inspects Troops. The King visited Cambridge yesterday and inspected the Welsh Division which has been stationed in the town during the past few weeks. The Cambs Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment and members of B Company, Cambs. National Reserve paraded with the Welsh Division and were also inspected by His Majesty. The King was accompanied by General Sir Ian Hamilton, the Commander-in-Chief of the Home Forces, one of his equerries (Major Clive Wigram) and members of the staff of the 1st Army Corps and of the Welsh Division Staff. Having inspected the troops and taken the salute at the march past, the King paid a surprise visit to the 1st Eastern Hospital. 15 02 12 CIP 15 02 12a

King visits to inspect troops quartered in Cambridge on Parker's Piece, visits FEGH. Khaki-clad soldiers drawn up on Parker's Piece received his majesty with the Royal Salute … inspected signal section consisting of a couple of motor cars and a number of motor cycles and inspecting a wireless station … Then visited EGH and motored to station … no civic reception … no public announcement so small crowds … streets cleared of traffic … fleet of cars seen coming from station … Officers and staff on foot – no horses, cannon or vehicles as impossible to get all these on Piece …. Troops occupied four sides of Piece … cavalry along Regent Terrace … various artillery units … King wore khaki military top coat, riding breeches … flagstaff in middle … Inspected cavalry, artillery, infantry, ASC, RAMC and National Reserves … march past …. Inspected motor cars, motor cycles … At FEGH visited kitchen, operating theatre where operations actually going on, X-Ray room … have permission for photographing a group by Palmer Clarke near entrance to operating theatre in which the Commanding Officer, the Registrar, Quartermaster and two matrons were included 15 02 12 - – photo feature – 15 02 12a Ch, photo – 15 02 19d

C.T. Skipper, architect of FEGH and Cherry Hinton huts appointed to War Office to produce new hospitals 15 02 12

1915 02 19
The YMCA is doing invaluable service to troops. Their headquarters in Alexandra Street is crowded with soldiers and 'ping-pong' or billiards is popular. In the basement a lady was giving a French lesson. Troops who prefer a book and cosy chair appreciate the reading room or write letters. Two centres are managed entirely by students while at the Cherryhinton Hut Barracks a large hut has been erected. This is currently open to soldiers only because of the illness prevalent

at the camp. At Hartington Grove a house has been furnished with tables and chairs, Tracy Hall in Romsey Town is also popular and 80 men visit Emmanuel Church Hall nightly where concerts are promoted with soldiers as artistes. 1915 02 19

Home From Trenches to Wed. A Wedding of exceptional interest was witnessed at Cambridge on Wednesday of last week, the bridegroom, Sergeant H. J. Mynott, having obtained special leave from the trenches in order to return home for the marriage. Previous to the war, Sgt. Mynott was on the reserve, and in August last he was called up to join his old regiment, the 15th (King's Own) Hussars, and with them went over with the first British Expeditionary Force. The bride was Miss Annie Ellen (Nellie) Maltby daughter of the late Mr. Augustus John Maltby and of Mrs. Maltby, of 27, South Street, Cambridge. The scene of the wedding was Little St. Mary's Church. A highly interesting incident in connection with Sgt. Mynott's homecoming is the fact that he brought home with him the helmet of a German soldier (a sniper) whom he had shot. 15 02 19b, 15 02 19 CIP

1915 02 26
V.C. Hero. Among the wounded soldiers who arrived at Cambridge on Christmas day was Pte Henry HI. Robson. of the 2nd Battn, Royal Scots (Lothian) Regt., as brave a hero as ever walked in two shoes. His gallant conduct in rescuing a comrade under heavy fire, and attempting a second rescue has met with a fitting reward, for the King has been graciously pleased to bestow upon him (he Victoria Cross, the most coveted of all honours. Pte Robson has been at 1st Eastern Genera! Hospital, Cambridge, for about seven weeks recovering from wounds received while performing the particular brave deed for which he was awarded the V.C., but last week he was removed to the 1st Borough Red Cross Hospital, Hills Road, convalescent, and we are happy to state he is on the high road to recovery 15 02 26 CIP

The 'Tipperary Rooms' have opened in Fitzroy Street as a club and social centre for the wives arid mothers of soldiers and sailors. A boarded floor has been laid and slow-combustion stoves installed in the old building formerly used as the power-house for Mr Chivers' factory. Another room will be used as a nursery where mothers can leave their children when they are out. But plans to establish the Fitzroy House Domestic Training School and Social Centre for Women and Girls have been delayed owing to the requirements of the military 15 02 26 p5 & p7

The Universities of Oxford & Cambridge have been transformed by the war: at Oxford the examination schools have been turned into a military hospital, colleges house soldiers instead of students and the only undergraduates in academic dress are those disqualified from military service. But this means a serious loss of revenue and a Bill should be introduced to enable them to adjust their finances to meet the strain so they could provide for the men when they returned after the war, the Attorney General told Parliament. The Bill, backed by Mr Asquith, was read a first time, amid cheers. 15 02 26

Arrangements are being made to warn Cambridge of the approach of enemy aircraft. News will be telephoned from the coast and the public alerted by a. steam siren being erected at the Electric Light Company's works. All gas lights or stoves should be turned out, electric lights switched off with oil lamps extinguished and taken into the basement. Doors, windows and shutters should be closed. Buckets should be kept filled with water. But on no account should money be spent on powder extinguishers currently being hawked about. Chemical extinguishers should comply with the specification of the Metropolitan Police 15 02 26

1915 March

Cambridgeshire Regiment to Ypres, 17 Mar – 26 May 1915 RCp14

1915 03 05
St Tibbs' Row fire, soldiers help fight – photo – 15 03 05a
St David's Day marked by football match Royal Garrison Artillery v Royal Engineers; goat being lead by soldier in guise of a suffragette – photo – 15 03 05c

The 'B' Company of the Cambridgeshire National Reserve Local Guard paraded at the Corn Exchange, where they have been housed for several weeks. All the 115 men are old soldiers, 27 of whom have experience active service. They marched to the station in two platoons where relatives had assembled to give them a cheerful send-off before, armed with carbines and bayonets, they left to guard vulnerable points 15 03 05

The Welsh soldiers were granted a holiday on St David's Day and Cambridge was full of soldiers with great leeks stuck askew through the strap of their caps, the flags pluming back like a cavalier's feather and the root dangling in a tantalising fashion over the eye. A comic procession was headed by a band of minstrels on a large cart. They were dressed in sweaters and dark white trousers and had blackened their faces. The used a variety of instruments more fitted to noise than harmony. They were followed by a squad marching four deep in perfect step, each wearing a leek or a daffodil. Celebrations concluded with a Welsh choral service at Gt St Mary's 15 03 05

Cambridge Red Cross Society has made arrangements to deal with injuries from air raids. There were eight assembly points equipped with telephones and it would be unfortunate if they could not discover exactly where bombs had fallen. If the telephone wires were cut information could be conveyed by cycle. Ambulances were in readiness, supplies ready packed and lanterns ready in case of darkness. Nurses would be sent out in groups of four and men would take field dressings and bandages so as to carry on until ambulances arrived. The hospital for Belgians at Cintra Terrace would close at the end of the week 15 03 05

1915 03 12
We deeply regret to record the first casualties in the ranks of the 1st Batt. 1st Cambs Regiment at the front. Corpl. Noble Dewey was shot by a sniper and died in hospital. 'Nob' was one of several members of the Town and County Cycling Club serving at the front, was married and lived with his mother in Searle Street. Lieut-Col Copeman, the Officer Commanding wrote to say he died doing his duty gallantly and suffered little or no pain. He was most plucky and cheerful to the end. He was one of the most useful men in the Battalion and it was grievous that he should lose his life so soon. Pte James Northfield of Mill Road was also wounded. In a letter home to his mother, 'Nob' Dewey, the Cambridgeshire Regiment's first casualty, wrote: "We have changed our billets to another farm. We are in sound of the guns. I suppose we shall be there in a few days. It is still very cold but we have got plenty of straw so we sleep warm. I haven't come across the boys billeted in Searle Street yet. We are getting plenty of food of a sort. About the only thing I want is some soap as they charge too much out here". He was buried in a graveyard near a church and Corporal Skeels erected a cross over the grave 15 03 12

First Casualties. Intimation has been received this week of the first casualties in the 1st Cambridgeshire Regiment, which went to the front three weeks ago and it is with regret that we record the death of Corporal Noble Dewey, of B Company. No. 5 Section, who was shot by a sniper on Wednesday week. Pte. James Nortfield was wounded in the arm. Certain companies of the 1st Cambs. Regiment have been sent up to the front in order to gain experience of the general conditions, and Corporal Dewey accompanied his company to the reserve trenches. While getting into

the trench he was shot through the lungs by a sniper. It was evident to his companions that he was severely wounded, and Corporal Dewey was removed to hospital, where he expired a few hours afterwards. Dewey was known at sports meetings over a wide area as the trainer of Reg Player, the Cambridge racing cyclist. He was a member of the Town and County Cycling Club 15 03 12 CIP

Extinguishing of Lights. A new order, dated March 10, has been issued by the military directing the extinguishing of lights in the Borough. The order is issued by the Competent Military Authority for the district under the powers conferred upon him by Regulation 12 of the Defence of the Realm (Consolidation) Regulations, 1914. The order directs that all lights in the Borough other than lights not visible from the outside of any house, and such public street lamps as a Competent Military Authority, in writing, conditionally permit to be lighted, shall from the 10th inst. and until otherwise ordered, be kept extinguished or obscured between the hours of 7 p.m. and 6 a.m 15 03 12 CIP

Alexis Aladin, the leader of the Labour Party in the first Russian Duma explained the sentiment and resolution of his country with regard to the war. They could put and keep a million and a half men in the firing line and if they lost half-a-million they could replace them within a fortnight. In Grand Duke Nicholas the Russians had the greatest General that had ever led victorious armies. But something must be done about the grievous effect of drink in the country. The Belgian Minster of State also spoke 15 03 12

1915 03 19
A large number of wounded British soldiers who have participated in the successful fighting in the neighbourhood of Neuve Chapelle arrived in Cambridge on Sunday evening having been wounded on Friday. Many of them told of the fierceness of the fighting, the stubborn resistance of the enemy and the brilliance of the British victory. The task of transferring the 141 casualties to the First Eastern General Hospital was performed by the R.A.M.C. using ambulances from Newmarket. Last week 211 wounded were received including 80 cot cases 15 03 19

1915 03 26
The Cambridgeshire Territorials received their baptism of fire in one of the fiercest engagements that has taken place on the Western Front and acquitted themselves well. Unfortunately the casualties were heavy. The Cambridgeshire did not disgrace themselves and showed themselves equal to the regulars. A vivid account of the fighting was given by Lance-Corporal Doggett in a letter to his mother: “The shells were falling thick around us and we could see the bricks falling off the houses and the branches off the trees. We ran up the road to the trenches, leaving our packs behind” 15 03 26

1915 April
Ladies make respirators for troops [1.4]
“Passive resisters are active humbugs” - mayor [8.15]
Death of Rupert Brooke [8.17]

1915 04 02
Cambridgeshire Regiment's First Knock. A letter received from Lt Col. C. K. F. Copeman, commanding the 1st Battalion of the Cambridgeshire Regiment by Mr. C. Adeane, Chairman. Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Territorial Force Association, conveys the first authentic information, as to the exact loss sustained by the Regiment in recent fighting in France. It says: "Many thanks for your letter of the 9th. Since receiving it, the Regiment has received a very serious knock. We were in the thick of the great fighting last Sunday, and I am proud to tell you

that the Regiment did very well, so the General told me. It was an unexpected attack, and we were hurled into it in the midst of terrific shell and rifle fire, which lasted from 4.30 on Sunday to about 5 on Monday morning. I thought it impossible that we could escape without most terrible losses; as it is, they are bad enough—two officers killed, two sergeants reported missing, but, I fear, six men killed, 20 wounded and three missing. Bad and sad enough indeed for a first start, but had you been there you would have wondered it was not ten times more. I don't want a similar experience just yet. Two men are temporarily deranged, but will doubtless recover at home. The Regiment is now resting for six days about five miles from the firing line. Thrilling personal experiences are contained in letters from local soldiers Hovey, Newman, Whybro, Cole, Twinn, Horlock, Harding, Stanley, Miller, Lilley, Nightingale, Osbourn & Seymour. All letters from soldiers have now to be submitted to Press Bureau in London before publication. This causes delays and relatives should send copies or extracts rather than the originals 15 04 02, 15 04 02 CIP

1915 04 10
Exploits of police as soldiers [6.14]

1915 04 16
Volunteer Corps – Civilian Drill and Rifle Club leaving Jesus Grove on route march – photo – 15 04 16a
Hundred of soldiers have enjoyed spell of boating on Cam, during fine weather – photo – 15 04 16b

1914 04 17
Corporation can spare 60 men to work munitions factory by delaying tramline removal [6.16]

1915 04 23
Troops' occupation of County Girls School and others – to pay rent, taxes, dilapidations 15 04 23 p6

Red Cross. Number of more small convalescent homes to be opened – are waiting at Balsham, Cottenham, Gt Shelford & Cambridge; Seven hospitals now open with 158 beds. First Borough Hospital temporarily closed & would reopen at St Chad's; also one at Linton. A private hospital opened at Cheveley by Lady Savile Crossley. New scheme for large convalescent camps 15 04 23 p7

1915 May

Cambridgeshire Regiment Armentiers-Flixecourt, May 1915- Feb 1916 RC

Butchers close due to shortage of meat & high prices [1.5]
St Chads VAD hospital established 1.13]

1915 05 07
Cambridge and the Military. For a few days past (writes Free Lance) Cambridge has been practically denuded of troops and the "emptiness" of the town after their departure could not fail to strike us all. With no military and no undergraduates, the town bears a deserted appearance, indeed for Easter Term, and on all hands the hope is expressed for the speedy arrival of another batch of troops. It speaks well for the behaviour of the men that the residents generally should regret their going, and look forward to the reception of another division. Tradespeople have, of

course, benefited considerably by their presence, and are trusting to see a number continuously in the town, in order to counteract the loss of trade which will be the outcome of the abandonment of the May races. 15 05 07 CIP

1915 05 14
Heavy Losses. We understand that the Cambridgeshire Regiment has recently been in some heavy fighting in France and evidence of this is seen from the fact that of the officers who went out with the regiment, only two or three remain at the front, including Major Saint and Major G. L. Archer. The casualties among the rank and file has also been severe within the last few weeks, and we learn on good authority, which we are prepared to take as absolutely trustworthy, that in a recent engagement, out of three platoons, only 30 men returned unscathed. In a letter, a Wisbech private said: "I am sorry to say that the poor old Cambridgeshires are only now about 500 strong, instead of 1,000 when landing in France" 15 05 14 CIP

1915 05 15
News of 'Lusitania' sinking boosts recruits [6.18]

1915 05 21
Cambs. and the War. — Messages from the Front received during the last few days speak of the Cambridgeshires as being well in health and full of spirit, in spite of their hard gruelling of late. The casualties have, unfortunately been very heavy but the morale of those still serving with the regiment "somewhere in France" is magnificent. The men have cheerfully done their duty in the trenches and have won golden opinions for their splendid behaviour under fire. Cambridge people will be particularly pleased to hear that Major E. T. Saint, who is still with the troops, is safe and in good health. His letters home are full of praise for the magnificent conduct of his men. Major G. D. Archer, of Ely, is at present, in command of the regiment. News has been received by Mrs. Naylor of 102, Russell Street, Cambridge, that her youngest son, Pte. Leslie Naylor, has been killed in action. He was shot through the head 15 05 21 CIP

1915 June
11th Battalion (Cambridgeshire) Suffolk regiment training at Cherry Hinton barracks [1.6]
Small munitions factory to be started [.8.19]

1915 06 04
Zeppelin Raid. The Secretary of the Admiralty, in a statement on Tuesday, said: Zeppelins are reported to have been seen near Ramsgate and Brentwood, and in certain outlying districts of London. Many fires are reported. Later it was stated that about 90 bombs were dropped, mostly of an incendiary character. All fires were promptly and effectively dealt with—only one of the fires necessitated a district call. No public building was damaged, but a number of private premises were damaged by fire or water. "So far as at present ascertained", it was stated, "one infant, one boy, one man and one woman were killed and another woman was so seriously injured that her life is despaired of 15 06 04 CIP

Cambridge Men Lost. Two Cambridge men lost their lives on the Princess Irene, which was blown up in Sheerness Harbour last week. First Class Stoker H, C Yorke, of 86 Sturton Street, Cambridge, and Second Class Stoker E. A. Gawthrop, of 325, Newmarket Road, Cambridge. Stoker Yorke had only just joined the ill-fated vessel. He has two other brothers with the colours. Stoker Gawthrop, who was 24 years old, was married. He joined the Navy in December. A plasterer by trade, he was formerly employed by Mr. T. J. Royall, of Tenison Road, Cambridge 15 06 04 CIP

Meat trade crisis, 14 butchers' shops closed 15 06 04

1915 06 05
Metal cigarette case bought Cambridge saves life [455.6.19]

1915 06 11
War service for women – girls on trams, railway clerks, shop assistants, farm workers and bottle washers in breweries 15 06 11 p4

Hospital. During the week ending June 5, there were 185 Home- Forces admissions to the 1st Eastern General Hospital (Cambridge) and 141 admissions from the Expeditionary Force. There were 388 discharges and transfers to convalescent homes. On June 5 the number of patients in the hospital was 1,321.15 06 11 CIP

1915 06 12
Volunteer Training Corps defend bridge against Boy Scout attack [6.20]

1915 06 18
Since Welsh division left Cambridge hope expressed that more troops would be billeted in the town; Mayor writes to war office; would benefit lodging house keepers but Chesterton residents do not want to lose those they have despite problems of refuse collection etc 15 06 18 p4

1915 06 24
Munitions making to start on small scale [6.21]

1915 06 25
Zeppelins on the East Coast – feature article; not so scared as previously 15 06 25

Enthusiastic Send-off. The 11th Battalion (Cambridgeshire) Suffolk Regt. of the Regular Army had an enthusiastic send-off on Saturday when they left Cambridge to join the Division to which they have been appointed. The men left in two parties, and were played to the G.E-R. yard in Tenison Road by the Cambridge Town Silver Band. They were also accompanied by the band of the 2/5 Suffolk Regt 15 06 25 CIP, 15 06 25, a

Undergraduates in khaki enter Senate House to collect degree – photo – 15 06 25b

1915 06 26
Move to get troops quartered in Cambridge fails, war office asked to reconsider [8.18,6.22]

1915 July

University German lecturer resigns - had aired anti-British views [6.25]

61% of those eligible now serving [6.27]

Fear white roofs EGH might be mistaken for factories & bombed [455.6.23]

Wordsworth Grove VAD hospital established [1.14]

1915 07 02
Small munitions factory to be established n Cambridge following pressure by University Engineering and Chemistry departments 15 07 02 p4 & p5

Interference with Recruiting. Free Lance writes: The smart sentence (three months hard labour) passed upon a man at Cambridge this week for influencing young men not to join the Forces of the Crown will be pronounced ay the general public as quite just. It should act as a warning to those ne'er-do-wells who, too indolent and unpatriotic to offer their services for their country, hang about street corners and endeavour to dissuade other willing loyalists from doing their duty. A more dastardly or cowardly action at the present time it is difficult to imagine and anyone indulging in such practices may be sure of but little leniency at the hands of the magistrates if brought to book 15 07 02 CIP

Munitions Work. The Ministry of Munitions has sanctioned the organisation of a small munitions factory in the Cambridge district. An opportunity is thus afforded Cambridge people to assist in the production of munitions of war, and it is a well-known fact that a large number of local men have recently expressed a desire to take part in this most important work. In many instances these men are already engaged in skilled and necessary work at. Cambridge, and they feel that they cannot give their entire time to munitions work. The opportunity thus afforded them to give of their leisure time to the manufacture of war munitions in Cambridge has accordingly been warmly received 15 07 02 CIP

Youthful Recipient of D.C.M. Lance corporal Laurence A. Austin of "A" Company 1st Cambs Regiment has been awarded the D.C.M. for gallant conduct in the field. Lance-Corporal Austin was with many others of the Cambridgeshire Regiment attached to the Leinster Regiment when a certain position was heavily attacked by the Germans. Full details are lacking, all that is known is that he was recommended for the medal by the Colonel of the Leinster Regiment himself. Lance Corporal Austin, who is not yet 18 years of age, is probably the youngest recipient in the British Army of the coveted medal. His parents reside at 8 Rathmore Road, Cambridge. 15 07 02 CIP

Utteridge disrupts attempts to get men to join up – three months hard labour 15 07 02

Trumpington training corps – story of successful village organisation 15 07 09 p8

1915 07 09
County Boys OTC inspection – photo – 15 07 09a

1915 07 16
Cambridge Railway Servant's Miniature Rifle Range completed 15 07 16

County war census: what villages doing, arranged by emergency committee; 15 07 16 p5

French Flag Day scenes 15 07 16 p5

1915 07 23
Doing His Bit in France. All will learn with much appreciation that the Rev. F. S. Lawrence, Vicar of Holy Trinity, Cambridge, is spending his holiday this year in France, aiding the French Red Cross. Mr. Lawrence has had his own private motor ear converted into an ambulance car and has undertaken the work of fetching in the French wounded presumably from the firing line and conveying them to the French hospital in the Compeigne district. He expects to remain in France

for about six weeks and all will wish him a safe return from "doing his bit" for the allied cause 15 07 23 CIP

Volunteer Training Corps, demand for munitions workers reduces numbers; most have uniforms, to march to Upware – details 15 07 23 p5

1915 August

Ambulance train inspected at Cambridge station [1.7]

1915 08 06
Photos of fallen soldiers: G.D. Salmon, Wisbech; G.C. Coote, Foxton; Capt R.E. Sindall, Cambridge; A.J. Coote, Barrington; L. Tuck; L/C Ryder; B. Rolph; S. Trotman; A.D. McPherson; H.H. Bendall; E.C. Colchester, Shelford; R.N. Bendyshe, Barrington; Capt Tebbutt; Hodson; W.J. Blane; E. Freeman; B. Carter, Bourn; Dunnett; - 15 08 06a.
A.E. Seagrott; E.H. Cawthrop; W.F. Taylor, Lt Shelford; W.Gee, Sawston; A. Davis, T. Kimmence; C.L. Wayman; E. Clarke, Bourn; H.C. Yorke, J.H. Caldecoat, Bourn; F.J. Gipp, Chesterton; N.W. Fielding; O.J. Goddard, Dewey; G. Pamplin, Fen Ditton; J. Wallage; Phillips; C. Richmond, Fulbourn; W.E. Jones; J.J. Mayle; L.J. Naylor; S. Phillips; R.L. Player; C. Butler – 15 08 06b

Volunteer Training Corps meeting; want county regiment; corps parade at Corn Exchange, 230 strong. March to Milton Hall where practice attack under Mr Redfern then to Rampton etc 15 08 06

1915 08 13
Cattle on commons during night – military to be alerted to danger to cattle through the trenches on the commons being left unprotected; a fence should be erected on Coe Fen 15 08 13 p4

Photos of wounded soldiers: T. Hornsby, A.J. Ince; G. Stevens; P. Stubbings, Sawston; W. Maltby; G.W. Naylor; Northfield; P.G. Pope; R. O'Brien; A.R. Skeel; Pull; C. Cockerill, Sawston; T.E. Foreman, Fulbourn; W. Foreman, Fulbourn; Dobson; 15 08 13a
S. Allen; A.R. Sewell; Medway; A.E. Taylor, Chesterton; H.W. Whitmore, Chesterton; J. Clark; R. Silk; S.T. Burr; F.W. Freeman, Sawston; A.S. Kirkup; W. Gladwell; Dean; Dant; Dodd; G. Osbourn, Fulbourn; H.B. Stevens; A. Plump, Fulbourn; S. Mott; R. Clifton; H.C. Clark; J.E. Orton; E. Tiplady; C. Dockerill, Sawston; F. Cracknell; A.A. Spillman; C. Walker; A.E. Whybrow; P. Coleman, Sawston 15 08 13b

Volunteer training corps practical difficulties: need arms, uniform, equipment 15 08 13 p5

National Register: how work being done, names of enumerators in districts 15 08 13 p6

1915 08 20
Cambs & the war: how villages are doing their duty: book with names from Cambridge Petty Sessional Division compiled by Louis Tebbut; lists numbers by parish 15 08 20 p6

Photos of scenes and happenings:
Lady French leaves Tipperary rooms; King visits EGH; war-time degrees, Senate House; Lady Jellicoe's visit; departure 1st Battalion, station; Red Cross auction sale; V.T.C. men on route march; St David's day scene; Cambs recruiting party leaving Cambridge; German helmet trophy; wounded soldiers at Waterbeach; Histon Red Cross Hospital ward 15 08 20a

Men who have distinguished themselves on battlefield: W. Ralph, Bottisham; E.T. Saint; Daldry; O.W. Parkinson; C.E. Morley, Gt Shelford; S. Freestone, Sawston; L.A. Austin; F. Potter DCM; F.J. Gatward – 15 08 20b
Good work of the VAD: Ladies detachment; Men's detachment - photos – 15 08 20c
Cambridge aviator lands in dyke – Lieut Broughton lands in Thuring – photo – 15 08 20d

1915 08 21
1st EGH hospitals cook dinner for 1,600 [7.1]

1915 08 27
Royal Engineers Cambridgeshire company (Regular Army) now stationed in Cambridge for few days … 40 men required to complete establishment - shoeing and carriage smiths, blacksmiths, plumbers etc. Recruiting night at New Theatre - 15 08 27 p4
Recruiting visit of Cambs Royal Engineers – digging trenches Coe Fen, on route march – photo
Departures of 3/1st Cambs Regt station – L & NW sidings as train steamed out – photo - 15 08 27a

With the 1st Cambs at the front: a regimental record 15 08 27 p5

Regiment's Departure. The 3/lst Cambridgeshire Regiment had an enthusiastic send-off on Wednesday morning, when they left Cambridge en route for a beautiful park situated "somewhere in England," where they are now encamped for field training. The Battalion, which is about 700 strong, has been practically raised and trained in Cambridge. The men have made rapid and almost wonderful progress, both in regard to their physical fitness and all their drills. In every sense of the word they are a credit to the town and county which have reared them. As they marched along on Wednesday morning with a fine swinging stride, upright and manly, they looked a picture of health and happiness. No wonder people cheered. The departure of the Battalion from Cambridge must, of course, mean a considerable financial loss to the town — a loss of probably over £1,000 a week which the town can ill-afford. The men have been billeted in the Borough, and their departure has left Cambridge with hardly any troops at all.15 08 27 CIP
15 08 27 p5– L & NW sidings as train steamed out – photo 15 08 27a Ch

1915 September

First batch of wounded from Dardanelles arrive [1.8]
50 lodging house keepers summonsed for non-payment of rates [8.20]

1915 09 03
Tsar's Honour for Cambridge Soldier. Sergt. Bertram Daldry of the 1st Rifle Brigade, has been awarded, the Cross of the Order of St. George. 3rd class, by the Tsar of Russia. He is a Cambridge man and his home is at 17 Thoday Street, Prior to the war, he worked on the platform at the G.E.R. station. He was called up on Reserve when the war broke out, and is at present at Rouen 15 09 03 CIP

Trumpington's Roll of Honour. In the presence of a crowded congregation, the Vicar of Trumpington (the Rev. Dr. R.G. Bury) unveiled in the parish church of S.S. Mary and Michael, Trumpington, on Sunday afternoon, the village roll of honour. The names of 69 Trumpington men are inscribed on the roll which has been erected near the west door of the church to perpetuate the memory of the men of Trumpington who "went over in the Great War of 1914-15 to defend the honour of England and to preserve unscathed for future generations the great inheritance of British justice and British liberty." 15 09 03 CIP

Eastern General Hospital sanitary section safe arrived Gallipoli; details -15 09 03

1915 09 10
Zeppelin Raid. The Press Bureau on Wednesday issued the following report; Three Zeppelins visited the Eastern Counties last night and dropped bombs. Anti-aircraft guns were in action. Aeroplanes went up, but were unable to locate the airships. Fifteen small dwelling houses were demolished or seriously damaged and a large number of doors, windows, etc., were broken. Several fires were caused but were promptly extinguished. There was no other serious damage. The following casualties have been reported: Killed 10, seriously wounded 20, slightly wounded 23, missing (believed buried in debris) 3. Incendiary and explosive bombs were also dropped in London. Total casualties in all areas: Killed 20, seriously injured 14, slightly injured 15 15 09 10 CIP

1915 09 18
"Kaiser instructs that no bombs on University" [7.2]

1915 09 24
Grand recruiting rally – advertisement 15 09 24 p4

Shepreth VAD hospital scandals and false accusations lead to application to dismantle hospital – Ald Webber, Wimbish Manor 15 09 24 p7

1915 October

1200 wounded arrive in 10 days [1.9]

1915 10 06
With the VTC – column giving details; picts of guarding bridges – 15 10 06cd

1915 10 08
University and war: 10,000 Cambridge men in khaki; 470 killed, 7000 wounded; over 300 distinctions won on field 15 10 08 p6

Recruiting rally, Parker's Piece 15 10 08 p7

1915 10 15
Newmarket Road camp - escaped soldier assaulted woman 15 10 15 p2

Farming by machinery – demonstration of motor plough and tractor at University Farm 15 10 15 p3

1915 10 20
With the VTC – column giving details; pictures of guarding bridges – 15 10 20cd Ch

Nearly 10,000 wounded conveyed to military hospital by Red Cross – 15 10 20c

Motor plough demonstration at University farm – photo – 15 10 20d

1915 10 22

200 more wounded arrive; nearly 10,000 received at Cambridge 15 10 22 p5

1915 10 27
Tipperary Club workers – photo including interior – 15 10 27c

Casualties – photos: Flack, H.T. Tyrrell; F. Mansfield pow; Horace Reed, Sawston – 15 10 27d

1915 10 29
Recruiting – King's appeal – more wanted 15 10 29 p6

1915 November

Cambridgeshire Regiment 4/1st Battalion formed

Kings College chapel service for University fallen - 500 names [1.10]

1915 11 03
Military marathon from Cherry Hinton Road camp - photos – 15 11 03b Ch

Mrs Elizabeth Fanny Pryor has assisted Belgian refugees and organised flag days for other causes; warden of Primrose League – 15 11 03d

1915 11 10
27 Relatives in the Forces. Mr. and Mrs. Collis, of 74, Hemingford Road, Cambridge, possess a very proud record; for, besides having five sons serving in the Army, Mr. Collis has on his side, two brothers, three brothers-in-law, one son-in-law, two grandsons and 14 nephews in H.M. forces, thus making a total of 27 relatives serving their King and country. Mr. and Mrs. Coins have received the customary letter from the King. Mr. Collis is s retired warrant officer. He has served 33 years in the Army, of which 30 were spent in India 15 11 10 CIP

Serbia Day – street collection – photos – 15 11 10f

Pte A.E. Clarke, 88th Field Ambulance in Gallipoli dug-out – photo – 15 11 10g

With VTC column – can attend University lectures – 15 11 10i

1915 11 27
Pacifists & University [455.7.3]

1915 December

1915 12 01
Zeppelin raids – are we fully prepared. The 'elaborate precautions' examined - 15 12 01a, b Ch

VTC detachments – photos with names of soldiers 15 12 01f
1st Borough Red Cross Sewing Club, Masonic Hall – photo – 15 12 01g
Red Cross – what the VADs are doing – collect wounded from railway station – 15 12 01h
J.S. Horobin, cab-driver, kia – 15 12 01i

1915 12 02

University Training Corps senior division abolished for remainder of war 15 12 02 p5 CIP

1915 12 08
VTC guarding bridge over river – sketch – 15 12 08d

Mrs Amelia Stace profile – helped at Soldiers institutes, wounded soldiers; wife George Stace, mayor – 15 12 08a

VTC guarding bridge over river – sketch – 15 12 08d

1915 12 15
Joseph Fenton, Chesterton, killed by bursting of a fuse of a German shell he was keeping as war relic in his workshop – 15 12 15e; photo – 15 12 22d Ch 15 1 17 p3, p7 CIP

First Eastern General Hospital, opening of new recreation room m- 15 12 15b

Winter morning scene 1st EGH ; Cambridge V.T.C. cyclists – named – 15 12 15d

1915 12 18
Why no munitions factory? [7.4]

1915 12 22
Female postmen start duties – photos (including march past poster 'Grand Varieties' – 15 12 22b
RAMC officer's funeral – Nelson Johnstone – photo – 15 12 22d
VTC Guard Room – interior – drawing – 15 12 22e
VC Cockerel photo – 15 12 22f.

1915 12 23
V.C. Hero. Although the wedding was to have taken place without much ostentation last Thursday, the news of a V.C. getting married at St. Botolph's Church (Cambridge) quickly circulated and there was not only a large congregation to witness the ceremony, but a crowd assembled at the church doors to see the bridal pair leave. The bridegroom was Lt. James E, Leach, V.C., of the 2nd Manchester Regt, son of Mr. Leach of Leicester and the bride was Miss Gladys M. Digby, daughter of Mr, William Digby, of Queens' Cottages, Cambridge. The bride was given away by her father, while Lt, Turner, of the Royal Fusiliers, was best man. The congregation included many other officers and men. The service was choral 15 12 23 CIP

1915 12 24
Prisoners of war – full list of Cambs men in Germany – 15 12 24 p3 CIP

1915 12 29
Wounded Cambridgeshires return to front – photo – 15 12 29c
S.B. Andrews of Milton Road awarded Medaille Militaire – photo – 15 12 29d

1916 January

1916 01 01
First Eastern General Hospital open-air wards to be closed in [7.10]

1916 01 08

"Anybody who rents halls for pacifist meetings risks having it damaged" [7.11]

1916 01 12
Mount Blow, Gt Shelford, VAD Hospital & staff – photo – 16 01 12c
Haydn Inwards, violinist and instructor CUMS – profile – 16 01 12d
Bijou amateurs cannot perform due number of men in forces – 16 01 12d
Outbreak of Glanders - An outbreak of glanders among the military horses at Cambridge has resulted in several having to be slaughtered 16 01 12

1916 01 22
Cambridge branch of Union of Democratic Controls established; University group has 170 members, including Bertram Russell - "pacifist cranks", Trinity college bans meetings [7.12,7.15]

Non-conscription leaflet around [7.13]

1916 01 26
Albina Lucy Wherry, wife of Lieut-Col Wherry of RAMC & surgeon, organiser of Red Cross VAD activity; author of pamphlets on various subjects – profile – 16 01 26b

Wordsworth Grove Hospital new recreation room opened – 16 01 26a

Freemason's Death. We deeply regret to hear of the death of Capt. H. P. Shaw who was a member of a Cambridge Lodge of Freemasons. It appears that one of Bro. Shaw's lieutenants was wounded by a sniper. Capt. Shaw immediately went to see what he could do for him and was shot dead. CIP

1916 01 29
Officers in training at Cambridge on 5-week courses have to pay 5/- (25p) a day for meals in colleges who also receive 3/- a day for billeting - "lodging house keepers glad to do it for less" [7.14

"Cambridge girl writes to PoW boyfriend telling him to tear Kaisers eyes out - is sent his!" [7.16]

1916 February

1916 02 09
Closing Cambridge prison. One of the most astonishing results of the war - perhaps the most astonishing - is the effect it has, had on crime (says the writer of Town and Country Topics). This matter has been commented upon at every Assize and Quarter Sessions for the last twelve months or so. The calendars have been so light as to cause astonishment. Serious crime seems almost to have come to an end, and the presentation to the Chairmen of Quarter Sessions of white gloves as evidence of there being no prisoners for trial has become quite a common occurrence. As a consequence of this change in our normal conditions, some of His Majesty's prisons have hardly any prisoners, in them, and as a wartime economy, it is proposed to close some of them for the time being. Four or five of them have already been shut up in different parts of the country, and we understand that the prison at Cambridge is to be added to the number closed during the period of the war. It is a remarkable proposition, although we should like to that that we could get along without a prison in our midst

1916 02 16
Soldiers in the Workhouse. The Cambridge public (says the service writer) were very much shocked by the report made at the last meeting of the Cambridge Board of Guardians that three soldiers recently discharged, from the Army had been admitted to the casual ward within the previous fortnight, and the greater public outside the Borough has since manifested a good deal of interest in the case. It is a lamentable thing that the Workhouse should become the abode of so many old soldiers towards the close of their lives, and the country is quite right in endeavouring at this time to break the neck of such a bad system. We shall be ingrates indeed if we let the men who have engaged in this great war for world liberty end their days as paupers, if any effort of the community can save them from that fate.

First Eastern Hospital new bath ward – 16 02 16c

1916 02 23
Protection against raids - protection against Zeppelin raids is being taken up much more seriously than was the case until quite recently. Cambridge has had its scare, and that has stimulated action. Our protest against supineness has been emphasised by our townsmen hearing the sounds of exploding bombs by night, and the increased stringency of the light restrictions, and the heavy fines imposed by transgressors by the Borough magistrates show that we have arrived at a realisation that we are not immune, or, at any rate, that it is wisest to lock the stable door betimes. A walk through Cambridge on an average evening reveals, however, that a good deal still remains to be done, and we believe the present temper of authority is such that it will see to the doing of it.. We believe also that Cambridge is about to follow the example of other East Anglian towns, and issue more particular instructions to persons as to what to do, and what to avoid doing, should we be so unfortunate as to find ourselves being bombed. Perhaps now we shall hear no more taunts of scare-mongering hurled at those who have felt it their duty to offer warnings 16 02 23 CIP

Military wedding. The marriage took place at St. Bene't's Church Cambridge, on Wednesday week of Capt. Dalton Mallam, R.A.M.C-(T), formerly house surgeon at Addenbrooke's Hospital, son of the late Dr G. B. Mallam, of Oxford, and Mrs Mallam, of Wantage, Berks., and Miss Jessie Muirhead niece of Mr and Mrs. Robert Store, of Peldon Lodge, Colchester, formerly Sister of Victoria Ward, Addenbrooke's Hospital.

Chesterton local tribunal first sitting – 16 02 23c

1916 02 26
Soldiers practice throwing hand grenades on Parkers Piece - using snowballs [7.17]

1916 March

Protest rally by married men - "should send single men first" [1.12]

Protest at lack of control at Barnwell & Cherry Hinton VD hospitals - "insufficient guards, patients escape causing great danger"; Barnwell takes 750, Cherry Hinton 800 [1.11,7.6, 8.11]

1916 03 01
St Chad's VAD Hospital – photo profile – 16 03 01
Snow photos: snow plough, clearing snow Market St, bus, snow balling – 16 03 01a

Regulation of Lights. Special constables wish to draw particularly the attention of householders, shopkeepers and all others that the strictest attention must be given to lights in their homes, etc. Dark blinds are not sufficient to meet the requirements of the Act. All blinds must be shaded with some dark material (green for preference) and no crevices may show at the top, bottom or sides. Red Blinds with no shading are not sufficient. In the case of hostile aircraft approaching the county all motor cars, motor cycles, pedal cycles and carts will be stopped and the drivers ordered to put out their front white lights and get on the side of the road and remain there until the danger is past. The rear red light must not be extinguished and they must not travel without lights. Further all lights in houses and buildings which cannot be absolutely darkened must be extinguished 16 03 01 CIP

Cambridge Borough Tribunal – Matthew of Trinity St have had 60 men enlist, only one left in hardware department; Cambridge Chronicle apply for machine minder – 16 03 01c [other tribunals appear regularly]

1916 03 08
Military Isolation Hospitals – grave danger; men escaped Newmarket Road and plundered orchards, indecent assault; guards should be increased – 16 03 08f
Small businesses will be forced to close down owing to tribunals – letter – 16 03 08b
Wordsworth Grove VAD Hospital – photo feature – 16 03 08d

1916 03 10
Cherry Hinton Road military hospital patient dies alcoholic poisoning in detention ward – 16 03 01d

1916 03 15
Ontario Military Hospital designed by C.F. Skipper, architect of Cambridge & erected by William Sindall; others on similar lines include First Eastern, Canadian Red Cross, Scottish National Red Cross Hospital Glasgow – 16 03 15b

Local tribunals at work – names members; includes Higher Grade School, Warkworth St, head; Flack & sons bootmakers; Hayward, marquee provider for soldiers - other trades – 16 03 15g

Mrs. Fred Moore (Histon) has had the honour of being appointed a member of the panel constituted by the Minister of Munitions for the purpose of a local Munitions Tribunal for the Cambridge District. Mrs. Moore is well-known in friendly society circles, being one of the trustees of the Foresters' Court Star of Histon. She is also a member of the Trade Board

1916 03 22
Huntley VAD Hospital – photo feature – 16 03 22a

Tribunals at work – objectors, ‘conscientious’ and otherwise – members of university – 16 03 22b

1916 03 29
Protest march by attested married men – single men should be called-up first – 16 03 29d
Borough tribunal – 16 03 29

1916 April

Volunteer Training Corps hold manoeuvres [7.18]

1916 04 05
Lady window cleaners, Cambridge Window Cleaning Company – photo feature – 16 04 05a
Tribunal – 170 claims; includes Winton Smith providing 3,000 sausages for army; Coote & Warren, coal merchants; Christadelphians;

1916 04 12
Funeral of wife of Lieut J. Leach, VC, 13 Fulbrooke Road – 16 04 12a; photo - 16 04 19b

1916 04 26
East Coast Zeppelin Raid. Yesterday the War Office issued the following: Three Zeppelins are reported to have come in from seawards over the Eastern Counties last night. Two crossed the coast of Norfolk shortly after half-past ten, and another followed at about 11 o'clock. A few incendiary bombs have been dropped up to the time of issue of this communiqué. Later in the day the following announcement was made: Last night's air raid on the Norfolk and Suffolk coasts appears to have been carried out by four Zeppelins, only two of which made any serious attempt to penetrate, inland. About 70 bombs appear to have been dropped. One man is reported seriously injured. No further details as to casualties are yet available.

1916 May

1916 05 03
VTC Easter Monday field day – photos – 16 05 03c

1916 05 10
Tribunal appeals – 16 05 10a

Hugel homes for Belgian refugees – detailed report – 16 05 10d

1916 05 17
County appeal tribunal; Cambridge tribunal includes Shrive, basket maker; Emmanuel Fellow – 16 05 17a

Seat on Market Hill for use of wounded soldiers – photo – 16 05 17b

1916 05 24
Wounded. Three sons of Mrs, Hobbs, of 4 Rivar Place, Sleaford Street. Cambridge and brothers to
Mr. Jack Hobbs, the famous Surrey and Cambridge cricketer have been wounded within the last 12 months. Mr. Jack Hobbs is engaged in a munitions factory 16 05 24 CIP

St Chad's Red Cross Hospital celebrate first anniversary by an outing to Ely – photos – 16 05 24b

University exemptions appealed against, military unsuccessful – Thomas Bedford, secretary to Examinations syndicate; Walter Williams; Prof Arthur Pigou – 16 05 24c

1916 05 31
Tailors Busy. We understand that' the result of the agitation carried on some months ago to secure work, for Cambridge has been .the placing of a large order for officers' uniforms with Cambridge tailors. An order for at least 800 uniforms has been distributed between the tailors of the town. No doubt a little difficulty is being experienced in getting labour at the present time, so many tailors having long since patriotically responded to the call. 16 05 31 CIP

1916 June

Cambridgeshire Regiment preparation Jun – Aug 1916 RC

1916 06 07
Rev Harry Stovell Cronin, Commanding Officer of Cambridge Volunteer Corps; had served CUOTC; history of volunteers from 1859 – 16 06 07a

Lord Kitchener Drowned. A telegram has been received from the Commander-in-Chief of the Grand Fleet: I have to announce with deep regret that His Majesty's ship Hampshire (Captain Herbert) with Lord Kitchener and his staff on board, was sunk last night about 8 p.m. to the west of the Orkneys, either by a mine or torpedo. Four boats were seen by observers on shore to leave the ship. I greatly fear there is little hope of there being any survivors. No report has yet been received from the search parties on shore. H.M.S. Hampshire was on her way to Russia. The news was received with greatest sorrow throughout the country, and in Cambridge there was evidence of profound grief. The Guildhall flag was flown at half-mast. On board ship, among others, were Sir H. F. Donaldson, brother of the late Master of Magdalene, Dr. S. A. Donaldson 16 06 07 CIP. Cambridge tribute – 16 06 14a

1916 06 21
County Heroes. We are indebted to the Chief Constable for the following list of casualties among Cambridgeshire men since the commencement of the war. The heavy casualties should bring home to all the seriousness or the conflict and the need for men. It is well to remember in considering the list that it applies only to the Administrative County of Cambridge, and not to the Borough or the Isle of Ely. The total casualties amount to 835 of whom 222 had been killed and 30 had died of wounds.16 06 21 CIP

Wounded Arrive. Another heavy convoy of wounded arrived on Saturday night. The train, which steamed in about 8 o'clock, contained.107 cot cases and 93 sitting cases, 200 in all. The work was smartly carried out by Cambs. 13 V.A.D., assisted by members of Fulbourn detachment. The work was supervised by Commandant Percy Alger, and the train was unloaded in an hour and 20 minutes.

Decorated. Lt. Alex E. Bonham. 11th Royal Warwicks, who was when war broke out, a class master at East Road Boys' School, has been awarded the Military Cross. Lance Corporal W. Hassock, London Rifles (who, previous to joining up was employed by Messrs. W and R. Fletcher, Ltd., Peas Hill) has been awarded the D.C.M He was attached to a machine-gun section and continued to work his gun when all his comrades had fallen

1916 06 28
Serbian boys at Cambridge – 150 from six years old; pathetic story of their home leaving – 16 06 28a

1916 July

1916 07 05
Field Marshal Viscount French, Commander-in-Chief of the Home Forces, visited Parker's Piece, where inspected the Cambridgeshire Territorials from the Administrative centre, Cambridge; the Cambridge University Training Corps and the 2nd and 5th Battalion Officer Cadet Corps. Many

hundreds of inhabitants had assembled. He was received with the General Salute, and when he inspected the Cambridgeshire Territorials, he told them they belonged to a regiment in which he took the utmost interest, as he had the honour of being their Colonel. He had watched the behaviour of the 1/1st Battalion in France, and had been proud. He congratulated the officers and instructors on the splendid appearance of the men on parade, and said that great credit was due to them for the men's appearance, steadiness and marching (the recruits had been at the Administrative Centre, Cambridgeshire Regiment Drill Hall, East Road, for periods varying between a few days and five weeks). The troops later formed in column and left Parker's Piece for the University Arms entrance, Lord French taking the salute. Later he addressed a meeting at the Guildhall. 16 07 05 CIP French inspects OCC & Territorial recruits, Parkers Piece & Volunteers on Market Hill – 16 07 05a; photos 16 07 05b

1916 07 12
Big Push Casualties. There was a long list of casualties or local men as result of the Big Push, which is now progressing so satisfactorily. Large numbers of wounded have arrived at the First Eastern Hospital—as many as 460 reached Cambridge in two days— and a number of medical officers have left the hospital for service at a daughter hospital in Egypt 16 07 12 CIP

1916 07 19
100th ambulance train arrives – 16 07 19a

Cambridgeshire men who have fought and fell: photos of: Swift, Ingle, Hatterseley, Pryor, Bendall, Willis, Marsh, Dockerill, Rose, Johnson, Newman, Pearman, Richmond, Huyler, Renshaw, Goody, Stearn, Ellis, Chapman, Robinson, Barber, White, Benstead, Richmond, Ellis, Cousins, Lack, Smart, Monk, Foreman, King, Gifford – 16 07 19c [note: there are a series of photographs of casualties; I have listed names on the Cambridge Chronicle 1916 indexes]

Tribunal includes Gas Company; H.J. Gray men on war work 16 07 19b

Another Heavy List Of Casualties. Many additional casualties - the price which must be paid for all great victories - among Cambs. men at the Front, has come to hand during the past week. Mingled, however, with the expression of deep sympathy with the relatives of those who have fallen and the earnest hope for the recovery of the wounded, is a feeling of great pride in our gallant county lads and their valiant conduct in the Great Push. Fearlessly "and in a storm of shell, rifle bullets and machine gun bullets" to use the words of one of them - the lads of Cambridgeshire leaped out of their trenches when the word was given in the early hours of the morning of July 1. Many fell, but "most of the boys got there "and gloriously did they acquit themselves. Town and county have cause to be proud of the part played by their sons on this memorable July morning. And before then, too, and since. In addition to the local casualties published last week, further casualties include five killed in action (including Capt. the. Hon. Roland E. Phillips, Royal Fusiliers, only surviving son 0f Lord St. Davids), six died of wounds, one missing believed killed, four missing, including Capt. G. W. Deighton, son of Dr. Deighton, of Hills Road, Cambridge and over 40 wounded. CIP

Cambridgeshire men who have fought and fell: photos of: Swift, Ingle, Hatterseley, Pryor, Bendall, Willis, Marsh, Dockerill, Rose, Johnson, Newman, Pearman, Richmond, Huyler, Renshaw, Goody, Stearn, Ellis, Chapman, Robinson, Barber, White, Benstead, Richmond, Ellis, Cousins, Lack, Smart, Monk, Foreman, King, Gifford – 16 07 19c

1916 07 26

Tipperary Club roll of honour, Fitzroy Hall, Wellington Street – names – 16 07 19b; photo of unveiling – 16 07 26a

Heroic Officer.—Cambridge has sustained some heavy losses during the present month, and prominent among them has been the death, through wounds, of Captain Robert W. Michell, R.A.M.C., better known to Cambridge people as Dr. Michell, he having been in practice here for some years, occupying premises in Trinity Street, nearly opposite Caius College, of which he was a member. An accomplished oarsman, he was in much request as a rowing coach. Every afternoon during Term he was to be met down the river advising either the crews of his own college or others, for Dr. Michell was always ready to give instruction to those who wished for it. He possessed a charming personality and was extremely popular with everyone who frequented the riverside. His death occurred in a private nursing home in London on Wednesday last from wounds received at the Front on July 3. Capt. Michell was wounded whilst performing an act of great gallantry, for which, we understand, he had been recommended the Victoria Cross. 16 07 26 CIP

1916 August

Cambridgeshire Regiment down to the Somme, Aug-Sep 1916 – RC

1916 08 02
VTC leave from Market for march to Trumpington – photo – 16 08 02a
Cambridgeshire men who fought and fell: photos of : Lowings, Townsend, Taylor, Nightingale, Thompson, Baker, Coote – 16 08 02b

1916 08 05
Rabbit thought killed in zeppelin raid - "most expensive in history" [455.7.22]

1916 08 09
Casualties photos: Billing, Redrup, Wilderspin, Wheston, Wick, Johnson, Hancock, Barker, Brand, Cooke, Taylor – 16 08 09b

King's private tour. His Majesty the King crowded a good deal into a short stay at Cambridge last Thursday. The visit being of a private character, there was little public demonstration of any sort. Few townspeople apparently knew the King was coming, and fewer still were aware of the time of his arrival. The objects of His Majesty's Visit, were to inspect the various military units in the town and to visit the 1st Eastern General Hospital, where so many of his : brave soldiers, wounded in the recent fighting, are being nursed back to health. His Majesty evinced the keenest interest in everything he saw at the hospital, and stayed for a moment or so by the side of many a wounded hero, with a thoughtful inquiry as to progress and with a wish for recovery. The King's stay in Cambridge lasted exactly 2 ¾ hours. His Majesty was in khaki, and looked fit and well. – 16 08 09d – photos – 16 08 09c

1916 08 16
Tribunal includes: Macintosh applies for cutler and grinder; Sturton St grocery stores; Higher Grade School master; Roff, grocer and furniture dealer St Philip's Rd; Verlander of Fitzroy St, china dealer; Histon Road cemetery curator; Saints garage; Cambridge Brick Company; Panton Brewery; Fabb & Tyler; 16 08 16a

Men who fought and fell; photos of: Staples, Fox, Bester, Smith, Fairweather, White, Carter, Farrow, Cornwell, Free, Carpenter, Newman, Sanderson, Worland, Thompson 16 09 16b

Tribunal; includes: Co-operative Society; conscientious objectors; Whybro & Walker; Vinter coal merchants; Dog & Pheasant landlord; master of School House, Pound Hill; Ortona; Robert C Brown, oil & hardware; Scudamore boat maker; 16 08 23b

Safe Journey. Members of the 1st Eastern General Hospital (Cambridge) staff, who volunteered for foreign service, have arrived safely at Salonica. A cablegram states: "All well after splendid voyage."

1916 08 23
Captured German Plane. There arrived in Cambridge on Thursday last a captured German aeroplane of the Albatross type, the gift of the Government to the University. When the aeroplane is erected it is to be housed in the Engineering Laboratories. Just at the moment, however, the staff is too busy to take this work in hand. It is hoped to have it in its place in the laboratories in October, when we believe it is intended to make a small charge at first to view this interesting trophy of the war, for the benefit of the Red Cross, or some other war funds, the machine, of course, is to remain in Cambridge as the property of the university. All the parts are here and the machine appears to be in good condition. 16 08 23a

Casualties photos: Clark, Laurence, Peachey, Button, Buttress, Cooper, Allgood, Carter, Bissett, Darnwell, Goodhall, Preston, Barclay, Cornwell – 16 08 23c

1916 08 30
The military cyclist: Cambridge pioneers of the past and present – feature – 16 08 30d

Casualties photos: Jarvis, Kitson, Pearson, Rickwood, Newling, Livermore, Barlow, Blunt, Langford, Edwards, Miller, Thorner, Arnold, Bowles, Clark, Brawn, Howard – 16 08 30b

1916 September

Cambridgeshire Regiment on Somme, 6-16th 1916 – RC
Cambridgeshire Regiment Thiepval, 16 Sep – 10 Oct 1916 – RC

1916 09 06
Killed in action. Capt. J. V. Byrne-Johnson has been killed in action. Coming from Charterhouse to Clare College, Cambridge where he took his B.A., he became secretary of the University Athletic Club. He developed into a first class long-distance runner, and created a surprise in 1914 by doing the three miles in 14 min. 54-4.5 sec, beating J. K. Bousfield, who was considered to have an excellent chance of winning. This time was the fastest recorded at Cambridge for a number of years, and Byrne-Johnson was given his Blue. At the outbreak of war he was a member of the University O.T.C., and obtained a commission in the Rifle Brigade, getting his captaincy last autumn. Later he was appointed adjutant of his battalion. He was mentioned in dispatches – 16 09 06 CIP

1916 09 13
Adopted from Germany. What has induced our working class women in Cambridge to dress their hair with the Gretchen braid plaited over their heads? This is entirely a German fashion, and one would have thought German fashions were out of favour, particularly with women. It has simplicity to recommend it, and it is becoming to a certain type of beauty, but it is a German

style, and we do not wish to copy German ways of doing things. Surely our women can find some different manner of doing their hair. The adoption of the fashion at this moment is another illustration of the insinuating way in which German ideas are spread amongst the people of this country 16 09 13 CIP

Heroes all: photos – Wilson, Alsop, Runham, Sutherland, Mowlam, Brown, Fordham, Brown, Monk; three sons out of five of Madingley family Saxon killed – 16 09 13b

1916 09 16
Melbourn Place schools last used 5-6 weeks ago as auxiliary hospital, now school again - 16 09 16 [7.23]

1916 09 20
Zeppelin attacks. The more we gain experience from others as well as ourselves the more we are able to appreciate the soundness of darkened streets and windows as, a precaution against Zeppelin attacks. There is little doubt that we have been helped in our time of peril by the obscurity which has been carefully and wisely prepared, and instead of being censured or railed at, all the people who have been concerned in enforcing the lighting regulations ought to be regarded as public benefactors, and made much of. The little personal inconvenience which has resulted from these precautions is nothing compared with the strain and anxiety which would be passed through under an actual raid. Some Cambridge people have had this unpleasant experience, and will be able to render public services by telling their irritable friends what a raid is really like, and warning them of the probable consequences to themselves and their neighbours of disregarding regulations framed really for their safety, and not, as so many of them profess to believe merely of their, annoyance. The writer has seen at a number of places in East Anglia the results of Zeppelin bombing, when the raiders, by accident, have managed to hit a building, usually some humble cottage, and can assure readers that such results are no trifling matters, whilst the shock to nervous people is lamentable. So we hope that in place of grumblings at the powers that be we shall all do our best during the coming .long dark nights loyally and wholeheartedly to second the efforts of those who are trying to protect Cambridge from aerial assault, and to safeguard the lives and limbs of their fellow townsmen - 16 09 20 CIP

Heroes: photos – Banyard, Anable, Gifford, Robert Wilson of Trumpington, Few, Porter, Nunn, King - 16 09 20a

Cherry Hinton soldier's funeral – Monk – photos – 16 09 20b

Six Sons in Forces—Mrs. Harriet Kidman, a widow of High Street, Girton, has six sons serving in H.M. Forces. They are—Pte. Frederick Kitson Kidman, 10th Suffolks; Pte, Alfred Wilfred Kidman, 11th Suffolks, wounded in the left ankle by a bullet and now at the 1st Eastern General Hospital; Pte. Jesse Kidman, West Kents; Pte. Isaac Kidman. 2nd Suffolks, who had two ribs broken in consequence of being buried by the explosion of a shell; Pte, Harry Richard Kidman, 11th Suffolks; Pte. George Kidman, 1st Cheshire Regt. wounded in the right thigh and foot and now in a convalescent home in Wales – 16 09 20b

1916 09 22
Ladies learn farm labouring at Girton - 16 09 22 [7.19]

1916 09 27
Heroes – photos: Tyler, Whitehead, Kent, Watts, Chanter, Christmas, Northfield, Hines, Newman – 16 09 27a

Tribunal – includes: conscientious objectors; Palmer, hatter, Petty Cury; Stockbridge, antique dealer; Ellis Merry, mail contractor; University Library assistant in charge of periodicals and binding – still obtained from Germany - 16 09 27b

1916 October

Cambridgeshire Regiment Thiepval; Schwaben Redoubt 14-15th Oct, St Pierre-Divion 15 Oct-11 Nov 1916; 200 men killed – RC

1916 10 04
Tribunal; includes: Bodger for book keeper; Eaden Lilley – 118 men have joined up; Cambridge Automobile Co making parts of motor lorries for carrying flying machines; Stearn for photographic operator & dark room developer

October as Usual. October opened as usual at Cambridge. Whatever other accompaniments of the beginning of the academic year may have been absent from the commencement of the present week, the weather was faithful to traditions, and offered the usual damp and dismal welcome to newcomers to the University. Many a Cambridge man in the past has had his early enthusiasms chilled by our uncongenial climate, but has stayed on to become a devoted son Of Alma Mater, and to realise that though external circumstances may minister to one's happiness, they can neither altogether make it or mar it, and that the great charm of Cambridge is its internal associations. It is to be feared that Freshmen this year will be fewer even than the diminished numbers of last-year, but few or many, we extend to them a cordial greeting, and the heartiest wishes that their stay with us may be pleasant and profitable.

Killed in action. We are pleased to say that our local casualty list is the shortest we have been able to publish for some time past, but regret to have to record the death of Lt. Edward Spearing, son of Mr. James Spearing (of the firm of Messrs. Eaden, Spearing and Raynes. solicitor, Cambridge) and Mrs. Spearing, Troodos, Great Shelford. Great sympathy will be extended to Mr. and Mrs. Spearing in the loss of their only son, who promised in due course to achieve considerable success in local legal circles.

Won D.C.M. Another Cambridge man to win battlefield honours is Company Sergeant Major Wm. North, of the Royal Scots Fusiliers, who has been awarded the D.C.M. for bravery, having crawled to the German trenches and carried his Company officer, who was badly wounded, back to our trenches. Having done up his wounds he gallantly went back and led his company to the attack. C.S.M. North enlisted in the Regular Army in 1912 at the age of 18. He was formerly in the employ of Messrs. Headly and Edwards, Newmarket Road, Cambridge, and has been in France and Belgium for two years. He is well-known in Cambridge.

1916 10 11
Casualties; includes Cherry Hinton soldiers killed by shell fire; Girton men in the Great Fight; suffering from gas poisoning

Death Alfred Paget Humphry, deputy Lieutenant … fame as a rifle shot; fired from tower of Pitt Press aiming at the targets on University range at Backs of colleges; won Queen's Prize at Wimbledon; represented England etc 16 10 11a

Heroes: photos of Smith, Anderson, Pattern, Young, Ingle, Brown, Long, Hopkins, Parr, Knightley – 16 10 11d

German Aeroplane. At the Engineering Laboratory (Cambridge) there is to be seen an aeroplane captured from the Germans exactly a year ago today. It is in perfect condition, with the exception of the propeller, which was smashed, and a British one substituted for use in this country. The aeroplane is a two-seater Mercedes six-cylinder, 130 horsepower machine, and was used: for observation purposes only. The number is A374, and it weighs exactly a ton 16 10 11 CIP

1916 10 18
Soldiers portraits: Stout, King, Perrin, Thurston, Northfield, Coe, Barrett, Ashman, Barker, Saddington, Thurlbourn, Peters, Arber, Godlington, Maxim, Cockerton – 16 10 18b

GER campaign for agricultural development, more eggs; poultry pointers – 16 10 18c

Women's war employment – Cambridge girls join munition workers at Woolwich Arsenal – 16 10 18d

1916 10 25
Matriculation showed that the number of Freshmen who have entered this Term is 156. Three years ago we had become accustomed to count the new members of the University in four figures, but we must be grateful for small mercies. We badly miss the stream of vigorous youth, whose annual incursions rejuvenated Cambridge and kept us from remarking the advance of age or becoming fossilised in ways or opinions. The stream is running so small now that we hardly notice its presence, but it has not altogether stopped, and is helping the University to carry on the work of the intellectual mill. The "Cambridge Review" estimates that the number of undergraduates who will be in residence this Term - men of all years - will be 444. In the Michaelmas Term of 1913 there were 3,263 undergraduates in residence, and the total had remained around these figures for several years, so it would seem that the war has reduced the roll of students of this University to nearly seven-eighths below the normal, and we are afraid we have not yet touched bottom. In spite of the numerical and financial difficulties, the teaching staff are making heroic endeavours to maintain the standards, and the course of lectures which have been arranged are really wonderful under the circumstances 16 10 25 CIP

Tribunal; includes – county council staff; coffin maker; assistant photographer for D.J. Scott; 16 10 25a

Red Cross – activities of year, VAD hospitals, 26 10 25b

Soldier portraits: Moline, Nunn, Bendall, Wick, Harding, Litchfield, Matthews, Utteridge, Thaxter, Shipp, Noble, Ruse, Hall, Poulter, Gray, Golding, Day – 16 10 25c

VAD nurse at First EGH, occupied rooms at Selwyn where large number of nurses have been accommodated; dies after dressing gown catches fire – 16 10 25e

Call to women – what girls earn at Woolwich Arsenal – 16 10 25f

1916 November

1916 11 01
Cambridge Borough Tribunal and the Cambridge County Appeal Tribunal appear to be doing their work in a manner which should be an example to others. They realise that every interest has

to be seconded to the imperative necessity of winning the war, and that if for the winning of the war practically every able-bodied man in the country has to be taken from his occupation it has to be done, no matter how great the personal or financial inconvenience, for if we lose the war we have lost ever thing. The last sittings of the two above-mentioned tribunals were remarkable for the few, the very few, exemptions allowed, and if every tribunal did its duty as conscientiously as these two are doing theirs, the scandals of which we have heard so much of late would soon be a thing of the past, equity would prevail, and the Army would get the men it wants, the young vigorous men, and not the inferior substitutes it now has to take 16 11 01 CIP.

Presentation of D.C.M An interesting ceremony took place at the 1st Eastern General Hospital on Sunday, when Colonel Griffiths, the Commanding Officer, presented the D.C.M. for bravery in the field that has been awarded to Corporal W. Morris of the 2nd Battalion of the Welsh Regiment. The presentation was made on the Colonel's lawn in the presence of a large number of the staff & patients. The D.C.M. was awarded to Corporal Morris "for conspicuous gallantry and devotion to duty in action. By his fine leadership a sap was held against hostile attacks. Though wounded he remained throwing bombs for two hours. He displayed great bravery on other occasion" 16 11 01 CIP

Tribunal; includes: Pollard & co, manufacturing confectioners; Arthur Almond master tailor; coffin maker – 16 11 01

Glove making – a new industry; when undergraduates left there was grave unemployment and Rutherford & Clothier of King's Parade introduced glove making, now producing 600 pairs a meek by women working at home on machines provided by the firm; are difficulties obtaining fabric – 16 11 01b

Soldiers portraits: Naylor, Hobson, Granger, Scarr, Walker, Flack, Sutherland, Biggs, Foreman, Dant, Farrow, Wilderspin, Curtis, Bailey, Human, Foreman, Papworth, Matthews, Bailey – 16 11 01c

Wounded soldiers at Huntley Red Cross Hospital – 16 11 01c

1916 11 08
Portraits soldiers: Ivens, Colchester, Stearn, Medlock, Offley, Rayner, Radford, Norden, Stranward, Mayes, Lanham, Bridge, Hancock, Cowling, Back, Nunn; Howlett brothers – 16 11 08e

1916 11 15
Soldiers pictures: Edwards, Waller, North, Cooke, Skeet, Pitman, Sexton, Rouse, Thompson, Stone, Christian, Gifford, Berrym Gibb, Allgood – 16 11 15a

1916 11 22
Food prices protest meeting condemns profiteers; wholesale exploitation since war began – 16 11 22a

Tribunal; includes: firemen & man who drove their horses; Whybro & Waller, civil and military tailors – 16 11 22b

Portraits of soldiers: Feath, Oates, Dilley, Diver, Ladds, Froment, Newman, Mason, Howard, Dawson, Brawn, Smith, Lloyd, Wonfor, Smith, Dawson, Cornwell, Freeman, Lister, Collins – 16 11 22c

G.E.R. Egg Train. In response to the invitation of the Great Eastern Railway Company, representatives of the Board of Trade, Board of Agriculture and members of various agricultural societies, War Agricultural Committees, educational authorities, Co-operative Egg Societies and other organisations in the Eastern Counties assembled at the Cambridge Room, Liverpool Street Station Hotel, on Monday, and met representatives of the company, together with the demonstrators and lecturers who accompanied the G.E.R. Egg and Poultry Demonstration Train during its tour of East Anglia. The train, which began on October 9 at Mildenhall, concluded on Saturday last at Bishops Stortford. A total of nearly 46,000 persons, of whom by far the great number were adults, visited the train during the tour – 16 11 22 CIP

1916 11 29
Tribunal; includes conditional exemptions – 16 11 29a

Soldier portraits: Tabor, Endersby, Beedom, Carr, Carpenter, Potts, Walker, Smith, Gautrey, Clarke, Ellis, Peters – 16 11 29b

1916 December

1916 12 06
Casualties portraits: Billinger, Cowling, Bruce, Cooley, Cook, Dean, Jones, Newman, Hopkins, Plumb, Yaxley, Barrell – 5 sons, Starnell, Gifford, Stubbings, Stearn – 16 12 06a

Growing popularity of King's Parade as a shopping centre; a war-time evolution; traders have to adapt to loss of undergraduates and impression of high-price goods; notes on traders: A.R. Crossman, Ryder & Amies, Rutherford & Clothier, A.W. Smith, Lily Masters, Tredgett – 16 12 06c, d

9 p.m. Closure. A special meeting of the Licensing Justices for the Petty Sessional Division of Cambridge was held at the Shire Hall, Cambridge, on Saturday, when an order was made closing public houses in the division at 9 p.m. 16 12 06 CIP

1916 12 09
Soldiers from Cherry Hinton hospital steal fowls - should be isolated or move hospital – 16 12 09 [7.24]

Mr and Mrs. J. A. Holmes, of 57 Abbey Road. Cambridge, have just celebrated their diamond wedding,. They have two sons and six daughters living. One son died in Hong Kong; he took part in the Sudan War and held the medal and the Khedive Star. Their eldest son is serving with the R.D.C., having joined up soon after war was declared. They have four grandsons (all brothers) at the Front, one in the 1st North Staffs, (of the now famous Sixth Division, who were at Cambridge in 1914) having been gassed and wounded. They have one daughter, a V.A.D. nurse, connected with the Uppingham Section. Their eldest son has also three stepsons, who have been serving since the beginning of the war in Mesopotamia. They have two daughters munitions-making 16 12 06 CIP

1916 12 13
Tribunals; includes: Verlander, hardware dealer; Borough Surveyor's clerk; - 16 12 13a

Photos casualties: Nightingale, Gladwell, Sylvester, Stubbings, Rookes, Scarr, Long, Sewell, Smith, Brown, Jacob – 16 12 13b

Photo: inspection D company, 2nd Batt Cambridgeshire Volunteers, at Cottenham – 16 12 13c

Photo: Cambridge Railway Rifle Club miniature range – 16 12 13d

Cambridge Chronicle to increase price to 1½ d due cost of paper supply – three times as much as in August 1914 the CWN and CIP doing likewise – 16 12 13e

Shopping on King's Parade does not mean paying high prices – advert – 16 12 13f

Scouts night attack on Coton – details – 16 12 13g

1916 12 20
Longstowe war shrine dedicated; first to be erected: An interesting ceremony was performed on Thursday in the village of Longstowe, when Archdeacon Cunningham dedicated a "War Shrine" in memory of the soldiers, past and present, who, from that district, had joined His Majesty's forces. The shrine is the gift of Mrs. Briscoe, of Longstowe Hall, and the design was executed by Messrs Coals, Lovell and Company, Stoke Newington, and the painting, and lettering by Messrs Rattee and Kett, Cambridge. The shrine is of polished oak, and is Gothic in design and of great beauty. Just below the eaves is the inscription: "Greater love hath no man" while, at the head of the Roll of Honour 1 are the words "For God, King and Country – 16 12 20c, e

1916 12 27
Cambridge in 1916 has been an eventful, but also a most trying year, and few will mourn its departure, uncertain though the coming days may be. The shadow of the war had rested heavily upon Cambridge, and the depression. In our material condition has deepened. The University has almost ceased to exist. Our normal industries are at a standstill. Agriculture has been crippled, trade, has been upset and homes ravaged by the necessity of withdrawing men of serviceable age to supply the manpower needed for the fighting forces. Many families have been bereaved through the toll of human life taken by this awful war and anxiety has bitten more and more into our hearts with the passage of months. Yet there has been no faltering of purpose ... no whining for an end to be put to the struggle. Cambridge has been more bitterly tried than at any period in its modern history and never have its people shown themselves more courageous. What we have lost in prosperity, we have gained in character and thus it may be that this gloomy year of 1916 has left a happier impress upon our future than at the moment seems apparent 16 12 27 CIP

Christmas at Cambridge; wounded colonial soldiers book beds for next year; includes Huntley Red Cross Hospital , Wordsworth Grove VAD & Serbian boy refugees – 16 12 27c

Photos; Borough Red Cross Needlework Workers, Corn Exchange – 16 12 27d

Casualties: Stubbings, Childerley, Curtis, Purkis, Manders, Blatch – 16 12 27d

1917 January

Millie Howes of Houghton will be reliving fond memories when she settles down to watch her television. She worked in the Portholme aircraft factory at Huntingdon during the First World War helping build Camel fighters. A film made in about 1917 is to be shown on the programme showing Millie working in the factory. “When we first started we were given carpentry lessons, then put on fuselages and had to put the struts in and wire them up, I supposed where worked on

two planes a day", she remembers. We earned £2 a week, which was good money, but it wasn't very warm and we had no canteen", she says 84 05 11 p13

Cambridgeshire Regiment at Ypres, Jan & Feb – RC

1917 01 10
Tribunal; includes: University Farm employees; County land agent; University library assistant; slaughter men; 17 01 10b

Intercession parade to Gt St Mary's – special constables and nurses - photo feature – 17 01 10d

1917 10 17
The future of Cambridge; prospects of the University; need for new industries: special article; pre-war prosperity dependent on University, building trade, agriculture and residential population; hopes for industry – 17 01 17a

1917 01 24
Combing Out. We are glad to see that, the "combing out process" has reacted Cam: bridge, and that several snug retreats of comfort-loving young men are being put under inspection. Some adverse comments were; made by members at a late meeting of the Town Council and by ourselves concerning the presence of men of military age and fitness in one of its departments, and we find this week that they did not fall upon stony ground. The (military service)Tribune has reviewed one of these cases, and notwithstanding the pleas and protests of his chief, the young man has to go and do his duty, not only to his country, but to the other young men who have voluntarily gone before him. Town Councils and other public bodies should set an example, and| it is really remarkable that after two and half years of war and the reiterated statements of Lord Derby and our generals as to needs of men, any corporation should be found retaining in its service a single person qualified for military service, unless that person can be shown in fact, and in the clearest possible manner to be indispensable in his position in the national interest 17 01 24 CIP

Battlefield Honours—The Military Medal has been, awarded to Pte J. W, Spriggs son of: Mr, and Mrs Spriggs of 115 Ross Street, Cambridge, for gallantry in the field. Prior to joining the Colours, Pte. Spriggs was in the employ of Messrs. Bailey and Tebbutt (brewers) 17 10 24 CIP

1917 01 27
Allotment committee set to work to increase production

1917 01 31
St Chad's Red Cross Hospital: soldier repaints the hospital board – photo – 17 01 31b

Cambridge trade – pre-war problems and post-war prospects; the average trader knows nothing of advertising or window-dressing; need to publicise – Cambridge for generations has been a comfortable place to potter along in; convenience of Cambridge for factories such as making of incandescent burners for electric light bulbs – 17 01 31c

1917 February

Cambridgeshire Regiment Canal bank, Feb-June 1917 – RC

1917 02 07
The Battle of the Ancre and the advance of the tanks: advertisement for film coming to Victoria Cinema – includes sketch of tank – 17 02 07

Dorothy Nicholls of Fulbourn – nurse on Russian front; description of journey – 17 02 07a
Transportation – transport to farmers of agricultural requirements, distribution to various markets and effect on consumers – feature – 17 02 07b

1917 02 14
How our prisoners are helped; strenuous voluntary work in Cambridge; three parcels a fortnight for 135 men: special report – 17 02 14a; photo feature – 17 02 14b

1917 02 17
Girls 16-18 haunt streets attracted by soldiers/grads [8.2]

1917 02 21
Averting coal-less days. Many expedients had been adopted to overcome the difficulty of coal delivery. In many instances people had been down to their last shovelful and in some cases there had been coal-less days even among the well-to-do. Some of the G.E.R. staff at Cambridge determined to run no such risks so they devoted a Saturday afternoon to unloading a truck of coal, filling bags, loading them onto lorries, and taking them home. This energetic band of "amateur" coal heavers evidently enjoyed their “afternoon out”, assisted by one or two “professionals”. We understand one lorry delivered nine tons of coal in one day – photo feature – 17 02 21a

1917 02 28
Cherry Hinton military hospital – suicide of soldier, gassed – 17 02 28b

County Schoolboys stake out allotments on land of Barton Road, originally Queens’ College Cricket Ground – photo feature – 17 02 28c

Women Scavengers. The following is an extract from the minutes of the Paving (etc.) Committee which will come before the Cambridge Town Council, tomorrow. The chairman reported that Mrs. Keynes, Chairman of the Advisory Committee for Women's War Employment, had suggested that some of the workmen employed by the Corporation might be released for National Service and the scavenging of the streets be carried out by women. The Borough Surveyor explained that he had placed no obstacle in the way of the men going, but he had not pressed any men to go. The Committee approved the action taken by the Borough Surveyor. 17 02 28 CIP

Military Cross for old County Boy. Lt. (Acting Captain) Everett, of the Bedford Regt., an old County School boy, son of Mr. E. Everett, of 27, Richmond Road, Cambridge, has been awarded the Military Cross for conspicuous gallantry. Lt. Everett joined the Public School Corps in September, 1914, and gained his commission in April, 1915. He went to France in August last. 17 02 28 CIP

1917 March

1917 03 07
Licenses of pubs transferred from men serving in forces to their wives; objections to Spotted Cow, Northampton Street & Jolly Butchers, Newmarket Road – 17 03 07b

St Philip’s School pupils cultivate playing field – photo feature – 17 03 07c

Tribunal; includes: Harry Barham, brush maker – had extended his business buying wood, but it no longer considered of national importance; G.P. Hawkins baker – 17 03 07e

1917 03 14
Cambridge Magazine has had no change of ownership since 1912 and not 'fallen into the hands of a pacifist clique' but its extracts from foreign press are taken from obscure and extremist papers – letter; Lowes Dickinson article on Russian Government - 17 03 14b

Motor ploughing demonstration at University Farm – ploughs with motor power directly attached to them; ladies being trained for farm-gangers; will plough, sow seed and harvest the grain but will take it to market in a train of wagons – 17 03 14c, photo 17 03 14d

1917 03 21
Newspaper difficulties: price of materials risen 100-300%, Chronicle has lost 15 men to army and called in older men such as A.R. Hill, a former editor of Chronicle and Express. But hopes to continue – 17 03 21a

Volunteers practice bomb-throwing on Gogs – photo feature – 17 03 21b

St. Patrick's Day at Hospital. The wounded Irish soldiers are not likely to forget the celebration of the great festival of St. Patrick, which took place at the 1st Eastern General Hospital (Cambridge) on Saturday, as, through the generosity of a committee of ladies and kind friends, they were entertained in a right royal fashion. The day commenced with the celebration of the Mass by the Bishop of Northampton (Dr. Keating) in the Hospital chapel, and his Lordship addressed the large congregation on the subject of St. Patrick. At the close of the service, the Bishop confirmed one of the boys. In the afternoon a tea was given to the soldiers and Irish nurses in the hospital recreation room. Crackers, cigars and sprigs of shamrock were presented to the soldiers. After tea, the tables were cleared and a fine concert was given to the guests. The room was packed. 17 03 21 CIP

1917 03 28
Women attend meeting on war housekeeping and voluntary rationing – 17 03 28e

Marriage of a V.C. Hero. A large number of persons were present at St. Barnabas' Church, Mill Road, Cambridge, on Saturday, when Private J. J. Caffrey, V.C. of Nottingham, was married to Miss Florence Avey, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Avey. 69 Great Eastern Street, Cambridge. Like all heroes. Pte. Caffrey is very disinclined to say much about himself. It was on November 15th. 1915, when Pte. Caffrey (who is a stretcher bearer in the R.A.M.C. attached to the York and Lancaster Regiment) was sent with a corporal into "No man's land" in order to rescue a wounded comrade. After bandaging the man the corporal was shot in the head whilst en¬deavouring to put him on Pte. Caffrey's back. Our hero then placed the man down again, band¬aged the corporal and brought the former into our own lines. He then returned for the corporal and also reached our lines with him. Pte. Caffrey is also the possessor of the Cross of St. George given by the Tsar of Russia on October 23, 1914 which he won by carrying a wounded Brigadier-General to the base, which was two miles away, and all the time exposed to heavy shell-fire 17 03 28 CIP

1917 April

Tanks & aeroplanes used on miniature battle on Gogs [2.7]

1917 04 04
Volunteer Inspection in a Blizzard. The 1st (Cambridge) Battalion. Cambs. Volunteers were inspected by the County Commandant, Col. T. W. Harding on Jesus Close on Sunday morning. The weather was most trying, and for part of the time a regular blizzard was blowing. Under these adverse circumstances the proceedings were shorter than customary. There was a good muster, and the men stood the ordeal excellently 17 04 04 CIP

1917 04 18
Explosive Found on Gogs. On Thursday evening an accident occurred at Cherry Hinton in which a boy named Edwin Jennings, of 55 Hartington Grove, had three of his fingers on one hand blown off and the other hand injured. It appears that a brother had been to the "sham fight" (cadet manoeuvres) on the Gog Magog Hills in the afternoon and had brought borne a bag. Edwin opened it and inside was a small metal tube embedded in sand. Whilst examining it, it exploded. The boy's mother, who was standing near, was knocked down by the force of the explosion but escaped injury. Dr. Coombes was called in and he dressed the wounds and ordered the boy's removal to Addenbrooke's Hospital, where he is still lying. On inquiry, we were told he was fairly comfortable. As a result of what the injured boy's brother said that other boys had similar bags. Inquiries were at once set afoot by the police. It was found that boys had picked up various articles and cartridge cases. One boy, Onyett by name, had taken another of the (canvas) bags home, and with other boys, had actually been using it as a ball. On hearing of the accident, Mr. Archer, chemist, of Cherry Hinton Road, went to Mr. Onyett's house, and advised that the bag should be put into water, and this was done. The accident will probably serve as a warning to others. 17 04 18 CIP

"The battle of the Gogs" – fine operations by Cambridge cadets; film made by A.J. Pointer of Victoria cinema. Includes filling bombs, march to battlefield, attack and counter-attack including planes, bombs and gas – 17 04 18a; photos – 18c

Great Push. With the recommencement of fierce fighting on the Western Front the casualty lists; have assumed larger proportions, and as might well be, expected, Cambridgeshire men figure amongst, those who have fallen in the great cause of liberty. Numerous names are published. 17 04 18 CIP

1917 04 25
Battle of Wimpole and Lord's Bridge – photo feature – 17 04 25a

Volunteer notes – posted away from Cambridge; uniforms to be issued, special service men issued with army rifle; account of preparations for the great push of last July – 17 04 25b

Great Push. With the recommencement of fierce fighting on the Western Front the casualty lists; have assumed larger proportions, and as might well be, expected, Cambridgeshire men figure amongst, those who have fallen in the great cause of liberty. Numerous names are published. - 17 04 25c

Appeal tribunal – very few exceptions – 17 04 25c

1917 May

1917 05 02

Corn Exchange – no business done, farmers practically on strike against Government fixed prices – 17 05 02

Killed. A further number of local men were reported to have been killed on the field of battle. The latest published list included six names, a Histon couple losing a second son – 17 05 02 CIP

1917 05 09
Lord Hood inspects volunteers – includes cyclists – photos – 17 05 09d, 17 05 09c

Tribunal includes licensees – 17 05 09f

Killed In Action. News has been received that Lt. Clifford H. Butler, who, previous to the war, was assistant solicitor to Mr. Ashley Tabrum, Clerk of the Peace and Clerk to the County Council, has been, killed in action. Lt. Butler was an M.A. of Jesus College, Oxford. He was placed first in the 1st Class Honours List of the Solicitors' Final Examination and was awarded the Clements Inn and Daniel Reardon Prize. After serving some years as assistant to the Clerk of the Peace for the East Riding of Yorkshire he came to Cambridge as assistant to Mr. Ashley Tabrum in 1913. In October, 1914, he joined the ranks of the Public Schools Battalion and in December, 1915, he was awarded a commission in the Black Watch. He went out to France with his regiment early in 1916 and was shot through the head while leading his men on. Death was instantaneous. Lieut. Gerald S. French, of the Royal Flying Corps, son of Mr. Sidney French, of Llandaff Chambers, Cambridge, is reported missing. Mr. French has no official news at present, but he heard unofficially that his son was shot down. 17 05 09 CIP

17 05 16
War and treatment of animals – work of the Cambridge RSPCA ; new home for stray dogs and cats – 17 05 16c

Volunteer fireman H. Glover funeral – photos – 17 05 16d

Corp. G.H. Pedley, RAMC, military funeral – 17 05 16e

Vinery Road allotments set out – photos – 17 05 16f

Flight Serg. Frederic Slingsby, RFC, awarded Military Medal – was attacked by German, he fired 140 rounds then landed plane after pilot killed – 17 05 16g

17 05 23
General Smuts' Visit. The visit of General Smuts and Dr. Page (American Ambassador) to receive honorary degrees (Doctor of Laws) at the hands of the Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge University (the President of Queens') created quite a wave of excitement in the town. There were large gatherings both inside and outside the Senate on Wednesday afternoon, and the distinguished visitors were accorded a hearty welcome. Inspect troops – photo -17 05 23a

17 05 30
St Chad's Red Cross Hospital celebrate anniversary by boat trip to Upware – 17 05 30d

Capt Hugh Chaplin buried with military honours, Trumpington – photo – 17 05 30e

1917 June

1917 06 06
Lost In Mediterranean. Among those on board the British transport Transylvania, which was torpedoed in the Mediterranean on May 4 were two Cambridge men, one of whom survived and the other was drowned. The latter was Private Ernest William Taylor of Brookside Cottage, Burnside, Cambridge, and the survivor is Private Edward Brown, of 5 North Terrace. Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge, Another victim of the Transylvania was Sgt W. H. Norman, of the R.A.M.C. (the Rev. W, H, Norman, formerly superintendent of the Castle End Mission). Mr. M, Norman entered the Ministry some years ago, and was superintendent of the Castle End Mission for a good period. Shortly before the outbreak of war he accepted a call to the pastorate of a Glasgow Congregational Church, but he obtained leave from his church and joined the R.A.M.C., feeling that it was his duty. In this regiment he rapidly gained promotion. He had served in Ireland and France, and was going out to Egypt when his ship was torpedoed 17 06 06 CIP

Cambridge School of Flying and Aerodrome Company Ltd at Hardwick is equipped with hangars housing five Tractor Dual Control biplanes; until recently was only open to military pupils but now training for pupils intending to enter the Royal Flying Corps or Royal Naval Air Service. The machines are Cauldron biplanes. Frequently open for the public to witness exhibition flights – 17 06 06a; illustrated advert 17 06 06b

1917 06 13
Crosses erected over graves of those died in service buried at Newmarket Road cemetery – photo – 17 06 13a

Allotments. A walk round the various allotment grounds in the Borough of Cambridge is distinctly encouraging ('says the' writer of Town and Country Topics), for the most unpromising plots of the newly-cultivated land are turning out better than the most optimistic might have expected. The crops are through the soil, and show splendid promise, and the allotment holders must feel greatly encouraged and well rewarded for their labours, which have not been light. We hope that as the result of war-time measures the gardening habit may be re-established at Cambridge. A quarter of a century or so ago gardening was practised very extensively in Cambridge, and amateur horticulturists and college gardeners were produced who accomplished wonders in the way of intensive cultivation and carried off prizes even in All-England shows. The growth of Cambridge and other causes checked the gardening habits, which has now another opportunity, and we hope it may now progress. 17 06 13 CIP

1917 06 20
Chief Scout at Rally. Although some disappointment was felt at the non-appearance at the appointed time of General Baden-Powell, the Chief Scout, the rally of Cambridge, Newmarket and Ely Boy Scouts on Sheep’s Green, Cambridge last Wednesday was carried through with great success. "The Chief," after being delayed several hours through an air raid over London, turned up later in the afternoon, accompanied by the Member for the Borough (Mr. Almeric Paget).– 17 06 20a; pictures 20c

First Cambridge War Kitchen on corner of Church Street opened; to promote economy by cooking on a large scale and enabling people to purchase food at small prices – 17 06 20b, photo 17 06 27c

1917 06 27

First Cambridge War Kitchen on corner of Church Street opened; to promote economy by cooking on a large scale and enabling people to purchase food at small prices – 17 06 20b, photo 17 06 27c

National Federation of Discharged and Demobilised Sailors and Soldiers meeting; thousands of finest lads in the world now back at home, shattered. Found their jobs held by foreigners. Now government says they will recall these sick and lame men. But the army wanted men, not cripples – 17 06 27b

1917 July

Cambridgeshire Regiment St Julien, Ypres Salient, 31 Jul – 1 Aug 1917; of the 19 officers & 451 other ranks, 16 officers and 286 other ranks were killed or injured – RC

1917 07 11
Cherry Hinton military hospital concert – 17 07 11b

War Bonus Snowball. The warning we gave in these columns recently of the possible extension of the demands for war bonuses and similar increases from public officials continues to be justified (says the writer of Town and Country Topics). A month ago the salaries of certain of the officers of the Cambridge Guardians were advanced in this way. At the last meeting of the Town Council, further members of the Corporation staff received additions to their pay. Today the Cambridge Guardians are being asked to allow war bonuses to two more of their officials. And so the thing goes on, ever increasing like a snowball, and most certainly never diminishing for to all intents and purposes these are permanent increases. We do not wish to appear mean in any way and we agree that public bodies should set an example to other employers, but we plead that consideration should also be shown for the poor ratepayers. The public as his salary guaranteed to him. The average ratepayer has not. Is the average ratepayer to be the only person who is to be called upon to make sacrifices, and is bureaucracy to go free? 17 07 11 CIP

1917 07 18
Awarded Military Medal. Private F. Jones of 10, Shelley Row, Cambridge, a regimental stretcher-bearer in the Norfolk Regiment, has been awarded the Military Medal for gallantry and devotion to duty when attending to the wounded under very heavy fire during an attack east of Givenchy in September last. Private Jones, who is 21 years of age, enlisted in September 1914, and was for ten weeks in France and then in hospital in England for 15 weeks with frostbite. In March, 1915, he returned to France, and he now lies in a Chester hospital with a poisoned leg and foot. Previous to enlisting, Pte. Jones was employed at a Norwich hotel. 17 07 18 CIP

1917 August

Cambridgeshire Regiment rain & mud, 1-4 Aug 1917
Cambridgeshire Regiment out of line 6 Aug for 10 days
Cambridgeshire Regiment Tower Hamlets Aug & Sep 1917, Riddell leaves as commanding officer 1/1 Cambridgeshire Regiment – RC

1917 September

Due to bungle Cambridge not allocated any sugar [2.9]

1917 09 05
First Eastern General sports on King's ground – photos – 17 09 05c

1917 09 12
Industries for Cambridge attract attention; is no reason they should not be developed side by side with university – 17 09 12a

Awarded Military Medal. Corporal E. Porter, R.E., son of' Mrs. Mitchell, who was awarded the D.C.M. in September last for gallantry in action during an enemy counter-attack has now been awarded the Military Medal. Corporal Porter, who is 28 years of age, was formerly a fireman on the Great Northern Railway at Cambridge, and enlisted m January. 1915. He has been in France just over two years. 17 09 12 CIP

1917 09 19
Pigeons. A notice issued by Lt-Col Alan Chichester, Chief Constable of Cambridgeshire, states; As it is all-important that carrier and homing pigeons should not be shot, the public are to retrain from shooting which all pigeons which are flying singly. If a carrier or homing pigeon should be shot by accident, the bird should be taken to the nearest police station. 17 09 19 CIP

1917 October

Cambridgeshire Regiment aftermath of Passchendale, 1 Oct – 31 Dec

1917 10 03
'Trek through Northern France' – a Cambridge man's experiences by F.J.P. a man well-known in local musical and dramatic circles – 17 10 03d

Serbian Colony. An interesting reception, at which 100 people were present, was hold in Westminster College, Cambridge, on Saturday evening to celebrate the closing of the temporary Serbian colony at the college. This colony has been running for the past three months under the care of the Serbian Relief Fund, to enable students to pass a matriculation examination at a standard set by the Serbians, and which the British Universities had agreed shall take the place of Responsions and Little-go. Thirty Serbian students had taken part in the exam. 17 10 03a CIP

1917 10 10
Heroic Action. Last week we recorded the heroic action of Dr Alex Wood. Commandant, of Cambs. V.A.D., 7, in diving off Silver Street Bridge and rescuing a lad who was in difficulties in the water. This week Dr. Wood gave an exhibition of lifesaving at a V.A.D. inspection in the grounds of Emmanuel College. 17 10 10 CIP

1917 10 17
Black Saturday, - The last day of last week (says the writer of Town and Country Topics) was a Black Saturday for a good many housekeepers, who flitted vainly from shop to shop in an endeavour to obtain a supply of lea. The threatened shortage had become an actual one, and it is to be feared that in many households on Sunday all manner of makeshifts had to be adopted to provide a substitute for the comforting beverage the present generation of English people have come to regard as an indispensable and common accompaniment to the breakfast and the tea table. It is by such homely crises that the fact that we are at war, and what war means, is being brought home to us even more effectually than by the terrible sacrifices of human life and physical powers we have been called upon to make in the great struggle for freedom. The

experience of Saturday last was not peculiar to Cambridge. It was general throughout the country. 17 10 17 CIP

1917 10 24
The Zeppelins. Cambridge was disturbed from its long immunity from air raid warnings on Friday, when Zeppelins "made an unwelcome reappearance in this part of the country." It was gratifying to find that immunity had not rendered our people in any way intractable. The police instructions were carried out in most cases without any protests, even when those instructions went to the extreme length of directing men to extinguish their pipes or cigarettes. A few householders were a little difficult to manage with regard to lights, but that was probably due more to ignorance than from obstinacy, and now that those householders know that the danger was really near, and that carelessness on their part might have produced a calamity similar to the kind which befell two or three London areas, they will probably show more prudence in the future. The streets were extremely quiet as well as dark, and we congratulate both police and public upon the success of the measures adopted for our protection. 17 10 24 CIP

Volunteer movement 3rd anniversary – account of formation and activities – 17 10 24b

1917 10 31
Lighting offences at time of the Zeppelin raid, 19th October – 17 10 31a

1917 November

1917 11 21
Cambridge Depot of Women Examiners of Munitions examine all such work in area – named group photo – 17 11 21a

Saved by New Testament — On October 12, at the Ypres front, a bullet went through the knapsack on the back of Pte. F. Jelks, of the Surrey Regiment, passed through a copy of the New Testament, and entered his back. In the opinion of the medical officer who extracted the bullet, the Testament undoubtedly saved the man's life. If the bullet had not passed through the Testament it would have gone much deeper in his body and killed him. The Testament was like those distributed by the Y.M.C.A. in France. Pte, Jelks is in Ward B at the 1st Eastern General Hospital, Cambridge. 17 11 21 CIP

1917 11 22
Cambridge women war workers [8.3]

1917 11 30
Fitzroy Street shop turned into food depot; needs bigger premises – people's restaurant – 17 11 30

1917 December

1917 12 19
Meat Shortage. On Tuesday morning the newspapers published Sir Arthur Yapp's announcement that there is a definite shortage of tea, butter, margarine, ham, bacon, and meat, and the meat shortage looks very serious. Cambridge householders have realised all these things throughout the month of December, and now they have a special trouble of their own looming before them. The local butchers have publicly declared their intention, of closing down their shops on Saturday next "unless some higher selling price satisfactory to the butchers is fixed by the Local Food

Control Committee," and this we understand the Local Food Control Committee have declined to do. The trouble is one of some standing, and has been gradually accentuated. The shortage of the supply of meat in the London markets has sent the buyers into the provincial cattle markets, and the competition of the London-men has forced prices up to a point which renders it impossible for them to sell at the maximum price fixed by the Local Food Control Committee except by incurring heavy financial loss. 17 12 19 CIP

1917 12 26
Margarine Queues. The queues, which have been getting larger day by day in Petty Cury, assumed such alarming dimensions on Saturday that one person at least was injured and others fainted. Margarine was the chief commodity sought, a supply having been delayed the day before owing to the fog. The Borough Food Control Committee took commendable action to consider how best to relieve the situation. They suggested that traders should transfer their stocks of margarine to the Corn Exchange and sell it there, and the Committee would give them every facility; they also suggested the margarine should only be sold in 1lbs, or multiples of 1lb. Some was transferred and between 2 and 4 o'clock 1,000 transactions in margarine had taken place. The people were arranged in queues outside the hall. The margarine was put up in 1lb and 2 lb packages, the limit to each person being 2 lb. Everything went oft without a hitch 17 12 26 CIP [2.10,455.8.4,455.8.5], 17 12 26a

1918 January
Cambridgeshire Regiment gathering storm 1 Jan – Mar 1918

Russians encamped near Newmarket: a camp for officers & their families, 250 from Archangel; were POWs of Germans, later fought revolutionists (dispersed 1920) [2.1, 2.2, 2.3]

Alderman Ralph Starr entered the photographic studios of Messrs Hills and Saunders as a young man but then started a studio of his own and became one of Cambridge's most eminent photographers. He was Mayor in 1918 at a time when there was unrest among the ex-Service men. Trouble broke out in Luton and he was asked to send 20 constables to keep order. For the next three days Cambridge, which might have flared into disorder, was deprived of a considerable proportion of her own protectors but the danger passed. 30 07 15

1918 01 09
An Anxious Weekend. Cambridge housewives, in common with those of other towns are unlikely to forget their experiences of last weekend, when a shortage of meat developed. For the first time a realisation of what war really means was brought home to family circles who before had suffered slight inconveniences, without any serious effect, and now stared blankly upon the dire possibilities of encountering want amongst plenty, through the power of money being overmastered by scarcity. Some Sunday dinners were of a very unusual character, and everybody felt uncomfortable as to the future. Official statements have been made that the matter will right itself after a little while, but the state of the markets does not allay anxiety, and cattle breeders are seen to be in an ugly mood and to be stubbornly resisting the attempt to place them under a rule. The domestic Chancellor of the Exchequer needs to be a person of no mean ability in these days to "carry on" the family affairs with smoothness and efficiency, and we must all have sympathy for her. 18 01 09 CIP

Empty VAD Hospitals, hope to use – 18 01 09b

Tribunal – cases of military tailors – 18 01 09c

Four Military Crosses. The latest honours list includes the names of four Cambridge officers among the Military Cross awards. Two are sons of Borough Councillors. They are Captain Bernard E. King. Norfolk Regiment; Captain A. P. H. Squires, Lincolnshire Regiment; Captain C. V, Canning. Suffolk Regiment; and Lieut. R. H. H. Whitehead, Leicestershire R.H.A. 18 01 09 CIP

1918 01 16
Casualties photos: Stocks, Fuller, Hobbs, Whitehead, Littlechild, Dann, Winter, Scott, Wright, Amon, Ferguson, Ranner, Parfrey, Long – 18 01 16a

1918 01 23
Record Floods. As a result of the heavy fall of snow on the evening of January 15-16, Cambridge was visited during the weekend by such high floods as have not been known for many years. With the melting of the snow the Rivers Cam and Granta assumed a very muddy and turbulent appearance, and the water gradually increased in volume until in places it overflowed its banks and inundated many of the low-lying lands in the district. Since Sunday morning, however, when the floods were at their height, the waters have subsided with remarkable rapidity. Great havoc and distress was caused by flooding to houses situate in Mill Lane, Sawston, the houses being under water some four or five deep from Saturday midday until Monday morning. The deepest flood for 15 or 20 years was experienced at Ickleton on Saturday. The river began to overflow on Friday afternoon, so that several meadows were under water, but by early Saturday morning the meadows between Ickleton and Chesterford were inundated. The people in Mill Street had a very unpleasant experience, as the street was flooded from one end to the other to the depth of several feet. Most of the people had to keep in their houses, and in some cases the basements of the houses had about six or more inches of water . . . If the river had been banked up along the meadow at the bottom of the street much inconvenience would have been saved. 18 01 23 CIP

Anzac's snow fight – Colonial cadets make most of wintry conditions – photo – 18 01 23c
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OTC assist at Gas works due shortage of labour – photos – 18 01 23c

Licensed victuallers protection associate report difficulty carrying on – 18 01 23d

1918 01 30
Floods. The severe weather and the thaw of last week has had further detrimental effects upon the trees at the Backs of the Colleges and our riverside walks (says the writer of Town and Country Topics). Many old familiar arborial friends have been dismembered, notably the veteran weeping willow on the south-west side of Trinity College Bridge. The floods which followed the thaw rose to a considerable height and considerable damage is now seen to have been done to the river banks at Sheep's Green. Part of the trouble here is said to have been caused through the flood gates at the Apron being out of repair, and a casual inspection shows them, to be in a very dilapidated condition. The condition of the streets this weekend has been deplorable, presumably owing to the shortage of labour and haulage, but an improvement is now being effected. We hear rumours of further demands from labour, which appear to be due to the irresponsible way in which workpeople are being attracted to some new enterprise. We think that representations should be made to the Government as to the mischief that is being done and a more rational system introduced. - 18 0130 CIP

Floods at Cambridge – photos – 18 01 30a

Australia Day – Officer Cadet Corps parade – 18 01 30b

1918 February

1918 02 06
Borough tribunal includes dentists, coal merchants, newspaper & printing trades including Morley Stuart sub-editor CDN, medically rejected – 18 02 06b

Communal Dinners. Young children enjoy midday meals at the East Road schools now. The meals, which were started on January 14, are supplied by the Fitzroy Street communal kitchen, and each child pays a small sum per week for five dinners. When the school was first started there were only 23 children who availed themselves of the opportunity of taking their dinner at the school, but now the number has increased to about 40. The dinner is served in a room which was formerly the baby room of the old school, but which for a number of years has been used as a .storeroom. The room has been cleaned, distempered and decorated, and presents quite a cheery appearance. – 18 02 06c

1918 02 20
Chesterton Communal Kitchen, St Luke's vicarage, opens – 18 02 20a

Tribunal – printers and newspapers, firemen exempted, bootmakers – 18 02 20c

Fulbourn Nurse Honoured. Nurse Dorothy Nicholls, daughter of Dr and Mrs. Nicholls, of Fulbourn, has been awarded the 1914 Bronze Star by the Red Cross Society, which has been forwarded with notice from the War Office. Nurse Nicholls has been in France for six months. Previous to that she was for 18 months on the Russian Front, and has had some wonderful experiences and marvellous escapes. 18 02 20 CIP

Triple Bill. Officer Cadet Battalions presented a delightful triple bill at the New Theatre, Cambridge, on Tuesday week, as a result of which the sum of over £230 has been handed to the local funds of the Red Cross Society. The theatre was packed at both the matinee and the evening performance. 18 02 20 CIP

1918 02 27
Tribunal includes Brimley, Whibley & sons, grocers; Lion Hotel, motor garages – 18 02 27c

Cambridge Volunteers field day, Gogs include trench attack – 18 02 27d

Funeral of instructor at No 2 Officer Cadel Battalion at Emmanuel College – photos – 18 02 27e

Promotion for Flight-Command E.J. Burling, airman – 18 02 27f

1918 March

Cambridgeshire Regiment – the deluge, 21-30 Mar 1917; in eight days fighting lost 13 officers & 370 other ranks – RC

1918 03 13
Air crash a few miles from Cambridge; RFC officer killed – 18 03 13c

1918 03 19

National Party - anti-German - establish branch [455.8.9]

1918 03 20
The Secretary of State for War, Lord Derby, made an unofficial inspection of the 1st Eastern Hospital. He visited the administrative offices, the Nurses' Mess and went round several of the wards & the recreation room, where the Irish ladies of the town had provided a sumptuous tea on the eve of St. Patrick's Day for the Irish patients. This pleased him much. The kitchen and operating theatre were then inspected, and he expressed himself as being extremely satisfied especially with the open-air wards. 18 03 20 CIP

Too much for twist. A tobacconist was summoned at Cambridge on Friday for selling one ounce of twist tobacco in excess of the maximum retail price of 6d as fixed by the Tobacco Control Board, viz 7½d. Defendant was fined 30s including costs 18 03 20 CIP

Minister visits Hospital. The Secretary of State for War, Lord Derby, made an unofficial inspection of the 1st Eastern Hospital on Saturday afternoon last. He visited the administrative offices, the Nurses' Mess and went round several of the wards. He spoke to each patient and was much gratified when he found a Lancashire man. He also found time to visit the recreation room, where the Irish ladies of the town had provided a sumptuous tea on the eve of St. Patrick's Day—all outside rationed food—for the Irish patients. This pleased him much. The kitchen and operating theatre were then inspected, and on the termination of his visit Lord Derby expressed himself as being extremely satisfied with the arrangements, and especially with the open-air wards 18 03 20 CIP

Trumpington unveil third Roll of Honour board – 18 03 20b

1918 03 27
Princess Mary at Cambridge. Princess Mary paid her first visit to Cambridge on Saturday afternoon, and saw the old University town under its most modern conditions, its begowned undergraduates replaced by brown uniformed officer cadets and its men in many cases supplemented by women. It was in recognition of the women to the winning of the war that Her Royal Highness honoured the town with her presence. Her task was to present badges of various kinds to the Women of the Land Army and the Village Workers and to encourage more to come forward in "support of the food line" 18 03 27 CIP

War Savings. Cambridge is one of 74 towns exceeding 10,000 inhabitants which have over the whole period of 23 weeks from the day of issue, exceeded their weekly quota of subscriptions to the National War Bonds. The quota established is 10s per head per week, man, woman and child. If everyone subscribed the required 25 millions per week would be raised. Cambridge is one of the 74 towns which has not been visited by a tank – 18 03 27 CIP

Women scavengers. Women are now employed by the Cambridge Corporation as street scavengers and are performing the duties very capably, too - photo – 18 03 27e

Paper restriction order affects price and size of Cambridge Chronicle but the picture page will continue as one of the chief features – 18 03 27c

Tribunal includes J.G. Runciman, vet; Foster Bros apply workers; J.H. Priest, stationery and fine art dealer; 18 03 27d

Wordsworth Grove Hospital use Newnham gymnasium for massage and electrical department – photos – 18 03 27f

1918 April

Cambridgeshire Regiment – last of the 39th division, 31 Mar – 5 May 1918; for very last time left the Ypres Salient; 3-9th had to be written off as a fighting unit – RC

1918 04 03
Anzac Day at Cambridge mark 3rd anniversary - photos – 18 04 03

1918 04 10
Our Cambridgeshire Lads. We are glad to be able to contradict the sinister reports that have been in circulation concerning the Cambridgeshire Regiment It has "passed through ten days of the heaviest fighting," and it has sustained losses, but it has not been "cut up;" and a letter which we have received from the front states that the casualties have not been nearly so heavy as might have been expected. The letter adds "the story of the fighting will make good reading for the people of Cambridgeshire when published." That we readily believe. From its very first landing in France, the men of the Cambridgeshire Regiment have gone on enlarging its reputation and adding fresh laurels to its achievements. It has been through the furnace of fiery trial more than once, and we are sure that the honour of our county is safe in its hands. May God send our gallant Cambridgeshire lads back to us very soon, happy because victorious. 18 04 10 CIP

Casualties photos: Cockerton, Perkins, Hutcherson, Jordan, Wheaton, Stangward, Townsend,, Fox, Leach, Hiner, Miller, Coe, Bass, Biggs – 18 04 10a

1918 04 24
Diamond cutting industry proposed to train discharged soldiers; erect building for 36 students with the hope that a factory would be established; taking some ground belonging to County School for Girls – details – 18 04 24a

A great flood. The Cambridge district was visited last week by a flood which reached a higher level than has been recorded since the historical inundation which followed the great storm of August 3, 1879. Miles of country were under water on Wednesday; roads and paths were rendered impassable to foot passengers, the ferries at Cambridge were stopped, low-lying houses and premises near the river were flooded and the water was up to the permanent way of the railway between Chesterton and Waterbeach. Fortunately the flood water was got away quickly down stream, but it rise showed what a considerable quantity of water must have fallen in the first three days of last week, and also how important it is that there should be no obstruction at Denver. The river has shown more frequent tendencies to flood of late years than, formerly - one cause is said to be the clearing-out of ditches and water courses by War Agricultural Committees – 18 04 24

1918 May

Cambridgeshire Regiment – rebuilding of a battalion May & June 1918 – RC

1918 05 01
Another aeroplane smash: two airmen die when parts of wing break away while stunting – 18 05 01a

Objected to the Dock. At the Cambridge Borough Court on Monday morning, a cycle agent was summoned for a lighting offence in respect of a window at the rear of a shop at 11.25 p.m. on April 21. Defendant, who pleaded not guilty, entered a strong protest against going into the dock for so trivial an offence, but the chairman said the Bench had decided that all defendants should go into the dock and they could not make any exception. Fined 5s. - 18 05 01 CIP

Aeroplane crash. A tragic flying accident which involved the deaths of two airmen took place in Cambridgeshire on Saturday afternoon. Two men of the R.A.F. were up in an aeroplane ten miles out of Cambridge when some portion of the wings broke away, with the result that the machine came to earth. One man was found among the wreckage and the other about 20 yards away. Both were quite dead. An R.A.F. officer spoke at an inquest of seeing the machine stunting. The jury returned a verdict that death was due to injuries received by the aeroplane accidentally crashing to the ground in consequence of the wings having broken away – 18 05 01 CIP

1918 05 08
Casualties photos: Mowlam, Pleasant, Chapman, Penton, Cowell, Marfleet, Goodwin, Burr, Murfitt, King, Jarvis, Maltby – 18 05 08b

Fulbourn Nurse Honoured. Hearty congratulations to Sister Whitmore of nearly four years' splendid work at the V.A.D. Hospital, Fulbourn. On Saturday she was received by the King at Buckingham Palace and was presented with a silver medal. At Marlborough House she was presented with a Lovel Certificate and a book entitled, "The Way of the Red Cross," by Queen Alexandra. The nurses and patients of the Red Cross Hospital, Fulbourn met the sister on her return journey and gave her a cordial reception 18 05 08 CIP – 18 05 08c

Morality of Cambridge. Speaking at the Cambridge Ruri-Decanal Conference on Friday, the Mayor of Cambridge (the Rev. Dr. E. C. Pearce, Master of Corpus Christi) referred to the question of immorality. He said he very much feared it was rife in the town. It was not only the young girls who were the offenders, it was also the older married women whose husbands were very often on active service. The Watch Committee were quite alive to the state of the streets, and the audience might be interested to hear that they had just decided to appoint two police-women (applause). That was a start and he hoped there would be more in time. 18 05 08 CIP

1918 05 15
The American is upon us. In the streets of Cambridge and in villages he is already a familiar figure. . The air of strangeness he exhibited on his first arrival is wearing off. A society has been formed by ladies ‘Association of Cambridgeshire for Entertainment of American Airmen’ – 18 05 15a

Casualties pictures: Gatward, Peach, Ward, Woodcock, Dean, Fairey, Long, Coe, Goward, Burrell, Bynge, Tunwell, Marshall, Coote, Pearson, Randall – 18 05 15d

1918 05 22
The six sons of Mrs. Northfield, of 32 Bradmore Street, Cambridge, have recently met together at their mother's house for the first time since the outbreak of war, after a period of convalescence. Mrs. Northfield had seven sons originally fighting for their country, but one was killed in action in 1915. 18 05 22 CIP

Inquest on pilot killed when flying over Cambs; flying same machine as that in which airman killed earlier; engine stalled – 18 05 22a

1918 05 29
Women's Land Army demonstration. 18 05 29 CIP

Women's Land Army demonstration – 200 parade with motor tractor and traction engine; demonstration of hay bailing on Parker's Piece; should result in large numbers of girls in the district flocking to play their part by filling the gaps left in the ranks of the agricultural workers need for more labour – 18 05 29b, c

Airman killed when plane fell and burst into flames – 18 05 29c

1918 June

1918 06 05
Accident at Trumpington coprolite works – 18 06 05a

Women's Land Army recruiting rally – photos – 18 06 05b

1918 06 12
Tribunal; includes tailors – six businesses would be closed altogether, Runciman blacksmith – 18 06 12b

Books for the wounded appeal – 18 06 12b

American baseball players at Fenners – photo – 18 06 12c

Killed on Solo Flight. We regret to announce the death of 2nd Lt. Frederick Banks, of the Essex Regt, youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. George Banks, 179, Milton Road, Cambridge, which took place in Hampstead Hospital, London, as a result of an accident whilst flying in Middlesex last Thursday. It. was stated at the inquest that Lt. Banks descended without his engine on; suddenly he switched it on again and tried to turn the machine, which nose-dived to the ground, Lt. Banks receiving fatal injuries. It was his first solo flight. Officers of the Corps gave evidence as to the capability he had shown during his training – 18 06 12e

1918 06 19
Casualties pics: Driver, Nightingale, Elwood, Baker, Docwra, Earl, Roberts, Blogg – 18 06 19a

1918 06 26
Since August, 1914, up to the present time over 900 Old Leysians had joined the Colours, of whom, 120 had given their lives. Since the last Speech Day five more D.S.O.s and 23 more M.C.s had been won, making their total up to 10 D.S.O.'s and 39 M.C.'s. In addition to those they had two C.M.G.s to their credit 18 06 26 CIP

1918 July

1918 07 03

1918 07 10
Library report says people have turned to reading as distraction from war – 18 07 10a

Americans celebrate 4th July, airmen marched from railway station, service at King's then marched behind band to Fenner's for baseball match – 18 07 10c, photos 10e

Uniformed Women Scavengers. A notable feature of Cambridge streets is the women scavengers, who are now turned out in a smart uniform. They are doing their work in a very capable fashion, and keep the thoroughfares wonderfully spick and span 18 07 10 CIP

1918 07 17
Tribunal includes George Wootten, coroner; only 27 solicitors left in Cambridge – 18 07 17a

American soldiers thanks for Cambridge hospitality – 18 10 17b

1918 07 24
Bar to Military Cross. Capt H. C. Walby, M.C. North Staffordshire Regt. (attached to the King's Own Yorkshire Light Infantry), son of Mr. C. P. Walby, of 38 De Freville Avenue, Cambridge, has been awarded a bar to his Military Cross. Capt. Walby, who is an Old Persean, is 21 years of age. A member of the Perse School O.T.C. when war broke out, he obtained his commission and joined a cadet battalion at Hertford College, Oxford, in February, about five months later. 18 07 24 CIP

1918 07 31
Two airmen killed in flying accident – 18 07 31b

Cambridgeshire Volunteer Regiment training camp at Madingley – 18 07 31c

1918 August

Cambridgeshire Regiment Morlancourt 7-19 Aug 1918 – RC
Cambridgeshire Regiment time for reflection 19-20 Aug 1918
Cambridgeshire Regiment Battle of Bapaume 21-27 Aug 1918 – with Amiens drover Germans back

1918 08 07
Cambridge and America – lectures – 18 08 07b

Women workers at gas works – photo feature – 18 08 07c

1918 08 14

1918 08 21
Flying fatality inquest – 18 08 21a

Grocers ask to be able to cancel coupons by stamping them with a rubber stamp or indelible pencil instead of cutting them out as at present – 18 08 21b

Vicar's Return. It was announced at St. Luke's Church, Chesterton, on Sunday that the Vicar, the Rev. W. W. Partridge, who for the past 12 months has been acting as a chaplain to the Forces in Salonika, had landed in England and expected to be in Cambridge in the course of a few days. 18 08 21

1918 08 28
Staying in Russia. News has at last come through that of the whereabouts of the Vicar of Pampisford's daughter, Miss Margaret Barber. She went out to Serbia as a V.A.D., and remained with Dr. Berry's unit until sent Borne by the Austrians. After a month in England Miss Barber went with the Lord Mayors Armenian Relief Expedition to Van. When the rest of the party returned home, she took up work in East Russia among Polish refugees and German prisoners. The work has ceased and a returning doctor brings news that Miss Barber is still remaining in Russia again assisting Armenian refugees who are fleeing from the Turks over the Caucasus at Vladikavkaz. – 18 08 28 CIP

1918 September

Cambridgeshire Regiment – the turning point, 1-3 Sep 1918, Clayton given command Cambridgeshires
Cambridgeshire Regiment – Nurlu 4-6 Sep 1918
Cambridgeshire Regiment preparing for Hindenberg line, 6-17 Sep 1918
Cambridgeshire Regiment – Epehy, 181-30 Sep 1918 – 6 officers killed, 6 wounded; 36 other ranks killed, 152 wounded
Leper chapel dedicated for use of troops in Barnwell area [2.15]

1918 09 04
Killed by Shell. A letter of no small importance, since it tells of the fate of three Cambridge officers, Lieut.-Col. Edward T Saint, D.S.O., Capt. and Adjutant Alec Johnson and Lieut. H. F. Driver, M.C. has been received in Cambridge. It states these three officers were in a dug-out at Battalion Headquarters about nine o'clock on the morning of August 28 when a shell burst nearby, killing Lieut. Driver and another signalling officer, who was with him, instantly. Capt. Johnson, more fortunate, escaped miraculously with flesh wounds, but Lieut.-Col. Saint was so severely injured that he succumbed on the following day. Lieut-Col. Saint was a son of Mr. William Saint, builder and contractor, and was a motor engineer on his own account. Capt. Johnson is the elder son of Mr. Percy Johnson, of St. Barnabas Road, Cambridge, and Lieut. Driver was the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. J. K. Driver, 82 Hills Road, Cambridge - 18 09 04 CIP

Major Bertram Hopkinson, Prof of Mechanism at Kings, killed in flying accident; worked with RAF carrying out many experiments resulting in vast mechanical improvements – 18 09 04a

'Cambridge Magazine' publishes Bolshevik newspaper cuttings … honours German spies … good name of Cambridge being imperilled by this alien production … 18 09 04b

Sir Eric Geddes, First Lord of Admiralty – profile – 18 09 04c

Casualties biographies, includes junior bursar of Trinity, Capt Tebbutt etc – 18 09 04d

1918 09 11
Discharged and demobilised soldiers meeting … train disabled; proposed hostel in Cambridge – 18 09 11a

Tribunal; includes: printers, bootmakers, J.B. Walford of Ortona – 18 09 11b

Sailor's Lucky Escape. An interesting account has been recorded of the adventures of a Cambridge youth. F. Williams, whose parents reside at 55 Argyle Street, Mill Road. Williams

went into the Navy two years after he left school. At the opening of the war, he was with the Grand Fleet, and participated in the scrap at Siligoland. He was wounded and was in hospital at Clapham for about three months. After a subsequent training in gunnery, he was appointed to a station ship in the Mediterranean, and the news now comes through that his boat was last month torpedoed and sunk in less than two minutes. Eight of the crew were lost, including two officers. Every man stood to his post until the ship turned right over and slipped quietly into the water. Williams was, by chance, the last to leave the ship, as he was pinned on the bridge until the boat sank, when the water released him. He reports that he came out of it very luckily, only having his left hand injured. After being an hour in the water he was rescued and taken to sick quarters on shore. 18 09 11 CIP

1918 09 18
One of the 33 machine-guns captured by the Cambridgeshire Regiment is now on view in Sidney Street - 18 09 18 CIP

Distributors of hay and fodder to register customers - 18 09 18a

Men just back from the front on leave have a very strong feeling indeed about the mania for striking, which is running through this country at the present time There is no lack of sympathy with labour among the men out at the front, but these men are in touch with actualities and see for themselves that a crisis can be turned signally to our immediate advantage if we all put our backs into it, and that any contrary action will have the effect of prolonging the war. They are making enormous sacrifices and passing through horrifying experiences which, the imagination of the people at home cannot picture, and they are naturally indignant at the selfish action on the part of their fellows which is disturbing the comfort of the soldiers' families and tends to keep the soldier himself longer out in this awful hell 18 09 18 CIP

1918 09 25
Fatal air crash – 18 09 25a

Tribunal; includes: Joseph Reed, worried that might damage his singing voice, sings at charity concerts, F.W. Smith butcher, Jenkins fishmonger, – 18 09 25c

Bar to Military Cross. Temporary Captain C. V. Canning, youngest son of the late Mr. Wm. Canning, of 40 De Freville Avenue, Cambridge, has been awarded a bar to his M.C. While in command of his company he established a bombing block and drove off four determined enemy attacks. He rescued five prisoners from the enemy. He showed great tenacity and skill in handling his company under the most trying circumstances. 18 09 25 CIP

1918 October

Cambridgeshire Regiment advance from Vimy Ridge 1-10 Oct 1918
Cambridgeshire Regiment – the final advance, 15 Oct-20 Nov 1918

1918 10 02
In Memory of the Fallen. A service, which will take its place among .the great historic local events of the Great War, was held at Great St. Mary's Church, Cambridge, on Thursday, in memory of the officers, N.C.O.'s and men of Cambs and the Isle of Ely who have paid the Great

Price. The gathering was fully, representative of the County, Borough and the University and the scene; in church was a most striking one - 18 10 02 CIP

1918 10 09
Borough food control committee; protests against winter price of milk – large amount coming in to Cambridge; does not allow margin for producers – 18 10 09b

Castle End roll of honour recently unveiled – 18 10 09c

Women's Institutes work in Cambridgeshire, various industries – cobbling, hurdle-making, pig keeping; are over 200 National Service girls working on farms in Cambridgeshire – 18 10 09d

1918 10 16
Royal Visit. It was certainly not royal weather that accompanied the Queen and Princess Mary on their visit to the tuberculosis colony at Papworth Hall and the First Eastern General Hospital, Cambridge. Nevertheless, the actual proceedings were in no sense dampened by the weather, and the royal visitors appeared to spend an exceedingly interesting afternoon. One incident worthy of mention was at the First Eastern Hospital, where the Queen, evidently recognising the difficulties which beset a photographer owing to the bad climate conditions, at her own request stood for a few moments to enable him to secure a snapshot. 18 10 16 CIP

Volunteers of the Cambridgeshire Service Company who undertook whole-time defence duties in the early summer when country being denuded of troops have returned home – 18 10 16a

Petersfield, Sturton Town communal kitchen proposed – 18 10 16a

1918 10 23
Fatal accident at aerodrome – inquest at EGH – 18 10 23b

Casualties photos: Boughey, Benstead, Cottam, Long, Rule, Horspool, Watson, Radford, Loker, Cutting, Webb, Vail, Rich, Gentle, Cowell, Blincoe – 18 10 23d

1918 10 30
Two airmen killed in flying accident – 18 10 30a

Influenza Epidemic. There are no signs yet in Cambridge of the abatement of influenza; in fact, outlying districts, which were immune a week or two ago, are now attacked, and the epidemic still proceeds. We learn that the public schools, which were to have re-opened next Monday, will in all probability remain closed for a further period. The doctors agree that the present type of the disease is very virulent, and one of its features is the great rapidity with which it spreads. There has been a tremendous run on the chemists for eucalyptus, quinine, etc., but the great preventative is, we are told by the highest authority, "open air and free ventilation." – 18 10 30 CIP

1918 November
Cambridgeshire Regiment demobilisation and retrospect 20 Nov 1918 – 21 May 1919
Colour party repaired to Cambridge and brought out the colours – RC p271

1918 11 06
First Cambridge War Shrine. The first war shrine in Cambridge was blessed before a large congregation at St. Mary-the-Less Church at a special service on Sunday morning. The ceremony was performed by the Priest-in-Charge (the Rev F. Thatcher) before the choral Eucharist. It is

interesting to note that Sunday was kept as the 566th anniversary of the dedication of the church. The shrine, which has been subscribed for by 124 members of the congregation, including men from-the trenches and the Navy, is a real work of art. - 18 11 06 CIP

Fitzroy Street communal kitchen started in June, now sells 2,000 portions of food daily – photo feature – 18 11 06b

1918 11 13
End of the War. Peace, peace at last! We can hardly realise the fact even yet, after 48 hours of rejoicing and thanksgiving. Throughout Sunday the world stood waiting and waiting, and at 10.30 on Monday the British Premier (Mr. Lloyd George) announced: "The Armistice was signed at five this morning, and hostilities are to cease on all fronts at 11 a.m. today". The news reached Cambridge at 11 o'clock and spread like wildfire. The first signal was given by the hoisting of the Union Jack on the Town Hall, and the churches and colleges quickly followed suit in setting joy-bunting floating. With feverish speed all Cambridge hung out bunting, and women and children bedecked themselves with miniature flags or trapping of red, white and blue. Utter strangers stopped and congratulated one another and soberly murmured "Thank God" and there was a tremendous rush upon the Post Office to dispatch telegrams to absent friends. Cambridge was deprived of the voice of its joy-bells by the 'raggers' breaking into the belfry of Great St. Mary's Church and putting the famous peal out of action by their amateur efforts to set them ringing - 18 11 13c, CIP

Casualties photos: Linsey, Wehrle, Redfarn, Mallows, Tomson, Elliott, Arnold, Carlton – 18 11 13g

Serbian fund – are 11 undergraduates in residence – 18 11 13h

1918 11 16
J. Gambling entertains EGH - 100 the performance [8.8]

1918 11 19
First real food shortage, even at Maypole – 18 11 19 [8.7]

1918 11 20
Armistice Celebrated. Cambridge "let itself go" with full vigour on November 11 on receipt of the news that the Germans had accepted and signed the drastic armistice terms of the Allies, and the rejoicings were kept up on every evening throughout the week. The effigy of the Kaiser was hoisted on the point of a bayonet and carried through the streets, to be consigned to the flames of a Market Hill bonfire one evening. A cadet, attired as a padre, attended to the "obsequies". Later processions of cadets met on the Market Hill engaged in a Big Push. Premises occupied by the "Cambridge Magazine" at the corner of St. John's Street were wrecked by a crowd. Two other shops in the same occupation were treated in similar fashion. 18 11 20 CIP [4.4] 18 11 20v – photo – 19 04 30d

Roll of Honour – lists of men who joined forces from local firms: Ortona motor co, G.P. Hawkins – 18 11 20a; Macintosh – 18 11 20f; Cambridge Scientific Instrument Co – 18 11 20g; Robert Sayle – 18 11 20i; Hallack & Bond – 18 11 20o; Chivers 18 11 20r; Winton Smith – 18 11 20w; Co-op – 1811 20x, Matthew & son – 18 11 20zf

Photos of 6th Division stationed in Cambridge for training in 1914 – 18 11 20b

Photos of mobilisation at start of war – Market Hill, leaving from railway station for training, French inspects troops – 18 11 20d

Cambridgeshire Regiment colours in GSM at service fallen – photo – 18 11 20e

Photos: intercession service on Parker's Piece Aug 1918, degree for President Wilson, despatched food parcels, U-Boat poster – 18 11 20h

Our part in the war – what Cambridgeshire has done; a notable record by A.R. Hill; detailed summary – 18 11 20j, p, q, s, t, u, y

Photos; Royal visitors – 20 11 20k; notable visitors – 18 11 20l; war-time mayors – 18 11 20m, n

Photos: scenes on Market Hill at news of armistice; Kaiser effigy, Cambridge Magazine ragged – 18 11 20v

Photos: first batch of wounded arrive 1914; armistice thanksgiving – 18 11 20z

Comforts for troops and prisoners of war help committee: report on its activities during war by Mrs Mellish Clark – 18 11 20za

Cambridge Serbian colony: report on its activities from 1916, were admitted as undergraduates, by A.C. Seward – 18 11 20zb

Cambridge food economy committee set up 1917: report on its work, by Mrs Keynes – 18 11 20zc

Tipperary club: report on activities – 18 11 20zc
Belgian hospitality committee: report on activities – 181 11 20zd

Red Cross Society – report of activities during war, hospitals etc – 18 11 20zd

Food control committee – report of activities during war – 18 11 20ze

1918 11 27
Free Library popular – 1,000 borrowers on Saturday; does not have the convenience of the open shelves which is a popular feature of the most up-to-date libraries but have put up a counter and wall cases in which a selection of books is placed; the recently added reference library appreciated. The reading room is literally crowded in the evening. The Librarian, Mr Fenton, who is in khaki, has reached France and will soon be back to resume his duties which are being ably discharged by his chief assistant – 18 11 27a & b

Terrible barbarities upon British prisoners – account of seaman and H.J. Ranner of Catharine St – 18 11 27d

Prisoner of war help committee – named group photo – 18 11 27g

Comrades of Great War club to be opened, Sidney St – 18 11 27j

1918 December

National Kitchen, Mill Rd, opened [2.16]

1918 12 04
Prisoner of war experiences of Arthur Kidd – 18 12 04a

Influenza Scare. At a meeting of the Cambridge Borough Food Control Committee, the Executive Officer (Mr. G. R. Kett) reported that shops were complaining that they were getting large stocks of bacon on hand because people would not buy it on account of the idea that influenza was due to eating it. He had asked the opinion of Dr. Laird (Medical Officer) on the subject. Dr. Laird had written saying that he could not find the slightest evidence in support of the idea that the present outbreak of influenza was attributable to the eating of bacon from animals which had suffered from swine fever. There was no evidence of swine fever being transmissible to man – 18 12 04 CIP

1918 12 11
Wordsworth Grove Hospital has Newnham gymnasium lent to them for their massage and electrical department, a large, airy bright building where between 30 and 40 cases a day are treated—men in hospital in the mornings, and out-patients and discharged soldiers in the afternoons from Swavesey, Newton, Harston, Duxford and outlying villages. The treatments are massage, galvanism and Faradism, radiant heat, hot air and ionisations and exercise. The work here, as in all other Red Cross Hospitals in the county, is carried on under the supervision of Miss Laven, who has been untiring in her efforts on behalf of the wounded ever since the outbreak of war 18 12 11 CIP

Scientific Instrument Company war workers – group photos – 18 12 11b

1918 12 18
Colours taken to France. An interesting and historic ceremony took place at Great St. Mary's Church on Monday afternoon, December 9, when the magnificent Colours of the Cambridgeshire Regiment were delivered into the hands of an escort which had come over from France to take them back to the Regiment to be used in the triumphal march of victory. There was a large gathering of people to witness the ceremony. Major D. J. Freyer (O.C.T.F. Depot, Cambridgeshire Regiment, East Road, Cambridge). Lt. B. Pooley and Lt. H. H. B. Grain went up the aisle to the altar, where the Vicar (Rev. C. Hulbert) handed over the Colours. After the ceremony the escort marched straight to the station, and returned to France the same night. 18 12 18 CIP

1918 12 25
Life one continual persecution: Cambridge woman's experience at Lille during German occupation –
18 12 25a

New communal kitchen for Petersfield, Romsey Town & Sturton St opened – 18 12 25c

Comrades of the Great War. The new headquarters and club at 41, Sidney Street, in connection with the above society, is to be informally opened by Brigadier General E.P.A. Riddell on December 21. The new premises will include two billiard rooms, reading and writing room, card room, bar, secretary's office and all modern conveniences in the shape of baths, etc – 18 12 25d

1919 January

1919 01 22

Returned Prisoners Welcomed. Cambridge gave an enthusiastic welcome home to the returned prisoners of war on Wednesday last. A ready response was made to the request that the Inhabitants should hang out flags and decorations and thousands of people assembled on Parker's Piece and lined the streets to watch the men pass. The proceedings commenced with a general muster on the Piece, which was fortunately favoured by fine weather. Invitations had been issued to some 900 men, and the parade, when assembled, showed a response of about 850. Most of the men were in khaki, and were members of the Cambridgeshire Regiment, the Cambs. Battalion of the Suffolk Regiment (Kitcheners) or the Suffolk Regiment. A few were in plain clothes or in naval uniform. The men paraded through the streets to the Guildhall, where the Lord Lieutenant gave a heart-to-heart address, saying "Welcome, home to England," and adding that the country was proud of them. He wished them, on behalf of the county, a happy return to their homes, great prosperity in the future, and forgetfulness of the horrors they had been through. List of names – 19 01 22b; photo – 19 01 22c CIP

1919 01 29

Minister's Visit. An interesting visit was paid to Cambridge by the Rt. Hon. H. A. L. Fisher, President of the Board of Education, on Saturday, when he inspected the School of Education recently established by the Educational Department of the War Office at Corpus Christi College for the purpose of preparing officers and, N.C.O.'s as instructors in connection with the educational work which is to be carried on in the Army when demobilisation takes place—and afterwards delivered an address to members of the school 19 01 29 CIP

400 cadets from naval educational expeditionary party to be based in colleges; were cadets in 1914 who were mobilised from Dartmouth when war declared. Will remain from 5-6 months. They will study mathematics and science at Cavendish and Engineering Laboratories and range of subjects. HQ at Trinity – 19 01 29b

1919 February

VAD scheme for demobilised, 21,091 patients treated during war [3.13 Huntley VAD hospital closed [2.14]

1919 02 05

VAD nurses gathering in Guildhall – photo – 19 02 05a

Heavy snowfall, Garret Hostel bridge – many more people have passed over this bridge during the past four years on their way to First Eastern General Hospital that throughout the whole of its previous existence – 19 02 05c

1919 02 12

Rowing restarts; photos of naval officers crossing Dant's Ferry, Jesus Crew etc – 19 02 12e

Skating at Newnham – photos – 19 02 12f

1919 02 19

Floods highest since 1879; homes inundated Riverside & Newnham, parapet of house in Parker St collapses – 19 02 19a

Col Griffiths of EGH criticises Cardiff hospital; is criticised in return: EGH wards improvised stables, patients suffered pneumonia, nurses blue with cold – 19 02 19c

Cambridge recovers: undergraduates returning, rowing, University clubs restart. But old times are not back. University life has replaced military life but it is a different sort of University life to that of before the war. The men are up for work and not for play, being educated at expense of the State. Claims that sons of war profiteers will come up on papa's millions are untrue. Extravagance will be discouraged. But Varsity men got best berths and hundreds will want their sons to have chance of obtaining education. University is cheapening and quickening the pathway to degrees. Cambridge air makes people slow and sleepy. But in agricultural area with good railway communication and room for dwellings for workers. Chamber of Commerce needs to start a boom – 19 02 19d

Presentation of colours to Suffolk Regiment, recruited in Cambridgeshire in a small French village in Somme valley – 19 02 19e

Lately returned prisoners. A small party was given by the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Prisoners of War Help Committee in the Small Room of the Cambridge Guildhall to those prisoners of war repatriated since January 15. The afternoon began with a short concert. The Mayor spoke a few words to the men before tea, and afterwards they adjourned to the Victoria Cinema, where, through the kindness of Mr. A, J. Pointer, a delightful entertainment was provided. 19 02 19 CIP

1919 March

1919 03 05
Oxygen treatment for gas poisoning, specially erected chambers at 'Springfield', Sidgwick Avenue in connection EGH. Research started in Physiological Laboratories early in 1917 under Joseph Barcroft who made Superintendent in Physiology to Ministry of Munitions. Thirty cases have been treated. Requires exercise and physical training in spacious grounds. Has inner chamber of iron and glass which is airtight. Oxygen added. – 19 03 05a

1919 03 12
Bus service allegations of inadequacy, irregularity and overcrowding; interview with J.B. Walford of Ortona with details, including wartime when ran buses to Ministry of Munitions works at Hauxton and Grantchester – 19 03 12b

1919 03 19
Schools re-open after flu. Forty-three of the elementary schools in the county of Cambridgeshire, which had been closed for varying periods, owing to the widespread epidemic of influenza resumed work on Monday. A few still remain closed, but it is expected these will open next week. Altogether schools in about 60 parishes were closed, the epidemic having invaded practically every parish in the county. The epidemic commenced in the early days of February, but was limited to a few parishes until the end of the month. Many of the schools were closed as a precautionary measure. A few deaths occurred among young children. 19 03 19 CIP

1919 03 26
Cambridge after the war – County Life article by Bernard Darwin … officers have vanished, tailors windows no longer full uniform, undergraduates in Norfolk jackets and grey flannel trousers; lodging difficulties; no more idlers; more agricultural students – 19 03 26a

1919 April

Rates rise; problem caused by returning soldiers who left as boys & return as men [3.18]

American soldiers at Cambridge: 200 students – Times 21 Apr 1919 [10.1]

1919 04 02
Cambridge industries: what firms have done during the war; how to encourage factories; address by H.S. Whipple. Includes: Chivers for jam and food stuffs, W. Saint made heavy crates and repaired ammunition boxes; Coulson & Lofts – locker cabinets for munitions; C. Kerridge – crates for jam and doors for huts; H.J. Gray – signal flag poles; P.H. Allin - Stokes shells and Mills grenades; Engineering Labs – high-explosive shells and gauges for manufacture other war equipment' Gas Light Company – benzol for high explosive and ammonical liquor for agriculture, tar for distilling for navy; CUP printed 1.6M copies of New Testament for troops; Suttle made chevrons and badges, part of 15,000 officers' uniforms; Mackintosh made gas chambers for treatment of those gassed in France, includes order from American army; King & Harper controlled all the mechanical tractors and implements within 15 miles which ploughed 16,000 acres in 1918; first two had been intended for hauling Russian guns but ploughed eight furrows at time; W.G. Pye mad height finders for aeroplanes, special telescopes, sights for guns, electrical instruments etc; Cambridge Scientific Instrument Co made pyrometers for controlling temperature in manufacturing of war materials such as cartridge brass, manufacture of cordite etc; optical pyrometers formerly only made in Germany; special workshop for thermometers for aircraft ensuring water did not freeze in high-flying planes as well as instruments to determine height and special experimental work. Also considers future industries, need for housing etc – 19 04 02a

Club life for ex-service men – Federation of Discharged and Demobilised Soldiers & Comrades of Great War – 19 04 02e

1919 04 16
Killed by Shell fuse. A mystery, unsolved in spite a searching inquiry by the Cambridge Coroner and exhaustive inquiries by the Borough Police, attaches to the tragic death of Ernest Arthur Kitchener Ketch, a four-year-old child (whose parents reside at 6 Cheddars Lane, Cambridge) who died as the result of the explosion of a shell fuse on the Newmarket Road on Saturday morning. The child was seen playing with the fuse; where it obtained this deadly plaything remains a mystery. The fuse is described as "the most dangerous kind known," being of very high explosive and particularly sensitive. Four persons, in addition to the deceased child, were admitted to Addenbrooke's Hospital on Saturday morning, suffering from injuries caused by the explosion. 19 04 16 CIP

The difficulties of the returned soldier; county council staff who left as boys, came back as men – 19 04 16b

1919 04 23
Gallant Cambridgeshire Men. In presenting their fifth War Report, Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Territorial Force Association place on record their great pride in the gallant and distinguished services again rendered in France and Belgium last year by those units which were raised in the County, viz, 1st Cambs, 11th Suffolks (Cambs Battalion), 203rd Field Co, R.E., (Cambs Company) and the Suffolk Yeomanry. The Cambridgeshire Regt has again added to the great name it has made for itself on the battlefield of. France, and the long list of honours awarded to the regiment is striking testimony to the great gallantry of the officers, non-commissioned officers

and men. The Association had to mourn the loss of one of its members, Lt-Col E. -T. Saint, D.S.O., Officer commanding 1/lst Battalion, the Cambridgeshire Regt, who died of wounds received in August last. Col. Saint was a distinguished officer, and his death was a great loss to the Regt. Col Saint was succeeded in the Command by Major M. C. Clayton, D.S.Q. 19 04 23 CIP – detailed article – 19 04 23c

Captured German Guns. Two captured German field guns are being exhibited on the Market Hill Cambridge but are however attracting comparatively little attention. 19 04 23 CIP

Training the disabled soldier, includes diamond cutting – detailed article – 19 04 23a

1919 04 30
Alleged German guns on view Market Hill; these samples of scrap iron should be consigned rubbish heap – photo – 19 04 30d

United war memorial for University Town and County; Addenbrooke's Hospital to be enlarged; names of fallen in Ely Cathedral – proposals at Lord Lieutenant's Committee meeting – 19 04 30f

Red Cross Society; closing down the hospitals, most closed this month – 19 04 30g

United War Memorial. There was really very little difference of opinion at a meeting of the Lord Lieutenants Committee, held on Saturday at the Cambridge Guildhall, respecting the form of the proposed united University, Town and County memorial to our fallen should take, two proposals respecting visible memorials meeting with unanimous approval and the adopted scheme for the utility memorial receiving the support of the overwhelming majority of the committee. The proposals which it was decided to put forward for consideration by the public were Visible memorials: (1) That a record of the names of all Cambs and Isle of Ely men who have fallen in the war be kept in Ely Cathedral, (2) That the sub-committee be asked to consider the question of a Monument of Victory in Cambridge or elsewhere. Utility Memorial (3) That Addenbrooke's Hospital be extended and made more complete 19 04 30 CIP

1919 May

200 American student soldiers up for May term [455.10]

1919 05 14
Shelford VAD Hospital winding up ceremony – 19 05 14a

Wordsworth Grove VAD disbanding – photos – 19 05 14d

Killed by Shell fuse. A mystery, unsolved in spite a searching inquiry by the Cambridge Coroner and exhaustive inquiries by the Borough Police, attaches to the tragic death of Ernest Arthur Kitchener Ketch, a four-year-old child (whose parents reside at 6 Cheddars Lane, Cambridge) who died as the result of the explosion of a shell fuse on the Newmarket Road on Saturday morning. The child was seen playing with the fuse; where it obtained this deadly plaything remains a mystery. The fuse is described as "the most dangerous kind known," being of very high explosive and particularly sensitive. Four persons, in addition to the deceased child, were admitted to Addenbrooke's Hospital on Saturday morning, suffering from injuries caused by the explosion – 19 04 14 CIP

1919 05 21
Corporation reject offer of a tank as memorial; but two guns purchased, one is in store yard, the other in a little piece of garden in Tenison Road – 19 05 21a

1919 05 28
Cambridgeshire Regiment home-coming; enthusiastic scenes; account of actions etc**.**
Welcome back to Cambridgeshire Regiment. Everyone in Cambridgeshire seemed to be in Cambridge as escorted the colours through crowded streets, 21 May; nearly 900 killed – kia or died of wounds 77 officers, 789 other ranks; wounded 150, 3299 – totals officers 236, other ranks 4,088 – 19 05 28a-f; pictures

1919 June

1916 06 14
Women's Land Army. The County Land Girls (Women's Land Army) were given an "At Home" at the Lion Hotel. A number received Good Service Ribbons from Mrs. Adeane and eight were presented with special badges for meritorious service. 19 06 14 CIP

1919 06 18
Memories of Albina Wherry, VAD nurse on station and aircraft precaution squads; describes scenes on Red Cross railway trains full of wounded soldiers – 19 06 18f

County VAD's, over 21,000 patients received in hospital – 19 06 18b

1919 06 25
Military Cross for Lieutenant. Lt. E. E. Miller, of the Wilts. Rgt (attached to the Gloucester Regt.), of 82 Sturton Street, Cambridge, has been awarded the Military Cross for services on the Italian Front. Lt. Miller, who was an old Cambridgeshire Territorial, was called up at the outbreak of war, and has seen service on three fronts. He trained at Cambridge as a cadet and was subsequently gazetted to the Wilts. Regt, being later attached to the Royal Berks. He is now attached to the Gloucesters. 19 06 25 CIP

1919 July

Peace proclaimed, 6th July, CDN post news within 45 minutes of signing; unofficial rejoicing, hooligan displays [3.22,455.8.10]

Barnwell hospital accommodates 750, Cherry Hinton 800 [455.8.11]

1919 07 09
Peace Day Festival. The Peace Day Festival in Cambridge may be written down as a decided success. In the main event of the day—a huge dinner on Parker's Piece to the discharged and demobilised men of the Borough—there was not a hitch of any kind. The arrangements were as near perfect as could be secured and the men seemed thoroughly to enjoy themselves. The town presented a gay appearance, all the principal thoroughfares being decorated with flags, streamers, etc. Nearly every side-street, too, had its decorations - there were flags and bunting everywhere. Immediately under the Guildhall clock was a large laurel wreath in the centre of which were the words "Their name liveth for evermore." At intervals during the day peals were rung on church bells. Several of the business premises in the town were illuminated with coloured lights during the evening 19 07 23 CIP 19 07 09a– 19 07 23f-k, photo 19 07 23e

VC Cockerel sold for £100 at Cattle Market, probably his last appearance – 19 07 09e

1919 07 16
From air: across West Road to First Eastern General – 19 07 16b

Victory loans – Cambridge subscribe over £1m. – 19 07 16d

Railwaymen commemorate staff who died – 19 07 16d, photos – 19 07 23l

1919 07 23
Famous Generals & Admirals honoured by University – Sturdee, King-Hall, Wemyss, Pershing, Rawlingson, Birdwood, Wilson, Horne, Cavan, Currie, Monash – 19 07 23

Scout secretary, A.J. Green, presented with swastika – 19 07 23b

Cambridgeshire Regiment – how it fought in the Great War, exclusive story by 'Fen Tiger' – 19 07 23c, d, e

1919 07 30

1919 August

1919 08 06
Soldiers on strike. At a meeting of the Cambridge War Pensions Committee, the story was told of a strike of discharged soldiers undergoing treatment, at the Papworth Tuberculosis Colony. Dr Aldren Wright told the committee that on July 2 something not quite satisfactory occurred with regard to the food. There had been a little dissatisfaction before, and on this occasion they asked the Superintendent. (Dr. Varrier-Jones) to receive a deputation. Mr Varrier-Jones said he would quite willing to listen to the individual complaints but would not interview them collectively. Three representatives however went in to see him and discussed with him the food situation and some words took place with the result that two of the men were dismissed, and this incident was followed by the whole of the discharged soldiers in the building, with one or two exceptions leaving the same day 19 08 06 CIP

Sewage in Cam; reports says pollution in river near sewage farm. More land needed for filter beds. German labour had been asked for; hope that profits from growing crops will pay for disposal of sewage – 19 08 06e

Refreshment hut on Parker's Piece proposed; should acquire an army hut and place at back of University Arms – debate – 19 08 06f

1919 08 13
Mentioned in dispatches. The son of the Mayor-Elect of Cambridge Coun. G. P. Hawkins, Captain George Hawkins, O.B.E, has again been mentioned in dispatches, this time by Sir Douglas Haig (on March 6 last). Captain Hawkins, who is a Senior Supply Officer with the 3rd Division R.A.S.C. at Cologne, expects to return shortly to take up the position of Managing Director of Messrs. G. P. Hawkins, Ltd. 19 08 13 CIP

1919 08 20
Lucy Harriet Walker worked as VAD nurse – obit – 19 08 20a

Cambridge Chronicle Peace number sold out, reprint issued; 60-page illustrated souvenir with record of Cambridgeshire Regiment and exclusive photos – 19 08 20b

1919 September

First Eastern General Hospital used as temporary housing [3.24]

1909 09 03
Food control committee, instead of ration books card would be issued with counterfoils for meat, butter and sugar – 19 09 03a; new shopping cards to replace ration books – 19 09 03b

Sale of army horses at Cattle Market. The present shed was erected in 1908; Grain & Son increasing their horse sale but object to them allowing purchasers to try horses and mules in harness on Sundays – 19 09 03a

1919 09 10
Naval officer staying at a college was stripped, tarred and feathered and chained to a tree in Harvey Goodwin Road; cause was relationship with another sailor's wife; court martial at EGH – 19 09 10c; photos – 19 09 17a; trial 19 09 17b

First Eastern General huts to be converted into houses; 120 applications already received. One long ward to accommodate 16 small families; divided by concrete slabs – 19 09 10b

1919 09 17
Tar and Feathers Case. A further incident in what is known popularly as the "tar and feathering case" aroused widespread interest on Wednesday. A lieutenant of the Royal Engineers appeared before a court martial at Cambridge on a charge of assaulting a civilian on or about June 6. The nature of the assault alleged against the accused was that he stripped the civilian of his clothing tarred and feathered him, fastened a heavy chain round his neck and with this chain fastened him to a tree in Harvey Road, Cambridge. The drama of the eternal triangle was submitted by the defence. It was slated that the finding of the court would be promulgated. 19 09 17 CIP

1919 09 24
Tar and Feather Court Martial. Sentence was promulgated at Cambridge on Saturday in the recent "Tar and Feathering" court martial. The court found Lt. Wright guilty of the offence and sentenced him to be reprimanded. Lt. Wright, who received a message over the phone from the A.P.M. that the finding of the court had been sent on from Eastern Command, arrived at the A.P.M, offices in Regent Street about midday. In the presence of Major Minchener, O.C., 6th Company, Royal Fusiliers (to which company Lt. Wright was attached for the purpose of the court martial) the finding of the court was read out by Major Braithwaite-Wallis. Both officers shook hands with Lt. Wright, who expressed himself very satisfied with the result. He said later: "From beginning to end the tar and feathering cost me £12. I have never spent £12 so satisfactorily." 19 09 24 CIP

VAD in Cambs; notable record of work in days of peace and war, by Alex Wood – detailed account – 19 09 24b

1919 October

1919 10 01
First Eastern General Hospital huts – work progresses – 19 10 01e

1910 10 15
Valuable Pigeons Shot. Horning pigeons, which had done useful work as message carriers in the naval and military pigeon services during the war, had recently been wantonly shot, and a strong protest was made by the local owners at the annual general meeting of the Cambridge and District Flying Society on Saturday evening. The National Homing Union have had the matter of this destruction of the birds under consideration for some time, and the co-operation of the public is sought in connection with their protection. It is pointed out that the shooting of the pigeons constitutes an offence under the Defence of the Realm Regulations 19 10 15 CIP

Coming up – influx of students – during past few days has shown all the pre-war activity; students whose study interrupted by war have resumed education; arrival undergraduates coincided with ending of rail strike; Prince Albert and Prince Henry motored from Buckingham Palace to 'Southacre', Latham Road – 19 10 15a photo Royals 19 10 15b

1910 10 22
Frank Fyson on trial for attempted murder of his wife and attempted suicide Christ's Pieces; he from Warboys and had toured with the VC Cockerel – 19 10 22e

First Eastern General Hospital huts being converted to dwellings - photos – 19 10 22d

1919 10 29
Munitions Ministry robbed. Wholesale thefts of Government property were described at the Shire Hall, Cambridge, on Saturday morning, when four prisoners were charged with stealing bedding, bedsteads, and various other articles the property of the Ministry of Munitions. In the corridors outside the County Divisional Police Court were heaps of blankets, sheets, pillows, bed ticks and iron bedsteads, and inside the court was another miscellaneous collection of articles, which were exhibits in the case. The bulk of the property was stolen from the Coprolite 'Works at Trumpington, but a number of the articles had been removed from, the munitions works at Gretna Green, and conveyed by the prisoners to Trumpington. The thefts were admitted and three of the prisoners were sent to gaol. The fourth offender—a lad of 15—was bound over. 19 10 29a

Cambridgeshire Regiment reunion parade and Guildhall dinner – photos – 19 10 29b

1919 November

1919 11 05
Cambridge provisional limb depot began last January, a workshop established by Red Cross Society; provides light peg legs for amputees – 19 11 05b

1919 11 12

1919 11 19
Cambridgeshire Suffolk Regiment homecoming – a splendid fighting record – 19 11 19b; photos – 19c

1919 11 26

Presentation. Col. H J. Edwards, C.B., C.B.E., has retired from the command of the Cambridge University Officers Training Corps, He has been associated with the Volunteer movement for 31 years, and for 18 years commanded the C.U.O.T.C. Col. L. H. Thornton has succeeded Colonel Edwards in the command of the Corps – feature – 19 11 26a

1919 December

1919 12 03
Women's Land Army demobilisation conference at Cambridge; National Association of Land Women set up as successor and to assist in agriculture – 19 12 03b

1919 12 10
Cambridgeshire Suffolk's undying faming – three years continuous fighting; splendid war record – feature – 19 12 10a, 10b

1919 12 17
First Eastern General Hospital – first tenants move in – 19 12 17a photos – 19 12 17c

Munitions tribunal – carpenters claim arrears of pay – 19 12 17b

Bolshevik propaganda in Cambridge; was meeting … tissue of lies … extract from pamphlet – 19 12 17d

1919 12 24
Cambridge and the Belgians – account of refugees – detailed report – 19 12 24a

Armistice marked by impressive ceremony, unseemly rag in evening [3.16]

Red Cross thanked for war work - 80,000 patients transported from station to hospitals by VADs without a mishap [3.17]

1919 12 31
A Real Peace Christmas. Quite the old Christmas spirit - absent during the terrible years of war - seemed to prevail everywhere this Yuletide, our first real Peace Christmas for five years. The only noticeable change from pre-war festivals was the dwindling popularity of Christmas cards, small gifts apparently taking their place. Another feature was the exceptionally large number of carol parties who went round this Christmas collecting on behalf of benevolent and philanthropic objects. Most church choirs organised parties and the response met was most generous and encouraging. More than ever, the festive season appealed to the children. It was the first Christmas upon, which many had had their fathers home with them during the period since the war broke out. The delights of Christmas shopping, or the rollicking Christmas parties, and of Boxing Day visits, were never the same when "daddy was away," and with him home again everything tended to make the present occasion the happiest of their lives. 19 12 31 CIP

Addenda

1920
Cambridgeshire Volunteers of the Great War officially disbanded – services remembered; guarded bridges & an aeroplane when sentries sank up to their waists in snow drifts - CDN 20 02 21

Union of Democratic Control attempted to hold 'Bolshevik' meeting but disrupted by undergraduates; senior proctor, T.R. Glover, hit by flour bomb; speaker Norman Angell rescued by police – Ch 20 02 03d

From outbreak of war have been pacifists proclaiming against action taken against Germans who would have moved heaven and earth to bring war to early conclusion. They possess not a spark of British pluck … led Cambridge gaining reputation as hotbed of Pacifism. University tried to stop this vile work; now opposition to such pro-German propaganda and return of pacifist Bertrand Russell to Trinity. Should prohibit pacifist meetings – Ch 20 03 10d

Cherry Hinton Military Hospital patients get out of institution – questions to military – Ch 20 03 10b

Gas Company workmen return from war – Ch 20 04 14c

Training disable soldiers – 100 in classes for diamond cutting, clock repairing, jewellery, carpentry and joinery and bespoke tailoring; men come from around the country - CDN 20 07 13

Training of the disabled; how Cambridge war heroes are treated - Ch 20 09 08

Post Office war memorial, details – Ch 20 09 15c, d

Large German field gun offered as war memorial at Shire Hall but this would obstruct entrance; two trench mortars could be put under the portico at either side and would not take too much trouble to keep clean – both rejected - CDN 20 12 20

Cherry Hinton Road military hospital sale wooden huts etc; buyers Ely county council, Cambridge Steam Laundry, Cambridge Gas Company – Ch 20 11 24

Four national kitchens bill presented council; lost £200 – Ch 20 12 15

1921
Jesus College large German gun trophy captured and transported to Caius College – 21 11 16d, 16e

1922
Something more than a talking-to ought to be administered to the boys who have committed so much wilful damage to the remains of the Barnwell Military Hospital adjoining the Newmarket-road just beyond the Cambridge Borough boundary. For some reason the boiler house and one complete section of the wooden hutments have been left, apparently totally uncared for, and are rapidly going to wreck and ruin. The site of the hospital, overgrown with weeds and littered with debris, forms a happy hunting ground for children who are able to get through the gap where the gates used to be. The bolder and most mischievous of the boys have found the remaining buildings a tempting target for stones, and scarcely a pane of glass remains undamaged c22 07 22

1924
When the list of Cambridgeshire men who fell in the war was being compiled for the Memorial Chapel in Ely Cathedral there were many expressions of regret that the Borough itself had no official record of names. Most of the parishes have their own lists but there is no complete list of Cambridge names other than the sheet published at a popular price by the C.D.N. some two or

three years ago, and now to be seen in the Free Library. Now there is a proposal for the provision of a roll of names in the Guildhall c24 07 29

The deepest regret will be felt at the death of Mrs A.C. Steward, wife of the Master of Downing college. From its foundation in the dark days of 1915 she was the life and soul of the Cambridge Tipperary Club which did much to help and cheer the sorrow-stricken women of Cambridge during the anxious years of war-time, ever-ready to advise and console. When peace came they continued the club to be a centre of social enjoyment and of mutual improvement for all women without distinction of class, creed or political opinion c24 11 17

1926
A deeply moved audience cheered and sang when some forty local heroes of the Great Retreat, some in uniform and all wearing their medals, lined the stage at the conclusion of the first performance of "Mons", the great war film, at the Central Cinema, Cambridge. It was a memorable scene and showed very clearly how much Cambridge admired the part they played in the immortal episode. By special invitation 100 men of the Cambridgeshire Regiment also witnessed the performance. Some of the Cinema staff saw war service and were displaying their medals. "Buttons" sold his chocolates and cigarettes wearing two medals won by his father, who was killed in the war c26 11 14

1933
First Eastern General Hospital reunion – 33 03 04d

1935
Sir Alfred James Ewing of Herschel Road, Cambridge, was the brains behind the famous 'Room 40'. When the Great War began he was asked to undertake the task of collecting and deciphering enemy messages. Numerous listening stations were set up on the East coast at which enemy fleet signals and other wireless messages were received. From December 1914 the German Fleet made no movement which was not known in advance. The work was probably the best-kept secret of the war and the full story has never been told for he was refused permission to deal with it in his reminiscences 35 01 07a

1935
One of the most remarkable re-unions on record has been enacted in a tiny cottage at Home End, Fulbourn when a man who had been reported 'missing' after the Armistice came face to face with his wife who had long thought him dead. They were married at Burrough Green in 1900 and he enlisted in the Army Ordnance Corps before being posted to India. Still suffering from loss of memory, he is unable to give an account of his movements since the war. It was a great shock for his wife when he stood on the doorstep as she had believed him dead for about 17 years. Now she has notified the Post Office regarding the widow's pension she has been receiving. 35 02 11

1937
Sir - What we have come to know as the Cambridge War Memorial was part of a three-fold memorial scheme which embraced a substantial grant to Addenbrooke's Hospital for extension work, a complete record in Ely Cathedral of the names of local men killed in the war or who died from wounds and the monument at the junction of Station Road. This was to commemorate all Cambridgeshire infantry and should be 'To Victory'. It was not to be a memorial to the dead but to the *living.* It is for this reason that we who pass the memorial do not lift our hats as we do at the Cenotaph in London – E.W.R. 37 05 20

1958

Eastern General Hospital reunion – 58 03 15a

1986
First Eastern General Hospital – Ernest Gill memories – 86 07 12

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

M.J.Petty A Chronicle of Cambridge News 1888-1988. 1988

Unveiling Memorial to Victory, 1922 *142.74*

c.45.6 : Military Activity 1920-1939

1920

1920 02 03
Union of Democratic Control attempted to hold 'Bolshevik' meeting but disrupted by undergraduates; senior proctor, T.R. Glover, hit by flour bomb; speaker Norman Angell rescued by police – Ch 20 02 03d

1920
From outbreak of war have been pacifists proclaiming against action taken against Germans who would have moved heaven and earth to bring war to early conclusion. They possess not a spark of British pluck … led Cambridge gaining reputation as hotbed of Pacifism. University tried to stop this vile work; now opposition to such pro-German propaganda and return of pacifist Bertrand Russell to Trinity. Should prohibit pacifist meetings – Ch 20 03 10d

1920 06 02
Memorial Unveiled. The parochial war memorial in connection with St. John Hills Road, Cambridge was unveiled last (Tuesday) evening by Bishop Price, Archdeacon of Ely. The memorial, which was designed by Mr. A. P. Macalister takes the form of a tablet in the south wall of the chancel. Underneath the representation of a dove hovering over a field of battle, is a polished brass plate bearing the names of 45 men of the parish who fell in the war. The memorial

is in Hopton Wood stone in early English style, and was executed by Messrs. Leyton and Leach 20 06 02 CIPof

For reports of the unveiling of other parish war memories see section c.62

1920 07 13
Training disable soldiers – 100 in classes for diamond cutting, clock repairing, jewellery, carpentry and joinery and bespoke tailoring; men come from around the country - CDN 20 07 13

1920 09 15
Borough War Memorial. Statue of Soldier Recommended. Station Road Corner Site. A meeting was held at the Cambridge Guildhall yesterday (Tuesday) of the Monuments Sub-Committee of the Cambridgeshire Joint War Memorial. The meeting gave its final consideration to the suggested monument, for the Borough of Cambridge. The sculpture and architect were in attendance and explained their scheme, which the Committee agreed to place before the General Committee with the recommendation that it be adopted. The architect for the Record in Ely Cathedral regretted that he had not been able to complete his revised plans but hoped to do so by the end of September. The Committee decided to meet again on October 2nd to consider, this scheme and to interview the architect. 20 09 15 CIPof

1920 12 01
Bolshevism in Cambridge – Comrade Stewart, a bewiskered paid Bolshevik agitator and organiser of the Communist Party at meeting on Parker's Piece – Ch 20 12 01a

1920 12 08
British Empire Union branch established in fight against Bolsheviks – Ch 20 12 08d

1920 12 29
Disabled ex-servicemen employment, 18 men being trained in tailoring, 12 each in jewellery, clock repairing and carpentry, 40 in diamond-cutting; photos in English Leather Co boot repairers and man driving traction engine – Ch 20 12 29a

1921 02 09
OT.C. mock battle in Kingston – Gt Eversden area; cottage gutted – photos – 21 02 09b, c

1921 11 26
First Poppy Day collection made on 26 November passed smoothly (not done by undergrads); undergrads asked that this collection be organised entirely by their committee & take full responsibility that no incidents [38]

1922 02 11
Dinner to recognise war work by Special Constables [4.12]

1922 04 27
A service of commemoration for the members of the college who fell in the war was held in the Chapel of Jesus College. Immediately after the service the memorial tablet was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Ely. After a short service, the Master, amid a silence so intense that it could almost be felt, read the names inscribed on the memorial. It was an impressive scene - the clergy and choir in their surplices, row after row of gowned undergraduates, many of whom had also served, and a sprinkling of visitors from the outside world, all paying silent tribute to the 148 names read by the Master 22 04 17

1922 05
County War memorial dedicated Ely Cathedral [4.2]

1922 07 04
His Royal Highness the Duke of York unveiled the War memorial which has been erected in Cambridge. The ceremony was attended by thousands of people and was of a deeply impressive nature. It was raining heavily as the Prince mounted the platform for the unveiling ceremony. The band played the opening bar of the hymn "O God, our help in ages past" to the accompaniment of rain drumming on hundreds of umbrellas. A few minutes later the rain ceased and the rest of the ceremony was carried though amid brilliant sunshine. The Prince pulled a rope which released the drapery revealing the bronze figure of an infantryman c22 07 04 Was not bronze statue but plaster cast painted bronze; pouring rain threatened melt plaster; (new site on island 27.1.50, moved by 3.85) [455.13.2]

1922 07 11
The model of the soldier on the Cambridge War Memorial which, owing to an unavoidable delay, had to be used for the unveiling ceremony last week, has to-day been replaced by the actual bronze, so that the figure now in position is as it will be seen for all time. The bronze was brought from the foundry at Thames Ditton by motor lorry at four o'clock this morning. Mr Kett and ten men were in waiting and so expeditiously was the work carried out that by 8 o'clock the model figure had been taken down and the other set up and fixed in its proper position. A couple of hours later the scaffolding was removed 22 07 11

1922 07 15
Boys damage remains of Barnwell military hospital where boiler house & one complete section of wooden hutment left, site overgrown [4.16]

1922 07 29
“No more war” demonstration held [2.6]

1922 07 31
The "No More War" demonstration held on Parker's Piece, Cambridge, was attended by a gratifying measure of success. The procession extended more than half the length of Gonville-place, and the crowd at the meetings held on the Piece afterwards was so large that the two platforms provided were not sufficient, and a motor-car had to be requisitioned for the purposes of a third meeting. In addition to the banners of the various societies there were numerous bearing inscriptions such as "For Peace and Freedom" (Women's International League), "Patriotism is not enough", "Cambridge Sisterhood says No More War". In addition there were scores of bannerettes bearing the words "No More War". Mrs Nevinson referred to the number of deaths from influenza in 1918 which was really a war plague. They kept the memory of the dead alive but did they remember the maimed, the blind, shell-shocked and the mad?. No one was worrying about those men 22 07 31

1922 11
First Poppy Day rag : procession of ‘animals’ toured town with police escort, one of happiest rags ever seen’ [38]

1923 06 15
The annual Inter-Varsity military tournament was held on the University Rifle Range, Grange Road when Cambridge beat Oxford by six events to 4. Perhaps the most popular event was the

tent pegging, which reached an extremely high standard. One rarely sees it done better at Olympia. The artillery drive, too, was extremely well done. Some regular artillery offices in the audience, the hardest critics of all, seemed somewhat sceptical about it when the team drove into the arena, but after the first-time round their criticism changed to praise. The events won by Cambridge were the R.F.A. Alarm race, the individual jumping, the half section jumping, tent pegging, wrestling on horseback, and the cavalry dummy thrusting but they were beaten by Oxford in the cable laying competition. Oxford's other successes were the bayonet fighting, the artillery driving, and the tug of war c23 06 15

1923 07 30
Cambridge men and women of all shades of political opinion, and a number of children, associated themselves with the world-wide demonstrations that were held to express the determination that there shall be no more war. The Cambridge demonstration took place on Parker's Piece on Sunday afternoon. Prior to this a procession marched to the war memorial. It was headed by the Salvation Army band. The Cambridge town branch of the League of Nations Union was the first of the representative bodies, with three large appropriate banners bearing the words "No more war." The Cherry Hinton band also took part, and in the rear of the procession came a pathetic little band of "hunger marchers" from Sheffield with their own banner 23 07 30

1924 01 28
The 203rd Field Company (Cambs) Royal Engineers celebrated their fifth reunion and dinner. In January 1915 the War Office had asked whether an engineering company could be raised in Cambridge. Great efforts were made but many of the youth had already joined other units. However a start in recruiting was begun and they were able to get a few men together. Their headquarters were in East road but when numbers began to increase they had moved to Ely, March, Whittlesey and afterwards Wisbech. They had no regular Engineer officer to take command of the unit but that grand old volunteer, Colonel Harding, although he was then nearly 70 years of age, undertook the job 24 01 28

1924 11 27
Mr Mettlebury gave a short sketch of the beginnings of Fascism in Cambridge. It had started with a group of men who went with St Douglas Newton at election time to ensure him a good hearing. Some were merely there in the hope of a 'scrap' but others had ideals. After this group had formed into the Cambridge Fascist Society assistance had been offered to various candidates, including Mr Firth as Constitutional Labour Candidate, to ensure them a hearing free from organised rowdyism. He felt confident that British Fascism in Cambridge would prevail 24 11 27

1925 04 11
About 120 members of the 1st Cambridgeshire Regiment are spending the Easter weekend under canvas at Madingley. The Cambridge-St Neots road acted as part of the front line of a British force which was endeavouring to repel an invader marching on London. The Norfolk Brigade was ordered to take up position from Oakington to Comberton. The work was carried out under service conditions & proved exceptionally difficult on account of the wooded nature of the country in front 25 04 11

1925 10 15
Speaking at the dance organised by the National Fascisti at Cambridge its President made an appeal for more University members of the party. It was not an organisation of hooligans but advocated that this country should be ruled entirely by those of British birth and British descent and not by aliens. They were not prepared to allow Jews to join. They had the courage of their

convictions and were prepared, if necessary, to meet force by force. The dance was an unqualified success. There were close on 300 present 25 10 15

1925 11
Undergraduates take over sale of poppies [38]

1925 11 14
"We the undersigned, convinced that all disputes between nations are capable of settlement by diplomatic negotiation, hereby solemnly declare that we shall refuse to support or render war service to any Government which resorts to arms". The declaration having been signed by members of the University they called a public meeting. The hall was nearly filled with undergraduates but a section of the audience showed their displeasure by continual interruption. Mr G.L. Trevelyan spoke of the horrors to be met in the next war, and was greeted with the remark: "No they will kill us nice and cleanly in the next war" 25 11 14

1926 06 12
Peacemakers pilgrimage to Cambridge - "love, not war", met by Mayor, Mrs Hartree [1.9,1.19]

1926 06 15
One of the contingents of Women Peacemakers who are converging on London from various parts of the country arrived in Cambridge. Meetings had been held in village after village by the side of the war memorials. They were met by members of the local Pilgrimage Committee and proceeded to the Market Hill where an impromptu meeting was held. They carried various banners and red and blue flags. Mrs Rackham said the gathering recalled the great Women's Suffrage Pilgrimage of 1913 when crowds gathered on the same spot. The Pilgrims leave for Saffron Walden tomorrow 26 06 15

1926 06 16
A meeting of the Women's Peacemakers' Pilgrimage was attended by a large audience at Cambridge Guildhall. In the next war they would have aeroplanes dropping poisonous bombs that would destroy civilians who had never been near the firing line. They must create such an atmosphere of repugnance that the nations dare not go to war. There were hundreds of people in Newmarket who were not yet converted to the idea of the League of Nations and it was their duty to make converts of al who had not yet joined them 26 06 16

1926 10 23
OTC range Grange Road closed due to danger to Coton, moves to Coldham's Common [1.10]

1926 10 23
The Officers' Training Corps range on Grange Road, Cambridge, has been closed down, having been condemned by a Military Board on account of the danger to Coton. The Cambridge University Rifle Association will for a time carry on shooting at the Territorial range on Coldham's Common. But there is a likelihood of this range being closed down too in the near future because the new road in course of erection will come up behind the butts. A united effort will be made to secure a sufficiently large area of land for the erection of a new, full-sized range 26 10 23

1927 05 14
Oswald Moseley, MP for Smethwick, jeered at Guildhall meeting. A few years ago he came as a Conservative, now Labour and refused hearing [2.9]

1927 07
Anti-war demonstration Parkers Piece [456.2.7]

1927 11 12
Gloucester Street workshop for disabled soldiers in Cambridge, opened by Princess Mary last year, is represented at an exhibition at the Imperial Institute. Their stall contains all kinds of basketwork, knitting and other things made at the workshops. At present there are eight men working there. All are of over 60 per cent disability through the war, and one is of over 90 per cent. The workshop can never be a paying concern but good work is being done in enabling the men to earn sufficient money to keep them "off the dole". Colonel Willis, the secretary or Miss Brearley, manageress and instructress, would be pleased to see anyone interested. 27 11 12 [4.10]

1927 11 15
Two of the proudest men in Cambridge are Mr H.A. Hagger and Mr F.C. Fuller who were in charge of the stall of the Disabled Men's Workshop, Gloucester Street, at the Imperial Institute. It was the only stall attended by the actual men who made the goods and the contents were completely disposed of by mid-way through the week. The Queen bought a pair of heather-mixture socks and a waste paper basket. The Duchess of York bought a fancy rush stool remarking "It will do for Princess Elizabeth for the nursery". By the time the Prince of Wales visited they had nothing left to sell him. 27 11 15

1928 06 11
There are now 12 men on the books of the Cambridge Disabled Soldiers Workshop in Gloucester Street. Three have had the right arm amputated, seven the leg and of the remaining two one suffered from the effects of gassing and injuries to the head and the other from severe injuries to the abdomen. Half were employed up to the 48-hour week and the maximum wage was 36s a week to the foreman. In addition to the basket and rush work and wool knitting they were developing the knitting of silk stockings, jumpers and ties, the re-upholstering of chairs and the making and renovating of mattresses 28 06 11

1928 06 20
Sir – I happen to live opposite the field-gun in Tenison Road. It is not a relic of the Great War but a captured trophy from the Boer War. To me it represents history and the enormous sacrifices made by the pick of our population. Our war memorials tell our children of a great deliverance. Had we been defeated no doubt we should have had more hideous monuments, probably statues of the Kaiser and the boastful Hindenburg, at which some of the pro-Germans could kneel. Let these small tokens that speak of victory over injustice be preserved for all time – C.J. Challess 28 06 20

1930s
"Frequent & bitter disagreements within Labour Party over matters such as admission of Community Party members to their meetings, participation in a united socialist campaign against fascism organised in1930s by now-notorious Communist don, Maurice Dobb & disagreement on Labour's role in WWII, which provoked resignation as parliamentary candidate of universally-respected Alex Wood, a pacifist - who could not support a war government. Although the party majority voted against co-operation with the Communists & in favour of participation in the coalition of 1940-45 large minorities favoured the extremist approach" [7]
The fermenting process of Left-wing thought amongst intellectuals gathered in intensity as the apparent national prevarication over Nazidom & Fascism became a matter for disgust ...

Moseley in Cambridge ... developing interest in things socialist easily dismissed as the flexings of naive morality among young there were many who meant business ... John Cornford who as undergraduate gathered a band of believers and set out to work positively for the improvement of the conditions of the working class. [2.17]
In almost every celebrated spy scandal since the 1950s there has been a thread leading back to 1930's Cambridge. Then, gripped in the gloom of economic depression as the clouds gathered for another war, many thinking people were in ripe mood for questioning the values of capitalism. Fascism was gathering ground under the leadership of Oswald Moseley (who spoke in Cambridge), there were hunger marches and many young men took part in the Spanish Civil War. In such a climate the KGB homed in on Cambridge as a breeding ground for espionage. CEN 23.11.1979

1930 07 21
The annual 'No More War' meeting of the Cambridge Peace Council was held indoors instead of on Parker's Piece because of heavy rain. But accompanied by the Boys' Brigade Band they proceeded with drenched banners through the rain-swept streets. They met to ensure the catastrophe of 1914 did not occur again. One must remember the menace from the air. It was possible to turn civil aircraft into war craft and chemical factories into works for the manufacture of poison gases and lethal rays. 30 07 21g

1930 08 21
The air exercises have begun and squadrons of fighting planes took off to engage in bitter combat. Until the very last minute of peace 250 aeroplanes were being secretly moved to vulnerable points and the men in command have been planning their attacks. Five night bomber squadrons, nine day bomber squadrons and 11 fighter squadrons will be engaged. Some are fitted with robot controls which can relieve the pilot for extended periods on long flights. 30 08 12

1930 09 27
The Cambridge Disabled Soldiers Workshop in Gloucester Street has made a trading profit for the first time since it opened four years ago. Four of the nine men had returned to their villages for better pay after receiving training in repairs to cane and rush work. They made good quality baskets for laundry and bottles as well as remaking mattresses. Manufactured goods were sold at local fetes and the Exhibition at the Imperial Institute when £300 worth of sales was realised. But the net loss on the running of the institution was £141. 30 09 27b

1931 05 22
Dr Alex Wood of Emmanuel College is chairman of the Cambridge Peace Council. He was a Conscientious Objector exempted from active service during the Great War on condition he carried on ambulance work and became commandant of a Red Cross hospital. He joined the Labour Party and in 1926 was elected to Cambridge Borough Council. At the last general election he contested the University seat but was not successful. 31 05 22b

1931 09
First British Legion rally, Parkers Piece [1.20]

1931 11 13
The Poppy Day collection in Cambridge has again smashed all records with undergraduate collectors struggling with money still coming in. Nearly two tons of coppers have passed through their hands. Early in the day the stock of poppies was exhausted and a fresh supply had to be brought in by train. Market Hill was the scene of half-a-dozen well organised 'rags' and at Silver

Street the Demon Diver jumped in flames into the river and the collectors drew in good sums for his 'widow' and 'children' 31 11 13 I & j

1932 02 03
Cambridge Young Men's Christian Association cancelled the letting of their hall to an exhibition on education in Soviet Russia. Amongst the exhibits were anti-religious posters which upset several prominent clergymen who wrote to the News protesting. The organisers are looking for another hall so the exhibition can continue. 32 02 03

1932 02 15
Of all the memorable gatherings which have been held in the Drill Hall, East Road, none has ever come up to the vast assembly which gathered when the Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades' Association held its first reunion dinner. When they arrived at Southampton 17 years ago one NCO said: "It's taken three trains to get us here, a carriage will be enough to get us back". That prediction came true! A silent toast was drunk to the 900 officers and men who fell in the Great War. 32 02 15

1932 03 02
The chatter of Lewis guns and the rattle of rifle fire echoed almost continuously over the countryside around the peaceful villages of Bottisham and Quy for almost four hours as members of the Perse, Leys and County School Officers' Training Corps took part in a field day. The first thing inhabitants knew of impending hostilities came when several motor buses disgorged their occupants ready for the fray. Our reporter was fighting his own battle on his bicycle with the wind in an endeavour to get to the battle front before the attack materialised. But the wind won. 32 03 02 & 02a

1932 07 23
John Cornford memorial meeting attended by Communists, socialist, labour, liberals and Bevan – 32 07 23b & c

1932 08 05
Nearly 200 troops arrived at Ely for the voluntary camp of the Cambridgeshire Territorials. On Tuesday they marched to a field on the Littleport Road where the men engaged in machine gun work while trained machine-gunners were taking ranges from the water tower. The men have been accommodated in the old Barracks while the officers' mess has been at the Lamb Hotel where in accordance with the old Militia tradition the band has played outside in the evenings. All the catering has been done with local tradesmen, which has been much appreciated. 32 08 05a

1932 10 26
The Moscow March of young men arrive "dupes of the Communist Party and Moscow agitators" [1.9]

1933 01 30
Communist party first meeting – 33 01 30

1933 01 30
Hitler becomes German chancellor – 33 01 30a

1933 02 18
Moseley to speaks at Union [1.14]

1933 03 11
A band of sixty undergraduates marching through Cambridge carrying placards reading 'No More War', 'Scholarships, not Battleships' and 'We want peace'. They raised such re-echoing pacifist shouts that even horses seemed slightly perturbed while people turned round and stared. It was a protest organised by the Students' Anti-War Council. They marched to Parker's Piece where some fine pieces of oratory were heard, but the crowd was not particularly enthusiastic. 33 03 11a

1933 03 21
Willingham peace ballot – 33 03 21

1933 06 16
Community and Labour opinions were so divided at a conference in Burleigh Street that a proposal to form a Cambridge Anti-War Council had to be adjourned after three hours. The University Anti-War Council said workers in Cambridge laboratories had been organised against war. Mrs Foster of the Women's Cop-operative Guild wondered who were being prepared as the next enemy of Britain. It used to be the French, then the defenceless Boers and last of all the Germans. She appealed to women to play their part against the wickedness of war before the catastrophe arrived. 33 06 16 & b

1933 07 12
Dr R.M. Salaman addressed Cambridge Rotary club on the persecution of the Jews in Germany. Hitler was destroying the whole people: it was more serious than the mere 'beating up' of individuals who happened to be Jewish, it was a movement which struck at the very roots of civilisation. Paid advocates of the Nazis had been sent to Palestine and the Ukraine and the doctrine was being taught in schools in the most scandalous way. 33 07 12 p8

1933 07 17
This area will be scene of aerial activity during night exercises by the RAF. Operations will begin between a raiding force of 108 bombers and 152 fighters, some based at Duxford, who will endeavour to intercept and destroy them. They should be off the ground in two minutes, reach an altitude of 1,600 feet in about ten minutes and travel 30 miles. Cambridge itself is off the map as far as actual fighting is concerned as it is supposed to be covered by mountains. 33 07 17

1933 07 26
A meeting of the Cambridge Anti-War Council debated whether to affiliate to the national body. There was a danger that war might appear soon and the workers would be caught as they were in 1914 unless some centralised organisation was set up. But the British Anti-War Movement had been started by Communists with the idea of boring from the inside and they should not join. 33 07 26

1933 08 09
A state of armed neutrality exists on the title 'battlefield' of Woodlands Farm, Ringshall near Stowmarket. Fascists are camped in the farmyard while a bailiff is in possession of two cornfields on the farm. The owner owes £47 to King's College for tithe and fields of wheat and barley have been seized for which tenders have been invited. Police are on constant duty while the fascists watch the approaching roads for signs of approaching cutting machinery. They have chalked messages on the road which read 'Farmers, Unite Now' 33 08 09

1933 10 14

Hitlerism debate at London cancelled, Michael Foot. President of the Oxford Union, was to have disapproved, .T.G.W. Blackwell, Cambridge Union, another speaker [1.12]

1933 10 18
An exhibition of Russian posters organised by the Cambridge branch of the Friends of the Soviet Union was opened at the Labour Hall. Maurice Dobb explained that very simple and forceful ideas were combined with a striking use of colour to appeal to the worker and 'activate' him or try to convince the peasants to join community farms run on a co-operative basis. The posters gave some idea of the life of the workers, contrasting the old conditions with the new. 33 10 18

1933 11 02
Photographs taken during a holiday in Russia are displayed at Ramsey and Muspratt studio in Post Office Terrace. Two studies, 'Dneiprastron: the new town' and 'Moscow: the Kremlin' show there is beauty in the new and old. The human side is captured in a fine study of the 'Intourist' bus driver and a Young Pioneers' demonstration while 'The Infants School' shows the Russian child. 'Prison Settlement', is a photo of another aspect of Russian life 33 11 02

1933 11 03
Socialist Society & Student Christian Movement organise demonstration & march from Parkers Piece to war memorial; counter demonstration of flour & white- features ... desecrating a holy day call for -abolition of bombing from air [1.6]

1933 11 06
Bonfire night demonstration & Hitler Nazi meeting – 33 11 06

1933 11 09
An inaugural meeting of the New Britain Movement was held in the Dorothy Café with Mr A Mackay in the chair. There should be a federation of European states: every day the world became more international and a policy of isolation would be disastrous. Communism and Fascism were threatening the world and England must show the rest the way out of the mess, speakers said. The power to issue money should be taken away from the financiers, only then would people receive enough to live on. 33 11 09

1933 11 10
The film 'Our Fighting Navy' has been withdrawn from the Tivoli Cinema following lively scenes. Fifty members of the Students' Anti-War went to make a protest but a rival party, numbering about a thousand undergraduates, marched to the cinema with two bands playing war-time songs and carrying Union Jacks. Several tried to push their way in until the arrival of four policemen who, with drawn truncheons, managed to keep the crowd at bay whilst a dozen more raced to the scene in motor vehicles. Cries of 'Down with Hitler' and 'Hail Hitler' were heard above the general uproar and a stink bomb let off in the vestibule 33 11 10, 33 11 11 [1.7, 1.13]

1933 11 14
Memories and reminders of the horror of war are provided by the Cambridge Anti-War Council's exhibition opened. It consists of diagrams, photographs and cartoons and if anybody wants war after seeing them, they can have no feeling. Some of the photos of the dead were forbidden by the Censors and it is easy to see why. Part has been prepared by members of the Bio-chemical Board, Cavendish Laboratories and shows the effects of gas 33 11 14

1933 11 18
Anti-war meetings and views – 33 11 18

1934 02 17
Eighteen 'Blackshirts' were arrested on farms at Wortham, Suffolk by 50 police who arrived in large double-decker motor buses. The 'Blackshirts' were outside the farm gates and were arrested peacefully without any resistance. They have been at the farm for several days 'guarding' cattle and sheep which were impounded for tithe and a crowd of spectators cheered them as they left. Other Fascists were instructed to withdraw from a farm at Diss where their steel-protected cars have been keeping a watch-out for a van expected to remove animals 34 02 17 34 02 20 34 02 21 trial – 34 02 26

1934 02 19
Cambridge showed little interest in the 100 hunger marchers who arrived from Huntingdon. They halted at Girton College where jugs of tea and buns were given. About 200 people including members of the University Socialist Society and Anti War Movement escorted them into town. Darkness was falling as a rally was held on Parker's Piece where a small crowd gathered before they made their way to the Corn Exchange where they spent the night. But police were accused of provocation when they forcibly expelled them on Monday morning. Guy Burgess amongst group undergraduates who march with them through town, undergraduates provide food. Cultured newspapers ignore them, gutter Press calls them 'mob of Red dupes whose leaders are paid weekly in Moscow gold' Marxist library & bookstall established at Girton College 34 02 19 34 02 26

1934 03 29
"War is madness and we are being driven to it by madmen" a peace meeting at Soham was told. Some scientists were now saying there was no serious danger from gas warfare and people would be safe if they went and sat quietly in the bath. But soldiers who had been trained to combat mustard gas had become casualties without knowing they were affected until it was too late. They were being driven into this madness by men who were so stupid that they were virtually insane and they needed missionaries against war to defeat them. To believe anything these days involved a belief in miracles. 34 03 29

1934 04 12
Herr Gerhart Seger, who recently escaped from a German concentration camp told of his experiences. Under Hitler's 'Protection Arrest' men could be taken to prison with no reason. The Storm-Troopers, sadistic and brutalised men, could do what they would with inmates. Prisoners were beaten mercilessly, slept crowded together in damp ice-cold cellars and listened to men being tortured by the Nazis. Of 42 men imprisoned with him, two were beaten to death within a fortnight. After he'd come to England his wife and baby had been taken to a concentration camp as hostages, not to be released until he returned. 34 04 12

1934 04 27
Anti-war ballot [1.3]

1934 05 26
Sir – we scientific workers and teachers of the University wish to affirm out fundamental opposition to the use of scientific research in war and the preparation of war. A situation may soon arise when scientists will be pressured to engage in research directed to the purpose of war Signed: Joseph Needham (Biochemist), E.O. Whetham (Agriculture), Marjory Stephenson (Biochemistry), M.L. Oliphant , C.P. Snow, B.M. Crowther and Alex Wood (Physics) and others 34 05 26

1934 11 10
Poppy Day collectors had to contend with a dismal downpour of rain. But a large crowd gathered on Senate House Hill to await the arrival of a self-styled 'Hitler' who was due to open the Caius Fun Fair. When he did come, by car, he brought a procession of about a dozen cars in his wake, all containing weird and wonderful characters. The obstinate mule, which last year lay down in the road and refused to get up until tempted by a coin, was less obstinate on the present occasion, for the wet and muddy road was hardly a pleasant bed. 34 11 10 & a

1934 11 12
Several hundred people joined in a peace meeting on Parker's Piece organised by the Cambridge Anti-War Council and the University Anti-War Movement before marching in a torchlight procession to the War Memorial. The procession, some 300 strong began their march along Mill Road, increasing in size as it went along. But they missed the turning into Tenison Road and crossed Mill Road Bridge before winding its way round the back streets to the War Memorial. They laid a wreath 'To those of all countries who fell in the last war from those who are pledged to prevent another' 34 11 12c

1934 11 12
Wesley Church memorial Cambridge Brotherhood WWI 34 11 12d

1934 11 17
Sensational revelations concerning Germany's war plans were made at a meeting in Cambridge Guildhall. Speaking to the University League of Nations Union, Mr Wickham Steed, a former editor of The Times, said they had imported enough arsenic ore to make poison gas sufficient to swamp Europe twice over. The next war is likely to come without warning and many be commenced by an overwhelming night attack. General Goering, at the Nazi Air Ministry has built 85 underground aerodromes this year and had at least 2,000 aeroplanes, he claimed. 34 11 17 & a

1934 11 23
Anti-war exhibition [1.4]

1934 12 04
Lord Rutherford presided at the first meeting of Cambridge University Democratic Movement. There is a great fear of the power of military aeroplanes making a sudden and devastating attack on defenceless cities involving the destruction of combatant and civilian alike. Air warfare of any kind should be abolished, he urged. Vyvian Adams praised his work at the Cavendish Laboratory. None could hope to isolate himself from the surrounding dangers. The question was did we want human development or human destruction by scientific means. 34 12 04

1935 02 02
Lord Eltisley spoke of the record of the National Government. If the Socialists had remained in office we should have been in a state of chaos. We required a stable, strong and safe Government and in Stanley Baldwin had a leader in the best tradition of British statesmanship. Signs were not lacking that storms were blowing up and we might again be approaching a crucial period. In Germany young people were bring brought up in a creed of glorification of arms. Now they had order 12 new submarines. Our best defence was to be prepared against sudden attack 35 02 02 &

1935 02 21
Hugh Dalton on fascism – 35 02 21

1935 02 25

An open-air demonstration under the red flag against the new Unemployment Bill was held on Parker's Piece supported by the University Socialist Society and Labour Clubs. A crowd of nearly 100 assembled. There are two-and-a-half million registered unemployed but there had been an increase in production without an increase in wages. The worker had become the slave of the machine, not the machine the tool of the worker. Mr H.C. Bibby spoke on camps for the unemployed: many who took part had the best of motives but they could develop into terrible concentration camps. 35 02 25

1935 03 01
Peace ballot - "county is peace-minded" [1.1]

1935 03 07
The Cambridge Scientists' Anti-War Group heard an address on aspects of the Nazi movement. Many of the true facts were to be found in reports circulated secretly by the Ruhr industrialists who were providing the Nazis with immense financial support. German science was being devoted almost exclusively to war preparations. At the end the Group protested against increased expenditure on armaments by the British Government and urged the money to be spent on the social services instead. Peace cannot be maintained by building greater armed forces. 35 03 07d

1935 03 07
Police guarded the closed gates of the University Arms Hotel while Sir Oswald Mosley was at a dinner organised by the University Fascist Society. Outside a meeting organised by the University Socialist Society was held on Parker's Piece with speeches by John Cornford, Maurice Cornford and Maurice Dobb. Then a torchlight procession by 200 undergraduates shouting anti-Fascist slogans such as 'We want Mosley dead or alive' and singing 'The Internationale' marched to Peas Hill where more speeches were made before a Proctor arrived and they dispersed. 35 03 07c. Mosley previous visits – 35 02 23a

1935 04 04
There is no doubt the Peace Ballot has made Cambridge people face the vital questions. Results show nearly all wanted Britain to remain a member of the League of Nations and an all-round reduction of armaments by international agreement. The manufacture and sale of armaments for private profit should also be prohibited. If a nation insisted on attacking another the others should compel it to stop by economic measures or, if necessary, by force under the auspices of the League and preferably by an International Police Force. 35 04 04 [1.1]

1935 04 08
Residents need not be alarmed by the appearance of heavy bomber aeroplanes during the next few nights. A tactical exercise will involve bombers flying a series of 'co-ordinated attacks' on selected military targets to introduce new crews to the role of the night bomber. It will provide actual practice in extended navigation and the technique of bombing by night, the co-ordination of raids and the employment of the signals organisation. But there will be no 'bombing' in this neighbourhood and no explosive bombs will be dropped anywhere. It is essential these exercises should be carried out during the hours of darkness and the Air Ministry is to restrict night flying to the minimum possible. 35 04 08

1935 04 23
Sir – this country has not produced a mask to safeguard us against an attack of modern gas. For two years I have worked in the anti-war movement I founded in a room in Cambridge to protest against war-like manoeuvres and to organise against war. It is the workers who are called upon to

fight, to make munitions and pay for it afterwards and trade unionists should take the lead in opposing it. – W.G. Doel, Hope Street, Cambridge – 35 04 23

1935 04 29
Anti-Nazi play at Festival Theatre – photo – 35 04 29a

1935 05 28
Dr Wooster of the Scientists' Anti-War Committee said the proposed air-raid drills would be compulsory, getting civilians under war discipline and squashing anti-war activities. It was impossible to protect the population at large against air attack: we might conceivably protect the inhabitants of Haverhill by building shelters but not the whole of London. The Government would not supply gas masks, you must buy them for yourselves; they would cost about £20 and it was obvious that poor people could not afford it, he told a meeting in the Labour Hall, Norfolk Street. 35 05 28

1935 10 18
Controversy surrounded the offer of £10,000 from Sir John Davenport Siddeley for developing aeronautical research in the University. Some dons felt it would subsidise research of a military character of pecuniary value to armament manufacturers. But others say the ultimate influence of the aeroplane upon civilisation will be pacific rather than warlike. It was abhorrent that the University should become a centre of specifically military research but this money would be used for work of a fundamental and non-military character 35 10 18b

1935 11 05
A 'Fascism and War' exhibition organised by the Cambridge Anti-War Council discloses methods by which the illegal opposition movements in Germany and Italy distribute their literature disguised as items of a non-political nature. There is also propaganda printed on paper of tissue thinness and a method of photographing illegal printed matter and transposing it on paper which instantly goes black on exposure to light if opened by the police. The recipient knows to treat the paper chemically to counteract the effect. Also on display is also one of the Anti-Nazi leaflets spilled from the roof garden of a Berlin restaurant on to the streets below and a collection of abusive correspondence, including one from Ezra Pound, sent from Italy to a Fellow of King's College after he contributed certain views in an English paper 35 11 05 & a

1935 11 15
Peace-Week torchlight procession [1.2]

1935 11 26
Cambridge Disabled Soldiers' Workshop had been through a difficult period. They had to change their address three times which involved considerable expense. The largest number of men in the workshop was 12 and at present there were only seven, none of which were complete in their bodies. One had lost his leg in the South African War. The shop in Trumpington Street was not in so good a situation as at Peas Hill and they did not get the streams of passing undergraduates. We should never forget the men who had served, suffered and saved our country through its years of dire peril. 35 11 26

1935 12 12
Dr William Wooster told the court he was a member of the Scientists' Anti-War Group and had been standing outside Duxford Aerodrome selling pamphlets entitled 'Air Display Special'. It carried a headnote to say it was not to be sold to members of H.M. Forces but they were seized by

police under the Incitement to Disaffection Act. Surely people could be reminded of the sheer horrors of the Great War 35 12 12 & a

1935 12 20
The judge agreed that police had been wrong to seize copies of a pamphlet from a member of the Cambridge Scientist's Anti-War Group at Duxford aerodrome during the Royal Review. They'd been worried following an earlier incident at Mildenhall when a misguided female threw a paper at the King's car. 'The Anti-War Special' was crude, inartistic and in some respects childish. It had been sold by Dr Wooster supported by a bevy of satellites, mainly ladies, wearing badges of a reddish hue. Various ex-servicemen had expressed themselves in vituperative terms and its distribution might have led to a breach of the peace 35 12 20 & a

1936 03 07
Ugly scenes were witnessed at a demonstration organised by the University Socialist Club and Anti-War Council at the Guildhall which was addressed by Aneurin Bevan. There was vocal opposition from the gallery with fighting and at one juncture all the doors were opened wide because of a strong offensive smell. Earlier 500 undergraduates took part in a torchlight procession headed by the red banner of the University Anti-War Movement shouting "We want peace" and "Stanley Baldwin must be sacked" 36 03 07 & a

1936 03 12
"Is any treaty made with Germany more than a piece of paper" asked Sir Austen Chamberlain when he reviewed Germany's action over the demilitarised zone in a speech he made at the annual dinner of the Cambridge University Conservative Association. The Association was flourishing and its numbers and activities greater than ever. There were a disproportionate number of Oxford men in the House of Commons but the Cambridge men made up in quality what they lacked in numbers. However there was a slackness in the Conservative Party which had no counterpart among the Socialists. 36 03 12, a

1936 04 21
Members of the Territorial Army Nursing Service and nurses of Addenbrooke's Hospital receiving instruction in anti-gas drill – photo – 36 04 21

1936 04 27
Territorial soldiers with machine guns at anti-aircraft exercises on Coldham's common – 36 04 27d

1936 05 04
"I am not at all sure that if I had been a German I should not have voted freely and enthusiastically for Hitler at the last election", Dr Alex Wood told a May Day demonstration on Parker's Piece. Germany as she was today was the creation of the Allied Governments and their policy of repress and unilateral disarmament, he continued before condemning the Government's re-armament police. It would lead inevitably to war. Only on the foundations of International Socialism and co-operation can secure peace be built. 36 05 04b

1936 05 15
Cambridgeshire Regiment, Major Digby takes command, is University correspondent of CDN specialising in sport and drama – 36 05 15c & d

1936 07 29

The Fellowship of Reconciliation, a peace movement born in Cambridge during the dark days of 1914 was founded by people united in the conviction that the way of war could not be the way of Christ for righting wrongs and had now spread to many countries. Some 250 people from Germany, France, Italy, Bulgaria and Belgium together with the USA, Japan and the Argentine are attending a conference at Selwyn College on 'Christ: the Peace of the World". 36 07 29b

1936 08 28
Cambridge meeting on Spain & Fascists – 36 08 28

1936 10 12
Over £120 was collected for the Spanish Medical Aid Committee at a meeting in the Guildhall. If they went to Spain today they would find village after village barricaded. Many people were being killed because they have nothing but their bare bodies to put against the latest legal death which modern science has given to the rebels, the Fascist International, to destroy decency in life in Spain today, Mr J. Langdon-Davies claimed. 36 10 12

1936 10 13
Precautions to be taken in preparation for air raids were outlined to a meeting of architects, officials, school managers and owners of shops at Cambridge Guildhall. They hoped the dangers would never come to pass but must provide for contingencies. The three main weapons would be the incendiary, gas and high-explosive bombs. The first was the greatest danger. It would burn for seven minutes and could not be put out by water or any known chemical. Food exposed to gas vapour should be thrown away. Respirators would be issued to everyone except tiny children 36 10 13

1936 10 21
A.J. Winship told Rotarians he had visited Germany. The Germans had no more idea of attacking this country than the man in the moon. The attitude to Hitler seemed uniform all over the country. They worshipped him. He was the first real ruler who was absolutely unselfish and sought nothing for himself. He had taken power but was not a dictator. He held a position almost the same as the King did here. But Rotarian Franklin disagreed: Hitler was a dictator who had assumed power by force and murder and the treatment being given to the Jews was diabolical. 36 10 21

1936 11 02
Undergraduates demonstrated support for 130 hunger marchers from Durham on their way to London to protest against the Means Test and new scales of benefit. At Girton College girl students served them tea and buns before 250 undergraduates joined the procession carrying torches and banners. There were meetings in the Co-operative and Labour Halls before the protestors had an evening meal in the students' rooms. At Cheshunt College some of the marchers ate in hall. Having slept in the Corn Exchange they continued to Saffron Walden where the Labour Party entertained them with lively tunes from a loudspeaker van. The march is due to arrive in London next weekend. 36 11 02 & a 1936 10 31

1936 11 06
CU branch Fascists dinner, heavy police guard, November [1.4]

1936 11 07
Cambridge Peace Week, 14 organisations unite [1.15]

1936 11 27

The Territorial Army recruiting campaign at the Drill Hall attracted a large number of people including employers of labour, members of the University O.T.C. and boys from the Perse and County schools. The progress of aircraft means that the channel is now a mere ditch over which planes can fly in a few minutes and a defence force must be efficient. This should be voluntary and employers must make some sacrifices and encourage their men to join the Territorial Army, giving them leave and pay when on service. 36 11 27

1936 12 03
Air raid precautions were discussed by South Cambs RDC. The roads and bridges about to be built in the county should have bomb-proof surfaces. Substantial material was to be used and it would not be at all impossible to make them bombproof. Most of the roads were to be constructed above the present ground level and could have shelters under them 36 12 03a

1937 01 11
At the first open meeting of the Cambridge Left Book Club tribute was paid to the memory of Mr G.C. Maclaurin, who was killed recently fighting for the Spanish Government in Madrid. He, more than anybody, was responsible for the flourishing members of the club in Cambridge where some 400 of the total membership of 35,000 are resident. The speaker discussed 'Must Capitalism Fail?' In a Socialist society, such as the USSR, all the sources of production were utilised to the full. While Russian workers were enjoying the fruits of their labour, the capitalist workers were saddled with debt. 37 01 11

1937 02 03
The death of John Cornford while fighting for the Spanish Government is a grievous loss. He had a brilliant academic career and was preparing for research work in history when the Spanish rebellion broke out. As soon as it was known that Italian war planes were being delivered to the Spanish rebels he went out as a volunteer, joining the British section of the International Brigade and fighting alongside G.C. Maclaurin of Cambridge who was killed in Madrid. He saw continual fighting for five weeks and was commander of the British section on the Cordova front when he was killed reconnoitring in advance of the lines. 37 02 03

1937 02 13
Cambridge Scientists' Anti-War Group, a technical and advisory body to Peace Movements, has issued a booklet entitled 'The Protection of the Public from Aerial Attack. It is a critical examination of the recommendations put forward by the Home Office Air Raids Precautions Department. They constructed 'gas proof' rooms according to Government plans and measured its resistance to the entry of air from outside. Much of the information is technical with a separate chapter devoted to the protection of children 37 02 13a [1.21]

1937 03 23
Cambridge Scientists have challenged Government claims that the majority of London houses could construct a gas-proof room. They say it would need to be lined with sheet tin and the joints overlapped with Vaseline. Even so tear gas could get in. Mustard gas could be spread in liquid form from aeroplanes as had been done in Abyssinia. It gave off a vapour so toxic it was lethal if breathed for six minutes. Government-issue gas masks would cost two-and-sixpence each but would not stop cigarette smoke that could make people cough and be sick. 37 03 23a & b

1937 04 17
Red Cross members will be trained in air raid precautions and encouraged to volunteer for ARP services. They could be assured that people wearing masks would be unaffected by gas, despite a recent study by Cambridge Scientists. Diffusion of elementary knowledge would prevent many

casualties caused by panic. They had held six 'gas courses' attracting 350 people. But these numbers would be hopelessly inadequate to deal with a large-scale air raid. 37 04 17

1937 04 27
Basque town wiped out, hundreds killed – 37 04 27

1937 04 28
Cambridge Union Society emulated the Oxford refusal to fight for king and country by carrying a motion in favour of complete national disarmament and individual refusal to bear arms. If re-armament were abandoned in the pursuit of peace our economic system would collapse and we would be faced with a military revolution of the property classes on the lines of General Franco. It might involve us in civil war – unless passive resistance was practiced as it had been by Gandhi, opponents warned. 'Refuse to fight for any other nation in any war ... shall always be prepared to die if need be for King & Country but for nobody and nothing else' but soon concerned that neighbours fowls being eaten that ours are safe 37 04 28 & a

1937 05 03
Labour Party's May Day demonstration on Parker's Piece, 500 marches – 37 05 03a & b

1937 05 20
Sir - What we have come to know as the Cambridge War Memorial was part of a three-fold memorial scheme which embraced a substantial grant to Addenbrooke's Hospital for extension work, a complete record in Ely Cathedral of the names of local men killed in the war or who died from wounds and the monument at the junction of Station Road. This was to commemorate all Cambridgeshire infantry and should be 'To Victory'. It was not to be a memorial to the dead but to the living. It is for this reason that we who pass the memorial do not lift our hats as we do at the Cenotaph in London – E.W.R. 37 05 20

1937 05 29
Within the next few weeks about thirty Basque children brought to England following the terrible air raids at Bilbao and Gurnica will be arriving in Cambridge. They will be taken to Pampisford Vicarage where the children will remain for at least six months being looked after by volunteers from the University. As they are destitute provisions must be made for their welfare and beds, boots and clothes are required. 37 05 29

1937 05 31
About 2,000 people gathered on Grange Road Rifle Range to see a display of first aid by the British Red Cross Society under air raid conditions. Three bombers from Duxford took part in the raid, exactly as though on active service. As they dived at speeds of 240 mph there were realistic bangs and clouds of smoke. People in the area rushed about screaming and collapsed wounded or from the effects of the gas. When the raid was over the rescue parties, clad in gas masks and decontamination suits commenced work. A musketry party fired on the 'planes during the raid 37 05 31

1937 06 09
A meeting at Cambridge Guildhall to raise funds for the Basque children's hostel at Pampisford brought several promises of 'adopting' children by guaranteeing fifteen shillings a week. There will be 29 young refugees at Pampisford Vicarage and volunteers were needed to do cleaning, carpentry and plumbing. Leah Manning described the terrible tragedy of Guernica and the conditions in Bilbao where everyone from the President to the poorest refugee had only black bread, coarse cabbage and a little rice to eat. 37 06 09a & b 37 06 12a

1937 06 23
Sir - The 29 Basque refugee children are now settled in the Vicarage at Pampisford after their ordeal in Spain. There have been heavy initial expenses in creating a home in an unfurnished house not designed for the purpose and insufficiently provided with sanitation. Several firms have supplied goods free or at cost prices and individuals have given their labour in repairing, paintings and cleaning the Vicarage. We hope to employ a cook-housekeeper and charwoman as well as a part-time gardener to grow vegetables for the winter – F.M. Cornford. 37 06 23

1937 06 30
The Nazi salute was given as German ex-prisoners of war honoured Cambridge's war dead. Members of the Reichsvereiningung Ehem from Kriegsgefangener marched to the memorial where the ranks of local British Legion standard bearers were joined by the German standard-bearer, carrying the Nazi flag. While standards were dipped, one of the visitors placed a laurel wreath on the memorial as members of the German party gave the Nazi salute. They then left for a civic reception at the Guildhall. 37 06 30 & a & b

1937 07 16
An 18-feet long scale model of H.M.S. Repulse was exhibited on Cambridge Market Square to stimulate recruiting and advertise Navy Week. It is fitted with electric search-lights and Morse lamps and illuminated by powerful lamps from the Vauxhall lorry that tows it. Extensive alterations have been made to the upper deck of the ship since the model was first made and these have been effected on the model which was originally constructed at Portsmouth docks for instructional purposes.37 07 16a

1937 07 23
John Cornford memorial meeting attended by Communists, socialist, labour, liberals and Bevan – 32 07 23b & c

1937 08 09
An air "attack" is being made on London by 176 light and medium heavy bombers. All through the night they will concentrate their efforts to 'destroy' the capital and opposed to them will be 19 fighter squadrons with a total strength of 222 machines. The 'attack' will continue two more nights unless affected by bad weather. The main object of the exercise is to provide tactical training for the RAF in conjunction with the Anti-Aircraft Division of the Territorial Army and Observer Corps. 'Casualties' will not be assessed 37 08 09

1937 08 20
Sir – London newspapers, suffering from a scarcity of news, have reported unruly behaviour by 18 of the 3,826 Basque refugees in England. Picture 4,000 children from English towns, their nerves wrecked by months of war and air raids, many of them having lost their parents, transported to a strange climate, strange customs and an unknown tongue. Would they all be angels? The refugees at Pampisford have been happy and untroubled. But now we have been asked to take another 30. The great difficulty is to find an empty house large enough. Can readers help? - F.L. Lucas. King's College 37 08 20a

1937 08 24
Tanks prepare for manoeuvre, Linton - photo – 37 08 24

1937 08 25

An attempt by an insurgent force to cut the railway at Bartlow Station saw rifle battalions attack on a wide front. A small British machine gun battalion took up a position on the west bank of the River Stour while soldiers demolished bridges to prevent the attackers occupying the high ground at Shudy Camps and Horseheath. Villagers had a fine time watching the ponderous tanks pass by and comparing them with the guns and beautiful horses of the 1912 manoeuvres. It was part of the military exercise simulating that in Egypt before the latest Anglo-Egyptian treaty. 37 08 25

1937 08 27
Tanks featured in the opening attack on Haverhill under cover of a smoke screen. An assault via the Bumpsteads was held up and the advance swung westwards past Shudy Camps towards the Bartlow railway. Late in the afternoon an enveloping movement was successful. Street fighting and sniping was expected and the infantry was served out with an extra supply of hand grenades. The inhabitants thronged the centre of Haverhill eager to see the activity of the military manoeuvres 37 08 27a

1937 08 31
The premise behind the military manoeuvres was that production of a new lethal gas was about to start in two underground factories at Yole and Barsey Farm near Balsham and Shudy Camps. Different essentials of the gas were to be made at each factory so destruction of either would prevent production. There was a large influx of visitors to the church parade at Shudy Camps Park where 400 men from various regiments had assembled for the training exercise. Afterwards a band concert was greatly enjoyed. 37 08 31

1937 09 04
The Army manoeuvres now taking place locally should have a beneficial effect on recruiting. The introduction of the motor into all branches of the service has rendered the soldier's task much less toilsome and robbed the march of its old-time discomforts. The present-day Tommy is better provided for and looked after, better fed and more comfortably clothed. Recruits for the three battalions of the 5th Infantry Brigade now in camp at Shudy Camps Park are coming in steadily. It is expected that a further 100 will soon be ready at Aldershot and will probably also be sent there 37 09 04b

1937 09 07
Basque children at Pampisford rectory visited by Dr L. Cobbett – 37 09 07

1937 09 16
War will be declared at midnight on Saturday – at any rate for the purpose of manoeuvres – and Ely will be in the war zone. 450 men from Liverpool, Manchester and London arrived in the city and went into camp at Barton Fields, arousing the curiosity of residents who have visited in large numbers and showed considerable interest in the military activities. It is the largest exercise of its kind since 1918 but the only troops are members of the Royal Signals Supplementary Reserve; most are Post Office employees who give up their spare time so they could assist the Regular Army in the event of conflict 37 09 16

1937 10 03
The 1st Battalion of the Cambridgeshire Regiment lined up on Parker's Piece for their first inspection since they were reformed after the war. Behind them hundreds of Old Comrades also paraded. It is a Volunteer Army undertaking onerous duties and alone stands between us and conscription. With no prospect of war for some years the Government has taken very little interest in either the Regular or Territorial Army but times have changed as a result of the combined efforts of Hitler, Mussolini and now the Japs, they were told. Men, women and

children are regarded as suitable subjects for attack by shell and bomb and we must defend ourselves, they were told. 37 10 03b & c

1937 10 12
Basque arts and crafts - photo – 37 10 12

1937 10 13
Sir – since the beginning of the Spanish Civil War four Cambridge men have laid down their lives fighting against the Fascist Insurgents. They are John Cornford (Trinity), G.C. Maclaurin (St John's), G. Lorimer Birch (Caius) and Julian Bell (King's). The first three were in the International Column, the fourth as an ambulance driver. Now a branch of the Voluntary Industrial Aid Organisation has been established to recondition motor vehicles as ambulances for Spain. Side-car ambulances are needed that can go up the hills through narrow passes; at present wounded have to be transported by mules. Donations should be sent to me – Joseph Needham, Caius College 37 10 13

1937 10 18
Cambridge University Officers Training Corps gave a demonstration at the Grange Road rifle range. It opened with a display by the Vickers machine gun section followed by mortars laying a smoke screen. Cavalry were in action reconnoitring and dummy-thrusting with swords while communication by wireless and cable was also shown. A spectacular display of demolishing a bridge was followed by a battery action by two 18-pounder field guns. Visitors could inspect the equipment and try out an army gas mask in the gas chamber. 37 10 18

1937 10 19
Major-General Ernst Udet, ace pilot during the war, was amongst top German airmen who inspected two squadrons of giant Heyford bombers and the latest Battle Bristol-Blenheims, Harrow, Wellesey and Whitley aircraft at R.A.F. Mildenhall. They went into the body of the Harrow plane and three sat in the cockpit of one of the others before watching the engines starting. The visitors, some carrying small dress daggers, also toured the station buildings including the mobile wireless transmitting, photographic and automatic control sections. 37 10 19 & a

1937 10 19
The Mayor opened a model anti-gas room at Boot's shop in Petty Cury. With the disturbed state of international politics the company was anxious to help people to retain a sense of proportion concerning air raids. Any room could be made gasproof at a trifling cost. It had been tested under the most severe conditions with war gas. The Home Office Air Raids Precautions Department welcomed the initiative. If people took the simple precautions suggested they would be able to deal with the emergency quite successfully. 37 10 19b

1937 10 23
Great deal of war talk - Cartoon – 37 10 23c

1937 10 23
A new novel deals with the Cambridge of the future. "Thirty Million Gas Masks" by Sarah Campion imagines 'Something like ten thousand Cantabrigians were wiped out (as every schoolboy knows) in the Air Raid of 1939. There are memorials to the Cambridge dead all over the rest of Great Britain. The enemy cared not two buttons about Cambridge but were aiming at London'. In the book a technical mishap on one of the bombing planes releases a new gas which

results in the area being evacuated only to be visited by people in gas masks sent by the Government to test the poison-laden country. 37 10 23 c d e

1937 11 11
Cambridge Labour Party women's section heard that the Government was preparing for war and was not going to spend money on decent houses for its citizens to live in. Gas masks for 'essential' people were available at £1 and ten-and-six each, but for the masses at two shillings and nine pence. They should press for equality for rich and poor alike; gas masks should be efficient and not merely 'eye-wash' to prevent a panic. To capitalist interest war meant vast profits and hard cash. 37 11 11d

1937 11 15
Cambridge Peace Week ends with march from Parkers Piece to War Memorial – 37 11 15a & b

1938 01 11
Mr W. King showed three of his films. One showing the inspection of the Cambridgeshire Regiment by General Kirke caught the spectacle admirably: the marching of the Territorials was transferred to the screen in colour and many town and county notabilities were seen.. 38 01 11a

1938 01 20
The hostel for Basque children have had to leave Pampisford and experienced great difficulty in finding a suitable house large enough to take all the children. Now they have moved to Salisbury Villas, Station Road 30 01 20c

1938 01 20
Anti-Japanese demonstration – photo – 38 01 20

1938 01 28
Lieut-Col C.R. Bennett retired after 20 years with the Territorial Army. After service in the First World War he was given command of the 250th Field Company and established its headquarters in Cambridge in 1934. This was the first year of partial mechanisation leading to the loss of all horses and the extra work they made. Parades were less spectacular but were less dangerous to unwary recruits and allowed more training of a strictly engineering nature. His popularity with the troops even survived the task of judging the inter-company tug-of-war which looms very large in importance to the units 38 01 28

1938 03 10
Red Cross to plan demonstration of Air Raids Precautions work; in event of war a war hospital was to be established near Cambridge – 38 03 10

1938 03 19
Cambridge Spanish refugee relief organisation had transformed Pampisford Vicarage, which had been practically derelict. Twenty-nine Basque children had arrived on 19th June 1937, the youngest aged seven, all fresh from their tragic experiences. The Hostel had moved in January to No.1 Salisbury Villas. The children had all lost one parent and to send them back would be cruelty; they did not know where some of their guardians were and one lad would face the firing squad if he returned. But if donations were not forthcoming, they would soon run out of funds. 38 03 19e

1938 04 02

Parliament has decided that local authorities must prepare schemes for safeguarding the population against attack from the air. This does not mean war is imminent, but the risk cannot be ignored. Large numbers of volunteers are needed; men as air raid wardens, demolition workers, auxiliary firemen and messengers, women for first-aid, gas contamination and ambulance duties. The Mayor (Coun. Peck) appealed for people to come forward and say what they can do 38 04 02

1938 04 08
Miss D.I. Macdonald, who lives in Sherlock Road, has recently returned from Spain where she was caught in air raids. "There is nothing you can do except sit still and I was frightened because I felt completely trapped". The universities were picked out specifically as targets by the attackers who feared the people in them. Government suggestions that covered-in trenches should be constructed in the gardens of houses here are very sensible; the great thing is to have covered protection against splinters and machine gun bullets. In Spain they were not unsightly as flower beds have been planted on top of them. . 38 04 08

1938 04 11
The First Eastern General Hospital is to be revived as part of a War Office plan. The site has not been officially approved but will not be far from Cambridge. It would have 600 beds on mobilisation, possibly expanding to 1,200. There will be a permanent staff of three officers and 24 other ranks with 19 medical officers, a matron and 49 nursing sisters. On mobilisation the staff will be increased by other ranks largely composed of V.A.D. men and women. They hoped it would never be called into action, but they must be prepared, ex-servicemen were told. 38 04 11a & b

1938 04 21
Cambridge is to be the subject of an 'air raid' on July 14th. It is actually an ARP demonstration which will take place on Midsummer Common which is to be laid-out in the form of a street and made as realistic as possible. The scenario is that several squadrons of enemy aircraft fly over en route to Birmingham but are turned back and unload their bombs over Cambridge after they are attacked by aeroplanes from Duxford. The whole of the enemy machines are destroyed. Meanwhile the Mayor of St Ives, Mr D. Bryant, has built and air-raid shelter in his garden with the help of his sons. The first in the town, he is giving his townspeople a lead. 38 04 21 38 04 22a

1938 04 30
Air Raid Precaution plans contemplate the division of Cambridge into three main areas each of which could be operated separately in the event of communication being destroyed in an air raid on one or more of the river or railway bridges.. The total personnel required should be not less than 3,300 with street wardens dealing with about 500 people. The existing staff of the Corporation, Water, Gas and Electricity companies will form a strong nucleus of the personnel required and are being trained in anti-gas measures There will have to be co-operation between the Borough and County to give mutual assistance in case of need 38 04 30b

1938 05 03
Cambridge's air raid precautions are taking shape with council workers and college staff being trained in anti-gas measures and first aid. But volunteers were needed for decontamination, rescue and demolition work and 100 messengers, ambulance drivers and despatch riders were wanted. Cherry Hinton Hall would be an important centre for training and, if necessary, for a first-aid station. The greatest danger in air raids came from high explosive bombs but nothing was included about underground shelters. The Government said there is no precaution against

bombing; it was the council's duty to look after the injured and see damaged buildings were taken down properly. 38 05 03 & a

1938 05 07
In Cambridgeshire villages 700 air raid wardens had been appointed and 251 trained in simple elementary gas precautions. Each resident would be measured for respirators of which there were three sizes. There would be five or six centres with mobile apparatus and men trained to render first-aid, repair bridges and do decontamination work. The rural area was regarded as one of the least vulnerable but Cambridge was one of the most attractive spots for airmen in the world 38 05 07

1938 06 08
During an air raid the children attending infants' and junior schools should disperse to their homes, the Air Raid Precautions Committee was told. The responsibility of keeping children at school was great. Mothers would certainly come for them. 38 06 08c

1938 06 11
A report on A.R.P. progress in Cambridgeshire says 1,100 air raid wardens have been appointed with 235 trained in anti-gas precautions. Respirators will be stored but not assembled and distributed to each village until the emergency arises. A number of buildings have been inspected as first air posts to be manned by volunteers trained in decontamination and dealing with gas affected cases. There will be mobile parties able to rescue people from damaged buildings. 38 06 11

1938 06 24
The new Cambridge Guildhall basement could be regarded as splinter-proof and it would not be difficult to render it gas-resisting, the Air Raid Precautions Committee heard. If not done they could be criticised for allowing a public building without adequate protection and could not ask other stores or factories to comply with such regulations. But it would need to have 25 feet of concrete, with earth on top, to make it bomb-proof. It was absolutely and entirely impossible. 38 06 24a & b

1938 07 07
In Germany practically every civilian had been trained so that in the event of an air raid they knew what to do. Cambridge would be divided into 10 minor centres which would act as headquarters for the mobile first-aid parties and there would be five main first-aid posts. At least 1,000 volunteers were needed but at present only 200 had come forward, mainly women. They could not be expected to carry stretchers and do heavy lifting work. Cherry Hinton needed 30 air raid wardens, each looking after 120 houses. 38 07 07

1938 07 18
The Spanish people were fighting our battle & the British Government should take strong measures, a Conference on Spain in the Cambridge Masonic Hall was told. If Franco were to win as the pawn of Mussolini and Hitler another European war would be much closer. Meanwhile a service of prayer on behalf of religious persecution in Germany was held at the Synagogue in Thompson's Lane. Cambridge Refugee Committee exists to help all German and Austrian refugees and would be pleased to receive gifts of money 38 07 18 & a. Cambridge lorry for Spain – 38 07 16c

1938 07 19

Each village should have a utility squad of men or women with knowledge of first aid, buildings and fire-fighting who could help in an emergency. Parish councils should establish a first-aid point with hot water where a casualty could wash. There might be five distribution stores for about 80,000 respirators that would be assembled and sent out in cartons to air raid wardens for personal distribution, the Home Office suggests 38 07 19a & b

1938 07 23
The Air Raid Precautions Committee has constructed several types of household trenches at Ditton Lane for demonstration purposes. Two are about six feet below ground level and are roofed in, whilst the third is merely an open trench with an embankment around it. Shelters of this type can be constructed of any suitable material in the average garden and are strongly recommended as give the best practical protection to a man and his family. The duties of Air Raid Wardens were outlined: they should be sensible and able to keep their wits in times of stress. 38 07 23 c-e

1938 08 05
Some 900 aircraft are taking part in an exercise testing the air defence of Great Britain. The attacking force will have 36 bomber squadrons (some from Bassingbourn and Wyton) while the defenders will consist of 23 fighter stations and 14 bomber squadrons, including planes from Duxford, Debden, Feltwell, Mildenhall and Stradishall. Anti-aircraft and searchlight batteries will be spread across the Eastern Counties. Bombers will fly without navigation lights unless other aircraft approach and fighters are forbidden from attacking below 1,000 ft 38 08 05a plane crashes at Melbourn – 38 08 08. Mayor made tour of town, all in darkness apart from one or two lighted windows – 38 08 08b

1938 08 06
People in an area from Yorkshire to Buckingham, including Cambridgeshire and Norfolk, should extinguish out-door lights on their premises, draw blinds and curtains and take all other measures to prevent illumination from being visible during the air defence exercises. Those compelled to travel by road during the period must bear in mind that streetlights will be extinguished. If weather conditions are such that large numbers of bombers can operate without due risk, intensive raids may be anticipated. Fighter patrols will probably be kept away 38 08 06

1938 09
St Luke's school closed Sept so teachers assemble & distribute gas masks [446.12.2]

1938 09 14
The Cambridge Scientists' Anti-War Group, whose book 'The Protection of the Public from Aerial Attack' was criticised in the House of Commons, has been championed by Prof J.B.S. Haldane. He says they should carry out experiments into the effect of gas with the assistance of the Chemical Defence Research Department. They have also worked out a scheme for evacuating many of the population of Cambridge into surrounding villages 38 09 14a

1938 09 17
It has been a momentous week. Those of us involved with the daily production of a newspaper have spent a harassing time. Some say that today we know too much of the happenings in the world and know it much too quickly. The tension became painfully apparent at the weekend when the world waited for Hitler's pronouncement. Was it to be war…? But then a bolt from the blue. 'The Premier is to fly to see Hitler tomorrow to endeavour to find a peaceful solution to the crisis'. Our fervent hope is that international chaos has been adverted 38 09 17a

1938 09 21
In the event of air attack schools would be closed for a month as men would not be able to prevent their wives from going out to fetch their children. Many homes had no room in which to build shelters so two types had been constructed in Ditton Lane; one was open and about six-feet deep but there was nothing to prevent a corrugated iron roofing to be placed over the top. The other was covered and had seating. They afforded a greater degree of protection than cellars where there was a great danger of being buried by masonry, a meeting was told 38 09 21c.

1938 09 26
Mayor's air raid shelter – pic – 38 09 26

1938 09 27
The Mayor, E. Saville Peck, writes: "I realise that at this time we are all anxious about the present international crisis. I wish to assure the public that so far as practicable the necessary steps in regard to A.R.P. are being taken to provide protection against both gas and high explosive. Sufficient gas respirators are already in Cambridge and instructions will be issued as to where they can be obtained. First aid posts are being organised and equipped. Householders should consider making small trenches in their gardens for protection of their families in the case of emergency". 38 09 26a

1938 09 27
Sketch for a garden ARP trench – 38 09 27

1938 09 28
Ladies lead the war – women with respirators picture – 38 09 28

1938 09 28
Leys school dig ARP trenches – 38 09 28a

1938 09 29
Cambridge colleges have sent out notices to undergraduates ordering them not to come into residence until further instruction. However examinations will take place as usual and candidates will be allowed to come up for them. Meanwhile preparations continue for the reception of 10-11,000 London children it is planned to evacuate. Church halls and schools will be suitable for temporary accommodation. Women helpers, blankets and rugs are still needed 38 09 29a

1938 09 29
Calmly and without fuss, Cambridge people have started to collect their gas masks in readiness for 'come what may'. A steady stream of callers arrived at all distribution centres. Schoolmistress and volunteers showed each caller the simple method of fitting the masks on. Tragic was the contrast at Milton Road School where during playtime small children shouted 'We want peace' while adults waited outside to be fitted with their masks. It drove home Mr Chamberlain's words "How horrible that we should be digging trenches and trying on gas masks because of a quarrel in a far-away country between people of whom we know nothing" 38 09 29aa

1938 09 29
Air-raid trench in garden, Coleridge Road – 38 09 29aaa

1938 10 01

The Mayor said he'd received a telegram that plans to evacuate London children had been cancelled. Later he got another saying they were on their way. They arrived in three motor coaches, the children's ages ranging from six weeks to four years. Accommodation was found at Homerton and Newnham College. Their mothers left the children, aged from six weeks to four years, to the tender mercies of students and returned to London. Today the babies have rejoined their mothers, which is a very happy solution. 38 10 01

1938 10 07
William Coad of Cavendish Avenue has come up with an answer to the need for underground A.R.P. shelters. His scheme is to construct a sub-way car park underneath Cambridge Market Square with inlet and outlet ramps, which, in the event of an emergency, could be converted into an effective shelter accommodating several thousand people. A nominal car-parking fee would eventually pay for the initial outlay and alleviate the need for suitable garaging for business men coming into the town. 38 10 07

1938 10 08
What to do with gas mask now crisis over – Ronald Searle cartoon - 38 10 08a

1938 10 11
Anti-aircraft battalion placed searchlights around Cambridge – thanks – 38 10 11a

1938 10 17
Cambridgeshire Regiment to be raised to war establishment but First Eastern General Hospital will not remain and recruiting will cease – 38 10 17 & a

1938 10 29
Fireworks, jeers, cheers and shouts punctuated a meeting organised by the University Socialist Club addressed by Major Atlee, the Leader of the Opposition, in the Corn Exchange. The noise died down when he began to speak but there were frequent interruptions caused by exploding fireworks. All police leave was cancelled because of the meeting and a visit by Sir Oswald Mosley to the C.U. Fascist Association dinner in the Dorothy Café. But rowdyism was principally of the vocal kind. 38 10 29a

1938 10 31
Detailed statement of County Air Raid Precautions shows 30 tons of gas masks had been transported to Shire Hall where they were assembled by clerical staff and outside helpers. But they were still over 5,000 respirators short and telegrams had been sent to the Home Office. Parish Councils will establish a first-aid point in each centre of population but there will be no public shelters as it was safer for people to disperse rather than congregate. They would provide services to meet needs of casualties caused by the chance dropping of bombs 38 10 31a

1938 11 17
The President of the Cambridge Union Society is amongst signatories of a letter to the German Ambassador in London protesting strongly against the barbarous violence and cruel legislation inflicted without mercy or justification on the Jews of Germany. "We record our horror and revulsion at these acts of collective punishment, deprivation and arbitrary arrest and are appalled at the terrible suffering imposed on thousands of men, women and children for no other reason than their race", it reads. The University branch of the League of Nations also passed a resolution in protest 38 11 17

1938 11 28

A pacifist convention held in Labour Hall, Norfolk Street under the chairmanship of Dr Alex Wood called for every citizen to renounce all participation in and preparation for war. It was a crime against humanity and a sin against God. You cannot destroy German militarism through killing German soldiers. The colossal expenditure on death should be stopped and our country should take the lead by disarming 38 11 28 & a

1938 12 19
Cambridgeshire Regiment dinner addressed by Commanding Officer, R.N. Drake Digby. The responsibilities resting on the Territorial Army were tremendous. They had got their new Bren guns and anti-tank rifles and every man had to learn to use them to be ready to defend Newmarket 38 12 19 & a

1939
Air Training Corps formed [Misc.4.2]

1939 01 11
Ely RCD discussed the Government's scheme for the evacuation of civil population. Children would have priority; the acceptance of children will be voluntary but those who refuse must accommodate other persons. Schools will be required for the education of the children transferred; there would be one teacher or helper for ten children. There will be payment of 10s 6d per week where one child is taken, and eight and six each for more. Those under school age will be accompanied by their mothers or some other person and in these cases householders will only provide lodgings, not board., at the rate of five shillings a week for each adult and three shillings for a child. 39 01 11

1939 01 21
Evacuation scheme - Mayor sends letter to each home [1.15]

1939 01 28
ARP on agenda [1.16]

1939 02 04
Spanish Relief Committee meeting attended by members of International Brigade [1.16]

1939 02 07
Men and women members of the International Brigade, who have seen service in Spain fighting for the Government, spoke at the Guildhall which was almost filled to capacity. The meeting was called by the Cambridge Co-ordinating Committee for Spanish Relief. In Spain rickets was becoming rife, hunger dropsy was beginning to appear and anaemia was present. Between 300 and 400 people were dying from actual starvation in Madrid every day. For the first time in history in America surplus food was not being destroyed but was being sent to Spain. 39 02 07

1939 02 07
The Auxiliary Fire Service wound up their training at Cherry Hinton Hall with a demonstration using specially made incendiary bombs. Two were used to set fire to a house of boxes kindly donated by local tradesmen which was tackled using an ordinary hand-pump with a spray jet. Many important lessons were learned. The bombs give off intense heat and coloured glasses must be worn by the fireman to protect his eyes. The application of water increases the ferocity of the flames. 39 02 07a

1939 03 03

Trenches dug Midsummer Common [7.6]

1939 03 03
Cambridge is to raise a 600 bed Military Hospital (Territorial) with an establishment of 23 officers, 50 nursing sisters and 145 other ranks. Steps are being taken to provide temporary accommodation for officers and social purposes pending the erection of permanent buildings. This new unit replaces the original 1st Eastern General raised in Cambridge and the Isle of Ely in 1908. After the war, the hospital was disbanded, but in 1938 it was reconstituted under the command of Lt.-Col. C. H. Budd. M.C. T.D. 39 03 03 CIPof

1939 03 22
The Basque Children's Hostel is still in need of support. The children came over in 1937 and moved to the present hostel in 1938. The conquest of the greater part of Spain by Franco and his Fascist friends meant their parents were scattered and it was dangerous for them to return. Several businesses had given valuable support including Chivers and Pordage. It was a very happy home. There had been no bullying or dishonesty. Three of the boys were at garages being trained as motor mechanics, one girl was a dressmaker, another a laboratory assistant 39 03 22a

1939 03 28
Cambridge members of the Women's Voluntary Services for Civil Defence are being trained as ambulance and car drivers. A feature of the classes is tuition in driving in the dark in gas masks and without lights and in changing wheels, fuses etc under the same conditions. This instruction is being given by Mr North of Messrs Marshall's, Jesus Lane. Women wishing to enrol for this important National Service should apply to the W.V.S., Old Post Office, St Andrew's Street - 39 03 28

1939 03 29
Defence Cadet Corps Squadron formed – 39 03 29 & a

1939 03 30
The A.R.P. First Aid post at Auckland Road will be staffed by a doctor and trained nurse and give more extensive first-aid. Two practices have already taken place. A sham air raid was enacted last night with casualties brought in by ambulance and unloaded by stretcher bearers. Nurses and orderlies under the direction of Dr Walker, dealt with them. Realism was added by squibs which were let off and red paint was used to give the impression of real wounds. 39 03 30 & a

1939 04 06
St Regis luxury flats, Chesterton Road. A unique feature is the provision of a large air raid shelter built under the garages. It has a concrete roof and will be perfectly safe against all but a direct hit by a heavy bomb. Provision has been made for gas-proofing it in case of emergency. 39 04 06a

1939 04 17
The old First Eastern General Hospital had been born again last year, but it had a short life and died in the September crisis. Then the Cabinet decided to form eight Territorial General Hospitals and it was revived as the "2nd (1st Eastern) General Hospital". There are 23 officers and 145 other ranks, a matron and nurses and it will have the same number of beds, about 600. Old Comrades can assist training recruits in the initial stages, they were told at their annual dinner 39 04 17

1939 04 19

Sir Will Spens, Master of Corpus Christi College, has been appointed Commissioner for the Eastern Region under the Civil Defence Scheme, with Lord Eltisley as his deputy to direct Civil Defence on behalf of the Government in war-time from 12 cities and towns throughout Great Britain for three years as from April 1. 39 04 21 CIPof 39 04 19

1939 04 19
British Portland Cement has constructed an emergency headquarters at the disused Saxon Cement Works in Coldham's Lane. Built by William Sindall it includes a complete set of offices with bombproof shelters and all A.R.P. necessities. There are two decontamination rooms with gas proof windows and splinter-proof steel shutters. Seven bomb-proof dugouts covered with eight inches of reinforced ferro-concrete and two feet of earth can each accommodate 30 people. It has an air-filtration plant, central heating and electricity supplied from an accumulator driven by a crude oil engine 39 04 19b & c

1939 04 19
National service and ARP: the young man's job: prepare today. How you can help yourself – articles explaining situation – 39 04 19d & f

1939 04 19
Lavender & Bateman for air raid shelters of all kinds – advertisement – 39 04 19e

1939 04 19
Air raid precautions. Every house should have a refuge room. A cellar or basement is the best. The stronger the walls, floor or ceiling the better. If possible the room should be without windows. If this is impossible steps can be taken to lessen the danger of the windows being blown in by blast and so perhaps allow the entry of gas-laden air. Sandbags or boxes filled with earth should be placed outside them. Otherwise trenches can be dug seven foot deep with at least two entrances and covered with corrugated iron topped with two feet of earth. Keep these pages for future reference – 39 04 19 e,f, g, h

1939 04 22
An appeal was made for townspeople to join the army of National Service. Cambridge requires 540 air wardens, 189 special constables and 90 men for the auxiliary fire service. Women could join the Land Army, nursing or first-aid services or help with the evacuation of children. The world is in the hands of certain irresponsible and uncontrolled men. Vast multitudes had lined the streets of Berlin to cheer their leader, the man who had massacred the liberties of two neighbouring people. We need to be ready 39 04 22

1939 04 29
In the event of war there would be several hundred thousand casualties in the first few weeks. Cambridge was tolerably safe from air raids but patients would be transferred to Addenbrooke's Hospital from other areas. But there was a shortage of nurses. A nurse could do a great deal for a casualty with no hospital, but a hospital could do nothing for a casualty without a doctor and a nurse – 39 04 29 & a

1939 05 01
It is unlikely that the Water Company's source of supply, the Fleam Dyke pumping station, would be chosen as a target by enemy bombers or that a direct could put both duplicate sets of machinery out of action. However the disused Fulbourn pumping station has been completely reconditioned as a precaution. But if Cambridge was raided it is almost inevitable that water mains would sustain considerable damage the Manager said. The Company supplied water to

81,000 people but this may well be increased to over 110,000 by evacuations from London, 39 05 01 & a

1939 05 03
If war came some kind of press censorship would be inevitable, the Home Secretary told the Newspaper Society dinner. Retiring President, Captain A.C. Taylor, Managing Director of the CDN, said the provincial newspaper editor was very discrete and trustworthy but must make a true and faithful record of events as they take place. Only a free Press, unfettered by Government interference, can be looked upon as a true Press, and a faithful record of everyday affairs 39 05 03b

1939 05 05
Air raid trenches would not protect people in event of air raid. Seven minutes would elapse after the warning before the planes were here. During that time head wardens had to get their wardens out of bed and they, in turn, had to get people out of their beds into the trenches. Under this scheme 30,000 people would be turned out into the darkened streets where there might be a lot of transport. Instead steel shelters should be provided, councillors were told. Cambridge was a safe place and trenches were practically no defence against aerial bombing. And they were narrow: young men will be touching knees with girls (Laughter) 39 05 05 & a ,39 05 11 & a

1939 05 08
The Ely and Chatteris area would receive about 9,000 evacuees in three days, the W.V.S. was told. Accommodation offered for the children far exceeded the number that would be billeted, but there was not sufficient accommodation for adults. The first batch of evacuees would arrive at Ely at 1.05pm, bringing 1,000 and the second train at 5.35. The receiving stations in Ely would be Silver Street and Broad Street schools and the W.V.S. could escort them to their billets. Food would be provided but the authorities did not have the means to prepare or serve it 39 05 08 & a,

1939 05 13
Ronald Searle cartoon having joined Royal Engineers – 39 05 13a

1939 05 15
Committee discuss ARP trenches - "might waste -£50,000 [1.18]

1939 05 20
2,500 Undergraduates packed Churchill Meeting in Corn Exchange, voted to gladly accept the measure of conscription involved in the Military Training Bill. Churchill was occasionally interrupted by cheers, ironic laughter, and cries but generally speaking, the meeting passed off quietly. What violence there was occurred outside. Long before the meeting was due to start a queue formed up outside, and some of those unable to get in attempted to force an entrance. A rush was made on the west door and in the course of the melee, a policeman lost his helmet. Other officers repelled attempts to enter by the main door. A crowd of undergraduates several hundred strong remained in Corn Exchange Street until a proctor ordered them to disperse. 39 05 26 CIPof [7.7] 39 05 24a

1939 05 26
Cambridgeshire Regiment raised a second battalion. From now onwards, those applying will be placed on a waiting list. 39 05 26 CIPof

1939 06 03

Under the Military Training Act, 1939, the names of some 1,200 undergraduates and 800 other men aged 21 are being registered at the Senate House and the Central School. Medical examinations will begin next week and men allocated into four grades, one being unfitness for any degree of service. The others will then be interviewed by the War Office to determine their most appropriate allocation 39 06 03

1939 06 29
Emergency plans envisage that as London will probably be attacked before Cambridge the County Infirmary should provide for 250 casualties from Central London. The Ministry would provide bedding and equipment but mattresses and pillows would be supplied as cases only, to be filled as required. It would be up-graded with an operating theatre and X-ray rooms, emergency lighting and better sanitary conveniences. But in the event of local casualties the London cases would be transferred to other hospitals 39 06 29

1939 07 08
During the forthcoming 'Black Out' test there will be something like a thousand people taking part. There will be no general alarm but air raid signals will be transmitted by telephone to the various centres. You will be relieved to know that no houses are to be set on fire (!) but a red lamp and smoking candle will indicate than an outbreak of fire has occurred and wardens finding them will call the brigade. There will also be casualties of various kinds in the streets with labels on them to signify they are 'injured'. Streets lights will be extinguished and motorists asked to drive with sidelights. 39 07 08

1939 07 10
Perse School Scout Troop demonstrated the way they can assist in an emergency. Into the arena strolled a group of passers-by, then came the wail of a siren leading to a mad rush for an ARP shelter. Exploding rockets gave a hint of realism to the scene. Scouts ran to various 'casualties' and treated their 'wounds'. Afterwards the wounded were carried on emergency stretchers made of Scouts' staves placed through the arms of overcoats and mackintoshes. The wounded took great care to make themselves comfortable on this rather uncomfortable mode of transport. 39 07 10

1939 07 14
An exercise demonstrated war-time black-out conditions in Cambridge. Streets lamps were turned out, speed limit signs extinguished and red hurricane lamps were placed on traffic islands. The external lights on police boxes were also put out and the bulbs removed as an additional precaution. Most vehicles drove slowly with only side and rear lights and cars using head-lights were stopped. Lights at the railway station were left on but carriage blinds on the 11.55 from London were drawn at Bishop's Stortford 39 07 14

1939 07 14
The A.R.P. exercise envisaged that an incendiary bomb had fallen on the Tivoli Cinema and no water was available from the hydrant. Within a few minutes a van-drawn Scammel pump pulled up outside. Firemen transported the pump to the riverside from which a hose was laid to a portable canvas dam near the burning building. There were four casualties – presumably usherettes, two suffering serious burns. Eighteen lorries were used as ambulances with an illuminated red cross on the front. 37 07 14a

1939 07 15
Although a considerable number of Militiamen from Cambridge travelled to their depots the scene at Cambridge railway station was little different from a normal Saturday. I expected to see

goodbye and good luck messages being given to the first of the young men who are to give the next six months to the service of their country. But there were no martial strains to cheer them on their way. The explanation is that the men were free to travel as they wished and by travelling in small parties they avoided any publicity – and any reporters 39 07 15a

1939 07 21
British Legion veterans & Territorials took part in the huge rally on Jesus Green. Line upon line they stood in front of the platform from which the service, which formed part of the rally, was conducted, medals gleaming on every breast. To one side of the serried ranks was a space reserved for the standards. Twenty thousand spectators were in attendance. A far wider audience heard the service, for it was broadcast. A ceremonial march that preceded the service provided an impressive spectacle. An address was given by Admiral of the Fleet the Rt Hon. Lord Chatfield, Minister for the Co-ordination of Defence. 39 07 21 CIPof

1939 07 28
Waterbeach Aerodrome - proposed acquiring by the Air Ministry of County Council land at Winfield Farm, Waterbeach, as an aerodrome. The Council had 20 tenants there. Two of them won cups for the best smallholdings this year; both lost legs in the war. The Committee wrote to MP and made a strong protest to the Air Ministry. They said there was nowhere else they could possibly go. 39 07 28 CIPof

1939 08 04
Big Black-Out Test.—Cambridgeshire part of a gigantic black-out test. Twenty-five counties, in which the County and City of London will be included, will be in complete darkness—or as near to it as possible—on the night of August 9-10. More than half of England (from the Isle of Wight up to Lincolnshire, Staffordshire and Derbyshire) will be included in the biggest black-out test ever attempted. In all places, except the London region, the test will start at midnight. Request that there shall not be any light to interfere what is aimed at a 100 per cent, black-out. R.A.F. observers will be flying to report on the results of the great darkness, which is to approach as near to war conditions as possible. 39 08 04 CIPof

1939 08 19
Tribunal consider conscientious objectors [1.20]

1939 08 24
Should lighting regulations be brought into force motor car side and rear lamps must have electric light bulbs not exceeding seven watts, acetylene lamp burners must not consume more that 14 litres per hour and in oil lamps only one burner must be used. Light may be emitted only through a single aperture facing to the front or rear of the car of not more than two inch diameter. Front glasses must be obscured with white tissue paper or paint. Head lamps may be used provided the whole of the reflector is blackened. 39 08 24, a

1939 08 24
Shoppers at Cambridge's Woolworth stores were suddenly shepherded outside as part of an A.R.P. test. The staff had been warned but customers were quite in the dark when whistles blew just before the usual Thursday closing time. Four of the girls behind the counters approached the 250 customers on both floors and asked them to leave as a test was in progress. Others opened all the tills and put the money into bags, then made for the 'safety room' at the back of the store. Within two minutes fifteen seconds all money was placed in a fire-proof safe, the lights were out, the doors locks and the store's fire-fighting squad had their equipment ready for action. 39 08 24b

1939 08 25
Complete confidence in Cambridge preparations against air attack was experienced by Aid. W. L. Briggs (Chairman of the Cambridge A.R.P. Committee): "I feel that we shall be able, in case of emergency, to put up a thorough working skeleton organisation which we shall make every endeavour to enlarge as the necessity arises. With the volunteers that we have got we have worked persistently to put into operation all the necessary measures. But it must be realised that from the first we have been, from the Government point of view, a non-vulnerable area, and this has restricted us very much in making the preparations which we think are necessary, but every section has persistently and thoroughly worked out the details of their duties. First aid is trained and equipped as far as possible." With regard to the evacuation scheme", Aid. Briggs added: "Everything has been worked out to the fullest detail, both with regard to reception, billeting, feeding and medical attention" 39 08 25 CIPof

1939 08 25
In view of the crisis all police leave has been cancelled and special constables have been called up. The Fitzwilliam Museum is packing valuable items so they can be removed should the situation worsen and cinemas warned they will be closed in the event of war. Kerbs at street corners have been painted white in readiness for any black-out. There was a constant stream of people collecting gas-masks and a steady demand for black paper and curtains. Prayers for peace will be said at churches and it is hoped that Hitler will see it is suicidal to attempt to make war 39 08 25a

1939 08 28
There are to be two anti-aircraft batteries and one anti-aircraft signalling unit based in Cambridge. Recruiting for the batteries opens at 45 Parkside and Salisbury Villas for the signalling unit. Cambridge has already responded to the call for National Service. The Cambridgeshire Regiment is over establishment, the Royal Engineers unit, 2nd General Hospital and the Cambridge National Defence Company are complete. A second Auxiliary Territorial 1939 Service (clerical) company for women will also be raised. 39 08 28

1939 08 29
First ARP shelter at junction Cherry Hinton Road & Perne road – 39 08 29

1939 08 29
Air-raid siren set off accidentally at Waterworks in Rustat Road – 39 08 29a

1939 08 30
Addenbrooke's Hospital & Police station guarded by sandbags – 38 08 30a & b

1939 08 31
Police station sandbags photo – 39 08 31a

1939 08 31
Evacuation from London begins – 39 08 31

1939 08 31
Lloyd's Bank practiced evacuating their staff to air raid shelters in the two strong rooms adjoining the main hall of the bank. Those in Lloyds Bank Chambers used a specially constructed cat-walk over the roof to the fire escape window. The two strong rooms are situated one below the other and a trapdoor will supply a means of escape should one of the entrances become

blocked. In the event of a raid customers can accompany the staff or seek the nearest public shelter in wine vaults under Peas Hill 39 08 31

1939 09 01
Poland invokes treaty with Britain, Full scale attach by Polish troops, gas masks, evacuees – front page stories 38 09 01

1939 09 01
An experimental gas mask drill was held for Ramsden Square children. Over 100 assembled and were instructed in the proper use of the gas masks by the senior warden, Mr E. Winkworth. They were told a whistle would sound in the event of an air raid, that the sound of a rattle would indicate a gas attack and a bell would sound when it was safe for them to come from their shelters. Aeroplanes roared overhead as the children were instructed 39 09 01b

1939 09 01
Compulsory powers of billeting are now in force in Cambridge. Enough voluntary offers have been received to take in all the children who are coming in school parties. But expectant mothers and those with young children are also expected and householders will be required to house them. The payment is five shillings a week for each adult and three shilling for each child for lodging only. The adults will be responsible for their food. The third class comprise voluntary helpers from the evacuated areas working full time in Cambridge. The payment for them will be twenty-one shillings for board and lodging which will be paid by the Government. 39 09 01c

1939 09 01
First Air Raid shelter erected, for wardens [7.10]

1939 09 01
The first children who have been separated from their London families by the dark threat of war arrived at Cambridge station. The train contained 800 boys and girls, all had a label bearing their name and address, a few carried a football, several had oranges. They were handed bags containing their rations and helped on to the waiting buses 39 09 01a 39 04 04b

1939 09 04
CDN reduced to four pages due war conditions – 39 09 04a. Censorship started : based on idea that contents of every journal would be known in Germany in 24 hours; banned references to Royal Family, bombing - may not mention places, no report of air crashes unless civilian property or people involved & no mention of weather - could not mention wet roads or fog which may have led to crashes [9.1]

1939 09 04
Cambridge had its first air raid warning in the early hours of the morning and hundreds of householders left their beds and adjourned to lower rooms. Others, however, slept through the noise of the sirens. One householder, doubtful about the efficiency of their black-out wrapped a woollen scarf round the electric light. Shortly afterwards they donned their gas masks after noticing a very pungent smell. Later they noticed it came from the scarf which had been charred through. The alarm was caused by the passing of unidentified aircraft over the Eastern Counties. Fighter aircraft went up to investigate 39 09 04

1939 09 08
Blow Falls. Well, (writes Watchman), the blow has fallen at last. When I wrote this feature last week, there was still hope that hostilities would not break out, but Hitler has decided otherwise,

and now the whole country and Empire is rallying with France to fight for a great principle . . . We enter the conflict regretfully, but resolutely, and fully confident that we shall win through . . . The new lighting restrictions have made progress difficult and strange during the last few days, but we are gradually becoming used to the new conditions . . . One day this week the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries broadcast an important message to farmers and the rural community generally. He said that the farmer's main job is to increase, in an orderly fashion, our home production of essential foodstuffs—a task just as vital to the nation as that which has to be carried out by our armed forces. As far as the immediate after-harvest plans are concerned, the majority of farmers must think in terms of ploughing up more land, both for supply of human food and animal feeding stuffs. The immediate task is to plough up as much land as possible for next year's harvest. 39 09 08 CIPof

1939 09 08
War Measures at Cambridge. Banks, buses and libraries are among the services affected by the situation. Mr. A. Cousin, the Eastern Counties Company District Traffic Supt., said that after-dark bus services had had to be curtailed, owing to lighting restrictions "and of course, the cinema buses are not running at the moment, as there are no cinemas open." Both lending departments and reading rooms of the public libraries in the borough are closing by sunset, in view of the lighting regulations. Banking hours have also been altered. They are now from 1.0 to 2 from Monday to Friday and 10 to 1 on Saturdays. This week the stained glass in the east window of King's College Chapel was removed. It was being packed and taken to a place of safety. 39 09 08 CIPof

1939 09 08
Evacuees at Cambridge. - first of the children arrived at Cambridge from London on Friday. During the weekend many others arrived and were dealt with. On Friday, numerous helpers gathered at the station. Among them were a number of Rangers who came on duty at six o'clock in the morning to fill the "ration bags" ready for distribution among the evacuees destined for the county on their arrival.39 09 08 CIPof [1.11, 7.9]

1939 09 09
“Cambridge transformed - townsmen gone, evacuees here, strangers working away from London, unfamiliar garb, sandbag walls rising, darkened streets ...” [1.21]

1939 09 09
Kings college chapel glass removed from East window, eventually only 4 of 26 windows left, rest [largely glass but mostly boarding; some ask ‘what use windows if building destroyed?’ Ordinary houses protect windows with sandbags etc [1.21,3.13,7.2]

1939 09 15
Trenches constructed Milton Road school, followed by County High School [7.11,7.12]

1939 09 15
War-time Farming Push.—The war has come at a time of the year that gives farming the best possible opportunity to prepare for the great effort it must now make in the defence of our country (writes Watchman). Harvest is nearly finished, and has turned out better than at one time seemed possible. Given reasonable weather, farmers will be able to push on with their normal early cultivations and supplement them with ploughing up even more land, for another 1½ million acres of land must be brought under the plough this coming year. It is an ambitious programme, for we are attempting in one, year what we only achieved in four years in the last war .... Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire are expected to have little difficulty in supplying and

probably exceeding, their allotted contributions towards the 1,500,000 acres of land which the Minister of Agriculture proposes to bring under the plough this autumn.39 09 15 CIPof

1939 09 16
Public ARP shelters open Peas Hill, problems when locked, 40 08 20 [1.23, 1.24,7.]

1939 09 18
The University Arms pleaded guilty to failing to obscure lights in the hotel and preventing them being visible outside the building. Mr Bradford, the manager, said he had 400 windows and 40 skylights. It had been impossible to screen all these within 36 hours of war being declared. The skylight in the kitchen took four men three days to screen properly. Four of the six hotel porters who would have done the work had been called up and although they'd bought dark blinds some light shone through little cracks. They'd also put notices in each room asking visitors not to open the windows until they had put the lights out. 39 09 18 & a Geldhart public house, Sleaford Street also accused

1939 09 23
County council employees called up to fight will have their army wages made up to what they would have received. But what other employer would think off making up salaries in this way? They were already more fortunate than others because their jobs would be kept open for them. But they would have to be replaced meaning wages and salaries would be re-duplicated. Many people in business would have to close, others were working for nothing. Properties would fall into the hands of the receivers and rateable values go down, councillors heard 39 09 23 Cambridge does same – 39 09 25

1939 10 03
Many University staff have already left Cambridge since the start of the war and students from London and St Bartholomew's Hospital have joined students at the Medical School. Undergraduates will continue their studies 39 10 03 & a

1939 10 05
Dressmaker, hairdresser, dancing expert, officer clerk, shop assistant and television worker. All these are working side by side potato picking, milking cows, muck spreading and clearing out pigsties at the Cambridge University Farm on Huntingdon Road. The girls are members of the Women's Land Army undergoing a month's training before being sent to work for farmers. The majority are in their late teens and early twenties but some are older. One has her two grown-up daughters with her; her son and his brother are doing their bit in the Tank Corps in France. 39 10 05

1939 10 09
The majority of basements in Cambridge are useless as public air raid shelters since they need to be capable of holding between 50 and 100 people. But those at Herbert Robinson's Garage in Regent Street, Zion Baptist Church, Mr Wheatley's in Sturton Street and Potts' Mineral Water Works in Castle Street are suitable. However these are not enough and shelters should be constructed in various areas. They will be of brick and concrete and accommodate 50 people. Shelters in schools should be available for the public during the night and at week-ends.39 10 09a

1939 10 11
Air Raid precautions committee have ensured that petrol supplies will be available for special services and several garages have reserved tanks and pumps for them. There are decontaminating

centres at Mill Road store yard, Cherry Hinton Hall and Victoria Road. First aid depots have been set up at Shirley and other Schools with first aid parties and two ambulances. Electrically controlled sirens have been installed which together with the steam sirens should be adequate to give necessary warnings 39 10 11

1939 10 12
ARP shelter under construction at Christ's Pieces – photo – 39 10 12

1939 10 13
Happy Evacuees. A suggestion that there should be a re-shuffling of evacuees around Cambs. villages, drew a spirited protest from Cambs. Education Committee. The number of evacuated children of school age attending public elementary schools was 4,289, made up of 2,713 in school parties and 1,679 others. Three hundred and sixty-six secondary school children had been evacuated. Extraordinary good feeling between evacuated teachers and our own teachers. 39 10 13 CIPof

1939 10 13
Happy evacuees from the poorer parts of London enjoyed a birthday party for 'Little Joan'. She had told her new 'mummy' that she had never had a birthday party before and it added to her happiness to share it with chums from Fulham. Joan enjoys her 'holiday' home and only wants to go back 'now and again'. She would like her mother to come and see her in Cambridge. But mum cannot afford the trip. Other children are saving their money to pay their own mummy's fare. 39 10 13a

1939 10 20
Call-up - between 600 and 800 students and townsmen will be affected by the first proclamation under the National Service (Armed Forces) Act, 1939. The smallness of the number is accounted for by the fact that many men in this age group have already joined the Forces. On Saturday, October 21, - the anniversary of Trafalgar - all men who on October 21 were between the age of 20 years and 22 years, are required to register at the Senate House, King's Parade 39 10 20 CIPof

1939 10 27
Undergraduates help building sandbag walls etc [7.13]

1939 10 27
Hitler's bombs will have no effect on the air raid shelter in the basement of Herbert Robinson's garage in Regent Street which is not only the largest in Cambridge but impregnable even from a direct hit. It has three steel reinforced floors above the actual basement which comprise the shelter. Experts say that even if the first or second floors were damaged by a direct hit from a bomb, people sheltered would still be immune. It comprises 6,000 square feet and has accommodation for over 700 people 39 10 27a

1939 10 28
The Food Officer in Cambridge (Mr C.H. Kemp) and his stall of about 100 have been busy preparing ration books for the time when the Government brings the scheme into operation within the next three weeks. Workers, some volunteers, others recruited from the Ministry of Labour, have prepared 500 cards a day. Now all is ready. Rationed foods will be meat, bacon, ham, butter, margarine, cooking fats (including lard and dripping) and sugar. There will be an ordinary ration

book, another for children under six, one for travellers and a supplemental book for boys aged 13-18 who are considered to need more meat than the average adult. 39 10 28

1939 11 01
A.F.S. station – men waiting call to action, photo – 39 11 01a

1939 11 02
ARP trenches, Brunswick school – photo – 39 11 02

1939 11 04
Cambridge is a much more cheerful place in the black-out today than it was when the war started. Then cyclists and pedestrians were few and it felt like a dead city. Now with theatres and cinemas going strong there is plenty of life and the whole atmosphere has changed. But with more traffic comes more danger. Some motorists and cyclists go too fast in the darkened streets. But the worst offenders are pedestrians dawdling in the roadway without any thought for the poor people awheel who with dim lights have to thread their way through the streets. 39 11 04

1939 11 08
Cambridge Fire Boat trial – photo – 39 11 08

1939 11 13
The Conscientious Objectors Tribunal under Judge W. Lawson Campbell heard its first cases. A teacher from St Faith's School thought war was incompatible with the teaching of Jesus Christ, a clerk at the Cambridge Electrical Supply Company was a member of the Peace Pledge Union & believed military training led to the decadence of the human race while an undergraduate said he felt war degraded humanity but would do medical work. 38 11 13 & a; also 39 11 14, 39 11 15, 39 11 16a & b

1939 11 16
A letter from the Rev 'Tubby' Clayton was read when Cambridge Toc H Club opened above no.13 Corn Exchange Street, a place which three weeks ago was a home for pigeons. With the town labouring under the restrictions of black-out it was in need of a place where Service men can read, write and play games. On Sundays they can bring their lady friends. Above the entrance are these words: "All rank abandon ye who enter here". 39 11 16c

1939 11 28
Air Raid Precautions. Testing of air raid warning sirens. In accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Home Security, all air raid warning sirens in Cambridge will be tested at 1pm on the first day of each month. If an air raid warning is received on a day when tests are to be held the signal will be reinforced by a free use of whistles by wardens and police. Any siren which has been sounded for real during an alert will not be tested the following month – C.H. Kemp. Town Clerk 39 11 28

1939 11 29
Some classrooms in Trumpington and St Paul's schools were 'dark pits' because of first-aid depots being placed in schools. There was a great danger of sandbags making the rooms damp and as classrooms were being used for people to sleep in all night it was difficult to get them aired, councillors were told. It was also alarming to see enormous laundry vans standing in narrow playgrounds which have to be manoeuvred when the children were about. But at Cherry Hinton there was nowhere else they could go. However three halls there were being used by

children now. If they were not fit for first-aid posts, they were not fit to teach children in, Mrs Rackham said. 39 11 29c

1939 12 01
A Clare College undergraduate told the Conscientious Objectors' Tribunal that he hoped to do psychological work. The idea had come into his head while working in a Basque children's camp when he noticed that many of them had a kind of fit at the sound of an aeroplane. He was registered on condition he continued his studies. A shop assistant from Hinton Avenue, who was a lay reader in the Methodist Church, was registered on condition he undertook agricultural work. A man from Fulbrooke Road objected on religious grounds; he was a research physicist at the Cavendish Laboratory while a King's College graduate appealed on moral grounds. He was prepared and anxious to perform non-combatant service. 39 12 01d & e

1939 12 08
A News reporter inspected all types of shelter and was impressed with the comparative comfort of the interiors. The person who looks for armchairs will be disappointed, but in some of the larger basements there is plenty of space to walk about and in some there is even central heating. Most shelters have been constructed to withstand any likely fall of masonry and air locks to keep out gas have been installed. The have been arranged within a short distance of areas such as the centre of town where there are usually considerable congregations of people. They are primarily intended for the protection of people caught in the streets in an emergency. Nine are now ready with the cellars under Peas Hill holding 400 people 39 12 08b

1939 12 15
More shelters being erected [7.14]

1939 12 15
Black-out Deaths. Two women have died in accidents which occurred in the black-out. In one case, where the woman was killed almost instantly, the accident occurred in the Trumpington road, near the Evelyn Nursing Home. Miss Mabel Timms was struck by a lorry owned by Dickerson. The other was at the junction of Histon Road and Gilbert Road. Maria Elizabeth Smith was knocked down by a bus 39 12 15 CIPof

1939 12 18
Police are dragging the river for two local cyclists who disappeared during the black-out after they had set out to cycle to their homes. Following a report that what appeared to be two cycles had been seen lying on the bed of the river near Dant's Bridge police commenced dragging and recovered a lady's machine. Later a man's cycle was brought to the surface. They have been identified as belonging to the missing couple. The man could swim but had a disabled leg due to a football injury. The girl is the daughter of a stone mason and worked at a local factory. 39 12 18 & a

1939 12 22
Petrol rationing is focussing attention on town gas as an alternative fuel for motor vehicles. One of the Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company's coke lorries has just been fitted with a gas container to enable it to run without petrol. The lorry carries enough gas for 11 or 12 miles, which is adequate for deliveries of coke in the district. The range could be extended by putting a second bag on the trailer 39 12 22

1939 12 23

For two years a small community of Basque children have been our guests. Cambridge has become familiar with the little black-eyed, black-haired boys and girls and has enjoyed watching them dance and sing. They arrived under tragic circumstances, racked and nervous; the peace and quiet of the country village of Pampisford, redeemed and restored them. Now they have been adopted into English homes until they can return in safety to their own beloved land of Spain. Now a booklet has been published about their experiences 39 12 23

1939 12 27
War could not 'black-out' the Christmas Eve Festival of nine lessons and carols at King's. From the crowded chapel the message of peace and goodwill travelled by wireless across Europe to France, Italy and Switzerland. The candles flickered even after black-out for a test showed no dangerous amount of light could be seen from outside. But there were dark, blank spaces among the rich glory of the stained windows which told of the removal of some of the glass for safety's sake. 39 12 27a

1939 12 28
Cambridge public air raid shelters are nearing completion and the public is urged to visit specimen shelters. When complete there will be 60 new public shelters accommodating 6,700 people. They include the basement at Scroope House and the Union Society – detailed survey 39 12 28a

1939 12 29
Christmas, 1939 has meant more solemn thoughts than usual for many. In countless homes, the traditional joy and gaiety has been tempered by absence of one or more members of the family. And yet, in spite of gaps at the dinner table, and because the advice to carry on as usual is so obviously sound, there has been little outward change in the character of the Christmas festival. In Cambridge, as elsewhere, people remembered their absent ones, but through the inspiring co-operation of the radio, were able to satisfy themselves that the men in the Services were not forgotten. At home, it was the usual day of gifts—the children's day—and for many the delight lay in entertaining little evacuees whose parents were unable to do the job themselves. The change in the times was reflected, perhaps, in the opening of some cinemas on Christmas day, but found themselves comparatively few patrons; it was still a home festival for most. The Town club had their usual football fixture in the morning, but this had to be scratched. On Boxing Day their fixture with Rushden resulted in a decisive win for Cambridge. Another regular feature was the appearance of the Christmas Day bathers, who found not thick ice, but a deep fog to greet them. 39 12 29 CIPof

1939 12 30
Communist Party pamphlet on Cambridge in war described as "sheer effrontery" [1.25]

TUESDAY'S RAID IN CAMBRIDGESHIRE

Photo] [Press & Chronicle

The wreckage of part of the eight Cambridgeshire houses.

Casualties in One Locality

There was no sign whatsoever of any panic. . A.R.P. services went into operation smoothly and efficiently.

The A.F.S. speedily dealt with small outbreaks of fire and rescue and demolition parties removed most of the injured in a very short time.

in a semi-conscious condition. A tunnel was made beneath the rubbish and a soldier crawled into it and held the chair while workers made frantic efforts to fasten a rope around it. He was there for three hours before they were successful, and Mrs. Langley was rescued badly injured.

Raid on Vicarage Terrace, 1940 *70.30*

c.45.7 : Cambridge Military Activity 1939-1945

There have been numerous books published about Cambridge during the Second World War.Two of the most important, with information that supplements these snippets are

'Air Raid! The enemy air offensive against East Anglia 1939-1945' by Michael J.F. Bowyer. Patrick Stephens. 1986. ISBN 0-85059-685-8

'Cambridge at war: the diary of Jack Overhill 1939-1945, edited by Peter Searby. Cambridgeshire Records Society. 2010 ISBN 978-0-904323-221-1

1939

1939 January

1939 01 21
Evacuation scheme - Mayor sends letter to each home – 39 01 21 TT

1939 01 28
ARP on agenda – 39 01 28 TT

1939 February

1939 02 07

Men and women members of the International Brigade, who have seen service in Spain fighting for the Government, spoke at the Guildhall which was almost filled to capacity. The meeting was called by the Cambridge Co-ordinating Committee for Spanish Relief. In Spain rickets was becoming rife, hunger dropsy was beginning to appear and anaemia was present. Between 300 and 400 people were dying from actual starvation in Madrid every day. For the first time in history in America surplus food was not being destroyed but was being sent to Spain. 39 02 07

1939 02 07a

The Auxiliary Fire Service wound up their training at Cherry Hinton Hall with a demonstration using specially made incendiary bombs. Two were used to set fire to a house of boxes kindly donated by local tradesmen which was tackled using an ordinary hand-pump with a spray jet. Many important lessons were learned. The bombs give off intense heat and coloured glasses must be worn by the fireman to protect his eyes. The application of water increases the ferocity of the flames. 39 02 07a

1939 March

1939 03 03

Cambridge is to raise a 600 bed Military Hospital (Territorial) with an establishment of 23 officers, 50 nursing sisters and 145 other ranks. Steps are being taken to provide temporary accommodation for officers and social purposes pending the erection of permanent buildings. This new unit replaces the original 1st Eastern General raised in Cambridge and the Isle of Ely in 1908. After the war, the hospital was disbanded, but in 1938 it was reconstituted under the command of Lt.-Col. C. H. Budd. M.C. T.D. 39 03 03 CIPof

1939 03 03

Cambridge A.R.P. trenches: permanent A.R.P. trenches are taking shape on Midsummer Common between Auckland Road and Brunswick School – photos – 113.70

1939 03 22

The Basque Children's Hostel is still in need of support. The children came over in 1937 and moved to the present hostel in 1938. The conquest of the greater part of Spain by Franco and his Fascist friends meant their parents were scattered and it was dangerous for them to return. Several businesses had given valuable support including Chivers and Pordage. It was a very happy home. There had been no bullying or dishonesty. Three of the boys were at garages being trained as motor mechanics, one girl was a dressmaker, another a laboratory assistant 39 03 22a

1939 03 28

Cambridge members of the Women's Voluntary Services for Civil Defence are being trained as ambulance and car drivers. A feature of the classes is tuition in driving in the dark in gas masks and without lights and in changing wheels, fuses etc under the same conditions. This instruction is being given by Mr North of Messrs Marshall's, Jesus Lane. Women wishing to enrol for this important National Service should apply to the W.V.S., Old Post Office, St Andrew's Street - 39 03 28

1939 03 29

Defence Cadet Corps Squadron formed – 39 03 29 & a

1939 03 30

The A.R.P. First Aid post at Auckland Road will be staffed by a doctor and trained nurse and give more extensive first-aid. Two practices have already taken place. A sham air raid was enacted last night with casualties brought in by ambulance and unloaded by stretcher bearers. Nurses and orderlies under the direction of Dr Walker, dealt with them. Realism was added by squibs which were let off and red paint was used to give the impression of real wounds. 39 03 30 & a

1939 April

1939 04 06

St Regis luxury flats, Chesterton Road. A unique feature is the provision of a large air raid shelter built under the garages. It has a concrete roof and will be perfectly safe against all but a direct hit by a heavy bomb. Provision has been made for gas-proofing it in case of emergency. 39 04 06a

1939 04 17

The old First Eastern General Hospital had been born again last year, but it had a short life and died in the September crisis. Then the Cabinet decided to form eight Territorial General Hospitals and it was revived as the "2nd (1st Eastern) General Hospital". There are 23 officers and 145 other ranks, a matron and nurses and it will have the same number of beds, about 600. Old Comrades can assist training recruits in the initial stages, they were told at their annual dinner 39 04 17

1939 04 18

Tank stimulates recruiting; small Carrier tank manoeuvres watched by Territorial C>O> F.N. Drake-Digby – pic – 113.116

1939 04 19

Sir Will Spens, Master of Corpus Christi College, has been appointed Commissioner for the Eastern Region under the Civil Defence Scheme, with Lord Eltisley as his deputy to direct Civil Defence on behalf of the Government in war-time from 12 cities and towns throughout Great Britain for three years as from April 1. 39 04 19, 39 04 21 CIPof

1939 04 19

British Portland Cement has constructed an emergency headquarters at the disused Saxon Cement Works in Coldham's Lane. Built by William Sindall it includes a complete set of offices with bombproof shelters and all A.R.P. necessities. There are two decontamination rooms with gas proof windows and splinter-proof steel shutters. Seven bomb-proof dugouts covered with eight inches of reinforced ferro-concrete and two feet of earth can each accommodate 30 people. It has an air-filtration plant, central heating and electricity supplied from an accumulator driven by a crude oil engine 39 04 19b & c

1939 04 19

National service and ARP: the young man's job: prepare today. How you can help yourself – articles explaining situation – 39 04 19d & f

1939 04 19

Lavender & Bateman for air raid shelters of all kinds – advertisement – 39 04 19e

1939 04 19

Air raid precautions. Every house should have a refuge room. A cellar or basement is the best. The stronger the walls, floor or ceiling the better. If possible the room should be without windows. If this is impossible steps can be taken to lessen the danger of the windows being blown in by blast and so perhaps allow the entry of gas-laden air. Sandbags or boxes filled with earth should be placed outside them. Otherwise trenches can be dug seven foot deep with at least two entrances and covered with corrugated iron topped with two feet of earth. Keep these pages for future reference – 39 04 19 e,f, g, h

1939 04 22

An appeal was made for townspeople to join the army of National Service. Cambridge requires 540 air wardens, 189 special constables and 90 men for the auxiliary fire service. Women could join the Land Army, nursing or first-aid services or help with the evacuation of children. The world is in the hands of certain irresponsible and uncontrolled men. Vast multitudes had lined the streets of Berlin to cheer their leader, the man who had massacred the liberties of two neighbouring people. We need to be ready 39 04 22

1939 04 29

In the event of war there would be several hundred thousand casualties in the first few weeks. Cambridge was tolerably safe from air raids but patients would be transferred to Addenbrooke's Hospital from other areas. But there was a shortage of nurses. A nurse could do a great deal for a casualty with no hospital, but a hospital could do nothing for a casualty without a doctor and a nurse – 39 04 29 & a

1939 May

1939 05 01

It is unlikely that the Water Company's source of supply, the Fleam Dyke pumping station, would be chosen as a target by enemy bombers or that a direct could put both duplicate sets of machinery out of action. However the disused Fulbourn pumping station has been completely reconditioned as a precaution. But if Cambridge was raided it is almost inevitable that water mains would sustain considerable damage the Manager said. The Company supplied water to 81,000 people but this may well be increased to over 110,000 by evacuations from London, 39 05 01 & a

1939 05 03

If war came some kind of press censorship would be inevitable, the Home Secretary told the Newspaper Society dinner. Retiring President, Captain A.C. Taylor, Managing Director of the CDN, said the provincial newspaper editor was very discrete and trustworthy but must make a true and faithful record of events as they take place. Only a free Press, unfettered by Government

interference, can be looked upon as a true Press, and a faithful record of everyday affairs 39 05 03b

1939 05 05

Air raid trenches would not protect people in event of air raid. Seven minutes would elapse after the warning before the planes were here. During that time head wardens had to get their wardens out of bed and they, in turn, had to get people out of their beds into the trenches. Under this scheme 30,000 people would be turned out into the darkened streets where there might be a lot of transport. Instead steel shelters should be provided, councillors were told. Cambridge was a safe place and trenches were practically no defence against aerial bombing. And they were narrow: young men will be touching knees with girls (Laughter) 39 05 05 & a ,39 05 11 & a

1939 05 06

Defence measures - trenches, ambulances etc 39 05 06 TT

1939 05 13

Ronald Searle cartoon having joined Royal Engineers – 39 05 13a

1939 05 18

Committee discuss ARP trenches - "might waste -£50,000" – 39 05 18 TT

1939 05 24

2,500 Undergraduates packed Churchill Meeting in Corn Exchange, voted to gladly accept the measure of conscription involved in the Military Training Bill. Churchill was occasionally interrupted by cheers, ironic laughter, and cries but generally speaking, the meeting passed off quietly. What violence there was occurred outside. Long before the meeting was due to start a queue formed up outside, and some of those unable to get in attempted to force an entrance. A rush was made on the west door and in the course of the melee, a policeman lost his helmet. Other officers repelled attempts to enter by the main door. A crowd of undergraduates several hundred strong remained in Corn Exchange Street until a proctor ordered them to disperse. 39 05 24a, 39 05 26 CIPof [7.7], 113.83

1939 05 26

Cambridgeshire Regiment raised a second battalion. From now onwards, those applying will be placed on a waiting list. 39 05 26 CIPof

1939 June

1939 06 03

Under the Military Training Act, 1939, the names of some 1,200 undergraduates and 800 other men aged 21 are being registered at the Senate House and the Central School. Medical examinations will begin next week and men allocated into four grades, one being unfitness for any degree of service. The others will then be interviewed by the War Office to determine their most appropriate allocation to the Forces. They are expected to be conscripted in Cambridge 39 06 03

1939 06 29

Emergency plans envisage that as London will probably be attacked before Cambridge the County Infirmary should provide for 250 casualties from Central London. The Ministry would provide bedding and equipment but mattresses and pillows would be supplied as cases only, to be filled as required. It would be up-graded with an operating theatre and X-ray rooms, emergency lighting and better sanitary conveniences. But in the event of local casualties the London cases would be transferred to other hospitals 39 06 29

1939 July

1939 07 08

During the forthcoming 'Black Out' test there will be something like a thousand people taking part. There will be no general alarm but air raid signals will be transmitted by telephone to the various centres. You will be relieved to know that no houses are to be set on fire (!) but a red lamp and smoking candle will indicate than an outbreak of fire has occurred and wardens finding them will call the brigade. There will also be casualties of various kinds in the streets with labels on them to signify they are 'injured'. Streets lights will be extinguished and motorists asked to drive with sidelights. 39 07 08

1939 07 10

Perse School Scout Troop demonstrated the way they can assist in an emergency. Into the arena strolled a group of passers-by, then came the wail of a siren leading to a mad rush for an ARP shelter. Exploding rockets gave a hint of realism to the scene. Scouts ran to various 'casualties' and treated their 'wounds'. Afterwards the wounded were carried on emergency stretchers made of Scouts' staves placed through the arms of overcoats and mackintoshes. The wounded took great care to make themselves comfortable on this rather uncomfortable mode of transport. 39 07 10

1939 07 14

An exercise demonstrated war-time black-out conditions in Cambridge. Streets lamps were turned out, speed limit signs extinguished and red hurricane lamps were placed on traffic islands. The external lights on police boxes were also put out and the bulbs removed as an additional precaution. Most vehicles drove slowly with only side and rear lights and cars using head-lights were stopped. Lights at the railway station were left on but carriage blinds on the 11.55 from London were drawn at Bishop's Stortford 39 07 14

1939 07 14

The A.R.P. exercise envisaged that an incendiary bomb had fallen on the Tivoli Cinema and no water was available from the hydrant. Within a few minutes a van-drawn Scammel pump pulled up outside. Firemen transported the pump to the riverside from which a hose was laid to a portable canvas dam near the burning building. There were four casualties – presumably usherettes, two suffering serious burns. Eighteen lorries were used as ambulances with an illuminated red cross on the front. 37 07 14a

1939 07 15

Although a considerable number of Militiamen from Cambridge travelled to their depots the scene at Cambridge railway station was little different from a normal Saturday. I expected to see

goodbye and good luck messages being given to the first of the young men who are to give the next six months to the service of their country. But there were no martial strains to cheer them on their way. The explanation is that the men were free to travel as they wished and by travelling in small parties they avoided any publicity – and any reporters 39 07 15a

1939 07 21

British Legion veterans & Territorials took part in the huge rally on Jesus Green. Line upon line they stood in front of the platform from which the service, which formed part of the rally, was conducted, medals gleaming on every breast. To one side of the serried ranks was a space reserved for the standards. Twenty thousand spectators were in attendance. A far wider audience heard the service, for it was broadcast. A ceremonial march that preceded the service provided an impressive spectacle. An address was given by Admiral of the Fleet the Rt Hon. Lord Chatfield, Minister for the Co-ordination of Defence. 39 07 21 CIPof

1939 August

1939 08 04

Big Black-Out Test.—Cambridgeshire part of a gigantic black-out test. Twenty-five counties, in which the County and City of London will be included, will be in complete darkness—or as near to it as possible—on the night of August 9-10. More than half of England (from the Isle of Wight up to Lincolnshire, Staffordshire and Derbyshire) will be included in the biggest black-out test ever attempted. In all places, except the London region, the test will start at midnight. Request that there shall not be any light to interfere what is aimed at—a 100 per cent, black-out. R.A.F. observers will be flying to report on the results of the great darkness, which is to approach as near to war conditions as possible. 39 08 04 CIPof

1939 08 19

Tribunal to consider conscientious objectors – 38 09 19 TT

1939 08 24

Should lighting regulations be brought into force motor car side and rear lamps must have electric light bulbs not exceeding seven watts, acetylene lamp burners must not consume more that 14 litres per hour and in oil lamps only one burner must be used. Light may be emitted only through a single aperture facing to the front or rear of the car of not more than two inch diameter. Front glasses must be obscured with white tissue paper or paint. Head lamps may be used provided the whole of the reflector is blackened. 39 08 24, a

1939 08 24

Shoppers at Cambridge's Woolworth stores were suddenly shepherded outside as part of an A.R.P. test. The staff had been warned but customers were quite in the dark when whistles blew just before the usual Thursday closing time. Four of the girls behind the counters approached the 250 customers on both floors and asked them to leave as a test was in progress. Others opened all the tills and put the money into bags, then made for the 'safety room' at the back of the store. Within two minutes fifteen seconds all money was placed in a fire-proof safe, the lights were out, the doors locks and the store's fire-fighting squad had their equipment ready for action. 39 08 24b

1939 08 25

Complete confidence in Cambridge preparations against air attack was experienced by Aid. W. L. Briggs (Chairman of the Cambridge A.R.P. Committee): "I feel that we shall be able, in case of emergency, to put up a thorough working skeleton organisation which we shall make every endeavour to enlarge as the necessity arises. With the volunteers that we have got we have worked persistently to put into operation all the necessary measures. But it must be realised that from the first we have been, from the Government point of view, a non-vulnerable area, and this has restricted us very much in making the preparations which we think are necessary, but every section has persistently and thoroughly worked out the details of their duties. First aid is trained and equipped as far as possible." With regard to the evacuation scheme", Aid. Briggs added: "Everything has been worked out to the fullest detail, both with regard to reception, billeting, feeding and medical attention" 39 08 25 CIPof

1939 08 25

In view of the crisis all police leave has been cancelled and special constables have been called up. The Fitzwilliam Museum is packing valuable items so they can be removed should the situation worsen and cinemas warned they will be closed in the event of war. Kerbs at street corners have been painted white in readiness for any black-out. There was a constant stream of people collecting gas-masks and a steady demand for black paper and curtains. Prayers for peace will be said at churches and it is hoped that Hitler will see it is suicidal to attempt to make war 39 08 25a

1939 08 28

There are to be two anti-aircraft batteries and one anti-aircraft signalling unit based in Cambridge. Recruiting for the batteries opens at 45 Parkside and Salisbury Villas for the signalling unit. Cambridge has already responded to the call for National Service. The Cambridgeshire Regiment is over establishment, the Royal Engineers unit, 2nd General Hospital and the Cambridge National Defence Company are complete. A second Auxiliary Territorial Service (clerical) company for women will also be raised. 39 08 28

1939 08 29

First ARP shelter at junction Cherry Hinton Road & Perne road – 39 08 29

1939 08 29

Air-raid siren set off accidentally at Waterworks in Rustat Road – 39 08 29a

1939 08 30

Safeguarding Addenbrooke's Hospital – sandbags around wards – photo – 39 08 30 / 113.09

1939 08 30

Ambulance drivers on parade at Corporation store yard, Cheddar's Lane; three completed mobile units and drivers together with their section leaders and the Ambulance Officer (Mr W. Stockbridge). About 60 drivers are still needed to complete the required number. The whole system is now organised. 39 08 30a / 113.10

1939 08 31

Evacuation from London begins – 39 08 31

1939 08 31

Police station well protected: so effectively has the lower portion of the Borough Police Station been obliterated by sandbags that but for the presence of constables going on duty it would have been difficult to recognise - photo – 39 08 31 / 113.02

1939 08 31

Lloyd's Bank practiced evacuating their staff to air raid shelters in the two strong rooms adjoining the main hall of the bank. Those in Lloyds Bank Chambers used a specially constructed cat-walk over the roof to the fire escape window. The two strong rooms are situated one below the other and a trapdoor will supply a means of escape should one of the entrances become blocked. In the event of a raid customers can accompany the staff or seek the nearest public shelter in wine vaults under Peas Hill 39 08 31

1939 September

1939 09 01

Poland invokes treat with Britain … mobilisation ordered. Hitler: "no choice but force". "Would seem to mean war". Greatest evacuation begins. Gas mask drill – children in Ramsden Square – 30 09 01 / 113.98

1939 09 01

The first children who have been separated from their London families by the dark threat of war arrived at Cambridge station. The train contained 800 boys and girls, all had a label bearing their name and address, a few carried a football, several had oranges. They were handed bags containing their rations and helped on to the waiting buses 39 09 01a

1939 09 01

An experimental gas mask drill was held for Ramsden Square children. Over 100 assembled and were instructed in the proper use of the gas masks by the senior warden, Mr E. Winkworth. They were told a whistle would sound in the event of an air raid, that the sound of a rattle would indicate a gas attack and a bell would sound when it was safe for them to come from their shelters. Aeroplanes roared overhead as the children were instructed 39 09 01b

1939 09 01

Compulsory powers of billeting are now in force in Cambridge. Quite simply it amounts to this. Enough voluntary offers have been received to take in all the children who are coming in school parties. But expectant mothers and those with young children are also expected and householders will be required to house them. The payment is five shillings a week for each adult and three shilling for each child for lodging only. The adults will be responsible for their food. The third class comprise voluntary helpers from the evacuated areas working full time in Cambridge. The payment for them will be twenty-one shillings for board and lodging which will be paid by the Government. 39 09 01c

1939 09 01

First Air Raid shelter erected, for wardens – 39 09 01 CIP

1939 09 02

Concrete air raid shelter from Cambridge Artificial Stone Co – advert – 39 09 02

1939 09 04

Cambridge had its first air raid warning in the early hours of the morning and hundreds of householders left their beds and adjourned to lower rooms. Others, however, slept through the noise of the sirens. One householder, doubtful about the efficiency of their black-out wrapped a woollen scarf round the electric light. Shortly afterwards they donned their gas masks after noticing a very pungent smell. Later they noticed it came from the scarf which had been charred through. The alarm was caused by the passing of unidentified aircraft over the Eastern Counties. Fighter aircraft went up to investigate 39 09 04

1939 09 04

Children with gas masks – 39 09 04a

1939 09 04

Smiling evacuee – photo – 39 09 04b

1939 09 04

CDN reduced to four pages due war conditions – 39 09 04a

1939 08 05

Many weddings have taken place in Cambridge during the last few days. They include those of Lieut Robert E. Strong and Miss Prudence M. Lathom, married at St Paul's Church and Sapper Frank Rooke and Miss Nellie Haylett, both of Cambridge, who married at St Philip's Church. [Photos on front page]. Owing to war conditions, all newspapers will be reduced in size. The CDN until further notice will consist of four pages. – 39 09 05

1939 09 05

Cambridge is getting into its war stride. After-dark bus services are curtailed owning to lighting restrictions, no cinemas are open and public libraries close at sunset. Banking hours are now 10 to two on weekdays and delays may occur in the collection of cheques. Various museums are taking steps to protect exhibits from damage and already half of the stained glass in the east window of King's College Chapel has been removed. It is being packed and taken to a place of safety. The remaining 23 windows are being left as they are, owing to the enormous nature of the task of removing the glass. 39 09 05a. Some ask 'what use windows if building destroyed?'

1939 09 06

Cambridge company of the ATS – Territorial Unit for women – leave – 39 09 06

1939 09 08

Blow Falls. Well, (writes Watchman), the blow has fallen at last. When I wrote this feature last week, there was still hope that hostilities would not break out, but Hitler has decided otherwise, and now the whole country and Empire is rallying with France to fight for a great principle . . . We enter the conflict regretfully, but resolutely, and fully confident that we shall win through . . . The new lighting restrictions have made progress difficult and strange during the last few days,

but we are gradually becoming used to the new conditions . . . One day this week the Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries broadcast an important message to farmers and the rural community generally. He said that the farmer's main job is to increase, in an orderly fashion, our home production of essential foodstuffs—a task just as vital to the nation as that which has to be carried out by our armed forces. As far as the immediate after-harvest plans are concerned, the majority of farmers must think in terms of ploughing up more land, both for supply of human food and animal feeding stuffs. The immediate task is to plough up as much land as possible for next year's harvest. 39 09 08 CIPof

1939 09 08

Appeal for two anti-aircraft batteries – 39 09 08a

1939 09 08

War Measures at Cambridge. Banks, buses and libraries are among the services affected by the situation. Mr. A. Cousin, the Eastern Counties Company District Traffic Supt., said that after-dark bus services had had to be curtailed, owing to lighting restrictions "and of course, the cinema buses are not running at the moment, as there are no cinemas open." Both lending departments and reading rooms of the public libraries in the borough are closing by sunset, in view of the lighting regulations. Banking hours have also been altered. They are now from 1.0 to 2 from Monday to Friday and 10 to 1 on Saturdays. This week the stained glass in the east window of King's College Chapel was removed. It was being packed and taken to a place of safety. 39 09 08 CIPof

1939 09 08

Evacuees at Cambridge - first of the children arrived at Cambridge from London on Friday. During the weekend many others arrived and were dealt with. On Friday, numerous helpers gathered at the station. Among them were a number of Rangers who came on duty at six o'clock in the morning to fill the "ration bags" ready for distribution among the evacuees destined for the county on their arrival. 39 09 08 CIPof 113.73

1939 09 09

Peas Hill air raid shelter opens; large cavity under road shelters 400 people in converted wine cellars – photo – 39 09 09, 09a

1939 09 09

Cambridge graduate on torpedoed Athenia liner – 39 09 09b

1939 09 09

“Cambridge transformed - townsmen gone, evacuees here, strangers working away from London, unfamiliar garb, sandbag walls rising, darkened streets ...” 39 09 09 TT

1939 09 11

Going a bit too far?: youngsters at Newnham paddling pool with gas masks following the injunction to “take your gas mask with you wherever you go” – photo – 39 09 11a / 113.65

1939 09 13

Milton Road school ARP trenches – 39 09 13

1939 09 11

Singing the old songs: the familiar strains of 'Tipperary' were heard as soldiers on route march cross Silver Street bridge – photo – 113.117

1939 09 14

Cambridge University will not cancel examinations this term and entrance scholarships will be held in December – 39 09 14

1939 09 15

Sir – when my husband handed me his pay packet for last week I found it was 1s.10d short. He told me it was one-and-a-quarter hours lost for the air raid warning which made work impossible. I think it very mean to stop working men's wages. He clocked in as usual and was ordered to the works' A.R.P. shelter. Does this mean that if an air raid warning is given during working hour's money will be stopped, as work has to cease and the men take shelter? – Working Man's Wife 39 09 15

1939 09 15

War-time Farming Push. The war has come at a time of the year that gives farming the best possible opportunity to prepare for the great effort it must now make in the defence of our country (writes Watchman). Harvest is nearly finished, and has turned out better than at one time seemed possible. Given reasonable weather, farmers will be able to push on with their normal early cultivations and supplement them with ploughing up even more land, for another 1½ million acres of land must be brought under the plough this coming year. It is an ambitious programme, for we are attempting in one, year what we only achieved in four years in the last war .... Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire are expected to have little difficulty in supplying and probably exceeding, their allotted contributions towards the 1,500,000 acres of land which the Minister of Agriculture proposes to bring under the plough this autumn - 39 09 15 CIPof

1939 09 15

Trenches constructed Milton Road school, followed by County High School – 39 09 15 CIP

1939 09 16

The postponement of petrol rationing gives car owner an extra week's normal driving and enables hundreds of others to see that their tanks are full by the time rationing comes in. Many motorists left the filling of their tanks to the last day and there was a tremendous rush on garages. Several sold out of petrol and one motorist was only able to get one gallon after calls at eight Cambridge garages. For that one gallon he used nearly a half! 39 09 16

1939 09 16

Public ARP shelters open Peas Hill, problems when locked - 39 09 16 TT

1939 09 18

The University Arms pleaded guilty to failing to obscure lights in the hotel and preventing them being visible outside the building. Mr Bradford, the manager, said he had 400 windows and 40

skylights. It had been impossible to screen all these within 36 hours of war being declared. The skylight in the kitchen took four men three days to screen properly. Four of the six hotel porters who would have done the work had been called up and although they'd bought dark blinds some light shone through little cracks. They'd also put notices in each room asking visitors not to open the windows until they had put the lights out. 39 09 18 & a Geldhart public house, Sleaford Street also accused

1939 09 19

Central school pupils return school – photo – 39 09 19

1939 09 20

Kerbs painted white to assist during blackout – 39 09 20

1939 09 21

A departed glory: King's college chapel glass removed – photo – 39 09 21 / 113.04

1939 09 22

Taking precautions – various methods of protecting windows – photo – 39 09 22 / 113.01

1939 09 25

County council employees called up to fight will have their army wages made up to what they would have received. But what other employer would think of many up salaries in this way? They were already more fortunate than others because their jobs would be kept open for them. But they would have to be replaced meaning wages and salaries would be re-duplicated. Many people in business would have to close, others were working for nothing. Properties would fall into the hands of the receivers and rateable values go down, councillors heard 39 09 23 Cambridge does same – 39 09 25

1939 09 28

Taking timely precautions: boys of the Leys School trench-digging in their school grounds with a view to providing protection in case of an emergency. The Mayor's air raid shelter – photos - 39 09 28 / 113.05

1939 09 29

County School trenches: soldiers digging trenches in playground – photo – 39 09 29 / 113.03

1939 October

1939 10 03

Many University staff have already left Cambridge since the start of the war and students from London and St Bartholomew's Hospital have joined students at the Medical School. Undergraduates will continue their studies 39 10 03 & a

1939 10 03

City girls on the farm. London girls, member of the Women's Land Army undergoing a month's training at the University farm, picking potatoes – 39 10 03 / 113.78

1939 10 04

Cambridge business is experiencing a war boom with the influx of thousands of evacuees and fewer facilities for getting to London to shop. A feeling of optimism prevails among tradespeople who point out that although prices will rise in the near future it will not be due to profiteering on their part. The Paris House reports a flourishing sale in fur coats and higher priced merchandise while Mr Hensher of Peas Hill says his shop has been crowded by purchasers of black-out materials, blankets and bedding. Millers say gramophones and wirelesses are selling well and they expect a rush on pianos. 39 10 04a

1939 10 05

Dressmaker, hairdresser, dancing expert, officer clerk, shop assistant and television worker. All these are working side by side potato picking, milking cows, muck spreading and clearing out pigsties at the Cambridge University Farm on Huntingdon Road. The girls are members of the Women's Land Army undergoing a month's training before being sent to work for farmers. The majority are in their late teens and early twenties but some are older. One has her two grown-up daughters with her; her son and his brother are doing their bit in the Tank Corps in France. 39 10 05

1939 10 06

Suggestions for brightening the black-out at Cambridge. Heffer's have a selection of indoor games such as Autobridge, dominoes and jig-saw puzzles. Coad's stock khaki wools and other artistic shades for personal shoppers while Johnson's have a range of novels as well as black-out paper. Gray of Sidney Street can supply miniature billiard tables but those who prefer the real thing should visit the Guildhall Street Billiards Saloon which is open from early morning till late at night. 39 10 06b

1939 10 07

Concert parties to entertain troops – 39 10 07b

1939 10 09

The majority of basements in Cambridge are useless as public air raid shelters since they need to be capable of holding between 50 and 100 people. But those at Herbert Robinson's Garage in Regent Street, Zion Baptist Church, Mr Wheatley's in Sturton Street and Potts' Mineral Water Works in Castle Street are suitable. However these are not enough and shelters should be constructed in various areas. They will be of brick and concrete and accommodate 50 people. Shelters in schools should be available for the public during the night and at week-ends. 39 10 09a

1939 10 11

Air Raid precautions committee have ensured that petrol supplies will be available for special services and several garages have reserved tanks and pumps for them. There are decontaminating centres at Mill Road store yard, Cherry Hinton Hall and Victoria Road. First aid depots have been set up at Shirley and other Schools with first aid parties and two ambulances. Electrically

controlled sirens have been installed which together with the steam sirens should be adequate to give necessary warnings 39 10 11

1939 10 12

ARP shelter under construction at Christ's Pieces – photo – 39 10 12

1939 10 13

Happy evacuees from the poorer parts of London enjoyed a birthday party for 'Little Joan'. She had told her new 'mummy' that she had never had a birthday party before and it added to her happiness to share it with chums from Fulham. Joan enjoys her 'holiday' home and only wants to go back 'now and again'. She would like her mother to come and see her in Cambridge. But mum cannot afford the trip. Other children are saving their money to pay their own mummy's fare. 39 10 13a

1939 10 20

Call-up - between 600 and 800 students and townsmen will be affected by the first proclamation under the National Service (Armed Forces) Act, 1939. The smallness of the number is accounted for by the fact that many men in this age group have already joined the Forces. On Saturday, October 21, - the anniversary of Trafalgar - all men who on October 21 were between the age of 20 years and 22 years, are required to register at the Senate House, King's Parade 39 10 20 CIPof

1939 10 21

Undergraduates make sandbag wall – photo – 39 10 21

1939 10 21

Troops march past War Memorial – photo – 39 10 21a

1939 10 25

Gathering at Matthew's Café for scheme to supply cigarettes and comforts for soldiers – pic 39 10 25

1939 10 27

Hitler's bombs will have no effect on the air raid shelter in the basement of Herbert Robinson's garage in Regent Street which is not only the largest in Cambridge but impregnable even from a direct hit. It has three steel reinforced floors above the actual basement which comprise the shelter. Experts say that even if the first or second floors were damaged by a direct hit from a bomb, people sheltered would still be immune. It comprises 6,000 square feet and has accommodation for over 700 people 39 10 27a

1939 10 28

The Food Officer in Cambridge (Mr C.H. Kemp) and his stall of about 100 have been busy preparing ration books for the time when the Government brings the scheme into operation within the next three weeks. Workers, some volunteers, others recruited from the Ministry of Labour, have prepared 500 cards a day. Now all is ready. Rationed foods will be meat, bacon, ham, butter, margarine, cooking fats (including lard and dripping) and sugar. There will be an ordinary ration

book, another for children under six, one for travellers and a supplemental book for boys aged 13-18 who are considered to need more meat than the average adult. 39 10 28

1939 November

1939 11 01

A.F.S. station – men waiting call to action, photo – 39 11 01a

1939 11 02

ARP trenches, Brunswick school – photo – 39 11 02

1939 11 04

Cambridge is a much more cheerful place in the black-out today than it was when the war started. Then cyclists and pedestrians were few and it felt like a dead city. Now with theatres and cinemas going strong there is plenty of life and the whole atmosphere has changed. But with more traffic comes more danger. Some motorists and cyclists go too fast in the darkened streets. But the worst offenders are pedestrians dawdling in the roadway without any thought for the poor people awheel who with dim lights have to thread their way through the streets. 39 11 04

1939 11 08

Cambridge Fire Boat trial – photo – 39 11 08

1939 11 11

Set against the tragic background of a new war, Poppy Day in Cambridge presented a much more subdued scene. The war-wrought necessity of avoiding large gatherings of crowds and the blocking of streets considerably curtailed the undergraduates' carnival-light activity. Decorated vehicles had been banned. The German Chancellor was the favourite target for shafts of wit and the Cosmopolitan Cinema advertising vehicles offered an invitation to 'Beat up Hitler' by piercing a pip with a dart. 39 11 11a

1939 11 13

The Conscientious Objectors Tribunal under Judge W. Lawson Campbell heard its first cases. A teacher from St Faith's School thought war was incompatible with the teaching of Jesus Christ, a clerk at the Cambridge Electrical Supply Company was a member of the Peace Pledge Union & believed military training led to the decadence of the human race while an undergraduate said he felt war degraded humanity but would do medical work. 39 11 13 & a; also 39 11 14, 39 11 15, 39 11 16a & b

1939 11 16

A letter from the Rev 'Tubby' Clayton was read when Cambridge Toc H Club opened above no.13 Corn Exchange Street, a place which three weeks ago was a home for pigeons. With the town labouring under the restrictions of black-out it was in need of a place where Service men can read, write and play games. On Sundays they can bring their lady friends. Above the entrance are these words: "All rank abandon ye who enter here". 39 11 16c

1939 11 20

Despatch riders inspected – photo – 39 11 20

1939 11 22

People think that war is good for newspapers because of increased sales, when every day brings fresh sensations, success or disaster on land, sea or the air. But it brings a crop of trouble: rising price of newsprint and the blackout adding to difficulties of distribution. Censorship was not to conceal the truth from the public but to prevent information getting into the hands of the enemy. Local news had to be sent to London to be censored but foreign stories arrived at the CDN over a private wire ready for publication. They were able to give later news than the London evening papers as they had to come on the afternoon train which often took two hours. There was terrible unemployment amongst journalists over 30. They were a reserved occupation and could not enrol in any of the services 39 11 22a

1939 11 28

Air Raid Precautions. Testing of air raid warning sirens. In accordance with instructions from the Ministry of Home Security, all air raid warning sirens in Cambridge will be tested at 1pm on the first day of each month. If an air raid warning is received on a day when tests are to be held the signal will be reinforced by a free use of whistles by wardens and police. Any siren which has been sounded for real during an alert will not be tested the following month – C.H. Kemp. Town Clerk 39 11 28

1939 11 29

On Cambridge's famous Piece: workmen preparing foundations for a series of A.R.P. shelters on Parker's Piece beside Regent Terrace. The work is being done by several contractors – photo - 39 11 29 / 113.25

1939 11 29

Some classrooms in Trumpington and St Paul's schools were 'dark pits' because of first-aid depots being placed in schools. There was a great danger of sandbags making the rooms damp and as classrooms were being used for people to sleep in all night it was difficult to get them aired, councillors were told. It was also alarming to see enormous laundry vans standing in narrow playgrounds which have to be manoeuvred when the children were about. But at Cherry Hinton there was nowhere else they could go. However three halls there were being used by children now. If they were not fit for first-aid posts, they were not fit to teach children in, Mrs Rackham said. 39 11 29c

1939 December

1939 12 01

Testing an air raid warning siren at the fire station in Cambridge - 134.98

1939 12 01

Scores of undergraduates interrupted a rally organised by the University branch of the Communist Party. Despite the provision of loudspeakers the uproar made it impossible for the Press to hear the speeches. Two fights started in the gallery and there was an attempted raid on the red flag on the platform. The Chief Constable went to the scene. The appearance of two proctors and their 'bulldogs' was a quietening influence. Their coming was the signal for a

general donning of gowns by stewards who had removed them in order to carry out more easily their work as 'chuckers out' 39 12 01c

1939 12 01

A Clare College undergraduate told the Conscientious Objectors' Tribunal that he hoped to do psychological work. The idea had come into his head while working in a Basque children's camp when he noticed that many of them had a kind of fit at the sound of an aeroplane. He was registered on condition he continued his studies. A shop assistant from Hinton Avenue, who was a lay reader in the Methodist Church, was registered on condition he undertook agricultural work. A man from Fulbrooke Road objected on religious grounds; he was a research physicist at the Cavendish Laboratory while a King's College graduate appealed on moral grounds. He was prepared and anxious to perform non-combatant service. 39 12 01d & e

1939 12 06

Newnham College students instructed in use of stirrup pump – photo – 39 12 06

1939 12 08

Cambridge's public air raid shelter push. A News reporter inspected all types of shelter and was impressed with the comparative comfort of the interiors. The person who looks for armchairs will be disappointed, but in some of the larger basements there is plenty of space to walk about and in some there is even central heating. Most shelters have been constructed to withstand any likely fall of masonry and air locks to keep out gas have been installed. The have been arranged within a short distance of areas such as the centre of town where there are usually considerable congregations of people. They are primarily intended for the protection of people caught in the streets in an emergency. Nine are now ready with the cellars under Peas Hill holding 400 people 39 12 08b / 113.26, 113.27

1939 12 09

Call to the colours: thousands of young men registered for military service – old Church Schools Newnham - photo – 39 12 09

1939 12 12

Libraries to close at black-out time – 39 12 12, 39 12 15

1939 12 15

Black-out Deaths. Two women have died in accidents which occurred in the black-out. In one case, where the woman was killed almost instantly, the accident occurred in the Trumpington road, near the Evelyn Nursing Home. Miss Mabel Timms was struck by a lorry owned by Dickerson. The other was at the junction of Histon Road and Gilbert Road. Maria Elizabeth Smith was knocked down by a bus 39 12 15 CIPof

1939 12 15

More shelters being erected 39 12 15 CIP

1939 12 16

The new concrete reservoir on Lime Kiln Hill has been built partly below ground and covered with earth which will be sewed with grass seed, adding a pleasant green mound to the skyline. To guard against an interruption in supply due to a breakdown of pumping machinery or the bursting of trunk mains, the Water Company now had duplicate plan together with a reserve of four million gallons – nearly two days' supply – in its three reservoirs. 39 12 16

1939 12 18

Police are dragging the river for two local cyclists who disappeared during the black-out after they had set out to cycle to their homes. Following a report that what appeared to be two cycles had been seen lying on the bed of the river near Dant's Bridge police commenced dragging and recovered a lady's machine. Later a man's cycle was brought to the surface. They have been identified as belonging to the missing couple. The man could swim but had a disabled leg due to a football injury. The girl is the daughter of a stone mason and worked at a local factory. 39 12 18 & an

1939 12 22

Petrol rationing is focussing attention on town gas as an alternative fuel for motor vehicles. One of the Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company's coke lorries has just been fitted with a gas container to enable it to run without petrol. The lorry carries enough gas for 11 or 12 miles, which is adequate for deliveries of coke in the district. The range could be extended by putting a second bag on the trailer 39 12 22

1939 12 23

For two years a small community of Basque children have been our guests. Cambridge has become familiar with the little black-eyed, black-haired boys and girls and has enjoyed watching them dance and sing. They arrived under tragic circumstances, racked and nervous; the peace and quiet of the country village of Pampisford, redeemed and restored them. Now they have been adopted into English homes until they can return in safety to their own beloved land of Spain. Now a booklet has been published about their experiences 39 12 23

1939 12 27

War could not 'black-out' the Christmas Eve Festival of nine lessons and carols at King's. From the crowded chapel the message of peace and goodwill travelled by wireless across Europe to France, Italy and Switzerland. The candles flickered even after black-out for a test showed no dangerous amount of light could be seen from outside. But there were dark, blank spaces among the rich glory of the stained windows which told of the removal of some of the glass for safety's sake. 39 12 27a

1939 12 28

Cambridge public air raid shelters are nearing completion and the public is urged to visit specimen shelters. When complete there will be 60 new public shelters accommodating 6,700 people. They include the basement at Scroope House and the Union Society – detailed survey 39 12 28a

1939 12 29

Christmas, 1939, has meant more solemn thoughts than usual for many. In countless homes, the traditional joy and gaiety has been tempered by absence of one or more members of the family.

And yet, in spite of gaps at the dinner table, and because the advice to carry on as usual is so obviously sound, there has been little outward change in the character of the Christmas festival. In Cambridge, as elsewhere, people remembered their absent ones, but through the inspiring co-operation of the radio, were able to satisfy themselves that the men in the Services were not forgotten. At home, it was the usual day of gifts—the children's day—and for many the delight lay in entertaining little evacuees whose parents were unable to do the job themselves. The change in the times was reflected, perhaps, in the opening of some cinemas on Christmas day, but found themselves comparatively few patrons; it was still a home festival for most. The Town club had their usual football fixture in the morning, but this had to be scratched. On Boxing Day their fixture with Rushden resulted in a decisive win for Cambridge. Another regular feature was the appearance of the Christmas Day bathers, who found not thick ice, but a deep fog to greet them. 39 12 29 CIPof

1939 12 30

Communist Party pamphlet on Cambridge in war described as "sheer effrontery" – 39 12 30

1940

1940 January

1940 01 03

The Lord Mayor of London visited evacuated children in Cambridge. At St Paul's school he saw classes from St Martin's Parochial School, St Philip's School has scholars from St Martin-in-the-Field while that at Cherry Hinton is attended by children from Brompton-Road School. Later he visited St Matthew's School where other London children welcomed him before going to a Pulteney School Manager's party in the Co-operative Hall. The children were very happy and well-placed and it would be foolish for them to return to the danger area 40 01 03,04

1940 01 10

Getting on with it: ARP shelters being erected on Jesus Green – photo – 40 01 10a / 113.47

1940 01 12

Adult evacuee's impression of Cambridge – 40 01 12b

1940 01 13

Cambridge University has adopted special measures to meet the difficulty of interrupted studies. Many men cannot be expected to reside for more than two years in wartime so modification have been made in certain important courses, particularly engineering and law to enable them to make the best use of the time available. Colleges will admit scholars in December so they may begin their University studies nine months earlier than normal. – 40 01 13a

1940 01 15

Gas Company effect of black-out on consumption offset by large number of people who had come to town – 40 01 15b

1940 01 15

Air Defence Cadet Corps inspection – 40 01 15b

1940 01 17

A.R.P. Ambulance – specially-converted car – photo – 40 01 17

1940 01 18

From Canada to Cambridge: members of the WVS at their Cambridge depot in Regent Street sorting part of the £10,000 gift of clothing sent by the Imperial Order of the Daughters of the Empire in Canada form necessitous evacuees in this district - photo – 40 01 18 / 113.79

1940 01 19

School Shelters. A £10,000 scheme to provide shelters at Cambridge schools was submitted meeting of the Borough Education Committee on Tuesday afternoon when a report of a sub-committee approving the proposals was received. The Committee resolved to approve the estimate involved and to authorise the Town Council to make application to the Ministry of Health for sanction to raise a loan for that amount to cover cost of the work, lighting, drainage, etc. 40 01 19 CIP

1940 01 19

A tribunal heard from a manager at Laurie & McConnal's whose family had been pacifists for generations. If the firm started supplying the army he would have nothing to do with it. An assistant at the Fitzwilliam Museum said he had been attending meetings of the Society of Friends and he could better serve by continuing to help the cultural life of the community. A Saffron Walden art student believed the German people were being misled by leaders who had overstepped all reason. He objected to all forms of military service, even designing camouflage for aeroplane hangars. All were registered as conscientious objectors - 40 01 19a

1940 01 20

WWI communal kitchens, one at Christ Church Institute, soup cooked in Mr Langford's shoe-mending shop, another in St Eligius Street – 40 01 20b, 40 01 20c

1940 01 20

Y.M.C.A. mobile canteen starts – 40 01 20b

1940 01 23

Sir Will Spens, Regional Commissioner, takes tea from YMCA canteen – photo – 40 01 23

1940 01 30

Isolation hospital provision needed at Old Chesterton owing large number evacuee children – 40 01 30d

1940 February

1940 02 01

Chief Air Raid Warden, Coun F. Doggett succeeds Lord Rothschild; Cambridge a safe area and unnecessary to man posts – 40 02 01a, b

1940 02 15
Coleridge Ward ARP wardens meeting – 40 02 15b

1940 02 21
Jan Masaryk, son first President Czechoslovakia speaks – 40 02 21a

1940 02 23
First offenders against 20mph restrictions in black-out – 40 02 23c

1940 March

1940 03 08
Station "Explosion" Test. A presumed explosion in a railway station cloakroom provided a topical setting for the practical tests for the Cambridge District Officers' Shield ambulance competitions held in Houghton Hall Cambridge, on Saturday. Six teams from L.N.E.R. stations took part and the championship was comfortably retained by March "A," who scored 338 points out of a possible 400, 204 in the team test and 134 in the individual (oral) test. 40 03 08

1940 03 13
Civil Servants evacuated to Cambridge opened their club at the Masonic Hall in Corn Exchange Street with a dance to the music of Dan Maskell's band. It is estimated that altogether there are a thousand of them in Cambridge and they are likely to remain for the duration of the war. The club is equipped with table tennis tables, darts boards and a game of skittles. There is a comfortable lounge, reading room and bar as well as a sewing machine and a small iron for the ladies. It is hoped to provide a snack bar at lunch time– 40 03 13c

1943 03 18
ARP volunteered killed in accident near NIAB – 40 03 18a

1943 03 20
Animals ARP centre organised by NARPAC – seven first-aid posts – 40 03 20c

1943 03 21
German refugee offended under aliens' regulations – 40 03 21a

1943 03 21
Air raids on Cambridge improbable says Vice Chancellor – 40 03 21b

1940 03 26
Bank Holiday 'air raid' – first-aid demonstration – 40 03 26a

1940 03 27

Seaman Trevor Surkitt, the young Cambridge man who fought in H.M.S. Exeter at the battle of the River Plate was honoured at the Guildhall for the heroic part he played in the fighting. The presentation took the form of a statuette of a sailor holding a telescope and a silver cup. Seaman Surkitt, of Coldham's Lane, was the youngest seaman on board and was on duty through the battle in the one turret of the ship which was able to continue firing. But he declined to say anything about the action. 40 03 27a

1940 April

1940 04 05

Ancient and Modern: members of Britain's newest Service (RAF) march past King's chapel – photo – 40 04 05 / 113.11

1940 04 05

Bus drivers to stop in event of air raid in a wide thoroughfare or a side street to let ambulances etc pass – 40 04 05a

1940 04 06

Evacuees' birthday party – photo – 40 04 06

1940 04 10

"Animal War Guard, National A.R.P. for animals" – N.A.R.P.A.C. register animals so in event of animal getting lost its owner can be informed – 40 04 08a

1940 04 10

Cherry Hinton ward ARP work – 40 04 10c, d

1940 04 11

Airmen at drill – photo – 40 04 11a

1940 04 11

Provision for people rendered homeless by air raids – to use Labour Hall, Romsey Town, Beaconsfield Hall, Houghton Hall and others – 40 04 11b

1940 04 16

If a raid should come – ARP plan for animals – 40 04 16b

1940 04 19

Another kind of press! Tins of all sorts are among the waste material being collected - Scrap metal collection – photo – 40 04 19a / 113.18

1940 04 25

When parents of illegitimate children of serving men are willing the Cambridge Soldiers', Sailors & Airmen's Families Association endeavours to get them adopted – 40 04 25b

1940 04 27
Conscientious Objectors tribunal – 40 04 27

1940 04 27
Pilot Peter Robinson killed; first man connected with CDN to die – 40 04 27a

1940 May

Members of University Officer Training Corps invited to enrol in LDV in Summer & stay up when rest of University send down to avoid capture if Germans invaded; guarded Post Office, dug slit trenches etc; stayed till October

1940 05 04
Evacuees - 2,088 & 35 teachers remain in Cambridge, 34 return to London – 40 05 04 TT

1940 05 06
A.R.P. shelters are now complete – 40 05 06

1940 05 09
Alex Wood in court over Peace Pledge Union poster urging men not to fight – 40 05 09

1940 05 13
A large number of male enemy aliens who come within the scope of the provisions of a new Home Office order were rounded up members of the Borough Police in plain clothes. The procedure adopted was for the police to go in cars to the homes of the men affected and ask them to go to the police station. From there they were taken to the Guildhall. Before being conveyed by bus to internment camps, they were allowed to go home, accompanied by the police, to collect clothes and other personal belongings. A number of University men, including Fellows of colleges, were among those dealt with. Four brothers and a man, who will be 60 in a fortnight, were other cases. In several instances, aliens who were out when police called, went voluntarily to the police station – 40 05 13a

1940 05 15
Germans suffer enormous losses … big battle still raging. Great work by the R.A.F. … 35 of our machines lost. Rush to join the Defence Corps: there was a very encouraging response to the War Minister's appeal for the formation of a Local Defence Volunteer Corp to counteract possible activities in this country of German parachutists. Photo of some of the many who volunteered during the day - 40 05 15, a,b / 113.85

1940 05 15
Anti-parachutist corps of LDV – rush to join – 40 05 15b

1940 05 16
Appeal for women to join WAAFs – photo – 40 05 16

1940 05 17

A large number of male enemy aliens who come within the scope of the provisions of a new Home Office order were rounded up members of the Borough Police in plain clothes. The procedure adopted was for the police to go in cars to the homes of the men affected and ask them to go to the police station. From there they were taken to the Guildhall. Before being conveyed by bus to internment camps, they were allowed to go home, accompanied by the police, to collect clothes and other personal belongings. A number of University men, including Fellows of colleges, were among those dealt with. Four brothers and a man, who will be 60 in a fortnight, were other cases. In several instances, aliens who were out when police called, went voluntarily to the police station 40 05 17 CIPof

1940 05 23

National Defence Corps on duty for first time; full guard in the new uniform and equipped with riddles patrolled Gas Works – 40 05 23

1940 05 25

Land Army recruiting drive; Cambridge recruiting centre – photo – 40 05 25a

1940 05 31

"Troops pour back from Flanders" … continue to hold Dunkirk – headlines – 40 05 31

1940 05 31

A.R.P. for pets hurt in bombing raids established in Lion Hotel yard – list of centres – 40 05 31a

1940 June

1940 06 01

"More shiploads of troops arrive… rear-guard men reach Dunkirk; RAF 'bag' 75 more Nazi planes … – headlines – 40 06 01 / 113.81

1940 06 01

Swastikas painted on shops by students – 40 06 01aa

1940 06 01

Road signs removed – photo – 40 06 01aa / 113.67

1940 06 01

Undergraduates leave ten days before normal end of term so can do work of importance rather than have social time – 40 06 01bb

1940 06 05

St Giles church railings removed – photo – 40 06 05

1940 06 06

National Savings Campaign indicator, Post Office – photo – 40 06 06

1940 06 06

Alex Wood & pacifists to withdraw poster – 40 06 06a

1940 06 08

Local Information Committees suggested to circulate reliable news in an emergency – but this is role of newspapers – 40 06 08

1940 06 13

Italians Detained. Cambridge Borough Police began a round-up of Italian subjects in the town immediately after news of Italy's entry into the war and altogether about a dozen were detained. About half are members of the University and the remainder shop assistants. They have left Cambridge for an internment camp. It is understood that there are none in the county 40 06 13 CIPof

1940 06 14

Dunkirk Experiences. Pte. Ernest Marshall, of Comberton was about five miles from Dunkirk when orders were received to make for the coast, and to take to the boats as they became available. Reaching the coast at daybreak, they waded in the water up to their armpits in a vain attempt to board a boat, but every boat was already filled to its utmost capacity. Still un-dismayed, although shells were bursting continuously around them, they decided to return to the shore, and make their way along the coast in the direction of Dunkirk. That five-mile journey was one of living torture. Numerous bombers were hovering overhead, dropping their deadly bombs around them, and heavy shellfire added to their discomfort. By lying flat on the ground and snatching every effort to proceed during a brief lull in the attack, he and his comrades, after seven long hours, eventually reached Dunkirk, where they boarded a boat, which, in spite of heavy enemy attack, landed them safely in England 40 06 14 CIPof

1940 06 19

Ten people were killed and a similar number injured by two high-explosive bombs which demolished houses in Vicarage Terrace. It was the first raid in the Eastern Region to cause deaths – censored news – censored - 45 09 15 / 113.42a

Nine die in raid. Nine people were killed when bombs hit a row of cottages in a working class district of a town in Cambridgeshire during Tuesday night's air raid over East Anglia. [Vicarage Terrace, Cambridge] A baby girl aged five months was killed in her cradle. The mother and father were rescued from the wreckage. A mother, father and baby boy of two were killed in another of the cottages. A boy of six died in hospital. The list of casualties as reported in the CDN June 19, 1940: killed: Heather Dear, aged 5 months; William Langley and 'Sam' Langley; Gladys Clarke, 11; Mr & Mrs Beresford and their son Michael, aged two years; Molly Palmer, 9 and Leonard Palmer, 6. Injured: Mrs Daisy Kate Clarke, 42, shock; Charles F. Clarke, 53, fracture of the leg; Peggy Clarke, 15, multiple abrasions; Mrs Kathleen Dear, 22, shock; Sidney Palmer, 54, cut head; Mrs Emma Palmer, 51, multiple injuries; Lily Itzcovitch, 11, an evacuee, cut head and

arm; Mrs Mabel Watts, multiple injuries; Mrs Doris Palmer, 34, injuries to the feet; Mrs Lily Langley, 47 shock.

Twelve killed in big raids on England, 100 German bombers engaged … twelve civilians including five children were killed and many others injured as Germany opened its direct war on Britain during the night with extensive raids over Eastern England [Vicarage Terrace] – headlines – 40 06 19, a, c / 113.86

Last night's raid: casualties in one location [Vicarage Terrace], includes names. Learning to tackle fires: Chesterton housewives with stirrup pump – 40 06 19e, f, g, h, i / 113.89

Tuesday night's raid: the wreckage of part of the eight Cambridgeshire houses demolished in Tuesday night's air raid - Vicarage Terrace – photo – 40 06 20a / 113.13

Vicarage Terrace bombing – experiences of CDN reporter who suspected of being German paratrooper as was wearing red and grey under his greatcoat – his pyjamas. Was not the first – the first bombs on mainland fell near Canterbury on May 9th; May 24th Middlesbrough was first industrial town – 46 03 23b

1940 06 19

New use for old guns in Tenison Road, to be melted down for new – photo – 40 06 19 / 113.82

1940 06 20

More air raid shelters to be built for districts off Newmarket Road – 40 06 20b

1940 06 24

Great salvage drive: a Cambridge refuse collector draws up at the W.V.S. Salvage Stall on Market Hill prior to setting out on a salvage tour of the town – photo – 40 06 24a / 113.17

1940 06 28

Volunteers on parade: broomsticks did duty as rifles at the parade of volunteers held at the Cambridge Town Football Club ground for the purpose of preliminary arms drill – photo – 40 06 28a – 113.84

1940 06 29

Romsey Town stirrup pump demonstration – group – 40 06 29

1940 July

1940 07 02

Clare College railing removed for munitions – photo – 40 07 02b

1940 07 05

Sirens would still be operated when there was grave danger of bombing. It did not necessarily mean that the town would be attacked. "Don't, please, get panicky, that is what Jerry is after. For

goodness sake don't let him succeed in his first attempt to get you panicky because you have heard rumours that the sirens are no longer going to be sounded 40 07 05 CIPof

1940 07 08

William Brown, Cross Street missing since Dunkirk – 40 07 08a

1940 07 09

More railings going. Emmanuel College, following the lead of other foundations, are disposing of their railings for war purposes – photo – 40 07 09a / 113.64

1940 07 10

Air raid shelter constructed by two neighbours in Milton Road – photo – 40 07 10b

1940 07 11

From flying pan to Spitfire. Following the appeal for aluminium for aeroplane construction, scholars at Milton Road Junior School are collecting various articles in the district; youngsters with their hauls and the material being delivered at the W.V.S. headquarters at the old Post Office – photo - 40 07 11 / 113.19

1940 07 12

Drink Curfew. Cambridge licensees are not to serve soldiers with drinks after 9.30 p.m. on the instructions of the military authorities. Local Defence Volunteers are not affected 40 07 12 CIPof

1940 07 16

Warren Road shelter interior – photo – 40 07 16a

1940 07 19

Conscientious objectors – majority of undergraduates ordered to do land work – 40 07 19a

1940 07 19

Stirrup pump demonstrated Malcolm St – photo 40 07 19b

1940 07 19

Sappper W. Gurner, Willow Place missing since Dunkirk – 40 07 19c

1940 07 19

W.V.S. sort clothes send from America – photo – 40 07 19d

1940 07 19

Emergency Traffic Control. New directions for dealing with traffic in the event of invasion were issued by the Eastern Regional Commissioner (Sir Will Spens) They empower chief constables to exclude all traffic & prohibit the use of motor vehicles within any area and to require the immobilisation of such vehicles 40 07 19 CIPof

1940 07 19

Boys from the Leys School, Cambridge have formed teams for seasonal work on the land. The July number of the 'Sugar Beet Review' has two pictures of them, taken on Mr. R. B. Taylor's farm, Ashley, near Newmarket, where the boys put in several days' work. About 50 boys were engaged on each occasion, with four or five masters, and more than 100 acres were singled. 40 07 19 CIPof

1940 07 19

Stirrup pumps for neighbours: families in Malcolm St – 40 07 19

1940 07 19

Able Seaman Joseph Harry Coleman, of 22. Fitzwilliam Street, Cambridge was on the sub-marine Shark which is presumed lost. He joined the navy in 1915, leaving in 1930. Shortly afterwards he obtained employment at Sidney Sussex College. As he was on the reserve, he was called up at the end of August. 40 07 19 CIPof

1940 07 20

Stourbridge Grove man has air raid shelter from old car body – 40 07 20a

1949 07 24

Motor cyclists appealed to sell motor bikes for war purposes; photo of civilian machines in front of Hallens, Chesterton Road – 40 07 24a

1947 07 24

Red Cross Society collect books for troops – 40 07 24b

1940 07 24

Dumps for scrap to be set up, manned by W.V.S. – 40 07 25d

1940 07 26

"Explosions heard by readers last night wetr not due to enemy action" – 40 07 26a

1940 07 26

Call-up Contrasts. Many of the 1907 class registering at Cambridge on Saturday (for service) numbered 646. Three expressed preference for the submarine service, 48 for the Royal Navy and one either for the Navy or the Marines. Three hundred and thirty two men chose the RAF (20 for flying, 303 for ground staff) and nine for either ground or flying duties. There were five conscientious objectors. 40 07 26 CIPof

1940 07 26

Cambs. War Agricultural Committee, visited the University Farm. Cambridge and shown the work being done there in ploughing up grass land for the cultivation of animal crops 40 07 26 CIPof

1940 07 29

Castle Mound closed due to people going up with binoculars, not known if spies or just curious – 40 07 29d

1940 07 30

Home Guard rifles being overhauled in Corn Exchange – photo – 40 07 30a / 113.118

1940 07 30

Marmora Road – four neighbours construct joint shelter – photo – 40 07 30b

1940 August

1940 08 02

Samuel Rudd, Mowbray Road reported wounded and missing – 40 08 02

1940 08 03

Leys and the war, no evacuation of students, not to be requisitioned for hospital purposes, say Governors – 40 08 03

1940 08 09

More Farmers' Boys. - A party of 32 lads from the Central School Melbourn Place, Cambridge, arrived in Melbourn and commenced farm and orchard work where required. The lads are accompanied by the Headmaster, Mr. J. D. Livingstone, and take the place of the 30 lads from the Coleridge School, who returned home on Saturday after a fortnight's work in the orchards. After 15 08 27a fortnight in the village, the Central lads will leave, and their place will be taken by another party. The boys sleep in the infants' room of the Council School, and have their meals in the Church Room. 40 08 09 CIPof

1940 08 13

Corp F.S. Halliday, Catherine St, died on service – 40 08 13d

1940 08 14

Examinations Hall now an emergency ward of Addenbrooke's Hospital – photo – 40 08 14

1940 08 16

The Duchess of Gloucester visited Cambridge. At an emergency hospital, the whole of the nursing staff, regular and auxiliary, were lined up and inside the ward, the royal visitor talked with some of the patients, including several members of the B.E.F. back from France. An R.A.F. sick quarters, which is entirely nursed by the Red Cross, was the next place of call. After inspecting two of the wards, the Duchess saw a short display of surgical work by the nurses. Proceeding next to the University examination Hall, now an emergency ward of Addenbrooke's Hospital, the Duchess saw some of the American ambulance units presented to the region then inspected the joint war organisation emergency hospital stores 40 08 16 CIPof

1940 08 21

ARP see demonstration of National D.X. powder to extinguish incendiary bombs, at Cherry Hinton Hall – photo – 40 08 21

1940 08 24

Members of the Home Guard from the Cambridgeshire zone were among those inspected by the King during his tour of defences in East Anglia. About 200 men were drawn up outside a railway station under the Zone Commander for Cambs. (Major W. N. Phillips). 40 08 24, 40 08 30 CIPof

1940 08 24

Mayor launches 'Spitfire' fund – 40 08 24a

1940 08 26 - censored

A total of eight explosive bombs fell on Cambridge (one failing to go off). The unexploded bomb fell a few feet from a house at the end of Leys Avenue, stripping wallpaper, but without harming the people in the house. Some of the other bombs fell in Pemberton Terrace and Shaftesbury Avenue, but although houses were damaged, injuries caused were negligible – censored story – 49 09 15 / 113.42b

Last night's raids, six high explosives in a south-east town, one behind a hedge, part of roof dislodged; crater 10 feet wide – 40 08 26b; photos [Pemberton Terrace] – 40 08 29a [photo: 173.50, 173.51]

1940 08 26

Seaman Reginald Carter, Histon Road, kia – 40 08 26a

1940 08 28 bombing

High explosives and incendiary bombs [Cherry Hinton] – 40 08 29a

1940 08 30

Dornier Down. A Dormer 215 was brought down by anti-aircraft gunners in Cambridgeshire shortly before midnight on Friday. The three-inch guns damaged the bomber just sufficiently to force the German pilot to land. All five of the crew were taken prisoner 40 08 30 CIPof

1940 September

1940 09 05

Cambridge to have Sunday cinemas – four to open – 40 09 05b

1940 09 06

Leys School morning to Scotland as needed by Addenbrooke's Hospital - 40 09 06a

1940 09 09

American Ambulance unit stationed in Cambridge inspected – 40 09 09a

1940 09 09

Pilot Hugh Ellis, Fulbrooke Road, missing – 40 09 09b

1940 09 10

Corporation can assist householders to protect homes from bombs – list of streets covered – 40 09 10a

1940 09 13

A man was killed when a barrage balloon drifted over Cambridge. Daniel Dunston was near the railway between Mill Road and Coldham's Lane Bridge when he was caught by a steel cable trailing from the balloon. He was carried for a distance of over 30 yards and then dropped, sustaining fatal injuries. Before the accident the balloon had passed over the town at a considerable height. In the Mill Road area it came lower, and the cable threw a wireless pole through the roof of a house in Mill Road. The interior of the house was not damaged and no-body was injured in this incident. The balloon then gained height and drifted in the direction of Teversham. At Teversham Hall an old chimney stack on a scullery was struck by the cable. A piece of the cable was snapped off and the balloon at once shot up into the air and continued in an easterly direction. Telephone wires were damaged and the electricity supply for a village was affected for a time 40 09 13 CIPof, 40 09 13a inquest 40 09 17a

1940 09 18

Girl killed by army motor truck, Mill Road – 40 09 18a

1940 09 20

Junkers 88 crashed near Cambridge after being engaged by RAF fighters; four occupants taken into custody – 40 09 20a

1940 09 20

Cars and Invasion. Eastern Regional Commissioner (Sir Will Spens) says "Owners of motor vehicles should understand the necessity for immediate compliance with any order which may be given for the immobilisation of motor vehicles, if invasion is taking place. In the event of any failure by the owner, the police or military will inevitably have to use rough-and-ready methods of immobilisation, involving serious damage to cars. The same will apply in the case of any attempt to use vehicles in areas where such use has been prohibited." 40 09 20 CIPof

1940 09 21

Firemen deal with truck load of ammunition which caught fire at the Coldham’s North yard and spread to three other trucks – 40 09 21b

1940 09 23

Man killed by army truck, Bulstrode Gardens – 40 09 23a

1940 09 24

Germany says bombs dropped on Cambridge in retaliation for British bombing on Heidelberg which contains no military objects – 40 09 24a

1940 09 26

Marshall sends cheque for Tiger Moth to Minister of Aircraft Production – 40 09 26a

1940 09 27

Myra Hess and Isolde Menges play Beethoven sonatas in Cambridge Guildhall – 40 09 27a – 113.90

1940 09 27

Polish fete at Cambridge – the wife of the Polish ambassador, Countess Raczynska at fete at Newnham College in aid of the Cambridgeshire Society for Polish Relief – photo - 40 09 27 / 113.90

1940 09 28

Pavement show for Spitfire fund. Members of St Martin's School of Art, which has been evacuated from London to Cambridge, helped the Spitfire Fund by staging a pavement shows on King's Parade. – photo – 40 09 28 / 113.77

1940 09 30

Cambridge children on board liner torpedoed by submarine – all safe – 40 09 30b

1940 09 30

Home Guard concert at Cosmopolitan – 40 09 30c

1940 October

1940 10 01

Department of Applied Economics announced, review of war on university – 40 10 01

1940 10 02

Pte Arthur Stokes, a sentry in Cambs, was fatally injured – a man who was going on duty leaned his unloaded rifle against a 'pill box' to put on his equipment. He then picked up another mans rifle, not knowing it was loaded. – 40 10 02a, 40 10 04a

1940 10 02

A.C. Taylor helped raise Anti-Aircraft battery of Cambridge men. They had to bring down bandits, protect vital spots and force raiders to high altitude. People grumbled because warnings were not sounded but sounding them three or four times a night would upset morale. When they have solo machines floating about trying to put the wind up he is glad sirens are not sounded. – 40 10 02b

1940 10 02

Tramp knocked down by car during blackout in Trumpington High Street – 40 10 02c

1940 10 08

Futile Nazi bombs in East Anglia – photos of mound and crater with wardens, bomb by roadside and pieces found in area – 40 10 08a [photo: 173.49]

1940 10 09

Recreation ground railings to go – 40 10 09a

1940 10 11

Fewer Students. Full term at Cambridge at the start of the second year under war conditions saw the number of students up still further reduced from last year's figures. Instead of the normal peace time total of 5,000, it is estimated that the number of men coming up will be only 2,500. Graduates, as well as undergraduates, have left on national service of one form or another. Third year men of course, represent only a small fraction of the total coming up, while the number of freshmen is only a little over half that usually to be found second year men are in the majority by far, and the number is estimated to be only 20 below normal 40 10 11 CIPof

1940 10 12

H.M.J. Loewe since 1933 played active part in work of ex-patriated Germen and others with no concern for creed. His house was a place where all in trouble could go. Took active part in Jewish community – 40 10 12a

1940 10 15 - censored

One person was killed when a single bomb hit a house in Barrow Road – censored story – 45 09 15 / 113.42. Photo – 40 09 27; photos – 40 10 16a, b

1940 10 18

Awarded D.S.C. Capt E.S. Lewis, Royal Marines, of 98 Glebe Road, has been awarded the D.S.C. Before being called up last October, Capt Lewis was well-known as the Cambridge manager of Messrs E. Pordage & Co.Ltd, Hills Road and his new honour is of particular interest because during the last war he won the D.S.M. 40 10 18 CIPof

1940 10 21

Rifle fired during struggle at dance at Beaconsfield Hall – 40 10 21a

1940 10 26

University numbers in residence – 40 10 26a

1940 10 26

Compulsory billeting powers have been used in Chesterton rural district, and one billeting officer at least has resigned rather than countenance their use. In 12 cases compulsion had been used. The success of compulsory billeting had “far exceeded our hopes." "In selecting what the war communiqués refer to as targets, we have decided that compulsion should be used more against those larger houses where strangers can be accommodated with less interference of the occupier's domestic arrangements than a smaller house." They had fought hard against resorting to compulsory billeting but there never had been a voluntary system, but always a compulsory one. – 40 10 26 TT, 40 11 01 CIPof

1940 10 30

Round Church railings removed for scrap – photo – 40 10 30b

1940 November

1940 11 01

Peas Hill air raid shelter interior, showing old wine bottles – photo – 40 11 01b

1940 11 06

New Street schools communal feeding for children – photo – 40 11 06c

1940 11 08

Air- Raid. An enemy plane dropped a high explosive bomb in a field shortly after midnight on Friday. Fortunately the only damage done was to the windows of several houses. Two semi-detached houses had the front window frames completely blown out and another house was also damaged. A woman and daughter, the tenants, were in bed and a clock on a chair was lifted on to the bed and struck the woman. All the pans and crockery in the scullery were thrown to the floor and broken and the back door to the kitchen was lifted from its hinges. There were no casualties. Several other houses in the villages some distance away had windows broken 40 11 08 CIPof

1940 11 09

Duchess of Gloucester opened the new WVS Club for Servicemen and Women in St. Andrew's Street. Although the visit had been kept very secret, a crowd of several thousands gathered in the street and gave Her Royal Highness a hearty send-off. The new club has been made possible through the generosity of an anonymous donor, and includes a. separate room for women. 40 11 09a & b, 40 11 15 CIPof

1940 11 14

Recreation centre opened St Andrew's Hall, Chesterton, for men & women – 40 11 14a

1940 11 15

More railings removed. The work of removing the ironwork surrounds from local buildings is continuing. One of the latest to part with its gates and railings is the Wesley Church in King Street – photo – 40 11 15 / 113.46

1940 11 19

Home Guard training, includes military band – 40 11 19a

1940 11 23

Nazi that was Messerschmitt-en – Corn Exchange war weapons exhibition – Messerschmitt shot down in county 40 11 23b, 40 11 26b,c / 113.63

1940 11 23

Hospital Inspected. Cambridgeshire's first convalescent home and auxiliary hospital under the Joint War Organisation and the Ministry of Health is staffed by two trained sisters, Miss

Simmons and Mrs. Bailey, and B.R.C.S. members of detachments Cambridgeshire 14 and 38. Commandants Mrs. Martin Wright and Miss S Phillips 40 11 23c, 40 11 29 CIPof

1940 11 26

Canada ex-prime-minister at War Weapons exhibition – 40 11 26a

1940 11 28

Cinema van helps war weapons week – 40 11 27a; picture 40 11 28a

1940 11 29

War weapons week parade cars – photos – 40 11 29a

1940 December

1940 12 03

Girl guides in war-time: what they are doing – 40 12 03b

1940 12 04

Communal kitchen run at Blinco Grove Parochial Hall – photo – 40 12 04b

1940 12 06

St John Ambulance centre opened in Falcon Yard – 40 12 06a

1940 12 16

Cambridge club for officers opened at Union Society – 40 12 16a

1940 12 19

Ladies who speed the mail. Scenes at the Sorting Department of the Cambridge Post Office, where women are assisting the officials to cope with the rush of Christmas mail. At work in the garage – and 'overflow' for the parcels. Dealing with postal packets. Some of the women setting off on deliveries. They are conveyed to various points in buses – photos – 40 12 19 / 113.31

1940 12 24

King's college carol service broadcast; residents not allowed as seats for military personnel – 40 12 24a

1940 12 27

Christmas festivities – Mayor's visits – 40 12 27a

1940 12 30

First parade of local battalion Home Guard on St John's College playing field – 40 12 30a

1941

1941 January

1941

Home Guard distinction for Cambridge? The Cambridge Home Guard Band which is thought to be the first of its kind in the country – 113.29

1941 01 02

Air raid shelters; Haldane shelters would not be approving owing to lack of material and labour but blastproof walls were desirable; new brick walled surface shelters planned – 41 01 02a

1941 01 07

Roof-spotter at work in Cambridge. A.R.P. wardens have added to their responsibilities important fire-spotting duties/ Are the nightly vigils of these and other 'Jim Crows' appreciated by the public? Householders can help by placing buckets of water outside their doors (as in the Chesterton district) and having sand and shovels handy near the roofs – 41 01 07b / 113.30

1941 01 09

Cambridge railway control centre in bomb-proof shelter – feature – 41 01 09a

1941 01 16 – censored

On a bitter, icy night, when pipes were frozen, raiders dropped something like 200 incendiary bombs, most of them in the vicinity of Hyde Park Corner. Perse School was severely damaged by fire while a warehouse nearby, in Regent Street, also suffered considerably. Firemen were hampered by hydrants either buried by snow or frozen over and the next morning saw a rare sight at the back of the school when a May tree was transformed into a solid mass of icicles– 49 09 15 / 113.42a

East Anglian town's miniature fire blitz. Famous public school [Perse] damaged, Garage and wireless store suffer. Magnificent work by fire fighters – photos – 41 01 16, a,b,c / 113.20 & a

Perse school treasures saved after fire destroyed library and classrooms. The shields which hung around the walls, the War Memorial and the portrait of Dr Rouse survived – 41 02 15a, 41 02 20b

Fire and frost – photos released by censor – give an idea of the bitter weather conditions under which fire-fighting was carried on during the 'miniature blitz' – ice on trees – 41 01 28 / 113.21

1941 01 23

First wedding of refugees in synagogue – 41 01 23a

1941 01 25

Dr Eduard Benes, President Czecho-Slovak republic visits Cambridge – 41 01 25a

1941 01 27

Sand bags tied to lamp posts vandalised in Mill Rd – 41 01 27a

1941 01 27

Fire-fighting display – photo – 41 01 27b

1941 01 30

Air Defence Corps formed – 41 01 30a

1941 01 30

At four o'clock in the afternoon the reporters' room echoed to a series of thuds. Mill Road Bridge was obviously the target for the attack but the bombs hit nothing more 'military' than two small cottages by the side of the bridge. Two people, however, lost their lives and 10 others were injured – censored – 45 09 15 / 113.42a

Three people are feared to have been killed and four others received head injuries when a German raider dropped several high explosive bombs on an East Anglian town yesterday afternoon. The plane dived low before releasing the bombs, said an eye-witness. One bomb fell on a row of small houses, demolishing two, and some of the casualties were people in these premises – 41 01 31 CIPof

East Anglian day raiders – 40 01 31a

Bombs next door - but she carries on! Bombs dropped by a 'tip and run' raider fell between two houses and caused local damage. Windows were also broken in the streets around. Pictures show the scene where the bombs fell. A housewife is calmly brushing from her window debris blown from the house next door, and Civil Defence workers are taking refreshment after their duties have been completed. It was learned today that the fatal casualties were only two, and not three, as first believed - photo – 41 01 31b / 113.87

1941 01 31

ARP exhibition included incendiary bomb detector, poison gas detector; prepared by Cambridge scientists – 41 01 31d

1941 01 31

Airman Missing. Local sporting circles will learn with regret that Sergeant W. H. H. Johnson, a wireless operator air gunner in R.A.F.V.R. is reported missing, believed killed, while on a training flight. Sgt. Johnson was an active rowing member of the Rob Roy Boat Club, a delegate to the C.R.A. and a well-known playing member of the Cambridge Rugby Club. He was employed in the Surveyor's Department at the Corporation Storeyard. 41 01 31 CIPof

1941 February

1941 02 05

Cambridge People's Vigilance Committee ARP exhibition includes incendiary bomb detector & Haldane shelter details – 41 02 05a

1941 02 07

Killed by enemy action. News has reached Cambridge that A/C George Pope, son of Mr. J. Pope, of 55 Gwydir Street, Cambridge, has been killed as the result of enemy action. A/C Pope, who was 29 years of age, had been employed by Mr. T. Freeman, plumbing and heating engineer, of Histon Road, Cambridge, and was very popular with all his workmates. He joined the Volunteer Air Reserve, and was called up for service at the beginning of the war. 41 02 07 CIPof

1941 02 12

RAF bomber crashes on top houses in Histon Road, three aged women killed – Miss Catharine Allen, Mrs Ann Warland, Mrs Ada Sara Blackwell. A fourth, Mrs Mary Hewitt, taken to hospital. The plane caught the top of the houses, completely wrecking the top storey of the village, Afterwards it came to rest on a tennis court at the back of the houses. The crew were uninjured – 41 02 12a

Bomber's night crash at Cambridge – photo - 41 02 13a / 113.88

Inquest details – 41 02 14a

1941 02 14

Fire-fighting practice using stirrup pump – 41 02 14b

1941 02 15

"Shelters on Parkers Piece look hideous" - 41 02 15 TT

1941 02 15

A bomb fell immediately in front of a house in Cherryhinton Road. The porch was blown in, but all eight occupants of the building escaped unhurt – censored – 45 09 15 / 113.42a

Raider's night bomb demolishes house front; 10 people escaped when high explosive bomb fell a few feet from house – 41 02 17a

Amazing escapes when this happened. Ten people including two babies had remarkable escapes from injury when the front of this house in a south-eastern residential district [Cherryhinton Road] was demolished by a raider's bomb on Saturday night – 41 02 18b – 113.12

Ten people, including two young babies, had a remarkable escape from injury in an East Anglian town on Saturday night, when a high explosive bomb fell only a few feet from the front wall of the house in which they were staying. The whole of the front of the building was affected, but Mr. and Mrs. Coles, who were in the front bedroom, were unhurt. The other occupants of the houses, which are semi-detached, were Mr. and Mrs. Lewis and their two-year-old baby, Mrs. Mapey, Mrs. Andrews and Mr. and Mrs. Honeywell and their two-year-old baby 41 02 21 CIPof

1942 02 24

A sharp attach resulted in the death of 11 people, including wardens and firewatchers on duty, and injuries to about a score more. The attack was carried out in three phases. Incendiaries were dropped at 10 pm in the Cherryhinton Road district. At 10.35 pm two h.e.s made a direct hit on a house at Grantchester Meadows, killing two women. At 11.35 a whole batch of h.e.s and scores of incendiaries fell in the Hills Road area, between Hyde Park Corner and Station Road. Wardens and firefighters were caught in the streets, while other people were injured in their homes – censored – 45 09 15 / 113.42a

Ten people are known to have been killed and a number of others injured when a fairly concentrated attack was made on an East Anglian town (Cambridge) on Monday night. Six of the dead are women and four men. Three of the injured are stated to be in a serious condition. The fatal casualties included an elderly air raid warden, Mrs. Charles Gent and several other fire watchers who were standing in the road outside a hotel. Sapper Day and Mr. Brittain were among the other victims. Hundreds of incendiary bombs and a considerable number of high explosives were dropped by the raiders, which flew over very low at intervals. Many flares could be seen in the sky around the out-lying parts of the town and British fighters were heard overhead. The main brunt of the damage was borne by business and commercial premises in one street, where for

some distance along both sides of the road (Hills Road) shops were demolished or damaged. Hardly a pane of glass intact in this district and several houses in side streets nearby suffered broken windows. It was in this area that two of the other fatal casualties, Mr. A. Negus and Mrs. Robertson, occurred. An eye-witness said next morning that during the raid a German plane appeared to fly over the road dropping incendiaries and was followed a few minutes later by another machine, which dropped high explosives. It was these which caused a large number of casualties. In another district a single high explosive bomb landed directly on a house, killing the Misses Barker, who were in the building at the time. Neighbours were also injured, but not seriously. The three others to lose their lives were Miss Thaxter, Mrs. Woodcock and Mr. Ashman 41 02 25 a,b,c, 41 02 28 CIPof,

1941 March

1941 03 11

Czech Foreign Minister, Jan Masaryk speaks at Guildhall – 41 03 11

1941 03 24

W.S. Farren of Trinity is one of 'back room boys' developing aero engines and bombs – 41 03 24

1941 03 28

Extensive damage was done by a fire which broke out in the north wing of Pembroke College in the early hours of Saturday. The fire is believed to have started in one of the bedrooms of an upper storey, and the flames quickly spread along the whole length of the block under the roof. A fire-watcher raised the alarm, and regular and auxiliary firemen were soon on the scene with several trailer pumps, in addition to the three regular engines. Fire squads from the laboratories across the road and the college fire squad also assisted in fighting the flames. They had secured such a hold, however, that it was two hours before they could be brought under control. Most of the damage due to the flames was in the roof and upper part of the block, but the thousands of gallons of water poured on the fire soaked through to the lower rooms. Many of the occupants of the block were roused from their beds when the seriousness of the outbreak was discovered, and some of them assisted in removing furniture to the court. The treasurer of the college (Mr. J. T. Spittle) said:' "It is impossible yet to estimate the damage, as we cannot get into some of the rooms. The damage, however, is extensive 41 03 28 CIPof

1941 April

1941 04 01

German agent Jan Ter Braak found shot dead in Christ's Pieces Air Raid shelter. It was thought that murder might have been committed. Just as the CDN was going to the press an urgent message was received from the Ministry of Information. The front page was remade due to censorship. The man was a German agent, dropped by parachute, who was known by police to have a portable transmitting set in his lodgings. The man, a young Dutchman, arrived the previous November and had three lodgings in in Cambridge. Posing as a refugee and a member of the Free Dutch Movement, he claimed to be writing a book. An office that he opened lent support to his story and nobody guessed that the small suitcase which never left him contained a radio transmitter. The end came when, presumably, he realised that M.I.5 had him 'taped' and that the net was closing in on him – censored story - 45 09 07 / 113.41

1941 04 01

'Cambridgeshire' fighter plane funded by Lord Fairhaven – photo – 41 04 01

1941 04 08

St Edward's church railings removed for scrap – photo – 41 04 08

1941 04 19

Women register at Senate House with 1920 class – the first batch to be called under the Government new Registration for employment Order – 41 04 19

1941 04 23

Salvage campaign – photos include road roller flattening tins – 41 04 23

1941 04 26

Fallowfields wardens arrange own gas test – photo – 41 04 26

1941 04 28

Land Army – 100 assemble on Parker's Piece for rally; need billets – 41 04 28

1941 May

1941 05 02

D.F.M. It has been officially announced that Sergt, Pilot A. F. Wiles, son of Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Wiles, of 85 Sedgwick Street, Cambridge, has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Medal. Sergt Wiles, who has been employed by the L.N.E.R.. has been in the R.A.F. for the last ten years, and has gained high distinction in boxing circles, he is the holder of the Middle East Command championship, and has many cups and medals to his credit. 41 05 02 CIPof

1941 05 07

Central Library dome – cannot obtain wire netting to protect glass dome so recommend it closed on sounding of an alert – 41 05 07

1941 05 09

A determined attack when fire bombs were showered in the area between Hills Road and Trumpington Road. Fifty houses received direct hit, yet all but four or five of the resulting fires were put out within a few minutes with stirrup pumps and sand. The effects of the attack were nullified by the good work of the firewatchers, wardens and Auxiliary Fire Service – censored - 45 09 15 / 113.42a

Fire bomb damage on East Anglian town – thousands of incendiaries and high explosives (Coldham's Lane, Marshall Road area) – censored – 41 05 09

1941 05 10

Railings taken for scrap, historic ones saved – 41 05 10 TT

1941 05 14

Assize Courts railings to be removed – 41 05 14

1941 05 15

New Kitchen Club under Ministry of Food scheme in Trinity Street; equipped with electric and gas cookers – 41 05 15

1941 June

1941 06 02

Account of duties of Regional Commissioner for Civil Defence for Eastern Region , Sir Will Spens; a miniature Cabinet to see government plans carried out; if invasion he becomes virtual ruler of area with extraordinary powers – 41 06 02

1941 06 05

Madrigals on the river: pictures of the crowd at the popular May Week Festival at the back of King's College where madrigals were sung by singers in punts – 41 06 05 / 113.16

1941 06 05

Censorship – facts raiders must not know – 41 06 05

1941 06 09

Cambridge popular concert party 'Romas' present 71st performance of their Forces Show to air raid wardens of Castle Ward; includes Maurice and Betram Garner, Rita Thurbon, Phyllis Burling, Les Germany and Dorothy Green – 41 06 09

1941 06 15

Madrigals sung on river as part of May Week Festival – 41 06 15

1941 06 21

Mayor cuts down railings WVS HQ, St Andrew's Street – photo – 41 06 21b

1941 06 23

First Aid Flying Squad starts first practice – 41 06 23

1941 06 24

Potatoes grown outside the Master's Lodge at St John's College, Bridge Street – 41 06 24, photo 24a / 113.14

1941 July

1941 07 11

Cambridge A.R.P. Difficulties. In the House of Commons yesterday, Mr. Glenvil Hall (Lab., Colne Valley) asked the Secretary of State for the Home Department if he was aware that difficulties have arisen in the Cambridge Civil Defence organisation, as the result of which certain individuals had been called upon to resign, and whether he will set up an inquiry to report upon the matter. Mr. Herbert Morrison (Home Secretary) replied that he understood there had been some complaints and that these were the subject of investigation at present 41 07 11 CIPof

1941 07 12

One ton of waste paper makes 7,200 gas masks" etc - 41 07 12 TT

1941 07 15

ARP exercises Milton Road area – photos – 41 07 15

1941 07 15

War-time allotments – over 50 acres under cultivation, 2,000 provided with vegetables; first piece of land was in Ainsworth Street in Oct 1939 – 41 07 24

1941 07 19

WVS hostel for women opens, Grange Rd – 41 07 19

1941 07 25

Mobile canteen given by Company of Veteran Motorists – 41 07 25

1941 07 26

Cambridge man had wireless set taken from German plane hidden in clothing in his wardrobe – 41 07 26– trial – 41 08 09

1941 07 30

Officer shot and killed by sentry near Cambridge – 41 07 30, 41 08 02

1941 07 31

New Valentine tanks on Matilda transporter to tour Cambridge – 41 07 31b, 41 08 01a, b

1941 August

1941 08 22

Cherry Hinton Hall Hostel for evacuated children opened at start war for children who cannot be kept in their billets. Some may stay; psychological treatment has been obtained – 41 08 22

1941 08 23

Poison gas exhibition at Public Library – 41 08 23a, 41 08 26

1941 08 29

Great Eastern Street bombing – photo – 41 08 29

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Bombs on East Anglia Town. An old lady and a four-year-old boy lost their lives when high explosive and incendiary bombs were dropped on an East Anglian town last week [Sturton Street]. A Sunday School in Sturton Street was destroyed and a chapel and private houses were considerably damaged. The dead are Mrs. Louisa Rowell, aged 82, and John Gilbert Bowles, aged four, both of whom were sleeping in the same house. Mr. and Mrs. W. E. Bowles, parents of John Bowles, were injured and have been detained in hospital. A high explosive bomb which fell outside the chapel caused damage to the interior, but incendiaries which were dropped were promptly tackled by A.R.P. personnel and neighbours and overcome before they could gain a hold. 41 08 29 / 113.59

1941 September

1941 09 (c)
Wed at Emmanuel Congregational Church: Aircraftsman Arthur Gillingham of Devonshire Road and Esther Reeve of Grantchester Street – photo – 113.35

1941 09 01
Massed bands sound 'Retreat' King's – 41 08 16; Parker's Piece – 41 09 01

1941 09 03
Red Cross & St John mobile canteen newly arrived from London under Joint War Organisation; will form part of an Emergency Flying Squad to help with invalid and children's cooking in case of a major blitz – 41 09 03

1941 09 06
King Peter of Yugoslavia attends Clare College 1st reigning monarch; Queen Marie of Yugoslavia visits Cambridge, inspects Queen's Messengers Convoy & WVS canteen – 41 09 06 41 09 06 TT

1941 09 08
National Day of Prayer mass church parade at Christ's Church – photos – 41 09 08

1941 09 08
Soldier killed and eight injured in army vehicle road crash, Hills Road – 41 09 08

1941 09 20
Air raid on Huntingdon Road – photos of debris – 41 09 20b

1941 09 27
Plane crashes garden Bene't Place, pilot killed – photos - 41 09 27

1941 09 27
"Cambridge & Newnham" Spitfire starts service, (destroyed 1944) [9.8]

1941 09 29

The fact that it was a pouring wet night, keeping everybody indoors, was responsible for the complete absence of casualties when a 'stick' of high-explosives and incendiaries fell in Huntingdon Road, just beyond the top of Castle Hill. Extensive damage was caused to telephone wires and public service pipes, but there was no traffic about and nobody in the road at the time, or they could not have escaped– censored – 45 09 15 / 113.42a

Incendiary & high explosive bombs on East Anglian town, several houses damaged; fire guards at work, repairs in hand; small preparatory school had bomb in basement, nursery school also damaged; Mrs Rootham had fortunate escape, found accommodation with Mr Reddaway – 41 09 29a

1941 09 30

Surprise gas test – 14 09 30

1941 October

1941 10 03

Billeting scheme evacuees has been successful, complaints that rich received fewer evacuees than poor – but they had left as house too posh; many houses had rooms reserved for relations – 41 10 03

1941 10 04

Women, war and victory campaign – 41 10 04a

1941 10 04

Cambridge Home Guard – group photo – 41 10 04b

1941 10 07

Civil defence – 108 new public shelters planned – 41 10 07

1941 10 09

Clement Attlee sees war work factory at Robinson's premises, Regent Street during visit for the War Work Week meeting at the Guildhall. He visited the shop window factory at Messrs Robinson's premises in Regent Street. Photos show him with Mrs Atlee, Herbert Robinson and R.F. Winfrey (Eastern Region Information Officer). Seen interested in one of the many fascinating machines on view– photo – 41 10 09 / 113.96

1941 10 10

Hostel for evacuated boys at Meadowcroft, Church Street, Chesterton – photo – 41 10 10

1941 10 10

Mrs Alice Jones set up factory where she and maid used drilling and milling machine; soon six drillers, two millers and three lathes with music relayed from a wireless set in house. Then relocates to building formerly used as a piano store where more machinery installed and 40 people, 10 girls and 30 men now working – 41 10 10a

1941 10 11

Lloyd George inspects Queen's Messenger Convoy in King's Parade; consists of 13 vehicles ready to visit any area damaged by enemy action; are two water vehicles, two food vehicles, two kitchens, four canteens, a utility van for the staff of 30, W.V.S. kit van and W.V.S. staff canteen – 41 10 11

1941 10 13

YMCA mobile canteen started January 1940 with small Ford carrying urn of tea and buns, shaving equipment, writing paper & New Testaments required by troops; others added; go to airfield dispensing 25 gallons of tea – 41 10 13

1941 10 16

Serg Herbert 'Dick' Mansfield missing after operations – 41 10 16

1941 10 20

Women shoot with Home Guard – photo – 41 10 20a

1941 10 20

Bright light visible in Glisson Road on night when bombs were dropped – 41 10 20b

1941 10 21

Worker damaged aircraft with hammer – sabotage – 41 10 21a

1941 10 30

Rumours that high Nazi official had parachuted into Cambs denied; one of our bombers returning from Germany found itself in difficulties and two crew bailed out; Home Guard called out – 41 10 30a

1941 November

1941 11 19

Cambridge traders affected by many wartime regulations; Chamber of Commerce will assist those suffering from air raid – 41 11 19a

1941 11 27

HMS Loyal warship week programme – 41 11 27, 41 11 29

1941 December

1941 12 01

Warship week provided one of most inspiring parades ever seen; a score of contingents took part – 41 12 01

1941 12 08

Mayor Montagu Butler in serious accident during civil defence exercise; knocked down by ARP Ambulance – 41 12 08

1941 12 11

WVS open-air cooking demonstration, New Square – 41 12 11

1941 12 18

Women make camouflage netting; two-hour shifts of 50 women work till 10pm – 41 12 18

1941 12 19

P.c,'s Heroism. — "Although warned of the danger of unexploded bombs, P.c. Haynes persisted: in going to the aircraft, where he did splendid rescue work, which resulted in the saving of valuable lives." These words are contained in a commendation by the Royal Air Force of P.c. Albert Haynes, of the Cambridge Division, for gallant conduct and exemplary behaviour when a British aircraft crashed and caught fire. His heroism was reported by the County Chief Constable (Mr. W. H. Edwards). The Chairman (Mr. W. C. Jackson) said the highest commendation was due to P.c. Haynes for his courageous attitude in saving the lives of several airmen. 41 12 19 CIPof

1942

1942 January

1942

Our parks in wartime – pictures show how public demand for allotments is being met. The Lammas Lands at Newnham are now being dug over by men and women to help in the 'grow more food' campaign. In another part of the same park is a spacious slit trench to hold four people where excavation cannot exceed two feet – 113.23

1942 01 05

Cambridge Spitfire ready to take to the air – photo – 42 01 05

1942 01 09

Hard fighting in Malaya – 42 01 09

1942 01 12

Cambridge fire guard organisation – duties of street parties – 42 01 12, 12a

1942 01 13

YWCA Hostel appeal launched – hostels needed for girls in services; for 15 years the club in St Columba's Church had done splendid work; quite often the warden would be woken up at two in the morning by a policeman with some very weary girls who had missed their lasts train and had nowhere to sleep. The hall was full of camp beds which, although not luxurious, were better than nothing – 42 01 13

1942 01 22
Heavy fighting in West Malaya – 42 01 22

1942 01 24
Adoption of HMS Loyal following warship week campaign – 42 01 24

1942 01 31
Battle of Singapore begins – hold fortress till help comes – 42 01 31 & a

1942 February

1942 02 02
Japs massing against Singapore – 42 02 02

1942 02 03
Japs dive-bomb Singapore – 42 02 03

1942 02 03
William Brown of Cross Street missing for 18 months and reported killed – 42 02 03a

1942 02 04
'Great Reinforcements' – Wavell; order of the day to Singapore – 42 02 04

1942 02 05
More Singapore dive-bombing – 42 02 05

1942 02 06
Cambridge leave hostel for serving women opened Rose Crescent – 42 02 06a

1942 02 06
Intermittent Singapore shelling – 42 02 06

1942 02 07
Singapore city shelled – 42 02 07

1942 02 09
Mopping-up Singapore invaders – 42 02 09

1942 02 10
More landings at Singapore – 42 02 10

1942 02 11
British Singapore counter-attacks – 42 02 11

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1942 02 12
Jap tanks press Singapore line – 42 02 12

1942 02 13
Singapore: severe Jap pressure – 42 02 13

1942 02 14
Strong Jap attacks at Singapore – 42 02 14

1942 02 17
The Cambridgeshires were in Malaya … gallant fight, waiting for news – 42 02 17a

1942 02 20
New Cambridge YWCA Hostel opened for women in forces – 42 02 20

1942 02 21
Tank exhibition at Central Library – 42 02 21c, d

1942 02 24
Women's war work bureau set up in Eaden Lilley's store – 42 02 24

1942 March

1942 03 03
King Peter and Queen Marie of Yugoslavia visit Cambridge – photo – 42 03 03

1942 03 04
Cambridge Home Guard platoon 6 of 5th Battalion – group photo - 42 03 04

1942 03 12
Council take over Pitt Club as British Restaurant – detailed review 42 03 12

1942 03 14
Civil Defence Committee consider invasion plans; will be shelter provision for 26,000; Coleridge Road and Lammas Land recreation grounds to be cultivated for foodstuffs; flower-growing to stop at Cherry Hinton Hall – 42 03 14

1942 03 16
Cambridge men in Malaya posted as 'missing' – photos – 42 03 16a, 42 03 25, 42 03 27, 42 03 30, 42 04 01, 42 04 04, 42 04 10, 42 04 11, 42 04 13, 42 04 14, 42 04 16

1942 03 28

Missing in Malaya. Many Cambridgeshire families have received this week official intimation concerning husbands and sons who were serving in Malaya up to the fall of Singapore. In all cases the notification has stated that there is at present no news of the man concerned, and for the time it is necessary to post him as "missing." Most of the official notices concern men serving with the Royal Engineers, and amongst these are two brothers, Sergeant William Turkentine and Sapper Allan Turkentine, sons of Mr. and Mrs. A. C, Turkentine of 34 Albert Street, Cambridge 42 03 27 CIPof

1942 April

1942 04 13

Ministry of Transport order makes bus queues compulsory when six are waiting – local effects – 42 04 13a

1942 04 13

Girls as plane-spotters with Royal Observer Corps – first in area – 42 04 13b

1942 04 13

Need for inquiry into Singapore capitulation – whole youth of Cambridge thrown into places without even a fighting chance and whole population of East Anglia profoundly shocked – letter H. Bowles, AEU – 42 04 13b

1942 04 17

First News after Singapore. News from a member of the Cambridgeshires who was at Singapore when it fell on February 15 reached Cambridge on Saturday. Mrs. Bagstaff, of 107 Suez Road, received an airgraph letter dated March 7 from her husband, C.S.M. Bagstaft, of the 2nd Battalion, now in hospital at Karachi. In the mistaken belief that she might have received the worst news, he says: “"I first of all wish to tell you to ignore the cable saying that 1 am 'missing, believed killed'. As you can see, I am safe, and although in hospital, am reasonably well." Other extracts from the letter are: "I have not been wounded, but was the victim of shell-shock.”I have almost recovered now, but am deaf in my left ear. I lost every item of kit that I had in Singapore and Malaya. Please do not worry. The names and photographs of more than 70 local men missing after the Singapore episode are published 42 04 17 CIPof

1942 04 25

Lammas Land used for allotments – photo – 42 04 25

1942 04 25

31 12-person shelters approved at cost £19,297 – 42 04 25 TT

1942 May

1942 05 02

Fire watching compulsory – 42 05 02

1942 05 02

Herbert Morrison speaks – 42 05 02

1942 05 06

Ford Emergency Food Van presented by Cambs Motors, will cook for families affected by enemy action – 42 05 06

1942 05 09

What to do in event of invasion – 42 05 09

1942 05 11

Letter from Cambridgeshire man with Royal Engineers at Singapore, hint of light casualties – 42 05 11a

1942 05 14

Home Guard two years old; its past & future – 42 05 14a

1942 05 15

"Invasion" Test.—Cambridge is to be the centre of an important "invasion" exercise this weekend. The public, however, unlike the recent exercise at Plymouth—are not to take a direct part in the exercise, which will last from 8.30p.m. on Saturday to 11 a.m. on Sunday. The "picture" of the exercise is that invasion by the enemy is presumed to have started and that enemy forces are approaching Cambridge. Such an attack would carry heavy air raids on Cambridge itself. Military and Home Guards are taking part in attack and defence, and members of the Civil Defence Services in Cambridge and Cambridgeshire will be actively participating. The public are warned that in the course of the night there will probably be "unusual sounds," with "bombing," and planes may be used. 42 05 15 CIPof

1942 05 20

Birdwood Club for dependents of service people, children garden in Portugal Place – photo – 42 05 20

1942 05 21

News of Shenton Thomas, Governor of Singapore, son of former vicar of St Barnabas – letter – 42 05 21b

1942 05 22

Drowned in the Cam. A young soldier from an anti-aircraft, unit was drowned in the Cam during the course of exercises on Wednesday afternoon. The deceased was Lance Bombardier Jack Harpin, whose home was at Heckmondwyke, Yorkshire, The accident occurred near a bridge, and other soldiers, as well as members of college boat crews, who were training nearby, dived several times before the body was recovered. Artificial respiration was tried, but without success 42 05 22 CIPof

1942 05 29

Prisoners at Singapore. An interesting reference to the treatment of prisoners in Singapore is contained in a letter which Mrs. E. J. Harper, of 28 Abbey Walk, Cambridge, has received from

Mrs. Pringle, mother of Lieut. Alastair Pringle, of the Royal Engineers, who was taken prisoner at the same lime as Major Harper. After expressing pleasure that her son has the company of Major Harper, Mrs Pringle goes on: "Now I have good news to give you. I had a setter from Ted Furse's mother this week, and she has had word from the father of a man who escaped twelve days after the fall of Singapore that the prisoners were being well treated up to the day he left and that all were at work repairing the damage that had been done. It is a blessing that they have got something to pass the time. How they will each react to this captivity I do not know, and we must just hope for the best. It is very comforting in the meantime to have this news." 42 05 29

1942 June

1942 06 04

Madrigals on river, one of few surviving May Week events – 42 06 04a

1942 06 12

University dispatch riders the 'eyes and ears' of Regional Commissioner; during raids on Norwich they gave assistance Civil Defence Services; formed at outbreak of war – photo – 42 06 12b

1942 06 15

United Nations day in Cambridge – march down Market Street – 42 06 15c

1942 06 19

King and Queen Tour Fens - Their Majesties the King and Queen on Saturday paid a visit to reclaimed fen land in Cambridgeshire, and saw for themselves the magnificent work that is being carried out by the Cambs War Agricultural Executive on the vital food front. Indeed the whole five thousand acres at Swaffham Prior Fen and Adventurers Fen, Burwell is nothing more nor less than a battlefield where men and women, armed with the latest weapons of agriculture, are carrying out relentless warfare against rushes, scrub, bog oaks and flooding. Considerably more than half the 5,000 acres was derelict in 1939; the remainder produced only moderate crops . . . During their visit their Majesties travelled over miles of new concrete roads through Reach to Adventurers Fen, Burwell where they embarked on barges at Cock Up Bridge on Burwell Lode, which runs through artificial banks above the level of the fen. While the barges were sailing down the Lode demonstrations of blasting bog oaks by explosives were given, 42 06 19

King visits Swaffham Fen, Priory Farm, sees land reclamation, Land Army 42 06 27 TT

King and Queen meet Land Army girls at Priory Farm, Burwell, Swaffham Fen – 42 06 15, 15a-b

1942 06 26

Second son to fall. Much sympathy is felt for Mr. and Mrs Carse, of 5 David Street, Cambridge, who have recently received news that their second son, Gunner Arthur George Carse, of the Royal Garrison Artillery, has been killed in action. It is only about two months ago that another son, Sapper H. Carse, was killed. Gunner Carse had been in the Army about eight years, and had served in India for four years. When war broke out he volunteered for the Front, and went about 18 months ago. He was 26 years of age, and before he joined the Army was at Messrs, Robert Sayle's St Andrew's Street. 42 06 26 CIPof

1942 06 29

Home Guard parade on Parker's Piece, 3,500 men: Thousands of Cambridge people thronged the edge of Parker's Piece on Sunday to give testimony to the already recognised belief that there is nothing that draws the Englishman's attention like a military parade. The occasion proved not only the greatest event of its type we have seen in the town since the outbreak of war but, in addition, constituted — and not altogether unexpectedly — an achievement on the part of the local Home Guard that all may be proud of. Home Guardsmen, numbering 3,500, came from all over the county to take part, and to be inspected by Lieutenant-General K. A. N. Anderson. The military arrangements of the parade and march-past were carried out by the Commander, Cambridge Sub-Area, and staff– 42 06 29a, 42 07 03 CIPof – 113.32

1942 July

1942 07 02

Air raid shelters – Anderson and Morrison shelters available for free issue from Guildhall – advert – 42 07 02

1942 07 02

Girls' Training Corps established, many in uniform – 42 07 02a

1942 07 04

News from Singapore, many families will be grateful – 42 07 04a

1942 07 06

Home Guard in Nazi uniforms – photo – 42 07 06

1942 07 06

Donald Foister of Napier Street returns after being Italian pow – 42 07 06a

1942 07 15

HMS Loyal ceremony at Guildhall as part of Warship Week – 42 07 15

1942 07 17

Newnham Legion Standard dedication. The newly-formed Newnham branch of the British Legion held their first parade. Members marched to St Mark's Church for the dedication of their standard which had been presented by their president, Dr Balfour Gourlay – photo - 42 07 17 / 113.48

1942 07 27

National Fire Service – women train at Homerton – 42 07 27

1942 07 28

A single low-flying raider, clearly visible in the moonlight 'straddled' the Bridge Street – Sidney Street area with 11 h.e.s and many incendiaries. It was in this attack that the Germans made first use of their new explosive incendiary bombs, one of which caused a big fire at the Union Society. As a result of the raid three people were killed and seven injured; 10 buildings were demolished

or render unsafe so they had to be pulled down, and 127 other properties were damaged to a lesser extent. The results of the attack would have been much worse but for the fact that three of the h.e.s failed to explode. One which fell through the roof of a house in Portugal Place came to rest on the hearth, immediately above a basement where the residents were sheltering. And one lodger who was still in bed awoke to see a bomb sticking through the party wall! – censored – 45 09 15 / 113.42b

Lone raider's bombs – three killed, others injured, damage to business and houses [Union Society, Bridge Street] – 42 07 28, 28a, b / 113.60, 113.60a

Recent raid damage at Cambridge: bombs on Union Society; debating hall escapes; flying at less than a hundred feet and in full view of many people a German raider dropped HE and incendiary bombs. Main damage was done to the library, writing room, committee room and the lounge. Masonry which was flung about by the explosion burst through the roofs and all the windows at the front of the premises and overlooking Round Church Street were blown out. The debating hall was only very slightly damaged and that mostly by water. The end of the library received a direct hit from a small high explosive bomb and several fire bombs but the steel stacks in which the books were housed saved them from the effect of the blast. The collection of music books were lost. One stained glass window of the Round Church was blown in, otherwise the church escaped – 42 08 25, 42 08 25a / 113.35 [raid was July 28th]

1942 07 30

German raiders were active but no bombs dropped; considerable opposition from ground defences, hundreds in streets saw lively exchange of fire, tracer bullets could be seen in both directions. Later another single machine, flying at roof-top height was met with fire from ground – 42 07 30

1942 07 31

Lone raider's bombs on East Anglian town: photos of damage in a yard, wrecked buildings and charred timbers. Three killed and others injured. The dead were Mrs Rattle, Miss B. Johnson, a lodging house keeper, E. Nahum. Miss Johnson died on the way to hospital after an incendiary bomb crashed through the roof of her house. The more seriously injured include Pte K. Blight, Mrs Hunt and Miss Miller who were all in one house which received a direct hit. A well-known assembly room [Union Society] burned fiercely for some time. Premises damaged included those occupied by a local photographic club. – 42 07 31 CIP 113.101 & a

1942 August

1942 08 03

End of a raider – picture of German raider that fell in field – 42 08 03

1942 08 07

High explosive and incendiary bombs hit the Chesterton and the Stourbridge Common area. The h.e. bombs were of the 250 k.g. type and incendiaries numbered about 700. Again both damage and casualties were remarkably light – censored – 45 09 15 / 113.42b

Sharp attack on East Anglian town, few casualties; fire guards prove their worth; the most intensive raid, only four people slightly hurt. A few HE landed on open ground where they did not damage except to one cow that had to be destroyed. Many houses sustained direct hits from incendiaries but fire parties had the flames under control and NFS pumps were soon in action. Mr Story said he had just taken his young child from its cot when an incendiary crashed through the rafters and on to the empty cot. In another outlying part a 'bread-basket' of incendiaries fell in the road and damage by blast was caused to shop premises. Incendiaries were also scattered over other streets and little piles of sand testify to the efforts of the fireguards. Here and there a hole could be seen in the rafters of houses where bombs had scored direct hits. Charred window frames and little piles of scorched furniture outside were further evidence. One air raid warden returned home to find the house adjacent to his had been almost completely destroyed by fire. The new phosperous bombs were also dropped. [700 incendiaries dropped Chesterton, Unicam factory, Stourbridge Common Newmarket Road, Ditton Fields] – 42 08 07

1942 08 07

Missing—now safe. We learn that W-Cdr. F.V. Benton of No. 2 The Westering, Meadowlands Estate, Cambridge, who was on June. 20 reported missing in Libya, is now safe. Mrs. Benton has received official notification that her husband has been located, and has also received a letter from him from a hospital in the Middle East. 42 08 07 CIPof

1942 08 08

Welcoming American troops. American troops expected - need suitable provision for reception of officers and men who visit Cambridge; Mayor forms committee. American Red Cross to provide facilities and Information Bureaux should be established – 42 08 08a / 113.102

1942 08 11

Retreat from Burman – letter from Driver B. Roberts, York Terrace – 42 08 11

1942 08 14

Cambridgeshire salvage campaign – at Rich's scrap metal yard, Coldham's Lane, metal is graded, magnetic crane; used for tanks – photo feature – 42 08 14, a,b / 113.103 & a

1942 08 15

Commando assaulted girls after Guildhall dance – 42 08 15

1942 08 17

Cambridge salvage stewards corps –volunteers needed for every street – list of names – 42 08 17

1942 08 17

Cambridge army of volunteers parade Parker's Piece; drumhead service – 42 08 17a / 113.24

1942 08 17

Four main schools close for summer holidays – poor response to scheme for voluntary attendance at school during holidays to counter-balance the dearth of holiday facilities in wartime – 42 08 17b

1942 08 18

Ant-aircraft guns – why they do not go off – co-operation with fighter command; sometimes guns act as 'beaters' for fighters or fighters 'beat' for guns; would also give raider detail of where they are – 42 08 18

1942 08 19

Cambridge's second war-time nursery, Shirley School in prefabricated hut; for war-working mothers paying 1/- a day – 42 08 19

1942 08 20

Salvage drive feature – McGorian, waste paper merchant of Russell Street – 42 08 20

1942 08 21

Drumhead Service. A striking example of the volunteer spirit of the citizens of Britain was provided on Parker's Piece on Sunday afternoon, when members of Cambridge's many voluntary services paraded for a drumhead service. Volunteers all were assembled from the contingent of the Old Contemptibles, who kept the British flag flying in the early days of the last war, to the youths of the A.T.C, who will keep Britain's planes flying in the later days of this. A further venture of the Cambridge Borough Entertainments Committee the proof of its overwhelming success, was provided by the huge and enthralled crowd which thronged the Piece. It is estimated that parade and spectators numbered somewhere between 4,000 and 5,000. Alter the service there was a march-past by all the units on parade, the salute being taken by the County Member (Capt. R. G. Briscoe, M.C.). 42 08 21 CIPof

1942 08 24

Impressive anniversary service by local N.F.S. – photo – 42 08 24 / 113.33

1942 08 28

All the fun of the holiday fair: pictures of youngsters making the most of the holidays-at-home fair on Midsummer Common – 42 08 28 / 113.50

1942 08 29

German-born undergraduate imprisoned under Aliens Order – 42 08 29

1942 08 31

Making American troops feel at home. Old world greets the new. Making the Americans feel at home. As yet few of the visiting troops have been here long enough to get more than a few hours' leave and, naturally enough, they want as much sightseeing as possible … but soon they'll want to spend time getting to know the folk in their own homes - do's and don'ts – 42 08 31, 42 09 04 CIP – 113.104 & a

1942 08 31

National Fire Service sports – the pump team from the Rathmore Road station secured top place in the drill completion out of over 100 teams from the area. The finals were contested at the N.F.S. sports on Magdalene College grounds, Milton Road and the team, which is made up of part-time men went through their drills faultlessly – 42 08 31 / 113.53

1942 September

1942 09 04

Old world greets the new. Making the Americans feel at home. As yet few of the visiting troops have been here long enough to get more than a few hours' leave and, naturally enough, they want as much sightseeing as possible … but soon they'll want to spend time getting to know the folk in their own homes – 42 09 04 CIP – 113.104

1942 09 08

Canadian canteen for Cambridge. Frederick Hudd delivering his address with Deputy Regional Commissioner and the Mayor, and Fire Force Commander W.E. Norwood. Mr Hudd shakes hands with Mr Norwood after handing over the vehicle – photos – 42 09 08 / 113.49

1942 09 09

German raider shot down by night fighter – Dornier crashed on a farm near a village; seven mobs on experimental farm, cottages damaged – 42 09 09a

1942 09 15

Cambridge University Air Squadron Cadets Parade passing out inspection – photos – 42 09 15 / 113.51

1942 09 17

Punts and canoes placed on NFS reservoir on lawn in front of King's – photo – 42 09 17a / 113.58

1942 09 19

Women to register for fire-watching duty – 42 09 19

1942 09 19

Photographic club meeting room Ram Yard damaged by bombs, move – 42 09 19a

1942 09 25

Did he escape from Singapore? Among the Cambridge men reported missing when Singapore fell was Sapper William Hall, of 178 King's Hedges Road, Cambridge. His wife has now received news from a Mrs. Harradine of 13 Owlstone Road, Cambridge, that her husband was amongst those who made their escape from the Japanese. It will be remembered that the escape of Mrs Harradine's husband. Lt. R. R. L Harradine was reported last March. Mrs. Harradine has now received a letter from her husband saying that Sapper Hall was with him when he got away from Singapore. Mrs. Hall, however, has heard nothing from her husband, and is endeavouring to get in touch with him 42 09 25 CIPof

1942 09 26

Singapore soldiers – some postcards arrive – 42 09 26

1942 October

1942 10 03
Information Centre for American opens at Matthew's Café – 42 10 03

1942 10 06
Harvest Festival at the Leys School chapel – the first ever held there. There was a colourful array of fruit, flowers and vegetables and five guineas was collected by the nurses of Addenbrooke's for the China War Relief Fund – photo – 42 10 16 – 113.52

1942 10 10
Cambridge failed to reach 'Tanks for Attack' target – 42 10 10

1942 10 11
American forces' view of Cambridge – 42 10 11

1942 November

1942 11 06
Call for more Nurses. A very large audience assembled at the Cambridge Guildhall to hear an appeal by Miss Florence Horsbrugh, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Health, for more women to take up nursing both nationally and locally. The occasion was a concert contributed to by distinguished artists, who gave their services for the Civilian Nurses Air Raid Victims Fund 42 11 06 CIPof

1942 11 07
Mrs Roosevelt, America's First Lady visits W.V.S. Services Hostel in St Andrew's Street – photos - and takes lunch in Arrington village hall - Mrs Roosevelt visits Cambridge, motors out to Arrington where lunches in village hall – 42 11 07 / 113.56, 113.97

1942 11 16
The African victory peals were rung by Ancient Society of Cambridge Youths. Mr J. Quinney and R. Lathbury were responsible for ringing at Roman Catholic Church, St Bene't's and Great St Mary's – photo – 42 11 16 / 113.54

1942 11 27
D.S.M. for Cambridge man. Mrs. Ellis, of 67 Cromwell Road, Cambridge, has just received news that her husband, W /Bombardier W. C. Ellis, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Medal for gallantry in action and that he has been promoted L/Sergeant. Details of the exploit for which the honour has been awarded are not yet available. Formerly in the employ of Messrs. Cyril Ridgeon and Son. Sgt Ellis joined up at the outbreak of war. 42 11 27 CIPof

1942 December

1942 12 14

Lord Woolton pays tribute scientists at the Low-Temperature Research Station for part in discovering best war-time foods – dried eggs, powdered milk and powdered meat – 42 12 14, 42 12 19

1942 12 28
American servicemen party for children at Bull Hotel – 42 12 28b

1943

1943 January

1943 01 06
US private shot 2nd-Lieut after dispute on length of sentry duty; evidence from Negro sentry – 43 01 06; sentenced to death – 43 01 07

1943 01 09
Japanese refuse letters to prisoners unless typed, CDN offers to help – 43 01 09 TT

1943 01 11
Mobile Operating Theatre attached to Red Cross Flying Squad – 43 01 11

1943 01 11
Mayor Montagu Butler's son kia – 43 01 11, 43 01 16a

1943 01 13
Hostel for civilian women stranded in Cambridge may be established – 43 01 13

1943 01 16
American concert party at Services Night, Rex Cinema – 43 01 16

1943 01 30
Harry Denton Hartle awarded medal after plane taken off from airfield crashed and burst into flames near home, lived Milton – 43 01 30

1943 February

1943 02 05
Sole survivor of Air Crash. Mr. John Howard, the young British diplomat, who was the sole survivor of an air liner crash in Peru last week, is the youngest son of Mr. and Mrs. A. Howard, of 257, Chesterton Road. Cambridge. His parents on Friday received a cablegram from the hospital where he was taken, saying that there is no need to worry. Mr Howard, who is 28 years of age, was educated at the Perse School, and later at St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, of which he is an M.A. He went out to South America about six months ago, and at the time of the crash was flying from Buenos Aires to Miami. News from Lima (Peru) described how Mr. Howard was

catapulted from the back seat of the plane when the Liner crashed into a mountainside. The purser was sitting, with him, and was also thrown out but he died later from his injuries. For three days, it was stated, Mr. Howard lay injured beside the bodies of the victims before rescue services could reach him. The bodies of the 15 dead, who included three women and two other British diplomats, were taken to the Anglo-American Hospital at Lima. 43 02 05 CIPof

1943 02 10

Singapore prisoners of war – Col Clayton clarifies the position – cables arrive irregularly, only 10% names received – 43 02 10

1943 02 11

Alleged sabotage at aerodrome – tore up vital plans – Irish labourer sent for trial – 43 02 11a

1943 02 13

Bull Hotel formally handed over to American Red Cross as leave centre – 43 02 13

1943 02 16

Acute staff position. The acute position caused by the call-up of staff, was the subject of a special statement by the Chairman of the Cambridgeshire County Council (Ald. W. J. Taylor) at Saturday's meeting of the Council. Ald. Taylor said that, just before the war the staff operating from the Shire Hall - 30 men and 25 women. Of the men, 60 were serving with the forces, 15 were no longer with the council, and seven had been lent to other services. Only 48, therefore, of the original men were left, and of these 26 were over 42. Seventeen of the remainder were liable to be directed elsewhere by the Manpower Board, but only two were under 35 years of age. "We in Cambridgeshire, therefore, cannot be accused of 'protecting' a lot of young men from the services," the speaker added. Ald, Taylor next dealt with the women, and there was a general laugh after he said, "Two are married, and two are liable to be directed. Dr. Woodman asked "What — to marriage?" 43 02 16 CIPof

1943 02 19

Extermination of Jews deplored – 43 02 19a

1942 02 22

Pictorial impressions of the big parade – Wardens march past Kings, showing blacked out windows and water tank, Home Guard pass Fitzwilliam Museum, A.T.S. band pass Bull Hotel – 42 02 22, a-c

1942 02 22

Eastern region tribute to Red Army – memorable parade – 42 02 22d

1943 March

1943 03 05

Non-petrol buses. — It is proposed to adapt 55 more Eastern Counties buses to producer gas in 1943. The Tilling group aim at converting 651 in all during the present year. Already they have

adapted 107 including 26 of the Eastern Counties, and these had run 2,500.000 miles, so saving 415,000 gallons of important fuel. 43 03 05 CIPof

1943 03 12

Home Guard anti-gas instructors – photo – 43 03 12a

1943 03 15

Pitt Club British restaurant to allocate priority tickets for essential workers; colleges will feed 300 students for lunch daily during term which will eliminate their attendance – 43 03 15

1943 03 26

Model bulldogs guard gates of PoW camp for Italians – photo – 43 03 26

1943 03 26

Five sons in the Army. -Three Cambridge brothers, one in the R.A.O.C. and two in the R.A., met recently in the Middle East for the first time since early in 1940. They are the sons of Mr. and Mrs. A. W. Brown, of 58, Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge, who also have two other sons in the Forces and a daughter in the Red Cross. 43 03 26 CIPof

1943 03 30

Duchess of Gloucester tours Red Cross and St John war organisations, photos – 43 03 30, 31

1943 April

1943 04 02

Death of Sir Havilland Hiley, The death occurred in a London nursing home on Tuesday of Sir Havilland Hiley, the Eastern Regional Traffic Commissioner. His home was at 14 Madingley Road, Cambridge, but he had been in London for a short time for medical treatment. In East Anglia, Sir Havilland was best known as Chairman of the Eastern Area Traffic Tribunal, with its headquarters at Sussex House, Cambridge, having been appointed when tribunals were set up all over the country in 1931. An acknowledged expert on transport matters, he gained, much of his early experience with the London and North-Eastern Railway, which he joined in 1891. (It was then the G.E.R.). He held responsible posts at York, Hull and Newcastle and, from 1905-8 was Passenger Member of the Great Northern Railway in London. 43 04 02 CIPof

1943 04 09

American soldiers took jeep and fired sub-machine gun in orderly room of headquarters – 43 04 09

1943 04 10

Cambridge radio broadcast to Middle East Forces – list of contributors – 43 04 10

1943 04 12

Bringing bombers back to earth – work of the Flying Control during fog or when damaged – 43 04 12

1943 04 14

Construction of airfields – problems addressed – 43 04 14

1943 04 16

Masque café, All Saints' Passage accused of waste of food – 43 04 16

1943 04 21

John Arthur Fenner, Panton Street, awarded George Medal for moving ammunition train from danger in North Africa – 43 04 21

1943 May

1943 05 01

Vera Lynn & Wilfred Pickles in Cambridge for ENSA – 43 05 01 TT

1943 05 01

Announcement that undergraduates need not in future wear caps with their gowns on academical occasions is no surprise. For some time there has been trouble in getting material – 43 05 01

1943 05 03

Polish president addresses Senate House – 43 05 03

1943 05 13

South Cambs RDC plaque to commemorate adoption of HMS P57 during warship week – 43 05 13

1943 05 14

American baseball match on Fenners – first seen – 43 05 14

1943 05 17

Cambridge pays tribute men of First Army to celebrate victory in North Africa – 43 05 17

1943 05 21

Home Guard parade celebrate third anniversary, one of biggest Cambridge has ever seen: The General Officer, Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command; Lt.-Genl. J. A. H. Gemmnell, C.B., D.S.O., M.C., took the salute at Cambridge on Sunday at one of the biggest military parades the town has ever witnessed. The parade, which had counterparts all over the country, was in celebration of the third anniversary of the founding of the Home Guard, and over 4,000 Home Guard from Cambridge and district were present. The scale of the proceedings can be judged by the fact that the march past the saluting base alone took more than 40 minutes. To use the official wording, the occasion "was designed to show the Home Guard to the people." Genl. Gemmell said, after an inspection: "I would like to . . . congratulate the battalions and other detachments on the parade. The turn-out has been good, arms drill quite creditable and everyone has stood firm and steady, which is a credit to you all." 43 05 21 CIPof – picture of early days – 43 05 17a, b

1943 05 26

Queue outside Guildhall for ration books – photo – 43 05 26

1943 June

1943 06

Big crowd for madrigal singing on the river – photos – 113.61

1943 06 07

Painting of an aircraft in flight, autographed by British and American service men has been subject of a competition in aid of Prisoners of War Fund at Eagle in Bene't Street. Other men have covered wiling with lipstick or lighter flame records of their own units – 43 06 07

1943 06 09

Cambridge aid for China - Arts Roof Garden party supports Aid to China fund – photos - 43 06 09, a / 113.62

1943 06 18

"Going to be a bit late Home," -The following message was sent by Second Lieut. Charles Roland Brown, Tl90473 (a prisoner of war) to his wife, Marjorie Dodd Brown, 31 Trafalgar Road, Cambridge, over the German radio: "Hello, Marjorie darling. I am afraid I am going to be a bit late home. Complications seem to have arisen, so I thought I would spend the time in Germany. It is really a pretty country … But even though I am far away, my body will be absent, but you will have my heart. Remember the Browns always smile. The German frauleins are pretty, but I am socially confined, so you don't have to worry." 43 06 18 CIPof

1943 06 22

Jitterbug contest at Rex – photo – 43 06 22

1943 06 22

Evacuee mother neglected children, Doric St – 43 06 22a

1943 06 25

Liddiard's Garage demonstration of how 80,000 vehicles engaged on essential work may be kept running without calling on motor manufacturers for spare parts and replacement – welding – 43 06 24

1943 06 29

Queue for horse meat for pets in Wheeler Street – photo – 43 06 29

1943 July

1943 07 02

RDCs have adopted submarine 'Universal' – ceremony – 43 07 02a

1943 07 02

New nursery for 50 children opened at Ditton Fields – third day nursery – 43 07 02; an example to whole country – 43 07 02b; photo – 43 07 19

1943 07 03

"When you arrive in Cambridge" guide for American servicemen – 43 07 03b

1943 07 05

Duchess of Gloucester inspects parade 300 members Land Army at Cambridge. Women's Land Army Parade. Nearly 300 members of the Women's Land Army from the County of Cambridge paraded before the Duchess of Gloucester at a W.L.A. rally at Cambridge on Saturday afternoon. Clad in their distinctive green and fawn uniforms, the women made an impressive sight as they marched through the town from Parker's Piece to the Guildhall, where the Duchess presented awards for good service. Her Royal Highness wore a summer dress in pink and white, with a white summer hat and gloves to match. 43 07 05, 43 07 09 CIPof

1943 07 06

Kendal Way children help Red Cross – named photo – 43 07 06

1943 07 08

Salute to China, 7th year – 43 07 08

1943 07 13

Far East prisoners' postcards arrive – names - 43 07 13, 43 08 06. 43 08 16, 43 08 26

1943 07 15

"Combined Operation." Opening a farmers' gift sale at the Cambridge Cattle Market yesterday, in aid of the Cambridgeshire Red Cross and St. John Fund, Lady Mountbatten, wife of the Chief of Combined Operations, said: "This sale, I am sure, is going to be one of the most successful 'combined operations' we have seen." Farmers for miles around gave livestock — ranging from cows to kids — to be sold for auction for the Red Cross and St. John Fund. And hundreds of farmers turned up to buy what was on sale. Not that the auction was confined to animals; far from it. There were also bottles of whisky and champagne, as well as one ton of sulphate of ammonia from Swaffham Prior, to be sold. 43 07 16 CIPof

1943 August

1943 08 03

Cyclist killed in collision with tank, one of a number in a big convoy in a Polish unit in Lime Kiln Road – 43 08 03

1943 08 16

Fire guards – new plan, to work with N.F.S. to combat fires caused by hostile attack and summon assistance – 43 08 16a

1943 08 20

Awarded D.F.M. A former member of the Cambridge Borough Police Force, Sergt. Douglas Alaric Boards, R.A.F., whose mother lives at 80 Radegund Road, has been awarded the D.F.M. for his part in saving a burning bomber – 43 08 20 CIPof

1943 September

1943 09 04

Motor coach loaded with Italian prisoners of war caught fire opposite Lady Margaret Road. Fortunately a N.F.S. fire tender was passing at the time and quickly put out the fire. Non one was injured – 43 09 04

1943 09 06

University Air Squadron receive picture of Flying Officer Kenneth Campbell, the squadron's first 'VC', the pilot of a lone Beaufort that carried out low level attach on German battle cruisers in Brest harbour' Was 'up' 1937-1939 43 09 06

1943 09 06

Observer Corps work – photo – 43 09 06a; area nerve centre in Cambridge – photos – 43 11 10a

1943 09 09

John Hilton the first Professor of Industrial Relations at CU making regular broadcasts called 'This and that' and writing weekly articles in the News Chronicle. At outbreak of war became Director of Home Publicity in Ministry of Information but stood down to return to broadcasting … at Cambridge had a team of helpers, each an expert in his own subject and was custom to invite people from Government departments to give them lectures from time to time – 43 09 09; In 1942 approached by News of the World to do same thing for that newspaper and became Director of the News of the World Industrial Advice Bureau which at his death in August 1943 was renamed after him. Based in Cambridge it called on panel drawn from dozens of professors and continued till 1968 [Wikipedia]

1943 09 10

For War Prisoners. A novel mingling of age and youth took place at Chesterton Institution on Saturday afternoon, when the grounds were thrown open to the public for a garden fete in aid of the Red Cross Prisoners of War Fund. The first event of its kind to be held there, it was an unqualified success, the total of £60 raised being £10 in excess of the target figure. – 43 09 10

1943 09 17

Wonders of the Flying Fortress – visit to Memphis Belle – 43 09 17

1943 09 17

"Wings for Victor" trophy presentation; includes five aircraft log books to be used in planes bought by Cambridge which will be returned after the war as a permanent memento – 43 09 17a

1943 09 25

RAF men injured at Bourn when large RAF Liberty Waggon thrown on its side, a taxi completely overturned – 43 09 25

1943 October

1943 10 07

Car damaged by bombs dropped during weekend; were no casualties and little other damaged. The car was standing in a shed. [probably Roseford Road] – 43 10 07

1943 10 09

Club for transferred war workers to be established at 8-9 Petty Cury to provide canteen and recreational accommodation for men and women, including washing and ironing facilities. Will be open 10am-10pm; an attractive meeting and resting place for workers who have come from away – 43 10 09

1943 10 21

Civil Defence Reserve, Eastern Regional column inaugurated; HQ in a country mansion to go anywhere at moment's call – 43 10 21

1943 10 26

Duchess Visits Hospital. An addition to the programme arranged for the Duchess of Kent's visit to Cambridge on Tuesday afternoon was a call at the American Red Cross hostel at the Bull Hotel. Earlier, after visits to Addenbrooke's Hospital and The Leys Annexe, the Duchess had tea with workers in their canteen at the new Falcon Club in Petty Cury. Her Royal Highness chatted with hospital patients, workers and American soldiers at the U.S. hostel in the course of her tour. She was accompanied by Lady Rachel Davidson. During the Duchess's visit to the children's wards at Addenbrooke's the behaviour of the little ones was exemplary. 43 10 26, 43 10 29 CIPof

1943 November

1943 11 01

Cambridge Corn Exchange venue for Barn Dance staged by American Red Cross for US forces' celebration of traditional American custom of Hallowe'en … at one end a Guy Fawkes surrounded by straw … dances consisted slow foxtrots and quicksteps to the famous American Flying Eagles band. Were crates of apples and pears from which the many dancers, numbering about 1,800 were at liberty to help themselves. Refreshments served free of charge by an American clubmobile – a canteen on wheelers – about 3,000 American doughnuts, 25 gallons of coffee and 30 gallons of cider, beside orange and lemonade. Pumpkins cut into faces grotesquely illuminated by candles … 43 11 01

1943 11 02

Cheers from neighbours who had assembled in the street were the first warning that Mrs Coleman of 22, Fitzwilliam Street, had that her husband, Able Seaman Joseph Coleman had arrived home after being repatriated from Germany. He lost his arm when his submarine was sunk and was

missing for four months. He brought good news for Mrs Shipp of 64, Howard Road, of her husband who was captured when his submarine, Starfish was sunk – 43 11 02

1943 11 05

Two high explosive bombs of small calibre fell off Milton Road, causing damage to a house but no personal injuries. The rest of the 'stick' fell at Histon – censored – 45 09 15 / 113.42b

1943 11 10

Captain A.C. Taylor talks about how the latest instrument of scientific warfare are combined to clear skies of enemy plants – fighter command, balloon barrage, AA guns, searchlights, linked by private telephone lines – 43 11 10

1943 11 20

Sir Oswald Moseley release from prison rally interrupted by University Labour Society – 43 11 20

1943 11 22

Cambridge adopted destroyer HMS Loyal engaged enemy convoy – 43 11 22; 43 11 29. A picture sent by L/Stwd W.D. Howard of 5, Sleaford Street who has accompanied the Loyal in much of her work – 119.34

1943 11 25

Scotney's butchers of Mill Road summoned for selling meat above maximum price and delivering food to Romsey Community Feeding Centre without proper paperwork – 43 11 25

1943 11 30

Cambridge visitors at U.S. bomber station. Home Guard members inspect US bomber 'Stump Jumper' – includes Lady Bragg, John Lowe (Ministry of Information), mayor A.L. Briggs, Miss Shankland (Director of American Red Cross Club, Bull Hotel) & Norman Higgins – photo - 43 11 30 / 113.66

1943 December

1943 12 06

Queues outside Mothercraft Clinic, Willis Road, for toys made by the women whose children attend the clinic – photo – 43 12 06

1943 12 11

Suicide first-year student and naval cadet of Jesus College, found hanging – 43 12 11

1943 12 11

Cambridge Anglo-American Committee to organise Christmas party from Guildhall, part to be broadcast to US Forces – 43 12 11a

1943 12 20

Marshalls Flying School party for 400 children – 43 12 20

1943 12 28
King's college carol service broadcast – 43 12 28

1943 12 31
War-time Christmas. The sound of church bells in the still, cold air of the pre-dawn brought a reminder on Christmas morning that much has happened since the greatest of all festivals was celebrated a year ago. For many it was, inevitably in war, a time of sorrow, but beneath the cloud of sorrow could be seen the light of victory, bringing with it the hope and belief that 1943 may be the last Christmas of the war. With many of their loved ones away from home, scattered over the four corners of the earth, the people of Cambridge yet made the most of their celebrations. And in many homes absent places at the fireside were filled by other Service men and women, both British and American, who were offered that personal hospitality which means so much at Christmas tide. The Mayor and Mayoress of Cambridge, Ald and Mrs. W. L. Briggs, made a particularly full round of calls to hospitals etc on Christmas morning and afternoon, and it was well after tea-time when they made their way back to their own home. 43 12 31 CIPof

1944

1944 January

A Cambridge man who as a war-time brigadier helped in the planning of D-Day told some of the "inside story" to Cambridge Rotarians. Mr T.R. Henn of St Catharine's college said his own part was "of the very humblest". He took part in the planning of two invasions. The first was a completely paper one in 1942 when the Powers-that-be got together a small party of some eight majors and a brigadier and told them: "Look here, chaps, we're going back on the Continent some time or other. Assume you have the men, guns, ships and aircraft and tell us what you want". Eight months later they became part of the real invasion planning staff in London. After the 'Overlord' plan had been sent off to Washington he came up to Cambridge and walked into Bowes and Bowes bookshop. He picked up a new book which contained two maps showing zones they planned to use, but by then things had gone too far. CDN c 16.1.1952

1944 01 01
Prompt action at Magdalene Fire. Magdalene College fire in building now used as boiler room and store; the college pump brought into action, flames leapt through roof, extinguished by NFS – 44 01 01 / 113.22

1944 01 05
Prisoners in Far East – list of names – 44 01 05

1944 01 14
NFS exercises – photos – 44 01 14a

1944 01 21

Awarded Military Medal. Trooper E. D. Smith has been awarded the Military Medal. He is the only son of Mrs. and the late Mr. Jesse Smith, of 20 Queen's Meadow, Cherry Hinton. Before being called up he was employed by Messrs Hallock and Bond at their warehouse in Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge. 44 01 21 CIPof

1944 February

1944 02 24

Dornier 217 crashes on allotments – 44 02 24, photos 44 02 25

Nazi raider's forced landing pm some allotments after skirting a thickly-populated area. Caught in a heavy barrage, the crew had bailed out over London and were unhurt. The plane flew on for 50 miles and made a perfect forced landing, coming to rest against the back fence of a house. RAF experts examine the machine and view of nose with a damaged propeller against one of the concrete posts that stopped it going into a private garden – photos – 44 02 25 / 113.39

1944 March

1944 03

Montgomery and Eisenhower's visit in March 1944 had been secret; in spring the Union Society buildings stood closed and empty. Armed sentries stood at the doors; vehicles stole through streets and halted at threshold; mysterious packages were carried within. They were putting final touches to plans – censored - 46 10 11, 11a

1944 03 25

'We Also Served' Home Guard history published – 44 03 25

1944 April

1944 04 03

YWCA Hostel in Lensfield Road opened – two roomy houses standing side by side; the old hostel in Rose Crescent outgrown; many hundreds had stayed in earlier years of the war. Can now accommodate65 service women; 1,400, including Land Army have stayed. 44 04 03

1944 May

1944 05 08

Record crowd salutes the soldier – nearly 4,000 troops march past Fitzwilliam Museum – 44 05 08a / 113.55

War-time monsters on King's Parade 44 05 08

Old Glory was at Salute the Soldier parade – 44 05 08b / 113.92

1944 05 12

"Salute the Soldier" Campaign total subscribed was £866,870. A fine example has been set by the Cambridge schools, whose target was £5,000, and who, having already reached £5,181, have now been raised it to £10,000. The Week was effectively launched on Saturday afternoon, when Field

Marshal Lord Ironside opened an attractive and interesting exhibition of war equipment in the Corn Exchange, Cambridge 44 05 12 [8.14]

1944 05 22

Undergraduate officer in Home Guard experimented in his room with drilling hand grenades and left a bomb filled with gun powder on his mantelpiece – inquiry into explosion at Home Guard post – 44 05 22

1944 05 25

Famous service chiefs at Madingley cemetery dedication, impressive ceremony – 44 05 25a, 44 05 30a, 44 05 31a / 113.91

1944 June

1944 06 02

U.S. Military cemetery dedicated. Memorial Day — the day when Americans pay special honour to their dead— was marked in Cambridgeshire on Tuesday, with a service at the U.S. Military Cemetery (at Madingley). High ranking officers of the American and British Armies, as well as the R.A.F. were present together with leading civic representatives of the Eastern Region and the Town, University and County of Cambridge. A detachment of the British Legion, with their colours, members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society, and members of the W.V.S., who have undertaken to provide flowers for the chapel, were also among the large gathering. Centrepiece of the service was a small grass mound, rising from which flew the Stars and Stripes. The Bishop of Ely (Edward Wynn) walked to the mound from the little chapel, followed by the senior officers carrying wreaths. The ceremony opened with an invocation, followed by a scripture reading and a prayer for the fallen. An Order of the Day was read from the Allied commander-in-chief (Gen Eisenhower). During the service either by accident or design three Fortresses flew low over the company. Official and private wreaths were laid and the proceedings came to a close with the National Anthems of America and Britain, the Benediction by the Bishop of Ely and finally "Taps" by two buglers 44 06 02 CIPof [1.1]

1944 06 02

Ammunition trains blows up, station and town damaged, scores made homeless – 44 06 02; Three railwaymen save Soham – 44 06 03a

1944 06 12

Air raid shelters damaged and used for improper purposes; should not be used except during raids – 44 06 12

1944 06 15

Invasion stories by wounded at Leys Hospital annexe – 44 06 15

1944 06 15

Schoolboys set fire to cordite in air raid shelter, some hurt: Two schoolboys, who set light to some cordite in an air raid shelter and so caused burns to some other children, one of whom had to taken to hospital, appeared at juvenile court at Linton on Wednesday. They admitted stealing

the cordite, the property of the War Department, valued at 1s. The boys, aged 12 and 13 respectively, were each given a good character, and after they had promised not to do anything the kind again, were placed on probation for two years – 44 06 15

1944 06 17

Nazis use pilotless aircraft in raids on Britain – 44 06 16; robot plane crashes on Hospital (not local) – 44 06 17

1944 06 26

Police carry out identity card check at Midsummer Fair, four arrested – 44 06 26

1944 06 28

Blazing truck load of bombs – inquest on Soham explosion – 44 06 28

1944 July

1944 07 13

Fire guards from Newnham and Grange Road extinguish real incendiary bombs with stirrup pumps in exercise – 44 07 13

1944 07 15

Anglo-Soviet friendship committee send ambulance to Russia – 44 07 15

1944 August

1944 08 18

Cambridge college as 'set' for R.A.F. film: 'Journey Together' film made by RAF for RAF features scenes in St John's College – 44 08 18a, b / 113.36

1944 September

1944 09 12

Gas Company work on streetlights in anticipation of removal of blackout – 44 09 12

1944 09 13

OBE awarded to William Benton of Trumpington for action at exploding ammunition dump; another gets George Medal – 44 09 13

1944 09 20

Home Guard relax with bowls – group photo – 44 09 20

1944 09 22

Duchess's Visit. Members of the Rural Pennies Section of the British Red Cross Society were rewarded for their good work in connection with the Fund by a visit from their chairman, the

Duchess of Marlborough at the Cambridge Guildhall on Wednesday afternoon, when a talk by the Duchess was followed by tea. The Duchess also visited the Cambridgeshire Red Cross Club, which is now situated at 22 St. Andrew's Street, and formally declared the club open. 44 09 22 CIPof

1944 09 23

Reuben Smith, Cambridge's oldest ex-soldier and ARP warden – funeral – 44 09 23

1944 09 26

When the lights came on again: scenes in Cambridge when lights turned on again under the partlial relaxation of the blackout – Peas Hill, Trumpington Street, Pembroke Street – 44 09 26, 44 09 27 / 113.37. How it was done – 44 09 28

1944 09 27

Home Guard Officers conference – photo – 44 09 27a

1944 October

1944 10 11

Underground petrol storage which were filled with water as an anti-invasion measure now being emptied and will be filled with petrol; soon lorries and cars will not have to queue for petrol at 'official' stations – 44 10 11

1944 10 18

Fire in returned ammunition dump in East Anglia shortly before D-Day; firemen braved bursting 'ammo'; saved most of the heaviest ammunition and prevented widespread devastation. Fire started among some stacks of small arms ammunition and rockets; put out within eight hours but NFS kept watch for some weeks – 44 10 18

1944 10 20

Ammunition stores broken into, rifle and ammunition stolen by Cambridge man – 44 10 20

1944 10 23

Myrtle Wright of Huntingdon Road talks of experiences in Norway and of resistance – 44 10 23

1944 10 26

Marshall's Flying School strike - 44 10 26a

1944 November

1944 11 01

American troops celebrate Halloween at dance – 44 11 01

1944 11 01

Home Guard to stand down – poem – 44 11 01

1944 11 01
Royal Observer Corps – group photo – 44 11 01a

1944 December
Anglo-American Club Christmas party to be broadcast [2.14]

1944 12 04
"Stand down" parade. The famous sward of Parker's Piece has been the scene of many historic ceremonies, but none, surely in what feelings of those taking part as principals or spectators have been so mixed as on Sunday, when Cambridge saw her own part in the great Home Guard "stand down". After an impressive last parade, the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely Home Guard marched away, conscious not only of the thanks of the King, but of the gratitude of their own fellow citizens. 44 12 04, 44 12 08 CIPof

1944 12 15
Legion Reject Home Guard. The admission of men of the Home Guard to the British Legion was strenuously opposed at the annual County conference of the Cambridgeshire and Isle of Ely British Legion. When a resolution was put, recommending that the British Legion charter should be amended to enable Home Guards to be eligible for membership, only one present voted for it, and it was lost by an overwhelming majority 44 12 15 CIPof

1945

1945 January

Anglo-American Union. Married at Shire Hall – Miss F. Howard of Brandon Place & Corp. J. Blackwelder of Taylorsville, North Carolina – 113.106

1945 01 05
Minister praised efficiency with which NFS tackled fire Christ's College – flames coming through one of the oldest roofs 45 01 05

1945 01 12
Army Dentist. Among the men who arrived in England recently on compassionate leave from Burma was a Cambridge dentist, Capt. M. A. Freeman, who reached his home at Beechurst, Babraham Road, on Tuesday. One of the first things he found on arriving was a cable from his Commanding Officer, congratulating him on having been awarded the M.C. Capt. Freeman was reluctant to talk about his work with the Army Dental Corps in S.E.A.C. "Our troops out there are doing a marvellous job," was all he would say except to add: "Although they are sometimes known as the 'forgotten army' they don't feel quite so forgotten when they get bags of mail." His journey home occupied about six weeks, and the first 200 miles were covered over the mountains by jeep. Later came a week's travelling by train and the sea voyage 45 -1 12 CIP of

1945 01 16

Birdwood Club for dependents of those serving in Armed Forces; grown from 5 in 1940 to over 100 in 1944 - 45 01 16a

1945 01 24

Enemy action – 1,861 bombs and seven mines killed three civilians in 115 parishes – 45 01 24

1945 February

1945 02 01

HMS Loyal Captain speaks at Rotary – was a 'L' class destroyer – 45 02 01

1945 02 17

Two rooms in a block at New Court, Trinity College, Cambridge, were severely damaged on Saturday by a fire which also destroyed valuable files and documents. One room, on the ground floor, was occupied by the Rural Land Utilisation Officer of the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, and the other, on the first floor, by the Royal Commission on Historical Monuments (England), and it was in this second room that records of work done during the last three years was destroyed. Very heavy smoke, which spread by communicating passages and staircases to the offices of the Ministry of Fuel and Power in an adjoining block, was encountered by the N.F.S., but they succeeded in keeping the flames from spreading. Six fire appliances were in action, and an oxygen breathing apparatus were also used in fighting the outbreak 45 02 17, 45 02 23 CIPof

1945 02 23

Rescued from Japan. News has been received that local prisoners of war are among those listed as being rescued from a Japanese transport carrying them from, No. 4 Thailand Camp to Tokyo. They are Sapper G. F. Spurgin, eldest son of Mr. F. Spurgin, of 65 Greville Road, Cambridge. He was formerly employed by the L.N.E.R. as a fireman. Pte. A. G. Kitson, Royal Norfolk Regiment, husband of Mrs. E. L. Kitson, of King's Lynn. Before marrying and going to King's Lynn he lived at 1French's Road, Cambridge. 45 02 23 CIPof

1945 02 23

Wounded Servicemen. — Another convoy of wounded servicemen, including a number of released prisoners-of-war, arrived in Cambridge on Wednesday. The men, 140 in number, have been distributed to Addenbrooke's, the Leys Annexe and the Examination Hall 45 02 23 CIPof

1945 March

1945 03 09

Kit store supervisor – When the gunners go to war from the Middle East the man in whose safekeeping they leave their most treasured possessions (writes a Military Observer) is Gunner Alfred Barrett, whose home is at 28 Hope Street, Mill Road: Cambridge. He is clerk and supervisor at the kit store of the Middle East, B.D.R.A., and the largest military kit store out there. At the present moment he is helping to look after the baggage of many regiments, and over 5,000 miscellaneous kits in addition. "Batches" of letters from home, photos, watches and 'civvy' clothing, is what the boys are most anxious should be kept safely for them," Gunner Barrett said recently. Before the war he was college porter at Downing College. Cambridge. He joined the Army in October. 1940, and went out to the Middle East in July. 1942. 'He has served with the

53rd A/Tank Regiment, but went to B.D.R.A when he was medically downgraded. He is married and has two daughters, Anne, aged ten and Judith, seven. His mother is Mrs A.W. Barrett of 22 Derby Street, Newnham, Cambridge 45 03 09 CIPof

1943 03 15

Woman cyclist killed in Victoria Avenue, thought struck by trailer in American convoy – 45 03 15

1945 03 22

Disused brickworks in Coldham's Lane being used as Army motor cycle store damaged by fire but only nine of the several hundred machines inside were affected –45 03 22c

1945 April

1945 04 09

Cambridge princess rescued from Japs – Mabel Phillips of Chesterton married undergraduate who now Swaba of Mongmit, of Burma; liberated by British troops – 45 04 09a

1945 04 12

Social centre for welfare of airmen and airwomen, built by YMCA presented to RAF station – 45 04 12

1945 04 19

'Death March' across Germany, prisoners tell grim stories – 45 04 19

1945 04 20

Award for Gallantry. The King has been pleased to approve the following award in recognition of gallantry and devotion to duty in the air operations: D.F.C.: Acting Squadron-Leader Anthony White Farrell, A.F.C., 85281, R.A.F.V.R., No. 105 Squadron. Squadron-Leader Farrell has at all times shown great skill and ability as a pilot. He has displayed outstanding courage and determination during a large number of operational sorties. Many of these have been completed successfully against heavily defended targets in Germany and enemy occupied territory. His high standard of resource and gallantry has enabled his crew to attain valuable results. Acting Squadron-Leader Farrell was born in 1917 at Hampstead, and his home is at Cherry Hinton, Cambs. He enlisted in December, 1939, and was commissioned in September, 1940. He was awarded the A.F.C. in 1944. 45 04 20 CIPof

1945 04 24

American President Roosevelt memorial service, King's chapel – 45 04 24

1945 04 26

Forced march ordeal – Arthur Rumsey, Shelford Rd, Trumpington – 45 04 26

1945 04 26

Vivid stories of prison camps – 45 04 26

1945 May

1945 05 03

Jewish refugees should stay, says meeting – 45 05 03

1945 05 04

Wounded Servicemen. — Another convoy of wounded servicemen, including a number of released prisoners-of-war, arrived in Cambridge on Wednesday. The men, 140 in number, have been distributed to Addenbrooke's, the Leys Annexe and the Examination Hall. 45 05 04 CIPof

1945 05 08

Hostilities end at midnight, Prime Minister's broadcast; King's victory medal; flags of victory fly from Guildhall balcony – headlines – 45 05 08 / 113.100

1945 05 08

VE celebrations, Market Square, crowd of several thousand, waste paper dump in St Mary's Passage set on fire, cars and stalls damaged, flag on top fountain, climb Guildhall clock – 45 05 08

1945 05 09 – VE Day

Happy crowds celebrate VE-Day – 45 05 09, 09a, Top fountain damaged – photo – 45 05 10. Crowds dance Market Hill – photo – 45 05 10

1945 05 11

Happy crowds celebrate VE-Day at Cambridge … Midsummer Common bonfire draws thousands … VE-night office-breaking, CDN editorial rooms ransacked – 45 05 11 / 113.27

1945 05 11

Victory bonfire night scenes – 45 05 11.

VE celebrations –45 05 11a; Beaconsfield Hall children, Sturton St, Cowper Rd, Norwich St – 45 05 16; Perne Ave, Mowbray Road, Beche Rd, Norfolk St – 45 05 08; Hobart Rd, Bradmore St, Russell St – 45 05 19b; Young St, Gonville Road & Charles St, Cam Causeway, Gt Eastern St – 45 02 22a; Ditton Fields, Romsey Women Conservatives, Suez Rd, Covent Garden, Eden St –45 05 23; York St, Thoday St, Kingston St, Northampton St, Cherry Hinton – 45 05 24; Hills Ave, City Rd, Cavendish Rd, Malta Rd – 45 05 25; Mowbray Rd, Willow Walk, Springfield Rd, Kelvin Close – 45 05 26b; New St, Chesterton High St – 45 05 28a; Cockburn St, Newnham Croft, Madras Rd, Henley Road & Coldham's Lane – 45 05 30; Barnwell, Wellington St, Fitzroy St, Devonshire Rd – 45 05 30b; children entertained Cherry Hinton, Fairfax Rd – 45 06 02; Vinery Rd, Eastfield – 45 06 04; Catherine St, Ditton Walk, Union Lane – 45 06 05; Gwydir St, Abbey (East) – 45 06 06; Meadowlands Estate, Argyle St, Hope St, De Freville Estate – 45 06 07; Ross St, Hemingford Rd, Green End Rd, Staffordshire St, Selwyn Rd, Coldham's Grove, Coldham's Lane, Akeman St – 45 06 11; Brooks Rd, Sedgwick St, Langham Rd, Oxford Rd, Haig Road, Chesterton – 45 06 13a; Windsor Rd, Stretten Ave, Kimberley Rd, Abbey Road, Walnut Tree Ave, Brookfields – 45 06 18; Trumpington, Mansfield Hall – 45 06 19; Cavendish

Ave, Hinton Ave, Hope Hall for Deaf – 45 06 21a; Histon Rd children – 45 06 30; St Peter's St, Greens Rd – 45 07 10

1945 05 11

Gallantry. Lieut. S. G. Love, son of Mr. and Mrs. B. J. Love, of 15 Burleigh Street, Cambridge, has been mentioned in dispatches for gallant and distinguished services in North-West Europe. Lieut Love is in the R.A.S.C. and is attached to the Armoured Division. 45 05 11 CIPof

1945 05 14

Thanksgiving service Gt St Mary's church – 45 05 14

1945 05 14

Dagenham girl pipers at final VE celebrations – 45 05 14aa

1945 05 19

Blast walls in front Emmanuel College demolished – photo – 45 05 19

1945 05 22

National Fire Service – 500 part-time men and women parade, Parker's Piece for stand-down; thanked for work – 45 05 22

1945 05 25

Stack Fires. On Tuesday the N.F.S. were called out to deal with numerous stack fires outside Cambridge, mainly caused by VE-Day celebrations. The areas affected were Bourn, Toft, Gransden, Linton, Foxton, Wrestlingworth and Comberton. In some villages watch was kept by the N.F.S. to prevent the fires from spreading 45 05 25 CIPof

1945 05 25

Local P.O.W, Gunner E. C. Prevett, R.A., son of Mr. and Mrs. E. W. Prevett, of 182 Newmarket Road, has returned home after three years in captivity. He was captured Tobruk in July 1942, and was in an Italian P.O.W. camp until Italy capitulated when he was transferred to Stalag 4C, whence he was liberated. Another Cambridge man has this week returned home from a German P.O.W. camp. He is Brd. J. Andrews, of 59 Ross Street, and has been a prisoner for nearly three years, being liberated from Stalag 18A. Previous to the outbreak of war he was in business with his uncle, Mr. W. Bell, butcher, of Ross: Street. H.A.V. Clark, of 8a George IV Street, Cambridge, has returned home from Stalag XXB. He was taken prisoner on May 231940 at Boulogne. He is known as Nobby the Cook. News has been received by Mr. A and Mrs. Gurner, of 19 Willow Place, Cambridge, that their son, Sapper B. Gurner has arrived in England, and will be shortly at home. He was in Stalag 344 and was a prisoner five years 45 05 25 CIPof

1945 05 25

Charles Circuit, Holbroke Road tells of life in Italian and German prison camps – 45 05 25

1945 05 26

Farewell party of No.4 Regional Column of the Civil Defence Reserve at Newton Hall; established two years ago has 15,000 Civil Defence workers, attended 400 incidents; undertook rescue work and tackled flying bombs and rockets, help with ambulance trains and returned prisoners of war. IN 12 months 570 groups of Civil Defence personnel had gone from the Regional camps and of these 386 groups, representing 12,000 men had gone to air raid damage in the region. Thousands of pounds have been recovered and in one town £3,000 found at one house was handed over. Much valuable property salvaged. Regional Commissioner to resign soon – 45 05 26a

1945 05 30

Home Guard pay tribute to American airmen at Madingley cemetery – 45 05 30a

1945 05 30

Madingley Road factories – was essential that Sebro should be built at the most convenient point for the surrounding aerodromes. The building, working and running of the factory meant a great deal of energy and terrific amount of worry; when built was one of a chain of shadow factories; repaired bombers; was built in wrong place from workers' point of view – should have been built near backs and then Trinity could have been used as a hostel, saving long journeys to work. That part of Madingley Road is hardly a beauty spot – letters – 45 05 30b

1945 June

1945 06 01

Award for Gallantry. The many friends in Cambridge and the County of Lieut-Col. F. N. Drake Digby (former C. O. of the Cambridgeshire Regt.) and of Mrs. Digby of 20 Fendon Road, will learn with interest and pleasure that their only son has received an award for gallantry in Burma. The official notification reads: The King has been pleased to approve the following award for distinguished and gallant services in Burma— D.S.O. Major (Temporary) Anthony Sergeant Drake Digby, 66273, the Suffolk Regiment, Cambridge. Before the war Major Digby had adopted the stage as his profession, and many local playgoers will remember that he appeared at the Arts Theatre, Cambridge, in "French Without Tears", a fellow player in the cast being Richard Greene, who soon afterwards went to Hollywood and has since become a well-known film star. 45 06 01 CIPof

1945 06 08

Secret jobs by Labs & Pye – Radiolocation – Ground Control of Interception designed and built by University Cavendish scientists in conjunction Pye engineers – put fighters at right height on tail of enemy aircraft near enough to pick them up on Airborne Interception equipment – 45 06 08

1945 06 08

Mayor entertains returned Prisoners of War – 45 06 08a

1945 06 08

Distinguished Service. Captain Reginald Carter, R.A.O.C., husband of Mrs. R. Carter, of 28 Windsor Road, Cambridge, has been mentioned in despatches for "distinguished service." At the time of being mentioned, Capt. Carter was serving in Italy, where he still is - 45 06 08 CIPof

1945 06 13

Folk Museum new home – Lord Fairhaven offers Abbey House in recognition of VE Day – 45 06 13

1945 06 15

Birthday Honours. Two names of local interest appear in the list of King's Birthday Honours announced today. They are those of Prof. C. E. Inglis, F.R.S., lately Professor of Mechanical Sciences at Cambridge University, who becomes a Knight, and Mr. S. O. Chivers, a director of the Histon firm of Messrs. Chivers and Sons, who has been awarded the C.B.E.. Well-known in Cambridge for his great interest in Addenbrooke's Hospital, Mr. S. O. Chivers receives the CBE as Hon. Technical Advisor to the Ministry of Food on Fruit and Vegetable Products. In 1942 he went to America for the Government on important work, and for this was attached to the British Food Mission. A member of the General Committee of Addenbrooke's, he is also chairman of the Maintenance Fund Committee. 45 06 15 CIPof

1945 06 20

Evacuees go back – cheery picture at Cambridge railway station –45 06 20

1945 06 21

25 Germen Prisoners of War at work on Lichfield Rd housing site; the 100 temporary houses will be pre-fabricated 'Unisec' type – photo – 45 06 21

1945 06 26

Queens Messenger convoy at garage at Trumpington before leaving to do welfare work for troops – photo – 45 06 26

1945 06 27

Cambridge and the balloon barrage: war work at the Gas Works – were 2,400 balloons. In 1940 supply of hydrogen became difficult and Cambridge approached as to facilities available such as blue water gas and steam or existing plant such as purifiers and gasholders. Was one of 19 sites selected and production hydrogen started early 1942, producing enough for 8,000 balloons. They brought down enemy aircraft over an East Anglian city. Output increased due large number balloons required for the flying bombs. Loads of long round steel cylinders on long trailers carried them. Ascents from Midsummer Common before the last war needed gas supplied from the Newmarket Road works by a main specially aid for the purpose. Recently have made nitrogen of very high degree of purity for Air Ministry – 45 06 27

1945 06 30

Cambridge had 419 air raid alerts during war according to E.A.B. Barnard – details by year –45 06 30; figures disputed – 45 07 02a

1945 July

1945 07 02

Farewell parade of Special Constabulary, Civil Defence and Fire Guard Services, Parker's Piece –45 07 02

1945 07 03

'War against Japan' exhibition at Cavendish Laboratory – 45 07 03 / 113.105 & a

1945 07 09

Civil Defence services of county farewell ceremony, Shire Hall – 1,600 high explosives had fallen and hundreds of incendiaries – 45 07 09

1945 07 07

Cambridge camp shooting drama. Woman shot through heart by coloured sentry at American camp in Milton Road; said she had spent the night in the camp, called guard names, refused to stop – 45 07 07

Two girls slept in Home Guard hut opposite American camp on Milton Road, had blankets got from an American – 45 07 11/ 113.106

1945 07 16

Special constables stand down – photo – 45 07 16

1945 August

1945 08 02

Presentation Freedom Borough to USAAF – Unique Freedom ceremony; historic scenes at Guildhall and Market Place. King greets U.S. President – photo of Market Hill;– 45 08 02, a & b / 113.72, 72a

Crowds celebrate - 45 08 03

1945 08 04

Award. The King has been pleased to approve the following award for gallantry and skill and marked devotion to duty in air strikes in the Far East: D.S.C.—Temp. Lieut. (A) Richard Henry Reynolds, R.N.V.R.—Cambridge.' 45 08 04 CIPof

1945 08 07

Atomic blitz on Japan planned – front page – 45 08 07aa

1945 08 07

Cambridge real 'home' of Atom bomb: early work at Cavendish Laboratory; four members of Technical Committee from Cambridge – 45 08 07 / 113.94

Details - 45 08 11

1945 08 08

Hiroshima: a disastrous ruin. All living things seared to death. Tokyo says dead are uncountable – front page – 45 08 08 – 113.93

1945 08 15

How Cambridge heard the great victory news, Market Hill scenes at declaration, spontaneous revelry Parker's Piece – 45 08 15, a / 113.95

1945 08 15

Problem of the colour bar; American Red Cross Director plea for education so that white and coloured people may learn more about one another – 45 08 15 / 113.110

1945 08 16

Victory night of revelry on Parker's Piece – 45 08 16

1945 08 17

Combined Parade. Cambridge was well presented on Sunday at Bury St Edmunds when 1,500 troops of the Suffolk Regt., the Beds, and Herts. Regt., the A.T.S., and the General Service Corps, together with members of the 4th Cadet Batt., Suffolk Regt. took part in a combined parade. The occasion was the commemoration of Minden Day and Blenheim Day. At the Battle of Minden on August 1, 1759, the 12th Foot (the Suffolk Regt.) picked roses as they pursued the retreating French, while the Battle of Blenheim — August 13, 1704—is one of the battle honours of the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment. There were several old veterans on parade among them being Lieut. Mr. William Taylor, of Cheveley, near Newmarket, who is 80 years old, and who holds the Hazara. In command of the parade was Lieut-Col. G. A. Anstee, M.C., commanding No. 3 Infantry Training Centre, and as they were brought on parade, the .colours of both regiments, those of the Suffolk Regiment being the oldest in the British Army, were received with the royal salute, for which the bands of both regiments played. The service was conducted by the Archdeacon, of Sudbury, the Ven. H. R, Norton, formerly Assistant, Chaplain General Eastern Command, and the Rev. J O. V Hogarth, Chaplain to No 3 I.T.C., and the lessons were read by Col Nicholson and Brigadier Foss. Afterwards, there was the impressive ceremony of trooping the colours of the Suffolk Regiment, and the Bedfordshire and Hertfordshire Regiment which were then formed up for the troops cadets and old soldiers to march past. The ceremony, which took place at Gibraltar Barracks, was watched by a large gathering of townspeople. 45 08 17 CIPof

1945 08 18

Victory joy sweeps world – front page –45 08 18a

1945 08 22

How Cambridge entertained Americans – Supervisor of Hospitality for American Red Cross at Bull hotel; problems of arranging hostesses for some of the shyer lads, one wanted to see polo ponies, 'good-time boys' – 45 08 22 / 113.111

1945 08 24

Award for Gallantry.The King has been pleased to approve the following award for gallantry, resource and devotion to duty while serving in H.M.S. Clyde. 'In six patrols in the last year H.M.S. Clyde has carried out eight special operations under hazardous conditions, in the Far East: Mentioned in Despatches. Leading Stoker Tom Bosworth, P/KX, .90,104 (Cambridge). 45 08 24 CIPof

1945 08 25

Lieut. Richard H. Reynolds of Suez Road wins medal fighting Japs in Pacific – 45 08 25

1945 08 29

VJ Parties – Eden St, Cherry Hinton Rd, Chestnut Grove – 45 08 29; Queen Edith's Way, Ditton Fields – 45 09 04; Young St, Petworth St, Geldart St, Marshall Rd – 45 09 04; Darwin Drive, Stretton Ave, Victoria St, Hobart Rd, Adam & Eve St – 45 09 07b; Gloucester St, Castle St, Ashfield Rd – 45 09 10; Gilbert Rd, King's Hedges Rd, Ditton Fields – 45 09 11; Lichfield Rd, Cromwell Park estate, Hawthorn Rd – 45 09 12; Catharine St, Kendal Way – 45 09 14; York St & York Terrace, Brooks Road, Gold St – 45 09 17d# Bateson Rd, Garden Walk, Argyle St, St Philip's Rd , Sedgwick St, Holbrook Rd, Mowbray Rd – 45 09 18; Akeman St, James St, Parsonage St, Vinery Rd, Kingston St, Kingston St, Mowbray Rd, Hurst Park Estate – 45 09 20; Eastfield, New St, Kelvin Close – 45 09 24a; Hertford St, St John's Rd, Norwich St, Alpha Terrace, Sherlock Rd – 45 09 27a, Silverwood Close, Newmarket Road, Fallowfield, Fen Rd, Water St, Mowbray Rd – 45 10 04a; Cavendish Rd, Stourbridge Grove, Fulbourn Rd, Bradmore St, Petersfield, Gwydir St, Newnham Croft, Scotland Rd, Scotland Close – 45 10 08; Suez Rd, Hale Ave, Harvey Goodwin Ave, Glebe Rd, Radegund Rd, Golding Rd – 45 10 10; Selwyn Rd, Abbey Estate, De Freville Ave, Stanley Rd – 45 10 12a; Milton Rd, Thoday St – 45 10 18 / 113.114

1945 08 29

Life in Far East prison camps ..."cheerful under trying conditions" – first news of British prisoners – 45 08 29 / 113.112

1945 08 29

Cambridge woman killed by skidding army truck, East Road; daughters in pram unharmed – 45 08 29 / 113.112

1945 08 31

Released. — What is believed to be first news of one of the Cambridgeshire's released from captivity in the Far East reached us last night as we were going to press. The following cabelgram, addressed to "Unwin, Seedsman, Histon." was received earlier in the evening; Philip, fit and well, Bangkok. Reply c/o Swiss Consulate. The cable was handed in at Bangkok on Monday, August 27th. Capt. W. P. Unwin, of the 2nd Batt, Cambridgeshire Regt., is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Unwin, of Orchard House, Impington. He is married and has a little son of 34, whom he has never seen. "We are exceedingly lucky to hear so soon," said Mr. Unwin in response to a phone call last night. "I believe we were among the first to hear that Philip was a prisoner after the fall of Singapore. We have had three, cards in all from him. The last, received about Christmas time, was dated May, 1944.". 45 08 31

1945 08 31

Repatriating Prisoners. Among British troops who will be helping in the repatriation of prisoners of war from the Far East is Capt. Albert Cox, R.A., whose home is at 158 Newmarket Road, Cambridge. He leaves shortly by air for the Far East, and is one of a number of British officers and men, who, having been engaged on work at transit camps in this country, will now use their experience in repatriating men from Japan. Well known before the war as a singer, Capt. Cox is a former member of the Mackenzie School of Music. 45 08 31 CIPof

1945 08 31

Volunteer Car Pool provided cars and drivers for the sick and those engaged on work of national service for whom no alternative means of transport, Cambridge drivers in their 70's have done over 40,000 miles – 45 08 31a

1945 September

1945 09 07

The story of the Cambridge air raids. Censorship relaxed, what could not be previously told – Vicarage Terrace, Dornier bomber, Spy shot in shelter, mention of factories opened in Cambridge since war nor Falcon Club for War Workers; compulsory billeting of war workers had also been banned – 45 09 07 & a / 113.40, 113.41

1945 09 10

'Behind the scenes with the railway, problems of the Blitz, Cambridge's special efforts at train control room – details – 45 09 10

1945 09 11 c

Cambridge 'air raid; damage. A.R.P. services at work. C.D.N. offices involved. Undergraduate bombers – 113.43

1945 09 14

More about Cambridge air raids; some remarkable escapes; bombs which failed to explode – a large book in Guildhall might be placed in Library, the official record of enemy air activity; incendiary on roof of Rock Road library; incidents in county – 45 09 14a, 14b / 113.42, a,,b

1945 09 15

Falcon Club for War Workers were set up for women, now open doors to civilians – 45 09 15

1945 09 17

First news of Cambs in battle at Singapore – 45 09 17a, 45 09 17c

1945 09 17

War-time story of the Fitzwilliam Museum; most important works of art sent to private house in Wales and bank in Cornwell, fire watching, stored blankets for Red Cross. RAF wanted a large room to install apparatus to give illusion of pilots flying – but would have caused problems; items returned after VE-Day – 45 09 17b / 113.115 & a

1945 09 22

First pictures of released prisoners of war, Ronald Searle announces safety with cartoon – 45 09 22a, b / 113.113 & a

1945 09 25

First two Jap prisoners arrive – James Craft of Holbroke Rd & Maurice Foreman, Burleigh St – CDN 45 09 25

1945 09 28

Orders for victory handbells, made from scrap metal from shot down German aircraft, are flowing in thick and fast at the Cambridge Gas Company's showroom, Mr. Stanley Miller, the hon. organiser, tells us. The bells, which are being sold .in aid of the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, are seven inches high and are made at labour cost by a Kentish firm. Some of them have been photographed by Battle or Britain pilots. One of them, personally cast by Group Capt. Douglas Bader, the famous legless flyer, will be sold at Cambridge in the near future to the highest bidder. So far over 70.000 bells have been sold in Britain alone. America has bought 20,000 of them. The metal for the bells comes from a scrap dump at Biggin Hill and was given by the Ministry of Aircraft Production. 45 09 28 CIPof

1945 October

1945 10 06

Ronald Searle cheery cartoon from the Far East – 45 10 06; dines with Lord Mountbatten – 45 10 06a

1945 10 08

First batch of repatriated prisoners from Far East arrive home – 45 10 08a

1945 10 08

How the Post Office beat the 'Blitz' – 'fixed bayonets' at G.P.O., Americans and phone boxes – 45 10 08b

1945 10 09

The great reunion, ex-prisoners arrive at station – 45 10 09

1945 10 12

Last US bomber over Europe – instrument panel presented at Guildhall – 45 10 12 / 113.109

1945 10 15

Cambridgeshires still arriving, how things are worked, causes of the delay – 45 10 15b

1945 10 23

Tank kills student at junction Newnham Rd & Queen's Road – 45 10 23; inquest – 45 10 25

1945 November

Eastern Regional Food Office to close in November after 14 years. Opened at Corpus Christi College at beginning of war, moved to Brooklands Avenue - 53 08 29

1945 11 03

Honorary Degrees for Tedder, Alanbrooke etc – 45 11 03 TT

1945 11 12
Armistice day march – 45 11 12

1945 11 14
Soviet atomic discoveries by Peter Kapitza who worked Cavendish – 45 11 14

1945 11 27
Americans entertain voluntary helpers at Red Cross Services Club to mark closure of the Doughnut Dugout in Hobson St – 45 11 27

1945 11 29
War leaders Admiral Cunningham, Lord Portal RAF and US Ambassador receive Hon Degrees – 45 11 29 / 113.108

1945 11 30
Ronald Searle exhibition drawings from Japanese prison camp – 45 11 30b, 45 12 01. 45 12 04

1945 December

1945 12 14
Police war reserves finishing – group photo – 45 12 14; their part in police history – 45 12 20

1945 12 21
Welcome home Far East prisoners, Christmas party at Guildhall – 45 12 21

1945 12 29
Kings College chapel windows to be restored soon; location kept secret for fear theft – 45 12 29

More information was published in the post-war, post-censorship years

1946

1946 January

1946 01 02
Cambridge's big contribution to war was the housing of troops based here; War Office acquired empty houses for troops. This was better than billeting them in private houses. Then there were RAF personnel, official evacuees, unofficial evacuees, war workers with large families and civil servants said F.N. Drake Digby, quartering commandant – 46 01 02

1946 01 03
RAF Club at St Columba's Hall closes after six years – 46 01 03

1946 01 10

Last 'welcome home' party for returned prisoners at Dorothy Café – 46 01 10

1946 01 12

Anglo-American Hospitality Committee wound up' started in 1942 when known that more than 300,000 American airmen would be stationed in East Anglia. Leave hostel established in lecture room over St Andrew's Street Baptist church until the Bull Hotel opened on Nov 4th. By then an information centre – later club – had been opened at the English-Soaking Union at Matthew's Café. Hospitality arranged in colleges and private houses. August 1943 saw first reception at Guildhall to a regiment of Supply Troops; also Christmas Eve party in Guildhall which broadcast. Concentrated on US Hospital patients and staff of their hospitals. Garden party at Pembroke when Freedom of Cambridge to US Eighth Air Force. – 46 01 12

1946 01 17

Cambridgeshire Regiment drums found in Singapore by Red Cross lady, daughter of Fred Taylor of Dullingham. To be shipped back - 46 01 17

1946 01 26

Leys School back in Cambridge after five years in Highlands – 46 01 26

1946 February

1946 02 16

Mounting stone on Backs was being used by RAF mechanics as an anvil; was moved to Fellow's Garden of King's and will be returned – 46 02 16a

1946 02 20

Coloured airmen in scuffle on Mill Road – 46 02 20

1946 02 27

Cambridgeshire Regiment 2nd Battalion in action, fighting in jungle & Singapore – talk – 46 02 27

1946 March

1946 03 07

Folk Museum raises funds to accept Lord Fairhaven offer of Abbey House – 46 03 07

1943 03 09

Cambridgeshire regiment drums returned – were discovered on picnic – 46 03 09; photo – 46 03 11

1946 03 13

Bull College closing. 140 students have left mark all over the University, members of various colleges during Michaelmas term but because of overcrowding this term moved to billets formerly occupied by War Office. Studied under barrack-room conditions. Played sports and one elected president Union Society – 46 03 13a

1946 03 19

Atom case trial; Sir Wallace Akers was appointed director to supervise nuclear research in Nov 1941. Work carried out by teams in various universities, one the Cavendish Laboratory. Dr Nunn May worked there and required to sign secrecy undertaking. Moved to Canada in 1942 – 46 03 19, 19a

1946 03 23

Vicarage Terrace bombing – experiences of CDN reporter who suspected of being German paratrooper as was wearing red and grey under his greatcoat – his pyjamas. Was not the first – the first bombs on mainland fell near Canterbury on May 9th; May 24th Middlesbrough was first industrial town – 46 03 23b

1946 03 26

Break-in at Milton Camp, gum, chocolate and confectionary stolen – 46 03 26

1946 April

1946 May

1946 05 02

Demolition of air raid shelters – photo – 46 05 02

1946 June

1946 July

1946 August

1946 08 14

Rev J.N. Duckworth speaks on experiences Jap PoW – 46 08 14

1946 September

1946 09 06

Squatters occupy Nissen huts in grounds of 247 Hills Road, a house formerly occupied by Army Lancers Regiment and the R.E.s which empty for a year; huts empty for two 46 09 05 Squatters at Army huts Trumpington Rd; 21 huts in camp, 7 claimed, the rest locked by Military Police who had no power to eject them. The soldiers who had been living in them had been billeted outside to make room for the garrison engineer and staff who would soon have to move out of requisitioned house next door – 46 09 06

1946 09 07

Squatters take RAF wooden dormitory huts Newmarket Road – 46 09 07

1946 09 09

Squatters occupy old 'ack ack' site Long Road, at 'Leighton' Trumpington Rd and Madingley Rd huts that NFS HQ; had been empty for a year and were to have been taken over by Ministry of Works for milk testing – 46 09 09

1946 09 10

Squatters 38 Lensfield Rd which requisitioned and used as extension of the YWCA hostel next door; photo of military policeman guarding wire-barricaded huts on Donkey Common, making sure ATS do not get any squatter neighbours – 46 09 10

1946 09 21

New allied cemetery Singapore unveiled – 46 09 21

1946 09 30

Cambridgeshire Regiment freedom – 46 09 30 & a-d

1946 October

1946 10 11

Montgomery and Eisenhower awarded degrees; visit in March 1944 had been secret; in spring the Union Society buildings stood closed and empty. Armed entries stood at the doors; vehicles stole through streets and halted at threshold; mysterious packages were carried within. They were putting final touches to plans – 46 10 11, 11a / 113.44

1946 10 19

If an aircraft brought to Marshalls and found to be unusable it was certified to be broken up; certain parts had to be salvaged if in order, if not a hammer put through them and put on salvage dump; one workman had taken clock from Dakota; during war he had won B.E.M. for putting out fire in main hangar – 46 10 19

1947

1947 05 05

A series of questions on the demolition of air raid shelters was answered by the Town Clerk at the Cambridge Borough Council meeting. He said the number of underground and surface air raid shelters remaining to be demolished was 42. The number of shelters already demolished was 175 12-person units and 44 20-person units and 44 50-person units and a single trench for 300 people. The work on the shelters should be completed in about eight weeks. Other Civil Defence structures waiting demolition were 18 wardens posts, 23 50-person school surface shelters, 95 48-person underground school shelters and 26 static water tanks - 47 05 05

1947 06 11

As an emergency measure the Public Health Committee of Cabridgeshire County Council has agreed that the Infectious Diseases Hospital be made available for any initial cases for which observation in hospital might be necessary, until the smallpox hospital at Oakington could be opened. Following further negotiations the National Fire Service is now prepared to allow the Council to retain the static water tank on the Romsey Recreation Ground (it has been proposed that it shall be used as a chlidren's paddling pool), and to pay the Council £107.8s.10d, the revised estimate of the cost of demolition and reinstatement of the site - 47 06 11

1947 09 08

One of the good things which had come out of the war, was the way in which Mr Leslie Symonds (Borough M.P.) described the Falcon Club when he was opening their annual fete on Saturday. The Club was now open to any man or woman over the age of 18 who was making some contribution to the welfare of this country. It was started during the war particularly for the benefit of transferred war workers, but since then the whole basis of the organisation had been extended and now is very definitely a club for everyone - perhaps not everyone, because it is obvious that spivs are not eligible for membership - 47 09 08

1947 12 17

Arranged by the Board of Extra Mural Studies the first of a series of lectures was given by the Mayor in the Guildhall. In a new venture organised to give German prisoners of war a wide, varied and accurate picture of English community life in Cambridge. Twentyfive representative English speaking PoWs from Trumpington camp attended the meeting. The lectures will include talks on the working conditions of a factory and on the administration of the Post Office 47 12 17

1948

1948 04 10

The last production of what is known as the German Youth Stage at Trumpington P.O.W. camp before they go home in June will be given at the Houghton Hall. It will be a performance of the classical comedy "Der Zerbrochene Krug". Not only will it be acted outside the camp, but amongst the cast of 12 will be four British girls. The play will be acted in German but an introduction in English is provided. The performance will be open, without charge, to anyone who may be interested - 48 04 10

1948 07 12

Sir - Last week the last German Prisoners of War left this district on their journey home. During their stay in local camps they have received many kindnesses from corporate bodies, religious groups and men and women in this town. This has been deeply appreciated by the men, and as a former welfare visitor to the camps. I should like to help those who have helped in any way both before and after the fraternisation restrictions were lifted eighteen months ago - Mervyn Parry, Society of Friends, Jesus Lane - 48 07 12

1950s

1950 04 15

Vivid impressions of life in a Japanese prison of war camp are to be seen in a remarkable series of pictures to be seen on view at Mitcham's store, Cambridge. The work of Charles Thrale, the pictures were painted on the spot with human hair, jungle roots, clay, crushed pencils, blood, boiled book covers & brass polish on tissue paper, wrapping paper and Jap field cards - 50 04 14

1951 10 31

From the hall of the Y.M.C.A. at Alexandra Street, Cambridge a distinguished company launched an appeal for funds. The speaker said that the lonely searchlight batteries during the war were visited by the Y.M.C.A. vans three times a week. They brought the little things the soldiers liked, tea, buns, cigarettes and papers. And the ladies of the 'Y.M.' took back letters for the troops and even wrote them for soldiers who were illiterate. The Cambridge building was completed in 1871 and had a moral affect on the thousands of young people who have been through the rooms and shared the facilities 51 10 31

1952 10 07

Former members of the RAF Motor Transport Unit travelled to Cambridge to dine at the Lion Hotel and talk of their wartime Cambridge billet – King's College. They specialised in large-scale Service "removals", such as shifting an entire service from one place to another. Early one morning a fleet of 32-seater coaches left the Backs in the company of a self-contained mobile feeding lorry and sped to a smouldering Coventry where emergency meals were prepared and served to the homeless. Thereafter the coaches helped provide a public transport service for them 52 10 07

1953 09 03

During the War British scientists worked on a secret project for destroying the enemy crops by means of chemicals dropped from aircraft. The method was never used but the discoveries made by the research workers at a "hush hush" plot in East Anglia have since made possible one of the selective weed-killers which destroy the weeds and leave the crops unharmed. In Cambridge dinitro compounds were used to kill some weeds and out of a very nasty idea meant for our enemies came another project – plant hormones, the director of Pest Control told Cambridge businessmen. 53 09 03

1954 04 21

During the early years of the war, when the Government was encouraging people to spend their holidays at home the Cambridge Entertainments Committee organised August Bank Holiday athletic sports meeting, swimming sports, baby shows and other attractions. They obtained permission to open the Corn Exchange as a canteen for troops stationed in the area; later alterations were made, music and games provided and it became a social centre for thousands of Servicemen and women, a very useful contribution in the dark days of war. It could still, in the hands of an imaginative architect, become the much-needed concert hall Cambridge needed – 54 04 21

1955 11 02

A roll of honour compiled in memory of the citizens of Cambridge who lost their lives in the last war will be unveiled in the Guildhall. It is written on two skins of vellum with raised gold lettering and also commemorates the Women's Forces and all the civilian casualties. It was executed by Miss G. Horsley, a designer at the Technical College and School and is a poignant

reminder of how modern wars have involved the very homes of the people. The first name is a woman's and the names of children killed in one of the air raids also appear. 55 11 02c

1956 02 14

Cambridgeshire regiment history and future – 56 02 14 & a

1956 02 28

Cambridgeshire regiment history – Japs – 56 02 28 & a

1958 01 25

Crashed aircraft in Cambridge WWII – Bowyer – 58 01 25 & a

1958 11 08

The Ministry of Fuel and Power which administered fuel rationing during the war has moved its regional headquarters from Brooklands Avenue to London (in 1958). At first there were two offices: the petroleum office in Chaucer Road and a general office which started at Corpus Christi college and late removed to Trinity dealing with coal, gas and electricity. At its peak 300 people were employed but now a very small staff will remain to ensure that gas and electricity meters are working efficiently 58 11 08c

1959 03 20

Jeanty Raven, the wife of Professor Raven of Christ's College, could tell the most horrifying tales of the war. She was then the wife of a prosperous Brussels barrister who was imprisoned by the Germans when an escaped British pilot was found hiding in their house. The penalty for this was death but under German law no man could be condemned if his wife was insane. So she assumed the character of a simple-minded girl of twelve and lived in a house along with anything up to a hundred insane people. As a result her husband was sentenced to life imprisonment, only to be murdered along with hundreds of fellow prisoners just before the war ended. 59 03 20

1959 11 10

Not many people known that on the wall of St Paul's Church, Stockingford, near Nuneaton, there is a memorial to members of the Cambridgeshire Regiment who died in the Far East in the Second World War. But the Regiment's Old Comrades Association never lets Armistice Sunday pass without remembering former comrades who were based there before embarking for overseas. The plaque is in proud memory of the 343 offices and men of the 1st Battalion who gave their lives in Singapore. The Battalion was stationed in Arbury Park from May to August 1941 and worshipped in the church 59 11 10

1959 12 17

There are a quarter of an acre of tunnels under Peas Hill which were used as air raid shelters during the War. They were wired for electricity, lavatories were installed and wooden seats fitted in the tunnel recesses. Oil lamps were kept close at hand in case of emergency. Quite a number of people used the shelter during day-time raids and some slept down there when there was night bombing. 'Roadsters' used them every night to sleep. They were terribly damp when first used but after a few days became quite comfortable. 59 12 17

1960s

1960 04 27
Constant Babington Smith analysed aerial photos during WWII - 60 04 27

1960 06 04

An air raid shelter erected at the beginning of the war in the garden of 44 Chalmers Road, Cambridge, was never used because it was thought to be too shaky. Mr P.C. Grimwood, who constructed it, used a wonderful variety of iron work to strengthen it including a fender, a quantity of large keys, a sewing machine, part of a bedstead and wire netting. After the war it was left because the cost of demolition was prohibitive. Now it has finally been removed after three days hard drilling with two pneumatic drills, leaving 20 tons of rubble. Workmen say it was well-built and only a direct hit in the doorway would have destroyed it. 60 06 04

1965 04 19
Yasume club for Japanese prisoners of war opened in 1949 – featue – 65 04 19a

1970s

1980s

1981 05 14
Wartime correspondence between the Home Office and the man who would have run Cambridge in the event of a major disaster has been unearthed in the Public Record Office. Mr F.R. Scott would have assumed total control of the eastern counties and his letters give details of damage to Cherry Hinton Hall and private houses, including a small fire caused by an oil incendiary bomb falling on a house in Tenison Avenue. They were sent from St Regis, Montague Road, which served as the region's civil defence headquarters until 1945. Later Cambridge was again chosen as a regional seat of government in 1959 to cope with the aftermath of a nuclear attack - 81 05 14b

1982 01 05
Secret wartime experiments involving the production of deadly anthrax serum were conducted at the Institute of Animal Pathology on Milton Road. Now doubts remain about the safety of a piece of land where the carcasses of 12 horses were buried. Details have emerged as the university has applied for planning permission for housing on land close to the Dunn Nutritional Laboratory. The risk of infection is minimal and they plan to cover the immediate area with a concrete slab. 82 01 05 & 05a

1982 02 06
A second burial site thought to contain anthrax-infected carcasses is a stone's throw away from a school for severely-handicapped children says a man who worked at the Milton Road Institute of Animal Pathology during the war. He remembers tight securing precautions after heifers from Newmarket were found to have the disease and buried by council workmen 82 02 06

1984 04 27

The No.1 First Eastern General Hospital was formed from local people just before war was declared in 1939. The commanding officer was a Cambridge doctor who became Col C.H. Budd, the matron was Miss A.M. Woolerton. Their headquarters was a large house on Parkside, the parade ground was Parkers Piece and their first posting was Kimbolton Castle. 84 04 27 p25

1985 05 21
Eric Curwain broadcast news of German invasion of Poland – 85 05 21a

1985 06 01
Cambridge radio amateurs worked as wartime spies monitoring enemy messages – 85 06 01, 85 06 28a

1987 08 21
Former airman, James Chainey, has unlocked the secrets of a 'signed' ceiling in the historic Eagle pub, Bene't Street on which American and British airmen wrote their names and squadron numbers in candle smoke. The ceiling is covered in nicotine and many of the numbers are almost illegible because of overwriting. Some relate to aspects of the war. 'Pressure Boys' refer to extreme weather conditions at the US base Seething, 'Wild Hares' were the B24 Liberator crews and 'Aphrodite' was a pilotless American aircraft loaded with explosives. 87 08 21

1989 09 28
LSE evacuated to Cambridge during war – feature – 89 09 28

1990s

1990 09 13
University chemical labs were used for poisoned gas research during war; Scientists Anti-War Group – 90 09 13b

2000s

2012 12 31
Milton Road, Hills Road and St Andrews Streets were designed to take heavy military vehicles; farmland was requisitioned in Milton Road and used to prepare vehicles and tanks for the D-Day landings. 2012 12 31 p9

1936 04 21
Members of the Territorial Army Nursing Service and nurses of Addenbrooke's Hospital receiving instruction in anti-gas drill – photo – 36 04 21

1926 06 15
One of the contingents of Women Peacemakers who are converging on London from various parts of the country arrived in Cambridge. Meetings had been held in village after village by the side of the war memorials. They were met by members of the local Pilgrimage Committee and proceeded to the Market Hill where an impromptu meeting was held. They carried various banners and red and blue flags. Mrs Rackham said the gathering recalled the great Women's Suffrage Pilgrimage of 1913 when crowds gathered on the same spot. The Pilgrims leave for Saffron Walden tomorrow 26 06 15
https://archive.org/details/CambridgeMilitaryScrapbook1920To1939CAMBRIDGE CHRONICLE COUNTDOWN no.72: Military Activity 1920-1939

Following the Great War memorials were unveiled

1922 07 04
His Royal Highness the Duke of York unveiled the War memorial which has been erected in Cambridge. The ceremony was attended by thousands of people and was of a deeply impressive nature. It was raining heavily as the Prince mounted the platform for the unveiling ceremony. The band played the opening bar of the hymn "O God, our help in ages past" to the accompaniment of rain drumming on hundreds of umbrellas. A few minutes later the rain ceased and the rest of the ceremony was carried though amid brilliant sunshine. The Prince pulled a rope which released the drapery revealing the bronze figure of an infantryman c22 07 04 Was not bronze statue but plaster cast painted bronze; pouring rain threatened melt plaster; (new site on island 27.1.50, moved by 3.85) [455.13.2]

Though not all were actually there:

1922 07 11
The model of the soldier on the Cambridge War Memorial which, owing to an unavoidable delay, had to be used for the unveiling ceremony last week, has to-day been replaced by the actual bronze, so that the figure now in position is as it will be seen for all time. The bronze was brought from the foundry at Thames Ditton by motor lorry at four o'clock this morning. Mr Kett and ten men were in waiting and so expeditiously was the work carried out that by 8 o'clock the model figure had been taken down and the other set up and fixed in its proper position. A couple of hours later the scaffolding was removed 22 07 11

There was a determination not to repeat the slaughter of the past

1922 07 31
The "No More War" demonstration held on Parker's Piece, Cambridge, was attended by a gratifying measure of success. The procession extended more than half the length of Gonville-place, and the crowd at the meetings held on the Piece afterwards was so large that the two platforms provided were not sufficient, and a motor-car had to be requisitioned for the purposes of a third meeting. In addition to the banners of the various societies there were numerous bearing inscriptions such as "For Peace and Freedom" (Women's International League), "Patriotism is not enough", "Cambridge Sisterhood says No More War". In addition there were scores of bannerettes bearing the words "No More War". Mrs Nevinson referred to the number of deaths from influenza in 1918 which was really a war plague. They kept the memory of the dead alive but did they remember the maimed, the blind, shell-shocked and the mad? No one was worrying about those men 22 07 31

Men began practicing for future conflicts

1925 04 11
About 120 members of the 1st Cambridgeshire Regiment are spending the Easter weekend under canvas at Madingley. The Cambridge-St Neots road acted as part of the front line of a British force which was endeavouring to repel an invader marching on London. The Norfolk Brigade was ordered to take up position from Oakington to Comberton. The work was carried out under service conditions & proved exceptionally difficult on account of the wooded nature of the country in front 25 04 11

Some undergraduates voted not to fight

1925 11 14
"We the undersigned, convinced that all disputes between nations are capable of settlement by diplomatic negotiation, hereby solemnly declare that we shall refuse to support or render war service to any Government which resorts to arms". The declaration having been signed by members of the University they called a public meeting. The hall was nearly filled with undergraduates but a section of the audience showed their displeasure by continual interruption. Mr G.L. Trevelyan spoke of the horrors to be met in the next war, and was greeted with the remark: "No they will kill us nice and cleanly in the next war" 25 11 14

Women marched for peace

1926 06 15
One of the contingents of Women Peacemakers who are converging on London from various parts of the country arrived in Cambridge. Meetings had been held in village after village by the side of the war memorials. They were met by members of the local Pilgrimage Committee and proceeded to the Market Hill where an impromptu meeting was held. They carried various banners and red and blue flags. Mrs Rackham said the gathering recalled the great Women's Suffrage Pilgrimage of 1913 when crowds gathered on the same spot. The Pilgrims leave for Saffron Walden tomorrow 26 06 15

And the casualties discovered new skills
1927 11 12
Gloucester Street workshop for disabled soldiers in Cambridge, opened by Princess Mary last year, is represented at an exhibition at the Imperial Institute. Their stall contains all kinds of basketwork, knitting and other things made at the workshops. At present there are eight men working there. All are of over 60 per cent disability through the war, and one is of over 90 per cent. The workshop can never be a paying concern but good work is being done in enabling the men to earn sufficient money to keep them "off the dole". Colonel Willis, the secretary or Miss Brearley, manageress and instructress, would be pleased to see anyone interested. 27 11 12

These are but a very few of the stories. Read a fuller account at my Internet Archive site
https://archive.org/details/CambridgeMilitaryScrapbook1920To1939

These give a small idea of what the whole 4,000-page 'Cambridge 1888-1988: A Chronicle of an English University City' contains. It will be on your tablet, computer and smart phone on 28 June when you can read, download and use the files for free

But in the meantime I attach Dropbox and Google Drive links to a draft version and would be grateful for any corrections and amendments you might spot

Dropbox
https://www.dropbox.com/s/w1advm2f6c831pz/Cambridge%20Chronicle%20draft.pdf?dl=0
Google Drive
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1XWlNZcScJvPD9O-OUolhngeXvvmH0m22/view?usp=sharing
1939 07 14
An exercise demonstrated war-time black-out conditions in Cambridge. Streets lamps were turned out, speed limit signs extinguished and red hurricane lamps were placed on traffic islands. The

external lights on police boxes were also put out and the bulbs removed as an additional precaution. Most vehicles drove slowly with only side and rear lights and cars using head-lights were stopped. Lights at the railway station were left on but carriage blinds on the 11.55 from London were drawn at Bishop's Stortford 39 07 14

1939 08 25

In view of the crisis all police leave has been cancelled and special constables have been called up. The Fitzwilliam Museum is packing valuable items so they can be removed should the situation worsen and cinemas warned they will be closed in the event of war. Kerbs at street corners have been painted white in readiness for any black-out. There was a constant stream of people collecting gas-masks and a steady demand for black paper and curtains. Prayers for peace will be said at churches and it is hoped that Hitler will see it is suicidal to attempt to make war 39 08 25a

1939 09 01

Compulsory powers of billeting are now in force in Cambridge. Quite simply it amounts to this. Enough voluntary offers have been received to take in all the children who are coming in school parties. But expectant mothers and those with young children are also expected and householders will be required to house them. The payment is five shillings a week for each adult and three shilling for each child for lodging only. The adults will be responsible for their food. The third class comprise voluntary helpers from the evacuated areas working full time in Cambridge. The payment for them will be twenty-one shillings for board and lodging which will be paid by the Government. 39 09 01c

1939 09 04

Cambridge had its first air raid warning in the early hours of the morning and hundreds of householders left their beds and adjourned to lower rooms. Others, however, slept through the noise of the sirens. One householder, doubtful about the efficiency of their black-out wrapped a woollen scarf round the electric light. Shortly afterwards they donned their gas masks after noticing a very pungent smell. Later they noticed it came from the scarf which had been charred through. The alarm was caused by the passing of unidentified aircraft over the Eastern Counties. Fighter aircraft went up to investigate 39 09 04

1939 09 15

Sir – when my husband handed me his pay packet for last week I found it was 1s.10d short. He told me it was one-and-a-quarter hours lost for the air raid warning which made work impossible. I think it very mean to stop working men's wages. He clocked in as usual and was ordered to the works' A.R.P. shelter. Does this mean that if an air raid warning is given during working hour's money will be stopped, as work has to cease and the men take shelter? – Working Man's Wife 39 09 15

1940 09 13

A man was killed when a barrage balloon drifted over Cambridge. Daniel Dunston was near the railway between Mill Road and Coldham's Lane Bridge when he was caught by a steel cable trailing from the balloon. He was carried for a distance of over 30 yards and then dropped, sustaining fatal injuries. Before the accident the balloon had passed over the town at a considerable height. In the Mill Road area it came lower, and the cable threw a wireless pole through the roof of a house in Mill Road. The interior of the house was not damaged and no-body was injured in this incident. The balloon then gained height and drifted in the direction of Teversham. At Teversham Hall an old chimney stack on a scullery was struck by the cable. A piece of the cable was snapped off and the balloon at once shot up into the air and continued in an easterly direction. Telephone wires were damaged and the electricity supply for a village was affected for a time 40 09 13 CIPof, 40 09 13a inquest 40 09 17a

Addenda

During WWII hutments erected Brooklands Avenue for use American Red Cross as hostel American forces [446.9.8]

Chesterton House requisitioned by Civil Defence [446.10.6]

60 Grange Rd - Silbury - was convalescent home run British Red Cross 1941, next door US convalescent home [446.12.5]

Hallen's requisitioned for military production, Air Ministry contract for repairing motor cycles in east Anglia; by end of war had 100 employees [446.13.3]

Lycee Francaise, London, evacuated to Cambridge [446.13.5]

Anthrax horses buried after wartime experiments [446.15.1]

Marshall's trained RAF pilots WWII [446.15.3]

Pye Ltd changed 210 ft aerial mast put up at start war to help develop defence systems [446.17.1]

During war Cyril Ridgeons work connected with orders for packing cases & crates [446.17.3]

Cambridge Instrument Co became controlled establishment & made some items wartime use such as degaussing system on ships [7.2]

Dunn Nutritional Labs worked on standardisation of wholemeal bread with vitamins B1, vitamins A & D to prevent night blindness & rickets made available in form cod-liver oil; margarine was compulsorily vitaminised, concern loss of vitamins through cooking [369.43.4]

Queen inspects troops on Market Hill, 1955 *110.13*

c.45.8 : Military activity 1946-1990

1940

1946 06 12
Cambridge University Air Squadron ceases its wartime function and reverts to peace-time role as flying centre for undergraduates – photo – 46 06 12

1946 10 05
If atom bomb dropped over Perse School it would damage all houses between Homerton College and Castle Hill, Newham and Gas Works; soon anybody will be able to manufacture it in back garden – 46 10 05

1947 04 26
Next Thursday will see the opening of recruiting for the new Territorial Army. For a great many years our local voluntary commitments were more or less confined to the Cambridgeshire Regiment. The future however, holds out something much greater in scope and more varied. The total numbers to be recruited will be three times as many as in pre-war days. It is idle to suppose

we do not regret the passing of our own Infantry regiment but the name and the traditions of the "Cambridgeshires" will live on in the 629 L.A.A. Regiment R.A. So will the spirit of our two war- time Sapper Companies live on in the 121 Field Engineer Regiment, while the General Hospital will have added a second Unit in the form of a Field Ambulance. 1947 04 26

1947 07 05
Many of the German Prisoners of War recently in the camp at Cambridge have been sent to other parts of the country, and I was shown this week a copy of the final issue of the 1025 camp newspaper. This starts with a farewell message by the C.O. (Major A.J. Ferris) who writes "I had hoped to retain the Company as such until repatriation thinned us right down but Higher Authority has ruled differently and now 1025 has to disband – you to work in agriculture and I go to civil life. The year of this Company's existence will I hope not be the worst of your time in captivity. I wish you all the best of luck when you eventually get back to your own country, and I hope that your return will not be long delayed" - Table Talk 47 07 05

1947 07 07
Men and women from all parts of Cambridgeshire attended the British Legion County Rally on Parker's Piece, Cambridge, on Sunday afternoon. In the course of an address the Rev J.N. Duckworth mentioned the presence of German prisoners of war amongst the crowd of onlookers and, welcoming them, said : "There is no enmity here". "We are", he went on, "living in very, very dangerous days. We are threatened with losing all those things for which we have fought and struggled, and for which we have endured. The friendship and comradeship of those several long years of war seem to be melting away. In their place there was fear and the seeds of distrust were being sown as never before. The word had reached a state where people, in modern parlance 'just couldn't care less' 47 07 07

1947 07 09
May I explain why St Matthew's Piece has not yet been restored to its former state. It was requisitioned by the War Department for a vehicle car-park. The surface and foundations were not suitable for such purposes and the military authorities were told that their vehicles would cause extensive damage to the playing area and would involve them in a heavy claim for compensation. When the War Department released the site the Corporation lodged a substantial claim for reinstatement. The claim has now been referred to higher authority for arbitration. My committee sincerely regret that the ratepayers of St Matthew's ward and their children in particular, have been deprived of the use of this ground for so long – letter from G.F.Nobbs, Chairman Cambridge commons and cemetery committee - 47 07 09

1947 07 24
Seven members of the Cambridge National Fire Service were at Addenbrooke's Hospital this morning suffering from slight burns from mustard gas sustained inn dealing with a fire involving a truck-load of 60 112lb American gas bombs on the railway line between Six Mile Bottom and Fulbourn late last night. The main line between Cambridge and Ipswich was closed to traffic as a result of contamination over 100 yards . Later the damaged wagon was tipped off the rails to the side of the line. The truck was one of a train of 30 to 40 carrying mustard gas bombs from Warren Wood, near Thetford, to Barry in Wales, for dumping in the sea As it passed through Six Mile Bottom the stationmaster saw that the truck was ablaze. The burning wagon, the third from the engine, was uncoupled, and the engine restarted to pull it away from these. An eye witness said to a "Cambridge Daily News" reporter : "It was a spectacular sight. About fifty per cent of the bombs exploded with a "whoosh" and a burst of flame which shot fifty feet into the air. Poisonous fumes spread over a range of fifty or sixty yards. The police afterwards sealed off an area around the blaze to await decontamination" 47 07 24

1947 08 30
More German PoWs - 1,300 prisoners & British staff being transferred en block from Radwinter Camp & will be replaced by 300 from Cambridge as plenty of jobs in factories & workshops here. Increased privileges allow PoWs to possess English money which spend here rather than credits in Germany. May not go more than five miles from camp usually. Privileges denied to ardent Nazis 2.28]

1947 12 04
New window in round Church replacing one bombed [3.2]

1947 12 20
The mustard gas bomb train fire at Six Mile Bottom last July had a sequel on Thursday when two L.N.E.R. drivers, Frederick Smart and William Thorburn, and two firemen, Joseph Westland and Alfred Chandler, all of Cambridge, were presented with the L.N.E.R. Medal. A special goods train included 40 open wagons of mustard gas bombs. When passing Six-Mile-Bottom driver Smart observed a fire in the third wagon. Fireman Chandler jumped down immediately and uncoupled the burning wagon from the rear part of the train. The engine then proceeded forward for 50 yards. The engineers tried to subdue the fire with buckets of water, fully aware of the dangerous nature of the contents of the wagon. 47 12 20

1948 04 10
Last production by German Youth Stage at Trumpington POW camp before they go home in June, to be given at Houghton Hall; amongst cast will be 4 British girls, acted in German - 48 04 10

1948 03 02
At seven o'clock this morning, in very dense fog, a lorry containing 11 German P.O.Ws. crashed broadside into a railway engine and brake van at an accommodation level crossing at Conington, Hunts. Three of the Germans were killed outright - and all the other injured. The injured were placed in another motor vehicle for transport to Peterborough Hospital but when only a few hundred yards down the road this vehicle crashed into a bus. Two more of the Germans have since died and some of the remaining nine are seriously ill. One of the dead is the German doctor who was tending the prisoners injured in the train crash - 48 03 02

1948 03 02
Several hundred people gathered round the flagstaff at the Cambridge American Military Cemetery for a simple service of benediction. The reason for the service was emphasised by the long rows of empty, tarpaulin -covered caskets bear the scene of the service - the caskets in which will be returned to the United States the remains of those American service men and women buried at the cemetery whose relatives wish their last resting-place to be at home. For this reason the cemetery is to be closed for a period, and for the purpose too of reburying the bodies of those interred in the now-to-be -closed Brookwood and Lisnabrenny (Northern Ireland) American Military Cemeteries whose relatives wish them to rest in England - 48 03 02

1948 05 11
The watching eyes of Britain's air defence went into action on Sunday in the biggest-scale Royal Observer Corps activity in the district since the war. Observer posts were manned at Cherry Hinton, Linton, Caxton, St Ives, Abbots Ripton, Littleport and elsewhere following the movements of jet fighters, Spitfires, Lancaster and Lincoln bombers and other types of aircraft

numbering over 100 aircraft put up by the RAF. At Linton I found the observers proud of their post, built at their own expense by their own labours during the war - 48 05 11

1948 06 02
Theft from Milton army depot, 48 06 02 p8

1948 06 08
Concern at the possibility of parts of Cambridgeshire countryside being taken over by the R.A.F. for practice bombing ranges was voiced at a meeting in Trinity College. They propose to set up practice bombing ranges at Babraham (near Duxford aerodrome), East Hatley (near Bassingbourn and Bourn) and North of Whittlesey. These ranges, it said, are used from time to time for dropping marker bombs only and when the red flag is flying and the footpaths across are blocked. At Babraham the range is crossed by two footpaths but the footbridge across the river is broken down - 48 06 08

1948 06 21
A rider that all P.O.W.s should be given regular instructions on the rules of the road in this country was given by a jury returning a verdict of "Accidental death" on Hryhorij Wolanskj, an Ukrainian POW of 85 POW Satellite camp, Barton Fields, Ely. John Ada of St Mary's street, Ely, said he saw the Ukrainian completely ignore the "Halt" sign in Downham Road and came straight across the road without looking, crashing in to a red motor van. Victim had been in the Ely camp since January 1948. The Camp Commandant stated that his records showed Wolanskj had received instruction in road safety at his previous base at Braintree. He must have known the meaning of the "Halt" sign as there was a large one just outside the camp - 48 06 21

1948 06 22
A squadron of the Royal Corps of Signals, Territorial Army, is to be raised in Cambridge. Its headquarters will be at the Saxon Works. It will be a direct successor to the Signals unit raised here in 1939, established in Station Road in August 1939. Major C. Loveday was the company commander and the Company served an important defence area during the war and soon acquired a first-class reputation for efficiency and reliability.. Men from this Company served in all theatres of war with considerable credit - 48 06 22

1948 07 21
The wartime defences in the eastern side of Cambridge are to go. The Cambridge Town surveyor reported that the Ministry was now prepared to reimburse the reasonable cost of the removal of the defence works and anti-tank ditch. The demolition of certain pillboxes was being carried out by Messrs J. Stevens & co, who were engaged in the removal of civil defence works in Cambridge - 48 07 21

1948 08 06
Six residents of Ditton Fields appeared before Cambridge magistrates charged with stealing varying amounts of timber from 89 Maintenance Camp (Squatter's Camp), Newmarket Road, the property of H.M. Government. Mr Harry Crowe, a civil engineer, said the sides of a number of timber huts had been stripped of all timber. One of the defendants said, "I have seen other people going up to the site, taking away timber, and not getting into trouble for it, so I thought it would be all right". Another said he was walking across the site of the Newmarket Road camp when two Irishmen working there stopped him and asked if he wanted to buy some timber. After he had paid £3 the man in charge took the timber from the huts which he understood had to be pulled down - 48 08 06

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1948 08 30
In October 1947 the British Portland Cement Manufacturers returned to their headquarters in London from their war-time offices at their Saxon Works, Coldham's Lane, Cambridge, which were placed on the market for sale. The considerable possibilities of the property for use by the Territorial Army as a drill hall and training ground were readily apparent and after some negotiation, with the approval of the War Office, the T.A. Association acquired the freehold of the 25-acre site, together with the extensive buildings thereon at a price in excess of £35,000. The buildings include a large hall at present occupied by the Regional Petroleum Office - 48 08 30

1949 05 04
At 15 group operations room of the Royal Observer Corps in Newmarket road, Cambridge, 20 or 30 blue-dashed uniformed men and women took part in a big Observer Corps exercise. Everywhere the sharp-eyed observers at their remote posts reported aircraft in a formula giving the type, number and height. Meteors, Hornets, Messengers, Ansons, Skymasters and Lincolns were some of the aircraft spotted and plotted – the RAF boys doing their best to fox the spotters by hedge-hopping and 500 miles an hour - 49 05 04

1949 06 02
The Secretary of State for War, Mr Shinwell, states that there are 43 huts on the camp site at Donkey common, Cambridge. They were originally intended to accommodate three officers and 224 other ranks. There is now one Women's Royal Army Corps unit and a small detachment of Pioneers, comprising three officers and 76 other ranks in all - 49 06 02

1949 06 10
Smuts unveils Perse war memorial – 49 06 10

1949 06 21
US Army Camp, Milton Rd unoccupied, built for 850 on war-time scale, 700 in peace, now holds 100 – 49 06 21

1949 09 13
Many of the 200 Free Poles who paraded at Cambridge war memorial for a wreath-laying ceremony to commemorate the outbreak of the last war, were in the Police forces which took the initial impact of the Nazi invasion of their country. The parade was representative of ex-army, navy and air force personnel who are now living and working in the Cambridge district. After mass at the Roman Catholic church, they marched to the memorial where Mr B.C. De Broekere – a cavalryman at the outbreak of war – laid a wreath - 49 09 13

1949 09 30
Large numbers of bombers during "Operation Bulldog" – 49 09 30 [1.12]

1949 10 12
Cambridge town council considered the proposed resiting of the war memorial. A scheme for a traffic roundabout at the Station Road junction means that if it were left in its present position it would be marred by the number of "Keep left" bollards and other traffic signs which would be necessary for the direction of traffic. An alternative position involved the acquisition of certain land fronting the Botanic Garden which would provide a restful haven away from traffic. None of the Servicemen's organisations was in favour of the removal of the War memorial from its present position - 49 10 12

1949 11 08

The Chief of Air Staff, Marshall of the R.A.F. Lord Tedder came to Cambridge to unveil the war memorial at Magdalene College and to open the new Headquarters and Mess of the Cambridge University Air Squadron at Chaucer Road. The Cambridge unit was the first University air squadron not only in Britain but the world.

1950

1950 02 24
Because he disapproved of his daughter's association with a German prisoner-of-war a Gt Eversden man took out his 12-bore shotgun to try and scare the suitor off. His intervention was not a success. The police took away his gun and gave it to his son for safe custody until "the trouble blew over". The German married his daughter and is now accepted as a son-in-law. This story was told in the court when father sued son for the return of the gun - 50 02 24

1950 03 30
Plans are being made for Cambridgeshire's part in the Civil Defence recruiting drive. The organiser said: "We have a unique responsibility in Cambridge, for it was here that the atom was first split, and it is surely only fitting that the citizens of this town should be among the first to rally to civil defence and learn what measures of protection can be taken against the serious menace of the atom bomb"

1950 04 24 4
Civil Defence recruiting week in Cambridge opened with a bang when thunderflashes were fired on the roof of the University Arms Hotel and volunteers and county firemen went into action to put out the "fire" caused by the "enemy's" bombs and rescue those trapped inside. A crowd of several hundred gathered on Parker's Piece to watch the exhibition - 50 04 24

1950 06 05
Riverside, Cambridge, was the scene of an occasion that was described as "a memorable little ceremony in the naval history of Cambridge". The training ship "Ganges" (brick built and on dry land) the new headquarters of the Cambridge Sea Cadet Corps was opened by Admiral Sir Wilfred Patterson and christened in traditional naval fashion with a bottle of champagne. During the inspection a number of cadets overcome by the effect of marching and the hot sun had to leave the parade. Two or three fainted and others were helped into the shade by fellow cadets - 50 06 05

1951 02 20
The presence of American atomic bases was described as the "greatest immediate threat to the existence of the British people" at a conference arranged by the Cambridge Scientists Anti-War Group. The comments were received with a mixture of applause and hissing. Mr Churchill had stated that the atom bomb was not made in England during the Second World War because of the danger of bombardment.

1951 02 23
Anti-war meeting, p7

1951 04 26
"1939-45" added to War Memorial – 51 04 26 [4.2]

1951 05 28

US Cemetery salutes dead; originally 15 American cemeteries but after the War all bodies of men who not taken back home to America were removed to Madingley Hill – 51 05 28 [4.3]

1951 07 07
Honorary Freedom of Cambridge to US 8th Army Air Force – 51 07 07 [4.4]

1951 08 01
Stone of remembrance in honour of airmen unveiled in Newmarket Road cemetery – 51 08 01 [4.5]

1951 12 05
"If Cambridge is bombed" - Civil Defence plans – 51 12 05 [1.22]

1951 09 05
In common with other towns situated near American servicemen's camps, Cambridge is rapidly becoming one of the leading Black Market centres for disposal of duty-free tobacco purchased at U.S. canteens by G.I.s and subsequently sold at a handsome profit in small back-street shops and hotels, with no questions asked. This trafficking is difficult to stop and is now a well-established through unofficial "Big Business". Despite checks by security officers at Lakenheath and Mildenhall aerodromes car loads of cigarettes by the thousand are coming into the City - 51 09 05

1951 10 29
Air Ministry proposals to use the Stella Maris nursing home to accommodate members of an Inter-Services course learning Russian at the University was described as a "scandal". It was admirably equipped for use as a hospital, has accommodation for 40 patients, two completely equipped operating theatres and could relieve the 2,000-strong waiting list at Addenbrooke's Hospital. A proposal by the Ministry to acquire the Heritage guest house in Silver Street and 9, Newnham Terrace, Cambridge, had not gone through after college freeholders had 'dug their heels in' - 51 10 29

1951 11 27
Problems likely to arise in the Eastern Region if three atom bombs were dropped in London were discussed at a conference. It was presumed that all reception areas used for evacuees from London were full and that the homeless and a number of panic-stricken evacuees were heading this way. Representatives examined how Essex and Herts would deal with the control, accommodation, feeding & transport problems. It was explained that while this was taking place certain other large towns in the region were being subjected to bombing with heavy explosives and incendiaries.

1951 12 05
Details of Cambridge's civil defence plan – a scheme in which there is a place now for "every man who can use a spade and every woman who can make a cup of tea" - were disclosed by the city's Civil Defence Officer at the weekly luncheon of the Rotary Club in the Dorothy Café. The most likely attack was by bombers carrying high explosive and incendiaries – an attack by no means rendered obsolete by the Atom bomb. If areas of the continental coast were occupied we would also be within rocket range. Chemical and biological warfare had to be considered including the use of a nerve gas absorbed by the skin. A network of wardens' posts would be established. "We think that by dispersal of our forces we can have some intact when they are most wanted and can bring aid to any stricken area with the least possible delay", he said - 51 12 05

1952 01 08
The secretary of the Cambridge Scientist's Anti-War Group told what would happen if an atom bomb were dropped on the city. It could be assumed that 50,000 people would be killed and the same number injured by one bomb three times as powerful as that dropped on Nagasaki. It would mean that 85 percent of the people in Cambridge would be disposed of. Addenbrooke's Hospital would disappear and every building would probably be set seriously on fire. If shelters were provided the fatal casualties could be cut down to 14,000 and perhaps only 10,000 would be injured – but how could these be dealt with by the medical facilities? 52 01 08

1952 01 27
The County Council considered the development of Swann's Lime Pits, Cherry Hinton, as an armament testing range and research establishment. Coun Rackham deplored the possibility of explosions taking place at the back of the adjoining school. As well as the noise the blast runs along the ground and shakes doors and windows. People have had to replace ceilings that have been shaken down. It was suggested the company use their explosives on the huts up Madingley Road where they would soon clear the ground and everything would be lovely. – 52 01 27

1952 03 12
Following a visit to Swann's Lime Pit, Cherry Hinton, city councillors raise no objection to its continued use as a small-calibre range for armour-piercing projectiles, providing that any additional buildings are erected in the deeply-excavated position and that nothing larger than a six-pounder gun is used – so long as it is fired only in the morning & preceded by a warning. 52 03 12

1952 03 14
The booming of a six-pounder gun in a Cherry Hinton lime pit found its echo inside the City Council chamber when some members protested against the use of Swann's pit as a Ministry of Supply small calibre range for testing armour-piercing projectiles in the middle of a built-up area. But Alderman Doggett said he had stood within three or four feet of the weapon and was not 'disturbed' – "although it was true we had our fingers in our ears. There is really very little we can do and it wouldn't be of much use objecting", he said. – 52 03 14

1952 04 26
Two large huts have been erected on a piece of waste land at the top of Castle Street, Cambridge. They are to be an Anglo-American and Allied Services Club which is being started at the request of the American Service authorities to provide servicemen of other countries with somewhere pleasant to go when they are in Cambridge. There are two very big rooms which have been tastefully and brightly decorated and provided with old furniture renovated by the W.V.S. One will serve for games of various kinds and the other for dancing. There is to be a snack bar and that "must" for Americans, a juke box – 52 04 26

1952 04 30
Miss Lillian Bourn will be remembered for her work during the war with the American Red Cross. She was Supervisor of Hospitality at their Bull Hotel club and coped with the countless American soldiers visiting Cambridge. In fact she married one of them. The romance began when her husband, who sings, went into the Bull and asked her if she could find someone to accompany him. "I was able to do so and that's how it started", she said. Her home is now in the university town of Evanston, Illinois. – 52 04 30

1952 05 03

The Foreign Secretary, Mr Anthony Eden opened the Anglo-U.S.A. and Allied services Club on Castle Hill, Cambridge. A year ago the city council was approached by the Women's Voluntary Service with the object of providing the site for the club. Since then much work had been done by the W.V.S. together with valuable assistance of the U.S. Air Force and the Air Ministry. The club will be open every evening during the week and, Mr Eden said, will lure out American Service men from the attractions of their camps so they could learn "what extraordinary animals the English are" - 52 05 03

1952 06 30
If ever a stunt fell flat it was the Pacifist demonstration at Mildenhall U.S.A.F. base. Stretched out on their beam ends in front of the main gates, two young women made a courageous but futile attempt to persuade a handful of American servicemen that they would be better off at home. The demonstrators were fighting a losing battle before they started. Earlier Mildenhall Market Place had seen some fun when the 17 Pacifist stalwarts gathered to embark on their "Operation Ghandi". After tramping the hot and dusty miles to the air base for the squatting performance the would-be builders of world peace returned for a public meeting. But an indifferent crowd could hardly have cared less.

1952 06 21
Mr Lloyd Stokes, owner of land at Trinity Hall Farm, Milton, said there were 140 armoured vehicles on the land waiting to be shipped. He wanted an access from Green Park because he had a number of tanks coming through the back and wished to enlarge the front entrance on to Milton Road. It was dangerous and an agricultural machine such as a 12-foot combine could not get through. The County council suggested the city should buy this piece of land and put there light industry, not likely to cause any nuisance. - 52 06 21

1952 10 20
Full scale Civil Defence exercise – 52 10 20 [2.1]

1952 10
Peace Week climaxes in speeches at Guildhall, Oct [2.2]

1952 12 16
Cadets full scale Church Parade, St Catharine's College – 52 12 16 [2.3]

1953 04 29
On May 2nd the W.V.S. Anglo-American Service Club on Castle Hill, Cambridge, will be one year old. Activities include two dances a week; there are now 125 lady members who serve as dance hostesses and a waiting list has been opened for further applicants. Tours are arranged for all the American bases and there is a monthly party for convalescent patients from Wimpole Park Hospital and occasional teas for parties from Ely R.A.F. Hospital. - 53 04 29

1953 05 01
"I think it is a lot of hooey", said Coun Cox when the Cherry Hinton firing range was discussed. He thought complaints of the amount of vibration from a six-pounder gun – not much larger than an anti-tank rifle – which was fired at the range, were "stupid and fantastic". But Coun Finbow said that recently the whole of the ceiling in one of his bedrooms collapsed because of the vibration. One neighbourhood should not be subject to range firing morning, noon and night. The council approved the use of the site by the Ministry of Supply for a period of three years 53 05 01

1953 05 07
Sir –Some of the explosions from the six-pounder gun at Cherry Hinton firing range did crack walls, move brickwork, bring down plaster, crack windows and scare children, adults and animals. Now two schools are to be built almost on the doorstep and if we have similar explosions there will be damage done. When doors rattle, knockers chatter, cracks appear and are repaired, only for the plaster to be shaken out again we are at liberty to be concerned. – J.S. Read 53 05 07

1953 06 10
A House of Commons committee considered the question of allowances for naval students at Cambridge University. Officers go to Dartmouth for two terms and then go to sea before being sent to Cambridge where they read the Mechanical Sciences Tripos for three years. During the long vacation they are put to work in industries around the countryside. On the completion of their Cambridge course with a degree they enter the electrical school at Farnham. The Chairman asked how their pay was affected when at Cambridge and did they receive an allowance in addition, so they did not become 'broke'. They must have something in the way of an allowance. - 53 06 10

1953 06 13
A spy wandering the streets of Cambridge on Thursday night would not have stood a chance. Three patrols, each in charge of an officer and NCO of the Cambs Home Guard patrolled the East Road area and collared five suspects, amongst whom were two spies. A slenderly-built, quietly dressed brunette was stopped by a patrol who found a flaw in her identity card and she was taken away in a car to Battalion H.Q. This was, of course, an exercise but in a real emergency Cambridge people need not worry about spies wandering the streets of the city.

1953 06 26
Many people know something of the good work done by the 'Food Flying Squads' known as the 'Queen's Messengers' during the last war. But these convoys must be ready to go anywhere where an emergency has arisen and W.V.S. members must be trained. Thus providing the mid-day meal for youngsters at Cherry Hinton Day Nursery provided practical experience for the crew of the convoy maintained at Cambridge. They provided minced meat, potatoes and cabbage, followed by rhubarb pastry and custard for the 60 under-fives which was cooked on Soyer-boilers. - 53 06 26

1953 07 07
If a vital target in Cambridge, such as the gasworks, received a direct hit during an enemy air attack, the Civil Defence Experimental Mobile Rescue Columns would swing into action. It has its own kitchen and communications system, including wireless and telephones and is equipped to deal with any emergency. It consists of 150 men split into 15 rescue parties, each having an up-to-date rescue vehicle. Their visit was only an overnight halt but many members of the public were attracted to the scene and it was obvious they had not expected to see such up-to-date equipment and quiet efficiency. 53 07 07

1953 08 29
Eastern Regional Food Office to closes in November after 14 years – opened at Corpus at beginning of war , moved November 1945 to Brooklands Avenue – 53 08 29 [4.7]

1953 10 19
Ely Cathedral Memorial dedicated, October – 53 10 19 [4.8]

1953 10 20
This is Home Guard recruiting week with the object of increasing the size of this vital branch of our reserve army. When the Government decided it was necessary to resuscitate the Home Guard it was appreciated that the task was a difficult one. The appeal was directed towards middle-aged men who had previously seen service. The exceptional commitment of the Regular Army abroad made it imperative that there should be an organised body trained and ready to cope with emergencies in the event of war. It must contain people who know the local geography of their area intimately, in every parish and hamlet. 53 10 20

1953 10 27
Cambridge citizens were shaken to hear rifle fire in the city and see groups of khaki-clad men dashing about on Jesus Green and Parker's Piece. Members of the Cambridge Home Guard were carrying out exercises, culminating in an attack on Hobbs Pavilion where the 'enemy' was wiped out. The exercise served the purpose of bringing the Home Guard to the notice of the public. - 53 10 27

1953 10 31
The Headquarters of the U.S. Army's 32nd Anti-aircraft Artillery Brigade has moved from Mildenhall where it has been since 1951. The Commanding Officer wrote to the Mayor of Cambridge to express appreciation for the splendid hospitality shown; many personnel have resided in the area and lasting friendships have developed which will contribute to a closer relationship and stronger bond of understanding between the British people and the American forces.

1954 06 22
The usual crowd of Saturday shoppers saw a colourful poster parade through the centre of Cambridge with some 15 people carrying posters bearing the slogans 'You can ban the H-bomb – public protest counts' and 'Make the powers agree to ban the H-bomb – sign the national protest'. The petition, which is supported by the Cambridge Peace Council, seeks to demonstrate the great strength of public opinion. More than 100 signatures were collected while the parade circled the Market Place.

1954 07 30
Cambridge councillors discussed the impact of any explosion of a hydrogen bomb on the city. There would be an area of total destruction three miles immediately below the bomb burst with a radius of ten miles of lesser destruction. Civil Defence was a misnomer: they would not seek to construct a deep shelter to provide protection for the people of Cambridge in the event of war; it was not 'protection' but 'rescue and aftercare'. It was obvious that local telephone communication between the Controller – if he still existed – and the locality would be useless. The only way Cambridge would be helped was by a rescue column arriving from another part of the country- 54 07 30

1954 09 20
A new Civil Defence rescue training centre was opened in Newmarket Road, Cambridge. There are two tumble-down structures – a façade and a rescue set – and volunteers set to work showing rescue attempts in an Atomic-bomb war. Major-Gen Bruce said: "In view of the present threat, where we needed one volunteer before we now want 100. It is un-British to have the attitude of mind that we are going to be frightened and blackmailed into putting up with might". Heavy explosives and incendiaries are likely to go out of business, but not in the first two years of another war, because our enemy has a tremendous amount of aircraft and bombs that he will want to use – 54 09 20

1954 09 21
A man was killed when two 1,000-lb bombs exploded at RAF Marham. The bombs were being moved in preparation for an exercise when they fell from a trailer he was towing with a tractor. Five other airmen were injured and nine Canberra twin-jet bombers and one Anson aircraft were damaged. Eight of the Canberras can be repaired on the station. 54 09 01

1954 09 27
Imagine a Hydrogen bomb has been dropped on Cambridge. In a five-mile radius from Great Shelford to Histon everything is just rubble. In a 12-mile radius, including Saffron Walden, Newmarket and Huntingdon, there is severe damage and for 20 miles, as far as Bishop's Stortford, there is minor damage. Blast and heat flash from the bomb could also cause severe burns to people exposed in the open and if the bomb exploded on the ground or in water mud thrown up would be very radio-active and would be carried for many, many miles. But if an 'ordinary' atom bomb was dropped the centre of destruction would be only a half-mile radius. Over 1,000 Civil Defence volunteers took part in Exercise Challenge on Midsummer Common, Cambridge. The Home Secretary, Sir David Fyfe told them that if a hydrogen bomb should fall there would be a great deal to do in the perimeter zone and the country beyond. People who lost their homes must be fed, housed and catered for. But outside the common a dozen members of the Cambridge Peace Front held banners saying: 'There is no defence against the H-bomb' 54 09 27

1954 10 22
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1954 11 09
British military officers and civilian personnel from the Lakenheath air base witnessed a 'Skysweeper' firing demonstration at Weybourne range, Norfolk. This is the U.S. army's largest calibre automatic anti-aircraft artillery weapon – an artillery machine gun. It is the first weapon with radar, computer and gun on one carriage with fully integrated gun and fire control. The units are designed to spot and track with radar and aim and fire the gun semi-automatically at enemy aircraft flying near-sonic speeds at low and medium altitudes. CDN 9.11.1954

1954 12 15
Trumpington industrial hostel is one of the few remaining hostels opened in 1947 to accommodate Poles from the Polish Resettlement Corps on the transfer to civilian status. It has continued as an industrial hostel with Polish residents numbering more than half the total. The 130 residents are employed locally but it is a costly business and it will shortly be closed. Many of those displaced will probably find lodgings with other Polish workers who have homes in the neighbourhood. 54 12 15 [4.10]

1955
In 1955 140 Cambridge army reservists in the 629 Light Ack-Ack Royal Artillery (TA) Regiment volunteered to jump out of an aeroplane. They became the 629 Parachute Light Regiment (TA),

one of the best squads in the country. Amongst their ranks was Col Peter Storey-Pugh who'd escaped from Colditz and Col John Beckett who'd been captured by the Japanese in Singapore. But 18 months later the MOD reviewed its strategy and the men returned to infantry duties. There were no deaths during the regiment's brief history and only a few injuries. Now the Cambridge Parachute Regimental Association is seeking more members. 87 06 12e

1955 01 06
Nearly 50 strangely-clad figures could be seen in gas masks and yellow capes at the University Laboratories in Pembroke Street. All were highly qualified chemists and scientists, members of the Civil Defence Corps receiving instruction in a mobile gas chamber where paralysing nerve gas was sprayed on them and they made various tests, fully protected by special protective clothing. Unprotected persons would be sick and the gas would cause blindness. They also received instruction in atomic warfare and chemistry – 55 01 06

1955 01 11
Mustard gas exploded at Lord's Bridge RAF station after fire broke out in a hangar. The gas, left over from the last war, was being used for experimental purposes. It was being disposed of gradually with the last 125 tons stored in a sunken concrete container. An area was cordoned off and fire tenders were quickly in attendance. It is anticipated that the fire would have destroyed any effects of the gas but medical authorities warned local civilians that if they suffered any reddening of the skin they could obtain immediate medical attention from the RAF. – 55 01 11

1955 04 29
No. 7963 is the number which Mrs Claudette Kennedy of Eltisley Avenue, Cambridge will always bear as a reminder of four terrible years spent in the concentration camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau. At this camp alone four million people died. She survived because of her knowledge of biology and was put to work in a large synthetic rubber factory, extracting rubber from dandelions. She escaped after guards took fright at the advancing allied armies and made her way to Paris where she was reunited with her small son. After the war she came to Cambridge for an International conference on biochemistry where she met her husband 55 04 29a & b

1955 05 03
Cambridge University Officers Training Corps is to have a wing of the Women's Royal Army Corps with most of the recruits coming from Girton, Newnham and New Hall. All work would come after the prior claims of their courses and no decisive steps would be taken until after they have graduated. The main object would be to produce good officers but driving, vehicle maintenance, radio and photographic interpretation may also be available. However large the numbers it will have to face a considerable drain on the 'marriage market' 55 05 03a

1955 06 28
Officers of Cambridge Home Guard were told that the county had a good chance of surviving the dropping of a hydrogen bomb as it did not present a target worth the expense of such a bomb. But it would undoubtedly be cut off from the rest of the country so it was important they have Civil Defence in addition to small arms training 55 06 28

1955 07 02
Air raid sirens tested – 55 07 02, 55 07 07 [2.7]

1955 07 07

Operation 'Air raid siren' went off without a hitch in Cambridge. In the underground control room at the Guildhall the Civil Defence controller threw the switch which started the well-known high-pitch whine of the 'All Clear' from ten sirens across the district. All schoolchildren, hospitals and public bodies had been warned but one or two people looked skyward and said it was 'Just like old times'. Home Office rulings prevent the testing of the wail of the warning for fear of upsetting people. 55 07 07a

1955 08 04
Men of the 629 Airborne Light Regiment R.A.T.A., formerly known as the "Cambridgeshires", have completed their first parachute training course. In just two weeks the men who come from all walks of life have been transformed into fully-fledged parachutists and 140 of the volunteers will receive their wings. They include Captain L.S. Brown who as headmaster of the Chesterton School had decided to set the boys an example. But he landed awkwardly and became a visitor to the therapy centre for treatment. 55 08 04a

1955 08 30
Wings Day gave a memorable send-off to the 629 (Cambridgeshire) Parachute Light Regiment R.A. (T.A.) regiment in its new role. The first presentation was to its Commanding Officer, Lt.-Col. J.G.A. Beckett whilst Major J.H. Sanders, at the age of 52, completed the course along with his younger colleagues. Thirty of the new parachutists will stage a mock attack at Duxford on Battle of Britain Sunday. 55 08 30 & a

1955 09 26
One glance at Midsummer Common, Cambridge was enough to dispel any suggestion of public apathy about Civil Defence. Hundreds of blue-uniformed figures took part in the finals of 'Exercise Challenge'. It tested their skill and knowledge and rescue teams had the difficult task of retrieving a severely-injured casualty on a stretcher while a stream of 'distressed' people were treated at a rest centre. 55 09 26a, 55 10 01 [2.8,1.7]

1955 11 02
Guildhall Roll of Honour unveiled – 55 11 02 [4.11]

1956 01 05
A practice bomb, inadvertently released from an American B47 bomber, fell in a ploughed field near Newport and buried itself in a crater 15 feet deep and 20 feet wide. It caused hundreds of pounds worth of damage to Biggs' nurseries; one man was wounded when sheets of glass were blown out and five other men ran clear. The crater was surrounded by large sheets of metal which was burned and twisted and scattered over a wide area. A lorry-load of RAF men wearing bow ties and white gloves with Wellington boots collected the fragments and men with picks and shovels removed a large container from the bottom of the crater. 56 01 05

1956 01 30
The last assembly of the Cambridgeshire Home Guard Battalion in uniform was a farewell dinner. They were not being disbanded but were going into reserve as tension had slackened. Should an emergency arise they were the right men to form a nucleus of a strong body which would spring into being. The battalion flag was handed into the custody of the Commanding Officer, Lieut.-Col. E.C. Parker to be guarded faithfully until once again it flew over their headquarters. 56 01 30

1956 02 14
Cambridgeshire regiment history and future – 56 02 14 & a

1956 03 06
A captive balloon will be used for parachute jumping at Trumpington. Although intended primarily for members of the University Parachute Club, 50 'chutes have been allotted to the Cambridgeshire Regiment Parachute Light Regiment. All men now have a reserve parachute strapped to his middle as a second line of defence 56 03 06e

1956 03 20
Civil Defence welfare teams staged a Food Flying Squad Emergency Feeding demonstration. Each squad is a self-contained mobile motorised unit capable of turning out 4,000 meals at one cooking. The Cambridge unit set up an emergency kitchen to feed visitors. It was well worth queuing for: a hot and sustaining stew of meat, vegetables and potatoes followed by steamed suet pudding. 56 03 20b & c

1956 03 29
Waterbeach airfield to receive standard, history 56 squadron 56 03 29

1956 04 28
The Duchess of Kent visited RAF Waterbeach to present it with its Standard, the greatest honour to be bestowed on 56 Fighter Squadron in its lengthy history. It is awarded only to squadrons of 25 years' standing or with a history of special outstanding operations. Afterwards she had difficulty signing the visitors' book because of cold fingers; the signature looks a little indistinct and shaky 56 04 28a

1956 05 05
Britain is on the brink of war. Enemy forces are massed against us and it appears only a matter of hours that the first attack of World War Three will come. Although the man in the street is unaware of it the Army and Civil Defence are taking part in the biggest defence exercise the world has yet seen. It envisages evacuation of 800,000 people from London and authorities have joined together in the war room at Brooklands Avenue to assess the situation 56 05 05a

1956 05 25
Through winding country lanes, townspeople and rural folk went to Ely for the opening of the first two-day county show for 50 years. As they travelled they passed fields of growing crops urgently in need of rain. The show has a reputation for being one of the finest in the agricultural calendar but had become so vast that visitors have found it difficult to take in all aspects. Now they have much more time and over 20,000 visitors attended the second day - 56 05 25b, 56 05 28a, 56 05 28b – Territorial army

1956 06 26
The National Hospital Service Reserve competition for mobile first-aid units was held on the City Football Ground. It trains men and women to deal with the emergencies of everyday life and in wartime provide an immediate medical service in the field for walking casualties, relieving pressure on the hospitals. It has over 43,000 members 56 06 26

1956 07 17
Distinguished statesmen gathered at the Madingley American Cemetery for the dedication of the outstandingly beautiful chapel. There were messages from the Queen and President Eisenhower whose wife was amongst the guests. Air Chief Marshal 'Bomber' Harris said it marked the centre of the area from which American bombing planes operated during the war. Nearly 90,000 American Servicemen who lost their lives had been commemorated by the chapel. 56 07 17 & a

1956 08 21
When the Suez crisis threw the country into turmoil it meant there were no Regular Army personnel to assist the Cambridgeshire Army Cadet Force. Their annual camp was cancelled but instead 200 boys moved into the Coldham's Lane Territorial Training Centre. They had to beg, borrow or steal all sort of equipment but a full programme of training was carried out with shooting on the Barton Road range and trips around the colleges 56 08 21

1956 10 23
The Cambridgeshires had their first test as an infantry battalion; now no longer airborne gunners the joined other units of the 54th East Anglian Division in an exercise on the Stanford battle area. They practised the carriage of weapons, camouflage of vehicles, messing arrangements and sleeping in the open – though most were in action continuously. Sergeant Roff experienced field cooking for the fist time but provided three excellent meals. 56 10 23d

1956 10 30
The 162nd Field Ambulance is one of the oldest in the British Army and served with distinction in both World Wars. At one time it was the only medical unity in this part of East Anglia and in the future it would be of the greatest importance in Civil Defence at time of disaster. It has now been adopted by the City of Cambridge and the Mayor presented a plaque to commemorate the occasion. 56 10 30a

1956 11 05
An American newspaper, the 'Omaha World-Herald' has reported that after a B-47 bomber crashed at Lakenheath RAF station in 1956 flaming fuel pouring from the ruptured tanks engulfed a building containing three nuclear bombs. If they had exploded radioactive material would have been showered over a large area. But a major accident was averted when the base Fire Chief ignored the burning bomber and its four-man crew and concentrated on dousing the flames surrounding the nuclear storage building. The incident was kept secret, as the British people had not been told that nuclear bombs were being kept in the U.K. - 79 11 05

1956 12 15
The County Council intend to clear all the hutments, service camps, Nissen huts and disused storage depots – relics of the late war – "as soon as possible". They hope that the time will come when the scene will relate to its pre-war standard. Fifteen service airfields and numerous military depots were established; some had already been dismantled and others taken over to alleviate the housing shortage with 247 huts currently occupied as dwellings. 56 12 15

1957 01 26
Cambridge Civil Defence ambulance section carried out a successful exercise in rendering first aid to the injured. It was assumed a serious railway accident had taken place near the Eastern Gas Board sidings in Coldham's Lane. Casualties were evacuated to Swann's Yard Civil Defence Rescue Site where the Hospital Nursing Mobile First Aid Unit, under Dr C. Attwood, set up a Receiving Centre. 57 01 26

1957 03 05
When the Singapore Memorial was unveiled in the Kranji War Cemetery a wreath was laid in memory of over 370 former members of the Cambridgeshire Regiment who perished during the Malayan campaign or in subsequent captivity. After the formal ceremony, when the Guard of Honour had marched away, the relatives laid their personal wreaths and found the names which they had made their pilgrimage to see. 57 03 05a [4.12]

1957 03 22
US jeep heading high explosives convoy crashes with ambulance – 57 03 22

1957 04 02
Bandmaster A.E. Tucker took the post on joining the Cambridgeshire Regiment in 1922, serving to the outbreak of War. He was taken prisoner in Singapore where he maintained the regimental records and was able to bring home a complete list of the casualties. Discharged in 1946 he assisted in the band and was re-appointed bandmaster in 1954. It is a record of which he must be justly proud. His successor is Mr G.R. Ball, Music Master at Ely King's School. 57 04 02

1957 06 26
United States servicemen contributed £3,500 to the University Department of Pathology in thanks for the specialised laboratory services provided to their military medical authorities. The American hospital at Wimpole Park, which re-opened in 1952, had only limited facilities but Sir Lionel Whitby had offered what professional help they required until his death last year. It was a voluntary contribution from all branches of their personnel and not an attempt to 'pay an account' 57 06 26

1957 09 04
The Cambridge Dunkirk Veteran's Association held their inaugural meeting at the 'Hopbine' in Fair Street. The evacuation bought out the best in all three services in adversity but they should remember those who died on the beachheads. Close on 40 members are expected to join and it is hoped their name will soon command the same respect as that enjoyed by the Old Contemptibles who are now very old. 57 09 04a

1957 09 30
Hundreds of Civil Defence workers moved in on a devastated Cambridge which had been the target of an atomic guided missile. The southern part of the city was devastated as far as the River Cam. The streets were a blazing inferno, heavy dust and smoke swirled everywhere; thousands were rendered homeless with injured victims lifted from the ruins and ferried across the river to safety. Thankfully it was only an exercise. 57 09 30 c & d [2.12]

1958 04 08
About 30 Cambridge people were at Aldermaston on Easter Monday for the rally protesting against the use of nuclear weapons. Seven car loads joined the final stage of the march to the Atomic Weapons Research Establishment. Amongst them was Robert Davies, the Labour Party prospective Parliamentary candidate and city councillors Reilly, Warren and Ash 58 04 08b

1958 04 09
CND march memories – 58 04 09a

1958 06 10
Cambridgeshire Regiment's band – March Railway Band mass enlistment – 58 06 10

1958 07 07
Territorial Army 50th years – 58 07 07a

1958 07 10
CND protest march to Mepal planned – 58 07 10

1958 08 22
Nearly 300 people took part in a six mile march from Ely to a rocket base at Mepal. Young or old, MP, clerk or labourer, all had one purpose - to denounce the Government's decision to establish rocket sites. Labour candidate Robert Davies said it was absurd to make a secret of where the bases are. Rocket hide-outs are open secrets. You may not be able to mention them but you can go and see where they are. But MP Major Harry Legge-Bourke said it was running very close to official secrets and nobody knows what Mepal might be used for 58 08 22b, 58 08 25 & a [2.14,2.20,2.21]

1958 08 22
A portable short-range guided missile intended to be used against armoured vehicles has been produced by Pye Limited. It incorporates rocket motors with a new jet steerage system and is guided to its target by thin wires which carry signals from a controller's "joystick". It can be fitted with periscopic binoculars which switch from low to high-powered magnification as the missile travels away from the launcher. Many successful test firings have taken place and it can go into production on receipt of orders. 58 08 22c

1958 09 12
Attendance was very poor indeed at a meeting called to hear how women could take measures in their own households to protect families in the event of nuclear war. The WVS had invited 130 women, but only nine turned up. However the three speakers explained how to shelter from the atom bomb's heat flash and how the thick whitewashing of windows could stop penetration of radio-active dust. 58 09 12

1958 10 03
There were cries of 'shame' when Peter Cadogan of Cambridge told the Labour Party Conference that since a march from Ely to the rocket base near Mepal, Americans alarmed by the demonstration had 'given certain English employees to understand that if they want to hold their jobs they cannot be members of the Labour Party'. It was apparent that the marchers had the company of the American F.B.I.: English people demonstrating on English soil were under the hostile surveillance of the secret service of a foreign power. One man, the organiser of the march, had already resigned. 58 10 03

1959 01 13
CND exhibition – 59 01 13

1959 02 12
The United States Air Force hospital located at Wimpole Hall will move to RAF stations at Mildenhall and Lakenheath later this year. The move will affect 300 US military personnel and 95 UK civilians. The facilities are on private land and this has to be handed back to the owner by the end of 1959. They were constructed by the British Ministry of Works in 1943 and operated by the US Army until 1945. In 1951 the 7510th USAF Hospital was stationed there. 59 02 12

1959 04 16
Looking like a gigantic cigar, a tarpaulin-covered 'Thor' rocket – minus its warhead of course – passed through Ely en route to the Mepal rocket base. The 90-foot transporter with pilot drivers at the rear to ensure negotiation of the highway, was escorted by the R.A.F. police. Preceding it, to clear the streets of all other traffic, were civil police. The 'Thor', produced in America, has a range of at lease 1,500 miles 59 04 16a

1959 04 21

Territorial Army training, Coldham's Lane – 59 04 21 & a

1959 06 05
Currently undergoing training at the Thor Intermediate Range Guided Missile School operated by the USAF in Tucson, Arizona, is Chief Technician Robert Fennell, whose wife lives in Tenison Avenue. He is one of a number of RAF personnel being trained in all phases of maintenance of the 1,500-mile range missiles to be based at Thor launching sites such as the one at Mepal. 59 06 05

1959 06 08
A procession 300 yards long wound its way through the crowded shopping streets of Cambridge to see Sir Hamilton Kerr MP and request that Britain should stop testing the H-bomb. The Cambridge Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, which has nearly 500 members (not including undergraduates), toured the streets with posters summoning people to a rally on Midsummer Common. It was one of the biggest open-air demonstrations in recent times. There was only one interruption when Mr Colin Bell was greeted with a perfunctory and disintegrating orange as he stepped to the microphone. It was thrown by an undergraduate. 59 06 08

1959 07 23
Arthur Tucker, Secretary of the Cambridgeshire Regiment Old Comrades Association, carried the Cambridgeshire's roll of honour up the nave of Ely Cathedral at the dedication ceremony. Through his years of internment at Changhi Prison in Singapore he had kept a little book under the floorboards containing the names of all the men in the 2nd Battalion and any casualties. Had it been found it would have meant his instant death. He used it to correct the list compiled by the War Office – half the chaps they had named were very much alive. 59 07 23b

1959 09 14
Nuclear Disarmament Week - J.B. Priestly attends – 59 09 14 [2.24]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 02 02
Civil Defence HQ opens Warkworth Terrace – 60 02 02, 60 02 13 [2.26]

1960 02 12
The RAF strategic Thor missile is now operational at Feltwell, one of four bases capable of launching rockets with nuclear warheads. There are three Thor missiles housed horizontally in special shelters with 12 more in 'satellite' emplacements nearby and three more complexes in the eastern part of England which the authorities are reluctant to name. It takes an hour to attach a warhead after which it can be erected, fuelled and launched in 15 minutes. The rocket would take 15 minutes to reach a target in Russia. 60 02 12a & b

1960 03 11
MP Major Legge-Bourke spoke of the rocket base at Mepal. It had a higher proportion of NCOs as against other ranks. There were plenty of first class warrant officers but practically no ordinary aircraft men. There was only one on the base when he visited. He felt very sorry for the fellow surrounded by so many stripes. The Under-Secretary of State agreed: he had never seen so many sergeants in one place in his whole life. If all bases were as cold and constituencies as cold as the

Isle of Ely then he was sorry for the young chaps who have to stay there day and night looking after the installations. But morale was extremely high. 60 03 11a

1960 04 06
In April 1939 a Cambridge squadron of the Air Defence Cadet Corps was formed. It soon had three flights of 25 cadets with more on the waiting list. They all bought their own uniforms and paid three pence a week towards the upkeep of the Squadron. In 1941 it became the Air Training Corps. It now has nearly 100 cadets commanded by Flt/Lt Donald Snazle who joined on its formation and served as a bomb aimer during the war 60 04 06b

1960 05 27
Some 1,800 military and civilian personnel are working at the US base at Mildenhall and there are ample facilities for them. It is unusual not to see at least one game of baseball in progress with volley-ball and horseshoes also popular. The religious life is catered for in a 'universal' chapel and they are also encouraged to worship in British churches and chapels. There is a dance almost every weekend and a weekly floor show in which British and American stars appear. Most of the American children go to a school on the USAF base at Lakenheath and the wives have their own social clubs. 60 05 27a

1960 06 20
A hundred years of volunteer soldiering in Cambridgeshire was marked by a stirring parade and drum head service on Parker's Piece. The First Battalion of the Cambridgeshire Regiment was joined by two other organisations also celebrating their centenary - the Army Cadet Force and the Combined Cadet Force. The Colours were ceremonially paraded and the Regimental band accompanied the hymns. Afterwards the Commanding Officer (Lieut-Col P.D. Storie-Pugh) led his men to their headquarters in East Road as people demonstrated their pride in the Cambridgeshires - 60 06 20
[2.28,5.1,5.2]

1960 09 09
Just a year ago the USAF base at RAF Alconbury became the headquarters of the 10th Tactical Reconnaissance Wing and nearly 7,000 Americans moved in. The station has its own bank and post office, a barber and beauty parlour, a laundry and motor maintenance department as well as a dispensary, food stores and clothes shop. There is a bowling alley, soccer and baseball pitches. A cinema, hobby shop and community centre provide off-duty means of entertainment, there is a well-stocked library and a base chapel. Houses include all the latest amenities with refrigerators, washing and drying machines, sink units and electric cookers. 60 09 09d e f

1960 12 09
Five incendiary and three practice bombs were recently unearthed during digging operations at Mepal airfield, a few hundred yards from the main entrance to one of East Anglia's Thor rocket bases. It brings the total find during the three weeks in which an RAF Feltwell bomb disposal squad has been at work up to 18 bombs or Mills markers. In addition about 200 other miscellaneous items of an explosive nature have been discovered, mostly bullets. The rocket base was not in danger at any time: the biggest threat would have been death to any person in the immediate vicinity should the bombs have exploded 60 12 09b

1961 02 22
Boys of two Army Cadet Battalion learned their drills the hard way when their machine guns jammed right in the middle of an enemy attack. Later a tremendous assault was launched upon a tree-filled quarry defended by resolute Bren gunners from Whittlesey. Smoke hit the attackers

from their objective as they struggled through the bushes and undergrowth while the air was filled with the noise of loud explosions and the clatter and crack of rifle fire. Afterwards everyone returned to the Barrington Training Centre for lunch– 61 02 22b

1961 04 01
Nearly 200 people from Cambridge people set out on the Wethersfield to London Ban-the-Bomb march. They joined eighteen hundred marchers who had stayed overnight near Finchingfield where the two-mile long column assembled on the tiny village green. Amongst them was 85 year old Clara Rackham who was on her fourth march and hoped to walk to Braintree. Her only luggage was a straw bag containing a flask and sandwiches. The well-known marchers, the Baker family from Harston took six of their seven children, leaving their four-year-old daughter at home. Mr Robert Davies, who contested the Cambridgeshire by-election recently, was also on the march. He intends to walk all the way 61 04 01a

1961 04 07
The Food Flying Squad Convoys of the Ministry of Agriculture were started during the war under the name of the Queen's Messenger Convoys. They were reformed when the need for Civil Defence became more acute and consist of four canteen vans, two stores vans, a water carrier and a staff van. They are manned by the W.V.S. and are capable of providing 3-4,000 light meals of soup and stew. They can respond to a call following an enemy attack or civil disaster and did much useful working during the East Coast floods. 61 04 07a

1961 09 08
Members of the Women's Royal Army Corps Territorial Association are examining aerial photographs at the new Air Photo Interpretation Centre at the Drill Hall in East Road. Until April they were a Motor Transport Company and when reorganised were divided into two sections with the other studying signals at Coldham's Lane. The women have to sign on for two years and receive full army pay with an annual bounty of ten guineas. Uniforms are given and they train each Monday evening. But it is difficult if there are small children for in wartime the T.A. are the first to be called up. 61 09 08b

1961 09 13
Lord Bertrand Russell, leader of the Committee of 100, began a seven-day prison sentence after a civil disobedience campaign. Overnight Cambridge supporters of the Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament went out with paint pots and daubed slogans saying 'Free Russell' on the wall of Emmanuel College and on footpaths in front of Sidney Sussex and Trinity. Councillor Robert Davies, a member of CND, said they did not support the defacing of buildings but it was an indication of the depth of feeling against the imprisonment of an aged and respected philosopher 61 09 13 [5.6]

1961 09 13
The Army Emergency Reserve has not enjoyed the limelight of other Territorial Army units. Its training obligations are not so onerous and the bounty much higher, at £75. But volunteers are liable to immediate recall for service in any part of the world, as happened during the Suez crisis. The local unit, 215 Port Workshop, is drawn from the Cambridge, Newmarket, Norwich and Ipswich area under its Commanding Officer, Captain C. Wilson of Harston. All the personnel are tradesmen; in action they would follow the assault infantry in to keep the beaches clear and traffic moving 61 09 13a

1962 01 03
G.J. Rogers record of unbroken 34 years' service in Corps of Royal Engineers – 62 01 03

1962 03 05
Unexploded bombs have been found in Cambridge for the second time within a week. Two were discovered by Mr Norman Summers when he was digging over a piece of waste ground at the rear of his council house in Peverel Close. Bomb disposal experts think they may date back to the beginning of the First World War. They were destroyed on the beach at Mundesley. It was the first time the land had been dug: previously it was just waste ground where children played occasionally. Last week gardeners at Grange Court found an unexploded 12lb practice bomb in the bottom of the hedge. 62 03 05

1962 04 11
The Isle of Ely has been classified as a 'neutral area' in the Government's scheme for the dispersal of the public in the event of a national emergency. This means one out of which no planned movement was to be considered. 62 04 11a

1962 04 21
CND column of vehicles tour bases to Mepal etc – 62 04 21

1962 04 28
East Anglian CND Committee of 100 break off march from Parkers Piece to Brooklands Avenue, distribute leaflets – 62 04 29 [2.31]

1962 04 30
The Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament's mock funeral march through the centre of Cambridge caused traffic congestion, provoked an anti-CND march and met with a noisy reception from undergraduates in the Market Square. The 'funeral cortege' stretched for 300 yards behind a child's coffin carried by two pall bearers. Altogether 400 'mourners' took part in the march including Mr Gabor Cossa, the antique dealer. A Committee of 100 contingent joined in a demonstration at the Government buildings in Brooklands Avenue 62 04 30a

1962 07 05
Abberley House, Gt Shelford is the HQ of the county Civil Defence Corps. In a nuclear war Wardens would give advice, Communications and Intelligence sections control operations and Scientists go out after an attack to collect technical information. First aiders would supplement the ambulance service, Rescue workers free trapped survivors while Welfare staff would provide food, shelter and clothing. Members of the C.D. are only asked to give as much time as they can spare and more volunteers are needed. 62 07 05c

1962 10 24
A crowd of 5,000 people, mainly students, swarmed through Cambridge after police and Proctors stopped a political protest rally about the American-Cuban crisis on the Market Square. Carrying placards declaring 'Hands Off Cuba' they made their way to Parker's Piece where the meeting got under way with speakers both supporting and opposing President Kennedy's moves. One warned 'We are on the verge of a nuclear war'. Later police prevented another rally outside the Guildhall where demonstrators hammered on the side of passing buses. 62 10 24 [2.32,5.7]

1962 10 29
More than 200 people joined in the 'No War over Cuba' march around Cambridge led by Robert Davies, the Prospective Labour Party Candidate. They were mostly students but included 87-year-old Mrs Clara Rackham, 87. Four undergraduates carrying placards saying 'Hands off Cuba' distributed leaflets to the thousands of spectators streaming into the City Football ground on

Milton Road. Members of the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers, who were meeting to discuss safety in the building industry, petitioned Mr Gaitskell and the TUC over the moves made by President Kennedy 62 10 29

1962 12 10
An all-night vigil by CND members at the USAF airbase at Wethersfield near Saffron Walden was partly cancelled due to rain squalls and cold conditions. A mobile canteen which had been arranged to supply refreshments to the demonstrators did arrive but stood unused. However next day a public meeting was held on Wethersfield village green which was addressed by a member of the Committee of 100 before protestors marched to the base which is home to the 29th Tactical Fighter Wing flying Super Sabre fighter bombers 62 12 10

1962 12 11
The Thor missile base at Ely is to be closed and the war-time airfield will be disposed of. The Air Ministry says there are no civilians working on the base, which is a satellite station for Feltwell missile base, and had three Thor rockets which cost £1 million each. There have been two protest marches in the 1958 & 1961. The first in 1958 was organised by Cambridge City Labour Party, the second during an East Anglian CND campaign 62 12 11

1963 01 15
East Anglian CND Conference – 68 01 15 [2.33]

1963 02 26
Freedom of City granted to Suffolk & Cambridgeshire Regiment TA – 63 02 26 [5.3]

1963 04 18
"Spies for Peace" pamphlets describe 'Regional centre of Government' at Brooklands Avenue – 62 04 18 [5.8]

1963 05 08
Corpus Christi cellars could be used as fall-out shelter in times of emergency – 63 05 08

1963 09 20
The 5,000 m.p.h. rocket missiles which once stood on remote sites such as Mepal airfield are being returned to the United States. Some have already gone back stripped of their war-heads and fuel propellants, chained inside the cavernous interiors of the giant C-133 transport aircraft. The rockets are to be used for space research and training programmes. They caused a political uproar when they arrived in this country ready for erection on their launching sites. 63 09 20c

1963 11 14
Cambridge University Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament will keep the public informed of the progress of their 'Fallex 63' exercise by posting large newspapers at three points in the city centre. They will include details of how a supposed 'nuclear war' is raging across Europe with maps of nuclear fall-out. The railway station will be picketed where it will be assumed that all main services have been immobilised. Most activities will take place in the city centre and around the housing estates where short public meetings will be held. 63 11 14 [369.21.15]

1963 11 25
Technical equipment from Britain's obsolete rocket bases is on view at some of the ex-Thor missile sites. One of the largest was at Mepal airfield which was closed down as an operational station during the summer and is now manned by maintenance staff. The stores and plant will be

sold by auction but items such as the count-down and launch control caravans have been 'demilitarised' to ensure they cannot be used by an enemy. Practically all that is missing are the giant Thor rockets themselves which have gone back to America for space research 63 11 25, pic 63 11 27a

1964 02 10
Recruits for Cambridge City Civil Defence are drawn from a wide and diverse field. Amongst the 575 on strength at the Warkworth Lodge headquarters there is a 55-year-old University professor and a 20-year-old farm labourer. Other volunteers include an optician, compositor, school teacher, window cleaner, scientist and housewife. The Mayor and Mayoress, Mr & Mrs J.B. Collins both hold the civil defence medal for long service. "Somebody has got to be available to pick up the pieces and start again. In the event of nuclear warfare we would try and care for survivors", one said. 64 02 10

1964 03 20
The new HQ of Cambridge A.T.C. Squadron is the former Royal Observer Corps base on Newmarket Road. When the Squadron was first formed as a unit of the Air Defence Cadet Corps its members attended lectures at the University Engineering Laboratories before moving early in the war to Leighton House in Trumpington Road. But most of its time has been spent at "Rock Mill" in Rathmore Road. 64 03 20 [Misc.4.2]

1964 05 13
The United States Air Force 10th Tactical Wing based at Alconbury, is ready 24 hours a day to fly to targets in Europe. But their RB-66B aircraft carry cameras, not bombs, and targets are only strafed with fire canisters to illuminate the ground many thousands of feet below providing pictorial evidence of military build up or bridges. The planes are packed with electronic aids, important to penetrate strongly defended areas. On returning the nine-inch wide film is developed in seven minutes and examined while still wet. 64 05 13

1964 05 23
RAF Alconbury – feature on the USAF base – 64 05 23

1964 09 25
Cambridgeshire's 19 wartime airfields are falling into disuse or being reclaimed as farm land. Weed-choked runways, derelict barracks and tumbledown conning towers are all that is left. At Duxford the concrete baffles have been demolished and its runways are disappearing with the rubble being used for housing and road building. Waterbeach had a succession of Vikings and Vampires aircraft but now it is mainly trainers that take off. At Bottisham many of the buildings are used for storing grain. But Mepal, which recently had a Thor missile base, is now in the hands of the Americans – 64 09 25c

1964 10 01
Fen Drayton had to be evacuated following a nuclear explosion near Wisbech. There was no damage from the blast but because of radiation fall-out more than 200 people were moved to Civil Defence Headquarters at Gt Shelford. The last person to leave each house put a white towel in the window to indicate the house had been cleared. Police patrolled the village to prevent looting. But shopkeepers were worried about the loss of trade and some farmers were too busy to go. It was only an exercise to test plans in case of the real thing. 64 10 01a, 05a

1964 10 05

Following the explosion of a nuclear bomb Cambridgeshire Civil Defence workers quickly evacuated men, women and children threatened by radiation from Fen Drayton. And then the 'accident' happened. A car with six occupants crashed into a ditch as part of a dummy accident to supplement their exercise. An ambulance was immediately despatched but it was involved in a real crash with a bus. As a result the 'victims' in their theatrical make-up had to wait for 40 minutes. Even then they could not be moved as the first-aid team failed to arrive. 64 10 05a

1966 04 05
CND demonstrate over Vietnam war – photo – 66 04 05

1965 06 07
"Peace in Vietnam" banner at Kings – 65 06 07[369.22.2]

1966 12
Cambs & Isle Territorial & Auxiliary Forces Association (probably) final parade [4.2]

1967 03 20
Cambridgeshire Regiment changes with reorganisation Territorial Army, to be a military force to assist police in law and order and act in support in event of nuclear attack ; history – 67 03 20, 20a

1967 04 15
US ambassador in Vietnam protest 67 04 15 [369.22.5]

1968 02 26
Vietnam marchers 68 02 26 [3.8]

1970

1972 09 08
Just in case The Bomb should ever drop, eight powerful new air raid warning sirens are to be installed in Cambridgeshire. Although few people ever see or hear them, the Home Office has about 22,000 warning points in the United Kingdom equipped with electric or hand sirens for air attack warnings and maroons for fall-out warnings. Now they are to be replaced by powerful compressed-air sirens which are much more efficient and much louder. The eight which are to be installed in Cambridgeshire will be at Brooklands Avenue, Cambridge, Waterbeach Barracks, Oakington airfield, Great Wilbraham, the old Duxford airfield, Bassingbourn Barracks Lt Eversden & Linton - 72 09 08

1973 07 07
Hundreds of tons of high explosives are driven through Cambridge every week on open-backed unmarked lorries. This was revealed yesterday after one of the lorries burst a tyre on Huntingdon Road, a mile from the spot where 48 hours earlier a drum of deadly poison fell off a lorry and burst. The high explosives come through Cambridge en route from Felixstowe docks to an ammunition manufacturer at Grantham. Dozens of unmarked lorries pass through Cambridge every week to 10 days carrying the explosives. Many then return to Felixstowe carrying the finished product, various types of ammunition for export abroad - 73 07 07

1974 08 23
A convoy of lorries carrying 50 one-ton bombs to an American air base were diverted on to the half-built Newmarket by-pass last night when some of the loads were found to have shifted

dangerously. Explosive experts examined the bombs for damage before they were reloaded by a crane brought from USAF Lakenheath. The scare lasted for five hours and involved dozens of firemen, police and American military personnel. An atmosphere of secrecy surrounded the incident from its beginning near the railway crossing on the A11 at Six Mile Bottom. Military explosive shipments are on Cambridgeshire roads every day without police escort, and without information being given to the fire service - 74 08 23

1974 10 28
Tourists at Cambridge colleges found themselves caught up in one of the largest security operations mounted in the University in recent years. It followed a message passed on by the Metropolitan police that there could be a bomb explosion at a college within 48 hours. As a result tourists carrying parcels were stopped by porters. Many central colleges locked their chapels and halls altogether. Last week bombs exploded in a London club and at Harrow school - 74 10 28

1975
Old Contemptibles Association Cambridge branch wound up [455.9.2]

1976 03 02
Cambridge's last links with serving members of the Royal Navy will be officially severed next week when the Royal Naval Unit in Porson Road closes. It has been involved in providing 'guinea-pigs' for psychological tests at the Medical Research Council Applied Psychology Unit in Chaucer Road. Sailors from many parts of Britain have come to Cambridge to take part in the tests. The Cambridge unit first opened in 1945 at Parkside and moved to Porson Road in 1951. Research centred on the effects of hot and humid atmospheric conditions – heat stress – upon work - 76 03 02

1976 06 03
The Royal Observer Corps posts, about one every 15 miles, are concrete bunkers buried deep in the ground. They are proof against radiation and a moderate amount of blast. If the radiation levels are intense the observers must be prepared to stay at their post for long periods, in total isolation. Should the very worst occur and the post find itself totally cut off with radiation reaching dangerous levels they could warn those residents above ground by operating their portable siren - 76 06 03

1979 05 02
Freedom of City granted to Royal Anglian Regiment (successors to Cambridgeshire Regiment) 79 05 02 [5.4]

1979 08 22
At the back of the Shire Hall and behind the Sir Isaac Newton pub in Cambridge sits a small, portable office. It houses four dedicated workers who are preparing for nuclear war and other major disasters such as flooding, hurricanes and air crashes. Total nuclear war is a frightening prospect and the Government has taken steps to plan for such a holocaust. Now parish councillors are to be trained as the latest part of the contingency plans; they would act as 'community advisors', helping to bring life back to normal in highly disrupted areas. - 79 08 22

1979 12 05
Cambridge Council Against Missile Bases formed to protest about Cruise - 79 12 05 [5.9]

1980

1980 03 17
More than 2,000 people marched through Cambridge on Saturday to protest at plans to site Cruise missiles in East Anglia. Shoppers watched the protestors, who included political and religious groups such as Quakers and Japanese Buddhist monks. They carried models of a missile and a nuclear submarine. It was the biggest demonstration for years and was followed by a debate between Defence Secretary Francis Pym and prominent peace campaigner Lord Soper. 80 03 17

1980 06 18
John Major, MP, says he regrets the Government's decision to base Cruise missiles at Molesworth, a disused RAF base used by the USAF. It has enough spare land to accommodate the buildings to store the missiles and is close to RAF Alconbury which can house the extra US servicemen. Cruise missiles are mobile weapons designed to be driven away from their bases in time of conflict. The closeness of the improved A604 and A1 was another decisive factor. 80 06 18a

1980 06 18
Molesworth villagers have reacted to the news that Cruise missiles may be stationed at the RAF base. Seven years ago they won a battle to prevent the building of a nuclear power station there and feel they have been picked on because they are a rural area with a scattered population. The landlady of the Cross Keys said it could bring a lot of much-needed business but was annoying for private individuals who had moved there for peace and quiet. 80 06 18c

1980 06 30
Nearly 2,000 people staged a big anti-missile rally at the disused airfield at Molesworth. It had been originally planned for Lakenheath USAF base but was switched following the announcement that Cruise missiles were to be based there. The news came as a shock to villagers who had fought for years to have the airfield returned to farming use. One is to write to President Carter asking for a £2,000 donation to the village hall fund by way of compensation. 80 06 30c [5.11, 5.14]

1980 07 07
More than 400 people held a peace picnic on Jesus Green organised by Cambridgeshire Council Against Missile Bases. It was opened by the leader of Cambridge City Council who said: It is ironic that there are cuts, left right and centre while we are spending money to kill people. It provided an opportunity to express opposition through peaceful means and included performances by singer Jancis Harvey and a troupe of Chilean refugee dancers. 80 07 07a

1980 07 08
Cambridge's Labour councillors want to take the city out of the Government's national civil defence organisation and ban all council officers from any wartime emergency planning. They say that Cambridge is in danger of becoming a nuclear dustbin & attack the plans to site Cruise missiles at Molesworth. But Conservatives say they are duty-bound to make arrangements to safeguard citizens in the event of a nuclear attack. 80 07 08e

1980 07 08
Villagers worried over the siting of Cruise missiles at Molesworth packed a meeting to fire questions at John Major M.P. He emphasised his support for the missiles and said they were definitely coming unless all countries agreed on disarmament. There would be 64 missiles housed in 16 separate bunkers which would be partly beneath ground. The mounds would be earth covered and grassed over. During exercises convoys of 20 vehicles would take to the road with

the mobile missiles and remain away over-night. He doubted whether house prices would be affected. 80 07 08f

1980 07 10
The parishioners of Molesworth were too respectful to ask their M.P., John Major, rude questions about the siting of Cruise missiles. They asked about the by-pass, drainage, sewage and tenders for the bunkers. And one man, after asking about the rateable value of his house said he would like to go back to his children and the milking. Two who dared ask about the visual impact were told the missiles would be grassed over. Perhaps they may be thatched as well? 80 07 10

1980 08 07
Joseph Needham plants tree in memory Hiroshima - 80 08 07 [5.15]

1980 10 01
Bomb disposal experts were called in when a bag containing five shells was found in the Cam at Jesus Green lock. They were taken to the Army's headquarters at Colchester where one of them – a five-inch-long bullet shaped object – was discovered to be a highly-explosive anti-tank shell. The others were solid-shot shells used in the last war from an anti-tank gun. Lock-keeper Allan Brett had spotted a plastic bag in the water, hooked it in and found the shells inside. 80 10 01e

1980 10 27
There was an undignified scramble for seats on the coaches booked by Cambridge Against Missile Bases to take them to the massive CND rally at Hyde Park. A further 150 students left on the Cambridge Peace Action coaches. The decision to base cruise missiles at Molesworth had seen a resurgence of interest in nuclear arms control and several people from Needingworth marched under a 'Hunts Against the Missiles' banner. "It is unlikely to have much influence on the present government", said a member of Cambridge Peace Action, "but the Labour Party has adopted a disarmament policy and may do something when they're in power" 80 10 27

1981 04 01
The Government has given the go-ahead for USAF TR1 spy planes to be stationed at RAF Alconbury by 1983 together with thousands of extra American airmen and their families. Their deployment will involve additional construction work estimated at £40 million and be the biggest boost for the Huntingdonshire economy for many years. This makes Alconbury – the future Command base for Cruise missiles at Molesworth – a vital part of NATO's defence strategy 81 04 01

1981 05 15
Diggers are ripping up Molesworth airfield and soon there will be rows of grassy mounds like unmarked graves – resting-places for Cruise Missiles. Close to the spot is the road sign to Little Gidding and on it appears two lines from the T.S. Eliot poem of the same name: 'Dust in the air suspended Marks the place where a story ended'. In the unhappy event of East Anglia being reduced to so much dust the Regional Health Authority has drawn up a war-plan policy. It includes advice on herbal remedies and wearing plastic bags on your head against fall-out. 81 05 15b

1981 06 05
Cambridge was declared a nuclear-free zone by Labour councillors who asked officers to oppose and restrict the deployment of nuclear weapons and the transportation of radioactive material within the city boundaries. Work going on in university departments is beyond the scope of the

new policy but any future planning applications for research facilities connected with nuclear weapons would be rejected 81 06 05a

1981 08 14
Simplex agricultural engineers of Sawston have developed a brilliant new nuclear war shelter with potentially great commercial future. It is based on the firm's silo technology and meets Home Office specifications with space for up to seven people. A basic shelter could sell for £1,500. There are only minor teething problems to sort out, but owing to financial difficulties the firm is closing down. 81 08 14

1981 09 16
A nuclear shelter is being installed in its designer's home at Ashwell. It provides emergency accommodation for up to seven people and will protect against nuclear blast, radiation, heat, chemical and biological attack with a decontamination chamber, lavatory and space for cooking. You could seal yourself in, live there for the duration and come out when the going is good again. It costs £9,658 but an air filter is extra. 81 09 16c

1981 10 15
The cellar of a rambling Victorian building in Newmarket, used to provide shelter for homeless families, has been converted into an emergency centre to cope with nuclear attack where a team of officials will direct survival operations if war breaks out. But spending cuts mean it has no sophisticated air filtration and drainage systems and is only lined with plasterboard. It was chosen because the council officers were too close to USAF bases at Mildenhall and Lakenheath 81 10 15

1982 10 15
In the basement of Shire Hall is an 'emergency planning room' packed with maps, telephones and radio sets. It has windows, thickish walls and a large conference table but would offer virtually no protection from a direct nuclear hit. It is designed to act as a communications network liaising with the emergency services, the water authority, railways and so on during any emergency from floods in Wisbech to the sudden cutting of the county's gas supplies. 82 10 15 & a

1983 01 20
Labour Party issue leaflet 'Cambridge & nuclear weapons' on effect of bombs - 83 01 20 [5.17]

1983 02 12
Plans to move the Cambridge War Memorial from the Hills Road – Station Road junction have been scrapped. Instead of making way for a new system of computer-controlled traffic lights, the memorial will remain as an island. Originally the County Council wanted to relocate it to a small shady spot under the trees in the Botanic Garden, but the City refused to co-operate. 83 02 12a

1983 02 14
American TR1 spyplane for Alconbury – 83 02 14

1983 03 19
The traitor Donald Maclean continued to do some of his shopping in Cambridge long after he defected to Moscow 32 years ago. Maclean, who died in Moscow last week, regularly bought books from Bowes and Bowes, the Cambridge bookseller. Another former Cambridge student and fellow traitor, Kim Philby, also bought many books from the same source. Frank Reeve, the former manager said he hesitated over the first order and checked with the Foreign Office to see whether it was permissible to trade with a traitor 83 03 19 p1 & 9

1983 04 06
Colonel Guennadi Primakov, one of three Russians ordered out of Britain for spying, openly used the Cambridge Lion Yard Library for part of his intelligence-gathering work. He consulted newspaper cuttings files on civil defence in the Cambridgeshire Collection. At that time, in 1980, Defence Secretary Francis Pym, MP for Cambridgeshire, had announced the decision to site Cruise missiles at Molesworth prompting 2,000 opponents of the scheme to march in protest. Librarians noticed him photocopying the files and consulted local police, but they said it was a matter for Scotland Yard - 83 04 06

1984 01 16
The USAF base at Alconbury is to become a Cruise missile assembly site. The missiles will be flown to Alconbury for assembly and transferred to four permanent bunkers at Molesworth. RAF Waterbeach, RAF Feltwell and RAF Upwood are to house 500-bed nuclear war hospital centres. They will renovate existing buildings then mothball them until needed for military casualties of war in Europe 84 01 16 p1

1985 02 06
The Molesworth peace camp was smashed in a massive combined military and police operation masterminded by Defence Secretary Michael Heseltine. They swooped in the dead of night catching almost 200 anti-Cruise missile protesters by surprise while 1,500 soldiers set about erecting a seven-and-a-half-mile fence around the base. Amongst those living at 'Rainbow Fields' were about 25 babies and a woman abut to give birth. Police provided fuel to allow some of their vehicles to leave and emergency arrangements were made to provide shelter for women and children who needed it. 85 02 06

1985 05 11
The war-time mustard gas dump at Lord's Bridge is to be investigated by MoD officials for contamination as part of a national investigation of possible hazards on chemical weapons sites. It was one of six sites used as mustard gas dumps and was a forward filling depot for Risely Airfield in Bedfordshire. Two 250 tonne underground tanks containing lethal mustard gas were sunk on the site in 1944. They were emptied in the 1950s, their contents either burned or dumped at sea, and filled with decontaminant. It is now part of the University's Mullard radioscope observatory and fenced off. 85 05 11

1985 08 06
A peace garden dedicated to the Japanese people who died in the atomic bomb blasts at Hiroshima and Nagasaki was officially opened on Christ's Pieces. But the joint council-CND ceremony, set up as part of a week of peace programme to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the nuclear raids, was interrupted by protestors and boycotted by Conservative city councillors 85 08 06 [5.18]

1985 09 23
Cambridge soldier killed in Northern Island, buried with full military honours - 85 09 23 [4.4]

1985 10 01
A triple gun salute and the haunting notes of the soldier's requiem 'The Last Post' sounded out across a sunlit Cambridge cemetery after the coffin carrying the body of an 18-year-old private was laid in the ground. Martin Patten had been gunned down by the IRA only three months after starting active service with his beloved Royal Anglian Regiment. Amongst dozens of mourners

were soldiers from all three of the Regiment's battalions and members of the Burma Star Association 85 10 01a

1985 12 16
Military convoys allegedly carrying nuclear weapons regularly travel through or close to Cambridge according to 'Polariswatch', a branch of CDN. They say an 11-vehicle convoy travelled along the northern bypass on its way from Scotland to RAF Honington in Norfolk. This is certain to annoy Labour and Liberal city councillors who have fought a long anti-nuclear campaign. They may call together all local peace groups to seek their views on nation-wide moves by local councils to seek a ban on the transportation of radioactive materials 85 12 16

1986 05 08
Territorial Army medic unit formed – 86 05 08a

1986 06 24
Foundation stone new Territorial Army centre, Cherry Hinton – 86 06 24 [4.5]

1986 07 29
An 'exodus' plan has been evolved to save thousands of Cambridge families from the horrors of a nuclear disaster. The aim is to evacuate the entire city if a Chernobyl-style accident happens at the Sizewell reactor complex on the Suffolk coast. Meanwhile health chiefs have been warned they are 'sitting on a time bomb' over the ambulance service crisis. Cuts of up to 20 per cent aim at correcting a budget deficit made worse by a Government blunder. 86 07 29

1987 07 15
Cruise missile launchers and their control vehicles were unveiled at Molesworth airfield. On display behind the eight-and-a-half miles of razor wire were 16 vehicles and two of the men who will 'push the buttons' if there is another war. The missiles are due to arrive next year and will be housed in four bunkers which will be grassed over as part of a landscaping programme that has won a design award. When complete it will be Britain's most secure base. While the base opened its doors to the Press it remained closed for the handful of peace campaigners who maintain a lonely vigil in tents and caravans outside. 87 07 15a

1987 07 21
The Territorial Army has been given a major boost with the building of new headquarters units for the signals and medical units in Cherry Hinton Road. It includes facilities for vehicle maintenance, lecture theatres and a full indoor firing range. Both units have a Nato role, being trained for operational activities with the British Army on the Rhine, and are still recruiting. There is also new accommodation for other sections on the TA site in Coldham's Lane where the previous premises are being demolished. 87 07 21a

1987 10 01
If there was a disaster then a team of 600 community advisers would play their part in civil protection schemes. They are trained to deal with a crisis and help people pull together. They know about local radio hams, residents with expert knowledge and facilities such as wells, buildings which could be adapted into central feeding areas, make-shift accommodation or hospitals. The advisers, who include doctors, vicars, parish councillors and housewives backed up by 900 volunteers, are part of a civil protection initiative by the County Council. Now a series of 13 evening classes have been set up to train more 87 10 01b

1987 10 22

Staff at the County Council's emergency centre in the grounds of Shire Hall learned a few lessons last week during the hurricane. The bunker has a television but no radio to receive local or national reports. However during the gales the television stations were off the air, so a radio is now to be brought in. The Home Office refused to pay for a fridge, freezer or microwave but these will now be purchased. A generator can provide power for 30 days and water is stored for the same period. The list of those who would use it is secret but would include top council officials, civic leaders and representatives of police, fire and ambulance. 87 10 22

1988 02 22
The Territorial Army staged a massive exercise as 300 soldiers firing blank ammunition brought war to the Cambridge area. Enemy forces were advancing from Haverhill, blowing up bridges on the A45 and imaginary infantrymen were sent to engage them. Countless 'casualties' were ferried by helicopter to the main dressing station at Oakington Barracks where they were treated by volunteers and doctors from Mid Anglia health services. One specialist unit was kept busy appeasing local residents' complaints about disturbances. 88 02 22

1988 06 10
CUOTC HQ opens, £3M TA centre, Coldham's Lane - 88 06 10

1988 09 08
Cruise missiles destined for the nuclear scrapheap are being returned to America as part of the superpowers INF Treaty. They are the first of 18 missiles from Molesworth to leave. British Defence Secretary George Younger acknowledged the great deal of inconvenience suffered by local people. Residents are relieved to see them go – and even happier that peace protestors who have campaigned at the base are going too. 88 09 08, 88 09 09

1988 11 01
The last cruise missile has left the Molesworth American air base. News that the weapons had gone came as a Soviet military team arrived to make a snap inspection; they found only empty hangars. Removing of the 18 missiles, under the INF treaty, has been completed two months ahead of schedule. The last left Molesworth en route for destruction in America on Thursday. It has taken the US less than two months to remove the missiles which were deployed under a year ago 88 11 01b

1989 01 30
Molesworth Cruise Missile base was deactivated in an historic ceremony, the first to be disbanded under the Superpowers' Intermediate Nuclear Forces Treaty. The 18 nuclear-tipped missiles were all removed last year. Now the storage buildings, which resemble large garages with 70-ton steel and concrete doors may be used as accommodation or storage centres. The Royal Marines band played the ceremony out with the 'Monty Python' theme. – 89 01 30 & 31

1990 05 21
Kim Philby film alleges Charles Broad, Prof of Moral Philosophy at Trinity was the 'Fifth Man' in Cambridge spy ring – 90 05 21a

1990 10 15
John Cairncross named as fifth man in Cambridge spy ring – 90 10 15a

1991 01 18

Plans for expensive civil control centre scrapped; is less threat of nuclear attack and is highly unlikely that any emergency centre, however well protected, would be able to survive in Cambridge – 91 01 18a

1991 02 27
CND protest march against Gulf war – 91 02 27

John Mellanby guides Richard III Society party *88.80*

c.46.45: Tourism

1906 05 19
About 500 day trippers from Manchester poured into Cambridge, attracting much attention. Most were obviously north-country lads and lasses, the lads in tweed clothes and caps, the lasses in more daring colours than usually seen, and all with an accent broad enough to span the Cam. " 'Aw, lad, but this is bonny little toon", said one to another. The Cam was prettier than their Ship Canal. It proved a greater attraction than the colleges and the visitors took practically sole possession of it. 06 05 19a

1909 03 19

The proprietors of the University Arms Hotel, Robert Sayle and the Cambridge Automobile and Engineering Company all claimed that they had only agreed to advertise in the 'Corporation Guide to Cambridge' as they had been told this would be an official guide, distributed through the Town Clerk's department. The firm said they had written to the Town Clerk suggesting he might become a journalist for the guide in a private capacity, but he had declined. They had distributed 1,000 copies to the Railway companies, 250 to Galloway and Porter and 950 to advertisers. 09 03 19

1910

1910 09 17
"Niggardliness of American visitors proverbial... so mean that it is absolutely unprofitable to have anything to do with them" [1.10]

1911 11 17
'Charles Darwin lived here in 1828' is the inscription in red lettering on a stone tablet recently placed over Arthur Rutter's office in Sidney Street. This is the first tablet of its kind in Cambridge but another one has been put up over 22 Fitzwilliam Street recording that he also lived there. The idea is an excellent one and it is hoped that the example which has been set by the Master of Christ's and members of the Darwin family, will be followed by others 11 11 17

1912 01 20
Railwaymen suggest advertising Cambridge like a seaside town to encourage visitors during Long Vacation [1.11]

1913 07 05
Suffragette damage forces colleges to shut their gates during Long Vacation [1.12]

1920

1920 02 18
"A Guide to Cambridge University Life," by "Two of 'Em" (Cambridge: Deighton, Bell and Co., 1s. 3d. net) — The preface gives the raison d'etre of the guide in the following words: "For some it has been impressed on our notice that a small book of the type which we have produced here would meet a great demand and would be of use of members of the University, and also to visitors of the town. We have so often heard the question asked "Where is the —- College ground?" or "Where is the-----Laboratory" and in most cases it has gone unanswered because the answer was not known. This "Guide to Cambridge University Life" (we claim) will dispense with all trouble of this sort, and will enable its owner to find his way about by himself without any assistance. We have collected the information which seems to us to be that which everybody wants to know; and we have tried to furnish particulars dealing with both work and sport.-" A careful reading leads us to say that it would be practically impossible to compress more admirably the mass of information contained in this small volume. Whoever "Two of 'Em" may be, they have given to the public, and University men in particular, details which are of immense value, and set out in a most attractive manner. The plan of Cambridge is by far the clearest and fullest we have seen of its kind, practically every place of interest to the undergraduate being set out, whilst the plan and key of laboratories and museums meets a long-felt want. Its size is no criterion of its contents and importance, and we commend it very warmly to all those for whose benefit it has been written and compiled 20 02 18 CIPof

1920 07 24

Suggestion to organise small corps of official guides to show visitors round town; would afford employment for a few reliable discharged soldiers - CDN 20 07 24

1922 07 08
Royal Show impact of motors - people go home not stay night [228.1.4]

1923 05 05
Campaign to attract visitors [1.8]

1926 02 20
Sir – there is a need in Cambridge for duly authorised and well-informed guides in order that numerous visitors may be properly conducted over the colleges. The qualified guides should be supplied with a badge and a fixed charge made for their services. They would be allowed in college buildings and other places where at present visitors are not admitted. Intelligent disabled soldiers might be available for such a job – A. Macintosh 26 02 20

1926 02 20
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American tourists "pretty leisurely - contrary to usual idea", misinformed by guide [1.7]

1928 05 20
Cambridge "should develop as a holiday town" [1.9]

1928 07 28
A great cosmopolitan army has invaded and captured Cambridge. It is no new thing this descent by the legions from overseas but probably never before have they been drawn from so many nations or corners of the world. The 'Backs' heard such a murmuring of strange tongues as would have puzzled the most expert linguist. One reason was the International Geographical Congress attended by members of fifty nations, but ever since the 'Long Vac' started foreign visitors have poured into Cambridge, nearly all armed with cameras and a determination not to miss anything. They saw the river girl – and her flannelled companion – brought out by the heat wave; she was there at the punt pole with her light bright frock, so cool, so self-possessed and efficient, and even in this heat – no shiny noses. 28 07 28

1929 04 03
Advertising Cambridge – Chamber of Commerce – pictorial posters issued, illustrated guides; more conferences wanted – CDN 3.4.29

1930

1934 04 14
The LNER will shortly be releasing a new crop of posters calling attention to holiday resorts and other places of interest on their lines. Cambridge is to be represented by a picture of St John's college gate which shows the artist, Fred Taylor, at his best. The poster advertising York shows Dick Turpin on his famous 'Black Bess' with the Minster in the distance. 34 04 14

1937 06 12
Complaints about "nudity" on Backs - too casual dress of visitors in bathing costumes[1.6]

1938 01 01
The L.N.E.R. have just issued a new lantern lecture on Cambridge that may be borrowed free of charge by societies through the country. The 70 slides, which depict the colleges and other places of interest, should be of real value, because they will awaken interest in our town and University and may be the means of bringing us many visitors in days to come. Suitable reading matter has been prepared by Mr P.C. Fitzgerald beginning at the Round Church and describing a walk around the centre. This is one of 276 sets of lantern slides available from the Railway Company at King's Cross Station. 38 01 01

1940

1943 07 03
"When you arrive in Cambridge" guide for American servicemen – 43 07 03b

1946 06 08
J.W. Clark's Concise Guide 12th edition is first to appear since the ban on such publications was lifted; printed on good paper with illustrations by Hanslip Fletcher and updated – 46 06 08

1949 09 08
Sir - As a University town we possess many treasures and I would like the see the authorities take an interest in visitors by carrying out the following suggestions. Erect an information bureau at the railway station and another in the town centre (convert part of the Guildhall into a shop front). At each provide maps, and have information available on subjects the visitor may need. Have guides available to conduct tours according to the time available. There appears to be no reason why organised tours should not last up to a week and be advertised in conjunction with the various transport organisations. In adopting these suggestions it would bring many more visitors to the town and in consequence more trade – "Optimist" 49 09 08

1950

1950 03 21
US Travel Agency heads visit Cambridge - "vast potentiality" [1.2]

1950
Ruth Mellanby publishes Cambridge in brief (started showing visitors round c1924) [3.14]

1950 10 07
My attention was attracted the other day by a new notice board outside Cambridge police station. It displays a large map of Cambridge. Main roads are clearly marked in colour and a footnote states that further information may be obtained from the police station inquiry office. This is to my knowledge the only public 'guide' in the town at the moment and it will be particularly useful to visitors c50 10 05

1951
Mellanby guide service dates from 1951 (Festival of Britain) first recruits Cambridge Guide Service ¢CEN 17.12.87

1951 08 25

Two Cambridge ex-undergraduates have hit on a novel line in Long Vacation jobs. They have formed themselves into "University Tours" and take parties of visitors sight-seeing around Cambridge three times a day. An average of about 100 people a week pay 2s. (10p) a time to be shown around. About half are British, 20 per cent American and ten per cent Australian; the rest are from other countries abroad, mainly European 51 08 25

1954 06 19
College tours given in aid of Gt St Andrews Church [1.5]

1956 05 28
County show best ever 20,000 visit [228.1.3]

1956 07 14
Sir - Outside the 'university' area, Cambridge is as ugly and undistinguished a muddle of streets and buildings as can be found anywhere in England. In large areas you could think yourself in either a mining town (smoke and all) or the suburbs of East London. Shopping is universally dreaded especially at weekends when the entire population within a radius of 25 miles converges on half a dozen shabby little streets and the tourist invasions on Sundays turn the place into a sort of Southend, though without its amenities or gaieties – Guardian 56 07 14a & b

1959 11 13
Tourist poster of Bridge of Sighs – 59 11 13

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 02 13
Foreign visitors see Cambridge in different ways. Some American have great culture, have read up beforehand and ask obscure questions. Others want to 'do everything' and take as many snapshots as they can. Germans are very thorough and really want to know everything, European youths frequently want to 'come up' to the University but are puzzled to learn colleges are not co-educational. Undergraduate bicycles never fail to interest: the almost seatless, rusty and battered machines with wheels held together with string give them the impression that students are desperately poor. It is impossible to explain that the poorest-looking bike is probably owned by the richest young man! 60 02 13

1961 02 03
An advertisement in a student newspaper offering the job of guiding tourists round Cambridge for a payment of £8 a day has attracted a wide response. They would use their own cars to bring small parties of Americans from London and smart girls would take American women shopping. But Mrs Ruth Mellanby of the well-established Cambridge guide service views the idea with trepidation. Her guides are carefully trained and charge 10/6 (52p) an hour for a party of eight. 61 02 03

1964 06 24
Council has no fixed policy on tourism ... more tourists would be welcomed by traders & public gain from more entertainment during the quiet Summer months [3.1]

1964 08 06
"Parking trouble spoils Cambridge" say tourists [3.2]

1967 08 11

Tourism boom has snags – 'disappearing; items from shops [2.4]

1967 11 08
Abbott's Cambridge Tourist Centre started when American tour party let down; grew until 50 university students handling tours to Cambridge; then diversified into foreign travel by local residents; moved Guildhall St by Dec 1959 – 67 11 08a

1968 05 26
Garden House hotel offer tape-recorded guide [2.3]

1968 08 14
"Cambridge booms as a tourist centre" - but has snags in 'disappearing' items [3.3 ,3.4]

1969 08 07
Kings close two gates on tourists to control visitors [3.5]

1970

1970 04 01
Hits tourism peak - 80- 90,000 through Kings college chapel each season; lacks organised tourist scene, 'official unfriendliness' [3.6]

1970 12 07
Tourism is 'City's major industry' [3.8]

1971 03 02
'Women are People' group protest about restrictions on taking pushchairs into colleges – 71 03 02

1971 04 23
Colleges may shut out tourists if numbers continue to increase at Trinity & St John's – 71 04 23a [3.7]

1971 06 04
Premier Travel enrol women graduates for walking tours [3.9]

1971 07 23
"Clamp-down on tourist parties as pedestrian jams hit colleges" [3.10]

1972 08 22
The setting up of a full-time Cambridge tourist department is likely to be recommended to the city council. Tourism is at present looked after by the library committee. During the nation-wide local government reorganisation in 1974 responsibilities for running library services will go to the new county council. But the new District Council will obviously want to run Cambridge tourist facilities. The Library committee's Labour chairman, Coun Roger Thornely said the tourist work of the City's Libraries department was increasingly rapidly and taking up more of the department's time and added: "I believe that at times the Librarian does not see a book for about four or five days at a time" 72 08 221

1972 09 13

A full-time tourist officer should be appointed for Cambridge, a special meeting on tourism decided yesterday. They also agreed that a disused car park attendant's hut on the Market Square should be commissioned as a tourist information centre. The Mayor, Coun. Peter Wright suggested that voluntary workers could staff a tourist information kiosk in Market Square. The City Librarian, Mr Eric Cave, suggested that if the kiosk plan went ahead it could remain open on Sundays so that the present Sunday skeleton service at the Information bureau could be closed down 72 09 13

1972 09 23
The Mayor of Cambridge, Coun Peter Wright, last night gave an assurance that the City Council had no intention of promoting tourism at the expense of attempts to expand light industry in the city. In fact, he told the council's Library Committee, the council must encourage light industry if they were to boost tourism. "The more industry we have here the more will be the council's rates income. The council can then spend more on providing facilities for tourists, as well as their own citizens", the Mayor said. Ald Elliot Ridgeon warned that there was the danger that more tourists than ever would come to Cambridge as the result of appointing a tourist officer 72 09 23

1973 02 20
1,200,000 visitors 1972, fifth-biggest tourist attraction in country [3.12]

1973 06 20
First tourist officer appointed, turns it down, Honor Ridout starts [3.13]

1974 07 02
It was 50 years ago that Mrs Ruth Mellanby began to guide people round the colleges when she was asked by a newly-opened travel agency in Guildhall St, Cambridge to take two elderly American tourists round. This was the beginning of a life-long and distinguished career as a guide. In 1950 she wrote her little book, “Cambridge in brief” as a thumbnail sketch of the colleges. Then 20 years ago she started the Cambridge Guide Service, training a group of around 20 guides. The Guild of Guide Lecturers ultimately drove the street touts who at one time operated their own dubious type of tours, out of business 74 07 02

1974 07 26
Tourism “worth £10M to city [3.16]

1974 10 28
Tourists at Cambridge colleges found themselves caught up in one of the largest security operations mounted in the University in recent years. It followed a message passed on by the Metropolitan police that there could be a bomb explosion at a college within 48 hours. As a result tourists carrying parcels were stopped by porters. Many central colleges locked their chapels and halls altogether. Last week bombs exploded in a London club and at Harrow school 74 10 28

1975 09 29
Unprecedented boom in city tourism [3.16]

1976 07 09
“Spend £18M pa in Cambridge” [4.1]

1976 09 01
“Now a £25M business” [4.2]

1977 03 30
Pass system to curb tourism - parties must pay [4.3]

1977 06 10
Tourist Information Centre moves from Bene't Stret back to Wheeler St [4.4]

1978 01 26
"Should city cash in on tourists" [4.5]

1979 02 02
Queens restrict access - tourists to pay 20p, individuals only in afternoon, guided parties morning, due to disturbance to college life [8.15]

1980

1980 09 03
Visitors to Cambridge will be confused if they use the latest Ordnance Survey map of the city. The Lion Yard shopping centre, completed more than five years ago, is not shown but marked as a collection of tiny streets. Christ's Lane, closed for the past 15 years and not even visible, is still shown as leading from Drummer Street to St Andrew's Street whilst the University Centre is an empty space. Even the Tourist Information Centre is shown as at the front of the Guildhall, rather than the back. The O.S. said it did not seem very satisfactory 80 09 03b

1981 05 15
More colleges clamp down on summer visitors [4.6]

1982 05 04
Colleges bar tourists who disturbing students, St Johns, Trinity Hall; parts of Kings & Trinity already shut [369.16.9]

1984 08 31
Cambridge, considered one of the most beautiful cities in England, gets a hammering in 'Holiday Which'. It is criticised for poor restaurants, exasperating parking difficulties and shortage of good accommodation. There are several tea shops but those which aren't sleazy or overpriced tend to get hopelessly overcrowded at peak times. It is a relaxed place to visit and punting is the best way to see the scenery but take away the colleges and there is nothing left, it says 84 08 31

1984 09 12
There is not much of John Mellanby yet you could never lose him in a crowd. With his black stockings, knee breeches and a leather bag slung round his neck he is the most senior of Cambridge's tourist guides. He enjoys scandal: the Guildhall had gas lighting installed in 1830 and the Mayor at that time was a dealer in fisher with a shop on the other side of the street. In 1930 they discovered the fish shop had been getting gas free for 100 years by a special pipe laid from the Guildhall, he tells visitors 84 09 12

1985 04 02
Colleges to fight plans for more punts [4.7]

1985 04 11
Annual invasion "be prepared the tourists are coming ... gloom descends as the prospect of yet another 3 million or so visitors looms [4.8]

1985 09 18
"3.8 M tourists break records" [4.9]

1985 06 28
Courtesy couriers introduced [4.10]

1986 04 01
Cambridge's colleges have always been a prime tourist attraction but this year, for the first time, parties will only be allowed in if they are accompanied by a Blue Badge Guide. There are 150 men and women who have passed exams and will lead about 4,000 tours in the coming season. They include the News managing director, Tony Durham who read history at Magdalene College and has lived in Cambridge for 25 years. "We have to provide a service for visitors and also serve the colleges who are under very great pressure from tourist traffic", he said. 86 04 01 [2.4, 4.11]

1986 04 23
Terrorism is set to cost Cambridge more than half a million pounds this summer as American visitors steer clear of Europe in the wake of continued violence. The loss from cancellations at the Garden House Hotel alone is around £250,000 as they have lost half of their business. Fears started with the murder of a tourist aboard the hi-jacked cruiser 'Achille Lauro' and were intensified by the bombing of a TWA aircraft near Athens, the Berlin night-club bomb and the aftermath of the American air attack on Libya 86 04 23 [4.14]

1987 03 13
"4M" figures exaggerated - multiply TIC visitors by 13 [4.12]

1987 03 05
"Fears as tourists flock to city", "saturation point" [4.13]

1987
'Drama tours' started [NS.1.10]

1987 01 21
A new official booklet aimed at promoting tourism in Cambridge features a picture on the cover of a traffic warden booking a coach driver for parking outside King's College. It also shows groups of tourists standing under umbrellas in the rain. The drawings by a council artist appear in the Travel Trade Manual issued by the city's tourism department as part of a campaign to encourage visitors throughout the year. Councillors are amazed that they are telling millions of tourists to come to Cambridge and get booked for parking. 87 01 21

1988 04 21
When Margaret Badcock set up the new Cambridge tourist desk at the back of the library in 1971 there were three people who ran private guiding services. Now there are 150 official blue badge guides who have passed difficult examinations and are fluent in a second language. Then the University Arms was asking less than £6 for a double room with breakfast – it is now £57 - while the Sorrento Hotel in Cherry Hinton Road charges about £40 and the Belle Vue Guest House in Chesterton Road between £19 and £22, the average for a double room in a private house. 88 04 21b

1988 05 04

Cambridge's controversial open-top bus service got off to an inauspicious start. Steady drizzle ensured the buses were largely empty for the first half of the day – 88 05 10 open-top tourist buses introduced Bank Holiday Monday ¢CEN 4.5.88

1988 06 04
Guide Friday open top buses have been used by thousands of visitors since they started four weeks ago. Fears that they would increase traffic congestion have been unfounded and now the company plan to increase their frequency. They travel down narrow city centre streets where other double-deckers are banned. But some students complain that instead of admiring the city's fine heritage, tourists peer into their rooms and that the commentaries disrupt their studies. Colleges may now have to put up curtains in the windows. – 88 06 04, 88 06 06

1989 05 01
Cambridge is the fourth most popular tourist destination in the country, just beaten by Oxford. The four million visitors generate a massive income but the burden is a heavy load for the city to carry. They cause noise nuisance, pedestrian congestion, wear and tear on structures, buildings, turf and amenities such as public toilets. They are being encouraged to extend their stay but if they do this will compound the housing crisis. Already the majority of workers in the tourism industry – shop assistants and waitresses – are low paid and have difficulty finding accommodation in expensive Cambridge. Tourists contributed £165 million to Cambridge's economy last year, supporting between 8 and 10,000 people in the service industry. Each spends about £47. But just £157,000 was spent on welcoming them – less than 5p a head. The council cash went on running the tourism office in Wheeler Street which has 12 full-time staff and another dozen workers in the summer. The colleges are a major attraction but university life would be seriously disrupted if they were allowed to roam uncontrolled. Most colleges close during exams but are anxious not to close their gates unnecessarily. 89 05 01 01a, 02

1989 05 11
Cambridge Heritage Forum is seeking to establish a heritage centre that is not simply a tourist office but a place from which to promote local historical sites, based at St Andrew the Great – 89 05 11a

1989 06 23
city planners suggest tourist be kept away during peak months ¢CEN 23.6.89

1989 09 22
"Tourism rise will choke us" - City planning officer ¢CEN 22.9.89

Mill Pool before Graduate Centre *160.57*

c.46.5: River Cam
see also c.44.7: Bridges & ferries

1887
Summerhouse and walled garden, known as Hodson's Garden were built in 1887 by wealthy local resident John Hodson so that he could keep a watchful eye on his daughters bathing in the river and oversee a fish hatchery he had constructed nearby. The land it was on was common land which he had annexed and the borough council tried to remove him but failed. – CEN 20.8.2005; photo 71156/55

1897 04 22
A resident in Cambridge has suggested that a new feature in the water carnival which is to be part of the celebration of her Majesty's Great Jubilee in Cambridge, a grand naval engagement should be fought on the river Cam. The engagement might include the explosion of mines, the firing of guns from ironclads and torpedo boats, and at dusk the illumination of the whole fleet and the use of search lights. Such an affair would undoubtedly attract many sightseers and the illumination of the fleet should prove very effective April 22nd 1897

1897 10 27
Sir, - On Wednesday morning my attention was called to the state of the River Cam near Baitsbite Sluice. The water was covered with an oily matter and the stench arising therefrom was beastly.

The whole atmosphere was apparently impregnated with some vapour. The havoc amongst the fish was appalling. Thousands upon thousands - I might say tons - of pike, eels, roach and dace were dead and dying, struggling to liberate themselves from their putrid, poisonous liquid. I never witness such a lamentable sight before - Thomas Banyard 27th October 1897

1898 07 11
Sir - As a visitor to Cambridge I was induced last weekend to take a trip on the Cam. I shall not soon forget it. My adviser took particular care to impress me with the fact that Cambridge had been granted a new method of sewage disposal, and on that account I should not inhale such odours as at one time were the characteristic feature of the river trip. But to my disgust, I found another evil had arisen. The river was strewn with dead dogs and cats. Between Walnut Tree Lane and Baitsbite I counted no less than a dozen of such corpses, not always by the bank side, but floating in the middle of the river – Tourist CDN 1898 07 11

1900

1901 11 16
Last September the people of Cambridge held a gala day for the lifeboat's sake. There was a picturesque procession through the streets, the launching of a lifeboat in the River Cam, with fireworks and music in the evening. Now we read of the incident at Caister, when men went out into the raging sea, not only to risk, but actually to give up their lives in an effort to save others. "Caister men never turn back", said the old lifeboat man who gave evidence at the inquest & Cambridge will rally to the assistance of the women and children whose husbands and fathers have sealed with their lives their devotion to the lifeboat cause. 16th November 1901

1903 04 17
On Thursday 23rd April a novel sight will be witnessed at Strange's Boat House, when Mr Tom Barton, the popular and world-renowned Log Roller, of Canada, will give his unique display of rolling a log of Bovril tins on the river. He will give £5 to anyone who will get on and stand on the log for three minutes. From the boat house Mr Barton, who is champion of the world in this particular line, will proceed through the locks and down the river for a mile or two.

1903 04 24
Tom Barton, the world's champion log roller provided entertainment for several thousands on the banks of the Cam. He made a journey from the University boathouse, through Jesus Lock to Strange's boathouse on a cylinder composed of Bovril tins soldered together, nine feet long and one foot in diameter, without so much as wetting his feet. A chair was passed to him, then a light table and placed thereon a large bottle supposed to contain Bovril. It looked so easy that the challenge to any person to stand on the cylinder for two minutes and win £5 was irresistible. A man assayed the feat but did not remain for two seconds and was precipitated into the water. 03 04 24

1903 10 12
There was another heavy downpour of rain; the Cam has but in a few places overflowed its banks and the ferries between Cambridge and Chesterton are still working. The Granta has not behaved so well and the water is already over the banks; there is a vast expanse of water with the tops of the hedges and the trees only showing. At Grantchester mill the road is knee deep. The basement of houses in Newmarket High Street are flooded as are some of the low-lying streets at Saffron Walden and the railway line at Chesterford is threatened with being submerged. 03 10 21

1903 10 16

An aquatic entertainment of a unique kind was given on the Cam by Leonard F. Durell. It consisted of a genuine exhibition of log rolling. The log, not very large, was painted red, white and blue. He jumped lightly on it, spun it into mid stream, then sat down and, using a long pole, commenced his journey. Along the Backs of the Colleges he performed various revolutions and arrived at his destination without mishap. There his feats were little short of marvellous; he stood on his head on a chair resting on the log and was heartily applauded. 03 10 16

1903 11 30
The unprecedented rainfall has taxed waterways beyond their capacity and floods are the natural consequence. In Cambridge boathouses have been invaded by the flood and the ferries have stopped plying. The flood has taken possession of Sheep's Green and part of Coe Fen while the Upper Granta has inundated many acres of pasture. In the fen country the dykes are full to overflowing and the land clogged with water, while in St Ives there are floods to a considerable depth covering hundreds of acres. 03 11 30

1906 04 09
A fatality occurred at the portion of the river known as Paradise; two nurses from Addenbrooke's Hospital hired a Canadian canoe but it overturned and they were precipitated into the water. One clung to the boat and with the aid of a pair of horse reins was brought to the bank. A man pluckily jumped into the river after the other nurse but the depth of the water – about 15 feet – made it impossible for him to reach her. Eventually the clothing of the unfortunate lady was hooked but she had obviously succumbed. 06 04 09d

1906 10 04
An extraordinary sight, which ought never to occur again, is to be witnessed at Baitsbite Lock. For a hundred yards the surface of the water is literally covered with dead and dying fish – pike, roach, bream, dace and a host of smaller fry. Fishermen would never have dreamed there were as many fish in the waters. They have been slaughtered by the introduction of some noxious substance into the river. 06 10 04 & a

1906 10 19
The Conservators of the River Cam say steam and motor boats travelling at considerable speed draw after them a large quantity of water which render the shallower parts of the river bare with the result that boats were grounded. The swell could also capsize small craft or throw them up high and dry. A new byelaw was needed. 06 10 19a

1908 06 12
At the bottom of Mill Lane there was a kind of wharf with steps to allow people to get down to the river. Recently Mr Scudamore had fastened a sort of wooden punt as a mooring for pleasure boats, now nobody in a boat could get to the steps without trespassing on it. But no loading of boats had been carried on for nine years, the water was only a foot deep and there had been no complaints. Anybody in a punt could use it, Scudamore claimed. However as the river was a navigable highway, this was an obstruction magistrates decided and fined him five shillings CWN 08 06 12 p2

1909
River Cam dredging most beneficial [2.1]

1909 08 13
A petrol-driven motor boat owned by Mr John Scudamore, boat-builder of Mill Lane, and occupied by a party of five undergraduates caught fire when at the back of King's College and

was burnt down to the water's edge. They had experienced difficulties with the 3½ horse-power engine and Mr Scudamore went to their assistance. He was examining it when it burst into flame. The cause is a mystery: nobody was smoking, the engine-bearings were not overheated and there was no escape of petrol. CWN 09 08 13

1910

1911
River Cam fish poisoned possible by sewerage [4.2]

1913
Public bathing station in river, what hope for public baths, plan shows how Kings Mill might be converted for open air swimming bath [3.5]

1913 01 24
Cambridge University Boat Club discussed Captain Gibbon's scheme for the improvement of the river Cam. It suggests the river be made 75 feet all over, that banks be protected with concrete sheeting and the depth increased to seven feet in the centre. . The total costs, including improvement to Grassy Corner is £25,000 Improvement Scheme – widen and deepen 13 01 24 p6&p10 CIP

1913 03 28
Cambridge Corporation should take full control of the river and its landing stages and wharfs. But some people did not care twopence about the Corporation and would stick to what they'd got. One house boat was drawn up beside the steps and filled with men sent there by the boat proprietor to defend his position if necessary. This was a humiliating position for the council. It meant that the biggest bully won, the man of most bodily strength would oust his neighbours. 13 03 28 p9

1913 05 09
Cam Conservators consider new Act, motor boats, not to load vessels more than 3ft 9in and have white load-line drawn 13 05 09 p04 CIP

1913 08 30
Granta belongs Canon Pemberton, Squire of Trumpington; court case 50 years ago, & annually puts chain across river; banks on his side used for picnicking [1.2]

1913 11 07
River Cam Sailing Club – improvements needed re sewage, weeds, as vehicle of traffic 13 11 07 p5 CIP

1913 11 21
River Cam dredged from Jesus Sluice to above Railway Bridge; to continue to Long Reach; 13 11 21 p7 CIP

1914 01 16
Cam Conservators investments reviewed – 14 01 16b

1914 02 13
Lighters owned by West Norfolk Manure and Chemical Co had touched the lower sill at Baits Bite Lock. They were carrying about 42 tons but if this was reduced it would not be economical

and they would abandon the river and take the materials by rail. The sills could not be lowered without putting in new doors. The uprights are practically decayed and the two ploughs are never used except in emergency. The keeper was fearful of opening the doors and if there were a flood the whole might go. Urgent repairs were needed, the Conservators heard – 14 02 13d

1914 05 08
The Conservators had written to the West Norfolk Chemical Company concerning damage done to the sills at the locks by their barges, owing to their bumping when heavy laden. The Company replied that if they lightened their barges to such an extent that they no longer bumped, if would become cheaper for them to transfer the residuals from the gasworks by rail, which would ruin the traffic on the Cam. They could not lighten the tugs, which were heavier than the barges. The barge Charles, which has been running on the Cam for more than 50 years, drew two inches more water than the present barges 14 05 08, b c

1914 05 08
State of Baitsbite lock – 14 05 08c

1915 01 29
Cambridge Floods. A heavy downpour of rain experienced last week caused the River Cam to overflow its banks, and the low lands adjoining the river were extensively flooded. At Grantchester the road from the mill to Trumpington was submerged for a distance of about 400 yards on Friday and Saturday, the road being impassable except in a vehicle. The water rose very rapidly on Friday, Sheep's Green, Newnham and Coe Fen became impassable, whilst Chesterton Meadows became inundated the water encroaching halfway across the roadway at Water Street, Old Chesterton. The ferries below Victoria Bridge were unable to be worked during the weekend, but were able to resume on Monday. Although the commons were not flooded to anything like the extent they were following the blizzard towards the end of last month, large pools of water existed at places. At Jesus Sluice there was only a difference of about a foot between the levels of the water above and below the locks The river has now gone down, and is almost at its normal level 15 01 29 CIPof

1916 07 01
Half sewage passed into river untreated, resignations from committee; due lack of care when laid pipes crack & water gets in from soil, but has transformed Cambridge from damp place to dry & healthy - few years ago impossible to dig down 7 feet without hitting water, now 20 feet, mists stopped [2.2]

1916 07 29
Flooded state sewage farm due to experiments to see what possibilities; daily flow 3 million gallons, can dispose of only 2 [2.3]

1918 08 07
The effluent from the Corporation sewage discharge pipe, just below Baitsbite most impure, even containing crude sewage, which badly pollutes the river and the effluvia from which is most obnoxious 18 08 07 CIPof

1920 10 06
Waters of Cam drawn to allow repairs Baitsbite Locks, temporary bridge at Horse Grind ferry – two ferries across river – Ch 20 10 06b

1921 06 08

Conservators know that condition of Jesus Lock was danger, if gave way would empty river ; decide to repair even though this will exhaust their funds – 21 06 08b

1921 06 29
Conservators' farewell survey- probably last official survey; dined at Clayhithe – photo – 21 06 29b

1921 11 16
River Cam Conservancy – application for new Act of Parliament – 21 11 16b

1923 10
Steam dredger on Cam [1.3]

1925 11 18
The 100ft high chimney stack which has stood for close on 300 years on the site of the old disused flour mill at the corner of Mill Lane and Granta Place, Cambridge, was pulled down. A platform was erected at the base of the stack which rises from the now dry river bed, and fuel in the form of straw, wood and corn was placed thereon. The whole was then soaked with paraffin oil, a match applied and the work of destruction begun. But the old giant took a deal of shifting and it was not until the flames had licked about his feet for over a quarter of an hour did he sway and crash to the ground amid a deafening crescendo of falling masonry 25 11 18

1926 02 06
The clerk of the Conservators of the River Cam read a letter from the bank with regard to their debt. The overdraft was £3,842, in addition to which there was a loan of £4,000. The value of the Conservators securities appeared to be about £1,500. It may be better to ask the Corporation to lend them the money 26 02 06
.
1927 04 09
Cambridge councillors debated whether part of the King's and Bishop's Mill site should be sold to the University to erect new lecture rooms. The Corporation should not sell its property in this way; it should do so on the public market. They might get a higher offer from a firm who would like to put up a Woolworth building but they wanted an appropriate end to the Backs & such improvements would give an almost Venetian effect to the whole of the Backs river. To consider turning the site into a recreation ground with railings and white paint would be most regrettable. They should pull down the remains of the mill so that everyone could see what the site looked like when the fag-end of the foundations was up. It would expose some quite ugly buildings which would not be hidden by any plans before them 27 04 09

1927 07 10
The Conservators of the River Cam considered a scheme to make the river navigable for cargo boats up to the Quayside near Magdalene Bridge. Mr Banham had recently bought a vessel for conveying cargo and at present it can only come as far as Jesus Lock. There had been no traffic for years and the state of the river was very bad. There was a possibility that the river could be dredged but the Commons Committee had taken a lot of trouble to make Jesus Green a beauty spot and would not sanction the deposit being placed on the Common. July 10th 1927

1928 07 20
Cambridge councillors recommended Robinson Crusoe Island should be cleared of dilapidated buildings and overgrown trees. Two rustic footbridges should be thrown across the stream and the island let for use either as a tea garden or for boatsheds. The place was in a deplorable condition

and if something were not done there would be no Island to discuss. The surface was low and if the river were at the ordinary level it would be under water. It should be turned into a beauty spot rather than the dirt spot it was at the moment. 28 07 20

1928 07 28
Members of the Cambridge Drawing Society made a strong plea for the preservation of the character of the King's Mill site, protesting against the Council's scheme for the demolition of the old Mill-race and the erection of a weir. They are thankful that proposals for a tea garden and rustic bridge were not passed but feel its unique character will be utterly destroyed. The two King's and Bishop's Mills were amongst the oldest things in Cambridge, and a monument of romance. A cascade was all very well for Bedford or Tooting but was out of keeping with the spirit of Cambridge. 28 07 28

1928 08 02
Sir – the north end of Robinson Crusoe's island, Coe Fen, is occupied as a boatyard, the oldest centre for boating for the Freshers' river and a very charming spot. The southern end is occupied by the old ferryman's cottage and his garden, now derelict, but there are still standing upon it a large dilapidated greenhouse, a poultry yard, now deserted, and a neglected summer-house with a privet hedge. There are a dozen fruit trees, now dying because their feet are in the water, and a number of rose bushes. The neglect of the garden is due to a subsidence which allowed the river to flood it and turn it into a marsh. The cottage, before the iron bridge was built, was a licensed house and those who liked to refresh themselves with a glass of beer were ferried across the river free of charge – C.F. Clay 04 08 02

1929 01 26
A young Cambridge lady in attempting to make a short cut across Midsummer Common to the towing path became embedded in the half-frozen silt and mud thrown up by the dredger. Another lady went to her assistance and suffered a similar fate. Their frantic signals soon attracted the attention of passers-by; two or three young men waded out to them while others formed a human chain. The would-be rescuer was extricated with little difficulty but the first lady became more deeply embedded. Eventually a ladder was procured and a rescue effected. Fortunately no bones were broken but she was so badly shaken up by her ordeal that she had to be removed on a hastily-improvised stretcher 29 01 26

1929 01 28
For the first time since 1895 there was skating on the River Cam. A thick sheet of ice powered with white snow, stretched unbroken from Silver Street to the electric light works. It was too inviting to be resisted and several skating parties took advantage of it. Many undergraduates took to the ice in front of King's College and at Quayside a man was seen cycling on the slippery surface. However the ice bore and he neither came off nor went in. At Silver Street it was possible to cross to the mill on the ice but below Jesus Lock, where the dredges is at work, the ice was broken up by the flow and black pools and crevices had appeared in the thin surface. 28th January 1929

1929 03 09
Sir – I have watched the progress of H.M.S. Dredger at present operating off the footbridge, Chesterton Road, Cambridge. Some months ago they dredged one half of the lower river in the vicinity of Jesus Locks and deposited the sludge on the Chesterton side in the river; later the dredged the river above the locks and deposited the sludge in the actual place previously dredged - 'One of the financing party' 29 03 09

1929 12 13
Cambridge council agreed that the site of Grantchester Mill should be purchased by the corporation, they will offer £1,000. The house was formerly tenanted by Mr Nutter and carried with it the water rights and control of the river right through. This was of extreme importance to the town but what would they do with the meadow and the banks of the river? The bridge was built by Merton College for the use of the mill and might be a liability as it had never been taken over by Chesterton RDC or the County Council. CDN 13.12.1929

1930

1930 03
New sluice gates Mill Pool [2.7]

1930 04 28
The railway came to Cambridge in 1845 and was carried onwards to Ely by a trestle bridge; this was replaced by a low girder bridge until April 1930 when crowds descended to witness its replacement by a much larger and stronger bridge. The operation was a spectacular one, commencing at midnight engineers worked in the light of white acetylene flames to cut the steelwork in the centre of the old bridge and remove the track at either end. It was then raised on hydraulic jacks before being removed. Then the new bridge which had already been erected alongside was carefully moved into place, the lines reconnected and all was ready for trains to run again. 30 04 28 [2.1]

1930 07 22
Cambridge councillors rejected plans for the erection of a bungalow on Robinson Crusoe Island & decided the existing old cottage and shed should be demolished and that the Surveyor should report on the erection of suitable sheds for boating purposes. They also considered land at Town Close, Old Chesterton which is occupied by numerous caravans; their appearance is most objectionable and they should be moved 30 07 22c

1933 01 11
The Cam Conservators heard that dredging operations had been carried out from Clayhithe to Baitsbite. There were still 700 lineal yards to complete, which meant about 20 weeks work but then they would not have to do any more dredging for up to 20 years. They ought to advertise the sale of the dredger so it could be seen at work. The men working the machine appealed for an increase in wages but this hardly opportune as it would only be used for a few more months. 33 01 11

1933 07 15
The Cam Conservators have recently completed the dredging of the lower river. Since the dredger commenced operations in July 1923, enough silt has been removed to cover Parker's Piece to a depth of six feet 10 inches. It will probably be 30 years before another clearance of this nature will be necessary 33 07 15

1933 10 05
Since the dredger commenced work on the Cam from Clayhithe Bridge to Baitsbite Lock it had removed enough mud to cover Parker's Piece to the depth of six feet ten inches. Now it has been sold. Weeds had also been cut and removed. Conservators agreed to continue with the full staff of

men until they had got the banks into reasonable condition, and their wages increased to 38 shilling (£1.90) a week. 33 10 05

1934 05 07
Dredging the Cam – 34 05 07

1936 05 26
Sir – May I appeal to persons not to throw into the river metal containers, such as petrol cans, which float about. The cans do not much matter to sail or power boats but might upset a skiff or even a pair. To cast dead dogs and cats into the Cam is a filthy and barbarous practice. I cannot think all the dead animals – five counted yesterday – died by 'misadventure'. Surely unwanted or sick pets would be better disposed of by use of the places where these things are attended to – Navigator 36 05 26

1938 04 20
'Desperate measures' are needed to save part of Queens' College where the river wall of the Essex block is in a severe state. It is absolutely necessary to deposit a bank against the wall to avert a disaster and when made temporarily safe the foundations will have to be underpinned, the Cam Conservators heard. There was concern that Silver Street Bridge might also be slightly under-mined and it should be rebuilt when money was available. 38 04 20a

1938 12 10
Queens' College have commenced a Chancery Court action against Cambridge Corporation seeking to prevent them from diverting the Cam at the sluice near the former King's and Bishop's mill so as to undermine the college buildings in Silver Street and seeking £5.150 damages for damage already caused. The Town Clerk has been instructed to protect the Corporation's interest and take any action advised by their counsel 38 12 10

1939 11 13
Baitsbite Lock in very bad state, to repair in reinforced concrete 14 11 13

1940

1946 12 13
Baits Bite Lock plan for Nissen hut tea-garden rejected – 46 12 13

1947 03 14
Cambridge has been hit today by some of the worst flooding for 30 years. The rapidly rising and flowing river has invaded riverside homes, Midsummer Common and other open spaces are flooded, there have been fears for the safety of Silver Street Bridge, and there is no sign of any diminution of the abnormal flow. There is an unconfirmed report that the Byron's Pool sluice has broken, and Grantchester Meadows and the "Backs" are completely under water. Silver Street was closed to all traffic during the morning. There were fears that the rush of water would seriously affect the foundations of the bridge. Street lighting was switched on in Linton when residents of houses in Meadow Lane and Chapel Terrace made a hurried evacuation of their waterlogged homes. The water rose to well over knee-deep but was subsiding this morning. At Sawston the sub-power station was marooned and electricity was cut off this morning. The Great North Road beyond Brampton is under water and the A.A. scout at Brampton cross roads was "up to his knees" at his post this morning 47 03 14

1947 10 04

Suggestion that Byron's Pool be given to Borough by Pemberton [1.1]

1948 07 15
The River Cam Conservators considered a request from the Eastern Electricity Board to run cables under the river from Magdalene College to Thompson's Lane. The Board propose to cover the cables with bags of cement in order to protect them from punt poles. Mr Burrows informed the meeting that dredging of the river was proceeding most satisfactorily. Following the meeting the Conservators set off for Bottisham Locks on board the "Viscountess Bury", but had barely left Jesus Lock when it became stuck in a sandbank 15th July 1948

1948 11 02
Pollution of the river Cam above Baitsbite Lock which resulted in thousands of fish dying was described at a meeting of the Federation of Anglers as "appalling and dreadful". Mr C. Baxter stated that on Wednesday evening the lock was "absolutely clogged" with fish of every conceivable type, not dead, but on top of the water, gasping. 2nd November 1948

1949 02 04
River widening has been carried out by dredging operations by Silver street bridge, Cambridge. The dredging, which attracted much interest whilst in progress, was undertaken so that flood water coming through the sluice gates from the upper river can pass around the loop of the river at a reduced velocity and so lessen the possibility of damaging the buildings situated on the river bank. Further alterations are to be made to the sluice gates during the year to assist in de-energising the water passing through them c49 02 04 [2.3]

1949 07 28
Cambridgeshire federation of anglers were told there were thousands of fish in distress in the River Cam near Jesus Green footbridge on July 15th. The lock keeper opened the locks to let them through. Unfortunately a lot of the fish were dead, but there was no doubt that thousands were saved. Many big fish were taken in nets by men and placed in water downstream. Many dead fish had since been seen further downstream and Major Gordon Fowler said there were dead fish "as far as the eye can see" 28th July 1949

1949 11 22
People passing over Magdalene Bridge this morning were surprised to see the usual colour of the River Cam had changed to a bright green. The discoloration extended from the bridge along the Backs of the colleges and beyond. It will be recalled that following a discoloration of the Cam last year – not then green – a public meeting of protest was called by the Federation of Anglers. 22nd November 1949

1950

1950 03 16
bank collapse Riverside near Gas Works; previously collapsed 30 years ago; wall Strange's boat house to Stourbridge common built in those years, all had piles [2.4]

1950 06 02
River Cam polluted by discharge from firm at Bourn, tons of dead fish float downstream [1.9,1.10,1.11,1.12,1.14]

1953 02 14

High water levels on the River Cam have now dropped considerably at all points except at Bottisham Locks and all precautions for dealing with any emergency during the period of the Spring tides have been completed. A tide warning system will be put into operation; the number of patrols will be increased and emergency gangs, transport and materials made available at short notice. Coastal weather and tidal conditions are received by teleprinter at the Great Ouse River Board's Ely headquarters and police are ready to issue any necessary warnings 14 Feb 1953

1954 08 18
Tunnelling Coldham's Lane railway embankment for flood relief scheme [2.5]

1954 10 28
Parts of the river Cam were frozen over this morning after a night of extremely cold conditions. The maximum temperature yesterday was 31 degrees F. but last night it dropped to 18 degrees. The severe weather had caused all previous output records to be broken at the Cambridge Gas Works. 28th October 1954

1955 02 17
Complaints of flooding in the Hauxton Mill to Shelford area have been investigated and the River Cam will be dredged to eliminate the risk of summer flooding. No such scheme for improvement has previously ever been undertaken by the Great Ouse Catchment Board. The proposed by-pass at Barton Mills would involve a dual-carriageway bridge directly over the lock gate and reduce the length of the lock by 25 feet. But there was no active navigation on this part of the River Lark and a combined bridge and sluice structure could be built. 17th February 1955

1955 05 09
The annual punting race between the Oxford University Charon Club and Cambridge Damper Club is a relay with the lady member of the team acting as baton and hastily jumping from punt to punt at the end of each 'leg'. For the eight gentlemen on each side it was a perspiring afternoon; both wind, water and pole were playful and both of the 'batons' nearly suffered a ducking. Gradually it developed into a cross between a water-polo match and a life-saving exhibition. 55 05 09a

1956 04 26
Since the Cambridge sewage purification works at Milton Road were first built, over 60 years ago, treatment has consisted of settlement in tanks followed by passing the sewage to land areas from which is drained into the river. Now new extensions are being built, all sewage will be properly purified and land treatment will be ended for ever. At a later stage gas driven off during the drying process will be burnt to drive electricity generators for the works and for a new pumping station at Cheddars Lane. 56 04 26a

1956 09 14
Further pollution to Cam from Duxford chemical works [1.16]

1957 02 21
A new shelter has appeared on the towpath near the Pike and Eel. From the beautifully executed Latin inscription it is clear it has been built in memory of the late Roy Meldrum who devoted his considerable rowing knowledge and coaching skill to Lady Margaret and the Cambridge University Boat Club. This simple, dignified tribute will do a service to all who love the river, especially those who coach on the exposed banks of the Cam 57 02 21

1959 01 08

Flood patrols are out as part of Walnut Tree Avenue is still under water, Banham's boathouses are surrounded and Pye's Bridge difficult to get to owing to the swirling water at the base. Many parts of the bathing sheds on Sheep's Green have so much water in them that it rushed out of the doors leading to the Common taking with it bottles, waste paper basked and broken wood from the fences. The men working on the new Silver Street Bridge are still carrying on though the pedestrian footbridge is now closed as the water is up to the footboards and is considered dangerous. 59 01 08

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 08 25
Consider warning bathers re pollution of Cam [3.1]

1960 11 23
The threat of flooding has hung over Cambridge for as long as people can remember. Some residents regularly take up their carpets and pile up their furniture when they go away on summer holiday in case a storm should occur. When this does occur premises, yards and gardens are left with a deposit of sewage and filth. This should not be tolerated, the City Surveyor told councillors. In Abbey Road the old six-foot high brick sewer has collapsed and been replaced by a pipe only two feet in diameter. A five-year improvement scheme incorporating a new sewage pumping station would cost £1.5 million. 60 11 23

1960 12 02
£1.3M sewage improvement scheme approved, 4.5 miles new pipes Fen Causeway - Halingway; new sewage pumping station combat threats foul flooding & many residents in constant fear of flooding in storms, take up carpets & pile furniture when go on holiday; basis present sewers 1890s [10,3. 11, 3.12]

1961 11 09
"A very slight risk" to bathers due pollution [3.2]

1962 01 25
Gas Board to pay cost of decontaminating River Cam after oil from the Gas works polluted the river – 62 01 25 concern pollution effluent gas works [3.4]

1962 02 21
Sir – one of the loveliest spots on the River Granta is being destroyed. I refer to the woods on the upper river aptly called 'Paradise' During the war the hedge that gave shelter from the wind all the way to Grantchester was taken away along with a number of fine young walnut trees. Byron's Pool has lost all its former beauty and is an eyesore, filled up with tree branches and mud so that swimming is dangerous. Up to 1945 the water was crystal clear and drinkable. Now it has become a dirty, muddy stream, polluted and unfit for bathing – B.G. Cash. 62 02 21

1962 03 27
Robinson Crusoe Island, the strip of grassland in the River Cam between Fen Causeway Bridge and the Mill Pool, is to be developed as a beauty spot. Scudamore's boat building company will plant flower beds and lay lawns; old tree stumps will be uprooted and an old boat store pulled

down. It will probably be used as a stopping-off point for people punting or rowing to Grantchester. Extensive works are also being carried out to the river bank along the frontage of the Garden House Hotel as part of a gardens improvement scheme 62 03 27a [3.5]

1963 12 27
River Cam freezes [3.3]

1964 06 19
River Cam memories from the 1920s – feature – 64 06 19b

1965
Water & sewage floods as clouds burst over city [3.13]

1965 09 02
River Ouse & Cam locks & lock-keepers, Bottisham & Brownshill – 65 09 02

1966 09 23
Great Ouse River Authority open new HQ at Gt Ouse House, Clarendon Road; will be shortage of water; formed in 1920 to take over work Bedford Level Corporation – 66 09 23a

1968 06 27
Riverside pumping station opened [29.8.2.5]

1970

1971 12 30
Pollution outside Cambridge caused by low oxygen levels [3.6]

1972
Cost £500,000 bring effluent up to GORA standards [3.16]

1973 06 18
Waterbeach may get a £150,000 by-pass instead of just a new minor road into the village - because of Cambridge's traffic problems. If the plans are accepted the by-pass will link the main Cambridge-Ely road near the Slap-Up junction with the Clayhithe Bridge over the River Cam. The mile-long by-pass would replace the short stretch of road originally planned to link the A10 with the centre of Waterbeach. The County Surveyor said that the by-pass was now being recommended because of the large volume of traffic using the Fen Ditton - Waterbeach road as a short-cut to the Eastern side of Cambridge to avoid the congested city streets 18th June 1973

1973 06 27
Discharge of raw sewage from pumping station kills fish [3.8]

1973 08 18
Mini "bombers" are terrorising tourists on the River Cam. Mr Bell of Scudamore's boatyards, Mill Lane, Cambridge, said "A lot of people who cannot swim go out on the river. It seems nothing is going to be done till somebody is seriously injured or drowned". He said youngsters were playing "bombing" games, jumping in at the iron bridge and diving boards near the swimming pool and landing as close to the boats as possible. He understands that youngsters involved are in the seven to 11 age group 18th August 1973

1974 07 12
River Cam "in filthy condition" [3.8]

1975 04 02
Swimmers ill after swimming Cam [3.9]

1975 06 11
The River Cam is not only so polluted as to be a bather's health hazard, but in recent years has had to be artificially aerated to keep fish alive, an Anglian Water Authority spokesman has confirmed. He spoke of children who suffered "diarrhoea and tummy upsets" after accidentally falling into the river in the Clayhithe area, and of skin divers who were ill after a sponsored Cam swim. He agreed that via Milton Road sewage works some 8 million gallons of effluent were going into the Cam daily 75 06 11

1976 07 16
Giant oil slicks choked the River Cam following failures in the city's drainage system at the height of last night's storm. Oil poured into the already heavily polluted river as interceptor tanks were overwhelmed by the sudden surge of water and workmen erected booms at points where drains entered the river. It appears the oil could have come from the Garlic Row area and may have resulted from oil which has collected in the drains during the spell of hot dry weather 76 07 16

1976 03 04
Oil pollution, Bin Brook dammed, traced to Churchill College , March [3.11]

1976 05 02
The River Cam is so polluted at Waterbeach that people who fall in it suffer from skin trouble and are sick if they swallow any of the water, claimed Coun Hilda Hatley. She said that a special anti-algae paint had been stripped off the bottom of a boat by the water. Councillors agreed the problem was the severely over-loaded Cambridge sewage works. 2nd May 1976

1976 06 22
The annual swim through Cambridge, organised by the Granta swimming club, has had to be cancelled for the first time in about 40 years because of the low level of water in the river Cam. Because of possible pollution problems they dare not risk the health hazards involved but hope to put the event on again next year. Typically 70-75 women and about 80 men would enter the event 22nd June 1976

1976 07 17
Swimmers warned over pollution levels, Jul [3.12]

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1976 12 18

The River Cam is being downgraded from its present status as a top-class river because of its deteriorating condition, mainly due to sewage and oil pollution. Downgrading would be a black mark against the Anglian Water Authority. More money will have to be spent on sewage treatment. Its Scientific Director said there had been an improvement during the past year, but low flow had aggravated the situation 76 12 18

1977 06 16
Annual swim through Cambridge cancelled due pollution [3.14]

1977 07 29
There are those who say that swimming in the Cam is only marginally less dangerous than going for a dip in an oceanful of sharks. There are others who swim in the river day in, day out and are the very model of health. The two sides met at the annual visit of the City councillors to the slowly decaying bathing huts on Sheep's Green. The Mayor said: "We're told the Cam is polluted. All we can say is: Swim, drink it and kill yourselves. Only don't say you weren't warned" 77 07 29

1977 11 18
Conservators criticised over filthy disgusting River Cam [3.15]

1977 11 23
River Cam Users Committee formed [3.16]

1978 05 23
Baitsbite Lock most expensive in Kingdom through which take boat [3.17]

1978 06 13
£3.7M improvement sewage treatment works completed after 2 years work, able cope 160,000 people, higher standard of effluent [3.18]

1978 06 27
David Patrick, paddled down the River Cam in a boat which is thought to be the last of its kind afloat on the river. He bought the Princess Jane when she was used as just a floating platform for an overhaul of Ely High Bridge. It was pock-marked by rust, her steam engines were removed and she was without a wheelhouse. Now he has restored the paddle tug to its former glory. But sadly when the new steam engines are fitted the boat will need deep moorings, of which there are few along the river. 27th June 1978

1978 06 30
The cost of providing a complete flood protection scheme for the Newnham and Riverside areas of Cambridge would be 'totally out of proportion to the benefits, however desirable', councillors have been told. Flooding occurred for two days on the Gough Way housing estate when the Bin Brook overflowed during heavy rain and the River Cam overflowed its banks at Riverside during the same period. But the emergencies arose from exceptionally heavy and intense rainfall for which it is not reasonable to provide capacity within the sewers, water courses or main rivers and relatively few residential properties were actually flooded 30 Jun 1978

1978 09 30
Cambridge sewage treatment works have been accused of turning the River Cam into one of the dirtiest, smelliest and most turgid stretches of water in the country. Now the works have been transformed into Anglian Water Authority's pride and joy – almost. It has been their top priority

project but has generated fierce controversy with an eighteen-month sewage embargo prompting sharp criticism from local councils anxious to go ahead with development plans. At present the works cope for a population of 120,000, and there is scope for 165,000. But the river itself is already near the top of the Department of the Environment classification for chemical pollution 30th September 1978

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1979 12 07
Mass of floating oil sets Cam on fire [3.19]

1980 06 30
Sea Cadets have discovered a hoard of sunken treasure worth thousands of pounds in the River Cam. Their boat's engine failed and it was found that a fur wrap had fouled the propeller. Whilst attempting to free it they discovered parts of a suitcase containing silver cups, candelabra and boxes of jewels. Police put a guard on the river until divers could carry out a full search. It is thought to be the proceeds of a major crime and is now locked away at Cambridge police station 80 06 30b 30 Jun 1980

1981 01 29
The best thing that can happen to anybody who falls in the River Cam is to drown; the alternative is to catch all kinds of horrible diseases, a councillor said. Everything goes into the river, which is one big drain. They would like it to be made safe for bathing but it was impossible to stop chemicals and fertilisers being washed in and would mean higher water rates. 81 01 29

1981 07 15
It is likely to take more than 10 years to restock a polluted stretch of the River Cam in which hundreds of thousands of fish died. Anglers say that fishing in the city has now been entirely wiped out. Around four tons have been removed from the river near Bait's Bite lock but many are still floating. It is feared that as well as causing a smell, the rotting fish could cause further pollution. It is suspected that raw sewage was washed into the river during heavy rain. 81 07 15a

1981 10 01
Thousands of fish die after storm brings pollution, restocking take more than 10 years; blamed on AWA as Riverside pumping works unable to cope, raw sewage flowed into river at height of storm, 93% total fish stock killed [4.1]

1985 05 07
Councillors considered proposals for a floating restaurant and waterbus on the River Cam. Two electrically-powered boats would run from Jesus Green through the Backs. One would be used as a quality restaurant and the other provide visitors with a running commentary in various languages. But they would destroy the beauty and serenity of the river; it is not a commercial waterway and there is already a lot of disturbance from punts. 85 05 07a

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1985 06 10
Car floating on Cam after May Ball – 85 06 10

1986 06 18
A K-registered Ford Escort was found dangling from Clare College Bridge. The vehicle came from a scrapyard but it remains a mystery how it got there. One theory is that it was brought down the Cam on punts then hoisted up and lashed into place with ropes and chains. The jolly jape brought laughter from river users but now the college is faced with removing it. They are seeking advice from King's who last year removed a Fiat that was 'parked' in the middle of the river on stilts 86 06 18c

1987 01 13
The AA were inundated by calls to motorists stranded in the snow and hundreds more were caught without anti-freeze as overnight temperatures plunged to -11C. The River Cam was iced up for the first time in five years and skaters were out in force on the flooded fen at Earith in perfect conditions of ice, sun and no wind. Many were practicing for the Fen Ice Skating Championships but for others it was pure pleasure. 87 01 13

1989 08 24
Jesus Lock was designed by William Chadwell Mylne who advised the Cam Conservators in 1829 that the river to Clayhithe should be deepened and the number of locks reduced from four to two. The University feared that moving the lock from its old site at the Fort St George would not prevent flooding, so the famous engineer Thomas Telford was called in for advice. There has been concern that it might be replaced but now John Taylor of Coldham's Lane has helped obtain a preservation order to ensure its survival 89 08 24

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Occupation Road dereliction, 1966 *139.77*

c.49.4 : planning *(includes major reports on Lion Yard, Kite, roads & traffic which are listed separately in more detail)*

Headlines
Note: includes major reports on roads, Lion Yard, Kite area which are given in more detail in their own Chronicles

1888 09 14
Much debate about proposal to build new bridge (Victoria Bridge) to link Cambridge & Chesterton (which would open the way for the amalgamation of Chesterton Urban District into Cambridge) [1.16]

1889 11 08
Victoria Bridge: Laying the foundation stone. The bridge will have a superstructure of iron and steel, principally six elliptical main ribs spanning the river. The main rib will be 100 feet, clear span with a clear rise above the water of 14ft 6inches. The will consider of wrought iron plate and angle iron and will be so designed that with two traction engines in the centre of the bridge, and the whole span covered with passengers the metal will not in any part of the structure be submitted to a greater test than five tons per square inch in compression. The extreme length of the bridge is to be 40 feet with two footways of seven feet wide each and a roadway of 26 feet – ample room for the two widest vehicles to pass with ease. The new connecting road across the common is to be 40 feet wide with footways seven feet wide and granite tarmacadam. The cost will be under £10,000. The foundation stone was laid by the Mayor (F. Wace) and J. Bester, Chairman of the Chesterton Local Board 1899 11 08

1890 12 11
Victoria Bridge opens, December [1.2]

1897 03 20
Mr Edwin Bays, architect, forwards particulars of a scheme for erecting a viaduct, with Bathing Sheds under, leading from the Trumpington Road, Cambridge, to Newnham. The proposed viaduct road would start from the Leys School grounds, Coe Fen, Newnham and terminating at Grantchester and Barton-roads. It will be necessary to construct two river and three road arches and it is intended to utilise one as a Swimming Bath for women, and the other two as dressing rooms

1900

1900 04 19
Cambridge town council were told a conference had been held between two members of the committee and the Master and Bursar of Emmanuel College with reference to the construction of a new street from Drummer Street to St Andrew's Street, and the closing and giving up of Emmanuel Street to the college 00 04 19

1901 04 18
Cambridge Council reported that in 1900 a meeting had been held with Emmanuel College as to the terms of exchange of the site of Emmanuel Street for a piece of ground to form a new street from St Andrews Street to Drummer Street. The existing street was the chief means of access to the centre of the town and carried a very considerable proportion of traffic with 1,030 cyclists on Saturday. The new road would be nearly 100 feet shorter and wider- "gain a fine new road instead of an inconvenient one. Mr Campkin suggested the advantage would rest largely with the college 01 04 18 [1.6]

1903 05 21
Cambridge councillors discussed plans for the erection of new premises for Laurie and McConnal, Fitzroy Street. The bye-laws said there should be a certain amount of air-space behind domestic buildings – house, office or shop - and these had no such space. There was no doubt the plans were in contravention of the bye-laws, the question was whether the Council would refuse them. If they were passed it would be an illegal act. They should not alter the bye-laws to suit the convenience of any class of people

1903 08 11
Petty Cury - Sir – I believe a great number of antiquarians in Cambridge will learn with regret that the Falcon Inn Yard in Petty Cury has been removed to make way for modern improvements. So quietly has the old Falcon taken flight that I fear our local photographers have not secured pictures of the old buildings and its destruction has escaped even the lynx-eyed representatives of the Press. I am consoled that I have retained my water-colour drawing of this famous inn, which I made 25 years ago for 'Old Cambridge' – W.B. Redfern 03 08 11

1903 08 11
Petty Cury - Our attention has been drawn to the fact that another link with the fascinating past of Cambridge is being severed by the almost entire demolition of the one-time famous 'Falcon Inn'. Many years ago the front of the building, with its fine old gables facing Petty Cury, disappeared and about eight years ago the buildings on the left side of the Falcon Yard were demolished to make way for business extensions. Now the rooms on the right side are in process of demolition

for extra accommodation for the Lion Hotel. The back part possessing a small specimen of the open gallery remains 03 08 11

1903 12 23
Cambridge architect Edwin Bays has produced a plan for a new 60 feet-wide road from Downing Street to Guildhall Street, parallel to Corn Exchange Street. This would create valuable frontages for business premises on either side and lead to a site for a new Cambridgeshire County Hall. There would be a fountain to take off the nakedness of the wide entrance at St Andrew's Hill, replacing the old Corn Exchange. It would relieve the congested traffic in the narrow Petty Cury and provide a direct access to the chief colleges. c03 12 23

1904 10 17
Moves to annul clause re new road bridge, poll opposes bridge & traffic it would cause; committee report favours Walnut Tree Avenue as best site at cost £20,000 [2.7]

1905 10 26
Cambridge councillors discussed an alternative route from Madingley Road to the Cattle Market by constructing a road from Barton Road over the river by Newnham Mill Pit and along Coe Fen Lane to Trumpington Road. Two bridges would have to be erected and the Leys School would give up a strip of land. But there was no argument in favour of making a winding lane into a straight road unless it was for traffic. It was a bad system to introduce a big scheme piecemeal and commit the council first by one step and then another. 05 10 26b

1906 05 17
An agreement had been made between the Borough Council and Emmanuel College for the closure of Emmanuel Street and the creation of a new road further north. As a result the college had taken no steps to erect new buildings on the site of two dilapidated houses that had been pulled down and had lost ground rent for several years. Now the council had changed its mind. They should make compensation by providing, free of cost, a subway to link college property on either side of Emmanuel Street 06 05 17b & c

1909 09 03
The advent of the motor has thrown upon the highway authority the burden of maintaining roads at a much higher pitch of efficiency with the result that county rates have increased by leaps and bounds. It is manifestly unfair that the average ratepayer should pay through the nose for the benefit of the wealthy motor car owner or that the motorist should defray the entire cost of improvements which benefit the whole community. Something must be done. Cycling for pleasure has become quite impossible for people of nervous temperament and even the pedestrian is attended by danger. Now the Government proposes new roads for the exclusive use of motorists to scorch along and the imposition of a ten mile an hour speed limit on the others. CWN 09 09 03

1909 09 03
The unanimous opposition to the scheme to drive a road across Parker's Piece should have disposed of it for ever. Should some rash member of the Council wish to make his name by re-introducing it he should first study the indenture made on March 23rd 1612 between the Master and Fellows of Trinity College and the Mayor and Burgesses of Cambridge by which the Piece became the property of the people. One clause stipulates that either body 'consenting to any act to impeach this agreement' should forfeit £300 to the other. It seems to me that the recent proposals would come under this head CWN 09 09 03

1910

1910 08 12
A new road between Rock Estate and Romsey Town would greatly improve communication between these largely populated and widely-separated districts, Mr W.P. Fison suggests. Rustat Road, which is a private road belonging to Jesus College could be continued until it cuts into Marmora Road. It would have to cross some allotments and a farm with a bridge over the railway line. There should also be a new road from East Road through Beche Road over a bridge into Old Chesterton. Both would provide work for the numbers of unemployed men in Cambridge 10 08 12e

1910 11 04
The County Council needed extra offices for its staff. At present departments were housed in different buildings and councillors often went to the wrong one. They could take space in the Guildhall but would be paying rent that would assist the Borough to erect a very fine building in which they had no permanent share. It would be more economical to build on the Shirehall site, removing the Chief Constable's house and other police buildings, but most convenient to purchase a building on a more central site. However they must bear in mind the great difference in cost 10 11 04a & b

1911 11 03
Cambridge Town Council wanted Victoria Bridge and its approaches to be declared a main road and maintained by the County Council. But they did not agree: the Bridge had been built under an Act of Parliament at the expense of Chesterton UDC and Cambridge Town Council. After the bridge was built Victoria Avenue had been declared and made a main road. But there was already a main road from Chesterton to Cambridge via Magdalene Street and over the Great Bridge 11 11 03i & j

1912 08 09
A new scheme for relieving the traffic in Silver Street recommends a new road and bridge passing on the east side of the old mill and along the wall of Peterhouse to Coe Fen Lane at a total cost of £14,246 (£1.3m today). The Corporation had purchased Mr Foster's mill. It was at present broken down and would never be used as a mill again. But there was a strong feeling against a road across Coe Fen and Sheep's Green; it ought to be more in line with Mill Lane. An alternative would take a road from Barton Road corner to Belvoir Terrace but this would destroy the bathing place. However some councillors said the congestion had been greatly exaggerated and there was no urgent need at present. 12 08 09c & d 12 08 16dd & ee

1912 09 27
Councillors debated the proposed scheme for relieving traffic in Silver Street. A bridge from Silver Street to Mill Lane with one road across Coe Fen and another taking traffic from Newnham Croft to the Station would be a very large expenditure and ruin Sheep's Green, one of the most delightful bits of country in the town. The problem could be adequately met by widening Laundress Lane from Silver Street to Mill Lane and diverting the traffic in that direction. 12 09 27b & c

1913
Sidney Street: rebuilding, Eaden Spearing & Raynes demolished [IC.10.21]

1914 01 31
Emmanuel Street: last picturesque houses on north side of new subway disappear [5.16]

1914 02 06
Trams winding up petition granted – increasing number of motor buses hit passenger numbers, cost of maintaining roads – 14 02 06m, n

1914 03 20
The Official Receiver's report on the Cambridge Street Tramways Company shows they were obliged to repair and maintain the road where the tramways were laid. In 1892 the Council had agreed to do this on payment of £367 per annum. But the company failed to pay in 1912 claiming their receipts had been greatly reduced by the motor omnibuses the council had licensed. They'd also prevented them employing mechanical traction in place of horses. 14 03 20i

1914 04 10
Opposition to Guildhall Enlargement. In response to a petition by 80 ratepayers of Cambridge, the Mayor called a town's meeting at the Guildhall on Tuesday evening, when the following resolution was passed by a large majority. "That this meeting condemns the resolution passed by the Council at the March meeting with reference to the; Guildhall extension, and if the Corporation find they require further accommodation for their officials, they should hire offices outside for the Education Department." With reference to a proposed carriage bridge at Chesterton the meeting carried, with less than a dozen opposing: "That this meeting, having considered the .question of the postponement of the building of the bridge directed by the Cambridge Order 1911 to be built by April 1 1917, sees at this juncture no reason for such action." 14 04 10

1914 04 27
Cambridge Town Planning Committee had been in existence only a few months and had not yet decided anything in the way of town planning or building houses, the Mayor told a conference on Rural Housing. The Public Health Committee had erected dwellings for the poorer class in one part of town, some people thought them ideal and some otherwise. Some of the houses he would be sorry to lose from an antiquarian point of view but others, from a public health point of view, they would be exceedingly glad to lose 14 03 27, aa

1914 07 10
Borough Council Sued. At the Surveyors' Institution, St. George's Street, London, S.W. on Friday, the arbitration was opened in the matter of "The Masters, Fellows and Scholars of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Cambridge." Cambridge Corporation had taken a strip of land from Sidney Sussex College for the widening of Sidney Street and Jesus Lane. They built a 12-high wall in place of the existing one, part of the old Franciscan Priory. The college claimed £1,763 compensation for the rebuilding of their old fives court. But it had been very seldom used and was very dilapidated. The Corporation claimed the land taken was worth much less as there was never any prospect of its sale for building purposes. The award was reserved.14 07 10

1914 10 23
Under the 1912 boundary extension proposals Cambridge had to erect a bridge over the Cam to Chesterton within five years. Walnut Tree Avenue was the best site but whether this was the best time was a matter of debate. An Inspector from London had told them what they had to do and it was now the Law of the Land. Chesterton people had voted against it - in fact nobody wanted it. The only way to overturn the order was by going through all the expense of obtaining another Act of Parliament. 14 10 23

1917 01 17a
The future of Cambridge; prospects of the University; need for new industries: special article; pre-war prosperity dependent on University, building trade, agriculture and residential population; hopes for industry – 17 01 17a

1917 01 31
Cambridge trade – pre-war problems and post-war prospects; the average trader knows nothing of advertising or window-dressing; need to publicise – Cambridge for generations has been a comfortable place to potter along in; convenience of Cambridge for factories such as making of incandescent burners for electric light bulbs – 17 01 31c

1919 04
Site of 1,500 acres selected in connection with Town Planning scheme, approved by Council, submitted Local Government Board [1.9]

1919 04 30
Town planning scheme selected – Romsey Town, Cherry Hinton, Coldham's Lane area – detailed article – 19 04 30a

1920
1920 01 28
Should Sussex Street be widened; need to improve centre town, blunders of the past, council debate – Ch 20 01 28a

1920 03 01
Planning inquiry as Cement Company object to their land being included in town planning scheme # - CDN 20 03 01

1920 03 03
Cambridge Town Planning inquiry considers objections of cement manufacturers about land Cherry Hinton Road; proposes new road from Cherry Hinton Road to Fen Ditton Road across Coldham's Common; had been excavation for coprolites and foundations were bad, brick pits. Was good supply for Cement works but this meant noise, dust and smoke – Ch 20 03 03a

1920 04 07
Sussex Street to be widened, proposed cinema vetoed as would delay work on houses; suggestion that council buy plot and erect municipal cinema to avoid paying heavy compensation – Ch 20 04 07a, b

1920 04 21
New Road. A proposed road in Cambridge, which new will relieve the pressure of traffic in Silver Street, was described at a meeting of the Cambs. County Council on Saturday. The Town Council had written to the County authorities stating that they proposed to promote a Bill in the ensuing session of Parliament, and that they would be prepared to insert a clause providing for the construction by the County Council for a by-pass road from the Barton Road to Hills Road, with the necessary bridges. The Roads Committee of the County Council considers that such a road would he a desirable improvement, and the County Surveyor, the County Architect, and the Borough Surveyor are to confer with a view to preparing a plan showing the suggested links for

the proposed new road, together with an estimate of the cost. Alderman J. Q. Vinter said that the time had come when there should be proper communications between these districts. Councillor W. L. Rayners observing that the scheme might not be clear. It consisted of a road starting at the corner of the Barton Road, next to the Caius Ground, going down .over a sort of drift way towards the bathing sheds at the bottom of the Lammas Ground, which the Borough bought a little while ago, then across some private land reaching the river. There was a bridge, and over that bridge the road would join on the Pemberton Estate and link up with Chaucer Road, then reaching the main London road. It would then turn back a little way to the bridge over the Brook, joining up with Brooklands Avenue. It would make a main by-pass road which would avoid the necessity of using Silver Street, a main road with a bridge which was often dangerous for the traffic. The County Council agreed that the Town Council should be asked to insert a clause to the proposed bull which enable 20 04 21 CIPof

1920 10 22
Is insufficient garage accommodation in Cambridge, particularly on market days when cars are seen standing unattended in many of the thoroughfares. Some owners draw up at the garages and when informed there is no room for them leave the vehicles outside and proceed to do their business. - CDN 20 10 22

1922
Corporation proposals for the widening and improvement of Sidney Street and the lower part of Petty Cury met with vigorous opposition. In 1922 they had taken powers to prescribe frontage lines and in 1924 when Messrs Woolworth's and Sainsbury's came to Cambridge they agreed to set back their premises and gave the land to the Council. Various other places were reconstructed and now the frontage line had been prescribed from Sainsbury's to Millers with the exception of Almond's and the Prudential Assurance Company. 35 04 10 & a, 35 04 11

1922 07 25
The principal new roads proposed as part of the Cambridge town planning scheme include a main road starting from Red Cross, on Hills Road, going approximately north to Newmarket Road at the corner of Fen Ditton-lane, divided into sections. Number 3 runs in a straight line as far as the old Newmarket railway line and then slightly curves into Mill-Road. There are two branches which both lead towards the station. It will be necessary to form a subway under the railway or bridge the line, unless this line, which at present is only used for storage of railway carriages, is done away with altogether 22 07 25

1922 09 13
The Ministry of Health Inquiry into the proposals for the development of the east side of Cambridge was conducted at the Guildhall. There was practically no opposition. It will be remembered that the scheme provides for the laying out of 21 new roads or streets, including a main road from Hills Road to Newmarket-road. The area includes 502 acres in the rural district of Chesterton 22 09 13

1923 09 28
Cambridge town council agreed a scheme to construct a road across Coe Fen from the Coach and Horse public house, Newnham, to Coe Fen Lane. The Ministry of Transport have agreed to pay half the cost, and the road will be commenced almost at once so as to provide work for the unemployed during the coming winter. The scheme had been before the Council for nearly 20 years. Nine or 10 schemes had been presented and each member of the council appeared to think his particular scheme was the best. The great advantage of the present scheme was that the whole length of the road would be on the council's own land. 23 09 28 [3.2]

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1924 04 25
A consistory court heard a petition by the vicar of St Andrew the Great, Cambridge, for permission to sell to the corporation a strip of land in the church grounds required for street widening purposes. They all knew that the streets were hopelessly inadequate to deal with the volume of traffic which passed through. The only possible alternative would be to pull down the front of Christ College. If that strip of churchyard were taken and added to the street there might be less risk of accident, and the church would not press the claims of the dead at the expense of the claims of the living 24 04 25

1924 05 24
At Cambridge council Alderman Starr said a number of buildings in Hobson Street were coming down. It would make it a 40 feet road and they believed it would eventually become a very important thoroughfare. Unfortunately they were up against a very difficult problem at the Sidney Street end because they had a bank on one side and a college on the other. But this was really a safety point because converging traffic would have a slight obstacle to pull them up 24 05 24c

1924 12 02
The question of a parking place for buses and private motor cars was discussed at some length by Cambridge town council. The Watch Committee suggested that Drummer Street should be used as a parking place for motor cars and buses. The Surveyor submitted a plan which included taking in a portion of Christ's Pieces. It was resolved that the scheme should not be entertained and a proposal be considered for constructing a parking place on Butts Green

1924 12 06
The Town Clerk reported the receipt of a petition against the erection of a bridge over the river at Walnut Tree Avenue, Cambridge. It stated that the present extensive outlook of considerable beauty across the Commons was much appreciated by the residents and this would be practically eliminated by the approach to the proposed bridge. The value of property would be considerably depreciated 24 12 06

1925 06 20
The "one-way" traffic system in Petty Cury, Cambridge, has now been in force for so long that most people have come to regard it as a settled thing, but the regulation has to be formally approved by the Minister of Transport. The only criticism is that ordinary bicycles should be included in the term "vehicular traffic" but the Chief Constable takes the view that to prevent these riding both ways as at present would cause more trouble than the change would be worth 25 06 20

1925 07 06
The Ministry of Transport inquiry into the one-way vehicular traffic scheme in Petty Cury & Market Street, Cambridge, was held in the Guildhall. There was a very small attendance. Cambridge suffered, in common with other old towns, from the traffic problem. There had always been a great deal of traffic in these streets and the congestion was very serious. Both streets were used by motor buses. There were no objections but a great body of people wanted the regulation to cover bicycles as well as other vehicles 25 07 06 c

1925 08 09
The Corporation seems to have stirred up a good deal of indignation by their proposals with regard to the Drummer Street "motor park". In a town like Cambridge it certainly seems unwise to do anything that may detract from its attractiveness. A suggestion has been put that the 'park'

should be established on Butt's Green and not at Drummer Street at all. A petition has been presented to the Mayor asking her to call at Town's meeting and it is hoped that the request will be acceded to c25 08 09

1925 08 12
The protest meeting against the taking of part of Christ's Pieces for parking motor vehicles attracted a crowd of over 2,000 people to Drummer Street & was marked by a remarkable climax. After a resolution of protest had been passed the crowd voted a desire to take it to the Mayor that night. Speeches had been delivered from a four-wheeled waggon and the shafts were quickly manned and the waggon containing councillors who had spoken was dragged at a good pace to the Mayor's house in Newton Road. Something like a 1,000 people followed in its wake.

1925 08 23
As the result of an open-air meeting on Parker's Piece efforts are being made to form a Ratepayers' Association whose first business will be to contest the legality of the Cambridge Town Council's action in encroaching on Christ's Pieces for the purpose of providing a parking place for motor vehicles. This was absolutely illegal. Within twelve months the continual movement of vehicles on what was virtually a made-up bog the road would drop six inches. The Ortona Bus Company will be the first people to say they have been pushed into a rotten corner that is of no use to them c25 08 23

1925 10 22
There was another 'battle of the bridges' at Cambridge Town Council when the question of the erection of bridges across the Cam was brought forward. With the opening up of Mill Road there were people who only got ten minutes home to dinner owing to delay at the ferry. The Paving committee recommended that the footbridge at Pretoria Road be proceeded with and that a temporary footbridge be erected at Dant's Ferry pending construction of a vehicular bridge. It was dangerous to go over Victoria Bridge and they must have a new vehicular bridge if only to modify that danger 25 10 22

1925 11 28
Drummer Street proposals go ahead, opens in November & various country buses stop there rather than on Senate House Hill; later Ortona also use it, causing overcrowding & disputes [1.14]

1926 12 02
The official testing took place of the bridges along the new road through Coe Fen, The Fen Causeway. They are Snobbs' Bridge, Flood Water Bridge and the River Bridge. The last is the most important and five steam rollers and one steam tractor, together weighing 63 tons were driven across it, passing each other, thus making 63 tons rolling weight, equivalent to about 100 tons dead weight. The Cambridge Borough Surveyor and councillors boarded a punt and viewed the deflectometer under the bridge, which gave a satisfactory reading. The foundations consist of 100 piles of 40 feet length, weighing about four tons each

1926 12 09
Fen Causeway, the new and important link between Newnham and the rest of Cambridge, was opened by the Mayor. The bridge and its approaches were gaily decorated with bunting and presented a colourful scene. The project of relieving Silver Street traffic had started as long ago as 1904 and discussion had gone on for nearly 20 years before the Town Council approved the plan in 1923. Nine proposals had been put forward and had it not been for the urgency of the unemployment question the same position would have existed today, only instead of nine there might have been nineteen different schemes (Laughter). Public enquiry held Feb 1924, work

started May 1924. Had been considerable opposition - 'ugly & spoil amenities of Coe Fen & Sheep Green but this some monstrosity they had conjured up" 26 12 09

1927 03 03
The chief engineering feature of regional planning will be a new ring road all around Cambridge about two miles from the centre of the town. One length would be a road running north and south joining the Hills Road with the Newmarket Road, a length of about three miles. Certain roads and bridges were contemplated to obtain an inner ring road around the central portion of the town. Mr C.H. Tebbitt said that what had been done haphazard in the villages was the joy of the countryside and he wondered what would have happened to these beauty spots if they had been regional planned. 27 03 03

1927 04 06
St Mary's St - Great St Mary's church council replied to the Corporation's plans to widen St Mary's Street. They cannot sanction obtaining a faculty for the proposed work as increased heavy motor traffic coming so close to the church will be a very real danger to the safety of the foundations and fabric. Widening the street would create a death-trap and they propose to adopt every means in their power to prevent the scheme being carried out. 27 04 06

1927 07 02
Sir – the work has been started to widen Victoria Avenue, Cambridge, from the Four Lamps to Victoria Bridge. The roadway when finished will be wide enough for vehicle traffic to proceed four abreast. The Bridge will not be so wide as the road and heavy traffic may mean serious congestion. Some suggest the road over the bridge may be made wider by making the footpaths overlap the river. If this were done the narrow road on the north side would be an obstacle and as this roadway cannot be made right through to Chesterton Road this scheme should never go forward – E. Clayden 27 07 02 [3.21, 49.62 1.7]

1928 01 11
An inquiry was held into Cambridge council's application to borrow money for the purchase of property in Peas Hill for an extension of the Guildhall. There was an increase of administrative staff and the offices were not adequate to enable the duties to be carried out efficiently. With the acquisition of the property the Corporation would hold the entire island site which would facilitate the suggested scheme for the reconstruction of the Guildhall. They had been met in a conciliatory spirit by the owners of the property and a favourable provisional agreement had been arrived at.

1928 01 27
Cambridge council discussed recommendations to build a bridge over the river at or near Abbey Road. An inner ring road would circle the town on the outskirts which was necessary in view of the ever-increasing traffic and congestion in the centre of Cambridge. They suggested that a direct by-pass road be constructed by linking Chesterton Road with Milton Road

1928 03 03
Magdalene St - Magdalene College hopes that a start will soon be made on the building of a new court on the opposite side of the Street. Plans have been drawn up for a three-sided brick court open to the river, traditional in style. The flank parallel with Magdalene Street will not interfere with the existing shops, but the thoroughfare is long overdue for widening and from the remodelled bridge there would then be a noble prospect of the new court with a lawn or gravel forecourt separated from the pavement by a low parapet. 28 03 03

1928 09 05
Planners suggested there should be a belt on the west side of Cambridge where, if there were any development at all, it should be very sparse. Most of the land belonged to the colleges and it would be a good thing if they got together and put their estates into the hands of an association so that land which would be sterilised would be balanced by other where development was allowed. Ribbon development was bound to continue but there should be a very wide belt between the road and the houses. While people could buy frontages to public roads at about £2 a foot they did not mind going out a few miles. 28 09 05

1928 10 20
"There are probably a large number of people in Cambridge who would like to pull down half the colleges for street widening purposes and more who would be entranced by a design for a new King's College Chapel, done by the Borough Surveyor and suitably embellished with pagodas & geraniums", claims The Observer. The article includes the headlines 'A Threat to Cambridge. The Vandal on the Backs. Blackpool-on the-Cam'. It reveals how ignorant they are of modern Cambridge opinion. 28 10 20

1928 10 23
Market Hill - What is probably the largest single deal in Cambridge business property ever known has just been completed. A well-known local young man has purchased property with frontages in Market Hill, Petty Cury and Sidney Street and this will be developed by a company consisting of Cambridge people. It includes premises occupied by the Craft Shoe Company, the Cambridge Chronicle offices and printing works and Boots the chemist. As Messrs Boots recently secured a large amount of property in Petty Cury and Sidney Street it would appear that big changes will be seen in this part of town when both sites are developed. 28 10 23

1929 02 19
Cambridge councillors debated the proposed exchange of Butts Green for New Square in order that it might be converted into a parking place. If I lived in New Square I should not be at all pleased at the idea of that nice little patch of green giving way to a parking place, but if I had a business establishment in Fitzroy Street I should say "Yes, let the cars park there by all means". There is a danger of New Square being built upon in the near future and residents may consider a car park the least of two evils. Others are concerned about using the amenities of Butts Green, though one questioned whether it was used for anything but beating carpets.

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1929 12 02
An interesting improvement scheme will shortly be undertaken in Petty Cury and Sidney Street. Messrs Boots the Chemist have acquired extensive property with a view to re-housing their old establishment which has grown during some 30 years. Now the time is ripe to erect an emporium to provide an attractive shopping centre for patrons of all classes. The architect is Mr Percy J. Bartlett of Nottingham and his primary consideration is an external appearance that will

harmonise with Cambridge's noble architectural traditions and raise the standard of commercial architecture. Building operations will commence early in the New Year CDN 2.12.1929

1930

1930s
A Ring Road was proposed for Cambridge before the war. It was to run from Trumpington Road and Brooks Road to Coldham's Lane, then on across Milton Road, Huntingdon Road and so to Hills Road. Thousands of pounds were spent to make a dual carriageway from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk with a ramp six feet high to start the viaduct across the river. This section was completed and only required the final tarmac surface. Now half of the dual carriageways have been dug up and the ramp bulldozed & excavated several feet down & hundreds of tons of rubble carted in for new foundations to make what is left of the Ring Road curve into Ditton Walk. It appears that houses are to be built on what was actually the destroyed part of the road. The completed Ring Rd would have catered for through traffic. It cost many thousands of pounds to make and over £34,500 to destroy 59 09 01 [5]

1930 01
Opposition to Regional Planning Scheme proposals for a Ring Road [6.14]

1930 03 19
Sidney Street: Demolition work has just begun on the Sidney Street corner of Sussex Street as a first step towards the most important of reconstruction scheme for the improvement of Cambridge for many years. Sidney Sussex College will develop the whole side on modern lines; within the next year an imposing block of buildings, providing shops and offices will rise. It will be connected to Hobson Street by an artistically-designed crescent and colonnade of 12 shops which will allow vehicles to pass freely in the middle of Sussex Street. The most striking feature will be seen in the further development of the north side 30 03 19b

1930 03 22
There never was a time surely when there were so many works of destruction going on as at present. Little bits of old Cambridge are going one by one and elaborate new buildings are rising up in their place. Following demolition in Petty Cury and Sidney Street now we see old houses and shops in Sussex Street being knocked down. No wonder that those who come back to the town after a few years' absence express amazement at the changes they see. When we think of the bridges built at Newnham and Chesterton, of the streets that have been widened, the new recreation ground opened and the great business changes effected in the heart of the town we may well gasp. 30 03 22 a

1930 05 19
Cambridge has found dealing with motor traffic increasingly difficult in recent years, Counsel told an inquiry. He emphasised the inconvenience to motorists when no central parking places were available but now the council had made an agreement with Jesus College for the use of New Square as a car park in exchange for Butt Green and a piece of Midsummer Common. It would mean the surrender of 2½ acres of Common Land, but it would remain undeveloped & would allow the college to make a new entrance. The scheme was approved. 30 05 19 & b

1930 07 21

Cambridge planners say that Huntingdon and Barton Road are already practically fully developed on both sides, similar building is taking place along Trumpington Road & housing in Madingley Road will increase now the sewers are laid. There will probably be spur roads which will have no regard to the traffic needs of the area as a whole and the result will be a hotch-potch similar to that before the days of town planning. Soon there will be no possibility getting a cross-road between Huntingdon Road and Trumpington without the demolition of buildings or serious interference with the land-owners. 30 07 21a-c

1930 07 25
The controversy over the University Farm on Huntingdon Road was resolved when Cambridge councillors rejected proposals for a road across the land. It had never been a ring road, only a road to be planned in the event of traffic conditions demanding it. It was altogether wrong to put an arterial road in the middle of a rural area which they desired to preserve and which they hoped would never be required. They should ensure that Grantchester and Coton were not swallowed up by Cambridge in the way that Trumpington and Girton were. 30 07 25a-c

1930 07 25
Cambridge councillors have received consent for a new road from Milton Road to Histon Road at a cost of £18,135. St John's College would give the land which was required for housing purposes, it would be one of the best estates and the frontages would sell at very high price. Grants have been received for King's Hedges and Green End Road as part of the unemployment scheme with one-third of the labour being imported from the distressed areas. 30 07 25d

1930 09 03
Another example of the 'new Cambridge' in the making is the extensive site on which Magdalene College intends erecting an imposing new wing. It is at the rear of the Pickerel and Cross Keys yards originally occupied by Bird's vinegar and mustard factory. Mallory Court will provide the principal access but eventually a complete transformation will be effected by the demolition of all the property between the bridge and Northampton Street making Magdalene Street a broad and handsome thoroughfare. 30 09 03c

1930 12 06
Sir. All Cambridge men will be alarmed at the threat to build an arterial ring road bisecting Grantchester Meadows. The meadows are owned by King's College. We regard their preservation as a trust; we will not build on them, nor near them. We will do nothing to change their character and refuse to contemplate such a calamity – The Dean of King's 30 12 06

1931
Sidney Street: rebuilding on east side for Dorothy, Woolworths etc [IC.11.1]

1931 05
Sussex St demolition 1929-30, rebuild 1931 [6.13]

1931
Deed of covenant signed by Cambridge Preservation Society, Kings college & Borough council for preservation of college land in Grantchester area; Society paid £7,549 into university & college estates account of Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries to safeguard college land from development, part of £10,000 grant from Pilgrim Trust; borough undertake not to plan any ring or

other road crossing college property or sited nearer to Cambridge than southward of the village of Grantchester [49.62.9]

1931 06 12
The new road under construction between Milton and Histon Roads provides some exceptionally attractive sites for those wishing to erect a private house. It has much to recommend it as Chesterton is a very popular district but most of the available land within a reasonable distance of town has already been taken up. The plots are for the erection of private dwellings only and no bungalows or inadequate houses can be erected. 31 06 12k

1931 08 21
The parishes of Histon and Impington will vote on proposals for an extended Borough of Cambridge taking in the rural district within a three-mile radius. There was little desire on the part of rural residents to come into the Borough, there was no real community or interest between them. Cambridge would really be a little county with a population greater than Huntingdonshire. But what was left of Chesterton RDC would be unable to function and the administration of the rest of the county would be extremely difficult. 31 08 21c

1931 11 27
The question of the development of the industrial side of Cambridge has cropped up periodically over a good many years. Hitherto works and factories have not been encouraged - the serene, academic atmosphere should be maintained at all cost. But economic pressure, the diminution in the spending power of the undergraduates, depression of agriculture and trade have hit the town very hard. Cloistered calm is all very well, but people must live. 31 11 27b & c

1932 03 23
After all the controversy and heated arguments of a few years ago, there was no excitement at the opening of the New Square parking place. The council turned up in force and from under the shelter of umbrellas watched the Mayoress drive her car through the pale blue ribbon that had been knotted across the opening. At last motorists have a place where they can leave their cars and not come into the police courts. The Master of Jesus suggested that path inside the trees should be known as Coleridge Walk. 32 03 23b

1932 04 06
Sussex Street: new shops open [1.5]

1932 04 13
Large new buildings designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens are part of a comprehensive extension scheme by Magdalene College on land originally occupied by Bird's vinegar and mustard factory. For two years it has been one of Cambridge's biggest building contracts but the comparative obscurity of the site has kept it out of the public eye. Eventually the whole of the west side of Magdalene Street from the bridge to Northampton Street will be cleared for reconstruction with a more imposing bridge and a further college wing at right angles to the present one. 32 04 13

1932 05 14
King's Parade - There is praise for the improvements along King's Parade effected by the substitution of the low stone balustrade for the old hurdles and the construction of the light railings to separate King's College and Senate House Yard. All the work has been done by local

labour. Messrs Coulson and Rattee and Kett have been the builders and the iron railings have been made by George Lister and Sons. 32 05 14a

1932 06 04
A new Cambridge Guildhall should be built on the corner of East Road and Parkside where the site is three times as large, meeting the requirements of the Corporation for many years. The existing Guildhall on Market Hill should be replaced with shops on the ground floor and offices and flats above, councillors have recommended. 32 06 04a, 06a, 06aa

1932 08 06
"Milton Road merry-go-round" - Mitcham's roundabout installed [2.3]

1932 11 26
St Andrews Street: Llandaff House pulled down [1.17]

1933 05 26
Sidney St - Proposals to set back the line of buildings in Sidney Street would leave only two small properties jutting out between Woolworth's and the corner. There was no room for people to move on the pavement and it would be a great improvement. But Mrs Rackham said it was unreasonable to pay so much money: the owners demanded compensation that equated to nearly half a million pounds an acre. This was not new: when a building line was prescribed in King Street, property which formerly sold at £1,500 immediately fetched £2,000. 33 05 26 f & g

1933 08 28
Market Street: Changing face of Cambridge – Stetchworth diaries Market Street shop –33 08 28

1933 09 19
Cambridge Guildhall dated back to about 1782 and there had been various extensions. In 1928 the Corporation bought shops in Peas Hill to allow for rebuilding. The possibility of providing shops on the ground floor had been considered but this would not allow sufficient offices for the extra staff needed to cope with their increased duties, an Inquiry was told. 33 09 19

1934 03 08
A question of moving back the railings on Christ's Pieces to extend the Drummer Street parking station again came before the council. Councillor Stubbs had opposed it from the first; at weekends there was congestion of buses in Drummer Street at a place where pedestrians were crossing. Councillor Few said it was unfair to the railways who had to find their own land for parking: it was the buses that took up the space and it was wrong to give up public property for them. But Mrs Hartree said the car park was chiefly for the people from the rural surroundings and was very important. The vote was tied. 34 03 08

1934 05 15
Marshall's Flying School propose to carry out improvements to their aerodrome and had purchased Elfleda Farm through which the proposed Ring Road would run. They asked the Council to move the route slightly east. But the Surveyor said this was not possible. The whole of the land is zoned for dwelling houses and this would be have to be borne in mind if any proposals were made to them for further developing this aerodrome. 34 05 15

1934 07 11
The Cambridgeshire Regional Planning Report, a handsome volume illustrated with original wood-cuts and photographs, contains many valuable suggestions for the development of the county. In villages the problem is not only one of controlling new development but also preventing their decay and alteration of character. Provision must be made for industrial expansion around Cambridge. The Government should construct new roads and the Roads Beautifying Association advise on the planting of verges with flowering shrubs to enhance their scenic value. 34 07 11 [3.1]

1934 08 01
Gonville and Caius College's scheme for the complete rebuilding of the block of shops and houses on the north side of Cambridge Market Hill has been finally approved. At present the site from Rose Crescent to St Mary's Court is occupied by a group of houses, mostly of the 18th century. Their disappearance will be regretted, even by those who knew how dilapidated they had become behind their neat Georgian facades. But the whole effect of the completed block should stifle these regrets. The shops will be set back seven feet with upper rooms carried on slender pillars. 34 08 01 [1.1,Ic. 6.17]

1934 08 03
Sidney Street: widening proposed [1.2,1.19]

1935
Peas Hill: houses on west side demolished for Arts Theatre [IC.8.15]
1935
Market Hill: rebuilding on corner of Rose Crescent [IC.6.15]

1935 04 10
Corporation proposals for the widening and improvement of Sidney Street and the lower part of Petty Cury met with vigorous opposition. In 1922 they had taken powers to prescribe frontage lines and in 1924 when Messrs Woolworth's and Sainsbury's came to Cambridge they agreed to set back their premises and gave the land to the Council. Various other places were reconstructed and now the frontage line had been prescribed from Sainsbury's to Millers with the exception of Almond's and the Prudential Assurance Company. The Surveyor said the street was urgently in need of widening to cope with increased traffic 35 04 10 & a, 35 04 11

1935 04 10
Demolition work on Peas Hill for the new Guildhall has led to an architectural discovery of outstanding interest. It has revealed the residence and business premises of a well-to-do Tudor merchant which was subsequently divided up into a detached and two semi-detached houses. The magnificent front was covered up with lath and plaster in the reign of Queen Anne and finished with mock bricks. Dummy eaves were also added. Now each piece has been carefully taken down and numbered for preservation and re-erection. 35 04 10

1935 05 24
Silver Street: demolition for Walnut Tree Court, Queens College [IC.11.15, 6.3]

1935 06 01
"Never before has Cambridge witnessed so much pulling down & building up" [1.20]

1935 06 05
Cambridge Town Council was among the pioneers of town planning, the Mayor (Ald R. Starr) told a conference. "We town planned the eastern portion of our Borough in 1927. Why we did such a small portion I cannot understand, though I was chairing the committee, but we got on with it very satisfactorily. In 1928 we launched the Cambridge and district town-planning scheme and since then have been sticking very truthfully to it, dealing with difficult problems". Town planning is not smooth. It is full of snags with so many people to consult, he warned. 35 06 05 & a

1935 08 28
Sidney Street: New front to Lloyd's Bank – photo – 35 08 28a

1936 05 25
The Gog Magog Hills are in immediate danger. The rapid progressive uglification of Cambridge means that already the view is spoiled by 'the thoughtless spawning' of houses higgledy-piggledy. The Preservation Society has no money and it is no use leaving the matter to that body. Colleges and private owners should be compensated for the difference between what they would get by selling land for building and agricultural use. The 'Cambridge Daily News' should start a fund and undergraduates organise a flag day, Professor Rattray urges in an article in 'The Times' 36 05 25b

1935 06 26
The proposed Cambridge town planning scheme envisages a ring road to encircle the whole town with the construction of by-pass roads and the improvement of dangerous junctions. The level crossings on the Milton and Cherry Hinton roads will be replaced with bridges. An area of 190 acres on Milton Road opposite the sewage farm acres is reserved for a municipal aerodrome with a municipal golf course off Trumpington Road 35 06 26a

1936 03 28
Under new restrictions Cambridge motorists may not travel from Market Hill towards Trinity Street or into Bene't Street from King's Parade. You may not drive into Sussex Street from Hobson Street or into Corn Exchange Street from Downing Street, nor turn at Burton's Corner, Petty Cury to go to the Victoria Cinema or from Wheeler Street into Peas Hill to get to the Arts Theatre. But cyclists may walk with their bicycles either way as they do at present in Petty Cury and Market Street. Restaurants will have to speed up their service if they wish to cater for those who leave their cars outside, for only a quarter of an hour is permitted. Travellers who do not want to get indigestion had better make use of a parking space! 36 03 28b

1936 04 18
The work of pulling down and building up in Cambridge goes merrily on. Anyone revisiting the town after only a few years' absence must be amazed at the remarkable changes taking place from the old Post Office to the Catholic Church. In a few years this will form the most important and best shopping centre in Cambridge. Now no.14 Regent Street, which was built at the end of the 18th century, will be pulled down by Messrs Herbert Robinson to make an extension of their business. This will mean a further improvement in the building line with a consequent street widening. 36 04 18b

1936 04 25
Sussex Street: north side demolished, rebuild similar to south side [1.24]

1936 05 30
Fitzroy Street shop owner blames losses on Corporation slum clearance and multiple shops 36 05 30

1936 12 08
The draft Cambridge town planning scheme would see the construction of bridges and closure of the level crossings at Histon and Shelford with footbridges for pedestrians. The line of the Ring Road from Huntingdon Road to Shelford was agreed and the difficult question of the aerodrome settled. 36 12 08

1936 12 10
Cambridge Town Planning scheme – 36 12 10g

1937 02 25
The Gogs preservation scheme is intended to secure the uplands and keep them open for the people of Cambridge at all time. The Prime Minister wrote a letter endorsing the appeal. There was a danger land might be developed for houses and once this started there was every possibility of it spreading. Speculative builders were spoiling the country. They bought materials cheaply and dumped them anywhere they chose, building incongruous houses all over the country. 37 02 25 & a

1937 07 16
Trumpington consisted largely of houses strung out along the main road but new plans for development on land owned by the Pemberton trustees would create a self-contained colony with a recreation ground surrounded by 280 houses. It would allow the village to develop a character rather than being a string of houses, an Inquiry was told. The Council would also like to borrow £13,300 to purchase part of the Cherry Hinton Hall Estate for public walks and pleasure grounds. The Hall might become a headquarters for the propagation of plants. This was likely to be a centre of considerable building development and it would be right to secure such open space 37 07 16

1937 12 13
The Borough Council approved a scheme for a ring road from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk. This would be a dual carriageway with a grass strip 26 feet wide between them, a nine-foot wide cycle track and paved footpath. It would be reduced to 100 ft under and near the bridge which would carry the railway over the road near Coldham's Lane. This will be constructed by the railway company. The cost would be £77,550, to which must be added the construction of a soil sewer. 37 12 13b

1937 12 16
Back in 1924 Green End Road and Kings Hedges Road were narrow country roads with hedges on each side and a narrow carriageway in the centre with rough grass margins on either side. Then the Cambridge Town Planning Scheme began to evolve and development started to take place. The Corporation built some wood framed houses on the west side of Kings Hedges Road and the housing society erected houses on the same side of Green End Road. Gradually houses began to appear on the opposite side and then the proposed ring road was agreed. Builders told to keep their houses far enough back to enable the required width but then the council purchased the land and constructed the ring road in front of the properties without any cost to them. The same

procedure was followed on King's Hedges Road from Milton Road to the old borough boundary 37 12 16c

1938 02 03
King's Hedges Road was shown as a private carriageway under the Inclosure Award of 1840, so why was it now repairable by Cambridge ratepayers, Councillor Edwards asked. The Town Clerk said that in 1912, when the Borough was extended, part of King's Hedges Road was handed over by Chesterton Urban District Council as a highway repairable by the inhabitants at large and in 1934 the County passed over the remaining portion on the same terms. It seemed Chesterton UDC had simply begun repairing the road thus making it a public highway. It was a mistake made in good faith and it would be a waste of time to consider it further. 38 02 03b

1938 03 15
Drummer Street park was made for private cars, and now they seemed to be letting the Bus Company monopolise it; they should find a parking place of their own, a councillor urged. But Ald Starr said it was opened not for private cars but for the benefit of the working men and women who came into Cambridge by bus. Now it was used as a car park by professional and business people who left their vehicles there all morning and afternoon. Coun Stubbs said they were at their wits' end to know what to do with the traffic. It was easy to talk about telling the Bus Company to find a new park, but where could they go? 38 03 25a

1938 03 21
Eastern Counties Omnibus Company complained of difficulties manoeuvring their buses at the Drummer Street terminus. They suggested the Corporation reduce the width of the footpath. The Borough Surveyor disagreed. He suggested that the space reserved for the parking of cars should be reduced by 54 feet from the high kerb against the coffee stall. But the Watch Committee decided that the time was now approaching when Eastern Counties should cease to use Drummer Street and consider the provision elsewhere of their own bus station 38 03 21a

1938 04 30
The proposed new buildings for St John's College involve the immediate erection of buildings to complete the present Chapel Court with wings projecting beyond to the north and east. These should be ready for occupation by Michaelmas 1939, including 50 undergraduates and ten fellows' sets of rooms. There will be an open court facing Bridge Street should the houses eventually be taken down and the road widened and ultimately a riverside court overlooking Magdalene 38 04 30 & a

1938 07 22
Amongst the many improvements in Cambridge during the past few years there is none more striking that that which has been effected in Sussex Street. Those who recall the dark narrow lane of bygone days, with its overhanging roofs on either side, and its small, ill-lit shops, will hardly recognise the imposing street that has emerged from the builders' hands. When the first part of the scheme was completed it gave promise of a really worth-while improvement, and now that the other side of the street has been given a new face, with its line of modern shops and shop-fronts, the full effect is visible. Sussex Street is the most striking of the many improvements made in Cambridge during the past few years. 38 07 22

1938 07 27

Silver Street Bridge was at present 21ft 6ins wide. Some years ago the Council bought land on the south side to enable it to be increased to 28ft when re-building was done. But it was unnecessary to increase it to 40ft as the road beside the old buildings of Queens' College could not be widened. Now the college wanted to redevelop and had offered land provided the bridge was widened – 38 07 23a & b Borough council decide to apply for funding – 38 07 27

1939 03 07
Cambridge & District Town Planning scheme inquiry heard that Grantchester Meadows, a large area of land between Cambridge and Coton, the University Farm and land at the Gog Magog Hills had been safeguarded. An area of 160 acres near Trumpington should be reserved for a municipal golf course. But at Rectory Farm, Milton the field the Corporation wanted to take was the only old pasture on the farm and the tenant had 21 cows and a bull. If he had to give it up it would take 10 years before the grass would be useful for milking purposes 39 03 07a

1940

1940 01 30
Ministry veto new houses, price agreed for Marshall's land, ring road work continues – 40 01 30b, c

1943 05 07
Cambridge will need 4,000 new houses after war say planners – 43 05 07

1946 07 19
Undergraduates under 22 banned for keeping a motor vehicle within 25 miles Gt St Mary's if proposals accepted; those eligible to drive will need licence from Proctor – 46 07 19

1946 11 05
Plan for new town in Cambs welcomed - 46 11 01; alternative to 'urban sprawls' – 46 11 05

1947
Cambridge loses planning powers to County under Town & Country Planning Act & Holford appointed consultant to County Council

1947 01 13
One-way system introduced St Johns St & Trinity St, Green St [3.4, 3.5]

1947 10 01
The Chief Constable (B.N. Bebbington) told Cambridge Rotary Club that he would like to see a scheme whereby traffic was banned - at least buses and heavy traffic - in the centre of Cambridge. "In Petty Cury on Saturdays there is insufficient room for traffic, let alone pedestrians. It would be more satisfactory if that central part of the town was for pedestrian traffic only. That is a sweeping thing to say and will not find favour in all quarters". Referring to criticism that the one-way traffic scheme soon to be introduced in the centre of town was "the wrong way round" he explained that it diverted from the town centre the large amount of traffic going to the station from the Chesterton direction and would encourage lorry drivers passing through Cambridge to take the route through the Backs. More car parks in the centre of the town were obviously a need, and there were plans in existence to provide them 47 10 01

1948
Cambridge loses planning powers to County under Town & Country Planning Act & Holford appointed consultant to County Council

1948 05 19
Fears about Cambridge's famous "Backs" being incorporated in a Trunk Road system were expressed at a County Council meeting and one member declared that if the amenities of the "Backs" were spoilt the "whole feeling of the town" would be altered. The committee requested the Minister of Transport to expedite the construction of a ring road so as to relieve the "Backs" of through traffic

1948 06 01
Today the one-way traffic system designed to relieve congestion in the centre of Cambridge came into operation. In Sidney Street and Bridge Street the traffic will flow in a northerly direction towards Magdalene Street from the town centre, while in St John's street and Trinity Street it will flow in a southerly direction towards King's Parade. In Green Street traffic will flow in one direction from Gifford Place to Trinity Street - and the remainder of Green Street will be open for two-way traffic. This extension of "one-way" traffic will link up with the system now in operation at St Mary's street, Market Hill (north side) and Market Street 48 06 01

1948 06 04 c
Sir - the one-way system has certainly created danger spots at the corner of St John's Street, Cambridge. They could be remedied by putting traffic lights there back into operation. The only alternative would be to divert all traffic into Petty Cury. Every user of Petty Cury will have to agree that it is already far too narrow even for the present volume of traffic - pedestrians are crowded into the roadway and bus drivers often have their work cut out to squeeze their buses through at walking pace. Short of some more radical plan (e.g. banning all motor traffic from the streets round Market Hill) I think the one-way system is as good as we shall get - A.E.B. Owen 48 06 04

1948 07 26
The "chaotic condition" of Cambridge traffic was explained by Ald W.J. Taylor at a meeting of the County Council when he said: "They have tried to bring traffic into the town for the sake of the business of the town. They never thought to plan the town properly and the widening of some of the streets has been the biggest mistake there ever was. They talked about the ring road but took great care they never made it so that motorists should come in and spend their money". Councillor Dennard said the one-way traffic system, with streets used as car parks, had caused chaos

1949 07 20
The Ministry of Transport has refused a request by Cambridge Corporation for a grant towards the cost – estimated at £23,288 – of work on the ring road between Coldham's Lane and Ditton Walk. A grant from the road fund was out of the question as the work was of "purely local necessity" and there was no prospect of completing the ring road for some years 49 07 20

1949 07 25
The Ministry of Transport's refusal to accede to their application for a grant towards the cost of building a ring road from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk was attacked at the meeting of the Cambridge town council. Ald. Raynes said they had decided in 1938 to proceed with a ring road on the East side of the town to link up Milton Road, over the river and railway on the north side,

and the Hauxton and Hills Road on the south side. It was a tremendous job financially, and would obviously serve the nation and not merely the ratepayers of Cambridge.

1949 09 06
Sir - None of our streets in Cambridge is wide enough to allow vehicles to be parked all down one side, as they do now. Petty Cury, on a Saturday especially, is almost a death-trap. The pavements are not wide enough for people to walk more than two abreast; therefore they walk on the road, thus giving bus drivers in particular a nightmare. This could be relieved to a certain extent if there were no vehicles parked all down one side. I suggest a big improvement would be the abolishing of all street parking and a municipal car park made on Midsummer common – Frederick Prior 49 09 06

1949 09 16
Sir - I should like to see a stop put to the continued attempts to introduce new industries and build up Cambridge into an administrative centre. No one can deny that the town centre is grossly overcrowded consequent upon the locust-like plague of foreigners and civil servants that have descended during and since the war years. Wherever the spread continues the town centre will still be the main shopping centre and conditions will steadily deteriorate until it becomes imperative to demolish and rebuild and so destroy the old and loved Cambridge with its unique old-world charm, and transform it into something unattractive and ordinary – "Simplicitas" 49 09 16

1949 10 12
Cambridge town council considered the proposed resiting of the war memorial. A scheme for a traffic roundabout at the Station Road junction means that if it were left in its present position it would be marred by the number of "Keep left" bollards and other traffic signs which would be necessary for the direction of traffic. An alternative position involved the acquisition of certain land fronting the Botanic Garden which would provide a restful haven away from traffic. None of the Servicemen's organisations was in favour of the removal of the War memorial front its present position.

1949 11 01
Holford Report presented to Borough for consideration - "did not consult them while preparing it". Considerable disagreement eg County want Spine Relief Road & to close Magdalene St while Borough want to widen it & rebuild bridge [1.11] (ironically the press report omits the word "out" to report statement: " it is possible to sort the traffic problems with widening ancient Streets throughout 49 11 01[1.10])

1949 12 22
The Mayor of Cambridge, Ald W.G. James, spoke of the new town plan and said: "Planning has ceased to be a phase in our national existence; it tends to be a disease. Looking back through the ages I don't think Cambridge is really such a bad old town, and I think if the planning of our borough was left a little more to the people who live in it – and have to pay for that planning – that we should not make such a dreadful mess of it as people living outside think we might. Some of the current proposals are so drastic that if I come back in 100 years I shall not be able to recognise the Cambridge I knew. I believe in planning for the future, but to live in chaos for a generation for the sake of one's grandchildren is a little too altruistic"

1950

1950 01 30
Holford Report published
This document that would have a profound impact on the development of Cambridge. The County Council had employed planning consultants Professor W.G. Holford and Mr H. Myles Wright to consider the future.

Plan envisages a Cambridge with several new roads, three new bridges, an expanded university with one or two new colleges and a maximum population of 100,000 people.
Cambridge had already grown considerably in recent years and a further large growth of population would have no benefit to its residents. It would remain a small University market town.
University expansion was inevitable and proposed that all sites west of the river between Huntingdon and Barton Road should be regarded as a reserve for University building.
The housing shortage was already so great that the present inhabitants could not be housed within ten years. The area had virtually no unemployment and there were already about 1,800 jobs on offer so industrial development was to be prohibited.
A three-storey car park at Lion Yard to accommodate 400 cars, with shops on the ground floor and pedestrianised precinct.
The historic centre was unable meet shopping needs of future, "We regard Fitzroy Street as ... a valuable relief for shopping pressure on the older centre"
Included proposals for East & West Cambridge by-passes, Chesterton (Elizabeth) Bridge, Cross Town route & Spine Relief Road from Huntingdon Road crossing the Cam on a brand new bridge and running over Jesus Green and Christ's Pieces to Drummer Street. [2.4,2.3]

1950 05 03
Population increased 16% between 1937 & 1949, compared to 1% for London; 500 due to national increase, 17,000 come to work in town; population now 84,000, should stop at 100,000 [3.7]

1950 06 26
Current tendencies towards over-planning and regimentation were criticised by the Master of Downing College at Leys School speechday. "I cannot but be disturbed at the modern tendency for intensive planning and indeed super planning where we have ever-growing hedges of regulations and a tendency to judge men by their records in a card index. Would the prize-winners of the future have their careers chosen for them by a civil servant – helped by a psychiatrist – who would study the child's records from his first protest to the world to his leaving school. One day frustrated middle-age would rise in revolt and consign the super-planners to a gigantic bonfire of their own plans", he said 50 06 26

1950 11 30
Local tradesmen are becoming worried about the parking situation in Cambridge. They fear that if this goes on the people will not come shopping in the town, said a solicitor appearing for a motorist summoned for a parking offence. Altogether there were 16 cases before the court and fines totalling £12 10s were imposed. One motorist, whose car was punctured late one night, parked it in a side street off Mill Road and knowing that the battery would last only two hours at the most had not put his lights on. There was nothing else he could do. He was fined 10s.

1950 12 04

Sir – Cambridge tradesmen are beginning to fear lest they should lose an appreciable amount of custom as a result of the prohibitions regarding shopping by car in the principal streets of the town. Let the general body of tradesmen follow the example which a few far-seeing individuals have already set – that of opening suburban branches to which the main trade can, in course of time, be transferred. Let nothing be done to retard the growth of the brave new Cambridge visualised by our civic leaders – a dream city from which vehicular traffic of every kind has been excluded and from which all the crumbling and deserted business premises have gradually been swept away – D.B.M.C

1950 12 09
"The almost hopeless state of parking in Cambridge" was referred to when Ald F.J. Priest urged the demolition without delay of Liddiard's garage on St Andrew's Hill – thus providing parking spaces for some of the season-ticket holders at Lion Yard. The building had been scheduled as an 'architectural novelty' but there would be no objection to its immediate demolition.

1951 01 23
Cambridge town planning committee say there can be no justification for a spine relief road between Histon Road corner and Jesus Lane merely to preserve for a few years more buildings on the west side of Magdalene Street which, although of some architectural interest, are sub-standard from every other point of view. Pending demolition the commercial use of the buildings should be terminated, doing away with the necessity for vehicles to wait outside 51 01 23

1951 02 26
A number of proposals to alleviate Cambridge's parking problem have been compiled by the Chamber of Commerce. They include the triangular site on the corner of Silver Street & Queen's Road used as a military car park during the war; the site on Trumpington Road formerly occupied by army huts but now in temporary occupation by squatters; at Castle Street opposite the Shire Hall and also on Butts Green during the building operations at Lion Yard.

1951 03 14
Cambridge Council is to recommend a scheme for a multi-deck car park at the Lion Yard. The Surveyor suggests all adjoining property owned by the council should be demolished, the opportunity being taken to widen Corn Exchange Street and St Tibb's Row and that the possibility of further extensions to St Andrews Hill for offices, shops or increased car park facilities should be borne in mind. He submitted a plan showing a building of six floors which could accommodate 825 cars
1951 06 11
The Cambridgeshire of the future will have a number of new roads, fire & police stations, sewerage schemes, old peoples' homes, a new children's home and a mental deficiency colony. Planners say villages recommended for enlargement include Milton, Fulbourn, Shelford, Barton and Coton where the population will increase from 400 to 1,840. Road improvements recommended include a bypass to the east of Girton relinking the road interrupted by the RAF station but Cambridge bypasses are not shown as surveys show there is no immediate need for them.

1951 06 15
A new one-way traffic system around the Cambridge guildhall comes into operation on Monday. The direction of traffic in Wheeler Street will be reversed to complete the circulatory flow around the guildhall into an anti-clockwise direction and traffic around Market Hill in a clockwise flow.

Buses will be unaffected by the new order but say instead of hordes of cyclists crossing over in their path all vehicles will turn in the direction the buses approach the guildhall. The scheme has resulted from the necessity to ease traffic around the guildhall in view of the proposed Lion Yard car park development

1951 07 20
"Utmost vigilance" on the part of the Cambridge Trades Council was needed to make sure the city council does not "pull a fast one" in its proposals to reserve a slice of Parker's Piece for car parking facilities. "I think the City council have put this back for six months and will bring it up again when they think it has all died down", said the chairman. "We don't want to lose even a piece of one of the city's cherished beauty spots". There was no need for a parking site in Regent Terrace as the accommodation of other parking places was not being overtaxed 51 07 20

1952 01 14
Sir. Twenty-five years ago Magdalene College started a scheme which might have involved the widening of Magdalene Street and the removal of buildings opposite the college. But it does not now contemplate the completion of the scheme and is now strongly opposed to the widening of the street and the demolition of the buildings on the west side. The College would be strongly prejudiced if it should be divided by a street similar in character to the widened part of Bridge Street and would strongly object to such a change of character and loss of amenity in the neighbourhood – Henry Willink, Master. 52 01 14

1952 05 05
Cambridge city council would like to see Christ's Lane opened out as a thoroughfare to be used by the omnibuses and other traffic to alleviate congestion in the City centre and provide relief for Emmanuel Street. The present country bus station at Drummer Street would then become the main stopping place for the local buses which now pick up and set down passengers in Sidney Street constricting the traffic flow. They also propose a new road on the line of Post Office Terrace to Wheeler Street. With Corn Exchange Street widened this would provide for a good circulation of traffic in the city centre. 52 05 05

1952 10 14
In the shadow of 15-feet-high brightly coloured maps of the proposed new City-of-Cambridge-to-be, nearly 100 barristers, solicitors and officials assembled at the Senate House for the opening of the Public Inquiry into the County Development Plan. Nearly 500 seats have been set out for objectors and for the public. Four women shorthand writers are on duty to compile a complete record of every word uttered in the course of the proceedings. The Inquiry will continue at the Senate House until Friday and then transfer to Shire Hall.

1952 10 18
I popped in at the University Senate House to see how the County Development Plan Inquiry was going and to watch history in the making. For never before has the Senate House been thrown open for the public to come and go at will. Representatives of County and City faced each other in serried ranks and aloft in the balcony undergraduates and others looked down upon the historic scene. We know the University are vitally concerned in this great scheme but their willingness to allow its use is further evidence of the very friendly relationship now existing between Town and Gown

1952 10 18

The County Development Plan public inquiry took a dramatic turn when Magdalene College announced it had decided to oppose proposals to widen Magdalene Street. The "donnish mind" did not often descend to take part in proceedings of this kind but this is a "bad plan and would be a disaster both to the University and the City of Cambridge", their counsel said. "You should not have motor traffic moving so fast that the lives of pedestrians and motorists are imperilled". Everyone wants Cambridge to remain a place in which the pedestrian, the cyclist and the motorist are more on less on an equal footing.

1952 10 23
Proposals for the bus station at Drummer Street, Cambridge, were discussed at the Planning Inquiry. The bus company preferred a station to be sited on New Square which was double the area of Drummer Street. But would passengers agree – and they are entitled to be considered sometimes. Half to two-thirds would use Emmanuel Street. The amount of bus traffic would increase if greater provision was made & there would be a traffic blockage at Four Lamps roundabout

1952 10 29
Cambridge City council has decided not to proceed with their proposal to widen Magdalene Street and reconstruct the great bridge. They had heard objections by the University and a statement on behalf of Magdalene College & believed that with mutual co-operation between the city and colleges some of the causes for the present traffic congestion could be removed. But if it became a choice of either the spine relief road or of widening Magdalene Street then they would choose the latter alternative

1952 11 05
Much of the congestion in the central area of Cambridge could be dealt with by providing car parks in the right places rather than the provision of extra circulatory routes the Chief Constable told the Development Plan inquiry. Closing of Magdalene Street would inevitably lead to an increased use of the Backs and the proposed spine relief road would not afford relief to traffic in the city centre. The police had received many complaints concerning the amount of noise at Drummer Street bus station late at night. By moving it to New Square this objection would be alleviated

1952 11 12
Ninety-one percent of the properties in the East Road area of Cambridge fell into the "short life" or "no life" categories the Development Plan inquiry was told. The area as a whole was described as "densely packed". The age of the houses was about 100 years, they were generally poorly constructed and the worst property in Cambridge lay in the area. The plan envisages using Norfolk Street as a local shopping centre to keep East Road free for a traffic route. But Mr S.P. Yarrow, retail grocer at 35 East Road said that if he went to Norfolk Street his turnover would be cut by half. B.G. Reynolds of Renbro Wireless Services, East Road, said he had one of the best positions in the area and business would go down if he moved. They did not see why two shops in East Road should impede the flow of traffic. 52 11 12

1952 12 13
The inquiry into the County Development Plan has concluded. Its main object is the preservation of Cambridge as a University town & the deliberate prevention of its character becoming that of

an industrial town or a town with large straggling suburbs. The problem of Cambridge was largely a traffic problem but measures to deal with this by the widening of streets would be a negation of the true object of planning which is to preserve the Cambridge we know today 52 12 13

1954 03 15
Properties in Corn Exchange Street may be demolished to increase parking space in the Lion Yard. It could then accommodate another 60 cars. This would bring in an increased revenue of about £1,360 per annum, but be offset by a £1,286 loss on rental from the demolished premises. Councillors were considering the early provision of a multi-deck park but until the Minister had made a decision on the development plan it would be impossible even to proceed with sketch plans. Sites have also been cleared in the Park Street area, but in view of the extremely poor access they decided to take no action to form a car park in that area.

1954 07 17
There were strong protests at plans for new offices at Shire Hall Cambridge. The new building would contain Assize and Quarter Sessions courts, offices and accommodation for the County Library. The courts at Linton, Caxton, Melbourn and Bottisham were 'shockers', housed in old police stations and the magistrates would be only too happy to do their work in an up-to-date building. Architects had strongly advised against cheese-pairing costs of the assembly hall: Cambridge's lovely college buildings had been the best and had stood the test of time and the costs of labour and materials were rising. But a new plan for one-tier local government might mean the doom of County Councils and the scheme should be deferred

1954 07 19
Minister announces decision on County Development Plan, City Council challenge it in Court but is approved. The only major Cambridge items not approved are the site of the bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel and the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Road. All the central area road proposals including the 'spine relief road', the new Guildhall Street and a cross-town route joining Emmanuel Street with Downing Street have been approved together with the new Chesterton Bridge over the Cam near Walnut Tree Avenue, a multi-storey car park in Corn Exchange Street and a subway at the railway station. Basic principles : Cambridge should remain principally a University city; reduce the rate at which city is growing and stabilise population at not more than 100,000; to accelerate development of villages surrounding it to accommodate additional 7,500 people; provision of comprehensive road system capable of satisfying traffic requirements in city; to limit industrial expansion in & near Cambridge and to discourage the establishment of large industries of the mass-production type within the county (certain sites may be compulsorily purchased for purpose of rehousing those industries within city which require to be moved from existing sites);generally follow lines of original proposals submitted more than two years ago; only major items not approved are site of bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel & the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Rd during 1st five-yearly period of the plan [18] [3.2,3.3,3.4]

1954 07 31
Cambridge city council attacked the County Council's cavalier attitude over their grandiose scheme for the replacement of the demolished Shire Hall Courts on Castle Hill. They can no longer tolerate the attitude of a powerful section of the County Council who seem bent on pursuing their own course with all the insensibility of a bureaucratic bulldozer. The Government has indicated it is likely to introduce Local Government reform and it is foolhardy to proceed with a scheme for more office accommodation when certain functions might transfer to the City

Council and thus make the extra offices unnecessary. City residents provide 75 per cent of the county rate and should have a fair say in any such scheme

1954 09 11
Mr Harold Macmillan, Minister of Housing, has approved the County Development Plan. He has decided to leave in the proposed spine relief road intended to relieve traffic pressure in the centre of Cambridge but there will be no firm decision about the road for at least five years when the matter can be considered further. But the proposal to establish a bus station between Christ's and Emmanuel Colleges should be deleted due to the effect of noise and movement of traffic on the colleges and doubts about the adequacy of the site for the size of the station which would be needed.

1954 12 01
Cambridge councillors suggest that 20 cottages fronting to East Road, 18 of which are empty, should be developed as soon as possible by the erection of flats. Under the new Development Plan East Road would become a trunk road and with the construction of the Chesterton Bridge the amount of traffic would greatly increase. This would cause a considerable widening and the possible construction of dual carriageways which would leave very little of the site of the cottages available for development.

1955 01 25
City appeal quashed [3.5]

1955 02 18
A scheme for the re-development of the Fitzroy Street area as the main commercial centre of Cambridge has been submitted by a London Architect. It is a counter-proposition to the official Development Plan which could only result in the eventual complete destruction of the essential character of the city. The greater part of the area consists of out-dated two-storey cottages with extensive yards and is largely a slum. Re-development is due and can be done without the restrictions of historical associations and high land values. There would be a series of attractive courtyards unencumbered with traffic, one of which is large enough to take the place of the present Market Hill. An essential feature of the scheme is a new thoroughfare to link Gonville Place with Victoria Avenue and complete the inner Ring Road. 55 02 18a
1956 03 30
If the number of cars increases motorists won't be able to get in to Cambridge very easily because of all the stationary cars cluttering up the streets and the whole problem of parking is extremely frustrating. It is time to get tough. If we must set up car parks outside the city and run the people in by special buses then we mustn't hesitate. But the land once occupied by the old Shire Hall courts on Castle Hill would make a good site for a multi-deck car park. 56 03 30b

1956 04 19
An enquiry heard that Cambridge city council had wanted to purchase land at the junction of Fitzroy Street and Wellington Street, pull down the old houses and use the land to re-site industry displaced from the East Road area. They offered to pay the current price but the owner, a former chairman of the Council's Finance Committee, said that if the land had potential for light industry then the price should be higher. Eventually negotiations broke down. Now he applied to redevelop the area, but the council opposed his plans. 56 04 19a &

1956 07 16
Cambridge is beginning to taste the bogey of a serious traffic problem for the first time. The council has tried roundabouts, one-way street and traffic lights but the situation will worsen unless some drastic is done soon. It takes so long looking for a parking space that it would be quicker to leave the car a mile away and walk. It is better to ban all traffic from the city centre than to knock down buildings to accommodate new relief roads. Maybe this answer is too easy and not costly enough for our planners. 56 07 16b

1956 07 23
Councillors received a report on the redevelopment of the East Road comprehensive development area. The first stage provides for 51 dwellings – maisonettes, flats and houses – to house 206 people, as well as six shops and seven garages. Two more stages will see 212 dwellings, housing 737 people. There will be a district heating scheme from a central boiler house for the supply of hot water throughout the estate. 56 07 23a

1956 08 16
Arbury Estate starts [1.3]

1956 10 03
Proposal build 15-storey block flats Hills Road - highest private residence block yet proposed in England [4.2]

1956 10 16
Councillors say that multi-storey car parks should be provided at Lion Yard, Saxon Street, Park Street and New Square and 170 cars should be parked on the site of the existing police flats at Parkside. But traffic congestion in Cambridge has become so acute that 'No Waiting' restrictions should be imposed in the central area and King Street made one-way. 56 10 16a

1956 11 01
If the City Council feel unable to implement the development of the Lion Yard area, then the Government should nominate the County Council as the acquiring and development authority, councillors recommend. They have met University officials who have ask that a substantial area of floor space, including some at ground level, should be made available for their purposes. 56 11 01a

1956 11 12
Kite area: Jesus College plan expected soon [2.3]

1956 11 27
A proposal to close Christ's Lane and provide an alternative footway between Drummer Street and St Andrew's Street was approved in 1954. But now Christ's College have proposed an alternative consisting of an arcade leading into a central courtyard then through another arcade to Drummer Street. The council would be responsible for maintaining, cleaning and lighting it 56 11 27a

1957 05 15
A revolutionary – even fantastic – scheme has been put forward to use Cambridge Castle Mound as a multi-deck car park. Tunnels would be driven into it to provide space for hundreds of cars

with be entrances from Chesterton Lane, Huntingdon Road and Magrath Avenue. The dirt excavated could be used for filling in Coldham's Lane pit, providing more parking spaces or building land. There will no doubt be many objections. 57 05 15

1957 05 17
Proposals have been announced for an underground car park at Parker's Piece capable of accommodating about 5,000 vehicles. When complete it would be unaltered on the surface but beneath would be many acres of car parking space with four sloping entrances. It will take two years to build and be cheaper the present scheme for a multi-deck park on Lion Yard a councillor claims. 57 05 17a

1957 07 02
"A fever of demolition has seized the city" as little houses demolished East Rd area and elsewhere - Times [19]

1957 07 23
Plans for a new car park at Parkside should be deferred until the proposed underground park at Parker's Piece is debated, councillors say. But they would deplore anything which would affect its amenities. The ground would take three years to be 'reinstated' ready for playing and there would be an area of the Piece which would be permanently sterilised by the construction of entrance and exit ramps, emergency escapes and ventilation apparatus. 57 07 23

1957 10 14
Proposals for an 800-space car park under Parker's Piece are technically impossible, opponents say. There are 'certain unsound features', it would be detrimental to the area and it would take years for the ground to be reinstated. The cost would probably be as great as that of the planned scheme in Lion Yard, though no car park of this nature has yet been constructed. But Labour councillors want it carried out as a matter of urgency. 57 10 14 Parker's Piece scheme rejected – 57 10 18b

1957 10 18
In 20 years' time Lion Yard car park will be outdated as the centre of the City will eventually have to be roped off from traffic, Canon Mervyn Stockwood told the council. He had frequently been up to the top of Great St Mary's and seen the appalling havoc of the central area in recent years. Now they proposed to put up a 'cheap and efficient sort of skyscraper'. He continued: "We are custodians of one of the most famous cities in the world. That sort of building cannot add to the dignity and loveliness of Cambridge" 57 10 18c

1958 09 25
An inquiry into plans for the compulsory purchase and clearance orders affecting 67 houses in East Road, Fitzroy Street, Adam and Eve Street and Gloucester Terrace heard from three objectors. Mr J.N. Baldry had plans to develop his site in connection with his mineral water business. But the Medical Officer said the area contained some of the worst houses in Cambridge: they were all unfit and clearance would serve the interests of public health. 58 09 25

1958 11 12

A Chesterton Bridge was proposed over 50 years ago but no work had been started. A Ministerial ruling had decided in favour of the route from Milton Road to Trumpington Road via Haig Road, Cam Road and Walnut Tree Avenue and this would be designated a Trunk Road in due course. However funds were limited and other works had priority. 58 11 12

1958 12 19
Traffic over Hills Road railway bridge, a bottleneck on the principal road into Cambridge, is extremely heavy. Visibility over the summit is severely restricted and many accidents have occurred there. The existing steel plate girder bridge has deteriorated with age and now work will start to provide a new twin two-lane carriageways and footpaths. The new bridge will be designed to allow for widening should additional railway tracks be needed in the future 58 12 19b

1958 12 22
New schemes for the rebuilding of the Lion Yard car park and the surrounding area are being examined by town planning experts. It may be comprehensively re-developed to include a multi-storey car park and additional shopping facilities served by a new road passing through the middle of the area. But some say that instead of a broad shopping street, which might attract more traffic into the already overcrowded centre, it should be a 'pedestrian shopping precinct' with cars being parked a short distance away 58 12 22 [2.4]

1959 01 13
Seven schemes are being considered for the Lion Yard area. It is felt essential for the financial success of the proposals that the redevelopment should embrace the existing property on the south side of Petty Cury from the Post Office to the Lion Hotel. It should extend over the existing car park to Downing Street and be linked with Emmanuel Street. The University are interested in obtaining access to the New Museums buildings on the west side of Corn Exchange Street, but this may not be practical. 59 01 13a & b

1959 01 16
The new plan for the centre of Cambridge will have as its central feature a 'pedestrian shopping precinct' from which all vehicles will be excluded. An earlier scheme which foresaw a new and widened Guildhall Street running through the Lion Yard, with new shops and a multi-deck car park, has now been dropped after being criticised as likely to attract too much extra traffic. The proposal incorporates a car park which might be placed underground. But it is certain that Corn Exchange Street would become an important vehicular road. 59 01 16

1959 04 29
The City Council is to consider the largest project ever undertaken in Cambridge. The giant Lion Yard scheme includes a two-decker underground car park taking 731 vehicles, a unique 'pedestrian shopping precinct', a new central library, residential hotel and a petrol filling station. Jesus College have also submitted a scheme for the redevelopment of the north side of Fitzroy Street. Many think that increases in shopping facilities ought to take place as an extension of this well-established area. 59 04 29a-d & 59 04 29e

1959 05 01

The giant scheme which is to transform the centre of Cambridge received the approval of the City Council. Not one hand was raised against it when the question of developing the Lion Yard– described as 'that revolting area' - was put to the vote. It would make it possible for townspeople to do their shopping away from the traffic on broad footpaths and provide a much-needed car park for more than 700 cars, removing the 'long-term parker' from town streets and leaving the kerbs free for motorists who wish to park for ten minutes. 59 05 01a,b, c & d

1959 05 09
Lion Yard: University object [2.6]

1959 05 21
"The Lion Yard scheme is the biggest re-development scheme yet in England, if we omit the blitzed cities". Ald W.G. James told the Women's Lunch Club. "In some respects it is more difficult, for the bombing often obliterated whole areas and redevelopment could start on virgin sites. Here, boundaries, established buildings and all manner of things have to be considered". Everyone agreed the area required comprehensive development but there was a divergence of opinion on how this should be done. A compromise was sought by 30 people on the County Planning Committee but as there were 30 different opinions, nothing was done. 59 05 21b [13.1]

1959 06 18
The giant new Prudential Building on the junction of St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel Street incorporates the latest building techniques with heating and hot water provided by electrical units which take power from the mains during 'off-peak' hours and store it for use during the day. Acoustic ceiling tiles provide quieter working conditions, floors are of a coloured plastic tile and decorations in pastel shades. The basement contains a large garage and special storage to cater for the large use of bicycles by staff. 58 06 18

1959 06 20
When the elaborate scheme for the redevelopment of the Lion Yard area was approved one could be forgiven for being rather carried away by the sheer magnitude of the whole thing. What was to have been just a car park had rather surprisingly blossomed into a complete new city centre and we were impressed by the dazzling piece of town planning so adroitly placed before us. Since then we have had time to mull over the full implications. Cambridge still retains something of its own individuality and it would be tragic to turn it into just another New Town. The scheme is a town planners' dream. It must not become a ratepayers' nightmare 59 06 20 & a

1959 07 04
A Cambridge man living in Los Angeles cautions against the new Lion Yard proposals. "Who is going to occupy the new offices and shops? If Cambridge thinks they can concentrate business in town and solve the car parking problem with a few hundred spaces they are indulging in the fondest of illusions. Parking meters in the streets don't help: they only add to the irritation of shoppers, free parking has become the essential stock-in-trade. In America down-town shopping areas are dying and shopping centres miles out of town are the new thing." 59 07 04

1959 07 24
Lion Yard costs have risen colossally and some councillors hoped the Minister would turn the scheme down so they could start again. They could build a car park on the site more cheaply but they were bound to the developers, Edgers, and they would be a laughing stock if they went back

on their word. It was the public who determined where the city centre should be and that was where banks, theatres and cinemas had moved. When a slump came it was those on the outskirts that closed down. The scheme must go forward. In the long run it would prove economical. 59 07 24a, 59 07 24b & c

1959 07 24
Councillors withdrew their attention from the Lion Yard area to a part of the city which some have always considered of equal importance – Fitzroy Street. This should be comprehensively redeveloped to provide residential, shopping and business facilities with a new bus station. The Lion Yard should be developed with a library, civic restaurant and small car park, leaving the frontages as they are, some argued. 59 07 24a, 59 07 24b & c

1959 08 10
Lion Yard development public inquiry: over 1,000 sign petition against scheme – 59 08 10a

1959 08 14
The new Silver Street Bridge is now fully open and there can be no doubt it is an exceptionally handsome piece of work. But after traffic had been admitted it was reduced to a single line again, pumps were sent for, coffer dams sunk and the word went round that all was not well. Rumours said that contractors had discovered an underground cavity, the bridge was sinking and that concrete was having to be pumped in. The County Surveyor cancelled a meeting with the press but a councillor said it was normal settlement and there was nothing wrong. 59 08 14d [3.7]

1959 09 01
A Ring Road was proposed for Cambridge before the war. It was to run from Trumpington Road and Brooks Road to Coldham's Lane, then on across Milton Road, Huntingdon Road and so to Hills Road. Thousands of pounds were spent to make a dual carriageway from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk with a ramp six feet high to start the viaduct across the river. This section was completed and only required the final tarmac surface. Now half of the dual carriageways have been dug up and the ramp bulldozed & excavated several feet down & hundreds of tons of rubble carted in for new foundations to make what is left of the Ring Road curve into Ditton Walk. It appears that houses are to be built on what was actually the destroyed part of the road. The completed Ring Rd would have catered for through traffic. It cost many thousands of pounds to make and over £34,500 to destroy 59 09 01 [5]

1959 09 12
The present shambles known as the Lion Yard has for too long been a bone of contention. The council meetings have been stormy and wrangling has not been confined to the city. Eventually some form of compromise will be reached and some kind of order imposed on this part of the Cambridge. But before its future is finally decided archaeologists hope they will have the opportunity to investigate its past. 59 09 12

1959 09 30
The area between East Road, Norfolk Street and St Matthew's Street comprises narrow streets and courts of dwellings of the demolition standard, creating a general impression of decay. The whole area should be demolished and rebuilt, the Surveyor told an Inquiry. Every house in Staffordshire Street was damp, some roofs are sunken and some water closets are across the street from the houses they serve. But many owners objected to plans for compulsory purchase. 59 09 30c & d [4.5]

1959 11 11
The proposed Lion Yard scheme provided for a pedestrians-only shopping precinct linked to Petty Cury, office space (to be offered to the University if needed), a new Emmanuel Road, the widening of Corn Exchange Street and an underground car park including space for 750 cars of which 230 would be for office staff. There would also be a new telephone exchange, an Inquiry was told. The scheme would be completed by 1965. 59 11 11c & d & e

1959 11 19
The University thinks the Lion Yard scheme was bad planning. They are not opposed to a pedestrian precinct nor to some commercial development but preferred a mixture of University use with a concert hall seating 1,500 and some shops and offices to fill in. This would attract far less traffic at peak times. Others thought the Corn Exchange might make a site for a car park with an elevator to take cars to the upper floors. Shops could give 'Free parking vouchers' for customers who spent more than £5. This would attract shoppers into the car parks and make them economical. 59 11 19 a & c

1959 12 03
The Inquiry into the Lion Yard scheme was told that the Petty Cury frontage should be excluded from redevelopment: the present useful buildings would be preserved and the character of the street maintained. But Planners said they could not be adequately served as they lacked any rear access. Runciman's veterinary premises in Downing Street had been used for 150 years and were specially designed for the purpose. They have dealt with animals as small as a mouse and as large as an elephant. The proposed replacement buildings were incompatible with the character of Cambridge 59 12 03 & a & 04 & 04a

1959 12 05
The official inquiry into the Lion Yard Re-development Proposals – that erstwhile car park scheme blown up to make a planners' holiday – covered 15 days and produced over half-a-million words. The sponsors of the scheme and the many objectors have placed their cases fully and fairly – and sometimes forcibly. One of the main criticisms is that no evidence of the financial side was submitted. Very few members of the public attended but there was a 'full gallery' on the final day. It will be six months before the Minister's decision is made known. 59 12 05

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 01 16
So Cambridge must be destroyed. Country folk from the surrounding pastures have decreed that, just because she develops a bald patch on her Lion Yard. But even when Petty Cury has been rebuilt with modern materials the day must come when all the new buildings fall down. But by 2020 there will be no cars, and therefore no parking problems; only the original debt. No one can possibly question the integrity of the City Fathers: by their very selection they are men apart

1960 01 21
City councillors decided to drop proposals to use Butts Green as a car park for two years - even with the Lion Yard car park finished and new car parks in King Street and Park Street, there would still not be enough parking and it would never be reinstated. The income would never meet expenditure. Eventually Cambridge would have a city centre park charging about one shilling an

hour. If Butt Green was to be charged at sixpence nobody would use Lion Yard and the council would be sabotaging their own scheme. 60 01 21

1960 03 11
The City Council is to pressure the Ministry of Transport about the proposed new bridge over the river at Chesterton. The route was approved four years ago and both Messrs Pye and Marshalls – the two large employers of labour in the area – consider it to be a matter of urgency. But the Mitcham's Corner improvement scheme would be relatively inexpensive and was being forced on them by the Government. This would further delay the proposals to provide a complete bypass on the Chesterton route. 60 03 11

1960 03 12
The Minister has confirmed compulsory purchase orders concerning houses in Norfolk Street which the City Council are anxious to pull down for the second stage of the East Road redevelopment scheme. The area affected was generally dilapidated, over-crowded and of a demolition standard with some of the buildings giving a general impression of decay. Now they can go ahead with erecting new houses, flats and shops 60 03 12

1960 03 25
Three new major building projects are all progressing satisfactorily. The first storey of at least one building on the Churchill College site is already visible from Madingley Road. The cast iron arches of the old Garret Hostel Lane Bridge have been removed with a temporary wooden structure erected over the river. In East Road the scheme for redeveloping a large area previously occupied with derelict buildings is rapidly taking shape. Maisonettes will be constructed in the first stage followed by shops, flats, roads and houses. 60 03 25d

1960 04 26
Parking meters may be installed in Cambridge. It would cost sixpence to park for half-an-hour in an inner zone. When the time has expired a yellow flag flicks up and a patrolling parking attendant will place a yellow excess charge notice on the car. It can then stay for a further period when a red flag flicks up. This makes the motorist subject to prosecution in the courts. Two hours later and the car can be towed away. Councillors expect a certain amount of objections from shop-keepers and think yellow lines on the roads will injure the town's appearance. 60 04 26a [7.22]

1960 05 03
Light industries already accommodated in Cambridge may be moved to a site to the east of Milton Road. S.G.B. have applied for eight plots for workshops on land used for breaking up Army vehicles. Part is used by the Cambridge Pre-Cast Stone Company and is within the proposed Green Belt. It is an area of no great beauty, is primarily derelict and very little use for anything else, an Inquiry was told. 60 05 03b

1960 06 21
It took twenty men twenty hours at the week-end to demolish Cambridge's old Hills Road bridge – twice as long as the contractors had anticipated. Originally it was thought that the removal of 140 tons of steel girders would take a little over eight hours, but the trains passing underneath proved a little more troublesome than expected. The men took advantage of the frequent breaks to wipe the sweat from their brows and light a cigarette. The scene resembled firework night for, as

the oxyacetylene guns cut through the girders, a spray of red hot sparks would fall on the ground giving an impression of a 'golden rain' 60 06 21

1960 08 12
Plans for a proposed dual carriage road from Cambridge to Newmarket show the existing roadway as the 'left-hand' lane with a similar road running parallel to take traffic in the opposite direction. The famous avenue of trees near the July racecourse would act as a division between the two carriageways. There could be a roundabout where the road joins the A11 at Stetchworth Toll. Repairs and modifications have been carried out on the existing road for 14 years. Some of the first workmen employed just after the war were German prisoners. 60 08 12

1960 08 30
The Minister has rejected proposals to redevelop the Lion Yard area by the building of a giant car park, shops, offices and hotel. He called the scheme 'basically unsound' as it envisaged shop and office expansion instead of decongestion in the central area and crowded too much development on to the site. He also thought that commercial expansion was neither necessary or desirable. The scheme was formulated by city and county council architects after years of study and research. It included a 750 place car park with petrol filling station and an unusual shopping precinct where all vehicular traffic was barred. 60 08 30 [2.8]

1960 10 12
Sir – plans to make the centre of Cambridge a 'Pink Zone' with parking meters will have serious implications. Whereas currently 50 cars are parked in Jesus Lane, only 30 can be accommodated at meters. The result will be chaos with cars milling round in vain trying to find a parking space. Can anyone imagine a motorist being prepared to pay sixpence or a shilling to leave his car for three minutes while he takes his suit to the cleaners? Lion Yard is often full by 9.30 am and if the city is to prosper we must have space for vehicles. The only answer is to provide some very large multi-deck parks, then make motorists use them by restricting waiting on the street – 'Fair Play' 60 10 12

1960 10 28
Over 100 houses and shops, a Church Institute and a public house in an area near the Roman Catholic Church, Hills Road, may be compulsorily purchased by the City Council. Properties in Coronation Street, King George IV Street, Union Road, Bentinck Street, Princess Street and Queen's Street have reached the end of their useful life and were unfit for human habitation. Slates were off the roof, they had rising damp and woodworm. But shopkeepers protested and one owner said she was very attached to the house and it would be a great hardship to leave. 60 10 28

1960 11 22
Land between Kings Hedges Road and the Arbury Estate may be bought by the city for housing – 60 11 22a

1960 11 24
'Elizabeth Bridge' approved in principle by Council [8.5]

1961 01 02
A questionnaire shows that most people think the Lion Yard area should include a concert hall, civic restaurant, hotel and assize court together with a library. This should feature a record

section, an art lending department, reading room and small exhibition area. There should be a municipal crèche where children could be left while their parents shopped and a car park reserved for those who worked in the Guildhall. Half of the respondents were in favour of traffic wardens and parking meters, though some said they had no experience of them, while 81 per cent wanted a pedestrian precinct. Other suggestions included a news cinema where people could wait in comfort for evening buses and supermarkets near the edge of the city 61 01 02a

1961 01 11
Cambridge University published proposals to enhance the city's character as a university town. Historic buildings would be retained and where redevelopment is essential the new buildings would be on a scale and character compatible with the central area. The Lion Yard development could include a civic hall which is needed both by city and university together with a library and small art gallery. If the City Council cannot pay for it then the University and some of the colleges should join in a developing consortium to provide the necessary finance to carry out the development and benefit from the profits. The only area of Cambridge suitable for a regional shopping centre is that around City Road and Fitzroy Street. It has space for shops, restaurants, car parks and houses and could be well-served by public transport. By contrast the city centre does not meet the land requirement unless there is such demolition that it would affect the character of the area. The roads are poor and provision of adequate car parking would be an impossible task. 1961 01 11, 61 01 11b, 61 01 11c

1961 01 20
New Square was a very good site for a multi-deck car park, councillors were told. But Coun P.J. Warren said that when the site was conveyed to the Corporation in 1923 they'd given an undertaking that no building would ever be erected there. Even now they were spoiling the best example of domestic lay-out in Cambridge. People who lived in New Square already had enough to put up with without such a suggestion. It should never be raised again in their lifetime, the Traffic Committee agreed 61 01 20

1961 03 29
University announce plans rebuild Science Island - New Museums [4.7]

1961 04 28
City councillors decided to go ahead with a plan for a multi-deck car park with shops and filling station on the ground floor, in King Street. Steps will be taken to acquire the land from Jesus College by compulsory purchase if necessary. Congestion in the city centre is getting near to desperate: eventually parking meters would be needed and there had to be somewhere for cars to go. But it would commit the council to building a multi-deck car park when there were no details of the financial implications, Councillor Warren warned. 61 04 28c

1961 06 13
Sir – some of the tower blocks proposed by the University for the New Museum site would be twice the height of King's College chapel. They are opposed to the very character of the historic centre. If approved it would be impossible to object to other towers such as those of the Lion Yard that have been criticised by the Preservation Society. Would it not be better for the gradual transfer of science buildings to the west of Cambridge where a development architecturally worthy of the University could take place? – V.I. Glaster 61 06 13

1961 06 22
The Minister of Transport has issued orders for the construction of a new bridge over the Cam at Walnut Tree Avenue. Now work can start 61 06 22

1961 07 08
By 1966 it is hoped that the new trunk-road linking the main Cambridge-London and Cambridge-Newmarket Roads will have been fully operational for some years. East Road would then be carrying about 1,000 vehicles an hour and Winton-Smith applied to build a petrol station in place of their slaughter house. But planners told an Inquiry that it would interfere with the free flow of traffic and cause confusion for motorists 61 07 08

1961 10 09
Inner Relief Road: general line was known in 1950, more details 1954. Would provide access to centre point without permitting traffic to enter central area and divert non-stopping traffic from centre [2.4]

1961 11 04
University plans rebuild Science Island - New Museums – rejected by City

1961 10 12
County propose new Mitcham's, demolish property etc. [4.8]

1961 11 16
A cluster of balloons was flown over Cambridge to give an idea of how the proposed 200ft towers of the 'Science Island' off Corn Exchange Street would look from the Backs behind the famous King's College Chapel. Theodolite readings were also taken from Rose Crescent. The proposal has been rejected by planners 61 11 16a & b

1961 12 01
A bold scheme to transform Cambridge Market Hill into the 'finest piazza in Europe' would involve banning traffic in King's Parade, demolition of a few buildings on the corner of St Mary's Passage and the complete clearance of the Market Place. The screen in front of King's college would be removed and the Senate House and Law Department buildings linked together to form one magnificent spacious vista, says architect G.M. Vickers 61 12 01b

1962 01 10
Minister says County proposals new Mitcham's are too costly [4.8]

1962 01 04
A Council debate to decide whether to create a post of City Architect ended in chaos after the Mayor stopped discussion. A qualified architect is vital if development is to be continued with taste. Council estates were dull in lay-out and their roads were not up to modern traffic. Uninspired planning must be stopped now. At a time when the Lion Yard, Museum site and City Road area are in the melting pot they should have the advice of an architect, some councillors felt. 62 01 04a [2.13]

1962 01 05
Barnwell and Wadloes Roads, sections of the Whitehill housing estate, were intended to be part of a ring road on the eastern side of Cambridge. That project was abandoned years ago but now they could form part of a proposed eastern by-pass. This should take priority over the 'Spine Relief Road' which was planned to run from Huntingdon Road, across Chesterton Road, over the river and up to Jesus Lane, councillors agreed. 62 01 05a

1962 01 31

An experiment to prevent traffic jams at Mitcham's Corner was judged a success. It reroutes traffic along the Milton Road junction road island around the houses, and makes several of the nearby side streets one-way only. One-way traffic means cars could use the whole of the road and motorists would soon get used to it. Only three policemen would be needed to help control the traffic if the scheme was put into operation. 62 01 31

1962 02 02
The city council want a three-storey car park in King Street, between Malcolm Street and Manor Street. There would be space for 260 cars together with a filling station and a maximum of nine shops. It would form part of the pattern of perimeter car parks with another in Park Street. There would be an inner 'control zone' and an outer area for car parking administered by meters. This would accommodate over 400 more vehicles and relieve congestion. Motorists were reluctant to use parks away from the city centre as they wanted to get as near as possible to their places of work, an Inquiry was told. 62 02 20 & a 62 03 22a [7.24]

1962 03 19
Work starts demolition New Theatre buildings, St Andrew's Street [4.10]

1962 04 21
Kite area: endorsed as shopping area by city - develop shopping facilities & relieve pressure centre [2.10, 4.11]

1962 05 03
An inquiry into the Bradmore Street area heard that 119 houses between Petersfield, East Road, Broad Street and the CCAT were unfit for human habitation and should be demolished under the slum clearance plan. The area would be used for extensions to the college and the Mill Road Sorting Office. But six householders objected. One lady had lived in her home for 50 years, she was 89 and blind and would find it difficult to move. Another had been deaf and dumb from birth; she had lived there for 54 years and was frightened at the prospect of being relocated. 62 05 03a

1962 05 07
Mr Jack Cotton and Mr Charles Clore, the property millionaires, have bought the site of Heffer's from Emmanuel College on the understanding that the bookshop will be rehoused in any new redevelopment of Petty Cury. Their company, City Centre Properties, acquired the adjoining Lion Hotel site last year. The Director of Dolamore, the wine merchants, who hold the freehold of most of the corner with Guildhall Street, would not say whether they had also approached them. Recently this part of Petty Cury was included in the area scheduled for redevelopment. The firm also have an interest in the New Theatre site which is now being demolished to be replaced by a block of offices 62 05 07 [13.3]

1962 05 09
Cambridgeshire Planning Department has described the University's scheme to create a new regional shopping centre in the Fitzroy Street area as 'basically an impractical proposal'. Their idea is incompatible with the County Development Plan principle of restricting industrial and population growth. The extra traffic would mean roads would have to be improved to urban motorway standard and rehousing the existing residential population would impose a severe strain on the building industry 62 05 09a

1962 05 31

The University's proposals for the future development of Cambridge are designed to enhance its character as a university town. The Lion Yard area should include a multi-purpose public hall, for which they have offered to pay half, a new public library, exhibition gallery and arts centre. There would be a regional shopping centre in the City Road area including department and chain stores with large scale car parking and the segregation of pedestrians from traffic. 62 05 31a

1962 06 01
University plans for city – 62 06 01c

1962 06 08
Sir – the subject of traffic problems is perennially popular. I suggest building an orbital road around Cambridge with a number of tiered car parks. All cars would be required to park and the journey would be completed by bus. Since everyone would use them the service would be well patronised. It would spare Cambridge from being a mere island set amid roads and car parks, bathed in swirling mists of exhaust, serenaded by that odious sound of creeping, choking traffic – R. Hennessey, Brookside. 62 06 08c

1962 06 09
"Leave all cars at city boundary & travel by bus" [19.12]

1962 06 16
City Road residents form association fight University plans [4.11]

1962 06 25
Public inquiry into future development of Cambridge Inquiry highlights three divisions of opinion. University plans for the future of Cambridge envisage that in the Lion Yard there would be a new hall for conferences, concerts and all kinds of music with a new library, small shops, cafes and homes for 300 people. A new regional shopping centre in City Road would be free of all vehicular traffic and there could be more homes on the site than before. The housing areas which are close to the centre are also the oldest and many are in need of redevelopment. Already 4,000 people have had to leave since 1950 but the University wants to see at least as many living in these areas as were there ten years go. County accept library but reject concert hall. City want commercial development in new pedestrian shopping centre 62 06 25 [2.11, 2.12]

1962 06 28
Lion Yard: Inquiry highlights three divisions of opinion. University want commercial development restricted to new regional shopping centre Kite area with Lion Yard to have amenities like library, art gallery, concert hall etc. County accept library but reject concert hall. City want commercial development in new pedestrian shopping centre [2.11,2.12]

1962 07 05
County Council plans for a new "Inner Relief Road" linking the Huntingdon Road-Castle Hill junction with Hyde Park Corner would cost £932,000 (£16.3m today). There would be a new bridge over the Cam at Jesus Green with an underpass at Four Lamps before the road continued to Parkside and Regent Street. This figure did not include the cost of acquiring additional land. It was needed to deal with traffic problems in Magdalene Street which is very narrow, an Inquiry was told. 62 07 05b

1962 07 09
Arbury 11-storey flats plan - protest [4.13]

1962 07 19
The University's plans for Cambridge envisage a new shopping area off Fitzroy Street providing sites for large retailing units, segregated pedestrians and vehicular traffic areas and car parking close enough for shoppers to walk. All future schemes for redevelopment of University sites should have adequate car parking; this is the University's view and they will bear their share of the car parking burden, the Estate Manager told an Inquiry. 62 07 19

1962 08 11
Bradwell's Court arcade and shop development has been a joint venture between Jesus and Christ's Colleges and Ravenseft Properties. It stretches from St Andrew's Street through to Drummer Street bus station and provides a continuous covered route to the city centre. Work on demolishing the out-of-date shops and buildings started as long ago as October 1957 but was held up by difficulties over leases. The last tenant to go was the well-known antique dealer, Mr K.A. Rowe. By the time the University term begins again the development will be complete and all the 20 new shops and showrooms fully occupied. 62 08 11a

1963 01 26
Tower blocks should be banned from city centre says planning consultant Thomas Sharp in his report 'Dreaming Spires & Teeming Towers'. They would destroy the character of the Backs, Parker's Piece and Midsummer Common. The New Museums and Downing sites are 'deplorable in their high crowding, overdevelopment by dull buildings'. This comes when the University has plans for proposals for a tower block as part of its 'Science Island'. Any rebuilding in the central streets should be by small units rather than large-scale frontages, he says 63 01 26c

1963 02 02
Plans for the New Town area will retain the strong community spirit with different blocks of flats and houses centred on a 'village green'. There will be a church, local shops, public house, old people's flatlets, a children's playing space and hall, an Inquiry heard. However 87 properties in Russell Street & Coronation Street not fit for human habitation would be compulsorily purchased and 27 others redeveloped. The roofs are in bad shape, the brickwork and chimneys perished and all have outside toilets. It could be rebuilt in stages to minimise disruption. But some residents objected. 63 02 20

1963 03 22
Logie scheme for underground loop road & car parks from Emmanuel Road to Jesus Lane to give traffic access but unspoilt centre. Plan would extend Lion Yard pedestrian precinct to include Petty Cury, Market Square, Market Street and the area near the Senate House, stopping through traffic along King's Parade and Trinity Street. Would be an underground loop road from Emmanuel Road, under Lion Yard and up to Jesus Lane – 63 03 22a [7.26] [9]

1963 03 28
Editorial: "They come thick & fast - plans for the University's New Museums Site, plans for underground carparks with an attendant underground road, plans for parking meters, plans for a new surface water sewer, plans for a design policy for the control of the visual appearance of Cambridge. Indeed never in the history of Cambridge has there been such a paradisical period for planners. And now ... County's turn with a scheme for a new village to the North of Cambridge" 28.3.63 [2.14]

1963 04 03
The new car park at the rear of Queen Anne Terrace has now been completed and is open for public use, free of charge. It adjoins the car park at the new swimming pool which can

accommodate 67 cars and has been constructed as part of the council's policy for traffic control in anticipation of the Minister's approval of the parking meter scheme. The multi-storey car park in Park Street should be in use by the middle of the year and a decision is awaited on an application for another in King Street 63 04 03

1963 05 15
The Government rejected the City Council's scheme to build a multi-storey car park together with shops and a petrol filling station on land near the Malcolm Street junction at King Street. The site is obscurely located in a residential area and the roads leading to it are narrow, awkward and unsatisfactory. It would cause serious detriment to adjoining properties and initiate a substantial commercial encroachment to the detriment of the special qualities of the cultural and central area of the city. An alternative site should be found, the Minister says 63 05 15, 63 05 11

1963 07 16
The introduction of parking meters will cure Cambridge's traffic problems, say councillors. There will be sufficient off-street parking for motorists staying for any length of time. At present people move police 'No Waiting' signs and hope they will not be caught. When they drive away others pull into the gap without bothering to check whether they are in a restricted zone. Although police decorate them with pink tickets, the cars still obstruct a length of street until they are eventually moved. But many of the new parks are a considerable distance from the centre and motorists will just not park in Saxon Street or Queen Anne Terrace and walk in. Rooftop parking will have to be employed, perhaps at the former Herbert Robinson property. 63 07 16

1963 11 29
The Duce's Tip site between Coldham's Lane and Newmarket Road may become a new suburban shopping centre with a two-storey supermarket, a garage and filling station with parking 1,000 cars. Space would be available for relocating premises affected by any redevelopment. But there was a danger that the Lion Yard scheme might not start commercially if trade were drawn away to another area, planners fear 63 11 29

1964 01 16
Gordon Logie, the City Architect spoke of his desire to see the central area of Cambridge used for pedestrians only. Traffic conditions were 'frightful', especially on Saturday afternoons. "It will be impossible for everyone to drive into the centre in the future. I am afraid that most people will have to walk in from the outer fringe car parks or travel by shuttle-service public transport", he told the Trades Council. He would like to see a new city hall and central library to replace some out-of-date shops in an attempt to make the central area more pleasant. 64 01 16

1964 02 21
Elizabeth Bridge delays, route published, 17 houses to be demolished, 67 gardens affected [8.6]

1964 03 04
Houses in Walnut Tree Avenue have been bought by the Ministry of Transport for demolition when the dual-carriageway for the proposed Chesterton bridge route is constructed. One side of Cam Road will also have to be demolished. It is expected that negotiations for the 30 properties involved will take a year to complete. The first part of the scheme will link Newmarket Road with Chesterton and Milton Roads. Later the existing roads of Lensfield Road, Gonville Place and East Road will feed into a roundabout at the junction of Sun Street and Newmarket Road 64 03 04b

1964 04 02

The Mayor of Cambridge fed a parking meter on Peas Hill with a shilling "to make them hungry and ready to bite" as one official put it, and set the new parking scheme in motion. . Long queues of traffic soon formed in streets leading to the Lion Yard car park and motorists had some acid remarks about the meters. A moped rider complained about finding a ticket stuck to his bike with thirteen inches of sticky tape. From the number of excess charges shown on the meters the city coffers will soon begin to bulge 64 04 01. 64 04 02b

1964 04 10
Work on Cambridge's Eastern Bypass was interrupted by the war and today only a short section is in existence. It runs from Wadloes Road, across the main Newmarket Road and peters out at the end of Barnwell Road where a muddy track and footpaths picks its way towards Coldham's Lane. Standing amid the rubbish dumps, tumbledown sheds and chicken houses which adorn this part of the route one can hear the distant rumble of traffic on Newmarket Road. It is likely to be many years before the scheme is revived. 64 04 10 [7]

1964 06 03
Whether or now new shopping development takes place in Lion Yard or at City Road the old shopping area should stay where it is and retain its highly individual character. Cambridge has continued to attract more and more visitors leading to fears of King's College ashtrays and "Kiss me quick" mortar boards. But one development benefiting both local and visitor must be the creation of a pedestrian precinct such as the one at Harlow. It would enable streets to be given over to their rightful functions as places for strolling, shopping and gossip 64 06 03a

1964 06 06
Compulsory purchase orders have been confirmed for the clearance of areas at Napier Street, Leeke Street, Coronation Street, Gold Street and Russell Street. But the Minister has excluded some properties in Newmarket Road and Burleigh Place together with no 9 Coronation Street which his inspectors say is fit for habitation. Objectors had claimed that compulsory acquisition would cause hardship and was not necessary for redevelopment. 64 06 06a

1964 06 30
A car park was needed on the West side of the river to help clear Queen's Road and they should consider an underground car park at the Backs, councillors heard. Park Street was a mistake because it was too near the city centre but Coe Fen was one of the best places for a surface car park. Queen Anne Terrace was a marvellous site as it could have a basement, three of four storeys of flats and a roof garden restaurant. There would be a mini-bus to get shoppers into the centre which meant the Lion Yard would be used more by people who came to park for the day.64 06 30

1964 07 06
Cambridge expansion: Conservatives would like to encourage businesses which start in the town and want the Market Square to be the main centre. Socialists want new light industries with the Lion Yard as a civic centre and with new shopping in Burleigh Street while the Liberals favour a central pedestrian precinct with public transport in the form of a minibus service or travloator. 64 07 06a

1964 08 28
The Lion Yard area is badly laid out and contains 'obsolete development'; there should be a small increase in shopping space with the rest devoted to civic and university uses, Sir Keith Joseph, the Minister of Housing says. A brand new shopping area should be created in the City Road area – the present twilight zone. It will take traffic away from the centre, cater for modern supermarket trends and fit in with plans for the continuation of the East Road housing scheme. Traders are

split over proposals for a new shopping centre off Fitzroy Street. Claude Scott, motor agents, say trade would be increased but he would seek full compensation to leave. T. Tarrants tobacconists, say it would be good but family businessman A.P. Cook of Prospect Row, who has run a grocery store for 50 years, says he will fight hard against compulsory purchase. Mrs J.A. Douglas of Earl Street, who has just modernised her house, is horrified at the proposal 64 08 28, 28b, 64 08 28c [4.15]

1964 08 29
Kite vast rehousing people from City Road area an unenviable task- nearly 1000 houses & 65 acres in twilight zone [8.10]

1964 08 31
Nearly 1,000 houses and 60 businesses will be effected in creating a new regional shopping centre off Fitzroy Street. 64 08 31

1964 09 02
No new industries employing more than five people will be established and only a moderate expansion of those existing will be approved, says the Minister of Housing in his review of the Cambridge Town Map. The inner relief road will be rerouted to take it clear of Jesus College grounds and Marshall's garage and the Western Bypass will now run next to the University Observatory and behind properties in Storey's Way. Local shopping centres will be expanded at Mitcham's Corner, Mill Road and at the corner of Alex Wood Road. There will also be a car park to the south of Silver Street. 64 09 02

1964 09 15
Inner Relief Road: The first stage of Cambridge's Inner Relief Road would comprise twin-carriageways starting with a roundabout at Murkett's Corner, on the junction of Huntingdon and Histon Roads. The planned road goes southward through the Rex Cinema site, leaving space for the proposed law courts near Shire Hall. As it approaches Chesterton Road there will be a flyover to take the main traffic flow over a roundabout. Then there would be a new bridge over the Cam before it crosses Jesus Green parallel to Park Parade. A subway will give access under the road to Jesus Green. 64 09 15 [2.3, 2.1]

1964 10 09
Controversial plans for an inner relief road have been deferred. The general line of the road had been known since 1950. It would be an alternative to Magdalene Bridge and give better access to Park Street car park. But people along the proposed cannot sell their houses because of the uncertainty. If the Press had not reported council meetings they would not have known anything about it. 64 10 09f

1964 10 15
The City Architect will prepare a scheme for car parking on Cambridge council estates. This could be on the verge side, by rear access roads, garage courts and in front gardens. Coun. Reilly said it was wrong that people in private houses should be allowed to park in front of their property while council house tenants were barred from doing so. This was especially clear in roads where there were both council and private properties. But his pleas for council tenants to park cars on their front gardens were defeated. 64 10 15a

1964 10 23
Proposals to develop the Gonville Hotel site for a five-storey office bock had been turned down on the grounds that it would encourage the introduction of new firms into Cambridge,

undermining the basic principle of the restriction of employment and the stabilisation of population. Since then the council had changed its policy but had not told Sindall's the applicant. There was an urgent need for offices for professional firms displaced as a result of the Lion Yard development, an inquiry was told. 64 10 23a

1964 11 06
County Planning officer says Cambridge may grow to 120.000 [4.16]

1964 11 16
Macintosh replacement building opens - new ultra-modern, next Watches of Switzerland [4.17]

1964 11 19
University offer money to engage planning team to submit plans for Lion Yard and new shopping area in City Road as urgent action needed – 64 11 19, 19d

1965 01 30
Llewellyn-Davies invited to prepare plan for new shopping Centre, Fitzroy Street, will be financed by University £20,000 – 65 01 30a

1965 05 17
Minister of Transport to authorise the building Elizabeth Bridge following public inquiry – 65 05 17

1965 06 24
Lion Yard plans unveiled by Gordon Logie Gordon Logie plans civic hall with seating for 1,800 as main feature Lion Yard – 65 06 24, 65 06 25b

1965 09 24
Jesus announce plans redevelop King St includes rerouting Hobson St traffic – model – 65 09 24 [5.2]

1965 06 29
Jesus College announce second major redevelopment scheme within week of Lion Yard plans, this one for King Street – 65 06 29, 29a

1966
"Future shape of Cambridge" report [5.3]

1966
Scheme to make Corn Exchange into offices for City Architect [5.4]

1966
Logie unveils "Shopping Growth" plan, six possible schemes for Kite area. Includes Christ's Pieces with underground car park. Debate about Inner Relief Road would mean dual carriageway between two shopping centres. Are scrapped a few months later amid accusations that 20 years have been wasted [9] [494.5.5]

1966
Plans for regional shopping centre & Lion Yard principally civic centre approved [5.6]

1966 01 12

By year 2000 the population of Cambridge and area within six miles may have doubled from present size of 300,000 and light industrial development may be firmly established. High-speed roads will by-pass a star-shaped city with network of cycle tracks, says City architect, Gordon Logie – 66 01 12

1966 01 21
New Square Residents Association issue 'The Second Centre' report opposing Inner Relief Road; seeks bus station Gold Street, one-way streets, commercial development – 66 01 21c
1966 03 16
Crumbling Cambridge: depression lurks over centre re transport policies – feature – 66 03 16a

1966 02 23
'Crumbling Cambridge' feature – derelict houses, vermin; pictures Nelson St, Coronation St, Leeke St – 66 02 23a

1966 02 24
Cambridge development plan unveiled – 66 02 24a, d-g

1966 03 16
Crumbling Cambridge: depression lurks over centre re transport policies – feature – 66 03 16a

1966 03 30
Crumbling Cambridge – lack of vitality in development such as new library and Lion Yard – 66 03 30a

1966 07 29
City planner Gordon Logie revels six possible scheme for a new Cambridge shopping centre; one would build on part of Christ's Pieces and extend grass over the King St area – 66 07 29, a, b. (Are scrapped a few months later amid accusations that 20 years have been wasted [9])

1966 08 09
"Shopping Growth" plan includes Christ's Pieces with underground car park, Kite favoured [5.5]

1966 09 16
Gordon Logie plans for Kite Area shows how may develop in 20 years' time – 66 09 16a

1966 10 07
Burleigh/Fitzroy Street favoured for shopping redevelopment in preference to Lion Yard – 66 10 07

1966 11 09
University 'science city' plans for west-Cambridge site unveiled, follows Deer report – 66 11 09, 09a

1966 12 09
Plan to create regional shopping centre in Fitzroy Street and develop Lion Yard primarily as civic centre approved by City Council – 66 12 09a

1967

Kite : new Logie plans involving parking for 2,000 cars, arcades, supermarkets & cycle paths, nothing happens [9]

1967
Demolition in Newtown district [5.8]

1967
Travers Morgan report on Cambridge Transport jointly commissioned in 1967 by the Cambridge city and County Councils and the University. It was to be carried out by R. Travers Morgan and Partners and was estimated at that time to cost £78,000 [18.2]

1967 02 13
King's Hedges housing estate master plan approved, will have central pedestrian core and open space - 67 02 13a

1967 02 22
University plan new Cavendish Laboratory as part of 'science city' in west Cambridge - 67 02 22

1967 03 03
'Heart of Cambridge' planning report envisages shopping centre surrounded by traffic-free area – 67 03 03a

1967 03 29
Chesterton Study published – could become one of most pleasant suburbs – 67 03 29

1967 06 28
Magdalene Bridge has two-inch sag; will be closed to buses and heavy lorries for at least a year while repairs carried out. (New bridge proposed 1968. Ministry 'to replace in 1971'). – 67 06 28a

1967 07 05
Lion Yard redevelopment plans approved by Minister – 67 07 05a

1967 11 01
Surveyors report on traffic one of most comprehensive ... also instructive in another context - a notable lack of reference to the City Architects department & almost total absence of any obvious exchange of views [19.17]

1968
McManus to quit Cambridge; sell 6a building land for £100,000 as planners will not allow them to develop it as commercially as they wish [5.11]

1968
Government stop city borrowing for 1st stage Lion Yard [5.12]

1968
Emmanuel Street widened - substitute for Drummer St with 750 ft lay-by [5.13]

1968
Cambridge businessman offers pay for summit meeting between city & county planners & Government to speed redevelopment, nothing happens [9]

1968 02 17
Logie retire through ill-health, report into efficiency due shortly; problems etc [15]

1968 02 27
Cambridgeshire planners bid to block Hovertrain development in Cambridge – 68 02 27, 68 02 28a

1968 03 08
Hovertrain project to be housed at Ditton Walk – 68 03 08 08a

1968 03 26
Fitzroy Street–Burleigh Street residents fear city council intend to demolish good houses under slum-clearance scheme – 68 03 26

1968 04 19
Elizabeth Bridge work starts [8.8]

1968 04 11
Fen Ditton favourite for development as new suburb – 68 04 11

1968 08 01
Kite area planning report from London consultants- 68 08 01a

1968 10 14
Prosser Scientific Instruments may move because of veto on industrial development – 68 10 14

1968 11 25
Trinity College start new accommodation block on site of Matthews in Sidney Street releasing land in Petty Cury for Lion Yard – 68 11 25

1969
Kite: Llewelyn-Davies report proposing three car parks, bus station & 450,000 sq feet of shopping & office space [9]

1969
Matthews old shop (formerly largest grocery shop in Cambridge) to become Heffers while large shop Sidney St (formerly Eaden Lilley) becomes Sainsbury who want to replace antiquated premises Sidney St with 2 new shops - Sidney St & Burleigh St area [5.14, 5.15]

1969 02 21
Fitzroy Street redevelopment – architect's impression – 69 02 21, 21a

1969 03 24
Inner Relief Road: Minister refuses allow City compulsory purchase powers Inner Relief; "puts traffic problems back 10 years" [3.1]

1969 05 02
Inner Relief Road rejection – what now – 69 05 02b

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1969 05 30
University 'Science City 'planned for 300-acre site near Coton – 69 05 30

1969 10 09
Dons divided on plans for science city proposals for West Cambridge site – 69 10 09

1970

1970
County planners to allow some science-based industry [5.16]

1970
Trinity Plan 3a Science Park on land formerly military tank park & minor gravel excavation [5.17]

1970 01 09
County to ease ban on city industry, approve science-based industry – 70 01 09, 09a

1970 03 04
Lion Yard library might be built by Development Company instead of the city council. Ravenseft Properties may agree to build the three-storey library because it is scheduled to go on top of a block of shops; the city would then lease the building from the company – 70 03 04

1970 06 10
De Vere granted permission for hotel and office block at Pound Hill – but will be inquiry – 70 06 10

1970 06 17
Kite area plan 'torn up behind locked doors' – city reject consultants' recommendation, to form consortium with Jesus College and a property company, inquiry told – 70 06 17

1970 07 23
Lion Yard development – only legal snags remain – 70 07 23

1970 10 15
"Cambridge is a planners nightmare says expert" - stalemates caused by conflicting interests have held up the development of Cambridge for the past 30 years ... friction between the city and the county, between regional and national interests and commercial, industrial & university interests had combined to make Cambridge a planners nightmare [14]

1970 12 07
Lion Yard plan goes ahead on schedule – 70 12 07

1970 12 28
Work on Lion Yard car park starts after 22 years [13.7]

1970 12 29
Kite: county accept plan until reminded must be public inquiry into objections about link road; Samuel Properties & Jesus college commission own report from Piano & Rogers; county planners want more proposals by mid 1971 - 70 12 29

1971
Magdalene Bridge inquiry 1971, to be preserved 1972,

1971 04 16
De Vere Hotel plans rejected by Government – 71 04 16b

1971 04 28
Fitzroy Street shopping report published – feature – 71 04 28

1971 05 01
Progress on 'Science City' development adjoining Madingley Road may be slow, Senate says – 71 05 01

1971 05 15
"City going round in circles ... a muddle created by too many people trying to run the show" [6.2]

1971 05 17
County dash city's hopes for more industry "heavy door of Cambridgeshire planning bureaucracy was slammed shut on ... hopes of attracting more industry" [6.3]

1971 06 09
John Parry Lewis appointed by Government to head study team to examine future of Cambridge as a major East Anglian regional centre – 71 06 09a

1971 06 10
Bridge Street debacle: the two faces of Cambridge – laments crumbling buildings; feature 'A city in shackles' – 71 06 10 & a

1971 06 26
Prof Colin Buchanan engaged by Cambridge Preservation and Civic societies to prepare plan for Cambridge development – 71 06 26 profile – 71 08 28

1971 07 13
Elizabeth Bridge and approach roads opened by Lord Butler. It included a major approach road from Milton Road to Newmarket Road with roundabout on Chesterton Road which completely transformed Hawthorn Way, Cam Road, Haig Road and Walnut Tree Avenue – 71 07 13; review feature – 71 07 13a, b, c, d;. Initially Speeds traffic 'like motoring on Sunday morning' – 71 07 14. Brings problems people living beside it – 71 07 15 complaints – 71 07 15a. 21,000 vehicles use per day 71 09 22 [8.9]

1971 08 24
Science Park will not be stopped by Government, approved planners 1972 [6.5]

1971 09 17
CEN 'City in shackles' series about planning inaction & mismanagement; stagnation caused by city, county university the preserve-it-all lobby, pressure groups, MPs for city & county ... – 71 09 17 & a [22]

1971 10 15

Riverside agreed as first Improvement area [6.1]

1971 11 05
Cambridge Townscape analysis produced by David Urwin, City Planning Officer [6.6]

1971 12 06
Kite – a sad saga of city-county clashes – feature. Started to become neglected WWI, acceleration last 15 years ... monument to planners, blighted & fossilised; some say slow destruction deliberate but unlikely Cambridge capable of such a calculated campaign, more likely derelict by default, "walls crumble, more slates slide, panes smashed" 1972 [8.11, 8.12]

1971 12 07
Problems of where to put extra shops – reflections on last eight years – 71 12 07, 71 12 08, 71 12 09, 71 12 10b

1971 12 07
Mackay plans to extend engineering factory and build more shops and offices on East Road blocked – 71 12 07a

1971 12 24
Lion Yard plans approved by Government – 71 12 24

1972 01 14
Corn Exchange Street closed for work Lion Yard [13.8]

1972 02 01
Petty Cury closed to traffic. Coun Chris Gough-Goodman and Jennifer Hall dine in Petty Cury to mark first day of pedestrianisation – 72 02 01; both ends blocked for trial period – 72 02 01a. Petty Cury reopens end of month but closed & Corn Exchange Street opened June [12.13] [2.6]

1972 03 01
The Cambridge M.P., Mr David Lane yesterday waived aside professional traffic statistics and asked those at the by-pass inquiry to use their eyes and their common sense. In a statement to the three-week old inquiry Mr Lane gave his whole-hearted support to both the proposed western and northern bypasses and claimed to have the backing of most people in Cambridge. A woman living in Elizabeth Way wrote "On this bend to which the big lorries cruise and then rev up hard out of it it is one frightful nightmare and the fumes are really killing". A man living in Chesterton Road wrote: "Life is now intolerable and the only acceptable answer is an alternative route by-passing the city altogether" In supporting the northern bypass Mr Lane said disturbance to Girton village must be minimised.

1972 03 02
Buchanan Report suggests main town road - Inner Relief Road, Brooklands Ave to A45

1972 03 11
The former Ministry of Housing and Local Government simultaneously agreed to the building of one of the world's biggest radio telescopes near Cambridge and the routing of a major road straight through it, the inquiry (into the Western bypass) heard yesterday. Professor Sir Martin Ryle said in 1966 an application for a grant to build a 5 km radio telescope along the line of the old Bletchley to Cambridge railway at Lord's Bridge and extend it as far as the bridge over the River Cam was being discussed. A grant of more than £2 million was made for the telescope.

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Later it was learned that discussions had led to a route for the Cambridge Western bypass which passed through the line of telescopes. As a result the size of the telescope had to be reduced to 4.6 km with a considerable loss of power and the instrument was site half-a-mile further west. In 1970 it was announced that the by-pass was to be built as a motorway. Then it became known that radar devices were being developed for long-distance vehicles to prevent multiple motorway crashes. It seems likely that some of these devices will be introduced during the next five years.

1972 03 20
Most of the people who will be displaced by the Burleigh Street-Fitzroy Street redevelopment (Cambridge) want to be rehoused in the same area according to a report. Counc. Christopher Bradford claimed that the land was bought by the city council for "chickenfeed" ten years ago and is now worth £65,000. The council paid only £200 to £300 development value for some of the houses and perhaps £2,000 for some of the others 72 03 20

1972 06 05
Petty Cury, Cambridge, was closed to all vehicle traffic today and handed back to pedestrians for the second time this year. It is likely to stay closed to traffic for at least two years and perhaps permanently. The same city centre street was closed to traffic for a month's experiment in February which was rated highly successful. The whole of the southern side of Petty Cury will be demolished in the next three months and a new central library will appear within the next three years 72 06 05

1972 06 27
Although the war ended 27 years ago the little patch of Cambridge around Alexandra Street has a distinct 1940s look. In common with all the little alleyways off Petty Cury, Alexandra Street is in the throes of the Lion Yard re-development scheme. The old is being swept away by the demolition gangs to make way for the new and soon the whole face of the area will begin to change. The first phase of the project - the multi-storey car park - is due to open at the end of next week. Work on the second stage - the demolition of the southern side of Petty Cury and the building of shops and service roads on the Lion Yard - is already under way and is expected to take about two years. The third stage - the building of a large central library - will start soon after this 72 06 27

1972 07 24
The Lion Yard multi-deck car park opens on Monday proving another 500 car spaces within a stone's throw of the centre of Cambridge. The completion marks the first stage of the city council's multi million redevelopment project for the area - which was first proposed nearly 25 years ago. The new park, which aims to cater for the shopper and the short stay motorist, is the second major car park to open in the city in less than a year. The other is at Queen Anne Terrace, which opened last October. The usual parking fees will be 5p for the first hour, 15p for two hours, 25p for three hours, up to a maximum of 75p for 10 hours. The council hope the prices will encourage people who work in the city centre to leave their cars in the parks away from the centre, like New Square and Prospect Row, where the charges are considerably less.

1972 07 26
A total of 160 houses in the Burleigh street – Fitzroy street area of Cambridge will have to be demolished to make way for the city council's shopping redevelopment scheme. At present only 34 of the houses are unoccupied. The city council are prepared to buy the houses at full market value if the owners cannot find other buyers. Some of the houses have already been classed as slums and earmarked for demolition. A number have in fact already been closed, such as in parts of James Street or demolished, as at Adam and Eve Street. A year ago the city council gave

details of a large area outside the Burleigh Street - Fitzroy Street complex which they said would not be required for demolition. This gave the house owners the go-ahead to apply for grants of up to £1,000 to improve their homes

1972 08 05
The long-awaited Cambridge Transportation Study was finally published yesterday. It is two years overdue and has cost £113,000 - almost £1,000 a page. It was jointly commissioned in 1967 by the Cambridge city and County Councils and the University. It was to be carried out by R. Travers Morgan and Partners and was estimated at that time to cost £78,000. Its major proposals include a Railway Road leaving the A10 south of the Trumpington street traffic lights, hugging the northbound railway track all the way to Newmarket Road. After crossing the Cam the new road would veer sharply west to follow the St Ives railway line along to the A10 Milton Road before linking up with Arbury Road. The Railway Road should be largely dual two-lane carriageway. Full construction could take many years

1972 08 07
The Backs have been described as "one of the world's most beautiful assemblies of buildings and grass and trees". Queen's Road, which skirts The Backs, is also one of the busiest heavy lorry roads in Cambridge. For many years the university have urged the closure of Queen's Road to through traffic, but the counter-argument is that there is no other convenient traffic route in west Cambridge. Travers Morgan's Transportation Study proposes a new West Road which would carry some 60 per cent of the traffic using Queens Road and Grange Road which would then be closed, to bring peace once again to the Backs

1972 11 21
The Cambridge city council's planning consultants who are designing the redevelopment plans for the Burleigh Street- Fitzroy Street have suggested the building of a departmental store East of Napier Street. Consultants feel that the introduction of shopping uses at this point would improve the whole project in addition to saving housing land to the North of Maids Causeway and James Street. They have also proposed that the pedestrian way along Fitzroy Street should be graded down and Napier Street itself raised over the pedestrian way. This appears to be the best way of separating traffic and pedestrians 72 11 21

1972 11 30
Cambridge City Council's Trinity Hall Farm Industrial Estate looks more like an army practice ground than a land of golden opportunity for trade and commerce. The only thing that is conspicuous by its absence is industry. Although it is now 10 years since the 12.6 acres off Nuffield Road were designated for industrial use there are still only two firms with premises there. Only firms displaced by council re-development or public works can be sited there. At last week's council meeting members agreed to seek permission from the Department of the Environment to change the re-location criteria in order to allow other firms to take up sites on the estate 72 11 30

1972 12 01
A plan to build up to 600 houses on farm land off Long Road, Trumpington has brought mixed reaction from local residents. A Birmingham development company who earlier this year took over Cambridge builders I.J. Stocker ltd, want to build houses and a group of shops on land at Clay Farm. But some local residents object because they think the land should remain open. It is zoned as open space and playing fields, with most of it within the green belt, in the Cambridge town map. The developers said it would be a 5 or 6 year scheme from the starting date 72 12 01

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1972 12 07
A large out-of-town shopping complex covering about 10 acres is being planned for Newmarket Road, just outside the Cambridge boundary. But Cambridge planning committee decided to resist the project. Fears were expressed about the effect the shopping centre would have for the city council's plans for redeveloping the Burleigh Street - Fitzroy street area. Marshalls of Cambridge (Engineering) made an application to develop the shopping complex, together with car parking and garages on a site immediately to the East of their vehicular workshops off Newmarket Road. The site faces Cambridge airport

1973 02
Kite: delay considering till Parry Lewis report, 13 day inquiry [5.19,8.12]

1973 03 09
Council adopt Travers Morgan report to cut central spine route but Government refuse ban traffic Kings Parade [17.10]

1973 04 09
The Market Square ends of Guildhall Street and Peas Hill, Cambridge, were closed to traffic today as part of city council's plans eventually to make much of the central area into a pedestrian precinct. It is now possible to walk from Sidney Street to King's Parade without crossing a road. City surveyor, Mr Geoffrey Cresswell said that some motorists were still driving round Market Square attempting to get into Peas Hill. The present closure is officially regarded as only "temporary" - although it will last for possibly another two years - while rebuilding of the adjacent Lion Yard site is under way 73 04 09 [17.9]

1973 08 31
The £20m redevelopment scheme for the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh Street area of Cambridge may go ahead with only minor modifications, following the result of a 13-day public inquiry earlier this year. Several schemes for the area have been considered and rejected over the past 10 years, but the present plans, designed by international architects Piano & Rogers were adopted by the city and county councils last year

1973 09 10
Prof John Parry Lewis, the Manchester don who has just finished the biggest Cambridge re-development plan ever devised, has told the Government that it may as well be scrapped now if the new Fitzroy-Burleigh Street shopping centre goes ahead. When his final report is published it will contain some sweeping proposals. One of these is for a new commercial centre on the Cambridge outskirts - perhaps in the Trumpington area - in order to siphon shops and traffic away from the historic heart of the city 73 09 10

1973 09 18
Buchanan Report: The Cambridge by-passes have been given the Government go-ahead. Work may now begin in less than a year on the £30m.-plus scheme to give the city its biggest new road complex in history. Within four years Cambridge is likely to have 14 miles of new motorway and nine miles of new trunk road to bleed heavy lorries and other traffic away from the historic heart of the city. It will also mean a much-improved A604 route between Cambridge & Huntingdon - at present one of the busiest and most accident-prone roads for miles. Today's announcement ends years of argument and months of speculation following a record-breaking public inquiry stretching over six months early last year 73 09 18

1973 09 19

The environmental effects on the Cambridgeshire countryside and a number of villages in the building of the Cambridge bypasses are given in the Government's go-ahead to the projects. The inspector concludes that at Grantchester environmental intrusion would be mitigated by a properly conceived planting scheme & the effects on the village would not be serious. At Hauxton and Lt Shelford the environmental effects, though great, would not be intolerable. The Inspector does not support Girton's claims that the area will be severed in any practical sense by the Cambridge Northern Bypass. The new road would pass in a cutting and noise screening is recommended. At Fenstanton the Inspector thinks that the noise problem is more important than any partial severance of the village by the A604. He recommends noise screening

1973 09 21
"Parry Lewis says that Kite development will sign death knell for Market Square area, new focus of commercial development must be on edge of city & this cannot be done if Kite goes ahead ... his words have too uncomfortable a ring of truth about them ... in the past we have pressed for action on this plan; our 'City in shackles' series tried to express the frustration which many citizens felt at the stagnation of the planning process ... but now we, who have formerly pressed for action are now urging caution" [12]

1973 09 21
Like some great suicidal spider Cambridge will have eaten its heart out by the turn of the century. Such is the dramatic prophecy of Professor John Parry Lewis who has been making a complete study of its future. Specifically he is saying is that if Cambridge proceeds with the scheme to build a twin shopping centre in the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh street area it will be signing the death knell of the present Market Square area. He concludes that a new focus for commercial activity must be developed on the edge of the city either in the Trumpington area or to the east near Marshall's airport. This cannot be done if the Fitzroy-Burleigh scheme proceeds, as the indications now are that it will 73 09 21

1973 10 09
Cambridge sank deeper into a planning quagmire last night as opponents in the sub-regional study row tossed words at each other from their offices in Manchester and London. Down in the jungles of mid-Anglia the News intercepted and sifted the communiqués and tried, despairingly to bridge the 184-mile gap between the protagonists. And when it was said and done it proved far less difficult to plot yesterday's progress in the Middle East war and to assess Mr Heath's Phase 3 counter-inflation plans than to determine who was making progress in Cambridge's shopping centre controversy

1974 02 08
Cambridge city council's controversial plan to stop Gwydir Street being used as a short-cut between East Road and Mill road has come into action and already shopkeepers are reporting trading losses of up to 50%. Norfolk street, once continually busy with traffic, is now silent and virtually at a standstill. And the shopkeepers of the street are beginning to wonder if they might soon be at a standstill too. Mrs Linda Gregoris who owns the Athena restaurant lent on her broom and surveyed the five customers. "It is 11am and normally this place is chock-a-block and people have to fight for a seat. Yesterday we had five people in here – normally it would be as many as 80 74 02 08

1974 03 21
Clamp down on office development Hills Road; Parry Lewis "most important document since Holford" calls for abandonment of Kite, development Trumpington [6.10]

1974 04 15
City Engineer and Surveyor gives his view on city's traffic needs; central area experiment making St Andrew's Street and Regent Street one-way southwards, Parkside and Emmanuel Road one-way northwards; reconstruction of Magdalene Bridge; Bridge Street restriction and one-way system reversed; contra-flow cycle lanes, bus lanes, local link roads; large one-way ring road around centre along line Queen's Road, Chesterton Road, Elizabeth Way, East Road to Fen Causeway; park and ride system and cycle parks. 1960s Spine Relief Road moved further out & called Inner Relief Road; since then been eroded section by section & Cross Town route abandoned. Present position (1974) is relief will be provided by outer area link roads & by bypasses. After 25 years the Eastern by-pass from Brooks Road to Milton Road, the New West Road from Huntingdon Road to Trumpington Road & stage one of Inner Relief road are all that remain of Holford unchanged. In centre over last 10 years steady move towards reducing intensity of traffic & parking in centre by controlling non-essential traffic & getting high turnover of parking places in central area. First proposals put forward by R Travers Morgan 1963-64, further developed in City Surveyors report 1967 which also proposed pedestrianisation some central areas, 1972 Transportation Plan endorsed proposals [10]

1974 06 27
A warning that within 10 years the Lion Yard areas of Cambridge, now being completely redeveloped will become a "twilight zone" is given in a new booklet, "Walks round vanished Cambridge", published by Land of Cokaygne. It says: "Within 10 years the town centre will have moved east to the Kite area, the University west to the science city. Lion Yard will be a twilight zone lost somewhere between the two".

1974 07 19
Parry Lewis and his team of planners have examined the possibility of expanding Cambridge. Their studies convince them the best plan was to expand the city in a southern direction. Development would follow a line east of the new Western bypass. A second shopping centre would be located to the south-west of Trumpington. There would in addition be various district centres and a suitable amount of industrial and office development

1974 07 23
The people of Cambridge would never accept the building of the proposed Western Relief Road project, linking Huntingdon road with Trumpington road and going through Newnham or near Grantchester, it was claimed by city councillors. In addition the county a road linking Huntingdon road with Madingley road. But Counc. Overhill supported the road. "If this was proposed through the middle of Chesterton, nobody would complain. It is only because it is going through Newnham that people are against it", he said

1974 07 31
Save Kite campaign starts with clean-up; Kite Action committee set up 8 months ago [8.13]

1974 09 16
St Andrew the Great church in the centre of Cambridge may be turned into a new Civic restaurant. If the scheme goes ahead it would be only a few yards from the site of the old

restaurant which was demolished two years ago to make way for the Lion Yard Development project. City officials are looking into the possibility of converting the church buildings which the Diocesan authorities have classified as redundant. A feasibility study shows it could be converted into offices but would cost at least £135,000.

1974 10 17
City seek scrapping of 25 year industrial development ban [6.11]

1974 10 17
"Blueprint for Cambridge" published [6.12]

1974 10 29
The Parry Lewis super plan for the future of Cambridge, which took three years to prepare at a cost of £20,000, has been rejected by all the senior city and county planning officers. The plan's main suggestions were for the immediate scrapping of the scheme for extensive development in the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy street area and the building of a second shopping centre in the Trumpington area. Chairman of the County Planning committee, Counc. Tony Cornell, said: "The technical boys took a look at Parry Lewis and they have not liked what they have seen 74 10 29

1974 11 06
New plans for reshaping Cambridge's Burleigh St – Fitzroy St shopping area are being unveiled at a private meeting tonight. Although the project provides for more than 80 shops, including two major departmental stores, it is on a smaller commercial scale than the plans put forward three years ago. The project includes a new underground country bus station; placing much of Napier street underground to avoid disruption to people living nearby, a series of underground service roads to allow pedestrians traffic free access to the main shopping area, and the creation of landscaped parks. It provides for a new store for the John Lewis organisation and another for Laurie & McConnal

1974 11 08
By Cambridge planning standards, the argument over how the Burleigh St – Fitzroy St area should be redeveloped is a relative newcomer to a list of current city controversies. It has been raging for only 15 years. Which means that at least another 10 years of inactivity are necessary before the Lion Yard redevelopment record is reached. Cambridge city council has announced its intention of making a decision on the future of the area by the end of the year. But even if this happens it will not be the end of the story by a long way. There will be inevitable objections and the problem of raising money must remain a formidable obstacle in these economic times.

1974 12 31
The controversial multi-million pound redevelopment proposals for Cambridge's Burleigh Street – Fitzroy street area may be scrapped and traders and residents encouraged to rebuild as they wish. This is just what the majority of them have been advocating for most of the 15 years over which the controversy surrounding plans for the revitalisation of the area has raged. Leading members of the City council's controlling Labour Group are now trying to whip up general support behind the scenes for the new thinking. Moves come on the eve of the Government's expected announcement that after a two-year delay official approval is on the way to the area to be declared as suitable for comprehensive redevelopment

1975
Kite: Council accepts Piano & Rogers scheme & starts working out detailed plans with consortium [9]

1975 02 07
The Government has decided after two years deliberation that the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy street area of Cambridge is suitable for redevelopment. This now lays the responsibility for action squarely on the city council who are likely to decide within two months whether to drop the much-criticised official development plan and go ahead with something less contentious. The plan has been unanimously rejected by the area's residents and shopkeepers 75 02 07

1975 02 10
Cambridge's city centre traffic experiment swung into action today. Thousands of motorists faced the through-traffic ban for the first time. The road closures and a system of one-way routes will operate for six months unless "utter chaos" develops. The scheme could then be swiftly abandoned. It closes two sections of road in the centre of town to private cars. One extends along King's Parade from King's College gate to Gt St Mary's while the other runs from Woolworth's along St Andrew's street to its junction with Emmanuel St 75 02 10

1975 02 20
Cambridge University should be nationalised, the Kite area turned over to council housing and traffic banned inside the city boundaries, the Cambridge Communist Party says in a policy statement. Amongst other measures they would like to see are turning the church of St Andrew the Great into a civic restaurant, requisition of vacant accommodation if vacant for six months, industrial expansion of Cambridge with more council houses, and the banning of office expansion in favour of housing and jobs.

1975 03 06
County reject two city approved schemes - Beehive extension & Downing development Regent St
[6.14]

1975 04 06
Kite: Ian Nairn calls for rehabilitation area [7.1]

1975 04 18
The Labour-controlled Cambridge city council has decided by a two-to-one majority to develop the Burleigh-Fitzroy area mainly as a regional shopping centre in partnership with Jesus College and a London property company. This is the first definite and much substantial move the city council has taken about the future of the so-called "Kite" area in the 15 years of controversy and discussion that has surrounded it 75 04 18

1975 04 21
Kite properties released from blight after 15 years [7.2]

1975 05 21
Parry Lewis, 'last rites 5.1975 [6.13]

1975 06 11
The much-criticised second stage of Cambridge city council's central area traffic experiment has been abandoned and traffic flow systems introduced five weeks ago withdrawn. This means there is again two-way traffic in Regent Street, Parkside, Emmanuel Road and Short Street. Through traffic is still banned along parts of St Andrew's Street, Sidney Street & Kings Parade. City police

said many motorists were confused by the changes which it was improving impossible to enforce. Long traffic queues had built up at major junctions since the start of the experiment which brought traffic chaos to the city 75 06 11 [17.14]

1975 07 11
Railway Route proposals; dropped in favour of East Relief Road, Coldham's Lane to Newmarket Rd [3.5] [494.6.16] [20.3] [6.16]

1975 07 17
Sewage crisis blocks all building till Jan 1978 [6.15]

1975 07 30
Railway Route buried [6.16]

1975 09 11
Princess Anne is to put the royal seal of approval on one of Cambridge's most controversial schemes. She has agreed to open the multi-million pound Lion Yard redevelopment complex in December. More than four years have been spent in its construction. Expert critics are unhappy about the scale of the enterprise and its relationship to the previously intimate and recently pedestrianised shopping precinct in Petty Cury. There has also been adverse comment on the nature of the shopping development which, because of the high rents, has made it a virtually unattainable Shangri-La for local businesses.

1975 09 17
Over 25 years of argument, several million pounds of ratepayers' money and three years of toil what will we get? The Lion Yard development. On the first floor is a modest entrance to a building that Cambridge has desperately needed for many years … the new library. It has three floors. The top will be used for housing the Cambridgeshire Collection. On the first floor is a children's' room where young readers can comfortably browse through their selection. The building bears about as much comparison with the old Wheeler Street library as Buckingham Palace does with the Black Hole of Calcutta

1975 11 11
Yet another traffic survey (£120,000 spent on Travers Morgan 1967) [18.2]

1975 11 26
County approve design work on New West Road between Barton Road and Madingley Road and on Observatory Link between Madingley Road and Huntingdon Road; also a link road between Brooks Road and Barnwell Road to provide a direct access between Coldham's Lane and Newmarket Road [8]

1975 12 04
Princess Anne, making her first official visit to Cambridge, insisted on an impromptu chat with some of the thousands of sight-seers who thronged the city centre Lion Yard shopping centre. An estimated 10,000 people packed the Market Square and stood eight deep each side of Petty Cury as she walked into the new shopping centre. She stopped to talk to the delighted shop girls who were crowding their doorways and also to the eager shoppers who pressed forward to get a closer look at her. She explained: "I am not a complete stranger here because I have been shown around

the university and city unofficially by two previous students who are both fans of the old city" 75 12 04

1975 12 18
Cambridge will be completed ringed with major by-passes by the 1980s under a plan being worked on by government road engineers. They are planning major improvements to the A11 between the junction of the Northern and Western by-passes at Six Mile Bottom and Stump Cross. The A11 is a narrow single carriageway and very heavily used at present, but the Government have been working away quietly and will soon be producing a scheme for making it into a dual carriageway and building a series of village by-passes, to become an eastern by-pass for Cambridge.

1976 03 19
Kite Action: report [7.3]

1976 04 12
Jesus College opened its Eden Street housing development to the public to show just what can be done with old properties in Cambridge's Kite area. The college plans the conversion of more than 30 two and three-bedroomed homes at rentals from £8 to £10 a week. Two major types of conversion are in hand, one of extending existing terraced houses to give two-bedroomed homes, and the other of combining two terraced houses to make one new one

1976 04 17
The future redevelopment of the Burleigh Street - Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge is back in the melting pot following the decision of the outgoing city council to throw out the massive £30 million scheme proposed by a London development company for the Kite area. The rejection of the scheme, which would have brought a greatly-increased number of shops in to the area, together with car parks, a new road and an underground country bus station, was an easy matter for the city council. But it was far less easy for them to decide how to go about working out alternatives.

1976 04 30
Lime Kiln Hill could eventually become a footpath and bridleway if a proposed route for the extension of the Cherry Hinton bypass near the Gogs is approved. The County Council will be asked to approve a route which passes east of the reservoir eventually linking with the A604. This was a very long-term project and it was impossible to say when it might be built. There is a lot to be said for preserving Lime Kiln Hill – it is a pleasant rural lane. There would be great problems in widening and improving it

1976 05 21
Plans for radical alterations to two listed cottages in the "Kite area" of Cambridge, the subject of a long and bitter row between a city man and council officials, would cost £59,000, it was stated at a planning inquiry. The scheme involves dismantling and rebuilding an 1825 façade and excavating a basement in Orchard Street. A council witness said the plan to build a facsimile of the façade would destroy the weathered texture and unity of the terrace.

1976 07 24
Construction work on the long-awaited nine-mile Cambridge northern by-pass has started at last. The first shovelful of earth was dug at Madingley by the recently retired Cambridgeshire County

Surveyor, Mr Robert Lacey. The symbolic act ended more than 10 years of controversy over the bypass which is aimed at taking away massive juggernauts from the city's winding narrow streets. It will take up to two years to complete.

1976 08 03
The Government has decided that the experimental traffic restriction system in the centre of Cambridge can become permanent. Through traffic will be prevented from going along Sidney Street and St Andrews Street between Emmanuel and Market Street junctions, and along King's Parade. The experiment was introduced 18 months ago – against a background of support from amenity organisations and opposition from city centre traders who carried their protests to a public inquiry 76 08 03 [18.5]

1976 08 04
Cambridge's first bus and bicycles lane comes into operation along Victoria Avenue after the Government approved the city council's experimental plan to put down a special lane from the Four Lamps junction to Victoria Bridge. The plan also bans all parking along the Midsummer Common side; this means the hundreds of motorists who leave their cars there will have to find somewhere else. The aim is to speed up the substantial number of buses using Victoria Avenue, particularly during the evening peak period when traffic congestion causes extensive delays 76 08 04 [18.6]

1976 10 11
Work is progressing smoothly on the extension of Barnwell Road, Cambridge, to link up in about two years' time with Brooks Road on the other side of the Cambridge-Newmarket main railway line. The aim is to provide a quick route for heavy traffic between Newmarket Road and Perne Road and out on to the main roads to London. This will by-pass the notorious traffic bottlenecks of Coldham's Lane. The scheme includes a new bridge over the railway and an extensive road island and an extensive road island at the Brook's Road – Coldham's Lane junction 76 10 11

1976 11 06
Cambridge's experimental "Park-and-ride" scheme got off to a slow start today. The first bus left from the Cattle Market at 10 am and carried only 10 passengers. The scheme is designed to relive the normal pre-Christmas traffic congestion by allowing motorists to park free of charge and then buy a 15p return ticket to the city centre. It will operate each Saturday until January 8th with buses leaving every 15 minutes. The first passengers were enthusiastic about the acres of parking space available. "It's marvellous being able to park so easily" said Mr John Blackman, who had driven in from Sawston 76 11 06

1977
Kite : Cheviot House & Amalgamated Developers put forward schemes; Cheviot House £10M for 4 large shops, 60 small shop units, parking for 1,250 cars, £91,000 pa profit for council after 5 years, Powley "as near perfect as it is possible to make it" [9]

1977 02 11
Cambridge Northern Periphery Road, Histon to Milton, opens [4.5]

1977 02 17
What kind of shopping facilities will we see in Cambridge in the future? If recent events are pointers then the small operator will be replaced – just as quaint non-conformist Petty Cury was

replaced with the corporate dullness of Lion Yard. The rents jumped enormously leaving the high mark-up multitudes – Golden Egg, Dixons, Van Allen, Etam, Chelsea Girl et al to take the units paying between £3,000 and £18,000 a year in rent. It meant that the variety of shops was reduced. If the Kite complex proposals were to see the light of day then an identical effect could occur.

1977 03 22
Cambridge & District Co-operative Society's plan to expand the Beehive complex, which was turned down by the county planners, has been given the go-ahead by the Department of the Environment. The scheme, using the former Cadbury-Schweppes warehouse near Coldham's Lane will provide an extended shopping space, a garden centre and leisure goods sales centre. The Inspector said that as there were still no definite plans for the Fitzroy/Burleigh Street redevelopment the Beehive scheme would meet some of the shopping need without detriment to the city centre.

1977 04 20
A multi-million pound deal for the rebuilding of large parts of the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge (The Kite) which would involve a handsome handout to the ratepayers is being negotiated between the City council and two internationally known development companies. Under the deal the redevelopment could be carried out without any cost to the ratepayers. The council would hand some of its land holdings – much now derelict – to the developers on a long lease. In return they would build large car parks for the council, regrass the New Square car park and erect a number of shops, at least on of them a department store. And at the end of the development period the company would make either a substantial lump sum payment to the council or give it a large cut of the rents collected. 77 04 20

1977 04 23
The new Bridge House office block and restored 16th-century buildings in Bridge Street, Cambridge, are a landmark and inspiration, said the Mayor, Coun Bob May, when he opened the £1.3 million redevelopment. "If only the architects had been involved at Lion Yard then things might have turned out differently there", he said. He praised the skill with which the historic and environmentally important site had been handled by the Scottish Mutual Assurance Society and its architects, Saunders Boston of Cambridge. It was an outstanding example of how a new building could be fitted into an old environment and how old buildings could be preserved.

1977 07 05
Cambridge City council announced details of its £10 million redevelopment scheme for the Kite area – and at once fell foul of the man who claims he can stop it all from happening, 76-year-old Mr Arthur Sutton. For nearly all his life he has lived at 1 Christchurch Street – one of the few houses which the council needs to demolish to make way for its new shopping and car park complex. But Mr Sutton declared: "Nobody is going to move me from the house I have occupied for 63 years. I am there and I am going to stay put". The new proposals are the latest in a string of plans produced during the past 20 years, all of which have been dropped.

1977 07 14
Elizabeth Way resident is noisy and polluted choked artery which miraculously eased Cambridge traffic problems in 1971 but it now itself in urgent need of relief. Residents used to live in tree-lined Cam Road, a quiet residential street on a par with De Freville Avenue in houses which had front gardens. Now they have lead pollution and noise levels three-and-a-half times above "acceptable" limits. People live in back rooms as, despite double-glazing, front rooms are still noticeably noisy. "It is difficult to cross the road, nobody can come and see you and window cleaners refuse to come here – they say it gets too dirty", said Mrs Winifred French. Relief could

come next year with the opening of the Northern Bypass –at least everyone living on Elizabeth Way hopes so. 77 07 14

1977 07 23
The Mayor of Heidelberg officially opened the rooftop garden above Lion Yard, Cambridge, which has been named after the German town to mark the link between Cambridge and its twin university town. Oberburgermeister Renhold Zundel said a scheme similar to Lion Yard was being built in his city and they might have a garden named after Cambridge soon. 77 07 23

1977 07 27
The issue of redevelopment in the Kite area of Cambridge may have dragged on for more years than many care to remember but the controversy it has provoked is far from disappearing. More than 300 people turned up to the Guildhall. Opinions on the scheme varied. A pork butcher, Mr Jack Curtis, who had traded in Burleigh Street since 1945 said he had never seen a scheme that hurt so few people. There were interruptions, including an appropriately timed blast or two from a bugle smuggled in by Mr Arthur Sutton whose house is due for demolition

1977 08 19
Theoretically worth over £150,000 a year in rent, the 47,000 square foot office accommodation above the Lion Yard has stood empty since the precinct opened nearly two years ago. Agents trying to let the offices blame the economic malaise for their lack of success. The high price of central car parking is also a barrier. The city council made a former builders' site available to encourage offers and now one taker has at last been found. Vinters, the Cambridge solicitors have taken space. But Bidwells say matters will only improve when companies begin to expand and the perpetually optimistic estate agents say it is beginning to happen. c77 08 23

1977 10 04
The Cambridge department store Laurie and McConnal in Fitzroy Street is to close in December. Indecision over plans for the Kite area redevelopment is the reason, said Mr Anthony Frais. "We have tried everything we know to get something moving in the Kite, and while the council is now at last seeing sense we cannot afford to wait the two years before anything actually happens. As a small family company are paying penal rates." The business was established nearly 100 years ago. 77 10 04

1977 10 05
The sudden news of Laurie's closure has come as a shock to the City Council team involved in drawing up the Kite plans. Council leader, John Powley, said he was "very sorry indeed" and could well understand their frustration at the indecision. "Gradual renewal of the area, as some people want, just will not happen and will lead to a speedy decline of the whole area. A satisfactory scheme must be produced as speedily as possible. Constant delays are not good for the area, for the people of the city, or for Cambridge as a whole". The news will have come as a surprise to most people. But to anyone who regularly used the store it was only a question of time before they succumbed to the inevitable. Even at the height of the shopping day you could be the only potential customer in any one department. It had 50,000 sq ft of selling space, spread over five floors to service, heat, decorate and keep full of merchandise and the passing trade had dropped off dramatically as so many houses have been knocked down and food shops have disappeared from the Kite area. 77 10 057

1977 10 08

More shops in the Kite area will be forced to close unless something is done quickly to rejuvenate the area. A number of stores have been teetering on the brink for some time and could go out of business. This has been caused by all the little ginger groups, all pushing for their own things. They hack and maul among themselves and all they succeed in doing is to cause the sort of intolerable position that Lauries found itself in. It is all very well saying the Kite should stay exactly as it is. But it cannot. It has changed markedly over the years and is still changing. It either has to be redeveloped in some fashion, or it dies. 77 10 08

1977 10 11 c
The latest and controversial proposals for rebuilding the Kite area of Cambridge took another step along the long road to becoming reality when the city council accepted them in principle as a basis for discussion with a number of companies interested in financing the project. It took almost two hours of debate – which at times became heated and bitter – to reach the decision. Supporters warned against further delays; Coun Gough Goodman said "Filibustering in the council chamber has resulted in the loss of jobs for many people and the loss of a splendid business, Laurie & McConnal"

1977 11 14
There are almost 400 properties standing vacant in Cambridge according to the Empty Property Action Group. More than 200 are houses of which the great majority are privately owned. There are 1,026 people on the council's "live" waiting list and another 1,400 seeking council accommodation at some future date. Numerous organisations are seeking accommodation for special groups like the College of Arts and Technology, Women's Aid, Fulbourn Hospital and Cyrenians Night Shelter. The Kite and Castle Street areas share the highest concentration of empty property. The city council are worried that the list could serve as a kind of housing register for squatters.

1978
Kite: Grosvenor Estates Commercial Developers backs scheme & enters partnership with City council. Oversight in procedures mean council unable to compulsorily purchase land needed until 1983; council used wrong procedures in seeking to evict three people - one city councillor - from 72 Fitzroy St [9]

1978 01 10
Cambridge City Council has told a group of Peterborough councillors to stop interfering in their affairs. The slanging match was prompted by the Cambridge Kite development project. The Peterborough councillors want to avoid a repeat of what has happened in part of their city when redevelopers moved in and put up "a lot of horrible concrete buildings all over the place". But the advice has upset members of the panel who are overseeing the Kite project. One said: "I would tell Peterborough to mind its own business; they should put their own house in order and I would thank them for not trying to tell us what to do"

1978 03 07
Residents are occupying a deserted house in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, after learning that the city council is about to demolish three other "unsafe" houses in the Kite area. Officers offered to re-assess the situation if the protesters paid them £340 – the cost of making the buildings safe. The Kite group stayed up collecting the money, only to be told the council would not accept it after all. The action is in spite of an assurance that demolition would only take place once the redevelopment scheme had been approved. The protesters are deeply disturbed that private

citizens have to pay for council work in order to avoid the premature demolition of sound properties in the Kite. 78 03 07

1978 02 11
City unable to buy Kite properties by compulsory purchase, 'kills scheme' [7.5]

1978 03 13
The latest scheme for the Kite redevelopment in Cambridge threatens to collapse amid renewed bitterness and bumbledom. The 20-year-old history of "something being about to be done" has resulted in large-scale blight and buildings mouldering beyond repair. Just as predictable as crumbling masonry has been the increasing fed-upness of the people living in the area. They fought long and hard but until last week most of them realised their cause was lost and that the latest scheme would go ahead. Now at the last moment it probably won't because of a blunder by council officials.

1978 03 20
The Kite, once the busiest out-of-centre shopping precinct in Cambridge is no longer flying high. Years of indecision by the City Council about the site and shape of successive rebuilding schemes have left their mark. The uncertainty had already led to the closure of Laurie and McConnal's and a number of smaller shops, branches of national chain stores have also moved away. The closures have meant fewer shoppers being attracted to the area and a general run down of business for many of the traders.

1978 06 05
Most of the offices built on top of the City Council's Lion Yard complex in the centre of Cambridge are still unoccupied – nearly three years after completion of the development. Now councillors are concerned about the loss of rents and want more intensive steps taken to find tenants for the block, which is gathering dust. Only 5,750 feet has been let, to a subsidiary of Barclay's Bank but negotiations are now taking place with two organisations. If these fall through some councillors think they should let charity organisations use them

1978 06 15
The 150-year-old Magdalene Bridge in Cambridge is in grave danger of collapsing, councillors were told. For the last 11 years there has been a three-ton vehicle restriction but sometimes the inter-continental 'juggernaut' lorries travelling through the city take a wrong turning and pass over the bridge. Now the abutments, which support the bridge at both ends, are moving apart and if this continues it could eventually break its back. Plans were made to rebuild the bridge but environmentalists objected and at a public inquiry it was decided the bridge should be strengthened, retaining its present appearance. But Government engineers came up against insuperable technical problems in the use of the cast-iron parapets and have suggested cast-steel instead. 78 06 15

1978 07 03
The Kite area of Cambridge plans to go the way of Rhodesia by declaring UDI – Unilateral Declaration of Independence - in a semi-serious but symbolic stand against the city council. On Independence Day the kite-shaped bounds of the area will be beaten and the rebel "government" will swing into operation. Arthur Sutton, the 76-year-old bugle-blowing campaigner will be elected Lord Mayor, the rubble-surrounded Little Kettle shop will be declared the town hall, the borders of the area will be marked and passports issued.

1978 09 01
The Government has stopped Cambridge City Council's plan to rebuild the Kite area. They have refused to allow them to borrow the £2.3 million needed to buy the land for shopping development which means the 20-year saga of decay will continue indefinitely. The council's Conservative leader claimed it was a political decision, probably part of a General Election run-up. M.P. Robert Rhodes James said the blight in the Fitzroy Street area would be perpetuated and the general economic and physical decline of the area would continue remorselessly. But organisations which have been fighting the plans are delighted. 78 09 01 [7.7]

1978 09 18
The New Town area of Cambridge was developed in the 1820s with unpretentious terraces, many of which were ill-built. But at least they had unity. Today, largely demolished and patchily replaced, New Town strikes one as a sorry mess. Panton Street is a mixture of discreet, elegant houses with intrusive modern developments. The St Anthony's Walk almshouses are a discordant construction, their severe frontage characterised by jutting ventilatory contraptions: a battery-house for humans. Opposite begins the Russell Court complex of flats; as such developments go the quality is good and attempts have been made at a humanised appearance. Will its stark modern brick ever attain the serene texture of the houses over the way – Graham Chainey 78 09 18

1978 10 04
One way of improving the environment of the St Matthew's area of Cambridge would be to demolish many houses and widen the streets, says a City Council report. It contains 1,415 houses that are among the worst in Cambridge in terms of lack of amenities, structural repairs and the environment in which they stand. The problem is the long narrow streets where a small amount of through-traffic become an irritant and lorries cause congestion, noise and vibration. However well houses are renovated the area will not be greatly enhanced until substantial improvements are made to the environment. 78 10 04

1978 10 04
Some of the long-disused offices above Cambridge's Lion Yard shopping complex may soon be turned into restaurants. The plans have been warmly greeted by councillors who have complained for a long time about the empty space standing in one of the city's key commercial positions. The applicants want to rent the bulk of the ground floor and turn it into two restaurants, one catering for general medium price trade and the other as a high-class 'night life' restaurant. The three-storey office block which contains thousands of square feet of space has been standing empty since the development was completed three years ago. 78 10 04

1978 12 13
Cambridge City Council issued a report on the Kite redevelopment proposals detailing its negotiations with Grosvenor Estates, the prospective developers. Grosvenor would finance the land acquisition in the Kite, which the council would endeavour to complete by the end of 1979, and then carry out the redevelopment scheme over the following three years. If it is not possible to acquire sufficient land the council would buy back from Grosvenor Estates whatever land had been bought, and this would be available for any future plans for the area. The City Council will have the right to approve all plans relating to the scheme's appearance

1978 12 21
The Northern Bypass, described as a 'Christmas present to Cambridge' was officially opened at noon and then closed after police expressed reservations about the state of the nine-mile road and

its interchanges. But as dusk was falling the barriers were pushed back and it was opened to the public. It includes one of the longest straight stretches of dual carriageway in the country and police asked drivers to get used to the road slowly. With the completion of the interchanges next year and the opening of the M11 Cambridge will have a road system surrounding it for which many other cities would give their eye-teeth 78 12 21 [4.7]

1979
De Vere office block developed

1979
Kite: Ombudsman report critical of oversight; Shelter report says demolition carried out with minimal concerns about effects on adjoining privately-owned property [9]

1979 02 06
Expansion plans for Robert Sayle's shopping complex in the centre of Cambridge were supported by the City Council's controlling Conservatives who say the extensions will improve shopping facilities and bring much needed car parking space into the city centre. But Labour says the extra cars would cause traffic problems and in any case the centre of Cambridge should not be put up for sale. Sayle's want to extend their shop floor space facing Lion Yard and provide more than 100 public and private parking spaces. It would benefit city traders and motorists alike

1979 02 09
Kite: derelict house bought by council topping private £13,000 offer [7.9]

1979 03 07
A new double-decker bus station in the centre of Cambridge is being proposed by County traffic experts. Buses would wait only long enough to set down and take up passengers and long-distance buses would run from elsewhere in the city. This one of several options to sort out the chaos of Drummer Street. Others include expanding on to Christ's Pieces, re-siting it to the Kite area or adjacent to the railway station. For years the bus station has been the subject of intensive criticism because of its lack of facilities and poor conditions. Now councillors have made it a priority.

1979 03 14
The 600-plus parking meters in the centre of Cambridge may be scrapped as one of the options for helping to sort out traffic chaos. But if they continue the city council is backing a 67 per cent increase in all meter charges because they are facing a £12,000 loss due to increased pay for the traffic wardens. Councillors are also considering residents' parking schemes to meet mounting demand for this facility. They may also provide the city's first cycle lane along the Huntingdon Road from Girton College to Murkett's Corner.

1979 04 02
The centre of Cambridge is well off for parking space. There are 600 spaces on the Lion Yard multi-decker, a slightly smaller number at Park Street and substantial parking at New Square. Then there are more than 500 meters dotted around. But during peak periods these are barely enough and queues build up at the park entrances. Motorists complain it is not easy to reach the city centre since King's Parade was severely restricted to through traffic. At first shopkeepers feared virtual bankruptcy but now even the most 'anti' tradesman is happy with the result – an increase in trade

1979 06 02
The £10 million Kite area shopping and parking scheme scheduled for opening in 1982 may be scrapped if opposition against it throughout Cambridge is strong enough. An official of Grosvenor Estates, the development company, said "If the people of Cambridge do not want our product we shall not give it to them". But the present indications are that the public does want the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy Street area to be redeveloped as quickly as possible, despite the protests being voiced by pressure groups. The Kite Co-ordinating Council say the plans are 'hopelessly inappropriate' and it is a very cheap scheme: Cambridge deserves something much better than this.

1979 08 17
Many of Cambridge's traffic problems may soon be solved by silicon chip technology. The chips would operate micro computers geared to all the city's traffic lights to ensure smooth traffic flows at all times. Such an elaborate computer system would originally have cost around £5 million but now County Council officials consider the new technology could reduce the cost to as low as £100,000. It could be connected with all the car parks giving motorists instant information through street corner signs and also tie in with temporary one-way workings and pedestrian crossings.

1979 09 14
Traffic jams would stretch across large parts of Cambridge every weekend if the £10 million Kite shopping development went ahead, a transport report commissioned by the Kite Co-ordinating Council claims. The new traffic may eventually block the Mill Road roundabout for several hours of the day. The number of car parking spaces would need to be doubled to meet demand and the cost would have to come from the ratepayers. Traffic is likely to increase anyway in the next ten years and the anticipated reduction through the opening of the Northern By-pass has not happened, they claim

1979 11 02
County council engineers have devised a new method to strengthen the 150-year-old Magdalene Bridge in Cambridge without altering its appearance. If Government finances permit work will start in July, more than 13 years after the bridge was closed to buses and other heavy traffic because of its unsound condition. The rebuilding has been surrounded by controversy since cracks were detected in the under-structure. A public inquiry in 1971 agreed that the new bridge should resemble the old one as far as possible but a long wrangle developed over the appearance and complex legal issues were involved because it is an ancient structure.

1980
Lion Yard rents increase 350-550%, from £9,000 to £40,000 [13.13]

1980
Cambridge Empty Property Action Group claims lost £350,000 potential income from derelict property [9]

1980 01 30
The new magistrates' courts, perched above the Lion Yard car park have been built to last for the next 100 years at a cost of £1.7 million. Some wonder how Cambridge managed to acquire such

an expensive addition to the skyline in these times of stringent public spending cuts, the answer seems to be that it won its case just in time. Today the verdict would be different. After years of less-than-satisfactory courtroom conditions we have something of a showpiece. Compared to the old courts the new carpeted building is luxury itself. "From boarding house to Hilton" was how one prison officer described it. In fact the only criticism is that some people will consider the edifice 'too good'
80 01 30

1980 02 26
Already the new Western Bypass is having the desired effect in the Castle Hill area of Cambridge. Thomas Whitelaw whose window overlooks the street said: "Normally the heavy traffic starts at about 7.30 am and you get convoys of 12 to 15 heavy lorries every few minutes sending vibrations right through the house. Now it is much quieter". But in Wendens Ambo villagers are demanding a new road surface, soundproof barriers and double glazing, saying the peace and quiet of their village has been ruined since the new section of the M11 opened nearby 80 02 26

1980 02 27
Senior dons at Girton are pursuing an astonishing plan to link their college with Cambridge by railway. They are proposing a mono-rail link which would run mainly at ground level on university and college-owned land to the Sidgwick Avenue arts site and University Library. The main difficulties are the high cost of the project, which would need to cross the Huntingdon and Madingley Roads and the delicate negotiations with other colleges. The college's undergraduates have to cycle two miles in all weathers to attend lectures and many have been injured in road accidents. But two recent changes may ensure it is never built: the opening of the Western By-pass has reduced the amount of traffic and there will soon be a cycle lane. 80 02 27

1980 05 24
The controversial Kite redevelopment scheme has hit yet another stumbling block and work is unlikely to start at all this year. Cambridge's new Labour administration, which objects to the £15 million shopping and parking scheme now claims there could be very serious difficulties in the way of the development. But the developers, Grosvenor Estates, say it intends to press ahead with the project agreed by the previous Conservative council. 80 05 24b

1980 11 11
The much-disputed future of the Kite area of Cambridge may be thrown back into the melting pot yet again. The city council's Labour administration is becoming increasingly convinced that the present development plan, which it has vigorously opposed from the outset, will not now go ahead because of the national economic situation. So they are to start looking at alternative developments. Their partners, Grosvenor Estates, have until the end of the year to find a taker for the major store and say that Debenhams is interested. 80 11 11b

1980 12 23
Debenhams pull out of major store but six-month reprieve for plan - give Grosvenor time to find taker for main store, agreement expires end of month but no taker; Grosvenor must pay council a ground rent of £65,000 pa if scheme goes ahead; was known that Co-op would shut its doors in Burleigh street if another major store did not come into development [7.10, 9,10]

1981 02 18

Cambridge councillors have thrown out the idea of ever building a multi-storey car park anywhere near the Backs. They condemned as 'barbaric' suggestions from senior officials that such a park, either above or below ground, could be built on college gardens, playing fields or open spaces along Queen's Road. "It is even more ridiculous than the plan to put a major road cross Grantchester Meadows", said Councillor Rosenstiel. 81 02 18a

1981 02 28
Kite: fourth Kite Community Action show - Clive James, Michael Palin & Terry Jones [7.11]

1981 03 27
Traders give up battle to stay in Kite - Waffles etc [7.12]

1981 05 23
Twenty years of uncertainty over the future of the Kite area have ended. Debenham, the major national chain store, is to move into a superstore planned for the £15 million shopping development. Labour councillors who have led opposition against the scheme have conceded defeat saying there is nothing they can now do to halt it. The Conservatives who initiated the scheme and have never flagged in their confidence that it would eventually get under way are delighted 81 05 23

1981 05 27
A Cambridge consortium which owns a shop in the centre of the planned £15 million Kite rebuilding scheme is steadfastly refusing to sell to make way for the giant new redevelopment. No.56 Fitzroy Street was bought in a bid to stop the scheme and their leader, a Cambridge don, says: "Under no circumstances are we going to budge – not even if they offered us £5 million. They can build all around us if they like – I am looking forward to our little shop becoming part of the shopping precinct with a large glass dome over the roof" 81 05 27

1981 06 01
"Kite sage: the first 30 years" review: Bitter personal arguments, the sound of falling masonry and a series of costly court actions have punctuated the 30-year-Kite saga. In 1950, the Holford Report suggested that the city's historic centre could not meet the shopping needs of future generations. "We regard Fitzroy Street as a valuable relief for pressure on the older centre", it said. Now with the news that Debenhams is to move into the new development and that work is due to start this summer, the saga may be nearing its end. 81 06 01

1981 06 17
Kite: car parks close [7.14]

1981 07 11
Little Kettle demolished [7.15]

1981 08 03
The saga of property dealing and controversy in the Kite redevelopment area of Cambridge has come to an end. The last remaining privately-owned shop at 56 Fitzroy Street has been sold to the city council and its partner, Grosvenor Estates for a price of around £30,000. This has given the owners, a consortium of university dons, a £5,000 profit which will be distributed to two charities. As part of the deal a number of small traders will be allowed to stay in their shops for up to three months. 81 08 03c

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1981 09 26
An era came to an end when the self-styled 'Lord Mayor of the Kite', Mr Arthur Sutton, moved out of his house in Christchurch Street. It occupies an important position in the £15 million development scheme but he refused to budge until the developers came up with somewhere nearby for him to live. Now they are to build him a detached three-bedroomed house a few doors away 81 09 26

1981 11 13
Skirting the roadworks and dodging the demolition rubble, the visitor finds the Kite area of Cambridge hardly the easiest or most picturesque place to shop. Almost one side of Fitzroy Street is empty. The top end, which once included a Post Office, sweet shop, denture repairer and café called the Toby Jug, has been flattened. The Co-op department store in Burleigh Street have axed the traditional ceremonial arrival of Father Christmas as it would aggravate traffic problems. Add the lack of parking space and it is not surprising that traders fear for their Christmas profits. 81 11 13a

1981 11 25
A startling £3.5 million plan to tunnel under The Backs has been prepared secretly by county road engineers. It would be 20 feet wide and run under Queen's Road from the Madingley junction right up to Silver Street. Meter controlled parking would then be allowed up to Garret Hostel Lane and the area to West Road would be grassed over to give an uninterrupted view of King's College chapel. The plan is certain to raise a violent storm of controversy. 81 11 25 & 26b

1981 12 07
Thousands of motorists may soon be asked to leave their cars on the outskirts of Cambridge and cycle into the city to solve the parking problem. They would park in west Cambridge or near Stourbridge Common and make their way by hired bikes through the Backs or along the river. The park and cycle scheme is being suggested as an alternative to the park and ride bus scheme by road engineers who are also planning a tunnel under Queens Road. 81 12 07a

1983 04 26
The County Council has been urging Cambridge councillors to provide more city centre parking space. They say 1,000 extra parking spaces are needed. Now they have suggested six sites: a 250-space extension to the present Lion Yard multi-deck, land behind Telephone House in Regent Street-Park Terrace (220 spaces on a four-deck park), the old Addenbrooke's Hospital site (250 spaces), land behind Shire Hall (450 spaces on a three-deck park), Saxon Street (480) and Adam and Eve Street (460 spaces). 83 04 26 p5

1983 06 29
Plans for a new main bus station with a 'floating roof' and a circular office block standing alongside, in the centre of Cambridge, have come in for fierce criticisms. The County Council is adamant that the new bus station should go on the present small and restricted site in Drummer Street but the Labour- controlled City Council want it moved to the railway station. The rebuilding will see the removal of the small island with its office and large trees from the centre of the road. But the City is refusing to sell the island site or to remove the trees as part of its opposition. 83 06 29 p15

1983 07 21

The fate of the old Laurie and McConnal store - which has been lying empty since it closed five years ago – has been decided at last. Habitat, a national chain of home furnishing shops, is to move in to the store on the fringe of the new Grafton Centre. Debenhams has taken the main store on the site, the supermarket booked by Keymarkets will probably open as a branch of Gateway and the biggest 'variety' store is being taken by C&A. But letting arrangements have still to be concluded on 30 of the 45 medium-sized shops 83 07 21 p1 [11]

1983 08 30
Four major car parks on the outskirts of Cambridge linked to the city centre by a frequent park-and-ride bus service are suggested in a new report aimed a sorting out the city's traffic tangles. They are on fields at Barton Road, a small piece of disused land between the bypass interchange at Histon Road, allotment land near Newmarket Road cemetery and the old Cattle Market site at Cherryhinton Road. It also proposes extensive residents-only parking schemes with a tightening-up of long-term parking in the city centre. 83 08 30 p1

1983 09 29
The Cambridge Civic Society, which fights planning applications around Cambridge, is being wound up and its members urged to join the Cambridge Preservation Society – the group from which it split off in 1961. Projects in which they have been involved include the Kite area, Stansted airport, the M11 Inquiry and Robinson College. At present they are concerned about the proposed large office development on the Shire Hall site, preferring to see it as a community area 83 09 29 p19

1983 10 11
The new Grafton Centre, the biggest shake-up in Cambridge retailing for a century, is only medium sized in terms of city centre redevelopments but is enough to upset the balance of trade in Cambridge. "No one would pretend that it is linked to the existing shopping centre to the extent that people can use both on the same day", said the man in charge of the project for Grosvenor Estates. The next six month's trading will be keenly watched by shops in the historic centre. The attractiveness of the Grafton Centre will depend on easy access and whether it offers value for money and diversity. They have accepted lower rents in order to get shopkeepers which cannot afford big overheads. 83 10 11 p11

1983 10 19
The tattered Kite blows away into history – feature [11]

1983 10 20
A quarter of a century of planning wrangles ended today when the £27 million Grafton shopping centre development opened. Part is still unfinished but there was a general sense of relief that the Kite at last had its new prestigious shopping development. It looks slightly bare as many of the shop units were still unfilled however shoppers seemed happy as they walked through the new arcade of the main concourse. 83 10 20 p1 [20.1]

1983 11 15
Cambridge could soon have a new underground car park, an extensive range of new shops and a luxury hotel at the edge of the Lion Yard car park. The land, which is let as a private car park, was originally scheduled for a large hotel, then the John Lewis organisation became interested. But now the City Council is considering extending the Lion Yard car park, probably underground, and selling the land for shopping. It might fetch as much as £5 million. 83 11 15 p1

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1984 05 16
The Queen gave her royal seal of approval to Cambridge's multi-million pound Grafton Centre when she unveiled a plaque to marks its official opening. Cheering crowds queued for hours to glimpse her. A fanfare performed by the 20-piece orchestra from the Manor School greeted the royal party. After the opening the queen spoke to many of the children and shop staff. 84 05 16 p12

1984 07 06
Computerised control of traffic in Cambridge by means of traffic lights has been in operation along two major routes since March. Chaos has not ensued and the county council's traffic management scheme claims it has knocked several minutes off journey times in peak periods. 'Scoot' operates in Hills Road and Queen's Road by marshalling traffic into 'platoons' of vehicles and then pilots them through as many sets of lights as possible. 84 07 06

1984 08 10
Cherry Hinton could get its long-awaited bypass if the controversial 86-acre housing development goes ahead on the outskirts of Cambridge. The new road would run from Airport Way to meet Fulbourn Road near the hospital. Originally a bypass was planned to run from Quy interchange to the foot of the Gogs Hill to link up with the A604 but the route ran into objections from conservationists and was dropped as an economy measure. 84 08 10 p13

1984 08 25
Traffic experts say there is now no way in which traffic flow down Mill Road can be reduced but they can reduce accidents by switching their sights to the side roads. The new plans would inconvenience residents and local workers by banning cars from certain streets and putting in 'sleeping policemen' in Vinery Road. With a number of turning bans into Mill Road, traffic along Tenison Road will be increased dramatically but new traffic lights will improve the flow. 84 08 25 p1

1984 09 07
The County Council chairman condemned councillors for their 'pathetic attempts' to sort out the Cambridge traffic problem. "There is no doubt whatever that what we do in Cambridge is pathetic compared to what is done elsewhere. We really do not know what we are doing in this city", he said adding that the county must keep up pressure on the city council to provide more parking facilities in Cambridge. 84 09 07

1984 11 20
Cambridge's Hills Road bus depot is to be moved to the outskirts of the city in a multi-million pound swap deal between Cambus and the Stetchworth-based Unex property group. Cambus will exchange its one-acre site for a much larger section of the former D & H Contractor's site in Cowley Road. In return Unex will get control of the bus depot virtually next door to the former Heffer's printing works site which they successfully redeveloped as Botanic House, headquarters of Cambridge Electronic Industries, BBC Radio Cambridgeshire and Betjeman House which was subsequently sold for more than £4 million 84 11 20 p1

1985
Whitehall overrule no offices in residential area

1985 03 11
A major shake-up to cope with the forecast massive increase in Cambridge traffic has been unveiled by the County Council. It suggests an underground car park at the Butts Green end of Midsummer Common and a new road following the main railway line with a new bridge over the Cam. There could be reconstruction of a number of major road junctions including East Road - Newmarket Road and at Hyde Park Corner with widening of dual carriageways and new cycleways. A park-and-ride system of new car parks linked to the centre by frequent buses is also proposed 85 03 11

1985 03 11
A furious political row has erupted over the sudden and unexpected publication by the Labour-controlled City Council of its new roads and traffic plan just before the County Council issued their proposals. It envisages a park and ride system, converting long-term city centre parking spaces to short-term shoppers' parks, an extension of Lion Yard car park, road closures, pedestrian areas and a special coach-bus interchange near the railway station. The Liberals describe it as a waste of paper. It has been produced without any councillors or officials being told about it before its release to the press 85 03 11a

1985 06 08
The Government's decision to expand Stansted would put tremendous pressure on the Cambridge and there should be a conference every two years with academic papers on preserving the city's ancient and historic environment. But the Labour leader says Cambridge already has more experts per square inch than any other city in the world and does not need to call in more 85 06 08

1985 06 14
The controversial 'railway-route' road plan for Cambridge has been killed off for the second time in 10 years. It was intended to relieve traffic & would have run around the southern and eastern outskirts of the city, following the main railway line. Ten years ago Conservative county councillors discovered it would have cost millions of pounds to build and destroy at least 100 houses. Their revival of the plan earlier this year caused a furious outcry: they were swept from control at the recent elections and admit it was one of the main factors in their downfall 85 06 14

1985 07 06
Lion Yard car park extension plan – 85 07 06

1985 08 02
Cambridge ratepayers received a cheque for £2million from one of the country's largest housing developers. It was accompanied by a legally binding promise from McLean Homes to build the much-needed Cherry Hinton bypass road for free. They may also give a plot of land for a new primary school. This is the council's profit on the largest land deal in Cambridge local government history. The housing development company has bought 51 acres of prime housing land owned by the council and others. Another 50 acres are to be sold shortly 85 08 02

1985 08 30
Now that the dust has settled after the upheaval of building the Grafton Centre, Burleigh Street and Fitzroy Street have emerged as pleasant shopping promenades. Very few shops remain unlet with Andy's Records and Lancashire Mills about to open. Fitzroy Street will become more

interesting in October when Habitat finally open at the old Laurie & McConnell shop while Burleigh Street will get a similar boost when the House of Holland opens in the old Marcade centre. 85 08 30

1985 09 01
Ian Purdy has probably done more than anybody else in modern times to shape the Cambridge we know today. He is the man who fought and won the battle to lift the years-long planning ban on Cambridge expansion, thus opening the doors to industrial development. He played the major part in approving the controversial Lion Yard redevelopment which changed the face of the city centre forever. But he did not design it – that was done by private architects - and doubts if such a scheme would have been approved even 18 months after it was given the go-ahead. "People had so much concrete redevelopment thrust on them after the war and called a halt to it", he says. 85 09 01b & c

1985 09 17
The Green Belt around Cambridge was designed to protect the area from development and to preserve large areas of open space between villages. Now County planners want to release land to make way for the city to breathe including 70 acres at Trumpington, Histon Road allotments and the University Farm in Huntingdon Road. They say this would not mean developers' lorries moving in. Nearly 500 organisations objected at an Inquiry but the County are pleased with the result which backs most of their proposals. 85 09 17 a b c

1985 10 22
The Government has given the green light for the controversial £500,000 plan for rebuilding Cambridge bus station. They have given the County permission to buy a small 'island' of land in the centre of Drummer Street owned by the city council. It was the only thing standing in the way of the proposed rebuilding plans. But the scheme is unlikely ever to go ahead. The new County council administration wants to build a long-distance coach terminal at the railway station instead, saying it would ease city centre bus congestion. 85 10 22

1985 12 02
A plan devised by Grosvenor Estates could add a third to the size of the Grafton Centre. The extension would be built around a central mall at right angles to the present one using the site of the present bus interchange and the land now occupied by the yard of Coulsons, the building contractors. It would have a two-storey roof park for 350 cars with a number reserved for shop staff. Coupled with the opening of Habitat in Fitzroy Street it would strengthen the appeal of the area against that of Cambridge's traditional city centre. 85 12 02a

1985 12 05
Cherry Hinton massive new development, 51a site [8.2]

1986
County planners want less control offices, city say 0.5M square feet unused office space already Government agree high-tech block Hills Rd bus station [27.12.4]

1986 01 25
Cambridge City Council wants to increase central area parking as cheaply as possible and is prepared to do a deal with a developer to sell or lease the large area of waste land next the Lion Yard car park. Possibilities include an eight screen cinema complex to be developed by an

American company, offices, houses and flats, a luxury hotel or shops linked to St Andrew's Street by moving walkways. Some of the schemes are very attractive visually but the ones that could give the council the best returns are amongst the ugliest. 86 01 25

1986 02 08
Plans have been revealed for a multi-million pound shopping centre on the outskirts of Cambridge. Marks and Spencer and Tesco have proposed a double superstore with park-and-ride facilities on land bounded by the M11 and Hauxton Road, Trumpington. A dual carriageway would connect the A10 to the privately-owned Clay Farm area which has already been identified for potential housing. 86 02 08

1986 03 11
Holiday Inn plans for hotel and extensions Lion Yard car park welcomed – 86 03 11

1986 05 20
Grafton Centre extension unveiled (agreed 1986) [20.4]

1986 06 13
Victoria Bridge is rusting away. The 97-year old structure has taken a battering from heavy vehicles over the years, despite a lorry ban and weight limit. It is in such a bad state of repair that it needs to be entirely rebuilt – a project which will cause chaos for 18 months. Engineers hope to keep traffic moving by repairing half the bridge at a time. All the county's other 2,000 bridges are also being inspected 86 06 13

1986 07 11
Another old Cambridge landmark – the former Little Kettle premises in Fitzroy Street – disappeared when it was demolished as part of the Kite re-development programme. Over the years the premises had various uses, but they are best remembered as the general hardware shop which had a small kettle hanging outside. 81 07 11

1986 12 08
Controversial plans to build a high-tech office block on the site of the old Eastern Counties Bus Station in Hills Road have been given Government approval, despite fierce council opposition. The Stetchworth-based property development company Unex Group can construct a three-storey office block. But alternative proposals for a four-storey block and sheltered housing, scorned by the council as 'a geriatric ghetto', have been dismissed. 86 12 08a

1987
Government ends distinction office use & research & development, city has used it to restrict firms wanting come Cambridge because of status etc [NS2.15]

1987 03 13
Cambridge's traditional transport, the bicycle, will be deliberately used to slow down city centre traffic. The medieval central streets will be made even narrower which will make it even more difficult to overtake bikes. Traffic restrictions will also be introduced, including the banning of taxis. The streets have been reshaped and cleaned up with York stone used in areas considered 'visually sensitive'. But workmen in Trinity Street have been delayed by having to remove hundreds of wooden blocks dating back to the days of horse-drawn vehicles 87 03 13b

1987 05 19
Thousands more Cambridge motorists may be charged for parking outside their homes during working hours. No fees have been agreed but present schemes cost up to £60 a year. In addition hundreds more parking meters would allow one or two hour parking for shoppers with additional traffic wardens employed to enforce the restrictions. But Conservatives on the traffic management team are strongly opposed to a park and ride scheme which might come into operation in three years if the Government gives permission for the city council to buy the land needed. 87 05 19

1987 08 19
Ambitious plans for a £3million facelift for the Lion Yard shopping centre have been unveiled by Barclays Bank. The precinct – officially opened by Princess Anne in 1975 – will be brought bang up-to-date with new lighting, new paving and a new shop unit neat St Andrew's the Great. The biggest change will be a covered first-floor level incorporating the Heidelberg Gardens with four food kiosks and a seating area for 200. It will be a much better place and people will be able to get something to eat and drink there, developers claim. 87 08 19

1987 09 14
Developers are eying-up property in Newmarket Road. They have approached Greene King about acquiring the Seven Stars, Corner House, Five Bells, Rose and Crown and Bird in Hand public houses Already Eastern Gas has sold off more than three acres of the former gas works and the disused Chapman and Arber scrap yard has also attracted interest. Gray's the tobacconist has sold up, Jack Reynold's sweet shop closes next month and Grosvenor will soon start work on the old Carioca nightclub site which will house offices and small businesses 87 09 14b

1987 12 14
The Government is being asked to stop a controversial housing development planned for the Clay Farm site at Trumpington. Local MPs want the land to be designated as Green Belt as they fear the development of 100-plus houses would automatically open the door for almost 1,000 others. There is great public hostility to such housing on the open farmland. Housing giant Bovis Homes want to build 57 large houses, 33 small ones and 23 old people's flats on a 12-acre site off Long Road 87 12 14

1988 02 01
The Mayor paid tribute to the city's chief planning officer, David Urwin, describing his death as a tragic blow to the whole of Cambridge. A graduate of Selwyn College, he spent most of his career with the city council, beginning as a junior planner and working his way through the ranks. 88 02 01

1988 03 08
Multi-million pound plans to refurbish the Lion Yard shopping centre would include gates to shut off the precinct at night. There would be a food court with restaurant on the upper floor of the present WH Smith which would be relocated in Heidelberg Gardens. 88 03 08

1988 05 03
Grafton Centre: Presto to close, "no longer economic", Centre fashion orientated ¢CEN 3.5.88

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1988 05 04
Grafton plans for huge extension ¢CEN 4.5.88

1988 05 12
From the moment the Grafton Centre opened in October 1983, everybody connected with it knew that it was too small at 300,000 sq feet. It was locked in by its location with the only real scope for expansion on the East Road side. This needed a deal with Coulsons, the long-established Cambridge builder. Retailers had reservations about the initial plans for a major new store built around Presto supermarket. It had been intended to provide the kind of balanced development considered important in the 1970s, but had never proved successful 88 05 12 & a ¢CEN 12.5.88

1988 05 19
Grafton Centre: petition for grocery shop replace Presto ¢CEN 19.5.88

1988 07 29
Structure Plan proposals, Government releases Arbury Camp farm site etc ¢CEN 29.7.88
1988 10 18
Cambridge may have a city-wide high-speed monorail system linking with all nearby villages allowing shoppers to leave their cars at home and travel high above the traffic jams. It could be expensive to set up but would have low running costs and be reliable. Eight years ago dons at Girton College came up with a plan for a monorail to link it with the university quarter but nothing ever came of it. The County Council has already commissioned experts to consider a light railway system linked to the proposed park-and-ride system 88 10 18a

1988 11 03
Planning granted for £30M expansion Grafton Centre, including cinema ¢CEN 3.11.88

1989 01 19
The second phase of the Grafton Centre shopping complex, which is almost half as big again, has been delayed by nine months. It will include new shopping malls, a food area and the conversion of the old Presto store into 15 business units. It means the seven screen cinema and 257 extra parking spaces will also be set back. The news has been greeted with dismay by Councillors. Developers Grosvenor has blamed the delay on design changes, although finance has not yet been organised. 89 01 19

1989 03 07
Jeweller leaves Grafton centre - "too downmarket"; rent rises from £5,000 to £12,500 ¢CEN 7.3.89

1989 03 22
"Boom city grinding to halt": Traffic chaos in Cambridgeshire is growing so severe that in five years' time drivers may have to set off at 7 am to be in work by nine. A massive upsurge in traffic has already extended the rush hour. Congestion is choking Cambridge city centre and deepening the parking nightmare, a report says. Action must be taken with new roads around the outskirts and controversial park-and-ride schemes or it will grind to a halt over the next ten years. 89 03 22

1989 03 30
Office development outstrips planners - allocation for 10 years will be complete in two ¢CEN 30.3.89

1989 04 24
British Rail is planning a second Cambridge railway station, provisionally known as Cambridge Parkway, close to Milton and the A45 northern bypass. It is unlikely to be ready in time for the start of electrification services to King's Lynn in October 1991, but could follow shortly afterwards. However the site needs much better access and provision of parking space. It would serve the high-tech Science Park and provide a way for commuters to join trains without having to struggle through the city. 89 04 24

1989 04 26
North Cambridge seeing expansion of development following approval of structure plan ¢CEN 26.4.89

1989 06 09
Cambridgeshire's new traffic chief has vowed to end Cambridge's traffic and parking chaos within four years. He wants a better road system to serve the industrial quarters, a new light railway system linked to a park-and-ride scheme and a possible car park under Midsummer Common. A 'grand traffic management plan' will be drafted by officials and meetings arranged with business bosses.. 89 06 09

1989 06 10
The £15 million park-and-ride scheme planned for Cambridge is now officially buried. County Conservatives had promised during the election campaign that the plan would be dropped if they took control and have told officials to stop work on the joint scheme with the city council. And a plan for an interchange where Madingley Road meets the M11 has been delayed. Work was due to start in 1990 but now the M11 is to be widened into a three lane carriageway between Cambridge and Stansted Airport. The council is now looking for alternative road schemes to spend the money on. 89 06 10

1989 06 24
Radical plans for Cambridge's Station Road area could help the chronic housing crisis. Nearly 400 houses, 35 bedsits and 52 flats could be constructed together with 897 new car parking spaces and leisure facilities. The measures would alleviate chronic traffic problems caused by commercial development and some existing businesses such as Spillers, Charringtons and Ridgeons might be asked to move out to more suitable sites. They are generally unattractive, out of scale and out of character with the area, councillors say 89 06 24

1989 07 18
Planners approve phase two expansion Grafton centre ¢CEN 18.7.89

1989 08 03
"Days of major office development are over" following DoE rejection site at Mitcham's Corner ¢CEN 3.8.89

1989 09 04
Controversial new plans to ease Cambridge traffic chaos would see starting and finishing times of all schools, main centres of employment and university lectures staggered. Vehicles would be

banned from main roads during the rush hour, turning them over exclusively to bikes and buses. City planners say better traffic management is better than building huge and expensive new roads and rail systems. The plans are bound to provoke furious protests 89 09 04

1989 09 22
Kite area controversy – review of plans – 89 09 22b

1989 10 01
The controversial Cambridge park and ride scheme has started with a whimper. At peak commuter time there were 17 cars at the 400-space Cowley Road and even fewer at the 150-space car park on Clifton Road. Users were enthusiastic: Sophy Moxley of Willingham, a sales assistant, said "It will save me money because it only costs 50p which is cheaper than parking in the city centre though Steve Field from Stretham says it is inconvenient as you don't have access to our car during the day. Councillor Andrew Duff said the area around Castle Hill, where residents-only zones have been introduced, was 'almost pastoral' though Canterbury and Benson Street were packed with cars. 89 10 01

1989 10 03
A light railway system running in a tunnel under Midsummer Common is the latest official suggestion to help solve traffic problems in the centre of Cambridge. It would be an alternative to a line running down a widened section of Newmarket Road. The underground railway would link with a number of other lines from surrounding villages as far out as Fenstanton and terminate at a station in Malcolm Street. The County Council will invest £60,000 to see if a car park under Midsummer Common is feasible and another £150,000 in a feasibility study for a 60-mph light rail system. 89 10 03a

1989 11 23
600 houses planned for Arbury allotments ¢CEN 23.11.89

1989 11 28
The new South East Cycleway from Market Square to Cherry Hinton follows quiet back roads, avoiding the nightmarish Mill Road which can reduce cyclists to a nervous wreck. It includes a new £2million bridge across the railway near Cambridge station. This is a striking structure with a triangular tower from which cables support a cycle and walkway fully protected from the elements by a transparent polycarbonate tube. It is thought to be the longest bridge of its type in Western Europe. 89 11 28a, 29

1989 12 21
Cambridge's new £200,000 car space scheme with signs around the city linked to the county council's traffic computer which monitors the five main car parks, hits teething troubles leaving shoppers driving round trying to find a parking space. Cambridge's Park and Ride scheme is failing to attract its major target – the city's commuters. Yesterday morning there were only 15 cars parked at Cowley Road while queues of vehicles drove bumper-to-bumper down Milton Road. But it is drawing off-peak shoppers and tourists. The County say it is too soon to draw conclusions. A similar scheme in Oxford had taken a long time to become established. 89 12 21, 89 12 21a

1990 03 01

Super high speed bus lanes are to be built alongside roads in a bid to ease Cambridge's traffic chaos. Experts hope this will give a boost to the flagging park-and-ride scheme. Buses would be equipped with a special electronic 'eye' to change traffic lights in their favour. The first would run from Cowley Road to the city centre and later most main roads would incorporate them. At present buses are held up in traffic jams and passengers take just as long as they would have done in their cars. On some peak time journeys buses have only five passengers but large numbers of shoppers have been using them– 90 03 01

1990 03 16
Cambridge's pioneering £2.6 million cycleway scheme is helping to cut the death toll on the city's roads with over 2,000 people a day using the route. Supporters say the South East Cycle Route from Cherry Hinton to the city centre is also being used by pedestrians. The giant £1.7 cycle bridge was opened by the Minister for Roads in November and is fitted with security cameras. Some people dismissed it as a hare-brained idea at first but it is worth the time and effort, says Tony Carter, after whom the bridge has been named. – 90 03 16

1990 03 22
Development plans that could have brought 1,000 new jobs to Cambridge have been thrown out by council planners worried about increased traffic congestion. Opposing the scheme for more offices on the Cambridge Business Park one councillor said 'Cambridge does not need 1,000 jobs'. Crown Estates wanted to build 15 new units on the Cowley Road site but the scheme was rejected since they felt it would bring firms from outside which would further worsen the housing problem. 90 03 22a

1990 07 07
Grafton Centre second phase, including cinema, is in doubt as major investor Sun Life Insurance puts its 84 per cent holding on market as it does not believe the extension is viable – 90 07 07

1990 08 10
Lion Yard car park underground extension opened – 90 08 10a; brings relief 90 08 17a

1990 09 27
City planning chief John Popper resigns; third official to leave within three months – 90 09 27a,b

Traffic problems, Petty Cury June 964

152.53

c.49.62: Traffic Planning – *includes roads, bypasses, ring roads, road bridges, cycleways, dual-carriageways; parking, traffic lights, roundabouts etc. (See also c. 26.48 – cars)*

1888 09 14
Much debate about proposal to build new bridge (Victoria Bridge) to link Cambridge & Chesterton (which would open the way for the amalgamation of Chesterton Urban District into Cambridge) [1.16]

1888 10 05
Tenison Road: council want to borrow £4,000 to build [3.24]

1888 11 02
Poll approves Victoria Bridge proposal by 2,784 to 1,754; apply for Act of Parliament to authorise construction of this and a second bridge further downstream [1.18]

1889 08 02
Tenison Road: opened, all but completed [2.20, 3.26]

1889 08 03
Sir – The Mill Road footbridge over the railway line was opened to the public on Monday August 3rd 1889. I was the last one to take the keys of the gates to the station – William Nelson. Sir - The iron footbridge over the railway on Mill Road had wooden steps and gave access to the open fields beyond it. In fact, so countrified was the area that when the Royal Standard was built it was known as 'Apthorpe's Folly' from William Apthorpe the brewer who built it. Original footbridge relocated to Coldham's Common where it spans the Newmarket Line – H.D.C. 35 01 26[1.8] [2.21]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1888 09 14
Much debate about proposal to build new bridge (Victoria Bridge) to link Cambridge & Chesterton (which would open the way for the amalgamation of Chesterton Urban District into Cambridge) [1.16]

1889 09 20
Victoria Bridge: operations have just been commenced in connection with the construction of the first of the bridges authorised by the Cam Bridges Act. Engineers: Messrs J.J. Webster (Liverpool) and F. Waters (Cambridge), Contractor: John Mackay of Hereford. The bridge to be erected opposite to Bridge Road and will be approached from the Cambridge side by a road across Midsummer Common. The contractor has agreed to complete the undertaking in ten months. A number of townsmen have been engaged and local materials such as pipes are being used. 1889 09 20 Ch

1889 11 08
Victoria Bridge: Laying the foundation stone. The bridge will have a superstructure of iron and steel, principally six elliptical main ribs spanning the river. The main rib will be 100 feet, clear span with a clear rise above the water of 14ft 6inches. The will consider of wrought iron plate and angle iron and will be so designed that with two traction engines in the centre of the bridge, and the whole span covered with passengers the metal will not in any part of the structure be submitted to a greater test than five tons per square inch in compression. The extreme length of the bridge is to be 40 feet with two footways of seven feet wide each and a roadway of 26 feet – ample room for the two widest vehicles to pass with ease. The new connecting road across the common is to be 40 feet wide with footways seven feet wide and granite tarmacadam. The cost will be under £10,000. The foundation stone was laid by the Mayor (F. Wace) and J. Bester, Chairman of the Chesterton Local Board 1899 11 08

1890 12 11
Victoria Bridge opens, December, but the bottle of champagne refuses to break [1.2]

1890
Tramways Company dispute with Council over area of road they are to maintain [Sw.15]

1892
Tramways agree annual rental of £325 for 25 years for repair of road, confirmed in Cambridge Street Tramways Act [Sw.15]

1893
Petition for another bridge across river at Abbey road [NI.3.20]

1895
Tramways propose viaduct road from Trumpington Road across meadows to Newnham [Sw.16]

1897 03 20
Mr Edwin Bays, architect, forwards particulars of a scheme for erecting a viaduct, with Bathing Sheds under, leading from the Trumpington Road, Cambridge, to Newnham. The proposed viaduct road would start from the Leys School grounds, Coe Fen, Newnham and terminating at Grantchester and Barton-roads. It will be necessary to construct two river and three road arches and it is intended to utilise one as a Swimming Bath for women, and the other two as dressing rooms

1897 08 09
Sir - Now that the Jubilee accounts have been reckoned up it seems fitting we should start afresh the matter of the new bridge. The question of a new bridge to connect Chesterton with Cambridge at the Abbey Estate is of supreme importance. The ferryman knows no rest. All the people at Old Chesterton have to be crossed over long before the omnibuses are astir. The wheels of progress anywhere in the vicinity have moved round in the past with about the same velocity as a farmer's cart! Is this to drag on for ever? The advantage of another bridge over the now-sweetened Cam would be a great gain to both Chesterton and Cambridge in equal proportion - letter signed "Chestertonian 1897 08 09

1897 08 21
Guildhall Street: proposed new thoroughfare [2.19]

1898 03 02
Tramways Company consider electrification of trams proposals by British Electric Traction Co., ask for new lease from Council who commission report [Sw.18,P16]]

1898 04 02
Sir - the new bridge at Abbey Road Cambridge has become a supreme necessity. Everyone admits it now. Boats and plants have had their day, and should be done away with. Omnibuses of first class order are unable to carry people to most convenient places, and at low prices, for the want of another bridge to bring them into Cambridge. What enormous advantages to both Chesterton and Cambridge another bridge at this spot holds out. The great increase in traffic calls loudly for another bridge. The people near the Abbey again insisted upon another bridge but the Cambridge Rip Van Winkles sleep on, oblivious of anything. Procrastination is the great curse of Cambridge, and Chesterton should take warning by keeping abreast with the requirements of this important suburb – Chestertonian 1898 04 02

1898 06 14
The Cambridge surveyor gave particulars of what the council propose to do to the roads. From Station Road to St Andrew's street it was proposed to lay Australian "Jarrah" hardwood blocks in the whole of the carriageway. These blocks would also be laid between the tramlines. In Corn Exchange Street the paving was now granite, very rough, large setts being used. They had been put down probably 30 or 40 years. It was now proposed to substitute the wood blocks 1898 06 14

1898 08 11
At the general meeting of shareholders of the Cambridge Omnibus Company there was no exuberant spirit of jubilation. In fact, the company seems to have fallen on bad times. Trading for the year had resulted in a very considerable loss. In September an unfortunate accident occurred to one of the company's vehicles, injuring several persons more or less severely. They had the misfortune to lose by death nine horses. One thing that had swelled the amount of loss was the state of the roads. It must be patent to everyone that the rooms were very destructive to the wheels, more particularly the main streets where there were tram lines.

1898 11 09
Sir - If it be true that the tramway company are anxious to adopt electric trams, I trust the council will be very careful not to allow our narrow and dangerous streets to be made still more dangerous by unsightly overhead wires and posts, or by the death-trap known as the underground current. In these days of motor cars, buses etc it is unnecessary to pull up our roads again as

surely a good service of motor omnibuses would answer every need. If not, why not adopt the system of gas trams? – A Ratepayer CDN 1898 11 09

1899
Valuable tram horse breaks leg because of tramrails, considerable problems caused by the lines in the road, further problems due to subsidence caused by new sewage works [Sw.17]

1899 03 02
Next year the lease under which the Cambridge Tramways Company has the use of the streets expires. They have entered into negotiations with the British Electric Company for the sale of their undertakings. Subject to the Town Council giving its assent a sale has been arranged. They will introduce electric trams and considerably extend the present system of tram lines. 1899 03 02

1899 03 21
Weather of a wintry character was experienced in Cambridge when a heavy snowstorm of upwards of two hours duration entirely changed the aspect of things and everything is now wearing a mantle of snow, some to a depth of eight inches. The tramways were forced by the state of their lines to suspend their service and ordinary vehicular traffic was rendered extremely uncomfortable, if not dangerous. Corporation employees were soon dispatched in all directions with shovels, brooms and carts to clear the principal streets.

1900

1900 04 19
Cambridge town council were told a conference had been held between two members of the committee and the Master and Bursar of Emmanuel College with reference to the construction of a new street from Drummer Street to St Andrew's Street, and the closing and giving up of Emmanuel Street to the college 00 04 19

1900 09 12
The Cambridge Omnibus Company and the Tramways Company have entered into an arrangement whereby the Omnibus Company is to leave the whole of the trams route free for the Tramways Company. They in their turn will withdraw all their one-horse 'buses, thus leaving to the Omnibus Company all parts of the town not covered by the tram lines. The arrangement comes into operation on Monday next 00 09 12 [Sw.18]

1901 02 22
Castle Street: to purchase property to widen [49.62 1.7]

1901 04 18
Cambridge Council reported that in 1900 a meeting had been held with Emmanuel College as to the terms of exchange of the site of Emmanuel Street for a piece of ground to form a new street from St Andrews Street to Drummer Street. The existing street was the chief means of access to the centre of the town and carried a very considerable proportion of traffic with 1,030 cyclists on Saturday. The new road would be nearly 100 feet shorter and wider- "gain a fine new road instead of an inconvenient one. Mr Campkin suggested the advantage would rest largely with the college 01 04 18 [1.6]

1903 12 23

Cambridge architect Edwin Bays has produced a plan for a new 60 feet-wide road from Downing Street to Guildhall Street, parallel to Corn Exchange Street. This would create valuable frontages for business premises on either side and lead to a site for a new Cambridgeshire County Hall. There would be a fountain to take off the nakedness of the wide entrance at St Andrew's Hill, replacing the old Corn Exchange. It would relieve the congested traffic in the narrow Petty Cury and provide a direct access to the chief colleges. 03 12 23

1904 04 22
Cambridge Paving Committee received a memorial from a number of residents in the Hobson Street area calling attention to the present state of the carriage-way. They directed the Surveyor to report the cost of paving the street with wood blocks, together with the portion of St Andrew's Street from the tramway terminus. But Hobson Street was used by very few people; traffic was not half what it used to be and as the trams were likely to be electrified it would be better to wait. However a great amount of traffic came from Newmarket Road to the centre of town down King Street; very often there was a great block of traffic in Sussex Street because it was dangerous to go down Hobson Street where the pebbles were very uneven. Traffic went on dropping, and business went on dropping, simply because the street was so badly paved. c04 04 22

1904 10 17
Moves to annul clause re new road bridge, poll opposes bridge & traffic it would cause; committee report favours Walnut Tree Avenue as best site at cost £20,000 [2.7]

1904 09 15
A poorly-attended council meeting considered an offer from the Cambridge Electric Tramways Syndicate to electrify and extend the present tramway system. The overhead trolley system for running the cars would not to be employed in King's Parade without the consent of the council. But consultants say that the existing lines in Kings Parade should be abandoned & they cannot recommend new lines in the town centre because the narrowness of the streets would generate great opposition from residents. A new line should be laid in Silver Street but this is so narrow that the trams would take their turn with ordinary road traffic and keep to the left. There may be some objection to a track down Queen's Road which has the character of a boulevard but this would not be disturbed by the working of the tramways. The busiest section would be Hills Road where trams would run at about 2 ¾ minute intervals. 04 09 15

1904 11 09
Sir – while Cambridge is hesitating in what course should be adopted with regard to the tramway system two of the London bus companies have adopted motor traction. It is strange that after all the progress made by the petrol engine that one has adopted steam. The difficulties for a good petrol bus are many as frequent stopping and starting is required with much changing of gear. The steam bus has many advantages as any variation of speed is got by merely turning on more or less steam. Electric buses are out of the question as the batteries are too heavy and will only travel about 40 miles on one charge. The overhead electric trolley system disfigures the street by the overhead wires but can be relied upon and with ornamental trolley poles they do not look half as bad as it is made out – C. North, Cambridge. 04 11 09

1905 02 04
Downing Street: building to start on corner of St Andrews Street: site cleared months ago, have needed police to regulate traffic since view obstructed by hoardings [4.15, 4.16]

1905 02 09

In the light of recent developments of the motor bus, Cambridge people must feel devoutly thankful for the failure of the proposed electric tramway scheme. When it was proposed we felt compelled to protest against the introduction of an ugly and cumbersome system, totally unfitted to our narrow and crowded streets. We advised the provision of 'motor buses and the gradual abolition of even those tramlines which exist at present. The great objection to the motor 'bus was that it was only in an experimental stage but now the London trials show they stand out as the road vehicle of the future. Railway companies are adopting them as 'feeders' instead of constructing additional branch lines or light railroads. We do not think anyone would seriously argue that an electric tram system would be preferable to an efficient motor 'bus service for Cambridge. 05 02 09

1905 02 16
Public interest in growing in the development of the motor omnibus service. The most recent improvements in construction largely obviate noise and other inconveniences. The cars travel smoothly, pick their way through traffic with ease and are amenable to all the controls essential in crowded streets. Unlike the tramways it involves no expense of electric installation, no overhead wires or underground conduit and may thread its way among vehicles of all sorts without led or hindrance. Village travellers may shortly see the carriers' carts which have laboured up the hill roads for generations replaced by a swift locomotion which will make the remotest hamlet seem no more than a suburb of the market town 05 02 16

1905 04 20
Cambridge Street Tramways Company have determined to improve their service by constructing an extra passing loop in St Andrew's Street opposite Emmanuel College to enable them to double the number of trams on that route. But no cart would be able to pass if two trams were standing together and there was already a great deal of traffic at the dangerous corner with Downing Street. There was talk of some 20 motor 'buses and if so it was unlikely whether any other traffic would venture in the streets at all 05 04 20c

1905 10 26
Cambridge councillors discussed an alternative route from Madingley Road to the Cattle Market by constructing a road from Barton Road over the river by Newnham Mill Pit and along Coe Fen Lane to Trumpington Road. Two bridges would have to be erected and the Leys School would give up a strip of land. But there was no argument in favour of making a winding lane into a straight road unless it was for traffic. It was a bad system to introduce a big scheme piecemeal and commit the council first by one step and then another. 05 10 26b

1906 02 22
In 1901 an agreement was made with Emmanuel College for the closing of Emmanuel Street and the opening of a new one nearer Christ's Lane. It had been needed when electric trams were being planned to remedy a dangerous corner with St Andrew's Street – but there would be a more dangerous corner to the proposed new street. Now some councillors called for the agreement to be cancelled. However the council had entered a binding contract and they were honour-bound to carry it out.06 02 22a,b,c

1906 05 17
An agreement had been made between the Borough Council and Emmanuel College for the closure of Emmanuel Street and the creation of a new road further north. As a result the college had taken no steps to erect new buildings on the site of two dilapidated houses that had been pulled down and had lost ground rent for several years. Now the council had changed its mind.

They should make compensation by providing, free of cost, a subway to link college property on either side of Emmanuel Street 06 05 17b & c

1906 06 14
The junction of Castle Street and Northampton Street, Cambridge, was continually congested and the corner ought to be improved. The council wanted to demolish a cottage and widen the road, but the owner wanted £260 for a property that a few years ago was worth £120: that was too great an increase 06 06 14a-c

1906 09 08
Many residents have been plagued by the clouds of dust raised by motor cars and other traffic. Dust-destroying measures have usually involved evil-smelling solutions but now Cambridge is to experiment by pouring boiling tar over the surface of Hills Road and sprinkling it with granite chips. The section chosen where the wood paving ends near Brooklands Avenue, but it carries heavy traffic and is constantly watered so the new surface may peel off. Bene't Street cobbles to be replaced with wooden paving 06 09 08c [8.11, 4.17]

1907
Propose widening Fair Street, Park Terrace, Guildhall Street etc [1.8]

1908 08 29
Northampton Street: road improvement reveals walls of White Horse, widen corner but Chesterton Lane corner still need attention; is gathering place of workshy [1.9, IC.8.6, 6.1]

1908 09 11
Petty Cury has been closed to vehicular traffic during the operation of replacing the Val de Travers cement that was removed to admit the underground telephone wires. This work by Italian workmen has been watched with much interest. The material in the form of steaming hot powder is placed on its concrete bed and rammed and levelled with hot irons. The rapidity with which the stuff hardens and becomes fit for use is quite remarkable. CWN 08 09 11 p5

1908 09 25
Cambridge Street Tramways' income from fares was down because of the competition from motor buses. If they had more passing places they could increase the number of trams. But the Corporation refused on the ground of excessive traffic and then granted four more licences to run great, unwieldy motor buses up and down the streets. But unlike their competitors the trams had to pay £325 a year towards the upkeep of the roads. CWN 08 09 25 p3

1909 09 03
The advent of the motor has thrown upon the highway authority the burden of maintaining roads at a much higher pitch of efficiency with the result that county rates have increased by leaps and bounds. It is manifestly unfair that the average ratepayer should pay through the nose for the benefit of the wealthy motor car owner or that the motorist should defray the entire cost of improvements which benefit the whole community. Something must be done. Cycling for pleasure has become quite impossible for people of nervous temperament and even the pedestrian is attended by danger. Now the Government proposes new roads for the exclusive use of motorists to scorch along and the imposition of a ten mile an hour speed limit on the others. CWN 09 09 03

1909 09 03

The unanimous opposition to the scheme to drive a road across Parker's Piece should have disposed of it for ever. Should some rash member of the Council wish to make his name by re-introducing it he should first study the indenture made on March 23rd 1612 between the Master and Fellows of Trinity College and the Mayor and Burgesses of Cambridge by which the Piece became the property of the people. One clause stipulates that either body 'consenting to any act to impeach this agreement' should forfeit £300 to the other. It seems to me that the recent proposals would come under this head CWN 09 09 03

1910

1910 05 27
A Trinity College undergraduate was summoned for riding a motor cycle on the footway in Garret Hostel Lane. P.S. Merry said there were about 100 people on the bridge watching the boats when defendant rode down the lane and, without sounding his horn, went through the posts on to the bridge at a speed of five miles an hour. It was a public footpath and even if police had not prosecuted cyclists before, there was no reason why they should not if necessary. The lad said police had seen him do it before and he'd since asked at the Police Station and been told it was all right. The case was dismissed. 10 05 27b

1910 08 12
A new road between Rock Estate and Romsey Town would greatly improve communication between these largely populated and widely-separated districts, Mr W.P. Fison suggests. Rustat Road, which is a private road belonging to Jesus College could be continued until it cuts into Marmora Road. It would have to cross some allotments and a farm with a bridge over the railway line. There should also be a new road from East Road through Beche Road over a bridge into Old Chesterton. Both would provide work for the numbers of unemployed men in Cambridge 10 08 12e

1910 12 17
Council make new road to connect Clarendon St & New Square [2.15]

1911
Market Hill: roads around Market Square widened, Sidney Street: property purchased for street improvement [5.13]

1911 01 02
Motorists petition about notoriously bad egress from Silver Street into Trumpington Street [1.16]

1911 07 22
Emmanuel Street: Southgate Lodge & house adjoining being demolished for new wing of Emmanuel College - are only modern houses in street, built 40 years ago by R.R.Rowe as architects office. Borough had intended to swap this Street for new land on which could have built another road, CDN campaigned against & proposal dropped; however to install underpass [6.2]

1911 11 03
Cambridge Town Council wanted Victoria Bridge and its approaches to be declared a main road and maintained by the County Council. But they did not agree: the Bridge had been built under an Act of Parliament at the expense of Chesterton UDC and Cambridge Town Council. After the bridge was built Victoria Avenue had been declared and made a main road. But there was already

a main road from Chesterton to Cambridge via Magdalene Street and over the Great Bridge 11 11 03i & j

1912 04 13
Borough ordered to build new road bridge as part of provisions of Local Government Board Extension Order [2.3]

1912 08 09
A new scheme for relieving the traffic in Silver Street recommends a new road and bridge passing on the east side of the old mill and along the wall of Peterhouse to Coe Fen Lane at a total cost of £14,246 (£1.3m today). The Corporation had purchased Mr Foster's mill. It was at present broken down and would never be used as a mill again. But there was a strong feeling against a road across Coe Fen and Sheep's Green; it ought to be more in line with Mill Lane. An alternative would take a road from Barton Road corner to Belvoir Terrace but this would destroy the bathing place. However some councillors said the congestion had been greatly exaggerated and there was no urgent need at present. 12 08 09c & d, 12 08 16dd & ee [2.16. 2.17]

1912 08 17
Council apply to Home Secretary for regulations about driving on the left & stopping people cutting corners; use of mirrors to assist visibility at certain corners considered but were fears these would be 'ragged' [9.5]

1912 09 27
Tramways Company complain at costs of maintaining track – 12 09 27h

1912 09 27
Councillors debated the proposed scheme for relieving traffic in Silver Street. A bridge from Silver Street to Mill Lane with one road across Coe Fen and another taking traffic from Newnham Croft to the Station would be a very large expenditure and ruin Sheep's Green, one of the most delightful bits of country in the town. The problem could be adequately met by widening Laundress Lane from Silver Street to Mill Lane and diverting the traffic in that direction. 12 09 27b & c

1912 12 21
Direction posts to be erected [9.6]

1913 01 18
Suggestion to make Petty Cury & Market St one-way [9.9]

1913 02 08
15 mph speed limit in any inhabited part of borough [9.10]

1913 03 15
Work starts on new road from St Andrews Street to Maids Causeway, via Clarendon St, will save at least five minutes [9.11]

1913 05 16
Motor Cars Act, 1903. Cambridge Borough Council have made application for a regulation to be made under the act to prohibit the driving or motor bicycles in Senate House Passage, Garret Hostel Lane & Burrell's Walk 13 05 16 p6 CIP

1913 09 05
Cambridge Street Tramways Company has reported a loss of revenue. The reason is obvious: it is the terribly slow rate at which the trams travel - it is almost as quick to walk. Horse trams were all right years ago when there were no motor buses, but their day has long past. London has a new tram with a petrol-driven engine under the stairs connected with a dynamo which drives an electric motor. Its acceleration is slower and it cannot pull up so quickly but this would not concern us here in Cambridge. 13 09 05 p4 CIP

1913 09 26
Cambridge Street Tramways Company owed a considerable amount to the Council for the repair of the road. It was a large amount and was rising week by week. The only thing was to present a petition to wind-up the company 13 09 26 p7 CIP

1913 10 24
Cambridge Tramways future – long report 13 10 24 p10 CIP

1913 11 01
Cycleways suggested [9.13]

1913 12 19
The existing horse tram service was absolutely obsolete and should be wound up, councillors were told. Under the Cambridge Tramways Act of 1879 the Corporation had laid out the roads with the tracks and expected to recover £325 a year from the Company. But they now had no money to pay and no balance in hand. The cost of taking up the rails and making good the road would not be less than £2,550. (Sensation). From this was to be deducted about £750, the value of the rails. But the moment the rails were up the road would become a main road and the County would have to pay for its maintenance. 13 12 19 p7 CIP

1914 02 06
Trams winding up petition granted – increasing number of motor buses hit passenger numbers, cost of maintaining roads – 14 02 06m, n

1914 03 20
The Official Receiver's report on the Cambridge Street Tramways Company shows they were obliged to repair and maintain the road where the tramways were laid. In 1892 the Council had agreed to do this on payment of £367 per annum. But the company failed to pay in 1912 claiming their receipts had been greatly reduced by the motor omnibuses the council had licensed. They'd also prevented them employing mechanical traction in place of horses. 14 03 20i

1914 04 04
Bene't Street paved end to end in wooden blocks in 7½ hours [6.4]

1914 04 10
Chesterton need for new traffic bridge, footbridge Ferry Path or Pretoria Road – 14 04 10c, e

1914 06 13
Abbey residents oppose new road bridge, "the class of traffic that makes East Road one of the most unpleasant thoroughfares in the town would pass through Abbey estate [10.1]

1914 06 26
Tram lines removal p7

1914 07 10
Borough Council Sued. At the Surveyors' Institution, St. George's Street, London, S.W. on Friday, the arbitration was opened in the matter of "The Masters, Fellows and Scholars of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, and the Mayor, Aldermen and Burgesses of the Borough of Cambridge." Cambridge Corporation had taken a strip of land from Sidney Sussex College for the widening of Sidney Street and Jesus Lane. They built a 12-high wall in place of the existing one, part of the old Franciscan Priory. The college claimed £1,763 compensation for the rebuilding of their old fives court. But it had been very seldom used and was very dilapidated. The Corporation claimed the land taken was worth much less as there was never any prospect of its sale for building purposes. The award was reserved.14 07 10

1914 08 14
Jesus Lane widening, Sidney Sussex awarded £1,471 - 14 08 14 p4

1914 10 23
Under the 1912 boundary extension proposals Cambridge had to erect a bridge over the Cam to Chesterton within five years. Walnut Tree Avenue was the best site but whether this was the best time was a matter of debate. An Inspector from London had told them what they had to do and it was now the Law of the Land. Chesterton people had voted against it - in fact nobody wanted it. The only way to overturn the order was by going through all the expense of obtaining another Act of Parliament. 14 10 23

1915 03 20
Tram lines removed from junction East Road/Mill Road, granite setts replaced with Macadam surface [49.62.1.9]

1915 04 23
Tramways Company proceedings completed, assets paid Corporation; value of rails £2,316 but considerable cost making good roads 15 04 23 p4

1916 11 04
Traffic island at junction of Victoria Ave & Chesterton road - for 12 months wooden structure with posts dumped each morning, removed evening to amusement of residents TT 4.11.1916 [10.9]

1918 05 29
Tram line removal necessary as were becoming dangerous except in King's Parade and past the side of Gt St Mary's – 18 05 29a

1920

1920 04 21
New Road. A proposed road in Cambridge, which new will relieve the pressure of traffic in Silver Street, was described at a meeting of the Cambs. County Council on Saturday. The Town Council had written to the County authorities stating that they proposed to promote a Bill in the ensuing session of Parliament, and that they would be prepared to insert a clause providing for the construction by the County Council for a by-pass road from the Barton Road to Hills Road, with the necessary bridges. The Roads Committee of the County Council considers that such a road would he a desirable improvement, and the County Surveyor, the County Architect, and the Borough Surveyor are to confer with a view to preparing a plan showing the suggested links for

the proposed new road, together with an estimate of the cost. Alderman J. Q. Vinter said that the time had come when there should be proper communications between these districts. Councillor W. L. Rayners observing that the scheme might not be clear. It consisted of a road starting at the corner of the Barton Road, next to the Caius Ground, going down over a sort of drift way towards the bathing sheds at the bottom of the Lammas Ground, which the Borough bought a little while ago, then across some private land reaching the river. There was a bridge, and over that bridge the road would join on the Pemberton Estate and link up with Chaucer Road, then reaching the main London road. It would then turn back a little way to the bridge over the Brook, joining up with Brooklands Avenue. It would make a main by-pass road which would avoid the necessity of using Silver Street, a main road with a bridge which was often dangerous for the traffic. The County Council agreed that the Town Council should be asked to insert a clause to the proposed bill 20 04 21 CIPof

1920 10 22
Is insufficient garage accommodation in Cambridge, particularly on market days when cars are seen standing unattended in many of the thoroughfares. Some owners draw up at the garages and when informed there is no room for them leave the vehicles outside and proceed to do their business. - CDN 20 10 22

1920 12 22
Two new roads to make work unemployed – from Cherryhinton Road to Mill Road (near huts to Brookfields) and from The Grove, Newnham to Trumpington Road via Coe Fen Lane – 22 12 22b

1922 07 25
The principal new roads proposed as part of the Cambridge town planning scheme include a main road starting from Red Cross, on Hills Road, going approximately north to Newmarket Road at the corner of Fen Ditton-lane, divided into sections. Number 3 runs in a straight line as far as the old Newmarket railway line and then slightly curves into Mill-Road. There are two branches which both lead towards the station. It will be necessary to form a subway under the railway or bridge the line, unless this line, which at present is only used for storage of railway carriages, is done away with altogether 22 07 25

1922 09 13
The Ministry of Health Inquiry into the proposals for the development of the east side of Cambridge was conducted at the Guildhall. There was practically no opposition. It will be remembered that the scheme provides for the laying out of 21 new roads or streets, including a main road from Hills Road to Newmarket-road. The area includes 502 acres in the rural district of Chesterton 22 09 13

1923 06 09
Figures for number of cars, motorbikes & bikes in Trinity Street [8.14]

1923 09 28
Cambridge town council agreed a scheme to construct a road across Coe Fen from the Coach and Horse public house, Newnham, to Coe Fen Lane. The Ministry of Transport have agreed to pay half the cost, and the road will be commenced almost at once so as to provide work for the unemployed during the coming winter. The scheme had been before the Council for nearly 20 years. Nine or 10 schemes had been presented and each member of the council appeared to think his particular scheme was the best. The great advantage of the present scheme was that the whole length of the road would be on the council's own land. 23 09 28 [3.2]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1924 01 22
Councillor Gentle raised the question of the removal of the tram rails along King's Parade and Trumpington Street, Cambridge. He had had complaints, and their removal would give employment. Alderman Stanley said that if one was cycling along the Parade the rails made it most dangerous. The reason they were not taken up was because King's Parade was a new round, and it would be a waste of money to do it now. They desired to wait until the road needed substantial repair and then do the work 24 01 22

1924 02 01
Fen Causeway Public enquiry held Feb 1924

1924 04 25
A consistory court heard a petition by the vicar of St Andrew the Great, Cambridge, for permission to sell to the corporation a strip of land in the church grounds required for street widening purposes. They all knew that the streets were hopelessly inadequate to deal with the volume of traffic which passed through. The only possible alternative would be to pull down the front of Christ College. If that strip of churchyard were taken and added to the street there might be less risk of accident, and the church would not press the claims of the dead at the expense of the claims of the living 24 04 25

1924 12 02
The question of a parking place for buses and private motor cars was discussed at some length by Cambridge town council. The Watch Committee suggested that Drummer Street should be used as a parking place for motor cars and buses. The Surveyor submitted a plan which included taking in a portion of Christ's Pieces. It was resolved that the scheme should not be entertained and a proposal be considered for constructing a parking place on Butts Green

1924 12 06
The Town Clerk reported the receipt of a petition against the erection of a bridge over the river at Walnut Tree Avenue, Cambridge. It stated that the present extensive outlook of considerable beauty across the Commons was much appreciated by the residents and this would be practically eliminated by the approach to the proposed bridge. The value of property would be considerably depreciated 24 12 06

1924 12 19
Speaking to the Cambridge Motor Club the Mayor said that today it was quite easy and within the means of most people to get a motor car. In 20 years they would have thousands more cars on the road and what conditions were we likely to have with regard to traffic and the storage of cars? Police had made it easy for those who wished to park but in a few years' time every place would be filled and they would require something like Parker's Piece to provide parking accommodation for Cambridge 24 12 19

1925 01 19
Petty Cury and Market Street, Cambridge, today commenced their career as one-way streets with the object of relieving congestion in these streets whose narrowness has ever been the subject of discussion. Petty Cury will only be used for vehicular traffic towards Market Hill. At present these regulations do not apply to bicycles. A policeman agreed that someone was bound to make a mistake – "It wouldn't be Cambridge if they didn't", he said 25 01 19

1925 02 10

Cambridge University Senate agreed that no member of the University shall be allowed to keep or use a motor car unless he obtained a licence through his college. If any tradesman or keeper of motor garage shall let out any motor car or motor cycle for hire to any person in statu pupillari he shall be liable to be discommuned. Anyone who houses upon his premises a motor vehicle on behalf of a member of the University must furnish a written description to the Junior Proctor c25 02 10

1925 06 20
The "one-way" traffic system in Petty Cury, Cambridge, has now been in force for so long that most people have come to regard it as a settled thing, but the regulation has to be formally approved by the Minister of Transport. The only criticism is that ordinary bicycles should be included in the term "vehicular traffic" but the Chief Constable takes the view that to prevent these riding both ways as at present would cause more trouble than the change would be worth 25 06 20

1925 07 06
The Ministry of Transport inquiry into the one-way vehicular traffic scheme in Petty Cury & Market Street, Cambridge, was held in the Guildhall. There was a very small attendance. Cambridge suffered, in common with other old towns, from the traffic problem. There had always been a great deal of traffic in these streets and the congestion was very serious. Both streets were used by motor buses. There were no objections but a great body of people wanted the regulation to cover bicycles as well as other vehicles 25 07 06 c

1925 08 09
The Corporation seems to have stirred up a good deal of indignation by their proposals with regard to the Drummer Street "motor park". In a town like Cambridge it certainly seems unwise to do anything that may detract from its attractiveness. A suggestion has been put that the 'park' should be established on Butt's Green and not at Drummer Street at all. A petition has been presented to the Mayor asking her to call at Town's meeting and it is hoped that the request will be acceded to c25 08 09

1925 08 12
The protest meeting against the taking of part of Christ's Pieces for parking motor vehicles attracted a crowd of over 2,000 people to Drummer Street & was marked by a remarkable climax. After a resolution of protest had been passed the crowd voted a desire to take it to the Mayor that night. Speeches had been delivered from a four-wheeled waggon and the shafts were quickly manned and the waggon containing councillors who had spoken was dragged at a good pace to the Mayor's house in Newton Road. Something like a 1,000 people followed in its wake.

1925 08 23
As the result of an open-air meeting on Parker's Piece efforts are being made to form a Ratepayers' Association whose first business will be to contest the legality of the Cambridge Town Council's action in encroaching on Christ's Pieces for the purpose of providing a parking place for motor vehicles. This was absolutely illegal. Within twelve months the continual movement of vehicles on what was virtually a made-up bog the road would drop six inches. The Ortona Bus Company will be the first people to say they have been pushed into a rotten corner that is of no use to them c25 08 23

1925 10 22
There was another 'battle of the bridges' at Cambridge Town Council when the question of the erection of bridges across the Cam was brought forward. With the opening up of Mill Road there

were people who only got ten minutes home to dinner owing to delay at the ferry. The Paving committee recommended that the footbridge at Pretoria Road be proceeded with and that a temporary footbridge be erected at Dant's Ferry pending construction of a vehicular bridge. It was dangerous to go over Victoria Bridge and they must have a new vehicular bridge if only to modify that danger 25 10 22

1925 11 28
Drummer Street proposals go ahead, opens in November & various country buses stop there rather than on Senate House Hill; later Ortona also use it, causing overcrowding & disputes [1.14]

1925 12 12
Council considers 10 mph limit [1.22]

1926 07 24
County Council squabble over whether they should pay for Drummer Street [1.15]

1926 12 02
The official testing took place of the bridges along the new road through Coe Fen, The Fen Causeway. They are Snobbs' Bridge, Flood Water Bridge and the River Bridge. The last is the most important and five steam rollers and one steam tractor, together weighing 63 tons were driven across it, passing each other, thus making 63 tons rolling weight, equivalent to about 100 tons dead weight. The Cambridge Borough Surveyor and councillors boarded a punt and viewed the deflectometer under the bridge, which gave a satisfactory reading. The foundations consist of 100 piles of 40 feet length, weighing about four tons each

1926 12 09
Fen Causeway, the new and important link between Newnham and the rest of Cambridge, was opened by the Mayor. The bridge and its approaches were gaily decorated with bunting and presented a colourful scene. The project of relieving Silver Street traffic had started as long ago as 1904 and discussion had gone on for nearly 20 years before the Town Council approved the plan in 1923. Nine proposals had been put forward and had it not been for the urgency of the unemployment question the same position would have existed today, only instead of nine there might have been nineteen different schemes (Laughter). Public enquiry held Feb 1924, work started May 1924. Had been considerable opposition - 'ugly & spoil amenities of Coe Fen & Sheep Green but this some monstrosity they had conjured up" 26 12 09

1926 12 24
Motorist told it 'irresponsible' to leave car parked for 25 minutes [1.24]

1927 03 02
Proposal to use New Square as parking place, CDN refuses to lead protest: "most people smile when they think of tremendous agitation worked up against Drummer Street ... nobody one penny the worse ... only fault is that Drummer Street not big enough hence need for New Square" [1.25]

1927 03 03
The chief engineering feature of regional planning will be a new ring road all around Cambridge about two miles from the centre of the town. One length would be a road running north and south joining the Hills Road with the Newmarket Road, a length of about three miles. Certain roads and bridges were contemplated to obtain an inner ring road around the central portion of the town. Mr C.H. Tebbitt said that what had been done haphazard in the villages was the joy of the

countryside and he wondered what would have happened to these beauty spots if they had been regional planned. 27 03 03

1927 04 06
St Mary's St - Great St Mary's church council replied to the Corporation's plans to widen St Mary's Street. They cannot sanction obtaining a faculty for the proposed work as increased heavy motor traffic coming so close to the church will be a very real danger to the safety of the foundations and fabric. Widening the street would create a death-trap and they propose to adopt every means in their power to prevent the scheme being carried out. 27 04 06

1927 06 04
The Mercury Press has produced a verse by Quentin Nelson, in which an undergraduate learns that a road is to be built across Coe Fen, and gives vent to his feelings: "Every frog and every toad, Will croak damnation to your soul!" Well in the first place we don't speak of Coe Fen Road now – it is Fen Causeway – and secondly most of us believe the Fen is being appreciated more nowadays that ever it has been in the past. Still Mr Nelson's poetic outburst is none the less interesting because we do not happen to agree with him

1927 07 02
Sir – the work has been started to widen Victoria Avenue, Cambridge, from the Four Lamps to Victoria Bridge. The roadway when finished will be wide enough for vehicle traffic to proceed four abreast. The Bridge will not be so wide as the road and heavy traffic may mean serious congestion. Some suggest the road over the bridge may be made wider by making the footpaths overlap the river. If this were done the narrow road on the north side would be an obstacle and as this roadway cannot be made right through to Chesterton Road this scheme should never go forward – E. Clayden 27 07 02 [3.21, 49.62 1.7]

1927 07 23
Council debate Huntingdon Road / Histon road junction [7.6]

1927 09 17
Street improvement operations are taking place at the corner of New Square and Fair Street, Cambridge. The corner house occupied by Mr Woodley Betts, the dentist, tends to obstruct the view of traffic and work has started on demolishing it. It is proposed to round the corner by pulling down the present house and building another with a rounding feature. In this way a good deal of ground will be thrown into the public roadway and the line of vision greatly improved.

1927 10 22
Last stretch of tram lines removed from St Mary's Street [3.6]

1928 01 27
Cambridge council discussed recommendations to build a bridge over the river at or near Abbey Road. An inner ring road would circle the town on the outskirts which was necessary in view of the ever-increasing traffic and congestion in the centre of Cambridge. They suggested that a direct by-pass road be constructed by linking Chesterton Road with Milton Road

1929 02 19
Cambridge councillors debated the proposed exchange of Butts Green for New Square in order that it might be converted into a parking place. If I lived in New Square I should not be at all pleased at the idea of that nice little patch of green giving way to a parking place, but if I had a business establishment in Fitzroy Street I should say "Yes, let the cars park there by all means".

There is a danger of New Square being built upon in the near future and residents may consider a car park the least of two evils. Others are concerned about using the amenities of Butts Green, though one questioned whether it was used for anything but beating carpets.

1929 03 15
Fen Causeway bypass, p6

1929 03 22
Cambridge council is to introduce automatic traffic signals at the crossroads at Northampton Street and Chesterton Lane for a three-month trial. The present cost of a policeman on point duty was about £400 a year and the signals, with purchase, would be about £200 with about £25 a year maintenance and repairs. But Coun Stubbs described it as "robot policemen"; a friend in Liverpool had had to wait ten minutes with a clear road before he could get a move on. He did not see how traffic could be controlled as well as by human means: "I can see myself telling it to mind its own business" (Laughter). It was at the wrong place, being at the bottom of a steep hill; it would be better at the East Road – Mill Road crossing. 29 03 22

1929 06 21
Ring road, p3

1929 09 04
"The Robot Robert co-ordiplex traffic control system": first traffic lights installed at junction Northampton Street and Chesterton Lane junction; intended to reduce police time – CDN 4.9.1929

1929 09 26
Ring Road round Cambridge & Battle of Butt Green – parking CDN 26.9.1929

1929 10 03
Cambridge Labour Party was told that if they wanted Butts Green as a parking place they must be prepared to face the question: 'Are you in favour of free parking?' They could not charge for cars on common land. Councillor Stubbs said there was no more objection to free parking than to free recreation. He personally objected to paying rates and then being charged for parking his 'Rolls'. Would residents in New Square like to have the noise and smell of the motors?

1929 10 14
Cambridge councillors will discuss swapping a portion of Butt Green running alongside Victoria Avenue from Jesus Lane towards the river. It would be surrendered to Jesus College and would be fenced, although a footpath would be made. In exchange they would get New Square which would then be converted into a motor car park, together with two acres of land off Auckland Road which would be thrown into Midsummer Common and a small piece of land in front of the new Brunswick School buildings.

1930
1930s
A Ring Road was proposed for Cambridge before the war. It was to run from Trumpington Road and Brooks Road to Coldham's Lane, then on across Milton Road, Huntingdon Road and so to Hills Road. Thousands of pounds were spent to make a dual carriageway from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk with a ramp six feet high to start the viaduct across the river. This section was completed and only required the final tarmac surface. Now half of the dual carriageways have been dug up and the ramp bulldozed & excavated several feet down & hundreds of tons of rubble

carted in for new foundations to make what is left of the Ring Road curve into Ditton Walk. It appears that houses are to be built on what was actually the destroyed part of the road. The completed Ring Rd would have catered for through traffic. It cost many thousands of pounds to make and over £34,500 to destroy 59 09 01 [5]

1930 01
Opposition to Regional Planning Scheme proposals for a Ring Road [6.14]

1930 02 25
Sir – we Cambridge market traders notice that Councillor Longley wants to move our stalls into the Corn Exchange but we challenge him to produce a transferred market that has been a success. He wants to replace the stalls with car parking spaces. Cannot he see the utter foolishness of congesting the very centre of a town with cars. Those on Market Hill consist of business townsmen, clerics and travellers who sit in their expensive car, eat bread and cheese, beg an onion to go with it but do little business. The Market Hill and Peas Hill are open-air markets. An arcade was tried years ago. The building stands today, a sorry sight, in St Andrew's Hill. The stallholders all failed – W.J. Sambridge. 30 02 25

1930 04 07
The new electric traffic signals are generally working well but it seems that the average motorist accelerates when the green light is showing in order to get through before it changes. This is particularly evident at the Northampton Street – Castle Hill crossing in Cambridge as a driver going towards Huntingdon seeing a stiff climb directly ahead naturally tries to get through and up the hill. But a driver coming down often finds his car has a tendency to accurate of its own and tries to get into Chesterton Lane a little too fast, swinging out into the standard erected in the centre of the road. 30 04 07

1930 04 17
For years men have beaten carpets on Butt Green and children have used New Square as a camping-out ground. But these ancient customs are soon to pass away with the transfer of the Green to Jesus College, and the construction of a parking place in the Square. 30 04 17

1930 05 09
The Chief Constable said he was unable to effectively enforce the new 30 mph speed limit in Cambridge. He needs two more constables to carry out motor patrol work, bringing the total up to four, and a Ford V8 30 hp motor car should be purchased for £210 to replace the solo motor cycle. The combination machine should be retained. 30 05 09 [1.5]

1930 05 19
Cambridge has found dealing with motor traffic increasingly difficult in recent years, Counsel told an inquiry. He emphasised the inconvenience to motorists when no central parking places were available but now the council had made an agreement with Jesus College for the use of New Square as a car park in exchange for Butt Green and a piece of Midsummer Common. It would mean the surrender of 2½ acres of Common Land, but it would remain undeveloped & would allow the college to make a new entrance. The scheme was approved. 30 05 19 & b

1930 06 07
The University told Cambridge planners that if they would change the route of the proposed ring road to avoid crossing the University Farm on the Huntingdon Road then they would agree that the land would never be used for any business, commercial development or housing scheme but

remain a private open space. After careful consideration the planners were unable to agree 30 06 07 f&g‘

1930 06 12
The University is opposed to the proposed ring road round Cambridge crossing the University Farm on Huntingdon Road. It was of national importance, a road cutting up the farm would do a great amount of damage to the experiments which had been in progress for many years. But everybody could use the same argument and say ‘You are not going to come across my cabbage patch’. Somebody had to give way and the University should be big enough to do so. Anyway the road would not be wanted for 50 years. 30 06 12a-d

1930 07 12
General regulations affecting the use of motor vehicles first-year men are already in force but in view of the numerous road fatalities last term much more stringent bans will be in operation next year. Clare College says that the possession of motor cars and motor bicycles prevent undergraduates from making the best use of their residence in Cambridge and none of its students will be allowed to bring or drive a motor vehicle. Cars must be kept in a public garage or in one of the college garages on Castle Hill. 30 07 12a

1930 07 21
Cambridge planners say that Huntingdon and Barton Road are already practically fully developed on both sides, similar building is taking place along Trumpington Road & housing in Madingley Road will increase now the sewers are laid. There will probably be spur roads which will have no regard to the traffic needs of the area as a whole and the result will be a hotch-potch similar to that before the days of town planning. Soon there will be no possibility getting a cross-road between Huntingdon Road and Trumpington without the demolition of buildings or serious interference with the land-owners. 30 07 21a-c

1930 07 25
The controversy over the University Farm on Huntingdon Road was resolved when Cambridge councillors rejected proposals for a road across the land. It had never been a ring road, only a road to be planned in the event of traffic conditions demanding it. It was altogether wrong to put an arterial road in the middle of a rural area which they desired to preserve and which they hoped would never be required. They should ensure that Grantchester and Coton were not swallowed up by Cambridge in the way that Trumpington and Girton were. 30 07 25a-c

1930 07 25
Cambridge councillors have received consent for a new road from Milton Road to Histon Road at a cost of £18,135. St John’s College would give the land which was required for housing purposes, it would be one of the best estates and the frontages would sell at very high price. Grants have been received for King’s Hedges and Green End Road as part of the unemployment scheme with one-third of the labour being imported from the distressed areas. 30 07 25d

1930 10
Queen’s Road being straightened back Trinity [49.62 1.6]

1930 12 06
Sir. All Cambridge men will be alarmed at the threat to build an arterial ring road bisecting Grantchester Meadows. The meadows are owned by King’s College. We regard their preservation as a trust; we will not build on them, nor near them. We will do nothing to change their character and refuse to contemplate such a calamity – The Dean of King’s 30 12 06

1930 12 12
The 'skeleton' of the Chesterton vehicular bridge came out of the municipal cupboard. It had been suggested when Victoria Bridge had been erected but the council subsequently rejected the proposals. In the meantime a temporary bridge had been erected at Dant's Ferry with the intention of moving it towards the Pike and Eel. Now it will be kept in the present position and lowered to make it easier to cross with perambulators. But it was a shame to spend £1,600 on a structure which had not been right when it was put up. 30 12 12c

1931
Deed of covenant signed by Cambridge Preservation Society, Kings College & Borough Council for preservation of college land in Grantchester area; Society paid £7,549 into University & College estates account of Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries to safeguard College land from development, part of £10,000 grant from Pilgrim Trust; Borough undertake not to plan any ring or other road crossing college property or sited nearer to Cambridge than southward of the village of Grantchester [49.62.9]

1931
Traffic lights at corner Mill Rd & East Rd [NI.2.15]

1931 10 02
Ring road from Cherry Hinton Road across Coldham's Lane under construction – photo – 31 10 02t

1931 06 12
The new road under construction between Milton and Histon Roads provides some exceptionally attractive sites for those wishing to erect a private house. It has much to recommend it as Chesterton is a very popular district but most of the available land within a reasonable distance of town has already been taken up. The plots are for the erection of private dwellings only and no bungalows or inadequate houses can be erected. 31 06 12k

1932
Perne Road opened, as part of ring road (stopped by WWII); Brooks Road to Newmarket Road was part of proposal (revived c1975) [4.1]

1932 03 23
After all the controversy and heated arguments of a few years ago, there was no excitement at the opening of the New Square parking place. The council turned up in force and from under the shelter of umbrellas watched the Mayoress drive her car through the pale blue ribbon that had been knotted across the opening. At last motorists have a place where they can leave their cars and not come into the police courts. The Master of Jesus suggested that path inside the trees should be known as Coleridge Walk. 32 03 23b

1932 04 09
Sir – as motorists do not appear to need the new New Square car park I suggest something useful should be done with it. It could be turned into tennis courts or used as a model yacht pond, a skating rink or the site for the new Guildhall. Meanwhile the surface should be coloured an appropriate shade of green as the white grey of the desolate expanse of concrete hurts my eyes. And could passers-by spare a few books for the attendant to read while he is waiting for the customers who never come – Ratepayer 32 04 09

1932 04 13
Large new buildings designed by Sir Edwin Lutyens are part of a comprehensive extension scheme by Magdalene College on land originally occupied by Bird's vinegar and mustard factory. For two years it has been one of Cambridge's biggest building contracts but the comparative obscurity of the site has kept it out of the public eye. Eventually the whole of the west side of Magdalene Street from the bridge to Northampton Street will be cleared for reconstruction with a more imposing bridge and a further college wing at right angles to the present one. 32 04 13

1932 08 06
"Milton Road merry-go-round" - Mitcham's roundabout installed [2.3]

1933 04 01
Mitcham's roundabout working well, new roundabout Four Lamps [1.10, 2.4]

1933 04 10
Four Lamps roundabout picture – 33 04 10b

1934 03 08
A question of moving back the railings on Christ's Pieces to extend the Drummer Street parking station again came before the council. Councillor Stubbs had opposed it from the first; at weekends there was congestion of buses in Drummer Street at a place where pedestrians were crossing. Councillor Few said it was unfair to the railways who had to find their own land for parking: it was the buses that took up the space and it was wrong to give up public property for them. But Mrs Hartree said the car park was chiefly for the people from the rural surroundings and was very important. The vote was tied. 34 03 08

1934 05 15
Marshall's Flying School propose to carry out improvements to their aerodrome and had purchased Elfleda Farm through which the proposed Ring Road would run. They asked the Council to move the route slightly east. But the Surveyor said this was not possible. The whole of the land is zoned for dwelling houses and this would be have to be borne in mind if any proposals were made to them for further developing this aerodrome. 34 05 15

1934 05 18
New traffic island at Four Lamps [1.7]

1934 07 28
Petty Cury & Sidney Street widening proposed [1.19]

1934 07 30
Long Road bridges scheme – 34 07 30

1934 08 24
Mitcham's Corner roundabout enlarged, pic, p1

1934 10 20
Newmarket Road traffic heavy at night - "the sight of the wide open road ahead tempts drivers to accelerate near Christ Church [2.7]

1934 11 17

Parking controls urged "sometimes cars & bikes parked so closely in line in Petty Cury & Sidney Street that pedestrians cannot find space to cross over" [2.8]

1935 01 31
New street proposed from Downing St towards Sidney St – 35 01 31a [1.5]

1935 03 14
The New Traffic Signals. Traffic signs announcing the 30 mph restrictions, which comes into force next Monday are being erected on the approaches to all 'built-up areas'. (Thursday). New Traffic Signs Disappear. Several of the new 30 mph signs on the outskirts of Cambridge were unofficially removed during the weekend, but have since been replaced. (Monday). Missing Speed Limit Signs. A Trinity College undergraduate appeared in court charged with the theft of three of the new speed limit signs. (Thursday) 35 03 14, 35 03 21c

1935 04 06
30 mph speed limit brought back after 4 years due to number of accidents [1.5]

1935 04 10
Corporation proposals for the widening and improvement of Sidney Street and the lower part of Petty Cury met with vigorous opposition. In 1922 they had taken powers to prescribe frontage lines and in 1924 when Messrs Woolworth's and Sainsbury's came to Cambridge they agreed to set back their premises and gave the land to the Council. Various other places were reconstructed and now the frontage line had been prescribed from Sainsbury's to Millers with the exception of Almond's and the Prudential Assurance Company. The Surveyor said the street was urgently in need of widening to cope with increased traffic. The Livingstone Hotel had been carried on in Sidney Street for 30 years. Under street widening proposals they would be left with the second, third and fourth floors which they could not get at at all. It was used by travellers who could not afford more expensive hotels. 35 04 10 & a, 35 04 11

1935 06 26
The proposed Cambridge town planning scheme envisages a ring road to encircle the whole town with the construction of by-pass roads and the improvement of dangerous junctions. The level crossings on the Milton and Cherry Hinton roads will be replaced with bridges. An area of 190 acres on Milton Road opposite the sewage farm acres is reserved for a municipal aerodrome with a municipal golf course off Trumpington Road 35 06 26a

1935 07 27
Belisha Beacons have now been installed in Cambridge, whether we like them or not. They are on Market Street corner near Sainsbury's, between Christ's college and St Andrew's church, near the Midland Bank in Petty Cury, the 'Jolly Waterman' on Victoria Avenue and between Christ's Pieces and New Square. It is just as well the undergraduates are not here to see their erection. Perhaps we shall all have become thoroughly accustomed to them where our young friends come up 35 07 27b

1935 08 27
Widening Long Road railway bridge – photo – 35 08 27a

1935 10 12
Roundabouts proposed for Cherry Hinton Road/Hills Road, Cherry Hinton Road/Perne Road [2.16]

1935 11
Corporation steam roller breaks through roadway & burst water main, Adam & Eve Street [49.62.1.4]

1936 03 03
Long Road new railway bridge – photo – 36 03 03

1936 03 06
The Star Brewery want a new pub, The Golden Hind, on Milton Road, an area of 1,010 houses of which the majority had been built since 1927. It was not ribbon development but housing estates on each side and practically built up to the railway gates. King's Hedges Road would form part of the new Ring Road so further development might be expected there. If granted the brewery would surrender the licence of the 'Racehorse' on Newmarket Road and the 'Plume of Feathers'. The Women's Total Abstinence Union opposed the application. Licence applications Elm Tree, Hare and Hounds & Dog & Pheasant. Licence of Bowling Green Chesterton transfer to new Golden Hind. 36 03 06

1936 03 21
Many people have wondered about the object of the black and white poles which have sprung up along St Andrew's Street and Hills Road. The Ministry of Transport have finally given permission to the system of unilateral parking and the posts will be adorned with notices warning motorists not to park on the wrong side of the road on the wrong day - 15 minutes, park different sides of street on odd or even days There is also some reason for believing that the new 'one-way' streets will also be brought into operation before very long. 36 03 21a

1936 03 23
Unilateral parking came into force in Cambridge on Saturday. Between Regent Street and the Old Post Office parking is now allowed for 15 minutes in any one hour on one side of the road on even dates and on the other side on odd. There is one short stretch against Emmanuel Street in which no parking is allowed, owing to the difficulty of traffic coming in and out of the town through this narrow street. Readers should remember they cannot now leave their cars for any longer than 15 minutes as this is the limit. 36 03 23b

1936 03 27
Cambridge Police had a busy time when the new system of one-way traffic came into being. They were based at the end of all the affected streets and strangers must have wondered at the cordon thrown round the town. But it was necessary for despite all the notices many motorists attempted to make their way along the street from the wrong end and were stopped. And, by the way, the new restrictions apply equally to cyclists who will not be allowed to walk with their machines against the streams of traffic – 36 03 27

1936 03 28
Under new restrictions Cambridge motorists may not travel from Market Hill towards Trinity Street or into Bene't Street from King's Parade. You may not drive into Sussex Street from Hobson Street or into Corn Exchange Street from Downing Street, nor turn at Burton's Corner, Petty Cury to go to the Victoria Cinema or from Wheeler Street into Peas Hill to get to the Arts Theatre. But cyclists may walk with their bicycles either way as they do at present in Petty Cury and Market Street. Restaurants will have to speed up their service if they wish to cater for those who leave their cars outside, for only a quarter of an hour is permitted. Travellers who do not want to get indigestion had better make use of a parking space! 36 03 28b

1936 12 08
The draft Cambridge town planning scheme would see the construction of bridges and closure of the level crossings at Histon and Shelford with footbridges for pedestrians. The line of the Ring Road from Huntingdon Road to Shelford was agreed and the difficult question of the aerodrome settled. 36 12 08

1937 02 24
Men worked in gas masks when two heavily-laden lorries came into collision at the junction of Chesterton Lane and Castle Street. The crash happened at 5.30 am when the traffic lights were not working. The vehicles were an Eastern Railways lorry laden with ten tons of fruit and a lorry carrying 4,000 bricks. The impact threw the Railways vehicle on to its side and it fell on to the street refuge, the lamp standard and two posts. A passer-by was overcome by gas so workmen donned masks to move the load so a cock could be fitted and the gas turned off. 37 02 24a

1937 03 15
Ministry of Transport proposals to minimise street parking have called forth dissention from many motorists. We in Cambridge know there has been a steady increase in our shops by the more modern method of road transport. A large proportion of those who come from outlying districts to buy the week's commodities are private car owners. To refuse to allow cars to be parked for a reasonable period outside the place of purchase would cause many to give Cambridge a wide berth. Motorists are already taxed up to the hilt and police courts would be more than ever congested with these trivial offences. 37 03 15

1937 12 13
The Borough Council approved a scheme for a ring road from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk. This would be a dual carriageway with a grass strip 26 feet wide between them, a nine-foot wide cycle track and paved footpath. It would be reduced to 100 ft under and near the bridge which would carry the railway over the road near Coldham's Lane. This will be constructed by the railway company. The cost would be £77,550, to which must be added the construction of a soil sewer. 37 12 13b

1937 12 16
Back in 1924 Green End Road and Kings Hedges Road were narrow country roads with hedges on each side and a narrow carriageway in the centre with rough grass margins on either side. Then the Cambridge Town Planning Scheme began to evolve and development started to take place. The Corporation built some wood framed houses on the west side of Kings Hedges Road and the housing society erected houses on the same side of Green End Road. Gradually houses began to appear on the opposite side and then the proposed ring road was agreed. Builders told to keep their houses far enough back to enable the required width but then the council purchased the land and constructed the ring road in front of the properties without any cost to them. The same procedure was followed on King's Hedges Road from Milton Road to the old borough boundary 37 12 16c

1937 12 21
Sir — in Cambridge we have a council which is over-ridden by an irresponsible official whose knowledge of local conditions is nil. Some councillors did oppose the removal of the pedestrian refuges at the junction of Northampton Street and Chesterton Lane but they meekly submitted and gave way to the arrogance of the dictator. It was said that large vehicles could not get round the corners and that the lamp post had been knocked down 'scores of times'. But if certain transport companies have their way it will be necessary to remove St Giles' Church and part of Magdalene College! - George Hall. 37 12 21

1938 01 29
Cyclists want cars banned - cartoon [6.19]

1938 02 03
King's Hedges Road was shown as a private carriageway under the Inclosure Award of 1840, so why was it now repairable by Cambridge ratepayers, Councillor Edwards asked. The Town Clerk said that in 1912, when the Borough was extended, part of King's Hedges Road was handed over by Chesterton Urban District Council as a highway repairable by the inhabitants at large and in 1934 the County passed over the remaining portion on the same terms. It seemed Chesterton UDC had simply begun repairing the road thus making it a public highway. It was a mistake made in good faith and it would be a waste of time to consider it further. 38 02 03b

1938 03 15
Drummer Street park was made for private cars, and now they seemed to be letting the Bus Company monopolise it; they should find a parking place of their own, a councillor urged. But Ald Starr said it was opened not for private cars but for the benefit of the working men and women who came into Cambridge by bus. Now it was used as a car park by professional and business people who left their vehicles there all morning and afternoon. Coun Stubbs said they were at their wits' end to know what to do with the traffic. It was easy to talk about telling the Bus Company to find a new park, but where could they go? 38 03 25a

1938 03 21
Eastern Counties Omnibus Company complained of difficulties manoeuvring their buses at the Drummer Street terminus. They suggested the Corporation reduce the width of the footpath. The Borough Surveyor disagreed. He suggested that the space reserved for the parking of cars should be reduced by 54 feet from the high kerb against the coffee stall. But the Watch Committee decided that the time was now approaching when Eastern Counties should cease to use Drummer Street and consider the provision elsewhere of their own bus station 38 03 21a

1938 03 22
One-way traffic, Hobson St deleted from scheme, Perne Road roundabout – 38 03 22d

1938 04 30
The proposed new buildings for St John's College involve the immediate erection of buildings to complete the present Chapel Court with wings projecting beyond to the north and east. These should be ready for occupation by Michaelmas 1939, including 50 undergraduates and ten fellows' sets of rooms. There will be an open court facing Bridge Street should the houses eventually be taken down and the road widened and ultimately a riverside court overlooking Magdalene 38 04 30 & a

1938 06 22
Queens' College have to underpin the foundations of the Essex Buildings and may rebuild it further from the road instead of on its present alignment. They asked whether the Corporation wished to acquire the land released and expedite the rebuilding of Silver Street bridge. This could be widened to 40 feet instead of 28 feet as present. The erection of new college buildings and the construction of the bridge would proceed at the same time with the bridge completed by October 1939 38 06 22

1938 07 27

Silver Street Bridge was at present 21ft 6ins wide. Some years ago the Council bought land on the south side to enable it to be increased to 28ft when re-building was done. But it was unnecessary to increase it to 40ft as the road beside the old buildings of Queens' College could not be widened. Now the college wanted to redevelop and had offered land provided the bridge was widened – 38 07 23a & b Borough council decide to apply for funding – 38 07 27

1938 08 27
The foundation of Silver Street Bridge, built about 1850 has been partially washed away by the rush of water from the King's Mill sluice, a diver underpinning Queens' College discovered. The Cambridge Borough Survey donned a diving suit and personally inspected the damage. There is no danger of it collapsing yet but as a precaution buses and heavy lorries will be banned. For many years heavy vehicles have been limited to a speed of five mph. In June the Council adopted a scheme to construct a new one by acquiring land from the college. But the County Council opposed it. 38 08 27

1938 10 07
Underground car park on Market Hill proposed [6.20]

1938 11 16
Barton Road: Newnham Villa demolished to allow road straightening [IC.1.13,4.22]

1939 03 02
Butts Green parking place debated [1.26]

1939 03 07
Cambridge & District Town Planning scheme inquiry heard that Grantchester Meadows, a large area of land between Cambridge and Coton, the University Farm and land at the Gog Magog Hills had been safeguarded. An area of 160 acres near Trumpington should be reserved for a municipal golf course. But at Rectory Farm, Milton the field the Corporation wanted to take was the only old pasture on the farm and the tenant had 21 cows and a bull. If he had to give it up it would take 10 years before the grass would be useful for milking purposes 39 03 07a

1939 05 27
A feature of the newly-finished ring road between Ditton Walk and Newmarket Road in Cambridge is a special track for cyclists, which is an innovation in this district – 39 05 27

1939 07 22
Silver Street bridge new design, dispute between Cambridge and county – 39 07 22a

1938 09 01
Fen Causeway – Barton Road temporary roundabout pic – 38 09 01

1940

1940 01 30
Ministry veto new houses, price agreed for Marshall's land, ring road work continues – 40 01 30b, c

1940 05 04
Silver Street Bridge closed to buses as foundations unsafe – 40 05 04b

1941 01 25
Council debate prohibition car parking in Drummer Street [3.2]

1944 10 11
Underground petrol storage tanks which were filled with water as an anti-invasion measure now being emptied and will be filled with petrol; soon lorries and cars will not have to queue for petrol at 'official' stations – 44 10 11

1946 05 03
Proposal for car park at rear of Regent Terrace, would take 85 cars and no parking ban on St Andrew's Street – opposed – 46 05 03; demolition of air raid shelters means more light for residents

1946 06 20
Mitcham's Corner roundabout enlargement – photo – 46 06 20

1946 07 19
Undergraduates under 22 banned for keeping a motor vehicle within 25 miles Gt St Mary's if proposals accepted; those eligible to drive will need licence from Proctor – 46 07 19

1947 01 13
One-way system introduced St Johns St & Trinity St, Green St [3.4, 3.5]

1947 07 12
Council discuss acquiring Lion Hotel yard for car park at cost of £44,665 [3.6]

1947 07 30
Sir - When will something be done about the disgraceful state of the traffic in Petty Cury, Cambridge? I understood some time ago that steps were being taken to stop the parking of cars on the left side of this narrow thoroughfare. Far from this being done, it is now worse than ever. Saturday, with the exception of the entrance to the Lion Hotel there were 15 large cars parked from Sidney Street to Guildhall Street, and as prams and mail carts can only use the sidewalks, pedestrians who venture on the street are taking serious risks of getting knocked down. Truly a street only fit for the quick or the dead - letter from W.M.F., Gt Shelford 47 07 30

1947 10 01
The Chief Constable (B.N. Bebbington) told Cambridge Rotary Club that he would like to see a scheme whereby traffic was banned - at least buses and heavy traffic - in the centre of Cambridge. "In Petty Cury on Saturdays there is insufficient room for traffic, let alone pedestrians. It would be more satisfactory if that central part of the town was for pedestrian traffic only. That is a sweeping thing to say and will not find favour in all quarters". Referring to criticism that the one-way traffic scheme soon to be introduced in the centre of town was "the wrong way round" he explained that it diverted from the town centre the large amount of traffic going to the station from the Chesterton direction and would encourage lorry drivers passing through Cambridge to take the route through the Backs. More car parks in the centre of the town were obviously a need, and there were plans in existence to provide them 47 10 01

1947 10 10
A proposal to improve Drummer Street bus station was discussed at Cambridge Town Council. Ald Briggs said "Drummer Street is already overcrowded and traffic is going to increase in the

coming years". The Committee had discussed a suggestion that a portion of Butt Green should be used as a bus station and had previously considered the use of New Square as a bus station. Coun Cutting considered that the proposal was too urgent to wait, "If you saw last year the thousands standing out in the cold in Drummer Street you would not have thought it was any credit to the town"

1948 05 01
Council announce intention to acquire Lion Yard as parking place [3.8]

1948 05 19
Fears about Cambridge's famous "Backs" being incorporated in a Trunk Road system were expressed at a County Council meeting and one member declared that if the amenities of the "Backs" were spoilt the "whole feeling of the town" would be altered. The committee requested the Minister of Transport to expedite the construction of a ring road so as to relieve the "Backs" of through traffic

1948 06 01
Today the one-way traffic system designed to relieve congestion in the centre of Cambridge came into operation. In Sidney Street and Bridge Street the traffic will flow in a northerly direction towards Magdalene Street from the town centre, while in St John's street and Trinity Street it will flow in a southerly direction towards King's Parade. In Green Street traffic will flow in one direction from Gifford Place to Trinity Street - and the remainder of Green Street will be open for two-way traffic. This extension of "one-way" traffic will link up with the system now in operation at St Mary's street, Market Hill (north side) and Market Street 48 06 01

1948 06 04 c
Sir - the one-way system has certainly created danger spots at the corner of St John's Street, Cambridge. They could be remedied by putting traffic lights there back into operation. The only alternative would be to divert all traffic into Petty Cury. Every user of Petty Cury will have to agree that it is already far too narrow even for the present volume of traffic - pedestrians are crowded into the roadway and bus drivers often have their work cut out to squeeze their buses through at walking pace. Short of some more radical plan (e.g. banning all motor traffic from the streets round Market Hill) I think the one-way system is as good as we shall get - A.E.B. Owen 48 06 04

1948 07 26
The "chaotic condition" of Cambridge traffic was explained by Ald W.J. Taylor at a meeting of the County Council when he said: "They have tried to bring traffic into the town for the sake of the business of the town. They never thought to plan the town properly and the widening of some of the streets has been the biggest mistake there ever was. They talked about the ring road but took great care they never made it so that motorists should come in and spend their money". Councillor Dennard said the one-way traffic system, with streets used as car parks, had caused chaos

1949 03 14
Sir – the trouble with the Four Lamps roundabout is its bad design. It was put down many years ago and allows traffic to approach at too fast a rate. The new roundabouts on Chesterton road with its beautiful flower gardens and the one where Lensfield joins Trumpington road are of better design because they slow all traffic down to walking pace. A much greater terror is that most insane junction, Pembroke Street and Mill Lane with Trumpington Street. How people

avoid being killed daily is always a marvel to me. It would be so easy to control these with traffic operated signal lights – D. McClure Campbell

1949 06 22
Sir – I have been employed 14 years at a place of work at the corner of Fen Causeway (Trumpington Road end), Cambridge. Almost daily there is an accident on this corner, cyclists, cars and lorries being involved. A few months ago "improvements" were carried out at this spot. I can tell you the accident rate has increased daily since these were made. The only way to make this corner safe is to install traffic lights or have police permanently on point duty – Employee

1949 07 16
Rapid progress has been made this week in the demolition of Coad's former shop at the junction of Emmanuel Street and St Andrew's street, Cambridge. The work, which forms part of the street widening scheme envisaged many years before the war, will involve the complete clearance of the corner and the provision of a larger curve to assist buses and increase visibility. There is no immediate prospect of further developments in the scheme but it is possible that a seat might be provided on the newly-cleared space.

1949 07 20
The Ministry of Transport has refused a request by Cambridge Corporation for a grant towards the cost – estimated at £23,288 – of work on the ring road between Coldham's Lane and Ditton Walk. A grant from the road fund was out of the question as the work was of "purely local necessity" and there was no prospect of completing the ring road for some years 49 07 20

1949 07 25
The Ministry of Transport's refusal to accede to their application for a grant towards the cost of building a ring road from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk was attacked at the meeting of the Cambridge town council. Ald. Raynes said they had decided in 1938 to proceed with a ring road on the East side of the town to link up Milton Road, over the river and railway on the north side, and the Hauxton and Hills Road on the south side. It was a tremendous job financially, and would obviously serve the nation and not merely the ratepayers of Cambridge.

1949 09 06
Sir - None of our streets in Cambridge is wide enough to allow vehicles to be parked all down one side, as they do now. Petty Cury, on a Saturday especially, is almost a death-trap. The pavements are not wide enough for people to walk more than two abreast; therefore they walk on the road, thus giving bus drivers in particular a nightmare. This could be relieved to a certain extent if there were no vehicles parked all down one side. I suggest a big improvement would be the abolishing of all street parking and a municipal car park made on Midsummer common – Frederick Prior 49 09 06

1949 10 12
Cambridge town council considered the proposed resiting of the war memorial. A scheme for a traffic roundabout at the Station Road junction means that if it were left in its present position it would be marred by the number of "Keep left" bollards and other traffic signs which would be necessary for the direction of traffic. An alternative position involved the acquisition of certain land fronting the Botanic Garden which would provide a restful haven away from traffic. None of the Servicemen's organisations was in favour of the removal of the War memorial front its present position.

1949 11 01

Holford Report presented to Borough for consideration - "did not consult them while preparing it". Considerable disagreement eg County want Spine Relief Road & to close Magdalene Street while Borough want to widen it & rebuild bridge. Holford proposed Inner Relief Roads Christ's Pieces to Huntingdon Road, East Road to Milton Road, Barton Road to Madingley Road to Huntingdon road.
[4.12] [1.11] [1.10])

1949 11 02
Construction has now commenced on a new roundabout at the junction of Hills Road and Station road, Cambridge. Proposals are being discussed for an alternative site for the war memorial. Site one: the memorial to remain in its present position in the eastern corner of the traffic roundabout. The dignity of the memorial might be marred to some extent by traffic signs. Two: memorial to be moved to the centre of the new roundabout. Three: the memorial to be moved to a position in front of the entrance to the Botanic Gardens, nearly at right-angle to Station Road so the statue of the soldier will still face the town centre. This site would provide a restful haven away from traffic and the memorial would not be marred by traffic signs.

1950

1950 01 30
Holford Report published
This document would have a profound impact on the development of Cambridge. Plan envisages several new roads, three new bridges, an expanded university with one or two new colleges and a maximum population of 100,000 people. A three-storey car park at Lion Yard to accommodate 400 cars, with shops on the ground floor and pedestrianised precinct. Included proposals for East & West Cambridge by-passes, Chesterton (Elizabeth) Bridge, Cross Town route & Spine Relief Road from Huntingdon Road crossing the Cam on a brand new bridge and running over Jesus Green and Christ's Pieces to Drummer Street. [2.4,2.3]

1950 06 12
Traffic congestion is not yet as serious in Cambridge as it is in some other towns. Except at peak hours a car can do the run from the University Arms to the Round Church in less than three minutes. But if within the next ten or twenty years cars become cheaper, and if the population of urban Cambridge continues to grow at its present rate, the volume of traffic in the centre may easily double. How long will the narrow awkwardly aligned streets and difficult junctions be able to cope with a load that is steadily increasing and may without warning experience a sudden increase?

1950 11 18
An unseen stationary radar 'eye' checked the speed of vehicles on the Madingley Road during the last fortnight. The 'eye' belonged to a 'radar speed meter', an American device which is having its first full-scale operational test in England. A small green van on the roadside house the equipment. The 'eye' was concealed in an ordinary cardboard box on top of the vehicle 50 11 18

1950 11 30
Local tradesmen are becoming worried about the parking situation in Cambridge. They fear that if this goes on the people will not come shopping in the town, said a solicitor appearing for a motorist summoned for a parking offence. Altogether there were 16 cases before the court and fines totalling £12 10s were imposed. One motorist, whose car was punctured late one night, parked it in a side street off Mill Road and knowing that the battery would last only two hours at the most had not put his lights on. There was nothing else he could do. He was fined 10s.

1950 12 04
Sir – Cambridge tradesmen are beginning to fear lest they should lose an appreciable amount of custom as a result of the prohibitions regarding shopping by car in the principal streets of the town. Let the general body of tradesmen follow the example which a few far-seeing individuals have already set – that of opening suburban branches to which the main trade can, in course of time, be transferred. Let nothing be done to retard the growth of the brave new Cambridge visualised by our civic leaders – a dream city from which vehicular traffic of every kind has been excluded and from which all the crumbling and deserted business premises have gradually been swept away – D.B.M.C.

1950 12 09
"The almost hopeless state of parking in Cambridge" was referred to when Ald F.J. Priest urged the demolition without delay of Liddiard's garage on St Andrew's Hill – thus providing parking spaces for some of the season-ticket holders at Lion Yard. The building had been scheduled as an 'architectural novelty' but there would be no objection to its immediate demolition

1950 12 30
A plea for the Borough Court to bring pressure to bear on the corporation to provide better parking facilities in Cambridge was made by a solicitor when he appeared on behalf of a motorist summoned for causing a motor car to wait in St Andrew's Street for a longer period than the permitted 15 minutes. "I feel it is only a matter of time before every motorist in Cambridge comes to court because he is forced to leave his car somewhere. The parking situation is a nightmare', said Mr A.H. Wild. 'One feels the police are carrying this vendetta to extreme lengths", he added.

1951
Improvement island Hills Road, Station Road

1951 01 23
Cambridge town planning committee say there can be no justification for a spine relief road between Histon Road corner and Jesus Lane merely to preserve for a few years more buildings on the west side of Magdalene Street which, although of some architectural interest, are sub-standard from every other point of view. Pending demolition the commercial use of the buildings should be terminated, doing away with the necessity for vehicles to wait outside 51 01 23

1951 01 26
Cambridge council agreed to a proposal that Mr Liddiard's garage on St Andrew's Hill should be pulled down and the space used as a private car park at £12 per annum. Ald Priest said: "Here is a simple scheme whereby anybody who likes to pay £1 a month can be reasonably assured of his car park any time of the day he likes". Ald James opposed saying those who started their business at 9am had no difficulty in finding parking spaces 51 01 26

1951 01 29
"More central space needed for parking ... people shop in other towns" [5.5]

1951 02 26
A number of proposals to alleviate Cambridge's parking problem have been compiled by the Chamber of Commerce. They include the triangular site on the corner of Silver Street & Queen's Road used as a military car park during the war; the site on Trumpington Road formerly occupied by army huts but now in temporary occupation by squatters; at Castle Street opposite the Shire Hall and also on Butts Green during the building operations at Lion Yard.

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1951 03 14
Cambridge Council is to recommend a scheme for a multi-deck car park at the Lion Yard. He submitted a plan showing a building of six floors which could accommodate 825 cars. The Surveyor suggests all adjoining property owned by the council should be demolished, the opportunity being taken to widen Corn Exchange Street and St Tibb's Row and that the possibility of further extensions to St Andrews Hill for offices, shops or increased car park facilities should be borne in mind.

1951 03 17
Survey of parking shows 59,257 cars parked on Market Hill 43,582 on New Square 80,585 on Lion Yard during 1949-50 – 51 03 17 [5.7]

1951 03 17
Improvements to Island at junction Hills Road & Scotland Road [5.8]

1951 04 05
Regent Terrace carpark proposed April, complaints May, deferred June [5.9, 5.12]

1951 04 20
"Despite shortage of new cars traffic is only slightly less than in 1938, but commercial traffic has doubled" [5.10]

1951 05 26
Regent Terrace carpark plans spark fears about Parker's Piece; but 'should not be over-sentimental about a small piece of grass [5.12]

1951 06 11
The Cambridgeshire of the future will have a number of new roads, fire & police stations, sewerage schemes, old peoples' homes, a new children's home and a mental deficiency colony. Planners say villages recommended for enlargement include Milton, Fulbourn, Shelford, Barton and Coton where the population will increase from 400 to 1,840. Road improvements recommended include a bypass to the east of Girton relinking the road interrupted by the RAF station but Cambridge bypasses are not shown as surveys show there is no immediate need for them.

1951 06 15
A new one-way traffic system around the Cambridge guildhall comes into operation on Monday. The direction of traffic in Wheeler Street will be reversed to complete the circulatory flow around the guildhall into an anti-clockwise direction and traffic around Market Hill in a clockwise flow. Buses will be unaffected by the new order but say instead of hordes of cyclists crossing over in their path all vehicles will turn in the direction the buses approach the guildhall. The scheme has resulted from the necessity to ease traffic around the guildhall in view of the proposed Lion Yard car park development

1951 06 16
Regent Terrace carpark plans deferred for six months [5.12]

1951 06 21
Trades Council call for car parks on outskirts & all waiting in Cambridge abolished [5.13]

1951 07 20
"Utmost vigilance" on the part of the Cambridge Trades Council was needed to make sure the city council does not "pull a fast one" in its proposals to reserve a slice of Parker's Piece for car parking facilities. "I think the City council have put this back for six months and will bring it up again when they think it has all died down", said the chairman. "We don't want to lose even a piece of one of the city's cherished beauty spots". There was no need for a parking site in Regent Terrace as the accommodation of other parking places was not being overtaxed 51 07 20

1952 01 05
Zebra crossing installed Petty Cury [5.14]

1952 01 14
Sir. Twenty-five years ago Magdalene College started a scheme which might have involved the widening of Magdalene Street and the removal of buildings opposite the college. But it does not now contemplate the completion of the scheme and is now strongly opposed to the widening of the street and the demolition of the buildings on the west side. The College would be strongly prejudiced if it should be divided by a street similar in character to the widened part of Bridge Street and would strongly object to such a change of character and loss of amenity in the neighbourhood – Henry Willink, Master. 52 01 14

1952 01 23
33 out of 45 pedestrian crossings retained after Ministry calls for a reduction in number [5.15]

1952 05 05
Cambridge city council would like to see Christ's Lane opened out as a thoroughfare to be used by the omnibuses and other traffic to alleviate congestion in the City centre and provide relief for Emmanuel Street. The present country bus station at Drummer Street would then become the main stopping place for the local buses which now pick up and set down passengers in Sidney Street constricting the traffic flow. They also propose a new road on the line of Post Office Terrace to Wheeler Street. With Corn Exchange Street widened this would provide for a good circulation of traffic in the city centre. 52 05 05

1952 10 18
The County Development Plan public inquiry took a dramatic turn when Magdalene College announced it had decided to oppose proposals to widen Magdalene Street. The "donnish mind" did not often descend to take part in proceedings of this kind but this is a "bad plan and would be a disaster both to the University and the City of Cambridge", their counsel said. "You should not have motor traffic moving so fast that the lives of pedestrians and motorists are imperilled". Everyone wants Cambridge to remain a place in which the pedestrian, the cyclist and the motorist are more on less on an equal footing.

1952 10 23
Proposals for the bus station at Drummer Street, Cambridge, were discussed at the Planning Inquiry. The bus company preferred a station to be sited on New Square which was double the area of Drummer Street. But would passengers agree – and they are entitled to be considered sometimes. Half to two-thirds would use Emmanuel Street. The amount of bus traffic would increase if greater provision was made & there would be a traffic blockage at Four Lamps roundabout

1952 10 28
Roundabout construction East Road / Mill Road, p7

1952 10 29
Cambridge City council has decided not to proceed with their proposal to widen Magdalene Street and reconstruct the great bridge. They had heard objections by the University and a statement on behalf of Magdalene College & believed that with mutual co-operation between the city and colleges some of the causes for the present traffic congestion could be removed. But if it became a choice of either the spine relief road or of widening Magdalene Street then they would choose the latter alternative

1952 11 05
Much of the congestion in the central area of Cambridge could be dealt with by providing car parks in the right places rather than the provision of extra circulatory routes the Chief Constable told the Development Plan inquiry. Closing of Magdalene Street would inevitably lead to an increased use of the Backs and the proposed spine relief road would not afford relief to traffic in the city centre. The police had received many complaints concerning the amount of noise at Drummer Street bus station late at night. By moving it to New Square this objection would be alleviated

1952 11 06
"If Magdalene Street was closed several businesses would be affected between the Round Church and Northampton Street and the compensation would be very considerable", the Cambridge City Surveyor told the Development Plan inquiry. The council's policy on widening the road was laid down in 1925. When property was due for rebuilding the owners should set back the new building to some widened line. Boots had agreed to demolish their frontage and set it back when the time comes for the insurance office next door to be rebuilt.

1952 11 06
Multi-storey car park plan, p6
Chesterton Bridge, p7

1952 11 12
East Road proposed as traffic route [3.11]

1952 11 20
Edward Lainson of Premier Travel told the Development Plan Inquiry that it would be highly undesirable to move the bus station from Drummer Street to New Square. Access would be difficult and the crossing of Emmanuel Road by a large number of people would constitute a danger. It would cause congestion because a lot of people who found the buses handy would start using their cars.

1952 12 13
The inquiry into the County Development Plan has concluded. Its main object is the preservation of Cambridge as a University town & the deliberate prevention of its character becoming that of an industrial town or a town with large straggling suburbs. The problem of Cambridge was largely a traffic problem but measures to deal with this by the widening of streets would be a negation of the true object of planning which is to preserve the Cambridge we know today 52 12 13

1953 01 14
Work on the roundabout at East Road corner with Newmarket Road, Cambridge, has been in progress for about five weeks; it is hoped it will be completed in another six. Before long the

traffic lights will be removed and the centre of the junction will be sealed off so that the roundabout can be erected. Traffic will still be able to use the crossing, as by then the road surface at the corners will have been filled in.

1953 05 01
Six zebra crossings abandoned because of high cost of installing flashing lights, (crossings technically illegal until July 1954 when lights installed) [6.4, 6.8]

1953 07 27
Cambridge Police have issued a warning that it is essential in the public interest that there be strict compliance with the order prohibiting vehicles whose weight exceeds two tons from using Silver Street Bridge. They particularly seek the co-operation of road users making deliveries to premises in Silver Street and suggest that whenever possible light vans only should be used. Failure to observe the Order renders the person concerned liable to prosecution.

1953 10 13
Magdalene Bridge restricted to 12 tons [1.13]

1954 01 22
Proposals to erect traffic lights at the junction of East Road and Newmarket Road, Cambridge were debated by councillors. One said: "Lights are not needed here; they are an obstruction and an annoyance to drivers, another added: "The speed of traffic is about half of other towns and now we are proposing to slow it up still further". A roundabout would be better than lights. But another said: "As a cyclist I am conscious of danger every time I pass the junction, which is blind in more than one direction, you have to be darned quick or you are dead" 54 01 22 [3.12]

1954 03 15
Propose to demolish properties Corn Exchange Street to enlarge Lion Yard parking [6.6]

1954 07 19
Minister announces decision on County Development Plan, City Council challenge it in Court but is approved. The only major Cambridge items not approved are the site of the bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel and the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Road. All the central area road proposals including the 'spine relief road', the new Guildhall Street and a cross-town route joining Emmanuel Street with Downing Street have been approved together with the new Chesterton Bridge over the Cam near Walnut Tree Avenue, a multi-storey car park in Corn Exchange Street and a subway at the railway station. This means it will be possible eventually to have a complete ring road near the centre of the city. Only major items not approved are site of bus station between Christ's college & Emmanuel & the proposed development for residential purposes of the smallholding land north of Arbury Rd during first five-yearly period of the plan [18] [3.2,3.3,3.4]

1954 09 11
Mr Harold Macmillan, Minister of Housing, has approved the County Development Plan. He has decided to leave in the proposed spine relief road intended to relieve traffic pressure in the centre of Cambridge but there will be no firm decision about the road for at least five years when the matter can be considered further. But the proposal to establish a bus station between Christ's and Emmanuel Colleges should be deleted due to the effect of noise and movement of traffic on the colleges and doubts about the adequacy of the site for the size of the station which would be needed.

1954 12 01
Cambridge councillors suggest that 20 cottages fronting to East Road, 18 of which are empty, should be developed as soon as possible by the erection of flats. Under the new Development Plan East Road would become a trunk road and with the construction of the Chesterton Bridge the amount of traffic would greatly increase. This would cause a considerable widening and the possible construction of dual carriageways which would leave very little of the site of the cottages available for development

1955 02 18
A scheme for the re-development of the Fitzroy Street area as the main commercial centre of Cambridge has been submitted by a London Architect. It is a counter-proposition to the official Development Plan which could only result in the eventual complete destruction of the essential character of the city. The greater part of the area consists of out-dated two-storey cottages with extensive yards and is largely a slum. Re-development is due and can be done without the restrictions of historical associations and high land values. There would be a series of attractive courtyards unencumbered with traffic, one of which is large enough to take the place of the present Market Hill. An essential feature of the scheme is a new thoroughfare to link Gonville Place with Victoria Avenue and complete the inner Ring Road. 55 02 18a

1955 04 23
34 Belisha beacons stolen between January & April [6.13]

1955 10 31
Parking difficulties in the centre of Cambridge have begun to drive shoppers elsewhere. One councillor said: "I am always hearing people complain that they cannot find room to park. The re-development of the Lion Yard car park is probably the most important thing that can possibly be done, otherwise shopkeepers will suffer. My wife now shops in St Neots where she can park easily, another friend goes to Saffron Walden." 55 10 31a

1956 01 20
Kelsey Kerridge said his father had acquired land at Hangman's Corner, Barton Road, Cambridge in 1934 and gained approval to build eight houses. Now there were proposals to build a western by-pass here but it was a dangerous spot; there was a brook which was liable to flooding and any roundabout would have to take it into consideration. The County Surveyor said the proposed by-pass would carry up to 5,000 vehicles a day and benefit city traffic and delivery vans. 56 01 20b

1956 03 30
If the number of cars increases motorists won't be able to get in to Cambridge very easily because of all the stationary cars cluttering up the streets and the whole problem of parking is extremely frustrating. It is time to get tough. If we must set up car parks outside the city and run the people in by special buses then we mustn't hesitate. But the land once occupied by the old Shire Hall courts on Castle Hill would make a good site for a multi-deck car park. 56 03 30b

1956 06 29
Cambridge councillors rejected proposals for a larger roundabout at the Four Lamps, Victoria Avenue. It would involve taking land from the corner of Butts Green which would lead to protests. In due course bridges would be erected across the river to take much of the traffic. But cars often smashed traffic bollards because they could not get round. Traffic lights were the best solution. 56 06 29b

1956 07 16

Cambridge is beginning to taste the bogey of a serious traffic problem for the first time. The council has tried roundabouts, one-way street and traffic lights but the situation will worsen unless some drastic is done soon. It takes so long looking for a parking space that it would be quicker to leave the car a mile away and walk. It is better to ban all traffic from the city centre than to knock down buildings to accommodate new relief roads. Maybe this answer is too easy and not costly enough for our planners. 56 07 16b

1956 10 16
Councillors say that multi-storey car parks should be provided at Lion Yard, Saxon Street, Park Street and New Square and 170 cars should be parked on the site of the existing police flats at Parkside. But traffic congestion in Cambridge has become so acute that 'No Waiting' restrictions should be imposed in the central area and King Street made one-way. 56 10 16a

1956 10 20
Cartoon – Cambridge parking – car on spike – 56 10 20d

1956 10 20
Suggestion for car parks outside centre rather than in Lion Yard [6.23]

1957 02 05
Motorists should be charged for parking on the road as a way of reducing traffic chaos in the centre of Cambridge. People who wanted to pay visits to shops or offices could park for short periods but a car park would be cheaper for stays of more than one hour. At present motorists take little notice of the 15-minute only restrictions, many staying for two hours. People will not walk a quarter of a mile if they can find a space closer to the centre, planners claim.57 02 05 & 05a

1957 02 16
At long last there is a street in Cambridge where cars can be parked during the hours of darkness without lights. Eleven lamp-posts in Station Road bear a special sign that mean motorists can park without even switching on the new 'clip-on' parking lights. Police say this is for the convenience of car owners who wish to travel by train and live some distance from the station. 57 02 16

1957 04 06
New traffic lights, Lensfield Rd [6.30]

1957 05 15
A revolutionary – even fantastic – scheme has been put forward to use Cambridge Castle Mound as a multi-deck car park. Tunnels would be driven into it to provide space for hundreds of cars with be entrances from Chesterton Lane, Huntingdon Road and Magrath Avenue. The dirt excavated could be used for filling in Coldham's Lane pit, providing more parking spaces or building land. There will no doubt be many objections. 57 05 15

1957 05 17
Proposals have been announced for an underground car park at Parker's Piece capable of accommodating about 5,000 vehicles. When complete it would be unaltered on the surface but beneath would be many acres of car parking space with four sloping entrances. It will take two years to build and be cheaper the present scheme for a multi-deck park on Lion Yard a councillor claims 57 05 17a [6.25, 6.30]

1957 06 18
It could cost less than £400,000 to build a car park for 800 vehicles under Parker's Piece. This is less than a multi-deck on the Lion Yard site that could only take 500 cars. The charge would be 1s 3d (07p) a session, whereas Lion Yard would be at least twice that sum. If motorists are going to be charged half-a-crown (12p) a time for the 'honour' of parking in the centre they will leave their cars outside the city or not even come at all. Then local trade would suffer, councillors claim. 57 06 18 [7.1, 7.2]

1957 07 23
Plans for a new car park at Parkside should be deferred until the proposed underground park at Parker's Piece is debated, councillors say. But they would deplore anything which would affect its amenities. The ground would take three years to be 'reinstated' ready for playing and there would be an area of the Piece which would be permanently sterilised by the construction of entrance and exit ramps, emergency escapes and ventilation apparatus. 57 07 23

1957 10 14
Proposals for an 800-space car park under Parker's Piece are technically impossible, opponents say. There are 'certain unsound features', it would be detrimental to the area and it would take years for the ground to be reinstated. The cost would probably be as great as that of the planned scheme in Lion Yard, though no car park of this nature has yet been constructed. But Labour councillors want it carried out as a matter of urgency. 57 10 14 Parker's Piece scheme rejected – 57 10 18b

1957 10 18
In 20 years' time Lion Yard car park will be outdated as the centre of the City will eventually have to be roped off from traffic, Canon Mervyn Stockwood told the council. He had frequently been up to the top of Great St Mary's and seen the appalling havoc of the central area in recent years. Now they proposed to put up a 'cheap and efficient sort of skyscraper'. He continued: "We are custodians of one of the most famous cities in the world. That sort of building cannot add to the dignity and loveliness of Cambridge" 57 10 18c

1957 11 20
Park Street car park inquiry at Shire Hall – 57 11 20b

1958 03 27
Park Street multi-storey car park plan approved, Mar [7.13]

1958 05 12
Radar trap meters have been in action in Cambridge during a speed checking programme. Results showed the majority of motorists were travelling at 36 mph with 276 vehicles going 40 mph or over and the highest recorded was 52 mph. The police say the use of the radar instrument was not publicised so speeds were what was normally experienced. They have no intention of using it to bring offenders to court at present. 58 05 12

1958 08 02
Silver Street Bridge demolished, temporary bridge erected while rebuilding takes place (reopened August 1959) [1.22, 1.24]

1958 09 27
Parking facilities in Cambridge were inadequate, said the Chief Constable. With more than 600 vehicles passing over Magdalene Bridge each hour, Park Street was a convenient site for a car

park. Saxon Street park had been finished last week, work on King Street had not started and the Parkside car park was only a small one. Park Street was the one that should have first priority as a surface and multi-deck car park. But a thatched house in Clement Street built about 1700 should not be destroyed by 'this cement desert' 58 09 27 b c d

1958 10 09
Houses in Gothic street & Doric street demolished for new car park, Oct. [7.14] - pic 58 10 09a

1958 11 12
A Chesterton Bridge was proposed over 50 years ago but no work had been started. A Ministerial ruling had decided in favour of the route from Milton Road to Trumpington Road via Haig Road, Cam Road and Walnut Tree Avenue and this would be designated a Trunk Road in due course. However funds were limited and other works had priority. 58 11 12

1958 11 28
Proposal to take part of Parkers Piece for car park, Nov [7.15]

1958 12 19
Traffic over Hills Road railway bridge, a bottleneck on the principal road into Cambridge, is extremely heavy. Visibility over the summit is severely restricted and many accidents have occurred there. The existing steel plate girder bridge has deteriorated with age and now work will start to provide a new twin two-lane carriageways and footpaths. The new bridge will be designed to allow for widening should additional railway tracks be needed in the future 58 12 19b

1958 12 22
New schemes for the rebuilding of the Lion Yard car park and the surrounding area are being examined by town planning experts. It may be comprehensively re-developed to include a multi-storey car park and additional shopping facilities served by a new road passing through the middle of the area. But some say that instead of a broad shopping street, which might attract more traffic into the already overcrowded centre, it should be a 'pedestrian shopping precinct' with cars being parked a short distance away 58 12 22 [2.4]

1959 01 16
Pedestrianisation plans announced [7.17]

1959 03 20
Silver Street Bridge open to traffic – 59 03 20d

1959 04 24
Parkers Piece reprieved as car park, consider Donkey Common [7.18]

1959 04 29
Lion Yard underground car park suggested, Apr [7.19]

1959 06 20
Park & ride suggested, Jun. [7.20]

1959 07 04
A Cambridge man living in Los Angeles cautions against the new Lion Yard proposals. "Who is going to occupy the new offices and shops? If Cambridge thinks they can concentrate business in town and solve the car parking problem with a few hundred spaces they are indulging in the

fondest of illusions. Parking meters in the streets don't help: they only add to the irritation of shoppers, free parking has become the essential stock-in-trade. In America down-town shopping areas are dying and shopping centres miles out of town are the new thing." 59 07 04

1959 08 10
There are traffic lights everywhere - but not one to be seen if you are a motorist about to join Newmarket Road from the forecourt of West's Garage. The lights recently installed at the junction of Coldham's Lane give both streams of traffic a fair crack of the whip, but the man who wishes to join the road after topping up his tank is left completely in the dark. A repeater light facing the forecourt might save a serious accident at this busy junction. 59 08 10

1959 08 12
Hills Road railway bridge reconstruction [44.7.3.4]

1959 08 14
The new Silver Street Bridge is now fully open and there can be no doubt it is an exceptionally handsome piece of work. But after traffic had been admitted it was reduced to a single line again, pumps were sent for, coffer dams sunk and the word went round that all was not well. Rumours said that contractors had discovered an underground cavity, the bridge was sinking and that concrete was having to be pumped in. The County Surveyor cancelled a meeting with the press but a councillor said it was normal settlement and there was nothing wrong. 59 08 14d [3.7]

1959 09 01
A Ring Road was proposed for Cambridge before the war. It was to run from Trumpington Road and Brooks Road to Coldham's Lane, then on across Milton Road, Huntingdon Road and so to Hills Road. Thousands of pounds were spent to make a dual carriageway from Coldham's Lane to Ditton Walk with a ramp six feet high to start the viaduct across the river. This section was completed and only required the final tarmac surface. Now half of the dual carriageways have been dug up and the ramp bulldozed & excavated several feet down & hundreds of tons of rubble carted in for new foundations to make what is left of the Ring Road curve into Ditton Walk. It appears that houses are to be built on what was actually the destroyed part of the road. The completed Ring Rd would have catered for through traffic. It cost many thousands of pounds to make and over £34,500 to destroy 59 09 01 [5]

1959 10 16
More traffic went along Newmarket Road than any other and congestion often occurred at Four Lamps Corner. Any small incident – circuses on the Common or even May Balls - holds up traffic. Victoria Bridge vibrated when heavy vehicles had to stand on it with their engines running. We need a new bridge over the river at Walnut Tree Avenue. But a temporary bridge could be thrown over the Cam in six months by using the site of the old horse ferry next to the Chesterton footbridge. There would be a natural route for traffic up Garlic Row, Ald Symonds said. 59 10 16a & b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 01 21
City councillors decided to drop proposals to use Butts Green as a car park for two years - even with the Lion Yard car park finished and new car parks in King Street and Park Street, there would still not be enough parking and it would never be reinstated. The income would never meet expenditure. Eventually Cambridge would have a city centre park charging about one shilling an

hour. If Butt Green was to be charged at sixpence nobody would use Lion Yard and the council would be sabotaging their own scheme. 60 01 21

1960 01 22
The traffic situation in the Fen Causeway was desperate and the only thing to do was to widen the entrance so as to permit two full streams of traffic, Alderman James urged. The council had been negotiating to buy the frontage of the Leys School since 1957 but talks with the governors had broken down and now he proposed compulsory purchase. But this was very high-handed and not the proper way to do things, councillors decided.60 01 22

1960 03 11
The City Council is to pressure the Ministry of Transport about the proposed new bridge over the river at Chesterton. The route was approved four years ago and both Messrs Pye and Marshalls – the two large employers of labour in the area – consider it to be a matter of urgency. But the Mitcham's Corner improvement scheme would be relatively inexpensive and was being forced on them by the Government. This would further delay the proposals to provide a complete bypass on the Chesterton route. 60 03 11

1960 03 22
Work on the widening of Hills Road Bridge is slightly behind schedule but is expected to be open by the end of the year. Soon traffic will be diverted on to the new portion of the bridge to allow engineers to take down and rebuild the rest. Twelve beams of pre-stressed concrete have already been laid. When completed it will provide for a dual carriageway with a eight-foot wide footpath on either side of the bridge 60 03 22 – pic 60 03 24

1960 04 26
Parking meters may be installed in Cambridge. It would cost sixpence to park for half-an-hour in an inner zone. When the time has expired a yellow flag flicks up and a patrolling parking attendant will place a yellow excess charge notice on the car. It can then stay for a further period when a red flag flicks up. This makes the motorist subject to prosecution in the courts. Two hours later and the car can be towed away. Councillors expect a certain amount of objections from shop-keepers and think yellow lines on the roads will injure the town's appearance. 60 04 26a [7.22]

1960 06 21
It took twenty men twenty hours at the week-end to demolish Cambridge's old Hills Road bridge – twice as long as the contractors had anticipated. Originally it was thought that the removal of 140 tons of steel girders would take a little over eight hours, but the trains passing underneath proved a little more troublesome than expected. The men took advantage of the frequent breaks to wipe the sweat from their brows and light a cigarette. The scene resembled firework night for, as the oxyacetylene guns cut through the girders, a spray of red hot sparks would fall on the ground giving an impression of a 'golden rain' 60 06 21

1960 08 12
Plans for a proposed dual carriage road from Cambridge to Newmarket show the existing roadway as the 'left-hand' lane with a similar road running parallel to take traffic in the opposite direction. The famous avenue of trees near the July racecourse would act as a division between the two carriageways. There could be a roundabout where the road joins the A11 at Stetchworth Toll. Repairs and modifications have been carried out on the existing road for 14 years. Some of the first workmen employed just after the war were German prisoners. 60 08 12

1960 09 07
Sidney Street widened to ease traffic flow [1.10, 7.23a]

1960 10 05
A ten ton tank filled to capacity and mounted on a trailer drawn by an articulated vehicle turned over as it was negotiating the roundabout at the Newnham end of Fen Causeway. As it fell it hit a parked car a glancing blow. The industrial glue trickled out of the tank's head in a steady stream and traffic had to be controlled while a breakdown truck towed away the car. The resin, used for making chip board, was on its way from the CIBA factory at Duxford. As there was no crane in Cambridge capable of raising the tank, Welch's Transport of Stapleford, sent two six-ton vehicles, and after the resin had been pumped out into other tankers, managed to complete the job shortly after midnight. The final traces of the accident were cleared away when council workers washed down the road 60 10 05

1960 10 12
Sir – plans to make the centre of Cambridge a 'Pink Zone' with parking meters will have serious implications. Whereas currently 50 cars are parked in Jesus Lane, only 30 can be accommodated at meters. The result will be chaos with cars milling round in vain trying to find a parking space. Can anyone imagine a motorist being prepared to pay sixpence or a shilling to leave his car for three minutes while he takes his suit to the cleaners? Lion Yard is often full by 9.30 am and if the city is to prosper we must have space for vehicles. The only answer is to provide some very large multi-deck parks, then make motorists use them by restricting waiting on the street – 'Fair Play' 60 10 12

1960 11 24
'Elizabeth Bridge' approved in principle [494.8.5]

1960 12 09
"Parking problem continues to grow" feature [7.23]

1960 12 17
Hills Road railway bridge is functioning almost as normal again. After a year's work during which the traffic has had to contend with considerable difficulties, the road is now suitable for two-lane traffic. Resurfacing will not be carried on for another 12 months in order to allow the sufficient subsidence of the present structure and for several more weeks workmen will be patching up. Work on Churchill College continues as does work on 13 three-storey terrace houses and 60 maisonettes at East Road. Most have their roofs on and one block of houses has its windows in. 60 12 17b

1961 01 02
A questionnaire shows that most people think the Lion Yard area should include a concert hall, civic restaurant, hotel and assize court together with a library. This should feature a record section, an art lending department, reading room and small exhibition area. There should be a municipal crèche where children could be left while their parents shopped and a car park reserved for those who worked in the Guildhall. Half of the respondents were in favour of traffic wardens and parking meters, though some said they had no experience of them, while 81 per cent wanted a pedestrian precinct. Other suggestions included a news cinema where people could wait in comfort for evening buses and supermarkets near the edge of the city 61 01 02a

1961 01 20

New Square was a very good site for a multi-deck car park, councillors were told. But Coun P.J. Warren said that when the site was conveyed to the Corporation in 1923 they'd given an undertaking that no building would ever be erected there. Even now they were spoiling the best example of domestic lay-out in Cambridge. People who lived in New Square already had enough to put up with without such a suggestion. It should never be raised again in their lifetime, the Traffic Committee agreed 61 01 20

1961 01 25
Corner at Northampton Street traffic lights being widened [19.8]

1961 02 01
Traffic lights installed at junction Brooklands Avenue and Trumpington Rd – 61 02 01

1961 04 28
City councillors decided to go ahead with a plan for a multi-deck car park with shops and filling station on the ground floor, in King Street. Steps will be taken to acquire the land from Jesus College by compulsory purchase if necessary. Congestion in the city centre is getting near to desperate: eventually parking meters would be needed and there had to be somewhere for cars to go. But it would commit the council to building a multi-deck car park when there were no details of the financial implications, Councillor Warren warned. 61 04 28c

1961 06 22
The Minister of Transport has issued orders for the construction of a new bridge over the Cam at Walnut Tree Avenue. Now work can start 61 06 22 [494.8.5]

1961 06 30
The proposed King Street car park would have to earn three shillings and three pence per car space per day. But apart from Saturdays the car park would not be filled by members of the public. The Lion Yard only took three shillings – though councillors and employees parked there free. However they would also put in parking meters and with car parking meters there would be no worries about the multi-storey car park. But a shop and filling station were an important part of the project 61 06 30a

1961 07 01
Permission to build a temporary Bailey Bridge over the River Cam at Chesterton has been refused. The Minister appreciates the council's desire to reduce the amount of cross river traffic using the Victoria Avenue – Victoria Bridge route but it would attract additional vehicles through narrow and tortuous roads. Proposals to restrict the bridge to local traffic and impose weight restrictions to prevent its use by heavy lorries would not work, he says. Now the Council will proceed with plans for a new permanent bridge 61 07 01

1961 07 08
By 1966 it is hoped that the new trunk-road linking the main Cambridge-London and Cambridge-Newmarket Roads will have been fully operational for some years. East Road would then be carrying about 1,000 vehicles an hour and Winton-Smith applied to build a petrol station in place of their slaughter house. But planners told an Inquiry that it would interfere with the free flow of traffic and cause confusion for motorists 61 07 08

1961 10 09

Inner Relief Road: general line was known in 1950, more details 1954. Would provide access to centre point without permitting traffic to enter central area and divert non-stopping traffic from centre [2.4]

1961 10 12
County propose new Mitcham's, demolish property etc, Minister says too costly 1962 [494.4.8]

1961 10 31
Trees being removed from Four Lamps area in preparation for road widening scheme and alterations to roundabout 61 10 31a

1961 11 09
Maids Causeway trees cut down to widen roundabout – 61 11 09

1961 12 01
Traffic lights installed at junction Brooklands Avenue and Trumpington Rd – 61 02 01

1962 01 05
Barnwell and Wadloes Roads, sections of the Whitehill housing estate, were intended to be part of a ring road on the eastern side of Cambridge. That project was abandoned years ago but now they could form part of a proposed eastern by-pass. This should take priority over the 'Spine Relief Road' which was planned to run from Huntingdon Road, across Chesterton Road, over the river and up to Jesus Lane, councillors agreed. 62 01 05a

1962 01 26
Mitcham's experiment - sends traffic along Milton Rd to Chesterton Hall Crescent before back Chesterton Road, protests, leads jams Chesterton Hall Crescent, dropped [19.10] [19.9]

1962
Inner Relief road inquiry only lukewarm support for Northern part; would be bypass for Magdalene Street & Bridge Street only as other uses fall away [2.3]

1962 01 10
County proposals new Mitcham's, demolish property etc - Minister says too costly [4.8]

1962 01 31
An experiment to prevent traffic jams at Mitcham's Corner was judged a success. It reroutes traffic along the Milton Road junction road island around the houses, and makes several of the nearby side streets one-way only. One-way traffic means cars could use the whole of the road and motorists would soon get used to it. Only three policemen would be needed to help control the traffic if the scheme was put into operation. 62 01 31

1962 02 02
The city council want a three-storey car park in King Street, between Malcolm Street and Manor Street. There would be space for 260 cars together with a filling station and a maximum of nine shops. It would form part of the pattern of perimeter car parks with another in Park Street. There would be an inner 'control zone' and an outer area for car parking administered by meters. This would accommodate over 400 more vehicles and relieve congestion. Motorists were reluctant to use parks away from the city centre as they wanted to get as near as possible to their places of work, an Inquiry was told. 62 02 20 & a 62 03 22a [7.24]

1962 04 11
A special road island will be built so that a 50 ft elm tree can retain its present position near Four Lamps Roundabout. Part of Butt Green has been cut away to make room for a wider roadway and now the tree, which once stood on the Green, is in the middle of the main road. Other elms were cut down as part of the scheme to speed the traffic flow and reduce congestion. Work has taken much longer than expected because of the large number of cables and wires that needed re-routing 62 04 11

1962 04 17
Parking meters approved [7.25]

1962 06 05
Traffic speed limit outskirts now 40 [19.11]

1962 06 08
Sir – the subject of traffic problems is perennially popular. I suggest building an orbital road around Cambridge with a number of tiered car parks. All cars would be required to park and the journey would be completed by bus. Since everyone would use them the service would be well patronised. It would spare Cambridge from being a mere island set amid roads and car parks, bathed in swirling mists of exhaust, serenaded by that odious sound of creeping, choking traffic – R. Hennessey, Brookside. 62 06 08c

1962 06 09
"Leave all cars at city boundary & travel by bus" [19.12]

1962 07 05
County Council plans for a new "Inner Relief Road" linking the Huntingdon Road-Castle Hill junction with Hyde Park Corner would cost £932,000 (£16.3m today). There would be a new bridge over the Cam at Jesus Green with an underpass at Four Lamps before the road continued to Parkside and Regent Street. This figure did not include the cost of acquiring additional land. It was needed to deal with traffic problems in Magdalene Street which is very narrow, an Inquiry was told. 62 07 05b

1962 07 19
The University's plans for Cambridge envisage a new shopping area off Fitzroy Street providing sites for large retailing units, segregated pedestrians and vehicular traffic areas and car parking close enough for shoppers to walk. All future schemes for redevelopment of University sites should have adequate car parking; this is the University's view and they will bear their share of the car parking burden, the Estate Manager told an Inquiry. 62 07 19

1962 09 05
Bulldozers and heavy earth-moving machinery have been followed by a fleet of lorries as clearance work starts on the site of the new multi-deck car park in Park Street. It should be completed within nine months and will form an integral part of the new parking meter system for which the City Council is to seek Ministry approval. Councillors are still waiting a decision on their earlier application for another multi-storey car park about 200 yards away in King Street 62 09 05

1962 11 23
Roundabout at Perne Road – Birdwood Rd junction starts – 62 11 23a

1963 03 04
Houses in Walnut Tree Avenue have been bought by the Ministry of Transport for demolition when the dual-carriageway for the proposed Chesterton bridge route is constructed. One side of Cam Road will also have to be demolished. It is expected that negotiations for the 30 properties involved will take a year to complete. The first part of the scheme will link Newmarket Road with Chesterton and Milton Roads. Later the existing roads of Lensfield Road, Gonville Place and East Road will feed into a roundabout at the junction of Sun Street and Newmarket Road 63 03 04b

1963 03 22
Logie scheme for underground loop road & car parks from Emmanuel Road to Jesus Lane to give traffic access but unspoilt centre. Plan would extend Lion Yard pedestrian precinct to include Petty Cury, Market Square, Market Street and the area near the Senate House, stopping through traffic along King's Parade and Trinity Street. Would be an underground loop road from Emmanuel Road, under Lion Yard and up to Jesus Lane – 63 03 22a [7.26] [9]

1963 03 28
Editorial: "They come thick & fast - plans for the University's New Museums Site, plans for underground carparks with an attendant underground road, plans for parking meters, plans for a new surface water sewer, plans for a design policy for the control of the visual appearance of Cambridge. Indeed never in the history of Cambridge has there been such a paradisical period for planners. And now ... County's turn with a scheme for a new village to the North of Cambridge" 63 03 28 [2.14]

1963 04 03
The new car park at the rear of Queen Anne Terrace has now been completed and is open for public use, free of charge. It adjoins the car park at the new swimming pool which can accommodate 67 cars and has been constructed as part of the council's policy for traffic control in anticipation of the Minister's approval of the parking meter scheme. The multi-storey car park in Park Street should be in use by the middle of the year and a decision is awaited on an application for another in King Street 63 04 03

1963 04 20
Ministry receive 53 objections to meters, Apr; charges would be1/- hour inner zone, 1/- 2 hours outer zone; would be profit of £10,000 pa on controlled scheme, income from meters would pay for themselves within 3 years [8.2, 16.6]

1963 05 01
Minister criticised over delays King St multi-storey which would supplement Park St, waiting 13½ months. City-controlled scheme first discussed 1960. Charges would be 1/- an hour in inner zone, 1/- for two hours in outer. Would be profit of £10,000 pa on controlled scheme, income from meters would pay for them within three years [16.6]

1963 05 15
The Government rejected the City Council's scheme to build a multi-storey car park together with shops and a petrol filling station on land near the Malcolm Street junction at King Street. The site is obscurely located in a residential area and the roads leading to it are narrow, awkward and unsatisfactory. It would cause serious detriment to adjoining properties and initiate a substantial commercial encroachment to the detriment of the special qualities of the cultural and central area of the city. An alternative site should be found, the Minister says 63 05 15, 63 05 11

1963 07 16

The introduction of parking meters will cure Cambridge's traffic problems, say councillors. There will be sufficient off-street parking for motorists staying for any length of time. At present people move police 'No Waiting' signs and hope they will not be caught. When they drive away others pull into the gap without bothering to check whether they are in a restricted zone. Although police decorate them with pink tickets, the cars still obstruct a length of street until they are eventually moved. But many of the new parks are a considerable distance from the centre and motorists will just not park in Saxon Street or Queen Anne Terrace and walk in. Rooftop parking will have to be employed, perhaps at the former Herbert Robinson property. 63 07 16

1963 10 02
Part of the East Road dual carriageway is now open. 63 10 02

1963 10 28
Park street multi-storey car park opens, Oct, thatched cottage to come down if extensions [8.4, 446.15.6]

1963 11 12
Cambridgeshire has a higher ratio of road vehicles per head of population than the national average – about one to every six. Peak hour travel is increasing as more people use their cars to journey to work. If this continues the demand for all-day parking space will increase at a greater rate than the demand for shorter parking. Increased parking and traffic loads have given rise to severe congestion and journey times have steadily increased. But one third of the traffic in the central area has no business there. The proposed Chesterton bridge scheme is thus of the highest priority, a report says. 63 11 12 & a

1964 01 16
Gordon Logie, the City Architect spoke of his desire to see the central area of Cambridge used for pedestrians only. Traffic conditions were 'frightful', especially on Saturday afternoons. "It will be impossible for everyone to drive into the centre in the future. I am afraid that most people will have to walk in from the outer fringe car parks or travel by shuttle-service public transport", he told the Trades Council. He would like to see a new city hall and central library to replace some out-of-date shops in an attempt to make the central area more pleasant. 64 01 16

1964 01 31
Chesterton bridge could be started in 1967 – 64 01 31

1964 02 20
Cambridge police are looking for 24 traffic wardens to patrol streets when parking meters are installed. They will help motorists to do their business in the city centre and enforce regulations to allow free movement of traffic. There will be 450 meters giving one hour for a shilling in the central shopping district, two hours further out. Men with a genuine desire to serve the public will find it an interesting and rewarding job. The salary starts at £13 a week. 64 01 20b

1964 02 21
Chesterton Bridge Route, (Elizabeth Way), published ;17 houses to be demolished, 67 gardens affected – 64 02 21c

1964 03 04
Houses in Walnut Tree Avenue have been bought by the Ministry of Transport for demolition when the dual-carriageway for the proposed Chesterton Bridge Route is constructed. One side of Cam Road will also have to be demolished. It is expected that negotiations for the 30 properties

involved will take a year to complete. The first part of the scheme will link Newmarket Road with Chesterton and Milton Roads. Later the existing roads of Lensfield Road, Gonville Place and East Road will feed into a roundabout at the junction of Sun Street and Newmarket Road 64 03 04b

1964 03 11
Cam Road & Haig Road householders fear they will lose homes with Chesterton Bridge route – 64 03 11

1964 04 01
Lion Yard car park as traffic meters come into operation – 64 04 01

1964 04 02
The Mayor of Cambridge fed a parking meter on Peas Hill with a shilling "to make them hungry and ready to bite" as one official put it, and set the new parking scheme in motion. . Long queues of traffic soon formed in streets leading to the Lion Yard car park and motorists had some acid remarks about the meters. A moped rider complained about finding a ticket stuck to his bike with thirteen inches of sticky tape. From the number of excess charges shown on the meters the city coffers will soon begin to bulge 64 04 01. 64 04 02b

1964 04 10
Work on Cambridge's Eastern Bypass was interrupted by the war and today only a short section is in existence. It runs from Wadloes Road, across the main Newmarket Road and peters out at the end of Barnwell Road where a muddy track and footpaths picks its way towards Coldham's Lane. Standing amid the rubbish dumps, tumbledown sheds and chicken houses which adorn this part of the route one can hear the distant rumble of traffic on Newmarket Road. It is likely to be many years before the scheme is revived. 64 04 10 [7]

1964 04 30
A Regent Street trader has lost 78 per cent of his usual turnover since parking meters were introduced, Cambridge Chamber of Commerce was told. A survey of over 30 shops showed the average loss in turnover as 45%. There should be a reduction in rateable values and compensation for businesses which are forced to close. Meters should be closed down and a return made to unilateral parking supervised by wardens. But the Parking Committee chairman said that if motorists used the meters to the full they would get most of their customers back 64 04 30

1964 06 18
Meters fail to pay new Park Street car park losses – 64 06 18

1964 06 30
A car park was needed on the West side of the river to help clear Queen's Road and they should consider an underground car park at the Backs, councillors heard. Park Street was a mistake because it was too near the city centre but Coe Fen was one of the best places for a surface car park. Queen Anne Terrace was a marvellous site as it could have a basement, three or four storeys of flats and a roof garden restaurant. There would be a mini-bus to get shoppers into the centre which meant the Lion Yard would be used more by people who came to park for the day.64 06 30

1964 07 07
"We must take action over parking", off-street parks near perimeter town centre [16.9]

1964 09 02

No new industries employing more than five people will be established and only a moderate expansion of those existing will be approved, says the Minister of Housing in his review of the Cambridge Town Map. The inner relief road will be rerouted to take it clear of Jesus College grounds and Marshall's garage and the Western Bypass will now run next to the University Observatory and behind properties in Storey's Way. Local shopping centres will be expanded at Mitcham's Corner, Mill Road and at the corner of Alex Wood Road. There will also be a car park to the south of Silver Street. 64 09 02

1964 09 15
Inner Relief Road: The first stage of Cambridge's Inner Relief Road would comprise twin-carriageways starting with a roundabout at Murkett's Corner, on the junction of Huntingdon and Histon Roads. The planned road goes southward through the Rex Cinema site, leaving space for the proposed law courts near Shire Hall. As it approaches Chesterton Road there will be a flyover to take the main traffic flow over a roundabout. Then there would be a new bridge over the Cam before it crosses Jesus Green parallel to Park Parade. A subway will give access under the road to Jesus Green. 64 09 15 [2.3, 2.1]

1964 09 22
Inner Relief Road: dual carriageway would split city [2.3]

1964 10 08
Cambridge Ring Road – the eastern bypass which was proposed before the war – is today bordered by rows of neat council houses and old peoples' flats. It runs from Fen Ditton to the main road under the name Wadloes Road then crosses Newmarket Road and continues as Barnwell Road. Then it peters out into a track behind Cambridge Airport until finally reaching Coldham's Lane. Now a new Inner Relief Road is proposed from Huntingdon Road to Jesus Green. But will either of them ever be completed? 64 10 08

1964 10 09
Controversial plans for an inner relief road have been deferred. The general line of the road had been known since 1950. It would be an alternative to Magdalene Bridge and give better access to Park Street car park. But people along the proposed cannot sell their houses because of the uncertainty. If the Press had not reported council meetings they would not have known anything about it. 64 10 09f

1964 10 15
The City Architect will prepare a scheme for car parking on Cambridge council estates. This could be on the verge side, by rear access roads, garage courts and in front gardens. Coun. Reilly said it was wrong that people in private houses should be allowed to park in front of their property while council house tenants were barred from doing so. This was especially clear in roads where there were both council and private properties. But his pleas for council tenants to park cars on their front gardens were defeated. 64 10 15a

1964 10 15
Civic Society criticises Inner Relief Road - 64 10 15

1964 11 09
Chesterton Bridge route (Elizabeth Way) Inquiry); would bring very heavy traffic within feet of residents. Needed before Inner Relief Road – 64 11 10a [2.5]

1964 12 04

Frederick Drayton Porter, Cambridgeshire's Chief Constable has 30 years experience and vivid memories of the 18 murder cases he has investigated in Nottinghamshire where there were 14,000 indictable offences last year. By contract in Cambridge there were 2,300 crimes, of which a large proportion concerned cycles. Traffic and parking is the major problem. Since the introduction of parking meters the movement of traffic is much better, but a policeman should be able to tell a motorist where to park, he says. 64 12 04

1965 02 08
Report urges both Elizabeth Bridge & Inner Relief Road [2.6]

1965 02 18
Meters are killing city says trader – would die as regional centre unless handles cars efficiently – 65 02 18i

1965 03 04
Bypass for Cambridge proposed in Development Plan – 65 03 04a

1965 03 10
Newmarket Road work on dual carriageway – 65 03 10b, 65 03 25b

1965 03 15
City split but favour Inner Relief Road before Bypass [8.7]

1964 03 30
Western bypass a priority along with ban on all vehicles parking Queen's Road – 65 03 30b

1965 04 02
Inner Relief Road protests over Minister's decision not to modify line of road – 65 04 02c

1965 04 08
Double-yellow lines introduced, began painting March, 16 miles [16.10]

1965 04 22
Inner Relief Road: Minister announces no modification Inner Relief line to save Jesus grounds, protests [2.8]

1965 05 17
Minister of Transport to authorise the building Chesterton Bridge Route (Elizabeth Way) following public inquiry – 65 05 17

1965 05 18
Cam Road house on route of Elizabeth Way to be demolished; others to follow – 65 05 18a

1965 05 30
Western bypass a priority along with ban on all vehicles parking Queen's Road – 65 03 30b

1965 06 04
Newmarket Rd dualled [446.15.3]

1965 06 04
Inner Relief Road recommendation by single vote – 65 06 04

1965 07 07
Inner Relief Road – 2,000 petition Minister – 65 05 07

1965 07 13
Inner Relief Road: City reject but new plan to widen Victoria Ave to dual carriageway with new bridge; County continue Inner; city decide in favour again [2.9,2.10,2.11]

1965 10 12
Minister Transport does not consider improvement Victoria Avenue as alternative Inner Relief Road – 65 10 12d,f

1965 10 30
Inner Relief Road lobby charges denied – 65 10 30

1965 11 19
Councillors back Inner Relief Road – 65 11 19a

1966
Logie unveils "Shopping Growth" plan, six possible schemes for Kite area. Includes Christ's Pieces with underground car park. Debate about Inner Relief Road would mean dual carriageway between two shopping centres. Are scrapped a few months later amid accusations that 20 years have been wasted [9] [494.5.5]

1966 01 07
Mitcham's corner traffic at night photo – 66 01 07a

1966 01 12
By year 2000 the population of Cambridge and area within six miles may have doubled from present size of 300,000 and light industrial development may be firmly established. High-speed roads will by-pass a star-shaped city with network of cycle tracks, says City architect, Gordon Logie – 66 01 12

1966 01 19
New Square car park bridge, redevelopment [12.11]

1966 01 21
New Square Residents Association issue 'The Second Centre' report opposing Inner Relief Road; seeks bus station Gold Street, one-way streets, commercial development – 66 01 21c

1966 03 16
Crumbling Cambridge: depression lurks over centre re transport policies – feature – 66 03 16a

1966 04 28
Could be western by-pass and motorway to north, City Architect Logie predicts – 66 04 28d

1966 12 02
"Outer bypass to come in early 1970s" [2.12]

1966 12 02

Rival relief road plan to be discussed by city council – 66 12 02a

1966 12 14
How much more traffic can Cambridge take – article – 66 12 14, 14a

1966 12 28
Experimental one-way traffic system for Romsey roads to start – 66 12 28

1967
Travers Morgan report on Cambridge Transport jointly commissioned in 1967 by the Cambridge city and County Councils and the University. It was to be carried out by R. Travers Morgan and Partners and was estimated at that time to cost £78,000 [18.2]

1967 03 03
Mitcham's Corner, second huge island created between Chesterton Rd & Victoria Rd – 67 03 03b [12.10, 19.16]

1967 03 03
'Heart of Cambridge' planning report envisages shopping centre surrounded by traffic-free area – 67 03 03a

1967 03 16
Elizabeth Bridge: first details Chesterton Bridge route [2.13]

1967 05 18
Inner Relief Road: New plan Newmarket Road - East Road, stage three Inner Relief, several others – 67 05 18a [2.13]

1967 06 02
Traffic wardens start issuing on-the-spot tickets; if pay £2 fine motorists avoid a conviction – 67 06 02

1967 06 28
Magdalene Bridge has two-inch sag; will be closed to buses and heavy lorries for at least a year while repairs carried out. (New bridge proposed 1968. Ministry 'to replace in 1971'). – 67 06 28a

1967 08 02
Mitcham's Corner redevelopment leaves row of houses on island [12.10,19.16]

1967 11 01
Surveyors report on traffic one of most comprehensive ... also instructive in another context - a notable lack of reference to the City Architects department & almost total absence of any obvious exchange of views [19.17]

1968 04 19
Elizabeth bridge work starts, delayed [494.8.8]

1968 10 24
Parker's Piece plan to be re-examined, shelved 10 years ago, scrapped [4.4]

1968 07

Elizabeth Bridge inquiry [2.14]

1968 10 31
Relief Road: Proposed tunnel allowing New Square to go back to grass [2.15]

1968 11 01
Problems of multi-deck car park – photo Park Street and Lion Yard – 68 11 01b

1968 12 09
Emmanuel street widened - substitute for Drummer St with 750 ft lay-by [5.13] [12.12]

1969
Victoria Ave traffic 30,000 a day & worsening by 1,000 per hour in 7 years up to 1967 [17.1]

1969
Cars stopped parking Market Hill [12.7]

1969 03 24
Inner Relief Road: Minister refuses allow City compulsory purchase powers Inner Relief; "puts traffic problems back 10 years" [3.1]

1969 04 24
Inner Relief Road scheme rejected by Minister – 69 04 24, 24a

1969 05 02
Inner Relief Road rejection – what now – 69 05 02b

1969 05 02
Victoria Ave traffic 30,000 a day & worsening by 1,000 per hour in 7 years up to 1967 [17.1]

1969 05 20
East Road roundabout planted with flowers – photo – 69 05 20

1969 05 30
Rose Crescent to close to traffic [17.2]

1969 07 10
Elizabeth Bridge engineering problems – feature – 69 07 10

1969 07 25
Queen Anne Terrace car park plans approved, to open next June – 69 07 25

1969 06 24
Walnut Tree Avenue site for storage equipment for construction Elizabeth Bridge; Banham's boatyard has moved to new premises, ferry remains – 69 06 24

1969 10 12
Inner Relief Road: new road planned to replace Inner Relief; Huntingdon Road to Trumpington Road [3.2]

1969 11 04

Magdalene Bridge to be replaced with present cast-iron structure replaced with 'a simple modern design', says Ministry – 69 11 04

1969 11 20
Tunnellers prepare for Elizabeth Bridge, divert pipes underground – profile – 69 11 20

1969 12 12
Double parking meter charges [16.11]

1969 12 13
Christmas traffic kos police, streets blocked by cars en route Lion Yard, close Downing St from St Andrews St end, open outer parks; police use emergency powers. Motorists headed for car parks on edge of city, Midsummer Common, Shire Hall – 69 12 13 [17.3]

1970

1970 01 06
Mitcham's end house of terrace demolished so large lorries get round more easily [446.10.4]

1970 03 13
Elizabeth Bridge last concrete span fixed in place – 70 03 13a

1970 04 21
Park & ride suggestion [17.4]

1970 05 22
Newmarket Road new roundabout – photo – 70 05 18a

1970 05 22
Elizabeth Way taking shape – aerial photo – 70 05 22a

1970 06 02
Public works committee members cross Cam on ferry at inspection Elizabeth Bridge – photo – 70 06 02

1970 09 17
Western Bypass announced [3.11]

1970 09 21
One-way scheme around Lion Yard car park experiment, causes one of biggest jams ever [17.5]

1970 09 22
Elizabeth Bridge construction work photos – 70 09 22

1970 12 03
Lion Yard car park from Corn Exchange Roof – photo – 70 12 03

1971
Proposal 400 sq yds entrance Queen Anne car park, petition, DOE inquiry, postponed [4.5]

1971

Magdalene Bridge inquiry 1971, to be preserved 1972,

1971 02 12
Northern bypass line announced [3.12]

1971 02 22
Speed limits raised from 30-40 mph [16.1]

1971 03 18
Magdalene Street made one way from centre outwards due road works [17.6]

1971 03 18
Ted Salisbury build new garage with showrooms on site of Elizabeth Way; started 52 years ago when heard rumours of new bridge – 71 03 18

1971 03 24
Pelican crossings introduced [16.2]

1971 05 13
Western Relief Road proposed across Lammas Land, parallel to Fen Causeway, prompts mass protest – 71 05 13 [3.3]

1971 05 22
100 more meters, double charges and double yellow lines introduced – 71 05 22

1971 06 26
Prof Colin Buchanan engaged by Cambridge Preservation and Civic societies to prepare plan for Cambridge development – 71 06 26 profile – 71 08 28

1971 07 13
Elizabeth Bridge and approach roads opened by Lord Butler. It included a major approach road from Milton Road to Newmarket Road with roundabout on Chesterton Road which completely transformed Hawthorn Way, Cam Road, Haig Road and Walnut Tree Avenue – 71 07 13; review feature – 71 07 13a, b, c, d; complaints – 71 07 15a. 1971 07 13. Initially Speeds traffic 'like motoring on Sunday morning' – 71 07 14. Brings problems people living beside it – 71 07 15 complaints – 71 07 15a. 21,000 vehicles use per day 71 09 22 [8.9]

1971 10 07
Queen Anne Terrace car park opened, proposal 400 sq yds entrance Queen Anne car park, petition, Department of Environment inquiry, postponed [4.5]

1971 11 01
Queen Anne car park unused; photo parking Kings Parade – 71 11 01

1971 11 15
Pressure to ban all traffic from Petty Cury [17.7]

1972 02 01
Petty Cury closed to traffic. Coun Chris Gough-Goodman and Jennifer Hall dine in Petty Cury to mark first day of pedestrianisation – 72 02 01; both ends blocked for trial period – 72 02 01a. Petty Cury reopens end of month but closed & Corn Exchange Street opened June [12.13] [2.6]

1972 03 01
The Cambridge M.P., Mr David Lane yesterday waived aside professional traffic statistics and asked those at the by-pass inquiry to use their eyes and their common sense. In a statement to the three-week old inquiry Mr Lane gave his whole-hearted support to both the proposed western and northern bypasses and claimed to have the backing of most people in Cambridge. A woman living in Elizabeth Way wrote "On this bend to which the big lorries cruise and then rev up hard out of it it is one frightful nightmare and the fumes are really killing". A man living in Chesterton Road wrote: "Life is now intolerable and the only acceptable answer is an alternative route by-passing the city altogether" In supporting the northern bypass Mr Lane said disturbance to Girton village must be minimised.

1972 03 02
Buchanan Report suggests main town road - Inner Relief Road, Brooklands Ave to A45

1972 03 02
Elizabeth Way noise plan rejected, p12

1972 03 11
The former Ministry of Housing and Local Government simultaneously agreed to the building of one of the world's biggest radio telescopes near Cambridge and the routing of a major road straight through it, the inquiry (into the Western bypass) heard yesterday. Professor Sir Martin Ryle said in 1966 an application for a grant to build a 5 km radio telescope along the line of the old Bletchley to Cambridge railway at Lord's Bridge and extend it as far as the bridge over the River Cam was being discussed. A grant of more than £2 million was made for the telescope. Later it was learned that discussions had led to a route for the Cambridge Western bypass which passed through the line of telescopes. As a result the size of the telescope had to be reduced to 4.6 km with a considerable loss of power and the instrument was site half-a-mile further west. In 1970 it was announced that the by-pass was to be built as a motorway. Then it became known that radar devices were being developed for long-distance vehicles to prevent multiple motorway crashes. It seems likely that some of these devices will be introduced during the next five years.

1972 04 21
The traffic lights at the Trumpington Road – Lensfield Road -Fen Causeway junction in Cambridge are expected to be working again this weekend. Some new lights control equipment which went wrong before it was installed last week has been returned from the makers. The City council had intended to install the equipment in a bid to cut delays at the junction. Traffic experts consider that the system which was working until last week gave preference to "minority groups" and caused hold-ups for most other road users. There had been no reports of accidents so far on the corner but the City Surveyor, Geoffrey Cresswell, feared that motorists might get used having no lights at the junction and be tempted to take chances, p28

1972 05 19
Faith, Hope and Charity will never be quite the same again if the Government go ahead with their proposed motorway interchange at Girton. Faith, Hope and Charity are the names of three fields on the Cambridge University Farm - and their future is in some doubt because they lie at the exact spot where the city's Northern and Western bypasses are due to meet up with the A604. Although the university farm has some picturesque names - Youngman's Pasture, Pheasant Meadow and Stickfast - it is an experimental unit rather than a pure agricultural investment

1972 05 31

A free parking bonus will be given to motorists using Cambridge's show-piece Lion Yard car park during its first weeks operation after the opening date on July 24 The city's Traffic and Parking Committee decided to cut parking charges by 5p during the working day for the first week, which means one hour's free parking during each parking period. If a motorist leaves his car at Lion Yard for one hour or less it will be completely free 72 05 31

1972 06 05
Petty Cury, Cambridge, was closed to all vehicle traffic today and handed back to pedestrians for the second time this year. It is likely to stay closed to traffic for at least two years and perhaps permanently. The same city centre street was closed to traffic for a month's experiment in February which was rated highly successful. The whole of the southern side of Petty Cury will be demolished in the next three months and a new central library will appear within the next three years 72 06 05

1972 06 22
Elizabeth Way jams, p8

1972 07 13
For simple country folk, such as myself, living to the north of Cambridge, the Elizabeth Bridge is a godsend. For a year now it has enabled me to leave my home, 17 miles from the city, at a civilised hour and be at my office desk within 30 minutes. And in the evenings all I have to do is find my lane and with minimal traffic hold-ups be out on the A10 to Ely again. It now seems hard to remember than once one allowed at least 20 minutes for the Newmarket road- Arbury road run at either peak hour: that to be stuck interminably at Mitcham's Corner was a commonplace. Today my only wish is that more and more improvements are allowed by the planners so that everyone can enjoy a quality of life freed as much as possible from traffic pollution 72 07 13

1972 07 24
The Lion Yard multi-deck car park opens on Monday proving another 500 car spaces within a stone's throw of the centre of Cambridge. The completion marks the first stage of he city council's multi million redevelopment project for the area - which was first proposed nearly 25 years ago. The new park, which aims to cater for the shopper and the shortstay motorist, is the second major car park to open in the city in less than a year. The other is at Queen Anne Terrace, which opened last October. The usual parking fees will be 5p for the first hour, 15p for two hours, 25p for three hours, up to a maximum of 75p for 10 hours. The council hope the prices will encourage people who work in the city centre to leave their cars in the parks away from the centre, like New Square and Prospect Row, where the charges are considerably less.

1972 08 03
Traffic study urges new relief road, p1 & p13

1972 08 04
Buchanan Report: 72-day inquiry into Railway Route; longest & most involved inquiry ever seen; [494.6.7]

1972 08 05
The long-awaited Cambridge Transportation Study was finally published yesterday. It is two years overdue and has cost £113,000 - almost £1,000 a page. It was jointly commissioned in 1967 by the Cambridge city and County Councils and the University. It was to be carried out by R. Travers Morgan and Partners and was estimated at that time to cost £78,000. Its major proposals include a Railway Road leaving the A10 south of the Trumpington street traffic lights, hugging

the northbound railway track all the way to Newmarket Road. After crossing the Cam the new road would veer sharply west to follow the St Ives railway line along to the A10 Milton Road before linking up with Arbury Road. The Railway Road should be largely dual two-lane carriageway. Full construction could take many years

1972 08 07
The Backs have been described as "one of the world's most beautiful assemblies of buildings and grass and trees". Queen's Road, which skirts The Backs, is also one of the busiest heavy lorry roads in Cambridge. For many years the university have urged the closure of Queen's Road to through traffic, but the counter-argument is that there is no other convenient traffic route in west Cambridge. Travers Morgan's Transportation Study proposes a new West Road which would carry some 60 per cent of the traffic using Queens Road and Grange Road which would then be closed, to bring peace once again to the Backs

1972 08 08
I was among the first into the new Lion Yard multi-deck car park when it opened. The public hadn't really caught on, and the vast concrete halls echoed emptily to the dumpers and merry shouts of workmen still constructing it. Later in the week I returned. Now the park was known and very full. It was clearly making an impression on the parking situation in Cambridge for there were now more parking meters available than usual. It won't be until all the decks are in use at Lion Yard that the final effect on Cambridge parking will be seen. In my view it must be beneficial – Rodney Tibbs

1972 08 25
Liberals scrap Relief Roads, p26

1972 09 11
Scrap city centre parking meters call, p12

1972 12 07
Network of cycleways urged [17.8]

1973 01 19
Inner Relief Road rejected by one vote [3.4]

1973 01 26
Petty Cury & Guildhall Street to be blocked Market Hill end, extend Petty Cury pedestrian scheme [17.9]

1973 01 27
I hope it will not have escaped notice that in the absence of any signals, traffic is now flowing through the Trumpington Road / Lensfield Road / Fen Causeway junction nearly as quickly as it did a year ago, when there was a power strike and the lights were not working. I am an everyday user of this particular junction and have noticed that traffic will always be clear, and on no account is there any traffic jam, when the lights are not working. As soon as the council turns them on there is chaos everywhere. When will they ever learn the more they do to that particular junction the worse they make it - letter G.D. Mills 73 01 27 [16.3]

1973 03 09
Council adopt Travers Morgan report to cut central spine route but Government refuse ban traffic Kings Parade [17.10]

1973 03 15
Cambridge's notorious Trumpington Road - Lensfield Road junction was back to its old bunged-up state last night, with queues of smoking traffic and frustrated drivers paralysed by £3,000 worth of new, improved, traffic lights. Having been out of action for the best part of two months the lights came on again having been retimed, moved and the traffic flow redesignated by the traffic experts of the Department of the Environment's Bedford-based traffic unit. The junction's real test came at teatime and by 5.40 p.m. mutinous drivers were breathing imprecations through their exhaust fumes. Drivers were saying that 15 minutes had been added to their travelling time 73 03 15

1973 04 09
The Market Square ends of Guildhall Street and Peas Hill, Cambridge, were closed to traffic today as part of city council's plans eventually to make much of the central area into a pedestrian precinct. It is now possible to walk from Sidney Street to King's Parade without crossing a road. City surveyor, Mr Geoffrey Cresswell said that some motorists were still driving round Market Square attempting to get into Peas Hill. The present closure is officially regarded as only "temporary" - although it will last for possibly another two years - while rebuilding of the adjacent Lion Yard site is under way 73 04 09 [17.9]

1973 06 05
The Cambridge City Surveyor, Mr Geoffrey Cresswell, claimed today that speed-reducing ramps built into roadways - sometimes called "sleeping policemen" are "positively dangerous". He told the Public Works Committee that these bumps in the road could cause fatal accidents, particularly to cyclists and motor-cyclists. The Government are asking local councils to look for suitable areas where these ramps could be installed. After a brief discussion the committee decided they did not want any "sleeping policemen" in Cambridge

1973 09 17
Barnwell bridge improvement opens [44.7.3.2]

1973 09 18
Buchanan Report: The Cambridge by-passes have been given the Government go-ahead. Work may now begin in less than a year on the £30m.-plus scheme to give the city its biggest new road complex in history. Within four years Cambridge is likely to have 14 miles of new motorway and nine miles of new trunk road to bleed heavy lorries and other traffic away from the historic heart of the city. It will also mean a much-improved A604 route between Cambridge & Huntingdon - at present one of the busiest and most accident-prone roads for miles. Today's announcement ends years of argument and months of speculation following a record-breaking public inquiry stretching over six months early last year 73 09 18

1973 09 19
The environmental effects on the Cambridgeshire countryside and a number of villages in the building of the Cambridge bypasses are given in the Government's go-ahead to the projects. The inspector concludes that at Grantchester environmental intrusion would be mitigated by a properly conceived planting scheme & the effects on the village would not be serious. At Hauxton and Lt Shelford the environmental effects, though great, would not be intolerable. The Inspector does not support Girton's claims that the area will be severed in any practical sense by the Cambridge Northern Bypass. The new road would pass in a cutting and noise screening is recommended. At Fenstanton the Inspector thinks that the noise problem is more important than any partial severance of the village by the A604. He recommends noise screening

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1974 01 18
Western Relief Road to continue, plans[3.4]

1974 02 08
Cambridge city council's controversial plan to stop Gwydir Street being used as a short-cut between East Road and Mill road has come into action and already shopkeepers are reporting trading losses of up to 50%. Norfolk street, once continually busy with traffic, is now silent and virtually at a standstill. And the shopkeepers of the street are beginning to wonder if they might soon be at a standstill too. Mrs Linda Gregoris who owns the Athena restaurant lent on her broom and surveyed the five customers. "It is 11am and normally this place is chock-a-block and people have to fight for a seat. Yesterday we had five people in here – normally it would be as many as 80 74 02 08

1974 04 15
City Engineer and Surveyor gives his view on city's traffic needs; central area experiment making St Andrew's Street and Regent Street one-way southwards, Parkside and Emmanuel Road one-way northwards; reconstruction of Magdalene Bridge; Bridge Street restriction and one-way system reversed; contra-flow cycle lanes, bus lanes, local link roads; large one-way ring road around centre along line Queen's Road, Chesterton Road, Elizabeth Way, East Road to Fen Causeway; park and ride system and cycle parks. 1960s Spine Relief Road moved further out & called Inner Relief Road; since then been eroded section by section & Cross Town route abandoned. Present position (1974) is relief will be provided by outer area link roads & by bypasses. After 25 years the Eastern by-pass from Brooks Road to Milton Road, the New West Road from Huntingdon Road to Trumpington Road & stage one of Inner Relief road are all that remain of Holford unchanged. In centre over last 10 years steady move towards reducing intensity of traffic & parking in centre by controlling non-essential traffic & getting high turnover of parking places in central area. First proposals put forward by R Travers Morgan 1963-64, further developed in City Surveyors report 1967 which also proposed pedestrianisation some central areas, 1972 Transportation Plan endorsed proposals [10]

1974 05 01
A controversial street traffic experiment was being scrapped today. Council workmen were removing the bollards which had blocked Cambridge's Gwydir and Sturton streets to through traffic for the past three months, after the traffic committee decided the experiment had been a failure. Dozens of residents from neighbouring streets packed into the meeting to hear the debate on the future of the scheme. Afterwards the residents' association chairman, Mr Ian Henden, said: "This just shows what people can do when they stick together."

1974 05 01
Parking may soon cost up to 50% more at some of the Cambridge's city council parks. If suggestions are accepted the charge at Park Street will go up from 5p to 7p an hour with a maximum rate of 75p for more than five hours. The present maximum is 50p. The daily charge for the Queen Anne Terrace (multi) and the Saxon street ground level park will go up from 10p to 15p. At New Square the maximum for more than five hours will rise to 40p.

1974 05 21
Cycleway plan, p6

1974 07 19

Parry Lewis and his team of planners have examined the possibility of expanding Cambridge. Their studies convince them the best plan was to expand the city in a southern direction. Development would follow a line east of the new Western bypass. A second shopping centre would be located to the south-west of Trumpington. There would in addition be various district centres and a suitable amount of industrial and office development

1974 07 23
The people of Cambridge would never accept the building of the proposed Western Relief Road project, linking Huntingdon road with Trumpington road and going through Newnham or near Grantchester, it was claimed by city councillors. In addition the county a road linking Huntingdon road with Madingley road. But Counc. Overhill supported the road. "If this was proposed through the middle of Chesterton, nobody would complain. It is only because it is going through Newnham that people are against it", he said

1975
Magdalene Bridge closed 10 days for tests [17.12]

1975
"Expense rules out East Rd dualling" [17.13]

1975 02 10
Cambridge's city centre traffic experiment swung into action today. Thousands of motorists faced the through-traffic ban for the first time. The road closures and a system of one-way routes will operate for six months unless "utter chaos" develops. The scheme could then be swiftly abandoned. It closes two sections of road in the centre of town to private cars. One extends along King's Parade from King's College gate to Gt St Mary's while the other runs from Woolworth's along St Andrew's street to its junction with Emmanuel St 75 02 10

1975 02 13
Experimental closure in centre, close Kings Parade, Sidney St, St Andrews St; tea-party marks closure King's Parade [17.11]

1975 04 04
"Expense rules out East Rd dualling" [17.13]

1975 04 30
New West Road project - first part controversial Western relief road Madingley to Barton Rd to Trumpington now extended Huntingdon Road. Brooks Road link to Newmarket Road is revival of part of old Eastern Relief Road which was abandoned at start of the War in 1939; is better than Railway Route [4.1] (proposals deferred 75 05 30 [4.3])

1975 06 11
The much-criticised second stage of Cambridge city council's central area traffic experiment has been abandoned and traffic flow systems introduced five weeks ago withdrawn. This means there is again two-way traffic in Regent Street, Parkside, Emmanuel Road and Short Street. Through traffic is still banned along parts of St Andrew's Street, Sidney Street & Kings Parade. City police said many motorists were confused by the changes which it was improving impossible to enforce. Long traffic queues had built up at major junctions since the start of the experiment which brought traffic chaos to the city 75 06 11 [17.14]

1975 06 11

7,000 petition for cycleways, proposals announced for route from Arbury to centre & for cycle lanes [11.5,11.7]

1975 07 11
Railway Route proposals; dropped in favour of East Relief Road, Coldham's Lane to Newmarket Rd [3.5] [494.6.16] [20.3] [6.16]

1975 07 30
Railway Route buried [6.16]

1975 09 17
There is no reason why Cambridge's first mini roundabout should not become a permanent feature. The roundabout at the junction of Queen's Road with Northampton Street came into operation yesterday morning. It is hoped this will overcome the long tailback which has occurred in Queen's Road since the introduction of the city centre traffic scheme.

1975 10 29
Permanent mini roundabout, p4

1975 11 11
Yet another traffic survey (£120,000 spent on Travers Morgan 1967) [18.2]

1975 11 11
City proposal road across Grantchester Meadows to provide southern section of proposed Western Relief Road around Cambridge, linking Huntingdon Road, Madingley Road, Barton Road & Trumpington Road [7]

1975 11 26
Outer Ring Road proposals Newmarket Road to Milton Road scrapped due imminence of Northern Bypass; also remove 1st part Inner Relief Road [3.7]

1975 11 26
County approve design work on New West Road between Barton Road and Madingley Road and on Observatory Link between Madingley Road and Huntingdon Road; also a link road between Brooks Road and Barnwell Road to provide a direct access between Coldham's Lane and Newmarket Road [8]

1975 12
Parking chaos at Christmas - 400 cars going round & round looking for parking places 76 01 08 [19.1]

1975 12 17
1931 deed of covenant signed by Cambridge Preservation Society, Kings college & Borough council for preservation of college land in Grantchester area; Society paid £7,549 into university & college estates account of Ministry of Agriculture & Fisheries to safeguard college land from development, part of £10,000 grant from Pilgrim Trust; borough undertake not to plan any ring or other road crossing college property or sited nearer to Cambridge than southward of the village of Grantchester [9] [3.6]

1975 12 18

Cambridge will be completed ringed with major by-passes by the 1980s under a plan being worked on by government road engineers. They are planning major improvements to the A11 between the junction of the Northern and Western by-passes at Six Mile Bottom and Stump Cross. The A11 is a narrow single carriageway and very heavily used at present, but the Government have been working away quietly and will soon be producing a scheme for making it into a dual carriageway and building a series of village by-passes, to become an eastern by-pass for Cambridge.

1976 01 23
Western Relief Road: City ask county drop Western Relief Road, Barton Road to Trumpington Road,

1976 02 21
Western Bypass may be axed [4.4]

1976 03 09
Work to turn Newmarket Rd into dual carriageway [18.3]

1976 03 16
Northern Peripheral link road Kings Hedges to Histon road started (opens Feb 1977) [3.9]

1976 03 25
Western Relief Road Inquiry as County refuse to drop plan & it stays in their long- term proposals [3.8]

1976 04 30
Lime Kiln Hill could eventually become a footpath and bridleway if a proposed route for the extension of the Cherry Hinton bypass near the Gogs is approved. The County Council will be asked to approve a route which passes east of the reservoir eventually linking with the A604. This was a very long-term project and it was impossible to say when it might be built. There is a lot to be said for preserving Lime Kiln Hill – it is a pleasant rural lane. There would be great problems in widening and improving it

1976 05 05
'City traders who have lost business as result of traffic restrictions ... will just have to accept it' [18.4]

1976 06 01
Vibration from heavy lorries thundering along Victoria Road, Cambridge, is causing considerable damage to some of the houses in the road, residents claim. Other have suffered cracking and crumbling mortar and damage to roof tiles. "The lorries are worse than ever now. It's not just the noise and vibration, it's the smell as well", says Mrs Mabel Haggis. The City Surveyor said: "The Northern bypass, which will be completed by the end of 1977, should lead to a considerable easing of the situation."

1976 06 14
Ring road, p1

1976 06 18
Cambridgeshire's motorists are being treated to nearly £60m of new roads but they have a price to pay … years of disruptive construction work. Top priority is the northern bypass which is due

to start in August. An important adjunct is improvements on the A604 Huntingdon road which will be turned into a dual carriageway. Elsewhere the County Council is constructing a dual carriageway from Coldham's Lane to Barnwell Bridge; a dualling of Newmarket road beyond this will be delayed until the effect of the northern by-pass can be seen. Next year remains the official start date for the western bypass

1976 07 24
Construction work on the long-awaited nine-mile Cambridge northern by-pass has started at last. The first shovelful of earth was dug at Madingley by the recently retired Cambridgeshire County Surveyor, Mr Robert Lacey. The symbolic act ended more than 10 years of controversy over the bypass which is aimed at taking away massive juggernauts from the city's winding narrow streets. It will take up to two years to complete.

1976 08 02
An experimental free bus service for the Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge commenced at the weekend, providing the public with the first buses in the area for almost three years. 67 people made use of the first bus run at 10am on Saturday. The owner of the Talk of the Town shopping arcade, Mr Carl Owen, has hired one bus from the Eastern Counties Bus Company at a cost of £30 per day. He said he will hire more for a four-week period to prove the company were wrong to stop the service 76 08 02

1976 08 03
The Government has decided that the experimental traffic restriction system in the centre of Cambridge can become permanent. Through traffic will be prevented from going along Sidney Street and St Andrews Street between Emmanuel and Market Street junctions, and along King's Parade. The experiment was introduced 18 months ago – against a background of support from amenity organisations and opposition from city centre traders who carried their protests to a public inquiry 76 08 03 [18.5]

1976 08 04
Cambridge's first bus and bicycles lane comes into operation along Victoria Avenue after the Government approved the city council's experimental plan to put down a special lane from the Four Lamps junction to Victoria Bridge. The plan also bans all parking along the Midsummer Common side; this means the hundreds of motorists who leave their cars there will have to find somewhere else. The aim is to speed up the substantial number of buses using Victoria Avenue, particularly during the evening peak period when traffic congestion causes extensive delays 76 08 04 [18.6]

1976 10 11
Work is progressing smoothly on the extension of Barnwell Road, Cambridge, to link up in about two years' time with Brooks Road on the other side of the Cambridge-Newmarket main railway line. The aim is to provide a quick route for heavy traffic between Newmarket Road and Perne Road and out on to the main roads to London. This will by-pass the notorious traffic bottlenecks of Coldham's Lane. The scheme includes a new bridge over the railway and an extensive road island and an extensive road island at the Brook's Road – Coldham's Lane junction 76 10 11

1976 11 06
Cambridge's experimental "Park-and-ride" scheme got off to a slow start today. The first bus left from the Cattle Market at 10 am and carried only 10 passengers. The scheme is designed to relive the normal pre-Christmas traffic congestion by allowing motorists to park free of charge and then buy a 15p return ticket to the city centre. It will operate each Saturday until January 8th with

buses leaving every 15 minutes. The first passengers were enthusiastic about the acres of parking space available. "It's marvellous being able to park so easily" said Mr John Blackman, who had driven in from Sawston 76 11 06

1977 01 13
The Cambridge "park and ride" scheme is to be continued indefinitely on Saturdays because of its success during the Christmas and New Year periods. At present the cattle market on the south side is used as a temporary car park and people can get at 15p return trip into the city centre on a bus. The service was started by the Eastern Counties Omnibus Company with the backing of the Chamber of Commerce and the City Council. The cattle market has spaces for about 700 cars and was constantly three-quarters full immediately before Christmas. The service might end if the city council wanted it to cease being a car park or if the bus company lost a lot of money on it.

1977 02 11
Cambridge Northern Periphery Road, Histon to Milton, opens [4.5]

1977 03 02
Mr Dick Dunford of Waterbeach is a firm believer in hoof-power and would prefer to have his horse, Fred, than a smart car any day. He comes into Cambridge on a shopping trip, riding along the A10 from Milton. When they arrive Fred will happily stay put at any convenient car park, meter or cycle rack. Mr Dunford pays the going rate at meters and has never got a parking ticket: "The traffic wardens like him", he said.

1977 03 09
The experimental mini-roundabout at the junction of Newmarket Road and Coldham's Lane, Cambridge was working well on the first morning of its operation. Even at the height of the rush hour traffic was flowing smoothly. It has been put in temporarily while the traffic lights at the junction are being taken down; they will eventually be replaced with more up-to date lights as part of the Newmarket Road improvement scheme. Police Chief Inspector Maurice Murden said: "To think our problems have been solved by an old tractor tyre! It is something we have advocated for years, and now we just hope that it will become permanent". One driver said his driving time to his home in Chesterton had been cut from 20 minutes to five. 77 03 09

1977 07 13
A group of Cambridge residents have started a legal battle to stop buses using the narrow, congested Parker Street to reach the city's Drummer Street bus station. They are trying to force four major bus companies to use an alternative route via Emmanuel Street and Regent Street. The leader of the objectors said: "Parker Street is fit only for local traffic, being narrow and with houses on each side. At the moment the pollution is disgusting. You cannot open a window and the noise is above acceptable limits". The Eastern Counties traffic manager said: "Buses represent only a tiny proportion of the heavy traffic using the street, so why we are being picked on I don't know"

1977 07 14
Elizabeth Way resident is noisy and polluted choked artery which miraculously eased Cambridge traffic problems in 1971 but it now itself in urgent need of relief. Residents used to live in tree-lined Cam Road, a quiet residential street on a par with De Freville Avenue in houses which had front gardens. Now they have lead pollution and noise levels three-and-a-half times above "acceptable" limits. People live in back rooms as, despite double-glazing, front rooms are still noticeably noisy. "It is difficult to cross the road, nobody can come and see you and window

cleaners refuse to come here – they say it gets too dirty", said Mrs Winifred French. Relief could come next year with the opening of the Northern Bypass –at least everyone living on Elizabeth Way hopes so. 77 07 14

1977 07 26
Western bypass starts, p11

1977 08 24
Lensfield Road roundabout, p8

1977 08 27
Lensfield Road roundabout, p5

1977 10 06
Park & ride, p11

1977 10 20
Take the dull and empty expanse of East Road roundabout in Cambridge, combine it with the recent clamour for a city skateboard park and the result is a plan which has just won Cambridge architect Keith Garbett and artist Jon Harris first place in a national competition. The idea incorporates a "pipe" with a viewing platform above where spectators can watch skateboarders emerge from a tunnel, a bowl with an up-and-down return slope and a slalom slope where skateboarders can weave in and out of rubber bollards. The Mayor said he would be happy to see the plan go before council officials for consideration but would it attract children to a busy junction and might impede its real purpose which is to let people cross the road safely

1978 02 08
Cherry Hinton bypass plans rejected by County Council, press on with Eastern bypass, West & Northern bypasses [4.6]

1978 06 15
The 150-year-old Magdalene Bridge in Cambridge is in grave danger of collapsing, councillors were told. For the last 11 years there has been a three-ton vehicle restriction but sometimes the inter-continental 'juggernaut' lorries travelling through the city take a wrong turning and pass over the bridge. Now the abutments, which support the bridge at both ends, are moving apart and if this continues it could eventually break its back. Plans were made to rebuild the bridge but environmentalists objected and at a public inquiry it was decided the bridge should be strengthened, retaining its present appearance. But Government engineers came up against insuperable technical problems in the use of the cast-iron parapets and have suggested cast-steel instead. 78 06 15

1978 06 22
"Parking is so easy on the Kite" advertising feature [494.7.6]

1978 07 01
A campaign to improve safety along the A604 has been turned down because of Government red-tape. The County wants all lorries for Harwich to be routed around Newmarket and Bury bypasses to Colchester instead of passing through Cambridge city centre and out along narrow winding roads to Linton and Haverhill. But despite the opening this autumn of the Northern By-pass designed to take heavy lorry traffic away from Cambridge, the Department of Transport is

insisting that traffic for Harwich is still routed through the city. The road has already claimed four victims this year in Cambridgeshire and another seven in Essex

1978 09 08
Cambridge parking meter charges - up to 15p an hour in the city centre and already among the highest in the country - are expected to increase in the New Year. This is mainly to help to pay for the traffic wardens' latest wage rises of 9.4 per cent, which takes their starting rate to £2,566 a year. The city's 426 meters, which have been run at a handsome profit for some years, will show a big deficit this year.

1978 10 03
Cambridge' Drummer Street bus station may be extended on to the adjoining Christ's Pieces within the next few years as County Council traffic experts and the bus companies have agreed that expansion of the present site is the best way of bringing it up to date. The facilities such as booking office, news-stands & toilets are scattered, cramped and unsightly and there are no proper information displays. The city council has suggested the station should be moved into the Kite Area and Conservation interests prefer disused land near the railway station should be used. But the County rejects both locations

1978 10 29
Experimental mini-roundabouts at the Lensfield Road – Trumpington Road junction in Cambridge have been approved by the Government and will be made permanent. They replaced traffic lights which for years caused long delays and have speeded-up traffic at the once-notorious bottleneck. In addition a pelican crossing is to be built at Fen Causeway at the entrance to the Engineering Laboratories with another at Trumpington Road. There will also be one over Brooks Road when the new and controversial link with Newmarket Road is opened shortly. 78 20 29

1978 11 29
Lensfield Road roundabout, p11

1978 12 21
The Northern Bypass, described as a 'Christmas present to Cambridge' was officially opened at noon and then closed after police expressed reservations about the state of the nine-mile road and its interchanges. But as dusk was falling the barriers were pushed back and it was opened to the public. It includes one of the longest straight stretches of dual carriageway in the country and police asked drivers to get used to the road slowly. With the completion of the interchanges next year and the opening of the M11 Cambridge will have a road system surrounding it for which many other cities would give their eye-teeth 78 12 21 [4.7]

1979 01 09
Charges at Cambridge car parks and parking meters are to rise. Prices will increase from 25p to 30p for an hour at Lion Yard and a day's parking at Queen Anne Terrace will now cost 30p. Park Street will remain unchanged. Parking meter charges have not gone up since 1976 and will double to 10p, with the excess charge rising to £5. Increased use of the three central car parks is expected to bring an extra £15,000 next year but because of the rates forecast an extra £45,000 needs to be raised. 79 01 09

1979 01 16
Cambridge's northern by-pass is not a thing of beauty and has exposed the city's none-too-glorious backsides. Milton sewage works, the wrong end of the Arbury estate and a few dumping grounds that so far we have been able to conceal. For the local travelling along this stretch of dual

carriageway is a new and rather bewildering experience. Coming at everything from an unfamiliar angle creates an impression that north Cambridgeshire as I knew it has been wiped off the map. The really beneficial effect was been the easing of the pressure on the Northampton Street / Castle Hill junction; five times I have passed through these usually overworked traffic lights with little delay.

1979 03 07
A new double-decker bus station in the centre of Cambridge is being proposed by County traffic experts. Buses would wait only long enough to set down and take up passengers and long-distance buses would run from elsewhere in the city. This one of several options to sort out the chaos of Drummer Street. Others include expanding on to Christ's Pieces, re-siting it to the Kite area or adjacent to the railway station. For years the bus station has been the subject of intensive criticism because of its lack of facilities and poor conditions. Now councillors have made it a priority.

1979 03 14
The 600-plus parking meters in the centre of Cambridge may be scrapped as one of the options for helping to sort out traffic chaos. But if they continue the city council is backing a 67 per cent increase in all meter charges because they are facing a £12,000 loss due to increased pay for the traffic wardens. Councillors are also considering residents' parking schemes to meet mounting demand for this facility. They may also provide the city's first cycle lane along the Huntingdon Road from Girton College to Murkett's Corner.

1979 04 02
The centre of Cambridge is well off for parking space. There are 600 spaces on the Lion Yard multi-decker, a slightly smaller number at Park Street and substantial parking at New Square. Then there are more than 500 meters dotted around. But during peak periods these are barely enough and queues build up at the park entrances. Motorists complain it is not easy to reach the city centre since King's Parade was severely restricted to through traffic. At first shopkeepers feared virtual bankruptcy but now even the most 'anti' tradesman is happy with the result – an increase in trade.

1979 08 17
Many of Cambridge's traffic problems may soon be solved by silicon chip technology. The chips would operate micro computers geared to all the city's traffic lights to ensure smooth traffic flows at all times. Such an elaborate computer system would originally have cost around £5 million but now County Council officials consider the new technology could reduce the cost to as low as £100,000. It could be connected with all the car parks giving motorists instant information through street corner signs and also tie in with temporary one-way workings and pedestrian crossings.

1979 09 12
Computer lights opposed [18.8]

1979 09 14
Traffic jams would stretch across large parts of Cambridge every weekend if the £10 million Kite shopping development went ahead, a transport report commissioned by the Kite Co-ordinating Council claims. The new traffic may eventually block the Mill Road roundabout for several hours of the day. The number of car parking spaces would need to be doubled to meet demand and the cost would have to come from the ratepayers. Traffic is likely to increase anyway in the next ten

years and the anticipated reduction through the opening of the Northern By-pass has not happened, they claim

1979 11 02
County council engineers have devised a new method to strengthen the 150-year-old Magdalene Bridge in Cambridge without altering its appearance. If Government finances permit work will start in July, more than 13 years after the bridge was closed to buses and other heavy traffic because of its unsound condition. The rebuilding has been surrounded by controversy since cracks were detected in the under-structure. A public inquiry in 1971 agreed that the new bridge should resemble the old one as far as possible but a long wrangle developed over the appearance and complex legal issues were involved because it is an ancient structure.

1980

1980 02 01
King's Parade reopened during road repairs, 'may stay open as impressed by lack of congestion' [18.9]

1980 02 26
Already the new Western Bypass is having the desired effect in the Castle Hill area of Cambridge. Thomas Whitelaw whose window overlooks the street said: "Normally the heavy traffic starts at about 7.30 am and you get convoys of 12 to 15 heavy lorries every few minutes sending vibrations right through the house. Now it is much quieter". But in Wendens Ambo villagers are demanding a new road surface, soundproof barriers and double glazing, saying the peace and quiet of their village has been ruined since the new section of the M11 opened nearby 80 02 26

1980 02 27
Senior dons at Girton are pursuing an astonishing plan to link their college with Cambridge by railway. They are proposing a mono-rail link which would run mainly at ground level on university and college-owned land to the Sidgwick Avenue arts site and University Library. The main difficulties are the high cost of the project, which would need to cross the Huntingdon and Madingley Roads and the delicate negotiations with other colleges. The college's undergraduates have to cycle two miles in all weathers to attend lectures and many have been injured in road accidents. But two recent changes may ensure it is never built: the opening of the Western By-pass has reduced the amount of traffic and there will soon be a cycle lane. 80 02 27

1980 03 13
New plans for Drummer Street bus station have provoked widespread criticism from councillors. The two-storey building to accommodate offices and waiting facilities is a large transparent structure with a domed roof. But Coun Peter Wright said: "It looks like a large greenhouse; to see anything like that going up in the middle of a conservation area is absolutely unbelievable". Maurice Garner said: "I cannot say I like it – but nothing can be worse than what we have". It would be difficult for handicapped people to reach the upper floor waiting rooms. 80 03 13a

1980 05 23
Plans to widen Ditton Lane for bypass link shelved [4.9]

1980 06 22
M11 opens [4.8]

1980 09 12
RAC survey wrong, city meters lost £12,000 since 1974 [19.4]

1980 09 18
Anyone who has sat in a traffic queue tailing back into Downing Street from the Lion Yard car park will know the frustration of arriving in Cambridge at peak times. The tourist office says parking is atrocious and directs visitors to Saxon Street where you can stay all day for 30p. The County Structure Plan foresees a need for three new multi-storey car parks to cope with future demand. But rising petrol prices or decreasing oil supplies could mean fewer cars on the road in the future. 80 09 18b & c

1980 11 17
Mill Road Bridge dismantled, rebuilt [447.3.6]

1981 02 18
Cambridge councillors have thrown out the idea of ever building a multi-storey car park anywhere near the Backs. They condemned as 'barbaric' suggestions from senior officials that such a park, either above or below ground, could be built on college gardens, playing fields or open spaces along Queen's Road. "It is even more ridiculous than the plan to put a major road cross Grantchester Meadows", said Councillor Rosenstiel. 81 02 18a

1981 03 10
Magdalene Bridge closed for strengthening; Bailey Bridge erected alongside – [3.5]

1981 03 13
MII reduces traffic volume; heavy lorries down 60%, 35% Newmarket Road, 30% Huntingdon & Madingley Roads, 26% Trumpington Road [4.10]

1981 06 17
Kite: car parks close [7.14]

1981 07 17
All traffic banned King's Parade with bollards as experiment [18.11]

1981 09 15
A park-and-ride bus service linking shops in the Burleigh Street area with the car park in Cherry Hinton Road has started disastrously. Nobody used the service for several hours. It is being funded with £400 from city lottery profits with Kite traders adding another £100. But councillors say the money should have been earmarked for charity 81 09 15a

1981 10 31
Chaos – Kite Parks lost & protests about parking on commons [18.12]

1981 11 20
Driving through Cambridge it seems a particularly malicious gremlin has got loose, armed with a pick-axe, and is busy making holes in any old bit of road he can find. For a start there is the Kite redevelopment which has reduced the amount of parking and led to major roadworks, then sewers have collapsed in Emmanuel Road, there is resurfacing in Coldham's Lane and Eastern Gas has moved into Tennis Court Road. There are temporary traffic lights in Silver Street and the continuing work on Magdalene Bridge adds to the disruption. 81 11 20b

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1981 11 25
A startling £3.5 million plan to tunnel under The Backs has been prepared secretly by county road engineers. It would be 20 feet wide and run under Queen's Road from the Madingley junction right up to Silver Street. Meter controlled parking would then be allowed up to Garret Hostel Lane and the area to West Road would be grassed over to give an uninterrupted view of King's College chapel. The plan is certain to raise a violent storm of controversy. 81 11 25 & 26b

1981 12 07
Thousands of motorists may soon be asked to leave their cars on the outskirts of Cambridge and cycle into the city to solve the parking problem. They would park in west Cambridge or near Stourbridge Common and make their way by hired bikes through the Backs or along the river. The park and cycle scheme is being suggested as an alternative to the park and ride bus scheme by road engineers who are also planning a tunnel under Queens Road. 81 12 07a

1982 02 24
Computer lights approved though city object; protest over memorial move suggestions [18.13]

1982 09 24
Peace bid over roads - city and county clash over East Rd widening & Drummer St rebuilding [18.14]

1982 10 04
Children from St Matthew's Primary School joined a raincoated march protesting against the proposed East Road dual carriageway which would take part of their playground. They stopped outside the Grafton Information Centre, which has supported the County Council's plans, for some orchestrated slogan shouting. About 250 marchers gathered at Parker's Piece expressing concern about increased noise, lead pollution and the danger to children posed by the 'road to nowhere'. 82 10 04a

1982 12
Magdalene Bridge reopens, costs had risen from £50,000 to £545, 000 [3.5]

1983 05
Traffic lights on Mill Road bridge to cut accidents – (but increased, out 1984) [446.14.4]

1983 04 26
The County Council has been urging Cambridge councillors to provide more city centre parking space. They say 1,000 extra parking spaces are needed. Now they have suggested six sites: a 250-space extension to the present Lion Yard multi-deck, land behind Telephone House in Regent Street-Park Terrace (220 spaces on a four-deck park), the old Addenbrooke's Hospital site (250 spaces), land behind Shire Hall (450 spaces on a three-deck park), Saxon Street (480) and Adam and Eve Street (460 spaces) 83 04 26 p5

1983 06 29
Plans for a new main bus station with a 'floating roof' and a circular office block standing alongside, in the centre of Cambridge, have come in for fierce criticisms. The County Council is adamant that the new bus station should go on the present small and restricted site in Drummer Street but the Labour- controlled City Council want it moved to the railway station. The rebuilding will see the removal of the small island with its office and large trees from the centre of the road. But the City is refusing to sell the island site or to remove the trees as part of its opposition. 83 06 29 p15

1983 08 30
Four major car parks on the outskirts of Cambridge linked to the city centre by a frequent park-and-ride bus service are suggested in a new report aimed a sorting out the city's traffic tangles. They are on fields at Barton Road, a small piece of disused land between the bypass interchange at Histon Road, allotment land near Newmarket Road cemetery and the old Cattle Market site at Cherryhinton Road. It also proposes extensive residents-only parking schemes with a tightening-up of long-term parking in the city centre. 83 08 30 p1

1983 09 01
Park & ride resurfaces [18.15]

1983 09 06
County plan to enforce traffic restricted zone Sidney St, reduce number cars in triangle & reverse central one-way flow [18.16]

1983 12 29
More than £1 million has been collected from Cambridge parking meters since they were first introduced in 1964. Motorists have put £1,065,574 in the meters but the operating costs have been £849,480 leaving a profit of £216,094. This goes towards helping the councils provide more off-street car parks 83 12 29 p8 [19.6]

1984
Restrictions on entry triangle start, St Johns Street 8.30-6.30 [18.17]

1984
County say traffic will increase by 50%, suggest new North-South road following railway line, controversy, costed, killed off (Railway Route abandoned 1975) [20.2-4]

1984 01 30
Furious traders in Mill Road are drawing battle lines for a fight with the city council over traffic congestion. They claim trade has slumped and traffic conditions deteriorated since the council installed traffic lights at Mill Road bridge. Shopkeepers are fed up with constant jams and complaints from the customers who say it can take half an hour to drive from the old Maternity Hospital to their shops in Romsey town. 84 01 30 p6

1984 02 27
The traffic lights at Mill Road Bridge could be turned off for good. It is a move which would delight thousands of Cambridge road users and please traders who claim their businesses have suffered. The lights were installed in June at the request of the city council traffic management team who were concerned about the rising accident rate. They thought many vehicles were using it only as a short cut. But accidents have risen faster since they were put in and road users started an immediate outcry, complaining about long, frustrating delays. 84 02 27 p12

1984 03 23
The vexed question of whether Cambridge's traffic problems are real or illusory will be a recurring theme of future discussions as a result of the decision to scrap Mill Road traffic lights. The faces of traders lit up at the news that the lights on the bridge were – finally – going out. Traffic mandarins have persisted in introducing more and more lights throughout Cambridge. The Station Road lights are another example where traffic management has gone awry yet there is no sign these will be removed. 84 03 23 p20

1984 05 15
Park and ride, p5

1984 07 06
Computerised control of traffic in Cambridge by means of traffic lights has been in operation along two major routes since March. Chaos has not ensued and the county council's traffic management scheme claims it has knocked several minutes off journey times in peak periods. 'Scoot' operates in Hills Road and Queen's Road by marshalling traffic into 'platoons' of vehicles and then pilots them through as many sets of lights as possible. 84 07 06

1984 08 10
Cherry Hinton could get its long-awaited bypass if the controversial 86-acre housing development goes ahead on the outskirts of Cambridge. The new road would run from Airport Way to meet Fulbourn Road near the hospital. Originally a bypass was planned to run from Quy interchange to the foot of the Gogs Hill to link up with the A604 but the route ran into objections from conservationists and was dropped as an economy measure. 84 08 10 p13

1984 08 25
Traffic experts say there is now no way in which traffic flow down Mill Road can be reduced but they can reduce accidents by switching their sights to the side roads. The new plans would inconvenience residents and local workers by banning cars from certain streets and putting in 'sleeping policemen' in Vinery Road. With a number of turning bans into Mill Road, traffic along Tenison Road will be increased dramatically but new traffic lights will improve the flow. 84 08 25 p1

1984 09 07
The County Council chairman condemned councillors for their 'pathetic attempts' to sort out the Cambridge traffic problem. "There is no doubt whatever that what we do in Cambridge is pathetic compared to what is done elsewhere. We really do not know what we are doing in this city", he said adding that the county must keep up pressure on the city council to provide more parking facilities in Cambridge. 84 09 07

1984 10 24
Thousands of people living in the Mill Road area are being asked for their views on the new proposals for controlling traffic and reducing accidents in Romsey. Past attempts to reduce the high accident rate have failed and the controversial traffic lights at the railway bridge were scrapped after widespread protests and gigantic traffic delays. The new proposals involve road closures and traffic lights at the junction with Tenison Road together with parking restrictions. 84 10 24 p9

1984 11 20
Cambridge's Hills Road bus depot is to be moved to the outskirts of the city in a multi-million pound swap deal between Cambus and the Stetchworth-based Unex property group. Cambus will exchange its one-acre site for a much larger section of the former D & H Contractor's site in Cowley Road. In return Unex will get control of the bus depot virtually next door to the former Heffer's printing works site which they successfully redeveloped as Botanic House, headquarters of Cambridge Electronic Industries, BBC Radio Cambridgeshire and Betjeman House which was subsequently sold for more than £4 million 84 11 20 p1

1984 11 21

Computer lights installed 6 months ago reduce delays by up to one-fifth [20.1]

1985 03 11
A major shake-up to cope with the forecast massive increase in Cambridge traffic has been unveiled by the County Council. It suggests an underground car park at the Butts Green end of Midsummer Common and a new road following the main railway line with a new bridge over the Cam. There could be reconstruction of a number of major road junctions including East Road - Newmarket Road and at Hyde Park Corner with widening of dual carriageways and new cycleways. A park-and-ride system of new car parks linked to the centre by frequent buses is also proposed 85 03 11

1985 03 11
A furious political row has erupted over the sudden and unexpected publication by the Labour-controlled City Council of its new roads and traffic plan just before the County Council issued their proposals. It envisages a park and ride system, converting long-term city centre parking spaces to short-term shoppers' parks, an extension of Lion Yard car park, road closures, pedestrian areas and a special coach-bus interchange near the railway station. The Liberals describe it as a waste of paper. It has been produced without any councillors or officials being told about it before its release to the press 85 03 11a

1985 06 08
The Government's decision to expand Stansted would put tremendous pressure on the Cambridge and there should be a conference every two years with academic papers on preserving the city's ancient and historic environment. But the Labour leader says Cambridge already has more experts per square inch than any other city in the world and does not need to call in more 85 06 08

1985 06 14
The controversial 'railway-route' road plan for Cambridge has been killed off for the second time in 10 years. It was intended to relieve traffic & would have run around the southern and eastern outskirts of the city, following the main railway line. Ten years ago Conservative county councillors discovered it would have cost millions of pounds to build and destroy at least 100 houses. Their revival of the plan earlier this year caused a furious outcry: they were swept from control at the recent elections and admit it was one of the main factors in their downfall 85 06 14

1985 08 02
Cambridge ratepayers received a cheque for £2million from one of the country's largest housing developers. It was accompanied by a legally binding promise from McLean Homes to build the much-needed Cherry Hinton bypass road for free. They may also give a plot of land for a new primary school. This is the council's profit on the largest land deal in Cambridge local government history. The housing development company has bought 51 acres of prime housing land owned by the council and others. Another 50 acres are to be sold shortly 85 08 02

1985 10 22
The Government has given the green light for the controversial £500,000 plan for rebuilding Cambridge bus station. They have given the County permission to buy a small 'island' of land in the centre of Drummer Street owned by the city council. It was the only thing standing in the way of the proposed rebuilding plans. But the scheme is unlikely ever to go ahead. The new County council administration wants to build a long-distance coach terminal at the railway station instead, saying it would ease city centre bus congestion. 85 10 22

1986

Within Cambridge city the traffic flow has reached the 1978 pre-bypass level, though numbers HGVs remains approx half 1978 flow [16.4]

1986 01 23
Since 1960s Elizabeth Way, M11opened & centre closed to traffic [20.5]

1986 04 02
Drummer Street bus station – officially described as a 'disaster area' - is to have a major face-lift, the first since it was built 60 years ago. An island at the centre of the site with a number of small booking offices will be demolished and the central area refurbished. The aim is to tidy up one of the most prominent sites in the city centre, the one first seen by thousands of tourists. It currently has poor passenger facilities and operating conditions and is in urgent need of improvement. 86 04 02b

1986 06 13
Victoria Bridge is rusting away. The 97-year old structure has taken a battering from heavy vehicles over the years, despite a lorry ban and weight limit. It is in such a bad state of repair that it needs to be entirely rebuilt – a project which will cause chaos for 18 months. Engineers hope to keep traffic moving by repairing half the bridge at a time. All the county's other 2,000 bridges are also being inspected 86 06 13

1986 06 24
Drummer Street bus station renovation criticised – 86 06 24

1986 11 28
Meters may rise by 33% despite £31,000 profit pa [19.7]

1987
"Cambridge is doomed as major shopping centre unless it can cure parking problems" [20.7]

1987 03 13
A new purpose-built car park providing 67 long-stay spaces has opened in Castle Hill, with another 57 places coming in a few months; time. City councillors say the park, near the junction with Victoria Road, will offer convenient access to shops and businesses in the north of Cambridge. It will have a park-and-display system charging 50p for any period on weekdays, doubling to £1 on April 1st. But there will be free parking in evenings and Sundays 87 03 13a

1987 03 13
Cambridge's traditional transport, the bicycle, will be deliberately used to slow down city centre traffic. The medieval central streets will be made even narrower which will make it even more difficult to overtake bikes. Traffic restrictions will also be introduced, including the banning of taxis. The streets have been reshaped and cleaned up with York stone used in areas considered 'visually sensitive'. But workmen in Trinity Street have been delayed by having to remove hundreds of wooden blocks dating back to the days of horse-drawn vehicles 87 03 13b

1987 05 19
Thousands more Cambridge motorists may be charged for parking outside their homes during working hours. No fees have been agreed but present schemes cost up to £60 a year. In addition hundreds more parking meters would allow one or two hour parking for shoppers with additional traffic wardens employed to enforce the restrictions. But Conservatives on the traffic management team are strongly opposed to a park and ride scheme which might come into

operation in three years if the Government gives permission for the city council to buy the land needed. 87 05 19

1987 08 29
Motorists can expect continued delays in Coldham's Lane following the installation of a new roundabout at the Beehive Store. An improved access is being made for the shopping complex following major redevelopment being carried out there. It should be completed by Christmas 1988 with a new supermarket, a much larger home interiors department, new garden centre and a 200-seat restaurant. The giant Texas DIY store is also moving to the site. There will be parking for more than 1,000 cars 87 08 29

1987 09 03
Temporary traffic lights at the junction of Elizabeth Way roundabout with Newmarket Road and East Road have been switched on in an experiment to ease rush-hour congestion. 87 09 03

1988 01 13
Cambridge cyclists may become the first in the country to face on-the-spot fines for 'the stupid and irresponsible riding which is now reaching epidemic proportions' Councillors are asking the Government to start a pilot scheme which would allow police to impose instant fines in the same way they do on errant motorists. They want it introduced before the annual influx of foreign language students, often criticised for their bad cycling. Police say they would welcome the suggestion. The Government is already giving nearly £1 million for the building of the longest experimental cross-city cycleway in the country. 88 01 13

1988 06 23
Traffic lights start Castle St/Huntingdon Rd ¢CEN 23.6.88

1988 10 04
City press for Eastern bypass ¢CEN 4.10.88

1988 10 18
Cambridge may have a city-wide high-speed monorail system linking with all nearby villages allowing shoppers to leave their cars at home and travel high above the traffic jams. It could be expensive to set up but would have low running costs and be reliable. Eight years ago dons at Girton College came up with a plan for a monorail to link it with the university quarter but nothing ever came of it. The County Council has already commissioned experts to consider a light railway system linked to the proposed park-and-ride system 88 10 18a

1989 01 26
Park & ride costs treble to £15M ¢CEN 26.1.89

1989 03 01
Queen Anne car park to switch to short term, charges per day up from £1 to £10 ¢CEN 1.3.89

1989 03 01
To introduce resident parking for fee ¢CEN 1.3.89, 3.3.89

1989 03 20
Traffic growing at twice national rate Cambridge 40% up in eight years ¢CEN 20.3.89

1989 03 22

Traffic chaos in Cambridgeshire is growing so severe that in five years' time drivers may have to set off at 7 am to be in work by nine. A massive upsurge in traffic has already extended the rush hour. Congestion is choking Cambridge city centre and deepening the parking nightmare, a report says. Action must be taken with new roads around the outskirts and controversial park-and-ride schemes or it will grind to a halt over the next ten years. 89 03 22

1989 03 31
New £10M bid to beat jams ¢CEN 31.3.89

1989 04 24
British Rail is planning a second Cambridge railway station, provisionally known as Cambridge Parkway, close to Milton and the A45 northern bypass. It is unlikely to be ready in time for the start of electrification services to King's Lynn in October 1991, but could follow shortly afterwards. However the site needs much better access and provision of parking space. It would serve the high-tech Science Park and provide a way for commuters to join trains without having to struggle through the city. 89 04 24

1989 04 25
Parking charges cause slump sales small shops ¢CEN 25.4.89

1989 05 19
The A10 will be dualled from Cambridge to Ely as part of an unprecedented Government roads programme. The A1 is to be made a continuous three-lane motorway from London to Huntingdon, the M11 is to have three continuous lanes from London to Cambridge and the A604 is to be dualled with three lanes on each side from Cambridge to Huntingdon. The A11 will be made a dual carriageway from Newmarket and to Norwich and the Northern bypass will have three lanes from Girton interchange to Milton Road. It will all save lives and make industry more competitive. 89 05 19

1989 06 08
Grafton Centre price rise for car park leads to 25% drop in number using it ¢CEN 8.6.89

1989 06 09
Cambridgeshire's new traffic chief has vowed to end Cambridge's traffic and parking chaos within four years. He wants a better road system to serve the industrial quarters, a new light railway system linked to a park-and-ride scheme and a possible car park under Midsummer Common. A 'grand traffic management plan' will be drafted by officials and meetings arranged with business bosses.. 89 06 09

1989 06 10
The £15 million park-and-ride scheme planned for Cambridge is now officially buried. County Conservatives had promised during the election campaign that the plan would be dropped if they took control and have told officials to stop work on the joint scheme with the city council. And a plan for an interchange where Madingley Road meets the M11 has been delayed. Work was due to start in 1990 but now the M11 is to be widened into a three lane carriageway between Cambridge and Stansted Airport. The council is now looking for alternative road schemes to spend the money on. 89 06 10

1989 06 23
A new bridge over Hobson's Conduit is part of a scheme to beat traffic jams at the junction of Lensfield and Trumpington Roads. Vehicles would turn along a short stretch of Brookside then

cross the stream towards Trumpington. The rest of the junction would be controlled by a complex system of traffic lights based on the successful new computer system on Huntingdon Road. Some of the cost would be met by whichever company develops the ground-level car park in Saxon Street, county engineers say. But it was rejected as 'devastating and environmentally disastrous' by city officials. 89 06 23 & b

1989 07 13
City advertise car park prices to attract shoppers back ¢CEN 13.7.89

1989 09 04
Controversial new plans to ease Cambridge traffic chaos would see starting and finishing times of all schools, main centres of employment and university lectures staggered. Vehicles would be banned from main roads during the rush hour, turning them over exclusively to bikes and buses. City planners say better traffic management is better than building huge and expensive new roads and rail systems. The plans are bound to provoke furious protests 89 09 04

1989 09 25
A mass boycott by drivers has forced a climbdown over charges at Queen Anne Terrace car park. Motorists have stayed away since fees were increased, leaving two-thirds of the spaces empty during peak periods. Now, just months after making it one of the most expensive car parks in Cambridge, it could become one of the cheapest. The present 40p one-hour parking will be extended to one-and-a-half hours for 50p, allowing shoppers extra time to walk into the city centre. But the maximum charge of £10 for more than five hours will remain 89 09 25

1989 10 01
The controversial Cambridge park and ride scheme has started with a whimper. At peak commuter time there were 17 cars at the 400-space Cowley Road and even fewer at the 150-space car park on Clifton Road. Users were enthusiastic: Sophy Moxley of Willingham, a sales assistant, said "It will save me money because it only costs 50p which is cheaper than parking in the city centre though Steve Field from Stretham says it is inconvenient as you don't have access to our car during the day. Councillor Andrew Duff said the area around Castle Hill, where residents-only zones have been introduced, was 'almost pastoral' though Canterbury and Benson Street were packed with cars. 89 10 01

1989 10 03
A light railway system running in a tunnel under Midsummer Common is the latest official suggestion to help solve traffic problems in the centre of Cambridge. It would be an alternative to a line running down a widened section of Newmarket Road. The underground railway would link with a number of other lines from surrounding villages as far out as Fenstanton and terminate at a station in Malcolm Street. The County Council will invest £60,000 to see if a car park under Midsummer Common is feasible and another £150,000 in a feasibility study for a 60-mph light rail system. 89 10 03a

1989 10 09
Cowley Road park and ride site taken over by auction – 89 10 09

1989 11 22
Queen Anne car park fees cut - often two-thirds empty ¢CEN 22.11.89

1989 11 28

The new South East Cycleway from Market Square to Cherry Hinton follows quiet back roads, avoiding the nightmarish Mill Road which can reduce cyclists to a nervous wreck. It includes a new £2million bridge across the railway near Cambridge station. This is a striking structure with a triangular tower from which cables support a cycle and walkway fully protected from the elements by a transparent polycarbonate tube. It is thought to be the longest bridge of its type in Western Europe. 89 11 28a, 29

1989 12 21
Cambridge's new £200,000 car space scheme with signs around the city linked to the county council's traffic computer which monitors the five main car parks, hits teething troubles leaving shoppers driving round trying to find a parking space. Cambridge's Park and Ride scheme is failing to attract its major target – the city's commuters. Yesterday morning there were only 15 cars parked at Cowley Road while queues of vehicles drove bumper-to-bumper down Milton Road. But it is drawing off-peak shoppers and tourists. The County say it is too soon to draw conclusions. A similar scheme in Oxford had taken a long time to become established. 89 12 21, 89 12 21a

1990 03 01
Super high speed bus lanes are to be built alongside roads in a bid to ease Cambridge's traffic chaos. Experts hope this will give a boost to the flagging park-and-ride scheme. Buses would be equipped with a special electronic 'eye' to change traffic lights in their favour. The first would run from Cowley Road to the city centre and later most main roads would incorporate them. At present buses are held up in traffic jams and passengers take just as long as they would have done in their cars. On some peak time journeys buses have only five passengers but large numbers of shoppers have been using them– 90 03 01

1990 03 16
Cambridge's pioneering £2.6 million cycleway scheme is helping to cut the death toll on the city's roads with over 2,000 people a day using the route. Supporters say the South East Cycle Route from Cherry Hinton to the city centre is also being used by pedestrians. The giant £1.7 cycle bridge was opened by the Minister for Roads in November and is fitted with security cameras. Some people dismissed it as a hare-brained idea at first but it is worth the time and effort, says Tony Carter, after whom the bridge has been named. – 90 03 16

1990 05 16
Traffic plan approved, includes car park under Midsummer Common, new bridge over Cam and road across Ditton Meadows; light railway system, pedestrianisation, tow-away, roads and cycleways – 90 05 16a

1990 07 27
Victoria Bridge refurbishment plan – 90 07 27a

1990 08 10
Lion Yard car park underground extension opened – 90 08 10a; brings relief 90 08 17a

1990 08 18
Victoria Bridge restoration to start – 90 08 18a

1990 09 14
Victoria Bridge girders revealed during rebuilding – 90 09 14a

Office development, Hills Road 1973 246.32

c.49.63 : Offices

1898 09 21
What is the most marvellous invention of the Queen's reign? The electric telegraph, the sewing machine, the telephone, the X rays - any one of a dozen things might be mentioned. It is however the phonograph - a bit of glass in a frame, a bit of sapphire, a waxen cylinder, a machine that revolves by clockwork, and a tin horn. Result, the human voice has been caught, imprisoned and made to repeat itself again and again for all time. Though the phonograph is an endless source of pleasure it has a serious side. No business office today is up to date without it. It is invaluable in answering correspondence, as it can be dictated to at any time as fast as you speak. And phonographs are now in universal use in teaching elusive pronunciation of foreign languages. (& 28th p1)

1900

1904 04 28 c
A man was sitting quietly in his office in Cambridge the other day when he heard a buzzing noise and looking down he saw smoke and flame issuing from his coat tail pocket. He tore the coat from his back and succeeded, with difficulty, in putting out the flames. On investigation he found the fire had originated in a box of ‘safety’ matches. He admits he may have been sitting on the box but safety from friction is one of the ‘safety’s’ strong points. The manufacturer says that the head of a match may have come into contact with the side of the box but he feels it ignited by the heat of his body and has banished them from his house, his office and his person for ever

1947
1947 10 13

Sir - We secretaries, typists and general office workers of this town have a grievance. Isn't it time something was done about the congestion existing in the Cafeterias and Quick Service Restaurants at all the rush hour times, caused by the invasion of undergraduates. Surely the facilities at the various colleges provide them with a mid-day meal, and if this should not prove sufficient, why must they patronise all the catering establishments at the critical time when we, the working population, adjourn for lunch? Owing to the acute food shortage, after spending the first 20 minutes of our brief lunch hour queueing, we arrive at the service counter to find all the most nourishing dishes gone and have to satisfy ourselves with the inevitable sausages and other equally indifferent fare. (This can become extremely monotonous every day). One of many "Hungry Typists", Yours etc Mavis Bennett, Gt Shelford

1950

1954 07 31
Cambridge city council attacked the County Council's cavalier attitude over their grandiose scheme for the replacement of the demolished Shire Hall Courts on Castle Hill. They can no longer tolerate the attitude of a powerful section of the County Council who seem bent on pursuing their own course with all the insensibility of a bureaucratic bulldozer. The Government has indicated it is likely to introduce Local Government reform and it is foolhardy to proceed with a scheme for more office accommodation when certain functions might transfer to the City Council and thus make the extra offices unnecessary. City residents provide 75 per cent of the county rate and should have a fair say in any such scheme

1954 08 06
Emmanuel Street offices, p9

1954 11 20
"The introduction of electronic accounting machines into the office will revolutionise accounting procedures and within a decade a managing director will be able to press a button and receive an up-to-the-minute balance sheet". This is the logical development of the punched-card system, a representative of Powers-Samas Accounting Machines told Cambridge accountants.

1960

1964 10 23
Proposals to develop the Gonville Hotel site for a five-storey office bock had been turned down on the grounds that it would encourage the introduction of new firms into Cambridge, undermining the basic principle of the restriction of employment and the stabilisation of population. Since then the council had changed its policy but had not told Sindall's the applicant. There was an urgent need for offices for professional firms displaced as a result of the Lion Yard development, an inquiry was told. 64 10 23a

1966 07 02
Chesterton RDC new offices at Gt Eastern House, Station Road, to open – 66 07 02

1967 05 06
Shire Hall redevelopment envisages 15-storey block of offices and law court, car parking under pedestrian precinct – 67 05 06

1970
1970 06 10

De Vere granted permission for hotel and office block at Pound Hill – but will be inquiry – 70 06 10

1971 02 06
County Hall Hobson Street may be sold by county council to raise money for new offices behind Shire Hall – 71 02 06

1971 03 12
Market Hill redevelopment – British Cinemas to build offices and shops at 3-5 but plaster ceilings and beams to be preserved – 71 03 12

1972 05 06
New plans for office block development on the corner of Bridge Street and Round Church Street, Cambridge, are likely to be submitted soon, said developers, the Scottish Mutual Assurance Society. The Department of the Environment's refusal of the previous plans was announced yesterday, after a seven-year wrangle between developers, planners, and preservationists which culminated in a public inquiry last December. One of the crucial points of the first scheme was the future of number 10 Bridge Street on the corner which was to have been demolished. Objectors feared this would enable city planners to push back the building line in Round Church Street and set a radical precedent that would ruin the whole street, p9

1973 06 29
Latest casualty in the Hills Road office redevelopment programme is the 100-year-old Methodist Church. Demolition work started yesterday. In autumn last year any people were surprised to learn that an active church in so sound a financial position and such good repair should close its doors. But the trustees had been aware for some time that the building was just too large; it has a seating capacity for 750 and a congregation of less than 200. The congregation transferred to the Wesley Church, Christ's Pieces, or to other Methodist churches closer to their homes. The property went on the market in November 1972.

1973 10 25
De Vere have finally abandoned their plans to build a 5-star 200-bedroom hotel at Cambridge's Mount Pleasant - Huntingdon Road junction. Instead the company have suggested to planners that the site could be used for a four-storey block of residential flats with a restaurant, showrooms, offices and a bank included in the development. The company say it is "no longer economically viable" to go ahead with the hotel project which has been on the stocks for four years. It is being suggested that the originally estimated building costs of around £2 million has now risen to about £3.8 million

1974 07 19
Parry Lewis and his team of planners have examined the possibility of expanding Cambridge. Their studies convince them the best plan was to expand the city in a southern direction. Development would follow a line east of the new Western bypass. A second shopping centre would be located to the south-west of Trumpington. There would in addition be various district centres and a suitable amount of industrial and office development

1976 03 20
Office clampdown, p5

1976 12 17

A storm of protest followed the building of a line of office blocks in Hills Road, Cambridge, about three years ago. Public meetings were organised and people claimed the character of the area was being ruined, good housing lost and small shops demolished or forced out of business. Most of the offices replaced large terraced houses of little architectural interest. But the busy main road was not an ideal site for housing and several were no longer private homes. The new buildings are individually of quite a high standard, but they appear completed isolated and out of character with the shopping area. They need something to break up their long facades and link them with the variety and bustle of the shopping area. But the offices have injected a new source of life into the area; already a bank and several eating places have opened up, presumably to catch the lunch time trade from the offices.

1977 04 23
The new Bridge House office block and restored 16th-century buildings in Bridge Street, Cambridge, are a landmark and inspiration, said the Mayor, Coun Bob May, when he opened the £1.3 million redevelopment. "If only the architects had been involved at Lion Yard then things might have turned out differently there", he said. He praised the skill with which the historic and environmentally important site had been handled by the Scottish Mutual Assurance Society and its architects, Saunders Boston of Cambridge. It was an outstanding example of how a new building could be fitted into an old environment and how old buildings could be preserved.

1977 07 11
A woman celebrated 50 years as a typist with the University Typewriting Office Ltd in Cambridge. Miss Dulcie Smith from Histon joined the firm when staff were enjoying new found freedom. "We were never allowed to come to the office unless we were properly dressed with hats and gloves and just before that the staff were never allowed to go into colleges unless they were chaperoned", she said. She has typed thousands of letters, accounts, theses and reports for dons and students and had to master the art of typing in a number of languages without having any knowledge of them.

1977 08 19
Theoretically worth over £150,000 a year in rent, the 47,000 square foot office accommodation above the Lion Yard has stood empty since the precinct opened nearly two years ago. Agents trying to let the offices blame the economic malaise for their lack of success. The high price of central car parking is also a barrier. The city council made a former builders' site available to encourage offers and now one taker has at last been found. Vinters, the Cambridge solicitors have taken space. But Bidwells say matters will only improve when companies begin to expand and the perpetually optimistic estate agents say it is beginning to happen.

1978 06 05
Most of the offices built on top of the City Council's Lion Yard complex in the centre of Cambridge are still unoccupied – nearly three years after completion of the development. Now councillors are concerned about the loss of rents and want more intensive steps taken to find tenants for the block, which is gathering dust. Only 5,750 feet has been let, to a subsidiary of Barclay's Bank but negotiations are now taking place with two organisations. If these fall through some councillors think they should let charity organisations use them

1978 10 04
Some of the long-disused offices above Cambridge's Lion Yard shopping complex may soon be turned into restaurants. The plans have been warmly greeted by councillors who have complained for a long time about the empty space standing in one of the city's key commercial positions. The applicants want to rent the bulk of the ground floor and turn it into two restaurants, one catering

for general medium price trade and the other as a high-class 'night life' restaurant. The three-storey office block which contains thousands of square feet of space has been standing empty since the development was completed three years ago.

1979 04 12
A new building jutting into the Cambridge skyline from the top of Castle Hill has filled in the city's largest hole. The site was to have been used for the De Vere Hotel but after several planning applications were rejected the firm pulled out and the hole was left. Then came plans for a complex of shops, a petrol station, a bank, offices and maisonettes but each scheme failed. The site is now being developed as a 42,000 sq ft office building though the project has not gone without a hitch. The first Cambridge builders folded and the developers had to find another firm in a hurry. All they have to do now is to let the place –and there are many who say that Cambridge is overstocked with offices already.

1979 07 18
Not everyone in Cambridge sees Mount Pleasant House but to those who use Huntingdon Road this new office block bulks very large indeed. The initial scheme was described as "Excessively bulky, un-neighbourly, inconsiderate of adjoining owners and occupiers, out of scale with its surroundings and over-dominant in the local scene' by the Environment Minister but his decision to reject it was reversed at a subsequent inquiry. There will be 16 trees round the main building together with a number of shrubs but it will always look what it is – 50,000 square feet of office space.

1979 08 22
At the back of the Shire Hall and behind the Sir Isaac Newton pub in Cambridge sits a small, portable office. It houses four dedicated workers who are preparing for nuclear war and other major disasters such as flooding, hurricanes and air crashes. Total nuclear war is a frightening prospect and the Government has taken steps to plan for such a holocaust. Now parish councillors are to be trained as the latest part of the contingency plans; they would act as 'community advisors', helping to bring life back to normal in highly disrupted areas.

1979 09 11
Ronelles, a disco restaurant, will soon open above Lion Yard in the heart of Cambridge and one of the city's most interesting business gambles will be under way. It's a big bet. The lease is long but the odds are short that young Cambridge people will patronise a place which they have long insisted is overdue. The club will have a membership of 500 and be relatively expensive with a £100 a year membership fee. It will have an elevated restaurant, two bars, a dance floor, a waterfall and cabins. These together with palm trees and a native mask on the logo suggest the premises may have a Caribbean flavour. It will be a welcome solution to an embarrassing problem for the space, originally intended for offices, has stayed empty for years.

1979 12 04
Cambridge councillors and top officials entered the Mayor's Guildhall office and retrieved documents he had impounded after a furious showdown earlier in the day. The documents relate to a bitter ten-year planning wrangle over plans for a house in Orchard Street. The seizure of the papers was described as an unprecedented step and now the Mayor has called for the Chief Executive and the City Secretary and Solicitor to be relieved of their duties until a full inquiry is held.

1980

1980 01 30
The new magistrates' courts, perched above the Lion Yard car park have been built to last for the next 100 years at a cost of £1.7 million. Some wonder how Cambridge managed to acquire such an expensive addition to the skyline in these times of stringent public spending cuts, the answer seems to be that it won its case just in time. Today the verdict would be different. After years of less-than-satisfactory courtroom conditions we have something of a showpiece. Compared to the old courts the new carpeted building is luxury itself. "From boarding house to Hilton" was how one prison officer described it. In fact the only criticism is that some people will consider the edifice 'too good'
80 01 30

1980 02 12
South Cambridgeshire District Councillors agreed an extension to their offices costing nearly £1½ m in spite of opposition which claimed the move was ill-timed in the light of Government cuts. At present their administration is divided between Great Eastern House, in Station Road and South Cambridgeshire Hall about a quarter of a mile away. The aim is to sell off this site for offices which would help offset costs of the new council chamber and car park. But some say there would be more advantages in developing a site outside Cambridge with a city office to deal with the public. 80 02 12

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Fitzroy Street 1964.

Redeveloped as the Grafton Centre

c.49.66: Kite Area *based around Fitzroy Street and Burleigh Street which was redeveloped as The Grafton Centre*
See also c.44.6: Kite Area streets

Kite commentary

It has had a chequered, tortuous history. Sensitive issues like housing shortages, the responsibilities of the welfare state and the pressure for large-scale redevelopment scheme in run-down areas were all there. It was a titanic struggle heralded by the Holford Report in 1950 & closed by opponents finally conceding defeat amid a welter of confusion in May 1981.

In the interim there were proposals, counter-proposals, repeated promises of an 'early start', back-pedalling, alternative schemes elsewhere & the emergence of rival developments. There were Government summits, college intervention, inter-council wrangling, critical missives from the Ombudsman & a general smokescreen of doubt. Holford report in 1950 pointed out the inadequacy of the historic centre as a commercial centre.

In 1962 the University advocated development of the Burleigh & Fitzroy Street area & by 1965 the City Council had commissioned Lord Llewellyn Davies to prepare a basic scheme. His report was eventually published four years later & caused uproar in all sectors because of the massive scale of building & development which it proposed. As a result the City looked for other developers to suggest alternative schemes.

Another decade passed until finally the plan put forward by Grosvenor Estates Commercial Development was accepted & work began in August 1981. Their proposals was more modest in

scale - for a 300,000square foot complex with parking pace for 1100 cars & 40 flats - more in keeping with environmental concerns of town ...

It developed into an acrimonious political battles. On one side was the apolitical Kite Community Action Group (K.C.A.) fighting to stop the building of a monolithic shopping centre on its doorstep.

The Kite had been an enclosed area full of street corner specialist shops that could not afford the rents in the city centre & a bustling community ranging from students seeking cheap accommodation to old age pensioners living in the houses of their birth. They agreed on the need for redevelopment but only on the basis of piecemeal reconstruction within the context of the existing structure.

The City Council were now set on the idea of expanding Cambridge's role as a regional commercial centre. It was on these ground that an alliance was struck up in 1977 with Jesus College & property developers Grosvenor Estates.

Grosvenor proposed "a scheme of quality & character sensitively integrated with the neighbourhood shopping & residential areas". In 1977 Grosvenor Estate's proposals were accepted. They would pay for nearly all investment costs but would also receive all the profits. The City council was to receive ground rent only

For many Kite residents the area then seemed to be deliberately neglected, a hostel for down-and-outs was opened which unsettled the neighbourhood, and combined with decay & empty premises reduced the appeal of the area; parking restrictions hit shoppers formerly attracted by ease of parking, elderly residents were falsely led to believe that their neighbours were selling up; the sewerage system was allowed to break down & rats became widespread

1988 The KCA had bought the Little Kettle, once an old style ironmongers. It was occupied by a rota of supporters to prevent demolition. Without warning bulldozers moved in. There was barely time to evacuate the shop. Grosvenor Estates had been set a deadline by the Council to resolve any problems. If it were not met, as seemed likely, plans would be dropped. But a six-month extension was granted. The biggest banana skin of the lot was a slip-up in planning procedures which meant that the city council would not be able to compulsorily purchase land needed for the development until 1983 & as a result Januarys had to acquire more than 100 individual properties by private negotiation. Eventually Grosvenor Developments along with Sun Life Assurance and the city council in a three-way partnership came up with a satisfactory £27M package.

1900 01 25
The Cambridge Co-operative Society has erected spacious new premises in Burleigh Street. The building is imposing and by contrast with the other not very ornate premises in Burleigh Street is rendered all the more conspicuous. On the ground floor are spaces for the butchery, drapery and boot and shoe department. The first floor is well laid out for other branches with a ready-made clothes emporium and on the top floor is a really fine meeting room. The old building in Fitzroy Street will be retained for the grocery portion of the business.

1900 11 23
Fire broke out at the rear of the premises of Messrs Laurie & McConnal, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge. An employee noticed smoke coming from stacks of brooms, a bag of feathers, a stock

of confetti and other material in the cellar. The staff of the firm set to work to extinguish the blaze and by dint of the application of water from a line of buckets and from a hose attached to the water tap, the fire was practically extinguished before the arrival of the fire brigade. It is surmised that a match was dropped down the lift hole by a passer-by, and so caused the outbreak

1903 02 14
Messrs Laurie and McConnal are almost universal providers, for their extensive premises, nos.121-124 Fitzroy Street, contained many departments. Today they are no more. In their place is a great gap, a space which instead of containing the thousand and one articles wherewith to furnish the homes of Cambridge has nothing to show but heaps of charred timber, twisted iron girders and dismembered masses of masonry. The whole premises have been destroyed as completely as fire can destroy. In less than three hours they licked up goods and buildings valued at up to £100,000

1903 02 17
Many thousands of Cambridge people witnessed the spectacle of the fire at Laurie and McConnal's in Fitzroy Street. The crowd increased to gigantic proportions and to keep them in check it was necessary to stretch ropes across on either side. The Mayor, Aldermen and members of the Fire Brigade Committee watched the progress of the fire and the unremitting efforts of the firemen. The interested crowd did not let the firemen work without encouragement and the fireman with the nozzle working in clouds of smoke was cheered heartily when he commenced his task. As soon as the hopelessness of saving Lauries was recognised special attention was turned to defending the adjoining premises of Messrs Sturton and Mumford

1903 02 20
After the great fire in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, public opinion was strongly expressed in favour of the Volunteer Fire Brigade being in possession of a steam fire engine. It would require, with driver and stoker, eight men to work the engine and, with reliefs of the same number, would necessitate 16 men being engaged. But with only one engine they would have been able to play four jets on either the front or back of the fire, and one side would be entirely unprovided for. The engines and paid brigade would be so expensive that the town authorities would not be justified in incurring the outlay for protecting the few buildings at which they might be necessary.

1903 02 20
The Great Fire. Laurie & McConnal, Ltd., Universal stores, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, will open their temporary premises in Fair Street with brand new stock of furnishing, general ironmongery, stationery, haberdashery, china and glass. Business usual in the Boot and Tool department, right opposite the destroyed building. – Advert

1903 05 21
Cambridge councillors discussed plans for the erection of new premises for Laurie and McConnal, Fitzroy Street. The bye-laws said there should be a certain amount of air-space behind domestic buildings – house, office or shop - and these had no such space. There was no doubt the plans were in contravention of the bye-laws, the question was whether the Council would refuse them. If they were passed it would be an illegal act. They should not alter the bye-laws to suit the convenience of any class of people

1903 11 21
One of the events of the year was the great fire which swept away the extensive premises of Messrs Laurie & McConnal in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge. Now within nine months the ruins have been replaced by more convenient, commodious and up-to-date premises and the business is in

full swing in its new home. They are the first entirely steel-frame buildings erected in this country. Those who remember the former premises cannot but be struck with the immense improvement effected, with lifts, driven by an electric motor, at the service of customers any time of the day.

1907 10 15
A fire occurred at the Fitzroy Street premises of Messrs Sturton. The possibilities of a similar conflagration to that which occurred at Laurie and McConnal's establishment a few years ago seemed probable for close by were a large number of paraffin barrels and tanks containing oil. Capt Greef and 20 firemen were soon on the scene with the horsed fire escape and the steam fire engine was got out in readiness. But their services were not required as P.C. Gee, assisted by several civilians, extinguished the flames. 07 10 15a

1920

1929 03 22
Cambridge councillors debated the proposed exchange of Butts Green for New Square in order that it might be converted into a parking place. If I lived in New Square I should not be at all pleased at the idea of that nice little patch of green giving way to a parking place, but if I had a business establishment in Fitzroy Street I should say "Yes, let the cars park there by all means". There is a danger of New Square being built upon in the near future and residents may consider a car park the least of two evils. Others are concerned about using the amenities of Butts Green, though one questioned whether it was used for anything but beating carpets.

1930

1936 01 03
With the enlargement of the drapery section, the Co-operative Society's premises in Burleigh Street comprise the finest Departmental Store in Cambridge. On the ground floor, the Butchery has finest home-killed and imported meat, Grocery sells bread and confectionary, Outfitting has made-to-measure suits while Furnishing has three-piece suites and mirrors. Every Department is equipped in the most modern manner with lifts to all parts of the building. 36 01 03d & e

1936 05 30
Fitzroy Street shop owner blames losses on Corporation slum clearance and multiple shops 36 05 30

1950

1950 01 30
Holford Report published; suggests historic centre unable meet shopping needs of future, "We regard Fitzroy Street as ... a valuable relief for shopping pressure on the older centre"

1952 11 12
Ninety-one percent of the properties in the East Road area of Cambridge fell into the "short life" or "no life" categories the Development Plan inquiry was told. The area as a whole was described as "densely packed". The age of the houses was about 100 years, they were generally poorly constructed and the worst property in Cambridge lay in the area. The plan envisages using Norfolk Street as a local shopping centre to keep East Road free for a traffic route. But Mr S.P. Yarrow, retail grocer at 35 East Road said that if he went to Norfolk Street his turnover would be

cut by half. B.G. Reynolds of Renbro Wireless Services, East Road, said he had one of the best positions in the area and business would go down if he moved. They did not see why two shops in East Road should impede the flow of traffic. 52 11 12

1954 07 07
The old-established department store of Laurie and McConnal of Fitzroy Street, Cambridge has been purchased by the London firm of Shirley Bros, but they say the public will not notice the changes. The store was opened by Mr James Laurie and in recognition of advice given by his friend Mr McConnal he decided to use both names as a trading title, though only members of the Laurie family actually held shares. It prospered as an ironmonger's shop but following a major fire in 1903 was rebuilt as one of the biggest departmental stores in East Anglia, increasing its scope to include almost everything for the home and garden.

1954 12 01
Cambridge councillors suggest that 20 cottages fronting to East Road, 18 of which are empty, should be developed as soon as possible by the erection of flats. Under the new Development Plan East Road would become a trunk road and with the construction of the Chesterton Bridge the amount of traffic would greatly increase. This would cause a considerable widening and the possible construction of dual carriageways which would leave very little of the site of the cottages available for development.

1955 02 18
A scheme for the re-development of the Fitzroy Street area as the main commercial centre of Cambridge has been submitted by a London Architect. It is a counter-proposition to the official Development Plan which could only result in the eventual complete destruction of the essential character of the city. The greater part of the area consists of out-dated two-storey cottages with extensive yards and is largely a slum. Re-development is due and can be done without the restrictions of historical associations and high land values. There would be a series of attractive courtyards unencumbered with traffic, one of which is large enough to take the place of the present Market Hill. An essential feature of the scheme is a new thoroughfare to link Gonville Place with Victoria Avenue and complete the inner Ring Road. 55 02 18a

1956 02 10
East Road demolition – 56 02 10a & b

1956 03 24
Kite area: Jesus College plan expected soon [2.3]

1956 04 19
An enquiry heard that Cambridge city council had wanted to purchase land at the junction of Fitzroy Street and Wellington Street, pull down the old houses and use the land to re-site industry displaced from the East Road area. They offered to pay the current price but the owner, a former chairman of the Council's Finance Committee, said that if the land had potential for light industry then the price should be higher. Eventually negotiations broke down. Now he applied to redevelop the area, but the council opposed his plans. 56 04 19a &

1956 06 29
Cambridge has 1,350 dwellings unfit for human habitation including 100 in the East Road, Gothic and Doric Street areas. The Council is to submit proposals for the demolition of 500 dwellings in the next five years and the remainder within the following seven. But three condemned cottages

at Brookside in Toft have been reinstated by the Cottage Improvement Society and now make a charming group in this beautiful yet little known corner of the village. 55 06 29

1956 07 23
Councillors received a report on the redevelopment of the East Road comprehensive development area. The first stage provides for 51 dwellings – maisonettes, flats and houses – to house 206 people, as well as six shops and seven garages. Two more stages will see 212 dwellings, housing 737 people. There will be a district heating scheme from a central boiler house for the supply of hot water throughout the estate. 56 07 23a

1957 09 05
Plans to use five two-storey dwellings in East Road for storage and business purposes were turned down. The buildings were occupied and producing an annual income of £60 but the Council wanted to serve demolition orders to get the site for road improvements without fair compensation. The Minister said that East Road was narrow and attracted heavy traffic. It was to be widened but such use would add seriously to the present congestion. 57 09 05

1958 01 22
Fitzroy/Burleigh Street is easily the most convenient shopping area in the city, handy to the bus station and enjoys ample parking facilities. There is one car park at New Square and another in Burleigh Street. It offers the widest variety imaginable with two department stores and 39 specialist shops. You can get everything from fish cakes to furniture. Two good reasons why you should do your shopping there – Advertisement by the Fitzroy/Burleigh Street Traders Association. 58 01 22

1958 09 25
An inquiry into plans for the compulsory purchase and clearance orders affecting 67 houses in East Road, Fitzroy Street, Adam and Eve Street and Gloucester Terrace heard from three objectors. Mr J.N. Baldry had plans to develop his site in connection with his mineral water business. But the Medical Officer said the area contained some of the worst houses in Cambridge: they were all unfit and clearance would serve the interests of public health. 58 09 25

1959 04 29
The City Council is to consider the largest project ever undertaken in Cambridge. The giant Lion Yard scheme includes a two-decker underground car park taking 731 vehicles, a unique 'pedestrian shopping precinct', a new central library, residential hotel and a petrol filling station. Jesus College have also submitted a scheme for the redevelopment of the north side of Fitzroy Street. Many think that increases in shopping facilities ought to take place as an extension of this well-established area. 59 04 29a-d & 59 04 29e

1959 07 24
Councillors withdrew their attention from the Lion Yard area to a part of the city which some have always considered of equal importance – Fitzroy Street. This should be comprehensively redeveloped to provide residential, shopping and business facilities with a new bus station. The Lion Yard should be developed with a library, civic restaurant and small car park, leaving the frontages as they are, some argued. 59 07 24b & c

1959 08 26
Sir – in the area between Warkworth Street and Burleigh Street there are many little houses which have been bought by elderly people for their retirement and by young couples starting a new home. Now having been put in good order they are to be demolished by the Council in a

'development scheme'. It is cruel, unnecessary, and wasteful to pull down houses which are in liveable condition because in the same neighbourhood there are a number that are neglected and damp. I hope ratepayers will protest – Hilda Finney, Prospect Row. 59 08 26

1959 09 30
The area between East Road, Norfolk Street and St Matthew's Street comprises narrow streets and courts of dwellings of the demolition standard, creating a general impression of decay. The whole area should be demolished and rebuilt, the Surveyor told an Inquiry. Every house in Staffordshire Street was damp, some roofs are sunken and some water closets are across the street from the houses they serve. But many owners objected to plans for compulsory purchase. 59 09 30c & d [4.5]

1959 11 04
In the past few years the Fitzroy/Burleigh Street area, with its easy access, ample car-parking facilities and huge variety of shops, has become increasingly popular as Cambridge's most convenient shopping centre. Many of the shops were formerly in ramshackle buildings, combining timber and corrugated iron with a minimum of brickwork, often built over the front gardens of houses which had their ground floors converted. But now these have made way for up-to-the-minute shopping premises and improvements are constantly going on. 59 11 04 & a

1959 11 17
Co-op new self-service super food store, Burleigh St - 59 11 17

1960

The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 03 12
The Minister has confirmed compulsory purchase orders concerning houses in Norfolk Street which the City Council are anxious to pull down for the second stage of the East Road redevelopment scheme. The area affected was generally dilapidated, over-crowded and of a demolition standard with some of the buildings giving a general impression of decay. Now they can go ahead with erecting new houses, flats and shops 60 03 12

1960 03 25
Three new major building projects are all progressing satisfactorily. The first storey of at least one building on the Churchill College site is already visible from Madingley Road. The cast iron arches of the old Garret Hostel Lane Bridge have been removed with a temporary wooden structure erected over the river. In East Road the scheme for redeveloping a large area previously occupied with derelict buildings is rapidly taking shape. Maisonettes will be constructed in the first stage followed by shops, flats, roads and houses. 60 03 25d

1961 01 11
Cambridge University published proposals to enhance the city's character as a university town. Historic buildings would be retained and where redevelopment is essential the new buildings would be on a scale and character compatible with the central area. The Lion Yard development could include a civic hall which is needed both by city and university together with a library and small art gallery. If the City Council cannot pay for it then the University and some of the colleges should join in a developing consortium to provide the necessary finance to carry out the development and benefit from the profits. The only area of Cambridge suitable for a regional

shopping centre is that around City Road and Fitzroy Street. It has space for shops, restaurants, car parks and houses and could be well-served by public transport. By contrast the city centre does not meet the land requirement unless there is such demolition that it would affect the character of the area. The roads are poor and provision of adequate car parking would be an impossible task. 61 01 11c 61 01 11b

1961 08 24
Motorists are quick to seize every chance that comes their way of finding a parking space for their cars. Already several have made the most of the opportunity provided by the demolition work in Adam and Eve Street. Vehicles now stand where a row of cottages used to exist. The buildings were cleared as part of the City Council's redevelopment scheme in the East Road district 61 08 24a

1962 04 21
Kite area: endorsed as shopping area by city - develop shopping facilities & relieve pressure centre [2.10, 4.11]

1962 05 03
An inquiry into the Bradmore Street area heard that 119 houses between Petersfield, East Road, Broad Street and the CCAT were unfit for human habitation and should be demolished under the slum clearance plan. The area would be used for extensions to the college and the Mill Road Sorting Office. But six householders objected. One lady had lived in her home for 50 years, she was 89 and blind and would find it difficult to move. Another had been deaf and dumb from birth; she had lived there for 54 years and was frightened at the prospect of being relocated. 62 05 03a

1962 05 09
Cambridgeshire Planning Department has described the University's scheme to create a new regional shopping centre in the Fitzroy Street area as 'basically an impractical proposal'. Their idea is incompatible with the County Development Plan principle of restricting industrial and population growth. The extra traffic would mean roads would have to be improved to urban motorway standard and rehousing the existing residential population would impose a severe strain on the building industry 62 05 09a

1962 06 01
University plans for city – 62 06 01c

1962 06 16
City Road residents form Association to fight University plans [4.12]

1962 06 25
Inquiry highlights three divisions of opinion. University plans for the future of Cambridge envisage that in the Lion Yard there would be a new hall for conferences, concerts and all kinds of music with a new library, small shops, cafes and homes for 300 people. A new regional shopping centre in City Road would be free of all vehicular traffic and there could be more homes on the site than before. The housing areas which are close to the centre are also the oldest and many are in need of redevelopment. Already 4,000 people have had to leave since 1950 but the University wants to see at least as many living in these areas as were there ten years go. County accept library but reject concert hall. City want commercial development in new pedestrian shopping centre 62 06 25 [2.11, 2.12]

1962 07 19
The University's plans for Cambridge envisage a new shopping area off Fitzroy Street providing sites for large retailing units, segregated pedestrians and vehicular traffic areas and car parking close enough for shoppers to walk. All future schemes for redevelopment of University sites should have adequate car parking; this is the University's view and they will bear their share of the car parking burden, the Estate Manager told an Inquiry. 62 07 19

1962 10 20
Burleigh street property bought by London property firm – 62 10 20c

1963
City planner, Logie, proposes underground road to link the main centre with a 'joint centre & in Burleigh St area 81 06 01

1963 09 04
East Road, once a narrow, cluttered thoroughfare, is gradually being improved; photo of new works adjacent to the widened East Road carriageway 63 09 04c

1963 10 02
Part of the East Road dual carriageway is now open. 63 10 02

1964 07 06
Cambridge expansion: Conservatives would like to encourage businesses which start in the town and want the Market Square to be the main centre. Socialists want new light industries with the Lion Yard as a civic centre and with new shopping in Burleigh Street while the Liberals favour a central pedestrian precinct with public transport in the form of a minibus service or travloator. 64 07 06a

1964 08 28
The Lion Yard area is badly laid out and contains 'obsolete development'; there should be a small increase in shopping space with the rest devoted to civic and university uses, Sir Keith Joseph, the Minister of Housing says. A brand new shopping area should be created in the City Road area – the present twilight zone. It will take traffic away from the centre, cater for modern supermarket trends and fit in with plans for the continuation of the East Road housing scheme. 64 08 28, 28b [4.15]

1964 08 28
Traders are split over proposals for a new shopping centre off Fitzroy Street. Claude Scott, motor agents, say trade would be increased but he would seek full compensation to leave. T. Tarrants tobacconists, say it would be good but family businessman A.P. Cook of Prospect Row, who has run a grocery store for 50 years, says he will fight hard against compulsory purchase. Mrs J.A. Douglas of Earl Street, who has just modernised her house, is horrified at the proposals. 64 08 28c

1964 08 29
Kite vast rehousing people from City Road area an unenviable task- nearly 1000 houses & 65 acres in twilight zone [8.10]
1964 08 31
Nearly 1,000 houses and 60 businesses will be effected in creating a new regional shopping centre off Fitzroy Street. 64 08 31

1964 09 30
Fitzroy Street shopping development to be linked to centre by free bus – feature – 64 09 30b

1964 11 19
University offer money to engage planning team so submit plans for Lion Yard and new shopping area in City Road as urgent action needed – 64 11 19, 19d

1965 01 30
Llewellyn-Davies invited to prepare plan for new shopping Centre, Fitzroy Street, will be financed by University £20,000 – 65 01 30a [5.1]

1965 03 11
Ward's move to new premises in Burleigh Street marks another stage in the long history of a firm which started when Jonas Ward made a living mending bicycles in East Road. For some time they made the famous Crown cycles, one of which was ridden from Cambridge to Monte Carlo in 1930. They also supplied carrier cycles and box tricycles. Later they diversified into wireless, gramophones, washing machines and baby carriages and became one of the first to stock televisions in 1938. – 65 03 11a, b

1965 07 30
Laurie & McConnal modernising the whole of their shop frontage in Fitzroy Street; new display windows will replace the arcade-type ones there since 19th century; "faith in City Road as new shopping centre – 65 07 30a

1966
Debate about inner relief road would mean dual carriageway between two shopping centres; Logie unveils six possible schemes for Kite area, are scrapped a few months later amid accusations that 20 years have been wasted 81 06 01

1966 01 21
New Square Residents Association issue 'The Second Centre' report opposing Inner Relief Road; seeks bus station Gold Street, one-way streets, commercial development – 66 01 21c

1966 08 03
Fitzroy Street sub-post office moved to Co-op in Burleigh Street, petition in protest – 66 08 23a

1966 08 09
"Shopping Growth" plan includes Christ's Pieces with underground car park, Kite favoured [5.5]

1966 09 16
Gordon Logie plans for Kite Area shows how may develop in 20 years' time – 66 09 16a

1966 10 07
Burleigh/Fitzroy Street favoured for shopping redevelopment in preference to Lion Yard – 66 10 07

1966 11 23
If Fitzroy Street area developed as shopping centre CCAT students will have nowhere to park their cars – 66 11 23

1966 12 09

Plan to create regional shopping centre in Fitzroy Street and develop Lion Yard primarily as civic centre approved by City Council – 66 12 09a

1967
New Logie plans involving parking for 2,000 cars, arcades, supermarkets & cycle paths, nothing happens 81 06 01

1967 03 03
'Heart of Cambridge' planning report envisages shopping centre surrounded by traffic-free area – 67 03 03a

1967 05 31
Fitzroy Street 'Corner Shop' demolition – photo – 67 05 31

1967 07 05
Fitzroy Street neglected area – photo – 67 07 05c

1968
Cambridge businessman offers pay for summit meeting between city & county planners & Government to speed redevelopment, nothing happens 81 06 01

1968 08 01
Kite area planning report from London consultants- 68 08 01a

1968 03 26
Fitzroy Street – Burleigh Street residents fear city council intend to demolish good houses under slum-clearance scheme – 68 03 26

1969
Llewelyn-Davies report proposing three car parks, bus station & 450,000 sq feet of shopping & office space 81 06 01

1969 02 21
Fitzroy Street redevelopment – architect's impression – 69 02 21, 21a

1969 06 06
Sainsbury's want two self-service shops to replace their antiquated premises in Sidney Street, one in Trinity Street, the other in the Kite – 69 06 06, 06a

1970
County accept plan until reminded must be public inquiry into objections about link road; Samuel Properties & Jesus college commission own report from Piano & Rogers; county planners want more proposals by mid 1971 81 06 01

1970 06 17
Kite area plan 'torn up behind locked doors' – city reject consultants' recommendation, to form consortium with Jesus College and a property company, inquiry told – 70 06 17

1970 12 29

Kite: county accept plan until reminded must be public inquiry into objections about link road; Samuel Properties & Jesus college commission own report from Piano & Rogers; county planners want more proposals by mid 1971 - 70 12 29

1971 04 28
Fitzroy Street shopping report published – feature – 71 04 28

1971 06 28
Fitzroy Street, Burleigh Street shopping – photos – 71 06 28 & a

1971 12 06
Kite – a sad saga of city-county clashes – feature. Started to become neglected WWI, acceleration last 15 years ... monument to planners, blighted & fossilised; some say slow destruction deliberate but unlikely Cambridge capable of such a calculated campaign, more likely derelict by default, "walls crumble, more slates slide, panes smashed" 1972 [8.11, 8.12]

1971 12 07
Mackay plans to extend engineering factory and build more shops and offices on East Road blocked – 71 12 07a

1972
City planners agree to 600,000 sq ft of shopping space because of interest shown by big chain store 81 06 01

1972 03 20
Most of the people who will be displaced by the Burleigh Street-Fitzroy Street redevelopment (Cambridge) want to be rehoused in the same area according to a report. Counc. Christopher Bradford claimed that the land was bought by the city council for "chickenfeed" ten years ago and is now worth £65,000. The council paid only £200 to £300 development value for some of the houses and perhaps £2,000 for some of the others 72 03 20

1972 04 19
Large stores in Kite, p16

1972 06 09
The family firm of D. Mackay, Britannia Works, East Road, Cambridge, celebrate their 60th year jubilee this week. The Britannia Public house from which the works took its name has recently been demolished, and the houses which formed Britannia Place have long since disappeared, as has the Smith which stood in the public house yard. Many other landmarks have been swept away in the new Roadworks. It used to be said that by standing at the corner of East Road and Newmarket Road one would be sure to meet one's friends. Now it is difficult to see which is the corner, and the traffic roars past too fast for leisurely greetings

1972 06 16
Walls crumble, more slates slide, panes smashed … [8.13]

1972 07 26
A total of 160 houses in the Burleigh street – Fitzroy street area of Cambridge will have to be demolished to make way for the city council's shopping redevelopment scheme. At present only 34 of the houses are unoccupied. The city council are prepared to buy the houses at full market value if the owners cannot find other buyers. Some of the houses have already been classed as

slums and earmarked for demolition. A number have in fact already been closed, such as in parts of James Street or demolished, as at Adam and Eve Street. A year ago the city council gave details of a large area outside the Burleigh Street - Fitzroy Street complex which they said would not be required for demolition. This gave the house owners the go-ahead to apply for grants of up to £1,000 to improve their homes

1972 07 31
Delay on Kite, p12

1972 11 21
The Cambridge city council's planning consultants who are designing the redevelopment plans for the Burleigh Street- Fitzroy Street have suggested the building of a departmental store East of Napier Street. Consultants feel that the introduction of shopping uses at this point would improve the whole project in addition to saving housing land to the North of Maids Causeway and James Street. They have also proposed that the pedestrian way along Fitzroy Street should be graded down and Napier Street itself raised over the pedestrian way. This appears to be the best way of separating traffic and pedestrians 72 11 21

1972 11 30
Traders fed up with Kite delays, p13

1972 12 07
A large out-of-town shopping complex covering about 10 acres is being planned for Newmarket Road, just outside the Cambridge boundary. But Cambridge planning committee decided to resist the project. Fears were expressed about the effect the shopping centre would have for the city council's plans for redeveloping the Burleigh Street - Fitzroy street area. Marshalls of Cambridge (Engineering) made an application to develop the shopping complex, together with car parking and garages on a site immediately to the East of their vehicular workshops off Newmarket Road. The site faces Cambridge airport

1973 02
Kite: delay considering till Parry Lewis report, 13 day inquiry [5.19, 8.12]

1973
Kite : Parry Lewis double-crossed by Kite decision (he opposed) [6.9]

1973 01 06
Kite scheme might begin, p7

1973 02 02
Householders, traders, planners and property developers have a common hope in the outcome of next week's public inquiry into the proposed comprehensive development plan for the Burleigh Street area of Cambridge. They all want a firm answer to a question which has blighted a decade of Cambridge planning history. The answer, if it comes, will not please everybody, since homes and small businesses are threatened by the scheme, but it should put an end to years of confusion and uncertainty. The question is: Will the Government give the go-ahead for redevelopment on the lines of the current proposals?

1973 02 16

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Mr Jeremy Thorpe, the Liberal leader, visited residents in the Burleigh-Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge, whose homes are endangered by the proposed shopping development which is at present the subject of an inquiry. Amongst the people he met was Mrs Lavinia Hawes, who moved to her James Street home six months ago and said that it suited her family perfectly. She would be giving evidence at the inquiry. After a visit to the new Cambridge volunteer bureau in Fitzroy Street, Mr Thorpe left to see Bar Hill

1973 04 26
The scheme to build a hypermarket for Tesco on the outskirts of Cambridge has been rejected by the city council. The scheme was put forward on behalf of Tesco by Stokes of Cambridge Ltd. They asked permission to build a 100,000 square foot hypermarket with a car park for 900 cars on land off Milton Road next to the railway line. The store would have been one of the largest in Cambridge. In turning it down the planning committee said it was outside the area allocated for development, would encourage extra traffic on a fast trunk route and was against the shopping policy for Cambridge in which large scale development is aimed at the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh Street area

1973 06 06
Kite pay park, p5

1973 08 31
The £20m redevelopment scheme for the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh Street area of Cambridge may go ahead with only minor modifications, following the result of a 13-day public inquiry earlier this year. Several schemes for the area have been considered and rejected over the past 10 years, but the present plans, designed by international architects Piano & Rogers were adopted by the city and county councils last year

1973 09 10
Prof John Parry Lewis, the Manchester don who has just finished the biggest Cambridge re-development plan ever devised, has told the Government that it may as well be scrapped now if the new Fitzroy-Burleigh Street shopping centre goes ahead. When his final report is published it will contain some sweeping proposals. One of these is for a new commercial centre on the Cambridge outskirts - perhaps in the Trumpington area - in order to siphon shops and traffic away from the historic heart of the city

1973 09 21
“Parry Lewis says that Kite development will sign death knell for Market Square area, new focus of commercial development must be on edge of city & this cannot be done if Kite goes ahead ... his words have too uncomfortable a ring of truth about them ... in the past we have pressed for action on this plan; our ‘City in shackles’ series tried to express the frustration which many citizens felt at the stagnation of the planning process ... but now we, who have formerly pressed for action are now urging caution” [12]

1973 09 21
Like some great suicidal spider Cambridge will have eaten its heart out by the turn of the century. Such is the dramatic prophecy of Professor John Parry Lewis who has been making a complete study of its future. Specifically he is saying is that if Cambridge proceeds with the scheme to build a twin shopping centre in the Fitzroy Street - Burleigh street area it will be signing the death knell of the present Market Square area. He concludes that a new focus for commercial activity must be developed on the edge of the city either in the Trumpington area or to the east near

Marshall's airport. This cannot be done if the Fitzroy-Burleigh scheme proceeds, as the indications now are that it will

1974
Jesus-Samuel properties plan approved in outline but council talk about scrapping whole scheme 81 06 01

1974 06 27
A warning that within 10 years the Lion Yard areas of Cambridge, now being completely redeveloped will become a "twilight zone" is given in a new booklet, "Walks round vanished Cambridge", published by Land of Cokaygne. It says: "Within 10 years the town centre will have moved east to the Kite area, the University west to the science city. Lion Yard will be a twilight zone lost somewhere between the two".

1974 07 31
'Save Kite Campaign' starts with cleaning; Kite Action Committee set up eight months ago [8.13]

1974 10 29
The Parry Lewis super plan for the future of Cambridge, which took three years to prepare at a cost of £20,000, has been rejected by all the senior city and county planning officers. The plans main suggestions were for the immediate scrapping of the scheme for extensive development in the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy street area and the building of a second shopping centre in the Trumpington area. Chairman of the County Planning committee, Counc. Tony Cornell, said: "The technical boys took a look at Parry Lewis and they have not liked what they have seen"

1974 11 06
New plans for reshaping Cambridge's Burleigh St – Fitzroy St shopping area are being unveiled at a private meeting tonight. Although the project provides for more than 80 shops, including two major departmental stores, it is on a smaller commercial scale than the plans put forward three years ago. The project includes a new underground country bus station; placing much of Napier street underground to avoid disruption to people living nearby, a series of underground service roads to allow pedestrians traffic free access to the main shopping area, and the creation of landscaped parks. It provides for a new store for the John Lewis organisation and another for Laurie & McConnal

1974 11 08
By Cambridge planning standards, the argument over how the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy Street area should be redeveloped is a relative newcomer to a list of current city controversies. It has been raging for only 15 years. Which means that at least another 10 years of inactivity are necessary before the Lion Yard redevelopment record is reached. Cambridge city council has announced its intention of making a decision on the future of the area by the end of the year. But even if this happens it will not be the end of the story by a long way. There will be inevitable objections and the problem of raising money must remain a formidable obstacle in these economic times.

1974 12 31
The controversial multi-million pound redevelopment proposals for Cambridge's Burleigh Street – Fitzroy street area may be scrapped and traders and residents encouraged to rebuild as they wish. This is just what the majority of them have been advocating for most of the 15 years over which the controversy surrounding plans for the revitalisation of the area has raged. Leading

members of the City council's controlling Labour Group are now trying to whip up general support behind the scenes for the new thinking. Moves come on the eve of the Government's expected announcement that after a two-year delay official approval is on the way to the area to be declared as suitable for comprehensive redevelopment

1975
Council accepts Piano & Rogers scheme & starts working out detailed plans with consortium 81 06 01

1975 02 07
The Government has decided after two years deliberation that the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy street area of Cambridge is suitable for redevelopment. This now lays the responsibility for action squarely on the city council who are likely to decide within two months whether to drop the much-criticised official development plan and go ahead with something less contentious. The plan has been unanimously rejected by the area's residents and shopkeepers 75 02 07

1975 02 20
Cambridge University should be nationalised, the Kite area turned over to council housing and traffic banned inside the city boundaries, the Cambridge Communist Party says in a policy statement. Amongst other measures they would like to see are turning the church of St Andrew the Great into a civic restaurant, requisition of vacant accommodation if vacant for six months, industrial expansion of Cambridge with more council houses, and the banning of office expansion in favour of housing and jobs.

1975 04 08
Kite: Ian Nairn calls for rehabilitation area [7.1]

1975 04 18
The Labour-controlled Cambridge city council has decided by a two-to-one majority to develop the Burleigh-Fitzroy area mainly as a regional shopping centre in partnership with Jesus College and a London property company. This is the first definite and much substantial move the city council has taken about the future of the so-called "Kite" area in the 15 years of controversy and discussion that has surrounded it 75 04 18

1975 04 21
Kite properties released from blight after 15 years [7.2]

1975 06 23
Shoppers in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, were astonished to hear the strains of a brass band drifting down to them apparently right out of the sky. But the band was real enough. Perched in the little bandstand on the top of Laurie & McConnal's store the player jogged memories back 40 years or more to the time when such entertainment was a regular event for Saturday shoppers. The revival was the idea of Kite Community Action. Eight members of a local jazz group agreed to revive the past and play again. Whether the Saturday morning continues is up to the players. The store would be very happy to have them play anytime

1975 09 02
Kite redevelopment, p3

1975 11 28

Cambridge City Council has brought the Rumble-Tum Restaurant at Burleigh Street and two private houses at Fitzroy Street. All are in the centre of the area, known as the Kite, which the council proposes to redevelop comprehensively in the near future. The individual purchase prices are not being disclosed. The Burleigh Street and Fitzroy Street properties will show an estimate future profit for the council of £1.137 a year from rents.

1976
Money problems: scheme will require £13m investment from city for return of £150,000 pa, look for help 81 06 01

1976 01 19
The Free Press public house, Prospect Row, Cambridge, is being sold back to Greene King by the City Council. The tiny Kite-area pub, council-owned since the 1960s when it was bought as part of a slum clearance area was due to be demolished to make way for a road. That scheme was dropped in 1969 and now they are negotiating its sale back to the brewery, which continued to lease the pub after the council bought it.

1976 01 21
The Cambridge pressure group Kite Community Action are making a half-hour television film to be screened as part of the Open Door series and will put the case against the proposed re-development of the Kite as a regional shopping centre. They are trying to show something about the people who live there. The film will show the kind of neighbourhood which is likely to be sacrificed in the interests of motorised shopping.

1976 03 11
A new store, the Talk of the Town, is to open in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge in the building formerly occupied by Peaks Furnishers. The store is divided into individual sections, some let to local traders & some rented to national companies. An Elizabethan Tea Room complete with period furniture and fittings and a wedding dress section are on the top floor. The store has special design features such as log cabins for changing rooms in the fashion section and thatched roofing for the farm produce section

1976 03 19
Kite Action report [7.3]

1976 04 02
Kite report, p10

1976 04 12
Jesus College opened its Eden Street housing development to the public to show just what can be done with old properties in Cambridge's Kite area. The college plans the conversion of more than 30 two and three-bedroomed homes at rentals from £8 to £10 a week. Two major types of conversion are in hand, one of extending existing terraced houses to give two-bedroomed homes, and the other of combining two terraced houses to make one new one

1976 04 17
The future redevelopment of the Burleigh Street - Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge is back in the melting pot following the decision of the outgoing city council to throw out the massive £30 million scheme proposed by a London development company for the Kite area. The rejection of the scheme, which would have brought a greatly-increased number of shops in to the area, together with car parks, a new road and an underground country bus station, was an easy matter

for the city council. But it was far less easy for them to decide how to go about working out alternatives.

1976 05 18
Kite scheme, p1

1976 05 21
Plans for radical alterations to two listed cottages in the "Kite area" of Cambridge, the subject of a long and bitter row between a city man and council officials, would cost £59,000, it was stated at a planning inquiry. The scheme involves dismantling and rebuilding an 1825 façade and excavating a basement in Orchard Street. A council witness said the plan to build a facsimile of the façade would destroy the weathered texture and unity of the terrace.

1976 06 01
The Kite is a thriving shopping and business centre with all the charm of a village within Cambridge, where the scale is human, where homes and businesses blend and where shopkeepers and shoppers know each other. It wears its quirks and curiosities proudly; where else could you browse through art nouveau curios (James Street), munch a crispy delicious waffle dripping maple syrup (Waffles) or buy a bargain pine dresser (City Road). There's a Kite community fighting every inch of the way to preserve the homes, the shops and the personality of this game little patch of Victorian Cambridge which is now more full of life than ever.

1976 08 02
An experimental free bus service for the Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge commenced at the weekend, providing the public with the first buses in the area for almost three years. 67 people made use of the first bus run at 10am on Saturday. The owner of the Talk of the Town shopping arcade, Mr Carl Owen, has hired one bus from the Eastern Counties Bus Company at a cost of £30 per day. He said he will hire more for a four-week period to prove the company were wrong to stop the service.

1976 09 01
Kite corner shop, p13

1976 11 05
Kite plan, p9

1977
Cheviot House & Amalgamated Developers put forward schemes; Cheviot House £10M for four large shops, 60 small shop units, parking for 1,250 cars, £91,000 pa profit for council after five years, Powley "as near perfect as it is possible to make it" 81 06 01

1977 02 17
What kind of shopping facilities will we see in Cambridge in the future? If recent events are pointers then the small operator will be replaced – just as quaint non-conformist Petty Cury was replaced with the corporate dullness of Lion Yard. The rents jumped enormously leaving the high mark-up multitudes – Golden Egg, Dixons, Van Allen, Etam, Chelsea Girl et al to take the units paying between £3,000 and £18,000 a year in rent. It meant that the variety of shops was reduced. If the Kite complex proposals were to see the light of day then an identical effect could occur.

1977 03 22

Cambridge & District Co-operative Society's plan to expand the Beehive complex, which was turned down by the county planners, has been given the go-ahead by the Department of the Environment. The scheme, using the former Cadbury-Schweppes warehouse near Coldham's Lane will provide an extended shopping space, a garden centre and leisure goods sales centre. The Inspector said that as there were still no definite plans for the Fitzroy/Burleigh Street redevelopment the Beehive scheme would meet some of the shopping need without detriment to the city centre.

1977 04 02
Kite plans, p1

1977 04 20
A multi-million pound deal for the rebuilding of large parts of the Burleigh Street – Fitzroy Street area of Cambridge (The Kite) which would involve a handsome handout to the ratepayers is being negotiated between the City council and two internationally known development companies. Under the deal the redevelopment could be carried out without any cost to the ratepayers. The council would hand some of its land holdings – much now derelict – to the developers on a long lease. In return they would build large car parks for the council, regrass the New Square car park and erect a number of shops, at least on of them a department store. And at the end of the development period the company would make either a substantial lump sum payment to the council or give it a large cut of the rents collected. 77 04 20

1977 07 05
Cambridge City council announced details of its £10 million redevelopment scheme for the Kite area – and at once fell foul of the man who claims he can stop it all from happening, 76-year-old Mr Arthur Sutton. For nearly all his life he has lived at 1 Christchurch Street – one of the few houses which the council needs to demolish to make way for its new shopping and car park complex. But Mr Sutton declared: "Nobody is going to move me from the house I have occupied for 63 years. I am there and I am going to stay put". The new proposals are the latest in a string of plans produced during the past 20 years, all of which have been dropped.

1977 07 27
The issue of redevelopment in the Kite area of Cambridge may have dragged on for more years than many care to remember but the controversy it has provoked is far from disappearing. More than 300 people turned up to the Guildhall. Opinions on the scheme varied. A pork butcher, Mr Jack Curtis, who had traded in Burleigh Street since 1945 said he had never seen a scheme that hurt so few people. There were interruptions, including an appropriately timed blast or two from a bugle smuggled in by Mr Arthur Sutton whose house is due for demolition

1977 08 19
Theoretically worth over £150,000 a year in rent, the 47,000 square foot office accommodation above the Lion Yard has stood empty since the precinct opened nearly two years ago. Agents trying to let the offices blame the economic malaise for their lack of success. The high price of central car parking is also a barrier. The city council made a former builders' site available to encourage offers and now one taker has at last been found. Vinters, the Cambridge solicitors have taken space. But Bidwells say matters will only improve when companies begin to expand and the perpetually optimistic estate agents say it is beginning to happen. 77 08 19

1977 09 12
Kite plans changed, p5

1977 10 04
The Cambridge department store Laurie and McConnal in Fitzroy Street is to close in December. Indecision over plans for the Kite area redevelopment is the reason, said Mr Anthony Frais. "We have tried everything we know to get something moving in the Kite, and while the council is now at last seeing sense we cannot afford to wait the two years before anything actually happens. As a small family company are paying penal rates." The business was established nearly 100 years ago. 77 10 04

1977 10 05
The sudden news of Laurie's closure has come as a shock to the City Council team involved in drawing up the Kite plans. Council leader, John Powley, said he was "very sorry indeed" and could well understand their frustration at the indecision. "Gradual renewal of the area, as some people want, just will not happen and will lead to a speedy decline of the whole area. A satisfactory scheme must be produced as speedily as possible. Constant delays are not good for the area, for the people of the city, or for Cambridge as a whole". 77 10 05

1977 10 05
The news that Laurie and McConnal's department store is closing will have come as a surprise to most people. But to anyone who regularly used the store it was only a question of time before they succumbed to the inevitable. Even at the height of the shopping day you could be the only potential customer in any one department. It had 50,000 sq ft of selling space, spread over five floors to service, heat, decorate and keep full of merchandise and the passing trade had dropped off dramatically as so many houses have been knocked down and food shops have disappeared from the Kite area. 77 10 05

1977 10 08
More shops in the Kite area will be forced to close unless something is done quickly to rejuvenate the area. A number of stores have been teetering on the brink for some time and could go out of business. This has been caused by all the little ginger groups, all pushing for their own things. They hack and maul among themselves and all they succeed in doing is to cause the sort of intolerable position that Lauries found itself in. It is all very well saying the Kite should stay exactly as it is. But it cannot. It has changed markedly over the years and is still changing. It either has to be redeveloped in some fashion, or it dies. 77 10 08

1977 10 11 c
The latest and controversial proposals for rebuilding the Kite area of Cambridge took another step along the long road to becoming reality when the city council accepted them in principle as a basis for discussion with a number of companies interested in financing the project. It took almost two hours of debate – which at times became heated and bitter – to reach the decision. Supporters warned against further delays; Coun Gough Goodman said "Filibustering in the council chamber has resulted in the loss of jobs for many people and the loss of a splendid business, Laurie & McConnal"

1977 11 14
There are almost 400 properties standing vacant in Cambridge according to the Empty Property Action Group. More than 200 are houses of which the great majority are privately owned. There are 1,026 people on the council's "live" waiting list and another 1,400 seeking council accommodation at some future date. Numerous organisations are seeking accommodation for special groups like the College of Arts and Technology, Women's Aid, Fulbourn Hospital and Cyrenians Night Shelter. The Kite and Castle Street areas share the highest concentration of

empty property. The city council are worried that the list could serve as a kind of housing register for squatters.

1977 11 25
Kite plans, p1

1978
Enter Grosvenor Estates Commercial Developers, backs scheme & enters partnership with City council. Oversight in procedures mean council unable to compulsorily purchase land needed until 1983; council used wrong procedures in seeking to evict three people - one city councillor - from 72 Fitzroy St 81 06 01

1978 01 10
Cambridge City Council has told a group of Peterborough councillors to stop interfering in their affairs. The slanging match was prompted by the Cambridge Kite development project. The Peterborough councillors want to avoid a repeat of what has happened in part of their city when redevelopers moved in and put up "a lot of horrible concrete buildings all over the place". But the advice has upset members of the panel who are overseeing the Kite project. One said: "I would tell Peterborough to mind its own business; they should put their own house in order and I would thank them for not trying to tell us what to do"

1978 02 17
The battle for the Free Press has been won and this celebrated Kite survivor was officially reopened in all its renovated glory. It is a small street corner public house, originally on the end of a terrace of cottages. In 1964 it was purchased by Cambridge City Council as part of a clearance area and the cottages were demolished. But the pub was leased back to Greene King so it could continue to trade until required for demolition. The challenge has been to preserve and enhance the original character, retaining all the interesting features while enlarging the premises. It was reopened by Miss Brenda Nichols whose family ran the pub for 48 years.

1978 03 07
Residents are occupying a deserted house in Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, after learning that the city council is about to demolish three other "unsafe" houses in the Kite area. Officers offered to re-assess the situation if the protesters paid them £340 – the cost of making the buildings safe. The Kite group stayed up collecting the money, only to be told the council would not accept it after all. The action is in spite of an assurance that demolition would only take place once the redevelopment scheme had been approved. The protesters are deeply disturbed that private citizens have to pay for council work in order to avoid the premature demolition of sound properties in the Kite. 78 03 07

1978 03 11
City unable to buy by compulsory purchase, 'kills scheme' [7.5]

1978 03 13
The latest scheme for the Kite redevelopment in Cambridge threatens to collapse amid renewed bitterness and bumbledom. The 20-year-old history of "something being about to be done" has resulted in large-scale blight and buildings mouldering beyond repair. Just as predictable as crumbling masonry has been the increasing fed-upness of the people living in the area. They fought long and hard but until last week most of them realised their cause was lost and that the latest scheme would go ahead. Now at the last moment it probably won't because of a blunder by council officials.

1978 03 20
The Kite, once the busiest out-of-centre shopping precinct in Cambridge is no longer flying high. Years of indecision by the City Council about the site and shape of successive rebuilding schemes have left their mark. The uncertainty had already led to the closure of Laurie and McConnal's and a number of smaller shops, branches of national chain stores have also moved away. The closures have meant fewer shoppers being attracted to the area and a general run down of business for many of the traders.

1978 04 04
Squatters protest over eviction Kite [7.8]

1978 06 22
"Parking is so easy on the Kite" advertising feature [7.6]

1978 07 03
The Kite area of Cambridge plans to go the way of Rhodesia by declaring UDI – Unilateral Declaration of Independence - in a semi-serious but symbolic stand against the city council. On Independence Day the kite-shaped bounds of the area will be beaten and the rebel "government" will swing into operation. Arthur Sutton, the 76-year-old bugle-blowing campaigner will be elected Lord Mayor, the rubble-surrounded Little Kettle shop will be declared the town hall, the borders of the area will be marked and passports issued.

1978 07 17
A sophisticated version of rotten egg-throwing provided one of the highlights at Saturday's Tudor Fayre for those with certain views on the proposed Kite development plans. Artist Mr Peter Fluck of Maids Causeway was commissioned by the Kite Co-ordinating Council to draw an outsized head of Coun John Powley, the man spearheading plans to build a large shopping complex. The picture was then electrically wired up and served as a dartboard. Anyone hitting the 'brain cell' rang a bell. During the afternoon more than one Labour councillors was seen surreptitiously to aim a dart at the target

1978 07 21
Kite UDI, p6

1978 07 24
The Kite, Cambridge's own infant breakaway state, gave a further demonstration of the 'freedom' when a colourful procession beat the bounds of the two-day-old 'city'. Led by the self-proclaimed 'Lord Mayor', Arthur Sutton, resplendent in red robes and riding in a carriage, some 80 citizens of the Kite, accompanied by a jazz combo, wound their way to Midsummer Common where a 'Freedom Kite' was symbolically flown. The demonstrators were ignored by their main opponents, the controlling Conservative group, who are proposing to re-develop the run-down area, demolishing parts in the process.

1978 09 01
The Government has stopped Cambridge City Council's plan to rebuild the Kite area. They have refused to allow them to borrow the £2.3 million needed to buy the land for shopping development which means the 20-year saga of decay will continue indefinitely. The council's Conservative leader claimed it was a political decision, probably part of a General Election run-up. M.P. Robert Rhodes James said the blight in the Fitzroy Street area would be perpetuated and

the general economic and physical decline of the area would continue remorselessly. But organisations which have been fighting the plans are delighted. 78 09 01 [7.7]

1978 11 17
Twenty-six men live in the county council-run White Ribbon Hostel in East Road, Cambridge with one bath between them. It is hardly worth bathing, the place is so damp and filthy. The rooms at the back are so rotten they are used just for storage. If you have a bedroom to yourself a week in the hostel will cost you £14.78, just £10 less than a room in the relative luxury of the YMCA. The problem is a practical one: the Hostel is scheduled to be demolished should the Kite redevelopment plans go ahead. The council is thus loath to spend much money on the creaking 19th-century structure. 78 11 17

1978 12 13
Cambridge City Council issued a report on the Kite redevelopment proposals detailing its negotiations with Grosvenor Estates, the prospective developers. Grosvenor would finance the land acquisition in the Kite, which the council would endeavour to complete by the end of 1979, and then carry out the redevelopment scheme over the following three years. If it is not possible to acquire sufficient land the council would buy back from Grosvenor Estates whatever land had been bought, and this would be available for any future plans for the area. The City Council will have the right to approve all plans relating to the scheme's appearance

1978 12 15
Mystery Kite purchase, p1

1978 12 18
Kite plans, p6

1979
Ombudsman report critical of oversight; Shelter report says demolition carried out with minimal concerns about effects on adjoining privately-owned property [9]

1979 02 09
Kite: derelict house bought by council topping private £13,000 offer [7.9]

1979 03 07
A new double-decker bus station in the centre of Cambridge is being proposed by County traffic experts. Buses would wait only long enough to set down and take up passengers and long-distance buses would run from elsewhere in the city. This one of several options to sort out the chaos of Drummer Street. Others include expanding on to Christ's Pieces, re-siting it to the Kite area or adjacent to the railway station. For years the bus station has been the subject of intensive criticism because of its lack of facilities and poor conditions. Now councillors have made it a priority.

1979 05 08
Kite scheme, p1

1979 06 02
The £10 million Kite area shopping and parking scheme scheduled for opening in 1982 may be scrapped if opposition against it throughout Cambridge is strong enough. An official of Grosvenor Estates, the development company, said "If the people of Cambridge do not want our product we shall not give it to them". But the present indications are that the public does want the

Burleigh Street – Fitzroy Street area to be redeveloped as quickly as possible, despite the protests being voiced by pressure groups. The Kite Co-ordinating Council say the plans are 'hopelessly inappropriate' and it is a very cheap scheme: Cambridge deserves something much better than this.

1979 06 12
A Venture centre has opened at the home of the Eden Centre of Dance in City Road, Cambridge. It houses a photographer and a potter and anyone is free to do anything in the other rooms. Now there are plans for a café in the basement to allow people from local streets to drop in and find out what is going on. It is an attractive three-storey building built in the 18890s as the Cambridge Friendly Society Institute and Working Men's Club which hired out its rooms to a number of smaller societies. But as they grew so they acquired their own headquarters elsewhere. The Institute could not be wound up until the building was sold and that couldn't take place until the planning blight on the Kite was lifted. While it stood empty squatters got in and caused damage.

1979 09 14
Traffic jams would stretch across large parts of Cambridge every weekend if the £10 million Kite shopping development went ahead, a transport report commissioned by the Kite Co-ordinating Council claims. The new traffic may eventually block the Mill Road roundabout for several hours of the day. The number of car parking spaces would need to be doubled to meet demand and the cost would have to come from the ratepayers. Traffic is likely to increase anyway in the next ten years and the anticipated reduction through the opening of the Northern By-pass has not happened, they claim

1979 10 31
Kite, p19

1980

1980
Cambridge Empty Property Action Group claims lost £350,000 potential income from derelict property [9]

1980 02 08
Nearly 50 squatters crammed into a tiny room in a derelict house at Fitzroy Street, Cambridge, to stop council workmen from demolishing the building. City councillors were on the scene of the biggest confrontation between squatters and squads of police who failed to persuade them to move. Both sides are preparing for a long-drawn out confrontation. The workmen intended to demolish a whole row of property between Christchurch Street and Napier Street to make way for the first phase of the controversial Kite shopping and parking scheme. Councillors opposing the demolition are trying to see what action can be taken to halt the work. 80 02 08

1980 02 26
Squatters have become a way of life in parts of Cambridge. A bloke called Bleep started it all in 1975 when he somehow entered 13 James Street and called it home. Squatting in the Kite had begun. Numbers swelled, including students, doctors, nurses, research students and the unemployed. They came simply because they were homeless and the Kite had lots of empty houses which could stay empty for years until the time came for demolition. A lot of residents are sympathetic and appreciate having people squatting rather than an empty property next door to them. Some who have left the area have handed over their keys or deliberately left doors open 80 02 26a

1980 03 14
Waffles' waffles have been selling like hot cakes in Cambridge for seven years. Now the small Kite café has been mentioned in the Egon Ronay guide 'Just A Bite'. "Queues of hungry students form outside the door every evening at this most welcoming of little cafes", it writes. But Waffles' days at its present address are numbered because the little shop on the corner of Gold Street and Fitzroy Street is marked for demolition as part of the Kite redevelopment programme. Set in a devastated urban wasteland of rubble and decaying brick the café with its steamy windows, Edwardian interior and babbling conversation provides a friendly island of humanity. 80 03 14d

1980 05 20
The demolition of houses and shops in the Kite area of Cambridge and the eviction of squatters have been stopped by the city council's new Labour administration. Lawyers are examining the future of the controversial £15 million shopping and parking scheme. The Kite Co-ordinating Group which has been leading opposition to the scheme will publish an alternative development plan aimed at retaining the character of the area. Labour wants more housing and less shopping and parking in the area 80 05 20

1980 05 24
The controversial Kite redevelopment scheme has hit yet another stumbling block and work is unlikely to start at all this year. Cambridge's new Labour administration, which objects to the £15 million shopping and parking scheme now claims there could be very serious difficulties in the way of the development. But the developers, Grosvenor Estates, say it intends to press ahead with the project agreed by the previous Conservative council. 80 05 24b

1980 07 08
Cambridge City Council may refuse to make extra spending cuts because it wants to prevent staff sackings and reductions in public services. They may save money set aside for work on the Cattle Market site – which will not be ready this year anyway – and on modernising the Market Square lavatories. But they want to continue drawing up plans for the Kite area if the present scheme fails. 80 07 08c

1980 08 01
Kite plans, p11

1980 11 11
The much-disputed future of the Kite area of Cambridge may be thrown back into the melting pot yet again. The city council's Labour administration is becoming increasingly convinced that the present development plan, which it has vigorously opposed from the outset, will not now go ahead because of the national economic situation. So they are to start looking at alternative developments. Their partners, Grosvenor Estates, have until the end of the year to find a taker for the major store and say that Debenhams is interested. 80 11 11b

1980 12 18
Kite plan, p1

1980 12 23
Debenhams pull out of major store but six-month reprieve for plan - give Grosvenor time to find taker for main store, agreement expires end of month but no taker; Grosvenor must pay council a

ground rent of £65,000 pa if scheme goes ahead; was known that Co-op would shut its doors in Burleigh street if another major store did not come into development [7.10, 9,10]

1981
Grosvenor announce that Debenhams will take superstore, skirmishes continue 81 06 01

1981 02 28
Kite: fourth Kite Community Action show - Clive James, Michael Palin & Terry Jones [7.11]

1981 03 27
Traders give up battle to stay in Kite - Waffles etc [7.12]

1981 05 23
Twenty years of uncertainty over the future of the Kite area have ended. Debenham, the major national chain store, is to move into a superstore planned for the £15 million shopping development. Labour councillors who have led opposition against the scheme have conceded defeat saying there is nothing they can now do to halt it. The Conservatives who initiated the scheme and have never flagged in their confidence that it would eventually get under way are delighted 81 05 23

1981 05 27
A Cambridge consortium which owns a shop in the centre of the planned £15 million Kite rebuilding scheme is steadfastly refusing to sell to make way for the giant new redevelopment. No.56 Fitzroy Street was bought in a bid to stop the scheme and their leader, a Cambridge don, says: "Under no circumstances are we going to budge – not even if they offered us £5 million. They can build all around us if they like – I am looking forward to our little shop becoming part of the shopping precinct with a large glass dome over the roof" 81 05 27

1981 06 01
"Kite sage: the first 30 years" review: Bitter personal arguments, the sound of falling masonry and a series of costly court actions have punctuated the 30-year-Kite saga. In 1950, the Holford Report suggested that the city's historic centre could not meet the shopping needs of future generations. "We regard Fitzroy Street as a valuable relief for pressure on the older centre", it said. Now with the news that Debenhams is to move into the new development and that work is due to start this summer, the saga may be nearing its end. 81 06 01

1981 06 17
Kite: car parks close [7.14]

1981 07 11
Another old Cambridge landmark – the former Little Kettle premises in Fitzroy Street – disappeared when it was demolished as part of the Kite re-development programme. Over the years the premises had various uses, but they are best remembered as the general hardware shop which had a small kettle hanging outside. 81 07 11

1981 07 28
The former Laurie and McConnal store and a number of small adjoining shops in Fitzroy Street have been sold to Grosvenor Estates, who are redeveloping the Kite. It was one of the city's largest and longest-established department stores but has been empty since the firm closed down at the end of 1977. Now it will be refurbished and brought back into retail use. 81 07 28

1981 08 03
The saga of property dealing and controversy in the Kite redevelopment area of Cambridge has come to an end. The last remaining privately-owned shop at 56 Fitzroy Street has been sold to the city council and its partner, Grosvenor Estates for a price of around £30,000. This has given the owners, a consortium of university dons, a £5,000 profit which will be distributed to two charities. As part of the deal a number of small traders will be allowed to stay in their shops for up to three months. 81 08 03c

1981 08 04
Sir – as squatters in the old 'Strudels' building in Fitzroy Street we had come to an amicable arrangement with the council to move out to make way for the Kite redevelopment. We spent the night packing but were aroused by the front door being broken down at 8 am, other demolition men began smashing the plate-glass windows of the shop adjacent scattering glass over the road where our removal vehicles needed to park. We were lucky no serious damage was done to our possessions – H. Williams & others. 81 08 04

1981 09 08
Amid much music and good cheer, the Ancient Druids closed – the last of nine pubs in Fitzroy Street. Soon the 200-year-old rafters will collapse under the developer's sledge-hammers to make way for the multi-million pound Kite shopping development. But last night they rang to the rollicking rhythm of Irish ceilidh music from Ted Stacey's melodeon, accompanied by guitars, penny whistles, banjo and drums. The wake ended when it ran out of beer. The brewers, Charles Wells, are building another when the development is completed. 81 09 08

1981 09 15
A park-and-ride bus service linking shops in the Burleigh Street area with the car park in Cherryhinton Road has started disastrously. Nobody used the service for several hours. It is being funded with £400 from city lottery profits with Kite traders adding another £100. But councillors say the money should have been earmarked for charity. 81 09 15a

1981 09 26
An era came to an end when the self-styled 'Lord Mayor of the Kite', Mr Arthur Sutton, moved out of his house in Christchurch Street. It occupies an important position in the £15 million development scheme but he refused to budge until the developers came up with somewhere nearby for him to live. Now they are to build him a detached three-bedroomed house a few doors away 81 09 26

1981 10 09
Wards have been in Cambridge for more than 70 years, originally making and selling cycles. By the 1930s they were involved in electronics, making their own wireless receiver, the Wards Three Valve. In the 1950s they expanded into communications, selling televisions and other electronic equipment, moving from East Road to a new shop in Burleigh Street in 1965 with another in Bradwell's Court. At its peak in the 1970s they won contracts with Iraq and the Defence Ministry. Now it will close for the last time. 81 10 09d

1981 11 13
Skirting the roadworks and dodging the demolition rubble, the visitor finds the Kite area of Cambridge hardly the easiest or most picturesque place to shop. Almost one side of Fitzroy Street is empty. The top end, which once included a Post Office, sweet shop, denture repairer and café called the Toby Jug, has been flattened. The Co-op department store in Burleigh Street have axed the traditional ceremonial arrival of Father Christmas as it would aggravate traffic problems. Add

the lack of parking space and it is not surprising that traders fear for their Christmas profits. 81 11 13a

1982
Building begins to take shape 81 06 01

1982 07 23
Kite tunnel, p12

1983 02 12
C & A, one of the biggest family outfitters, will be opening a large shop in Cambridge's new Grafton Centre. Also coming are Habitat, the household group, and Key Markets, one of the country's largest food supermarket chains who will be employing 200 staff. They will complement Debenhams who are taking a major slice of space in the centre along with Heffers, Currys, Savory and Moore and Stead and Simpson. 83 02 12

1983 03 17
Cambridge Working Men's' Club's 100-year old existence is in doubt because the city and county councils cannot agree on its resiting. Grosvenor Developments who built the Grafton Centre, offered to pay £500,000 for it to be resited on ground a few yards away owned by the city council. But they will not sell because if it moves it will leave the way clear for the county council to go ahead with the widening of East Road which the Labour city council opposes. Now Grosvenor may withdraw its offer and leave ratepayers to foot the entire bill. 83 03 17 p20

1983 06 29
Charles Wells, the Bedford brewers, are planning to set up a micro-brewery as part of the Ancient Druids public house which is due to open in Napier Street on the edge of the Grafton Centre in 1984. The brewery will be quite small and will brew beer for consumption in the house. It will mean the return of brewing to Cambridge which once had numerous breweries including five or six on Newmarket Road. 83 06 29 p3

1983 07 01
A visit to Waffles on Castle Hill is like stepping back in time to the heyday of the unique Kite café which was such a popular venue until the bulldozers moved in. The highly successful venture was built up by Mrs Virginia Le Charite over nine years until its closure in 1981. The familiar tables and chairs, the ornate cash register, the dresser and clock are all there and it is still producing those scrumptious and filling savoury and sweet batter rolls with a variety of toppings at prices from 90p.
83 07 01 p24

1983 07 21
The fate of the old Laurie and McConnal store - which has been lying empty since it closed five years ago – has been decided at last. Habitat, a national chain of home furnishing shops, is to move in to the store on the fringe of the new Grafton Centre. Debenhams has taken the main store on the site, the supermarket booked by Keymarkets will probably open as a branch of Gateway and the biggest 'variety' store is being taken by C&A. But letting arrangements have still to be concluded on 30 of the 45 medium-sized shops 83 07 21 p1 [11]

1983 08 04
Seventeen flats and maisonettes being built as part of the Grafton Centre are now on the market. The flats in Fitzroy Street have a bedroom, living room, kitchen, bathroom & private rooftop

terraced areas and sell for £29,500. The maisonettes are on two floors and have two bedrooms, they sell for £42,000. The scheme also includes 22 one-bedroomed flats in Christchurch Street which will be available on a share-ownership basis through the King Street Housing Society. Most have been allocated already. 83 08 04 p12

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Lion Yard redevelopment looking to Petty Cury, 1972 154.52

c.49.67: Lion Yard Redevelopment

1950

1950 12 09
"The almost hopeless state of parking in Cambridge" was referred to when Ald F.J. Priest urged the demolition without delay of Liddiard's garage on St Andrew's Hill – thus providing parking spaces for some of the season-ticket holders at Lion Yard. The building had been scheduled as an 'architectural novelty' but there would be no objection to its immediate demolition.

1951 03 14
Cambridge Council is to recommend a scheme for a multi-deck car park at the Lion Yard. The Surveyor suggests all adjoining property owned by the council should be demolished, the opportunity being taken to widen Corn Exchange Street and St Tibb's Row and that the possibility of further extensions to St Andrews Hill for offices, shops or increased car park facilities should be borne in mind. He submitted a plan showing a building of six floors which could accommodate 825 cars 51 03 14 [1.12]

1954 03 15
Properties in Corn Exchange Street may be demolished to increase parking space in the Lion Yard. It could then accommodate another 60 cars. This would bring in an increased revenue of about £1,360 per annum, but be offset by a £1,286 loss on rental from the demolished premises. Councillors were considering the early provision of a multi-deck park but until the Minister had made a decision on the development plan it would be impossible even to proceed with sketch

plans. Sites have also been cleared in the Park Street area, but in view of the extremely poor access they decided to take no action to form a car park in that area.

1956 10 16
Councillors say that multi-storey car parks should be provided at Lion Yard, Saxon Street, Park Street and New Square and 170 cars should be parked on the site of the existing police flats at Parkside. But traffic congestion in Cambridge has become so acute that 'No Waiting' restrictions should be imposed in the central area and King Street made one-way. 56 10 16a

1956 11 01
If the City Council feel unable to implement the development of the Lion Yard area, then the Government should nominate the County Council as the acquiring and development authority, councillors recommend. They have met University officials who have ask that a substantial area of floor space, including some at ground level, should be made available for their purposes. 56 11 01a

1957 05 17
Proposals have been announced for an underground car park at Parker's Piece capable of accommodating about 5,000 vehicles. When complete it would be unaltered on the surface but beneath would be many acres of car parking space with four sloping entrances. It will take two years to build and be cheaper the present scheme for a multi-deck park on Lion Yard a councillor claims. 57 05 17a

1957 10 18
In 20 years' time Lion Yard car park will be outdated as the centre of the City will eventually have to be roped off from traffic, Canon Mervyn Stockwood told the council. He had frequently been up to the top of Great St Mary's and seen the appalling havoc of the central area in recent years. Now they proposed to put up a 'cheap and efficient sort of skyscraper'. He continued: "We are custodians of one of the most famous cities in the world. That sort of building cannot add to the dignity and loveliness of Cambridge" 57 10 18c

1958 12 22
New schemes for the rebuilding of the Lion Yard car park and the surrounding area are being examined by town planning experts. It may be comprehensively re-developed to include a multi-storey car park and additional shopping facilities served by a new road passing through the middle of the area. But some say that instead of a broad shopping street, which might attract more traffic into the already overcrowded centre, it should be a 'pedestrian shopping precinct' with cars being parked a short distance away 58 12 22 [2.4]

1959 01 13
Seven schemes are being considered for the Lion Yard area. It is felt essential for the financial success of the proposals that the redevelopment should embrace the existing property on the south side of Petty Cury from the Post Office to the Lion Hotel. It should extend over the existing car park to Downing Street and be linked with Emmanuel Street. The University are interested in obtaining access to the New Museums buildings on the west side of Corn Exchange Street, but this may not be practical. 59 01 13a & b

1959 01 16
The new plan for the centre of Cambridge will have as its central feature a 'pedestrian shopping precinct' from which all vehicles will be excluded. An earlier scheme which foresaw a new and widened Guildhall Street running through the Lion Yard, with new shops and a multi-deck car

park, has now been dropped after being criticised as likely to attract too much extra traffic. The proposal incorporates a car park which might be placed underground. But it is certain that Corn Exchange Street would become an important vehicular road. 59 01 16

1959 04 29
The City Council is to consider the largest project ever undertaken in Cambridge. The giant Lion Yard scheme includes a two-decker underground car park taking 731 vehicles, a unique 'pedestrian shopping precinct', a new central library, residential hotel and a petrol filling station. Jesus College have also submitted a scheme for the redevelopment of the north side of Fitzroy Street. Many think that increases in shopping facilities ought to take place as an extension of this well-established area. 59 04 29a-d & 59 04 29e

1959 05 01
The giant scheme which is to transform the centre of Cambridge received the approval of the City Council. Not one hand was raised against it when the question of developing the Lion Yard– described as 'that revolting area' - was put to the vote. It would make it possible for townspeople to do their shopping away from the traffic on broad footpaths and provide a much-needed car park for more than 700 cars, removing the 'long-term parker' from town streets and leaving the kerbs free for motorists who wish to park for ten minutes. 59 05 01a, b, c & d

1959 05 21
"The Lion Yard scheme is the biggest re-development scheme yet in England, if we omit the blitzed cities". Ald W.G. James told the Women's Lunch Club. "In some respects it is more difficult, for the bombing often obliterated whole areas and redevelopment could start on virgin sites. Here, boundaries, established buildings and all manner of things have to be considered". Everyone agreed the area required comprehensive development but there was a divergence of opinion on how this should be done. A compromise was sought by 30 people on the County Planning Committee but as there were 30 different opinions, nothing was done. 59 05 21b

1959 06 12
Lion Yard opposition – 59 06 12a

1959 06 20
When the elaborate scheme for the redevelopment of the Lion Yard area was approved one could be forgiven for being rather carried away by the sheer magnitude of the whole thing. What was to have been just a car park had rather surprisingly blossomed into a complete new city centre and we were impressed by the dazzling piece of town planning so adroitly placed before us. Since then we have had time to mull over the full implications. Cambridge still retains something of its own individuality and it would be tragic to turn it into just another New Town. The scheme is a town planners' dream. It must not become a ratepayers' nightmare 59 06 20 & a

1959 06 26
Lion Yard – University objections – 59 06 26a

1959 07 04
A Cambridge man living in Los Angeles cautions against the new Lion Yard proposals. "Who is going to occupy the new offices and shops? If Cambridge thinks they can concentrate business in town and solve the car parking problem with a few hundred spaces they are indulging in the fondest of illusions. Parking meters in the streets don't help: they only add to the irritation of shoppers, free parking has become the essential stock-in-trade. In America down-town shopping areas are dying and shopping centres miles out of town are the new thing." 59 07 04

1959 07 18
Lion Yard scheme – questions and answers – 59 07 18b

1959 07 24
Lion Yard costs have risen colossally and some councillors hoped the Minister would turn the scheme down so they could start again. They could build a car park on the site more cheaply but they were bound to the developers, Edgers, and they would be a laughing stock if they went back on their word. It was the public who determined where the city centre should be and that was where banks, theatres and cinemas had moved. When a slump came it was those on the outskirts that closed down. The scheme must go forward. In the long run it would prove economical. 59 07 24a

1959 07 24
Councillors withdrew their attention from the Lion Yard area to a part of the city which some have always considered of equal importance – Fitzroy Street. This should be comprehensively redeveloped to provide residential, shopping and business facilities with a new bus station. The Lion Yard should be developed with a library, civic restaurant and small car park, leaving the frontages as they are, some argued. 59 07 24b & c

1959 08 10
Lion Yard development public inquiry: over 1,000 sign petition against scheme – 59 08 10a

1959 09 12
The present shambles known as the Lion Yard has for too long been a bone of contention. The council meetings have been stormy and wrangling has not been confined to the city. Eventually some form of compromise will be reached and some kind of order imposed on this part of the Cambridge. But before its future is finally decided archaeologists hope they will have the opportunity to investigate its past. 59 09 12

1959 11 11
The proposed Lion Yard scheme provided for a pedestrians-only shopping precinct linked to Petty Cury, office space (to be offered to the University if needed), a new Emmanuel Road, the widening of Corn Exchange Street and an underground car park including space for 750 cars of which 230 would be for office staff. There would also be a new telephone exchange, an Inquiry was told. The scheme would be completed by 1965. 59 11 11c & d & e

1959 11 19
The University thinks the Lion Yard scheme was bad planning. They are not opposed to a pedestrian precinct nor to some commercial development but preferred a mixture of University use with a concert hall seating 1,500 and some shops and offices to fill in. This would attract far less traffic at peak times. Others thought the Corn Exchange might make a site for a car park with an elevator to take cars to the upper floors. Shops could give ‘Free parking vouchers’ for customers who spent more than £5. This would attract shoppers into the car parks and make them economical. 59 11 19 a & c

1959 12 03
The Inquiry into the Lion Yard scheme was told that the Petty Cury frontage should be excluded from redevelopment: the present useful buildings would be preserved and the character of the street maintained. But Planners said they could not be adequately served as they lacked any rear access. Runciman’s veterinary premises in Downing Street had been used for 150 years and were

specially designed for the purpose. They have dealt with animals as small as a mouse and as large as an elephant. The proposed replacement buildings were incompatible with the character of Cambridge 59 12 03 & a & 04 & 04a

1959 12 03
Lion Yard demolition photo – 59 12 03e

1959 12 04
Several tradesmen gave evidence at the Lion Yard inquiry. Both Miller's and Lyon and Cade's were old established solicitors business, their premises would be entirely swept away. G.D. Pryor owned the land let to Mac Fisheries. The former Mr Pryor was one of the last coach drivers and a fishmonger who established his business in the first half of the nineteenth century. The coach was left at the Red Lion when business had been transacted next door. The Chinese Restaurant had been greatly improved since Mr Lui took possession and was now the centre for people who enjoyed this type of food. It is difficult to imagine where it could be resited, the pedestrian precinct did not promise to be lively at night 59 12 04 abc

1959 12 05
The official inquiry into the Lion Yard Re-development Proposals – that erstwhile car park scheme blown up to make a planners' holiday – covered 15 days and produced over half-a-million words. The sponsors of the scheme and the many objectors have placed their cases fully and fairly – and sometimes forcibly. One of the main criticisms is that no evidence of the financial side was submitted. Very few members of the public attended but there was a 'full gallery' on the final day. It will be six months before the Minister's decision is made known. 59 12 05

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 01 16
So Cambridge must be destroyed. Country folk from the surrounding pastures have decreed that, just because she develops a bald patch on her Lion Yard. But even when Petty Cury has been rebuilt with modern materials the day must come when all the new buildings fall down. But by 2020 there will be no cars, and therefore no parking problems; only the original debt. No one can possibly question the integrity of the City Fathers: by their very selection they are men apart

1960 01 21
City councillors decided to drop proposals to use Butts Green as a car park for two years - even with the Lion Yard car park finished and new car parks in King Street and Park Street, there would still not be enough parking and it would never be reinstated. The income would never meet expenditure. Eventually Cambridge would have a city centre park charging about one shilling an hour. If Butt Green was to be charged at sixpence nobody would use Lion Yard and the council would be sabotaging their own scheme. 60 01 21

1960 08 30
The Minister has rejected proposals to redevelop the Lion Yard area by the building of a giant car park, shops, offices and hotel. He called the scheme 'basically unsound' as it envisaged shop and office expansion instead of decongestion in the central area and crowded too much development on to the site. He also thought that commercial expansion was neither necessary or desirable. The scheme was formulated by city and county council architects after years of study and research. It

included a 750 place car park with petrol filling station and an unusual shopping precinct where all vehicular traffic was barred. 60 08 30

1961 01 02
A questionnaire shows that most people think the Lion Yard area should include a concert hall, civic restaurant, hotel and assize court together with a library. This should feature a record section, an art lending department, reading room and small exhibition area. There should be a municipal crèche where children could be left while their parents shopped and a car park reserved for those who worked in the Guildhall. Half of the respondents were in favour of traffic wardens and parking meters, though some said they had no experience of them, while 81 per cent wanted a pedestrian precinct. Other suggestions included a news cinema where people could wait in comfort for evening buses and supermarkets near the edge of the city 61 01 02a

1961 01 11
Cambridge University published proposals to enhance the city's character as a university town. Historic buildings would be retained and where redevelopment is essential the new buildings would be on a scale and character compatible with the central area. The Lion Yard development could include a civic hall which is needed both by city and university together with a library and small art gallery. If the City Council cannot pay for it then the University and some of the colleges should join in a developing consortium to provide the necessary finance to carry out the development and benefit from the profits. The only area of Cambridge suitable for a regional shopping centre is that around City Road and Fitzroy Street. It has space for shops, restaurants, car parks and houses and could be well-served by public transport. By contrast the city centre does not meet the land requirement unless there is such demolition that it would affect the character of the area. The roads are poor and provision of adequate car parking would be an impossible task. 1961 01 11, 61 01 11b, 61 01 11c
1961 02 11
The delay in Lion Yard redevelopment has meant that the Civic Restaurant on the corner of Petty Cury has been given a new lease of life. The dining hall has been brightened up and the provision of window curtains will give a finishing touch. A cosmopolitan note has been struck in an announcement over the scullery in English. French, German and Italian exhorting customers to return their plates 61 02 11

1961 06 13
Sir – some of the tower blocks proposed by the University for the New Museum site would be twice the height of King's College chapel. They are opposed to the very character of the historic centre. If approved it would be impossible to object to other towers such as those of the Lion Yard that have been criticised by the Preservation Society. Would it not be better for the gradual transfer of science buildings to the west of Cambridge where a development architecturally worthy of the University could take place? – V.I. Glaster 61 06 13

1961 07 28
The Clore-Cotton deal over the Lion Hotel – the key to the city's central redevelopment – is probably the largest single property transaction made in Cambridge. But Mr Barr, secretary of the family company owning the Lion, says he had declined a much larger offer as he thought it was not in the best interests of the town. "It is a pity there has not been more co-operation of the people interested in the development. A few years ago they could have got the hotel for half the price I got today", he said. Now there was a golden opportunity for everyone to get together and sink their differences. 61 07 28 [13.2]

1962 01 04

A Council debate to decide whether to create a post of City Architect ended in chaos after the Mayor stopped discussion. A qualified architect is vital if development is to be continued with taste. Council estates were dull in lay-out and their roads were not up to modern traffic. Uninspired planning must be stopped now. At a time when the Lion Yard, Museum site and City Road area are in the melting pot they should have the advice of an architect, some councillors felt. 62 01 04a

1962 05 07
Mr Jack Cotton and Mr Charles Clore, the property millionaires, have bought the site of Heffer's from Emmanuel College on the understanding that the bookshop will be rehoused in any new redevelopment of Petty Cury. Their company, City Centre Properties, acquired the adjoining Lion Hotel site last year. The Director of Dolamore, the wine merchants, who hold the freehold of most of the corner with Guildhall Street, would not say whether they had also approached them. Recently this part of Petty Cury was included in the area scheduled for redevelopment. The firm also have an interest in the New Theatre site which is now being demolished to be replaced by a block of offices 62 05 07 [13.3]

1962 05 10
The clean-cut façade of the offices of Messrs Ellison & Co. show up well at the end of the little court in the passageway between the Lion Hotel and Heffer's bookshop in Petty Cury. The offices were acquired by the Clore-Cotton Group's City Centre Properties when they bought the premises occupied by Heffer's and the freehold of that part of the Lion Hotel formerly held on lease from Emmanuel College. The area is scheduled for redevelopment as part of the Lion Yard scheme. 62 05 10a

1962 05 31
The University's proposals for the future development of Cambridge are designed to enhance its character as a university town. The Lion Yard area should include a multi-purpose public hall, for which they have offered to pay half, a new public library, exhibition gallery and arts centre. There would be a regional shopping centre in the City Road area including department and chain stores with large scale car parking and the segregation of pedestrians from traffic. 62 05 31a

1962 06 25
University plans for the future of Cambridge envisage that in the Lion Yard there would be a new hall for conferences, concerts and all kinds of music with a new library, small shops, cafes and homes for 300 people. A new regional shopping centre in City Road would be free of all vehicular traffic and there could be more homes on the site than before. The housing areas which are close to the centre are also the oldest and many are in need of redevelopment. Already 4,000 people have had to leave since 1950 but the University wants to see at least as many living in these areas as were there ten years go. 62 06 25

1962 06 27
Public inquiry into future development of Cambridge. Highlights three divisions of opinion on Lion Yard. University want commercial development restricted to new regional shopping centre Kite area with Lion Yard to have amenities like library, art gallery, concert hall etc. County accept library but reject concert hall. City want commercial development in new pedestrian shopping centre [2.11, 2.12]

1963 03 22
Underground road to service Lion Yard shops – 63 03 22a [See Memories 14 Mar 2013]

1964 04 01
Lion Yard car park as traffic meters come into operation – 64 04 01

1964 06 03
Whether or now new shopping development takes place in Lion Yard or at City Road the old shopping area should stay where it is and retain its highly individual character. Cambridge has continued to attract more and more visitors leading to fears of King's College ashtrays and "Kiss me quick" mortar boards. But one development benefiting both local and visitor must be the creation of a pedestrian precinct such as the one at Harlow. It would enable streets to be given over to their rightful functions as places for strolling, shopping and gossip 64 06 03a

1964 06 30
A car park was needed on the West side of the river to help clear Queen's Road and they should consider an underground car park at the Backs, councillors heard. Park Street was a mistake because it was too near the city centre but Coe Fen was one of the best places for a surface car park. Queen Anne Terrace was a marvellous site as it could have a basement, three of four storeys of flats and a roof garden restaurant. There would be a mini-bus to get shoppers into the centre which meant the Lion Yard would be used more by people who came to park for the day.64 06 30

1964 07 06
Cambridge expansion: Conservatives would like to encourage businesses which start in the town and want the Market Square to be the main centre. Socialists want new light industries with the Lion Yard as a civic centre and with new shopping in Burleigh Street while the Liberals favour a central pedestrian precinct with public transport in the form of a minibus service or travloator. 64 07 06a

1964 08 28
The Lion Yard area is badly laid out and contains 'obsolete development'; there should be a small increase in shopping space with the rest devoted to civic and university uses, Sir Keith Joseph, the Minister of Housing says. A brand new shopping area should be created in the City Road area – the present twilight zone. It will take traffic away from the centre, cater for modern supermarket trends and fit in with plans for the continuation of the East Road housing scheme 64 08 28, 28b [4.15]

1964 10 23
Proposals to develop the Gonville Hotel site for a five-storey office bock had been turned down on the grounds that it would encourage the introduction of new firms into Cambridge, undermining the basic principle of the restriction of employment and the stabilisation of population. Since then the council had changed its policy but had not told Sindall's the applicant. There was an urgent need for offices for professional firms displaced as a result of the Lion Yard development, an inquiry was told. 64 10 23a

1964 11 19
University offer money to engage planning team to submit plans for Lion Yard and new shopping area in City Road as urgent action needed – 64 11 19, 19d

1965 01 05
Lion Yard plan may include large hotel – 65 01 05c

1965 04 01
Fisher House not to be demolished as part of Lion Yard redevelopment – 65 04 01

1965 06 24
Lion Yard plans unveiled by Gordon Logie Gordon Logie plans civic hall with seating for 1,800 as main feature Lion Yard – 65 06 24, 65 06 25b

1965 06 29
Jesus College announce second major redevelopment scheme within week of Lion Yard plans, this one for King Street – 65 06 29, 29a

1966 03 30
Crumbling Cambridge – lack of vitality in development such as new library and Lion Yard – 66 03 30a

1966 07 15
Old Post Office, Petty Cury, Ministry of Pensions manned by a single clerk in room that precious housed counter activities; small corner occupied by National Savings Movement. Wide corridors lead to Overseas Students Club used by 10-12 students. Petty Cury shops well-maintained but accommodation above ground floor level has been condemned for years. Must all be demolished – letter – 66 07 15

1966 10 07
Burleigh/Fitzroy Street favoured for shopping redevelopment in preference to Lion Yard – 66 10 07

1966 12 09
Plan to create regional shopping centre in Fitzroy Street and develop Lion Yard primarily as civic centre approved by City Council – 66 12 09a

1967 07 05
Lion Yard redevelopment plans approved by Minister – 67 07 05a

1967 11 24
Arts facilities have been neglected, is no good concert hall, might be centre of a new Lion Yard development - 67 11 24, a

1968
Government stop city borrowing for first stage Lion Yard [5.12]

1968 02 14
"Derelict site for 120 years" [13.6]

1968 05 02
City council buys block property in St Andrew's Street to make shopping arcade through to Lion Yard – 68 05 02

1968 10 11
Civic Restaurant closure would be a calamity but site needed for Lion Yard – 68 10 11

1968 11 12
Lion Yard plans – outline planning agreed, details – 68 11 12, 12a

1968 11 25
Trinity College start new accommodation block on site of Matthews in Sidney Street releasing land in Petty Cury for Lion Yard – 68 11 25

1969 02 05
Lion Yard plan decision delayed by Minister – 69 02 05

1970

1970 03 04
Lion Yard library might be built by Development Company instead of the city council. Ravenseft Properties may agree to build the three-storey library because it is scheduled to go on top of a block of shops; the city would then lease the building from the company – 70 03 04

1970 07 23
Lion Yard development – only legal snags remain – 70 07 23

1970 12 07
Lion Yard plan goes ahead on schedule – 70 12 07

1970 12 28
Lion Yard work finally starts – 70 12 28

1971 01 23
Archaeologists have ten days to investigate King's Ditch under Lion Yard – 71 01 23

1971 06 23
Lion Yard car park first level complete – view over site – 71 06 23

1971 12 24
Lion Yard plans approved by Government – 71 12 24

1972 01 14
Corn Exchange Street closed for work Lion Yard [13.8]

1972 03 22
New Lion Yard car park takes shape, pic, p10

1972 05 31
A free parking bonus will be given to motorists using Cambridge's show-piece Lion Yard car park during its first weeks operation after the opening date on July 24 The city's Traffic and Parking Committee decided to cut parking charges by 5p during the working day for the first week, which means one hour's free parking during each parking period. If a motorist leaves his car at Lion Yard for one hour or less it will be completely free, p15

1972 06 27
Although the war ended 27 years ago the little patch of Cambridge around Alexandra Street has a distinct 1940s look. In common with all the little alleyways off Petty Cury, Alexandra Street is in the throes of the Lion Yard re-development scheme. The old is being swept away by the demolition gangs to make way for the new and soon the whole face of the area will begin to change. The first phase of the project - the multi-storey car park - is due to open at the end of next

week. Work on the second stage - the demolition of the southern side of Petty Cury and the building of shops and service roads on the Lion Yard - is already under way and is expected to take about two years. The third stage - the building of a large central library - will start soon after this 72 06 27

1972 07 24
The Lion Yard multi-deck car park opens on Monday proving another 500 car spaces within a stone's throw of the centre of Cambridge. The completion marks the first stage of the city council's multi million redevelopment project for the area - which was first proposed nearly 25 years ago. The new park, which aims to cater for the shopper and the short stay motorist, is the second major car park to open in the city in less than a year. The other is at Queen Anne Terrace, which opened last October. The usual parking fees will be 5p for the first hour, 15p for two hours, 25p for three hours, up to a maximum of 75p for 10 hours. The council hope the prices will encourage people who work in the city centre to leave their cars in the parks away from the centre, like New Square and Prospect Row, where the charges are considerably less.

1972 08 08
I was among the first into the new Lion Yard multi-deck car park when it opened. The public hadn't really caught on, and the vast concrete halls echoed emptily to the dumpers and merry shouts of workmen still constructing it. Later in the week I returned. Now the park was known and very full. It was clearly making an impression on the parking situation in Cambridge for there were now more parking meters available than usual. It won't be until all the decks are in use at Lion Yard that the final effect on Cambridge parking will be seen. In my view it must be beneficial – Rodney Tibbs

1972 08 10
15,000 use Lion Yard car park, p16

1973 02 05
Cambridge's longest slogan - all 60 yards of it - spanning the Lion Yard hoarding along Petty Cury is likely to remain for some time. The slogan, which advertises the Cambridge Claimants' Union, exceeds even the anti-Vietnam banner erected on King's College chapel some years ago. The foot-high, spray-painted slogan proclaiming: "Fight for the right to live with Claimants Union, the union for all unemployed unsupported mothers, low paid supplementary pensioners, sick people" seems set to stay

1973 04 09
The Market Square ends of Guildhall Street and Peas Hill, Cambridge, were closed to traffic today as part of city council's plans eventually to make much of the central area into a pedestrian precinct. It is now possible to walk from Sidney Street to King's Parade without crossing a road. City surveyor, Mr Geoffrey Cresswell said that some motorists were still driving round Market Square attempting to get into Peas Hill. The present closure is officially regarded as only "temporary" - although it will last for possibly another two years - while rebuilding of the adjacent Lion Yard site is under way

1974 02 22
Mr Eric Cave, who has been the Cambridge city librarian, officially announced his retirement today. There have been many developments in the Cambridge library services since he was appointed in 1954. He seen three new libraries built, the introduction of mobile libraries, the opening of the record lending library, and the introduction of library services to old people’s

homes. He hopes to see the final completion of the fitting-out contract of the new library being built in the Lion Yard.

1974 03 29
Cambridge city council met for the last time yesterday. It took the council about ten seconds to dispose of their formal business – approving the spending of £1,248,000 on the new Central Library at the Lion Yard – then they went on to spend almost two hours saying goodbye to themselves, their retiring chief officers and exchanging presents. On the last day of the month, the city council, who more or less in their present form have run Cambridge since 1836 will make way for the new Cambridge District Council.

1974 06 27
A warning that within 10 years the Lion Yard areas of Cambridge, now being completely redeveloped will become a "twilight zone" is given in a new booklet, "Walks round vanished Cambridge", published by Land of Cokaygne. It says: "Within 10 years the town centre will have moved east to the Kite area, the University west to the science city. Lion Yard will be a twilight zone lost somewhere between the two" 74 06 27

1975 09 18
Lion Yard statue Talos given to Minos, ruler of Crete to defend island by God Hephaestus, by Michael Ayrton [13.11]

1974 09 16
St Andrew the Great church in the centre of Cambridge may be turned into a new Civic restaurant. If the scheme goes ahead it would be only a few yards from the site of the old restaurant which was demolished two years ago to make way for the Lion Yard Development project. City officials are looking into the possibility of converting the church buildings which the Diocesan authorities have classified as redundant. A feasibility study shows it could be converted into offices but would cost at least £135,000.

1975 04 03
Leaving your car in the Lion Yard car park, Cambridge, between 5.30 pm and 6.30 pm can be costly. Mrs Carol Taylor of Trumpington drove her car into the Lion Yard at 5.46 pm and drove out again at 6.18 pm. She was charged 17p – 7p for the 14 minutes before 6 o'clock and 10p for the 18 minutes after. The charges change at 6 pm when the evening tariff comes into operation. She felt this was an unfair charge for 32 minutes of parking time.

1975 07 03
Only three of the 54 firms who have been given tenancies of the new shops in Lion Yard, Cambridge, are local, and there is considerable disquiet in some local quarters over this, said the secretary of Cambridge Chamber of Commerce. "A lot of the names are of big firms in London in the rag trade and jewellery. They can afford the high rents, but the smaller traders of Cambridge who would have expected to get the chance of a letting cannot", he said

1975 07 18
How much are stores paying to rent a unit in the Lion Yard Development? Last October companies were being asked to stump up between £15-17,000 a year. In the Lion Yard itself the asking price was between £7-10,000 per unit. Smaller units described as boutique types were on offer between £3 & £5,000. Wealthy national companies can afford to speculate and rent properties for a few years, but for small local traders the rents have proved too expensive so far.

Of 54 units rented out only two may be occupied by firms based in Cambridge – Campkins (cameras) & Waits (menswear) 75 07 18

1975 08 06
Cambridge' new £1 million plus central library being built in the Lion Yard, is due to open at the end of September – three months late. The task of transferring more than 100,000 books and reorganising the library's various departments is likely to take up to a fortnight. But Librarian Andrew Armour is hoping to keep the closure of the main library down to three days to minimise inconvenience.

1975 09 11
Princess Anne is to put the royal seal of approval on one of Cambridge's most controversial schemes. She has agreed to open the multi-million pound Lion Yard redevelopment complex in December. More than four years have been spent in its construction. Expert critics are unhappy about the scale of the enterprise and its relationship to the previously intimate and recently pedestrianised shopping precinct in Petty Cury. There has also been adverse comment on the nature of the shopping development which, because of the high rents, has made it a virtually unattainable Shangri-La for local businesses.

1975 09 17
Over 25 years of argument, several million pounds of ratepayers' money and three years of toil what will we get? The Lion Yard development. On the first floor is a modest entrance to a building that Cambridge has desperately needed for many years … the new library. It has three floors. The top will be used for housing the Cambridgeshire Collection. On the first floor is a children's' room where young readers can comfortably browse through their selection. The building bears about as much comparison with the old Wheeler Street library as Buckingham Palace does with the Black Hole of Calcutta

1975 09 18
A life sized mythological figure in bronze, the work of British sculptor Mr Michael Ayrton will be erected on the Lion Yard site. The semi-abstract sculpture represents Tarlos, the legendary man of bronze who was given to Mynos, ruler of Crete to defend the island. The leader of the city council, Peter Wright said: "No doubt some will like it and some will not"

1975 10 03
The Alley Boutique is now open in new and spacious premises in the Lion Yard arcade. Mr Ian Burns said: "Customers are flocking in, but we have plenty of room for expansion and we hope to introduce a mezzanine floor. We were the first boutique in Cambridge, opening in Falcon Yard ten years ago. We get customers of 12 and up to 60 years of age, but most are young". The Boutique sells almost any clothing from a jumper to a fur coat.

1975 10 16
Never had the cherubs on top of the marble columns looked down on a scene of such noise and commotion. For years they have held sway over an atmosphere of dignified hush in the library in Wheeler Street, Cambridge. But all that changed when removal men dismantled bookcases and piled thousands of books into crates ready to go to the ultra-modern library in Lion Yard. As men stripped away its contents the room with its faded splendour and peeling yellow paint looked remarkably small. It was never easy to reach the top or bottom shelves of the tall bookcases. Anyone bold enough to crouch down and survey the low shelf inevitably collided with some other borrower standing behind.

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1975 12 02
The Lion Yard lion is up, carrying in his proud frame many years of history as he looks down on the centre of the Cambridge new development's shopping centre. The city's acquisition of such an appropriate symbol is a combination of luck and circumstance. The lion is believed to be the original wood carving for a cast lion which stood over the old Red Lion brewery at Waterloo station. It was discovered at the Woburn Abbey antique centre four years ago. Since then it has been completely refurbished at the city engineer's workshops at Mill Road. Now it has been put up in its final home- the Lion Yard 75 12 02

1975 12 03
Lion Yard opening supplement

1975 12 04
Princess Anne, making her first official visit to Cambridge, insisted on an impromptu chat with some of the thousands of sight-seers who thronged the city centre Lion Yard shopping centre. An estimated 10,000 people packed the Market Square and stood eight deep each side of Petty Cury as she walked into the new shopping centre. She stopped to talk to the delighted shop girls who were crowding their doorways and also to the eager shoppers who pressed forward to get a closer look at her. She explained: "I am not a complete stranger here because I have been shown around the university and city unofficially by two previous students who are both fans of the old city" 75 12 04

1975 12 04
Large crowds turned out to see Princess Anne wherever she went in Cambridge during her visit yesterday. Inevitably the criticisms that have been voiced about the architecture of the Lion Yard were referred to during the formal speeches. The city council's Labour leader, Coun Peter Wright, spoke of the 'dissension' which still existed over the complex. And Princess Anne, who declared herself a "VI – that means very independent" observer of the architectural scene, said she would report back on the project to two "former students" at Cambridge University when she returned to London 75 12 04

1975 12 12
Lion Yard cartoon, p23

1977 02 17
What kind of shopping facilities will we see in Cambridge in the future? If recent events are pointers then the small operator will be replaced – just as quaint non-conformist Petty Cury was replaced with the corporate dullness of Lion Yard. The rents jumped enormously leaving the high mark-up multitudes – Golden Egg, Dixons, Van Allen, Etam, Chelsea Girl et al to take the units paying between £3,000 and £18,000 a year in rent. It meant that the variety of shops was reduced. If the Kite complex proposals were to see the light of day then an identical effect could occur.

1977 02 22
Cambridge open-air market traders have slammed the city council's decision to close the underground lavatories on the Market Square during the day. It will be most inconvenient for the many fruit and veg sellers obliged by health regulations to keep hot water on or near their stalls. They now face a hundred yards walk to the Lion Yard super loos, described as the most palatial in the country. But women stall holders can face up to half an hour's wait during the summer tourist season.

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1977 04 23
The new Bridge House office block and restored 16th-century buildings in Bridge Street, Cambridge, are a landmark and inspiration, said the Mayor, Coun Bob May, when he opened the £1.3 million redevelopment. “If only the architects had been involved at Lion Yard then things might have turned out differently there”, he said. He praised the skill with which the historic and environmentally important site had been handled by the Scottish Mutual Assurance Society and its architects, Saunders Boston of Cambridge. It was an outstanding example of how a new building could be fitted into an old environment and how old buildings could be preserved.

1977 05 25
Tenpenny vanilla cornets were given away free in Lion Yard, Cambridge as two ice cream bosses lined up for battle. Mr John “Country Boy” Powell gave away more than a hundredweight of his home-made ice-cream as part of his cold war against rival seller Mr Giovanni “Lyon’s Maid” Rozzo. He claims that he has a gentleman’s agreement with the boss of Wally’s Ice Cream to share the Lion Yard “pitch”. So there were a few frosty glances when Mr O. De Gennare wheeled in Mr Rozzo’s barrow and set up in competition right next door. “Its poisonous” said one schoolboy to another who was clutching no less than three chocolate cornets to his chest. “I’ve gone mad”, Mr Powell told the inquisitive.

1977 07 23
The Mayor of Heidelberg officially opened the rooftop garden above Lion Yard, Cambridge, which has been named after the German town to mark the link between Cambridge and its twin university town. Oberburgermeister Renhold Zundel said a scheme similar to Lion Yard was being built in his city and they might have a garden named after Cambridge soon. 77 07 23

1977 08 12
The Mayor of Cambridge had a go at skateboarding, the latest craze among youngsters. But try as he would to keep still the board had a will of its own and he had to hold on to one of a group of teenagers who went to see him about finding a proper skateboard rink in the city. He told them he had already made a firm request for the Amenities Committee to consider their 1,637-name petition and asked if some of the city’s lottery money can be spent on one. The slopes of the Lion Yard present an ideal combination of smooth surface and different angles to turn in but shoppers say it is dangerous and large areas of plate glass windows are likely to be broken

1977 08 19
Theoretically worth over £150,000 a year in rent, the 47,000 square foot office accommodation above the Lion Yard has stood empty since the precinct opened nearly two years ago. Agents trying to let the offices blame the economic malaise for their lack of success. The high price of central car parking is also a barrier. The city council made a former builders’ site available to encourage offers and now one taker has at last been found. Vinters, the Cambridge solicitors have taken space. But Bidwells say matters will only improve when companies begin to expand and the perpetually optimistic estate agents say it is beginning to happen.

1977 09 10
The owner of the Alley Boutique warned skateboard enthusiasts to keep out of the Cambridge Lion Yard after his shop’s plate glass window was smashed. Police found a skateboard amid the broken glass. Ian Burns said: “This is the third shop window to be damaged since they started using the slopes of the walkways”. The skateboarders who are aged from 10 to 25 use the shopping precinct as an evening time practice run. The Mayor said: “Until they can find their own rink they say the Lion Yard is the only place to go”

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1978 06 05
Most of the offices built on top of the City Council's Lion Yard complex in the centre of Cambridge are still unoccupied – nearly three years after completion of the development. Now councillors are concerned about the loss of rents and want more intensive steps taken to find tenants for the block, which is gathering dust. Only 5,750 feet has been let, to a subsidiary of Barclay's Bank but negotiations are now taking place with two organisations. If these fall through some councillors think they should let charity organisations use them

1978 08 08
The ice-cream war is hotting up in Cambridge's Lion Yard and the competition is getting so cut-throat that even some of the salesmen feel there are too many stands – as many as 19 on one day. A few years ago there were only two or three stalls selling hot-dogs and ice creams, or roast chestnuts in the winter. But now the proliferation is bringing complaints from shops who say their trade is suffering and from tourists, who say they are being molested. In addition the mouldering strife is threatening to erupt in violence as the growing number of traders cut into each other's sales.

1978 10 04
Some of the long-disused offices above Cambridge's Lion Yard shopping complex may soon be turned into restaurants. The plans have been warmly greeted by councillors who have complained for a long time about the empty space standing in one of the city's key commercial positions. The applicants want to rent the bulk of the ground floor and turn it into two restaurants, one catering for general medium price trade and the other as a high-class 'night life' restaurant. The three-storey office block which contains thousands of square feet of space has been standing empty since the development was completed three years ago. 78 10 04

1979 02 06
Expansion plans for Robert Sayle's shopping complex in the centre of Cambridge were supported by the City Council's controlling Conservatives who say the extensions will improve shopping facilities and bring much needed car parking space into the city centre. But Labour says the extra cars would cause traffic problems and in any case the centre of Cambridge should not be put up for sale. Sayle's want to extend their shop floor space facing Lion Yard and provide more than 100 public and private parking spaces. It would benefit city traders and motorists alike

1979 09 11
Ronelles, a disco restaurant, will soon open above Lion Yard in the heart of Cambridge and one of the city's most interesting business gambles will be under way. It's a big bet. The lease is long but the odds are short that young Cambridge people will patronise a place which they have long insisted is overdue. The club will have a membership of 500 and be relatively expensive with a £100 a year membership fee. It will have an elevated restaurant, two bars, a dance floor, a waterfall and cabins. These together with palm trees and a native mask on the logo suggest the premises may have a Caribbean flavour. It will be a welcome solution to an embarrassing problem for the space, originally intended for offices, has stayed empty for years.

1980

1980 01 30
The new magistrates' courts, perched above the Lion Yard car park have been built to last for the next 100 years at a cost of £1.7 million. Some wonder how Cambridge managed to acquire such an expensive addition to the skyline in these times of stringent public spending cuts, the answer seems to be that it won its case just in time. Today the verdict would be different. After years of

less-than-satisfactory courtroom conditions we have something of a showpiece. Compared to the old courts the new carpeted building is luxury itself. “From boarding house to Hilton” was how one prison officer described it. In fact the only criticism is that some people will consider the edifice ‘too good’
80 01 30

1980 02 20
The owner of Ronelles disco restaurant in Lion Yard Cambridge is delighted with the response to the Caribbean / Polynesian theme used in the décor. He felt there was no point in providing first-class surroundings, a sophisticate atmosphere and good meals if they were to allow customers to come there in jeans and sweaters. So he warned that “scruffs” would be turned away. Would-be members are also vetted before being accepted. Admission varies from £2 to £3 and main courses in the restaurant vary from chargrilled chicken at £2.40 to duck a l’orange at under £5. Bar prices are only a few pence above the average 80 02 20a

1980 03 28
Cambridge’s new £1½ million magistrates’ courts above the Lion Yard multi-storey car park were officially opened by Prince Philip. Although he claimed to have stopped being surprised at anything he was obviously amused that they had been built on top of a car park, but said that it was often the most eccentric ideas which were the best. He hoped they would be required as little as possible 80 03 28a

1980 06 26
Lion Yard rents increase 350-550%, from £9,000 to £40,000 [13.13]

1983 04 26
The County Council has been urging Cambridge councillors to provide more city centre parking space. They say 1,000 extra parking spaces are needed. Now they have suggested six sites: a 250-space extension to the present Lion Yard multi-deck, land behind Telephone House in Regent Street-Park Terrace (220 spaces on a four-deck park), the old Addenbrooke's Hospital site (250 spaces), land behind Shire Hall (450 spaces on a three-deck park), Saxon Street (480) and Adam and Eve Street (460 spaces). 83 04 26 p5

1983 11 15
Cambridge could soon have a new underground car park, an extensive range of new shops and a luxury hotel at the edge of the Lion Yard car park. The land, which is let as a private car park, was originally scheduled for a large hotel, then the John Lewis organisation became interested. But now the City Council is considering extending the Lion Yard car park, probably underground, and selling the land for shopping. It might fetch as much as £5 million. 83 11 15 p1

1984 04 06
The problem of alcoholics monopolising and sometimes abusing public facilities in Lion Yard has been puzzling councillors for a year. It is warm and dry in winter and in the summer they move elsewhere. They need somewhere to congregate out of public gaze. Some say the Guildhall would be suitable or a centre established in one of the five local churches. Another solution could be to rent a shop and provide drop-in facilities. But this would be costly. 84 04 06

1985 01 21
An old playschool bus has been fitted out with bench seats and facilities to make hot drinks and sandwiches with an informal meeting area upstairs. It will stand on waste land next to the Lion Yard car park as a drop-in centre to provide a warm, sheltered meeting place for the homeless,

unemployed and disadvantaged people of Cambridge. There will be two basic rules – no drink and no violence. It is run by the Cyrenians who will offer advice on problems with the DHSS, housing and drinking. But there has been a lot of public hostility 85 01 21

1985 07 06
Lion Yard car park extension plan – 85 07 06

1985 09 01
Ian Purdy has probably done more than anybody else in modern times to shape the Cambridge we know today. He is the man who fought and won the battle to lift the years-long planning ban on Cambridge expansion, thus opening the doors to industrial development. He played the major part in approving the controversial Lion Yard redevelopment which changed the face of the city centre forever. But he did not design it – that was done by private architects - and doubts if such a scheme would have been approved even 18 months after it was given the go-ahead. "People had so much concrete redevelopment thrust on them after the war and called a halt to it", he says. 85 09 01b & c

1986 01 06
Dearer car parking charges in Cambridge will drive motorists to shop in other towns, says a Director of Joshua Taylor. At Peterborough the charge for four hours is 60p compared to £1.50 in Lion Yard. The Grafton Eastern park costs just 50p for three hours which is unfair to city centre traders. But Lion Yard prices are likely to increase to 30p for the first hour following the end of a 'freeze' on charges which has been operating for the past 16 months to try and attract more shoppers 86 01 06

1986 01 25
Cambridge City Council wants to increase central area parking as cheaply as possible and is prepared to do a deal with a developer to sell or lease the large area of waste land next the Lion Yard car park. Possibilities include an eight screen cinema complex to be developed by an American company, offices, houses and flats, a luxury hotel or shops linked to St Andrew's Street by moving walkways. Some of the schemes are very attractive visually but the ones that could give the council the best returns are amongst the ugliest. 86 01 25

1986 03 11
Holiday Inn plans for hotel and extensions Lion Yard car park welcomed – 86 03 11

1986 04 24
Michael Copley and Dag Ingram were undergraduates at Churchill College in the '70s. One had a recorder and the other borrowed £5 to buy an accordion and they started playing on Saturday morning in Lion Yard. One day they received a knock on the door from a policeman. He wanted to book them for a policeman's ball at Huntingdon. The Cambridge Buskers were on their way to stardom. They toured Germany and did a recording with Deutche Grammophon which made them pop stars. Now they have been invited back to Cambridge to play at the University Music Club 86 04 24c

1986 07 09
W.H. Smith, a familiar sight on Cambridge Market Hill for the past 25 years is to close. Staff will be transferred to their other shops in Lion Yard and at Cambridge railway station. 86 07 09

1987 08 19

Ambitious plans for a £3million facelift for the Lion Yard shopping centre have been unveiled by Barclays Bank. The precinct – officially opened by Princess Anne in 1975 – will be brought bang up-to-date with new lighting, new paving and a new shop unit neat St Andrew's the Great. The biggest change will be a covered first-floor level incorporating the Heidelberg Gardens with four food kiosks and a seating area for 200. It will be a much better place and people will be able to get something to eat and drink there, developers claim. 87 08 19

1988 03 08
Multi-million pound plans to refurbish the Lion Yard shopping centre would include gates to shut off the precinct at night. There would be a food court with restaurant on the upper floor of the present WH Smith which would be relocated in Heidelberg Gardens. 88 03 08

1988 05 05
Lion Yard redevelopment history – 88 05 05b

1989 06 14
Cinderellas Rockerfellas –formerly Ronelles - Cambridge's top night spot, reopens with a new look. Top disc jockey Bruno Brookes will make an appearance along with Hot Flesh and their fire dance spectacular, Marc Oberon the illusionist and robots Adam and Eve. The evening begins with a jazz band playing outside the club in the Heidelberg Gardens in Lion Yard. The club now sports a more upmarket image and incorporates Waldo T. Pepper's restaurant 89 06 14

1989 08 11
St Andrew the Great church at the entrance to Lion Yard went into rapid decline as the congregation dwindled and was declared redundant in 1983. The diocese put in planning applications for community use then leased it to Grosvenor Square Properties, a London-based development company. Since then proposals have been met with a storm of protest. Many want church, which houses a memorial to Captain Cook, to an education and heritage centre 89 08 11a

1990 08 10
Lion Yard car park underground extension opened – 90 08 10a; brings relief 90 08 17a

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'Rance's Folly', St Andrew's Street, demolished 1957

c.61 : Architecture
Includes some of prominent buildings lost or constructed

1897 04 07 c
In Cherryhinton Road, Cambridge, and in close proximity to the Cattle Market, Mr Henry Day has erected a new flour mill. The building is compact, the three floors are occupied by a most interesting system of machinery. Needless to say the plant is of the most up-to-date character. It has been fitted to produce one sack per hour. Mr Day expressed his confidence that he had some of the very best wheat obtainable. He enters the open market with every determination to succeed c1897 04 07

1898 06 09
Cambridge town council accepted a design for new police and fire brigade buildings, which it is proposed to erect upon the Spinning House site. If the new station is erected the whole of the existing buildings, which are not conspicuous for their beauty, will be removed, with the exception of the chief constable's house, and the fire station and firemen's quarters will be completely isolated from the police building. A new main entrance will be erected and it is suggested that the present stone gateway to the police station should be removed to the back entrance in Downing place. The only elevation of any architectural pretensions will be the main

facade towards St Andrews's street. A copula forming a central feature will serve as a "look-out" in connection with the fire station. The plans include provision for a mortuary 1898 06 09

1900

1903 08 11
Petty Cury - Sir – I believe a great number of antiquarians in Cambridge will learn with regret that the Falcon Inn Yard in Petty Cury has been removed to make way for modern improvements. So quietly has the old Falcon taken flight that I fear our local photographers have not secured pictures of the old buildings and its destruction has escaped even the lynx-eyed representatives of the Press. I am consoled that I have retained my water-colour drawing of this famous inn, which I made 25 years ago for 'Old Cambridge' – W.B. Redfern 03 08 11

1903 08 11
Petty Cury - Our attention has been drawn to the fact that another link with the fascinating past of Cambridge is being severed by the almost entire demolition of the one-time famous 'Falcon Inn'. Many years ago the front of the building, with its fine old gables facing Petty Cury, disappeared and about eight years ago the buildings on the left side of the Falcon Yard were demolished to make way for business extensions. Now the rooms on the right side are in process of demolition for extra accommodation for the Lion Hotel. The back part possessing a small specimen of the open gallery remains 03 08 11

1909 01 01
F.W. Fawcett was the architect of many Cambridge buildings including the Cavendish Laboratory & various departments in the New Museums site. He undertook the restoration of a large part of Queens' College, designed additions to Addenbrooke's Hospital, remodelled the County Gaol & built the Training College for Women, the County Police Station, several college boathouses and cricket pavilions as well as several large mansions including Longstowe and Six Mile Bottom CWN 09 01 01

1909 12 31
The 250-year-old Tithe Barn in Shelley-Row, Castle End is to be pulled down to make way for new houses. It is still in good repair with patches of new straw used to mend the high and thickly-thatched roof. It was used as a resting-place by the French prisoners taken in the Peninsular War during their journey to the prison camp at Norman Cross. Many people bought objects such as dice and dominoes they made from the bones of the meat supplied to them. The 'True Blue' in Hobson Street was also one of the billets. CWN 09 12 31

1911 French's road mill did not get much wind, converted steam ... had sails & rural 1911 [446.12.2]

1920

1925 08 07
Sir – the proposed garage on Christ's Pieces has called forth a crop of protesting letters; let them be directed against the ugly, barrack-like Councils houses at Chesterton and Cavendish Avenue. The majority of the houses are literally a blot on the landscape, badly designed, dreary and poverty-stricken, they are eyesores to every passer-by. Yet they are being built without a word of protest, while the cutting down of a couple of trees evokes a regular storm of indignation – Kappal 25 08 07

1925 11 18
The 100ft high chimney stack which has stood for close on 300 years on the site of the old disused flour mill at the corner of Mill Lane and Granta Place, Cambridge, was pulled down. A platform was erected at the base of the stack which rises from the now dry river bed, and fuel in the form of straw, wood and corn was placed thereon. The whole was then soaked with paraffin oil, a match applied and the work of destruction begun. But the old giant took a deal of shifting and it was not until the flames had licked about his feet for over a quarter of an hour did he sway and crash to the ground amid a deafening crescendo of falling masonry 25 11 18

1930

1934 09 22
Statues on Market Hill conduit named – 34 09 22

1935 04 10
Demolition work on Peas Hill for the new Guildhall has led to an architectural discovery of outstanding interest. It has revealed the residence and business premises of a well-to-do Tudor merchant which was subsequently divided up into a detached and two semi-detached houses. The magnificent front was covered up with lath and plaster in the reign of Queen Anne and finished with mock bricks. Dummy eaves were also added. Now each piece has been carefully taken down and numbered for preservation and re-erection. 35 04 10

1935 05 01
The Guildhall Protest Committee criticised plans for a useless portico of a most ornate and incongruous style which could be 'put on cold' in from of the proposed façade of the new Guildhall in two years' time if the town really wanted it. The main entrance should be on Market Hill. It would allow a terrace which would form a platform for addressing meetings on Market Hill and give a façade of distinction that the people strongly desire. There was also intense feeling regarding the question of shops on the Peas Hill side 35 05 01

1936 10 20
King's College had employed a firm to supply a pump to serve half-a-dozen jets of water at their fountain. They had intended to use the water over and over again but found that with the heavy wind the water was blown over the gravel and did not go back into the fountain. So they had connected the mains to make up the loss. This contravened Water Company byelaws and there was a danger of contaminating the supply 36 10 20a

1937 02 01
Alexander Paul MacAlister was articled to Messrs Fawcett's, a Cambridge firm of architects, before starting on his own in St Andrew's Street 45 years ago. He designed the new block at Fulbourn Mental Hospital and the Tubercular Hospital at Antwerp as well as many houses in Madingley Road. He founded the Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society and played parts in all the Gilbert and Sullivan operas. 37 02 01

1940

1944 04 15
Stone gateway at Holy Trinity churchyard erected by Richard Reynolds in 1770; he occupied a hose and hand a right of way over the churchyard from Crane Lane. It was made from materials removed from the ruins of an ancient chapel at Reach, a small portion of which remains – 44 04 15

1944 10 05
Cambridge Sea Cadet Corps take Oyster Bar, Garlic Row for HQ; dates back to 1707 – 44 10 05

1945 06 15
Folk Museum new home – Lord Fairhaven offers Abbey House in recognition of VE Day – CDN 1945 06 13 Abbey House – historical facts by F.A. Keynes – CDN 1945 06 15

1950

1950 12 09
"The almost hopeless state of parking in Cambridge" was referred to when Ald F.J. Priest urged the demolition without delay of Liddiard's garage on St Andrew's Hill – thus providing parking spaces for some of the season-ticket holders at Lion Yard. The building had been scheduled as an 'architectural novelty' but there would be no objection to its immediate demolition.

1951 01 08
The Minister of Town and County Planning has compiled a list of buildings in Cambridge, which are afforded a degree of protection which they have not hitherto enjoyed. The list is a formidable one covering colleges, University buildings, churches, public houses, business premises and private houses. It includes the modern Laboratory of Physical Chemistry in Free School Lane which incorporates the 16th-century hall of the original Perse school with its fine hammer-beam roof c51 01 08

1953 01 21
Cambridge city council have asked the County not to demolish the old Assize Courts which are at present closed because of dry rot. As it is a building of special architectural interest further consideration should be given to its preservation. Dry rot does not necessarily involve the demolition of the whole structure of an affected building – none of the Colleges have had to demolish their buildings, though many of them have been affected from time to time. But the County says there is no assurance that further infection could be prevented. They intend to re-erect the façade of the building elsewhere

1951 01 23
Cambridge town planning committee say there can be no justification for a spine relief road between Histon Road corner and Jesus Lane merely to preserve for a few years more buildings on the west side of Magdalene Street which, although of some architectural interest, are sub-standard from every other point of view. Pending demolition the commercial use of the buildings should be terminated, doing away with the necessity for vehicles to wait outside c51 01 23

1953 07 21
Cambridge City Councillors recommended the partial demolition of the Conduit Head in Market Square. Due to inherent defects and deterioration much of the stone has given way or has fractured. Rebuilding would cost some £2,200. It could be strengthened with steel rods or demolished to the level of the granite plinth. The Conduit was erected in 1855 at a cost of £554. The steps, plinth and base are granite and the structure itself of Ancaster stone

1953 10 12
The condition of the stone of the conduit head on Cambridge Market Hill has been found to be much worse than anticipated during recent demolition work and so the Council will be recommended not to rebuild it. The condition of the stone was such that the only part which could

be safely re-used was the four pillars and the cost of restoration would be at least £4,000, double the previous estimate. They propose to loan the carved figures from the conduit to the Folk Museum.

1953 10 12
A decision not to rebuild the Conduit head in Market Hill, Cambridge was described as a retrograde step by Ald James. "I know it is the fashion to run down Victorian architecture but I think it was very seemly. I think we should rebuild it in the same style". But Ald Priest said "If in ten years' time people see pictures of the Conduit as it was, there will be nothing to prevent them from replacing it by photographs. The majority of people are quite satisfied and the Secretary of the Preservation Society has written to say how nice we have made it".

1956 The old brick windmill in Hurst Park Avenue was built in 1855 by J.M. Mann and ended its working days some 60 years ago when the sails were removed. The mill was last operated by William French from Hildersham whose family have been millers for four generations. It is now used as storage by S.A. Rose, the butcher, whose slaughterhouse once stood close by. 56 09 06

1957 04 04
Hurst Park Avenue windmill demolition [229.1.7]

1957 06 21
Rance's Folly, the large redbrick house now being demolished in St Andrew's Street once had several lifts, four bathrooms and central heating – as well as a swimming pool. Guests even played tennis on the roof. It was built by Henry Rance who was Mayor in 1878 and 1882 – when he held council meetings in his dining room - and included a ballroom whose floor was laid by experts brought specially from Germany. Here his granddaughters were never at a loss for partners. 57 06 21 & 21a

1957 12 02
The Senate House has been restored and redecorated. The roof was strengthened, large chandeliers removed and soft diffused pink coloured electric lighting installed in alcoves around the balcony to shed a clean warm light over the whole building. It now looks very similar to how it was nearly 130 years ago.57 12 02a

1959 03 01
Emmanuel College's new building in St Andrew's Street has attracted many protests and the Anti-Ugly Society joined a mock funeral procession lead by four pall-bearers looking somewhat like Teddy Boys in their 'mourning weeds'. They bore a coffin inscribed 'Here Lieth British Architecture' which was placed outside the Porter's Lodge as mourners chanted 'Pull it down and burn it.' Although most onlookers treated the protest as a great joke for the Anti-Ugly Society it was a matter of serious importance in their genuine concern for architecture. 59 03 01b

1959 05 22
Cambridge Historic Buildings list published – 59 05 22

1959 06 18
The giant new Prudential Building on the junction of St Andrew's Street and Emmanuel Street incorporates the latest building techniques with heating and hot water provided by electrical units which take power from the mains during 'off-peak' hours and store it for use during the day. Acoustic ceiling tiles provide quieter working conditions, floors are of a coloured plastic tile and

decorations in pastel shades. The basement contains a large garage and special storage to cater for the large use of bicycles by staff. 58 06 18

1959 12 21
The controversy surrounding the Central Hotel in Peas Hill, which King's College want to knock down and replace by a new hostel for students has reached a new stage with the publication of a booklet. The St Edward's Committee was established when it was announced that the Central Hotel, a largely 17th-century building forming an integral part of a square around St Edward's churchyard, was to all appearances doomed. They believe it could be preserved and are pressing for a public inquiry into the proposals. 59 12 21c & d

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 01 07
Central Hotel preservation call – 60 01 07

1960 01 08
King's College has replied to criticism of its plans to demolish the 17th-century Central Hotel on the corner of St Edward's Passage and Peas Hill. Whilst the Midland Bank premises are scheduled as an ancient monument, the St Edward's Passage premises are not. The College has considered eleven schemes for the site, some of which would preserve the façade, but the preservation of the interior was a hopelessly haphazard proposition. Their architect has taken infinite care to ensure the new building preserves the essentially domestic character of St Edward's Passage, says Noel Annan, the Provost. 60 01 08b

1960 02 10
The St Edward's Committee may launch a fund to buy the Central Hotel in Peas Hill and house students in converted rooms. King's College, the owner, says it would prefer to sell the building rather than undertake the work of preservation. The Holford Committee which suggested demolishing it has now decided to study the merits of the building 60 02 10

1960 03 10
A final decision to demolish the Central Hotel was made by King's College after discussion with the Cambridge Preservation Society. Only five Fellows voted to try to preserve the St Edward's Passage façade while demolishing the rest. Everybody agrees that the interior was in a hopeless state of disrepair. When the college bought the property in 1936 they intended to develop the site. In 1956 they concluded that no part of the hotel could be preserved and commissioned a new building. 60 03 10

1960 03 16
One of the landmarks of Cambridge which has overlooked the city for about 60 years was demolished. The 100-foot chimney on the Newmarket Road once belonged to one of the city's brickworks which closed down about a year ago owing to the lack of clay. A large portion of the base of the chimney was cut away and propped up by wooden supports. These were then set alight using paraffin and wood shavings and smoke gushed from the top of the chimney for the last time before it fell slowly and gracefully to the ground. The actual kilns have already been demolished to make way for Watts and Son, timber importers 60 03 16

1960 05 21
In demolishing the old Central Hotel near Cambridge Market Place, the contractors have found it to be in a worse condition than they anticipated, but it has conformed fairly accurately to the

surveyor's report prepared by King's College who own the site. The comparatively recent facings of the interior of the building were concealing a rotting structure underneath and the building has had to be pulled down with extreme care – almost brick by brick. The hotel is being demolished in two phases of which the first has now been completed. The first half of the new building will be erected before the second half is pulled down 60 05 21a

1960 10 31
Charles Whitaker was one of the country's greatest wood carvers and sculptors. But his most prominent memorial is in Cambridge where he lived. His first stone-carving job was at Ridley Hall but every college bears the mark of his skill. He was responsible for the restoration of the outside of King's chapel, Trinity College fountain and the Gate of Honour at Caius. He also carved the University Arms over the Examination School in Mill Lane and designed the coats of arms on Fen Causeway bridge and Ascham Road Library. 60 10 31

1961 10 20
The Malting House stands on one of the busiest corners in Cambridge yet overlooks a backwater of the Cam bordered by a meadow where cattle graze. It was a brewery until converted for habitation in 1902 when the Corporation demolished the front of the house to widen the road. The bricks for the new façade came from the old properties being taken down at that time. In 1912 what remained of the old malting was converted into a small hall where countless musical evenings have been held. The whole house, which used to be a single domicile, now has six domestic units 61 10 20

1961 12 01
A bold scheme to transform Cambridge Market Hill into the 'finest piazza in Europe' would involve banning traffic in King's Parade, demolition of a few buildings on the corner of St Mary's Passage and the complete clearance of the Market Place. The screen in front of King's college would be removed and the Senate House and Law Department buildings linked together to form one magnificent spacious vista, says architect G.M. Vickers 61 12 01b

1961 12 01
Arbury Road takes a lot of traffic but one bungalow is peaceful because its wings act as a sound buffer. It is built in the form of a square with the fourth side open and has five front doors leading on to a courtyard. The main door – distinguishable from the others by the letter box – leads into a small hall. The eight rooms are interconnected and, apart from the kitchen and bathroom, can be arranged to satisfy individual tastes. Running along the right wing is a wash house with enough space to dry a heavy wash. 61 12 01e

1961 12 06
Pythagoras Hall in Northampton Street has been bought by St John's College. It is the earliest secular building in the city and was home to the first Mayor of Cambridge. But his family lost its wealth and it was sold to Merton College, Oxford, in 1270. For several centuries it was leased to farmers and became a granary. St John's hope to use it for collegiate purposes, though it means that Lord Rothschild, a University lecturer in Zoology, will have to move 61 12 06

1962 12 08
Roebuck House, Chesterton – 62 12 08 & a

1962 02 01
The changing face of old Cambridge will soon see further demolition. Already a number of houses have been pulled down in Shelley Row and four more are to follow including one boasting

an elegant example of a Mansard roof. The building on the corner of Leeke Street and Newmarket Row, known as Mendicity House, formerly provided lodgings for beggars following the Napoleonic War. It was later purchased by the Industrial Dwellings Company, set up to improve the inadequate housing in the Barnwell area. It is now Harris' butcher shop. 62 02 01b & c

1962 04 13
A glass staircase is just one of the fascinating features of a house in Queen Edith's Way which was built just before the war. It was designed by W.A. Cairns with sweeping curves, enormous bay windows at the front, a canopy above the sun terrace and arched doorways. The framework is of steel and armour-plate glass treads on slim rubber supports. The lounge has a circular mirror decorated with an engraving of a polo pony and rider. Much of the furniture is built in, including a cocktail bar and writing bureau 62 04 13

1963 09 03
Thatched cottage, Clement Place rethatched, thatched cottage to come down if extensions to Park Street Car Park [446.15.6]

1964 04 24
'Cambridge New Architecture' criticises the new Addenbrooke's Hospital in Hills Road. No doubt these bleak buildings work efficiently but the bungaloid growth of the out-patients building cannot mitigate the overall barrack-room atmosphere, it says. Bradwell's Court shopping centre is attractively self-effacing and the Snowcat is one of the few well-designed modern pubs. But other Arbury building is weak with prim brick terraces and utility steel or concrete doorways of modish design. It is a squandering of Cambridge's short-supply of housing land 64 04 24b

1964 06 05
Listed buildings may not be demolished but owners need not keep them in repair and they often deteriorate until they are condemned as a danger to public safety. Cromwell's barn in St Ives was a magnificent example of a 16th-century manorial barn but it was burn down because it became unsafe. In Cambridge many little cottages are disappearing behind scaffolding to emerge with a completely different character and price-tag. Some houses in Portugal Place and a tiny court near Sidney Sussex College are in danger but Orchard Street has been saved by the Preservation Society 64 06 05b

1964 07 22
Chesterton towers to be renovated and opened to public. It would be fenced off from flats to be constructed alongside 64 07 22c

1966
Scheme to make Corn Exchange into offices for City Architect [494.5.4]

1967 03 04
Dutch façade revealed on building during demolition work for Eaden Lilley; believed to be the only remaining trace of an old alleyway which ran parallel with Market Street – 67 03 04

1967 06 21
Cambridge police station now a listed building; built 1901 to design of John Morley – feature – 67 06 21

1969 07 25

Walt-ham-stell, large house in landscaped gardens, Barton Rd is the 1795 'House in the Fen', a famous old coaching inn; is tunnel to Grantchester & Roman well. Permission granted for demolition but should be saved – 69 07 25a

1967 07 26
County Council buy Howes Close mansion and 23 acres as extension Shire Hall site, to move Country Centre students – 67 07 26

1968 10 12
History Faculty building opens a year late – with leaks – 68 10 12

1969 05 14
Bridge Street buildings on corner Round Church Street must be restored to original condition; owners P.H. Allin want to demolish – 69 04 30a. Storm over plans to demolish – 69 05 14 , 14a

1969 10 25
Demolition of Regency Houses in Bene't Place to make way for bio-chemistry department – inquiry – 69 10 25

1969 10 29
Manor House old Chesterton demolished without protest [446 9.2]

1970

1970 01 28
Regency houses in Bene't Place may not be demolished for University biochemistry – 70 01 28

1970 07 01
History Faculty building wins RIBA award, despite leaks – 70 07 01

1970 08 11
Turnpike house near Barnwell Bridge bought from Jesus College, converted into house – 70 08 11

1970 10 14
Cheddars Lane Pumping Station should be preserved and listed say Government – 70 10 14

1971
Orchard Street house redevelopment saga, Mr Barton moved in 1964, 1971 started plans [446.15.5]

1971 03 12
Market Hill redevelopment – British Cinemas to build offices and shops at 3-5 but plaster ceilings and beams to be preserved – 71 03 12

1971 06 10
Bridge Street debacle: the two faces of Cambridge – laments crumbling buildings; feature 'A city in shackles' – 71 06 10 & a

1971 07 13
SOS as office blocks take over Hills Rd [446.13.5]

1971 08 23
Newmarket Road derelict house last of ‘padding cans’ houses built for navvies who came to build railways and dig coprolite – 71 08 23

1971 09 04
King Street new buildings ruin environment, Architectural Review claims – 71 09 04

1971 12 10
Sidney Street and Bridge Street townscape analysis report – 71 12 10a

1971 12 17
Townscape Analysis report by David Urwin acclaimed – 71 12 17a

1972 08 31
The preservation and restoration of the historic frontage of 10-16 Bridge Street, Cambridge is assured in new plans for a 40,000 sq.ft. development by the Scottish Mutual Assurance Company. An earlier version of the scheme was turned down after a public inquiry. It involved knocking down the corner building and replacing it with a new structure which the inspector at the inquiry described as "aggressive in design". The new plans preserve the Bridge Street frontage. The scheme occupies a prominent site at the corner of Round Church Street and Bridge Street which has been a topic of heated discussion between developers, planners and preservationists for several years 72 08 31

1974 10 05
A £2 million plan for converting the old Cambridge corn exchange into a multi-purpose concert hall was accepted by the City Amenities Committee. An early warning of stormy times ahead was given by Coun. Peter Cowell who said: “There is bound to be a lot of opposition”. In their report the architects claim that “not only Cambridge but England as a whole will gain a concert hall of potentially international stature which could attract the finest musical talent”. They suggest the reshaped building could hold up to 1500 people and would also be ideal for events such as boxing, wrestling, operas, plays, exhibitions and conferences 74 10 05

1975 07 25
A protective walkway, quantities of scaffolding and expanses of wire netting surround the Tudor buildings that huddle around the corner of Bridge Street & Round Church Street, Cambridge. Behind the façade a vast mechanical screw digs into what was once Jordan’s Yard, overlooked by the empty shell and sagging roofs of the rear of the buildings. Eleven years after it was suggested that something ought to be done to rehabilitate the delaying 16th-century houses, work is finally underway to preserve them as the front of a new office and shopping development

1977 04 23
The new Bridge House office block and restored 16th-century buildings in Bridge Street, Cambridge, are a landmark and inspiration, said the Mayor, Coun Bob May, when he opened the £1.3 million redevelopment. “If only the architects had been involved at Lion Yard then things might have turned out differently there”, he said. He praised the skill with which the historic and environmentally important site had been handled by the Scottish Mutual Assurance Society and its architects, Saunders Boston of Cambridge. It was an outstanding example of how a new building could be fitted into an old environment and how old buildings could be preserved.

1979 12 04

Cambridge councillors and top officials entered the Mayor's Guildhall office and retrieved documents he had impounded after a furious showdown earlier in the day. The documents relate to a bitter ten-year planning wrangle over plans for a house in Orchard Street. The seizure of the papers was described as an unprecedented step and now the Mayor has called for the Chief Executive and the City Secretary and Solicitor to be relieved of their duties until a full inquiry is held.

1980

1982 10 14
One of Cambridge's most successful rebuilding schemes, Bridge House in Bridge Street, has received a top conservation award. The project involved rebuilding and refurbishing 16th century buildings which had fallen into a sad state of decay by 1970 – Tudor houses no longer fit to live in and derelict workshops. It was judged to be an outstanding piece of restoration work: the frontage was preserved and behind it was built a new office-block which can hardly be seen from the street. 82 10 14a

1982 12 20
David Roberts was an architect who contributed to the actual fabric of Cambridge. He has left the city crammed with his unobtrusive and modern buildings. Hundreds of undergraduates sleep, eat and study in the bedsit blocks, refectories and libraries he designed. He also converted St Michael's Court at Caius into sleek, street-level shops. His commissions included the X-ray department at old Addenbrooke's Hospital, an old people's centre, St Bede's School and three pubs. 82 12 20a

1984 06 19
Cambridge University's award-winning History Faculty building – which is plagued with defects – may be demolished only 16 years after it opened. Another option is to correct all the structural and heating problems as well as the leaks – but this could cost over £1 million. The building was heralded in a blaze of glory when it won a Royal Institute of British Architects national award for its designer so they do not want to demolish it 84 06 19 p6

1985 08 22
One of Cambridge's least-known grand houses has come on the market. The eight-bedroom mansion stands in more than three-quarters of an acre of ground and is approached by a long drive and carriage sweep. It has a fine entrance hall, large drawing and dining rooms, butler's pantry and a boiler house. It all sounds like the Newnham home of a Victorian worthy. The actual address is 242 Mill Road. The house is the former vicarage of St Philip's Church and there is planning consent for 17 sheltered homes to be built on the site. 85 08 22

1986 06 11
Chesterton Mill, in French's Road was built in 1847 but has stood derelict for the last 30 years. The eight-sided smock mill was only partially successful when driven by wind so the sails were removed in the 1890s and it was subsequently driven by steam, suction gas and diesel. It has now been renovated and starts a new lease of life as the home of Cambridge public relations firm Beveridge Kartupelis**.** 86 06 11a

1986 08 28
French's Mill was built on a high point in Chesterton in 1847 by William Beart. It was a wooden-walled smock mill but didn't catch enough wind, so it was jacked up and an eight-sided brick base added. But it was still not satisfactory so in 1868 William French converted it to run on

steam power. Later the sails were removed and gas engines installed, to be replaced by diesel 14 years later. At its peak small bakers used the it regularly but when the adjoining land was taken as playing fields for St Peter's School it looked as if the mill was doomed. Now it has begun a new life as an office suite and the surrounding buildings house ten other small companies playing their part in the technology boom 86 08 28

1986 11 26
The Corn Exchange, Cambridge's new entertainment and conference complex, has opened after years of political wrangling. The four wall shell used for pop concerts, roller skating and badminton has been developed into an auditorium with versatile seating together with a tiered balcony and mezzanine terrace that can be used for a variety of purposes. At the back are changing rooms, dressing rooms and workshops while the King Room upstairs will be available for private functions 86 11 26d & e

1988 10 29
Sir Clive Sinclair's Stone House, on Madingley Road was built in 1896. If he had chosen a fortress to protect him from prying eyes he could hardly have found a more solid building. The walls are more than a foot thick in solid stone and even the front door is a formidable structure of metal and class. It has a Middle Eastern annexe with a fabulous hand-painted ceiling and a collection of calculators and computers in a large glass cabinet. It is on the market for £750,000 88 10 29a

1990 03 14
Unex group has produced details of its big new development, Intercity House, on the former Pordage distribution site at the corner of Brooklands Avenue and Hills Road. It will offer air-conditioned offices with crèche, restaurant and gymnasium together with 301 car parking spaces. The windows will be high-performance anodised aluminium and the scheme will reflect the style and quality of the Victorian Royal Albert Almshouses across the road – 90 03 14

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Unveiling Memorial to Victory 1922 *142.74*

c.62 : Memorials - *for church memorials see c.83*

1900

1904 01 22
Discussion about site for Boer War Memorial, one suggestion is at junction of Hills Road & Station Road, finally decide to erect it at East end exterior of Gt St Mary's church [1.10]

1904 01 22
Boer War memorial, Gt St Mary's, p2

1905 05 23
The memorial to the men of Cambridge who fell in the South African War has been completed. It takes the form of a brass tablet designed by Mr W.W. Fawcett affixed to the wall of Great St Mary's church. It is surrounded by stone moulding surmounted by the badge of the Suffolk Regiment but commemorates all local men who died in the war. 05 05 23

1905 06 12
War memorial, p3

1905 06 13
The memorial to the Cambridge men who died during the South African War was unveiled at Great St Mary's Church. It is not inside the church but looks out upon the Market Place, seeming to say that in the midst of life we were in death. A guard of honour consisting of a hundred men of the Cambridge Town Volunteers together with a detachment of the Suffolk Militia, a

dismounted body of Hussars, Cambridge University Rifle Volunteers and the band of the Scots Grays joined old soldiers who had seen service in South Africa to witness the proceedings 05 06 13c

1905 06 17
The unveiling of the South African war memorial was marred by two small incidents. The Mayor of Cambridge was without his trusty mace-bearers - apparently the maces were securely locked up and the individual who holds the keys was not to be found. Then police failed to recognise the military veterans and refused them admittance to the ceremony to which they had been invited. There was a considerable amount of confusion until the constables were enlightened as to the nature of the guests and allowed them to pass. 05 06 17

1910

1913 05 03
Ivett & Reed stonemasons noisy stone-cutting machine 13 05 30 p10 CIP

1915 09 03
Trumpington's Roll of Honour. In the presence of a crowded congregation, the Vicar of Trumpington (the Rev. Dr. R, G, Bury) unveiled in the parish church of S.S. Mary and Michael, Trumpington, on Sunday afternoon, the village roll of honour. The names of 69 Trumpington men are inscribed on the roll which has been erected near the west door of the church to perpetuate the memory of the men of Trumpington who "went over" in the Great War of 1914-15 to defend the honour of England and to preserve unscathed for future generations the great inheritance of British justice and British liberty 15 09 03 CIPof

1918 11 06
First Cambridge War Shrine in Cambridge was blessed at St. Mary-the-Less Church is a real work of art. 18 11 06 CIPof

1919 04 30
United War Memorial.—There was really very little difference of opinion at a meeting of the Lord Lieutenants Committee, held on Saturday at the Cambridge Guildhall, respecting the form of the proposed united University, Town and County memorial to our fallen should take, two proposals respecting visible memorials meeting with unanimous approval and the adopted scheme for the utility memorial receiving the support of the overwhelming majority of the committee. The proposals which it was decided to put forward for consideration by the public were Visible memorials: (1) That a record of the names of all Cambs and Isle of Ely men who have fallen in the war be kept in Ely Cathedral, (2) That the sub-committee be asked to consider the question of a Monument of Victory in Cambridge or elsewhere. Utility Memorial (3) That Addenbrooke's Hospital be extended and made more complete 19 04 30 CIPof – 19 04 30f

1919 05 21
Corporation reject offer of a tank as memorial; but two guns purchased, one is in store yard, the other in a little piece of garden in Tenison Road – 19 05 21a

1919 08 20
Christ Church war memorial – design – 19 08 20e

1919 11 05
Newnham Institute unveil war memorial – 19 11 05d

1920

1920 06 02
St John's Church and St Barnabas Church war memorials unveiled – Ch 20 06 02e, Ch 20 06 09b

1920 04 21
Girton war memorial unveiled – photos – 20 04 21

1920 06 02
Memorial Unveiled. The parochial war memorial in connection with St. John Hills Road, Cambridge was unveiled last (Tuesday) evening by Bishop Price, Archdeacon of Ely. The memorial, which was designed by Mr. A. P. Macalister takes the form of a tablet in the south wall of the chancel. Underneath the representation of a dove hovering over a field of battle, is a polished brass plate bearing the names of 45 men of the parish who fell in the war. The memorial is in Hopton Wood stone in early English style, and was executed by Messrs. Leyton and Leach 20 06 02 CIPof

1920 06 04
St Barnabas war memorial unveiled - CDN 20 06 04

1920 06 11
St Botolph Church war memorial unveiled - CDN 20 06 11 Ch 20 06 16b

1920 07 22
Police roll of honour – 30 members joined Colours during the war – list - CDN 20 07 22

1920 08 12
St Philip's war memorial dedicated - CDN 20 08 12

1920 08 25
St Philip's War memorial tablet and plaque unveiled St Philip's church – 20 08 25b, c

1920 09 13
Post Office memorial to 17 men of Cambridge postal area unveiled – names - CDN 20 09 13, details Ch 20 09 15c, d

1920 09 15
Borough War Memorial. Statue of Soldier Recommended. Station Road Corner Site. A meeting was held at the Cambridge Guildhall yesterday (Tuesday) of the Monuments Sub-Committee of the Cambridgeshire Joint War Memorial. The meeting gave its final consideration to the suggested monument, for the Borough of Cambridge. The sculpture and architect were in attendance and explained their scheme, which the Committee agreed to place before the General Committee with the recommendation that it be adopted. The architect for the Record in Ely Cathedral regretted that he had not been able to complete his revised plans but hoped to do so by the end of September. The Committee decided to meet again on October 2nd to consider, this scheme and to interview the architect. 20 09 15 CIPof

1920 09 27
Old Chesterton war memorial unveiled - CDN 20 09 27, photo 20 09 29

1920 09 29
Fen Ditton war memorial unveiled - CDN 20 09 29

1920 10 08
Newnham war memorials unveiled, St Mark's church; photos – 20 10 13b

1920 10 13
German rifle presented to Cambridge Women's Liberal War Savings Association; Cambridge had been offered a tank but declined – Ch 20 10 13

1920 10 13
Cambridge Memorial to Victory model – 20 10 13c

1920 10 16
New Chesterton Institute war memorial unveiled - CDN 20 10 16

1920 10 18
County war memorials, Ely Cathedral and Cambridge plans approved, Parker's Piece as rival site to Station Road

1920 10 23
County Hall staff war memorial unveiled - CDN 20 10 23 Ch 20 10 27a

1920 10 25
Victoria Road Congregational Church war memorial unveiled - CDN 20 10 25

1920 10 17
County council war memorial, County Hall, unveiled – 20 10 27a

1920 11 03
St Bene't's war memorial unveiled – Ch 20 11 03a

1920 11 15
War memorials unveiled on Armistice Sunday – St Giles, Histon & Impington, St Ives, Waterbeach - CDN 20 11 15

1920 11 17
St Giles war memorial unveiling – photos – Ch 20 11 17

1920 11 18
Eden Baptist chapel memorial unveiled - CDN 20 11 18

1920 11 29
Wesley church organ unveiled as war memorial - CDN 20 11 29, 20 12 01b

1920 12 03
Our Lady war memorial unveiled - CDN 20 12 03

1920 12 08
Our Lady memorial tablet – Ch 20 12 08a, b

1920 12 20
Large German field gun offered as war memorial at Shire Hall but this would obstruct entrance; two trench mortars could be put under the portico at either side and would not take too much trouble to keep clean – both rejected - CDN 20 12 20

1920 12 21
St Matthew's church war memorial unveiled - CDN 20 12 21

1920 12 22
Gt St Andrew's war memorial unveiled – photo – 20 12 22c

1921 02 23
St Paul's church memorial – stained glass window & tablet unveiled – 21 02 23b, 21 03 09a

1921 03 16
St Andrew the Less memorial dedicated - 21 03 16b,i

1921 03 23
Abbey church memorial unveiled – 21 03 23a

1921 05 11
St Luke's war memorial unveiled – 21 05 11c

1921 05 25
St Columba's Church memorial unveiled – 21 05 25a

1921 06 01
Old Persean War memorial unveiled – 21 06 01a

1921 06 29
Gas Company war memorial unveiled – 21 06 29c; photos 21 07 27a

1921 07 06
St Andrew's Street Baptist Church war memorial unveiled – 21 07 06a

1921 08 10
All Saints War Memorial dedicated – 21 08 10c

1921 11 09
King's College memorial dedicated – 21 11 09a

1921 11 09
Gt St Mary's war memorial dedicated – 21 11 09b

1921 12 14
Trumpington wayside memorial unveiled – 21 12 14b, 21 12 21a

1921 11 16
Jesus College large German gun trophy captured and transported to Caius College – 21 11 16d, 16e

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1922 05 12
"To the glory of God, and in thankful memory of the men of --- who gave their lives in the Great War". How often have these sad dedicatory words been spoken during the past year or two as each local memorial was unveiled? But never have they been uttered with such deep impressiveness and in an air so charged with beautiful meaning as when they were spoken by the Bishop of Ely in Ely Cathedral this afternoon. For the veneration bestowed on each individual memorial was collected and concentrated on the beautiful memorials which have been erected in the Cathedral to the memory of the 5,320 men who made the supreme sacrifice in defence of their country's honour

1922 05 15
Holy Trinity war memorial, p3

1922 06 10
Cambridge war memorial arrangements, p5

1922 07 04
His Royal Highness the Duke of York unveiled the War memorial which has been erected in Cambridge. The ceremony was attended by thousands of people and was of a deeply impressive nature. It was raining heavily as the Prince mounted the platform for the unveiling ceremony. The band played the opening bar of the hymn "O God, our help in ages past" to the accompaniment of rain drumming on hundreds of umbrellas. A few minutes later the rain ceased and the rest of the ceremony was carried though amid brilliant sunshine. The Prince pulled a rope which released the drapery revealing the bronze figure of an infantryman 22 07 04
When the new King unveiled the War Memorial – 36 12 12

1922 07 06
Leys school memorial, p7

1922 07 11
The model of the soldier on the Cambridge War Memorial which, owing to an unavoidable delay, had to be used for the unveiling ceremony last week, has to-day been replaced by the actual bronze, so that the figure now in position is as it will be seen for all time. The bronze was brought from the foundry at Thames Ditton by motor lorry at four o'clock this morning. Mr Kett and ten men were in waiting and so expeditiously was the work carried out that by 8 o'clock the model figure had been taken down and the other set up and fixed in its proper position. A couple of hours later the scaffolding was removed 22 07 11

1922 07 22
War memorial face, p6

1922 07 27
A service of commemoration for the members of the college who fell in the war was held in the Chapel of Jesus College. Immediately after the service the memorial tablet was dedicated by the Lord Bishop of Ely. After a short service, the Master, amid a silence so intense that it could almost be felt, read the names inscribed on the memorial. It was an impressive scene - the clergy and choir in their surplices, row after row of gowned undergraduates, many of whom had also served, and a sprinkling of visitors from the outside world, all paying silent tribute to the 148 names read by the Master

1922 10 18

Memorial police WWI, p5

1923 01 27
The war was responsible for a good many things and amongst others was the delay in completing the King Edward VII memorial scheme in Cambridge. Soon after his death a memorial fund raised £10,000 for Addenbrooke's Hospital. £250 was retained for a statue, bust or picture. Statuary is very costly at present but we find we can obtain a bronze bust of King Edward by the late Sir Thomas Brock, the sculptor of the bust of Queen Victoria now in the vestibule of the Guildhall. The committee recommended that the offer be accepted as it would make a welcome addition to the somewhat bare vestibule of the Guildhall

1923 02 24
St John's college war memorial – 23 02 24 p6

1923 04 28
War memorial balance allocated, p5

1923 08 11
War memorial balance share, p3

1923 11 24
War memorial – Cambridge Review has article, p6

1924 03 03
New Street Bible Class memorial, p5

1924 07 26
When the list of Cambridgeshire men who fell in the war was being compiled for the Memorial Chapel in Ely Cathedral there were many expressions of regret that the Borough itself had no official record of names. Most of the parishes have their own lists but there is no complete list of Cambridge names other than the sheet published at a popular price by the C.D.N. some two or three years ago, and now to be seen in the Free Library. Now there is a proposal for the provision of a roll of names in the Guildhall

1924 11 11
An interesting and impressive Armistice Day service was held at Clare College. The service preceded the opening of a Memorial building – and extension of the college – and the unveiling by the Chancellor of the University of the roll of honour of 198 men of Clare College who fell in the war. The building was designed by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott. The ceremony included a simple commemoration, which the college has undertaken to perpetuate. The deed requires that every year on 11th November the Fellows and undergraduates, properly gowned, should assemble and the Master deposit a wreath.

1928 06 20
Sir – I happen to live opposite the field-gun in Tenison Road. It is not a relic of the Great War but a captured trophy from the Boer War. To me it represents history and the enormous sacrifices made by the pick of our population. Our war memorials tell our children of a great deliverance. Had we been defeated no doubt we should have had more hideous monuments, probably statues of the Kaiser and the boastful Hindenburg, at which some of the pro-Germans could kneel. Let these small tokens that speak of victory over injustice be preserved for all time – C.J. Challess

1930

1931 05 01
Mr J.W. Autherlonie, manager of the Cambridge University and Town Gas Light Company since 1902 has seen many changes. During the Great War 70 women worked there, doing exactly the same hard tasks as the absent men. But on the return of the men they retired and today only one is engaged in this capacity. Eighteen of the employees fell and the war memorial, placed in a garden surrounding the works, is counted amongst the best of its type. 31 05 01a

1934 11 12
Several hundred people joined in a peace meeting on Parker's Piece organised by the Cambridge Anti-War Council and the University Anti-War Movement before marching in a torchlight procession to the War Memorial. The procession, some 300 strong began their march along Mill Road, increasing in size as it went along. But they missed the turning into Tenison Road and crossed Mill Road Bridge before winding its way round the back streets to the War Memorial. They laid a wreath 'To those of all countries who fell in the last war from those who are pledged to prevent another' 34 11 12c

1934 11 12
Wesley Church memorial Cambridge Brotherhood WWI 34 11 12d

1936 05 30
War Memorial site history – Parker's Piece had been suggested – 36 05 30a

1937 05 20
Sir - What we have come to know as the Cambridge War Memorial was part of a three-fold memorial scheme which embraced a substantial grant to Addenbrooke's Hospital for extension work, a complete record in Ely Cathedral of the names of local men killed in the war or who died from wounds and the monument at the junction of Station Road. This was to commemorate all Cambridgeshire infantry and should be 'To Victory'. It was not to be a memorial to the dead but to the *living.* It is for this reason that we who pass the memorial do not lift our hats as we do at the Cenotaph in London – E.W.R. 37 05 20

1937 06 30
The Nazi salute was given as German ex-prisoners of war honoured Cambridge's war dead. Members of the Reichsvereiningung Ehem from Kriegsgefangener marched to the memorial where the ranks of local British Legion standard bearers were joined by the German standard-bearer, carrying the Nazi flag. While standards were dipped, one of the visitors placed a laurel wreath on the memorial as members of the German party gave the Nazi salute. They then left for a civic reception at the Guildhall. 37 06 30 & a & b

1940

1944 06 02 CIPof
U.S. Military cemetery dedicated. Memorial Day - the day when Americans pay special honour to their dead - was marked in Cambridgeshire on Tuesday, with a service at the U.S. Military Cemetery (at Madingley). High ranking officers of the American and British Armies, as well as the R.A.F. were present together with leading civic representatives of the Eastern Region and the Town, University and County of Cambridge. A detachment of the British Legion, with their colours, members of the St. John Ambulance Brigade and the British Red Cross Society, and members of the W.V.S., who have undertaken to provide flowers for the chapel, were also among

the large gathering. Centrepiece of the service was a small grass mound, rising from which flew the Stars and Stripes. The Bishop of Ely (Edward Wynn) walked to the mound from the little chapel, followed by the senior officers carrying wreaths. The ceremony opened with an invocation, followed by a scripture reading and a prayer for the fallen. An Order of the Day was read from the Allied commander-in-chief (Gen Eisenhower). During the service either by accident or design three Fortresses flew low over the company. Official and private wreaths were laid and the proceedings came to a close with the National Anthems of America and Britain, the Benediction by the Bishop of Ely and finally "Taps" by two buglers

1949 10 12
Cambridge town council considered the proposed resiting of the war memorial. A scheme for a traffic roundabout at the Station Road junction means that if it were left in its present position it would be marred by the number of "Keep left" bollards and other traffic signs which would be necessary for the direction of traffic. An alternative position involved the acquisition of certain land fronting the Botanic Garden which would provide a restful haven away from traffic. None of the Servicemen's organisations was in favour of the removal of the War memorial front its present position. 49 10 12

1949 10 24
British Legion veterans of the 1914-18 war strongly opposed proposals to move and resite the Station road war memorial. Two sets of plans are being drawn up by the council. One involves the removal of the memorial into a proposed new entrance to the Botanic Gardens, and the other of placing it in the middle of a road island where it already stood. Capt Taylor said he thought the whole perspective of the memorial would be altered if it were removed. Dr R. Salisbury Wood suggested that floodlighting would add to the attraction of the site. The Cambridge memorial was the most beautiful one he had seen. If it was moved it would be a disgrace, said A.E. Mudd 49 10 24

1949 11 02
Construction has now commenced on a new roundabout at the junction of Hills Road and Station road, Cambridge. Proposals are being discussed for an alternative site for the war memorial. Site one : the memorial to remain in its present position in the eastern corner of the traffic roundabout. The dignity of the memorial might be marred to some extent by traffic signs. Two : memorial to be moved to the centre of the new roundabout. Three: the memorial to be moved to a position in front of the entrance to the Botanic Gardens, nearly at right-angle to Station Road so the statue of the soldier will still face the town centre. This site would provide a restful haven away from traffic and the memorial would not be marred by traffic signs. 49 11 02
1949 Smuts unveils Perse war memorial, Jun [3.11]
1950
1950
New site for war memorial – cutting showing roadworks 27 Jan 1950 – 50 01 27

1950 03 25
War memorial shrouded for move, p7

1951 04 26
"1939-45" added to War Memorial, April [4.2]

1952 03 17
A thin shaft of sunlight momentarily falling upon the heads of choirboys and the robed clergy coincided with a solemn act of dedication and remembrance at Great St Mary's church,

Cambridge, at the unveiling of a tablet bearing the names of six men of the parish who fell in World War II. Furnishings in St Andrew's chapel were also dedicated as a memorial by the Bishop of Ely.

1952 10 13
Two hundred people gathered around the doorway of the new Memorial Hall of Cherry Hinton Free Church. In their midst stood the bricklayers and electricians, the carpenters and the painters who had built it. And there were the ladies who had made the tea. Churchgoers have built it with their own hands. It was a memorial to all those in the church who had played their part in the last war: on the civilian as well as on the military field of battle. It was a memorial to the living as well as to the dead. 52 10 13 [4.16]

1952 10 13
Jesus College war memorial, p9

1953 01 19
St Pauls's church war memorial, p10

1953 05 08
Boer War memorial, Gt St Mary's Church unveiled after restoration

1953 05 18
Boer War memorial, p7

1953 10 19
For as long as Ely Cathedral stands so will the memory remain of 1,700 men and women of Cambridgeshire who gave their lives in the last war. Over 3,000 people joined in the dedication of the County War Memorial. Earlier hundreds had packed themselves four deep to watch one of the most impressive displays this ancient city had ever seen including a yellow and blue mass of 100 British Legion standards with 900 men and women from practically every branch in the county.

1954 12 11
Caius war memorial, p13

1955 09 27
The dedication and opening of an extension of Clare College Memorial Court was performed by the Master, Sir Henry Thirkill, in the presence of nearly 1,300 scholars and relatives of the Clare men who died in World War II. The new Court which has room for 44 undergraduates was designed by the architect Sir Giles Scott who was amongst the congregation as he had been when the first portion was dedicated 31 years earlier. 55 09 27

1955 10 17
St Edward's church memorial, p4

1955 11 02
A roll of honour compiled in memory of the citizens of Cambridge who lost their lives in the last war will be unveiled in the Guildhall. It is written on two skins of vellum with raised gold lettering and also commemorates the Women's Forces and all the civilian casualties. It was executed by Miss G. Horsley, a designer at the Technical College and School and is a poignant reminder of how modern wars have involved the very homes of the people. The first name is a woman's and the names of children killed in one of the air raids also appear. 55 11 02c

1957 03 05
When the Singapore Memorial was unveiled in the Kranji War Cemetery a wreath was laid in memory of over 370 former members of the Cambridgeshire Regiment who perished during the Malayan campaign or in subsequent captivity. After the formal ceremony, when the Guard of Honour had marched away, the relatives laid their personal wreaths and found the names which they had made their pilgrimage to see. 57 03 05a [4.12]

1959 11 10
Not many people known that on the wall of St Paul's Church, Stockingford, near Nuneaton, there is a memorial to members of the Cambridgeshire Regiment who died in the Far East in the Second World War. But the Regiment's Old Comrades Association never lets Armistice Sunday pass without remembering former comrades who were based there before embarking for overseas. The plaque is in proud memory of the 343 offices and men of the 1st Battalion who gave their lives in Singapore. The Battalion was stationed in Arbury Park from May to August 1941 and worshipped in the church 59 11 10

1980

1983 02 12
Plans to move the Cambridge War Memorial from the Hills Road – Station Road junction have been scrapped. Instead of making way for a new system of computer-controlled traffic lights, the memorial will remain as an island. Originally the County Council wanted to relocate it to a small shady spot under the trees in the Botanic Garden, but the City refused to co-operate. 83 02 12a

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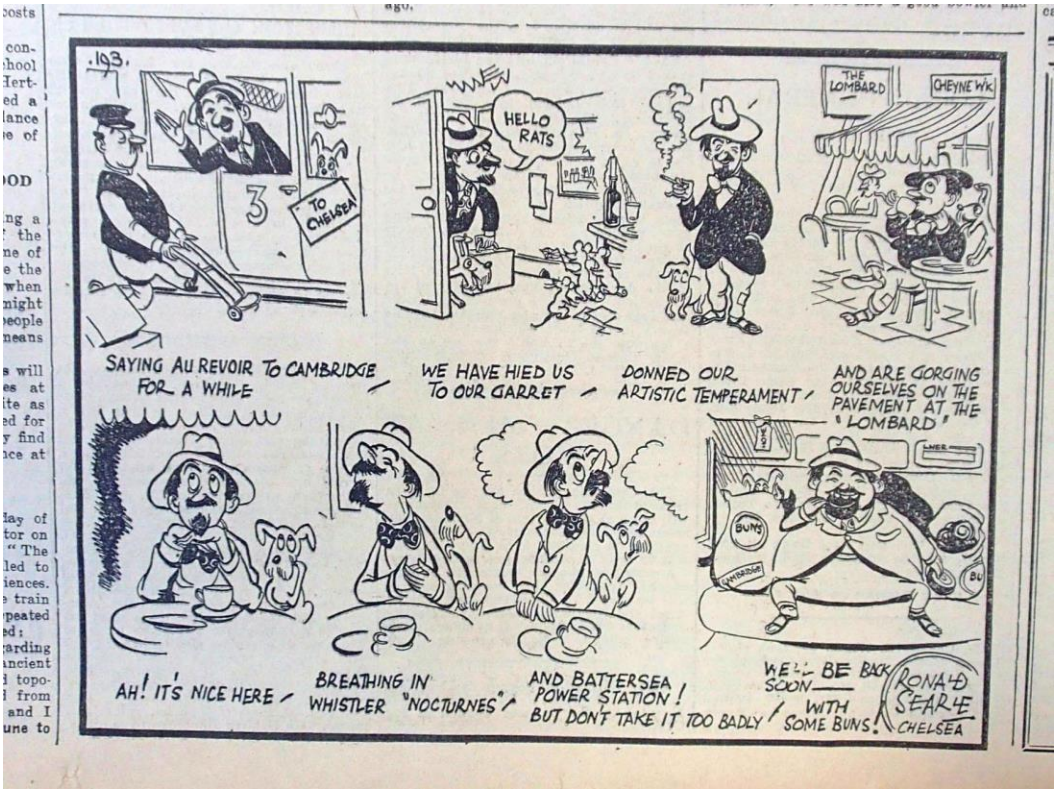

HELLO RATS
TO CHELSEA
THE LOMBARD
CHEYNE WK
SAYING AU REVOIR TO CAMBRIDGE FOR A WHILE
WE HAVE HIED US TO OUR GARRET
DONNED OUR ARTISTIC TEMPERAMENT
AND ARE GORGING OURSELVES ON THE PAVEMENT AT THE "LOMBARD"
BUNS
AH! IT'S NICE HERE
BREATHING IN WHISTLER "NOCTURNES"
AND BATTERSEA POWER STATION!
BUT DON'T TAKE IT TOO BADLY
WE'LL BE BACK SOON WITH SOME BUNS.
RONALD SEARLE
CHELSEA

Ronald Searle produced cartoons for the Cambridge Daily News – this his last before he left for war

29 July 1939

c.64 : Artists

Notes on some of the people who have depicted Cambridge

1901 08 24
Any attempt to portray life and characters at the 'Varsity, especially Cambridge, without mentioning that wonderful, but indispensable, personage technically known as the Bedmaker, would be the basest ingratitude on the part of the portrayer, says Mr Frank Rutter in his article on "University Types". What if she does clean your teapot with paraffin, or entertain her friends to breakfast in your room? Such little perquisites are well-earned by the "Bedder" who at her best is a motherly creature and known to stick staunchly to her "young gentlemen" in the hour of need. CDN 1901 08 24

1903 08 11
Sir – I believe a great number of antiquarians in Cambridge will learn with regret that the Falcon Inn Yard in Petty Cury has been removed to make way for modern improvements. So quietly has the old Falcon taken flight that I fear our local photographers have not secured pictures of the old buildings and its destruction has escaped even the lynx-eyed representatives of the Press. I am consoled that I have retained my water-colour drawing of this famous inn, which I made 25 years ago for 'Old Cambridge' – W.B. Redfern 03 08 11

1903 08 12
Sir – the alarm about the old Falcon Inn, Petty Cury, being demolished unrecorded seems to me unnecessary. Certainly within the last 40 years I have sent out almost as many drawings of it, to say nothing of the etchings. It, with the old Wrestlers Inn, has been a small gold mine to me. One

noticeable thing I might mention: it was the last inn to hang out a flag as a sign that the recruiting sergeant was at home – Robert Farren 03 08 12

1903 10 09
Herbert Railton has contributed fifty drawings to the book 'Cambridge and its Story' in the reproduction of which a new method of lithography has been employed for the first time. The resulting prints have all the delicacy of pencil drawings and the effect is much enhanced by a slight wash of colour added by his wife. No such beautiful architectural drawings have been produced since the days of Samuel Prout. A large-paper edition, of which 100 copies will be issued, will include an original pencil sketch by Mr Railton with each copy 03 10 09

1907 03 06
A house amid a clump of trees near Fulbourn station has been the residence for 50 years of the celebrated animal painter, J.F. Herring who has just died. He was the elder son of an earlier J.F. Herring, the leading painter of racehorses and coaching scenes, while a second son, Charles, became famous as a painter of Landeer subjects. He had just one pupil, Mr W.B. Redfern who visited his old master only yesterday. The funeral will take place at Great Wilbraham where there is a family vault. 07 03 06

1907 05 09
The original water-colour paintings of Mr W. Matthison commissioned to illustrate the new book on Cambridge by Mildred Tuker include subjects seldom depicted by artists. He has selected the daintiest spots: King's College gateway in twilight is a clever study while his view of the Bridge of Sighs was sold before the exhibition was opened. 07 05 09

1907 10 31
Mr Payne Garnett, the art master of the Leys School, is a versatile artist who has discovered many beauty spots in Swaffham. He shows the neighbourhood of Reach and the fens during the four seasons. There is a night scene, the moonlight gently illuminating a typical piece of Fen scenery and another of a deserted village road covered with hardened snow, so full of atmosphere that you need an overcoat. 07 10 31a

1909 03 19
Mr W.B. Redfern's unique collection of watercolour drawings of old Cambridge excited great interest. In 1875 he started to record places of bygone and antiquarian interest which but for his timely intervention would have been lost for ever. A good many had now entirely disappeared including two houses in Shelley Row which were the residence of Oliver Cromwell during the Civil War. They were panelled with two handsome fireplaces which he had moved to his own house. Old houses in Petty Cury were the most striking and perfect places which should never have been pulled down while parts of the Falcon Yard had remained until the last few years 09 03 19

1910

1912 03 15
A School of Weaving has been established by one of the best-known of Cambridge artists, Miss Mary Greene at the Sign of the Pelican and Lilies in Botolph Lane. It is a most delightful little medieval house hung with beautiful works of art. The instructress is Miss Forsell, a Swedish lady, who has already started two schools of weaving. The chief object will be to execute customers' orders on the premises to their own designs. When the pupils have become accomplished spinners

and weavers they will be anxious to possess looms themselves and in many houses the loom will be regarded as essential as a piano. 12 03 15d

1912 12 27
Robert Farren, the well-known Cambridge artist lived in Cambridge all his life with the exception of a few years' residence at Scarborough. In August he went to live in Highgate where he has died. He was a very clever water colour artist but best known for his work in oils and his etchings. His fen pictures were well-known and his series of etchings of cathedral cities amongst his most famous work. He also produced fine etchings of the Cambridge Greek plays. His 'Degree Day' was published as a photo by Wm Farren when he lived in Rose Crescent. Farren loved to paint Cambridge & Cambridgeshire scenery and there is scarcely a picturesque 'bit' in the town or county that has not been reproduced by him. At one time he had his studios at the top of which are now the University offices but were formerly a Liberal Club. A good many years ago he resided at Mayfield, Hills Road but during the last three years lived at no.1 Station Road. In his younger days he was a very handsome figure, tall and well-built. He was a skilful fencer and attained some note as a geologist. He married Miss Mason, a Cambridge lady and had a family of 14 children, none of whom are now living in Cambridge, his only relatives being his nephew William Farren, the naturalist, of Regent Street and his brother. Two of his daughters have inherited their father's artistic skill in no small degree. The funeral will take place at Old Chesterton churchyard where his wife is buried. – 12 12 20bb Funeral at Old Chesterton. Three children of his eldest son, the late Ernest Farren live with their mother in Herbert Street 12 12 27b

1913 12 19
I.J. Aronowitz of Lyndewode Road has been granted a patent for a process in which printed pictures are treated to resemble oil paintings by mounting them on canvas and embossing them with a die prepared so as to produce marks on the picture in imitation both of the canvas and of the brush and other marks of an original painting. The effects are produced by applying a liquid which solidifies quickly and from which a second electrotype die is produced which bears in reverse the required markings. 13 12 19 p2 CIP

1914 07 31
Death of Mr. J. A. P. Titterton. We regret to record the death, which occurred after a long illness, of Mr. John Titterton, one of Ely's oldest and respected citizens. The deceased gentleman, who was 84 years of age, was the only son of the late Mr. John Titterton who was Governor of Peterborough Gaol and previously Chief Constable and Superintendent of the Rural Police at Cambridge, of which he was the organiser. An artist, sportsman, photographer, antiquarian and astronomer, the deceased went to Ely as a young man, residing there for nearly 60 years. He was assisted in scientific matters by Professor Selwyn. He became fascinated by astronomy and did good work under the Royal Astronomical Society in completing an entire series of photographs of the solar system. Mr. Titterton had also the reputation of being a clever artist, his oil and water colour paintings being much admired by all who viewed them. A well-known, and even famous picture, "The building of Ely Minster", was from his brush, and he also possessed several others of an historical character. 14 07 31

1915 04 23
Edward Wilson, scientific illustrator; manager new department at Cambridge Scientific Instrument Company then scientific artist and illustrator in Post Office Terrace 15 04 23 p5

1920

1922 06 15
Messrs W. Heffer and Sons have become well known for the excellence of anything exhibited at their Sidney- street galleries. Well above the standard of the rest of their exhibits is some of the truly wonderful work of a Scottish artist, Mr William Watt Milne, who has a studio in St Ives. The six pictures which are exhibited have been painted in the neighbourhood of Houghton. "Flood at Houghton" is the title of a pretty little piece of work depicting the picturesque village street on a grey day with the threatening sky reflected in a pool of water in the foreground. One of the best pictures is that called "The Old Inn at Houghton", a superb piece of work 22 06 15

1925 02 28
We regret to announce the death of Mr Cyrus Johnson, the well-known portrait painter. He was the youngest son of the late Mr Elijah Johnson who founded the Cambridge bookselling firm in Trinity Street. Born at Cambridge he was educated at the Perse school and afterwards studied in Paris. He exhibited at the Royal Academy as a portrait painter in 1877 in which branch of art he achieved much distinction. He resided in Cambridge from 1916 until last year 25 02 28

1925 05 09
The funeral took place of Mr William West of the Art Department of the University Press. He was a versatile artist of considerable ability. His sketches of old Cambridge are numerous and beautiful & some may be seen in the book entitled “Cambridge re-visited” by Mr Arthur Gray, while many others have never been published. During the war he was much in request at the First Eastern General Hospital where he made valuable records of unusual aspects of certain diseases 25 05 09

1930

1935 05 18
Cambridge Drawing Society exhibition includes many local views including ‘Peas Hill’ by Dorothy E. Bradford, ‘Pembroke College’ by Joyce Shillington Scales and Fenners by Mary Fyson. Fulbourn Mill has provided R.C. Lambeth with a subject. His detailed painting of the interior of the mill and its machinery will interest all with a mechanical turn of mind. Madame Raverat has some beautiful woodcuts including an unusually large cut of St John’s Old Bridge printed from three wood blocks. 35 05 18

1935 07 27
Sid Moon, the CDN cartoonist for six years, is leaving to take up a similar appointment on the ‘Sunday Despatch’. Speaking in a dual capacity as editor and as ‘Uncle Robin’ (of the Robin Fellowship), Mr Morley Stuart said Mr Moon had produced cartoons which were full of clever ideas but never objectionable and expressed regret that the special Robin Goodfellow cartoon characters he had created had no ‘gone back into the inkwell’ 35 07 27

1936
The Gordon Fraser Gallery owes its international fame to very humble beginnings at a tiny shop in Portugal Street. There was little passing trade at the newly modernised bookshop-cum-art gallery opened by Gordon Fraser in 1936. But amongst the merchandise on sale were original Picasso etchings and drawings by Matisse and James Thurber. The breakthrough came during the war when he commissioned local artists to produce cards which were printed in Bedford. It was there that the Gallery grew into a major force on the greetings card scene. 86 01 31a

1936 03 24
Herbert Ernest Fenn – a clever artist and cartoonist – 36 03 24a

1938 03 01
Charles Edmund Brock, the artist, died at his residence in Grange Road. He was chiefly known as a water colour artist and book illustrator, including novels by Charles Dickens and Jane Austen and did a fair amount of work for 'Punch'. He painted portraits of University worthies, several being exhibited at the Royal Academy, and two portraits of former Mayors, Ald Spalding and Ald Sinker, hung in the Guildhall before the rebuilding. His brother H.M. Brock, another artist, lives nearby. 38 03 01

1938 12 13
Cambridgeshire Photographic Record exhibition – includes watercolours of areas impossible to photograph including view of Fitzroy Street and Burleigh Street corner from roof of Laurie & McConnals painted by Beryl Pickering; other sketches include the Saxon Cement Works, Eagle Hotel yard, Hobson Street from King Street end, Miss M.C. Greene paintings of yards – Ninepin, True Blue, Ram Yard, Falcon Yard. Last thatched roof in Blackamoor Head Yard - 38 12 13a

1939 02 13
Mary Green exhibition of water colours at Cambridge library, recently donated – 39 02 13a

1939 07 29
Ronald Searle cartoon saying au revoir to Cambridge – 39 07 29

1940

1945 11 30
Ronald Searle exhibition drawings from Japanese prison camp – CDN 1945 11 30b, CDN 1945 12 01. CDN 1945 12 04

1950

1951 12 21
Miss Mary Charlotte Green of Harston House has died. Aunt to the distinguished author, Graham Greene, she was well-known for her deep interest in village activities. Her main occupation was painting which she continued right up to recent weeks, the paint on some of her works being still wet. She could often be seen painting on Coe Fen, even when there was frost on the ground. She exhibited at the Royal Academy and was President of the Cambridge Drawing Society. She also published a number of poems, reminiscences and one-act plays and was a keen horticulturist 51 12 21

1953 10 23
A portrait salvaged from a workmen's rubbish dump at Corpus Christi College, said to be of Christopher Marlowe, bears a resemblance to an engraving of Shakespeare which appeared in the First Folio of the plays in 1621. No other portrait of Marlowe, who was at the college from 1581 to 1587, exists. American experts have little doubt that it is of Shakespeare which could mean that the descriptions of the countryside described in his plays are really based on Cambridgeshire scenes and not around Stratford. The portrait, on a wooden panel & split almost in three, is now being restored.

1954 03 10
Matthieson artist death – 54 03 10

1954 08 17
'Cambridge byways', no.1 by Lewis Todd – Lt St Mary's Lane

1956 02 18
Roy Meldrum exhibition, artist - 56 02 18c

1957 02 13
A remarkable and widely admired artist, Mrs Gwendolen Raverat, of The Old Granary, Silver Street, has died aged 71. As a wood engraver her work was both decorative and illustrative; technically she was an excellent craftswoman and she chose to engrave without the aid of fancy. She was one of the earliest members of the Society of Wood Engravers founded in 1920. 57 02 13

1957 04 30
Mrs Gwendolen Mary Raverat of The Old Granary, Silver Street, engraver, artist and granddaughter of Charles Darwin died in February, leaving £1,000 to her housekeeper, Florence McMonagle, with another £1,000 to her indoor and outdoor servants. But Cottenham WI feel that such wills should not be published in newspapers without the executor's consent. To the strain of bereavement is added the embarrassment that your private business is an item of news and probably gossip. 57 04 30a

1957 07 19
Lloyd Gibson, aged 12, has won 102 painting competitions in four years. In his house in Isaac Walton Way are a television set, a portable wireless, three bicycles and a camera together with a pair of roller skaters and a set of hair brushes which he has won by his entries in boy's magazines. His pictures depict Red Indians, knights in armour and Spanish buccaneers but he would like to be a commercial artist when he grows up. 57 07 19a

1958 01 03
Cambridge artist Mrs Pamela Townshend had been commissioned to paint a portrait of Princess Margaret to commemorate her visit to open Langdon House. This young and vivacious woman has quickly become established as an artist and the Queen has bought one of her views of a French street scene. 58 01 03

1958 11 29
Ernest Hilton art gallery, King Street – 58 11 29

1959 01 14
Lichfield Galleries opened, All Saints Passage – 59 01 14

1959 11 06
Kate Primmer, artist – profile – 59 11 06 & a & b

1959 12 30
Cambridge rich in artists – Irene Broe – 59 12 30

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 01 08
Angela Garnett, Hilton painter – feature – 60 01 08

1960 03 02
Sometimes talented people are intensely modest about their work and dislike publicity. Such is the case with Miss Isabella Mackay who is a partner of a local engineering firm and a remarkably fine artist. She was taught enamelling by the celebrated Louis Joseph of Geneva, attended two schools of art, jewellery and engraving in Birmingham and taught occupational therapy – including basked work – at Papworth in the early days of the Settlement. She has produced some original engravings of the colleges and has exhibited in this country and on the continent. 60 03 02

1961 08 16
Artist Jeanette Jackson and her husband are converting the old windmill at Hemingford Grey into a house and studio. It is this mill which has inspired her 15 paintings now on exhibition in London. The miller's horse and cart stables have been converted into living quarters and the loose box into a bedroom. The corn store is now a modern kitchen and the whole stable block joined by a glass veranda. The millstones will form the entrance steps and the huge wooden finial which once topped the windmill is to have place of honour on the ground floor. The hardest job was the cutting of the 140-year-old cast iron shaft which carried the sails. 61 08 16

1962 02 23
Sir – I admire the paintings of Edward Vulliamy and hope there may be an exhibition of his work. I have two examples of his genius. One, dated 1929-31, is a superb watercolour of a drainage windmill that stood near Wicken Fen, the other is a pencil sketch of the windmill on Madingley Hill. They hang alongside other fenland etchings – R.W. Macbeth's 'Fen Flood', 'Potato Harvest in the Fens' and Robert Farren's 'Holywell' and 'Sunrise on Wicken Lode'. I hope I shall find somewhere that Cambridge people may enjoy them as I have done – William Farren, Milton Road, Cambridge. 62 02 23f & 24

1962 04 19
Francis Leach, stained glass artist and sculptor – obituary – 62 04 19

1962 05 18
Betty Rea, the sculptor, was taught by Henry Moore at the Royal College of Art – profile – 62 05 18a

1962 09 18
Edward Vulliamy exhibition staged – 62 09 18

1964 12 02
L. Campbell Taylor, Royal Academician and one of Cambridge's best-known painters – profile 64 12 02c

1970

1971 03 13
E.S. Summers, commercial and heraldic artist for 40 years to retire when Lion Yard redevelopment sweeps away premises at 13 Alexandra Street – 71 03 13

1980

1981 04 21

Three valuable painting of Henry VI, Henry VII and Henry VIII have been stolen from King's College, Cambridge. All are contemporary works in oil on wood or panel. They were taken along with their frame from the college's main hall and people thought they had been removed for cleaning. 81 04 21a

1981 05 01
It took £10,000, two 20-ton cranes and a good deal of ingenuity for Cambridge artist, Philip Martin, to realise a lifetime's ambitions. He has taken delivery of a 70-foot barge. The 15-ton monster had to be winched off its transporter and lowered into the Cam at Riverside before being pulled by hand a mile up river to its permanent base opposite Alpha Road. It will take some time to convert it into one of the few floating art galleries in the country 81 05 01

1985 06 28
Harry Moden cartoonist, family fills gaps – 85 06 28b

1985 07 24
Lewis Todd was resident cartoonist of the CDN 30 years ago, following in the footsteps of Ronald Searle and Sid Moon who went on to Fleet Street. He is best-remembered for his composite drawings of cricket and football teams. He enjoyed a long career as an artist with the Ministry of Agriculture but now has an exhibition of his oil paintings of Cambridge scenes including a view of the Roman Catholic Church which makes it look like a Van Gogh structure. 85 07 24a

1986 02 13
Mary Greene artist – article 86 02 13a

1986 05 16
John Bendall, cartoonist – profile – 86 05 16c

1986 06 09
Gerald Coulson, Thriplow artist has first solo exhibition 86 06 09a & b

1990 01 04
Gwen Raverat – feature – 90 01 04a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Cambridge Camera Club members, 1952 149.99

c.65.5 : Photography

1888
Stearn took photo at fatal rowing accident [2.1]

1888 02 24
Valentine Blanchard and Lunn, Electric Light Studio, … want lady pupil in artistic department of high-class photography … also youth 1888 02 24 Ch

1889
R.H. Lord wins prize Vienna competition, exhibits photographic society GB [2.3, 2.4]

1889
Hills & Saunders take photo of Backs in frost which issue as Christmas card [2.5]

1889 01 02
New photographic studio on most scientific principles … will shortly be opened as a branch business at 15, Hills Road by Messrs Valentine Blanchard and Lunn, the well-known photographer of Post Office Terrance

1889 10 04
Valentine Blanchard, art photographer … all having a claim to send accounts

1889 10 18

Notice … partnership which for some time past has been carried on by Valentine Blanchard and William Henry Lunn at Post Office Terrance and Hills Road … artists and photographers … dissolved by mutual consent … debts will be received by W.H. Lunn; witnessed H.C. Squires, solicitor

1893 03 03
J. Palmer Clarke of 7 Abbey Hill, Bury St Edmunds has taken over photographic business of Colin Lunn … Business has been established over 30 years; it was formerly carried on by Messrs Blanchard & Lunn and more recently by Mr Lunn alone … Has a good reputation … the only place in this part of the country where photographs are taken by electric light. Studio fitted with 3,000 candle-power electric lamp so portraits may be taken in any weather and also in the evening. Mr Clarke intends to make the photographing of rooms, groups etc an important feature of hs business but portraiture will be his chief study. He has had the premises fitted out afresh and obtained new apparatus of the latest patterns. Mr Clarke has had the honour of photographing … the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge and the last portrait of the Duke of Clarence was taken by him … Ch

1893 06 09
Palmer Clarke photographed Australian cricket team

1894 01 05
Palmer Clarke late Colin Lunn

1894 05 11
Palmer Clarke … thanks his supporters during the year … only good work is attempted and turned out (Skilled labour only being employed). With an experience of over 20 years in good studios by careful supervision … gives satisfaction. Platinotype a speciality. He has also purchased all the natives of the form for the last 30 years and can supply copies. Ch

1894 06 29
Palmer Clarke took picture Prince and Princess Wales at luncheon at King's College - Ch

1895 04 19
Hauxton choral society choir … conductor Valentine Blanchard - CIP

1897 10 02
Saffron Walden. Up-to-date photography. W. Frost Wilson, Gold Street, having purchased the business for many years carried on by Mr W. Hobbs is now prepared to execute photography in all the latest styles. Cabinets, Carte de Visites, Midgets, Boudoir, Plantinotypes etc. Instantaneous photographs a speciality. All the latest scientific instruments. Wedding, football and other parties photographed by arrangement. Animals faithfully photographed 1897 10 02 CDN

1898 02 11
Cycle show last day photographed by Sidney Smee CDN 1898 02 11

1898 02 11
Theft from Stearn, photo by servant, CDN 1898 02 11 p3

1898 02 28
Palmer Clarke to photo children purchase album, CDN 1898 02 18

1898 03 14
P. Salmon, photographer on his international tour, CDN 1898 03 14

1898 04 05
P.R. Salmon on Egypt, p2 CDN 1898 04 05

1898 06 11
A small fire occurred at the premises of Messrs Thomas Stearn and Son, photographers, at Bridge Street, Cambridge. The conflagration broke out in the darkroom and was probably caused by woodwork becoming overheated by gas. A considerable amount of photographic apparatus was destroyed by the flames, and some of the chemicals exploded with some violence in the heat. About 16 firemen turned out with a hose cart and three reels, causing no little excitement in the neighbourhood, but by the time they arrived on the scene the outbreak had already been extinguished by the inmates, by means of buckets CDN 1898 06 11

1898 07 06
W. Butcher photographer – adv 5 CDN 1898 07 06

1898 10 18
The photographer who is also an artist has a great advantage over the photographer who is merely a mechanic. One may realise this very clearly by paying a visit to the studio at St Mary's Passage, Cambridge, of Mr Clement A. Shaw. His first love was painting but in his portrait work he found the advantage of being able to take a photograph of the subject, in that tedious sittings could often be curtailed. His studios are covered with specimens of his work. There are photographs in all processes - opals, miniatures, pastels and oil paintings. There are several pictures painted on an enlarged scale from photographs which are very meritorious indeed CDN 1898 10 18

1899 06 26
There was a special temptation to the members of the Cambridge Wanderer's Cycling Club yesterday. It was "photo day"! We went away slowly for were we not mindful of the fact that a perspiring group would not make the best of photos? Moustaches shining in all the glory of a recent application of cosmetic had also to be studied. Our destination was Ditton Plough and when we arrived there was a general "spruce up", so anxious were we that such a "galaxy of beauty" should not be lost to posterity. Mr Lord placed us in position, endeavouring to look pleasant, keeping our heads on high and remaining perfectly still all at the same time. Three plates were used. That photo should be a good one 1899 06 26

1899 09 09
T.B. Hunt opens first-class studio, 130 Fitzroy St - 1899 09 09 p1, 1899 10 14

1899 10 03
Scott & Wilkinson photographed Six Mile Bottom fire, used CWN, 1899 10 03 p2

1900

1900 10 20
From time to time the announcement goes forth that at last colour photography is a fait accompli, but the statement proves without foundation. While we wait for a solution there is something to go on with in the way of chromotype views. Messrs Boots took the lead in Cambridge and have just issued a new set which

are beautifully printed and well worth framing. The set is packed in an elaborately designed wrapper, tied with Cambridge blue ribbon and would make a very acceptable gift 00 10 20

1900 11 16
Palmer Clarke advertises young lady receptionist

1901 06 21
Photographic Convention … present were Goodrich, Sanderson and Palmer Clarke

1901 07 12
At annual meeting of the Photographic Convention … a letter was read from F.H. Sanderson (of the firm of J. Palmer Clarke) … asking for a convention … They had not a strong photographic society in Cambridge … CIP

1901 08 08
A meeting of professional and amateur photographers met to arrange the Cambridge meeting of the Photographic Convention. The following were elected to the Committee: Messrs W. Refern, Tyndall (Ely), Bolton (Ely), Wilson (Saffron Walden) and Stearn Bros. Mr Sanderson (Palmer Clarke) was voted to the chair. Mr Sidney Johnson, a University man, an amateur photographer and a contributor to the photographic papers was nominated as secretary CDN 01 08 08

1901 09 13
A photographic exhibition was held, this is an entirely new feature to Cambridge and the object is to encourage photography and more especially to bring out the artistic instinct. There were a many good photographs. The judges, Messrs W.B. Redfern and J. Palmer Clarke considered artistic as well as technical merit. The challenge cup for the best photograph went to Mr J. Johnson for a seascape of exceptional artistic merit. Mr F.J. Stoakley illustrated the Sanger Shepherd process of colour photography and produced some magnificently coloured studies as near to the colours of nature as possible CDN 01 09 13

1901 11 15
R.H. Lord presentation, CDN 01 11 15 p2

1902 04 18
Coronation 1902. A Proclamation. Messrs Starr and Rignall, the people's photographers, being confident that every loyal subject of H.M. King Edward will appreciate some memento of this the most eventful year of the present decade have decided to give everyone the opportunity of securing one of their high-class cabinet portraits, finished in their best style, for one shilling. See window for special babies' offer. 108 Fitzroy Street, Cambridge. – advert CDN 02 04 18

1902 07 12
Cambridge welcomed the Photographic Convention of the United Kingdom, numbering some 350 amateur and professional photographers. Quite early this morning numbers, with their indispensable cameras, were to be seen about the town and many impressions of the most interesting spots and ancient buildings will doubtless be taken away. Permission has been obtained for small parties of members wearing their badges to photograph in various colleges and churches. The official group photograph is invariably taken by a local photographer and as so many are competent the post was decided by draw and Mr T.B. Hunt was successful. CDN 02 07 12

1902 09 15

The Horticultural Society's photographic exhibition was a great improvement on last year. The amateur photographer was apt to follow the lead of the professional and be influenced by his window exhibits. The professional photographer had absolutely the last chance in the world of producing the best photography because he had to work at a price and gain a livelihood. The Rev H.R. Campion, Ely, won a silver medal for a photograph of the entrance of Bishop West's Chapel, Ely and A.G. Swannell was commended for a study of Houghton Mill. CDN 02 09 15

1902 09 25
There was a large attendance at a meeting to discuss forming a Camera Club in Cambridge. A long time ago there was a club but it had died through lack of interest. Prior to that there had been a club in connection with the University. In the early 1880s it was going fairly strongly but ultimately closed. Since then there was a club in conjunction with the YMCA but what they wanted was a club unsectarian. It ought to be social, but not political. Mr Tindall said he could get ten members from Ely and they had promises from villages all around Cambridge. CDN 02 09 25. It was founded at the Prince of Wales' Hotel in October when several people came from Ely. Some of the early meetings featured a talk by Mr Stoakley on colour photography. W. Tams was a founder member - 38 03 02

1902 10 15
At Cambridge Photographic Club the President (Dr Bansall) said pictorial work – by which he meant the making of pictures and not "fuzzygraphs" - was one of the most delightful branches of their art. It was easy to obtain a really high-class portrait for a reasonable sum of money, but the re-toucher polished away all the defects of the sitter's face. Cambridge was fortunate in having a first-rate colour photographer in Mr Stoakley who would give a demonstration of what he had done in this wonderfully interesting work. CDN 02 10 15

1902 11 12
W.B. Redfern told Cambridge Photographic Club that he remembered a man standing at the corner of Parker's Piece taking photographs of a most ghastly character. At the time they thought they were works of art. Many of them were daguerreotypes and they saw a sort of ghost of themselves. Now Cambridge had some of the best photographers in the kingdom. Mr F.J. Stoakley lectured on photography in natural colours and the Sanger Shepherd process. 12 11 02

1904 02 22
Since the introduction of picture post cards by Messrs Raphael Tuck five years ago much rapid strides have been made in the development of this delightful form of art. The 1904 productions surpass everything had has been previously issued. Each card in the 'Oilette' series is a veritable miniature oil painting, so perfect that to use it as a postcard seems profanation. The demand for these cards is simply unprecedented. Every particle of the work is entirely of English production and the previously undisputed superiority of continental colour cards is a thing of the past. 04 02 22

1904 03 22
Newmarket is being well catered for in the way of pictorial postcards. A delightful set of six views in colour has been issued by Mr Ernest Parr, stationer. Having seen them one can well understand the enormous success with which they have been received. The cards are selling at the rate of 250 a day. The series includes views of St Mary's church, horses returning from a morning gallop, the royal entrance to the Jockey-Club grounds and the High Street on market day – CDN 22.3.1904

1905

Cambridge & District photograph society notes [2.6]

1905
W. Farren article in Country Life re pics birds [2.7]

1905
Notes on postcard 'a bit of old Cambridge' issued one week after buses start & bus running over dog [2.8,2.9]

1905 08 19
With the next issue of the 'Cambridgeshire Weekly News' will be presented an art supplement containing photographs of the late Bishop of Ely and his successor. Both have been specially taken by Messrs. Scott and Wilkinson and are remarkable likenesses. They will be printed on specially prepared art paper in a style suitable for framing. Much disappointment will be saved if those who desire a copy will let their newsagents know without delay. Only a certain number will be printed and the issue will not be repeated. 05 08 19a

1905 08 29
A number of fishermen and fireman had an enjoyable outing on board the 'Majesty'. A photo was taken by Kidd and Baker of St Mary's Passage. On arriving at Upware they sat down to one of Host Peachey's liberal dinners after which the fishermen went fishing and the remainder had a trip to Ely, returning for tea and games. The return journey was enlivened by songs accompanied by Mr Sid Smith on his banjo. They reached home by 10 pm. 05 08 29d

1905 09 07
Thomas Stearn, the photographer, has died. He was one of the first resident photographer in Cambridge 60 years ago, though an itinerant exponent of the art known as Sarony had previously experimented with the faces and features of people at his van on Parker's Piece. He practised the wet process by which the unfortunate subject has to compose his features for at least 30 seconds until in 1880 the 'dry' process reduced the exposure to a fraction of a second. His wife had the distinction of being the first lady photographer in England. His two sons, Harry and Walter, continue the business. 05 09 07

1905 09 13
Sir – I believe the earliest Cambridge photographer was George Proctor, formerly a tailor living on the Market Place and later he removed to 32 New Square and carried on the business of a draper. It was here he practised photography until he died somewhere about the year 1850. About the same time Sarony, a celebrated photographer, was allowed to carry on his business in a caravan on Parker's Piece near the University Arms. Then in 1865 Thomas Stearn who had previously describes himself as a tailor now calls himself a dealer in fancy goods. In 1869 for the first time he appears as a photographer. Farren, Mayland, Monson, Nichols, Proctor, Pugh and Sheldon were all in business as photographers between 1850 and 1860. At that time Nichols had a flourishing business and he removed from Slaughter House Lane to St Mary's Passage, and later his son to Post Office Terrace. He took my own portrait in 1854 and it is as good today as it was then. The late Mr Stearn was a tailor by trade and for many years was in partnership with his father. Mr Farren is still living as are also some of the children of George Proctor – 'Three-score and twelve' 05 09 13a

1905 09 29
Cambridge photographic club dinner – 05 09 29 b & c

1905 11 01
Photographic club – J. Johnson 'Wilbraham Fen', Miss Robson Magdalene Street, W.H. Hayles three-colour printing on paper, photographic survey - 05 11 01 & a & b

1906 02 08
We deeply regret the death of Harry Cotterill Stearn of the famous Cambridge photographic firm. He asked to be laid at rest in the new cemetery, Newmarket Road, 'within sound of my work' – the commotion caused by the University boat races where for many years his slight figure has been familiar to successive generations of undergraduates. 06 02 08a
1906 Harry Stearn funeral arrangements – 06 02 12d

1906 02 16
Funeral Stearn … tribute 'from C.E. Goodrich and F.H. Sanderson (Palmer Clarke) - CIP

1906 03 23
'Photographic Dealer and Professional' devotes supplement to specimens of work of C.E. Goodrich and F.H. Sanderson in the well-known firm of photographers … under the name of J. Palmer Clarke … portrait studies by Goodrich and views by Sanderson … with interesting remarks by Goodrich on impressionistic work and portraiture CIP 06 02 16

1906 07 13
The court was crowded when a servant girl said he'd gone to a village shop and asked for a copy of the Cambridgeshire Weekly News and some 'funny' postcards. Accused took her up in his arms and carried her into the next room, pulled her clothes about and took her photograph. She did not know there was no film in the camera. Magistrates found it was a trumped-up charge by a mischievously-disposed young girl. 06 07 13 a b c

1906 10 31
Photographic exhibition – details – 06 10 31a-c

1907
Fred Stoakley makes first three-colour photo seen in Cambridge [2.10]

1907
Cambridge Postcard Company organise 2nd limerick competition [2.11]

1907
Lecture on colour photography starts with Clerk Maxwell in Cambridge [2.12]

1907 01 01
The photographic world is agog just now in regard to the new colour photography. Two methods for producing plates in natural colours have been recently discovered. Now Fred Stoakley, who made the first 'three-colour' photograph seen in Cambridge, has produced an autochrome plate using the Lumiere or starch grain process. It is a flower study of geraniums, asters and petunias. 07 01 01

1907 03 27
Cambridge photographic club – P.R. Salmon lecture – 07 03 27

1907 05 09
New photographic process – T.J. Sowden on Ozobrome – 07 05 09b

1907 11 13
Cambridge Photographic Club exhibition shows colour transparencies by Fred Stoakley – autochrome – also Squires, Farren - 07 11 13, 13a, 07 11 23

1907 11 23
At a lecture by Fred Stoakley on 'Real Colour Photography' the original photographs taken by Prof Clerk Maxwell, the pioneer of colour photography were shown, having been loaned by Prof J.J. Thomson. In Maxwell's method three successive plates had to be taken; now by the autochrome process the whole work is done on one plate. 07 11 23a

1907 11 22
J. Palmer Clarke photographed windows Kings College Chapel

1908 03 05
The antics of 'The Castle End Musicians', a band of boys and girls, have caused endless entertainments to the inhabitants of that part of Cambridge. A lad who has had some experienced of the Boy's Brigade is the commander of the band, who form up in martial order, large and small, girl and boy, and parade up and down the streets with colours flying, playing the most extraordinary collection of musical instruments ever seen including toy drums and mouth organs. Now a local photographer has elevated them to picture postcard celebrities. CWN 08 09 18 p5 [2.14]

1908 03 05
A Horsley Hinton, photographer, appreciation – 08 03 05c

1910

1911 02 03
The landlord of the Rising Sun, Somersham said a lodger, William Ward, alias William Wilson, with a camera told him that he was a photographer for picture postcards and was going to work the nearby villages. He had not paid his bill. The cook at Hemingford Abbots rectory said the servants had their picture taken in a group and had ordered a dozen postcard size prints. They had never been received. The man told the court he had been a travelling photographer for some years but trade had got so bad he was forced to resort to this sort of thing. He had been to every village in the district but not actually taken any photographs. 11 02 03b 11 01 27e

1912 09 27
Sidney Campkin, the Mayor, recalled when photographs of family groups were taken on glass plate negatives. It took the greater part of the day and the result was not satisfactory. One advantage was that if one recognised people, they soon faded away. Dr Haddon told the Cambridge Photographic Club dinner that natives on a tropical island had cried when he'd shown the photographs of somebody who had since died but laughed to see someone who was alive. While developing in the tropics in a close atmosphere it was possible to wash your plates from the drippings off your nose! 12 09 27 & a

1912 09 27
Scott & Wilkinson & Stearn & Sons both received commands to take photographic groups of the King and his friends in the grounds of Trinity College – 12 09 27g, photo 12 09 27j

1913 05 02

A man entered Scott & Wilkinson's photographic premises and tried to steal money from the safe, but it was empty. He then visited Mr Mason's studios nearby and stole 25 shillings from the cash box before going to Kidd & Baker's photographer's studio to book a sitting, saying he would pay about 25 shillings for the photograph. Being suspicious, Mr Kidd followed him as he went into various shops, then called a policeman. But the suspect gave a satisfactory account of himself and disappeared. Had they known of the earlier thefts he would have found it much more difficult to satisfy the officer. 13 05 02 p9 CIP

1913 10 17
Cambridge Photographic Club opened new rooms in Park Place fitted up with enlarging and developing rooms together with a reference library. There is a permanent lantern screen over the mantel piece and beautiful specimens of photographic art are hung on the walls. Coton Church Institute also opened its new buildings with pictures of local celebrities on the wall. Games of bagatelle are provided and it is hoped to get a billiards table. 13 10 17 p7 CIP

1913 10 24
Kinemacolor visit Guildhall – includes colour pictures of Cambridge 13 10 24 p12 CIP

1913 11 14
Photographic Club exhibition – Prof McKenny Hughes uses photos 13 11 14 p7 CIP

1913 12 05
Autograph Christmas cards with Judge's real photographic views of Cambridge 13 12 05 p5 CIP

1914 07 24
John Titterton, an artist, sportsman, photographer and antiquarian lived in Ely nearly 60 years. He became fascinated by astronomy. He was a successful photographer in the time of the wet plate process and it was pathetic to look through thousands of old negatives and realised how many Ely friends had passed away. He was a clever artist his famous picture 'The building of Ely Minster' and a racy and versatile writer. As a representative of the Press he wrote a great deal of copy relating to old Ely. His father, Governor of Peterborough Gaol and superintendent of rural police at Cambridge, had taken part in the Battle of Waterloo and rescued the Duke of Wellington when mobbed at Apsley House. 14 07 24

1914 08 21
John George, photographer gives evidence divorce 14 08 21 p3

1915 03 12
Col Griffiths of the First Eastern General Hospital showed Cambridge Photographic Society transparencies of bullet wounds caused by the shrapnel shell ball and the new sharp-nosed bullet. 15 03 12

1915 07 30
Photographers encouraged to take snapshots of families of serving soldiers – J.H. Bullock, Cambridge Photographic Club 15 07 30 p4

1915 08 06
Cambridge Photographic Society – members with colours – includes E.S. Peck 15 08 06 p4

1916 11 08
Photographic club exhibition including Cliff Squires, J.L. Haynes 16 11 08a

1917 07 25
Stearn Junior, photographer, will open an art studio in Bridge Street – advert – 17 07 25b

1918 10 30
Photographic club lecture by F Stoakley on making negatives using dyes made at University chemical laboratories Ch 18 10 30 p3

1920

1920 01 21
Photographic Club activities curtailed by war; Mayor referred to old photos taken by Nicholls in the 50's or 60's and reproduced by Messrs Palmer Clarke; R. Starr recalls going as lad to Hills and Saunders to carry old silver bath. The old wet-plate process was just going out then, soon after dry-plates came in; several processes, one never gained popularity, collodio-chloride which were most permanent but needed delicate handling. Had ladies been engaged it would have increased in popularity. Photography had developed due to war. By means of aeroplanes and the camera they had been able to locate various enemy positions. Had been difficult to get professional photographers to combine. W. Farren, secretary, recalled in pre-war days when T. Snowden was secretary, they had a membership of over 200. This dropped during war, now 170. Important work at University Chemical Laboratories in which Mr Stoakley had a very great hand. Manufacturing dyes necessary for aerial photography which had previously been obtained from Germany – Ch 20 01 21

1920 03 17
Photographic Club exhibition, printed by H.R. Campion of Ely & W.C. Squires – bromoil; colour transparencies by F.J. Stoakley – Ch 20 03 17d

1920 06 05
New picture postcards of Cambridge from the sky, coloured or plain, at Metcalfe's
- CDN 20 06 05

1920 09 30
Walter Turner's photographic establishment gives advice; new machine that prints off from negatives quickly, offering 24-hour service - CDN 20 09 30

1920 10 02
W.C. Squires and Rev H.R. Campion have photos selected for exhibition by RPS - CDN 20 10 02

1920 10 30
People canvassing town begging people to have enlargements made from photos of their dear ones, offering them 'free' on the pretence they are opening a business. If enlargements are made they are put into common frames and charged outrageous prices for the 'frames only' and the originals are retained under the 'free' enlargement is purchased – warning - CDN 20 10 30

1921 03 02
Photographic Club exhibition includes WO. Squires, E.C. Ogle views of Duxford – 21 03 02e

1921 03 30
Histon draper R.J. Coles in dispute with R.A. Publishing over picture postcards of village; some colour, some sepia; 12 topics – 21 03 30h

1922
W.C. Squires honoured as picture hung International Exhibition London by Royal Photographic Society - bromoil [2.13]

1923 11 21
Walter Hammond colour photography, 23 11 21

1923 11 21
The council of the Photographic Convention have decided to visit Cambridge next July if arrangements town be made locally. A new generation of photographers having come along it was thought desirable to visit the town again. Certain officials visited a few days ago when they were enthusiastically received by those prominent in local photographic circles. On the last visit to Cambridge in 1902 many complained about having too many excursions and not been allowed sufficient time in the town 23 11 21

1924 06 28
Cambridge men have become very prominent in the photographic world. Famous are the remarkable examples of colour photography produced by Mr F.J. Stoakley, and the fine examples of pictorial photography by D.J. Scott, Palmer Clarke and others, not forgetting the clever natural history studies by Mr W. Farren. Cambridge is also noted for its very large numbers of lady photographers 24 06 28

1924 07 22
The large body of photographers from the Royal Photographic Society. who visited Cambridge recently were much impressed by some very artistic coloured portraits in the window of J. Palmer Clarke's establishment in Post Office Terrace. They are something quite new, and of a very high artistic quality, as nearly like oil paintings as camera portraits are likely to be made. The method of colouring is the personal work of Mr C.E. Goodrich - 24 07 22

1924 09 09
My fiancée said she would like a photograph of me. I was shown into a room that appeared to be an artist's studio and the artist himself appeared and produced a camera from somewhere. The man had the effrontery to treat his business as though it were an art. He shifted a blind or two in the glass roof, put a few deft folds into a velvet curtain at one side of me and returned to his instrument. I was about to adjust my features to the desired expression when I heard something click. I looked up and saw the idiot had actually exposed a plate 24 09 09

1924 10 17
Holiday Snaps. Why don't you make lantern slides of your holiday snaps. You will be surprised what pleasure it will give the youngsters to see themselves on the screen. Call and ask us about it. The winter evenings are coming on. Get ready for them, and make the youngsters happy. W.F. Turner, the Camera House, Trinity St, Cambridge – advert 24 10 17

1925 07 11
Percy Salmon book, 25 07 11, p6

1925 08 20
T.B. Hunt, photographer, found with wounds to throat, 25 08 20, p5*

1926 02 24

Amateur photographers will find a warm welcome at the exhibition of the Cambridge Photographic Club. Mr Langdon-Davies has a very nice collection of oil prints, which show great artistic feeling; his local scenes include St Clement's church and the University Press. Mr L.J. Jarman has a set of six prints, particularly pleasing is his picture of snow on the Backs. Mr R.H. Bullen has four exhibits, of which "Fairy Barges" strikes one as perhaps his best. The Misses M. & A. Johnson were bold enough to invade the precincts of the club and were awarded with two excellent impressions of Mr R.T. Bellamy, one being inscribed "The minutes of the last meeting 25 02 24

1926 10 12
Miss Olive Edis whose photographic portraiture is well-known in Cambridge has come again to St Columba's Hall. The collection is the fruit of many visits to Cambridge during recent years. There is an interesting collection of colour plates, some being fine examples of the Lumiere plate and others in the new gum-grain Agfa plate. The scarlet gowns make effective touches of colour and the portraits include Sir Arthur Shipley at the gateway of the Lodge at Christ's and a fine head of Sir J.J. Thomson which gives a far more natural portrait than most of his paintings, with colour. A view of King's College from the Backs is an exquisite example of what Miss Edis can do in landscape work and portraits of children and well-known nonagenarians and centenarians play an important part 26 10 12

1926 10 13
Dr W.M. Palmer is chairman of the joint committee of the Cambridge Antiquarian Society and the Cambridge Photographic Club which is engaged in the formation of a collection of photographic records of old buildings and other objects of interest in the county, particularly those which are likely to disappear. He displayed 160 lantern slides made by him during the last two years of old houses, taken from the outside and from the inside, and a number of old photographs showing buildings now vanished and costumes that are no longer worn. The record will be of great value to the historian a hundred years hence 26 10 13

1927 01 12
C.E. Goodrich spoke of 'Some joys and sorrows of a professional photographer'. A very irritating thing that every portraitist experienced was when a lady bought back her proofs with the statement that neither she nor any of her friends knew for whom they were intended; no one recognised them, in fact. On one occasion the complaint was met by a profuse apology from the photographer for having in error sent her another lady's proofs. Woe to the photographer who, catering for the general public in a moment of inspiration sought to apply some of the principles of art by suppression of some surplus furniture so as to allow the face of his sitter to become the centre of interest, for he would be though to be working with a defective lens and not giving value for money. 27 01 12

1927 01 17
Deep regret is felt at the news of the death of Mr Frederick James Stoakley, chief laboratory assistant at the Chemical Laboratory for fifty years. He made a life-time study of colour photography and made the first 'three colour' photograph seen in Cambridge. He was one of the first to handle the Autochrome plate and produced some remarkable renderings of chemical objects. He was in great demand as a lecturer on colour photography and his photographic studies have been exhibited in all the big exhibitions. He was one of the founders & past President of the Cambridge Photographic Society 27 01 17

1927 02 16

The work of maintaining a pictorial record of the streets and buildings of Cambridge is greatly facilitated by modern photography and much credit is due to those enthusiastic amateurs who perpetuate these important historical records. There are some excellent examples of the work of the Cambridge Photographic Club on exhibition at the Borough Library and the short time required to view the photographs will not be wasted. 27 02 16

1927 09 28
Cambridge Photographic Club celebrated its 25th anniversary. They were doing admirable work in conjunction with the Cambridge Antiquarian Society in securing a preserving a photographic record of various places which might disappear in course of time. Ald Starr said he had joined Hills & Saunders as a lad in 1880. They used wet plates at that time and had to coat them and sensitive them, and they would not keep for more than a few hours. 27 09 28

1927 09 29
Goodrich talks Photographic Club, 27 09 28 p7

1927 10 05
Cambridge Photographic Club had made progress with the photographic survey of the county and over 100 prints were produced. There was still a great deal to be done and this should be regarded as one of the most important parts of the club's work. A collection of photographs of Cambridge was exhibited in the Public Library. The East Anglian Federation had held its summer meeting in Cambridge, but the weather was not in favour of photography. 27 10 05

1927 10 10
No woman has photographed more Royalty or distinguished people than Miss Olive Edis, the well-known expert in the production of monochrome and colour photography. She has her third annual exhibition in Cambridge, although she has worked in the town for some 20 years. One wall has a display of portraits of well-known Cambridge people but the greatest attraction will be the colour photography of local scenes 27 10 10

1929 02 04
Mr Walter James Stearn, the Cambridge photographer, has died. He was a son of Thomas Stearn, the founder of the photographic business, and with his brother Harry made it well known in University circles. His success as a sporting photographer meant that he was known to more undergraduates than any other townsman. In his younger days he was a keen sportsman, rowing being his principal interest. He was president of the Rodney Dramatic Club and always sent bouquets to all the lady members of the cast of the plays, but could never be persuaded to appear on the boards 29 02 04

1929 03 22
Percival Rodrigo, a canvasser … obtaining photograph … from Gertrude Thompson … said he was setting up a branch in Fitzroy Street and canvassing photos for advertisements – would enlarge it .. represented the Westminster Studios. Albert Chandler, photographer printed leaflets warning about canvassers - 29 03 22

1929 07 10
F.H. Sanderson, photographer, death, 29 07 10 p8, funeral 29 07 13

1930

1930s

Bansall Club 1930s – history – Snelson - 84 11 03

1930 07 15
Alderman Ralph Starr entered the photographic studios of Messrs Hills and Saunders as a young man but then started a studio of his own and became one of Cambridge's most eminent photographers. He was Mayor in 1918 at a time when there was unrest among the ex-Service men. Trouble broke out in Luton and he was asked to send 20 constables to keep order. For the next three days Cambridge, which might have flared into disorder, was deprived of a considerable proportion of her own protectors but the danger passed. 30 07 15

1930 10 06
Sir – does Cambridge derive much pecuniary benefit from the photographer who blocks our busy street near the Post Office? I cannot believe that it was for this purpose that the graves were removed opposite Woolworth's. Other photographers would probably like the same privileges accorded to the one who now blocks our path – 'Old Cambridge' 30 10 06a

1931 12 11
A fire broke out at Messrs Towgood's Film Factory at Sawston but was quickly extinguished by the staff brigade. It was confined to a part of the factory where benzine was used, and the damage kept to one dyeing machine and the roof of the building over it. Some film was involved, but this being non-inflammable, did not burn 31 12 11c

1932 03 24
Photographic club – how newspaper blocks are made – J.W. Scott, manager CDN Photo Engraving Dept - 32 03 24b

1932 05 13
Inquest Henry Watson, photographic artist of Newmarket – worked for Frank Griggs – 32 05 13a and 32 05 20d & e

1933 02 14
When the Cambridge Daily News was founded in 1888 it was produced in premises in Camden Place. All who pass the Theatre Buildings will see we are taking over the premises vacated by D.J. Scott, the photographer The present site, once an arcade of shops and offices in the passage leading between the New Theatre and Scott and Wilkinson, was acquired in 1901-2. Now we are expanding with new presses to enable a 24-page weekly paper, modern Linotype plate casting machinery and a larger photo-engraving department. We have also introduced a fleet of efficient delivery vans 33 02 14a & b

1933 03 29
H.S. Johnson on colour photography – 33 03 29e

1933 03 24
Snelson lecture on River Cam – 33 03 24b

1933 11 02
Briscoe Snelson lectures on Ouse with camera – 33 11 02

1933 06 15
David John Scott had been engaged in photographic work all his business life. He first started in 1884 in partnership with Mr Wilkinson at 47, St Andrew's Street. They bought an existing

business for £300 and traded for five or seven years before the partnership was dissolved and he bought Wilkinson out. About September 1932 he had to leave those premises and remove to 59 Regent Street, which affected the business. Trade had declined and people were not having their photographs taken as much as they used to. 33 06 15c

1933 09 12
Anderson (Andy) Broom was keenly interested from a boy in amateur photography and became the first Press photographer in Cambridge, having been for 20 years on the staff of the Cambridge Chronicle. Before that he worked for 37 years with the firm of Flavell and Ellis, decorators. He was member of St Giles' parish dramatic society and an athlete, chiefly engaged in cycling and skating. 33 09 12

1933 11 02
Photographs taken during a holiday in Russia are displayed at Ramsey and Muspratt studio in Post Office Terrace. Two studies, 'Dneiprastron: the new town' and 'Moscow: the Kremlin' show there is beauty in the new and old. The human side is captured in a fine study of the 'Intourist' bus driver and a Young Pioneers' demonstration while 'The Infants School' shows the Russian child. 'Prison Settlement', is a photo of another aspect of Russian life 33 11 02

1933 12 06
Making of photographic blocks by CDN Engraving department manager – 33 12 06

1934 01 20
C.E. Goodrich, the photographer, started working at Cambridge under Mr Palmer Clarke and with Mr Sanderson took over the business, continuing alone after Mr Sanderson's death. He retired last summer. For over 25 years he was known for the special colour photographic process which he devised and used with great success in portrait and landscape works. He had photographed in colour most of the important members of the University and was always engaged to take pictures of new laboratories when they were erected 34 01 20

1934 02 09
J. V. Spalding lecture on amateur portraiture - 34 02 09

1934 11 02
Suicide Douglas Gavin Reid 34 11 02b, 34 11 03, 34 11 12

1935 02 16
W.C. Squires exhibition – 35 02 16

1935 03 21
Briscoe Snelson gave a lecture of exceptional interest on the Ouse and its tributaries, showing several beautiful slides of the scenery. This was a stretch near the Godmanchester-St Neots road where the river ran alongside the rail-road and every morning an enthusiast would wait to race the 'Flying Scotsman' with his motor boat. "Elsworth was a photographer's paradise. It has no traffic problems, is on the bus route and has no petrol pump. It is a typical Cambridgeshire village, and I hope it will not change", he said. 35 03 21a & b

1935 10 25
Ramsey and Muspratt's photographic work will be even more distinctive by the use of the solarization process in certain of their portraits. It produces quite different results from the usual photograph as by chemical means a black line is made to outline the face of the subject giving it

the appearance of a drawing. Their other work captures not only the face but the character of the subject. An exhibition of photographs features Dr Alex Wood and Cavendish Laboratory scientist Mr Searle together with charming child studies full of the joy of living. Others are of commercial work, showing interiors and pictures from unusual angles. 35 10 25b

1935 11 18
Cambridge University Camera Club heard how the aerial camera acts as a kind of detective of the air, picking up clues helpful to the soldier, the prospector, the map-maker, archaeologist and even the tax-collector. Wing-Commander H.M. Taylor from the School of Photography at Farnborough told how on one housing estate an aerial photograph was fixed at the entrances as a guide to the streets for strangers. Panochromatic film was used to combat moisture. Showing an aerial view of Cambridge he commented; "There's always a lot of dust and haze over this town – there must be a lot of hot air talked!" 35 11 18

1935 12 07
Briscoe Snelson gave a talk, illustrated by lantern slides on 'The River Ouse with the Camera' 35 12 07

1936 04 22
Percy Clark left Cambridge for a life of adventure in South Africa. Today he is famous to visitors at the famous Victoria Falls because of his picturesque huts which house photographs and mementoes for the delight of the traveller. In his autobiography, 'An Old Drifter' he tells how, after working as a photographer with Mr R.H. Lord, he went to Rhodesia where he worked as a travelling photographer. Having returned to Cambridge to be married he went back to find that the man he'd left in charge of his photographic business had decamped, having sold nearly all the furniture. But his young wife made the best of it and they have two strong sons. 36 04 22a

1936 06 04
"I never let people pose" said Mrs Lettice Ramsey at an exhibition of modern photography. Her Solarised photographs are striking and new, giving the effect of charcoal drawing, while the unusual angle in the beautiful picture of Mrs Victor Rothschild is becoming as well as arresting. But the child studies are the most interesting: none of the usual sentimental darlings, but vigorous, animated children, almost walking out of their frames. Feminine sitters appreciate a women photographer's experience in matters of clothes and hair dressing while men – often vainer than women – can be flattered into good humour. Here is something new and original in photographic technique 36 06 04b

1936 10 01
A pilot summonsed for flying at a low altitude over the Cam at Fen Ditton told the court he was carrying a photographer for the Sport and General Press Agency. Herbert Cook was taking pictures of the Bumping Races from a side window using an ordinary camera with a long focus lens. They had to fly across the river and would not have got good photographs if they'd come down to the tree tops. There were a number of other planes from Marshall's flying about. Spectators complained he was too low and had caused one of the waitresses at The Plough to spill the things on a tray in the tea garden. The case was dismissed. 36 10 01 & a

1937 01 22
Briscoe Snelson lecture 'With a camera in East Anglia' – 37 01 22c

1937 09 18

Cabinet-size portraits were invented in the spring of 1866 and John Werge visiting Cambridge two years later was surprised to find Cambridge men had not adopted it; writing in 'Photographic News' of 10 April 1868 he says: 'while there is a rush for cabinet portraits in Oxford, Cambridge holds aloof. … lukewarmness of Cambridge photographers. Carte-de-visite size was most popular – 37 09 18a

1937 10 20
Percy Salmon gave a lantern lecture on Melbourn to Cambridge Photographic Club. One drawback was a lack of water supply and this was a serious matter to a photographer. The method of washing slides at the village pump was slow, but healthy, while dangling them in the mill pond merely provided a free picture show for the stickleback, who ruin the slides by their curiosity and rubbed the gelatine off. He deplored the 'slum clearance fever' which has swept Melbourn. It has made the village more healthy but less picturesque and no longer a hunting ground for photography 37 10 20c

1937 12 15
Cambridge Photographic Club's annual competition was 'Street characters and customs". There were interesting entries depicting well-known characters and street scenes. Graham Turner submitted a picture of 'William Davis, pedlar', Capt C.G.M. Hatfield was awarded a certificate for a photograph of 'Banjo Joe', a familiar figure on the Backs, while Graham Turner and T.E. Collier were praised for their entries 37 12 15c

1938 02 03
W.F. Turner pictures of Old Cambridge – interesting notes – 38 02 03a

1938 02 10
Briscoe Snelson lecture on East Anglia with a Camera – 38 02 10

1938 05 31
Ralph Starr, photographer recalls early advertisement in CDN – 38 05 31k

1938 12 13
Cambridgeshire Photographic Record exhibition – includes watercolours of areas impossible to photograph including view of Fitzroy Street and Burleigh Street corner from roof of Laurie & McConnals painted by Beryl Pickering; other sketches include the Saxon Cement Works, Eagle Hotel yard, Hobson Street from King Street end, Miss M.C. Greene paintings of yards – Ninepin, True Blue, Ram Yard, Falcon Yard. Last thatched roof in Blackamoor Head Yard - 38 12 13a

1939 08 02
Turner & sons of Trinity Street was founded by John Leach, chemist and photo dealer 50 years ago and taken over by W.E. Turner in 1912. It has one of the most modern photographic developing and printing factories at Humberstone Road – 39 08 02b

1939 12 30
George Proctor was earliest photographer, says Pink; he lived in New Square and died 1867. Ernest Smart has a number of family portraits 39 12 30

1939 12 23
Daguerreotype photographs were expensive and it was not until 1851 that a cheaper process came along. This was the collodion positive invented by Mr F. Scott Archer of Bishop's Stortford who died in 1857. These were framed portraits on glass and they were made in thousands at feasts in

Cambridgeshire villages and on the beach at the seaside. One of the most notable makers was a Cambridge man called Dick Hutchinson who lived somewhere on the East Road and worked Yarmouth beach every summer. He had no studio in Cambridge. 39 12 23a

1940

1940 06 04
John William Scott manager CDN photographic & engraving department; worked at Scott & Wilkinson and did occasional photographic work for CDN; also official police photographer. When CDN reorganised in 1929 was asked to form and take control of the Photographic and Engraving Department – 40 06 04

1941 04 12
CAS Photographic record has 7,000 prints; catalogued by Dr Mary Scruby and being used by Architects' Panel for recording ancient buildings; seeks pictures – 41 04 12

1941 08 15
James Henry Kidd of Kidd & Baker dies aged 72; first worked for Faulkner-White in St Andrew's Street, then Scott & Wilkinson. Opened his own business in St Mary's studios 36 years ago and was joined by Miss Baker who had worked with him at Scott & Wilkinson. Business thrived, good mixed trade with University and town. War produced difficulties in obtaining materials and the studio was forced to close – 41 08 15a

1941 09 13
Briscoe Snelson has pictures accepted for Royal Photographic Society's annual show; all of fenland scenery – rainbow over Reach lode, Reach, river farm at Fen Ditton – 41 09 13
Briscoe Snelson has 6 photos Royal Photographic Society show [1.6]

1943 10 07
Cambridge Photographic Society move HQ from Ram Yard to Cambridgeshire Technical School, though dark room will continue until Christmas; first lady president (Mrs K. Moore) retires Hon Sec for 15 years, I.S. Moore had died – 43 10 07a; death Agnes Johnson – 43 12 30

1943 12 30
Cambridge Photographic Society move HQ from Ram Yard to Cambridgeshire Technical School, though dark room will continue until Christmas; first lady president (Mrs K. Moore) retires Hon Sec for 15 years, I.S. Moore had died – 43 10 07a; death Agnes Johnson – 43 12 30

1944 12 28
George Henry Tyndall, proprietor Minster Press, Ely; accomplished photographer featured in Atkinson's Ely Cathedral and Hunts VCH – 44 12 28a

1945
Cambridge University Committee for Aerial Photography started when Prof John St Joseph began taking photographs in 1945 after his wartime experience showed him the value of aerial observation. In the first ten days he took 788 photographs. Until 1958 he used an RAF training aircraft but in 1962 the Department purchased its own plane. They have surveyed the whole of Cambridgeshire in colour. 89 07 07b

1947 12 30

Mrs E.H. Galsworthy has established a reputation as a photographer under the professional (and maiden) name of Miss Olive Edis. She started taking photographs 41 years ago and has no less than 35,000 ordinary negatives stored away. Mrs Galsworthy has specialised in colour work, using Lumiere plates and her collection must be almost unique for it comprises a cross section of some of the most notable men and women of the last generation. There are a number of Cambridge personalities, many of whom were personally known to her for Cambridge is what she calls her "third home". They include Lord Rutherford, Sir J.J. Thomson and Dr M.R. James (Provost of Kings). Connections with the town date back to her early days and before her marriage she held annual exhibitions of her work in St Columba's Hall, St Andrew's Street 47 12 30

1950

1950 08 26
Mr Ralph Starr, twice Mayor of Cambridge & once described as 'the best-known man in the town', died at his home. Few men have given so much of their life in the service of the town. He was first elected to the Council in 1904 and served continuously till November 1945. At a time when there were few Labour members of the council he was looked upon as the 'People's Mayor'. As a young man he entered the photographic studios of Messrs Hills & Saunders where he remained for eight years before starting the business to become well known in Cambridge & Ely as 'Starr & Rignall' 50 08 26

1951 09 11
Mr Joseph Henry Priest of Waterbeach, who died suddenly aged 73, was well-known in sporting circles. Fifty years ago he was an amateur champion cyclist and for over 40 years he has been closely identified with the Cam Sailing Club. Setting up for himself as a stationer and printseller in Bridge Street, Cambridge, he continued until the First World War when he opened up the premises as a ladies' outfitter in conjunction with Mr C.N. Mitcham. Later he took the corner premises now occupied by Messrs Peak in Fitzroy Street and carried on as 'The Quality Shop' and subsequently joined the firm of C.N. Mitcham's of Chesterton. In the heyday of amateur theatricals he was a member of the Bijou Amateurs. 51 09 11

1952 09 13
D.W. Rattle, press photographer, 52 09 13 p10

1953 04 07
Edward Russell photographer, 53 04 07 p6

1954 09 29
David James Scott, a one-time photographer whose shop became part of the Cambridge Daily News building, has died aged 97. A partner for a time in the firm of Scott and Wilkinson, he later became the owner. In business for 50 years he did a large amount of work for the Cambridge and the Leys School. Mr Scott painted in oils and watercolours; he was a keen fly fisherman and staunch Conservative Party worker. His son, William, managed the CDN process-engraving department until his death - 54 09 29

1955 07 08
Albert Grainger, the Burwell photographer, has died aged 69. A cheerful character he had made a host of friends during his 31 years in the photographic business. He worked as butler-valet for Lord Glanely at Exning House until in 1923 he set up in business at Burwell. His first job was a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

wedding the day after the shop was opened. Throughout his career he was assisted by his wife, Dorothy, who carried on the business for some time after his illness. 55 07 08b

1956 01 20
W.C. Squires had been a founder-member of the Cambridge Camera Club; he was a master of the technique of bromoil, his work being exhibited overseas, and an enthusiastic lantern slide worker. But he refused to lecture and many of his slides had never been shown. His speciality was the portrayal of open landscape and he aimed for a natural effect, be the conditions stormy or sunny. He loved the fen country round Reach 56 01 20d

1956 09 08
Baron the famous photographer (Mr Stirling Henry Nahum) commenced his career in Cambridge after his mother gave him a £16 camera. In 1935 he started a correspondence course with the Mallinson School of Journalism and Photography in Rose Crescent and had his lessons posted to Monte Carlo where he was living. He already showed promise and the School sold several of his photographs during the two years he was with them. 56 09 08e

1957 09 04
A.C. Barrington-Brown, photographer on trip to Far East – 57 09 04b

1959 08 26
Melbourn's most familiar figure, Mr Percy Salmon, has died aged 87. He was correspondent for the 'Cambridge Independent Press and Chronicle' for many years. Nothing could ruffle his even temperament although his articles were often controversial. In his youth Mr Salmon travelled the world as a press photographer and his lantern lectures were a popular entertainment when he first came to the village in the late 1920's. He was also an expert archaeologist. 59 08 26b funeral 59 08 28

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 08 22
History of Cambridge photography – 60 08 22

1960 11 16
Mrs B. Gaye portrait photographer moved Cambridge from Thaxted – 60 11 16

1961 06 30
Cambridge Camera Club photographic feature – 61 06 30c

1962 06 06
Camera club exhibition includes photographs by J.H. Scoon – 62 06 06

1966 03 09
Stearns photographers in merger between Hunting Surveys and A.H. Leach of Brighouse. The new company will be based at Boreham Wood. Stearns university group photographers and specialists in art and industrial photography are expected to benefit by the merger – 66 03 09

1968 06 19

Percy North, Red Cross worker for 45 years & photographer – profile – 68 06 19

1968 10 04
John Slater photographer started Newmarket after WWII, moved to maltings in Fordham Rd producing good-quality colour prints – 68 10 04a

1969 05 05
Fencolor Laboratories move from Abbey Road to Coldham's Road; started in early 1950's in Bridge Street; will increase workers to 80 – 69 05 05

1970

1970 10 09
Stearns joined Eaden Lilley, negatives maintained - 70 10 09 [27.10.2]

1978 05 12
The Sunday Times devoted many pages to portraits of such people as Burgess and Maclean photographed during their undergraduate days in a "relaxed" style then very usual. They were taken by the famous Cambridge photographers, Ramsey and Muspratt in their studios at Post Office Terrace. The article also mentioned the 50,000-odd negatives left behind there by generations of photographic firms, but there could be even more. In a separate building at the back are cupboards, not opened for at least 70 years, that are absolutely stuffed with glass negatives. But now a selection of them have been printed by the Cambridgeshire Collection 78 05 12

1978 09 11
Cliff Squires and Briscoe Snelson were two of Cambridge's most talented amateur photographers, good friends who often photographed the same scene, though from their own distinctive viewpoints. Squires, founder of the Cambridge Camera Club died not long after his friend Snelson was widowed and in 1953 Mrs Kathleen Squires became Mrs Snelson. She remembers both husbands as simply, "lovely men". Now their widow has deposited a horde of their photographs with the enterprising Cambridgeshire Collection, who are planning to hold lunchtime lantern-slide shows this autumn. 78 09 11

1980

1982 05 05
Frith photographs being sold by Cottenham firm – 82 05 05a

1983 12 10
At Anglia Photo works in Devonshire Road they know the party season is in full swing. There was a time when you could guarantee there would be hardly any photographs to process after September, said Tom Johnson, but the emergence of d cameras with built-in flash has changed all that". The average number of prints processed per film is now 22, much higher than it used to be. Now picture after picture flows from the processing machines and every one is personally scrutinised and inspected 83 12 10 p14

1984 12 05
KP Professional Sales started in 1968 when its position on King's Parade was ideal for building up business with university departments. But it outgrew its space in the KP Camera Shop, moving to Sussex Street and then Quayside before opening new premises in Clifton Road. It supplies

Government departments, the armed forces and a host of professional photographers who need a vital piece of equipment at the last minute. There is a lot of new electronic equipment but as far as taking pictures is concerned Ian Bedson, the managing director, doesn't envisage any major innovation. 84 12 05 & a

1985 02 01
The rambling photographic premises in Post Office Terrace are best known as Ramsey and Muspratt's studios. It was in 1931 that Lettice Ramsey and Helen Muspratt took over the business previously run by Palmer Clarke. They built up the portraiture side of the work, photographing most of the university students in the 1930s and carefully filing their negatives. In 1978 the business was taken over by Nicholas Lee and then Peter Lofts but has now closed. All the glass negatives of previous photographers at the studio, dating back to the 1860s, are now in the Cambridgeshire Collection. 85 02 01b & c

1985 07 18
Lettice Ramsey, a member of the Bloomsbury Group and Cambridge photographer extraordinary, has died at the age of 86. Born in Ireland, she was educated at Newnham College and married Frank Ramsey a brilliant King's philosopher who tragically died three years later. Left with two daughters she studied briefly at Regent Street Polytechnic and set up in business as a photographer in Post Office Terrace with Helen Muspratt. She was instantly successful and rapidly became fashionable, photographing the influential and up-and-coming throughout the 1930s including Anthony Blunt and Virginia Woolf. She retired in 1978 85 07 18

1985 11 18
Cambridge Darkroom exhibition of Fen photographs – 85 11 18

1986 04 04
Starr and Rignall photographs given to Cambridgeshire Collection. – 86 04 04c

1990 03 13
University Audio founder Gruffydd Reece started University Cameras in St Mary's Passage after leaving the RAF in 1945. The business expanded and he opened Fencolour Laboratories in Newmarket Road, one of the first to offer colour developing and printing for amateurs. He was later joined by his brother Hugh and cousin Bryan Hyam who started University Audio in Peas Hill – 90 03 13

Addenda

Pre 1888 developments

1846 09 26 CIP
Mr Beard, patentee offers license for exercise of the Daguerreotype invention for county of Cambridge

1853 11 26 CIP
Mr Monson's Daguerreotype portraits – the distinguished artists has extended his stay in Cambridge … now many likenesses of residents … the style in which the portraits are coloured is exquisite

1859 01 14 Ch

Valentine Blanchard, a native of Wisbech is here on a professional visit as a photographer … reads to Mechanics Institute

1869 12 04 CIP
Exhibition of the London Photographic Society … our artistic townsman Mr Valentine Blanchard is gaining great applause by his magnificent results. The British Journal of Photography … reporting exhibition … the best examples of portraiture … of class now known as Salomodesque … tone a fine warm velvety-brown … [Wisbech news]

1885 04 25 CIP
Valentine Blanchard v Charles Day, innkeeper Walsoken who was contemplating engaging in the business … claimed seven gns for photographic materials 1887 02 18 Ch

1887 02 18 Ch
Electric Light Studio Cambridge … entrance to studio of Valentine Blanchard jun fitted up with an arc lamp of 10,000 candle-power … reception and dressing room lighted with Swan incandescent lamps … studio four Swan incandescent lamps of 32-candle power which used during posing, focussing etc so that the arc lamp which gives light equal to 30,000 to 40,000 candles is only used when sitter being photographed. The development of the negative is carried on by the light of a Swan incandescent lamp of 18 candle power, suitably screened by Ruby fabric. The Dynamo is worked by one of Crossley's gas engines. … 6hp sufficient to work all the lamps at one time. By use of opaque blinds to cover the glass of the studio, the electric light can also be used at any time during the day

1887 02 26 CIP
Electric light studio … remarkable success [similar report to Ch]

1887 02 26 CIP
Valentine Blanchard Electric light and daylight photographic studio … advert with prices

1887 06 25 CIP
Festivities at the Post Office … photographed by Valentine Blanchard

1887 06 25
Festivities at the Post Office … photographed by Valentine Blanchard

1887 02 26
Electric Light Studio Cambridge … entrance to studio of Valentine Blanchard jun fitted up with an arc lamp of 10,000 candle-power … reception and dressing room lighted with Swan incandescent lamps … studio four Swan incandescent lamps of 32-candle power which used during posing, focussing etc so that the arc lamp which gives light equal to 30,000 to 40,000 candles is only used when sitter being photographed. The development of the negative is carried on by the light of a Swan incandescent lamp of 18 candle power, suitably screened by Ruby fabric. The Dynamo is worked by one of Crossley's gas engines. … 6hp sufficient to work all the lamps at one time. By use of opaque blinds to cover the glass of the studio, the electric light can also be used at any time during the day 1887 02 26

Bachelor of Hearts' filming, 1958 *109.02*

c.65.6 : Films set in or depicting Cambridge

see also c.76.9: Cinema

1904 06 24
The Midsummer Fair brought its usual amusements but the cinematograph held undisputed sway: it is the autocrat which swallows hundreds of 'tuppences' and is always ready for more. It was patronised liberally and showed some very excellent representations of national and local life. War pictures form no inconsiderable part of the programme and among the turns of local interest were views of the May Races and the boiler explosion at Linton. CDN 24.6.1904

1910

1911
Film made of Senate House procession and Balfour installation [2.15]

1913 05 02
Builders working on the new Mill Road Picture Palace were taking their dinner on planks near the wall when a man rushed up and, pointing to the sky, called their attention to a passing aeroplane. Whilst they were gazing in astonishment at this interesting object he suddenly seized a dinner bag from one of them and bolted. A cry of 'Stop thief' was raised and a policeman gave chase, speedily joined by a fireman and a boy scout who captured his quarry with a lasso. The whole thing was a 'put up job' by the manager of the Electric Theatre whose operators took a cinematograph picture of the event to be shown at the cinema on Market Hill. 13 05 02 p10 CIP

1913 05 22

Playhouse Cinema opened, first purpose-built cinema in Cambridge: had its own orchestra & camera man who took pictures of local events for newsreels [2.10, M]

1917 04 18
"The battle of the Gogs" – fine operations by Cambridge cadets; film made by A.J. Pointer of Victoria cinema. Includes filling bombs, march to battlefield, attack and counter-attack including planes, bombs and gas – 17 04 18a; photos – 18c

1920

1922 05 20
Original "rags" in Cambridge are becoming few and far between, but there was something absolutely new this morning, when undergraduates treated their fellow-members of the University, and townspeople also to that rare spectacle - a film in the making - when there took place the filming of episode one of "The Supper Man". Shortly before noon we beheld a crowd seething round a lorry bearing camera men and some bright spirits with megaphones. These bright spirits made a loud noise with the aid of the megaphone whereat the villain, one Silas Windle, the most villainous villain that ever "villainised" appeared mounted on a handsome gee-gee 22 05 20

1923 11 03
The subject of the censorship of cinematograph films came before the Cambridgeshire county council. They agreed that no film - other than photographs of current events - which has not been passed for universal exhibition by British Board of Film Censors shall be exhibited without the consent of the council. The Vice Chancellor thought that films such as those of the rags on Market Hill, he personally would be very glad to see stopped. (Laughter.) If there were no films of "rags" there would be no "rags" to film. (Laughter) 23 11 03

1924 04 07
Pictures of the boat race were shown in several local picture theatres on Saturday night. At the Playhouse the Pathe film of the great contest was thrown on the screen at 8.25. The last camera from the race arrived at the Pathe studio at about 3.30. The first copy was made at 6.30 and the journey to Cambridge was made by motor. The audience cheered and roared all the way through the picture, and at the conclusion the noise was enough to bring the roof down 24 04 07

1924 07 09
Papworth royalty filmed by Pointer, Victoria Cinema, 24 07 09, p5

1925 12 18
The many hundreds of people who crowded Market Hill to see the meet of the Cambridgeshire Hunt on Boxing Day morning will have an opportunity of trying to pick themselves out in a special film at the Victoria Cinema. The photography is extraordinarily good and the picturesque scene well depicted. The spectator gets good views of various sections of the crowds and the huntsmen are seen partaking of the refreshments supplied by the Mayor. Later as the Hunt moves off we see them in King's Parade 25 12 28

1926 03 30
A splendid film of the Boat Race was screened at the Playhouse on Saturday evening and received a great reception from crowded audiences. Added interest was shown by the inclusion of pictures of the "Go-Ahead" wireless car receiving the copy of the film for Cambridge outside the offices of Pathe Gazette. It came with musical accompaniment as the loud speaker was giving

forth the Daventry programme and when broadcasting in Wardour Street, London, the road was blocked by people who stopped to gaze at the novelty and to listen in 26 03 30

1926 11 04
No little excitement was caused when an undergraduate, fully-clothed and wearing cap and gown, jumped off the Magdalene Bridge into the river, using an umbrella as a parachute. A film record of the exploit was taken by Lord Burghley, the famous athlete, who had his baby film camera mounted on the top of his motor car. The undergraduate, being hard up, had hit on this idea as a way of getting money and has netted enough to keep him for a week or two in pocket-money 26 11 04

1927
Granta holds competition for Cambridge-based film [1.16, 1.18]

1927 05 14
Undergraduate film 27 05 14, p8*

1927 06 09
"Grit" is an undergraduate film taken by a little Cine-Kodak and projected by the Kodascope at the Tivoli Cinema. It is believed to be the first serious attempt in an English University to obtain experience in the technique of film production and is one of the first amateur films to be exhibited in the country. It has been directed by Mr Dennis Arundell and we get some good views of Cambridge streets and colleges. It shows how the stroke of a college crew is kidnapped so his boat might not go head of the river. 27 06 09

1927 06 11
Rag filmed, 27 06 11, p7

1928 11 24
Almost every aspect of undergraduate life will be seen in the new 'talkie' film now in course of preparation. The director is an old Cambridge man and he has persuaded the authorities to permit the general public glimpses of the interiors of some of the most sacred institutions. Certain 'dons' whose names are household words are interested in the project and will describe the characteristics of some of the fine old buildings while in one scene the star part will be played by a popular University hairdresser whose saloon and waiting clients provide the setting. 28 11 24

1929 06 01
Cambridge Undergraduate film comedy – Aunt Matilda's Nephew – 29 06 01 p6*

1930

1930 01 25
Cambridge University Cinematograph Society has just started on its new film; it will be even more ambitious than last year's "Aunt Matilda's Nephew". That was a two-reel burlesque on University life but "Varsity" is to be a more serious affair. It will be a mixture of comedy and drama. There will be a strong love interest and the services of some professional actresses are being sought. The director is Mr S. Legg and the camera man Mr Graff 30 01 25 & a

1930 05 27
Cambridge University Cinematograph Society's film 'Varsity' depicts University life through the eyes of undergraduates themselves. The director is Stuart Legg of St John's College and Mr

J.Graaff is responsible for the production and photography. About 50 students take part including Mr Hunter, the son of a well-known Hollywood director and some well-known townsmen. It includes scenes at a Rugby match, Cambridge station and a roulette party at a public house. The film is not a talkie but includes gramophone recorded noises. 30 05 27

1930 07 12
Great liberties have been taken with Sherlock Holmes and in plays and films you can learn things that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle himself never knew. In 'The Three Students' Sir Arthur laid the scene in a Cambridge college but in the 'Moriarty' film Holmes and Watson are both shown as undergraduates. It was here that their great friendship began and from here that Holmes set forth to track down Moriarty and his gang 30 07 12b

1930 12 23
Chivers employees spent a pleasant and instructive time at the Central Cinema when they watched the new film 'From Orchard to Home'. It covered the processes in making jam from picking the fruit to labelling the jars and showed the facilities afforded the employees in their leisure hours. At the conclusion a good deal of merriment was caused by the showing of a similar film taken 25 years ago; it was interesting to compare the difference between the work then and now 30 12 23

1931 05 29
Cambridge professors were amongst scientists who made a film at Spicers of Sawston and less than four hours afterwards saw themselves in natural colours on the screen. Experiments in colour have been going on for two years. At present efforts are being concentrated on motion-picture film. One of the difficulties has been the provision for a sound track but this has been surmounted and talking colour films will be made. Sawston may become a complete film colony rivalling Elstree in importance. 31 05 29a

1931 05 30
First talking picture made at Cambridge University by Stuart Legge in conjunction with British Instructional Film Corporation about day in life of an undergraduate [1.10]

1931 12 11
A Band of Hope meeting in the Bethel Baptist Church, Swavesey welcomed Mr and Mrs David Moore and their programme of moving pictures. Mrs Moore deplored the fact that the gambling spirit was so rife and a scientific film showed the narcotic effect of alcohol. Pictures of the Skegness excursion gave great delight as many people saw themselves on the screen. They were followed by film of a garden party in Christ's College and the colleges in their winter mantle of snow. 31 12 11g

1932 01 01
If you spent Christmas in Cambridge you may see yourself on the screen at the Kinema. The enterprising management sent a man round with a cine-camera who took 'shots' of people doing their shopping on Market Square, a Christmas Day football match on Jesus Green and the Boxing Day meet of the Cambs Harriers showing many well-known faces including that of the Mayor drinking out of the stirrup cup. We hope it will not be the last time the Kinema send their camera round the town 32 01 01

1933 02 04
Photographic club cine films – 33 02 04b

1933 06 06
University Film Society filming 'Power' – 33 06 06

1933 12 02
Amateur film producers production – 33 12 02

1934 01 08
A film entitled 'Cambridge and the University Town, directed by Peter Collin of Newmarket is a twelve-minute pictorial survey with shots of the backs, boating scenes and Grantchester. He had the collaboration of R. Colville-College, an undergraduate of King's. The photography, which reaches a very high standard, is by S.W. Bowler who shows considerable promise. The film, released by Equity British Films will be shown in Ely, Littleport and Newmarket. As a lad Mr Collin assisted in the operating box of the Victoria Cinema and is now a director of Argyle Talking Pictures. 34 01 08

1934 04 19
Cambridge Photographic Club featured an excellent display of cinematograph films. They included a splendid pictorial film of Cambridge by Eric Twinn on 9.5 mm stock. It was a brief presentation demonstrating his ability to choose a pleasant viewpoint. Mr J.V. Spalding depicted some of the useful work of the Ouse Drainage Board with several very clever angles chosen to obtain dramatic effect 34 04 19

1934 05 18
Newmarket Amateur Cine Society, in only its second year, has accomplished a splendid performance by winning first prize in a competition organised by 'Home Movies and Home Talkies'. Their film was directed by Merrick Griffiths, with J.W. McGlone responsible for the photography. The prize consists of a gold medal and a 16 m.m. projector 34 05 18

1934 10 22
Thousands greeted the King and Queen when they made their way to the new University Library. Washing and cooking alike was forgotten in hundreds of homes as women formed a great part of the crowds which were thickest in Trinity Street where undergraduates in cap and gown added to the number. Of all the wonderful products of man's skill in art and labour the Library must rank of one of the most inspiring and peculiarly permanent of our national institutions and with while clouds scudding over its lofty tower this unique building occupied the centre of a delightful scene. An exceptionally good film of the visit, taken by Gaumont especially for the Victoria Cinema will be shown next week. 34 10 22 & 25

1935 04 17
Cambridge Photographic Club Cine Group films included 'Yarmouth Scene' by E.J. Twinn showing the curious narrow 'rows',the great herring season and a tragedy of the sea – a great cargo boat being destroyed by fire. E.F. Watson showed his travel film 'Glorious South Devon' and Arnold Darlington displayed 'Puffin Island'. The tit-bit was the group's 1935 film 'Morning' which starts in a leisurely strain and ends with the workers and school children beginning their day. The actors, Mrs A. Twinn and Mr E.F. Watson are to be congratulated on their performance. 35 04 17a

1936 03 03
Cambridge University Film Production Unit documentary on psychology at Psychological Laboratories – photo 36 03 03b

1936 04 22
Cambridge Photographic Club cine group showed a film by Eric Watson entitled 'East Coast Holidays' with some interesting shots of fisher girls 'gutting' at Lowestoft. 'Neath Arctic Skies' by Arnold Darlington depicted Eskimo life in East Greenland in 1935 while his 'Offence and Defence' was accompanied by a running commentary: the absence of sub-titles made it something of an experiment. The club's combined film 'Springtime for Henry' portrayed a small boy's attitude towards compulsory school attendance on a fine morning. Mr H.S. Johnson, president, thanked King and Harper for the use of their radiogram in relating the musical score accompanying the films. 36 04 22b

1936 09 23
Nearly 600 people attended a film show at The Dorothy arranged by King and Harper in connection with Morris cars. The chief film was 'Sahara' showing how a car broke the record from London to Nigeria and illustrated what a standard Morris 25 saloon can do, while the 'Morris Gazette' included boats on the broads and some of the employees social pursuits. The programme included one of Walt Disney's immortal cartoons. It was 'The Service Station' and the audience found plenty to laugh about. – 36 09 23a

1937 01 21
Cambridge University Film Production Unit described their difficulties in making the film 'Psychology Today'. They used various laboratories for studios and when hounded out of one would look for another. The camera was of the hand-cranked type and had to be held down by three people when in use to prevent it rocking. While the film was being made they had no time for work or any other activities. A commentary had now been recorded and the sound track and visual film were in process of being' married'. The unit is not confined to members of the University: townspeople are welcome. 37 01 21d

1937 02 04
Mr W. King's film display at Stapleford Institute featured scenes of the maiden voyage of the Queen Mary together with two of his latest films. 'Armistice Day' included colour pictures of Poppy Day in Cambridge and 'Village Life' showing the British Legion parade, Stapleford school children at their exercises in the playground and many scenes of farming life. Stapleford's ambition is to be right up-to-date. It has a water supply with hydrants in case of fire, gas and electricity though this has not been installed at the Institute and a wire was run from the Old Vicarage to operate the projector 37 02 04

1937 04 21
Cambridge Photographic Club cine group presented its annual show. Mr W. King's "Flood" was a magnificent epic of the recent Fenland troubles with some really brilliant photography. "Close of the Day" recalled some of the scenes witnessed in Cambridge every afternoon at 5 o'clock and showed the evening's life of a typical couple. Humour and trick photography are the keynote of the film which was written and directed by Mr F.B. Ives and produced by Mr E.J. Twinn. 37 04 21a

1937 10 02
'The Harassed Harrises', a play by local author Gerald Light, features a father who keeps a fried fish shop in a town that is obviously Cambridge. His son, a young man of brains, has won a scholarship to the university but feels he is looked down on because of his father's job. What makes things even more awkward is that his aunt is a bedder at his college who is very fond of whisky. Without a doubt the play was greatly appreciated by the audience at the performance given by the CUP Amateur Dramatic Society 37 10 02

1938 01 11
Mr W. King showed three of his films at the Dorothy Café. The first dealing with the fen floods of 1937 had been seen before but the others were new. One showing the inspection of the Cambridgeshire Regiment by General Kirke caught the spectacle admirably: the marching of the Territorials was transferred to the screen in colour and many town and county notabilities were seen. Another showed the demonstration given by the Cambridge Women's Physical Culture Club, concentrating on the beauty and grace of their movement and showing the great advance they have made in the art of keeping fit by easy, pleasure-giving exercises. 38 01 11a

1938 03 17
Mr W. King gave the premier presentation of two new films depicting his tour of the Continent, tracing the journey from Cambridge to Germany. Everywhere he went he was given a wonderful reception but he noticed the extraordinary signs of militarism with numerous little armies of men and children being shown. The first film was 'Flood' which has been placed among the ten best amateur films of 1937. It was followed by 'May Week' and 'Club Clippings' showing many well-known members of the Cambridge Motor Boat Club. 38 03 17a

1939 12 20
Mr W. King's latest films represent a remarkable advance on his past achievements. Apart from films of a domestic nature, such as the visit of Rotarians to Hemingford Grey and their outing to Houghton, there was one of the proclamation of Reach Fair. He visited this year to make a pictorial record but was unlucky in that the fair itself failed to materialise apart from a few side shows. He was able to catch the atmosphere of the opening ceremony and the children scrambling for new pennies. He also filmed the lunch in the village schoolroom, obtaining some candid shots. This might find its way into the archives if the fair suffers the same fate as Stourbridge Fair. The best of his colour films depicted a visit to Messrs Engelmann's nurseries at Saffron Walden showing glasshouses filled with carnations. 39 12 20

1940

1941 04 18
London Comes to Cheveley."The Rectory in the village of Cheveley (Cambs.) must be among the handsomest property now used by Friends." So states a note in a recent "News" sheet issue by the Society of Friends' War Victims' Relief Committee, which announces that towards the close of last month this rectory was occupied by mothers and children from Stepney and Limehouse. These folk were selected from East End shelters in which the. Friends work. Most of the women had been to the country before — they returned because they could not stand living in other people's houses and the separation from their London friends. And they have come to Cheveley because they had been allowed to take some of their own essential furniture with them and live in a community of their London neighbours. To help them to make up their minds about coming, a film of Cheveley was made and shown in the shelters—which strikes me as being extremely accommodating, to say the least. "The scheme," says the 'News' note "would never have come into operation without the advice, help and encouragement of a Cheveley resident. Mrs Morriss, whose horse won the Derby a few years ago." There is, I believe, a similar 'Friends' centre at Wood Ditton for bombed-out people. 41 04 18 CIPof

1944 08 18
'Journey Together' film made by RAF for RAF features scenes in St John's College – 44 08 18b a

1946 12 20
Pathe newsreel file of Cambridgeshire Regiment Freedom to be presented Mayor – 46 12 20

1947 09 20
I hear that the "shooting" of the Cambridge Accident Prevention Council's new film finished this week, after difficulties caused by the death of five of its "extras" through poisoning. The "extras" concerned were puppies who absorbed through their pads a solution with which the kennels had been sprayed. They were duly replaced, and final shots of a number of pups walking over a pedestrian crossing were taken on Thursday in a garden at Stapleford. Teaching some of the lessons of road safety the film will show a dog doing kerb drill, as well as driving a small car and observing the rules of the road, including stopping at the traffic lights! The film is believed to be the first of its kind 47 09 20

1948 11 24
An interesting feature of the Cambridge Accident Prevention Council exhibition is the relaying to the Guildhall of a commentary of the conduct of road users given from a police patrol car touring the town. Members of the public are invited to accompany the commentator in the patrol car. Though police radio is not yet in use in Cambridge special arrangements have been made to fit apparatus which will also be used when the general system comes into operation 48 11 24

1949 07 14
Accident Council films, Wise & Otherwise, set in and around Gilbert Road 49 07 14 p4

1949 08 29
Murrow-Tait – women aviator - film Central, p6

1950

1950 06 01
Film company International Realistic has been in Cambridge filming part of a feature film with many well-known local scenes as backgrounds. The film will probably be called “The scarlet thread”, and is an exciting “cops and robbers” starring Laurence Harvey and Kathleen Byron. Market Hill is included with a dash to Gt St Mary’s Passage and a realistic rugger tackle by the fountain. The exposed film was rushed each day to London for processing and back again next day in time for screening at the Victoria Cinema after the usual performances 50 06 01 shown Nov.1951 [2.5,2.6]

1950 08 09
As part of their propaganda campaign, the Cambridge Accident Prevention Council is making a 16-mm film, to be called “Horse Sense”. The film is in full colour and is intended to be a successor to the previous production, “Almost Human”, which is now on show throughout the world. Those responsible are Mr K.O. King (cameraman & director) and the Chief Constable, Mr B.M. Bebbington, for the script 50 08 09

1951 11 10
A year ago Cambridge was the scene of an exciting street chase – engineered for the purposes of a film. “The Scarlet Thread”. Now it is complete and will be shown at the Victorian Cinema. It has a “cops and robbers” story concerning the theft from a jeweller’s shop in Sidney Street and a chase across Market Hill. This part was filmed from the top of the Victoria Cinema. The film was made by the International Realist Coy and stars Kathleen Byroa, Lawrence Harvey and Sidney Tatler 51 11 10

1952 08 28
Cambridge Accident Prevention Council gave a preview of their third film "Horse Sense" which deals with the adventures of a horse called Patch that escapes from its stable and wanders about the streets of Cambridge. It was filmed in Technicolor and directed by Mr K.O. King with P.S. Ives in charge of production and the script was written by the Chief Constable, B.N. Bebbington. The BBC's John Snagge gave the commentary. 52 08 28

1953 05 22
The Playhouse Cinema on Mill Road, Cambridge, celebrates its 40th anniversary as a place of cinematic entertainment. It opened at Whitsun 1913 when there were two shows per evening with a children's matinee on Saturdays. Nowadays we are used to newsreels which are distributed on a national basis but then their own cameraman took the pictures for a newsreel of local interest, including the Cambridge Police Sports and Juvenile Fishing Match. Music was supplied by the Playhouse's own orchestra under Musical Director Max Bennett 53 05 22

1953 08 22
Ealing Studios are getting into full production of their new Technicolor film, tentatively called "Newmarket Heath". The location unit has been filming scenes in the yard of Kremlin Stables, loaned by Mrs Lambton. To Newmarket's undying shame the unit has brought its own string of a dozen horses complete with six lads from Mr Vic Smyth's stable at Epsom. On location were Bill Owen, who plays the part of a warned-off jockey, and well-known character actor Charles Victor. Next week heralds the serious business of getting shots in the ring at the Rowley Mile racecourse. c53 08 27

1954 07 08
Filming Road Safety film – pic, p11

1956 03 20
Hallen's presented a feast of films to suit the taste of motor cyclists. Most were manufacturer's promotions but it was the film produced locally which aroused the most interest. It presented an entertaining picture of local scramble scenes with shots of local characters and celebrities. Those attending can also inspect the improvements to the workshops with special stands for the repair of the increasingly popular auto-cycle and scooter forms of transport. 56 03 20a

1956 10 06
A tattered and broken reel of film recently recovered from a cellar at King and Harper's garage in Bridge Street has been overhauled by the chief projectionist at the Playhouse Cinema. It was taken around 1932 and shows scenes in the firm's depots and features a man in an up-to-the-minute sports car, which appears very comical to modern eyes, whilst a lady is shown over the latest in six-seater saloons. The price ticket attached to the roof gives its price at £205 – brand new! 56 10 06c

1957 07 15
A coloured film based on Rupert Brooke's 'The Old Vicarage Grantchester' is being made. The Marlowe Society provided many of the actors and a local girl was persuaded to jump into the Granta 'with practically nothing on' for one verse. Producer John Stewart will have to be tactful during the filming of the lines "Ditton girls are mean and dirty, And there's none in Harston under 30" 57 07 15a

1958 08 29

"The Freshman", a light-hearted film about life at Cambridge University, will bring in all the well-known local angles – the May Races and balls, chases by Proctors and their 'Bulldogs', visits to coffee bars – and of course, a local romance. It will star Hardy Kruger and Sylvia Syms. But they have had a mishap. While a motoring scene was being shot along Trumpington Road the crankshaft of a vintage 1927 Bentley car suddenly snapped. Now mechanics are searching for a spare, or a new car! 58 08 29a [2.23, 2.24]

1959 01 20
The Regal Cinema was crowded for the Cambridge premier of 'Bachelor of Hearts', the film of University life which was made on location in the city. A reception was attended by the film's producer, Mr Vivian Cox, director Wolf Rilla and one of the 'starlets' from the cast, Miss Gillian Vaughan. The film deals with the adventures of a young German student, played by Hardy Kruger, and an attractive Girton girl (Sylvia Syms). Comments varied widely but everyone agreed there were many good laughs along the way. No plans have been made for it to be shown in Oxford. 59 01 16c, 59 01 20, 56 01 21

1960a The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1961 06 08
'Grantchester', film of the Rupert Brooke poem screed at The Orchard – 61 06 08

1961 10 27
Cambridge Film Unit is in Germany making film of Displaced Persons camps – 61 10 27f

1961 12 13
After a gloomy day's location work on the film 'The War Lover' some thirty men and women trudged to their cars parked on Queen's Road and made off for a hot bath. The day had seen two shots of film stars Shirley Anne Field and Robert Wagner walking up to and leaning on King's bridge. Miss Field plays a research worker and Mr Wagner an American officer, caught up in the romantic agonies of war. Such is the way of film making that even after a morning in which it was too wet to work, the fire brigade still had to hose water onto the bridge to make it wet enough to show. 61 12 14b, 61 12 13 [2.25]

1964 04 21
"Nothing but the best" film features scenes in Cambridge – 64 04 21

1964 08 17
'Focus on Cambridge' is a new documentary film seen through the eyes of two tourists as they drift along the Cam in a punt. Made by Norman Mason-Smith of Forgeron Films it is intended for people lecturing on Cambridge or tourists wishing to take home a memento of their visit. It was filmed in Technicolor, lasts 16 minutes and is available in 16mm format for £22. Cambridge City Libraries have agreed to take a copy 64 08 17

1965 06 30
BBC producing film showing residents in Cambridge to be broadcast on Channel Five transmitters not visible in Cambridge – 65 06 30

1965 10 29
Cambridge Film Society organise Animation Festival – 65 10 29a

1970

1976 01 21
The Cambridge pressure group Kite Community Action are making a half-hour television film to be screened as part of the Open Door series and will put the case against the proposed re-development of the Kite as a regional shopping centre. They are trying to show something about the people who live there. The film will show the kind of neighbourhood which is likely to be sacrificed in the interests of motorised shopping 76 01 21

1980

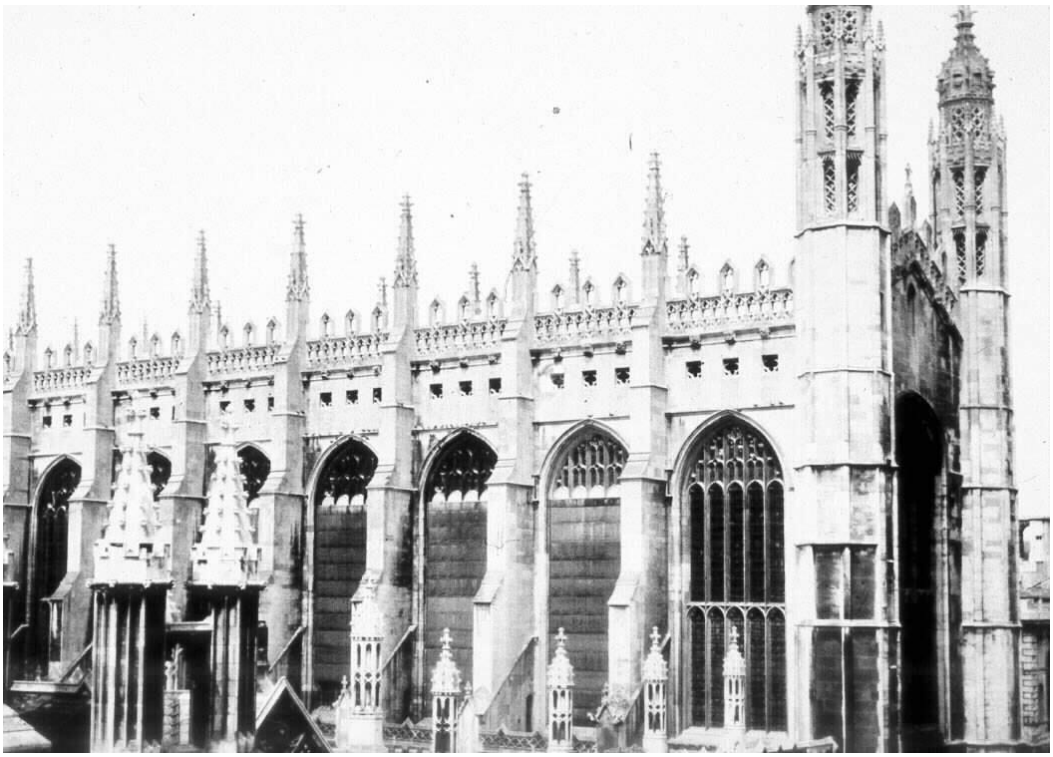
1980 04 17
When the word first went out that a major feature film, 'Chariots of Fire' was seeking 150 undergraduates for a couple of day's filming in Cambridge the film-makers found themselves oversubscribed. But the response from other sections of the University was less enthusiastic. Gonville and Caius and Trinity College have refused to allow filming and several 'Cambridge' scenes are being shot at Eton 80 04 17 [6.2]

1985 06 15
'Revolution' filmed at Ely – 85 06 15

1985 10 17
It was standing room only in Queens' College as undergraduates and dons crowded in to watch the first part of a BBC documentary about their college. Even the bar was quiet as hundreds of college members jostled for the best positions around television sets. There were cheers of recognition for college personalities and hoots of derisions as candidates attending interviews for admission flunked the questions. The Senior Tutor has always supported the project because he believes Queens' has nothing to hide but does not want students to get too excited about the media attention. 85 10 17

1985 11 05
Pamela Sue Martin – who played Fallon in 'Dynasty' – along with veteran actor Dick Van Dyke and Ben Cross, star of 'Chariots of Fire', were part of a glittering galaxy of Hollywood stars who have been smuggled in and out of Cambridge during the last couple of days for the filming of a multi-million dollar TV mini-series called 'Strong Medicine'. Shooting began in King's Parade with heart-throb Sam Neil and then shifted to the university's chemistry department in Lensfield Road. Two local schoolboys James Stevenson and Dan Nashaat gave a hand fetching and carrying. They met the stars and were paid £3 for their work. 85 11 05

1987 05 28
Cambridge author Tom Sharpe's gloriously irreverent comic novel 'Porterhouse Blue' is about to become a new four-part TV series and the University should be bracing itself. Nothing is sacred: a dignified procession through the streets dissolves into farce and gas-filled condoms fill a college courtyard like some shimmering, quivering wheatfield. Every college is convinced it is based on them. Little was actually filmed in Cambridge: Ely provided a more attractive alternatives. David Jason stars in the role of Scullion, the college porter who will put up with anything from the students as long as he considers them 'gentlemen' 87 05 28



King's College Chapel windows were removed during the War – 93.8

c.67 : Stained Glass

1900

1902 02 07
The memorial window to the late Mr James Hough is now complete and the church of St Benedict is in possession of a work of art which will be a constant reminder of a Christian life. It is a three-light stained glass window immediately over the altar, designed by Arthur Savell of London and Regent Street, Cambridge 1

1910

1917 09 19
Stained Glass Window. An interesting little ceremony was performed at St. Philip's Church, Romsey Town, Cambridge, on Thursday afternoon, when a stained glass window, given by a former member of the choir, was dedicated. The Vicar (the Rev. C. Howard) read the dedication prayers. The window, which is a single figure panel, has for its subject St, Philip, and is a very beautiful piece of work. It was designed, made and presented to the church by Mr. Thomas C. Eastwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Eastwell of 93, Sedgwick Street, Cambridge, who has for the last, three years been studying at the Royal College of Art, South Kensington. Mr. Eastwell was for a number of years a chorister at St. Philip's Church 17 09 19 CIPof

1920

1921 02 23
St Paul's church memorial – stained glass window & tablet unveiled – 21 02 23b, 21 03 09a

1924 04 03
A constables passing Messrs H. Leavis' pianoforte warehouse, Regent Street, Cambridge noticed signs of fire. The whole of the upper floor of Messrs Constable's stained glass works was gutted and the glass cracked and popped. Messrs Leavis' premises seem to have suffered from the effects of water. Pianos & portions of pianos, undamaged by fire were surrounded by pools of dirty water, drops of which fell with a monotonous slash from the ceiling.

1925 09 23
Two memorials of former members of the congregation were unveiled at St Barnabas church. The first was a tablet in memory of Mr William Saint. There were several sacred buildings in Cambridge which spoke of his skill and work. A stained glass window was dedicated to James Ringe who rose to the rank of express engine driver on the passenger train from Cambridge to York. It was the work of Messrs McLean-Leach & son.

1930

1933 01 05
Arthur Savell, stained glass, tile and decorative artist came to Cambridge forty years ago but kept his workshop at Albany Place, Regent's Park, London. His work can be seen in the chancel windows of St Bene't's Church and in the stained glass windows of the University Arms ballroom. 33 01 05

1935 05 25
The rector of Doddington has bought a remarkable stained glass window dating back to 1510. From the auction catalogue it seems that it was in the Strawberry Hill sale where Horace Walpole had a collection of stained glass which is believed to have come from Cambridge. Experts believe it is not the lost window from King's College Chapel though the subjects are the same. The glass has been temporarily installed in several rooms at Doddington Rectory. 35 05 25

1935 05 25
Christ's college library new stained glass window to William Skeat - 35 05 25

1938 01 19
St Giles church stained glass window unveiled in memory Bishop Charles Gore – 38 01 19

1939 09 05
Cambridge is getting into its war stride. After-dark bus services are curtailed owning to lighting restrictions, no cinemas are open and public libraries close at sunset. Banking hours are now 10 to two on weekdays and delays may occur in the collection of cheques. Various museums are taking steps to protect exhibits from damage and already half of the stained glass in the east window of King's College Chapel has been removed. It is being packed and taken to a place of safety. The remaining 23 windows are being left as they are, owing to the enormous nature of the task of removing the glass. 39 09 05a

1940

1942 08 01

Recent raid damage at Cambridge: bombs on Union Society; debating hall escapes; flying at less than a hundred feet and in full view of many people a German raider dropped HE and incendiary bombs. Main damage was done to the library, writing room, committee room and the lounge. Masonry which was flung about by the explosion burst through the roofs and all the windows at the front of the premises and overlooking Round Church Street were blown out. The debating hall was only very slightly damaged and that mostly by water. The end of the library received a direct hit from a small high explosive bomb and several fire bombs but the steel stacks in which the books were housed saved them from the effect of the blast. The collection of music books were lost. One stained glass window of the Round Church was blown in, otherwise the church escaped – 42 08 01, 42 08 01a [raid was July 23rd

1950

1951 04 28

A Royal welcome greeted the King and Queen when they arrived for their visit to King's College chapel thanksgiving service for its restoration and the replacement of windows removed for safety during the war. The car flying the Royal standard drew up to the city boundary at Newmarket Road. Many mothers from nearby houses brought their children along with little flags and some enterprising onlookers climbed on to one of Marshall's buildings to get a bird's eye view. Carried away by their enthusiasm many toddlers continued to cheer and wave small Union Jacks long after the Royal party had passed 51 04 28

1960

1962 04 19

Francis Leach, stained glass artist and sculptor – obituary – 62 04 19

1970

1979 06 01

A secret plan to knock down part of All Saints' Church in Cambridge has led to protests from preservationists. Ely Diocese, which closed the church in 1973, wants to use the land for an extension to Westcott House theological college and for diocesan offices. But the Victorian Society who are anxious to protect its William Morris murals and stained glass have accused them of 'wilfully neglecting' the building until it was past saving. They say it is the finest Victorian church in Cambridge and it seems extraordinary that it is being treated in this manner. Parts of the roof let in daylight and many of the murals have been ruined by mould and damp.

1980

1985 03 13

Vandals have smashed part of a priceless 16th-century stained glass window at King's College chapel. Ten sections high up in the huge window on the south side which depicts scenes from the Old Testament were damaged, leaving a series of holes. It can be patched up though one whole panel will have to be taken out for the repair. Other windows were damaged in 1981 and in 1974 the chapel's priceless Reubens painting, the Adoration of the Magi, was slashed with a knife by someone who carved the initials IRA in the picture. 85 03 13

Riverside Jazz Band at Y.M.C.A. March 1960

231.24

c.69 : Music
Includes separate sequence on proposals for a Concert Hall

Musical history of East Anglia – Charles Cudworth lecture – 62 07 10

headlines
1888 01 20
Excelsior Christy Minstrels concert at Cambridge Guildhall [2.22]

1888 05 25
Mr Wood's Banjo Team concert – name artistes [2.23]

1888 11 30
Hague Ingram's 133rd annual concert of classical music [2.24]

1889 03 15
X.L.C.R. Minstrels concert [2.25]
X.L.C.R. Minstrels remembered – 43 01 16, 43 01 23 [1.3]

1889 11 15
Lecture on the phonograph - a novelty in Cambridge 1889 11 15 [2.26]

1890
Memories of Penny Popular Concerts by old Higher Grade Club at end of 19th century, packed houses, Magpie Concert Party, Perl Lambert dancing girls – 64 06 15 [1.7]

1890
University penny pops concerts [1.4]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1893 03 01
Cambridge Town Orchestra first public performance [1.6]

1893
Tchaikovsky & Saint Saens at jubilee celebrations of University Department of Education Musical society [9.9]

1895
Arcade closed due to lack of support, Marie Lloyd concert cancelled (when the new Corn Exchange opened the old was used as a shopping centre until 1884. For a while it stood empty till Ernie Hayward, enterprising local concert promoter, opened it as a variety music hall which was successful for a while. Its closure was caused by the long frost December 1894 to March 1895 which brought about night skating by electricity a great novelty which emptied the Arcade) [1.16]

1899 01 17
A very pleasant evening may be spent at the Red Cow Inn Concert Hall, Cambridge. The best of local talent is requisitioned and the concert hall promises to have a run of uninterrupted success, judging by the support which has already been given to the new venture. Its American bowling saloon is now also open 1899 01 17

1899 04 02 c
The Red Cow Inn concert hall, Guildhall Street, Cambridge. Special engagement for six nights of Miss Sadie St John, comedienne and dancer; Miss Gracie White, serio and dancer and Mr G. Kent, comedian and mimic. American bowling saloon now open. – Advert

1900

1900 01 16
A campanological, vocal and instrumental entertainment was given by the Walford Family at the Cambridge Guildhall. One instrument of their invention is the Hydroaktulopsychichamonica, or aqueous musical glasses, on which selections were very prettily played 00 01 16

1900 06 19
A very attractive programme is presented at the popular hall in Auckland Road, Cambridge, this week. One of the most enjoyable items is kept to the last – Edison's Concertphone. This machine is Edison's own invention and is vastly superior to the phonograph. It is manipulated by Mr Oliver. Most of the records were taken by Mr Oliver himself and are well up to date – indeed one of the best was that of Dan Leno singing "The waiter", which was taken but six days ago. The records of the bands are very fine indeed, each instrument being very distinctly reproduced and heard in every part of the house CDN 1900 06 19

1900 07 18
The proprietor of Tudor's Circus of Varieties, Cambridge was sued by Foulger's Band. They had been hired for three weeks. The band was composed of five performers – cornet, piano, euphonium & two violins. They were each paid £1.12s.6d. per week. On the first night it was a "scratch band" as Mr Foulger could not be there, & the pianist could not accept the engagement. An important feature in the performance was singing and dancing but a piano was not an essential part of the orchestra. The only complaint was from an inferior artiste who could not sing & had no music. 00 07 18

1901 05 23

Guidice Gelsomnio, an Italian organ-grinder was summonsed for playing a musical instrument in Jesus Lane, Cambridge; as the defendant did not understand English an interpreter named Antonio Arpino was engaged. The occupier of Little Trinity, Mr James Herbert Taylor, said he asked him to desist playing within 100 yards of his house. Defendant gave up playing and went away. He was playing in Bridge Street in the evening. P.C. Evans measured the distance to be 75 yards. Defendant said he did not know how many yards it was from one house to another. He was fined 2s.6d c01 05 23

1903 04 38
Dr Mann's famous Festival Choir dissolved but singers change name to Cambridge Choral Society, town rather than gown organisation (1924 name changed to Cambridge Philharmonic Society) [2.21, 4.11]

1903 07 07
Cambridge is becoming an uncongenial place for the purveyor of pirated music. The latest of several seizures took place at the instigation of Messrs Bedwell, music dealers of St Mary's Passage. A member of the firm, with the assistance of police, examined a stock of music being sold by several hawkers on Market Hill. About 80 copies of well-known songs and some of Sousa's marches were found among the stock being sold cheaper than authorised charges for music produced by the holders of the copyright. They were promptly confiscated and taken to the police station. The hawkers were agents of a huge and craftily constituted organisation that exists for the distribution over the country of music of this description. 03 07 07

1904 10 15
Penny Pops Concerts held years ago by college music societies revived by Town Council [3.19]

1904 07 02
Few realise the lavish expenditure on the May Balls held in Cambridge Corn Exchange. After the corn merchants have vacated the building on the Saturday evening a small army of workmen take possession. They labour until midnight when the advent of the Sabbath and the strict rules governing municipal buildings shut them out for 24 hours. With the first hour of Monday morning they re-enter and by eight that evening the place is transformed into an artistic ballroom through which not a vestige of the prosaic Corn Exchange is seen. What of the cost? There is not less than £2,000 worth of goods in the ball room; add to that the cost of utilising the Guildhall as a supper room and include the china and plates for the supper and you have a total of some thousands of pounds to provide our moneyed visitors with an evening's entertainment. CDN 2.7.1904

1904 10 24
For a number of years Cambridge has been without a troupe of minstrels and the idea was mooted of reviving the old X.L.C.R. Minstrels who performed about 14 years ago. The new company is composed chiefly of employees of the University Press. The band comprises nine performers and the chorus and singers provide ample testimony of the excellent training of Mr Stanley Spring. It appears to have a promising future. CDN 24.10.1904

1905 05 06
John Philip Sousa with his famous band performed at Cambridge Guildhall but they are capable of filling a much larger building with a wonderful volume of sound. The programme included selections from the works of Wagner and Puccini. Encore followed each item and in response some of Sousa's celebrated military marches were given with great effect 05 05 06b

1905 08 02
Sir – I was given permission to give Pierrot concerts on the children's playground, Christ's Pieces but then the committee refused to allow me to use any seats for my audience. I was then told they must be discontinued but offered a site on Midsummer Common, only to have this withdrawn when residents complained. I am now left with artistes on my hands and money wasted. My position is consequently very awkward - Robert Elmslie 05 08 02

1905 08 16
A unique feature of the entertainment to be given in the Fellows' Garden of King's College will be a series of cinematograph pictures illustrating the recent visit of the French fleet. During the display the Police Band will discourse descriptive music. The Chorister Glee Singers will be present and Mr Gambling will introduce his new set of Italian Marionettes. 05 08 16

1905 11 30
Sir – may I raise a feeble voice of protest in regard to street music? Now examinations are nearing it is heart-breaking to feel the wasted hours slipping away to the tunes of 'Navaho' or the otherwise impressive 'Hallelujah' chorus. My rooms are the scene of furious contests between an organ grinder of foreign extraction, a body of carol singers and a violinist; the latter must be the envy of the male cats of the district – 'Undergrad'
05 11 30b

1906 06 08
Dr A.H. Mann, the University organist and chorus master, completed 30 years work in Cambridge. He was appointed organist of King's College in 1876, coinciding with the founding of the new choir school and important changes in the musical services at the chapel. They hoped his tenure of office at King's would match that of his predecessors – Dr Pratt (55 years) and Dr Randall, 66. 06 06 08a

1906 07 28
Robert Reed told the court he'd hired a piano organ from Antonio Dermaco of Gas Lane, Cambridge, piano organ proprietor, and went out in company of a man named Fuller. They visited the Plough, Comberton leaving it outside. He returned after five minutes to find the organ had disappeared – it had been thrown into the village pond. He got it out and tried to play it, but it did not work and had to be repaired in London. A Comberton carpenter and butcher were seen moving it, but claimed they had left it at the White Horse. 06 07 28

1906 08 21
Two Cambridge organ-grinders appeared in court. Joseph Fuller claimed Antonio Demarco had pulled his organ out of the shed in which it was kept in order to get at his own. They argued about it at the Bird Bolt public house, one struck the other with his fist and knocked him down, then aimed another blow but missed and fell over. The other tried to throw a glass at him. Demarco made a long rambling statement in broken English and was fined five shillings. 06 08 21

1907 02 28
Extraordinary scenes were witnessed at Cambridge Guildhall when Mischa Elman made his second appearance. At the conclusion of his marvellous performance enthusiasm was unbounded with vociferous cheering for several minutes. The audience consisted largely of undergraduates and maidens still well in their teens. He was afterwards besieged in the retiring room by a crowd of admiring autograph-hunters. 07 02 28

1907 04 30

The Moody Manners Opera Company from Covent Garden are paying a return visit to Cambridge with 70 performers. On Monday 'Faust' was presented to a full house who enjoyed the complete and artistic manner in which it was performed. The orchestra is well-balanced and gave unbounded satisfaction to the audience 07 04 30

1907 10 08
Charles Henry Swornsbourne was as well-known as any man in Cambridge. He was an albino, possessing unnaturally white skin, hair and eyebrows and pink eyes. 'Whiteheaded Bob' was a talented violinist who, years ago, attended undergraduate 'wine parties' accompanied by a harpist named Calcott. He led the band at the A.D.C. from its foundation, was musical director for the Bijou Amateurs and provided music for the Beefsteak Club when they met at the Lion Hotel. 07 10 08

1907 11 16
Cambridge had at one time a very professional musical society, but it collapsed. Then came Dr Mann's Festival Choir. It was followed by the Cambridge Choral Society which originated the presentation of 'The Messiah' in the Guildhall on Good Friday, drawing large audiences. Through the illness of Mr Fred Dewberry, the conductor, no performances were given this year and the Society fell into a bad way. Now another conductor has been found and it may be set going again. 07 11 16a

1907 12 28
About 100 were present at the Misses Storey's Christmas dance at the Victoria Assembly Ball Rooms, prettily decorated with ferns, mistletoe and festoons. Two new dances, the Empire barn dance and the Esperanto figured in the programme. There being a dearth of Valeta music Mr Oliver Clifton has produced a pretty composition named 'The Storey' which he played on the piano with Mr G. Jackson on violin. Dancing continued until 2.15 am. 07 12 28

1908 02 24
In tall scarlet lettering the name of 'Miss Florence Atkin' has been a poster that has appeared on every hoarding in Cambridge. The name is as familiar to concert-goers as Sarah Berhardt and Marie Hall. She was born in Cambridge and won a scholarship to the Perse School. But the discovery of her superb voice took place when she went to Miss Evans, the head-mistress of the Girls' County School. Miss Evans has spent her life in an atmosphere of music, her one desire to find out and develop all that is best in a girl. She knew at once the importance of her find. 08 02 24a & b

1908 09 05
"The gramophone nuisance of a fine evening is quite appalling" [4.3]

1909 01 30
Dr Naylor wins prize for best opera written by Englishman [3.22]

1909 07 23
The first visit of the Cambridge Police Force band to Coton some years ago will not soon be forgotten. A resident had arranged for a wagonettte for their conveyance but when turning a corner by Gt St Mary's they were surprised to see a wheel careering along beside them and the wagon gracefully toppled over, depositing the bandsmen in the roadway. They continued by charabanc but their former driver was accosted by a policeman and ordered to 'clear that wreckage away' or he would be run in. Considering he had brought it over for the conveyance of the police band his indignation can be imagined CWN 09 07 23

1909 12 10
The new skating rink at the back of Hertford Street was constructed to avoid any noise nuisance. Rinking was a fashionable amusement and there would be a charge so it would not be overrun with the rough element. They wanted to have a string band, with no drums, to play at intervals. There was not the slightest intention of making it a dancing saloon but they would like a licence so it could be used for subscription dances during May Week. CWN 09 12 10

1910

1910 02 18
Dr R. Vaughan Williams lectured on 'The Folk Songs of East Anglia" and the enjoyment was enhanced by Mr J. Steuart Wilson of King's College who gave expressive renderings of a number of Old English ballads. Vaughan Williams had discovered the early folk ballad 'Geordie' at Fen Ditton but whether there was a great deal more to be found he did not know. At Fowlmere the Rev Campbell Yorke had got the 'May Day Song' from an old gentleman who rejoiced in the name of 'Hoppy' who preferred to do odd jobs and sleep in sheds and outhouses. He often started the first verse of a song with an entirely different tune and only got into the right swing at the end. 10 02 18 & a

1910 08 27
Borough council concerts popular, 740 average attendance, charge 1d, make profit [3.23]

1910 04 29
A professional singer from Old Chesterton told magistrates he was married at 18 but suffered a serious accident when working as a butcher's carman. His right arm was paralysed and he could do no manual labour. He earned a precarious living by singing at cinematograph shows and entertainments and was often 'one week in and two weeks out'. His wife said they had last lived together four years ago. She had gone out to service while he was trying to earn his living roaming about seeking engagements. He had contributed nothing to her support except in November when he gave her five shillings. But her application for a separation order on grounds of desertion was rejected. 10 04 29b

1910 09 23
A man told the court that he earned £1 a week playing a street organ. It had cost him £18 10s.6d, he'd spent £5 for new tunes, twelve shillings on a new wheel and three-and-six on tuning. A motor car had run into the back of it, knocking it over and causing considerable damage. A four-year old boy who had been in the shafts was knocked over and his hands were cut. There was nobody in Cambridge who understood the instrument and it would have to go to London to be repaired. Repairs would cost at least £3. He had another organ which his son took out. He was awarded £5 for damage to the machine and £3 for loss of earnings. 10 09 23 c & d

1911
Dr Mann inaugurates two series symphony concerts - Sir Henry Wood, Sir Edward Elgar, Thomas Beecham conducts; 1st a success but lost money, 2nd failure - lack of support [4.4]

1911
Corn Exchange used twice for concerts, never been used for this before & will perhaps never be so used again [4.5]

1911

Whole country interested in Magic Flute, October term [4.4]

1911 02 17
The demand for tickets to hear Melba sing is very naturally heavy. At Millers seats are being continually booked by telephone and every post brings letters. Although Mr Miller only engages the very best talent for his concerts he always tries to accommodate as many people as may be in the cheaper parts of the hall so the general public shall not be deprived of the pleasure of hearing famous singers. Some of these lower-priced seats will be sold at the door. 11 02 17

1911 06 05
Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society first performance was 'Yeomen of the Guard' [16]

1912 05 10
"New Tunes to Hymns, Ancient and Modern" is the title of a little collection composed by the Rev Richard Owen of St Giles' Vicarage and published by Mr A.J. Gillson of Cambridge. In these days of multitudinous hymnals, when every church, sect and connection has its own original compilation of hymn tunes, cribbed and purloined from each other, one seeks the reason for any fresh one. This one is intended for a practiced body of choir singers, the stanzas are unsymmetrical and the rhythm is unconventional. We cordially recommend it to the attention of up-to-date choirs. 12 05 10h

1912 12 12
Cam University Musical Society 500th concert – 12 12 12

1912 12 20
Mr Herbert Reynolds was presented with a street piano purchased following a benefit concert in the Beaconsfield Hall. Many local gentlemen had subscribed to alleviate the misfortune of Reynolds' blindness by giving him a means of an honest livelihood. The piano would prove a boom to him in his affliction and – they hoped – he would always conduct himself as befits an Englishman. The first tune was then played on the instrument which was made by Pasquale and Co and has a round of ten of the latest melodies. An explanatory board is being gratuitously painted and with the collecting-box and the piano cover the outfit is complete. 12 12 20b

1913 02 21
Melba concert review 12 02 21 p12 CIP

1913 10 17
Magpie concert party 13 10 17 p2 CIP

1913 11 28
Frederick W. Metcalfe was head of the printing and publishing firm of Metcalfe & Son on the corner of Green Street which at one time produced most of the publications emanating from Cambridge. Soon after he joined the firm the Cambridge Express was started and he had charge of this popular newspaper until his father's death when it was purchased by the Conservative party. He ran a local troupe of Christy Minstrels including the finest voices amongst the senior members of college choirs. It had a very successful career for several seasons and visited all the principal towns in the area 13 11 28 p7 CIP

1913 11 28
Cambridge Town Silver Band band contest 13 11 28 p10 CIP

1914 01 17
Tango popular, demand for gramophone records [4.6]

1914 10 24
Seven Town popular concerts attended by 6,000 people [4.7]

1914 11 27
Dr. Cyril Bradley Rootham, well-known as a musical composer, is organist at the College and Director of the University Musical Society. Awarded the first fellowship for music ever given by St. John's College, and we believe there are only two other instances in the University of Cambridge viz. Dr. Wood, of Gonville and Caius, and Mr. Dent, of King's College. His compositions are very numerous and of great importance. 14 11 27 CIPof

1918 03
Clara Butt performs at Cambridge Guildhall [1.5]

1920

1920s
Guildhall used for range events, Concerts classical, choral, chamber, orchestral, Pop concerts. Concerts by Millers orchestra ... Messiah, Vaughan Williams great Sea Symphony conducted by Cyril Rootham with composer in audience; Max Arnold, Irene Flanders,

1920s
Memories of musical life in Cambridge in the 1920s; Dr Mann of King's College & his successors – Philip Radcliffe 64 12 08

1920 10 28
Constant succession of itinerant musicians, Mill Rd [4.1]

1922 02 01
Hague Ingram, musician – obituary – 22 02 01, portrait 22 02 08a

1922 05 30
The Cambridge Salvation Army Citadel, Tenison-road, was well filled with visitors and friends when a presentation of new silver-plated instruments took place under the chairmanship of Gypsy Smith. The first instruments to be presented were three cornets, the next consisted of two flugel horns and a euphonium. Mr M. Stuart recalled what the old General had said to him about Salvation Army bands : "It is better for a man to beat a drum than to beat his wife". It was better for a man to blow a flugel horn than to blow his brains out, which was what some poor fellows in the depth were tempted to do 22 05 30

1922 10 16
The winter season of the Saturday Popular Concerts had a splendid send-off at the Cambridge Guildhall. People began to queue up over an hour before the doors were to be opened and the building was packed before the performance commenced; many people thought themselves lucky to be able to stand at the door. Outside crowds of unfortunate latecomers were turned away. The artistes gave of their best and the audience's demand for encores was almost unappeasable 22 10 16

1922 11 17

Dame Clara Butt had a great reception at the Cambridge Guildhall when, with other well-known artistes, she presented a second International Celebrity Concert. The hall was quite comfortably filled and for two and a half hours music lovers had a rare time. The famous contralto gave two trifles by Franco Leoni, "Poor Robin" and "The Little Bird", a delightful humorous number. The audience were much taken with it and, having given it to those in the body of the hall, Dame Clara Butt turned round and sang it to those in the orchestra 22 11 17

1923
YMCA operatic society 1st season [4.9]

1923 10 20
Cambridge music lovers can never complain that their wants are not catered for. A new departure will be the introduction for the first time of the Negro spiritual and plantation songs which have long held such a prominent place in the musical life of London. The remarkable thing is that their introduction to Cambridge has been so long delayed. Dressed in the costumes of the period, Miss Edna Thomas, gives her audiences, surfeited did with Negro syncopations, real plantation songs born in the days of slavery 23 10 20

1924
Cambridge Choral Society name changed to Cambridge Philharmonic Society [4.11]

1924 11 05
A feature of the concert given at St Paul's Institute was the debut of Mr Sydney Coulson's dance orchestra in Cambridge. The band comprises Mr Percy Stock (violin), Tom Boyce (saxophone & banjo), Harry Hunt, late of the New Theatre Orchestra (drums) and Mr Sydney Coulson (director) at the piano. With the dance season here the need for a good dance orchestra grows ever greater and there is no doubt that the Coulson band will be in great demand 24 11 05

1926 05 24
An appeal for the modification of the ban on gramophone music has been addressed to the Vice Chancellor on behalf of a party of musical undergraduates. University orders forbid the playing of gramophones in punts on the river during the May terms and gramophone music has been banned from certain colleges altogether. "We have no wish to express any opinion upon the playing of jazz records but suggest the playing of good music, such as the London String Quartet, by students in their hours of relaxation on the river could do nothing but enhance the beauty of the surroundings and the taste of the modern young man", they say 26 05 24

1926 09 17
P.C.Q – "Please Charleston Quietly" is the plea of all real dance lovers as was evidenced at the Rendezvous Ballroom, Cambridge, when demonstrations of the new Flat Charleston Waltz, Tango and Fox-Trot were given. In its new form, with all distasteful kickings and stampings eliminated, the Charleston will appeal to the most fastidious. The Rendezvous with its new decoration, improved sitting-out accommodation and the popular Nobby Clark and his band is assured of an even greater following 26 09 17

1926 12 16
It may not be generally known to the Cambridge public that Mr Carne, the manager of the Playhouse, Mill Road, is the "Victor Carne" who figures in the record list of the Vocalion Gramophone Co. He has recorded "The Holy City" and "The Star of Bethlehem" for their Christmas list and these and other of his records are obtainable at Messrs Leavis's, Regent Street.

Wireless enthusiasts will no doubt remember the many times he has sung from London and Daventry 26 12 16

1927 01 24
The Cambridge Albion Band and the Cambridge Town Bank have decided to amalgamate and will be known in future as the Cambridge Silver Band. They proposed to buy a complete set of new triple silver-plated instruments made by Messrs Hawkes, London with the now famous 'Profundo' basses as played by the St Hilda Colliery Band. This would greatly improve the tonal qualities of the band; there was not another band in the Eastern counties with such instruments. 27 01 24

1927 03
Sixteenth-century music recorded by HMV at St John's College Chapel

1927 03 19
Undergraduate singers and musicians are distinguishing themselves just now. Following the enjoyable broadcast by the Trinity Madrigal Club I hear that the Quintaginta Band are to appear at the Holborn Empire during Boat Race week. Mr Charles Gulliver who heard them whilst on a visit to Cambridge has made them "a tempting offer" to appear in one of his halls in the Eastern vacation. The salary, however, is not stated. 27 03 19

1927 03 21
The Charleston shows no signs of waning in popularity at the Premier Dance Hall, Chesterton, and still reigns supreme among the habitués there. In fact this dancing habit has become so much of the place that one sees more uniformity in the style than at any other hall in Cambridge. On Saturday evening Manning's Band were in their usual good form and played extremely well. Miss Robinson must be one of the last jazz pianists in the town at present. 27 03 21

1927 05 14
St Johns Chapel Choir make gramophone recording with HMV - "Have Mercy" [2.19]

1927 06 08
Chief Os-Ke-Non-Ton, a prince of the Mohawk tribe, gave a fascinating song recital of North American and Red Indian music at Cambridge guildhall. Arrayed in the picturesque costume of his race he rendered invocations, incantations and war whoops of various tribes and concluded with a selection of primitive Red Indian music to tom-tom accompaniment, and a demonstration of making fire by rubbing sticks together. The local arrangements were made by Messrs Miller & Son. 27 06 08

1928 08 13
Dancers and band musicians thronged to a dance band contest at the Rendezvous in Magrath Avenue, Cambridge. Eleven bands took their turns on the platforms. Each played a fox-trot and a waltz. A fault with several bands was that the violinists showed a tendency to overdo their parts. Judging was by popular vote and the results were: 1st Cambs Mental Hospital Dance Band, 2nd Jack Vivian's Dance Band & 3rd Sid Parsley's Dance Band. The winners, who previously were practically unknown to the dancing public, played in confident style and nicely together. The band is a six-piece and undoubtedly more will be heard of it. 28 04 13

1929 02 10
Cambridge is becoming increasingly interested in folk songs and folk dances thanks to the local branch of the English Folk Dance Society. Keith Falconer, a Cambridgeshire man who is making

a big name for himself in the singing world, is to perform at St Columba's Hall. A sword dance and Morris jigs are included in the programme. 29 02 10 c

1930

1930s
Stirlingaires, Cambridge best known war-time band formed early 1930s by employees of Marshalls & Shorts [10.9]

1931
Percy Cowell opened Dorothy Ballroom 85 01 11

1931 05 08
Sir Henry Lytton and Miss Bertha Lewis, two of the best-known members of the famous D'Oyly Carte Opera Company were injured as the result of a car skid on the Huntingdon Road near Cambridge. Miss Lewis received very serious injuries to the head and neck and is now lying in a critical condition at the Evelyn Nursing Home. Sir Henry fractured a rib, received flesh wounds and is suffering from severe shock. He was driving his Wolseley saloon which turned completely over. The door had to be broken open before the passengers could be extricated 31 05 08l

1931 12 04
Paul Robeson, the famous singer and star of 'Show Boat' sent into raptures an audience of over 1,000 at the Guildhall when he paid his second visit to Cambridge. He took up his position within the shelter of the grand piano where he sang songs of his own land that went straight to the hearts of the people. They ranged from the most sacred of spirituals to "Ol' Man River" followed by the convict song "Water Boy". 31 12 04f

1932 05 04
Mr Taylor, the blind music, was a well-known figure in Cambridge. Who, having talked with him, has not been impressed by the personality of the robust, breezy, genial, gifted blind man who carried on a music business for over 20 years in his little shop in Bridge Street. Not only could he restore any musical instrument, however dilapidated, he was an exceedingly clever player of the violin and 'cello 32 05 04a

1932 12 23
Cambridge Railway Silver Prize Band opened their new hall at Fletcher's Terrace, Romsey Town. They started in 1919 and still had 10 foundation members of the band. They won the Grand Shield at the Crystal Palace in 1922 and in 1926 won the Junior Cup. It showed what an extremely progressive band they were. 32 12 23f

1933
Memories of R Vaughan Williams & Cambridge – 58 08 30 f & g

1933 01 11
The recent starting of a Kentucky minstrel troupe at the BBC has re-awakened interest in this old form of entertainment. Now the Alabama troupe has been formed at Cambridge. They made their first appearance at the Footlights Club room, Corn Exchange Street. Dressed in red and white check costumes they song plantation melodies like 'Oh, dem Golden Slippers' and 'Polly Wolly Doodle' 33 01 11b

1933 01 28

Alabama coons concert party – 33 01 28

1933 02 09
Sir Thomas Beecham, on a first visit with the new London Philharmonic Orchestra to Cambridge Guildhall, completely won over the most severe body of critics in the country – a Cambridge symphony concert audience. They are accustomed to taking their musical pleasures somewhat sedately but let themselves go and the applause and cheering at the end were unusually enthusiastic 33 02 09, 33 01 04

1933 02 17
Mr A.W. Jones, the Cambridge music teacher, has added yet another to his growing list of compositions. It is a song fox-trot 'The Girl Most Suitable for Me' which has been featured with success by Alex Alexander and his Radio boys. It should prove very popular. 33 02 17

1933 04 14
Cambridge Town Silver Band are champions – 33 04 14

1933 05 09
A great wave of cheering swept across the footlights to welcome Jack Payne and his band at the New Theatre. As soon as the world-famous signature tune 'Say it with music' began, the applause commenced, and when the curtain rose upon Jack and his 21 players, the tumult was deafening. It was a tremendous tribute to one of the most cheery figures in vaudeville today. They opened with the American unemployeds' song 'Brother, can you spare a dime?' 33 05 09

1933 06 07
The Backs near King's bridge were crowed with punts when the Cambridge University Madrigal Society performed the annual rite of singing on the river. As the sun went down and the moon rose from behind the Gibbs' Building, the cawing of the rooks and the noises of the town ceased, and over the water came the sounds of a Brahms' motet. An aeroplane buzzed like an angry wasp across the sky but failed to break the spell of magical voices which softly floated in the air. 33 06 07

1933 08 14
Old time minstrel entertainment and Memories of the old Arcade – 33 08 14

1933 08 16
George King will always be associated with Miller's music shop's fortnightly gramophone recitals that he popularised when he came in 1929. He introduced the performance of opera on records with full scenic and lighting effects and sang and played at the recitals. He also undertook the entire managerial duties for University dance bands and was compere when the Union Society first staged classical and light gramophone music. Now he is moving to Dale's Brewery as sales manager. 33 08 16

1933 12 09
Godwin Hunt was one of the most popular comedians and vocalists that Cambridge has ever known. Born at Soham, he was associated with many famous theatrical enterprises including the D'oyly Carte Opera before becoming Lay Clerk at St John's College. He was the founder, 30 years ago, of the Magpies Concert Party which enjoyed a tremendous vogue when amusements were not so plentiful as today. Up to the war they were a male voice quartet but then it became a mixed concert party who travelled far beyond Cambridgeshire. 33 12 06 & Godwin Hunt, Magpies founder appreciation – 33 12 09

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1934 02 10
Arthur Rubenstein captivated a Cambridge audience in the Guildhall with a brilliant performance at the piano. Good humoured and gifted, he inspired confidence from the first chord and when after two hours the audience wanted more he obliged twice, although he had arranged to motor to London the same night. He was always commanding, often thrilling and at times grand. Rarely have we heard such volume and power, rarely such incredible crescendi. Sadly half the seats were empty. 34 02 10

1934 02 16
Many dancers in Cambridge will learn with regret that Ron Wickes has been compelled to give up his position as official drummer to Percy Cowell's Band. He started drumming with them at the old Rendezvous before joining the band run by Mr Hensher, and later played with Manning's Band when the Premier Hall at Old Chesterton was opened up. From there he went to Skegness for two seasons, returning to the Rendezvous in the interval. He came back to Cambridge three years ago when Mr Cowell started his band at the Dorothy Café and has played with them ever since. 34 02 16

1934 05 10
Gilbert and Sullivan, Henry Lytton's farewell appearances – 34 05 10 & 34 05 18

1934 05 17
Paul Robeson is a genius. The beautifully proportioned giant who has played baseball for the United States, is now studying for a degree in African languages, has an almost perfect Russian accent and a voice whose texture has been described as reminiscent of velvet and mulberries, is no ordinary singer. And thus when he gives a recital at Cambridge it is only natural that he should receive such an ovation as he did at the Guildhall. His songs included two Russian folk songs and Negro ballads 34 05 17

1935 01 05
Albert Chevalier Cambridge visit recalled – 35 01 05a

1935 08 06
The management of the Theatre Cinema (New Theatre) have returned to their popular cine-variety policy. There are four excellent stage turns and an exceptionally fine film. A snappily presented singing and dancing act featuring Jack Lewis and his Rolling Stones with the Wellington Sisters forms the principal item in the stage show, combining dancing by a cheery trio, saxophone work and percussion 'fireworks'. Savona is a remarkable juggler while 'the racketeers of mirth, Roy Lester and Jack Cranston offer a quick-fire cross-talk act. Finally Sereno and June's head-to-head balancing and tumbling act has much which is new even in these days when vaudeville simply abounds with this kind of act. 35 08 06a

1935 09 28
Dr Alan Gray composed many famous pieces of Church music. In 1893 he was appointed organist of Trinity College and was conductor of the University Musical Society – 35 09 28d

1936 05 09
Marjorie Moss who is well-known to local dancers as a crooner with Percy Cowell's band has won a round of a £600 light singing competition organised by the Gaumont-British Corporation & the News Chronicle at Peterborough. She will go to the final at Ipswich and if successful to London for the All-England final. Success there will mean that she will broadcast. Miss Moss,

who is a member of the Enthusiasts' Concert Party, chose as her song 'Some of these days' and was accompanied by Percy Cowell himself. 36 05 09b

1936 06 06
Friends of the Cambridge Town Silver Band will be glad to know that they are to give another broadcast on Saturday afternoon. This will be on the 'National' wave length but all B.B.C. stations are taking the programme. Last time the band opened with an original item by the conductor (Mr R.E. Austin) called 'Cambridge Bells' which featured the melody of the Roman Catholic Church chimes. This time they will start with his new military march 'Cantabrigia'. The band will be having a busy day for that evening they will be playing for the promenade concert on Christ's Pieces 36 06 06b

1937 01 09
Les Walton, the popular Rendezvous band leader, who introduced the 'Jig' which proved a success, has introduced a new dance to Cambridge for the first time. It is called the St Bernard. One of the bandsmen, George Oldfield, brought it back with him after a visit to Streatham Locarno. It is undoubtedly going to make a 'hit' and was enthusiastically taken by 'Rendy' patrons. It is nice to have something fresh in the way of a dance. 37 01 09

1937 02 23
Joseph Reed, the well-known tenor, has retired from his appointment at Trinity College and from the concert platform. He first came to Cambridge in September 1891 as principal tenor lay clerk at Trinity College. He sang in the Mozart Centenary celebrations, at Ely Cathedral and in Dr Mann's musical festivals in King's College chapel. Sir Edward Elgar was a terribly nervous man and when 'The Kingdom' was being performed in King's he was pacing up and down the side of the chapel all the time. Reed undertook concert tours with Dame Clara Butt when a saloon carriage was attached to any train and they sang on the platform every night. 37 02 23 & a, 37 92 24, 37 02 25b

1937 05 07
Four members of George Challice's Band had a remarkable escape from serious injury. They were being driven back to Cambridge from a dance at the new Bottisham Village College when their car, a Riley Nine, skidded on the wet road, caught the verge and somersaulted several times. It finished up on the road with the wheels in the air. The occupants scrambled out with considerable difficulty. When an attempt was made to right the car, it fell to pieces. 37 05 07b

1937 05 26
Sir – today I wandered down to Christ's Pieces. Hearing the band I came to the entrance and behold there was a sign 'Admittance 3d'. I am told that an ancient footpath crosses there. But it must be kept select or perhaps a poor woman with her pram might mix with the few who have paid their threepence. Besides poor people cannot be expected to enjoy the music of a band. The hedge around the bandstand is thick enough to protect those inside from the gaze of the vulgar crowd. So we listened and looked at the band from the street. Cambridge knows how to keep the common herd in their place. But did I not hear somebody say that the people, not the council, own the park? – Canadian 37 05 26a

1937 07 29
By a majority of one vote Cambridge Town Council voted in favour of establishing the Cambridge Municipal Orchestra of 50 players, the first in the country to be run on a voluntary basis. Being amateur it would only cost £20 a year and the director, Mr Parkinson, would maintain a high standard. But some thought the orchestra's excursions into serious music were

very rare and very slight; something should be done to provide serious music and not music of the level of the lunch-hour concerts from the Savoy 37 07 29c

1937 11 15
Paul Robeson recital at Regal – 37 11 15

1938 03 19
Cyril Rootham distinguished musician and composer – 38 03 19d

1938 11 22
The Theatre Cinema reopened after a closure of over nine months with a performance of 'The Mikado' by Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society. They had found the building in a poor and dirty condition and put in much work to recondition it Now it was crowded with a delighted throng; it was itself again. That pre-overture buzz of conversation created a delightful feeling of mild excitement. At the final curtain everyone was thoroughly happy 38 11 22

1939 02 06
Paul Robeson gave a concert at the Regal Cinema; his friendly smile and magnificent stage presence completely won his crowded audience. He included items of both Russian and Negro origin including "Short'nin' Bread" and Ezekiel Saw de Wheel" with the well-known "Canoe Song" from "Sanders of the River" as an encore. It was followed by "Ol' Man River", "Ma Burly-headed Baby" and "Joshua Fit de Battle of Jericho" 39 02 06a

1939 11 20
Cambridge Municipal Orchestra presented the first Sunday concert of the season. Under the able conductorship of Mr J. Parkinson, the 45 voluntary musicians rendered a programme of popular melodies. Although the opening overture started well, it was ponderous and a poor indication of what was to come. Guest artists William Armistead & Alan Murray sang "I'll walk beside you" and the performance concluded with "Chu Chin Chow" 39 11 20a

1939-45
During the early years of the war, when the Government was encouraging people to spend their holidays at home the Cambridge Entertainments Committee organised August Bank Holiday athletic sports meeting, swimming sports, baby shows and other attractions. They obtained permission to open the Corn Exchange as a canteen for troops stationed in the area; later alterations were made, music and games provided and it became a social centre for thousands of Servicemen and women, a very useful contribution in the dark days of war. It could still, in the hands of an imaginative architect, become the much-needed concert hall Cambridge needed CDN 21.4.54

1940

1940
Cambridge Festival of Music Speech & Dancing starts [2.6]

1940 04 09
George Charles Pope, street musician – has gramophone and wheelbarrow in East Road area, marries – 40 04 09a

1941 06 20
Cambridge A.R.P. Messengers Bugle Band believed to be first in country – 41 06 20

1942 06 04
Madrigals on river, one of few surviving May Week events – 42 06 04a

1943 01 16
American concert party at Services Night, Rex Cinema – 43 01 16

1947 10 20
History was made in Cambridge Guildhall yesterday afternoon. The occasion was the debut in Cambridge of the recently formed Eastern Region Symphony Orchestra, a new combination of Mozartian proportions, created to fill the gap caused by the difficulty of getting already-established orchestras away from their accustomed venues for a whole series of concerts c47 10 20

1948 05 11
"New Faces" was the name of the show arranged and presented by Les Baker at Cambridge Guildhall. The biggest hand of the evening was extended to Jean Circuit, crooning with the Stirlingaire's orchestra. Probably best known was Albert Cox, the bass baritone. 14-year-old Rodney Tibbs gave his first-ever pianoforte recital in public. The audience warmed to him

1949
Reg Cottage appointed musical director at the Dorothy in 1949 taking over from Percy Cowell who was there 16 years. Always two bands playing [1.9]

1949
Universal Recording Company, Burleigh Place produce gramophone records [1.11]

1949 12 13
8,000 people – representing a capacity house at every performance – saw the Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society's production of "The Yeoman of the Guard" at the Arts Theatre. The society's president said there is undoubtedly a great demand for Gilbert and Sullivan operas in Cambridge and it has given special pleasure to know that quite a large proportion of the house consisted of undergraduates

1949 12 17
Two Cambridge boys busk in London playing Bach etc on violins [1.12]

1949 12 30
One of England's favourite band leaders, Ted Heath, received a great welcome when he played in Cambridge for the first time last night at the Rex Ballroom. Heath fans turned up in their hundreds – the ballroom was filled to capacity – both to listen and dance to the music of this top-line combination. At times the volume of the band was rather too loud for the Rex – which was perhaps inevitable since it consists of 18 players, but, on the whole, the maestro regulated the tone extremely well. Ted Heath himself has been termed England's "King of Swing". His own ban has been in existence for just over four years now. The second band for the evening was the resident one on of Roy Richards and his Mayfair Music

1950

1950s

Universal Recording Company of Burleigh Place made special gramophone records in 1950s – 85 08 02a

1950s
Ken Stevens had his own band in 1950s 67 09 29

1950 03 24
Death of J. Parkinson conductor of former Municipal Orchestra built around YMCA which was established during the War [1.14]

1951 05 21
The finals of the crooning contest were held at the Playhouse Cinema, Mill Road. Only two finalists competed, Miss Eve Lynn and Mr Bob Garner. Judging was by Mr Dickie Valentine, who appeared by permission of the New Theatre management. Music for the finals was supplied by Freddie Webb and his band. Mr Garner was declared the winner and presented with the Vaughn Munroe trophy by Dickie Valentine, who then sang three songs at the request of the manager, Mr Eric Dallman 51 05 21

1951 07 30
Cambridge Festival began and as dusk fell to the strains of the madrigals sung under King's College bridge further beauty was added to the well-loved entertainment given by this programme of "Singing by the River". The West end of the College chapel and the Gibbs Building, their outlines softened in the dimness of approaching night, suddenly flowered under floodlight, their stones warm in the glow but retaining still all its classical dignity of form. The reflections of the chapel rippled in the still river, distracting attention from the madrigals sweetly sung by the Cambridge University Madrigal Society. A BBC recording van on the bank recorded the sounds of this splendid evening in a permanent form.

1951 09 09
The name of Roy Fox will conjure up many nostalgic memories for the generation of dancers who had their hey-day in the years before the war. It was way back in 1930 when he first left America for England and now he has returned to give a new generation the pleasure of dancing to his distinctly individual style of playing. At the Rex ballroom, Cambridge, there was a packed house to hear the melodies of his Whispering Rhythm. Of the 13 members of the orchestra five are violinists – unusual for a popular dance outfit these days – and has a more pleasing effect on the ear that the rather 'brassy' arrangements which one normally hears with modern dance bands 51 09 09

1952 05
Choir Festival, Kings College chapel [4.8]

1955
Ken Stevens had his own band in 1950s, won music Maker Musician of the Year Award c1955 67 09 29

1955 06 21
Teddy Boys warned about their behaviour [2.8]

1956 03 12
The Cambridgeshire Orchestra, a newly formed group conducted by Ludovick Stewart, the County Music Advisor, gave its first concert. It has a sound basis in a group of talented string

musicians led by Anne Macnaghten and hope to add woodwind and other sections later. Arnold Ashley gave an accomplished performance of Vivaldi's concerto for cello, never faltering even in the most sprightly passages. 56 03 12

1956 03 24
Miller's Music Shop began a 100 years ago when Mr A.T. Miller opened a workshop in Hobson Street as an organ builder and piano repairer. The family home was above his wife's millinery shop in Sidney Street and one of the rooms was opened as a pianoforte showroom. His son introduced the sale of instruments and sheet music and later came harmoniums, gramophones, radio and television and now electronic organs and tape recorders. 56 03 24d

1956 04 21
The demolition of the bandstand on Christ's Pieces jogged memories for Robert Austin who played on it as a band-boy, bandsman and conductor for over 45 years. It was originally built for the Royal Show on Midsummer Common and afterwards re-erected on the Pieces. It was lighted by naked gas jets which usually blew out and had to be re-lit several times during a performance. The Volunteers, Police and Town bands - between all of whom there was intense rivalry – played there. It was also used for mass meetings and an annual open-air service of Cambridge Men's Brotherhood. 56 04 21c

1956 07 21
A cantata 'Fen and Flood' for soprano, baritone, chorus and orchestra composed by Prof Patrick Hadley with words by Charles Cudworth will receive its first public performance at the King's Lynn Festival. It was originally performed privately by the Gonville and Caius Chorus and has been rearranged by Dr Vaughan Williams. The orchestration includes a wind machine. 56 07 21 a & b

1956 09 19
Millers music shop has been reshaped, redecorated and reorganised from top to bottom. There are spaces where walls used to be and the radio department is where the pianos were. Frank Chacksfield, the television and recording star, was the first person to make use of the special record booths built into the record departments downstairs. There is now a 'browsery' where 'discophiles' may browse through records. Long playing records are played over high fidelity equipment and there is a section for 45 rpm records with remote control. 56 09 19 & a

1956 09 24
King's College chapel was the setting for a big gathering of choirs numbering about 400 singers drawn from local churches. A large congregation filled the ante-chapel and overflowed outside the open west door. With the rays of the declining sun streaming through the magnificent west window and the candles inside already alight, the entry of the long procession of choirs and clergy, led by the choir of Saffron Walden church, was most impressive. 56 09 24

1956 10 09
Cambridge Licensing Magistrates have asked Associated British Cinemas not the show the controversial American musical film 'Rock Around the Clock'. The film features a new style of dancing known as "Rock'n'Roll". It is a rhythm similar to some of the African native 'beats' and is alleged to have a startling effect on young people who like 'hot music'. In London dancing youngsters have caused trouble in the streets and assaults have been made on the police. 56 10 09 [2.15]

1956 11 03

Young people from both the city and university have formed a club called 'Stan Kelly's Skiffle' at the Dog and Pheasant, Newmarket Road. Each Thursday evening the rafters ring with folk tunes, work songs, ballads, blues and the like. It has a membership of 80 and anyone who can sing or play an instrument is welcome. Stan Kelly himself leads the group which comprises guitar, bass, drums and a wash-board. The beer crates which form the furniture help add to the atmosphere. 56 11 03b [2.13]

1956 12 11
Stan Kelly's Skiffle club, which meets at the Dog and Pheasant on Newmarket Road, has grown in popularity and threatens to become one of the outposts against the mass entertainment media of film and television. Stan is a mathematician working in London who says only a few traditional folk songs have yet found their way into print and the only way to preserve them is by singing them. Now the BBC may feature it in one of their programmes. 56 12 11

1957
Riverside Jazz band formed [10.7]

1957 01 09
The skiffle playing craze is attracting teenagers to youth clubs all over the country. If you want to make yourself popular, unearth grandma's old metal washboard and take it along. Skiffle groups use them with thimbles for making music. Empty Christmas cigar boxes for turning into box fiddles, tea chests used with a broomstick as a base and clothes brushes which produce a swishing sound on an old suit case are also welcome. 57 01 09

1957 02 16
Rock'n'Roll session Rex Ballroom – Mick Mulligan 57 02 16

1957 05 30
'Rock around the Clock' at Kinema [3.1]

1957 06 04
Stan Kelly and his skiffle group transformed one of Banham's craft into a full-blown Mississippi boat. Singing "We're Alabama Bound" they set off for Clayhithe. Despite playing all the way there and back they still had energy to provide a lively beat on the Bridge Hotel lawn. In no time there was jiving on the grass. 57 06 04c

1957 06 05
'Don't Knock the Rock' film [3.2]

1957 06 29
Alice Reynolds made her first appearance as a trained singer at a concert in the Guildhall in 1916 when, according to the News, 'she created a sensation'. During the war her 'Variety Highlights' party gave 1,000 concerts for troops around Cambridge, making a real contribution to morale. Now although still in good voice she feels it time to make way for younger people and can sit back 'with a song in her heart', knowing she has entertained so many. 57 06 29

1957 08 30
'Tommy Steele Story' film [3.3]

1957 08 31

The landlord of the Green Man in Trumpington is Charlie Shadwell, the well-known conductor of the BBC Variety Orchestra which has made over 11,000 radio broadcasts, many of them in the 'Itma' series that were so popular during the war years. He also conducted the Cambridge New Theatre orchestra during 1930. He makes regular trips to London to arrange music for the BBC television shows. 57 08 31 & a

1957 10 12
Cambridge dancers will learn with pleasure that the Ken Stevens Orchestra have been engaged as the new resident band at the Rex Ballroom. It features singing star Jimmy Cross, sax players Don Jenkins, Mike Waller, Bert Smith and Denis Range with Barry Mason (trumpet), Ken Southee (bass), Bernie Stubbings (drums) and Ken Stevens (piano). 57 10 12

1957 11 15
Gilbert and Sullivan Society starts – 57 11 15

1958 03 01
Stan Kelly, skiffle musician biography – 58 03 01b

1958 05
Central Cinema shows Jailhouse Rock [3.7]

1958 06 10
Cambridgeshire Regiment's band – March Railway Band mass enlistment – 58 06 10

1958 06 28
Kinema cafe gets juke box [3.6]

1958 08 23
Cambridge Co-op ventured into the specialist field of gramophone records with the opening of a modern record bar in its Burleigh Street department store. Recordings are filed in classified order to make for ease of selection of the standard L.P. and E.P. records. Six sound booths give superb reproduction for customers who wish to hear the recordings. It also stocks a selection of record players, radiograms and tape recorders. 58 08 23b

1958 10 25
Cambridge music firm's history – 58 10 25e

1959 06 10
The banks of the Cam were lined when the Cambridge University Madrigal Society gave its annual concert on the Backs. It was a very English scene: crowds of impassive spectators defied the fickle weather and a forest of coloured umbrellas rose from the punts on the river. Even the roar of a passing aeroplane and the threat of rain never put the singers off their stride. As the strains of the last madrigal – 'Draw on Sweet Night'- wafted slowly across the river, lanterns were lit and the punts carrying the singers began to move slowly downstream 59 06 10c & d

1959 08 19
Dr Hubert Middleton presided over the Cambridge Philharmonic Society for many years and will be remembered for his inspiring lead in promoting festivals for village choirs. His visits to the smallest hamlets, dating back to 1925, are still spoken of with pleasure. As a choral director he demanded the highest standards of those who could achieve them but never lost patience with

non-professional choristers. The last combined choirs performance under his direction was perhaps the most triumphant of his career 59 08 19

1959 11 11
Cliff Richard, the 19-year old baby-faced star and the hit parade's present top-notcher, took Cambridge by storm. Excited teenagers, predominantly female, packed into the Regal cinema and clapped, screamed and wailed in readiness for their idol. Cliff, dressed in a 'shocking pink' jacket with matching tie, performed his remarkably successful hits 'Living Doll' and 'Travelling Light'. He was accompanied by the Shadows featuring drummer Laurie Jay in place of Tony Meehan who has undergone an appendicitis operation. It was a triumph from start to finish. 59 11 11 & a [2.27]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960
Jazz - Acker Bilk, Terry Lightfoot, Johnny Danckworth [12.2]

1960 02 19
Lonnie Donegan and his skiffle group made their first appearance in Cambridge on the stage of the Regal Cinema and played his songs "Does the chewing gum lose its flavour on the bed-post overnight", "Gambling Man" and "Tom Dooley". It was a more restrained reception compared with the continual screaming which deafened Cliff Richard when he appeared a few months ago. Amongst the other acts were Miki and Griff a polished husband and wife act who soon had the audience where they wanted them. 60 02 19b

1960 03 25
The floor shuddered under 200 pairs of dancing feet. The combined sounds of the trumpets, trombone and clarinet bounced from ceiling to wall to hit the ears with a pleasant sweetness. The Riverside Jazz Club was in full swing. Every week 200 teenagers get together in an upstairs room of the Y.M.C.A. and jive. Baggy sweaters, tight-fitting trews or flared skirts for the girls are the order of the day with jeans and sweaters for the boys. The band line-up includes Ted Vousden on banjo, Tony Thurlboune on trumpet, Andy Cooper (clarinet), Tony Scott on drums and Sid Barrett on bass. Rodney Dale features as pianist for specialist numbers. 60 03 25

1960 05 14
A crowd of teenage girls waited for an hour outside the Regal Cinema hoping for a glimpse of 'pop' singer Cliff Richard. Inside attendants were placed near the stage to head off the teenagers who surged forward at the end of his performance. Cliff's first three numbers were drowned by the screams, his fourth was barely audible and the rest of the time he unsuccessfully tried to make himself heard over a crescendo of stamping feet, clapping hands and screaming voices. 60 05 14

1960 06 08
Students lounged on the river banks using their gowns as table cloths for alfresco meals and thousands of people crowded the Backs for the University Madrigal Society's punt-borne concert. Madrigals for five voices did not carry far against the chilly breeze and aeroplanes ('most tiresome' said the conductor, Raymond Leppard) and ducks competed for attention. But the audience listened in rapt silence until the singers' raft moved slowly away to the strains of 'Draw on, Sweet Night'. 60 06 08b

1960 08 20
Within the next few days a Cambridge rock'n'roll group may be offered the chance of turning professional. The Redcaps has five members, average age 19: Robin Bailey on drums, Jimmy Graham (lead guitar), Graham Smith, Neddy Bishop and vocalist Tony Clark. Their guitars cost up to £148 and the drums £98 but they were fortunate in being given an amplifier. They dress in grey trousers and black shirts but hope to buy new gold lame jackets soon. Their first performance at Newmarket was 'a bit sticky to begin with' as was that at Daddy's Night Club in Cambridge, but now they play in halls around the region. 60 08 20a

1960 10 20
Adam Faith – screaming, stamping teenagers sparsely mixed with incredulous and slightly-dazed parents. Show uninteresting but audience gave magnificent performance – Varsity. 60 10 20

1960 12 14
Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society gave first performance in 1910 – 60 12 14

1961
Cambridge Festival set up by volunteers in 1961, Mary-Rose Clark recalls hard times – 90 07 12a

1961 03 11
"Miller & sons have been largely responsible for past 100 years for bringing International celebrities & leading orchestras to Cambridge", International celebrity concerts between wars [19.1]

1961 02 01
The Chequers Rock'n'Roll group, formed by members of St Luke's Youth Club, staged a dance in the Guildhall. Jennifer Smith plays the drums, the vocalist is Andy Peters, bass guitarist Tony Saintey, rhythm guitarist Noel Gooch and solo guitarist Tony White. They featured four of their own tunes which are intended for an experimental record they hope to make soon. Johnny Cullum and the Phantoms, a group better known in Newmarket, also performed. 61 02 01c

1961 03 09
The Phantoms rock and roll group have signed an exclusive contract with Palette Records. The group comprises Ken Leverington, David Cooke and Cliff Gentle, of Cambridge, on guitars, Freddie Smart, a Chatteris hairdresser on drums and Johnny Cullen of Bottisham as vocalist. They had been playing together for six months when two undergraduates, both songwriters, heard them at a dance. They learned 10 new numbers in three weeks and recorded a demonstration disc. Now 'Phantom Guitar' is to be released through Pye in April 61 03 09

1961 03 25
Staff formed a barricade to stop girls from storming the stage in the closing minutes of the Adam Faith show at the Regal. Dressed in a casual beige sweater, Adam spent most of the evening he was not on stage signing books or photographs and talking to fans. He sang most of the songs he has put in the hit parade including "Who Am I" accompanying himself on the guitar with the backing of four of the John Berry Seven who played throughout the evening. Gerry Dorsey gave a vigorous performance, pulling the maximum screams, but Johnny Le Roy did not bother with gimmicks, using his rich voice to open the evening's programme. The Honeys, dressed in sugary pink, brought some glamour to the show while Chris Carisen worked hard as the compere 61 03 25a [8.4]

1961 04 13
'Mr Cliff Richard and his associates have done more to continue some children's musical education than the whole world of music teacher and administrators', Ludovic Stewart, the County Music Adviser says in his annual report. Music teachers are in short supply and pupils find solace in the sort of music they can teach themselves with the help of a shilling guitar tutor and some pop records. Rock-and-roll music depends upon amplification and is expensive but some outlay on guitars would benefit pupils, he recommends. Skiffle groups provide an ideal club activity and should be encouraged by head teachers 61 04 13a

1961 05 29
The Shadows, an instrumental group who have developed an individual style of their own, entertained fans at the Regal Cinema. They have an elaborate arrangement of electronic and amplifying equipment that produces a sound that has become so effective, novel and unusual. The group, who until a short while ago were responsible for most of the backings in Cliff Richard records, played many of their popular numbers including 'Frightened City'. Supporting acts included the Brook Brothers and the Red Price Group while Dave Allen the compere kept up a quick-fire routine of off-the-cuff humour 61 05 29

1961 06 07
Madrigals sung for second year at Trinity (previously at Kings) [9.2]

1961 10 25
Local rock 'n' roll fans were given a bumper evening at the Regal Cinema. Star of the show was Billy Fury who received a tremendous reception from the teenagers and several young girls ran down the aisles but were turned back by cinema staff. Amongst the supporting cast was Joe Brown, a singer from the East End of London, Eden Kane, the Allisons (who came second in the Eurovision Song Contest), Tommy Bruce, the Karl Denver Trio and the Viscounts. Musical backing was provided by Peter Jay and the Jaywalkers 61 10 25a

1961 10 25
Pop-singer Billy Fury was taken to Addenbrooke's Hospital after collapsing in his room at the University Arms Hotel. He was carried on a stretcher to a waiting ambulance watched by 20 people, including schoolgirls and teenagers. Fury – real name Ronald Wycherley – had been working for the past five days against doctor's orders. He is suffering from bronchitis and a throat infection. Last night he cut short his act at the Regal Cinema, singing only three numbers including the hit 'Halfway to Paradise'. A series of X-rays later revealed that he was suffering from a kidney complaint and he was taken by car to a London clinic 61 10 25, 61 10 26 [12.4]

1961 10 28
Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society celebrate golden jubilee – history 61 10 28a 61 12 12a

1961 11 16
Several hundred people packed the Dorothy to watch UK 1962 ballroom dancing champions Bob Burgess and Doreen Freeman give an exhibition of dances including the waltz, quickstep, cha-cha, twist and Madison. After demonstrating the basic steps and variations of the Madison Bob & Doreen called for other couples to join in and soon the floor was crowded with keen enthusiasts 61 11 16a

1962 04 09
The Big Star Show at the Regal Cinema was assured of success before it began, helped by the enthusiasm of modern teenagers with hands sore from clapping, feet aching from stamping and

throats sore from shouting. Billy Fury went through his handful of hits, did a series of acrobatic gyrations and left to an onslaught of applause and a stampede of young girls. Eden Kane sang the songs which have made him famous, Joe Brown called for quiet – to no avail - but Shane Fenton and Jackie Lynton received less hero worship and wild enthusiasm. It was a slick show, loved by the teenagers and witnessed with amused benevolence by their elders. 62 04 09

1962 04 23
'Prowlers' pop group – photo – 62 04 23c

1962 10 11
City Music Festival week a success [7.3]

1962 11
Madison demonstration Dorothy, Nov 1963

1962 11 19
Billy Fury meets Cambridge fans Roger Crow & David Mackie – 62 11 19

1963
Cliff Richard Feb [8.15]

1963 03 20
Chris Montez, the young American singer, sang his hit tune "Let's Dance" before packed houses at the Regal Cinema and judging from the amount of screaming and cries from the female section of the audience, he was worth it. Tommy Rose gave a more sedate performance of "Little Sheila" but the most versatile group was the Viscounts. The Beatles, a four-man 'rock' group with weird hairstyles as a gimmick, sang and played their current hits, "Love Me Do" and "Please Please Me". The fast-moving show was not the best Cambridge audiences have seen but enthusiastic teenagers agreed the flying visit of the stars was well worth while. 63 03 20 [3.13]

1963 03 29
Brian Poole and the Tremelos, Regal [3.14]

1963 04 15
Cambridge's latest jazz club in the dimly-lit cellar of the Dolphin public house in Coronation Street is fast building a reputation for modern jazz. Every Wednesday the resident group, the Percy Seeby quartet, backed during the interval by records, plays to a membership now limited to 100. Half an hour after the band starts the cellar was full and it was even difficult to climb down the dozen or so steps. Another popular item in the programme is poetry reading lead by Nigel Gordon. 63 04 15

1963 05 10
Cambridge Riverside Jazz Club has moved from the YMCA Hall to the Red Cow public house behind the Guildhall. The clubroom is being converted and several murals for wall decorations have been prepared by local art students. The club, which has over 500 members, will feature the Percy Seeby quartet playing modern jazz on Sundays, Pete Sayers and the Bluegrass Cut-Ups with their country and western music on Wednesday and the Riverside band with traditional jazz on Thursdays. 63 05 10

1963 06 06
"Rock and roll has taken the place of Traditional Jazz Bands [3.15]

1963 09
Rolling Stones appear at Rex September [3.16]

1963 10 14
There were so many artists appearing in the Regal Stage Show that ten of the performers had no dressing room space and had to change in the nearby University Arms. Heading the cast was singer Billy Fury whose songs were accompanied by the usual shrieks and squeals of teenage girl fans. Joe Brown and 'The Bruvvers' nearly stole the show as he jumped round the stage playing his guitar behind his head. In more relaxed vein The Karl Denver Trio presented their hit 'Still'. But Marty Wild and the Wildcats received only lukewarm applause. 63 10 14 [3.17]

1963 10 26
A thousand teenagers queued outside the Regal Cinema in the early hours of the morning to obtain tickets for the visit of the Beatles, the Liverpool pop singers. Police patrolled the line which stretched over 200 yards along Downing Place. Armed with transistor radios, blankets, sleeping bags and even primus stoves, they settled down for the night. When the doors opened at 7 a.m. – three hours early – Maurice Cornell of Byron Square was at the head of the queue 63 10 26, a b

1963 11 26
The Beatles, the current idols of Britain's teenagers, were smuggled into Cambridge by the City Police in a Black Maria. They were driven into the Downing Street site then rushed into the rear entrance of the Regal Cinema before 200 screaming girls broke through the police cordon and dashed along Downing Place. Once inside the doors were slammed shut. Police will not let them out until after the last performance. Every available Cambridge policeman is ready for duty. But the elaborate security measures taken to prevent demonstrations before they were due to appear at the Regal Cinema went wrong: police were due to meet the Beatles' car near Trumpington but they had almost reached Lensfield Road before it was spotted 63 11 26
Lennon and cynical Cambridge – Beatles visit 1963 – 80 12 10

1963 11 27
The Regal Cinema rocked with sound during the visit of the Beatles – but only a small part of it was musical. During the two performances there was a continuous crescendo of screams and shouts. Girls jumped up and down in their seats, many tearing at their hair and waving souvenir programmes. The Red Cross had a dozen men in pairs to deal with cases of fainting and hysteria while the foyer resembled a miniature battle station with blankets and large bottles of smelling salts. Afterwards, with the curtains still closing, hundreds of excited squealing girls rushed from the cinema to wait for the Beatles to come out. But the singers had already been smuggled away to their hotel across the road. 63 11 27c
Beatles enjoy a late morning nap before leaving; Beatle drive beats the fans – 63 11 27, 63 11 27b

1963 12 12
The Phantoms, four young Cambridge men, went to Sweden two years ago to find the fame every guitar group seek. Since then they have never looked back, getting a best seller in the Swedish hit parade and become trend-setters where they have appeared – a sort of Scandinavian equivalent of the Beatles. They can earn up to £70 a week each, after expenses (about £1,200 today). Kenneth Leverington, Cliff Gentle, Dave Clarke and Robin Bailey formed the group in June 1960 having played in different local groups. Altogether they have made 10 best-selling singles and a LP album. 63 12 12b

1964 02 14
"Five centuries of Cambridge musicians" commemorates quincentenary of first recorded Degree in Music – 64 02 14a

1964 04 24
City of Cambridge Brass Band needs new instruments: the old are obsolete and fashions have changed. They are having a successful season, getting through to the finals of the Daily Herald National Championships and taking part in an open air brass band concert in London as well as frequent appearances at holiday resorts like Yarmouth. But over all their activities hangs the fear that their instruments could give up the ghost at any minute.64 04 24c

1964 05 02
Strawberry and the Fruit Drops, The Wreckers, The Huntsmen, The Inmates, The Ancestors and The Spyders are beat groups who rehearse in the building which adjoins the Grand Cinema in Huntingdon. The premises are occupied every night of the week by one group or the other. Most of what the boys earn goes towards buying instruments, equipment and running three minibuses. During weekdays they restrict their bookings to 40 miles from Huntingdon but they will travel any distance on Saturdays. Two of the groups, The Wreckers and the Huntsmen have reached the finals of a Beat Competition at Northampton that was judged by Norrie Paramour who asked for a recording. But now their rehearsal area is to close 64 05 02a

1964 05 30
Screaming teenage girls besieged the Co-op in Burleigh Street when the Merseybeats, a 'pop' music group from Liverpool, made a personal appearance. Four policemen pushed the crowds back when the group arrived in a taxi and inside girls clambered on to radiograms, refrigerators and television to see them as they signed autographs in the record department. Some girls wept and others grabbed publicity photographs. Finally John Banks, Tony Crane. Aaron Williams and Johnny Gustafson escaped and relaxed with coffee before departing for Manchester 64 05 30

1964 06 06
Undertakers, The Moving Coils, Black Diamonds and Dawnbreakers. Most nights it provides a musical attraction: jazz sessions on Tuesday with top flight bands such as Kenny Ball and Chris Barber. But just around the corner the Dorothy Restaurant has featured Kathy Kirby, the Merseybeats and Manfred Mann. Helping to bury the old cry that Cambridge is 'dead' after dark are the cellar-bar 'shuffles' where regulation dress is jeans or slacks, sloppy sweaters and dark glasses. When not twisting or shaking the current rage for both sexes is to smoke miniature cigars and drink 'James Bonds' 64 06 06b

1964 07 14
Club Jazz, which opens at the Lion Hotel, is the first to have Musician's Union support and is an attempt to sink differences between bands, individuals and musicians which have bedevilled the jazz scene for many years. Mondays will feature folk music, Tuesdays modern and Thursdays traditional jazz presented by local bands. Sitters will be able to sit and listen without a soundproof screen of dancing bodies. Dancers can dance without being invaded by drinkers from the bar and drinkers can listen at a distance that makes the music a comfortable background to conversation and not a vociferous profusion of decibels 64 07 14

1964 08 08
Jazz club opened Lion Hotel [9.5]

1964 12 19

Sir Arthur Bliss conducted premier of own 'Golden Cantata' [9.4]

1965 01 16
Peter Coe of Cambridge blows the tenor sax for Georgie Fame on 'Yeh Yeh' which has pushed The Beatles from the top spot in the hit parade. He is an ex Cambridge High School boy and began his playing career at Coleridge Youth Club. The jazz group he helped to found came third in a national competition organised by 'Melody Maker'. He is now a full professional with the Blue Flames who pick up £200 a performance. His parents in Catherine Street are devoted to the Blue Flames new wave Rhythm and Blues – 65 01 16

1965 06 22
Cambridge concert hall needed' in 1903 3.000 people heard Melba sing in Corn Exchange, up to 1920s were Saturday Night Penny Pops at Guildhall but plans for expansion shelved; Corn Exchange and Regal Cinema also used and were afternoon concerts – feature by Millers Music Centre – 65 06 22

1965 08 02
First Folk Festival attracts 1,500 fans – 65 08 02aa

1965 10 01
Rolling Stones visit to Regal means will not see Everley Brothers – 65 10 01b

1965 10 22
Rolling Stones – police operation to get them to Regal – 65 10 16c; Rolling Stones interview – 65 10 22e [12.6]

1965 02 05
P.J. Proby dropped - smutty act [12.8]

1965 03 19
A more suave, more affable Billy Fury sang briefly at the Regal Cinema but he left out the storming and the wriggling which he pioneered a few years ago. The show was a little frayed. He sang flanked by his own group, the Gamblers and 11 John Barry men. As there were quite a few saxophones, his voice was sometimes drowned. "Lost Without You", his recent flunk was moaned and demonstrated how Fury has lost his fangs 65 03 19a

1965 04 02
A new folk group, the Blue River Boys, specialise in American Bluegrass Music. They comprise two guitarists, Andrew Kendon and Mike Scott, mandolin player Joe Watson, banjo picker Erik Grainger and bassist Adrian Kendon. Meetings at the Horse and Groom have become so packed that the Cambridge Folk Club is moving to the large hall of the YMCA in Alexandra Street where 200 can sit in comfort. Later a concert will be held featuring Mike Seegar, brother of America's leading folk singer, Pete Seegar 65 04 02b

1965 04 12
Yardbirds cancel Corn Exchange concert due to flu – 65 04 12b

1965 06 22
Cambridge concert hall needed' in 1903 3.000 people heard Melba sing in Corn Exchange, up to 1920s were Saturday Night Penny Pops at Guildhall but plans for expansion shelved; Corn

Exchange and Regal Cinema also used and were afternoon concerts – feature by Millers Music Centre – 65 06 22

1966
1st discotheque club - "La Capannia" at Rose, Rose Crescent [12.9]

1966 09 06
Harry Day played penny whistle; at Stourbridge Fair joined 'Herb' Reynolds and Charlie Hunter with their concertinas and harp on the upper floor of the Oyster House playing reels, waltzes etc – 66 09 06

1967 05 31
Cambridge Players formed (10 years 1977), 20-40 players, professional - ie most make living as professional musicians [11.1]

1967
Pink Floyd started, only real claim to pop fame [11.6]

1967 09 29
Ken Stevens' music shop moves from Petty Cury to Guildhall Street; had his own band in 1950s, won music Maker Musician of the Year Award 12 years ago. Orchestra started as resident band Rex, now full-time professional playing Norwich. 67 09 29

1967 10 13
Concert Hall plan at Queen Anne Terrace rejected, multi-terrace car park and sports hall instead – 67 10 13

1968 07 11
Jazz & Drama Festivals added [7.10]

1969 03 07
Riverside Jazz club revived at Romsey Labour Club after several years, was previously held YMCA when 3-400 attended each week [9.7] – 69 03 07a

1969 06 10
Midsummer pop festival, 3,000 attend first of four days, Midsummer common; complaints about noise, another Jesus Green – 69 06 10a

1970

1970 03 09
Moore Pianos to close after 50 years due problems skilled staff – 70 03 09

1970 04 25
Harold Woolfenden runs Cambridge Music Shop – profile – 70 04 25

1970 06 22
Cliff Richard sings and speaks at Gt St Mary's – 70 06 22

1970 08 14
Free pop concert Coldham's Common [7.13]

1971 06 14
Pop concert Coldham's Common [7.14]

1971 07 01
Trouble-torn pop festival Coldham's Common could be the last [7.14]

1971 09 10
Mini pop festival Grantchester Meadows [7.15]

1971 09 16
Jazz Festival lost £1,450, no more but concerts [7.16]

1972 05 02
Stepping through the doors of the Rock Hotel, Cambridge last night was like stepping back in time. Teddy boys were propping up the bar, Jerry Lee Lewis was rock'n'rolling on the turntable and other teds were jiving around the floor. But these were not the teds who slashed cinema seats and slouched around in the late 50's. The velvet drapes were there along with drainpipe trousers, bootlace ties, frilly shirts and hair cream. But the years had mellowed the people wearing them. The occasion was the first meeting of the Cambridge Rock'n'Roll Club. One ted said "It's nice to remember the good old days" 72 05 02

1972 11 15
Young people in Cambridge have lost their Saturday night dances - the high spot of their week - and this has meant more violence in the city, Steve, an apprentice chef at Christ's college claims. The Dorothy - the city's best known catering and dancing centre - closed in August. Teenagers have looked for other dances, but tend to spend more time wandering around looking for somewhere to go that staying in any place. Saturday night dances at the Corn Exchange suit another type of person, said Steve. They prefer a different sort of music, which he describes as "heavy". He and other young people who frequented the Dorothy preferred Tamla Motown music. There are more than 80 people who used to go to the Dorothy. Many of these now wander the streets of Cambridge, travelling from one pub to another looking for something to do.

1973 05 04
It could be a record year for four singers from Cambridge area who have all had new LPs issued within the last few months. They are Pete Atkin, Jancis Harvey, Pete Sayers and Shusha. Mr Atkin, a professional singer appeared in several University Footlights Club revues. His lyricist is Clive James, a Pembroke graduate, critic, journalist and erstwhile front man of the television programme "Cinema". Jancis Harvey, clear-voiced as ever but now very much more professional, has filled the Albert Hall at Nottingham while singing in concert. Pete Sayers, country singer and guv'nor of Grand Ole Opry, the monthly show at Newmarket, needs no introduction to countless Newmarket fans 73 05 04

1973 06 27
David Willcocks leaves Kings, at Cambridge since 1957 [10.1]

1973 07 18
Ken Stevens music shop moves to Sussex Street; own band success 1950s, won Melody Maker Musician of Year award (1955), orchestra started as resident bans Rex, now full-time professional, playing Norwich, started 1958, moves shop Petty Cury to Guildhall Street (1967) [27.2.10.7]

1974 04 20
Four youths were arrested and three needed hospital treatment when 1,000 pop fans went on the rampage at Cambridge Corn Exchange. 68 windows were smashed and police with dogs took an hour to restore order. Police said trouble started when an American group, The Drifters, failed to appear. The packed hall had waiting for 90 minutes for the group to turn up. Each had paid £1.10p. to get into the 8pm to 1am pop concert

1974 06 10
Free pop festival, Strawberry Fair [11.9]

1974 08 09
Several hundred people were turned away from the Corn Exchange, Cambridge, when a top American group, the Ronettes, failed to turn up for a concert date. Their agent confirmed their lead singer Ronnie Spector had been taken ill. Earlier in the year several hundred fans went on the rampage when another American group, The Drifters, failed to play a concert date 74 08 09

1975 03 27
Jazz festival - no suitable venue & scrapped, run past four years by Jazz Club [7.18]

1975 10 17
Attempt to use Sports Hall for discos banned by Council as would be competition for the Corn Exchange [23.7]

1975 10 19
Cambridge University Chamber Singers formed [11.4]

1976
Michael Copley & Dag Ingram to Germany 1976 & on return started in Cambridge, busked for policeman's ball at Huntingdon & returned to Germany where record released.

1976 02 02
More than 100 people were turned away from Holy Trinity church when Cliff Richard, pop star and evangelist, visited. About 700 people had already been admitted. Some of them had queued in freezing conditions to be sure of a place at the service. Earlier in the afternoon the singer had appeared in an evangelistic concert with the Brightwinter Group at Lady Mitchell Hall. Some 500 people paid £1 a head and the profit will go to a Christian charity 76 02 02

1976 02 09
Sports Hall first attempt at own concert featuring Julie Felix flops due to poor acoustics, amplification & atmosphere - "I feel like I am singing in a morgue"; but Spinners & Stephan Grapelli sell out [23.9] [23.9]

1976 05 20
Cambridge boasts some of Britain's best buskers and two of them will appear on BBC Television's Nationwide. No doubt accordionist Dag Ingram and flautist Michael Copley will perform classical music with their customary elan but one viewer will watch with a baleful eye. Jerry Bol, the accomplished 22-instrument one-man band from Gt Staughton, a veteran of many television appearance, is sometimes belting out "I love to go a-wandering" at the same time that his rivals are dashing off a quick burst of Bach 76 05 20

1976 11 16
One-time superstar Billy J. Kramer, who had a string of world-wide hits in the 60's, walked down Mill Road, Cambridge, looking for a sauna. The more exotic delights of the street didn't quite capture his imagination. Later at Romsey Labour Club his hour-long show combined new material with well-rehearsed medleys of old hits. By the end of the night people were standing on tables, clapping, stamping and cheering as he ran for the door to a waiting get-away car 76 11 16

1976 11 18
Nick Barraclough leads one of the most entertaining bands to emerge in Cambridge for many years. Halfway through the set of Telephone Bill and the Smooth Operators in Willingham village hall, Nick, a veteran of Cambridge's folk scene, former member of the Grand Ole Opry Road Show and with masses of musical experience, is tall with a mop of curls a moustache and ever-ready grin. On stage he does the talking, sings and plays guitar, slide dobro, banjo. He also tries to keep the group disciplined, no easy task. All the music has a good time feel and the group bubble with good humour 76 11 18

1976 11 19
Val Doonican, Harry Secombe, The Spinners, Julian Bream, Stephane Grappelli, Los Paraguayos – all of these artists have appeared in Cambridge within a year. All were presented by the City Amenities and Recreation Department, working under director John Wilkinson. Every concert cost city ratepayers 6p per seat for every person attending, but two years ago the figure was 50p-per-seat. Sales for Val Doonican were disappointing and a loss of £1,100.83 was incurred but The Spinners drew a full house of 1,500 to the Sports Hall for the first time and a profit of £360.09 resulted. It now provides Cambridge with an auditorium large enough for bigger artists to draw sufficient numbers of people to pay their fees 76 11 19

1976 12 13
The Cambridge Symphony Orchestra concert turned from a potential flop to a solid hit when music-lovers rallied round to save it from disaster on Saturday. The concert seemed doomed to lose more than £2,000 but with nearly 1,000 people attending they could just break even. The managing director of the non profit-making orchestra, Mr Jonathan Wearn said: "Beforehand were all very despondent and our guest soloist and conductor, Mr Tamas Vasary, was doubtful about confirming his March booking. Afterwards he said it was definitely on. We were so encouraged by the tremendous response and the way people rallied round at the last minute that we shall continue our links with the city". He admitted that administratively the organisation still had some problems to sort out but most of the concerts have been successful financially 76 12 13 [9.10]

1977 04 15
Cambridge Concert Orchestra in 10th year, started as Cambridge Light Concert orchestra [9.11]

1977 04 30
Musicians' discontent over the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra turned to anger as more professionals claimed they were owned money. And as a London orchestral agency told of their wrangle over a cheque for more than £1,000 the Musicians' Union attacked the orchestra's policy of not paying amateurs. The eight-month-old semi-professional orchestra is in a desperate financial condition. A London orchestral agent reported that he was "flabbergasted" at the way the Orchestra had treated its players. "I can't think why you people in Cambridge support it. I knew this would happen. You can't hope to run an orchestra on a shoestring", he said. 77 04 30

1977 08 03

Cambridge's £3 million concert and conference hall that never was began with a £2 million promise to pay for the conversion of the Corn Exchange. But that promise, made in 1974 was short-lived. Mr David Robinson decided that the Corn Exchange was ugly and should be pulled down. Instead he favoured a purpose-built concert and conference hall on the Downing Street end of the Lion Yard complex. The man at the centre of those protracted negotiations was Coun Jack Warren who told him it was a listed building and could not be pulled down but he pooh-poohed this. In October 1976 Mr Robinson wrote to say it would be impossible for him to provide the money, and then gave another £7 to Robinson College. 77 08 03

1977 10 12
Duke of Edinburgh opens University Music School [02.4.18]

1977 10 18
CSO start concerts again after three months, still owes money [11.2]

1977 10 19
Cambridge Youth orchestra first public concert (formed 7 years) [11.3]

1977 08 03
Cambridge pop groups are to be given a chance to make their names in the music industry. Lee Wood, the owner of "Remember Those Oldies" record shop in King Street has just launched his own record label for lively local bands. Having acquired the 16-track recording facilities at Spaceward Studios he is looking for local groups to promote on his new label entitled "RAW" and has plans to produce an LP of all the Cambridge groups over the last ten years. One of the first bands to be recorded are punk-rockers The Users, whose single "Sick of You" has already sold 10,000 copies. 77 08 03

1977 09 03
Sitting in the enormous blue tent on Jesus Green and watching the incomparable Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet I felt that this is what a fully international university city should be all about. The huge tent provides a sufficiently large stage and seats to stage large performances and make them pay. Cambridge should consider investing in something of this sort. It took a lot of courage, hard work and imagination to bring Sadler's Wells to Cambridge and they have brought Cambridge to the crossroads. Either it goes forward from here or it retreats. 77 09 03

1977 09 26
Before I met The Stranglers I met their fans who formed a bizarrely-painted and clothed chain stretching from the Corn Exchange to King's Parade. First in the queue was a character by the name of Rat Rancid, with his mate Garry Gangrene, from King's Lynn. Here were some punks that looked every bit as vile as the ones we've all read about. They were horrible. I think it was the safety pins through the cheeks that made me feel slightly sick, but it may just have been the chains through their noses. They snarled and leered while my colleague, Mike Manni, took their pictures. Then Rat put down his can of Party Seven and scribbled his address. Could we send some prints. "To Rat Rancid", I asked. "Oh, no", he gasped. "My mum wouldn't like that" 77 09 26

1977 10 22
Cliff Richard, pop superstar and hot gospeller, fervently preached a message to the converted during his first Cambridge concert for many years. Unfortunately the message was hammered home between every song. He talks about his religious beliefs so much that I was bored beyond embarrassment. Why couldn't he just sing? He delivered Elvis' "Heartbreak Hotel" and his own

unforgettable early hit, "Living Doll" and just before the end really started rockin' up a storm with two heavy beat numbers, real vintage Richard rock 'n' roll. 77 10 22

1977 11 24
A suggestion that the controversial punk rock group, the Sex Pistols, should visit Cambridge has been turned down by city council officials who fear they would attract the wrong sort of clientele. All punk rock groups who appear in council buildings should be of the moderate and non-controversial kind. An agency had suggested that they could perform in a tent on Midsummer Common. 77 11 24

1977 12 12
The Spinners filled the 1,600-seat Cambridge Sports Hall for the second time this year, with their Christmas show. They are a perfectly assured, wholly-professional, middle-of-the-road group with a wide-ranging repertoire and pitched into a selection of songs and carols including some of their hits like "The Family of Man". Audience participation is very much a part of the technique; they had the people at the back drowning the rest of the audience in a four-part 'round' & started a three-part medley with "While Shepherds Washed Their Socks by Night" 77 12 12

1977 12 22
Cambridge is not short of record shops, so what chance has another one got? The answer, says Andy Gray, is plenty. His latest shop "The Beat Goes On" is something out of the ordinary in that it caters for those interested in "golden oldies" and New Wave records. They specialise in records up to the 1970s and have on display portraits of "The Jam" who opened the shop on Friday. The new shop in Regent Street supplements the premises opened in Mill Road three years ago and Andy's Record Stall on Cambridge market which is still a gathering place for music lovers. 77 12 22

1978
Cambridge Buskers move into big-time, concert Wigmore Hall [38.16.4]

1978 01 03
Three publicans are so alarmed by the prospect of trouble at punk rock concerts in Cambridge Corn Exchange that they will close or guard their premises on the nights of the shows. Their concern follows two concerts when four youths were taken to hospital after a fight and a shop window was smashed. The licensee of the Eagle said "It was absolutely dreadful: all the London trains were full of punk rockers coming to Cambridge because all the other towns have banned them. They spit and strip on stage". The groups on stage that night were the Ramones and the Rezillos, two American bands. 78 01 03

1978 01 06
Four Cambridgeshire policemen are trying to get on the right beat as much as possible – even when they are not working. Off duty they make up "Copper Plate", one of the few all-policemen music groups in the country. The group started when two members got to talking about music while in their patrol car. At the moment they are playing about one booking a month to audiences ranging from a village pantomime to more than 400 people at a dance in St Ives. One member said: "It sometimes surprises us that we actually manage to get together even for a practice, let alone a booking, with us all working different places and different shifts. We like to think of ourselves as being a versatile music and harmony group able to play anything from Beatles to barber's shop"

1978 07 28

The star that has shone over Cambridge Folk Festival of the past 14 years appears to be waning. There is increasing evidence among the mass of faces at this international event that the serious folkie is now staying away and that Cambridge – once the most prestigious event in the folk calendar – is slowly being taken over by an unfortunate yobby element who treat Cherry Hinton Hall like a Pontins holiday camp 78 07 28

1978 08 18
Jerry Bol, the popular Cambridge busker, was fined £2 as a result of the police crack-down on street vendors causing obstructions in the Lion Yard shopping precinct. Police said they counted a crowd of 67 people listening to his one-man-band. Mr Bol told the court he became a busker five years ago & since then had appeared in 25 TV programmes & films. "The children of Cambridge call me 'Mr Music Man' and I stand in Petty Cury for their safety. The Duke of Edinburgh and the Mayor of Heidelberg came to see me", he told the court, & would pay his fine with £3 given him by well-wishers since his arrest. 78 08 18

1978 09 13
The Cambridge Symphony Orchestra is set to rise 'like a phoenix from the ashes' of its collapse last year. It has financial backing by four local businessmen to guarantee their first three concerts and hopes to regain the goodwill of local people. The format continues as before with a nucleus of professional musicians aided by enthusiastic amateurs and music students, some of school age, who will all be good enough to make a professional sound, bringing a symphony orchestra to Cambridge at a price people can afford to pay. 78 09 13

1979 09 11
Ronelles, a disco restaurant, will soon open above Lion Yard in the heart of Cambridge and one of the city's most interesting business gambles will be under way. It's a big bet. The lease is long but the odds are short that young Cambridge people will patronise a place which they have long insisted is overdue. The club will have a membership of 500 and be relatively expensive with a £100 a year membership fee. It will have an elevated restaurant, two bars, a dance floor, a waterfall and cabins. These together with palm trees and a native mask on the logo suggest the premises may have a Caribbean flavour. It will be a welcome solution to an embarrassing problem for the space, originally intended for offices, has stayed empty for years. CEN 11.9.1979

1979 09 24
Stranglers at Corn Exchange, p7

1979 09 29
At the Strangers performance in Cambridge Corn Exchange the punks were matched in numbers by a fair splattering of pseudo-intellectuals and Hawkwind types. They could remember the energy the band used to put into their shows, but now with their softer approach the maniacal crowd response was lacking. The pulverising brutality of 'Death and Night and Blood' still surges out but the Stranglers have now come of age and command respect. "We're trying a lot of new things, more complex, a bit of jazz. It went OK, at least Cambridge is always a good crowd", said Hugh Cornwell, recalling the Corn Exchange concert two years ago when bouncers took unkindly to being picked out by spotlights. CEN 20.9.1979

1980

1980 05 31
The Carioca building on Newmarket Road, Cambridge has had a chequered history, from non-conformist chapel to furniture store and now night-club. When it first opened in March 1978 it

did a roaring trade into the early hours but has been plainly feeling the impact of the opening of Ronelles' in Lion Yard. It offers a restaurant, disco and dance floor together with a games room with bar billiards and juke box for a membership charge of 10p a week. Drinks are cheaper than pub prices but the choice of draught beers – Tolly's Cobbold and Younger Tartan – is disappointing. 80 05 31

1980 07 02
Cambridge is now left with only one regular nightly music spot following the closure of the Beaconfield and Alex Wood Halls and the Alma pub, mainly because of complaints of noise. But there are at least 40 bands desperate for somewhere to play and countless people who want to hear live music. The Carioca Club on Newmarket Road is willing to let bands play on Tuesday nights but at a total rental cost of £115 bands can't afford it while the Salisbury Conservative Club on Mill Road is almost fully booked until 1982. It leaves just the Great Northern Hotel. 80 07 02b

1980 07 07
First rock music festival flop [7.19]

1980 08 26
Rock concert Midsummer Common cancelled due to noise fears [11.11]

1980 08 28
'Mandy Morton? Is she still around? That reaction is one reason when the ex-Spriguns singer / songwriter is back in Cambridge after a long absence. In 1968 she formed a folk group to raise money for Cottenham Amateur Dramatic Society then started Spriguns as resident group at the Anchor. Decca records transformed their image with velvet shirts and fancy frocks and when the band broke up they were elegantly dressed but not very rich. She became extremely popular in Norway and has now returned to try her hand at the home market with a new album on Polydor out soon. 80 08 28

1980 10 10
The Specials will remember their visit to the Supertent on Cambridge's Midsummer Common. They had to contend with the vast acoustics imbalances of a grotesquely inappropriate circus arena, the mindless inanities of their so-called followers and the inevitable trouble. The music was terrific but the tension for too pronounced. Lead singer Terry Hall tried to defuse the atmosphere but finally led the band off stage in mid-number to escape the volleys of beer cans and spit. 80 10 10b

1980 10 17
Emilie Lewis established the Mackenzie School of Music and Dramatic Art in Cambridge in 1923 and many students benefited from her training, winning prizes at local festivals. From it developed the Mackenzie Society with weekly concerts to give young students experience of performing to a live audience. Both organisations continue to flourish in the hands of her former students. Now a subscription had been started for a cup to be awarded at the Cambridge Festival reflecting the high standard Emilie herself set in her professional life. 80 10 17

1981 03 24
When the Corn Exchange re-opened earlier this year after a new roof had been fitted at a cost of £200,000 it was thought that the only major rock venue in Cambridge had been restored to the city's youngsters and an impressive line-up of bands were booked to appear. But just four concerts later the clamour of protest about noise has outmatched the decibels of the bands and put

the whole future of the hall in doubt. Now the council may have to install soundproofing. 81 03 24

1981 03 25
Crofters celebrate 16th birthday [10.6]

1981 03 30
Six hundred young people took to the streets to demonstrate against the threat to live music in Cambridge. They marched from the Great Northern Pub in Station Road to the Corn Exchange – the two rock venues at the centre of a row over noise levels. The landlord of the pub has been in dispute with the city's environmental health department over the noise made by band playing there and the Corn Exchange also faces legal action if they do not act on the noise problem. 81 03 30

1981 04 24
More than 50 young people belonging to the 'Keep Cambridge Live' campaign, which wants to retain live music, crowded the public gallery of the Guildhall when they thought a plan to convert the Corn Exchange into a music complex was to be discussed. But it is due to be debated in July. After half an hour – during which time paper aeroplanes drifted down among councillors - they left shouting, "How can you sit there and listen to all this boring stuff". The mayor said: "I think we handled that very well". 81 04 24d

1981 08 03
Cambridge Folk Festival 81 08 03a

1981 10 28
The Taboo disco club, one of Cambridge's longest-running nightspots, is to close. It was originally the Kashmir restaurant, started up in the mid-1960s; it then became the Harlequin Club and eventually the Taboo. Now the owners, Downing College have won a High Court judgement to regain the building so they can go ahead with the redevelopment of the area. 81 10 28

1981 10 29
The Shadows returned to Cambridge after too long an absence – 15 years or more – to find that their audience had multiplied. There is no nonsense about Hank Marvin, Bruce Welch, Alan Jones, Brian Bennett and Cliff Hall and they played nearly 30 numbers including 'Apache', their first hit, 'Wonderful Land' and 'Frightened City' as well as Chuck Berry and Sam Cooke numbers to prolonged applause. 81 10 29

1981 12 04
The Oak in Lensfield Road had a world-wide reputation as a centre for good Irish music. Before modernisation it was a wonderful place. Playing sessions would start up automatically on Friday nights, Saturday lunchtimes and Sundays too. But now venues for Irish music are fast disappearing in Cambridge. The demise of the Ancient Druids was another blow and the Cow and Calf on Pound Hill is virtually the only one remaining. 81 12 04b

1982 01 20
Ten local bands will appear at the Graduate Centre in a presentation of the history of Cambridge rock music. They are Telephone Bill and the Smooth Operators, Milestones, Duke Duke and the Dukes, The Lonely, Weak at the Knees, High and Lonesome, Nick Nick and the Nickettes, Floating Unit, Drink 'N' Jive Band and The Light Blues Band. Sindy and the Action Men will promote their debut single on a new label, Wimp Records, based in Kingston. 82 01 20a

1982 02 03
Andy Gray decided 13 years ago to move his collection of 500 second-hand singles from Bury market to serve the more discerning musical tastes of Cambridge. He can still be found in the market square today, though now he has eight shops in the region. He puts his success down to undercutting the traditional record retailers as well as offering the obscure stuff you just couldn't buy elsewhere. Rather like John Peel he has kept abreast of changes, opening 'The Beat Goes On' to cater for new trends. 82 02 03b

1982 05 04
Cambridge has nurtured many stars of the pop world. Pink Floyd, Yes, 10 cc, Roxy Music, Foreigner, Procol Harum, Small Faces, Quiver, Elvis Costello's Attractions, The Clash, The Foundations … all have had links with Cambridge bands. Now Graeme Mackenzie has published a family tree of rock groups since 1964. It has proved unbelievably complicated due to the musicians appalling memory for names and dates. 82 05 04 & a

1982 06 01
England football manager Ron Greenwood and 13 of his World Cup squad were at the Abbey Stadium to watch the London Symphony Orchestra's first outdoor performance of Classic Rock in England. They were joined by more than 3,500 fans for rock music's version of the Last Night of the Proms with people clapping and cheering through the last few numbers. Tony Butcher, the new rock of England's defence, said "Tremendous – we heard the Rolling Stones last week and this was a contrast". The United Manager John Docherty said the event was "unbelievably successful" and had broken even. 82 06 01a

1982 06 03
The Great Northern Hotel on the corner of Station Road had a wide reputation as a 'jazz pub. In the 1970s it was converted into a hostel for Technical College students with rooms directly above the stage and Raffles nightclub in the basement. Despite music on two levels there were no complaints until a new landlord introduced rock bands. Now its licence has been withdrawn and Cambridge has lost one of its last live music venues. 82 06 03

1982 08 06
Cambridge now houses an extraordinary number of musical instrument makers. In addition to Mark Stevenson and Trevor Beckerleg, makers of harpsichords, and William Johnson, maker of chamber organs, there are many lesser-known names. Charles Hall is another organ builder, Daniel Bangham specialises in clarinets while John Isaacs and Ian Harwood from Ely are making lutes based on original designs from Bologna and Venice. 82 08 06a

1982 09 17
Concert Hall 5,000 planned Barnwell Road approved by Whitehall 1982

1982 10 10
A new compilation album, "Honey for Tea", features 12 bands with Cambridge connections – The Rapiers, Hondo, Sindy and the Action Men, Su Lyn Band, The Amyl Dukes, The Lonely, The Great Divide, Your Dinner, Pure Thought, The Agents, Seven Fifty-Four and the Innocent Bystanders. But there are notable absentees, particularly Shakatak. It is one to buy for your old age – a means of going down memory lane once you're too old to see them live. 'Cos that's where they are best 82 10 10

1982 10 28

Beaconsfield club ordered close due loud music & rowdiness, 100 year old [38.11.7]

1982 11 24
The Riverside Jazz Band celebrated its 25th birthday at the Carioca Club in Newmarket Road. It began as a University outfit set up by undergraduates, one of whom was later sent down as he spent so much time playing his trombone. The only local lad was Ted Vousden, now the sole remaining founder member. At first they played at the Criterion pub in Market Passage, then were regulars at the YWMCA in Alexandra Street. Over the years there have been dozens of members and all kinds of different line-ups, but the name has never changed. 82 11 24a

1983 05 09
Cambridge Co-operative Band have recorded a powerful piece composed specially for them. The music by Dr Arthur Wills, the organist of Ely cathedral, is the four movement 'Fenland Suite' – the first for brass band and solo organ 83 05 09 p10

1983 07 07
Cambridge pianist Doris Waterson began her career playing for silent films at the old Playhouse in Mill Road. She played ballet and modern dance music for the Perse Girls and the old County Schools but was best known as pianist with Josephine's Gypsy Orchestra. It was formed about 1934 and played for 26 years at venues such as Christ's Pieces bandstand. Doris also had her own band called the Keynotes and worked during the war with Alice Reynolds who organised concert parties for troops 83 07 07 p16

1983 09 26
The Carioca Club in Newmarket Road is today a burnt-out shell after fire was started in three different parts of the building. The entire contents were destroyed and walls and floors wrecked. Police say an 'inflammable liquid' was poured over materials in the building to start the blaze. 'Racks' night club which has 450 members is now looking for a temporary venue. The Carioca was originally a chapel and was used as a furniture depot before it became a night-club in 1978 83 09 26 p1

1983 09 27
The arson attack on the Carioca Club has removed a bright nightspot from the already bleak picture of Cambridge entertainment. It leaves Ronelles, the up-market disco restaurant in the city centre, Route 66 and the Last Resort. Complaints about noise spelt the end of Silks in Hills Road. The city council is thinking of building a special factory-type unit on the old cattle market industrial site off Cherry Hinton Road to house an 'alternative venue centre' 83 09 27 p13

1984 05 24
Cambridge Baroque Camerata established [10.4]

1984 07 07
"No one is buying hand-made harpsichords today", says Trevor Beckerleg, the Cambridge harpsichord maker, so he is selling his Gwydir Street home. The house has many odd features, not least the downstairs walls and ceilings which are smothered with graffiti in green ink: it is his notebook, representing his thoughts over the past couple of years. It contains his last two instruments including the world's only submarine pintable harpsichord with a keyboard at either end 84 07 07

1984 07 12

More than 20 members of the Cambridge Symphony Orchestra have been fired following a decision to make it eligible for funding from the Arts Council which insists that all musicians should be wholly professional. But some see it as unfair: they have all helped establish the orchestra and although they did not earn the majority of their earnings from live performances, they all played to a professional standard 84 07 12 [10.3]

1984 11 09
Cambridge discos are awful: Ronelles is all right for up to 18s but you feel out of it when you're in your 20's. And it's not just the youngsters who are complaining: their mums and grannies have their own gripes. They miss the dance halls from the Rex and Embassy, which enjoyed their heyday during the Rock and Roll boom to, the more sedate Dorothy. The Corn Exchange, formerly home of all kinds of entertainment, closed two years ago and the Kelsey Kerridge Sports hall is not ideal for stage events. So people turn to the nightclubs at Peterborough. 84 11 09 p27

1984 11 24
Cambridge's Savoy Jazzmen, who are celebrating 25 years of rip-roaring music, have announced they are to quit. The group's leader and only remaining original member, Barry Palser, has promised they will get together for special gigs. The Jazzmen have performed throughout Europe and have a single due for release in Germany. They got together to play for their own enjoyment in 1959 but were then invited to play for parties. They have become part of Cambridge music heritage, playing in parades, jazz clubs and Festivals. Barry remembers when Kenny Ball and Acker Bilk called into the Rose pub in Rose Crescent and joined in a couple of sessions. 84 11 22b [10.8]

1985 01 23
1st Cambridge Rock competition [11.13]

1985 06 04
Katrina & Waves 'Walking on sunshine', 1st top-10 hit by Cambridge based band [11.14]

1985 12 10
Council chiefs are setting up an 'action squad' to in a bid to defuse mounting mob tension on the streets of Cambridge following a violent clash outside the former Thakes cycle shop on East Road. At a noisy meeting in the Guildhall more than 100 youngsters spelled out a simple desperate plea – give us somewhere to meet. Now the councillors will try to find a disused warehouse for them to convert into a late-night venue or set up an 'open house' building which they could use during the day. The unemployed workers' centre could also be put to more intensive use. 85 12 10a

1985 12 10
More than 200 young people entered the Rob Roy pub in Chesterton Road to hold a late-night disco. Sixty-five police prevented any more entering as toilet rolls, a chair and other pieces of furniture rained down. As there were no lights on, except for the disco light and with a crowd in excess of 200 police decided it would be unsafe to enter and clear the building. The pub had not been derelict but undergoing refurbishment and considerable damage was done to the upstairs room. It followed confrontation with several hundred youths outside the former Thakes cycle shop in East Road 85 12 10b

1986
Cambridge Symphony Orchestra cash crisis, Prince Edward becomes patron

1986 01 06
The great Cambridge Rock Group Competition has attracted 42 bands. They include Pressure Drop who specialise in blues and jazz, Grass Asylum and Double Yellow Line who describe their music as pop, The Beeno who simply 'rock' and Tyrade a heavy rock outfit. Wild Party Productions whose musical styles embrace both rock and pop will also perform as well as the Harvest Wood Quintet who are into contemporary rock music. President Regan Is Clever and Sardines in Red Striped Dresses will also take part. 86 01 06

1986 03 03
The Cambridge Rock Group Competition has seen 41 bands battling it out for the prestigious pop title. The BBC's "Whistle Test" duo, Andy Kershaw and Trevor Dann joined the six regular judges for the final which included Colonel Gomez, Therapy, Strange Brew and Children of Some Tradition. The top two places were contested by Double Yellow Line, playing pure Wham and Duran Duran style pop and President Regan is Clever, a student group in the mould of Cambridge's own Perfect Vision who eventually took the title 86 03 03b

1986 03 08
Young people in Cambridge have come up with a revolutionary idea for a new late night rock music venue in the middle of the busy roundabout in Elizabeth Way. It is centrally situated and its underground location would cut down disturbance. But it would be expensive and there would be problems of access for emergency vehicles. Councillors think the former Cattle Market on Clifton industrial estate is a better option. If the venture failed the site could be converted back to industrial use with a smaller financial loss. But they have asked officials to make a feasibility study of both sites 86 03 08

1986 04 24
Michael Copley and Dag Ingram were undergraduates at Churchill College in the '70s. One had a recorder and the other borrowed £5 to buy an accordion and they started playing on Saturday morning in Lion Yard. One day they received a knock on the door from a policeman. He wanted to book them for a policeman's ball at Huntingdon. The Cambridge Buskers were on their way to stardom. They toured Germany and did a recording with Deutche Grammophon which made them pop stars. Now they have been invited back to Cambridge to play at the University Music Club 86 04 24c

1986 08 26
Pop concert flops due Bank Holiday gales [11.15]

1986 10 09
Stan Kelly was one of the last people to live in the Oyster House, Garlic Row where his parties were a mixture of the talented and the well-heeled. He was a Liverpool working-class boy who came to the university in the early '50s with his wide and children. In those days he was involved in folk music, mixing Liverpool seamen's songs with those of the American Depression and some of his own. One was 'Hard times in the Old Oyster House, Hard times, poor boy'. Later his skiffle music became successful on both sides of the Atlantic. Despite this he managed to secure a double first in maths and obtained a job with a world-famous computer firm. 86 10 09

1986 11 24
Cambridge Philharmonic Society centenary – history – 86 11 24

1986 11 26

The Corn Exchange, Cambridge's new entertainment and conference complex, has opened after years of political wrangling. The four wall shell used for pop concerts, roller skating and badminton has been developed into an auditorium with versatile seating together with a tiered balcony and mezzanine terrace that can be used for a variety of purposes. At the back are changing rooms, dressing rooms and workshops while the King Room upstairs will be available for private functions 86 11 26d & e 86 12 01d

1986 12 11
Live music venue ('The Junction') Clifton Industrial estate approved [38.11.14]

1987 02
Corn Exchange Concert Hall opens [see summary at end of this section] [6]

1987 02 12
Talent spotters auditioned acts for a spot on Tom O'Connor's BBC Road Show at the Corn Exchange. Plucky Albert O'Dell, 80, is seeking for fame late in life. Cheered on by his wife he sped through imitations of animal and bird calls. Crooner David Bensley of Cambridge, a Frank Sinatra fan, put on an excellent show despite his tape machine playing the backing music too slowly. John Barry of Littleport who owns two TV shops might be on screen if his country music wins over the judges while Cambridge comedy jazz trio Froggits could be a strong contender: they are about to release an LP 87 02 12a

1987 02 13
If you are old enough to remember enthusiastic musicians who took to the stage with washboards, banjos and not much money, you will recall a star of yesteryear. Lonnie Donegan will appear at the Corn Exchange alongside Cambridge singer-songwriter Steve Somers who is a member of the famous skiffler's new eight-man band. The 'Father of Skiffle' has teamed up with jazz veteran Monty Sunshine to form Donegan's Dancing Sunshine Band and will make one of his first comeback concerts just two years after his last appearance at Newmarket Cabaret Club 87 02 13a

1987 02 26
Veteran rocker Lonnie Donegan danced the night away at Cambridge Corn Exchange – but didn't manage to sell out the hall. Only 500 fans turned up. The problem was that the Hollies were on the following night. Then huge traffic jams built up with a 150-yard queue. The Manchester 60s super group stepped on to the revamped stage and into the hearts of a once-swinging generation of pop fans playing 'Just One Look', 'Carrie Ann' 'Bus Stop' and a host of other hits 87 02 26

1987 04 06
Veteran rocker Jerry Lee Lewis gave a high voltage performance at the Corn Exchange. The audience ranged from the Mayor, John Woodhouse, to the secretary of Cambridge Elvis Presley Fan Club. Quiffs and DAs sprouted from male heads while the girls sported pony tails, satin or chiffon ribbons and bright lipstick. Teds wore their distinctive plumage of drape jackets and drainpipe trousers. All united in a huge roar as a short figure strolled on to the stage and the opening bars of 'Roll Over Beethoven' powered round the hall. 87 04 06

1987 04 24
Cambridge's cult band, Harvey and the Wallbangers, are making one last date in the city before bowing out of the business. The good-time/rock harmony/doo-wop swingers are splitting up. The Wallbanger's cocktail of music and comedy made them one of the best-loved bands of their kinds. But founder and supreme Harvey Brough says they are getting tired of constant touring;

they want to write and record. Guitarist Johnny Griffiths is becoming a maths teacher but the rest are sitting back and waiting for whatever comes next 87 04 24

1987 10 21
Classical music concerts could be curtailed at Cambridge Corn Exchange in a bid to cut losses. But 'popular' acts such as comedians Phil Cool & Victoria Wood and big-time rock groups like Motorhead and David Essex have proved a massive success. In just nine months the Corn Exchange has been established as an important venue with plenty of sell-outs and successes. This has led to agents asking if their acts can play there. David Essex, Courtney Pine, The Shadows and the Drifters are amongst those whose managements have approached them. 87 10 21

1987 11 14
Corn Exchange set to lose £140,000 in full year; Folk Festival & Cambridge Festival are £30,000 down ¢CEN 14.11.87

1987 11 10
Shadows at Corn Exchange – 87 11 10

1988 01 22
The Cambridge Rock Group Competition saw 1,000 fans jammed into the Corn Exchange to support the seven bands battling out for places in the semi-final. The gentle jazz-rock group, Curious, featured the magnificent vocals of Hilary Bailey and her 10-string Chapman stick bass which gave them a clean sound, Bogus Renegades were impressive for their years but Turn to Blue's squeaky clean pop was not fashionable in this competition. In the end it was the dynamic Nutmeg and Indiscretion who took the honours. 88 01 22a

1988 12 03
British premier Bernstein opera postponed as ticket sales flop; held, Bernstein attended ¢CEN 3.12.88, 5.12.88

1989 06 14
Cinderellas Rockerfellas –formerly Ronelles - Cambridge's top night spot, reopens with a new look. Top disc jockey Bruno Brookes will make an appearance along with Hot Flesh and their fire dance spectacular, Marc Oberon the illusionist and robots Adam and Eve. The evening begins with a jazz band playing outside the club in the Heidelberg Gardens in Lion Yard. The club now sports a more upmarket image and incorporates Waldo T. Pepper's restaurant 89 06 14

1989 06 21
Gt St Mary's all girl choir believed first of kind in diocese ¢CEN 21.6.89

1989 11 24
Corn Exchange losing money ¢CEN 24.11.89

1990 02 15
The Junction, Cambridge's long-awaited new venue centre got off to a flying start. DJ John Peel cut his way through yards of studio tape wrapped all the way round the hexagonal building in Clifton Road. Riots four years ago highlighted the lack of facilities for younger people. The Junction – with its 400 seater auditorium, exhibition space, café-car and rehearsal rooms – was the city council's response. It is Britain's first purpose-built music and arts centre for young people. 90 02 14b, c. Laser-light show – 90 02 15e

1990 02 21
Rock fever hit Cambridge city centre when hundreds of heavy metal fans packed into HMV's Market Street store to meet their idols, the Quireboys. The chart-topping band were signing copies of their debut album 'A Bit of What you Fancy'. Hayley Breet from Haverhill queued to see lead singer Spike, "He's the best – the others don't really get a look in", she said. Later The Quireboys played to 1,500 fans at a sell-out gig in the Corn Exchange 90 02 21a

1990 07 12
Andy's Records closed stall on Market after more than 20 years; Andy Gray now owns 14 shops from Grimsby to Colchester, started selling second-hand records in 1969 – 90 04 23a , 24a

1990 07 12
Cambridge Festival set up by volunteers in 1961, Mary-Rose Clark recalls hard times – 90 07 12a

Concert Hall

1899 01 17
A very pleasant evening may be spent at the Red Cow Inn Concert Hall, Cambridge. The best of local talent is requisitioned and the concert hall promises to have a run of uninterrupted success, judging by the support which has already been given to the new venture. Its American bowling saloon is now also open

1899 04 02 c
The Red Cow Inn concert hall, Guildhall Street, Cambridge. Special engagement for six nights of Miss Sadie St John, comedienne and dancer; Miss Gracie White, serio and dancer and Mr G. Kent, comedian and mimic. American bowling saloon now open. – Advert

1904 03 28
Red Cow Concert Hall

1954 04 21
During the early years of the war when the Government was encouraging people to spend their holidays at home the Cambridge Entertainments Committee organised August Bank Holiday athletic sports meeting, swimming sports, baby shows and other attractions. They obtained permission to open the Corn Exchange as a canteen for troops stationed in the area; later alterations were made, music and games provided and it became a social centre for thousands of Servicemen and women, a very useful contribution in the dark days of war. It could still, in the hands of an imaginative architect, become the much-needed concert hall Cambridge needed

1959 11 19
The University thinks the Lion Yard scheme was bad planning. They are not opposed to a pedestrian precinct nor to some commercial development but preferred a mixture of University use with a concert hall seating 1,500 and some shops and offices to fill in. This would attract far less traffic at peak times. Others thought the Corn Exchange might make a site for a car park with an elevator to take cars to the upper floors. Shops could give 'Free parking vouchers' for customers who spent more than £5. This would attract shoppers into the car parks and make them economical. 59 11 19 a & c
1961 01 02
A questionnaire shows that most people think the Lion Yard area should include a concert hall, civic restaurant, hotel and assize court together with a library. This should feature a record

section, an art lending department, reading room and small exhibition area. There should be a municipal crèche where children could be left while their parents shopped and a car park reserved for those who worked in the Guildhall. Half of the respondents were in favour of traffic wardens and parking meters, though some said they had no experience of them, while 81 per cent wanted a pedestrian precinct. Other suggestions included a news cinema where people could wait in comfort for evening buses and supermarkets near the edge of the city 61 01 02a

1967 11 24
Arts facilities have been neglected, is no good concert hall, might be centre of a new Lion Yard development - 67 11 24, a

1967 10 13
Concert Hall plan at Queen Anne Terrace rejected, multi-terrace car park and sports hall instead – 67 10 13

1969 05 13
Knock Corn Exchange down, site worth £250,000 69 05 13

1969 04 03
May be Civic Restaurant 69 04 02

1971 04 24
Corn Exchange may be converted to concert hall – 71 04 24a

1971 04 28
Concert Hall cost £80,000 71 04 28

1971 05 26
Seven years ago Corn Exchange market was little used. Became used as roller-skating rink, badminton, exhibitions, boxing. Two years ago Arts and Entertainment Committee commissioned a facelift 71 05 26

1972 11 17
Plans for the conversion of Cambridge's Corn Exchange to a 1,500-seat concert hall costing £936,200 will be considered at the inaugural meeting of the Concert Hall Action group. Before the meeting will be a feasibility study drawn up by Arup Associates, the London consultants who were responsible for the Maltings concert hall at Snape. One of the partners said "not only Cambridge, but Britain as a whole, will gain a concert hall of potentially international stature". The study recommends an extension to the Corn Exchange involving the closure of Parsons Court and the acquisition of other properties on its west side

1974 10 05
A £2 million plan for converting the old Cambridge corn exchange into a multi-purpose concert hall was accepted by the City Amenities Committee. An early warning of stormy times ahead was given by Coun. Peter Cowell who said: “There is bound to be a lot of opposition”. In their report the architects claim that “not only Cambridge but England as a whole will gain a concert hall of potentially international stature which could attract the finest musical talent”. They suggest the reshaped building could hold up to 1500 people and would also be ideal for events such as boxing, wrestling, operas, plays, exhibitions and conferences.

1974 11 01

The Mayor of Cambridge, Councillor Jack Warren, was today considering diplomatic ways of asking some of the oil rich Arab sheikhs of the Middle East to help finance the £2 million conversion of the Corn Exchange into a public hall. Last night the city council gave him six months to raise the money needed.

1975 10 23
Drop hunt for benefactors, now stop-gap repairs 75 10 23

1977 01 26
The international entertainment organisation, Mecca, has invited Cambridge City Council to talk about possible future uses for the Corn Exchange, one of the city's main entertainment centres. Five years ago Mecca turned down a request, saying Cambridge was too small to support a large-scale complex. Four years ago the Council expressed interest in a massive facelift operation, but could not afford the then £1.5m for the work and was unable to find a private backer. Coun. Garner said: "It is often criticised as a white elephant, but it is surprising just how many functions are held there. We would not want to lose this amenity"

1977 08 03
Cambridge's £3 million concert and conference hall that never was began with a £2 million promise to pay for the conversion of the Corn Exchange. But that promise, made in 1974 was short-lived. Mr David Robinson decided that the Corn Exchange was ugly and should be pulled down. Instead he favoured a purpose-built concert and conference hall on the Downing Street end of the Lion Yard complex. The man at the centre of those protracted negotiations was Coun Jack Warren who told him it was a listed building and could not be pulled down but he pooh-poohed this. In October 1976 Mr Robinson wrote to say it would be impossible for him to provide the money, and then gave another £7 to Robinson College.

1979 06 12
Plans to demolish the old Cambridge electricity generating station and build homes and a walkway on its prime riverside site have been submitted by St John's College. It generated electricity for more than 70 years but in 1968 the Central Electricity Generating Board decided not to renew their lease. An earlier proposal to turn the building into a concert hall came to nothing and now the station and an adjoining Dutch house are derelict. The 31 residential units proposed would provide small flats and family accommodation and not be confined to members of the college.

1980 01 18
Cambridge Corn Exchange could be converted into a £1.5 million concert hall and entertainment centre after councillors voted to seek specialist advice. The Common Market is to be asked for a grant and the Arts Council will be approached for help. Some of the money the council hopes to raise from the sale of surplus land and profits from the Lottery may also go towards it. There were several voices of dissent but Coun Maurice Garner said: "It is not an elaborate and grandiose scheme. The Corn Exchange is hardly fit for use today and we must take action

1981 01
Opened with new roof [6.2]

1981 02 14
£2.6m plan 81 02 14

1981 03 24

When the Corn Exchange re-opened earlier this year after a new roof had been fitted at a cost of £200,000 it was thought that the only major rock venue in Cambridge had been restored to the city's youngsters and an impressive line-up of bands were booked to appear. But just four concerts later the clamour of protest about noise has outmatched the decibels of the bands and put the whole future of the hall in doubt. Now the council may have to install soundproofing. 81 03 24

1981 04 24
Pop fans demonstrate at City Council meeting re live music 81 04 24

1981 07 08
Decision delayed 81 07 08

1981 07 30
May be shelved 81 07 30

1981 08 14
£3.5m plan 81 08 14

1981 10 09
£750,000 improvement approved 81 10 09

1982 12
£4m scheme 82 12

1983 05 12
Some of the country's top entertainers, including comedian Max Boyce and Jasper Carrott, have snubbed Cambridge's Kelsey Kerridge Sports Hall as a concert hall, saying the facilities aren't good enough. A few years ago it attracted top names such as Tony Bennett, Bill Haley and The Supremes. It's not just the artists – audiences are reluctant to pay £8 to sit on a plastic seat. 83 05 12 p3

1983 11 01
£1m second stage approved 83 11 01

1984 03 30
Arts Council give £250,000 84 03 30

1987 01 02
German company gives £80,000 87 01 02

1985 09 04
F.B.C. grant 85 09 04

1985 09 27
£2m contract for complete conversion 86 07 27

1986 01 21
£3.5m total 86 01 21

1986 04 27

New £5m Concert Hall / Conference Centre 86 04 27

1986 09 25
£4m revamp 86 09 25

1986 11 25
£3.5m revamp 86 11 25

1986 11 26
The Corn Exchange, Cambridge's new entertainment and conference complex, has opened after years of political wrangling. The four wall shell used for pop concerts, roller skating and badminton has been developed into an auditorium with stage and versatile seating together with a tiered balcony and mezzanine terrace that can be used for a variety of purposes. At the back are changing rooms, dressing rooms and workshops while the King Room upstairs will be available for private functions 86 11 26d & e

1986 12 01
Corn Exchange opened for first time – 86 12 01d

1987 02
Opening [6.19]

1990 01 31
Corn Exchange cultural centre – feature – 90 01 31a & b

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

New Year's Dance 1950s 123.45

c.69.2 : Dance and dancing

1897 02 27
The Guildhall floor has become so unsafe that when a ball is held in the large room the most elaborate precautions have to be taken to support the beams in the ceiling of the Free Library beneath. This shoring-up process costs something like 30/- each time and is a sheer waste of money 1897 02 27 CDN

1900

1904
Cost of converting Corn Exchange for ball is several thousand pounds for one evening [6.19]

1904 07 02
Few realise the lavish expenditure on the May Balls held in Cambridge Corn Exchange. After the corn merchants have vacated the building on the Saturday evening a small army of workmen take possession. They labour until midnight when the advent of the Sabbath and the strict rules governing municipal buildings shut them out for 24 hours. With the first hour of Monday morning they re-enter and by eight that evening the place is transformed into an artistic ballroom through which not a vestige of the prosaic Corn Exchange is seen. What of the cost? There is not less than £2,000 worth of goods in the ball room; add to that the cost of utilising the Guildhall as

a supper room and include the china and plates for the supper and you have a total of some thousands of pounds to provide our moneyed visitors with an evening's entertainment. 04 07 02

1907 12 28
About 100 were present at the Misses Storey's Christmas dance at the Victoria Assembly Ball Rooms, prettily decorated with ferns, mistletoe and festoons. Two new dances, the Empire barn dance and the Esperanto figured in the programme. There being a dearth of Valeta music Mr Oliver Clifton has produced a pretty composition named 'The Storey' which he played on the piano with Mr G. Jackson on violin. Dancing continued until 2.15 am. 07 12 28

1909 12 10
The new skating rink at the back of Hertford Street was constructed to avoid any noise nuisance. Rinking was a fashionable amusement and there would be a charge so it would not be overrun with the rough element. They wanted to have a string band, with no drums, to play at intervals. There was not the slightest intention of making it a dancing saloon but they would like a licence so it could be used for subscription dances during May Week. CWN 09 12 10

1910

1913 06 13
Upwards of 400 guests attended the Cavalry & Artillery Ball at the Corn Exchange and Guildhall which were beautifully decorated. The ballroom was fitted up in the Corn Exchange where a capital floor had been prepared. The room handsomely and luxuriously upholstered and decorated by Eaden Lilley & Co. A striped canopy set off with festoons of artificial flowers hit the roof and large mirrors on the walls reflected the light of hundreds of electric lamps. 13 06 13 p5 CIP

1914 01 17
Tango popular, demand for gramophone records [4.6]

1915 06 11
Mary Macaulay teacher of folk dancing at Folk Dancing Society, enthusiasm died out with coming of the war 15 06 11 p7

1920

1923
Mackenzie School of Music & Dramatic art established [9.6]

1924 02 02
The renewal of the music and dancing licence of the Cambridge Co-operative hall, was objected to on the grounds of noise. Burleigh Street was one of the most densely populated parts of the town. The hall was not originally built for dancing, it had a large number of windows and the dancing room was situated on the top floor of the highest building in the neighbourhood, with the result that the sound was dissipated considerably further. As a rule the dances did not terminate until midnight and sometimes a great noise was caused by the people leaving - shouting, singing and the back-firing of motor cycles, of which a large number were brought by the people who attended 24 02 02

1924 11 05
A feature of the concert given at St Paul's Institute was the debut of Mr Sydney Coulson's dance orchestra in Cambridge. The band comprises Mr Percy Stock (violin), Tom Boyce (saxophone &

banjo), Harry Hunt, late of the New Theatre Orchestra (drums) and Mr Sydney Coulson (director) at the piano. With the dance season here the need for a good dance orchestra grows ever greater and there is no doubt that the Coulson band will be in great demand 24 11 05

1925 01
County Ball at Guildhall a brilliant function [3.5]

1925 02 19
For the University Pitt Club ball the Guildhall has always been very cleverly decorated. The Large Room served as ballroom, the orchestra seats hidden behind tapestry hangings. There were close on 400 dancers. As a buffet the Small Room has seldom looked better. Supper was served in the Corn Exchange, access to which was gained by means of a covered way connecting it with the Guildhall. The fare provided was most appetising. Our representative gazed with pardonable envy upon a well-dressed boar's head, a swan with a waxen neck and other fine fare 25 02 19

1926 03 05
At the Licensing Session Mr Eric Pointer made an application for a new music and dancing licence for the Assembly Rooms, Market Passage, Cambridge, from 1pm to midnight. A complaint had been received on the grounds of the noise being more or less a perpetual nuisance. During term time the noise and hubbub had been almost unbearable. Not only was there shouting and yelling, but there was hammering as if someone was tacking something up. There was plenty of accommodation for dancing – the Central Hall, the Guildhall, the Corn Exchange and the Dorothy – and this new licence was unnecessary. The application was refused 26 03 05

1926 08 09
A Country Dance party on Christ's Pieces, organised by the English Folk Dance Society who are holding a Summer School in Cambridge, attracted a large audience. The party comprised some 500 dancers from America and all parts of England whose dances such as "Rufty Tufty", "Newcastle" and "Sellenger's Round" took one as far back as 600 years. The natural and care-free movements were a pleasant relief from the Bunny Hug, Cakewalk and Charleston 26 08 09

1926 09 17
P.C.Q – "Please Charleston Quietly" is the plea of all real dance lovers as was evidenced at the Rendezvous Ballroom, Cambridge, when demonstrations of the new Flat Charleston Waltz, Tango and Fox-Trot were given. In its new form, with all distasteful kickings and stampings eliminated, the Charleston will appeal to the most fastidious. The Rendezvous with its new decoration, improved sitting-out accommodation and the popular Nobby Clark and his band is assured of an even greater following 26 09 17

1927 03 21
The Charleston shows no signs of waning in popularity at the Premier Dance Hall, Chesterton, and still reigns supreme among the habitués there. In fact this dancing habit has become so much of the place that one sees more uniformity in the style than at any other hall in Cambridge. On Saturday evening Manning's Band were in their usual good form and played extremely well. Miss Robinson must be one of the last jazz pianists in the town at present. 27 03 21

1927 10 17
University Arms ballroom opens, 27 10 17 p5*

1928 08 13

Dancers and band musicians thronged to a dance band contest at the Rendezvous in Magrath Avenue, Cambridge. Eleven bands took their turns on the platforms. Each played a fox-trot and a waltz. A fault with several bands was that the violinists showed a tendency to overdo their parts. Judging was by popular vote and the results were: 1st Cambs Mental Hospital Dance Band, 2nd Jack Vivian's Dance Band & 3rd Sid Parsley's Dance Band. The winners, who previously were practically unknown to the dancing public, played in confident style and nicely together. The band is a six-piece and undoubtedly more will be heard of it. 28 04 13

1928 09 28
Rendezvous ballroom reopens, 28 09 28 p8

1929 04 27
Cambridge to have a modern caravanserie matched the modern splendours of Oxford St & Regent street where a thousand people may dine without strain on the service & dance too if they are so minded, a place of dignity & comfort & of surpassing resource. The old Dorothy cafe is to disappear - not so very old though as a modern restaurant - & a building of three storeys spanning space between Sidney St & Hobson street. Ground floor entrance Sidney St is shop & showroom & on eastern side a dining hall or restaurant. Principal staircase to first floor will be from hall at Hobson street entrance & access to a dance hall with black hornbeam floor on springs. This accommodation for 320 diners at a public banquet but specially prepared for dancing for 450 at once. At western end another dining hall. Another on second floor, to seat 80, suitable private dinner of clubs & organisations. perhaps this will be the oak room which intention of Hawkins to decorate; also roof garden looking across to gardens of Christ's college. Nags Head inn will not disappear but be given place in the basement. Will take 18 months but Hobson Street side will be completed before start made with Sidney St front to ensure restaurant open throughout

1930s
Stirlingaires, Cambridge best known war-time band formed early 1930s by employees of Marshalls & Shorts [10.9]

1931
Percy Cowell opened Dorothy Ballroom 85 01 11

1933 02 02
The annual domestics staff ball at the Dorothy attracted 450 servants. Although the ballroom became on the crowded side, everybody was happy. Nothing is nicer that a good servant's ball and it was good to see so many heads of households present. Percy Cowell and his band was in a particularly bright mood and led a 'merry dance; with a varied programme. The great attraction was the fancy dress parade. 33 02 02

1933 02 17
Mr A.W. Jones, the Cambridge music teacher, has added yet another to his growing list of compositions. It is a song fox-trot 'The Girl Most Suitable for Me' which has been featured with success by Alex Alexander and his Radio boys. It should prove very popular. 33 02 17

1934 02 16
Many dancers in Cambridge will learn with regret that Ron Wickes has been compelled to give up his position as official drummer to Percy Cowell's Band. He started drumming with them at the old Rendezvous before joining the band run by Mr Hensher, and later played with Manning's Band when the Premier Hall at Old Chesterton was opened up. From there he went to Skegness for two seasons, returning to the Rendezvous in the interval. He came back to Cambridge three

years ago when Mr Cowell started his band at the Dorothy Café and has played with them ever since. 34 02 16

1934 05 02
Dorothy Café ballroom floor – 34 05 02

1934 12 22
All records connected with Pye Radio dances were broken when over 600 attended the annual Christmas ball at the Dorothy. Practically everybody knew everybody else and consequently the crowd was a thoroughly cheerful and merry throng. Not one glum face was to be seen either in the ballroom or the bar. Fancy hats and novelties added greatly to the carnival gaiety and the Percy Cowell and the Pyradians bands rose to the occasion in a lively manner. 34 12 22

1935 02 22
Dance band contest – 35 02 22c

1936 01 10
New Chesterton Institute organised grand social at the Dorothy Café to celebrate their Golden Jubilee. The whole of the Dorothy had been booked for the occasion but even then the number had to be limited to 800 and several hundred were disappointed. There was dancing to Reg Cottage's band, a progressive whist drive and a concert in the Oak Room. Miss Queenie Chapman's pupils gave an excellent dancing display and Pat Peddle and Joan Metcalfe produced a version of 'Top Hat'. Suppers were served through the evening when a gramophone provided appropriate music. Many tired people were very glad of buses to various parts of the town. 36 01 10a

1936 05 09
Marjorie Moss who is well-known to local dancers as a crooner with Percy Cowell's band has won a round of a £600 light singing competition organised by the Gaumont-British Corporation & the News Chronicle at Peterborough. She will go to the final at Ipswich and if successful to London for the All-England final. Success there will mean that she will broadcast. Miss Moss, who is a member of the Enthusiasts' Concert Party, chose as her song 'Some of these days' and was accompanied by Percy Cowell himself. 36 05 09b

1937 01 09
Les Walton, the popular Rendezvous band leader, who introduced the 'Jig' which proved a success, has introduced a new dance to Cambridge for the first time. It is called the St Bernard. One of the bandsmen, George Oldfield, brought it back with him after a visit to Streatham Locarno. It is undoubtedly going to make a 'hit' and was enthusiastically taken by 'Rendy' patrons. It is nice to have something fresh in the way of a dance. 37 01 09

1937 02 10
At least 400 Cambridge people took part in Shrove Tuesday dances and Rob Roy Boat Club followed tradition by indulging in pancake scrambles. There were over 100 dancers at Houghton Hall where Geoff Fearn and his orchestra provided a popular medley of new and old numbers. Gay costumes, reminiscent of the days of Uncle Tom Cobley, enlivened the scene at the Dorothy Café for the fancy dress dance held by the Association of West Country Folk while 200 were at the Rob Roy dance at the Rendezvous. 37 02 10

1937 02 23

The Cambridge News made history by holding the first Cambridge and County Press Ball at the Dorothy Café where a gay crowd, some 300 strong, danced, supped and had a really good time. There were two bands – Percy Cowell's and Percy Read's - providing a continuous programme of music for valetas, waltzes and the 'Paul Jones' with spot prizes given by local firms. Two tasty suppers were followed by a midnight cabaret with star turn Tommy Fields (Gracie's brother) who did a spot of female impersonation. His pleasant smile and India rubber legs will be long remembered. 37 02 23 & e – photo – 37 02 20

1937 05 07
Four members of George Challice's Band had a remarkable escape from serious injury. They were being driven back to Cambridge from a dance at the new Bottisham Village College when their car, a Riley Nine, skidded on the wet road, caught the verge and somersaulted several times. It finished up on the road with the wheels in the air. The occupants scrambled out with considerable difficulty. When an attempt was made to right the car, it fell to pieces. 37 05 07b

1938 01 01
Dick Whittington and his cat ushered in the New Year at the Dorothy Café where Percy Cowell and his band kept up a programme of old and new dances including the Palais Glide. Just before midnight all lights in the ballroom were extinguished as Dick, joined by two fairies, bombard the 650 dancers with paper hats and other carnival novelties. At the Salisbury Conservative Working Men's Club in Mill Road just over 200 danced to the rhythm of Cliff West's band while Son's Accordion Band played to a packed floor at the Beaconsfield Hall. 38 01 01a & b

1940

1940 01 10
Sir - we notice that the Rex management persists with their 'curfewed' dances, closing at 11pm. The men of the Services who now frequent the ballroom go away at about 10.30 pm so they say there is no need to carry on the late nights till midnight. Yet it was the regulars who kept the place going before the war and it will be these dancers who will be expected to do so when the war is over. - Rendy Regular 40 01 10b

1940 10 21
Rifle fired during struggle at dance at Beaconsfield Hall – 40 10 21a

1942 05 21
Country dances in Guildhall, sword dance – 42 05 21a

1943 06 22
Jitterbug contest at Rex – photo – 43 06 22

1943 11 10
Cambridge Corn Exchange venue for Barn Dance staged by American Red Cross for US forces' celebration of traditional American custom of Hallowe'en … at one end a Guy Fawkes surrounded by straw … dances consisted slow foxtrots and quicksteps to the famous American Flying Eagles band. Were crates of apples and pears from which the many dancers, numbering about 1,800 were at liberty to help themselves. Refreshments served free of charge by an American clubmobile – a canteen on wheelers – about 3,000 American doughnuts, 25 gallons of coffee and 30 gallons of cider, beside orange and lemonade. Pumpkins cut into faces grotesquely illuminated by candles … 43 11 10

1946 03 15
English Folk Dance and Song Society first festival in seven years [9.3]

1947 07 01
Well known and a popular figure in Cambridge musical circles for many years, Mr Percy Cowell, Musical Director at the Dorothy Cafe, died at his home. He was 61. Born in Cambridge he was first employed in the office at Messrs Eaden Lilley's, playing the piano in his spare time. In the early twenties he took up his musical career seriously. At one time he ran a band at the Rendezvous and several years ago he had a band at the Trocadero restaurant, Piccadilly, London. When the New Dorothy Cafe was opened in 1930 his band was installed as a resident one and he was fully employed until the early months of the war, when he was joined by Mr Reg Cottage and his band

1947 08 05
A Bank Holiday gala dance attracted large numbers to the Guildhall on Monday night, when they found Billy Kaye and his Sextet much to their liking. Liela Rowland was a big hit, with her interpretation of the popular tunes of the day, and particularly pleasing was "People will say we're in love". The rhythm of the samba, the calypso, the beguine and the rhumba were heard in a special Latin-American session and met with marked success 47 08 05

1947 09 03
In the words of Councillor Frank Priest "the new floor of the Cambridge Guildhall is well and truly laid". This brief ceremony was performed last night at the first Ball of the season, and what a delight it was to dance on such a new and beautifully polished floor. One couple, probably so unaccustomed to such smoothness in Cambridge, were rather too enthusiastic and found themselves, quite unintentionally, making a seat on the floor! It is thought that some of the shoes and hob-nail boots worn by dancers during the war years was the reason for the bad state of the previous floor. 47 09 03 [2.2]

1947 11 01
Managers, employees and customers all met on the same side of the counter when Lloyds Bank Ltd, Cambridge, held their first social function since the end of the war. It took place at the Dorothy Cafe and consisted of a dinner and ball which included a variety of dances, both old and new, to suit all ages. Two rooms, the lower dining room and the Oak Room were used for the dinner and the guests then returned to the ballroom where the resident band had already started on the lengthy programme of dances. These included such things as the palais glide, conga and hokey-cokey in which everyone joined.

1948 02 03
A new Cambridge ballroom known as The Embassy is to be opened at Mill Road tomorrow evening. Formerly a billiards hall, the building has been converted by Mr Harry Bradford, who claims that as a result of the labours of himself and friends the building is now "a lovely ballroom". For the opening tomorrow the new resident professional band is led by Freddie Webb, who has just left the Bag o'Nails Club, London, to take over the leadership. With him are Tony Rivers, alto saxophone, Dusty Myatt (piano) and Freddy Webb, drummer. Guest vocalist with the band is Harry Roy, vocalist Terry da Costa 48 02 03

1948 02 06
"It could not have been better placed for now it will eliminate the necessity of people of this district having to go to the Guildhall and like places for their entertainment. The management are to be congratulated on the redecoration of the building". So said Ald A.E. Stubbs, M.P. of the

new "Embassy" ballroom Mill Road, Cambridge. And if the reaction of a "capacity" crowd who flocked to this new venture are anything to go by, his words were most heartily endorsed. From the word "Go" at 7.30 the crowd set out to make the most of their new ballroom, and numbers steadily increased until the maximum of 300 dancers had been reached 48 02 06

1948 04 13
History was made at the New Theatre, Cambridge, last night when the International Ballet Company presented the most spacious classical ballet spectacle ever to be seen in Cambridge. And the result was an evening of sheet beauty. A company of over sixty presented a performance outstanding for its virility and attack, and there was a first class orchestra - their numbers made it necessary for them to "overflow" from the orchestra pit into adjoining boxes and the stalls. The work last night was the full-length version of "The Swan Lake". Leading the superb company is the prima ballerina Mona Inglesby 48 04 13

1949
Reg Cottage appointed musical director at the Dorothy in 1949 taking over from Percy Cowell who was there 16 years. Always two bands playing [1.9]

1949 02 09
To celebrate the first anniversary of the opening of the Embassy Ballroom, Mill Road, Cambridge a birthday ball was held there when the resident band, under Freddy Webb, was augmented. A very happy note was struck by the appearance of Ken Turner and his band from the Rex Ballroom, together with their wives and lady friends, on the dance floor, dancing for a change, instead of playing for others. Altogether a very happy birthday evening for the ballroom 49 02 09

1949 10 05
The reopening of the Dorothy Ballroom gave a capacity crowd of 600 a preview of a large-scale modernising scheme. A first glimpse of the ballroom's "new look" provides a startling contract with its former style. A striking feature of the room is the domed ceiling which forms a background for a finely-traced pattern of gold-rib – one of the foremost of modern decorative trends. A central feature has been created from the orchestral stage, which accommodates a newly-formed band of ten instrumentalists, under the direction of Reg Cottage. This who took over from Percy Cowell who'd been there 16 years 49 10 05 [1.9]

1949 11 16
For the second year running, Mr Percy Warrington of Cherry Hinton, and Mrs Cynthia Pitman of Trumpington, have carried off the Bobwyn Challenge Bowl awarded each year to the winners of the Cambs Old Time Dance Championship. It was held at the Rex Ballroom which had been attractively decorated with lovely chrysanthemums and green ferns surround thin the bandstand and the balcony. Tables and chair for sitting-out were placed around the sides of the room. The ballroom was filled to capacity. 49 11 16

1949 12 30
One of England's favourite band leaders, Ted Heath, received a great welcome when he played in Cambridge for the first time last night at the Rex Ballroom. Heath fans turned up in their hundreds – the ballroom was filled to capacity – both to listen and dance to the music of this top-line combination. At times the volume of the band was rather too loud for the Rex – which was perhaps inevitable since it consists of 18 players, but, on the whole, the maestro regulated the tone extremely well. Ted Heath himself has been termed England's "King of Swing". His own ban has been in existence for just over four years now. The second band for the evening was the resident one on of Roy Richards and his Mayfair Music

1950

1950 01 19
In these days, when it not always easy to let the ballroom for a dance, it is unusual to hear of the Cambridge Guildhall being booked two consecutive nights in order to accommodate all those wishing to attend a function. This happened when the Cambridge Co-operative Society held their annual staff party for 900 employees and friends. Special trains brought them from Duxford, Melbourn, Burwell, Willingham and Bishop's Stortford 50 01 19

1951 09 09
The name of Roy Fox will conjure up many nostalgic memories for the generation of dancers who had their hey-day in the years before the war. It was way back in 1930 when he first left America for England and now he has returned to give a new generation the pleasure of dancing to his distinctly individual style of playing. At the Rex ballroom, Cambridge, there was a packed house to hear the melodies of his Whispering Rhythm. Of the 13 members of the orchestra five are violinists – unusual for a popular dance outfit these days – and has a more pleasing effect on the ear that the rather 'brassy' arrangements which one normally hears with modern dance bands 51 09 09

1951 10 26 c
Last night saw the first Youth Conservative function under a post-war Conservative Government when Cambridgeshire Young Conservatives and their friends met at the Dorothy Ballroom for a long-awaited "Victory Ball". Visitors came from as far as March and Peterborough to join in the fun. Dancing was to Reg Cottage and one novelty dance was the political elimination; the first party out was Labour and the winners were "Conservative". Miss E. Plummer (Teversham) won a biscuit barrel with her lucky admission ticket. Other prices included a basket of fruit, a tray of sweets, a basket of apples, and nylons.

1952 11 22
Mr George Hawkins has disposed of his holdings in the firm of G.P. Hawkins Ltd to the Cambridge Co-operative Society and a new company has been formed. But he has insisted that 'The Dorothy' will continue on the same lines as in the past and did not agree to the change-over until given that assurance. Running a catering establishment of this size is no easy task, made greater during the war when he was also the Regional Bread Officer for the Ministry of Food.

1953 01 01
Cambridge welcomed the New Year in the traditional style and at all the City's ballrooms and dance halls dancers spent the midnight hour in the usual noisy, happy manner. Everywhere there were capacity crowds. At the attractively decorated Guildhall 500 witnessed the arrival of 1953 at a carnival dance with music by the Astral All Stars Dance Orchestra. At the Cambridge University Assistants' Annual Dance at the Examination Hall 1,000 people danced to George Freestone and His Music while at The Dorothy the music of Red Cottage's Orchestra was relayed downstairs to the café which was used as an extension to the ballroom.

1955 06 15
May Balls are with us again. At Trinity Nat Temple and his band played for a large number of dancers, at St John's guests danced to the music of Hedley Ward and his orchestra while at Clare Tommy Kinsman provided music for everyone – one room being set aside for jiving! Downing had a marquee setting where two hundred couples danced to the music of Chappie D'Amato, who also played at Christ's. 55 06 15

1956
Guildhall bans jiving at dances - "people jiving to waltz" complaint [2.14]
Dance halls ban rock & roll sessions [2.16]

1956 10 09
Cambridge Licensing Magistrates have asked Associated British Cinemas not the show the controversial American musical film 'Rock Around the Clock'. The film features a new style of dancing known as "Rock'n'Roll". It is a rhythm similar to some of the African native 'beats' and is alleged to have a startling effect on young people who like 'hot music'. In London dancing youngsters have caused trouble in the streets and assaults have been made on the police. 56 10 09 [2.15]

1957 02 16
Rock'n'Roll session Rex Ballroom – Mick Mulligan 57 02 16

1957 10 12
Cambridge dancers will learn with pleasure that the Ken Stevens Orchestra have been engaged as the new resident band at the Rex Ballroom. It features singing star Jimmy Cross, sax players Don Jenkins, Mike Waller, Bert Smith and Denis Range with Barry Mason (trumpet), Ken Southee (bass), Bernie Stubbings (drums) and Ken Stevens (piano). 57 10 12

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 03 05
Corpus Christi student attempts world record for non-stop jiving [12.3]

1960 03 07
A 25-hour non-stop jive session at The Dorothy ballroom was won by The Rebels, a team of jivers from the Corner House Café in King Street. The American team from Alconbury were the first to crack, followed by the Corpus Christi team and Daddy's Nite Club. At the end of the session only three members of these teams were on their feet. Back at the Corner House Café the Rebels' supporters took the news of their triumph quietly. In their leather jacket and jeans they talked over cups of coffee. But the juke box was silent by order of Magistrates. Two of the Rebels, Colin Knight and Graham Jones used the session as a practice for a 25-mile cycle sprint race. 60 03 07 [3.8]

1960 03 25
The floor shuddered under 200 pairs of dancing feet. The combined sounds of the trumpets, trombone and clarinet bounced from ceiling to wall to hit the ears with a pleasant sweetness. The Riverside Jazz Club was in full swing. Every week 200 teenagers get together in an upstairs room of the Y.M.C.A. and jive. Baggy sweaters, tight-fitting trews or flared skirts for the girls are the order of the day with jeans and sweaters for the boys. The band line-up includes Ted Vousden on banjo, Tony Thurlboune on trumpet, Andy Cooper (clarinet), Tony Scott on drums and Sid Barrett on bass. Rodney Dale features as pianist for specialist numbers. 60 03 25

1961 05 31
When elderly dons sported kid gloves at Guildhall dances – feature – 61 05 31a & b

1961 06 14
Nearly 400 people in the south of Cambridge have protested about a proposal to build 'the greatest and best dance hall in Great Britain' in the middle of the Queen Edith's Way housing estate. The hall, which would be used for wrestling bouts, boxing matches and rock and roll sessions, will be 'completely out of keeping with the nature of the district', they claim. The proposer said the area was currently scheduled for quarrying purposes and a hall would increase the amenities. "We could either mine chalk or build a really beautiful place", he said. 61 06 14

1961 10 28
Two Cambridge couples are attempting to beat the Cambridge 25 hours non-stop jiving record at the Freebooters Club in Wellington Street. The dancing started last night at 9 o'clock with eight couples competing but six of these became exhausted and had to give up in the early hours. However Adrian Mead and his partner Linda Worboys and Fred Ellis with Bridget Holmes are continuing. The boys are not allowed to stop, but their partners can have a standby 61 10 28

1961 11 16
Several hundred people packed the Dorothy to watch UK 1962 ballroom dancing champions Bob Burgess and Doreen Freeman give an exhibition of dances including the waltz, quickstep, cha-cha, twist and Madison. After demonstrating the basic steps and variations of the Madison Bob & Doreen called for other couples to join in and soon the floor was crowded with keen enthusiasts 61 11 16a

1961 12
Ted Heath at Dorothy, Dec [8.5]

1962 04 05
The new Victoria Ballroom was opened by Ronald Fraser, the film and television star, who had previously appeared at the Regal Cinema as part of its 25th anniversary celebrations. Converted from a café above the Victoria Cinema, it will reduce the number of 'wallflowers' on Saturday nights when special buffet dinner dances are being run at a cost of a guinea for a double ticket. When not in use for dancing it will still be put into service as a café 62 04 05 [3.12,8.9]

1963 02 11
The Dorothy Café is undergoing extensive alterations to make it one of the foremost in East Anglia. The high Venetian Room – the one adjoining the main ballroom – is being split into two levels to cater for banqueting and other functions with improved toilets, creating a much better atmosphere. Already it has been completely stripped and preparations for the installation of the steel girders are well under way. This does not affect the running of the ballroom and the café downstairs 63 02 11

1963 04
Dorothy new ballroom opened, Apr

1964 06 06
The Victoria Ballroom in Market Square is the principal rendezvous for groups such as The Undertakers, The Moving Coils, Black Diamonds and Dawnbreakers. Most nights it provides a musical attraction: jazz sessions on Tuesday with top flight bands such as Kenny Ball and Chris Barber. But just around the corner the Dorothy Restaurant has featured Kathy Kirby, the Merseybeats and Manfred Mann. Helping to bury the old cry that Cambridge is 'dead' after dark are the cellar-bar 'shuffles' where regulation dress is jeans or slacks, sloppy sweaters and dark

glasses. When not twisting or shaking the current rage for both sexes is to smoke miniature cigars and drink 'James Bonds' 64 06 06b

1967 09 29
Ken Stevens' music shop moves from Petty Cury to Guildhall Street; had his own band in 1950s, won music Maker Musician of the Year Award 12 years ago. Orchestra started as resident band Rex, now full-time professional playing Norwich. 67 09 29

1970

1972 04 20
The Dorothy in Cambridge has been sold. A new role for the city's best-known catering and dancing centre has not been decided by the new owners, but may include a "quality" department store. The Dorothy's present owners, G.P. Hawkins ltd said that parking restrictions have hit the firm's business. The Dorothy contains a supermarket, restaurant, large ballroom and other rooms used by many organisations for official functions, p10

1972 09 28
A collection of Cambridge nostalgia went under the hammer as the fixtures and fittings of the Old Dorothy restaurant and ballroom were auctioned. "The Dot" as it was affectionately known to Saturday night dancers down the years was a mecca of weddings, parties, dinners and thousands of personal memories. It was a child of the tea dance and potted palms of the 1920s and survived the Second World War to outlive nearly all its contemporaries. It closed its doors to the public in August and now its future is uncertain. Today it looked drab and tattered with mirrors, lights and other fittings ripped from the walls. About 150 attended the auction but many were only there to pay their last respects. 72 09 28

1972 11 15
Young people in Cambridge have lost their Saturday night dances - the high spot of their week - and this has meant more violence in the city, Steve, an apprentice chef at Christ's college claims. The Dorothy - the city's best known catering and dancing centre - closed in August. Teenagers have looked for other dances, but tend to spend more time wandering around looking for somewhere to go that staying in any place. Saturday night dances at the Corn Exchange suit another type of person, said Steve. They prefer a different sort of music, which he describes as "heavy". He and other young people who frequented the Dorothy preferred Tamla Mowtown music. There are more than 80 people who used to go to the Dorothy. Many of these now wander the streets of Cambridge, travelling from one pub to another looking for something to do 72 11 15

1977 08 03
Royal Ballet in Big Top (previous visit 1967) [9.5]

1977 09 03
Sitting in the enormous blue tent on Jesus Green and watching the incomparable Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet I felt that this is what a fully international university city should be all about. The huge tent provides a sufficiently large stage and seats to stage large performances and make them pay. Cambridge should consider investing in something of this sort. It took a lot of courage, hard work and imagination to bring Sadler's Wells to Cambridge and they have brought Cambridge to the crossroads. Either it goes forward from here or it retreats. 77 09 03

1979 05 22

Hundreds of disappointed ballet enthusiasts had to be turned away from the Big Top on Jesus Green when the opening performance of the Sadler's Wells Royal Ballet was cancelled. City council entertainment staff headed by Mr John Wilkinson were standing by as ballet-goers trudged through the squelching grass only to be told the bad news. Most people took it in good part, though there were complaints from those who had driven from as far as Bishop's Stortford and Hatfield. They were not interested in refunds, they wanted another chance to see the ballet. But most of the 1,200 tickets have been sold and the company's schedule means that no replacement performance can be held. 79 05 22

1980

1983 11 22
There just aren't enough ballroom dances to meet all the demand in Cambridgeshire. Already a resurgence in the dancing of 30 years ago is causing overflows and tea dances are catching on. A dance at the Long Road Sixth Form College attracted 230, too many for dancing, so numbers are now restricted. The local big band, SoundIdea, under Bob Kidman, averages three bookings a fortnight. Now a new one has made its debut: the Umbrella Big Band, a few survivors from the defunct Impington Dance Orchestra. 83 11 22 p13

1984 11 09
Cambridge discos are awful: Ronelles is all right for up to 18s but you feel out of it when you're in your 20's. And it's not just the youngsters who are complaining: their mums and grannies have their own gripes. They miss the dance halls from the Rex and Embassy, which enjoyed their heyday during the Rock and Roll boom to, the more sedate Dorothy. The Corn Exchange, formerly home of all kinds of entertainment, closed two years ago and the Kelsey Kerridge Sports hall is not ideal for stage events. So people turn to the nightclubs at Peterborough 84 11 09 p27

1990 09 15
Nina Hubbard, who ran ballet school in Cambridge dies – 90 09 15a

1990 11 30
Sid Barret, musician, played in 1930s with Percy Cowell and Reg Cottage orchestras; founder member of Riverside Jazz Band; dies – 90 11 30b

Compton organ at The Regal 1971

99.11

c.69.4 : Organs

1897 02 25
The contract for the new organ for Haverhill parish church has been placed in the hands of Messrs Miller & son, Cambridge. The construction of the organ will be specially arranged to keep the view of the stained glass window perfectly clear which necessitates part of the organ being a considerable distance from the main portion, and which has been specially arranged for by the builders

1897 05 26
A considerable amount of misapprehension appears to exist in regard to the provision of music for the use of the inmates of the Cambridge Workhouse. As a matter of fact that institution is unusually well provided with musical instruments. In addition to the organ recently erected in the chapel there are five or six other instruments - harmoniums and pianos – distributed throughout the house so that the inmates have frequent opportunities of enjoying music in their own rooms. Indeed it is safe to say that more music is heard in the wards in a single week than the majority would have heard in their own homes in 12 months

1897 12 20
There is no more handsome piece of furniture in a house than a pianoforte. Thanks to keen competition the prices generally are but little more than those of 10 years ago and today pianofortes are within reach of the majority of working men. But if you feel you cannot afford a new one, go to 14, Mill Road, Cambridge, where Mr H. Leavis conducts his business and get a

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second-hand one. He keeps organs and harmoniums in stock at as low a figure as £3, and you can obtain a capital pianoforte for the moderate outlay of £5

1898 05 09
St Bene't's Church, Cambridge, reopened for public service with an improved organ and newly elected organ chamber, beside several minor renovations in the decoration of the interior of the building. Archdeacon Emery said that the condition of the Church in 1849, when he was ordained Deacon, with its organ Gallery at the West End, and those high pews in the nave, and green baized pews in the Chancel was then far different to what it was now. Since that time the South aisle had been erected, the West End and Tower opened and restored, the Chancel and church generally restored and seated in such a manner that all the worshippers could feel they formed one family of God.

1898 09 20
Henley Arthur Bedwell, a Cambridge piano and organ builder claimed £2 from the Great Eastern Railway for damages sustained by a piano and a case which had been considerably damaged by wet. The manager of the Cutter inn, Ely said he packed the piano before it was sent back. He took it to Ely station and deposited in a goods shed. James Merry, goods foreman at the station, gave evidence as to loading the piano safely on a truck. A tarpaulin was tied over it. There were some barrels of beer in the same wagon, but they were not leaking. Harold Pain, an optician, produced a register proving that there was no rain during the transit of the piano 1898 09 29

1898 10 17
Christ Church organ, p2

1899 03 01
Guildhall organ, p2

1899 09 16
W.C. Dewsberry organist dies, p3

1900
1900 04 04 St Edward's church new organ, p2

1903 12 14
The organ which for many years had been in use at Trumpington church has been replaced by an instrument of a much more satisfactory character and one which will add considerably to the beauty of the musical portion of the service. It cannot be described as being entirely new as old parts and part of the old case have been incorporated into the ancient instrument's successor which was built by Messrs Miller and Sons of Cambridge

1906 06 08
Dr A.H. Mann, the University organist and chorus master, completed 30 years work in Cambridge. He was appointed organist of King's College in 1876, coinciding with the founding of the new choir school and important changes in the musical services at the chapel. They hoped his tenure of office at King's would match that of his predecessors – Dr Pratt (55 years) and Dr Randall, 66. 06 06 08a

1904 06 20
St Andrew the Great church, Cambridge, has been thoroughly renovated and the congregation sat within spotless walls, under a roof which afforded no resting place for the busy manufacturer of

webs and in an atmosphere suggestive of spring cleaning. The dignified furniture shines anew, the walls are nicely painted and distempered, the windows (coloured and plain) admit the full quota of light. Gas has given way to electric light and there is a sermon switch which will turn off the current from two-thirds of the lights. The organ has been removed from the west gallery and will be placed on the south side of the choir, at present it is in London and a harmonium sufficed for the Sunday services.

1905 06 29
St Pauls organ renovated, p3

1906 01 18
Victoria Road Congregational church organ, p3

1906 07 28
Robert Reed told the court he'd hired a pianoorgan from Antonio Dermaco of Gas Lane, Cambridge, piano organ proprietor, and went out in company of a man named Fuller. They visited the Plough, Comberton leaving it outside. He returned after five minutes to find the organ had disappeared – it had been thrown into the village pond. He got it out and tried to play it, but it did not work and had to be repaired in London. A Comberton carpenter and butcher were seen moving it, but claimed they had left it at the White Horse

1906 09 24
Hills Road Methodist organ, p4

1907 01 28
Frederick Dewsberry learned the organ at Trinity College, later playing at Caius College, St Michael's and St Andrew the Great churches. When the Guildhall organ was opened in 1882 he was offered the post of Borough Organist on condition that he gave a number of public recitals during the year. 07 01 28

1907 10 11
St Mark's church, Newnham Croft, presented a scene of unwonted beauty and impressiveness when a large congregation assembled to witness the dedication of the new organ. It will meet a need which has been long felt, the harmonium being quite inadequate to lead the singing. The organ was built by Messrs Norman and Beard, is a two manual with 11 stops and cost £276. - 07 10 11

1908 05 22
A case of great importance for lodging house keepers and traders came to court when Messrs Murdoch, Murdoch and Co, of Regent Street, claimed the return of an organ which had been hired by a Downing undergraduate. He had rented a room in a University lodging house but left without paying for his board and lodgings. So the landlord had kept it together with pictures and other goods, until he got his money. CWN 08 05 22 p5

1908 07 10
The Guildhall organ is choked with dirt, the accumulation of years. It should be cleaned and brought up to the modern standard, lowering the pitch to French normal by transposing all the pipes, removing the tuba bass and adding a pedal stop. The cost would be £562 but no charge would be made for generally softening certain flue stops if the main work was carried out. CWN 08 07 10

1909 10 08
St Botolph's Church reopened after restoration. The old ceiling in the nave, which was in a very dilapidated condition, has been replastered and re-decorated. A new hot-water pipe heating apparatus has been installed by Messrs Headley and Edwards together with a hydraulic appliance for blowing the organ by Messrs Miller of Sidney Street. CWN 09 10 08

1910

1910 09 23
A man told the court that he earned £1 a week playing a street organ. It had cost him £18 10s.6d, he'd spent £5 for new tunes, twelve shillings on a new wheel and three-and-six on tuning. A motor car had run into the back of it, knocking it over and causing considerable damage. A four-year old boy who had been in the shafts was knocked over and his hands were cut. There was nobody in Cambridge who understood the instrument and it would have to go to London to be repaired. Repairs would cost at least £3. He had another organ which his son took out. He was awarded £5 for damage to the machine and £3 for loss of earnings. 10 09 23 c & d

1911 05 12
The work of beautifying St John's Church in Wellington Street has been carried on steadily. The chancel curtains and all windows were thoroughly cleaned and the walls brushed down, the Holy Table has been restained, the communion rails polished and the ironwork regilded. It is hoped the organ may be cleaned and repaired and that a new lectern may be purchased. Mrs de Candole's kind gift of shrubs and plants has done much to beautify the churchyard 11 05 12e

1912 03 29
Luke Hosegood is retiring from Cambridge Workhouse after 42 years, 36 as Master. During his long service he has made it a model institution as far as the limitation of the old-fashioned building will allow. He first came as school-master when 19-years old and married the schoolmistress, a girl from Bourn. When a vacancy for Master and Matron occurred in 1876 the Guardians, without advertising, selected them. Their daughter is assistant matron and their son honorary organist. Luke was award the 'Victoria Cross of Civil Life' for rescuing inmates from a fire in 1883. 12 03 29g

1912 10 04
Thomas Preston was best known as a cowkeeper and dairyman and had a remarkably good memory. In 1838, as a lad of 15, he carried the flag in front of a procession of St Botolph's people to the feast on Parker's Piece in honour of the Coronation of Queen Victoria. He related anecdotes about that church and its rectors, or of the musicians who supplied the music at the services before the erection of an organ in 1833. His death has snapped one of the few links which connect our modern town with the Cambridge of pre-railway days 12 10 04a

1913 05 02
John's church, Wellington Street organ reopening 13 05 02 p12 CIP
1913 10 17
The appointment of a new teacher to St Peter's Boys School seemed like a put-up job, one councillor claimed. The first question on the application form was 'Can you play the piano or other musical instrument' but of those called for interview only one could play the organ and he was appointed. The Vicar had broken his holiday to be present. He'd met the successful candidate in London, took him to his house, took him to the meeting and got him appointed. He then took him over to see about the organ in St Giles' church. But they were not advertising for a man who

could play the organ, they were wanting somebody who could manage the school. 13 10 17 p4 CIP

1920

1920 11 29
Wesley church organ unveiled as war memorial - CDN 20 11 29, Ch 20 12 01b

1921 01 12
Harry Bedwell completes 21 years as organist and choirmaster of St Edward's Church – 21 01 12

1922 12 05
Guildhall organ, p6

1922 12 06
Guildhall organ was gift, p5

1922 12 07
Guildhall organ rebuilding rejected, p5

1924 03 10
Guildhall organ rebuilding, 24 03 10, p5

1924 03 13
Guildhall organ, p5

1925 03 09 c
We regret to announce the death of Alderman W.T. See. He entered the office of the late Mr James Catling, auctioneer valuer, house and estate agent, with whom he served for 25 years. He gave up his work and devoted himself to music and became well-known as a teacher or organ and piano playing. He was conductor for many years of the Cambridge Choral Society. About three years ago he re-entered business life, going into partnership with Mr P. Freeman, under the name of Messrs See & freeman, estate agents, Alexandra Street, Cambridge.

1925 05 12
The opening of the new Guildhall organ marks a fresh era in the history of Cambridge music. The old organ had no virtues but many vices. The pitch was wrong, much of the tone was bad, the action quite defective and the general scheme and plan quite unsuited for the purpose and room for which it was designed. Erected in 1882 by voluntary subscription it had become almost unplayable. Both the heating and ventilation of the room were bad and gross variations in the temperature had the effect of putting the organ out of use with an orchestra and even of rendering certain stops unusable with others 25 05 12

1925 05 19
New Guildhall organ, p5

1927 04 29
Mill Road Baptist Church, Cambridge, was packed when a new organ which has just been installed was formally opened. There was a time when a church of that sort would not have had an organ at any price. It appears to be a good all-round instrument and some of the stops are beautifully mellow. The organ was built by the local firm of Messrs Miller & Son, Sidney Street,

and they have certainly made a splendid job. They have used some of the pipes of the old organ and worked in the old with the new excellently.

1930

1934 04 28
King's College organ rebuilt, inaugurated. [1.1]

1935 09 28
Dr Alan Gray composed many famous pieces of Church music. In 1893 he was appointed organist of Trinity College and was conductor of the University Musical Society – 35 09 28d

1935 10 01
Cambridge Justices approved the plans of Associated British Cinemas for a new cinema to be erected in St Andrew's Street. The site had been left derelict after fire burnt down a large part of the Castle Hotel in 1934. The application was opposed by the Theatre Cinema and the Rendezvous. There were nine cinemas in Cambridge with 6,300 seats and it would be impossible for them all to carry on if a super cinema like this were built. The Victoria was built four years ago, the Arts Theatre was completely new and the Rendezvous was having more seats and an organ. But the Cosmopolitan had closed and the Guildhall and Corn Exchange licences were rarely used. 35 10 01 & a

1935 10 22
The new Rendezvous cinema and ballroom was opened with a recital by Reginald Dixon, the famous Blackpool organist. It is the latest in modern styles with new plush 'tip-ups' accommodating 1,100 people, the latest Penum heating and ventilation and the Compton organ. Film star Charles (Buddy) Rogers said it was as beautiful as any he had seen in the United States. The show was late starting as guests were unable to get through the congestion in the street outside. Afterwards a private reception and dance was held in the new ballroom which has also been redecorated and re-furnished throughout. 35 10 22, 35 10 19

1936 03 09
The Rendezvous, in Magrath Avenue has been turned into a modern luxury super-cinema with a new café restaurant. The latest talkie equipment ensures perfect reproduction and sound, the films are of the highest quality and patrons are assured of a three-hour programme. An added attraction is the illuminated Compton organ which is played at every performance. The ballroom has been re-decorated and is one of the finest in the Eastern Counties with popular tea dances and combined tea, picture and dancing tickets. 36 03 09

1937 11 01
At the dedication of a new organ at Histon Methodist church Dr W.H. Rouse said he had an organ which had been in the late Henry Martyn's church. It was rather like a chest of drawers. It was 'played' by putting rolls like sausages through a hole in it; then one turned the handle and the hymns came out! A Histon church once had a similar organ which played four hymns. It was not possible to select any one of the four; the whole four had to be played in strict order. The new organ, built by A. Noterman of Shepherd's Bush was used as a demonstration instrument in the film made by Gaumont-British showing the building of a church organ. Several of the leading cinema organists of the day have played on it. 37 11 01

1938 06 18
Guildhall organ electrification report – 38 06 18a

1940

1949 09 03
For over 10 years the inside of the Cambridge Guildhall organ has remained almost untouched, except for a few occasional minor adjustments, but now for the first time since the Guildhall was rebuilt in 1938 it is having a really good overhaul and cleaning. Six weeks has already passed since the day two skilled local craftsmen, Mr Walter Hall and his son, first started on their great task, which is expected to take at least another week. To the layman this may seem a very long time to take in cleaning it, but those who know anything at all about organs will realise the amount of work that is actually involved. Already four buckets of dust has been removed along with various items hardly associated with the interior of an organ 49 09 03

1950

1952 08 19
A large congregation packed the church of St John the Evangelist, Hills Road, Cambridge for the dedication of the new organ. It contains 1,210 pipes which stand on the south side of the chancel with the console on the north side. For the sake of economy a certain amount of second-hand pipe work has been used. But this is no detriment as much of the timber which was easily obtainable before the war is of far higher standard than that procurable today when Siberian pine lies securely locked behind the iron curtain

1956 01 21
St John's College organ reconstructed 56 01 21

1956 03 16
On Thursday Clifford Birchall recorded a programme of popular music at the Hammond organ of the Cambridge New Theatre. Although the theatre is closing, the melodies will linger on, for this recording, arranged by King and Harper, will be played during the evening performance on Sunday at the Playhouse Cinema. 56 03 16b

1956 03 24
Miller's Music Shop began a 100 years ago when Mr A.T. Miller opened a workshop in Hobson Street as an organ builder and piano repairer. The family home was above his wife's millinery shop in Sidney Street and one of the rooms was opened as a pianoforte showroom. His son introduced the sale of instruments and sheet music and later came harmoniums, gramophones, radio and television and now electronic organs and tape recorders. 56 03 24d

1956 09 29
The new organ at Cambridge's Holy Trinity church will cost approximately £6,000 as compared with the £300 spent on the original organ built in the 1850's by Messrs Walker of Ruislip, who are carrying out the present installation. The original two-manual organ was rebuilt in 1904 by Messrs Bedwell of Cambridge who moved it from the north transept into the organ chamber. 56 09 29b

1957 10 01
The removal of the mighty organ from the pit of the Victoria Cinema illustrates graphically how far this kind of musical entertainment has fallen from public favour. The only other cinema organ in Cambridge – that at the Regal – is never seen without its dust cover. The management says it is kept in good order and could be played at any time. However it would need a travelling organist

to come up from A.B.C. headquarters in London. If the truth be told it is in permanent retirement. 57 10 01b [6.3]

1956 11 01
Great St Mary's church has been connected with the University since very early times and was used in the past not only for religious services but for academical proceedings. Under an agreement of 1843 the University and parish met the costs of repair and maintenance, but most of the terms are now out of date. Now they are being urged to meet the sole cost of maintaining the clock and the University organ at the west end, and sharing costs of insurance, heating, repair and cleaning. 56 11 01c

1957 03 02
Thurston Dart of Jesus College has a clavichord amongst his collection of 20 musical instruments. They include a harpsichord, viola da gamba and an 18th-century Dutch pipe organ brought from a cottage at Milton. He began to collect them in his undergraduate days, put them in store while he did his R.A.F. service, then brought them to college when he came to teach music. His students play them as part of their studies. 57 03 02 c & d

1959 11 19
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1959 11 19
Holy Sepulchre new organ – 59 11 19

1960s – Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 03 30
During spring-cleaning at the Cavendish Laboratory an ancient-looking instrument was found in a dusty corner. It has a wooden frame inside which is a set of bellows with eight outlets on the top. When the dust was cleaned off the maker's name of Griffin and George was discovered. Scientists think it was an organ used by Dr Alex Wood in acoustics research about 75 years ago. 60 03 30a

1961 06 30
Eric Johnson was so impressed with the beauty and grandeur of church organs that, aged 14, he began a five years apprenticeship as an organ builder and tuner. Now 54 he had his own firm and is always learning something new about the craft. Mr Johnson designs his own pipe organs and with his son and other craftsmen takes about nine months to build an average church organ. 61 06 30b

1961 12 27
It is going to be even colder than it was during most of the Christmas freeze-up when ice on the Cam trapped several swans in the water. On Christmas morning fire appliances went to St Giles' church where a small fire severely damaged an electric motor in the organ. They were also called

to Avery's scale makers premises in Regent Street and at Joseph Lucas on Newmarket Road where pipes in the ceilings burst and flooded the premises. The Waterworks Company dealt with 30 burst pipes on Christmas Day 61 12 27 61 12 30

1965 07 13
St Luke's church organ, built 1726, needs repairs – 65 07 13a

1970

1971 01 07
Grosvenor records issues record of organ music from Cambridge – 71 01 07

1971 03 09
Jesus College new organ, older one restored – 71 03 09

1971 05 12
Regal cinema organ – last chance to preserve – 71 05 12

1973 08 20
Norman Hall organs, p3

1976 06 29
Railway workers spent almost seven hours repairing a section of the main King's Cross to Cambridge line at Shepreth which became distorted because of the heatwave. As temperatures hit 94 degrees in the centre of Cambridge one sour note came from King's College chapel where the organ was out of tune because of the weather.

1978 06 27
Those who frequent the lane which runs past Little St Mary's church in Cambridge will have noticed some strange comings and goings in the last few months. The quiet churchyard has been disturbed by workmen with scaffolding, planks and ornamental woodwork. Oddly-shaped crates have been delivered and strange-looking pieces of mechanism have been unloaded. The church has been getting a new organ which incorporates antique pipework rescued from a village church in Norfolk.

1980

1980 05 28
Once over the railway bridge Cambridge's Mill Road takes on the atmosphere of a village. The roads and pavements widen and in spite of the busy traffic, the pace of life seems to slacken. It is a street where you can enjoy sauntering along, enjoying the many and varied shops. There is K.S. Neale which specialises in door handles and locks, David Neech's where you can buy an electric organ and Surefit the stretch cover specialists. Cornwell's is a fascinating shop to browse through looking for bargains, piled from floor to ceiling with new and second-hand furniture 80 05 28 & a

1981 04 10
You might suppose that the Cambridge Pianola Company is a dusty relic of the 19th century, but it was started less than five years ago. Pianolas are those 'magic' pianos that play all by themselves, the keys go up and down, prompted by machinery. They are in demand from pubs, clubs and hotels and the company stocks the world's largest range of pianola rolls. It also sells

nickelodeons, player organs and pianocorders and helps people trying to restore their own pianolas with materials and spare parts.
81 04 10a & b

1982 07 06
Plans for the conversion of St Andrew the Great church into an old people's day centre have angered parishioners. They include ripping out the old organ, replacing the present altar and covering up the memorial plaques which line the walls and floor of the church, although the memorial to Captain Cook would remain. 'God is being put in the back room with his back to a couple of loos' one worshipper complains. 82 07 06

1982 08 06
Cambridge now houses an extraordinary number of musical instrument makers. In addition to Mark Stevenson and Trevor Beckerleg, makers of harpsichords, and William Johnson, maker of chamber organs, there are many lesser-known names. Charles Hall is another organ builder, Daniel Bangham specialises in clarinets while John Isaacs and Ian Harwood from Ely are making lutes based on original designs from Bologna and Venice. 82 08 06a

1983 05 09
Cambridge Co-operative Band have recorded a powerful piece composed specially for them. The music by Dr Arthur Wills, the organist of Ely cathedral, is the four movement 'Fenland Suite' – the first for brass band and solo organ 83 05 09 p10

1986 07 16
John Hind organ tuner retires – 86 07 16a

1987 08 14
The Guildhall organ is very rarely used for concerts It is a fine instrument by William Hill one of Britain's major 19th-century builders and the city's only organ in a public venue. It was last overhauled in 1925 and has been allowed to fall into a state of disrepair. Much of the internal workings are based on leather and when the atmosphere is damp a great deal more of the organ works than when it is bone dry. 87 08 14a

1987 08 20
Sir – I have been privileged to play the Guildhall organ for the last 19 years and have noticed a gradual deterioration. This is no reflection on the tuners, who have done a marvellous job. The heating and humidity of the large room plus general wear and tear has seriously affected the action. It is little used because the courts are often in session and it costs £100 to hire the hall for recitals. Sir David Willocks and Dr Arthur Wills have given recitals on it but since the last borough organist, Alan Tranah, left the area no-one has bothered to reappoint a successor. – Claude Ingrey, Babraham. 87 08 20

1988 04 23
The Cambridge Guildhall organ, which experts fear could fall apart if used extensively, may be restored to its former Victorian glory. The 106-year-old instrument was last overhauled in 1926. It is one of the few surviving municipal organs in the country and might play a greater part in the city's musical life with a series of recitals, Councillor Andrew Duff feels. "It would bring glamour back into the Guildhall and introduce the spirit needed to exploit more fully the use of the rooms" 88 04 23a

1988 07 13

Guildhall organ restoration plans dropped – 88 07 13

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Handbell ringers c1895 186.17

c.69.6 : Bells & bellringing

1898 04 11
At the vestry meeting of St Paul's church, Cambridge the chairman said that every Sunday morning their quiet communion service was greatly disturbed by the Roman Catholic Church bells. When they first started they hoped they would get used to them, but, as they continued to disturb them he took the opportunity of speaking to the Roman Catholic priest, and he said he would consult his congregation. But for a long time he could get no response, but afterwards he replied that the St Paul's bells rang for five minutes before eight o'clock, and disturbed the Roman Catholic service. The speaker had given orders that St Paul's bell should be wrung for half a minute to warn the people, and half a minute when the service was to commence, and expressed a hope that the Roman Catholic priest would see his way to having his rung for a short time only. This he refused to do, and so every Sunday morning half the St Paul's quiet service was disturbed by the ringing of the Roman Catholic bells. Mr Catling also spoke of the noisy bells of the Catholic Church, and the disturbance caused to those living around 1898 04 11

1898 05 28
There was but little crush as the stream of mourners poured from all quarters of the town into Great St Mary's Church for the Memorial Service to Mr Gladstone. A subdued calm seem to fall like a veil over the centre of Cambridge as the bell tolled forth its tail of loss to the nation, and a hush, as it were, of the chamber of death seemed even to spread itself over the busy market place. Quietly the people filed into the Church and stepped into the first empty pew; none stopping to haggle for a seat. Even as the doors were being closed, as the last bars of the echoing National Anthem waned to science, latecomers yet found room in one or other of the galleries, and no one was turned from the Church

1898 06 24
Chesterton bells, p2

1899 02 11

Sir – In order to affix the new clock St Matthew's church bells have been floored. A very strong protest should be made against the bells being again re-hung, for of all the abominable, discordant clanging, nothing can be compared to them for wretched sound. Instead of drawing people to church, they are calculated to drive people away from them as fast as possible. The effect on the nerves of the poor inhabitants is dreadful. They should be condemned as a most intolerable nuisance to a large section of the people in this thickly populated district – "Cantab"1899 02 11

1899 04 01
At midnight the new clock which has been erected at St Matthews Church, Cambridge, will chime for the first time. Until recently the bells of the church hung outside the building, but now a turret has been erected at the West End and here the clock has been placed. It is "Ting Tang" quarter clock erected as a memorial to the vicar's late wife.

1899 05 24
Today, Queen Victoria attains her 80th birthday, and British subjects in all parts of her Majesty's dominions are celebrating the occasion. Cambridge has not attempted anything in the nature of a public demonstration. This was not to be expected, but Cambridge is none the less loyal on that account, and there are in almost all parts of the town, outward and visible signs of rejoicing. Numerous Union Jacks and other national emblems are displayed in the principal thoroughfares, and the church bells have all been rung in honour of the event. At the Roman Catholic Church the national anthem was chimed between 12 and 1 o'clock, and the ringing of the bells may be expected to continue at intervals throughout the day

1900

1901 01 23
The melancholy news, which everyone knew could not be long delayed, of the death of Queen Victoria, was received in Cambridge in this brief announcement: - "The Queen passed away at 6.30". The Cambridge Daily News gave publicity to the melancholy event to those who in Cambridge were waiting with anxiety for the latest intelligence, and almost immediately telegrams were posted at the University Union Society and at the Guildhall. The tolling of bells at many of the churches and college chapels also served to spread the sad news and this morning the borough bore a complete aspect of mourning for the loss of our beloved Queen. Royal Standards are flying half-mast and black ties and other emblems of mourning are being worn by members of the University and the townsmen

1901 01 25
With the solemnities and ceremonies accustomed on like occasions, His Majesty King Edward VII was proclaimed by the University of Cambridge in succession to Victoria, the Well-Beloved. This morning, while the minute bell was mournfully tolling, while black shutters were up at almost every shop window and flags were at half-mast, crowds of scarlet-robed Doctors, sedate Dons and vivacious undergraduates were hurrying towards the Senate House to take part in the ceremony of a lifetime – to proclaim Edward VII King

1902 09 08
Sir – Of all places Cambridge seems to suffer most from the plague of bell-ringing. It is not time the custom was discouraged? Now every home possesses at least one timepiece church bell-ringing seems superfluous. What must be the sufferings of any nervous invalid in or near Jesus Lane, compelled to lie and listen, sometimes for twenty minutes on end, to the doleful "Ding, dang, dong" which comes from that direction. Why should people be allowed to murder the calm of a Sabbath evening with the hideous din of their bellwhacking? – Americus

1907 06 22
The chimes of St Giles church clock in Cambridge have been restored after a silence of six years. Notice was given in the Parish Magazine but all do not read that excellent periodical and there was much astonishment when the bells entered anew upon their purpose of telling out the hours. The tone of the large bell is much improved now it has been re-hung so that it no longer rests against the wall
07 06 22c

1910 05 13
Many in Cambridge had left home before the news of the Death of King Edward VII was known but in an hour or two there were signs of mourning everywhere. Many of the tradespeople draped their shutters, blinds were drawn at private residences, church bells were tolled and flags hoisted half-mast on the public buildings. During the morning when the streets were filled with crowds of country people from the surrounding villages it was almost the exception to find anyone without some note of black in their attire 10 05 13c & d CWN

1911 01 27
The famous old bells in the chapel tower of Trinity College have been re-cast and lowered in tone by Messrs Taylor of Loughborough. They had not previously been taken down since their erection. The largest one bears the date 1610 and was made by Richard Holdeld, another is the work of Thomas Osborn of Downham and was put in the tower in 1795 while the third dates back to 1726. They have not been striking properly for some time past. The late Lord Grimthorpe left money for the provision of a new clock which was obtained in September. 11 01 27

1912 02 23
Sir – In recent years many parishes have had their church bells re-hung in metal cages, instead of in oak cages, which was the old method. This is likely to harm old church towers. A properly-constructed bell-cage stands clear of the walls so that the timbers can spring and a minimum of jar is transmitted to the tower. When metal cages are fixed rigidly the vibration loosens the masonry and cracks the walls, causing damage not easily repaired. Old towers are valuable works of art: who is happy to risk damage coming to them? – A.R. Powys. 12 02 23i

1912 03 01
Church bells and church towers – H.B. Woolley – 12 03 01d

1912 08 16
A meeting of the Women's Social and Political Union was being held and soon after Miss Kathleen Jarvis began her speech the bells of Great St Mary's struck up a deafening peal. The fair speaker's voice, pleasing but not powerful, was almost completely lost and it was only by her gesticulations that the crowd could see she was still expounding her principles. For something like an hour the unequal contest was maintained. And Miss Jarvis was the winner. A woman who had earned three periods of imprisonment was not to be daunted and was still pouring out a stream of argumentative bullets when the ringers retired - 12 08 16aa & b

1917 10 10
Lady Bellringer. Mrs. Percy Taylor is acting as bellringer at Great St. Mary's Church. She is thus continuing the unique record of her husband's family in connection with the belfry of the University Church. For 38 years the late Mr. George Taylor, who died in 1915, was steeple-keeper at the church, and on his death his son Alfred took over the duties. He has since passed away,

and succeeded by a younger brother, Mr, Percy Taylor. The latter has now joined the Colours, and his wife is serving in the belfry during her husband's absence 17 10 10 CIPof

1918 05 23
Ancient church bells in Cambridge by A.H.F. Boughey – history – 17 05 23c

1918 11 13
End of the war rejoicings: huge crowds celebrate … news arrived about eleven and spread like wildfire … Union Jack hoisted at Town Hall and soon youngsters cheering in the streets … bunting … rush to post office to despatch telegrams … unhappily undergraduates degenerated into a vulgar rag … broke windows, wrecked old police courts. Gt St Mary's bells did not ring – some foolish person smashed the lock on the door and tried to pull them up and chime at the same time. Chiming hammers forced out of position and wooden supports smashed – 18 11 13a,b,c

1919 07 23
Peace Day Festival. The Peace Day Festival in Cambridge may be written down as a decided success. In the main event of the day—a huge dinner on Parker's Piece to the discharged and demobilised men of the Borough—there was not a hitch of any kind. The arrangements were as near perfect as could be secured and the men seemed thoroughly to enjoy themselves. The town presented a gay appearance, all the principal thoroughfares being decorated with flags, streamers, etc. Nearly every side-street, too, had its decorations - there were flags and bunting everywhere. Immediately under the Guildhall clock was a large laurel wreath in the centre of which were the words "Their name liveth for evermore." At intervals during the day peals were rung on church bells. Several of the business premises in the town were illuminated with coloured lights during the evening.

1920

1923 10 27
The seventh bell at Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge, which was cracked on armistice night by some over-enthusiastic revellers, has just been returned from the founders. It now inclined on a pedestal in the nave of the Church awaiting re-fixing in the tower, and there it will stay until paid for. The cost of taking down, re-casting and re-fixing is close on £100. The bell was originally cast in 1667, and recast in 1723 - 23 10 27

1926 01 01
1925 was sent from among us, and 1926, was ushered in by the century-old custom of firing two rockets on Parker's Piece at midnight. A small band of townsfolk gathered to attend the funeral obsequies of the dying year. At ten minutes before midnight Mr A. Deck arrived with the rockets and the crowd stood in silence. Then the bells of Great St Mary's were drowned out by a mighty rushing noise, a whiz and a bang and 1925 had gone. Then as the first chimes of the Catholic Church reached the ear there was a second whiz followed by another loud bang and 1926 was here

1929 03 19
Gt St Mary morning bell, p7

1930

1930 09 17

Miss Kitty Willers of Trumpington is a member of the Ladies' Guild of Change Ringers and is one of the very few women who regularly ring church bells. She has rung in over 200 towers in 14 different countries, once cycling 55 miles each way. On Saturday she biked 65 miles – partly in the rain - to attend the opening ceremony of the bells at St Mary's church, Bocking by the Bishop of Chelmsford. 30 09 17b

1933 03 09
Gt St Mary's bells a nuisance – 33 03 09

1934 05 12
Chesterton Bells poem by Richard Robinson [1.2]

1936 06 06
Friends of the Cambridge Town Silver Band will be glad to know that they are to give another broadcast on Saturday afternoon. This will be on the 'National' wave length but all B.B.C. stations are taking the programme. Last time the band opened with an original item by the conductor (Mr R.E. Austin) called 'Cambridge Bells' which featured the melody of the Roman Catholic Church chimes. This time they will start with his new military march 'Cantabrigia'. The band will be having a busy day for that evening they will be playing for the promenade concert on Christ's Pieces 36 06 06b

1936 05 25
The new electric clock in the tower of Cherry Hinton Church was given by Mrs Newport-Willson in memory of her husband. She also bore the expense of leading an electric cable into the church. The three feet dial is Coventry blue with gilded figures and hands. The hours are struck on the beautiful toned fourth bell and are heard all over the village. Churchyard trees have been lopped to give an unimpeded view. Over 50 years ago Mr Carter Willson built Brooklyn on Cherryhinton Road which was then the only house between Cherry Hinton brook and the railway bridge and the family is devoted to the parish church 36 05 25a

1937 01 16
Arthur Hoppett, 73, the oldest organist in Cambridge, started his musical career as a chorister at Trinity College under Sir Charles Villiers Stanford. His first appointment was at the Abbey Church, later moving to All Saint's. He played for five or six services every Sunday during the Great War and was accompanist at the musical evenings given by the late Oscar Browning where he met artistes of world-wide fame. His great hobby was his fine collection of stamps of the British Empire 37 01 13c amusing incidents – bumped into King Edward – 37 01 16f

1937 05 15
Chesterton church bells silent on Coronation Day – 37 05 15

1938 04 23
Old Chesterton bells poem composed by Richard Robinson 63 years ago – 38 04 23c

1938 06 16
The Bishop told the clergy he had money to make Mill Road cemetery chapel more dignified and beautiful. He would ask an architect to prepare plans. The chapel was used from time to time and more funerals might be held there. But it was felt that as so few burials took place, it was not worth the expenditure. It was extremely damp, there was no heating, it was difficult to ring the bell and it was such an ugly building it could never be made beautiful. But it was too drastic to close it altogether 38 06 16a & b

1940

1941 04 17
St Barnabas church now restored with new bell – 41 04 17

1942 02 13
Bell-ringer's Death. Many friends in Cambridge and throughout the Eastern Counties will learn with regret of the death, at his home in Union Lane, Chesterton, early on Wednesday morning of Mr. Walter Eusden, known for over three score years as one of the foremost bellringers in East Anglia. Eighty-two years of age, he had earned for himself by his unique knowledge of bells a reputation that was second to none. For 61 year of his life, he was bellringer at St. Andrew's Church, Old Chesterton, where perhaps his loss will be most felt. It was his hands that helped to toll the bells of Great St. Mary's, where for over 30 years he rang for countless famous occasions and events. Naturally, the curtailment of bellringing at the outbreak of war robbed him of his greatest interest in life. It was his ardent wish that he might ring for his diamond wedding, which he celebrated about 18 months ago. On one occasion, that of the Diamond Jubilee of Queen Victoria, he rang no fewer than 5,042 changes on the bells of St Andrew's, Old Chesterton, and a tablet in the left aisle can be seen commemorating this. One of his greatest performances was to ring the first peals on the bells of the Roman Catholic Church, where also a tablet, this time in the bell tower, can be seen recalling the event. One of the most remarkable things about Mr. Eusden was that although he suffered from extreme deafness, he could tell exactly when any one bell was not striking correctly by the pull of the rope alone. He was also a great handbell ringer 42 02 13 CIPof – 42 02 12b

1942 11 16
Great St Mary's bells ring out for Victory in Africa – 42 11 16

1942 11 20
Joy Bells for Victory,—The bells of the Parish Church, Swavesey, long-silent as a war-time pre-caution, were rung from 9.30 to 10 a.m. in celebration of the British Army's victory in Egypt There were similar peals at various other churches 42 11 20 CIPof

1943 12 31
War-time Christmas. The sound of church bells in the still, cold air of the pre-dawn brought a reminder on Christmas morning that much has happened since the greatest of all festivals was celebrated a year ago. For many it was, inevitably in war, a time of sorrow, but beneath the cloud of sorrow could be seen the light of victory, bringing with it the hope and belief that 1943 may be the last Christmas of the war. With many of their loved ones away from home, scattered over the four corners of the earth, the people of Cambridge yet made the most of their celebrations. And in many homes absent places at the fireside were filled by other Service men and women, both British and American, who were offered that personal hospitality which means so much at Christmas tide. The Mayor and Mayoress of Cambridge, Ald and Mrs. W. L. Briggs, made a particularly full round of calls to hospitals etc on Christmas morning and afternoon, and it was well after tea-time when they made their way back to their own home. CIPof

1945 09 28
Orders for victory handbells, made from scrap metal from shot down German aircraft, are flowing in thick and fast at the Cambridge Gas Company's showroom, Mr. Stanley Miller, the hon. organiser, tells us. The bells, which are being sold in aid of the R.A.F. Benevolent Fund, are seven inches high and are made at labour cost by a Kentish firm. Some of them have been

photographed by Battle or Britain pilots. One of them, personally cast by Group Capt. Douglas Bader, the famous legless flyer, will be sold at Cambridge in the near future to the highest bidder. So far over 70.000 bells have been sold in Britain alone. America has bought 20,000 of them. The metal for the bells comes from a scrap dump at Biggin Hill and was given by the Ministry of Aircraft Production. CIPof

1946 10 09
Gt St Mary's curfew bell to be rung again for first time since war; will sound at 9m followed by number of strokes indicating date of month; until 1929 a bell was rung at 5am, this 'The Apprentice's Bell', later 'The Bedmakers' Bell'; was discontinued as not needed now there were alarm clocks – 46 10 09

1950

1950 05 16
St Andrew's church Cherry Hinton, is yet another victim of the ravages of the death-watch beetle. The main beams supporting the roof have been attacked heavily, and may need to be replaced completely. The framework holding the bells is unsafe, and other parts of the church fabric require repair. Very little of any salvaged timber may be fit for further use. The cost is estimated at about £1,500

1951 09 15
Society of Cambridge Youths ring peal Great St Mary's Stedman caters, 5,079 changes – their first time in over 200 years 51 09 15

1952 06 18
Great St Mary's bells removed, p7

1952 06 25
Great St Mary's bells, p4

1952 10 07
Cherry Hinton church held a special thanksgiving service for the completion of repair work. The tower roof has been renewed and a new steel bell frame installed; the bells have been tuned and rehung and the belfry floor renewed. All the woodwork of the church has been treated against death watch beetle and woodworm and much of the roof re-tiled. The bells then rang out for the first time in four years

1953 10 03
The fund for re-hanging the bells of Cambridge's widely famed Great St Mary's church has raised under £1,000 of the £2,600 needed. The bells were taken down last year because of the ravages of a wood-destroying parasite and now the CDN has decided to open its own Bell Fund to supplement that sponsored by the church. All contributions will be acknowledged in our columns and whether large or small they may be handed in at our office. The CDN is opening its fund with a donation of £25 and hopes there will be a satisfying response. 53 10 03

1954 05 15
Gt St Mary's bells returned. Debate over whether the curfew which was rung on them since Medieval times at 9pm but stopped during. War should be restarted. [2.7]

1954 03 18

The bells of St Mary's will soon ring out again due to the famous peal of 12 bells at Gt St Mary's Church, Cambridge, being re-erected after a two-year absence. A new steel frame has replaced the 200-year-old wooden frame which was eaten up and diseased by woodworm. The Coronation was the first that has not been hailed by the early 18th-century peal; they are rung for all national events and used to be rung for new and old masters of Cambridge colleges. There is a 13th bell in the tower; during the First World War it was used as a fire alarm at the First Eastern General Hospital 54 03 18

1954 04 12
Every seat in Great St Mary's church, Cambridge, was occupied when the Bishop of Ely rededicated the recently-reconditioned bells. A procession of bellringers, representatives of the bellfounders, the clergy, the Archdeacon of Ely and churchwardens went with the Bishop to the bell tower during the service. The bells were handed in to the custody of the Vicar to be used only with his authority. Then for the first time in two years the clamouring of 12 bells was heard over Cambridge. 54 04 12

1956 08 02
The bells of St Andrew the Great, Cambridge, were there long before the present church but are in poor condition. They are individually tuneless and badly blended together. Many are 'odd-struck' with the clapper not placed centrally inside the bell making ringing difficult. The bears are worn and rough and the frame in which they are hung was roughly constructed and moves when ringing is in progress. Now they have been taken down to be recast and rehung and are lying in the churchyard. 56 08 02

1957 02 13
The bells of St Andrew the Great returned to the church after being away for re-casting and re-tuning at Taylor's Foundry, Loughborough. The oldest was installed in 1660 when the new church was built. They are being re-hung and a full peal will be rung after they have been dedicated by the Bishop of Ely. 57 02 13a

1957 07 11
Miss C.E. Willers has been ringing Trumpington church bells for nearly 40 years; now she is paying for two new bells as a memorial to her family who have been in the village for generations. She cycled to Loughborough from her home in the High Street – and did the 85-mile journey in one day – to see them being cast. "Trumpington church is so old and beautiful it's a privilege to do anything for it", she said. 57 07 11 & 11a

1957 11 19
Trumpington bells dedicated, p9

1958 04 29
St Andrew the Great was rededicated by the Bishop of Ely after a restoration costing thousands of pounds. The church has undergone a complete transformation: the bells have been recast and rehung, the pulpit moved, the East End renovated and a new altar built. The lighting has also been modernised. 58 04 29

1958 07 12
The four bells of St Michael's church, Cambridge, which have not been rung for many years, are going as a gift to the church of St Augustine, Cashmere Hills near Christchurch, New Zealand where they will be in regular use. They date from the seventeenth-century prompting great excitement that bells of such antiquity should be going out there. Financial responsibility for the

removal and shipping has been assumed by New Zealanders. The project was initiated by Michael Stewart-Smith of Fitzwilliam House which used St Michael's as its chapel. 58 07 12

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings from this date

1970

1977 02 23
Miss Kitty Willers, for more than 60 years a bellringer at Trumpington parish church, has died at the age of 78, having lived her whole life there. Her cycling and bellringing feats established her reputation as something of an eccentric. Until recently she would think nothing of cycling hundreds of miles. Once she refused offers of a lift to Loughborough to see the church's new bells being cast. When the church party arrived at the foundry they found Miss Willers there already as part of the reception committee. She had started cycling at four in the morning.

1982 09 30
The chapel bell at St John's College has been tolled by hand since the 17th century. But now the college porters will no longer have to climb the 30 steps in the gatehouse at six o'clock every day, and twice on Sundays, to summon the congregation to prayer. Engineers have installed an electronic control unit so the bells can ring out at the touch of a switch. Bob Fuller, the head porter, said "I have just celebrated 30 years of working at the college and this is the best present." 82 09 30b

1985 09 10
The redundant church of St Andrew the Great could end up as a row of shops following the Ely Diocesan Board of Finance decision to sell it as a "most valuable central property". The church stands opposite Christ's College at the entrance to the Lion Yard shopping centre. It already has permission to be used for educational purposes, as a restaurant or for community use but planners have indicated they would consider shops in the body of the church. However the structure would have to be maintained together with its famous memorial to Captain Cook and access to the tower of six bells which are frequently rung. 85 09 10

1985 10 24
Reg Badcock of Lode repairs cracked and broken church bells. He has made almost all the special equipment he needs from pieces of metal debris which fill every corner of his workshops. A few bells were experimentally repaired by the British Welding Institute at Abington, where he had worked for 25 years. But they were not prepared to carry on the task, so Reg took over. He has worked on bells from Abbotsley and Foxton. Each has its own character and markings but he clears away one his cluttered benches and solves the problem. The importance of his work is recognised nationally: amongst the jobs waiting for him is a bell from a church near Stratford-on-Avon. 85 10 24c & d

1986 05 12
George Clarke is retiring after 26 years as verger of Great St Mary's church. He first came to the church as a choirboy in the 1920s and until war broke out rang the bell for curfew every night and wound the church clock. As verger he has been guide and mentor to five vicars, fixed everything from plumbing to carpentry and led the processions at services with military authority and style. Now his devotion has been rewarded with an Honorary MA from the University 86 05 12

1986 12 08

Developers have revealed plans to convert Cambridge's most controversial city centre landmark, St Andrew the Great Church, into shops. The proposals end 15 years of doubt over the future of the 150-year-old building which was made redundant in 1984. It also means that alternative scheme to turn it into a tourist and heritage centre has failed. The peal of eight bells will be maintained and the Cook Memorial preserved. 86 12 08

1987 04 09
Frank King, bellringer at Gt St Mary's – feature – 87 04 09

1988 01 07
A plan to transform the church of St Andrew the Great into a shopping arcade has been thrown out by the city council. A similar scheme was rejected after 500 letters of objection were received. A pressure group hopes to protect the church from commercial use and retain it for Christian worship. But the cost of renovating the building has rocketed and the Bishop of Ely fears the long delays mean it can never be restored. Closed more than three years ago, the 145-year-old building contains a memorial to Captain Cook the explorer and a peal of eight bells 88 01 07

1988 03 21
A three-ton monster bell, the biggest in Canterbury Cathedral, has been bought to a small Lode firm for welding repairs. It is the largest job ever undertaken by Soundweld, of Quy Road, in its 20-year history. 'The Great Dunstan' which tolls the hours at the cathedral is one of the largest bells in the country, almost 60ft in diameter and more than five-feet tall. It arrived by transporter and was lifted by crane to a specially-prepared plinth. Repairs will take several weeks 88 03 21

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

"Undergraduate behavious disgusted all respectable people at the New Theatre" – 28 Feb 1892

05.74

c.76 : Theatre

Professional actors could be imprisoned in Cambridge - F.A. Reeve article on early entertainment – 61 06 09a & b

New Theatre, formerly St Andrew's Hall and Theatre Royal, St Andrew's Street – history by F.A. Reeve 61 06 16c & d

Sturton Town Hall as theatre – memories – 37 09 11c

Barnwell Mission anniversary – at last performance in theatre some of scenery got on fire and scribbled all over were the words: "A parcel of fanatics have bought this place, and acting will not cease; review development of religion in region 13 11 28 p4 CIP

Festival theatre invited audience to see performance again free, encouraged smoking and had programmes printed so could read by holding up to light – feature – 64 08 26

1880

1889
Rodney Dramatic Club begin annual performances

1894

Cambridge University & Corporation Act abolishes Vice Chancellor's veto on theatrical licences [4.13]

1895
W.B. Redfern purchases St Andrews Hall, St Andrews Street & rebuilds as New Theatre

1896 01 20
New Theatre opening; foundation stone was laid by Beerbohm Tree [3.23]

1897 07 13
The second annual meeting of the shareholders of the New Theatre, Cambridge, Ltd was held at the Theatre. The Chairman said it was difficult to select pieces that suited all classes. What suited the undergraduates did not suit the townspeople, and the undergraduates were some of their best patrons, and they had to cater for them very often, when they would like to give, perhaps, a really better class entertainment. They did the best they could. That was the reason that they had never played at a loss for a whole week. One of the best sources of income in a small way was the hiring of opera glasses 1897 07 13

1898
Cambridge Pierrots 1st performance, Beaconsfield Hall [5.9]

1898 07 25
George Baynes, proprietor of the newly opened wax works exhibition in Petty Cury, Cambridge, was summoned for carrying on his show without the permission of the Mayor. Dr Cooper (looking at the wax works programme): I see this is a regular chamber of horrors Sergeant Baker said he had told the defendant he was liable to a penalty of £20 and advised him to close the show. The defendant however said he did not think it was necessary as he had a similar show eleven years ago without permission. He kept the exhibition open till 10 o'clock and a large number of persons visited it, the crowd causing great inconvenience in the street. The bench inflicted a fine of 20s 1898 07 25

1898 11 05
That electricity is a great boon everyone is prepared to admit, but we shall enjoy better when scientists have solved more of its mysteries, and when it has dropped the tendency to drop and die away just at the time when it is most required. The New Theatre is one establishment where loss of light means loss of money. The incandescent lamps with which the interior is efficiently illuminated drooped and finally the current failed all together. Having been accustomed to brilliant electric light, the fact that the theatre was illuminated by means of ordinary lamps gave rise to much comment amongst the audience. As far as the stage was concerned the management had taken the precaution of retaining the gas. However before the performance commenced the truant current resumed its ordinary course and gave the steady light which continued the remainder of the evening c1898 11 05

1899
Rodney Dramatic Club formed

1899 12 20
In noticing the entertainment given at the Conservative Club by the Cambridge Pierrots, we would at the outset congratulate the management upon shortening the programme. No more enjoyable evening can be spent in listening to the excellent numbers contributed by that talented troupe but we may say that three hours is somewhat of a strain on the troupe and audience alike.

As it was a programme of twenty-six items was got through. The sextette, "Oh! see the lambkins play" is undoubtedly one of the best items c1899 12 20

1900

1900 06 19
A very attractive programme is presented at the popular hall in Auckland Road, Cambridge, this week. One of the most enjoyable items is kept to the last – Edison's Concertphone. This machine is Edison's own invention and is vastly superior to the phonograph. It is manipulated by Mr Oliver. Most of the records were taken by Mr Oliver himself and are well up to date – indeed one of the best was that of Dan Leno singing "The waiter", which was taken but six days ago. The records of the bands are very fine indeed, each instrument being very distinctly reproduced and heard in every part of the house 00 06 19

1900 09 25
There is that about the re-opening of the Cambridge Theatre after the 'Long' which is unique. In other towns a re-opening night is a great night. In the stalls and circle are seen the ladies, bright and brilliant; and an array of men in dress suits. In the pit are the 'pitties; in the galleries the 'gods'. Not so at the New Theatre when the doors are reopened. The stalls are occupied by those who will in a week or two be sitting in a lowlier part of the Theatre and so on right through the house. But few other towns have long vacations. A fortnight's time and there will be a normal theatre aspect CDN 1900 09 25

1901 02 08
Sir: The directors of the New Theatre have under consideration plans for doing away with what has most undoubtedly been a great discomfort. We refer to the fact that we have not had enough space for men to smoke in between the acts. The rooms provided are too small and, as a consequence, the undergraduates smoke in the passages, the smoke pervades the house and the ladies are, in many cases, deterred from coming – T. Hyde Hills 01 02 08

1901 11 22
Mr W.B. Redfern enters today upon his twentieth year of theatrical management in Cambridge. He is a personal friend of Sir Henry Irving and all the leaders of the theatrical world. He has been instrument in eradicating prejudice against the theatre in Cambridge and in vindicating the possibilities of the drama in the moral elevation of the people. In managing a theatre in a University town he had peculiar difficulties to overcome but he is entitled to congratulation on all that he has achieved. The New Theatre is one of the best in Britain CDN 1901 11 22

1902 05
Proposed Palace of Varieties, Auckland Rd opposed [1.9]

1902 02 28
The Cambridge Review refers to the conduct of three undergraduates whose behaviour disgusted all respectable people at the New Theatre. But the acts to which reference is made – loud talking during the performance, inopportune laughter and the evident watchfulness for double entendre – are condemned by the great body of undergraduate theatre-goers. To drag an offender out during the middle of the play would cause disturbance and annoyance to the audience. Mr Redfern has instead reported their names to their tutors who have seen that punishment has been administered. The few silly young men who still act in this way will find it prudent to amend their manners. 02 02 28

1902 03 11

Joseph Poole's Myriorama, now showing at Cambridge Guildhall, takes the form of a tour round the world. Much is made of the South African war and the mechanical sound of the canon roaring enhances the realism of the spectacle. Particularly good is the battlefield by night and a bivouac on the veldt. The tour ends in a grand display depicting shipping in which are faithfully portrayed some of the principal vessels in the navy. 02 03 11

1902 04 03
Thomas Askham applied for a licence for the public performance of stage plays at the Circus of Varieties, Auckland Road, Cambridge and presented a petition of 900 signatures in favour. The Committee would recommend it on condition that the old buildings were pulled down, that electric light was placed throughout and at least four hydrants connected with the water supply. Plans would have to be produced. Mr Askham intimated his willingness to do so. 02 04 03

1902 06 04
The following notice has been issued by the Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University. "Whereas the attendance of members of the University at certain public exhibitions, performances and places of dramatic entertainment has been productive of grave disorder, notice is given that the attendance of any member in statu pupillari at the Circus of Varieties, Auckland Road, is prohibited and will render him liable to be punished by suspension, rustication, expulsion or otherwise." 02 06 04

1902 09 02
An entirely new company is responsible for the programme at the Auckland Road Circus, Cambridge this week. The judicious mixture of "turns" by music hall artists and items by circus performers of the old stamp seems to find favour with Cambridge audiences. Miss Babette Rose, a clever vocalist and dancer merited the applause awarded her. Ecnarf, a wire walker was vigorously applauded and one of the most enjoyable items was a clever act on horseback by Miss Daniels. The Sisters Korosko Bale gave a clever exhibition of juggling, a feature being their performing pigeons. 02 09 02

1902 11 21
Mr W.B. Redfern, the managing director of the New Theatre Company, Cambridge, is an attractive and familiar personality. He has completed twenty years of continuous theatrical management, which constitutes a record. The theatre in Cambridge has had to struggle hard for recognition and toleration; it has had to combat opposition to make its way to favour in the minds of those most ignorant of its possibilities. He has won almost all – we say 'almost' because there still lurk in the minds of reactionary and antiquated brains some feelings of prejudice which the theatre had yet to overcome. 02 11 21

1902 11 24
At Cambridge court Mr Redfern, director of the New Theatre, renewed application for licences to allow two children, aged 10 and nine, to perform at the theatre with Mr Edward Terry's company. The children's performance was not an acrobatic one; they simply came on and had some lines to repeat. They were under the watchful eye of a governess and their parents were travelling with the company which was on tour and acting every night. It was not unusual for the Government inspector to run down from Norwich to visit theatres in which children were acting and had always been satisfied. 02 11 24

1902 12 30
The Auckland Road Circus, Cambridge, has re-opened under the name of the Empire Circus of Varieties and enjoyment of an excellent nature is assured at each performance. Several excellent

'turns' are included in this week's programme including the London serio-vocalist comedian, George Egerton and the first appearance in Cambridge of Leno, the midget comedian. The Great Dakota, an American necromancer in original stage illusions, keeps the audience in wonderment and laughter from the start. 02 12 30

1903 03 06
Thomas Askham was summoned for presenting a stage play, "Robinson Crusoe", at the Grand Circus and Hippodrome, Auckland Road, Cambridge, the building not being licensed as a theatre. There was pantomime action and considerable dialogue in verse. There was a temporary stage with scenery at the back and footlights. But it could not be described as a play, it was only an entertainment. The Theatre catered for the 'Varsity and the better classes and the more humble people went to this music-hall and circus. 03 03 06[4.4]

1903 04 06
An inquest was held on the former assistant manager of the Empire Theatre of Varieties, Cambridge. He had deposited £10 as security on taking the post and after he had held the position for a month this was to be returned to him in instalments. But the company was a failure and he had lost his savings in the venture. He had pawned his watch for half-a-crown and said he did not have a farthing. But he had £40 in his bank and his mind must have been deranged by his theatrical reverses. 03 04 06

1903 04 28
Mr Askham applied for a theatrical licence for the Auckland Road Circus, Cambridge. A dramatic performance was instructive to the working classes and tended to keep them out of public houses. But those who were labouring in connection with the various religious organisations felt strongly it would be injurious to the morals of the people. As soon as the audience came out they were 'on the Common in the dark'. A poster for one play contained the figure of a young lady almost in a state of nudity and if a man took his wife or daughter in the vicinity of it the ladies would hardly know where to put their heads. 03 04 28

1903 05 14
A section of noisy undergraduates at a performance of 'Naughty Nancy' at the New Theatre behaved in an unruly manner. Remarks, many of them in bad taste, and incessant shouting delayed the progress of the comedy and Mr Redfern, the Managing Director appeared on the stage. For 20 years he had had the management and until the last three or four such conduct was perfectly unheard of. He said he was sure they would cease this ungentlemanly conduct but if they continued he would simply drop the curtain and the performance would cease. Cries of 'Good old Redfern' were heard at the conclusion of the protest. They speedily subsided and the performance was concluded quietly. 03 05 14

1904 01 02
The terrible catastrophe at the Iroquois Theatre Chicago has caused English theatrical managers to overhaul their precautions against fire. Mr Redfern has caused the whole of the arrangements for the Cambridge New Theatre to be made as safe as possible. The stage and foot lights are all electric, it is amply provided with fire hoses and experienced firemen are told off each night. The hydrants are on the high-pressure main and they have all desirable exits. The greatest danger is panic but every man, woman and child had the means of getting out of the building. He has timed the people making their exit and it had never exceeded four minutes, without one emergency door being opened. 04 01 02

1904 01 06

New Theatre suffers in commercial depression, Ellen Terry visits [4.12]

1904 02 02
There was another infringement of the rules for preserving order at the Cambridge Theatre and three undergraduates were ejected. They occupied seats in the front row of the stalls and commented somewhat too audibly on the subject of the piece. When requested to leave two quietly complied but their companion remained seated and accordingly two attendants were instructed to remove him by force. The undergraduate, seeing that his ejection had been determined upon, capitulated in time to avoid the indignity of being roughly handled. "Don't take me out, my dear sir", he pleaded. "I will go out quietly". He did so. It was not necessary on this occasion to stop the performance. 04 02 02

1904 04 02
New Theatre production again disrupted, scenes howled down; undergraduates fined for obscene language [4.5]

1904 04 05
A new era in the chequered existence of Cambridge's second place of entertainment, the Empire in Auckland Road, has opened. Hitherto its reputation for providing entertainment has not been entirely faultless but the new programme revealed a pleasant change and there was a packed audience. Performers included an impersonator of characters in the works of Charles Dickens, the Danby-Gordon Trio who displayed a tragic interlude entitled 'The Penalty' and Miss Gladys Fontaine, a singer with a cultivated contralto voice. Two comedians amused with 'patter' and songs of 'nonsense rhymes' and music was supplied by Miss Zetti Handel's Ladies Orchestra. 04 04 05

1904 07 19
Cambridge New Theatre had a poor year. The depression affected the well-to-do people who sent their sons up to University and naturally the first thing a young man was warned about was not to be extravagant about his amusement. The theatre being the chief amusement it was the first thing the undergraduate cut off. The New Theatre endeavoured to spend as much money as possible with local tradesmen but they went to London for their amusements, which was very hard lines. Several companies cancelled their engagements but good companies with people like Ellen Terry had been unable to half-fill the theatre which spoke very badly for the taste of the Cambridge audience. 04 07 19

1905 02 25
The Cambridge Amateur Dramatic Club completed its 50th year of existence with a dinner in the Guildhall. It has experienced financial embarrassment and its defaulting cashier; it has been served with writs; in its early days it suffered from something nearly akin to ostracism. A Royal patron and social and official recognition followed. The first performances were given in lodgings over a shop in Trinity Street, then moved to a room at the Hoop Hotel. In 1856 one of its members while escorting some ladies to a ball underwent the unpleasant experience of being served with a writ for £50 due to a carpenter 05 02 25

1905 05 02
The University and the New Theatre have joined hands to warn undergraduates that ungentlemanly behaviour will not be tolerated. A warning was placed in every programme and supplemented by a speech between the acts by J.W. Clark, registrary of the University and Chairman of the Theatre Company. His words were received with respect by the audience,

already in high spirits by a splendid production of the 'Mikado'. He was loudly cheered as he walked on to the stage and at the conclusion he was accorded quite an ovation. 05 05 02a

1905 09 12
The Auckland Road variety theatre, Cambridge is now known as the Hippodrome. It has been taken over by Geo. Saphrini who has experience at the Britannia Theatre, Glasgow and Alex Aubrey who has performed at all the principal halls in Great Britain. Although the old circus ring has been retained there were no equestrian turns but Professor Garford's performing dogs and pigeons proved very wonderful and the hundreds who filled the building saw feats of agility and strength and extraordinary examples of human dexterity.. The programme was to have concluded with a bioscope exhibition but owing to a mishap with the lamp the pictures could not be shown. 05 09 12

1905 10 14
The English-speaking race are mourning the death of the greatest theatrical figure of modern times, Sir Henry Irvine. He received an honorary degree from Cambridge University and maintained a keen interest in Mr Redfern's struggle to free theatrical performances from the strangling control of the University. He was to have visited the New Theatre on his farewell provincial tour next year. 05 10 14a & b

1905 10 24
Having been closed for a week when it was handed over to the care of the carpenter, the Hippodrome, on Newmarket Road Cambridge reopened. The performances will now be carried out on the music hall principles, the old form of ring having been dispensed with and a large and spacious stage erected with all the necessary scenery and curtains. There will be one performance nightly with half-prices after nine o'clock. The Carr Brothers kept the house in a constant state of applause by their wonderful manipulation of a large inflated ball 05 10 24

1905 10 25
The licensee of the Cambridge Hippodrome made a claim for breach of contract against Charles Prinz, described as 'the most wonderful and sensational lion tamer on earth'. He had agreed to perform for a week at a salary of £40 but had taken another engagement at the Olympia, Liverpool. As a result their takings had fallen to £30, compared to £112 the week before. The Hippodrome would seat about 2,000 people and £25 had been taken one evening. The judge said that in his undergraduate days the University would not allow a theatre to pollute the atmosphere. They had changed their views since then. 05 10 25

1906
ADC - Rupert Brooke makes first appearance on stage [7.8]

1906 06 19
Thomas Askham, proprietor of the Hippodrome, Auckland Road applied for a licence for the performance of stage plays. The University had protested that a theatre near the common was detrimental to undergraduates but it would not be used as a low type of music hall, rather as a proper theatre for the poor classes at a time when students were not in residence. However the neighbourhood would not attract a first-class company and a lower type of entertainment would be detrimental to the morals of the people. 06 06 19a & b

1906 07 26
Thomas Askham applied for a licence to stage plays at the Hippodrome, Auckland Road. It was built for the poorer classes of Cambridge for whom there was no such accommodation. Plays

would be presented of a high moral flavour such as 'East Lynne' & 'The Harbour Lights' which would have a good effect on the public. He would provide healthy amusement in a proper building. But local ministers felt it would not tend for the highest welfare of the people. The application was refused. 06 07 26

1906 10 12
The arrival in this country [in 1952] of the greatest film mime of them all, Charlie Chaplin, has released a flood of memories. I have the programme of a production of "Sherlock Holmes" at the New Theatre in January 1906. It includes 'Billy … Master Charles Chaplin'. Charlie was then 16. Among the adults in the cast was his brother. Charlie has announced that he intends making a sight-seeing tour while he is here. I hope he will consider Cambridge., 06 10 12a, 52 09 27

1908
Hippodrome licensed after acrimonious debate [1.10]

1908
Marlowe Society formed to perform Faustus with Rupert Brooke as President & George Keynes as Secretary (continued to produce an Elizabethan play each year) [4.19]

1908 03 20
Undergraduate misbehaviour, New Theatre – 08 03 20a

1908 10 23
Thomas Askham, manager of the Hippodrome, Auckland Road, was convicted of staging a play, 'Sally in Our Alley' which had not been approved by the Lord Chamberlain in a building which had three times been refused a licence. Afterwards he announced that it would be turned into a picture palace and a first-class, up-to-date set of animated pictures would be presented. The old artistes would not get the sack but would sing to them every night and have their 'funniosities' all the same. He would also apply for a dramatic licence. The Hippodrome was required in Cambridge by the working classes – as a working-class theatre. CWN 08 10 23 p3, CWN 08 10 30 p3

1908 12 03
There is a rule at the New Theatre which degrees that undergraduates may not charter a box unless they are accompanied by a lady. So four fertile brains sought to overcome it. No relative of the softer sex being available it was determined that one of the four should undergo sufficient outward transformation to satisfy the authorities. The charming gown was of white satin bespangled with sequins designed by Kate Reilly of Dover Street, the beautiful head of hair was done by Clarkson who came down himself to direct the final 'touching up'. The group dined at Buol's and taxied to the theatre. But what happened afterwards and how the 'lady' was smuggled into college we are not at liberty to divulge CDN 08 12 03

1909 01 22
Cambridge New Theatre was built on the site of an arcade of small shops from St Andrew's Street to Parkside. The arcade became a roller-skating rink but this proved a bad speculation. It was taken by the Conservative Club who christened it St Andrew's Hall, where amateur theatrical performances were sometimes held. Mr Redfern leased the building which he reconstructed and in 1882 the first performance was give in 'The Theatre Royal'. Then in 1895 the foundation stone of the New Theatre was laid 09 01 22

1909 03 01

The University Pentacle Club gave their annual performance covering most of the usual forms of magic. There were impressive sleight-of-hand acts with Mr S. Bosanquet adept with billiard balls while Mr Edward Beck's 'Magical Moments' included threading needles in the mouth and the spiriting away of two live doves in a collapsible box. Dramatic effect was cleverly combined with magic in "N'orrible Murder" by Messrs Branson, Wheeler and Eacott. But the thought-reading act by Mr Hayes seemed a little strained. 09 03 01

1909 04 16
Cambridge actress, Hilda Evelyn, Bijou ADC – 09 04 16

1909 05 14
Miss Florence Gower was well-known as an amateur actress and musician who played leading lady in productions of the Rodney Amateur Dramatic Society. She received her education at Miss Bowen's school, Islip House, and studied music under Mrs Hague Ingram of Lyndwode Road. She frequently played at private receptions and 'at homes' and occasionally sang in public. Some mystery surrounds her death 09 05 14

1910

1910 06 24
The New Theatre being closed, the rowdy section of undergraduates have turned their attention to the Hippodrome, despite the fact that the house is 'out of bounds'. Last week some 40 or 50 attended nightly – of course without cap and gown – which made things generally uncomfortable. On Friday some beat time to the music on the backs of the musicians while others, spying some young ladies began, in full view of the audience, to make protestations of undying affection to them. Later they pelted artistes with bars of chocolate and lighted cigarette ends before the orchestra played 'God save the King' and the curtain was lowered to shrieks, whistling and shouting from the disappointed audience. 10 06 24e

1911 05
Undergraduates forbidden to take part in any musical or dramatic entertainment in public room outside University Society [5.5]

1911
University Versatile Dramatic Club formed [5.7]

1911
Repertory movement launched, supplies great need in Cambridge [5.6]

1911 01 06
At the New Theatre Mr Milton Bode with the assistance of clever scene-painters, musicians with melodies, marvellous modistes and a tip-top cast has made nearly three hours of fun and spectacle out of the history of Cinderella, the prettiest fairy story ever dressed up in pantomime. The catchy music, dainty dresses and refreshing humour provide an evening of unflagging enjoyment. Never was there a Baronial hall so well stocked with entertaining people without the usual troublesome outsiders who stop the story because they want to ring bells or spin plates 11 01 06

1912
Playhouse opens (3.23)

1912 01 19

A splendid test of the safety of the New Theatre in the event of an alarm of fire was carried out on Saturday night when it was found that 1,400 people passed from the Theatre in less than four minutes. The audience had no knowledge that a test was taking place and the staff had no orders except to throw open all auditorium doors and emergency exits. The house was crowed to its fullest extent and, as it was pantomime week, there was an exceptional number of children. The result is of particular interest as the New Theatre is to be used periodically as a cinematograph and variety theatre in which people are needlessly nervous of fire 12 01 19b

1912 02 02
Dickens Centenary, Guildhall, Cambridge, February 6th 1912. Messrs Grant & Lane beg to announce Frank Speaight Dickens Recitals. Pickwick. Tickets: reserved seats three shillings, second seats two shillings, admission one shilling. Schools, not less than 10, special terms. – Advertisement 12 02 02

1912 02 03
Proposal to ban smoking at new Theatre rejected, "delighted to see it" [5.1]

1912 02 16
Sidney Gandy was one of the ablest of our society entertainers. As a ventriloquist he had few equals and his skill in thought-reading was exceptional. He had been a keen sportsman, organist, choirmaster and schoolteacher at Histon before leaving in 1887 to take up the professional life. Strange to relate the directors of the Histon Institute wrote to engage Mr Gandy for their forthcoming annual entertainment on the very day he met with his accident – 12 02 16d & e

1912 02 24
Notes re undergraduate misbehaviour at theatre [5.2]

1912 08 02
New Theatre annual report – 12 08 02a

1912 11 29
Sophocles' 'Oedipus Tyrannus' was performed in the original Greek at the New Theatre by members of the University. The performance was in every way beautiful and intensely impressive. How much time and work it must have cost everyone concerned can only be guessed. There was a distinguished audience and a sincere enthusiasm which stamped the performance as a true success. 12 11 29d

1913 01 03
The members of the company who are appearing in pantomime at the New Theatre had a narrow escape whilst travelling from Wolverhampton to Cambridge. Whilst the theatrical special was at a standstill, a passenger train ran into it from behind, but fortunately no life was lost. Mr Milton Bode's Company, consisting of about 50 actors and actresses was fortunately in the front of the train and beyond severe shocks, escaped without injury. Also travelling was the 'Wild Australia' Company including eight horses and a number of snakes and alligators. When the actors scrambled from the train they were mixed up with a giant python and an alligator that had escaped from their boxes 13 01 03b

1913 04 18
Sir – A visitor to the Mill Road Picture Palace of Varieties complained that a song with a refrain "But I'm not satisfied, and you're not satisfied" was very suggestive and the entertainment was too much of that class. This song is sung in every music hall in the country. It is my aim to

provide an entertainment to which men can bring their wives and daughters without embarrassment. My patrons number the most respectable families and if I were to allow anything questionable, they would cease to patronise me – Fred Hawkins, The Empire, Mill Road. 13 04 18 p7 CIP

1913 08 04
New Theatre repainted, carpets etc [5.3]

1913 08 22
Jack Hulbert of Ely & Gonville & Caius, who made a 'hit' both in Cambridge and London in 'Cheer-Oh Cambridge' the musical comedy of his own construction, has been engaged by Mr Robert Courtneidge for the forthcoming production of his new musical play at the Shaftsbury Theatre. Miss Cicely Courtneidge (fresh from a holiday in South Africa) is another member of the notable company. 13 08 22 p5 CIP

1913 08 22
New Theatre Company – few new productions but growth revivals, competition from picture shows and variety undergraduates' conduct 13 08 22 p7 CIP

1913 09 05
Cambridge actor-manager, Greig laws leader of Cambridge Repertory Theatre movement 13 09 05 p7 CIP

1913 09 26
Gaiety Theatre, Auckland Road advert 13 09 26 p6 CIP, 13 10 03 p6; reopens

1913 10 10
The Gaiety Theatre in Auckland Road has been opened and a large audience attracted by the excellent programme presented. The Gaiety Players gave a comic song 'Naughty Boy', popular London comedienne Miss May Mars sang two pretty songs and the eccentric comedian, Charles Cranston contributed to the entertainment. The inside of the building has been made very comfortable. Electric lights hang from the false ceiling, there a plush tip-ups in the orchestra stalls and the curtains with which the gallery is hung give a pleasing air of warmth and colour. 13 10 10 p10 CIP

1914 04
Band of Hope pageant, Old Stourbridge fair [5.10]

1914 07 02
The Eastern Counties Circus Company, better known as the Gaiety Theatre, Auckland Road, was incorporated in September 1913. The management spent lavishly on fittings, furniture & advertising but expenditure always exceeded receipts. Then the managing director resigned and Torben Ltd worked it as a cinematograph theatre and variety show. But they made no money and left. Since then it has been empty. Now it is to close 14 07 02

1914 07 24
New Theatre & Redfern; since he had been a little boy at school in Dorset he founded theatres. In the old days they had to put up with rowdy entertainments in the Town Hall and the town had appreciated his efforts. They had done very well on the bars – not so much on sale of drink but sweets, chocolates and temperance drinks. Picture palaces on wane, university behaviour getting better 14 07 24

1915 01 22
Military Hospital Concert.The New Theatre Company and the variety artistes who were appearing at the Theatre gave an enjoyable performance at the 1st Eastern General Hospital on Friday afternoon. The arrangements were made by Mr. P. H. Adams, the box office manager, and Mr. J. Lindsell superintended the staging. The full orchestra, under the direction of Mr. Gilbey Briggs, was in attendance. The large company of wounded .soldiers, nurses, semi-convalescents, and members of the R.A.M.C. showed the greatest appreciation of the programme provided 15 01 22 CIPof

1915 07 09
Walter Curtis, proprietor of portable theatre applied to erect in field adjacent Red Dragon Fordham 15 07 09 p7

1915 08 13
New Theatre annual report, theatrical profession & war by Redfern; free admission soldiers & nurses 15 08 13

1915 10 06
Bijou Amateur Dramatic Club – history – W.B. Redfern - 15 10 06c, pt2 – 15 10 13c; pt3 – 15 10 20c Ch

1916
Light Blues musical farce of Cambridge life 37 08 14

1916 07 26
New Theatre's coming of age; Ald W.B. Refern's unique record – feature – 16 07 26c

1919 01
Footlights Club reopens after war [2.12]

1919 11 01
Proctors visit New Theatre for first time to correct undergraduate misbehaviour - stink bombs etc [5.11]

1920

1922
George Rylands, President of Marlowe Society plays 'Diomedes' in Troilus & Cressida & encourages young photographer named Cecil Beaton [3.12, 2.2]

1922 11 02
The performance of the musical comedy "My Nieces" at the New Theatre was delayed for ten minutes as the result of the unsportsmanlike behaviour of a number of undergraduates in the stalls. During one scene one of the young men threw a jumping cracker on the stage. The members of the company were startled and cries of indignation arose from all parts of the house. The manager had the curtain lowered and the stage cleared. The Proctor and "bulldogs" appeared on the scene, being received with the customary cheers. After a number of names had been taken a large party of undergraduates left the Theatre, their exit greeted with applause. Afterwards attendants found a number of crackers in the Theatre 22 11 02

1923 03 31
The forthcoming production by the Bijou amateurs brings into prominence once again a club that has held a big position in the life of Cambridge for the last 50 years. In 1870 Mr W B Redfern founded the Bijous, who took over premises on Peas Hill, where for many years was provided the only dramatic performance in Cambridge that were given with any regularity. As time went on the club found that the old Peas Hill theatre was not big enough for them and finally removed to the old skating rink in St Andrews's street, on the site of which the present New Theatre was built. It was not until 1881 that ladies were introduced into the cast, the female parts having before that date being taken by men 23 03 31

1923 09 11
This week is the last of a successful variety season at the New Theatre, Cambridge, and the programme forms a very attractive wind-up. It consists of comedy and more serious turns combined in very acceptable proportion; all the turns are quite good and very entertaining. Gaston Morrel is a comedian of a type but little known to Cambridge, in that he never says a word. His turn is called "Cleaning a lamp" and since a certain beverage of inebriating properties and a ladder are used, then there is some excitement. Laura and Kaley, a couple of witty ladies attired as school girls, sing and tell funny stories. Nan Foster, a vocalist with a pleasing soprano voice, sings some charming songs. Joe Cohan and Anna Dorothy play the old old comedy of the quarrelling husband and wife, their turn being known as "Two Wise Fools". Fred Keeton, a comedian is a very cheerful soul, with a partiality for donuts with jam in the middle. He sings a lengthy ballad on the trials and tribulations of a fireman 23 09 11

1923 09 28
Charles Coborn, the veteran comedian famous for his singing of "Two Lovely Black Eyes" and "The Man Who Broke the Bank at Monte Carlo" recalls an early visit to Cambridge: "We were drummed out of Cambridge a day before we had arranged to leave because of having infringed some Medo-Persian law of the Vice- Chancellor by stationing ourselves on market day in some prohibited place". He also met two gypsy brothers named Smith who lived in caravans and supported themselves by chair mending. One was father of the now well-known Gypsy Rodney Smith. 23 09 28

1924 04 19
That enterprising organisation the Cambridgeshire Band of Hope Union, under the energetic direction of Mr and Mrs David Moore, are giving the pageant of old Cambridge, "Olde Sturbridge Fair" in the Guildhall next week. This pageant was first produced in 1914 with great success. It has now been re- written and includes a weird and fantastic scene with a witch and her retinue of Cambridgeshire imps, with which she hopes to work dire evil on Cambridge town. It is hoped schoolteachers will take parties of children to see this locally historical pageant 24 04 19

1924 07 08
The quality of the entertainment presented by the People's Theatre, East Rd, Cambridge, by Mr James Weight is, with occasional lapses, "getting better and better". Messrs Harvey and Taylor's "Boom" company provides enough laughter in the two hours' programme to make even "Dismal Jimmy" unbend. Miss Dorothy Owen, is a charming soubrette with a speciality as a clever child mimic, and Will Osborne, a light comedian, is no stranger to Cambridge. He did much concert work on behalf of Addenbrooke's Hospital in the war days 24 07 08

1924 07 11
King's Meadow and Fellow's Garden made an ideal setting for such a gay function as the Cambridge Pageant and Gala held there yesterday. The chief attraction was the pageant depicting

Stourbridge Fair in 1450, a brilliant affair for which the Women's Institutes were responsible. Over 500 performers took part. Among the gay throng were monks and nuns in the sober habits of their orders and an undergraduate or two. Morris dancers, jongleurs and mummers, with a dancing bear have a merry performance 24 07 11

1925
Ralph Richardson appears at New Theatre [4.9]

1925 09 18
The danger arising from coins being thrown on to a theatre stage was emphasised when a man was fined £1 for damaging an electric bulb in the New Theatre. The bulb was splintered and flying glass might have gone into the eyes of the artistes and cause serious injury. Defendant said he threw two halfpennies to a comedian because he did not like the song he was singing. He did not know a bulb was broken 25 09 18

1926 04 24
The old Theatre Royal, Barnwell, has been acquired for a repertory theatre. The auditorium is to be reseated and the stage remodelled and equipped on modern lines. It will have its own company of actors and actresses and a play will be presented each week during term. Mr Herbert Prentice of the Sheffield Repertory Company will be resident producer. The building will be known in future as the Festival Theatre and it is hoped to establish with it a training centre of dramatic art 26 04 24

1926 05
D'Oyley Carte visit New Theatre, long queues [2.15]

1926 11 19
When the new Festival Theatre in Newmarket Road, Cambridge, opens on Monday a fresh phase in the history of the Drama in England will have commenced. Without destroying the principle of the old Theatre Royal, with its memories of the old Regency days, the promoters of this new venture have so adapted the building that it is the most modern and up-to-date in England. The new stage gradually merges into the stalls by a series of shallow steps, behind is a revolving middle stage backed by a raised and sliding backstage with the cylindrical cyclorama as its background. The lighting will be a special feature and the theatre will be warmed by a central heating system 26 11 19 [2.16]

1927 01 15
New Theatre: F.C. Pool new Manager 27 01 15

1927 04 30
Part of the club room of the Footlights Dramatic Club above the Masonic Hall in Corn Exchange Street Cambridge was damaged as a result of a fire with flames coming through the roof. It was fortunate it was discovered early or it would have worked round to a little stage where inflammable material might have created a more alarming blaze. It is feared some photographs of former members of the club have been destroyed. The water came through the ceiling of the Masonic Hall and the fine dance floor was soon flooded. The Rodney Dramatic Club had engaged the Hall for a dinner dance and it may not be available for part of the function. 27 04 30

1927 05
George Bernard Shaw visits Festival Theatre to see a performance of his 'Androcles & the Lion' [2.21]

1927 05 07
The Festival Theatre in Newmarket Road, Cambridge has opened a roof garden. In warm weather there could hardly be anything more pleasanter than a meal on the roof preparatory to seeing the performance below and there is not the slightest doubt that it will be a great attraction to visitors. The view is not extensive, it is true, but the surroundings are novel and amongst undergraduates it will certainly be "the thing to do" as often as funds permit. 27 05 07

1927 05 21
W.B. Yeats visits Festival Theatre [4.1]

1927 08 13
New Theatre installs Samoiloff stage lighting [4.6]

1928 10
New Theatre announces its largest profit - £2,617 [2.22]

1928 10 05
Negotiations have been concluded for a fusion of interests between the Oxford Playhouse and the Festival Theatre, Cambridge and J.B. Fagan and Terence Gray will be jointly responsible for the policy of both theatres. There will be an interchange of companies between Oxford and Cambridge and the ultimate aim will be the setting up of a theatre in London. When the ensuing term is finished the Oxford Playhouse will be demolished and an entirely new theatre constructed. 28 10 05

1929
University Mummers formed, first group to admit women to full membership (by Alaistair Cooke 1928, first performance Central Hall 1929) [2.18, 7.9]

1929 05 29
Festival Theatre changes hands, 29 05 29 p8*

1929 11 05
Cheers greeted George Robey, the great comedian, on his initial entry at the Cambridge New Theatre. This riotous reception came, of course, from a huge contingent of youthful 'Varsitymen' but the theatre was packed in all departments. The brilliant show was carried along by waves of cheering, culminating in a furore at the end and a great roar for a speech to which Mr Robey responded in his own inimitable style and the 'house' departed in good humour. He had never appeared at the New Theatre before and so we had the unique spectacle of a famous father following his son, for Mr Robey junior was up at Cambridge a few years ago and appeared there in two of the Amateur Operatic Society's productions 29 11 05

1929 12 07
Before the war the only real place of amusement in Cambridge was the New Theatre and even that found it necessary to close down when the undergraduates were away. Today we have two theatres, five picture places and frequent amateur productions. Recently I decided to see a show but the Central Cinema had no seats under three shillings unless I queued for two hours. I tried the Festival Theatre but they only had a 'standing seat'; people were fighting to get into the New Theatre and the A.D.C. only had expensive seats left. As I trailed home I wondered where all the people and the money came from 29 12 07

1930

1930 10 04
Many in Cambridge will bid good-bye with regret to F.C. Pool, the general manager of the New Theatre. Despite ever-increasing competition he saw record profits and turnover in his first full year. His successor is Bertram Brown who is not used to the ways of Cambridge undergraduates but has had something to do with Leeds 'medicals' and imagines they are much the same type 30 10 04a

1930 12 06
The visit of Jack Hulbert's popular review carries the mind back to 1913 when he made his first appearance at the New Theatre in the May Week production 'Cheer-oh Cambridge' of the Footlights Dramatic Club. I remember his sprightly dancing, which has since developed so successfully. Then in 1921 we had Claude Hulbert making his first appearance in the Footlights production of 'What a picnic' 30 12 06e

1930 12 27
Stars such as Jack and Claude Hulbert delighted Cambridge audiences in their early days. The latest is Harold Warrender who just two years ago was the mainstay of the University Footlights production, acting in many of the skits. It was very evident that he had great gifts and he is now playing at the Criterion with the famous Alice Delysia in a new farce, 'A Pair of Trousers' , making the most of the opportunities it offers 30 12 27d

1931 04 24
Terence Gray profile – 31 04 24a

1932 07 30
New Theatre transformed, upper circle [1.13]

1932 09 03
Festival Theatre working arrangement with Gate Theatre London [1.14]

1933 02 15
Greek play – 33 02 15a & 33 02 15

1933 02 18
Sherlock Holmes play rag recalled 33 02 18a

1933 03 11
Festival Theatre 'farewell season' [1.16]

1933 04 20
Terence Gray has been connected with the Festival Theatre for seven years. Many of his productions have aroused the most intense antagonism and many times caused me to gnash my teeth and anger. It has always been a place of experiment. It set out to present the best plays in a modern manner, introducing new devices: the cyclorama, atmospheric lighting, formalised scenery. Controversies were frequent. But his work was never boring and frequently exciting. I would not have missed any of the productions. 33 04 20 & a

1933 04 22
New Theatre manager Bertram Brown leaving [1.15]

1933 05 13
Keen regret has been expressed that Terence Gray proposes to give up his directorship of the Festival Theatre at the close of term, after seven years of magnificent work. Efforts are being made in University circles to enable the theatre to continue. Mr J.G. Macleod has expressed a wish to run a Festival season, but his plans depend on a guaranteed sum of £4,000. He has produced, acted and written for the theatre but is not one of those who believes in queerness for the sake of queerness. 33 05 13b

1933 06 17
The New Theatre has closed for the Summer Vacation by which time it will probably be converted into a 'talkie' house. Even star actors have failed to attract crowded houses – apart from the D'Oyly Carte Company. It will mean the throwing out of work of over 100 staff, several of whom have given many years to its service. In nearly every town the story is the same. Owing to the competition of the talking films the theatres are suffering as never before. As many as 157 have closed in the past twelve months. 33 06 17a

1933 07 25
Cambridge's New theatre is to be run as a cinema but every effort will be made to continue some theatrical form of entertainment. It has been leased to Mr P.V. Wallis who was the originator of the Central Cinema ten years ago and later took over the Tivoli and Playhouse cinemas. A Western Electric sound projector system will be installed together with some structural alterations and it is hoped to reopen in September. 33 07 25, 33 08 15

1933 08 12
Festival Theatre rescued by J.G. Macleod with £2,800; has difficulties finding contemporary plays [1.17]

1933 08 14
Old time minstrel entertainment and Memories of the old Arcade – 33 08 14

1933 08 18
Sir – it is a disgrace to Cambridge that our only theatre, the New Theatre, should close like it has done and have to re-open as a cinema. It used to be the finest in the Eastern Counties. When such attractions as Ruth Draper, Jack Payne and Matheson Lang visited it was packed and many people were turned away. But they put up prices and had too many variety shows instead of good plays and musical comedies – Lionel Cherry 33 08 18

1933 09
George Robey, knighted in the New Year's Honours, appeared at Cambridge Guildhall with a variety company in the 1920s and made his last appearance at the New Theatre in September 1933. The Daily Express asserts that he took a science degree at Jesus College and was an engineer for four years. In his autobiography Robey claims to have had part of his education in Cambridge but says his father's speculations went wrong and his undergraduate dream had to be dropped. Now Dr Brittain, keeper of the records at the college, has proved that he never was a member of Jesus, although he had once hoped to become one. 54 01 16

1933 11
ADC stage & scenery dock destroyed by fire [3.15]

1933 12 06

Godwin Hunt was one of the most popular comedians and vocalists that Cambridge has ever known. Born at Soham, he was associated with many famous theatrical enterprises including the D'oyly Carte Opera before becoming Lay Clerk at St John's College. He was the founder, 30 years ago, of the Magpies Concert Party which enjoyed a tremendous vogue when amusements were not so plentiful as today. Up to the war they were a male voice quartet but then it became a mixed concert party who travelled far beyond Cambridgeshire. 33 12 06

1933 12 30
Cambridge's New Theatre has been hit by the theatrical slump which began in London in 1932. There was a shortage of plays in the provinces and the alternative of plays eked out by variety shows had failed. The Directors have been unable to let the Theatre to a repertory company and had no choice except to run it as a cinema with occasional stage plays until the present financial depression has passed away 33 12 30

1934 02 26
Play performed in Bloy's smithy, East Road – 34 02 26

1934 03 17
Kings College offer to rebuild A.D.C. following fire, rejected [1.20]

1934 06 02
A.D.C. issue appeal following fire [1.21]

1934 06 09
Rumours that Festival Theatre to close are denied, [1.22]

1934 06 30
Festival Theatre starts Cambridge first repertory [1.23]

1934 10 10
'Overture to Cambridge' had its premiere at the Festival Theatre. The play, written and produced by the Director, Joseph Gordon Macleod, exposes the pettiness of Town Gown and University. It tells of an invalided idealistic Mayor who comes to be regarded as a madman. His wife is killed in a car accident, his daughter becomes deranged and he falls to his death whilst addressing a meeting after being 'debagged' by a crowd of undergraduates. As he hovers between life and death he sees the future, with people living in the co-operative ideal which he preached. 34 10 10

1934 10 19
Fred Tuck was a great performer on the concert platform. 'Funny Fred' was a comedian but also a conjurer, juggler, tumbler, raconteur and trick cyclist. His most popular character was that of an old-fashioned clown in traditional make-up. His most famous trick was to balance a burning newspaper, made into a cone, on his nose until it had practically burnt out. He would make his exit balancing a chair on his nose, or the table he had been using for his tricks, if it was not too heavy. 34 10 19

1934 12 15
Arts Theatre Company registered [2.2]

1935 01 17
The new A.D.C. Theatre in Park Street was opened by Miss Ellaline Terriss replacing the one destroyed by fire 14 months ago. It was a wonder it had not burnt down every time the stage was

used years ago, as there was no fire-proof curtain, the theatre was lit entirely by gas and the proscenium made of painted canvas stretched on wood batons, reminisced E. Mellish Clark 35 01 17

1935 02 07
Cecil Beeton makes name as dress designer at ADC TT 7.2.1925

1935 04 26
Festival closure announced: claims "Cambridge does not want us" [1.3];

1935 04 27
The news that the Festival Theatre is definitely closing will come as a severe blow. When Joseph Gordon Macleod took over from Terence Gray two years ago he set out to make it a very definite part of the life of Cambridge. Not only has he worked tremendously hard but he has also sacrificed every penny of his personal capital and it a great blow that Cambridge has not supported him. One is equally sorry for the company which was developing into one of the strongest repertory companies in the country. Now they will be split up. 35 04 27

1935 05 11
A.D.C. announces that it 'welcomes town' [2.4]

1935 05 17
"Save the Festival" meeting [1.4]

1935 06 08
The finest Chinese actor of today, Mr Mei Lan-fang, who has to have a three-strong bodyguard to protect him from kidnappers, visited the Festival Theatre. He granted the News his first interview ever to an English newspaper as Chinese actors have a genuine dislike of publicity in every shape and form. Since Mr Mei could not speak English, and the reporter knew no Chinese, the conversation was conducted through an interpreter. He is actually a female impersonator for in China women do not take part in classical drama. 35 06 08

1935 06 20
The Theatre Cinema returned to a programme of cine-variety with a programme of stage turns and films. The variety bill is headed by that inimitable comedian, Max Miller, 'the cheeky chappy'. All his jokes have the air of spontaneity and his suggestion of breezy good humour is infectious. The stage programme includes the most daring roller-skating acts we have seen, a juggler and a young lady who has achieved success as a wireless crooner. The principal film is 'The Personality Kid' with a clever cartoon and the News. 35 06 20

1935 08 06
The management of the Theatre Cinema (New Theatre) have returned to their popular cine-variety policy. There are four excellent stage turns and an exceptionally fine film. A snappily presented singing and dancing act featuring Jack Lewis and his Rolling Stones with the Wellington Sisters forms the principal item in the stage show, combining dancing by a cheery trio, saxophone work and percussion 'fireworks'. Savona is a remarkable juggler while 'the racketeers of mirth, Roy Lester and Jack Cranston offer a quick-fire cross-talk act. Finally Sereno and June's head-to-head balancing and tumbling act has much which is new even in these days when vaudeville simply abounds with this kind of act. 35 08 06a

1935 10 07

Joseph Gordon Macleod, director of the Festival Theatre, has announced its closure because of lack of further capital – 35 10 07a

1935 10 11
Festival Theatre "not to close permanently" [1.5]

1936 01 17
It is many years since Raymond Bennett was a Cambridge semi-professional entertainer who made early appearances in cine-variety at the Playhouse, Mill Road. He has progressed rapidly and Cambridge audiences now have an opportunity of seeing him at the Theatre Cinema with his partner of many broadcasts. Bennett and McNaughton have achieved great success on the music halls, including the Holborn Empire, and have attained great popularity as broadcasting stars. Those who have listened to their broadcasts will be glad of this opportunity of renewing acquaintance with a popular local artiste 36 01 17

1936 02 04
The Cambridge Arts Theatre opened with a gala performance by the Vic-Walls Ballet Company. It is a beautiful piece of work with furnishings in autumn leaf and includes a restaurant and café bar. The cinema and sound apparatus is of the very latest type with facilities for the reproduction of gramophone records designed by Messrs Morley and Duke. The fresh air supply can be warmed or cooled while the main heating by water-fed radiators is instantly adjustable to meet the vagarities of the English climate 36 02 04 & a [1.1]

1936 02 05
The world premier presentation of the new GPO film unit production 'Night Mail' was given as the second gala performance in connection with the opening of Cambridge's delightful new Arts Theatre. It deals with the work of the Royal Mail night train from London to Scotland with plenty of novel-angle shots and some quick-fire doggerel which is made to synchronise with the train beats. Other features were a highly-diverting slapstick Mickey Mouse cartoon and the British Movietone News 36 02 05a

1936 02 06
The Cambridge University Mummers, who are still the only University Dramatic Society to admit women members equally with men in all their activities, are presenting 'Heartbreak House' by Bernard Shaw. In the cast there are four members of Newnham, the most prominent of whom is Miss Teresa Mayor. She will be supported by Beryl Eeman, Cecilia Hopkinson and Deirdre Moore. The play will be produced by George Rylands who is well known for productions at the A.D.C. 36 02 06a

1936 11 28
Billy Cotton, who is bringing his popular band to the Theatre Cinema, St Andrew's Street, has a style of his own. He stands coolly in the centre of the stage and with little more than a flick of the wrist gets just what he wants from the musicians The band is a variety show in itself, best-liked on the stage because the wireless and gramophone cannot do them full justice. The comedians are especially good, there are two Japanese entertainers, a conjuror, dancers and a pair of trick cyclists. But Cotton is also a keen racing motorist and has just bought Sir Malcolm Campbell's original 'Bluebird' which he intends racing at Southport. 36 11 28a & 36 12 01

1937 01 06
Cambridge Festival Theatre has started a million farthing fund to ensure they have money available in case of emergency. The weekly receipts have to cover weekly expenses. When a bad

week comes the manager hopes things will pick up next week. During the summer people had come to the theatre but recently there had been a falling-off. The workers' voucher system had increased attendance but the vouchers were finding their way into the hands of people who were not entitled to make use of them. They entitled people to purchase two seats for the price of one 37 01 06

1937 07 17
The fate of the open-air theatre on Christ's Pieces is in the balance. Michael Walsh has been most unlucky; three of the four performances have been spoiled by rain. Thursday's show was particularly unfortunate as the programme, with the Town Band and St George on his charger, was essentially an outdoor show. His decision to transfer it to the Corn Exchange was taken to spare the 80 young performers disappointment. He says the drops of rain that fell from the roof to members of the audience are nothing compared to the tears that would have fallen on his head had he decided to cancel the production – 37 07 17b [3.16]

1937 09 04
Cambridge Repertory Players moving from Festival Theatre to Cosmopolitan Cinema which will be renamed the Little Theatre – 37 09 04

1937 10 02
'The Harassed Harrises', a play by local author Gerald Light, features a father who keeps a fried fish shop in a town that is obviously Cambridge. His son, a young man of brains, has won a scholarship to the university but feels he is looked down on because of his father's job. What makes things even more awkward is that his aunt is a bedder at his college who is very fond of whisky. Without a doubt the play was greatly appreciated by the audience at the performance given by the CUP Amateur Dramatic Society 37 10 02

1937 10 15
The Festival Theatre in Newmarket Road reopened under entirely new management of J.B. Somerville. The building has been redecorated and improved and will begin with what it is hoped will be a successful regime of plays, ballet and opera. Meanwhile the glamorous Marlene Dietrich's Technicolor film 'The Garden of Allah' is the principal attraction at the Regal Cinema while the Kinema presents 'The Princess comes across' starring Carole Lombard and Fred MacMurray 37 10 15 [3.18]

1937 10 20
Festival Theatre refurbished with electric candelabra from Alhambra in London – 37 10 20f

1938 01 08
After a successful fortnight of the pantomime 'Cinderella', the Theatre Cinema is closing down without any indication as to what its future may be. It was 42 years ago that the New Theatre was opened and has had a great history. Many of our leading actors have appeared and all tastes catered for – comedy, drama, musicals and grand opera. It was the coming of films that changed the Theatre's fortunes and after a hopeless struggle it was converted into a cinema with an occasional week of variety. 38 01 08a [3.19]

1938 05 31
Memories of stage and screen – 38 05 31w

1938 10 19

Festival Theatre to reopen under direction Neville Towne with his own Repertory Company – 38 10 19

1938 11 22
The Theatre Cinema reopened after a closure of over nine months with a performance of 'The Mikado' by Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society. They had found the building in a poor and dirty condition and put in much work to recondition it. Now it was crowded with a delighted throng; it was itself again. That pre-overture buzz of conversation created a delightful feeling of mild excitement. At the final curtain everyone was thoroughly happy 38 11 22

1939 02 04
St George's Players first performance – 39 02 04

1939 03 17
Plans to make the Festival Theatre a twice-nightly music-hall were knocked on the head by the war scare last September, a bankruptcy hearing was told. A lady trading as 'Diana Tempest', who was previously a clairvoyant under the name of Alexia, became actress manager at the Festival and the Theatre Royal Aldershot. But the venture was not successful: she did not take more than £50 a week and the expenses were £90. She was now earning £2 a week in Cambridge by her clairvoyancy. 39 03 17a

1939 06 17
Theatre Cinema, St Andrew's Street, known for many years as the New Theatre, was closed in January of last year after the pantomime but specially reopened for one week in November for the annual production by Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society of 'The Pirates of Penzance' Now the ABC company has decided to use the building once again as a cinema 39 06 17

1939 12 16
Raymond Bennett has made a name for himself on the professional stage and will soon be returning to his home town, Cambridge, as the principal comedian in the pantomime. He has recently spent some weeks entertaining troops and homes to go to France shortly with Wee Georgie Wood and Jasper Maskelyne. He has faced big audiences at the London Palladium, the Coliseum and the Alhambra but confesses to a slight nervousness about coming home. 39 12 16a photo 16b

1940

1940 01 12
Raymond Bennett, the Cambridge-born comedian, claims to have been the first to use the new popular chorus song "The Chestnut Tree". "Many years ago," he told me, "whilst I was here in Cambridge, I was going down to the Cam Sailing Club grounds at Clayhithe, and on the way I passed a school where the children were doing an action song. I watched them for a time, and it struck me that here was something that could be used as a good chorus song. And I memorised enough to enable me to sing it with success for a good many years 40 01 12 CIPof

1940 04 27
Play The Seven Deadly Virtues' by Hugh Ross Williamson takes place opposite Trinity – 40 04 27b

1941 03 18
Herbert Hall, secretary of New Theatre for 30 years, dies – 41 03 18

1941 06 09
Cambridge popular concert party 'Romas' present 71st performance of their Forces Show to air raid wardens of Castle Ward; includes Maurice and Betram Garner, Rita Thurbon, Phyllis Burling, Les Germany and Dorothy Green – 41 06 09

1941 07 19
Jack & Claude Hulbert visit with Hulbert Follies, Jack born Ely, both at Caius College, wrote Footlights production 'Cheer Oh, Cambridge!" – 41 07 19, 41 07 26a

1941 08 23
Max Pemberton 'Varsity Tales' articles in Windsor Magazine includes a tin theatre with troupe of comedians; shower of oranges, boots etc – 41 08 23

1947
St John's Players established (unbroken run from 1949, 40th year 1987) [7.6]

1947 09 27
It was "L'Entente Cordiale" night when the redecorated New Theatre, Cambridge, after an almost ten-year closure, re-opened yesterday as a cinema for the showing of Continental films. The Cross of Lorraine hung side-by- side with the Union Jack outside the cinema in honour of the visit of Francoise Rosay, the famous French film star who performed the opening ceremony. The Mayor (Coun. Doggett) wished the venture every success and expressed the hope that successful films may be followed by stage plays. "We have one theatre in this town but in my opinion there is plenty of room for a second theatre, particularly one with a larger stage". Capt A.C. Taylor, Managing Director of the "Cambridge Daily News" echoed the hope that some theatrical shows would be staged 47 09 27 [2.9]

1948 03 26
Some years before the recent war, Cambridge's New Theatre, having been a "live" house for over 40 years, not only ceased to be "new" in years but suffered a "sea change" into something neither rich nor rare - a theatre turned cinema - and saddled too with the hybrid title "Theatre Cinema". This was the beginning of a period that might be described as a winter solstice, for the building eventually closed, and during the war it was in the hands of the military. But now, after another brief life as a cinema, it has at last reverted to the type of entertainment for which it was built, and the merry band of players which yesterday presented the first professional "live" show to be seen in the theatre for many years are the successors of a long line of theatre folk, who during the palmy years passed across the New Theatre's stage in glorious array. The large audience who crowded into the building for the reopening found that the theatre with its re-decoration, modern lighting and stage equipment, including the inevitable "mike", had been given a new look c48 03 26

1948 04 13
History was made at the New Theatre, Cambridge, last night when the International Ballet Company presented the most spacious classical ballet spectacle ever to be seen in Cambridge. And the result was an evening of sheet beauty. A company of over sixty presented a performance outstanding for its virility and attack, and there was a first class orchestra - their numbers made it necessary for them to "overflow" from the orchestra pit into adjoining boxes and the stalls. The work last night was the full-length version of "The Swan Lake". Leading the superb company is the prima ballerina Mona Inglesby 48 04 13

1949 05 18
The audience remained in their seats and the play continued when fire broke out in the men's cloakroom at the A.D.C. theatre during a performance by the Cambridge Training College for Women Drama Group. The blaze was caused by a smouldering pipe left in the pocket of one of the coats in the cloakroom. At the height of the blaze, the auditorium became hazy with smoke as it drifted in through the ventilators. The audience, composed largely of university members did not panic and cheers greeted an announcement that the fire was under control c49 05 18

1949 12 16
New Theatre gives backstage tours [2.14]

1950

1950 12 06
Cambridge University's puppet club, the Geppetto, formed in January this year, presented its first public production at the Round Church Hall. "Jack and the beanstalk" was written and produced by the club's founder and honorary director, Tony Hepworth, of Trinity College. The performance was extremely amusing – some of the fun was not altogether intentional 50 12 06

1951 03 13
A journey, in many ways reminiscent of those made during the war, was repeated by members of the Romas Concert Party. This time it was not through the black-out to some remote RAF site or searchlight emplacement, but to the Cutter Inn, Ely, where they celebrated their reunion dinner. Over 500 shows had been presented for the forces between 1940 and D-Day. They had overcome transport difficulties by commandeering a meat van with a pheasant on the side 51 03 13

1951 06 19
New Theatre changes from Music Hall & revue to season of West End plays [2.19]

1952 03 21
Claude Hulbert, the loveable comedian, heads the cast at the Arts Theatre, Cambridge in his brother, Jack's production of the famous farce, "Nothing but the Truth", which ran for 578 performances in London. The Hulberts have many associations with the area. Sons of an Ely doctor both came to Caius College and were enthusiastic members of the Footlights Dramatic Club. Jack appeared at the Arts in "The Hulbert Follies" with his famous wife, Cicely Courtneidge, in July 1941, while Claude had a notable success in "Worth a Million" when he co-starred with Edmund Gwen and Ruby Miller. CDN 52 03 21

1952 08 30
Considerable reductions in the price of admission are to be made when the New Theatre opens next week which represent the absolute minimum that can be charged. When really outstanding radio artistes, whose salaries are sometimes fabulous, are booked it may be necessary to revert to the old prices. Most of the alterations have been structural – dry rot had attacked some of the timbers – but an enormous amount has been done to ensure complete comfort with sprung seating and a new microphone installation giving the best sound reproduction obtainable. 52 08 30

1953 10 21
Cambridge Daily News feature on Arts Theatre's "17 years of successful endeavour" [3.8]

1952 10 25

Arts Theatre ask City Council to help meet their losses but withdraw request "since Council has no pride of ownership of theatre or gratitude over what achieved over last 16 years" [3.3, 3.5]

1953 03 24
With Old Mother Riley there is no compromise – either you like her immensely or you dislike her intensely. And judging by the queues at the New Theatre the 'likes' heavily outnumber the 'dislikes' in Cambridge. In 'Going Gay' she takes the lion's share of the programme in several amusing sketches. The humour is of the simple, homely kind in which Arthur Lucan excels. A lot of people will be looking for the boisterous fun and frolic which has become identified with the name of Old Mother Riley and they will not be disappointed. 53 03 24

1953 08 01
A Pageant for Coronation year is to be performed in the grounds of St John's College in aid of the Cambridge Residential Home for Old People. In this enterprise Town and University combine. About 150 people take part from a distinguished historian to a little girl of six. It includes a genuine ancient broadsword lent by Prof G.M. Trevelyan, Master of Trinity and greatest of living historians. Amongst those taking part are Michael Cogman, a nine-year-old pupil from Milton Road School, Charles Batts, Timothy Roach and David Bartlett. 53 08 01

1954 01 02
Death of A.B. Horne, better-known as Amner Hall; at Festival 1929-30 [3.8]

1954 03 25
Mr John Gambling of Milton Road Cambridge who has died at the age of 82 was the oldest active magician in the British Isles. A member of the Inner Magic Circle since its earliest days he first became interested in 1881 when he acted as assistant to 'Signor Bosco' and later performed on land, sea, in the air and down a coal mine. During the First World War entertained nearly every evening at the First Eastern General Hospital. After retirement from his post of Borough Road Surveyor he lived a life of adventure. He made many trips to Morocco and was the only white magician known to have performed in a harem. The Moors learned to recognise his pointed moustache and would gather round him clamouring for an on-the-spot show. 54 03 25

1954 09 28
The crowds who queued up for tickets outside Cambridge's New Theatre put paid to the story that Music Hall is dying. There was slap-stick comedy, Eddie Arnold with his variety of voices, Brian Andro on the high-wire, a strong-man acrobat, Rusty – a dog of mathematical powers, Bobby Collins – a first-rate whistler and the Lee Youngsters, a trio of singers. The star attraction was Tony Brent, a crooner of promise, but surely there will come a time when we shall have heard his songs just once too often. Forthcoming attractions include Don Saunder's Circus and Don Lammaree and his Lone Star Road Show, Phyllis Dixey and Cinderella on Ice. If the Cambridge public give it support then even bigger names will be attracted from London. CDN 28.9.1954

1954 11 16
It is said that nude shows are killing the variety theatre. Well now the Cambridge New Theatre gives you a chance to form your own opinion. The leading lady is none other than 'Jane', the famous strip cartoon character; we catch glimpses of her flitting behind illuminated screens or lying on discreetly lighted couches. There are also a variety of young ladies performing weird and wonderful gyrations in varying stages of dress and undress – all for the sake of art and culture no doubt. In my opinion nude shows are becoming too frequent and the novelty is beginning to wear off somewhat. CDN 16.11.1954

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1954 09 11
George Rylands to produce Troilus & Cressida for BBC tv [3.12]

1955 01 29
ADC celebrate centenary [3.13]

1955 03 20
Cambridge's New Theatre has introduced stereophonic sound for a production of 'Las Vegas'. There is nothing really revolutionary about the system which consists of a series of loudspeakers hung in various parts of the auditorium through which the voices of American singing stars are relayed as a background to the action on the stage. But it does show enterprise on the part of the producers and enterprise of any kind should be encouraged. 55 03 20

1955 05 11
The Arts Theatre unveiled an extension to its Roof Garden restaurant, decorated in gay modern style and complete with the latest Espresso Coffee equipment. Some regretted the reduction of the outdoor terrace space but with the fickle English climate the new area would prove an agreeable amenity both for meals and during theatre intervals. Losses in the theatre could only be made up by profits from the Cinema, scenery studio and catering activities. Once the novelty of television had worn off an increasing number of people would again seek the solid satisfaction of liver performances. 55 05 11 [3.14]

1956 02 21
New Theatre installs new electronic organ [3.21, 3.22]

1956 03 17
New Theatre closes; opened 20 January 1896; those appearing included Sybil Thorndyke, Jack Hulbert, Norman Hartnell [3.22]

1956 03 17
New Theatre closes in Jubilee year – review performers 56 03 17

1956 05 15
Danny Kaye, the world-famous comedian visited Cambridge Guildhall and in the 50 minutes he occupied the stage he promised to 'liberate' the wives of University Dons and sang popular songs such as 'Ugly Duckling'. But his visit had a more serious purpose. He is on a world tour with a camera team making a film about the children of the world for U.N.I.C.E.F. His arrival and departure caused a minor riot. Crowds besieged his car, seeking autographs 56 05 15a & b & c

1956 11 19
Playhouse closes due to Entertainment Tax: used to have one single-turn music-hall artiste each week with pictures, had small orchestra [3.23,7.3]

1956 12 10
Hundreds of people daily pass the unobtrusive grey brick Festival Theatre building in Newmarket Road, but few are aware that some of the foremost names in British acting began to learn their art there. Now used as a wardrobe and for scene painting by the Arts Theatre, the footlights have been dimmed and the seats are empty. But the stage and auditorium are in good condition and one day the curtain may rise again. [detailed feature 56 12 10 & a]

1956 12 22
Raymond Bennett, the talented comedian and theatre manager laments the closing down of the Playhouse in Mill Road. It was there he made his debut as a single-turn music hall artiste. In those days it had a small orchestra and had one turn each week with the pictures. They included Godwin Hunt, baritone and humorous vocalist, George Gass, comedian of 'The Magpies' concert party and Sydney Pratt the conjurer. 56 12 22a & b

1957 02 02
Arts Theatre 21st anniversary; brief history

1957 06 08
Hugh Woodhouse of St John's, playwright – 57 06 08b

1957 10 12
A.D.C. improvements to auditorium [4.8]

1957 10 23
Derek Jacobi, a St John's College Freshman, will take a part in a new production at the ADC. He played 'Hamlet' at the Edinburgh Festival this summer and is to have a film test with 20th Century Fox. It is possible, to judge from the identity of one member of the audience in this his first play of his student days, that the West End may be interested in him too. 57 10 23a

1959 12 14
Jack Hulbert, the famous actor, took his M.A. degree watched by his wife, the actress Miss Cicely Courtneidge. Jack became a B.A. of Caius college before the First World War and so has long been eligible for this higher degree. As an undergraduate he wrote and took part in a large number of entertainments and starred in the Footlights revue. His first big success was in 'Cheer Oh! Cambridge' at the Queen's Theatre London in 1913. Local people wish success to one of the most warm-hearted couples in show business. 59 12 14

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 01 29
New Theatre history feature – 60 01 29

1961 04 25
'Beyond the Fringe' hit the Arts Theatre audience with the force of a thunderbolt. The four young men performed throughout in lounge suits against an unchanging background. There was Jonathan Miller, elastic in voice, features and limbs, Peter Cook with his more serious type of humour and semi-apologetic expression and Alan Bennett who looks like a cross between an aged professor and an endearing but mischievous schoolboy. The music was in the hands of pianist Dudley Moore, whose prize piece was a variation of 'Colonel Bogey'. It was certainly a revue in the highest calibre of entertainment 61 04 25

1960 06 11
Arts Theatre appeal for £75,000 memory Keynes [7.12]

1961 07 21
Cambridge Pageant, Castle Hill – 61 07 21

1961 08 07
Frank Cross of Brampton Road Cambridge gave his first 'Punch and Judy' show when he was ten years old and has given countless performances all over the country. He is continuing a tradition of three generations of puppetry which started when his grandfather, a Wesleyan preacher in Lancashire, used to entertain the children at Sunday school parties. Frank uses the same script as his grandfather and a paper mache cast of a 300-year old oak Punch. He has taught his son and daughter to work the puppets and now his four-year-old grandson is under instruction. 61 08 07

1962 08 17
New Theatre demolished [4.10]

1963 05 31
Footlights Review includes Tim Brook-Taylor, John Cleese & Bill Oddie [4.11]

1964 10 09
Historic & famous 'Little Theatre' at rear of 'New Spring' Chesterton Road to be demolished [7.1]

1965 01 17
Prospect Theatre has a good first year as Cambridge-based Company: effectively started life as Britain's leading touring group with HQ at Festival Theatre [7.2, 8.10]

1965 06 03
Proposal for arts centre, Lion Yard to include new theatre for amateurs but drama factions unsure if this wanted & role of A.D.C. which available for town groups 28 weeks of year; goes into black firm time since 1855 [6.2, 8, 6.8]

1969 03 19
ADC Theatre given permission to show films all year round , stands empty for much of year – 69 03 19d

1969 07 28
Norman Higgins, impresario, was manager Tivoli in 1928, involved Arts Cinema & Theatre, served on board – profile- 69 07 28

1969 07 30
Cambridge Theatre Company established to succeed Prospect Productions at Arts Theatre & undertake touring in medium-sized theatres, encourages many writers, actors & directors to come to Cambridge by its existence & record, first production 1970: will work closely with Prospect to give Cambridge wide & balance programme of drama, 7-10 plays at Arts followed by short tour while Prospect continues devoted entirely to touring (though will visit Cambridge) [8.8]7]

1970

1971
Technical College new auditorium, theatre completed last autumn [17.4]

1972 07 14
Arts The Cambridge Arts Theatre has suffered "staggering" financial losses this year - often £1,000 a week – and the Secretary and General Manager, Mr Andrew Blackwood, said yesterday:

"We can't go on like that. We would soon be out of business". The reason for high production costs was that touring companies require guarantees of £1,500 or more before they would visit Cambridge. Seat prices generally ranged from 40p-90p and 50p-£1. Audience attendance figures were 14,000 down on the year - and he blamed Cambridge's impossible car parking situation for the loss 72 07 14 [7.13]

1972 10 06
Cyril Fletcher last performance as Dame [7.14]

1973 02 07
A.D.C. cash shortage threatens shut-down [7.5]

1974 05 22
Arch-goon Spike Milligan hosted a reception at the University Arms Hotel with folksinger Jeremy Taylor to mark the release of a double album, "An adult entertainment: Spike Milligan live at Cambridge University", recorded in concert at the Lady Mitchell Hall last year before an invited audience. Spike made a military entrance dressed in a blue-denim jacket – buttoned up wrongly – and a flowery shirt and inspected the guests who lined up in military ranks. He had spent the day in Cambridge being filmed by a BBC crew. In the afternoon he visited the market and briefly served behind the counter of Mr Andy Gray's record stall 74 05 22

1974 06 10
Norman Higgins, a trustee and former managing director of the Cambridge Arts Theatre died at his home. Eight years ago he retired as general manager of the Arts cinema which he had started as the Cosmopolitan cinema in 1933. His contribution to the cultural life of Cambridge since he managed the old Tivoli cinema was immense. He willingly responded when Lord Keynes invited him to supervise the building of the new Arts Theatre and was subsequently responsible for more than 200 productions of opera, ballet, plays, revues and pantomimes 74 06 10

1975 08 14
Cambridge colleges are to be approached by the Arts Theatre trust in its bid for survival after running into the red to the tune of £18,000, its biggest ever loss. St John's College has granted a subsidy of £3,000 a year after hearing of the theatre's plight. The financial situation could deteriorate further due to the loss of a £2,500 grant from South Cambs. District Council and the failure to gain support from East Cambs. District Council 75 08 14

1977 04 15
Prospect becomes resident company at Old Vic, no longer visits Cambridge [8.10]

1977 07 22
Jesus Green open-air theatre planned, scrapped [7.7]

1978 02 27
Cambridge University Footlights Amateur Dramatic Club celebrated the opening of a new cellar clubroom at the Cambridge Union Society. Only a couple of crates of fish were lacking to evoke something of the atmosphere of the late lamented club room, situated above a fishmonger's in Falcon Yard. Clive James topped the bill at an inaugural cabaret. A chunky, rapidly middle-ageing figure with fast-receding, Sinatra-like hairstyle, his sharp vinegary wit seemed to be the essence of monologue. Clive Anderson demonstrated that there might be a place in show business for a genuinely sophisticated stand-up comedian. 78 02 27

1978 08 03
Arts Theatre £70,000 loss 1977-78, may need to close for time unless get Local Authority money [8.1]

1978 09 01
Marquee ballet may close Arts Theatre [8.2]

1980

1980 10
Supertent used for pop, Canon & Ball [38.11.2]

1982 06 21
Footlights centenary, has base for first time in six years, since 1971, now cellar Union Society [7.11]

1982 07 16
An Aladdin's cave of curious dusty lots comes under the hammer as former stage props are auctioned off at the old Festival Theatre in Newmarket Road, Cambridge. There's a glorious throne, the prow of a sailing ship and a pair of giant Corinthian columns, most of which have appeared at the Arts Theatre, which owns the building. It is said the Festival has a ghost – an old woman who was brought in to die after being run down by a horse and cart which bolted when delivering scenery. Dame Flora Robson wrote of meeting her. 82 07 16

1982 11 23
£1M appeal recital at Barbican by artists who started careers in Cambridge as tribute George Rylands who just retired as Chairman Arts Theatre Trust aged 80 [8.3]

1984 12 29
The Festival Theatre in Newmarket Road, which dates back to 1808, is one of the oldest in the country. It still has many original fittings including what is probably the oldest revolving stage in the country. In 1878 it became an evangelistic mission with religious texts painted on the stalls. Some still survive and may be part of a new permanent display which will feature other memorabilia including a scrapbook of cuttings when it was rebuilt by Terence Gray in 1926. During WWII the building was used for storage by the RAF and is currently the Arts Theatre wardrobe and scenery workshop. 84 12 29 [8.7]

1985 05 10
Cygnus Studios, the Cambridge theatre workshop, is closing and the magic props and gadgets painstakingly made by Philip Bond for productions throughout the country and abroad are to be auctioned off. It will mark the end of another chapter in the mixed fortunes of the Festival Theatre on Newmarket Road which closed its doors to productions in 1938 and was bought by Cambridge's Arts Theatre. Now an axe and block, complete with severed head, a stuffed stoat and a thunder sheet to rival the Gods will go under the auctioneer's hammer 85 05 10a

1985 05 21
Visitors to Cambridge Festival Theatre's workshop were treated to a dazzling display of pyrotechnics and wizardry when the props and gadgets of Cygnus Studios went under the hammer. A vast severed head – complete with axe and block – swung like a macabre pendulum above the customers. An electric chair burst into life sending a thrill through the audience and Philip Bond, the head of the studios, made sure that the theatre's ghost had a star turn. Then as the

auctioneer brought his hammer down for the last time it exploded into a thousand tiny fragments marking the end of another chapter in the Theatre's 250-year history 85 05 21b

1985 11 22
ADC history – 85 11 22a

1986 02 03
Actors, actresses and directors arrived in Cambridge to mark the 50th anniversary of the Arts Theatre. Eleanor Bron, whose career started with the Cambridge Footlights, arrived first to be followed by Dame Peggy Ashcroft, Timothy West with his actress wife Prunella Scales and Judi Dench. Sir Peter Hall laughed with his old friend Trevor Nunn and was joined by Ian McKellan, the irrepressible Arthur Marshall and the broadcaster Richard Baker. The occasion was a unique recital devised by Dr George Rylands, affectionately known as 'Dadie' 86 01 03 86 02 03b & c

1986 01 27
Elite of British acting world give unique Shakespeare performance - "Strange eventful history" celebrate 50th anniversary Arts Theatre, £15,000 raised [8.4]

1986 06 12
Prince Edward battles to save Cambridge Youth Theatre – 86 06 12a

1986 08 22
Arts Theatre loses £181,000 at box office [8.5]

1986 09 16
Cambridge Theatre Company celebrate century of productions [8.9]

1987
ADC get £60,000 refit [NS2.1]

1988 07 11
Marlowe Society revived; stopped about 12 years ago; tradition that used local actors for its 2nd annual production ¢CEN 11.7.88

1988 09 23
Cambridge Touring Theatre formed ¢CEN 23.9.88

1988 12 02
Andrew Blackwood retires as Secretary & General manager of Arts Theatre after more than 30 years ¢CEN 2.12.89

1989 05 18
Cambridge Theatre Productions will now open all its performances in its home town and hope to get all Cambridge entertainments bookable at a central ticket office. The new visiting director, Robin Midgley, is keen to make it truly local instead of being just a touring company which happens to have offices in the city. He would also like to see a closer relationship with the Arts Theatre and do a children's show making use of young people from Cambridge. 89 05 18

1989 09 21
Cambridge Arts Theatre is to launch an appeal to replace its 650 aging and tatty seats, worn carpets and poor ventilation system. Despite artistic success it has financial problems. Even when

a show is a roaring success and playing to packed houses, the theatre makes a £3,000 loss. The problem is worse when operas are performed as a full orchestra reduces seating capacity from 650 to 580. Small profits from catering services, costume-hire and renting out the building for conferences only makes a dent in the overall loss. 89 09 21

1989 11 24
ADC installs new behind-the-scenes technology for opening curtains – 89 11 24b

1989 12 02
Andrew Blackwood, who has been on call at the Arts Theatre for more than 30 years, has handed over the reins to a new secretary and general manager. His predecessor, Norman Higgins became first secretary in 1939 89 12 02a

1990 05 02
Andrew Blackwood retires as manager of Arts Theatre, Stephen Walton his successor; interview – 90 05 02a, b

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

Bertram Mills' clowns visit children at Hospital, April 1969

264.13

c.76.2 : Circus

1893
Readers have responded with information on Keith and Tudor's circus on Midsummer Common. Mr R. Bainbridge says it was a large wooden building at the junction of Victoria Avenue, where the lamp standard is, at the corner of Jesus Grove. It was pulled down due to the expense of standing there and rebuilt at the bottom of Auckland Road. Mr Keith was the ring master and Mr Tudor was the clown. Sam George competed for a cup given by the late Charlie Rowell. It was a race 20 times around the ring over four hurdles every round. The circus finished late 1893 or early 1894 just before the Royal Show was held on Midsummer Common. He still has some of the building that was built into a shed. 37 01 16f

'One with a memory' writes: "My father put Tudor's circus up twice in Cambridge and once in Ipswich and eventually at the Romsey Town Cement Works, where the main part still stands and is used by Messrs Macintosh for their ever-increasing agricultural department". He has a bill, dated June 1895 which includes six shillings and fivepence for 38 pints of beer from the 'Duke of Cambridge' for the workers. Another reader recalls Samuel Murfitt from Manea, the largest man in the world, who died 50 years ago. His girth was 100 inches and as no hearse could be found

large enough he had to be conveyed on a flat. The sashes had to be taken from the windows and nearly 20 men were employed to get the body out. 37 01 22e

1897 04 19
At Cambridge Easter Sunday was celebrated in all the churches. Congregations were very large and most of the places of worship were tastefully decorated, white flowers largely predominating. On Monday a goodly number of people followed the Volunteers in their march to Madingley, others watched the Boys Brigade movements on the University Range. Amusements were provided by the sports on Fenners and the circus in the afternoon

1897 04 20
Fourpowers circus & menagerie, p3

1897 04 29
At Cambridge County Court Alfred Whitmee, circus proprietor said he visited Shelford with his circus in the autumn of 1896. On the Monday it was a rough day and he could not get the tent up. The month of October was an unfortunate one for him. He owed 30s.(shillings) at Histon and about 7s at Trumpington. He had arranged to start for Sawston but was told he could not take anything away until £2.0.6 was paid for lodging his horses. 1897 04 29

1897 05 25
Tudor's new circus, p3

1897 06 01
Tudor's new circus, p2

1897 06 08
Tudor's circus, p2

1897 06 15
Mr Tudor's circus have contrived week after week to place before their patrons a programme not entirely different from those preceding it. The last item on the programme is contributed by the Canadian troupe of comic and scientific skaters, one of the men representing a policeman of goodly proportions, his clothes being apparently inflated to bursting point! His many tumbles and his bounciness when on the ground do not fail to convulse the spectators 1897 06 15

1897 07 20
Tudors Circus, p2
1897 08 24
Tudors Circus p3

1897 09 27
Sangers circus, p3

1898 08 02
Bank Holiday – Tudor's circus, p2

1898 08 03
Tudor's circus advert, p1

1898 08 15

William Tudor circus proprietor nearly drowned, p2

1898 08 15 c
It maybe that the police have influence with the Clerk of the weather. Anyway the sun beamed down full face on the righteous and the unrighteous, and incidentally on those congregated at the Leys to witness the annual sports of the Borough Police. And as evidence not only of the love of Cambridge folk for sport, but also of their friendship for their blue-tuniced guardians, it may be mentioned that there was a large attendance. Adding much to the enjoyment of the company, Madame Frederica with her toy terriers, and Mr Fred Derrick the well-known entertainer from Tudor's Circus, gave some clever exhibitions.

1898 08 23
The Barnum and Bailey great street parade will be a wonderful and stupendous spectacle of men, women, children, horses, elephants, wild beasts, chariot, cars and floats. Christopher Columbus, as well as scores of other characters famous in his time, are all truthfully represented in rich costumes. Leading the pageant is one of the most magnificent sights imaginable, a wondrous team of 40 fine bay horses driven by one man. There are rich displays of open dens of wild beasts and carved golden chariots, containing the splendid zoological collections, followed by 20 elephants, and allegorical chariots, illustrating nursery rhymes and children's fairy stories. The whole affair is grand and inspiring CDN 1898 08 23

1898 08 27
Cambridge, the one and only, Barnum and Bailey Greatest Show on Earth, grounds on Huntingdon Road, September 8th. An overwhelming equestrian department, teeming with every valuable attraction, filled with wonders, overflowing with grand features, crowded with startling surprises, brimful of novelties, running over with mirthful scenes, and abounding with thrilling sensations and glorious events. Presenting, in vast Amplitude of Detail, Wild Beast, Chariot and Pedestrian Races, Fearless Contests, Trials of Speed, Skill and Endurance. A World's Fair of modern marvels. 1,000 men, women, giants, midgets, dwarfs, tattooed people, sword swallowers, bearded and long-haired lady, dog-faced boy, armless and legless men, snake charmers. 1,000 marvellous sights and curious creations. One ticket admits to all the attractions. (Advert) CDN 1898 08 27

1898 08 31
The securing of the Midsummer Common for the show grounds of the Barnum and Bailey's Circus, having been completed, they have found it necessary to make a change in a number of their plans for the visit to Cambridge. The large number of excursionists from the country districts who will be attracted by the presence of the show will be thankful for the change. It will be possible to enjoy the evening show with comfort, in the consciousness that it is easy to catch the trains afterwards. The big show will arrive in Cambridge on four special trains, with a total of 74 railway cars. The unloading will be done in the G.E. railway yards, and the entire city of canvas, 14 tents in all, will be put up in the morning before the parade starts out. Every bit of the show is coming to Cambridge CDN 1898 08 31

1898 09 08
Today Cambridgeshire folk in their thousands have seen the procession of the "greatest show on earth" and now they can exist through the remainder of a dull vacation chewing, mentally, the cud of their reflections. Before dawn Barnum-struck people could be found waiting for the arrival of the monsters and wonders of the world. And then for hours there was a steady traffic of all manner of men and beasts and creeping things. Huge elephants and gilded cars, endless teams of horses - a continual movement of deliberate and well-ordered detail. First came four of our

borough police, looking as smart as possible on their coal black steeds, though somewhat warm. The Sun came out full faced to see the show. It was broiling hot! Many a grizzled old agriculturist who came to scoff remained to praise, and exclaimed perpetually on the beautiful cattle. In their cages, amid lions, bears, wolves and hyenas came one after another keeper, calmly sitting on his stool, cynically surveying the wonder-struck lines of the town's and country's curious. Then the spectacular pageant, "The return of Columbus to Barcelona", another band, the elephants wearing strange and curious instruments representative of far off climes, and at length that vast array of the world's collected curios is past. Everyone is going to see the show. For hours the box office has been a Klondike CDN 1898 09 08

1899 03 07
Sanger circus advert, p4

1899 03 16
Sanger's circus, p2

1899 04 04
Tudor's Circus, p4

1899 04 18
Tudor's circus provides thoroughly enjoyable evening's amusement, and large numbers continue to take advantage of the efficient catering. This week Mr Tudor has been successful in securing the services of George Lockhart and his troupe of performing elephants. They perform many clever tricks & a series of gymnastics exercises. The smallest of the three rides a tricycle around the arena; the older two waltz to slow music and the three combine in a short - happily short - concert and perform other diverting antics. The turn arouses a great deal of enthusiasm, and is really worth seeing 1899 04 18

1899 04 25
Tudor's Circus, Auckland road, Cambridge. At great expense. Engagement of the greatest Wonder on Earth. The Colibris midgets, nine in number, nine Liliputian people as read of in Gulliver's travels. These miniature male and female artistes ranging from 21 to 29 inches in height, acknowledged to be the marvels of the age. See the midget acrobatics, the midget Christy minstrels, the midget gymnastics and equilibrists, the midget musical grotesques, the midget vocalists. See their handsome midget ponies and the magnificent miniature carriages – Advert 1899 04 25

1899 05 23
Tudor's circus p2

1900

1900 06 05
Tudor's circus, p2

1900 07 18
The proprietor of Tudor's Circus of Varieties, Cambridge was sued by Foulger's Band. They had been hired for three weeks. The band was composed of five performers – cornet, piano, euphonium & two violins. They were each paid £1.12s.6d. per week. On the first night it was a "scratch band" as Mr Foulger could not be there, & the pianist could not accept the engagement. An important feature in the performance was singing and dancing but a piano was not an essential

part of the orchestra. The only complaint was from an inferior artiste who could not sing & had no music 00 07 18

1900 10 30
It is doubtful whether a better programme has been presented at the Cambridge Circus of Varieties than that given this week. Mr Fred Brooks has probably appeared before the Cambridge public more than any artiste on the boards – first at Sturton Town Hall and later at Arcadia. He has lost none of his vocal ability and the best of his songs is "Good old Cambridge", a topical effusion 00 10 30

1900 11 07
Lord John Sanger's circus is paying its annual visit to Cambridge. The spacious marquee is erected on Midsummer Common. This afternoon's performance was somewhat sparsely patronised. The absence of children was especially noticeable. This was probably due to a warning issued by the medical authorities to parents that they would "incur considerable danger if they were allowed to attend the performances" in view of the prevalence of diphtheria. The performance will be repeated this evening when a football match between a "centre-forward" elephant and a Cambridge footballer will be played CDN 1900 11 07

1901 04 09
The circus in Auckland Road, Cambridge, reopened on Eastern Monday, Mr G.S. King having become the sole lessee for a year. Leonie Clarke's cats are the prime attraction. Cats of all sizes and colour go through a performance the like of which has never previously been seen in Cambridge. Rope and wire-walking and balancing are all done with consummate care and a fine specimen of the feline tribe descends from the top of the building by means of a parachute. Rats and mice feature largely in the performance. The animals do everything but talk CDN 1901 04 09

1901 08 20
Circus, p2

1902 04 03
Thomas Askham applied for a licence for the public performance of stage plays at the Circus of Varieties, Auckland Road, Cambridge and presented a petition of 900 signatures in favour. The Committee would recommend it on condition that the old buildings were pulled down, that electric light was placed throughout and at least four hydrants connected with the water supply. Plans would have to be produced. Mr Askham intimated his willingness to do so. 02 04 03

1902 05 13
Circus of Varieties, p3

1902 06 04
The following notice has been issued by the Vice Chancellor of Cambridge University. "Whereas the attendance of members of the University at certain public exhibitions, performances and places of dramatic entertainment has been productive of grave disorder, notice is given that the attendance of any member in statu pupillari at the Circus of Varieties, Auckland Road, is prohibited and will render him liable to be punished by suspension, rustication, expulsion or otherwise." 02 06 04

1902 09 02
An entirely new company is responsible for the programme at the Auckland Road Circus, Cambridge this week. The judicious mixture of "turns" by music hall artists and items by circus performers of the old stamp seems to find favour with Cambridge audiences. Miss Babette Rose,

a clever vocalist and dancer merited the applause awarded her. Ecnarf, a wire walker was vigorously applauded and one of the most enjoyable items was a clever act on horse back by Miss Daniels. The Sisters Korosko Bale gave a clever exhibition of juggling, a feature being their performing pigeons. 02 09 02

1902 12 30
The Auckland Road Circus, Cambridge, has re-opened under the name of the Empire Circus of Varieties and enjoyment of an excellent nature is assured at each performance. Several excellent 'turns' are included in this week's programme including the London serio-vocalist comedian, George Egerton and the first appearance in Cambridge of Leno, the midget comedian. The Great Dakota, an American necromancer in original stage illusions, keeps the audience in wonderment and laughter from the start. 02 12 30

1903 03 06
Thomas Askham was summoned for presenting a stage play, "Robinson Crusoe", at the Grand Circus and Hippodrome, Auckland Road, Cambridge, the building not being licensed as a theatre. There was pantomime action and considerable dialogue in verse. There was a temporary stage with scenery at the back and footlights. But it could not be described as a play, it was only an entertainment. The Theatre catered for the 'Varsity and the better classes and the more humble people went to this music-hall and circus. 03 03 06 [4.4]

1903 04 06
An inquest was held on the former assistant manager of the Empire Theatre of Varieties, Cambridge. He had deposited £10 as security on taking the post and after he had held the position for a month this was to be returned to him in instalments. But the company was a failure and he had lost his savings in the venture. He had pawned his watch for half-a-crown and said he did not have a farthing. But he had £40 in his bank and his mind must have been deranged by his theatrical reverses. 03 04 06

1903 04 28
Mr Askham applied for a theatrical licence for the Auckland Road Circus, Cambridge. A dramatic performance was instructive to the working classes and tended to keep them out of public houses. But those who were labouring in connection with the various religious organisations felt strongly it would be injurious to the morals of the people. As soon as the audience came out they were 'on the Common in the dark'. A poster for one play contained the figure of a young lady almost in a state of nudity and if a man took his wife or daughter in the vicinity of it the ladies would hardly know where to put their heads. 03 04 28

1903 06 11
Circus of Varieties, p4

1904 04 05
A new era in the chequered existence of Cambridge's second place of entertainment, the Empire in Auckland Road, has opened. Hitherto its reputation for providing entertainment has not been entirely faultless but the new programme revealed a pleasant change and there was a packed audience. Performers included an impersonator of characters in the works of Charles Dickens, the Danby-Gordon Trio who displayed a tragic interlude entitled 'The Penalty' and Miss Gladys Fontaine, a singer with a cultivated contralto voice. Two comedians amused with 'patter' and songs of 'nonsense rhymes' and music was supplied by Miss Zetti Handel's Ladies Orchestra. 04 04 05

1904 04 19
Empire circus

1904 06 15
One day only. The one exhibition in the world that has no counterpart: Buffalo Bill's Wild West and congress of Rough Riders of the World headed and personally introduced by Col W.F. Cody, 'Buffalo Bill'. Three special trains, 500 horses, 800 people. 100 Redskin braves including the famous warriors of the Sioux, Ogallallas, Brutes, Uncapappas, Cheyenne and Apache tribes in Indian pastimes and war dances. Includes the Battle of Little Big Horn, Custer's last rally. The vast arena illuminated at night by special electric light plants. The entire grand programme will positively be presented twice daily (Rain or Shine). Dennis James' Fields, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge. Friday June 24th – Advert.

See Buffalo Bill, the master exponent of horseback marksmanship in his wonderful exhibition of shooting while riding a galloping horse. Introducing the pioneers of the plains who tell the story of the progress in the great drama of civilisation by pictures of border life. The stage coach 'hold-up'. Cowboys' 'round-up'. Riding wild bucking broncos. Indian war dances. Attack on the Emigrant train. The intrepid cowboy cyclist. Imperial Japanese troupe in ancient and modern war drill. Mexican Vanqueros. South American Gauchos. Cuban Patriots. – Advert.

On Friday Cambridge is to be visited by Buffalo Bill's Wild West and Congress of Rough Riders. Beside the usual features of the show including Indian war dances, riding of wild bucking horses and a realistic scene of General Custer's last battle there will be a thrilling and daring bicycle feat of descending from a height of 85 feet and cycling through the air over a chasm of 41 feet, perhaps the most spectacular and dangerous of all bicycle novelties. The unique character of Buffalo Bill's Wild West Show was reflected in the character of the audiences, immense in number which the two Cambridge performances drew. Staid college professors, busy professional men and members of the clergy formed not an inconsiderable number of those who watched the performance with as much interest as the most ingenious juvenile and applauded as loudly as any. It is not everybody who has the opportunity to seeing a cowboy in his characteristic costume but the representation of incidents that have long since become historic were most interesting. There is no Deadwood coach now except in Colonel Cody' show and pony express riding has been superseded by the trans-continental railroad and the telegraph but he preserves the ancient method of carrying letters for the benefit of another age. Cambridge people thoroughly appreciated the visit. 1904 06 15

1904 09 29
Circus glanders, p4 *

1904 10 08
Many old people will remember the time when Newsome's Circus was a great institution in Cambridge. For many years they conducted a permanent circus here and became very well known in the town, but of late years they have dropped out of the public gaze. James Newsome is still alive – aged 80 years of age – but his wife Pauline has just quitted the ring for ever. She died at Cleethorpes last week, at the age of 79. CDN 8.10.1904

1905 09 12
The Auckland Road variety theatre, Cambridge is now known as the Hippodrome. It has been taken over by Geo. Saphrini who has experience at the Britannia Theatre, Glasgow and Alex Aubrey who has performed at all the principal halls in Great Britain. Although the old circus ring has been retained there were no equestrian turns but Professor Garford's performing dogs and

pigeons proved very wonderful and the hundreds who filled the building saw feats of agility and strength and extraordinary examples of human dexterity.. The programme was to have concluded with a bioscope exhibition but owing to a mishap with the lamp the pictures could not be shown. 05 09 12

1905 10 24
Having been closed for a week when it was handed over to the care of the carpenter, the Hippodrome, on Newmarket Road Cambridge reopened. The performances will now be carried out on the music hall principles, the old form of ring having been dispensed with and a large and spacious stage erected with all the necessary scenery and curtains. There will be one performance nightly with half-prices after nine o'clock. The Carr Brothers kept the house in a constant state of applause by their wonderful manipulation of a large inflated ball 05 10 24

1905 10 25
The licensee of the Cambridge Hippodrome made a claim for breach of contract against Charles Prinz, described as 'the most wonderful and sensational lion tamer on earth'. He had agreed to perform for a week at a salary of £40 but had taken another engagement at the Olympia, Liverpool. As a result their takings had fallen to £30, compared to £112 the week before. The Hippodrome would seat about 2,000 people and £25 had been taken one evening. The judge said that in his undergraduate days the University would not allow a theatre to pollute the atmosphere. They had changed their views since then. 05 10 25

1906 06 19
Thomas Askham, proprietor of the Hippodrome, Auckland Road applied for a licence for the performance of stage plays. The University had protested that a theatre near the common was detrimental to undergraduates but it would not be used as a low type of music hall, rather as a proper theatre for the poor classes at a time when students were not in residence. However the neighbourhood would not attract a first-class company and a lower type of entertainment would be detrimental to the morals of the people. 06 06 19a & b

1906 09 19
The world-famed travelling Educator of Natural History will pay Cambridge a visit after an absence of 15 years. Bostock and Wombwell's circus was instituted in February 1805 and novel additions are being made to keep pace with the times including specimens of Tasmanian Devil and the gigantic blue and red faced mandrill. In olden days shopkeepers used to close and the public declare a holiday in order to explore the menagerie. The conditions of the animals speaks volumes for the kindness and attention with which they are treated. 06 09 19a

1906 07 26
Thomas Askham applied for a licence to stage plays at the Hippodrome, Auckland Road. It was built for the poorer classes of Cambridge for whom there was no such accommodation. Plays would be presented of a high moral flavour such as 'East Lynne' & 'The Harbour Lights' which would have a good effect on the public. He would provide healthy amusement in a proper building. But local ministers felt it would not tend for the highest welfare of the people. The application was refused. 06 07 26

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1907 04 02
The name of Fred Karno is synonymous with mirth and hilarity, his pantomimic sketches are popular everywhere. Two are being staged nightly at the Hippodrome, Newmarket Road which he has specially transformed into a comfortable music hall. Last night the place was crowded 07 04 02

1907 09 03
The Royal Italian Circus visited the Hippodrome, Auckland Road, Cambridge. Signor Volpi put his ponies, monkeys and dogs through their entertaining performance and the baby elephant played several instruments. An amusing scene was the carriage ride of 'Madame Batavia', a bear, dressed as a woman. It was grotesque to see the affectionate way she took the arm of her trainer and walked round the ring 07 09 03

1907 10 05
Sangers circus, p3

1907 10 12
When Sanger's Circus marched into Cambridge from Newmarket, a roadman was sitting by the side of the road near the 'Paper Mills' devouring his breakfast. The observant eye of one of the elephants was quick to perceive this, and stretching out his trunk he 'commandeered' the poor man's basket, which contained his dinner as well. 07 10 12b 07 10 05

1908 10 23
Thomas Askham, manager of the Hippodrome, Auckland Road, was convicted of staging a play, 'Sally in Our Alley' which had not been approved by the Lord Chamberlain in a building which had three times been refused a licence. Afterwards he announced that it would be turned into a picture palace and a first-class, up-to-date set of animated pictures would be presented. The old artistes would not get the sack but would sing to them every night and have their 'funniosities' all the same. He would also apply for a dramatic licence. The Hippodrome was required in Cambridge by the working classes – as a working-class theatre. CWN 08 10 23 p3, CWN 08 10 30 p3

1908 11 06
The Hippodrome, Auckland Road, applied for a full dramatic licence. It had formerly been conducted as a circus but since Easter had been to Mr Leslie who had been giving variety sketches. It had 2,080 seats priced from one penny to fourpence and was not competing with the New Theatre, where the lowest charge was sixpence. It was already licenced for music and dancing. Some councillors felt the building was quite unfit and feared the consequence of a fire; it would have a bad influence on the neighbourhood. But a theatre was a much better institution than a music hall and the application was approved. 08 11 06 p8

1910

1912 01 19
Thomas Askham was one of the oldest and best-known of Cambridge tradesmen. As a young man he worked for Thomas Hunnybun, the coach builder of Sidney Street, and then founded the coach builder businesses on Newmarket Road, Regent Street and a house in London. But as the motor industry grew, there was less for him to do and he had to employ fewer men. Jointly with Mr

Tudor, he built the Hippodrome on Auckland Road, of which he was proprietor at his death. Before the era of the picture palace this place of amusement was exceedingly popular and provided many with healthy enjoyment who would otherwise have been walking the street. 12 01 19c

1913 01 03
The members of the company who are appearing in pantomime at the New Theatre had a narrow escape whilst travelling from Wolverhampton to Cambridge. Whilst the theatrical special was at a standstill, a passenger train ran into it from behind, but fortunately no life was lost. Mr Milton Bode's Company, consisting of about 50 actors and actresses was fortunately in the front of the train and beyond severe shocks, escaped without injury. Also travelling was the 'Wild Australia' Company including eight horses and a number of snakes and alligators. When the actors scrambled from the train they were mixed up with a giant python and an alligator that had escaped from their boxes 13 01 03b

1914 07 03
The Eastern Counties Circus Company, better known as the Gaiety Theatre, Auckland Road, was incorporated in September 1913. The management spent lavishly on fittings, furniture & advertising but expenditure always exceeded receipts. Then the managing director resigned and Torben Ltd worked it as a cinematograph theatre and variety show. But they made no money and left. Since then it has been empty. Now it is to close 14 07 03

1920

1920 06 28
Sylvester's Circus comparatively new; has two rings, military band, elephants, rough riders, clowns - CDN 20 06 28

1922 06 06
Circus enthusiasts who were disappointed by the non-arrival of Sylvester's Circus will find ample solace for their disappointment should they visit the Great Empire Circus this week. To describe the numerous items provided by accomplished tricksters (both animals and humans) would be well-nigh impossible. Gollywogs, tricksters, whose amazingly clever feats on cycles deservedly gain much applause. The climax of all the excitement is reached when Miss Eleonora accomplishes her daring tightrope feat entitled "The Slide for Life". Throughout the whole entertainment the audience experiences scarcely a dull moment, for which the humorous antics of several weirdly-attired clowns is largely responsible. It should be well patronised because the staff is composed entirely of ex-Service men 22 06 06

1922 06 10
The silver cup offered to the person who could make the best attempt to ride Mr F. Astley's donkey at the Great Empire Circus was duly won on Friday evening and proudly carried away by the gallant "rough-rider" who was master of the animal for a brief - very brief - period. The efforts of the competitors and the manner of their descent to earth kept the audience convulsed with laughter. A gentleman in a blazer and white flannels, who hugged a bottle lovingly to his bosom, first politely raised his hat to the animal, and then generously offered it a drink from the bottle.

1922 06 22
Midsummer Fair was proclaimed this morning by the Mayor (Councillor G.P. Hawkins) when crowds of people attended to witness the time-honoured ceremony. The old cry of "Biggest fair

I've seen for years" suggests that the Fair is still growing. Thurston's roundabout are again present and number about six in all. They include their famous golden dragons, gondolas and motor scenic railways. Three circuses and numerous "laugh and grow fat" shows make up a good square mile of pleasure ground. There are the usual crockery and sweet stalls, rock kings, cheap jacks, fortune tellers and the like in unusual profusion. An objectionable feature this year is a diabolical engine that emits a banshee-like wail at frequent intervals. It ought to be smothered.

1922 11 10
Armistice Day - Remembrance Day as many people prefer to call it - once again comes round tomorrow. The occasion will be observed with all the solemnity of former years by all, not excepting the exuberant spirits who will participate in a promised 'Varsity "rag" for they will hold their noise at 11am and join with the rest in the two minutes' silence which will ensue throughout the country. The "rag" will take the form of a "circus". Undergraduates will be attired in the skins of wild animals. It is rumoured that the effigy of the ex- Kaiser will be burnt at the stake on Market Hill in the evening!

1924 05 10
Coming! Bronco Bill's wild west exhibition and mammoth circus. Broncho Bill's world famous elephants. Broncho Bill's new group of performing prairie horses and 20 other big acts. Monday next, Midsummer Common, Cambridge. The great show will also visit Royston and Huntingdon - Advert 24 05 10

1924 05 13
Broncho Bill's circus is always a great attraction and huge crowds attended the performances at Cambridge. The programme was divided into two parts, the first half consisting of typical circus "stunts" and the second an exhibition of the wild and woolly West. The Wild West portion of the programme consists of lassooing and rope spinning, trick rifle shooting, whip stock cracking and rough riding, the whole concluding with an attack on the stage coach by Red Indians 24 05 13

1928 10 17
Sanger's circus, p7

1928 11 10 c
Carnival conditions prevailed in Cambridge where the poppy-decked shoppers met amusing spectacles on all hands. On no previous poppy day has undergraduate ingenuity been so fertile. Chief among the many attractive schemes for money squeezing was "Banger's Circus" in which an unidentifiable animal with 'flannel bag' legs, and a monkey led on a chain by a top-hatted ringmaster were noticeable. The procession was disorganised when the monkey developed a thirst and dashed into the Angel, dragging the not-unwilling circus master with him

1930

1930 04 24
Mills circus, p6

1935 04 20
The name of Bertram Mills is famous throughout the circus world. His two sons Cyril and Bernard were both up at college some 12 years ago. Cyril, who was at Corpus, had rooms with Miss Goff who now keeps a University lodging house at Maid's Causeway. She remembers him as one of a happy party of four at the house, all of whom used to ride motor-cycles. He took his MA degree the last time the circus was in Cambridge, three years ago. 35 04 20a

1936 04 29
Thirty of the smallest circus performers have arrived on the fairground at Cowper Road, Cambridge. Well-known on the Continent, these Lilliputian players range up to 36 inches in height and their 30 ponies are of similar build. They make their own village, consisting of hairdressers' shop, a newsagent, café and billiards saloon as well as their own church. There is added interest in the show as two of the tiny performers are to be married shortly 36 04 29

1937 01 16
Readers have responded with information on Keith and Tudor's circus on Midsummer Common. Mr R. Bainbridge says it was a large wooden building at the junction of Victoria Avenue, where the lamp standard is, at the corner of Jesus Grove. It was pulled down due to the expense of standing there and rebuilt at the bottom of Auckland Road. Mr Keith was the ring master and Mr Tudor was the clown. Sam George competed for a cup given by the late Charlie Rowell. It was a race 20 times around the ring over four hurdles every round. The circus finished late 1893 or early 1894 just before the Royal Show was held on Midsummer Common. He still has some of the building that was built into a shed. 37 01 16f

1937 01 22
'One with a memory' writes: "My father put Tudor's circus up twice in Cambridge and once in Ipswich and eventually at the Romsey Town Cement Works, where the main part still stands and is used by Messrs Macintosh for their ever-increasing agricultural department". He has a bill, dated June 1895 which includes six shillings and fivepence for 38 pints of beer from the 'Duke of Cambridge' for the workers. Another reader recalls Samuel Murfitt from Manea, the largest man in the world, who died 50 years ago. His girth was 100 inches and as no hearse could be found large enough he had to be conveyed on a flat. The sashes had to be taken from the windows and nearly 20 men were employed to get the body out. 37 01 22e

1937 01 23
Cambridgeshire giant, Tudor circus, p6
1937 09 21
An 80-year-old stage coach with a 78-year-old driver brought a breath of more leisurely days into Cambridge's busy streets. Drawn by four superb Dutch piebalds it is being used to draw attention to Gallaher's Park Drive cigarettes. The driver, Bob Smith, began driving in London in 1880 and continued until the horse buses went off the road. Since then he has driven for Bertram Mills in all sorts of places, including the great circus. The coaching tunes are sounded on a post horn by 15-year-old Albert Osmond. The four-in-hand is staying at the L&NER stable and will be here for a week 37 09 21a

1937 12 16
Bertram Mills, the famous circus pioneer, is being considered as a possible parliamentary candidate by the Isle of Ely Conservative Association in opposition to the sitting Liberal MP, Mr James de Rothschild. In 1919 he saw a circus show at Olympia and thought he could put on a better one himself. He was offered the venue for the next Christmas season and took on the lease without ever having staged such a show before. He toured the Continent with his son – who was up at Cambridge – and selected the first circus turns which were to make him famous. Since 1928 he has been a London County Councillor 37 12 16a

1938 04 15
Bertram Mills, circus proprietor and prospective Conservative candidate for the Isle of Ely died at his country home. – 38 04 15

1940

1941 08 30
Sanger's Circus to close due blackout, lack animal feed, petrol difficulties etc; during WWI camels and elephants used for ploughing and haulage – 41 08 30a

1944 04 28
Cody's circus five day visit – 44 04 28

1947 04 23
Among the Big Tops, Bertram Mills' tenting-circus is surely the top. It is a circus-de-luxe. To begin with every one of the 3,500 seats has a back to it and you can see in comfort. And as the animals are the backbone of the circus let us take a look at the Bertram Mills collection. First the horses - horses clever, horses dignified, horses graceful and all beautiful. Less graceful, but with their own beauty of their quiet grey colour were the six performing elephants, everyone a lady - but not lady-like enough to stifle the yawn with which they sat up after lying down to "sleep" to the strains of dreamy music. Strength was combined with grace in the Tovarisch Troupe and finally of course, there were the clowns, a merry nonsensical crew. Visitors to Bertram Mills Circus this week watching the daring acts carried out in a brilliant array of colourful costumes might be surprised to hear that as many as a thousand costumes and uniforms are used in the show. I had a talk with the wardrobe mistress, Miss Wilmer, and learnt that she designs them herself, cuts, fits and makes them. Like everybody else Bertram Mills Circus have their coupon problems - especially when costumes need replacing every year. They have two allocations by the Board of Trade but have to account for every coupon they spend and give an account of the number of yards used in each garment 47 04 23

1948 12 07
It is a good many years since there was a circus at the New Theatre, which makes this week's visit of Don Ross's Royal Imperial Circus all the more welcome. Everything that makes a circus is here – with the one notable exception of the elephants. There are the horses, dogs, monkeys, wire-walkers, the trapeze artiste, the lions, and the clowns – even two performing geese (said to be the only ones in the world). All the acts are interspersed with the appearance of the clowns, Edgar Cooke, Little Alf Pratley and Rabbit who also appears with a trampoline (one of those bouncing affairs) and invites members of the audience to have a go 48 12 07

1950

1950 04 11
Bertram Mills' circus elephants will lend their weight to the National Savings drive when they arrive in Cambridge. Starting from the railway station the six elephants will parade through the streets to Midsummer Common, carrying as their trappings photographic reproductions of the well-known savings poster having a white elephant as its subject. All will be ready for the menagerie attached to the circus to be opened from Saturday afternoon 50 04 11

1950 04 11
Bertram Mill's famous "big top" show has opened in Cambridge. Here in the well-known romantic atmosphere, strangely fascinating in its queer smell of sawdust and canvas, is paraded an amazing display of human and animal talent. Have you ever seen dogs play football? Or a lion walk at tightrope? Or elephants that do the elephant equivalent of a handstand? Or … but this

review is in danger of becoming a mere catalogue of questions – an instance of the mood of questioning wonderment the Circus is apt to induce in the onlooker 50 04 11

1951 05 01
Billy Smart's circus, p5

1952 03 05
Circus – human cannonball, p10

1952 03 11
Chipperfield's Circus opened on Midsummer Common, Cambridge. A whole collection of animals show their paces and tricks including polar and grizzly bears, African lions and horses, while a "cowboy round-up" brings plenty of action. It goes with a Big Bang, especially the sensational final item, by Les Raluys, in which a man and girl are shot together from a big cannon, landing in a net on the other side of the ring. If the bang doesn't take your breath away the flight of the human cannonballs will. 52 03 111

1952 03 14
Over 4,000 people rose suddenly to their feet at Chipperfield's Circus. It was near the end when the only double cannon act in the country was taking place. The two performers had entered the cannon and been shot into the air but as they fell the safety net gave way and they hit the ground. As there was no serious injury to either performer the act will go on as usual tonight. 52 03 14

1953 04 03
Professor Testo's flea circus is currently featured in the Easter fair on Midsummer Common. There are jugglers, tight-rope walkers and acrobats all of whom live in a felt-lined cigar box. It is rather difficult to get fleas these days, he says. "They must be human fleas. Animal fleas don't live long enough and they're not as strong. Usually we advertise for them, but if I get really short I get them sent from the College of Entymology. By looking after them carefully, and feeding them regularly on my own blood, I can keep them alive for about three months. I will pay sixpence each for them. But I don't want any of your thin, half-starved ones. They must be fat and well fed". 53 04 03

1953 04 20
The circus has come to town – and it was greeted by thousands of smiling Cambridge faces. Six of Bertram Mills' Burmese elephants marched from the railway station, trunk to tail as the midget clown, Nikki, distributed leaflets about the circus from the basket of his fairy cycle. Elephants Lechney and Company did not lose their way – they've taken the same stroll for the last 18 years. Crowds covered the roundabout at Hills Road. The one at the Four Lamps was unrecognisable, the circus-gazers had swept half-way across the road. Soon afterwards the 'two-ton-tessies; were under canvas, chained to a platform. 53 04 20

1954 09 28
The crowds who queued up for tickets outside Cambridge's New Theatre put paid to the story that Music Hall is dying. There was slap-stick comedy, Eddie Arnold with his variety of voices, Brian Andro on the high-wire, a strong-man acrobat, Rusty – a dog of mathematical powers, Bobby Collins – a first-rate whistler and the Lee Youngsters, a trio of singers. The star attraction was Tony Brent, a crooner of promise, but surely there will come a time when we shall have heard his songs just once too often. Forthcoming attractions include Don Saunder's Circus and Don Lammaree and his Lone Star Road Show, Phyllis Dixey and Cinderella on Ice. If the

Cambridge public give it support then even bigger names will be attracted from London. CDN 28.9.1954

1955 03 15
With the big top a blaze of coloured lights, people streamed to Midsummer Common to fill Chipperfields' Circus to capacity. It is the first time any circus has presented such a varied collection of animals, which include camels, llamas, zebras, a giraffe and Indian pythons. Polar bears are difficult to tame but Ricardo gets them to waltz, the black and grizzly bears delight the children, especially when one drinks a bottle of milk. The African lions were a little restless and snarled at Ricardo, but he made them form a pyramid and then lie at his feet. The seals balances balls, the oodles rode a pony round the ring and one of the elephants even did a handstand. 55 03 15a

1956 04 21
Moving Bertram Mills circus from town to town is a massive undertaking. The catering manager has a real problem. Practically every human mouth in the show is his responsibility and he works a week ahead, buying all his supplies from the tradespeople in the place the circus is to visit. Imagine walking into a grocer's shop and demanding a half-ton of potatoes, or calling on the local dairy for 77 gallons of milk. But the well-fed, contented faces on the show ground are a testimony to his efficiency. 56 04 21a

1957 10 24
On Midsummer Common tents are mushrooming in readiness for Billy Smart's Circus. The show promises plenty of interest, thrills galore, glamour and excitement. In the Big Top 23 acts of superlative ability will perform twice daily. Amongst them are Tagora the sword-swallower, the Flying Lunasz trapeze stars, the Atlas Sahara Troupe of tumblers and the Larenty Troupe of trampoline artistes. Then there are the clowns led by Sasha Coco. The Wild West Show is a fast-riding affair of cowboys and Indians featuring Davy Crockett and the 'Cisco Kid. 57 10 24a & 23

1957 10 29
Billy Smart's circus show started with a parade of elephants, camels, seals, horses, chimpanzees and the artistes themselves. Then came his Arabian and Palomino horses, dancing, prancing and galloping around the ring, performing amazing tricks. The Rock 'n' Roll Elephants nearly brought the tent down with laughter: attired in jeans, one of these intelligent creatures expertly imitated Elvis Presley. To see the beautifully-groomed polar bears glissading down the slides with every evidence of enjoyment made one realise how the animals can find fun pleasing the audience. 57 10 29a

1958 10 09
A new high in circus history will be reached when Chipperfields open at Midsummer Common. That fantastic character, "Mr Pastry", international star of stage, screen and television, following terrific success on the Ed Sullivan TV shows in America, bounces into the sawdust ring to become an even greater name as Star of the Circus. There will be side-splitting yells when he joins the Western Rough Riding Routine. 58 10 09b, 58 10 14 & a

1959 04 21
Bertram Mills' circus began their visit to Cambridge under the big top on Midsummer Common. The huge canvas auditorium with improbable little bits of grass still visible between the rows of seats was packed to the walls. The ring was immaculate with white sawdust, and high above it the roof held the promise of balancing feats to come. The performance opened with the entrance of

an elephant in a pink bonnet driving a yellow motor car accompanied by a cavalcade of clowns and augustes. 59 04 21b & c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960 09 03
As advance manager of Billy Smart's circus Reg Mankin must arrange for regular deliveries to Midsummer Common of 300 pints of milk a day, newspapers, laundry and cleaning as well as meat, fruit and vegetables. Then there is bread and cakes and the gas to cook it all on. Besides the provisions for the 300 artists and staff there are the needs of the 200 animals whose appetites are much larger than any human's. In one week they consume ten tons of hay, 600lb of horsemeat for the five hungry lions, 140lb of rice for the 12 polar bears and 12 sacks of stale bread for the elephants. 60 09 03

1961 10 29
Chipperfield's circus televised for Christmas show – 61 10 29b

1963 03 18
The circus came to Cambridge, not in glittering costumes but in best suits to Great St Andrew's church. The occasion was the wedding of Jeoffrey Nicholson, a clown with Bertram Mills Circus to Patricia O'Dell from Quy. The couple first saw one another when the circus came to Cambridge three years ago, but it was not until recently that they met again. Amongst the personalities was Jacko, a fellow clown. After a reception at the Garden House Hotel the couple left for a honeymoon before returning to the circus. 63 03 18a

1966 09 19
Circus elephant parade – photo – 66 09 19

1970
1971 05 24
Billy Smart's circus procession Hills Road – photo – 71 05 24

1974 11 11
Circus elephant parade, p4

1975 03 01
The bizarre sight of city-suited lawyers in mud-covered town shoes, sorting out llamas, camels & elephants in a disused coal yard at Cottenham brought to an end the sage of Circus Hoffman. Earlier in the day the villagers had been treated to the unique sight of a high court tipstaff, complete with court orders and warrants, being chased by a baby elephant. It was all part of the tragi-comedy which opened last November when one of the four brothers running Circus Hoffman decided on a unilateral declaration of independence and peeled off what he considered was his chunk of the circus and headed for Cambridge from London. The final curtain was lowered amidst tears and curses when the peeled-off chunk re-joined the whole

1975 04 23
Austin circus, p6

1979 05 22
Peace returned to the Big Top at the weekend and it was possible to enjoy two major artistic events without the accompaniment of heavy rain on canvas, whistling wind and a variety of off-

stage rumblings. For the first time in a fortnight consecutive performances were staged without the artists and audience being drenched and deafened, though they had to be on their guard against damp patches on the walkways and duck-boards. It is a visit the Sadler's Wells Ballet Company is unlikely to forget. But the foul weather may trigger off a discussion on Cambridge's future as a regional artistic centre. There are few cities where such keen following can be found for top-rate entertainment and the large audiences deserve something better than a circus tent on a patch of churned-up grass.

1980

1984 05 10
Gerry Cottle's new circus without animals opened its canvas doors on Midsummer Common. Why make animals suffer when you can be as cruel as you please to human beings? You can hurl knives at them, string them up by their hair, jump on them and even force them to run flaming sticks along their arms and chest. Many of the performers are students of the first British Circus School which has brought young people from outside the close-knit circus community and trained them to be professional circus artists in the company of older hands. 84 05 10 p7

1984 05 10
Fossett circus, p5

1984 08 18
Tudor's circus – history – 84 08 18 p15

Tivoli Cinema, Chesterton Lane opened in March 1925 79.40

c.76.9 : Cinema

note: for Cambridge-made films see c. 65.6
source
M = C.S. Manning "The Cinematograph & animated pictures: Cambridge 1896-1909 In : Cambridgeshire Local History Council Bulletin no.39, 1984

Early moving pictures – 33 07 29

Arthur Melbourne-Cooper was the builder of St Alban's first cinema, a photographer and film-maker who was also a stunt man and acting coach. Having trained in his father's photographic business he became cameraman to Birt Acres, a scientist who in 1892 was experimenting with 'moving projection figures'. Arthur made short films which were presented by the showmen who travelled Hertfordshire showgrounds then set up a company and filmed extensively. Spectators often tried to disrupt proceedings and a crowd of undergraduates attacked his cast and camera crew when filming in Cambridge. He retired to Little Shelford 61 08 08 & a

British Association meeting at Cambridge 1833 first moving pictures demonstrated, 'Phantasmascope' – 38 08 13a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1896
First film shown in Cambridge at Tudors Circus, Auckland Road [M]

1896
Films shown in Guildhall (used intermittently till c1924) [M]

1899
First films shown for The Navy League, Corn Exchange [M]

1899 06 30
The East Coast Mutoscope Company has been formed to popularise that entertaining piece of mechanism which is known as the mutoscope, a portable instrument for the production of animated pictures. The intention is to set up these machines throughout the region so that by dropping a penny in the slot one may experience all the pleasure of witnessing a cinematograph exhibition. The promoters have good grounds for their confidence that the mutoscope will return handsome profits 1899 06 30

1900

1902 10 14
The New Edisonograph Animated Pictures were presented for the first time in Cambridge. They are by far the best yet seen, being considerably larger than usual and without any flicker. The Coronation pictures are exceptionally clear and very vivid are the pictures of the Prince and Princess of Wales visiting the dinners to the poor in London. For those sentimentally inclined nothing can be finer than the "Soldier's Return from the War" – to find the house to let and his mother in the Workhouse. The band of the University Volunteers is engaged and add much to the evening by their appropriate music. The pictures will be changed nightly and animated scenes of Cambridge streets will be presented. 02 10 14

1902 11 10
Notice to Entertainment Providers. Messrs Coulson & Co of St Andrew's Street Cambridge have purchased one of the latest Cinematograph Machines that it is possible to get. This machine is capable of showing 2,000 feet of pictures without any breakages. Pictures shown are very bright and steady and any size up to 20 feet may be obtained. It can be used either in dining room or public hall with equal safety. Sleight of hand and other items of entertainment can also be supplied. 02 11 10

1903 03 17
One of the best cinematographic entertainments ever seen in Cambridge is running at the Guildhall. The North American Animated Photo. Co. are showing some of the most interesting sights it is possible to conceive. Mr Joseph Chamberlain landed at Southampton on Saturday and on Monday a series of pictures were showing the Cambridge folk his reception. The operator was busy at work on Fenner's on Saturday where the Cambridge athletes achieved a sweeping victory. Music adds to the attraction. The entertainment will be repeated twice a day. 03 03 17

1904 06 24
The Midsummer Fair brought its usual amusements but the cinematograph held undisputed sway: it is the autocrat which swallows hundreds of 'tuppences' and is always ready for more. It was patronised liberally and showed some very excellent representations of national and local life. War pictures form no inconsiderable part of the programme and among the turns of local interest were views of the May Races and the boiler explosion at Linton. CDN 24.6.1904

1904 12 23
Dr Seaton's Animated Photographs and Concert Company visited Cambridge Guildhall on Boxing Day. The pictures include the latest Japanese and Russian war films, "Life in Canada" a grand film of 1,200 feet long, "The Kingdom of the Fairies" and a large variety of humorous subjects well worth witnessing. The performance included a high-class variety entertainment including Professor Carson, ventriloquist and mimic and Dr Seaton with his conjuring and plate-spinning. CDN 23.12.1904

1906 06 23
An alarm of fire was raised at one of the cinematogaph shows at Midsummer Fair. A film and various odds and ends near the operating box became ignited and flames shot up above the front staging. Some alarm was shown by the audience who were assured there was not the slightest danger but all the exits were opened and those who wished were enabled to leave without difficulty. The flames were quickly extinguished and the entertainment proceeded as usual. 06 06 23a & b

1908
Alexandra Hall (YMCA lecture hall) used for first regular film shows, (stopped 1914) [M]

1908 03 17
Last September a cinematograph entertainment was given by the Gaumont Company at Newmarket. The operator jarred the machine and a piece of hot lime ignited one of the films. In trying to extinguish the flames he knocked over the lantern, the cylinder of gas ignited and there was a rush for the door. One lady was thrown into the flames and so terribly injured that she died in hospital. The company had paid her funeral expenses. Now her husband demanded damages: she had earned 10s a week at the laundry and his prospects of work were much reduced since a married man had a better chance of a respectable position than an unmarried one. 08 03 17

1908 10 09
Poole's Myriorama is a unique entertainment comprising views of the lands beyond the seas. A special feature is 'A contest in the clouds' in which the aerial warfare of the future is strikingly forecasted by a remarkably clever series of pictures and effects and some splendid pictures were shown on the Bioscope. A capable company of entertainers include a troupe of Japanese performers whose feat of walking a rope from one end of Cambridge Guildhall almost to the ceiling is really marvellous CWN 08 10 09 p6

1909
Picture Palace opened in Working Men's Club (regular film shows till c1916) [M]

1909 09 17
The danger of fire at cinematographic exhibitions, such as that at Newmarket a couple of years ago which caused fatal panic, has now been eliminated. A demonstration of the new Mansell cinematographic machines was given at Cambridge Guildhall. The lantern is guaranteed fireproof and enclosed in an iron operating house. Even under circumstances of the grossest carelessness, which no operator would ever risk, all that would happen is that just two inches of film would be fired. 09 09 17

1910

1910

Cinematograph shows attract crowds at Midsummer Fair [3.2]

1910 04 29
Frederick Hawkins, proprietor of the Picture Palace, Workman's Hall, Fitzroy Street appeared in court under the Gaming Act. He had distributed numbered handbills and given half-a-crown to the person whose number he showed on screen. On Saturday night there were other prizes of a silver-plated teapot, silver-plated cruet and six teaspoons in a case. Hawkins said he'd done it to test if advertising by handbills was any good. But it was a breach of the law and he was given a nominal fine. 10 04 29a

1910 08 19
Henry and William Thurston, roundabout proprietors, were summoned for not having a supply of proper appliances at a cinematograph exhibition. Supt Lander said there were between 3,000 and 4,000 people at Histon Show. Messrs Thurston had a show there, which he visited. The machine was enclosed but the fire buckets were outside the tent, telescoped. Thurston's manager said they had hardly had time to put the fire appliances in the tent before the first show. It was a serious case and the public must be protected. They were fined £10 10 08 19a

1910 08 19
The Sturton Town Hall Company applied for cinematograph, music and dancing licences. At present the premises were used by the Salvation Army on Sundays and occasional week days but in future it would be used for entertainment, the chief part of which would be moving pictures. The cinematograph apparatus might be placed outside the hall by erecting a platform and making a hole in the wall, though the club billiard room made this impracticable, or the vestibule might be taken away and a platform erected there. 10 08 19f

1910 09 18
Demonstration of cinematograph machine at Guildhall for Corporation, "time coming when every town will have a hall especially constructed for viewing"; great precautions taken against fire [3.1]

1910 11 11
The People' bioscope car arrived at the Three Horse Shoes Inn, Harston, on Monday evening and gave an excellent exhibition of pictures with gramophone selections. There was a large attendance & the military scenes especially aroused the enthusiasm of the local Territorials and Harston Boy Scouts. Those who cared to do so were, by the courtesy of the manager of the car, enabled to listen to further gramophone selections until closing hour when hearty cheers were given for 'The People' car. 10 11 11f

1910 12 03
Bioscope show at Hippodrome, projector rented from London firm fails to work properly, court case – The Times 10 12 03

1911 07 28
A slight outbreak of fire occurred at the Picture Palace, East Road. The heat during the day had been intense and the lantern operator, Harry Pink, became a little faint and accidentally knocked a small piece of film on to the lantern, the heat igniting it. The film flared up and Pink quickly turned off the light, pulled down the safety shutters of the box, which is a fire-proof structure, and jumped out. The film soon burnt out and the audience, consisting of 37 children and three adults, walked out without any panic 11 07 28d

1911 08 11
The Cambridge Electric Theatre Company applied for a cinematograph licence to show inflammable films at the Victoria Assembly Rooms on Market Hill. Only non-inflammable films are currently used but these do not give as clear a picture. The lantern chamber was situated outside the building and was fire-proof with iron shutters to block the two openings in the wall. The hall could seat 280 and be cleared in less than two minutes. But there was no back exit and magistrates refused the application 11 08 11h & 18c Electric Theatre opened Market Hill, cinematograph licence refused & restricted to non-flammable film [M]

1911 11 24
The University and Town Roller Skating Rink will open its doors as the County Rink Cinema, Magrath Avenue. A small portion of the large building is being converted into an up-to-date picture theatre where the very best films will be shown. The ticket will also give free entry to the rink and use of skates. The ring will certainly be smaller but still allow for racing and hockey. Gymkhanas and carnivals will continue to be held. 11 11 24b [M]

1912 07 12
New Cinema Theatre in Mill Road, Covent Garden, should be set back – 12 07 12f

1912 07 26
Mr Lloyd ex-manager, pianist and vocalist of the East Road Picture Palace told the court that Mr Hawkins had informed him he would close it for a month but that he should move to a new hall in Herne Bay. But he did not give notice or fill in the month as promised. Mr Hawkins, the proprietor of this and other halls in Cambridge, said he had tried to find Lloyd work and he'd be pleased for him to open at the Picture Palace again on August Bank Holiday Monday. Lloyd was a very able and competent man and it was astonishing he should cut his throat in this way. The case was dismissed. 12 07 26n

1912 11 09
Varsity cads disrupt cinema [3.3]

1912 12 19
Cambridge Picture Playhouse Ltd issue prospectus for new cinema in Mill Road due to phenomenal success of their Cambridge Electric Theatre on Market Hill [3.4]

1913
Playhouse Cinema opened, first purpose-built cinema in Cambridge: had its own orchestra & camera man who took pictures of local events for newsreels [2.10, M]

1913
Hippodrome reopened as Gaiety (closed c1915) [M]

1913 04 11
Mr W.L. Raynes applied for a cinematograph and music licence for the new Picture Playhouse being erected in Mill Road. The building, which is fireproof, will accommodate 167 in the gallery and 602 in the body of the hall. The architect, Mr Baines, said the walls, which were 25 feet high, complied with byelaws and steel stanchions had been embedded in the brickwork which could not possibly bend as the result of a strong wind. 13 04 11 p9 CIP

1913 04 18

The handsome new Electric Picture Palace being erected on the corner of Covent Garden, Mill Road, is making excellent progress with up to 35 men working on the job. When complete it will have the handsomest front of any place of entertainment in Cambridge. There will be a vestibule where 60 people can wait under shelter and the seats will be of the tip-up variety, upholstered in plush. The Electric Theatre, as well as that on Market Hill, will be under the management of Mr Adrian Jordan but the programmes will be quite distinct. 13 04 18 p9 CIP

1913 04 23
Magistrates heard two cases involving the new Picture Playhouse in Mill Road. Messrs Picture and Sons, the builders, were summonsed under the Lords Day Observance Act for working there on Whit Sunday. There was no evidence and the case was dismissed. But the Manager of the Electric Light Company was fined for parking his car across the footway in Covent Garden at the back of the cinema. He claimed it was in the entrance-yard that was filled with parking materials. He had pushed it in as far as he could and pedestrians could pass easily. He was there for 20 minutes and had moved as soon as he'd been asked by a policeman. 13 04 23 p9 CIP

1913 05 09
Yes! It is true! Perfectly true! That the new Picture Playhouse in Mill Road will open at 2.30 on Whit Monday, and present the strongest picture programme ever seen in Cambridge. It is also true, that an equally strong programme will be presented at the Electric Theatre, Market Hill 13 05 09 p01 CIP

1913 05 09
Picture Playhouse has been put up in record time. Films will include one taken by Mr Adrian Jordan's operators, 'Hustling at Cambridge' shows the remarkable rapidity with which the new Picture Playhouse has been erected 13 05 09 p07 CIP

1913 05 16
The newly-opened Picture Playhouse in Mill Road is the most comfortable in Cambridge. From the imposing frontage with its domes and balcony, through the hall, brightly lit and tastefully furnished, to the magnificent proscenium, everything is of the very best. A small orchestra adds much to the attractiveness of the entertainment. All the nearly 800 seats were filled on the first night and hundreds had to be turned away. The films included some taken by the Company's own operator and 'The 13th Man', about an undergraduate club whose reunion leads to some remarkable incidents. The show is continuous and the programme changed twice a week. 13 05 16 p7 CIP

1913 10 17
Kinemacolor visit 13 10 17 p11 CIP

1913 10 24
Kinemacolor visit Guildhall – includes colour pictures of Cambridge 13 10 24 p12 CIP

1913 11 07
The Rink Picture Palace, Hertford Street plans to show Dante's 'Inferno' was attacked by the Mayor: he had received many letters from residents; if shown any renewal of the licence by justices would be refused at once, he warned. The manager, Syd Byron wrote to the Presiding Magistrate. He offered to give a private performance and cut any objectionable scenes. Magistrates were equally divided and could not therefore prohibit the showing. They hoped he would not show it. But Mr Byron decided to go ahead 13 11 07 p10 CIP

1914 04 10
Under the proposed new regulation every cinematograph house should have a fireman in uniform to take precautions against fire and attend to the appliances. But when the Cambridge Picture Playhouse was built on Mill Road it met all the regulations and they had blankets and appliances with a fire drill each week. To have a fireman in uniform would be expensive and was apt to produce a panic in the event of a fire, magistrates were told 14 04 10f

1914 07
Magistrates ban boxing film - "grandmotherly legislation" [3.7]

1914 08 21
The woman in the box office of the picture theatre at the Workman's Hall said she had been told not to let in any child under 14 unless accompanied by someone over 14. She had to turn away a great number. After they passed her they were questioned by the manager, Mr Billings. She could see the seats in the hall and children were supposed to sit together. Henry Kelly said he went with his brother and sister Blanche, 11. The boys sat at the back but she went to the front because she could not see. This was against the new regulations and a technical offence had been committed. 14 08 21 p3

1914 08 28
Mr W. Jaggard of Tenison Road said he visited the Empire Musical Hall. It was an exceptionally large house and people were sitting on the hot water pipes. The film suddenly stopped & he saw a piece of the film burning in the operator's box. Someone called out 'fire'. & there was a general stampede. The hall was quickly cleared but two tables had been placed in the exit to the right of the stage. The management was fined 14 08 28

1915
County Rink Cinema requisitioned (till 1919) [M]

1915 02 26
The management of the Picture Playhouse in Mill Road decided it would be better if they could give high-class variety turns between the pictures. They asked Northfield & Son of Castle Street, who had done much work for them, to enlarge the stage and do the job quickly. But then they disputed the cost. There had been no estimate requested, the job had been difficult and the Cinema kept adding extra things 15 02 26

1915 07 02
Eastern Counties Cinema Company in liquidation; only assets the effects at the Gaiety Theatre, (the old Hippodrome) 15 07 02 p2

1915 08 06
Playhouse to feature Capt Villiers' wireless airship to fly around the auditorium controlled by wireless apparatus from stage and bomb audience with balls 15 08 06 p4

1915 08 27
Victoria Cinema: A.J. pointer applies for cinematograph exhibition at the Victoria Cinema … had held licence for music and dancing since April and for four years the premises had been used for cinema shows under a music and dancing licence. As intended to show some recruiting pictures which used 'inflammable' films was necessary to obtain formal licence. Floor had been lowered, main gangway 4ft wide. The film chamber built outside main building with automatic shutters,

could be emptied in less than two minutes 15 08 27 p4 Electric Theatre refurbished & reopened as Victoria Cinema [M]

1915 12 02
Playhouse failed to black out balcony 15 12 02 p5 CIP

1916
Empire renamed Kinema, films only [M]

1919
County Rink Cinema reconstructed, reopened as Rendezvous Cinema [M]

1919 12 17
Two new cinema plans rejected, Sussex Street and Guildhall Street – surprise decision – 19 12 17e

1920

1920 01 14
Cambridge Picture Playhouse Ltd annual, meeting to alter articles of Association; have acquired site in Sidney St & Hobson St where propose to erect fine new building – Ch 20 01 14a

1920 04 07
Sussex Street to be widened, proposed cinema vetoed as would delay work on houses; suggestion that council buy plot and erect municipal cinema to avoid paying heavy compensation – Ch 20 04 07a, b

1920 05 14
Sussex Street cinema lively discussion, not approve plans - CDN 20 05 14

1920 05 20
Guildhall Cinema plans on site of the Black Swan, Fabb & Tyler printing works and an empty shop – should concentrate on building homes – 20 05 20

1920 06 17
Picture Playhouse Company appeal for erection of a kinema on the Sussex Street site - CDN 20 06 17

1920 06 19
Long debate re new cinema Sussex St & Guildhall St, building definitely vetoed by council [4.8, 5.1]

1920 07 02
Playhouse appeal against decision to block Sussex Street cinema lost - CDN 20 07 02

1920 07 07
Picture Playhouse Cinema appeal against refusal planning rejected by court – Ch 20 07 07c

1920 10 20

Proposed Kinema. At their meeting tomorrow, the Borough Council will be recommended by the Plans Committee to rescind their resolutions which placed a veto on the erection of the proposed kinema in Guildhall Street, and to give permission for the existing buildings to be demolished .The minute of the Plans Committee dealing with the matter states: A letter was read from Mr. A. J. Pointer, stating that a building on the site proposed to be used for the erection of a kinema would be unoccupied by the 25th October 1920, and asking that he might be allowed to proceed with the building of a kinema in Guildhall Street. Mr. Councillor Amies proposed, and Councillor Stephen seconded, that the letter be forwarded to the Council and that … 20 10 20 CIP of

1920 10 28
Council approve demolition of buildings in Guildhall Street on site acquired by A.J. Pointer for an up-to-date Kinema – Ch 20 10 28b

1920 11 04
Plans for cinema on site of Old Spring Brewery, Chesterton Road (Tivoli); first plans for a temporary building consisting of a stage and dressing room in the garden, later plans for roofing over the garden between the building and Chesterton Road – CDN 20 11 04

1921 01 05
Proposed Sussex Street cinema plans discussed – 21 01 05

1921 01 19
Sussex Street cinema – undesirable on the site proposed – 21 01 19a, b

1921 03 30
Corporation refuse plans for conversion Automobile Company premises in Hobson Street into a kinema; Picture Playhouse Company to appeal over their plans for cinema in Sidney Street – 21 03 30j

1921 08 31
Central Cinema licensed for film, singing, dancing & music – 21 08 31b; full-page feature – 21 08 31d.e, f

1921 11
Court case over Cambridge Picture Playhouse Ltd – Council compelled to pass plans they had previously rejected [2.2]

1921 11 16
Charlie Chaplin film in Guildhall, staged by A.J. Pointer of Victoria Cinema – 21 11 16a

1921 11 16
Sidney Street cinema – Corporation had refused as want to widen Sidney Street, were wrong – 21 11 16n

1922 06 06
In the death of Mr Ernest Edward Hayward Cambridge has lost a much respected townsman. He was one of the first to start cinemas in the town, and used to arrange for displays at garden parties and gave performances in the Corn Exchange and Guildhall. The "Arcadia" on St Andrew's-hill was managed by him and he was famed for the excellent variety entertainment given there. Indeed, deceased was responsible for the commencement of high-class variety shows in the town. He was an amateur actor of repute and for many years played the humourous lead in Bijou

Amateur D.C. productions. He belonged to the Cambridge Pierrot Troupe, a concert party which existed from 1897 to 1901 solely for charitable purposes 22 06 06

1923 10 08
On Thursday the Central Cinema once again opens its doors, and another step towards a brighter Cambridge will be achieved. The main scheme of alteration has been the heightening of the roof, the removal of the pillars and improvement of the ventilation schemes. The absence of the pillars, which at times were a source of discomfort to some of the audience, will alone reconcile patrons to their long period of exclusion. The decorative scheme is entirely new and is based in shades of coffee and dark walnut, relieved with Wedgwood blue, an effective combination which is continued in the huge lampshades, which were always such a feature of the decoration. Another big feature is a new screen and projection which has been carried out by the Gaumont Company. The projection is now situated about half way down the hall, and not at the back as previously c23 10 08

1923 10 12
The long-waited for reopening of the Central Cinema, Hobson Street, Cambridge, took place in the presence of a good attendance. This popular house of amusement had so established itself with the lovers of the silent drama that its temporary withdrawal from the ranks of amusement caterers has caused no little concern. Not a few patrons felt that if a particular film did not altogether appeal to them, there was always a good orchestra to listen to, and this is doubtless one of the secrets of the Central's success. Under the renewed direction of Miss Norma Thomson the orchestra is better than ever, and some distinctly appropriate music was played with skill and efficiency 23 10 12

1923 11 03
The subject of the censorship of cinematograph films came before the Cambridgeshire county council. They agreed that no film - other than photographs of current events - which has not been passed for universal exhibition by British Board of Film Censors shall be exhibited without the consent of the council. The Vice Chancellor thought that films such as those of the rags on Market Hill, he personally would be very glad to see stopped. (Laughter.) If there were no films of "rags" there would be no "rags" to film. (Laughter) 23 11 03

1924 08 12
After extensive alterations and repairs the Rendezvous cinema, Cambridge, which will now be known as the New Rendezvous, was reopened. Considerable improvement have been made in the appearance of the interior and the seating is now most commodious. At the head of a long and attractive programme is "The Cabaret Dancer" featuring Rudolph Valentino and Mae Murray. The film is good entertainment but one looks for a little more acting, especially on the part of Valentino who, as the lover, really fails to impress 24 08 12

1925 03 16
The "Tivoli", Cambridge's new cinema on Chesterton Road will be opened on Thursday and many people have been speculating as to what it looks like inside. A representative of the CDN who had a look around came away very much impressed with the general air of comfort and the attractiveness of the interior. Over 600 people can be seated in the body of the hall and gallery. It has comfort, excellent lighting and excellent decoration. If you want a private box for six people you may have one for the sum of 15s 25 03 16 [2.4,M]

1925 03 20

Described as "Chesterton's super cinema", the Tivoli made its debut before the Cambridge public when there were two opening performances. Elaborate, cosy, artistically lighted and efficiently ventilated, Cambridge's sixth cinema has every justification for expressing itself in superlatives. It has a courteous staff pf brown-uniformed attendants, an excellent orchestra and a screen sufficiently large to do justice to the most elaborate film productions. The projection last night was not perfect, but this was merely a matter of adjustment 25 03 20

1925 12 05
The public examination of the film hirer of the Rendezvous Cinema was held at the Cambridge Bankruptcy Court. He had taken over the lease from Mrs Mason in June 1924 with Mr Wallace Lester and managed the business on behalf of the partnership. The concern never made any profits. He started with a salary of £10 a week and as the concern did not go very well it was reduced to £5. The cinema took about £90 a week, and wages and other expenses amounted to £120 a week, so that there was a gross loss every week 25 12 05, 25 12 09

1926 12 16
It may not be generally known to the Cambridge public that Mr Carne, the manager of the Playhouse, Mill Road, is the "Victor Carne" who figures in the record list of the Vocalion Gramophone Co. He has recorded "The Holy City" and "The Star of Bethlehem" for their Christmas list and these and other of his records are obtainable at Messrs Leavis's, Regent Street. Wireless enthusiasts will no doubt remember the many times he has sung from London and Daventry 26 12 16

1927 02 01
The Rendezvous placard trolley, which has so many times gone its rounds of the streets of Cambridge advertising "thrillers" and "heart appeal" stories at this cinema met with an ignominious fate at the hands of undergraduates. It was seized by a party of merry gownsmen and pulled in triumph down Hertford Street and Magdalene Street where they sought to dispose of it by pushing it into the river. It fell on to the landing stage moored at this point but with undamped ardour the undergraduates endeavoured by their united efforts to confine this "publicity agent on wheels" to the cold depths of the Cam. Then, the last rites having been performed, the revellers went on their way rejoicing. 27 02 01

1927 02 04
The Rendezvous Dance Hall asked for an extension of the dancing licence. The hall was built in 1909 as a skating rink and there was then no houses in Magrath Avenue. Those who came to live there afterwards came knowing the hall was there. From 1912 it was used as a variety and picture hall and in 1915 was commandeered for the War Office. In 1919 it was returned and conducted as a dance hall and cinema. In 1925 magistrates decided it should be open until midnight but there were complaints that people leaving made a noise with their motors & cycles. It was the best dance hall in Cambridge and now no one ever dreams of a dance ever terminating until 12. The Guildhall and Masonic Hall had licences until 2 a.m. 27 02 04

1927 03 16
The owners of the Playhouse, Mill Road, Cambridge, have just completed negotiations for the sale of that cinema to a syndicate who are said to be the owners of the Central Cinema and the Tivoli. We understand that the transfer will take place in September. The Picture Playhouses Ltd, who owned the Playhouse, also have property in Sussex Street and they are also disposing of this. 27 03 16

1927 06 09

"Grit" is an undergraduate film taken by a little Cine-Kodak and projected by the Kodascope at the Tivoli Cinema. It is believed to be the first serious attempt in an English University to obtain experience in the technique of film production and is one of the first amateur films to be exhibited in the country. It has been directed by Mr Dennis Arundell and we get some good views of Cambridge streets and colleges. It shows how the stroke of a college crew is kidnapped so his boat might not go head of the river. 27 06 09

1928 10 18
Cambridge Guardians have sanctioned the provision of a cinematograph at the Poor Law Institution. A Kodascope machine will be installed and a subscription raised to cover the cost of £1 a week. The provision of music on cinematograph or wireless was just as much part of the Institution as providing medical and dental treatment. The also considered the installation of a system of telephones 28 10 18

1929
Victoria Cinema final performance, building converted to Electricity offices [M]

1929 02 05
The latest form of political propaganda, the Conservative's touring 'Talkifilm' is visiting Cambridge. The programme includes a speech by the Prime Minister which gives an uncanny effect of realism and a silent film showing the opening up of Canada. The van will visit Pound Hill, the Premier Hall Chesterton and Occupation Road, winding up at Cherry Hinton Road corner 29 02 05

1929 06 28
Talkies to start in Cambridge August – Central Cinema – 29 06 28 p8

1929 08 13
Central cinema preparations for talkies CDN 13.8.1929

1929 08 17
Cambridge about to see the 'Talkies', Southend says no, 28 08 17 p6*

1929 08 20
Talkies arrive - Broadway Melody at the Central cinema, 29 08 20 p6*

1929 09 13
Band of Hope cinema – David Moore – CDN 13.9.1929

1929 10 10
Performances of the talkie 'College Love' at the Central Cinema, Cambridge, were marred by undergraduates. The Manager admitted that to show such a film at the beginning of term was unfortunate. The undergraduates meet old pals, have drinks together and get more exuberant than usual. They were also resentful at the American features introduced into college life as they know it. Scenes of a match corresponding to Rugby were greeted with many 'cat-calls' while nobody expects undergraduates to remain silent during the portrayal of anything in the amorous line. The cinema has a special telephone by which the volume of extraneous noise is gauged by an operator. He had occasion to request several of the disturbers to remain quieter. CDN 10.10.1929

1930

1930 05 10
The new talkie installation nearing completion at the Tivoli cinema, Cambridge, is manufactured by British Acoustic and was selected on account of its purity of reproduction. The entire sound equipment is duplicated so that no failure or breakdown can interfere with the performance. The programme selected for the opening week features Maurice Chevalier in 'Innocents in Paris' supported by the comedy 'Talkie'. 30 05 10a & b

1930 07 12
Great liberties have been taken with Sherlock Holmes and in plays and films you can learn things that Sir Arthur Conan Doyle himself never knew. In 'The Three Students' Sir Arthur laid the scene in a Cambridge college but in the 'Moriarty' film Holmes and Watson are both shown as undergraduates. It was here that their great friendship began and from here that Holmes set forth to track down Moriarty and his gang 30 07 12b

1930 09 20
The whole of Mill Road, Cambridge, was affected by a two-hour electricity stoppage which came just as the first performance finished at both the Playhouse and Kinema cinemas. The Kinema audience who had been watching a Western thriller, whiled away the time in community singing. But some trouble was experienced with the queue for the last show at the Playhouse which did not finish until midnight. 30 09 20

1930 10 11
For the past few months workmen have been engaged in constructing Cambridge's new Central Cinema in Hobson Street. The interior is decorated in a style reminiscent of the Regal Super Cinema at Marble Arch. The prevailing colours are mauve, orange and blue and the whole is surmounted by a dome in the form of a large star surrounded by sky effects. On each of the walls there are large panels with ornamental plastering surmounted by a design in the form of sunrise and illuminated by hidden lights. 30 10 11 [M,3.5,3.12]

1930 10 13
Crowds thronged Hobson Street endeavouring to gain admission to the opening of the new Central Cinema. Many were unsuccessful. The Mayor gave a civic blessing to the picture house: it was appropriate because the assessment value of the property would go up and Hobson Street was going to pay a large contribution to the rates. The film was Harold Lloyd's first talkie 'Welcome Danger'. 30 10 13

1931 03 20
Thieves stole £250 from the Cambridge Central Cinema when a safe containing the day's takings was rifled. Spread along the gangway in the middle of the balcony were a quantity of coppers, the result of a lengthy sorting of coins. No trace of entry could be found and it is believed the intruders were among the audience at the last performance and hid themselves in the lavatories or storerooms, eluding the fireman who makes a final inspection of the building before leaving. 31 03 20c

1931 05 29
Cambridge professors were amongst scientists who made a film at Spicers of Sawston and less than four hours afterwards saw themselves in natural colours on the screen. Experiments in colour have been going on for two years. At present efforts are being concentrated on motion-picture film. One of the difficulties has been the provision for a sound track but this has been surmounted and talking colour films will be made. Sawston may become a complete film colony rivalling Elstree in importance. 31 05 29a

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1931 07 17
Fire completely destroyed the Rendezvous Cinema and Dance Hall at Magrath Avenue, Cambridge. The only part left standing is the fireproof operating box, which is really a separate structure. Staff removed 12,000 feet of film which, if reached by the flames, might have caused a serious explosion. The most spacious dance floor in the Eastern Counties was reduced to charred bits of wood. Renovations and improvements to the dance hall lounges were nearing completion and were to be opened as a special attraction. 31 07 17j & k [M,3.14]

1931 07 31
The last of the Cambridge silent cinemas is to turn 'talkie'. The Western Electric system is to be installed at the Kinema and the first sound film to be presented will be "Song o' my Heart" starring John McCormack. With the new system the Kinema will be open continuously from 2.30 till 10.30. 31 07 31b

1931 08 28
The new Victoria Cinema on Market Hill, Cambridge opens today. The auditorium is an example of complete harmony between the architect and the decorative painter. No architectural enrichment is applied to the walls, which remain for the most part in darkness, but when the space is filled with light a gorgeous flow of rich colours rises like waves from the back of the house to reach a climax in the rich proscenium curtain of crimson and gold.
31 08 28h 1,500 guests, Sep [M,3.16]

1931 09 04
Cambridge's new Victoria Cinema possesses a theatre organ of the most modern type, a three manual Christie built by Messrs William Hill and Norman and Beard who have been responsible for many of the finest cinema organs in the world. It is placed on one side of the proscenium in two specially constructed chambers which house 2,000 wooden and metal pipes each of which has been 'voiced' by an expert. In the centre of the orchestra pit, placed on an electric lift, is the beautifully decorated console from which the entire organ is controlled. 31 09 04c

1931 09 04
Inquiries by the News confirm that the Central Cinema in Hobson Street is perfectly sound, despite rumours to the contrary. As part of the building is over the old King's Ditch, special attention was paid to the concrete foundations and reinforced with steel. The balcony, designed to carry 500 people, will take 2,000. The whole building is as sound today as it was when completed nearly 12 months ago. The only possible work is the renewal of some of the decorations as these were applied to wet plaster. 31 09 04e

1931 10 02
Cinemas – are they morally clean? – 31 10 02c

1931 12 11
A Band of Hope meeting in the Bethel Baptist Church, Swavesey welcomed Mr and Mrs David Moore and their programme of moving pictures. Mrs Moore deplored the fact that the gambling spirit was so rife and a scientific film showed the narcotic effect of alcohol. Pictures of the Skegness excursion gave great delight as many people saw themselves on the screen. They were followed by film of a garden party in Christ's College and the colleges in their winter mantle of snow. 31 12 11g

1932 01 01

If you spent Christmas in Cambridge you may see yourself on the screen at the Kinema. The enterprising management sent a man round with a cine-camera who took 'shots' of people doing their shopping on Market Square, a Christmas Day football match on Jesus Green and the Boxing Day meet of the Cambs Harriers showing many well-known faces including that of the Mayor drinking out of the stirrup cup. We hope it will not be the last time the Kinema send their camera round the town 32 01 01

1932 11 25
A new Rendezvous has risen from the ashes of the old in Magrath Avenue. Everything has been done to make it a place for entertainment, comfort and enjoyment. The cinema will seat 1,000 with plenty of leg-room while the ballroom, decorated in pink and gold, has a fine maple floor for 400 couples. A new band from London has been engaged for the dance season – it is distinctly hot in style. 32 11 25
[3.15]

1933 07 25
Cambridge's New Theatre is to be run as a cinema but every effort will be made to continue some theatrical form of entertainment. It has been leased to Mr P.V. Wallis who was the originator of the Central Cinema ten years ago and later took over the Tivoli and Playhouse cinemas. A Western Electric sound projector system will be installed together with some structural alterations and it is hoped to reopen in September. 33 07 25, 33 08 15, 33 09 02.

1933 07 28
The Central Hall in Market Passage may become a cinema where cultural films would be shown during the University term. It would be run by Openshaw Higgins, formerly manager of The Tivoli cinema. Mr Mullett, the architect said the amount of film in the proposed projection box would not generate sufficient heat in event of a fire to buckle the iron armour of which it would be constructed. 33 07 28

1933 07 29
Are now seven cinemas plus the Central Hall, notes on first films 33 07 29 [1.14, M]

1933 08 21
Some early entertainments in Cambridge – magic lantern, Poole's Myorama etc – 33 08 21

1933 09 05
Five Cambridge playhouses remembered – 33 09 05

1933 10 14
Cambridge's eighth cinema, the Cosmopolitan, otherwise the Central Hall in Market Passage, will provide a regular home for cultural films. Five years ago a Film Guild was started to show a more intelligent class of film, then Mr Openshaw Higgins tried putting them into the ordinary programme before deciding on a new small cinema. It will give three performances each day during Term. 33 10 14 33 10 17 [1.7,1.6 M]

1934 01 08
A film entitled 'Cambridge and the University Town, directed by Peter Collin of Newmarket is a twelve-minute pictorial survey with shots of the backs, boating scenes and Grantchester. He had the collaboration of R. Colville-College, an undergraduate of King's. The photography, which reaches a very high standard, is by S.W. Bowler who shows considerable promise. The film, released by Equity British Films will be shown in Ely, Littleport and Newmarket. As a lad Mr

Collin assisted in the operating box of the Victoria Cinema and is now a director of Argyle Talking Pictures. 34 01 08

1935 03 06
Daylight cinema vans organised by National Publicity Bureau visit [1.18]

1935 06 15
The Cosmopolitan Cinema in Market Passage was started two years ago by Mr N. Openshaw Higgins as an experiment. Increasing numbers of people have welcomed the opportunity of seeing cultural films that do not appeal to be masses. Now it is moving to the new theatre being constructed in Peas Hill. There has been discussion as to the most suitable name for the new venture. The Arts Theatre was talked of, but a more likely choice now is the Market Theatre. 35 06 15b [1.19]

1935 06 20
The Theatre Cinema returned to a programme of cine-variety with a programme of stage turns and films. The variety bill is headed by that inimitable comedian, Max Miller, 'the cheeky chappy'. All his jokes have the air of spontaneity and his suggestion of breezy good humour is infectious. The stage programme includes the most daring roller-skating acts we have seen, a juggler and a young lady who has achieved success as a wireless crooner. The principal film is 'The Personality Kid' with a clever cartoon and the News. 35 06 20

1935 08 06
The management of the Theatre Cinema (New Theatre) have returned to their popular cine-variety policy. There are four excellent stage turns and an exceptionally fine film. A snappily presented singing and dancing act featuring Jack Lewis and his Rolling Stones with the Wellington Sisters forms the principal item in the stage show, combining dancing by a cheery trio, saxophone work and percussion 'fireworks'. Savona is a remarkable juggler while 'the racketeers of mirth, Roy Lester and Jack Cranston offer a quick-fire cross-talk act. Finally Sereno and June's head-to-head balancing and tumbling act has much which is new even in these days when vaudeville simply abounds with this kind of act. 35 08 06a

1935 08 27
Political travelling cinema, New Square car park – photo – 35 08 27

1935 10 01
Cambridge Justices approved the plans of Associated British Cinemas for a new cinema to be erected in St Andrew's Street. The site had been left derelict after fire burnt down a large part of the Castle Hotel in 1934. The application was opposed by the Theatre Cinema and the Rendezvous. There were nine cinemas in Cambridge with 6,300 seats and it would be impossible for them all to carry on if a super cinema like this were built. The Victoria was built four years ago, the Arts Theatre was completely new and the Rendezvous was having more seats and an organ. But the Cosmopolitan had closed and the Guildhall and Corn Exchange licences were rarely used. 35 10 01 & a

1935 10 22
The new Rendezvous cinema and ballroom was opened with a recital by Reginald Dixon, the famous Blackpool organist. It is the latest in modern styles with new plush 'tip-ups' accommodating 1,100 people, the latest Penum heating and ventilation and the Compton organ. Film star Charles (Buddy) Rogers said it was as beautiful as any he had seen in the United States. The show was late starting as guests were unable to get through the congestion in the street

outside. Afterwards a private reception and dance was held in the new ballroom which has also been redecorated and re-furnished throughout. 35 10 22, 35 10 19

1936
Arts Theatre holds regular film seasons, (till 1940) [M]

1936 01 08
Union Cinemas, the company controlling five Cambridge cinemas have joined forces with Arthur Segal to acquire more sites – 36 01 08a

1936 03 09
The Rendezvous, in Magrath Avenue has been turned into a modern luxury super-cinema with a new café restaurant. The latest talkie equipment ensures perfect reproduction and sound, the films are of the highest quality and patrons are assured of a three-hour programme. An added attraction is the illuminated Compton organ which is played at every performance. The ballroom has been re-decorated and is one of the finest in the Eastern Counties with popular tea dances and combined tea, picture and dancing tickets. 36 03 09

1936 05 14
A proposal to sell land adjoining Cambridge Cattle Market for the erection of a cinema was defeated. The Market was increasing every week and nobody could foresee what the land would be wanted for in 75 years' time. There was not the slightest need for another cinema and it would spoil the area. People who had bought their homes adjacent to the site were very upset, fearing that their homes would be devalued. But others thought it was a jolly good idea: it was a long journey into town and it would be a blessing to be able to visit a show near home. 36 05 14a

1936 08 27
Mystery surrounds the disappearance of a brilliant young organist, Johnnie Francis. Originally he was a musician in a theatre orchestra but when this was replaced by an organ he was given the opportunity to learn that. He fell out of work and made his way to Cottenham when Miss Maud Gautrey found him work picking strawberries. He was given an audition at the Rendezvous Cinema in Cambridge, borrowing clothes to replace his own worn outfit. He obtained the post at once and played there for a week before drawing his salary and walking out. He has not been heard of since. 36 08 27

1936 12 12
All Cambridge listened to the farewell message broadcast by Prince Edward from Windsor Castle. At the Theatre Cinema an announcement was made that the feature film would be interrupted for the relaying of the speech by courtesy of the BBC. Just before ten the curtains over the screen were lowered. When they were drawn back a large receiving set was seen in the centre of the stage with a single spot-light shining on it. The lights were dimmed. A tense, almost painful silence fell on the audience. Suddenly it was broken. Sir John Reith was heard. 'This is Windsor Castle – His Royal Highness, Prince Edward' 36 12 12a

1937 01 26
Fulbourn Hospital is to have a cinema projector following a demonstration of both a 16mm and 35 mm machine. The smaller one was noisy and while it would project for ordinary purposes it would need to be in the same room as the patients. The projectors were of a delicate nature and if they got men of the labouring class moving it about they would get a lot of damage. The larger one was superior, it was compact, easy to work and the pictures were clear and good-sized. . Mr

Stubbs said: "The sound was clear and even with a Yankee voice was tolerable – and sometimes they are not" (Laughter). 37 01 26a

1937 03 31
The new Regal Cinema, seating about 1,900 people, includes all the latest luxury features with luxurious tip-up seats. It has equipment to enable those hard of hearing to follow the sound with ease and comfort. The first attraction will be the new Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers show, 'Swing Time', when William Southwold will be at the mighty Compton organ. A resident organist will play at each performance 37 03 31, 37 04 05a & b [1.4,2.16]

1937 04 03
One of the big attractions at the new Regal Cinema is the Compton organ, fitted with an illuminated console which produces a wonderful range and combination of colours. It is described as the 'most remarkable instrument of its kind in the world, producing every kind of music from the thrilling peal of a cathedral organ to the colour and tone of a symphony orchestra or the rhythm of a modern dance band'. 37 04 03b

1937 05 17
A police cordon was thrown round the Regal Cinema in the early hours of Sunday morning after PC Parker saw a man's head out of a bottom floor window. Two men ran away; one was brought down with a rugby tackle by a passing cyclist, Arthur Wright, another punched Inspector Witham with a knuckleduster. One was alleged to have packets of gelignite in his possession, another was found with fuse detonators. Later Scotland Yard's Flying Squad arrested a fifth man. 37 05 17a

1937 06 01
Regal cinema raid – more details 37 06 01& a

1937 09 08
Rendezvous Cinema clerk fraud trial – 37 09 08 & a

1938 01 08
After a successful fortnight of the pantomime 'Cinderella', the Theatre Cinema is closing down without any indication as to what its future may be. It was 42 years ago that the New Theatre was opened and has had a great history. Many of our leading actors have appeared and all tastes catered for – comedy, drama, musicals and grand opera. It was the coming of films that changed the Theatre's fortunes and after a hopeless struggle it was converted into a cinema with an occasional week of variety. 38 01 08a (reopened 1939 but requisitioned 1940-47 [2.18,M]

1938 01 19
Theatre cinema may be turned into ice rink or swimming pool. Was not suitable for talkies and with cine-variety those who maid the most got the worst seats – letters 38 01 19b

1938 02 07
Undergraduate misbehaviour in cinemas – 38 02 07

1938 03 03
Creditors of the Rendezvous cinema accepted an offer of 10s in the pound, payable immediately. After Mr C.L. Naylor took over management of the Company in 1937 it had made quite a profit but previous debts were responsible for the present unfortunate position. The sale was completed

in Feb 1938 when the cinema and equipment was disposed of for £18,373, a loss of about £10,000. 38 03 03
Rendezvous Cinema renamed Rex Cinema [M]

1938 05 31
Memories of stage and screen – 38 05 31w

1938 11 22
The Theatre Cinema reopened after a closure of over nine months with a performance of 'The Mikado' by Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society. They had found the building in a poor and dirty condition and put in much work to recondition it Now it was crowded with a delighted throng; it was itself again. That pre-overture buzz of conversation created a delightful feeling of mild excitement. At the final curtain everyone was thoroughly happy 38 11 22

1939 04 25
The Central Cinema, Hobson Street, was burnt to a shell in the early hours of the morning. Only the fire-proof operating box, the foyer, crush hall and some of the back stalls remain intact. Firemen hauled hoses up to the roof of the Dorothy Café and from the high ladder of the Merryweather turntable in Hobson Street P.C. Kelly poured another stream of water on to the flames. But after an hour-and-a-half the roof fell in amid a shower of sparks. There was concern about Christ's College chapel where the roof had been removed because of damage done by the death watch beetle and only a tarpaulin covered the wooden ceiling. But a shower of rain helped to prevent it catching alight 39 04 25a, b

1939 06 17
Theatre Cinema, St Andrew's Street, known for many years as the New Theatre, was closed in January of last year after the pantomime but specially reopened for one week in November for the annual production by Cambridge Amateur Operatic Society of 'The Pirates of Penzance' Now the ABC company has decided to use the building once again as a cinema 39 06 17

1940

1940
Cosmopolitan opens full time [M]

1940 05 10
Sunday opening of cinemas debated, rejected – 40 05 10

1940 05 11
Cinemas allowed to open on Sundays to benefit RAF [1.21]

1940 05 17
Cambridge Building Material Supply Co started by Charles Lovell Naylor in 1930; built considerable number of houses in Scotland Road and King's Hedges Road and sold all bar five. But problems at outbreak of war lead insolvency. Bought Rendezvous in 1930 and rebuilt it 1931 after fire. He lost £2,000 over fire. In 1935 a limited liability company took over the cinema but sold it again because of his ill health – 40 05 17

1940 08 13
Mr Pointer owned Victoria Cinema and in 1929 Pointer & Co formed for purpose of building and running a modern cinema; attached was Still and Sugarloaf. In 1935 Cambridge Holdings Ltd

was formed to acquire cinemas in Cambridge who wanted to acquire Victoria Cinema and restaurant. They paid Pointer & co for £30,500 – court case – 40 08 13a, 40 08 14b, 40 08 16

1941 04 24
A.J. Pointer cinema pioneer; took over Victoria Assembly Room in Market Hill which he ran as a roller skating rink, converting it into Cambridge's first cinema in 1910, had previously used Alexandra Hall for occasional picture shows. In 1916 he took over the Kinema, previously a variety theatre which is now the oldest cinema in Cambridge. Victoria closed 15 years ago and when new Vic re-opened under a company he handed over control to his son, Eric. Personally directed Kinema till last year when son Frank took over – 41 04 24a;

1941 04 26
There had been occasional films at Midsummer Fair but Pointer responsible for first regular showings at Alexandra Hall, now YMCA and comfortable seating was not one of the main attractions. Performances were shorter but comprised nine or 10 items such as five 'comics', one 'coloured trick', one news film of racing and two dramas. Early films were crude affairs and constant flickering made it seem as if picture taken in heavy downpour of rain – 41 04 26a.

1941 05 03
Early films – old Victoria cinema was called Electric Theatre and run by a Mr Jordain – 41 05 03a

1943 07 24
Cosmopolitan cinema sustained considerable damage from fire, part of ground floor and seats destroyed and ceiling broken away in places – 43 07 24

1945 06 29
Music, singing and dancing licences for Theatre Cinema, Regal, Victoria, Tivoli, Central and Playhouse transferred to Max Milder from Eric Lightfoot who leaving the A.B.C. company – CDN 45 06 29

1946 02 16
A.B.C. Minors, providing Saturday films for children, inaugurated – 46 02 16 (ends 1982) [4.1]

1947 05 11
Sunday opening due to expire [1.22]

1947 06 04
With regret many enthusiastic and appreciative cinema-goers have learned of the closing at the end of the week of the Cosmopolitan Cinema, Cambridge. For fourteen years now it has been open and has a proud record since right from its beginning it gave Cambridge something out of the ordinary. The owners of the Central Hall, the Conservative Club, have seen fit to raise the rent to a sum which the directors of the Cosmopolitan Cinema Ltd feel unable to pay. Developing out of the first Cambridge Film Society, the Cosmo was opened on October 16th, 1933. (It later reopened as the Arts Cinema in October 1947) 47 06 04

1947 08 09
Theatre Cinema (New theatre): reopens showing selected, probably continental films; building stripped of all furnishings during war & is now completely cleaned & redecorated, Aug [1.23]

1947 09 17

Cambridge's first midnight matinee, attended by film star Richard Attenborough, and stage-and-screen star Hermione Baddeley, drew a packed house of near 2,000 to the Regal last night. The show, organised by the Cambridge branch of the R.A.F. Association was part of the Battle of Britain Week activities. "Dicky" and "Totie" as the stars are popularly known made a stage appearance before the show. Major Simpson, area manager of A.B.C. cinemas recalled that Mr Attenborough was born in Cambridge. Dicky mentioned that thought he had been born in Cambridge he left the town "practically before my eyes were open". When the show finished shortly before two o'clock "Dicky" and "Totie" stayed behind to autograph programmes 47 09 17

1947 10 14
It was "L'Entente Cordiale" night when the redecorated New Theatre, Cambridge, after an almost ten-year closure, re-opened yesterday as a cinema for the showing of Continental films. The Cross of Lorraine hung side-by- side with the Union Jack outside the cinema in honour of the visit of Francoise Rosay, the famous French film star who performed the opening ceremony. The Mayor (Coun. Doggett) wished the venture every success and expressed the hope that successful films may be followed by stage plays. "We have one theatre in this town but in my opinion there is plenty of room for a second theatre, particularly one with a larger stage". Capt A.C. Taylor, Managing Director of the "Cambridge Daily News" echoed the hope that some theatrical shows would be staged 47 10 14 [2.9]

1947 10 17
The new "temple" of the fifth art was opened by the Mayor last night. The art is that of cinema; the "temple" the former Cosmopolitan in Market Passage, re- decorated and renamed the Arts Cinema. He said "I feel the cinema will prove an added amenity to Cambridge". The success of the cinema would depend to a very great extent on a wise selection of films and efficient management. Sound and projection have been improved since the cinema was the Cosmopolitan though teething troubles prevented both being experienced that their best. The seating - with seats from the Festival Theatre - is now sloped c47 10 16

1947 11 20
Many people unable to be in their homes listened to the broadcast of the Royal Wedding in Cambridge cinemas, all of which were thrown open for the purpose, free of charge. The biggest audience is reported from the Central Cinema who estimated the total as being in the neighbourhood of 500. The sound equipment at the Regal broke down at the last minute and the small queue which had formed there was diverted to the New Theatre opposite, where a set had been hastily brought from his home and installed in the foyer by the Manager and the thrilling, impressive and historic service of the wedding of H.R.H. Princess 47 11 20

1948 02 07
Theatre Cinema (New theatre) stage variety due to shortage of films [1.25]

1948 07 31
Arts Cinema try news theatre [1.27]

1949 10 11
Sir – I note with interest remarks about cinema entertainment particularly in reference to the 16 mm Film Exhibitors Guild. The Guild is well represented in this area. Mr Maddox of Orwell, trading as County Mobile Cinemas; Wrights Ltd of Cambridge, trading as Wright Mobile Cinemas and Mr Oddy of Waterbeach, trading as Globe Cinema Service. The Chairman is Mr David of David Film Library, Wisbech, a well-known film renter and mobile exhibitor 49 10 11

1950

1950 06 01
Film company International Realistic has been in Cambridge filming part of a feature film with many well-known local scenes as backgrounds. The film will probably be called "The scarlet thread", and is an exciting "cops and robbers" starring Laurence Harvey and Kathleen Byron. Market Hill is included with a dash to Gt St Mary's Passage and a realistic rugger tackle by the fountain. The exposed film was rushed each day to London for processing and back again next day in time for screening at the Victoria Cinema after the usual performances 50 06 01 [2.5]

1950 11 10
"Scarlet Thread" film to be shown at Victoria [2.6]

1951 05 16
The Playhouse Cinema, Mill Road, completed 38 years of service and entertainment. To celebrate the event the manager (Mr Eric Dallman) arranged a special birthday month. He opened with a brief history of the cinema and read telegrams of congratulation from Richard Todd and Joan Dowling, the two popular British stars. A request for any member of the audience who was at the opening in 1913 resulted in one patron coming to the stage. He was Mr W.J. Pugh who had been a regular patron since it opened. The audience was then introduced to the longest serving member of staff, Mrs F. Hewett who had done most jobs except the operating box – but thought she would like to try that as well! 51 05 16

1952 03 07
Kinema fire, p6

1952 08 23
Victoria restyled : "eurythmic": designer, architect & illuminators combine to make symphony of shape, colour & tone" [2.7]

1952 09 13
Rex: newly appointed manager Lesley Halliwell turns it into repertory cinema [2.8]

1952 11 05
Some people at the Victoria Cinema almost believed they saw fish swimming above their heads in the middle of the auditorium. Others found it difficult not to duck when a cricket ball appeared to bounce right out of the screen. The cause was something new in cinema entertainment – the three-dimensional film. At present a special screen has to be used and audiences must wear tinted spectacles. Much still has to be done before stereoscopic films become commonplace but Cambridge is among the first places in England to welcome the arrival of the third dimension in the cinema

1952 12 24
Cambridge is the first city in the country to be able to see the latest model of the Synchro Screen in action. This R.C.A. invention has been installed at the Rex Cinema and will be a permanent feature. The new screen enhances the photography giving it extra depth. It does not go the whole way to providing three-dimensional pictures but is a great step forward. There are five similar screens now in existence but the one at the Rex is the latest type and 2,000 people came along to see it on Sunday

1953 01 09

Rex: new synchro-screen [2.9]

1953 05 22
The Playhouse Cinema on Mill Road, Cambridge, celebrates its 40th anniversary as a place of cinematic entertainment. It opened at Whitsun 1913 when there were two shows per evening with a children's matinee on Saturdays. Nowadays we are used to newsreels which are distributed on a national basis but then their own cameraman took the pictures for a newsreel of local interest, including the Cambridge Police Sports and Juvenile Fishing Match. Music was supplied by the Playhouse's own orchestra under Musical Director Max Bennett

1953 08 07
"Man in the dark", the first feature-length three-dimensional film to be shown in the Eastern counties was screened at the Rex Cinema, Cambridge, to an invited audience. They went away feeling they had witness the most exciting event in screen history since 'The Jazz Singer' introduced sound in 1927. Mr R. Halliwell, the manager, said the extra charge for admission covered only the cost of hiring the Polaroid spectacles. The three-dimensional film holds such possibilities of screen terror that the deepies may tend at first to be creepies. To what extent Cambridge will succumb to third-dimentia remains to be seen but the pre-view audience spent an enjoyable time c53 08 12

1955 04 06
One of the most remarkable developments in film technique is Perspecta Stereophonic sound which was displayed to invited guests at Cambridge's Regal Cinema. This new and revolutionarily piece of equipment marks yet one step further in the development of film technique as an art. The visitors were also initiated into the mystery of how the size of the screen is changed to allow for the showing of popular Cinemascope films. 55 04 06

1954 04 17
A new experiment in children's entertainment, the Roy Rogers Riders Club, is being launched at the Rex Cinema, Cambridge. It will be among the first British cinemas to use the scheme which provides first-rate Saturday morning entertainment for the under 16s. The charge for enrolment and a badge is 1s and admission to the shows is 6d per week. The clubs are under the direct guidance of Roy Rogers himself who formulated the club rules; its objects are to ensure that young cinemagoers see only the most wholesome entertainment and meetings begin with a special film of Roy Rogers saying the "cowboy's prayer.

1955 03 22
Cambridge will be the first city to show Marlon Brando's new film 'The Wild One', which looked as if it would not be seen in Britain at all. The film censor refused to give any certificate saying was too brutal and might have a bad effect on young people. But the proprietor of the Rex Cinema, Mr George Webb, asked the film people to send him a copy of the film and invited Cambridge magistrates to view it. They have granted it a local 'X' certificate. Columbia Film Company will ask British Railways to arrange special trains to Cambridge during the run. The story concerns a gang of young hooligans who terrorise a town because of the weakness by the local policeman. 55 03 22

1955 03 26
With the installation of Perspecta Stereophonic Sound, a vivid realism hitherto unknown in film entertainment is to be introduced to the patrons of Cambridge's Regal Cinema. Chosen to introduce this very latest development in the cinema world is the film 'Seven Brides for Seven Brothers'. Until now the Regal has been equipped with loud speakers behind only the centre of

the screen. Now the sound will come from the exact places on the giant screen where the action indicates them and will give a new and higher quality of sound reproduction. 55 03 26b [2.12]

1955 06 24
Cambridge Central Cinema has installed a wide screen which allows a perfect view from any angle & is a vivid contrast with the former 'postage stamp' model. It has now come into line with the other main cinemas and is fully equipped for the showing of CinemaScope. The first film will be the new Technicolor musical, 'Three for the Show' starring Betty Grable 55 06 24 [2.13,3.19]

1956 03 16
On Thursday Clifford Birchall recorded a programme of popular music at the Hammond organ of the Cambridge New Theatre. Although the theatre is closing, the melodies will linger on, for this recording, arranged by King and Harper, will be played during the evening performance on Sunday at the Playhouse Cinema. 56 03 16b

1956 03 20
Hallens presented a feast of films to suit the taste of motor cyclists. Most were manufacturer's promotions but it was the film produced locally which aroused the most interest. It presented an entertaining picture of local scramble scenes with shots of local characters and celebrities. Those attending can also inspect the improvements to the workshops with special stands for the repair of the increasingly popular auto-cycle and scooter forms of transport. 56 03 20a

1956 05 09
The manager of Cambridge's Regal Cinema, Mr C.G. Mangold, won a glittering emerald-green Messerschmitt three-wheeler presented by 'Kinematograph Weekly' in conjunction with Columbia Pictures for arranging publicity for the film 'A Prize of Gold'. He organised a car rally, window displays and a personal visit of Andrew Ray. Mr Mangold is one of the outstanding managers in A.B.C. and has won a host of distinctions. 56 05 09

1956 10 01
Removal of mighty organ from pit of Victoria cinema - only other cinema organ at Regal never seen without dust cover, came up through floor, organist already playing [6.3]

1956 10 09
Cambridge Licensing Magistrates have asked Associated British Cinemas not the show the controversial American musical film 'Rock Around the Clock'. The film features a new style of dancing known as "Rock'n'Roll". It is a rhythm similar to some of the African native 'beats' and is alleged to have a startling effect on young people who like 'hot music'. In London dancing youngsters have caused trouble in the streets and assaults have been made on the police. 56 10 09

1956 10 12
Sir – my wife and I thoroughly enjoyed 'Rock Around the Clock' which we saw at Northampton. It gave us old age pensioners a taste of the vitality of youth and made a change from the 'Western' and 'sob-stuff' type of film. There was no rowdyism shown by any of the patrons in the cinema. It is a disappointment to read that it has been banned by magistrates and will not been shown in Cambridge - we should have made an effort to see it again – 'Two O.A.P.s, Vinery Road. 56 10 12g

1956 11 19
Two of Cambridge's long-established cinemas, the Playhouse and the Tivoli, will close after the last performance on Saturday. Associated British Cinemas say the heavy burden of

entertainments tax has made them uneconomic. The majority of the 35 staff will be absorbed by the other cinemas in the group and others will join the private cinemas run by Mr George Webb. 56 11 19b [2.20, 2.21]

1956 12 22
Raymond Bennett, the talented comedian and theatre manager laments the closing down of the Playhouse in Mill Road. It was there he made his debut as a single-turn music hall artiste. In those days it had a small orchestra and had one turn each week with the pictures. They included Godwin Hunt, baritone and humorous vocalist, George Gass, comedian of 'The Magpies' concert party and Sydney Pratt the conjurer. 56 12 22a & b

1957 02 16
The closing of two Cambridge cinemas has made us aware of the difficulty they face. One major problem is Entertainment Tax. Out of every pound paid at the box office, 6s.5d. (33p) is taken for this tax and after film hire and wages the exhibitor gets only 5½d (2.5p) out of which he has to pay rent, depreciation and living expenses. No wonder 180 cinemas were forced to close last year. 57 02 16a

1957 10 01
The removal of the mighty organ from the pit of the Victoria Cinema illustrates graphically how far this kind of musical entertainment has fallen from public favour. The only other cinema organ in Cambridge – that at the Regal – is never seen without its dust cover. The management says it is kept in good order and could be played at any time. However it would need a travelling organist to come up from A.B.C. headquarters in London. If the truth be told it is in permanent retirement. 57 10 01b

1958 06 13
'The Freshman' film has already established itself on the Cambridge scene. The appearance of cameras, technicians, stars and generators at various locations still causes a stir and there is never any lack of people watching the action. German film star Hardy Kruger, who plays an undergraduate, has had a bewildering initiation into real student life. He has seen the May Balls swinging on till dawn. And he has seen that car park on the Senate House roof. No wonder he looks worried! 58 06 13c, 58 06 12

1958 08 29
"The Freshman", a light-hearted film about life at Cambridge University, will bring in all the well-known local angles – the May Races and balls, chases by Proctors and their 'Bulldogs', visits to coffee bars – and of course, a local romance. It will star Hardy Kruger and Sylvia Syms. But they have had a mishap. While a motoring scene was being shot along Trumpington Road the crankshaft of a vintage 1927 Bentley car suddenly snapped. Now mechanics are searching for a spare, or a new car! 58 08 29a [2.23, 2.24]

1959 01 16
The Regal Cinema was crowded for the Cambridge premier of 'Bachelor of Hearts', the film of University life which was made on location in the city. A reception was attended by the film's producer, Mr Vivian Cox, director Wolf Rilla and one of the 'starlets' from the cast, Miss Gillian Vaughan. The film deals with the adventures of a young German student, played by Hardy Kruger, and an attractive Girton girl (Sylvia Syms). Comments varied widely but everyone agreed there were many good laughs along the way. No plans have been made for it to be shown in Oxford. 59 01 16c, 59 01 20, 56 01 21

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 07 09
Old Playhouse to become supermarket [5.2]

1961 11 10
Bingo is the new national craze. During the first few games of a Cambridge session television refugees toiled away at their bingo booklets, smog descending over their bent heads. Most of the audience were regulars. They 'never missed' because 'it was an evening out'. They were not lonely there, neither were they bored. The jackpot was a modest one – if it reached previous heights of £30-40 people would be queuing to get in. But at sixpence a time and with not a 'line', let alone a 'house' in credit, the evening could be an expensive one. 61 11 10a

1962 01 18
Council bans bingo on its premises – 62 01 18

1962 04 05
The new Victoria Ballroom was opened by Ronald Fraser, the film and television star, who had previously appeared at the Regal Cinema as part of its 25th anniversary celebrations. Converted from a café above the Victoria Cinema, it will reduce the number of 'wallflowers' on Saturday nights when special buffet dinner dances are being run at a cost of a guinea for a double ticket. When not in use for dancing it will still be put into service as a café 62 04 05 [5.3]

1962 06
First Cambridge film festival [2.26]

1962 06 01
Last picture show for minors, Victoria, first was 1946 [5.13]

1962 09 14
Maurice Stevenson started as a cinema projectionist in 1927 as a lad of 16 at the old Tivoli Cinema in Chesterton Road. They were the silent days. Then he went to the Regal and later the Central. In the old 'disc' days you had to be careful even closing the door in case you shook the needle out of its groove in the record. If you lost the synchronisation between the record and film it was the devil's own job getting it back again, he remembers. The machinery is much more simple to operate now. 62 09 14

1964 05 01
Arts Cinema is oldest repertory cinema in country; Norman Higgins opened it in 1933. Previously at the Tivoli he founded an undergraduate film society and leased Conservative Hall in Market Passage. Began showing films all year round in 1947 – 64 05 01cc

1964 05 08
Every Saturday children start arriving at the Victoria and Central cinemas for the matinee performances. Many are brought by their mothers who are grateful for the chance to do the weekend shopping without them. Before the film starts they sing 'We are Minors of the A.B.C.' to the tune of 'Blaze Away'. There's always one cartoon like Tweetie Pie, then the serial in which the action is fast and furious. It's followed by a short comedy film, then a full-length feature with plenty of action, usually made by the Children's Film Foundation 64 05 08

1966
Alfred Hitchcock visits Film Society [7.3]

1966 03 12
Kinema cinema, Mill Road closing; has 400 seats and staff of seven. Owner is George Webb. It may continue as cinema under new ownership – 66 03 12a (Reopens for Bingo & films [M])

1966 07 08
Bingo at the Kinema – feature – 66 07 08 & a

1967
Rex Cinema used as Bingo Hall (till 1970) [M]

1967 10 06
Victoria Cinema reopens with giant 70 mm screen, luxury lounge area replacing seats on ground floor; restaurant and ballroom refurbished – 67 10 06

1968 01 04
Victoria cinema projection equipment with projectionist Albert Waldock- feature – 69 01 04b

1969 03 19
ADC Theatre given permission to show films all year round , stands empty for much of year – 69 03 19d

1969 09 08
Maurice Stevenson, longest-serving film projectionist – memories – 69 09 08

1970

1970
Rex Cinema reopened after expensive refit [M5.7]

1971 04 14
Regal Cinema to be twinned – two different films to be shown – 71 04 14

1971 05 12
Regal cinema organ – last chance to preserve – 71 05 12

1972
Victoria Cinema renamed ABC 1 & second screen installed [M]

1972 01 12
Regal Cinema reopens as ABC 1 & 2 twin cinemas – illustrated feature – 72 01 12 [M,4.7]

1972 03 24
It was “eyes down” for the first time last night in Cambridge’s new £10,000 bingo hall which will offer enthusiasts an almost non-stop programme throughout afternoons and evenings six days a week. The bingo hall which can accommodate nearly 1,000 players at a single sitting, is in the converted former Central Cinema in Hobson Street 72 03 24

1972 08 17

The Rex cinema in Cambridge may soon echo to the moans and groans of live wrestling. This is just one of several ventures planned for the cinema by Victory Theatres who will take over as new owners in a few days' time. The front of the cinema is to be re-modelled and additional heating installed. In keeping with its luxury refit The Rex is to be renamed the Royal Luxury Cinema. "It will be a cinema of the seventies", said the Managing Director of Victory Theatres, Mr Victor Freeman. Other ideas for the revamped Rex include a Christmas pantomime. Victory Cinemas are buying The Rex from Abbey Sports Club. The ballroom at the cinema will continue to be owned by Abbey Sports Club 72 08 17

1972 09 06
"The demolition of the old Y.M.C.A. building will no doubt bring a touch of nostalgia to many of the Cambridge residents who have lived here for well over 70 years. I can remember that the very first "talking pictures" in Cambridge were shown there. These took the form of a rather jerky film show, screened from the rear, and the talking was done by a lady and gentleman behind the screen, After the performance they came to the front and bowed to the audience, which, on Saturday afternoon mainly consisted of children, and each child was given either an orange or a bag of sweets on the way out" - letter from F.C.Woolfenden 72 09 06

1976 08 31
Plans for a nightclub in the former Rex Ballroom and Cinema at Magrath Avenue, Cambridge, have been scrapped after residents succeeded in opposing both a drinks licence and a music, singing and dancing licence for the club. Mr Gordon Cave wanted to open 'The Carioca Club' on the premises but faced violent objections from the police, the city council and residents who have for years protested about the noise and nuisance caused. Their complaints intensified when the ballroom was turned into a nightclub a few years ago and the cinema became a bingo hall 76 08 31

1977 01 15
The Central EMI Bingo and Social Club, a converted cinema in Hobson Street, Cambridge, could quite comfortably have found a place in the zaniest of science fiction movies – with its brash psychedelic mish-mash of colours and huge electrically operated board that rises high behind the caller. The four-year-old club has 10,000 members and is an addict's paradise – open every afternoon and evening except Sunday and with hundreds of pounds at stake at each session. On Saturday the club linked up by phone to the EMI club in Oxford for a game which boasted a £400 jackpot. In the few seconds between games people dashed for the fruit machine which spills out its £30 jackpot in 50p pieces 77 01 15

1977 07 14
First film festival [6.1]

1979 02 02
The old Rex Cinema and ballroom in Magrath Avenue Cambridge which has been a source of controversy among nearby residents is now owned by Cambridgeshire County Council who paid £33,000 for it at auction. The building has been almost derelict since the Abbey Sports and Social Club closed in October 1973. The exact future of the site has yet to be decided but it will extend the present facilities at the Shire Hall 79 02 02

1980

1980 04 17

When the word first went out that a major feature film, 'Chariots of Fire' was seeking 150 undergraduates for a couple of day's filming in Cambridge the film-makers found themselves oversubscribed. But the response from other sections of the University was less enthusiastic. Gonville and Caius and Trinity College have refused to allow filming and several 'Cambridge' scenes are being shot at Eton 80 04 17 [6.2]

1982 01 20
Film fans need have no fears that Cambridge cinemas may be converted into Bingo halls. EMI, which owns the two-screen Victoria say they have plans to convert it into a triple. It is the largest in town and attracts an average audience of about 600 people. Seats are now £2.10 for adults but the manager rejects the idea it is too expensive. One of the long-term threats is the home video market 82 01 20

1982 03 12
Maurice Stevenson is Cambridge's longest-serving projectionist; he recently retired from the Victoria Cinema after showing films for 54 years. He started aged 14 at the old Tivoli Cinema in Chesterton Road, moved to the Central, then the Playhouse where he was chief projectionist at the age of 18. Later he was at the Regal. He has seen it all from the 'silent' days to the coming of 'talkies', then colour; from the advent of 3D and wide screen to stereophonic sound, from traditional projection methods to highly-developed technology.82 03 12d

1982 06 01
The lights went up for the last time on the ABC Minors Matinee at the Victoria Cinema, Cambridge. The final credits brought to an end an institution which has won a place in the hearts of thousands of children. No more will Keith Kendall and his part-time cleaner colleagues sneak into the lavatories to catch some 12-year-olds having a crafty cigarette. Sid Perkiss, who has manned the box office, remembers when two or three hundred children packed the cinema. Now it has been killed by the one-eyed villain, television. 82 06 01

1983 02 20
There can be no doubt about the popularity of film libraries; they range from cinema classics to soft porn. Some shops have the cassettes on shelves behind the counter leaving the hirer to choose from catalogues, others kept the cases on open display. It costs about £1.50 to hire a film for 24 hours with a deposit of £30. It is usual to leave a signed cheque which is exchanged for the return of the film. But tapes only have a limited life; constant use results in 'stretching' and tape 'slap' caused by poor rewinding. 83 02 20

1983 03 15
The Central EMI Bingo and Social Club offers cash prizes all the way up to £1,000 on Saturday night. This is shared with three other clubs in Oxford, Wellingborough and Colchester. But winning comes second: its social function is undeniable. It is raucous but never resigned. "You get all classes here", said the highly-popular afternoon caller. Maggie Bennett. "You get a few who are a bit rough and who you can tell by their clothes are playing with the family allowance. In the evening you get much younger people. Basic costs are an admission fee – pensioners may only 23 pence – and the buying of books of cards for each session – two books cost £1.70 - 83 03 15 p10

1983 12 05
A fire at the Victoria 1 cinema on Market Hill completely destroyed the screen and part of the stage, causing damage estimated at £50,000. There appears to have been a forced entry and it is

being treated as arson. The cinema was showing 'War Games'. It is hoped to open the 139-seater Victoria 2 today 83 12 05 p [4.2]

1984 02 08
Cambridge's Victoria cinema reopened after the disastrous fire and is now one of the best-equipped in the country with new equipment, new seats and much-improved lavatories. It has six-track stereo, a new screen and the new 70mm projector is seen at full benefit in films like 'Ghandi' and 'The Star Wars' trilogy which will be brought back by popular demand. When the seven-hour programme was tried out last year it attracted a full house with people in fancy costume 84 02 08 p14

1984 09 06
A blaze swept through the ABC Regal cinema in St Andrew's Street, gutting the central part of the 730-seat auditorium. The recently-renewed screen melted with the heat and the rest was damaged. The Polyurethane seat and floor coverings caused a lot of smoke which penetrated the upstairs ABC2 cinema. It is believed to have been started by a cigarette end left smouldering by a cinema-goer. Last year the Victoria cinema was damaged by an arson attack 84 09 06 [4.3]

1985 03 26
The Kinema is no more. Like the Central Cinema it became a bingo hall. But at least it has not been pulled down to make room for a supermarket, like the Playhouse, nor turned into a warehouse like the Tivoli, nor demolished to become a car park like the Rex. Leslie Halliwell who was manager at the Kinema and Rex is now regarded as the country's leading cinema bluff. And in his new book 'Seats in All Parts' he has plenty to say about the way cinemas used to be run in Cambridge. 85 03 26c

1985 12 12
The old 100-year-old Kinema bingo hall in Mill Road, which is currently on the market for £170,000, may be restored and turned back into a cinema to meet the fast-growing demand for the showing of old-time and specialist films. The City Council, who owns most of the property nearby, think it could become a major tourist attraction helping to tempt visitors away from the city centre 85 12 12

1985 12 17
Cambridge's Victoria Cinema has been sold to make way for a new Marks and Spencer store. The prime market square site has housed the city's largest cinema since 1931 and underwent a major refurbishment following a fire two years ago. The sale will leave Cambridge with two other cinemas, the ABC 1 and ABC 2 complex and the Arts Cinema. But there are plans to change the old Kinema bingo hall in Mill Road back into a cinema 85 12 17 [4.4]

1985 12 27
The Kinema in Mill Road was built in 1882 when it was called the Theatre Royal. It was also known as Sturton Town Hall and Gladstone Liberal Club and staged shows until 1885. It was taken over by the Salvation Army who were ousted in 1910 then renamed the Empire, showing variety and pictures until 1916 before changing its name to the Kinema. It was badly supported and became a bingo hall. Now it may be restored as a cinema with a café, bookshop and entertainment complex. It is owned by the Sturton Town Hall Liberal Company, named after Joseph Sturton, a powerful Liberal who bought land in the area in 1897 and built houses for poor people. 85 12 27

1986 04 08

Plans for a super cinema complex on the site of the main Post Office sorting office in Mill Road could see six separate cinema units each capable of holding 300 people together with a massive cycle parking space. Thorn-EMI says they need more screens and the Victoria Cinema site is unsuitable for conversion. The Post Office, which is currently building a new sorting office on the Clifton Industrial Estate, already has permission for housing or the site might accommodate Technical College students. 86 04 08

1986 04 10
Cambridge City Council has abandoned its plans for the former Kinema in Mill Road. When the building closed as a bingo hall there were hopes it might be restored and reopened as an Edwardian music hall and become an out-of-centre tourist attraction. Others felt the site could be used for housing or demolished to allow the widening of Mill Road. Now a private entertainments company hope to reopen it as a specialist cinema. 86 04 10

1986 04 25
Tivoli - plan for entertainment centre rejected [5.18]

1987 01 26
Cambridge councillors have abandoned plans to buy the old Kinema cinema and bingo hall in Mill Road because repairing the century-old building would cost too much. It had been hoped to restore it to its former glory as a Victorian entertainments palace but a structural survey has revealed more than 40 major faults. Some of the walls bulge, the building needs a complete new roof and all the woodwork would have to be renewed. Now it might be demolished to widen the road. 87 01 26

1987 10 07
Arts Cinema consider move Festival site ¢CEN 7.10.87

1987 10 23
Victoria to close January ¢CEN 23.10.87

1988 01 15
Lights went up for the last time at the Victoria Cinema as the final performance of its last show came to an end. As the audience left after seeing ‘Spaceballs’ or ‘Predator’, manager Richard Wright reflected on the cinema’s long history. Memories of MGM musicals, Saturday morning minors and all-night horror shows came flooding back. Mick Wells, who has been the chief projectionist for 24 years recalled the halcyon days when ‘South Pacific’ ran for two solid years and ‘The Sound of Music’ for three. Now the building on Cambridge Market Hill will make way for a new Marks and Spencer store. 88 01 15

1988 01 27
Victoria Cinema staff recall history – 88 01 27b

1988 04 30
The former Kinema music hall may be turned into a multi-million pound block of student accommodation. Sawston-based William Sindall has applied to build an 80-room scheme for CCAT but will wait until the college gains Polytechnic status in April 1989 before handing over the lease, avoiding Government restrictions. It comes as food news for the college which has seen its hopes of turning the former Owlstone Croft nurses’ home into 200 flats dashed by a change in rules over lease-back schemes. Now residents will be consulted. 88 04 30

1988 06 16
Proposed cinema, Corn Exchange ¢CEN 16.6.88

1988 10 12
Corn Exchange to be regularly used as cinema ¢CEN 12.10.88

1988 11 03
Planning granted for £30M expansion Grafton Centre, including cinema ¢CEN 3.11.88

1988 12 15
The former Tivoli cinema building which opened on Chesterton Road in 1925 has been converted into 'The Exchange' with two large cocktail bars and a 120-seater restaurant. Later will come a basement gym, a punt landing stage and a roof garden restaurant with panoramic views over Jesus Green. Entertainment facilities include a huge electronic roll-down screen, the latest audio equipment and closed circuit television relaying film of the dance hall, But great care has been taken to preserve the distinctive atmosphere with plaster ceiling mouldings and a combination of rich dark and red wood 88 12 15a

1990 04 16
Giant multi-screen cinema may be built in heart of Cambridge as plans for cinema as part of the Grafton Centre – 90 04 16a

1990 05 08
Exchange Fitness Club, former Tivoli cinema for sale – 90 05 08a

Mike Petty in Cambridgeshire Collection with 'Librarian of the Year' award, 1989 158.75

c.77.4 : Libraries
Note: these extracts also include stories about libraries in the surrounding area
see also c.77.8 University Library

1894 01 05
Free Library open to those living in country Ch 5.1.894 p8

1895 10 18
New Cherry Hinton reading room opened [2.1]

1897 02 27
The Guildhall floor has become so unsafe that when a ball is held in the large room the most elaborate precautions have to be taken to support the beams in the ceiling of the Free Library beneath. This shoring-up process costs something like 30/- each time and is a sheer waste of money 1897 02 27 CDN

1897 05 20
Sir - It has been a cause of much regret and dissatisfaction to many to hear of the closing of the Barnwell Branch Free Library. It was understood that the opening of the new library on the Mill-

road would not interfere with the progress of the Barnwell branch, but it seems that the East-road library is to be closed to supply the Romsey Town Library with books. When it is closed I am afraid many people who would otherwise read, will patronise public-houses, for many men who have worked 12 hours would hardy care to walk a mile before they could get a book to read 1897 05 20 CDN

1897 06 03
The Mill-road branch of the Free Library was opened by the Mayor last night amid every manifestation of pleasure and satisfaction. The Mayor said that people who lived in that neighbourhood were too far from the Guildhall to be able to get the full advantage of the Free Library. Within a half-mile radius of the handsome new building there is a population of not less than 12,000 people. It was in May 1891 that the Guardians conveyed the site to the Corporation for the express purpose of erecting thereon a building for a branch free library. No public body ever made better use of public ground. Barnwell reading room closed, June 1897 06 03 CDN [1.13]

1897 03 05
Free Library for Chesterton, p2

1897 05 17
Mill Road library opening, p2

1897 05 19
New Free Library, p3

1897 06 12
Free Library movement, p2

1897 07 16
Free Library, p2

1897 08 07
Barnwell library

1897 08 16
Barnwell free library, p2 *

1897 08 25
East Road library, p2 *

1897 08 28
How many of the inhabitants of "aristocratic" Cambridge have penetrated the depths of Barnwell through the lovely labyrinths of Brewhouse Lane? A mere outsider might suppose that the city of colleges had no dark parts; that its workmen's tenements were models of sanitation and comfort; that its streets were well paved and lit; and that no foul smells arose from its sewers - in short, that a learned city would be raised and modelled on enlightened lines. For the dwellers in the "town" proper there is a reading-room and library. In Mill-road there is another reading-room and library amongst those who are, at least, moderately well to do; but in Barnwell, the abode of the toiler there is now nothing but hard work, smaller houses, surroundings much more unwholesome than in the other parts of the town - and his reading-room has been taken away. Can it be that

those in authority are carrying out the scriptural prophecy: "To him that hath shall be given, and from him that hath not shall be taken away even which he hath"? c1897 08 28

1897 09 29
Library Committee Impeached. Barnwell Reading Room must be Re-opened. A meeting of ratepayers was held to press for the reopening of the Barnwell Reading Room. There were no people in Cambridge who required a free library so much as the people of Barnwell. They had had a library for something over 20 years but now it was given to another part of the town and they objected to it being taken away. The Mayor had given the casting vote against them. All the university men voted against it; they had libraries of their own in every college. Their interest in education went so far as it brought them an income. (Laughter). They had no interest in the working man being educated - "Educate the working man and they will be our masters; keep them ignorant and we will be their masters". Some of the working men were educating themselves and the free library gave them facilities to advance their intellectual knowledge. They should not be robbed by individuals on the Library Committee who were not elected by the ratepayers but co-opted on as outsiders. The worse of it was that those men so bitterly opposed to the Barnwell Free Library being re-opened where men who had a direct financial interest in the Library Committee and directly interested by supplying periodicals, books and other things to the free libraries. When the time came t choose their representatives on the Town Council they should insist the man should express their feelings, whether he liked it or not, or else stop at home. A petition bearing 600 or 700 names had not been taken any notice of. Mr Kirbyshire said 76,000 persons visited the old library in East Road in 1896, and 74,500 books were issued, which proved the necessity for the library being open. The new library in Mill Road was only ten minutes' walk away but he had visited the library on several occasions and had never seen a Barnwell or East Road man there. The late Councillor Hall took a great interest in the library on the East Road and left a lot of valuable books and engravings for the sole use of that room. What had become of them? Why were they removed without the permission of the public and the ratepayers? Mr Liles spoke of the assistance the Central Library had been to him. The library had been the greatest friend he had ever had in Cambridge as far as intellectual information was concerned, and by closing their doors they did not know to whom they were closing them against. They were all of the opinion that the reading room was necessary from a moral, mental and physical point of view. It was better for men to have a room where they could read decent literature than to go to the public houses. They would be better for it and their wives and families would reap the benefit. A resolution urging the Corporation to take steps to reopen the library would be proposed. 1897 09 29

1897 10 14
Barnwell to get back Reading Room, 1897 10 14, p2-3 CDN

1897 10 26
Why no library free catalogue, p3

1897 11 27
Sir. The Reading Room on East Road, Cambridge will be re-opened on Monday next, from six till half-past nine o'clock. Everything has been done to make the room as efficient and comfortable as possible, new gas fittings and furniture provided and the floor has been covered throughout with linoleum. By the liberality of the Mayor about one hundred volumes of useful works of reference, biography and travel will be placed upon the open shelves. There will be supplied 15 daily newspapers and it is hoped that there will be a large attendance and an appreciable use made of the literature supplied - John Pink, Librarian 1897 11 27 CDN

1897 11 30
Once again the good folk of Barnwell are in possession of their reading-room. This time improvements have been carried out and the workers around East Road will not only have a convenient room, but also an attractive and comfortable one. The room is the same as of yore, and the exterior is as ugly as ever, but inside everything has been re-painted and varnished, & incandescent lights have replaced the old-fashioned flickering gas jet. Although Mr John Pink, the borough librarian, opposed the re-opening, since the decision of the Council to again provide facilities for the thoughtful working men of Barnwell he has done his utmost to ensure they are as full and liberal as possible 1897 11 30 CDN

1897 12 16
Castle End Reading Room reopened in deference to wishes of public [2.3]

1898 01 22
The report of Cambridgeshire Technical Education Committee shows the village library continued to be steadily appreciated. Where there are local libraries already established in villages in connection with reading-rooms, schools etc, the boxes of books offered would generally form a most useful addition, thus increasing the interest and variety on the most economical terms - carriage only, to and fro

1898 07 19
In the publication "Public Libraries," which is published in Chicago, is an article with reference to Cambridge libraries. "At the free public library, visited on Saturday evening, a changing crowd stood in line for nearly three hours, in spite of the fact that they were waited on at the rate of one a minute. We found several labour-saving devices and conveniences in this library, which seemed to be a little ahead of the average Library we visited. One of the finest collections of Shakespeariana in the country is in this building CDN 1898 07 19

1898 08 08
At the Cambridge Free library committee meeting an offer was made by Mr W.H. Hattersley to present an oil painting of Mr John Pink, who has been the librarian ever since the commencement of that other institution in 1855. It was agreed to make the necessary arrangements for placing the portrait in the Reading Room. It is painted by Mr P Hall, master of the School of Art CDB 1898 08 08

1898 10 05
The annual report of the Cambridge public Free Library has been issued. Under competent management and the able direction of Mr Pink, it has continuously added to its resources. It is now as well equipped as anyone could desire. It has a reference library and in the Shakespeare and dramatic collections a special features of great interest and real value. Moreover there is the branch library at Mill road with 6,600 volumes and during the past year reading rooms have been opened at East road and Castle end. The people who enjoy these facilities of access to the best literature may well be envied by those who do not CDN 1898 10 05

1898 11 24
Freezing library, p2

1899 01 13
Smoke at Free Library, p2

1899 01 04

However poor the local newspaper its files are the best source of information as to what has taken place in the district. It is only in the British Museum that files of the newspapers are preserved as a matter of course. In places where there are free libraries a good deal is done but very often the files are incomplete and in some cases the importance of preserving these records is not realised as it ought to be. County councils should undertake the work of filing these newspapers, of binding the volumes and keeping them in a place ready of access by the public - 1899 01 04

1899 06 09
Chesterton board of guardians considered an offer from the Tramps' Mission to provide a library at the union for the tramps to happen to be sojourning there, also to furnish wall cards bearing matter profitable for Weary Willie's reading. The master of the workhouse viewed with very little favour these concessions to the literary tastes of those who make the Chesterton Union their hotel. In his opinion there is no matter more suitable for the tramps than the regulations which have been drawn to guide the conduct of those who resort to the workhouse for shelter. Give him text on the wall and he will have an excuse for taking his ease while he reads, or pretends to read them

1899 09 09
Looking over the catalogue of the Cambridge public library we were struck with the care exercised in obtaining and preserving copies of every publication of local bearing, even down to the most occasional leaflets. This is as it should be. It may well be that there are documents lying in inaccessible places what contain information for which even now students of local history are searching in vain. Why should these not be deposited in the public library, accessible to those who desire to make use of them? 1899 09 09

1899 09 26
There are some who deplore it very much that the Free Library readers should resort so much to fiction. There can be no greater waste of time than the reading of novels that are not worth reading. At the Central Library there were issued during the year 67,661 volumes in the class of fiction and it must be admitted that Cambridge might with advantage become a little more serious in its reading. At the Mill Road branch 293 borrowers were added whereby it is made clear that the branch supplies a very real demand 1899 09 26

1900

1900 05 09
Sir – As an old user of the East Road Reading Room, Cambridge may I complain of the insufficient supply of newspapers there. Morning newspapers are entirely absent, excepting one a day old. I received a severe shock some time ago when I founded posted up a copy of the "Times" newspaper, but found it was an old copy. In the old days we were allowed the "Times". The reading matter is so seriously curtailed as to prevent one from arriving at a consensus of opinion; this tending to keep in darkness a not highly favoured part of the town – A. Clark, Walnut Tree Lane CDN 1900 05 09

1900 07 13
Mill Road library, p2

1900 09 28
Cambridge Library Committee state that during the past year the institution has been used by a larger number of persons than before. The war in South Africa necessitated a larger supply of newspapers, war maps and a service of telegrams. Every hour of the day there was a constant

stream of visitors & during two weeks in February the reading rooms were visited by more than 57,898 persons CDN 1900 09 28

1901 01 11
Cambridge Free Library, p2

1901 04 10
Sir – In two hours on Saturday evening, with the aid of the efficient staff at the Central Library, two hundred books were exchanged – one every twenty-four seconds; taking back, making returns, finding fresh books and entering same in register and books. All this was done with a politeness and steadiness of deportment most commendable, Mr Pink jun. calling out in clear tones the numbers returned and those taken in place of them and his assistant staff, especially Mr Fenton proved themselves to be the right men in the right place. - One of the Crowd c01 04 10

1901 10 07
The police station is part of the machinery which Society has devised for its own protection and for inflicting punishment upon wrong doers. In the golden age there will be no use for Police Stations, and the fine building of which Cambridge has just witnessed the opening may justifiably be converted into a Free Library. There is no virtue in locking up a wrong doer in an ugly prison and the architect of the new station, Mr John Morley, has designed a building which is an ornament to the town. The cells are not luxurious but they are not stifling. It is true the building has cost a good deal but is excellent value for money.

1902 09 30
Free Library report, p2

1902 12 23
At the spacious premises of Laurie and McConnal, Fitzroy Street, Cambridge readers can secure anything they require for a seasonable gift. A special showroom is set apart for the display of cards, pictures, books, toys, games etc and they have a chose selection of mechanical toys which are quite a novelty in themselves. There is also a variety of artificial grasses and plants which it would be difficulty to tell from real; these would make very pretty decorations. There has just recently been added a lending library which includes books of the best-known writers

1903 03 20
Cambridge Free library, p3

1903 06 29
Librarian's salary, p4

1903 08 18
We do not think there is the slightest risk of smallpox spreading through the use of books belonging to the Cambridge Free Library. Almost directly the epidemic was made public, Mr Pink, the librarian, wrote to us stating that every infectious case was immediately reported to him by the Medical Officer of Health. If such persons were borrowers a notice was despatched informing them they would not be able to borrow any book until the house had been properly infected. Any books or cards they had were collected and promptly destroyed. We do not see any necessity for the closing of the Library – Editor 03 08 18

1903 08 18

Cambridge Library Committee considered the supply of literature for the use of the blind; they will subscribe for the supply of books provided a sufficient number of persons expressed their willingness to use them. It is hoped that those who "live in darkness" will be made acquainted with his decision. From 1895 to 1899 books were issued in response to applications but the number of blind readers never reached double figures. The average citizen will always be inclined to stretch a point with regard to expenditure in order to provide food for the brain for the blind. But how many are able to read the Braille type which has superseded the Moon system that was in vogue for some considerable time. 03 08 18

1903 10 23
Ald Spalding said the Free Library was a very worthy institution, but it was supported by the rates of the town & these should be used in opposition to legitimate businesses. There were three lending libraries in Cambridge, the proprietors of which paid a considerable sum of money for the rates. He did not think it right that the Library enter into competition by offering the use of fiction and the other advantages of the Library to county residents for the minimum annual subscription of 5s. It was not fair and should be discontinued. c03 10 23

1903 12 02
If the scene that attended the opening of the children's reading room at the Mill Road branch of the Cambridge Free Library can be relied upon the experiment ought to be attended with the happiest results. Within a few minutes of opening it was fully occupied by boys and girls and the demand for admittance was in excess of expectations with a large number waiting patiently outside until room could be made for them. Some had a long wait as once the children had settled down to the store of attractive books and pictures provided the employment became completely absorbing. Their clean faces and hands and well-brushed hair helped form a charming sight which their complete quietness and good behaviour rendered all the more attractive. c03 12 04

1903 12 03
Mill Road library opened a reading room for the exclusive benefit of children. Apart from the love of books and pictures likely to be instilled into the youthful mind there are habits of cleanliness, order & discipline. Dirty hands and faces are not permitted to enter and bad behaviour is punished by immediate expulsion. The children will be well looked after and tired mothers and weary fathers can rest with easy minds knowing their offspring are enjoying themselves without injuring either their bodies or their morals. 03 12 03

1904 01 14
The Cambridge Free Library committee are desirous that no resident should remain ignorant of the means at their disposal for acquiring knowledge. They have authorised the sale of the new catalogue at considerably less than cost price and issued a circular to every house. The Central Library reading room, with its wide selection of newspapers and periodical literature, invariably has its full complement of readers. Borrowers are induced to take a work of fiction and another work away together and so a taste for reading of the useful kind is being instilled.
04 01 14

1904 04 14
Free Library heat, p3

1904 04 11
Sir – I would like to know who is responsible for the very cold atmosphere in the Cambridge Free Library Reading Room. A few weeks ago I tried to enjoy an hour's reading, but the cold and draughts were so severe that, although a hearty vigorous man accustomed to outdoor work in all

weathers, I caught a severe cold. There are three stoves in the room but I have never seen more than one alight and a radiator which is usually almost cold. In the recent cold snaps the room has been under 45 degrees all day long. There is only a little cylinder boiler about the size of a beer cask inserted in an ordinary fireplace behind the counter of the lending department. Now they have installed a ventilating fan which works at intervals which not only causes a distinct chill but the noise and vibration are maddening, resembling the sound of a motor car running round the room – 'Ouvrier' 04 04 11

1904 06 16
Cambridge Library committee referred to the recent fire on Peas Hill and the destruction of the premises adjacent to the library. But for the skill of the fire brigade the reading room must have been destroyed and the contents lost. The accumulation of books, pictures and scarce literature could never be replaced. Now the old dilapidated buildings should be cleared away and a more appropriate building erected. Next year they would celebrate the jubilee of the opening of the library and the appointment of Mr Pink as Librarian. The Library Association should be invited to hold their annual meeting at Cambridge, free of charge. 1904 06 16

1904 09 15
Library editorial, p3

1904 10 01
What does Free Library cost Borough? Survey shows most readers under 30, 173 under 20 and only 15 between 50 & 60 04 10 01 [2.22]

1905 05 01
John Pink, the veteran Cambridge Librarian says that a man ceases to read books after attaining the age of 40. Library statistics show that older men do not borrow books but read more periodicals. The newspaper of today is a very different thing to what it was 40 years ago; around the newspapers in the reading room were many men, some eagerly peeping over each other's shoulders and several reading monthly magazines. Nor does the present generation read as much as before, athleticism occupies too much of their time, he feels 05 05 01a & b (Brock illustration of library users 56.93)

1905 08 21
Cambridge Free Library is singularly rich in local literature due mainly to the Librarian, John Pink. He was born some 67 years ago and is steeped in Cambridge lore. There is little that he does not know and is always able to tell where the answer is to be found. His catalogues testify to a conscience for detail and a zeal to make the library as comprehensive as possible. His conscientious manner and obliging disposition are reflected in all the members of his staff. 05 08 21b

1905 08 22
Library Association conference held in Cambridge – 05 08 22

1905 08 24
The Library Association Conference in Cambridge discussed Sunday opening. To believe opponents Sunday was a season of celestial peace where only the sound of church bells and the hymns of devout worshippers broke the sacred silence. By opening libraries were doing a noble work in providing young men with a place to read periodicals or great fiction. But others said Sunday opening had failed because the average working man did not want to go there. It involved extra expenditure which would be better devoted to new books. 05 08 24 & 24a

1905 11 02
Library annual report, p4

1906 10 25
Cambridge Library committee recommended that a branch reading room be opened in a room in St Paul's Institute, Coronation Street. But Prof Sorley said a reading room supplied people with ephemeral newspapers and magazines, it did not supply literary, technical, scientific or reference works and the central library did not have the works it should have. However it would prevent a great deal of loafing about in the streets which was productive of crime. 06 10 25b

1906 10 27
Library usage – buy sixpenny editions of novels; Speculation on reading ages – 06 10 27e

1906 11 26
It is with regret we announce the death of Mr John Pink, the Cambridge Borough Librarian. He started life as a bookseller's assistant but the adoption of the Public Libraries Act in 1853 opened up the walk in life which he has conscientiously and with dignity trodden for over half a century. Around him and his personality the Cambridge library has grown from small beginnings to its present state as one of the finest in the provinces, a permanent memorial to its first librarian. 06 11 26c & d funeral 06 11 28, 06 12 01[1.6]

1906 12 05
Freezing library, p3

1906 12 10
Free library salary, p3

1906 12 12
Library, p3

1907 01 02
A warm well-lighted room in St Paul's Institute New Town was opened as a reading room. There was a collection of current literature ready for the first arrivals who drew chairs to the tables and took advantage of the comfort and facilities provided. The Free Library was one of the most popular institutions in Cambridge, ten years ago a branch was established at Mill Road with other reading rooms at Castle End and East Road. 07 01 02 & 2a

1907 01 03
Cambridge Library – W.A. Fenton appointed librarian – 07 01 03b, 07 01 25

1907 01 07
Public library salaries – details – 07 01 07

1907 03 19
Some years ago Cambridge Free Library opened a public reading room at the Castle End Mission and Working Men's Institute. It has proved a boon to those who have used it. However the Institute's work is growing and their newly-formed men's club now has a comfortable room well equipped with daily, weekly and monthly papers, a cosy parlour for games, conversation & smoking and a first-class billiard room with full-sized table. Membership is open to all men over 18. 07 03 19

1907 06 11
Cambridge Central Library Reading Room opened in 1884 but has now fallen behind many towns of similar size. The Reference library contains a Shakespeare library and an important Cambridge collection accommodated in galleries in the lending department. They have many old books, prints and artistic works they are unable to exhibit and cannot give the community the full enjoyment of their own possessions. There is a pressing need for an extension of its premises. 07 06 11a & 14, 07
03 16

1907 09 24
Cambridge Councillors considered the question of the old corn merchant's buildings on Peas Hill which were damaged by fire in 1904. The whole of the site, including the houses in Wheeler Street, should be used for municipal buildings with the basement and ground floor as an extension to the Central Library. 07 09 24a

1908 04 11
Plaque from King Street Almshouses added Library collection of objects 08 04 11

1908 08 07
Cambridge Free Library never gave details of their expenditure and it was wrong that a large spending committee should keep its operations in the dark. Members of the committee supplied goods to the library, it might be lawful but it was not expedient, a councillor claimed. But Mr Bowes had been a benefactor to the library whose advice had been invaluable and supplied books on the same terms as to other people. CWN 08 08 07

1909 01 08
Cambridge Free Library is to introduce a system of 'card charging' in place of the present system of 'ledger charging' for the issue of books. This is the most up-to-date and efficient method of issue known and will be a boon to borrowers and staff alike. In another reform that will meet with general approval any burgess may now borrow on signing a "burgess's voucher" rather than get the signature of a guarantor for the safe return of the books CWN 09 01 08

1909 06 04
Cambridge Free Library has acquired at auction a somewhat badly bound volume of Cambridge newspapers which are unique. They start as 'The Huntingdon, Bedford, Cambridge and Peterborough Gazette' of 15 April 1818 but change title to 'The Cambridge Independent Press'. The purchase shows the happy understanding between the University and Town Libraries both of which were anxious it should not pass into private hands. They agreed the Borough Library should have the first chance but that if the price were too high then the University would bid. 09 06 04

1909 08 21
During reflooring of Central Library annexe to Corn Exchange fitted up as reading room 09 08 21 [3.1]

1909 10 27
Cambridge Town Council – bathing places, water supply, fire brigade, library – 09 10 27

1910

1910 04 08
Free Library given Hattersley Bros ledger 1765-5 – 10 04 08a

1911 04 07
Girton Village Institute is designed to promote the religious, intellectual and social welfare of villagers. An evening class for men of the artesian and labouring classes has been established. A small library of interesting books and a billiard and bagatelle table have been provided and there will be lectures, concerts and entertainment. The Rector uses it for Sunday and Bible Classes and mothers' meetings in the day time. Such facilities are needed if we are to keep people on the land and make life in villages more interesting. 11 04 07d

1911 06 30
The present opening hours of the Central Library Reading Room do not meet the needs of people who commence business at 9am or earlier and must wait until 10 before they can consult directories or other reference books. Persons in search of situations are also at a disadvantage through not being able to see the newspapers at an earlier hour. In future it will open daily from 8.30 am to 9.30 pm. The advantages would justify the small additional expense involve. 11 06 30c

1913 08 08
Three fine fireplaces had been given to the Corporation by Mr Bishop to be built into the new addition to the Guildhall and Library. Although they could find a suitable place for one, they could not find space for two more. They had agreed to lend one fireplace to the new Archaeological Museum for six months but that was no use to the Museum: they wanted to incorporate it into their building. But the Council had few such valuable things and it was hard to part with them. They would be asked for one of the maces next. If one of the college buildings was pulled down, would they present the town with anything? 13 08 08 p7 CIP

1913 08 15
Cambridge Free Library reports an increase in use with as many as 3-400 visitors in one hour. The cultivation of interest in local history shows every probability of the future Reference Room being well used. It possesses a very fine collection of books, maps and plans on local subjects for which there is considerable demand. John E. Foster had been a generous donor and presented many volumes of local and antiquarian interest. 13 08 15 p9 CIP

1913 09 05
Guildhall extension ratepayer's opposition – any money spent on libraries should provide reading rooms for Chesterton, Cherry Hinton and Newnham: when a man got home from business he doesn't feel inclined to walk down to the town again – if you look into the Mill Road reading room at night you will see how much it is appreciated. 13 09 05 p5 CIP [3.5]

1913 12 19
Plans for alterations at the rear of the Guildhall were shelved after the Ratepayers Association raised a petition. They had to face a loss on the trams, the Borough Bill, Chesterton footbridge and other improvements and as the Colleges were building rapidly the town landladies found it hard to pay their rates. Now the County Council had decided to build their new offices in Hobson Street. They had been debating since 1907 and all the expense and time had been worthless. But the Free Library was over-crowded and disease was spread in libraries where people were constantly sitting together 13 12 19 p7 CIP

1914 01 23

"Scotched," — The Cambridge Ratepayers' Association (writes Free Lance) are patting themselves on the back, and proclaiming that they have been the means of "scotching" the Borough Council's scheme for the enlargement of the Guildhall. If the deferment of the proposal is not entirely due to the big opposition put forth by this organisation, at any rate the members are justly entitled to take a good deal of the credit for it, the number of signatures obtained for their monster petition being a plain indication that the great majority of the ratepayers were against such a costly proceeding. Whilst I have on several occasions expressed my opposition to such an extensive scheme, one cannot but realise the need which exists for better Public Library accommodation, and it is to be hoped the dropping of the larger scheme will not prevent the work of extending and improving the Library being carried through 14 01 23

1914 03 14
Library starts events diary 14 03 14 [3.6]

1914 03 27
Proposals for extra accommodation for the Library, Education Department, Juvenile Employment Exchange and Weights and Measures Department on the site now occupied by houses in Wheeler Street prompted long discussions. Nearly every councillor found it incumbent to express his opinions and an hour was passed away more or less pleasantly and profitably in this fashion. 14 03 27h [3.9]

1914 04 18
Protest against open access system, at present apply for volume & after profitless period of waiting learn that book out 14 04 18 [3.7]

1914 05 22
Cambridge Library was one of the finest in the country but all available floor space was utilised and extensions must be made, especially to relieve congestion in the Reference department. They should develop the site now occupied by houses in Wheeler Street and adjoining vacant land, councillors heard. But a library was a luxury and ratepayers did not want it. The plan was agreed 14 05 22f & g £5,000 scheme for additional offices for library passed council [3.9]

1914 10 02
Guildhall extension for library, education offices, juvenile bureau and Medical Officer of Health

1914 12 18
An inquiry was held into the Guildhall extension. The Librarian said at present they had two rooms for lending purposes and a reading room on the ground floor. Part of the Reference Library was in the reading room and it was very overcrowded. The basement would be used for storage. But the Ratepayers Association asked for it to be postponed until after the war. The University had practically ceased to exist, there are no pupils, the tutors have no fees and the lodging house keepers no tenants. Poor people were selling furniture to buy bread

1915 05 21
Interesting Engraving. The Cambridge Borough Librarian has been authorised to purchase, at cost of 35s. a local engraving, entitled the Dinner given to 15,000 persons on Parker's Piece Cambridge Thursday 28th June,1838 in honour of the Coronation of her must gracious Majesty Queen Victoria. The engraving is by Harraden 15 05 21 CIPof

1915 10 15
File of Cambridge Gazette newspapers purchased at auction sale 15 10 15

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1915 11 26
Library expenditure – fewer books, classified list of books discontinued, annual report reduced in size; to reduce number newspaper, discontinue war telegrams to Central Reading Room 15 11 26 p5

1916 02 09
Walter Poole Littlechild, 50 years King's College chapel clerk; regular visit to Free Library to increase his knowledge – 16 02 09f

1916 04 28
Exhibition to mark Shakespeare Tercentenary held in new Reference Room 16 04 28 [1.7]

1916 05 10
Reference Library and Education department, Peas Hill – photo & details – 16 05 10c

1916 05 19
New reference room talk 16 05 19

1918 07 10
Library report says people have turned to reading as distraction from war – 18 07 10a

1918 11 27
Cambridge Free Library accession stamp – 18 11 27h

1918 11 27
Free library continues popular; not convenience for adopting the open shelves of the most up-to-date Free Libraries but compromise putting up of counter and wall cases in which a selection of books is placed for the inspection and choice of borrowers. The advantages of the recently added Reference Library are beginning to be appreciated and the number of users daily increases … the general reading room in the evening is literally crowded. The Librarian, Mr Fenton who is in khaki has reached France & hope to soon be back. In his absence duties being carried out by his chief assistant Ch 18 11 27 p3

1920

1920 05 11
Burrells Walk agree plans for remainder of the buildings which have been handed over; question of branch library – no

1920 11 03
Library reading room is badly heated, unlike reference room; working men like to visit after work – letter - CDN 20 11 03

1920 11 27
Library committee veto Mrs Asquith's autobiography 20 11 27, 20 12 04 [3.13]

1921 04 30
John Pink's son retires after 50 years at W.H. Smith railway bookstall [3.12]

1921 09 10
Reference library ought to have card index 21 09 10 [3.3]

1921 11 16
Village libraries – provision of a properly-organised service similar to that enjoyed by residents in towns; apply Carnegie Trust – 21 11 16c, 26 11 23a

1922 01 04
Cambridgeshire rural circulating library proposed with grant from Carnegie & appointment of Librarian 22 01 04

1922 05 06
The Cambridge Library Committee has resolved to convert the Free Library into an open access library, which will enable borrowers to go straight to the shelves and select books for themselves. It is a somewhat heroic experiment, as the library premises are old-fashioned, confined and ill-lighted. A thousand persons a day rummaging at will over the shelves in the limited space available is a serious proposition and considerable expenses will be involved in the rearrangement of shelves and bookcases. 22 05 06. [2.25, 3.4]

1922 06 30
"Sir. At one time I was a fairly constant user of the Free Library, but of late my visits are not so frequent for the sole reason that one cannot sit down and read with ease and comfort. As I enter the Library I am watched. I am stared at practically the whole time I am there, and when I leave the eyes of some official stare at me until I am off the premises" - A friend of the library "Sir. I am in the Free Library practically every week day during the year, but I have never seen any member of the staff either "killing time" or "staring round private corners". They always appear to me to be well occupied; but however busy they are they are always most obliging and go to a very great deal of trouble to find out information if any is required". – Another Reader c22 06 30

1922 07 27
A pleasing ceremony took place at the meeting of the Cambridge Town Council when Col. C.T. Heycock, on behalf of the past officers of the headquarters of the Cambridgeshire Regiment, presented to the town a copy of the book which rests in Ely Cathedral, containing the names of the men of Cambs and the Isle of Ely who lost their lives in the war. The Mayor, in accepting the book said he was sure they would all feel it was their duty and privilege to take care of that handsome volume, and place it in the Public Library, so that all who cared could look through it and see the names of those gallant men who fell in the defence of their country

1922 09 30
Closed for 3 weeks while reclassify 15,000 books & construct 3-sided counter near entrance 22 09 30 [2.3]

1923 04 07
As a frequent visitor to the Cambridge Free Library, I have noticed with interest the very good use to which the reference library is put. It is especially satisfying to notice the number of school teachers and senior scholars who spend their Saturday mornings there, and this I have observed at the Mill Road branch as well as the Central Library, showing that the Cambridge library is, as it should be, a valuable auxiliary to the educational machine. The Mill Road Library was the worst sufferer in the necessary economies of wartime and is to receive preferential treatment in consequence c23 04 07

1923 08 11
Open access introduced to Mill Road 23 08 11 [2.26]

1923 09 18
Following a recent letter from the Vicar of Fordham in praise of the free library scheme which is being run in the villages by the Cambridgeshire County Council. Boxes of books of all classes are sent to the various villages, where demand for them has been found two exist, and are returned at the end of three months in exchange for a fresh supply. The first boxes went to 65 villages and boxes were also sent to 43 elementary schools for the special use of children. There are now 88 library centres in the county, and only 28 villages have not yet taken advantage of the benefit of the service. The scheme aims to develop the reading habit amongst those who have, as yet, been content to read nothing but the Sunday newspaper and a penny novelettes. Those in authority have no desire to attain a standard which may to be called "highbrow" but hope to increase a healthy appetite for good books

1924 02 12
A largely attended meeting at Cherry Hinton carried unanimously a resolution urging the necessity of providing a branch reading room and library. Some said they should not ask for a library at the moment when all building was required for houses but they might ask public authorities sometimes a long time before they got anything. If they asked for a public library and reading room there was some chance they might get a box of books. (Laughter) c24 02 12

1924 04 14c
Mr T Peake said that at the present moment there was a library in Littleport, and he could assure them that there was hardly one book in it that he would care to find a place for in his home. For many years, he believed, it had not been used, but that did not alter the fact that there was a very strong desire for a supply of good books. The Isle of Ely county council was a very progressive one and he was sure that the members would not dare to go to their wives and tell them they had voted against the Carnegie scheme. It was very rarely a wife got anything out of the county council - but she would certainly get something from the libraries
1924 06 28
Library local and drama collection, p6

1924 07 29c
When the list of Cambridgeshire men who fell in the war was being compiled for the Memorial Chapel in Ely Cathedral there were many expressions of regret that the Borough itself had no official record of names. Most of the parishes have their own lists but there is no complete list of Cambridge names other than the sheet published at a popular price by the C.D.N. some two or three years ago, and now to be seen in the Free Library. Now there is a proposal for the provision of a roll of names in the Guildhall

1924 08 16
Here is a piece of information that will interest those of an inquiring turn of mind. The Cambridge Public Free Library is now on the telephone and the Borough Librarian, Mr W.A. Fenton invites inquiries by 'phone on any subject. The idea is to place the whole resources of the library at the disposal of any person seeking information by phone - in fact to set up an Information Bureau 24 08 16 [1.8]

1924 10 21
The Cambridge Library committee proposes to transfer the local collection to a more easily accessible position. At the present time it is shelved on the gallery in the committee room and few

people realise the wealth of material to be found. It is proposed to transfer all bound volumes to the shelves in general, but it would be fatal to allow unlimited access and it is suggested that frames be fitted with brass wire lattice. The whole collection requires to be classified so that readers may see at a glance the extent of material on any subject 24 10 21

1924 11 03
Sir – One evening a friend and myself decided to spend an hour at the Central Library. No sooner had we entered the building than the eyes of the watch-dog firmly covered us and continued to do so the whole of the time we were there. We took our seats and my friend took from his pocket one of his own newspapers and began to read it inaudibly. This was too much for the watchers who came forward and told him to replace the newspaper in his pocket, adding that newspapers and books bought in by the visitors were not allowed to be read in the library and writing was only allowed when copied from the papers and books there. – "Economy, impartiality and courtesy 24 11 03

1925 02 25
In the course of his address on "How to carry on a village library centre" Mr Milner said that at Cottenham he tried to hire a warm room and did not hurry people. Some librarians mixed the books with the hope that a borrower would be led to read a non-fiction book. But that was a trick which would probably make a person stop away from the library. The librarian should not spend his time issuing books. He had far more important work than that – to talk to borrowers and interest them in books. Mr Chapman, Whittlesford, spoke of choosing books for borrowers and said he had been greatly praised for giving people good books, when he knew nothing about the books (laughter) c25 02 25

1925 07 08
Fenton presentation, 25 07 08 p5

1926 05 01
Display of playbills from Cambridgeshire Collection 1925 05 16 [1.9, 1.10]

1927 02 16
The work of maintaining a pictorial record of the streets and buildings of Cambridge is greatly facilitated by modern photography and much credit is due to those enthusiastic amateurs who perpetuate these important historical records. There are some excellent examples of the work of the Cambridge Photographic Club on exhibition at the Borough Library and the short time required to view the photographs will not be wasted.

1927 03 04
Cambridge Library Committee recommended that steps be taken to provide reading rooms in Chesterton and Cherry Hinton. At the time of amalgamation in 1911 it was one of the conditions that Chesterton should be given a public library. At Cherry Hinton they had in 1924 prevailed upon the council to provide a public reading room. It was hoped to set up a small reference library at each. Suburban Cambridge was growing rapidly and they were a necessity. 27 04 03

1927 07 08
Messrs Galloway and Porter, Cambridge, whose business operations extend to all parts of the world, have formed a private limited company. Mr Charles P. Porter, for many years sole proprietor, becomes chairman. He is well known as a Cambridge councillor and was formerly

chairman of the Free Library Committee. His clients range from queens to factory boys and include foreign and colonial libraries extending to every part of the globe.

1927 08 27
Account of visit to library & assistance from staff; books covered with dust, new arrangement of Reading Room 27 08 27 [2.18] (photo 61)

1927 10 05
Cambridge Photographic Club had made progress with the photographic survey of the county and over 100 prints were produced. There was still a great deal to be done and this should be regarded as one of the most important parts of the club's work. A collection of photographs of Cambridge was exhibited in the Public Library. The East Anglian Federation had held its summer meeting in Cambridge, but the weather was not in favour of photography.

1927 12 13
Time was when "a village library" implied a shelf or two of antiquated and goody-goody books which had been discarded and presented by bygone residents who had fixed opinions as to the literary fare appropriate for villagers. Nowadays the books sent each quarter to a village can be selected by the residents, and their quantity and quality have only one limit – the demand that exists. There is a branch of the county library in every village, which means that everybody can now obtain any book needed for study from the Central Library for Students. The amount spent on a free library service which benefits every person in the community is not likely to be grudged by ratepayers. c27 12 13

1928 02 18
Grantchester's new village hall was opened. The building, which adjoins the Reading Room, is of steel with a stage, kitchen and cloakrooms. Mr Adeane, in declaring it open, expressed the hope it would not only be a social rendezvous, but a place where political differences were left outside. It was desired to renovate the old reading room and start a small museum and a library. Babraham had a village hall 25 years ago, largely due to the enterprise of Mr Adeane who had also started a wood-carving centre there.

1928 06 22
The Cambridge Borough Librarian reported that a reader at the Central Library had been detected in cutting out a coupon from a daily paper, and that he had refused the reader permission to use the libraries until the matter was referred to the Library Committee. They approved his action and decided that the reader in question be excluded from the libraries and reading room for a period of six months.

1929 01 28
The County Architect presented sketch plans for a new building on the Cambridge castle site, containing office accommodation, with council chamber, library and storerooms. It was futile to prepare plans for their existing needs when it was practically certain that under the new Local Government Bill they would have a large amount of additional work thrown upon them. Mr Dunn had erected the present County Hall in Hobson Street & was able to compete with the best architects in the country with regard to a beautiful scheme and a beautiful building. But if he was forced to collaborate with another architect there would be delays and they would never get the building erected.

1929 09 21
J.J. Thomson lecture to Aslib – CDN 21.9.1929

1930

1930
Library Association conference at Cambridge [3.8]

1930 06 18
Impington Hall has been presented to the County Council by Messrs Chivers & Sons to be used as a village college. It is in a good state of preservation and repair with central heating and electricity installed and is quite the finest site one could secure. It will provide a warden's house, caretaker's cottage, library and reading room together with two adult education rooms and staff room. A new block will be erected adjacent to it. 30 06 18

1930 09 22
Miss Brooks, the Cambs County Librarian said some books which were distasteful to certain readers had been mutilated by self-appointed censors in villages. She had difficulties inducing youths to read, bringing to the notice of village craftsmen and farmers the technical book intended for them and exchanging books quickly enough to keep pace with rapid readers. Village halls seldom had any accommodation for a library; this should be made obligatory for any halls built with grants. 30 09 22

1930 12 09
Branch library site, Chesterton & Cherry Hinton – 30 12 09

1930 12 17
The county library committee debated spending a farthing rate on books, 80 per cent of which were fiction. Such books could be a waste of time or a downright bad habit. There was little difference between putting Edgar Wallace on a cinema screen and having him in a book. There was no reason why public money should be used to provide 'The Squeaker' free for boys and girls in the villages. But Sir Graham Greene said those in the country should enjoy the same advantages as those in town.
30 12 17

1931 04 17
St Ives town council has been awarded a site for the building to be called 'The Norris Library' which is to house a collection of Huntingdonshire topography, pictures and antiques collected by the late H.E. Norris. At his home in Chichester he had a room crowed with pictures, relics and literature. He was a man of great literary attainments and one of the finest chess players in England. The council recorded their gratitude and appreciation and stood for a moment of silence in tribute to his memory. 31 04 17b

1931 11 06
The atmosphere of Cambridge Reference Library was more reminiscent of a cinema during the showing of a hilarious comedy than a lecture room when the Rev H.K. Cossar told the cream of a world-wide collection of jokes about the church, University life and Irishmen. There is a great rivalry between John's and Trinity so when one dean sent a letter addressed to "The Dean of Trinity, near St John's College" the reply was addressed: "The Dean of Trinity, near Matthew's Café". 31 11 06d, e

1931 12 25

Sir – when Mr W. Rouse Ball and myself were invited to consider a local guide for publicity purposes we also recommended a volume of old views of Cambridge. In our local library and with the Photographic Club and many citizens, there are many old pictures which would prove of lasting interest as a record of the past, a volume which would appeal to all those who are interested in the township – Charles Porter, Sidney Street. 31 12 25c

1932 05 27
The Carnegie Trust offered to meet the cost of erecting a semi-permanent building to accommodate March Library provided the Isle of Ely County Council spend £200 on books. But councillors thought this an unnecessary expenditure at a time when people were hard pressed for money. 32 05 27 & a

1932 08 27
Sends out 15 reminders a week [1.11]

1933 02 06
Cambridge library ban on Shaw – 33 02 06b
1933 03 06
Branch libraries for Cambridge – Morley and Shirley schools – 33 03 06b

1933 04 06
While those living on the outskirts of Cambridge had many advantages in the way of fresh air and beautiful surroundings they did suffer certain disadvantages such as facilities for book-borrowing. Now two branch libraries have been opened in Morley Memorial Schools on the Rock Estate and Shirley Schools in the Green End Road districts. Each contains four hundred modern novels (mostly entirely new) and 100 popular non-fiction works and are open one evening a week from 6-8. This pioneering service could spread, if successful 33 04 06, 33 03 06b [1.13]

1933 07 20
Black Horse Drove school becomes badly flooded, not only with surface water but with sewage, councillors heard. Since so many more houses had been built on the higher land at Littleport a tremendous amount of sewage comes down whenever they got a heavy storm and settles in the playground. Tenders were received for the erection of a branch library at March together with a new senior school which will be named the Hereward School 33 07 20

1933 09 22
The Norris Library and Museum at St Ives was opened with full civic pride. Herbert Norris's collection of manuscripts and books was unique; there was nothing printed in the world concerning Huntingdonshire that was not there and it should become a county museum. The architect, Mr Inskip Ladds was congratulated. The council had also carried out improvements to the Waits and made new flower beds. 33 09 22

1934 01 05
A new branch of Huntingdonshire county library was opened by the Lord Lieutenant in a room in the municipal building at St Ives. It had been made possible through a grant from the Carnegie Trust and would prove of great benefit to the town. The chain of county libraries was now complete. Two libraries had now opened in St Ives within a few months; they now had a lending library and the specialised Norris Library at the new Museum. 34 01 05

1934 04 12

One of the first results of Cambridge borough expansion has been the taking over of the lending libraries in Trumpington and Cherry Hinton and these new branches were opened by the Mayor. He was sure the new libraries would be well looked after. Both are established in the parish schools and contain 400 modern novels and 100 popular non-fiction works. Approximately 100 volumes will be exchanged monthly with books from the Central Library. 34 04 12

1934 07 26
Libraries in hospitals – British Red Cross work – 34 07 26

1934 10 18
Rock Estate Library approved – 34 10 18

1935 09 07
Libraries arrange charter display at centenary of local government 35 09 07

1935 09 17
Sir – Burwell Public Reading Room has been closed for several months. The closure arose through some noisy louts who were permitted to become a great nuisance. For many years its tables provided daily and weekly newspapers and journals and some reference shelves were available. Never in the history of our country is it more necessary for the public to be able to read newspapers of different views. Burwell is the largest village in the county but the number of borrowers through the County Lending Library is very low: the building is only open for an hour or so on certain evenings which is quite inadequate – "Old Burwell Boy" 35 09 17b

1935 09 21
ASLIB conference – 35 09 21a

1935 12 10
A local history exhibition in the Central Library Reference Room in connection with the Local Government Centenary Celebrations shows how Cambridge looked in days gone by. Schoolchildren are showing the greatest interest as they make tours of the exhibits. Photographs show the changes more vividly than anything: it is hard to believe that the Hobson Street pictured is the same one today. Political broadsheets from the 1840s comment on the 'horrible extravagance' of police expenditure and hint that all was not well with the painting of the inside of the Council Chamber - it advises local painters to have nothing to do with the job. 35 12 10

1936 01 31
There was a need for providing a community welfare centre for the housing estates on the outskirts of Cambridge where a large proportion of the houses were occupied by youngish married couples with growing children. Chesterton is like a new town, the people are isolated, lonely, vague and have no centre. Youngsters wandered aimlessly about with nothing to do and nowhere to go. They need a building for public meetings, concerts, dances, films and medical inspections. But it would not be suitable as a library and a site in Ascham Road would offer quietness and room for any necessary growth, councillors were told. 36 01 31 & a

1936 03 26
Huntingdon County Library 10th report – 36 03 26b

1936 05 21
At the opening of the new Rock Road library the Mayor said that in these difficult times it was important that there should be in every district a building which would help to circulate the best

ideas and information for the guidance of residents. In the days to come the building will become more and more the intellectual home of the people who live around it. All would agree it was the right policy to encourage children to use it. He regretted the absence of a representative of the Carnegie Trust, which had helped with the money for the library 36 05 21a [1.2, 1.16]

1936 05 23
Mr W.A. Fenton, the Borough Librarian, has seen a tremendous growth in the reading public since he took office. The new Rock Road Library has had an excellent start-off this week. When I looked in last night I found a continuous flow of adults and juveniles. The children's reading room was practically full and some boys to whom I spoke assured me that everything was quite all right. Work on a new branch library at the corner of Milton Road and Ascham Road will begin almost immediately. The site appears to be an ideal one and new building should be complete before 1937 is very far advanced 36 05 23c

1936 06 23
The Cambridge Preservation Society reported that the Three Tuns in Castle Street was in so bad a state of repair that it was unable to put forward a scheme for its preservation and so it will be demolished. Dwelling houses in Cambridge Place will be cleared but a site in New Street was unsuitable for building and should be turned into an open space. The Central Library Reading and Reference Rooms will be closed four days for cleaning with the Corn Exchange used as a temporary alternative, councillors agreed. 36 06 23

1936 10 13
The Central Library Lending Department is housed in the oldest and most unhygienic part of the building in Wheeler Street. The room is badly provided with natural lighting and artificial light has to be used. When 'open access' was installed in 1921 the annual circulation was 141,968 books and now it is over 309,000. It should move into the present domed Reading Room. Most of the bookcases have been in use since 1862 and would be unsightly; they should be replaced by steel shelving. 36 10 13c

1936 10 17
Lending library bookcases too close together and too dark, were designed in days of 'closed access' system when books obtained by assistants – 36 10 17c & d

1936 10 20
Sir – I use the Public Library very frequently. The Reading Room is extremely popular and is at all hours of the day well patronised. But the Lending Department might be bettered. The conditions are most undignified and unworthy of Cambridge. The great bulk of borrowers are centred around the 'Fiction recently returned' shelves making use of light from the Wheeler Street windows. However it is a pleasure to watch the extreme precision and incredible speed of the assistants receiving or dating books. 36 10 20b

1936 11 04
The Cambridge and County Folk Museum at the old 'White Horse Inn' was opened in the presence of a large company. It would become a clearing house of information on local matters in a town where there is more information about Papua than Pampisford. The Corporation had handed over its old measures, the steelyard used at Stourbridge Fair and the High Constable's stave while the Public Library had loaned portraits and caricatures to give a human touch to the museum. Miss Catherine Parsons has accepted the position of honorary curator with Reginald Lambeth as custodian. 36 11 04b & c

1936 12 05
W.A Fenton, Borough Librarian has done much to raise the standard of library books in Cambridge. He is a worthy servant to the public whose willingness to help all and sundry who frequent the Reading Room is well-known. – 36 12 05c

1937 03 04
Miss Lilian Clarke gave a lantern lecture on 'Lady Margaret and her two colleges' in the Reference Room of the Central Library. She drew on her wonderful store of knowledge of bygone Cambridge with many interesting anecdotes that kept her large audience entertained. Recently it has been found that the main gate of St John's College was being rattled down by the heavy lorries which passed through the narrow streets every night. It will be necessary to rebuild, but there are problems in getting bricks to match 37 03 04

1937 04 23
Opening Ascham Road library, the Mayor said it was a great day for Chesterton. In that beautiful building, with good light and accommodation they could look at the books and select them for themselves. The children's library would encourage youngsters to read. At present physical education was the fashion. We were in danger of producing a nation finely developed from the waist downs. The library would hep to counteract it. Ten months ago they opened a branch library in Rock Road and so far 87,799 books had been issued, very close to the number at Mill Road branch which had been in existence 40 years. (Applause). 37 04 23c & d [1.1]

1937 05 07
Bottisham Village College was opened by the President of the Board of Education. During the day the college houses 240 scholars in the senior school with a provided for the county library which will be used by students at evening classes. The warden's house and a house for women members of staff occupy a site opposite the main building. Adjacent is the junior school with a nursery for the under-fives and the Sir Hailey Stewart Clinic for the medical inspection of pupils. 37 05 07 & a

1937 08 11
Royston public library has 1,120 readers but all they can offer is one evening a week with the books displayed in 22 heavy transport boxes placed on school desks in a classroom. These have to be replaced in a corner of the room at the close of the library. In spite of these adverse conditions it is greatly used and appreciated. The UDC has power to raise a library rate to provide a room. This would allow more books, extended opening and better conditions. As a quarter of the population use the library it merited careful consideration, councillors were urged 37 08 11

1937 09 11
Searle cartoon about reading 37 09 11 [2.13]

1937 09 27
Microfilm will bring the library resources of the world to the desk of an individual scholar, a Cambridge conference was told. The prodigious daily flood of newspapers can be compressed photographically into little rolls of microfilm making them perpetually 'in print' while censuses, birth and death records and correspondence can be duplicated. The technology is still being developed and will take much longer than expected, but a satisfactory reading machine should cost about as much as a portable typewriter 37 09 27

1937 12 15

Royston library may yet be decently housed. Royston Men's Social Club is prepared to grant the County Council the use of a room on the ground floor of their premises in Kneesworth Street at a rent of five shillings a week to include lighting, cleaning and heating. It would be available for the continuous storage of books in lock-up bookcases and made exclusively available for the exchange of books for one hour on one evening a week. The cost would be £13 a year for the hire of premises and £20 for the provision of lock-up bookcases 37 12 15d

1938 03 10
Cambridge Reference Library was packed to capacity for a lecture and demonstration on television by Mr D. Jackson of Pye Ltd. Severe electrical interference unfortunately ruined the first half of the programme from the Alexandra Palace but when after half-past-nine this eased off they were able to see some quite good vision signals and appreciate the high standard which can be expected in an area where interference is not so acute as it is in the centre of the town. 38 03 10

1938 05 07
Searle cartoon about Cambridge library issues 38 05 07 [2.14]

1938 08 22
Mr H.G. Wells criticised Cambridgeshire Village Colleges: "They are very beautiful specimens of architecture. I admired the decoration of the rooms, the beautiful chairs and tables. And then I went into the library and was shocked beyond measure at the unattractiveness and want of imagination. There were no dictionaries or encyclopaedias. There were no books of reference. There was not even a Whitaker. These things are of great educational importance" If some of the money spent on flowers and tables was expended on reference books it would be better for the village college as an educational institution", he told a conference. 38 08 22a. also 38 08 23 response from wardens – 38 08 24a

1938 12 16
J.H. Bullock re-elected to Library committee for 51st time; first elected 1887 (?) and served over 50 years 38 12 16

1938 12 17
Libraries want old pictures of Guildhall site to copy 38 12 17 [2.15]

1939 02 03
Central library alterations, Miss Greene givers watercolours – 39 02 03a

1939 02 11
Cambridge Central Library lending department will transfer to what is now the main reading-room making it more commodious and in every way more convenient both for borrowers and the library assistants. With better natural lighting and the new bookcases the books will be shown to greater advantage and readers should be able to move round more freely. The present lending department will be used mainly for the newspapers. Magazines and periodicals will be found on the other side in the present reference room and librarian's room which will open into each other. The librarian's new room will be upstairs in the present education offices, and there too the reference room will be found. 39 02 11a [1.18, 1.19]

1939 02 13
Mary Greene exhibition of water colours at Cambridge library, recently donated – 39 02 13a

1939 03 02
Borough Librarian, W.A. Fenton, lectures on Guildhall site – 39 03 02a

1939 03 23
Parts of Milton Road branch library are unsafe and re-building is the only cure, the Library Committee was told. It was constructed on the site of an old brickyard and there has been a serious settlement. Every cove cornice in every part was cracked and the whole library should be pulled down. A new building a short distance away was erected a short time ago and when the foundations were exposed it was found they had no bottom. It had to be built on piles that went 15 feet down to get a foundation. 39 03 23a

1939 04 11
Long queues of borrowers, six staff busy issuing books, Lending much better 39 04 11 [1.19]

1939 05 11
Milton Road Library – surveyor's report on site; some movement but hundreds of houses have been built on sites excavated for gravel or coprolite – 39 05 09. But cracking continues – 39 05 11b

1939 07 01
Mill Road library was built on part of the old workhouse field; a Chesterton reader recalls "The firm who did the plumbing were so short of work that they 'small-ganged' this job and in the forming the foreman used to say "Mill-road gang, fall in". The library is very handy to pop in to read the papers. A.E.H. remarks: "I have good reason to know it as I spent many happy hours in the management of that establishment when I was an assistant librarian under the late John Pink" 39 07 01

1939 07 28
Cambridge Town council held its last meeting at Shire Hall while the Guildhall was reconstructed. The Library committee asked to use the Small Room as temporary reading room during the re-arrangement of the Central Library. But it had a very expensive carpet that might get spoilt. The library might use the Corn Exchange annexe if the cycles were moved. Ald Briggs said that was not a proper alternative: "The fact is that we have had made a beautiful Guildhall, but must not use it". The carpet could be taken up. But the Guildhall might not be finished by that time and it would be unfortunate if people were allowed in the Small Room before the rest were completed. The request was denied – 39 07 28b & c

1939 09 05
Cambridge is getting into its war stride. After-dark bus services are curtailed owning to lighting restrictions, no cinemas are open and public libraries close at sunset. Banking hours are now 10 to two on weekdays and delays may occur in the collection of cheques. Various museums are taking steps to protect exhibits from damage and already half of the stained glass in the east window of King's College Chapel has been removed. It is being packed and taken to a place of safety. The remaining 23 windows are being left as they are, owing to the enormous nature of the task of removing the glass. 39 09 05a

1939 09 08
War Measures at Cambridge. Banks, buses and libraries are among the services affected by the situation. Both lending departments and reading rooms of the public libraries in the borough are closing by sunset, in view of the lighting regulations. 39 09 08 CIPof

1939 10 13
Work re-arranging Cambridge Central Library is going on well. Book cases are being installed in the domed room, the Reference Library has moved to the Education Offices and its old home will house magazines. 39 10 13b

1939 11 10
The first part of the new scheme for improving the Central library is complete. In the new lending department book shelves radiate from a central staff inclosure, providing more room and improved natural lighting. The old lending library will become the newspaper reading room while the old reference room will be used for magazines. An innovation is the transfer of the reference room upstairs to the old Education offices, entrance to which is gained through Peas Hill. Refugees, evacuees and any person resident in Cambridge are eligible as borrowers. 39 11 10

1939 11 11
The changes at the Central Library are working well with at least 200 books dealt with in the first half hour. There was a long queue of borrowers with half-a-dozen assistants in the centre issuing books as hard as they could go. From the point of view of light and supervision the new Lending Library will be very much better than the old. In the new magazine room – the old reference room and Librarian's office rolled into one – the mural decoration is tasteful. The new Reading Room opens in a week or so. The new reference room upstairs has been open for some time and a good many townspeople have found their way up there 39 11 11b

1939 12 12
Libraries to close at black-out time – 39 12 12, 39 12 15

1939 12 29
William Harry Smith was chairman of library committee and edited Public Library Record – obit – 39 12 29

1940

1940 02 02
Paper strips should be placed over the settlement cracks at Milton Road Library to see whether there was further settlement. It was of very nice design but parts would have to be taken down and rebuilt. If the surveyor had known what was going to happen it would have been built on piers. But he had no knowledge that the ground had been disturbed. However any idea the library was going to fall down on the people who were consulting books was absolutely ridiculous. 40 02 02b

1940 10 09
Milton Road library slight movement on one side caused by sub-soil, not to underpin at present due shortage pf material – 40 10 09a

1941 03 19
Protecting library dome will cost £50 – 41 03 19

1941 05 07
Library dome – cannot obtain wire netting to protect glass dome so recommend it closed on sounding of an alert – 41 05 07

1941 07 21

Milton Road library wall underpinned; problem with clay – 41 07 21

1941 08 23
Poison gas exhibition at library, photo – 41 08 23a, 41 08 26

1942 02 21
Tank exhibition at Central Library – 42 02 21c, d

1944 01 08
H H.J. Robinson retires as Librarian, Mill Road; was appointed in 1897 when 12,000 books issued. Brother was P.R. Robinson of Trumpington – 44 01 08 [1.20]

1944 02 05
Poem on tidiness of library staff 44 12 05 [1.21]

1944 03 17
Death of Mr. H, G. Spicer.—Many in Cambridgeshire and beyond will learn with regret of the death on Saturday last of Mr. Henry George Spicer, J.P., of 20 Old Queen Street, Westminster, and of Homewood, Sawston. He was 68. A former High Sheriff, Mr. Spicer was well-known in Cambridge as a magistrate, and on the retirement of Judge Farrant, became chairman of the Cambridge Division. He was known in Sawston as chairman of Edward Towgood and Sons, Ltd., the old-established paper mills, which he bought for his company in 1918, and which he re-organised and modernised extensively. He also bought the Towgood estate and other land in Sawston and Whittlesford, in order to develop a flourishing group of factories for companies of which he was chairman. For his employees and others in neighbouring villages, Mr. Spicer was particularly thoughtful, and for these he laid out a sports ground, erected a theatre and cinema and a reading room and library. He also supported many other local improvements and charities. He was a generous benefactor to Sawston Village College, which, when it was built, was the first of its kind in the country.

1944 10 13
Books Villagers Borrow. —The register of books issued by the Cambridgeshire Education Committee to the many village libraries in the county is a most interesting document, as it gives some indication of tastes of the villagers today. At the last census the village of Melbourn housed 392 families, and had a population of 1,294, and the number of borrowers on the register was 350: The books issued during the 12 months ending September 30 last numbered 12,849 (an increase of 136 over the previous year) and they are classed under the following headings: Philology 0, Religion 3, Philosophy 28, v Bibliography 38, Natural Science 57, Fine Arts 87, Sociology 132, Literature 135, Useful Arts 172, Biography 481, History and Travel 1,164, Fiction 10,552.

1944 11 25
J.H. Bullock retires from Library Committee after 55 years, presents Cooper's Annals to two branch libraries – 44 11 25a [1.22]

1944 12 20
Cambridge library has dearth of up-to-date books, auctions old periodicals – 44 12 20b

1945 03 10
Fenton retires as Borough Librarian after 50 years, [1.23]

1945 05 04
Librarian's salary should be £650, which low – 45 05 04

1945 07 19
W.A. Munford appointed Borough Librarian, comes from Dover – CDN 1945 07 19 [1.24]

1945 07 20
Old Post Office had been purchased about 1937 to give council control of improvements to the corner of Petty Cury; would have to be set back; might make ideal site for new library – CDN 1945 07 20a

1945 09 14
More about Cambridge air raids; some remarkable escapes; bombs which failed to explode – a large book in Guildhall might be placed in Library, the official record of enemy air activity; incendiary n roof of Rock Road library; incidents in county – 45 09 14a, 14b

1946 05 04
S.C. Roberts of Pembroke College, chairman of Borough Library committee to chair University Library Syndicate – 46 05 04

1946 12 14
Borough libraries see deline in lendng due deterioration of condition of books due to war – 46 12 14

1947 05 06
A period piece, the period of which the members of the Library Committee do not particularly appreciate, was how the present high domed roof of Mill Road branch library was described when a resolution authorising the provision of a new false ceiling was criticised at Cambridge town council meeting. Ald E.S. Peck said "When I was chairman I thought it was rather a charming building architecturally and I think it would be entirely spoilt if they put a new ceiling in c47 05 06

1948 03 08
Death Fenton, Librarian, p7
1948 12 24
List of questions answered by Reference Library staff during 1948 [1.25]

1949 09 24
W.A. Munford talk Businessmen's Club

1950

1950 03 04
Mary Greene paintings lent for display at Folk Museum 50 03 04

1950 05 24
Mr Sidney Inskip Ladds has left his written, drawing and printed material in folders marked "S" together with photographs, prints and negatives to the Norris Library, St Ives. All similar material marked "H" and a series of Huntingdonshire maps and watercolour pictures of local churches have been presented to Huntingdon county council to be preserved by them in the Reference Library there.

1950 10 18
A century of public libraries is celebrated with a joint city and county library exhibition in the Guildhall. A most striking feature is the stand showing ten great volumes of The Times together with 15 small boxes which house the same record of the newspaper, but on film. With children's books is exhibited Mr J.W. Franklin's model electric railway engine, which will be worked for the benefit of juvenile visitors c50 10 18 [2.6, 4.1]

1950 11 29
Referring to the 'controversial question' of whether the public library should keep open longer in the evenings the Cambridge Borough Librarian, Dr W.A. Munford, said that libraries tended to close earlier than before the war simply because there was no demand for later opening. He referred to an experiment three years ago when they had opened an hour longer – and been accused of wasting fuel c50 11 29

1950 12 18
Dennis Collins and his wife, Jean, are two local people making good in the entertainment world and much in demand at parties. Dennis got a job with the Hunstanton council to act, with Jean, as universal uncle and aunt to children on holiday there. Throughout the summer they were to be found on the sands, running children's' games, skipping contests and sand-design competitions. Dennis taught himself conjuring with the aid of a couple of books borrowed from the Cambridge public library and is now a member of the Magic Circle. Jean, who was a pupil of the Mackenzie School of Music and Drama, played the piano and sang.

1952 01 05
Rock Road library needs two copies of the Cambridge Daily News as first is worn out 52 01 05

1952 02 05
The possibility of Cambridge librarians co-operating in the attempt to compile a union catalogue of all books in the University, City and County libraries relating to the University, City and County of Cambridge was enthusiastically received by members of the Cambridge Library Group. It would enable anyone to look for a book which was to be found in any of 25 libraries. On the whole the college libraries' catalogues of old books were not good & in two colleges the librarian had said it was useless to rely on them. CDN c 5.2.1952

1953 11 25
Mr W.A. Munford, Cambridge City Librarian for the last eight years, has been appointed to one of the great national library posts, that of Director-General of the National Library for the Blind. He is one of the best known librarians in the country and was chosen for a total of 300 applicants. He will continue to live in Cambridge, which he describes as "too good a place to leave unless you have to". c53 11 25 Eric Cave appointed City Librarian [2.8]

1954 03 01
County councillors voted to proceed with their original plan for the new Shire Hall courts building. They also need to get their Town Planning people transferred from Hobson Street and must have further accommodation for the County Library, which is one of the finest – if not the finest – in England. Suggestions for putting another floor on the present Shire Hall would never be satisfactory. Services would be upset for about two years, the whole of the heating apparatus would have to be altered and it would cost nearly £70,000. There were plans for the basement to be used as offices but to put clerks down there would be like putting them in prison.

1954 04 22
Cambridge Coun Mrs Phyllis Clarke told a meeting: "One hears a lot about the big housing rate, but it is only 8d in the pound -–the same rate as the Library service. Do we hear of book borrowers being jeered at because they take home subsidised books, or properly owners complain about the cost of a subsidised policeman guarding his property". The housing programme should be expanded but she condemned the "little rabbit hutches masquerading as houses on the Arbury Road Estate"

1954 07 17
There were strong protests at plans for new offices at Shire Hall Cambridge. The new building would contain Assize and Quarter Sessions courts, offices and accommodation for the County Library. The courts at Linton, Caxton, Melbourn and Bottisham were 'shockers', housed in old police stations and the magistrates would be only too happy to do their work in an up-to-date building. Architects had strongly advised against cheese-pairing costs of the assembly hall: Cambridge's lovely college buildings had been the best and had stood the test of time and the costs of labour and materials were rising. But a new plan for one-tier local government might mean the doom of County Councils and the scheme should be deferred.

1954 11 18
Councillors discussed the problems of building a new school on Cherry Hinton Road, Cambridge. It was known that the site was water-logged and deep piles would have to be provided for the foundations. Chesterton Library which had been built on deep piles was already cracking up and for the same thing to happen to this expensive school would be disastrous. These difficulties had been pointed out to the Planning Officer but they supported the 'green field' site that was now developing into a 'green G-string'

1954 11 27
Cambridge assize courts should be moved to the City Library site at the Guildhall, councillors suggested. There might be some overcrowding on the first day of the Assize when all the prisoners, witnesses and jurymen in all cases had to be present or if there was a case that attracted particular public interest. But there would be a substantial saving in capital expenditure. For some time they had wished to provide new premises for the library as the Central Lending Library and Reading Rooms were no longer adequate; before the war there had been proposals to move it to the old Post Office building in Petty Cury.

1955 03 15
Plans for a new assize court at the Cambridge Guildhall would entail the entire rebuilding of a large proportion of the existing structure; there would be parking and traffic problems, though these would be eased with the Lion Yard multi-deck car park. The Council would be prepared to lease the premises occupied by the Library Department and the city sessions court could be used on payment of an agreed sum. 55 03 15 c

1955 05 02
The County Council agreed that an assize court on the Guildhall site was not practical. When the City had suggested the adapting the Central Library site they must have known it was inadequate. Some of the supporting columns of the Lending Library could have to go and hardly any of the reading rooms would be retained. Cambridge needed a new Central Library but this would not be sent from Heaven. It would have to be paid for and that was behind it – the City wanted someone else to pay for it. 55 05 02b [2.9]

1955 06 18

Cambridge City Libraries are celebrating their centenary with an exhibition in the Guildhall which will look at the past, consider the present and glimpse into the future. This may include a branch library at Newmarket Road, a Mobile Library service, a new Central Library – all projects which from time to time receive consideration. 55 06 18b

1955 06 27
Opening an exhibition celebrating 100 years of public libraries in Cambridge, the Master of Pembroke College, F.C. Roberts, said he was proud to have been chairman of the Library committee for some years adding: "I should have been even prouder if my first name had been correctly spelt! But these occasional mistakes show librarians have humanity as well as scholarship". There are books of every description, a machine through which microfilm copies of newspapers are shown and a cartoon by Ronald Searle. 55 06 27 a-b [2.10, 4.2]

1955 07 21
The County Library has issued far more books this year. The new branch library at Bassingbourn is well used and library centres were provided for the first time at Papworth Everard. The Matron of the Settlement provided accommodation in the Welfare Hut and the stock of the existing library was handed to the county authorities for amalgamation with the new books. A small library was also provided at the school. 55 07 21

1955 10 29
Issue record number of books - 2,043 - after closure for Royal visit [2.11]

1955 10 31
Cambridge Reference Library is normally well used – on average over 200 people each day consult material. But last week has seen it fuller than normal; additional tables and chairs have been brought in and frequently all are taken. This is because the Reading Room is being divided to create a new Junior Library. A number of the more serious periodicals will be transferred to the Reference Library where book cases will be removed to make more space. 55 10 31

1955 12 23
New Reading Room opens, Junior library soon 55 12 23 [2.12]

1956 01 12
Central library reading room changes – periodicals – 56 01 12

1956 01 20
Proposals for a mobile library service for Cambridge failed by a single vote. The present service was hopelessly inadequate; the Newmarket Road area had a population of over 10,000 with only the difficult-to-find Ditton Fields branch library. The council would not become bankrupt by buying a lorry for a mobile library. But maintenance would be £1,000 a year and they should not spend such a large amount on a service which was not a necessity. 56 01 20c

1956 02 10
East Road Reading Room site demolished – photos 56 02 10 [2.16]

1956 02 25
Mill Road Library has been transformed from 'a barn of a place' to a branch library in keeping with the present-day idea of the service. The Reading Room that occupied more space than the lending library, which issues over 1,000 books on peak days, has been reduced in size yet will

still accommodate more than 40 readers and the newspapers will be displayed on slopes and tables. 56 02 25c [2.17]

1956 07 07
Reference Library issues 'Information' 56 07 07

1956 07 28
Non-Cambridge users of the City Library service will have to pay more to borrow their books. The annual subscription is to rise from five to ten shillings to take account of the increasing cost of providing the service. It seems unlikely that many will discontinue their subscription as last month nearly 60,000 books were issued. Another change sees the scrapping of tickets on which only 'nonfiction' books could be borrowed. Now readers can have three tickets for any books. This will help readers who do not remember on which particular ticket a book has been issued. 56 07 28b

1956 12 01
Councillors decided not to increase the salary of the Lending Librarian to £780 though NALGO had protested that the grading was not high enough, and warned the post would be blacklisted. But if one librarian was regraded then his deputy would also want an increase and things would go on one above the other. No library assistant needed more than a good pair of feet and courtesy towards the public. But in a University city the service should be first class. 56 12 01c

1957 01 18
Cambridge councillors argued for 40 minutes over whether to regrade the post of Lending Librarian. When advertised the Library Association had advised against its member applying and there had been no suitable candidates. They were dictating to the council who should be masters in their own house. They decided to keep the present salary of a little over £12 a week. 57 01 18

1957 05 11
A Government White Paper proposes wider powers for councils such as Cambridge City who wish to be free from the control of the County Council. It says they should be entrusted with responsibility for services such as health, education, roads, town planning, libraries and licensing waste food boiling plants. But the city will still press for county borough status. 57 05 11

1957 05 17
Barbara Sandall, children's librarian, Cambridge Central – 57 05 17

1957 07 25
Miss Lilian Clarke has left all her books on Cambridge and her pamphlets, pictures, maps, newspaper cuttings, lantern slides and negatives to the City Library with the request that all duplicate items be sold and applied towards the publication of her book 'Cambridge Calling'. She also left all her papers relating to the Clarke family to the County Library at March and her blankets and pillow cases to the Evelyn Nursing Home. 57 07 25

1958 03 15
Newmarket Road library opening postponed – 58 03 15

1958 03 28
Sir. The majority of Cambridge ratepayers earn much below the average national wage of £12 a week yet have to pay annual rates of £22. The Lending Library Service is one where economies could be found. Every ratepayer is currently entitled to three library tickets, so an average family

can borrow twelve books. If the number were cut this would save money - Councillor A.W. Arundale. 58 03 28 a & b

1958 09 27
Newmarket Road branch library was the first to be opened in Cambridge for 21 years. "That is the progress in this enlightened City in providing the citizens with books", commented Ald. Howard Mallett. The premises were of a temporary nature and later another building would be erected when finances permitted. The librarian would be Mrs M.A. Traviss and it would open every weekday from 10 am to 7pm, (1pm Wednesdays) 58 09 27a [2.20. 4.3] (

1958 12 16
Cambridge City Libraries' annual staff dinner and party was held in the Guildhall. Librarian, Eric Cave recalled they had closed 'that museum piece, the East Road Reading Room and the Ditton Fields Sub-Branch while sub-branches at Cherry Hinton and Trumpington had more to better accommodation. The Libraries were much appreciated and he looked forward to their continued progress. Games, dancing and entertainment followed organised by J.W. Franklin, L.J. Horspool, C.C. Marsh, R.J. Tarrant and Miss B.K. Wadsworth 58 12 16b

1959 04 29
The City Council is to consider the largest project ever undertaken in Cambridge. The giant Lion Yard scheme includes a two-decker underground car park taking 731 vehicles, a unique 'pedestrian shopping precinct', a new central library, residential hotel and a petrol filling station. Jesus College have also submitted a scheme for the redevelopment of the north side of Fitzroy Street. Many think that increases in shopping facilities ought to take place as an extension of this well-established area. 59 04 29a-d & 59 04 29e

1959 05 08
Qualifications needed as a Librarian – 59 05 08

1959 07 24
Councillors withdrew their attention from the Lion Yard area to a part of the city which some have always considered of equal importance – Fitzroy Street. This should be comprehensively redeveloped to provide residential, shopping and business facilities with a new bus station. The Lion Yard should be developed with a library, civic restaurant and small car park, leaving the frontages as they are, some argued. 59 07 24b & c

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has detailed newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1960 03 18
Ninety small boys and girls flock to Rock Road library every Thursday to hear stories read by Miss Kathleen Asbery, the recently-appointed children's librarian. She visited a school's youngest infant class and when told she was from the library one small girl asked "Is she here because we have some books missing?" "It seems awful that children should think of librarians as ogres who stand behind counters, stamp books and charge them a penny for a late-returned item", Kate said 60 03 18

1960 04 09
City libraries' staff shortages – 10 changes means service may fall below usual high standards 60 04 09a

1960 05 28
East Anglian Bibliography launched – 60 05 28a & b

1960 11 04
Cambridge's City Librarian, Eric Cave (46), looks upon his job as a vocation. Its prime function is to provide a book and information service for the public it serves. The Reference Library take delight in answering any question on any subject including the date of erection of a certain house in Orchard Street, the best method of cultivating edelweiss and the best food to give a pet frog. They also had a telephone call from a rather harassed married man, whose wife was on holiday, asking for details of how to cook a joint of meat with its trimmings. 60 11 04b
Central library lending department showing assistant straightening books and reader, October 1960; CN neg H8121 (photo 231.49)
Cataloguer in administration department, 1st floor, Oct 1960; CN neg H8122 (photo 231.50)
Library assistants jacketing and labelling books in administration dept, Oct 1960; CN neg H8123 (photo 231.51)
Wheeler St lending library enquiry desk with John Franklin, October 1960 - H8121 (photo 72.73)

1960 11 07
Comberton Village College was officially opened by Henry Morris who had retired as Chief Education Officer in 1954. The buildings, particularly the hall, workshops and other practical rooms have been equipped so they may be used by young people and adults in the evenings and at weekends. It provides facilities for the countryman as good as those offered in towns and cities and they are packed each evening. The college library, in addition to serving the school, is also a branch of the county library. 60 11 07

1961 01 02
A questionnaire shows that most people think the Lion Yard area should include a concert hall, civic restaurant, hotel and assize court together with a library. This should feature a record section, an art lending department, reading room and small exhibition area. There should be a municipal crèche where children could be left while their parents shopped and a car park reserved for those who worked in the Guildhall. Half of the respondents were in favour of traffic wardens and parking meters, though some said they had no experience of them, while 81 per cent wanted a pedestrian precinct. Other suggestions included a news cinema where people could wait in comfort for evening buses and supermarkets near the edge of the city 61 01 02a

1961 06 28
People joining Cambridge City Library will not in future have to pay one penny for each ticket taken out. The legalities of the charge, which produced about £100 annually, was 'very doubtful. The Library Committee accepted the gift of an oil painting of the Cambridge Mays by Percy Craft which will be hung in the children's library 61 06 28

1961 10 19
Cambridge Library Group re-formed – 61 10 19

1962 01 15
The establishment of a gramophone record lending library should be deferred. A scheme was proposed for the reading room at the Central Library in Wheeler Street to be closed and the junior library moved there. Then a music library would take its place. 62 01 15

1962 03 23

Cambridge Central Library – photos of readers – 62 03 23

1962 03 30
Cambridge Central Library has spent 100 years in Wheeler Street. Drastic and effective reforms took place between 1954 and 1959 to make more efficient use of staff, facilitate access to the shelves for ticket-holders and give the children their own library. Space was cleared in the reference library (formerly the reading room) to seat 47 people. Reference library staff are generally able to lay their hands on a diversity of volumes relating to every aspect of any subject almost before the reader has formulated his real requirements. Year by year the service becomes more far-reaching and the qualifications demanded of librarians become more exacting. 62 03 30

1962 05 31
The University's proposals for the future development of Cambridge are designed to enhance its character as a university town. The Lion Yard area should include a multi-purpose public hall, for which they have offered to pay half, a new public library, exhibition gallery and arts centre. There would be a regional shopping centre in the City Road area including department and chain stores with large scale car parking and the segregation of pedestrians from traffic. 62 05 31a

1962 06 25
University plans for the future of Cambridge envisage that in the Lion Yard there would be a new hall for conferences, concerts and all kinds of music with a new library, small shops, cafes and homes for 300 people. A new regional shopping centre in City Road would be free of all vehicular traffic and there could be more homes on the site than before. The housing areas which are close to the centre are also the oldest and many are in need of redevelopment. Already 4,000 people have had to leave since 1950 but the University wants to see at least as many living in these areas as were there ten years go. 62 06 25

1962 12 07
Cambridgeshire County Library service lent 622,735 books last year, more than ever before, following the abolition of the distinction between general and non-fiction readers' tickets. The numbers of readers has risen by 1,000 to more than a quarter of the population. But issues from village centres continue to decline showing the limited service is not meeting the needs of present-day readers. With the closure of so many village schools where the library is often housed and the growing scarcity of married women with time to spare, this becomes a greater problem every year, says Miss G.M. Powell, the County Librarian 62 12 07b

1963 02 09
City Librarian not allowed a new carpet, difficult conditions – 63 02 09a

1963 02 25
County mobile library service approved – 63 02 25

1963 06 06
"Tropic of Cancer" banned [2.21]

1963 06 06
Cambridge Central Library is 'bursting at the seams'; 'general inquiries' should be made about completely new accommodation. The Herbert Robinson garage could be used for a record library – 63 06 06a

1963 08 07
Minutes after the opening Cherry Hinton's new branch library by the Mayor of Cambridge, there were complaints that working men cannot get there before it closes at 7pm and it should stay open an extra hour. There has been a library of sorts for many years. Originally books were kept in a locked bookcase at the entrance to the Church of England School in High Street. It moved to Colville School in the mid-50's. Now work has started on Newmarket Road library after which another will be constructed on Arbury Road 63 08 07b Profile of librarian, Margaret Traviss – 63 08 07c [4.4]

1963 08 27
Work starts on new Barnwell Road Library - pic – 63 08 27

1963 08 30
Librarian Kate Asbery organises reading competition – 63 08 30

1963 09 12
Eric Cave, the Cambridge City Librarian reported that book issues in August were a record high at 108,551. More people were making personal inquiries at the Reference Library, taking up a lot of time, and other work is falling into arrears; soon more staff will be needed. There should be a new central library with information bureau nearby but care needed to be taken that readers were not disturbed by people rushing about trying to find information. When a new building was acquired it would be possible to carry out some of the ideas they were at present unable to fulfil 63 09 12d

1963 10 12
Shelford Library in Woollards Lane has new look – pic - 63 10 12

1963 12 05
Ely's new county library will be built a site in Minster Place once occupied by an SPCK Bookshop. The Royal Fine Art Commission has approved a design embodying the most up-to-date ideas. The ground floor will house adult and children's lending rooms and a quick reference section while upstairs will be a space for lectures and projection of films together with maps, plans, pictorial and museum specimens relating to Ely. It will also serve as an information bureau for summer tourists. Ely has had a county library since 1927 with the present, inadequate part-time branch in Bray's Lane existing in adapted premises for about 18 years. 63 12 05a

1963 12 06
The Royal Fine Art Commission has approved a design for Ely's new county library in Minster Place. The ground floor will house adult and children's lending rooms and a quick reference section while upstairs will be a space for lectures and projection of films together with maps, plans, pictorial and museum specimens relating to Ely. It will also serve as an information bureau for summer tourists. Ely has had a county library since 1927 with the present, inadequate part-time branch in Bray's Lane existing in adapted premises for about 18 years 63 12 06

1963 12 12
Arbury branch library plans – perhaps with flats above – 63 12 12

1964
County Library first mobile library [3.10]

1964 01 02

Plans for a temporary information office in a caravan or sectional hut on Market Hill found little favour with councillors: it would be inaccessible because it would be surrounded by stalls or parked cars. They think the present information centre should remain in the Central Reference Library in Wheeler Street which has experienced much greater use since direction signs have been erected. There would be little demand for Sunday opening – we are not in the same position as Southend or Brighton in trying to attract people. 64 01 02

1964 01 16
Gordon Logie, the City Architect spoke of his desire to see the central area of Cambridge used for pedestrians only. Traffic conditions were 'frightful', especially on Saturday afternoons. "It will be impossible for everyone to drive into the centre in the future. I am afraid that most people will have to walk in from the outer fringe car parks or travel by shuttle-service public transport", he told the Trades Council. He would like to see a new city hall and central library to replace some out-of-date shops in an attempt to make the central area more pleasant. 64 01 16

1964 02 01
St Ives library opens – 64 02 01b

1964 04 13
June Robertson a librarian at Cambridge central library – profile – 64 04 13

1964 04 24
Cambridge library service must be aware of the increasing opportunities the future is likely to bring, say City Librarian, Eric Cave. They had issued over half-a-million books for the first time in its history but there can be no complacency over the increasing usage of the libraries. The coming of Anglia television had slowed demand for books. There has been a steady increase in the number of readers using the reference library. But the number of staff changes has been too great to make the provision of a smoothly-running service possible; young trainees move on to other libraries, attracted by better working hours and higher pay 64 04 24f

1964 05 13
City libraries to introduce token charging – 64 05 13b

1964 05 28
Alderman H.R. Mallett officially opened the new branch library in Barnwell Road (Newmarket Road), nine years after it was first announced. Because of the credit squeeze the Library Committee were refused permission to raise a loan in 1955. Three years later a library was opened in a shop where it continued until now. The first book was issued to ten-year-old Susan Northfield of Priory School by City Librarian, Eric Cave 64 05 28 [4.3]

1964 05 30
A new system of issuing books is to be introduced to Cambridge libraries to reduce waiting times. During peak periods queues have built up whilst staff search for tickets. Now borrowers will be given a small plastic card in exchange for books returned and they will hand back the tokens when the new books are date-stamped on the way out. City Librarian Eric Cave expects a lot of users will find it strange at first but it will be more efficient and relieve pressure on staff 64 05 30a, b

1964 07 08
City Librarian, Eric Cave's MG car demolished a Belisha beacon. He had a past history of severe concussion after an accident in 1941 64 07 08a

1964 08 17
'Focus on Cambridge' is a new documentary film seen through the eyes of two tourists as they drift along the Cam in a punt. Made by Norman Mason-Smith of Forgeron Films it is intended for people lecturing on Cambridge or tourists wishing to take home a memento of their visit. It was filmed in Technicolor, lasts 16 minutes and is available in 16mm format for £22 10s [about £370 at today's prices]. Cambridge City Libraries have agreed to take a copy 64 08 17

1964 09 10
Newmarket Road new branch library needs extra children's books – 64 09 10

1964 10 16
Cambridge Library maintains lists of local societies. Some have grown up out of the trials of war including the Dunkirk 1940 Veterans Association, Lifeline, which aids displaced persons and the Association of Nazi Camp Survivors. Lesser-known organisations include the Tibet Society, an association of Ukrainians and the British Association of the Experiment in International Living. Then there is the Reindeer Council, the Saltire Society, a Science Fiction group and the Stephenson Locomotive Society. 64 10 16c

1964 10 22
Central Library a 'public disgrace'; is cramped but wrong to spend money now; trying to give 1964 service from 1882 building. The old rooms have pipes running through them and are full of dust. The number of readers has doubled since 1954 but wish had building to display stocks and comfortable reading conditions for borrowers – pictures of Cambridgeshire Collection (180.36) and school lending department – 64 10 22a & 64 10 21

1964 10 24
Cambridge Library is gloomiest place in Cambridge; needs redecoration; no wonder they are short staffed; who would want to work in such a depressing atmosphere – letter - 64 10 24

1964 10 30
The Isle of Ely County Library already pays the postage cost for 'talking books' for registered blind people. Now it is adding specially printed books with large clear type. They will be kept together and a collection and taken round by travelling libraries to enable readers with imperfect vision to read books which they cannot currently enjoy. The cost is no greater than for ordinary editions and the books are equally suitable for people with normal sight. 64 10 30b

1964 12 02
Record library would include 1,000 long-playing records, mostly classical music though traditional jazz would be included. Hope to start next year – 64 12 02

1964 12 10
Library service wasn't too good when Dr W.A. Munford was Librarian. Library staff shortage due pay – only 5 chartered librarians, although establishment was for 18 – 62 12 10a, c

1964 12 21
Terracotta crib scene in Central Library junior department – 64 12 21a

1964 12 21
Henry Andrews moved to Royston in 1766 and compiled Old Moore's Almanac; his portrait hangs in the reference section of Cambridge public library – feature – 64 12 21

1964 12 31
Saffron Walden Literary and Scientific Institute library was established in 1832 and in 1889 the building in King Street was given to the trustees. But increasing costs and decreasing membership mean the priceless collection of ancient books dating back to the 15th century are deteriorating. They will be given to Essex County Council for preservation. One of the conditions is that the building in King Street would be retained as a library and reading room. It is expected that the existing county library in Church Street would be moved there 64 12 31

1965 01 28
Cambridge Librarian, Eric Cave, is anxious to provide a permanent home in the central library for odd items of Cambridge interest like old books, scrapbooks, prints and photographs. He had recently received a scrapbook of the public activities of the late Ald W.L. Raynes when he was Mayor from 1931 to 1932. His executors sent them having seen a report about a similar gift from another former Mayor 65 01 28

1965 02 04
Arbury Court branch library foundations laid – photo – 65 02 04c

1965 03 05
Library books choice affect readers behaviour – Searle cartoon – 65 03 05a

1965 03 19
Cambridge public libraries seriously under staffed; only nine of the 40 are fully qualified and at least a further nine are needed to bring it up to efficient operating strength - 65 03 19d

1965 04 01
Scholars and others who wish to do research in the evenings will now be able to make use of the Cambridge reference library until nine o'clock. But there will only be one librarian on duty so it will not be possible to make use of the other facilities. Extending the hours of the lending library service could not be justified as people already had reasonable opportunity to change books, City Librarian Eric Cave said 65 04 01a

1965 04 13
Library to offer higher salaries to senior staff in bid to attract qualified librarians. Is understaffed by 12 qualified librarians and during past five years have been 65 staff changes; no shortage of junior library posts & admin but they leave for other jobs with less hours – 65 04 13b

1965 04 29
Boots the Chemist to close their Booklovers' Library after 65 years – 65 04 29e

1965 05 19
Eric Cave, City Librarian came in 1954; issues have doubled, gives talks organisations; anticipates new library – profile – 65 05 19

1965 10 22
Eric Milner wants to start special records library of everything broadcast on television or radio about Cambridge – 65 10 22b

1965 12 10

City library services viewed as Cinderella, Librarian should be provided with telephone at home for use in emergencies – 65 12 09a

1965 12 10
Record lending library to open, librarian appointed – 65 12 10a

1965 12 23
Children's' library nativity scenes – photo – 65 12 23a

1966 01 28
Cost to ratepayers of running city library expected to be £86,200 with income of £10,000. Gramophone library may be postponed as music librarian resigned – 66 01 28

1966 01 30
Arbury Court branch library opened – 66 01 30; Reg Tarrant stocks shelves – 66 01 12

1966 03 11
Eric Cave interview [66 03 11]

1966 03 11
City library gramophone record library to open, 10 years after first considered. The first librarian Judith Preece. Initially only classical music will be stocked but later jazz will be added together with music from stage shows – 66 03 11a; opens – 66 03 17a

1966 03 15
Mayor opens exhibition [66 03 15]

1966 03 30
Crumbling Cambridge – lack of vitality in development such as new library and Lion Yard – 66 03 30a

1966 04 06
New City Library may contain special room for homework - 66 04 06a

1966 04 13
City gramophone library fails to attract expected users – 66 04 13a

1966 05 24
Corn Exchange may be adapted for council offices or used as library – plans – 66 05 24, 66 06 20

1966 10 13
Deputy City Librarian, Wilfred James, resigns after 12 years following dispute over salary and regrading – 66 10 13

1966 10 14
'Within our means' leader [66 10 14]

1966 11 02
Royston Brown appointed deputy librarian [66 11 02]

1967 03 01

Concern that city archives are kept under proper control. Some are University Library, some in University Registry and some in the City Library. Appointment of city archivist to be considered. Would like someone lent by Fitzwilliam Museum or University Library to put matters in order. – 67 03 01a

1967 05 06
Central Library new plans unveiled include information bureau, meeting room, music library, newsroom and reference library – 67 05 06a (photo 218.41)

1967 08 31
New Central Library 'by end of 1971', probably on three floors with lending, information bureau, schools library, music, newspaper room, reference; a further 10,000 sq feet proposed tentatively for a central archives area – 67 08 31b

1967 12 01
City council budget changes threaten libraries' books – 67 12 01

1968 08 31
Mill Road issues drop since parking restrictions [68 08 31]

1968 10 18
City Library service is not just books – valuable collections of local history, of maps, directories, playbills and a thousand other items are hidden from the pubic gaze; record library finally established – feature – 68 10 18, 18a

1968 12 06
Shelves soon filled with paperbacks as cannot afford hardbacks [68 12 06]

1969 05 22
Ely Library receives Civic Trust award – 69 05 22

1969 08 29
Improved tourist bureau should be in library in place children's library; this to move to reading room with papers in Reference; would answer tourist accommodation enquiries and sell slides – 69 08 29

1969 10 17
Central – could take 10 weeks to convert part into Tourist Information Centre [69 10 17]

1969 11 12
Cambridge Collection grows – 'Arbury News' magazines being added by J. Barham, is developing an S.D.I. system to inform readers; copy photos, use of books increases 50% in three years – 69 11 12

1969 12 05
Central – may get coin-operated photocopier [69 12 05]

1970

1970 01 30

Bassingbourn parish library in parish church for 250 years sold to Universities of Cambridge and Essex. Was started in 1717 by resident and comprises 800 volumes – 70 01 03

1970 02 05
Walter Lane takes photos 1947 fen floods – to be centrepiece Cambridgeshire Collection exhibition organised by Mike Petty in Guildhall – feature – 70 02 05; exhibition sets up – Mike Petty, Alison Barker, Clare Beatty - photo – 70 02 11a (202.54)

1970 03 04
Lion Yard library might be built by Development Company instead of the city council. Ravenseft Properties may agree to build the three-storey library because it is scheduled to go on top of a block of shops; the city would then lease the building from the company – 70 03 04

1970 04 17
Mobile library – second-hand tractor unit bought [70 04 17]

1970 04 23
Library roof leak – photo of children's library – 70 04 23; 79 09 18

1971 01 21
Mobile library commissioned 71 01 21a

1971 02 03
New mobile libraries starts in City and County libraries – feature – 71 02 03. 03a

1971 03 09
Central buildings in Wheeler Street in good repair [71 03 09]

1971 05 18
Helen Powell retires as Cambridgeshire county librarian, succeeded by Frederick Houghton, Isle of Ely county librarian [71 05 18]

1971 08 10
City Library issues soar, when Cave came in 1954 were 560,000 – 71 08 10

1971 09 22
Cambridgeshire Collection Mike Petty starts SDI scheme [71 09 22]

1971 09 24
Cambridge Chronicle microfilm could make money for city [71 09 24]

1971 10 12
Cambridgeshire Collection exhibition on River Cam in Guildhall, Mike Petty and G.R. Wilson – 71 10 12 (photo 218.60)

1971 12 03
Libraries should remain under city control following local government reorganisation, committee say – 71 12 03

1972 03 17
Mobile library 74,000 issues in first year 72 03 17

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1972 04 11
Record year for city libraries 72 04 11

1972 08 22
The setting up of a full-time Cambridge tourist department is likely to be recommended to the city council. Tourism is at present looked after by the library committee. During the nation-wide local government reorganisation in 1974 responsibilities for running library services will go to the new county council. But the new District Council will obviously want to run Cambridge tourist facilities. The Library committee's Labour chairman, Coun Roger Thornely said the tourist work of the City's Libraries department was increasingly rapidly and taking up more of the department's time and added: "I believe that at times the Librarian does not see a book for about four or five days at a time"

1972 09 13
A full-time tourist officer should be appointed for Cambridge, a special meeting on tourism decided yesterday. They also agreed that a disused car park attendant's hut on the Market Square should be commissioned as a tourist information centre. The Mayor, Coun. Peter Wright suggested that voluntary workers could staff a tourist information kiosk in Market Square. The City Librarian, Mr Eric Cave, suggested that if the kiosk plan went ahead it could remain open on Sundays so that the present Sunday skeleton service at the Information bureau could be closed down.

1972 09 23
City asked to build library at Fen Road 72 07 10; turned down 72 09 23

1972 09 23
Computers will run libraries of the future – Eric Cave – 72 09 23

1972 09 23
The Mayor of Cambridge, Coun Peter Wright, last night gave an assurance that the City Council had no intention of promoting tourism at the expense of attempts to expand light industry in the city. In fact, he told the council's Library Committee, the council must encourage light industry if they were to boost tourism. "The more industry we have here the more will be the council's rates income. The council can then spend more on providing facilities for tourists, as well as their own citizens", the Mayor said. Ald Elliot Ridgeon warned that there was the danger that more tourists than ever would come to Cambridge as the result of appointing a tourist officer

1972 10 10
An 1875 bicycle made a rare appearance on the streets of Cambridge to promote Cambridge City Library's exhibition "Tourism in Cambridge" at the Small Hall of the Guildhall. Its owner, Mr J.D. Howes took it from his Regent Street shop and gave it a spin along the road before it went to the Guildhall. The third exhibition of its type to be staged by the library it puts Cambridge into its proper setting for both Fenland, county and city are covered by the various displays 72 10 10

1973 03 17
Cambridgeshire Collection may be given to District Council 73 03 17

1973 04 27
Cambridgeshire Collection to be kept in Cambridge 73 04 27

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1973 09 15
Cambridge City Council and the new county council have to settle a who-pays-what dispute that could delay the opening of the city's new public library by many months. The row centres on the cost of fitting out the new library. Local government reorganisation means that the city council will disappear and their successors will not have any legal responsibility for running libraries. This will rest with the new county council. They are worried that rural area ratepayers will be saddled with the cost of a large prestige building mainly for the benefits of city residents and if they pump hundreds of thousands of pounds into it other large towns in the county will demand similar treatment 73 09 15

1973 09 27
New Central Library, no provision should be made for the Tourist Bureau , District Council recommended to deposit the bulk of the City Archives in the County Record Office and no provision for storage be made in new library. Cambridgeshire Collection to be housed, displayed and used for research purposes in the new Library at the expense of the County Counicl. City Library committee minute R

1973 09 28
New county will pay costs new library [73 09 28]

1973 09 28
The cost of improving and modernising the public library at Mill Road, Cambridge, has risen to £13,790 due to inflation. For a number of years the Library Committee have had a programme of improvements they hoped to make to some of their ageing branch libraries. But repeatedly the economy-conscious city council have cut back on the projects. This year they agreed that the Mill Road scheme could go ahead to brighten up and repair the buildings. But since the estimates were received inflation has taken its toll 73 09 28

1973 10 13
A Cambridge councillor told the city council meeting he hoped there would be some money left over for books after meeting the £490,000 bill for fitting out the new central library in Lion Yard. But Councillor Neville Auker said; "We have been in need of an up-to-date library in Cambridge for many years. The staff at the present library do enormously well. But for a city of Cambridge's standing the library has long been a disgrace 73 10 13

1973 10 20
A £13,000 facelift for Mill Road branch library in Cambridge has been shelved by the city council to leave their architects free to concentrate on housing schemes. The Library Committee were forced to postpone the modernisation plan after hearing that it would be caught in the Government's current economic policy to cut back local council's capital spending. Mill Road was to have been the first of three branch libraries in the city to be modernised with new lighting, decorations and layout. Those at Rock Road and Milton Road were to follow. Members agreed to contact the new Cambridgeshire County Council, who will take over libraries in April, to ask them to consider the three schemes sympathetically c73 10 20

1973 10 23
City Council Civic Affairs Committee agree retention of the Cambridgeshire Collection in the Central Library and its subsequent transfer to the new library in Lion Yard, subject to the cost of maintenance being borne by the County Council. A complete catalogue sholud be made as soon as possible

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1973 10 31
Frederick Houghton, Cambs County librarian to retire [73 10 31]

1973 11 05
Cambridge District Board unanimously support recommendation that the Cambridgeshire Collection be retained in the Central Library and subsequently transferred to the new Library in Lion Yard.

1974 02 07
City Archives: ownership of the City Council's records would transfer to the District Coucnil who could decide whether to retain at Guildhall or deposit in the charge of the County Record Office 74/m/17

1974 02 22
Mr Eric Cave, who has been the Cambridge city librarian, officially announced his retirement today. There have been many developments in the Cambridge library services since he was appointed in 1954. He seen three new libraries built, the introduction of mobile libraries, the opening of the record lending library, and the introduction of library services to old people's homes. He hopes to see the final completion of the fitting-out contract of the new library being built in the Lion Yard 74 02 22

1974 03 29
Cambridge city council met for the last time yesterday. It took the council about ten seconds to dispose of their formal business – approving the spending of £1,248,000 on the new central library at the Lion Yard – then they went on to spend almost two hours saying goodbye to themselves, their retiring chief officers and exchanging presents. On the last day of the month, the city council, who more or less in their present form have run Cambridge since 1836 will make way for the new Cambridge District Council.

1974 04 30
One of the most significant features of the reorganisation of local government from 1st April 1974, has been the changes in function. Cambridge city council will have no further responsibility for education, libraries, weights and measures, sewage disposal, or the domiciliary health service. The advantages claimed for the transfer of these services to larger bodies should lead to greater specialisation, the adoption of improved methods and techniques, better levels of service and economy of scale. Time will show whether these ideals can be realised.

1974 12 12
Central - row over who owns library 74 12 12

1974 12 24
Cambridge planners are looking at the possibility of turning the central library buildings in Wheeler Street into a Civic Restaurant when the library is moved into a new building in the Lion Yard next summer. The Library buildings are the centre of a legal wrangle between the city and county council who have now taken over responsibility for public libraries. The county claim the old library building should be given to, it but the city is arguing that as the library forms part of the Guildhall complex – the council's administrative headquarters – the county has no claim. The replacement of a Civic restaurant has been a top priority with the new Labour-controlled city council since it took office nine years ago

1975 02 20

Milton has no chance of getting a branch library at the moment. Finance for such projects as new branch library buildings simply isn't available the Deputy County Librarian explained. Outline planning permission for the land at one end of a garden near Coles Road lapsed this month. Building on sites without outline planning permission is strictly embargoed by the Anglian Water Authority so Milton must put up with its part time, limited stock library which opens in the British Legion hall on two afternoons and two evenings.

1975 04 14
The Cambridgeshire library service will break down if money to run it continues to be withheld by the County Council. The warning has been given by County Librarian, Mr Royston Brown, in a report on the effects of "no growth" budgets. The report adds "demands in many areas for provision will continue to increase in the next few years and be accelerated by the current economic and social difficulties. Short of new laws being made to forbid people from attending their local libraries it is impossible to regulate the use of them" c75 04 14

1975 05 24
For the first time since it was produced almost 20 years ago a prize-winning history of Cherry Hinton is to be available for reference at libraries. The contents were compiled by the Women's Institute in 1958. But the book, hand-written and with water-colour sketches, was too fragile to be easily available. But now staff from the Cambridgeshire Collection have made three complete copies of the book. One will be at Cherry Hinton library 75 05 24

1975 08 06
Cambridge' new £1 million plus central library being built in the Lion Yard, is due to open at the end of September – three months late. The task of transferring more than 100,000 books and reorganising the library's various departments is likely to take up to a fortnight. But Librarian Andrew Armour is hoping to keep the closure of the main library down to three days to minimise inconvenience 75 08 06

1975 09 17
Over 25 years of argument, several million pounds of ratepayers' money and three years of toil what will we get? The Lion Yard development. On the first floor is a modest entrance to a building that Cambridge has desperately needed for many years … the new library. It has three floors. The top will be used for housing the Cambridgeshire Collection. On the first floor is a children's' room where young readers can comfortably browse through their selection. The building bears about as much comparison with the old Wheeler Street library as Buckingham Palace does with the Black Hole of Calcutta 75 09 17

1975 09 26
Standards of service in Cambridge Libraries have fallen since their administration was taken over by the County Council last year, City Councillors claimed. They were reminded of the decision to allow the city's ancient records to be housed in the County Archivist's' Department at Shire Hall. Counc Warren said: "It would have been even more convenient for the records to have been placed in the new library in the Lion Yard as we had intended in the first place".

1975 10 14
When the new Cambridge Central Library opens in Lion Yard it will have some of the most up-to-date individual listening booths in the country in its gramophone record section. But the booths will remain unused for the time being – because the economy conscious County Council cannot afford the £2,000 needed to equip them with cassette tapes. The booths would have enabled

music lovers to listen individually to various recordings of music so they could decide which ones to choose. They would keep down noise levels and prevent disturbance to other library uses 75 10 14

1975 10 18
Never had the cherubs on top of the marble columns looked down on a scene of such noise and commotion. For years they have held sway over an atmosphere of dignified hush in the library in Wheeler Street, Cambridge. But all that changed when removal men dismantled bookcases and piled thousands of books into crates ready to go to the ultra-modern library in Lion Yard. As men stripped away its contents the room with its faded splendour and peeling yellow paint looked remarkably small. It was never easy to reach the top or bottom shelves of the tall bookcases. Anyone bold enough to crouch down and survey the low shelf inevitably collided with some other borrower standing behind c75 10 18

1975 12 05
Princess Anne, making her first official visit to Cambridge, insisted on an impromptu chat with some of the thousands of sight-seers who thronged the city centre Lion Yard shopping centre. An estimated 10,000 people packed the Market Square and stood eight deep each side of Petty Cury as she walked into the new shopping centre. She stopped to talk to the delighted shop girls who were crowding their doorways and also to the eager shoppers who pressed forward to get a closer look at her. She explained: "I am not a complete stranger here because I have been shown around the university and city unofficially by two previous students who are both fans of the old city" c75 12 05 (photo 158.74)

1976
Reference Library study area CEN neg 8887.76.82 (photo 218.54)

1976 03 03
The branch library at the Cambridge Shire Hall is to close down and will be replaced once-a-week by a visit of one of the county council's mobile libraries. The decision to close down the library – to save an estimated £6,000 a year was taken at the county budget meeting. A petition of more than 500 signatures of readers asked for the building to continue. When a vote was taken there were 25 for and 25 against and the decision was taken on the casting vote of the Chairman 76 03 03

1977
Dennis Chandler and Maurice Nauta prepare for book sale (photo 218.50)

1977 06 20
Central – new technology system 77 06 20; (photo John Fox, Reader Assistant at enquiry desk – 218.45)

1977 06 25
I managed to "steal" four books from the Cambridge Central Library in Lion Yard, just to test its new and highly complex system of checking books in and out. I just walked out with them under my arm into the street. The new system involves photographing a special ticket against the book borrowed. But it will not prevent theft unless the manoeuvre I tried can be made more difficult. In the old library one had to pass down a very narrow passageway when taking books out, and my nerve would have failed. But in the wide open spaces of the modern library it held good.

1977 08 23

Mill and Milton Road libraries possible closure [78 08 23]

1977 08 26
A campaign has been launched against the threatened closure of the Mill Road public library, Cambridge. It library is one of six which may close because of lack of money caused by severe cutbacks in Government grants. The County Librarian, Royston Brown, said the library needed £15,000 worth of repairs – and the county council did not have that sort of money. But the Romsey area has the highest percentage of old people in the city who use it as a daily reading room because they cannot afford to buy newspapers and magazines 77 08 26

1977 09 03
City suggests return of historical records, Cambridgeshire Collection, to them [77 09 03]

1977 09 10
Mill Road closure fight reaches government level [77 09 10]

1977 10 13
Stapleford Parish Council reaffirmed that it was willing to run the village library with voluntary helpers if it would result in it being saved. The library, which occupies a room in the school, is open for eight hours a week and its one of eight threatened with closure by the County Council. But the County Librarian says this could not be considered because it would cause trouble with the trade union.

1977 12 04
Sir – some months ago Cambridge central library introduced a new computer system. The computer broke down and 250 borrowers were notified that books which they had already returned were overdue. The Electronic machine is our century's God and to suggest that a human being with ballpoint pen would be more efficient than a computer is, to those idol-worshippers, plain blasphemy. Since the Browne system was abandoned folly reigns in the pixilated Library – Mrs M. Daniels. c77 12 04

1977 12 07
Plans to save branch libraries from closure by moving careers advice offices into Cambridge central library have angered librarians. Andrew Armour said the move could lead to conditions as cramped as those in the old library in Wheeler Street. "It seems that just as we were settling down to being librarians we are back in the melting pot again". It would mean moving the children's & music libraries into the lending library with possible closure of the picture loan service, closure of the 'quick reference' section and moving the Cambridgeshire Collection into the reference library causing enormous disruption in services to readers. 77 12 07

1978 01 20
Dozens of public libraries throughout Cambridgeshire will double up as social and community centres if a pilot scheme is a success. They could be used as meeting centres, law and political 'surgeries', advice centres, or simply as places where young mothers or elderly people with time on their hands could meet and chat over cups of tea. The social and community uses would run alongside the general library function as much as possible – but would also continue after library hours. The Mill Road branch library in Cambridge, which is threatened with closure, would be an ideal site for the pilot scheme. The county council sees the dual-use project as a way of raising extra cash for buying books for the libraries, which are threatened with severe cuts because of cuts in Government grants 78 01 20

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1978 03 03
No public libraries in Cambridgeshire will be closed this year – and books stocks will not be depleted – although the County Council is facing a continuing financial crisis. The council had threatened to close the Milton Road and Mill Road libraries in Cambridge, village libraries at Stapleford and Milton and two libraries in Peterborough. The threats caused storms of protest and now financial experts have discovered the council has saved £60,000 on last year's spending which can be used to buy new books. 78 03 03

1978 03 15
Robert James says villages, not central library, should have money 78 03 15

1978 09 02
Hostile public reaction to the doubled fines introduced for overdue books at Cambridgeshire libraries is forcing a rethink on the matter. Although the council is nearly £20,000 better off since the fine went up to 10p a week for each book, the library service has been hit badly. A lot of people have stopped using the libraries and staff are subjected to constant complaints from readers. Assistants have become embarrassed to ask for the large fines and staff morale has dropped. A new report now suggests the fine be cut to 5p for the first week. 78 09 02

1978 10 26
Mill Road seeks government grant for renovation 78 10 26

1978 12 11
Cambridgeshire Collection receives two major donations 78 12 11

1979 02 27
The long-awaited scheme for adding a community centre complex to the Mill Road public library in Cambridge has been given the go-ahead. It aims to inject new life into the old building which had been in danger of closure. But this sparked a furious row and after intensive public pressure the county council relented and agreed the refurbishing and extension plan as a way of keeping the building open, reducing costs and keeping everybody happy. It will become a blue-print for other dual-use projects

1979 07 18
A money-saving decision taken more than a year ago looks like paying off much more than anyone expected – and all because of the oil crisis. Councillors decided to invest in an electrically –driven mobile library, the first of its kind in the country, to serve parts of Cambridge which were affected when the old Shire Hall library was closed down for economy reasons. It cost £2,000 more than a petrol-driven version but will bring big savings in operating costs. If the experiment is a success more will be bought to replace the ageing and expensive petrol-driven fleet.

1979 07 25
Cambridgeshire county council took a step towards the transport of the future when it brought into service the country's first electric mobile library. One of the largest electric road vehicles to go into commercial service, it was built by Hyrotechnick of Toft and is based on an electric travelling shop which has been successful in Holland. It is powered by four independent motor-drive systems on the rear wheels and has a speed of 12½ miles an hour, suitable for its task in the city. A second one on order will be faster with a speed of around 40 mph CEN 25.7.1979

1979 09 17

The mobile library being used while Cambridge's Mill Road library is being repaired has received a parking ticket while operating outside the building. It has now moved to Great Eastern Street on the other side of the railway bridge. Now there are fears that its isolation and lack of electricity will force its closure, leaving thousands of Romsey residents without a library. The police action has angered Cambridge councillors; Coun Sweeney said: "I have asked the City Surveyor if he could get a pot of black paint and paint out the yellow lines so the library can remain there. It is no use moving to Great Eastern Street because that area too is earmarked for double yellow lines"

1980

1980 02 27
Duke of Edinburgh opens Lion Yard law courts, visits Library [80 02 27]

1980 03 21
Central installs computerised catalogue etc [80 03 21]

1980 04 19
Mill Road Library, Cambridge, which faced closure three years ago, has been given a new lease of life with a £30,000 facelift. During the five-moth renovation work the library staff operated from temporary mobile quarters, which on one occasion collected a parking ticket. The library includes a new community meeting room in place of the old reading room. County councillor Jean Ganczarski who protested against the planned closure said; "It is very good to think the building has now got a new life" 80 04 19b

1980 05 22
Cambridgeshire County Council may soon own the largest fleet of big electrically-powered library vehicles in the world. An experiment started a year ago has proved so successful that the Library Service now wants to dispose of its entire fleet of diesel and petrol-powered vehicles and go electric altogether. The new vehicles would be twice as fast as the present 17 mph vehicle which has proved to be at least £1,000 a year cheaper to run that the others and been free from breakdowns. 80 05 22a

1980 06 27
People busy borrowing books may not be aware that tomorrow will mark the 125th anniversary of the free public library service in Cambridge. In 1855 the job of librarian attracted a variety of applicants, amongst them a retired stage-coach driver but a 22-year-old booksellers' assistant, John Pink, was appointed librarian and held it until he died 51 years later. Responsibility for running the service passed from the city to the county council in 1974 and the present building in Lion Yard opened in 1975. 80 06 27

1980 09 10
A move to put Cambridgeshire libraries under the control of the education committee was blocked by county councillors. The Hay Report had suggested the library service should join with community education. But the education bureaucracy was already too large and needed trimming. "We have one of the finest library services in the country and no-one with any common sense will see that destroyed", a Peterborough councillor said 80 09 10

1981 02 12
A 10-year plan for Milton will see space for another 1,300 houses and 60 acres set aside for industry. Milton was chosen because it has outstanding road links, the potential for rail freight,

good public transport, the availability of building land because of the new roads and the proposed development of the country park. There may be a substantial supermarket and the council must be urged to provide a permanent branch library. When completed its population will have more than doubled. 81 02 12 & a

1981 03 04
Mill Road more books borrowed, but fewer books 81 03 04

1981 04 24
The county librarian has criticised a pamphlet entitled 'Where have all the new books gone?' which attacks councils for cutting back on library spending. A new report says Cambridgeshire has reduced library provision by 15% but Brendan Dwyer says spending has risen by 14% although the high increase in the price of books does make it difficult to provide as many as previously. 81 04 24b & c

1981 09 18
The much-heralded fleet of electrically-powered mobile libraries with which Cambridgeshire County Council had hoped to save a small fortune in energy costs has been scrapped. The first vehicle was banned from public roads because of braking defects, the second has been returned to the manufacturers after unsuccessful attempts at improving range and speed. Now the remaining eight vehicles have been cancelled and a diesel-powered mobile library will be bought instead. 81 09 18b

1981 01 18
The Cambridge area had 17 royal visits last year; people get so many chances to see royalty that they become quite blasé. Prince Philip went to the Central Library in Lion Yard after he'd opened the new magistrates' courts. It was about four o'clock in the afternoon and the library was full of people peering at books, but nobody took any notice of him. Prince Philip liked that: he could see the library functioning as it normally functions. 82 01 18a

1981 09 21
Makers of mobile libraries hit back over faults – 81 09 21

1981 09 23
Silence greets shock report on electric libraries – 81 09 23

1981 12 03
Spending on Cambridgeshire libraries will be cut next year, despite a warning from the County Librarian that much of the stock is poor in both physical condition and subject coverage and the number of books available to the public has already been reduced. But the replacement for St Neots library was a clear priority as the present one was inadequate for a growing town and to postpone the scheme would be 'bad business' 81 12 03

1982 03 11
Chris Marsh replaces Maurice Nauta as Children's Librarian 89 03 11

1982 04 20
Newmarket Library is the first in the area to run a video lending library with 200 cassettes on offer at £1.95 per night. But Andrew McCulloch of Arbury Court who rents 1,000 films says although people have now got a video, or a thinking of getting, one business is not booming. An

advertiser in the News offers 'adult' films for sale at £30, sent out in plain cardboard boxes. 82 04 20b

1982 05 20
New service of information on registered firms 82 05 20

1983
Lending library seen from void of Reference Department, CEN neg 815.83.32 (photo 218.53)
Cambridgeshire Collection enquiry desk with Mike Petty, Stella Bachelor and … CEN neg 938.83.34 (photo 218.55)

1983 02 10
Up to 20,000 people are expected to visit the first-ever two-day book sale being held in Cambridge's central library at Lion Yard. Thousands of books are going on sale at prices ranging from 10p to £25. They are either out of date or no longer suitable for the rough and tumble of public library use. Previous sales have raised thousands of pounds. 83 02 10

1983 03 10
Mike Petty, Cambridgeshire Collection Librarian, 10 Mar 1983 CEN neg 938.83.33 (photo 218.56)
Mike Petty with Sara Payne in Cambs Collection - photo used in 'Down Your Street' (photo 218.57)

1983 04 06
Colonel Guennadi Primakov, one of three Russians ordered out of Britain for spying, openly used the Cambridge Lion Yard Library for part of his intelligence-gathering work. He consulted newspaper cuttings files on civil defence in the Cambridgeshire Collection. At that time, in 1980, Defence Secretary Francis Pym had announced the decision to site Cruise missiles at Molesworth prompting 2,000 opponents of the scheme to march in protest. Librarians noticed him photocopying the files and consulted local police, but they said it was a matter for Scotland Yard. 83 04 06

1983 12 30
Ratepayers could be more than £40,000 worse off because a much-heralded 'money-saving' scheme has collapsed. Three years ago the council decided to buy a fleet of 12 electrically-powered mobile libraries to serve outlying rural areas. But from the start things went wrong. Faults developed and the council became involved in a long legal battle with the suppliers who have since ceased trading. Now councillors are trying to dispose of three electric vehicles 83 12 30 p5

1984 03 17
On Saturdays 3,000 books arrive and depart from the lending department of the central library in Lion Yard. But there is more to the library than that including 100,000 reference books and a stock of 850 paintings and pictures which borrowers can take home. There are 19 staff in the lending, music and children's department with another dozen in the various reference services. When things are tight the last thing to go is service to the public, said Andrew Armour, the Librarian. Library use continues to increase, funds remain tight, staff levels stay level but new technology skills should enable them to both maintain and improve the service 84 03 17 (photo Teletext computer 218.42) (photo computer terminal with Steve Foulger, Reference Librarian 218.48) (photo Chris Heaton, Reference Librarian reading Times on microfilm reader 218.49)

1984 07 25
County library HQ moves from Huntingdon to Cambridge 84 07 25

1985 03 01
Cambridgeshire Collection Librarian Mike Petty address conference Sardinia [85 03 01]

1985 08 11
Swavesey villagers are outraged at plans to shut their library and replace it with a van. The library is the centre of the community with a turnover of at least 2,500 books a week; old people's clubs arrange meetings when it is open so that elderly members can call in. Even people from the surrounding villages use it. The protests started when it was discovered that village college governors had decided that the library would have to move out of rented rooms there because of a desperate shortage of classrooms. If the public library were to go the school could have more accommodation at no extra expense. But campaigners say "We won't let this happen. We have got to keep our library in the village". 85 08 13

1985 09 04
Swavesey library closure opposed – 85 09 04

1985 09 23
Swavesey library has been saved thanks to outraged villagers who lobbied Cambridgeshire County Council to prevent its closure. The protest started when governors at the school wanted to move it out because of a shortage of space. 230 people attended a public meeting objecting to any attempt to shut the library which lends at least 2,500 books a week. Now councillors have backed them by 14 votes to two. Campaigners are overjoyed and others in a similar situation will realise that if you try, you can win, they say 85 09 23

1985 11 07
Central caretaker Leslie Collins retires [85 11 07] (photo including Andrew Armour the library manager, Rosemary Mumford 218.47)

1986
Reference Library staff showing Jon Anderson, Jo Phelps, Christine Norman and Mervyn Capel CEN neg 4423 86 8 (photo 218.58)

1986 03 18
Two city libraries at are again under threat of closure, only years after a successful survival battle. Mill Road library is on the wrong side of the railway bridge while Milton Road library is only half-a-mile from Arbury Court. But Councillor Janet Jones describes the plans as disgraceful and says many children and elderly people will be devastated if Milton Road is closed. However Bar Hill and Milton villages are fast-growing and need some library facilities, a report says. 86 03 18

1986 04 22
Campaigners protesting against the threatened closure of Mill Road and Milton Road branch libraries are to lobby councillors when they visit the buildings. A report that says libraries are now in the wrong situation to give the best service to the community. But Mill Road local councillor Anne Campbell said "It is an essentially facility for the area. Many of the present users cannot visit the central library in Lion Yard". 86 04 22

1986 04 25
Two Cambridge libraries threatened with closure are facing their second crisis in eight years. The axe first loomed over Milton Road and Mill Road branches in 1977 but they were saved together with others in Milton and Stapleford. Now a report says they are old and in the wrong position to provide the best service. But Cambridgeshire Labour councillors have started a campaign to save them and Alliance councillors are organising a petition against closure. 86 04 25

1986 05 27
Cambridgeshire Collection given Jack Overhill books [86 05 27]

1986 09 18
The much-heralded fleet of electrically powered mobile libraries, with which the County Council had hoped to save a small fortune in energy costs, has been scrapped. One vehicle has been banned from public roads because of braking defects, a second returned to the manufacturers for unsuccessful attempts at improving range and speed. The remaining order for eight vehicles has been cancelled and now the county council and manufacturers are locked in a legal battle. New diesel-powered libraries will be bought to keep the service running. 86 09 18 manufacturers blame council indecision – 86 09 21. Councillors hear report – 86 09 23a

1987 03 07
An Alliance county councillor's plans to close Milton Road public library and sell off the site for redevelopment has staggered his party colleagues. He claims the closure together with another in Lt Downham and two in Peterborough would be in accordance with plans to 'rationalise' the number of libraries. But other councillors say they will start a campaign to keep them open. Robert Rhodes James, MP, has also vowed to fight 'tooth and nail' to save Milton Road library from closure 87 03 07, 12a

1987 03 13
Milton Road library is not to be closed – 87 03 13

1987 04 06
Philip Marriot, children's librarian (photo 218.46)

1988 04 08
Central Library lending department to close for reorganisation and computerised book issuing programme due in two years time – 88 04 08

1988 04 21
When Margaret Badcock set up the new Cambridge tourist desk at the back of the library in 1971 there were three people who ran private guiding services. Now there are 150 official blue badge guides who have passed difficult examinations and are fluent in a second language. Then the University Arms was asking less than £6 for a double room with breakfast – it is now £57 - while the Sorrento Hotel in Cherry Hinton Road charges about £40 and the Belle Vue Guest House in Chesterton Road between £19 and £22, the average for a double room in a private house. 88 04 21b

1988 04 29
Alan Bennett came to Cambridge in 1953 as part of his National Service to learn Russian with a view to getting into the Intelligence Service. He was based at Douglas House in Trumpington Road and stayed in digs at Foxton and Newnham Terrace. He remembers many hours doing his

work in the city library opposite the Corn Exchange. It left him with an abiding affection for Cambridge though now, he says, it has lost a lot of its simple charm and the traffic problems seem as bad as anywhere. 88 04 29a

1988 05 06
Library-users could be charged under new Government proposals – 88 05 06c

1988 07 19
Central Library asbestos scare, ceiling – 88 07 19

1988 12 01
Cambridgeshire Collection produces sepia pictures for sale [88 12 01]

1989
Lending library showing paperback racks (photo 218.51, 200.82)

1989 03 03
Jack Overhill was known by many people as an author and broadcaster – giving 55 talks for the BBC and publishing three books. But most people will remember him as a keen swimmer. The founder of the Granta Swimming Club, he took a daily dip in the Cam for more than 60 years. After leaving school at 14 he followed his father's trade of shoemaker and in the 1920s set up one of the country's first football pools coupons. "His diaries and the dramatized novels he wrote represent a most important history of backstreet Cambridge in the 1920s and 30s", said Cambridgeshire Collection Librarian, Mike Petty 89 03 03b

1989 03 21
Libraries of the Future conference envisages co-operation between county and university libraries – 89 03 21a

1989 04 04
A high-tech computer system set to revolutionise Cambridgeshire's 15 main libraries has gone on line. Chief librarian Brendan Dwyer checked out the first book on the 'Cambook' system at Arbury Court. It will provide instant information about books on loan and a faster reservation system. "Pioneering the latest technology will help us to continue to offer a faster efficient service throughout the 1990s", he said 89 04 04a

1989 07 10
Cambridge Library is to close for two weeks as part of a computerisation programme to streamline efficiency. It will replace the system installed in 1976. But the Cambridgeshire Collection will be open as normal 89 07 10a

1989 08 03
VCH vol.9 published, exhibition in Cambridgeshire Collection – 89 08 03

1989 08 23
Central Library to close for two weeks as part of computerisation programme; plans to rebuild the entrance poston3ed as would result in unsatisfactory entrance to a major public building 89 08 23

1989 09 07
Cambridge Central Library is closed while details of every book in stock are fed into an ambitious new computer programme. When complete staff will be able to pinpoint exactly who

has borrowed which book and when it is due back. That was the information that was recorded on handwritten ledgers when it opened in 1855. Open access, allowing readers to select their own books by browsing the shelves was introduced in 1922. Now on an ordinary weekday 2,500 people call at the library in Lion Yard 89 09 07

1989 09 19
Part of the front entrance to Cambridge Central library is to be turned into a shop and sold off as part of the council's policy of disposing of surplus assets. The staircase will be redesigned with electric sliding entrance doors. The county council, which owns the prime site, has given itself planning permission for the new shops against the wishes of the city council who think it will destroy a large space which serves useful community purposes. 89 09 19c

1989 10 06
John Franklin, Administrative Assistant, retires from Cambridge library after 45 years – 89 10 06 (photo 218.44)

1989 11 09
Coun David Wolfe is to launch a campaign to stop the closure of Mill Road library as part of a County Council economy drive. Cambridge was one of the first towns in the country to have a local free library service. Mill Road library has served the community for 92 years and is a valuable resource. With the opening of city council housing schemes at Ditchburn Place and Thoday Street increasing the numbers of elderly people and young families moving into the area it is a particularly convenient service, he says – 89 11 09c

1989 11 25
Mill Road library – public to have say on closure, and Lt Downham 89 11 25

1989 11 29
Bar Hill library to open 89 11 29

1989 12 22
Mill Road library reprieved from closure – 89 12 22a

Addenda

1990 03 31
Reg Tarrant retires 90 03 31

1990 04 05
Libraries budget cut hits novels – 90 04 05a

1990 04 30
Mill Road Friends launch campaign to stop any new threats to close 90 04 30

1990 06 01
Cambridge Central Library to close for two weeks in July for alterations and repairs including controversial refurbishment of the entrance foyer, which is to be divided into a separate retail unit. The City objected saying it would deprive the community of an important space. A wall will be built to separate the new foyer from the proposed shop and electric doors introduced. 90 06 01

1990 07 02
Central closed two weeks for repairs 90 07 02

1990 07 26
Cambridgeshire Collection Librarian Mike Petty presented with Library Association T.C. Farries 'Librarian of the Year' award 90 07 26

1990 08 21
Libraries highlighted as part review – 90 08 21a

1990 11 09
Rock Road row over library future 90 11 09

1990 11 14
Brendan Dwyer, head of libraries, retires 90 11 14

1990 11 16
Massive review library service 90 11 16a

1991 02 23
Official report on libraries implies branch libraries in danger of closure; claim this a mistake, apologies – 91 02 23a

1991 02 28
Villages need libraries but money is short, says Andrew Armour – 91 02 28a

1991 02 28
Prof Geoffrey Martin, ex-keeper of Public Records and Mike Petty look through facimile of the Domesday Book on exhibition of reprint at Cambs Collection, 18 Feb 1991, 91 0 28b (photo 218.43)

1991 05 13
Mike Hosking appointed head customer services, Paul Martin head development & support 91 05 13

1991 07 18
Andrew Armour, Cambridge division librarian, takes early retirement, replaced by Chris Heaton 91 07 18

1993
Cambridgeshire Collection receives Dorothy McCulla award

1995
Mike Hoskins, Head of Libraries and Heritage & Brian Smith, Director Libraries & Heritage – photo (218.36); CEN neg 1202.95.13

1995 01 23
Rock and Arbury libraries fight closure 95 01 23

1995 06 09
Mill Road library to close along with Downham, Wittering & Fletton 95 06 09

1995 07 29
Mill Road, Anne Campbell MP, campaign 95 07 29

1995 08 02
Mill Road Friends group launched 95 08 02

1995 10 14
Central library needs £500,000 anti-fire initiative to safeguard Cambridgeshire Collection 95 10 14

1995 12 05
Mill Road celebrates 100 years 95 12 05

1996 03 14
Mill Road library offered to city by county 96 03 14

1996 03 22
Martyn Wade, Library Manager, posing in Lending Library (photo 218.40, 200.94)

1996 04 01
Central reduces opening hours 96 04 01

1996 04 01
Mill Road closes, campaigners out in force 96 04 01 (photo 218.38, 200.96)

1996 04 08
Mill Road bid to reopen 96 04 08

1996 07 02
Mill Road residents plan to rescue [96 07 02]

1996 08 10
Open University student research published on CD-Rom, launched in Cambridgeshire with Sue Oosthuizen 96 08 10 (photo 218.37)

1996 09 16
Mill Road windows boarded up [96 09 16]

1996 10 10
Mill Road traders fight Wintercomfort scheme [96 10 10]

1996 12 16
'Libraries lose a leading light': Mike Petty takes early retirement from Cambridgeshire Collection, succeeded by Chris Jakes; management chiefs pledge to maintain staffing levels and try to develop the archive; as result cutbacks four libraries have closed and opening times of branches reduced 96 12 16

1996 12 21
Head of Cambs Collection to retire … to be consultant 96 12 21

1996 12 30
Chris Jakes, new principal librarian of Cambridgeshire Collection publishes 'Cambridge in Old Photographs' 96 12 30

1997 01 01
'Farewell to courteous, helpful Mike' – Margaret French letter – 97 01 01

1997 01 06
'The man behind a great collection' – appreciation by John Durrant, Mayor of Cambridge 97 01 06

1997 01 20
'Making sure the past is safe for the future'; Mike Petty interview at home, Librarian of the Year 1989, begins News column, lectures; reorganisation in the air and wanted to leave Cambridgeshire Collection at its peak; management says are considering risk management following Norwich fire and Collection will stay where it is and will not be split up 97 01 20

1997 01 27
'Collection is stuff of real history' – Collection has a place amongst the best – Mike Bowyer 97 01 27

1997 04 26
'Award winner's final chapter': Mike Petty retirement send-off … 1990 T.C. Farries award, 1993 Dorothy McCulla award, Hon Fellow APU 97 04 26

1997 04 26
Mill Road protest a year after closure 97 04 26

1997 07 03
Central Library to close for 8 months for fire safety work 97 07 03

1997 10 20
Mill Road – Henry Tribe book on 'My University' 97 10 20

1997 11 04
Central Library 60 new computer terminals to be fitted 97 11 04

1997 11 05
Mill Road to become Indian Cultural Association centre 97 11 05

1998 05 11
'Archive will be moved for safety': world-renowned Cambridgeshire Collection to be rehoused on second floor; is used by students, families and academics … one of the best of its kind, says Mike Hosking, Head of Libraries. Will make it safer and more accessible to the many thousands who use it every year 98 05 11

1998 06 22
'Local studies service to stay': is important part of library service, will develop and fire protection work with coincide with reorganisation of Central Library 98 06 22

1998 07 22

Milton Road to be closed for work to be carried out 98 07 22

1998 11 30
'Refurbishment work on library gets under way'; principally to rehouse Cambridgeshire Collection and improve layout of the library 98 11 30

1998 12 23
'Ideal site for archive' – already a need for more space so why not a new purpose-built local history centre housing Cambridgeshire Collection and provide space for other organisations with collections of historical documents; ideal space the area undeveloped land nearby – letter 98 12 23

1999 01 13
'Building work brings new chapter to library' – will take four months with final move in August, secures future Cambridgeshire Collection 99 01 13

1999 01 28
'Getting to KnowUK': unique internet-based service from Chadwyck-Healey enables users to search information on all aspects of UK 99 01 28 (photo Chris Heaton, [unknown] and Martyn Wade at computer at launch - 218.39)

1999 07 21
'Move to protect valuable archive': Cambridgeshire Collection being relocated, improve layout of technology services on second floor 99 07 21

1999 08 13
'Anti-fire device makes library archives safer': catalogues on database, paid for by £500,000 from Government to upgrade information technology 99 08 13 (photo 201.01)

1999 09 04
'Collection's new home': housed in a specially designed environment on second floor with 2,500 linear metres of shelving giving enough storage space for 20 years growth; study area also moved, providing more seating, more displays and books for loan. The book and illustrations catalogues have been transferred to a database available on internet 99 09 04

1999 11 11
Mill Road library leased by Indian community and cultural association for 25 years 99 11 11

2000 07 05
Central Library closes two weeks for security and refurbishment 2000 07 05, 200 07 31

2000 08 08
Central Library computer system crashed 2000 08 08

2001 01 12
'25-year site is just the ticket': Cambridgeshire Collection celebrates 25 year in Lion Yard; Collection has 50,000 books, 4,000 maps & 400,000 prints and negatives; during 2000 nearly 800 items added; 2001 01 12 & a (photo 139.81, 139.85, 140.06)

2001 10 09
Central Library café opened [2001 10 09]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

2004 01 01
Cambridgeshire Collection on second floor, shows readers, open shelf stock and computer terminals (photo 218.52)

2006 09
Central Library to shut for 15 months for refurbishment, announcement Sept

2007 01 18
'End of an era for city library': 15 months of disruption in £7.5m redevelopment; Collection moves to Milton Road library – 2007 01 18

2008 03 25
'Plans for new home to house county history ditched': new heritage centre within CB1 development dropped; at present Cambridgeshire Collection in storage at various locations and can only be accessed from Milton Road library. 2008 03 25

2008 10 18
'Mould threat to county's heritage': archive facilities at Shire Hall condemned; records are in risk of damage. 2008 10 18

2009 09 26
Closed library a monumental fiasco for city' – rebuilding work due complete in September having taken twice as long as expected, 2¾ years 2009 06 26

2009 10 09
'17,389 visit new library in seven days': opened on 29th September after £7.5 million rebuild and refurbishment; transformed with old storage and office space cut away and new floor space created by filling in a void between the first and second floors. Old entrance removed to first floor. New Mediateque giving access to British Film Archive & facilities for Cambridgeshire Collection. Was due to open May last year but delayed due to serious structural problems with original 1970s building. 'A truly fantastic new library with range of extended facilities and services … in premier league of public libraries' 2009 10 09a

2009 11
Big Bright … verdict on new central library – 'Your Cambs' Nov 2009

2010 01 01
Cambridge library best in county; photo Michael Wyatt with books (218.35), 2010 01 01

2010 03 30
'Cuts protesters to turn out as Princess Anne opens library', the library should not be used to balance the books, it is a resource centre 2010 03 30

2010 10 07
'Central library chaos is not good reading': bungled rebuild, finished 18 months late by second contractor, Coulson, after first one sacked 2010 10 07

2011 03 17
'Recouping losses on library building could take time': £500,000 may not be reclaimed; library services face need to save £3.2 million over five years – 2011 03 17

2011 09 15
Archives centre plan for Shire Hall military bunker – shelter under Castle Court built in 1980s would make excellent centre; Shire Hall basement deteriorating – 2011 09 15

2014 09 27
My first job … when the council wanted to knock down the Guildhall in the early 90s I was hired for a day to photocopy some of the central library archives on the history – Julian Huppert MP

2014 11 13
Time flies … and county archive has pictures to prove it: selection of more than 14,000 images in Shire Hall archive 20 15 people maintain collections – 2014 11 13

2015 01
Proposed Cambridge Library Enterprise Centre; introduction and background with plans of proposals 2015 01

2015 01 15
Anger at plans to relocate archives: a scheme to move the Cambridgeshire Collection from Lion Yard library to Ely as part of County Archives criticised 2015 01 15

2016 03
Pegasus Group planning statement regarding Strikes Bowling, Ely change of use for archives

2015 03 14
'Key archives deserve better', no need to move Cambs Collection – John Green – 2015 03 14

2015 03 16
Enterprise hub plan for library – county to team up with Kora to provide cutting edge business and learning services on third floor – 2015 03 16

2015 03 24
Chris Jakes wins McCulla Memorial Prize, worked for 40 years to provide one of best local studies collections in country – 2015 03 24

2015 03 25
'Archives must not be moved' – Collection is in fire-proof store – Reg Tarrant letter – 2015 03 25

2015 04 03
'Keep our city collection here' – is unique, plans coincide with proposals for commercial enterprise zone – Sara Payne letter – 2015 04 03

2015 04 15
Library protest forces delay to enterprise plan – petition gets decision reviewed – 2015 04 15

2015 04 21
Libraries are not for profit; report says private company Kora is interested in making money out of public spaces – letter from Daniel Carter – 2015 04 21

2015 04 21

Archives must not be moved: Cambridgeshire Collection covers villages south of Cambridge, could not have produced books on Fowlmere without it – Les Price letter 2015 04 21

2015 04 22
Pegasus group statement on planning application for change of use of Strike's bowling alley, Ely

2015 04 22
The Ely Centre: information update for archive and local studies stakeholders; environment conditions at Shire Hall not suitable; Strikes building is suitable for conversion; Cambridgeshire Collection store not entirely compliant with modern standards … plan to move much of Collection and Local Studies team to Ely leaving some stock

2015 04 23
'Benefits' to archive move: relocating the Cambridgeshire Archives will 'provide benefits' to Ely and area says planner. County plans to move archives from Shire Hall basement to Strikes Bowling Alley – 2015 04 23

2015 04 23
'Good location': Strikes site could be available on 250 year lease … keen to move its priceless archive collection to somewhere safe, secure & accessible … to spend £3/4 million – letter Bill Hunt – 2015 04 23 EWN

2015 04 23
Store Archives in Nuclear bomb shelter under the ECDC council offices or in Old Court House – letter from D. Jackson 2015 04 23 EWN

2015 04 30
Ely is actually rather remote: proposed archives and local studies centre is not easily accessible to many county residents – Janet Morris letter 2015 04 30

2015 05 01
'Don't move the archives': concern that Cambs Collection move to Ely; letter George Ginn 2015 05 01

2015 05 08
'Library plans get furious response' - hostile opposition to plans to change third floor into enterprise centre; also questions on move of Cambs Collection to Ely – 2015 05 08

2015 05 14
Cambridgeshire Archives and local studies at Ely: what is the difference, why os Strikes bowling alley suitable, why move the Cambridgeshire Collection too, why haven't you consulted – notes by Archive and Local Studies Manager; also statement

2015 06 01
'MP takes a stand over library plan' – Daniel Zeichner condemns plans for third floor library – 2015 06 01

2015 06 02
Council 'out of control' on eve of library D-day – 400 private meetings held with Kora -2015 06 02

2015 06 02
Rethink city library plans: third floor desks and study area are usually fully occupied – Green Party letter questioning enterprise centre – 2015 06 02

2015 06 02
Cambridgeshire Collection future has unfortunately become associated with Enterprise Centre proposals; some users convinced the proposal to move the Collection to join Cambridgeshire Archives in Ely is due to scheme. In reality the plan has long been as aspiration … was intended as part of previously abandoned options to relocate the service to a new building at Arbury Camp and Foster's silo site at Cambridge station. Proposal to integrate the service was welcomed by councillors in September 2014 but given strength of public feeling separate consultation on the location of the Collection should be undertaken – County Highways & Community Infrastructure Committee minute

2015 06 03
Outrage as enterprise library plan approved: private company Kora will take over 60% of library third floor to create a hub for networking and business advice 2015 06 03

2015 06 06
Twist in library enterprise plan – Kora negotiator banned from being company director; disqualification discovered by political blogger – 2015 06 06

2015 06 10
Fresh review of Central Library enterprise plan after revelations that Kora managing director has been banned from being director 2015 06 10

2015 06 15
Strikes still open – bought by county council for archives centre; Collection will also move – 2015 06 15

2015 06 27
Enterprise centre plan abandoned amid outcry; council do extraordinary U-turn on Kora proposals 2015 06 27

2015 07 25
Library review to be done in-house: probe into failed plans for an enterprise centre at Cambridge Central Library will be carried out internally; plans scrapped in wake of fierce public outcry 2015 07 25

2015 07 29
Milton Road library may be torn down and rebuilt as a new community hub – 2015 07 29

2015 09 03
Cost of Ely archive centre has rocketed by 55 per cent in less than a year: now £6.198M – 2015 09 03 ES

2015 09 19
Archives move to Strikes, Ely, will cost £6m, up from £4m; should be kept with Cambridgeshire Collection councillor says

2015 09 23
Central Library plans 'correct': investigations into Cambridge Central Library Enterprise Centre scheme by Kora say no case to answer

2015 10 08
Archives move is going ahead – council chiefs pressing ahead with plans to relocate the County Archives to Ely; costs have spiralled; concern that Cambridgeshire Collection could move too
2015 10 08

2015 10 29
'Find safer place for archives' – site on flood zone adjacent to petrol filling-station, builder's yard and industrial complex – Janet Fairweather letter – 2015 10 29

2016 03 13
With threat of losing the third floor of the library to commercial office space 30 attended a brain-storming session – longer hours etc. But hours have been reduced, charges for book reservations increased … seem hell-bent on making the existing service less convenient and more expensive – 'Susan in the City' feature 2016 03 13

2016 11
Cambridgeshire Archives newsletter; in April 2016 a new site in Ely acquired for modern archive store; now agreed but search should be carried out to ensure it best value for money
note: items in […] from Cambridge News Library index cards

University Library nearing completion - 142.05

c.77.81 : University Library

1899 10 30
Some time ago the University gave notice that they would petition the High Court to divert a sum, derived from Wort's Charity, used for the purpose of repairing the main road from Emmanuel College to the Gog Magog Hills from that channel and appropriate it for the funds of the University Library. Two public bodies, the County Council and Chesterton R.D.C. are responsible for the repair of this road and resolved to oppose the petition which would deprive them of an annual contribution from the charity

1900

1904 05 19
Cambridge Fire Brigade committee reported on the provision for extinguishing fires in large buildings and the cost of maintenance of a steam fire engine. They visited the University Library where regular fire brigade drills took place regularly, but there was no special provision for the escape of work people from business premises except in one instance where a canvas shoot had been obtained. A fire engine would cost less than £200 a year, which was less than that paid for the police imported on the occasion of the King's visit to keep order for a single night. But there was not space at the fire station to accommodate it and most of the large buildings were protected by means of private fire appliances

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1908 08 25
An object of great curiosity has been returned to St Bene't's Church. The Black Letter Bible presented by Hobson the carrier has been missing for the last 30 years. It was discovered in the University Library where it had been sent for safe keeping when the church was restored. It has marginal notes in the writing of the donor and was at one time in a house in the parish when a charge of sixpence was made for its inspection. CWN 08 08 28 p5

1910

1910 12 02
The late John Willis Clark has willed to the University Library all his books, pamphlets, manuscripts and collection of views relating to the town, county, colleges or university of Cambridge. – 10 12 02f

1913 06 20
Suffrage attack St John's college library 13 06 20 p8 CIP

1916 09 27
Exemption tribunal – includes: conscientious objectors; Palmer, hatter, Petty Cury; Stockbridge, antique dealer; Ellis Merry, mail contractor; University Library assistant in charge of periodicals and binding – still obtained from Germany - 16 09 27b

1917 01 10
Tribunal; includes: University Farm employees; County land agent; University library assistant; slaughter men; 17 01 10b

1920

1923 09 21
By the death of its librarian, Mr F. H. Jenkinson, the university loses one who has served it with great distinction for many years. He was a man of remarkable and attractive personality. But possibly what most people will recall were his remarks on the care of books. He told a Library Association conference that it seemed incredible that educated men would send packages of six books by parcel post wrapped in one thickness of indifferent paper and held together with string. Strapping books on bicycles was another deleterious practice. "Perhaps some of us care too much for books, but most people care much too little," he said 23 09 21

1928 04 14
'The Times' has published a picture of the proposed new Cambridge University Library from the provisional designs prepared by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott. For some years past the imperative need of additional rooms to accommodate the never-ending increase of books has been urged but the enormous cost of erecting an entirely new library on another site – the old playing field of King's and Clare Colleges - presented what seemed an insurmountable difficulty. Even if the proposed scheme is realised it provides for only one-half of the projected library and involves a debt which will not be cleared for 50 years 28 04 16

1928 10 01
Conditions at the University Library have become more and more serious and in 1924 a Syndicate recommended a new library on a new site. Land was bought and plans prepared by Sir Giles Gilbert Scott, estimated at £500,000. But it was possible for them to finance only half that

amount. Now an offer has been received from the Rockerfeller Foundation of a sum to enable the building of the complete library without delay. 28 10 10

1928 10 06
New University Library, p8

1930

1934 06 01
The great move has begun. At four o'clock the doors of the old University Library near the Senate House closed to readers. There had been many visitors all day to say farewell to the building and some tender-hearted ladies left the library in tears before the bell rang for the last time. Librarians have been packing volumes into boxes and Eaden Lilley's staff began the work of loading the horse-drawn carts for the journey to the new library in West Road. The process will go on day after day for about three months. 34 06 01

1934 09 06
University Library big move – 34 09 06

1934 09 22
Cambridge Rotary Club did a good piece of work when it undertook the organisation of the public visits to the old University Library. During the first three afternoons close on 3,000 people made the tour of inspection of these old buildings, previously closed to all but a favoured few. It appealed to all classes – old and young, tradespeople and artisans, clerks from University offices and school children. The old Pebble Court, the original centre of the University, was a special source of attraction and here Mr P.C. Fitzgerald fascinated continuous groups by his characteristic talks 34 09 22

1934 10 22
Thousands greeted the King and Queen when they made their way to the new University Library. Washing and cooking alike was forgotten in hundreds of homes as women formed a great part of the crowds which were thickest in Trinity Street where undergraduates in cap and gown added to the number. Of all the wonderful products of man's skill in art and labour the Library must rank of one of the most inspiring and peculiarly permanent of our national institutions and with while clouds scudding over its lofty tower this unique building occupied the centre of a delightful scene. An exceptionally good film of the visit, taken by Gaumont especially for the Victoria Cinema will be shown next week. 34 10 22 & 25

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960
1966 03 18
University Library – feature – 66 03 18a

1967 03 01
Concern that city archives are kept under proper control. Some are University Library, some in University Registry and some in the City Library. Appointment of city archivist to be considered. Would like someone lent by Fitzwilliam Museum or University Library to put matters in order. – 67 03 01a

1970

1971 04 06
University Library faces crisis due static staff while work increases – 71 04 06a

1971 04 30
Trinity College Wren Library to reopen after restoration – 71 04 30

1973 05 11
Cambridge college libraries, which are of fundamental importance to undergraduates, have strikingly small staffs, states a report published this week. It says "No fewer than nine college libraries, including two large ones, have no full-time staff. They have well under half the ratio of staff to books found necessary for the efficient administration of departmental libraries". In the present year, it is estimated that the University will give college libraries a total of £12,000 73 05 11

1978 06 21
Cambridge University Library tower, the last great challenge to the student night climbing fraternity, has been scaled. Two men took just four hours and 15 minutes to climb to the base of the flagpole and attributed their success to the unsuccessful attempts of others during the past twelve months who left bolts attached to the brickwork for safety purposes. It is without doubt the most difficult and dangerous building to climb. On the ascent they caused damage to a small window on the top of the tower. “This was completely unintentional and very much regretted. We have already sent off money to pay for the damage”, one student said.

1980

1980 01 18
University Library friends, p16

1982 02 18
University Library, p7

1989 03 21
Libraries of the Future conference envisages co-operation between county and university libraries – 89 03 21a

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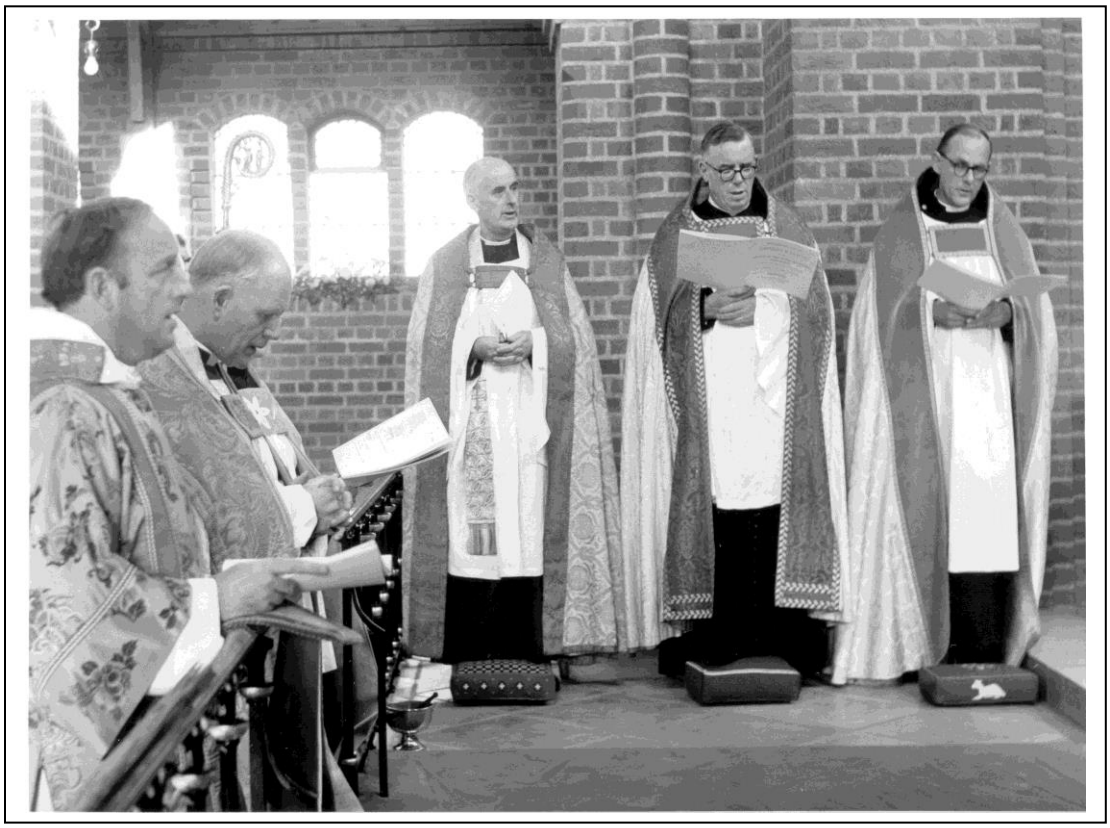

Good Shepherd Church dedication, 1964 *104.32*

c.83 : Churches, religions

1885
Cambridge Salvation Army's earliest days, 50 years ago were recalled by the Mayor, Ald Ralph Starr. He told how a band from Liverpool had come to give them a send-off: "I remember seeing them go down King Street, a singing multitude of people thronging around the band, who were trying to play, and some lads and lasses marching behind. The crowd were not only hustling and pushing them but dealing out blows to those who were playing. Several bandsmen had blood on their faces, but they did not retaliate. It was that which affected me most", he said. 35 04 29

1888
Jewish congregation founded

1888
St Barnabas Church built

1889 01 04

St Barnabas made an Ecclesiastical Parish [2.3]

1889 06 15
St Philip's Church foundation stone [1.12]

1889 10 11
Church Congress held [3.18]

1890

1890 05 01
St Philip's Church dedicated for expanding Romsey Town [3.7]

1890 05 22
St Columba's Presbyterian Church opened [3.8]

1890 10 08
Church of Our Lady & the English Martyrs consecrated [4.9]

1891
St John's Church: first meeting re church in New Cherry Hinton [7.9]

1891
Methodist Mission Chapel Hemingford Road [13.8]

1892
Holy Sepulchre vestry built [9.1]

1894
Hobson Street Methodist chapel rebuilt [13.6]

1894
Friends Meeting House built [2.22]

1896
St Matthews clock tower erected in memory vicar's wife [7.7]

1896 12 15
St Johns Church chancel & nave consecrated [1.7, 7.9]

1897 09 25
Holy Trinity reopens [1.11]

1897
Hills Road Methodist Chapel reopened [1.1]

1897
Tenison Road Baptist Chapel opened replacing Hope Chapel, Paradise Street [2.7, 12.10]

1897 05 25

Yesterday afternoon a ceremony of the deepest import to the Presbyterian Church of England took place at Cambridge, when Mrs Lewis and Mrs Gibson jointly laid the foundation stone of the Westminster Theological College. A large number of people assembled on the site many of the visitors coming from a distance. The building will stand on the piece of ground between Madingley-road, Northampton-street and Pound-hill. The building is in the English Renaissance style 1897 05 25

1897 05 27
The foundation stone of the new building of St John's church, Hills Road, Cambridge, was successfully laid on the 4th May last year. The first section was completed and consecrated December 15th, 1896. The result of opening the new building has amply justified the decision to hasten the commencement of the work. The congregations have been most encouraging and the average of the weekly collections doubled 1897 05 27

1897 06 28
St Andrews Chesterton new East window & reredos, 1897 06 28 p2 CDN

1897 07 01
Tenison Road chapel foundation stone, 1897 07 01 p2

1897 09 18
A special meeting was held in the Hills-road Wesleyan Chapel, Cambridge, in celebration of its re-opening. The chapel has been closed for three weeks and during that time the seats and galleries have been re-varnished, the walls and pillars painted, the heating apparatus renovated, the electric light substituted for gas, coloured windows for plain and a rostrum has been made to take the place of the old pulpit. Mr Isard, hon.sec. said those who worshipped in the side galleries had spoken to him for years past on the badness of the light. Those who sat just behind the gas standards too, found a great difficulty in seeing the speaker and were continually dazzled. They resolved to put in the electric light at a cost of about £60. The Minister said he was sorry they had not got the electric light on but in consequence of the engineers' strike the company had not been able to get the connections on 1897 09 18

1897 09 25
Holy Trinity church, Cambridge, was filled with a large congregation, the occasion being the re-opening service after the church had been closed for purposes of restoration. When the cement was removed from the buttresses, real solid stonework was found to be concealed underneath, and on theses buttresses the date 1516 was discovered. An old consecration cross was also found by the architect. This cross, he says, is very unique and it is intended that it should be covered with glass in order to preserve it 1897 09 25

1898
St Edmunds House founded as hostel for future priests attending the University [5.5]

1898 04 13
Holy Trinity renovation of interior and enlarged electric lighting CDN 1898 04 13

1898 05 09
St Bene't's Church, Cambridge, reopened for public service with an improved organ and newly elected organ chamber, beside several minor renovations in the decoration of the interior of the building. Archdeacon Emery said that the condition of the Church in 1849, when he was ordained Deacon, with its organ Gallery at the West End, and those high pews in the nave, and green

baized pews in the Chancel was then far different to what it was now. Since that time the South aisle had been erected, the West End and Tower opened and restored, the Chancel and church generally restored and seated in such a manner that all the worshippers could feel they formed one family of God 1898 05 09 [1,1]

1898 07 06
Mr Foster told a meeting in the parish room adjacent to St Mark's temporary Church, Newnham Croft, that he remembered hearing about 20 years ago, that it was seriously proposed that St Botolph's Church should be removed bodily and re-erected on the present site of Caius fellows' garden. The idea was not responded to and the consequence was that that part of Newnham was left without a place of worship, and eventually that Little St Mark's Church was erected. When he first came to that neighbourhood, 15 years ago, he remembered thinking what a poor, dilapidated place it was, and wondering how long they in that corner of Cambridge would have to worship there. But he had got to know St Mark's so well that he looked upon it now has a dear little place. They would all be sorry to have it removed but it was only a temporary building, and temporary buildings must give way to permanent ones CDN 1898 07 06

1898 10 27
The population of the town of Cambridge has increased very much during the past 10 years, especially in the Petersfield and Romsey town area. Up till 10 years ago the chancel of the present St Barnabas Church was the only place of worship in the extensive district. Mainly by reason of the enterprise of Mr Sturton in providing land for building purposes, the district became so large that it became necessary to carry out the building of the complete Church; this was done in 1887. The substitution by the Great Eastern Railway Company of a handsome bridge for the old level crossing in Mill Road gave a great impetus to building in what is now Romsey town and the church of ease of St Phillip's was established. Now the time has come for Romsey town to be raised to the status of an ecclesiastical Parish, with St Phillip's as the parish church CDN 1898 10 27

1898 11 21
St Augustine's Church dedicated CDN 1898 11 21

1898 12 05
Salvation Army barracks, p2 *

1899
First Christian Science service held in Victoria Assembly Rooms [2.28]

1899 04 01
At midnight the new clock which has been erected at St Matthews Church, Cambridge, will chime for the first time. Until recently the bells of the church hung outside the building, but now a turret has been erected at the West End and here the clock has been placed. It is "Ting Tang" quarter clock erected as a memorial to the vicar's late wife 1899 04 01

1899 05 18
The new clergy training school in Jesus Lane Cambridge was opened by the Bishop of Durham. It has been erected adjacent to All Saints Church at a cost of nearly £8000. The most experienced teachers in Cambridge have long felt a want of a centre to which the younger members might naturally turn when they wished for conference, or counsel, or sympathy in reference to the choice of their vocation in life. Many men of ability were lost to the Ministry of the church

through the want of such opportunities for brotherly conference with men nearly of their own age - 1899 05 18

1899 08 28
Victoria Road Congregational Church foundation stone laid, 1899 08 28, p3

1899 10 03
The Vicar of St Michael's church, Cambridge, spoke of the restoration of the mural decorations executed by Mr Gilbert Scott which had become much decayed, and the erection of the inside porch. The installation of the electric light answered very well. He did not think it was as good to read by as gas but there was the advantage of the easy regulation of the light and quickness in lighting the church. Instead of having the nasty, stuffy feeling they had with gas, there was a decent atmosphere in which one could breathe 1899 10 03

1899 10 17
The formal opening took place of Westminster College, the theological college which the Presbyterian Church of England has established at Cambridge for the training of students for the ministry. It is a great thing that the work has been done so well in so short a time, but a much greater thing that the cost of building it – albeit over £40,000 has all been met. Professor Ryle, President of Queens', extended a welcome to the new college 1899 10 17 [3.12]

1900

1900 02 28
The building which stands off St Andrew's street, Cambridge, and which has recently been erected through the munificence of Mrs Lewis & Mrs Gibson, members of the congregation of St Columba's Presbyterian Church was formally opened. The need for such a hall had long been felt and is undoubtedly one of the best buildings of the kind. It has cost no less than £2,000 & is lighted with electric light 00 02 28

1900 03 08
The first khaki wedding in Cambridge was held at St Botolph's church. The bride was attired in regulation khaki tight-fitting bodice, braided Hussar, with braid to match, khaki straw hat, trimmed with white chiffon and silk. She wore a spray of orange blossom and carried a bouquet of lilies of the valley and snowdrops, covered with maidenhair fern. The bridesmaids wore khaki shirts with silk tunics to match. They also wore scarlet shoes and hats 00 03 08

1900 04 14
On Good Friday the members of Trumpington Free Church held a tea meeting in their new place of worship in the village. To the tea about one hundred persons sat down. There was a small attendance at the subsequent meeting. The chairman said the building was very nearly paid for. 118 persons had contributed a shilling or less which showed a large number of people in Trumpington had a share in the building 00 04 14

1900 05 23
A period of nearly 30 years has elapsed since St Mark's church, a primitive wooden structure, was erected at Barton Road, Cambridge, to meet the needs of churchmen. Newnham is destined to become one of the principle residential districts & as the neighbourhood has gradually developed so the need of a permanent church has been the more keenly felt. The scheme which is now intended to carry out is but a part of a larger and more liberal one. The foundation stone now laid will only consist of the main parts of the nave

and the north aisle and the extreme west end, and the south aisle will be left for future extensions. The new church will provide for a congregation numbering about 300 00 05 23

1901 01 28
At the various places of worship in Cambridgeshire references were made on Sunday to the death of the Queen. Special memorial services were held by the Salvation Army at Sturton Town Hall which were of a most impressive and solemn character. The hall was well filled, many present being deeply touched. At the close the band played the Dead March, the whole congregation standing in respectful homage.

1901 03 13
Presentations were made to the Rev Monsignor Scott, Rector of the Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs, Cambridge, in recognition of his recent appointment by the Pope. The Bishop of Northampton presided over a large and influential attendance. The honour that had been conferred was that he was appointed domestic prelate of his Holiness, so certainly it was the action of the Holy Father himself who had deigned to look upon this poor diocese and kindly raised to a high degree the Vicar General. The conferring of the dignity of prelate did not imply he was leaving them. (Applause) 01 03 13

1901 03 18
Two new classrooms at the primitive Methodist Chapel, Sturton Street, Cambridge, were formally opened. The space available at the chapel for teaching the scholars on Sundays has long proved inadequate and the extra accommodation will furnish room for at least fifty persons and may be expected to meet the requirements for some time to come. The opportunity was also taken of entirely renovating the interior of the chapel itself, which has been furnished with new seats, and the ceiling covered with match-boarding 01 03 18

1901 04 26
The new church of St Mark, Newnham, built to supersede the structure that had done duty for so many years was consecrated by the Bishop of Ely. The Master of Corpus said that in the new church they had visible proof of the continuity of the Church of God and that the gates of hell should not prevail against them; it was a visible link in a long chain of God's claim on the adoration and service of mankind 01 04 26

1901 11 12
The 32nd anniversary of the Theatre Royal Barnwell Mission, Newmarket Road, Cambridge was celebrated. Three private boxes had been prepared for the comfort of those who attended the meetings, the building frequently containing over 1,000. If the theatre had been altered when it came into their possession it would not have done a tenth of the good it had done. By keeping it in the original form they get people who would not attend an ordinary place of worship. They had introduced lantern services, which had caused prejudice, but people were very nervous about any new form of service. 01 11 22

1901 11 25
The most militant of religious organisation had a field day at Cambridge on Sunday. Mrs Bramwell Booth, of the Salvation Army, addressed three large meetings at the Guildhall. "Fire a volley" was the command of a senior officer as Mrs Booth mounted the platform. A waving of handkerchiefs, a clapping of hands, a deep sound from the big drum, was the response. She is not a great woman speaker, but she has earnestness & spoke for nearly an hour. She is not sweet-throated but her manner impels one to listen.

1902 02 07
The memorial window to the late Mr James Hough is now complete and the church of St Benedict is in possession of a work of art which will be a constant reminder of a Christian life. It is a three-light stained glass window immediately over the altar, designed by Arthur Savell of London and Regent Street, Cambridge. 02 02 07

1902 06 12
On 13th June 1889 the foundation stone of St Philip's Church, Mill Road, Cambridge, was laid by Professor Babington; on June 11th 1902 it was consecrated by the Bishop to the worship of God and "for ever set apart from all profane and common uses". A small wooden church was built by a pious, but somewhat eccentric Churchman, which was eventually to give place to the present building. It is a chapel-of-ease to the populous parish which ere long may be a distinct ecclesiastical parish. 02 06 12

1902 07 10
It is not a common feat to take down stone by stone, transport for fourteen miles and re-erect, practically without alteration, a solidly-built church capable of accommodating some 250 worshippers. That is what has been done with regard to the old Roman Catholic Church of St Andrew at Cambridge which has been removed to St Ives. The church is one of Pugin's earlier masterpieces and for 59 years it was in use in Cambridge. Then it was superseded by the magnificent new church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs. It was in danger of falling into a ruinous condition when the idea was conceived of transporting it to St Ives. 02 07 10

1902 07 17
Cambridge Paving Committee had approached the vicar and churchwardens of St Giles' church to ascertain whether it would be possible to acquire a portion of the churchyard for the widening of Castle Street. They would agree provided that the work of excavating and collecting human remains be screened by a hoarding & the bodies reverently re-interred. Chesterton Road corner was a most dangerous one and when the improvement was carried out one corner out of the four would be cut back. 02 07 17

1902 11 14
When Cambridge council decided to widen Castle Street by acquiring part of St Giles' churchyard the improvements necessitated the demolition of the wall and the removal of human remains from the consecrated ground. This work is now being proceeded with as reverently as possible. A considerable exhibition of morbid curiosity to view what is being done has been manifested, but it has received every discouragement from those responsible for the proper exhumation and reinterment. 02 11 14

1903 01 26
The Sabbath calm at the Barnwell Mission services held in the Barnwell Theatre was rudely disturbed. Religious fervour had been well sustained and the atmosphere became somewhat overheated. The superintendent requested that the hot water might be shut off. The warming apparatus gave a series of resounding reports and the supply cistern overflowed, causing steam to pervade the auditorium. The congregation jumped to the conclusion that the Theatre was on fire and dashed out. The panic was worst in the gallery, which was filled with about 150 young people who made a dash for the steep stairs. The band stuck to their posts and played the greater part of the congregation out and the Benediction was pronounced to those who remained. 03 01 26

1903 01 28

St Andrew's Street Baptist Chapel, Cambridge, is to be swept away and another more ornate is to be substituted. It has often excited the curiosity of strangers and not a little ridicule has been bestowed upon those who have worshipped in such a prison-like building. Even Charles Spurgeon described it as suitable for private executions. The new building will have both a tower and spire and be worthy of the prominent position it will occupy. 03 01 28 [2.9]

1903 03 25 c
Why do men forsake public worship, asked the Rev Joseph at Cambridge Guildhall. Inquiries had been made of four men in a college kitchen. One said: "Because we don't want to be hypocrites"; another: "I get nothing there worth listening to"; the third: "The parsons are such humbug". The fourth said: "Because so-called Christian men don't live up to the teaching of Christ and they standard they themselves set up". In summer it was beneficial and in no way harmful to spend Sundays in the open air. c03 03 25

1903 04 06
Since the members of Kensit's Wycliffe Preachers came to Cambridge there has been a general anticipation that a 'protest' by them would be made in one of the local churches. In an attempt to gain information as to their intentions two dozen opponents, most of them undergraduates, assembled at the Alexandra Hall to listen to an address. Afterwards a very heated linguistic duel raged over the doctrine of transubstantiation. Applause and counter-applause urged on the contestants to further efforts. A lull in the debate gave an opportunity to take a collection, which was contributed to by the opponents of the preachers. At the end one undergraduate asked whether they were going to brawl in any other churches tomorrow. 03 04 06

1903 05 06
The work of rebuilding St Andrew's Street Baptist Chapel, Cambridge, has reached an important stage with the ceremony of laying the foundation stone. The travelling crane upon the elevated railroad around the site was stationary, the workmen had turned their attention to the erection of a platform to accommodate the spectators. An important factor was the bottle placed under the stone which may in some remote age meet the gaze of an explorer yet unborn, the contents being a plan of the church, a programme of the day's ceremony and a copy of the CDN. 03 05 06

1904
Cherry Hinton Rd Free Church opened [446.13.1]

1904
Bible Society centenary [3.16]

1904 02 01
The new St Andrew's Street Baptist chapel, Cambridge, was formally dedicated. The exterior of the building is captivating, the interior is beautiful and the structural arrangements for the comfort of the congregation well considered. Unfortunately the pastor who had so strenuously worked on the scheme was unable to attend due to illness but so that he should not be entirely deprived of participation in the events the deacons arranged to have the speeches delivered in the building transmitted to his home by means of electrophone 04 02 01

1904 04 29
The stone laying was held of a new Wesleyan chapel being built at Old Chesterton to supersede one which has been in use for 60 years and is dilapidated and unsightly. It was first intended to erect it on Chesterton Road facing De Freville Avenue but a site in Church Street was chosen and the builders, Messrs Kerridge and Shaw have commenced operations of a simple structure

capable of accommodating 150 persons together with 120 Sunday School scholars. The building was within sight of two other Christian churches but they came in the old Methodist spirit, as friends of all and the enemy of none and would not injuriously rival or detract from their work. 04 04 29 [1.9, 13.10]

1904 04 30
The Mormon missionary propaganda has extended to Cambridge. Two Elders from the Headquarters in Salt Lake City are in town for the purpose of explaining the beliefs of the sect to which they belong and hope to establish a branch of their church before they return to Utah. Circulars have been left at many houses saying: "By reading the accompanying tract you will discover the way of salvation and learn that some precious truths as taught by Christ are no longer understood by many of the Christian sects". It is signed: Elder Franklin P. Foster, 6 Abbey Road, Cambridge" 04 04 30

1904 06 20
St Andrew the Great church, Cambridge, has been thoroughly renovated and the congregation sat within spotless walls, under a roof which afforded no resting place for the busy manufacturer of webs and in an atmosphere suggestive of spring cleaning. The dignified furniture shines anew, the walls are nicely painted and distempered, the windows (coloured and plain) admit the full quota of light. Gas has given way to electric light and there is a sermon switch which will turn off the current from two-thirds of the lights. The organ has been removed from the west gallery and will be placed on the south side of the choir, at present it is in London and a harmonium sufficed for the Sunday services. CDN 20.6.1904

1904 09 20
Sunday saw the realization of a scheme in connection with Great St Mary's church, Cambridge, which has been in progress 15 years: the filling of the clerestory with windows. The church was re-opened having been closed so that the remaining three windows might be put in. Two were given in memory of W.H. Hattersley & Alderman Scales. They are a great improvement to the church and represent the three verses of the Te Deum CDN 20.9.1904

1904 10 10
Salvation Army, p3

1904 10 13
The Wesleyans have added another to their places of worship by opening a new chapel in Church Street, Chesterton. It is the successor of a building in the High Street which during the latter period of its existence has been difficult to reconcile with conventional ideas of what a place of worship should be. Though doubtless hallowed in the memory of many its defects were numerous. Mr B.C. Jolley provided a piece of land upon which building operations began a few months ago. The architect adopted a Queen Anne style and the result is a pleasing-looking building with an appearance more domestic than ecclesiastical. CDN 13.10.1904

1904 12 24
A few says ago I dropped across a couple of gentlemen of the religious persuasion known as the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints. Elder S.S. Downes and Elder H.B. Brown are their names and they are endeavouring in a quiet way to found a church in Cambridge. For and against Mormonism is not my mission to preach but they have as much right to extend their views as other folk on mission bent, providing they do it in a decent way. CDN 24.12.1904

1905 07 04

Cambridge Salvation Army held their annual field day at Jesus College when 'twelve hours of holy joy' were spent by more than 1,000 members. There was lantern and scarf drills and a feature of the variety fanfare was the singing of two converted comedians, Poole and Rash. There has been a remarkable outbreak in the various Salvation Army corps and more people have professed conversion during the last six months that any other period on record. 05 07 04b

1905 09 05
It is approaching 20 years ago that the strange sect called the Agapemonites founded by the late Brother Prince first secured a footing in Cambridge. Its advent is surrounded in some mystery and owing to the secrecy imposed on its followers it is difficult to speak with any degree of certainty of its growth. It was the time when the Wesleyan community was undergoing a severe trial and many families left the church, some joining the Abode of Love at a little school room in Elm Street where services were marked with great simplicity. The death of Prince was a severe test to his followers' faith but things have gone on much as before. 05 09 05 – 05c

1905 09 22
The vicar of St Philip's Church Cambridge recalled he had opposed a scheme for abolishing the boys', girls' and infants' Church Schools in Ross Street. There would now be a new mixed school where nonconformist children would relieve religious instruction – but not from him. If parents cared for Church instruction they should fight to keep Ross Street schools open and support the new master, Mr Meakin. 05 09 22a & b

1905 11 03
Old Baptist chapel, Old Chesterton new infant's classroom – 05 11 03a

1905 12 18
St Paul's church memorial window, Elizabeth Jones – 05 12 18c

1905 12 29
About 250 of the poorest inhabitants of Cambridge attended the Christmas Free Dinner arranged by the Salvation Army at the Sturton Town Hall. Needless to say the fare provided was done full justice to and subsequently the guests were entertained by the Army Band. The function was attended by the Parliamentary candidates for the borough who shook hands with guests each of whom received a copy of the Christmas 'Way Cry' and a pamphlet on 'How to be Saved' 05 12 29a

1906 05 26
Two large meetings of Cambridge church people passed resolutions strongly condemning the Government's Education Bill. The Bishop of Ely said the dying of church schools would only be a matter of time. Religion was the only part of education worth having, the great question was how it would be taught. The Bill denied parents the liberty to have their children educated in the faith which they themselves held. 06 05 26d e

1906 06 05
When the Wesleyan chapel in Romsey Town was erected in Hemingford Road, space was left for a more commodious structure. The new chapel of which Mr W. Wren of Castle Street is the architect is designed in the Queen Anne style with utility, rather than elaborate decoration; nevertheless the building with its cathedral-like windows will be a considerable addition to the notable buildings of that end of Mill Road. 06 06 05 [1.11]

1906 06 14

A Salvation Army funeral in Sturton Town Hall attracted a great crowd. Among the congregation was Joseph Wilson, an elderly man of about 60 years of age. He commented upon the sudden death of the deceased bandman and said that he himself suffered with his heart. "I shall go off one day just as suddenly", he observed. His prediction came true: whilst the service was in progress he fell to the floor and expired. His wife was at the ceremony but was separated from him by a large crowd and had no knowledge of the calamity until she was called out of the hall. 06 06 14d

1906 07 16
Members of two religious sects came into collision on Parker's Piece. For the past six weeks representatives of the Mormons have been holding Sunday evening meetings and have attracted some opposition. A member of the Romsey Town Mission began to argue on the subject of polygamy; a hostile demonstration ensued and the Mormons were hustled off along Mill Road followed by a booing crowd. 06 07 16 [2.13]

1906 10 26
The new Wesleyan Chapel in Romsey Town opened for public worship. It will accommodated over 400 people and is lighted by incandescent gas and heated by radiators. Though a plain building internally it is comfortable and has a pleasant appearance. The architect was W. Wren of Cambridge and the builders Coulson and Lofts. 06 10 26a

1906 11 07
St Barnabas church opened a drill room in Covent Garden for gymnastic exercises with recesses in the walls for the firearms of the Boys Brigade. Other rooms will be erected for bible classes, reading, refreshments and also for the practice of carpentering, making it a centre for social work among young men and boys. 06 11 07b

1906 11 09
St Barnabas Institute opened – 06 11 09b & c

1906 12 03
A terrible calamity has overtaken the St Ives Catholic community, the interior of whose beautiful Mission Church of the Sacred Heart was wrecked in one of the most astonishing cases of sacrilege ever recorded. A madman broke into the church by battering the door with a sledgehammer and then swept round the building like an avenging fury, raining blows on every object until there was nothing left to break. 06 12 03a & b [2.13]

1907 01 15
The vicarage of St Michael's church Cambridge has become vacant and Trinity College has offered the living to the Vicar of St Mary's, to work the parishes in conjunction. People have moved away from central Cambridge where there is a larger number of churches than now needed and since 1870 colleges have ceased to be exclusively Church of England institutions. The Church is inadequately supplied both with men and money and it is extravagant to maintain so many small parishes as separate cures. 07 01 15

1907 03 18
A movement is on foot amongst English Roman Catholics to establish a college for women, on the lines of Girton or Newnham, at the University. The leader is Miss Eleanor Warner who recently visited the Catholic Convent in Bateman Street. She is now in Rome for a meeting with the Pope. Opinion is strongly favourable and that Cambridge may soon see an addition to her institutions. 07 03 18a

1907 06 19
The 'Unity Brotherhood' had conducted some sort of mission for some months, circulating pamphlets couched in violent language attacking a Cambridge minister. The two men took up position on the Market Hill reading from a bundle of papers until there were about 1,000 people there. The crowd became hostile, hooting, shouting and trying hustle them until police intervened. They were remanded in gaol so their mental condition might be inquired into. 07 06 19 & a

1907 06 22
The chimes of St Giles church clock in Cambridge have been restored after a silence of six years. Notice was given in the Parish Magazine but all do not read that excellent periodical and there was much astonishment when the bells entered anew upon their purpose of telling out the hours. The tone of the large bell is much improved now it has been re-hung so that it no longer rests against the wall. 07 06 22c

1907 07 10
Sir – I have been guilty of a gross and sinful mistake which has lead me open to attacks from subtle satanic spiritual influences. During the past months the Unity Brotherhood has solicited financial assistance from many people. Some of this money has been spent for charitable purposes but some has been given to a private account. Now I publicly ask forgiveness and wish to settle down quietly and earn an honest livelihood. A.C.G. 07 07 10a

1907 07 17
General William Booth, founder of the Salvation Army, was welcomed to Cambridge by thousands of spectators who lined the road from Trumpington to the Guildhall. Three red motor cars with a Salvation Army flag in each were given quite an oration en route to Market Square where the Band struck up a popular Army tune. But the General entered the building from Peas Hill and ignored the cries of 'Speech' as he disappeared from view 07 07 17 [3.17]

1907 09 24
Cambridge has been favoured with a visit from Mr Smyth-Piggott, the self-styled 'Messiah' and leader of the Agapemonites. He has a marked distaste for publicity but, unfortunately for the Prophet of Free Love's retiring disposition, he adopts a mode of travel which is not conductive to secrecy. Motor cars are not quite so common that a powerful machine, equipped with a comfortable tonneau, can pull up before a modest house in a quite street where the sect is wont to meet without attracting attention 07 09 24

1907 10 11
St Mark's church, Newnham Croft, presented a scene of unwonted beauty and impressiveness when a large congregation assembled to witness the dedication of the new organ. It will meet a need which has been long felt, the harmonium being quite inadequate to lead the singing. The organ was built by Messrs Norman and Beard, is a two manual with 11 stops and cost £276. 07 10 11

1907 11 05
Holy Trinity church redecoration – 07 11 05b

1908 01 31
For years bachelor Harris Norman lived the life of a miser in Romsey Town. He was endowed with a positive genius for accumulating money but never spent more than would suffice to keep soul and body together. He laid the foundations of his fortune as a hawker of cheap jewellery, then speculated in stocks and shares. In his will he bequeathed the whole of his property to be

divided between Addenbrooke's Hospital and the London Jewish Synagogue. 08 01 31b – details 08 02 07 & a

1908 07 10
Fire damaged the Christadelphian Hall in Coronation Street, Cambridge, but fortunately the harmonium was not injured to any great extent. Another fire which broke out at Hale's Farm, Haverhill is believed to have been caused by the heat of the sun. During the afternoon the sun's rays had been extremely hot, the roof of the shed, under the slates was boarded and during the last winter had been stocked with stover. CWN 08 07 10 p2

1908 10 09
The police and the Cambridge corps of the Salvation Army came into conflict on Sunday evening. With full band, officers and followers, the customary demonstration commenced at the top of Kingston Street, a pitch which the Salvationists have occupied without interruption for twenty years. A song, followed by a prayer opened the service before a police officer asked them to 'move on'. The S.A. Officer refused but did say that when a sick person complains of the band it is silenced at once CWN 08 10 09 p2

1909
Building begins of Wesleyan Manse on Poplar House Estate, Christ's Pieces [1.15]

1909 02 12
Wickliffe Preachers paid a visit to St Clement's church while the vicar was hearing confessions and asked him to produce his authority for hearing confessions in the Church of England. An argument ensued and the vicar locked the Preacher in the church whilst he sent for the police. They then visited St Giles and sat down near the curate and an undergraduate who was confessing, refusing to move. Thereupon the curate whispered to the student to go to the vestry where they locked themselves in. In the evening there was a banner procession through the streets but a Protestant meeting was broken up by undergraduates. CWN 09 02 12

1909 02 19
The Protestant Demonstration called by Mr Kensitt at the Alexandra Hall resulted in the wildest uproar. The small hall was crowded with ladies, undergraduate and townspeople, while outside a band of disappointed 'Varsity demonstrators increased. Inside shouting and whistling commenced before the opening hymn but the earnest portion of the assembly did not give in and by singing as loudly as possible almost drowned the discordant shouting of the opposition. Mr Kensitt's speech was constantly interrupted. Missiles struck the windows and the hall was filled with the smell of sulphuretted hydrogen 09 02 19

1909 04 02
A domestic servant of Renfig, Hills Road, was sued for 50 shillings instalments on a Bible. A representative of the Bible Union Society had called at the house and after a great deal of persuasion she had agreed to join. He then produced a special bible with explanatory notes and pictures, saying it was only lent to her. But then they wrote demanding payment. She'd returned it but they had taken her to court. These men roved around the town back doors and got girls to sign; it was a misrepresentation. She was awarded costs 09 04 02

1909 04 09
The Rev Charles Joseph, minister of St Andrew's Street Baptist Church, has had a varied career, having been a commercial traveller and journalist with a weekly column in the 'Baptist Times'. He came to Cambridge in 1898 and oversaw the erection of the new chapel in 1903. His forcible

preaching is so much appreciated that he is in constant request as a special preacher and his engagement book is full many months ahead. 09 04 09

1909 05 07
Harris Norman of Romsey Town, a Jewish hawker, lived to all appearances in extremely poor circumstances. But when he died was found to be worth £12,000. He'd divided his assets between Addenbrooke's Hospital and the 'London Jewish Synagogue for the Poor and Needy Jews'. However four groups disputed to whom this second bequest should go and it came before a Judge in the Chancery Division to decide. 09 05 07

1909 07 24
Building begins of Wesleyan Manse on Poplar House Estate, Christ's Pieces [1.15]

1909 09 17
A new religious house has been founded at Cambridge. It will have no official connection with the University and be used for serious study. Its head is Father Waggett who gave a series of lectures which attracted considerable attention. The house in Malting Lane is a beautiful structure whose deeds date back to the time of Charles I. Its delightful old-world garden of nearly two acres would permit of ample additions in future years CWN 09 09 17

1909 10 08
St Botolph's Church reopened after restoration. The old ceiling in the nave, which was in a very dilapidated condition, has been replastered and re-decorated. A new hot-water pipe heating apparatus has been installed by Messrs Headley and Edwards together with a hydraulic appliance for blowing the organ by Messrs Miller of Sidney Street. CWN 09 10 08

1910

1910
Church Congress held [3.18]

1910
Cambridge Baptist women's league founded [13.1]

1910 02
Consecration of new synagogue, Sidney Street: acquired lease of hall at back of Grays [5.11]

1910 04 29
Congregationalists assembled in large numbers to celebrate the centenary of the church at Fulbourn. Its origins can be traced to 1776 when worship was carried out in a barn. In 1810 they took possession of a small meeting house erected by Thomas Harlock. The Rev. S. Smoothy had been appointed in 1878 making him the longest-serving minister and no church had ever had a more faithful servant 10 04 29d & e

1910 09 23
Very quietly and unostentatiously the self-styled 'Messiah', Mr Smyth-Pigott of 'Abode of Love' fame revisited Cambridge and spend the day with what remains of the 'faithful few' of the sect who still go by the name of the Agapemonites. Some time ago there was quite a number but most of the younger members have fallen away and now they can be counted on the fingers of one hand. His arrival was a great contrast to his last visit when, clad in clerical garb, he dashed into town in a swagger motor car. There was no one to meet him at the station and he walked slowly

into Devonshire Road where he entered a house. Later four ladies visited but no noise was heard except the clatter of knives and forks and the rattle of cups. 10 09 23a

1910 09 30
Signal success has attended the Cambridge Jubilee Church Congress. Fifty years ago when a few ardent Churchmen met together in the Hall of King's College, public interest in their proceedings was practically non-existent. Since then great changes of thought have taken place and this week three thousand members of Congress together with an Archbishop and 28 Bishops have attended. 10 09 30 & a

1910 10 07
The venerable head of the Salvation Army, General Booth, revisited Cambridge. He has aged since his last visit. The burdens of years now rests heavily upon his venerable shoulders. His long hair and beard are white, his sight is dim, his shoulders are bowed, his voice has lost its volume and penetrating quality and he had to be assisted on and off the platform. But he is as eloquent and earnest as ever. For nearly an hour and a quarter he stood, his spare form closely buttoned up in his long military frock coat, upright and soldierly, a truly wonderful old man. 10 10 07

1911 05
Meeting 'to expose Mormonism' [5.10]

1911 05 12
The work of beautifying St John's Church in Wellington Street has been carried on steadily. The chancel curtains and all windows were thoroughly cleaned and the walls brushed down, the Holy Table has been restained, the communion rails polished and the ironwork regilded. It is hoped the organ may be cleaned and repaired and that a new lectern may be purchased. Mrs de Candole's kind gift of shrubs and plants has done much to beautify the churchyard 11 05 12e

1911 07 22
Methodist Chapel, Panton Street sold to Christian Scientists, previously met in Southgate Lodge, Emmanuel street for 8-10 years [1.13, 1.17]

1911 09 08
Cambridge seems to afford congenial soil for the propagandists of peculiar religions. The Christian Scientists and Christadelphians have branches and even Smyth Pigott, the leader of the Agapemonites and founder of the notorious Abode of Lover, has followers. Now Mormons have made half a dozen converts and two young Romsey town women are leaving for America. But the Mormon missionaries deny they are going to Utah: they did not preach emigration but preferred them to stay and help build up churches here 11 09 08c & d

1912 01 12
A wedding of great interest took place at King's College Chapel, the first in the building for nearly 200 years. The bride, Miss Katharine Heycock, daughter of a Fellow, wore a beautiful dress of white brocade and a train of old lace made by Mrs Thompson of Panton Street. The six bridesmaids wore Kate Greenaway coats trimmed with swansdown and hats trimmed with mistletoe and holly. Amongst the presents were a silver hot-water kettle, silver egg-stand and toast-rack. Afterwards the bride and groom left for the Riviera. The earliest wedding in the chapel was in 1666. 12 01 12c

1912 01 26
Wesley church raises £15,500 for rebuilding – 12 01 26c

1912 03 15
The County Council is to purchase Hobson Street Wesleyan Chapel and the adjoining house to build a Council Chamber and offices. The site is central and quiet and although the cost might appear to be high it would eventually result in a saving. There would be much greater efficiency to have all officials under one roof instead of them running backwards and forwards from one place to another. They would also need four less telephones, saving £30 12 03 15f

1912 04 26
Monsignor Provost Scott anniversary ordination as priest 50 years ago – 12 04 26b

1912 05 10
"New Tunes to Hymns, Ancient and Modern" is the title of a little collection composed by the Rev Richard Owen of St Giles' Vicarage and published by Mr A.J. Gillson of Cambridge. In these days of multitudinous hymnals, when every church, sect and connection has its own original compilation of hymn tunes, cribbed and purloined from each other, one seeks the reason for any fresh one. This one is intended for a practiced body of choir singers, the stanzas are unsymmetrical and the rhythm is unconventional. We cordially recommend it to the attention of up-to-date choirs. 12 05 10h

1912 07
St Andrews Chesterton consecrates additional land [5.16]

1912 09 20
Hobson Street chapel was opened in 1849 by Wesleyans had previously met in a chapel in Fitzroy Street and a room in Green Street. It became a spiritual home for residents and undergraduates and was improved in 1891. But it has become inadequate. The Fitzroy Street chapel had become a jam warehouse but Hobson Street will be replaced by the new County Council offices. They will now meet in the Victoria Assembly Room until the new Wesley Chapel on Christ's Pieces is ready. 12 09 20c

1912 10 11
The laying of the foundation stone of the new Wesleyan Chapel adjoining Christ's Pieces to replace the old Hobson Street church marks an important epoch in Cambridge history. Built of white Bath stone, the style is Late Perpendicular and all the seats will be of oak. Thomas Ferns was handed a silver trowel by Mr Gunton, the architect, as a memento of the occasion but he did not use such a lovely object and took another to perform the ceremony. He was followed by Mrs Lavender, who was a young girl teacher when the stone was originally laid in Hobson Street. A bottle placed under the main stone states that the site was purchased in on 7th August 1903. 12 10 11 f & g 12 10 18b & c

1912 10 25
Alterations to Castle End Institute Mission Hall mean that rooms are now well ventilated, brilliantly lighted with incandescent gas and have hot water heating apparatus. Two classrooms have been fitted up as a billiard room with a reading cum smoke room and a games room upstairs. The mission had begun at Frost's Passage and Kettle's Yard Night School where they had to tell the boys that soap was cheap and water was cheaper. The first site had proved unsuitable so the present site with a tiny grocer's shop at the corner and some back-to-back cottages had been bought. Now it would meet the needs of the neighbourhood and make residents lives more beautiful 12 10 25c

1912 11 01
The new vestry at St Mark's Church, Newnham Croft, given by Mr & Mrs C.F. Foster in memory of their two sons, was dedicated. The vestry, which is the work of Mr W. Sindall, is built with ordinary red brick and stone, with oak wood. It is partitioned off with a moveable screen allowing the choir to use one side and the clergy the other. A heating chamber is situated beneath it. The architects were Mess James, Laycock and Bellamy of London. 12 11 01g

1912 11 01
Wesley church bazaar raises final funds; publication of a shilling souvenir with all chapels in circuit and on Hobson Street Sunday School. The other compiled by Mrs Ryder, Hobson Street, who wrote to old ministers and asked for a shilling and a quotation. – 12 11 01h & i

1912 11 08
It was one of the noisiest 'rags' seen for some years, for the introduction of a variety of bomb-firework, which gives a report louder than a rifle shot, more than compensated for the fewer Varsity men than usual. The liveliest scene occurred in King Street where the crowd were attracted by the sight of the hoarding outside the partly-demolished Hobson Street Chapel. Instead they turned their attention array of woodwork in connection with the building of the new Wesleyan Chapel near Christ's Pieces, but this was strongly guarded by police. Another battle broke out in Grange Road where some 400 undergraduates damaged the fence around Mr Ebenezer Smith's garden. 12 11 08a & b

1913 01 10
The beautiful new buildings for the Wesley Church at Four Lamps are growing rapidly. The builders have made headway with the schools and the outline of the church itself is already clearly indicated. Looking at the operations from Christ's Pieces one hears the hum of an engine and sees a busy swarm of men climbing about the scaffolding. The room to be used by Universitymen is already up, with the roof virtually on and the schools next the Manse are well forward. The church itself will not be finished before September but the pillars and main porch are already above ground. 13 01 10d

1913 01 24
Castle End Institute is carrying out splendid work in this thickly-populated area. There is a first-rate billiard room for men, with reading and games room upstairs; boys have a gymnasium and there are weekly sewing classes for girls. A pulpit will shortly be added to the mission room which presents very bright appearance after its redecoration 13 01 24 p12 CIP

1913 02 28
Rev M.E. Aubrey, minister St Andrew's Street Baptist church – profile, 13 02 28 p3 & 5 CIP

1913 04 11
A pathetic tragedy occurred in Cambridge when a German teacher committed suicide after killing his two children by shooting them with a revolver. His wife, to whom he was devoted, had died in February. He was an advanced Spiritualist and had written to the coroner stating that by the time he received the letter he and his children would have rejoined their loved one. He was firmly of the belief that the step he was taking was merely a means of reuniting the family. 13 04 11 p6 & p9 CIP [5.12]

1913 04 18
The strained relations between the Superintendent of the Zion Sunday School and other church officers have resulted in a definite split. When the Sunday School was closed three weeks ago the

local Press were asked to make no mention of the trouble in the hope that a peaceful settlement might be reached without publicity. But negotiations have failed and a new Prospect Sunday School and Mission Room has now been started in the former 'Express' Printing Works in Eden Street. 13 04 18 p5 CIP

1913 05 09
Wesley Church Sunday schools opened

1913 05 23
Ordination in Jesus College chapel 13 05 23 p5 CIP

1913 06 13
The foundation stone of the new Cheshunt College buildings in Bateman Street was laid by the Lord Chancellor. The college was formed in 1768 by Selina Countess of Huntingdon to prepare men for evangelistic work and its students can enter any church. It moved to Hills Road Cambridge in 1905 and is now attached to the University. Most of its students take the Theological Tripos. A number have risen to eminence as missionaries in the foreign field 13 06 13 p7 CIP

1913 06 20
Welsh Church bill protest, Parker's Piece 13 06 20 p7 CIP

1913 06 27
The Church of England's service on Midsummer Common was about to begin and the clergy and choir had taken their places when one side of the platform gave way and those standing on it were thrown down. The people on the other side were about to go to their assistant when that side also collapsed and they disappeared from view. The Rev F.B. Gwinn had one leg caught between two boards and Councillor Hawkin's face was cut. The service was proceeded with as soon as possible. The platform had only been put up during the day and insufficient props had been placed under it 13 06 27 p11 CIP

1913 08 29
Rev Holt Shafto, Wesley Church leaves – 13 08 29 p6

1913 09 05
Salvation Army anti-drink march *.

1913 10 03
A new Church Army mission van was dedicated, replacing one that had been on the road for 18 years. Called the Ely No.1 van, it bears the name 'Mary Ann' and is much more convenient for those who have to pass their lives in it. There is larger floor space with two bunks instead of three, giving greater comfort. Mounting the steps there is a hall which can be turned into a covered-in platform to address open-air meetings. The living part is cosy and comfortably furnished with a cooking range and a chest of drawers which opens to make a fair-size table. Folding chairs and cushions make it as home-like as possible. 13 10 03 p7 CIP

1913 10 10
Christ Church, Newmarket Road, has undergone a much-needed transformation. An ugly roof of matchboarding has been decorated, the east end has been enclosed by panelling which will form two new vestries and the stone work of the pillars, hitherto painted brown, has been restored. The cumbrous pulpit staircase has been brought under the gallery, giving space for the choir stalls. It

gives a feeling of lightness and beauty to a church hitherto not marked by these characteristics, with evident regard to modern taste 13 10 10 p8 CIP

1913 10 17
Christ Church reopening 13 10 17 p11 CIP

1913 10 20
Wesley Chapel Christ's Pieces opened [1.10, 6.22]

1913 10 24
Christ Church reopened, first men's service 13 10 24 p5 CIP

1913 11 07
Wesley Church opening services 13 11 07 p5, 10 CIP

1913 11 07
Prospect Baptist Church Sunday School – 13 11 07 CIP

1913 11 14
General Booth's daughter to visit Salvation Army

1913 12 18
Salvation Army citadel planned, Tenison Rd 13 12 19 p12

1914 01 30
The old Primitive Methodist Chapel in St Peter's Street is now in the hands of the house-breaker and is fast disappearing, together with the adjoining cottages. From the ruins will rise new, handsome and commodious buildings. The old premises have been altogether inadequate and only a lack of funds have prevented the work starting earlier. Now work can be commenced and we are witnessing the passing of the old meeting house that for nearly 50 years has been the home of Primitive Methodism in this part of the town. It was used for the last time on Sunday week, when impressive farewell services were held. 14 01 30f pics of ext & int.

1914 02 13
"Brawling" in Church.- Interruptions in Divine Service were made at Holy Trinity Church, St. Matthew's Church and the Friends' Meeting House by militant suffragettes. Militant methods of madness have already put a brake on the advancement of an. excellent movement and the disturbance of church worshippers is no argument in favour of votes for women 14 02 13 CIPof

1914 02 20
The laying of the foundation stone of the new Primitive Methodist Church in Castle Street was well attended in spite of the unpleasant weather. The site was gaily decorated with flags and a platform erected for those taking part in the ceremony. The layers of stones were presented with small silver trowels as mementoes of the event and those who wished were invited to purchase the privilege of laying a brick. Amongst those who did so was Mrs David Moore of the Band of Hope Union 14 02 20a & b Castle Street Methodist Chapel opened [1.3]

1914 03 27
The foundation stones of the Salvation Army Citadel in Tenison Road were laid by several prominent people and a large crowd gathered to witness the ceremony. The citadel will consist of a large hall accommodating 400 people with a band room, tea room etc. The bands of the

Cambridge and Cottenham corps were present and accompanied the hymns. The weather was threatening but fortunately the rain held off until the final vote of thanks 14 03 27g

1914 04 03
The foundation stones of the new Primitive Methodist Church Sundays Schools in Castle Street were laid when a large crowd gathered. A public tea was held afterwards in the Palace Rink, Magrath Avenue, when 350 attended. 14 04 03d

1914 06 04
Salvation Army citadel opened by Mrs McKenny Hughes. The first hall was the Sturton Town Hall and years later the Junior Hall in Gwydir Street 14 06 04 p7 [4.3]

1914 06 05
St Philip's - Rev. E. Lloyd Rees, senior curate leaving for Sheffield. Will be accompanied by Mr. H. W Flory, who has been in charge of the mission church of St. John's. He will then be appointed curate there 14 06 05 CIPof

1914 07 31
Castle Hill Methodist Sunday school opened 14 07 31

1914 10 16
The handsome new Castle Street Methodist chapel was formally opened. The Mayor referred to the 'tie rods' of the building which might detract from the artistic appearance but were needed because of the traffic which passed. When they laid the foundation stone no one thought that before it was completed the nations of Europe would be in deadly conflict. In Cambridge they had no forts or ramparts against their human foes, but this was a defence against spiritual enemies 14 10 16

1915
Theatre Royal Barnwell Mission Hall closed [5.3]

1915 01 09
All Saints church suffered serious damage to roof and spire as result of recent storm. A stone pinnacle fell from the spire and struck the roof of the vestry. A large hole was knocked in the roof and a mass of debris fell on the organ below. The damage caused was serious and the cost of repair will be heavy. Workmen are now engaged in mending the damaged roof 15 01 09

1915 09 17
Fire Christ Church parish room 15 09 17 p5,7

1915 11 10
Cardinal Bourne at Cambridge. His Eminence Cardinal Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster, visited Cambridge on Friday and blessed the foundation stone of the chapel being erected at St. Edmund's House. St. Edmund's House, Cambridge was established in 1896. The purpose is to provide an extended university course for Roman Catholic priests and ecclesiastical students. The Duke of Norfolk is the founder and St. Edmund's .is under the control of the Hierarchy being managed by a body composed of Clergy and laity of which the Duke of Norfolk is the president. The present master is the Rev. Father T. L. Williams 15 11 10 CIPof [3.7], 15 11 10h Ch

1915 12 31

Death Sarah, wife of Gipsy Cornelius Smith; history of Salvation Army in Cambridge 15 12 31 p5

1916 02 09
Rev William Percy Hutton, Methodist minister; includes history Methodist churches in Cambridge – 16 02 09c

1916 10 18
St Edmund's House chapel for Catholic priests opened by Cardinal Bourne – details – 16 10 18a

1917 09 19
Stained Glass Window. An interesting little ceremony was performed at St. Philip's Church, Romsey Town, Cambridge, on Thursday afternoon, when a stained glass; window, given by a former member of the choir, was dedicated. The Vicar (the Rev. C, Howard) read the dedication prayers. The window, which is a single figure panel, has for its subject St, Philip, and is a very beautiful piece of work. It was designed, made and presented to the church by Mr. Thomas C. Eastwell, son of Mr. and Mrs. T. Eastwell of 93, Sedgwick Street, Cambridge, who has for the last, three years been studying at the Royal College of Art, South Kensington. Mr. Eastwell was for a number of years a chorister at St. Philip's Church 17 09 19 CIPof

1918 10 09
St. Mary Stourbridge chapel rededicated for use of troops in area Ch 18 10 09 p9

1919
Fisher House opening [NI.1.11]

1919
Christian Science Reading Room opened, Regent Street [2.29]

1919 05
Cambridge University Catholic Oratory, Round Church Street opened [4.5]

1919 06 25
Jubilee Tour. Cambridge was the first town of importance visited by Mrs, General Booth of the Salvation Army, on her Jubilee tour, which commenced on Friday. The "Generaless" arrived at Cambridge by motor on Saturday evening and was received on the Market Hill by Alderman Sidney Campkin, who delivered an address of welcome. Mrs. Booth spoke to a large crowd who had assembled 19 06 25 CIPof

1920

1920 05 05
New Street Men's Bible Class memories in lantern lecture; boys revolted when teacher struck lad – Ch 20 05 05a

1920 11 10
St Mark's church jubilee – history – Ch 20 11 10a

1921 07 20
Catholic Bible Congress - practically all English Roman Catholic hierarchy present, July – 21 07 20b [4.7]

1922
Cherryhinton Road Free Church opened, 1922 voted to join Congregational Union & new church built 1926 [446.13.1]

1922 02 22
Mgr Provost Scott, rector Roman Catholic parish of Cambridge for 40 years; details of growth of church – obit 22 02 22

1922 04 21
Impressive scenes were witnessed at the funeral of an Indian undergraduate. The funeral was carried out according to the Mohammedan ritual, and the interment was at St Giles' cemetery, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge. The coffin was conveyed in a hearse and was followed on foot by over 50 Indian undergraduates. Arrived at the cemetery the coffin was placed on the lawn at the entrance. Then several of the mourners, removing their shoes, conducted a short form of service, after which the coffin and mourners were photographed by an Indian student. The body was carried to the graveside and lowered by a party of the mourners. Nobody who was not directly concerned with the ceremony was allowed within 25 yards of the grave 22 04 21

1922 05 30
The Cambridge Salvation Army Citadel, Tenison-road, was well filled with visitors and friends when a presentation of new silver-plated instruments took place under the chairmanship of Gypsy Smith. The first instruments to be presented were three cornets, the next consisted of two flugel horns and a euphonium. Mr M. Stuart recalled what the old General had said to him about Salvation Army bands: "It is better for a man to beat a drum than to beat his wife". It was better for a man to blow a flugel horn than to blow his brains out, which was what some poor fellows in the depth were tempted to do

1922 08 09
Salvationists in Cambridgeshire and Huntingdonshire were greatly heartened during the holiday weekend by a visit from Mrs Booth, the beloved wife of the General, who addressed a series of meetings in several of the towns and villages which come in what is known as the Northampton Division. Mrs Booth made her tour in a motor car kindly lent and driven by Councillor H. Franklin of Cambridge. At all the meeting places large crowds had assembled and along the roads through which the cars passed not only Salvationists but many others came to the doors or stopped at their work to wave their hand to Mrs General Booth. Although it is a very long time since any Salvation Army gathering was held in St Ives there was a very large muster on the Market-hill to welcome her. 22 08

1922 09 04
Recent issues of "The Inquirer" have contained matter interesting to the Cambridge public. About £4,318 has been received up to date in response to an appeal for the cost of a site and buildings for the Unitarian Church. A hall is now being built and will be opened for worship in the autumn. The site has apace for the erection of a church, which will ultimately be built beside the hall. The projected building will only be a development of a subsisting entity. A Unitarian church has existed at Cambridge for the best part of 18 years 22 09 04 [11.1]

1922 09 04
Cambridge is very different from most places. Most of the churches here, until quite recently, have been served by ministers who were Fellows of colleges and lived in their college rooms. Before the colleges came there can be little doubt that each parish has its vicarage but in course of

time these houses disappeared. But St Botolph's has been more fortunate. During the last 700 years there has always been a lodging for the incumbent somewhere within the parish, either in Corpus, or in Queens' or outside college walls. For 300 years the parsonage house was opposite the church at the corner of Silver-street. A little more than 50 years since, when the old churchwarden built the present fine house, the lodging there was given up. But the parish still had its rector on the spot with a succession of rectors having the same rooms in Queens' college. In these times when there are so many undergraduates the college needs all its available space and it is no longer content to have the rector inside its walls 22 09 04

1922 09 22 c
At a meeting held in the Parish Hall, Union-road, Cambridge it was decided to erect a memorial to the late Mgr Provost Scott, rector of the Church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs. The chairman said the late rector had been nearly forty years in the parish and he was the initiation of the change from the little old church which used to stand in Union-lane to the present large and handsome edifice. He had built up all its traditions and had set up a high standard of services. He mentioned proposed schemes including the erection of a Calvary over the tomb, a monument in the church - a recumbent effigy or a brass, or some definite work further beautifying the church which the late Provost built and loved c22 09 22

1923
Holy Sepulchre trees removed [NI.1.15]

1923 01 22
Saturday and Sunday were great days in the history of local Unitarians, for they witnessed the realisation of a dream - the opening and dedication of a permanent Unitarian Church building in Cambridge. For something like 20 years Unitarians in Cambridge have been meeting in hired halls. The new hall is a particularly fine one in Victoria Street and eminently suitable for the purpose intended. It was also stated that a member of the congregation had now undertaken to erect a memorial church, which would mean that the new hall would be greatly extended 23 01 22

1923 07 30
Cambridge men and women of all shades of political opinion, and a number of children, associated themselves with the world-wide demonstrations that were held to express the determination that there shall be no more war. The Cambridge demonstration took place on Parker's Piece on Sunday afternoon. Prior to this a procession marched to the war memorial. It was headed by the Salvation Army band. The Cambridge town branch of the League of Nations Union was the first of the representative bodies, with three large appropriate banners bearing the words "No more war." The Cherry Hinton band also took part, and in the rear of the procession came a pathetic little band of "hunger marchers" from Sheffield with their own banner

1923 10 17
The seventh bell at Great St Mary's Church, Cambridge, which was cracked on armistice night by some over-enthusiastic revellers, has just been returned from the founders. It now inclined on a pedestal in the nave of the Church awaiting re-fixing in the tower, and there it will stay until paid for. The cost of taking down, re-casting and re-fixing is close on £100. The bell was originally cast in 1667, and recast in 1723. 23 10 17

1923 11 03
Cambridge Methodist Sunday Schools Centenary [1.14]

1923 11 20

A ceremony unique in Cambridge and of a very impressive nature took place at the Carmelite convent on Chesterton road when his eminence Cardinal Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster gave an address. The ceremony was that of enclosing nuns. The house consists of two former dwelling houses joined together and possesses a small public chapel in which there will be public mass every day. With the exception of the nuns' choir chapel, no part of the building is actually new 23 11 20

1924 02 05
Sir - I know of one Church which has but two doors for the congregation which also admits to two galleries as well as the body of the Church. Just what would happen should a fire break out? One has not forgotten the mad scramble at the old Barnwell theatre during a lantern service. It was due to overheating of the hot water apparatus, which emitted clouds of steam, which the terrified congregation imagined was smoke. Then someone shouted "fire" and there was a wild stampede for the exits, people screamed, were trampled on, and many fainted. Such an experience is not desired again. The one thing in the churches favour against a panic is that they are scarcely ever full. – "Churchman" 24 02 05

1924 05
Emmanuel Congregational Chapel 200th anniversary [4.8]

1924 11 28
The Fiery Cross, which has been circulating throughout the dioceses of England since the beginning of the year , was met at the gates of St Mary the Less, Cambridge , on Thursday night by a full choral procession. It came from St Luke's Chesterton and proceeds to Tilbrook, Hunts. Wherever the fiery cross goes it has a perpetual stream of watchers. It may be described as a missionary pilgrimage, an intercession for the conversion of the heathens in England 24 11 28

1925 04 28
Salvation Army hall, p5*

1925 05 02
After nearly 700 years – except for a period during the Great War – services are again to be held in the Leper's Chapel at Barnwell. The chapel is the property of the University by whom permission to use the building was readily given. Negotiations have also had to be conducted with the owner of the field, so that a right-of-way may be obtained from the road. The services will be regular and open to the public. Members of Westcott House are now busy at the chapel removing some of the ravages of time as the building remains just as it was left at the end of the war 25 05 02

1925 05 05
Monday was an important day in the lives of Roman Catholic members of the University. The blessing of the chapel at Fisher House took place and was followed by a luncheon. Fisher House is on the site of the Black Swan, one of the oldest inns in Cambridge, and the Dug Out. It has been turned into the residence for the chaplain and the old billiard room at the back has been adapted to serve as a chapel 25 05 05 [4.10]

1925 10 24
Wesley House, the new Wesleyan Methodist post-graduate theological college which has risen on a site in Jesus Lane, was formally opened. It was five years ago that the Wesleyan Methodist Conference decided to set up the college at Cambridge and a site was purchased from Jesus college. The architect, Sir Aston Webb, has carried out a pleasing design in red brick. The

building comprises accommodation for 29 students. The work of the college has been carried on for the past four years in hired buildings 25 10 24

1925 12 05
Regular services were resumed in the Leper chapel last summer, conducted by members of Westcott House. If these services are to be continued a proper floor (there being at present no other floor than beaten earth) and some form of heating apparatus are necessary, while the condition of the interior plaster, which is continually dropping, calls for immediate and careful repair. This means the raising of a considerable sum of money and it is estimated that £300 will be required 25 12 05

1926
Cambridgeshire Congregational Union Jubilee of foundation [4.11]

1926 10 02
New Cherry Hinton Free Church opened 26 10 02, p6

1927 04 29
The stone-laying ceremony in connection with the new hall at Hills Road Wesleyan Church, Cambridge took place. It will be a single-storey building but with a view to enlarging later, if necessary. Mr C. Kerridge and Mr W.A. Gray, members of the church, are the honorary architects and the building is being done by Messrs J.R. Bennett & sons. Too often had they had to work under most depressing and unfavourable conditions. The Young Men's Fraternal had increased from five to nearly 50; if they did not make provision for these young fellows others would step in and reap what they had sown. 27 04 29

1927 05 06
Cambridge Guildhall was packed for "Welcome Home" and jubilee celebrations organised in honour of Gypsy Smith, the world-famed evangelist, who has just returned from Australia and New Zealand. The Gypsy told of some of his experiences during this last tour and recounted again how he was converted in the little chapel in Fitzroy Street. A telegraph of "much satisfaction" was received from the King and he was presented with a history of Cambridge. The Mayor said that 50 years of service was a wonderful record. He was the missionary and evangelist to the English-speaking people and had probably spoken to more of the English race that any person, living or dead. Cambridge ought to be particularly proud as his career had started here. 27 05 06

1927 11 25
It was a memorable day in the history of St John's Church, Hills Road, Cambridge with the opening of the new Parish Hall and Sunday School. The hall, which is dedicated chiefly to the use of young people, is a fine building of red brick and is situated on the site of the old Mission Church in Blinco Grove. The Women's Union have made themselves responsible for the porch and entrance, raising £130 & money for the electric light has been raised by Miss Gwatken and her Bible Class. 27 11 25 [1.17]

1928
Cambridge National Spiritualist Church formed, services held at Cosmopolitan Cinema, Market Passage [5.1]

1928 01 23

It was with feelings of justifiable pride and deep gratitude that the Unitarians of Cambridge assembled in their new Memorial Church, Emmanuel Road for its dedicatory service. It stands as a perpetual memorial to the memory of Mr G.W. Brown. The church has been designed by Ronald P. Jones who was responsible for the Church Hall in 1922 and follows the normal "college chapel" design. Prof Burkitt referred to the difficulties the movement experienced in the '80s when services were held in the smoky atmosphere of a billiard room in Green Street. 28 01 23

1928 01 28
Finding that the spire of St Clement's church, Cambridge was in a dangerous condition a small army of workmen are busy erecting scaffolding. The pinnacle above the tower is to be taken down and will not be re-erected. A hole in the spire about ten feet by three feet is visible from the road and it is believed that the trouble was caused by the recent gale. The spire is a later addition to the church, having been erected in 1832 according to instructions under the will of William Cole of Milton. 28 01 28

1928 02 03
St Clements steeple demolished due to condition [1.18, 6.3]

1928 05
Cambridgeshire Baptist Association 50th anniversary meeting [2.3]

1929
Hope Chapel, Cambridge Place opened [2.8]

1929
Gospel Standard church formed [12.11]

1929 06 16
St Johns Church Hills Road consecrated 33 years after opening of first portion [1.20] CDN 16.6.1929

1929 09 13
Band of Hope cinema – David Moore – 29 09 13

1929 05 10
Abbey Church new porch dedicated – 29 05 10 p8

1930

1930 07 18
There were remarkable scenes at the opening services of the Arbury Road Baptist Church Hall and School. When the doors were flung open the crowd was far too large for the building. Although many stood at the rear many more had to be content with standing outside and taking part in the proceedings through the open windows. It meets the religious needs of a large residential area of 4,000 people which has come into existence since the war and it is hoped to built a chapel within a few years 30 07 18 [2.14, 13.4]

1930 09 17

St Augustine's church in Cambridge was erected on land given by the Rev. T.J. Puckle in 1897. It was a memorial to the late Canon Churton, who was a saint; he considered its most important function was the training of children. His brother was a member of Westcott House and he suggested their men should assist. The new vestry was a much-needed improvement. It would be used as a storeroom for chairs and provide a room for small meetings. 30 09 17-a

1931 04 03
St Paul's church, Cambridge, having been closed for a month during which extensive restoration work and some constructional changes were effected, reopened for worship amid an atmosphere of thanksgiving and delight. The improvements amounts to nothing less than a transformation and the previously unattractive interior is now pleasing in the extreme. Pews have been modernised with a wide central aisle, new choir stalls and chancel screen erected and a small clergy vestry provided. New arches and windows have greatly improved the lighting of the chancel. 31 04 03h & i

1931 11
Little St Mary's Chapel consecrated [1.26]

1932 01
St Peters Church underpinned to stop it falling down [1.28]

1932 01 25
The 'White Ribbon' Coffee House and Temperance Hotel in East Road has been taken over by the Salvation Army. After redecorating it will be run as a hostel and restaurant providing good refreshment and lodgings for 40 men at a reasonable charge. 32 01 25

1932 03
Christian Spiritualist church constituted [11.3]

1932 03 30
The residential population of All Saints church in Cambridge is dwindling on account of commercial progress. Of 1,500 residents when the church was built, only 600 now remain due to the conversion of houses into shops and offices. The time is rapidly approaching when parishioners will have to consider the state of the church, the vestry meeting was warned. 32 03 30a

1932 05 06
St Paul's church hall, Suez Road was dedicated to serve the large community resident in the Coleridge Road district. Jesus College had given the site with sufficient land at the rear to build a church while Mrs E. Rowcroft of Torquay had send a cheque for £1,000 for the building work. 32 05 06 c & d

1932 05 28
St George's church appeal – (detailed) – 32 05 28 & 28a

1932 06 10
Salvation Army young people's hall foundation – 32 06 10a & b

1932 06 11
St George's church foundation stone – 32 06 11 [3.6, 6.7]

1932 09 23
The Union of British Methodism – bringing together the Wesleyan, Primitive and United Methodists - is the most important event in the history of British Nonconformity since the birth of Wesley. Cambridge's first Methodist chapel in Fitzroy Street was where Gipsy Smith heard the sermon which led to him becoming an evangelist. It is now Fellowship House for the local unemployed. 32 09 23b & c

1932 10 14
The new church of St George, Chesterton, was packed for the dedication by the Bishop of Ely. He welcomed those from the local district: it was for them that the church had been built. It was only a hall at present but he wanted them to see to it than an actual church was built in due course. 32 10 14a

1932 11 04
The Rev Herbert Appleford was a notable benefactor to the new parish of St George that covers the new housing estates in the Milton Road district. It has been an open secret that his enthusiasm and generosity made possible the work of the church. He provided money to purchase a site, he laid the foundation stone and was present at its dedication. He also furnished the sanctuary and gave half the cost of the clergyman's house. The new church practically owes its existence to his generosity. 32 11 04

1933
Oxford Movement centenary celebrations [5.15]

1933 01 27
St George's church – why not move St Michael's – 33 01 27g

1933 03 09
Gt St Mary's bells a nuisance – 33 03 09

1933 07 12
Dr R.M. Salaman addressed Cambridge Rotary club on the persecution of the Jews in Germany. Hitler was destroying the whole people: it was more serious than the mere 'beating up' of individuals who happened to be Jewish, it was a movement which struck at the very roots of civilisation. Paid advocates of the Nazis had been sent to Palestine and the Ukraine and the doctrine was being taught in schools in the most scandalous way. 33 07 12 p8

1933 07 15
The centenary of the Oxford Movement was celebrated at St Giles' church when the congregation was exceptionally large. Prof Wynne regretted the tendency of the Church to be manned with old men. It was the younger man who saw visions and who must carry on the work. These days a mass attack was being made upon Christianity, the world was growing increasingly evil. The English Church Union and the Anglo-Catholic Congress should work together. 33 07 15 p6

1933 12 12
St Botolph's church has never had a house for its incumbent. Former rectors have generally been Fellows of Queens' and entitled to a set of rooms in the college. But recent clergy have been family men and had to provide their own living accommodation. Now a new rectory in Summerfield, Newnham Road, has been designed by C.F. Skipper 33 12 12

1934 04 11

In 1921 members of Sturton Street Methodist Church erected a school hall as a temporary building. Now plans have been prepared for extensions to the church itself with choir stalls and pews. They have launched an appeal for £2,300 to include a new hall. Old scholars are invited to give a contribution, however small. 34 04 11

1934 09 15
Extensive repairs are being carried out to the roof of Great St Mary's church. Once again the cause is the death-watch beetle whose activities in the wooden beams have wrought tremendous havoc. The area around the chancel is in 'splints' with steel scaffolding but services are being held as usual. The church has only recently been cleaned and the organ renovated. One can only hope the ravages have been checked before they could cover the whole of the roof. 34 09 15 [6.13]

1934 10 12
There was great rejoicing among members of the Sturton Street Methodist Church at the opened of the new school hall, adjoining the chapel. The building, which seats about 200 and has a fine platform and convenient ante-rooms, was beautifully decorated with flowers for the occasion. It was opened by Arthur Harding, the senior trustee who has been associated with the church for 37 years. He hoped it would be of great service amongst young people. 34 10 12

1935 04 29
Cambridge Salvation Army's earliest days, 50 years ago were recalled by the Mayor, Ald Ralph Starr. He told how a band from Liverpool had come to give them a send-off: "I remember seeing them go down King Street, a singing multitude of people thronging around the band, who were trying to play, and some lads and lasses marching behind. The crowd were not only hustling and pushing them but dealing out blows to those who were playing. Several bandsmen had blood on their faces, but they did not retaliate. It was that which affected me most", he said. 35 04 29

1936 05 25
The new electric clock in the tower of Cherry Hinton Church was given by Mrs Newport-Willson in memory of her husband. She also bore the expense of leading an electric cable into the church. The three feet dial is Coventry blue with gilded figures and hands. The hours are struck on the beautiful toned fourth bell and are heard all over the village. Churchyard trees have been lopped to give an unimpeded view. Over 50 years ago Mr Carter Willson built Brooklyn on Cherry Hinton Road which was then the only house between Cherry Hinton brook and the railway bridge and the family is devoted to the parish church 36 05 25a

1936 06 06
Mrs Arthur Walters book 'My Wayside' describes life in Cambridge where Arthur Walters was minister Hills Road Methodist church - 36 06 06b

1936 08 22
William Allen, retired railwayman, joined Wesley Methodist Church, Hills Road in 1867 when it worshipped in a temporary building at the rear of the present church. He compiled a book telling how he started at Wesley Church but found them unfriendly 36 08 22e

1936 09 24
The opening and blessing of the new Roman Catholic Schools and Hall at Union Road, Cambridge, presented a picturesque spectacle of stately ceremonial. In the morning Archbishop Goodier preached following a Pontifical High Mass in the Church of Our Lady when the glory of mauve and splendour of gold vestments stood out vividly among the black cassocks and white

surplices. The new buildings were opened and blessed in the afternoon whilst the Roswitha Players from London gave the first stage show at the new Houghton Hall in the evening. 36 09 24b 36 09 25a

1937 03 05
Speaking at the Zion chapel centenary celebrations the Mayor, Ald Briggs, said he'd been born in Bradmore Street 60 years ago and had many memories of the meetings in the building. He associated Zion with evangelical work and for a 100 years there had not been one instance when they'd turned to a 'stunt' to keep their religion going. All the ministers had relied on preaching vividly, strongly and in a clear-cut manner to get the response they'd hoped for 37 03 05h & i

1937 03 05
The death occurred of Mrs Ann Smith, wife of Gypsy Smith, at their home, Romany Tan in Hinton Avenue. She was associated with Hills Road Methodist Church but led a very quiet life and although she once or twice went on tours abroad, she generally remained at home. The funeral service will be held at the house. The famous preacher is absent in America on an evangelical tour; he is at present in Charlotte, North Carolina. It is not expected that he will be able to return home until April. 37 03 05k

1937 03 24
When the Salvation Army first came to Cambridge Ellis Merry gave them what was then his wash-house in which to hold their meetings. He was one of the early sergeant-majors and associated himself with their work in the villages, using a concertina and violin to good effect. He was the first to run a penny bus, from Mill Road into town and also did the horse mail work. Until his retirement Mr Merry carried on the business of undertaker. 37 03 24c

1937 09 15
The ceremony of the enclosure of the new Carmelite Convent at Waterbeach was performed by the Bishop of Northampton in the shade of a huge plane tree. The Gregorian Chant was led by the priests while Catholic hymns were sung by the laity, numbering over a 1,000. The old convent in Chesterton Road, opened 12 years ago, has proved inadequate so a house standing in extensive grounds has been chosen. Visitors have been seeing over the building at the rate of 100 a day. But never again, except in extremist necessity, will anybody other than nuns enter the door. 37 09 15 & a

1937 09 25
Jesus Lane Sunday School was set up in 1827, later moving to King Street where many local children were taught religion by undergraduates who rose to positions of eminence in the church. A new large school was erected in Paradise Street in 1868. But times change. After the war many families have moved further out so now they have sold that building and erected a new hall in Brooks Road which will also serve as a temporary church until a new one can be built. All children between eight and 15 are invited 37 09 25

1937 10 01
Cambridge Spiritualists held a fair in the Carpenter Hall, Victoria Street, in aid of their building fund. They had bought a piece of freehold land, despite some misgivings, and were anxious to put a church on it. There was no state support. All the spiritualist churches in the country had been secured by their own efforts. "If we are not here in physical form we shall be in the spiritual body to see the church" they were told by Mr A.J. Case, the president 37 10 01f

1937 10 15

St Radegund's Hall on the corner of Brooks Road and Coldham's Lane was inaugurated by the Bishop of Ely. It is the property of the Jesus Lane Sunday School trustees and is the third building to be used for their work since its inception nearly 100 years ago. It is hoped that ultimately a new parish church will be built in this rapidly-developing part of Cambridge. The hall will be used not only as a Sunday school but also for regular church services and is a important new centre of Christian worship and teaching 37 10 15c (renamed St Stephens in 1947) [7.4] St Stephens church on site since 1937 & previously used services now as Church Hall [446.11.1]

1937 10 22
The Cambridge Hebrew Congregation's new synagogue in Thompson's Lane was consecrated by the Very Rev, the Chief Rabbi of the British Empire. Jews were to be found in Cambridge before the Middle Ages and the stone walls of the medieval synagogue were said to be still standing. Cambridge University was the first seat of higher learning in the modern world to have given Jewish studies academic recognition. Arthur Cohen was the first Jew to take up residence at Magdalene College in the early 1850s after representation had been made to the Prince Consort, the then Chancellor, by Sir Moses Montefiore. 37 10 22 (started 1935) [5.7,12.1]

1938 01 19
St Giles church stained glass window unveiled in memory Bishop Charles Gore – 38 01 19

1938 04 23
Huge crowds turned out to welcome the Princess Royal when she laid the foundation stone of St George's new church on Milton Road. The building with its 107 ft tower is visible for several miles around and has become a new landmark in the northern part of Cambridge. The ceremony took the form of an open-air service conducted by the Bishop of Ely. Practically all the local clergy came together with the Lord Lieutenant, the Mayor, architect (T.H. Lyon) and the builder (Mr C. Kerridge) 38 04 23, a & b, 25 [3.2]

1936 05 31
Churches have changed – the breaking down of intolerance - 38 05 31e, f

1938 10 13
St George's church consecration – 38 10 13b

1939 05 17
When Christ Church was established, 100 years ago, Barnwell inhabitants were described as 'heathen and dissolute'. Nelson Street was known as 'Devil Street' and there were many proctorial raids. The credit for the change was due to churches such as Christ Church and Zion who had now eliminated many of the differences between themselves. Congregations had been very hard hit by the demolition of houses in the districts but they hoped more young people would offer support, the centenary celebrations were told 39 05 17

1939 10 09
The small new Roman Catholic chapel on the corner of High Street, Old Chesterton is a corrugated iron structure but its lines are good and the interior fittings and decoration are in excellent taste. After the Reformation there was no Catholic church in Cambridge. Then Mass began to be said in the room of a house and in 1841 a small church opened in Union Lane. This was supplanted in 1890 by the fine building in Hills Road. Now there are large congregations at four Masses every Sunday and two other chapels of ease beside the one now opened. 39 10 09

1939 10 13

First vicar of St George's – 39 01 13

1940

1940
St Andrews Street Baptist Chapel Mission Hall, Cambridge Place sold [2.6]

1940 09 06
Salvationists' Diamond Wedding. Two Salvation Army veterans who took part in Cambridge's first Army open-air service, celebrated c their diamond wedding anniversary on Wednesday. They are Mr. and Mrs. F. Gillson, of 67 Mill Road, now staying at 12 St. Phillip's Road, Cambridge, who were married in St. Matthew's Church at 8 o'clock on September 4. 1880. "There was no such thing as confetti in those days," Mrs. Gillson said. "They threw rice, which stung your face." Mr. Gillson is 80 years old and his wife 78, and they can remember clearly their first march through Cambridge as Salvationists. "The Norwich band came here to be present at the opening of the Cambridge Corps about 55 years ago," said Mr. Gillson. "My wife and I met the band at the station, and marched through Regent Street, St. Andrew's Street, Hobson Street, King Street and the Causeway, finishing up at Sturton Town Hall. We got a hiding for our pains, too. We were pelted with clods of earth from Butt Green, and one enterprising person threw an old cat at us. The police had been told to stop us holding an open-air meeting. We held it, all the same, in Hobson Street, by walking very slowly, singing all the time. Our main meeting was held at Sturton Town Hall." Mr. and Mrs. Gillson have stuck to the Army through thick and thin. It was popular at first to manhandle the "Sallies" and on one occasion they were besieged by a crowd of students in their citadel. 40 09 06

1940 12 03
First marriage at the People's Mission, Abbey Walk – 40 12 03c

1941 04 17
St Barnabas church now restored with new bell – 41 04 17

1941 08
Mill Road Baptist Chapel school hall demolished by enemy action , (reopened 1949) [2.1, 2.2]

1941 08 29
Sturton Street chapel bombed. A bomb dropped within a few feet of the west wall, removing the greater part of the roof slating, opening a large hole in the external vaulting and causing severe damage to the fabric. The whole of the roof lifted and many of the roof timbers were fractured. The building was of no use for public worship which had to take place in the Assembly Hall (replaced 1954) 53 11 18 [6.21,1.7]

1942
Jehovah's Witnesses hold memorial meeting in front room [12.2]

1943 10 21
St Andrew the Great celebrates centenary of present church – 43 10 21a

1944 10 26
All Saints church new windows in honour of womanhood – 44 10 26

1945 05 03

Jewish refugees should stay, says meeting – CDN 1945 05 03

1946 08 26
Mgr Canon Marshall resigns from Our Lady parish – 46 08 26

1947 04 15
An event of unusual interest took place on Sunday night when the congregation of St Andrew-the-Great held their ordinary evening service in the chapel of Christ's college. The organ of St Andrew's church has been out of action since melted snow came through the roof some weeks ago. As the estimated cost of repairs lies between £100- £200 and will take some months to effect, the congregation was grateful for this opportunity for a service accompanied by an organ and the College chapel was crammed from end to end 47 04 15

1947 08 09
An obituary notice in "The Times" of Wednesday began with these words: "Mr Rodney ('Gypsy') Smith, one of the most remarkable evangelists of modern times, died at the age of 87 on the Queen Mary while on his way to Florida to recuperate after a severe illness". It was I believe in 1938, a year after the death of his first wife, that Gypsy Smith gave up "Romany Tan", his residence in Cambridge, but for many years before that he was a familiar figure in the town. In his autobiography he tells how he was converted at "a little Primitive Methodist Chapel in Fitzroy Street", Cambridge.

1948
St Stephen's Church district created from parishes of St Andrew the Less & Fen Ditton [1.15]

1949
St Edward's: oak pulpit used by reformers restored to church [9.12]

1949 01 22
During the war the Tabernacle Methodist Church in Newmarket road, Cambridge, was closed and the property sold. The history of the church went back over many years, having its early beginnings in the old Fitzroy Street chapel. There were hopes that at some future date the work so nobly done by the two old chapels would be carried on. In the very near future some of these hopes may be realised, as the trustees intend to acquire the piece of land adjoining the YWCA hall and opposite the Borough cemetery, Newmarket road, for the purpose of commencing a new Methodist cause 49 01 22

1949 06 13
Society of Friends meeting house damaged by fire [4.2]

1949 10 24
Myers Memorial Hall, Thompson's Lane, Cambridge, was the home of the Cambridge National Spiritualist church was opened. The Hall, brightly decorated, lighted, furnished & heated, bears little resemblance to the army hut it once was. The organ was dedicated to the memory of the late Mr C.W. Brown, a former member and benefactor of the church 49 10 24 [5.1]

1950

1950 05 19
During the Nazi "blitz" of 1940, members of the Roman Catholic Order The Sisters of Hope were driven from their home in London and came to settle in Bateman Street, Cambridge. In 1944 they

moved to Brooklands Avenue. "So good has come out of evil", said the Bishop of Northampton as he laid the foundation stone of the new nursing home at Hope House. This large extension to the present premises will be completed in 12 months' time and will increase the capacity of the nursing home from its present nine patients to 30.

1951 02 16
The death occurred of Rabbi Dr David Margules. He was arrested in 1938 by the S.S. and taken to the notorious concentration camp of Dachau but fortunately released within a few weeks. The indignities he had suffered left an indelible mark on his mind, but did not change his innate kindliness towards all his fellow men. He came to Cambridge in 1941 where he became the "honorary" Rabbi and devoted himself with great zeal to supplying the religious needs of both residents and students 51 02 16

1951 03 03
University offer Stourbridge Chapel (acquired 1817) to Cambridge Preservation Society [1.14]

1951 03 07
Damage by death-watch beetles to the tower of St Andrew's church, Cherry Hinton, is so serious that all the main beams in the tower will have to be replaced. The woodwork in the rest of the church has already been treated with insecticide but further trouble has been brought to light during repairs to tiles on the roof. They were 250 years old and had in the past, as an economy measure, been turned over and refixed instead of being renewed. Consequently they were now crumbling.

1951 03 24
The annual ceremony on top of Cambridge castle mound at 7.30 am on Eastern Sunday morning is becoming traditional. The company sings 'Christ the Lord is Risen Today' and then asks for God's blessing on Cambridge and its people. The event originated with Victoria Road Congregational Church and was intended to be a simple act of cheerful witness to the Easter message. Now it is attended by people from many churches. It has been held annually for the past five years and attracts around 50 people. It is strangely impressive to look over the quiet town in the light of early morning and to hear the words of Christian faith lifting from the hilltop to be carried far and wide 51 03 24

1951 05 05
St Stephen's services begin in Priory School [1.15]

1951 07 21
Methodism in Cambridge has suffered a severe loss with the passing of Mr Albert Endersby in his 73rd year. He had been associated with the Sturton Street Methodist Church since he was first taken there as a baby in arms and he never lost his enthusiasm for the fervour of Methodist singing and the thrill of Christian witness. He had been a steward for 50 years and was chairman of the Young Men's Club which met at the Tabernacle, Newmarket Road, before that church was closed. He was a mattress maker at Messrs Eaden Lilley.

1952 01 18
After years of planning, working and hoping, members of Chesterton Methodist Church have at last a building of their own, a new church on the corner of Green End Road and Scotland Road, which was officially opened by Mrs Elliot Ridgeon. Now they have a light and bright building and the friendliness of the many members at the ceremony reflected joy and thankfulness at the

completion of the new church. But their struggles are not yet over for they plan to build a school hall and hope one day to build a bigger church. 52 01 18 [1.4, 1.11, 13.10]

1952 03 19
St Andrew's church, Cherry Hinton, has raised £1,700 to remedy the ravages of the death-watch beetle in their old timbers. The roof tiles have been stripped and the belfry floor renewed. Plans are being prepared for a new Parish Hall on the Mowbray Road site, a portion of which would be used as a church. Mr F. Linsey has retired from the position of organist and choirmaster after 18 years.

1952 03 31
Meadlowlands Methodists in Cambridge revealed a venturesome spirit when, in driving snow, they dedicated the site of the proposed new church and offices. The simple service was conducted in the East Barnwell Community Centre & Coun Herbert Finbow cut the first turf. Mr Henry Hughes, the architect, explained a model of the new building which will present an impressive aspect when viewed from Newmarket Road. Finance will come in part from the sale of the Tabernacle Church. 52 03 31 [1.5]

1952 06 20
Meadowlands Methodist church opens, p7

1952 08 23
Jesus Lane Sunday School has been wound up. It was founded in 1827 by a group of University men distressed by the spiritual desolation of Barnwell who decided to start a "Gownsman's Sunday School". Four of them set out to visit every house in search of scholars and on the first Sunday the school opened with over 200 children attending at the Friends Meeting House. Later they erected a large new building in Paradise Street where 600 children were on the books. The 1914 war dealt the school a blow from which it never wholly recovered and in 1936 the building was sold to the Boy Scouts Association. 52 08 23 (every Parish now has own Sunday School & its work redundant after 120 years) [4.15]

1952 10 07
Cherry Hinton church held a special thanksgiving service for the completion of repair work. The tower roof has been renewed and a new steel bell frame installed; the bells have been tuned and rehung and the belfry floor renewed. All the woodwork of the church has been treated against death watch beetle and woodworm and much of the roof re-tiled. The bells then rang out for the first time in four years.

1952 10 13
Two hundred people gathered around the doorway of the new Memorial Hall of Cherry Hinton Free Church. In their midst stood the bricklayers and electricians, the carpenters and the painters who had built it. And there were the ladies who had made the tea. Churchgoers have built it with their own hands. It was a memorial to all those in the church who had played their part in the last war: on the civilian as well as on the military field of battle. It was a memorial to the living as well as to the dead. 52 10 13

1952 12 12
More than 100 people watched a key being turned in a lock last night before they entered the youngest Methodist Church in England. For that was how the Meadowlands Church, sparkling cream-and-cosy, was described at the first service to be held in the new building. Rev. W.H. Beales glanced over the congregation who had helped to pay for the cream-painted church, at the

small intimate organ in the corner and the simple altar in light oak with its gleaming brazen cross & said the community of Meadowlands owed these workers a debt which could never be repaid 52 12 12

1953
Mormon missionaries tried but lack of response

1953
St Edward's Church coronation window [6.5]

1953
Cambridge Christian Spiritualist Church moves to Corn Exchange Street [5.2]

1953
Ditton Fields Free church opened, founded 1947 [4]

1953
St James' Church: first services attended by six people [9.16]

1953 05 05
St Martin's church dedicated, p7

1953 05 11
The new branch church of St Andrew's Street Baptist Church built in Dudley Road, New Barnwell for the people living on the new housing estates was opened on Saturday. The church was filled to capacity. It took about a year to build & seats a congregation of 150 in the main hall; there is a junior room for Sunday School meetings large enough to accommodate 100 children, and a primary room for the under-eights. 53 05 11

1953 11 18
Twelve years after a high explosive bomb partially destroyed the Sturton Street Methodist Church plans are now complete for the building of a new place of worship. The original chapel was built in the 1820s but in August 1941 a bomb dropped within a few feet of the west wall, removing the greater part of the roof slating, opening a large hole in the external vaulting and causing severe damage to the fabric. The whole of the roof lifted and many of the roof timbers were fractured. The building was of no use for public worship which had to take place in the Assembly Hall. 53 11 18

1954
Catholic Apostolic Church, Pound Hill ceased [2.27]

1954 03 05
The blitzed Sturton Street Methodist Church – the only religious building in Cambridge put 'out of action' by the Luftwaffe in 1941 – is to rise again. The Master of Downing College laid the foundation stone of a new church to be built on the site. They had begun to fear it would never be rebuilt - the War Damage Commission had given them a very raw deal, only offering £800. But had perused their resolution in the face of frustration to which all were accustomed in dealing with Government Departments and got £1,170

1954 04 12

Every seat in Great St Mary's church, Cambridge, was occupied when the Bishop of Ely rededicated the recently-reconditioned bells. A procession of bellringers, representatives of the bellfounders, the clergy, the Archdeacon of Ely and churchwardens went with the Bishop to the bell tower during the service. The bells were handed in to the custody of the Vicar to be used only with his authority. Then for the first time in two years the clamouring of 12 bells was heard over Cambridge

1954 04 26
Billy Graham visits Cambridge [4.17]

1954 05 17
An important stage of the life of the new church of St James', Cambridge will be a social to 'kick off 'the Building Fund. The first building will serve both as a church and hall and be in a central position in Wulfstan Way, almost adjoining the shops. Despite the absence of a church there is a very live congregation which meets in school hall and the Sunday School averages 145 as the majority of families in the parish have very young children

1954 09 24
The new Methodist church in Sturton Street, Cambridge was opened and dedicated at a largely-attended ceremony. It is of pleasing, simple design and replaces the building damaged by bombs in 1940. The Mayor, Coun Hallett, said it was the only here to have been completely bombed and it was encouraging to know that the congregation had come to the rescue and rebuilt it in a most impressive style. The architect, D.C. Denton-Smith acknowledged the work of the builders, Eric Kidman, Mr Linsey foreman; Messrs Cooks plasterers; Messrs Pratt builders' merchants; Messrs Scotts electricians & other associated with the re-building. 54 09 24

1955
Bishop of Ely announced five new churches that must be built to serve people living in new housing areas : St Stephens (services in Church Hall since 1937; St James first part new building dedicated 1955, Arbury Rd near East Barnwell community centre & St Martins where dual purpose building serves as church & hall in Suez Rd

1955 06 20
The Bishop of Ely dedicated the building which is to be known as St James' Church in Wulfstan Way. He said that later they would need a new church and the present building would become the church hall. It was part of the challenge of new housing estates; in St Paul's parish they were trying to build another church and there was magnificent evangelistic work in the Coldham's Lane area which rendered another one necessary. 55 06 20 & 20a

1955 11 14
Dr Billy Graham said his Cambridge mission had been one of the most rewarding of his life. It had won people to Christ, got the University talking about religion and started a revival among Christians. Every available inch of space in Gt St Mary's was filled and many had to be re-directed to Holy Trinity where the service was being relayed. It also went to the universities of Aberdeen, Durham, Manchester and four others. Now he has started his journey back to America 55 11 14

1956 01 19
The new choir vestry of Holy Trinity Church, Cambridge, was dedicated. Using materials of old Cambridge brick and stone it fits well with the existing buildings. It has folding doors leading

into the older vestry, making a useful room for meetings. Now urgent repairs to the organ can be undertaken. 56 01 19b

1956 01 31
The Sisters of Saint Margaret, East Grinstead, an Anglican community founded a century ago by Dr John Mason Neale of Trinity College, have opened a centre in Huntingdon Road, Cambridge. The small number of Sisters in residence must endeavour to make their house self-supporting, in accordance with their Community's rules, and plan 'open teas' on Sunday afternoons. 56 01 31b

1956 04 07
St Stephens Church District dissolved (had been intended as an independent Parish but the abandonment of the by-pass scheme meant that its area was split by Coldham's Common & there was little traffic between the two halves. Areas revert to original Parishes) [1.29]

1956 05 01
The Christian Brethren opened their new Queen Edith Hall in Wulfstan Way. It is an undertaking of faith and cost a great deal of money but now they have a splendid position in the centre of what would be the ultimate building estate. (Previous Sunday school 1953 & evening service since 1954 in primary school) 56 05 01 [4.21,12.7]

1956 07 26
St James church extension dedicated. 56 07 26b [2.7]

1956 08 02
The bells of St Andrew the Great, Cambridge, were there long before the present church but are in poor condition. They are individually tuneless and badly blended together. Many are 'odd-struck' with the clapper not placed centrally inside the bell making ringing difficult. The bears are worn and rough and the frame in which they are hung was roughly constructed and moves when ringing is in progress. Now they have been taken down to be recast and rehung and are lying in the churchyard. 56 08 02

1956 09 29
The new organ at Cambridge's Holy Trinity church will cost approximately £6,000 as compared with the £300 spent on the original organ built in the 1850's by Messrs Walker of Ruislip, who are carrying out the present installation. The original two-manual organ was rebuilt in 1904 by Messrs Bedwell of Cambridge who moved it from the north transept into the organ chamber. 56 09 29b

1956 10 22
A new library in memory of Herbert Martin Loewe, Honorary Fellow of Queens' College and a Reader in Rabbinics was opened in the Cambridge Synagogue, Thompson's Lane. He had worked hard for the many displaced refugees fleeing from Nazi armies and kept open house for students. The family had been honoured for their scholarship and respected for their public works and the library was a happy choice to commemorate his life. 56 10 22

1956 11 01
Great St Mary's church has been connected with the University since very early times and was used in the past not only for religious services but for academical proceedings. Under an agreement of 1843 the University and parish met the costs of repair and maintenance, but most of the terms are now out of date. Now they are being urged to meet the sole cost of maintaining the

clock and the University organ at the west end, and sharing costs of insurance, heating, repair and cleaning. 56 11 01c

1956 12 04
After 25 years and nine previous meeting places, Cambridge Christian Spiritualist Church moved into their own permanent home. The former Crown and Harp public house, John Street, can hold 100 people. The church had its beginning in July 1931 and met at 11 Ram Yard which was hit by a bomb and totally destroyed on 27th July 1942, a brass cross being the only thing saved. 56 12 04a

1957
Mormons start present Unitarian church [Mormon history]

1957 01 11
Restoration of the Round Church began in 1951; the 'Round' and the interior has been done, now it is the turn of the three gabled roofs. A month ago the Vicar could see the sky through the tiles of the choir roof and the church through the medieval wooden ceiling. Now work is nearly finished. Only one piece of decayed woodwork was found and no ravages of the death-watch beetle 57 01 11

1957 02 13
The bells of St Andrew the Great returned to the church after being away for re-casting and re-tuning at Taylor's Foundry, Loughborough. The oldest was installed in 1660 when the new church was built. They are being re-hung and a full peal will be rung after they have been dedicated by the Bishop of Ely. 57 02 13a

1957 05 20
St Andrews St Baptist Church Sunday School 150th anniversary [12.15]

1957 08 01
Two groups of Cambridge people, one small and ageing, the other large and young will always carry vivid and happy memories of Princess Margaret's visit. One are the happy band who are passing away their 'twilight years' in the comfort and beauty of Langdon House, which she officially opened. The other are the young families who live on the new housing estate at Arbury Road where the foundation stone of a new church was laid. The Princess came into their midst, laughing, joking and chatting with them, radiating her charm and personality wherever she went. 57 08 01c & d & e & f (Lady chapel dedicated 1958) [8.9,2.7]

1957 09 20
The Cambridge Christian Spiritualist Church held a service of spiritual healing at the Guildhall to commemorate their 25th jubilee. Mr Gordon Taylor lead the demonstration, treating a man with rheumatoid arthritis: when he walked onto the stage he was unable to comb his own hair, after Mr Taylor had manipulated his joints he could. He also improved hearing and restored sight. 57 09 20 & a

1957 12 02
Emmanuel Congregational church hall dedicated – 57 12 02b

1958 01 28
Six Cambridge churches are redundant, according to a committee appointed by the Bishop of Ely. St Peter's presents no pressing problem, St Michael's has for long been an embarrassment and

should be converted into a parish hall, St Clement's is clearly redundant with few worshippers. With active evangelisation All Saints could justify its purpose as a parish church but St Botolph's would probably be taken over by Corpus Christi as a library and Great St Andrew's might be bought by the City to develop, they speculate. 58 01 28 [7.3]

1958 03 13
The foundation stone was laid of the new Roman Catholic Church of St Laurence the Martyr in Milton Road, Cambridge. Since the Rev Father P. Oates was appointed in 1951 he has worked hard to make the building possible. Already £4,000 has been raised, but there is still a long way to go. 58 03 13 (parish began 1947 as daughter of Our Lady) [3.1,14.2] St Laurence's church replaced little church in Chesterton High St which now moved to Ditton Lane [446.15.1]

1958 03 21
Neale House, the Cambridge base of the Society of St Margaret, was opened in December 1955. It is a small hostel for young professional or University women of any denomination and the chapel is open all day for private prayer. The Anglican sisterhood was founded by John Mason Neale of Trinity College, widely known for his English versions of Greek and Latin hymns. 58 03 21

1958 04 29
St Andrew the Great was rededicated by the Bishop of Ely after a restoration costing thousands of pounds. The church has undergone a complete transformation: the bells have been recast and rehung, the pulpit moved, the East End renovated and a new altar built. The lighting has also been modernised. 58 04 29

1958 05 14
Restoration work has been undertaken at Little St Mary's church. The interior had to be re-plastered, rainwater was seeping into the walls and new gutters needed. The roof timbers were suffering from the ravages of death watch beetles. These have all now been completed. But the crypt is in need of restoration too. 58 05 14b

1958 06 06
Six members of the Order of the Irish Christian Brothers lived together in a Victorian house in Hills Road. There was a retired teacher in charge, a practically bed-ridden man, one who acted as a general factotum, one who did the cooking and two members they were sending to the Technical School and University. The house closed in the vacation. The Valuation Panel decided it was not a hostel but a private house, which reduced their rating assessment. 58 06 06

1958 07 12
The four bells of St Michael's church, Cambridge, which have not been rung for many years, are going as a gift to the church of St Augustine, Cashmere Hills near Christchurch, New Zealand where they will be in regular use. They date from the seventeenth-century prompting great excitement that bells of such antiquity should be going out there. Financial responsibility for the removal and shipping has been assumed by New Zealanders. The project was initiated by Michael Stewart-Smith of Fitzwilliam House which used St Michael's as its chapel. 58 07 12 [2.6]

1958 08 22
The new Roman Catholic Church of St Laurence at Milton Road is one of the most modern Catholic buildings in the diocese and replaces the existing church in Chesterton High Street. Heating is of the 'underfloor' electrical type and the lighting is also by electricity. The pews are

of polished mahogany and the altar is made of stone. Much of the money has still to be raised and a local football pool is being run between the parishioners. 58 08 22a 58 08 25b

1958 08 27
Edith Morrison, vergeress, St Botolph's church – 58 08 27 & a

1958 09 01
A 70 year-old Cambridge grandmother was the oldest of 18 Jehovah's Witnesses who received baptism by total immersion at the City Football Ground, Milton Road. They radiated confidence and seemed in very high spirits as, wearing bathing costumes, they stepped into a bath which contained two feet of luke-warm water and were immersed one at a time. It was part of a three-day Assembly attended by over 700 58 09 01b

1958 11 27
Mervyn Stockwood, Gt St Mary's, appointed Bishop of Southwark – 58 11 27

1959 06 01
Meadowlands Methodist church hall stone laying – 59 06 01b [13.12]

1959 06 15
Roseford Hall, on the new Arbury Estate, is an extension of the activities of the Christian Brethren of Panton Hall. It has well equipped classrooms, all of which will be needed, for already over 200 children are enrolled for the Sunday School. An invitation to local residents to inspect the new building was met by such a large response that there was 'standing room only' 59 06 15 [12.5]

1959 07 25
St Peter's church, Castle Hill, which was founded in 1087 and has been in almost continuous use, is once again open after its recent restoration. It has been given a new stone floor, a modern simply designed altar and a clean white limewash coat to its walls. In addition the unique Norman font, bearing a merman holding his twin tales at each angle, has been moved to a more prominent position. Now they are looking for a few pews which will retain the spacious atmosphere of the very small church 59 07 25

1959 11 18
Knowledge of the Baha'i World Faith reached Cambridge in the 1800s through Professor Edward Browne, the well-known Orientalist and the only European to mean Baha'u'llah, the prophet-founder of the faith. Five years ago the first Baha'i came to Cambridge and in 1958 the community elected their first spiritual assembly. Now they have dedicated their first Centre in Gonville Place. 59 11 18a

1960

1960 04 29
A Cambridge church in the course of erection, at present serving families whose membership extends from babies in arms to septuagenarians, once again could not cope with the size of its congregation at Easter. It is the Church of St Nicholas Ferrar on the Arbury Road Estate. The foundation stone was laid in July 1957 by Princess Margaret and part of the building was dedicated in December of the following year. But the congregation has grown too large and at Easter the parish communion had to be divided into two to accommodate the 80 families who meet there on Sundays 60 04 29b

1960 06 09
Work has begun on the new church of St Martin, Suez Road, in the heart of the housing estates it is intended to serve. The present building, used both as a hall and church, was built over 25 years ago and it is time some more permanent place of worship was available for the 5,500 parishioners. The architects have made minimum maintenance costs an important feature: by using cedar window frames and alloy drainpipes, practically all outside paintwork is eliminated. 60 06 09 [2.9,10.2]

1960 10 07
Cambridge ranks with the cathedral cities as being one of the most pro-clerical towns in the country. It has been called a very spiritual place. Several clergymen speak of a continued increase in congregations with an ever-growing proportion of young people and of young parents now in the first 10 years of their married lives. A number come to church as families, the father and mother in their 30's with their children. But Nonconformist numbers are not rising with a normal congregation of 200 at Zion Church. 60 10 07

1960 11 18
The first stage of the restoration work on Christ Church, Cambridge, has now been completed. The battlemented parapets have been taken down and replaced by unbroken ones. Whilst this work was being done it was found that the main roof had to be repaired and it was decided to reslate it completely. So far £3,750 has been spent and it is estimated a further £8,000 will be required for the remaining work. So far only £1,000 had been received from appeals. 60 11 18

1961 02 04
The striking roof of St Martin's Church in Suez Road is now in course of erection. At a 70 degree angle of slope it must seem nearly vertical to the men working on the job. Such a steep roof is intended to obtain the impression of height and at the same time keep the amount of air to be heated to a minimum. Cost is also kept down because the roof rests directly on the ground. When completed at the end of April it will be a big change from the flat-roofed Church-cum-Hall which has served the congregation for 30 years 61 02 04b

1961 10 05
The Rev Peter Barratt is helping to move some of the oak pews into his new church – St Martin's in Suez Road. The church, which will be consecrated on Saturday, has a seating capacity of 400, 280 of which will be provided by the pews. Most of these, together with other chairs, come from a Liverpool firm and were brought to Cambridge by road. 61 10 05b

1961 10 09
Hundreds of parishioners and clergy were present at the consecration of the new church of St Martin's in Suez Road, Cambridge. In accordance with tradition the Bishop of Ely, Rt Rev Noel Hudson, knocked on the door three times with his pastoral staff before taking the service. It is the first church to be consecrated in the Diocese for many, many years and will help meet the large overspill from Peterborough and other neighbouring towns which at the moment is very great indeed. 61 10 09

1961 12 18
A new vestry block, a garden of rest, memorial tablet and some new windows were dedicated at Great St Mary's Church. 61 12 18 [10.3]

1962

St Martin's constituted independent parish [10.2]

1962 02 23
Westfield House has been formally opened as a Lutheran House of Studies with an inaugural lecture by the Bishop of Gothenburg in the presence of an invited audience of senior members of the University. The spacious building on Huntingdon Road will take students from home and abroad who are preparing for the Lutheran ministry and will have a library specialising in Reformation studies. 62 02 23

1962 03 19
A chapel for the deaf and dumb in Romsey Terrace was packed with people for its ordination. The service was taken and translated into deaf and dumb language by Mr E.G. Gollup, the Missioner. More than £900 is still needed to finish paying for the timber-built chapel which seats about 60 and has an expected life of 30 years. The Ely Diocesan Deaf and Dumb Association's work began a great many years ago and a hall – close to the chapel – had been used as a meeting place. But people found it easier to pray in a church or chapel and needed a space apart where they could worship. 62 03 19

1962 04 06
The newly-formed Cambridge branch of the Gideons International held its first public meeting. Almost all the local hotels have received Bibles, as have nearly 300 school-leavers and it is hoped to cover all such youngsters each year. Young folk from Queen Edith's Chapel have volunteered to read aloud Bibles given to the Blind Homes in Glisson Road. Twenty Bibles have been given to the Rehabilitation Centre in Brooklands Avenue. The replacement Addenbrooke's Hospital will be a major challenge in the near future 62 04 06b [12.4]

1962 04 16
The parish of St George, Chesterton, has practically doubled in the past five years. Twenty four members of the congregation were engaged in welcoming new families on the new King's Hedges Estate. But the need for the appointment of a curate to assist the Vicar, the Rev J. Degwel Thomas, was urgent. Amongst those elected to the Parochial Church Council were Donald & Derrick Flory. 62 04 16a

1962 09 27
St Michael's Church in Trinity Street is "an intolerable disgrace", says the Vicar of St Mary the Great, its sister church. Now there are plans to turn it into a modern parish hall with kitchen for meetings while the east end will become a small chapel for prayer. The massive restoration scheme will cost £10,000 and to promote it the church will be flood-lit. The youth club will give a show on the lines of a 'Review' and operate a 'talent scheme' where young people will be given money to be taken away and multiplied. 62 09 27

1962 10 15
Police closed Little St Mary's Lane after they were told that a church spire was in danger of collapsing and crashing down into the road. Workmen carrying out an examination of Emmanuel Congregational Church found the sandstone spire was badly cracked and the weight was pushing the wall out. They are now removing it brick by brick using supports to stop it from falling down on them. The road will be closed for two weeks 62 10 15

1962 11 05
Holy Cross Church Hall dedicated, first stage development of new parish which grown from 700 in 1921 to 8,000, church to be built 4-5 years [8.2, 446.15.3]

Please make what use of this you may. Kindly remember where it came from – www.mikepetty.org.uk

1962 11 16
The population of Fen Ditton has soared in the last 50 years. In 1952 its boundaries were extended to include the Whitehill and Peverell estates and took in the Leper Chapel. Students from Westcott House had taken services there since 1922 but it could not seat more than 50. So the Priory School was used for Family Eucharist. Now a hall which will become part the new Church of the Holy Cross has opened and the Leper Chapel will be only used for monthly celebrations of the Holy Communion. Many will be saddened by the move away from the unique Normal chapel which they have come to love 62 11 16c

1962 11 24
St Stephen's is not very important as Cambridge churches go. It does not feature in guide books, visitors do not flock there and some parishioners have never seen it. 25 years ago a hall was built to house a Sunday School for the children of what was then an expanding part of Cambridge. Now a fine new building has been dedicated alongside it. But the task is not finished. One day the asbestos end will be knocked away and a proper chancel added with a vestry for the minister. Until then it is business as usual. No gimmicks, no elaborate ritual, just regular offering of worship in the simple time-honoured way 62 11 24

1962 11 26
St Stephens Church dedicated: 1937 hall built for Sunday School called St Radegund's, 1947 changed name to St Stephens; apart from five years in 1950s when became conventional district half-way to independent parish has been under Christ Church 62 11 26 [2.10,7.4]

1962 12 08
Emmanuel Congregational Church turret tower cone, which is in danger of collapse, has been removed and walls are being rebuilt. 62 12 08

1963 01 07
The new Seventh Day Adventist Church in Hobart Road was dedicated at special services held to mark its opening. Mr Roger Scott, the architect, was congratulated on designing such a 'clean, bright building full of light, commodious and comfortable' by Pastor J.A. McMillan, president of the Seventh Day Church in England. Builders, Robinson & Gimbert had ensured that the construction went smoothly and without fault. 63 01 07 (had met in Cambridge for 45 years) [11.5]

1963 02 25
German Lutheran Church inaugurated, Shaftesbury Ave (previously met in other churches) [11.8]

1963 06 10
St Peter's church spire to be restored – 63 06 10

1963 09 26
Canon Hugh Montefiore has been inducted as Vicar of Great St Mary's church. – 63 09 26

1963 12 16
Gt St Mary's holds 'beat' service to attract young [10.3]

1963 12 30
St Luke's Church installs first centrally-positioned altar in Cambridge. 63 12 30

1964 07 10
St Michael's church is a very important prototype of college chapels with much 14th-century building. The architectural interior would be improved by proposals to convert it to other uses. Some services would continue to be held. Ald Warren said he supported a grant if it was to be an ecclesiastical museum but not if it was to become a meeting room or youth centre. The committee decided a grant would not be justified. 64 07 10a

1964 10 07
The Community of St John the Baptist of Neale House, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge have been told that their temporary chapel has been granted planning permission until September 1967. It was built in 1959 by the former occupants of the house, the religious order of the Sisters of St Margaret, from East Grinstead. 64 10 07

1964 10 26
Good Shepherd church consecrated : Church of Nicholas Ferrar; area 10,000 people; 10 years ago estate announced, decided build church; land acquired 1955 for temporary church but permanent building planned; foundation stone 1957, dedicated 58 & regular use but number of worshippers too large, [8.9] Good Shepherd church consecrated – 64 10 26a

1964 11
St Matthews's Church celebrates centenary of foundation stone [7.7]

1964 11 27
All Saints church centenary – feature – 64 11 27d, e

1965 01 25
The new Mormon Church in Queen Edith's Way – the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints – is an imposing structure with a simple interior. The neat and modern design incorporates a sports room marked out with a basketball court. It was constructed using many hours of voluntary labour, many not members of that faith, and will be open to all. 65 01 25a (dedicated in 1967 when completely paid for) [11.8]

1965 03
St Edward's: first stage restoration - rededication chapel Trinity Hall [9.12]

1965 04 01
Fisher House not to be demolished as part of Lion Yard redevelopment – 65 04 01

1965 10 09
St Luke's church starts co-operation Congregational Church [10.1]

1965 11 08
Green End Road Methodist Chapel opened [13.14]

1966 01 21
Gt St Mary's holds first ecumenical service of Holy Communion [10.3]

1966 01 27
Arbury Road Baptist church opened; small chapel built on site 125 years ago – 66 01 27

1966 04 18
Hills Road Methodist chapel celebrates centenary [13.15

1966 08 02
Franciscan Order to leave Cambridge after 27 years [14.1]

1966 08 30
St Barnabas church arson – bibles and hymn books set alight – 66 08 30, 30a

1966 09 29
St Michael's church hall opened following reconstruction of church [7.6]

1967 04 11
Quaker Meeting House, Jesus Lane to be replaced; dates from 1894 – 67 04 11

1967 06 02
Billy Graham visits [14.10]

1967 07 05
St James' church, Wulfstan Way expansion programme needed; first phase will be sanctuary nave and extra rooms – 67 07 05b

1967 08 31
Trumpington church Black Magic celebration & desecration – 67 08 31 & a

1967 09 25
Gt St Mary's multi-faith service picketed [10.3]

1968 12 01
Society of Friends new meeting house to open February [11.4]

1969 02 03
Jehovah's Witnesses start to build new Kingdom Hall in Stanley Road using volunteers; 10 years ago were 40 Ministers of Jehovah in Cambridge, now are 140; lists rooms used since 1933 – 69 02 03

1969 07 19
St James : extensions dedicated, doubles size [9.16]

1970

1970 07 29
Ely Diocesan report says four churches may close – St Andrew the Great, All Saints, St Giles and St Peter- 70 07 29, a,b

1971
Tracy Hall Cockburn Street sold [7.5]

1971 03 25
Jehovah's Witness' new Kingdom Hall in Stanley Road nearly ready – feature – 71 03 25

1971 04 24
Roman Catholic mass and confirmation service held to be held in St Edward's church for first time since Reformation – 71 04 24a

1971 04 26
St Andrews St Baptist church 250 anniversary [13.3]

1971 05 25
Jehovah's Witness' new Kingdom Hall in Stanley Road dedicated – 71 05 25

1971 09
Pentecostal Church opens Tenison Road (old chapel near Gas Works pulled down 1970) [11.6]

1971 10 28
St Peter's declared redundant (taken over by Redundant churches fund 1973) [10.5]

1972
Moslems start to meet at 175 Chesterton Road [11.7]

1972 05 13
It's whatever turns you on, man, and for 3,000 people who gathered at Parkers Piece last night the message was : "If you're gonna turn on, turn on to Jesus". The "drop your dope" call came from 31-year-old Arthur Blessitt, the self-styled leader of the Jesus People movement in America. His message was simple: "Go, Go, Go with Jesus" -and his technique was the fast-talking hard sell of detergent commercials. Mr Blessitt became known in Britain after a mammoth nation-wide walk and his followers grew from a handful to many thousands 72 05 13 [7.1]

1972 06 14
Salvation Army men in streets, p19

1972 09 01
Cambridge folk have become accustomed to large scale demolition in various parts of the city, and soon yet another prominent building will disappear when the premises of the Hills Road Methodist Church are sold and taken down for development. The building is much too large; its seating capacity is 750 and the present membership is less than 200. Secondly the premises are over 100 years old, and while the sanctuary is in good condition, the premises downstairs are in a poor state and hopelessly out of date. As the adjoining premises were being developed it seemed a suitable time to sell 72 09 01 (demolished 1973) [13.16]

1972 10
St Andrew the Great proposal to be closed & sold [9.2]

1972 12 15
St James: designated parish centre of worship [9.16]

1973 01 11
St James': now full parish due growth area, 6,500 people [9.16]

1973 01 26
Cambridge Moslems will soon have their own mosque if a scheme to convert a property goes through. The City's Moslem Association have bought 175 Chesterton Road and hope to use it for

their Friday prayer meetings as well as religious festivals and other meetings. A Trustee of the foundation said "We have about 70 members and we hope that it will be a meeting place for all Moslems who are living or staying in Cambridge. If we get permission for it we shall be sending back to our home countries for donations and help from there 73 01 26

1973 03 29
Christian Spiritualist church 'Myers Hall' Thompson's Lane dedicated [11.3]

1973 06 29
Latest casualty in the Hills Road office redevelopment programme is the 100-year-old Methodist Church. Demolition work started yesterday. In autumn last year many people were surprised to learn that an active church in so sound a financial position and such good repair should close its doors. But the trustees had been aware for some time that the building was just too large; it has a seating capacity for 750 and a congregation of less than 200. The congregation transferred to the Wesley Church, Christ's Pieces, or to other Methodist churches closer to their homes. The property went on the market in November 1972 73 06 29

1973 07 23
All Saints parish amalgamated Holy Sepulchre [8.6]

1973 10 27
The Dalai Lama held the attention of a 1,000-strong Cambridge audience last night while he talked for almost an hour on Buddhist doctrine - mostly in Tibetan. Hundreds of people queued for nearly an hour outside the Senate House. They filled every seat, crowded four-deep in the side galleries and were left clinging to the outside window sills to get a view of "Kundun" - The Presence. In his crimson and saffron robes His Holiness delivered his address in a casual, conversational style, occasionally breaking into English to drive home a point. After his address he walked through the Cambridge traffic to Trinity college where he was due to attend a buffet supper 73 10 27

1973 11 19
The cost of bringing the White Ribbon Hotel at East Road, Cambridge up to the standard needed to meet fire safety regulations and public health requirements now about £4,000 – nearly three times the amount originally estimated. Until last April the hotel was run by the Salvation Army as a hostel for city working men with no family roots. But, because of the high cost of maintaining the building and bringing it up to the new standards, the Salvation Army moved out and the |County council took over the building. Cambridge city council have told the county that they will not pay any more than £750. 73 11 19

1974 02 04
When Christ Church, in the parish of St Andrew the Less, Cambridge, was built in 1839 the cost was £3,800. On Saturday a new church- installed at gallery level in the original building at a cost of £40,000 - was dedicated. Rebuilding began nine months ago, following the sale of Abbey church hall and Christ church institute to Cambridge city council as part of the planned redevelopment of the Burleigh street area. Now the building provides a new church with seating for 465 and at ground level a hall with seating for 200 74 02 04 [8.3]

1974 04 20
Emmanuel United Reformed Church celebrates centenary [14.6]

1974 07 06

The White Ribbon Hostel, in Cambridge, which provides accommodation for nearly 30 single men with no family backgrounds, may soon be run jointly by Cambridgeshire County and Cambridge City Councils. Until 18 months ago the Salvation Army ran the hostel at East Road. But rising costs and the prospects of having to pay thousands of pounds to bring it up to the new fire safety standards led them to hand over the project.

1974 10
St Luke's celebrates centenary [10.1]

1975 09 02
Wesley Centre modernised school building, Wesley church, opens [13.17]

1976 06 10
The Vicar of the Church of the Good Shepherd, Arbury estate, the Rev Martin Suter, climbed up the scaffolding to see workmen put the finishing touches to the iron and gold-leaf cross on the top of the church. He said a prayer of dedication before joining churchwardens and workmen for a glass of beer on the roof. It was one of the last things that had to be done before work on the church is completed in time for the visit of Princess Margaret, who laid the foundation stone in 1957

1976 10 28
It is 19 years since Princess Margaret laid the foundation stone of the Church of the Good Shepherd in Arbury Road, Cambridge. At the time the first houses on the Arbury estate had been occupied for nearly four years and acres of land still remained to be built on. Today as she sees the church finally completed the changes in the area are striking. The population of the parish is now about 17,000. When the rest of the Kings Hedges estate is finished in a few years it will be nearer 20,000 – a fifth of the people in Cambridge. Houses stretch in every direction. Arbury now forms, in effect, a small town on the edge of Cambridge 76 10 28

1976 11 01
Rebuilt Fisher House opened [14.3]

1977 04 25
German Lutheran Church opened Westfield Lane [11.9]

1977 07 25
Victoria Road United Reformed Church centenary of first meeting (building started 1884) [14.7]

1978 08 08
A leading churchman gave warning on the aims of the Moonies sect, which have been operating from a terraced house in Norwich Street in Cambridge for the past six or seven years. The Regius Professor of Divinity said the movement demanded total commitment and obedience from the young people who joined & was not a Christian organisation as it claimed to be. A Unification Church spokesman said the church was far more representative of the living Christianity than many of the more traditional denominations 78 08 08 [11.2]

1979 01 05
Gt St Mary's 5th centenary appeal launched [10.3]

1979 01 08

Romsey Methodist Church in Mill Road, Cambridge will have its final service before closing down. The congregation will continue to worship in the nearby Diocesan Chapel in Romsey Terrace. After alterations it will reopen as a youth and community centre. The church buildings will become a gymnasium, the hall will remain a youth club and a coffee bar and social centre will be built onto the car park. It is also hoped to include a quiet room and tv den. The main users will be a playgroup, over-60s and youngsters. The scheme is being organised by five Cambridge churches. 79 01 08

1979 02 12
Castle End Mission celebrate centenary [12.8]

1979 02 12
Two hundred Iranian students made Cambridge demonstration history when they knelt on Parker's Piece, preyed and recited from the Koran. In what is thought to be the first political demonstration starting with a mass prayer ritual on improvised prayer mats covering the wet turf, the Muslims called upon Allah to bless the efforts of the Ayatollah Khomeini to establish a republic in Iraq based on Koranic law. They then marched to the Market Square. No incidents were reported though some confusion existed among Saturday shoppers, knowing it was the first day of Rag Week. But the slogans "Death to the Shah" and "Long live Khomeini" soon dispelled their doubts. 79 02 12

1979 07 19
St James': dedication extension, now over 200 congregation [9.16]

1980
1980 07 08
Sinclair Research, the company founded by Mr Clive Sinclair who pioneered the world's first pocket calculators and micro-televisions wants to buy the church of St Andrew the Great and turn it into a laboratory. They are currently researching computers and electrically-powered vehicles and are looking for premises in central Cambridge. But the church say he is unlikely to get permission because schemes for offices, shops, a language school and a mosque had already been rejected. 80 07 08g

1981 11 09
Kings Hedges Ecumenical Centre dedicated [8.1]

1981 12 07
All Saints Church in Jesus Lane, Cambridge, is to be preserved and taken over by the Redundant Churches Fund. A masterpiece of Victorian architecture, it was designed by George Bodley in the Gothic style and contains windows and wall stencils designed by William Morris. Now £100,000 will be spent on urgent repairs to the roof 81 12 07

1982 01 08
All Saints church taken over by Redundant Churches Fund [8.8]

1982 02 08
The Bishop of Huntingdon, the Rt Rev Gordon Roe conducted the opening service at the new community centre at St Andrew's Church. Cherry Hinton. Much of the money has been raised by the Vicar, Rev Chris Barber, his son John and parishioners including 30-hour sponsored croquet marathon by the church youth club 82 02 08

1982 03 01
Eden Baptist church new building opened (old which opened 1874 incorporated into Grafton centre) [13.5]

1982 05 20
The Christian Brethren North Arbury Chapel in Cameron Road started in 1971 with weekly children's services in a building contractor's site hut. The numbers soon grew to 100 and they moved to the Grove Primary School, then swelled to 200 so they used a mobile prefabricated building. Now the first permanent building will be opened by Sir Fred Catherwood. 82 05 20

1982 07 06
Moslems permanent mosque opened, Mawson Hall [11.7]

1982 07 08
St Andrew the Great: Robinson Charitable Trust offer £500,000 to turn into day centre old people; cash withdrawn after adverse article about speed with which decision needs to be taken [9.7]

1983 06 14
All Saints church in Jesus Lane, which was threatened with demolition despite being described as one of the finest examples of Victorian architecture, will open to the public for the first time in ten years. About £40,000 has been spent by the Redundant Churches Fund to make it watertight after years of rain leaking through the roof. The next project will be to clean up the interior and in particular the wall paintings 83 06 14 p10

1983 09 26
The Carioca Club in Newmarket Road is today a burnt-out shell after fire was started in three different parts of the building. The entire contents were destroyed and walls and floors wrecked. Police say an 'inflammable liquid' was poured over materials in the building to start the blaze. 'Racks' night club which has 450 members is now looking for a temporary venue. The Carioca was originally a chapel and was used as a furniture depot before it became a night-club in 1978 83 09 26 p1

1984 04 30
St Mary the Less: Princess Margaret visits mark 700 anniversary association Peterhouse [10.4]

1984 08 07
A Cambridge designer will be the first bride ever to marry in the 800-year-old Leper Chapel at Barnwell Bridge. Sarah Thornhill has always set her heart on marrying at the church next to her family home and applied for a special licence from the Archbishop of Canterbury. Now she is busy cleaning the floor, laying a red carpet and moving the altar back to make more room for the congregation 84 08 07

1984 11 20
St Andrew the Great: Privy council dismiss appeal, closed from beginning Dec 84 [9.7-11]

1984 11 24
Society of Friends opening additional meeting house due to increased attendance's [11.4]

1984 12 03

The church of St Andrew the Great officially became redundant on St Andrew's Day. Sunday services would have ceased immediately but the Greek Orthodox congregation, who use the church, protested that they couldn't find anywhere else at such short notice. Now diocesan authorities will allow both Greek and Anglican services to continue until January. Under the terms of the closure the parish will merge with neighbouring Holy Trinity. Greeks are Parish of St Athanesius & have used church since 1968

1985 03 22
The Salvation Army celebrates its centenary in Cambridge with a programme of events at their Tenison Road citadel. The Norwich Citadel Band was pelted with mud and many of them knocked over as they heralded the arrival of the corps in 1885. In Burleigh Street a crowd knocked their hats off and smashed both ends of the drum. Police had to use hosepipes to clear the protestors. Businessmen involved with the drinks trader and drinkers both violently objected to the Army's tee-total ideas. Churches objected to the brass bands crusading tactics which they thought lowered the tenor of Christianity. 85 03 22a [14.4]

1985 06 22
Wesley chapel: plans for demolition announced [13.19]

1985 07 05
Greek worshippers share St Clements church who fighting redundancy [7.10, 12.4]

1985 11 22
The Carioca Club on Newmarket Road is finally being demolished after years of doubt about its future. It was built in the 1870s as a Methodist Chapel but with falling attendances it was a financial embarrassment and as early as 1909 there was talk of selling it. In 1941 it became a furniture storage depot and was turned into a nightclub and disco in 1976 with a take-away kebab shop. But it was gutted by fire in 1983 and never reopened. 85 11 22

1985 11 22
Sally Ann's, Cambridge Salvation Army's highly successful charity shop set up five years ago, is now open for business at its new home on the site of the former Fine Fare supermarket in Mill Road, having moved from the Tesco shop in Regent Street. It sells everything from bric-a-brac to books but also has second-hand furniture such as wardrobes, dressers, beds and three-piece suites. These can be used to assist 'distress cases' where a family urgently needs furniture. About 100 volunteers price the items, launder and iron the clothes and operate a delivery service but more are desperately needed to keep up with all the jobs that need doing. 85 11 22b

1985 11 29
Hundreds of Muslims in Cambridge regularly make their way to the mosque, tucked discreetly away near bustling Mill Road. Leading the gathering was the Imam, an Egyptian PhD student in chemistry at Cambridge University. He spoke in Arabic and English, stressing the importance of unity among Muslims. Many of the congregation were of Middle-Eastern origin but there were also several Orientals and English people. They were predominately in the 25 to 40 age range and listened intently. Upstairs a woman followed the service alone, out of sight. After 40 minutes the meeting ended, as it had begun, with a reading from the Koran. 85 11 29b

1985 12 02
After more than a century of almost unremitting dreariness the Methodist Tabernacle in Newmarket Road is being pulled down. The hideous old bulk of a chapel wore sunlight like a shroud. The foundation stone was laid in 1876 but within 14 years the congregation shrank and in

1909 there was talk of selling it. It struggled on and in 1941 was given over to the storage of furniture. Later it became the Carioca nightclub and its face daubed with appalling blue and orange paint. Worse was to come: the lower part was turned into a take-away kebab joint. Fire gutted the old pile in 1983 and its doors finally closed for ever 85 12 02b

1986 01 23
Major structural faults have been discovered in St George's Church, Chesterton – less than 40 years after it was built. The front wall is leaning away from the roof and cracks have been found on the arches inside the building. An architect's inspection has advised that the problem areas are roped off, but services are still continuing as normal. Built in 1938, St George's was the last Cambridge church to go up before the war. It was designed by Henry Lyon, the man responsible for the chapel at Sidney Sussex College. 86 01 23. May need demolition [9.15]

1986 05 02
Victoria Road United Reformed Church combines with St Luke's [14.8]

1986 07 28
St George's Church, Chesterton is crumbling so badly that it may have to be pulled down – even though it is only 48 years old. Already the front door has been closed because the gable ends are being pushed outwards, tiles need replacing and two flat roofs need resurfacing. Arches inside are cracked and the brickwork needs re-pointing. Rev Peter Tamplin says the congregation would have to raise the money for rebuilding and residents are being asked what they would like to see in a new church 86 07 28

1986 11 27
St Augustine's designated a parish centre of worship for Parish of the Ascension [7.12]

1987
Peoples Mission last service Abbey Walk after 55 years, started 1922 as breakaway Salvation Army, building passed to Church of Christ [NS3.14]

1988 05 25
Wesley Church closes for rebuilding ¢CEN 25.5.88

1988 06 27
Priest celebrates Latin mass at Mill Road home ¢CEN 27.6.88

1988 07 12
St Luke's, one of Cambridge's most prominent Victorian churches in Victoria Road, is to be converted into a community centre for the whole of the parish of the Ascension,. formed in 1982 by the union with St Giles and St Peter. The adjacent United Reformed Church will be demolished and the land sold for housing. There are no plans to amalgamate the two congregations who will share the new-look church. 88 07 12a

1988 07 13
Religious faith is showing signs of growth in Cambridge. The Eden Baptist Church has doubled its congregation to 600 over 10 years which now will be split into three, meeting in different parts of the city. The Roman Catholics also report steady growth with 2,000 at mass on one Sunday. Methodist churches in Cottenham and Histon see 100 attend services on Sunday mornings and the Cambridge Christian Fellowship report numbers increasing from 20 four years ago to 300. Islam

too has been making advances in Cambridge – 150 attend Friday prayers at the Mosque in Mawson Road with 700 at the Eide Prayers 88 07 13

1988 12 15
Controversial plans to turn the redundant St Andrew the Great Church into a shopping centre have been rejected. The Environment Secretary says the new centre would be an unsuitable place to house the memorial to Captain Cook, the explorer, whose wife and two sons are buried in the church grounds. The expanse of glazed area coupled with the commercial appearance of what would be behind would cause conflict to the character and setting of the building. 88 12 15

1988 12 21
'Honest' Paul Tippett was one of the first traders to set up shop at Addenbrooke's Hospital 15 years ago. Now he has taken over a new purpose-built supermarket on the main concourse. The shop has been designed to accommodate wheelchairs or patients coming in with their drip stands. It does them good to get out of the wards and back into the real world for a little while. Although Concourse Mini Market sells alcohol and medicines staff check with the patient's ward sister before supplying them. 88 12 21b & c

1988 12 28
St Andrews St Baptist church open new meeting area ¢CEN 28.12.88

1989 01 20
The leader of the Greek Orthodox Church in Britain celebrated the feast of St Athanosios at the Cambridge parish he founded in 1968 when he was studying in Cambridge. The congregation now regularly numbers about 40. Otherwise known as St Clement's, the church is shared with the Anglican community – 89 01 20

1989 05 12
The Union Society debating chamber may start being used as a church on Sundays since services at the 300-seat Round Church next door have become so crowded. Some worshippers have to sit on the floor and many who cannot see round the Norman pillars have to follow the service on television. Under the plan services would be held in the chamber and relayed by TV back to the church. It would be the first time the 130-year-old Union building would be used as a church on a regular basis. 89 05 12

1989 08 10
Plans to convert St Andrew the Great church into a shopping arcade have been rejected. 89 08 10

1989 11 23
Salvation Army history – feature – 89 11 23a

1989 12 15
Peoples Mission, Abbey Walk registered for marriages 30 Oct 1940; no longer used & registration cancelled ¢CEN 15.12.89

1990 01 10
United Reformed Church, Victoria Road is holding its first major service after undergoing an £830,000 redevelopment. The ceremony to welcome the Rev Norman Setchell as its new minister will take place in St Luke's Church which has been converted to create a joint home for the URC and Anglican congregations as well as a community centre. The two churches, which stood side

by side for a century, will still hold separate morning services with joint worship taking place in the evenings – 90 01 10

1990 04 27
Jesus College lawns used by Muslims marking end of Ramadan; more than 500 worshippers from around the world – 90 04 27a

1990 06 05
St Andrew the Great conversion plans shelved by Unex – may become tourist and heritage centre – 90 06 05a

1990 10 13
Cardinal Hulme attends mass celebrate centenary Catholic Church – 90 10 13a

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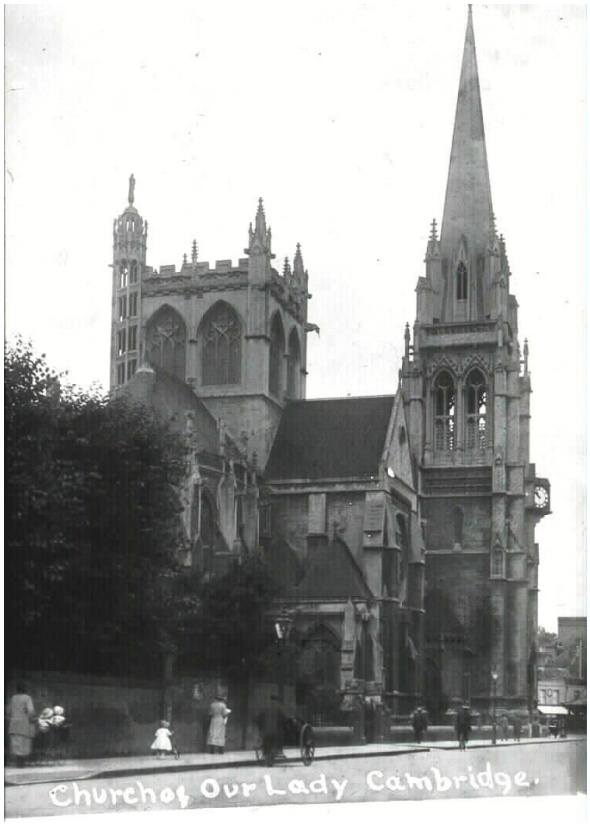

Catholic Church c1920 *96.17*

c.82.02 : Roman Catholic

1890 10 08
Church of Our Lady & the English Martyrs consecrated [4.9]

1898
St Edmunds House founded as hostel for future priests attending the University [5.5]

1900

1902 07 10
It is not a common feat to take down stone by stone, transport for fourteen miles and re-erect, practically without alteration, a solidly-built church capable of accommodating some 250 worshippers. That is what has been done with regard to the old Roman Catholic Church of St Andrew at Cambridge which has been removed to St Ives. The church is one of Pugin's earlier masterpieces and for 59 years it was in use in Cambridge. Then it was superseded by the magnificent new church of Our Lady and the English Martyrs. It was in danger of falling into a ruinous condition when the idea was conceived of transporting it to St Ives. 02 07 10

1906 12 03
A terrible calamity has overtaken the St Ives Catholic community, the interior of whose beautiful Mission Church of the Sacred Heart was wrecked in one of the most astonishing cases of sacrilege ever recorded. A madman broke into the church by battering the door with a

sledgehammer and then swept round the building like an avenging fury, raining blows on every object until there was nothing left to break. 06 12 03a & b [2.13]

1907 03 18
A movement is on foot amongst English Roman Catholics to establish a college for women, on the lines of Girton or Newnham, at the University. The leader is Miss Eleanor Warner who recently visited the Catholic Convent in Bateman Street. She is now in Rome for a meeting with the Pope. Opinion is strongly favourable and that Cambridge may soon see an addition to her institutions. 07 03 18a

1910

1910 09 30
Signal success has attended the Cambridge Jubilee Church Congress. Fifty years ago when a few ardent Churchmen met together in the Hall of King's College, public interest in their proceedings was practically non-existent. Since then great changes of thought have taken place and this week three thousand members of Congress together with an Archbishop and 28 Bishops have attended. 10 09 30 & a

1912 04 26
Monsignor Provost Scott anniversary ordination as priest 50 years ago – 12 04 26b

1915 11 10
Cardinal Bourne at Cambridge. His Eminence Cardinal Bourne, Archbishop of Westminster, visited Cambridge on Friday and blessed the foundation stone of the chapel being erected at St. Edmund's House. St. Edmund's House, Cambridge was established in 1896. The purpose is to provide an extended university course for Roman Catholic priests and ecclesiastical students. The Duke of Norfolk is the founder and St. Edmund's .is under the control of the Hierarchy being managed by a body composed of Clergy and laity of which the Duke of Norfolk is the president. The present Master is the Rev. Father T. L. Williams 15 11 10h

1916 10 18
St Edmund's House chapel for Catholic priests opened by Cardinal Bourne – details – 16 10 18a

1919 05
Cambridge University Catholic Oratory, Round Church Street opened [4.5]

1920

1921 07 20
Catholic Bible Congress - practically all English Roman Catholic hierarchy present, July – 21 07 20b [4.7]

1922 02 22
Mgr Provost Scott, rector Roman Catholic parish of Cambridge for 40 years; details of growth of church – obit 22 02 22

1925 05 05
Monday was an important day in the lives of Roman Catholic members of the University. The blessing of the chapel at Fisher House took place and was followed by a luncheon. Fisher House is on the site of the Black Swan, one of the oldest inns in Cambridge, and the Dug Out. It has

been turned into the residence for the chaplain and the old billiard room at the back has been adapted to serve as a chapel 25 05 05 [4.10]

1930

1933 07 15
The centenary of the Oxford Movement was celebrated at St Giles' church when the congregation was exceptionally large. Prof Wynne regretted the tendency of the Church to be manned with old men. It was the younger man who saw visions and who must carry on the work. These days a mass attack was being made upon Christianity, the world was growing increasingly evil. The English Church Union and the Anglo-Catholic Congress should work together. 33 07 15 p6

1936 09 24
The opening and blessing of the new Roman Catholic Schools and Hall at Union Road, Cambridge, presented a picturesque spectacle of stately ceremonial. In the morning Archbishop Goodier preached following a Pontifical High Mass in the Church of Our Lady when the glory of mauve and splendour of gold vestments stood out vividly among the black cassocks and white surplices. The new buildings were opened and blessed in the afternoon whilst the Roswitha Players from London gave the first stage show at the new Houghton Hall in the evening. 36 09 24b 36 09 25a

1937 09 15
The ceremony of the enclosure of the new Carmelite Convent at Waterbeach was performed by the Bishop of Northampton in the shade of a huge plane tree. The Gregorian Chant was led by the priests while Catholic hymns were sung by the laity, numbering over a 1,000. The old convent in Chesterton Road, opened 12 years ago, has proved inadequate so a house standing in extensive grounds has been chosen. Visitors have been seeing over the building at the rate of 100 a day. But never again, except in extremist necessity, will anybody other than nuns enter the door. 37 09 15 & a

1939 10 09
The small new Roman Catholic chapel on the corner of High Street, Old Chesterton is a corrugated iron structure but its lines are good and the interior fittings and decoration are in excellent taste. After the Reformation there was no Catholic church in Cambridge. Then Mass began to be said in the room of a house and in 1841 a small church opened in Union Lane. This was supplanted in 1890 by the fine building in Hills Road. Now there are large congregations at four Masses every Sunday and two other chapels of ease beside the one now opened. 39 10 09

1950

1950 05 19
During the Nazi "blitz" of 1940, members of the Roman Catholic Order The Sisters of Hope were driven from their home in London and came to settle in Bateman Street, Cambridge. In 1944 they moved to Brooklands Avenue. "So good has come out of evil", said the Bishop of Northampton as he laid the foundation stone of the new nursing home at Hope House. This large extension to the present premises will be completed in 12 months' time and will increase the capacity of the nursing home from its present nine patients to 30.

1954
Catholic Apostolic Church, Pound Hill ceased [2.27]

1958 03 13
The foundation stone was laid of the new Roman Catholic Church of St Laurence the Martyr in Milton Road, Cambridge. Since the Rev Father P. Oates was appointed in 1951 he has worked hard to make the building possible. Already £4,000 has been raised, but there is still a long way to go. 58 03 13 (parish began 1947 as daughter of Our Lady) [3.1,14.2] St Laurence's church replaced little church in Chesterton High St which now moved to Ditton Lane [446.15.1]

1958 06 06
Six members of the Order of the Irish Christian Brothers lived together in a Victorian house in Hills Road. There was a retired teacher in charge, a practically bed-ridden man, one who acted as a general factotum, one who did the cooking and two members they were sending to the Technical School and University. The house closed in the vacation. The Valuation Panel decided it was not a hostel but a private house, which reduced their rating assessment. 58 06 06

1958 08 22
The new Roman Catholic Church of St Laurence at Milton Road is one of the most modern Catholic buildings in the diocese and replaces the existing church in Chesterton High Street. Heating is of the 'underfloor' electrical type and the lighting is also by electricity. The pews are of polished mahogany and the altar is made of stone. Much of the money has still to be raised and a local football pool is being run between the parishioners. 58 08 22a 58 08 25b

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1965 04 01
Fisher House not to be demolished as part of Lion Yard redevelopment – 65 04 01

1970

1971 04 24
Roman Catholic mass and confirmation service held to be held in St Edward's church for first time since Reformation – 71 04 24a

1976 11 01
Rebuilt Fisher House opened [14.3]

1980

1988 06 27
Priest celebrates Latin mass at Mill Rd home ¢CEN 27.6.88

1988 07 13
Religious faith is showing signs of growth in Cambridge. The Eden Baptist Church has doubled its congregation to 600 over 10 years which now will be split into three, meeting in different parts of the city. The Roman Catholics also report steady growth with 2,000 at mass on one Sunday. Methodist churches in Cottenham and Histon see 100 attend services on Sunday mornings and the Cambridge Christian Fellowship report numbers increasing from 20 four years ago to 300. Islam too has been making advances in Cambridge – 150 attend Friday prayers at the Mosque in Mawson Road with 700 at the Eide Prayers 88 07 13

1990 10 13
Cardinal Hulme attends mass celebrate centenary Catholic Church – 90 10 13a

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Εδεν Βαπτιστ Χηυρχη, φυνχτιον Φιτζροψ Στρεετ ανδ Βυρλειγη Στρεετ, 1978 – 14

c.83.05 : Baptist

1897
Tenison Road Baptist Chapel opened replacing Hope Chapel, Paradise Street [2.7,12.10]

1900

1903 01 28
St Andrew's Street Baptist Chapel, Cambridge, is to be swept away and another more ornate is to be substituted. It has often excited the curiosity of strangers and not a little ridicule has been bestowed upon those who have worshipped in such a prison-like building. Even Charles Spurgeon described it as suitable for private executions. The new building will have both a tower and spire and be worthy of the prominent position it will occupy. 03 10 28 [2.9]

1903 05 06
The work of rebuilding St Andrew's Street Baptist Chapel, Cambridge, has reached an important stage with the ceremony of laying the foundation stone. The travelling crane upon the elevated railroad around the site was stationary, the workmen had turned their attention to the erection of a platform to accommodate the spectators. An important factor was the bottle placed under the stone which may in some remote age meet the gaze of an explorer yet unborn, the contents being a plan of the church, a programme of the day's ceremony and a copy of the CDN. 03 05 06

1904 02 01
The new St Andrew's Street Baptist chapel, Cambridge, was formally dedicated. The exterior of the building is captivating, the interior is beautiful and the structural arrangements for the comfort of the congregation well considered. Unfortunately the pastor who had so strenuously worked on the scheme was unable to attend due to illness but so that he should not be entirely deprived of participation in the events the deacons arranged to have the speeches delivered in the building transmitted to his home by means of electrophone CDN c 27.1.1904

1905 11 03
Old Baptist chapel, Old Chesterton new infant's classroom – 05 11 03a

1909 04 09
The Rev Charles Joseph, minister of St Andrew's Street Baptist Church, has had a varied career, having been a commercial traveller and journalist with a weekly column in the 'Baptist Times'. He came to Cambridge in 1898 and oversaw the erection of the new chapel in 1903. His forcible preaching is so much appreciated that he is in constant request as a special preacher and his engagement book is full many months ahead. 09 04 09

1910

1910
Cambridge Baptist women's league founded [13.1]

1913 02 28
Rev M.E. Aubrey, minister St Andrew's Street Baptist church – profile, 13 02 28 p3 & 5 CIP

1913 11 07
Prospect Baptist Church Sunday School – 13 11 07 CIP

1920

1928 05
Cambridgeshire Baptist Association 50th anniversary meeting [2.3]

1930

1930 07 18
There were remarkable scenes at the opening services of the Arbury Road Baptist Church Hall and School. When the doors were flung open the crowd was far too large for the building. Although many stood at the rear many more had to be content with standing outside and taking part in the proceedings through the open windows. It meets the religious needs of a large residential area of 4,000 people which has come into existence since the war and it is hoped to built a chapel within a few years 30 07 18 [2.14, 13.4]

1940

1940
St Andrews Street Baptist Chapel Mission Hall, Cambridge Place sold [2.6]

1941 08

Mill Road Baptist Chapel school hall demolished by enemy action , (reopened 1949) [2.1,2.2]

1949 Mill Road Baptist hall reopened [2.2]

1950

1953 05 11
The new branch church of St Andrew's Street Baptist Church built in Dudley Road, New Barnwell for the people living on the new housing estates was opened on Saturday. The church was filled to capacity. It took about a year to build & seats a congregation of 150 in the main hall; there is a junior room for Sunday School meetings large enough to accommodate 100 children, and a primary room for the under-eights. 53 05 11

1957 05 20
St Andrews St Baptist church Sunday School 150th anniv [12.15]

1960s The Cambridgeshire Collection has newspaper cuttings files from this date

1960

1964 10 07
The Community of St John the Baptist of Neale House, Huntingdon Road, Cambridge have been told that their temporary chapel has been granted planning permission until September 1967. It was built in 1959 by the former occupants of the house, the religious order of the Sisters of St Margaret, from East Grinstead. 64 10 07

1966 01 27
Arbury Road Baptist church opened; small chapel built on site 125 years ago – 66 01 27

1970

1971 04 26
St Andrews Street Baptist church 250th anniviversary [13.3]

1980

1982 03 01
Eden Baptist church new building opened (old which opened 1874 incorporated into Grafton centre) [13.5]

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1988 12 28
St Andrews St Baptist church open new meeting area CEN 28.12.88

Sturton Street Methodist Chapel, 1920s *186.09*

c.83.06 : Methodist

1891
Methodist mission chapel Hemingford Rd [13.8]

1894
Hobson Street Methodist chapel rebuilt [13.6]

1897 09 18
A special meeting was held in the Hills-road Wesleyan Chapel, Cambridge, in celebration of its re-opening. The chapel has been closed for three weeks and during that time the seats and galleries have been re-varnished, the walls and pillars painted, the heating apparatus renovated, the electric light substituted for gas, coloured windows for plain and a rostrum has been made to take the place of the old pulpit. Mr Isard, hon.sec. said those who worshipped in the side galleries had spoken to him for years past on the badness of the light. Those who sat just behind the gas standards too, found a great difficulty in seeing the speaker and were continually dazzled. They resolved to put in the electric light at a cost of about £60. The Minister said he was sorry they had not got the electric light on but in consequence of the engineers' strike the company had not been able to get the connections on 1897 09 18

1900

1901 03 18
Two new classrooms at the primitive Methodist Chapel, Sturton Street, Cambridge, were formally opened. The space available at the chapel for teaching the scholars on Sundays has long proved inadequate and the extra accommodation will furnish room for at least fifty persons and

may be expected to meet the requirements for some time to come. The opportunity was also taken of entirely renovating the interior of the chapel itself, which has been furnished with new seats, and the ceiling covered with match-boarding 01 03 18

1904 04 29
The stone laying was held of a new Wesleyan chapel being built at Old Chesterton to supersede one which has been in use for 60 years and is dilapidated and unsightly. It was first intended to erect it on Chesterton Road facing De Freville Avenue but a site in Church Street was chosen and the builders, Messrs Kerridge and Shaw have commenced operations of a simple structure capable of accommodating 150 persons together with 120 Sunday School scholars. The building was within sight of two other Christian churches but they came in the old Methodist spirit, as friends of all and the enemy of none and would not injuriously rival or detract from their work. 04 04 29 [1.9, 13.10]

1904 10 13
The Wesleyans have added another to their places of worship by opening a new chapel in Church Street, Chesterton. It is the successor of a building in the High Street which during the latter period of its existence has been difficult to reconcile with conventional ideas of what a place of worship should be. Though doubtless hallowed in the memory of many its defects were numerous. Mr B.C. Jolley provided a piece of land upon which building operations began a few months ago. The architect adopted a Queen Anne style and the result is a pleasing-looking building with an appearance more domestic than ecclesiastical. CDN 13.10.1904

1905 09 05
It is approaching 20 years ago that the strange sect called the Agapemonites founded by the late Brother Prince first secured a footing in Cambridge. Its advent is surrounded in some mystery and owing to the secrecy imposed on its followers it is difficult to speak with any degree of certainty of its growth. It was the time when the Wesleyan community was undergoing a severe trial and many families left the church, some joining the Abode of Love at a little school room in Elm Street where services were marked with great simplicity. The death of Prince was a severe test to his followers' faith but things have gone on much as before. 05 09 05 – 05c

1906 06 05
When the Wesleyan chapel in Romsey Town was erected in Hemingford Road, space was left for a more commodious structure. The new chapel of which Mr W. Wren of Castle Street is the architect is designed in the Queen Anne style with utility, rather than elaborate decoration; nevertheless the building with its cathedral-like windows will be a considerable addition to the notable buildings of that end of Mill Road. 06 06 05 [1.11]

1906 10 26
The new Wesleyan Chapel in Romsey Town opened for public worship. It will accommodated over 400 people and is lighted by incandescent gas and heated by radiators. Though a plain building internally it is comfortable and has a pleasant appearance. The architect was W. Wren of Cambridge and the builders Coulson and Lofts. 06 10 26a

1909 07 24
Building begins of Wesleyan Manse on Poplar House Estate, Christ's Pieces [1.15]

1910

1911 07 22

Methodist Chapel, Panton Street sold to Christian Scientists, previously met in Southgate Lodge, Emmanuel street for 8-10 years [1.13,1.17]

1912
Hobson Street Methodist Chapel sold to County Council for County Hall [1.10]

1912 01 26
Wesley church raises £15,500 for rebuilding – 12 01 26c

1912 02 09
Wesley Church trustees hold important meeting to discuss plans - 12 02 09h

1912 03 15
The County Council is to purchase Hobson Street Wesleyan Chapel and the adjoining house to build a Council Chamber and offices. The site is central and quiet and although the cost might appear to be high it would eventually result in a saving. There would be much greater efficiency to have all officials under one roof instead of them running backwards and forwards from one place to another. They would also need four less telephones, saving £30 12 03 15f

1912 09 20
Hobson Street chapel was opened in 1849 by Wesleyans had previously met in a chapel in Fitzroy Street and a room in Green Street. It became a spiritual home for residents and undergraduates and was improved in 1891. But it has become inadequate. The Fitzroy Street chapel had become a jam warehouse but Hobson Street will be replaced by the new County Council offices. They will now meet in the Victoria Assembly Room until the new Wesley Chapel on Christ's Pieces is ready. 12 09 20c

1912 10 11
The laying of the foundation stone of the new Wesleyan Chapel adjoining Christ's Pieces to replace the old Hobson Street church marks an important epoch in Cambridge history. Built of white Bath stone, the style is Late Perpendicular and all the seats will be of oak. Thomas Ferns was handed a silver trowel by Mr Gunton, the architect, as a memento of the occasion but he did not use such a lovely object and took another to perform the ceremony. He was followed by Mrs Lavender, who was a young girl teacher when the stone was originally laid in Hobson Street. A bottle placed under the main stone states that the site was purchased in on 7th August 1903. 12 10 11 f & g 12 10 18b & c

1912 11 01
Wesley church bazaar raises final funds; publication of a shilling souvenir with all chapels in circuit and on Hobson Street Sunday School. The other compiled by Mrs Ryder, Hobson Street, who wrote to old ministers and asked for a shilling and a quotation. – 12 11 01h & i

1912 11 08
It was one of the noisiest 'rags' seen for some years, for the introduction of a variety of bomb-firework, which gives a report louder than a rifle shot, more than compensated for the fewer Varsity men than usual. The liveliest scene occurred in King Street where the crowd were attracted by the sight of the hoarding outside the partly-demolished Hobson Street Chapel. Instead they turned their attention array of woodwork in connection with the building of the new Wesleyan Chapel near Christ's Pieces, but this was strongly guarded by police. Another battle broke out in Grange Road where some 400 undergraduates damaged the fence around Mr Ebenezer Smith's garden. 12 11 08a & b

1913 01 10
The beautiful new buildings for the Wesley Church at Four Lamps are growing rapidly. The builders have made headway with the schools and the outline of the church itself is already clearly indicated. Looking at the operations from Christ's Pieces one hears the hum of an engine and sees a busy swarm of men climbing about the scaffolding. The room to be used by Universitymen is already up, with the roof virtually on and the schools next the Manse are well forward. The church itself will not be finished before September but the pillars and main porch are already above ground. 13 01 10d

1913 05 09
Wesley Church Sunday schools opened

1913 08 29
Rev Holt Shafto, Wesley Church leaves – 13 08 29 p6

1913 10 20
Wesley Chapel Christ's Pieces opened [1.10, 6.22]

1913 11 07
Wesley Church opening services 13 11 07 p5, 10 CIP

1914 01 30
The old Primitive Methodist Chapel in St Peter's Street is now in the hands of the house-breaker and is fast disappearing, together with the adjoining cottages. From the ruins will rise new, handsome and commodious buildings. The old premises have been altogether inadequate and only a lack of funds have prevented the work starting earlier. Now work can be commenced and we are witnessing the passing of the old meeting house that for nearly 50 years has been the home of Primitive Methodism in this part of the town. It was used for the last time on Sunday week, when impressive farewell services were held. 14 01 30f pics of ext & int.

1914 02 20
The laying of the foundation stone of the new Primitive Methodist Church in Castle Street was well attended in spite of the unpleasant weather. The site was gaily decorated with flags and a platform erected for those taking part in the ceremony. The layers of stones were presented with small silver trowels as mementoes of the event and those who wished were invited to purchase the privilege of laying a brick. Amongst those who did so was Mrs David Moore of the Band of Hope Union 14 02 20a & b Castle Street Methodist Chapel opened [1.3]

1914 04 03
The foundation stones of the new Primitive Methodist Church Sundays Schools in Castle Street were laid when a large crowd gathered. A public tea was held afterwards in the Palace Rink, Magrath Avenue, when 350 attended. 14 04 03d

1914 07 31
Castle Hill Methodist Sunday school opened 14 07 31

1914 10 16
The handsome new Castle Street Methodist chapel was formally opened. The Mayor referred to the 'tie rods' of the building which might detract from the artistic appearance but were needed because of the traffic which passed. When they laid the foundation stone no one thought that

before it was completed the nations of Europe would be in deadly conflict. In Cambridge they had no forts or ramparts against their human foes, but this was a defence against spiritual enemies 14 10 16

1916 02 09
Rev William Percy Hutton, Methodist minister; includes history Methodist churches in Cambridge – 16 02 09c

1920

1921 07
Sturton Street Sunday school hall opened [1.19]

1923 11 03
Cambridge Methodist Sunday Schools Centenary [1.14]

1925 10 24
Wesley House, the new Wesleyan Methodist post-graduate theological college which has risen on a site in Jesus Lane, was formally opened. It was five years ago that the Wesleyan Methodist Conference decided to set up the college at Cambridge and a site was purchased from Jesus college. The architect, Sir Aston Webb, has carried out a pleasing design in red brick. The building comprises accommodation for 29 students. The work of the college has been carried on for the past four years in hired buildings 25 10 24

1927 04 29
The stone-laying ceremony in connection with the new hall at Hills Road Wesleyan Church, Cambridge took place. It will be a single-storey building but with a view to enlarging later, if necessary. Mr C. Kerridge and Mr W.A. Gray, members of the church, are the honorary architects and the building is being done by Messrs J.R. Bennett & sons. Too often had they had to work under most depressing and unfavourable conditions. The Young Men's Fraternal had increased from five to nearly 50; if they did not make provision for these young fellows others would step in and reap what they had sown. 27 04 29

1930

1932 09 23
The Union of British Methodism – bringing together the Wesleyan, Primitive and United Methodists - is the most important event in the history of British Nonconformity since the birth of Wesley. Cambridge's first Methodist chapel in Fitzroy Street was where Gipsy Smith heard the sermon which led to him becoming an evangelist. It is now Fellowship House for the local unemployed. 32 09 23b & c

1934 04 11
In 1921 members of Sturton Street Methodist Church erected a school hall as a temporary building. Now plans have been prepared for extensions to the church itself with choir stalls and pews. They have launched an appeal for £2,300 to include a new hall. Old scholars are invited to give a contribution, however small. 34 04 11

1934 10 12
There was great rejoicing among members of the Sturton Street Methodist Church at the opened of the new school hall, adjoining the chapel. The building, which seats about 200 and has a fine

platform and convenient ante-rooms, was beautifully decorated with flowers for the occasion. It was opened by Arthur Harding, the senior trustee who has been associated with the church for 37 years. He hoped it would be of great service amongst young people. 34 10 12

1936 06 06
Mrs Arthur Walters book 'My Wayside' describes life in Cambridge where Arthur Walters was minister Hills Road Methodist church - 36 06 06b

1936 08 22
William Allen, retired railwayman, joined Wesley Methodist Church, Hills Road in 1867 when it worshipped in a temporary building at the rear of the present church. He compiled a book telling how he started at Wesley Church but found them unfriendly 36 08 22e

1937 03 05
The death occurred of Mrs Ann Smith, wife of Gypsy Smith, at their home, Romany Tan in Hinton Avenue. She was associated with Hills Road Methodist Church but led a very quiet life and although she once or twice went on tours abroad, she generally remained at home. The funeral service will be held at the house. The famous preacher is absent in America on an evangelical tour; he is at present in Charlotte, North Carolina. It is not expected that he will be able to return home until April. 37 03 05k

1940

1941 08 29
Sturton Street chapel bombed. A bomb dropped within a few feet of the west wall, removing the greater part of the roof slating, opening a large hole in the external vaulting and causing severe damage to the fabric. The whole of the roof lifted and many of the roof timbers were fractured. The building was of no use for public worship which had to take place in the Assembly Hall (replaced 1954) 53 11 18 [6.21,1.7]

1947 08 09
An obituary notice in "The Times" of Wednesday began with these words: "Mr Rodney ('Gypsy') Smith, one of the most remarkable evangelists of modern times, died at the age of 87 on the Queen Mary while on his way to Florida to recuperate after a severe illness". It was I believe in 1938, a year after the death of his first wife, that Gypsy Smith gave up "Romany Tan", his residence in Cambridge, but for many years before that he was a familiar figure in the town. In his autobiography he tells how he was converted at "a little Primitive Methodist Chapel in Fitzroy Street", Cambridge.

1949 01 22
During the war the Tabernacle Methodist Church in Newmarket road, Cambridge, was closed and the property sold. The history of the church went back over many years, having its early beginnings in the old Fitzroy Street chapel. There were hopes that at some future date the work so nobly done by the two old chapels would be carried on. In the very near future some of these hopes may be realised, as the trustees intend to acquire the piece of land adjoining the YWCA hall and opposite the Borough cemetery, Newmarket road, for the purpose of commencing a new Methodist cause c49 01 21

1950

1951 07 21

Methodism in Cambridge has suffered a severe loss with the passing of Mr Albert Endersby in his 73rd year. He had been associated with the Sturton Street Methodist Church since he was first taken there as a baby in arms and he never lost his enthusiasm for the fervour of Methodist singing and the thrill of Christian witness. He had been a steward for 50 years and was chairman of the Young Men's Club which met at the Tabernacle, Newmarket Road, before that church was closed. He was a mattress maker at Messrs Eaden Lilley.

1952 01 18
After years of planning, working and hoping, members of Chesterton Methodist Church have at last a building of their own, a new church on the corner of Green End Road and Scotland Road, which was officially opened by Mrs Elliot Ridgeon. Now they have a light and bright building and the friendliness of the many members at the ceremony reflected joy and thankfulness at the completion of the new church. But their struggles are not yet over for they plan to build a school hall and hope one day to build a bigger church. 52 01 18 [1.4, 1.11, 13.10]

1952 03 31
Meadlowland Methodists in Cambridge revealed a venturesome spirit when, in driving snow, they dedicated the site of the proposed new church and offices. The simple service was conducted in the East Barnwell Community Centre & Coun Herbert Finbow cut the first turf. Mr Henry Hughes, the architect, explained a model of the new building which will present an impressive aspect when viewed from Newmarket Road. Finance will come in part from the sale of the Tabernacle Church. 52 03 31 [1.5]

1952 06 20
Meadowlands Methodist church opens, p7

1952 12 12
More than 100 people watched a key being turned in a lock last night before they entered the youngest Methodist Church in England. For that was how the Meadowlands Church, sparkling cream-and-cosy, was described at the first service to be held in the new building. Rev. W.H. Beales glanced over the congregation who had helped to pay for the cream-painted church, at the small intimate organ in the corner and the simple altar in light oak with its gleaming brazen cross & said the community of Meadowlands owed these workers a debt which could never be repaid 52 12 12

1952 08 23
Jesus Lane Sunday School has been wound up. It was founded in 1827 by a group of University men distressed by the spiritual desolation of Barnwell who decided to start a "Gownsman's Sunday School". Four of them set out to visit every house in search of scholars and on the first Sunday the school opened with over 200 children attending at the Friends Meeting House. Later they erected a large new building in Paradise Street where 600 children were on the books. The 1914 war dealt the school a blow from which it never wholly recovered and in 1936 the building was sold to the Boy Scouts Association. c52 09 26 (every Parish now has own Sunday School & its work redundant after 120 years) [4.15]

1953 11 18
Twelve years after a high explosive bomb partially destroyed the Sturton Street Methodist Church plans are now complete for the building of a new place of worship. The original chapel was built in the 1820s but in August 1941 a bomb dropped within a few feet of the west wall, removing the greater part of the roof slating, opening a large hole in the external vaulting and causing severe damage to the fabric. The whole of the roof lifted and many of the roof timbers were fractured.

The building was of no use for public worship which had to take place in the Assembly Hall. 53 11 18

1954 09 24
The new Methodist church in Sturton Street, Cambridge was opened and dedicated at a largely-attended ceremony. It is of pleasing, simple design and replaces the building damaged by bombs in 1940. The Mayor, Coun Hallett, said it was the only here to have been completely bombed and it was encouraging to know that the congregation had come to the rescue and rebuilt it in a most impressive style. The architect, D.C. Denton-Smith acknowledged the work of the builders, Eric Kidman, Mr Linsey foreman; Messrs Cooks plasterers; Messrs Pratt builders' merchants; Messrs Scotts electricians & other associated with the re-building. 54 09 24

1959 06 01
Meadowlands Methodist Church hall stone laying – 59 06 01b [13.12]

1959 11 23
Meadowlands Methodist Church hall opened – 59 11 23

1965 11 08
Green End Road Methodist chapel opened [13.14]

1966 04 18
Hills Road Methodist chapel celebrates centenary [13.15]

1970

1972 09 01
Cambridge folk have become accustomed to large scale demolition in various parts of the city, and soon yet another prominent building will disappear when the premises of the Hills Road Methodist Church are sold and taken down for development. The building is much too large; its seating capacity is 750 and the present membership is less than 200. Secondly the premises are over 100 years old, and while the sanctuary is in good condition, the premises downstairs are in a poor state and hopelessly out of date. As the adjoining premises were being developed it seemed a suitable time to sell 72 09 01

1973 06 29
Latest casualty in the Hills Road office redevelopment programme is the 100-year-old Methodist Church. Demolition work started yesterday. In autumn last year many people were surprised to learn that an active church in so sound a financial position and such good repair should close its doors. But the trustees had been aware for some time that the building was just too large; it has a seating capacity for 750 and a congregation of less than 200. The congregation transferred to the Wesley Church, Christ's Pieces, or to other Methodist churches closer to their homes. The property went on the market in November 1972 73 06 29

1975 09 02
Wesley Centre modernised school building, Wesley church, opens [13.17]

1979 01 08
Romsey Methodist Church in Mill Road, Cambridge will have its final service before closing down. The congregation will continue to worship in the nearby Diocesan Chapel in Romsey Terrace. After alterations it will reopen as a youth and community centre. The church buildings

will become a gymnasium, the hall will remain a youth club and a coffee bar and social centre will be built onto the car park. It is also hoped to include a quiet room and tv den. The main users will be a playgroup, over-60s and youngsters. The scheme is being organised by five Cambridge churches. 79 01 08

1979 02 12
Castle End Mission celebrate centenary [12.8]

1980

1983 09 26
The Carioca Club in Newmarket Road is today a burnt-out shell after fire was started in three different parts of the building. The entire contents were destroyed and walls and floors wrecked. Police say an 'inflammable liquid' was poured over materials in the building to start the blaze. 'Racks' night club which has 450 members is now looking for a temporary venue. The Carioca was originally a chapel and was used as a furniture depot before it became a night-club in 1978 83 09 26 p1

1985 06 22
Wesley chapel: plans for demolition announced [13.19]

1985 11 22
The Carioca Club on Newmarket Road is finally being demolished after years of doubt about its future. It was built in the 1870s as a Methodist Chapel but with falling attendances it was a financial embarrassment and as early as 1909 there was talk of selling it. In 1941 it became a furniture storage depot and was turned into a nightclub and disco in 1976 with a take-away kebab shop. But it was gutted by fire in 1983 and never reopened. 85 11 22

1985 12 02
After more than a century of almost unremitting dreariness the Methodist Tabernacle in Newmarket Road is being pulled down. The hideous old bulk of a chapel wore sunlight like a shroud. The foundation stone was laid in 1876 but within 14 years the congregation shrank and in 1909 there was talk of selling it. It struggled on and in 1941 was given over to the storage of furniture. Later it became the Carioca nightclub and its face daubed with appalling blue and orange paint. Worse was to come: the lower part was turned into a take-away kebab joint. Fire gutted the old pile in 1983 and its doors finally closed for ever 85 12 02b

1985 06 22
Wesley chapel: plans for demolition announced [13.19]

1988 05 25
Wesley church closes for rebuilding ¢CEN 25.5.88

Synagogue 1933 220.24

c.83.09 : Jewish

1888
Jewish congregation founded

1900

1908 02 07
For years bachelor Harris Norman lived the life of a miser in Romsey Town. He was endowed with a positive genius for accumulating money but never spent more than would suffice to keep soul and body together. He laid the foundations of his fortune as a hawker of cheap jewellery, then speculated in stocks and shares. In his will he bequeathed the whole of his property to be divided between Addenbrooke's Hospital and the London Jewish Synagogue. 08 01 31b – details 08 02 07 & a

1909 05 07
Harris Norman of Romsey Town, a Jewish hawker, lived to all appearances in extremely poor circumstances. But when he died was found to be worth £12,000. He'd divided his assets between Addenbrooke's Hospital and the 'London Jewish Synagogue for the Poor and Needy Jews'. However four groups disputed to whom this second bequest should go and it came before a Judge in the Chancery Division to decide. 09 05 07

1910

1910
Jews acquire lease of hall at back of Grays, Sidney St as synagogue consecration of new synagogue, Sidney St [5.11]

1911 02

Consecration of new synagogue, Sidney St [5.11]

1930

1933
Jewish Synagogue, Thompson's Lane opened [5.7, 13.1

1933 07 12
Dr R.M. Salaman addressed Cambridge Rotary club on the persecution of the Jews in Germany. Hitler was destroying the whole people: it was more serious than the mere 'beating up' of individuals who happened to be Jewish, it was a movement which struck at the very roots of civilisation. Paid advocates of the Nazis had been sent to Palestine and the Ukraine and the doctrine was being taught in schools in the most scandalous way. 33 07 12 p8

1937 10 22
The Cambridge Hebrew Congregation's new synagogue in Thompson's Lane was consecrated by the Very Rev, the Chief Rabbi of the British Empire. Jews were to be found in Cambridge before the Middle Ages and the stone walls of the medieval synagogue were said to be still standing. Cambridge University was the first seat of higher learning in the modern world to have given Jewish studies academic recognition. Arthur Cohen was the first Jew to take up residence at Magdalene College in the early 1850s after representation had been made to the Prince Consort, the then Chancellor, by Sir Moses Montefiore. 37 10 22 (started 1935) [5.7,12.1]

1940

1945 05 03
Jewish refugees should stay, says meeting – CDN 1945 05 03

1950

1956 10 22
A new library in memory of Herbert Martin Loewe, Honorary Fellow of Queens' College and a Reader in Rabbinics was opened in the Cambridge Synagogue, Thompson's Lane. He had worked hard for the many displaced refugees fleeing from Nazi armies and kept open house for students. The family had been honoured for their scholarship and respected for their public works and the library was a happy choice to commemorate his life. 56 10 22